

EGT3  
ENGINEERING TRIPOS PART IIB

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Thursday 25 April 2024 14.00 to 15.40

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**Module 4D5**

**FOUNDATION ENGINEERING**

*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

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

CUED approved calculator allowed

Attachment: 4D5 Foundation Engineering Databook (21 pages)

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.**

**You may not remove any stationery from the Examination Room.**

1 (a) Show from first principles that equilibrium around a circular cavity in the presence of an inwards body force due to self weight is given by:

$$r \frac{d\sigma_r}{dr} + (\sigma_r - \sigma_\theta) + \gamma r = 0$$

where  $\sigma_r$  is the radial stress,  $\sigma_\theta$  is the circumferential stress,  $\gamma$  is the unit weight of the soil and  $r$  is the radius from the centre of the cavity. [30%]

(b) A tunnel of radius  $r$  has its longitudinal axis at a depth  $z$  below the surface of a clay soil with undrained shear strength  $c_u$  and unit weight  $\gamma$ . Derive from first principles an expression for the radial stress that the tunnel lining must exert on the soil to maintain stability of the tunnel. [30%]

(c) If a drained analysis were instead to be carried out for the same problem in which the soil is treated as a frictional material with a passive earth pressure coefficient  $K_p$ , derive from first principles an expression for the radial stress that the tunnel lining must exert on the soil to maintain stability of the tunnel. [40%]

2 An offshore wind turbine is to be supported on a single steel monopile foundation with an outer diameter of 5 m and a wall thickness of 50 mm. The site is comprised of a normally consolidated clay with an undrained strength profile given by  $c_u = 1.5z$  (kPa) where  $z$  (m) is the depth below the mudline. The buoyant unit weight of the clay is  $6 \text{ kN m}^{-3}$  and the coefficient of consolidation  $c_h$  is  $15 \text{ m}^2 \text{ year}^{-1}$ . The loads exerted on the pile by the structure are self-weight of 8 MN and a horizontal load of 2 MN applied 20 m above the mudline.

- (a) By considering only vertical loading on the pile, estimate the required pile length using the API design method. Consider both plugged and unplugged behaviour. [40%]
- (b) Ignoring the possibility of structural failure, evaluate whether the pile length needs to be increased to resist the horizontal load. [20%]
- (c) Assuming the steel to have a yield strength of 400 MPa, is the pile section sufficient to carry the applied horizontal load? [20%]
- (d) Assuming consolidation around the pile to be 90% complete after an equivalent dimensionless time  $T_{eq} = c_h t / D_{eq}^2 = 10$ , estimate the set-up period that should be allowed after driving before attaching the structure to the foundation. [20%]

- 3 (a) Why are pile foundations often subjected to load testing whereas shallow foundations typically are not? [20%]
- (b) Describe four methods of pile load testing. What are the advantages and disadvantages of each method? [20%]
- (c) Describe the stress changes taking place for an element of sand initially on the pile centreline during driven pile installation. [25%]
- (d) Describe the stress changes taking place for an element of clay initially on the pile centreline during driven pile installation and the subsequent period. How does this lead to the bilinear form of the API unit shaft resistance equation for clays given in the databook? [35%]
- 4 (a) What factors are important in determining whether a tunnel can be constructed with an open face? [15%]
- (b) A 5 m diameter tunnel is being constructed in clay with an undrained strength of 40 kPa and a unit weight of  $16 \text{ kN m}^{-3}$  at a depth of 15 m to the tunnel crown. How far ahead of the lining can excavation progress without collapse? [20%]
- (c) How does forepoling assist in open face tunnelling in marginally stable conditions? [15%]
- (d) Describe the operation of an earth pressure balance tunnel boring machine. [20%]
- (e) Tunnelling almost inevitably causes ground movements which may impact on overlying structures. Qualitatively describe how the location and stiffness of the structure will influence the severity of the damage caused. [30%]

**END OF PAPER**

**Cambridge University Engineering Department**  
**Supplementary Databook**

**Module 4D5: Foundation Engineering**

SKH. January 2024

## Section 1: Empirical correlations for geotechnical data

### 1.1 Undrained shear strength of clays ( $s_u$ )

$$\left(\frac{s_u}{\sigma_v}\right)_{nc} \approx 0.11 + 0.37 I_p \quad \text{for normally consolidated clay, where } I_p \text{ is the plasticity index}$$

$$\frac{s_u}{\sigma_v} \approx \left(\frac{s_u}{\sigma_v}\right)_{nc} n^\Lambda \quad \text{where } n = \sigma'_{v,c} / \sigma'_v \text{ is overconsolidation ratio; } \Lambda \approx 0.8$$

$$s_u = \frac{(q_{\text{penetrometer}} - \sigma_v)}{N_{\text{penetrometer}}} \quad \text{from } q \text{ at tip load cell, where } N_{\text{cone}} \approx 14 \pm 2 ; N_{\text{T-bar}} \approx 12 \pm 2$$

$$s_u \approx 4.5 N_{60} \text{ kPa} \quad \text{from SPT blow-count } N_{60} \text{ in Standard Penetration Test}$$

### 1.2 Drained shear strength of sands (friction and dilatancy)

definition of relative dilatancy  $I_R = I_D I_C - 1$

definition of relative density  $I_D = (e_{\max} - e)(e_{\max} - e_{\min})$

SPT blow-count correlation  $I_D \approx [N_{60} / (20 + 0.2 \sigma'_v \text{ kPa})]^{0.5}$

definition of relative crushability  $I_C = \ln(\sigma_d / p')$

aggregate crushing stress  $\sigma_c \approx$  shelly carbonate sand 5 000 kPa

quartz sand 20 000 kPa

quartz silt 80 000 kPa

CPT correlation ( $q_{\text{cone}}, \sigma'_v$  in kPa)  $I_D \approx 0.27(\ln q_{\text{cone}} - 0.5 \ln \sigma'_v) - 1.29 \pm 0.15$  (higher,  $\sigma_c$  lower)

peak friction correlation  $(\phi_{\max} - \phi_{\text{crit}}) \approx 0.8 \psi_{\max} \approx 5^\circ \times I_R$  in plane strain

$(\phi_{\max} - \phi_{\text{crit}}) \approx 3^\circ \times I_R$  in axisymmetric strain

peak dilatancy rate  $(-\delta\varepsilon_v / \delta\varepsilon_1)_{\max} \approx 0.3 \times I_R$  in all conditions

critical state friction angle  $\phi_{\text{crit}} \approx 32^\circ$  (uniform, rounded)  $\rightarrow 40^\circ$  (well-graded, angular)

### 1.3 Stiffness of clays

initial linear elastic shear stiffness  $G_0 = \frac{B}{(1+e)^{2.4}} (p')^{0.5}$  with  $G_0, p'$  in kPa

$$B \approx 20\,000$$

normalised secant shear stiffness  $\frac{G}{G_0} \approx \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{\gamma}{\gamma_{ref}}\right)^a}$

hyperbolic curvature parameter  $a \approx 0.68$  for  $n < 1.5$ ,  $a \approx 0.77$  for  $n > 1.5$

reference shear strain  $\gamma_{ref} \approx A w_L 10^{-3}$  e.g. writing liquid limit 40% as  $w_L = 0.4$

$$A \approx 1.35 \text{ for } n < 1.5; A \approx 1.02 \text{ for } n > 1.5$$

mobilised shear strength  $\frac{\tau_{mob}}{s_u} \approx \left(\frac{\gamma}{\gamma_u}\right)^{0.5}$  for  $s_{mob} < s_u$

$$\gamma_u \approx 0.01 \text{ to } 0.04 \text{ increasing with plasticity index } I_p$$

