# Seismic response analysis of tunnel with cavity behind lining

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Abstract. For the seismic safety of tunnels with cavity behind lining, based on the finite element method, the viscoelastic artificial boundaries are introduced to study the influence of the location of cavity behind lining on the seismic response of tunnel structure under vertically incident SV wave. The analysis results show that the cavity behind the lining has a significant effect on the seismic response of tunnel structure, and the appearance of cavity behind lining will significantly change the dynamic characteristics of tunnel structure; when the incidence frequency of wave is close to the natural vibration frequency of tunnel structure, the lining stress has the largest amplification when the cavity appears behind the vault; Regardless of the cavity location, the maximum of lining stresses always appears at the arched foot, and the vault stress has the largest amplification; Under the Taft wave, the maximum stress 1.642 MPa of lining without cavity appears at the arched foot, and the minimum 0.118MPa at the arched waist, the stress amplification at the vault can reach about 760 %, which is unfavorable to tunnels. In addition, the soil property also has a great influence on the tunnel; the layered site will lead to the obvious change of the seismic wave, hence the geological data should be collected in detail in the seismic design of tunnel. Meanwhile it is proposed that the PE material can be filled back into the cavities behind the tunnel lining to reduce the earthquake damage of tunnels.

Keywords: tunnel with cavity, seismic action, site response effect, finite element method.

## 1. Introduction

A large number of tunnel earthquake damage investigations have shown that strong earthquakes will cause various degrees of damage to the tunnel lining structure, and the tunnel earthquake damage may be more serious when there exist some cavities behind the lining [1]. Most of the cavities behind the linings of the active tunnels such as the Uonuma Tunnel in Japan, the Haitangshan Tunnel in Liaoning Province, the Meishan Railway Tunnel in Guangdong Province and the Galongla Tunnel in Tibet have appeared. The existence of these cavities will inevitably affect the seismic performance of tunnel structure. Therefore, it is of great practical engineering importance to study the seismic performances of lining tunnel with cavity.

The seismic response of lining tunnel has been thoroughly studied by many researchers with the analytical methods and numerical methods. the wave function expansion method or the integral transform technique has been used to solve the scattering of seismic waves for a tunnel, e.g. the solutions for SH wave or for P, SV and Rayleigh waves [2-8]. However, the complexity of practical problems limits the application of analytical method, it is necessary to develop more efficient methods, which include the finite element method (FEM) [9-18], the finite difference method (FDM) [19-22] and boundary element method (BEM) [22-25]. In addition, it is worth mentioning that that the shaking table tests [27-32] also provide the beneficial engineering experiences for the seismic damage of tunnel.

It is well known that the appearance of cavity behind tunnel lining is one of the tunnel disasters. Based on the static test, the finite element method or their combination, many researchers have implemented the static analysis of the influence of the cavity behind the lining on the tunnel. Li et al. [33] combined the construction monitoring and the finite element method to study the displacement and stress characteristics of the Xishanping tunnel through coal and the goaf area, the results shows that after the tunnel is in operation, due to the disturbance of the vehicle load, it may have an adverse effect on the stability of the surrounding rock-support system. Song et al. [34] analyzed the influence of different positions, sizes and cavity groups behind the lining on the safety factor of each section of the structure by the plane elastic-plastic analysis method. The results show that the lack of tightness between the lining structure and surrounding rock is an important reason for deterioration of lining stress and lining crack. Peng et al. [35] studied the stress state of lining structure of Bayi and Xiangyang tunnels for the existence of cavity, the results show that the original equilibrium state of the lining structure will be broken by the cavity, and when there is no cavity in the vault, the lower edge of the haunch is compressed and the lower edge of the vault is tension, when there is a cavity in the vault, the stress situation is just the opposite. She et al. [36] and He et al. [37] used the model test to find that under the horizontal force, the damage caused by the cavity behind vault is greater than the one by the cavity behind the arched waist. By the elastoplastic finite element analysis, Meguid and Dang [38] studied the influence of the cavity behind the tunnel lining caused by erosion on the inner wall stress of tunnel, as a result, it is believed that the cavity size will have a huge impact on the lining. Kamel and Meguid [39] used the finite element method to investigate the influence of different cavity size and position on the tunnel lining, and believed that the appearance of cavity would cause the damage of tunnel lining structure. Zhang et al. [40] proposed a method of identifying the main cause of tunnel lining disease based on the correspondence analysis model, and studied the main cause of tunnel lining disease, the results show that the main cause of the sample tunnel lining disease are the cavity behind the lining, the insufficient lining thickness, the improper treatment of surrounding rock and the plastic ground pressure. Liu and Zhong [41] used the finite element method to analyze the internal forces of tunnels with vault cavities and the initial support structure, and the results show that the maximum positive bending moment of the tunnel appears at the vault, and the larger the cavity, the greater the bending moment. Wang et al. [42] used the elastic-plastic finite element numerical method to analyze the influence of cavities with different sizes, positions and depths on the lining, the results show that the cavity may lead to lining cracks or even damage, and change the stress distribution of surrounding rock, which is prone to greater damage. Xie and Zhou [43] used the stratum structure method to analyze the influence of the different positions and widths of the cavity behind the lining on the pressure distribution of surrounding rock, the results show that the arched waist is the most dangerous. Zhang et al. [44] studied the safety of the tunnel structure with double cavities through simulation experiments, the results show that the existence of double cavities behind the lining significantly changes the internal force distribution of the tunnel structure and deteriorates the force state of the structure. From the above static analysis, it can be seen that the cavity behind the lining has a great influence on the lining and the vault or the arched waist is prone to damage.

