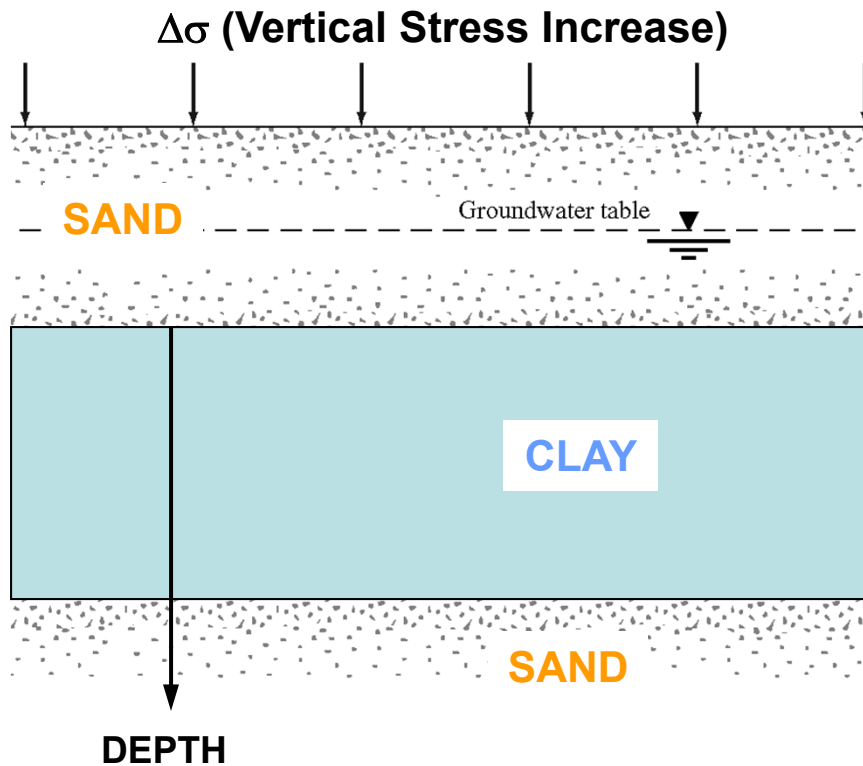


# FUNDAMENTALS OF CONSOLIDATION



after Figure 7.1a. Das FGE (2005).

## CONSOLIDATION:

Volume change in saturated soils caused by the expulsion of pore water from loading.

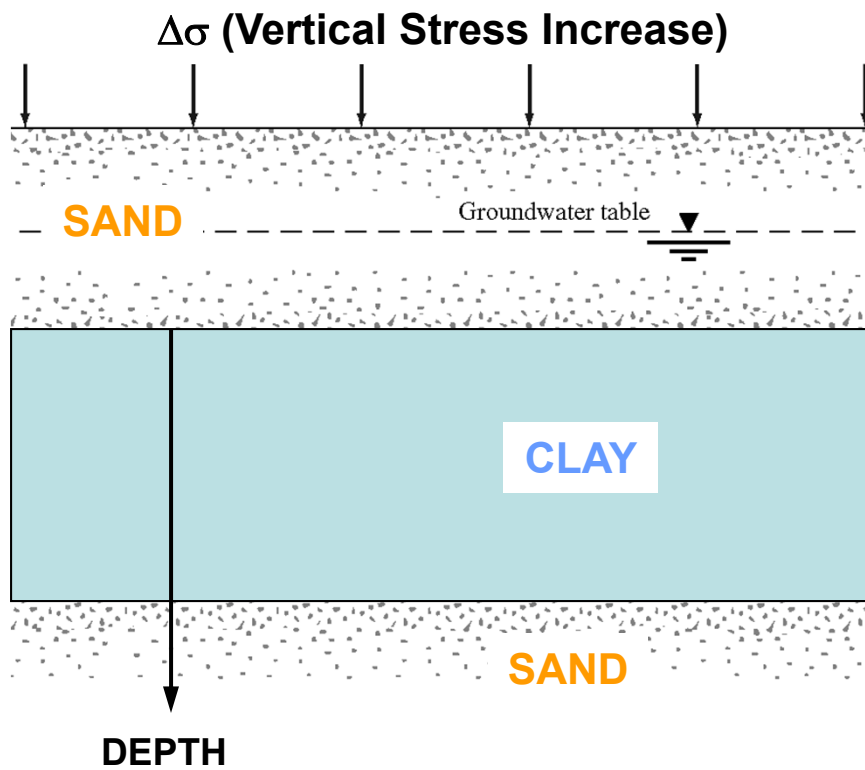
### Saturated Soils:

$\Delta\sigma$  causes  $u$  to increase immediately

**Sands:** Pore pressure increase dissipates rapidly due to high permeability.

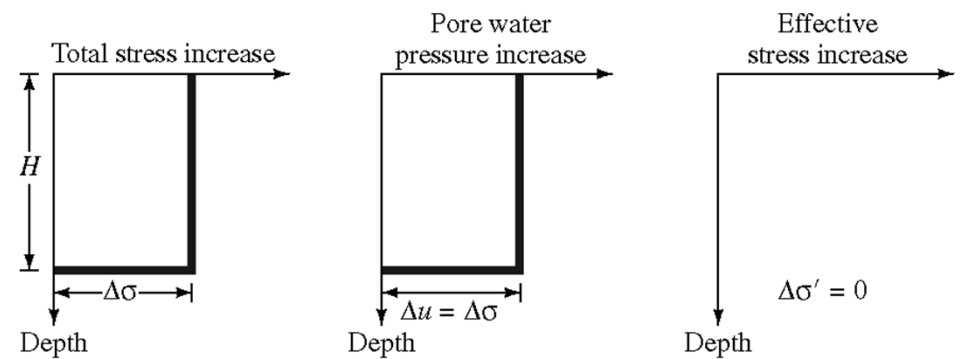
**Clays:** Pore Pressure dissipates slowly due to low permeability.

# FUNDAMENTALS OF CONSOLIDATION



after Figure 7.1a. Das FGE (2005).

## At Time of Initial Loading ( $t = 0$ )



Variation in Total, Pore water, and Effective Stresses  
in Clay Layer

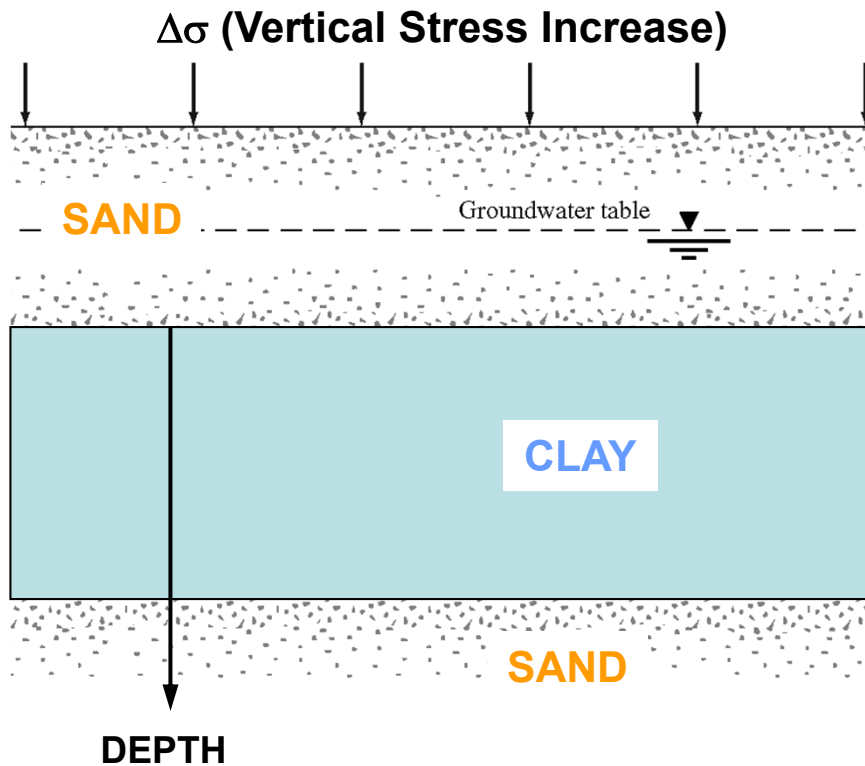
Figure 7.1b. Das FGE (2005)

Pore water takes initial change in  
vertical loading ( $\Delta\sigma = \Delta u$ ) since  
water is incompressible

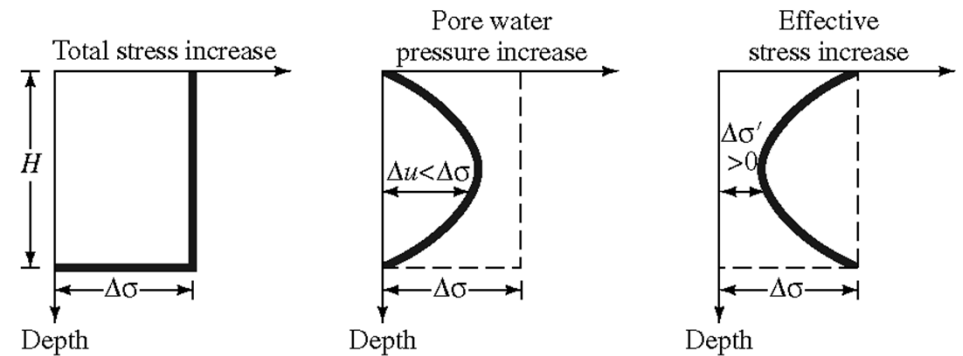
Soil skeleton does not see initial  
loading

# FUNDAMENTALS OF CONSOLIDATION

Between time  $t = 0$  to  $t = \infty$



after Figure 7.1a. Das FGE (2005).



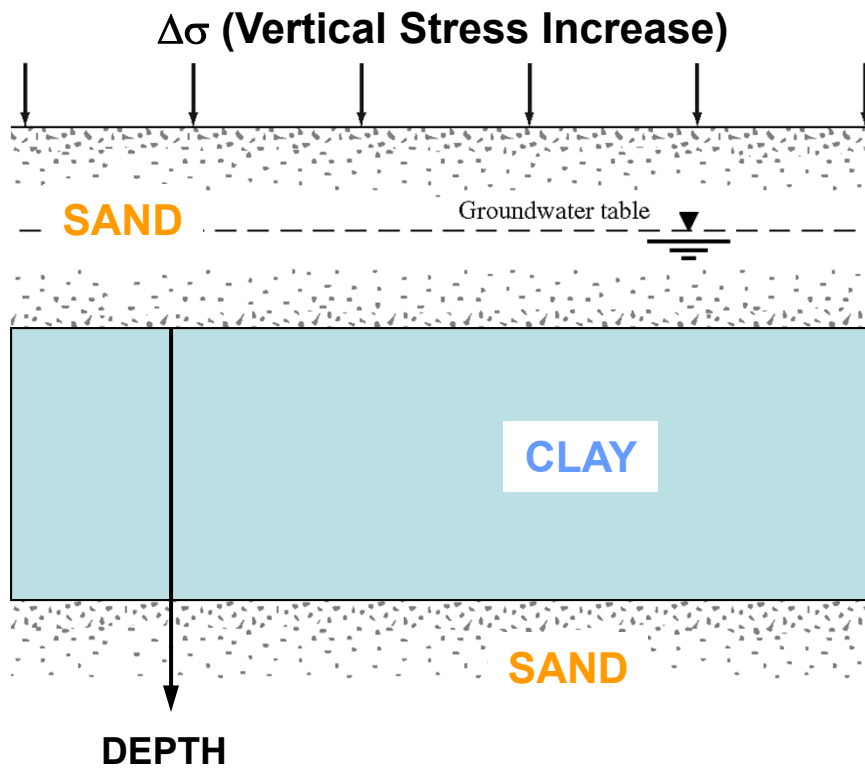
**Variation in Total, Pore water, and Effective Stresses in Clay Layer**

Figure 7.1c. Das FGE (2005)

**Pore water increase due to initial loading dissipates**

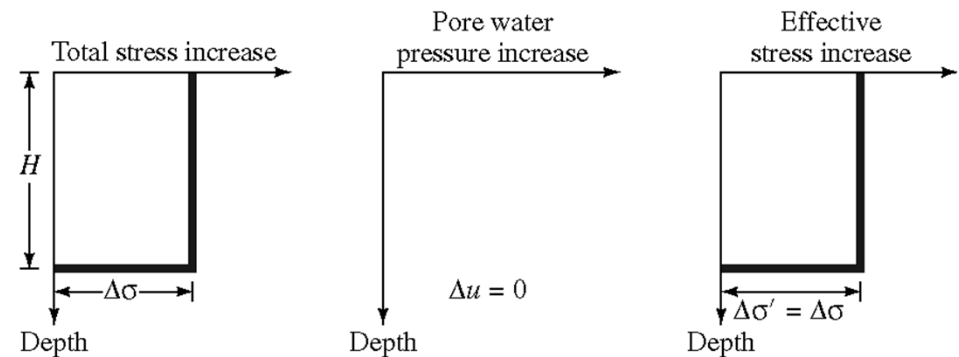
**Soil skeleton takes loading as pore pressure decreases**

# FUNDAMENTALS OF CONSOLIDATION



after Figure 7.1a. Das FGE (2005).

At time  $t = \infty$



Variation in Total, Pore water, and Effective Stresses in Clay Layer

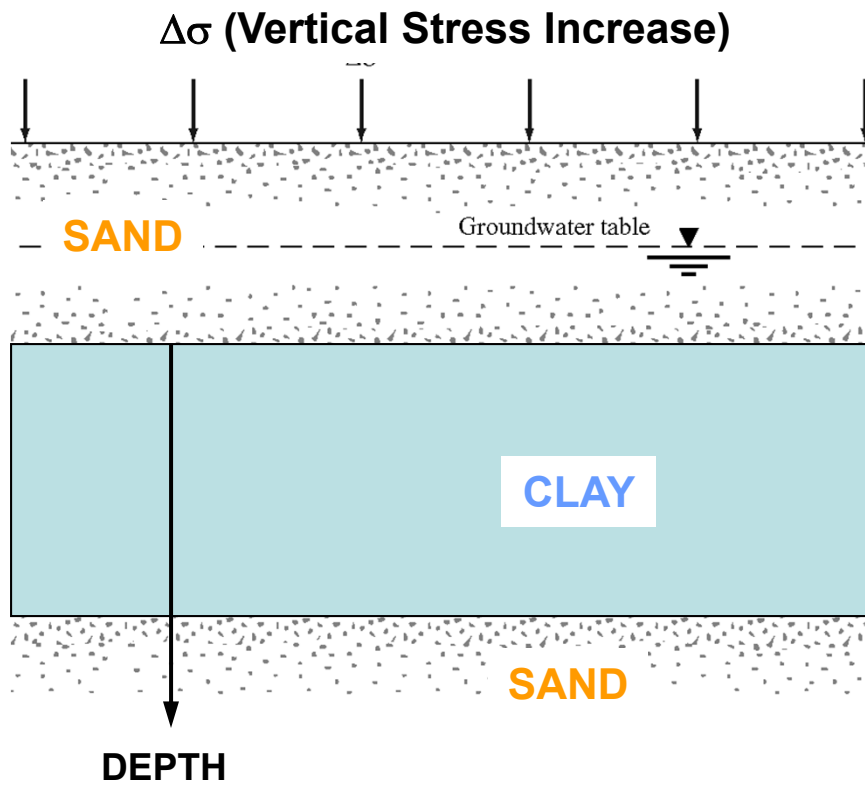
Figure 7.1e. Das FGE (2005)

Pore water increase due to initial loading completely dissipated ( $\Delta u = 0$ )

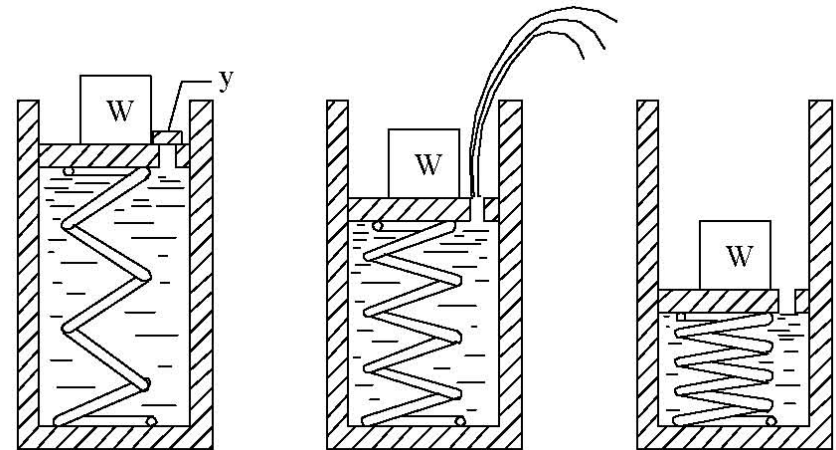
Soil skeleton has taken loading. Effective stress increase now equals vertical stress increase ( $\Delta\sigma = \Delta\sigma'$ )

# FUNDAMENTALS OF CONSOLIDATION

## THE SPRING ANALOGY



after Figure 7.1a. Das FGE (2005).



(a)  
Initial  
Loading

Water takes  
load

Soil (i.e.  
spring) has  
no load

(b)  
Dissipation  
of Excess  
Water  
Pressure

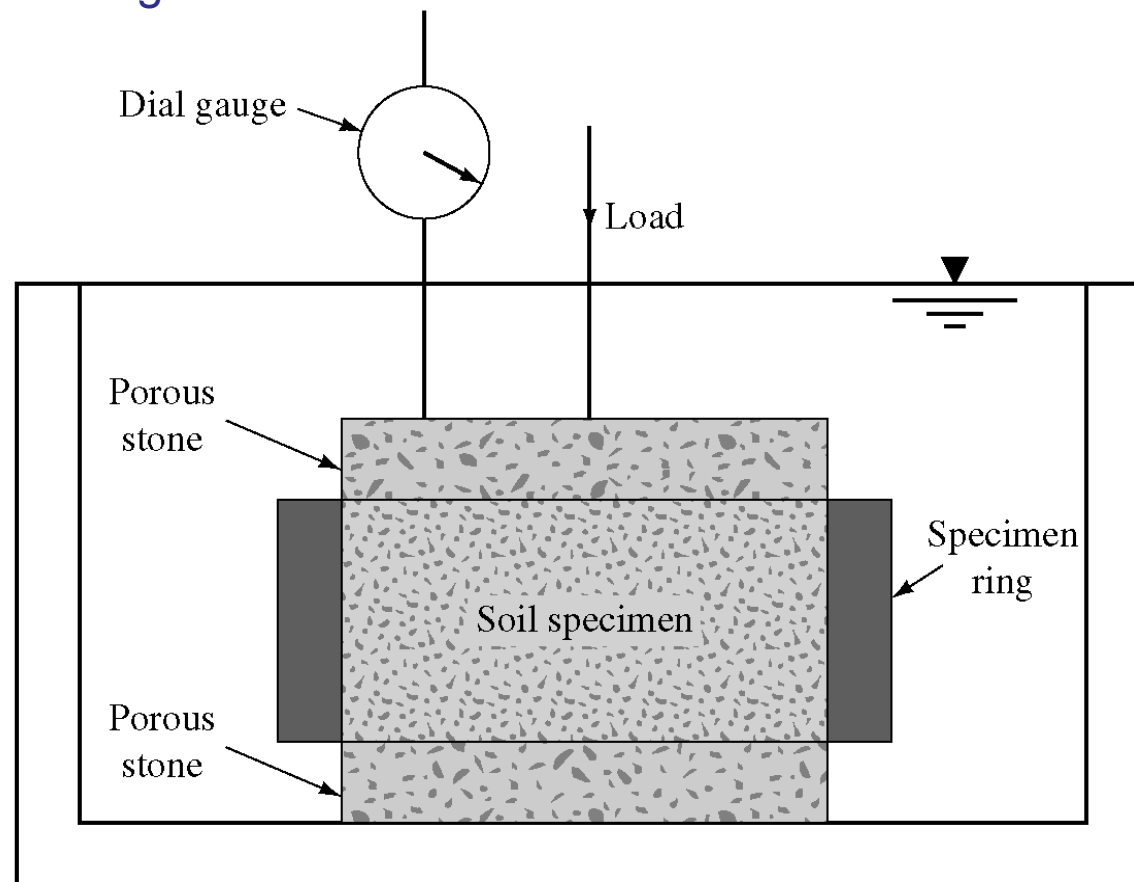
Water  
dissipating  
Soil starts to

(c)  
Final  
Loading

Water  
dissipated  
Soil has load

# ONE DIMENSIONAL (1D) CONSOLIDATION TEST

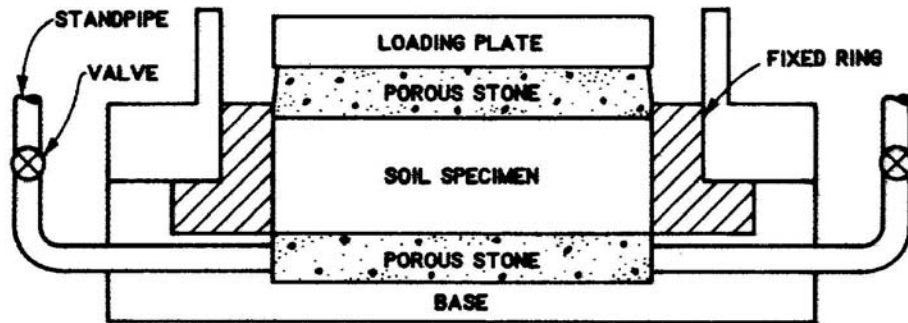
D2435-11 Standard Test Methods for One-Dimensional Consolidation Properties of Soils Using Incremental Loading



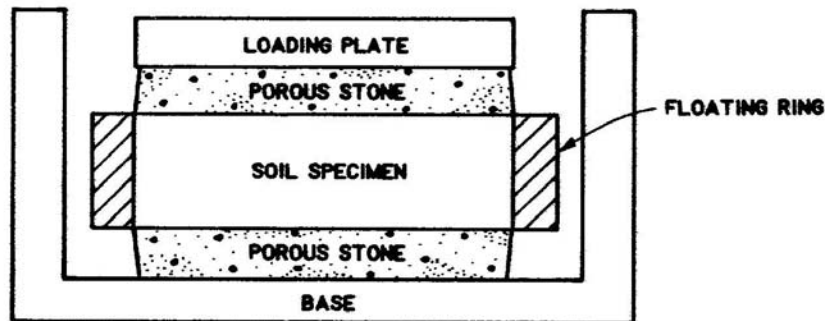
## Consolidometer

Figure 7.2. Das FGE (2005)

# 1D CONSOLIDATION TEST EQUIPMENT



a. FIXED-RING CONSOLIDOMETER



b. FLOATING-RING CONSOLIDOMETER



ShearTrac II DSS Equipment  
(Courtesy of Geocomp Corporation)

Figure E-1 USACE EM1110-1-1904.

# 1D CONSOLIDATION TESTING

## LOAD INCREMENT DATA

### THREE STAGES

#### Stage I: Initial Compression

Primarily caused by preloading.

#### Stage II: Primary Consolidation

Excess pore water pressure dissipation and corresponding soil volume change.

#### Stage III: Secondary Consolidation

Occurs after excess pore water pressure dissipation. Due to plastic deformation/readjustment of soil particles.

