Assessment of Drilled Shaft Capacity and QA/QC from Measuring While Drilling BED31-977-09

### **GRIP Meeting**

FDOT Project Manager: Dino Jameson, P.E.

**UF Project Investigator: Michael Rodgers, Ph.D., P.E.** 

Graduate Researcher: Wyatt Kelch, Ph.D.

August 14, 2025

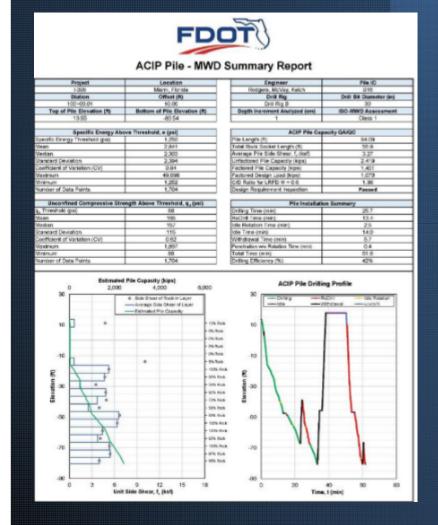






## Project Background

- FDOT investigated the use of MWD for Auger Cast Piles (ACP) to provide QA/QC during pile installations in Miami-Dade
  - BDV31-977-125
- A new analysis tool was developed
  - Transformed time-referenced data collected from AME to depth-referenced data that is compatible for MWD strength assessment
- For ACPs, a time-referenced data format collected from AME is most commonly used in Florida, and the ACP analysis tool was developed specifically to accommodate the data format



## Project Background

- For drilled shaft MWD...
  - Time-referenced data
  - Depth-referenced data
  - Both data formats
- A new analysis tool needed to be developed to accommodate the possible variations in raw data recording and reporting
- Provide the FDOT with a reliable method of drilled shaft QA/QC analysis, regardless of the monitoring system used
  - Contractors can utilize a variety of MWD systems
- On-site and remote monitoring should be explored to improve the quality control portion of the of the QA/QC tool
  - Providing real time strength assessments that can be viewed by all stakeholders



- Using FDOT MWD criteria (FM 5-625), develop a versatile data analysis tool that will be used to provide drilled shaft MWD QA/QC
- 2. Conduct a feasibility study to identify the requirements of providing on-site and remote monitoring capabilities to enhance the QA/QC method
- Monitor at least one load tested shaft and three production shafts at three independent sites to develop correlations for QA/QC purposes
- Provide a QA/QC report for all shafts monitored during the research
- Compare test results with previously derived correlations



### Tasks and Deliverables

- Deliverable 1 Establish drilled shaft MWD data reduction criteria and procedures (Task 1)
- Deliverable 2 On-site and remote monitoring implementation feasibility study (Task 2)
- Deliverable 3 MWD specific energy vs. drilleg shaft side shear correlation (Task 3)
- Deliverable 4 MWD correlation validation for drilled shaft QA/QC (Task 4)
- Deliverable 5a Draft Final (Task 5)
- Deliverable 5b Closeout Meeting (Task 5)
- Deliverable 6 Final Report (Task 6)





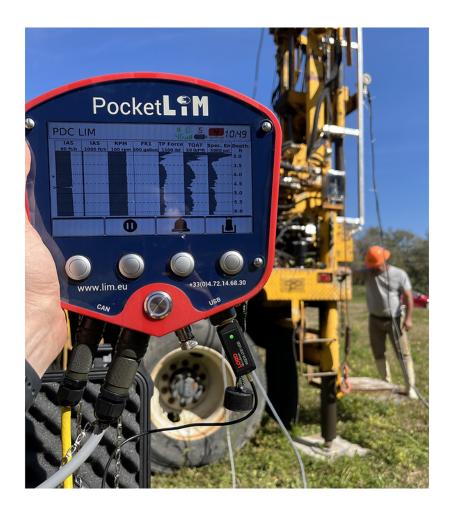
# Task 1a – Development of Specification Language

- UF Researchers submitted draft spec language for Drilled Shaft MWD:
- FDOT Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction – Section 455
  - Section 455-15.1.2 Drilled Shaft Installation Plan (DSIP)
  - Section 455-15.1.3.1 Measuring While Drilling (MWD)
  - Section 455-15.10.5 MWD Equipment
  - Section 455-15.10.6 MWD Measurements
- Florida Method of Test (FM 5-625)
  - Section 3.6.1 Minimum Accuracy of Measured Values

## Task 1b - New MWD System - LiM's PocketLiM







## Task 1b – Development of the Data Analysis Tool – Beta Version

- The monitoring systems onboard the drilled shaft drill rigs, and the format in which the drilling parameters may be recorded and reported were unknown
- New raw data processing criteria and procedures needed to be developed to accommodate the data, regardless of the format
  - Data layout
  - File type
    - e.g., .xlsx, .csv, .txt, .guh, etc.
- The research team considered:
  - Prior MWD data collected in various formats
  - Obtained sample drilling data from commercial vendors
  - Simulated large data sets (1 million rows of data)
    - 20 hrs of drilling at 16 Hz (MWD system max)
  - Investigated multiple file types for reported data
- Allowed UF to develop initial processing criteria and a preliminary analysis tool (Beta Version)
  - 5<sup>th</sup> iteration of Beta version in use in S. Florida for ACPs



