

Universität Stuttgart



Hochschule
für Technik
Stuttgart

Institut für Geotechnik

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Erd- und Grundbau, Felsbau,
Spezialtiefbau, Tunnelbau,
Umweltgeotechnik

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Stuttgarter Geotechnik-Seminar

Monday, 16 November 2020

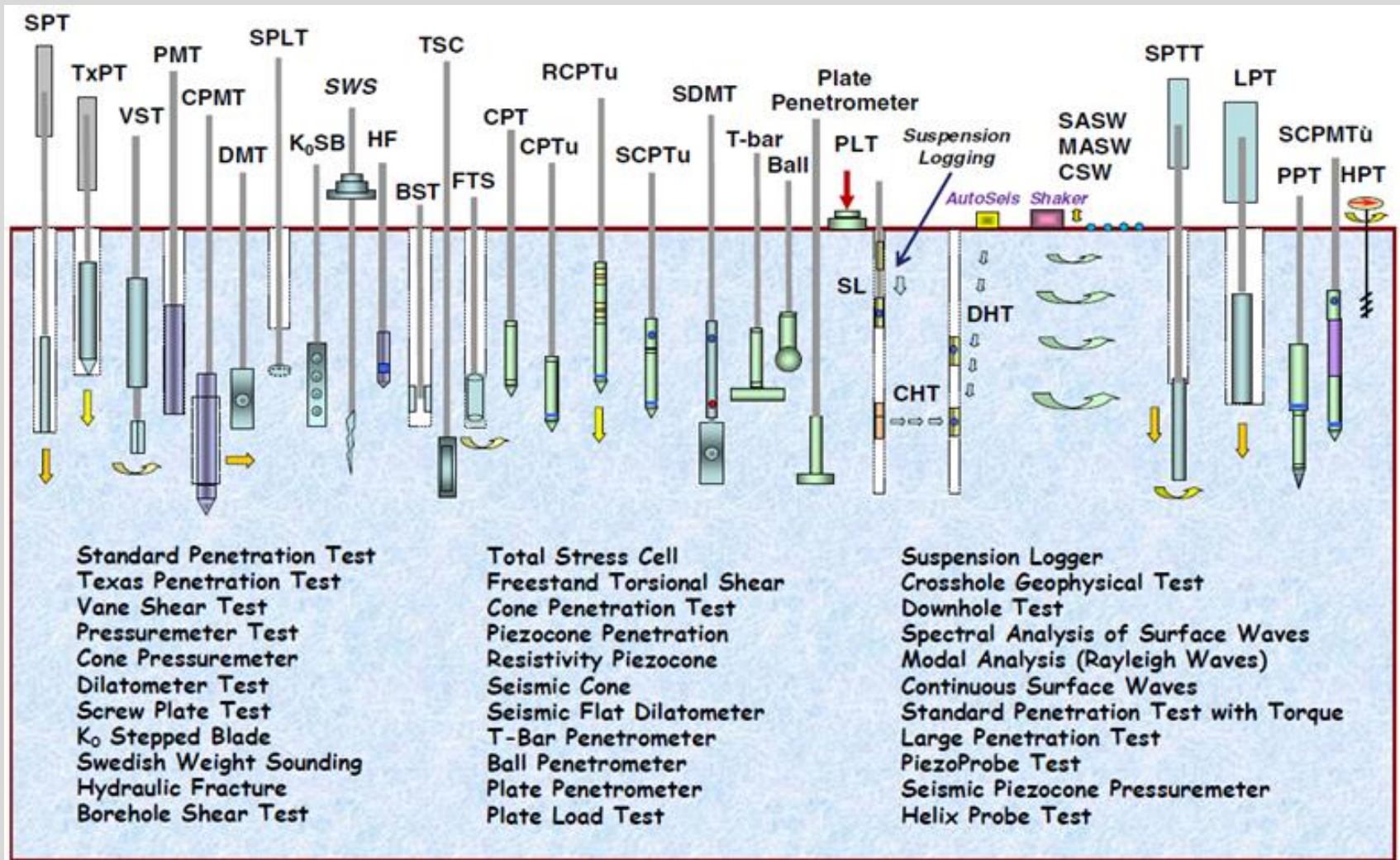
Applications of Dilatometer (DMT) and Seismic Dilatometer (SDMT) in Geotechnical Engineering

Eng. Diego Marchetti
Studio Prof. Marchetti
Italy



www.marchetti-dmt.it

Many different tools for site investigation..



“Soil borings ... laboratory testing ... SPT ... pressuremeter (PMT) ... vane (VST) ... crosshole (CHT) ... All of these are valid and suitable ... yet at considerable cost in time and money ...” Mayne 2009

Direct Push Technology: SCPT & SDMT increasing leadership in penetrable soils:

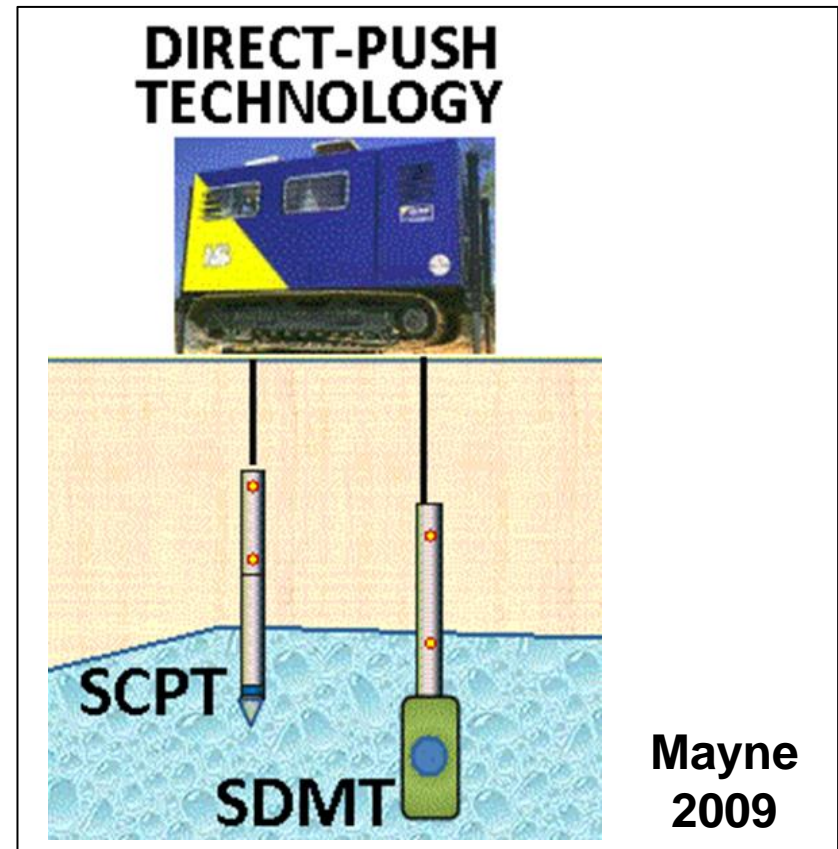
Direct Push Technology:

- ✓ simple
- ✓ fast
- ✓ repeatable
- ✓ continuous soil profile
- ✓ results real time

Sands:

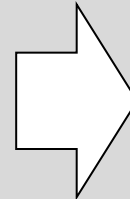
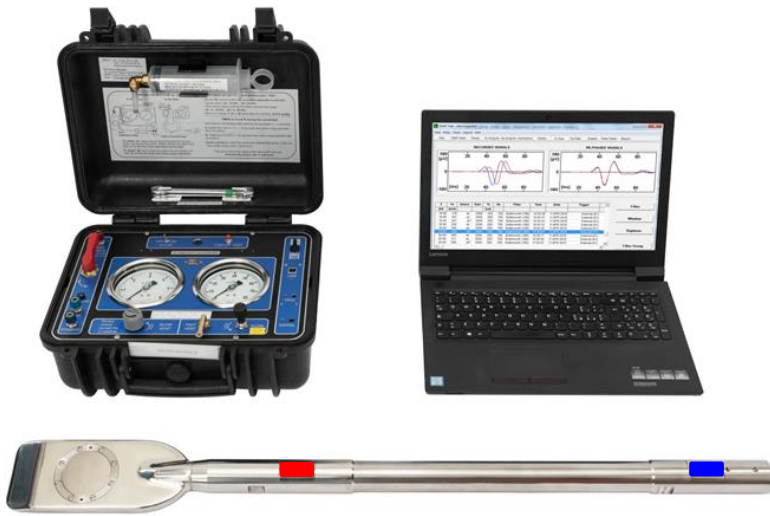
recovering undisturbed samples very difficult

→ Direct Push Technology is the state-of-practice

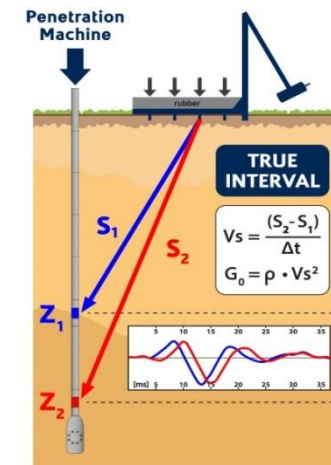
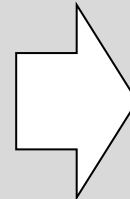
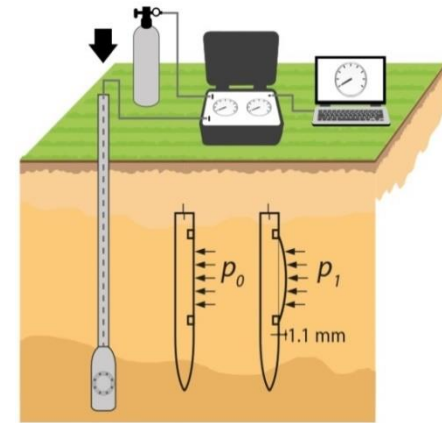


Seismic Dilatometer (S + DMT)

Seismic Dilatometer (SDMT)



Flat Dilatometer 1980



Seismic Module 2004

Prof. Silvano Marchetti (1943 – 2016)



inventor of the Flat Dilatometer (1974)

Flat Dilatometer (DMT)

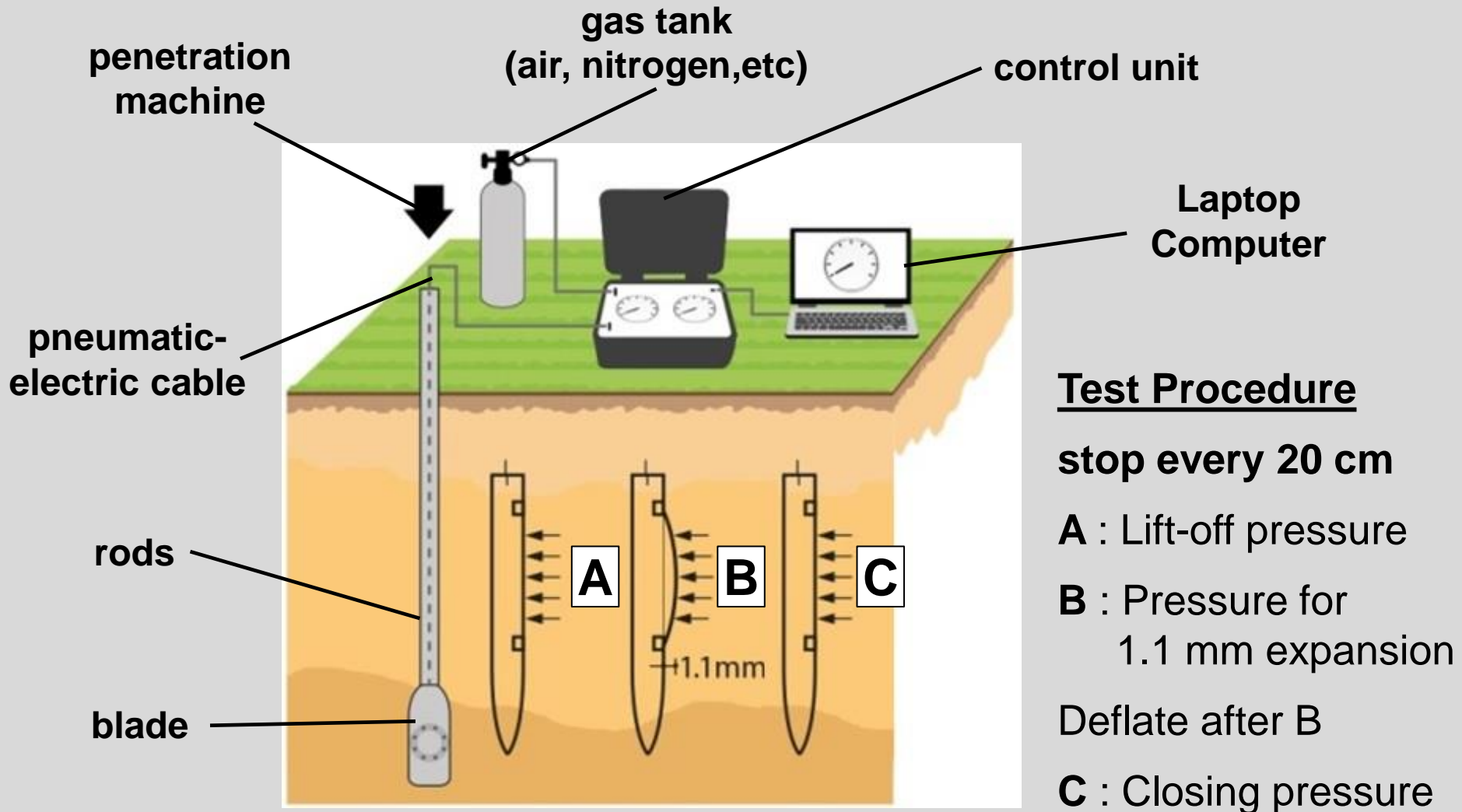


BLADE

Flexible Steel
Membrane
 $\Phi = 60 \text{ mm}$



DMT Test Layout



DMT Data: A, B and C with depth (Z)

SDMT Pro

File Tools Info

Dmt

Acquisition Manual Input

Z m

Time

Thrust

A kPa s


B kPa s

C kPa

Read C

Auto save

Z [m]	A [kPa]	B [kPa]	C [kPa]
29.80	688	1,602	
30.00	752	1,756	232
30.20	1,008	2,197	
30.40	1,126	2,331	
30.60	976	2,220	
30.80	1,209	2,573	
31.00	1,164	2,638	238
31.20	1,252	2,897	
31.40	1,250	2,918	
31.60	1,321	2,995	
31.80	1,499	3,286	
32.00	1,649	3,457	250
32.20	1,681	3,643	



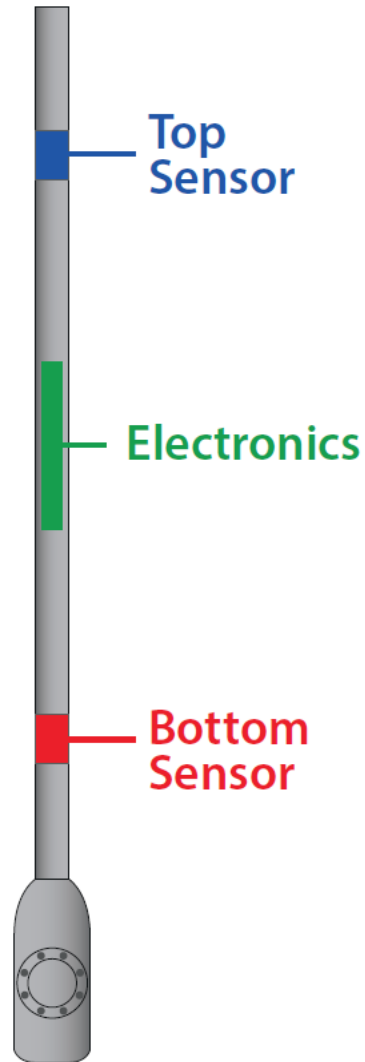
0 kPa

Buzzer

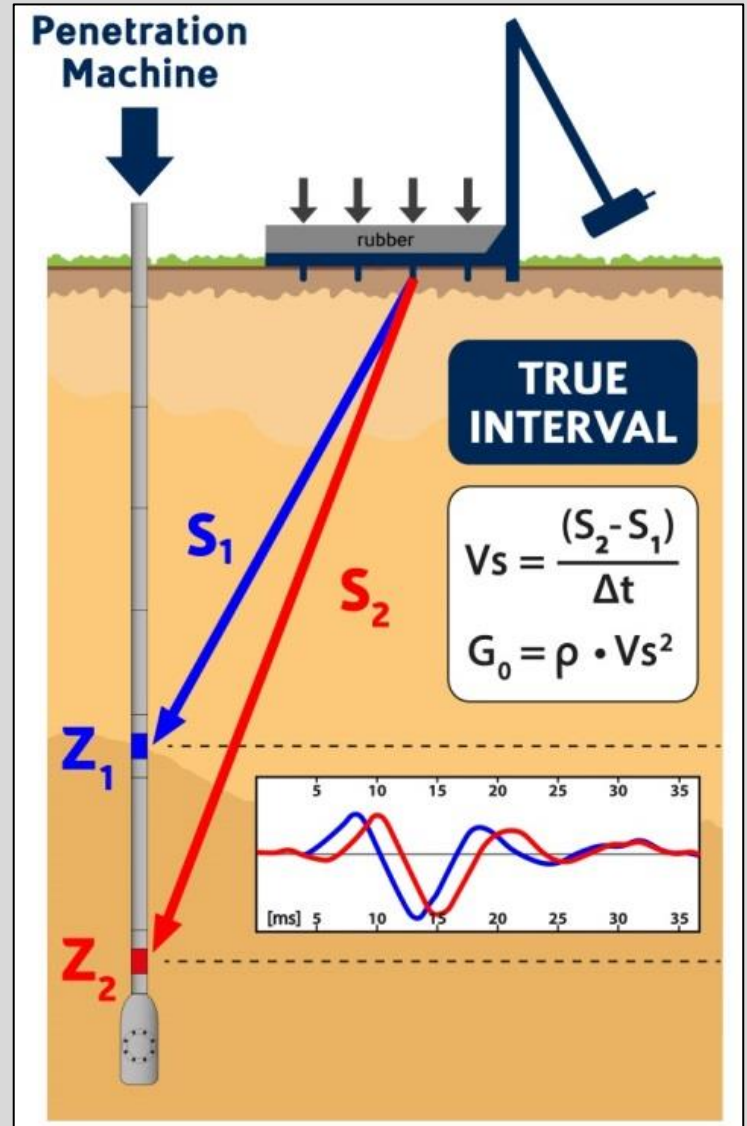
Project: Catania Harbour - Test: SDMT 2

SDMT – Test Layout

Seismic module



DMT



Shear wave velocity measurement

The screenshot displays the SDMT Pro software interface. The main window is titled "Vs Acquisition" and contains two empty plot areas labeled "Recorded Signals" and "Rephased Signals", both with the text "No data to plot". A central dialog box titled "Data acquisition" is overlaid on the plots, featuring the text "Energize now" and a "Cancel" button. The right-hand side of the interface contains a "Shear Wave" configuration panel with the following settings:

- Gain: 5120 (dropdown), Auto
- T sample: 200 (dropdown), μs
- N sample: [slider]
- Hammer dist: 0.30 m
- Trigger: Esterno (dropdown)
- Time shift: 60 [slider]

Below these settings are three buttons: "Test", "+50 cm", and "Save". A blue-bordered button labeled "Acquisition" is highlighted. At the bottom of the interface, there is a parameter table:

SDMT Tip	Blade (dropdown)	Vs	[input] m/s	ZVs	29.50 m
Z tip	30.00 m	Var Coeff	[input] %	ZS1	29.25 m
Vs Repeat	[input] m/s			ZS2	29.75 m

The status bar at the bottom indicates "Project: Guspini - Miniera Montevocchio - Test: SDMT_01".

Generate S-wave at surface



Data transfer of seismic wave (≈ 5 sec)

SDMT Pro File Tools Info

Vs Acquisition

Recorded Signals
No data to plot

Rephased Signals
No data to plot

Acquisition progress
Sensor G1: = 130
Sensor G2: = 142

Shear Wave

Gain: 5120 Auto
T sample: 200 μ s
N sample:

Hammer dist: 0.30 m
Trigger: Esterno

Time shift: 60

Notes:

Test
+50 cm
Save
Acquisition

Grid
Background
Window

SDMT Tip: Blade Vs: m/s ZVs: 29.50 m
Z tip: 30.00 m Var Coeff: % ZS1: 29.25 m
Vs Repeat: m/s ZS2: 29.75 m

Project: Guspini - Miniera Montevecchio - Test: SDMT_01

Vs available real time

SDMT Pro

File Tools Info

Vs Acquisition

Recorded Signals

Rephased Signals

Shear Wave

Gain 5120 Auto

T sample 200 μ s

N sample

Hammer dist 0.30 m

Trigger Esterno

Time shift 60

Notes

Test

+50 cm

Save

Acquisition

Grid

Background

Window

SDMT Tip Blade Vs 216 m/s ZVs 29.50 m

Z tip 30.00 m Var Coeff 0.33 % ZS1 29.25 m

Vs Repeat 216, 217, 217 m/s ZS2 29.75 m

Project: Guspini - Miniera Montevecchio - Test: SDMT_01

SDMT main features

SDMT



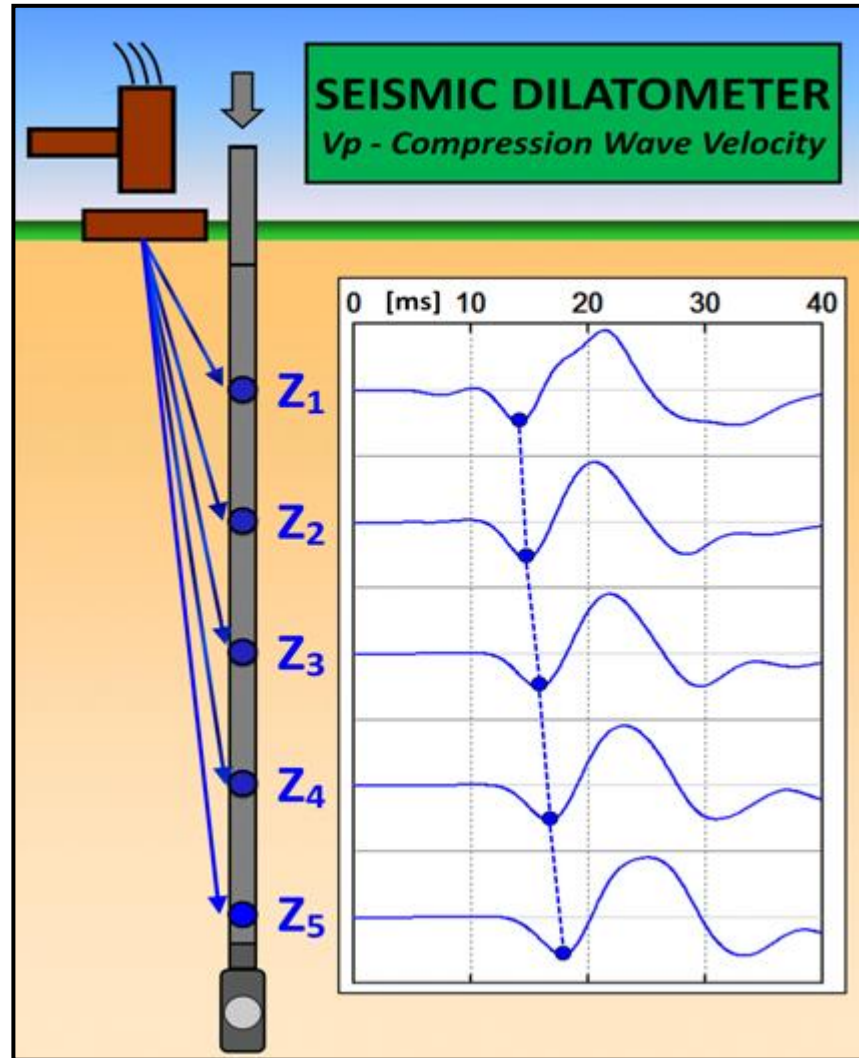
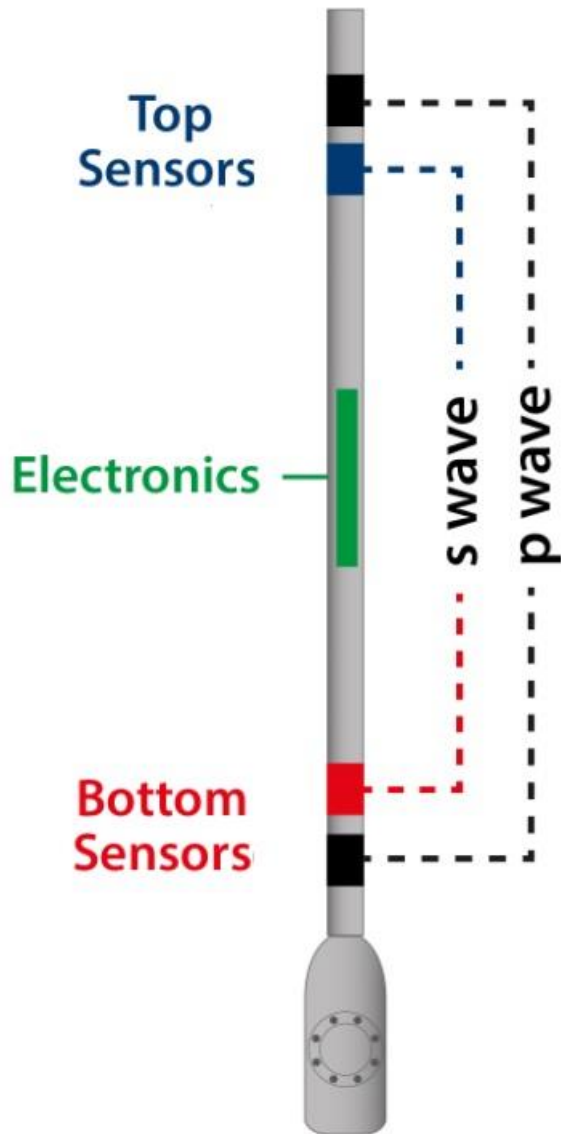
- Test execution is rapid
 - no hole (if soil is penetrable)
 - no wait time for cementation (e.g. crosshole, downhole)