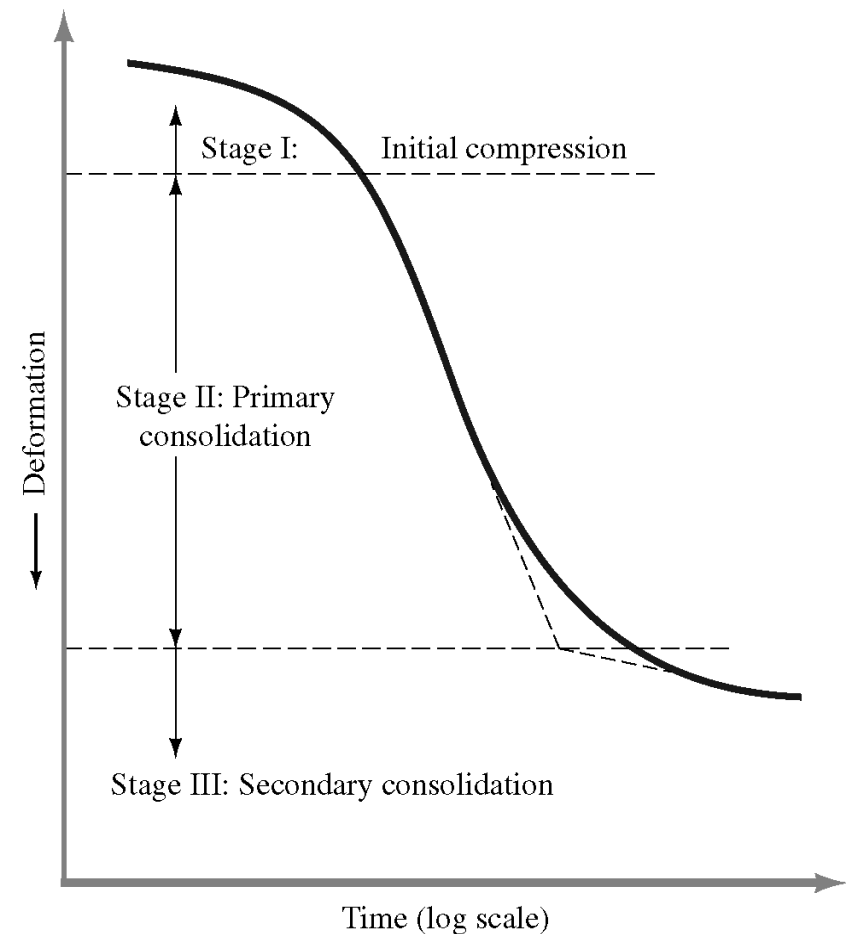


Figure 7.4. Das FGE (2005).

# VOID RATIO-PRESSURE PLOTS

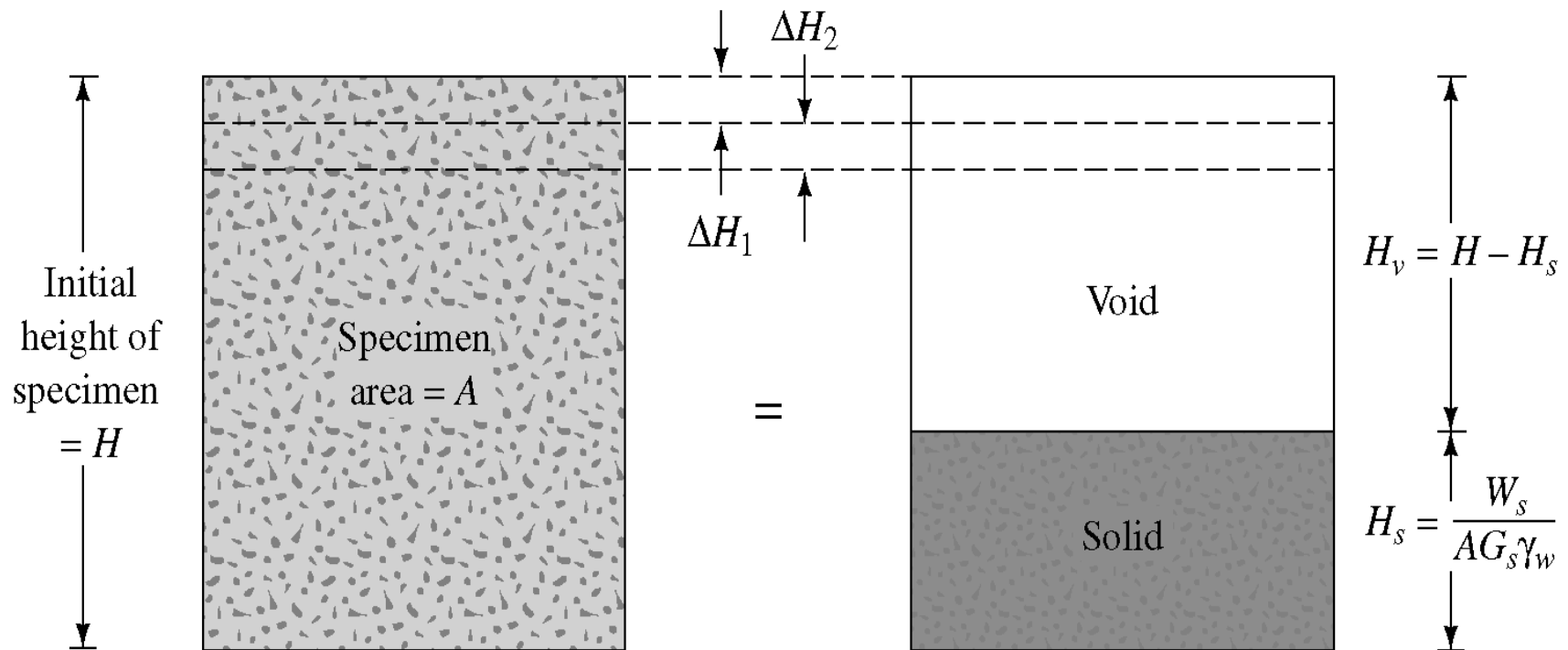


Figure 7.5. Das FGE (2005)

**Initial Void Ratio ( $e_o$ ):** 
$$e_o = \frac{V_v}{V_s} = \frac{H_v A}{H_s A} = \frac{H_v}{H_s}$$

# VOID RATIO-PRESSURE PLOTS

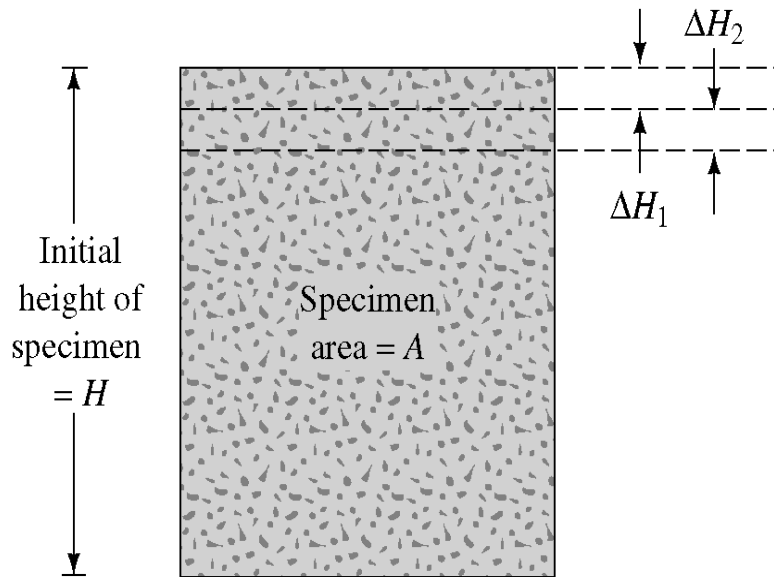


Figure 7.5. Das FGE (2005)

Change in Void Ratio due to 1<sup>st</sup> Loading ( $\Delta e_1$ ):

$$\Delta e_1 = \frac{\Delta H_1}{H_s}$$

New Void Ratio after 1<sup>st</sup> Loading:

$$e_1 = e_0 - \Delta e_1$$

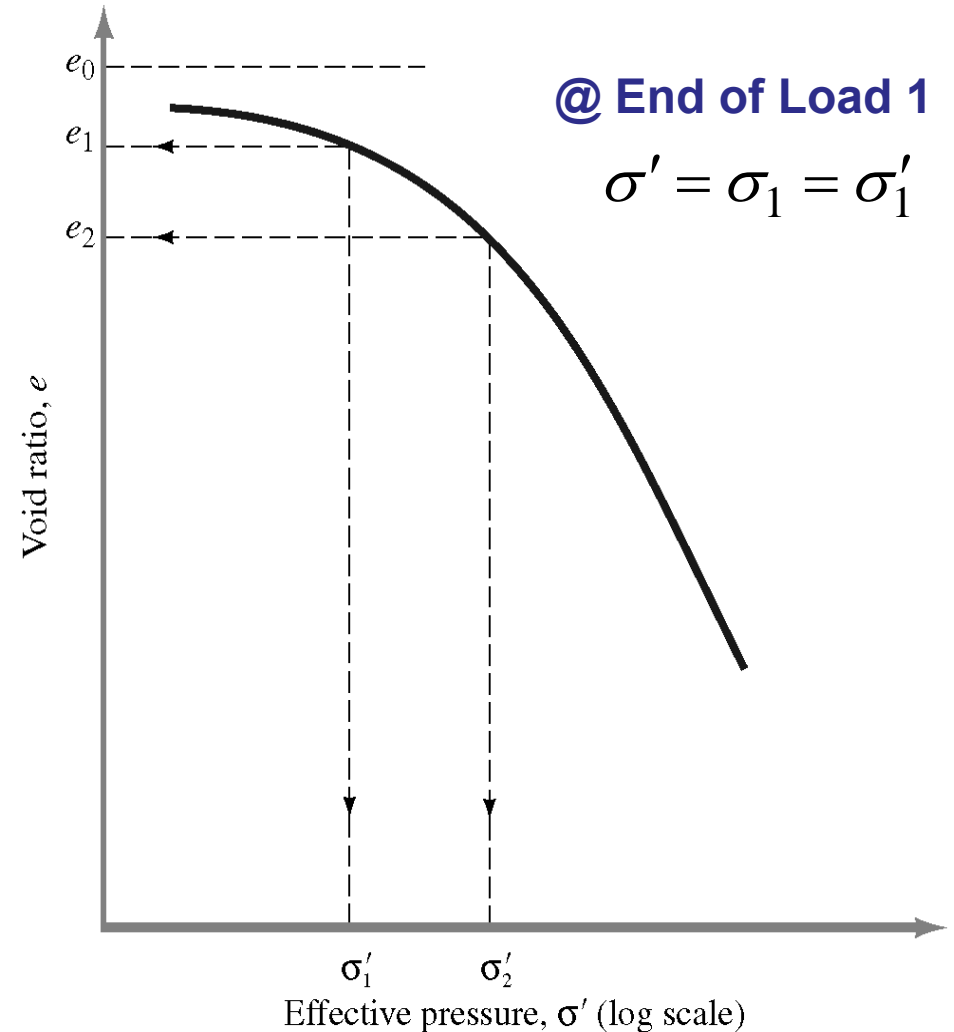


Figure 7.6. Das FGE (2005)

# VOID RATIO-PRESSURE PLOTS

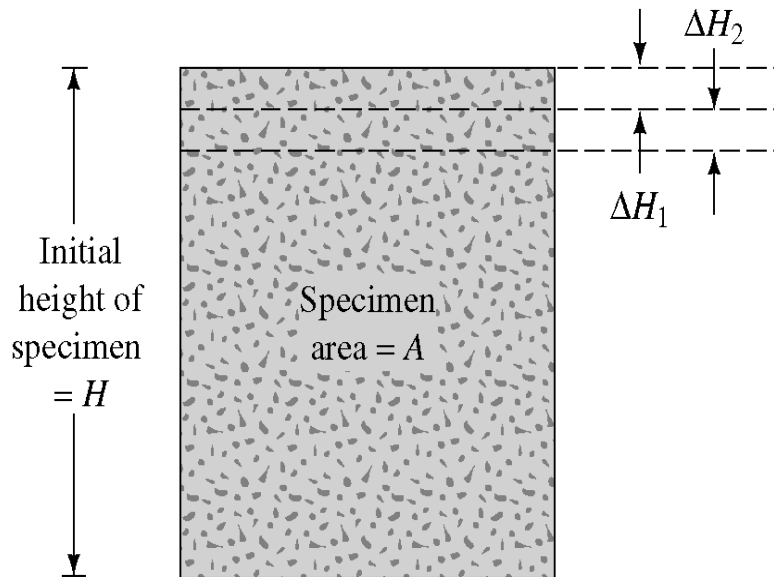


Figure 7.5. Das FGE (2005)

Change in Void Ratio due to 2<sup>nd</sup> Loading ( $\Delta e_2$ ):

$$\Delta e_1 = \frac{\Delta H_2}{H_s}$$

New Void Ratio after 2<sup>nd</sup> Loading:

$$e_2 = e_1 - \frac{\Delta H_2}{H_s}$$

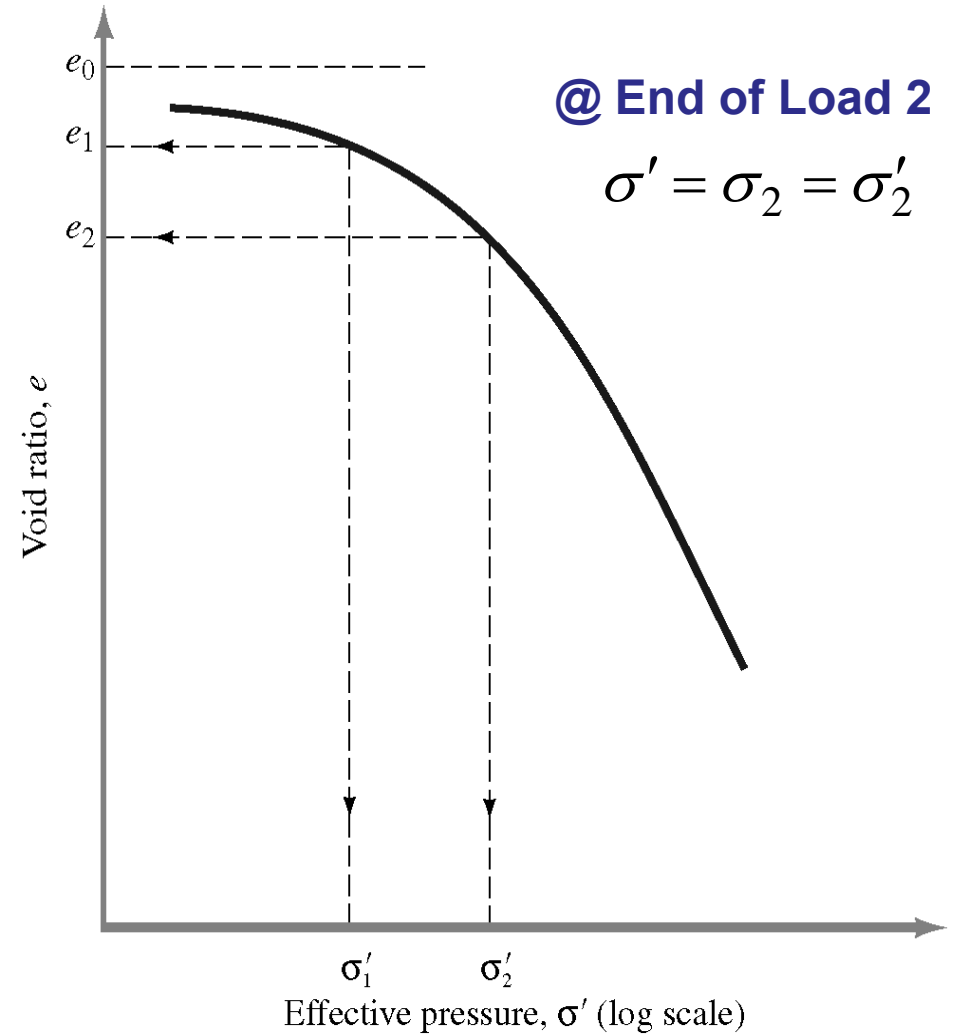


Figure 7.6. Das FGE (2005)

# VOID RATIO-PRESSURE PLOTS

Final  $e - \log \sigma'$  plots consist of results of numerous load & unload increments

## Two Definitions of Clays based on Stress History:

### Normally Consolidated (NC):

The present overburden pressure (a.k.a. effective in-situ stress) is the most the soil has ever seen.

### Overconsolidated Clay (OC):

The present overburden pressure is less than the soil has experienced in the past. The maximum effective past pressure is called the preconsolidation pressure ( $\sigma'_c$ ) or **Maximum Past Pressure** ( $\sigma'_{vm}$ )

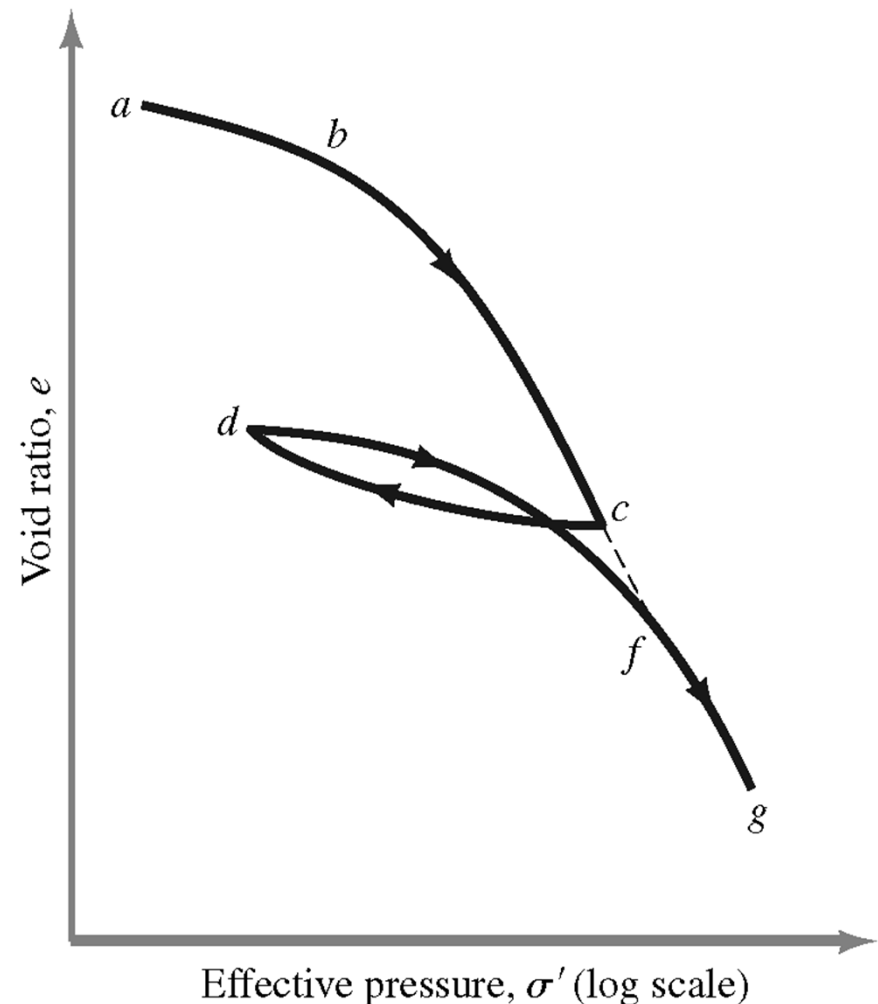
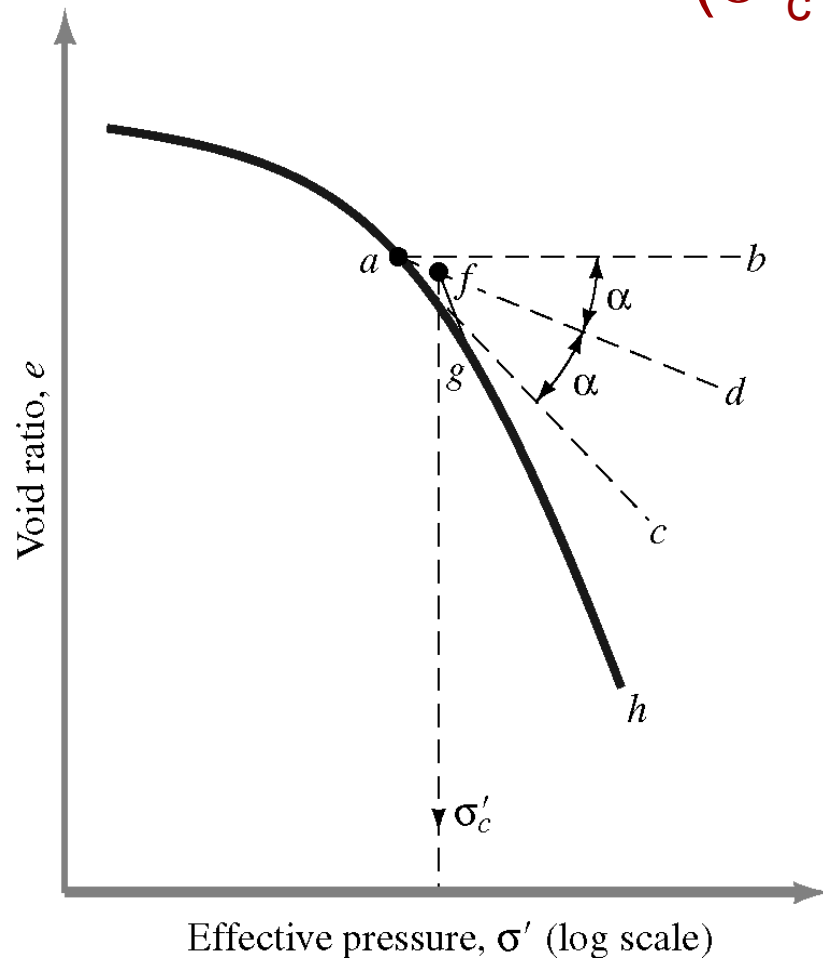


Figure 7.7. Das FGE (2005).

# DETERMINATION OF MAXIMUM PAST PRESSURE ( $\sigma'_c$ or $\sigma'_{vm}$ )

## Graphical Method (Casagrande, 1936)



**Figure 7.8.** Das FGE (2005).

1. Visually identify point of minimum radius of curvature on  $e$ -log  $\sigma'$  curve (i.e. Point  $a$ ).
2. Draw horizontal line from Point  $a$  (i.e. Line  $ab$ ).
3. Draw Line  $ac$  tangent to Point  $a$ .
4. Draw Line  $ad$  bisecting Angle  $bac$ .
5. Project the straight line portion of  $gh$  on  $e$ -log  $\sigma'$  curve to intersect Line  $ad$ . This intersection (Point  $f$ ) is the maximum past pressure (a.k.a. preconsolidation pressure).

# OVERCONSOLIDATION RATIO (OCR)

$$OCR = \frac{\sigma'_c}{\sigma'}$$

Where:

$\sigma'_c$  (a.k.a.  $\sigma'_{vm}$ ) = Preconsolidation Pressure (a.k.a. Maximum Past Pressure).

$\sigma'$  = Present Effective Vertical Stress

**General Guidelines:**  
 NC Soils:  $1 \leq OCR \leq 2$   
 OC Soils:  $OCR > 2$

**Possible Causes of OC Soils:**

Preloading (thick sediments, glacial ice);  
 fluctuations of GWT, underdraining, light  
 ice/snow loads, desiccation above GWT,  
 secondary compression.

