

# Numerical Modeling of Seismic-induced Soil Response Around Submarine Pipeline

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**Abstract:** Seismic-induced pore pressure and effective stresses in the saturated porous seabed under seismic loading are the main factors that govern the overall stability of submarine pipelines. In most of the previous investigations for the seismic-induced dynamic response around a submarine pipeline have been limited to two-dimension cases. In this paper, a three-dimensional finite element model including buried pipeline is established by extending DYNE3WAC. Based on the numerical model presented, the effects of pipeline geometry and soil characteristics on the seismic-induced pore pressure of the seabed and internal stresses of submarine pipeline will be discussed in detail.

**Keywords:** Submarine pipeline, dynamic response, excess pore pressure, internal stresses, seismic loading.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

It has been widely reported in the literature that earthquakes have damaged many lifeline structures, such as subway, tunnels and buried pipeline, which may further cause fires, gas leaking and economic losses [1]. The submarine pipelines in earthquake active areas are subjected to both wave and seismic loading during earthquakes. It is more complex and important to analyze the dynamic response of submarine pipeline for the reliable design of pipeline.

Subsequently, the seismic analysis and behavior of buried pipelines have been investigated by many researchers. Various approaches for the seismic-induced seabed response have been carried out since the 1970's. Among these, regarding analytical approximations, the simplest analytical modeling of a buried pipeline was proposed by Newmark [2] and Hall [3]. In their models, the pipeline is assumed to follow the deformation of the ground, but processes of the soil-pipeline interactions were not considered. The experimental studies mainly include forced vibration tests, earthquake simulator tests and centrifugal shaking table tests [4]. Comparatively, centrifugal modeling could capture the real stress field of the soil and produce more authentic and reliable results [5]. Wong *et al.* [6] demonstrated the importance of considering the effect of pipeline motion in modifying the free field ground motion into the pipeline analysis using the FEM (finite element method) method. Zou *et al.* [7] conducted the shaking table model test on pipelines buried in saturated sand foundation, also used numerical model to simulate the process of build-up and dissipation of

pore pressure in foundation around the pipelines and compared it with shaking table test results.

To the authors' best knowledge, the majority of previous research of numerical models about submarine pipeline has been limited to two-dimension cases, although earthquakes may happen in mixed directions in the real environment. Therefore, it is necessary to develop a three-dimensional model to investigate these realistic circumstances. To simulate the dynamic response of three-dimensional model under seismic loading, a finite element program, DYNE3WAC (DYNAmic Earthquake Analysis Program 3D Window Version for ACademic) developed by Ou [8], is used. The model is based on the fully implicit *u-p* approximation of the Biot formulation [9]. The program can be used for static, consolidation and dynamic situations under drained and un-drained conditions.

In this paper, the 3D finite element model (DYNE-3WAC) will be further enhanced by including buried pipeline in the model. Based on the numerical model, a parametric study is conducted to examine the effects of pipeline geometry and soil characteristics on the seismic-induced pore pressure of the seabed and internal stresses of submarine pipeline will be discussed in detail.

## 2. BOUNDARY VALUE PROBLEM

In this study, a three-dimensional problem is considered. A fully buried pipeline (with a radius  $0.5D$ ) is located in a porous seabed of finite thickness  $h$  laid upon an impermeable rigid bottom and surrounding by four impermeable walls see Fig. (1). The *z*-direction is measured positive upward from the surface of seabed, and *y*-direction is the horizontal which is perpendicular in direction to the axes of pipeline. The mesh of total three-dimensional model is depicted in Fig. (2).

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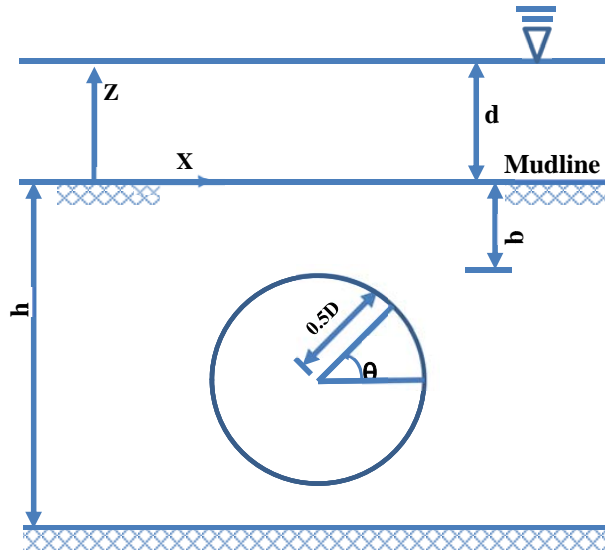


Fig. (1). The seabed-pipeline interaction system under seismic loading.

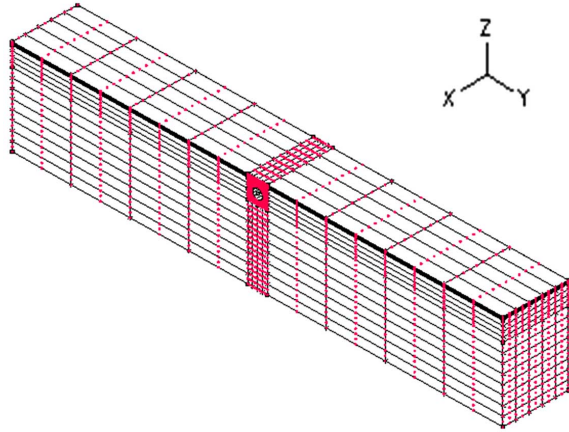


Fig. (2). Sketch of seismic-seabed-pipeline interaction problem.