- Vs interpretation
 - Automatic
 - operator independent
 - real time

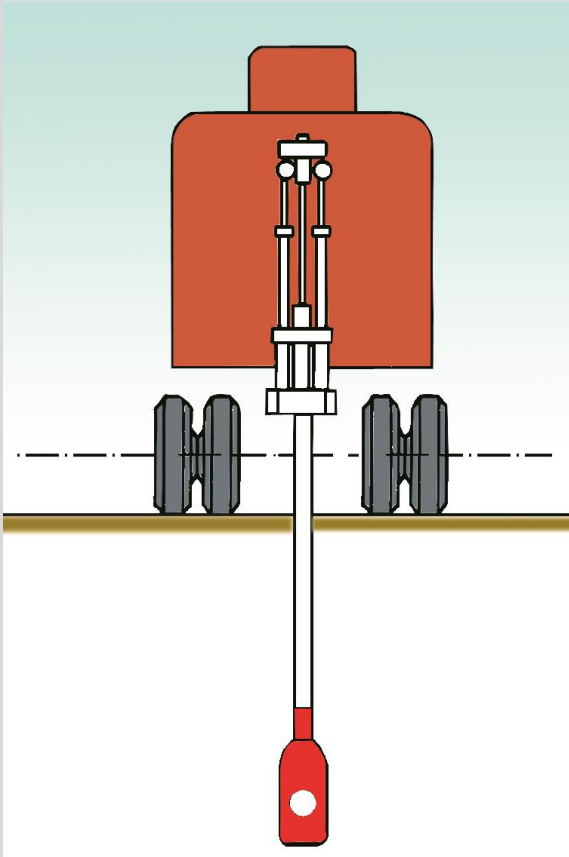
Accuracy of delay (Δt) calculation

- Signals are amplified and digitized in depth \rightarrow clean waves \rightarrow delay Δt very clear
- True-interval (2 receivers) vs Pseudo-interval (1 receiver)
 - Trigger offset no influence on Δt calculation
 - Same wave to both receivers

SPDMT for compression wave velocity

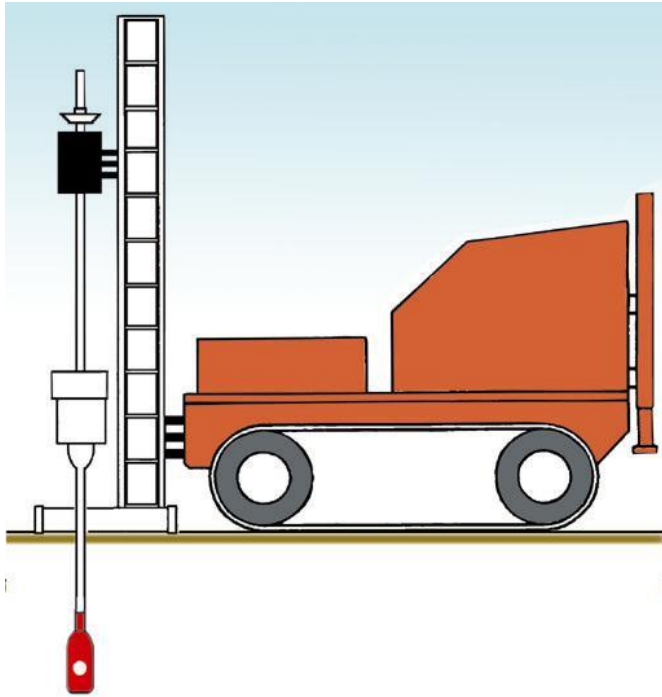


Heavy Truck Penetrometer – most efficient



Able to push 20+ tons without lateral instability

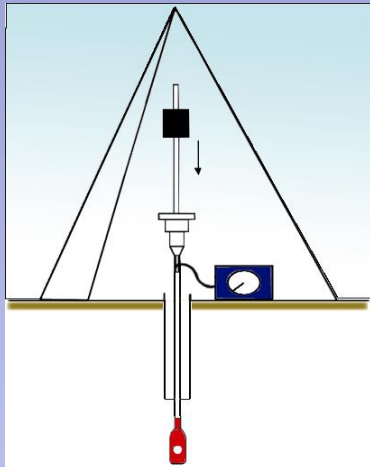
Light Penetrometer – cost effective



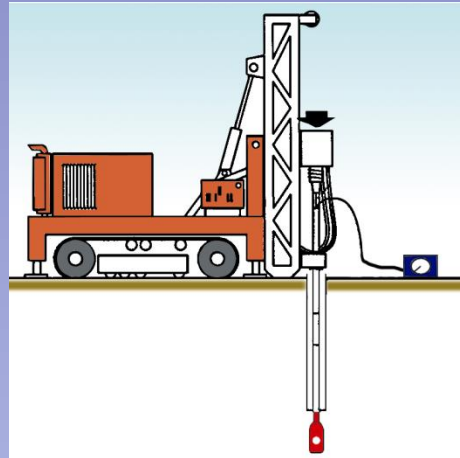
Juan Santamaria Airport , Costa Rica

Economical and easy to transport, but requires anchoring

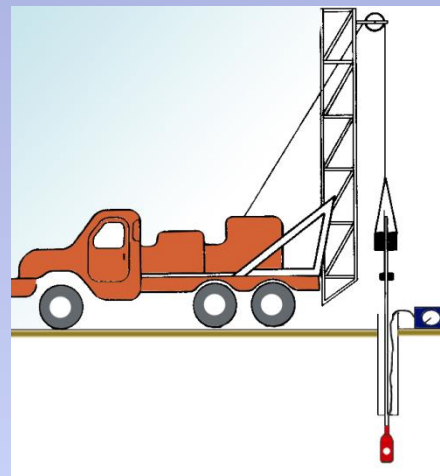
Many ways for advancing the DMT blade



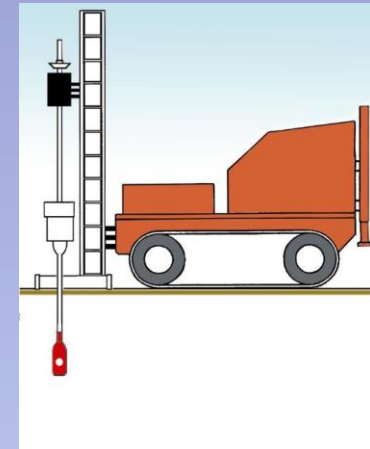
Driven by Spt tripod



Pushed by drill rig



Driven by drill rig



Driven or pushed by light penetrometer

Soils testable by DMT/SDMT

DMT

- ALL SANDS, SILTS, CLAYS
- Very soft soils ($S_u = 2-4$ kPa, $M=0.5$ MPa)
- Hard soils/Soft Rock ($S_u = 1$ MPa, $M=400$ MPa)
- Blade robust (safe push 25 ton)



SDMT

- All penetrable soils (like DMT above)
- Also in non penetrable soils like gravel, very dense sand, etc: inside a backfilled borehole (Totani et al 2009)

Max depth: 135 m in L'Aquila (2009)

Interpretation of the Results

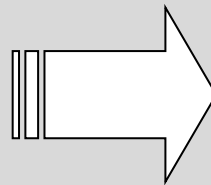
Corrected readings: *to account for membrane rigidity (calibration)*

DMT Field Readings

A

B

C



Corrected Readings

P_0 : Corrected A reading

P_1 : Corrected B reading

P_2 : Corrected C reading

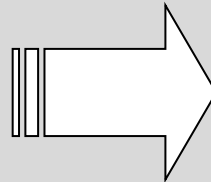
DMT Intermediate parameters

Corrected Readings

P_0

P_1

P_2



Intermediate Parameters

I_D : Material Index

K_D : Horizontal Stress Index

E_D : Dilatometer Modulus

U_D : Pore Pressure Index

I_D , K_D , E_D , U_D are definitions, not correlations !!!

Interpreted Geotechnical Parameters

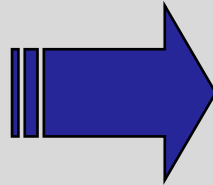
Intermediate Parameters

I_D

E_D

K_D

U_D



Interpreted Geotechnical Parameters

M: Constrained Modulus

C_u : Undrained Shear Strength (clay)

K_0 : Earth Pressure Coeff (clay)

OCR: Overconsolidation Ratio (clay)

Φ : Safe floor friction angle (sand)

γ : Unit weight and description

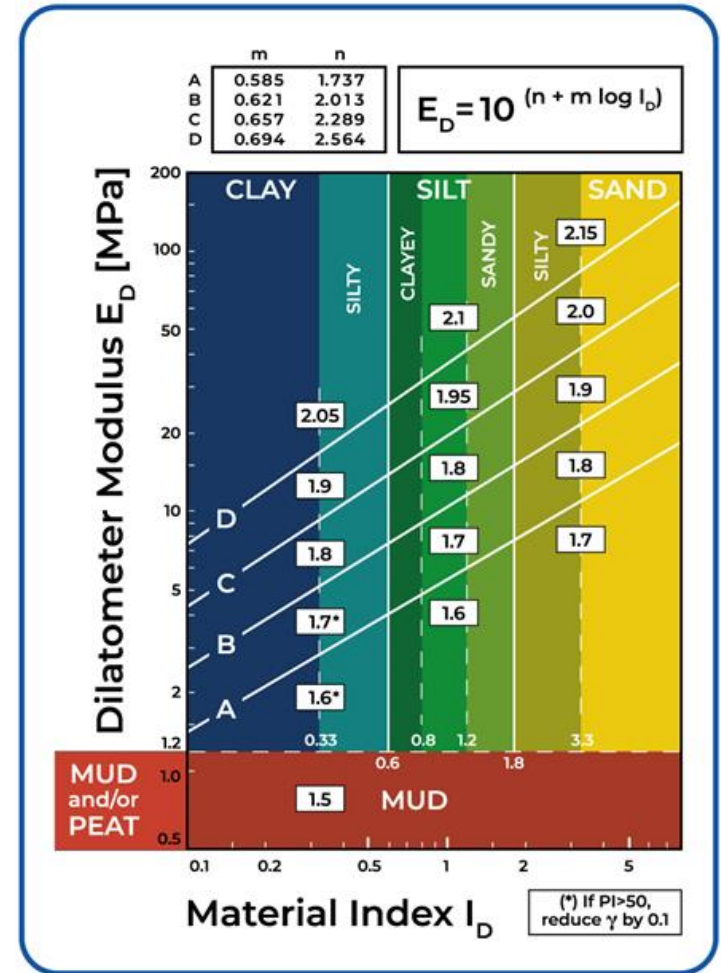
U : Pore pressure (sand)

Drained vs Undrained behaviour

DMT Formulae (1980 - today)

	SYMBOL	PARAMETER NAME	FORMULA / DESCRIPTION	
Field Readings	A	First Reading	Membrane lift-off pressure	
	B	Second Reading	Pressure for 1.1 mm membrane expansion	
	C	Third Reading	Membrane closing pressure	
	ΔA	Membrane Calibration (A in free air)	Suction as positive pressure	
	ΔB	Membrane Calibration (B in free air)	Inflation as positive pressure	
	[T, A]	Dissipation Test Readings	A-readings with time (at specific depth)	
Corrected Readings	P ₀	Corrected First Reading	$P_0 = 1.05 (A + \Delta A) - 0.05 (B - \Delta B)$	
	P ₁	Corrected Second Reading	$P_1 = B - \Delta B$	
	P ₂	Corrected Third Reading	$P_2 = C + \Delta A$	
Intermediate Parameters	I _D	Material Index	$I_D = (P_1 - P_0) / (P_0 - U_0)$	
	K _D	Horizontal Stress Index	$K_D = (P_0 - U_0) / \sigma'_{v0}$	
	E _D	Dilatometer Modulus	$E_D = 34.7 (P_1 - P_0)$	
	U _D	Pore Pressure Index	$U_D = (P_2 - U_0) / (P_0 - U_0)$	
	T _{Flex}	Dissipation Flex Point		
Interpreted Geotechnical Parameters	γ	Unit weight	see unit weight chart	
	K ₀	Earth Pressure Coefficient	$K_{0,DMT} = (K_D / 1.5)^{0.47} - 0.6$ $I_D \leq 1.2$	
	OCR	Overconsolidation Ratio	$OCR_{DMT} = (0.5 K_D)^{1.56}$ $I_D \leq 1.2$	
	Su	Undrained Shear Strength	$Su_{DMT} = 0.22 \sigma'_{v0} (0.5 K_D)^{1.25}$ $I_D \leq 1.2$	
	Φ	Friction Angle	$\Phi_{safe,DMT} = 28 + 14.6 \log K_D - 2.1 \log^2 K_D$ $I_D > 1.8$	
	M	Vertical Drained Constrained Modulus	$M_{DMT} = R_M E_D$	
			If ($I_D \leq 0.6$)	$R_M = 0.14 + 2.36 \log K_D$
			If ($I_D \geq 3$)	$R_M = 0.5 + 2 \log K_D$
			If ($0.6 < I_D < 3$)	$R_M = R_{M0} + (2.5 - R_{M0}) \log K_D$
			$R_{M0} = 0.14 + 0.15 (I_D + 0.6)$	
If ($K_D > 10$)			$R_M = 0.32 + 2.18 \log K_D$	
If ($R_M < 0.85$)	set $R_M = 0.85$			
C _h	Coefficient of Consolidation	$C_{h,DMT} = 7 \text{ cm}^2 / T_{Flex}$		
K _h	Coefficient of Permeability	$K_{h,DMT} = C_{h,DMT} \gamma_w / M_h$ ($M_h \approx K_{0,DMT} M_{DMT}$)		
U ₀	Equilibrium Pore Pressure	$U_0 \approx P_2$ for drained layers only		

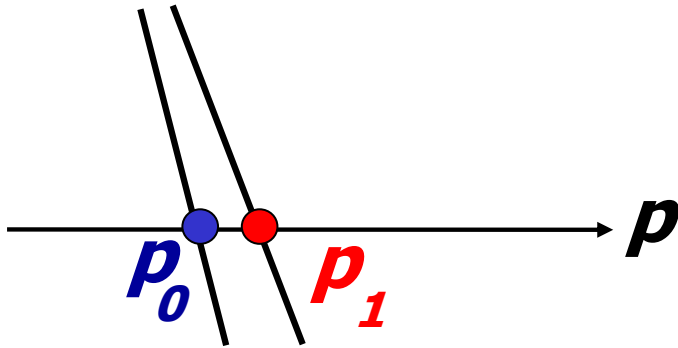
SBT chart and (γ / γ_w)



The Flat Dilatometer Test (DMT) in Soil Investigations (2001) – A Report by the ISSMGE Committee TC16. Proceedings, Int. Conf. on In-Situ Measurement of Soil Properties and Case Histories, 95–131. Parahyangan Catholic University, Bandung, Indonesia.

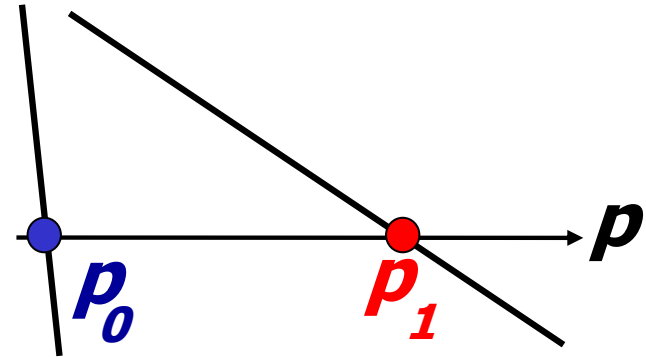
I_D contains information on soil type

CLAY



$$\frac{P_1}{P_0} \approx 1.1-1.3$$

SAND



$$\frac{P_1}{P_0} \geq 2.5$$

SILT falls in between

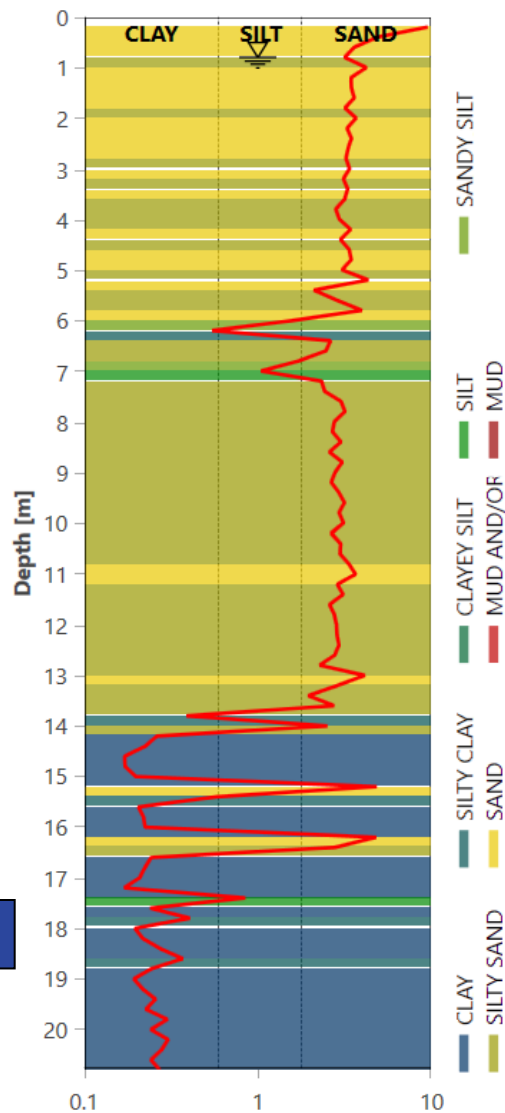
Definition:
$$I_D = \frac{(P_1 - P_0)}{(P_0 - U_0)}$$

I_D contains information on soil type

Z [m]	P_0 [bar]	P_1 [bar]
...
19.0	5.86	6.65
19.2	5.91	6.80
19.4	5.90	6.95
19.6	6.01	6.95
19.8	6.04	7.30
20.0	6.00	7.02
...

← CLAY

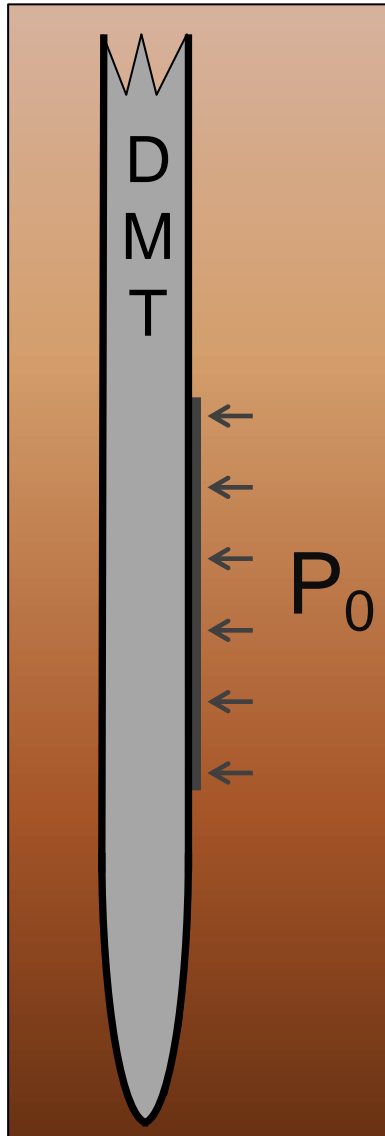
Material Index



→ SAND

Z [m]	P_0 [bar]	P_1 [bar]
...
2.0	2.61	11.90
2.2	2.78	11.55
2.4	2.68	11.53
2.6	2.64	10.90
2.8	3.06	12.40
3.0	3.08	12.90
...

K_D contains information on stress history



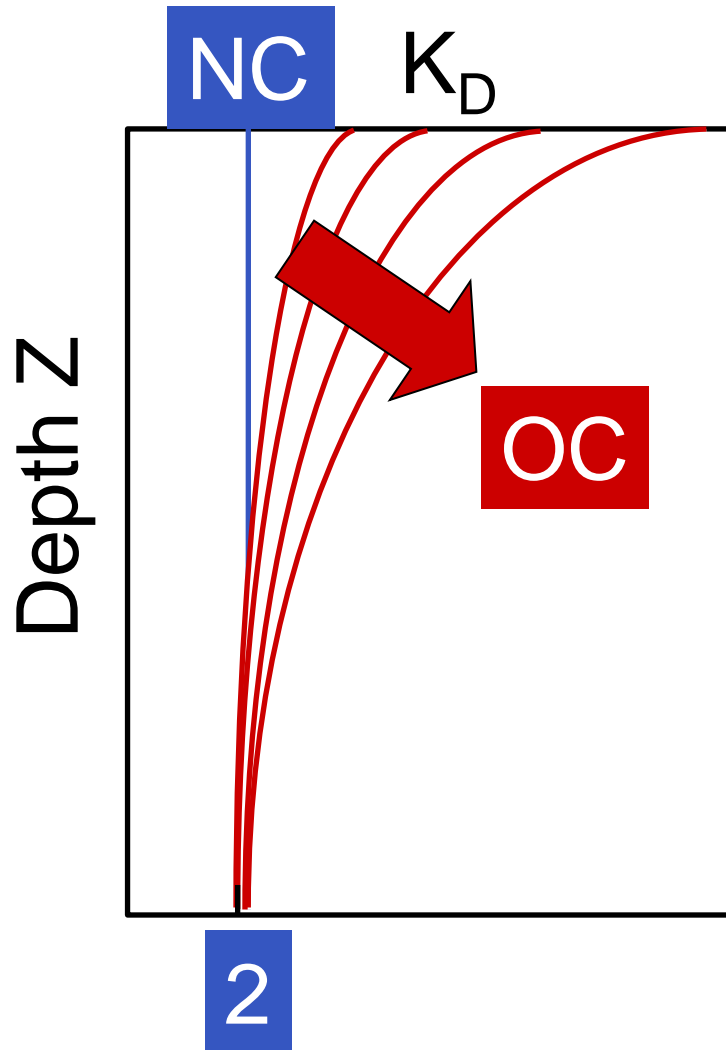
$$K_D = \frac{(P_0 - U_0)}{\sigma'_v}$$

same formula as K_0 : $(P_0 - U_0) \rightarrow \sigma'_h$

K_D is an 'amplified' K_0 , because $(P_0 - U_0)$ is an 'amplified' σ'_h , due to penetration

K_D well correlated to K_0 & OCR (clay)

K_D contains information on stress history

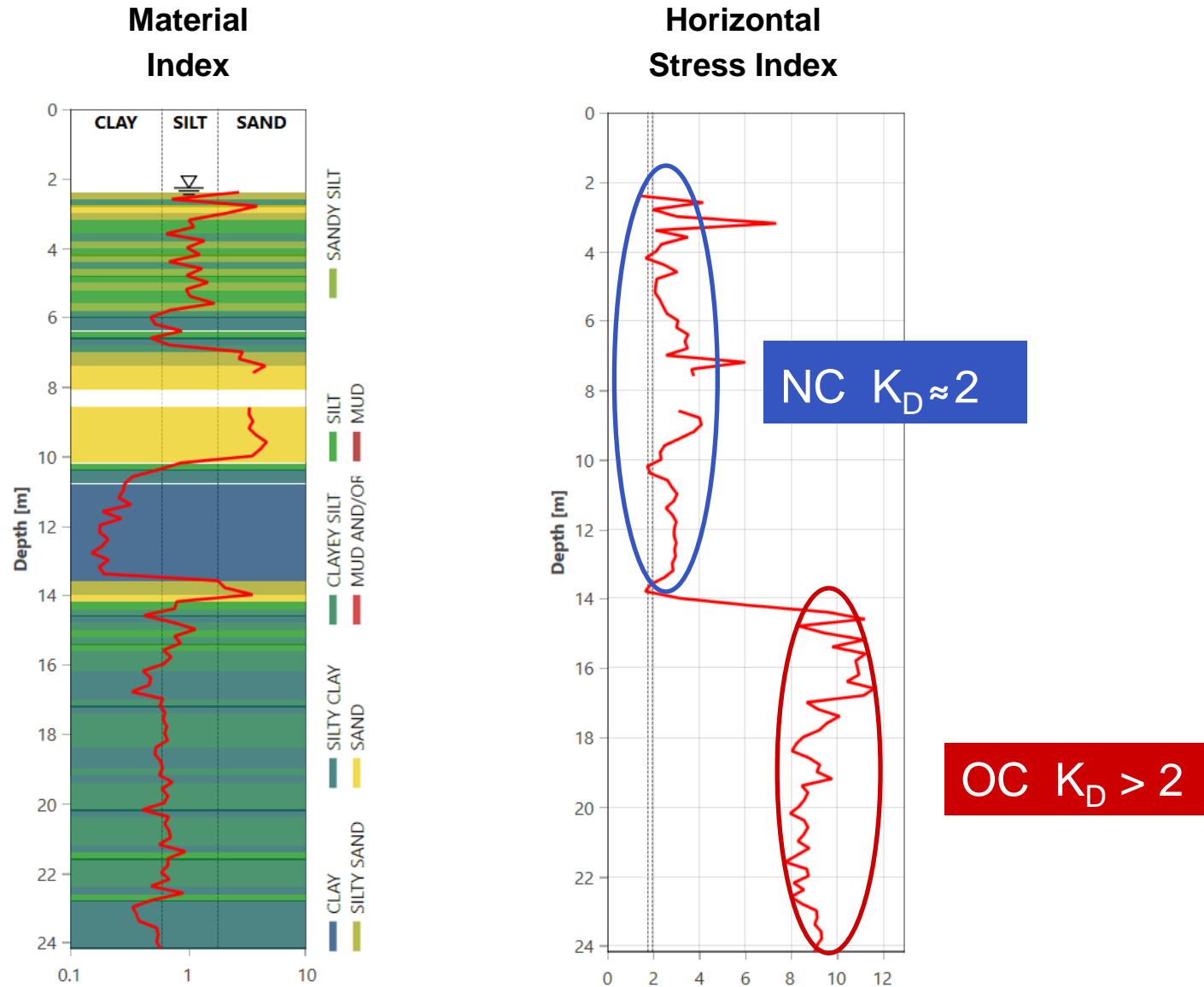


$K_D = 2$ in NC clay (OCR = 1)

$K_D > 2$ in OC clay (OCR > 1)

K_D stress history index

K_D contains information on stress history



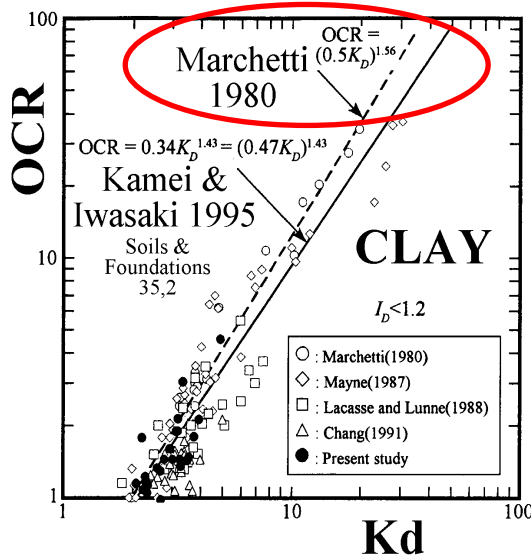
CLAY: K_D correlated to OCR

$$\text{OCR} = \left(0.5 \cdot K_D \right)^{1.56}$$

Marchetti 1980 (experimental)