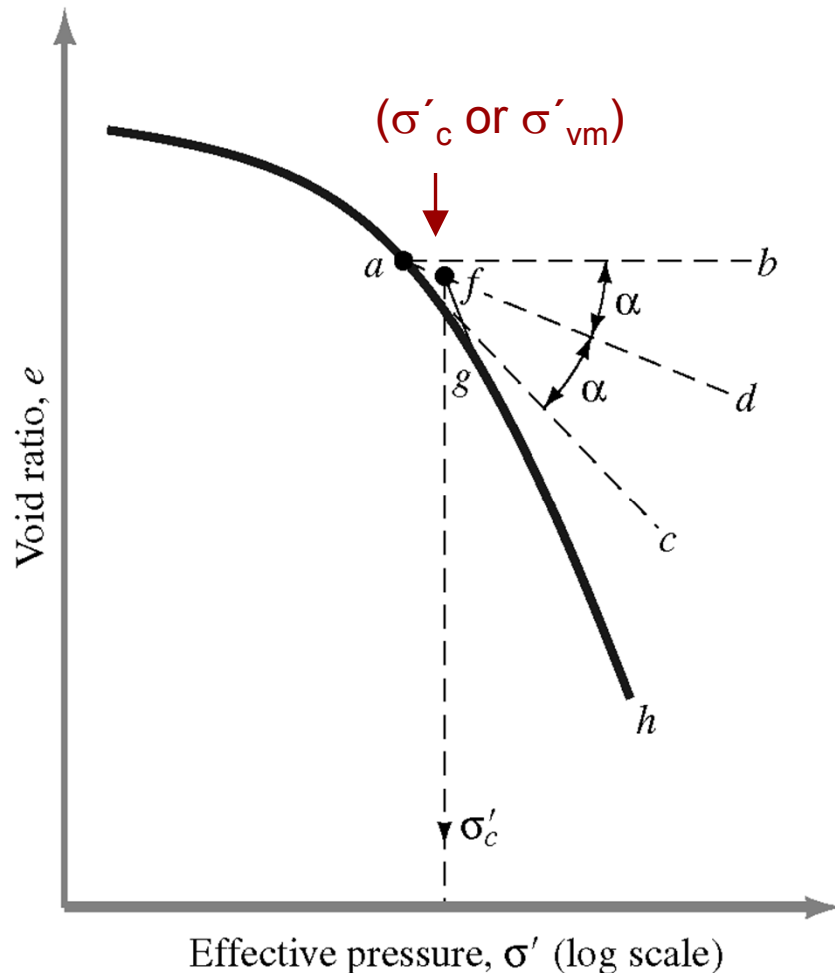
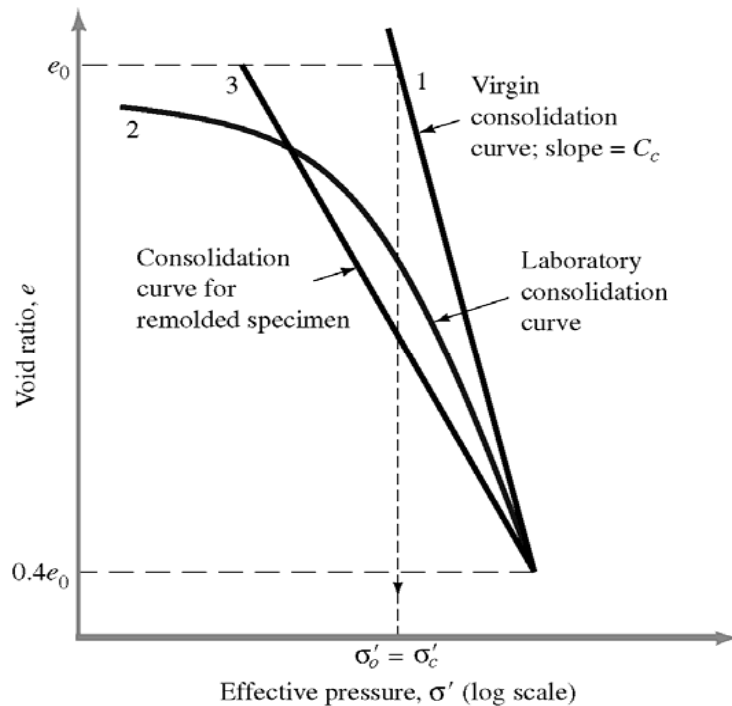


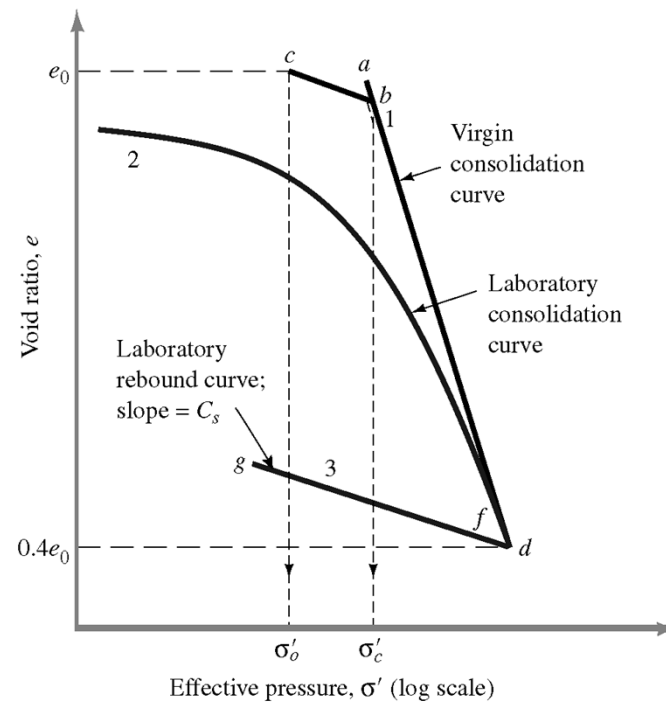
Figure 7.8. Das FGE (2005).

# EFFECTS OF SAMPLE DISTURBANCE

NC and OC soils of low to medium sensitivity will experience disturbance due to remolding. This changes the consolidation characteristics of the 1D consolidation tests.



**NC Clays - Figure 7.9. Das FGE (2005)**



**OC Clays - Figure 7.10. Das FGE (2005)**

### Virgin Compression Curve – Consolidation Curve Insitu (i.e. w/o disturbance)

**Sensitivity ( $S_t$ )**  $S_t = \frac{q_{u(undisturbed)}}{q_{u(remolded)}}$

Where  $q_u$  = Unconfined Compressive Strength

# EFFECTS OF SAMPLE DISTURBANCE

## Reconstruction of Virgin Consolidation Curves (EM 1110-1-1904)

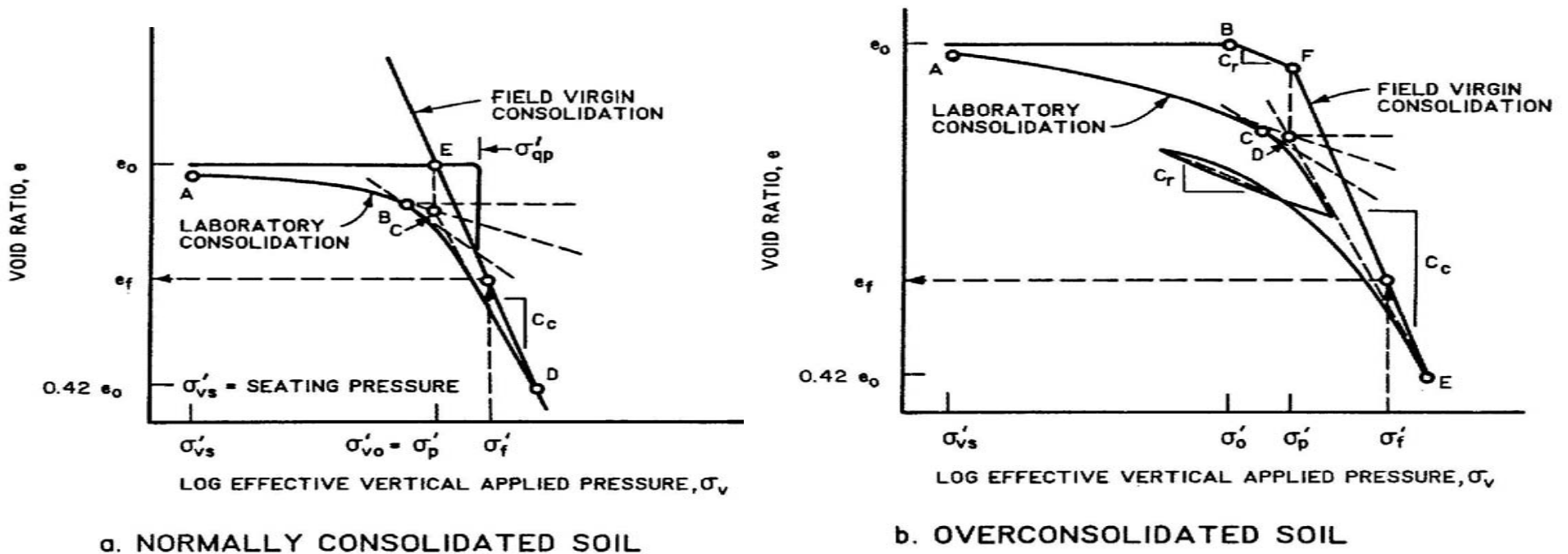


Figure 3-12. EM 1110-1-1904 Settlement Analysis.

# EFFECTS OF SAMPLE DISTURBANCE

## Reconstruction of Virgin Consolidation Curves (EM 1110-1-1904)

**Table 3-6.** EM 1110-1-1904 Settlement Analysis.

a. Normally Consolidated Soil (Figure 3-12a)

Step	Description
1	Plot point B at the point of maximum radius of curvature of the laboratory consolidation curve.
2	Plot point C by the Casagrande construction procedure: (1) Draw a horizontal line from B ; (2) Draw a line tangent to the laboratory consolidation curve through B ; and (3) Draw the bisector between horizontal and tangent lines. Point C is the intersection of the straight portion of the laboratory curve with the bisector. Point C indicates the maximum past pressure $\sigma'_p$ .
3	Plot point E at the intersection $e_o$ and $\sigma'_p$ . $e_o$ is given as the initial void ratio prior to testing in the consolidometer and $\sigma'_p$ is found from step 2.
4	Plot point D at the intersection of the laboratory virgin consolidation curve with void ratio $e = 0.42e_o$ .
5	The field virgin consolidation curve is the straight line determined by points E and D.

# EFFECTS OF SAMPLE DISTURBANCE

## Reconstruction of Virgin Consolidation Curves (EM 1110-1-1904)

**Table 3-6.** EM 1110-1-1904 Settlement Analysis.

b. Overconsolidated Soil (Figure 3-12b)

Step	Description
1	Plot point B at the intersection of the given $e_0$ and the initial estimated in situ effective overburden pressure $\sigma'_0$ .
2	Draw a line through B parallel to the mean slope $C_r$ of the rebound laboratory curve.
3	Plot point D using step 2 in Table 3-6a above for normally consolidated soil.
4	Plot point F by extending a vertical line through D up through the intersection of the line of slope $C_r$ extending through B.
5	Plot point E at the intersection of the laboratory virgin consolidation curve with void ratio $e = 0.42e_0$ .
6	The field virgin consolidation curve is the straight line through points F and E.

# SETTLEMENT FROM 1D PRIMARY CONSOLIDATION

At End of Primary Consolidation  $\Delta\sigma = \Delta\sigma'$

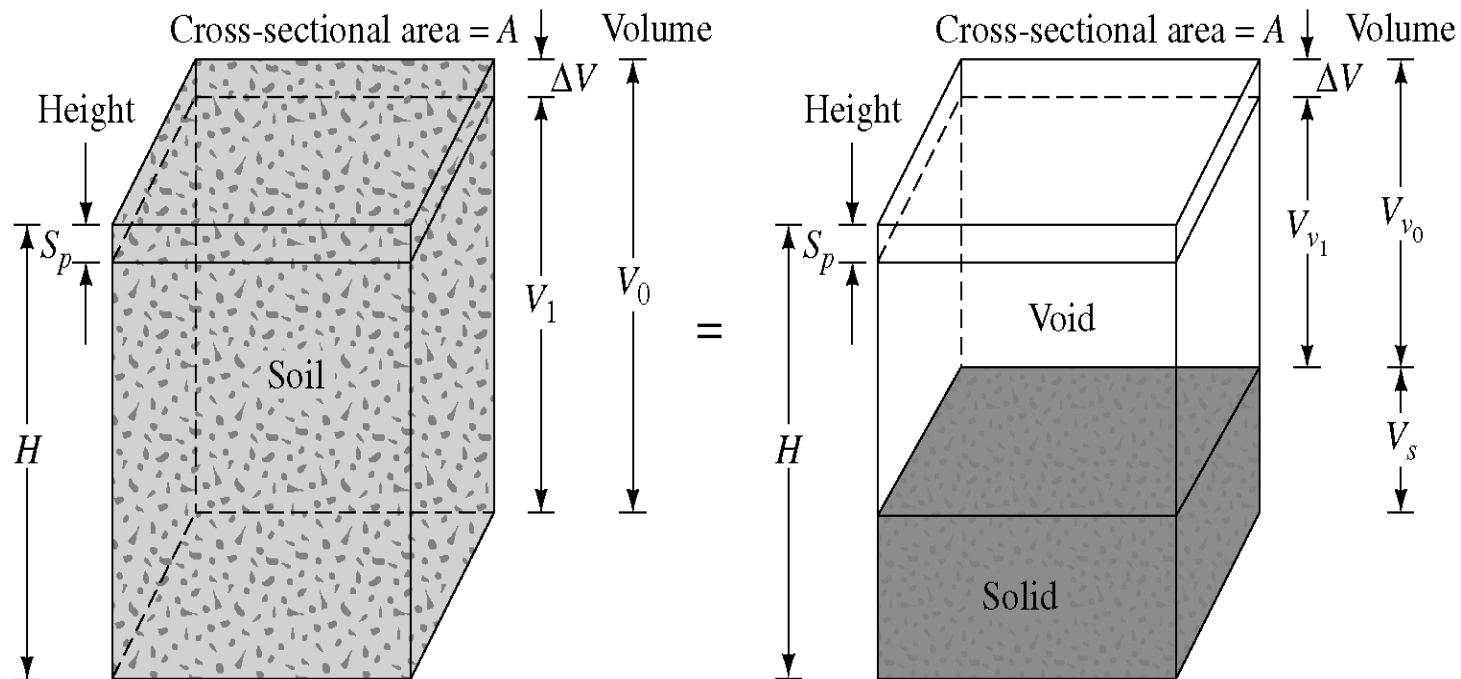


Figure 7.11. Das FGE (2005)

$$\Delta V = V_0 - V_1 = HA - (H - S_p)A = S_p A$$

Where:

$V$  = Volume,  $V_0$  = Initial Volume,  $V_1$  = Final Volume,  $S_p$  = Primary Settlement

# SETTLEMENT FROM 1D PRIMARY CONSOLIDATION

At End of Primary Consolidation  $\Delta\sigma = \Delta\sigma'$

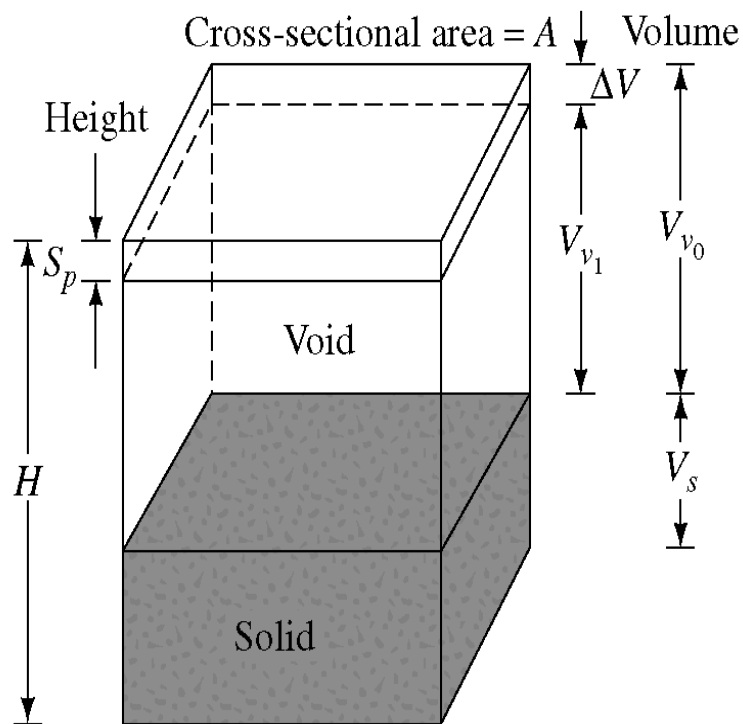


Figure 7.11. Das FGE (2005).

$$\Delta V = S_p A = V_{v0} - V_{v1} = \Delta V_v$$

**Where:**

$V_{v0}$  = Initial Void Volume,  $V_{v1}$  = Final Void Volume

$$\Delta V_v = \Delta e V_s$$

**Where:**

$\Delta e$  = Change in Void Ratio

$$V_s = \frac{V_o}{1 + e_o} = \frac{AH}{1 + e_o}$$

**Where:**

$e_o$  = Initial Void Ratio

# SETTLEMENT FROM 1D PRIMARY CONSOLIDATION

At End of Primary Consolidation  $\Delta\sigma = \Delta\sigma'$

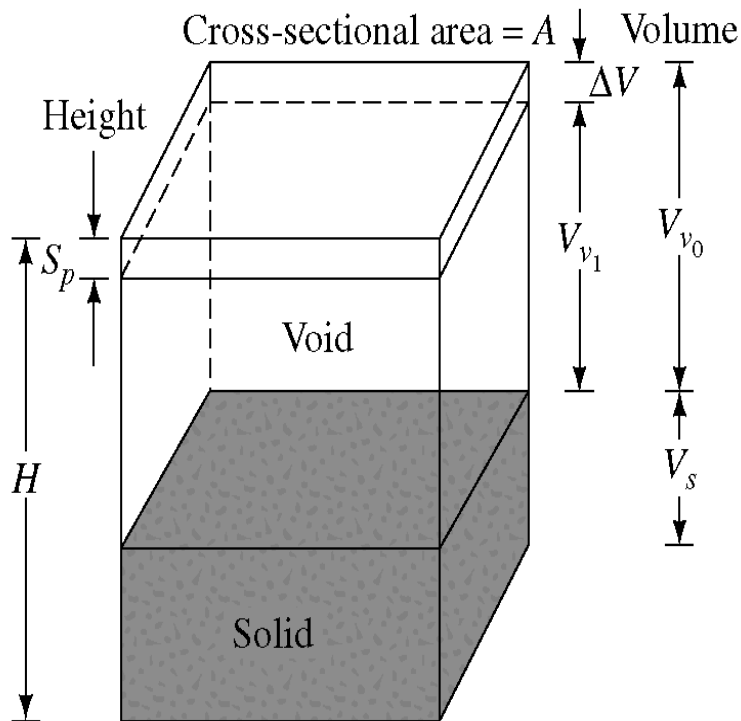


Figure 7.11. Das FGE (2005).

Therefore:

$$\Delta V = S_p A = \Delta e V_s = \frac{AH}{1 + e_o} \Delta e$$

or

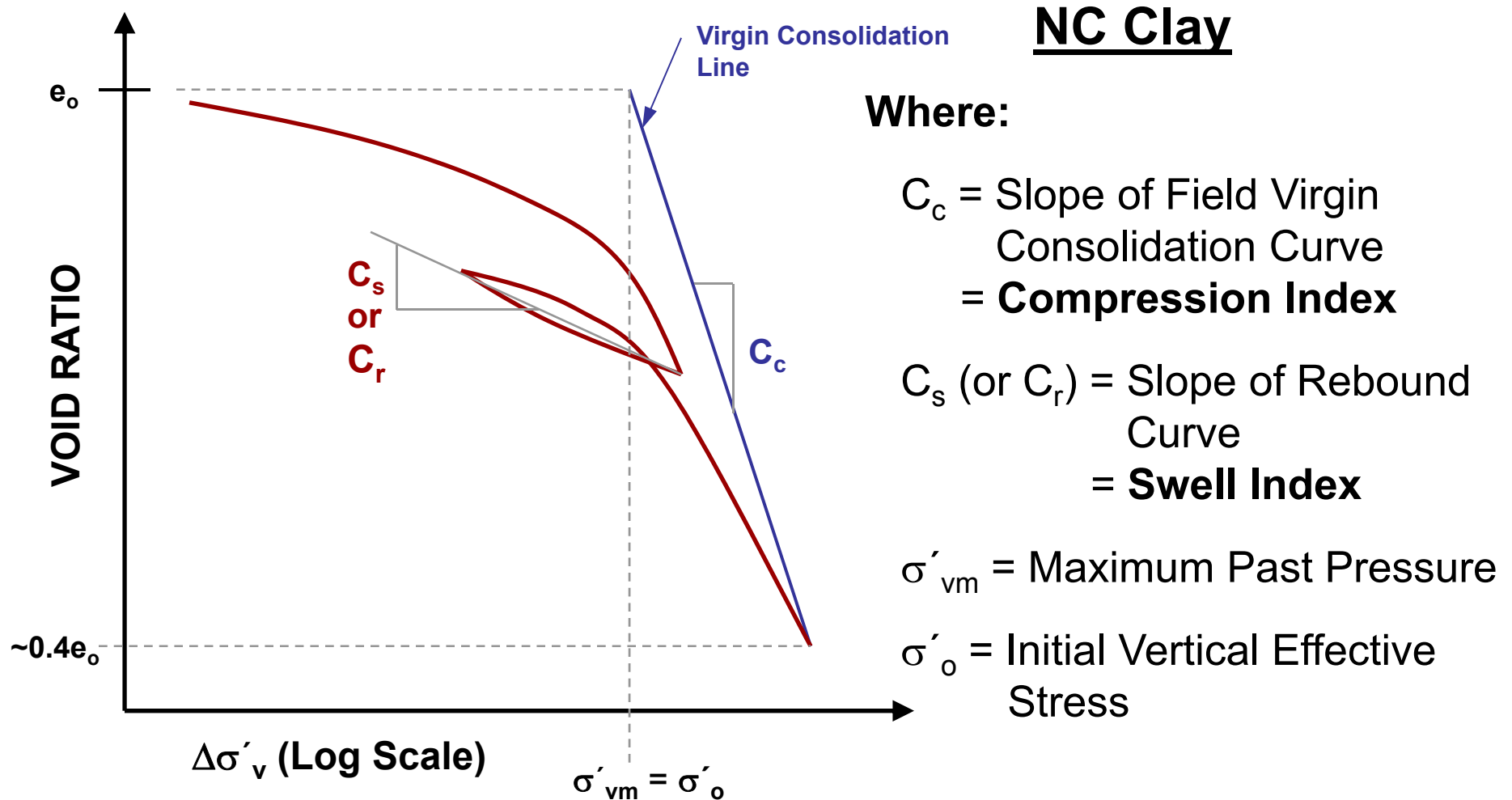
$$S_p = H \frac{\Delta e}{1 + e_o}$$

$$\frac{S_p}{H} = \frac{\Delta e}{1 + e_o} = \varepsilon_v$$

Where:

$\varepsilon_v$  = Vertical Strain

# SETTLEMENT FROM 1D PRIMARY CONSOLIDATION



# SETTLEMENT FROM 1D PRIMARY CONSOLIDATION

## NC Clay

Settlement ( $S_p$ ) using Void Ratio

$$S_p = \frac{C_c H}{1 + e_0} \log \left( \frac{\sigma'_o + \Delta\sigma'}{\sigma'_o} \right)$$

Where:

