

A Study on Cone Factors for Northeastern Part of Shiwha Area I : Evaluation and Pore Pressure Parameter

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시화지구 북동지역에서의 콘 계수 연구 I: 값 결정 및 간극수압비

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Abstract The undrained strength of soils is open determined from the results of the piezocone penetration. The reliability of the value of the undrained strength lies on the cone factor value, whose evaluation needs a lot of experimental data and investigation for each site. In this study, the cone factors were evaluated for the northeastern part of Shiwha area in Gyunggi province using the experimental data of the field vane, unconfined compression, and UU triaxial compression tests. The values of the conventional cone factors N_{kt} , N_{ke} , $N_{\Delta u}$, and the new factor N_e were determined to be 12, 11, 3, and 13, respectively. It was observed that there is a remarkable relationship between $N_{\Delta u}$ and the pore pressure ratio Bq.

요 약 지반의 비배수강도 값 결정을 위하여 최근 콘 관입시험 결과가 많이 활용되고 있다. 그러나 비배수강도 값은 콘 계수 값에 절대적으로 의존하며, 해당 지역에 적합한 콘 계수 값의 결정을 위하여는 많은 시험결과와 축적 및 분석이 필요하다. 본 연구에서는 경기도 시화지구 북동지역 점성토 지반에 대하여 수행된 현장베인시험, 일축압축시험 및 비압밀비배수 삼축압축시험 결과를 이용하여 각 시험결과별 콘 계수 값을 산정하였으며, 이를 비교 분석하였다. 전통적 콘 계수 N_{kt} , N_{ke} , N_e 및 새로운 콘 계수 N_e 값들은 각각 12, 11, 3, 13으로 산정되었으며, $N_{\Delta u}$ 와 간극수압비 Bq 사이에 특정한 경향이 있음이 고찰되었다.

Key Words : Piezocone, Undrained strength, Cone Factor

1. Introduction

The undrained strength can be estimated from the empirical cone factor method using the cone penetration test. The method has been widely used since it is with relative ease(Lunne et al. 1997, Su et al. 2002, Kim 2009)[1,2,3].

There are generally three types of cone factors; N_{kt} based on total cone resistance, N_{ke} based on effective cone resistance, and $N_{\Delta u}$ based on excess pore water

pressure. The three types of cone factors stated above result in the undrained strength through the Eqs. (1)~(3), respectively(Lunne et al. 1985, Campanella et al. 1982, 1984)[4,5,6].

$$s_u = \frac{(q_t - \sigma_{vo})}{N_{kt}} \quad (1)$$

$$s_u = \frac{(q_t - u_2)}{N_{ke}} \quad (2)$$

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$$s_u = \frac{(u_2 - u_o)}{N_{\Delta u}} \quad (3)$$

where s_u is the undrained strength, q_t is the total cone resistance corrected for the pore pressure effect. σ_{vo} is the in-situ total vertical stress. u_2 means the measured pore pressure immediately behind the cone tip. u_o denotes the initial(static) pore water pressure. The results of various lab. and field testings determine the values of the cone factors N_{kt} , N_{ke} , $N_{\Delta u}$ at each site. Kim et al.(2008) proposed new correlation as Eq. (4) adopting the "effective cone factor" N_e [7].

$$s_u = \frac{(q_t - u_o)}{N_e} \quad (4)$$

The value of N_e could be evaluated 16.0 using the data of field vane testings and it was successfully applied for the soils in Songdo, Kwangyang, Pohang, Whajeon areas.

In this study, the cone factor values, for the soils in the northeastern part of Shihwa area in Gyeonggi province, have been evaluated using the correlations as in E q s . (1~4) and the experimental results of field vane, unconfined compression, and UU triaxial compression testings. The determined values have been also investigated through the pore water pressure ratio B_q in Eq. (5) which has been widely used for parametric study.

