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Experimental study of the influence of friction at the supports on longitudinal shear resistance of composite slabs

Estudo experimental da influência do atrito nos apoios na resistência longitudinal ao cisalhamento das lajes mistas

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Abstract

The aim of this work is to evaluate the behavior and strength of composite slabs considering the influence of the friction at the sheeting-concrete interface in the region of the support. Results from tests conducted in the Structural Engineering Department of Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) were used. A Steel Deck 60 system was considered, which consists of a trapezoidal profile with "V" shaped embossments. Deflections, end slips and strains of the steel decks were measured, allowing for the analysis of the behavior of the composite slab system and for the determination of its failure mode. The influence of friction of the region of support in the longitudinal shear resistance was evaluated through the partial shear connection method, which also allowed for establishing criteria and determination of analytical expressions for calculating the ultimate load. Comparative analyses reveal that the influence of the friction of the region of support in the shear-bond resistance is more significant in composite slabs with short shear spans. Design expressions which incorporate friction will also be presented. Their application have demonstrated the efficiency of the method for evaluating the longitudinal shear resistance.

Keywords: composite slabs, partial shear connection, friction at the support.

Resumo

O objetivo deste trabalho é avaliar o comportamento e a resistência de um sistema de lajes mistas de aço e concreto, considerando a influência do atrito na interface da fôrma de aço com o concreto na região dos apoios. Para isso foram utilizados os resultados de ensaios realizados no Departamento de Engenharia de Estruturas da Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG). O sistema misto Steel Deck 60 foi considerado, o qual consiste em um perfil trapezoidal com mossas em forma de "V". As flechas, os deslizamentos de extremidades e as deformações das fôrmas de aço foram medidos, permitindo a análise do comportamento do sistema de laje mista e a determinação do seu modo de falha. A influência do atrito da região dos apoios na resistência longitudinal ao cisalhamento foi avaliada através do método da interação parcial, que também permitiras estabelecer critérios visando à determinação de expressões analíticas para o cálculo da carga última. As análises comparativas revelaram que a influência do atrito da região dos apoios na resistência ao cisalhamento longitudinal é mais significativa em lajes mistas com pequenos vãos de cisalhamento. São apresentadas expressões de cálculo incorporando o atrito, cujas aplicações em um exemplo permitiram mostrar a eficiência do método no cálculo da resistência ao cisalhamento longitudinal.

Palavras-chave: laje mista de aço e concreto, método da interação parcial, atrito nos apoios.

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1. Introduction

The use of a system of composite slabs of concrete and steel in metal construction began in the 1930s, according to Veljkovic'[1]. In these systems, the slabs have steel sheeting with very thin thickness, usually between 0.80 mm and 1.25 mm, embedded in the system that work as permanent steel sheeting, supporting the concrete before curing and construction loads. After curing, the concrete and the steel sheeting become bonded, forming a single structural composite element. The steel deck works as positive reinforcement for the composite slab.

Currently, composite slab systems have become a widely used method for the construction of slabs in buildings in steel structures. From the structural behavior standpoint, the profiled steel sheeting is capable of transmitting the longitudinal shear at the interface between the steel sheeting and the concrete. Composite behavior between profiled sheeting and concrete is ensured by the mechanical interlock provided by deformations in the profile (indentations or embossments), by the frictional interlock for profiles shaped in a re-entrant form, by the end anchorage provided by welded studs or another type of local connection between the concrete and the steel sheet, by the end anchorage from the deformation of the ribs at the end of the sheeting and by the friction in the region of the support. If there is no mechanical link or an attachment by friction between the sheeting and concrete, it will not be able to transmit longitudinal shear, and thus, the composite slab action will not be effective.

The main objective of this study is to analyze, after curing the concrete, the influence of friction of the region of support in the longitudinal shear resistance of the composite slab system Deck- 60, using the partial shear connection method.

2. Characteristics of the test specimens

To conduct the analysis using the partial shear connection method and considering the friction at the supports, a series of twelve specimens of simply supported composite slabs were tested in bending. Figure 1 shows a typical cross-section profile of the Deck-60 with the "V-shape" embossments that were pressed onto the webs and its nominal dimensions in millimeters.



