Analysis of Deformation Characteristics of Reverse Slope Under The Influence of Reservoir Water Based On Community Detection

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Abstract

In order to study the deformation characteristics of reverse slope, this paper took the slope of Xiaodongcao as the research object, applied the Louvain community detection algorithm, considered the influence of reservoir water level change, partitioned the slope deformation characteristics. The deformation characteristic zoning result was superimposed with the slope displacement cloud map and three types of geological geometric characteristic factor zoning map obtained by ArcGIS. The results show that community detection can quickly identify the closely connected part of slope network, and the specific location of this part is affected by reservoir water. After the community detection result is superimposed with the displacement cloud map, the areas with large deformation and close connection in the slope can be identified. It is found that the community with severe deformation have at least 5% more displacement and up to 21% more displacement than that with slow deformation. In addition, the location of leader nodes can be identified, and the number of leader nodes does not exceed 20% of the total nodes in the community, and its average displacement is at least 10% more than that of ordinary nodes, up to 36%. After the community detection result is superimposed with the zoning map of slope grade, it can be concluded that the slope grade within the community with severe deformation is greater than 60°, indicating that the larger slope grade is more sensitive to the bank slope deformation.

Introduction

The toppling instability and failure of reverse slope occur frequently and on a large scale, which not only threatens human production and life, but also causes huge economic losses and even casualties (Froude and Petley, 2018; Huang, 2012). The failure of reverse slope is usually preceded by the beginning of deformation. After a long period of incubation, once it is unstable, it will bring serious harm (Runqiu et al., 2017). Therefore, it is essential to study the deformation characteristics of reverse slope.

At present, there are three main methods to analyze the deformation evolution characteristics of reverse slope: engineering geological analysis method (Qiu et al., 2016; Tu et al., 2007; Xie et al., 2018; Zhao et al., 2020), physical model test method (Adhikary and Dyskin, 2007; Wang and Guo, 2019; Zuo et al., 2005) and numerical simulation method (Dongxing et al., 2005; Peihua et al., 2004; Xu et al., 2005). (Miao et al., 2018; Zheng et al., 2019) used centrifugal test method to study the deformation characteristics of reservoir bank slope model under the influence of water level and the key inducing factors and disaster modes of reverse slope deformation under gravity. Xie et al. (2021) employed the discrete element program UDEC for numerical simulation, studied the deformation characteristics under the influence of different geometric factors, and established the toppling deformation prediction model by using support vector machine. (Lian et al., 2018) based on GIM-DLSM, numerically simulated the jointed rock slope and studied the effects of different parameters such as cohesion, rock block strength and friction angle on the failure mode and deformation of the slope. (Shishu et al., 2015) through on-site investigation and data analysis, put forward the deformation evolution mechanism of bank slope under the action of reservoir water storage, and made a preliminary judgment on the stability of toppling deformation slope by means of numerical simulation. The cycle of these results is long, and the studies require researchers to have
rich practical experience. Additionally, complex calibration parameters may be carried out in numerical simulation.

In order to make up for the shortcomings of the above research works, this paper utilized the advantage of the community detection technology to quickly find the internal relationship of complex network structure, and applied it to the study of reverse slope deformation. In recent years, community detection technology has developed rapidly, and has been deeply developed and used by many industries. (Hai et al., 2021) applied the complex time series network community detection method to obtain the key characteristics of terrorist attacks. (Jie et al., 2021; Jinjun et al., 2021) used community detection technology to analyze travel demand in the research of urban public transport system. (Keyvanpour et al., 2020) proposed an anomaly recognition method of social network graph based on community detection (AD-C) and applied it to identify anomalies in social networks. (Kamakshi and Sriram, 2020) used the community detection algorithm to form a stable group of vehicles, reduced the system overhead and time delay, and improved the safety, traffic efficiency and convenience of vehicles and roads. In addition, community detection and link prediction technology are also widely employed in the detection and recommendation system of Telecom fraud organizations in the real world (Jia and Rongjian, 2021).

This paper relies on specific engineering examples, utilize community detection technology, employ the actual monitoring data of bank slope, get rid of the limitations of rich practical experience and accurate simulation, and then research the deformation characteristics of reverse slope. According to the deformation characteristics of bank slope, the bank slope is divided into zones, and the internal relations in the complex bank slope network structure are found. The research results can provide reference for practical engineering.

