

## USER BULLETIN 11

### **Beam-Column Joint Hinge Generator using an Artificial Neural Network (ANN)**

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

This document describes an Excel spreadsheet, *Beam-Column Joint Hinge Generator Using an Artificial Neural Network (ANN)*, which is developed to predict the joint shear strength and derive the shear stress-strain and moment rotation curves of both exterior and interior beam-column joints with or without transverse reinforcement. The spreadsheet uses the feed forward neural network developed by Suwal and Guner (2023b) to predict the joint shear strength. The predicted strength is used to derive the shear stress-strain and moment rotation curves using the approach defined in Suwal and Guner (2023a). The abscissa and ordinate values are based on the experimental testing results and formulations proposed by Anderson et al. (2008), Jeon (2013), and Celik and Ellingwood (2008). The generated values can be copied and pasted into plastic-hinge-based global frame analysis software when defining joint hinges. To facilitate the calculation process, the spreadsheet tool (Suwal and Guner 2023c) is shared as a freeware for the use of practicing engineers. It can be downloaded from the following link:

[www.utoledo.edu/engineering/faculty/serhan-guner/docs/8S-ANNJointHingeGenerator.xlsx](http://www.utoledo.edu/engineering/faculty/serhan-guner/docs/8S-ANNJointHingeGenerator.xlsx)

This user bulletin presents the application and validation of the spreadsheet for both interior and exterior joints with or without transverse reinforcement. Four application and validation examples are presented in total.

**Please use the following text when citing this document:**

Suwal, N. and Guner, S. (2023) “User Bulletin 11: Joint Hinge Generator Spreadsheet using an Artificial Neural Network,” Documentation, 6 pp. <[https://www.utoledo.edu/engineering/faculty/serhan-guner/docs/B11\\_ANNJointHingeGenerator.pdf](https://www.utoledo.edu/engineering/faculty/serhan-guner/docs/B11_ANNJointHingeGenerator.pdf)>

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This document is prepared by Nirmala Suwal (graduate student at the University of Toledo, OH, USA) as a part of research project supervised by [Dr. Serhan Guner](#)

## 2. APPLICATION AND VALIDATION

### Beam-Column Joint Hinge Generator Using an Artificial Neural Network Validation with an exterior joint with transverse reinforcement (Eshani and Alameddine, 1991)-Specimen LL8

Variables	Range		unit
	Min	Max	
$f_c$	15.8	101.9	MPa
$f_{yt}$	235	1374	MPa
$\rho_{jt}$	0.0%	2.6%	
$f_{yb}$	286	1091	MPa
$\rho_b$	0.4%	4.3%	
$h_b$	150	750	mm
$b_b$	100	610	mm
$f_{yc}$	274	1092	MPa
$\rho_c$	0.3%	7.7%	
$h_c$	140	700	mm
$b_c$	100	900	mm
ALF	0.0	0.7	
JT*	0	1	
$\tau$	1.3	17.4	MPa

\* Interior = 0, Exterior = 1

Definitions	
$f_c$	Concrete compressive strength
$f_{yt}$	Joint transverse reinforcement yield strength
$\rho_{jt}$	Joint transverse reinforcement ratio
$f_{yb}$	Beam longitudinal reinforcement yield strength
$\rho_b$	Beam longitudinal reinforcement ratio
$h_b$	Beam depth
$b_b$	Beam width
$f_{yc}$	Column longitudinal reinforcement yield strength
$\rho_c$	Column longitudinal reinforcement ratio
$h_c$	Column depth
$b_c$	Column width
ALF	Axial load factor ( $P/f_c b_c h_c$ )
JT	Joint type (=0 for interior, =1 for exterior joint)
$\tau$	Shear strength
M	Equivalent moment
$L_b$	Span of beam between points of contraflexure
$L_c$	Span of column between points of contraflexure
P	Axial load applied to column
$\gamma$	Shear strain
$\theta$	Rotation
$\tau_{pred}$	Predicted shear strength

Instructions	
<b>Step 1:</b>	Input the variables in the green cells
<b>Step 2:</b>	See the output joint shear strength in the orange cell
<b>Note:</b>	The inputs must be within the variables range. The ANN cannot not be used for extrapolation.