### 1.4 Stiffness of sands

initial linear elastic shear stiffness  $G_0 = \frac{B}{(1+e)^3} (p')^{0.5}$  with  $G_0, p'$  in kPa

$$B \approx 57\,600$$

normalised secant shear stiffness  $\frac{G}{G_0} = \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{\gamma - \gamma_e}{\gamma_{ref}}\right)^a}$

hyperbolic curvature parameter  $a = U_c^{-0.075}$  e.g.  $a = 0.9$  at uniformity coefficient  $U_c = 4$

reference shear strain  $\gamma_{ref} = U_c^{-0.3} p' 10^{-6} + 8e I_D 10^{-4}$

elastic limiting strain  $\gamma_e = 0.012 \gamma_{ref} + 2 \cdot 10^{-6}$

## Section 2: Plasticity theory

This section is common with the Soil Mechanics Databook supporting modules 3D1 and 3D2. Undrained shear strength ('cohesion' in a Tresca material) is denoted by  $s_u$  rather than  $c_u$ .

### 2.1 Plasticity: Tresca material, $\tau_{\max} = s_u$

#### Limiting stresses

$$\text{Tresca} \quad |\sigma_1 - \sigma_3| = q_u = 2s_u$$

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

$q_u$  = undrained triaxial compression strength;  $s_u$  = undrained plane shear strength.

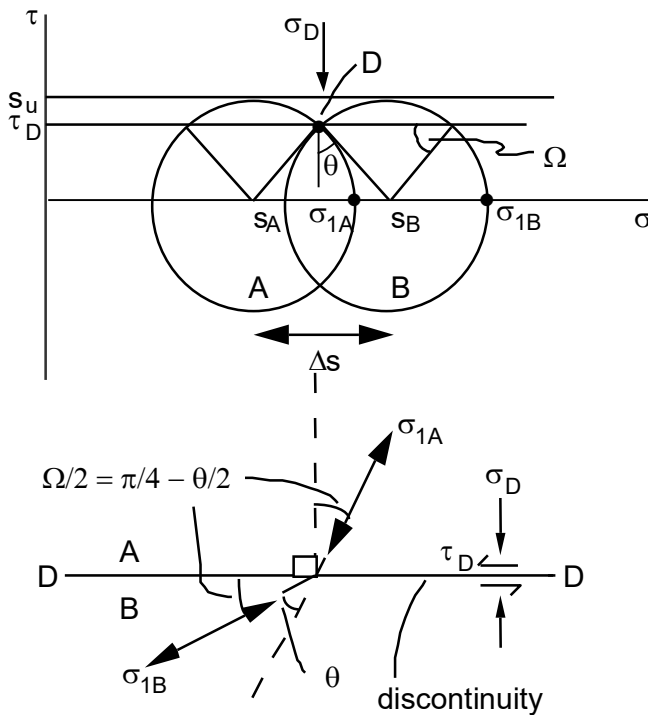
Dissipation per unit volume in plane strain deformation following either Tresca or von Mises,

$$\delta D = s_u \delta \epsilon_\gamma$$

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

$$D = A s_u x$$

### 2.2 Stress conditions across a discontinuity:



Rotation of major principal stress

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

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

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

In limit with  $\theta \rightarrow 0$

$$ds = 2s_u d\theta$$

Useful example:

$$\theta = 30^\circ$$

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

$$\tau_D / s_u = 0.87$$

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

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



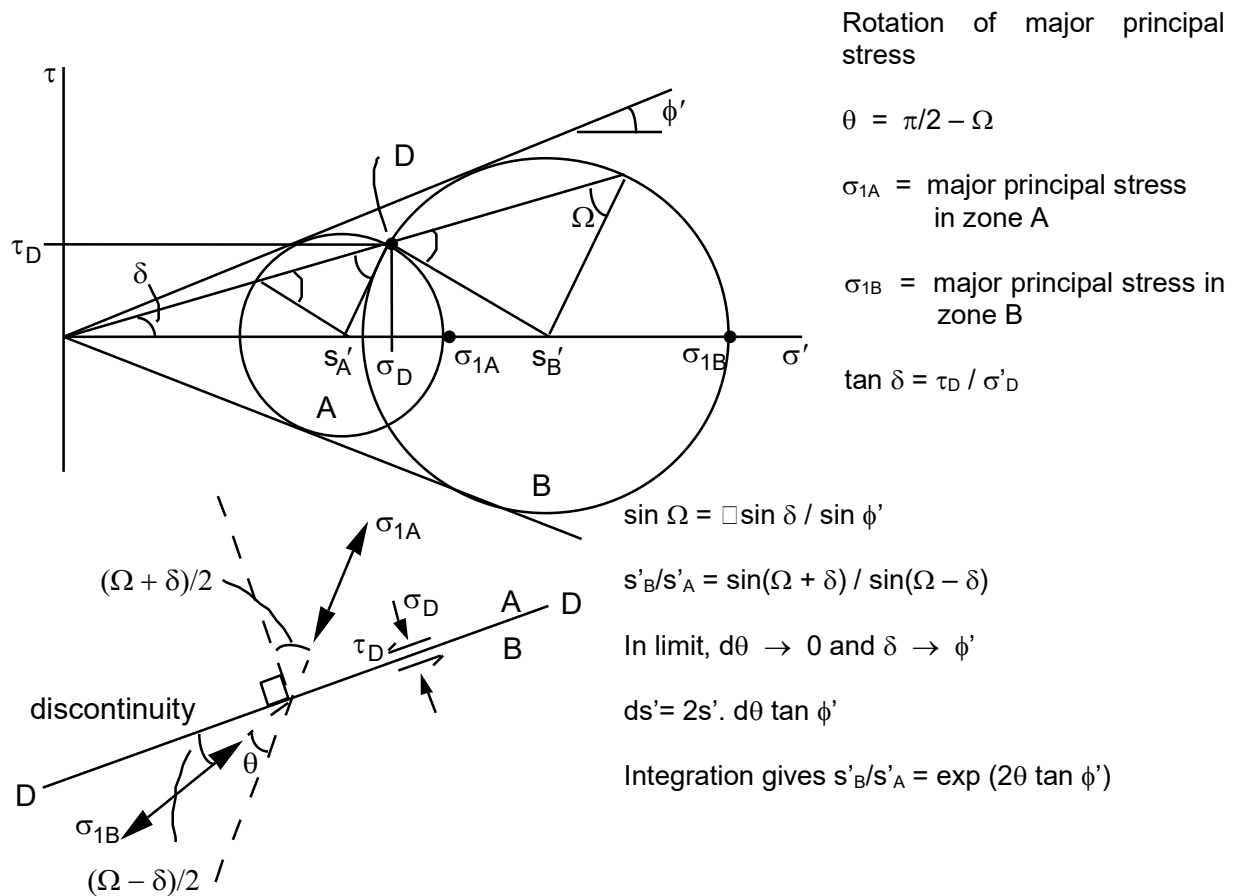
### 2.3 Plasticity: Coulomb material $(\tau/\sigma')_{\max} = \tan \phi$

#### Limiting stresses

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

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 principal total stresses at failure, and  $u$  is the pore pressure.

