

# DESIGN INTERACTION DIAGRAMS FOR REINFORCED CONCRETE CIRCULAR COLUMNS FOLLOWING ACI 319-19

Minh Thien Vo<sup>1</sup>, Thanh Tung Vo<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Lecturer, Department of Civil Engineering, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology (HUTECH)

<sup>2</sup>Student, Department of Civil Engineering, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology (HUTECH)

Received 09/11/2020, Revised 13/12/2020, Accepted 08/01/2021

## Abstract

The procedure for creating interaction diagrams for reinforced-concrete circular crosssections, based on ACI 318-19, is described in the paper. The algorithm is generated based on mathematical tools Mathcad Prime. The author would like to introduce algorithms to the company designs, engineers build an evaluation method column bearing capacity of the circular cross-section. The obtained results are compared with a conventional method (ie, the computer software SP-Column). The obtained results are promising, as the values obtained by the Interaction Charts and the conventional method appear to be in good agreement.

**Keywords:** reinforced concrete, circular cross-section, interaction diagrams.

## 1. Introduction

This paper presents a novel analytical method to generate interaction diagrams useful for the design of reinforced concrete (RC) biaxial columns. Analysis and design of a structural concrete member for biaxial moments is difficult because a trial and adjustment procedure is necessary to find the inclination and depth of the neutral axis satisfying the equilibrium equations. In the process of calculating the bearing capacity of the column in two main directions of the column cross-section, the reinforcement is usually arranged evenly according to the cross section's circumference. The exact calculation of stress in the rebars is complicated by the uneven distribution of stress. Stress depends on the distance from the rebars to the neutral axis. A novel analytical method is derived for the ultimate capacity interaction diagram (i.e., axial compression,  $P$  - bending moment resistance,  $M_x$ ,  $M_y$ ) of reinforced concrete (RC) columns with circular cross-section has been proposed by the American Concrete Institute [1] since 1997. For the case of a rectangular cross-section column (Figure 1a), the  $P$ - $M$  interaction diagram resulting from using the strong axis is different from that resulting from using the weak axis. Since there is no strong or weak axis being defined for a circular reinforced concrete section, it has been assumed that a circular reinforced concrete section will only result in one  $P$ - $M$  diagram, it does not matter which bending axis in the section is used. (Figure 1b). The arrangement of reinforcement at a circular cross-section will create a relationship diagram  $P$ - $M$ . However, this issue also depends on many factors: load combination, the magnitude of bending moment  $M_x$ ,  $M_y$ , and the number of rebars arranged in the section.

Hence, the complete interactive diagram setup is essential. It is very useful for structural design companies, construction engineers. This solution is assessed bearing capacity comprehensive column.

The growing use of digital computers as a design tool has resulted in very rapid advances in the dynamic analyzes of

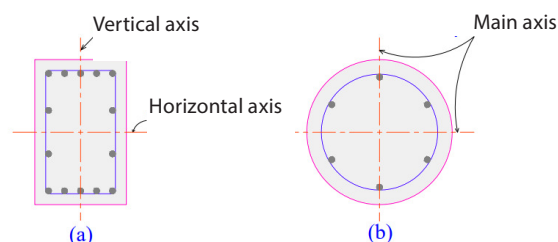


Figure 1. Typical types of reinforced concrete cross-section.

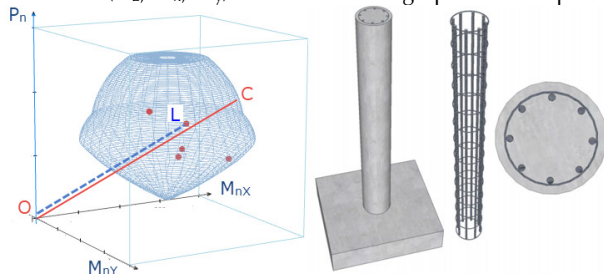
structures. The biaxial interaction diagrams of RC rectangular columns have been investigated extensively by numerous researchers. The development of bearing capacity structure models is a field of extensive research and many different models have been proposed. The initial background research methodology of interactive diagrams, D.C. Kent và R. Park (1971) using these derived stress-strain curves the moment-curvature relationships for reinforced concrete members under cyclic loading are studied theoretically and compared with the results of a series of tests on reinforced concrete beams under cyclic loading. They have provided good and practical guidance on methods of basic research on interactive diagrams. Evaluate the bearing capacity of the column by method increasing the longitudinal steel bars cross-section area or the number of steel bars. With that idea, researchers have proposed improved methods for interactive diagrams, which have been applied to ACI318. In 2010, Angus Law & Martin Gillie [2] constructed the axial force-moment interaction diagram of an RC section using existing numerical methods, high computation demand, and knowledge of heat transfer and stress analysis are required. In 2012, Ž. Smolčić and D. Grandić [3] have developed an interactive diagramming process for reinforced concrete circular cross-sections, based on HRN EN 1992-1-1. In 2014, Yingjie Jia, Peng Chang, and Jing Sun [4] developed a specified domain in  $N_u$ - $M_u$  interaction diagram for logical judgment in numerical analysis on