**Project Overview**

The object of this study is the Xiaodongcao slope, which is located at the upstream of Xixi River in Zhongliang Township, Wuxi County, Chongqing, and the downstream is 1.2 km away from the dam site of Zhongliang I Hydropower Station (Zhongliang reservoir). Before the completion of Zhongliang reservoir, the river level was 528.0 ~ 532.5 m. after the construction of the reservoir, the normal water storage is 625.0 ~ 627.0 m, and the water level is nearly 100 m higher than the original. The bank slope is distributed at an elevation of 526 ~ 1183 m, nearly 700 m wide, and the slope vegetation is developed. The terrain in the middle and front of the slope is steep, and the terrain slope angle is 45 ~ 68°. The terrain at the rear is relatively gentle, with a topographic slope angle of 11 ~ 18° and up to 37° in some sections. The bank slope gullies are relatively developed, with a total of five large gullies developed, all of which flow into Zhongliang reservoir. The gullies are mainly in north-south direction and the gullies are in "V" shape. See Fig. 1 for the overall view and actual deformation of bank slope.

The displacement monitoring system of Xiaodongcao slope mainly includes 22 surface displacement monitoring points, which are evenly distributed in the whole study area, including 17 monitoring points on the slope and 5 outside the slope boundary. The monitoring time of surface displacement is from
December 2011 to April 2020. According to the layout characteristics of the monitoring system, it is divided into five cross sections and three longitudinal sections. The layout plan of surface displacement detection system is shown in Fig. 2.

**Geological Characteristics Of Slope**

In order to study the internal relationship between the geological characteristics of the bank slope and the community detection results, according to the geological survey analysis and topographic survey results, this paper utilizes ArcGIS software to divide the geological characteristics of the bank slope based on three types of geological geometric characteristic factors: elevation, slope and aspect. The partition results are shown in Fig. 3. It can be seen from Fig. 3 that the overall slope of the bank slope is large, the terrain at the top is gentle, and the bank slope tends to west and northwest.

**Implementation Process Of Community Detection**

In this paper, the community detection technology is applied to the slope engineering, and the slope is regarded as a complex network structure. Based on the deformation data actually monitored on the slope and considering the influence of reservoir water, the network structure inside the slope is revealed. The community detection flow chart is shown in Fig. 4.

**3.1 Data preprocessing**

The data preprocessing required before using the community detection algorithm mainly includes the processing of nodes and weights, and finally in the form of node—weight—node.

No. 1–22 monitoring points on the Xiaodongcao slope constitute the network structure, and the coordinates of the monitoring points measured for the first time are determined as node coordinates (the displacement deformation difference is 0). Based on the displacement deformation difference, which is the difference value measured between this time and last time, a program is written in Python to screen the data under two working conditions of reservoir water change (including reservoir water rise and fall). In the bank slope network structure, the relationship between each two monitoring points is digitized, and this value is called the correlation coefficient (V) between monitoring points, which is the point multiplication value between spatial coordinate vectors (as shown in Eq. (1)).

\[
V_{ij} = (x_i, y_i, z_i)(x_j, y_j, z_j) \quad (i = 1, 2, ..., 22; \quad j = i + 1, i + 2, ..., 22; \quad j \leq 22)
\]

where \( V_{ij} \) is the correlation coefficient between node \( i \) and node \( j \), \((x_i, y_i, z_i)\) and \((x_j, y_j, z_j)\) are the spatial displacement difference vectors of two nodes.

The final value of correlation coefficient can be divided into zero value and non-zero value. Zero value represents uncorrelation and non-zero value represents correlation. The greater the absolute value of the correlation coefficient, the higher the correlation degree of the two nodes.
\[ V_a = \sum V_{ij} / N \] (2)

where \( V_a \) is the average value of correlation coefficient; \( N \) is the total number of correlation coefficients.

\[ W_{ij} = V_{ij} / V_a \] (3)

where \( W_{ij} \) is the weight of the edge between node i and node j.

Take the average value of the correlation coefficient \( V_a \), and divide the correlation coefficient \( (V_{ij}) \) between each two nodes by the average value \( (V_a) \) as the weight \( (W) \) of the edge between the two nodes.

### 3.2 Algorithm selection

The community detection algorithm in this paper adopts Louvain algorithm, Louvain algorithm (Blondel et al., 2008) performs well in efficiency and performance, which is a heuristic method based on modular optimization. Its optimization goal is to maximize the modularity of the whole community network. Modularity is a standard to measure the division and evaluation of complex network communities, also known as Q value. \( Q = 0 \) means that all observation nodes are divided in the same community. The greater the value of Q, the clearer the structure of community division of mobile node set, and the closer the result of community division to the reality (J and M, 2004; Newman, 2006).

