

CE 468 GEOTECHNICAL DESIGN

LECTURE 3: SITE CHARACTERIZATION

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**Middle East Technical University
Civil Engineering Department**



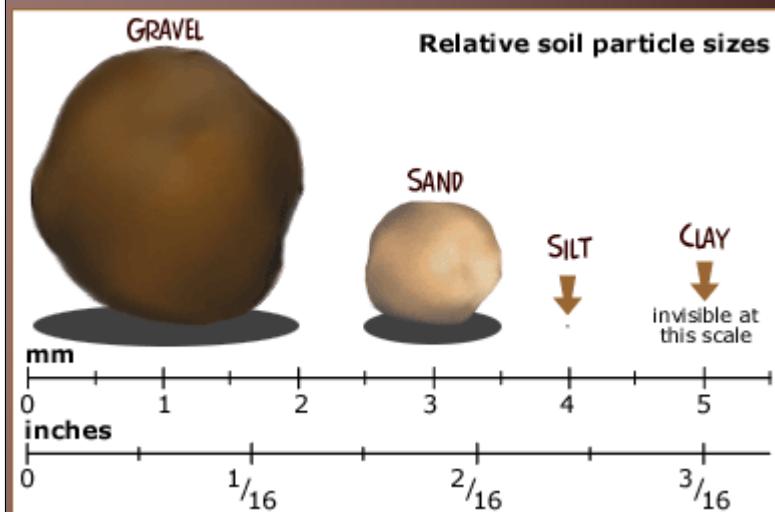
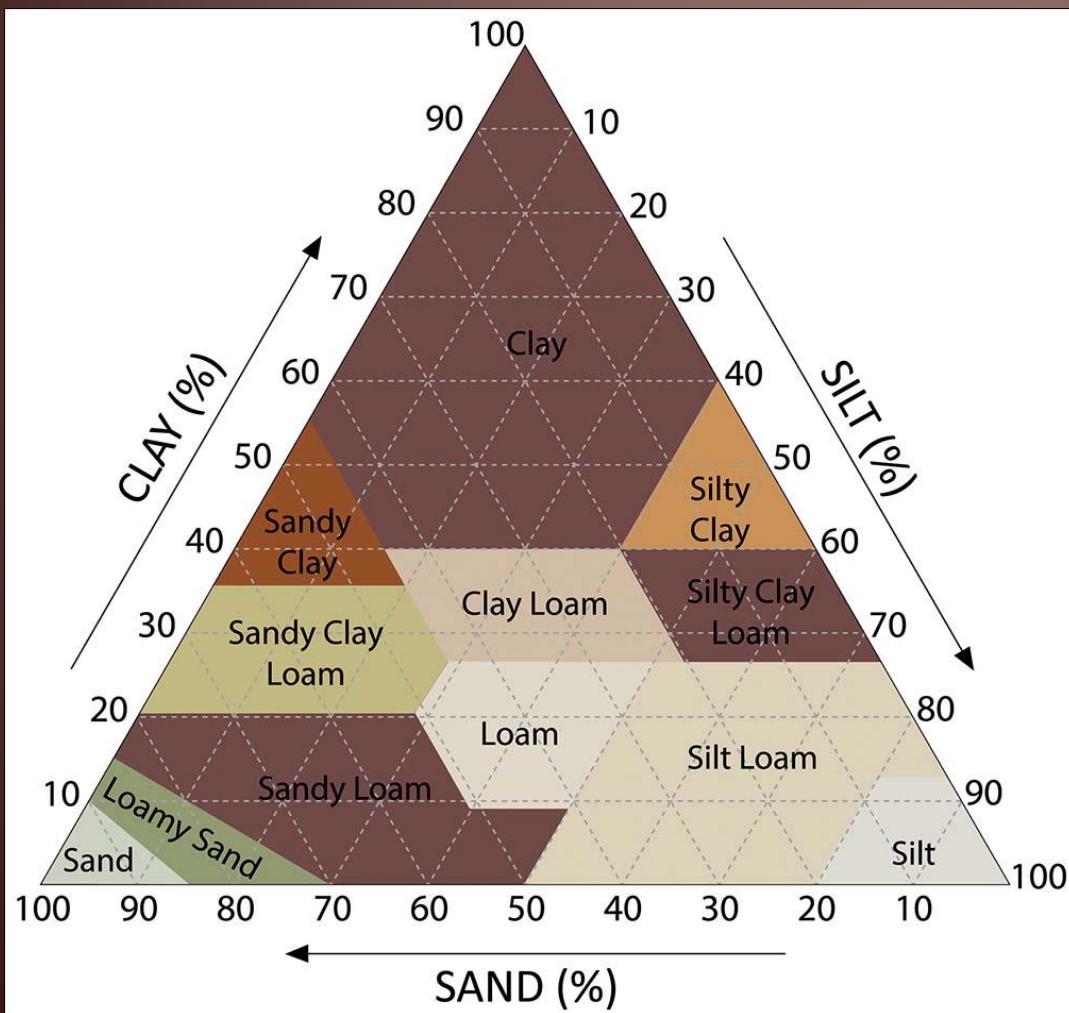
Site Characterization

- Soil classification and idealized soil profiles
- Estimation of soil design parameters:
 - State parameters
 - Undrained and drained shear strength parameters
 - Undrained and drained stiffness parameters
 - Permeability parameters

SOIL CLASSIFICATION



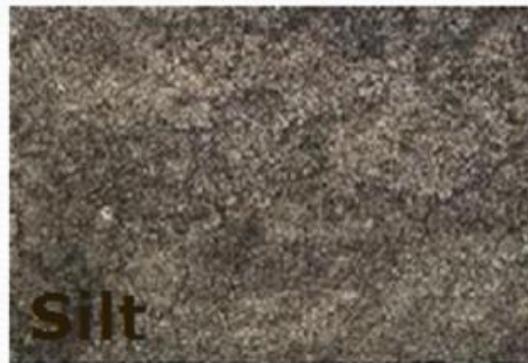
SOIL CLASSIFICATION



SOIL CLASSIFICATION



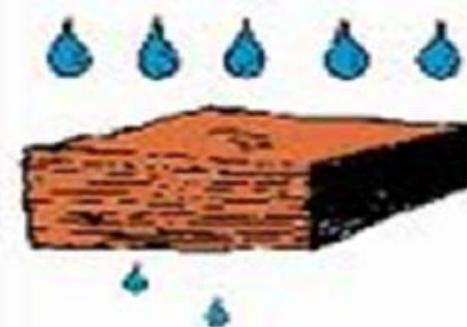
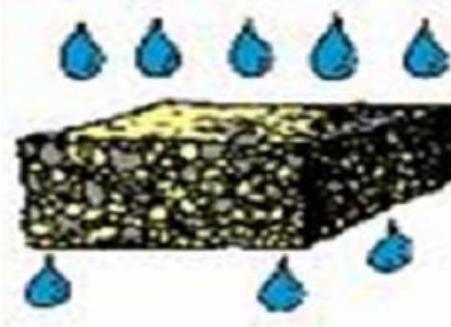
Sand



Silt



Clay



SOIL CLASSIFICATION

UNIFIED SOIL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

Name			Group Symbols	LABORATORY CRITERIA				
				Fines (%)	Grading	Plasticity	Notes	
Coarse grained (more than 50% larger than 63 µm BS or No.200 US sieve size)	Gravels (more than 50% of coarse fraction of gravel size)	Well graded gravels, sandy gravels, with little or no fines	GW	0-5	$C_u > 4$ $1 < C_c < 3$		Dual symbols if 5-12% fines. Dual symbols if above A-line and $4 < PI < 7$	
		Poorly graded gravels, sandy gravels, with little or no fines	GP	0-5	Not satisfying GW requirements			
		Silty gravels, silty sandy gravels	GM	>12		Below A-line or $PI < 4$		
		Clayey gravels, clayey sandy gravels	GC	>12		Above A-line and $PI > 7$		
	Sands (more than 50% of coarse fraction of sand size)	Well graded sands, gravelly sands, with little or no fines	SW	0-5	$C_u > 6$ $1 < C_c < 3$		$C_a = \frac{D_{60}}{D_{10}}$ $C_c = \frac{D_{30}^2}{D_{10} * D_{60}}$ $PI = LL - PL$	
		Poorly graded sands, gravelly sands, with little or no fines	SP	0-5	Not satisfying SW requirements			
		Silty sands	SM	>12		Below A-line or $PI < 4$		
		Clayey sands	SC	>12		Above A-line and $PI > 7$		
Name			Group Symbols	LABORATORY CRITERIA				
Fine grained (more than 50% smaller than 63 µm BS or No.200 US sieve size)	Silts and Clays (liquid limit less than 50)	Inorganic silts, silty or clayey fine sands, with slight plasticity	ML	Use plasticity chart				
		Inorganic clays, silty clays, sandy clays of low plasticity	CL	Use plasticity chart				
		Organic silts and organic silty clays of low plasticity	OL	Use plasticity chart				
	Silts and Clays (liquid limit greater than 50)	Inorganic silts of high plasticity	MH	Use plasticity chart				
		Inorganic clays of high plasticity	CH	Use plasticity chart				
		Organic clays of high plasticity	OH	Use plasticity chart				
Highly organic soils		Peat and other highly organic soils	Pt	Use plasticity chart				

Table 1.6

Primary letter	Secondary letter
G: Gravel	W: Well graded
S: Sand	P: Poorly graded
M: Silt	M: With non-plastic fines
C: Clay	C: With plastic fines
O: Organic soil	L: Of low plasticity ($LL < 50$)
Pt: Peat	H: Of high plasticity ($LL > 50$)

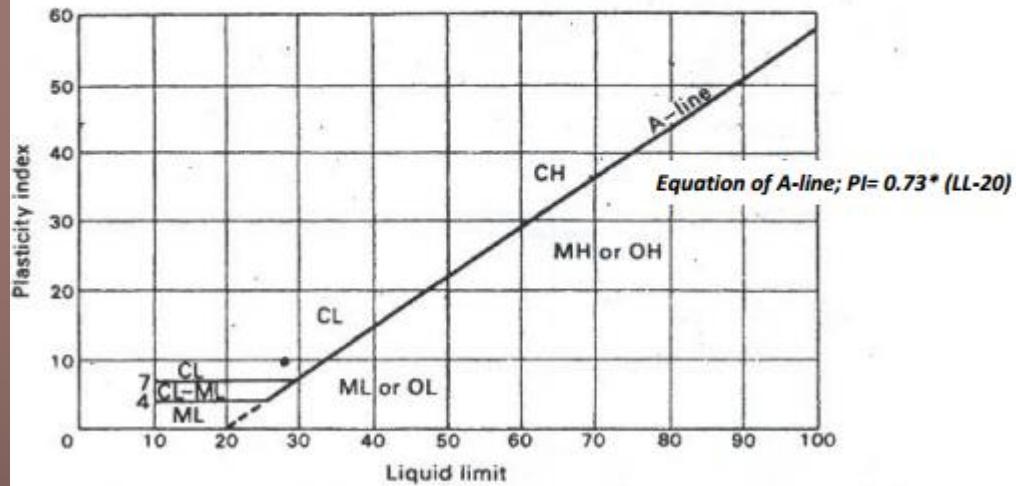


Fig. 1.7 Plasticity chart: Unified system. (Reproduced from Wagner, A. A. (1957) *Proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering*, by permission of Butterworth & Co.)

SIEVE ANALYSIS



Middle East Technical University
Department of Civil Engineering
Geotechnical Measurements Laboratory
According to TS 1000-1 / March 2006

Determination of Particle Size Distribution
of Medium and Coarse Grained Soils
by Dry Sieving

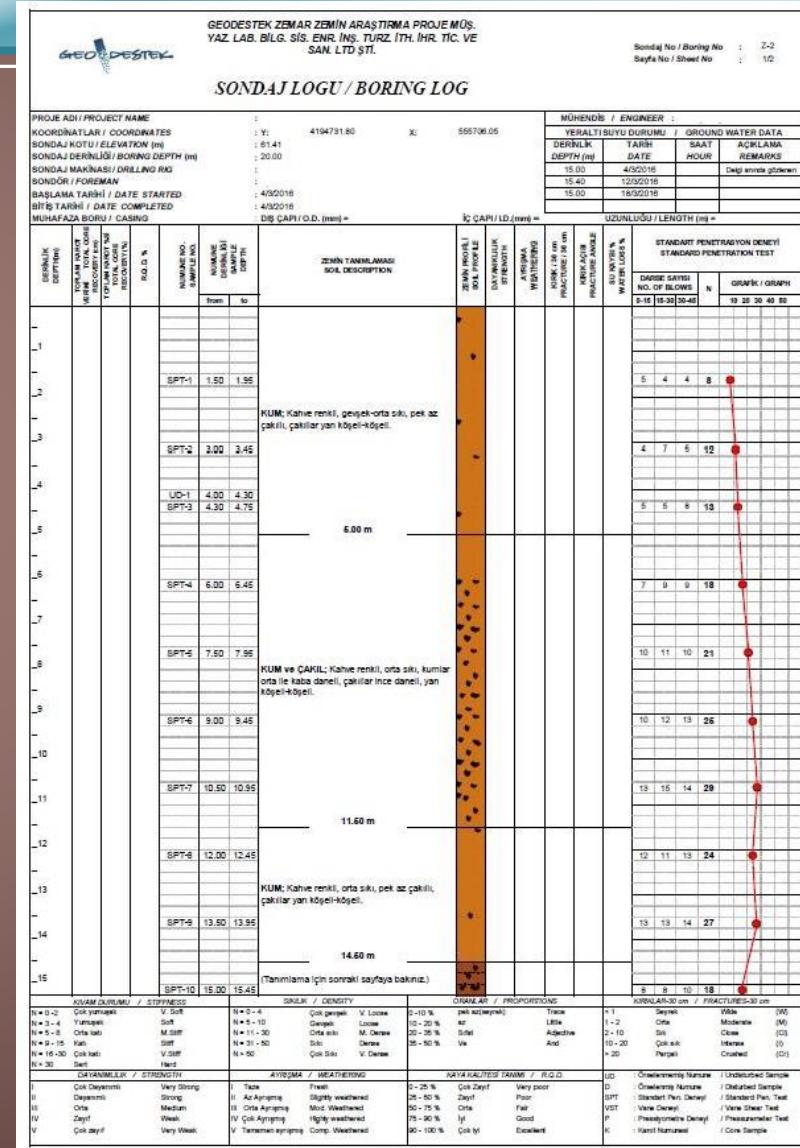
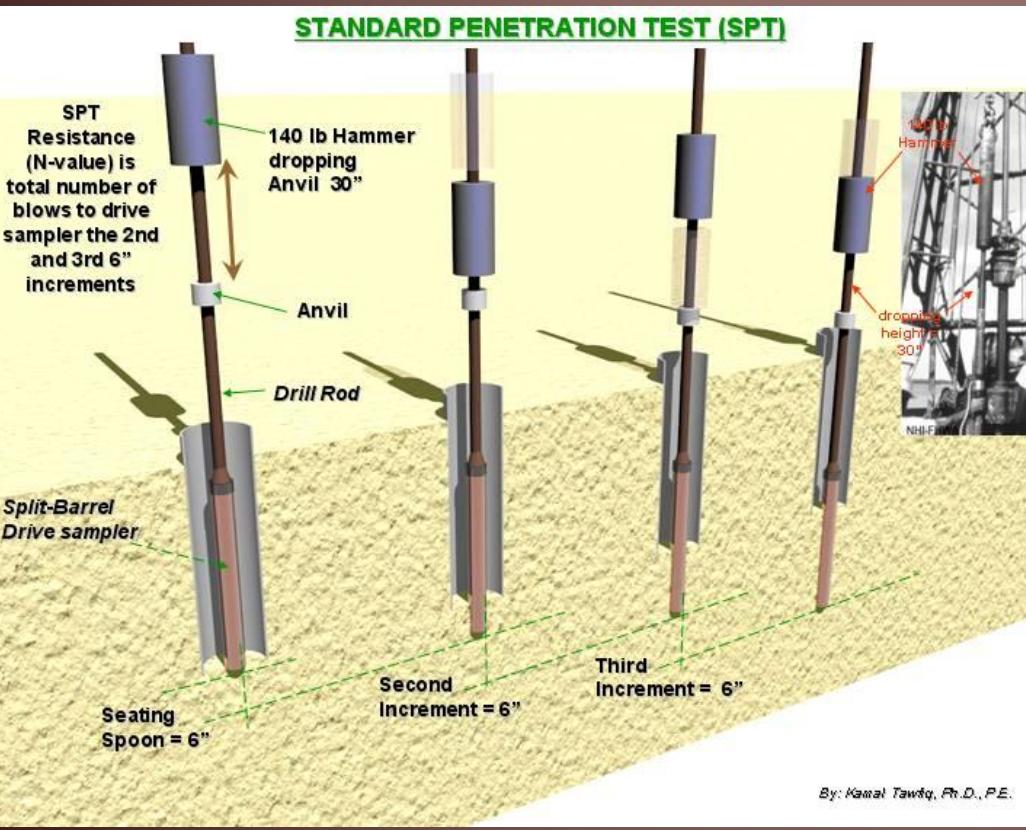
ATTERBERG TEST