compression reinforced concrete members. In Vietnam, Nguyen Viet Hung[5] researched the establishment of interactive diagrams of reinforced concrete structures with a rectangular cross-section in the inclined plane according to US standard ACI 318-14. This study is based on mathematical software Mathcad and includes the numerical example of columns using the proposed mathematical model approach for both compression and tension failure cases. Calculation process based on ACI 318-19 [6]. Besides, this algorithm also supports the structural design engineer to import data from Excel, CSI Etabs [7]. and adjust some parameters to improve the accuracy of results[8].

**2. Methodology**

**2.1 Assumptions**

In recent years several methods for designing biaxially loaded columns have been published. Most methods have in common some form of an interaction surface as shown in Figure 2. Interactive diagrams that show the relation between the axial load and bending moment at failure. To understandable, internal force combination ( $N_x, M_x, M_y$ ) is shown on the graph with the points L:



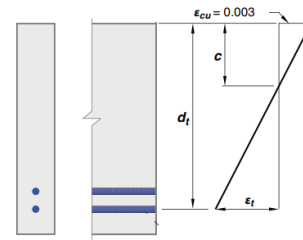
**Figure 2.** Interaction diagrams for circular cross-sections.

Point C is the stretching point of the segment OL, C is a point at the limit of the bearing capacity of the section. Thus, the cross-section of the column is considered to ensure the bearing capacity when the point showing the internal destructive force is inside the chart:

$$\frac{OL}{OC} \leq 1 \tag{1}$$

The design charts are prepared to get the pairs of values of  $P_u$  and  $M_u$  in non-dimensional form from the equations of equilibrium for different locations of the neutral axis. For each position of the neutral axis, the following assumptions were used to determine the stress of reinforced concrete by ACI318-19:

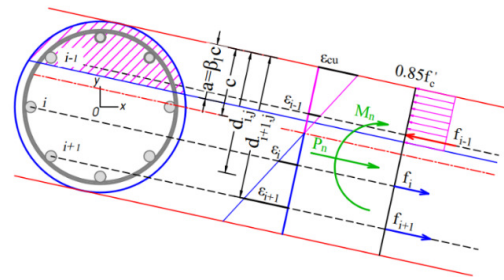
- a) The assumption that plane sections remain plane also gives guidance as to when a structural element should be regarded as one, two, or three dimensional.
- b) The hypothesis of the deformation of a solid body in which the displacements of the material particles are assumed to be much smaller (indeed, infinitesimally smaller) than any relevant dimension of the body.
- c) The stress-strain relationship for materials is given by the material's stress-strain curve. Under different loads, the stress and corresponding strain values are plotted (Figure 3);



**Figure 3.** Deformation chart (ACI318-19.21.2.2.2).

d) This analysis assumes the stress is evenly distributed over the entire compression zone ranges c. (Figure 4).

$$a = \beta_1 \cdot c \tag{2}$$



**Figure 4.** stress and strain distribution diagram of circular cross-section.

e) Values of  $\beta_1$  for equivalent column concrete stress distribution. It depends on the compressive strength of concrete.

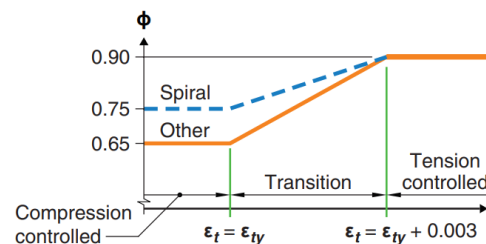
**Table 1.** Table of experimental coefficients  $\beta_1$  (ACI318-19.22.2.2.4.3).

$f'_c$ (MPa)	hệ số $\beta_1$
$17 \leq f'_c \leq 28$	0.85
$28 < f'_c < 55$	$0.85 - \frac{0.05 \cdot (f'_c - 28)}{7}$
$55 \leq f'_c$	0.65

- f) The tensile strength of concrete is ignored;
- g) The stress in the tensile steel is less than a limiting value by the standard ACI318-19.21.2.2.1;

$$f_s = \begin{cases} E_s \cdot \epsilon_s \leftarrow f_s \leq f_y \\ f_y \leftarrow f_s > f_y \end{cases} \tag{3}$$

These factors are related to the loads exerted on the structure and considerably affect the bearing capacity. We need to consider the impact of  $\phi$  all these issues (Figure 4):