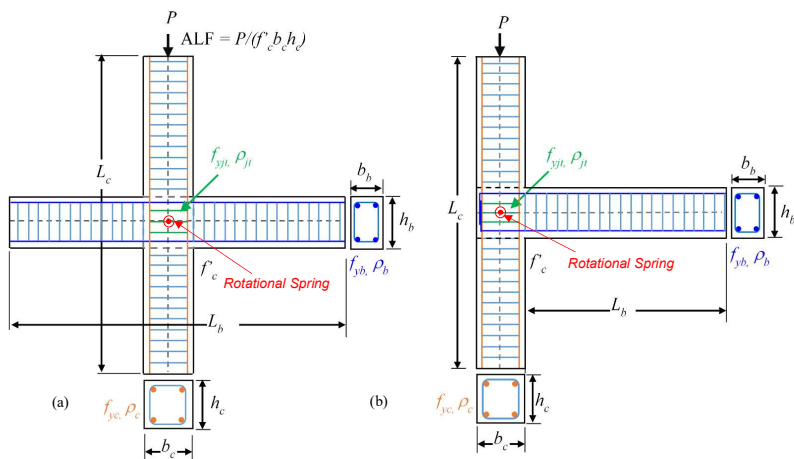
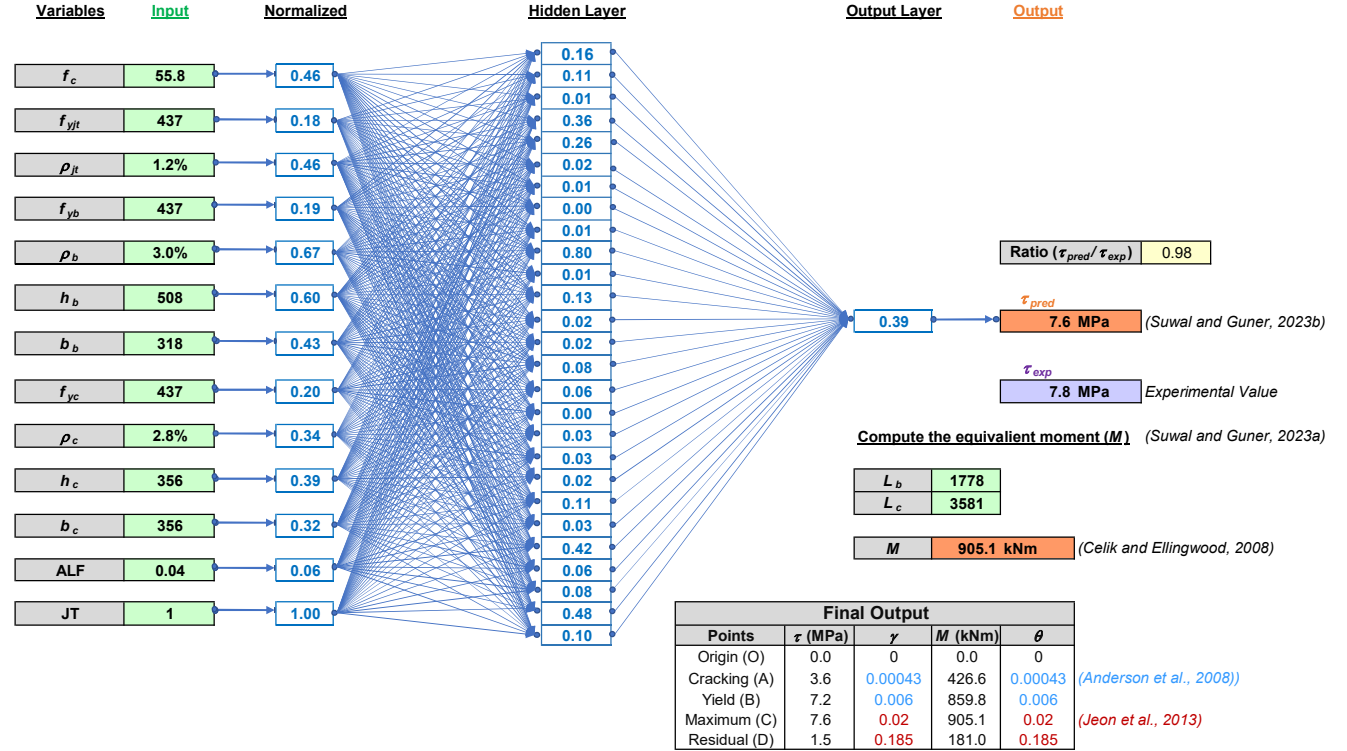
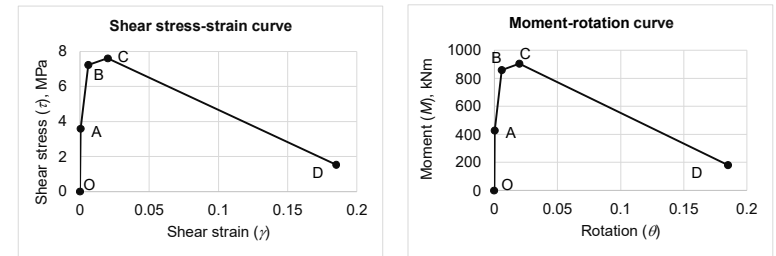


