

EGT2  
ENGINEERING TRIPOS PART IIA

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Wednesday 25 April 2018 9.30 to 11.10

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**Module 3D1**

**GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING I**

*Answer not more than **three** questions.*

*All questions carry the same number of marks.*

*The **approximate** percentage of marks allocated to each part of a question is indicated in the right margin.*

*Write your candidate number **not** your name on the cover sheet.*

**STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**

Single-sided script paper

Graph paper

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED FOR THIS EXAM**

CUED approved calculator allowed

Attachment: 3D1 & 3D2 Geotechnical Engineering Data Book (19 pages)

Supplementary page: one extra copy of Fig. 2 (Question 3)

Engineering Data Book

**10 minutes reading time is allowed for this paper at the start of the exam.**

**You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed to do so.**

1 (a) State in simple terms the upper and lower bound theories of plasticity [20%]

(b) A smooth shallow foundation carrying a purely vertical load rests at the top of a semi-infinite clay slope with a strength  $c_u$  and a slope angle of  $\theta$ , as shown in Fig. 1.

(i) Calculate a lower bound on the collapse load using a fan of infinitesimal discontinuities. [30%]

(ii) Ignoring the weight of the soil, calculate an upper bound on the collapse load using a similar mechanism to that used in part (b)(i). [40%]

(iii) Qualitatively, how would the soil weight affect the upper bound calculation of part (b)(ii) if it had been considered? [10%]

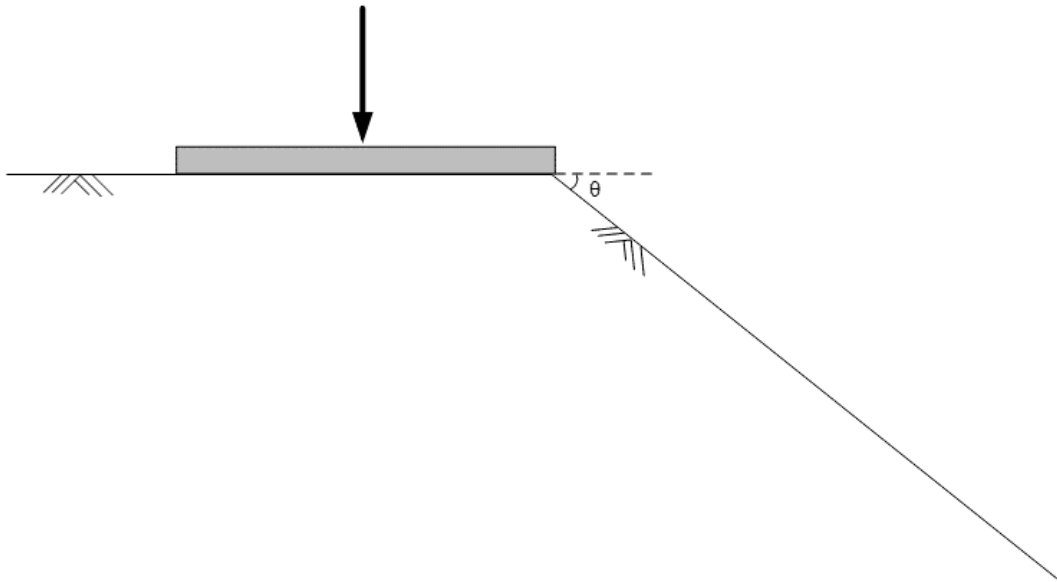


Fig. 1

2 A rough shallow strip foundation of width  $B$  rests on the surface of a uniform clay soil with an undrained shear strength  $c_u = 20$  kPa. The foundation carries loads which can be represented in 2D as a point load of magnitude  $V$  at the centre of the foundation with an inclination  $\alpha$  to the vertical.

(a) Calculate the maximum load that can be carried per unit length of the strip foundation if the angle  $\alpha$  is  $10^\circ$ . [40%]

(b) Sketch the Mohr's circle of stress beneath the shallow foundation with the failure load in part (a) and calculate the inclination and value of the maximum principal stress in this region. [20%]

(c) Calculate the maximum load that can be carried per unit length of the strip foundation if the angle  $\alpha$  is  $30^\circ$ . [20%]

(d) Sketch the Mohr's circle of stress beneath the shallow foundation with the failure load in part (c) and calculate the inclination and value of the maximum principal stress in this region. [20%]

3 (a) Two fill materials are being evaluated for suitability in the construction of an earth dam to impound a small reservoir. Soil 1 is a poorly graded clayey sand with 11% fines. Soil 2 is a silty sand with 30% fines. Standard Proctor tests were carried out for the soils. The results for soil 1 are already plotted in Fig. 2.

(i) Data for soil 2 are below. A fourth specimen was tested. The compaction mould has mass of 4.25 kg and volume of 944 cm<sup>3</sup>. The mass of the compacted specimen in the mould is 6.38 kg. The mass of the dried specimen, after being extruded from the mould, is 1.97 kg. Plot the compaction curve for soil 2. Identify the relevant information for both soils. [20%]

	specimen 1	specimen 2	specimen 3
Moisture content (%)	5.59	9.64	11.13
Dry unit weight (kN m <sup>-3</sup> )	19.93	19.96	19.30

(ii) Comparing the two compaction curves, discuss reasons for their relative positions. Select the soil to use in the construction of the earth dam and provide specifications. Explain your choices. [10%]

(b) The subsurface profile at the dam site consists of 13 m of clay over a sand bed laying on competent bedrock. The water table is at the surface. Two specimens are retrieved from 2.5 m and 9 m, respectively, and consolidation tests are performed. The tests give values for consolidation parameters similar to those for London clay in the Data Book. The shallow specimen has a natural water content of 41.7% and an OCR of 4, while the deeper specimen has a natural water content of 37.5% and an OCR of 1.5.

(i) Estimate the settlements in the clay due to the construction of a 5 m high dam, before impoundment. [40%]

(ii) Estimate the excess pore pressure in the middle of the clay and settlement ratio 6 months after the end of construction, assuming the coefficient of consolidation  $C_v$  is 2.3 m<sup>2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>. [20%]

(iii) A piezometer placed at 6.5 m depth reads an excess pore pressure of 55 kPa, 6 months after the end of construction. At the same time, 37.5 cm of settlement are measured at the crest of the dam. Compare these results with those in part (b)(ii) and discuss. [10%]

*An additional copy of Fig. 2 is attached to the back of this paper. It should be detached and handed in with your answers.*

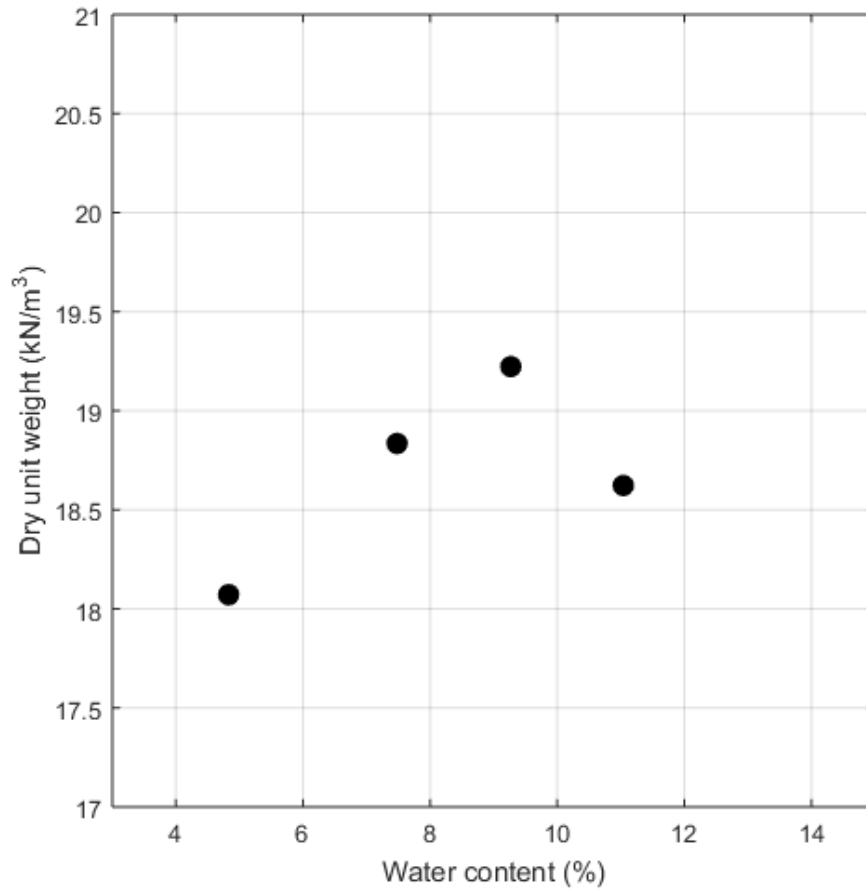


Fig. 2

4 The soil profile at a site consists of medium dense sand for the first 2 m, with a 10 m layer of soft clay to the depth of bedrock. The water table is at 1 m depth. Specimens of the soils were collected during the site investigation and characterised in the laboratory. The sand has dry unit weight of  $17 \text{ kNm}^{-3}$  and saturated unit weight of  $19.5 \text{ kNm}^{-3}$ . The saturated unit weight of the clay is  $17 \text{ kNm}^{-3}$ .

