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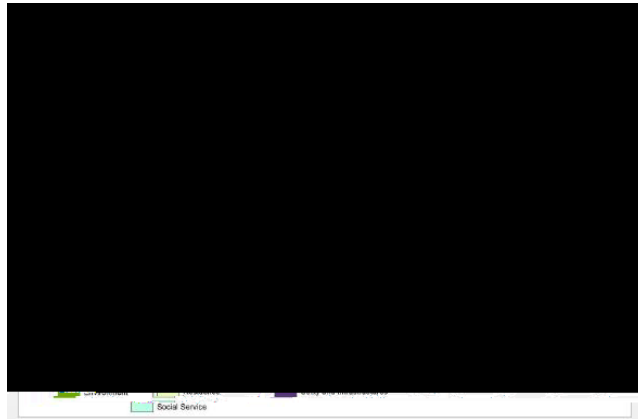


Figure 1: Site location plan.

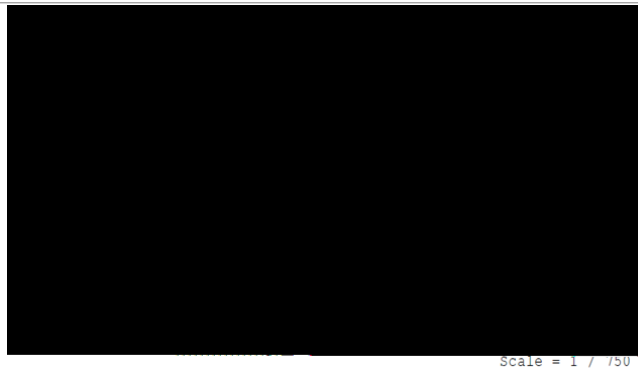


Figure 2:

There are many internationally recognized codes of practice related to the design and construction of the excavation and lateral support works. Stability of excavation is the major criterion in order to avoid collapse of the excavation. Stability analysis involves the distribution of the earth pressure.

This section presents the Finite Element Method (FEM) analyses with PLAXIS3D software.

PLAXIS is a three-dimensional element computer program used to perform deformation and stability analysis for various types of geotechnical applications.

This program allows different soil types to be modelled along with structural and interface elements for realistic representation of soil structure interaction effects.

The numerical modelling was performed by “PLAXIS” 3D Finite Element Method in order to carry out parametric studies, since it allows for modelling complicated nonlinear soil behaviour and various interface conditions with different geometries and soil properties.

Other material parameters required for modelling were determined as per the material used and the modelling was according to the site dimensions.

Model geometry is shown in Figures 3-5.

Model Parameters are given in Figures 4-7.

Due to the existence of several buildings around the excavation and the associated traffic, a large surcharge load is expected to take care of the adjoining structures and the traffic loading. The applied overload of 150 kPa was used in the modelling. This load was used in 3D finite element analysis of a deep excavation for the Odeon project in Monaco. The project consisted of the construction of a high-rise building (160 m), the tallest building in Monaco with approximately 10 basement levels, located on a steep slope hillside. TERRASOL was the geotechnical consultant to carry out soil testing, foundation and 3D finite element model to analyze the influence of excavations on surrounding buildings.

E_{50}	E_{Oed}	E_{ur}	γ_{uns}	γ_{sat}	c^{ref}	ϕ	R_{int}	STRATA DESCRIPTION	Elev
MPa	MPa	kN/m ²	kN/m ³	kN/m ³	MPa	deg			m
4.00	4.00	17.00	17.0	14.7	0.00	23	1.00	Soft, organic silty CLAY	4.00
4.00	4.00	12.00	13.5	13.3	0.00	23	1.00	Silty CLAY	6.00
2.77	8.31	22.5	32.7	12.8	0.35	35	0.95	Highly weathered BASALT	8.80
20.63	61.89	24	35	27	0.70	40	0.80	Medium strong, intensively fract to fragmented slightly to moderately weather BASALT	15.00
4.00	12.00	12.4	14.2	0.02	22	-9.0	0.95	Silty CLAY	18.20
4.00	12.00	14.2	16.7	0	28	0.85	0.90	Stiff, sandy clayey SILT	21.00

Figure 4: Material parameters of soil layers

Property	Value	Unit
Young's Modulus E	$2.06E+8$	kN/m ²
Moment of inertia I_3	$1.70E-3$	m ⁴
Moment of inertia I_2	$5.0E-5$	m ⁴

Figure 5: Material properties of beam (C-Plain purlins).

