DETERMINATION OF BLAST LOAD PARAMETERS FOR A MULTI STOREY STRUCTURE

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ABSTRACT

Blast resistant analysis explores non linear Two Dimensional dynamic responses of tall building (G+10) storey. Tall reinforced concrete structural buildings have been designed for normal loads like dead, live, and wind. As all of us are aware that in today's world terrorist's attacks are common and not a single country is completely safe. High-Explosive detonations propagate blast energy in all directions, causing extensive damage to both the target structure and nearby buildings. These blast loads are of high intensity and these loads acts on the structure for short durations. Hence blast loading is nothing but impulsive loading. These loads are analyzed by TM-5 1300. In there comes the major challenge for civil engineers to design the structure for blast loads. In the Impact from the blast loads damages the target structure as well as the surrounding structures. Hence the structure should be designed for the blast loads along with normal loads, so that can be resist shock waves due to blast (impact) loading. The blasting energy releases high intensity pressure waves which are called as incident pressure waves. Then the incident waves affect the surrounding structures along with target structure. Those waves touches the structure and rebounds to the source after which they gets combined with the incident waves forming high intensity waves called reflected pressure waves. With that the reflected pressure waves a mach front is formed with the summation of the both incident pressure as well as reflected pressure. The dynamic blast loads are needed to be carefully calculated just like wind loads and earthquake loads. In this paper the blast load parameters are calculated for 2-D G+10 structural frame which is done manually. Columns are key load bearing elements in the frame structure.

Key Words: Blasting, tall structure, Dplot, TM-5 1300, terrorist activities.

1. INTRODUCTION

The analysis of the blast loading was started in 1960’s only. Protecting the civilian buildings from the threat of terrorist activities is one of the most critical challenges for structural engineers now a days. Most of the studies were conducted using the vehicle driven high-energy explosive loading on the concrete/composite masonry wall building simulating terrorist's attack. The terrorist activities and threats have become a growing problem all over the world and protection of the citizens against terrorist attacks involves prediction, prevention and mitigation of the such events. One of the example Khobar tower bombing in Saudi Arabia which was being used for foreign military purpose, in this incident surrounding structures are severely damaged compared to the target structure due to blast resistant design of the structure. In this paper surface burst is considered which destroys the structure very easily. Due to the
structure is designed for abnormal loads (charge weights). In air burst blast wave propagation is in spherical shape, but as we have considered the surface burst where the wave propagation is in hemispherical shape, explosion materials will propagate waves in different directions. In the present work TM-5 1300 code and the analyzing tool Dplot graphs are used. Figure 1 shows that reflected pressures, and incident pressures, and arrival time which is obtained from incident waves. Pressure intensities depend on the bomb sizes or charge weights and also with standoff distance between blast source and impacted (2D frame) structure (target). The main aim of this paper is to understand how the pressure varies from floor to floor with the help of Dplot application for the 2D G+10 structural building with positive front face of the structure (nothing but target)

![Figure 1: Blast loading on structure](image)

**A. Methodology:**

Determination of the blast wave parameters

Determining the blast wave parameters we can study about the surface burst. The loads due to Explosion are huge applied in different directions for small durations. Utmost damage is occurred when charge weight (bomb weight) is more. Explosive materials (bomb) release shockwaves in different directions. These waves are reflected pressure waves, which travels through surface, touches the building then the waves are distributed to the entire building. All these pressure waves are merged with the incident wave at the point of detonation to form a single wave; these waves are in hemispherical shape.

**B. Procedure for field wave blast parameters of a surface burst:**

- Reflected Pressure $P_r$, Select point of interest on the ground relative to the charge. Determine the Charge weight and ground distance $R_G$.

- Apply 20% safety factor to the charge weight.

- Calculate scaled ground distance $Z_G$. 
Determine free field blast wave parameters from figure for corresponding scaled distance $Z_G$.

**Hear:**
- Peak positive incident pressure $P_{so}$
- Shock front velocity $U$
- Reflected Pressure $P_r$
- Scaled unit Positive incident impulse $i_s/w^{1/3}$
- Scaled positive phrase duration $t_o/w^{1/3}$
- Scaled arrival time $t_A/w^{1/3}$

Multiply scaled values by $W^{1/3}$ to obtain absolute values.