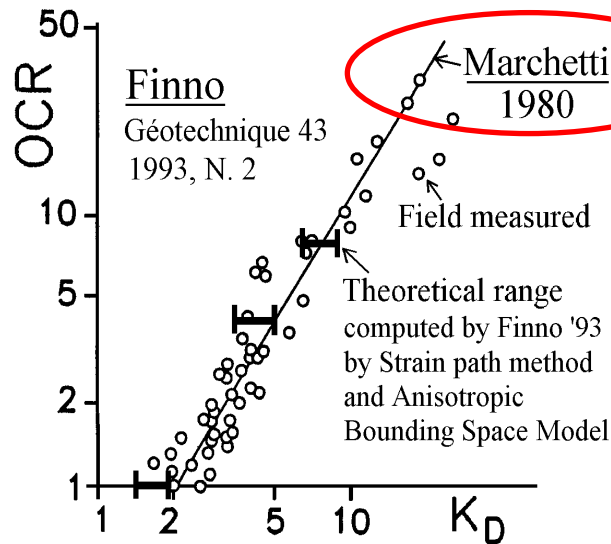
Experimental

Kamei & Iwasaki 1995



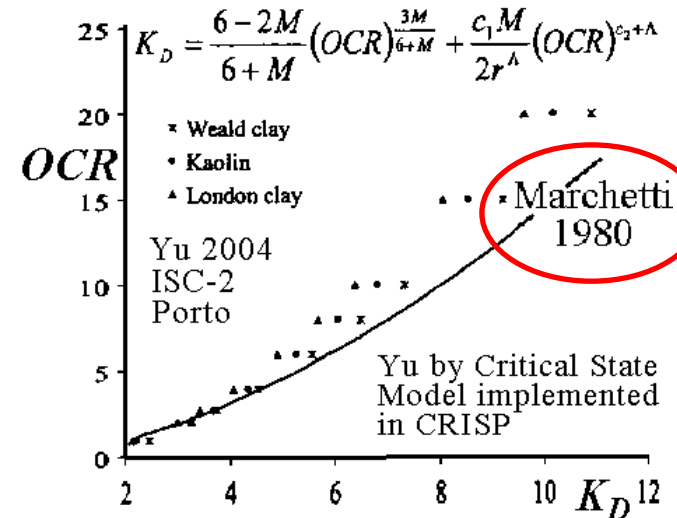
Theoretical

Finno 1993



Theoretical

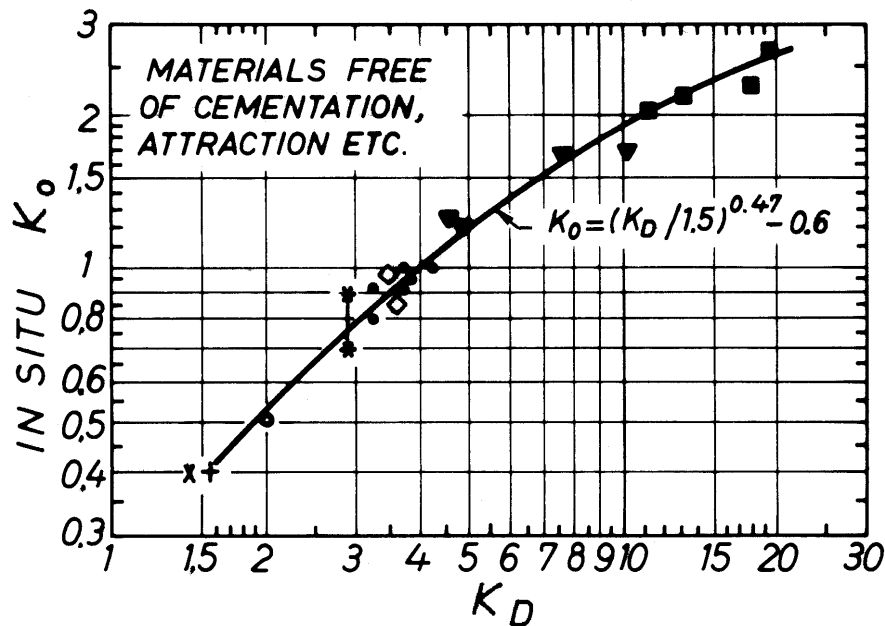
Yu 2004



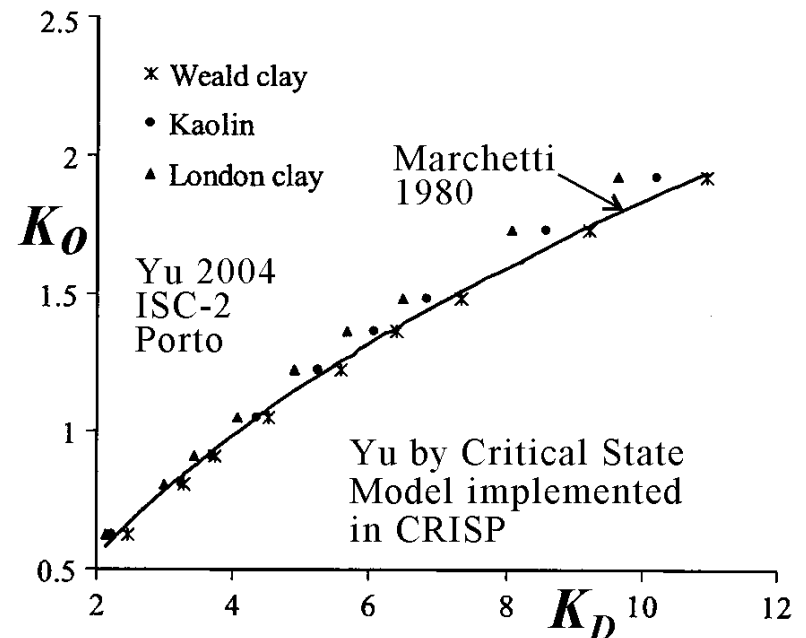
CLAY: K_D correlated to K_0

$$K_0 = \left(\frac{K_D}{1.5} \right)^{0.47} - 0.6 \quad \text{Marchetti 1980 (experimental)}$$

**Experimental
Marchetti (1980)**

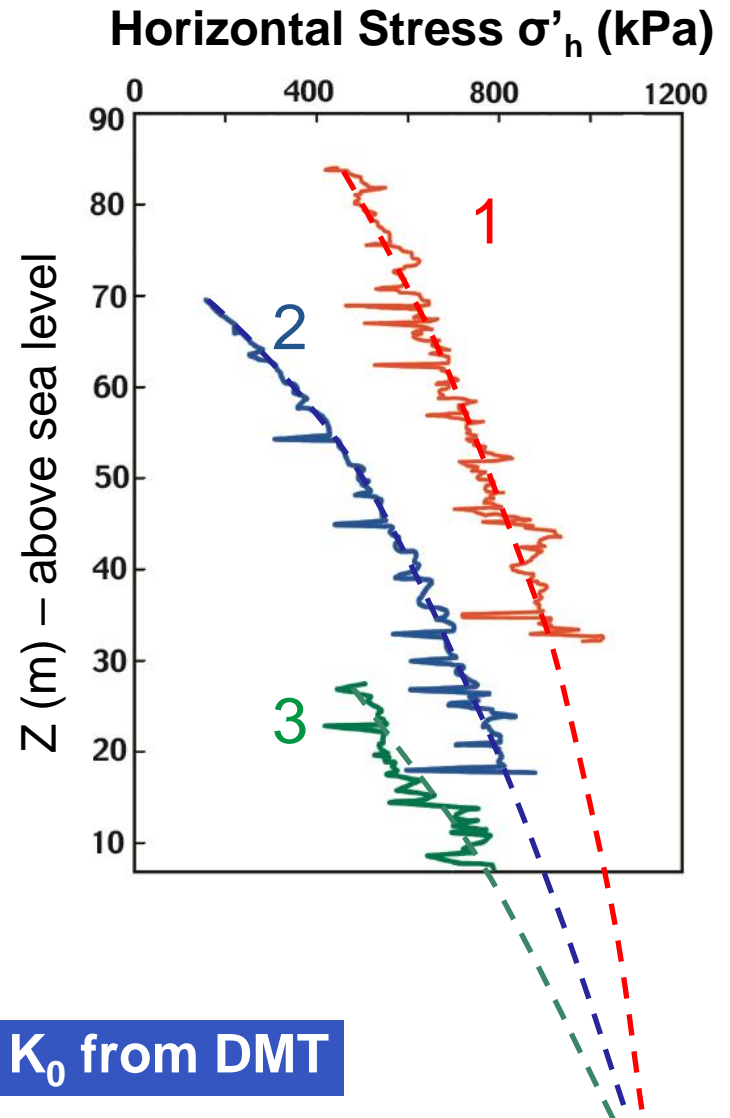
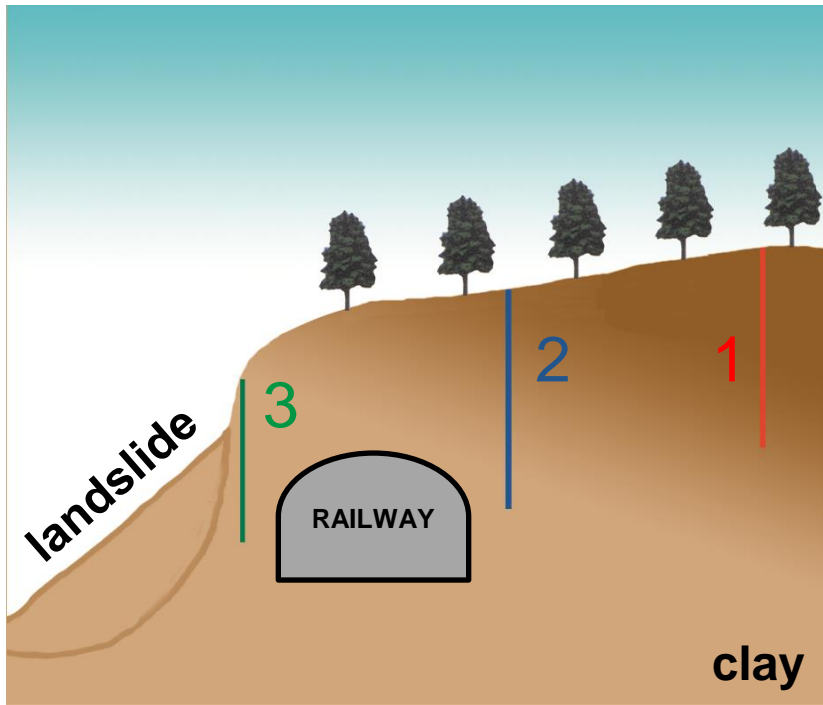


**Theoretical
2004 Yu**



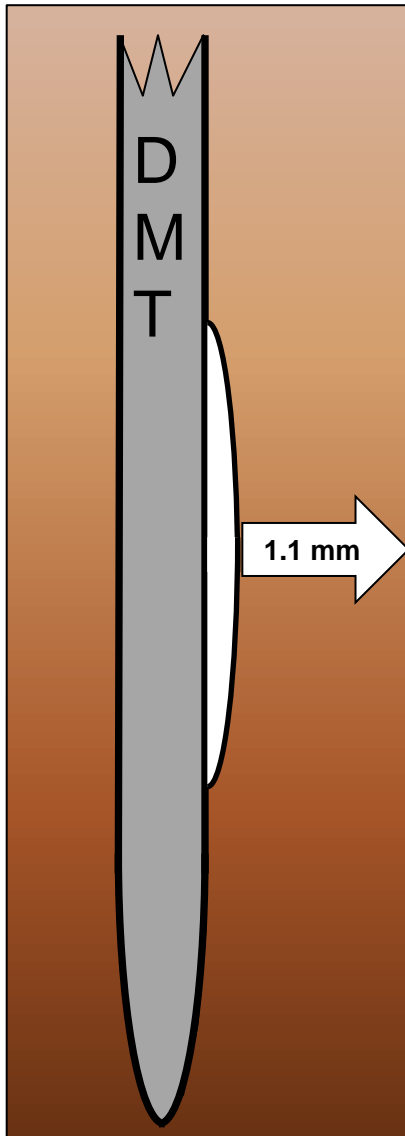
Example: σ'_h relaxation behind a landslide (K_0)

Case History (2002):
Landslide in Milazzo, Sicily



σ'_h obtained using K_0 from DMT

E_D contains information on deformation



Theory of elasticity:

E_D = elastic modulus of the horizontal load test performed by the DMT membrane ($D = 60\text{mm}$, 1.1 mm expansion)

$$E_D = 34.7 \cdot (P_1 - P_0)$$

Gravesen S. "Elastic Semi-Infinite Medium bounded by a Rigid Wall with a Circular Hole", Danmarks Tekniske Højskole, No. 11, Copenhagen, 1960, p. 110.

E_D not directly usable \rightarrow corrections
(penetration, etc)

M obtained from E_D using information on soil type I_D and stress history K_D

I_D (soil type)

E_D (DMT modulus)

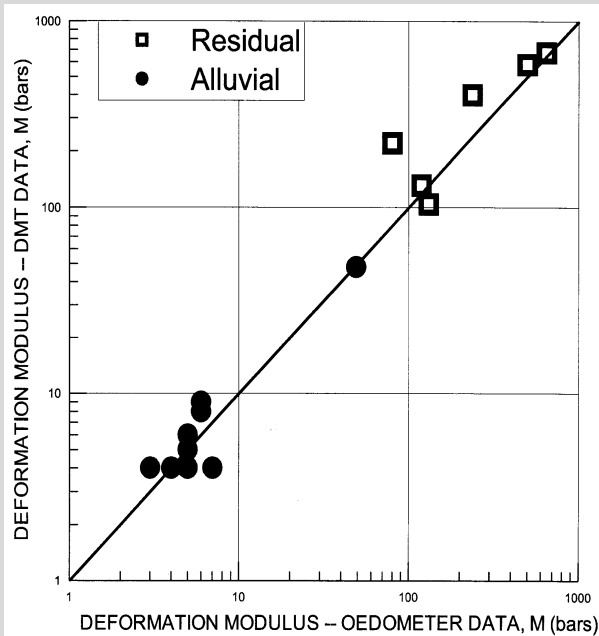
K_D (stress history)

**M
Constrained
Modulus**

```
graph LR; ID["ID (soil type)"] --- J(( )); ED["ED (DMT modulus)"] --- J; KD["KD (stress history)"] --- J; J --> M["M Constrained Modulus"]
```

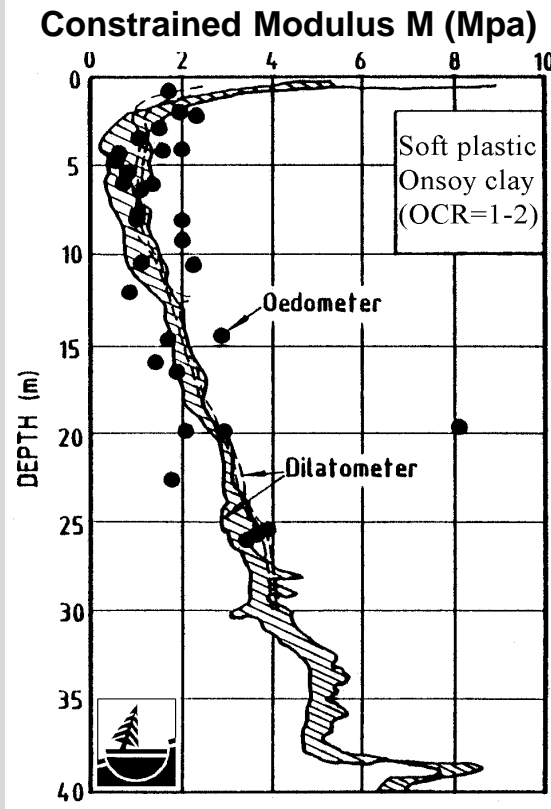
M Comparison from DMT and from Oedometer

Virginia - U.S.A.



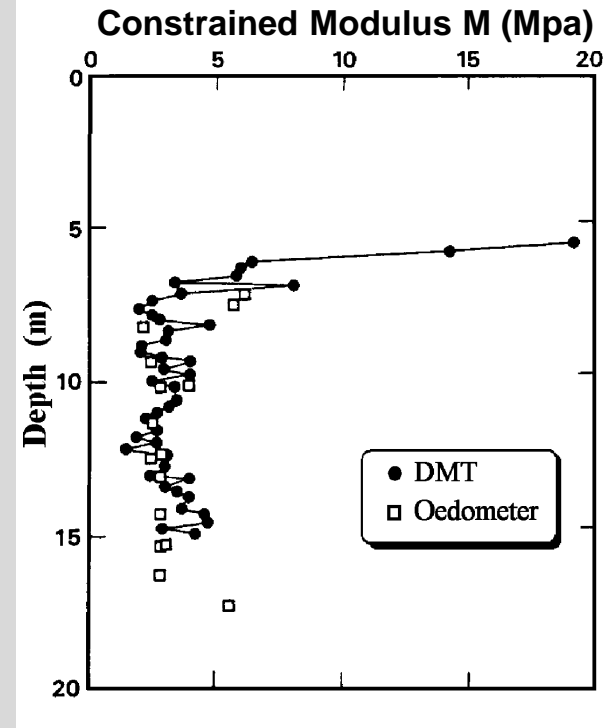
Failmezger, 1999

ONSOY Clay - NORWAY



Norwegian Geotechnical Institute (1986). "In Situ Site Investigation Techniques and interpretation for offshore practice". Report 40019-28 by S. Lacasse, Fig. 16a, 8 Sept 86

Tokyo Bay Clay - JAPAN



Iwasaki K, Tsuchiya H., Sakai Y., Yamamoto Y. (1991) "Applicability of the Marchetti Dilatometer Test to Soft Ground in Japan", GEOCOAST '91, Sept. 1991, Yokohama 1/6

Su in clay (Ladd 1977 Tokyo)

Ladd: *best Su measurement not from TRX UU !!*
best Su: oedometer → OCR → SHANSEP

$$\left(\frac{Su}{\sigma'_v} \right)_{OC} = \left(\frac{Su}{\sigma'_v} \right)_{NC} \cdot OCR^m$$

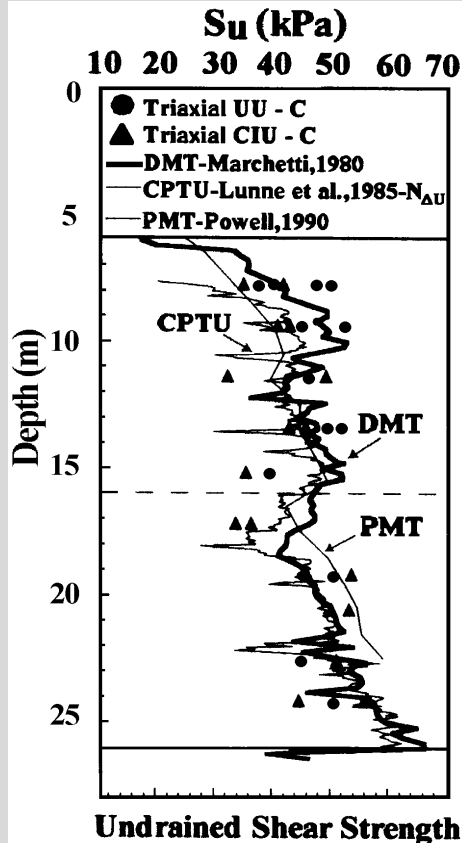
$$OCR = \left(0.5 \cdot K_D \right)^{1.56}$$

Using $m \approx 0.8$ (Ladd 1977) and $(Su/\sigma'_v)_{NC} \approx 0.22$ (Mesri 1975)

$$Su = 0.22 \sigma'_v \left(0.5 \cdot K_D \right)^{1.25}$$

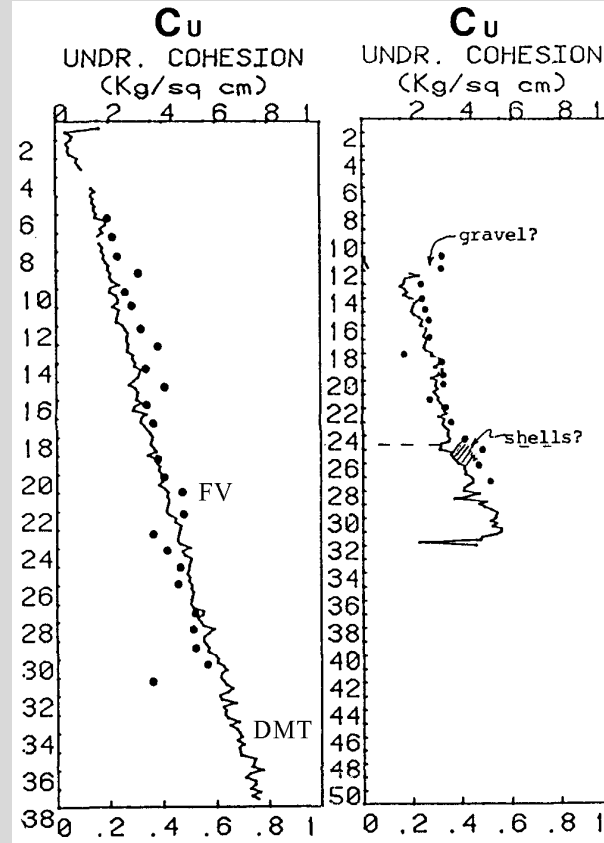
Su comparisons from DMT and from other tests

Recife - Brazil



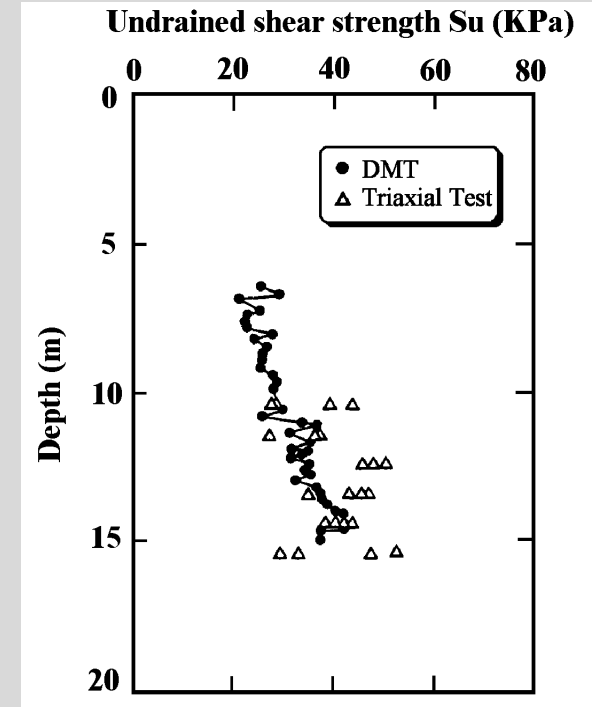
Coutinho et al., Atlanta ISC'98

Skeena Ontario – Canada



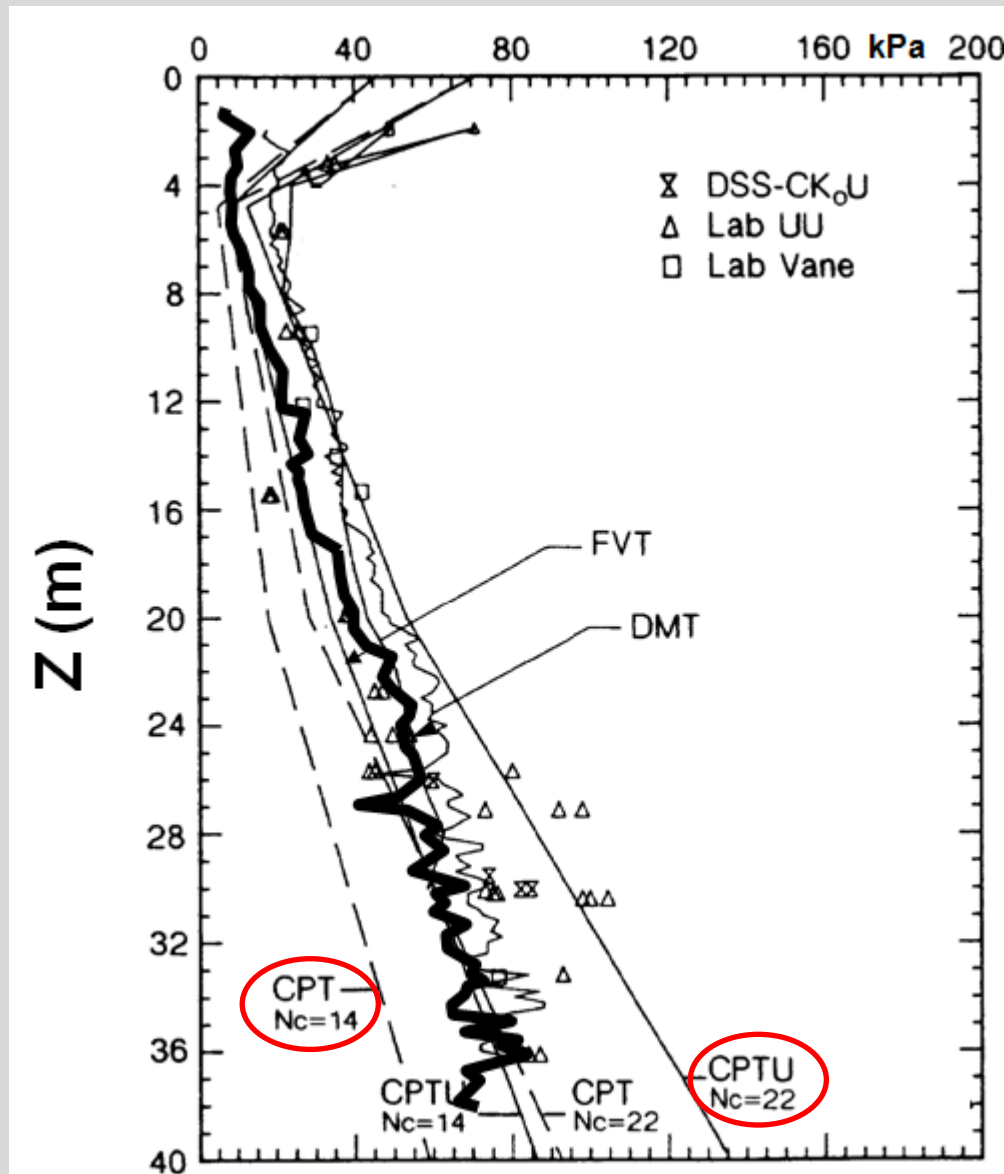
Mekechuk J. (1983). "DMT Use on C.N. Rail Line British Columbia", First Int. Conf. on the Flat Dilatometer, Edmonton, Canada, Feb 83, 50