# Raw Data Variations Based on MWD System

Time (s)	Depth	Penetration Rate	RPM	Torque	Crowd pressure (psi)	Crowd Force (Tf)	Bottom Grout (psi)	Top Grout	Grout Flow	Grout Volume
	(feet)	(feet) (ft/min) (rev/min) pressure (p	pressure (psi)	crowd pressure (psi)	crowd rorce (11)	Bottom Grout (psi)	pressure (psi)	(yd3/h)	yd3	
0.00	0.000	0.00	0.00	116.03	406.10	0.183	45.122	3.881091138	C	) (
0.00	0.000	0.00	0.00	111.20	402.48	0.176	45.097	4.39633378	C	) (
2.37	0.082	0.54	0.00	111.33	408.06	1.826	45.133	4.606430907	C	) (
2.56	0.157	20.85	0.00	116.03	406.10	4.572	45.017	4.608424711	C	) (
2.75	0.236	23.92	0.00	116.03	410.94	4.978	45.058	4.654531436	C	) (
3.01	0.312	16.72	0.00	116.03	413.36	4.807	45.049	4.624562065	C	) (
3.14	0.397	28.84	0.00	116.03	406.10	4.725	45.001	4.583066013	C	) (
3.39	0.479	14.80	0.00	112.40	416.98	4.816	45.045	4.704096164	C	) (
3.59	0.551	20.33	0.00	101.53	406.10	6.433	45.040	4.377891091	C	) (
3.78	0.627	22.90	0.00	140.20	406.10	5.865	44.924	3.953709229	C	) (
3.97	0.696	22.90	0.00	328.75	454.45	6.040	44.934	3.958319901	C	) (
4.23	0.771	15.19	0.00	681.67	732.44	6.009	44.966	3.94679322	C	) (
4.42	0.840	18.97	0.00	1005.59	1256.99	6.020	45.035	3.87993847	C	) (
4.61	0.909	21.53	0.00	841.21	1165.13	5.836	45.058	4.290288315	C	) (
4.80	0.988	22.56	1.10	836.38	1131.29	5.892	44.994	4.66375278	C	) (
5.06	1.056	16.34	3.30	997.13	1334.34	5.862	44.987	4.648768095	C	) (
5.25	1.132	18.63	3.30	1213.48	1580.90	5.850	44.984	4.580760677	C	) (
5.38	1.201	27.94	3.30	1319.84	1791.21	5.849	44.987	4.659142108	C	) (
5.83	1.316	11.75	3.30	1429.65	1808.82	5.844	44.980	4.613694051	C	) (

Time	Duration (min)	Gear Box RPM P	enetration Rate (ft/min)	Penetration Rate	Depth (ft)	Gear Box Pres	Torque (ft-lbs)	Crowd Pressur	Thrust (lb
6/10/2020 7:29:31 AM	0	-81.89	-46.9488204	3.048	0	639.0361062	0	221.0374548	3426.96
6/10/2020 7:29:32 AM	0.02	-82.5	-49.1469832	3.048	0	66.2822289	0	201.8924784	3130.14
6/10/2020 7:29:33 AM	0.03	-84.45	-51.2467208	3.048	0.0656168	0	0	44.8166493	694.837
6/10/2020 7:29:34 AM	0.05	-88.47	-53.0183744	3.048	0.0656168	664.9978545	0	213.0603813	3303.29
6/10/2020 7:29:35 AM	0.07	-80.52	-48.4908152	3.048	0.0656168	589.4332128	0	224.2282842	3476.44
6/10/2020 7:29:36 AM	0.08	11.97	1.0498688	0.9525	0.0984252	584.0668179	0	213.4954944	3310.03
6/10/2020 7:29:37 AM	0.1	12.45	1.6076116	0.622040816	0.164042	620.9063937	0	248.3045424	3849.71
6/10/2020 7:29:38 AM	0.12	14.51	1.8372704	0.544285714	0.1968504	691.1046405	0	253.2358242	3926.17
6/10/2020 7:29:39 AM	0.13	18.86	1.804462	0.554181818	0.2624672	653.5398762	0	256.4266536	3975.64
6/10/2020 7:29:40 AM	0.15	21.26	2.3950132	0.417534247	0.2952756	661.5169497	0	250.915221	3890.19
6/10/2020 7:29:41 AM	0.17	22.16	2.8543308	0.350344828	0.328084	652.66965	0	273.5411022	4240.98
6/10/2020 7:29:42 AM	0.18	22.64	2.8543308	0.350344828	0.3937008	653.1047631	0	280.3578741	4346.67
6/10/2020 7:29:43 AM	0.2	23.07	2.952756	0.338666667	0.4593176	691.9748667	0	259.1823699	4018.36
6/10/2020 7:29:44 AM	0.22	23.33	3.0183728	0.331304348	0.492126	686.8985472	0	258.6022191	4009.37
6/10/2020 7:29:45 AM	0.23	23.55	2.9855644	0.334945055	0.5577428	710.1045792	0	252.6556734	3917.17
6/10/2020 7:29:46 AM	0.25	23.7	2.952756	0.338666667	0.5905512	732.2953473	0	269.1899712	4173.52
6/10/2020 7:29:47 AM	0.27	24.06	2.9855644	0.334945055	0.6233596	678.776436	0	255.4113897	3959.9
6/10/2020 7:29:48 AM	0.28	24.24	2.8871392	0.346363636	0.6889764	694.5855453	0	254.8312389	3950.9
6/10/2020 7:29:49 AM	0.3	24.38	2.8543308	0.350344828	0.7217848	679.3565868	0	252.8007111	3919.42

#### PARAMETER

Date;Depth;P-Grout;P-Rotary Head;P-Crowd;Rotation;Torque;Speed;X-Axis;Y-Axis;Grout 0;m;bar;bar;RPM;kNm;cm/min;°;°;1/min;L;%;-;-;-;%;1/min