**Middle East Technical University
Department of Civil Engineering
CE363 Soil Mechanics Laboratory
According TS 1900-1/March 2006**

Atterberg Limit Test

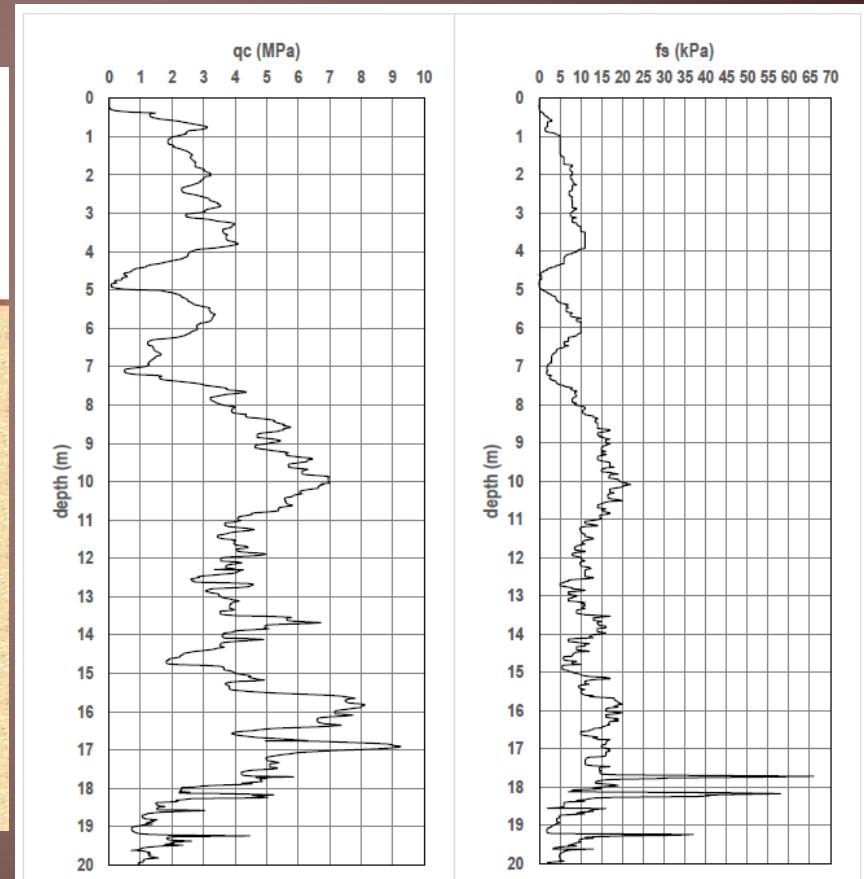
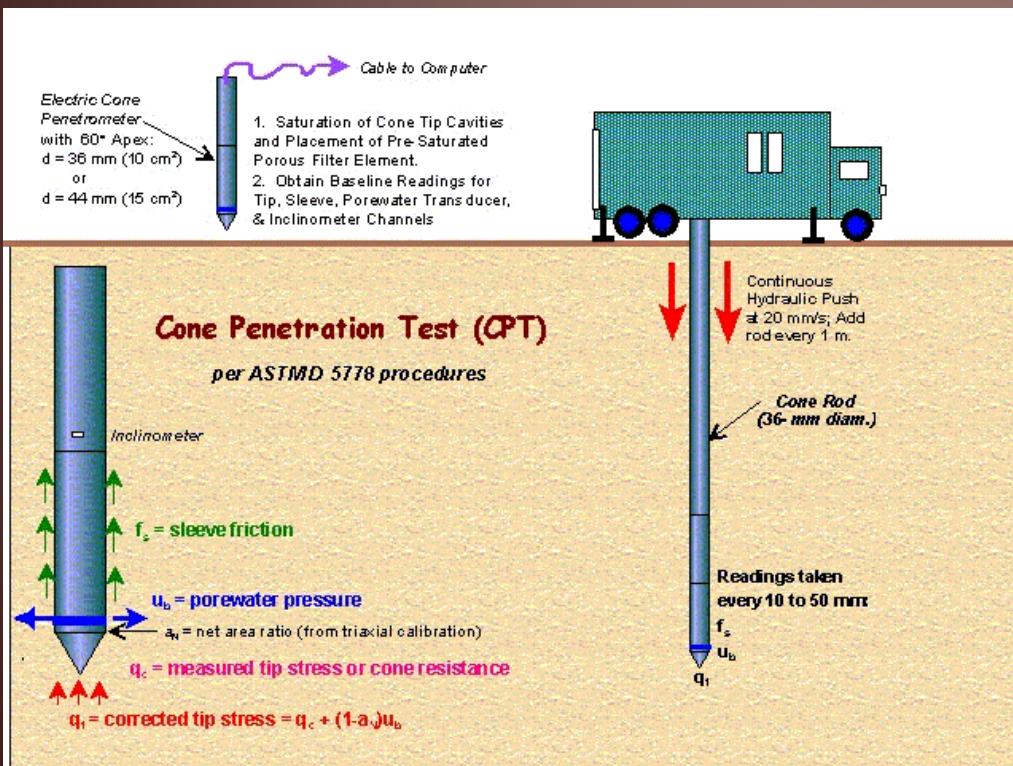
IDEALIZED SOIL PROFILES



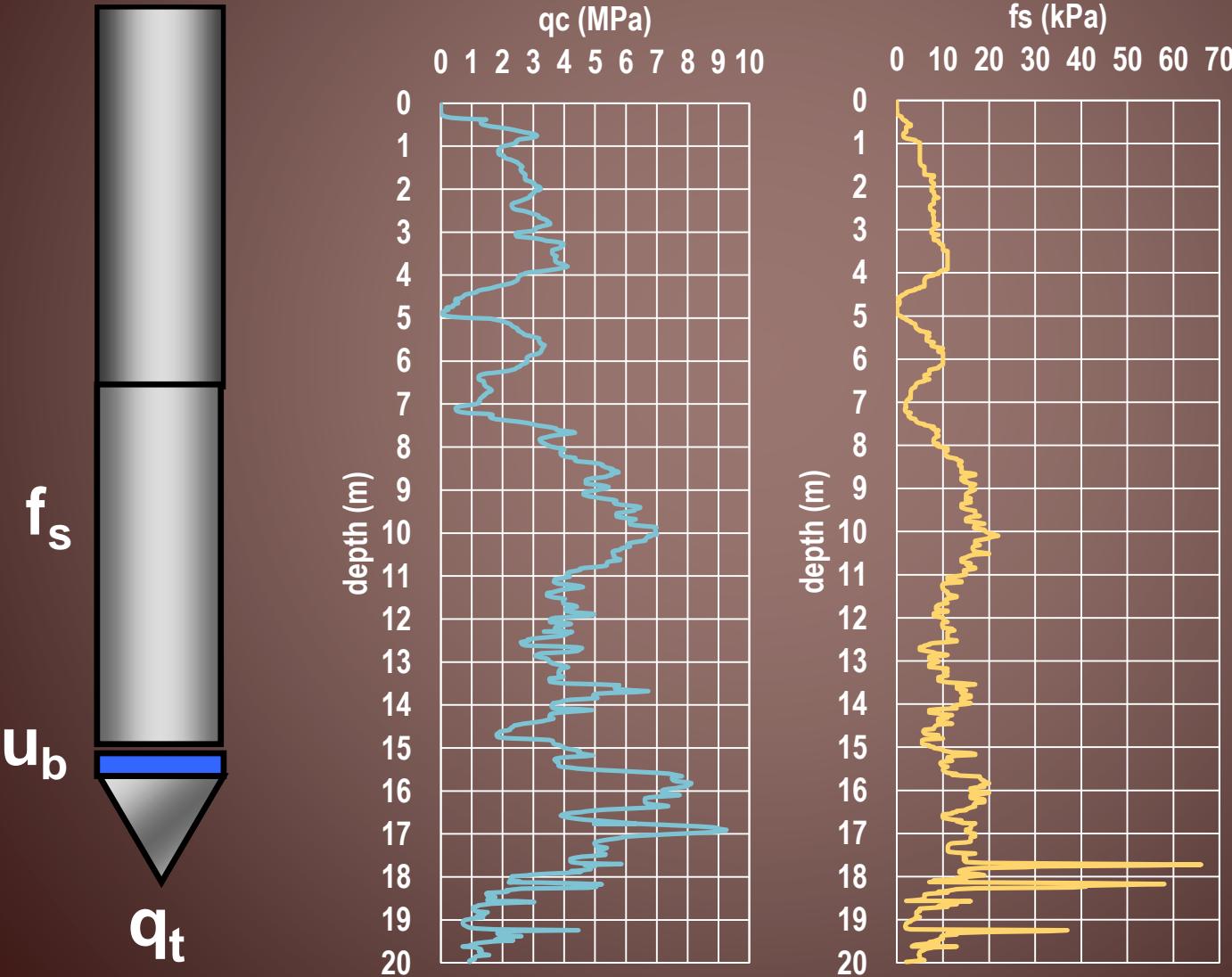
IDEALIZED SOIL PROFILES

d (m)	SPT-N	$\sigma'v$	C _N	C _E	C _B	C _R	C _S	N _{1.60}
1.50	8	27	1.92	1.00	1.00	0.75	1.00	12
3.00	12	54	1.36	1.00	1.00	0.75	1.00	12
4.30	13	77.4	1.14	1.00	1.00	0.85	1.00	13
6.00	18	108	0.96	1.00	1.00	0.85	1.00	15
7.50	21	135	0.86	1.00	1.00	0.95	1.00	17
9.00	26	162	0.79	1.00	1.00	0.95	1.00	20
10.50	28	189	0.73	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	20
12.00	24	216	0.68	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	16
13.50	27	243	0.64	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	17
15.00	18	270	0.61	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	11
16.50	32	309	0.57	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	18
18.00	31	348	0.54	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	17
19.50	82	387	0.51	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	42