Figure: Sketches of specimens used in the training of the ANN: (a) interior and (b) exterior



**Beam-Column Joint Hinge Generator Using an Artificial Neural Network**  
 Validation with an exterior joint without transverse reinforcement (Pantelides et al., 2017) - Specimen Test Unit 2

Variables	Range		unit
	Min	Max	
$f_c$	15.8	101.9	MPa
$f_{yt}$	235	1374	MPa
$\rho_{jt}$	0.0%	2.6%	
$f_{yb}$	286	1091	MPa
$\rho_b$	0.4%	4.3%	
$h_b$	150	750	mm
$b_b$	100	610	mm
$f_{yc}$	274	1092	MPa
$\rho_c$	0.3%	7.7%	
$h_c$	140	700	mm
$b_c$	100	900	mm
ALF	0.0	0.7	
JT*	0	1	
$\tau$	1.3	17.4	MPa

\* Interior = 0, Exterior = 1

Definitions	
$f_c$	Concrete compressive strength
$f_{yt}$	Joint transverse reinforcement yield strength
$\rho_{jt}$	Joint transverse reinforcement ratio
$f_{yb}$	Beam longitudinal reinforcement yield strength
$\rho_b$	Beam longitudinal reinforcement ratio
$h_b$	Beam depth
$b_b$	Beam width
$f_{yc}$	Column longitudinal reinforcement yield strength
$\rho_c$	Column longitudinal reinforcement ratio
$h_c$	Column depth
$b_c$	Column width
ALF	Axial load factor ( $P/f_c b_c h_c$ )
JT	Joint type (=0 for interior, =1 for exterior joint)
$\tau$	Shear strength
M	Equivalent moment
$L_b$	Span of beam between points of contraflexure
$L_c$	Span of column between points of contraflexure
P	Axial load applied to column
$\gamma$	Shear strain
$\theta$	Rotation
$\tau_{pred}$	Predicted shear strength

Instructions	
<b>Step 1:</b>	Input the variables in the green cells
<b>Step 2:</b>	See the output joint shear strength in the orange cell
<b>Note:</b>	The inputs must be within the variables range. The ANN cannot not be used for extrapolation.

