# RC STAIRCASE DESIGN 

By<br>Dr. Zainorizuan Bin Mohd Jaini Department of Structure and Material Engineering



With Wisdom We Explore

Introduction


With Wisdom We Explore

## Introduction

- A stair is a convenient means of access between the floors of a building.
- It is constructed to provide ready, easy, comfortable and safe ascent/descent.
- It consists of a flight of steps, usually with one or more intermediate landings provided between the floor levels.
- Concrete staircase has requisite fire resisting qualities, durable, strong and pleasing in appearance, as well as favorable choice in framed structures.



## Introduction



The basic terminology of stairs

## Introduction

- The dimension of stair should be such as to give the maximum comfort to the users, which depends on the use of the building.
- Basic guideline:
- Public buildings: $R$ is not more than 180 mm , $G$ shall not be less than 255 mm , whereas
- Private buildings: $R$ is not more than 200 mm , $G$ are varies between 250 mm to 400 mm .
- For comfort, R and $G$ can be proportioned according to the following formula;

$$
(2 \times R)+G=600 \mathrm{~mm} \quad \text { (BS 5395) }
$$

## Introduction

- For optimum requirement:

| Stair | Rise (mm) |  |  | Going (mm) |  |  | Pitch ( ${ }^{\circ}$ ) |  | Unobstructed width (mm) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Min. | Opt. | Max. | Min. | Opt. | Max. | Opt. | Max. | Min. | Reduced min. where stair has limited use |
| Private stair | 100 | 175 | 190 | 225 | 250 | 300 | 35 | 40 | 800 | 600 |
|  | 220 absolute max. |  |  |  |  |  | 42 absolute max. |  |  |  |
| Semi-public stair (factories, offices, shops, schools, etc.) | 100 | 165 | 190 | 250 | 275 | 350 | 31 | 38 | 1000 | 800 |
| Public stair <br> (cinema, <br> theatre, <br> stadium, <br> hospitals, etc. | 100 | 150 | 180 | 280 | 300 | 350 | 27 | 33 | 1000 | - |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Hospitals 1200 |  |

With Wisdom We Explore

## Classification of Staircase

- Two main classifications of staircase related to the design method:


## Transverse span staircase Longitudinal span staircase

- Staircases which spans perpendicular to the stair flight.
- It spans parallel to the stair flight.
- Two supports at upper and lower of stair flight with no lateral flight support.
- Design: one unit of step is taken as a beam.
- Design: similar to the design of one-way spanning slab.
- Area of reinforcement is determined like a beam.


## Classification of Staircase

- Transverse-span staircase are further subdivided to the following:


## Transverse span staircase

Cantilever staircase from wall on one side

Staircase span between support on both left and right

Cantilever staircase from the middle beam


With Wisdom We Explore

## Classification of Staircase

- Transverse span staircase - cantilever staircase


With Wisdom We Explore

## Classification of Staircase

- Longitudinal-span staircase are further subdivided to the following:


## Longitudinal span staircase

$>$ Monolithic staircase
> Staircase with landing supported by beam/wall
> Staircase and landing built into the wall
> Staircase supported by landing perpendicular to the stair flight
> Staircase surrounding openings


## UTHM Classification of Staircase

- Longitudinal span staircase


With Wisdom We Explore Classification of Staircase

## - Longitudinal span staircase



With Wisdom We Explore

## Type of Staircase

- Depend mainly on the type and function of the building, and on architectural requirements.
- Type of staircase:
- Straight flight (floor to floor, with/out landing, used where space is limited)
- Quarter turn (rises to landing between floors, turn to $90^{\circ}$, space saving)
- Half turn/dog-legged (rises to landing between floors, turn to $180^{\circ}$, used in most building)
- Geometrical (spiral, elliptical, extravagant, used in prestigious building)


## Type of Staircase



With Wisdom We Explore

## Support Condition

Many cases of staircase are supported by beam or wall


With Wisdom We Explore

## Support Condition

Landings and flights as cranked slab between beams of structural frame Structural supports provides stability to stairs

 supports cranked slab

## Support Condition



With Wisdom We Explore

Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia

## Support Condition



With Wisdom We Explore

## Design Consideration

- The reinforced concrete stairs should be designed generally similar to reinforced concrete slabs, except as indicated otherwise.


## 1. Actions

When considering the permanent load for the flights of stair, care should be taken to ensure that a sufficient allowance is made to cater the weight of the steps and finishes as well as the increase loading on plan occasioned by the inclination of the waist.

Where stair with open wells have two intersecting landings at right-angles to each other, the actions on the areas common to both spans may be divided equally between the spans.

## UTHM <br> Design Consideration

Selfweight of landing and flight can be calculated by considering overall waist ( $\mathrm{h}_{\mathrm{L}}$ ) and average thickness ( t ).

