



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

PISA – Improved Design of Monopiles

Byron Byrne

Professor of Engineering Science

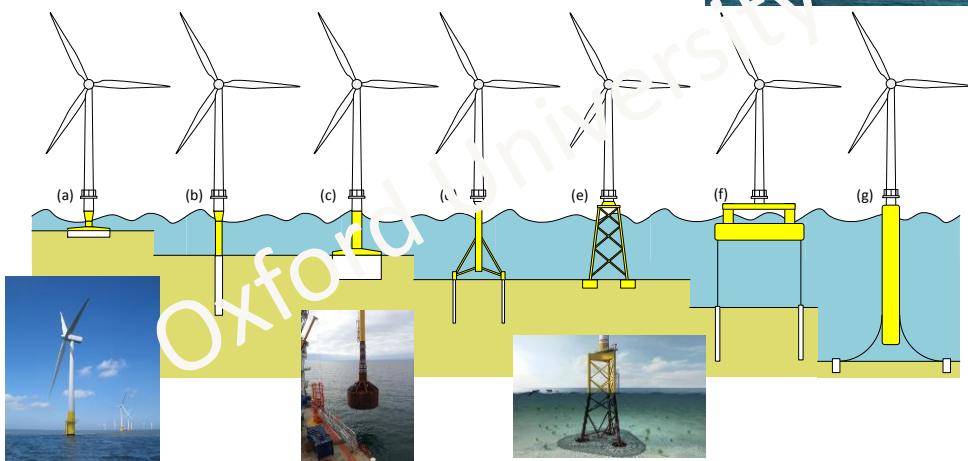
Presentation on behalf of the PISA Academic Work Group

SUPERGEN WIND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

23 November 2016



Offshore Wind



Images from various websites



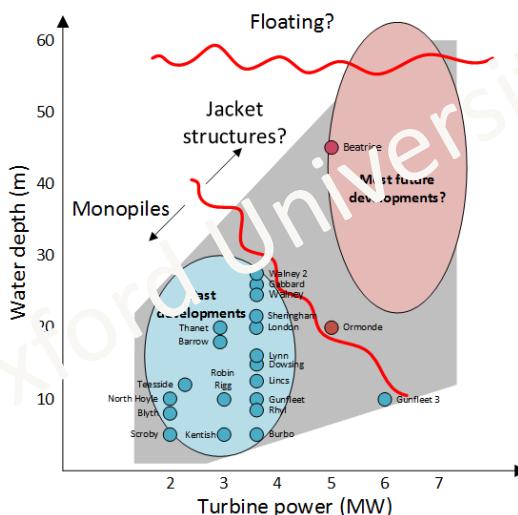
Monopiles



Photos from Dan Kallehave (DONG Energy)



REMS CDT Conference: What is the Limit of the Monopile?



From Guy Housby
2014 Rankine Lecture



Shortcoming of Existing Design Methods

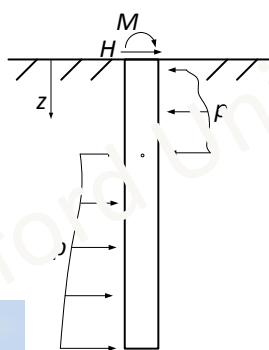
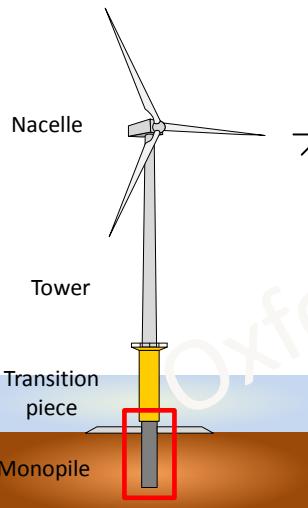
Offshore Wind