**Figure 5.** Variation of  $\phi$  with net tensile strain in extreme tension reinforcement  $\epsilon_t$ .

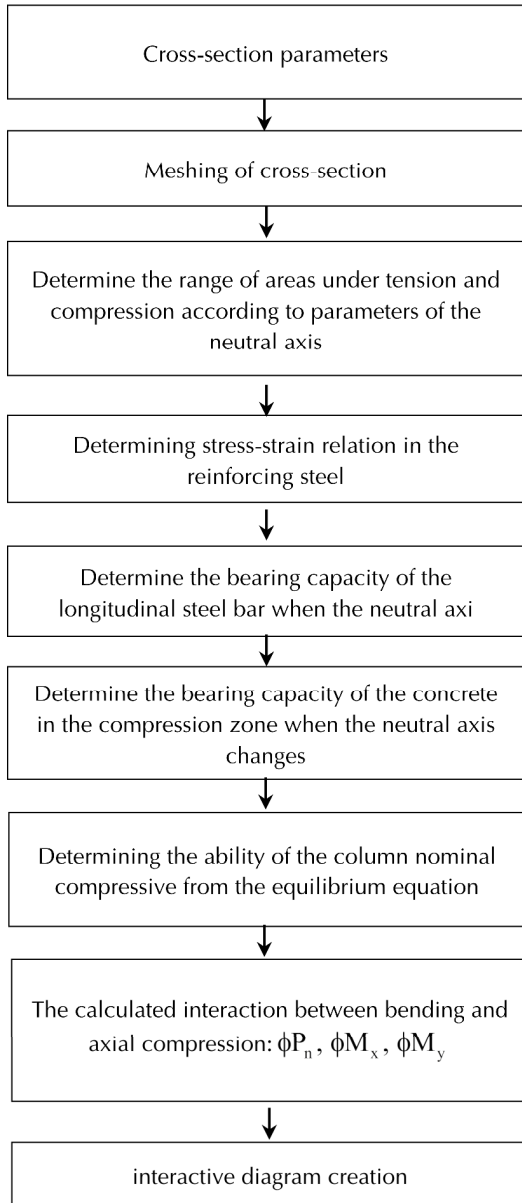
Variation of  $\xi$  depends on the type of shear reinforcement ACI318-19.22.4.2.1.

**Table 2.** Determine the coefficient  $\xi$ .

Member	Transverse reinforcement	$\xi$
Nonprestressed	Stirrup	0.80
	Spirals	0.85

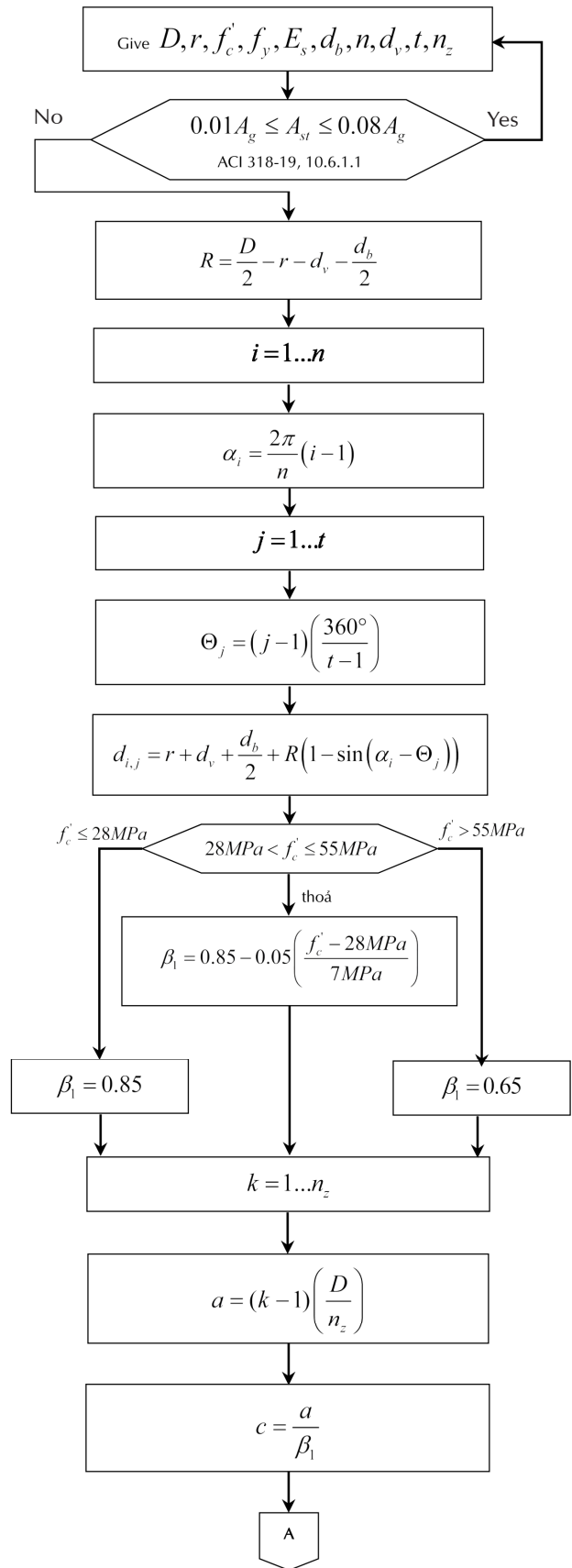
**2.2. Method establish interaction diagram**

The basic steps establish the interaction diagram



**Figure 6.** The procedure of setting up interaction diagrams.

In comparison to bending about one axis of a reinforced concrete column, biaxial bending presents an entirely different and more complex situation. As a second bending moment is introduced, the neutral axes are no longer parallel to the centroidal axes of the section but lie at some angle  $\theta$  from them.