Figure 1

Cross-section of the steel deck

Table 1

Geometrical characteristics of test specimens

Specimens	t (mm)	b (mm)	L (mm)	h _t (mm)	L _s (mm)
01A	0.80	860	2500	110	800
01B	0.80	860	2500	110	800
01C	0.80	860	2500	110	800
02A	0.80	860	2500	140	450
02B	0.80	860	2500	140	450
02C	0.80	860	2500	140	450
03A	0.95	860	2500	110	800
03B	0.95	860	2500	110	800
03C	0.95	860	2500	110	800
04A	0.95	860	2500	140	450
04B	0.95	860	2500	140	450
04C	0.95	860	2500	140	450





Table 1 shows the geometrical properties of the specimens that were divided into two groups: six specimens with a nominal thickness of the steel profile t equal to 0.80 mm and six with thickness t of 0.95 mm, with a nominal width of the profile b equal to 860 mm and length L equal to 2500 mm. In each group, three specimens were built with depth h_t of 110 mm and a span shear L_s of 800 mm, and the other three were built with depth h_t of 140 mm and span shear L_s of 450 mm.

The steel decking with thickness t equal to 0.80 mm was made with ZAR 280 steel with yield strength (f_y) equal to 340 MPa and ultimate tensile strength (f_u) equal to 450 MPa. The steel decking with thickness equal to 0.95 mm was made with ZAR 345 steel with f_y equal to 390 MPa and f_u equal to 490 MPa. The modulus of elasticity of structural steel, E_a , was taken equal to 200 GPa, and the 28-day compressive strength of concrete, f_{ck} was 20 MPa.

3. Test procedure

Each specimen was subjected to four points bending test, as shown in Figure 2. This system of load application is similar to those indicated by Schuster [2], ANSI / ASCE 3 [3], EUROCODE 4 [4], CSSBI S2 [5] and Johnson and Shepherd [6].

Vertical deflections at midspan were measured by two displacement transducers (DT) with a maximum range of 100 mm, symmetrically arranged at approximately 20 cm from the edge of the slab. The end-slip between the steel decking and the concrete was recorded through two digital dial gauges (DG) attached at the ends of each specimen, two on each side.

Two electrical resistance strain gauges (EER) were applied to all specimens to measure steel strain. These EER were installed in the midspan, using cyanoacrylate adhesive, one on the lower fiber and another on the upper fiber of the steel decking, as shown in Figure 3.

Loads were monotonically applied in steps of 1.8 kN and strains,







deflections and end-slips were measured at each load level. Cracking patterns, end-slip and the ultimate load of each specimen were recorded.

3.1 Test results and analysis

The analysis of the test results and a general description of behavior of the composite slabs are studied through load versus end-slip, load versus midspan deflection and load versus steel strain relationships. The specimen 01A was chosen as representative of all tests, to illustrate the following comments.

Figure 4 shows the load versus end-slip curves of the specimen 01A. Initially the horizontal slip is almost absent, indicating a full shear connection between the sheeting and the concrete. After the first cracks, the chemical bond between the sheeting and the concrete is broken, causing end-slip, indicating partial connection.





Load versus end-slip of the specimen 01A

Table 2

End-slip loads and maximum loads of tests

Specimens	P _u (N)	P _{des} (N)	P _u /P _{des}
01A	32170	16200	1.99
01B	33710	16230	2.08
01C	32720	16750	1.95
02A	57170	43950	1.30
02B	56290	34480	1.63
02C	63450	28420	2.23
03A	39621	20490	1.93
03B	39837	21810	1.83
03C	36701	20830	1.76
04A	68443	32060	2.14
04B	71354	30250	2.36
04C	77508	28810	2.69

According to EUROCODE 4 [4], the initial end-slip load (P_{des}) is defined as the load that causes an end-slip of 0.5 mm between the sheeting and the concrete. The longitudinal shear behavior is considered ductile if the failure load (P_u) exceeds the initial end-slip load (P_{des}) by more than 10%. Table 2 shows end-slip and failure loads for all specimens.

Figure 5 shows the load versus midspan deflection curve of the specimen 01A. Two stages in the load-deflection behavior were identified: uncracked and cracked stages.

In the first stage, no visible cracking was observed anywhere on the specimen, hence, the entire section remained fully composite up to the initial cracks. The cracked stage was identified by the first significant change in initial stiffness of each specimen that occurred with the appearance of the initial cracks (the loaddeflection curve ceases to be linearly proportional). Without the presence of shear transfer devices (embossments and friction),







Load versus steel strain curves for specimen 01A

the specimen would not be able to support any additional load beyond this load stage.

