

For an unstiffened web, the interaction equation is a circular formula as shown in Fig. 6.5(a). This interaction formula is based upon an approximation to the theoretical interaction of local buckling resulting from shear and bending as derived by Timoshenko and Gere (Ref. 3.6). As applied in AS/NZS 4600, the interaction is based on the design section moment capacity ($\phi_b M_s$) which includes post-local buckling in bending. Hence the justification for the use of the circular formula is actually empirical as confirmed by the testing reported in Ref. 6.5.

For a stiffened web, the interaction between shear and bending is not as severe, probably as a result of a greater postbuckling capacity in the combined shear and bending buckling mode. Consequently a linear relationship, as shown in Fig. 6.5(b) with a larger design domain, is used to limit the design actions under a combination of shear and bending.

6.5 Web Stiffeners

The design clauses for the web stiffener requirements specified in Clause 3.3.8 are based on those introduced in the 1980 AISI Specification. The clause for transverse stiffeners (3.3.8.1) has been designed to prevent end crushing of transverse stiffeners (Eq. (3.3.8.1(1))) and column type buckling of the web stiffeners (Eq. (3.3.8.1(2))). It is based on the tests described in Ref. 6.6. The capacity reduction factor (ϕ_c) for transverse stiffeners is the same as that for compression members.

The clause for bearing stiffeners (3.3.8.2) in channel section flexural members is new and was based on the work of Fox & Schuster (Ref. 6.7) which investigated the behaviour of stud & track sections.

The clause for shear stiffeners (3.3.8.3) is based mainly upon similar clauses in the AISI Specification for the design of plate girders (Ref. 6.8) although the detailed equations were confirmed from the tests reported in Ref. 6.6.

6.6 Web Crippling (Bearing) of Open Sections

6.6.1 Edge Loading Alone

In the design of cold-formed sections, it is not always possible to provide load bearing stiffeners at points of concentrated edge loading. Consequently a set of rules is given in Clause 3.3.6 of AS/NZS 4600 for the design against web crippling under concentrated edge load in the manner shown in Fig. 6.6. The clauses in AS/NZS 4600 have been empirically based on tests as summarised in Beshara and Schuster (6.9, 6.10).

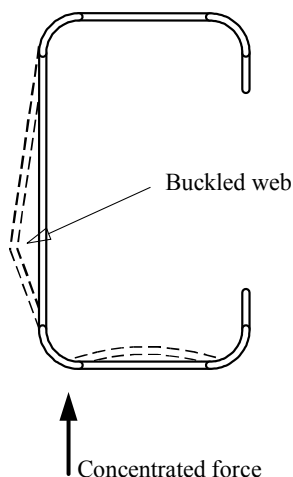


Fig. 6.6 Web crippling of an open section

The nominal capacity for concentrated load or reaction load (R_b) has been found to be a function of the following parameters as shown in Fig. 6.7, 6.8 and 6.9. These are:

