If $\overline{s}_u$ method is used and, $\overline{N}_{ch}$ and $\overline{s}_u$ criteria differ, the category with the softer soils shall be selected (for example, use Soil Class E instead of D).

A.3. Classifying Soil Classes A,B

A.3.1 – Assignment of Soil Class B shall be based on the shear wave velocity for rock. For competent rock with moderate fracturing and weathering, estimation of this shear wave velocity shall be permitted. For more highly fractured and weathered rock, the shear wave velocity shall be directly measured or the site shall be assigned to Soil Class C.

A.3.2 – Assignment of Soil Class A shall be supported by either shear wave velocity measurements on site or shear wave velocity measurements on profiles of the same rock type in the same formation with an equal or greater degree of weathering and fracturing. Where hard rock conditions are known to be continuous to a depth of 30 m, surficial shear wave velocity measurements may be extrapolated to assess $\overline{v}_s$.

A.3.3 – Soil Classes A and B shall not be used where there is more than 3 m of soil between the rock surface and the bottom of the spread footing or mat foundation.