

Personal Bio

Vital Stats

Full Name: Varun

Affiliation: Itasca Consulting Group Inc.

Position: Senior Geomechanics Engineer



Biography

Varun is a geomechanics engineer with Itasca Consulting Group who specializes in numerical modeling. He has a soil mechanics background with emphasis on dynamics where he was involved with projects related to liquefaction, dynamic response of foundations, site response and soil-structure interaction. In the past years, he has been more involved in rock mechanics with focus on static and dynamic stability of both natural and man-made rock slopes such as in large open pits. He has also worked on stability of underground infrastructure such as tunnels, shafts and large excavations for deep underground mines. His current interests include modeling rockburst problems and seismic advantages of seating critical structures underground. He also likes programming and has worked on lattice based codes for simulating slope stability and hydraulic fracturing problems at Itasca.

Education

Ph.D. in Civil Engineering, 2010, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia

M.S. in Civil Engineering, 2006, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia

B. Tech in Civil Engineering, 2005, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, New Delhi, India

Awards and Major Publications

Varun, M. Pierce and C. Fairhurst (2014). "Underground Nuclear Power Plants: The Seismic Advantage", In Proceedings of 8th Asian Rock Mechanics Symposium, 14-16 October, Sapporo, Japan

Damjanac, B., Varun and L. Lorig (2013). "Seismic stability of large open pit slopes and pseudo-static analysis", In Proceedings of International Symposium on Slope Stability in Open Pit Mining and Civil Engineering, Brisbane, Australia (September, 2013)

Distinguished Ph.D. Student in Geosystems, George F. Sowers Award, Georgia Tech (2010)

Outstanding M.S. Student in Geosystems, James S. Lai Award, Georgia Tech (2007)