Figure 6 shows the load versus steel strains curve for specimen 01A, where negative values indicate tensile strains. During the uncracked stage, a linearly proportional increase of the tensile strains occurs in the sheeting in both the lower and higher fibers, indicating the existence of a single neutral axis in the concrete. The tensile strains in the top fiber of the sheeting decrease after the initial crackings, indicating the presence of two neutral axes in the composite section, indicating partial shear connection between the steel sheeting and the concrete. Based on the experimental results of this investigation, only one mode of failure was experienced by the composite slab system, namely, longitudinal shear. This ultimate limit state is characterized by the shear failure of the connection between the embossments of steel sheeting and the concrete, in the region of the shear span, L_s , where the concrete looses the composite action with the steel sheeting. This failure is indicated by an end-slip between the steel sheeting and the concrete, as shown in Figure 7. This behavior has been observed by Schuster [2], Wright et al. [7], Tenhovuori and Leskela [8], Melo [9], Marimuthu et al. [10], Cifuentes [11] and other authors.



Figure 7 End-slip between the steel sheeting and the concrete



Figure 8

Normal stress distribution for sagging bending, considering the partial interaction

4. Partial shear connection method

According to EUROCODE 4 [4], two methods are used in the design of composite slabs: the "m- k" method and the Partial Shear Connection (PSC) method. Both methods are based on experimental results with full-scale specimens. Depending on the test results, the behavior of a slab might be classified as brittle or ductile. The "m-k" method can be used for all profiles, whereas the PSC method can be used only for ductile profiles. In addition, according to Johnson [12], the PSC method evaluates, theoretically, the contribution of the end anchorage and of the friction of support in the longitudinal shear strength.

4.1 Analytical model

The PSC method is based on an analytical model with a physical background, and it basic concepts are illustrated in Figure 8. The model can be better understood by examining the typical module of the composite slab cross section, as shown in Figure 8(a). The normal stress distribution considering the partial interaction has two neutral-plastic axis: one in the concrete (PNA_c) and other in the steel sheeting (PNA_r), as shown in Figure 8(b). This distribution can be decomposed, by simplification, from the diagrams shown in the Figures 8(c) and 8(d).

Figure 8(a) shows that h_t is the overall depth of the slab; e is the distance from the centroidal axis of profiled steel sheeting to bottom of the steel deck; d_r is the distance from the centroidal axis of the profiled steel sheeting to the top of the composite slab; e_p is the distance from the neutral-plastic axis of the profiled steel sheeting to the steel deck; t_c is the thickness of the concrete above the flat surface of the top of ribs of the steel sheeting.

As shown in Figure 8(b), f_y is the nominal value of the yield strength of the structural steel, where for the nominal thicknesses of 0.80 mm and 0.95 mm, f_y equal to 340 MPa and 390 MPa, respectively f_{cm} is the mean value of the compressive strength of the concrete; *a* is the depth of the concrete block in compression; N_{at} is the tensile normal force in the steel sheeting; N_{c} is the compressive normal force in the concrete flange; N_{ac} is the compressive normal force in the steel sheeting. In Figure 8(c), *y* is the lever arm in the typical module of the composite slab; N_a is

the difference between N_{at} and N_{ac} corresponding to a portion of the tensile normal force in the steel sheeting.

The bending resistance, M_{Ro} , is given by the following equation:

$$M_{Rp} = N_c y + M_{pr} \tag{1}$$

where M_{pr} is the reduced plastic resistance moment of the profiled steel sheeting (see Figure 8(d)), as given by Eq. (2). This reduction is due to the presence of the tensile normal force in the steel sheeting, N_a equal to N_c .

$$M_{pr} = 1.25 M_{pa} \left(1 - \frac{N_c}{A_{F,ef} f_y} \right) \le M_{pa}$$
⁽²⁾

where M_{pa} is the design value of the plastic resistance moment of the effective cross-section of the profiled steel sheeting, and $A_{F,ef}$ is the effective cross-sectional area of the profiled steel sheeting. The depth of the concrete block in compression, *a*, is given by:

$$a = \frac{N_c}{b f_{cm}} \le t_c \tag{3}$$

The lever arm, y, may be determined with the following expression:

$$y = h_t - 0.5a - e_p + (e_p - e) \frac{N_c}{A_{F,ef} f_y}$$
(4)

4.2 Determination of longitudinal shear resistance considering the friction at the supports

Studies conducted by Veljcovic' [13], Tenhovuori [14], Calixto and Lavall [15], Melo [9] and Souza Neto [16] have demonstrated that in models with shear span relatively short, the influence of the friction at the supports is relevant in the determination of the longitudinal shear resistance, whereas for models with long shear span, that effect is reduced.

