

EFFECT OF CUSHION ON COMPOSITE PILED RAFT FOUNDATION IN LAYERED SOIL UNDER SEISMIC FORCES

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ABSTRACT

In order to mobilize shallow soil to participate in the interaction of piled raft foundation sufficiently, the concept of piled raft has been modified to new type of foundation named composite piled raft. In the system of composite piled raft, the short piles made of flexible materials were used to strengthen the shallow soft soil, while the long piles made of relatively rigid materials were used to reduce the settlements and the cushion beneath the raft was used to redistribute and adjust the stress ratio of piles to subsoil. In traditional foundation design, it is customary to consider first the use of shallow foundation such as a raft (possibly after some ground-improvement methodology performed). If it is not adequate, deep foundation such as a fully piled foundation is used instead. In the former, it is assumed that load of superstructure is transmitted to the underlying ground directly by the raft. In the latter, the entire design loads are assumed to be carried by the piles. In recent decades, another alternative intermediate between shallow and deep foundation, what is called piled raft foundation or settlement reducing piles foundation, has been recognized by civil engineers. The concept of piled raft foundation was firstly proposed by Davis and Poulos in 1972, since then it has been described by many authors, including Burland et al. (1977), Cooke (1986), Chow (1987), Randolph (1994), Horikoshi and Randolph (1996), Ta and Small (1996), Kim et al. (2001), Poulos (2001), and many others. Now the piled raft concept has been used extensively in Europe and Asia. In this concept, piles are provided to control settlement rather than carry the entire load. Piled raft foundation has been proved to be an economical way to improve the serviceability of foundation performance by reducing settlement to acceptable levels. The favourable application of piled raft occurs when the raft has adequate loading capacities, but the settlement or differential settlement exceed allowable values. Conversely, the unfavourable situations for piled raft include soil profiles containing soft clays near the surface, soft compressible layers at relatively shallow depths and some others. In the unfavourable cases,

Finite element method was applied to study the behaviour of this new type of foundation subjected to seismic forces. This paper focuses on behaviour of various components of foundation system such as long pile, short piles and subsoil under seismic force (Koyna 1967) in layered soil related to Surat city geological condition. A comparative study is done to understand the effect of cushion on axial stresses, shear stresses and shear forces along long pile and short piles

KEYWORDS: *Piles, Raft, Foundation, Analysis.*

INTRODUCTION

the raft might not be able to provide significant loading capacity, or long-term settlement of the compressible underlying layers might reduce the contribution of raft to the long-term stiffness of foundation. However, most of economically developed cities, especially in Shanghai Economic Circle of China, are located in coastal areas. In these areas, the piled raft concept is unfavorable as mentioned above because building construction often meets with deep deposit soft soil. In order to take advantage of piled raft foundation, civil engineers have developed many methods to practice it in China. Based on the engineering practices, the authors Fa-Yun Liang, Long-Zhu Chen and Xu-Guang Shi (2003) developed the concept of piled raft foundation to long-short composite piled raft foundation with intermediate cushion (For short as “composite piled raft”) as is shown schematically in Fig. 1 In this new type of foundation, short piles made of relatively flexible materials such as soil–cement columns or sand–gravel columns (also called sand–stone columns in China), etc. are applied to improve the bearing capacity of shallow natural subsoil; the long piles made of relatively rigid materials such as reinforced concrete are embedded in deep stiff clay or other bearing stratum to reduce the settlement; and the cushion made of sand–gravel between the raft and piles plays an important role in mobilizing the bearing capacity of subsoil and modifying load transfer mechanism of piles. The advantages of different ground-improvement methodologies may be used fully.

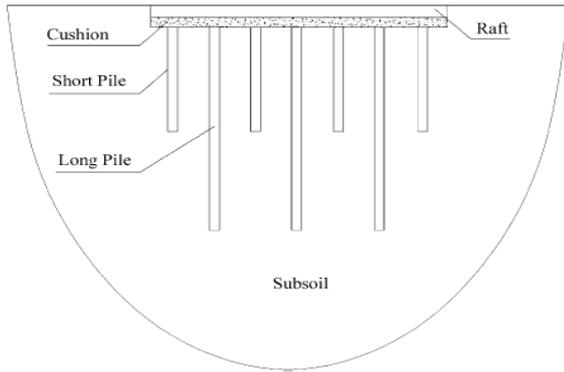


Figure 1: Sketch of composite piled raft foundation

This paper emphasizes on effect of horizontal force on piled raft foundation in seismically active zone . A comparison is done between composite pile raft foundation with cushion and without cushion under seismic force. The dynamic analysis was carried out for earthquake Koyna 1967 considering Surat city geological conditions .The parameters of study includes effect of horizontal shear forces, vertical stresses at head of piles.

