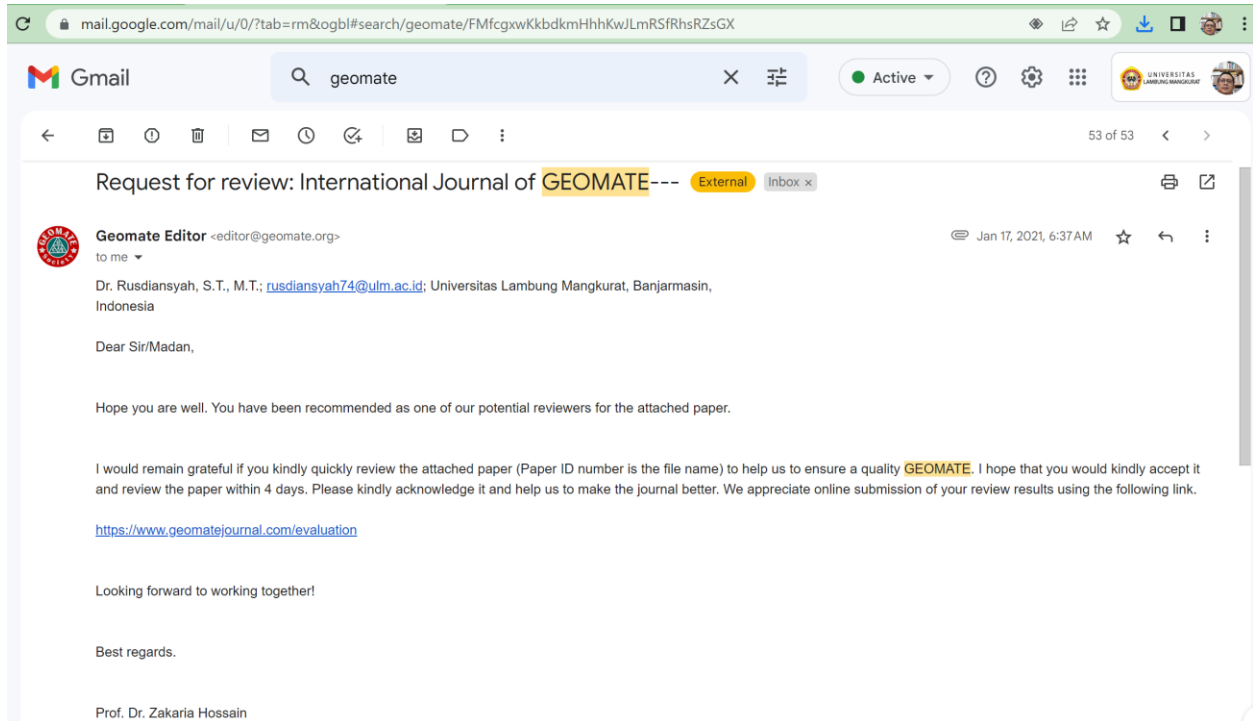


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# PERFORMANCE OF SQUARE REINFORCED CONCRETE COLUMNS CONFINED WITH INNOVATIVE CONFINING SYSTEM UNDER AXIAL COMPRESSION

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**ABSTRACT:** Several structural failures occur in column due to the lack of confinement. Circular column is not popular for regular buildings. The use of circular spiral is only familiar to circular column. Many design engineers use square column with hoops and cross ties as confinement. As far as the authors' knowledge, there was only a study carried out on square columns with circular spirals as confinement. For this reason, the authors propose and introduce a new type of innovative confinement system for square columns using square spirals as confinement and a combination thereof, which has never been carried out in the previous studies. No code's provision is also applicable on this type of confinement. This research was conducted to investigate the performance of each of these new confinement systems as a promising option in the future instead of the traditional confinement. To achieve the objective of the research, a two-phase study was conducted. The first phase was to analyze the potential, design, formation, and assembly of the new confinement system consisting of a combination of square and circular spirals (SPIL), a combination of octagonal and square spirals (SS8I), an interlocking among square spirals (SPIP), and a plain concrete specimen (PC) as a benchmark. The second phase was an experimental program which involves mix design of the concrete, preparation of the column specimens with various confinement systems, and the compression tests of the column specimens using a 3500-kN UTM. The test results indicate that the SPIP specimen has higher initial stiffness, peak stress, and strain ductility compared with others.