$S_p$  = Settlement

$H$  = Height of Soil Layer

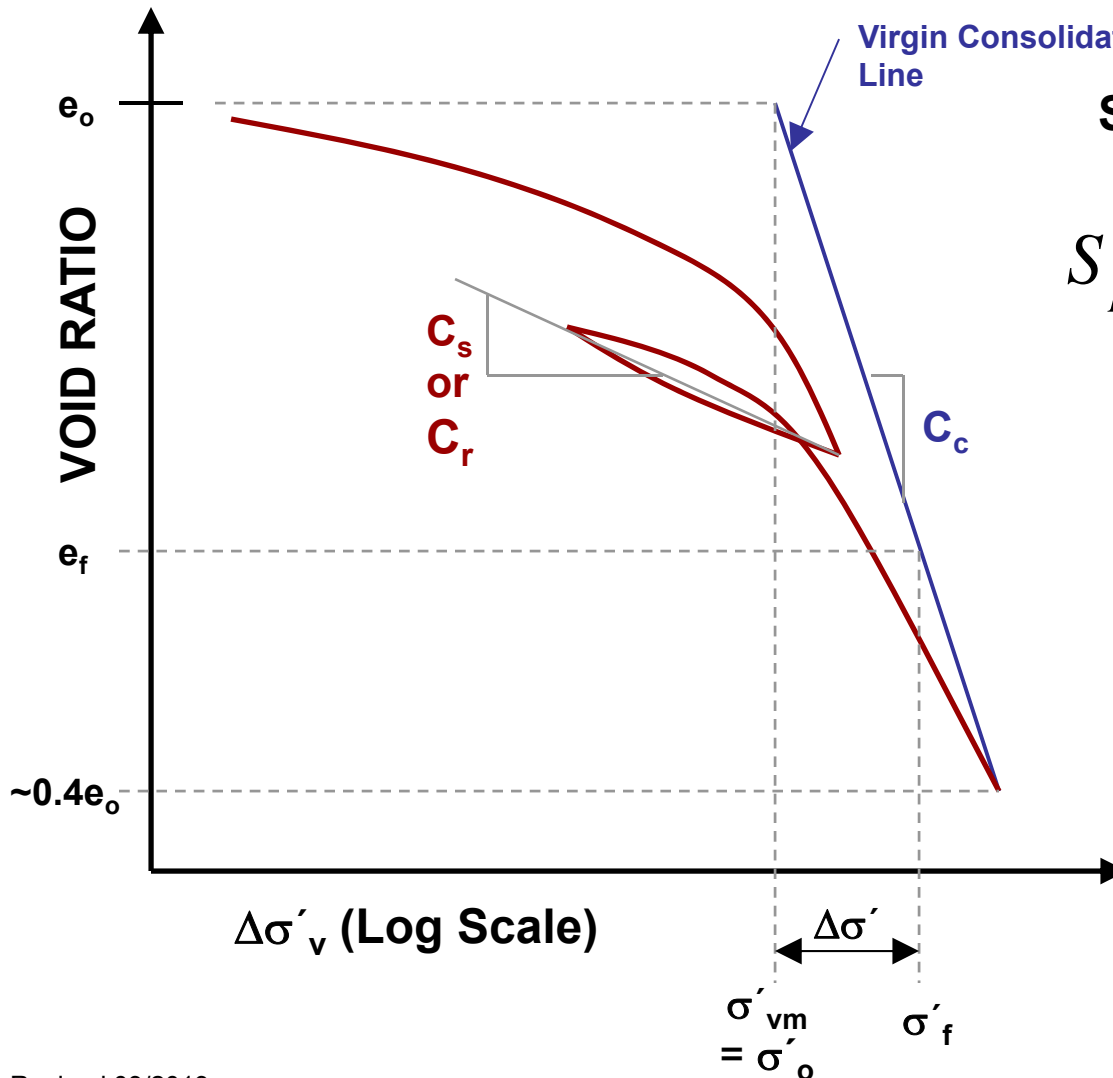
$\sigma'_{vm}$  = Final Vertical Effective Stress

=  $\sigma'_o$  - Current Vertical Effective Stress

$\Delta\sigma'$  = Change in Vertical Effective Stress

$\sigma'_f$  = Final Vertical Effective Stress

$e_f$  = Final Void Ratio



# SETTLEMENT FROM 1D PRIMARY CONSOLIDATION

## OC Clay

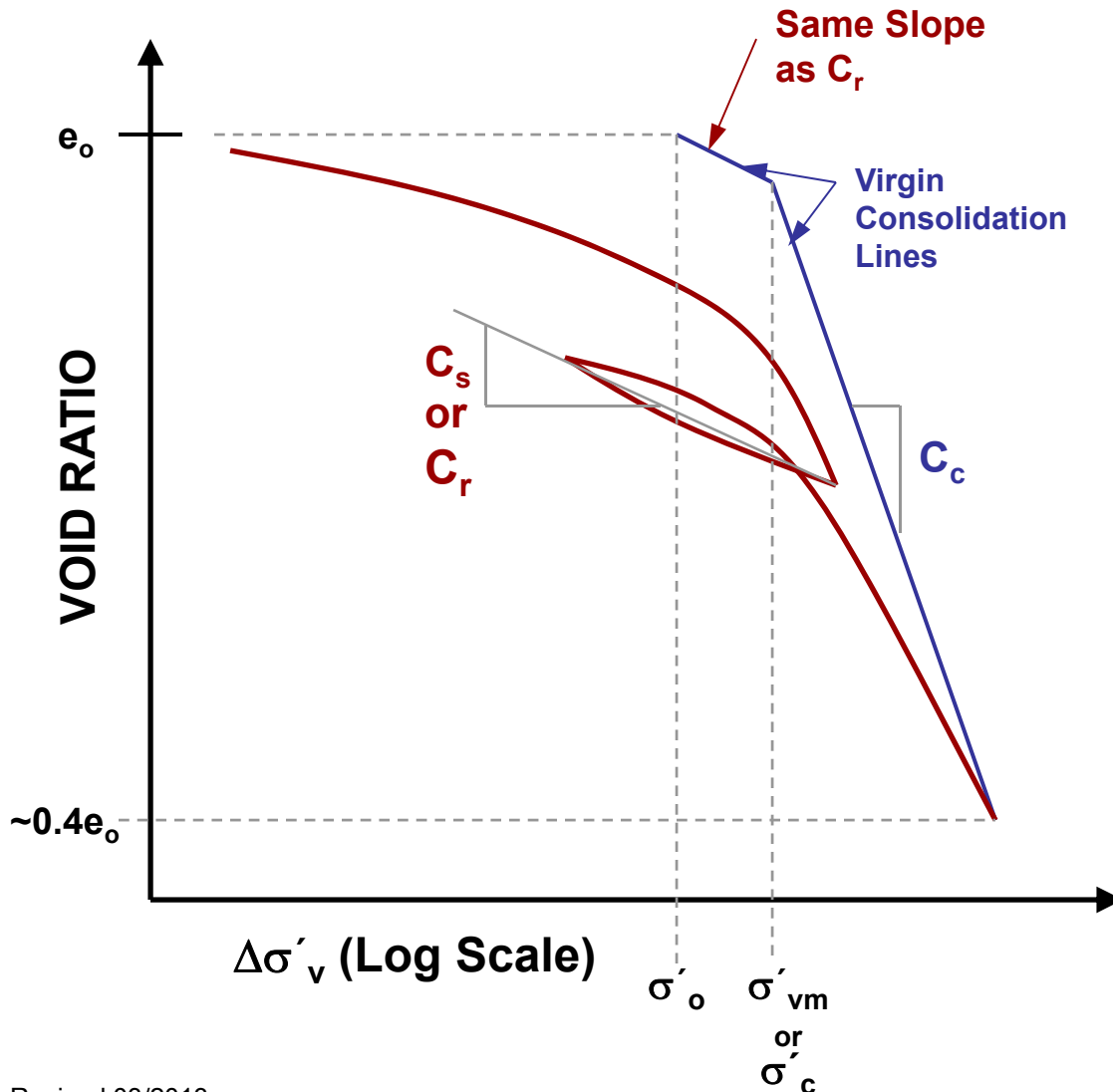
Where:

$C_c$  = Slope of Field Virgin Consolidation Curve  
= **Compression Index**

$C_s$  (or  $C_r$ ) = Slope of Rebound Curve  
= **Swell Index**

$\sigma'_{vm}$  = Maximum Past Pressure

$\sigma'_o$  = Initial Vertical Effective Stress



# SETTLEMENT FROM 1D PRIMARY CONSOLIDATION

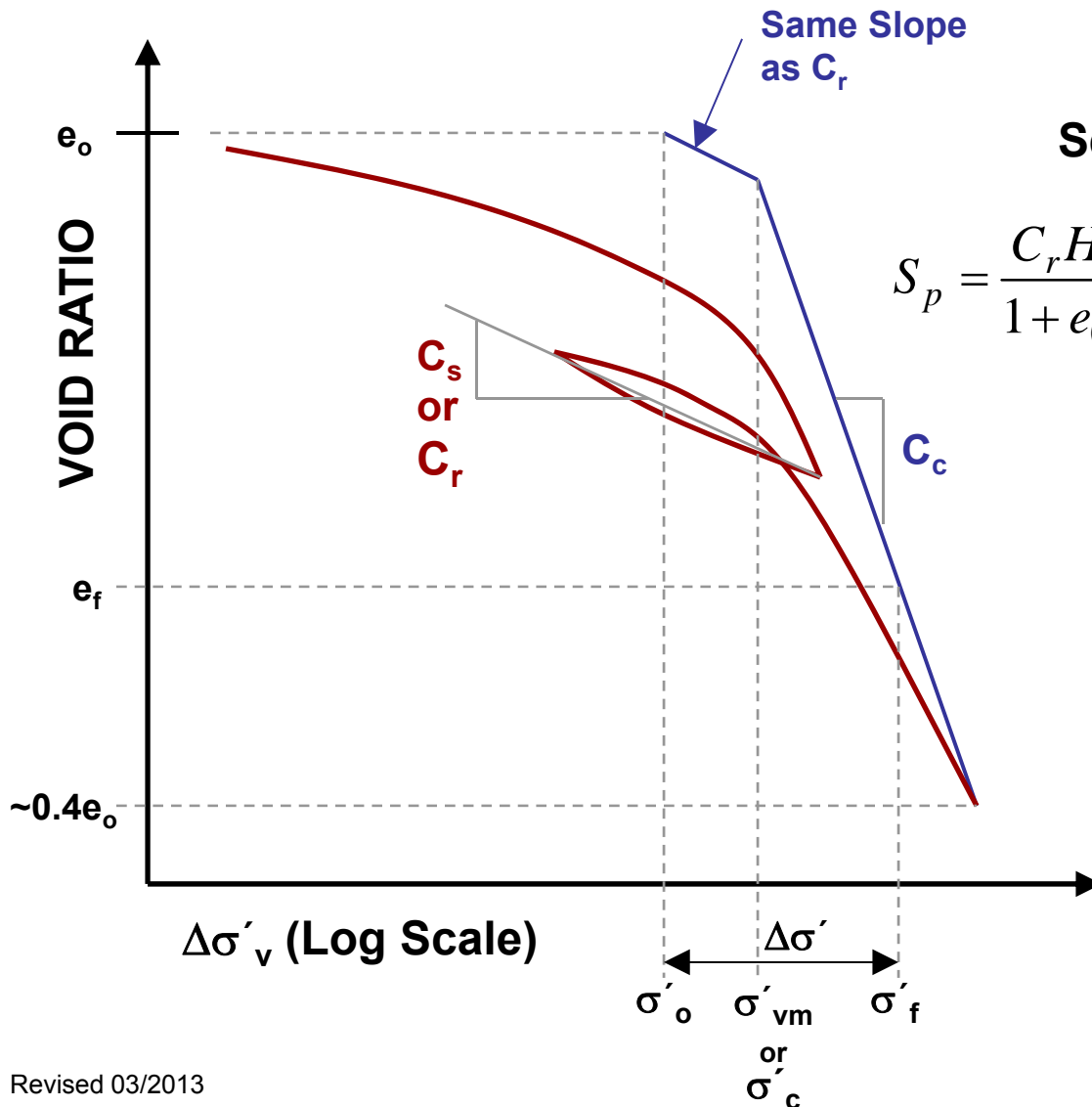
## OC Clay

Settlement ( $S_p$ ) using Void Ratio

$$S_p = \frac{C_r H}{1 + e_0} \log\left(\frac{\sigma'_{vm}}{\sigma'_o}\right) + \frac{C_c H}{1 + e_0} \log\left(\frac{\sigma'_o + \Delta\sigma'}{\sigma'_o}\right)$$

Where:

- $S_p$  = Settlement
- $H$  = Height of Soil Layer
- $\Delta\sigma'$  = Change in Vertical Effective Stress
- $\sigma'_o$  = Initial Vertical Effective Stress
- $\sigma'_f$  = Final Vertical Effective Stress
- $e_f$  = Final Void Ratio



# SETTLEMENT FROM 1D PRIMARY CONSOLIDATION

## Compression Index ( $C_c$ ) Estimates from Other Laboratory Tests

Soil	$C_c$ Equation	Reference
Undisturbed Clays	$C_c = 0.009(LL - 10)$	Terzaghi & Peck (1967)
Disturbed Clays	$C_c = 0.007(LL - 10)$	
Organic Soils, Peat	$C_c = 0.0115W_n$	EM 1110-1-1904
Clays	$C_c = 1.15(e_o - 0.35)$	
	$C_c = 0.012W_n$	
	$C_c = 0.01(LL - 13)$	
Varved Clays	$C_c = (1 + e_o) - [0.1 + 0.006(W_n - 25)]$	
Uniform Silts	$C_c = 0.20$	



# SETTLEMENT FROM 1D PRIMARY CONSOLIDATION

## Compression Index ( $C_c$ ) Estimates from Other Laboratory Tests

Soil	$C_c$ Equation	Reference
Clays	$C_c = 0.141G_s^{1.2} \left( \frac{1 + e_o}{G_s} \right)^{2.38}$	Rendon-Herrero (1983)
Clays	$C_c = 0.2343 \left[ \frac{LL}{100} \right] G_s$	Nagaraj & Murty (1985)

**Where:**

$G_s$  = Specific Gravity of Solids

$LL$  = Liquid Limit (in %)

$W_n$  = Natural Water Content

$e_o$  = Initial Void Ratio

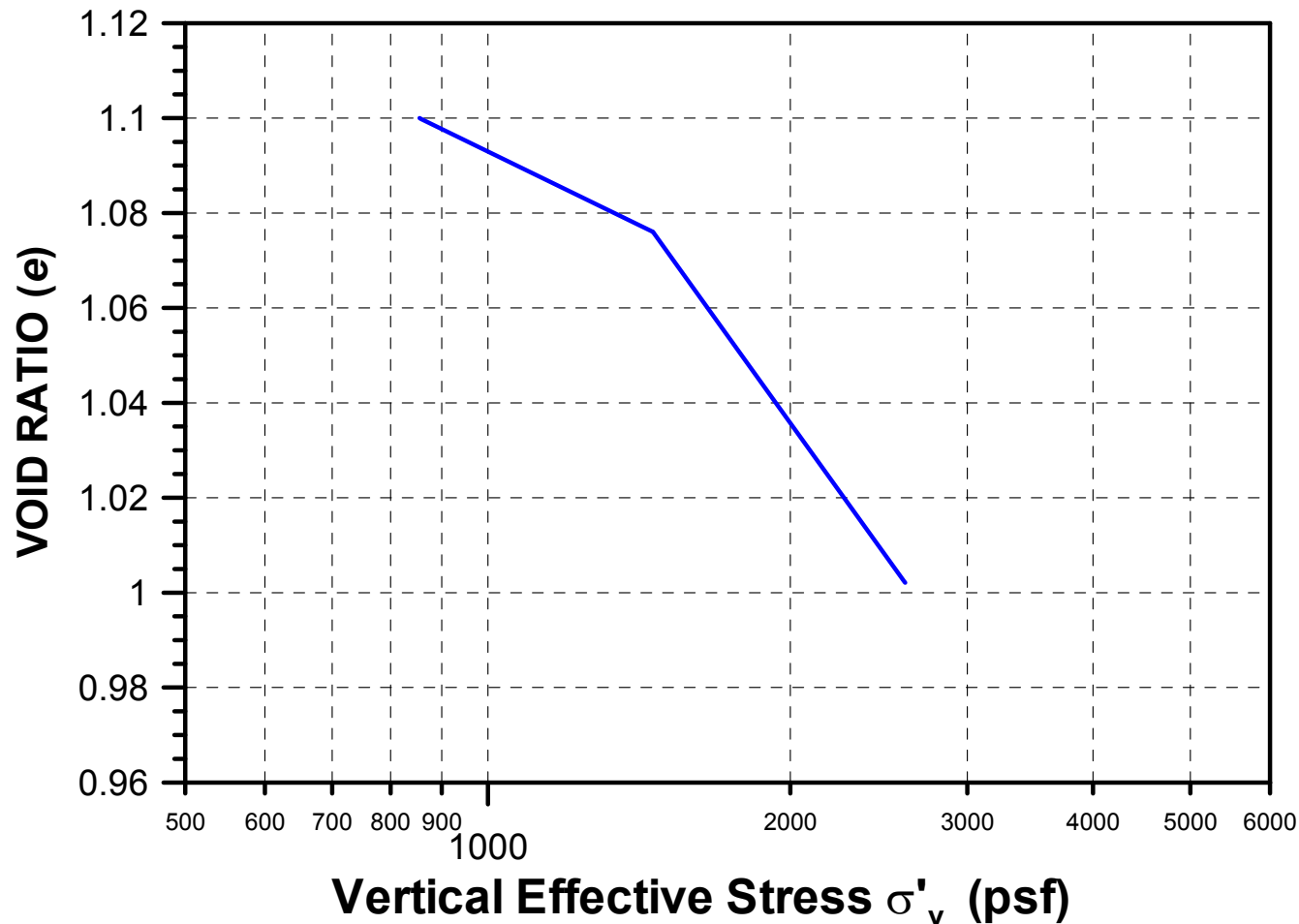


## SETTLEMENT FROM 1D PRIMARY CONSOLIDATION

### Compression Index ( $C_c$ ) Estimates from Other Laboratory Tests

Soil	$C_c$ Equation	Reference
Clays	$C_c = 0.141G_s^{1.2} \left( \frac{1+e_o}{G_s} \right)^{2.38}$	Rendon-Herrero (1983)
Clays	$C_c = 0.2343 \left[ \frac{LL}{100} \right] G_s$	Nagaraj & Murty (1985)

## EXAMPLE: SETTLEMENT FROM VIRGIN CONSOLIDATION CURVES



**GIVEN:**

**OC CH layer**

$$\sigma'_o = 855 \text{ psf}$$

$$\sigma'_{vm} = 1460 \text{ psf}$$

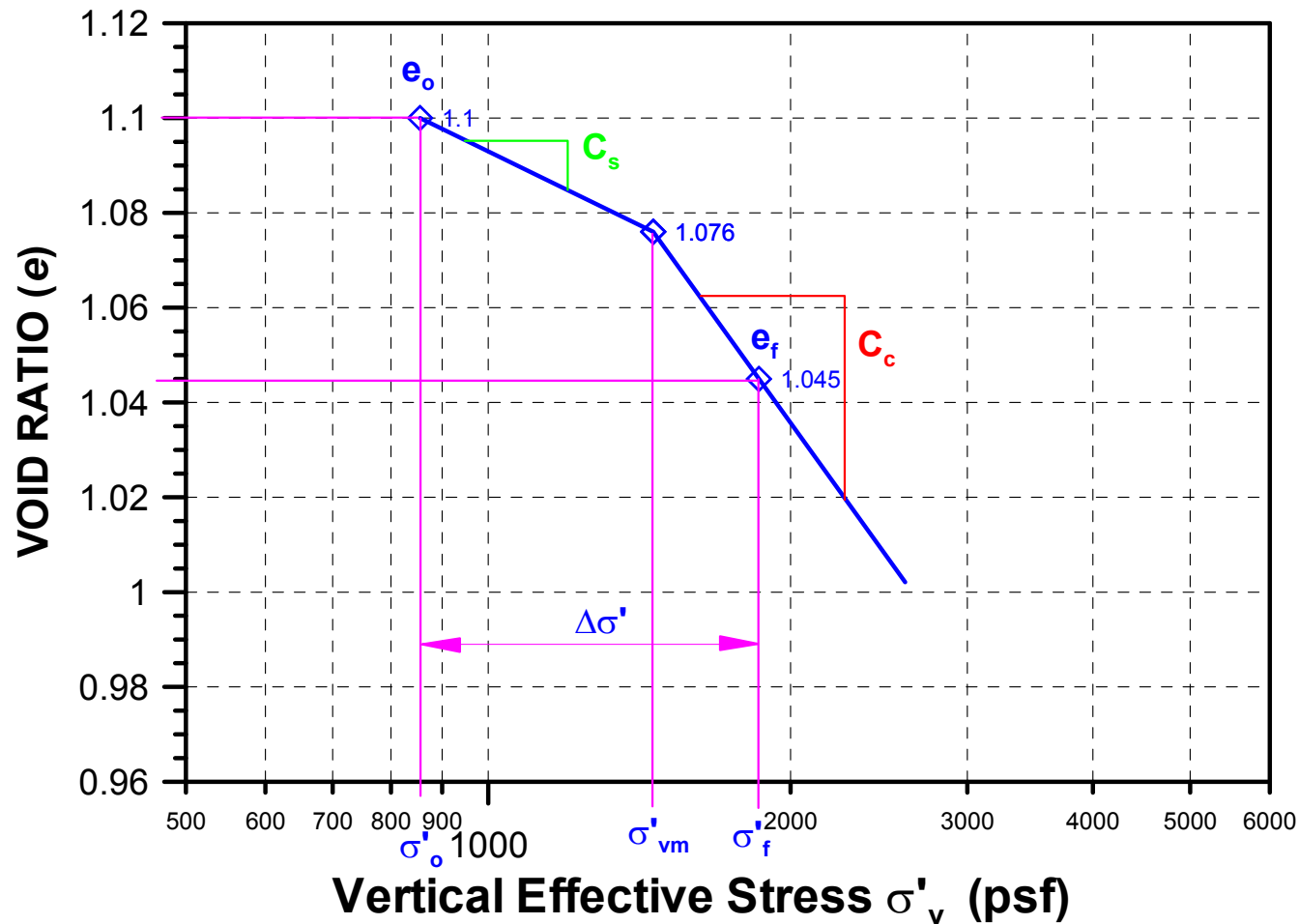
$$\Delta\sigma' = 1005 \text{ psf}$$

$$e_o = 1.1$$

Height of CH  
Layer = 10 ft

**Figure 1.** Example of Virgin Consolidation Curves.

# EXAMPLE: SETTLEMENT FROM VIRGIN CONSOLIDATION CURVES



$$S_p = H \frac{\Delta e}{1 + e_o}$$

$$\Delta e = 1.1 - 1.045 = 0.055$$

$$e_o = 1.1$$

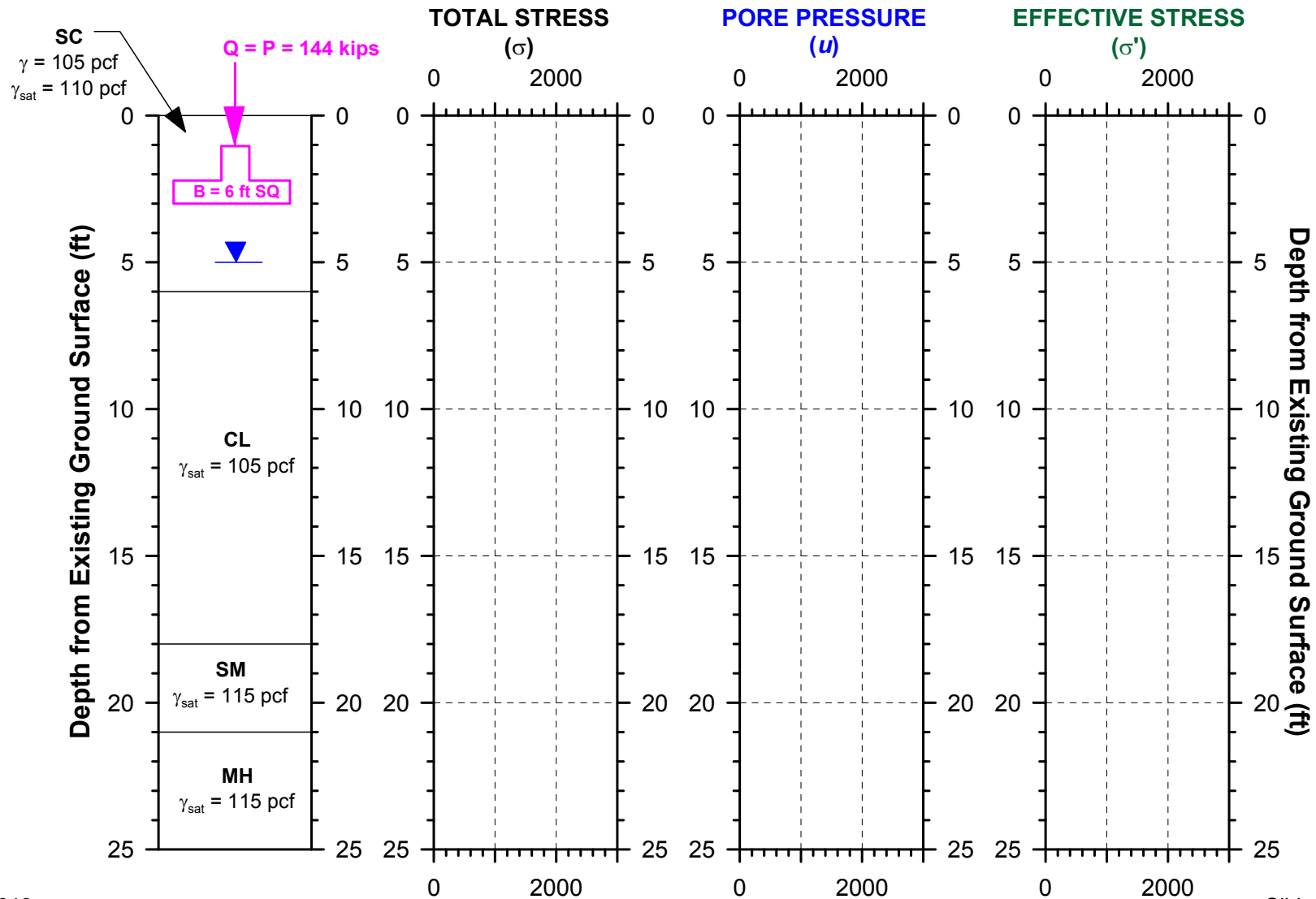
$$S_p = (10 \text{ ft}) \left( \frac{0.055}{1 + 1.1} \right)$$

