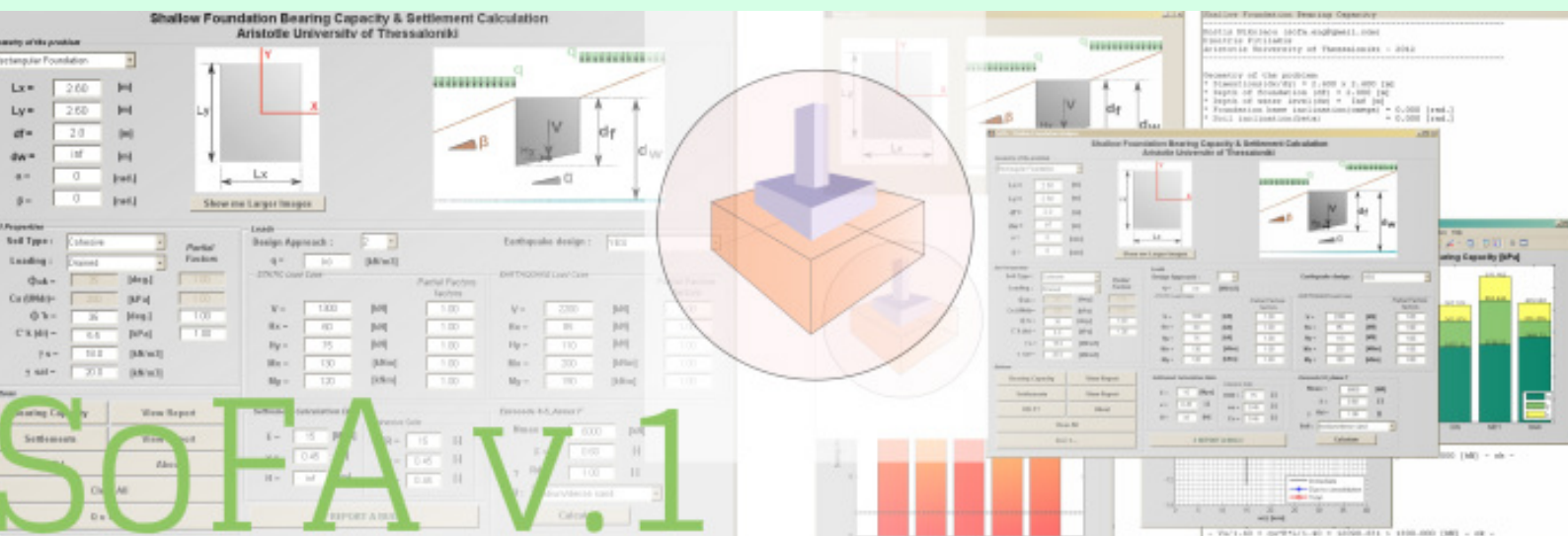


# SoFA

version 1.0

## *Users' Manual*

Konstantinos Nikolaou  
Dimitris Pitilakis



**ShallOw Foundation Analysis Software**

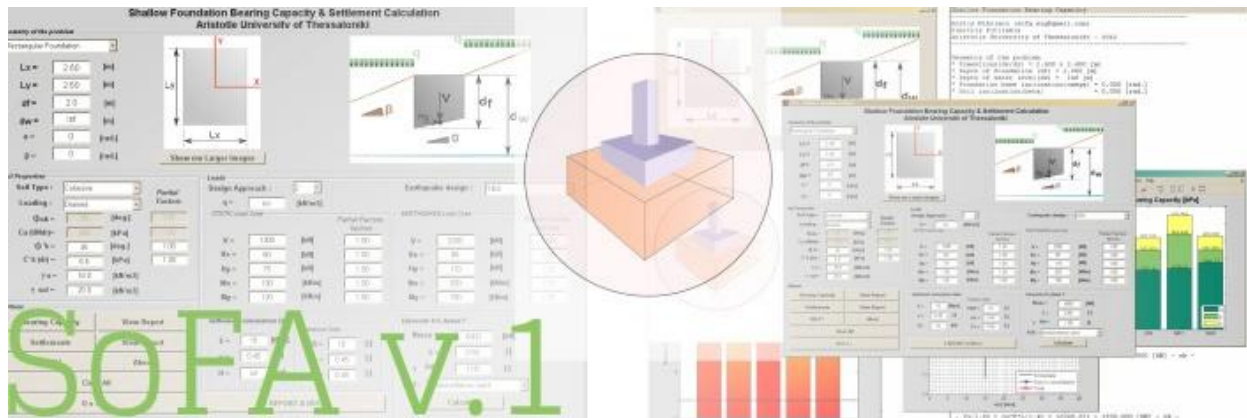
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki  
Thessaloniki 2012

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# 1. Introduction

## *About this manual*

The purpose of the present manual is to provide basic guidelines in the use of SoFAv.1.0 computer program for the design of shallow foundations. A short description of the used algorithms is combined with appropriate theoretical documentation.

## *About the software*

SoFA is a newly-developed stand-alone simple program based on Matlab, for the calculation of bearing capacity and settlements of shallow foundations. Correct calculation of ultimate bearing capacity and foundation settlement is the most crucial step in the design of shallow foundations. Analytical solutions are preferred to numerical methods (i.e. complex finite element models) in engineering practice, mainly because of their inherent simplicity. In SoFA, safety factors are calculated for the ultimate bearing capacity using several well-known formulas from literature. Short-term components of settlements are calculated using the adjusted elasticity method, while confined one-dimensional deformation of the soil is assumed for the consolidation. SoFA provides solutions for all three design approaches implemented in Eurocode 7, as well as in Eurocode 8 for earthquake loading. Cohesive and cohesionless soils, static and dynamic loads, drained and un-drained conditions are examined. Our program has a simple user-friendly graphical interface. It is freely distributed and well documented in order to attract engineers to exploit its capabilities.

## *About shallow foundations*

Foundations are considered shallow if their depth to length ratio is small enough compared to their length. Shallow foundations are used to safely transfer superstructure loads to the ground. The basic checks that a shallow foundation must pass are the following:

- Bearing capacity of underlying soil
- Stability against sliding
- Stability against overturning
- Settlement check
- Yield of structural components check (bending, shear etc)

SoFA can currently perform only bearing capacity and settlement calculations.

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## 2. Static Bearing Capacity of Shallow Foundations

Several methods are used to calculate bearing capacity of a shallow footing, but only the theoretical methods are going to be discussed here. These methods use general soil data i.e. angle of friction  $\phi$ , cohesion  $c$  to assess the ultimate bearing capacity.