(a) The results of a liquid limit test on the soft clay are given below. Determine the liquid limit. [20%]

Specimen number	Mass of container (g)	Mass of container and wet soil (g)	Mass of container and dry soil (g)	Penetration depth (mm)
1	22.63	55.82	41.23	26.3
2	17.91	68.25	45.31	21.1
3	17.75	60.57	39.85	17.3

(b) The results of a plastic limit test are listed below. Determine the plastic limit and plasticity index. Discuss issues that may arise in performing the limit tests and comment on the significance of the tests. [20%]

Specimen number	Mass of container (g)	Mass of container and wet soil (g)	Mass of container and dry soil (g)
1	26.55	35.62	32.88
2	23.14	30.51	28.36

(c) The clay is normally consolidated, with a  $\lambda$  of 0.35, natural water content of 69.7%, and specific gravity of 2.68. Estimate settlements for the construction of a 5 m high embankment, using the local sand. [20%]

(d) The coefficient of consolidation for the soft clay is  $0.70 \text{ m}^2 \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . Estimate how long it will take for 90% of the settlement to occur. [20%]

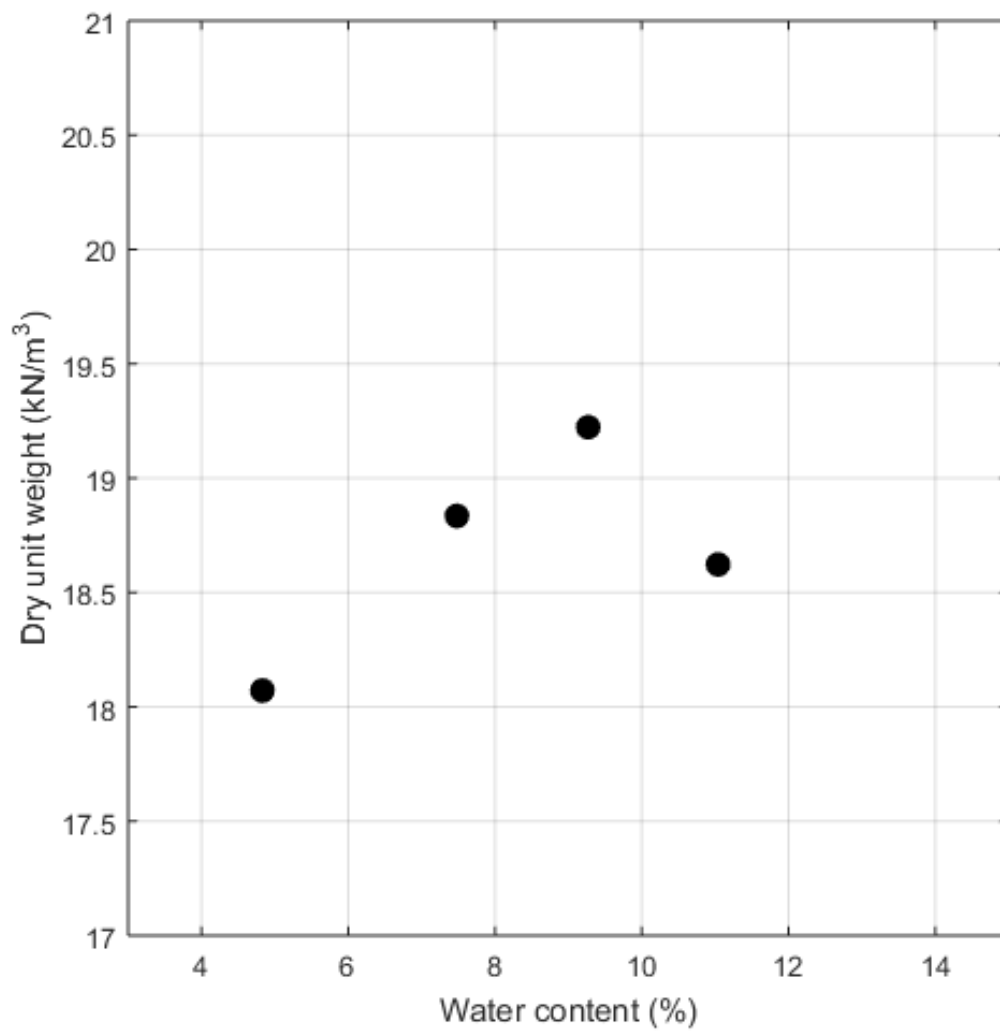
(e) Describe the construction issues raised by the answers to parts (c) and (d). Suggest ways in which these issues could be addressed and their possible drawbacks. [20%]

**END OF PAPER**

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ENGINEERING TRIPOS PART IIA

Wednesday 25 April 2018, Module 3D1, Question 3.



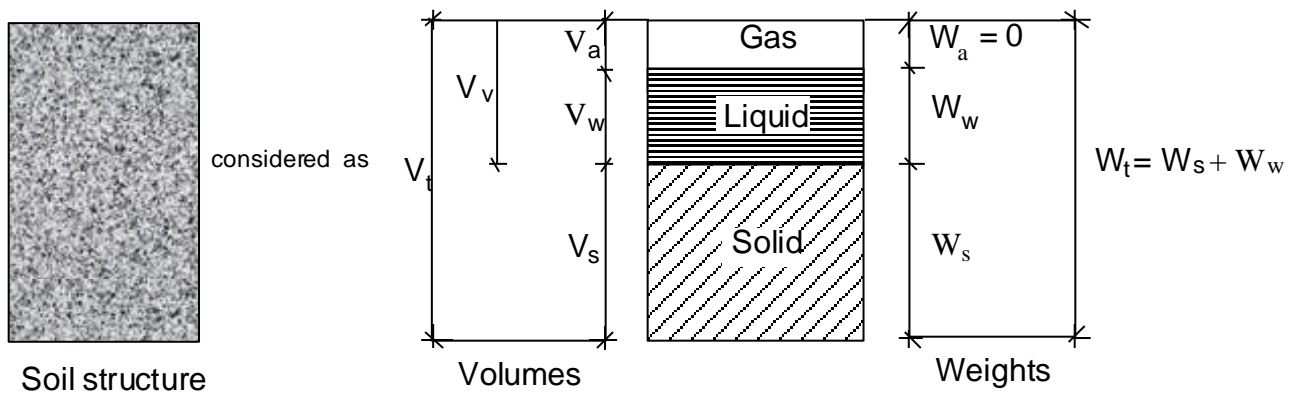
Extra copy of Fig. 2 for Question 3.