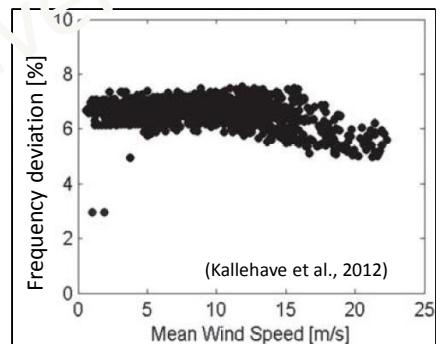
Oil and Gas Design



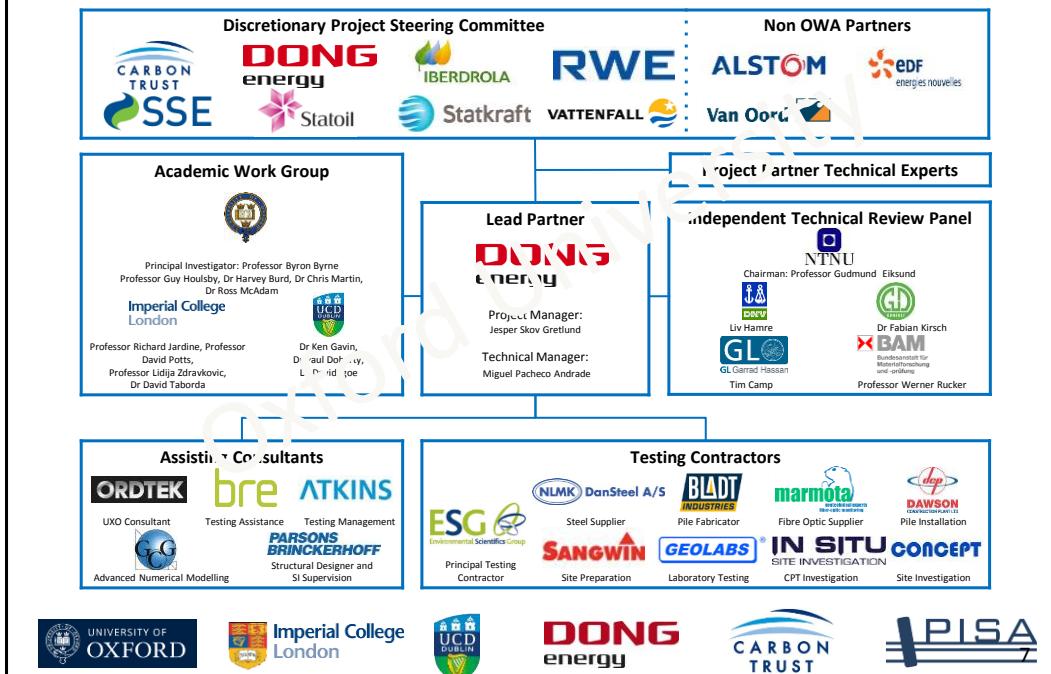
Design Problems?



