Performance Analysis and Optimization Study of Foundation in Weak Foundation Reinforcement

Peng Zhang

Heilongjiang University of Technology, Jixi, Heilongjiang, 158100, China
nedved_zhangpeng@163.com

Keywords: Foundation reinforcement; soft foundation; performance analysis; optimization research; stability; reinforcement effect

Abstract: Performance analysis and optimization of foundation in weak foundation reinforcement is a crucial subject in the field of civil engineering. This paper aims to explore the characteristics of weak foundation, analyze the performance of different reinforcement techniques, and improve the reinforcement effect of foundation through optimization means, so as to provide scientific basis for engineering practice. The basic characteristics of the weak foundation are expounded in detail, including its origin, classification and engineering characteristics. On this basis, here is the common foundation reinforcement technology and its application in weak foundations. By comparing the performance of different reinforcement techniques, the advantages and disadvantages of various techniques are revealed. In order to further improve the effect of foundation reinforcement, the paper optimizes the reinforcement materials, reinforcement methods and construction technology.

1. Introduction

With the continuous expansion of civil engineering construction scale, the problem of weak foundation is increasingly prominent, and the importance of foundation reinforcement technology is more and more prominent[1]. This paper aims to explore the performance of foundation in the reinforcement of weak foundation, and improve the reinforcement effect through optimization means. We first combed the basic characteristics of the weak foundation to lay the foundation for the subsequent performance analysis and optimization research. Next, we will analyze the performance differences of different reinforcement techniques to reveal their advantages and disadvantages and the scope of application.

1.1 Research Background And Significance

In the intricate realm of civil engineering construction, the stability of the foundation stands as a pivotal factor, intricately linked to the overall safety and stability of the structure. However, in the practical realm of engineering, the challenge of encountering weak foundations often arises[2]. Such foundations, characterized by their low bearing capacity, high compressibility, and susceptibility to deformation, pose significant obstacles to the smooth execution of construction projects.
Addressing these issues and enhancing the bearing capacity and stability of these foundations is thus a pressing concern in civil engineering. To this end, foundation reinforcement technology has emerged as a highly effective solution. In recent years, this technology has garnered widespread attention and has been extensively researched and applied, offering hope in overcoming the challenges posed by weak foundations and ensuring the integrity and safety of civil engineering structures.

1.2 Research status at home and abroad

At home and abroad, rich results have been made on the performance analysis and optimization of foundation in weak foundation reinforcement\(^3\). Foreign scholars have carried out in-depth research on the reinforcement materials, reinforcement methods and construction techniques, and put forward a series of effective reinforcement techniques and methods. At the same time, they also pay attention to the combination of theory and practice, through a large number of engineering examples to verify the feasibility and effectiveness of reinforcement technology.

In China, with the rapid development of civil engineering construction, the problem of weak foundation has been increasingly valued. On the basis of drawing lessons from the advanced experience of foreign countries and combining with the actual situation of China, the domestic scholars have carried out in-depth research and innovation of the foundation reinforcement technology. They not only focus on the performance analysis of the reinforcement technology, but also focus on the optimization and improvement of the reinforcement effect. By adopting new materials, new processes and new methods, it has successfully solved many difficult problems of weak foundation reinforcement, and has made important contributions to the development of civil engineering construction in China.

2. Characteristics and reinforcement principle of weak foundation

The principle of reinforcement is to improve the physical and mechanical properties of the foundation soil, improve the bearing capacity and stability, and ensure the safety and stability of the building.

2.1 Definition and classification of weak foundation

Weak foundation, as the name suggests, refers to those whose engineering properties are poor and cannot meet the requirements of the superstructure\(^4\). The soil composition of such foundation is complex, including silt, peat, loose soil, collapsible loess and other soil layers with high compressibility and low shear strength. They often have the characteristics of low bearing capacity, high compressibility, poor water permeability and easy liquefaction, which leads to the safety problems such as settlement and deformation of buildings. According to the causes and engineering characteristics, soft foundation can be divided into two types: natural weak foundation and artificial weak foundation. Natural weak foundation mainly includes silty soil, collapsible loess, expanded soil, etc., which is naturally formed and the engineering properties are poor. Artificial weak foundation is mostly caused by human activities, such as soil filling, mining, etc., resulting in loose soil structure and poor stability.

2.2 Analysis of engineering characteristics of weak foundation

The low bearing capacity of the weak foundation poses a significant challenge in civil engineering. This is primarily due to the limited adhesion between soil particles and the low friction
present in such foundations. As a result, when the weak foundation is subjected to a load, it is highly prone to settlement and deformation. This settlement and deformation can be significant, often exceeding the acceptable limits for foundation bearing capacity, thus making it difficult to meet the design requirements for stability and safety.

Furthermore, the compressibility of weak foundation is notably high. This means that when such a foundation is exposed to external forces, the soil particles are easily displaced and rearranged. This rearrangement leads to a reduction in volume and results in significant compression deformation. Such deformation can have far-reaching consequences. Not only does it compromise the stability of the entire building, but it can also lead to damage and even collapse of the superstructure.