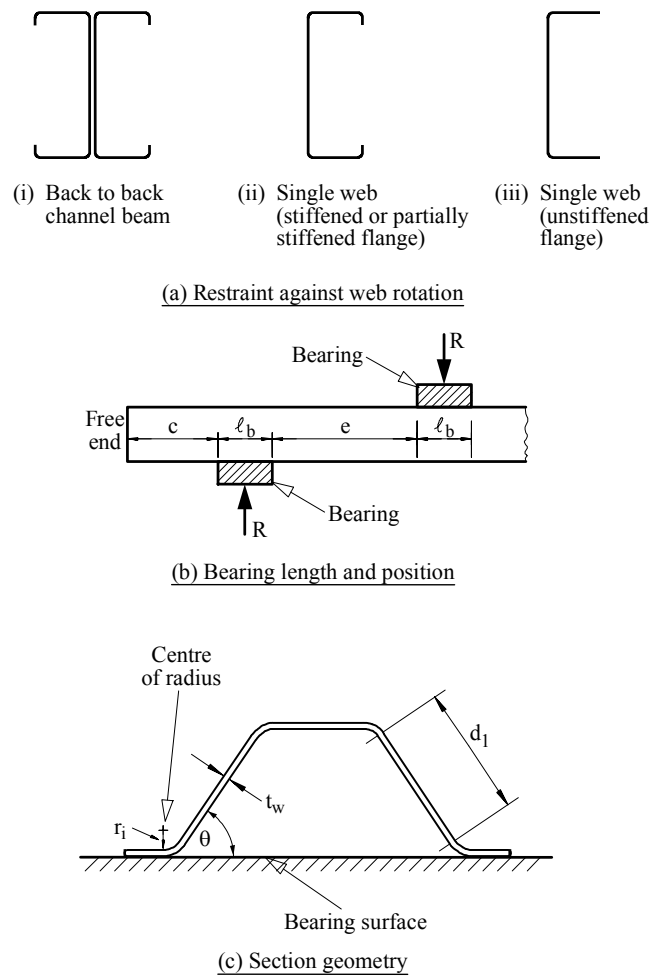


Fig. 6.7 Factors affecting web bearing capacity

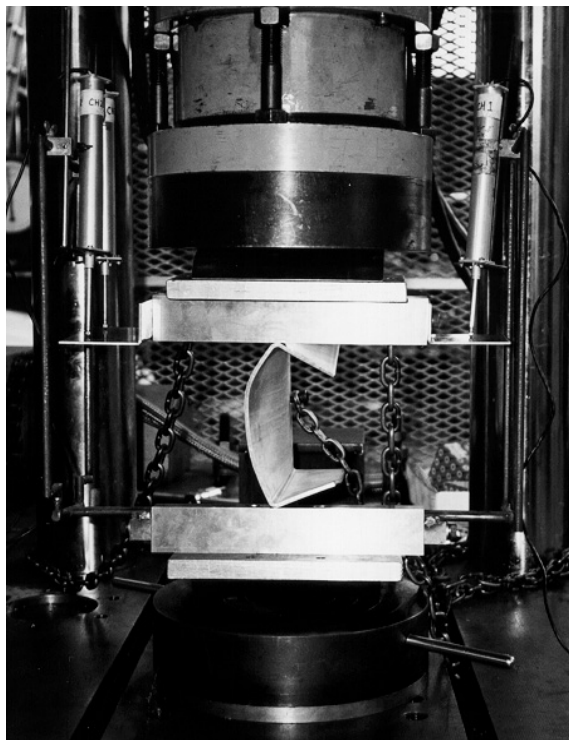


Fig. 6.8 Test of specimen with flanges unfastened

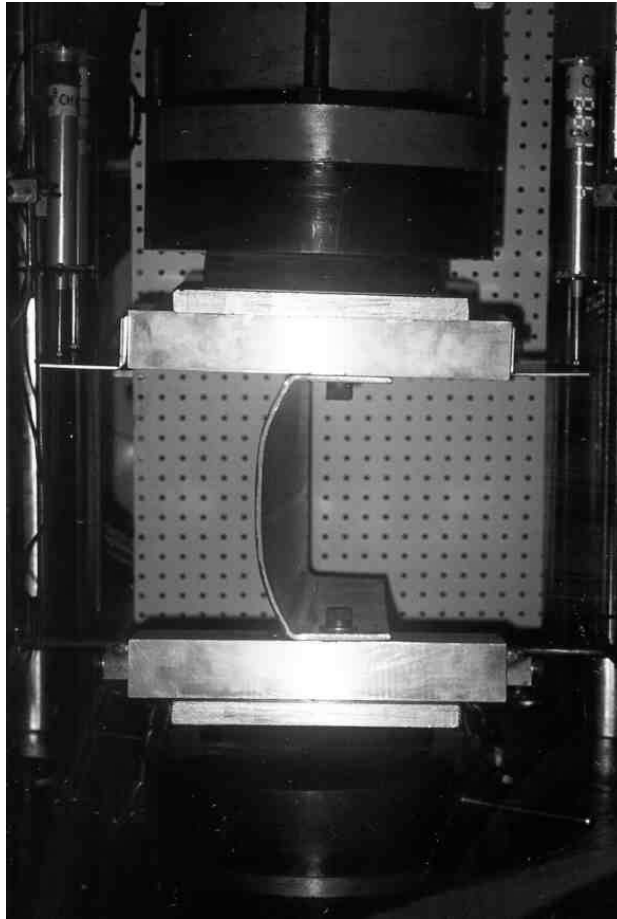


Fig. 6.9 Test of specimen with two flanges fastened

- (a) The nature of the restraint to web rotation provided by the flange and adjacent webs as shown in Fig. 6.7(a). The back to back channel beam has a higher restraint to web rotation at the top and bottom and hence a higher load capacity than a single channel. Similarly, the channel with a stiffened, or partially stiffened, compression flange has a higher restraint to web rotation than the channel with an unstiffened web and hence a higher web bearing capacity.
- (b) The length of the bearing (l_b) shown in Fig. 6.7(b) and its proximity to the end of the section (c). In addition, the proximity of other opposed loads, defined by e in Fig. 6.7(b), is also important. A limiting value of c/d_1 of 1.5, where d_1 is the web flat width, is used to distinguish between end loads and interior loads. Similarly a limiting value of e/d_1 of 1.5 is used to distinguish between opposed loads and non-opposed loads.
- (c) The web thickness (t_w) the web slenderness (d_1/t_w) the web inclination (θ) and the inside bend radius (r_i) as shown in Fig. 6.7(c), are the relevant section parameters defining the section geometry. The following limits to the geometric parameters apply to Clause 3.3.6.

Web slenderness, $d_1/t_w \leq 200$

Web inclination, $90^\circ \geq \theta > 45^\circ$ for multi-web deck sections, 90° for other sections

Bend radius to thickness, $r_i/t_w \leq 6$ depends on section type

Bearing length to thickness, $l_b/t_w \leq 210$ for all sections except hats ($l_b/t_w \leq 200$)