In terms of the dynamic research on the lining with cavity, Yu [45] used the finite element method to investigate the influence of the cavity behind the lining vault on the seismic capacity of the tunnel structure, the results show that the cavity will cause the insufficient support for the structure, thereby reduce the load-bearing performance of structure. Jiang [46] discussed the influence of factors such as the location and size of cavities by the finite element method, the analysis shows that the cavity causes the tunnel lining to bulge and deform toward the surrounding rock, the safety factor of the lining section decreases, the plastic zone of the surrounding rock increases. Zhao [47] analyzed the influence of different earthquake intensities on the acceleration and strain of the tunnel structure through the shaking table test and the finite element simulation when a cavity appears behind the lining vault, and the results show that the acceleration, stress and strain of the lining structure near the cavity will increase significantly. Based on the shaking table test, Xin et al. [48] discussed the acceleration amplification factors, tension-compression strains and damage patterns of tunnel linings, some valuable conclusions were given, e.g. the

existence of void on the crown reduces the aseismic capacity and changes the damage modes of tunnel structures, the strongest seismic responses occur at lining crown, the unexpected high tension strains and annular cracks occur at the outer surface of lining crown and spandrel mainly due to the vertical excitation. Naotoshi et al. [49] combined the substructure method and the point-matching method to investigate the effect of voids on the 3D seismic response of the tunnel, the numerical results show that the presence of a void does not lead to a large stress concentration on the lining under an oblique-incidence of seismic waves. However, high correlation between large stress concentration on the lining caused by voids before an earthquake and seismic damage of tunnels is suggested.

It can be seen that the seismic dynamic response analysis of tunnels with cavities is relatively few, most of the boundary implement methods and seismic input methods are simple, and no effective improvements were proposed. In this study, the method of applying equivalent nodal forces on the viscoelastic boundary nodes is adopted to accurately simulate the ground motions of two-dimensional tunnel with cavity behind lining at both time domain and frequency domain, and the reinforcement measures for the cavity will be proposed.

## 2. Viscoelastic boundary and ground motion input

## 2.1. Viscoelastic artificial boundary

When simulating an unbounded domain, in order to eliminate the wave reflection on the truncated boundary and reduce the degree of freedom of calculation, it is necessary to deal with the local foundation boundary. The commonly used artificial boundaries include the viscous boundary, the transmission boundary and the viscoelastic boundary, where the viscous boundary is prone to the so-called overall structural drift, the transmission boundary is prone to the high-frequency instability, and the viscoelastic boundary can overcome both the low-frequency drift and the high-frequency instability [50]. Therefore, this study choose the viscoelastic artificial boundary [51-52], adopts the COMBIN14 spring element in ANSYS to simulate, and the normal and tangential spring stiffness and damping coefficients at the nodes are respectively:

$$K_n = \alpha_n \frac{G}{R} A, \quad C_n = \rho c_p A, \tag{1}$$

$$K_t = \alpha_t \frac{G}{R} A, \quad C_t = \rho c_s A, \tag{2}$$

where the normal spring correction coefficient  $\alpha_n = 1.33$ , the tangential spring correction coefficient  $\alpha_t = 0.67$ , G is the foundation shear modulus, R is the distance from the scattered wave source to the artificial boundary,  $\rho$ ,  $c_p$  and  $c_s$  are the density, the compression wave velocity and the shear wave velocity of soil, respectively, A is the influence area of the boundary node.

