# Finite Element Analysis of Lateral Soil Reaction of Monopile in Sand Considering Effects of Pile Installation Process

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# ABSTRACT

Simple formulae for calculating the soil moduli for the HSsmall model based on the CPT cone resistance are proposed for the monopile foundation of a bottom-fixed-type offshore wind turbine in sand. The pile responses predicted by the proposed formulas show good agreement with the responses obtained from the field loading tests and centrifuge model tests. It is found that pile responses can be reproduced by using a unique interface strength reduction factor of  $R_{inter} = 0.6$  regardless of installation process, such as impact driving in field loading tests, and 1-g state jacking in centrifuge model tests.

KEY WORDS: Monopile; CPT; Soil moduli; Interface strength reduction factor; 3D Finite element analysis; HSsmall; PLAXIS 3D.

# NOMENCLATURE

c': Effective cohesion (kPa)

D: Pile diameter (m)

E: Modulus of elasticity of pile material (kPa)

 $E_{50}$ : Secant soil modulus at half of soil strength (kPa)

 $E_i$ : Young's modulus of interface (kPa)

 $E_s$ : Young's modulus of soil (kPa)

Esinc: Increase of Young's modulus with depth (kPa/m)

 $E_s^{ref}$ : Young's modulus of soil corresponding to the reference depth  $z_{ref}$  (kPa)

EI: Flexural rigidity of pile (kNm²)

 $E_{oed}$ : Oedometer soil modulus (kPa)

Eur: Unloading/reloading soil modulus(kPa)

 $E_{50}^{ref}$ : Reference secant soil modulus at half of soil strength corresponding to the reference confining pressure  $p_{ref}$  (kPa)

 $E_{oed}^{ref}$ : Reference oedometer soil modulus corresponding to the reference confining pressure  $p_{ref}$  (kPa)

 $E_{ur}^{ref}$ : Reference unloading/reloading soil modulus corresponding to the reference confining pressure  $p_{ref}$  (kPa)

G<sub>0</sub>: Small strain shear modulus (kPa)

 $G_0^{ref}$ : Reference small strain shear modulus corresponding to the reference confining pressure  $p_{ref}$  (kPa)

h: Loading height (kN)

H: Horizontal load (kN)

*I*: Area moment of inertia of pile (m<sup>4</sup>)

 $K_0$ : Coefficient of lateral earth pressure (-)

L: Embedded length of pile (m)

m: Power for stress-level dependency of stiffness (-)

M: Bending moment of pile (kNm)

 $p_{ref}$ : Reference confining pressure (kPa)

 $q_c$ : CPT cone resistance (kPa)

 $q_c^*$ : Dimensionless CPT cone resistance (-)

RD: Relative density (%)

 $R_f$ : Failure ratio (-)

Rinter: Interface stiffness reduction factor (-)

t: Pile thickness (mm)

y: Displacement of pile at depth z (m)

 $y_g$ : Ground-level displacement of pile (m)

z: Depth below the ground surface(m)

 $z_{ref}$ : Reference depth (m)

 $\alpha$ : Coefficients of Eq. 13 representing the relationship between  $q_c(kPa)$  and  $E_s(kPa)$  (-)

γ<sub>sat</sub>: Saturated unit weight (kN/m<sup>3</sup>)

 $\gamma_{0.7}$ : The strain level at which the shear modulus G has reduced to about 70% of the small-strain shear modulus  $G_0$  ( $G/G_0 = 0.7$ ) =0.385 $\gamma_{0.5}$  (-), where  $\gamma_{0.5}$  is the strain level at  $G/G_0 = 0.5$ (-)

 $\nu$ : Poisson's ratio of soil for small strain (HSsmall) (-)

 $v_s$ : Poisson's ratio of soil (-)

 $v_i$ : Poisson's ratio of interface (-)

 $\phi'$ : Friction angle (degree)

 $\sigma_{11}$ : Major principal stress (kPa)

 $\sigma'_{v0}$ : Initial vertical effective stress (kPa)

 $\sigma_3'$ : The minor principal stress of soil (kPa)

