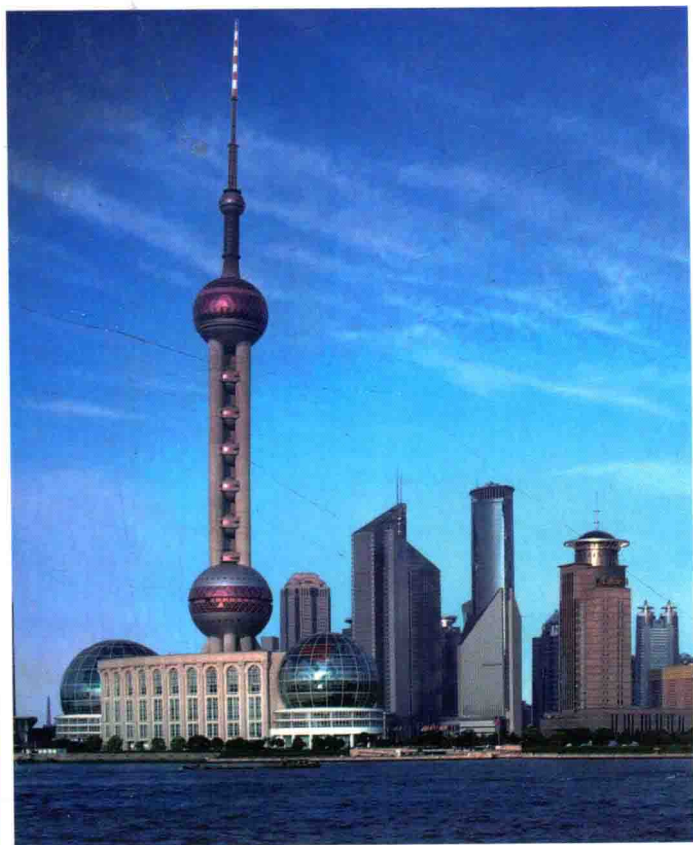




ADVANCES IN STEEL STRUCTURES



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Volume I

edited by

Z.Y. Shen, G.Q. Li
and S.L. Chan

ADVANCES IN

Proceedings of the
Fourth International Conference on Advances in Steel Structures

13 - 15 June 2005, Shanghai, China

Volume I

Edited by

Z.Y. Shen and G.Q. Li

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PREFACE

These two volumes of proceedings contain 11 invited keynote papers, 33 invited papers, and 225 contributed papers presented at the Fourth International Conference on Advances in Steel Structures (ICASS '05) held on 13-15 June 2005 in Shanghai, China.

The conference was the fourth in the series of International Conferences on Advances in Steel Structures with the previous conferences being held in Hong Kong in December 1996, 1999 and 2002.

These conferences provide a forum for discussion and dissemination by researchers and designers of recent advances in the analysis, behavior, design and construction of steel structures. Contributions to the papers came from 22 countries around the world and cover a wide spectrum of topics including the current state-of-the-art as well as anticipating the future directions of research in steel, metal and composite structures.

The organization of the conference would not have been possible without the support and contribution of many individuals and organizations. The strong support from the Tongji University, Prof. Y.Y. Chen, Dean of the College of Civil Engineering and Prof. Q.L. Zhang, Vice-Dean of the College of Civil Engineering, has been pivotal in the successful organization of this conference. We also sincerely appreciate the support from the China Society of Steel Construction, the China Society of Metal Structures for Buildings and the Shanghai Society of Metal Structures.

We would also like to thank the valuable assistance from the members of the international advisory committee, the local advisory committee, the conference organizing committee, and, in particular, the panel of referees. We also wish to express our gratitude to all the contributors for their careful preparation of the manuscripts. Thanks are also due to all those who have devoted their time and effort to the organization of the conference and publication of the Proceedings, including staff and students in the Department of Building Engineering at the College of Civil Engineering, Tongji University.

Finally, we gratefully acknowledge our pleasant cooperation with Keith Lambert and Noël Blatchford of Elsevier Ltd in the UK.