*Keywords: Axial load, Circular spiral, Innovative confinement, Interlocking, Square spiral*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Reinforced concrete (RC) is a symbiotic mutualism of composite materials consisting of concrete and reinforcing steel materials [1]. Steel reinforcement in RC forms a reinforcement system consisting of longitudinal and transverse reinforcement. The longitudinal reinforcement configuration in a square reinforced concrete column (Square RCC) can be evenly distributed on each side or in the form of a bundling system. The transverse reinforcement can be in the form of stirrups tie or circular spiral as the traditional confinement is widely used so far [2,3] and has been accommodated in several codes [4].

Generally, the column cross-sections are square and circular [5], and many designers prefer square shapes because they are easier to manufacture, have a larger cross-sectional capacity. Although, in terms of aesthetics, circle forms are more attractive [6]. However, structural failure has an impact on the form of the column even though it has ductility. Failure at Square RCC was influenced by the reinforcement system factors, especially by the transverse reinforcement system.

Several researchers had conducted studies on the reinforcement system, especially in the transverse reinforcement as confinement to increase ductility, such as studying the effect of confinement due to different traditional confinement systems using a combination of hooks [7], confinement using multiple stirrups [8], utilize the type of hook with an interlocking system [9], utilize fine mesh as confinement [10], utilize circular spiral with an interlocking system [11], utilize welded wire mesh as confinement [12-17], combination of steel fiber and spiral [18,19], using a combination of a square spiral and an octagonal spiral that confined the concrete core [20], and even external confinement [21-23].

There has been no previous research on confinement using a square spiral with an interlocking system using a bundling system on longitudinal reinforcement. This research adheres to the concept - columns in columns - and this is the subject of this research.

This confinement system is in the column section's form to reduce the ineffective area of the concrete core. Its manufacture does not leave cuts as in conventional confinement manufacture, faster because the roll bar bender and assembling and

installing it becomes easier in construction. It is more efficient in work and effective in its cross-sectional capacity.

The authors conducted a potential analysis of the existing confinement systems proposed by several previous researchers to obtain the subject of this research [24,25]. The analysis resulted in the proposed innovative confinement systems such as an interlocking square spiral confinement system with a circular spiral labeled SPIL, an octagonal spiral interlocking confinement system with a square spiral labeled SS8I, and an interlocking confinement system between square spiral with the SPIP label. To obtain performance data from each specimen using an innovative confinement system, the test method was carried out through an experimental approach in the laboratory using a compression machine with a capacity of 3500 kN to provide an axial load on each specimen. Each Square RCC test object's performance with the confinement system is shown through the stress-strain relationship pattern of the resulting data and comparing the benchmark specimen, namely the plain concrete column or Plain CC specimen.

## 2. MATERIALS AND METHOD

### 2.1 Materials

The material used in this study is a composite material as a structural material, namely concrete and steel reinforcement. The concrete materials used are following those specified in the code, such as cement using type 1 where for construction that does not require special requirements, the sand used passes through sieve No.4 and is stuck in sieve No. 100, the gravel used escapes the sieve No. 3/8 and stuck in sieve No. 8 [26]. The admixture used consists of two types, namely, types B and F [27]. Meanwhile, water as a mixture of these materials fulfills the general requirements, namely that it could be drunk and did not cause odor. The concrete was designed to have a strength ( $f'_c$ ) 21 MPa at the age of 28 days, and this was following the minimum requirements specified in the code besides adjusting to the testing machine's capacity.

Another material used was a steel reinforcement. Reinforcing steel was used for longitudinal and transverse reinforcement. Longitudinal reinforcement used reinforcement with strength ( $f_y$ ) 427 MPa, for transverse reinforcement using steel reinforcement with strength ( $f_{yt}$ ) 513 MPa. Both of them were types of deformed reinforcing steel and the strength used was the result of the tensile test.