As shown in Fig. (2), an eight-node iso-parametric element is used in the region near the pipeline. Outside this region, an eight-nodal rectangular element is used. This kind of mesh has been used for treating the problem around a pipe-like structure [10].

## 2.1. Governing Equations

DYNE3WAC is an extended version of SWANDYNE II [11, 12] from 2D to 3D, which is based on the fully implicit  $u$ - $p$  approximation of the Biot formulation [9]. The dynamic governing equations for the  $u$ - $p$  approximation of the Biot formulation are basically the momentum relation for the soil-fluid 'mixture' and the mass balance of the flow. The mathematical and numerical formulations of the program are described in detail by Chan [11] and Zienkiewicz *et al.* [12], which is outlined here.

(1) *Equilibrium of Mixture is Written as: (in Tensorial Form)*

$$\sigma_{ij,j} + \rho b_i - \rho \ddot{u}_i - \rho_f (\dot{w}_i + w_j w_{i,j}) = 0, \quad (1)$$

where  $\sigma_{ij}$  is the total stress tensor (tensile positive),  $\ddot{u}_i$  and  $w_i$  are the acceleration of the solid skeleton and average (Darcy) fluid velocity respectively,  $b_i$  is the body acceleration per unit mass,  $\rho_s$ ,  $\rho_f$  and  $\rho$  are the densities of the solid grain, fluid and mixture, respectively, with  $\rho = (1-n)\rho_s + n\rho_f$  and  $n$  being the porosity of the porous media. The underlined terms represents the fluid acceleration relative to the solid and the convective terms of the acceleration.

(2) *Equilibrium of Fluid:*

$$-p_{,i} - R_i - \rho_f \ddot{u}_i - \rho_f (\dot{w}_i + w_j w_{i,j}) / n + \rho_f b_i = 0 \quad (2)$$

where  $R$  represents the viscous drag forces, assuming the Darcy seepage law, can be written as  $k_{ij} R_j = w_i$ ,  $k$  is the permeability of soil with the dimensions of  $[\text{length}]^3[\text{time}]/[\text{mass}]$ , which can be expressed by the usual soil mechanics convention  $k'$ , with  $k = k' / \rho_f' g'$ , where  $\rho_f'$  and  $g'$  are the fluid density and gravitational acceleration at which the permeability is measured.

(3) *Conservation of Mass of Fluid Phase:*

$$w_{i,i} + \dot{\epsilon}_{ii} + \frac{n\dot{p}}{K_f} + \frac{(1-n)\dot{p}}{K_s} - \frac{K_T}{K_s} \left( \dot{\epsilon}_{ii} + \frac{\dot{p}}{K_s} \right) + n \frac{\dot{\rho}_f}{\rho_f} + \dot{s}_0 = 0 \quad (3)$$

where  $w_{i,i}$  is the flow divergence in the unit volume,  $\dot{\epsilon}_{ii}$  is the increased volume due to a change in strain,  $n\dot{p}/K_f$  is the additional volume stored by compression of void fluid due to the fluid pressure increase,  $(1-n)\dot{p}/K_s$  is the additional volume stored by the compression of grains by the fluid pressure increase,  $-K_T(\dot{\epsilon}_{ii} + \dot{p}/K_s)/K_s$  is the change in volume of the solid phase due to a change in the inter-granular effective contact stress, and the underlined part  $n\dot{\rho}_f/\rho_f + \dot{s}_0$  are corresponding to a change of density and rate of volume expansion of the solid in the case of thermal change and are negligible in general.

The mass conservation equation can be further expressed by using the definition of  $\alpha$  and  $Q$ .

$$w_{i,i} + \alpha \dot{\epsilon}_{ii} + \frac{\dot{p}}{Q} + n \frac{\dot{\rho}_f}{\rho_f} + \dot{s}_0 = 0 \quad (4)$$

where  $K_T$  is the average bulk modulus of the solid skeleton,  $K_s$  is the average material bulk modulus of the solid components of the skeleton and  $K_f$  is the bulk modulus of the fluid, with  $1/Q \equiv n/K_f + (\alpha - n)/K_s \equiv n/K_f + (1-n)/K_s$  and  $\alpha = 1 - K_T/K_s$ .

Coupling equation (2) and (4), together with equation (1), neglecting the underlined terms which are apparently small under general earthquake analysis [8], the governing equation can be expressed as:

$$\sigma_{ij,j} + \rho b_i - \rho \ddot{u}_i = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$\left( k_{ij} (-p_{,j} - \rho_f \ddot{u}_j + \rho_f b_j) \right)_{,i} + \alpha \dot{\epsilon}_{ii} + \frac{\dot{p}}{Q} = 0 \quad (6)$$

Due to this simplified equation set only containing two dependent variables  $u$  and  $p$ , it is usually called  $u$ - $p$  approximation form, which was proposed by Zienkiewics *et al.* [13] and applied to the cases of earthquakes.

#### (4) Governing Equation for Buried Pipeline:

Buried pipeline is assumed to the elastic material and the solid element type is used. Based on an elastic theory, the governing equation for buried pipeline is given by

$$\sigma_{pij,j} + \rho_p b_{pi} = \rho_p \ddot{u}_{pi} \quad (7)$$

where  $\sigma_{pij}$  is the stress of the pipeline,  $\rho_p$  is the density of the pipeline,  $b_{pi}$  is the body force acceleration of the pipeline,  $\ddot{u}_{pi}$  is the acceleration of the pipeline.