 $\tau_{lim}$ : Shear strength of soil (kPa)

 $\tau_{lim.i}$ : Shear strength of interface element (kPa)

 $\psi$ : Dilatancy angle of soil (degree)

#### INTRODUCTION

The soil reaction characteristics required for the design of monopiles are usually obtained by 3D FEA. It is important how to determine the appropriate geotechnical parameters for the constitutive laws used in the 3D FEA based on the results of the geotechnical investigation. Cone resistance of the cone penetration test (CPT) has been used to evaluate the relationship between various soil strength properties and soil stiffness (Robertson and Cabal, 2022; Igoe 2020, 2022). CPT has been used not only in field loading tests but also in centrifuge model tests where cone resistance has been measured using miniature CPT with centrifugal forces acting during centrifuge flights (Haouari and Bouafia, 2020; Fan et al., 2019). However, to the authors' knowledge, there are no convenient formulae that can be applied in both field loading tests and centrifuge model tests to obtain the soil stiffness parameters in 3D FEA from the CPT cone resistance.

Modeling of the pile-soil interface is important for the analysis of monotonic loading. In the case of field loading tests, the test piles are generally installed by impact driving with hydraulic hammers, as in the case of actual piles. On the other hand, in the centrifuge model test, the model pile is jacked into the soil. Since the soil near the piles is disturbed by the installation of the piles, some treatment of the pile-soil interface is required in the FE analysis. Fan et al. (2021) investigated numerically by employing coupled Eulerian-Lagrangian (CEL) method, in which rigorously simulated installation process. In FEA, an interface element is often set up between the pile and the surrounding soil. There are two approaches for setting the strength and stiffness of the interface element: one is to estimate them by laboratory tests, and the other is to simply reduce the strength and stiffness of the surrounding soil. As the former, for example, Nakamura et al. (2023) estimated the strength and stiffness by laboratory tests using remolded samples, while Pedone et al. (2023) estimated the strength from laboratory tests and determined the stiffness by sensitivity studies. The latter method reduces the strength and stiffness of the surrounding soil by the interface strength reduction factor Rinter (PLAXIS 3D, 2023), and this method is employed in this study.

In latter method, the interface strength reduction factor  $R_{inter}$  should be set appropriately according to installation process. However, there are few studies on how to set the interface strength reduction factor  $R_{inter}$ .

In this study, an overview of the existing field loading tests and centrifuge model tests is provided, and the HSsmall modeling in PLAXIS 3D is described. A set of simple formulae for estimating soil moduli for the

HSsmall model based on the CPT cone resistance are then proposed. The applicability of the proposed formulae and the interface strength reduction factor for the pile-soil interface is discussed. Finally, conclusions from this study are presented.

# OVERVIEW OF FIELD LOADING TEST AND CENTRIFUGE MODEL TESTS AND ANALYSIS METHOD

### Overview of field loading tests and centrifuge model tests

Table.1 lists the field loading tests and centrifuge model tests that are subjected to the analysis, as well as the main specifications of the test piles and the relative densities of the sandy soil bed. The analyses are performed on one field loading test (PISA (Byrne et al., 2017; Zdravković et al., 2020; Taborda et al., 2020; Burd et al., 2020; Minga and Burd, 2019; McAdam et al., 2020) as shown in Case P) and two centrifuge model tests (Haouari and Bouafia, 2020 as shown in Case H and Fan et al., 2019 as shown in Case F). In all tests as shown in Table.1, cone penetration tests (CPT) were performed to investigate soil properties.

The surfaces of the model piles used in the centrifuge model tests are smooth in Case F, but roughened with bonded sand in Case H. In all cases, the piles were installed by jacking in the 1-g condition. In Case F, *n*-g state jacking, i.e., penetration by jacking during flight, was also performed, however, it is excluded from this study because it requires special centrifuge equipment.

In the field test, Case P was impact driving with a hydraulic hammer, but the first 1 to 1.5 m embedment was reported to be vibro-hammered (McAdam et al., 2020).