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CONTENTS

VOLUME I

Preface	v
International Advisory Committee	vii
Local Advisory Committee	x
Local Organizing Committee	xii
Keynote Papers	
Structural Steel Design Codes: Vehicles for Improving Practice or for Implementing Research? <i>D.A. Nethercot</i>	3
Direct Strength Design of Hot-Rolled and Cold-Formed Steel Compression Members <i>G. J. Hancock, D.O. Cook, R.E. Moisy and A. Yen</i>	13
Roof Structure Design of Shanghai South Railway Station <i>D.S. Wang, J.L.G. Zhou and S. Li</i>	21
Some Developments in Tubular Joint Research <i>J. Wardenier and Y.S. Choo</i>	31
Theory, Design Criteria and Practical Applications of Curved Members in Construction <i>R. Bjorhovde</i>	41
On The Treatment of Joint Rotations in Buckling Analyses of Space Frames <i>Y.B. Yang and L.J. Leu</i>	51
Advanced Analysis for Steel Design: from Theory to Practice <i>W.F. Chen and S.E. Kim</i>	61
Failure Mechanism of Reticular Shells Subjected to Dynamic Actions <i>S.Z. Shen and X.D. Zhi</i>	69
Instability Research Of Single Layer Reticulated Shells At Tongji University <i>Z.Y. Shen, Y.Q. Li and Y.F. Luo</i>	83
Beams and Columns	
*Simplified Design of Crane Girders with Open Cross Sections Subjected to Biaxial Bending and Torsion <i>J. Lindner and T. Glitsch</i>	95
Geometric Imperfections in Stainless Steel Cross-Sections <i>M. Ashraf, L. Gardner and D.A. Nethercot</i>	105

* Invited Paper

*Flexural-Torsional Buckling of Arches under Directed Or Hydrostatic Loads <i>M.A. Bradford and Y.-L. Pi</i>	113
Tests of Aluminum Alloy Circular Hollow Section Compression Members <i>J.H. Zhu and B. Young</i>	121
Elastic In-Plane Buckling of Circular Tied Steel Arches <i>M.A. Bradford, Y.X. Zhang and R.I. Gilbert</i>	131
Behaviour and Design of Webs in High Strength Steel under Flexural Loading <i>A. Wheeler and R. Bridge</i>	137
Behaviour of Slender Fabricated High Strength Steel Columns Subjected to Biaxial Bending <i>B. Uy, M. Mursi, J. Haedir and J. Lee</i>	143
Numerical Simulation of High Strength Steel Lipped Channel Columns <i>D.M. Yang and G.J. Hancock</i>	149
Ultimate Load-Carrying Capacity of Shuttle-Shaped Box Hollow-Section Column <i>K. Deng, Y.L. Guo, D.B. Hu and J.B. Liu</i>	155
The Restraining Requirements for The Buckling-Restrained Brace <i>Y.L. Guo, J.B. Liu, D.B. Hu and K. Deng</i>	161
Study on The Out-Of-Plane Stability of Bending Cantilever Beam <i>P. Lan, N.L. Lu and B. Luo</i>	167
Elastic Stability of Centrally Loaded Partially Restrained Steel I-Sections <i>M. Glaesle, M. Pircher and R. Bridge</i>	173
Ductility of Stiffened Steel Box Member <i>O. Mohamed, T. Sakimoto and T. Yamao</i>	179
Load-Carrying Capacity and Application of Locally Buckled Hollow Section Stub <i>T. Liu and Y.L. Guo</i>	185
The Research of The Effective Length for The Column in Stability Analysis of Steel Frames with Semi-Rigid Connection <i>Y. Wang and W.H. Yang</i>	191
Effect of Two Directional Loading on Ductility and Ultimate Strength of Steel Bridge Piers with Inner Cruciform Walls <i>Z.F. Wang, T. Yamao and Z. Ishii</i>	197
Plastic Deformation of Beams in Steel Moment-Resistant Frames Subjected to Strong Earthquakes <i>H. Nakahara, M. Yamanari and K. Ogawa</i>	203
Experimental and Numerical Analysis on Steel Box-Section Beam-Columns under Cyclic Bending <i>M.Z. Su and Q. Gu</i>	209

