# Comparative Probabilistic-Deterministic Investigations for Evaluation of Seismic SSI Response



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### **Purpose of This Presentation:**

To present comparative probabilistic vs. deterministic SSI analysis results for nuclear structures.

The applied Probabilistic SSI approaches are those recommended by the new ASCE 04-2013 standard.

Both soil and rock sites are considered.

Comparisons are made in ISRS.

ACS SASSI Option Pro was used for probabilistic SSI analyses

### ASCE 04-2013 Probabilistic SSI Analysis

The new ASCE 04-2013 standard states that the purpose of the analytical methods included in the standard is to provide reasonable levels of conservatism to account for uncertainties.

More specifically, in the same section is written that given the seismic design response spectra input, the goal of the standard is based on a set of recommendations to develop seismic *deterministic SSI responses* that correspond approximately to a 80% non-exceedance probability level.

For probabilistic seismic analyses, *probabilistic SSI responses* defined with the 80% non-exceedance probability level are considered adequate.

Section 5.5 of the standard provides guidelines for the acceptable probabilistic SSI approaches. The GRS spectral shape could be considered with variable shape or not (Methods 1 and 2). Soil profiles, Vs and D, should include spatial correlation with depth. Structural stiffness and damping should be also modeled by random variables.

# **Probabilistic Seismic Input**



### Simulated Probabilistic Seismic GRS (Method 1) and Soil Profile (Vs and D) Using Random Variables



Note: Only 30 LSH simulations were used

# Simulated Probabilistic Seismic GRS (Method 2)

Simulated GRS



**Random Samples** 

# **Probabilistic Soil Profiles (at Low Shear Strains)**





#### **Effect of Spatial Correlation Length on Simulated Soil Profiles**



## Probabilistic Structural Modeling (Stiffness & Damping)

- Effective stiffness ratio Keff/Kelastic and damping ratio, Deff, are modeled as statistically dependent random variables.

- Keff/Kelastic and Deff can be considered negatively correlated, or having a complementary probability relationship, or Deff be a response function of Keff/Kelastic based on experiments



- Keff and Deff are defined separately for each element group. Statistical correlation between different group Keff variables can be included.

### Case Studies: 1) EPRI AP1000 NI & 2) PWR RB Sticks



Case 1: Soil Site, Vs = 1,000 fps Case 2: Rock Site, Vs = 6,000 fps



#### Seismic GRS (Method 2) and Soil Profiles for Rock Site 100 LHS Simulations



### **Deterministic vs. Probabilistic SSI Analysis for Soil Site**

CASE A: Deterministic Mean (Mean GRS, Soil LB, BE, UB, and Struct Mean Keff=0.90 and Deff=6%)



### **Deterministic vs. Probabilistic SSI Analysis for Rock Site**



### **Deterministic vs. Probabilistic SSI Analysis for Soil Site**

CASE B: Deterministic ASCE (Mean GRS, Soil LB, BE, UB, and Struct Code Keff=1.00 and Deff=4%)



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### **Deterministic vs. Probabilistic SSI Analysis for Rock Site**

CASE B: Deterministic ASCE (Mean GRS, Soil LB, BE, UB, and Struct Code Keff=1.00 and Deff=4%)



#### Probabilistic SSI Using Alternate Simulation Approaches 60 LHS Simulations



### **Comparative Results for Probabilistic SSI Approaches**



## Conclusions

- The ASCE 04-2013 standard goal, that Deterministic SSI produces SSI responses that correspond to approximately 80% NEP, is accomplished in an overall, average sense.
- Exceptions appear to corresponds to particular cases of large mass eccentricity structures that are more sensitive to rotational motions, including torsional and rocking motions. More investigations are needed, and currently underway.
- Using lower damping in structure in Deterministic SSI analysis impacts larger for the rock sites for which radiation damping is much lower. More investigations are needed, and currently underway.