

## Buckling analysis of semi-rigid connected and partially embedded pile in elastic soil using differential transform method

Seval Catal\*

Civil Engineering Department, Engineering Faculty, Dokuz Eylul University, 35160, Buca, Izmir, Turkey

(Received January 30, 2013, Revised June 14, 2014, Accepted August 4, 2014)

**Abstract.** The parts of semi-rigid connected and partially embedded piles in elastic soil, above the soil and embedded in the soil are called the first region and second region, respectively. The upper end of the pile in the first region is supported by linear-elastic rotational spring. The fourth order differential equations of both regions for critical buckling load of partially embedded and semi-rigid connected pile with shear deformation are established using small-displacement theory and Winkler hypothesis. These differential equations are solved by differential transform method (DTM) and analytical method and critical buckling loads of semi-rigid connected and partially embedded pile are obtained, results are given in tables and graphs are presented for investigating the effects of relative stiffness of the pile and flexibility of rotational spring.

**Keywords:** differential transform method, semi-rigid connected, partially embedded pile, non-trivial solution, buckling

---

### 1. Introduction

The piles partially embedded in the soil are widely used marine, harbor, bridge structures. Due to some manufacturing errors the structural behavior of the connection between beams or plates of these structures and the upper ends of the piles are neither rigid nor flexible. These types of connections are called semi-rigid connections and these connections are modeled mostly by linear-elastic rotational spring. The soil is idealized mostly by Winkler hypothesis in the mathematical models of the piles partially embedded in the soil (Chen 1997). Elastic soil is idealized by Winkler foundation modulus in also this study and effect friction through the pile length is neglected. The analysis of the beams on elastic foundation and elastic buckling of columns, beams, plates and shells have been studied by many researchers in the past. Hetenyi (1995) has studied beams on Winkler foundations. Reddy and Valsangkar (1970) have obtained buckling loads for fully and partially embedded piles using vibration functions and Rayleigh-Ritz method. Smith (1979) has obtained discrete element matrices for stability analysis of slender piles. West *et al.* (1997) have neglected shear effect and assumed the coefficient of horizontal subgrade reaction varies linearly with depth and investigated stability of end-bearing piles in elastic foundation. Heelis *et al.* (2004)

---

\*Corresponding author, Assistant Professor, E-mail: [seval.catal@deu.edu.tr](mailto:seval.catal@deu.edu.tr)

have calculated buckling load of Euler-Bernoulli pile embedded in Winkler foundation. Heelis *et al.* (1999) have investigated the stability of uniform-friction piles in homogeneous and non-homogeneous elastic foundation using a power-series solution and neglecting shear effect. West and Mafi (1984) have determined buckling loads, natural frequencies of Euler-Bernoulli beam rested on elastic supports by using an initial-value numerical method. Chen (1998) has studied Euler-Bernoulli beam resting on elastic foundation using differential quadrature element method. Kumar *et al.* (2007) have calculated buckling capacity of an eccentrically loaded partially embedded reinforced concrete pile in sand using the conventional Davisson and Robinson method. Valsangkar and Pradhanang (1987) have studied the variations of natural circular frequency values of the piles partially embedded in the elastic soil according to relative stiffness, length and buckling load of the piles ignoring the shear effect. Sapountzakis and Kampitsis (2010) have developed a boundary element method for the nonlinear dynamic analysis of Timoshenko beam-columns partially supported on tensionless Winkler foundation. Zhu *et al.* (2011) have studied analysis of nonlinear stability and post-buckling for Euler type beam-column structure located on a nonlinear elastic foundation using the Hamilton variational principle. Yan and Chen (2012) have studied dynamic analysis of semi-rigid connected and partially embedded piles in a two-parameter elastic foundation using reverberation-ray matrix. Vogt *et al.* (2009) have obtained buckling loads of slender piles in soft soil using analytical methods and experimental works. Catal and Alku (1996a) have obtained the second order stiffness matrix of Euler-Bernoulli beam on elastic foundation using analytical method. Catal and Alku (1996b) have calculated vertical displacements of Timoshenko beam on elastic foundation using finite difference equations and matrix-displacement method. Aydogan (1995) has obtained a stiffness matrix for a Timoshenko beam on elastic foundation using differential equation. Li (2001a) has obtained critical buckling load of multi-step cracked columns with shear deformation by using transfer matrix. Li (2001b) has governed differential equation for buckling of a multi-step non-uniform beam. Banarjee and Williams (1994) have investigated the effects of shear deformation on the critical buckling of columns. Yang and Ye (2002) have studied a dynamic elastic load buckling analysis for a pile subjected to an axial impact load using a perturbation technique. Wang *et al.* (2002) have investigated exact stability criteria and buckling loads of Timoshenko columns under intermediate using analytical method. Catal (2002) has obtained fourth order differential equations for free vibration of partially embedded pile in soil. Catal (2006) has studied the variations of natural circular frequency values of the semi-rigid connected piles partially embedded in the elastic soil according to relative stiffness, rigidity factor, length of the piles. Yesilce and Catal (2008) have studied natural circular frequency values of the semi-rigid connected Reddy-Bickford piles embedded in elastic soil using analytical method. Yesilce and Catal (2006) have calculated natural frequency of the piles embedded in the soil having different modulus of subgrade reaction.

The differential transform method (DTM) which was introduced by Zhou in 1986 for the solution of initial value problems in electric circuit analysis is based on Taylor series expansions (Zhou 1986). In recent works, DTM is applied to buckling problems and vibration analysis of continuous systems as beams, columns, piles and plates. DTM is applied to solve a second-order non-linear differential equation that describes the under damped and over damped motion of a system subject to external excitations by Jang and Chen (1997). Malik and Dang (1995) have obtained frequency equations and fundamental frequencies of a prismatic Bernoulli-Euler beam using DTM. Chen and Ho (1996), using differential transform technique proposed a method to solve eigenvalue problems for the free and transverse vibration problems of a rotating twisted Timoshenko beam. Ozdemir and Kaya (2006), flapwise bending vibration of a rotating tapered

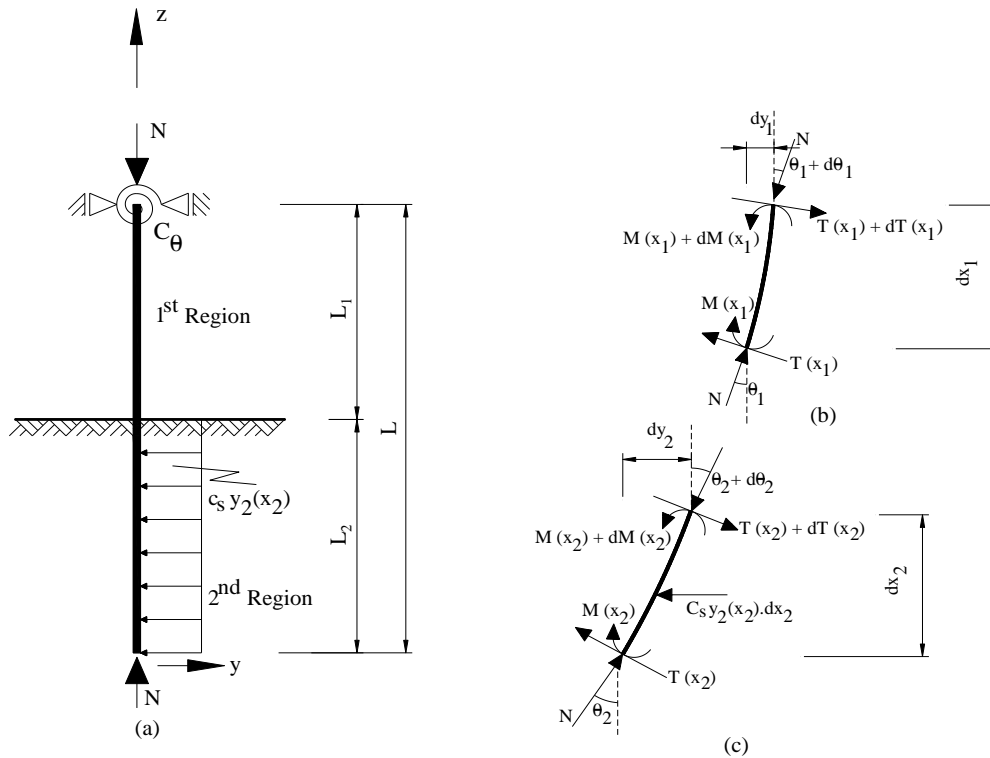


Fig. 1 (a) The semi-rigid connected and partially embedded pile, (b) Internal forces of segment in the first region, (c) Internal forces of segment in the second region

cantilever Bernoulli-Euler beam is considered using DTM. Zou *et al.* (2010) have developed DTM for solving solitary waves by Camassa-Holm equation. Pusjoso and Thongmoon (2010) have presented the definition and operation of the one-dimensional differential transform. Catal and Alku (2006) have calculated buckling load of partially embedded pile in elastic soil using differential transform method (DTM). Yesilce and Catal (2011) have calculated natural frequency values of the semi-rigid connected Reddy-Bickford beams resting on elastic soil using the differential transform method (DTM). Catal (2006) has studied free vibration of the beam on elastic soil using the differential transform method (DTM). DTM is one of the solution methods of ordinary and partial differential equations. DTM has advantage of reducing the ordinary differential equation to the algebraic equation and reducing the partial differential equation to the algebraic equation system. In DTM, the orthogonal polynomials as Taylor series are used for solution of the differential equations and to apply mathematical operations to these polynomials are easier. (Catal and Catal 2006).

In this study, forth-order differential equations of elastic curves for critical buckling load of partially embedded and semi-rigid connected pile are developed, these equations are solved using differential transform method (DTM) and analytical method. Critical buckling loads for the first three modes of the pile are obtained according to relative stiffness, lengths of pile in the first region and second region, the fixity factor. Numerical results are presented and the differential transform solutions are compared with the analytical solutions.

### 2. Governing equations for buckling of the pile

A pile partially embedded in the soil and semi-rigid connected in Fig. 1(a). The pile parts above the soil and embedded in the soil are called the first region and second region, respectively. The upper end of the pile part in the first region is semi-rigid connected and supported using simple support. The semi-rigid connected is modeled by linear-elastic rotational spring. The internal forces and deformations of the pile having the length of  $dx_1$  and  $dx_2$  at the first and second regions are presented in Fig. 1(b) and Fig. 1(c), respectively.