μ	G_0/G_{ur}	STRATA DESCRIPTION	Elev	V_p	V_s	E_{ur}	G_{ur}	G_0	E_0	γ_{sat}		
-	-		m	m/s	m/s	kN/m ²	GPa	GPa	kN/m ³	kN/m ³		
4.00	1790	Soft, organic silty CLAY	4.00	0.012	0.005	8E-04	0.002	14.7	0.30	0.1735		
6.60	1950	Silty CLAY	6.00	0.012	0.005	1E-03	0.003	15.3	0.30	0.2141		
		occasionally, fresh rock present										
		Moderately weathered BASALT	15.00	2730	1555	61.89	24.56	0.009	0.022	35	0.26	0.0004
		Silty CLAY	18.20	2730	1115	0.012	0.005	0.002	0.005	14.2	0.30	0.3896
		Stiff, sandy clayey SILT	21.00	2730	1672	0.012	0.005	0.005	0.011	16.7	0.20	0.9918
		Highly weathered scoriaceous	25.30	2730	1719	1.89	0.742	0.01	0.025	32.9	0.27	0.0133
		Moderately weathered Basalt	52.00	2730	1719	61.89	24.56	0.009	0.022	35	0.26	0.0004
		to faintly weathered BASALT										
		Silty CLAY	62.00	2730	1115	0.012	0.005	0.002	0.005	15	0.30	0.3896
		Moderately weathered BASALT	75.00	2730	1555	61.89	24.56	0.009	0.022	35	0.26	0.0004
		to faintly weathered BASALT										

Figure 6: Material parameters of soil layers (continued)

In 3D plaxis non option is selected, it is assumed that the base of the model is rigid and the seismic signal is trapped within the soil deposit and cannot escape through the bottom boundary (Figures 8-10).

The comparison was made between the secant and the shotcrete model. The soil material parameters and the loading conditions are the same in both models. The basic difference between the two models is the stiffness parameter which influences the results of the modeling. At the maximum excavation depth of 20 m the two models were subjected to deformation analysis and conclusions were drawn (Figure 11).

Comparing the maximum results of the displacements, contact stresses and other important parameters between shotcrete and secant pile model the following can be concluded:

The displacements in both models are acceptable and must apparently be regarded as unavoidable, even if a typical shotcrete shoring and shear wall system are currently used as the retaining structure in the New Commercial Bank building. Secant pile wall or a sheet pile might fare just well if it were correctly braced or anchored.

The unloading and reloading modulus is larger, thus stiffness is built up in the foundation. The stiffer the foundation the larger structural stiffness and hence the smaller the displacement and the more the time

Node to Node	Unit	Parameter	Name
1	MPa
2	MPa
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...

Figure 7: Material Properties for node to node Anchors.