### 2.2 Test setup and testing

The equipment used in this study consists of a pressure test machine with a capacity of 3500 kN as

the main equipment and other supporting equipment in the form of a transducer which functions to send data information in the form of deformation of each load unit, a load cell which functions as a tool that accepts loads and is converted to compressive loads and datalogger which functions as a data recorder sent from the transducer and load cell through its sensors and computer devices that compile data records from the logger data in the form of load and deformation data output. The test setup and a photograph showing a UTM with a column specimen ready for testing are shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

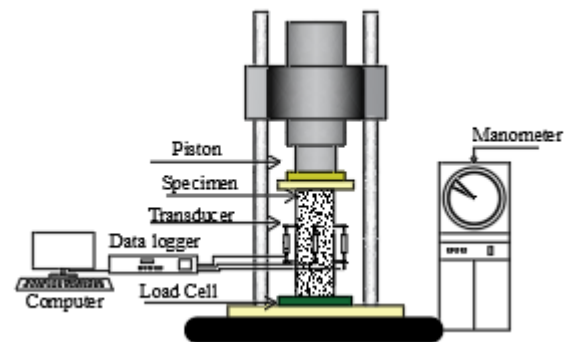


Fig. 1 Schematic test setup. Source: authors



Fig. 2 Photograph of UTM with a specimen ready for testing. Source: authors

### 2.3 Test specimens

To determine the performance of confined concrete and unconfined or plain concrete, it can be seen from the stress-strain relationship as shown in Fig. 3 [28]. Whereas the strain ductility is obtained by determining the Z value at the post peak or descending branch as given by Eq. (1) [29]. The smaller the Z value, the more ductile the specimen is.

$$Z = \tan \Theta / f'_{pcc} \quad (1)$$

where  $\Theta$  is the angle formed between the peak stress ( $f'_{pcc}$ ) and the stress after the peak stress when it drops to  $0.5f'_{pcc}$  and between the corresponding strain at the peak stress ( $\epsilon'_{pcc}$ ) and the strain when the stress drops to  $0.5f'_{pcc}$  ( $\epsilon'_{pcc0.5}$ ), respectively.

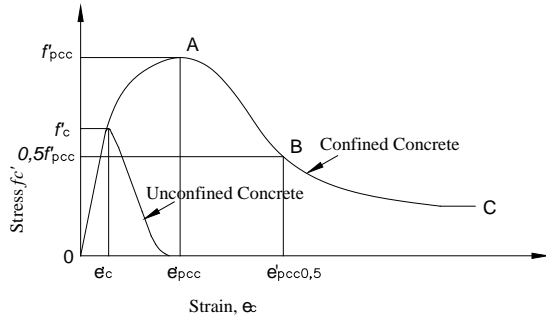


Fig. 3 Comparison of stress-strain relationships for unconfined concrete and confined reinforced concrete. Source: Paultre and Légeron (2008)

From the results of the potential analysis that had been done previously, the next step was to make the form and configuration of the reinforcement system consisting of a longitudinal and transverse reinforcement system, as shown in Fig. 4. Designing the factors and variables needed in this study to achieve research objectives such as determining the dimensions of the specimen with a size of 200 mm×200 mm×800 mm, the strength of steel reinforcement, and the compressive strength of the concrete according to the code requirements, the diameter of the longitudinal reinforcement was 13 mm with a total of 16 bars, the transverse reinforcement diameter was 6 mm and ensured a volumetric ratio of the transverse reinforcement of 1.51% for all confinement systems, determining this ratio to obtain fair reinforcement spacing for the three specimens. The specifications of the test specimens from the above research results were as shown in Table 1. Then made and assembled as in Fig. 5 and molded according to the predetermined dimensions. Before the concreting, a concrete mix design was carried out with a concrete compressive strength ( $f'_c$ ) of 21 MPa using 10 mm screening crushed stone, admixture, and a water-cement value of 0.7 so that the slump value was controlled in the range 180-190 mm and continued by conducting batch trials to ensure slump control and making cylindrical specimens for testing at the age of 28 days to get the strength as designed. After this stage, the concreting process was carried out for each test object, and the curing process was carried out for 28 days before laboratory testing was carried out. Before testing, a load cell installed, followed by setting up the specimen by installing a transducer on

all four sides of the test region and connecting it to the data logger. The test was carried out by applying axial pressure until the specimen was crushed. The incoming data information was converted into a graphic by a computer device from the data logger.