In this paper the following assumptions are valid: soil behavior is acting in according with the Winkler hypothesis; effect of friction along the pile length is neglected; material behavior of the pile and the spring at the upper end of the pile part in the first region are linear-elastic.

The bending moment functions and fourth order differential equations of the elastic curve functions of the pile in the first and the second region are given in Eqs. (1)-(4) using the equilibrium equations of the lateral load and bending moment acting to segments of the pile (Catal and Catal 2006).

$$M_1(x_1) = -EI \left[ 1 - \frac{N}{\bar{k}AG} \right] \frac{d^2 y_1(x_1)}{dx_1^2} \quad (0 \leq x_1 \leq L_1) \tag{1}$$

$$M_2(x_2) = -EI \left[ 1 - \frac{N}{\bar{k}AG} \right] \frac{d^2 y_2(x_2)}{dx_2^2} + \frac{EIC_s}{\bar{k}AG} y_2(x_2) \quad (0 \leq x_2 \leq L_2) \tag{2}$$

$$\frac{d^4 y_1(x_1)}{dx_1^4} + \left[ \frac{\bar{k}AGN}{(\bar{k}AG - N)EI} \right] \frac{d^2 y_1(x_1)}{dx_1^2} = 0 \quad (0 \leq x_1 \leq L_1) \tag{3}$$

$$\frac{d^4 y_2(x_2)}{dx_2^4} + \left[ \frac{\bar{k}AGN - EIC_s}{(\bar{k}AG - N)EI} \right] \frac{d^2 y_2(x_2)}{dx_2^2} - \left[ \frac{\bar{k}AG}{(N - \bar{k}AG)EI} \right] y_2(x_2) = 0 \quad (0 \leq x_2 \leq L_2) \tag{4}$$

Where,  $C_s=C_0 \cdot b$  in which  $C_0$  is the modulus of subgrade reaction and  $b$  is width of the pile;  $M_1(x_1)$ ,  $M_2(x_2)$ ,  $y_1(x_1)$ ,  $y_2(x_2)$  are bending moment and elastic curve functions for the first and second region, respectively;  $\bar{k}$  is the shape factor due to cross-section geometry of the pile;  $I$ ,  $A$ ,  $E$ ,  $G$ ,  $N$  are moment of inertia, cross-section area, modulus of elasticity, shear modulus of the pile and the constant axial compressive force, respectively.

The shape factor of the pile is defined as below (Pöschl 1930)

$$\bar{k} = \frac{A}{I} \int_A \frac{S_x^2}{b^2} dA \tag{5}$$

The shape factor of the pile shown in Fig. 2 is given in Eq. (6) using polar coordinates.

$$\bar{k} = \frac{A}{I^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^R \frac{S_x^2}{b^2} (tR_0 d\theta) \tag{6}$$

Where  $S_x$  is the first moment of cross-section of the pile,  $b$  is thick of pile,  $R_0$  is the average

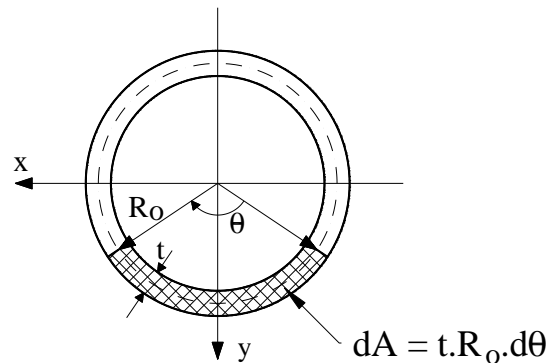


Fig. 2 Cross-section of the pile

radius of the pile.

The cross-section area, the first moment of cross-section, the moment of inertia, and the thick of the pile in Fig. 2 are given Eq. (7) respectively.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} A &= 2\pi R_0 t \\ S_x &= 2\pi R_0^3 t \sin(0,5\theta) \\ I &= \pi R_0^3 t \\ b &= 2t \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (7)$$

Substituting Eq. (7) into Eq. (6) respectively, gives

$$\bar{k} = \frac{2\pi R_0 t}{(\pi R_0^3 t)^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{(2R_0^2 t)^2}{(2t)^2} \sin^2(0,5\theta) d\theta = 2 \quad (8)$$

Writing the dimensionless parameters  $z_1, z_2$  instead of the position parameters  $x_1, x_2$  in Eqs. (3) and (4) gives the elastic curve differential equations of the pile at the first and the second region as

$$\frac{d^4 y_1(z_1)}{dz_1^4} + D_1 \frac{d^2 y_1(z_1)}{dz_1^2} = 0 \quad (0 \leq z_1 \leq \frac{L_1}{L}) \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{d^4 y_2(z_2)}{dz_2^4} + \beta_1 \frac{d^2 y_2(z_2)}{dz_2^2} + \beta_2 y_2(z_2) = 0 \quad (0 \leq z_2 \leq \frac{L_2}{L}) \quad (10)$$

where  $\beta_1 = \frac{(\bar{k}AGN - EIC_s)L^2}{(\bar{k}AG - N)EI}$ ;  $\beta_2 = \frac{L^4 \bar{k}AGC_s}{(N - \bar{k}AG)EI}$ ;  $D_1 = \frac{\bar{k}AGNL^2}{(\bar{k}AG - N)EI}$ ;  $\alpha = \frac{C_s L^4}{EI}$  is

the relative stiffness of the pile;  $L_1$  is the length of the pile above the soil;  $L_2$  is the length of the pile embedded in the soil;  $L$  is the total length of the pile;  $z_1 = x_1/L$ ;  $z_2 = x_2/L$ .

The rotational spring at the upper end of the pile in the first region are related with fixity factor that is defined as below (Monforton and Wu 1963)

$$f = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{3EI}{L.C_0}} \quad (11)$$

Where,  $C_\theta$  is stiffness of the rotational spring at the upper end of the pile in the first region.

Bending moment at the semi-rigid connected end is written as a linear function of rotational spring stiffness and rotation as follow

$$M_1(z_1 = L_1 / L) = \frac{C_\theta}{L} \frac{dy_1(z_1)}{dz_1} \Big|_{z_1=L_1/L} \quad (12)$$

### 3. Differential transformation

The differential transformation technique, which was first proposed by Zhou in 1986, is one of the numerical methods for ordinary and partial differential equations that use the form of polynomials as the approximation to the exact solutions that are sufficiently differentiable. The function that will be solved and the calculation of following derivatives necessary in the solution become more difficult when the order increases. This is in contrast with the traditional high-order Taylor series method. Instead, the differential transform technique provides an iterative procedure to obtain higher-order series; therefore, it can be applied to the case high order (Catal and Catal 2006).

The differential transformation of the function  $y(z)$  is defined as follows

$$Y(k) = \frac{1}{k!} \left[ \frac{d^k y(z)}{dz^k} \right]_{z=z_0} \quad (13)$$

Where  $y(z)$  is the original function and  $Y(k)$  is transformed function which is called the  $T$ -function. The differential inverse transformation of  $Y(k)$  is defined as

$$y(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (z - z_0)^k Y(k) \quad (14)$$

from Eq. (13) and Eq. (14) we get

$$y(k) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(z - z_0)^k}{k!} \left[ \frac{d^k y(z)}{dz^k} \right]_{z=z_0} \quad (15)$$

Eq. (14) implies that the concept of the differential transformation is derived from Taylor's series expansion, but the method does not evaluate the derivatives symbolically. However, relative derivative are calculated by iterative procedure that are described by the transformed equations of the original functions.

The basic operations of transformed functions which are given Table 1 can easily be proved using Eqs. (13) and (14).

Table 1 Some basic mathematical operations of DTM

Original function $y(z)$	Transformed function $Y(k)$
$Ay(z)$	$AY(k)$
$y_1(z) \pm y_2(z)$	$Y_1(k) \pm Y_2(k)$
$dy(z)/dz$	$(k+1) Y(k+1)$
$d^2y(z)/dz^2$	$(k+1)(k+2) Y(k+2)$
$d^3y(z)/dz^3$	$(k+1)(k+2)(k+3) Y(k+3)$
$d^4y(z)/dz^4$	$(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)(k+4) Y(k+4)$

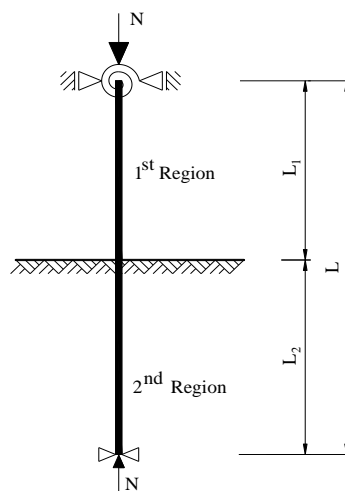


Fig. 3 Semi-rigid connected pile

The function is expressed by finite series and Eq. (14) can be written as  $y(z) = \sum_{k=0}^n (z - z_0)^k Y(k)$ .

Eq. (10) implies that  $y(z) = \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} (z - z_0)^k Y(k)$  is negligibly small. In fact, n is decided by the convergence of buckling load in this paper.