#### 2.4 Stress conditions across a discontinuity



## Section 3: Bearing capacity of shallow foundations

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

#### 3.1.1 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 ( $B/L=1$ ) is  $q_f = 6.05s_u$ , hence  $s_c = 1.18 \sim 0.2$ .

#### **Embedment correction factor:**

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

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

#### 3.1.2 Combined V-H loading

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

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

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

#### 3.1.3 Combined V-H-M loading

With lift-off: combined Green-Meyerhof ( $V_{p_{ult}}$  = bearing capacity of effective area  $B-e$ )

$$\text{If } V/V_{p_{ult}} < 0.5: \quad \frac{H}{H_{ult}} = \left( 1 - 2 \frac{M}{VB} \right)$$

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

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

#### 3.2.1 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):

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

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

#### 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 assume  $L = B$ .

#### 3.2.2 Combined V-H loading

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

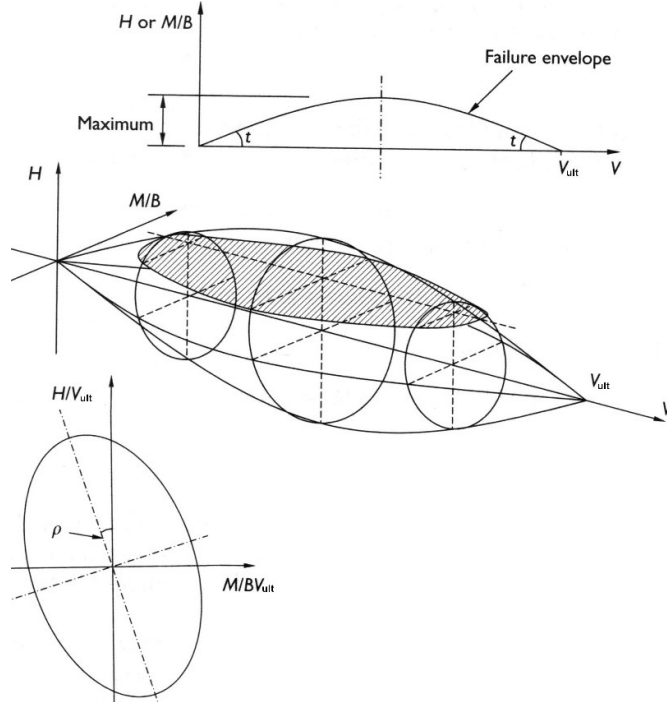
#### 3.2.3 Combined V-H-M loading

(with lift-off- drained conditions- see failure surface shown above)

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

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

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



## Section 4: Settlement of shallow foundations

### 4.1 Elastic stress distributions below point, strip and circular loads

#### Point loading (Boussinesq solution)

Vertical stress

$$\sigma_z = \frac{3Pz^3}{2\pi R^5}$$

Radial stress

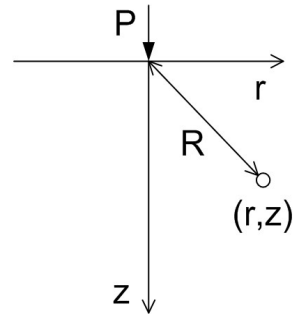
$$\sigma_r = \frac{P}{2\pi R^2} \left[ \frac{3r^2z}{R^3} - \frac{(1-2\nu)R}{R+z} \right]$$

Tangential stress

$$\sigma_\theta = \frac{P(1-2\nu)}{2\pi R^2} \left[ \frac{R}{R+z} - \frac{z}{R} \right]$$

Shear stress

$$\tau_{rz} = \frac{3Prz^2}{2\pi R^5}$$



#### Uniformly-loaded strip

Vertical stress

$$\sigma_v = \frac{q}{\pi} [\alpha + \sin \alpha \cos(\alpha + 2\delta)]$$

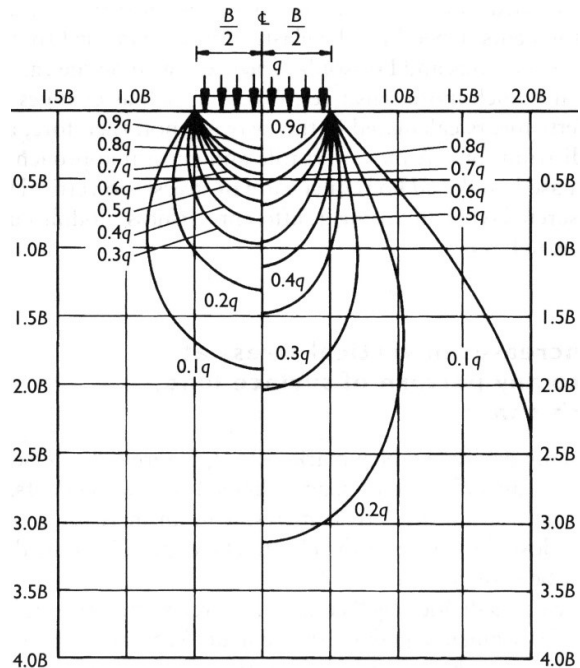
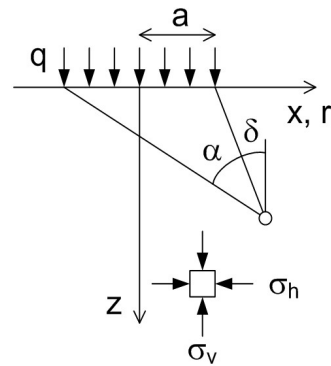
Horizontal stress

$$\sigma_h = \frac{q}{\pi} [\alpha - \sin \alpha \cos(\alpha + 2\delta)]$$

Shear stress

$$\tau_{vh} = \frac{q}{\pi} \sin \alpha \sin(\alpha + 2\delta)$$

Principal stresses



$$\sigma_1 = \frac{q}{\pi} (\alpha + \sin \alpha) \quad \sigma_3 = \frac{q}{\pi} (\alpha - \sin \alpha)$$

#### Uniformly-loaded circle

**(on centerline, r=0)**

Vertical stress

$$\sigma_v = q \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{1}{1 + (a/z)^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \right]$$

Horizontal stress

$$\sigma_h = \frac{q}{2} \left[ (1 + 2\nu) - \frac{2(1 + \nu)z}{(a^2 + z^2)^{1/2}} + \frac{z^3}{(a^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \right]$$

Contours of vertical stress below uniformly-loaded  
circular (left) and strip footings (right)