Frames

Nonlinear Analysis of Inelastic Steel Frames <i>L. Xu and Y. Liu</i>	217
*Second-Order Analysis and Design of Pitched-Roof Steel Frames <i>N. Silvestre and D. Camotim</i>	225
Practical Advanced Analysis for Semi-Rigid Frame Design <i>J. Chen</i>	233
Longitudinal Bracings Requirements of Sway Buckling Industrial Frame <i>G.S. Tong and D. Li</i>	239
Optimal Design of Special Steel Moment Frames under Extreme Seismic Loading <i>Y.L. Gong</i>	245
Experimental Research and Finite Element Analysis on Steel Frame Structure with New Infilling Cavity Wall <i>Q. Gu, X.F. Liu, K.J. Guan and S.M. Peng</i>	251
Experimental Research on Lateral-Load Resistance of Steel Frames with ALC Out-Hanged and In-Filled Walls <i>C. Wang, Y.S. Liu and B. Zhang</i>	257
The Analysis of Steel Gabled Frames with Flexible Connections <i>X.J. Liao, Y.J. Shi and Y.Q. Wang</i>	263
System Reliability Assessment of Planar Steel Frames <i>Y.S. Liu and G.Q. Li</i>	269
Topology Optimization of Bracing in Steel Structures By Genetic Algorithm <i>M.R. Maheri and D. Safari</i>	277
Accurate and Simplified Design Method of Staggered Truss System Considering Second-Order Effects <i>T. Mo and X.H. Zhou</i>	283
The Integral Stability Analysis of The Long-Span Tension-Chord Portal Frame <i>K. Tang, B.D. Liu and J.Q. Gong</i>	289
Characteristics of 3D Steel Subassemblages with Steel RHS Column and Wide Flange Beam Stiffened By External Diaphragm under Biaxial Lateral Force <i>W.N. Sui and M. Yamanari</i>	295
Second-Order Analysis for Space Framed Structures with a Gradually Elasto-Plastic Numerical Model <i>K. Zhou, Q.Z. Zheng and Q.G. Song</i>	301
Collapse Analysis of 3D Steel Frame By a Fibered Plastic Hinge Method <i>M. Shugyo, M. Shimazu and Y. Sakumoto</i>	309

* Invited Paper

Dual System Design of Steel Frames Incorporating Buckling-Restrained Braces <i>Q. Xie</i>	315
A Computational Model for Elastic Analysis of Steel Moment Frames with RBS Connection <i>A. Deylami and H. Habashi</i>	321
Experimental Studies of Frames with Steel-Concrete Composite Beams under Low Reversed Cyclic Loading <i>W.C. Xue, J. Li, K. Li and F. Yang</i>	327
Experimental and Numerical Studies of Double Storey Scaffolds <i>A.Y.T. Chu, S.L. Chan, F. Albermani and K.F. Chung</i>	333
Space Structures and Shells	
*Evaluation of Buckling Strength of Single Layer Reticulated Shells for Design Practice <i>S. Kato</i>	343
*Second-Order Codified P- Δ - δ Analysis for Design of Long-Span Roofs Allowing for Δ_0 and δ_0 Imperfections- A Powerful & Matured Technology for Use by Engineers <i>S. L. Chan</i>	351
*Introduction of Structures of Some Stadiums and Gymnasiums for Beijing 2008 Olympic Games <i>X.L. Liu</i>	361
*Some Practical Aspects of Modeling Lattice Towers <i>S. Kitipornchai, F. Albermani, W.J. Kang and H.F. Lam</i>	369
The Behavior of Cylindrical Steel Shells Supported on Local Brackets <i>C. Doerich, J.M.F.G. Holst and J.M. Rotter</i>	377
Construction of Ma on Shan Indoor Recreation Centre <i>M.K. Tong, C.T. Wong and C.C. Choy</i>	383
Elastic Buckling of Thin Cylindrical Shells under Local Axial Compressive Stresses <i>M.J. Cai, J.M.F.G. Holst and J.M. Rotter</i>	389
The Inflection Performance Analysis of The Complex Single-Layer Cable Net under Horizontal Load <i>F. Sun, Y.Q. Wang, Y.J. Shi, K.Y. Luo and Y. Xu</i>	395
Experimental Research and Finite Element Analysis on New Joint of Reticulated Shells <i>X.T. Wang and J.P. Hao</i>	401
Study on The Dynamic Capabilities of Arched Corrugated Metal Roof <i>Y.Q. Wang, C.D. Tan and Y. Zhang</i>	407
Modeling of Cable-Bar Nonlinear Finite Element of Wide-Span Transmission Line System and Analysis of Its Dynamic Behavior <i>X.S. Xu, Y.M. Zhang, and S. Su</i>	413