METHOD

In this part of the paper model of composite piled raft foundation system which has been successfully validated and from which results for general effect of cushion on

The parameters used for analysis are enlisted below in tab.1 The values for subsoil is not presented in the table, as subsoil consists of four layers of different soil properties, and is represented in detail in tab .2.

Table 1 Parameters of materials for seismic + gravity loading in layered soil

Material	Long piles	Short piles	Cushion	Raft
Elastic modulus/Mpa	$E_{p1} = 10^4$	$E_{p2} = 200$	$E_m = 25$	$E_c = 3 \times 10^4$
Poisson's ratio	$\mu_{p1} = 0.2$	$\mu_{p2} = 0.3$	$\mu_m = 0.3$	$\mu_c = 0.2$
Unit weight KN/m ³	25	18	17	25

Tab. 2 given below represent geological stratification of Surat city. The table presents generalized data based on soil investigation report on Urea Plant Kribhco unit-III Surat

behaviour of composite Piled raft foundation under axial load has been obtained is checked under seismic forces. The fig. 2 shown below gives clear idea of the model used for dynamic analysis. The model consists of 2.7m x 2.7m X 0.5m square raft resting on 15mX0.45mX0.45m long R.C.C pile at the centre surrounded by four 5.4m X0.45mX0.45m short piles (soil-cement columns).A cushion of sand gravel 0.3m thick is introduced between raft and piles.

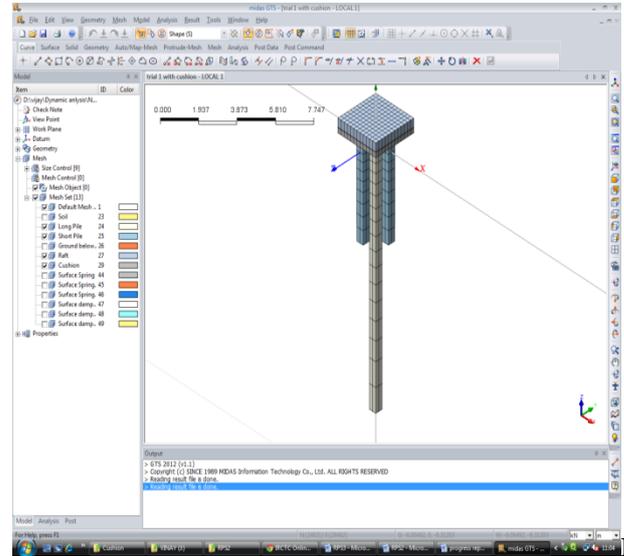


Figure 2: Three Dimensional models used for study under seismic forces.

(1995) and forging shop at L & T limited. West Hazira complex, district Surat(2009).The water table exists at 8-10m below the ground level.

Table 3.2 Properties of stratified soil

Soil type	Depth (m)	Elastic modulus/Mpa	Poisson's ratio	Unit weight KN/m ³
Clayey Soil(CH or CI)	0-5	5	0.40	14.0
Silty Sand	5-10	40	0.35	15.5

(SM)				
Medium to fine well graded sand (SW)	10-17	50	0.35	17.0
Highly	17-45	45	0.35	16.5

plastic clay(CH)				
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$$K_h = K_{ho} * (B_h/30)^{-3/4} \text{ (kgf/cm}^3\text{)} \quad (3.2)$$

Here, $K_{vo} = \alpha E_o/30 = K_{ho}$, $B_v = \sqrt{A_v}$,
 $B_h = \sqrt{A_h} \quad (3.3)$

Where α is scalar parameter depends on types of test conducted to find E_o . A_v is area for which vertical reaction coefficient was calculated. A_h is area for which horizontal reaction coefficient was calculated.

The values of K_h and k_v calculated from eqns. 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 for different layers for no cushion case are tabulated below.

Before carrying out Time history analysis, Eigen value analysis was done. Sub grade reactions coefficients were calculated both in horizontal and vertical directions. Only horizontal sub grade reactions coefficients are calculated for upper three layers and applied along lateral boundary in both X and Y –direction. Both vertical reaction coefficients and horizontal reaction coefficients are obtained for bottommost layer and are applied along lateral and bottom boundary. The formulae used for the calculations of the horizontal and vertical reaction coefficients were as follow:

Vertical reaction coefficients:

$$K_v = K_{vo} * (B_v/30)^{-3/4} \text{ (kgf/cm}^3\text{)} \quad (3.1)$$

Horizontal reaction coefficients:

Table 3 K_v and K_h values for no cushion case.

