On approximations of the wave drift forces acting on semi-submersible platforms with heave plates

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(from Lacaze's Ph.D. thesis, 2015)

Single vertical column in heave only

1. Solve heave motion equation through Hooft's method:

Incoming wave potential

$$\Phi_I(x,z,t) = rac{A\,g}{\omega}\,\mathrm{e}^{kz}\,\sin(kx-\omega t)$$

Vertical load at bottom

 $F_z(t) =
ho \, g \, A \, (\pi a^2 - 2ka^3) \, \mathrm{e}^{-kd} \, \cos \omega t$

Heave response

 $Z(t) = A \, \Re \left\{ z_0 \, \mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{i}\,\omega t}
ight\}$

with z_0 the complex RAO

 $z_0 = rac{
ho\,g\,(\pi\,a^2-2k\,a^3)\,{
m e}^{-kd}}{-\omega^2(M+M_a)-{
m i}\,\zeta\,\omega\,B_C+K}$





Heave RAO. Draft 12 m. Radius 4 m.



Drift force from the inertia term in the Morison equation

$$\mathrm{d}F_x = 2\,\rho\,\pi\,a^2\,\Phi_{xt}(0,z,t)\,\,\mathrm{d}z$$

to be integrated from -d + Z(t) up to $\eta(0, t)$.

The non zero time averaged value results from the integration between -d + Z(t) and -d, leading to the second-order drift force:

$$F_{dx\,{
m Morison}} =
ho\,g\,\pi\,A^2\,k\,a^2\,{
m e}^{-kd}\,\Im\,\{z_0\}$$

compared with "exact" calculations with COREV code.



Horizontal drift force Fd / rho g a A². Draft 24 m. Damping 5 %.

Introducing Rainey's equations

J. Fluid Mech. (1989), vol. 204, pp. 295–324 Printed in Great Britain 295

A new equation for calculating wave loads on offshore structures

By R. C. T. RAINEY WS Atkins Engineering Sciences, Woodcote Grove, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5BW, UK

Slender-body expressions for the wave load on offshore structures

BY R. C. T. RAINEY

Proc. Royal Soc. A, 1995

(a) Force per unit immersed length

If the cross-sectional area of a structural member is c and its 2D added mass is written as the 3D matrix \mathbf{M} (by defining $\mathbf{M}\mathbf{x} = 0$ whenever the vector \mathbf{x} is axial – throughout this paper bold sans-serif capitals denote matrices, and bold letters denote vectors), then the force per unit length on it is:

$$\rho c[\boldsymbol{a} - \boldsymbol{g}]_{\mathrm{T}} + \boldsymbol{M}[\boldsymbol{a} + (\boldsymbol{l} \cdot \boldsymbol{V} \boldsymbol{l})\boldsymbol{w}] - \boldsymbol{M} \, \boldsymbol{\dot{u}} - 2\boldsymbol{M}\boldsymbol{\Omega} \, \boldsymbol{w}_{\mathrm{A}} + [(\boldsymbol{V} + \boldsymbol{\Omega})\boldsymbol{M} \, \boldsymbol{w}]_{\mathrm{T}} - \boldsymbol{M}(\boldsymbol{V} + \boldsymbol{\Omega}) \, \boldsymbol{w}_{\mathrm{T}}.$$
(1)

(c) Point loads at joints

At a joint, each structural member terminating there produces a point load:

$$(\frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{w}\cdot\boldsymbol{M}\boldsymbol{w}-cp)\boldsymbol{l}-(\boldsymbol{l}\cdot\boldsymbol{w})\boldsymbol{M}\boldsymbol{w}$$
 (3)

where p is the pressure in the incident wave (i.e. $\nabla p = -\rho(\boldsymbol{a}-\boldsymbol{g})$), and the sense of the unit axial vector \boldsymbol{l} is taken as outwards from the member end. This is exactly

Missile launching from a submarine

Kinetic energy in the fluid

$$E_{C} = \frac{1}{2} \rho C_{m} \pi a^{2} L U^{2}$$
Variation of the kinetic energy

$$\frac{dE_{C}}{dt} = F U$$

$$\rightarrow F = \rho C_{m} \pi a^{2} U W$$
applied at the tip of the missile.

Rainey's end load (horizontal component) :

$$F_{xe}=
ho\,\pi\,a^2\,U~\left(W-\dot{Z}
ight)$$
 with $U=\Phi_x(0,-d,t),~W=\Phi_z(0,-d,t).$

 \rightarrow time-averaged value

$$\overline{F_{xe}} = -rac{1}{2} \,
ho \, g \, \pi \, A^2 \, k \, a^2 \, {
m e}^{-kd} \, \Im \, \{z_0\}$$

so that the drift force becomes

$$F_{dx\,{
m Rainey}} = rac{1}{2}\,
ho\,g\,\pi\,A^2\,k\,a^2\,{
m e}^{-kd}\,\,\Im\,\{z_0\}$$

half the Morison value.



Horizontal drift force. Draft 24 m. Damping 5%.



Horizontal drift force. Draft 12 m. Damping 5%.

Drift force from far-field waves (Maruo 1960)

$$F_{dx} =
ho \, g \, A^2 \, rac{1}{k} \, \left[rac{1}{2\pi} \, \int_0^{2\pi} H(heta) \, H^*(heta) \, \cos heta \, \mathrm{d} heta + \Re(H(0))
ight]$$

with $H(\theta)$ the Kochin function.

The heaving column creates a flux $Q = -\pi a^2 \dot{Z}(t)$ at its foot which, owing to its deep draft and small diameter, can be viewed, from the far field, as a submerged pulsating source. From Wehausen & Laitone, eq. (13.17"'), the resulting velocity potential is

$$\Phi_R = - \Re \left\{ rac{\pi}{2} \, k \, a^2 \, A \, z_0 \, \omega \, \mathrm{e}^{k(z-d)} \, H_0(kR) \, \mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{i} \, \omega t}
ight\}$$

with H_0 the Hankel function.

The Kochin function is then

$$H(heta)=-\mathrm{i}\,rac{\pi}{2}\,k^2a^2\,z_0\,e^{-kd}$$

and the drift force is

$$F_{dx} = rac{1}{2} \,
ho \, g \, \pi \, A^2 \, k \, a^2 \, \mathrm{e}^{-kd} \, \Im \, \{z_0\}$$

in agreement with Rainey!

Vertical column with heave plate

Heave plate radius: 9 m.

Thickness: 0.5 m.

Draft: 12 m.

Added mass taken equal to $8/3\,\rho\,b^3$

Vertical exciting force:

$$F_{ze} =
ho \, g \, A \, \left(\pi a^2 - rac{8}{3} \, k b^3
ight) \, \mathrm{e}^{-kd} \, \cos \omega t \, ,$$



Vertical column with heave plate. Heave RAO.



Horizontal drift force. Damping 5 %.



Horizontal drift force. Damping 10 %.

Drift moment in roll/pitch

- Rainey / Morison predict that the drift force applies at the foot of the column (or column plus heave plate)
- Confirmed by COREV

Vertical drift force

- For the column alone should be easier to predict through Morison/Rainey approaches since free surface effects are not involved.
- The other way around: very poorly predicted!!!
- How to account for the heave plate?



Vertical drift force. Fixed.



Vertical drift force. Heave only. Damping 5 %.

Thank you for your attention. Questions?