**Engineering Tripos Part IIA****3D1 & 3D2  
Geotechnical Engineering  
Data Book 2017-2018**

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## General definitions



Specific gravity of solid

$$G_s$$

Voids ratio

$$e = V_v / V_s$$

Specific volume

$$v = V_t / V_s = 1 + e$$

Porosity

$$n = V_v / V_t = e / (1 + e)$$

Water content

$$w = (W_w / W_s)$$

Degree of saturation

$$S_r = V_w / V_v = (w G_s / e)$$

Unit weight of water

$$\gamma_w = 9.81 \text{ kN/m}^3$$

Unit weight of soil

$$\gamma = W_t / V_t = \left( \frac{G_s + S_r e}{1 + e} \right) \gamma_w$$

Buoyant saturated unit weight

$$\gamma' = \gamma - \gamma_w = \left( \frac{G_s - 1}{1 + e} \right) \gamma_w$$

Unit weight of dry solids

$$\gamma_d = W_s / V_t = \left( \frac{G_s}{1 + e} \right) \gamma_w$$

Air volume ratio

$$A = V_a / V_t = \left( \frac{e(1 - S_r)}{1 + e} \right)$$

**Soil classification (BS1377)**Liquid limit  $w_L$ Plastic Limit  $w_P$ Plasticity Index  $I_p = w_L - w_P$ Liquidity Index  $I_L = \frac{w - w_P}{w_L - w_P}$ Activity =  $\frac{\text{Plasticity Index}}{\text{Percentage of particles finer than } 2 \mu\text{m}}$ Sensitivity =  $\frac{\text{Unconfined compressive strength of an undisturbed specimen}}{\text{Unconfined compressive strength of a remoulded specimen}}$  (at the same water content)*Classification of particle sizes:-*

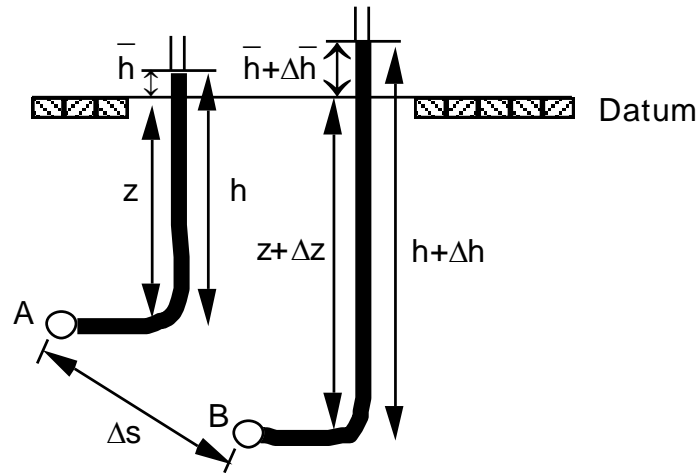
Boulders	larger than			200 mm
Cobbles	between	200 mm	and	60 mm
Gravel	between	60 mm	and	2 mm
Sand	between	2 mm	and	0.06 mm
Silt	between	0.06 mm	and	0.002 mm
Clay	smaller than	0.002 mm (two microns)		

D equivalent diameter of soil particle

 $D_{10}$ ,  $D_{60}$  etc. particle size such that 10% (or 60%) etc.) by weight of a soil sample is composed of finer grains. $C_U$  uniformity coefficient  $D_{60}/D_{10}$

## Seepage

Flow potential:  
(piezometric level)



Total gauge pore water pressure at A:  $u = \gamma_w h = \gamma_w (\bar{h} + z)$

B:  $u + \Delta u = \gamma_w (h + \Delta h) = \gamma_w (\bar{h} + z + \Delta \bar{h} + \Delta z)$

Excess pore water pressure at A:  $\bar{u} = \gamma_w \bar{h}$

B:  $\bar{u} + \Delta \bar{u} = \gamma_w (\bar{h} + \Delta \bar{h})$

Hydraulic gradient A  $\rightarrow$  B  $i = -\frac{\Delta \bar{h}}{\Delta s}$

Hydraulic gradient (3D)  $i = -\nabla \bar{h}$

Darcy's law  $V = ki$   
 $V$  = superficial seepage velocity  
 $k$  = coefficient of permeability

Typical permeabilities:

$D_{10} > 10 \text{ mm}$  : non-laminar flow  
 $10 \text{ mm} > D_{10} > 1 \mu\text{m}$  :  $k \cong 0.01 (D_{10} \text{ in mm})^2 \text{ m/s}$   
 clays :  $k \cong 10^{-9} \text{ to } 10^{-11} \text{ m/s}$

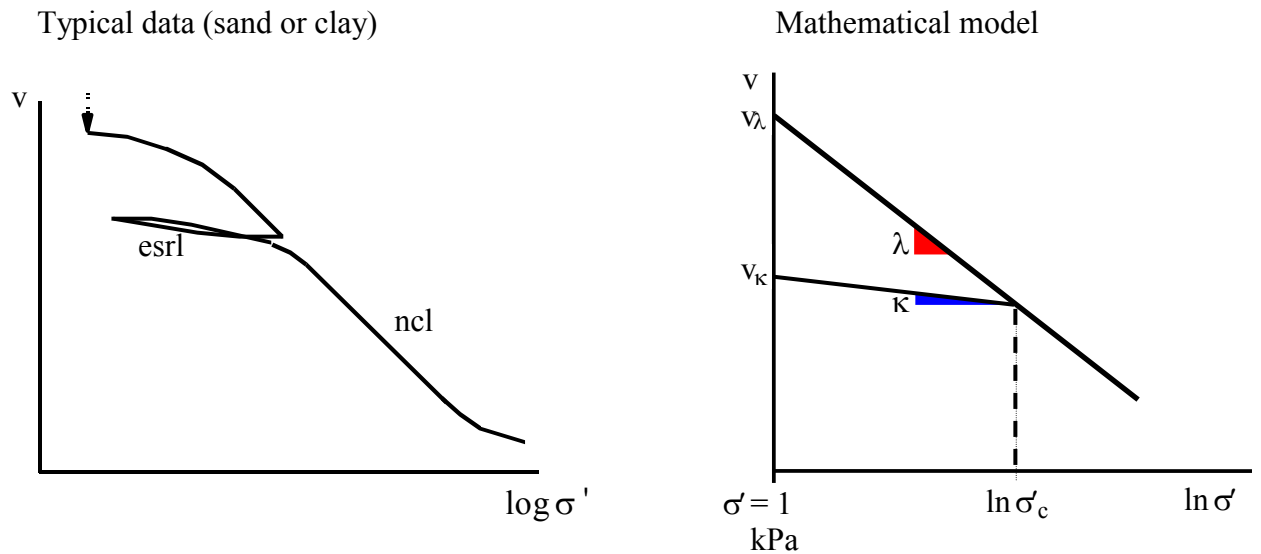
Saturated capillary zone

$h_c = \frac{4T}{\gamma_w d}$  : capillary rise in tube diameter  $d$ , for surface tension  $T$

$h_c \approx \frac{3 \times 10^{-5}}{D_{10}} \text{ m}$  : for water at  $10^\circ\text{C}$ ; note air entry suction is  $u_c = -\gamma_w h_c$

## One-Dimensional Compression

### • Fitting data



Plastic compression stress  $\sigma'_c$  is taken as the larger of the initial aggregate crushing stress and the historic maximum effective vertical stress. Clay muds are taken to begin with  $\sigma'_c \approx 1$  kPa.

Plastic compression (normal compression line, ncl):  $v = v_\lambda - \lambda \ln \sigma'$  for  $\sigma' = \sigma'_c$

Elastic swelling and recompression line (esrl):  $v = v_c + \kappa (\ln \sigma'_c - \ln \sigma'_v)$   
 $= v_\kappa - \kappa \ln \sigma'_v$  for  $\sigma' < \sigma'_c$

Equivalent parameters for  $\log_{10}$  stress scale:

Terzaghi's compression index  $C_c = \lambda \log_{10} e$

Terzaghi's swelling index  $C_s = \kappa \log_{10} e$

### • Deriving confined soil stiffnesses

Secant 1D compression modulus  $E_o = (\Delta\sigma' / \Delta\varepsilon)_o$

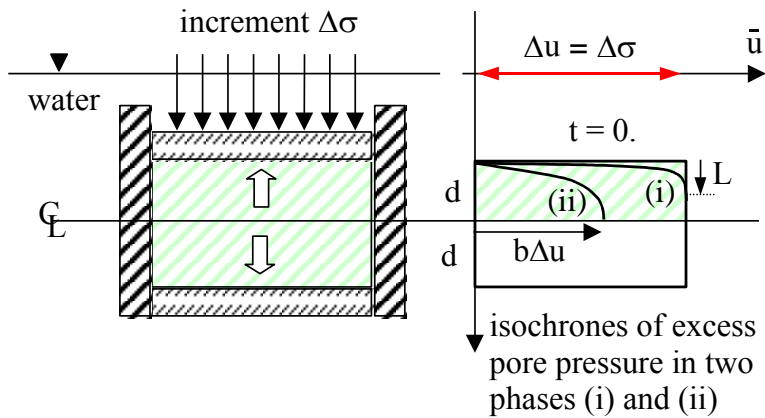
Tangent 1D plastic compression modulus  $E_o = v \sigma' / \lambda$