#### (5) Constitutive Equation for Soil:

It is assumed that the soil skeleton is a poro-elastic material. Therefore, stresses and strains in solid skeleton are related on the basis of Hooke's Law [14, 15]. The constitutive equations for a homogeneous porous medium can be expressed as:

$$\sigma_{ij} = 2\mu \varepsilon_{ij} + \lambda \delta_{ij} e - \alpha \delta_{ij} p \quad (8)$$

$$\Delta p = -\alpha M e + M \zeta \quad (9)$$

$$e = u_{i,i} \quad \zeta = -w_{i,i} \quad (10)$$

in which  $u_i$  and  $w_i$  denote the average solid displacement and the infiltration displacement of the pore fluid;  $\varepsilon_{ij}$  and  $e$  are the strain tensor and the dilatation of the solid skeleton;  $\zeta$  is the volume of fluid injected into a unit volume of the bulk material;  $\sigma_{ij}$  is the stress of the bulk porous medium;  $\Delta p$  is the excess pore pressure and  $\delta_{ij}$  is the Kronecker delta. The compressibility of the saturated porous medium is considered in terms of the solid skeleton Lamè constants,  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$ , and Biot's parameters  $\alpha$  and  $M$ .

## 2.2. Boundary Conditions

For a porous seabed of finite thickness, as shown in Fig. (1), to evaluate the seismic-induced seabed response around a buried pipeline, the following boundary conditions are considered [16].

Firstly, zero displacements and no vertical flow occurs at the impermeable horizontal bottom, i.e.,

$$u_{sx} = 0, u_{sa} = 0, u_{sz} = 0, \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} = 0, \text{ at } z = -h \quad (11)$$

Secondly, we assume that the surface frictional stress is small and negligible. The vertical effective normal stress and shear stress vanish and pore pressure at the surface of the seabed is equal to zero, i.e.

$$\sigma'_{sz} = \tau_s = 0 \quad p = 0, \text{ at } z = 0 \quad (12)$$

Thirdly, we assume that there is no flow through the pipeline wall. This assumption is valid because the pipeline is considered as elastic impermeable material. Thus, the pore pressure gradient on the surface of the pipeline ( $r=R$ ) should vanish, i.e.,

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial n} = 0, \quad r = \sqrt{(x-x_0)^2 + (y-y_0)^2 + (z-z_0)^2} = R \quad (13)$$

where  $x_0$  and  $z_0$  denote the coordinates of the center of the pipeline and  $n$  is the normal direction to the surface of the pipeline.

Fourthly, we consider the lateral boundary is impermeable, i.e.,

$$u_{sx} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} = 0 \text{ at } x = 0 \text{ and } x = s \quad (14)$$

$$u_{sx} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} = 0 \text{ at } y = 0 \text{ and } y = l \quad (15)$$

## 2.3. Simulation of Seismic Loading

The seismic wave named EL Centro is taken as input seismic loading in this paper, which was recorded from Empire Volley in America in 1940 [17]. Firstly, the data of seismic wave were normalized. That is, the peak value of the acceleration data should be changed to 1 m/s<sup>2</sup>, and then be enlarged to 0.2g. The seismic loadings were applied to the three-dimensional model along  $x$ -direction and  $y$ -direction. The accelerations in  $x$ -direction and  $y$ -direction are the same; the same data of EL Centro earthquake wave are applied. In these calculations, the initial gravity induced stress field is calculated before the seismic analysis. After the stress field shows balance, the seismic loading will be applied. Then the oblique direction of earthquake loading should be 45 degree to the pipeline. Through computation the distribution of seismic-induced excess pore water pressure  $p$  and radial normal stress  $\sigma_{pr}$  as well as shear stress  $\tau_{pr\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential outer surface and circumferential normal stress  $\sigma_{p\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential inner surface are examined in detail.

## 3. FINITE ELEMENT FORMULATION

### 3.1. Finite Element Formulations for the Seabed

Applying the Galerkin method to the Biot's dynamic consolidation governing equations, the finite element formulation for a porous seabed under the finite element formulation for a porous seabed under wave loading can be written in the following coupled system:

$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^{t+\Delta t} \mathbf{M}_s & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} {}^{t+\Delta t} \ddot{\mathbf{U}}_s \\ {}^{t+\Delta t} \ddot{\mathbf{P}} \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} {}^{t+\Delta t} \mathbf{C}_s & \mathbf{0} \\ {}^{t+\Delta t} \mathbf{K}_{us,p}^T & {}^{t+\Delta t} \mathbf{K}_{pp}^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} {}^{t+\Delta t} \dot{\mathbf{U}}_s \\ {}^{t+\Delta t} \dot{\mathbf{P}} \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} {}^{t+\Delta t} \mathbf{K}_{us,u_s} & {}^{t+\Delta t} \mathbf{K}_{us,p} \\ \mathbf{0} & -{}^{t+\Delta t} \mathbf{K}_{pp}^{(2)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} {}^{t+\Delta t} \mathbf{U}_s \\ {}^{t+\Delta t} \mathbf{P} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} {}^{t+\Delta t} \mathbf{R}_{u_s} \\ {}^{t+\Delta t} \mathbf{R}_p \end{Bmatrix} \quad (16)$$

where the matrix components are given by

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{M}_s = \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)}} {}^{t+\Delta t}\rho_s^{(m)} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_{u_s}^{(m)\top} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_{u_s}^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)} \quad (17)$$