Bearing length to web depth, l_b/d_1 depends on section style



- (d) Whether the flange is unfastened as shown in Fig 6.8 or fastened as shown in Fig. 6.9 (Ref. 6.11).

The design equation is:

$$R_b = C t_w^2 f_y \sin \theta \left(1 - C_r \sqrt{\frac{r_i}{t_w}} \right) \left(1 + C_\ell \sqrt{\frac{\ell_b}{t_w}} \right) \left[1 - C_w \sqrt{\frac{d_1}{t_w}} \right] \quad (6.8)$$

The parameters C , C_r , C_ℓ , C_w and the capacity reduction factors are given in Tables 3.3.6.2 (A)-(E) in AS/NZS 4600 for built-up sections, channel, zed, hat and multi-web deck section.

Transverse stiffeners must be used for webs whose slenderness exceeds 200.

6.6.2 Combined Bending and Edge Loading

The combination of bending moment and concentrated load frequently occurs in beams at points such as interior supports and points of concentrated load within the span. When bending moment and concentrated load occur simultaneously at points without transverse stiffeners, the two actions interact to produce a reduced load capacity.

A large number of tests has been performed, mainly at the University of Missouri-Rolla (UMR) and at Cornell University, to determine the extent of this interaction. The test results (Refs 6.12, 6.13) are summarised in Fig. 6.10 for sections with single webs and in Fig. 6.11 for I-Beams formed from back to back channels. In the latter case, the test results only apply for beams which have webs with a slenderness (d_1/t) greater than $2.33 / \sqrt{f_y / E}$ or with flanges which are not fully effective, or both. For I-beams with stockier flanges and webs, no significant interaction between bending and web crippling occurs as shown in Ref. 6.8. The data on nested Z-sections is given in Ref. 6.14.