Soil layers	Horizontal reaction coeff.(K_h) KN/m ³	Vertical reaction coeff.(K_v) KN/m ³
Layer 1	1612.0	-----
Layer 2	12645.0	-----

Layer 3	14850.5	-----
Layer 4	7607.3	5885.3

The horizontal reaction coefficient was applied along the vertical boundary of the model whereas the vertical reaction coefficient was applied at the base of the model as surface springs and Eigen value analysis was carried out. There are no major changes in case of cushion except for K_h value in upper layer as cushion is introduced between piles and raft in upper subsoil layer. The value of K_h becomes 1578.1 KN/m³ whereas rest remains the same. After Eigen value analysis dampers were applied to the model for which following damper calculation was done.

About P-wave,

$$C_p = \sqrt{(\lambda + 2G)\rho} \quad (3.4)$$

S-Wave,

$$C_s = \sqrt{G * \rho} \quad (3.5)$$

Table 4 C_p and C_s values from damper calculation.

Soil layers	C_p KN*sec/m	C_s KN*sec/m
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Here

$$\lambda = v * E / (1+v) (1-2v) \quad (3.6)$$

$$G = E / (1+2v) \quad (3.7)$$

Where,

λ = Volumetric elastic Modulus (tonf/m²)

G = Shear elastic Modulus (tonf/m²)

E = Elastic Modulus

v = Poisson's ratio

A = Section Area.

Using eqns 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 dampers are calculated for different soil layers and applied along lateral boundaries for upper three layers. For bottommost layer the dampers are applied along lateral and bottom boundary as well. The values for damper calculation at different soil layers are tabulated below.

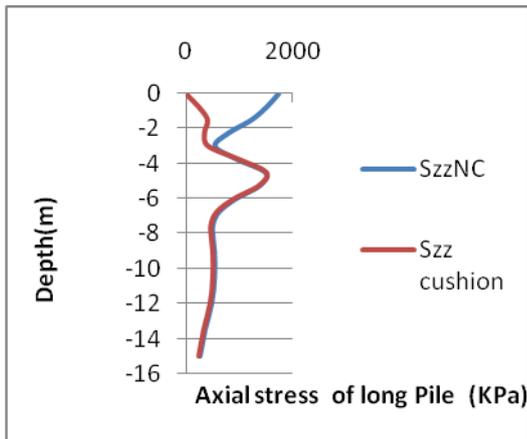
Layer 1	123.65	50.48
Layer 2	318.5	153.0
Layer 3	372.8	179.1
Layer 4	348.4	167.3

The values in above tab.4 are applied to both cushion and no cushion case. Time histories of two earthquakes were applied on the model with scale factor of 1 along X-axis and 0.33 along Y and Z-axis. The comparison was done with cushion and without cushion considering horizontal shear forces and The behavior of composite piled raft foundation under seismic forces was studied by applying 1967 Koyna earthquake and results for horizontal shear force; vertical stresses on piles and subsoil were compared for cushion and no cushion case. Also displacement of raft, cushion and

axial stresses. Also displacement of raft, long pile, short piles and cushion was checked for cushion case.

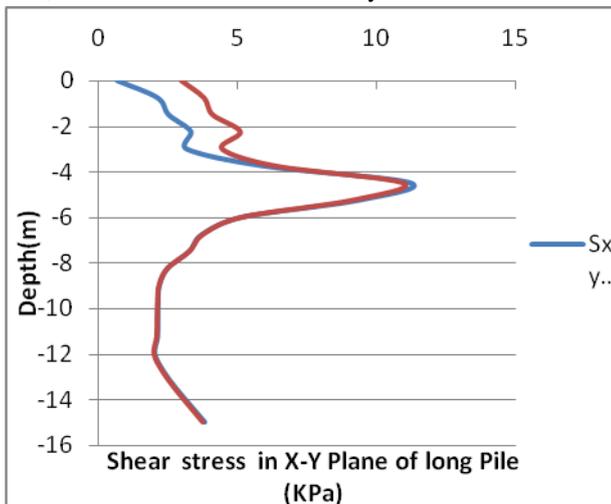
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

piles were analyzed for cushion case. The results are obtained at peak ground acceleration for all the cases. The results are extracted from contour daigrams at the centre of piles throughout its length and below the raft till bottom in case of subsoil



The graph above in fig. 3 is extracted from the contour of axial stresses for both cushion and no cushion case along long piles. The contour diagram shows that for no cushion case the tension is developed at the head and at the depth of 4.5m, however this tension totally diminished at the head

Figure 3 Effects of cushion on load transfer mechanism for long pile under Koyna 1967 (layered soil) by entering cushion between raft and piles. Also its visible from the graph in fig. 3 extracted from the contour diagrams that long pile is under tension due to lateral earthquake forces which reduces as depth of the pile increases for both cushion and no cushion case.