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{C}_s = \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)}} {}^{t+\Delta t}\kappa_s^{(m)} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_{u_s}^{(m)\top} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_{u_s}^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)} \quad (18)$$

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{u_s u_s} = \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)}} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{B}_{u_s}^{(m)\top} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{D}_s^{(m)} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{B}_{u_s}^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)} \quad (19)$$

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{u_s p} = \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)}} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{B}_{u_s}^{(m)\top} \mathbf{I}^{(m)} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_p^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)} \quad (20)$$

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{pp}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{K_f'} \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)}} {}^{t+\Delta t}n_s^{(m)} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_p^{(m)\top} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_p^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)} \quad (21)$$

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{pp}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{\gamma_f} \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)}} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{B}_p^{(m)\top} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_s^{(m)} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{B}_p^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)} \quad (22)$$

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{R}_p = \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}S_q^{(m)}} \left( {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_p^{(m)} {}^{t+\Delta t}S_q^{(m)} \right) {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{q}^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}S_q^{(m)} \quad (23)$$

$$\begin{aligned} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{R}_{u_s} &= \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)}} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_{u_s}^{(m)\top} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{f}_s^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}V_s^{(m)} \\ &+ \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}S_{f_s}^{(m)}} \left( {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_{u_s}^{(m)} {}^{t+\Delta t}S_{f_s}^{(m)} \right) {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{f}_s^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}S_{f_s}^{(m)} \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

where  $\mathbf{U}_s$  and  $\mathbf{P}$  are soil nodal displacement and pore pressure vectors, respectively.  $\mathbf{M}_s$  and  $\mathbf{C}_s$  are soil mass matrix and damping matrix, respectively.  $\kappa_s$  is soil damping coefficient.  $\mathbf{D}_s$  is soil elastic constitutive matrix.  $\mathbf{f}_s$  and  $\mathbf{q}$  are load vectors.  $\mathbf{B}_{u_s}$  and  $\mathbf{B}_p$  are gradient matrices for the displacement  $\mathbf{U}_s$  and pore pressure  $\mathbf{P}$ , respectively.  $\mathbf{H}_{u_s}$  and  $\mathbf{H}_p$  are interpolation matrices for the displacement  $\mathbf{U}_s$  and pore pressure  $\mathbf{P}$ , respectively.

### 3.2. Finite Element Formulations for the Pipeline

The standard Galerkin finite element discretization is applied to the governing equation (7), and the finite element formulation for the pipeline can be formed in the following equations:

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{M}_p {}^{t+\Delta t}\ddot{\mathbf{U}}_p + {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{C}_p {}^{t+\Delta t}\dot{\mathbf{U}}_p + {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{u_p u_p} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{U}_p = {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{R}_{u_p} \quad (25)$$

where

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{M}_p = \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}V_p^{(m)}} {}^{t+\Delta t}\rho_p^{(m)} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_{u_p}^{(m)\top} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_{u_p}^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}V_p^{(m)} \quad (26)$$

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{C}_p = \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}V_p^{(m)}} {}^{t+\Delta t}\kappa_p^{(m)} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_{u_p}^{(m)\top} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_{u_p}^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}V_p^{(m)} \quad (27)$$

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{u_p u_p} = \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}V_p^{(m)}} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{B}_{u_p}^{(m)\top} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{D}_p^{(m)} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{B}_{u_p}^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}V_p^{(m)} \quad (28)$$

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{R}_{u_p} = \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}V_p^{(m)}} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_{u_p}^{(m)\top} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{f}_p^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}V_p^{(m)} \quad (29)$$

$$+ \sum_m \int_{{}^{t+\Delta t}S_{f_p}^{(m)}} \left( {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{H}_{u_p}^{(m)} {}^{t+\Delta t}S_{f_p}^{(m)} \right) {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{f}_p^{(m)} d{}^{t+\Delta t}S_{f_p}^{(m)} \quad (30)$$

where the subscript “p” represents the properties of the pipeline;  $\mathbf{U}_p$  is the nodal displacement vector.  $\mathbf{M}_p$  and  $\mathbf{C}_p$  are the mass and damping matrix, respectively.  $\kappa_p$  is pipeline damping coefficient.  $\mathbf{D}_p$  is an elastic constitutive matrix.  $\mathbf{f}_p$  is load vector.  $\mathbf{B}_{u_p}$  is gradient matrix for the displacement  $\mathbf{U}_p$ ; and  $\mathbf{H}_{u_p}$  is interpolation matrix for the displacement  $\mathbf{U}_p$ .

### 3.3. Numerical Procedure

In this study, Newmark- $\beta$  method is used for the finite element equations, the following final equations used for the porous seabed and pipeline system can be obtained:

$$\begin{aligned} &\begin{bmatrix} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{u_s u_s} + a_0 {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{M}_s + a_1 {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{C}_s & {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{u_s p} \\ {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{u_s p}^\top & {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{pp}^{(1)} - \Delta t {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{pp}^{(2)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{U}_s \\ {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{P} \end{Bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{R}_{u_s}^d \\ -\Delta t {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{R}_p + {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{u_s p}^\top {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{U}_s + {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{pp}^{(1)} {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{P} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

$$\left( {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{K}_{u_p u_p} + a_0 {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{M}_p + a_1 {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{C}_p \right) {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{U}_p = {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{R}_{u_p}^d \quad (32)$$