### 2.1 General Bearing Capacity Equation

The general bearing capacity equation is:

$$q_u = c' N_c s_c i_c b_c g_c d_c + p_o' N_q s_q i_q b_q g_q d_q + \frac{1}{2} B' \gamma' N_\gamma s_\gamma i_\gamma b_\gamma g_\gamma d_\gamma$$

Where

- $q_u$ : bearing capacity of the shallow foundation
- $c$  : soil cohesion
- $p_o$ : loading on foundation depth
- $B$  : width of the foundation
- $\gamma'$  : weight of the soil under the foundation
- $s_c, s_q, s_\gamma$  : shape factors
- $i_c, i_q, i_\gamma$  : load inclination factors
- $b_c, b_q, b_\gamma$  : base inclination factors
- $g_c, g_q, g_\gamma$  : soil inclination factors
- $d_c, d_q, d_\gamma$  : depth factors

### 2.2 Loading convention in SoFA

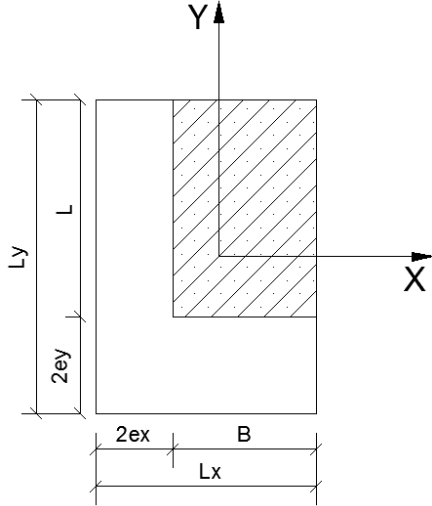
All loads are considered acting at the soil-footing interface, and NOT at the theoretical point of column fixity.

SoFA does not calculate self weight of the footing, the user has to include it in the loading case scenario. All loads are user specified.

## 2.3 Effective dimensions

Effective dimensions have to be calculated for central loading.

Let effective dimensions be  $B$ ,  $L$ , whereas  $L_x$ ,  $L_y$  are the footing length on  $X$  and  $Y$  directions,  $V$  a vertical load and  $M_x$ ,  $M_y$  moments about  $X$  and  $Y$  axes respectively. The effective area of the footing (hatched area) would be



$$A_{eff} = B * L$$

where

$$e_x = \frac{M_y}{V} \quad \& \quad e_y = \frac{M_x}{V}$$

$$B'_x = L_x - 2 * e_x \quad \& \quad B'_y = L_y - 2 * e_y$$

$$B = \min[B'_x, B'_y] \quad \& \quad L = \max[L'_x, L'_y]$$

## 2.4. Water level

### 2.4.1 Water level - undrained loading

Water level changes the total loading on foundation depth ( $p_o'$ ) and the effective weight of the soil under the foundation ( $\gamma'$ )

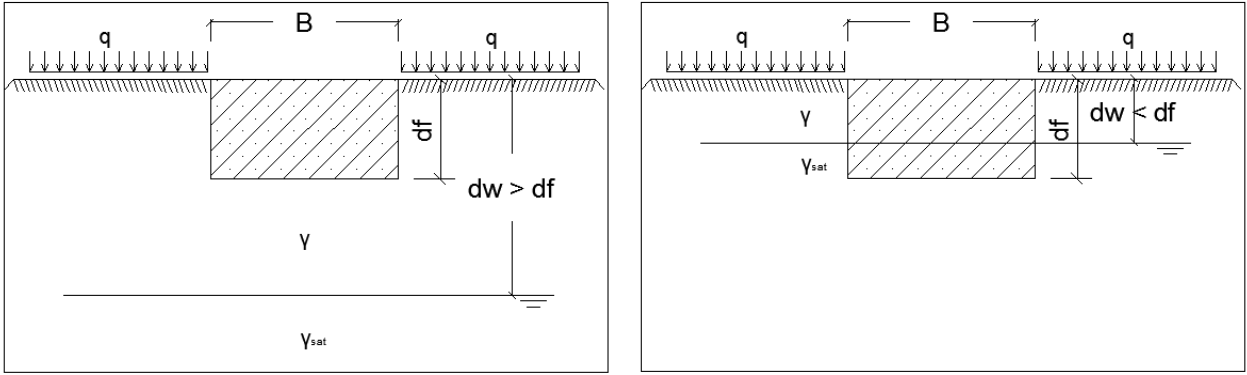
- If the depth of water level ( $d_w$ ) is larger than the depth of foundation ( $d_f$ ), as shown in figure A, then:

$$p_o = \gamma * d_f + q$$

- Else if  $d_w < d_f$  as shown in figure B:

$$p_o = \gamma * d_w + \gamma_{sat} * (d_f - d_w) + q$$

\*  $\gamma_{sat}$  is the saturated soil weight

A)  $d_w > d_f$ B)  $d_w < d_f$ 

### 2.4.2 Water level - drained loading

For the drained loading case:

- If  $d_w > d_f + B$  then

$$p_o = \gamma * d_f + q$$

Water level affects bearing capacity only when  $d_w < d_f + B$ , in which case the weight of the soil under the footing is considered equal to drained soil weight

$$\gamma' = \gamma$$

- If  $d_f < d_w < d_f + B$  then

$$p_o = \gamma * d_f + q$$

But  $\gamma'$  is given by

$$\gamma' = \frac{\gamma * (d_w - d_f) + (\gamma_{sat} - \gamma_w) * (d_f + B - d_w)}{B}$$

- If  $d_w < d_f$  then

$$p_o = \gamma * d_w + (\gamma_{sat} - \gamma_w) * (d_f - d_w) + q$$

now  $\gamma'$  is

$$\gamma' = \gamma_{sat} - \gamma_w$$



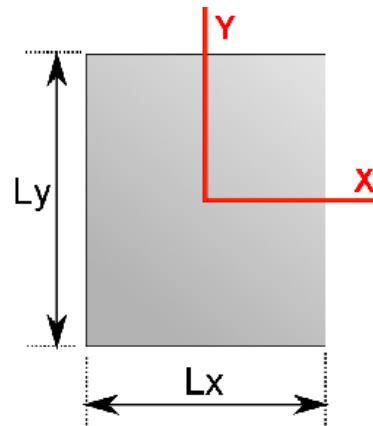
## 2.5 Code provision formulas

In this section several bearing capacity formulas from code provisions are presented. The following figures contain the general geometry specifications.