## 2.2. Seismic input

When the viscoelastic boundary completely absorbs the scattered waves in the calculation area, the free field motion can be transformed into the equivalent nodal force on the artificial boundary node. He et al. [53] and Zhao et al. [54] converted the required stress of the free field into the displacement and velocity of the free field, and the free field motion can be simulated by applying equivalent nodal forces on the artificial boundary.

By the stress relationship at the viscoelastic boundary of the truncated soil, the equivalent nodal force formula on the viscoelastic artificial boundary can be obtained:

$$F(t) = [f(t) + \tau(t)]A,$$
(3)

where  $\tau(t)$  is the stress at the corresponding node in the continuous medium, and f(t) is the stress

generated by the free field motion on the viscoelastic artificial boundary of the truncated soil, and its formula is expressed as:

$$f(t) = Cu(x, y, z, t) + Ku(x, y, z, t),$$
(4)

where u(x, y, z, t) is the free field displacement vector at the node.

By the substitution of Eq. (4) into Eq. (3) and the combination of one-dimensional wave theory and the constitutive equation, the vertical equivalent nodal force is zero, and the horizontal equivalent nodal force is as follows:

$$F_{x} = K_{T}u_{0}(t) + C_{T}\left[\dot{u}_{0}(t) + \dot{u}_{0}\left(t - \frac{2H}{c_{s}}\right)\right] + \rho c_{s}\left[\dot{u}_{0}(t) - \dot{u}_{0}\left(t - \frac{2H}{c_{s}}\right)\right] + u_{0}\left(t - \frac{2H}{c_{s}}\right), \quad (5)$$

where t is the time and H is the distance from the bottom boundary to the ground surface.

## 3. Validation of accuracy

The accuracy will be validated by comparing the numerical results of the finite element method with the ones of the indirect boundary integral equation method in the literature. The calculation model for validation is shown in Fig. 1. The buried depth of the circular lining d = 10 m, the inner diameter of the lining r = 5 m, the outer diameter of the lining R = 5.2 m, the shear wave velocity of lining structure  $c_{s1} = 3000$  m/s, the density  $\rho_1 = 2500$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>, the shear wave velocity of soil  $c_{s2} = 600$  m/s, the density  $\rho_2 = 2000$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>, the Poisson ratio of soil and lining are all taken as 0.25, the damping ratio is 0.001. The mesh size of the finite element model is 0.1 m, using PLANE42 plane strain element. Fig. 2 shows the comparison with the reference [55]. It can be seen that the numerical calculation results of the two methods are in good agreement, which validates the accuracy.



Fig. 1. Schematic diagram of validation model

Fig. 2. Comparison with the result [56]

## 4. Numerical analysis

The calculation model of a lining tunnel with a cavity behind lining is shown in Fig. 3. The mesh size of the finite element model is 0.1 m, and PLANE42 plane strain elements are used. The tunnel structure parameters are shown in Table 1. To facilitate analysis, seven observation points are chosen and shown in Fig. 3. It is assumed that the plane SV wave propagates vertically from the bedrock.

The mode analysis of the finite element model is first performed, and the natural vibration frequencies corresponding to the first three modes of the structure are shown in Table 2. It can be seen that when the cavity appears behind the right spandrel or the right arched foot, the natural

vibration frequency of structure changes very little, and when the cavity is behind the lining vault, the significant reduction of basic natural vibration frequency of structure demonstrates that the Cavity behind the vault greatly weakens the restraint of the surrounding rock on the lining structure and has an great impact on the dynamic characteristics of the structure.