Tokyo Bay Clay - Japan



Iwasaki K, Tsuchiya H., Sakai Y., Yamamoto Y. (1991) "Applicability of the Marchetti Dilatometer Test to Soft Ground in Japan", GEOCOAST '91, Sept. 1991, Yokohama 1/6

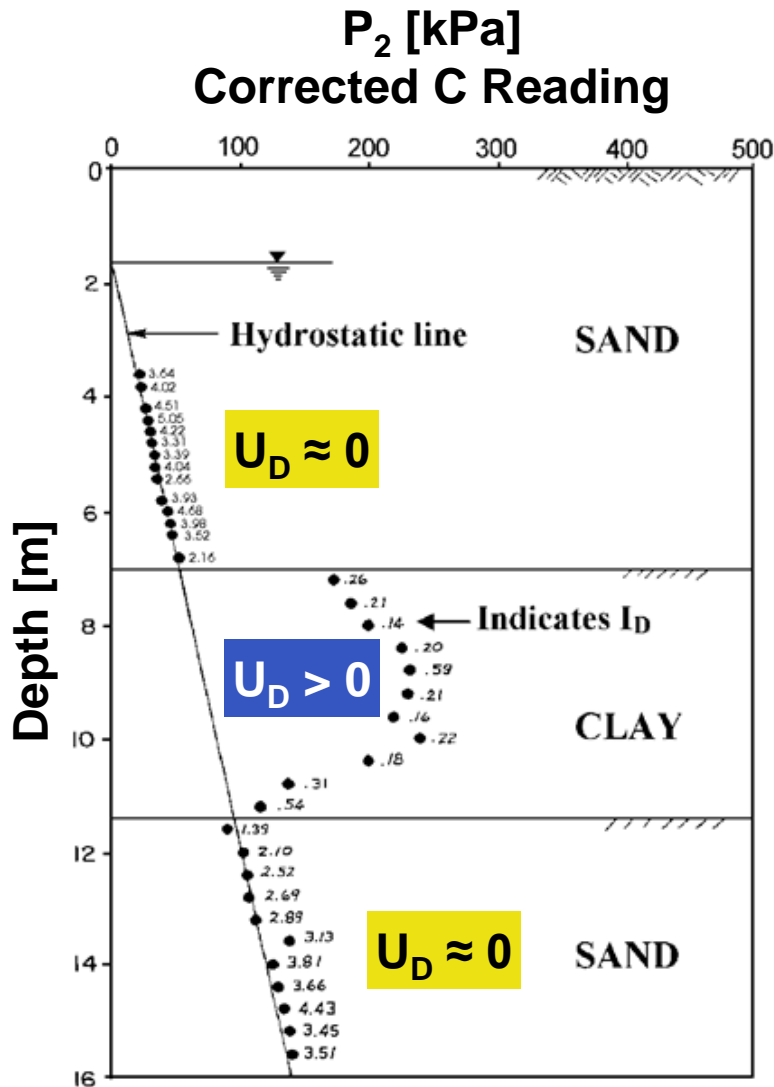
Su at National Site FUCINO – ITALY



CPT: different profiles according to N_c (=14-22)

Pore water pressure: C Readings (P_2)

Schmertmann 1988 (DMT Digest No. 10, May 1988, Fig. 3)



SAND: $P_2 \approx U_0$
drainage (\approx piezometer)

CLAY: $P_2 > U_0$
no drainage (\approx highlights Δu)

Definition: $U_D = \frac{(P_2 - U_0)}{(P_0 - U_0)}$

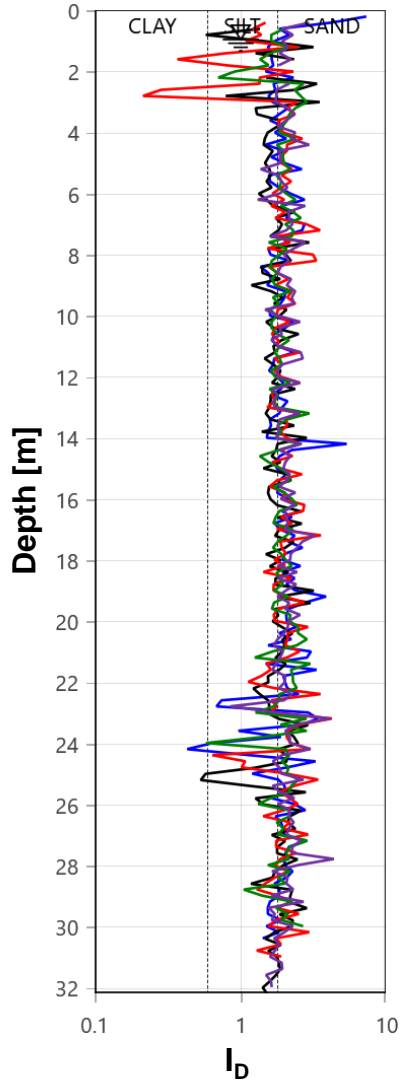
EXAMPLE OF SDMT TESTS IN SAND



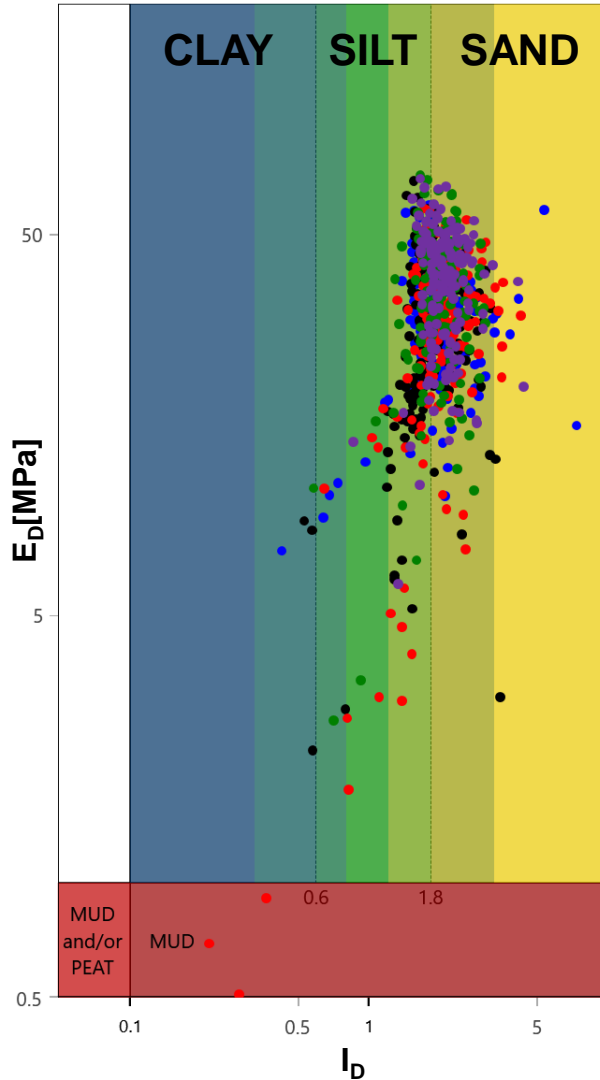
Catania Harbour - 2012

SDMT TESTS IN SAND (Catania 2012)

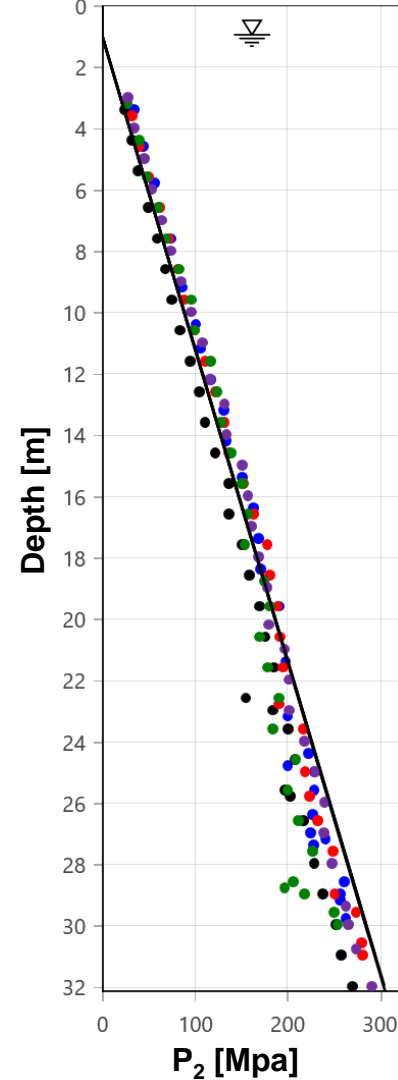
Material Index



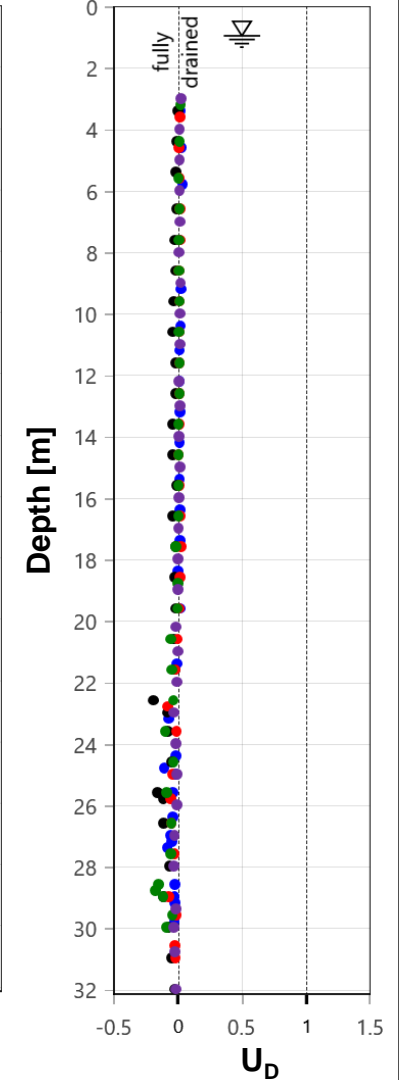
DMT Soil Behavior Type



Corrected C - Reading

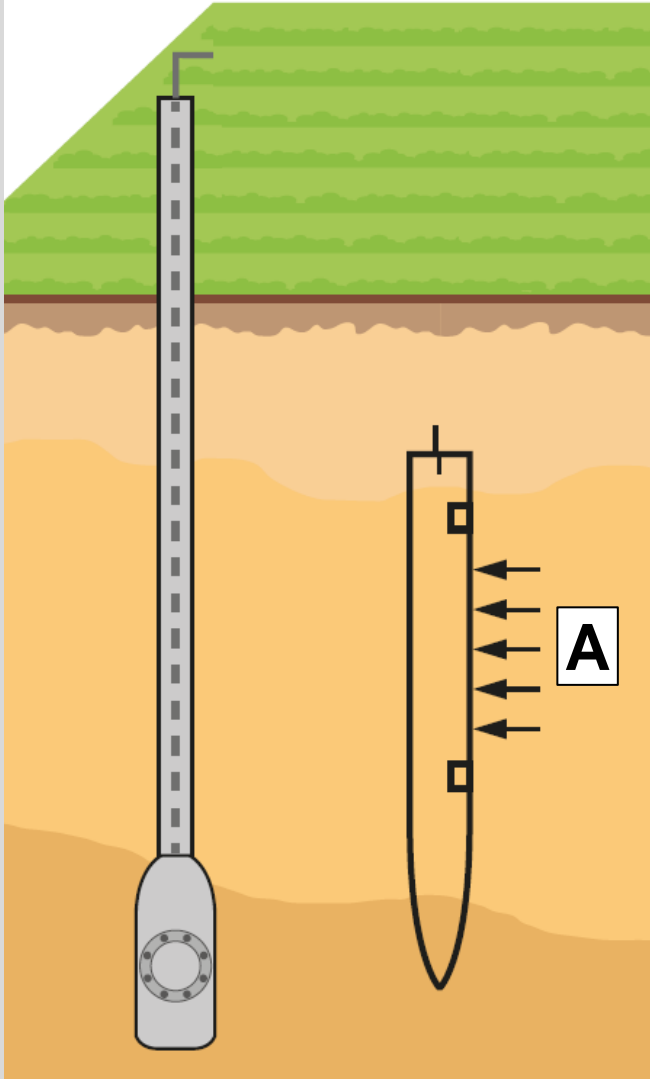


Pore Pressure Index



■ SDMT 1
 ■ SDMT 2
 ■ SDMT 3
 ■ SDMT 4
 ■ SDMT 5

DMT Dissipation Test



Test procedure:

- *Stop penetration (origin $T = 0$ s)*
- *Repeat only A readings (deflate)*

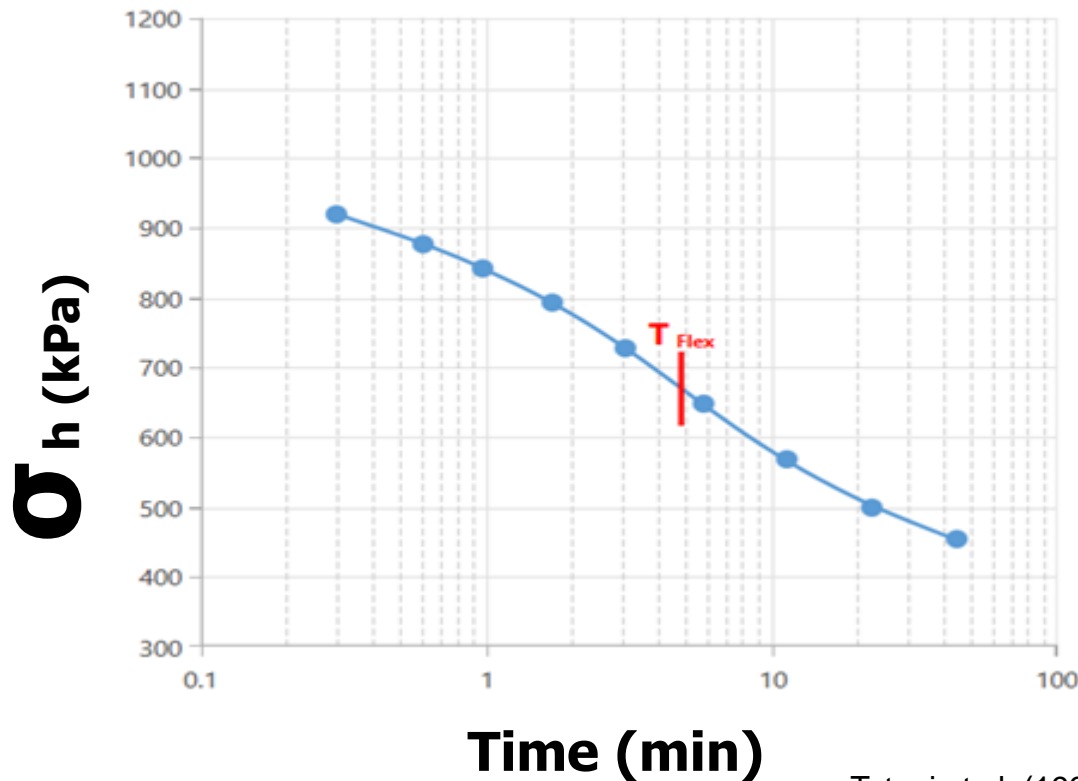
NO MEMBRANE EXPANSION

T [min]	A [kPa]
0.280	1,040
0.600	966
0.870	921
1.350	868
2.430	776
4.600	674

Dissipation test in cohesive soils

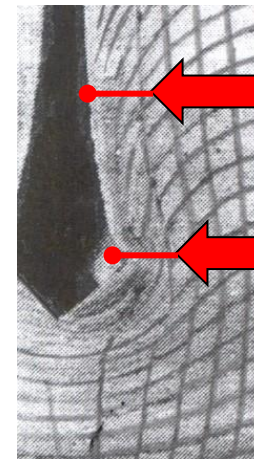
estimate *coefficient consolidation & permeability*

$$C_h \approx \frac{7 \text{ cm}^2}{T_{flex}} \quad k_h = \frac{C \times \gamma_w}{M}$$



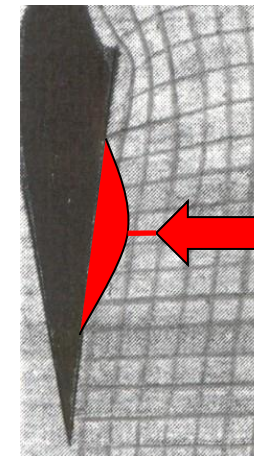
Totani et al. (1998)

wedge vs cone (dissipation)



cone

From $u(t)$ in a singular highly disturbed point



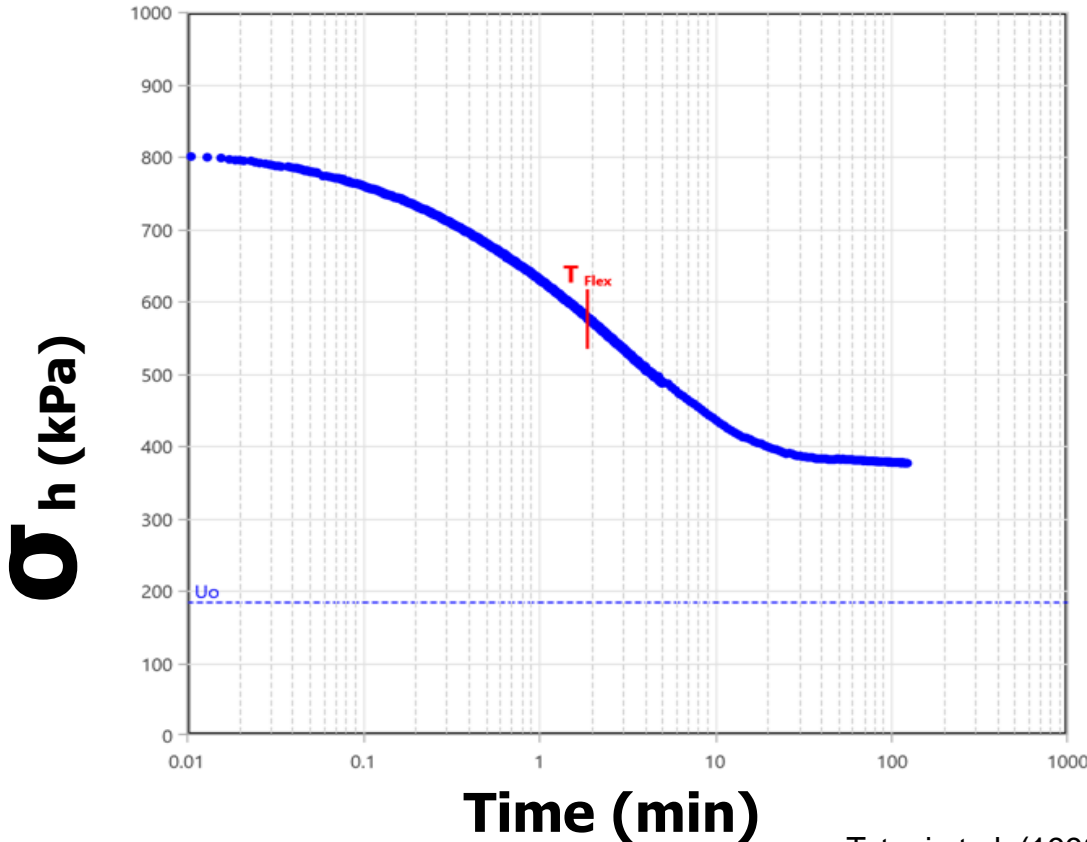
wedge

From a \approx mini embankment
Larger volume in a less disturbed zone

Dissipation test in cohesive soils

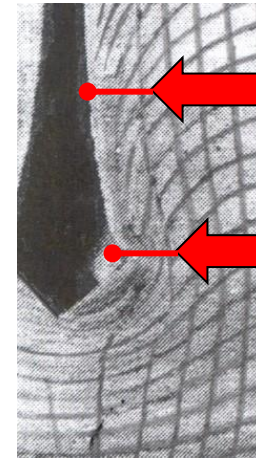
estimate *coefficient consolidation & permeability*

$$C_h \approx \frac{7 \text{ cm}^2}{T_{flex}} \quad k_h = \frac{C \times \gamma_w}{M}$$



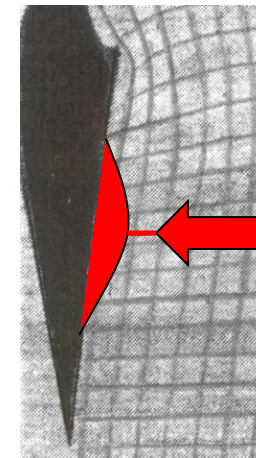
Totani et al. (1998)

wedge vs cone (dissipation)



cone


From $u(t)$ in a singular highly disturbed point





wedge


From a \approx mini embankment
Larger volume in a less disturbed zone

International Standards

 **EUROCODE 7 (2007)**. Standard Test Method, European Committee for Standardization, Part 3: Design Assisted by Field Testing, Section 9: Flat Dilatometer Test (DMT), 9 pp.

 **ISO (2017)**. ISO/TS 22476-11, Geotechnical investigation and testing - Field testing Part 11: The Flat Dilatometer Test, 9 pp

 **ASTM (2016)**. Standard Test Method D6635-15, American Society for Testing and Materials. Standard test method for performing the Flat Dilatometer Test (DMT), 14 pp.

 **TC16 / TC102 (2001)**. “The DMT in soil Investigations”, ISSMGE Technical Committee on Ground Property, Characterization from in-situ testing, 41 pp.

NATIONAL STANDARDS:

- **Italy**: Consiglio Superiore Lavori Pubblici (2009), Protezione Civile (2008)
- **Sweden**: Swedish Geotechnical Society SGF report (1994)
- **France**: ISO/TS 22476-11:2005(F)
- **China**: TB10018 (2003), GB50021 (2003), DGJ08-37 (2012)
- ..

SDMT used in over 80 countries (°)



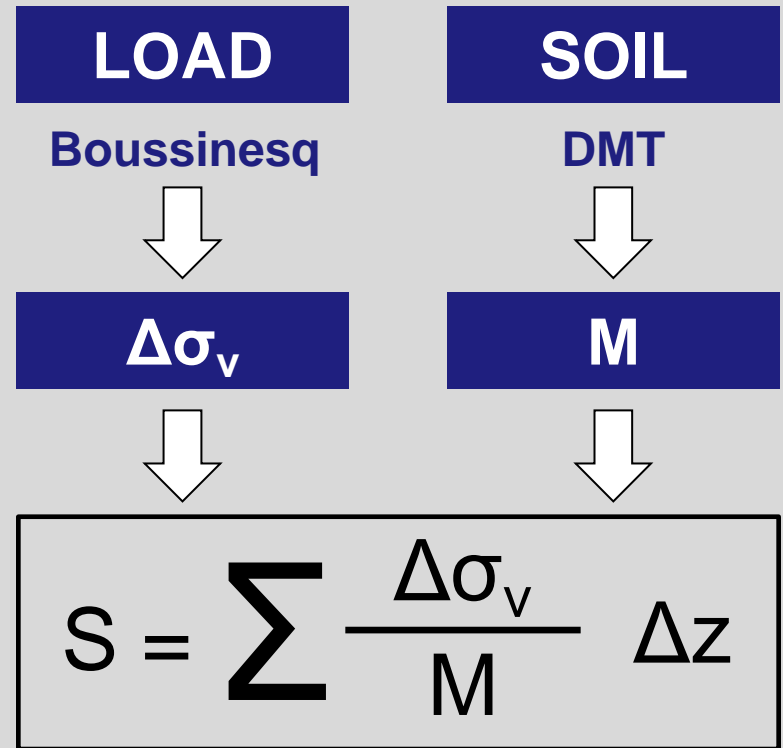
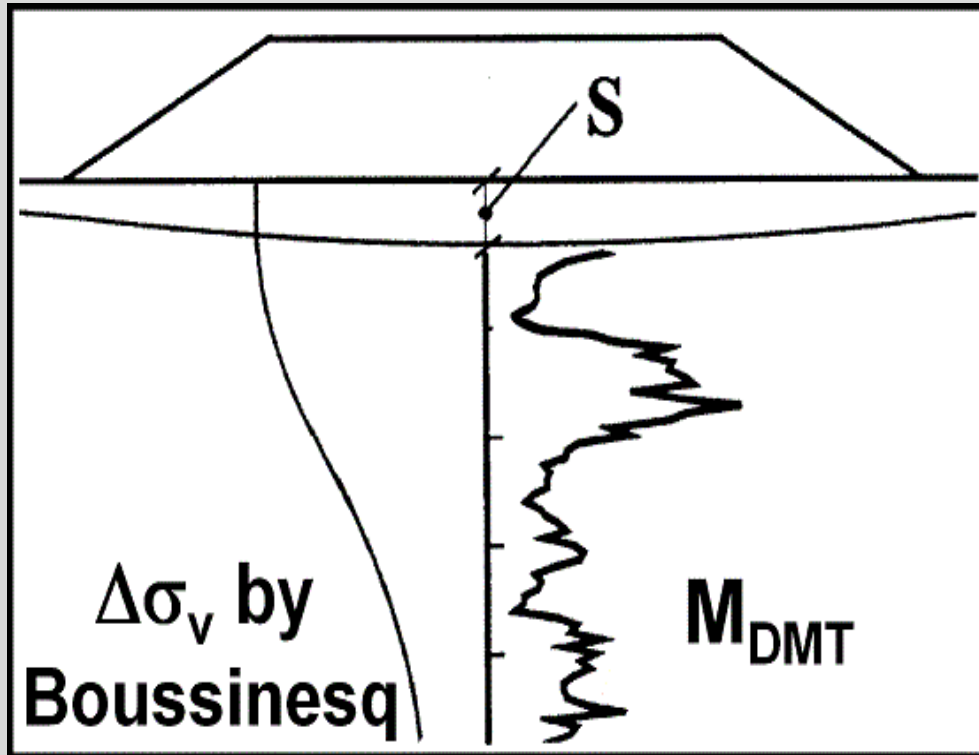
(°) Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, China, Chile, Cyprus, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guadalupe, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazhakstan, Korea, Kosovo, Kuwait, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Myanmar, Netherland, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Panama, Peru, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America, Venezuela, Vietnam.