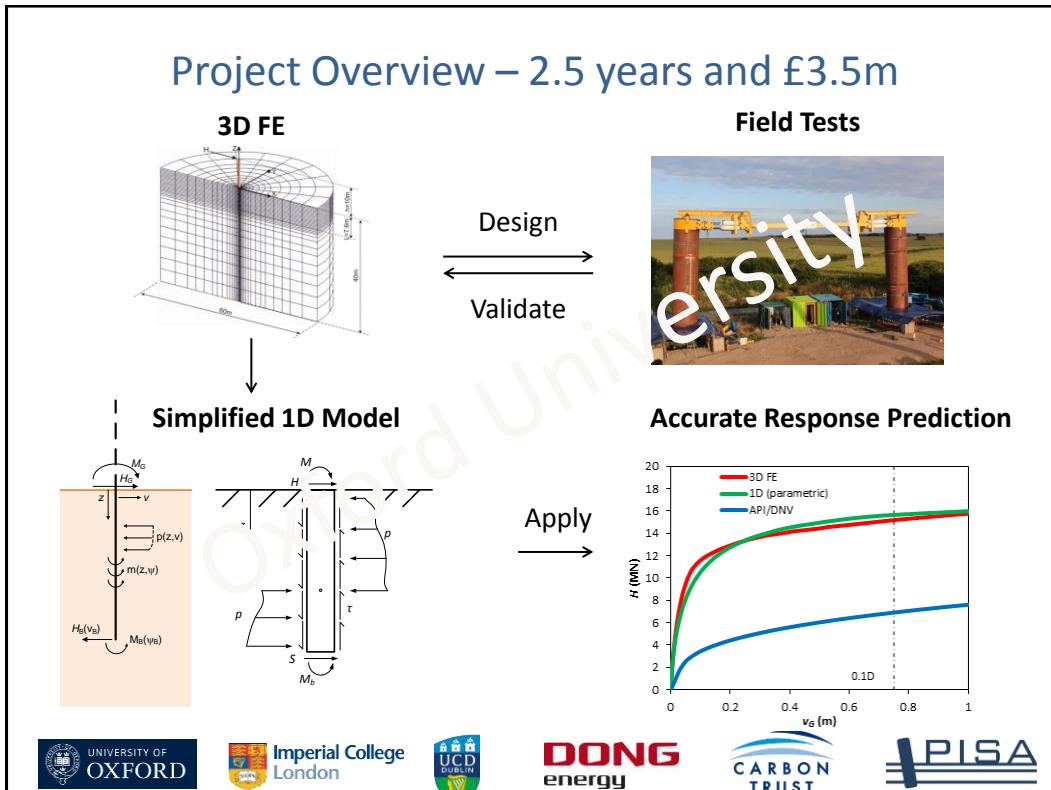
Underestimation of measured frequency



Organogram

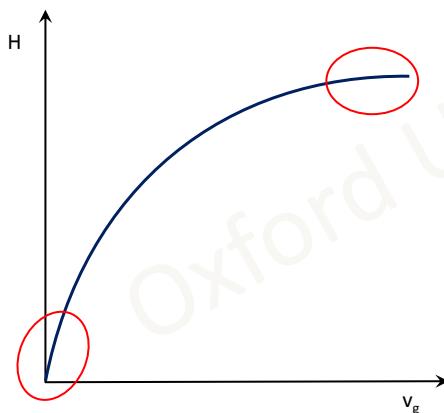


Project Overview – 2.5 years and £3.5m



Focus of Modelling

- Monotonic loading only
- Two materials - stiff over-consolidated clay till and dense sand

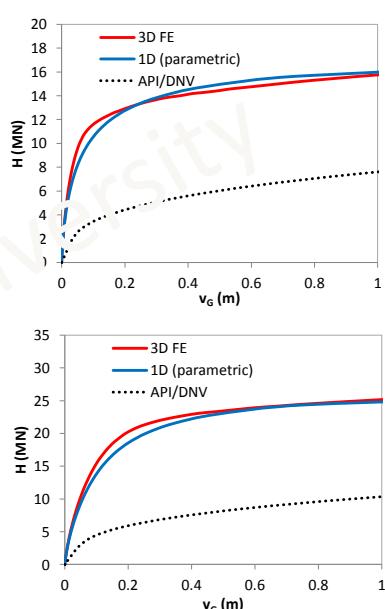
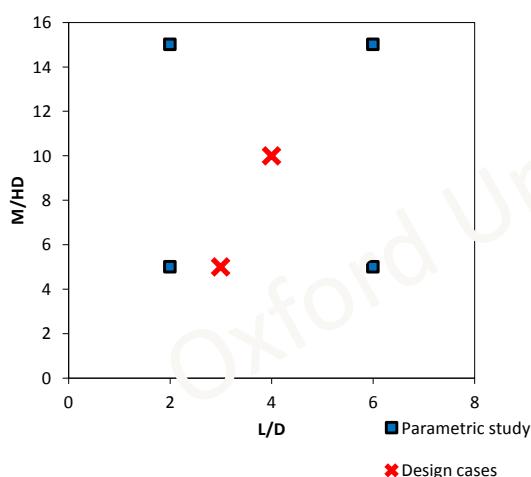


For realistic numerical prediction of pile response:

- initial loading:
- small strain soil behaviour
- ultimate load:
- soil conditions at failure

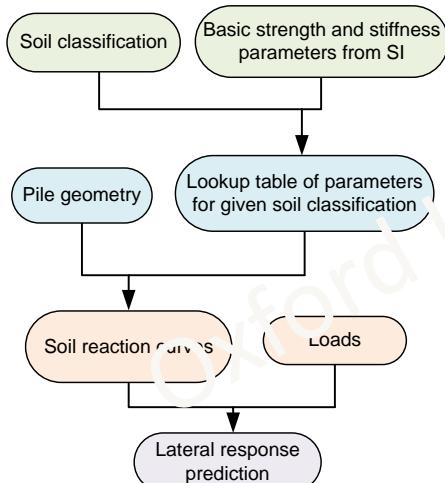


How Good?