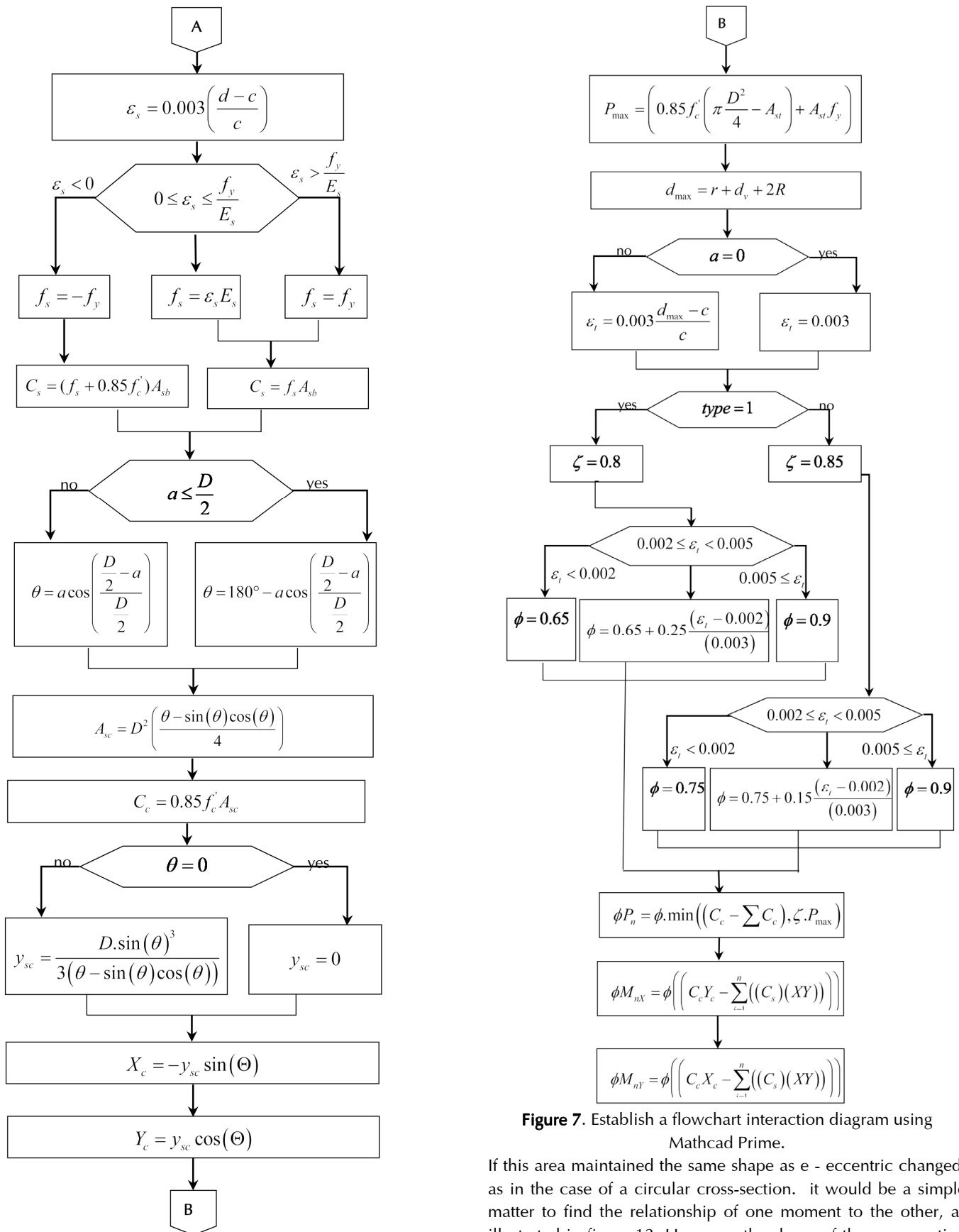


Figure 7. Establish a flowchart interaction diagram using Mathcad Prime.

If this area maintained the same shape as e - eccentric changed, as in the case of a circular cross-section. it would be a simple matter to find the relationship of one moment to the other, as illustrated in figure 12. However, the shape of the cross-section does vary with e, but no simple and exact relationship is to be

found between  $e$  and the load capacity of the column. An outline of the series of operations: required to design a column is given in figure 6. The flow chart follows the column design procedure from the initial assumptions to the final sizing in Figure 7. This procedure represents the fundamental approach to column design.