Main SDMT applications

- Settlements of shallow foundations
- In situ $G-\gamma$ decay curves
- QA of soil improvement
- Slip surface detection in OC clay
- Liquefaction resistance (CRR)
- Laterally loaded piles (P-y curves)
- Diaphragm walls (springs model)
- FEM input parameters (es. Plaxis)
- V_s for soil sample quality assessment

Settlements Prediction (Modulus)

SETTLEMENTS PREDICTION



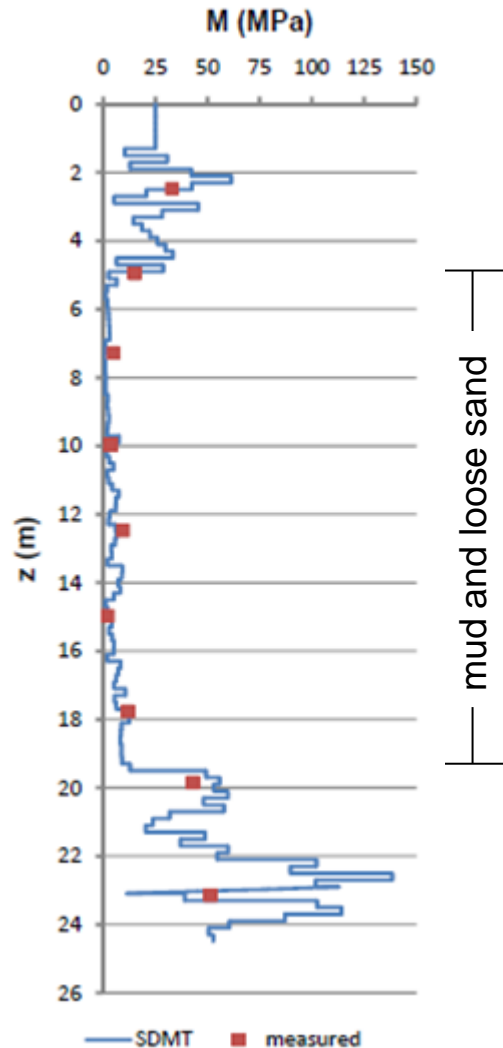
- 1-D approach (classic Terzaghi)
- Primary settlement at working loads ($F_s \approx 2.5-3$ to b.c.)

Many publications & case histories of good agreement between measured and DMT-predicted settlements / moduli:

- *Failmezger (2020)*
- *Godlewski (2018)*
- *McNulty & Harney (2014)*
- *Berisavijevic (2013)*
- *Vargas (2009)*
- *Bullock (2008)*
- *Monaco (2006)*
- *Lehane & Fahey (2004)*
- *Mayne (2001, 2004)*
- *Failmezger (1999, 2000, 2001)*
- *Crapps & Law Engineering (2001)*
- *Tice & Knott (2000)*
- *Woodward (1993)*
- *Iwasaki et al. (1991)*
- *Hayes (1990)*
- *Mayne & Frost (1988)*
- *Schmertmann (1986, 1988)*
- *Steiner (1994)*
- *Leonards (1988)*
- *Lacasse and Lunne (1986)*
- ..
- ..

Observed vs. Predicted Settlements by DMT

Silos on Danube Bank (Belgrade)



Silo founded on mat 100 m x 23 m, with $q_{net} = 160$ kPa

DMT Settlement prediction: 77 cm

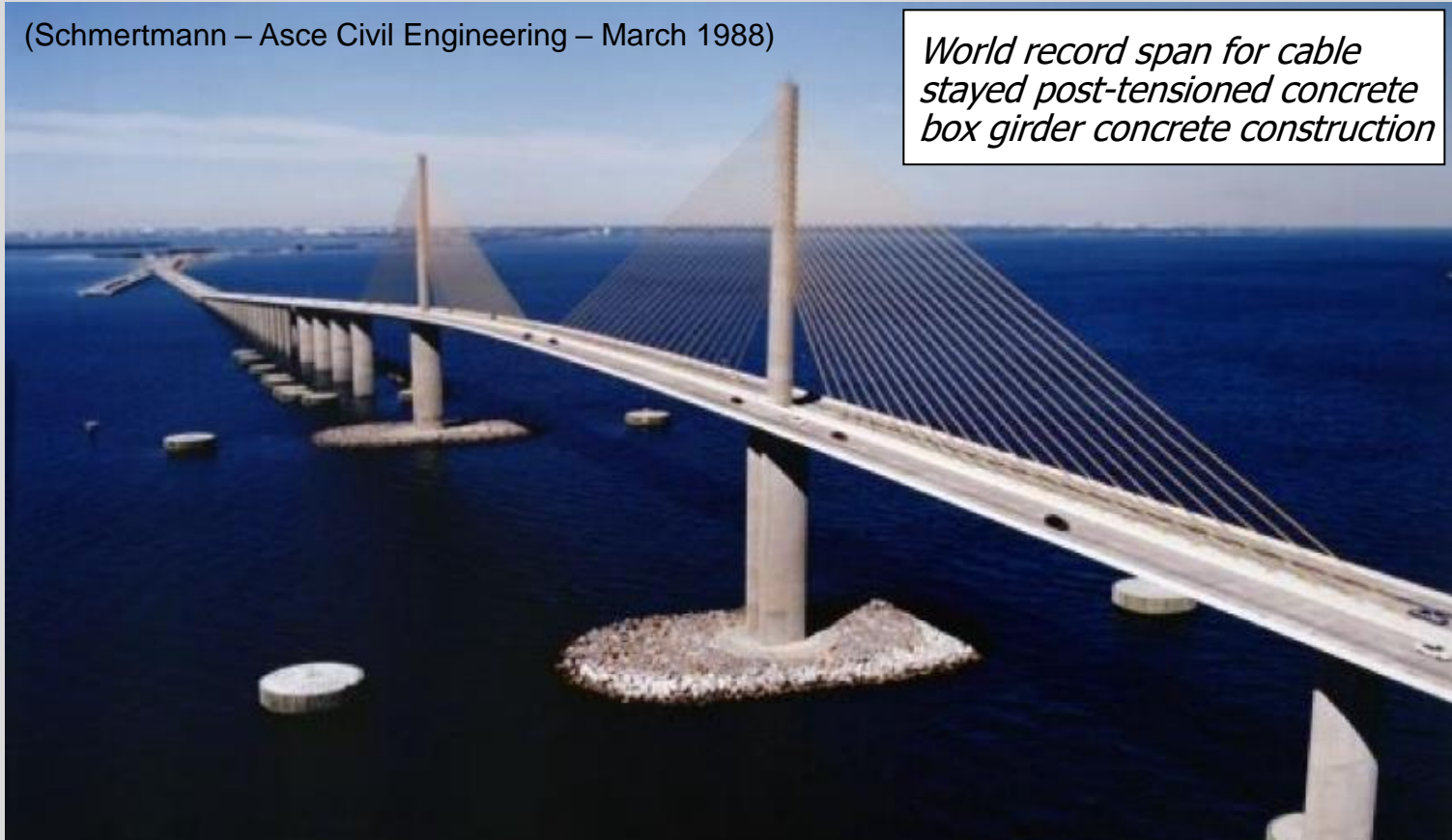
Measured Settlement: 63 cm

DMT +22%

Sunshine Skyway Bridge – Tampa Bay – Florida

(Schmertmann – Asce Civil Engineering – March 1988)

World record span for cable stayed post-tensioned concrete box girder concrete construction



M from DMT \approx 200 MPa (\approx 1000 DMT data points)

M from laboratory: M \approx 50 MPa

M from observed settlements: M \approx 240 MPa

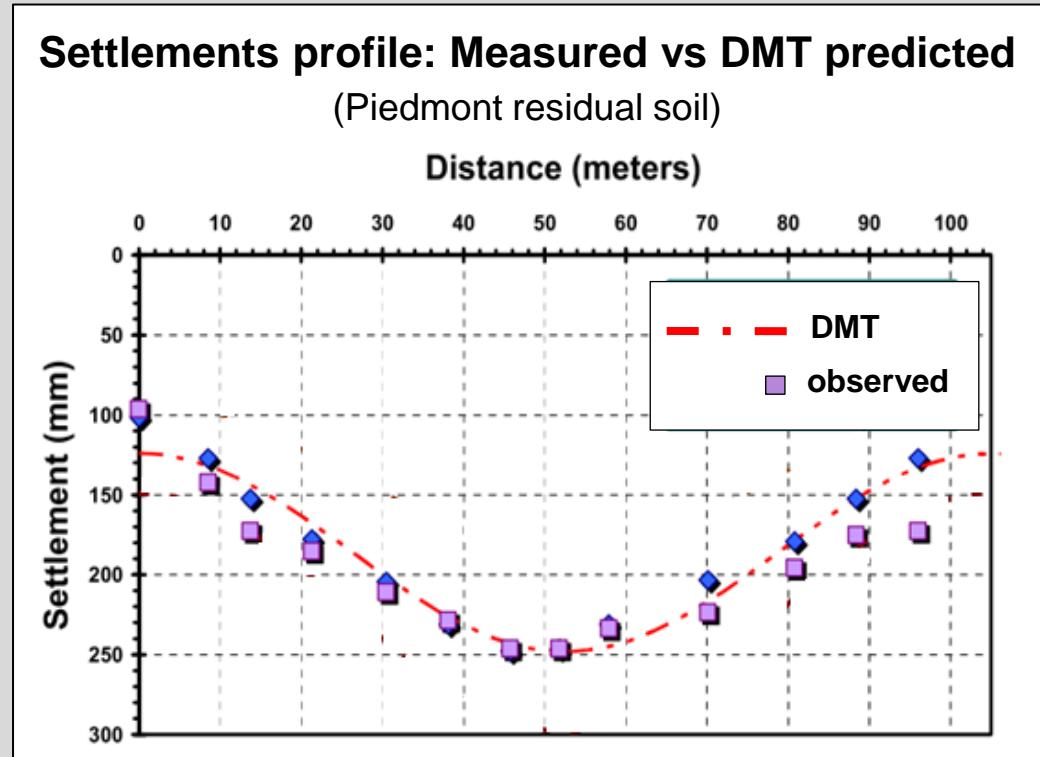
→ DMT good estimation of M in this site

Observed vs. Predicted Settlements by DMT

Dormitory Building 13 storeys (Atlanta - USA)

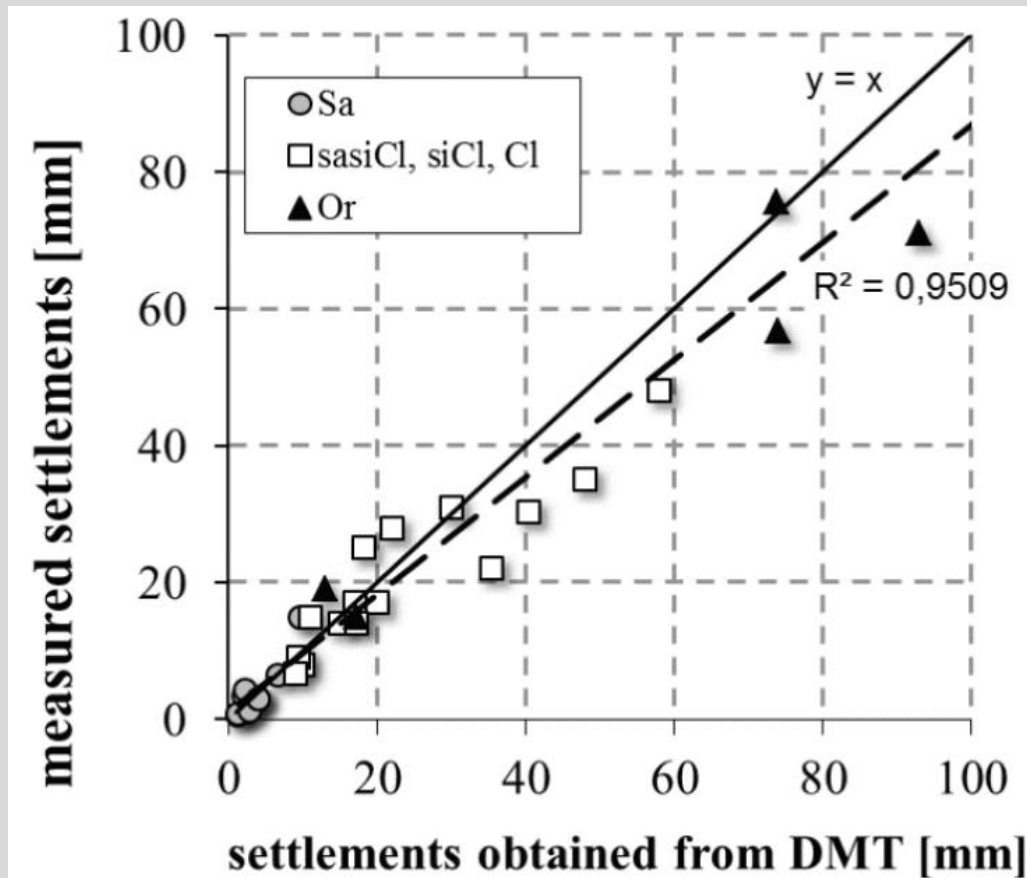


Mayne, 2005



SPT Settlement prediction: 46 mm
DMT Settlement prediction: 250 mm
Observed Settlement: 250 mm
SPT → error is large and unsafe !!!

28 Projects: observed vs. predicted by DMT



Different soil types

Godlewski, 2018

“..comparison of settlement values measured at the structures with respect to those obtained by dilatometer data and observations (28 structures). It should be added that the given set of buildings was limited to structures with shallow foundation..”

Example of SDMT measurements and a 'real time' Settlements Prediction at a demonstration site for a workshop

Bogotá (Colombia - 2015)

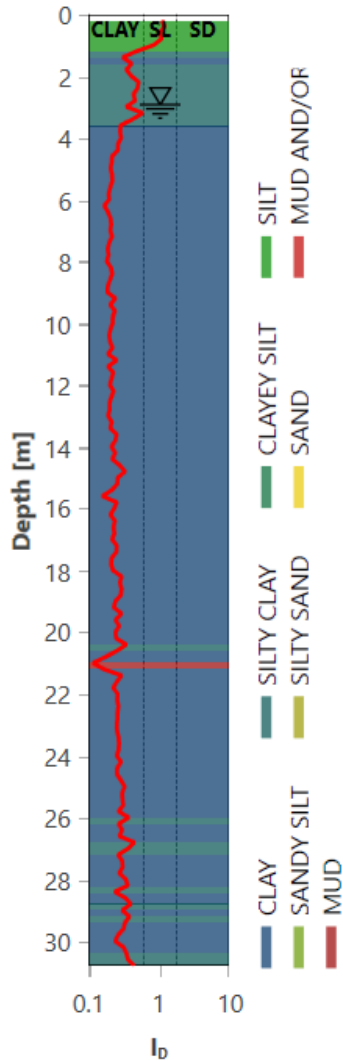
Example of SDMT tests in Clay



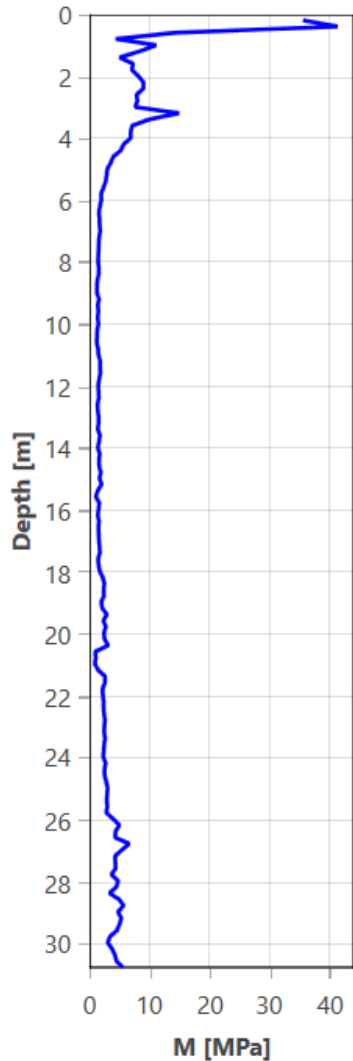
SDMT Workshop in Colombia (May 2015, Bogotá)

SDMT Escuela Colombiana 9 May 2015

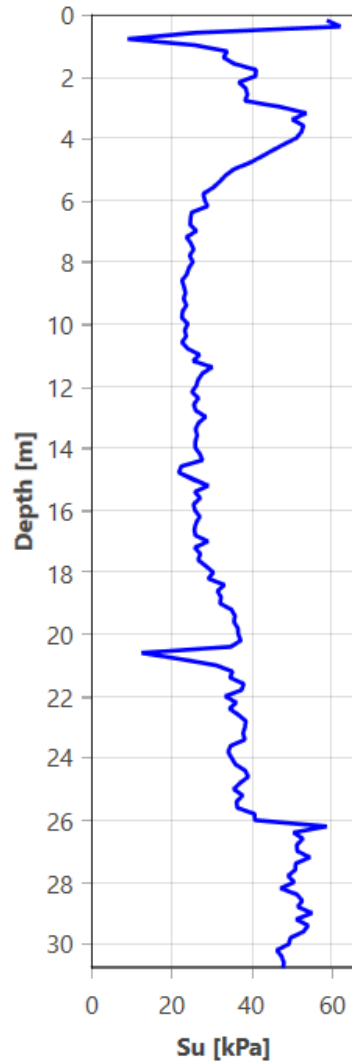
Material Index



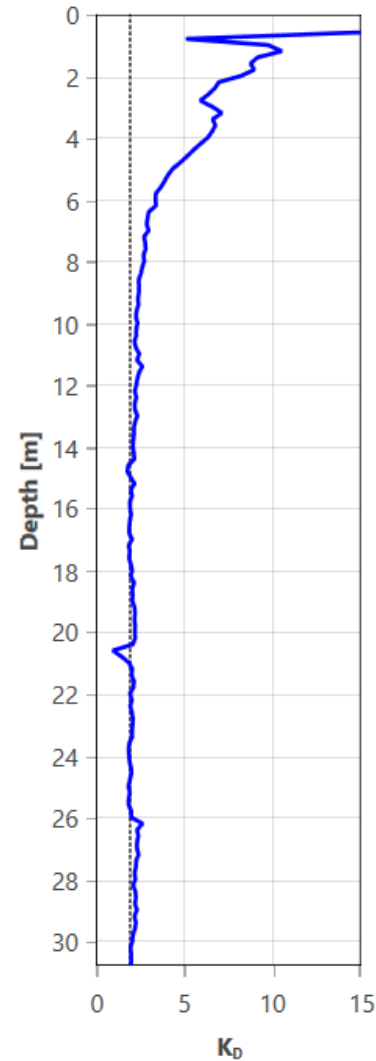
Constrained Modulus



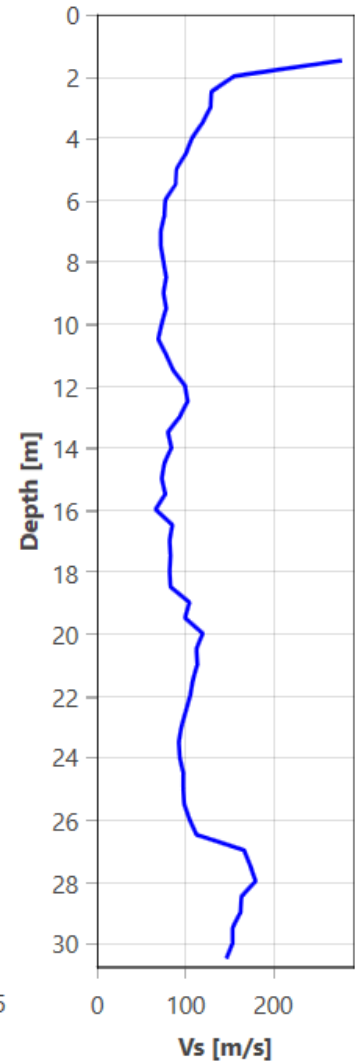
Undrained Shear Strength



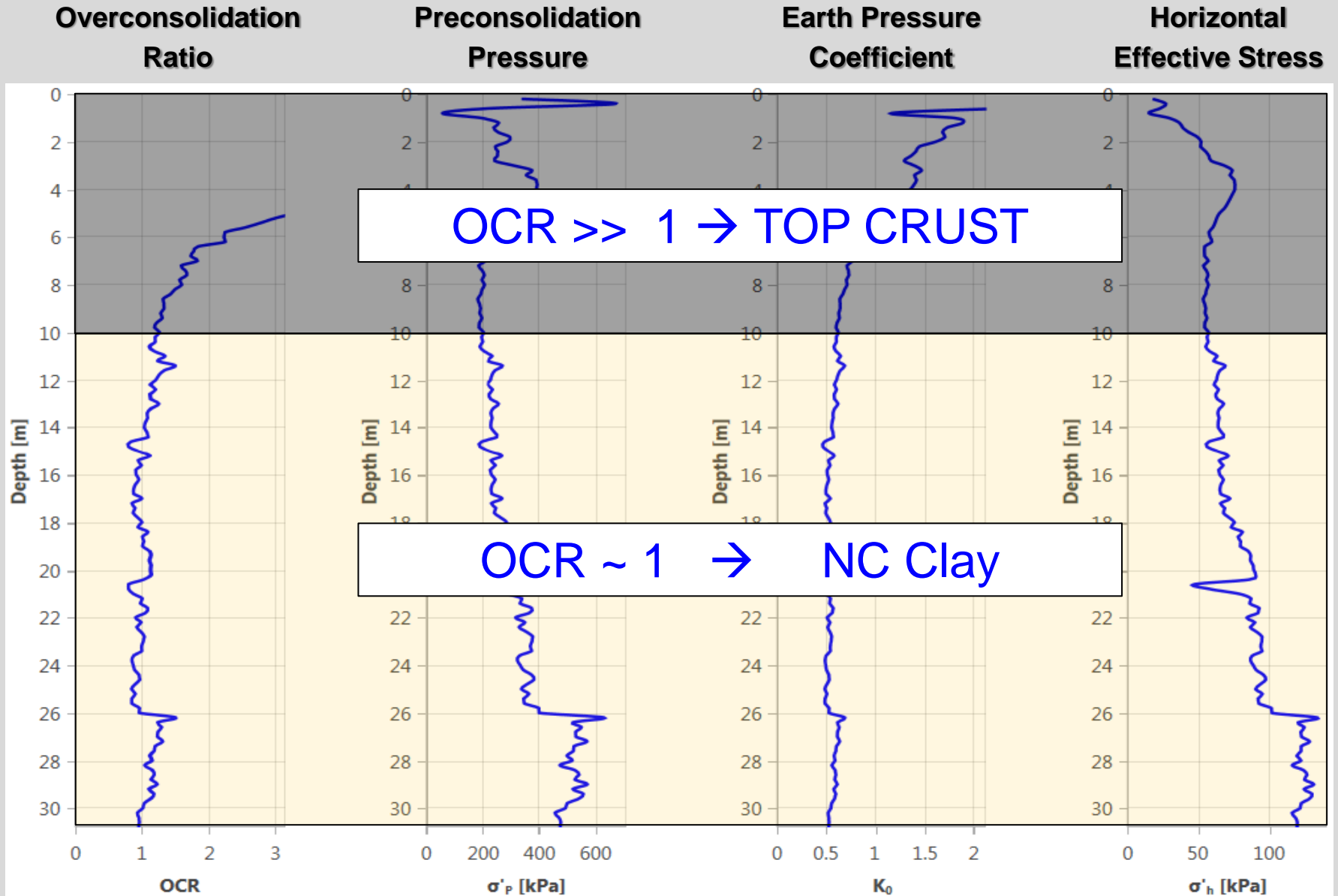
Horizontal Stress Index



Shear Wave Velocity



STRESS HISTORY PARAMETERS



Settlements Calculation: Load information

DMT Settlements

File Settings Info

Load Area Soil Parameters Calculation Options Settlements Calculation Tables Graphs Report

Load Area Type Isolated
 Multiple Loaded Area

Shape of Load Area Square
Rectangle
Circle

Rectangular Load Area

Short Side m

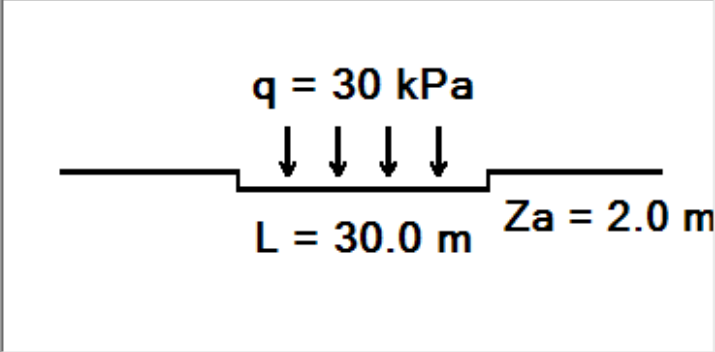
Long Side m

Uniformly Distributed Load kPa

Total Vertical Load 13500 kN

Depth of Load Area Base m

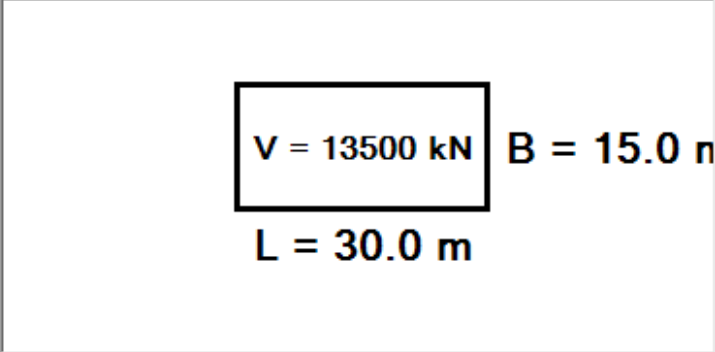
CROSS SECTION



$q = 30 \text{ kPa}$

$L = 30.0 \text{ m}$ $Z_a = 2.0 \text{ m}$

TOP VIEW



$V = 13500 \text{ kN}$ $B = 15.0 \text{ m}$

$L = 30.0 \text{ m}$

Settlements Calculation: Soil information

DMT Settlements

File Settings Info

Load Area Soil Parameters Calculation Options Settlements Calculation Tables Graphs Report