#### Overview of 3D FEA and Interface Elements

3D FEA are performed using PLAXIS 3D (Version 2023.2) and PLAXIS Monopile Designer (Version 2023.2) by the effective stress analysis under the drained condition. Fig. 1 shows an example of numerical model. The depth profiles of displacements and bending moments in the piles are obtained as the average values of dummy beams (see Fig. 1) placed in front and behind the piles with very small stiffness.

The HSsmall model (Schanz et al., 1999; Benz, 2007; PLAXIS 3D, 2023) is used in this study, which is a standard model of PLAXIS and is also used in the PISA project as the constitutive law for the sandy soil. The soil stiffness parameters required by the model are obtained by considering the confining pressure using the following equation,

Table.1 Pile structural properties and soil relative densities for analyses of the monotonic loading.

	PISA (2017, 2019, 2020)	Haouari and Bouafia (2020)		Fan et al. (2019)	
Test	Field test	Centrifuge (17.85, 20 G)		Centrifuge (100 G)	
Test site	Dunkirk	IFST	TAR	C72	
Case No.	P	H1	H2	F	
Aspect ratio L/D	5.25	10	5.56	3.1	
Diameter D (m)	2	0.5 0.9		5.22	
Embedded length L (m)	10.57	5		16.2	
Pile thickness t (mm)	38	21.7 44.8		21	
Loading height h (m)	9.89	1		19.8	
$EI \text{ (MN/m}^2)$	23676	56.65 740.9		924400	
Pile surface finish	Rusted	Roughened with bonded sand		Smooth	
Installation	Vibro (1 to 1.5 m) +Impact Driving	1-g Jacking		1-g Jacking	
Relative density <i>RD</i> (%)	75 %, 100 % (Dunkirk sand)	92 % (Le-Rheu sand)		38 % (UWA silica sand)	

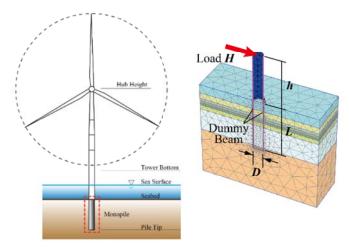


Fig. 1 FEA model and dummy beams.

$$E(z) = E^{ref} \left( \frac{c' + |\sigma'_3| \tan \phi'}{c' + p_{ref} \tan \phi'} \right)^m$$
 (1)

where c' is the effective cohesion (kPa),  $\sigma'_3$  is the minor principal stress (kPa),  $\varphi'$  is the internal friction angle (deg), m is the power index which expresses the constrained stress dependency and of 0.5,  $p_{ref}$  is the reference stress of 100 (kPa), E(z) is the various soil moduli ( $E_{50}$  is the secant soil modulus at half of soil strength,  $E_{ur}$  is the unloading-reloading soil modulus,  $E_{oed}$  is the oedometer soil modulus) below z(m) from ground surface and  $E^{ref}$  is E(z) at reference stress  $p_{ref}$ .  $E_{oed}$  and  $E_{ur}$  are obtained from following equations,

$$E_{oed} = E_{50} \tag{2}$$

$$E_{ur} = 3E_{50} (3)$$

Interface elements are used at the interface between the pile and the soil, with normal and shear stresses approximated by a bilinear model. In this study, to ensure that the 3D FEA results match the field loading tests and centrifuge model tests, the strength  $\tau_{lim}(=c'+\sigma_3'\tan\phi')$  and stiffness of the surrounding soil are reduced with the interface strength reduction factor  $R_{inter}$  to obtain the interface element strength  $\tau_{lim,i}$  and shear modulus  $G_i$  and oedometer modulus  $E_{oed,i}$ ,

$$\tau_{lim,i} = R_{inter} \cdot \tau_{lim} \tag{4}$$

$$G_i = R_{inter}^2 \frac{E_s}{2(1 + \nu_s)} = R_{inter}^2 G_s$$
 (5)