### 2.3 Principle and method of weak foundation reinforcement

The principle of weak foundation reinforcement is to improve the physical and mechanical properties of foundation soil and improve its bearing capacity and stability through a series of technical means. This includes increasing the compaction of foundation soil, improving the drainage performance of soil, and improving the shear strength of soil.

There are various reinforcement methods of weak foundation, such as replacement and filling method, drainage consolidation method, dynamic compaction method, vibration method, grouting reinforcement method and so on. The replacement method is to remove the soft soil layer and replace it with high strength materials, such as sand, gravel, etc. Drainage consolidation method is to accelerate the drainage consolidation process of foundation soil and improve the strength of foundation by setting up the drainage system. The rule is to use heavy hammer to consolidate the foundation and increase the compactness and bearing capacity of the foundation soil.

### 3. Foundation reinforcement technology and its performance analysis

As a key means to improve the bearing capacity and stability of foundation, foundation reinforcement technology plays an important role in civil engineering. Common reinforcement techniques include filling replacement method, drainage consolidation method, dynamic compaction method, vibration and punching method, etc. Each of which has its own unique application scenarios and advantages. Performance analysis is the key link to evaluate the reinforcement effect.

### 3.1 Classification and characteristics of foundation reinforcement technology

There are a variety of foundation reinforcement technology, according to the different reinforcement principle and application methods, can be roughly divided into the following categories: replacement method, drainage consolidation method, dynamic compaction method, vibration method and chemical reinforcement method. Each technology has its own unique characteristics and applicable scenarios.

The replacement method is to remove the bad soil layer in the foundation and replace the filling materials with higher strength and better stability, such as sand, gravel or ash soil. This method is simple to operate and has a direct reinforcement effect, which is suitable for the reinforcement of shallow and weak foundation. Drainage consolidation method is to use the drainage performance of foundation soil and accelerate the consolidation process of foundation soil by setting up drainage system. This method is suitable for the foundation with good water permeability but long consolidation time, and can effectively improve the bearing capacity and stability of the foundation. The dynamic compaction method uses the heavy hammer to consolidate the foundation, through the
shock wave and dynamic stress to make the foundation soil dense and improve the bearing capacity.

3.2 Application of different reinforcement techniques in weak foundation

In the treatment of weak foundation, it is essential to choose the appropriate reinforcement technology. The replacement method has obvious advantages in treating shallow weak foundation, which can rapidly improve the bearing capacity of the foundation; drainage consolidation method is applicable to the foundation with good water permeability but long consolidation time by accelerating the consolidation process, and the method is applicable for improving foundation strength by improving soil particle arrangement; chemical reinforcement method has a wide application range and can be reinforced for different types of weak foundation.

3.3 Performance evaluation indicators and methods of reinforcement technology

The performance evaluation of the reinforcement technology is the key link to judge the reinforcement effect. Common evaluation indicators include foundation bearing capacity, deformation capacity, stability and so on. Bearing capacity is an important index to evaluate the reinforcement effect of foundation reinforcement, which can be measured by static load test. The deformation reflects the deformation of the foundation under load, which can be monitored by settlement observation; Stability is the key index to evaluate the overall safety of foundation, which can be evaluated by stability analysis.

4. Research on the optimization of foundation reinforcement performance

The optimization study of foundation reinforcement performance is the key link to improve the safety of civil engineering structure. Through the in-depth analysis of the performance characteristics of different reinforcement technologies, combined with the engineering practice, the optimization combination and improvement method of reinforcement technology are explored[7].

4.1 Selection and optimization of the reinforced materials

The selection of reinforcement materials is the foundation for optimizing the foundation reinforcement performance. In practical engineering, the commonly used reinforcement materials include cement, sand, steel bar, chemical slurry, etc. Different materials have different physical and mechanical properties and a range of application. In the selection of reinforcement materials, it is necessary to comprehensively consider the engineering characteristics, reinforcement purpose, construction conditions and cost-benefit factors of the foundation.

4.2 Combination and optimization of the reinforcement method

The combination of reinforcement methods is the key to optimize the foundation reinforcement performance. Different reinforcement methods have different reinforcement mechanisms and applicable ranges. Reasonable combination can give full play to the advantages of various methods to improve the reinforcement effect.

In practical engineering, appropriate reinforcement methods can be selected according to the engineering characteristics and reinforcement requirements of the foundation[8]. For example, for the deep soft weak foundation, the reinforcement method of dynamic compaction method and vibration ation method can be adopted, which can improve the compaction of the foundation through dynamic compaction method to improve the particle arrangement of the foundation.
4.3 Improvement and optimization of construction technology

The improvement of the construction technology is an important link of optimizing the foundation reinforcement performance. By optimizing the construction technology, the construction efficiency can be improved, reduce the construction cost and reduce the impact on the environment.

In the improvement of construction technology, the following aspects can be paid attention to: first, the upgrading of construction equipment, adopting more advanced and efficient construction equipment to improve the construction speed and quality; second, the innovation of construction technology, exploring new construction methods and technical means to improve the reinforcement effect and construction efficiency; third, optimizing construction management, strengthening the management and coordination of construction site to ensure the smooth progress of the construction process[9].