$$S_p = 0.262 \text{ ft}$$

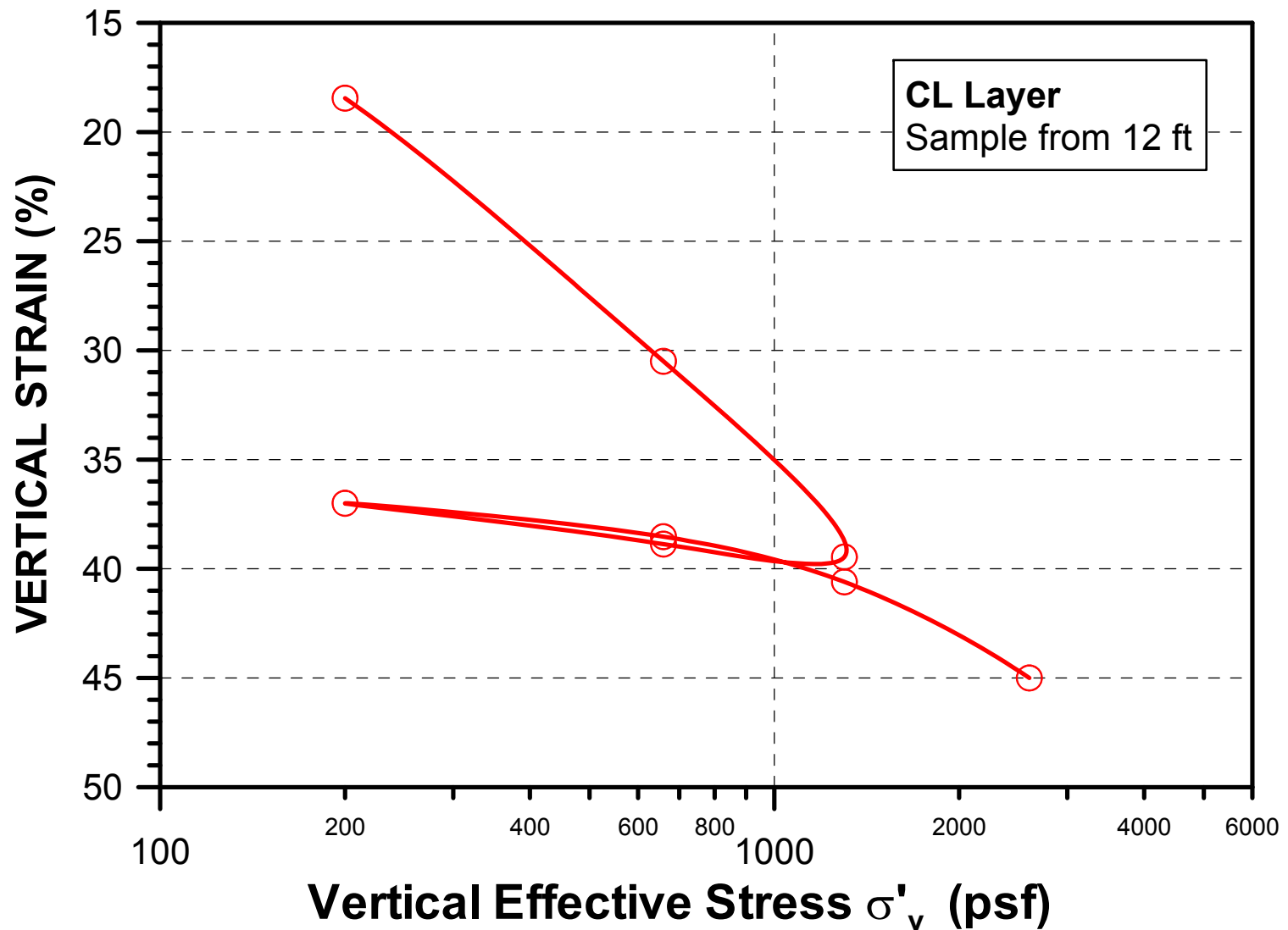
$$S_p = 3.14 \text{ in} = 3 \frac{1}{4} \text{ in}$$

Figure 1. Example of Virgin Consolidation Curves.

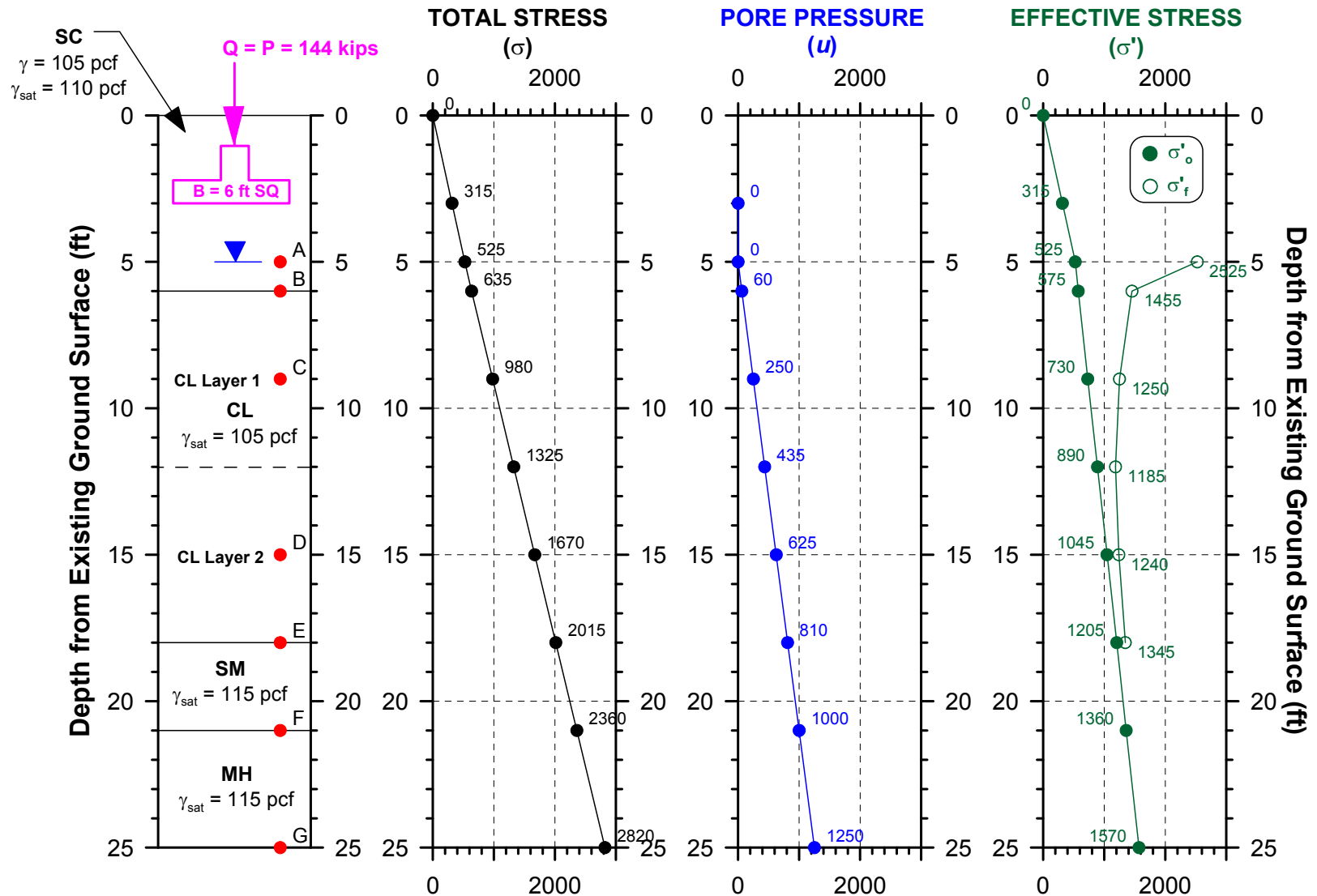
### EXAMPLE: SETTLEMENT FROM 1D TEST STRAIN RESULTS