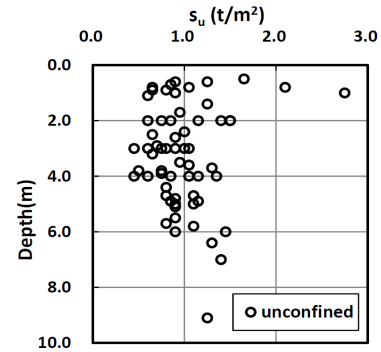
$$B_q = \frac{u_2 - u_o}{q_t - \sigma_{vo}} \quad (5)$$

2. Field Description

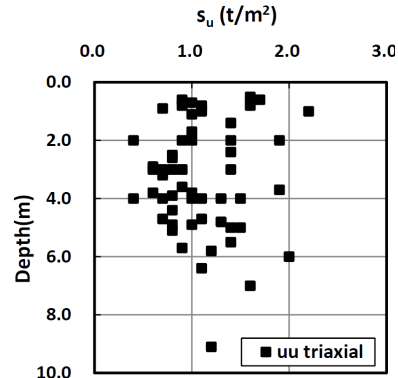
The Shihwa area is western coast part of Gyeonggi province and has been being developed since the sea wall was constructed. The overall area is so wide that the northeastern part of it is considered in this study.

The sub-soil consists of three layers. The upper layer is the soft sea sediment, which is mainly CL or, ML with N value of 1 to 6 in the depth of 6 to 16 m(unit weight $1.6 \sim 1.9 \text{ t/m}^3$, water content $25 \sim 50 \%$, plastic index $8 \sim 50 \%$). The lower sedimentary layer is composed of silty sand and parts of stiff clay with N value over 6 in the

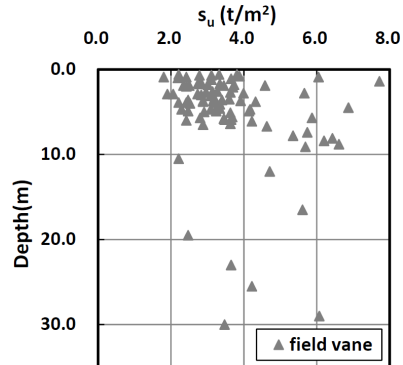
depth of 15 to 25 m(unit weight $1.7 \sim 2.0 \text{ t/m}^3$, water content $18 \sim 30 \%$, plastic index $5 \sim 20 \%$). The bed rock layer is heavily weathered and mainly constituted by silty sand(unit weight $2.1 \sim 2.3 \text{ t/m}^3$, water content $7 \sim 25 \%$, plastic index $7 \sim 30 \%$). Fig. 1 shows the undrained shear strengths obtained from the unconfined compression test, the UU triaxial compression test, and the field vane test.



(a) Undrained strength(unconfined compression)



(b) Undrained strength(UU triaxial)

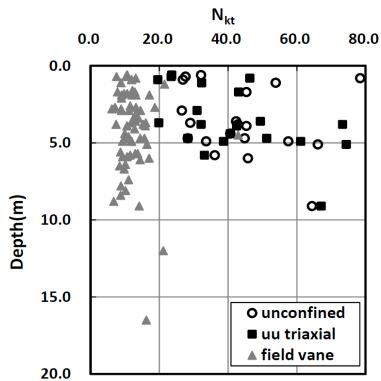


(c) Undrained strength(field vane)

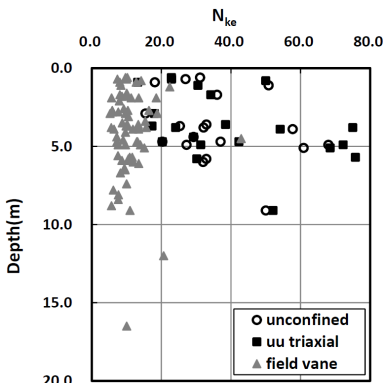
[Fig. 1] Undrained Strength with Depth

3. Cone Factor Values

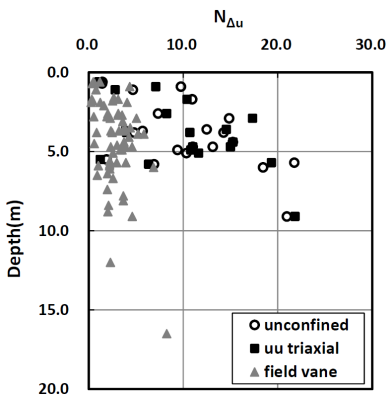
The values of the cone factors N_{kt} , N_{ke} , $N_{\Delta u}$, N_e were determined using Eqs. (1~4) and the undrained strengths which were obtained from the three kinds of test results(Fig. 2).



