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Optimal design of R.C beams using neural network

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Abstract – Beam elements are designed and the total cost of each of these has been estimated. The grade of concrete has been varied from M20 to M40 and grade of steel varied from Fe 250 to Fe 550. The singly reinforced beams have been designed for various values of live loads and adopting the ratio of b/D from 0.4 to 0.9. In this paper, it is shown that how the decision variables like b, D, F_{ck}, F_y, A_{st}, Mu, Vu etc contribute in the optimal design of structural elements, the Main Objective of this paper has been

finalized Minimizing Beam Element Total Cost (BETC). Material and labor and formwork costs are also found out. This paper deals with designing a low cost of RCC beam in MATLAB. The results from the software and the results from manual design are compared and finally the optimal design of the beams is explained in detail from the various graphs obtained from both the sources.

Key Words – Decision Variables, Objective function, MATLAB, beams.

1.INTRODUCTION

RCC Beam Designs involves - based upon the Preliminary Sizing and subjected loads, - the calculation Design Forces from Analysis (Mu, Vu etc) (i). Thereupon evaluation of various decision variables such as formwork cross section sizes – b, D, grade of concrete & reinforcement steel material respectively - f_{ck}, f_y respectively, Area of steel - A_s & its length, position & arrangement of reinforcement for various steel such – Longitudinal and Transverse Steel are made such that resultant strength & serviceability requirements are satisfied.

Optimization means making things the best. Thus, structural optimization is the subject of making an assemblage of materials sustains loads in the best way. We want to find the structure that performs this task in the best possible way. However, to make any sense out of that objective we need to specify the term “best.” The specification that comes to mind may be to make the structure as minimizing total cost.

2. OBJECTIVES

The following objectives are defined to achieve the research goal:

- Development of computer models to automate the design process of reinforced beams according to IS 456 Code.

- Development of TAGUCHI models using MINITAB software
- Development neural network optimization models using MATLAB software.
- To find the factors which influence the total cost.
- To find the optimal solution.

3. SCOPE

Six hundred R.C beams are designed for moments in the range of 100kN-m to 300 kN-m and b/D in the range of 0.4 to 0.9. bending moment about minor axis in the range of 50kN-m to 350kN-m. The grades of concrete considered are M20, M25, M30, M35 and M40. The grades of steel adopted – Fe 250, Fe415 and Fe 500. Computer programs have been developed using C language for the design of all the above mentioned structural components and MS - Excel has been made use of it. The estimated costs of each of the designed structural elements have been determined. Factors which influenced the cost have been determined by using Minitab software. A set of neural network have been made use of to predict the cost of elements. Results of this neural network have been compared with the results obtained by hand calculation.

4. DESIGN OPTIMIZATION PROBLEM FORMULATION

In this section, the model of the RC beam is described, showing the fixed parameters, the design variables, the design variables' bounds, the design constraints and the objective function. A typical simply supported rectangular RC beam has a span of L m and may be carrying a Moment kN-m. The grades of concrete considered are M20, M25, M30, M35 and M40. The grades of steel adopted – Fe 250, Fe415, Fe 500 and Fe550. It is intended to optimize the design of the beam according to the provisions of the IS-456 Code.

4.2.1 THE FIXED PARAMETERS

The fixed parameters for this RC simple beam model are taken as the span of the beam, the cost/m³ of concrete, the cost/Kg of steel, the modulus of elasticity of concrete, the compressive strength of concrete, the yield strength of reinforcement and the value of the Moments.

4.2.2 DESIGN VARIABLES

INDEPENDENT DECISION VARIABLES

b : Discr. Beam width (mm), (ex-200, 250, 300, 400 ..mm etc)
(b_{LL} <= b <= b_{UL}, i.e b- Lower and Upper Bound Value)
 D : Discr. Beam Overall Depth (mm),(ex-300, 450, 600, 750 ..mm etc)
(D_{LL} <= D <= D_{UL}, i.e D- Lower and Upper Bound Value)
 F_{ck} : Grade of Concrete (N/mm²),(ex- F_{ck} 20, 25, 30,35,40.N/mm² etc)
 F_y : Grade of Reinforcement Steel (N/mm²),(ex- F_y 250, 415, 500,550 N/mm² etc).