### 3.3 Detection result

After the processed data is calculated by the community detection algorithm, the partition result map can be obtained. (Lei, 2014) believed that there is a Pareto principle, which exit differences in the roles of nodes in complex networks. Leader nodes play a decisive role in the formation communities. Such nodes are only about 20% or less. They are more authoritative, central and core. By analyzing the detection results and the measured node deformation data, this paper can analyze the main control nodes in the community, which are the leader nodes.

### Zoning Characteristics Of Bank Slope Under Reservoir Water

In this paper, under the two working conditions of bank slope reservoir water level decline and rise, the community detection algorithm is applied to process displacement data, and the deformation characteristic zoning of bank slope is obtained. Based on displacement cloud map analyzed by ArcGIS, the relationship between deformation characteristic zoning and bank slope displacement is gained, and the leader nodes existing in the community are further analyzed. Additionally, based on the zoning of geological characteristics, the relationships between community detection results and three types of geological geometric factors are researched.

#### 4.1 Reservoir water level decline

According to the decline degree of reservoir water level, the community detection results can be divided into two parts.
Taking the decline of water level in bank slope reservoir as the standard, the monitoring data are processed, and the results are shown in Fig. 5. According to the zoning results, the 22 monitoring points can be divided into two communities, the first community is the blue monitoring point, and the second community is the yellow monitoring point. When the falling range of reservoir water level is 0 ~ 2 m (excluding 0), the first community is mainly distributed at the upper and lower edges of the bank slope, and the second community is mainly distributed at the middle and upper parts of the bank slope. When the falling range of reservoir water level is 2 ~ 6 m, the first community is mainly distributed in the middle and right of the bank slope, and the second community is mainly distributed on the left of the bank slope.

The results after superimposing the community detection results with the bank slope displacement nephogram are shown in Fig. 6. Community detection can quickly identify the large deformation and closely related parts on the bank slope and classify them as the same community. The displacement curve of monitoring points is drawn according to the community detection results, as shown in Fig. 7. When the reservoir water level drops, the curves of the second community are slightly higher than the first community, indicating that the bank slope deformation in the second community is more severe than that in the first community. What's more, we can also identify the leader nodes, which play the main control role in the community. Combining Fig. 6 and Fig. 7, we can see the specific locations and deformation values of the leader nodes. When the decline range of reservoir water level is 0 ~ 2 m (excluding 0), the leader nodes in the first community are No. 12 and No. 21, and the leader nodes in the second community are No. 7 and No. 9. When the falling range of reservoir water level is 2 ~ 6 m, the leader nodes in the first community are No. 9 and No. 21, and the leader nodes in the second community are No. 17 and No. 20. The number of leader nodes shall not be greater than 20% of the total number of nodes in the same community. The average displacement of nodes in the community where the reservoir water drops is shown in Table 1. After calculation, the average displacement of leader nodes in the same community is 22 ~ 36% more than that of ordinary nodes, and the overall displacement of the second community is 17.5 ~ 21.2% more than that of the first community.

Table 1 Average displacement of nodes in community with reservoir water decline

| Reservoir water condition | Community order | Average displacement | surplus displacement of leader node (%) | surplus displacement of the second community (%) |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
|                          |                 | leader node (mm) | common node (mm) |                                                                  |
| declines by 0~2 m        | first           | 5.9                | 3.8                     | 36                                             | 21                                            |
|                          | second          | 6.3                | 4.8                     | 24                                             |                                               |
| declines by 2~6 m        | first           | 6.9                | 5.0                     | 28                                             | 18                                            |
|                          | second          | 7.4                | 5.8                     | 22                                             |                                               |
Comparing the community detection results with the elevation, slope and aspect zoning results, it is shown that the community detection results have a great relationship with the slope. According to the superposition results (Fig. 8), the slope within the second community accounts for a large proportion of 63~90°, especially 72~90°, indicating that the slope in the second community is steep and prone to deformation.

4.2 Reservoir water level raise

According to the rising degree of reservoir water level, the community detection results can be divided into two parts.

Taking the rise of reservoir water level on the bank slope as the standard, the monitored data is processed, and the results are shown in Fig. 9. According to the zoning results, the 22 monitoring points can be divided into two communities, the first community is the blue monitoring point, and the second community is the yellow monitoring point. When the rising range of reservoir water level is 0~6 m (excluding 0), the first community is mainly distributed at the top and middle lower part of the bank slope, and the second community is mainly distributed at the middle upper part of the bank slope. When the rising range of reservoir water level is 6~23 m, the first community is mainly distributed in the middle and right of the bank slope, and the second community is mainly distributed at the edge of the bank slope.