$$E_{oed,i} = \frac{E_i(1 - \nu_i)}{(1 + \nu_i)(1 - 2\nu_i)} \tag{6}$$

where,  $E_i$  and  $\nu_i$  are the soil modulus and the Poisson's ratio of the interface element,  $E_i = 2(1 + \nu_i)G_i$  and  $\nu_i = 0.45$ , respectively. In addition,  $G_s$  and  $E_s$  are used in the bilinear model for the interface elements and are obtained as  $G_s = E_s/2(1 + \nu_s)$  and  $E_s$  is approximated linearly with depth and is described below,

$$E_s(z) = E_s^{inc}(z - z_{ref}) + E_s^{ref}$$
(7)

where  $E_s^{ref}$  and  $E_s^{inc}$  are Young's modulus of soil corresponding to the reference depth  $z_{ref}$  and increment of Young's modulus with depth (kPa/m), respectively.

The Poisson's ratio  $\nu$  used in the HSsmall model is  $\nu = 0.17$  for Case P (Zdravković et al., 2020) and  $\nu = 0.2$  (Mayne et al., 2009) for the centrifuge model tests (Case H and Case F). Poisson's ratio  $\nu_s$  is 0.3. Failure ratio  $R_f$  and the strain level  $\gamma_{0.7}$  at which the shear modulus G has reduced to about 70% of the small-strain shear modulus  $G_0$  are approximated using conversion formulae in terms of relative density RD (%) by Brinkgreve et al. (2010),

$$R_f = 1 - RD/800 \tag{8}$$

$$\gamma_{0.7} = \left(2 - \frac{RD}{100}\right) \cdot 10^{-4} \tag{9}$$

In addition, according to the PLAXIS 3D specification, if  $R_{inter} \neq 1$ , the dilatancy angle of the interface element is set to 0.

PROPOSE OF SOIL MODULI BASED ON CPT CONE RESISTANCE

Correlations between the small strain shear modulus  $G_0$  and cone resistance  $q_c$  was developed by several researchers. Baldi et al. (1981) performed triaxial tests for normally consolidated, uncemented, quartz sands. Robertson and Campanella (1983) demonstrated  $G_0 - q_c$  relationship for different initial vertical effective stresses  $\sigma'_{v0}$ . Rix and Stokoe (1991) considered variations of sand specimen and proposed average  $G_0/q_c - q_c/\sqrt{\sigma'_{v0}}$  relationship.

Baldi et al. (1981) developed estimation formulae for  $E_{50}$ , however, it is not correlated with  $q_c$ . Robertson and Campanella (1983) established  $E_{50} - q_c$  relationship for different initial vertical effective stresses  $\sigma'_{v0}$ .  $E_{50}$  is the dominant parameter in FEA using HSsmall, but no correlation formulae have been proposed.

In this study, simple formulae for calculating soil moduli  $G_0$  and  $E_{50}$  for the HSsmall model based on the CPT cone resistance are proposed based

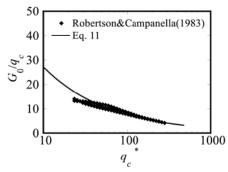


Fig.2 Correlation between  $q_c^*$  and  $G_0/q_c$ .

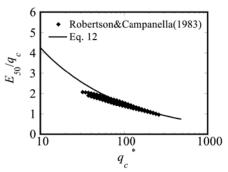
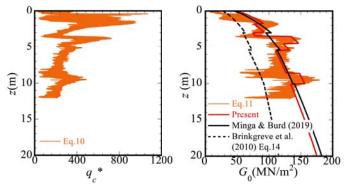
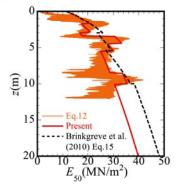


Fig. 3 Correlation between  $q_c^*$  and  $E_{50}/q_c$ .



(a) Dimensionless CPT cone (b) Small-strain shear modulus  $G_0$ . resistance  $q_c^*$ .



(c) Secant soil modulus at half of soil strength  $E_{50}$ .

Fig. 4 Vertical profiles of  $q_c^*$ ,  $G_0$  and  $E_{50}$  for Case P.

on Robertson and Campanella (1983) as follows.