The friction force, F_{p} is caused by the vertical reaction at the support and appears concentrated at the interface of the steel sheeting with the concrete, as illustrated in Figure 9. This effect may be considered, according to Bode and Minas [17] and other researchers, proportional to the reaction of support, V_{ut} .

$$F_f = \mu V_{ut}$$

where μ is the friction coefficient.

(5)



Figure 9

Friction force in the region of support at the interface of composite slab

4.3 Degree of shear connection

To determine the longitudinal shear strength, the partial interaction diagram of each specimen, as illustrated in Figure 10, showing relationship between the resistance to bending moment and the degree of shear connection of the composite slab, should be determined using the measured dimensions and strengths of the concrete and the steel sheet.

From the maximum applied loads, the bending moment (M_{test}) , at the cross-section under the point load, due to the applied load, dead weight of the slab and spreader beams, should be determined and then divided by the bending moment resistance of the slab consider-



Figure 10

Determination of the degree of shear connection from M test

ing the full connection, M_{R} . The path $A \Rightarrow B \Rightarrow C$ in Figure 10 gives the degree of shear connection, η_{test} given by the ratio between N_{c} and N_{cf} for each specimen, where N_{cf} is the value of the compressive normal force in the concrete with full shear connection.

After determining the value of η_{test} , the compressive normal force in the concrete, N_c , is given by the following equation:

$$N_c = \eta_{test} N_{cf} \tag{6}$$

On the other hand, the degree of shear connection (η) can be determined analytically by equating the M_{test} given by Eq. (7), with the nominal moment resistance (M_{Rp}) given by Eq. (1). Thus, we obtain the following equation:

$$M_{test} = V_{ut}L_s - \frac{pp_{slab}L_s^2}{2}$$
⁽⁷⁾

$$M_{test} = M_{Rp} = N_c y + M_{pr}$$
(8)

The parameters N_c , y and M_{pr} are given by the Eq. (6), (4) and (2), respectively. With the aid of Eq. (3) and replacements into Eq. (8), we obtain the following equation:

$$M_{test} = \eta N_{cf} \left[h_t - \frac{0.5 \eta N_{cf}}{b f_{cm}} - e_p + (e_p - e) \frac{\eta N_{cf}}{N_{pa}} \right] + 1.25 M_{pa} \left(1 - \frac{\eta N_{cf}}{N_{pa}} \right)$$
(9)

Developing Eq. (9) in the context of the two equations derived from Eq. (2) and knowing that N_{cf} equal to N_{pa} [Eq. (10)], we obtain Eq. (11):

$$N_{pa} = A_{F,ef} f_{y}$$
 (10)

For $\eta \ge 0.20$,

$$M_{test} = \eta^2 N_{cf}^2 \left(\frac{e_p - e}{N_{pa}} - \frac{0.5}{b f_{cm}} \right) + \eta N_{cf} \left(h_t - e_p - \frac{1.25M_{pa}}{N_{pa}} \right) + 1.25M_{pa}$$
(11)

Eq. (11) is a quadratic equation, having the degree of shear connection (η) as unknown. This equation can be written as follows:

$$i\eta^2 + j\eta + k = 0 \tag{12}$$

where

$$i = N_{cf}^{2} \left(\frac{e_{p} - e}{N_{pa}} - \frac{0.5}{b f_{cm}} \right)$$
(13)

$$j = N_{cf} \left(h_t - e_p - \frac{1.25M_{pa}}{N_{pa}} \right)$$
(14)

$$k = 1.25M_{pa} - M_{test} \tag{15}$$

For $\eta < 0.20$,

$$M_{test} = \eta^2 N_{cf}^2 \left(\frac{e_p - e}{N_{pa}} - \frac{0.5}{b f_{cm}} \right) + \eta N_{cf} (h_t - e_p) + M_{pa}$$
 (16)

Eq. (16) is also a quadratic equation in η . Thus, Eq. (12) is used again where the constants are:

$$j = N_{cf}(h_t - e_p) \tag{17}$$



Figure 11

 τ_u

Partial interaction diagram and degree of shear connection $\boldsymbol{\eta}$ test

$$k = M_{pa} - M_{test} \tag{18}$$

The constant *i* is calculated by Eq. (13).

