

More than 80 Years of Experience with the Method of Characteristics - from Graphical Analyses to Advanced Driveability Analyses by Scripts.



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Presentation Scope



The Museum of Pile Drivers GIKEN, Kochi Japan 11th International Stress Wave Conference



Creating the Future by Learning from the Past and Knowing the Present



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Introduction - The Past - Europe

- Bronze Age, houses on piles to prevent flooding
- Romans who were the first to use piles as the foundation for bridge abutments. An impressive example is Caesar's Rhine Bridge 55 B.C.



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Introduction – The Present, still the same questions

Caesar's engineers had to answer the same questions that are posed today:

- what equipment is needed to drive a pile to a required penetration,
- how many piles are needed and
- how much penetration is required to obtain the necessary capacity to support the superstructure safely.



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Introduction- Answers



- Still often today a learning loop of trial and error research follows pratice
- Learning starts with local experience, performing tests, the use of rule of thumbs and in the past pile driving formula's
- The introduction of the wave equation theory (WEQ) gave a deeper understanding of the stress wave phenomena.
- Before computers became available, wave propagation, stresses, velocities and displacement could be quantified by means of graphical tools.
- these graphical tools were the basis for the present-day computer algorithm using the Method of Characteristics (MOC).



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Introduction – MOC most applied for explaining SW

 The Method of Characteristics (MOC) is almost certainly the most applied method for explaining stress wave phenomena by graphics



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FROM ESTIMATE TO PREDICTION HISTORY

- Several publications about SW history and it contributors with brief descriptions
- Some contributors will be highlighted and some added that deserve more attention
- It starts with capacity estimates and Pile Driving Formula's
- Rondelet (1802): capacity is a function of pile cross section with a fixed value of 30 kgf/cm2 (2.94 MPa)

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE APPLICATION OF STRESS-WAVE THEORY TO PILES

By: Mohamad H. Hussein¹ and George G. Goble², Members ASCE

BSTRACT: A summary of the early scientific research that form the basis of the evelopment of one-dimensional wave mechanics in first transmitted. Beginning with the work of Dosentifi in the early 20^o Centrary the subsequent analysical and compare programs beginning in the 1940's are described and focused in the experiment to the angument in the 1940's rest were been determined by the three descriptions of the restance. Early assumement techniques are reviewed backtry by the the development of the restance of the presents are reviewed backtry by the the development of the restance of the development of the restance of the three terms of the restance of the development of the development

INTRODUCTION

The use of piles in construction work dates back many centuries. Herodotus, the putth Centry B2, Greek writer and traveler, also Lonvon a "the futher of history", ovided the first documented historical reference to piles. Ancient Egyptians, neeks, Phoneirican, Romans, Chinese, Mesopotamians, and other all use piles. In ake Constance, located between Switzerland and Germany, archeologists found well served remains of word piles, which are estimated to be 2000 to 4000 years old.

¹ Vice President, GRL Engineers, Inc., Orlando, Florida, USA, www.pile.com ² Principal, George G. Goble Consulting Engineer, LLC, Boulder, Colorado, USA

Hussein. M H., and Goble. GG, (2004).



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Pile driving formula Eytelwein (1808)

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• Seems intuitively correct, became very popular Bearing capacity R_u could be found with the formula:

$$R_u = \frac{e_h.E_h}{n.s\left[1 + \frac{W}{W}\right]}$$

with E_h = Rated Energy, e_h = Efficiency, s = permanent set after a blow, w = weight pile, W = weight ram, n = safety factor

- · Proved to be notoriously unreliable, but is still used
- Misconceptions: rigid pile, ignoring soil type and energy transfer in hammer components

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FROM ESTIMATE TO PREDICTION - MARIOTTE

Marriotte on BBC-2 TWO 2

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Flexible Impulse Transfer using a Newton's Cradle Inspired Catheter: A Feasibility Study



 $\mathsf{Lites et al.}/\mathsf{Environ Medical Engineering and Physics}$

Fig. 1. Newton's Cradie mechanisms. Top: Newton's Cradie. Bottom: Schematic representation of the Newton's Cradie's imp catheter. Color indications: blue = input ball, purple = output ball, and red = intermediate balls.