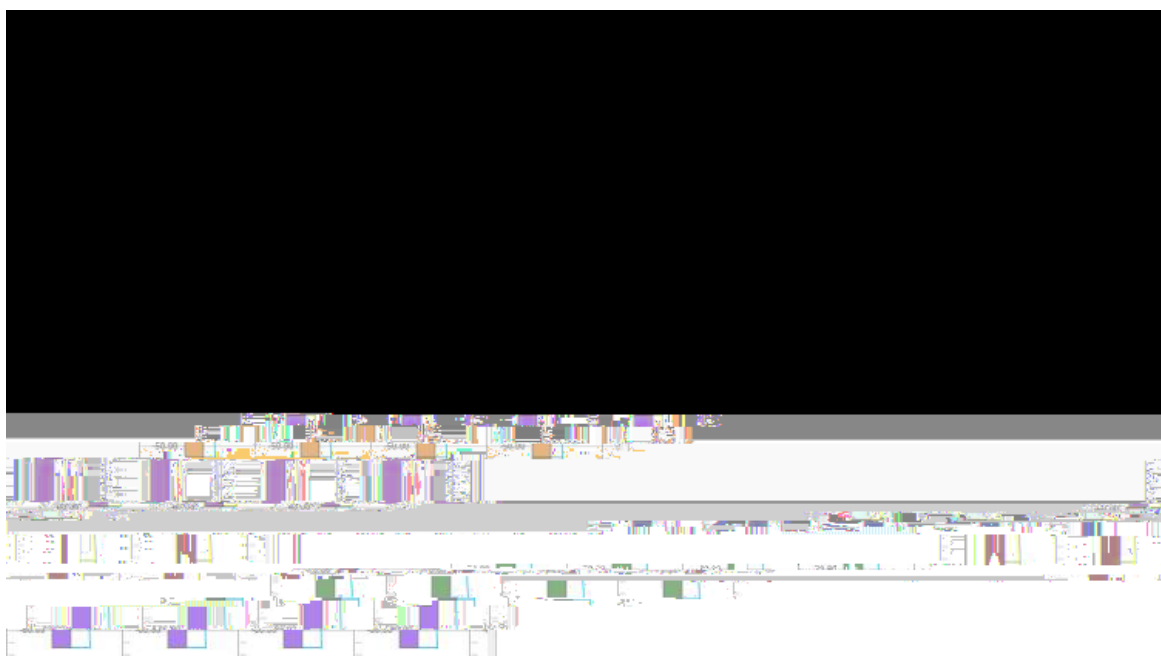


Figure 8: A screenshot of a software interface showing a 3D model of a retaining structure. The top portion of the image is mostly black, while the bottom portion shows a colorful, complex grid representing the structure's components or material properties.

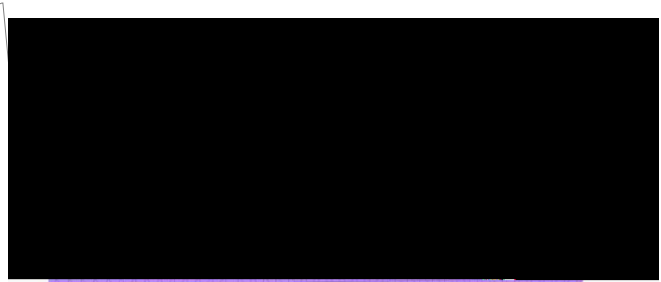


Figure 9: A screenshot of a software interface showing a 3D model of a retaining structure. The top portion of the image is mostly black, while the bottom portion shows a colorful, complex grid representing the structure's components or material properties.



Figure 10: A screenshot of a software interface showing a 3D model of a retaining structure. The top portion of the image is mostly black, while the bottom portion shows a colorful, complex grid representing the structure's components or material properties.

required for the analysis in plaxis due to the larger matrix generated.
is was also observed in the result.

the secant pile model is the preferred model to increase the wall
stiffness compared to the equivalent stiffness of the shotcrete model.

the new Commercial Bank building site is filled with cobbles/
boulders and the water table is relatively high 5.0 m (field investigation