Table 1 Details of specimens

Specimen ID	Dimension (mm)	Concrete		Long. Steel			Trans. Steel		Vol. Ratio (%)
		Strength $f'_c$ (MPa)	Dia. (mm)	Dia. (mm)	$f_y$ (MPa)	Dia. (mm)	$f_{yt}$ (MPa)	Spacing (mm)	
PC	200×200×800	21							
SPIL	200×200×800	21	13	427.37	6	513.28	133	1.514	
SS8I	200×200×800	21	13	427.37	6	513.28	118	1.512	
SPIP	200×200×800	21	13	427.37	6	513.28	152	1.515	

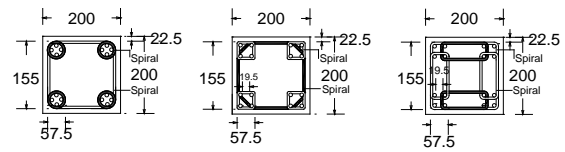


Fig. 4 Innovation confinement system form and configuration for (a) SPIL, (b) SS8I, and (c) SPIP specimens. Source: authors

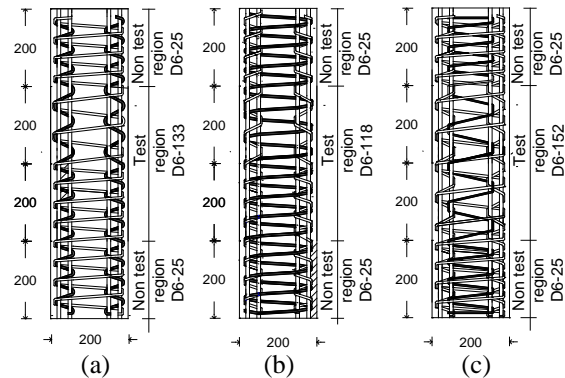


Fig. 5 Transverse reinforcement spacing and test and non-test region for (a) SPIL, (b) SS8I, and (c) SPIP specimens . Source: authors

### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1 Plain Concrete (PC) as Benchmark

The PC specimen's performance is shown in the stress-strain relationship graph in Fig. 6 and could be seen when the specimen was subjected to axial load as shown in Fig. 7. Both of them show that when the initial load, the PC specimen has a stiffness of 1717.97 MPa when the stress reaches  $0.5f'_c$  as shown in position (a) of Fig. 6. In this condition, the PC specimen did not change shape, as shown in Fig. 6 (point (a)). The maximum performance is achieved when the peak stress reaches 18.36 MPa when the strain is 0.0115 as shown in Fig. 6 (position (b)). In this condition, the specimen was crushed in the support (Fig. 7(b)),

and the stiffness decreased by 1,572.35 MPa. The stiffness reduction continued after passing the peak stress until the specimen was crushed as shown in Figs. 6 (position (c)) and 7(c). The strain ductility after the peak stress of this specimen is 222.18, and this proves that without involving the reinforcing system in it, it cannot increase the strain ductility.