Fig. 3. Lining tunnel model with Cavity behind the vault

<b>I able 1.</b> Mechanical parameters of calculation model								
Tunnel	Elastic modulus	Shear wave	Poisson's	Density	Damping			
structure	(MPa)	velocity (m/s)	ratio	$(kg/m^3)$	ratio			
Soil	300	600	0.25	2 000	0.001			
Lining	30000	3000	0.25	2 500	0.001			

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	Table 2. Natural violation nequency of ming structure/Hz					
Mada	No	Cavity behind the	Cavity behind the right	Cavity behind the right		
Mode	cavity	vault	spandrel	arched foot		
1	0.9576	0.3767	0.9582	0.9576		
2	1.3104	0.8288	1.3102	1.3084		
3	1.3739	1.0820	1.3744	1.3736		

Natural vibration fraguance of lining structure/Us

# 4.1. Frequency domain analysis of lining structure in a half space

Suppose that the incident wave is the unit sine wave, the incidence frequency f is 0.5 Hz, 1.0 Hz, 2.0 Hz, and 5.0 Hz, respectively. the seismic response of tunnel lining structure is calculated and analyzed for the cavity located behind the vault, the right spandrel and the right arched foot, respectively. The relative stress is defined as  $\sigma^* = |\sigma/\sigma_0|$ , where  $\sigma_0$  is the stress amplitude of incident wave.

Fig. 4 shows the cloud diagram of the principal stress distribution of tunnel lining when the incidence frequency of SV wave is 0.5 Hz, 1.0 Hz, 2.0 Hz and 5.0 Hz, respectively. It can be seen that for the individual frequency, regardless of the cavity location, the maximum value (MX) of the lining stress always appears at the arch foot and the minimum (MN) always at the arched waist. In addition, as the incidence frequency of wave increases, the lining stress increases, and the lining stress distribution (relative magnitude) is analogous under different incidence frequencies.

Table 3 shows the relative amplitude of the principal stress at each observation point for 0.5 Hz, 1.0 Hz, 2.0 Hz, and 5.0 Hz, respectively. It can be seen that as the incidence frequency of wave increases, the stress of lining structure also increases. When the incidence frequency of wave is 1.0 Hz, which is close to the natural vibration frequency of tunnel structure, the resonance effect results in a significant amplification of lining stress and a nearly 6 times increase compared with the tunnel without cavity. Except for the resonance frequency 1.0 Hz, the analogous stress amplification appears for other frequencies.

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Fig. 4. Maximum principal stress distribution of lining structure

For the incidence frequency of wave 0.5 Hz, compared with the results of the lining without cavity, when the cavity appears behind the vault, the principal stress at the vault has the largest amplification by 194.83 %, and the stress amplification at the right arch foot is the smallest with an amplification by 1.38 %; When the cavity appears behind the right arched shoulder, the principal stress at the vault has the largest amplification by 576.99 %, and the one at the left arched foot is the smallest amplification by 0.58 %; when the cavity appears behind the right arched foot, the principal stress at the vault has the largest amplification by 975.225 % and the one at the right spandrel the smallest amplification by 0.82 %.

For the incidence frequency 1.0 Hz, compared with the no-cavity, when the cavity is behind the vault, the principal stress at the vault has the largest amplification by 762 %, and the one at the right spandrel has the smallest amplification by 44 %; When the cavity appears behind the right spandrel, the principal stress at the vault has the largest amplification by 1267.03 %, and the one at the left spandrel has the smallest amplification by 0.64 %; when the cavity appears behind the right arched foot, the principal stress at the vault has the largest amplification by 2316.69 %, the