#### 4. Solutions of the equations by differential transformation

The boundary conditions of the pile whose bottom end simply supported, upper end simply supported and semi-rigid connected shown in Fig. 3 are given in Eqs. (16)-(23).

$$y_1(z_1 = L_1 / L) = 0 \tag{16}$$

$$y_2(z_2 = 0) = 0 \tag{17}$$

$$\left. \frac{d^2 y_2(z_2)}{dz_2^2} \right|_{z_2=0} + \beta_1 y_2(z_2 = 0) = 0 \tag{18}$$

$$\left. \frac{d^2 y_1(z_1)}{dz_1^2} \right|_{z_1=\frac{L_1}{L}} + D_1 y_1(z_1 = L_1 / L) = - \frac{D_1 C_\theta}{NL} \left. \frac{dy_1(z_1)}{dz_1} \right|_{z_1=\frac{L_1}{L}} \tag{19}$$

$$y_1(z_1 = 0) = y_2(z_2 = L_2 / L) \tag{20}$$

$$\left. \frac{dy_1(z_1)}{dz_1} \right|_{z_1=0} = \left. \frac{dy_2(z_2)}{dz_2} \right|_{z_2=\frac{L_2}{L}} \tag{21}$$

$$\left. \frac{d^3 y_2(z_2)}{dz_2^3} \right|_{z_2=\frac{L_2}{L}} + \beta_1 \left. \frac{dy_2(z_2)}{dz_2} \right|_{z_2=\frac{L_2}{L}} = \left. \frac{d^3 y_1(z_1)}{dz_1^3} \right|_{z_1=0} + D_1 \left. \frac{dy_1(z_1)}{dz_1} \right|_{z_1=0} \tag{22}$$

$$\left. \frac{d^2 y_2(z_2)}{dz_2^2} \right|_{z_2=\frac{L_2}{L}} + \beta_1 y_2(z_2 = L_2 / L) = \left. \frac{d^2 y_1(z_1)}{dz_1^2} \right|_{z_1=0} + D_1 y_1(z_1 = 0) \tag{23}$$

By applying the DTM to Eqs. (3), (4), (16), (17) and using the relationship Table 1 following equations are obtained.

$$Y_2(k + 4) = -\beta_1 \frac{Y_2(k + 2)}{(k + 3)(k + 4)} - \beta_2 \frac{Y_2(k)}{(k + 1)(k + 2)(k + 3)(k + 4)} \tag{24}$$

$$Y_1(k + 4) = -D_1 \frac{Y_1(k + 2)}{(k + 3)(k + 4)} \tag{25}$$

$$Y_2(0) = 0 \tag{26}$$

$$Y_2(2) = 0 \tag{27}$$

The recurrence relations of the first region for  $k=0(1)n$  are obtained from Eq. (24) using Eqs. (26) and (27) as follows

$$\left. \begin{aligned} Y_2(2k) &= 0 \\ Y_2(5) &= \frac{1}{5!} \{-\beta_1 3! Y_2(3) - \beta_2 Y_2(1)\} \\ Y_2(7) &= \frac{1}{7!} \{(\beta_1^2 - \beta_2) \beta! Y_2(3) + \beta_1 \beta_2 Y_2(1)\} \\ Y_2(9) &= \frac{1}{9!} \{(-\beta_1^3 + 2\beta_1 \beta_2) \beta! Y_2(3) + (-\beta_1^2 \beta_2 + \beta_2^2) Y_2(1)\} \\ Y_2(11) &= \frac{1}{11!} \{(\beta_1^4 - 3\beta_1^2 \beta_2 + \beta_2^2) \beta! Y_2(3) + (\beta_1^3 \beta_2 - 2\beta_1 \beta_2^2) Y_2(1)\} \\ Y_2(13) &= \frac{1}{13!} \{(-\beta_1^5 + 4\beta_1^3 \beta_2 - 3\beta_1 \beta_2^2) \beta! Y_2(3) + (-\beta_1^4 \beta_2 + 3\beta_1^2 \beta_2^2 - \beta_2^3) Y_2(1)\} \\ &\vdots \end{aligned} \right\} \tag{28}$$



The recurrence relations of the second region for  $k=0(1)n$  are obtained from Eq. (25) as

$$\left. \begin{aligned} Y_1(4) &= \frac{1}{4!} \{-D_1 2! Y_1(2)\} & Y_1(9) &= \frac{1}{9!} \{(-D_1^3) \beta! Y_1(3)\} \\ Y_1(5) &= \frac{1}{5!} \{-D_1 3! Y_1(3)\} & Y_1(10) &= \frac{1}{10!} \{(D_1^4) 2! Y_1(2)\} \\ Y_1(6) &= \frac{1}{6!} \{(D_1^2) 2! Y_1(2)\} & Y_1(11) &= \frac{1}{11!} \{(D_1^4) \beta! Y_1(3)\} \\ Y_1(7) &= \frac{1}{7!} \{(D_1^2) \beta! Y_1(3)\} & Y_1(12) &= \frac{1}{12!} \{(-D_1^5) 2! Y_1(2)\} \\ Y_1(8) &= \frac{1}{8!} \{(-D_1^3) 2! Y_1(2)\} & Y_1(13) &= \frac{1}{13!} \{(-D_1^5) \beta! Y_1(3)\} \dots \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (29)$$

By applying the DTM to Eqs. (18), (19), (20), (21), (22), (23) and using the recurrence relations (28), (29) following equations are obtained

$$b_{11} Y_1(0) + b_{12} Y_1(1) + b_{13} 2! Y_1(2) + b_{14} 3! Y_1(3) = 0 \quad (30)$$

$$b_{21} Y_1(0) + b_{22} Y_1(1) + b_{23} 2! Y_1(2) + b_{24} 3! Y_1(3) = 0 \quad (31)$$

$$b_{35} Y_2(1) + b_{36} 3! Y_2(3) = Y_1(0) \quad (32)$$

$$b_{45} Y_2(1) + b_{46} 3! Y_2(3) = Y_1(1) \quad (33)$$

$$b_{55} Y_2(1) + b_{56} 3! Y_2(3) = 3! Y_1(3) + D_1 Y_1(1) \quad (34)$$

$$b_{65} Y_2(1) + b_{66} 3! Y_2(3) = 2! Y_1(2) + D_1 Y_1(0) \quad (35)$$

where

$$b_{11} = 1; b_{12} = \frac{L_1}{L}; b_{13} = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{D_1^k}{(2k+2)!} \left(\frac{L_1}{L}\right)^{2k+2} (-1)^k; b_{14} = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{D_1^k}{(2k+3)!} \left(\frac{L_1}{L}\right)^{2k+3} (-1)^k$$

$$b_{21} = D_1; b_{22} = \left(\frac{L_1}{L}\right) D_1; b_{23} = 1 + C_\theta \left(\frac{L_1}{L}\right) \left[ \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{D_1^k (-1)^k}{(2k+1)!} \left(\frac{L_1}{L}\right)^{2k} \right];$$

$$b_{24} = \frac{L_1}{L} + C_\theta \left[ \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{D_1^k (-1)^k}{(2k+2)!} \left(\frac{L_1}{L}\right)^{2k+2} \right]$$

$$b_{35} = \frac{L_2}{L} - \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right)^5 \frac{\beta_2}{5!} + \sum_{k=3}^n \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right)^{2k+1} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k+1)!} \left\{ \sum_{m=1}^{k \geq 2m} \binom{k-m-1}{m-1} \beta_1^{k-2m} \beta_2^m (-1)^m \right\}$$

$$b_{36} = \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right)^3 \frac{1}{3!} + \sum_{k=2}^n \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right)^{2k+1} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k+1)!} \left\{ \sum_{m=1}^{k \geq 2m-1} \binom{k-m}{m-1} \beta_1^{k-2m+1} \beta_2^{m-1} (-1)^m \right\}$$

$$b_{45} = 1 + \sum_{k=2}^n \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right)^{2k} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k)!} \left\{ \sum_{m=1}^{k \geq 2m} \binom{k-m-1}{m-1} \beta_1^{k-2m} \beta_2^m (-1)^m \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 b_{46} &= \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right)^{2k} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k)!} \left\{ \sum_{m=1}^{k \geq 2m-1} \binom{k-m}{m-1} \beta_1^{k-2m+1} \beta_2^{m-1} (-1)^m \right\} \\
 b_{55} &= \beta_1 - \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right)^2 \frac{\beta_2}{2!} + \sum_{k=3}^n \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right)^{2k} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k)!} \left\{ \sum_{m=1}^{k \geq 2m+1} \binom{k-m-2}{m-1} \beta_1^{k-2m-1} \beta_2^{m+1} (-1)^m \right\} \\
 b_{56} &= 1 + \sum_{k=2}^n \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right)^{2k} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k)!} \left\{ \sum_{m=1}^{k \geq 2m} \binom{k-m-1}{m-1} \beta_1^{k-2m} \beta_2^m (-1)^m \right\} \\
 b_{65} &= \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right) \beta_1 - \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right)^3 \frac{\beta_2}{3!} + \sum_{k=3}^n \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right)^{2k+1} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k+1)!} \left\{ \sum_{m=1}^{k \geq 2m+1} \binom{k-m-2}{m-1} \beta_1^{k-2m-1} \beta_2^{m+1} (-1)^m \right\} \\
 b_{66} &= \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right) + \sum_{k=2}^n \left(\frac{L_2}{L}\right)^{2k+1} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k+1)!} \left\{ \sum_{m=1}^{k \geq 2m} \binom{k-m-1}{m-1} \beta_1^{k-2m} \beta_2^m (-1)^m \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Substituting Eqs. (32) and (33) into Eqs. (34) and (35), respectively, gives

$$3! Y_1(3) = (b_{55} - D_1 b_{45}) Y_2(1) + (b_{56} - D_1 b_{46}) 3! Y_2(3) \tag{36}$$

$$2! Y_1(2) = (b_{65} - D_1 b_{35}) Y_2(1) + (b_{66} - D_1 b_{36}) 3! Y_2(3) \tag{37}$$

Substituting Eqs. (32), (33), (36) and (37) into Eqs. (30) and (31), respectively, gives

$$\begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} Y_2(1) \\ 3! Y_2(3) \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \tag{38}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 B_{11} &= b_{11} b_{35} + b_{12} b_{45} + b_{13} (b_{65} - D_1 b_{35}) + b_{14} (b_{55} - D_1 b_{45}) \\
 B_{12} &= b_{11} b_{36} + b_{12} b_{46} + b_{13} (b_{66} - D_1 b_{36}) + b_{14} (b_{56} - D_1 b_{46}) \\
 B_{21} &= b_{21} b_{35} + b_{22} b_{45} + b_{23} (b_{65} - D_1 b_{35}) + b_{24} (b_{55} - D_1 b_{45}) \\
 B_{22} &= b_{21} b_{36} + b_{22} b_{46} + b_{23} (b_{66} - D_1 b_{36}) + b_{24} (b_{56} - D_1 b_{46})
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the buckling equation of the semi-rigid connected pile in elastic soil is obtained using Eq. (26) as

$$f^{(n)} = B_{11} B_{22} - B_{12} B_{21} = 0 \tag{39}$$

Solving (39) we get  $N=N_i^{(n)}$ ,  $i=1,2,3,\dots$  where  $N_i^{(n)}$  is the nth estimated  $N$  axial compressive load circular frequency corresponding to  $n$ , and  $n$  is indicated by

$$\left| N_i^{(n)} - N_i^{(n-1)} \right| \leq \varepsilon$$

where  $N_i^{(n-1)}$  is the  $i$ th estimated axial compressive load corresponding to  $n-1$  and  $\varepsilon$  is a positive and small value.

### 5. Analytical solution of differential equations

The solution of differential equation of the elastic curve for the first region of the pile, Eq. (9), is obtained as (Ross 1984)

$$y_1(z_1) = C_1 + C_2 z_1 + \cos(D_2 z_1) C_3 + \sin(D_2 z_1) C_4 \quad (0 \leq z_1 \leq \frac{L_1}{L}) \quad (40)$$

Where  $D_2 = \left[ \frac{NL^2}{EI} \left[ \frac{\bar{k}AG}{\bar{k}AG - N} \right] \right]^{0.5}$ .