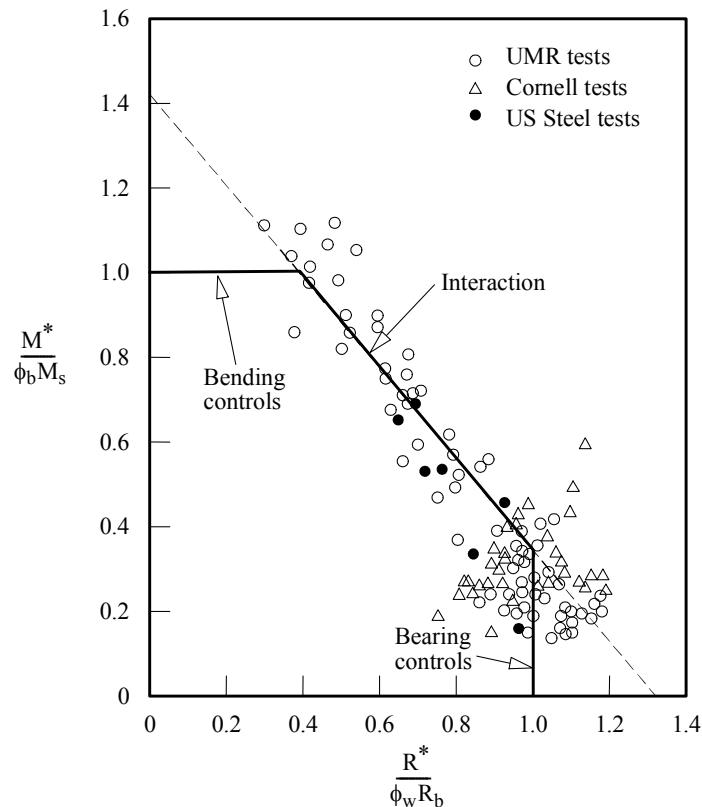


Fig. 6.10 Interaction of bending and bearing for single webs



Design of Cold-Formed Steel Structures
(To Australian/New Zealand Standard
AS/NZS 4600:2005)

by

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CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
PREFACE TO THE 4 th EDITION	viii
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Design Standards and Specifications for Cold-Formed Steel	1
1.1.1 General	1
1.1.2 History of Australian Cold-Formed Steel Structures Standards and USA Specifications	1
1.1.3 New Developments in the 2005 Edition	2
1.2 Common Section Profiles and Applications of Cold-Formed Steel	4
1.3 Manufacturing Processes	10
1.4 Special Problems in the Design of Cold-Formed Sections	12
1.4.1 Local Buckling and Post-local Buckling of Thin Plate Elements	12
1.4.2 Propensity for Twisting	13
1.4.3 Distortional Buckling	14
1.4.4 Cold Work of Forming	14
1.4.5 Web Crippling under Bearing	15
1.4.6 Connections	15
1.4.7 Corrosion Protection	16
1.4.8 Inelastic Reserve Capacity	16
1.4.9 Fatigue	16
1.5 Loading Combinations	17
1.6 Limit States Design	17
1.7 Computer Analysis	19
1.8 References	20
CHAPTER 2 MATERIALS AND COLD WORK OF FORMING	22
2.1 Steel Standards	22
2.2 Typical Stress-Strain Curves	23
2.3 Ductility	25
2.4 Effects of Cold Work on Structural Steels	29
2.5 Corner Properties of Cold-Formed Sections	30
2.6 Fracture Toughness	32
2.6.1 Background	32
2.6.2 Measurement of Critical Stress Intensity Factors	32
2.6.3 Evaluation of the Critical Stress Intensity Factors for Perforated Coupon Specimens	34
2.6.4 Evaluation of the Critical Stress Intensity Factors for Triple Bolted Specimens	35
2.7 References	36
CHAPTER 3 BUCKLING MODES OF THIN-WALLED MEMBERS IN COMPRESSION AND BENDING	37
3.1 Introduction to the Finite Strip Method	37
3.2 Monosymmetric Column Study	38
3.2.1 Unlipped Channel	38
3.2.2 Lipped Channel	41
3.2.3 Lipped Channel (Fixed Ended)	44
3.3 Purlin Section Study	45
3.3.1 Channel Section	45
3.3.2 Z-Section	46