INDEPENDENT PREASSIGNED DESIGN DECISION PARAMETERS

L_{clr} :Clear Length of the beam between support
 Mu: Fact.Bending Moment (KN.M).
 V_u : Factored Shear force (KN)
 p_{Asmax} : 4% or Even lesser User Defined (Max. Percentage Steel)

DEPENDENT PREASSIGNED DESIGN DECISION PARAMETERS

Q : Limiting Moment of resistance Factor.=0.36* (X_{umax} /deff)*(1-0.42*X_{umax}/deff)*F_{ck} (1)

p_{Asmin} : 0.85/ F_y *100 (Min. Percentage Steel) (2) →

CONCRETE COST

Cost of M20 concrete = Rs 4394 /m³
 Cost of M25 concrete = Rs 4440 /m³
 Cost of M30 concrete = Rs 4637 /m³
 Cost of M35concrete = Rs 4933 /m³
 Cost of M40 concrete = Rs 5327 /m³

STEEL COST

Cost of Fe250 steel = Rs 46 /kg
 Cost of Fe415 steel = Rs 52 /kg
 Cost of Fe500 steel = Rs 55 /kg
 Cost of Fe550 steel = Rs 57 /kg

FORMWORK COST

Cost of Formwork = Rs 320 /m²

DEPENDENT DESIGN DECISION VARIABLES

A_{smin} : p_{Asmin} * b * deff /100 (Min. Area of Steel) (3) →
 A_{smax} : p_{Asmax} * b * D /100 (Max. Area of Steel) (4) →
 M_{ulim} : Q * b * deff² (Limiting Moment) (5)

Singly reinforced design :

Mu_{Max} <= M_{ulim} , Then Tension Steel Area reqd
 A_{streqd} = 0.5 *F_{ck}/F_y*[1 – Sqrt (1-4.6*Mu_{Max} / (F_{ck}*b*deff²))] *b*deff

Shear Design:

v = V_u / b * deff → (6)

(Nominal shear Stress)

P_t=100A_{st}/ b*d → (7)

c = Depending upon A_{st}prov (Area of Steel Tension provided) and Grade of Concrete F_{ck}.

C > v (hence safe)

V_{us} = V_u –(c * b * deff) → (8)

Transverse Steel Shear resistance Required.

V_{us}_pr = 0.87 *F_y * A_{sv}_pr *deff / S_v_pr → (9)

4.2.3DESIGN CONSTRAINTS

A)Bending Strength Related Constraints :

1) Mu_{Max} <= MOR_{pr}

B) Steel Constraints :

2) A_{streqd} <= A_{st}prov

3) A_{st}prov <= A_{smax}

4) A_{smin} <= A_{st}prov

5) deff<= deff_{pr}

C) Side Face Steel Constraints : →

7) A_S_SF_reqd <= A_S_SF_{pr}

8) SFR_{dist}prov <= SFR_{dist}max

D) Upper and Lower Bound Constr. on Beam

Sizes:

9) $b <= b_{UL}$

10) $b_{LL} <= b$

11) $D <= D_{UL}$

12) $D_{LL} <= D$

4.2.4 OBJECTIVE FUNCTION

The chief task of the optimization process is to select the values of variables in a way that satisfies the provisions of the code regarding safety and serviceability within the least cost possible, the function below defines the total cost of the RC simple beam model in terms of the cost of the concrete and reinforcement and form work used.