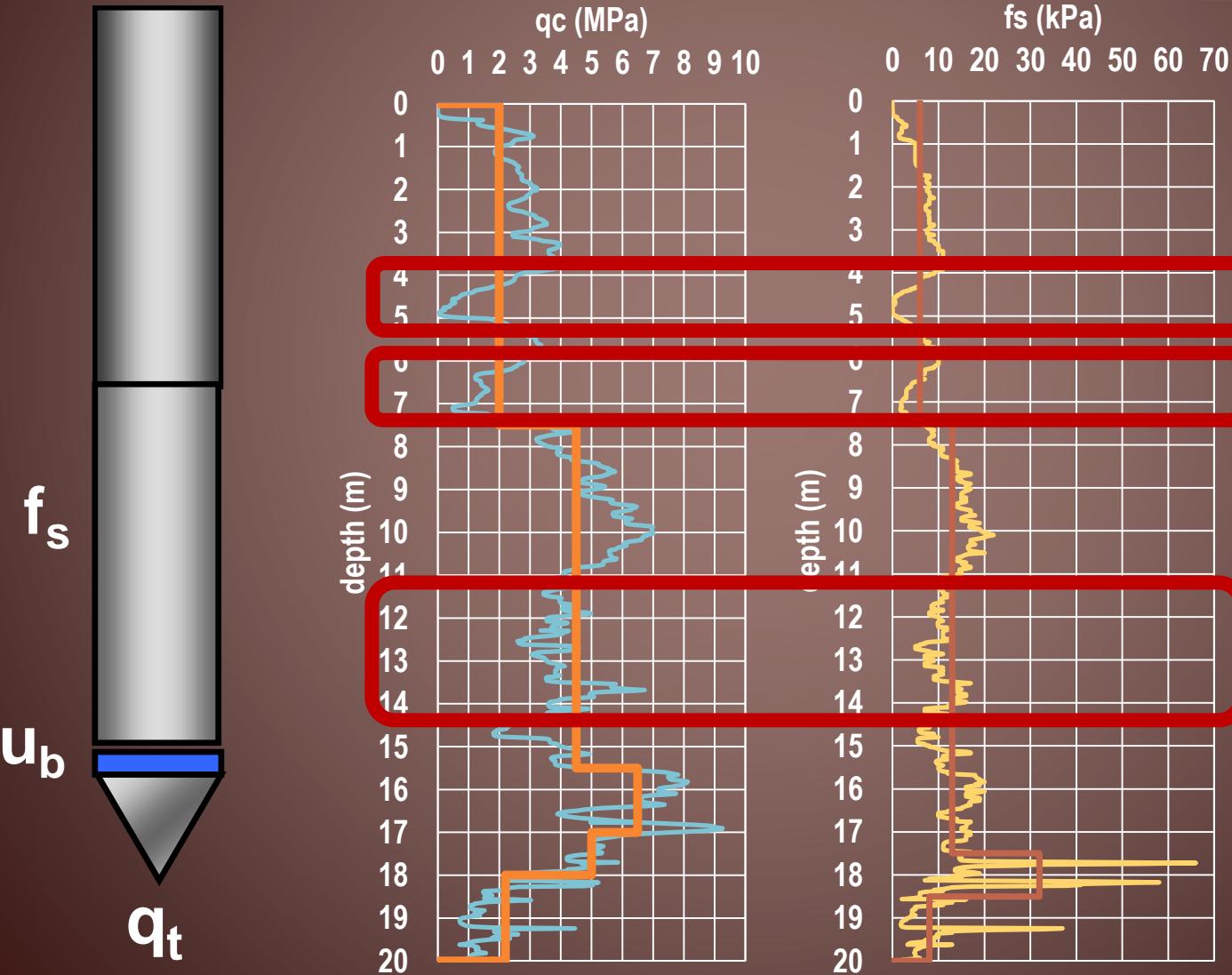
IDEALIZED SOIL PROFILES



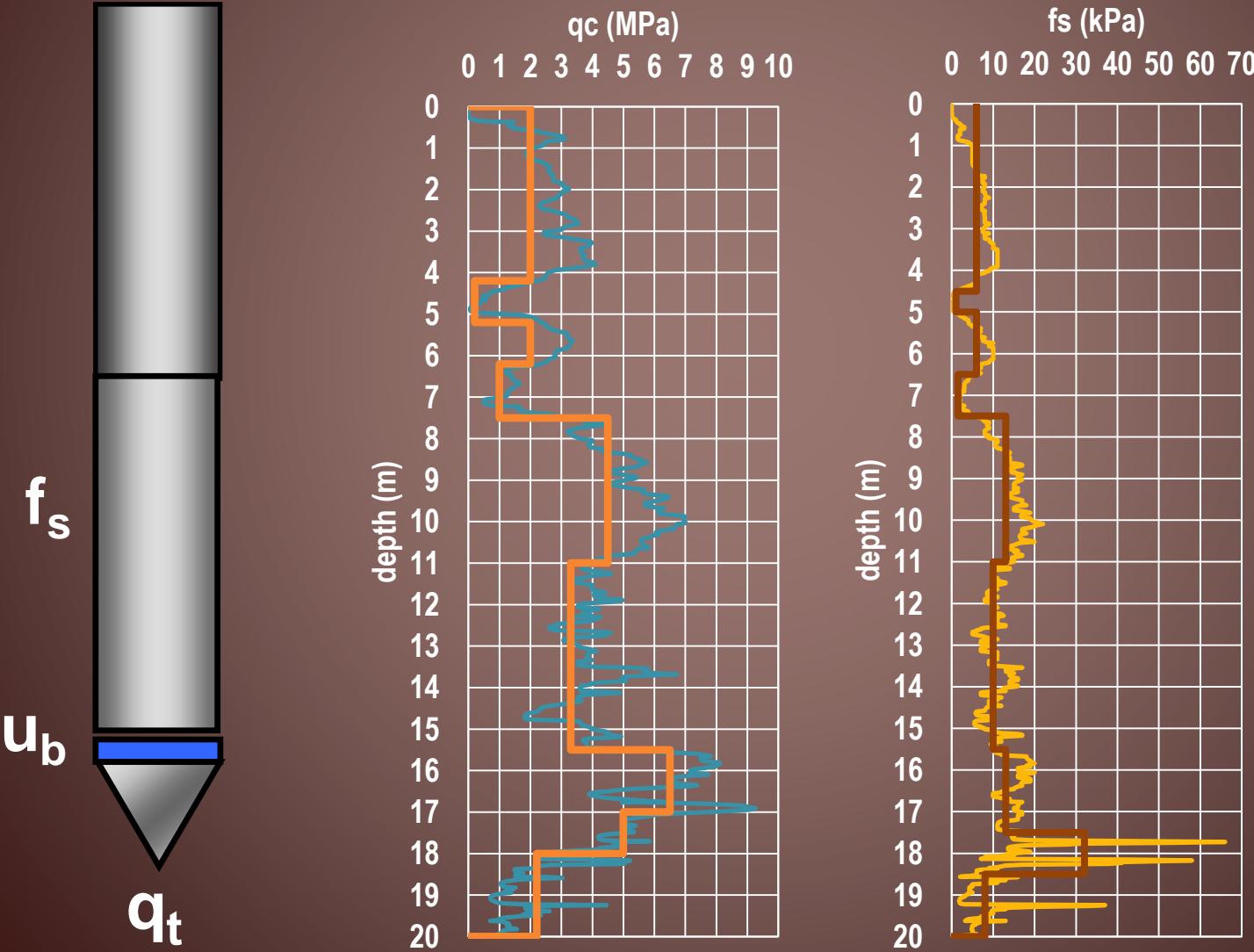
IDEALIZED SOIL PROFILES



IDEALIZED SOIL PROFILES

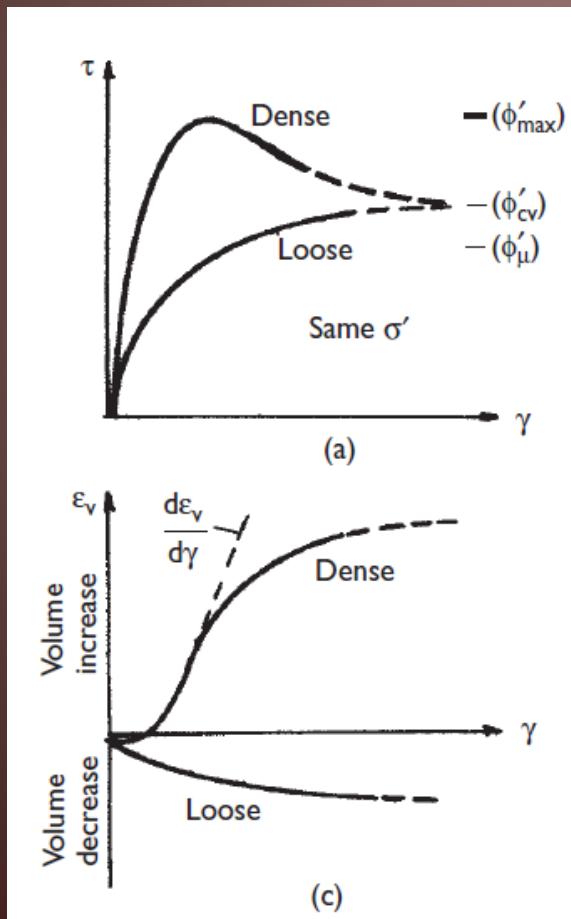


IDEALIZED SOIL PROFILES

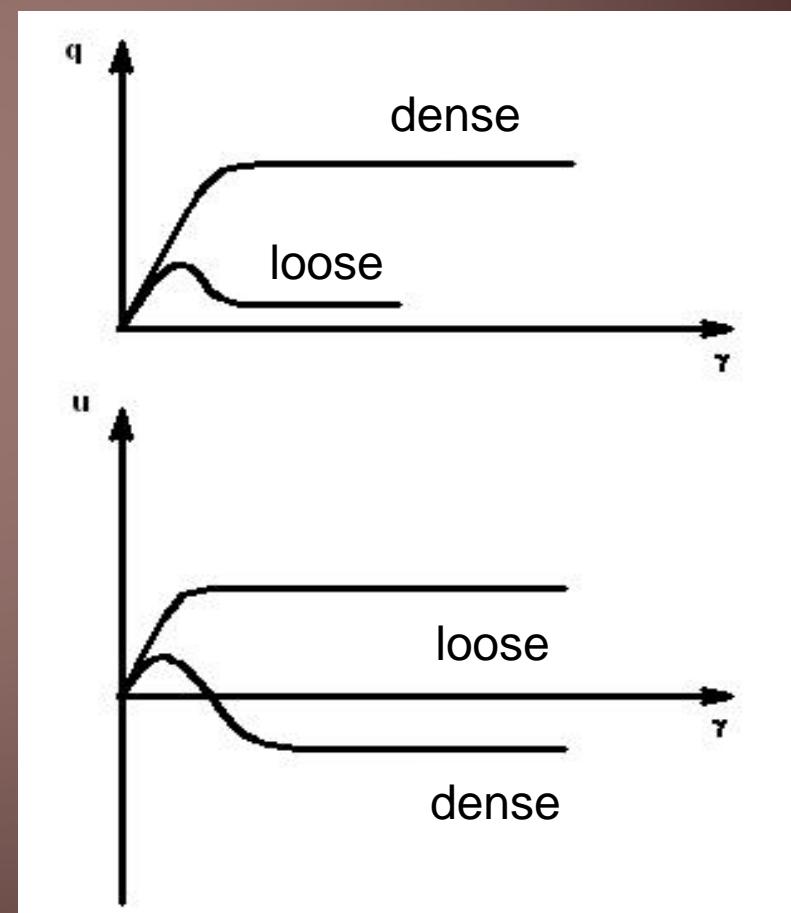


STATIC SOIL BEHAVIOR

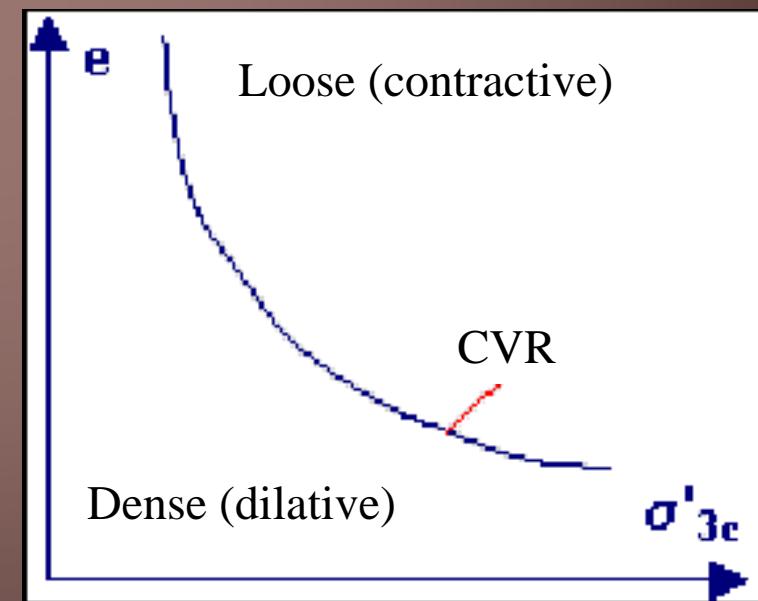
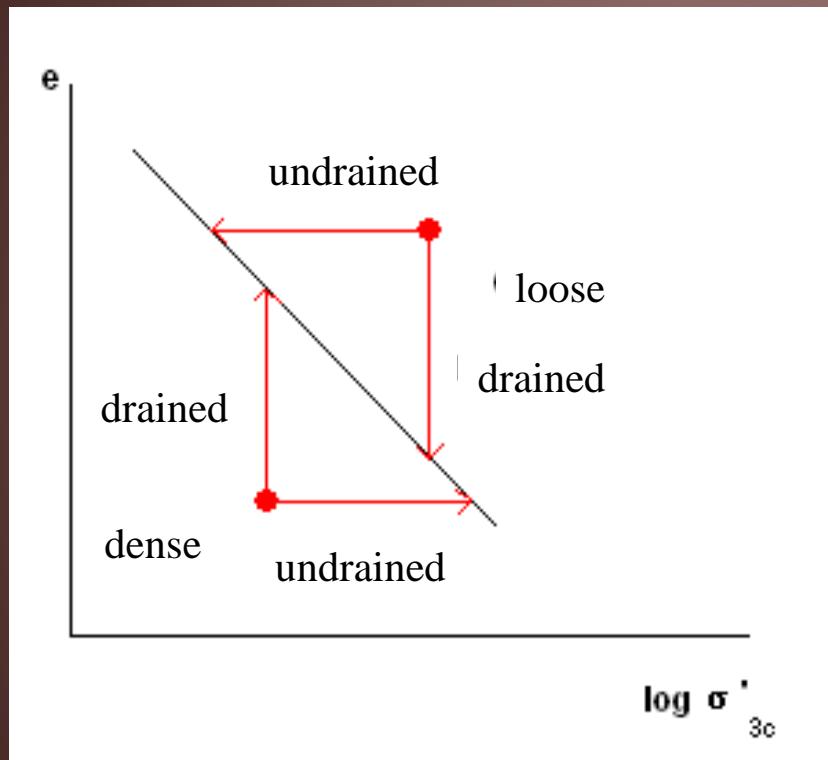
Drained



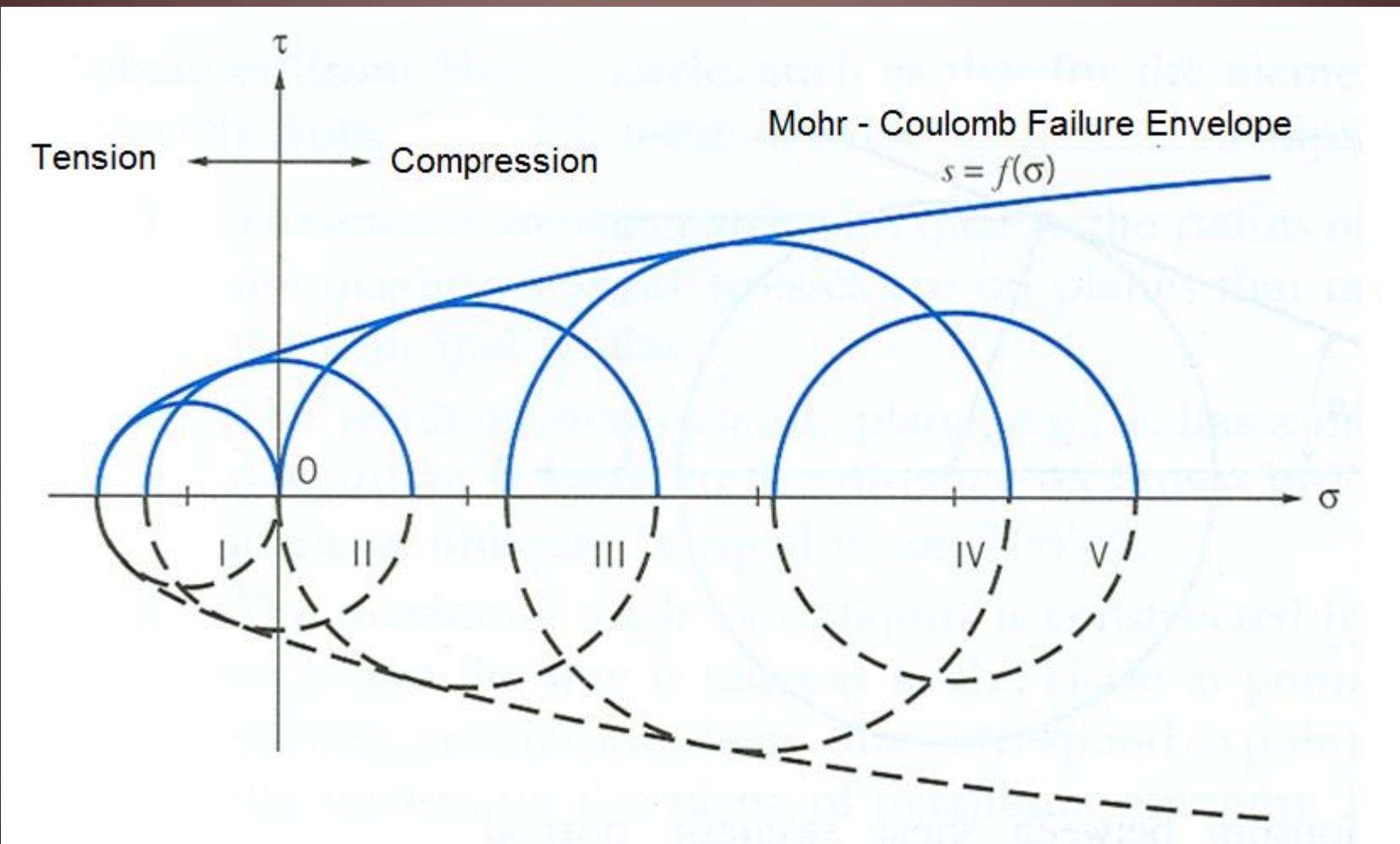
Undrained



STATIC SOIL BEHAVIOR



MOHR-COULOMB CIRCLES AT DIFFERENT STRESS LEVELS

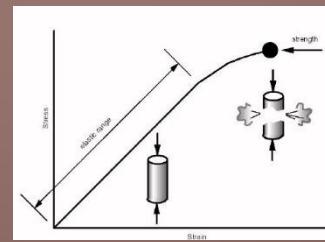


SELECTION OF SOIL PARAMETERS

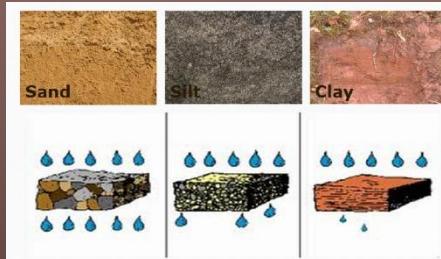
- Unit weight



- Shear strength $\tau = c + \sigma'_v \cdot \tan\phi$



- Modulus



- Permeability

UNIT WEIGHT

Bowles (1996)

Table 1.3. Relation between SPT- $(N_1)_{70}$ - D_r - ϕ' - γ_s (Bowles, 1996)

<i>Definition</i>	<i>Very loose</i>	<i>Loose</i>	<i>Medium dense</i>	<i>Dense</i>	<i>Very dense</i>
D_r	0	0.15	0.35	0.65	0.85
Fine	1 – 2	3 – 6	7 – 15	16 – 30	-
$(N_1)_{70}$	2 – 3	4 – 7	8 – 20	21 – 40	> 40
Medium	3 – 6	5 – 9	10 – 25	26 – 45	> 45
Coarse					
Fine	26 – 28	28 – 30	30 – 34	33 – 38	< 50
ϕ'	27 – 28	30 – 32	32 – 36	36 – 42	
Medium	28 – 30	30 – 34	33 – 40	40 – 50	
Coarse					
$\gamma_s(kN/m^3)$	11 – 16	14 – 18	17 – 20	17 – 22	20 – 23

Rock Fill: 22 – 24 kN/m³
Rocks: 23 – 25 kN/m³

Erol and Cekinmez (2014)

Cetin et al. (2016)

(a) Coarse-grained soil layers				
SPT-N ₆₀ (blows/ft)	γ_{moist} (lb/ft ³)	γ_{sat} (kN/m ³)	γ_{moist} (lb/ft ³)	γ_{sat} (kN/m ³)
0 - 4	100	16.0	110	17.6
5 - 10	110	17.6	120	19.2
11 - 30	120	19.2	125	20.0
30 - 50	125	20.0	135	21.6
(b) Fine-grained soil layers				
0 - 4	100	16.0	110	17.6
5 - 8	110	17.6	120	19.2
9 - 16	115	18.4	125	20.0

