

DIRECT-PUSH SEISMIC TESTING FOR SHEAR AND COMPRESSION WAVE VELOCITIES

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ABSTRACT

Shear wave velocity V_s is a fundamental parameter for earthquake geotechnical engineering applications, including seismic site response analysis, liquefaction risk assessment and seismic design of shallow and deep foundations. The maximum shear modulus G_0 , directly derived from V_s , plays a key role in the G - γ degradation curve required for equivalent-linear seismic site response analyses and advanced deformation analyses commonly employed in FEM calculation software. Compression wave velocity V_p is also a fundamental parameter that can provide important indications on soil saturation and porosity, particularly relevant in partially drained geomaterials such as in some Tailings Dams.

Today, direct-push technology enables seismic testing in combination with other in-situ tests (CPT, DMT, SPT, etc) or independently with specific seismic-only probes (DPCH). V_s measurements via direct-push methods are of common practice onshore, nearshore or in shallow water depths (within 30-40 m), but very challenging in deeper offshore investigations.

This minisymposium aims to collect/share contributions and experience from researchers and practitioners on advanced applications of direct-push seismic testing, including technological developments in equipment, test procedures, data interpretation, soil characterization and applications to design using V_s and/or V_p . The topics of the session include (but are not limited to):

- Innovative technological developments
- Seismic testing configuration and procedures
- Wave sources and their deployment
- Comparisons of data interpretation methods (true-interval, pseudo-interval, ray tracing, slope-based)
- V_s predictions from other in situ tests (CPT, DMT, SPT, etc) and comparisons with measured V_s
- Nearshore/offshore seismic testing
- V_s for liquefaction risk assessment
- Estimation of advanced material properties (e.g., degree of saturation, porosity, K_0)
- Methods for quantifying uncertainty
- Measurements of wave anisotropy