The contour diagrams obtained shows deformed + undeformed behaviour of long pile under seismic excitation. The graph plotted from contour diagram shows that for no

Figure 4 Effects of cushion on S_{xy} distribution along long pile under Koyna 1967 time history (layered soil)

cushion case the S_{xy} are maximum at the depth of 4.5m; however this shear stress reduces as the depth of long pile increases. The shear stress increases at the head for cushion

case with maximum at 4.5m depth of long pile. However it is clear from the graph in fig .4 that S_{xy} beyond 4.5 m reduces along the depth of pile with slight Increase at the bottom. The deformed + undeformed behavior of long pile under seismic excitation can be checked from contours of S_{yz} in Midas GTS. The contour diagram shows that for no cushion case the shear force S_{yz} is addressed maximum at

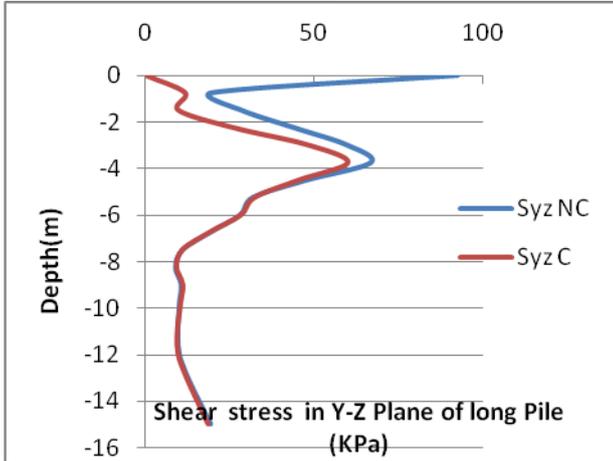


Figure 5 Effects of cushion on S_{yz} distribution along long pile under Koyna 1967 time history (layered soil).

The graphs for S_{xz} behavior for long piles are obtained from contour diagrams which also show deformed + undeformed behavior of long pile under seismic excitation in Midas GTS. The contour diagram shows that for no cushion case the shear force S_{xz} is addressed maximum at the head and at the depth of 3.75m, however this shear stress is totally diminished at the head by entering cushion between raft and piles. Also its visible from the fig. 6 that S_{xz} has same behavior beyond 3.75m depth along the long pile which becomes constant for both cushion and no cushion case.

The contours for deformed+ undeformed shape of short piles under seismic force in Midas GTS give exact idea of short piles behaviour under Koyna (1967) earth quake. The stress

the head and at the depth of 3.75m, however this shear stress is totally diminished at the head by entering cushion between raft and piles. Also its visible from the fig. 5 that S_{yz} has same behavior beyond 3.75m depth along the long pile which becomes constant for both cushion and no cushion case