Tangent 1D elastic compression modulus  $E_o = v \sigma' / \kappa$

## One-Dimensional Consolidation

Settlement	$\rho$	$= \int m_v (\Delta u - \bar{u}) dz$	$= \int (\Delta u - \bar{u}) / E_o dz$
Coefficient of consolidation	$c_v$	$= \frac{k}{m_v \gamma_w}$	$= \frac{kE_o}{\gamma_w}$
Dimensionless time factor	$T_v$	$= \frac{c_v t}{d^2}$	
Relative settlement	$R_v$	$= \frac{\rho}{\rho_{ult}}$	

• Solutions for initially rectangular distribution of excess pore pressure



Approximate solution by parabolic isochrones:

Phase (i)  $L^2 = 12 c_v t$   
 $R_v = \sqrt{\frac{4T_v}{3}}$  for  $T_v < 1/12$

Phase (ii)  $b = \exp(1/4 - 3T_v)$   
 $R_v = [1 - 2/3 \exp(1/4 - 3T_v)]$  for  $T_v > 1/12$

Solution by Fourier Series:

$T_v$	0	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.08	0.15	0.20	0.30	0.40	0.50	0.60	0.80	1.00
$R_v$	0	0.12	0.17	0.23	0.32	0.45	0.51	0.62	0.70	0.77	0.82	0.89	0.94

## Stress and strain components

- **Principle of effective stress (saturated soil)**

$$\text{total stress } \sigma = \text{effective stress } \sigma' + \text{pore water pressure } u$$

- **Principal components of stress and strain**

sign convention	compression positive
total stress	$\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3$
effective stress	$\sigma'_1, \sigma'_2, \sigma'_3$
strain	$\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_3$

- **Simple Shear Apparatus (SSA)** ( $\varepsilon_2 = 0$ ; other principal directions unknown)

The only stresses that are readily available are the shear stress  $\tau$  and normal stress  $\sigma$  applied to the top platen. The pore pressure  $u$  can be controlled and measured, so the normal effective stress  $\sigma'$  can be found. Drainage can be permitted or prevented. The shear strain  $\gamma$  and normal strain  $\varepsilon$  are measured with respect to the top platen, which is a plane of zero extension. Zero extension planes are often identified with slip surfaces.

$$\text{work increment per unit volume} \quad \delta W = \tau \delta\gamma + \sigma' \delta\varepsilon$$

- **Biaxial Apparatus - Plane Strain (BA-PS)** ( $\varepsilon_2 = 0$ ; rectangular edges along principal axes)

Intermediate principal effective stress  $\sigma'_2$ , in zero strain direction, is frequently unknown so that all conditions are related to components in the 1-3 plane.

mean total stress	$s = (\sigma_1 + \sigma_3)/2$
mean effective stress	$s' = (\sigma'_1 + \sigma'_3)/2 = s - u$
shear stress	$t = (\sigma'_1 - \sigma'_3)/2 = (\sigma_1 - \sigma_3)/2$

$$\text{volumetric strain} \quad \varepsilon_v = \varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_3$$

$$\text{shear strain} \quad \varepsilon_\gamma = \varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_3$$

$$\text{work increment per unit volume} \quad \delta W = \sigma'_1 \delta\varepsilon_1 + \sigma'_3 \delta\varepsilon_3$$

$$\delta W = s' \delta\varepsilon_v + t \delta\varepsilon_\gamma$$

providing that principal axes of strain increment and of stress coincide.

• **Triaxial Apparatus – Axial Symmetry (TA-AS)** (cylindrical element with radial symmetry)

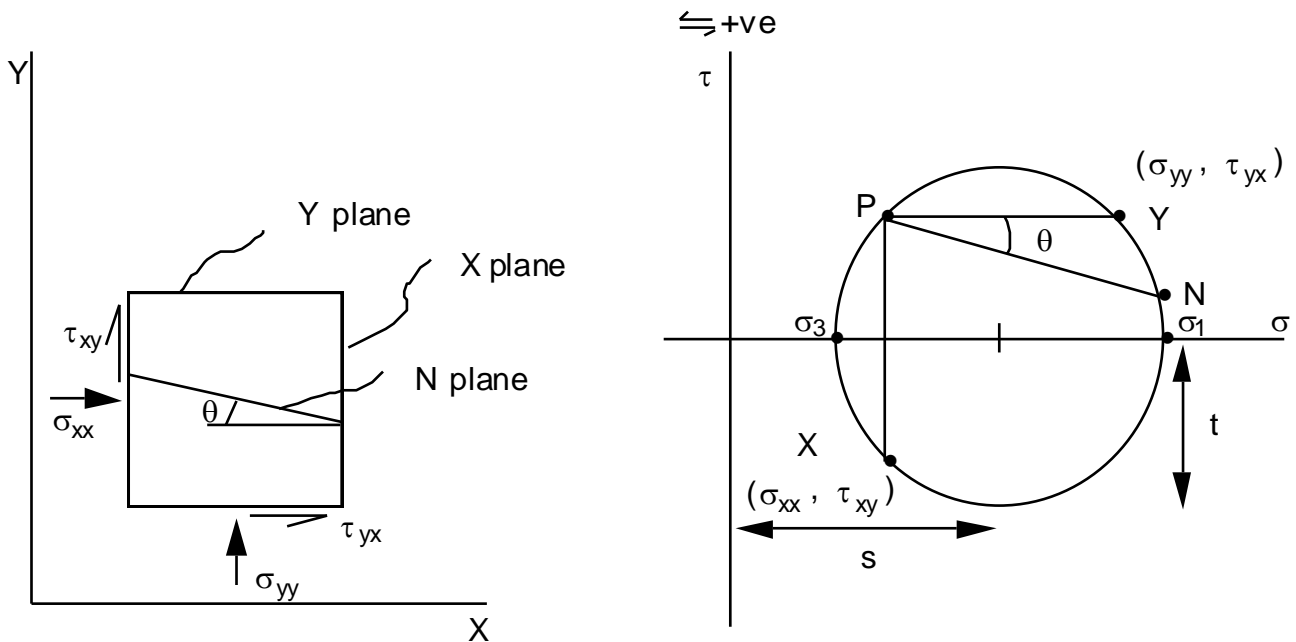
total axial stress	$\sigma_a = \sigma'_a + u$
total radial stress	$\sigma_r = \sigma'_r + u$
total mean normal stress	$p = (\sigma_a + 2\sigma_r)/3$
effective mean normal stress	$p' = (\sigma'_a + 2\sigma'_r)/3 = p - u$
deviatoric stress	$q = \sigma'_a - \sigma'_r = \sigma_a - \sigma_r$
stress ratio	$\eta = q/p'$
axial strain	$\epsilon_a$
radial strain	$\epsilon_r$
volumetric strain	$\epsilon_v = \epsilon_a + 2\epsilon_r$
triaxial shear strain	$\epsilon_s = \frac{2}{3}(\epsilon_a - \epsilon_r)$
work increment per unit volume	$\delta W = \sigma'_a \delta \epsilon_a + 2\sigma'_r \delta \epsilon_r$
	$\delta W = p' \delta \epsilon_v + q \delta \epsilon_s$

Types of triaxial test include:

- isotropic compression* in which  $p'$  increases at zero  $q$
- triaxial compression* in which  $q$  increases *either* by increasing  $\sigma_a$  *or* by reducing  $\sigma_r$
- triaxial extension* in which  $q$  reduces *either* by reducing  $\sigma_a$  *or* by increasing  $\sigma_r$

• **Mohr's circle of stress (1–3 plane)**

Sign of convention: compression, and counter-clockwise shear, positive



*Poles of planes P*: the components of stress on the N plane are given by the intersection N of the Mohr circle with the line PN through P parallel to the plane.

## Elastic stiffness relations

These relations apply to tangent stiffnesses of over-consolidated soil, with a state point on some swelling and recompression line ( $\kappa$ -line), and remote from gross plastic yielding.