The neutral axis position should be assumed in advance (the boundary between the tensile and compression of the section). Next, it is necessary to determine tensile stress/compression in the longitudinal reinforcement. Determine the column bearing capacity from the axial force balance equation. A uniaxial interaction diagram defines the load-moment strength along a single plane of a section under an axial load  $P$  and a uniaxial moment  $M$ . The biaxial bending resistance of an axially loaded column can be represented schematically as a surface formed by a series of uniaxial interaction curves drawn radially from the  $P$  axis. Data for these intermediate curves are obtained by varying the angle of the neutral axis (for assumed strain configurations) concerning the major axes. The procedure is shown by the flowchart in figure 6

**3. Numerical examples**

As an example, consider the problem where it is desired to design a column to carry the following design loads obtained from a structural analysis (table 3). As a trial size: column diameter  $D = 50\text{cm}$ , cover thickness for column rebars  $r = 30\text{ mm}$ , the longitudinal bars  $8\phi 20$  are arranged in a circle surrounded by a closely spaced continuous spiral, shown in Figure 8. Concrete materials have a compressive strength  $f'_c = 21\text{MPa}$ ; yield strength of longitudinal reinforcement  $f_y = 420\text{MPa}$  and elastic modulus of reinforced concrete  $E_s = 200\text{GPa}$ . Create interactive diagrams according to US standards ACI 318-19 to check the bearing capacity of the column according to the following 5 internal force combinations:

**Table 3.** internal forces in column.

Combination	1	2	3	4	5
$N_z$ (kN)	200	400	600	800	1000
$M_x$ (kN.m)	-50	70	-90	110	-130
$M_y$ (kN.m)	80	-100	120	-140	160

**Step 1:** Material properties and geometric parameters of the section.

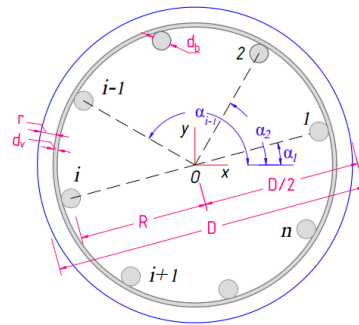
- Material parameters
  - Compressive strength of concrete  $f'_c = 21\text{MPa}$
  - Yield strength of the longitudinal reinforcement  $f_y = 420\text{MPa}$
  - Elastic modulus of reinforced concrete  $E_s = 200\text{GPa}$
- Geometry parameters
  - The cross-sectional diameter of a circular column  $D = 50\text{cm}$
  - The thickness of Concrete Cover  $r = 30\text{mm}$
  - Parameters for the rebars and stirrups

- The diameter of a longitudinal bar  $d_b = 22\text{mm}$
- Number of the longitudinal bar  $n = 8$
- Stirrups diameter  $d_v = 8\text{mm}$
- The type of shear reinforcement (type = 1 – stirrup; type = 2 – spirals)  $\text{type} = 1$

- Geometric parameter of the interactive diagram
- Parameter changes the angle of the neutral axis  $t = 10$
- Parameter changes the height of the neutral axis  $n_z = 10$
- The total area of longitudinal reinforcement arranged on the section:

$$A_{st} := n \cdot A_{sb} = 30.411 \text{ cm}^2$$

- The longitudinal steel bar coordinates on a Cartesian coordinate system (Figure 8)



**Figure 8.** The coordinates of the longitudinal rebars.

$$\alpha = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 45 \\ 90 \\ 135 \\ 180 \\ 225 \\ 270 \\ 315 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} XY_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.201 \\ 0.000 \end{bmatrix} m \\ XY_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.142 \\ 0.142 \end{bmatrix} m \\ XY_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.000 \\ 0.201 \end{bmatrix} m \\ XY_4 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.142 \\ 0.142 \end{bmatrix} m \\ XY_5 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.201 \\ 0.000 \end{bmatrix} m \\ XY_6 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.142 \\ -0.142 \end{bmatrix} m \\ XY_7 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.000 \\ -0.201 \end{bmatrix} m \\ XY_8 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.142 \\ -0.142 \end{bmatrix} m \end{matrix}$$

**Step 2:** Set parameters for height, rotation neutral axis:

Set the angle  $\theta$  represents the changing angle of the neutral axis on the section with  $t$  turns. The distance represents the change in axis height from the edge of the section with  $n_z$  turns:

$$\theta = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 40 \\ 80 \\ 120 \\ 160 \\ 200 \\ 240 \\ 280 \\ 320 \\ 360 \end{bmatrix} \text{ deg} \quad a = \begin{bmatrix} 0.000 \\ 0.050 \\ 0.100 \\ 0.150 \\ 0.200 \\ 0.250 \\ 0.300 \\ 0.350 \\ 0.400 \\ 0.450 \end{bmatrix} m$$