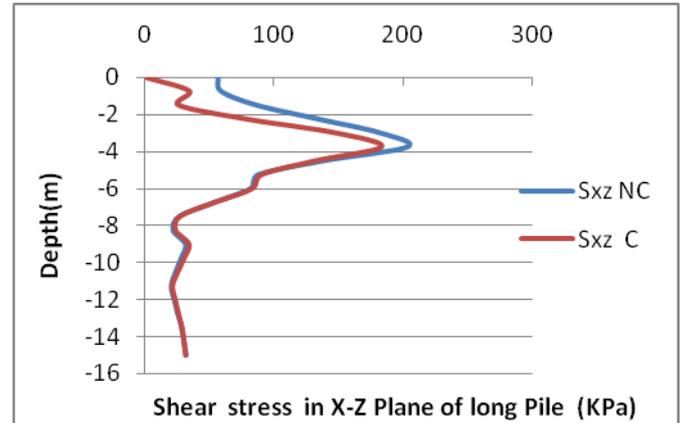
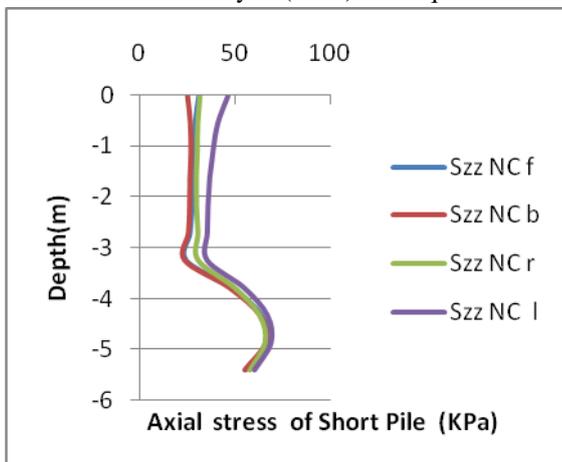
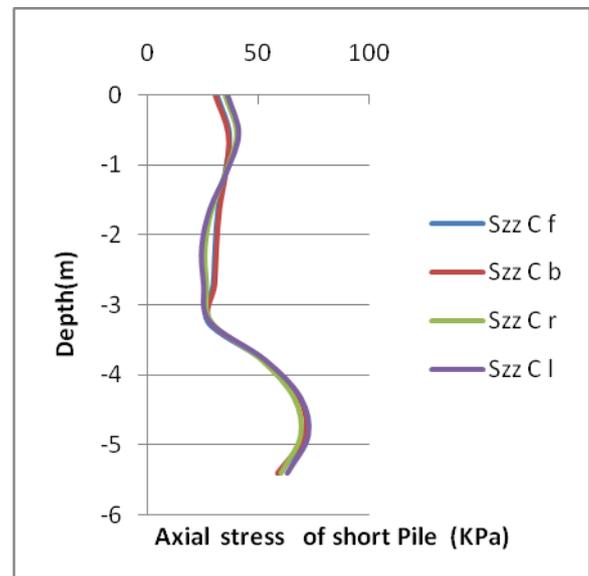


Figure 6 Effects of cushion on S_{xz} distribution along long pile under Koyna 1967 time history (layered soil)

concentration is same at the bottom of short piles for both cushion and no cushion case. Also for both cases the short piles are in tension throughout its depth; however the tension has increased in lower portion. The graphs given below in fig.7 shows that the differences occur at the head where the values for S_{zz} are on higher side for no cushion case and vary with each other (all short piles), however the stress has been reduced by introduction of gravel cushion between raft and piles and all the axial stresses merge to approximately same value.

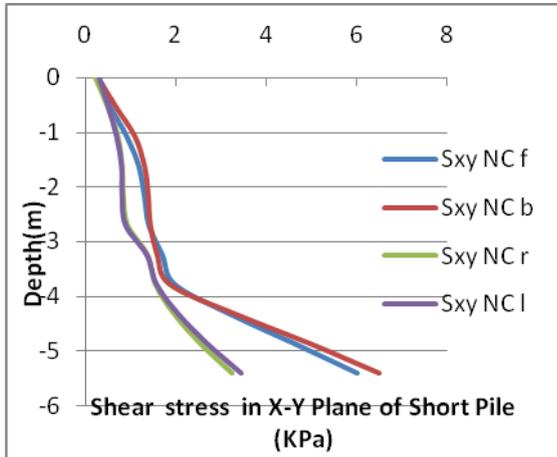


(a) No cushion case

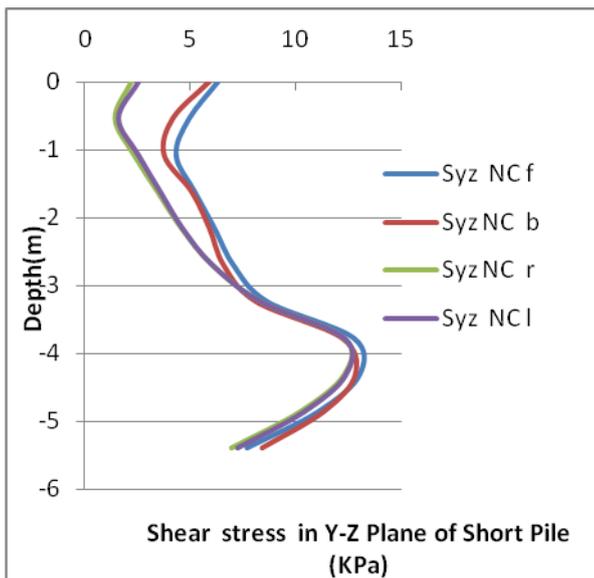


(b) Cushion case

Figure 7 Effects of cushion on load transfer mechanism for short piles under Koyna 1967 time history (layered soil)