SELECTION OF MODEL PARAMETERS

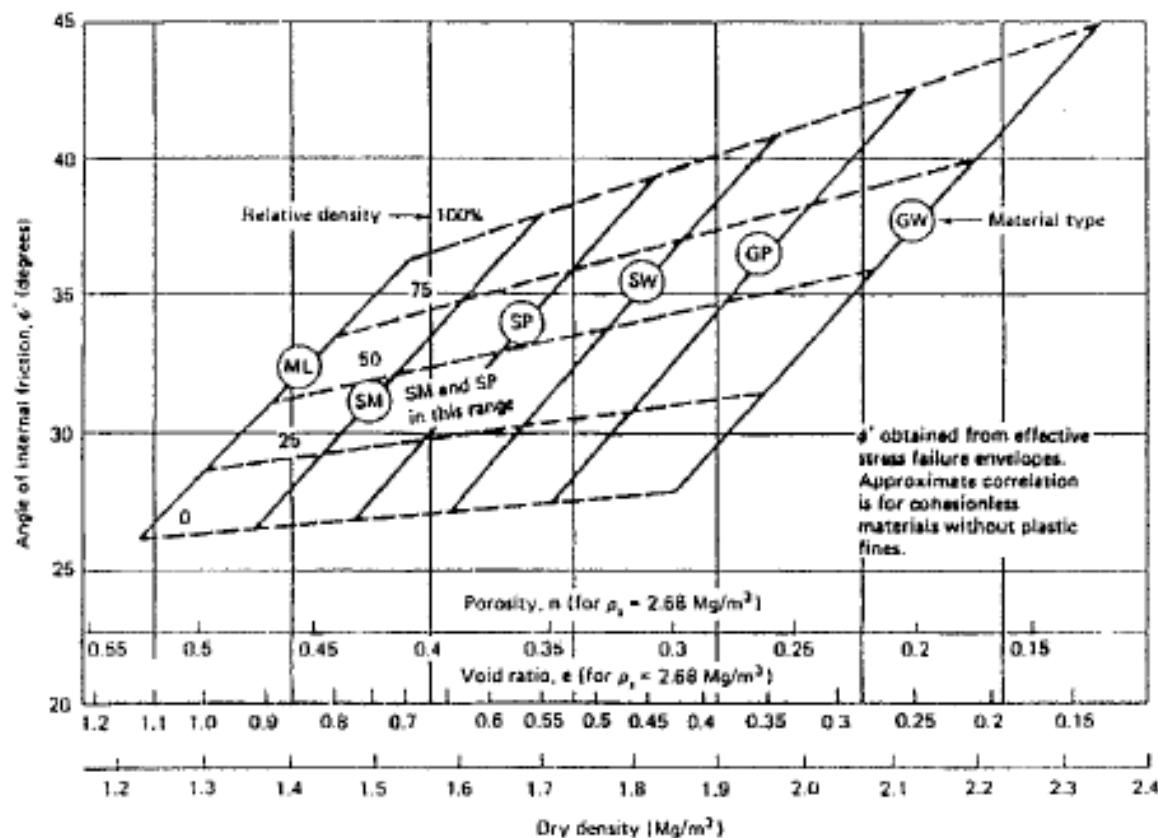


FIG.11. Angle of internal friction depending on soil density or void ratio (sands) (from NAVFAC, 1982)

FORMULAS FOR SAND

$$\gamma_{unsat} = 15 + 4.0 RD / 100 \quad [kN / m^3]$$

$$\gamma_{sat} = 19 + 1.6 RD / 100 \quad [kN / m^3]$$

$\sigma' v$?

SHEAR STRENGTH PARAMETERS

Cohesive Soils

- Undrained shear strength (c_u)
- Effective internal friction of angle (ϕ')

Cohesionless Soils

- Effective internal friction of angle (ϕ')

MOHR CIRCLES

Strength parameters

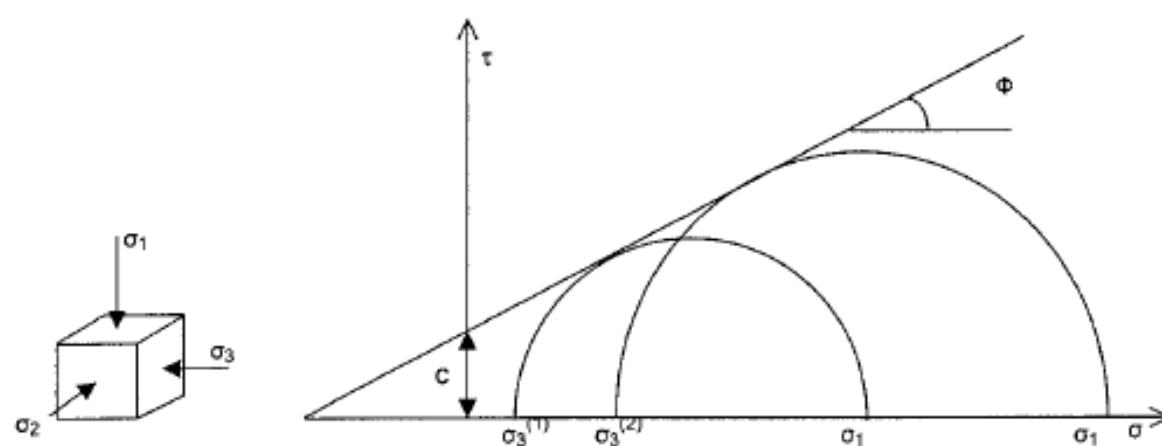


FIG. 9. Selection of ϕ' and c' based on two Mohr stress circles

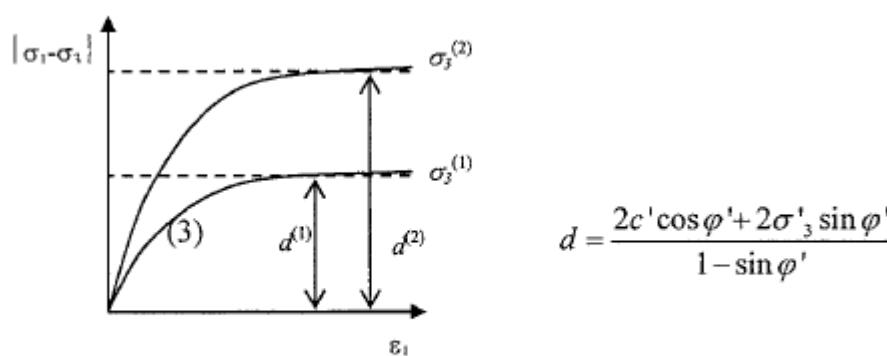


FIG. 10. Calculation of ϕ' and c' from triaxial tests at different confining pressures σ_3

MOHR CIRCLES

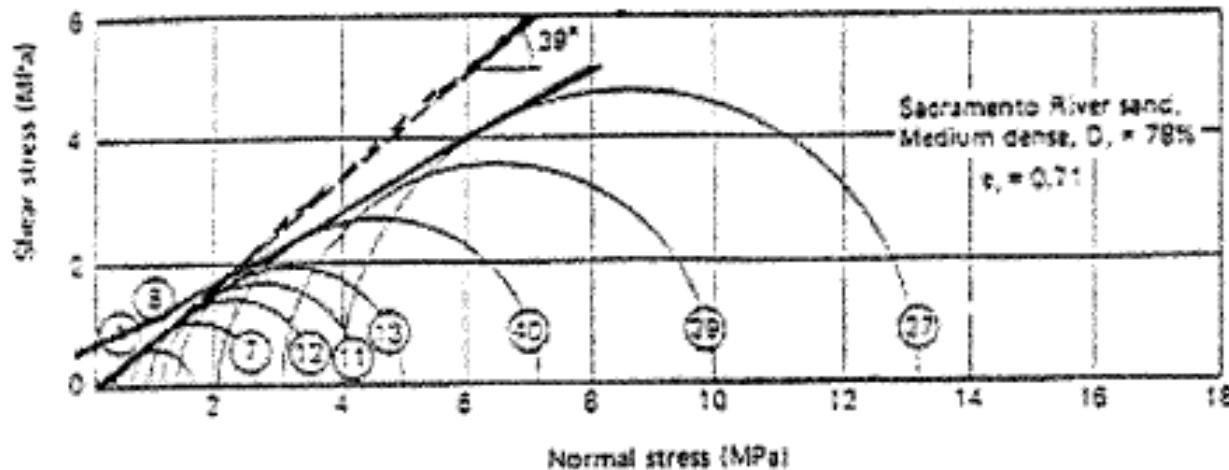
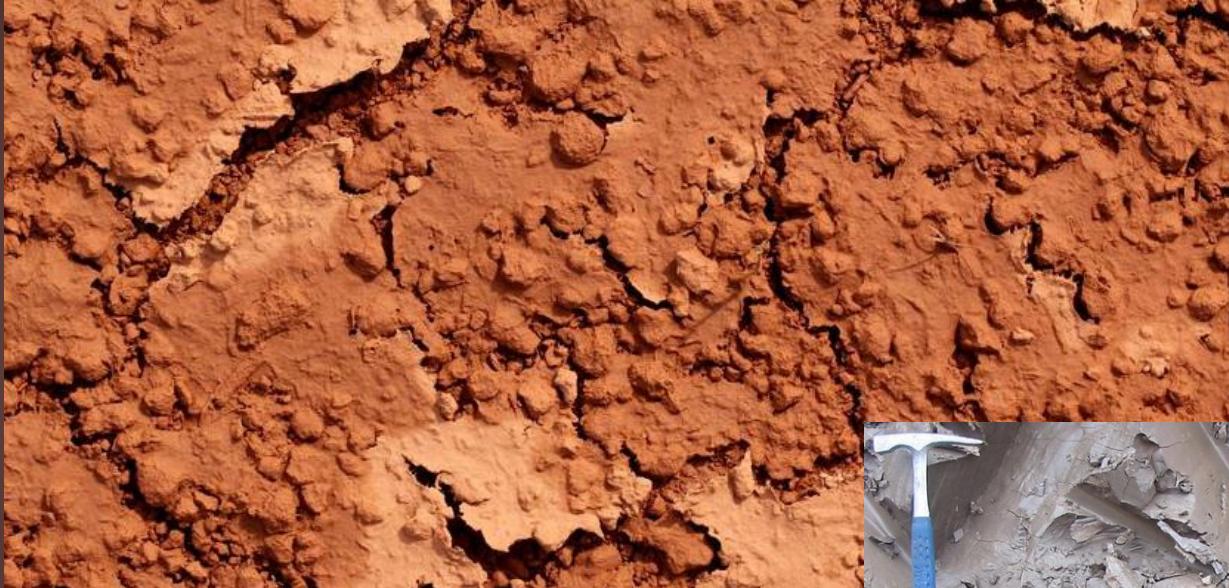


FIG. 12. Example showing that a combination of φ' and c' is only valid in a certain stress range

COHESIVE SOILS



CLAY



DRAINED OR UNDRAINED?

Drained or undrained conditions

A simple formula can help to determine if undrained behaviour applies:

$$T = \frac{k E_{oed}}{\gamma_w D^2} t$$

where

T = hydrodynamic period

k = soil permeability

E_{oed} = oedometer stiffness

γ_w = unit weight of water

D = drainage length

t = time (construction time or loading time)

COHESIVE SOILS

UNDRAINED SHEAR STRENGTH

$$s_u = \left[\frac{1}{10} \dots \frac{1}{20} \right] (q_c - q_0)$$

Correlation with cone resistance q_c from CPT; q_0 is the external load

$$s_u \approx (0.11 + 0.0037 I_p) \sigma'$$

Skempton's correlation with vertical effective stress, involving the plasticity index I_p (Skempton, 1957).

$$s_u \approx 0.3 \sigma'_1$$

Approximation of the above correlation for medium plastic soils

$$s_u \approx 0.2 \sigma'_1 (OCR)^{0.8}$$

Ladd's correlation for over-consolidated clays (Ladd, 1991)

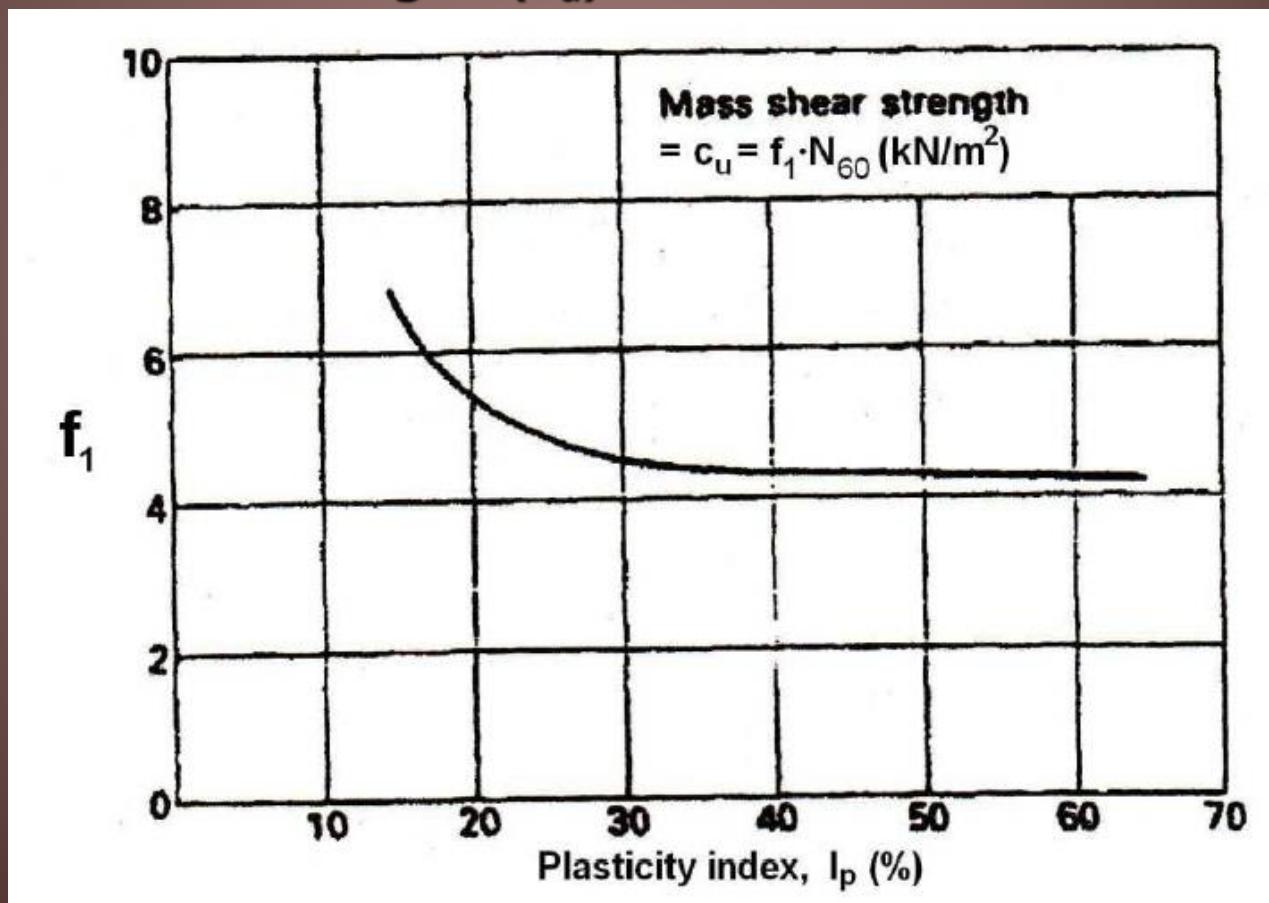
$$s_u = c' \cos \varphi' + (\sigma'_1 + \sigma'_3) \sin \varphi'$$

Relationship between undrained shear strength and effective strength properties for plane strain applications using the Mohr-Coulomb model.

