

Numerical investigation of the performance of geothermal energy piles under different soil moisture conditions

Sani A.K. & Singh R.M.



Introduction

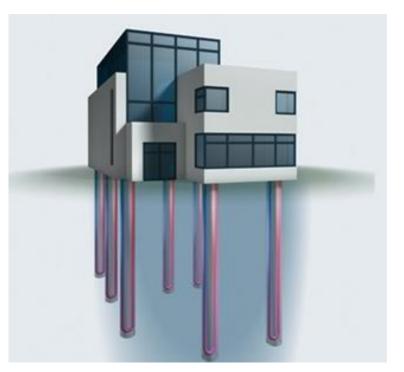


Definition:

>Geothermal energy piles (GEPs) dualizes the role of foundation piles, firstly, for load support and in meeting the thermal energy demand of the overlying structure.

≻They are also known as ground heat exchangers or energy piles.

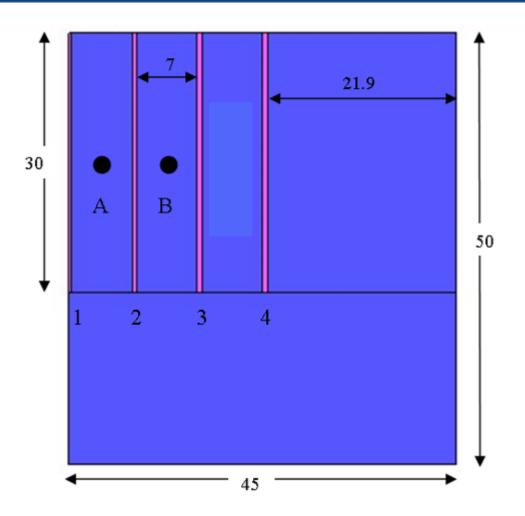






Introduction



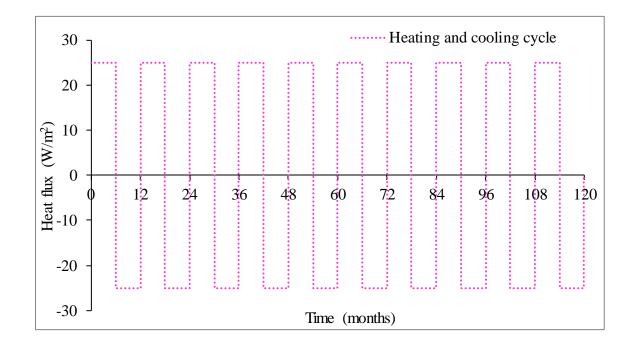


This study investigates the thermal performance of group of GEPs under the effects of different soil saturation



Numerical analyses

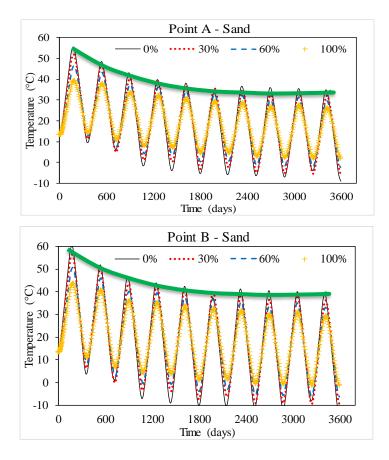




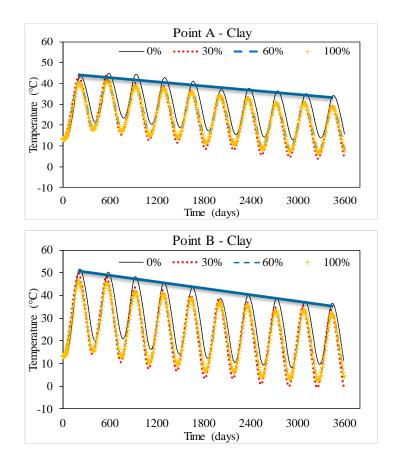
Cyclic heat injection and extraction load for 10 years duration