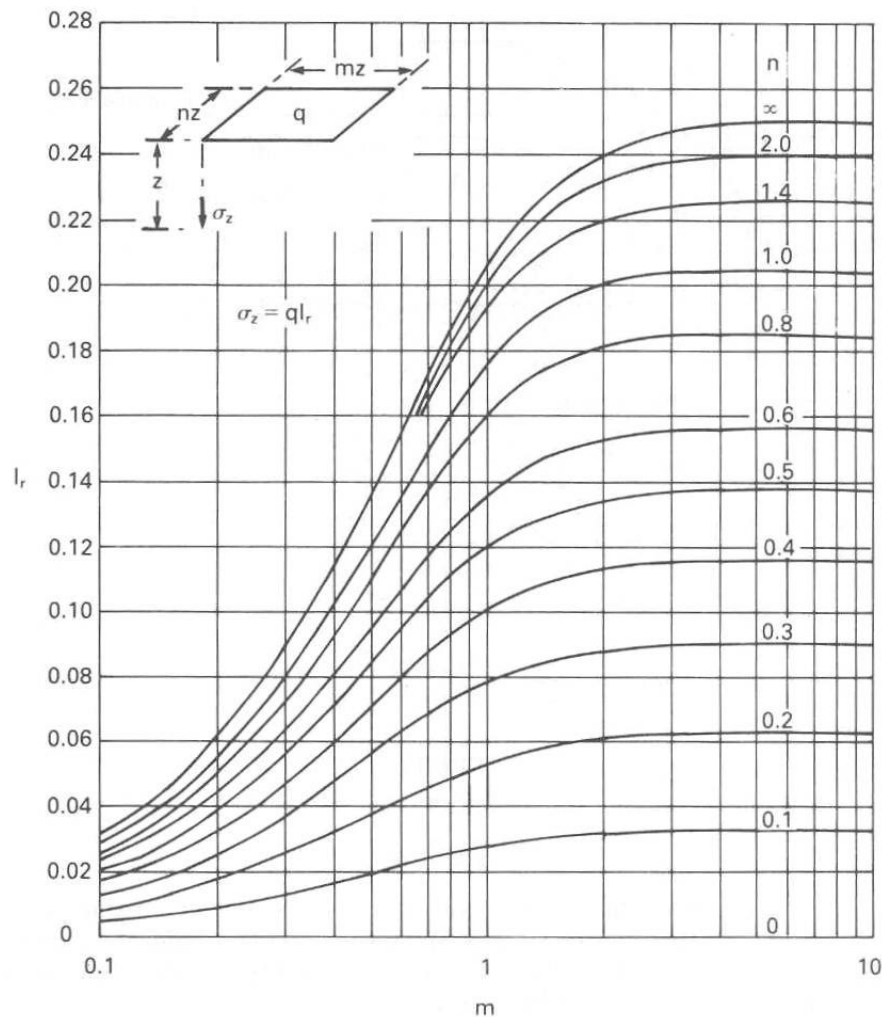
## 4.2 Elastic stress distribution below rectangular area

The vertical stress,  $\sigma_z$ , below the corner of a uniformly-loaded rectangle ( $L \times B$ ) is:

$$\sigma_z = I_r q$$

$I_r$  is found from  $m$  ( $=L/z$ ) and  $n$  ( $=B/z$ ) using Fadum's chart or the expression below ( $L$  and  $B$  are interchangeable), which are from integration of Boussinesq's solution.

$$I_r = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{2mn\sqrt{m^2 + n^2 + 1}}{m^2 + n^2 + m^2n^2 + 1} \left( \frac{m^2 + n^2 + 2}{m^2 + n^2 + 1} \right) + \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{2mn\sqrt{m^2 + n^2 + 1}}{m^2 + n^2 - m^2n^2 + 1} \right) \right]$$



Influence factor,  $I_r$ , for vertical stress under the corner of a uniformly-loaded rectangular area (Fadum's chart)

### 4.3 Elastic solutions for surface settlement

#### 4.3.1 Isotropic, homogeneous, elastic half-space (semi-infinite)

##### Point load (Boussinesq solution)

Settlement,  $w$ , at distance  $s$ : 
$$w(s) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{(1-\nu)P}{G s}$$

##### Circular area (radius $a$ ), uniform soil

Uniform load: central settlement: 
$$w_o = \frac{(1-\nu)}{G} qa$$

edge settlement: 
$$w_e = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{(1-\nu)}{G} qa$$

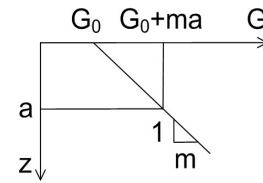
Rigid punch: ( $q_{avg} = V/\pi a^2$ )

$$w_r = \frac{\pi}{4} \frac{(1-\nu)}{G} q_{avg} a$$

##### Circular area, heterogeneous soil

For  $G_0 = 0$ ,  $\nu = 0.5$ :

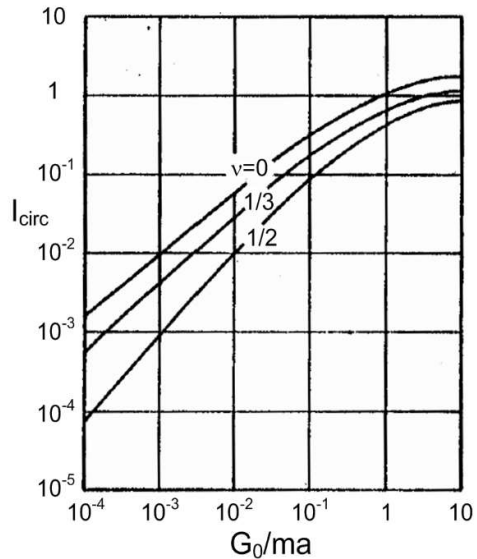
$w = q/2m$  under loaded area of any shape  
 $w = 0$  outside loaded area



For  $G_0 > 0$ , central settlement:

$$w_o = \frac{qa}{2G_0} I_{circ}$$

For  $\nu = 0.5$ ,  $w_o \approx \frac{qa}{2(G_0 + ma)}$



##### Rectangular area, uniform soil

Uniform load, corner settlement:

$$w_c = \frac{(1-\nu)}{G} \frac{qB}{2} I_{rect}$$

Where  $I_{rect}$  depends on the aspect ratio,  $L/B$ :

L/B	$I_{rect}$	L/B	$I_{rect}$	L/B	$I_{rect}$	L/B	$I_{rect}$
1	0.561	1.6	0.698	2.4	0.822	5	1.052
1.1	0.588	1.7	0.716	2.5	0.835	6	1.110
1.2	0.613	1.8	0.734	3	0.892	7	1.159
1.3	0.636	1.9	0.750	3.5	0.940	8	1.201
1.4	0.658	2	0.766	4	0.982	9	1.239
1.5	0.679	2.2	0.795	4.5	1.019	10	1.272

Rigid rectangle:  $w_r = \frac{(1-\nu)}{G} \frac{q_{avg} \sqrt{BL}}{2} I_{rgd}$  where  $I_{rgd}$  varies from 0.9  $\rightarrow$  0.7 for  $L/B = 1-10$ .

Note:  $G = \frac{E}{2(1+\nu)}$  where  $\nu$  = Poisson's ratio,  $E$  = Young's modulus.