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A major challenge encountered during minimal invasive surgery is transferring high forces through small and flexible instruments, such as needles and catheters, due to their low buckling resistance. In this study we have determined the feasibility of using a Newton's Cradle inspired catheter (patented) to transfer high force impulses



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PRESENT FOR SW2022 PARTICIPANTS





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FROM ESTIMATE TO PREDICTION - HISTORY

- Stress wave phenomena were understood for a long time • but not applied to pile driving
- d'Alembert (1747) discovered the wave equation and • Saint Venant's (1867) found the wave equation solution for impacting rods
- The first observation of stress waves in piles is by Isaacs • (1931), who created an integration technique best described as a semi graphical one.
- Isaacs developed a mathematical model based on the successive transmission and reflection of waves, like the Method of Characteristics (MOC).



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d'Alembert



Saint Venant



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MECHANICAL/GRAPHICAL TOOLS - ISAACS (1931)



MECHANICAL/GRAPHICAL TOOLS - ISAACS (1931)



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Depth [m]

HYDR./MECH. ENGINEERING – BERGERON (1937)

- Bergeron (1937) proposed a graphical MOC • based method to predict the propagation of waves in water channels and piles .
- In principle Bergeron already described how to • incorporate phenomena like friction (sudden jumps) for the propagating of waves with discrete points along a pile:

Hydraulics and mechanics graphical MOC analysis examples by Bergeron



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MECHANICAL ENGINEERING – DE JUHASZ (1949) TH FOR HELENE

- In mechanical engineering one was interested in the stresses generated by impacting rods, and similar graphical tools as described by Bergeron were used to study the subject
- An excellent example is the work of *De Juhasz* (1949) with impressive graphics of stress wave propagation for cases exceeding the elastic limit of the rod material.

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SOIL MECHANICS – JOSSELIN DE JONG (1956)

- De Josselin de Jong (1956) applied the MOC to pile driving and proposed a model for the toe resistance including porewater pressure phenomena
- His paper in Dutch from 1956 has been translated by SW2022 organizing committee members into English
- De Josselin De Jong, G. (1956, 2022), What happens in the soil during pile driving, *English Translated Version*, 11th *International Stress Wave Conference, Rotterdam, The Netherlands*, 2022.



The Royal Netherlands Society of Engineers

Lines representing the energy transmission in the sand



Schematic of the impedance experienced by the pile toe from the soil at (a) low and (b) high frequencies.



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ROCK MECHANICS – FISCHER (1960)



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Fischer (1960) applied MOC with his • grapho-dynamical method and performed extensive research on the influence of ram and anvil dimensions for rods penetration into soil.

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- Another approach with series of springs • and masses, with a finite difference solution of the WEQ
- It seems that Smith was not aware of the work of Bergeron, de Juhasz and Fischer (mathematically exact results with MOC - 0%)
- No surfing (manual analysis) of the MOC waves anymore



PILE-DRIVING ANALYSIS BY THE WAVE EQUATION By E. A. L. Smith (1960)

F = F₂ { 2= 3

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So far as the writer is aware, D. V. Isaacs, in 1931, was the first to point out⁶ that wave action occurred during the driving of piles. In 1938, E. N. Fox published⁵ a solution of the wave equation applied to pile driving, but, as no leadronic computers were available at that time, he was forced to use a num-ber of simplifying assumptions that lessened the value of his solution. At the driving problem can be obtained that produces mathematical accuracy within about 55. This degree of accuracy is more than Sufficient in view of our present imperfect knowledge of the physical conditions involved. The athematical method described herein may, with alight modification, be applied to other impact problems such as the design of a foundation for a forg-ing hammer, or a lendering system for a dock.