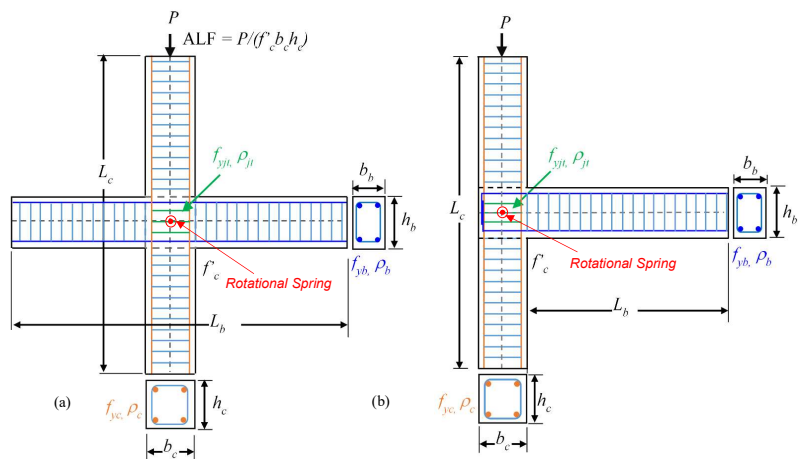
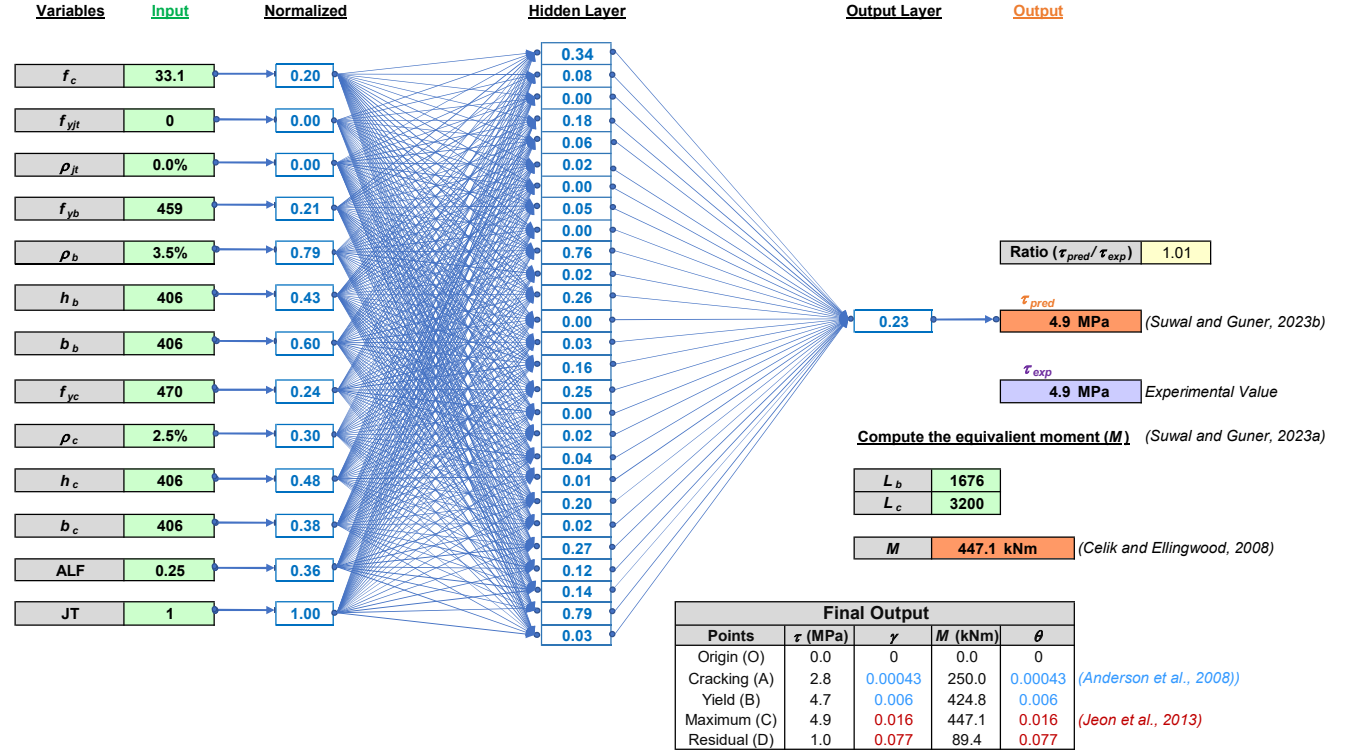
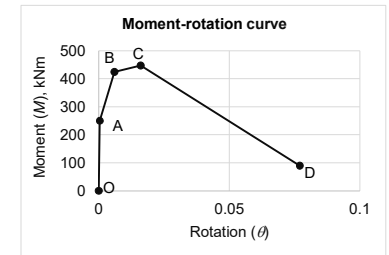
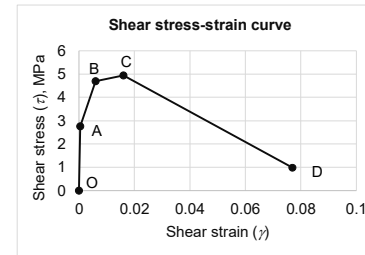