Referring to Rix and Stokoe (1991), dimensionless cone resistance  $q_c^*$  is defined in terms of initial vertical effective stress  $\sigma'_{v0}$  as follows:

$$q_c^* = \left(\frac{q_c}{p_{ref}}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{\sigma_{v0}'}{p_{ref}}\right)^{-0.5} \tag{10}$$

Fig.2 shows  $q_c^* - G_0/q_c$  correlation. It can be found that  $q_c^* - G_0/q_c$  for different  $\sigma'_{v0}$  are estimated by a unique curve. In this study,  $G_0/q_c$  is

expressed in terms of the dimensionless cone resistance  $q_c^*$  as follows:

$$\frac{G_0}{q_c} = 96q_c^{*-0.55} \tag{11}$$

Similarly, for  $E_{50}$  (Fig.3),  $E_{50}/q_c$  is expressed as:

$$\frac{E_{50}}{q_c} = 12q_c^{*-0.45} \tag{12}$$

The shear modulus of the surrounding soil for the interface element of the bilinear model is obtained from the following equation,

$$E_s = \alpha q_c \tag{13}$$

Since sandy soil is concerned in this study,  $\alpha = 3$  is used (Haouari and Bouafia, 2020; Trofimenkov, 1974).

# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

# Validation by field loading test

Fig. 4 shows the profiles of  $q_c^*$ ,  $G_0$  and  $E_{50}$  for Case P. The same figure also shows a comparison by the following conversion formulae (Brinkgreve et al., 2010) in terms of relative density RD (%),

$$G_0^{ref} = 60000 + 68000RD/100 (14)$$

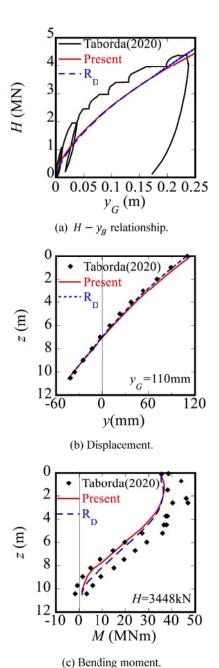
$$E_{50}^{ref} = 60000RD/100 ag{15}$$

Because filed tests site is not composed of clean sand,  $q_c^*$  varies with depth significantly.  $G_0$  based on Eq.11 also varies with depth, however averaged values represented by red line shows a good agreement with Zdravković et al. (2020) and Minga and Burd (2019) (Fig. 4(b)). On the other hand, although the formula of Brinkgreve et al. (2010) as in Eq. 14 underestimates  $G_0$  and  $E_{50}$  by Eq. 15 as shown in Fig. 4(c) looks overestimated  $E_{50}$  in deep portion, however, shows a good agreement with proposed Eq. 12 in shallow depth.

Table 2 summarizes HSsmall soil parameters for Case P. Following Minga and Burd (2019), an artificial cohesion is considered for layers

Table 2 Soil parameters for HSsmall model (Case P).

Layer No.	Unit	1	2	3	1	5	6	7	8	9
		1			2.5			- /		
$z_{top}$	m	0	1.8	3	3.5	4	4.5	5.4	8.5	10
$Z_{bottom}$	m	1.8	3	3.5	4	4.5	5.4	8.5	10	20
$Z_{ref}$	m	0	1.8	3	3.5	4	4.5	5.4	8.5	10
$\gamma_{sat}$	kN/m³	17.1	17.1	17.1	17.1	17.1	17.1	19.9	19.9	19.9
c'	kPa	5	5	10	10	10	10	0.1	0.1	0.1
$\phi$	0	46	46	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
$\psi$	0	17.5	17.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5
$G_0^{ref}$	kPa	230000	190000	140000	240000	240000	200000	180000	210000	180000
$E_{50}^{ref}$	kPa	52273	43182	31818	54545	54545	45455	40909	47727	40909
$E_{50}^{ref} \ E_{ur}^{ref}$	kPa	156818	129545	95455	163636	163636	136364	122727	143182	122727
$E_s^{ref}$	kPa	0	135000	56471	30000	135000	105000	90000	54000	75000
$E_s^{inc}$	kPa/m	25000	-21814	-17647	70000	-20000	-5556	-3871	14667	0
Y0.7	_	0.0001	0.0001	0.000125	0.000125	0.000125	0.000125	0.000125	0.000125	0.000125
RD	%	100	100	75	75	75	75	75	75	75
$K_0$	_	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
ν	_	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
$\nu_s$	_	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
$\nu_i$	_	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45
$R_f$	_	0.875	0.875	0.90625	0.90625	0.90625	0.90625	0.90625	0.90625	0.90625