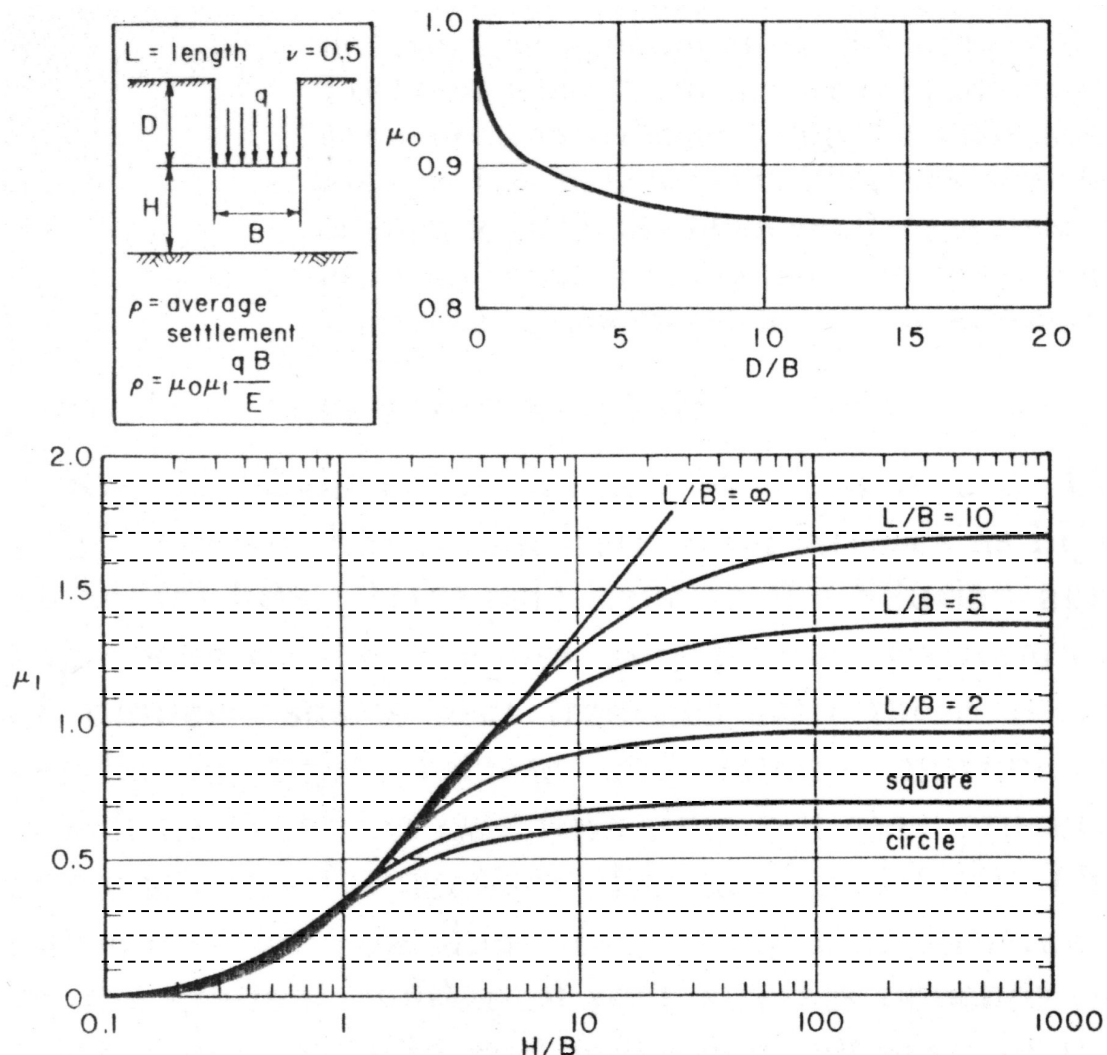
### 4.3.2 Isotropic, homogeneous, elastic finite space

#### Elastic layer of finite thickness

The mean settlement of a uniformly loaded foundation embedded in an elastic layer of finite thickness can be found using the charts below, for  $\nu \sim 0.5$ .

$$w_{\text{avg}} = \mu_0 \mu_1 \frac{qB}{E} \quad E = 2G(1 + \nu)$$

The influence factor  $\mu_1$  accounts for the finite layer thickness. The influence factor  $\mu_0$  accounts for the embedded depth.



Average immediate settlement of a uniformly loaded finite thickness layer

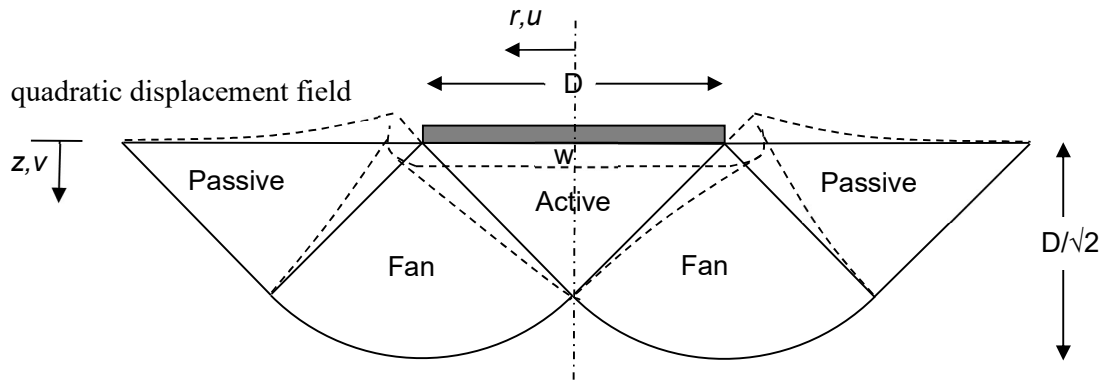
Christian & Carrier (1978) Janbu, Bjerrum and Kjaernsli's chart reinterpreted. Canadian Geotechnical Journal (15) 123-128.



#### 4.4 Mobilizable Strength Design (MSD) solutions

##### Rigid circular foundation on incompressible half-space

(Osman & Bolton, 2005)



##### Vertical bearing stress $q$

Average shear strain within deformation mechanism:  $\gamma_{mob} = M_c w/D = 1.35 w/D$

Average shear stress mobilized within mechanism:  $\tau_{mob} = q / N_c = q / 5.9$

Representative depth to identify shear stress-strain behaviour:  $Z_{rep} = 0.3D$

If the representative soil test data fits:  $\tau_{mob} = f(\gamma_{mob})$

Assume that the foundation load test data would fit:  $(q/5.9) = f(1.35 w/D)$

NB: this will underestimate  $w/D$  as  $q \rightarrow 5.9 s_u$ , due to local strain concentrations

##### Horizontal or Moment loading

See Osman et al. (2007) *Geotechnique* 57 (9) 729-737

## Section 5: Bearing capacity of deep foundations

### 5.1 Axial capacity: API (2000) design method for driven piles

#### 5.1.1 Sand

**Unit shaft resistance:**  $\tau_{sf} = \sigma'_{hf} \tan \delta = K \sigma'_{vo} \tan \delta \leq \tau_{s,lim}$

Closed-ended piles:  $K = 1$

Open-ended piles:  $K = 0.8$

**Unit base resistance:**  $q_b = N_q \sigma'_{vo} < q_{b,limit}$

Soil category	Soil density	Soil type	Soil-pile friction angle, $\delta$ (°)	Limiting value $\tau_{s,lim}$ (kPa)	Bearing capacity factor, $N_q$	Limiting value, $q_{b,lim}$ (MPa)
1	Very loose	Sand	15	50	8	1.9
	Loose	Sand-silt				
	Medium	Silt				
2	Loose	Sand	20	75	12	2.9
	Medium	Sand-silt				
	Dense	Silt				
3	Medium	Sand	25	85	20	4.8
	Dense	Sand-silt				
4	Dense	Sand	30	100	40	9.6
	Very dense	Sand-silt				
5	Dense	Gravel	35	115	50	12
	Very dense	Sand				

API (2000) recommendations for driven pile capacity in sand

#### 5.1.2 Clay

American Petroleum Institute (API) (2000) guidelines for driven piles in clay.