Figure: Sketches of specimens used in the training of the ANN: (a) interior and (b) exterior



**Beam-Column Joint Hinge Generator Using an Artificial Neural Network**  
 Validation with an interior joint with transverse reinforcement (Guimaraes et al., 1992) - Specimen J5

Variables	Range		unit
	Min	Max	
$f_c$	15.8	101.9	MPa
$f_{yt}$	235	1374	MPa
$\rho_{jt}$	0.0%	2.6%	
$f_{yb}$	286	1091	MPa
$\rho_b$	0.4%	4.3%	
$h_b$	150	750	mm
$b_b$	100	610	mm
$f_{yc}$	274	1092	MPa
$\rho_c$	0.3%	7.7%	
$h_c$	140	700	mm
$b_c$	100	900	mm
ALF	0.0	0.7	
JT*	0	1	
$\tau$	1.3	17.4	MPa

\* Interior = 0, Exterior = 1

Definitions	
$f_c$	Concrete compressive strength
$f_{yt}$	Joint transverse reinforcement yield strength
$\rho_{jt}$	Joint transverse reinforcement ratio
$f_{yb}$	Beam longitudinal reinforcement yield strength
$\rho_b$	Beam longitudinal reinforcement ratio
$h_b$	Beam depth
$b_b$	Beam width
$f_{yc}$	Column longitudinal reinforcement yield strength
$\rho_c$	Column longitudinal reinforcement ratio
$h_c$	Column depth
$b_c$	Column width
ALF	Axial load factor ( $P/f_c b_c h_c$ )
JT	Joint type (=0 for interior, =1 for exterior joint)
$\tau$	Shear strength
M	Equivalent moment
$L_b$	Span of beam between points of contraflexure
$L_c$	Span of column between points of contraflexure
P	Axial load applied to column
$\gamma$	Shear strain
$\theta$	Rotation
$\tau_{pred}$	Predicted shear strength

Instructions	
<b>Step 1:</b>	Input the variables in the green cells
<b>Step 2:</b>	See the output joint shear strength in the orange cell
<b>Note:</b>	The inputs must be within the variables range. The ANN cannot not be used for extrapolation.