The solution of Eq. (6) is obtained due to the sign of  $\gamma$ ; four possible conditions exist due to the signs of  $\Delta_1$  and  $\Delta_2$  when  $\gamma$  is positive (Catal and Catal 2006).

Where  $\Delta_1 = -\frac{\beta_1}{2} - (\beta_2)^{0.5}$ ;  $\Delta_2 = -\frac{\beta_1}{2} + (\beta_2)^{0.5}$ ;  $D_3 = (\Delta_1)^{0.5}$ ;  $D_4 = (\Delta_2)^{0.5}$ ;  $\gamma = \left(\frac{\beta_1}{2}\right)^2 + \beta_2$

I.  $\gamma > 0, \Delta_1 > 0$  and  $\Delta_2 > 0$   
 $y_2(z_2) = [C_5 \cosh(D_3 z_2) + C_6 \sinh(D_3 z_2) + C_7 \cosh(D_4 z_2) + C_8 \sinh(D_4 z_2)]$   
 $(0 \leq z_2 \leq \frac{L_2}{L}) \quad (41)$

II.  $\gamma > 0, \Delta_1 > 0$  and  $\Delta_2 < 0$   
 $y_2(z_2) = [C_5 \cosh(D_3 z_2) + C_6 \sinh(D_3 z_2) + C_7 \cos(D_4 z_2) + C_8 \sin(D_4 z_2)]$   
 $(0 \leq z_2 \leq \frac{L_2}{L}) \quad (42)$

III.  $\gamma > 0, \Delta_1 < 0$  and  $\Delta_2 > 0$   
 $y_2(z_2) = [C_5 \cos(D_3 z_2) + C_6 \sin(D_3 z_2) + C_7 \cosh(D_4 z_2) + C_8 \sinh(D_4 z_2)]$   
 $(0 \leq z_2 \leq \frac{L_2}{L}) \quad (43)$

VI.  $\gamma > 0, \Delta_1 < 0$  and  $\Delta_2 < 0$   
 $y_2(z_2) = [C_5 \cos(D_3 z_2) + C_6 \sin(D_3 z_2) + C_7 \cos(D_4 z_2) + C_8 \sin(D_4 z_2)]$   
 $(0 \leq z_2 \leq \frac{L_2}{L}) \quad (44)$

V.  $\gamma < 0$   
 $y_2(z_2) = \{C_5 [\cosh(r\alpha_1 z_2) \cos(r\alpha_2 z_2)] + C_6 [\sinh(r\alpha_1 z_2) \cos(r\alpha_2 z_2)] +$   
 $C_7 [\cosh(r\alpha_1 z_2) \sin(r\alpha_2 z_2)] + C_8 [\sinh(r\alpha_1 z_2) \sin(r\alpha_2 z_2)]\} \quad (0 \leq z_2 \leq \frac{L_2}{L}) \quad (45)$

Where  $\lambda = \text{Arctg} \left[ \frac{1}{\beta_1} (-2 \sqrt{-\left(\frac{\beta_1}{2}\right)^2 - \beta_2}) \right]$ ;  $\alpha_1 = \sin(\lambda/2)$ ;  $\alpha_2 = \cos(\lambda/2)$ ;  $r = \sqrt[4]{-\beta_2}$

$C_1, C_2, \dots, C_8$  = constant of integration. Bending moment functions with respect to  $z$  for the first and the second regions of pile are obtained from Eqs. (9) and (10), respectively, as

$$M_1(z_1) = -NC_1 - NC_2 z_1 \quad (0 \leq z_1 \leq \frac{L_1}{L}) \quad (46)$$

$$M_2(z_2) = -\frac{EI}{L^2} \left[ \frac{\bar{k}AG - N}{\bar{k}AG} \right] \frac{d^2 y_2(z_2)}{dz_2^2} + \left[ \frac{EIC_s}{\bar{k}AG} - N \right] y_2(z_2) \quad (0 \leq z_2 \leq \frac{L_2}{L}) \quad (47)$$

The summation of horizontal components  $V_1(z_1)$  and  $V_2(z_2)$  of axial ( $N$ ) and shear forces ( $T_1(z_1)$ ,  $T_2(z_2)$ ) at initial ends of differential parts at the first and the second regions of pile are written, respectively, as

$$V_1(z_1) = T_1(z_1) - \frac{N}{L} \frac{dy_1(z_1)}{dz_1} = \frac{1}{L} \left[ \frac{dM_1(z_1)}{dz_1} - N \frac{dy_1(z_1)}{dz_1} \right] \quad (0 \leq z_1 \leq \frac{L_1}{L}) \quad (48)$$

$$V_2(z_2) = T_2(z_2) - \frac{N}{L} \frac{dy_2(z_2)}{dz_2} = \frac{1}{L} \left[ \frac{dM_2(z_2)}{dz_2} - N \frac{dy_2(z_2)}{dz_2} \right] \quad (0 \leq z_2 \leq \frac{L_2}{L}) \quad (49)$$

substituting Eqs. (42) and (43) into Eqs. (44) and (45), respectively, gives (Catal and Catal 2006).

$$V_1(z_1) = -\frac{EI}{L^3} \left[ \frac{\bar{k}AG - N}{\bar{k}AG} \right] \frac{d^3 y_1(z_1)}{dz_1^3} - \frac{N}{L} \frac{dy_1(z_1)}{dz_1} \quad (0 \leq z_1 \leq \frac{L_1}{L}) \quad (50)$$

$$V_2(z_2) = -\frac{EI}{L^3} \left[ \frac{\bar{k}AG - N}{\bar{k}AG} \right] \frac{d^3 y_2(z_2)}{dz_2^3} + \frac{1}{L} \left[ \frac{EIC_s}{\bar{k}AG} - N \right] \frac{dy_2(z_2)}{dz_2} \quad (0 \leq z_2 \leq \frac{L_2}{L}) \quad (51)$$

Constants of integration ( $C_1, \dots, C_8$ ) must be obtained by using boundary conditions due to the support type of top and bottom ends in order to calculate the buckling load of the pile.

Boundary conditions of the pile whose top end simply supported and semi-rigid connected, bottom end simply supported (Fig. 2) are given in relations (52).

$$\left. \begin{aligned} y_1(z_1 = \frac{L_1}{L}) &= 0 & M_1(z_1 = 0) &= M_2(z_2 = \frac{L_2}{L}) \\ M_1(z_1 = \frac{L_1}{L}) &= \frac{C_\theta}{L} \frac{dy_1(z_1)}{dz_1} \Big|_{z_1 = \frac{L_1}{L}} & V_1(z_1 = 0) &= V_2(z_2 = \frac{L_2}{L}) \\ y_1(z_1 = 0) &= y_2(z_2 = \frac{L_2}{L}) & y_2(z_2 = 0) &= 0 \\ \frac{dy_1(z_1)}{dz_1} \Big|_{z_1 = 0} &= \frac{dy_2(z_2)}{dz_2} \Big|_{z_2 = \frac{L_2}{L}} & M_2(z_2 = 0) &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (52)$$

A set of eight linear homogeneous equations is obtained from Eq.(48) due to boundary conditions of the pile. This equation set is written in matrix form as:

$$[S] \{C\} = \{0\} \quad (53)$$

Where  $[S]$  and  $\{C\}$  indicate coefficient matrix and the unknown coefficients vector, respectively. Hence, the non-trivial solution of this problem is given by

$$|S| = \begin{pmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} & S_{13} & S_{14} & S_{15} & S_{16} & S_{17} & S_{18} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} & S_{23} & S_{24} & S_{25} & S_{26} & S_{27} & S_{28} \\ S_{31} & S_{32} & S_{33} & S_{34} & S_{35} & S_{36} & S_{37} & S_{38} \\ S_{41} & S_{42} & S_{43} & S_{44} & S_{45} & S_{46} & S_{47} & S_{48} \\ S_{51} & S_{52} & S_{53} & S_{54} & S_{55} & S_{56} & S_{57} & S_{58} \\ S_{61} & S_{62} & S_{63} & S_{64} & S_{65} & S_{66} & S_{67} & S_{68} \\ S_{71} & S_{72} & S_{73} & S_{74} & S_{75} & S_{76} & S_{77} & S_{78} \\ S_{81} & S_{82} & S_{83} & S_{84} & S_{85} & S_{86} & S_{87} & S_{88} \end{pmatrix} \quad (54)$$

Where,

$$S_{11} = 1, S_{12} = \frac{L_1}{L}, S_{13} = \cos(D_2 \frac{L_1}{L}), S_{14} = \sin(D_2 \frac{L_1}{L}), S_{15} = 0, S_{16} = 0, S_{17} = 0, S_{18} = 0$$

$$S_{21} = -N, S_{22} = -\frac{1}{L}[NL_1 + C_\theta], S_{23} = \frac{D_2 C_\theta}{L} \sin(D_2 \frac{L_1}{L}), S_{24} = -\frac{D_2 C_\theta}{L} \cos(D_2 \frac{L_1}{L}),$$

$$S_{25} = 0, S_{26} = 0, S_{27} = 0, S_{28} = 0, S_{31} = 1, S_{32} = 0; S_{33} = 1, S_{34} = 0, S_{41} = 0, S_{42} = \frac{1}{L},$$

$$S_{43} = 0, S_{44} = D_2, S_{51} = -N, S_{52} = 0, S_{53} = 0, S_{54} = 0; S_{61} = 0, S_{62} = -\frac{N}{L}, S_{63} = 0,$$

$$S_{64} = 0;$$

$$U_1 = \frac{EIC_s}{\bar{k}AG}, U_2 = \frac{EI}{L^2} (\frac{\bar{k}AG - N}{\bar{k}AG}), U_3 = \frac{EI}{L^3} (\frac{\bar{k}AG - N}{\bar{k}AG}), A_1 = U_1 - D_3^2 U_2$$

$$A_2 = U_1 - D_4^2 U_2, A_3 = U_1 + D_4^2 U_2, A_4 = U_1 + D_3^2 U_2, A_5 = U_1 - (D_3^2 - D_4^2) U_2 - N$$

$$A_6 = 2D_3 D_4 U_2, B_1 = D_3 [(U_1 - \frac{N}{L}) - D_3^2 U_3], B_2 = D_4 [(U_1 - \frac{N}{L}) - D_4^2 U_3]$$