One-dimensional compression (axial stress and strain increments  $d\sigma'$ ,  $d\varepsilon$ )

$$\text{compressibility} \quad m_v = \frac{d\varepsilon}{d\sigma'}$$

$$\text{constrained modulus} \quad E_o = \frac{1}{m_v}$$

Physically fundamental parameters

$$\text{shear modulus} \quad G' = \frac{dt}{d\varepsilon_\gamma}$$

$$\text{bulk modulus} \quad K' = \frac{dp'}{d\varepsilon_v}$$

Parameters which can be used for constant-volume deformations

$$\text{undrained shear modulus} \quad G_u = G'$$

$$\text{undrained bulk modulus} \quad K_u = \infty \quad (\text{neglecting compressibility of water})$$

Alternative convenient parameters

$$\text{Young's moduli} \quad E' \text{ (effective), } E_u \text{ (undrained)}$$

$$\text{Poisson's ratios} \quad \nu' \text{ (effective), } \nu_u = 0.5 \text{ (undrained)}$$

Typical value of Poisson's ratio for small changes of stress:  $\nu' = 0.2$

$$\text{Relationships:} \quad G = \frac{E}{2(1+\nu)}$$

$$K = \frac{E}{3(1-2\nu)}$$

$$E_o = \frac{E(1-\nu)}{(1+\nu)(1-2\nu)}$$



## Cam Clay

- Interchangeable parameters for stress combinations at yield, and plastic strain increments

System	Effective normal stress	Plastic normal strain	Effective shear stress	Plastic shear strain	Critical stress ratio	Plastic normal stress	Critical normal stress
General	$\sigma^*$	$\varepsilon^*$	$\tau^*$	$\gamma^*$	$\mu^*_{crit}$	$\sigma^*_c$	$\sigma^*_{crit}$
SSA	$\sigma'$	$\varepsilon$	$\tau$	$\gamma$	$\tan \phi_{crit}$	$\sigma'_c$	$\sigma'_{crit}$
BA-PS	$s'$	$\varepsilon_v$	$t$	$\varepsilon_\gamma$	$\sin \phi_{crit}$	$s'_c$	$s'_{crit}$
TA-AS	$p'$	$\varepsilon_v$	$q$	$\varepsilon_s$	$M$	$p'_c$	$p'_{crit}$

- General equations of plastic work

Plastic work and dissipation

$$\sigma^* \delta\varepsilon^* + \tau^* \delta\gamma^* = \mu^*_{crit} \sigma^* \delta\gamma^*$$

Plastic flow rule – normality

$$\frac{d\tau^*}{d\sigma^*} \cdot \frac{d\gamma^*}{d\varepsilon^*} = -1$$

- General yield surface

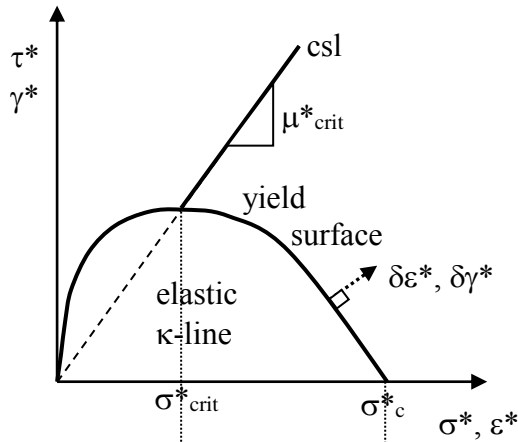
$$\frac{\tau^*}{\sigma^*} = \mu^* = \mu^*_{crit} \cdot \ln \left[ \frac{\sigma^*_c}{\sigma^*} \right]$$

- Parameter values which fit soil data

	London Clay	Weald Clay	Kaolin	Dog's Bay Sand	Ham River Sand
$\lambda^*$	0.161	0.093	0.26	0.334	0.163
$\kappa^*$	0.062	0.035	0.05	0.009	0.015
$\Gamma^*$ at 1 kPa	2.759	2.060	3.767	4.360	3.026
$\sigma^*_{c, virgin}$ kPa	1	1	1	Loose 500 Dense 1500	Loose 2500 Dense 15000
$\phi_{crit}$	23°	24°	26°	39°	32°
$M_{comp}$	0.89	0.95	1.02	1.60	1.29
$M_{extn}$	0.69	0.72	0.76	1.04	0.90
$w_L$	0.78	0.43	0.74	-----	-----
$w_P$	0.26	0.18	0.42	-----	-----
$G_s$	2.75	2.75	2.61	2.75	2.65

Note: 1) parameters  $\lambda^*$ ,  $\kappa^*$ ,  $\Gamma^*$ ,  $\sigma^*_{c}$  should depend to a small extent on the deformation mode, e.g. SSA, BA-PS, TA-AS, etc. This may be neglected unless further information is given.  
 2) Sand which is loose, or loaded cyclically, compacts more than Cam Clay allows.

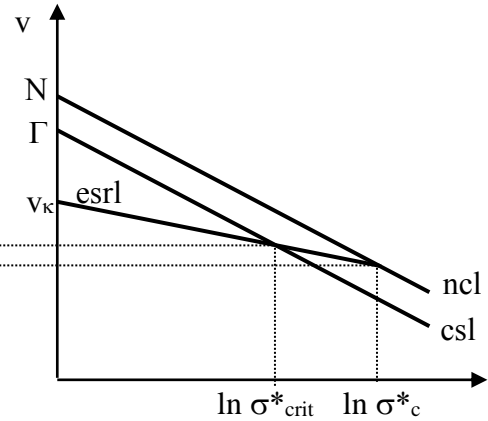
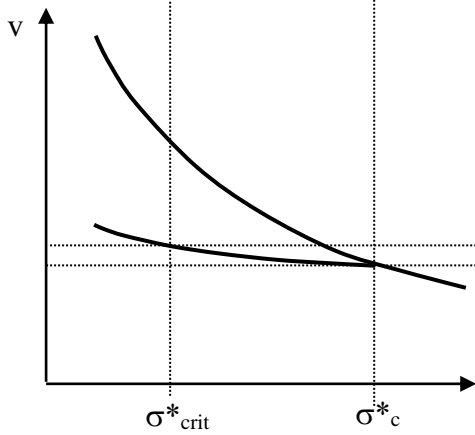
• The yield surface in  $(\sigma^*, \tau^*, v)$  space



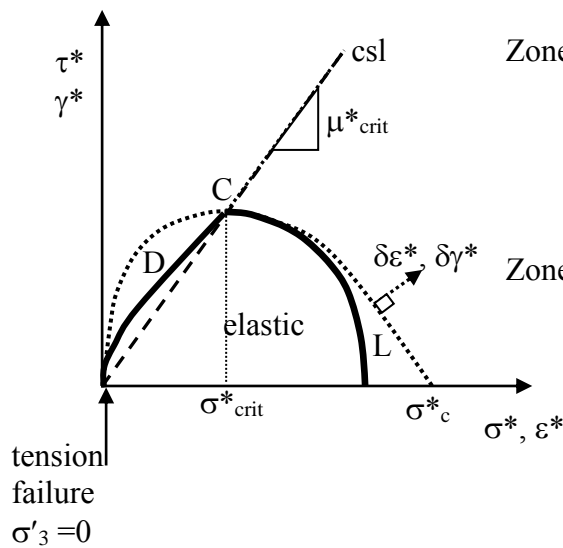
ncl: normal compression line  
 $v = N - \lambda \ln \sigma^*$

csl: critical state line  
 $v = \Gamma - \lambda \ln \sigma^*$

where  $N = \Gamma + \lambda - \kappa$



• Regions of limiting soil behaviour



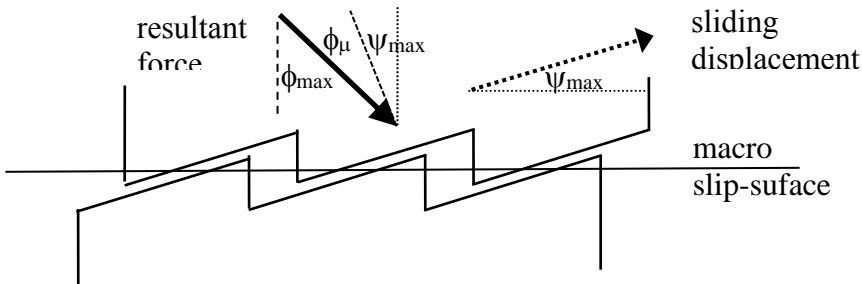
Variation of Cam Clay yield surface

Zone D: denser than critical, "dry",  
 dilation or negative excess pore pressures,  
 Hvorslev strength envelope,  
 friction-dilatancy theory,  
 unstable shear rupture, progressive failure