3.4	Tubular Flange Sections	47
3.4.1	Hollow Flange Beam in Bending	47
3.4.2	LiteSteel Beam Section in Bending	48
3.5	References	49
CHAPTER 4 STIFFENED AND UNSTIFFENED COMPRESSION ELEMENTS		50
4.1	Local Buckling	50
4.2	Postbuckling of Plate Elements in Compression	51
4.3	Effective Width Formulae for Imperfect Elements in Pure Compression	52
4.4	Effective Width Formulae for Imperfect Elements under Stress Gradient	56
4.4.1	Stiffened Elements	56
4.4.2	Unstiffened Elements	56
4.5	Effective Width Formulae for Elements with Stiffeners	57
4.5.1	Edge Stiffened Elements	57
4.5.2	Intermediate Stiffened Elements with One Intermediate Stiffener	58
4.5.3	Edge Stiffened Elements with Intermediate Stiffeners, and Stiffened Elements with more than One Intermediate Stiffener	58
4.5.4	Uniformly Compressed Edge Stiffened Elements with Intermediate Stiffeners	59
4.6	Examples	59
4.6.1	Hat Section in Bending	59
4.6.2	Hat Section in Bending with Intermediate Stiffener in Compression Flange	63
4.6.3	C-Section Purlin in Bending	68
4.7	References	75
CHAPTER 5 BEAMS, PURLINS AND BRACING		76
5.1	General	76
5.2	Flexural-Torsional (Lateral) Buckling	77
5.2.1	Elastic Buckling of Unbraced Simply Supported Beams	77
5.2.2	Continuous Beams and Braced Simply Supported Beams	81
5.2.3	Bending Strength Design Equations	85
5.3	Distortional Buckling	86
5.3.1	Flange Distortional Buckling	86
5.3.2	Lateral-Distortional Buckling	89
5.4	Basic Behaviour of Purlins	89
5.4.1	Linear Response of Channel and Z-sections	89
5.4.2	Stability Considerations	92
5.4.3	Sheeting and Connection Types	94
5.5	Design Methods for Purlins	95
5.5.1	No Lateral and Torsional Restraint Provided by the Sheeting	95
5.5.2	Lateral Restraint but No Torsional Restraint	95
5.5.3	Lateral and Torsional Restraint	96
5.6	Bracing	98
5.7	Inelastic Reserve Capacity	101
5.7.1	Sections with Flat Elements	101
5.7.2	Cylindrical Tubular Members	102
5.8	Examples	102
5.8.1	Simply Supported C-Section Purlin	102
5.8.2	Distortional Buckling Stress for C-Section	107
5.8.3	Continuous Lapped Z-Section Purlin	108
5.8.4	Z-Section Purlin in Bending	116
5.9	References	122