**Step 3:** Determine the tensile, compression of the cross-section:

Determine the distance from the position of each steel bar to the edge of the section when neutral axis rotation changes (Figure 4):

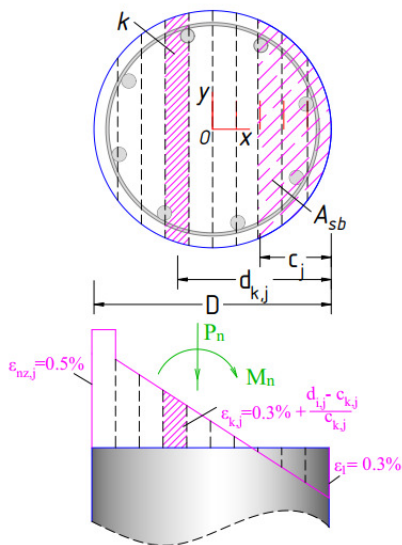
$$d = \begin{bmatrix} 0.250 & 0.379 & 0.448 & 0.424 & 0.319 & 0.181 & 0.076 & 0.052 & 0.121 & 0.250 \\ 0.108 & 0.232 & 0.365 & 0.444 & 0.432 & 0.335 & 0.198 & 0.085 & 0.050 & 0.108 \\ 0.049 & 0.096 & 0.215 & 0.351 & 0.439 & 0.439 & 0.351 & 0.215 & 0.096 & 0.049 \\ 0.108 & 0.050 & 0.085 & 0.198 & 0.335 & 0.432 & 0.444 & 0.365 & 0.232 & 0.108 \\ 0.250 & 0.121 & 0.052 & 0.076 & 0.181 & 0.319 & 0.424 & 0.448 & 0.379 & 0.250 \\ 0.392 & 0.268 & 0.135 & 0.056 & 0.068 & 0.165 & 0.302 & 0.415 & 0.450 & 0.392 \\ 0.451 & 0.404 & 0.285 & 0.150 & 0.061 & 0.150 & 0.285 & 0.404 & 0.451 & \\ 0.392 & 0.450 & 0.415 & 0.302 & 0.165 & 0.068 & 0.056 & 0.135 & 0.268 & 0.392 \end{bmatrix} m$$

Determine  $\theta_k$  when the neutral axis changes height and determine the compression zone of the column cross-section:

$$\theta = \begin{bmatrix} 0.000 \\ 36.870 \\ 53.130 \\ 66.422 \\ 78.463 \\ 90.000 \\ 101.537 \\ 113.578 \\ 126.870 \\ 143.130 \end{bmatrix} \text{deg} \quad A_{sc} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.000 \\ 102.188 \\ 279.560 \\ 495.421 \\ 733.425 \\ 981.748 \\ 1230.071 \\ 1468.075 \\ 1683.936 \\ 1861.307 \end{bmatrix} \text{cm}^2$$

**Step 4:** Calculate the stress and strain in the bar:

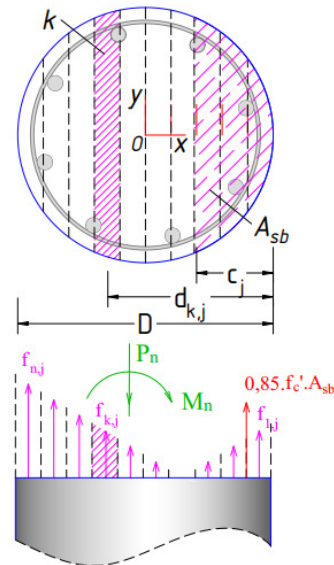
Strain in concrete is the same as in reinforcing bars at the same level, provided that the bond between the steel and concrete is sufficient to keep them acting together under the different load stages i.e., no-slip can occur between the two materials. For a specified position and direction of the neutral axis, the strain diagram can be set with the maximum tensile strain in the concrete of  $\epsilon_{cu} = 0.005$  and the maximum compressive strain in concrete 0.003 (Figure 9).



**Figure 9.** Strain diagrams showing the change between the depth and rotation with the neutral axis.

$$\epsilon_{s_k} := \begin{cases} f(a, b) \leftarrow 1 & \text{if } a_k = 0 \\ \text{matrix}(n, \text{last}(\theta), f) \cdot 0.005 & \text{else if } a_k = D \\ \text{matrix}(n, \text{last}(\theta), f) \cdot -0.003 & \text{else} \\ 0.003 \cdot \frac{d - c_k}{c_k} & \end{cases}$$

Determination of stresses in steel bars. However, the stress should not exceed the yield strength of the reinforcement (Figure 10):



**Figure 10.** Stress distribution diagram in longitudinal steel bars.

```

f_s := for k ∈ 1..last(a)
      for j ∈ 1..last(θ)
        for i ∈ 1..n
          if ||(ε_s_k)_{i,j}|| < f_y / E_s
            F_{i,j} ← (ε_s_k)_{i,j} · E_s
          else if (ε_s_k)_{i,j} < 0
            F_{i,j} ← -f_y
          else
            F_{i,j} ← f_y
          f_{s_k} ← F
    
```