In which

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{R}_{u_s}^d = {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{R}_{u_s} + {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{M}_s \left( a_0 {}^t\mathbf{U}_s + a_2 {}^t\dot{\mathbf{U}}_s + a_3 {}^t\ddot{\mathbf{U}}_s \right) + {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{C}_s \left( a_1 {}^t\mathbf{U}_s + a_4 {}^t\dot{\mathbf{U}}_s + a_5 {}^t\ddot{\mathbf{U}}_s \right) \quad (33)$$

$${}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{R}_{u_p}^d = {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{R}_{u_p} + {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{M}_p \left( a_0 {}^t\mathbf{U}_p + a_2 {}^t\dot{\mathbf{U}}_p + a_3 {}^t\ddot{\mathbf{U}}_p \right) + {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{C}_p \left( a_1 {}^t\mathbf{U}_p + a_4 {}^t\dot{\mathbf{U}}_p + a_5 {}^t\ddot{\mathbf{U}}_p \right) \quad (34)$$

where

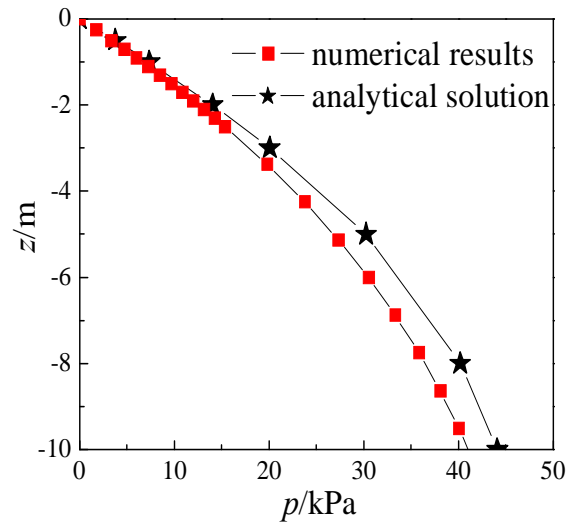
$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\alpha \Delta t^2}, \quad a_1 = \frac{\beta}{\alpha \Delta t}, \quad a_2 = \frac{1}{\alpha \Delta t}, \quad a_3 = \frac{1}{2\alpha} - 1, \\ a_4 = \frac{\beta}{\alpha} - 1, \quad a_5 = \Delta t \left( \frac{\beta}{2\alpha} - 1 \right). \quad \text{In general, when}$$

$\beta \geq 0.5, \alpha \geq 0.25(0.5 + \beta)^2$ , the Newmark- $\beta$  method is non-conditional stable. According to calculation experience, we make  $\alpha = 0.5$ ,  $\beta \geq 0.6$ , which can satisfy  $\alpha \geq 0.25(0.5 + \beta)^2$ .

### 3.4. Verification

Since experimental data for the 3D seismic-seabed-pipe interaction was not available until now and the previous theoretical investigations have been limited to two-dimension cases, one of the possible verifications of the present model could be the comparison against previous analytical solution without pipeline [18], through the reduction of the present model.

A comparative example between the present model without the pipeline and previous analytical solution [18] is illustrated in Fig. (3) for a sandy seabed. The figure clearly shows that the numerical results agree with the analytical solutions reasonably, the general trends of both are consistent.



**Fig. (3).** Vertical distribution of seismic-induced excess pore pressure versus seabed depth  $z$ .

## 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The input data for soil and pipeline characteristics in this section is tabulated in Table 1. In the local polar coordinates, the origin point is the center of pipeline, the definition of  $\theta$  is shown in Fig. (4). In this section, the distribution of seismic-induced excess pore water pressure ( $p$ ) and radial normal stress ( $\sigma_{pr}$ ) as well as shear stress ( $\tau_{pr\theta}$ ) along the pipeline circumferential outer surface and circumferential normal stress  $\sigma_{p\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential inner surface under different soil characteristics and pipeline configurations are discussed by using finite element program DYNE3WAC. As concentration of stresses is expected, local refinement of the finite element mesh in the region near the pipeline has always been taken into account. To improve the accuracy of the solution, two different mesh systems are used for the model. As shown in Fig. (4), this kind of mesh has been used for tackling the problem around a pipe-like structure [19].

**Table 1.** Input Data for Parametric Study

Seabed Characteristics		Pipeline Characteristics	
Seabed length(l)	75(m)	Buried depth of pipeline(b)	1.0(m)
Seabed thickness(h)	15(m)	Pipeline outer diameter(D)	1.0(m)
Seabed width(s)	10(m)	Pipeline thickness( $t_p$ )	0.20(m)
Modulus of deformation( $E_s$ )	$7 \times 10^7$ (N/m <sup>2</sup> )	Young's modulus( $E_p$ )	$3.0 \times 10^{10}$ (N/m <sup>2</sup> )
Permeability( $k_s$ )	$1.0 \times 10^{-3}$ (m/s)	Density( $\rho_p$ )	2100(kg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Density( $\rho_s$ )	1700(kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Poisson ratio( $\nu_p$ )	0.30
Poisson ratio( $\nu_s$ )	0.30	<b>The seismic loading characteristics</b>	
Porosity( $n_s$ )	0.40	Seismic wave name	EL Centro
Degree of saturation( $S_r$ )	1.0	Oblique direction to pipeline	45°

#### 4.1. Effects of Soil Permeability

It is important to examine the effect of various soil permeability on the excess pore pressure of seabed around submarine pipeline and internal stress of pipeline under three-dimensional condition, the cases of different permeability coefficient  $k = 1 \times 10^{-2}$  m/s,  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  m/s,  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  m/s and  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  m/s have been computed. As represented in Fig. (5), as the soil permeability coefficient decreases, the excess pore pressure of seabed around submarine pipeline increases obviously but radial normal stress  $\sigma_{pr}$  as well as shear stress  $\tau_{pr\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential outer surface and circumferential normal stress  $\sigma_{p\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential inner surface change slightly. It can be concluded that soil permeability has obvious influence on the seismic-induced excess pore pressure. Small reduction of permeability coefficient leads to significant increment of accumulative excess pore pressure of seabed. Therefore, using coarse material of high permeability is a feasible method to cover the layers to avoid seabed liquefaction. It also can be seen that some extreme values or turning points of excess pore pressure and internal stress of pipeline occur at some special point of pipeline, such as  $30^\circ$ 、 $90^\circ$ 、 $150^\circ$  *et al.* The submarine pipeline should be reinforced at these points.