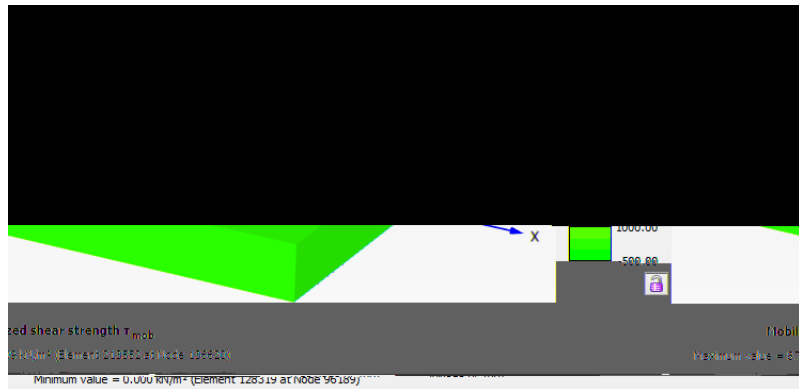


Figure 21: Mobilized shear strength at 10m excavation.



Figure 22: Mobilization of undrained shear strength.

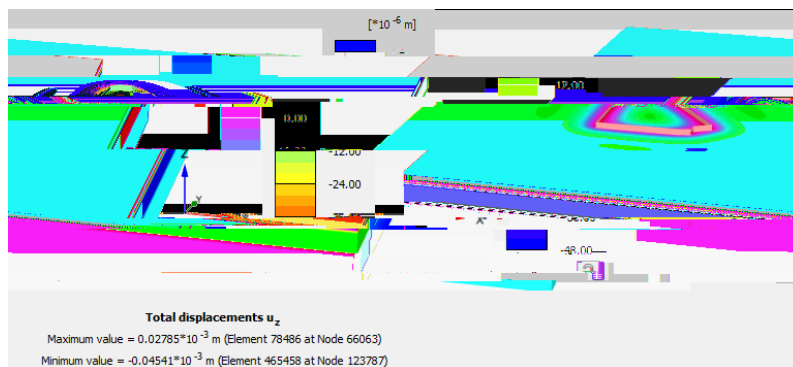


Figure 23: Total displacement U_z at 5m excavation.

varies with building period; as the period lengthens (moving towards the right of the horizontal axis of the spectrum), accelerations decrease and displacement increases (Figure 27).

The velocity of motion on the ground caused by seismic wave is quite slow. This is because large quantities of earth and the rock are moved. As a result the motion of the structure is slow and the displacements are very low (Figure 28).

Earthquake shaking is initiated by a fault slippage in the underlying rock. As the shaking propagates to the surface, it may be amplified depending on the intensity of shaking, the surface soil and depth of the layers and the nature of the rock.

Weaker layers of soil may result in to higher amplification factor over the rock shaking. The amplification factor 1.0 indicates the soils are firm. The amplification also tends to decrease as the level of shaking is increased. The earthquake damage tends to be more severe in areas of soft soils (Figure 29).

In order to simulate field conditions in the numerical modelling the initial stresses were calculated before loading. The k_0 pressure remained the same throughout the calculation.