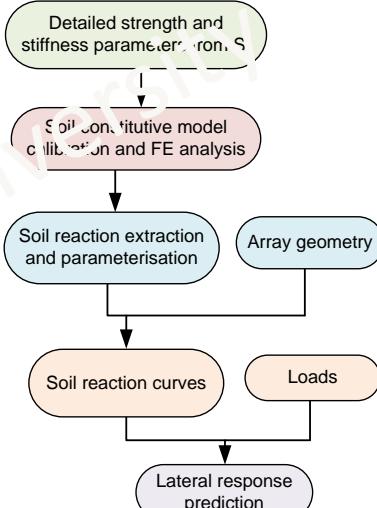


Overview of PISA Design Approach

Rule-based method



Numerical-based method



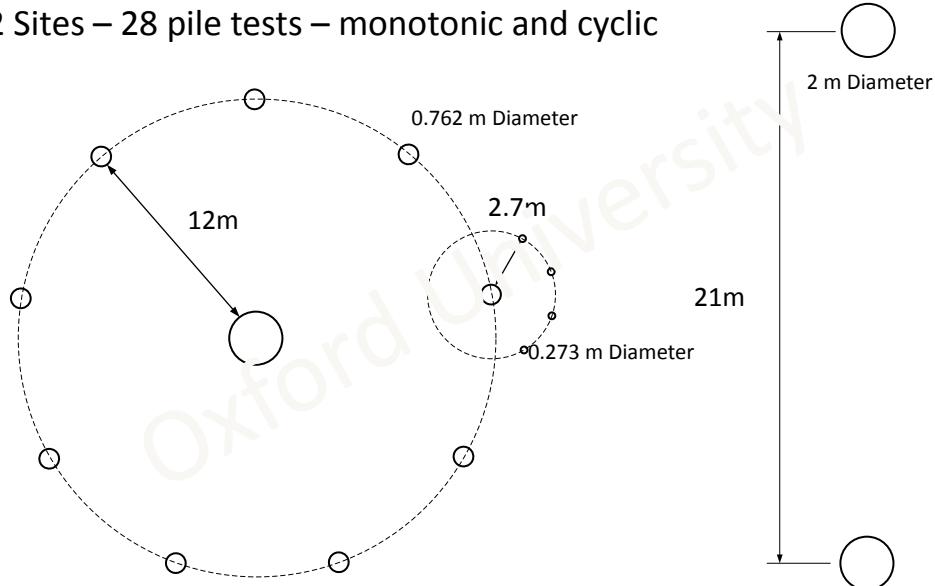
Site Selection

- Representative soil conditions
 - Cowden – stiff clay site
 - Dunkirk – dense sand site
- Existing characterisation used as a basis for FE modelling
- Additional in-situ and laboratory based characterisation completed