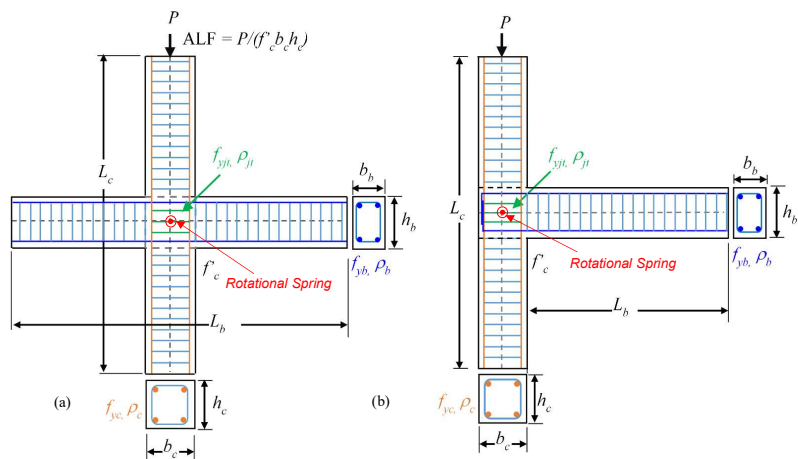
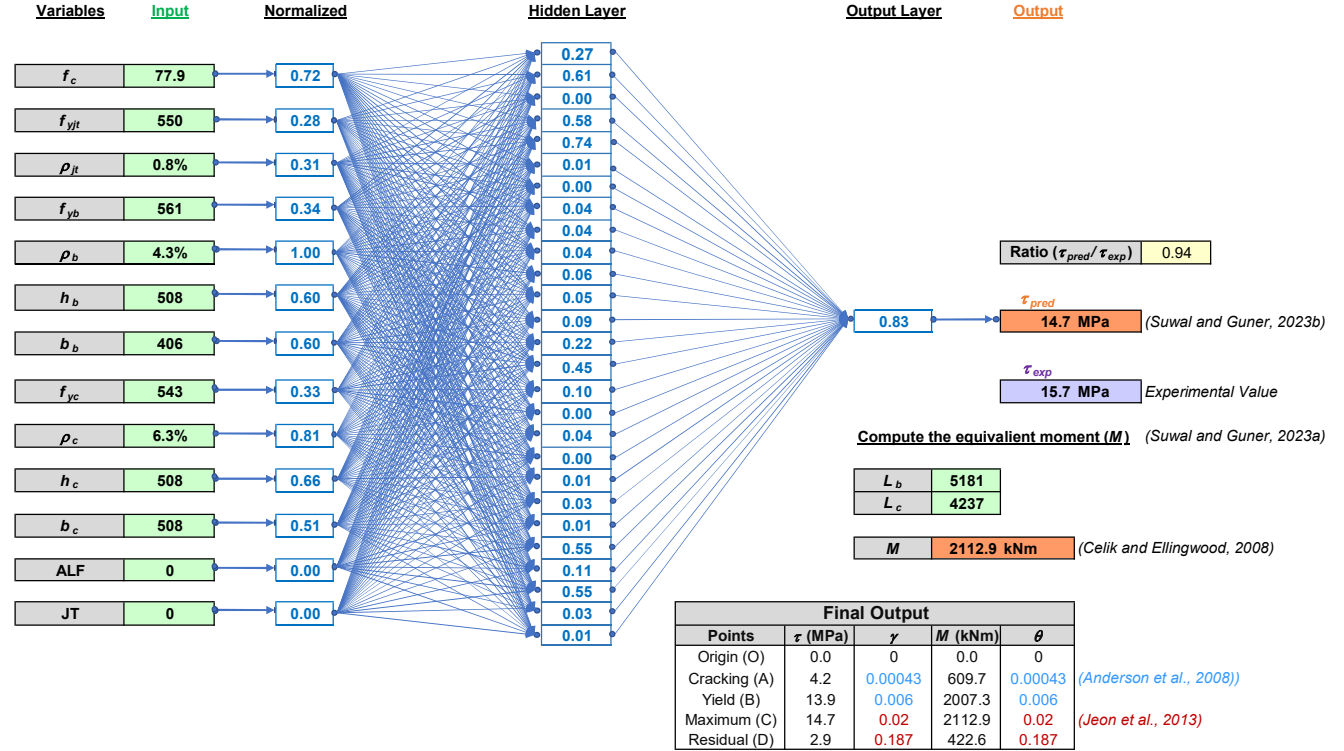
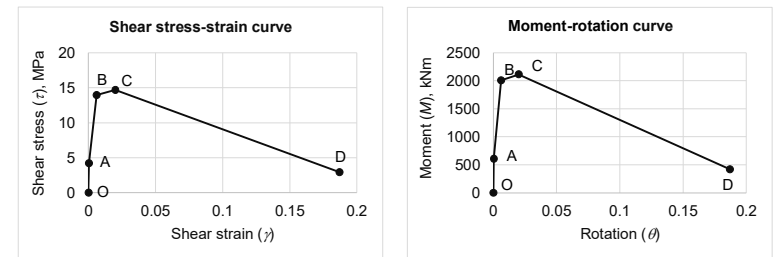