(c) Bending moment

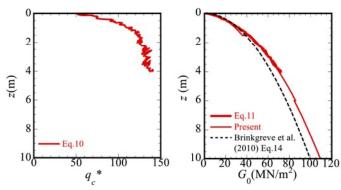
above the ground water level of z = 5.4 m to account for the unsaturated conditions. Interface strength reduction factor of  $R_{inter} = 0.6$ , which is commonly used for steel-sand interface (Gouw, 2014), is applied in the

Fig. 5 Comparison between 3D FEA and measurements for Case P.

rest of this study regardless of installation process.

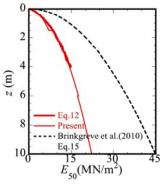
Fig. 5 shows a comparison between 3D FEA and field test results for the  $H - y_g$  relationship, where H is horizontal load and  $y_g$  is ground-level displacement of pile, and the profiles of pile displacement and bending moment for the impact driven pile. Goes B. Proposed formulae (Feg. 11)

displacement of pile, and the profiles of pile displacement and bending moment for the impact-driven pile Case P. Proposed formulae (Eqs. 11 and 12) give responses in good agreements with the measurements. Although  $G_0$  is significantly underestimated, these agreements are also accomplished by Brinkgreve's formulae (Eqs. 14 and 15), which are based on the relative density. This would indicate that  $E_{50}$  is more dominant in the response than  $G_0$ , especially its shallower portion.



(a) Dimensionless CPT cone resistance  $q_c^*$ .

(b) Small-strain shear modulus  $G_0$ .



(c) Secant soil modulus at half of soil strength  $E_{50}$ .

Fig. 6 Vertical profiles of  $q_c^*$ ,  $G_0$  and  $E_{50}$  for Case H.

Although the proposed equation is for clean sand, it can be shown to be applicable to field tests by formulating the stiffness in terms of  $q_c^*$  rather than simply  $q_c$ .

# Validation by centrifuge model tests

In this section, three centrifuge tests, that is applicability to different aspect ratio by Cases H1 and H2, to different relative density by Case F, are examined to validate the application of proposed soil moduli formulae and reduction factor of  $R_{inter} = 0.6$ .

Table 3 Soil parameters for HSsmall model (Case H).

Layer No.	Unit	1	2	3
$z_{top}$	m	0	1.5	6
$z_{bottom}$	m	1.5	6	15
$z_{ref}$	m	0	1.5	6
$\gamma_{sat}$	$kN/m^3$	16.5	16.5	16.5
C'	kPa	0.1	0.1	0.1
$\phi$	0	42	42	42
$C^{rej}$	0	12	12	12
$G_0^{ref}$	kPa	113509	136464	134386
$E_{50}^{ref}$	kPa	22307	27803	27276
$E_{ur}^{ref}$	kPa	66921	83409	81828
$E_s^{ref}$	kPa	0	13150	30580
$G_0^{ref}$ $E_5^{ref}$ $E_{\psi e_f}^{ref}$ $E_s^{inc}$	kPa/m	13000	4710	1670
Y0.7	_	0.000108	0.000108	0.000108
RD	%	92	92	92
$K_0$	_	0.4	0.4	0.4
ν	_	0.2	0.2	0.2
$\nu_s$	_	0.3	0.3	0.3
$v_i$	_	0.45	0.45	0.45
$R_f$	_	0.885	0.885	0.885