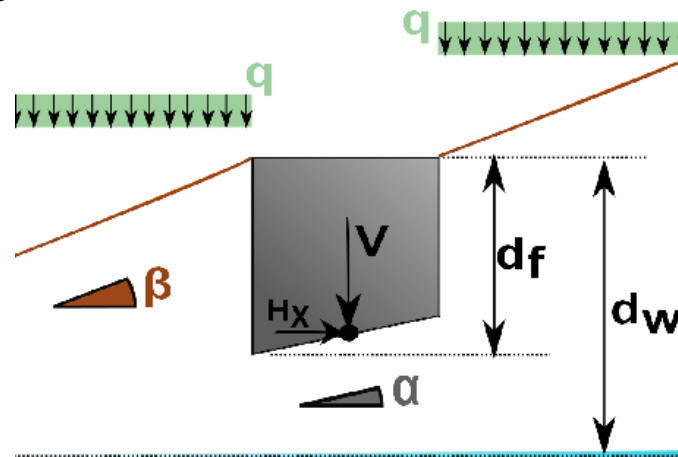
- $\beta$  is the soil inclination
- $\alpha$  is the foundation base inclination
- $\theta$  is the angle of vertical load ( $V$ ) with Z-axis due to horizontal load ( $H$ )  
 $\theta = \text{Arctan}(H/V)$

A full list of symbols used can be found in Appendix A at the end of this document.

### X-Y plane



### X-Z/Y-Z plane



### 2.5.1 Eurocode 7 (2004)

#### Undrained loading

$$q_u = 5.14 * cu * s_c * i_c * b_c + po$$

where:

$$\begin{aligned} s_c &= 1 + 0.2 * \frac{B}{L} \\ i_c &= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} * \sqrt{1 - \frac{H}{B * L * cu}} \\ b_c &= 1 - \frac{2 * \alpha}{\pi + 2} \end{aligned}$$

#### Drained loading

$$q_u = c' * N_c * s_c * i_c * b_c + po' * N_q * s_q * i_q * b_q + \frac{1}{2} * B' * \gamma' * N_\gamma * s_\gamma * i_\gamma * b_\gamma$$

where:

$$N_c = (N_q - 1) / \tan \phi'$$

$$s_c = \frac{s_q * N_q - 1}{N_q - 1}$$

$$i_c = \frac{i_q * N_q - 1}{N_q - 1}$$

$$b_c = \frac{b_q * N_q - 1}{N_q - 1}$$

$$N_q = \tan^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right) * e^{\pi * \tan \phi'}$$

$$s_q = 1 + \frac{B}{L} * \sin \phi'$$

$$i_q = \left( 1 - \frac{H}{V + B * L * \frac{c'}{\tan \phi'}} \right)^m$$

$$b_q = (1 - \alpha * \tan \phi')^2$$

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

$$s_\gamma = 1 - 0.3 * \frac{B}{L}$$

$$i_\gamma = \left( 1 - \frac{H}{V + B * L * \frac{c'}{\tan \phi'}} \right)^{m+1}$$

$$b_\gamma = (1 - \alpha * \tan \phi')^2$$

$$m = m_L * \cos^2 \theta + m_B * \sin^2 \theta$$

$$m_L = \frac{2+L/B}{1+L/B} \text{ \& \ } m_B = \frac{2+B/L}{1+B/L}$$

\*  $\alpha$  in [rad.]

**2.5.2 DIN 4017 (2006)****Undrained loading**

$$q_u = 5.14 * c_u * s_c * i_c * b_c * g_c + p_o$$

where:

$$s_c = 1 + 0.2 * \frac{B}{L}$$

$$i_c = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} * \sqrt{1 - \frac{H}{B * L * c_u}}$$

$$b_c = 1 - \frac{2 * a}{\pi + 2}$$

$$g_c = 1 - 0.4 \tan \beta$$

**Drained loading**

$$q_u = c' * N_c * s_c * i_c * b_c * g_c + p_o' * N_q * s_q * i_q * b_q * g_q + \frac{1}{2} * B' * \gamma' * N_\gamma * s_\gamma * i_\gamma * b_\gamma * g_\gamma$$

where:

$$N_c = (N_q - 1) / \tan \phi$$

$$s_c = \frac{s_q * N_q - 1}{N_q - 1}$$

$$i_c = \frac{i_q * N_q - 1}{N_q - 1}$$

$$b_c = e^{-2.58 * a * \tan \phi'}$$

$$g_c = \frac{N_q * e^{-2 * \beta * \tan} - 1}{N_q - 1}$$

$$N_q = \tan^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\phi}{2} \right) * e^{\pi * \tan \phi}$$

$$s_q = 1 + \frac{B}{L} * \sin$$

$$i_q = (1 - \tan \theta)^m$$

$$b_q = e^{-2.58 * a * \tan \phi'}$$

$$g_q = (1 - \tan \beta)^{1.9}$$

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

$$s_\gamma = 1 - 0.3 * \frac{B}{L}$$

$$i_\gamma = (1 - \tan \theta)^{m+1}$$

$$b_\gamma = e^{-2.58 * a * \tan \phi'}$$

$$g_\gamma = (1 - 0.5 * \tan \beta)^6$$

$$m = m_L * \cos^2 \theta + m_B * \sin^2 \theta$$

$$m_L = \frac{2+L/B}{1+L/B} \quad \& \quad m_B = \frac{2+B/L}{1+B/L}$$

\*a in [rad.]

### 2.5.3 EAK (2000)

#### Undrained loading

$$q_u = 5.14 * cu * s_c * i_c + po$$

where:

$$s_c = 1 + 0.2 * \frac{B}{L}$$

$$i_c = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} * \sqrt{1 - \frac{H}{B * L * cu}}$$

#### Drained loading

$$q_u = c' * N_c * s_c * i_c + po' * N_q * s_q * i_q + \frac{1}{2} * B' * \gamma' * N_\gamma * s_\gamma * i_\gamma$$

where:

$N_c = (N_q - 1) / \tan \phi'$	$N_q = \tan^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right) * e^{\pi * \tan \phi'}$	$N_\gamma = 2 * (N_q - 1) * \tan \phi'$
$s_c = 1 + \frac{B}{L} * \frac{N_q}{N_c}$	$s_q = 1 + \frac{B}{L} * \tan \phi'$	$s_\gamma = 1 - 0.3 * \frac{B}{L}$
$i_c = \frac{i_q * N_q - 1}{N_q - 1}$	$i_{qL} = \left( 1 - \frac{0.7 * H_B}{V + B * L * c' / \tan \phi'} \right)^3$	$i_{\gamma L} = \left( 1 - \frac{H_B}{V + B * L * c' / \tan \phi'} \right)^3$
	$i_{qL} = \left( 1 - \frac{0.7 * H_B}{V + B * L * c' / \tan \phi'} \right)^3$	$i_{\gamma L} = \left( 1 - \frac{H_B}{V + B * L * c' / \tan \phi'} \right)^3$

**!!! Theta is the angle between the horizontal forces**

$$\tan \theta = \left( \frac{H_B}{H_L} \right)$$

$$i = i_B * \left( 1 - \frac{\theta}{90} \right) + i_L * \left( \frac{\theta}{90} \right)$$