12.10.2022 10:52:3;0;-10;0;27;0;0;0;0;0.1;0;0;0;1;0;0;30;0.1

#### ΓDΔΤΔ

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```

# FLMWD Analysis Tool Workflow

- New MWD analysis tool utilizes python to perform the background calculations
  - No longer have to copy and paste data or files into analysis tool
    - Imports all data and files from folders
    - Never have to open a single drilling file to analyze your MWD data
  - Much smaller file sizes
    - > 3MB compared to 40 to 50 MB
  - Easier to track changes during upgrades and modifications
- Provides a similar user interface (UI) to ACIP analysis tool
  - Specific energy threshold and layers can be adjusted without triggering the program to reanalyze the data

Strength Analysis Tab



Press "Analyze MWD Data" Button



Excel Retrieves Drilling Worksheet Data from Folder



Python Filters and Cleans the Raw Drilling Data



Python Performs Hydraulic Conversions Based on Drill Rig Data



Python Provides Average Values Based on ΔZ Increment, References Data to Elevation, and Performs Specific Energy Calculation

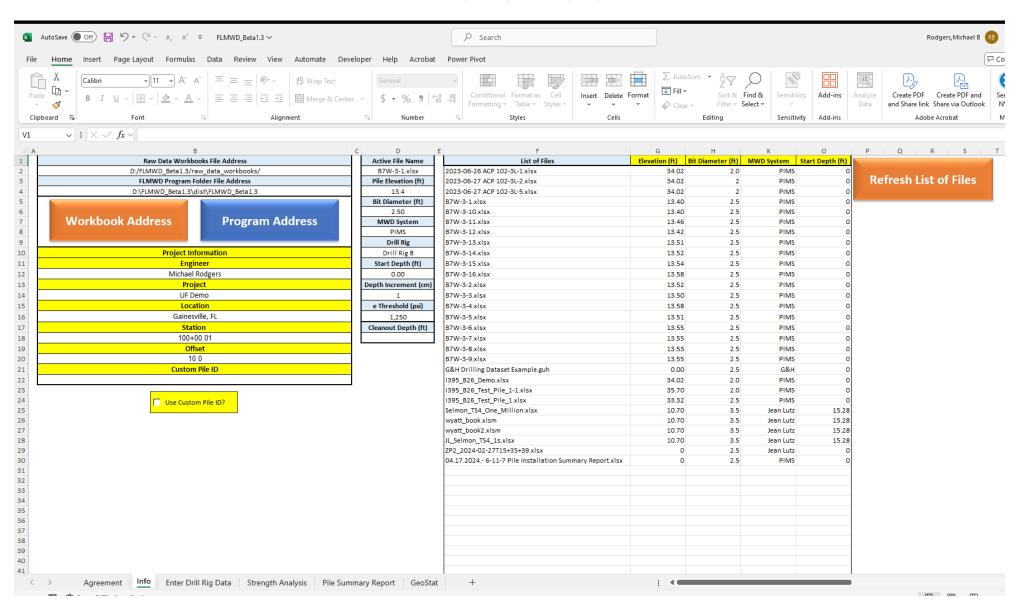


Python Sends Processed Data Back to Excel

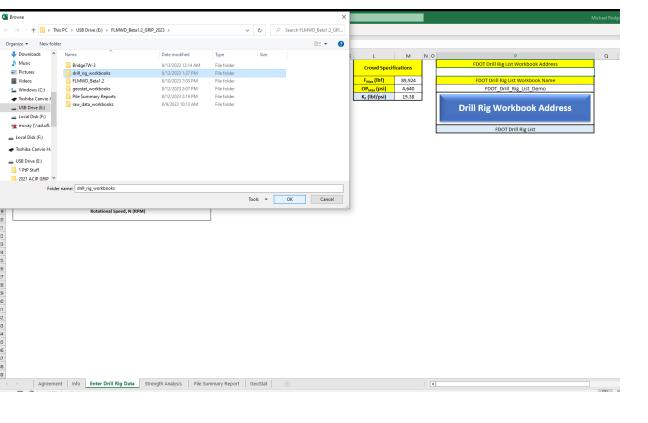


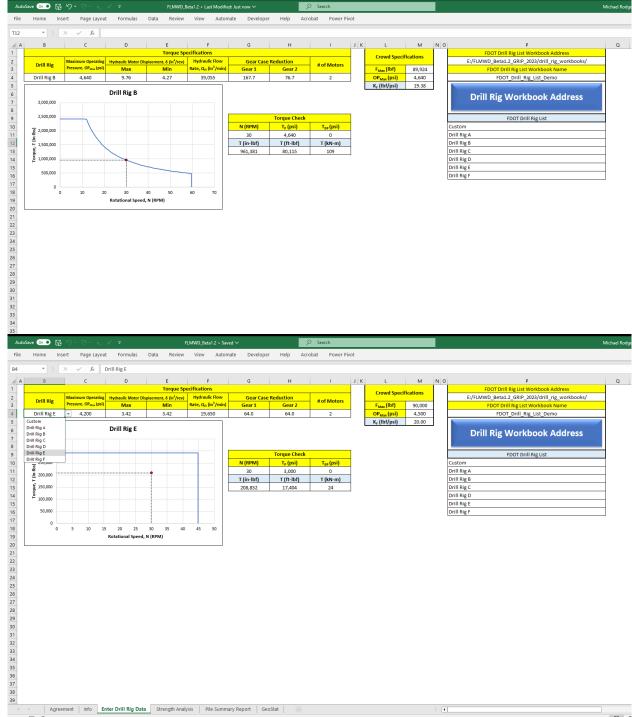
Perform MWD Analysis – e Threshold, Layers, Segment