4.4 Effect prediction and evaluation of the optimization scheme

Effect prediction and evaluation of the optimization scheme is the key step to ensure reinforcement performance. Through theoretical calculation, numerical simulation and experimental verification, the reinforcement effect of the optimization scheme in practical engineering can be predicted. At the same time, combined with the practical engineering experience, the optimization scheme is comprehensively evaluated, and its advantages and disadvantages in improving the foundation bearing capacity, reducing deformation and enhancing stability are analyzed.

5. Numerical simulation of the performance analysis and optimization of foundation reinforcement

In the foundation reinforcement engineering, numerical simulation, as an effective analysis means, can provide us with in-depth performance analysis and optimization scheme. Through the numerical simulation, we can simulate the reinforcement process, predict the reinforcement effect, and optimize the reinforcement scheme accordingly[10].

5.1 Selection and introduction of the numerical simulation methods

Numerical simulation methods are varied, including finite element method, finite difference method, discrete element method, etc. In the performance analysis and optimization of foundation reinforcement, we mainly choose the finite element method for simulation.

5.2 Establishment and validation of the numerical model

Establishing an accurate numerical model is the key to the numerical simulation. We first need to determine the geometric size, material properties, and boundary conditions of the model according to the actual situation of the base. Then, the corresponding numerical model is built using the finite element software. To verify the accuracy of the model, we can compare the simulation results with the experimental results or the actual engineering data. If the two agree well, it means that the model is established correctly and can be used for subsequent performance analysis and optimization.

5.3 Application of numerical simulation in the analysis of reinforcement performance

Numerical simulation plays an important role in the analysis of foundation reinforcement performance. By simulating the foundation response under different reinforcement schemes, we can
evaluate the reinforcement effect and analyze the stress distribution and deformation characteristics in the reinforcement process.

5.4 Application of numerical simulation in the optimization of reinforcement performance

Numerical simulation is not only a tool for performance analysis, but also an important means of performance optimization. By simulating the ground-based response under different reinforcement schemes, we can find out the direction of performance optimization. For example, we can adjust the ratio of reinforcement materials, change the combination of reinforcement methods, optimize the construction sequence, and so on, in order to improve the bearing capacity of the foundation, reduce the deformation, and enhance the stability.

6. Example Analysis of Engineering Application

6.1 Project Overview and Geological Conditions

The project in question involves the construction of a highway tunnel through a mountainous region. This region is known for its complex geological conditions, including varying soil types, fault lines, and potential for seismic activity. The tunnel, with a total length of approximately 5 kilometers, aims to connect two major cities, significantly reducing travel time and promoting economic development in the surrounding areas. The geological survey conducted prior to the project revealed the presence of soft soil layers, rocky outcrops, and a fault zone running parallel to the proposed tunnel route. These conditions pose significant challenges in terms of tunnel stability, water ingress, and potential for ground movements. Therefore, a comprehensive reinforcement scheme is necessary to ensure the safety and durability of the tunnel structure.

6.2 Design and Implementation of the Reinforcement Scheme

To address the geological challenges, a multi-faceted reinforcement scheme was designed. Firstly, pre-support measures were employed to stabilize the surrounding rock masses and reduce the risk of collapse during excavation. These measures help to minimize damage to the tunnel structure and maintain its integrity during seismic events.

To further enhance the tunnel's structural integrity, a combination of reinforced concrete and steel reinforcement was used in the tunnel lining. This composite lining provides both strength and ductility, ensuring that the tunnel can withstand both static and dynamic loads. Waterproofing measures were implemented to prevent water ingress and protect the tunnel from corrosion and deterioration. This included the installation of waterproof membranes and drainage systems to collect and redirect any infiltrating water. The implementation of this comprehensive reinforcement scheme ensures that the tunnel can safely traverse the challenging geological conditions while maintaining its structural integrity over the long term. This approach not only guarantees the safety of travelers but also contributes to the sustainability of the project and the surrounding environment.

7. Conclusion

After in-depth research on the optimization of foundation reinforcement performance, we have achieved a series of practical results. Through systematic theoretical analysis and numerical simulation, we propose various reinforcement schemes and verify their effectiveness in engineering practice. These schemes not only improve the bearing capacity and stability of the foundation, but also effectively control the settlement and deformation, to ensure the safety and stability of the
project. In addition, we have developed an efficient evaluation system of foundation reinforcement, which provides a scientific basis for engineering decision-making. These innovations and contributions not only promote the development of foundation reinforcement technology, but also provide new ideas for research in related fields. And the exploration of new reinforcement materials and technologies needs to be strengthened. In view of these deficiencies, we plan to further expand the research scope in future research, explore the reinforcement methods under various geological conditions, and strengthen the cross-cooperation with materials science, mechanics and other fields to promote the development and application of new reinforcement materials and technologies.

Looking into the future, the optimization research of foundation reinforcement performance still has broad space and potential. We suggest that future research can pay more attention to the intelligence and greening of reinforcement technology and explore more efficient and environmentally friendly reinforcement methods; at the same time, strengthen international cooperation and exchanges to jointly promote the progress and development of foundation reinforcement technology.

References