Figure: Sketches of specimens used in the training of the ANN: (a) interior and (b) exterior



## Beam-Column Joint Hinge Generator Using an Artificial Neural Network

Validation with an interior joint without transverse reinforcement (Li et al., 2005) - Specimen AL1

Variables	Range		unit
	Min	Max	
$f_c$	15.8	101.9	MPa
$f_{yt}$	235	1374	MPa
$\rho_{jt}$	0.0%	2.6%	
$f_{yb}$	286	1091	MPa
$\rho_b$	0.4%	4.3%	
$h_b$	150	750	mm
$b_b$	100	610	mm
$f_{yc}$	274	1092	MPa
$\rho_c$	0.3%	7.7%	
$h_c$	140	700	mm
$b_c$	100	900	mm
ALF	0.0	0.7	
JT*	0	1	
$\tau$	1.3	17.4	MPa

\* Interior = 0, Exterior = 1

Definitions	
$f_c$	Concrete compressive strength
$f_{yt}$	Joint transverse reinforcement yield strength
$\rho_{jt}$	Joint transverse reinforcement ratio
$f_{yb}$	Beam longitudinal reinforcement yield strength
$\rho_b$	Beam longitudinal reinforcement ratio
$h_b$	Beam depth
$b_b$	Beam width
$f_{yc}$	Column longitudinal reinforcement yield strength
$\rho_c$	Column longitudinal reinforcement ratio
$h_c$	Column depth
$b_c$	Column width
ALF	Axial load factor ( $P/f_c b_c h_c$ )
JT	Joint type (=0 for interior, =1 for exterior joint)
$\tau$	Shear strength
M	Equivalent moment
$L_b$	Span of beam between points of contraflexure
$L_c$	Span of column between points of contraflexure
P	Axial load applied to column
$\gamma$	Shear strain
$\theta$	Rotation
$\tau_{pred}$	Predicted shear strength

Instructions	
<b>Step 1:</b>	Input the variables in the green cells
<b>Step 2:</b>	See the output joint shear strength in the orange cell
<b>Note:</b>	The inputs must be within the variables range. The ANN cannot not be used for extrapolation.