## Info Sheet

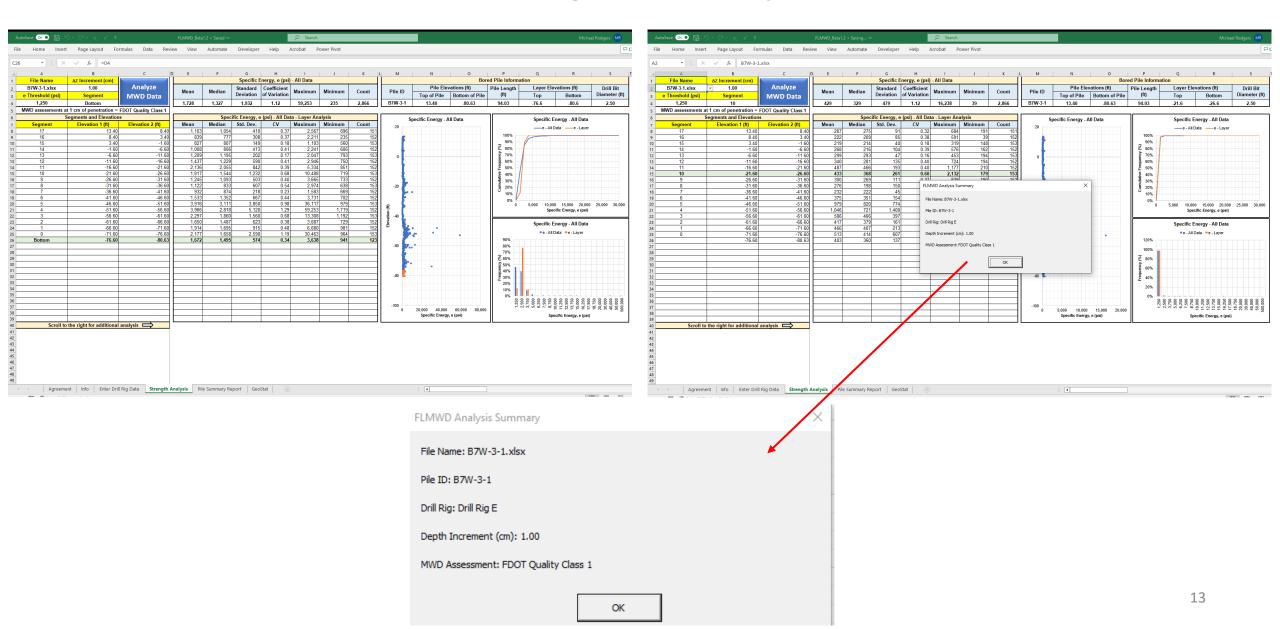


# **Enter Drill Rig Data**





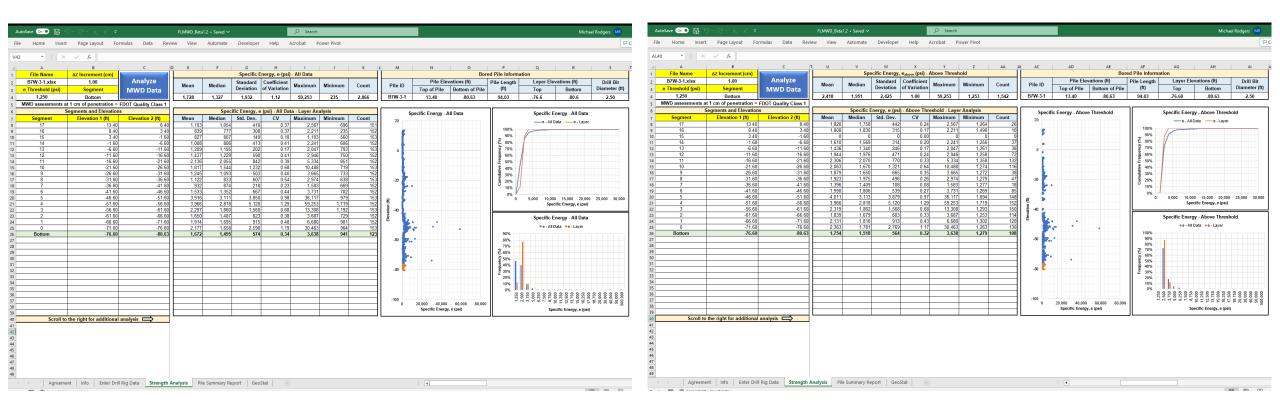
# Strength Analysis



# Strength Analysis – Specific Energy Threshold

All Specific Energy Data

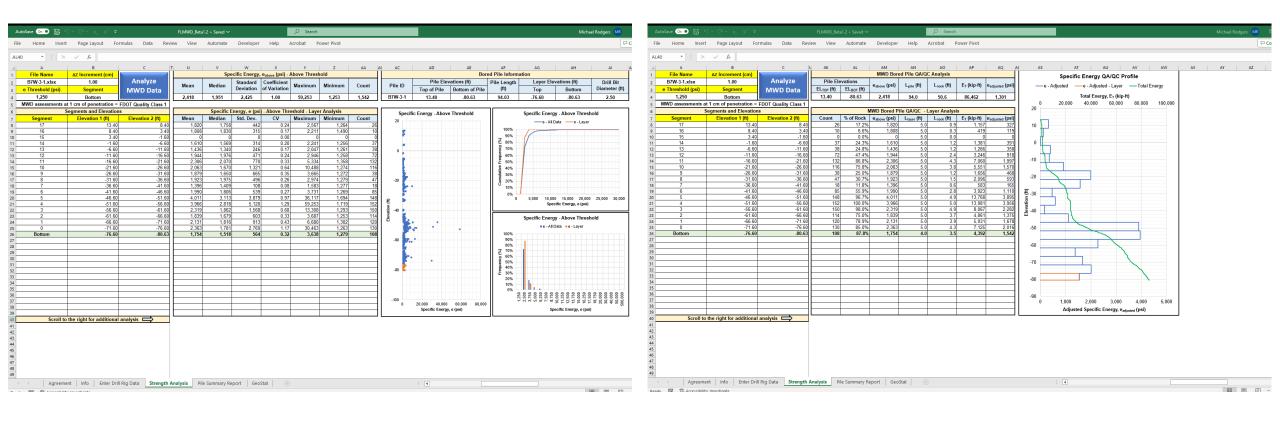
Only Specific Energy Data Above Threshold