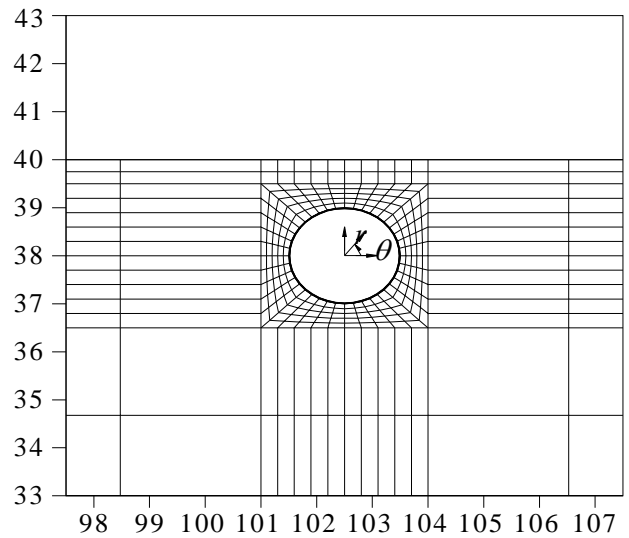


Fig. (4). Finite element layout in the vicinity of the pipeline.

#### 4.2. Effects of Seabed Depth

To investigate the effect of various seabed depth on the excess pore pressure of seabed around submarine pipeline

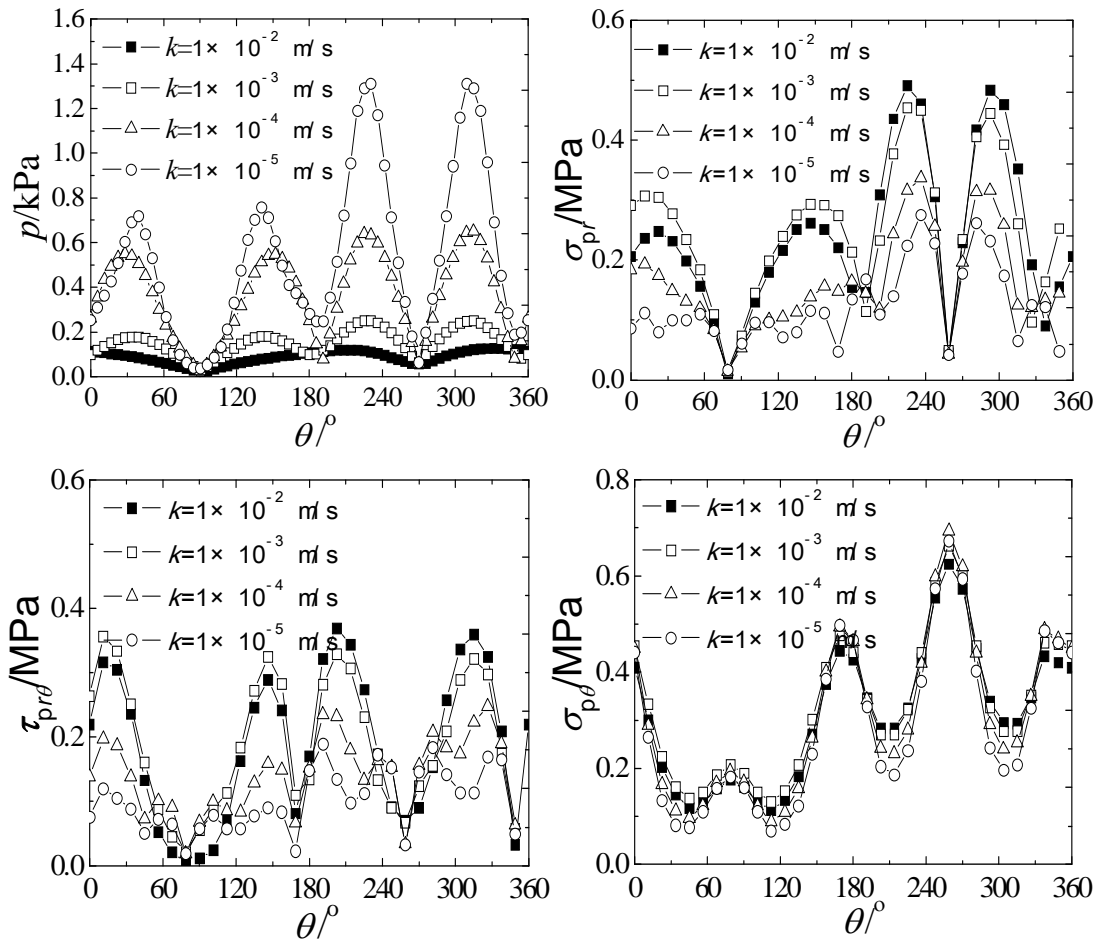


Fig. (5). Distributions of the seismic-induced excess pore water pressure  $p$  and radial normal stress  $\sigma_{pr}$  as well as shear stress  $\tau_{pr\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential outer surface and circumferential normal stress  $\sigma_{p\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential inner surface with different soil permeability coefficient.