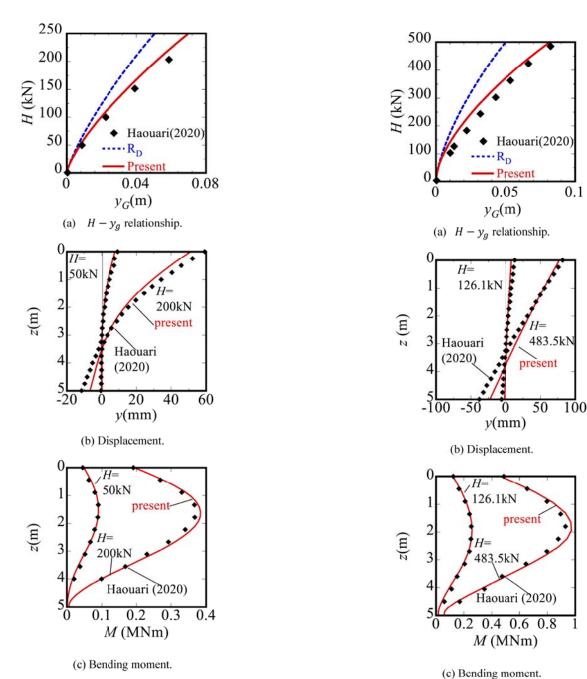


Fig. 7 Comparison between 3D FEA and measurements for Case H1.

At first, applicability to different aspect ratio, that is L/D=10 for Case H1 and L/D=5.6 for Case H2, is discussed. Fig. 6 shows the soil profiles of  $q_c^*$ ,  $G_0$  and  $E_{50}$  for Case H. The same figure also shows a comparison of the conversion formulae (Brinkgreve et al., 2010) in terms of relative density RD (%). In Fig. 6 (a), compared to field test of Case P (Fig.4(a)), value and variation of  $q_c^*$  are small. Estimation by RD (Eqs. 14, 15) gives comparable profile for  $G_0$  (Fig. 6 (b)), however, significant overestimation of  $E_{50}$  (Fig. 6 (c)) compared to those obtained by  $q_c^*$  (Eqs. 11, 12). Table 3 summarizes HSsmall soil parameters for Case H.

Fig. 7 shows a comparison between 3D FEA and centrifuge model tests for  $H - y_g$  relationship and the profiles of pile displacement and bending moment for Case H1 pile (L/D = 10) of 1-g jacking. Proposed formulae (Eq. 11 and 12) yield responses in good agreement with the

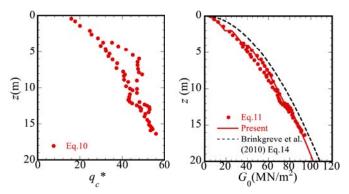
Fig. 8 Comparison between 3D FEA and measurements for Case H2. measurements.

Combining the proposed soil moduli formulae with the reduction factor  $R_{inter} = 0.6$ , commonly used for impact driving in field tests, also successfully gives the response of 1-g jacking in centrifuge model tests.

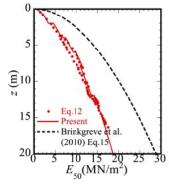
On the other hand, when  $G_0$  and  $E_{50}$  are determined based on relative density, the load is significantly overestimated (Fig.7(a)).

Even in more rigid pile case of H2 (L/D =5.6), Fig. 8 demonstrates that similar to Case H1, the combination of the proposed formulae and  $R_{inter}$  = 0.6 shows good agreement with the measurements.

Next, applicability to smaller relative density is examined for Case F of



(a) Dimensionless CPT cone (b) Small-strain shear modulus  $G_0$ . resistance  $q_c^*$ .



(c) Secant soil modulus at half of soil strength  $E_{50}$ .

Fig. 9 Vertical profiles of  $q_c^*$ ,  $G_0$  and  $E_{50}$  for Case F.

L/D =3.1 and RD =38%. In Fig. 9 (a), range of  $q_c^*$  is smaller than 60. It is worth to note that although some variation of  $q_c^*$  is observed in Fig. 9 (a), application of the proposed soil moduli formulae reduces the variation (Figs. 9 (b) and (c)). Table 4 summarizes HSsmall soil parameters for Case F.