The positive root of η , smaller than 1.0, which satisfies Eq. (12), is the searched value of the degree of shear connection (η_{test}). This value should be calculated for each specimen of composite slab. Figure 11 shows the partial interaction diagram and the degree of shear connection (η_{test}) for the specimen 01A, using the analytical expressions.

4.4 Longitudinal shear strength

The value of the longitudinal shear strength of a composite slab, τ_u , considering the friction of support for each specimen is assumed uniform along the length ($L_s + L_o$), and its value is determined using the width of slab (*b*), using the following equation:

$$\tau_u = \frac{N_c - \mu V_{ut}}{b(L_s + L_0)} \tag{19}$$

where V_{ut} is the support reaction under the ultimate load test, and L_o is the length of overhang (L_o = 50 mm).

The characteristic value of longitudinal shear strength, $\tau_{u,Rk}$, should be calculated as the 5% fractile using an appropriate statistical model, in accordance with EUROCODE 0 [18], Annex D. In this work *t*-distribution was adopted:

$$\tau_{k,Rk} = \tau_{u,m} - t s$$

where $\tau_{u,m}$ is the mean value of the longitudinal shear strength of a composite slab determined from testing; *t* is the reliability coefficient of *t*-distribution; *s* is the standard deviation of the longitudinal shear strength.

In Table 3, the characteristic values of the longitudinal shear strength ($\tau_{u_{Rk}}$) are determined according to Eq. (20).

In this table, the following are shown: the degree of shear connection of each specimen tested (η_{test}); the value of the compressive normal force in the concrete (N_c), given by Eq. (6), where the values of N_{cf} were calculated by the Eq. (10); the friction coefficient μ

(20)

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Table 3

Determination of the characteristic value of longitudinal shear strength (τ_{μ},R_{ν})

Specimens	η_{test}	N (N)	μ	V _{ut} (N)	τ _u (MPa)	τ _{u,m} (MPa)	S	τ _{u,Rk} (MPa)
01A	0.592	183474		20109	0.2383			
01B	0.619	191904		20873	0.2503			
01C	0.604	187237		20385	0.2430	0.2407	0.0177	0.2050
02A	0.357	110716		33405	0.2179			
02B	0.344	106713		32959	0.2100			
02C	0.396	122687		36534	0.2434			
03A	0.528	224689	- 0.50	23864	0.2910	0.2696	0.0214	0.2265
03B	0.488	207877		23975	0.2677			
03C	0.456	194042		22399	0.2507			
04A	0.298	126809		39066	0.2485			
04B	0.322	137110]	40511	0.2715			
04C	0.355	151122		43586	0.3015			

equal to 0.50, adopted in accordance with EUROCODE 4 [4]; the support reactions (V_{ut}) obtained in the tests; the longitudinal shear strength (τ_u) for each specimen given by Eq. (19); $\tau_{u,m}$ for each thickness of the decking and the standard deviation (*s*). A reliability coefficient of *t*-distribution $t_{0.95}$ equal to 2.015 was adopted.

The design value of the longitudinal shear strength of a composite slab, $\tau_{u_{Rd'}}$ is given by the following equation:

$$\tau_{u,Rd} = \frac{\tau_{u,Rk}}{\gamma_{sl}}$$
(21)

where γ_{si} is the partial factor for design shear resistance of a composite slab.

4.5 Partial factor design shear resistance

The EUROCODE 4 [4] recommends that the initial slip load (V_{des}) in tests should be greater than 1.2 times the design service load (V_s) , as shown in Eq. (22).

$$V_{des} \ge 1.2V_s \tag{22}$$

The design service load can be calculated by the following equation:

$$V_s \ge \frac{V_{l,R}}{\gamma_{sl} \gamma_c} \tag{23}$$

where $V_{_{l,R}}$ is the nominal value of the resistance to shear, and γ_c is the partial factor for concrete taken as equal to 1.4.