## smallest amplification with 0.64 % appears at the left spandrel.

	01 (	The location of cavity					
<i>f /</i> Hz	Observation	No	Cavity behind	Cavity behind the	Cavity behind the		
-	point	cavity	the vault	right spandrel	right arched foot		
	Right arched foot	5.756	5.836	5.807	6.956		
0.5	Right arched waist	0.004	0.004	0.007	0.006		
	Right spandrel	1.409	1.470	1.447	1.420		
	Vault	0.005	0.015	0.035	0.056		
	Left spandrel	1.380	1.444	1.412	1.421		
	Left arched waist	0.009	0.011	0.010	0.017		
	Left arched foot	5.616	5.685	5.648	5.825		
	Right arched foot	10.879	2.140	10.687	13.053		
	Right arched waist	0.007	0.013	0.009	0.002		
1.0	Right spandrel	2.594	3.737	2.642	2.631		
1.0	Vault	0.005	0.096	0.061	0.109		
	Left spandrel	2.569	3.714	2.586	2.602		
	Left arched waist	0.004	0.007	0.004	0.004		
	Left arched foot	11.125	2.180	11.675	11.332		
	Right arched foot	21.152	15.041	21.444	25.624		
	Right arched waist	0.015	0.024	0.003	0.026		
2.0	Right spandrel	5.050	5.266	5.271	5.096		
2.0	Vault	0.019	0.122	0.056	0.197		
	Left spandrel	4.947	5.066	5.175	5.093		
	Left arched waist	0.037	0.066	0.043	0.068		
	Left arched foot	20.636	20.673	20.890	21.429		
5.0	Right arched foot	51.884	52.760	52.389	62.925		
	Right arched waist	0.033	0.040	0.062	0.057		
	Right spandrel	12.781	13.304	13.142	12.869		
	Vault	0.049	0.143	0.318	0.528		
	Left spandrel	12.521	13.065	12.821	12.890		
	Left arched waist	0.083	0.097	0.090	0.155		
	Left arched foot	50.637	51.407	50.955	52.601		

	Table 3. Relative	principal	stress at each	observation	point
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For the incidence frequency 2.0 Hz, when the cavity appears behind the vault, the principal stress at the vault has the largest amplification by 549.09 %, and the one at the left arch foot has the smallest amplification by 0.18 %; When the cavity is behind the right spandrel, the vault has the largest amplification by 194.76 % and the left arched foot the smallest amplification by 1.23 %; when the cavity appears behind the right arched foot, the stress amplification by the vault is the largest with 948.12 %, and the right spandrel smallest with 0.9 %.

For the incidence frequency 5.0 Hz, when the cavity is located behind the vault, the principal stress at the vault has the largest amplification by 194.41 %, and the left arched foot has the smallest amplification by 1.49 %; When the cavity is behind the right spandrel, the vault has the

largest amplification by 555.92 % and the left arched foot the smallest amplification by 0.61 %; when the cavity appears behind the right arched foot, the stress amplification by the vault is the largest with 988.63 % and the right spandrel the smallest with 0.68 %.

# 4.2. Time domain analysis of lining structure under actual seismic wave

Taking the Taft wave as an example, the peak value is reduced to 0.1 g as seismic input. Fig. 5 shows the time history of adjusted Taft wave and its Fourier amplitude spectrum. The same calculation model as the one in Fig. 3 will be adopted for the time domain analysis, the seismic response of tunnel lining will be studied under the actual seismic wave when the cavity appear behind the vault, the spandrel and the arched foot, respectively, and the comparison analysis will be performed to determine the most unfavorable case and the most dangerous point.



Fig. 5. Adjusted Taft wave and its Fourier amplitude spectrum

Fig. 6 shows that the time domain analysis can also derive the same trend as the frequency domain analysis, i.e. regardless of the cavity location, the maximum principal stress always appears at the arched foot and the minimum always at the arched waist. When the cavity appears behind the vault, the principal stress at the vault has the largest amplification by 758.71 %, the right arched foot by 2.76 %, the right arched waist by 23.85 %, the right spandrel by 1.97 %, the left spandrel by 4.49 %, the left arched waist by 23.8 % and the left arched foot by 6.6 %; When the cavity appears behind the right spandrel, the vault has the largest amplification by 1852.56 %, the right arched foot by 0.52 %, the left arched waist by 2.54 %, and the left arched foot by 2.71 %; When the cavity is behind the right arched foot, the vault and the right arched foot by 15.03 %, the right arched waist by 27.6 %, the right spandrel by 8.95 %, the left spandrel by 1.04 %, the left arched foot by 11.9 %.



Fig. 6. Maximum principal stress distribution of lining structure

Table 4 shows the maximum principal stress and stress amplification of each observation point

under the actual seismic wave. It can be seen that the maximum stress of lining is 1.642 MPa at the arched foot, and the minimum stress 0.108 MPa at the arch waist. When the cavity appears behind the lining, the vault stress has the largest amplification, especially the cavity often appears behind the vault, and the stress amplification can reach about 760 %, which is quite unfavorable to tunnels.