Even in the case with a significantly small relative density of RD = 38%, combination of the proposed soil moduli formulae and the reduction factor of  $R_{inter} = 0.6$  shows good agreement with the measurements obtained from centrifuge model tests as shown in Fig. 10.

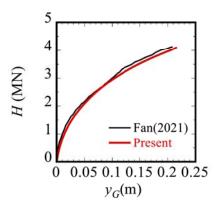


Fig. 10  $H - y_g$  relationship for Case F.

Fig. 11 demonstrates a comparison of the distribution of the major principal stress  $\sigma_{11}$  (kPa) in the loading direction at  $y_G/D = 0.04$  between Fan et al. (2021) and the 3D FEA in this study. 3D FEA using PLAXIS 3D with the proposed formulae and  $R_{inter} = 0.6$  shows favorable agreement with the analysis by Fan et al. (2021) employing coupled Eulerian–Lagrangian (CEL) method, in which installation process by 1-g jacking is rigorously simulated.

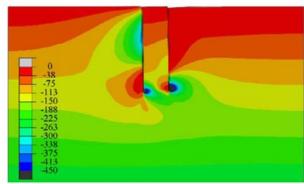
#### CONCLUSION

Simple formulae to calculate soil moduli ( $G_0$  and  $E_{50}$ ) are proposed for monopile foundations of bottom-fixed offshore wind turbines in sand, and 3D FEA using HSsmall model for monotonic loading of piles is performed. The following conclusions are obtained.

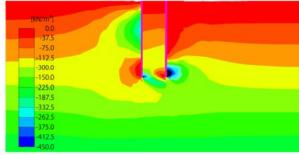
- Simple formulae for calculating small strain shear modulus G<sub>0</sub> and secant soil modulus at half of soil strength E<sub>50</sub> based on CPT cone resistance are proposed. These formulae well reproduce H - y<sub>g</sub> response and the profiles of pile displacements and bending moments in both field loading tests and centrifuge model tests.
- It is found that pile responses can be reproduced by using a unique interface strength reduction factor of R<sub>inter</sub> = 0.6 regardless of installation process, such as impact driving in field loading tests, and 1-g jacking in centrifuge model tests.

Table 4 Soil	parameters	for HSsmall	l model	(Case F)	).
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		l able	4 Soil parameters i	or HSsmall model	(Case F).		
Layer No.	Unit	1	2	3	4	5	6
$z_{top}$	m	0	2	4	6	8	12
$Z_{bottom}$	m	2	4	6	8	12	32
$z_{ref}$	m	0	2	4	6	8	12
$\gamma_{sat}$	kN/m <sup>3</sup>	15.7	15.7	15.7	15.7	15.7	15.7
c'	kPa	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
$\phi$	0	30	30	30	30	30	30
$\psi_{c^{fe_f}}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$G_0^{fef}$	kPa	49498	66337	74833	77984	77379	80883
$E_{50}^{ref}$	kPa	8751	11820	13565	14649	14026	14803
$E_{ur}^{ref}$	kPa	26253	35459	40696	43946	42077	44409
$E_s^{ref}$	kPa	564	3791	7406	11474	14682	19941
$G_{1}^{ref}$ $E_{5}^{ref}$ $E_{4}^{ref}$ $E_{5}^{ref}$ $E_{5}^{rinc}$	kPa/m	1598	2132	2485	1880	936	1488
Y0.7	_	0.000162	0.000162	0.000162	0.000162	0.000162	0.000162
RD	%	38	38	38	38	38	38
$K_0$	_	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
$\tilde{\nu}$	_	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
$\nu_s$	_	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
$v_i$	_	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45
$R_f$	_	0.9525	0.9525	0.9525	0.9525	0.9525	0.9525



(a) 3D FEA with CEL (Fan et al., 2021).



(b) 3D FEA with  $R_{inter} = 0.6$  (Plaxis 3D).

Fig. 11 Comparison of principal stress  $\sigma_{11}$  for Case F (Load is applied from right side to left side).

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