## 2.6 Literature formulas

### 2.6.1 Meyerhof (1953, 1963)

#### Undrained loading

$$q_u = 5.14 * cu * s_c * i_c * d_c + po * s_q * i_q * d_q$$

where:

$$s_c = 1 + 0.2 * \frac{B}{L}$$

$$i_c = \left(1 - \frac{2 * \theta}{\pi}\right)^2$$

$$d_c = 1 + 0.2 * \frac{D}{B}$$

$$s_q = 1$$

$$i_q = \left(1 - \frac{2 * \theta}{\pi}\right)^2$$

$$d_q = 1$$

#### Drained loading

$$q_u = c' * N_c * s_c * i_c * d_c + po' * N_q * s_q * i_q * d_q + \frac{1}{2} * B' * \gamma' * N_\gamma * s_\gamma * i_\gamma * d_\gamma$$

where:

$$N_c = (N_q - 1) / \tan \phi'$$

$$s_c = 1 + 0.2 * \frac{B}{L} \tan^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

$$i_c = \left(1 - \frac{2 * \theta}{\pi}\right)^2$$

$$d_c = 1 + 0.2 * \frac{B}{L} \tan^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

$$N_q = \tan^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right) * e^{\pi * \tan \phi'}$$

$$s_q = 1 + 0.1 * \frac{B}{L} \tan^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

$$\text{if } \varphi \leq 10^\circ \rightarrow s_q = 1$$

$$i_q = \left(1 - \frac{2 * \theta}{\pi}\right)^2$$

$$d_q = 1 + 0.1 * \frac{B}{L} \tan^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

$$\text{if } \varphi \leq 10^\circ \rightarrow d_q = 1$$

$$N_\gamma = (N_q - 1) * \tan (1.4 * \phi')$$

$$s_\gamma = 1 + 0.1 * \frac{B}{L} \tan^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

$$\text{if } \varphi \leq 10^\circ \rightarrow s_\gamma = 1$$

$$i_\gamma = \left(1 - \frac{\theta}{\phi'} * \frac{180}{\pi}\right)^2$$

$$\text{if } \varphi = 0^\circ \rightarrow i_\gamma = 0$$

$$d_\gamma = 1 + 0.1 * \frac{B}{L} \tan^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

$$\text{if } \varphi \leq 10^\circ \rightarrow d_\gamma = 1$$

$$m = m_L * \cos^2 \theta + m_B * \sin^2 \theta$$

$$m_L = \frac{2+L/B}{1+L/B} \& \ m_B = \frac{2+B/L}{1+B/L}$$

## 2.6.2 Hansen (1970)

### Undrained loading

$$q_u = 5.14 * c_u * \min [(1 + s_{cB} + d_{cB} - i_{cB} - b_c - g_c), (1 + s_{cL} + d_{cL} - i_{cL} - b_c - g_c)]$$

where:

$s_{cB} = 0.2 * \frac{B}{L} * i_{cB}$ $i_{cB} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} * \sqrt{1 - \frac{H_B}{B * L * c_u}}$ $d_{cB} = 0.4 * d_f / B$ $b_c = \frac{2 * \alpha}{\pi + 2}$ $g_c = \frac{2 * \beta}{\pi + 2}$	$s_{cL} = 0.2 * \frac{L}{B} * i_{cL}$ $i_{cL} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} * \sqrt{1 - \frac{H_L}{B * L * c_u}}$ $d_{cL} = 0.4 * d_f / L$
---	--

### Drained loading

$$q_u = \min [q_{uB}, q_{uL}]$$

$$q_{uB} = c' * N_c * s_{cB} * i_{cB} * d_{cB} * b_c * g_c + p_o' * N_q * s_{qB} * i_{qB} * d_{qB} * b_q * g_q + \frac{1}{2} * B' * \gamma' * N_\gamma * s_{\gamma B} * i_{\gamma B} * d_{\gamma B} * b_\gamma * g_\gamma$$

$$q_{uL} = c' * N_c * s_{cL} * i_{cL} * d_{cL} * b_c * g_c + p_o' * N_q * s_{qL} * i_{qL} * d_{qL} * b_q * g_q + \frac{1}{2} * B' * \gamma' * N_\gamma * s_{\gamma L} * i_{\gamma L} * d_{\gamma L} * b_\gamma * g_\gamma$$

where:

$N_c = (N_q - 1) / \tan \phi'$ $s_{cB} * i_{cB} * d_{cB} * b_c * g_c =$ $= \frac{N_q * s_{qB} * i_{qB} * d_{qB} * b_q * g_q - 1}{N_q - 1}$	$N_q = \tan^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right) * e^{\pi * \tan \phi'}$ $s_{qB} = 1 + \frac{B}{L} * i_{qB} * \sin \phi'$ $i_{qB} = \left( 1 - \frac{0.5 * H_B}{V + B * L * c' / \tan \phi'} \right)^5$ $d_{qB} = 1 + \frac{2 * d_f}{B} \tan \phi' (1 - \sin \phi')^2$	$N_\gamma = 1.5 * (N_q - 1) * \tan \phi'$ $s_{\gamma B} = 1 - 0.4 * \frac{B}{L} * \frac{i_{\gamma B}}{i_{\gamma L}}$ $i_{\gamma B} = \left( 1 - \frac{0.7 * H_B}{V + B * L * c' / \tan \phi'} \right)^5$ $d_{\gamma B} = 1$
--	--	---

$s_{cL} * i_{cL} * d_{cL} * b_c * g_c =$ $= \frac{N_q * s_{qL} * i_{qL} * d_{qL} * b_q * g_c - 1}{N_q - 1}$	$s_{qL} = 1 + \frac{L}{B} * i_{qL} * \sin\phi'$ $i_{qL} = \left(1 - \frac{0.5 * H_L}{V + B * L * c' / \tan\phi'}\right)^5$ $d_{qL} = 1 + \frac{2 * D}{L} \tan\phi' (1 - \sin\phi')^2$ $b_q = e^{-2 * a * \tan\phi'}$ $g_q = (1 - 0.5 * \tan\beta)^5$	$s_{\gamma L} = 1 - 0.4 * \frac{L}{B} * \frac{i_{\gamma L}}{i_{\gamma B}}$ $i_{\gamma L} = \left(1 - \frac{0.7 * H_L}{V + B * L * c' / \tan\phi'}\right)^5$ $d_{\gamma L} = 1$ $b_\gamma = e^{-2.7 * a * \tan\phi'}$ $g_\gamma = (1 - 0.5 * \tan\beta)^5$ <p style="text-align: right;">*a in [rad.]</p>
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### 3. Earthquake Bearing Capacity of Shallow Foundations