$$B_3 = D_4 [(-U_1 + \frac{N}{L}) - D_4^2 U_3], B_4 = D_3 [(-U_1 + \frac{N}{L}) - D_3^2 U_3], B_5 = U_1 - \frac{N}{L} - (D_3^2 - D_4^2) U_3$$

for  $\gamma > 0, \Delta_1 > 0$  and  $\Delta_2 > 0$

$$S_{35} = -\cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{36} = -\sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{37} = -\cosh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{38} = -\sinh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L})$$

$$S_{45} = -\frac{D_3}{L} \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{46} = -\frac{D_3}{L} \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{47} = -\frac{D_4}{L} \sinh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L})$$

$$S_{48} = -\frac{D_4}{L} \cosh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{55} = -A_1 \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{56} = -A_1 \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L})$$

$$S_{57} = -A_2 \cosh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{58} = -A_2 \sinh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{65} = -B_1 \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L})$$

$$S_{66} = -B_1 \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{67} = -B_2 \sinh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{68} = -B_2 \cosh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{75} = -1, S_{76} = 0$$

$$S_{77} = -1, S_{78} = 0, S_{85} = A_1, S_{86} = 0, S_{87} = A_2, S_{88} = 0$$

for  $\gamma > 0, \Delta_1 > 0$  and  $\Delta_2 < 0$

$$\begin{aligned} S_{35} &= -\cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{36} = -\sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{37} = -\cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{38} = -\sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\ S_{45} &= -\frac{D_3}{L} \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{46} = -\frac{D_3}{L} \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{47} = \frac{D_4}{L} \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\ S_{48} &= -\frac{D_4}{L} \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{55} = -A_1 \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{56} = -A_1 \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\ S_{57} &= -A_3 \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{58} = -A_3 \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{65} = -B_1 \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), \\ S_{66} &= -B_1 \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{67} = -B_3 \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{68} = B_3 \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{75} = 1, S_{76} = 0 \\ S_{77} &= 1, S_{78} = 0, S_{85} = A_1, S_{86} = 0, S_{87} = A_3, S_{88} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

for  $\gamma > 0, \Delta_1 < 0$  and  $\Delta_2 > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} S_{35} &= -\cos(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{36} = -\sin(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{37} = -\cosh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{38} = -\sinh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\ S_{45} &= \frac{D_3}{L} \sin(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{46} = -\frac{D_3}{L} \cos(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{47} = -\frac{D_4}{L} \sinh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), \\ S_{48} &= -\frac{D_4}{L} \cosh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{55} = -A_4 \cos(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{56} = -A_4 \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\ S_{57} &= -A_2 \cosh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{58} = -A_2 \sinh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{65} = -B_4 \sin(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\ S_{66} &= -B_4 \cos(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{67} = -B_2 \sinh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{68} = -B_2 \cosh(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{75} = 1, S_{76} = 0 \\ S_{77} &= 1, S_{78} = 0, S_{85} = A_4, S_{86} = 0, S_{87} = A_2, S_{88} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

for  $\gamma > 0, \Delta_1 < 0$  and  $\Delta_2 < 0$

$$\begin{aligned} S_{35} &= -\cos(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{36} = -\sin(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{37} = -\cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{38} = -\sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\ S_{45} &= \frac{D_3}{L} \sin(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{46} = -\frac{D_3}{L} \cos(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{47} = -\frac{D_4}{L} \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), \\ S_{48} &= -\frac{D_4}{L} \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{55} = -A_4 \cos(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{56} = -A_4 \sin(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), \\ S_{57} &= -A_3 \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{58} = -A_3 \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{65} = -B_4 \sin(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), \\ S_{66} &= -B_4 \cos(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{67} = -B_3 \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{68} = -B_3 \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{75} = 1, S_{76} = 0, \\ S_{77} &= 1, S_{78} = 0, S_{85} = A_4, S_{86} = 0, S_{87} = A_3, S_{88} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

for  $\gamma < 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{35} &= \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), S_{36} = \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}), \\
 S_{37} &= \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 S_{38} &= \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 S_{45} &= -\frac{D_3}{L} \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) + \frac{D_4}{L} \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 S_{46} &= -\frac{D_3}{L} \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) + \frac{D_4}{L} \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 S_{47} &= -\frac{D_3}{L} \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) - \frac{D_4}{L} \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 S_{48} &= -\frac{D_3}{L} \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) - \frac{D_4}{L} \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 S_{55} &= -A_5 \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) - A_6 \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 S_{56} &= -A_5 \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) - A_6 \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 S_{57} &= -A_5 \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) + A_6 \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 S_{58} &= -A_5 \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) + A_6 \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 S_{65} &= -(B_5 D_3 + 2U_3 D_3 D_4^2) \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 &\quad + (B_5 D_3 - 2U_3 D_3^2 D_4) \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 S_{66} &= -(B_5 D_3 + 2U_3 D_3 D_4^2) \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 &\quad + (B_5 D_3 - 2U_3 D_3^2 D_4) \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 S_{67} &= -(B_5 D_3 + 2U_3 D_3 D_4^2) \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 &\quad - (B_5 D_3 - 2U_3 D_3^2 D_4) \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L}) \\
 S_{68} &= -(B_5 D_3 + 2U_3 D_3 D_4^2) \cosh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \sin(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L})
 \end{aligned}$$

$$-(B_5 D_3 - 2U_3 D_3^2 D_4) \sinh(D_3 \frac{L_2}{L}) \cos(D_4 \frac{L_2}{L})$$

$$S_{75} = 1, S_{76} = 0, S_{77} = 0, S_{78} = 0, S_{85} = A_5, S_{86} = 0, S_{87} = 0, S_{88} = -A_6$$

## 6. Numerical analysis

A thin-walled circular steel pile with outer diameter of 355,6 mm and thickness of 32 mm is considered for numerical analysis. The buckling loads of the semi-rigid connected pile partially embedded in soil having modulus of subgrade reaction of 15.000kN/m<sup>2</sup> are calculated for support conditions given in Fig. 3 by a computer program having an iteration algorithm and prepared by the writer.

The characteristics of the steel pile used numerical analysis are presented in the following:

$$I=246,63*10^{-6} \text{ m}^4; A=17,1*10^{-3} \text{ m}^2; EI=51792,3 \text{ kN/m}^2; AG=1382670 \text{ kN}; \bar{k}=2,0$$

Buckling loads and relative stiffness values ( $\alpha$ ) of the thin-walled steel pile are calculated by taking pile lengths of the first and the second regions ( $L_1$  and  $L_2$ ), stiffness of the rotational spring ( $C_\theta$ ) from Table 2 and by using DTM and analytical method for  $L_2/L=0.25$ ,  $L_2/L=0.50$ ,  $L_2/L=0.75$ ,  $f=0.25$  and  $f=0.75$ .

Euler critical buckling load of piles are calculated using  $N_E = \pi^2 EI / (L_b)^2$  by neglecting the effects of modulus of subgrade reaction, shear deformation and stiffness of rotational spring and by taking  $L_b=L$  for both ends simply supported pile.

$N_r = N/N_E$  values are calculated according to  $\alpha$ ,  $L_2/L$ ,  $f$  and series size ( $n$ ) values using DTM and according to  $\alpha$ ,  $L_2/L$  and  $f$  values by using analytical method; and the values obtained are presented Table 2(a),(b).

Buckling loads ( $\bar{N}$ ) and relative stiffness values of the pile are calculated by neglecting the effects of shear deformation by using analytical method for for  $L_2/L=0.25$ ,  $L_2/L=0.50$ ,  $L_2/L=0.75$ ,  $f=0.25$  and  $f=0.75$ .  $\frac{\bar{N}}{N}$  values obtained are presented Table 3(a),(b).

Table 2 Values of  $L$  with respect to  $\alpha$ , values of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  with respect to  $L_2/L$  and values of  $C_\theta$  with respect to  $f$ ,  $L$ ,  $E$ ,  $I$

$L$ (m.)	$\alpha=C_\theta L^4/EI$	$L_2/L=0.25$		$L_2/L=0.50$		$L_2/L=0.75$		$f=0.25$ $C_\theta$ kNm/rd	$f=0.75$ $C_\theta$ kNm/rd
		$L_1$ (m)	$L_2$ (m)	$L_1$ (m)	$L_2$ (m)	$L_1$ (m)	$L_2$ (m)		
1.36	1	1.020	0.340	0.680	0.680	0.340	1.020	38083	342743
2.42	10	1.815	0.605	1.210	1.210	0.605	1.815	21402	102616
4.31	100	3.232	1.078	2.155	2.155	1.078	3.232	12017	108151
7.66	1000	5.745	1.915	3.830	3.830	1.915	5.745	6761	60853
13.63	10000	10.220	3.410	6.815	6.815	3.410	10.220	3800	34199
24.24	100000	18.180	6.060	12.120	12.120	6.060	18.180	2137	19230
43.10	1000000	32.320	10.770	21.550	21.550	10.770	32.320	1202	10815



Table 2(a)  $N_r$  values for the first, second, third modes of the pile and  $f=0.25$