**Step 5:** Determine the bearing capacity of each longitudinal rebar when the neutral axis changes:

The tensile strength of concrete may be neglected. Ignore the concrete area due to the steel bars were arranged.

```

C_s := for k ∈ 1..last(a)
      for j ∈ 1..last(θ)
        for i ∈ 1..n
          if (f_s_k)_{i,j} ≥ 0 MPa
            G_{i,j} ← (f_s_k)_{i,j} · A_sb
          else
            G_{i,j} ← ((f_s_k)_{i,j} - 0.85 · f_c) · A_sb
          C_{s_k} ← G
    
```

Step 6: Determine the bearing capacity of the concrete in the compression zone when the neutral axis changes:

$$C_{c_k} := 0.85 \cdot f_c \cdot A_{sc_k}$$

$$C_c = \begin{bmatrix} 0.000 \\ 182.406 \\ 499.014 \\ 884.326 \\ 1309.163 \\ 1752.420 \\ 2195.677 \\ 2620.513 \\ 3005.826 \\ 3322.433 \end{bmatrix} \text{ kN}$$

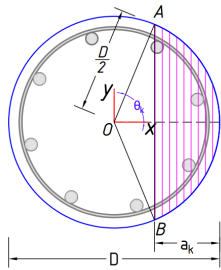


Figure 11. Determine the bearing capacity of the concrete in the compression zone according to  $\theta_k$  when the neutral axis changes.

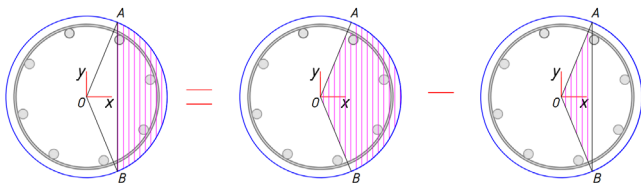


Figure 12. Determine the compressed area on the cross-section.

$$\theta_k := \begin{cases} \text{if } a_k \leq \frac{D}{2} \\ \arccos\left(\frac{\frac{D}{2} - a_k}{\frac{D}{2}}\right) \\ \text{else} \\ 180^\circ - \arccos\left(\frac{a_k - \frac{D}{2}}{\frac{D}{2}}\right) \end{cases}$$

$$A_{sc_k} := D^2 \cdot \left( \frac{\theta_k - \sin(\theta_k) \cdot \cos(\theta_k)}{4} \right)$$

Step 7: Determine the nominal strength of an axially loaded column by an axial balance equation:

$$P_{nmax} := \left( 0.85 \cdot f_c \cdot \left( \pi \cdot \frac{D^2}{4} - A_{st} \right) + A_{st} \cdot f_y \right)$$

Step 8: Resistance of reinforced concrete columns subjected to axial force and bending:

$$\phi P_{n_k,j} := \phi \cdot \min \left( C_{c_k} - \sum C_{s_k}^{(j)}, \zeta \cdot P_{nmax} \right)$$

$$\phi M_{n_k,j} := \phi \cdot \left( C_{c_k} \cdot Y_{c_k,j} - \sum_{i=1}^n \left( C_{s_k}^{(j)} \cdot (XY)_i \right) \right)$$

$$\phi M_{n_k,j} := \phi \cdot \left( C_{c_k} \cdot X_{c_k,j} - \sum_{i=1}^n \left( C_{s_k}^{(j)} \cdot (XY)_i \right) \right)$$

Step 9: Construction of interaction diagrams

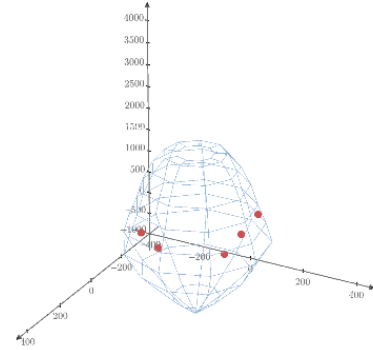


Figure 13. Interaction surface from the computer program P-M.