## EXAMPLE: SETTLEMENT FROM 1D TEST STRAIN RESULTS



### EXAMPLE: SETTLEMENT FROM 1D TEST STRAIN RESULTS



## EXAMPLE: SETTLEMENT FROM 1D TEST STRAIN RESULTS

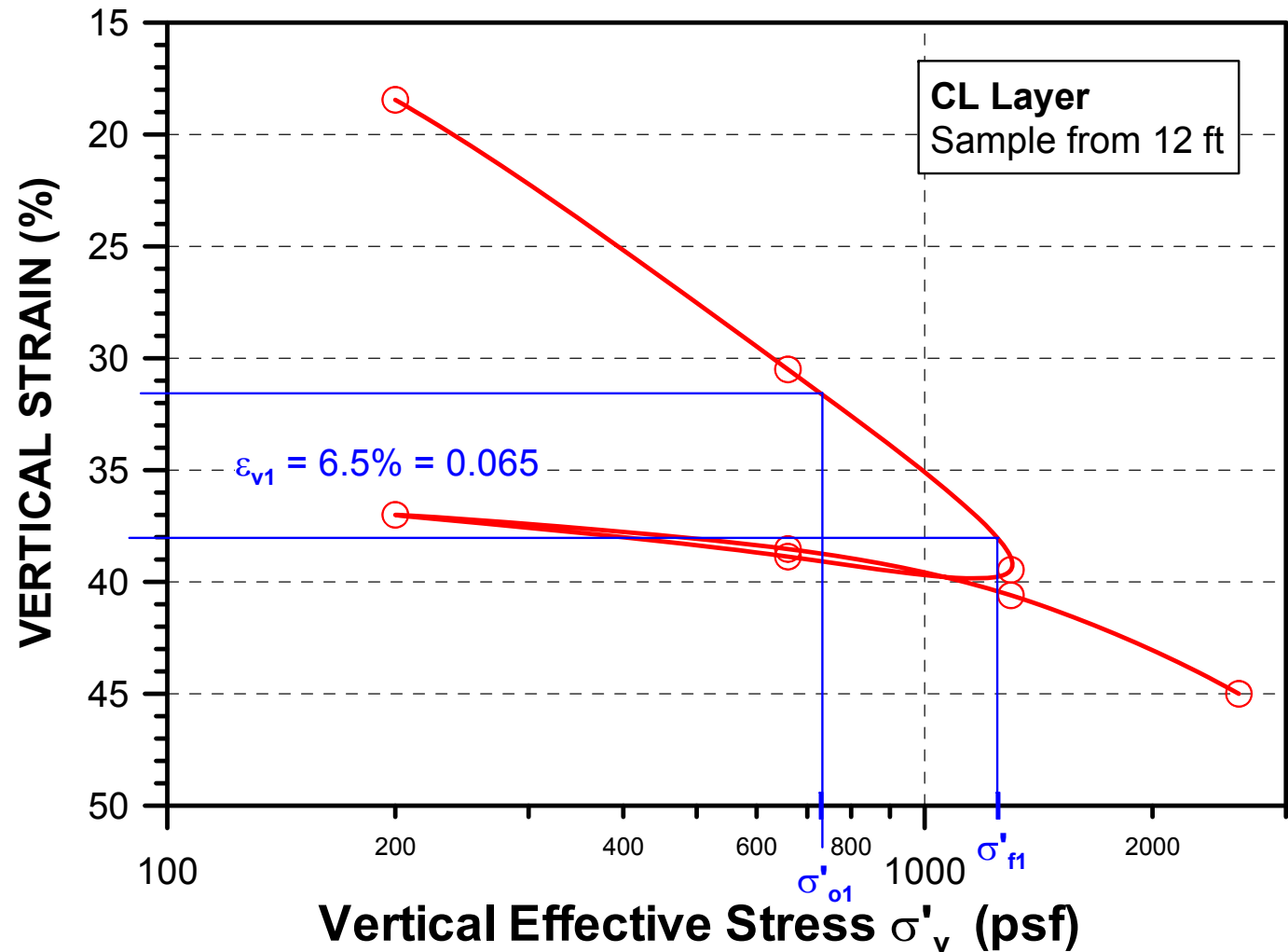
### CL Layer 1

$$S_{p1} = H_1 \varepsilon_{v1}$$

$$S_{p1} = (6 \text{ ft})(0.065)$$

$$S_{p1} = 0.39 \text{ ft}$$

$$S_{p1} = 4.7 \text{ in}$$



### EXAMPLE: SETTLEMENT FROM 1D TEST STRAIN RESULTS

#### CL Layer 2

$$S_p = H_2 \epsilon_v$$

$$S_p = (6 \text{ ft})(0.024)$$

$$S_p = 0.14 \text{ ft}$$

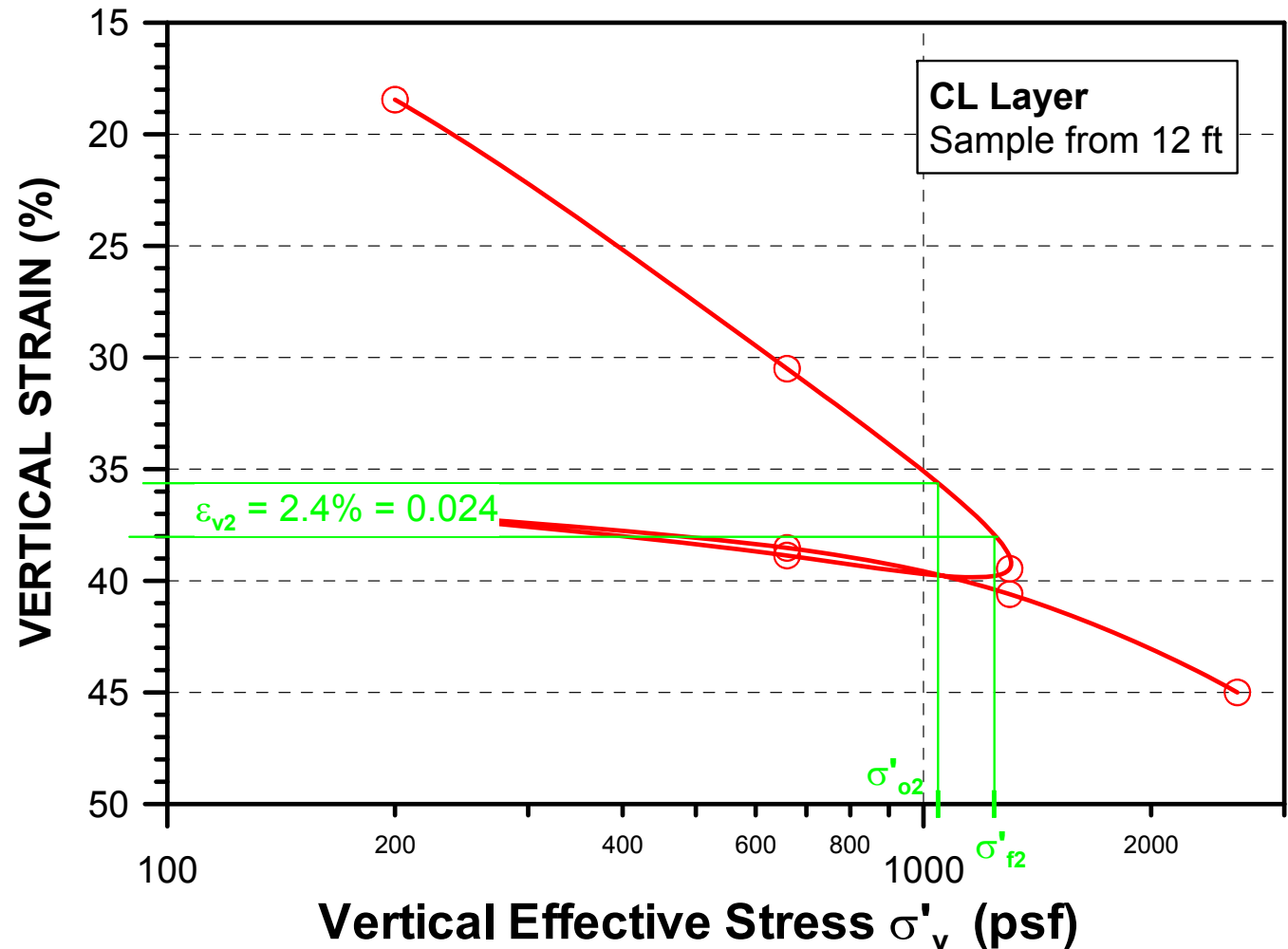
$$S_p = 1.7 \text{ in}$$

#### Total Settlement

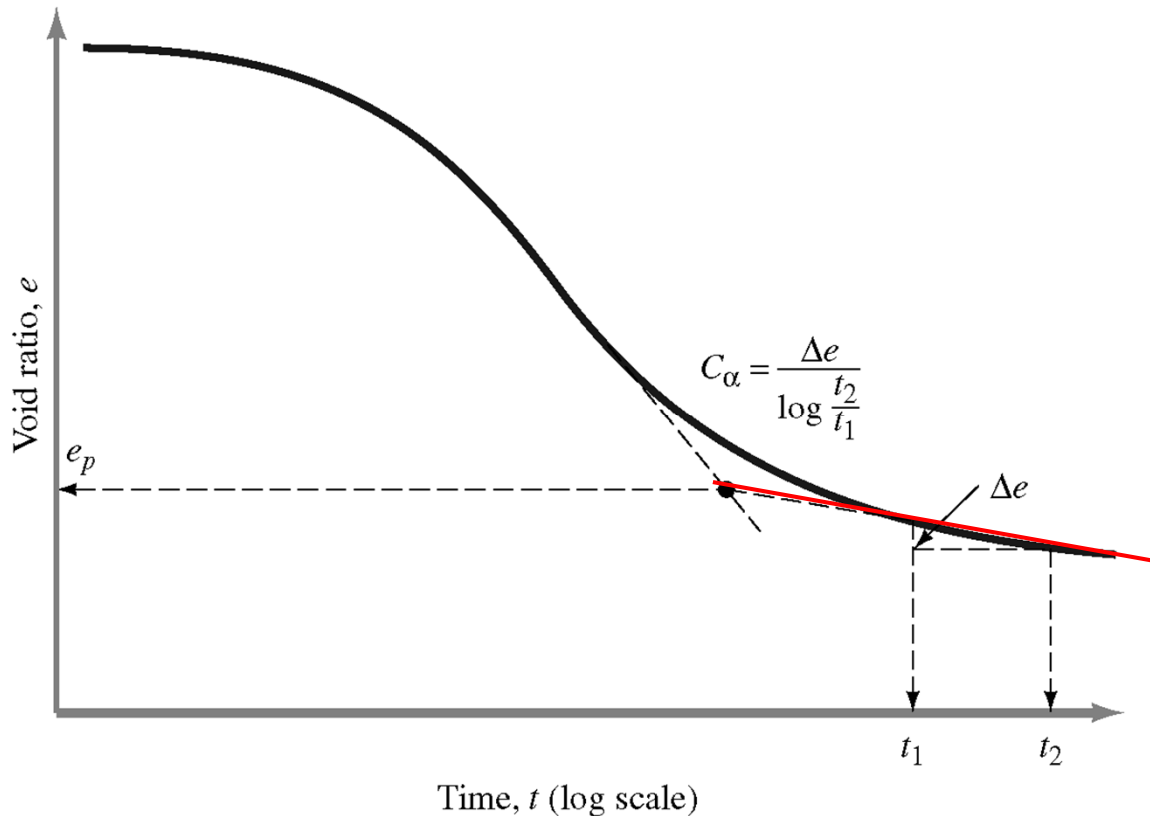
$$S_{Ptotal} = S_{p1} + S_{p2}$$

$$S_{Ptotal} = 6.4 \text{ in}$$

$$S_{Ptotal} = 6 \frac{1}{2} \text{ in}$$



# SETTLEMENT FROM SECONDARY CONSOLIDATION



$$C_\alpha = \frac{\Delta e}{\log t_2 - \log t_1}$$

**Where:**

$C_\alpha$  = Secondary Compression Index

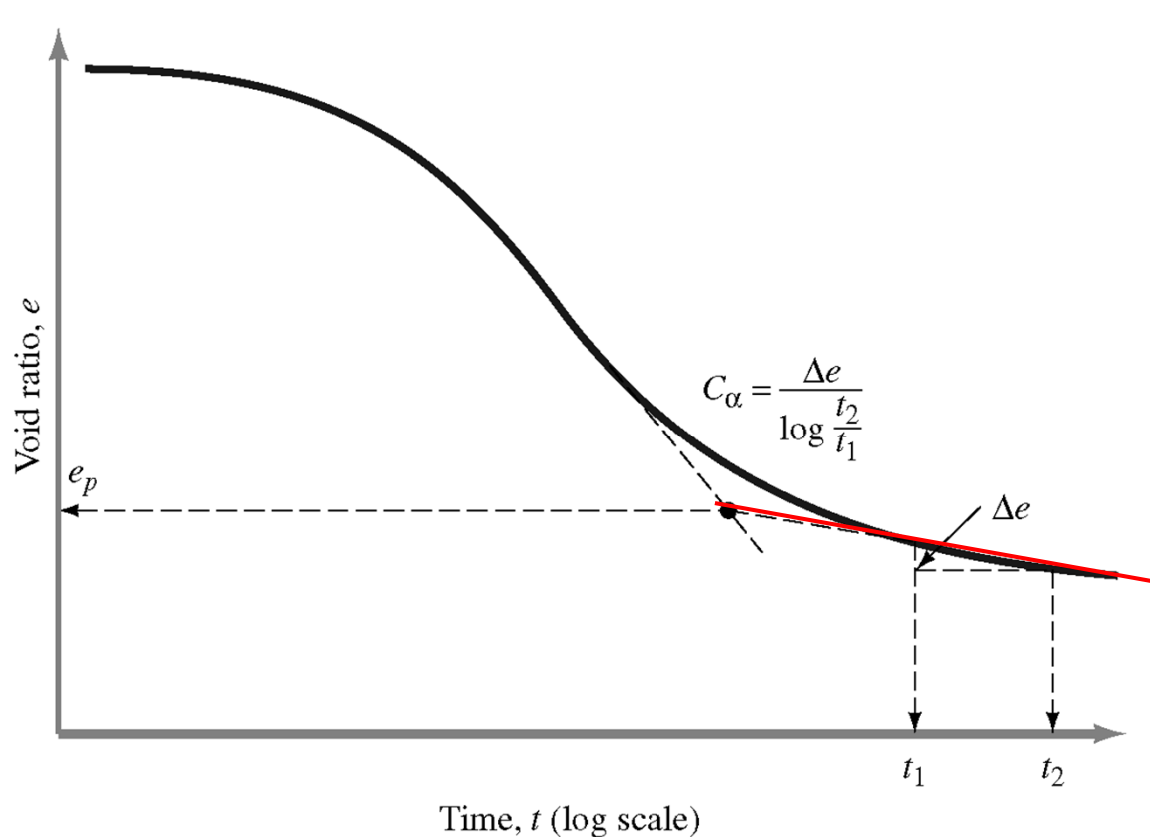
$\Delta e$  = Change in Void Ratio

$t$  = Time

**Results of 1D Consolidation Test @  
One Load Increment**

**Figure 7.15. Das FGE (2005).**

## SETTLEMENT FROM SECONDARY CONSOLIDATION



$$S_s = C'_\alpha H \log \left( \frac{t_2}{t_1} \right)$$

$$C'_\alpha = \frac{C_\alpha}{1 + e_p}$$

**Where:**

$H$  = Height of Soil Layer

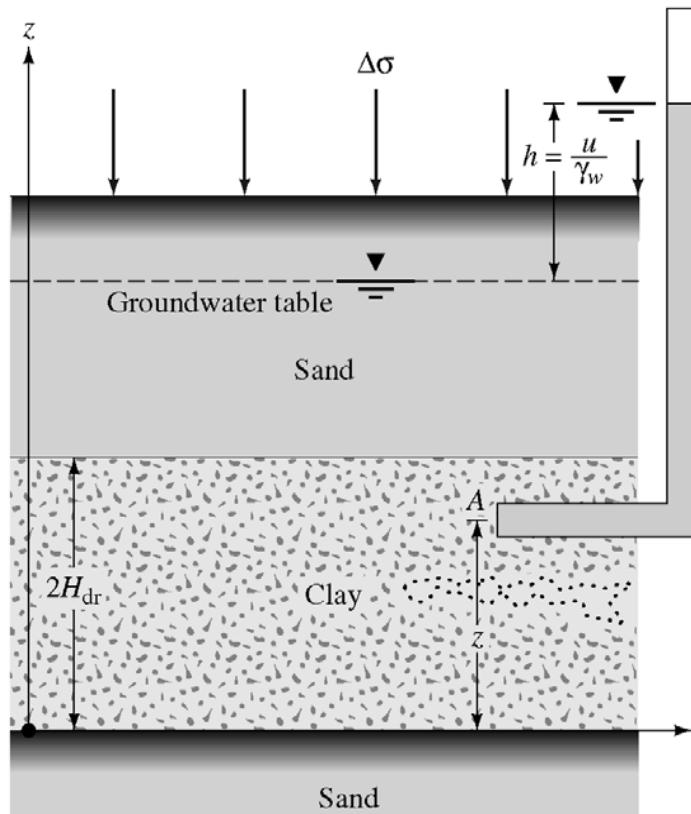
$e_p$  = Void Ratio @ End  
of Primary Consolidation

$t$  = Time

**Results of 1D Consolidation Test @  
One Load Increment**

**Figure 7.15. Das FGE (2005).**

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION



## Clay Layer Undergoing Consolidation

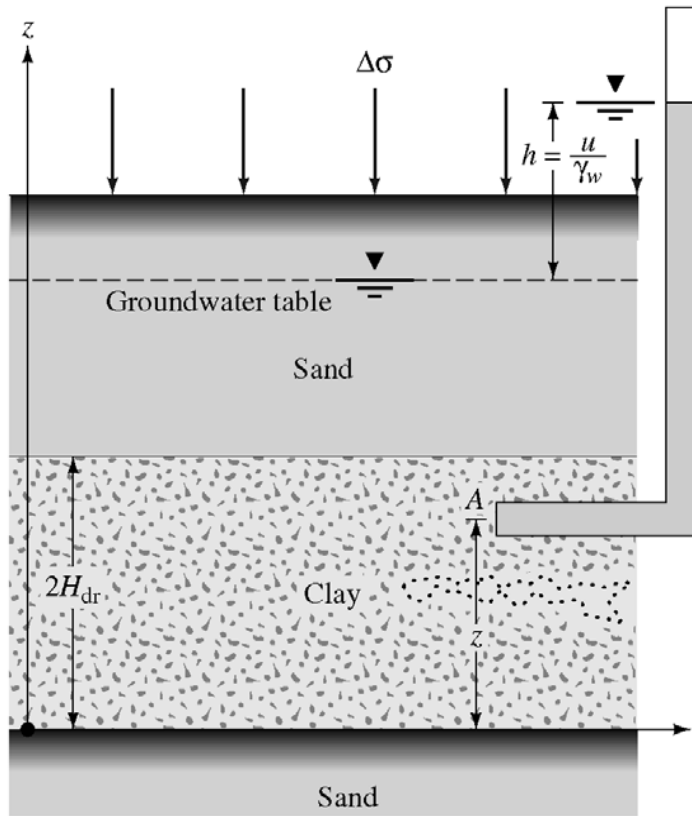
Figure 7.17a. Das FGE (2005).

## Theory of 1D Consolidation (Terzaghi, 1925)

### Assumptions:

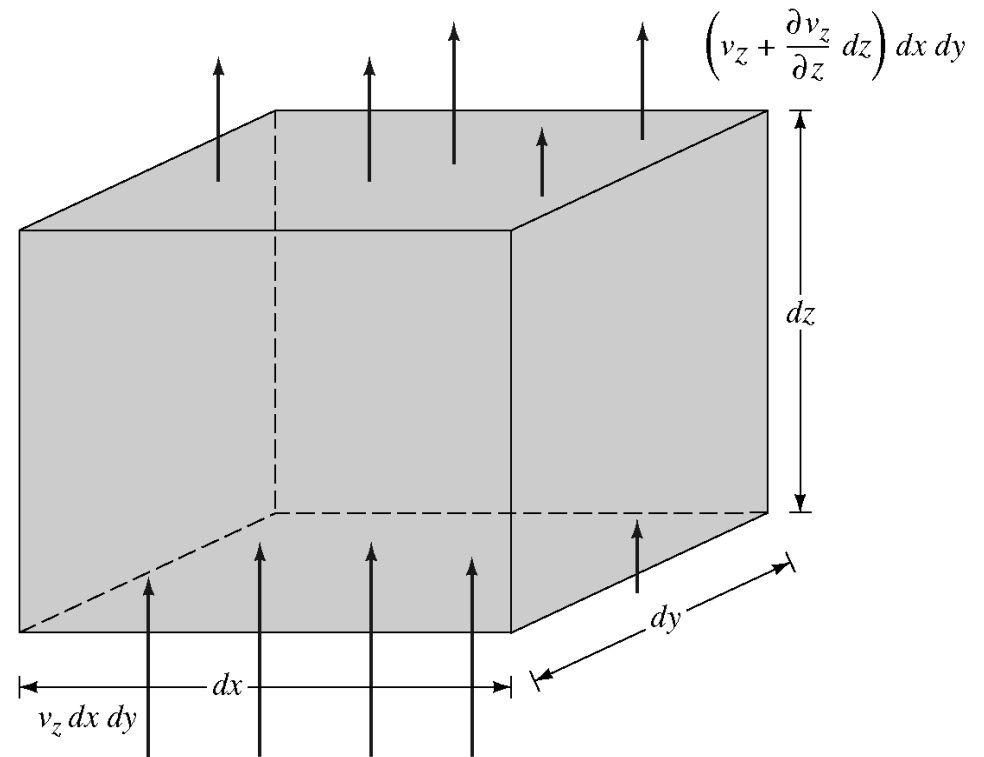
1. The clay-water system is homogenous.
2. Saturation is complete ( $S = 100\%$ ).
3. Compressibility of water is negligible.
4. Compressibility of soil grains is negligible (but soil particles rearrange).
5. Flow of water is in one direction only.
6. Darcy's Law is Valid.

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION



**Clay Layer Undergoing Consolidation**

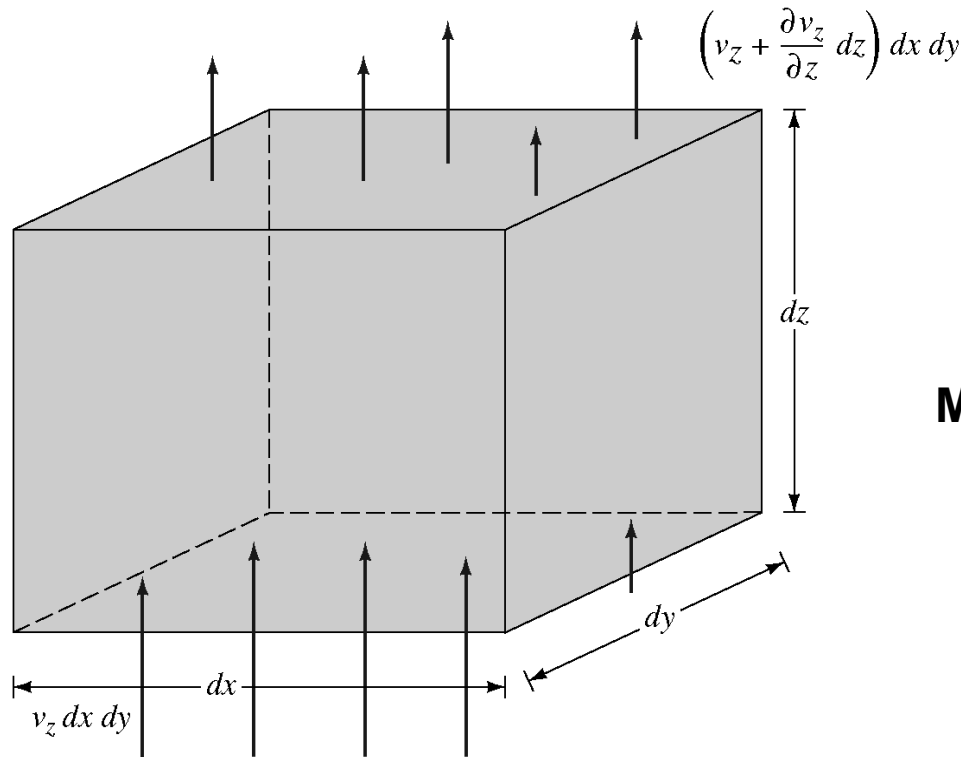
Figure 7.17a. Das FGE (2005).



**Flow of Water @ Point A**

Figure 7.17b. Das FGE (2005).

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION



**Flow of Water @ Point A**  
Figure 7.17b. Das FGE (2005).

**(Rate of Water Outflow) –  
(Rate of Water Inflow) =  
(Rate of Volume Changes)**

**Mathematical Equation:**

$$\left( v_z + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} dz \right) dx dy - v_z dx dy = \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}$$

or

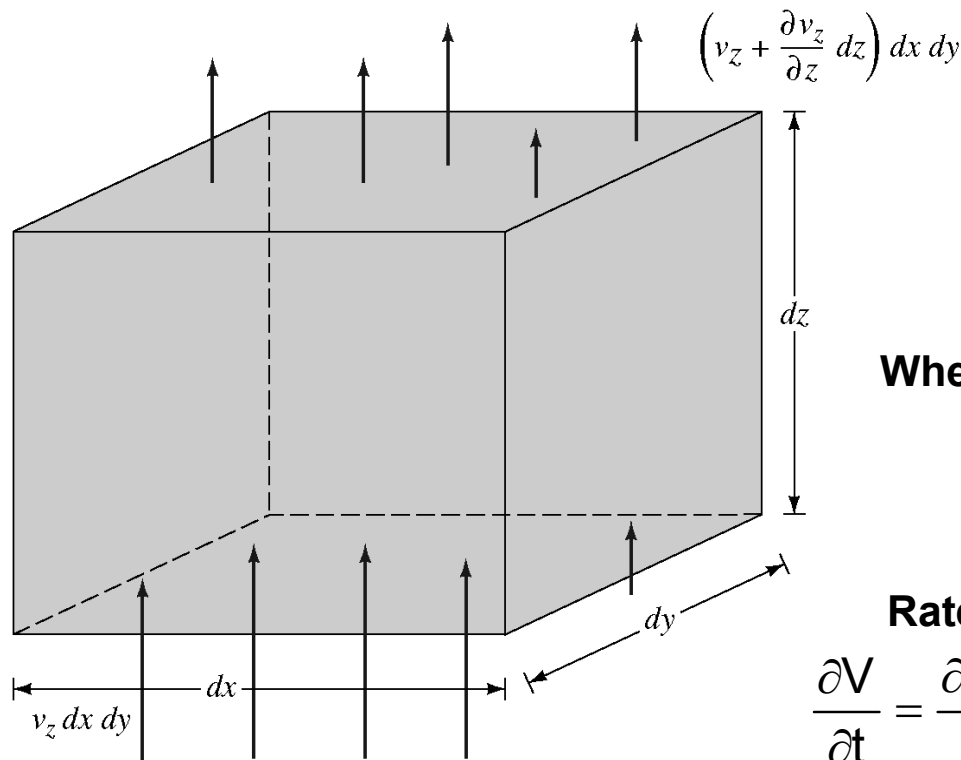
$$\frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} dx dy dz = \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}$$

**Where:**

$V$  = Volume of Soil Element

$v_z$  = Velocity of flow in z direction

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION



**Flow of Water @ Point A**  
Figure 7.17b. Das FGE (2005).

$$\frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} dx dy dz = \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}$$

Using Darcy's Law ( $v = ki$ )

$$v_z = ki = -k \frac{\partial h}{\partial z} = -\frac{k}{\gamma_w} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z}$$

Where  $u$  = excess pore pressure. From algebra:

$$-\frac{k}{\gamma_w} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = \frac{1}{dx dy dz} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}$$

Rate of change in  $V$  = Rate of Change in  $V_v$

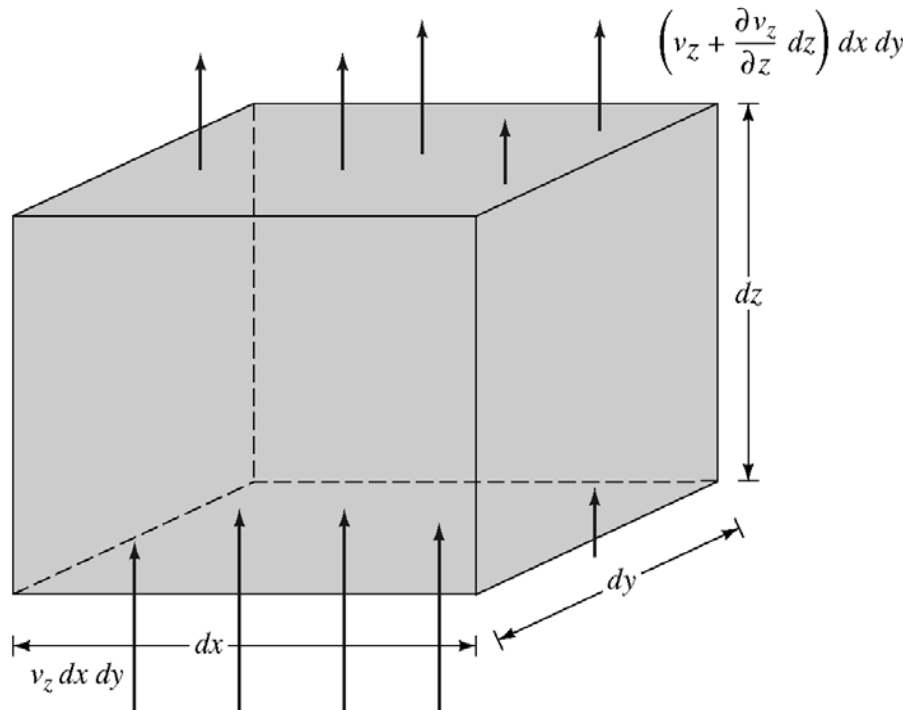
$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial V_v}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial (V_s + eV_s)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial V_s}{\partial t} + V_s \frac{\partial e}{\partial t} + e \frac{\partial V_s}{\partial t}$$

Where:

$V_s$  = Volume of Solids  
 $V_v$  = Volume of Voids

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION

From Previous Slide



$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial V_v}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial (V_s + eV_s)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial V_s}{\partial t} + V_s \frac{\partial e}{\partial t} + e \frac{\partial V_s}{\partial t}$$

Assuming soil solids are incompressible

$$\frac{\partial V_s}{\partial t} = 0$$

and

$$V_s = \frac{V}{1+e_0} = \frac{dx dy dz}{1+e_0}$$

$e_0$  = Initial Void Ratio. Substituting:

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} = \frac{dx dy dz}{1+e_0} \frac{\partial e}{\partial t}$$

Combining equations:

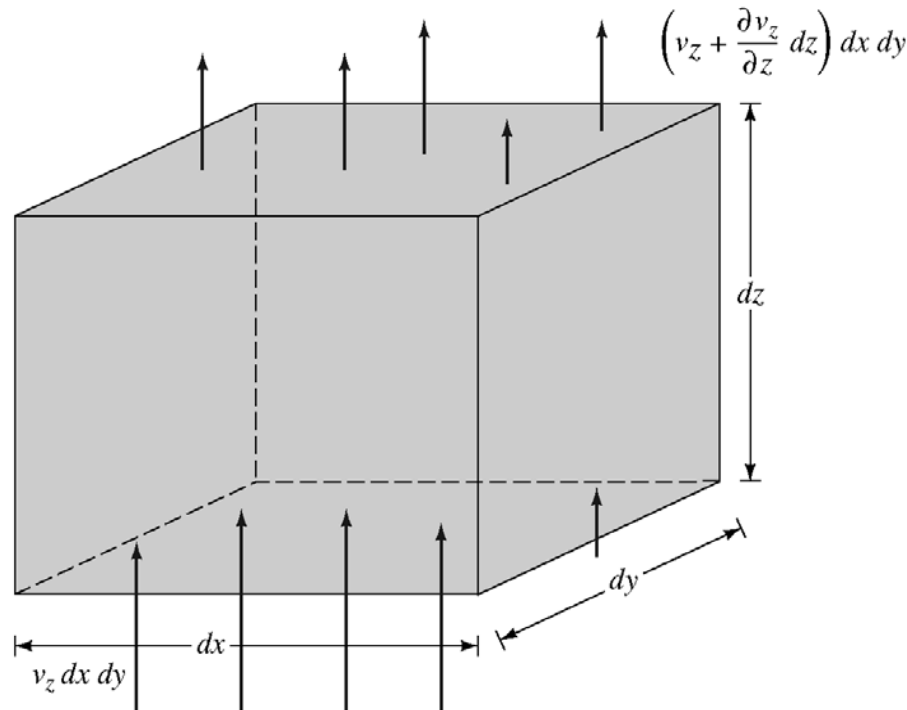
$$-\frac{k}{\gamma_w} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = \frac{1}{1+e_0} \frac{\partial e}{\partial t}$$

Flow of Water @ Point A

Figure 7.17b. Das FGE (2005).

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION

From Previous Slide 
$$-\frac{k}{\gamma_w} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = \frac{1}{1+e_o} \frac{\partial e}{\partial t}$$



**Flow of Water @ Point A**  
Figure 7.17b. Das FGE (2005).

The change in void ratio is caused by the increase in effective stress. Assuming linear relationship between the two:

$$\partial e = a_v \partial(\Delta \sigma') = -a_v \partial u$$

$a_v$  = Coefficient of Compressibility.  
Can be considered constant over narrow pressure increases.

Combining equations:

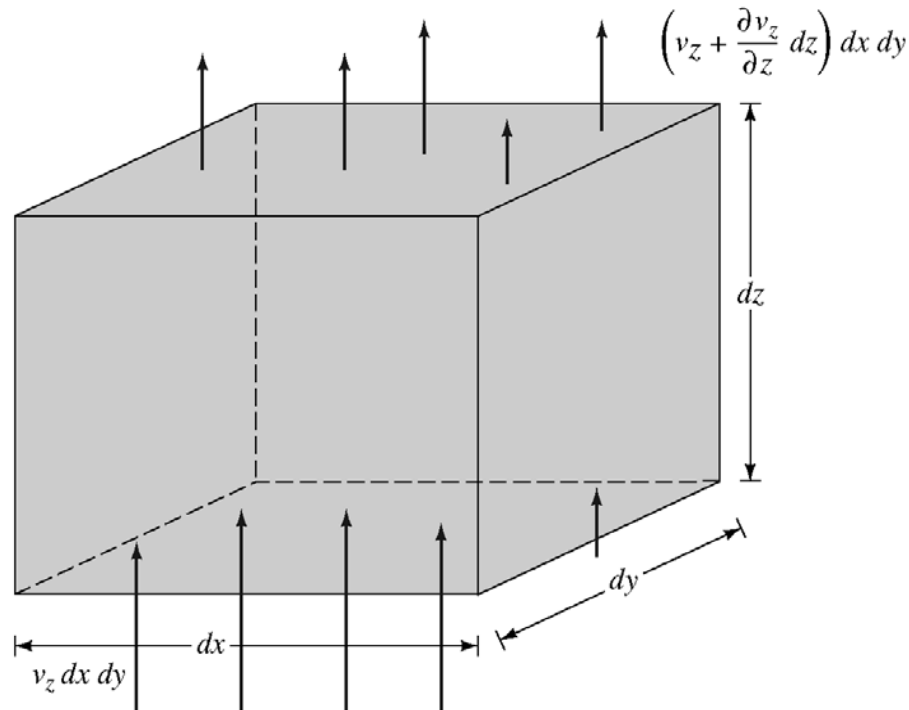
$$-\frac{k}{\gamma_w} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = -\frac{a_v}{1+e_o} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -m_v \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$$

$m_v$  = Coefficient of Volume Compressibility.

$$m_v = \frac{a_v}{1+e_o}$$

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION

From Previous Slide



**Flow of Water @ Point A**  
Figure 7.17b. Das FGE (2005).

$$-\frac{k}{\gamma_w} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = -\frac{a_v}{1+e_o} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -m_v \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$$

$a_v$  = Coefficient of Compressibility.  
 $m_v$  = Coefficient of Volume Compressibility.

$$m_v = \frac{a_v}{1+e_o}$$

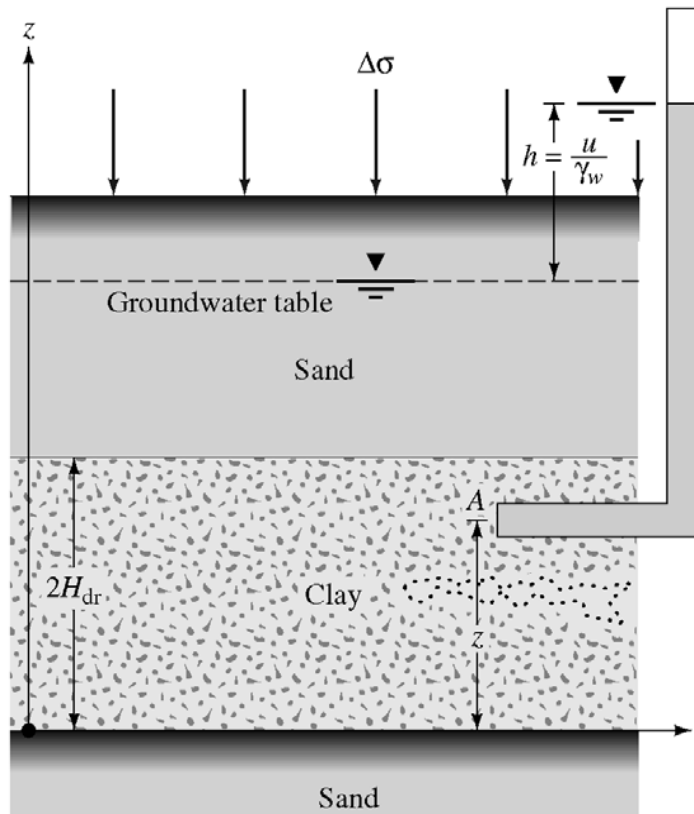
Rearranging Equations:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = c_v \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2}$$

Where  $c_v$  = Coefficient of Consolidation.

$$c_v = \frac{k}{(\gamma_w m_v)}$$

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION



**Clay Layer Undergoing Consolidation**

Figure 7.17a. Das FGE (2005).