#### 3.1 Eurocode 8

According to EN 1998 - part 5 - Annex F, bearing capacity is checked using the following formula:

$$\Phi(\bar{N}, \bar{V}, \bar{M}, \bar{F}) = \frac{(1 - e * \bar{F})^{c_T} * (\beta * \bar{V})^{c_T}}{(\bar{N})^\alpha * [(1 - m * \bar{F}^k)^{k'} - \bar{N}]^b} + \frac{(1 - f * \bar{F})^{c'_M} * (\gamma * \bar{M})^{c_M}}{(\bar{N})^c * [(1 - m * \bar{F}^k)^{k'} - \bar{N}]^d} - 1 \leq 0$$

where

$$\bar{N} = \frac{\gamma_{Rd} * N_{Ed}}{N_{max}}, \quad \bar{V} = \frac{\gamma_{Rd} * V_{Ed}}{N_{max}}, \quad \bar{M} = \frac{\gamma_{Rd} * M_{Ed}}{B * N_{max}}$$

$N_{Ed}, V_{Ed}, M_{Ed}$ : design action effects

$N_{max}$ : is the ultimate bearing capacity of the foundation under a vertical centered load as defined later

$B$ : the foundation width

$\bar{F}$ : the dimensionless inertia force as defined later

$\gamma_{Rd}$ : model partial factor

The other parameters are given in tabular form:

	Cohesive soil	Cohesionless soil
<b>a</b>	0.70	0.92
<b>b</b>	1.29	1.25
<b>c</b>	2.14	0.92
<b>d</b>	1.81	1.25
<b>e</b>	0.21	0.41
<b>f</b>	0.44	0.32
<b>m</b>	0.21	0.96
<b>k</b>	1.22	1.00
<b>k'</b>	1.00	0.39
<b>c<sub>T</sub></b>	2.00	1.14
<b>c<sub>M</sub></b>	2.00	1.01
<b>c'<sub>M</sub></b>	1.00	1.01
<b>β</b>	2.57	2.90
<b>γ</b>	1.85	2.80

	Medium dense – dense sand	Loose dry Sand	Loose saturates Sand	Non sensitive clay	Sensitive clay
$\gamma_{Rd}$	1.00	1.15	1.50	1.00	1.15



Cohesionless	Cohesive
$N_{max} = \frac{1}{2} * \rho * g * \left(1 \pm \frac{a_v}{g}\right) * B^2 * N_\gamma$	$N_{max} = (\pi + 2) * \frac{c_u}{\gamma_M} * B$
$\bar{F} = \frac{a_g * S}{g * \tan \varphi'_d}$	$\bar{F} = \frac{\rho * a_g * \gamma_I * S * B}{c_u}$

where:

$\rho$ : the unit mass of the soil

$g$ : the acceleration of gravity

$a_g$ : design ground acceleration on type A ground

$a_v$ : vertical ground acceleration on type A ground(may be taken equal to  $0.5 * a_g * S$ )

$N_\gamma$ : is the bearing capacity factor, a function of the design angle of the shearing resistance of soil  $\varphi'_d$  ( $\varphi'_d = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\tan \varphi'}{\gamma_\varphi}\right)$ )

$c_u$ : undrained shear strength of soil

$\gamma_I$ : importance factor

$S$ : soil parameter defined in Eurocode 8- part 1)

**Also the following constrains apply for cohesive soils:**

$$0 < \bar{N} \leq 1$$

$$|\bar{V}| \leq 1$$

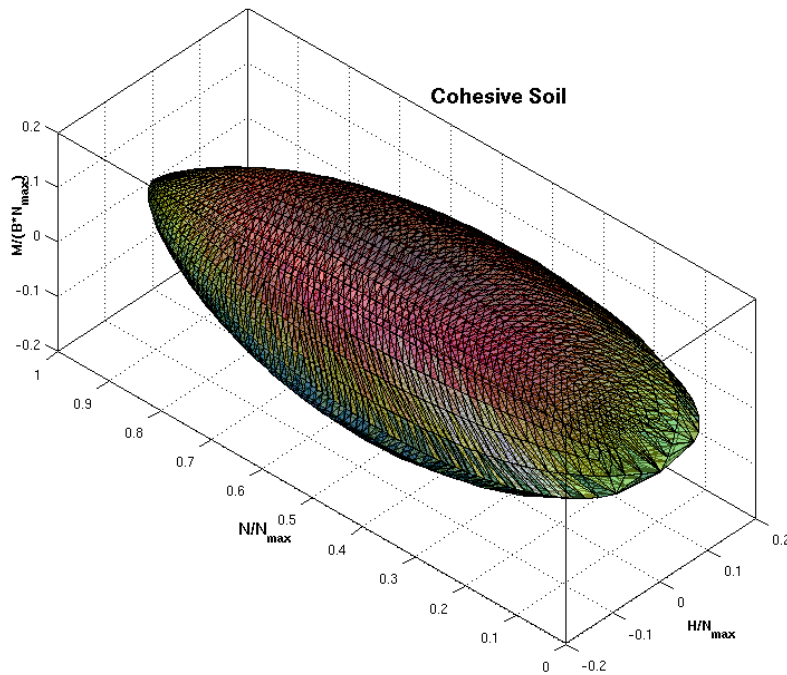
**and for cohesionless soils:**

$$0 < \bar{N} \leq (1 - m * \bar{F})^{k'}$$

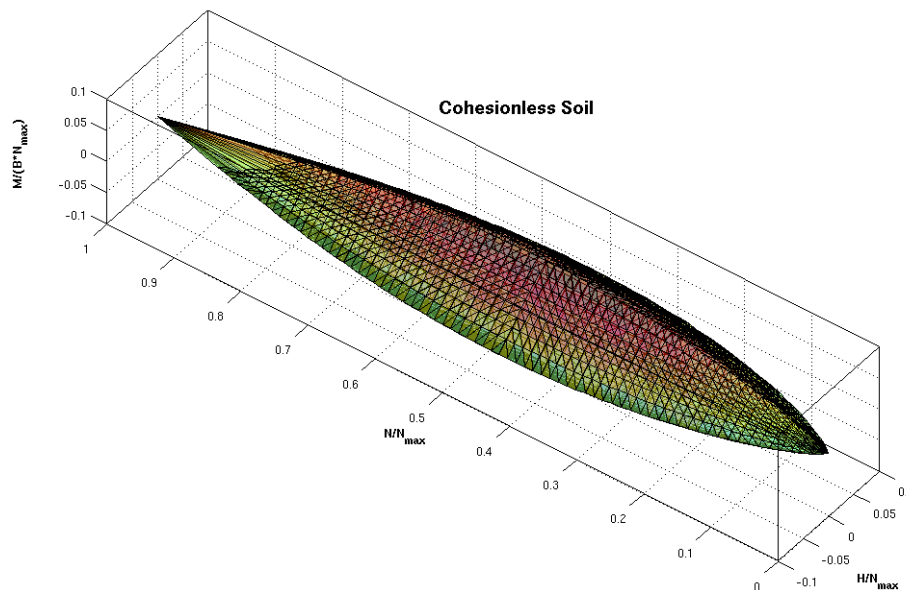
$$|\bar{V}| \leq 1$$

The general formula for a fixed  $\bar{F}$  value in the three-dimensional space of  $\bar{N}$ - $\bar{V}$ - $\bar{M}$  can be represented by a surface. Every point lying inside this surface is a safe load combination, while every point outside suggests an unsafe load combination. Depending on the **soil type** and  **$\bar{F}$  factor** a different bounding surface is produced.