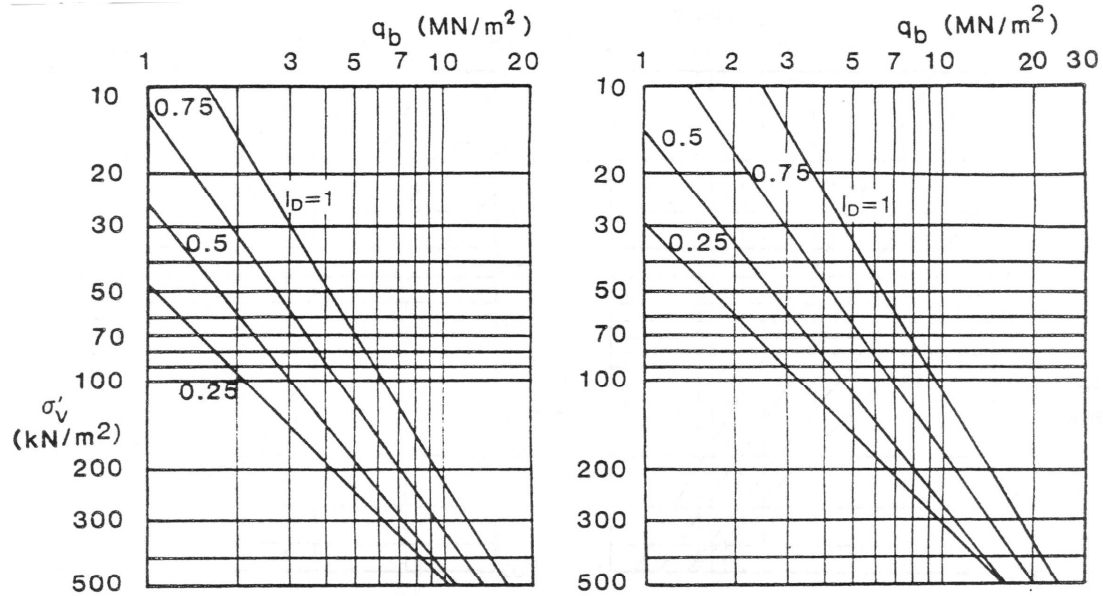
**Unit shaft resistance:**  $\alpha = \frac{\tau_s}{s_u} = 0.5 \cdot \text{Max} \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma'_{vo}}{s_u} \right)^{0.5}, \left( \frac{\sigma'_{vo}}{s_u} \right)^{0.25} \right]$

It is assumed that equal shaft resistance acts inside and outside open-ended piles.

**Unit base resistance:**  $q_b = N_c s_u$        $N_c = 9.$

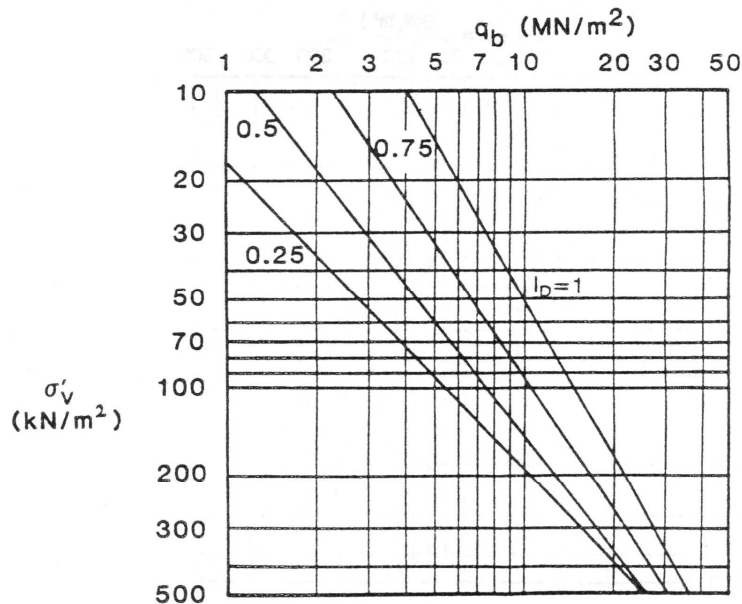
## 5.2 Axial capacity: base resistance in sand using Bolton's stress dilatancy

Unit base resistance,  $q_b$ , is expressed as a function of relative density,  $I_D$ , constant volume (critical state) friction angle,  $\phi_{cv}$ , and in situ vertical effective stress,  $\sigma'_v$ .



(a)  $\phi_{cv} = 27^\circ$

(b)  $\phi_{cv} = 30^\circ$



(c)  $\phi_{cv} = 33^\circ$

Design charts for base resistance in sand  
(Randolph 1985, Fleming et al 1992)

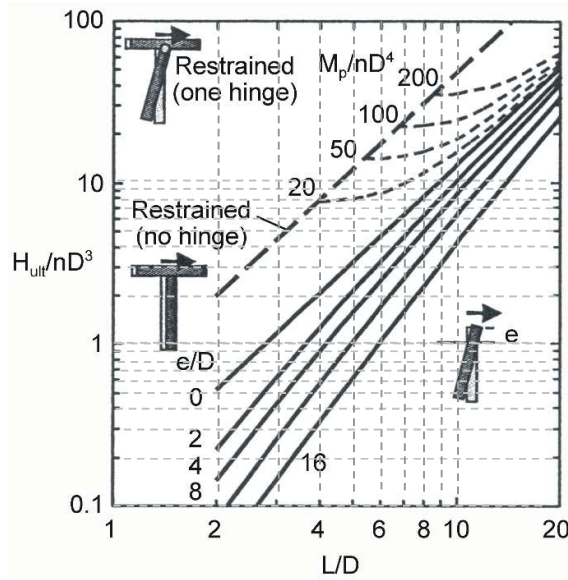
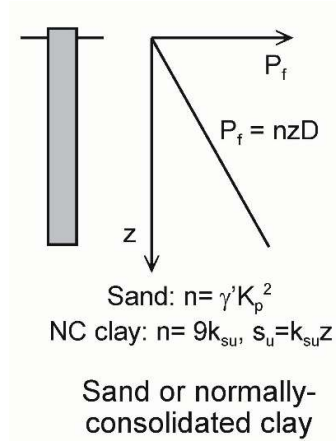
### 5.3 Lateral capacity: linearly increasing lateral resistance with depth

Lateral soil resistance (force per unit length),  $P_u = nzD$

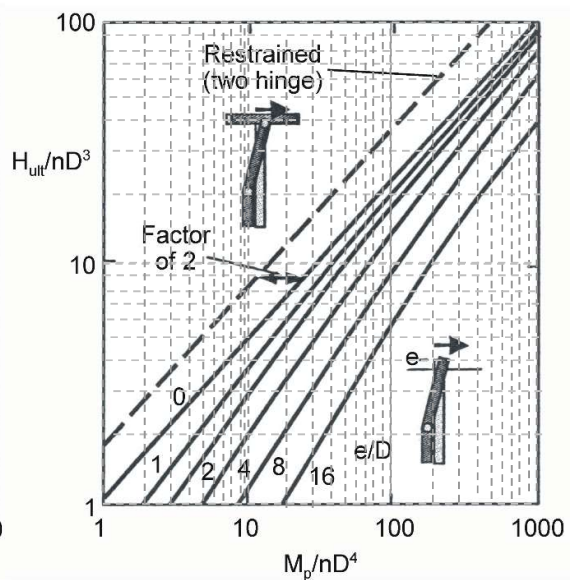
In sand,  $n = \gamma' K_p^2$

In normally consolidated clay with strength gradient  $k$ ;  $s_u = kz$ ;  $n=9k$