**Basic Differential Equation of 1D Consolidation Theory**

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = c_v \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2}$$

**Can be solved with the following boundary conditions:**

$$z = 0, u = 0$$

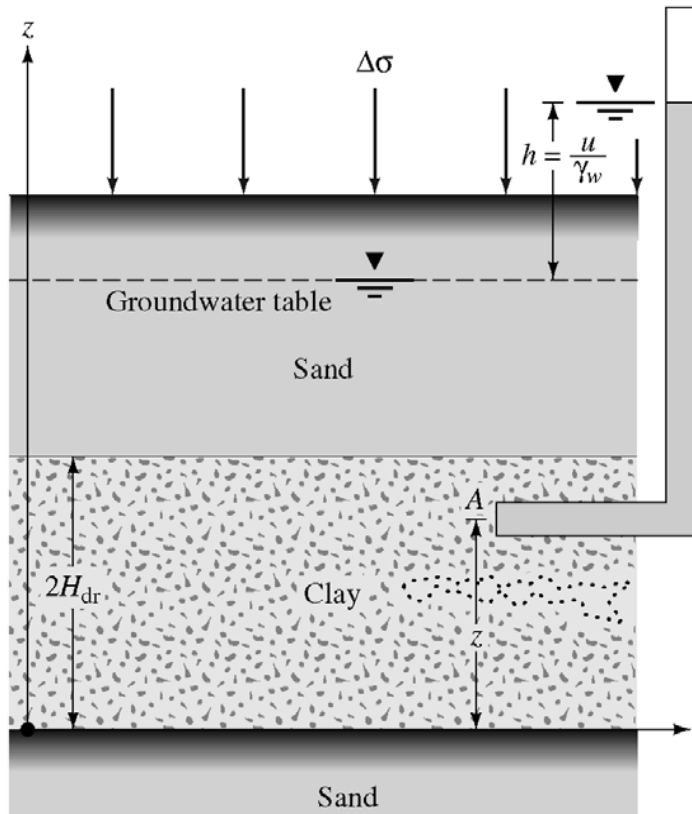
$$z = 2H_{dr}, u = 0$$

$$t = 0, u = u_0$$

**The solution yields**

$$u = \sum_{m=0}^{m=\infty} \left[ \frac{2u_0}{M} \sin\left(\frac{Mz}{H_{dr}}\right) \right] e^{-M^2 T_v}$$

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION



## Clay Layer Undergoing Consolidation

Figure 7.17a. Das FGE (2005).

From Previous Slide

$$u = \sum_{m=0}^{m=\infty} \left[ \frac{2u_o}{M} \sin\left(\frac{Mz}{H_{dr}}\right) \right] e^{-M^2 T_v}$$

Where:

$$M = \frac{\pi}{2} (2m + 1)$$

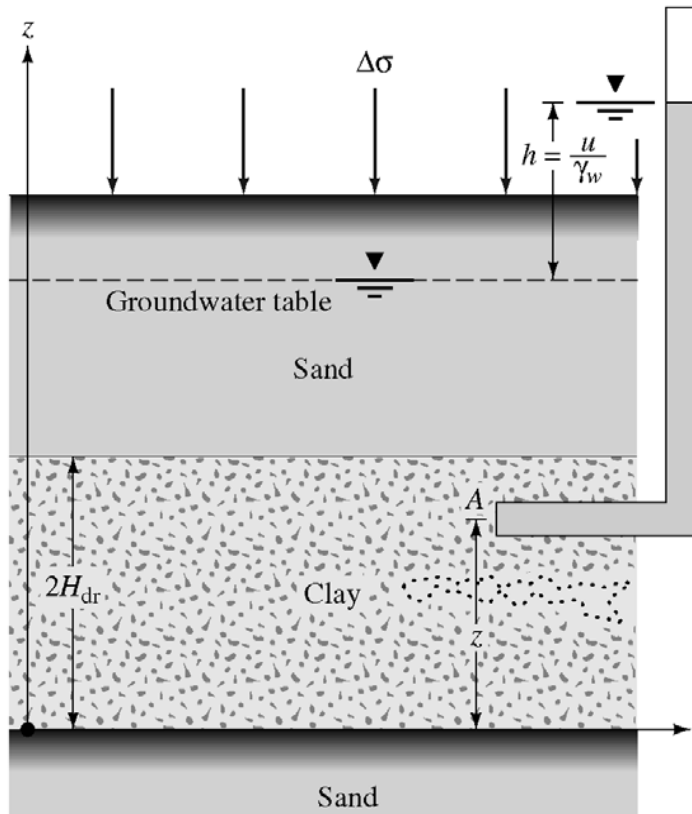
$u_o$  = Initial excess pore water pressure

$$T_v = \frac{c_v t}{H_{dr}^2} = \text{TIME FACTOR}$$

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION

Because consolidation progress by dissipation of excess pore pressure, the degree of consolidation ( $U_z$ ) at a distance  $z$  at any time  $t$  is:

$$U_z = \frac{u_o - u_z}{u_o} = 1 - \frac{u_z}{u_o}$$



**Clay Layer Undergoing Consolidation**

Figure 7.17a. Das FGE (2005).

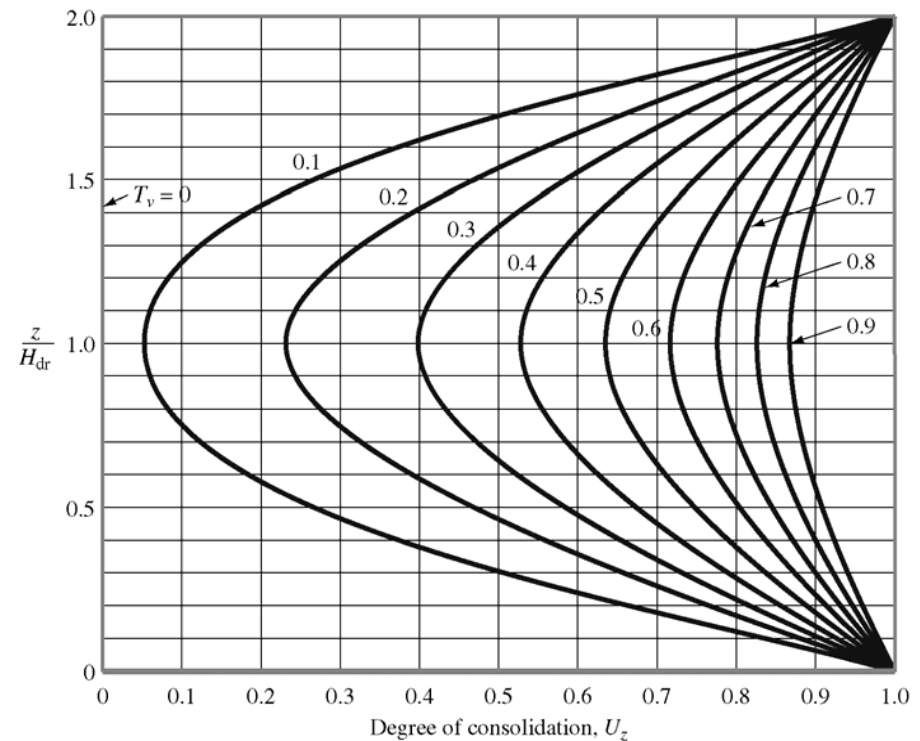
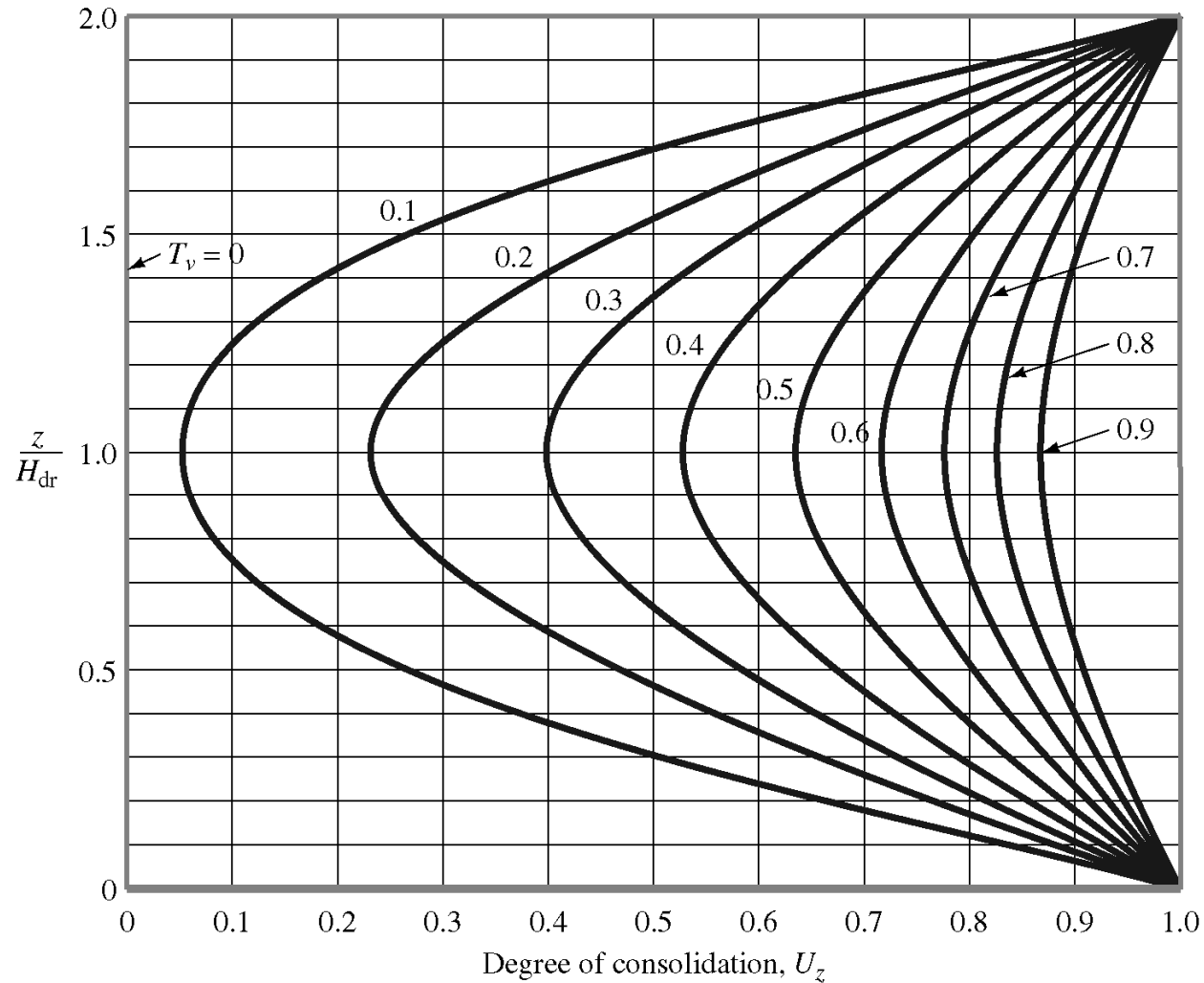
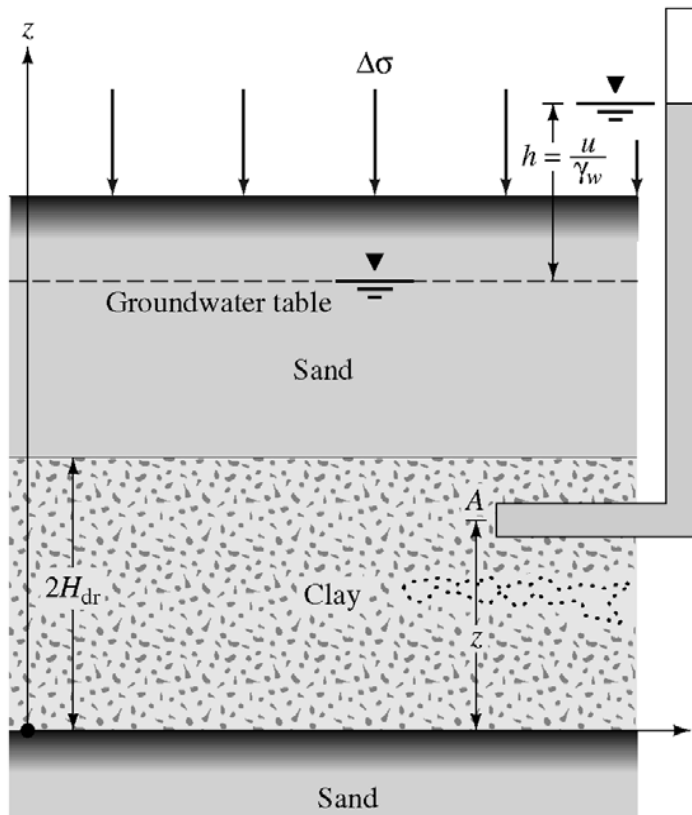


Figure 7.18. Das FGE (2006).

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION



# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION



## Clay Layer Undergoing Consolidation

Figure 7.17a. Das FGE (2005).

Average degree of consolidation ( $U$ ) for the entire depth of the clay layer at any time  $t$  is:

$$U = \frac{S_t}{S_p} = 1 - \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2H_{dr}}\right) \int_0^{2H_{dr}} u_z dz}{u_o}$$

Where:

$U$  = Average degree of Consolidation

$S_t$  = Settlement of layer at time  $t$

$S_p$  = Settlement of Layer from Primary Consolidation

Substituting  $U$  for  $u$

$$U = 1 - \sum_{m=0}^{m=\infty} \frac{2}{M^2} e^{-M^2 T_v}$$

$U$  can be approximated by the following relationships:

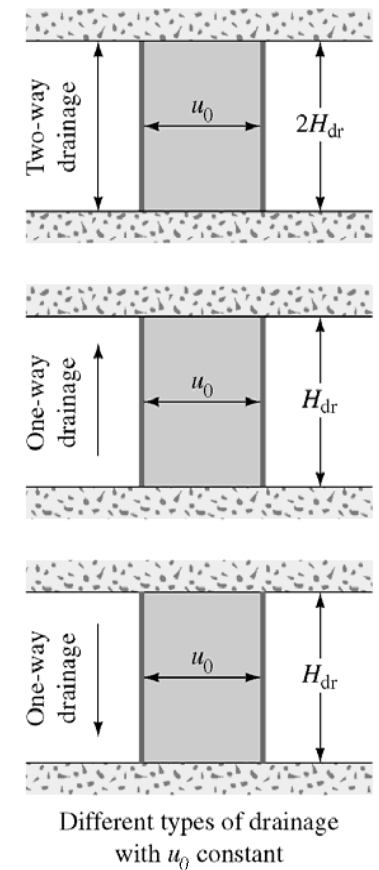
$$\text{For } U = 0\% \text{ to } 60\%, T_v = \frac{\pi}{4} \left(\frac{U\%}{100}\right)^2$$

$$\text{For } U > 60\%, T_v = 1.781 - 0.933 \log(100 - U\%) \quad \text{Slide 49 of 74}$$

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION

**Variation of  $T_v$  with  $U$**   
**Table 7.1 Das PGE (2006).**

$U$ (%)	$T_v$	$U$ (%)	$T_v$	$U$ (%)	$T_v$
0	0	34	0.0907	68	0.377
1	0.00008	35	0.0962	69	0.390
2	0.0003	36	0.102	70	0.403
3	0.00071	37	0.107	71	0.417
4	0.00126	38	0.113	72	0.431
5	0.00196	39	0.119	73	0.446
6	0.00283	40	0.126	74	0.461
7	0.00385	41	0.132	75	0.477
8	0.00502	42	0.138	76	0.493
9	0.00636	43	0.145	77	0.511
10	0.00785	44	0.152	78	0.529
11	0.0095	45	0.159	79	0.547
12	0.0113	46	0.166	80	0.567
13	0.0133	47	0.173	81	0.588
14	0.0154	48	0.181	82	0.610
15	0.0177	49	0.188	83	0.633
16	0.0201	50	0.197	84	0.658
17	0.0227	51	0.204	85	0.684
18	0.0254	52	0.212	86	0.712
19	0.0283	53	0.221	87	0.742
20	0.0314	54	0.230	88	0.774
21	0.0346	55	0.239	89	0.809
22	0.0380	56	0.248	90	0.848
23	0.0415	57	0.257	91	0.891
24	0.0452	58	0.267	92	0.938
25	0.0491	59	0.276	93	0.993
26	0.0531	60	0.286	94	1.055
27	0.0572	61	0.297	95	1.129
28	0.0615	62	0.307	96	1.219
29	0.0660	63	0.318	97	1.336
30	0.0707	64	0.329	98	1.500
31	0.0754	65	0.304	99	1.781
32	0.0803	66	0.352	100	$\infty$
33	0.0855	67	0.364		



# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION

Difference between Average Degree of Consolidation and Midplane Degree of Consolidation

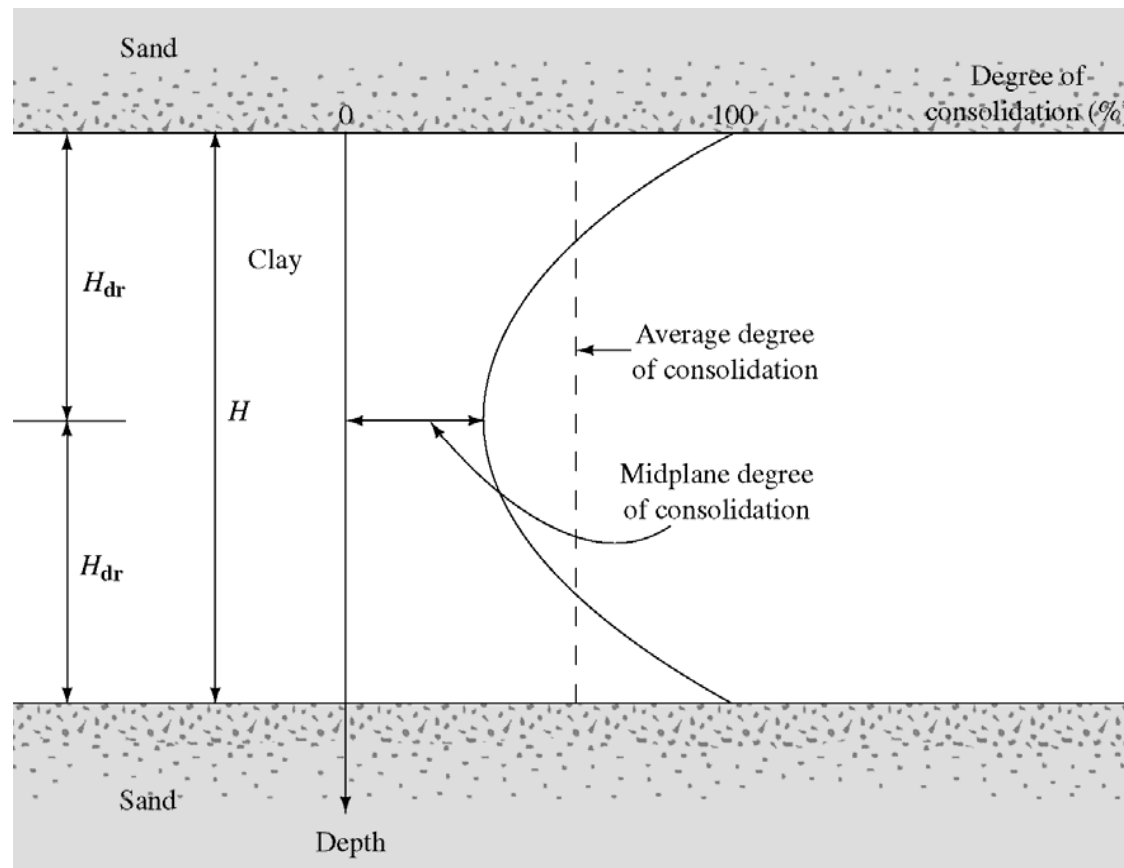
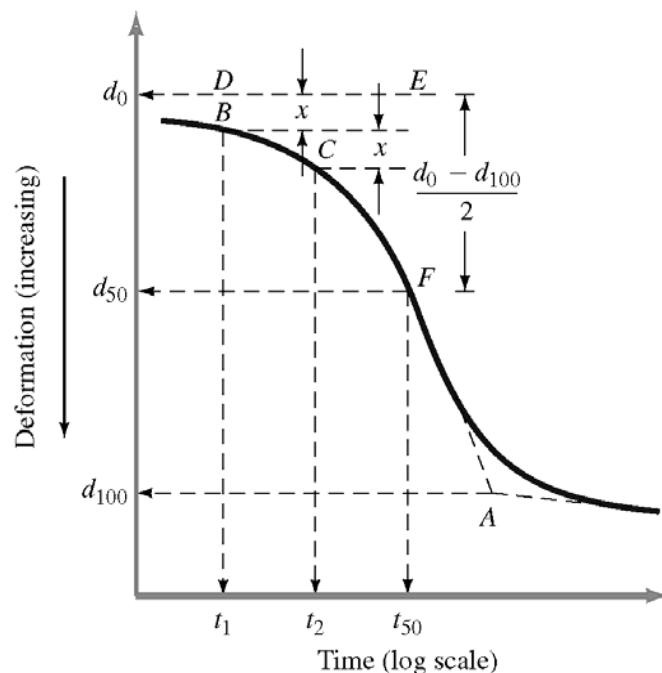


Figure 7.28. Das FGE (2006).