Soil parameters from DMT Uni file

Test Name

Firm

Customer

Job

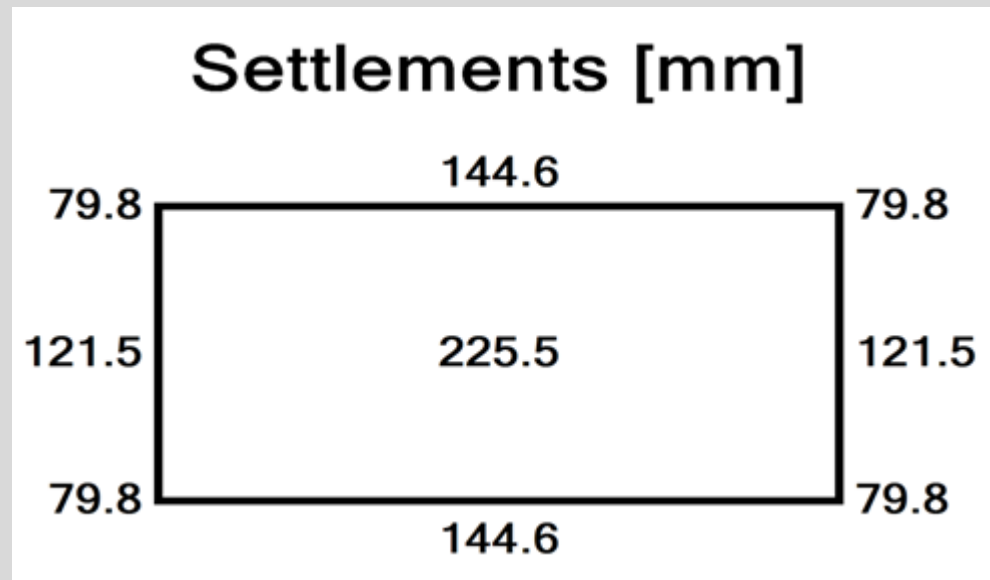
Site

Remark

Date

Z [m]	M [MPa]	Sigma'v [kPa]
0.20	35.7	3
0.40	41.5	7
0.60	14.5	10
0.80	4.4	13
1.00	11.2	16
1.20	8.4	19
1.40	5.1	23
1.60	7.3	26
1.80	7.1	29
2.00	8.2	32
2.20	9.0	36
2.40	9.0	39
2.60	7.9	42
2.80	8.0	46
3.00	7.7	49

Settlements Calculation



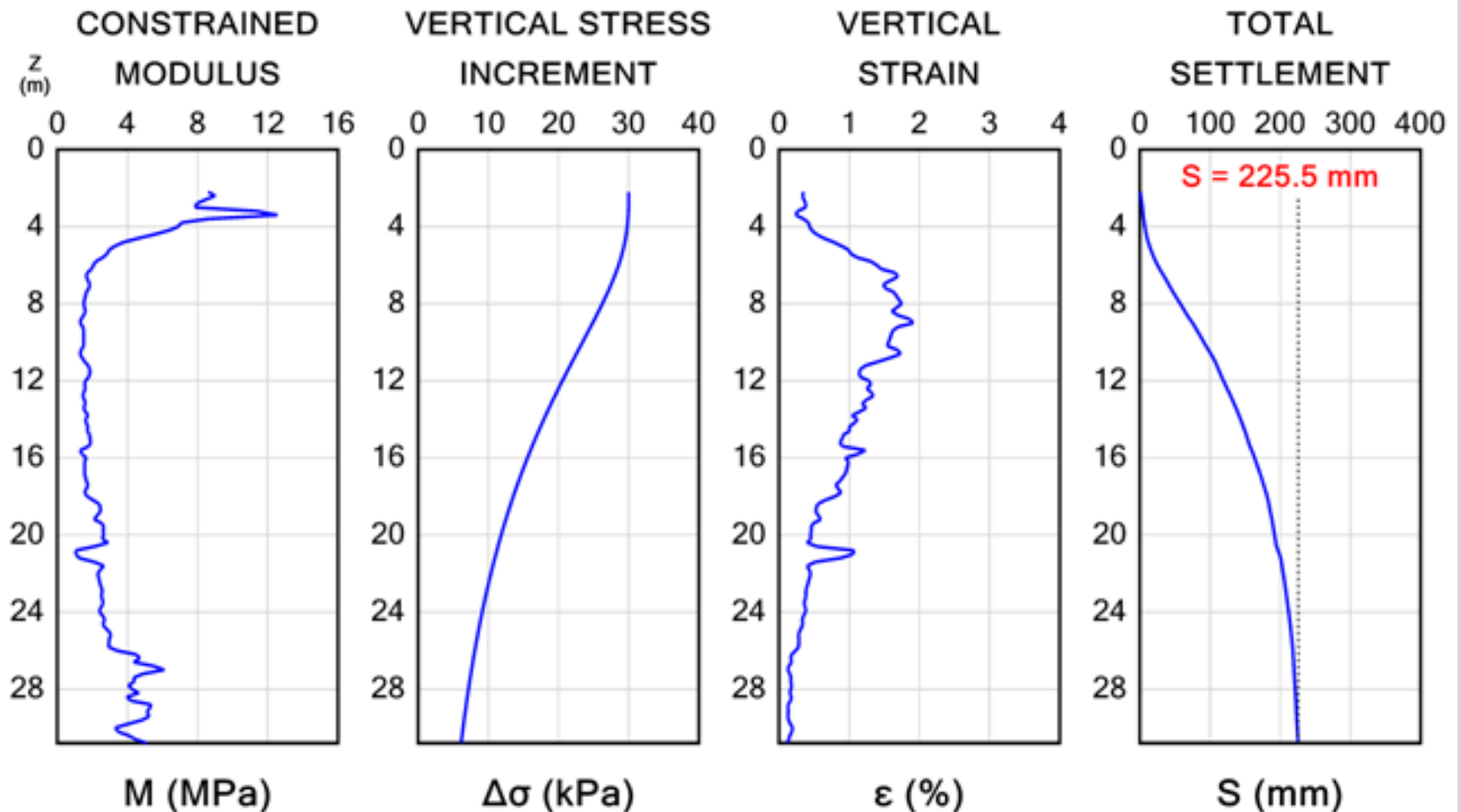
	Settlements Calculation Point	Settlements [mm]	Z Stop [m]	$\Delta\sigma/\sigma'v$
▶	below the center	225.5	30.80	0.027
	below the corner	79.8	30.80	0.017
	below the median point of short side	121.5	30.80	0.019
	below the median point of long side	144.6	30.80	0.024

Settlements: graph below center of load

SETTLEMENTS CALCULATION - below the center

CONFERENCIA ESCUELA COLOMBIANA
MARCHETTI

UNIVERSIDADE ESCUELA COLOMBIANA
BOGOTA' COLOMBIA



Main differences CPT-DMT

1. Flexibility in penetration

CPT – measurements performed at fix penetration rate of 2 cm / sec

- penetrometer required
- penetration rate may influence results

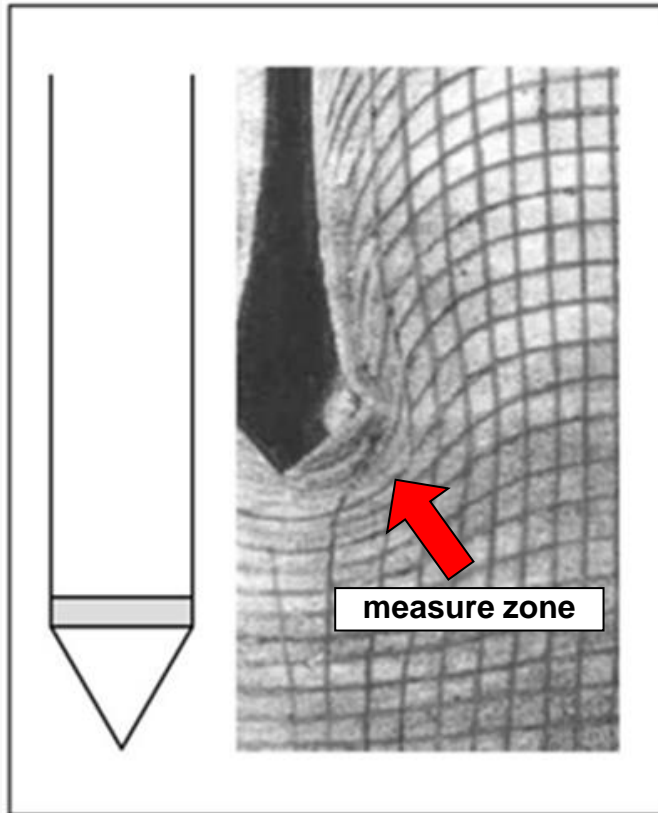
DMT – no requirement on penetration rate.

Measurements when blade is not moving.

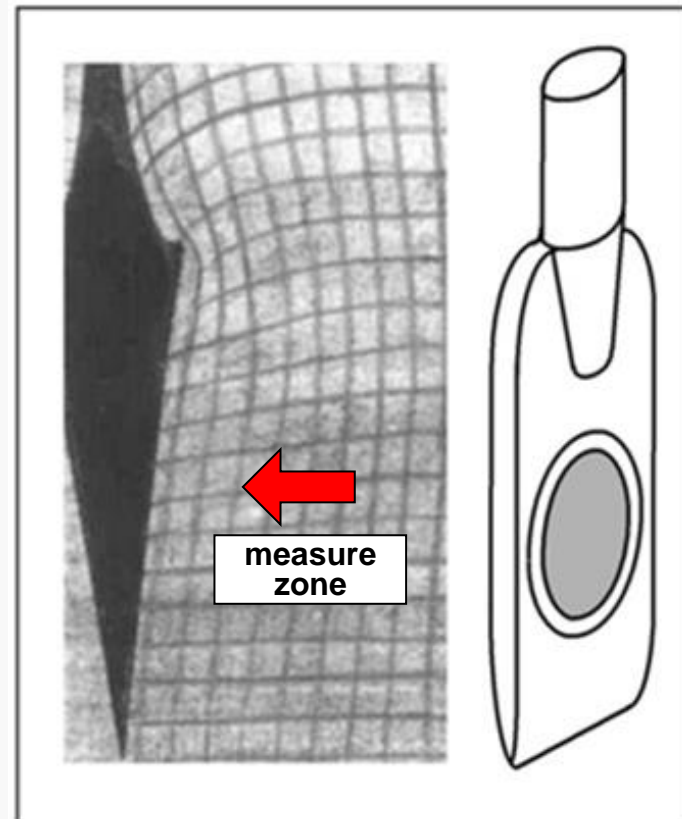
- penetrometer, drill rig, floating barge, etc
- measurements independent of penetration rate

2. Probe shape and soil distortion

Cone

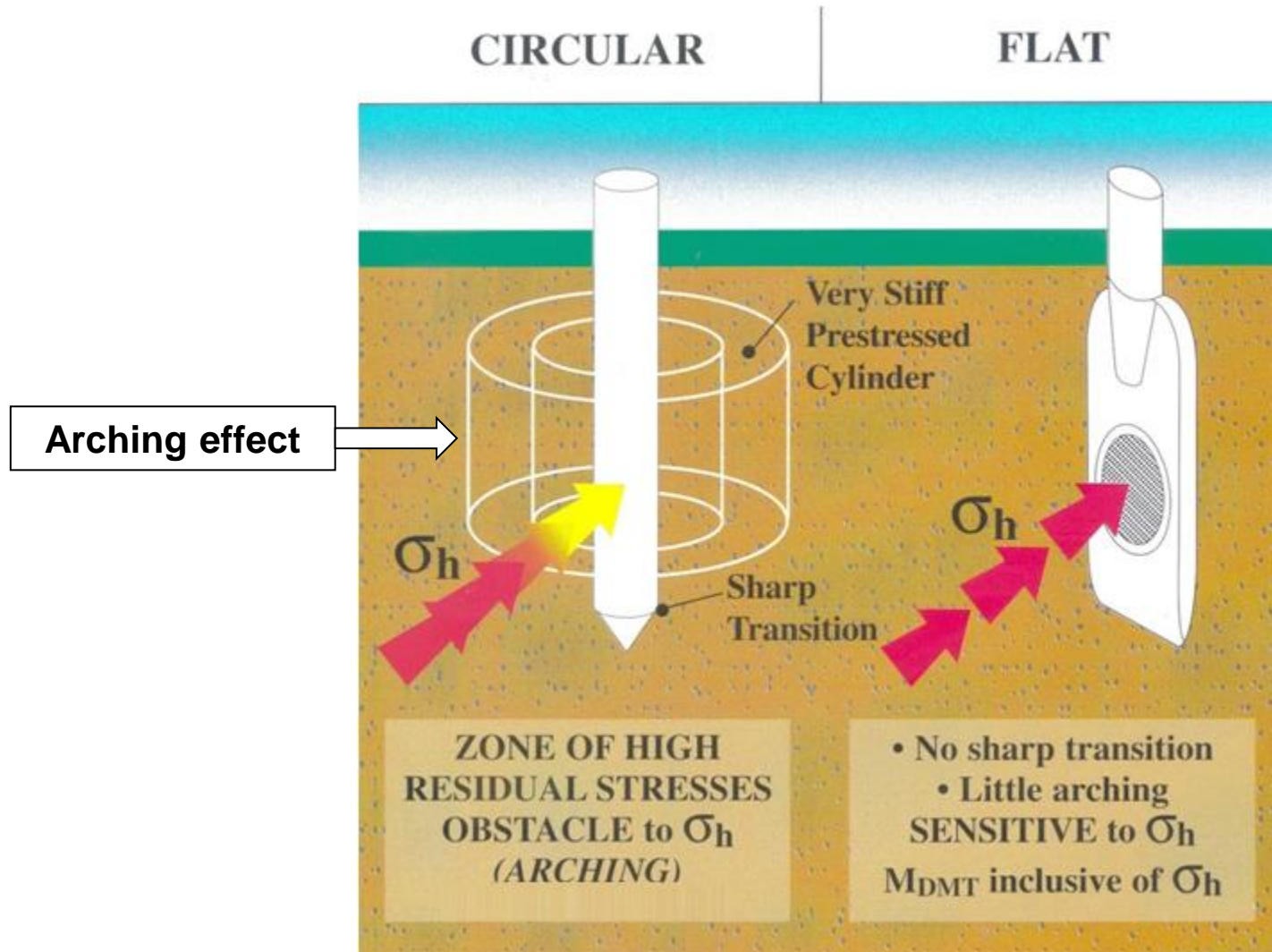


Blade



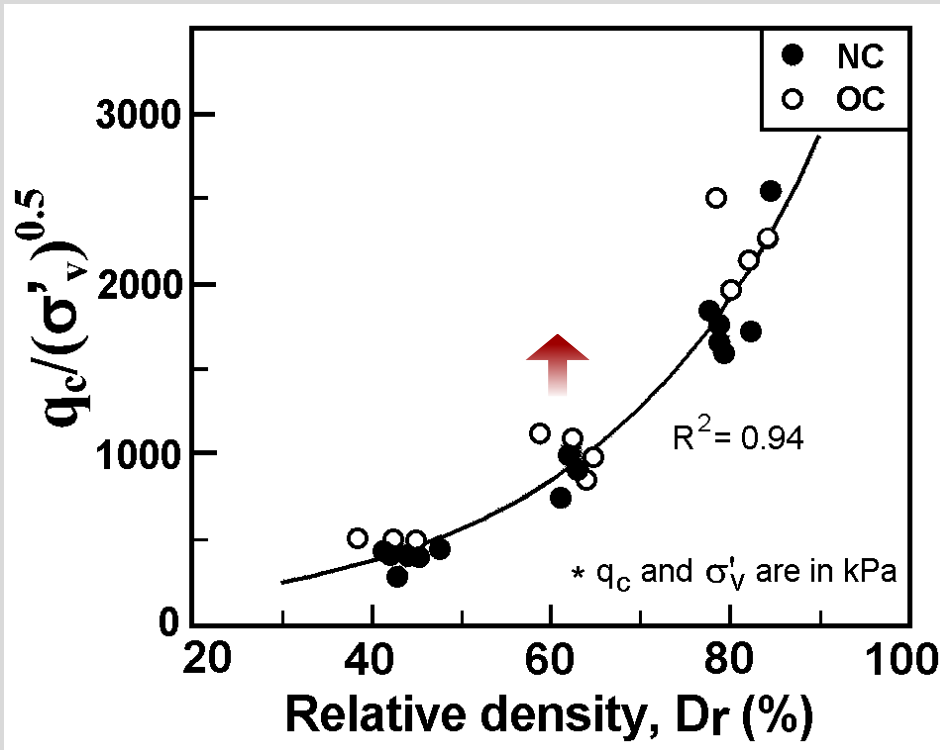
Blade penetration causes less distortion than cone penetration, preserving the original state of the soil → less disturbance

3. Sensitivity to σ_h of CPT(SPT) and DMT

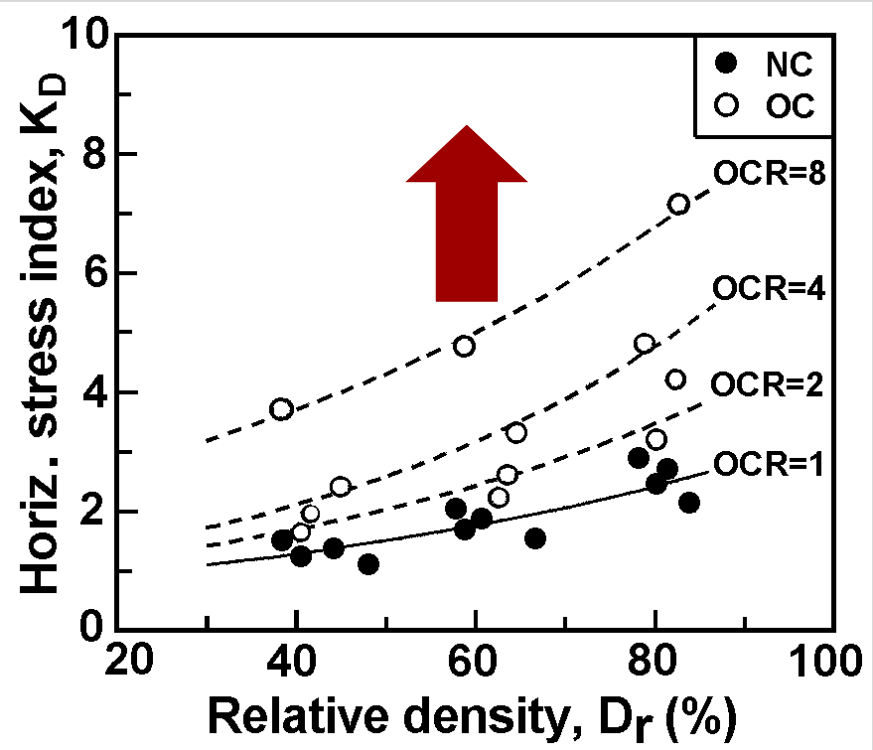


4) SANDS: Stress History effects ON CPT & DMT

Effect of SH on normalized Q_c (CPT)



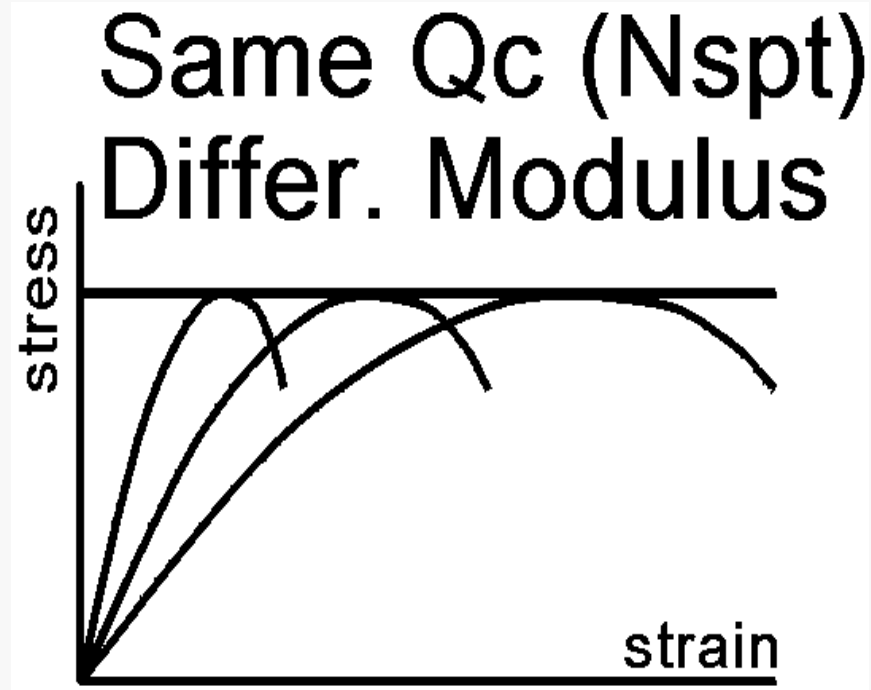
Effect of SH on K_D (DMT)



Lee 2011, Eng. Geology – CC in sand

K_D sensitive to Stress History

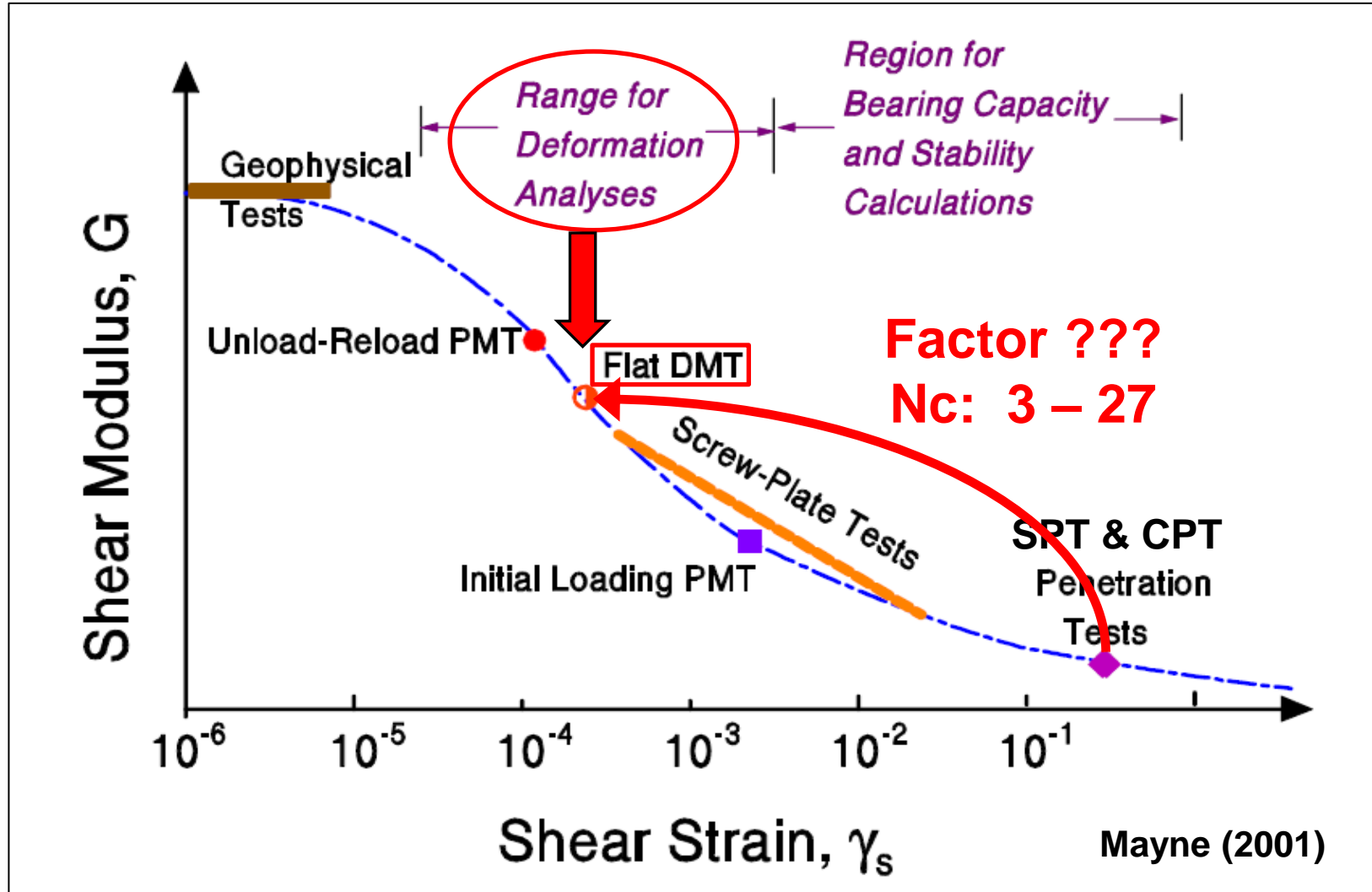
5. DMT (like PMT): Modulus direct measurement



Stiffness \neq Strength

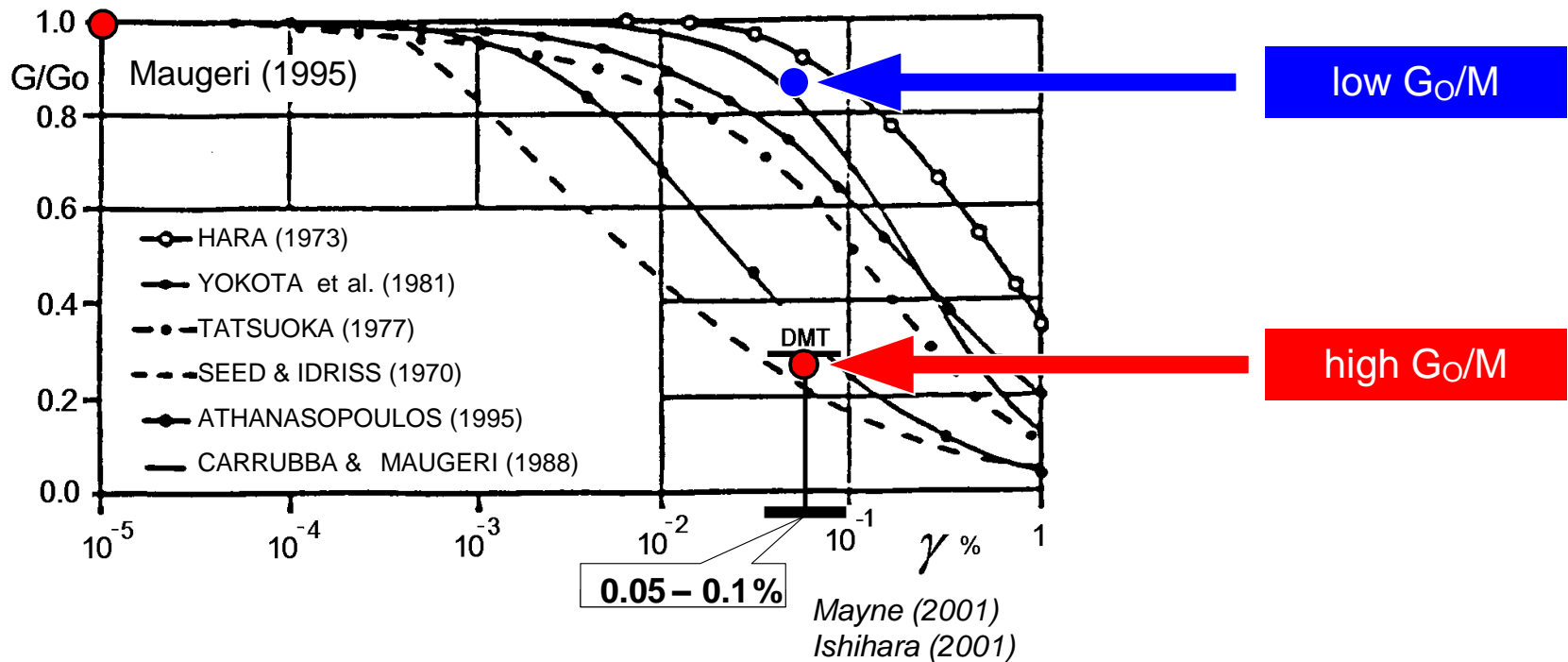
CPT (SPT) measures resistance and correlates to stiffness with a factor ranging significantly: $\sim (3 - 27)$