For landing, the selfweight is considered as:
$\mathrm{g}_{\mathrm{k}}$ (landing) $=25 \mathrm{kN} / \mathrm{m}^{3} \times$ overall waist
For flight, the selfweight is considered as:
$g_{k}($ flight $)=25 \mathrm{kN} / \mathrm{m}^{3} \times$ average thickness

$$
\begin{aligned}
& y=h\left[\frac{\left(G^{2}+R^{2}\right)^{1 / 2}}{G}\right] \\
& t=y+\left(\frac{R}{2}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$



With Wisdom We Explore

## Design Consideration

## 2. Bending moment and shear force

Stair slabs and landings should be designed to support the most unfavorable arrangements of design loads.

For example, where a span is adjacent to a cantilever of length exceeding one third of the span of the slab, the case should be considered of maximum load on the cantilever and minimum load on the adjacent span.

Stairs which are continuous and constructed monolithically with supporting slabs or beams can be designed for a bending moment of $\mathrm{FL} / 10$, where F is the total ultimate load. For a simply supported staircase, bending moment is consider as FL/8.

## Design Consideration

## 3. Effective span

The effective span of stairs spanning between beams or walls is the distance between centre-line of supporting beams or walls.

The effective span of stairs spanning between landing slabs is the distance between centre-line of supporting landing slabs, or the distance between the edges of the supporting slabs plus 1.8 m , whichever is the smaller.

Given the rise, going and the number of steps, the span and overall height can be determined:
Span $=$ no. steps $x$ going, Height $=$ no. steps $x$ rise Slope length $=\sqrt{ }\left(\right.$ Span $^{2}+$ Height $\left.^{2}\right)$

## Design Consideration

## 4. Detailing

The reinforcement arrangement in stair flights follows a standard pattern. Deviation from this is not recommended unless a specific need arises.

Longitudinal steel is the main reinforcement and in the transverse direction the minimum percentage of steel is provided as "distribution steel" to help prevent cracking.

Strength requirements are not always critical for stair slabs. It is therefore essential that the other limit states are checked:
a. Deflection
b. Cracking
c. Min. \% As

## Design Consideration

## 5. Bar arrangement

Reinforcement should also be provided in the compression zone with distance $0.3 \mathrm{~L}_{\text {eff }}$ for flight and $0.2 \mathrm{~L}_{\text {eff }}$ for landing (from support).


With Wisdom We Explore

## Concept of Design

## Flight and landing monolithically

## Flight and landing separately

- Flight perpendicular to landing in the direction of load distribution ( $\mathrm{L}_{y}$ )
$\square$ Sharing spanning landing
-Condition of support at landing is 3 -edge-support

Example: Half-turn

Example: U-turn, parallel flights

Concept of Design

Exact design should be based on the requirement of reinforcements

Monolithic or separated?


With Wisdom We Explore

## Concept of Design

Monolithic or separated?


With Wisdom We Explore

## UTHM <br> Procedure of Design

## Identify type of staircase

Determine R, G, $\mathbf{h}_{\mathrm{f}}, \mathrm{h}_{\mathrm{L}}$
Calculate average thicknesses
Monolithic/separated
Determine R, G, $\mathrm{h}_{\mathrm{f}}, \mathrm{h}_{\mathrm{L}}$
Calculate average thicknesses
$\longrightarrow$ Comfort requirement \& T4.7N
$\longrightarrow y$ and $t$


Calculate moment and shear $\longrightarrow$ Simple support/with cantilever
Design main reinforcement
Check shear resistance
Check deflection

Check cracking
Detailing
$\longrightarrow \mathrm{k}, \rho_{1}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{Rd}, \mathrm{c}}, \mathrm{V}_{\text {min }}$
$G_{k}, Q_{k}, n_{k}$ for flight/landing
$\mathrm{d}, \mathrm{k}, \mathrm{z}, \mathrm{As}, \mathrm{As}_{\text {max }}, \mathrm{As}_{\text {min }}, \mathrm{As}_{\mathrm{sec}}$
$\rho, \rho_{o}, l / d, f_{\text {modification }}$
$h, S_{\text {max,slab }}$, max. bar spacing
main/secondary

## Example of Design

1) Example 1:

Stair Spanning Longitudinally Continuous Over Supports
2) Example 2:

Stair Spanning Longitudinally with Landing and Continuous at One End
3) Example 3: Staircase Spanning Parallel to Flight with Landings
4) Example 4:

Stair Supported by Landing Spanning Perpendicular to Stair Flight (Half Turn)
5) Example 5:

Stair Supported by Landing Spanning Perpendicular to Stair Flight (Quarter Turn)