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WEQ COMPUTER APPLICATIONS - VOITUS (1974)

- Voitus van Hamme adopted the MOC approach similar to that formulated by Bergeron and programmed it for the computer application for hammer design and pile driving prediction PILEWAVE.
- His method assumes that the continuous skinfriction can be replaced by a great number of concentrated frictional forces.



Until 1976 there was not any computer program based on MOC available and Voitus van Hamme (1980) stated at the Numerical Methods in Offshore Piling conference:

It is, however, astonishing that none of the programs known to the writer is based on a solution of the wave equation with the exception of the HBG pile driving program PILEWAVE designed by the writer.

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Inspiring MOC paper

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WEQ COMPUTER APPLICATIONS **TNOWAVE - ALLWAVE**

- The presenter has a hydrodynamics background, and his thesis was based on the Long Wave Theory in channels, which is based on the MOC
- While working for the research organization TNO and reading the work of Voitus van Hamme the presenter decided to use this straightforward and elegant MOC approach for the development of the driveability prediction program TNOWAVE
- The successor of TNOWAVE is ALLWAVE

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There are still misconceptions about the MOC, one of which can be found in Hussein et. Al. (2004). That publication discusses the lump mass approach by Smith and the MOC and the authors state:

Thus, two approaches developed for the analysis of a pile under impact: the more flexible lumped mass method of Smith and the Donnell-de Juhasz method of characteristics. The latter method is more exact for ideally elastic, continuous systems. However, it is more difficult to apply to the pile capacity problem due to the difficulty of including a realistic soil, hammer and driving system model.

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The statement that MOC is more exact is true, but the limiting statements are not correct as proven by numerous publications for MOC based programs like TNOWAVE, ALLWAVE, CAPWAP and IMPACT



See keynote paper for additional formula's

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ADVANTAGES OF MOC



There are several authors mentioning the advantages of MOC compared to the Smith lump mass approach, among which

Voitus van Hamme

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- Frank Rausche
- Mark Randolph

Frank Rausche (1983) stated as MOC advantages when CAPWAP was converted from Smith to MOC

High viscous damping forces do not lead to unstability, as the Smith model does. If soil segments are chosen at every third pile element and at a 6000 sps frequency, then the CAPWAP/C analysis is approximately 20% faster than CAPWAP. Further time savings can be obtained in cases with little or no skin friction over substantial pile portions (offshore). The response at time 2L/c is much more accurate than that of the lumped mass analysis, in particular on long piles. Thus model changes to avoid phase shifts are unnecessary.

See keynote paper for additional statements



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MOC - Check on Algorithm Performance



A check on algorithm performance and/or programming can be done by comparing the outcome with theoretical solutions:

- a ram with the same impedance as the pile (which should result in a rectangular pulse wave)
- a ram with a larger impedance than the pile (which should result in a step wise decreasing block shaped pulse).
- check the driveability software you are using with these basic cases to check their possibilities and limitations

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Real Measurements with Oscilloscope (1968)

Strain meaurements for case impedance ram larger than impedance rod

> Fig. 12, Measured strain time diagram in the middle of the long rod immediately after impact

Fig. 13, Measured strain time diagram in the middle of the long rod immediately after impact (longer time duration)

Koten van, H., SPANNINGSGOLVEN IN EEN AXIAAL AANGESTOTEN PRISMATISCHE STAAF (Dutch), "Stress Waves in an axial impacted prismatic rod", Heron, Jaargang 16 no. 2, Delft 1968

Measurements performed by Fokke Reiding (TNO), present at the conference

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3D FEM Finite Element - 1D MOC Comparison



3D Finite Element Result, with spurious reflections

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Fig. 12. Gemeten spanning-tijd-diagram in het midden van de lange staaf onmiddellijk na de botsing.

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Fig. 13. Gemeten spanning-tijd-diagram in het midden van de lange staaf onmiddellijk na de botsing.

Heron 16 (1968) no. 2



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MOC - IMPACT HAMMER NOISE REDUCTION MODELLING



MNRU (MENCK)

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Nowadays a long list of hammer types

Also advanced impact noise reduction systems like PULSE (IQIP), MNRU (Menck), Blue Piling water vessel ram can

modelled with MOC.

be modelled.