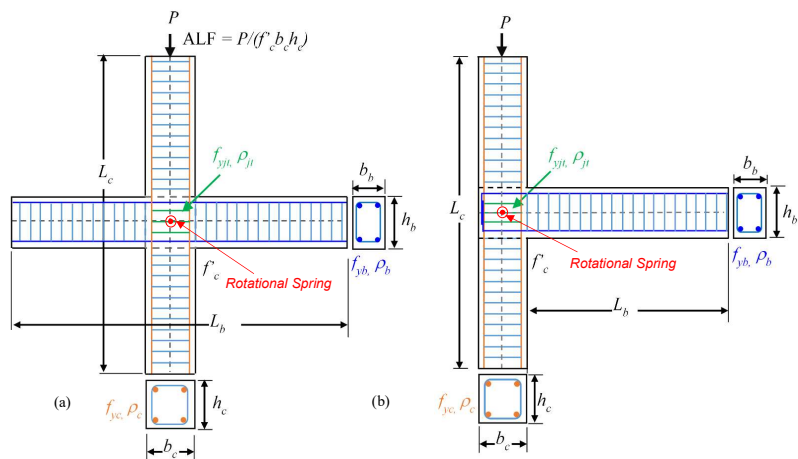
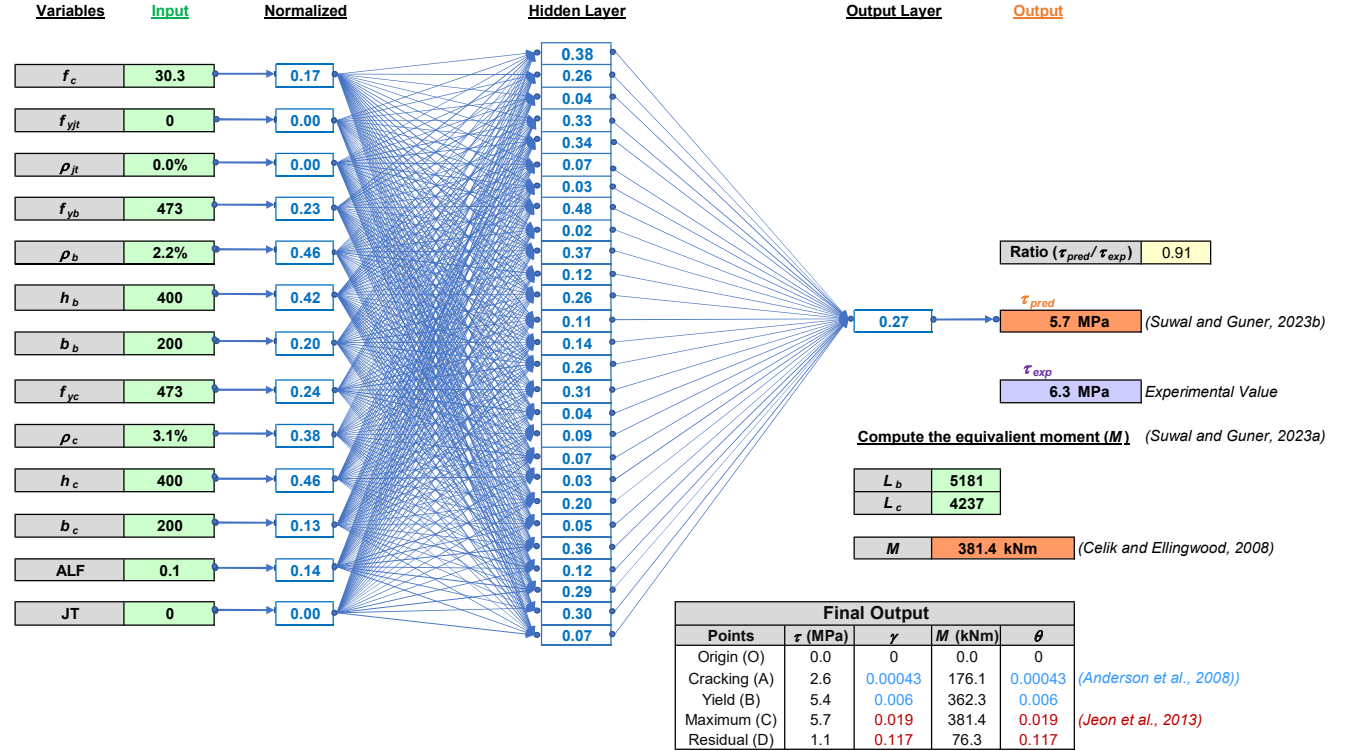
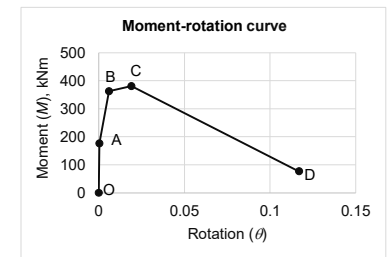
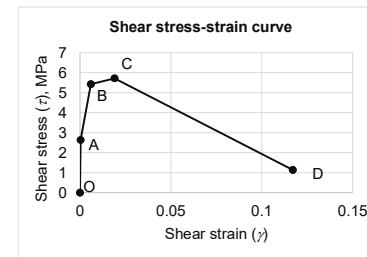


Figure: Sketches of specimens used in the training of the ANN: (a) interior and (b) exterior





### 3. REFERENCES

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