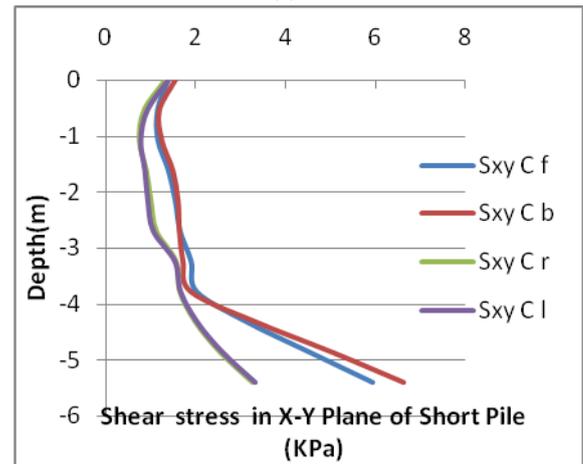
The graphs in fig. 8 obtained from contour diagram show that the shear force S_{xy} has increased at the head of short



(a) No cushion case

The graphs in fig. 9 extracted from the contour diagram shows that S_{yz} is maximum for front and back pile compared to right and left pile in no cushion case. Also there is difference in S_{yz} values at head among front, back short piles and right, left short piles which is almost

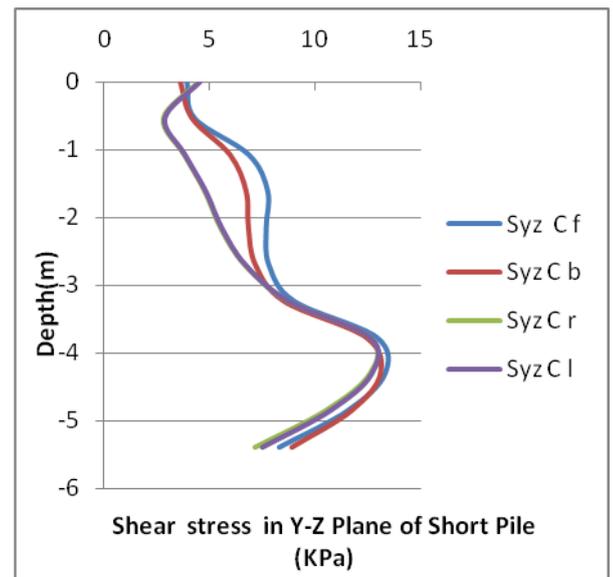
(a) No cushion case



(b) Cushion case

Figure 8 Effects of cushion on S_{xy} distribution for short piles under Koyna 1967 time history (layered soil)

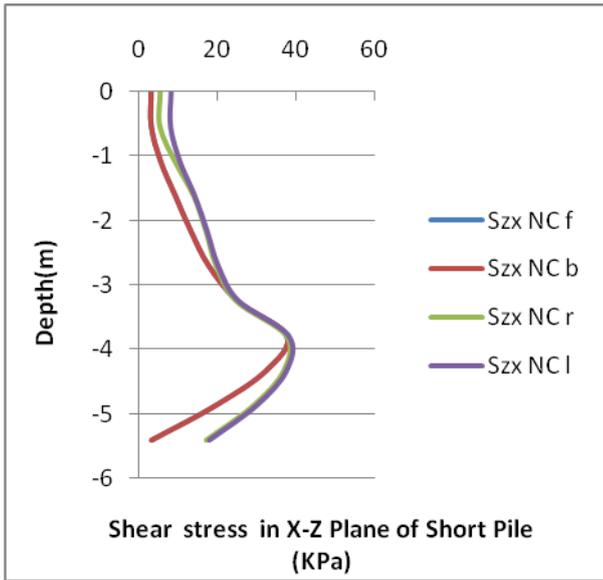
piles for cushion case and further follow same trend as that for no cushion case for all short piles.



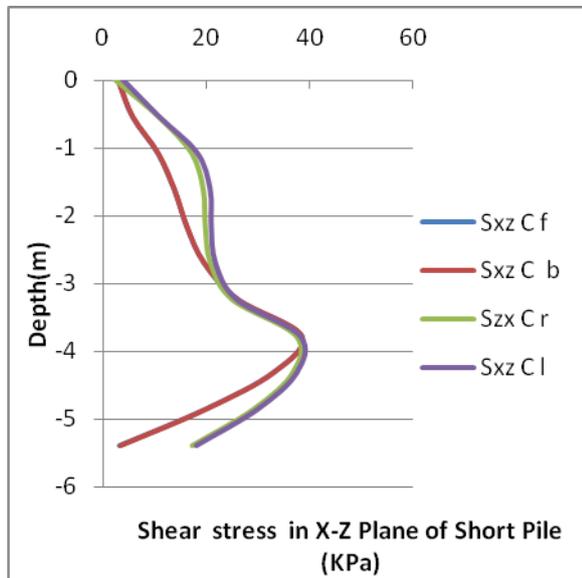
(b) Cushion case

Figure 9 Effects of cushion on S_{yz} distribution for short piles under Koyna 1967 time history (layered soil)

negligible below 3 meter depth. From the graph of cushion, it can be drawn that the S_{yz} for front and back pile has been reduced and converged to a common value along with left and right pile at the head.