# Strength Analysis – Specific Energy Threshold

Only Specific Energy Data Above Threshold

Bored Pile QA/QC Analysis



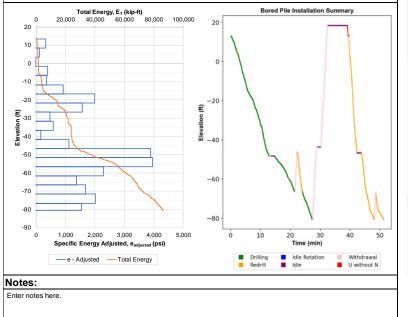


#### MWD Summary Report

Summary report										
Engineer	Pile ID		Drill Rig	Drill Bit Diameter (in)						
Michael Rodgers	7W-3-1		Drill Rig B	30						
Project	Location		Top of Pile Elevation (ft)	Bottom of Pile Elevation						
UF Demo	Gainesville, FL		13.40	-80.63						
Station	Offset (ft)		Depth Increment Analyzed (cm)	MWD Assessment						
100+00.01	10.00		1.00	FDOT Quality Class 1						

Specific Energy, e (	psi) - All Data	ACIP Pile QA/QC - Rock Socket Assessment			
Mean	1,728	Pile Length (ft)	94.03		
Median	1,327	Total Rock Socket Length (ft)	50.59		
Standard Deviation	1,932	Pile Pecentage of Rock (%)	54%		
Coefficient of Variation (CV)	1.12	Specific Energy Threshold (psi)	1,250		
Maximum	59,253	Specific Energy, e <sub>above</sub> (psi)	2,418		
Minimum	235	Specific Energy, e <sub>adjusted</sub> (psi)	1,301		
Number of Data Points	2,866	Total Energy, E <sub>T</sub> (kip-ft)	86,469		

Specific Energy, eabove	(psi) - Above Threshold	ĺ	Bored Pile Installation Summary - Time (min)					
	2,418	ſ	Drilling	23.33				
	1,951	Ī	Redrill	11.43				
rd Deviation	2,425	Ī	Idle Rotation	1.55				
ient of Variation (CV)	1.00	Ī	Idle	9.10				
m	59,253		Withdraw	5.33				
m	1,253	Ī	Penetration without Rotation	0.52				
r of Data Points	1,542	ĺ	Total	51.27				



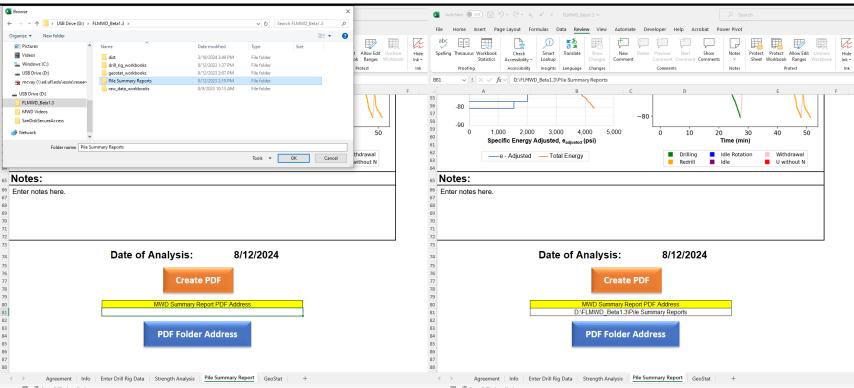
Date of Analysis: 8/12/2024

Create PDF

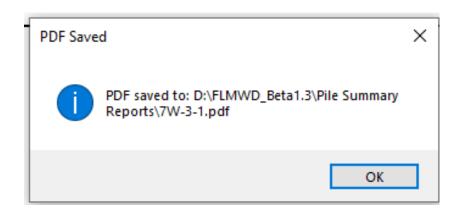
MWD Summary Report PDF Address
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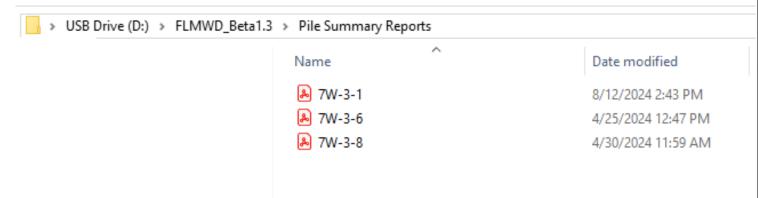
PDF Folder Address