- $H_{ult}$  ultimate horizontal load on pile
- $M_p$  plastic moment capacity of pile
- $D$  pile diameter
- $L$  pile length
- $e$  load level above pile head  
(=M/H for H-M pile head loading)
- $\gamma'$  effective unit weight
- $K_p$  passive earth pressure coefficient,  
 $K_p = (1 + \sin \phi) / (1 - \sin \phi)$



Short pile failure mechanism



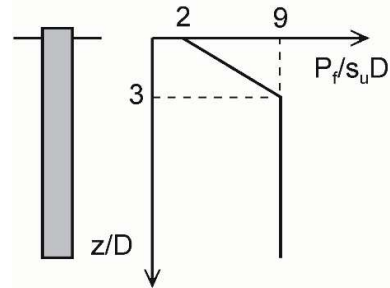
Long pile failure mechanism

Lateral pile capacity  
(linearly increasing lateral resistance with depth)

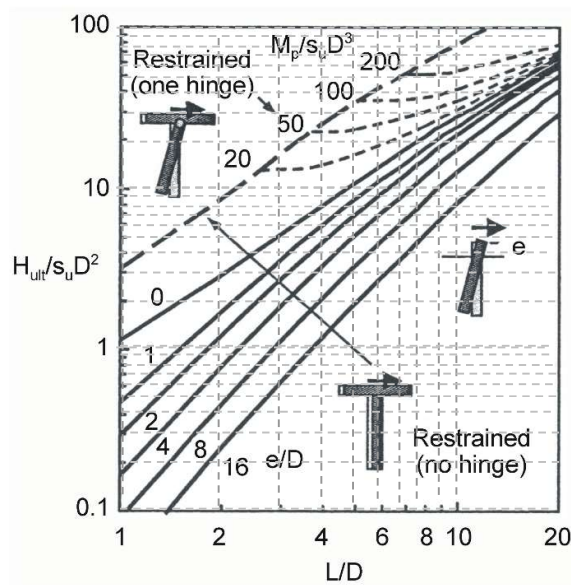
## 5.4 Lateral capacity: uniform clay

Lateral soil resistance (force per unit length),  $P_u$ , increases from  $2s_uD$  at surface to  $9s_uD$  at  $3D$  depth then remains constant.

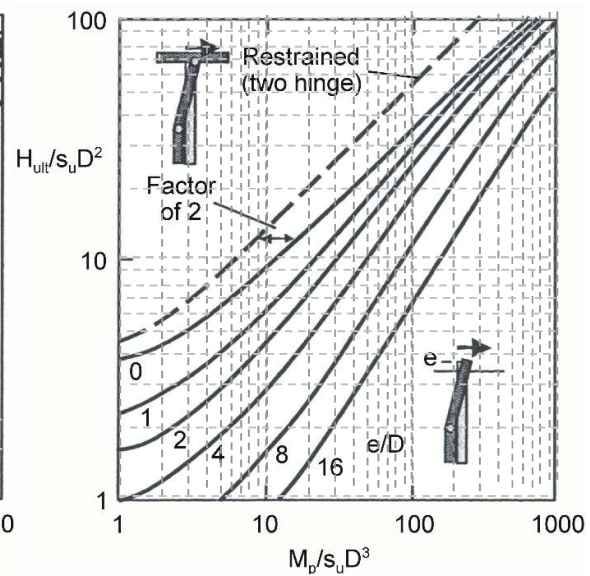
$H_{ult}$  ultimate horizontal load on pile  
 $M_p$  plastic moment capacity of pile  
 $D$  pile diameter  
 $L$  pile length  
 $e$  load level above pile head  
 (=  $M/H$  for H-M pile head loading)  
 $s_u$  undrained shear strength



Uniform clay



Short pile failure mechanism



Long pile failure mechanism

Lateral pile capacity  
 (uniform clay lateral resistance profile)

## Section 6: Settlement of deep foundations

### 6.1 Settlement of a rigid pile

#### Shaft response:

Equilibrium:

$$\tau = \tau_s \frac{R}{r}$$

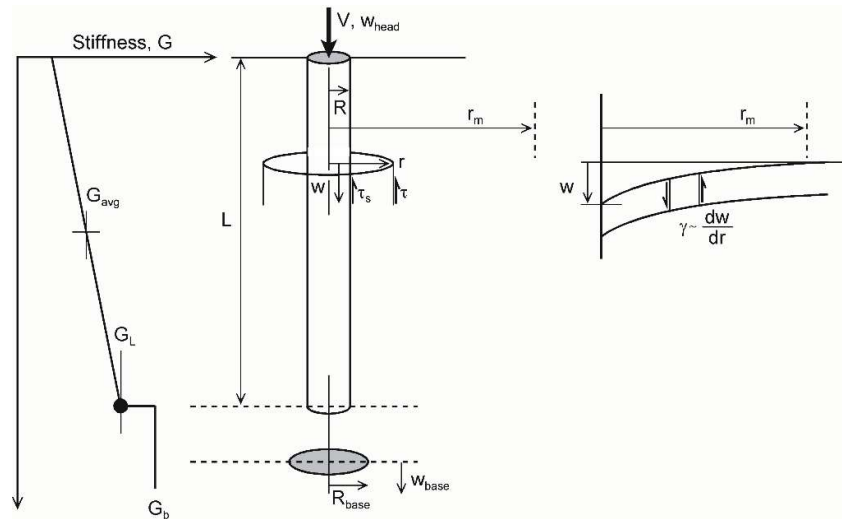
Compatibility:

$$\gamma \approx \frac{dw}{dr}$$

Elasticity:

$$\frac{\tau}{\gamma} = G$$

Integrate to magical radius,  $r_m$ , for shaft stiffness,  $\tau_s/w$ .



Nomenclature for settlement analysis of single piles

#### Combined response of base (rigid punch) and shaft:

$$\frac{V}{w_{\text{head}}} = \frac{Q_b}{w_{\text{base}}} + \frac{Q_s}{w}$$

$$\frac{V}{w_{\text{head}}} = \frac{4R_{\text{base}} G_{\text{base}}}{1-\nu} + \frac{2\pi L G_{\text{avg}}}{\zeta}$$

$$\frac{V}{w_{\text{head}} D G_L} = \frac{2}{1-\nu} \frac{G_{\text{base}} D_{\text{base}}}{G_L D} + \frac{2\pi}{\zeta} \frac{G_{\text{avg}} L}{G_L D}$$

$$\frac{V}{w_{\text{head}} D G_L} = \frac{2}{1-\nu} \frac{\eta}{\xi} + \frac{2\pi}{\zeta} \rho \frac{L}{D}$$

These expressions are simplified using dimensionless variables:

Base enlargement ratio, eta  $\eta = R_{\text{base}}/R = D_{\text{base}}/D$  Slenderness ratio  $L/D$

Stiffness gradient ratio, rho  $\rho = G_{\text{avg}}/G_L$  Base stiffness ratio, xi  $\xi = G_L/G_{\text{base}}$

It is often assumed that the dimensionless zone of influence,  $\zeta = \ln(r_m/R) = 4$ .