The analysis also indicated that the maximum total displacement



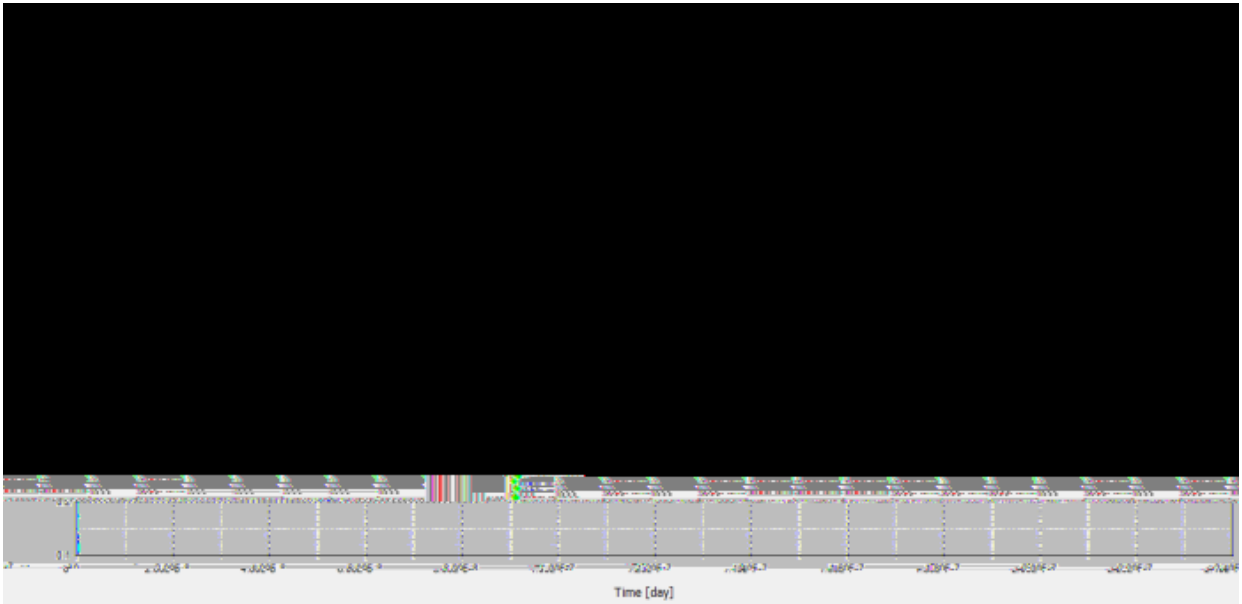


Figure 27: Site Response Spectrum.

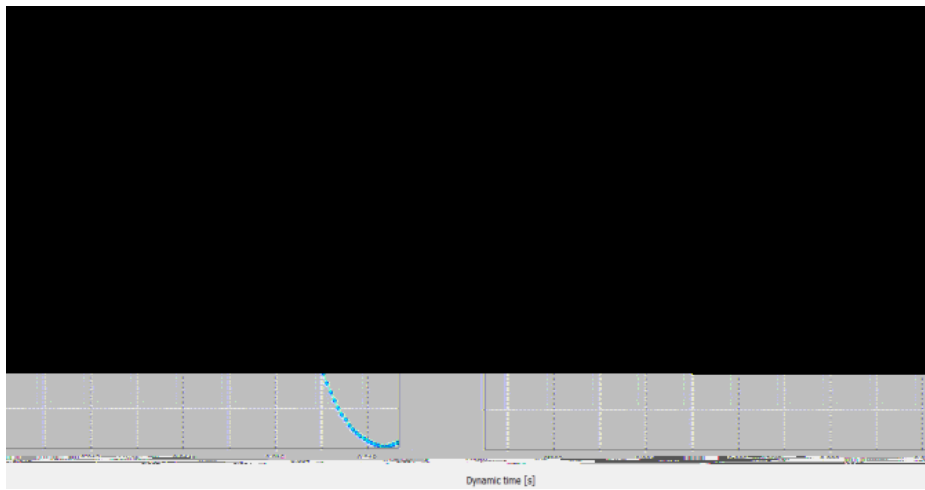


Figure 28: Velocity in horizontal direction.

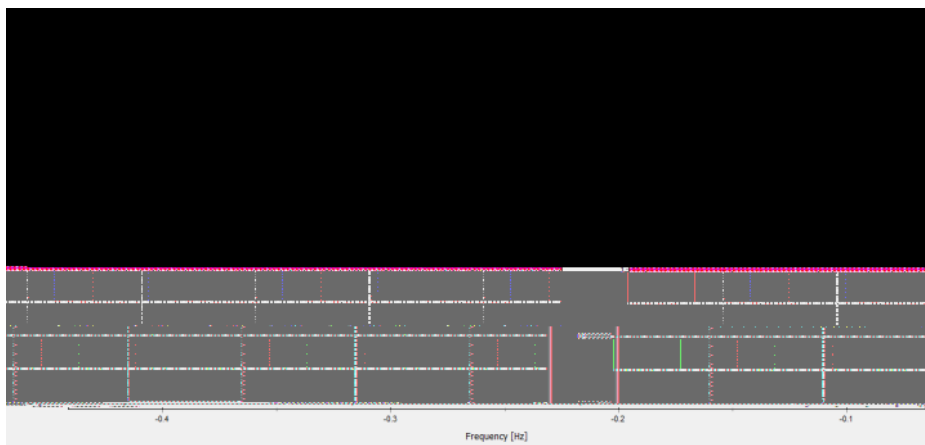


Figure 29: Acceleration response in horizontal direction.

reduced. Further increase in height to 30, 33 and 36 m resulted to significant decrease in total and horizontal displacements.