(e.g., steam hammers, diesel hammers, hydraulic hammers, rapid load testing devices and vibratory drivers) have been

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PULSE

(IQIP)

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KIVI

A - stresses in the

ram and pile as

function of depth

(negative depth is



В

Force as function of Time at level = 0.000 [m]



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20

Force [MN]

Force as function of Time at level = 0.000 [m]

34

[MPa]

400

A

120

100

80

40

Force [MN 09

FROM SOIL INVESTIGATION TO STATIC AND DYNAMIC SOIL PARAMETERS – ALLWAVE-PDP APPROACH



FROM SOIL INVESTIGATION TO STATIC AND DYNAMIC SOIL PARAMETERS – ALLWAVE-PDP APPROACH



FROM SOIL INVESTIGATION TO STATIC AND DYNAMIC SOIL PARAMETERS – ALLWAVE-PDP APPROACH



MOC – STATIC SOIL RESISTANCE MODELLING

• The most applied static resistance model is the linear plastic behaviour, based on quake values (uq1, uq2) and yield values (Fy1, Fy2). However, a hyperbolic loading cycle approach based on yield strength Q and shear modulus k is closer to the real cyclic soil loading behaviour of soil.



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SOIL FATIGUE MODELLING

- There are various fatigue models published in the literature (e.g., Toolan & Fox (1977), Stevens (1982), Alm & Hamre (1998), Alm & Hamre (2001)).
- To the presenter's opinion the model presented by Fischer et al. 2015 should be considered as it emphasizes mixed fatigue modelling per soil layer designating each soil layer with a different fatigue model.
- An interesting development is the Unified CPT-based method (Lehane et al. 2020).

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ALLWAVE-PDP MIXED FATIGUE MODELLING PER SOIL LAYER



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MOC -VIBRATORY DRIVING PREDICTION



 The first MOC based publications for vibratory driving of offshore piles was by Jonker et al. (1988) and Middendorp et al. (1988)

For longer piles a wave equation approach is

required to correctly model the shift in strain

To behave like a rigid body, it was required that the driving frequency was chosen to be equal or less than 10% of the natural frequency of the full-sized pile as a freely vibrating rod, expressed as:

$$f_d \le 0.1 f_n = 0.1 c_b/2L$$

Or

$$L \le c_b / 20 f_n$$

with f_d = driving frequency [Hz], f_n = longitudinal natural frequency of a free slender bar/pile [Hz], c_b = pile stress wave velocity [m/s], L = length of the pile [m].

For steel piles and a typical vibratory driving frequency of 23Hz this means that the rigid body assumption is only valid for pile with a length smaller than: $L \le \frac{5}{4}$

$$\leq \frac{5172}{400} \approx 11 \ [m]$$



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state along the pile

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MOC - SOIL RESISTANCE MODELLING





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MOC - VIBRATORY DRIVING PREDICTION



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RIFFGAT PROJECT

FIRST VIBRATORY DRIVEN MONOPILES Made Possible by

STORY OF THE OCTAKONG

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STORY OF THE OCTAKONG

In 2010 the companies APE, CAPE-Holland, APE-China and Allnamics teamed up to convince the Chinese contractor First Harbor Marine Group China that a massive multi-unit vibrohammer could be used to drive 49 m long, 22 m diameter steel caisson pipe piles weighing 600 tonnes each 25 m into the bed of the South China Sea, where the soil consists of silty clay, clay and sand with SPT N-values ranging from 8 to 40.

The driveability studies were performed with AllWave-VDP, which showed the feasibility of driving these gigantic piles into the bottom of the sea to the required depth.

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Internal, American Piledriving Equipment, Inc.

