

The study comprehensively investigated various parameters affecting the performance of pile footings. Overall, the research is commendable for its thorough investigation and insightful recommendations. However, the following concerns need to be addressed before publishing this paper.

1. The introduction should summarise the findings mentioned in the conclusion. I suggest revising the introduction as follows: (Please translate to Vietnamese as well).

*“The utilization of pile foundations is increasingly pervasive, notably in the construction of high-rise structures. However, prevailing viewpoints in pile foundation design often depict pile caps as rigid entities, overlooking the dynamic interactions with the underlying soil, hence presenting an incomplete portrayal of real-world conditions. This study utilizes Plaxis 3D software to investigate the effects of pile arrangement, pile length, and subsurface geology on pile load distribution and foundation settlement beneath the pile tip. The numerical results reveal that pile arrangement significantly influences internal forces within the pile group and settlement, with a square pile configuration emerging as the optimal choice over rectangular and triangular arrangements. Moreover, the findings indicate that the subsoil beneath the raft contributes to bearing the load alongside the piles.”*

2. Please include citations to current papers related to this topic in the introduction section.
3. When employing numerical simulation to investigate the performance of pipe footings, the material model, mesh size, and other relevant parameters must be included in the manuscript.
4. The authors stated, "The stiffness of the 2 piles at the boundary (4-pile foundation) and the 3 middle piles (9-pile foundation) is much greater than the other piles. The remainder is due to the increased pile length." What exactly constitutes "stiffness" in this context?
5. The authors elucidate the following finding: "The 9-pile foundation, due to the large number of piles, makes this pile weaker than the same pile in the case of a 4-pile foundation."
6. Employing Plaxis 3D Foundation for modelling multi-pile foundations entails a large number of elements and consumes considerable computational time. What strategies can be employed to mitigate the time-intensive nature of running these numerical models?