COHESIVE SOILS

UNDRAINED SHEAR STRENGTH

Undrained shear strength (c_u)



Stroud (1974)

COHESIVE SOILS

UNDRAINED SHEAR STRENGTH

Undrained shear strength (c_u)

$$c_u = (q_c - P_0)/N_k$$

q_c : CPT tip resistance (kN/m^2)

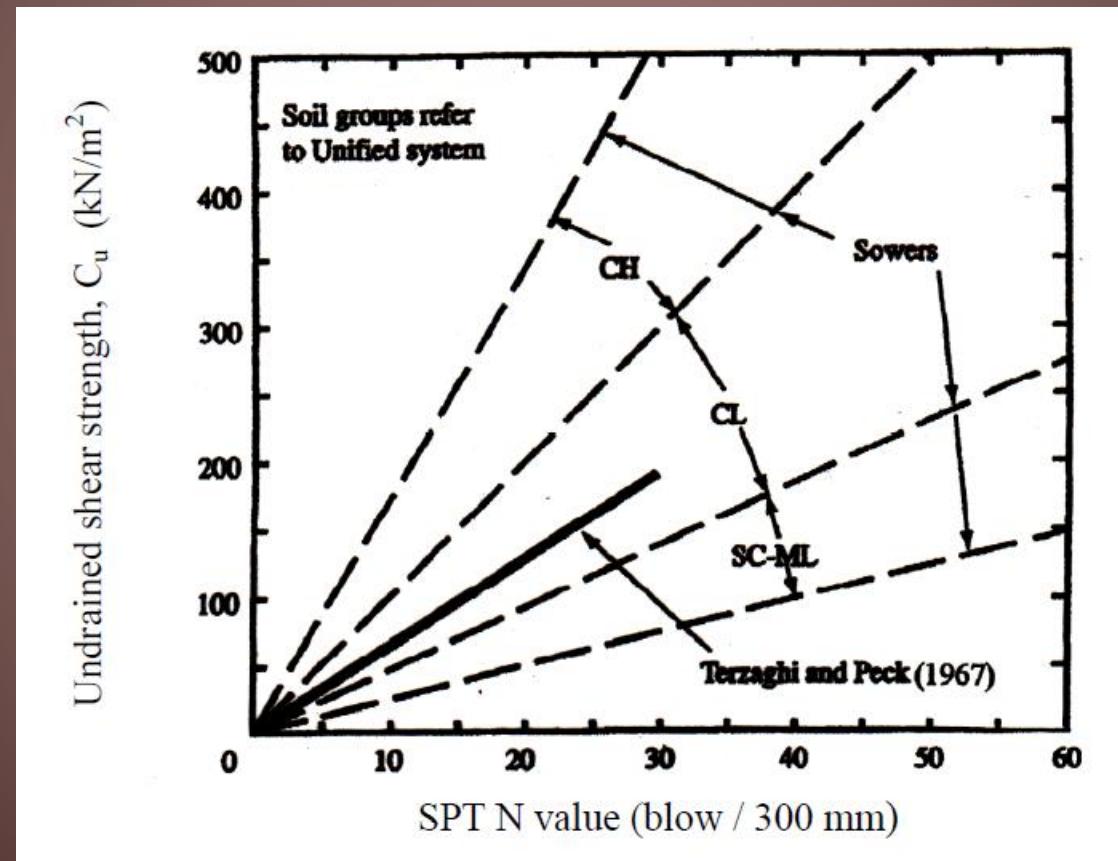
P_0 : Total stress (kN/m^2)

N_k : Typically N_{kt} varies from 10 to 18, with 14 as an average for $c_{u(\text{ave})}$. N_{kt} tends to increase with increasing plasticity and decrease with increasing soil sensitivity.

$N_k = 17$ (Lunne et al. 1997)

UNDRAINED PARAMETERS

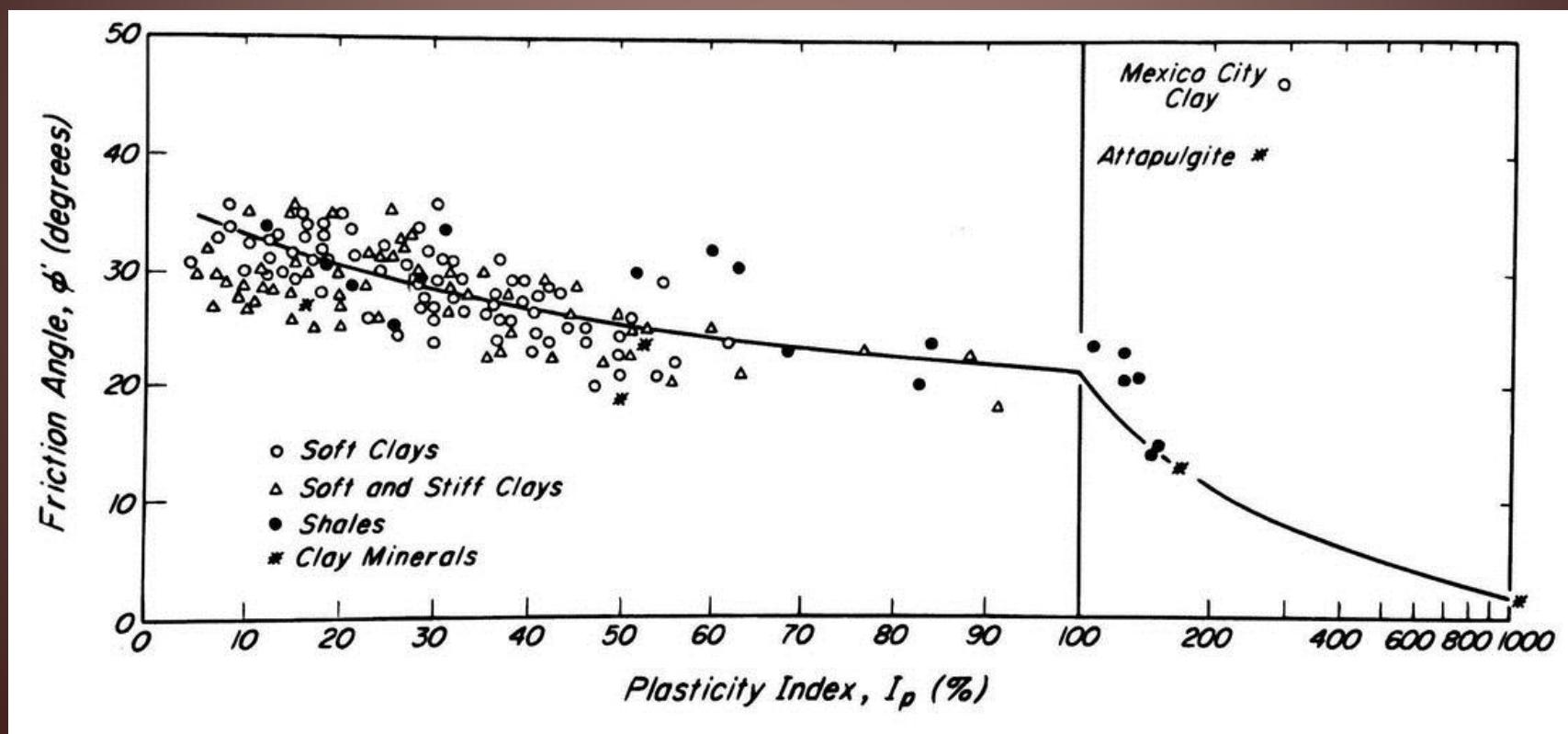
Undrained shear strength (c_u)



Terzaghi and Peck (1967), Sowers (1979)

COHESIVE SOILS DRAINED SHEAR STRENGTH

Effective internal friction of angle (ϕ')



Terzaghi (1966)

COHESIONLESS SOILS



SILT



SAND



GRAVEL

COHESIONLESS SOILS

Effective internal friction of angle (ϕ')

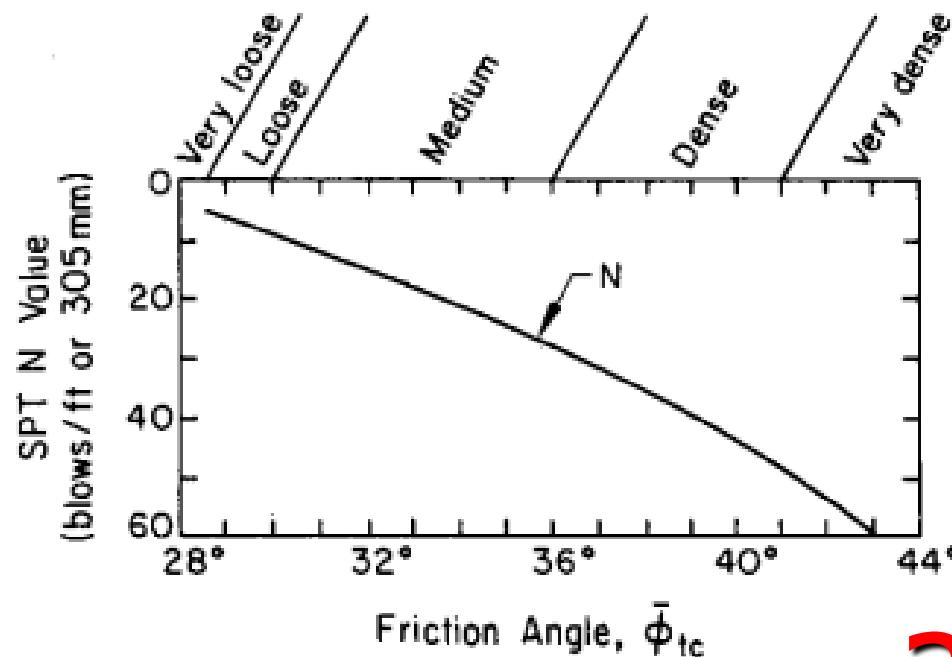


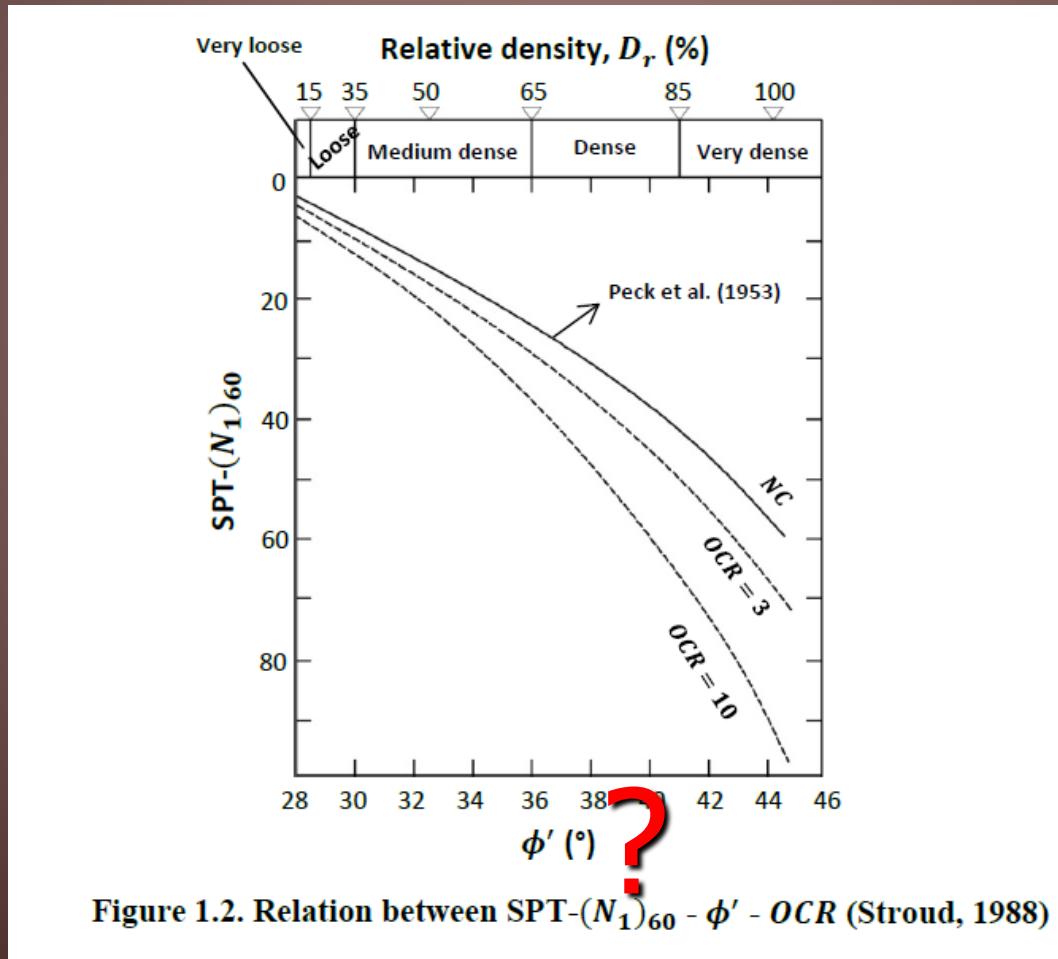
Figure 4-12. N versus $\bar{\phi}_{tc}$

Source: Peck, Hanson, and Thornburn (12), p. 310.

Peck et al. (1974)

COHESIONLESS SOILS

Effective internal friction of angle (ϕ')



COHESIONLESS SOILS

Effective internal friction of angle (ϕ')

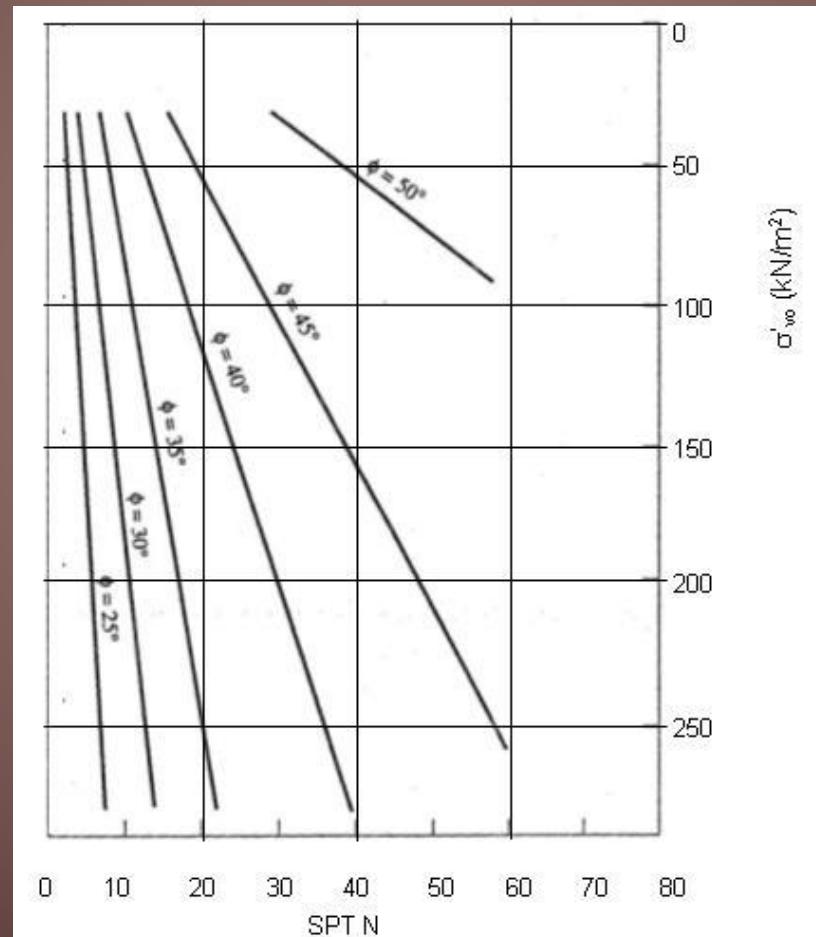
$$\phi' = 25 + 3.2 \sqrt{\frac{100N}{70 + \sigma'_{v_0}}} \quad (\text{OCDI- Japan 2002})$$

$$N_{1,60,CS} = 0.0046 * D_R^2$$

Boulanger and Idriss (2004)

COHESIONLESS SOILS

Effective internal friction of angle (ϕ')



Coduto (1994)

COHESIONLESS SOILS

Effective internal friction of angle (ϕ')