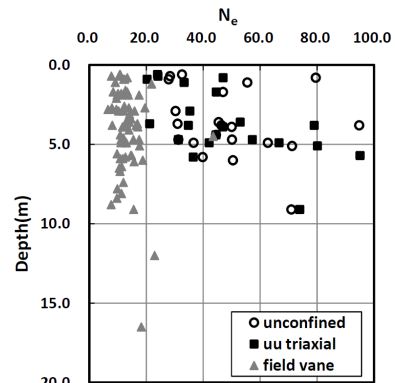
(a) N_{kt} with depth



(b) N_{ke} with depth



(c) $N_{\Delta u}$ with depth



(d) N_e with depth

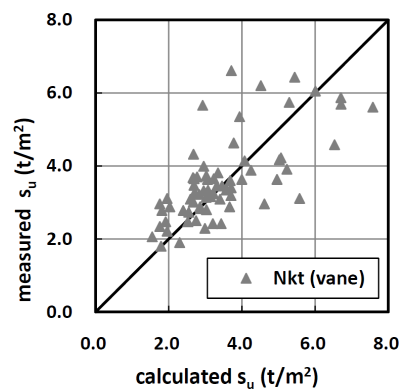
[Fig. 2] Cone factor values with depth

The representative values of the cone factors are described in Table 1. The values from the field vane are smaller than the others because the undrained strength from the field vane are smaller. This is due to the sample disturbance for laboratory testings and the experimental error.

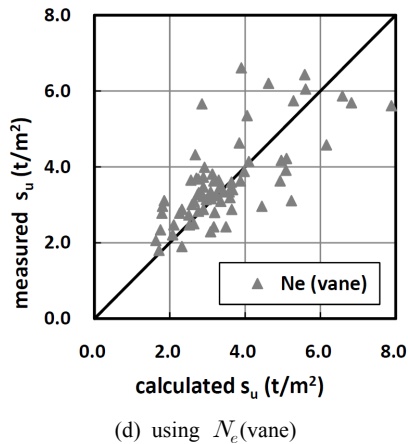
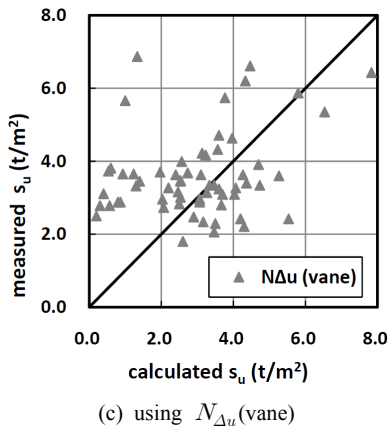
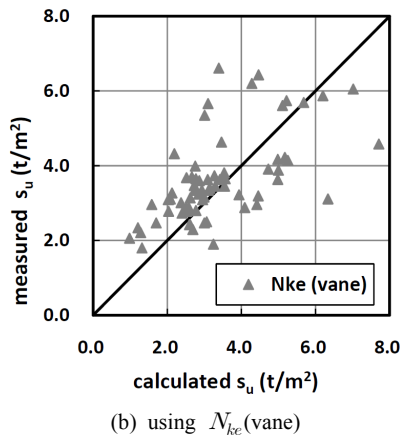
Table 1. Representative values

cone factor	unconfined	UU triaxial	field vane
N_{kt}	39	33	12
N_{ke}	33	28	11
$N_{\Delta u}$	8	7	3
N_e	42	36	13

The undrained strength was calculated using the values from the field vane and compared with the measured values as in Fig. 3.