It can be stated as Total Beam Element Cost (BE_TC)

i.e. Total of all cost components (Concrete Reinforcement Steel and Formwork) :

$$BE_TC = BE_CC + BE_FC + BE_RC \quad (10)$$

4.2.5 R.C MEMBER

Six hundred R.C beams are designed for moments in the range of 100kN-m to 300 kN-m and b/D in the range of 0.4 to 0.9. The grades of concrete considered are M20, M25, M30, M35 and M40. The grades of steel adopted – Fe 250, Fe415, Fe 500 and Fe550 .for example,(only given b/D=0.4)

5.2 COST INFLUENCING FACTORS FOR SINGLY REINFORCED BEAM

Six hundred R.C singly reinforced beams have been designed for bending moment of 100kN-m to 300kN-m with b/D ratio 0.4 to 0.9. The grades of concrete considered are M₂₀, M₂₅, M₃₀, M₃₅ and M₄₀. The grades of steel adopted are Fe₂₅₀, Fe₄₁₅, Fe₅₀₀ and Fe₅₅₀. The program have been developed using C language for the design of all the above mentioned structural components and MS -Excel has been made use of it. The estimation of cost of each of the designed structural element has been determined by using Excel sheets.

Parameters		Levels				Parameters		Levels			
		1	2	3	4			1	2	3	4
A	Moment	100	150	200	250	C	Fy	250	415	500	550
B	Fck	20	25	30	35	D	b/D	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7

Table1. Parameters and their values corresponding to their levels are studied from design for singly reinforced beam

The orthogonal array L₁₆ is selected for the design to get the optimum input for obtaining minimum total cost. In this design the major input

parameters are Moment, Fck, Fy and b/D are varied for four levels of the values are shown in table 5.3.

SI.no	Moment kN-m	Fck N/mm ²	Fy N/mm ²	b/D Ratio	SI.no	Moment kN-m	Fck N/mm ²	Fy N/mm ²	b/D Ratio
1	100	20	250	0.4	9	200	20	500	0.7
2	100	25	415	0.5	10	200	25	550	0.6
3	100	30	500	0.6	11	200	30	250	0.5
4	100	35	550	0.7	12	200	35	415	0.4
5	150	20	415	0.6	13	250	20	550	0.5
6	150	25	250	0.7	14	250	25	500	0.4
7	150	30	550	0.4	15	250	30	415	0.7
8	150	35	500	0.5	16	250	35	250	0.6

Table2 Input data arrangement L₁₆ Orthogonal array for singly reinforced beam

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Taguchi technique is used as a time consumption and to give accurate results. The main objective of using taguchi is to identify the optimal

operating condition to obtain the minimum cost. For L₁₆ (4⁴) has 16 trails has been carried out and repeated the trail four times to reduce the

uncontrollable external factors that affects the design.

The total cost for the trail is shown in the table 5.6.

SI.no	Moment kN-m	Fck N/mm ²	Fy N/mm ²	b/D Ratio	Total Cost(Rs)	SI.no	Moment kN-m	Fck N/mm ²	Fy N/mm ²	b/D Ratio	Total Cost(Rs)
1	100	20	250	0.4	1195	9	200	20	500	0.7	2038
2	100	25	415	0.5	1098	10	200	25	550	0.6	2167
3	100	30	500	0.6	1198	11	200	30	250	0.5	1517
4	100	35	550	0.7	1265	12	200	35	415	0.4	1165
5	150	20	415	0.6	1592	13	250	20	550	0.5	2898
6	150	25	250	0.7	1958	14	250	25	500	0.4	1488
7	150	30	550	0.4	1178	15	250	30	415	0.7	2130
8	150	35	500	0.5	1337	16	250	35	250	0.6	2574

Table 3 Designed Data for L₁₆ combination for singly reinforced beam

The Minitab software was used to analyze the collected data. In this experiment for obtaining the minimum total cost performance characteristic select shorter the better. The formula to find the signal to noise ratio for larger is better.

$$S = -10 \log_{10} \left\{ \frac{1}{r} \sum_{i=1}^r (y_i)^2 \right\}$$

Where ,

r is the number of trial for the levels of the noise factors

Y_i = values of average total cost

The factors are classified into control factors and noise factors. The DOE for obtaining graph for the obtained results. In the response table for the ranking for each input parameters are obtained as follows.