Zone L: looser than critical, "wet",  
 compaction or positive excess pore pressures,  
 Modified Cam Clay yield surface,  
 stable strain-hardening continuum

## Strength of soil: friction and dilation

### • Friction and dilatancy: the saw-blade model of direct shear

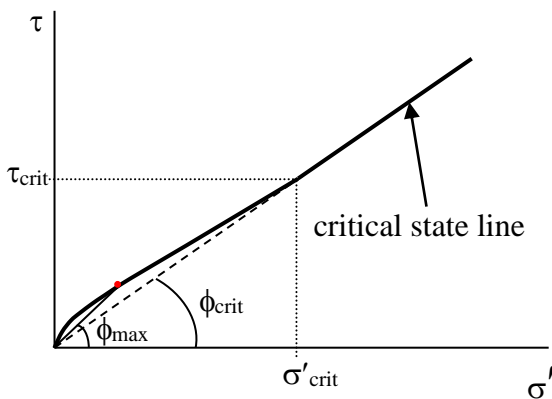


Intergranular angle of friction at sliding contacts  $\phi_\mu$

Angle of dilation  $\psi_{\max}$

Angle of internal friction  $\phi_{\max} = \phi_\mu + \psi_{\max}$

### • Friction and dilatancy: secant and tangent strength parameters



Secant angle of internal friction

$$\tau = \sigma' \tan \phi_{\max}$$

$$\phi_{\max} = \phi_{\text{crit}} + \Delta\phi$$

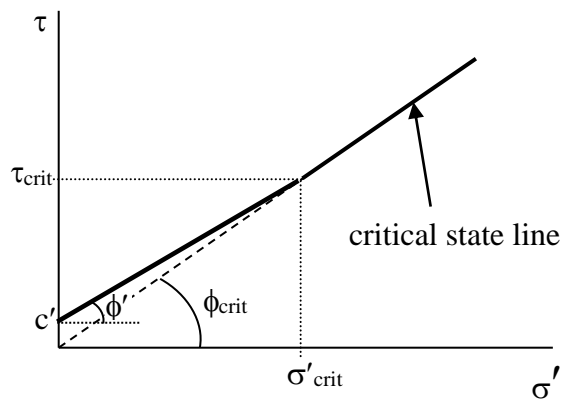
$$\Delta\phi = f(\sigma'_{\text{crit}}/\sigma')$$

typical envelope fitting data:

power curve

$$(\tau/\tau_{\text{crit}}) = (\sigma'/\sigma'_{\text{crit}})^\alpha$$

with  $\alpha \approx 0.85$



Tangent angle of shearing envelope

$$\tau = c' + \sigma' \tan \phi'$$

$$c' = f(\sigma'_{\text{crit}})$$

typical envelope:

straight line

$$\tan \phi' = 0.85 \tan \phi_{\text{crit}}$$

$$c' = 0.15 \tau_{\text{crit}}$$

● **Friction and dilation: data of sands**

The inter-granular friction angle of quartz grains,  $\phi_{\mu} \approx 26^{\circ}$ . Turbulent shearing at a critical state causes  $\phi_{\text{crit}}$  to exceed this. The critical state angle of internal friction  $\phi_{\text{crit}}$  is a function of the uniformity of particle sizes, their shape, and mineralogy, and is developed at large shear strains irrespective of initial conditions. Typical values of  $\phi_{\text{crit}} (\pm 2^{\circ})$  are:

well-graded, angular quartz or feldspar sands	40°
uniform sub-angular quartz sand	36°
uniform rounded quartz sand	32°

Relative density  $I_D = \frac{(e_{\text{max}} - e)}{(e_{\text{max}} - e_{\text{min}})}$  where:

$e_{\text{max}}$  is the maximum void ratio achievable in quick-tilt test

$e_{\text{min}}$  is the minimum void ratio achievable by vibratory compaction

Relative crushability  $I_C = \ln(\sigma_c / p')$  where:

$\sigma_c$  is the aggregate crushing stress, taken to be a material constant, typical values being:  
80 000 kPa for quartz silt, 20 000 kPa for quartz sand, 5 000 kPa for carbonate sand.

$p'$  is the mean effective stress at failure which may be taken as approximately equal to the effective stress  $\sigma'$  normal to a shear plane.

Dilatancy contribution to the peak angle of internal friction is  $\Delta\phi = (\phi_{\text{max}} - \phi_{\text{crit}}) = f(I_R)$

Relative dilatancy index  $I_R = I_D I_C - 1$  where:

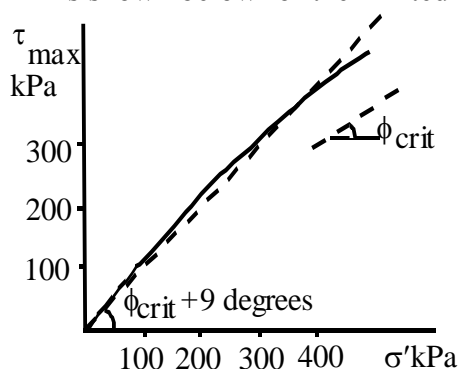
$I_R < 0$  indicates compaction, so that  $I_D$  increases and  $I_R \rightarrow 0$  ultimately at a critical state

$I_R > 4$  to be limited to  $I_R = 4$  unless corroborative dilatant strength data is available

The following empirical correlations are then available

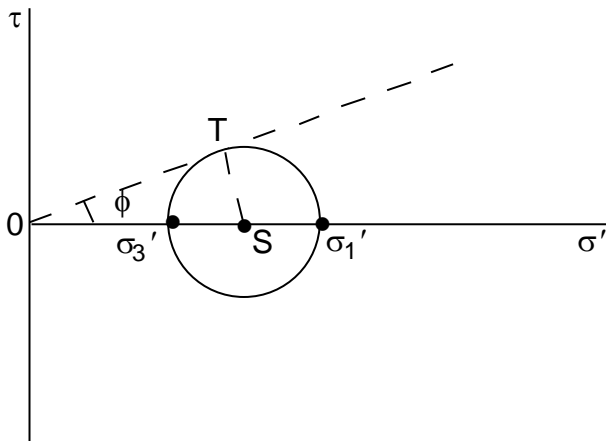
plane strain conditions	$(\phi_{\text{max}} - \phi_{\text{crit}})$	=	0.8 $\psi_{\text{max}}$	=	5 $I_R$ degrees
triaxial strain conditions	$(\phi_{\text{max}} - \phi_{\text{crit}})$	=	3 $I_R$ degrees		
all conditions	$(-\delta\varepsilon_v / \delta\varepsilon_1)_{\text{max}}$	=	0.3 $I_R$		

The resulting peak strength envelope for triaxial tests on a quartz sand at an initial relative density  $I_D = 1$  is shown below for the limited stress range 10 - 400 kPa:



$$\phi_{\text{max}} > \phi_{\text{crit}} + 9^{\circ} \quad \text{for } I_D = 1, \sigma' = 400 \text{ kPa}$$

• Mobilised (secant) angle of shearing  $\phi$  in the 1 – 3 plane



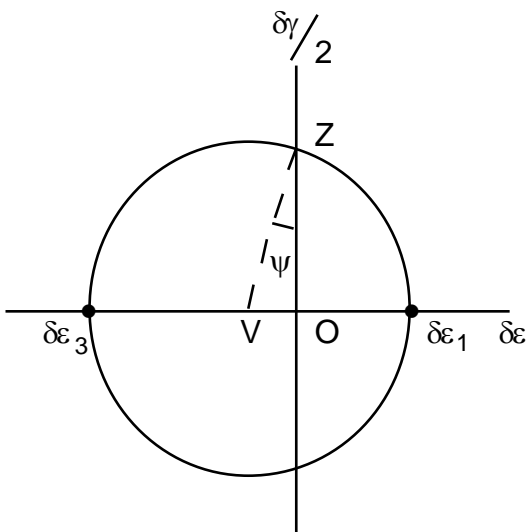
$$\begin{aligned} \sin \phi &= TS/OS \\ &= \frac{(\sigma'_1 - \sigma'_3)/2}{(\sigma'_1 + \sigma'_3)/2} \\ \left[ \frac{\sigma'_1}{\sigma'_3} \right] &= \frac{(1 + \sin \phi)}{(1 - \sin \phi)} \end{aligned}$$