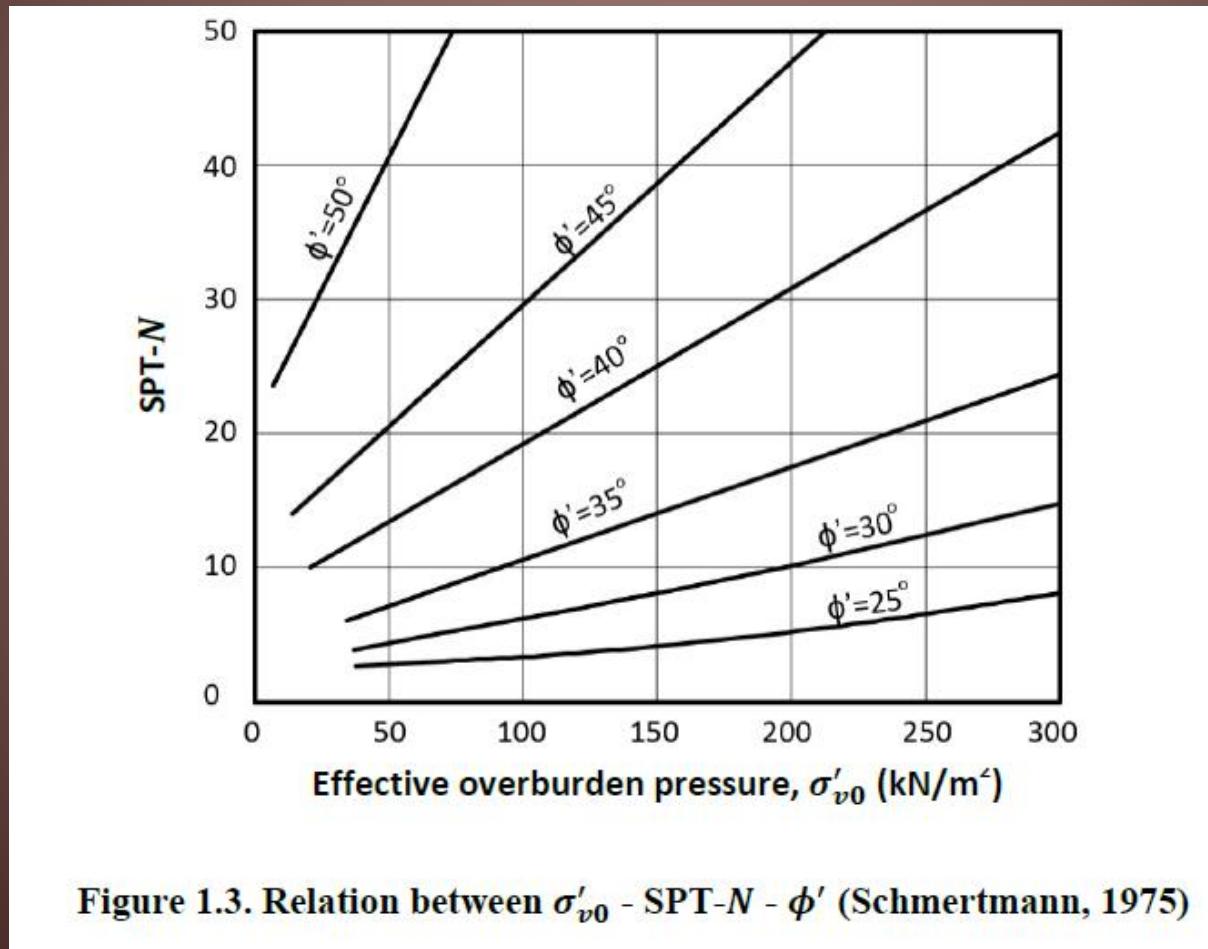
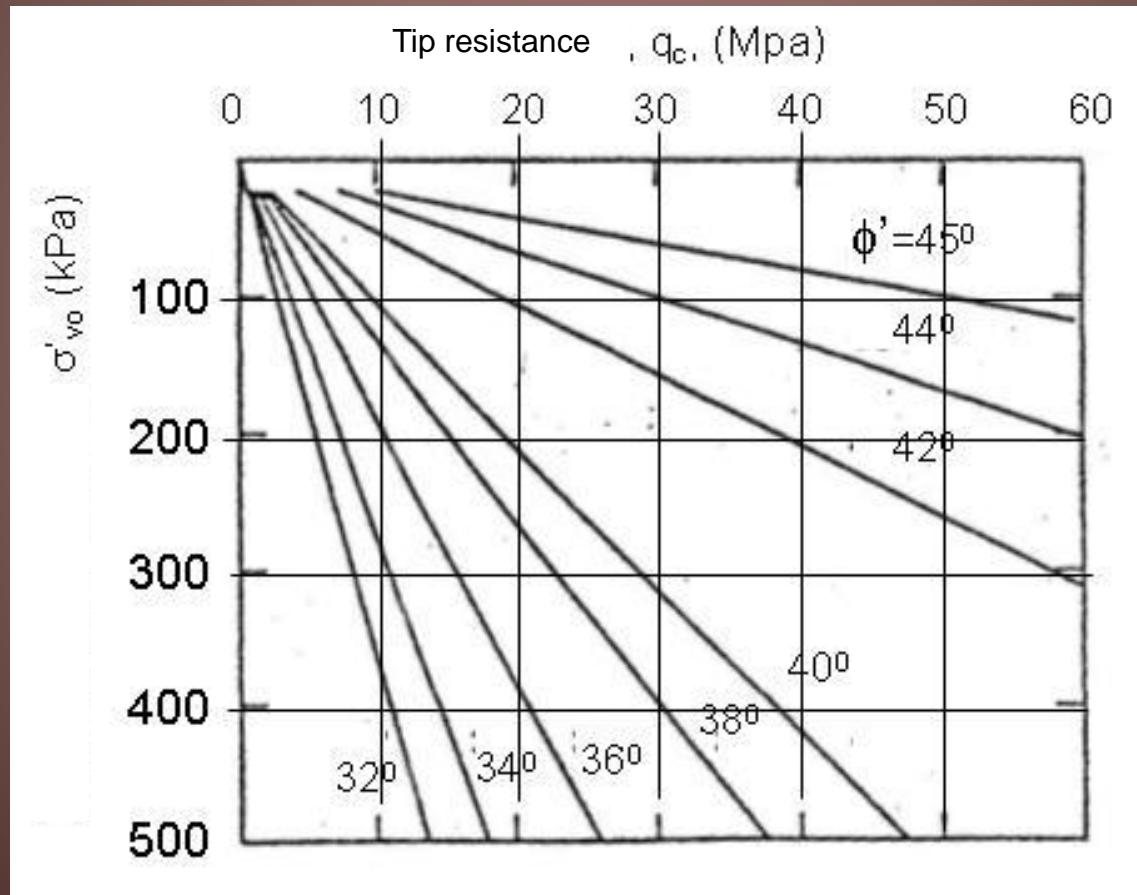


Figure 1.3. Relation between σ'_{v0} - SPT-N - ϕ' (Schmertmann, 1975)

COHESIONLESS SOILS

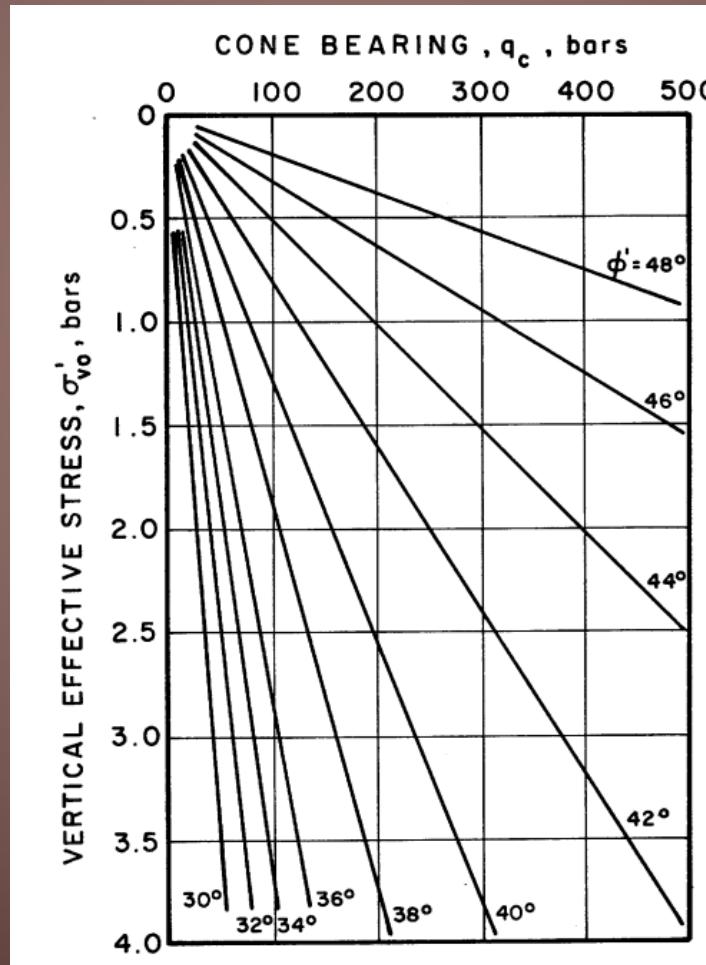
Effective internal friction of angle (ϕ')



Durgunoğlu and Mitchell (1974)

COHESIONLESS SOILS

Effective internal friction of angle (ϕ')



FORMULAS FOR SAND

The actual stiffness is stress-dependent. The rate of stress dependency, m , is observed to be negatively correlated with the density. The following formula is proposed for m :

$$m = 0.7 - RD / 320 \quad [-] \quad (7)$$

Poisson's ratio for unloading and reloading, ν_{ur} , is taken 0.2. The parameter relating the modulus reduction curve to the cyclic shear strain level is $\gamma_{0.7}$, for which the following formula is proposed:

$$\gamma_{0.7} = (2 - RD / 100) \cdot 10^{-4} \quad [-] \quad (8)$$

The following formulas are proposed for the strength-related properties:

$$\varphi' = 28 + 12.5 RD / 100 \quad [^\circ] \quad (9)$$

$$\psi = -2 + 12.5 RD / 100 \quad [^\circ] \quad (10)$$

$$R_f = 1 - RD / 800 \quad [-] \quad (11)$$

ROCK FILL

Effective internal friction of angle (ϕ')
(Seed et al. (1985))



Normal Stress (kPa)	$\phi'_{(TX)}$	$\phi'_{(PS)}$
14	53	57
35	50.5	54
70	48.5	52
140	46.5	50
350	44	47.5
700	42	45.5
1400	39.5	43
3500	37.5	41

MODULUS

Elastic Solution

$$K = \frac{E}{3(1 - 2v)} \quad G = \frac{E}{2(1 + v)}$$

E : Elasticity modulus

K : Bulk modulus

G : Shear modulus

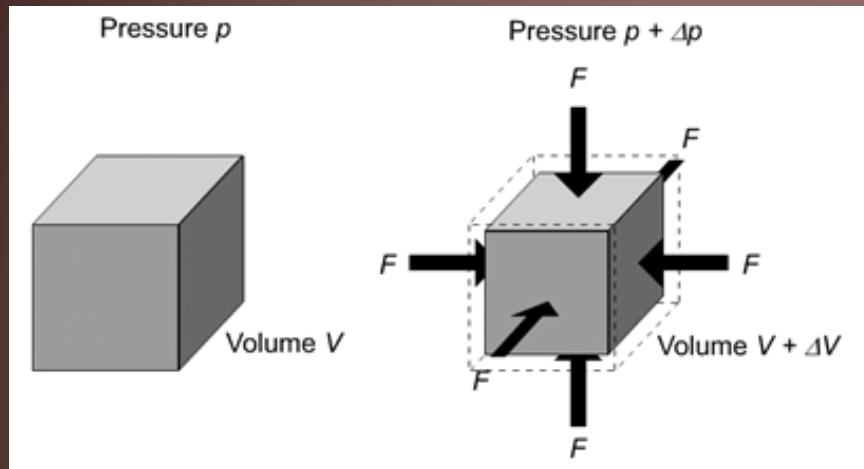
v : Poisson's ratio

$$E, G, K \propto (\sigma')^m$$

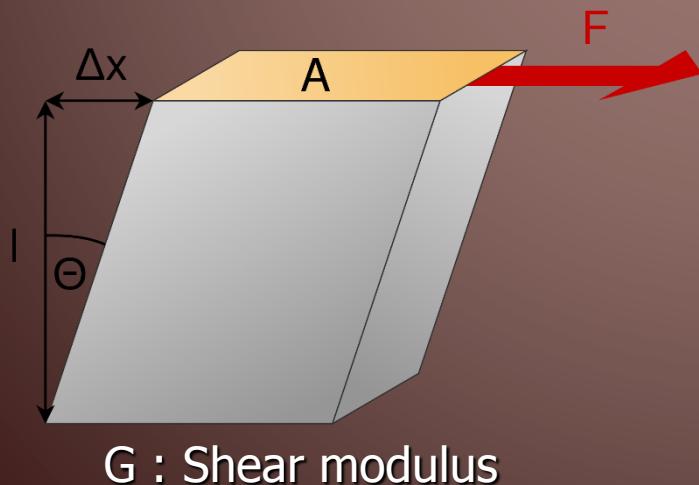
$$m=0.5 \text{ (sands)}$$

$$m=1.0 \text{ (clays)}$$

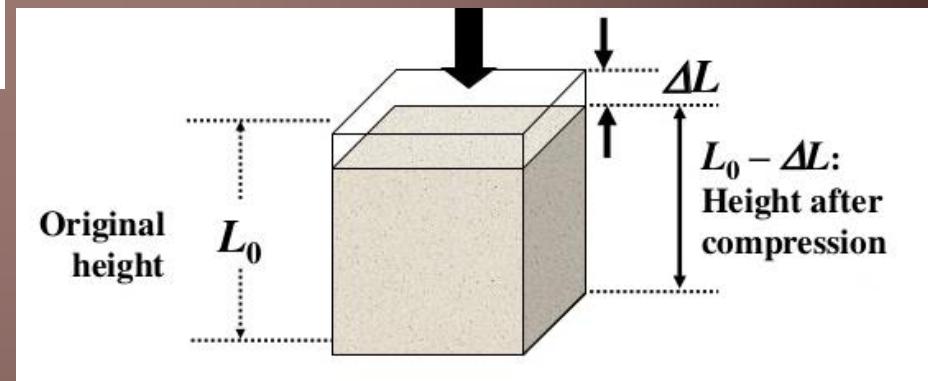
MODULUS



K : Bulk modulus



G : Shear modulus



E : Elasticity modulus

MODULUS

Stiffness parameters for sand

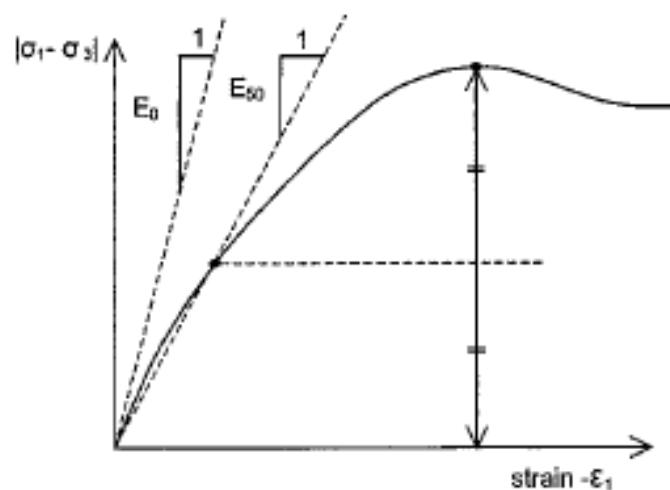
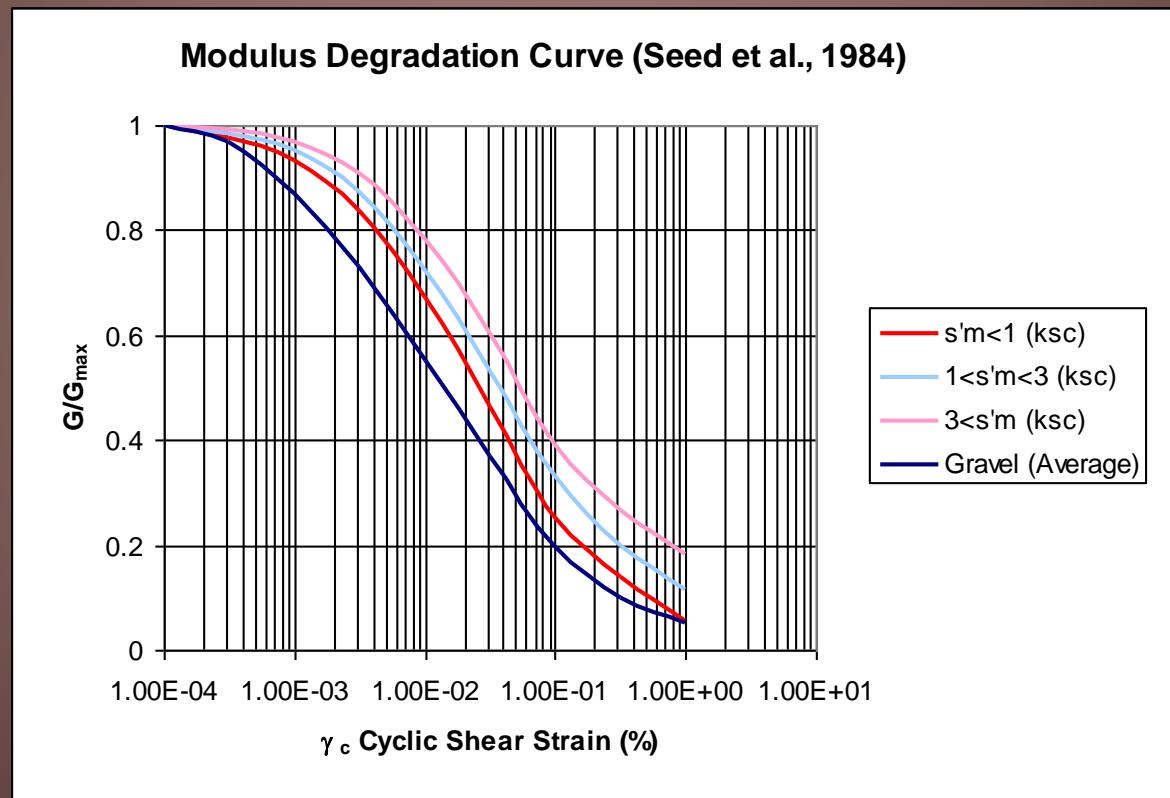