$\alpha$	Method	$n$	$L_2/L=0.25$			$L_2/L=0.5$			$L_2/L=0.75$		
			1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode
1.0	DTM	4	0.8323964	1.6132217	1.9959288	0.8368092	1.6088700	1.9961459	0.8415466	1.6087995	2.1185852
		6	0.8323532	1.6073521	1.9959288	0.8367862	1.6078526	1.9961459	0.8406512	1.6087995	2.1509392
		8	0.8323532	1.6074565	1.9965785	0.8367862	1.6078506	1.9961919	0.8406496	1.6087995	2.1698455
		10	0.8323532	1.6074598	1.9960621	0.8367862	1.6078506	1.9962313	0.8406496	1.6088816	1.9971236
		12	0.8323532	1.6074598	1.9960460	0.8367862	1.6078506	1.9962315	0.8406496	1.6088820	1.9964410
		14	0.8323532	1.6074598	1.9960459	0.8367862	1.6078506	1.9962315	0.8406496	1.6088820	1.9964350
		16	0.8323532	1.6074598	1.9960459	0.8367862	1.6078506	1.9962315	0.8406496	1.6088820	1.9964350
		20	0.8323532	1.6074598	1.9960459	0.8367862	1.6078506	1.9962315	0.8406496	1.6088820	1.9964350
		24	0.8323532	1.6074598	1.9960459	0.8367862	1.6078506	1.9962315	0.8406496	1.6088820	1.9964350
		32	0.8323532	1.6074598	1.9960459	0.8367862	1.6078506	1.9962315	0.8406496	1.6088820	1.9964350
10.0	DTM	Analytic Method	0.8323532	1.6075598	1.9960459	0.8367862	1.6078506	1.9962315	0.8406496	1.6088820	1.9964350
		4	1.0503351	2.9141826	4.3062926	1.0939307	2.7972091	4.3078965	1.1350488	2.8022353	4.9155951
		6	1.0503018	2.7896213	4.3062926	1.0939072	2.7936564	4.3078965	1.1338980	2.8022353	4.7360670
		8	1.0503018	2.7889705	4.3062926	1.0939072	2.7936466	4.3084253	1.1338963	2.8023086	4.4712353
		10	1.0503018	2.7889694	4.3065234	1.0939072	2.7936466	4.3085427	1.1338963	2.8025057	4.3121396
		12	1.0503018	2.7889694	4.3065561	1.0939072	2.7936466	4.3085433	1.1338963	2.8025062	4.3105213
		14	1.0503018	2.7889694	4.3065566	1.0939072	2.7936466	4.3085433	1.1338963	2.8025062	4.3105081
		16	1.0503018	2.7889694	4.3065566	1.0939072	2.7936466	4.3085433	1.1338963	2.8025062	4.3105081
		20	1.0503018	2.7889694	4.3065566	1.0939072	2.7936466	4.3085433	1.1338963	2.8025062	4.3105081
		24	1.0503018	2.7889694	4.3065566	1.0939072	2.7936466	4.3085433	1.1338963	2.8025062	4.3105081
100.0	DTM	Analytic Method	1.0503018	2.7889694	4.3065566	1.0939072	2.7936466	4.3085433	1.1338963	2.8025062	4.3105081
		4	1.2273294	4.0908940	6.8061934	1.6501371	3.7447645	6.8258172	2.0709243	3.8066576	9.2046450
		6	1.2272931	3.6776056	6.8061934	1.6501353	3.7385576	6.8258172	2.0706481	3.8066576	7.7146879
		8	1.2272931	3.6756850	6.8061934	1.6501353	3.7385394	6.8265422	2.0706463	3.8073844	7.0736514
		10	1.2272931	3.6756850	6.8067894	1.6501353	3.7385394	6.8267675	2.0706463	3.8076206	6.8497528
		12	1.2272931	3.6756850	6.8069384	1.6501353	3.7385394	6.8267675	2.0706463	3.8076206	6.8469346
		14	1.2272931	3.6756850	6.8069384	1.6501353	3.7385394	6.8267675	2.0706463	3.8076206	6.8469128
		16	1.2272931	3.6756850	6.8069384	1.6501353	3.7385394	6.8267675	2.0706463	3.8076206	6.8469128
		20	1.2272931	3.6756850	6.8069384	1.6501353	3.7385394	6.8267675	2.0706463	3.8076206	6.8469128
		24	1.2272931	3.6756850	6.8069384	1.6501353	3.7385394	6.8267675	2.0706463	3.8076206	6.8469128
1000.0	DTM	Analytic Method	1.2272931	3.6756850	6.8069384	1.6501353	3.7385394	6.8267675	2.0706463	3.8076206	6.8469128
		4	1.9156797	10.4453785	8.6985619	7.7863958	7.7182812	79.3330134	5.9596015	9.3747834	10.9504437
		6	1.9156624	4.7008935	8.6985619	7.7057824	7.7216330	8.9051785	5.8068774	9.8880820	10.7705637
		8	1.9156567	4.6905225	8.6985619	7.7057881	7.7208812	8.9078013	5.8034568	9.1067616	10.6205893
		10	1.9156567	4.6904651	8.7006224	7.7057881	7.7208812	8.9079391	5.8034453	9.0151042	10.6187871
		12	1.9156567	4.6904651	8.7011733	7.7057881	7.7208812	8.9079391	5.8034453	9.0137497	10.6187642
		14	1.9156567	4.6904651	8.7011733	7.7057881	7.7208812	8.9079391	5.8034453	9.0137382	10.6187642
		16	1.9156567	4.6904651	8.7011733	7.7057881	7.7208812	8.9079391	5.8034453	9.0137382	10.6187642

Table 2(a) Continued

		201.9156567	4.6904651	8.7011733	3.7057881	7.7208812	8.9079391	5.8034453	9.0137382	10.6187642	
		241.9156567	4.6904651	8.7011733	3.7057881	7.7208812	8.9079391	5.8034453	9.0137382	10.6187642	
		321.9156567	4.6904651	8.7011733	3.7057881	7.7208812	8.9079391	5.8034453	9.0137382	10.6187642	
Analytic	Method	1.9156567	4.6904651	8.7011733	3.7057881	7.7208812	8.9079391	5.8034453	9.0137382	10.6187642	
		1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	
		4	2.9011019	16.4312969	14.4102166	5.6148530	21.2643103	21.3440523	32.3480907	20.9447782	32.3480907
		6	2.8949235	7.7384764	14.4102166	5.3737651	13.1418284	20.6104681	26.2926154	20.9447782	26.2926154
		8	2.8949053	7.5659538	14.4102166	5.1950492	13.1542579	20.6140523	25.7778279	20.9447782	25.7778279
		10	2.8949053	7.5647363	14.4102166	5.1949946	13.1526769	20.6205942	12.1243557	25.7749931	25.6258212
		12	2.8949053	7.5647363	14.4158135	5.1949946	13.1526769	20.6214301	12.1209394	20.9667478	25.6258212
10000.0	DTM	14	2.8949053	7.5647363	14.4188482	5.1949946	13.1526769	20.6214301	12.1209213	20.9542457	25.6258212
		16	2.8949053	7.5647363	14.4188663	5.1949946	13.1526769	20.6214301	12.1209213	20.9541367	25.6323630
		20	2.8949053	7.5647363	14.4188663	5.1949946	13.1526769	20.6214301	12.1209213	20.9541367	25.6333443
		24	2.8949053	7.5647363	14.4188663	5.1949946	13.1526769	20.6214301	12.1209213	20.9541367	25.6333443
		32	2.8949053	7.5647363	14.4188663	5.1949946	13.1526769	20.6214301	12.1209213	20.9541367	25.6333443
Analytic	Method	2.8949053	7.5647363	14.4188663	5.1949946	13.1526769	20.6214301	12.1209213	20.9541367	25.6333443	
		4	3.3536565	8.7820615	72.5559057	89.9351928	17.5755603	89.9351928	269.0902588	87.8987627	269.0902588
		6	3.2930216	8.7820615	17.1962329	18.9567718	18.9434379	78.6472715	48.6279341	69.9768817	64.4282414
		8	3.2934814	8.7965449	17.1962329	17.3335379	17.9182866	35.7402275	48.6261642	62.9461327	64.4282414
		10	3.2934814	8.8148216	17.2208892	6.5096605	17.6992970	33.6912274	47.9936395	57.8987627	64.4282414
		12	3.2934814	8.8149940	17.2221536	6.5045453	17.6009637	33.7086419	47.7123499	57.8987627	64.4282414
100000.0	DTM	14	3.2934814	8.8149940	17.2196247	6.5046028	17.6007338	33.7191022	18.8149264	51.4524856	64.7355615
		16	3.2934814	8.8149940	17.2195673	6.5046028	17.6007338	33.7191596	18.7380838	48.0181358	64.6437183
		20	3.2934814	8.8149940	17.2195673	6.5046028	17.6007338	33.7191596	18.7406701	47.9327297	64.4914052
		24	3.2934814	8.8149940	17.2195673	6.5046028	17.6007338	33.7191596	18.7406701	47.9327297	64.4544495
		32	3.2934814	8.8149940	17.2195673	6.5046028	17.6007338	33.7191596	18.7406701	47.9327297	64.4544495
Analytic	Method	3.2934814	8.8149940	17.2195673	6.5046028	17.6007338	33.7191596	18.7406701	47.9327297	64.4544495	
		1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	
		4	6.9413775	10.3859012	206.4769995	92.1821184	36.1132606	138.8346366	640.8970840	122.1302322	640.8970840
		6	6.6941821	9.6303845	190.0077174	18.3386317	32.3881891	123.1612090	54.5790836	119.7395797	480.4233817
		8	6.6941821	9.6303845	176.4309484	15.8358692	28.3785724	104.9550380	53.8655401	118.2336341	473.8085225
		10	3.5866146	9.7141491	19.4788854	15.5333354	20.4144586	92.1821184	52.8739926	116.4618584	427.7372689
		12	3.5931559	9.7146942	19.3060128	14.1903764	20.4144586	86.1259972	51.6709441	113.6400273	386.3373903
1000000.0	DTM	14	3.5929742	9.7146942	19.1871798	7.4952050	20.4661797	40.0472893	50.8222143	101.0595301	210.1586442
		16	3.5929742	9.7146942	19.1857261	7.3939970	20.4109423	40.2140917	49.9598569	74.4768997	206.8576651
		20	3.5929742	9.7146942	19.1857261	7.3992664	20.4125776	40.1299637	48.0617984	66.8664956	206.6944967
		24	3.5929742	9.7146942	19.1857261	7.3992664	20.4125776	40.1297820	24.1888891	66.5990304	124.4770944
		32	3.5929742	9.7146942	19.1857261	7.3992664	20.4125776	40.1297820	24.1605436	66.9591636	126.9607782
Analytic	Method	3.5929742	9.7146942	19.1857261	7.3992664	20.4125776	40.1297820	24.1605436	66.9591636	126.9607782	

Table 2(b)  $N_r$  values for the first, second, third modes of the pile and  $f=0,75$