Pile Summary Report



# Pile Summary Report

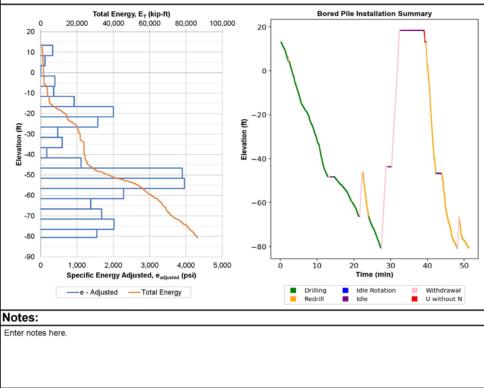






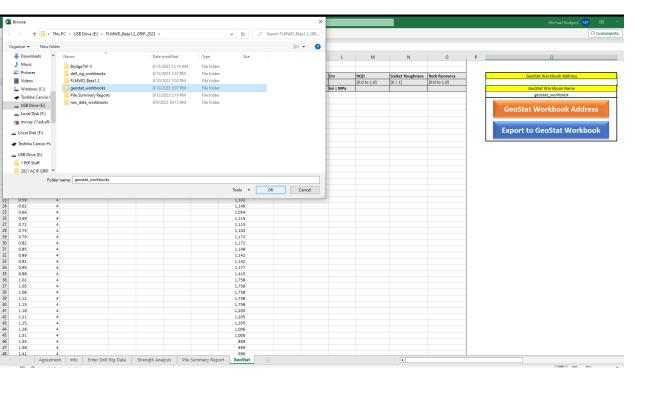
**MWD Summary Report** 

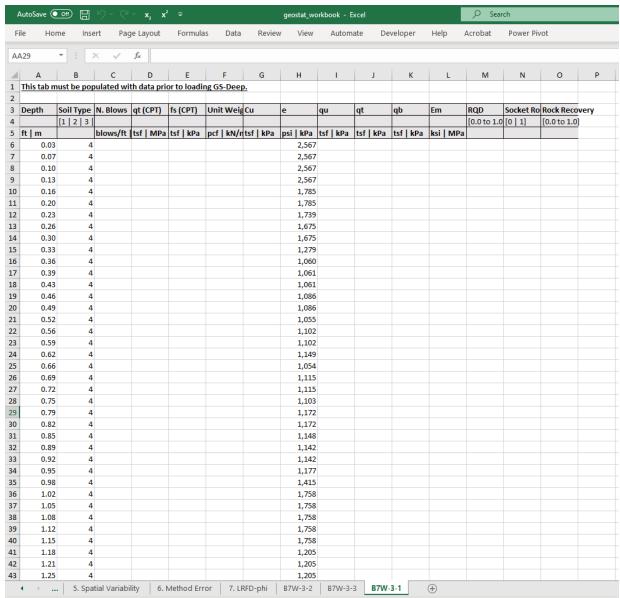
	INIAND 2011	nma	ary Report			
Engineer	Pile ID		Drill Rig	Drill Bit Diameter (in)		
Michael Rodgers	7W-3-1		Drill Rig B	30		
Project	Location		Top of Pile Elevation (ft)	Bottom of Pile Elevation (ft)		
UF Demo	Gainesville, FL	1	13.40	-80.63		
Station	Offset (ft)	1	Depth Increment Analyzed (cm)	MWD Assessment		
100+00.01	10.00	1	1.00	FDOT Quality Class 1		
		-				
Specific Energy,	e (psi) - All Data	1	ACIP Pile QA/QC - Ro	ck Socket Assessment		
Mean	1,728	1	Pile Length (ft)	94.03		
Median	1,327	1	Total Rock Socket Length (ft)	50.59		
Standard Deviation	1,932	1	Pile Pecentage of Rock (%)	54%		
Coefficient of Variation (CV)	1.12	1	Specific Energy Threshold (psi)	1,250		
Maximum	59,253	1	Specific Energy, eabove (psi)	2,418		
Minimum	235	1	Specific Energy, e <sub>adjusted</sub> (psi)	1,301		
Number of Data Points	2,866	1	Total Energy, E <sub>T</sub> (kip-ft)	86,469		
Specific Energy, e <sub>above</sub> (	psi) - Above Threshold		Bored Pile Installation	Summary - Time (min)		
Mean	2,418	]	Drilling	23.33		
Median	1,951	]	Redrill	11.43		
Standard Deviation	2,425	]	Idle Rotation	1.55		
Coefficient of Variation (CV)	1.00		Idle	9.10		
Maximum	59,253	]	Withdraw	5.33		
Minimum	1,253	]	Penetration without Rotation	0.52		
Number of Data Points	1,542	1	Total	51.27		



Date of Analysis: 8/12/2024

## GeoStat





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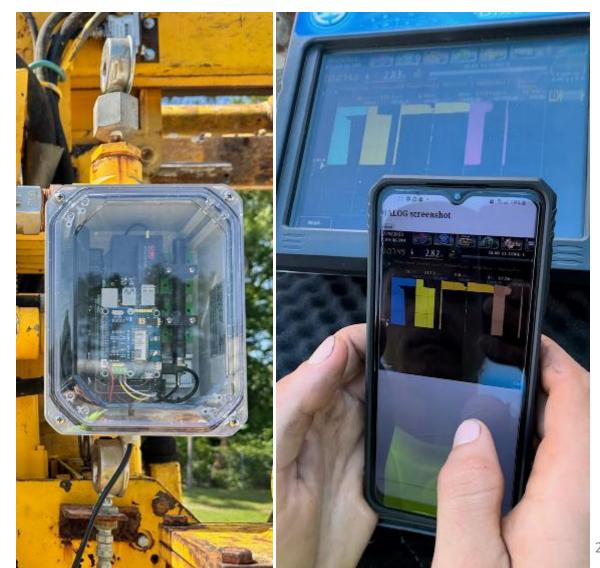
Task 2 – Real Time, On-site and Remote QC Monitoring Implementation Feasibility Study