6. DMT: direct measurement of modulus in the soil loaded at the strain level for deformation analysis



G-gamma decay curves (in situ)

G_0 and M_{DMT} on the $G - \gamma$ decay curve



SDMT → G_0 - small strain modulus (from V_s)
 two points M_{DMT} - working strain modulus ($\gamma = 0.05 - 0.1 \%$)

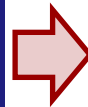
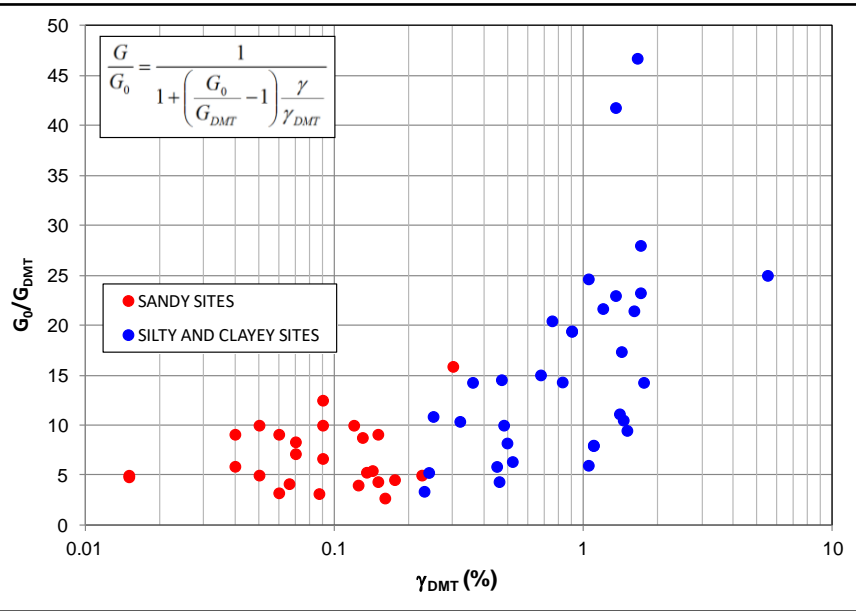
G_0 / M_{DMT} may provide an in situ estimate of the $G-\gamma$ decay curve

Publications: Rodriguez et al (2019), Amoroso et al (2012, 2014), Marchetti et al (2008),
 Lehane & Fahey (2004) Porto ISC-2 – non linear settlement analysis from in situ tests

Tentative estimation of $G - \gamma$ decay curve

SDMT experimental data used to assist the construction of a **hyperbolic equation**

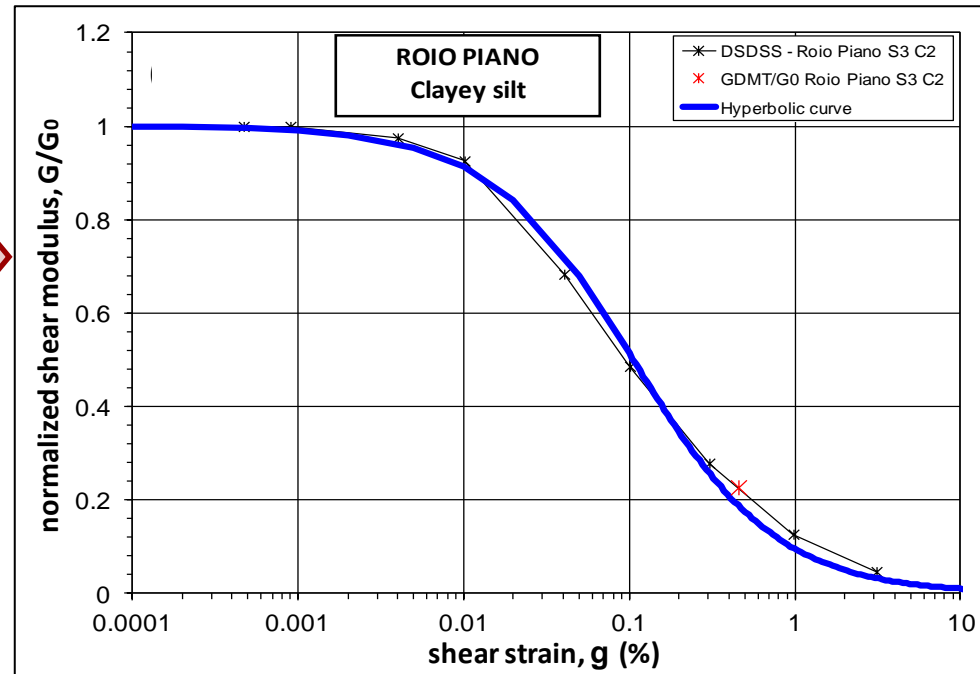
$$\frac{G}{G_0} = \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{G_0}{G_{DMT}} - 1 \right) \frac{\gamma}{\gamma_{DMT}}}$$



Good agreement between hyperbolic SDMT estimation and laboratory stiffness decay curve

Amoroso et al. 2014

requires further validation



Quality Assessment of Soil Improvement

In the last decades the DMT has been increasingly used in compaction jobs to quantify the gain in soil improvement

Ground Reinforcement

- Stone Columns
- Soil Nails
- Micropiles
- Jet Grouting
- Ground Anchors
- Geosynthetics
- Fibers
- Lime Columns
- Vibro-Concrete Columns
- ..

Ground Improvement

- Surface Compaction
- Drainage/Surcharge
- Electro-osmosis
- Compaction grouting
- Blasting
- Dynamic Compaction
- ..

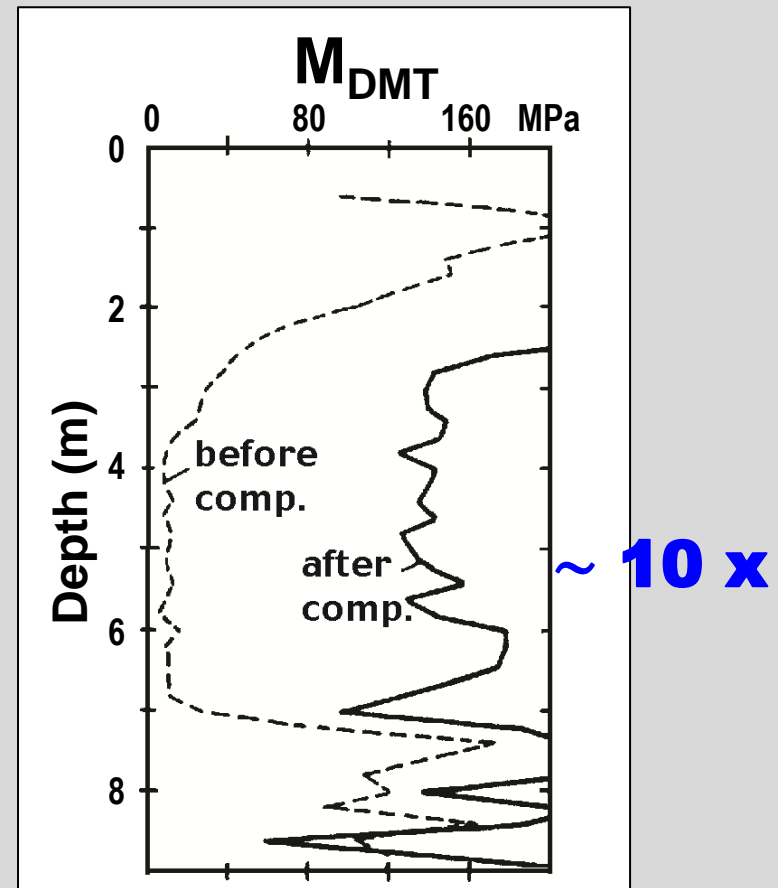
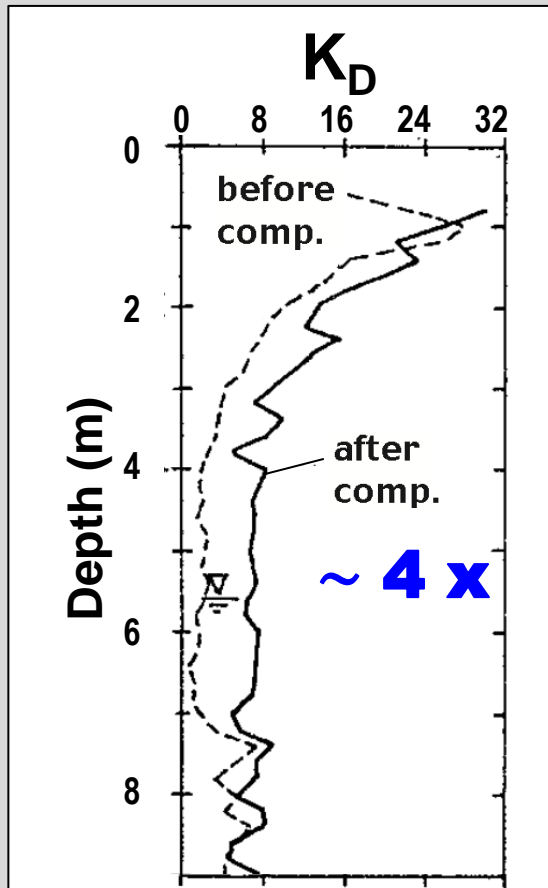
Ground Treatment

- Soil Cement
- Lime Admixtures
- Flyash
- Dewatering
- Heating/Freezing
- Vitrification
- ..

DMT for Compaction Control (case history 1)

Loose sandfill - container terminal in Belgium

Resonant vibrocompaction technique



Van Impe, De Cock, Massarsch, Mengé - New Delhi (1994)

DMT for Compaction Control (case history 2)

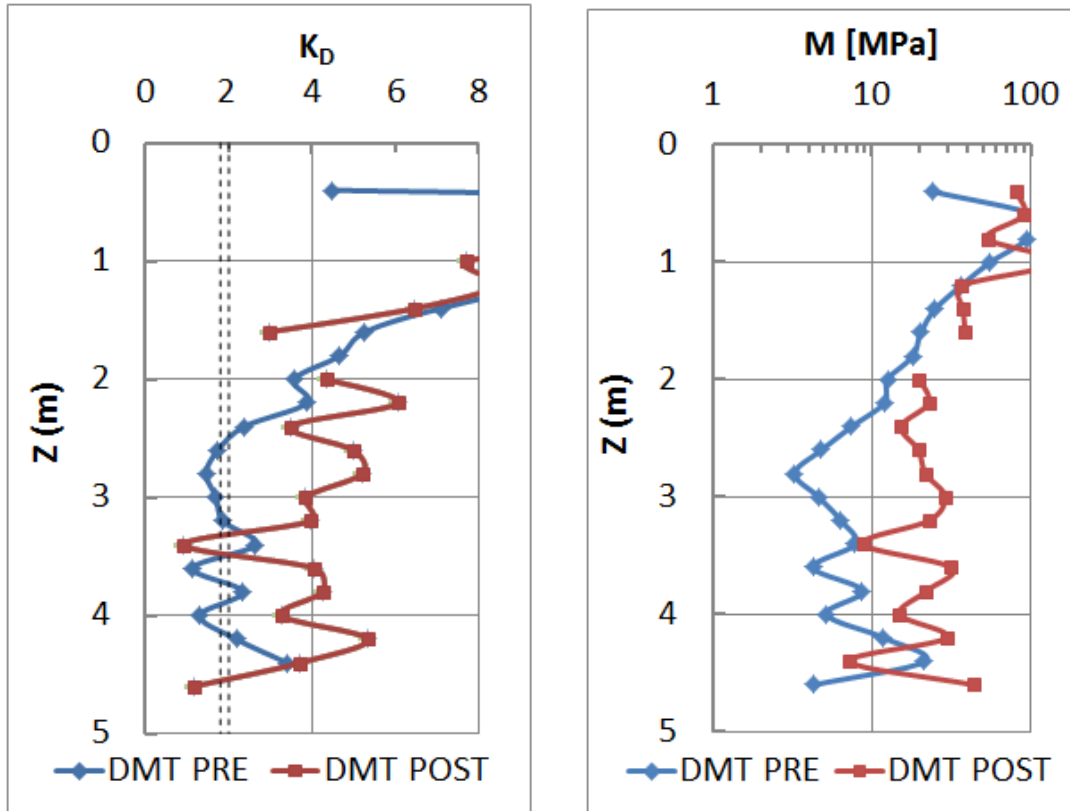


Figure 3

Resin Injection

“The DMT tests were performed near the ground improvement and about 15 feet away from the improvement.”

**Grifton School Project USA
(SAND)**

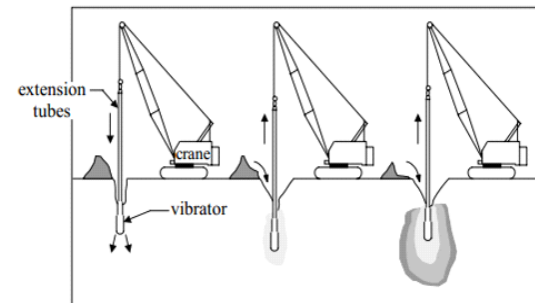
“Figure 3 illustrates how well resin injections improved the soil and how well K_D and M detected such improvements” (Failmezger 2017)

DMT for Compaction Control - Palma Jumeirah Dubai

E. Sharif (2015)



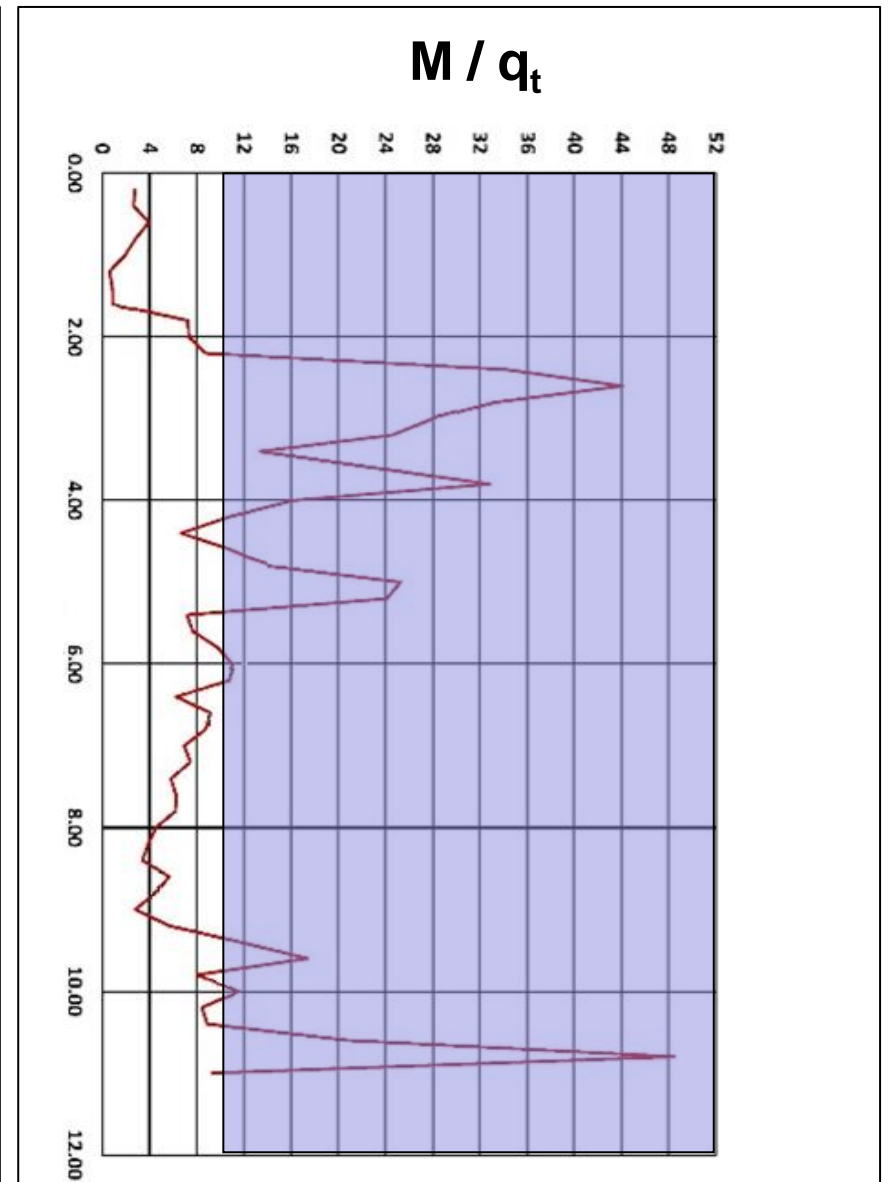
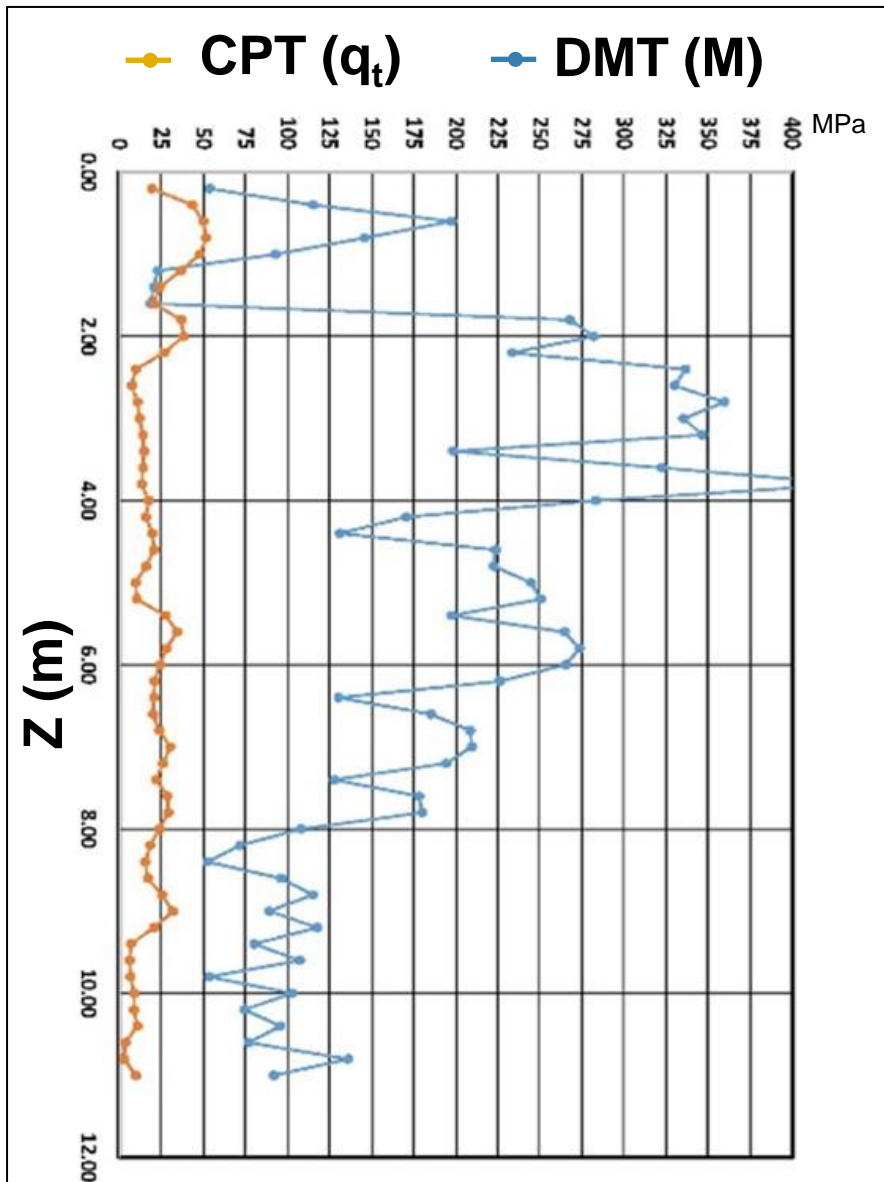
“..hydraulically filled silty fine calcareous sand dredged from sea bed, underlain by sedimentary rock of very weak sandstone and siltstone..”



Aim of DMT & CPT tests: to confirm OC of vibrocompaction, detected also by very high Vs (400-500 m/s)

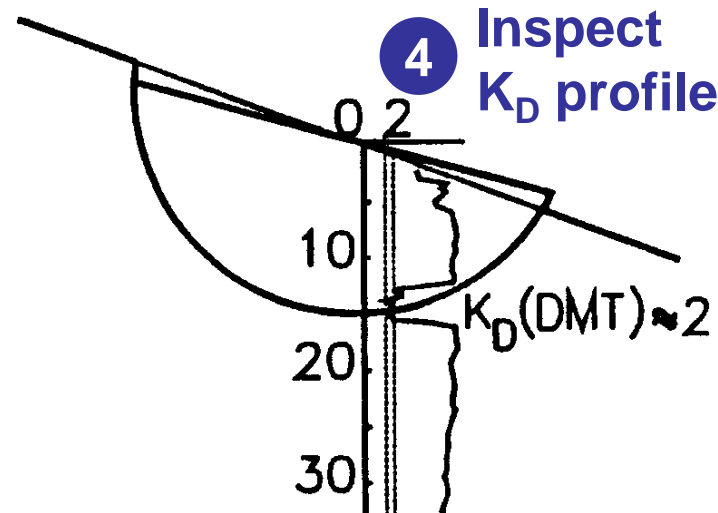
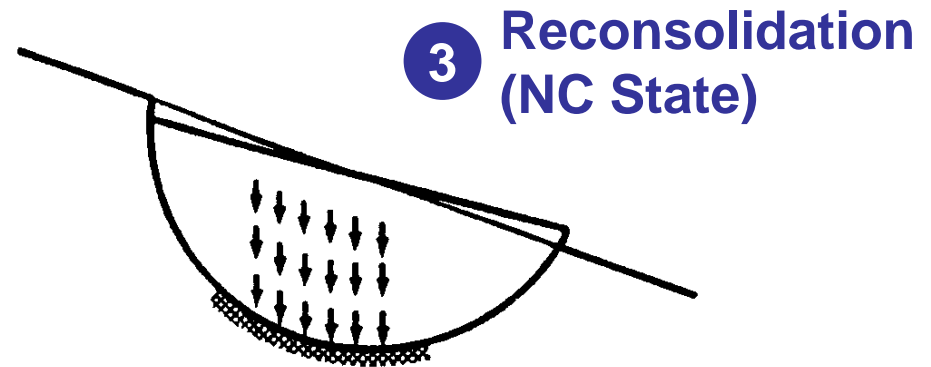
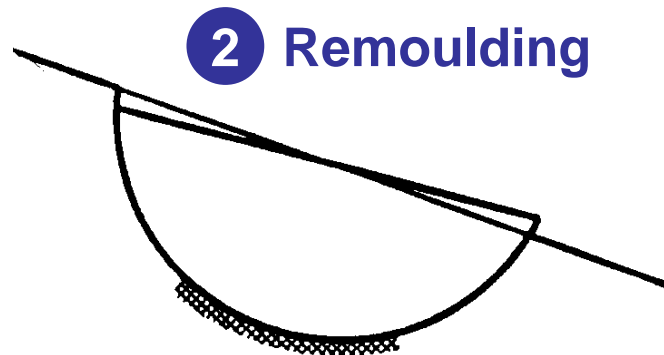
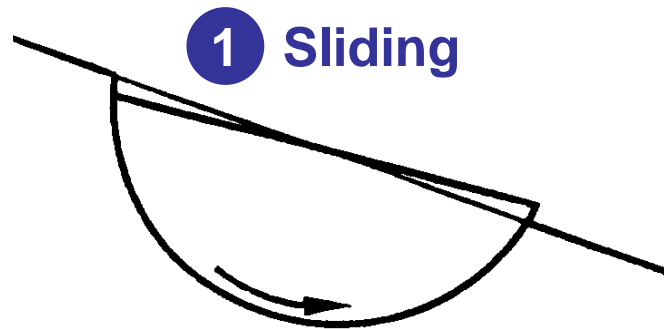
DMT for Compaction Control - Palma Jumeirah Dubai

E. Sharif (2015)



Slip surface detection in OC clay slopes

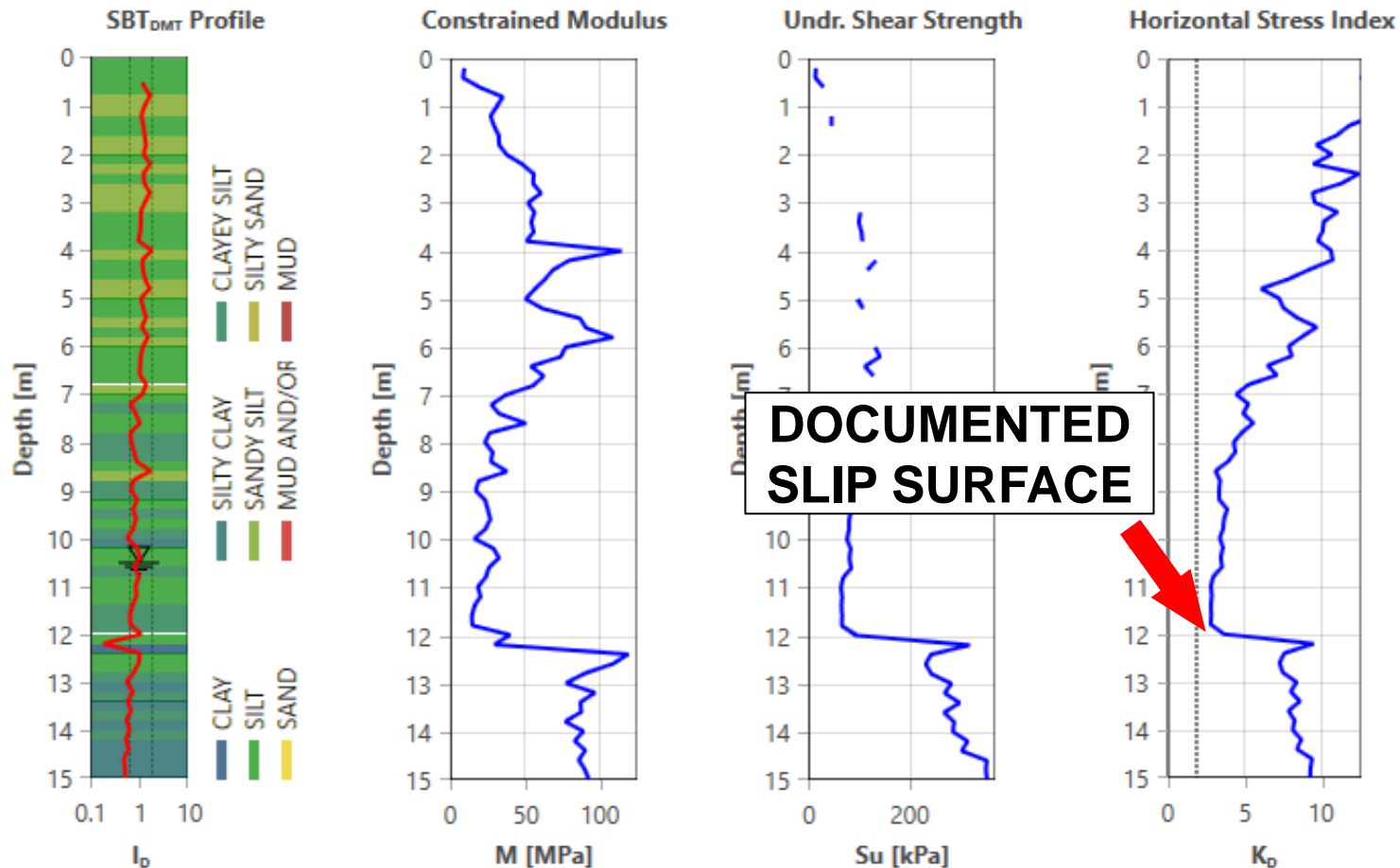
DMT- K_D method → Verify if an OC clay slope contains **active** (or **old quiescent**) slip surfaces