* Invited Paper

A Study on Dynamic Stability of Elastic Structures By Degree of Stability of Equilibrium <i>J.H. Ye and S.Z. Shen</i>	417
Experimental Research on Double-Layer Cylinder Composite Grid Shell Structure <i>Z.X. Yin and Z.Y. Liu</i>	423
Dynamic Analysis of a Levy Dome <i>J. Zhou, H.J. Wang and Q.L. Zhang</i>	429
Theoretical Analysis and Experimental Study on Tensegrity System <i>Z.H. Chen and J. Shi</i>	435
Review of Construction Analysis Methods for Cable-Strut Tensile Structures in China <i>Z.Y. Shen, Q.X. He and F.B. Zhang</i>	441
A Simple Method for Form Finding of Cable Nets Based on Nonlinear Displacement Analysis <i>H.X. Wan, D.H. Wu and W.L. Pu</i>	447
Stability Analysis of Circular Steel Arches in a Long-Span Spheroidal Shell Structure <i>Y. Zhao, X.C. Chen and S.L. Dong</i>	453
Strengthening Silos and Tanks Against Elephant's Foot Buckling <i>J.F. Chen, J.M. Rotter and J.G. Teng</i>	459
Thin-Walled Structures	
*Finite Element Analysis of Cold-Formed Steel Lipped Angle Compression Members <i>B. Young and E. Ellobody</i>	469
*Experimental and Analytical Study on Stability and Ductility of Thin-Walled Columns under Bidirectional Cyclic Load <i>Y. Goto, K.S. Jiang and M. Obata</i>	479
Design and Tests of Cold-Formed Stainless Steel Sections Subjected to Concentrated Bearing Load <i>F. Zhou and B. Young</i>	487
Erosion Effect of Geometrical and Material Imperfections on the Buckling Strength of Thin-Walled Cold-Formed Steel Members <i>V. Ungureanu and D. Dubina</i>	497
Material Properties of Cold-Formed Thick-Walled Steel <i>A.Z. Zhu and Y.J. Guo</i>	505
Analysis of Hysteretic Behavior of Cold-Formed Thin-Wall C Steel Members <i>J. Dong, S.Q. Wang and X.J. Zhang</i>	511
Structural Behaviour of Oval Hollow Sections <i>L. Gardner</i>	517

A Study on Bolted Connection of Built-up I-Shaped Member Consisting of Double Thin-Walled Cold-Formed Lipped Channels <i>X.M. Tang and H.W. Ma</i>	523
The Latest Development and Application of Aluminum Alloy Roofing System <i>X.X. Zhang and X. Guo</i>	529
Effect of Cutting on Initial Geometric Imperfections of Cold-Formed Steel Stub Columns with Lipped C-Section <i>X.P. Wang, K.F. Chung and S.S.E. Lam</i>	535
Composite Structures and Hybrid Structures	
*Innovative FRP-Steel-Concrete Hybrid Columns <i>J.G. Teng, T. Yu, Y.L. Wong and S.L. Dong</i>	545
*3-D Inelastic Analysis of Hollow and Concrete-Filled Steel Columns <i>S.B. Gao and H.B. Ge</i>	555
*Research on Confined Concrete Filled Tubular (CCFT) Columns <i>Y. Xiao, W.H. He and X.Y. Mao</i>	563
*Nonlinear Finite Element Analysis of SCC Filled Steel Tubular Beams <i>H. Lu, X.L. Zhao and L.H. Han</i>	571
*Debonding Failure Model for FRP Retrofitted Steel Beams <i>S.P. Chiew, S.T. Lie, C.K. Lee and Y. Yu</i>	579
Experimental Study on Composite Frame Beam <i>X.Y. Cheng, X.X. Du and H. Shi</i>	587
Experimental Research on The Bearing Capacity of Axially Loaded Composite Columns with Concrete Core Encased By Steel Tube <i>L.J. Wang and Y.H. Chi</i>	593
Seismic Behavior of Post-Tensioned Precast Concrete-Filled Tube Segmental Bridge Columns <i>C.C. Chou, Y.C. Chen and M.S. Chien</i>	599
Study of Holistic Resistant Behavior of Steel Frame-Concrete Tube Structure of Different Connection Types of Nodes <i>S.B. Dai, J. Huang and J. Zhu</i>	605
Ultimate Capacity of Rectangular CFT Columns with High-Strength Concrete <i>D.M. Lue, T. Yen and J.L. Liu</i>	611
The Behaviour of Composite Steel Beams with Precast Hollowcore Slabs in Hogging Moment Regions <i>D. Lam and F. Fu</i>	617
Strength of Slender Steel Reinforced Concrete Composite Columns <i>G.T. Zhao, Y.H. Li, B. Li, G. Xue, Z. Han and F.B. Cao</i>	623

* Invited Paper