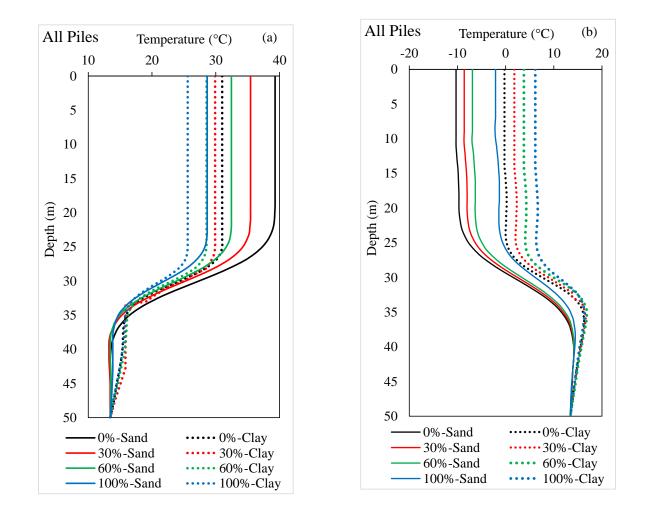
The long-term performance of group of GEPs in unsaturated soil



Results of temperature evolution with time

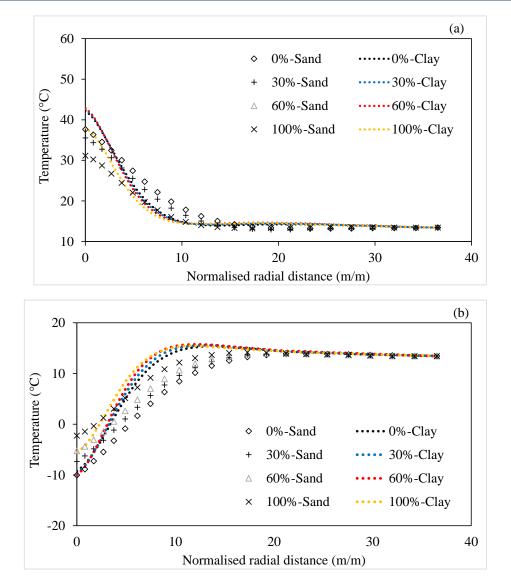






Radial temperature distribution with depth



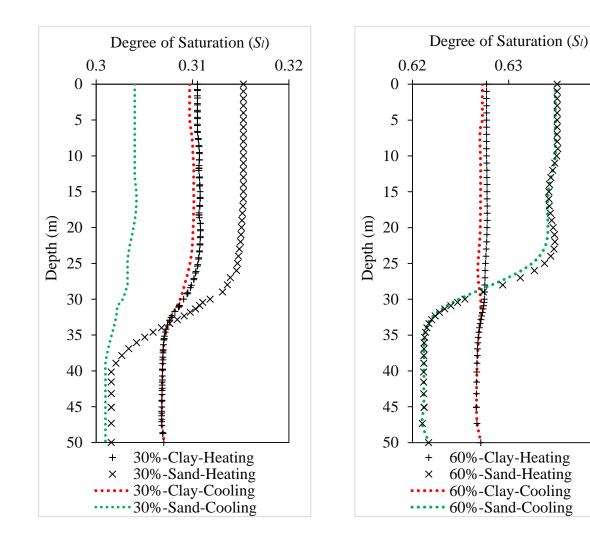


Radial temperature distribution with distance (a) Heat injection, (b) Heat extraction (cooling)









Degree of saturation with depth for the (a) Heat injection, (b) Heat extraction (cooling)

0.64



- The temperature magnitude observed in the soil decreases annually over the 10 years period of the simulations.
- The annual temperature distribution decreases nonlinearly in the sand, whereas in the clay a linear trend was observed.
- The changes to the degree of saturation values was within 1.5% during the heating and cooling operations.

Thank you