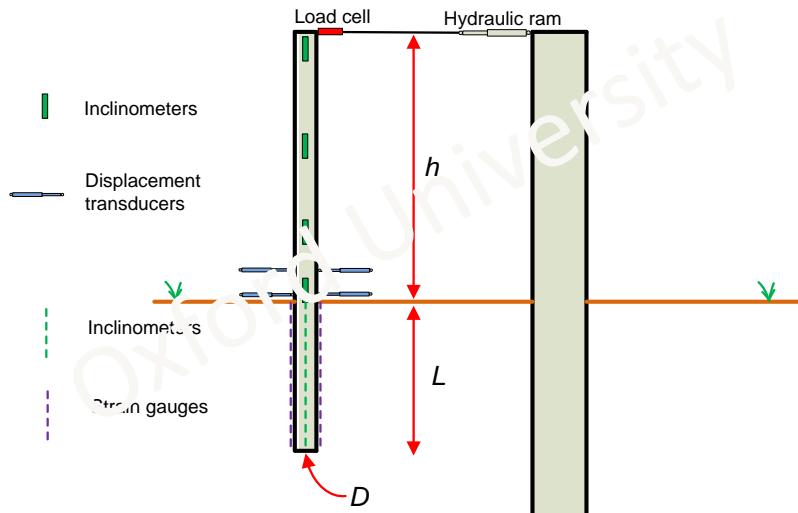
Field Test Program - Layout

2 Sites – 28 pile tests – monotonic and cyclic



Test Arrangement

Test pile Reaction pile





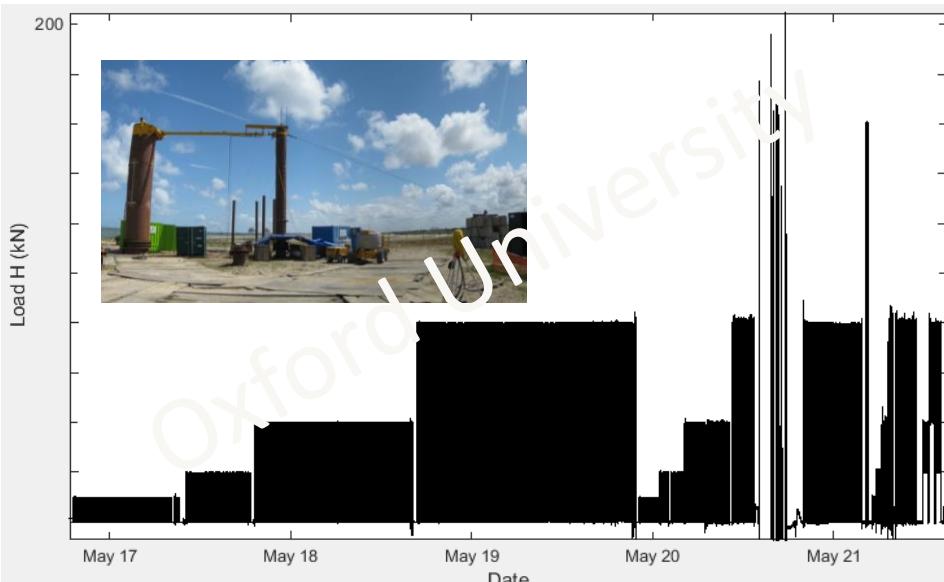
Potential Industry Impact



Design method	Pile length (m)	Pile weight (tonnes)
"p-z" approach	31.25	309
PISA approach	20.0	198



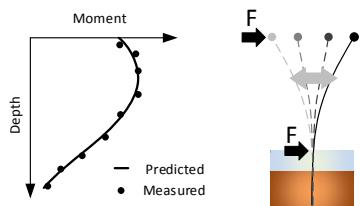
Cyclic Testing



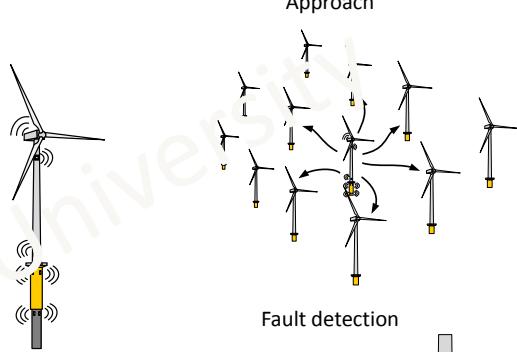


Supergen Wind Hub Flexible Funding Pilot Project Oxford University / Durham University

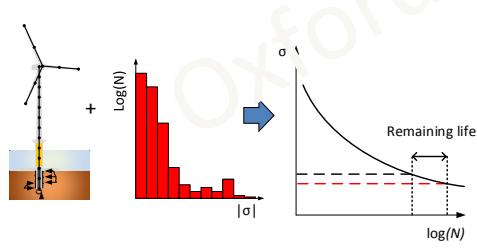
Design Validation



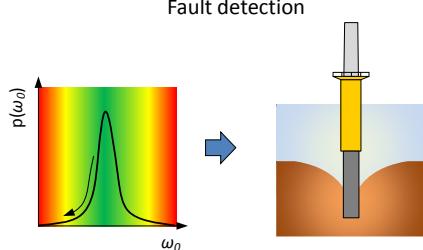
Distributed Approach



Lifetime Assessment



Fault detection



Concluding Remarks

- Next generation monopile foundations will be large
 - Deeper water
 - Larger turbines
- New design methods needed for optimisation
 - Developed from numerical analysis
 - Benchmarked against field testing
 - Monotonic and cyclic loading
 - Results here suggest reduction of steel by 30% compared with the API / DNV method, leading to significant savings in installation costs
 - Final report distributed to Partners in May 2016
 - Further phases of work currently ongoing
- Wider dissemination after end of confidentiality period
- PISA – A great example of industry and academia working together to solve important technical challenges