(a) No cushion case



(b) Cushion case

The graphs above in fig. 10 show that shear stress S_{xz} are higher at the head of right and left short pile for no cushion case whereas the values of S_{xz} are almost same for front and left short pile. These values of shear stress for right and left pile are reduced and merged to a common value with front and left pile for cushion case. For the lower portion the behavior is almost same for both the cushion and no cushion case. The results for shear force distribution along the length

Figure 10 Effects of cushion on S_{xz} distribution for short piles under Koyna 1967 time history (layered soil)

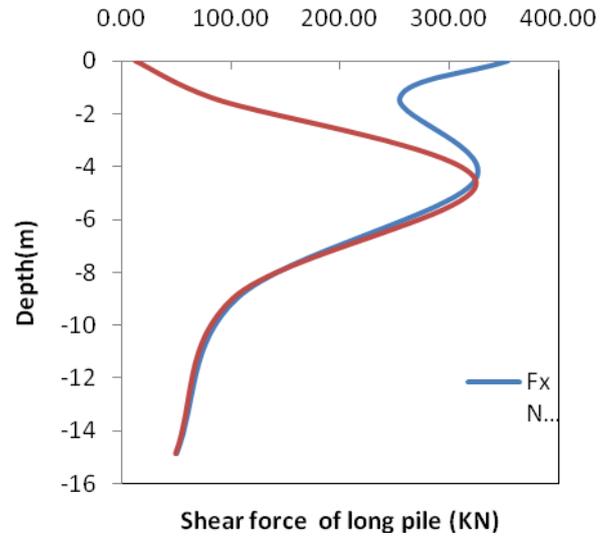


Figure 11 Comparison of F_x for both cushion and no cushion case throughout long pile for Koyna 1967 time history (layered soil)

of long pile and short piles are discussed below. The distribution of F_x under influence of koyna (1967) is represented as graph below in fig. 11 and fig .12. The shear force at the head of pile for connected condition is on higher side compared to detach condition. Thus by applying cushion technique the shear force accumulated at the head of long pile is released.