(Totani et al. 1997)

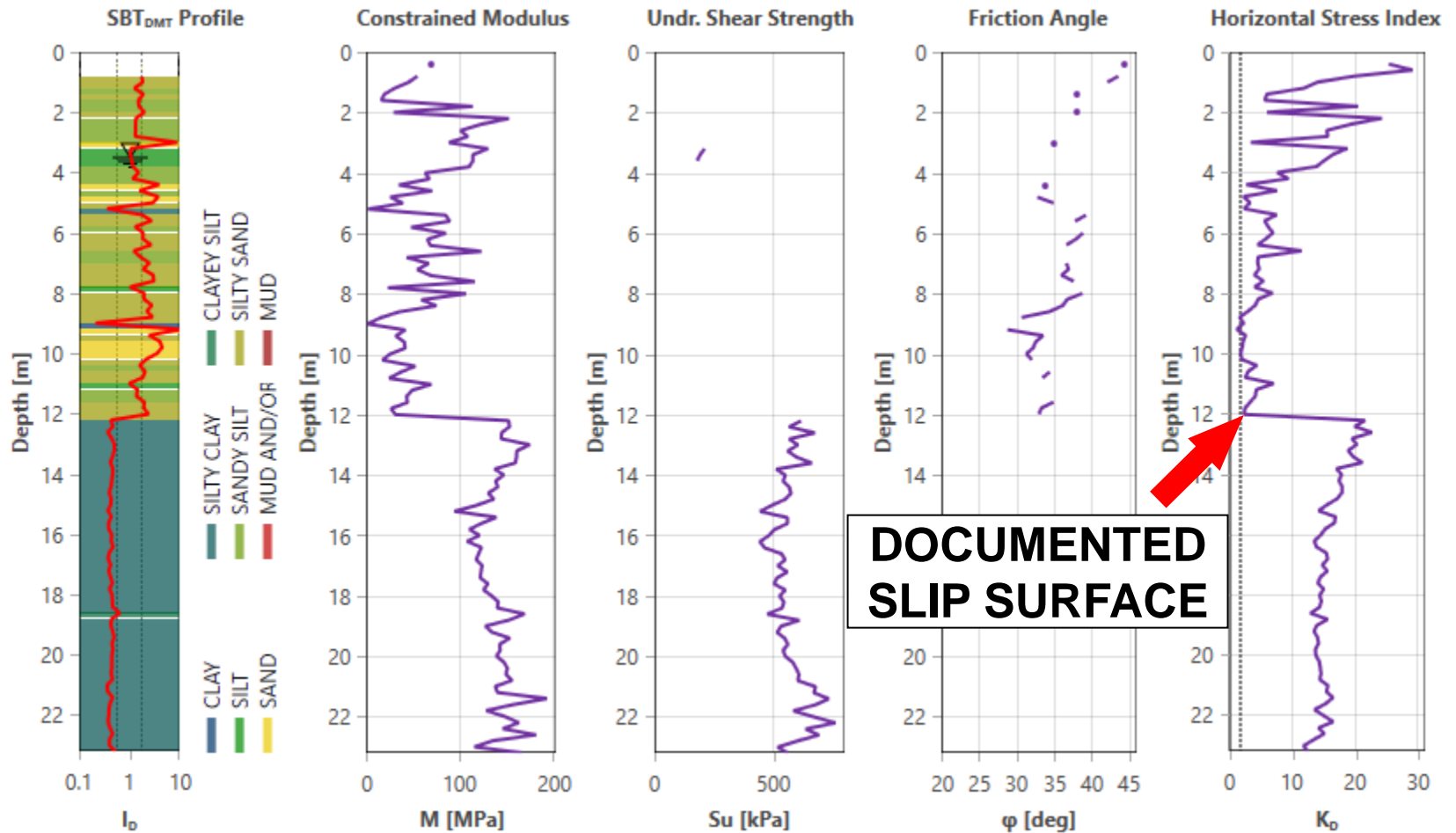
Validation of DMT- K_D method

Landslide "Filippone" (Chieti 1997)



Validation of DMT- K_D method

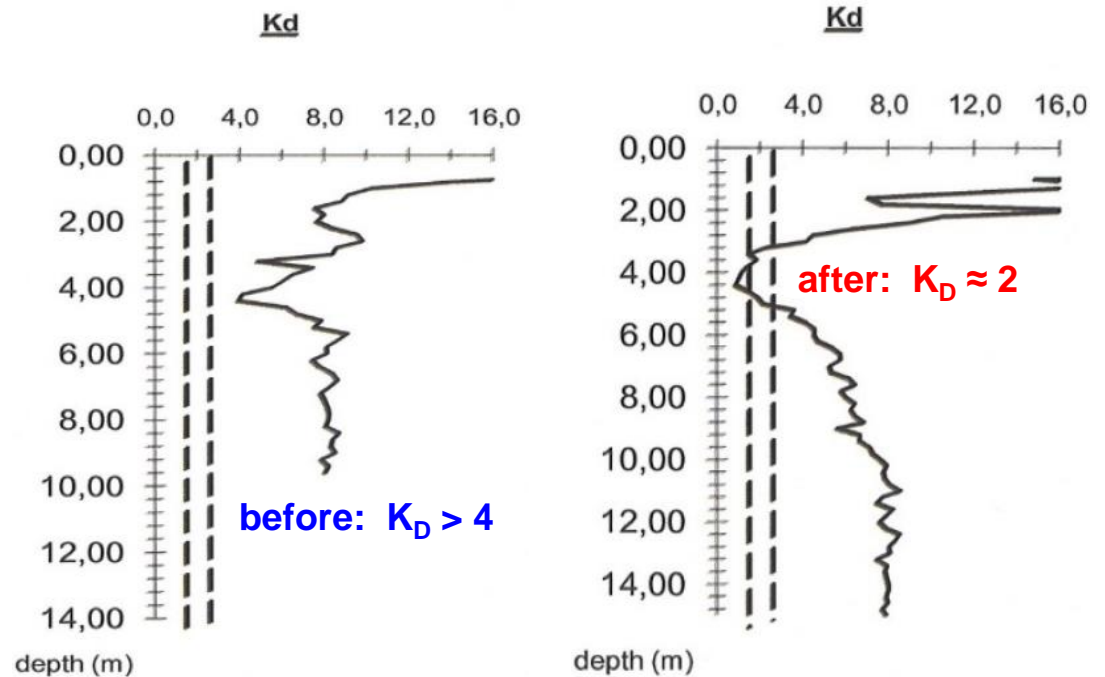
Landslide 'St. Barbara' (AR)



K_D to detect slip surface



Inspection of K_D profile
before and after the landslide



Peiffer, 2016 - ISC'5 Conf.



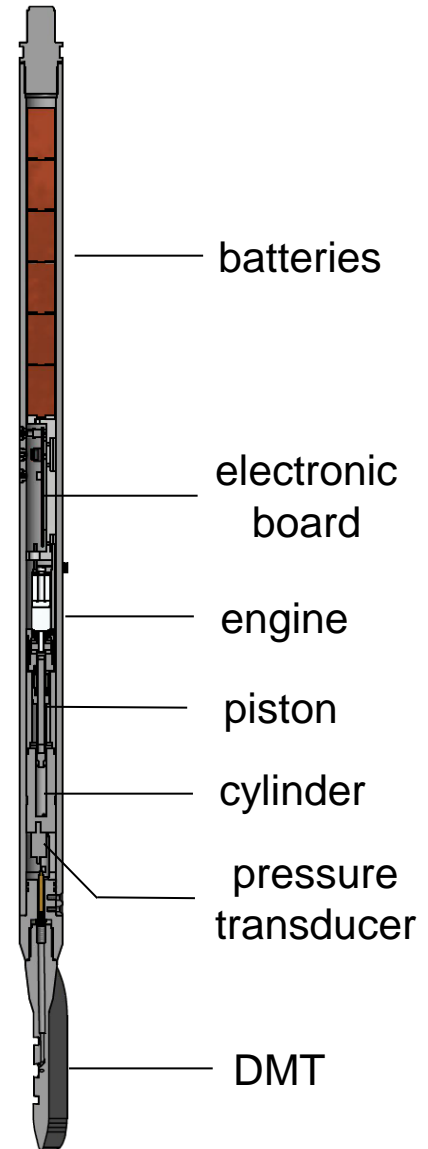
MEDUSA DMT

ONSHORE AND OFFSHORE SOIL TESTING



Medusa DMT: Automated Dilatometer

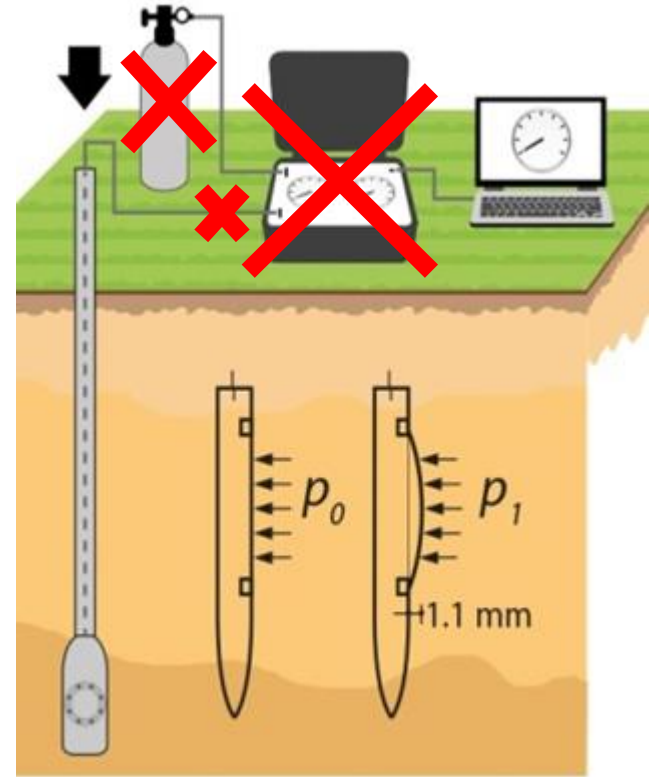
- **Battery Power Pack (24h operational)**
- **Electronic Board**
- **Hydraulic Motorized Syringe:**
 - **Electric Engine**
 - **Piston**
 - **Cylinder**
- **Pressure Transducer**
- **Blade with standard dimensions**





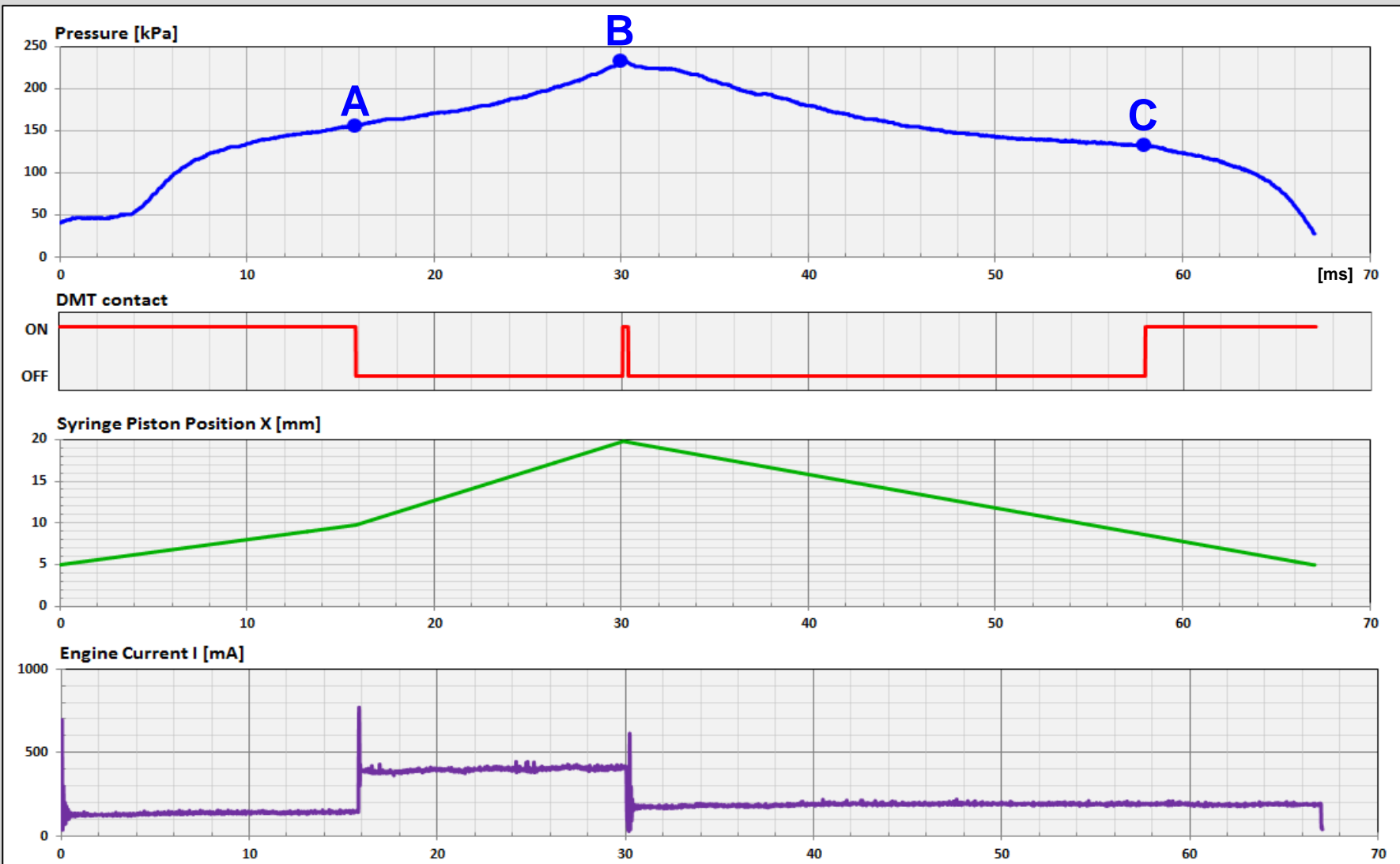
Medusa DMT vs. Traditional DMT

- ❑ No gas tank
- ❑ No control unit
- ❑ No pneumatic cable
- ❑ No operator required for inflation





Medusa DMT: example of test cycle

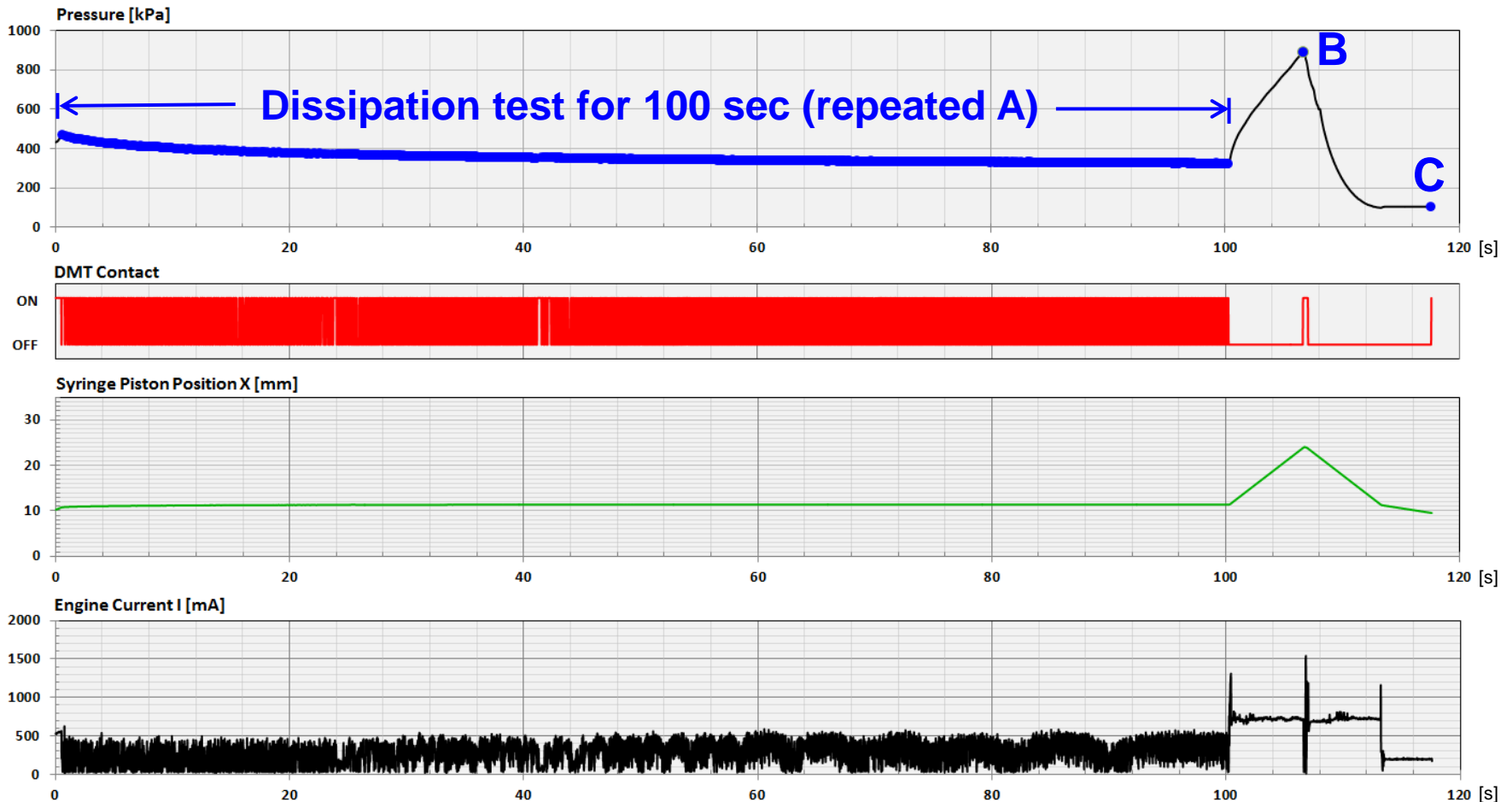


T = 0 when penetration stops and test cycle begins



Dissipation test before membrane expansion

Motorized syringe able to maintain membrane in the A position \rightarrow monitoring σ_h with time



Medusa DMT validation in a Tailing's Dam

(Poland - November 2019)

Zelazny Most Tailings Dam – Poland



Main Characteristics:

Geomaterial:	wastes copper mine
Maximum dam height:	66+ m
Total volume stored:	558x106 m ³
Storage rate:	29x106 m ³ /year
Area covered:	14.0 km ²
Total Dam's length:	14.3 km
Operation time:	1977-2042



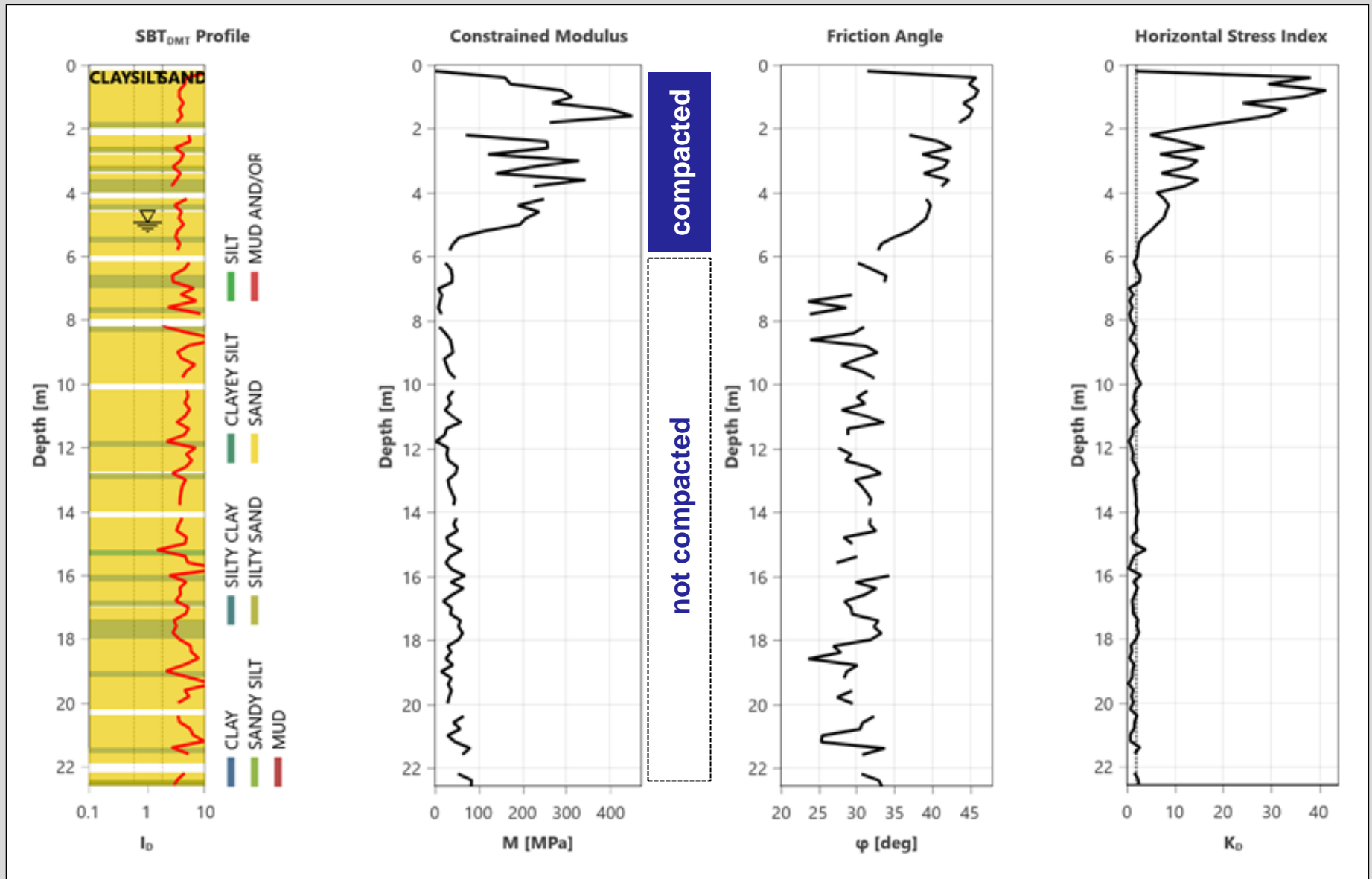
Medusa DMT validation in Zelazny Most



**Zelazny Most Tailings Dam (Poland)
November 2019**

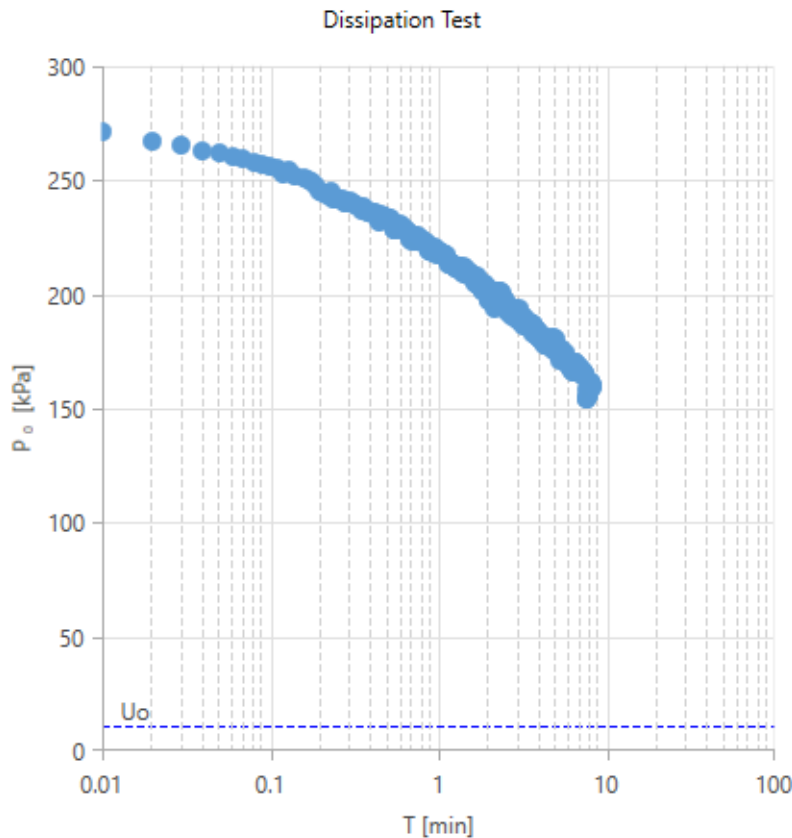


Medusa DMT at Zelazny Most – Poland (November 2019)



Medusa DMT at Zelazny Most – Poland

(November 2019)



Partially Draining Layers (Niche Silts)

Significant dissipation during test execution:

- Readings lower than expected
- Readings require corrections

Medusa enables to detect this behaviour monitoring σ_h with time prior to standard DMT readings

F. Schnaid Mitchell Lecture for ISC'6
(delayed for COVID19)



Technical Questions

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Documentation

website: www.marchetti-dmt.it



Commercial Information

E-shop: www.marchettidilatometershop.com