Besides, the authors have set the parameters (t-parameter changes the angle of the neutral axis via  $n_z$ -parameter changes the height of the neutral axis), which helps design engineers can easily adjust the level of accuracy in building an interactive surface;

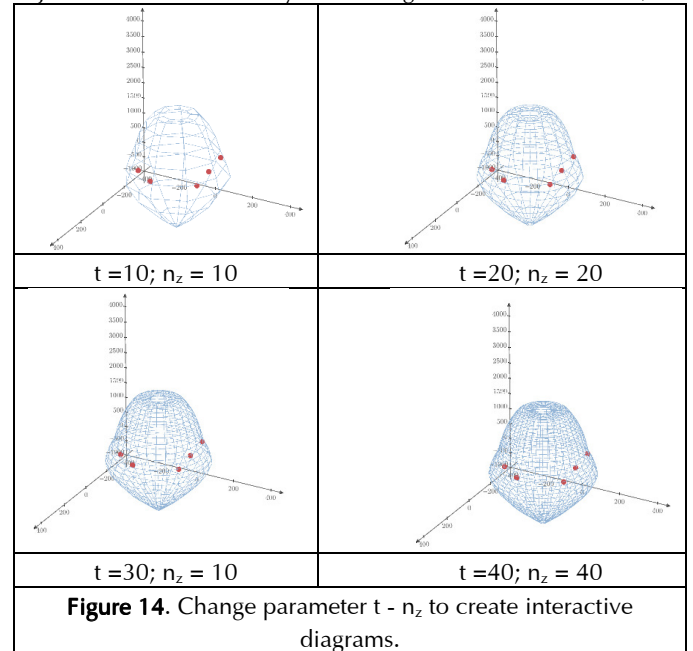


Figure 14. Change parameter t -  $n_z$  to create interactive diagrams.

The results obtained are also compared with the Finite Element software SP column:

Material Properties - Concrete		
Type	Standard	
f <sub>c</sub>	21	MPa
E <sub>c</sub>	21538.1	MPa
f <sub>c</sub>	17.85	MPa
ε <sub>u</sub>	0.003	mm/mm
β <sub>1</sub>	0.85	
Material Properties - Steel		
Type	Standard	
f <sub>y</sub>	420	MPa
E <sub>s</sub>	200000	MPa
ε <sub>yt</sub>	0.0021	mm/mm

Figure 15. Material parameters in SpColumn.

Section - Shape and Properties	
Type	Circular
Diameter	500 mm
Ag	196350 mm <sup>2</sup>
Ix	3.06796e+009 mm <sup>4</sup>
Iy	3.06796e+009 mm <sup>4</sup>
rx	125 mm
ry	125 mm
Xo	0 mm
Yo	0 mm

Figure 16. Geometry parameters in SpColumn.

Reinforcement - Arrangement	
Pattern	All sides equal
Bar layout	Circular
Cover to	Transverse bars
Clear cover	30 mm
Bars	8 #22
Total steel area, As	3096 mm <sup>2</sup>
Rho	1.58 %
Minimum clear spacing	130 mm

Figure 17. Steel reinforcement parameters in SpColumn.

Factored Loads and Moments with Corresponding Capacities										
No	Pu	Mux	Muy	φMnx	φMny	φMn/Mu	NA Depth	dt Depth	εt	φ
	kN	kNm	kNm	kNm	kNm		mm	mm		
1	200.00	-50.00	80.00	-118.28	189.24	2.366	151	444	0.00583	0.900
2	400.00	70.00	-100.00	137.47	-196.38	1.964	171	446	0.00483	0.885
3	600.00	-90.00	120.00	-140.37	187.15	1.560	196	447	0.00384	0.800
4	800.00	110.00	-140.00	138.37	-176.11	1.258	227	447	0.00290	0.719
5	1000.00	-130.00	160.00	-130.39	160.48	1.003	260	448	0.00218	0.657

Figure 18. Internal force parameters in SpColumn.

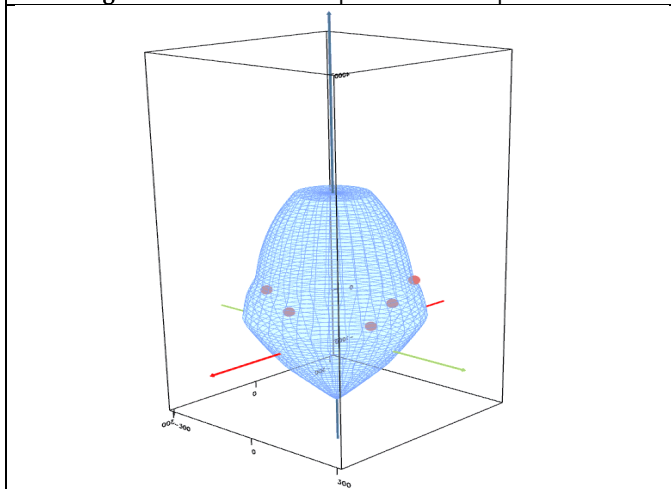


Figure 19. Interactive diagrams in SpColumn.

#### 4. Conclusion

The computer program gives an exact curve of the interaction surface and interaction lines when the method from ACI 318-19. Based on the calculated results achieved. We noticed, Mathcad Prime and SpColumn had results are similar.

Through the article, the authors have provided the construction engineers with an algorithm to set up an interactive diagram for the circular cross-section column according to ACI 318-19.

The structural engineers were able to easily change the parameters of the program to achieve the desired reliability.

The structural engineer will easily adjust, improved, updated following ACI or other standards of the same platform.

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