Observation	No cavity	Cavity behind the vault		Cavity behind the right spandrel		Cavity behind the right arched foot	
point	σ/ MPa	σ/ MPa	Amplification	σ/ MPa	Amplification	σ / MPa	Amplification
Right arched foot	1.642	1.688	2.76	1.649	0.44	1.889	15.03
Right arched waist	0.109	0.134	23.85	0.118	8.76	0.138	27.6
Right spandrel	0.511	0.521	1.97	0.571	11.76	0.557	8.95
Vault	0.0006	0.0055	758.71	0.0126	1852.56	0.0178	2656.05
Left spandrel	0.518	0.520	4.49	0.521	0.52	0.523	1.04
Left arched waist	0.108	0.133	23.8	0.111	2.54	0.115	6.68
Left arched foot	1.492	1.591	6.6	1.533	2.71	1.670	11.9

**Table 4.** Maximum principal stress and stress amplification for a half space

# 4.3. Stress analysis of tunnel in layered site

The stress analysis of tunnel with a cavity in a half space has been discussed above. However, it is known that the actual engineering site usually consists of different types of soil in profile. Generally, it can be assumed that the site consists of multiple horizontal layered soils, and the free-field response of site can be derived directly through the direct stiffness method [56]. The calculation model of layered site is shown in Fig. 7 and the material parameters in Table 5. Without loss of generality, it is assumed that a cavity appears behind the vault and a plane SV wave with the incidence frequency of wave 1.0 Hz propagates vertically from the bedrock.



Fig. 7. The calculation model of layered site

The maximum principal stress and stress amplification for layered site is shown in Table 6. It can be seen that, regardless of the half space or the layered site, the maximum stress of tunnel lining structure always appears at the arched foot and the minimum stress at the arched waist. However, there exist some difference between the results of the half space and the ones of the

layered site, e.g. for the layered site, the largest amplification of stress occurs at the arched waist with an amplification by 166.76 %, followed by the vault by 3.12 %, which was much smaller than the amplification for the half space, the smallest amplification by 0.48 % occurs at the spandrel; for the half space, the largest amplification of stress occurs at the vault with an amplification by 447.45 %, followed by the arched waist by 332.78 %, the smallest amplification occurs at the arched foot with an amplification by 0.93 %, which illustrates that the soil properties have a significant influence on the tunnel, the layered site can cause the obvious change of seismic wave, so the geological data should be collected in detail in the seismic design of tunnel.

Soil	Thickness of soil	S-wave	P-wave	Elastic modulus	Density /	Domning
layer	layer / m	velocity / m/s	velocity / m/s	/ MPa	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	Damping
1	20	150	280	103	1750	0.05
2	20	175	327	141	1775	0.05
3	20	200	374	187	1800	0.05
4	20	250	467	300	1850	0.05
5	20	300	561	445	1900	0.05

 Table 5. Mechanical parameters of calculation model

	Half space			Layered site		
	No cavity	Cavity behind vault		No cavity	Cavity behind vault	
Observation point	σ*	*	Amplification	σ*	σ*	Amplification
	0	0	(%)		0	(%)
Right arched foot	3.189	3.221	0.99	5.463	5.525	1.14
Right arched waist	0.003	0.013	332.78	0.031	0.081	166.76
Right spandrel	1.441	1.441	3.49	3.162	3.177	0.48
Vault	0.007	0.0397	447.45	0.239	0.247	3.12
Left spandrel	1.461	1.461	4.96	3.163	3.184	0.66
Left arched waist	0.029	0.013	328.27	0.031	0.081	165.21
Left arched foot	3.197	3.227	0.93	5.463	5.530	1.23

Table 6. Maximum principal stress and stress amplification for layered site

# 4.4. Reinforcement measures for the cavity behind tunnel lining

The treatment of lining void disease can be divided into two categories, i.e. back-filled grouting and lining reinforcement. Taking the most unfavorable situation that the cavity appears behind the vault as an example, the calculation model is shown in Fig. 3, where the incidence frequency of wave is 1.0 Hz. The different materials are filled separately back into the cavity to investigate the engineering safety, and the material parameters from the literature [57] are shown in Table 7.