CHAPTER 6	WEBS	125
6.1	General	125
6.2	Webs in Shear	125
6.2.1	Shear Buckling	125
6.2.2	Shear Yielding	127
6.3	Webs in Bending	127
6.4	Webs in Combined Bending and Shear	129
6.5	Web Stiffeners	130
6.6	Web Crippling (Bearing) of Open Sections	130
6.6.1	Edge Loading Alone	130
6.6.2	Combined Bending and Edge Loading	133
6.7	Webs with Holes	134
6.8	Examples	136
6.8.1	Combined Bending and Shear at the End of the Lap of a Continuous Z-Section Purlin	136
6.8.2	Combined Bearing and Bending of Hat Section	138
6.9	References	139
CHAPTER 7	COMPRESSION MEMBERS	141
7.1	General	141
7.2	Elastic Member Buckling	141
7.2.1	Flexural, Torsional and Flexural-Torsional Buckling	141
7.2.2	Distortional Buckling	143
7.3	Section Capacity in Compression	143
7.4	Member Capacity in Compression	144
7.4.1	Flexural, Torsional and Flexural-Torsional Buckling	144
7.4.2	Distortional Buckling	146
7.5	Effect of Local Buckling	147
7.5.1	Monosymmetric Sections	147
7.5.2	High Strength Steel Box Sections	149
7.6	Examples	151
7.6.1	Square Hollow Section Column	151
7.6.2	Unlipped Channel Column	153
7.6.3	Lipped Channel Column	157
7.7	References	164
CHAPTER 8	MEMBERS IN COMBINED AXIAL LOAD AND BENDING	165
8.1	Combined Axial Compressive Load and Bending - General	165
8.2	Interaction Equations for Combined Axial Compressive Load and Bending	166
8.3	Monosymmetric Sections under Combined Axial Compressive Load and Bending	167
8.3.1	Sections Bent in a Plane of Symmetry	167
8.3.2	Sections Bent about an Axis of Symmetry	169
8.4	Combined Axial Tensile Load and Bending	170
8.5	Examples	171
8.5.1	Unlipped Channel Section Beam-Column Bent in Plane of Symmetry	171
8.5.2	Unlipped Channel Section Beam-Column Bent about Plane of Symmetry	174
8.5.3	Lipped Channel Section Beam-Column Bent in Plane of Symmetry	176
8.6	References	180



CHAPTER 9	CONNECTIONS	182
9.1	Introduction to Welded Connections	182
9.2	Fusion Welds	184
9.2.1	Butt Welds	184
9.2.2	Fillet Welds subject to Transverse Loading	184
9.2.3	Fillet Welds subject to Longitudinal Loading	185
9.2.4	Combined Longitudinal and Transverse Fillet Welds	186
9.2.5	Flare Welds	186
9.2.6	Arc Spot Welds (Puddle Welds)	187
9.2.7	Arc Seam Welds	190
9.3	Resistance Welds	190
9.4	Introduction to Bolted Connections	190
9.5	Design Formulae and Failure Modes for Bolted Connections	192
9.5.1	Tearout Failure of Sheet (Type I)	193
9.5.2	Bearing Failure of Sheet (Type II)	193
9.5.3	Net Section Tension Failure (Type III)	194
9.5.4	Shear Failure of Bolt (Type IV)	196
9.6	Screw Fasteners and Blind Rivets	196
9.7	Rupture	200
9.8	Examples	201
9.8.1	Welded Connection Design Example	201
9.8.2	Bolted Connection Design Example	205
9.9	References	208
CHAPTER 10	DIRECT STRENGTH METHOD	209
10.1	Introduction	209
10.2	Elastic Buckling Solutions	209
10.3	Strength Design Curves	210
10.3.1	Local Buckling	210
10.3.2	Flange-distortional buckling	212
10.3.3	Overall buckling	213
10.4	Direct Strength Equations	213
10.5	Examples	215
10.5.1	Lipped Channel Column (Direct Strength Method)	215
10.5.2	Simply Supported C-Section Beam	216
10.6	References	218
CHAPTER 11	STEEL STORAGE RACKING	219
11.1	Introduction	219
11.2	Loads	220
11.3	Methods of Structural Analysis	221
11.3.1	Upright Frames - First Order	222
11.3.2	Upright Frames - Second Order	223
11.3.3	Beams	223
11.4	Effects of Perforations (Slots)	224
11.4.1	Section Modulus of Net Section	224
11.4.2	Minimum Net Cross-Sectional Area	225
11.4.3	Form Factor (Q)	225
11.5	Member Design Rules	225
11.5.1	Flexural Design Curves	225
11.5.2	Column Design Curves	226



11.5.3 Distortional Buckling	227
11.6 Example	227
11.7 References	235
SUBJECT INDEX BY SECTION	236