The following figures depict these yield surfaces for  $\bar{F}=0$  for cohesive and cohesionless soils respectively.

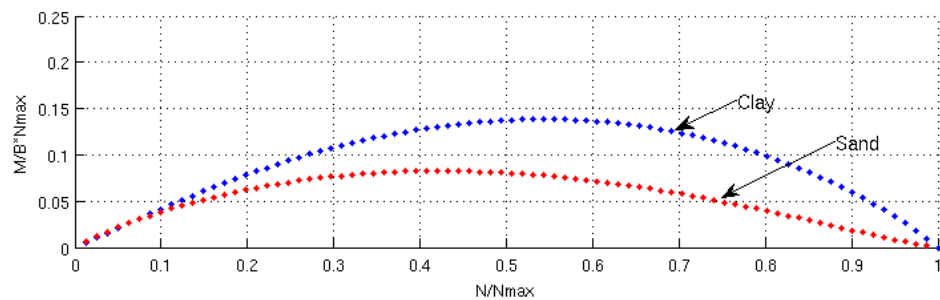
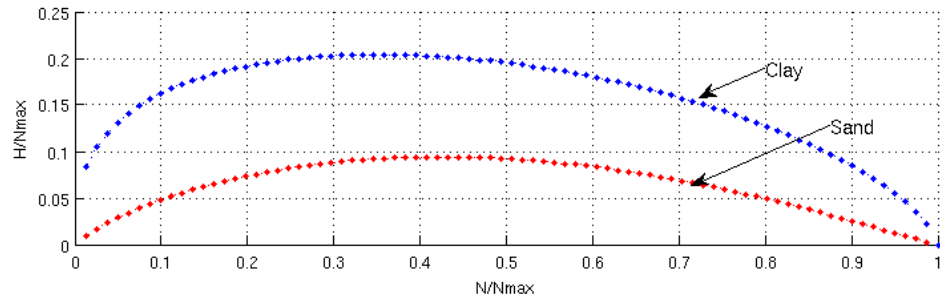


**N-M-V Interaction yield criterion for Cohesive Soil ( $\bar{F}=0$ )**

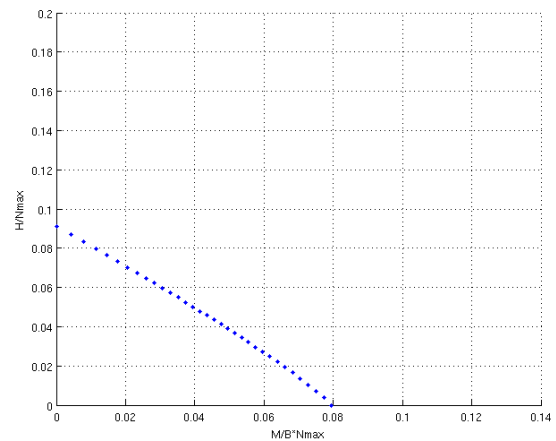
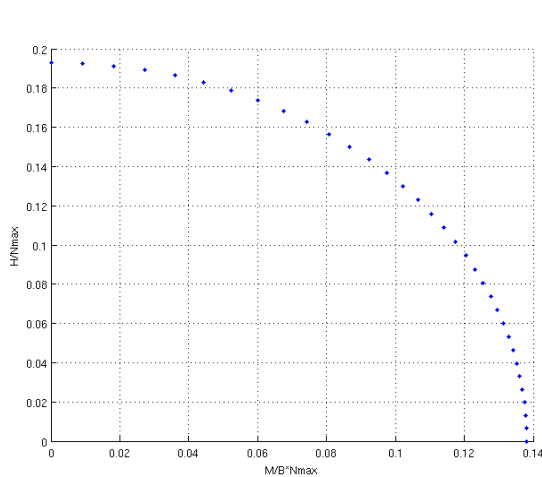


**N-M-V Interaction yield criterion for Cohesionless soil ( $\bar{F}=0$ )**

The next figures show some planes of the previous surfaces. All figures are in the same scale, so differences between the surfaces produced can be easily distinguished.