		r ming and care	111100 11100011010		
N	Astorial	Density	Elastic modulus	Poisson's	
Material		(Kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	(GPa)	ratio	
Lining C30 concrete		2500	31	0.2	
Back-filled material	Cement paste	2000	15	0.25	
	Foam concrete	300	4	0.21	
	PVC tube + Cement	1400	2.5	0.2	
	paste	1400	5.5	0.2	
	PE ball + Cement paste	1000	0.55	0.3	

Table 7. Parameters of lining and back-filled materials

Table 8 shows the relative principal stress at observation points when the different materials are separately filled back into the cavity. It can be seen that the back-filling of cement paste, foam concrete, PVC tube + Cement paste or PE ball + Cement paste into the cavity behind vault can lead to the obvious reduction of lining principal stress and thus effectively eliminates the impact of cavity on the safety of tunnels in service, in which the PE material with the smaller elastic modulus has the better reduction effect than other materials, especially for the arched foot and

vault of lining. In general, the PE material without active chemical properties has the advantages of excellent corrosion resistance, high toughness and low cost, and can be used normally for about fifty years, which can reduce the engineering cost and earthquake risk of tunnels.

Observation resint	Back-filled materials							
Observation point	Cavity behind vault	Cement paste	Foam concrete	PVC	PE			
Right arched foot	12.106	11.213	10.542	10.607	10.448			
Right arched waist	0.007	0.005	0.004	0.004	0.006			
Right spandrel	2.595	2.135	2.465	2.467	2.224			
Vault	0.012	0.011	0.009	0.009	0.008			
Left spandrel	2.569	2.108	2.445	2.448	2.273			
Left arched waist	0.013	0.01	0.007	0.008	0.007			
Left arched foot	11.805	10.936	10.285	10.348	10.194			

**Table 8.** Relative principal stress at observation points for different back-filled materials

## 5. Conclusions

Aiming at the seismic safety of tunnel structure with cavity behind the lining, the viscoelastic artificial boundary and equivalent node force load are introduced, and the influence of cavity behind the lining on the seismic response of tunnel structure is studied and analyzed by finite element method. Taft seismic wave is introduced in the time domain solution. In the frequency domain solution, the equivalent load in the time domain is transformed into the equivalent load in the frequency domain through fast Fourier transform, and harmonic response analysis is introduced. This paper mainly studies the influence of cavity on the seismic response of lined tunnel in frequency domain and time domain, and the seismic response analysis of lined tunnel with cavity in layered site. Finally, the reinforcement measures of cavity behind tunnel lining are put forward.

1) The location of cavity behind the lining has a significant impact on the lining structure. The cavity behind the spandrel or arced foot of the lining has less impact on the dynamic response of the lining structure, while the common cavity behind the vault will significantly change the dynamic characteristics of the structure. When the cavity appears behind the vault, the vault stress has the largest amplification, and when the cavity is behind the spandrel or the arch foot, the vault or the arched waist stress has the larger amplification.

2) Regardless of the cavity location, the maximum lining stress always appears at the arched foot and the minimum at the arched waist. However, it should be noted that the largest amplification, up to about 760 % under the Taft wave, of vault stress easily leads to the vault damage, which is unfavorable to the tunnel in a half space; hence the cavity behind vault should be detected and repaired thoroughly for the tunnels in service.

3) Regardless of the half space or the layered site, the maximum lining stress always appears at the arched foot and the minimum at the arched waist. However, the difference from the result of the half space that the largest amplification is at the vault and the smallest at the arced foot is that the largest amplification of stress occurs at the arched waist and the minimum one at the spandrel shoulder. Therefore, except the vault, the attention should also be paid to the unfavorable effect of cavity on the arched waist.

4) The influence of several materials filled into the cavity on the lining stress is analyzed and it is found that the lining stress can be reduced to certain extent, in particular, the PE material has the better reduction effect and its reduction can reach over 10 %. It is proposed that the PE material can be chosen and filled back into the cavities behind the tunnel lining to reduce the earthquake damage of tunnels.

This study preliminarily explores the seismic response of tunnel lining with rock cavity, and the influence of other factors, such as the oblique incidence of seismic wave, wave type and nonlinearity, on the lining structure needs to be further studied.

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