$\alpha$	Method	$n$	$L_2/L=0.25$			$L_2/L=0.5$			$L_2/L=0.75$		
			1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode
1.0	DTM	4	1.0577092	1.7364917	2.0579838	1.0602643	1.7355074	2.4141278	1.0645418	1.7381200	2.2452462
		6	1.0558298	1.7364917	2.0579838	1.0601084	1.7367931	2.0581286	1.0624891	1.7381200	2.2614031
		8	1.0558238	1.7364917	2.0628315	1.0601084	1.7368239	2.0581286	1.0624831	1.7381200	2.2737935
		10	1.0558238	1.7365929	2.0582838	1.0601084	1.7368241	2.0582022	1.0624831	1.7382179	2.0638094
		12	1.0558238	1.7365934	2.0580853	1.0601084	1.7368241	2.0582029	1.0624831	1.7382210	2.0585941
		14	1.0558238	1.7365934	2.0580826	1.0601084	1.7368241	2.0582029	1.0624831	1.7382210	2.0585407
		16	1.0558238	1.7365934	2.0580826	1.0601084	1.7368241	2.0582029	1.0624831	1.7382210	2.0585403
		20	1.0558238	1.7365934	2.0580826	1.0601084	1.7368241	2.0582029	1.0624831	1.7382210	2.0585403
		24	1.0558238	1.7365934	2.0580826	1.0601084	1.7368241	2.0582029	1.0624831	1.7382210	2.0585403
		32	1.0558238	1.7365934	2.0580826	1.0601084	1.7368241	2.0582029	1.0624831	1.7382210	2.0585403
10.0	DTM	Analytic Method	1.0558238	1.7365934	2.0580826	1.0601084	1.7368241	2.0582029	1.0624831	1.7382210	2.0585403
		4	1.3350553	3.0820119	4.6283513	1.3796741	3.0864245	4.5288995	1.4156149	3.0990827	5.3642292
		6	1.3338902	3.0820119	4.5454065	1.3795418	3.0848349	4.5288995	1.4124425	3.0990827	5.6299042
		8	1.3338873	3.0821884	4.5281823	1.3795418	3.0848509	4.5288995	1.4124333	3.0990827	5.5250372
		10	1.3338873	3.0822949	4.5278246	1.3795418	3.0848509	4.5292088	1.4124333	3.0993450	4.6400000
		12	1.3338873	3.0822955	4.5277790	1.3795418	3.0848509	4.5292105	1.4124333	3.0993490	4.6320449
		14	1.3338873	3.0822955	4.5277750	1.3795418	3.0848509	4.5292105	1.4124333	3.0993490	4.6319687
		16	1.3338873	3.0822955	4.5277750	1.3795418	3.0848509	4.5292105	1.4124333	3.0993490	4.6319682
		20	1.3338873	3.0822955	4.5277750	1.3795418	3.0848509	4.5292105	1.4124333	3.0993490	4.6319682
		24	1.3338873	3.0822955	4.5277750	1.3795418	3.0848509	4.5292105	1.4124333	3.0993490	4.6319682
32	1.3338873	3.0822955	4.5277750	1.3795418	3.0848509	4.5292105	1.4124333	3.0993490	4.6319682		
100.0	DTM	Analytic Method	1.3338873	3.0822955	4.5277750	1.3795418	3.0848509	4.5292105	1.4124333	3.0993490	4.6319682
		4	1.73584414	3.641192	7.8357166	2.19289364	3.9724717	5.380888	4.4332677	10.544858110	9.094304
		6	1.73162864	3.641192	7.5880387	2.19263744	3.9015537	5.380888	3.6132323	10.0116302	7.5951869
		8	1.73161414	3.648224	7.5257331	2.19263744	3.9016077	5.381252	2.4980566	4.5581769	7.5727952
		10	1.73161414	3.651840	7.5282279	2.19263744	3.9016077	5.390882	2.4980566	4.5592126	7.5727952
		12	1.73161414	3.651840	7.5268142	2.19263744	3.9016077	5.390918	2.4980566	4.5592217	7.5718654
		14	1.73161414	3.651840	7.5267997	2.19263744	3.9016077	5.390918	2.4980566	4.5592217	7.5716383
		16	1.73161414	3.651840	7.5267997	2.19263744	3.9016077	5.390918	2.4980566	4.5592217	7.5716383
		20	1.73161414	3.651840	7.5267997	2.19263744	3.9016077	5.390918	2.4980566	4.5592217	7.5716383
		24	1.73161414	3.651840	7.5267997	2.19263744	3.9016077	5.390918	2.4980566	4.5592217	7.5716383
32	1.73161414	3.651840	7.5267997	2.19263744	3.9016077	5.390918	2.4980566	4.5592217	7.5716383		



Table 2(b) Continued

20	5.0358693	10.8774049	21.1190348	10.0048722	22.2895587	43.1592984	52.5498364	70.5055344	211.6593205
24	5.0358693	10.8774049	21.1190348	10.0048722	22.2895587	43.1592984	30.2619130	70.3793392	134.5357504
32	5.0358693	10.8774049	21.1190348	10.0048722	22.2895587	43.1592984	30.2190313	70.5837539	132.4034781
Analytic Method	5.0358693	10.8774049	21.1190348	10.0048722	22.2895587	43.1592984	30.2190313	70.5837539	132.4034781

Table 3(a)  $\bar{N}/N_E$  values for the first, second, third modes of the pile and  $f=0,25$

$\alpha$	$L_2/L=0.25$			$L_2/L=0.5$			$L_2/L=0.75$		
	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode
1	1.1764	4.1947	9.1991	1.1807	4.1953	9.1993	1.1845	4.1962	9.1996
10	1.1860	4.2005	9.2022	1.2291	4.2051	9.2049	1.2694	4.2134	9.2067
100	1.2763	4.2533	9.2363	1.6978	4.3172	9.2566	2.1165	4.3870	9.2770
1000	1.9468	4.9037	9.6329	3.8477	7.8514	9.8166	6.0148	9.8717	10.7165
10000	2.9366	7.8211	15.20161	5.3207	13.6942	21.4281	12.5312	21.7770	25.9056
1000000	3.4025	8.9199	17.6560	6.6210	18.0238	35.1280	19.2193	50.2092	66.2099
10000000	3.7776	9.8800	19.4694	7.5588	20.6413	40.9920	24.700	68.8694	132.7988

Table 3(b)  $\bar{N}/N_E$  values for the first, second, third modes of the pile and  $f=0,75$

$\alpha$	$L_2/L=0.25$			$L_2/L=0.5$			$L_2/L=0.75$		
	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode	1st. Mode	2nd. Mode	3rd. Mode
1	1.5061	4.1149	9.3578	1.5108	4.1152	9.3578	1.6139	4.1170	9.3581
10	1.5481	4.7578	9.8520	1.5939	4.7606	9.8538	1.6296	4.7743	9.8557
100	1.8262	5.1574	10.3934	2.2909	5.1807	10.4079	2.6107	5.3493	10.4370
10000	2.7273	5.6292	10.7900	5.3445	7.8606	10.9185	6.9515	10.5696	11.7634
100000	4.1577	8.7515	16.9215	7.2687	14.8863	22.1259	15.8167	22.2131	25.9347
1000000	4.6899	10.0234	19.4032	9.0119	19.7710	37.7948	24.2770	52.6001	66.2099
10000000	5.2306	11.0424	21.5035	10.1753	22.6764	43.8992	30.8024	72.6471	138.3200

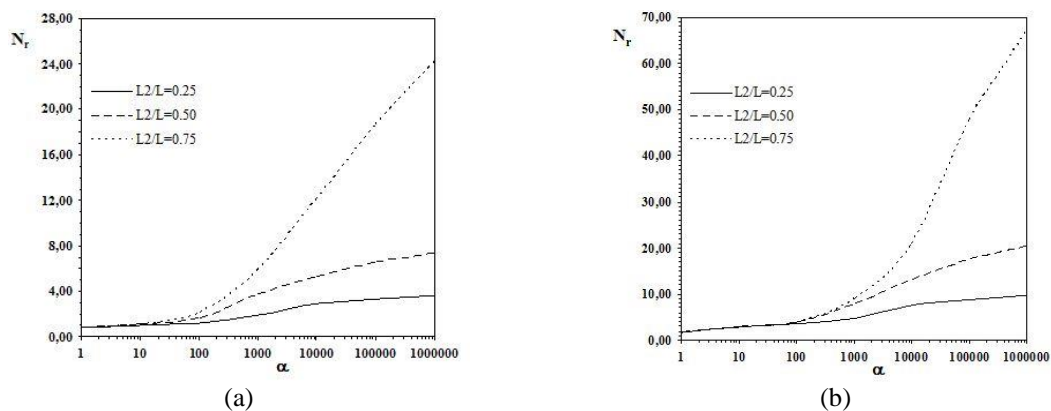
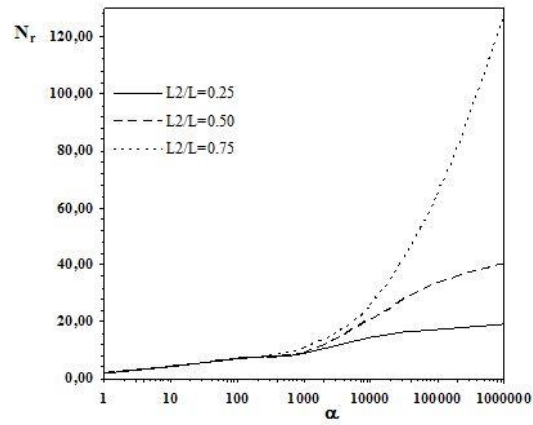
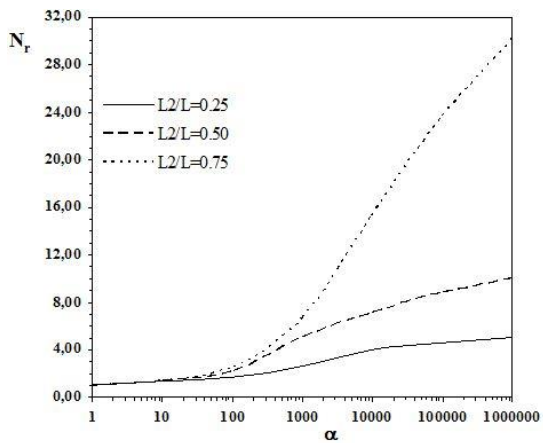


Fig. 4 Variation of  $N_r$  value with relative stiffness for  $f=0.25$  (a) the first mode, (b) the second mode, (c) the third mode

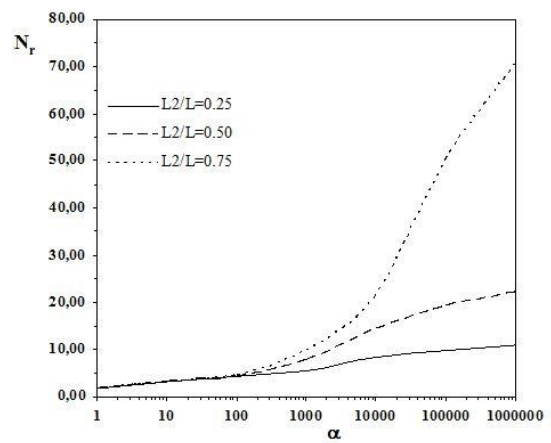


(c)