Figure 12 Design partial interaction diagram

Substituting Eq. (23) in Eq. (22) we obtain the following equation:

$$\gamma_{sl} \ge \frac{1.2 \, V_{l,R}}{\gamma_c \, V_{des}}$$

The value of γ_{sl} determined for this composite slabs system, considering influence of friction at the supports, was equal to 1.60.

4.6 Verification of the longitudinal shear resistance

The verification of the longitudinal shear resistance is conducted through the partial interaction diagram, as shown in Figure 12.

After the determination of the design value of longitudinal shear strength and the support reaction for each specimen, the force transferred to the concrete, N_c , in any section distant (L_x) from the end can be determined by Eq. (25).

$$N_c = b \tau_{u,Rd} L_x + \mu V_{l,Rd}$$
⁽²⁵⁾

Substituting the value of N_c in Eqs. (1) to (4) and using design values, determine the design partial interaction diagram, M_{Rd} versus L_x , where M_{Rd} is the design value of the resistance moment of a composite section.

The length L_{sf} is given by the following equation:

$$L_{sf} = \frac{N_{cf} - \mu V_{l,Rd}}{b \tau_{u,Rd}}$$
⁽²⁶⁾

The verification procedure is illustrated in Figure 13 for two slabs with different types of loading and spans.

For $L_x \ge L_{s^p}$ the shear connection is full, so the bending resistance (flexural failure) is critical. If $L_x < L_{s^p}$ the shear connection is partial, so the longitudinal shear resistance is critical. At any cross-section, the design bending moment M_{sd} should not exceed the design resistance M_{Rd^*} .

4.7 Comparative analysis

Figures 14 and 15 show the results of the nominal shear resistance obtained in the tests and the characteristic shear resistance obtained by the PSC method with friction and without friction, as studied by Costa [19].

Analyzing Figures 14 and 15, it can be observed that the results obtained for the resistances by the PSC method, with and without friction, are below the test values. For the thickness of 0.8 mm, in both cases a maximum reduction of 9% occurred in relation to the test results. For the thickness of 0.95 mm, maximum reductions of 5% and 13% occurred, respectively, with and without friction. These results indicate safe values and consistent with the statistical model presented in section 4.4.

It can also be observed that, for short shear spans, the results of the PSC method, which explicitly consider the influence of friction, presented values of 5.7% and 10.5% higher than the results obtained without friction, for thicknesses of 0.80 mm and 0.95mm, respectively, indicating the importance of this influence. For long shear spans, the results obtained with and without friction were practically the same for both thicknesses, indicating the small influence of the friction. Therefore, it can be concluded that the influence of the friction is significant for determining the longitudinal shear strength of composite slabs.

5. Example

Using the steel sheeting Deck-60 for a composite slab with width (b) of one meter, it will be determine the characteristic value of the maximum superimposed load that can be applied on the



Figure 13 Verification procedure

(24)



Figure 14

Characteristic shear resistance of specimens of the groups 01 and 02 (t = 0.80 mm)



Figure 15

Characteristic shear resistance of specimens of the groups 03 and 04 (t = 0.95 mm)

composite slab considering the longitudinal shear strength, both with friction and without friction, from Eq. (1). Three distinct cases of loading as shown in Figures 16, 17 and 18, will be analysed:



Figure 16

Two concentrated loads



Figure 17

Uniformly distributed load



Figure 18 One concentrated load

Table 4

Results obtained by the PSC method

- a) two concentrated loads (P_{sp}) applied in line equidistant from the supports, with the shear span L_s = 450 mm;
- b) uniformly distributed load (w_{sp}) ;
- c) one concentrated load (P_{sp}) applied in line in the mid-span.

where w_{sp} is the characteristic value of the maximum superimposed distributed load. P_{sp} is the characteristic value of the maximum superimposed concentrated load. V_{LR} is the characteristic value of the longitudinal shear resistance, and pp_{slab} is the dead load of the composite slab.