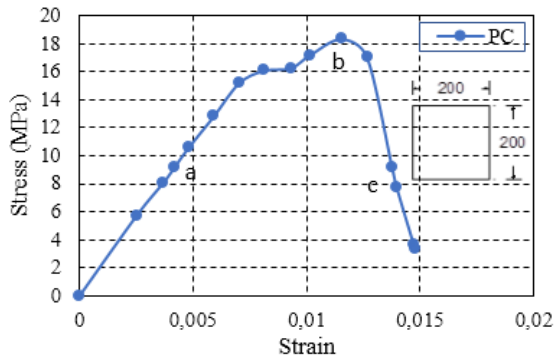


Fig. 6 Stress-strain curve of PC specimen. Source: authors

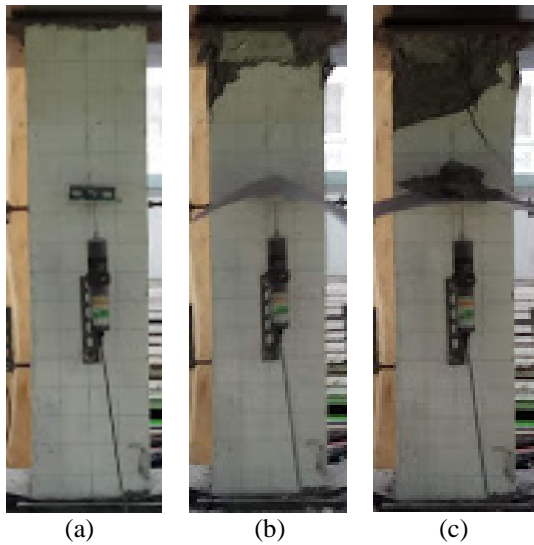


Fig. 7 Failure progress of PC specimen during testing. Source: authors

### 3.2 Square Spiral with Four Circular Spiral Interlocking Confinement System (SPIL)

The performance of SPIL specimens is as shown in the stress-strain curve in Fig. 8. The destruction pattern is shown in Fig. 9, where the specimen's stiffness got when it received a load of  $0.5f'_c$  of 2529.71 MPa. In this condition, the specimen was still capable maintains its shape without changing as shown in Figs. 8 (position (a)) and 9(a), even though the longitudinal reinforcement and transversal had yielded. The peak stress ( $f'_{pc}$ ) of 31.76 MPa was achieved when the strain was 0.024,

as in Fig. 8 (position (b)). The SPIL specimen had changed, such as reduced stiffness to 1217.43 MPa. An initial crack occurred starting from the longitudinally continuous top and bottom, as shown in Fig. 9(b). In this condition, there was spalling on the concrete cover. After passing the peak stress, the specimen stiffness decreased to 649.37 MPa. In this condition, the longitudinal damage tended to occur in each cross-sectional area. Meanwhile, longitudinally and laterally, the damage occurred in the center of the specimen. This proved that the damage was designed laterally in the test area. Providing a reinforcement system with SPIL configuration on this specimen increased the initial stiffness by 60.8%, strength by 72.98%, and strain by 109% compared to the PC specimen. Meanwhile, the strain ductility after the peak stress of this specimen was 61.02. This showed that the reinforcement system and the SPIL configuration could increase the strain ductility up to 264.11% compared to PC specimens.