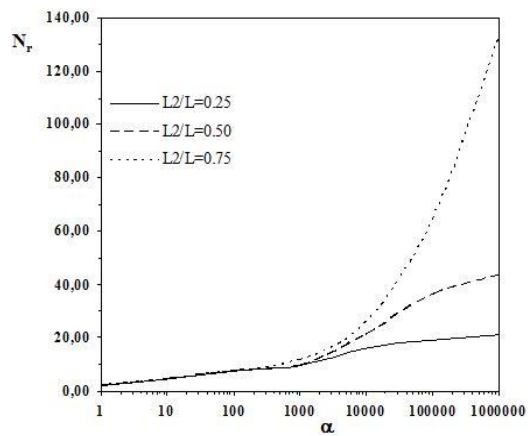
Fig. 4 Continued



(a)



(b)



(c)

Fig. 5 Variation of  $Nr$  value with relative stiffness for  $f=0.75$  (a) the first mode, (b) the second mode, (c) the third mode

Variation of  $N_r = N/N_E$  and  $\alpha$  according to  $L_2/L=0.25$ ,  $L_2/L=0.50$ ,  $L_2/L=0.75$ ,  $f=0.25$ ,  $f=0.75$  and series size  $n=32$  are shown in Fig. 4(a), (b), (c) and Fig. 5(a), (b), (c) for the pile. Fig. 4 and Fig. 5 that give the variation between relative stiffness and  $N_r$  values of the pile partially embedded in the soil indicates that  $N_r$  values of the pile having relative stiffness between 100 and 1.000.000 increases as  $L_2/L$  values increase for all modes  $f=0.25$  and  $f=0.75$ .  $N_r$  values of the pile having relative stiffness between 1 and 100 are same for  $L_2/L=0.25$ ,  $L_2/L=0.50$ ,  $L_2/L=0.75$ ,  $f=0.25$  and  $f=0.75$ .

## 7. Conclusions

The buckling loads for the first three modes of the both ends simply supported and upper end semi-rigid connected pile calculated by using DTM and analytical method according modulus of subgrade reactions and variation of  $L_2/L$  and  $f$  values.

In the analytical method, the boundary conditions of the pile are used for obtaining closed-form solution function of the buckling load and the calculation of following derivatives necessary in these boundary conditions become more difficult when the order of derivatives increases. However calculation of high-order derivatives necessary in the analytical method are calculated easier while the DTM is being applied for critical buckling load of the pile, because Taylor series is used as solution function.

Buckling loads of pile values obtained for the first mode,  $L_2/L=0.25$ ,  $L_2/L=0.50$ ,  $L_2/L=0.75$ ,  $f=0.25$  and  $f=0.75$  and relative stiffness between 1 and 100.000 using DTM for series size  $n=6$  and  $n>6$  are same. DTM results indicate that  $N_r$  values of the first mode are very fast converging for  $L_2/L$  value and  $f=0.25$  and  $f=0.75$  values, and that converging speed decrease as the number of modes increase.

It is seen from Table 2(a), (b) that all buckling loads obtained by using analytical method and DTM for  $n=32$  overlap. Also, the results of DTM and analytical method for higher modes obtained by author for  $n=32$  overlap.

The results in Table 3(a), (b) and Table 2(a), (b) indicate that the buckling loads of the pile are calculated by neglecting the effects of shear deformation are over than the buckling loads of the pile are calculated by taking shear deformations. It is seen from these tables that the shear deformation effect is more important especially in case of short piles.

The results of DTM and analytical method in Table 2(a), (b) indicate that the DTM can be applied for buckling problem of partially embedded and semi-rigid connected piles.

## References

- Aydođan, M. (1995), "Stiffness-matrix formulation of beams with shear effect on elastic foundation", *J. Struct. Eng.*, ASCE, **121**, 1265-1270.
- Banarje, J.R. and Williams, F.W. (1994), "The effect of shear deformation on the critical buckling of columns", *J. Sound Vib.*, **174**, 607-616.
- Catal, H.H. and Alku, S. (1996a), "Calculation of the second order stiffness matrix of the beam on elastic foundation", *Turkish J. Eng. Envir. Sci.*, TUBITAK, **20**, 145-201.
- Catal, H.H. and Alku, S. (1996b), "Comparison solutions of the continuous footing subjected to bending moment, shear and axial force using finite difference equations and matrix-displacement methods", *Proc. of 2nd National Computational Mechanics Congress*, Trabzon, Turkey.

- Catal, H.H. (2002), "Free vibration of partially supported piles with the effects of bending moment, axial and shear force", *Eng. Struct.*, **24**, 1615-1622.
- Catal, H.H. (2006), "Free vibration of semi-rigid connected and partially embedded piles with the effects of the bending moment, axial and shear forces", *Eng. Struct.*, **28**(14), 1911-1918.
- Catal, S. and Catal, H.H. (2006), "Buckling analysis of partially embedded pile in elastic soil using differential transform method", *Struct. Eng. Mech.*, **24**(2), 247-268.
- Catal, S. (2006), "Analysis of free vibration of beam on elastic soil using differential transform method", *Struct. Eng. Mech.*, **24**(1), 51-62.
- Chen, C.N. (1998), "Solution of beam on elastic foundation by DQEM", *J. Eng. Mech.*, 124, 1381-1384.
- Chen, C.K. and Ho, S.H. (1996), "Application of differential transformation to eigenvalue problem", *J. Appl. Math. Comput.*, **79**, 173-178.
- Chen, Y. (1997), "Assessment on pile effective lengths and their effects on design I and II", *Comput. Struct.*, **62**, 265-286.
- Heelis, M.E., Pavlovic, M.N. and West, R.P. (1999), "The stability of uniform-friction piles in homogeneous and non-homogeneous elastic foundations", *Int. J. Solid. Struct.*, **36**, 3277-3292.
- Heelis, M.E., Pavlovic, M.N. and West, R.P. (2004), "The analytical prediction of the buckling loads of fully and partially embedded piles", *Geotechnique*, **54**, 363-373.
- Hetenyi, M. (1995), *Beams on Elastic Foundations*, The University of Michigan Press, Michigan.
- Jang, M.J. and Chen, C.L. (1997), "Analysis of response of strongly non-linear damped system using a differential transformation technique", *Appl. Math. Comput.*, **88**, 137-151.
- Kumar, P.S., Karuppaiah, K.B. and Parameswaran, P. (2007), "Buckling behavior of partially embedded reinforced concrete piles in sands", *ARPJ. Eng. Appl. Sci.*, **2**, 22-26.
- Li, Q.S. (2001a), "Buckling of multi-step cracked columns with shear deformation", *Eng. Struct.*, **23**, 356-364.
- Li, Q.S. (2001b), "Buckling of multi-step non-uniform beams with elastically restrained boundary conditions", *J. Construct. Steel Res.*, **57**, 753-777.
- Malik, M. and Dang, H.H. (1998), "Vibration analysis of continuous systems by differential transformation", *Appl. Math. Comput.*, **97**, 17-26.
- Monforton, G.R. and Wu, T.S. (1963), "Matrix analysis of semi-rigidly connected frames", *J. Struct. Div., ASCE*, **89**(ST6), 13-42.
- Pöchl, Th. (1930), *Lehrbuch der Technischen Mechanik*, Springer, Berlin.
- Pusjuso, S. and Thongmoon, M. (2010), "The numerical solutions of differential transform method and the Laplace transform method for a system of differential equations", *Nonlin. Anal., Hybr. Syst.*, **4**, 425 - 431.
- Reddy, A.S. and Vasantkar, A.J. (1970), "Buckling of fully and partially embedded piles", *J. Soil Mech. Found. Div.*, **96**, 1951-1965.
- Ross, S.L. (1984), *Differential Equations*, Third Edition, John Wiley & Sons, New York.
- Sapountzakis, E.J. and Kampitsis, A.E., (2010), "Nonlinear dynamic analysis of Timoshenko beam-columns partially supported on tensionless Winkler foundation", *Comput. Struct.*, **88**, 1206-1219.
- Smith, I.M. (1979), "Discrete element analysis of pile instability", *Int. J. Numer. Anal. Meth. Geomech.*, **3**, 205-211.
- Valsangkar, A.J. and Pradhanang, R.B. (1987), "Vibration of partially supported piles", *J. Eng. Mech.*, **113**, 1244-1247.
- Vogt, N., Vogt, S. and Kellner, C. (2009), "Buckling of slender piles in soft soils", *Bautechnik*, **86**, 98-112.
- Wang, C.M., Ng, K.H. and Kitipornchai, S. (2002), "Stability criteria for Timoshenko columns with intermediate and end concentrated axial loads", *J. Construct. Steel Res.*, **58**, 1177-1193.
- West, H.H. and Mafii, M. (1984), "Eigenvalues for beam-columns on elastic supports", *J. Struct. Eng.*, **110**, 1305-1319.
- West, R.P., Heelis, M.E., Pavlovic, M.N. and Wylie, G.B. (1997), "Stability of end-bearing piles in a non-homogeneous elastic foundation", *Int. J. Numer. Anal. Meth. Geomech.*, **21**, 845-861.
- Yang, J. and Ye, J.Q. (2002), "Dynamic elastic local buckling of piles under impact loads", *Struct. Eng. Mech.*, **13**, 543-556.



- Yan, W. and Chen, W.Q. (2012), "Dynamic analysis of semi-rigidly connected and partially embedded piles via the method of reverberation-ray matrix", *Struct. Eng. Mech.*, **42**, 269-289.
- Yesilce, Y. and Catal, H.H. (2008), "Free vibration of semi-rigid connected Reddy-Bickford piles embedded in elastic soil", *Sadhana*, **33**(6), 781-801.
- Yesilce, Y. and Catal, H.H. (2006), "Free vibration of piles embedded in soil having different modulus of subgrade reactions", *Appl. Math. Model.*, **32**(5), 889-900.
- Yesilce, Y. and Catal, H.H. (2011), "Solution of free vibration equations of semi-rigid connected Reddy-Bickford beams resting on elastic soil using the differential transform method", *Arch. Appl. Mech.*, **81**(2), 199-213.
- Zhou, J.K. (1986), *Differential transformation and its applications for electrical circuits*, Huazhong University Press, Wuhan, China.
- Zhu, Y., Hu, Y. and Cheng, C. (2011), "Analysis of nonlinear stability and post-buckling for Euler-type beam-column structures", *Appl. Math. Mech.*, **32**, 719-728.
- Zou, L., Zong, Z., Wang, Z. and Tian, S. (2010), "Differential transform method for solving solitary wave discontinuity", *Phys. Lett. A*, **374**, 3451-3454.