The results after overlapping the community detection results with the bank slope displacement nephogram are shown in Fig. 10. According to the results, the part with severe deformation and close connection on the bank slope is also within the scope of the second community, which is the same as the water level decline condition of the reservoir on the bank slope. Combining Fig. 10 and Fig. 11, we can see the specific position and deformation value of the leader nodes. When the rising range of reservoir water level is 0~6 m (excluding 0), the leader nodes in the first community are No. 1 and No. 13, and the leader nodes in the second community are No. 9 and No. 12. When the rising range of reservoir water level is 6~23 m, the leader nodes in the first community are No. 5 and No. 11, and the leader nodes in the second community are No. 8 and No. 12. The number of leader nodes is no more than 20% of the total number of nodes in the community. The average displacement of nodes in the community where the reservoir water raises is shown in Table 2. After calculation, the average displacement of leader nodes is 11~17% more than that of ordinary nodes, and the overall displacement of the second community is 5~18.1% more than that of the first community.

Table 2 Average displacement of nodes in community with reservoir water raise
| Reservoir water condition | Community order | Average displacement | Surplus displacement of leader node (%) | Surplus displacement of the second community (%) |
|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
|                           |                 | leader node (mm)     | common node (mm)                        |                                               |
| raises by 0~6 m            | first           | 5.2                  | 4.3                                    | 17                                            |
|                           | second          | 5.9                  | 5.2                                    | 12                                            |
| raises by 6~23 m           | first           | 7.2                  | 6.0                                    | 17                                            |
|                           | second          | 7.2                  | 6.4                                    | 11                                            |

The community detection results under the condition of rising reservoir water level are superimposed with the bank slope zoning results, as shown in Fig. 12. According to the superposition results, it is basically consistent with the results obtained under the condition of reservoir water level decline. The slope within the second community accounts for a large proportion of 63 ~ 90°, indicating that the slope in the second community is steep and prone to deformation.

**Conclusion**

In this paper, the actual monitoring data of 22 monitoring points on the bank slope is processed by using the Louvain community detection algorithm. Considering the influence of the rise and decline of reservoir water level on the bank slope, the deformation characteristics zoning of the bank slope under the action of reservoir water are finally obtained. After superimposing the deformation zoning with the bank slope displacement cloud map and the zoning maps of three types of geological geometric characteristic factors respectively, it is found that the bank slope network structure has the following relationship with displacement and the slope:

1. Community detection technology can identify the closely connected part of the bank slope network according to the deformation characteristics of the bank slope. Under the action of reservoir water, the specific location of this part will change.

2. After superimposing the community detection result with the bank slope displacement nephogram, the community detection technology can find the parts with large internal deformation and close connection with the bank slope, and reveal that the displacement of the community with severe deformation is at least 5% more than that of the community with slow deformation, and the maximum displacement can be up to 21%. The location of leader nodes in the community can also be identified. The number of leader nodes is no more than 20% of the total nodes in the community. The average displacement of leader nodes is at least 10% more than that of ordinary nodes, up to 36%.

3. After the community detection result is superimposed with the zoning maps of three types of geological geometric characteristic factors, there is a connection between the community detection result
and the slope zoning result. Comparing this connection with the bank slope displacement cloud map, it is found that the slope with severe deformation is greater than 60°, indicating that the larger slope is more sensitive to the bank slope deformation.

Declarations

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Figures

Figure 1

Overall view and deformation of bank slope
Figure 2

Layout plan of surface displacement monitoring system
Figure 3

Elevation, slope and aspect zoning maps

Figure 4

Flow chart of community detection
Figure 5

Community detection results of reservoir water level decline

Figure 6

(a) Reservoir water declines by 0~2 m  (b) Reservoir water declines by 2~6 m
Superposition of bank slope deformation and community detection results of reservoir water level decline

Figure 7
Average displacement diagram of monitoring points for reservoir water level decline

(a) Reservoir water declines by 0~2 m  (b) Reservoir water declines by 2~6 m

Figure 8
Average displacement diagram of monitoring points for reservoir water level decline

(a) Reservoir water declines by 0~2 m  (b) Reservoir water declines by 2~6 m
Superposition diagram of decline slope of reservoir water level and detection results

Figure 9
Community detection results of reservoir water level raise

(a) Reservoir water rises by 0~6 m  (b) Reservoir water rises by 6~23 m

Figure 10

(a) Reservoir water rises by 0~6 m  (b) Reservoir water rises by 6~23 m
Superposition of bank slope deformation and community detection results of reservoir water level raise

Figure 11
Average displacement diagram of monitoring points for reservoir water level raise

(a) Reservoir water rises by 0~6 m
(b) Reservoir water rises by 6~23 m

Figure 12
(a) Reservoir water rises by 0~6 m
(b) Reservoir water rises by 6~23 m
Superposition diagram of raise slope of reservoir water level and detection results