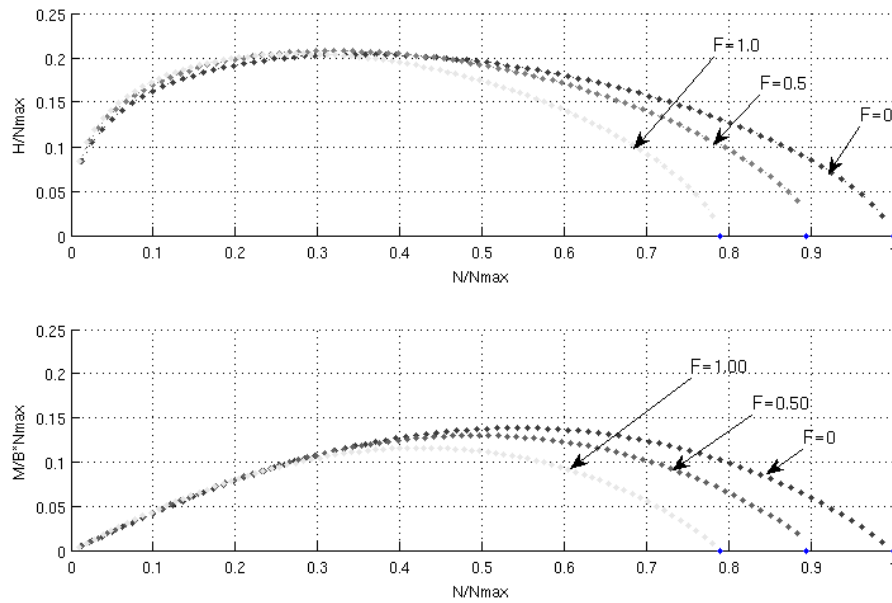


### Cohesive and Cohesionless soil failure criteria ( $\bar{F}=0$ ) N-V plane



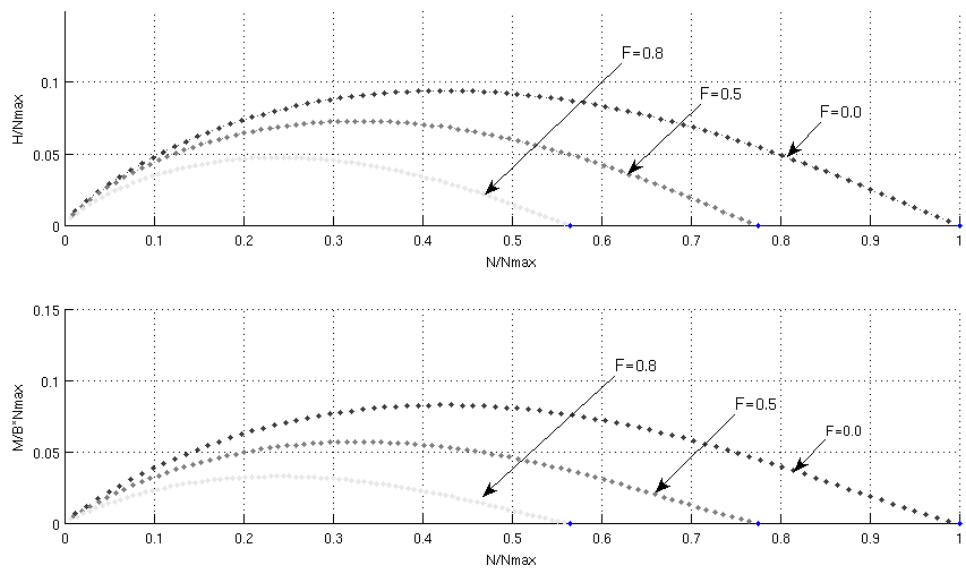
### Cohesive and Cohesionless soil failure criteria ( $\bar{F}=0$ ) M-V plane

The same figures are plotted for several values of  $F$ , the first figure is for clays



**Cohesive soils failure criteria (several  $F$ )**

and the second for sands.



**Cohesionless soils failure criteria (several  $F$ )**

The aforementioned formula **was developed and is valid only for strip footings**, but according to the literature the formula can be applied to rectangular footings if the  $N_{max}$  value is multiplied by

$$s_c = 1 + 0.32 * \left(1 - \frac{2 * e}{B}\right) * \frac{B}{L}$$

SoFA does not use this formula, but the user is always free to modify  $N_{max}$  value calculated by SoFA to get the appropriate results.

### 3.2 EAK 2000 (Greek Code)

EAK 2000 suggests using the same formulas with the static bearing capacity but with a different safety factor and a reduced angle of friction (for saturated soils), in order to approximately take into account the pore-overpressure due to the earthquake. SoFA does not modify the angle of friction for the earthquake load case, but the user is free to change the parameter at will.

## 4. Settlement calculations

### 4.1 Immediate Settlements

Immediate settlements of a footing are calculated by:

$$\Delta H_{im} = I * p * B * \frac{1 - \nu^2}{E}$$

where

$I$  : shape and rigidity factor, value from the following tables

$p = \frac{N}{B * L}$  : vertical footing pressure

$\nu$  : Poisson's ratio

$E$  : Equivalent modulus of elasticity

Soil layer of Infinite Depth	
L/B	I
1	0.56
1.5	0.68
2	0.77
5	1.05
10	1.26
100	1.69

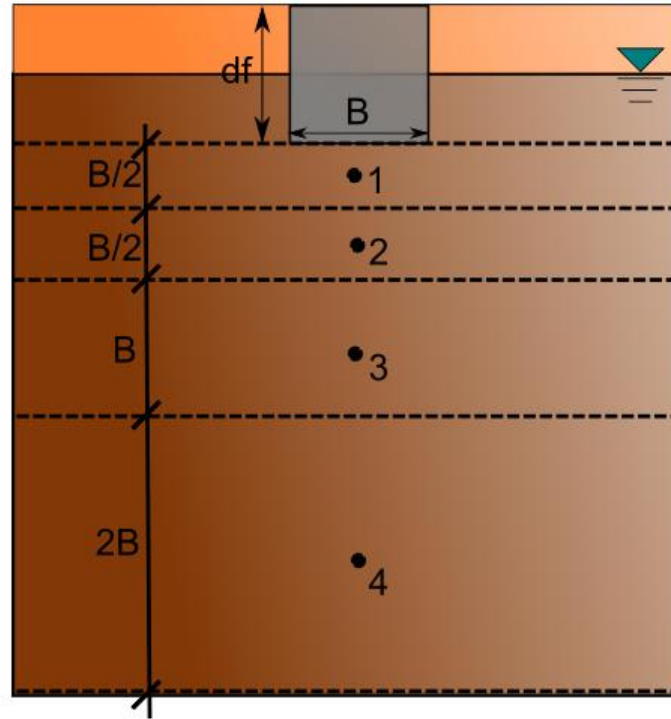
Soil layer of finite Depth (=H)		
$\nu = 0.50$		
L/B	H/B	I
1	0	0
	0.5	0.05
	1.0	0.15
	1.5	0.23
	2.0	0.29
	3.0	0.36
	5.0	0.44
	10	0.48
2	0	0
	0.5	0.04
	1.0	0.12
	1.5	0.22
	2.0	0.29
	3.0	0.40
	5.0	0.52
	10	0.64
5	0	0
	0.5	0.04
	1.0	0.10
	1.5	0.18
	2.0	0.27
	3.0	0.39
	5.0	0.55
	10	0.76
10	0	0
	0.5	0.05
	1.0	0.15
	1.5	0.23
	2.0	0.29
	3.0	0.36
	5.0	0.44
	10	0.48
$\infty$	0	0
	0.5	0.04
	1.0	0.10
	1.5	0.18
	2.0	0.26
	3.0	0.37
	5.0	0.52
	10	0.73

Soil layer of finite Depth (=H)		
$\nu = 0.33$		
L/B	H/B	I
1	0	0
	0.5	0.09
	1.0	0.19
	1.5	0.27
	2.0	0.32
	3.0	0.38
	5.0	0.46
	10	0.49
2	0	0
	0.5	0.08
	1.0	0.18
	1.5	0.28
	2.0	0.34
	3.0	0.44
	5.0	0.56
	10	0.66
5	0	0
	0.5	0.08
	1.0	0.16
	1.5	0.25
	2.0	0.34
	3.0	0.46
	5.0	0.60
	10	0.80
10	0	0
	0.5	0.08
	1.0	0.16
	1.5	0.25
	2.0	0.34
	3.0	0.45
	5.0	0.61
	10	0.81
$\infty$	0	0
	0.5	0.08
	1.0	0.16
	1.5	0.25
	2.0	0.34
	3.0	0.45
	5.0	0.61
	10	0.81



## 4.2 Due to Consolidation

To calculate the settlements due to consolidation, we define four sub-layers, a characteristic point is selected for each layer, as shown in the following figure, and the soil stresses are computed for the initial state and due to the load case.