FIG.17. Selection of sand stiffness from standard drained triaxial test

$E_{50}^{ref} \approx RD \cdot 60 MPa$ Correlation of triaxial stiffness by Lengkeek

$$E_{50} = E_{50}^{ref} \sqrt{\frac{\sigma'_3}{p^{ref}}} \quad \text{Stress-dependent triaxial stiffness of sands}$$

MODULUS



MODULUS

Bowles (1996);

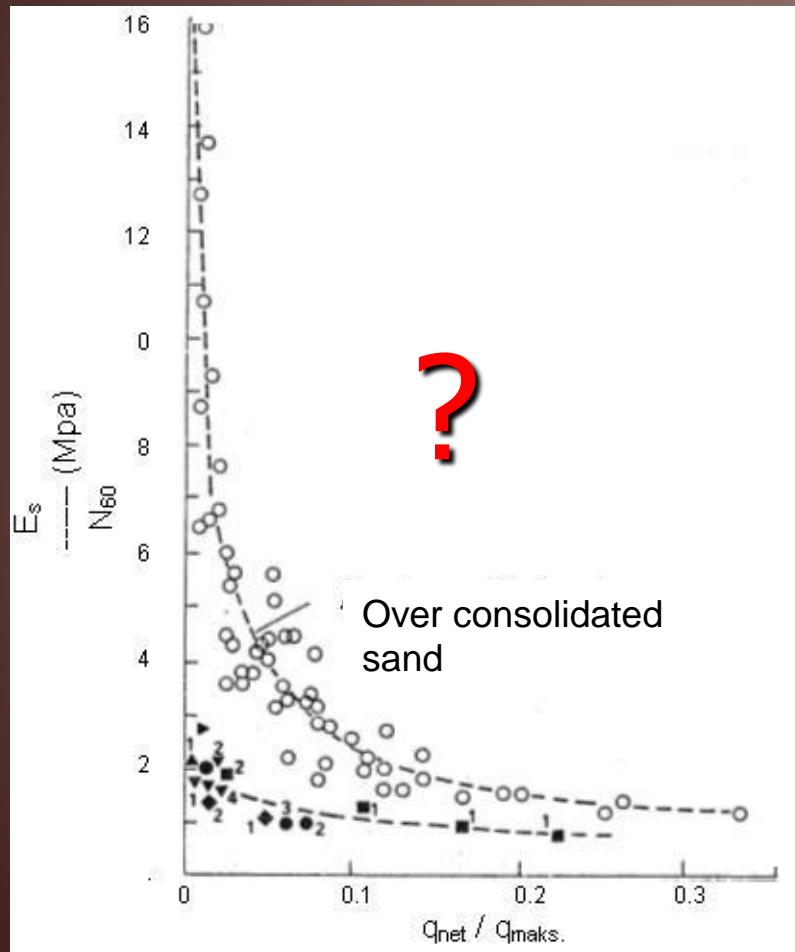
Sand (normally consolidated)	$E_s = 500 (N + 15)$	kN/m^2
Clayey Sand	$E_s = 320 (N + 15)$	kN/m^2
Silt, sandy silt	$E_s = 300 (N + 6)$	kN/m^2
Gravelly sand	$E_s = 1200 (N + 6)$	kN/m^2



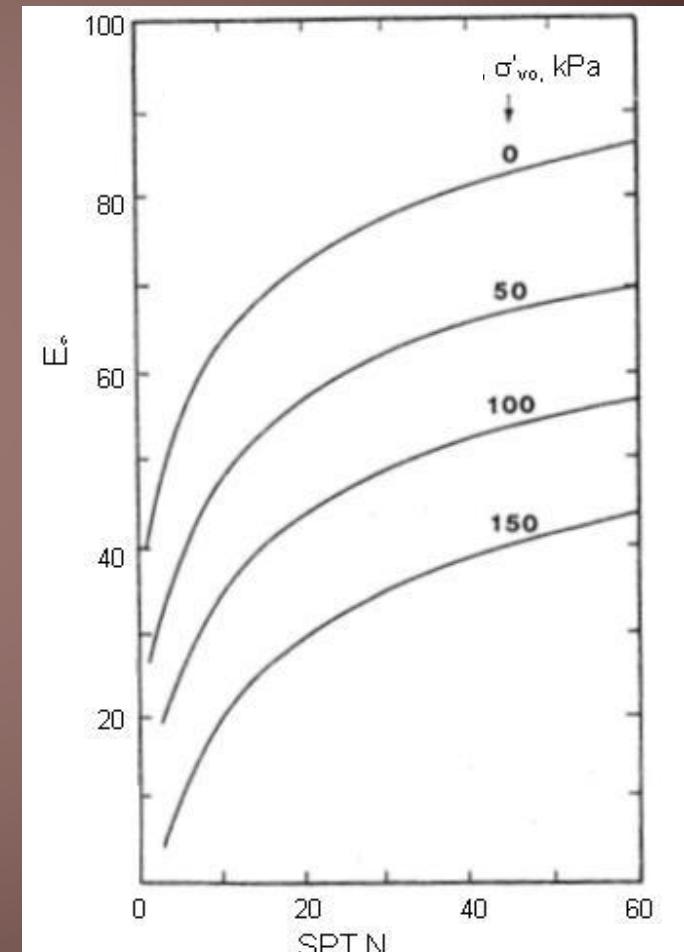
Kulhawy and Mayne (1990);

Silty and clayey sand	$E_s = 500 N_{60}$	kN/m^2
Clean sand	$E_s = 1000 N_{60}$	kN/m^2
Over consolidated clean sand	$E_s = 1500 N_{60}$	kN/m^2

MODULUS

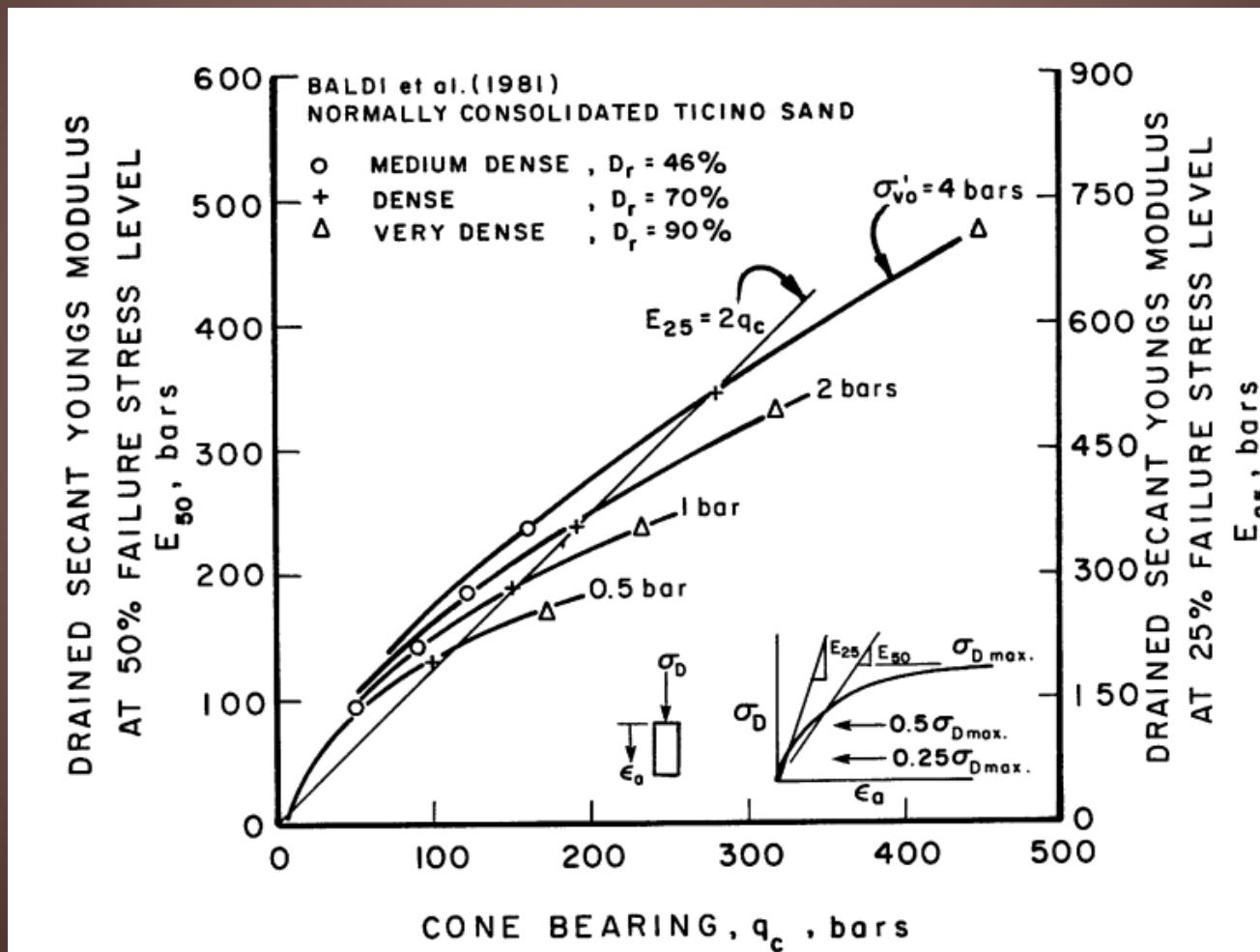


Stroud (1989)



Menzenbach (1967)

MODULUS



Robertson and Campanella (1981)

SHEAR MODULUS

$$G_{\max} = 1000 \cdot K_2 \cdot (\sigma_m')^{1/2}$$

G_{\max}, σ_m' in psf (2000 psf = 100 kPa)

K_2 : 120 – 170 (rock fills)

K_2 (sands)

D_R (%)	K_2
30	34
40	40
45	43
60	52
75	59
90	70

FORMULAS FOR SAND

$$p^{ref} = 100 \text{ kN/m}^2:$$

$$E_{50}^{ref} = 60000 RD / 100 \quad [\text{kN/m}^2]$$

$$E_{oed}^{ref} = 60000 RD / 100 \quad [\text{kN/m}^2]$$

$$E_{lw}^{ref} = 180000 RD / 100 \quad [\text{kN/m}^2]$$

$$G_0^{ref} = 60000 + 68000 RD / 100 \quad [\text{kN/m}^2]$$

FORMULAS FOR SAND

Figure 1 shows the variation of G_0^{ref} with RD for different sands, in comparison with Equation 6.

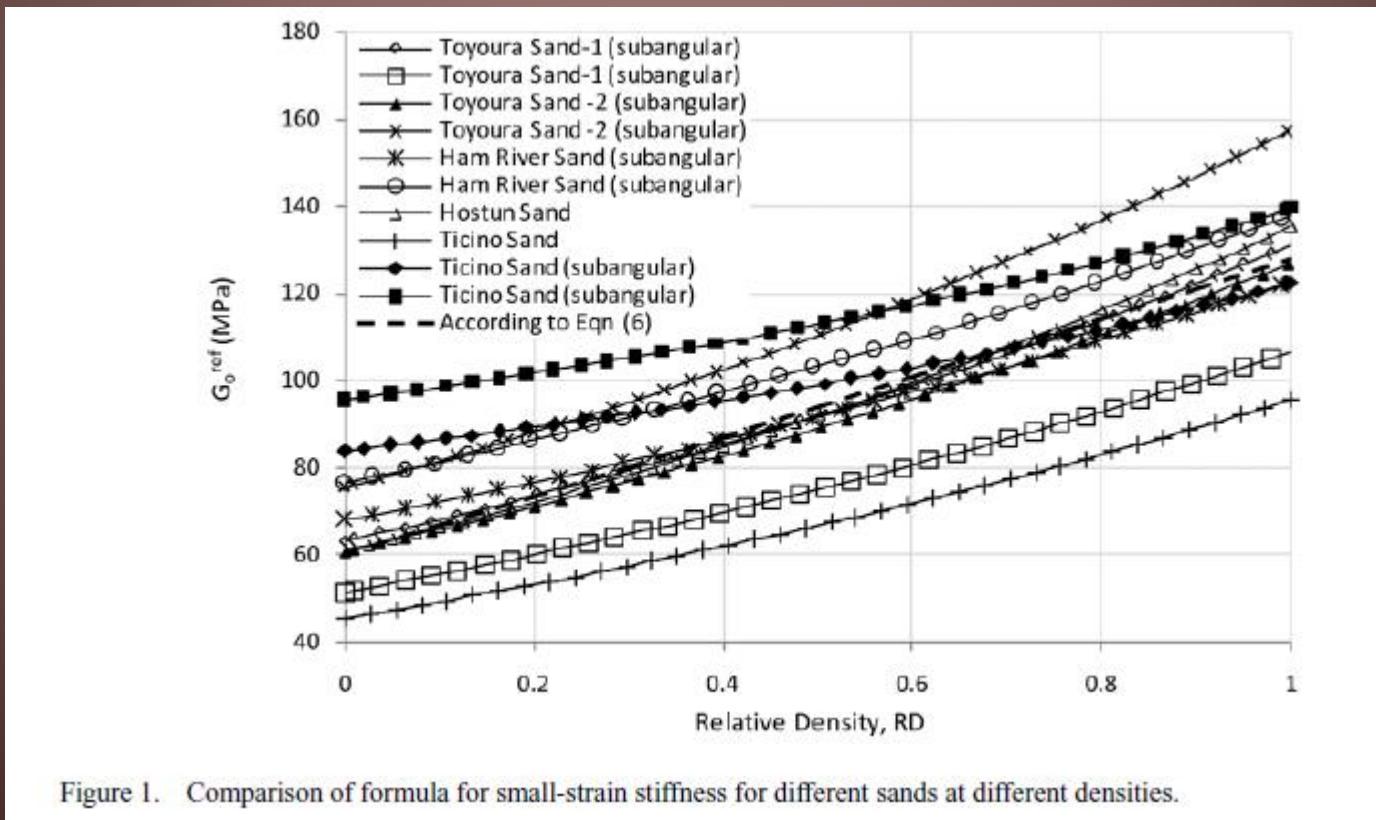


Figure 1. Comparison of formula for small-strain stiffness for different sands at different densities.