level	Moment kN-m	Fck N/mm ²	Fy N/mm ²	b/D Ratio
1	1189	1931	1811	1257
2	1516	1678	1496	1713
3	1722	1506	1515	1883
4	2273	1585	1877	1848
Delta	1084	425	381	626
Rank	1	3	4	2

Table 4 Response Table for singly reinforced beam

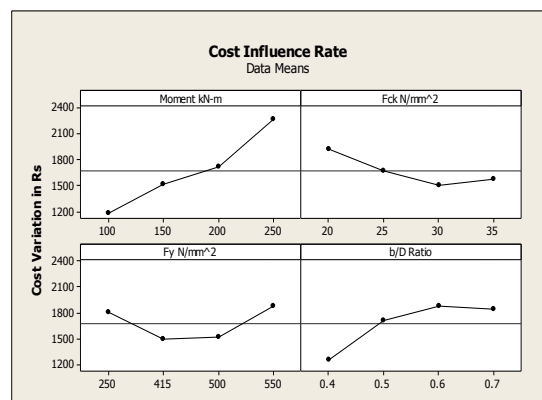


Fig 1 Cost influence factors for singly reinforced beam

ANNOVA is a method used to identify the contribution of each input parameter. From the result of ANNOVA operating moment has the large effect on the cost of element. In the weight level made the

confidence level as 92.87%. The moment is the primary significant factor on the cost of element and the percentage of contribution for moment is 52.23%.

FACTOR	DOF	Sum of square	Variance	Contribution (%)
A	2	2482357	1241179	52.23847911
B	2	408464.8	204232.4	8.856545674
C	2	467086.3	233543.1	10.1276076
D	2	998204.3	499102.1	21.64358499
ERR	7	255897.3	36556.75	7.13378262
TOTAL	15			92.873

Table 5 Result of ANNOVA for L₁₆ design for singly reinforced beam

6.2 SINGLY REINFORCED BEAM

INPUT DATA FOR NEURAL NETWORK

SI.NO	Fck	Fy	b/D Ratio	Moment	Total cost	SI.N O	Fck	Fy	b/D Ratio	Mom ent	Total cost
	N/mm ²	N/mm ²		kN-m	Rs						
1	20	250	0.4	100	1195	76	20	250	0.6	150	1952
2	25	250	0.4	100	1154	77	25	250	0.6	150	1832
3	30	250	0.4	100	1139	78	30	250	0.6	150	1899
4	35	250	0.4	100	1138	79	35	250	0.6	150	1850
5	40	250	0.4	100	1145	80	40	250	0.6	150	1920
6	20	415	0.4	100	988	81	20	415	0.6	150	1593
7	25	415	0.4	100	933	82	25	415	0.6	150	1475
8	30	415	0.4	100	906	83	30	415	0.6	150	1513
9	35	415	0.4	100	895	84	35	415	0.6	150	1466
10	40	415	0.4	100	893	85	40	415	0.6	150	1422
11	20	500	0.4	100	976	86	20	500	0.6	150	1698
12	25	500	0.4	100	920	87	25	500	0.6	150	1578
13	30	500	0.4	100	892	88	30	500	0.6	150	1505
14	35	500	0.4	100	879	89	35	500	0.6	150	1458
15	40	500	0.4	100	872	90	40	500	0.6	150	1426
16	20	250	0.4	150	1526	91	20	250	0.7	200	2112
17	25	250	0.4	150	1474	92	25	250	0.7	200	2088
18	30	250	0.4	150	1455	93	30	250	0.7	200	2054
19	35	250	0.4	150	1454	94	35	250	0.7	200	2112
20	40	250	0.4	150	1464	95	40	250	0.7	200	2172
21	20	415	0.4	150	1259	96	20	415	0.7	200	1683
22	25	415	0.4	150	1188	97	25	415	0.7	200	1710
23	30	415	0.4	150	1155	98	30	415	0.7	200	1639
24	35	415	0.4	150	1140	99	35	415	0.7	200	1596
25	40	415	0.4	150	1138	100	40	415	0.7	200	1569
26	20	500	0.4	150	1240	101	20	500	0.7	200	1802