and internal stress of pipeline under three-dimensional condition, different seabed depth cases of  $h = 15$  m, 20 m and 30 m have been considered. From Fig. (6), it can be concluded that the excess pore pressure of seabed around submarine pipeline and internal stresses of submarine pipeline decrease gradually as the seabed depths increase. Because submarine pipeline is buried in a shallow depth of seabed, the deeper the seabed is, the further submarine pipeline is closer to the seismic hypocenter, the bigger the seismic responses are. It also can be seen that some extreme values or turning points of excess pore pressure and internal stress of pipeline occur at some special point of pipeline.

#### 4.3. Effects of Pipeline Radius

Fig. (7) indicates that the distributions of the seismic-induced excess pore water pressure  $p$  and radial normal stress  $\sigma_{pr}$  as well as shear stress  $\tau_{pr\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential outer surface and circumferential normal stress  $\sigma_{p\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential inner surface with various pipeline radii  $R = 0.5$  m, 1.0 m and 1.5 m. It is also observed from the Fig. (7) that four stresses increase on the whole with the pipeline radius increasing, but the excess pore pressure of seabed around submarine pipeline does not increase obviously. Radial normal stress  $\sigma_{pr}$  decreases slightly in upper part of pipeline ( $0^\circ < \theta < 180^\circ$ ) but increases obviously in lower part of pipeline ( $180^\circ < \theta < 360^\circ$ ) with the pipeline radius increasing. The reasons may be that increasing radius of the pipeline reduces the  $z$ -coordinate in the upper regions of submarine pipeline, but increases the  $z$ -coordinate in the lower regions of submarine pipeline. Shear stress  $\tau_{pr\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential outer surface and circum-

ferential normal stress  $\sigma_{p\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential inner surface increase obviously at majority points, particularly at special points.

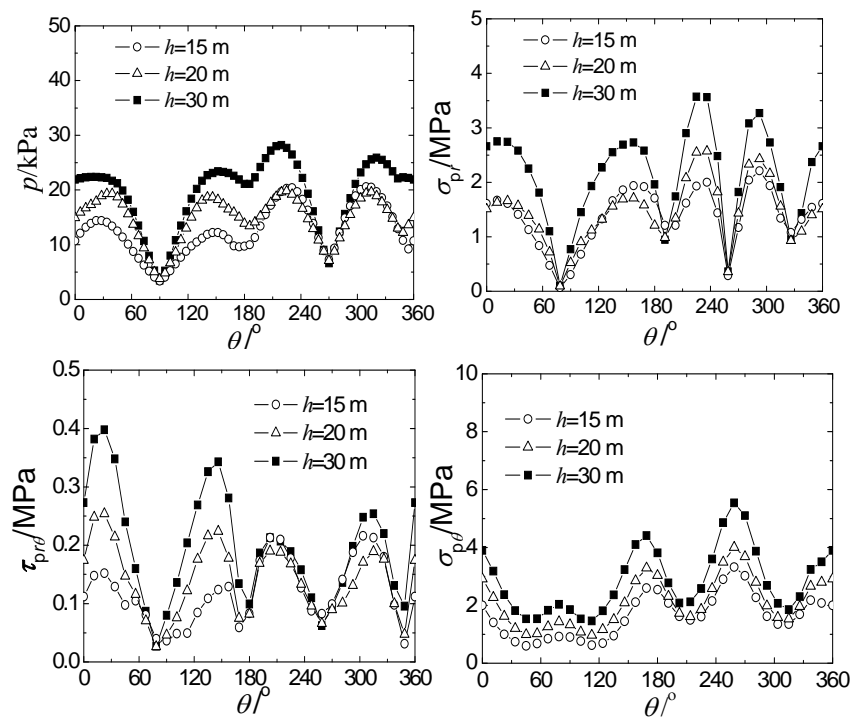
#### 4.4. Effects of Burial Depth

The effects of various values of burial depth  $b$  ( $b = 1$  m, 2 m and 3 m) on the distributions of the seismic-induced excess pore water pressure  $p$  and radial normal stress  $\sigma_{pr}$  as well as shear stress  $\tau_{pr\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential outer surface and circumferential normal stress  $\sigma_{p\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential inner surface are examined in Fig. (8). From Fig. (8) it can be concluded that four stresses increase regularly as the burial depth increases. The same reasons as above, increasing burial depths of the pipeline makes the  $z$ -coordinates of seabed and submarine pipeline increase, therefore the excess of pore pressure and internal stresses all increase. The burial depths of submarine pipeline have remarkable effect on excess pore pressure and internal stresses.