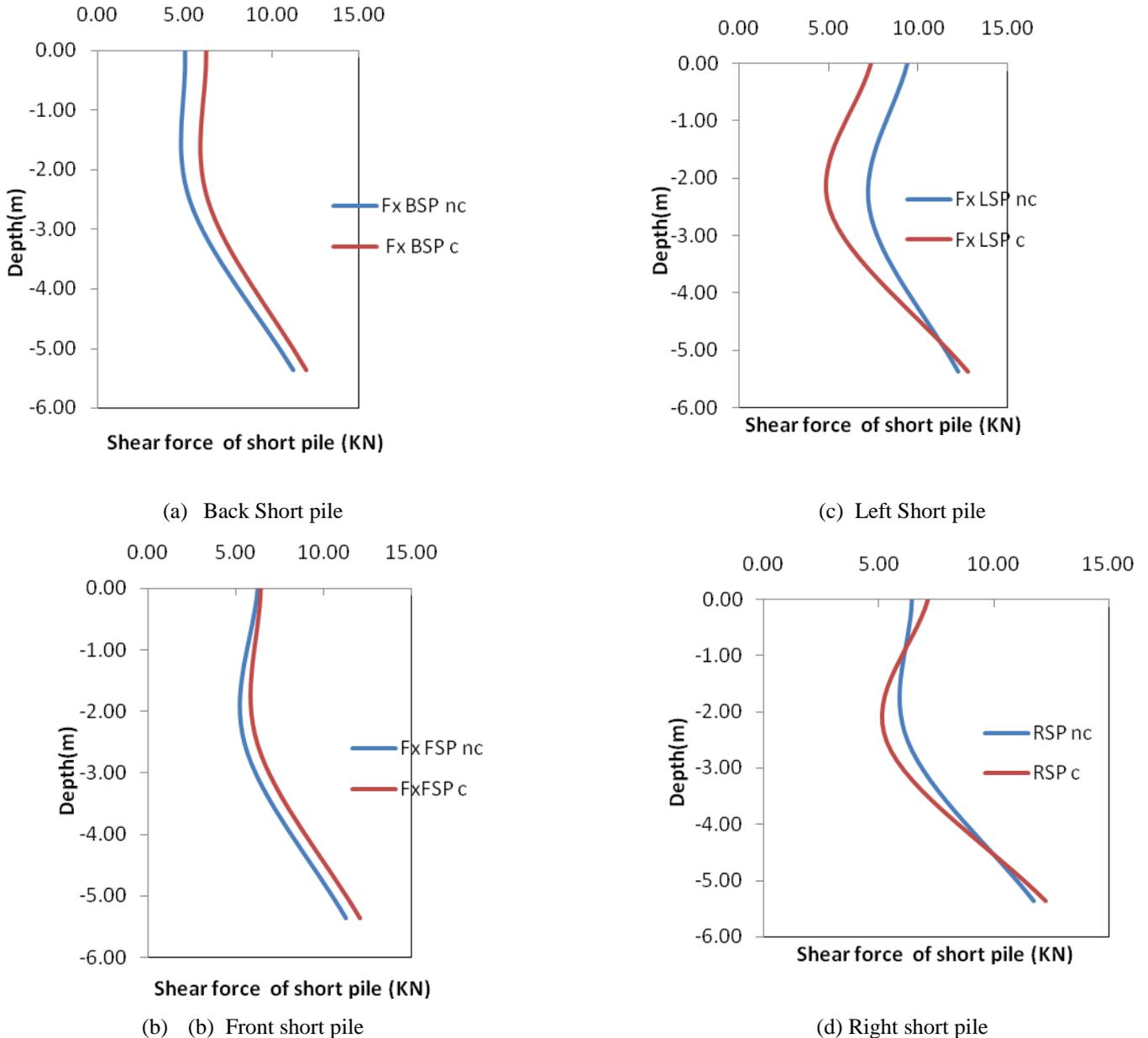


Figure 12 Comparison of F_x for both cushion and no cushion case throughout long pile for Koyna 1967 time history (layered soil) force for left short pile shows uniform decrease from top head to mid-height of pile, whereas almost same values at the bottom tip

CONCLUSIONS:

- The axial stress at the head of long pile has been reduced by 99 %. Also its visible from the graphs obtained for each earthquake, that long pile is under tension due to lateral earthquake forces which reduces as depth of the pile increases for both cushion and no cushion case.
- For no cushion case the S_{xy} addressed at head of long pile increases initially upto certain shallow depth ,

From the above graphs in fig. 12 it's clear that the shear forces along the back short pile has slight increased after application of cushion, whereas the shear forces are almost same for front and right short piles. The graph for shear

The effect of seismic forces along with axial load on composite piled raft foundation system in layered soil was studied considering parameters such as horizontal shear force, axial stresses and shear stresses. Koyna 1967 earthquake was considered for the study and following conclusions were drawn:

afterwards it starts decreasing throughout the depth of pile. For cushion case the values of S_{xy} is on higher side till certain shallow depth and finally reduces throughout the depth of pile and follow the same trend as for no cushion case. The increase of S_{xy} at the head of long pile is about 78.16 %.

- The upper portion of long piles shows S_{yz} and S_{xz} without cushion, which is on higher side initially and decreases beyond certain depth throughout the length of long pile. However with application of cushion the S_{yz} and S_{xz} shifts to lower value and increases up to certain shallow depth and beyond that follows the same trend as that in no cushion case. The decrease at the head of long pile in S_{yz} and S_{xz} is 99.8 % and 99.1 % respectively.

- For no cushion case all the short piles are in tension throughout the depth; however the values are on higher side at the top of the piles. Similarly for cushion case the all the piles are in tension throughout the depth with S_{zz} on higher side at the top and decreases with the depth.

However the values of S_{zz} at the top of short piles had increased by 18 % with inclusion of cushion.

- With application of cushion the S_{xy} has increased at the head of all the piles compared to no cushion case and decreases slowly till certain depth beyond which it becomes constant throughout the depth of piles. The increase of S_{xy} is by 81.6 %.

- The S_{yz} and S_{xz} values for all short piles reduce gradually till depth of 1 meter and also beyond this depth the differences remain the same as that for no cushion case. The reduction at the head is around 38.16% and 52.8% respectively.

- The shear force F_x at the head of long pile has been reduced by 97 %, where as for short piles there is slight increase upto 6 to 5 % with inclusion of cushion in front and back piles whereas almost same in right and left short piles

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