27	25	500	0.4	150	1167	102	25	500	0.7	200	1675
28	30	500	0.4	150	1132	103	30	500	0.7	200	1583
29	35	500	0.4	150	1116	104	35	500	0.7	200	1589
30	40	500	0.4	150	1030	105	40	500	0.7	200	1722
31	20	250	0.5	200	1988	106	20	250	0.7	200	2584
32	25	250	0.5	200	2002	107	25	250	0.7	200	2417
33	30	250	0.5	200	1926	108	30	250	0.7	200	2436
34	35	250	0.5	200	1981	109	35	250	0.7	200	2384
35	40	250	0.5	200	2028	110	40	250	0.7	200	2374
36	20	415	0.5	200	1740	111	20	415	0.7	200	2008
37	25	415	0.5	200	1593	112	25	415	0.7	200	1864
38	30	415	0.5	200	1518	113	30	415	0.7	200	1913
39	35	415	0.5	200	1643	114	35	415	0.7	200	1843
40	40	415	0.5	200	1495	115	40	415	0.7	200	1794
41	20	500	0.5	200	1703	116	20	500	0.7	200	1935
42	25	500	0.5	200	1575	117	25	500	0.7	200	1943
43	30	500	0.5	200	1635	118	30	500	0.7	200	1908
44	35	500	0.5	200	1588	119	35	500	0.7	200	1839
45	40	500	0.5	200	1560	120	40	500	0.7	200	1812
46	20	250	0.5	250	2311	121	20	250	0.8	100	1490
47	25	250	0.5	250	2290	122	25	250	0.8	100	1455
48	30	250	0.5	250	2183	123	30	250	0.8	100	1390
49	35	250	0.5	250	2290	124	35	250	0.8	100	1425
50	40	250	0.5	250	2255	125	40	250	0.8	100	1406
51	20	415	0.5	250	1893	126	20	415	0.8	100	1180
52	25	415	0.5	250	1921	127	25	415	0.8	100	1166
53	30	415	0.5	250	1814	128	30	415	0.8	100	1102
54	35	415	0.5	250	1760	129	35	415	0.8	100	1072
55	40	415	0.5	250	1728	130	40	415	0.8	100	1126
56	20	500	0.5	250	1995	131	20	500	0.8	100	1170
57	25	500	0.5	250	1848	132	25	500	0.8	100	1168
58	30	500	0.5	250	1760	133	30	500	0.8	100	1118
59	35	500	0.5	250	1686	134	35	500	0.8	100	1073
60	40	500	0.5	250	1807	135	40	500	0.8	100	1057
61	20	250	0.6	100	1511	136	20	250	0.8	150	1919
62	25	250	0.6	100	1486	137	25	250	0.8	150	1829
63	30	250	0.6	100	1496	138	30	250	0.8	150	1866
64	35	250	0.6	100	1458	139	35	250	0.8	150	1809
65	40	250	0.6	100	1500	140	40	250	0.8	150	1887

66	20	415	0.6	100	1338	141	20	415	0.8	150	1582
67	25	415	0.6	100	1196	142	25	415	0.8	150	1453
68	30	415	0.6	100	1210	143	30	415	0.8	150	1390
69	35	415	0.6	100	1174	144	35	415	0.8	150	1352
70	40	415	0.6	100	1137	145	40	415	0.8	150	1481
71	20	500	0.6	100	1296	146	20	500	0.8	150	1557
72	25	500	0.6	100	1170	147	25	500	0.8	150	1427
73	30	500	0.6	100	1198	148	30	500	0.8	150	1364
74	35	500	0.6	100	1162	149	35	500	0.8	150	1326
75	40	500	0.6	100	1140	150	40	500	0.8	150	1287

Table 6:

RESULTS AND CONCLUSION:

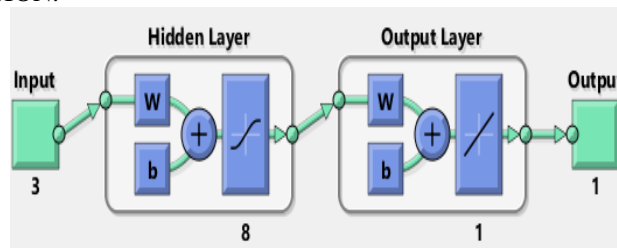


Fig 2 Artificial neural network arrangement for singly reinforced beam

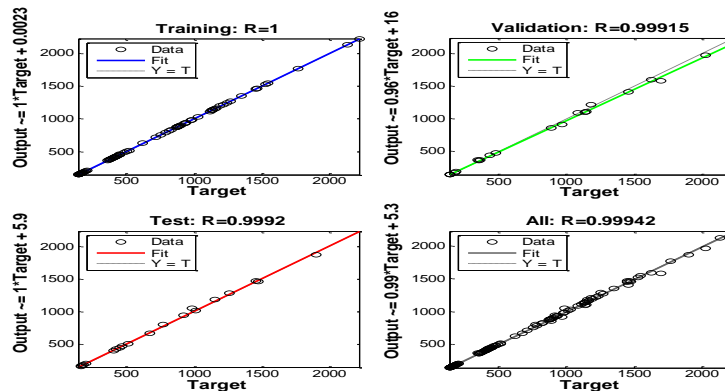


Fig 3 Graph showing accuracy of result for singly reinforced beam

SI.no	Fck N/mm ²	Fy N/mm ²	b/D Ratio	Moment kN-m	Neural network result Total cost Rs	Obtained result Total cost Rs	percentage
1	20	250	0.4	300	2094	2155	0.418183
2	25	250	0.4	300	1998	2060	0.530152
3	30	250	0.4	300	2073	2020	0.279355
4	35	250	0.4	300	1953	2008	0.595195
5	40	250	0.4	300	2067	2015	0.793499
6	20	415	0.4	300	1754	1809	0.812473
7	40	415	0.5	100	2223	2189	0.450567

8	20	500	0.5	100	3496	3562	0.377053
9	25	500	0.5	100	3142	3070	0.457049
10	30	500	0.5	100	2648	2719	0.726416
11	35	500	0.5	100	2394	2453	0.578064
12	40	500	0.5	100	2195	2244	0.634968
13	20	500	0.6	300	2356	2311	0.452037
14	25	500	0.6	300	2286	2332	0.249636
15	30	500	0.6	300	2186	2224	0.70809
16	35	500	0.6	300	2193	2155	0.610928
17	40	500	0.6	300	2069	2114	0.220687

Table 7 Testing Data of ANN for singly reinforced beam

Table 7 shows the design data chosen for testing purpose using ANN technique in MATLAB. These values are used to the optimum values. Using this input parameter the optimized values of total cost is obtained. Trained experimental minimum error is 0.00001254 and tested experimental minimum error is 0.000012123. by comparing experimental value and ANN 99% of accuracy was obtained.

RESULT AND CONCLUSIONS

1. SINGLY REINFORCED BEAM

7.1.1 Results from Taguchi and Anova technique

- Mainly four factors influence the total cost of singly reinforced beam elements, namely Moment, fck, fy, b/D ratio.
- The optimal solution for singly reinforced beam design was done using M30 grade of concrete and Fe 500 grade of steel and b/D ratio of 0.4.
- In ANNOVA method, it clearly shows that
 - 52% total cost is influenced by moment
 - 21% total cost is influenced by b/D ratio
 - 10% total cost is influenced by fck
 - 8% total cost is influenced by fy.

7.1.2 Results from artificial neural network

- The table 7 shows the design data chosen for testing purpose using ANN technique in MATLAB. These values are used to the optimum values.
- Using this input parameter the optimized values of total cost is obtained.
- Trained experimental minimum error is 0.000001254
- Tested experimental minimum error is 0.000001212
- By comparing manual value and ANN 99% of accuracy was obtained.

Thus it is concluded that the optimization done by Artificial Neural Network is more effective than the manual optimization method.

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