- The new MWD analysis tool will greatly improve drilled shaft QA/QC
  - Quality and length of rock sockets can be verified through specific energy obtained from MWD
- When MWD-load test correlations can be established for a site or region, the QA portion of the procedure is improved
  - Allows the shaft's axial capacity to be estimated to ensure it meets design criteria, directly
- Quality control (QC) portion of the procedure could be further improved
  - Real-time measurements of specific energy, total energy, and side shear axial shaft capacity during the drilling process
  - Requires actual data transmission to the CEI and all project stakeholders



# Task 2 – Real Time, On-site and Remote QC Monitoring Implementation Feasibility Study

- Can currently view drilling parameters live
- Need to develop a robust method that can transmit MWD data that is applicable to all monitoring systems
  - Likely through CAN bus integration
  - SBC module can transmit actual data on-site and to remote locations via CAN and Modem hats added in
- Method demonstrated using technology already being placed on rigs



# On-site and Remote Monitoring Demonstration

#### Demonstration Overview

- Used an SBC with web broadcast and an instrumented drill rod (BED31-977-03)
- Custom sensor provides real-time torque, crowd, and 3-axis vibration data integrated into Jean Lutz DIALOG DAQ system

#### Custom Programming

- Developed SBC programming to only stream
   3-axis accelerometer data
  - 4 parameters per axis, 12 total
- 1 Hz average sampling, replicating FDOT MWD bored pile QA/QC requirements

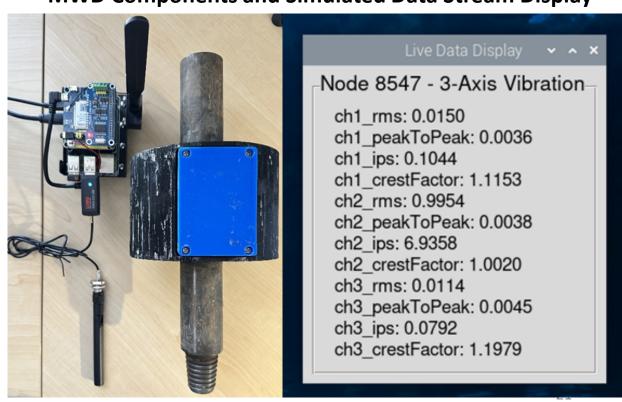
#### Data Simulation & Storage Insight

- Streamed 12 parameters from 3-axis accelerometer to simulate typical FDOT MWD data stream
- Data used to assess storage requirements for current FDOT MWD applications

#### **Typical FDOT Bored Pile Data Stream**

	A	В	С	D	Ε	F	G	Н	1	J	K
1	Time	Duration (min)	Gear Box RPM	Penetration Rate (ft/min)	Penetration Rate (min/ft	Depth (ft)	Gear Box Pres	Torque (ft-lbs)	Crowd Pressur	Thrust (lbs)	
2	6/4/2020 10:16:38 AM	0	-79.39	-49.8359596	3.048	0	551.8684485	(	210.1596273	3258.31	
3	6/4/2020 10:16:39 AM	0.02	-79.66	-50.4921276	3.048	0	519.5250414	(	218.2817385	3384.24	
4	6/4/2020 10:16:40 AM	0.03	-79.75	-50.524936	3.048	0	448.166493	(	221.0374548	3426.96	
5	6/4/2020 10:16:41 AM	0.05	-79.8	-50.524936	3.048	0	537.6547539	(	217.8466254	3377.49	
6	6/4/2020 10:16:42 AM	0.07	-31.19	-25.262468	3.048	0	559.9905597	(	288.625023	4474.84	
7	6/4/2020 10:16:43 AM	0.08	19.49	0.0984252	10.16	0.0328084	504.8762337	(	209.7245142	3251.57	
8	6/4/2020 10:16:44 AM	0.1	19.62	0.4265092	2.344615385	0.0328084	520.685343	(	219.2970024	3399.98	
9	6/4/2020 10:16:45 AM	0.12	19.58	0.4593176	2.177142857	0.0328084	545.4867897	(	240.762582	3732.78	
10	6/4/2020 10:16:46 AM	0.13	19.54	0 984252	1.016	0.1312336	603.2117943	(	231.4801692	3588 87	

#### **MWD Components and Simulated Data Stream Display**



## The SBC Code

- With the live MWD data now in place, the researchers then developed programming on the SBC to send the live data
  - External computer that mimicked onsite monitoring by the CEI
  - To the cloud to mimic remote monitoring by stakeholders involved in the project
    - Google Cloud Service, GCS
- Key Functions
  - Collect vibration data from a sensor node via a wireless base station
  - Provide visual display from SBC to simulate DAQ module display
  - Log the data into a local temporary CSV file
  - Periodically upload the data to the cloud (GCS)
  - Stream the data to a connected client (external computer) using a web socket server

## SBC Main Components and Functions

#### CSV File Management

- Initialize a CSV file (tempdata.csv) with proper headers
- Dynamically append new rows of sensor data to the file while ensuring headers remain consistent

#### Data Parsing and Aggregation

- Parse data (data packet): Extract channel data from a sensor data packet
- Append to CSV (timestamp, channel values): Write timestamped, aggregated channel data to the CSV file

#### WebSocket Server

- Implement a WebSocket server that an external computer can connect to
- Historical Data: In case of a disconnection, the system reads unsent data from the temporary CSV file and sends it to the client once connection is reestablished
- Real-Time Data: Send live sensor data to the client after sending any historical data

#### Google Cloud Service (GCS) Configuration

- Authentication: Uses a service account JSON key to authenticate to GCS
- Interaction: Upload the CSV file to a specified GCS bucket every 10 seconds