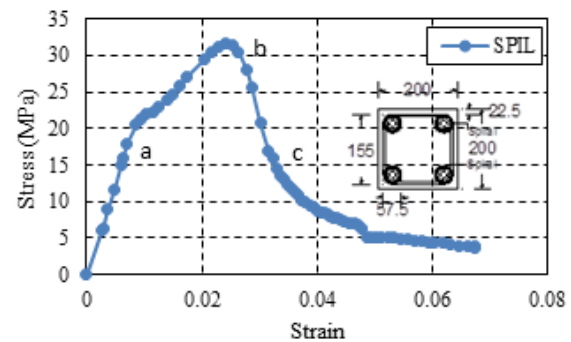


Fig.8. Stress-strain curve of SPIL specimen. Source: authors

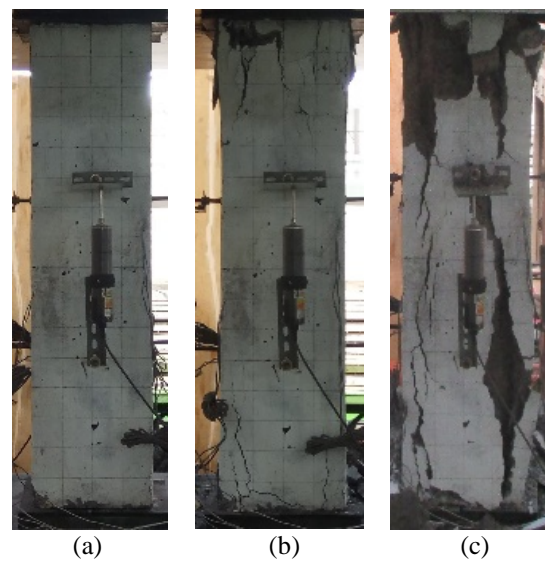


Fig. 9 Failure progress of SPIL specimen during testing. Source: authors

### 3.3 Octagonal Spiral with Four Square Spiral Interlocking Confinement System (SS8I)

The stress-strain curve of SS8I specimen in Fig. 10 (position (a)) shows that the specimen's initial stiffness at a stress of  $0.5f'_c$  is 2118.27 MPa. In this condition, the specimen did not undergo any deformation changes as shown in Fig. 11(b). The peak stress ( $f'_{pec}$ ) of 32.89 MPa was achieved when the strain was 0.0162 as shown in Fig. 10 (position (b)). In this condition, the specimen was cracked and spalled on the concrete cover at the top of the specimen as shown in Fig. 11(b), along with the decrease in stiffness by 1555.45 MPa. Damage to the specimen occurred after the peak stress had been passed. The specimen was damaged in the test region in the form of deformation in the longitudinal and lateral directions. Giving the reinforcement system and SS8I configuration to this specimen could increase the initial stiffness by 34.67%, strength by 79.14%, and strain by 40.9% compared to PC specimens. The strain ductility after the peak stress of this specimen is 57.45. This shows that the reinforcement system and SS8I configuration could increase the strain ductility up to 286.74% compared to PC specimens.

When the specimens reached their final failures (the strength dropped to about  $0.15f'_{pec}$ ), they had very long strains with mostly constant strengths up to around 0.08 strain before the tests were terminated. This is one of the advantages of introducing the confinement system in reinforced concrete columns.

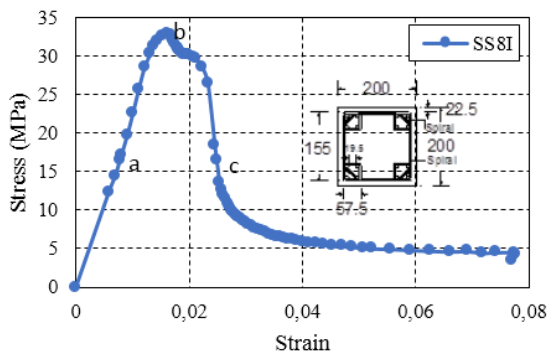


Fig. 10 Stress-strain curve of SS8I specimen. Source: authors

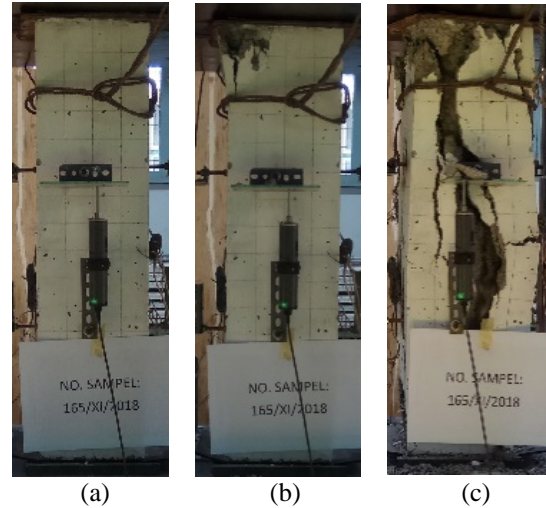


Fig. 11 Failure progress of SS8I specimen during testing. Source: authors

### 3.4 Interlocking Confinement System between Square Spiral (SPIP)

By juxtaposing the curve in Fig. 12 (position (a)) and the crack pattern in Fig. 13(a), it can be seen that the performance of the SPIP specimen when receiving initial loading of  $0.5f'_c$  did not experience significant deformation changes, and at this time, the stiffness it had was 3571.23 MPa. The peak stress of 34.54 MPa is reached when the strain is 0.0131, and the stiffness becomes 2634.71 MPa, as shown in Fig. 12 (position (b)). At this time, the indication of spalling began to appear where cracks occurred in the test region, as shown in Fig. 13(b). Significant changes occur after passing the peak stresses as shown in Fig. 12 (position (c)), where the deformation changes in the specimen begin with oblique cracks in the test region. At this time, spalling had occurred in the concrete cover before the damage occurred. This is as shown in Fig. 13(c). Provision of reinforcement system with SPIP configuration on specimens could increase stiffness by 127.04%, strength by 88.13%, and strain by 13.91%. While the strain ductility after the peak stress of this specimen was 54.72, this showed that the reinforcement system and the SPIL configuration could increase the strain ductility up to 306.03% compared to PC specimens.

