Analysis of Offshore Structure Having Different Bracing Pattern Using Sap2000

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Submission: July 12, 2019; Published: August 12, 2019

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Abstract

In this paper time history analysis is performed for offshore steel structures for El-Centro data for 31 sec. The effect of slope (different angle 0 degree, 20 degree and 30 degree) is studied for various loading condition and the effect bracings (single bracings, knee bracings, cross bracings) for different loading are also studied. For FEA analysis SAP 2000 is used which observed very effective for analysis.

Keywords: Offshore structure; SAP 2000; El-Centro; Bracings

Introduction

The total number of offshore platform in various bays, gulf and oceans of the world is increasing year by year, most of which are of fixed jacket-type platforms located in 30m to 200m depth for oil and gas exploration purposes [1]. Fixed offshore platforms are subjected to different environmental loads during their lifetime. These loads are imposed on platforms through natural phenomena such as wind, current, wave, earthquake, snow and earth movement. Among various types of environmental loading, wave forces loading is dominated loads [2]. The results of these investigations highlight the importance of accurately simulating nonlinear effects in fixed offshore structures from the point of view of safe design and operation of such systems. It is necessary to design an offshore structure such that it can respond to moderate environmental loads without damage and is capable of resisting severe environmental loads without seriously endangering the occupants [3-5]. The standard design of the structure is carried out using the allowable stress method. However, it is important to clarify the effects on nonlinear responses for an offshore structure under the severe wave conditions. Offshore structures may be analyzed using static or dynamic analysis methods. Static analysis methods are sufficient for structures, which are rigid enough to neglect the dynamic forces associated with the motion under the time-dependent environmental loadings [6-9]. On the other hand, structures which are flexible due to their particular form and which are to be used in deep sea must be checked for dynamic loads.

Methodology

The main objective of this study is to examine the behavior of Off-shore structure with different bracing system with different angles provided to structure.

Figure 1: Procedure.

Single bracing for 0° structure
a) Double bracing for 0° structure
b) Knee bracing for 0° structure
c) Single bracing for 20° structure  
d) Double bracing for 20° structure  
e) Knee bracing for 20° structure  
f) Single bracing for 30° structure  
g) Double bracing for 30° structure  
h) Knee bracing for 20° structure

All above cases are analyzed for time history analysis Figure 1. The analysis is carried out using SAP 2000 software. The comparison is made between different bracing systems. They study of platform is a fixed Jacket-Type platform currently installed in the Suez gulf [7].

Response Spectrum Method

Response spectrum analysis is a procedure for computing the statistical maximum response of a structure to a base excitation Figure 2. Each of the shaking modes that are considered may be assumed to respond independently as a single-degree-of-freedom system [10]. Spectra which determine the base acceleration applied to each mode according to its period (the number of seconds required for a cycle of vibration).

Ground Motions and Linear Time History Analysis

The time history analysis calculates the building responses at discrete time steps using discretized record of synthetic time history as base motion [11]. If three or more-time history analyses are performed, only the maximum responses of the parameter of interest are selected.

Problem Statement

The studied platform is a fixed Jacket-Type platform currently installed in the Suez gulf, Red sea, 1988 shown in Figure 3. The offshore structure is a four legs jacket platform, consists of a steel tubular-space frame [12-14]. There are diagonal brace members in both vertical and horizontal planes in the units to enhance the structural stiffness [15-17].

| Proposed Models in SAP 2000 |
|-----------------------------|
| **MODEL NO.1** | OFFSHORE PLATFORM WITH SINGLE BRACING 0 DEGREE |
| **MODEL NO.2** | OFFSHORE PLATFORM WITH DOUBLE BRACING 0 DEGREE |
| **MODEL NO.3** | OFFSHORE PLATFORM WITH KNEE BRACING 0 DEGREE |
| **MODEL NO.4** | OFFSHORE PLATFORM WITH SINGLE BRACING 20 DEGREE |
| **MODEL NO.5** | OFFSHORE PLATFORM WITH DOUBLE BRACING 20 DEGREE |
| **MODEL NO.6** | OFFSHORE PLATFORM WITH KNEE BRACING 20 DEGREE |
| **MODEL NO.7** | OFFSHORE PLATFORM WITH SINGLE BRACING 30 DEGREE |
| **MODEL NO.8** | OFFSHORE PLATFORM WITH DOUBLE BRACING 30 DEGREE |
| **MODEL NO.9** | OFFSHORE PLATFORM WITH KNEE BRACING 30 DEGREE |

The Platform was originally designed as a 4-pile platform installed in 110 feet (110' = 33.5m) water depth.

- Outer diameter 0.762m
- Inner diameter 0.664m
- Wall thickness for platform 0.05 m
- Spacing of horizontal member 5.6m
- X-braced with tubular member diameter 0.32 m
- Density of various materials considered for design,
  - Concrete - 25kN/m³
  - Insulation - 1kN/m³
  - Structural steel - 78.5kN/m³

SAP2000 Software Model

In this we compared the single system bracing system in different degree that is (0degree, 20degree, 30 degree) and we come to know that 30degree model is preferable to the forces applied in time history Table 1.

How to cite this article: Neeta Chavhan, Bhalge PS, Vaidkar NS. Analysis of Offshore Structure Having Different Bracing Pattern Using Sap2000. Civil Eng Res J. 2019; 9(1): 555751. DOI: 10.19080/CERJ.2019.09.555751
**Result and Discussion**

- **Graph 1:** Mode Shear versus Time Period.
  - In this Graph 1 Mode Shear vs Time Period highest time period is observed (6.1 sec.) for knee bracing.

- **Graph 2:** Mode Shear versus Natural Frequency.
  - In this Graph 2 Mode Shear vs Natural Frequency highest natural frequency (14 Hz) is observed for double bracing.

- **Graph 3:** Deformation-X 20 Degree.
  - In this Graph 3 Deformation-x, 20 Degree highest deformation is observed 0.24 mm for single bracing.

- **Graph 4:** Deformation-Y 20 Degree.
  - In this Graph 4 0.6 mm highest deformation is observed for single bracing. Therefore, double bracing is most effective as compared to single and knee bracing.

- **Graph 5:** Base Shear kN for 0 Degree.
  - In this Graph 5 Base shear 295 kN for 0 degree highest base shear is observed for single bracing. Therefore, double bracing is most effective as compared to single and knee bracing due to less deformation.

**Conclusion**

In this paper, various types of bracings are studied subjected to dynamic load and it is observed that deformation in y direction is 25% less in double bracing and 15% less in knee bracing. But deformation in X direction is observed more in knee bracings. In addition to this, the natural frequency is observed more in knee bracings. For base shear, it is observed that base shear is 15% more in single bracings than the cross bracings and knee bracings.

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