Angle of shearing resistance:

at peak strength  $\phi_{\max}$  at  $\left[ \frac{\sigma'_1}{\sigma'_3} \right]_{\max}$

at critical state  $\phi_{\text{crit}}$  after large shear strains

• Mobilised angle of dilation in plane strain  $\psi$  in the 1 – 3 plane



$$\begin{aligned} \sin \psi &= VO/VZ \\ &= -\frac{(\delta\epsilon_1 + \delta\epsilon_3)/2}{(\delta\epsilon_1 - \delta\epsilon_3)/2} \\ &= -\frac{\delta\epsilon_v}{\delta\epsilon_\gamma} \end{aligned}$$

$$\left[ \frac{\delta\epsilon_1}{\delta\epsilon_3} \right] = -\frac{(1 - \sin \psi)}{(1 + \sin \psi)}$$

at peak strength  $\psi = \psi_{\max}$  at  $\left[ \frac{\sigma'_1}{\sigma'_3} \right]_{\max}$

at critical state  $\psi = 0$  since volume is constant

**Plasticity: Cohesive material  $\tau_{max} = c_u$  (or  $s_u$ )**

• **Limiting stresses**

Tresca  $|\sigma_1 - \sigma_3| = q_u = 2c_u$

von Mises  $(\sigma_1 - p)^2 + (\sigma_2 - p)^2 + (\sigma_3 - p)^2 = \frac{2}{3} q_u^2 = 2c_u^2$

where  $q_u$  is the undrained triaxial compression strength, and  $c_u$  is the undrained plane shear strength.

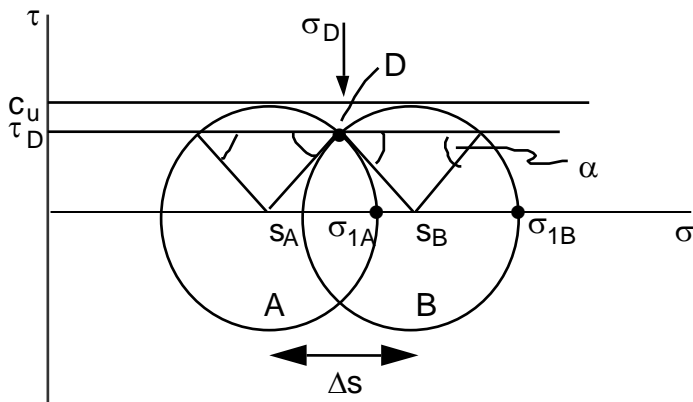
Dissipation per unit volume in plane strain deformation following either Tresca or von Mises,

$$\delta D = c_u \delta \epsilon_\gamma$$

For a relative displacement  $x$  across a slip surface of area  $A$  mobilising shear strength  $c_u$ , this becomes

$$D = Ac_u x$$

• **Stress conditions across a discontinuity**



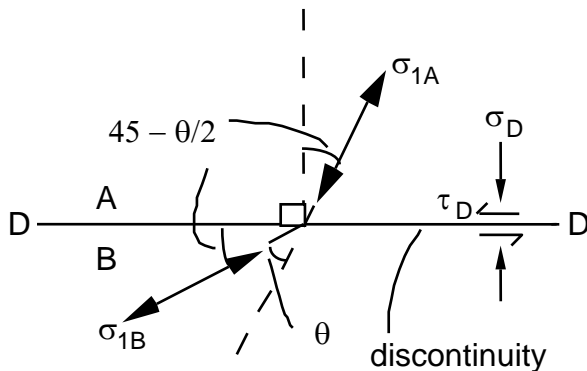
Rotation of major principal stress  $\theta$

$$s_B - s_A = \Delta s = 2c_u \sin \theta$$

$$\sigma_{1B} - \sigma_{1A} = 2c_u \sin \theta$$

In limit with  $\theta \rightarrow 0$

$$ds = 2c_u d\theta$$



Useful example:

$$\theta = 30^\circ$$

$$\sigma_{1B} - \sigma_{1A} = c_u$$

$$\tau_D / c_u = 0.87$$

$\sigma_{1A}$  = major principal stress in zone A

$\sigma_{1B}$  = major principal stress in zone B

**Plasticity: Frictional material  $(\tau/\sigma')_{\max} = \tan \phi$**

• **Limiting stresses**

$$\sin \phi = (\sigma'_{1f} - \sigma'_{3f}) / (\sigma'_{1f} + \sigma'_{3f}) = (\sigma_{1f} - \sigma_{3f}) / (\sigma_{1f} + \sigma_{3f} - 2u_s)$$

where  $\sigma'_{1f}$  and  $\sigma'_{3f}$  are the major and minor principal effective stresses at failure,  $\sigma_{1f}$  and  $\sigma_{3f}$  are the major and minor principle total stresses at failure, and  $u_s$  is the steady state pore pressure.

Active pressure:

$$\sigma'_v > \sigma'_h$$

$$\sigma'_1 = \sigma'_v \text{ (assuming principal stresses are horizontal and vertical)}$$

$$\sigma'_3 = \sigma'_h$$

$$K_a = (1 - \sin \phi) / (1 + \sin \phi)$$

Passive pressure:

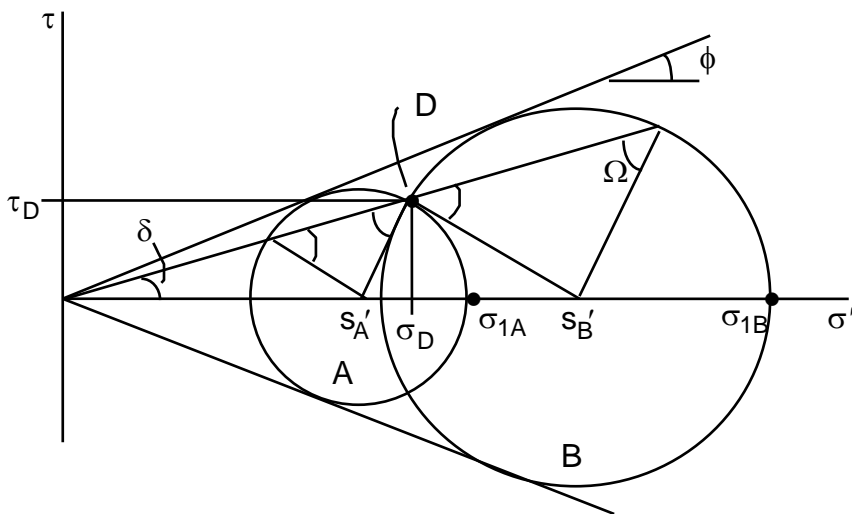
$$\sigma'_h > \sigma'_v$$

$$\sigma'_1 = \sigma'_h \text{ (assuming principal stresses are horizontal and vertical)}$$

$$\sigma'_3 = \sigma'_v$$

$$K_p = (1 + \sin \phi) / (1 - \sin \phi) = 1 / K_a$$

• **Stress conditions across a discontinuity**



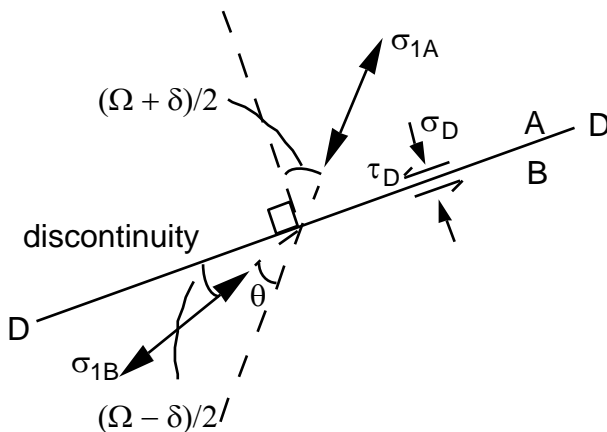
Rotation of major principal stress

$$\theta = \pi/2 - \Omega$$

$\sigma_{1A}$  = major principal stress in zone A

$\sigma_{1B}$  = major principal stress in zone B

$$\tan \delta = \tau_D / \sigma'_D$$



$$\sin \Omega = \sin \delta / \sin \phi$$

$$s'_B / s'_A = \sin(\Omega + \delta) / \sin(\Omega - \delta)$$

In limit,  $d\theta \rightarrow 0$  and  $\delta \rightarrow \phi$

$$ds' = 2s' \cdot d\theta \tan \phi$$

Integration gives  $s'_B / s'_A = \exp(2\theta \tan \phi)$

## Empirical earth pressure coefficients following one-dimensional strain

Coefficient of earth pressure in 1D plastic compression (normal compression)