More precise relationships, checked against numerical analysis are:

$$\zeta = \ln \left\{ \left[ 0.5 + (5\rho(1-\nu) - 0.5)\xi \right] \frac{L}{D} \right\} \quad \text{for } \xi=1: \quad \zeta = \ln \left\{ 5\rho(1-\nu) \frac{L}{D} \right\}$$

### 6.2 Settlement of a compressible pile

$$\frac{V}{w_{\text{head}} D G_L} = \frac{2\eta}{(1-\nu)\xi} + \rho \frac{2\pi \tanh \mu L}{\zeta \mu L} \frac{L}{D} \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{\pi\lambda} \frac{8\eta}{(1-\nu)\xi} \frac{\tanh \mu L}{\mu L} \frac{L}{D}}$$

$$\text{where } \mu = \frac{\sqrt{8/\zeta\lambda}}{D} \quad \text{Pile compressibility}$$

$$\lambda = E_p/G_L \quad \text{Pile-soil stiffness ratio}$$

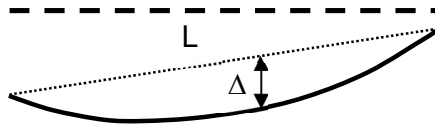
Pile head stiffness,  $\frac{V}{w_{\text{head}}}$ , is maximum when  $L \geq 1.5D \sqrt{\lambda}$

## Section 7: Damage to buildings from differential settlement

Relative displacement  $\Delta/L$ :

$L$  is the length of building segment with consistent sagging or hogging

$\Delta$  is the maximum settlement of the deformed segment relative to chord  $L$



Distortion and maximum tensile strain  $\epsilon_{\max}$  in elastic beams of various  $E/G$  and  $L/H$ :

$$\frac{\Delta}{L \epsilon_{\max}} \approx \begin{array}{l} 1.0 \text{ to } 1.5 \text{ diagonally in end panels due to shear} \\ 0.75 \text{ to } 1.0 \text{ longitudinally due to sagging beam} \\ 0.25 \text{ to } 0.5 \text{ longitudinally due to hogging beam} \end{array}$$

Onset of visible ( $\sim 0.1\text{mm}$ ) cracks in brick or blockwork walls:  $\epsilon_{\max} \approx 0.75 \cdot 10^{-3}$

(Burland & Wroth, 1974)

Categories of associated building damage:

Cat.	Limit	Relative displacement	Description	Action
0	-	$\Delta/L \leq 0.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$	negligible	none
1	SLS	$0.5 \cdot 10^{-3} < \Delta/L \leq 0.75 \cdot 10^{-3}$	very slight	redecorate interior
2	SLS	$0.75 \cdot 10^{-3} < \Delta/L \leq 1.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$	slight	+ some repointing
3	SLS	$1.5 \cdot 10^{-3} < \Delta/L \leq 3 \cdot 10^{-3}$	moderate	+ significant repointing etc
4	ULS	$3 \cdot 10^{-3} < \Delta/L \leq 10^{-2}$	severe	shore; consider demolition
5	ULS	$10^{-2} < \Delta/L$	very severe	demolish

(Boscardin & Cording, 1989)

## Section 8: Cylindrical cavity expansion

Expansion  $\delta A = A - A_0$  caused by increase of pressure  $\delta\sigma_c = \sigma_c - \sigma_0$

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

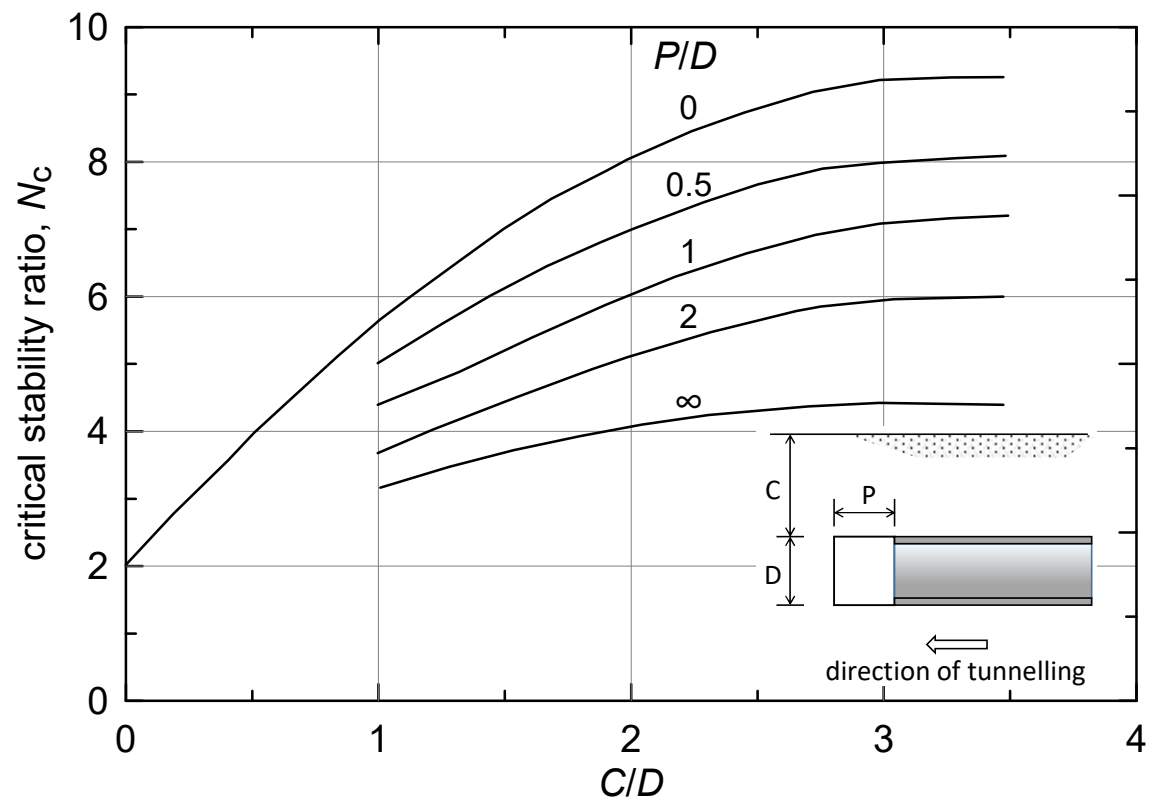
small shear strain  $\gamma = \frac{2\rho}{r}$

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  $\delta\sigma_c = c_u \left[ 1 + \ln \frac{G}{c_u} + \ln \frac{\delta A}{A} \right]$

## Section 9: Tunnel Face Stability





## Section 10: Ground Movements around tunnels

$$w = w_{max} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x}{i}\right)^2}$$
$$i = Kz_0$$

Where  $z_0$  is the depth of the axis of a tunnel.

K is 0.65 for soft clay, 0.45 for stiff clay and 0.25 for sand above the water table.