FORMULAS FOR SAND

The actual stiffness is stress-dependent. The rate of stress dependency, m , is observed to be negatively correlated with the density. The following formula is proposed for m :

$$m = 0.7 - RD / 320 \quad [-] \quad (7)$$

Poisson's ratio for unloading and reloading, ν_{ur} , is taken 0.2. The parameter relating the modulus reduction curve to the cyclic shear strain level is $\gamma_{0.7}$, for which the following formula is proposed:

$$\gamma_{0.7} = (2 - RD / 100) \cdot 10^{-4} \quad [-] \quad (8)$$

The following formulas are proposed for the strength-related properties:

$$\varphi' = 28 + 12.5 RD / 100 \quad [^\circ] \quad (9)$$

$$\psi = -2 + 12.5 RD / 100 \quad [^\circ] \quad (10)$$

$$R_f = 1 - RD / 800 \quad [-] \quad (11)$$

FORMULAS FOR CLAY

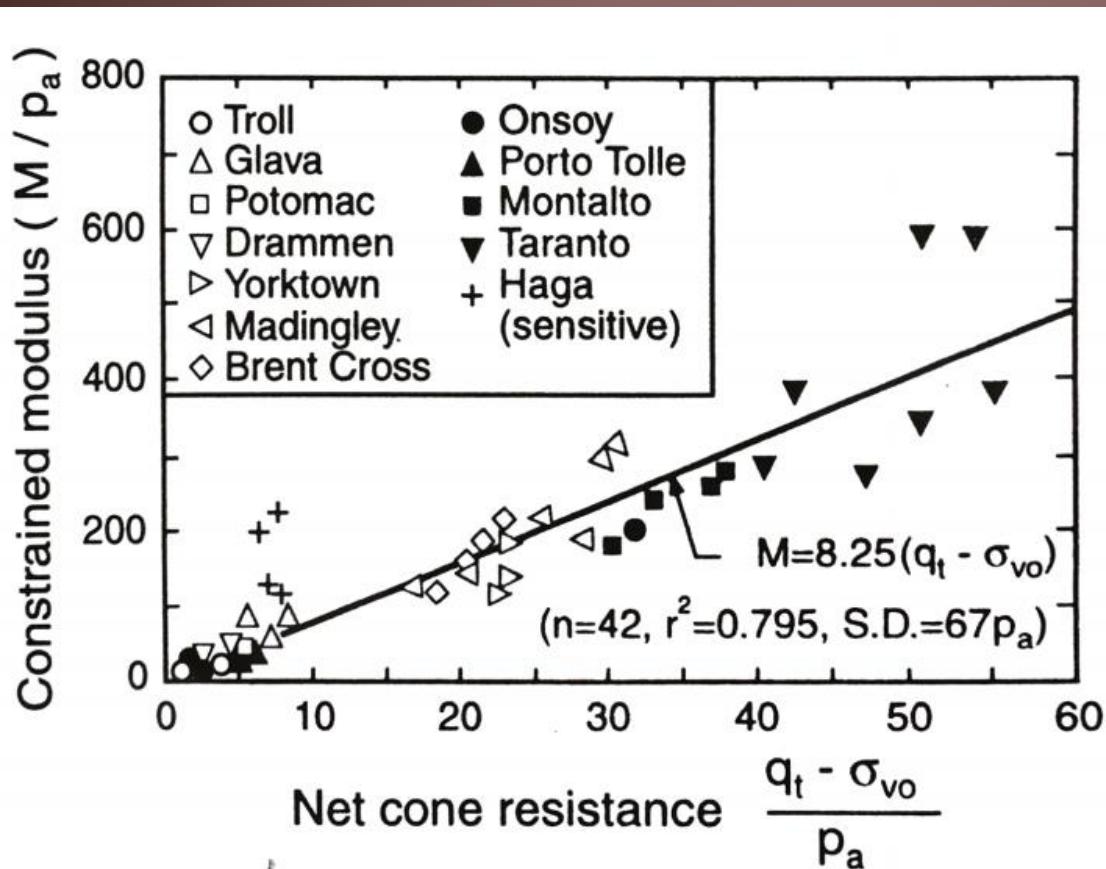


Figure 5.34 General relationship between constrained modulus and net cone resistance (from Kulhawy and Mayne, 1990).

$$G_o = 99.5 (p_a)^{0.305} \frac{(q_t)^{0.695}}{(e_o)^{1.130}}$$

FORMULAS FOR CLAY

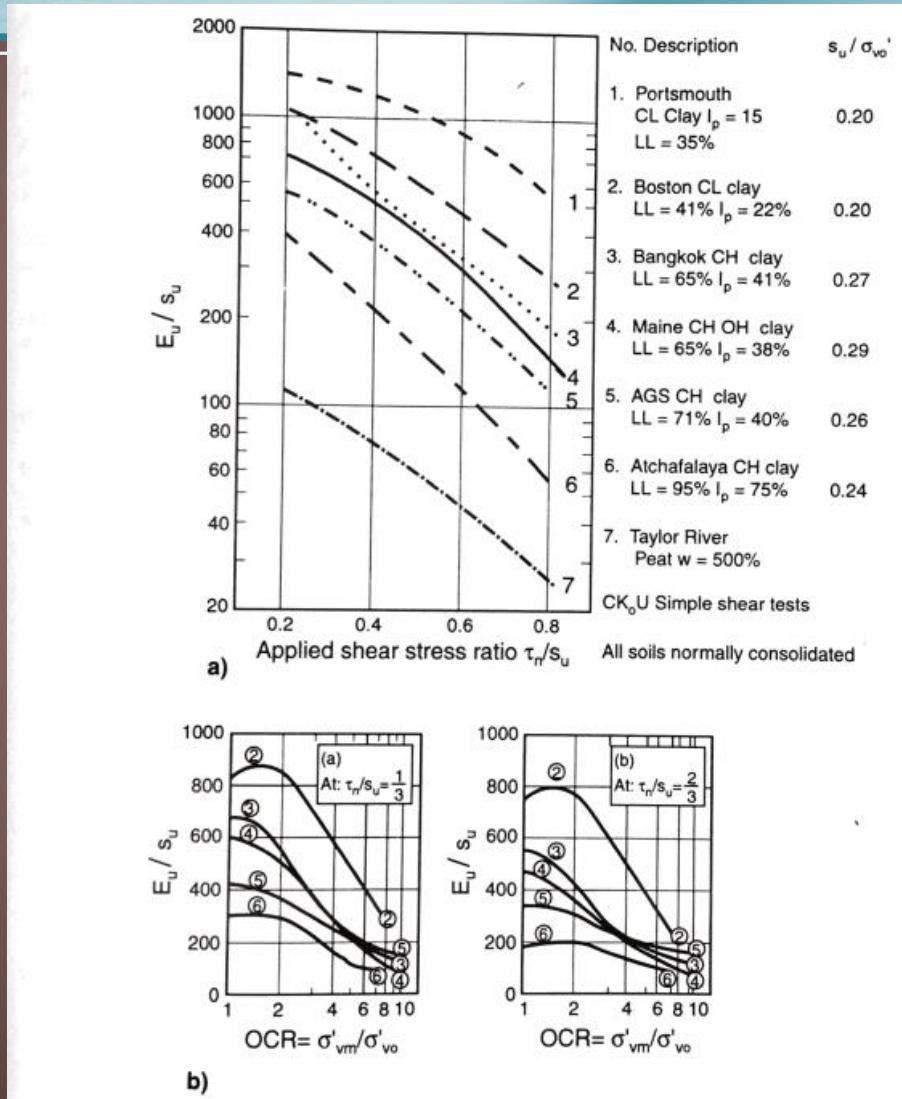


Figure 5.35 Stiffness ratio, E/s_u , as function of I_p (adapted from Ladd *et al.*, 1977).

FORMULAS FOR CLAY

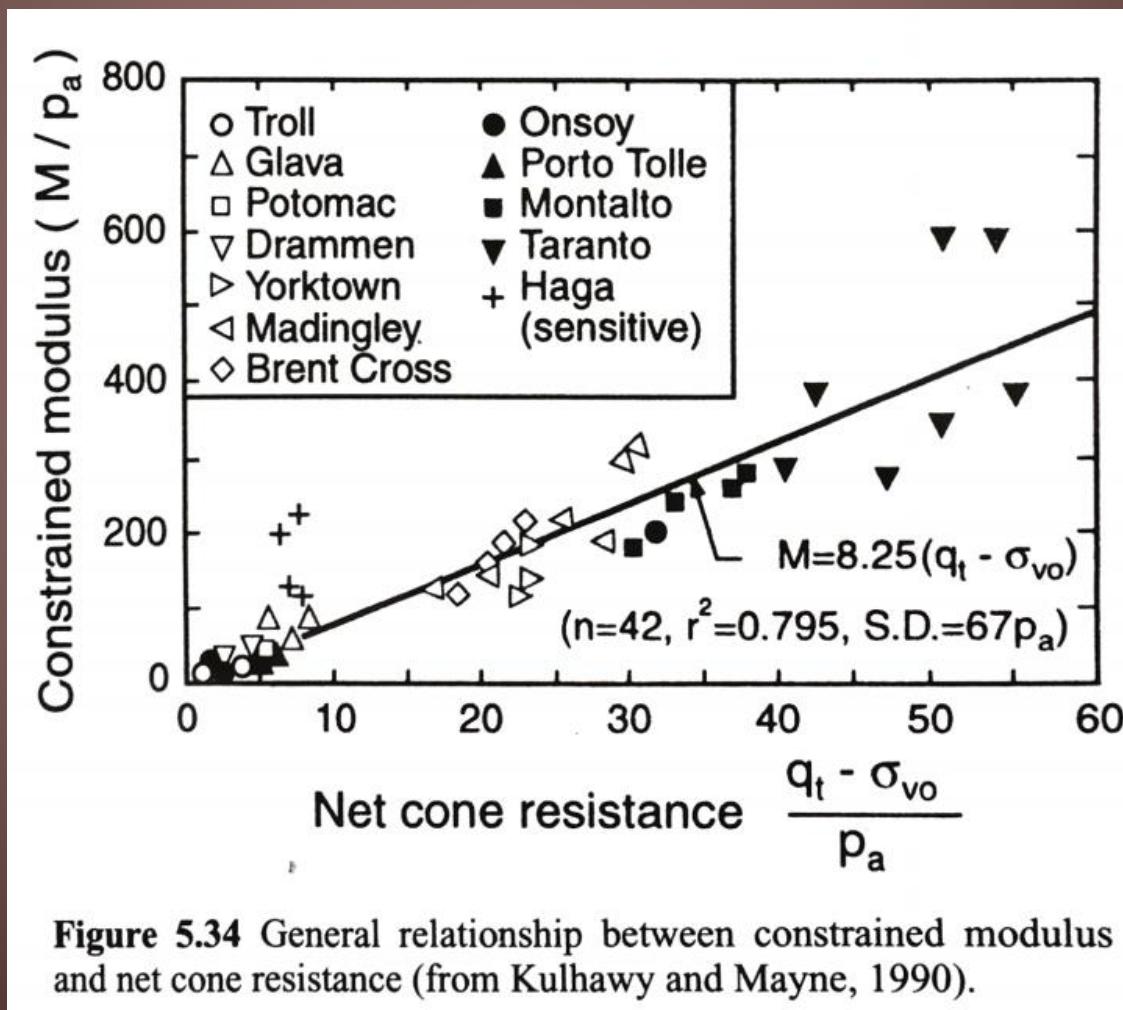


Figure 5.34 General relationship between constrained modulus and net cone resistance (from Kulhawy and Mayne, 1990).

FORMULAS FOR CLAY

Stiffness parameters for clay

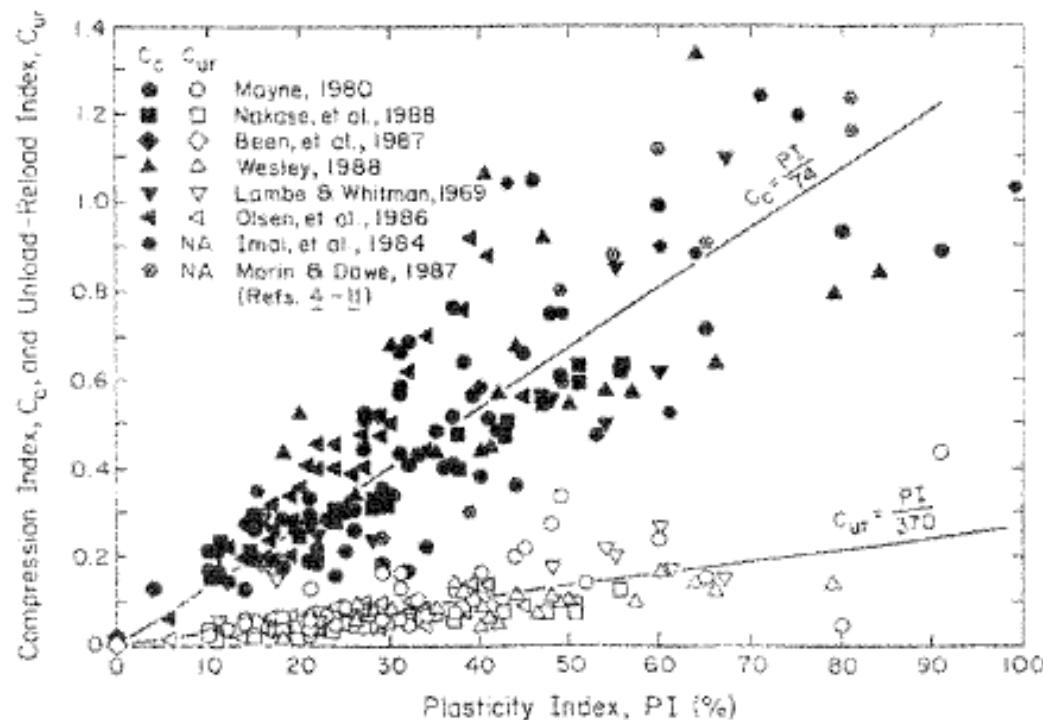


FIG. 16. Correlation for C_c and C_{ur} (C_s) based on plasticity index (Kulhawy & Maine, 1990)

FORMULAS FOR CLAY

Stiffness parameters for clay

$$E_{oed}^{ref} \approx \frac{500 kPa}{w_L - 0.1}$$

Correlation by Vermeer for HS model (NC clays and silts)

PERMEABILITY

Typical permeability values for soils

Coefficient of permeability (log scale)	10^{-11} m/s	10^{-10}	10^{-9}	10^{-8}	10^{-7}	10^{-6}	10^{-5}	10^{-4}	10^{-3}	10^{-2}	10^{-1}	1		
Permeability	10^{-9} cm/s	10^{-8}	10^{-7}	10^{-6}	10^{-5}	10^{-4}	10^{-3}	10^{-2}	10^{-1}	1	10	100		
Permeability	Practically impermeable	Very low		Low		Medium		High						
Drainage conditions	Practically impermeable			Poor		Good								
Typical soil groups (Unified classification)	$GC \rightarrow GM \rightarrow$ CH SC SM-SC MH MC-CL			SM		$SW \rightarrow$ SP →		$GW \rightarrow$ GP →						
Soil types	Homogeneous clays below the zone of weathering	Silts, fine sands, silty sands, glacial till, stratified clays Fissured and weathered clays and clays modified by the effects of vegetation			Clean sands, sand and gravel mixtures			Clean gravels						
Note: the arrows adjacent to group classes indicate that permeability values can be greater than the typical values shown.														

Casagrande and Fadum (1940)

PERMEABILITY

$$k = D_s^2 \frac{\gamma}{\mu} \frac{e^3}{(1+e)} c$$

Taylor (1948)

k Permeability constant

D_s Effective grain size

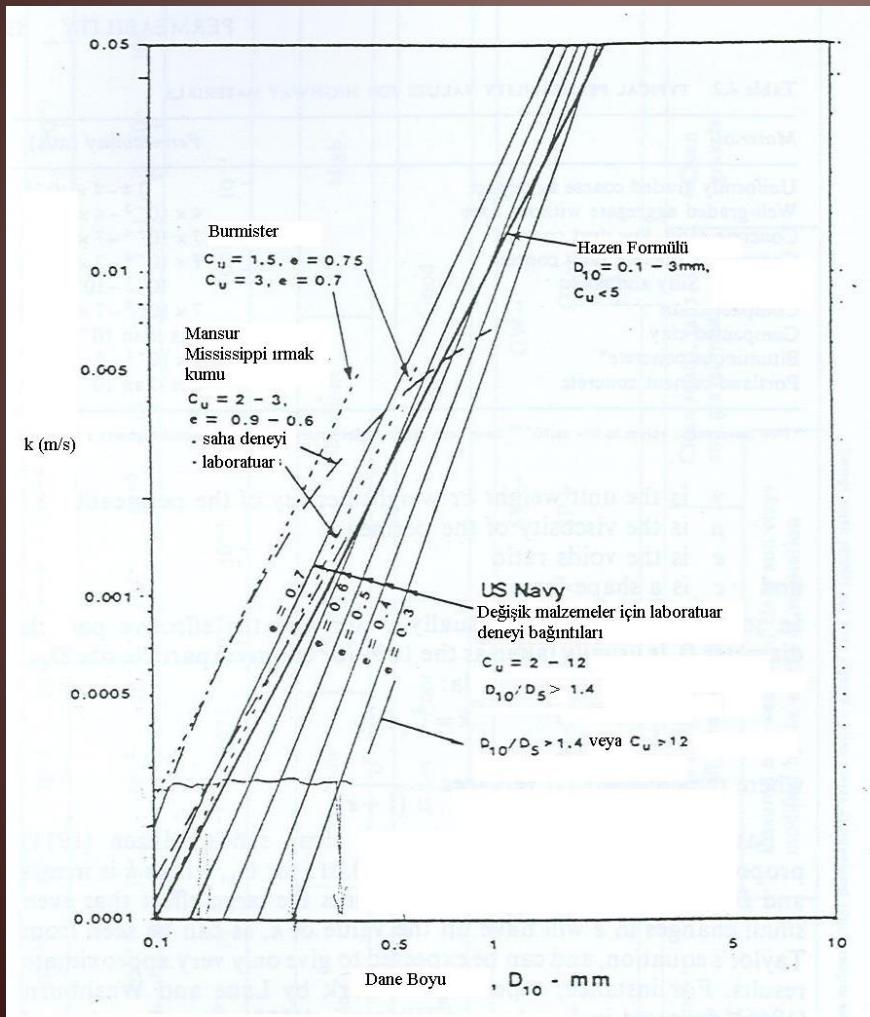
γ Unit weight

μ Viscosity

e Void ratio

c Shape factor

PERMEABILITY



Carter and Bentley (1991)