Load stresses and  $I_s$  factor are calculated using the formulas described in Bowles [6], chapter 5. Integrating Boussinesq equation over a rectangle of dimensions  $B$ -by- $L$  (Newmark 1935 [15]) produces:

$$q_v = q_0 * I_s$$

$$I_s = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{2 * M * N * \sqrt{V} * V + 1}{V + V_1} \frac{1}{V} + \tan^{-1} \left( 2 * M * N * \frac{\sqrt{V}}{V - V_1} \right) \right]$$

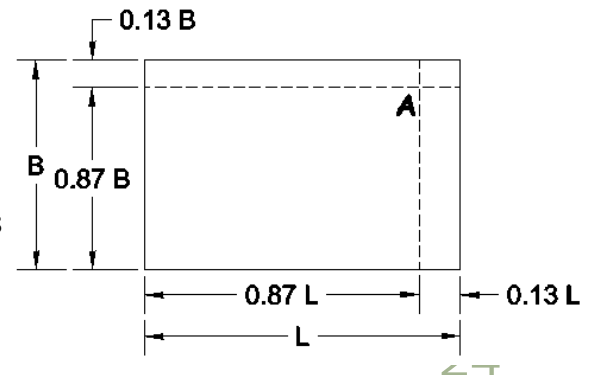
where:

$$M = \frac{B}{z} \text{ \& } N = \frac{L}{z} \text{ (} I_s = 1 \text{ for } z = 0 \text{ m)}$$

$$V = M^2 + N^2 + 1$$

$$V_1 = (M * N)^2$$

$I_s$  is calculated for point A, as the sum of  $I_s$  factors calculated for the four rectangles defined by A.



Settlements due to consolidation are then calculated:

If  $\sigma'_{\text{tot}} > \sigma'_{\text{OCR}}$  by

$$\Delta H_i = H_i * \frac{0.1 * C_c}{1 + e_0} * \log\left(\frac{\sigma'_{\text{OCR}}}{\sigma'_{\text{init}}}\right) + H_i * \frac{C_c}{1 + e_0} * \log\left(\frac{\sigma'_{\text{tot}}}{\sigma'_{\text{OCR}}}\right)$$

If  $\sigma'_{\text{tot}} < \sigma'_{\text{OCR}}$  by

$$\Delta H_i = H_i * \frac{0.1 * C_c}{1 + e_0} * \log\left(\frac{\sigma'_{\text{tot}}}{\sigma'_{\text{init}}}\right)$$

Total settlements are the sum of the settlements for each layer.

## 5. Feedback

Feel free to contact us for any comments, regarding SoFA. You can directly contact us by email ([sofa.eng@gmail.com](mailto:sofa.eng@gmail.com)) or use our [comment form](#) in our website.

If you discover a bug, please report it [here](#). Please try to include all SoFA reports.

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## Appendix A - List of Symbols

### Latin letters

$a_v$	design ground acceleration in the vertical direction
$a_g$	design ground acceleration on type A ground
$A_{eff}$	effective area of the footing
$b_i$	the design values of the factors for the inclination of the base, with subscripts c for cohesion , q for surcharge and $\gamma$ for weight density
$B$	the foundation width
$B'$	the effective foundation width
$c$	soil cohesion
$c'$	cohesion of soil in terms of effective stress
$c_u$	undrained shear strength of soil
$c'_k$	cohesion (for drained loading)
$C_c$	compression index
$d_i$	the design values of the factors for the depth of foundation, with subscripts c for cohesion , q for surcharge and $\gamma$ for weight density
$d_f$	depth of foundation
$d_w$	depth of water level
$eo$	gap percentage
$e$	the eccentricity of the resultant action
$E$	Young's modulus of elasticity
$F$	seismic inertia force (dimensionless)
FS	factor of safety
$g_i$	the design values of the factors for the soil inclination, with subscripts c for cohesion , q for surcharge and $\gamma$ for weight density
$H$	stratum thickness
$H_x$	horizontal force in x direction

$H_y$	horizontal force in y direction
$i_i$	the inclination factor of the load, with subscripts c for cohesion , q for surcharge and $\gamma$ for weight density
$I_s$	influence factor
$L$	the foundation length
$L'$	the effective foundation length
$m$	exponent in formulas for the inclination factor $i$
$M_x$	moment about xx axis
$M_y$	moment about yy axis
$N$	the bearing capacity factors, with subscripts cohesion c, surcharge q and weight density $\gamma$
$N_{\max}$	ultimate bearing capacity of the foundation under a vertical load
$q$	overburden or surcharge pressure at the level of the foundation base
$q'$	the design effective overburden pressure at the level of the foundation base
$q_u$	bearing capacity of the shallow foundation
$s_i$	the shape factors of the foundation base, with subscripts c for cohesion , q for surcharge and $\gamma$ for weight density
$S$	soil factor as defined in EN 1998-1
$V$	the vertical load
$V_u$	ultimate vertical load
$p$	actual soil pressure
$p_o$	loading on foundation depth
$p_o'$	effective overburden pressure
$z$	vertical distance (depth)

### Greek letters

$\alpha$	the inclination of the foundation base to the horizontal
$\beta$	soil inclination according to DIN 4017

$\gamma$	weight of the soil under the foundation
$\gamma'$	the design effective weight of the soil below the foundation level
$\gamma_I$	importance factor
$\gamma_s$	dry soil unit weight
$\gamma_{sat}$	saturated soil unit weight
$\Delta H$	the settlement of the corner of a rectangular base
$\nu$	Poisson's ratio
$\phi$	angle of internal friction
$\phi'_k$	effective angle of internal friction
$\phi_{uk}$	friction angle for undrained cohesive soils
$\sigma'_{init}$	initial stress
$\sigma'_{OCR}$	OCR stress
$\sigma'_{tot}$	total stress

### Abbreviations

OCR    over-consolidation ratio

**For calculations, the following units (or multiples) are recommended:**

force	[kN]
mass	[kg]
mass density	[kg/m <sup>3</sup> ]
moment	[kNm]
pressure	[kPa]
stiffness	[kPa]
strength	[kPa]
stress	[kPa]
weight density	[kN/m <sup>3</sup> ]



## Acknowledgements

We thank Prof. Christos Anagnostopoulos from the Dept. of Civil Engineering of AUTH for the scientific guidance. We thank Ivan Kraus (University of Osijek) for his comments and for the contribution of the symbols list.

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