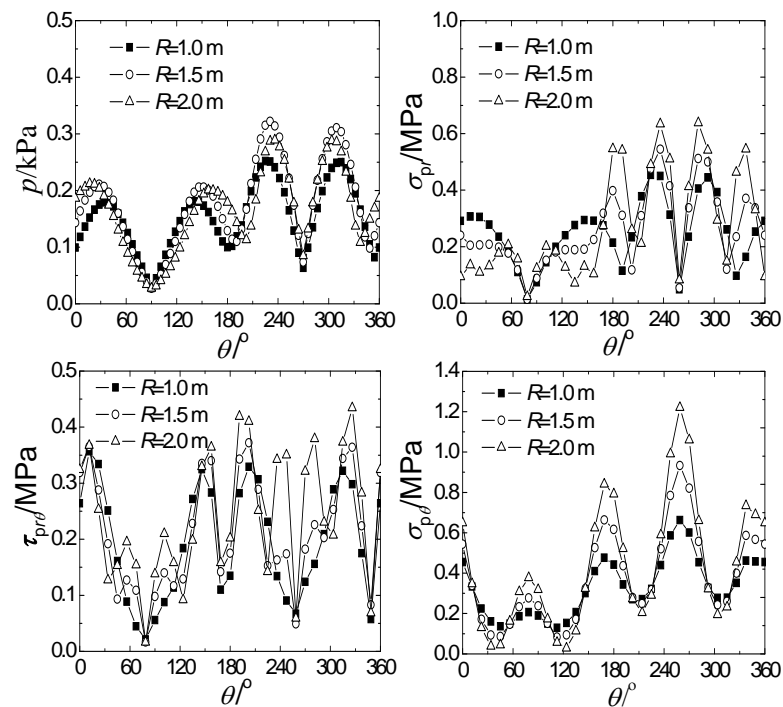
### 5. CONCLUSIONS

The main contribution of this paper is to establish a three-dimensional model including buried pipeline based on the existing DYNE3WAC models. The effects of pipeline geometry and soil characteristics on the seismic-induced excess pore pressure of the seabed and internal stresses of submarine pipeline are discussed through the numerical model presented. Through numerical computations, the following conclusions can be drawn:

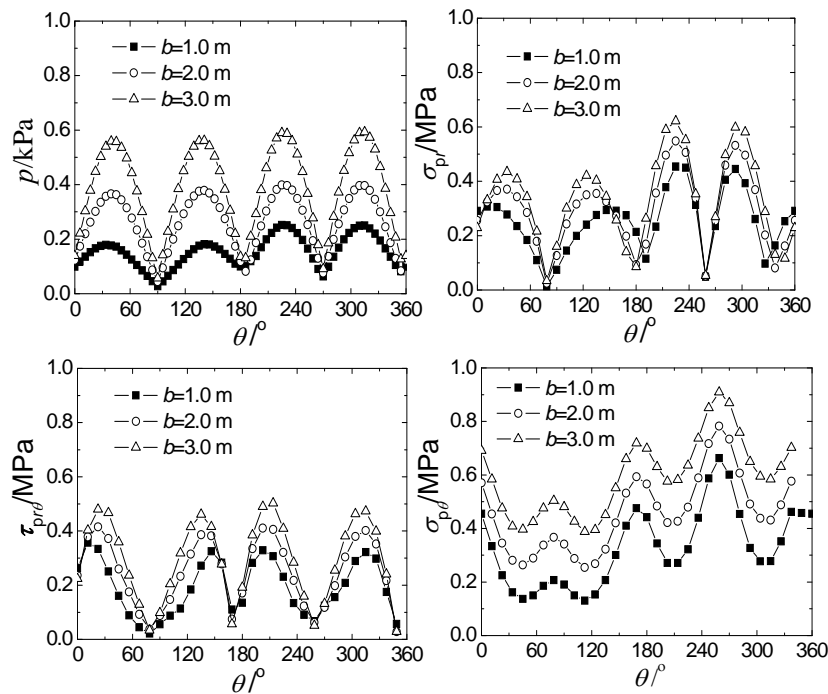
- 1) The effect of permeability coefficient of soil on seismic-



**Fig. (6).** Distributions of the seismic-induced excess pore water pressure  $p$  and radial normal stress  $\sigma_{pr}$  as well as shear stress  $\tau_{pr\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential outer surface and circumferential normal stress  $\sigma_{p\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential inner surface with different seabed depth.



**Fig. (7).** Distributions of the seismic-induced excess pore water pressure  $p$  and radial normal stress  $\sigma_{pr}$  as well as shear stress  $\tau_{pr\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential outer surface and circumferential normal stress  $\sigma_{p\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential inner surface with different radius of the pipeline.



**Fig. (8).** Distributions of the seismic-induced excess pore water pressure  $p$  and radial normal stress  $\sigma_{pr}$  as well as shear stress  $\tau_{pr\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential outer surface and circumferential normal stress  $\sigma_{p\theta}$  along the pipeline circumferential inner surface with different pipeline burial depth.

induced excess pore pressure of seabed and internal stresses of submarine pipeline is remarkable. Using coarse material of high permeability is a feasible method to cover the layers to avoid seabed liquefaction.

- 2) Seabed depth, pipeline radius and burial depth of pipeline have some influence on excess pore pressure of seabed and internal stresses of submarine pipeline.
- 3) Some extreme values or turning points of excess pore pressure and internal stress of pipeline occur at some



special point of pipeline, such as 30°, 90°, 150° *et al.* Submarine pipeline should be reinforced at these points.

## CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The authors confirm that this article content has no conflicts of interest.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors wish to express their gratitude to China Scholarship Council for sponsoring this study in University of Dundee, the supports from the Scientific Research Foundation for Doctor of Beijing University of Technology and the supports from Science and Technology Activity Foundation for Returned Overseas Students of Beijing are mostly grateful. This research has been also supported by state key Laboratory of Ocean Engineering (Shanghai Jiao Tong University) (Grant No.1112).

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Received: July 14, 2012

Revised: July 19, 2012

Accepted: July 24, 2012

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