![Figure 2: positive phase shock wave parameters for hemispherical TNT i.e. surface burst](image)

**C. Brief overview of structure** A G+10 storied building consisting of each story height 5m and the total height of the building frame is 50m. The present project is proposed to study the blast wave pressures of the multi-story 2-D building frame using TM-5 1300 plots in UFC (Unified Facilities Criteria). The following structure is considered, for determining the pressures which are induced due to TNT charge weights.
D. Analysis results of blast loads

Table 1: blast load parameters for 15m distance charge wt: 700kg tnt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Floor</th>
<th>Scaled Distance (m/Kg^1/3)</th>
<th>Pr (Kg/m^2)</th>
<th>Pso (Kg/m^2)</th>
<th>tA (ms)</th>
<th>ta+to (ms)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G Floor</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<td>28.53</td>
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<td>29.50</td>
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<td>31891.29</td>
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<td>32.09</td>
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<td>23307.86</td>
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<td>38.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Floor</td>
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<td>62789.54</td>
<td>16259.67</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>41843.18</td>
<td>11959.16</td>
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<td>56.24</td>
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<td>8962.70</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5631.15</td>
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<tr>
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<td>9441.77</td>
<td>4465.89</td>
<td>92.47</td>
<td>126.23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2: blast load parameters for 15m distance charge wt: 1500kg tnt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Floor</th>
<th>Scaled Distance (m/Kg1/3)</th>
<th>Pr (Kg/m2)</th>
<th>Pso (Kg/m2)</th>
<th>T1 (ms)</th>
<th>T1 + To (ms)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G Floor</td>
<td>3.10</td>
<td>488487.86</td>
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<td>20656.06</td>
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<td>51.56</td>
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<td>61.52</td>
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<td>20820.75</td>
<td>6740.29</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th Floor</td>
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<td>17332.94</td>
<td>5907.49</td>
<td>76.63</td>
<td>116.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E. Velocity of blast wave.

Table 3: Blast wave velocity for 500Kg TNT charge weight

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Floor</th>
<th>Arrival time (tA) ms</th>
<th>Time of decay (to) ms</th>
<th>Velocity (u) m/ms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ground level at 0.0m</td>
<td>8.7816</td>
<td>19.7581</td>
<td>1.0468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roof level at 50.00m</td>
<td>92.4791</td>
<td>33.7635</td>
<td>0.5531</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table indicates the blast wave velocity in surface burst for 700Kg TNT Charge weight at 15m distance. Velocity of the wave is 1.0468 at arrival time 8.7816, time of decay is started and blast wave velocity is reduced to 0.5531 which was at roof level. From the observation of results, blast wave velocity is reduced for different charge weights when increasing the arrival time. Similarly same type of cases occurred for the remaining charge weights to facade of two dimensional tall structural frames 2500, 3500, 4500Kg TNT Charge weights.
F. Graphs for incident pressure

![Graph for incident pressure](image1)

**Figure 4:** Incident pressure for 700Kg TNT at 15, 30, 45, 60 and 75m distances

![Graph for incident pressure](image2)

**Figure 5:** Incident pressure for 1500Kg TNT at 15, 30, 45, 60 and 75m distance

G. Graphs for reflected pressure

![Graph for reflected pressure](image3)

**Figure 6:** Reflected pressure for 700Kg TNT at 15, 30, 45, 60 and 75m distances
For analysis approach 700, 1500, 2500, 3500 and 4500 Kg's TNT charge weights are considered with the respect to different distances 15m, 30m, 45m, 60m and 75m. The graphs are shown above for 700Kg, 2500Kg TNT @15, 30, 45, 60 and 75 m. As the bomb size increases, then the intensity of pressure (incident and reflected) increases. Maximum incident and reflected pressures are occurred at the ground floor is $48.848 \times 10^3$ and $2.09 \times 10^5$ for the 700Kg TNT Charge weight at 15m distance and for 1500Kg TNT charge weights pressures are represented in table from graphs. For further height of the building i.e. 50m (roof level) pressures are decreased. Similarly reflected pressures are the more intensity pressures when compared with the incident pressure waves, because as mentioned earlier when the shock waves touches the structure and rebounds to detonation position they combine with the incident pressures.