Sincy die Oroking – Jernei Anseine Parkeirug Espannet, Esc. De Derechte DN 11: Con Verburg Langes en er fong jeho typeks je met ei som et a verse de 200 revelsinge das beite Ansei. Name gragenen, efficient, enneuersa, en efficient e verburg das beite typeks das 10: 200 est and 200 est Das 11: est 200 es

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The values would be manufactured in Kent treated, parially disasonabled and shaped, to be remembled in Cham. Encitles would be connected via forsteen gendroms to regulate the timing on the vibratory power transmission, material encitation of end of the values. American Prioritorian Biophymest pre-pre-resolve Encod Gene only 1

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STORY OF THE OCTAKONG

Also under their belt, APE had Aat de Neef and his team at APE Holland and Peter Middendorp of Allnamics Pile Testing Experts BV. Aat steered APE China through rough waters along the way. Middendorp, GM of Allnamics, was able to successfully calculate the skin friction for the 22m diameter piles with the given soil conditions, and was able to do a drive-ability study for this potentially record-breaking pile.

In November of 2010, Middendorp was able to stand in front of 20 Chinese engineers and explain to them how this very accurate system works. Allnamics Pile Testing Experts convinced the Chinese contractor First Harbor Marine Group China that a massive multi-vibro hammer could be used to drive 130 ft long, 72 ft diameter steel pipe piles weighing 600 metric tons each into the bed of the South China Sea. Combining APE's hammer design, production and operation know-how with the pile driving simulation and installation know-how of Allnamics made it possible to show the feasibility of driving these gigantic piles into bottom of the sea to the required depth.

The contract was awarded and APE in Kent Washington headquarters began immediate manufacture of eight Model 600 Super Kong vibratory driver/extractors, or vibros.

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STORY OF THE OCTAKONG





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STORY OF THE OCTAKONG



Following the successful vibratory driving at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge project the contractor Seaway Heavy Lifting opted for the use of a vibratory hammer for the installation of the monopiles for the Riffgat project. (de Neef at al. 2013).

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By choosing this innovative way of pile installation they could adhere to the strict environmental rules, which apply in Germany, and keep the environmental impact due to noise and vibrations within acceptable limits.

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MOC - VIBRATORY DRIVING PREDICTION

In the view of the author, vibratory driving and impact driving are complimentary, and as a minimum vibratory driving can be used for stabbing the piles.

If final penetration levels cannot be achieved by vibratory driving, the impact hammer can finish the job.

This approach, i.e., performing vibratory driving predictions with MOC and the installation of monopiles by vibratory hammers, are common practice in the design and construction of offshore wind energy farms nowadays.

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DRIVEABILITY PREDICTIONS WITH SCRIPTING

- The current development of offshore wind energy farms may require the installation of hundreds of piles.
- To perform the design in an efficient way driveability studies must be automated, much like many other processes are automated.
- This requires that the MOC simulation programs allow the option to be operated externally by scripting methods.
- In this case scripting refers to a program or a sequence of instructions that is carried out by another program rather than by the computer processor.
- AllWave can be operated by scripts, run on desktops, company servers and from the cloud.





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DRIVEABILITY PREDICTIONS WITH SCRIPTING AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

- The next logical development is the merger of driveability prediction programs with Artificial Intelligence to make full use of all the data that has been collected in the 80 years that the Method of Characteristics has been used for pile driving simulation, modelling and signal matching
- This collected data will surely include all the data that will become available from the SW2022 Demonstration Day/Testing Program.

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Conclusions

- The presenter is impressed with the ingenuity of our forefathers to solve and apply the WEQ solution without the assistance of computers
- The MOC graphics method is widely used to explain and understand stress wave propagation phenomena.
- The MOC algorithm has many advantages over the Smith finite difference method (lumped masses and springs).
- AllWave 1D_MOC yields similar impact blow results as 3D-FEM.
- Soil fatigue model parameters should be updated for each pile toe penetration level.
- Operating prediction software by scripts and from the cloud and assisted by AI is already taking place and will be increasingly applied.
- The presenter hopes that Mariotte, Bergeron, Josselin de Jong and Voitus van Hamme get their deserved place in the Stress Wave Community history.

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