A more distinct failure plane of the system can be achieved by reducing the mesh size. The incremental shear strains were observed by refining the mesh size. The coarser mesh takes short time to calculate with higher values of deformations and the smaller mesh takes long calculation time with small deformations.

The stress distribution in the soil plays a role when determining the settlement of foundation. The stresses in the soil closely beneath the foundation slab will almost be the same as the stress acting on the foundation. These stresses will however decrease in large depth of the soil Figures 4 and 8-20. It is clearly seen that the depth increases with reduction in shear strength in the mobilization of undrained shear strength.

The finite element program Plaxis 3D was used to model the secant pile wall. Two different constitutive models in plaxis (Hardening soil model and Hardening small strain model) were used to simulate the structure and soil behavior.

Parametric studies for the geometry were evaluated based on the deformation analysis that was conducted. The test results showed that the dimensions of the excavation may have great influence over the response of the secant pile wall.

The parametric study on the mesh set up indicate the results especially the distribution of forces varied due to different mesh set up. Precisely, coarse mesh leads to forces distributed to limited number of nodes and some nodes receive extra force than the actual condition. In plaxis 3D model the degree of refinement of mesh is essential. The use of coarse mesh discretization was due to expectation of high gradients of stresses near corners or sharply curved edges. The time required for the calculation is long and depends on the matrices size generated. The larger the matrices the more the time required for the calculation.

The excavation step used in the excavation model range from 5 m to 20 m. The result from normal stage excavation model and sequential model with 5 m excavation set the boundaries for all results. In general, longer excavation step results in less calculation time and higher deflection. The whole soil model was stimulated and the stage construction was conducted by deactivated the soil layers in the phase.

With increase in height of pile wall from 24 m to 27 m, there is decrease in deformation of pile wall. Further increase in the wall height to 30, 33 and 36 m resulted to significant decrease in total and horizontal wall displacements.

During progress in excavation on stage construction, the ground deformations increase and the settlement value increases as the excavation depth is increased.

The effect of mesh size was studied by generating a finer mesh and re-running the analysis. A more distinct failure plane of the system was observed by reducing the mesh size.

A sample earthquake recorded by the USGS is used for the analysis. Water pressure is neglected. The total displacement after the seismic event resulted to less displacements.

The final results were totally satisfying and for complexity excavation projects of this nature plaxis3D gives stimulations close to reality.

The deformation analysis due to excavation was performed through the plaxis simulations. It was complex to model the real behavior of the soil due to unloading in the plaxis simulations. Therefore, increasing the accuracy of the investigation of important soil parameters and other conditions will make plaxis simulations simple and accurate results would be obtained.

Usually the unloading modulus is determined by performing unloading and reloading test in the Oedometer laboratory test. For this simulations the results used were not obtained from the Oedometer test but default value as suggested by plaxis of thrice the tangent modulus.

Further investigations on parameters and other conditions that affect the deformation analysis like liquid limit, density and swelling parameters of clay, the field deformation measurements and influence of structural elements on the deformation near the excavation area shall be carried out in order to increase the accuracy of the deformation analysis and decrease the possible error.

Further investigations on parameters and other conditions that affect seismic analysis like density and shear modulus and p-waves and S-waves are calculated from those parameters soil.

Using different earthquake input in order to investigate the effect of seismic characteristics such as magnitude, frequency etc. and performing the analysis with the use of structures with different geometries.

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