#### Periodic Updates

- Process incoming sensor data sweeps from the base station
- Update GUI labels on SBC interface with the latest data
- Scan temporary CSV file for prior entries so duplicate data is avoided
- Log only new data to the CSV file and trigger sending data via cloud and web socket

## External Computer Code

- In addition to the SBC, programming was also required on the external computer side to connect with the SBC web socket server to receive and log the data
- Two data storage formats were investigated:
  - USB hard drive
  - Cloud-based drive (OneDrive)
  - This was done to determine the best mechanism to interact with the newly developed MWD bored pile analysis tool
- Key Functions
  - WebSocket Communication: Connect to the SBC web socket server to receive data
  - Data Logging: Log historical and real-time data into two text files: hard drive (USB) and a cloud-based drive (OneDrive)
  - Duplicate Prevention: Ensure no duplicate data are written using a persistence mechanism
  - Real-Time Monitoring: Open a PowerShell session to monitor data in a real-time feed

# Workflow Interaction Between SBC and External Computer

#### SBC

- Collect sensor data and log it to a local CSV file
- Periodically upload the data to the cloud
  - Every 10 seconds during trials
- Stream historical and real-time data through a web socket server
- Provide informational messages based on connection status and data sent

#### External Computer

- Connect to the SBC web socket server
- Collect historical data (unsent data) first, followed by real-time data
- Log the received data into two text file locations:
  - Hard drive (USB)
  - Cloud-based drive (OneDrive)
- Monitor data using PowerShell for real-time feed
- Provide informational messages based on connection status and data received

#### **SBC Terminal Messages Sent**

#### **External Computer Messages Received**

```
File C:\Users\micha\OneDrive\Documents\FDOT_Demo.txt is ready with headers.

Persisted timestamps reset for new file creation.

File D:\Sensor Data From Pi\FDOT_Demo.txt is ready with headers.

Persisted timestamps reset for new file creation.

PowerShell tailing started in a new window.

Connected to WebSocket server.

Received data from SBC - 69

Received data from SBC - 2

Received data from SBC - 1

Received data from SBC - 1
```

## Simulate Client Disconnect

- SBC Connection Loss Handling
  - SBC detects when external computer (client) disconnects
  - Historic data is stored while the connection is lost
- Reconnection Process
  - Once client is reconnected, SBC sends stored historic data first
  - Real-time data transmission resumes
- Data Integrity
  - Logs confirm no data loss during disconnection and reconnection
  - 48 data packets sent, 48 data packets received after reconnection
  - Data always sent to the cloud

#### SBC Terminal Messages Sent

#### **External Computer Messages Received**

```
PowerShell tailing started in a new window.

Connected to WebSocket server.

Received data from SBC - 38

Received data from SBC - 1

Received data from SBC - 2

Received data from SBC - 1

Received data from SBC - 2

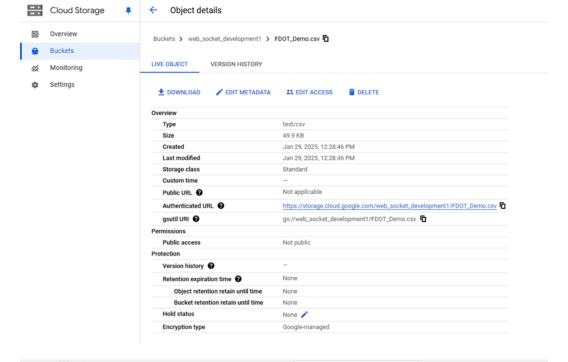
Received data from SBC - 2

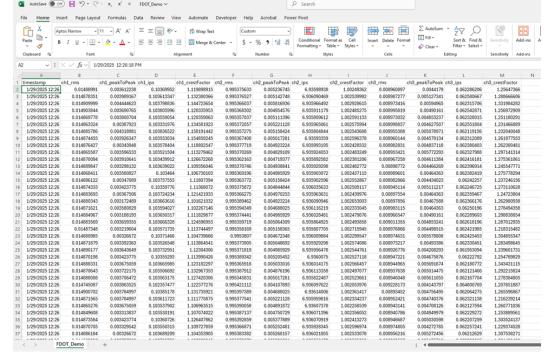
Received data from SBC - 1

Received data from SBC - 1
```

## Remote Monitoring

- Cloud Data Broadcasting
  - SBC uploads data to cloud every 10 seconds
  - Stored in GCS bucket
- Streamlined FDOT Analysis
  - Future separate buckets for each MWD project
  - Direct upload eliminates manual downloads/emails
- Real-Time Monitoring
  - CEI can flag issues during installation for FDOT review
  - FDOT makes informed decisions from remote locations
- Data Access and Security
  - Data downloadable in CSV format compatible with MWD analysis tool
  - Secure access via JSON key, encryption by GCS or similar
- Data Health Monitoring
  - Server/client error rate tracking
  - Confirm successful data transmission
- Future Integration
  - Insights for FDOT's MWD system specifications
  - Ensures compatibility with new MWD QC tool





## Remaining Tasks

- Deliverable 1 Establish drilled shaft MWD data reduction criteria and procedures (Task 1)
- Deliverable 2 On-site and remote monitoring implementation feasibility study (Task 2)
- Deliverable 3 MWD specific energy vs. drilled shaft side shear correlation (Task 3)
- Deliverable 4 MWD correlation validation for drilled shaft QA/QC (Task 4)
- Deliverable 5a Draft Final (Task 5)
- Deliverable 5b Closeout Meeting (Task 5)
- Deliverable 6 Final Report (Task 6)



## Questions?