(a) using N_{kt} (vane)



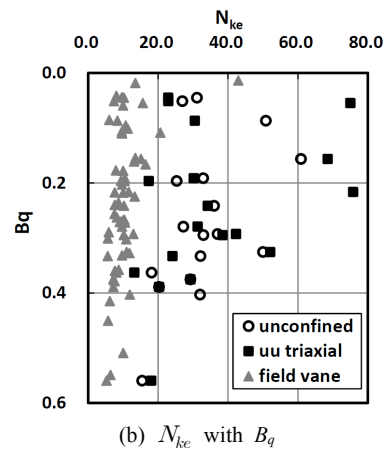
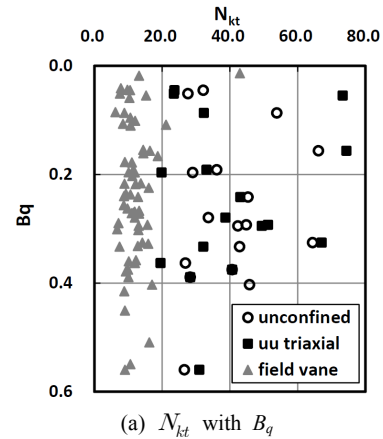
[Fig. 3] Measured and calculated undrained strengths

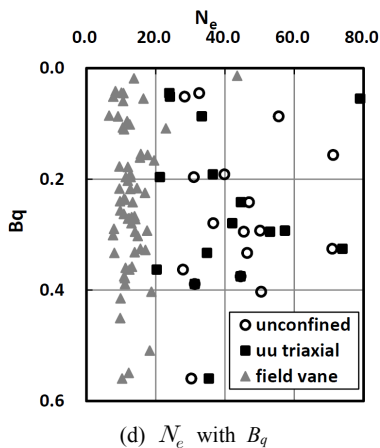
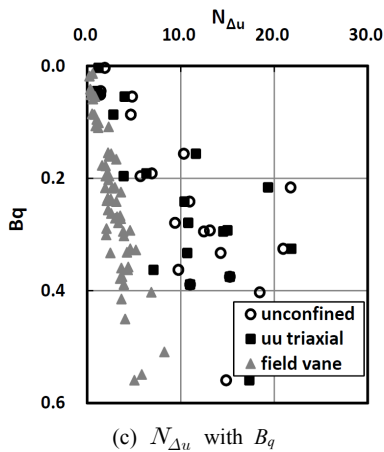
It seems that $N_{\Delta u}$ does not show better result to consider the scattering of the data, on the contrary, the

new factor N_e , which has the advantage that it does not take overburden pressure and excess pore water pressure during cone penetration into account, presents good result and implies the possibility of the use of a standard cone factor.

4. Pore Water Pressure Ratios

The pore pressure ratio B_q is regarded as a reliable index as it involves such soil conditions as overburden stress, tip resistance, penetration pore pressure, and static pore pressure (Eq. 4). The relationship between B_q and the cone factors are presented in Fig. 4.





[Fig. 4] Cone factors with B_q

In Fig. 4, B_q denotes the remarkable trend with $N_{\Delta u}$ from all three test results, despite the scattered results with no relevant relationships in Figs. 2 and 3, unlike the other cone factors. This is the same situation as in previous study(Kim 2009)[3]. The study on B_q is further needed to figure out the correlations of undrained strength- $N_{\Delta u}$ - B_q .

5. Conclusions

In this study, the four kinds of cone factors were evaluated using the experimental results of the unconfined compression test, UU triaxial test, and the field vane tes for the northeastern part of Shihwa area. The values and B_q were investigated and the following conclusions could

be formed.

- The values of N_{kt} , N_{ke} , $N_{\Delta u}$, and N_e obtained from the field vane test are 12, 11, 3, and 13, respectively
- It might be possible that the new cone factor N_e could be used as a standard cone factor.
- The pore pressure ratio B_q presented the notable relationship with $N_{\Delta u}$ from all the three kinds of test results, The correlations of $N_{\Delta u}$ and B could be a clue to get more reliable undrained strength.

Acknowledgments

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<Research Interests>

Geotechnical Engineering, Soils and Foundations, Ground Exploration and Testing, Constitutive Relations, Numerical Analysis, Underground