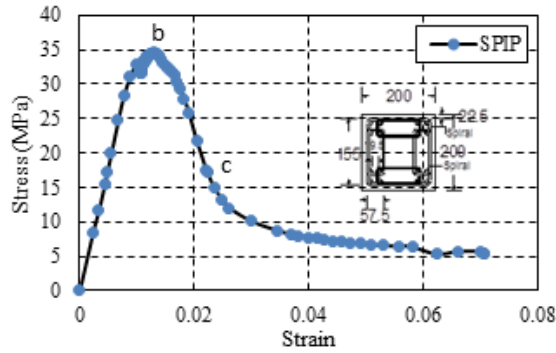


Fig. 12 Stress-strain curve of SPIP specimen. Source: authors

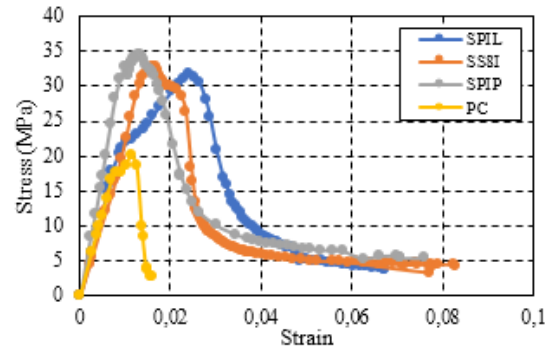


Fig. 14 Comparison of stress-strain curves of four test specimens. Source: authors.



Fig. 13 Failure progress of SPIP specimen during testing. Source: authors

### 3.5 Comparison of Performances of Each Confinement System

The performance information of each specimen, as in Fig. 14 and Table 2, shows that the SPIP specimen has a higher initial stiffness of 68.59% than the SS8I specimen and 37.74% than the SPIL specimen. For peak stress ( $f'_{pec}$ ), SPIP specimens have a higher strength of 5.01% than SS8I specimens and 8.75% than SPIL specimens. Meanwhile, for strain ductility after peak stress, SPIP specimens had higher ductility 4.99% than SS8I specimens and 11.51% than SPIL specimens. For the initial strain before reaching the peak stress, SPIL specimen has a longer strain of 83.2% and 48.1% than those of SPIP and SS8I specimens, respectively. SS8I specimen has a strength of 3.56% and a strain ductility of 6.21%, which are higher than SPIL specimen. SS8I also has an initial strain of 23.66% higher than that of SPIP specimen.

Table 2 Test result parameters of specimens

Specimen ID	Initial Stiffness (MPa)	Initial Strain ( $\epsilon_i$ )	Stress ( $f'_{pec}$ ) (MPa)	Strain Ductility ( $\mu_\epsilon$ )
PC	1,572.95	1,000	18.36	1,000
SPIL	2,529.71	1,608	31.76	61.02
SS8I	2,118.27	1,347	32.89	57.45
SPIP	3,571.23	2,270	34.54	54.72

### 4. CONCLUSION

From the data and analysis of each specimen above, it can be concluded as follows:

1. The SPIP confinement system has the best construction to increase the column's initial stiffness, strength, and strain ductility compared to other confinement systems.
2. SPIL confinement system has the best contribution to increase column initial strain before maximum load compared to other confinement systems.
3. SPIP specimens have higher initial stiffness and strength and better strain ductility after peak stress than other specimens.
4. SPIL specimens have better strain than other specimens.
5. The factor of interlocking confinement that intersects each bundle of reinforcement and surrounds the concrete core in addition to the main spiral on the SPIP confinement system gives additional stiffness and strength to the square column. It does not allow for an arching effect on the concrete core.
6. The circular spiral factor in the SPIL confinement system cannot contribute to the strength of the square column due to the less inertia effect than the square spiral and the effect of the arching effect on the main confinement. However, this system provides a greater initial strain before the peak stress compared to other confinement systems.
7. The octagonal spiral factor in the SS8I confinement system cannot contribute to the initial stiffness due to the less inertia effect than



the square spiral and the effect of the arching effect on the main confinement. However, this system is sufficient to contribute strength compared to a circular spiral.

## 5. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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