H. Graphs for impulsive peak pressure

In order to analyze the blast loadings it is necessary to determine the initial reduction and the dynamic pressure of the time as the effects on the structure depend on the pressure-time history as well as on the peak value. The explosion shock wave is characterized by a sudden increase in pressure to peak, decrease to an atmospheric pressure (positive phase) and for the period in which the pressure falls below the atmospheric pressure (negative phase). Pressure time history analysis is the reduction of speed for the initial and dynamic pressures, after passing of the wave front; it is a function of the peak pressure and the magnitude of detonation. For the analysis purposes, the actual reduction of the initial pressure can be assumed as a triangular pressure impulse. The actual duration of the positive phase is replaced by a fictitious duration and is expressed as a function of the total positive impulse and the peak pressure. These impulse graphs are plotted using DPLOT Software where the graphs are much accurate with the values obtained in the design.
I. Graphs for impulse

[Four graphs showing impulse responses with time on the x-axis and magnitude on the y-axis.]
Figure 8: Impulse graphs for variations of 700Kg TNT charge weight @ 15m distance.

Note: 1500Kg TNT charge weight at 15m distance.
Figure 9: Impulse graphs for variations of 1500Kg TNT charge weight @ 15m distance.

From results i.e. impulse graphs of 700Kg, 1500Kg TNT Charge weights at 15m distance shown in above at the ground floor peak reflected impulse for 700Kg, 2500Kg @15m distance are $2.09 \times 10^5$, $4.88 \times 10^5$ respectively. When the time of decay is started peak reflected pressure values are reduced at roof level to $9.44 \times 10^3$, $1.73 \times 10^4$, hence from these graphs peak impulse is reduced when time decay is started and reaching the total time duration peak impulsive value may be negligible.

2. Results and discussion

I. The 2-D tall structural frame (G+10) subjected to five charge weights 700, 1500, 2500, 3500 and 4500 Kg TNT.

II. The study aimed on external short time blast loads on facade of the structure by using the TM-5 1300 over the front face of the structure (positive phase 2D frame is considered).

III. Reflected pressure $Pr$, reflective impulse $Ir$, time of arrival $ta$ and also finding the positive phase time duration for reflected pressure $tr$.

IV. In this analysis twenty five combinations of ground distances and charge weights are considered for the determination of the blast Pressures.

V. The TNT charge is in the shape of hemispherical for all frames of the structure.

VI. Above mentioned frame is simulation for five blast load combinations 15m range 700, 1500, 2500, 3500 and 4500Kg TNT Charge weights.

VII. Similarly 30m, 45m, 60m, 75m, to The above charge weights are considered.
CONCLUSION

[1]. The explosions near to the structure can cause damage surrounding to the buildings.

[2]. Blasting over the facade of tall structural two dimensional frame analysis gives distribution of reflected pressure is in decreasing order with the height of structure.

[3]. Distribution is approximately uniform for shorter ranges, and this assumption is not valid.

[4]. Because as the structure first collapse locally then distributed to entire structure, the response in the structure is more, in the case of lower ranges.

[5]. The reflected pressure at the top of the structure is observed in the case of 15m range and more in 30, 45, 60 and 75m range for all charge weights 700 to 4500Kg TNT.

[6]. This is due to angle of incidence which is varying at high range as in the case of 15m and 75m respectively.

[7]. For 15 m range, the factor of the reflected pressures and for charge weights 4500 kg TNT to 2500 kg TNT and 2500 kg TNT to 700 kg TNT increased in between third and fifth floors i.e. in between 350 to 600 angle of incident.

[8]. This is due to the peak incident over pressure and angle of incidence.

[9]. If the shock front approaches the structure at the incident angle then the peak reflected pressure will be a function of the peak incident over pressure and the incident angle between the front and the facade of the structure.

[10]. Starting at an angle of incidence of approximately 400, TM 5 – 1300, depending on the static condition.

[11]. From the above observation reflected impulsive pressure is more in the case of ground (bottom) floors, low in roof level (top) floors for different charge weights.

[12]. From figure 4, 5, 6 and 7 reflected peak impulse is uniform for different charge weights 700 to 4500Kg TNT.

[13]. The time of arrival (tA) and the sum of time of arrival and time of positive phase time duration of reflected pressure (tA+tO) are in increasing order with increase in range and decrease in charge weight.

[14]. The variation in the above times and (tA, tA+tO) with height is nonlinear at the lower levels and approximately linear in the upper levels, this is due to the expansion of the shock front from the point of explosion and the incident pressure decreases up to ambient Pressure with the distance from the Point of explosion.

[15]. Because of the decay in the incident Pressure, the positive phase time duration of reflected pressure will increase.

4. REFERENCES