$$K_{o,nc} = 1 - \sin \phi_{crit}$$

Coefficient of earth pressure during a 1D unloading-reloading cycle (overconsolidated soil)

$$K_o = K_{o,nc} \left[ 1 + \frac{(n-1)(n_{max}^\alpha - 1)}{(n_{max} - 1)} \right]$$

where  $n$  is current overconsolidation ratio (OCR) defined as  $\sigma'_{v,max} / \sigma'_v$

$n_{max}$  is maximum historic OCR defined as  $\sigma'_{v,max} / \sigma'_{v,min}$

$\alpha$  is to be taken as  $1.2 \sin \phi_{crit}$

## Cylindrical cavity expansion

Expansion  $\delta A = A - A_o$  caused by increase of pressure  $\delta \sigma_c = \sigma_c - \sigma_o$

At radius  $r$ : small displacement  $\rho = \frac{\delta A}{2\pi r}$

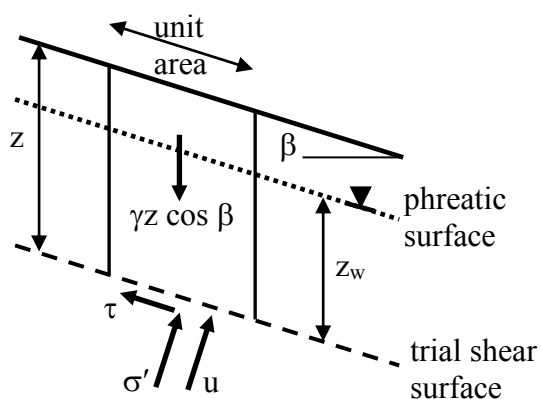
small shear strain  $\gamma = \frac{2\rho}{r}$

Radial equilibrium:  $r \frac{d\sigma_r}{dr} + \sigma_r - \sigma_\theta = 0$

Elastic expansion (small strains)  $\delta \sigma_c = G \frac{\delta A}{A}$

Undrained plastic-elastic expansion  $\delta \sigma_c = c_u \left[ 1 + \ln \frac{G}{c_u} + \ln \frac{\delta A}{A} \right]$

## Infinite slope analysis



$$\begin{aligned} u &= \gamma_w z_w \cos^2 \beta \\ \sigma &= \gamma z \cos^2 \beta \\ \sigma' &= (\gamma z - \gamma_w z_w) \cos^2 \beta \\ \tau &= \gamma z \cos \beta \sin \beta \end{aligned}$$

$$\tan \phi_{mob} = \frac{\tau}{\sigma'} = \frac{\tan \beta}{\left(1 - \frac{\gamma_w z_w}{\gamma z}\right)}$$



## Shallow foundation design

### *Tresca soil, with undrained strength $s_u$*

#### Vertical loading

The vertical bearing capacity,  $q_f$ , of a shallow foundation for undrained loading (Tresca soil) is:

$$\frac{V_{ult}}{A} = q_f = s_c d_c N_c s_u + \gamma h$$

$V_{ult}$  and  $A$  are the ultimate vertical load and the foundation area, respectively.  $h$  is the embedment of the foundation base and  $\gamma$  (or  $\gamma'$ ) is the appropriate density of the overburden.

The exact bearing capacity factor  $N_c$  for a plane strain surface foundation (zero embedment) on uniform soil is:

$$N_c = 2 + \pi \quad (\text{Prandtl, 1921})$$

#### *Shape correction factor:*

For a rectangular footing of length  $L$  and breadth  $B$  (Eurocode 7):

$$s_c = 1 + 0.2 B / L$$

The exact solution for a rough circular foundation ( $D = B = L$ ) is  $q_f = 6.05s_u$ , hence  $s_c = 1.18 \sim 1.2$ .

#### *Embedment correction factor:*

A fit to Skempton's (1951) embedment correction factors, for an embedment of  $h$ , is:

$$d_c = 1 + 0.33 \tan^{-1} (h/B) \quad (\text{or } h/D \text{ for a circular foundation})$$

#### Combined V-H loading

A curve fit to Green's lower bound plasticity solution for V-H loading is:

$$\text{If } V/V_{ult} > 0.5: \quad \frac{V}{V_{ult}} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1 - \frac{H}{H_{ult}}} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{H}{H_{ult}} = 1 - \left( 2 \frac{V}{V_{ult}} - 1 \right)^2$$

$$\text{If } V/V_{ult} < 0.5: \quad H = H_{ult} = B s_u$$

#### Combined V-H-M loading

With lift-off: combined Green-Meyerhof

$$\text{Without lift-off:} \quad \left( \frac{V}{V_{ult}} \right)^2 + \left[ \frac{M}{M_{ult}} \left( 1 - 0.3 \frac{H}{H_{ult}} \right) \right]^2 + \left| \left( \frac{H}{H_{ult}} \right)^3 \right| - 1 = 0 \quad (\text{Taiebet \& Carter 2000})$$

## Frictional (Coulomb) soil, with friction angle $\phi$

### Vertical loading

The vertical bearing capacity,  $q_f$ , of a shallow foundation under drained loading (Coulomb soil) is:

$$\frac{V_{ult}}{A} = q_f = s_q N_q \sigma'_{v0} + s_\gamma N_\gamma \frac{\gamma' B}{2}$$

The bearing capacity factors  $N_q$  and  $N_\gamma$  account for the capacity arising from surcharge and self-weight of the foundation soil respectively.  $\sigma'_{v0}$  is the in situ effective stress acting at the level of the foundation base.

For a strip footing on weightless soil, the exact solution for  $N_q$  is:

$$N_q = \tan^2(\pi/4 + \phi/2) e^{(\pi \tan \phi)} \quad (\text{Prandtl 1921})$$

An empirical relationship to estimate  $N_\gamma$  from  $N_q$  is (Eurocode 7):

$$N_\gamma = 2 (N_q - 1) \tan \phi$$

Curve fits to exact solutions for  $N_\gamma = f(\phi)$  are (Davis & Booker 1971):

$$\text{Rough base:} \quad N_\gamma = 0.1054 e^{9.6\phi}$$

$$\text{Smooth base:} \quad N_\gamma = 0.0663 e^{9.3\phi}$$

### Shape correction factors:

For a rectangular footing of length  $L$  and breadth  $B$  (Eurocode 7):

$$s_q = 1 + (B \sin \phi) / L$$

$$s_\gamma = 1 - 0.3 B / L$$

For circular footings take  $L = B$ .

### Combined V-H loading

The Green/Sokolovski lower bound solution gives a V-H failure surface.

### Combined V-H-M loading

With lift-off- drained conditions - use Butterfield & Gottardi (1994) failure surface shown above

$$\left[ \frac{H/V_{ult}}{t_h} \right]^2 + \left[ \frac{M/BV_{ult}}{t_m} \right]^2 + \left[ \frac{2C(M/BV_{ult})(H/V_{ult})}{t_h t_m} \right] = \left[ \frac{V}{V_{ult}} \left( 1 - \frac{V}{V_{ult}} \right) \right]^2$$

$$\text{where} \quad C = \tan \left( \frac{2\rho(t_h - t_m)(t_h + t_m)}{2t_h t_m} \right) \quad (\text{Butterfield \& Gottardi, 1994})$$

Typically,  $t_h \sim 0.5$ ,  $t_m \sim 0.4$  and  $\rho \sim 15^\circ$ . Note that  $t_h$  is the friction coefficient,  $H/V = \tan \phi$ , during sliding.