The following are the data of the composite slab (see Figures 2 and 8):

- Length of the slab, *L* = 2500 mm;
- Width of the slab, b = 1000 mm;
- Nominal thickness of the sheet, t =0.80 mm;
- Depth of the sheet, $h_F = 60$ mm;
- Effective area of the sheet, $A_{Fef} = 1060.47 \text{ mm}^2/\text{m}$;
- Nominal value of the yield strength of structural steel, $f_y = 280$ N/mm²;
- Modulus of elasticity of steel, E_a = 200000 N/mm²;
- Overall depth of the slab, $h_t = 140$ mm;
- Distance from the centroidal axis of profiled steel sheeting to top of composite slab, d_r = 110 mm;
- Distance from centroidal axis of profiled steel sheeting to bottom of steel deck; e = 30 mm;
- Distance from neutral-plastic axis of the profiled steel sheeting to bottom of steel deck, $e_n = 30$ mm;
- Dead load of composite slab, $pp_{slab} = 0.00276 \text{ N/mm}^2$;
- Characteristic compressive strength of concrete, $f_{ck} = 20 \text{ N/mm}^2$;
- Modulus of elasticity of concrete, $E_c = 21287 \text{ N/mm}^2$;
- Characteristic value of longitudinal shear strength of a composite slab, r_{u,Rk} (without friction) = 0.2283 N/mm², r_{u,Rk} (friction) = 0.2050 N/mm².

Table 4 presents the results of the characteristic maximum superimposed loads obtained by PSC method, with friction and without friction.

The case (a) of two applied concentrated loads corresponds to the test conditions of specimen 02A, according to Table 1, whose maximum test load is equal to 32.67 kN for *L* equal to 1000 mm. The result with friction presented in Table 4 for this case is below the test value in 12.5%, indicating the consistency of the method, as shown in Figure 14.

In all cases shown in Table 4 an increase in longitudinal shear resistance was observed when considering the influence of the

		Me	Comparison	
Load cases	Maximum loads	PSC*	PSC**	(PSC** - PSC*) PSC** (%)
Two concentrated loads	P _{sp} (kN)	24.34	28.57	14.80
Distributed load	w _{sp} (kN/m ²)	25.35	27.19	6.77
One concentrated load	P _{sp} (kN)	39.44	41.00	3.80
* Without friction – ** Friction.				

friction, as expected. It is also verified that this increase is greater the smaller the shear span (L_s) considered, indicating the consistency of the PSC method.

Figure 19 shows the nominal resistance moment curve (M_R) obtained through the partial interaction diagram according to the procedure presented in section 4.6 and the applied nominal bending moment curve (M_S) for two concentrated loads. These curves illustrate the procedure for checking the shear strength of a composite slab. In this case the applied bending moment curve, M_S , is tangential to the nominal resistance moment curve, MR, indicating a safe solution, where $M_S \leq M_R$. The point at which M_S and M_R are equal correspond to the value of the shear span, L_{sn} that is smaller than the length L_{sr} . The length L_{sr} defines the value from which the shear connection is complete and the failure occurs by bending. Therefore, it was concluded that, in this case, the shear connection is partial, indicating that the longitudinal shear resistance is critical.

6. Conclusion

The partial shear connection method (PSC) is an alternative for the "mk" method for checking the longitudinal shear resistance, allowing the theoretical evaluation of the contribution of the friction of the region at the support and of end anchorage in the longitudinal shear resistance. Tests were conducted at the Structural Engineering Laboratory of Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) on 12 specimens of composite slabs varying shear spans and thickness of decking with embossments in a "V" shape. Deflections, end slips and steel strains were measured, allowing the analysis of the behavior of the composite slab system and the determination of its failure mode by shear bond.

These analyses were evaluated through the PSC method, taking into account the influence of the friction of the region of support in the longitudinal shear resistance, according to EUROCODE 4 [4]. The EUROCODE 4 [4] recommends a partial factor for design shear resistance (γ_{sl}) equal to 1.25 for both methods, "m-k" and PSC. However, it is recommended that for the calculation of the deflections, generally no account need be taken of end slip if the initial slip load in tests exceeds 1.2 times the design service load. Therefore, the value of γ_{sl} obtained for this composite slab system, considering influence of friction at the supports, was determined to be equal to 1.60 through the PSC method.

The analysis showed that the PSC method, considering the influence of the friction in the support, leads to consistent results in relation to the tests and in the determination of the longitudinal shear resistance. It was also concluded that the influence of the friction in the support is significant for the determination of the longitudinal shear strength of composite slabs, the smaller the shear span, L_s . The example presented using the expressions and calculations from the PSC method, incorporating the friction demonstrated the efficiency of the method in the evaluation of the longitudinal shear resistance.

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Figure 19

Curves of nominal resistance moment, $M_{\rm R'}$ and of applied nominal bending moment, $M_{\rm s'}$ for the verification of the longitudinal shear resistance of two concentrated loads

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