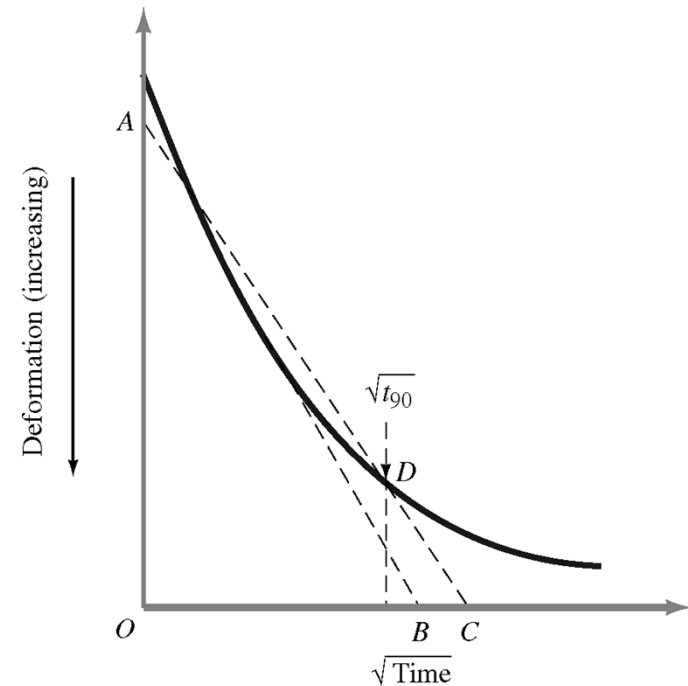
# COEFFICIENT OF CONSOLIDATION ( $c_v$ )

- Generally decreases as Liquid Limit (LL) increases.
- Determined from 1D Consolidation Test Lab per Load Increment.



**Logarithm of Time Method**  
(Casagrande and Fadum, 1940)

Figure 7.19 Das FGE (2006).

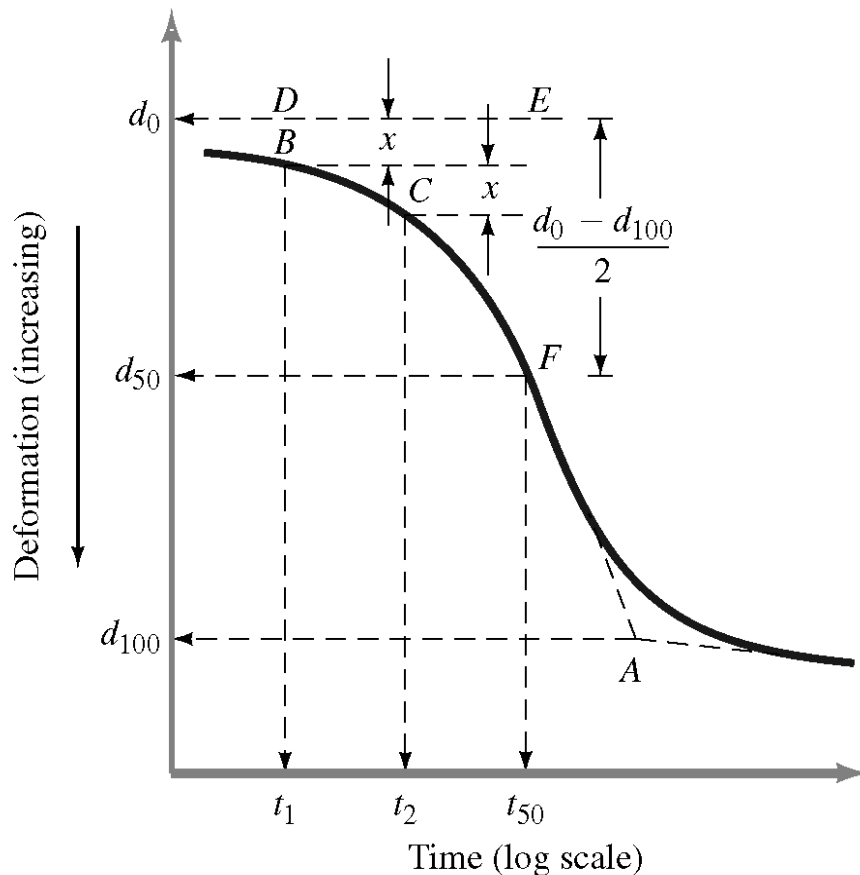


**Square Root of Time Method**  
(Taylor, 1942)

Figure 7.20 Das FGE (2006).

# COEFFICIENT OF CONSOLIDATION ( $c_v$ )

## Logarithm of Time Method

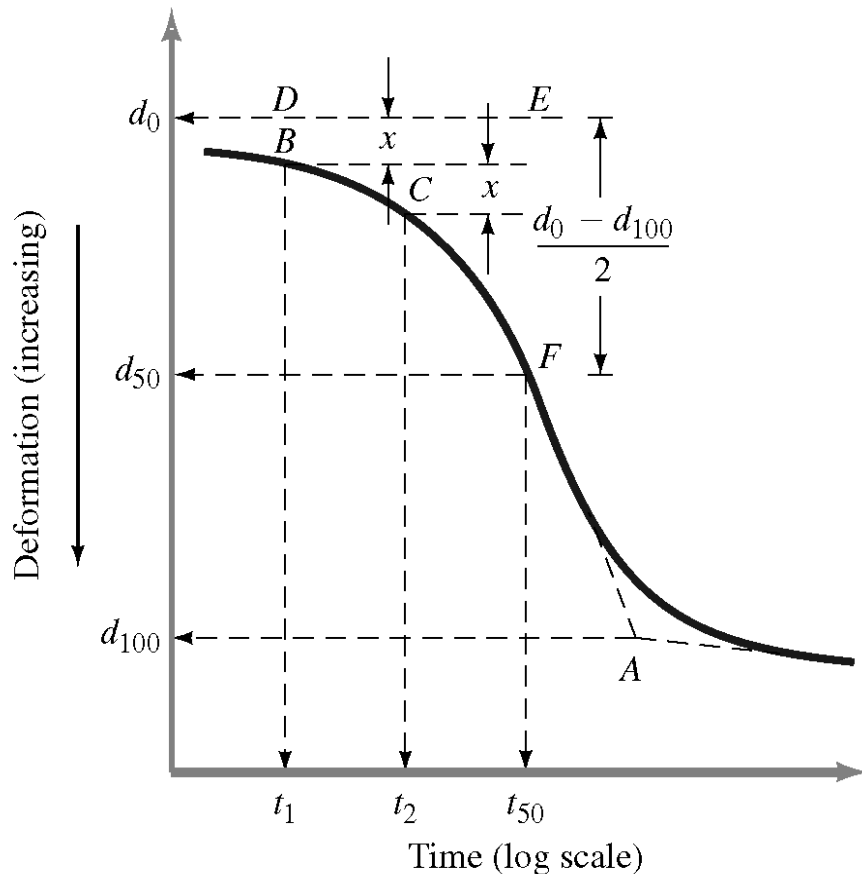


**Figure 7.19.** Das FGE (2006).

1. Extend the straight line portion of primary and secondary consolidations to interest at Point A. Point A represents  $d_{100}$  (Deformation at 100% primary consolidation).
2. The initial curved portion of the deformation plot versus  $\log t$  is approximated to be a parabola on a natural scale. Select times  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  on the curved portion such that  $t_2 = 4t_1$ . Let the difference of the specimen deformation between  $(t_2 - t_1)$  be equal to  $x$ .
3. Draw a line horizontal to  $DE$  such that the vertical distance  $BD$  is equal to  $x$ . The deformation corresponding to the line  $DE$  is  $d_0$  (Deformation at 0% primary consolidation).

# COEFFICIENT OF CONSOLIDATION ( $c_v$ )

## Logarithm of Time Method



**Figure 7.19.** Das FGE (2006).

- The ordinate of Point  $F$  on the consolidation curve represents the deformation at 50% primary consolidation ( $d_{50}$ ).
- For 50% average degree of consolidation ( $U = 50\%$ ),  $T_v = 0.197$  (see Table 7.1, Das FGE 2006).

$$T_{50} = 0.197 = \frac{c_v t_{50}}{H_{dr}^2}$$

or

$$c_v = \frac{0.197 H_{dr}^2}{t_{50}}$$

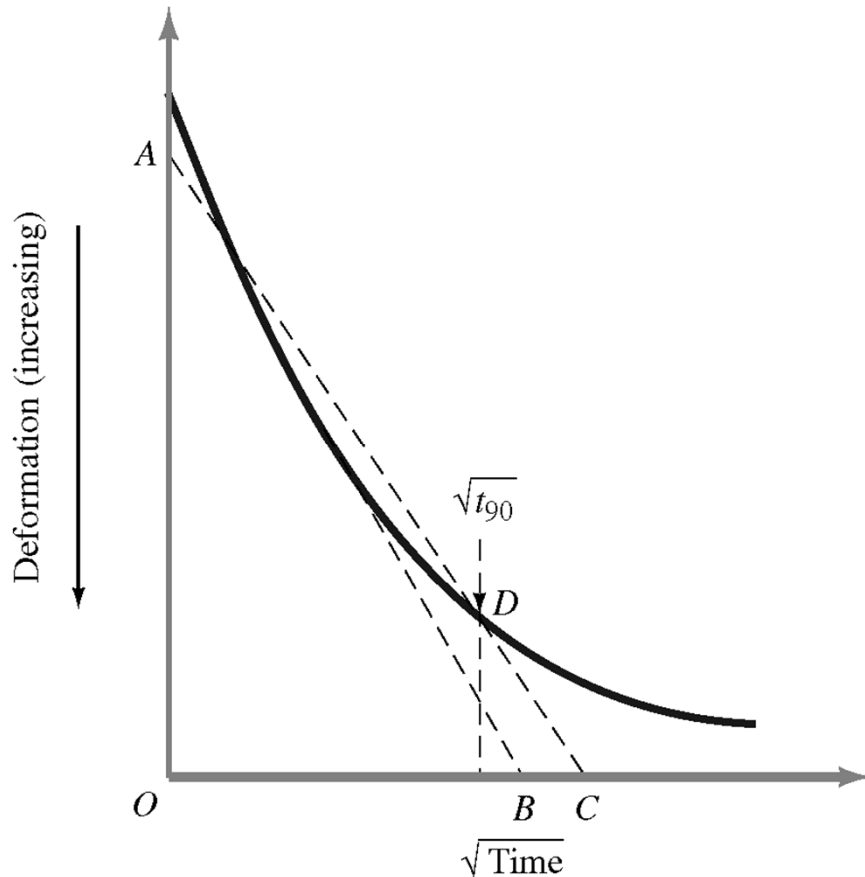
**Where:**

$H_{dr}$  = Average longest drain path during consolidation.

# COEFFICIENT OF CONSOLIDATION ( $c_v$ )

## Square Root of Time Method

1. Draw a line  $AB$  through the early portion of the curve.
2. Draw a line  $AC$  such that  $OC = 1.15OB$ . The time value for Point  $D$  (i.e. the intersection of line  $AC$  and the data) is the square root of time for  $t_{90}$  (i.e. the time to 90% primary consolidation).
3. For 90% consolidation,  $T_v = 0.848$  (see Table 7.1, Das FGE 2006).



**Figure 7.20.** Das FGE (2006).

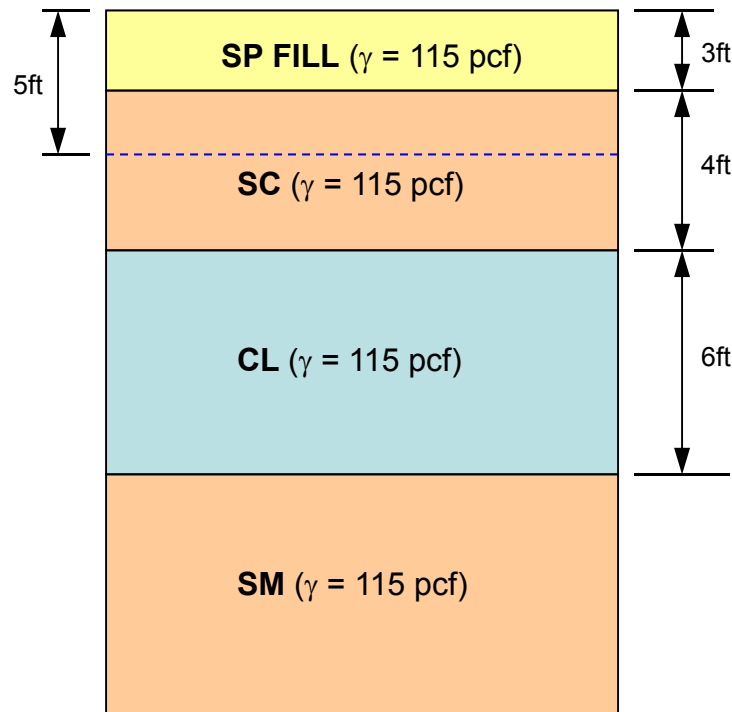
$$T_{90} = 0.848 = \frac{c_v t_{90}}{H_{dr}^2}$$

or

$$c_v = \frac{0.848 H_{dr}^2}{t_{90}}$$

# COEFFICIENT OF CONSOLIDATION ( $c_v$ )

## Example



**GIVEN:** Soil Profile (NTS).  
2 way drainage.

**REQUIRED:** Determine the following:

- The change in pore pressure in the CL layer immediately after the application of the 3 ft of SP Fill.
- The degree of consolidation in the middle of the clay layer when the excess pore pressure ( $u_e$ ) is 170 psf.
- How high would the water in a piezometer located in the middle of the layer rise above the GWT when  $u_e = 170$  psf?
- If  $c_v = 0.000004$  ft<sup>2</sup>/sec, how long would it take to get to 25% average degree of consolidation? To  $U = 50\%$ ? To  $U = 99\%$ ?

## PRECOMPRESSION – GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

**PRECOMPRESSION:** Loading an area prior to placement of the planned structural loading to limit post-construction settlement. Also known as **Surcharging**.

Settlement caused by structural loading ( $S_p$ ):

$$S_p = \frac{C_c H}{1 + e_0} \log \left( \frac{\sigma'_o + \Delta \sigma'}{\sigma'_o} \right)$$

Settlement caused by structural loading and surcharging ( $S'_p$  or  $S_{p+f}$ ):

$$S'_p = S_{p+f} = \frac{C_c H}{1 + e_0} \log \left( \frac{\sigma'_o + [\Delta \sigma' + \Delta \sigma_f]}{\sigma'_o} \right)$$

**Where:**

$\Delta \sigma_f$  = Change in vertical stress due to Fill added.

# PRECOMPRESSION – GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

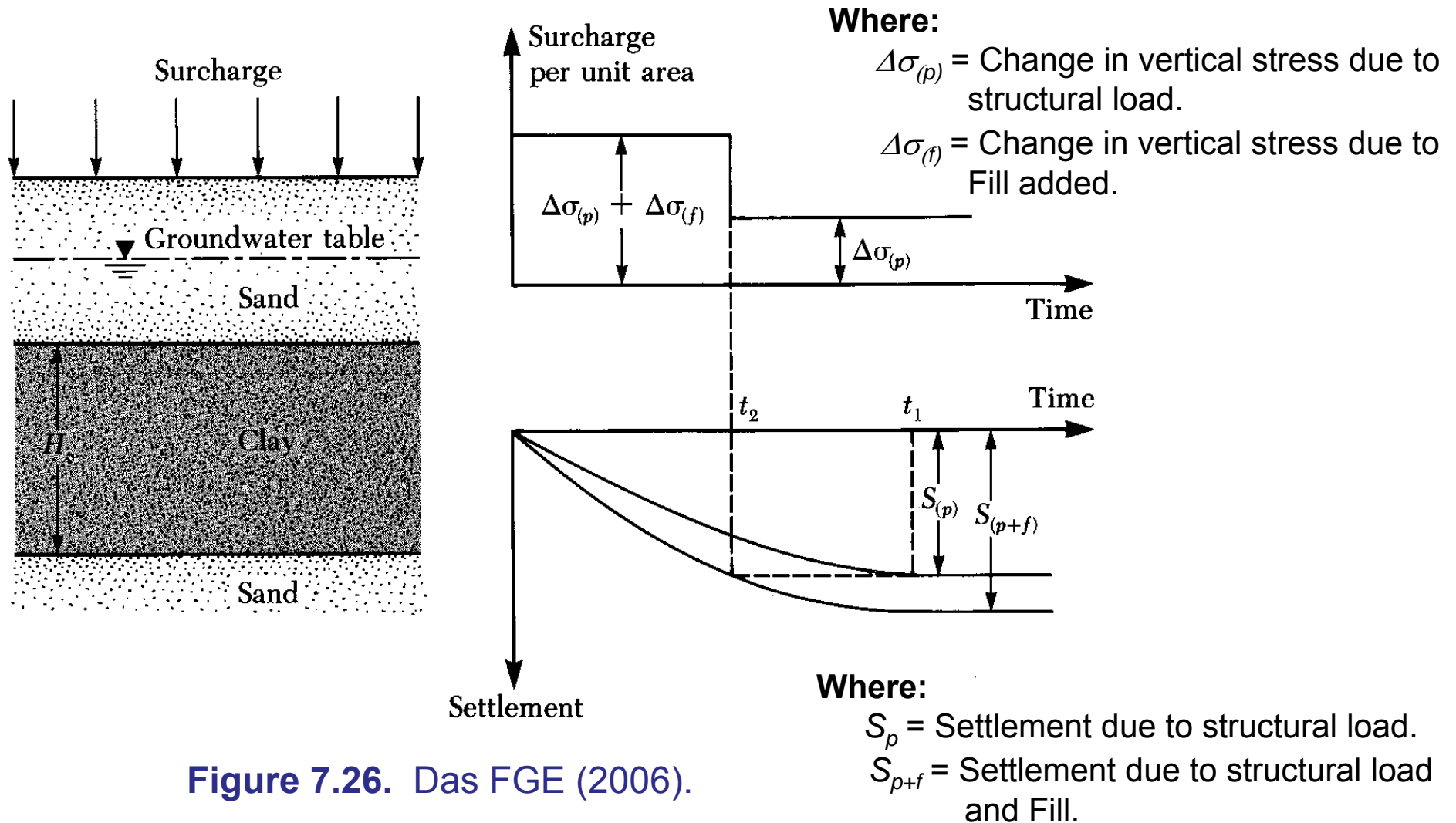


Figure 7.26. Das FGE (2006).

# PRECOMPRESSION – PLANNING

## Mathematical Equations

$$U = \frac{S_p}{S'_p}$$

Definition of average Degree of Consolidation U

$$U = \frac{\log \left[ \frac{\sigma'_o + \Delta\sigma'_{(p)}}{\sigma'_o} \right]}{\log \left[ \frac{\sigma'_o + \Delta\sigma'_{(p)} + \Delta\sigma'_{(f)}}{\sigma'_o} \right]}$$

Substitution

$$U = \frac{\log \left[ 1 + \frac{\Delta\sigma'_{(p)}}{\sigma'_o} \right]}{\log \left\{ 1 + \frac{\Delta\sigma'_{(p)}}{\sigma'_o} \left[ 1 + \frac{\Delta\sigma'_{(f)}}{\Delta\sigma'_{(p)}} \right] \right\}}$$

Re-arranging (Eqn 7.56 Das FGE 2006)

**Place in graphical form  
for design use  
(Figure 7.27 Das FGE 2006)**

# PRECOMPRESSION – PLANNING

Where:

$\Delta\sigma_{(f)}$  = Change in vertical stress  
due to Fill added.

$\Delta\sigma_{(p)}$  = Change in vertical stress  
due to Structural Loading.

$\sigma'_o$  = Initial vertical effective  
stress.

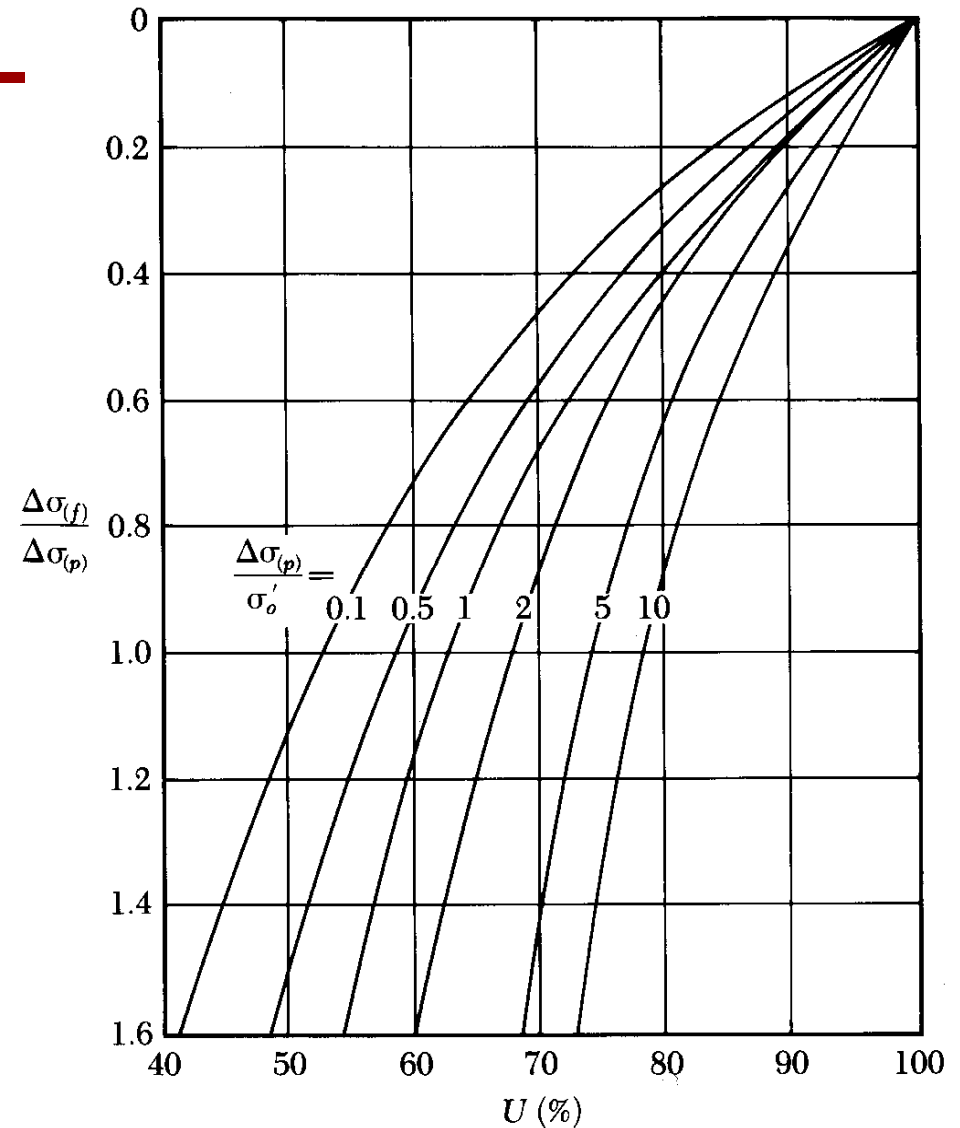


Figure 7.27. Das FGE (2006).

# PRECOMPRESSION – PLANNING

## STEPS:

1. Calculate primary consolidation settlement from planned loading ( $S_p$ ).
2. Calculate primary consolidation settlement from planned loading plus surcharge ( $S_{p+f}$ ).
3. Calculate average degree of consolidation  $U$ . Note  $U = S_p/S_{p+f}$ .

Can also use Figure 7.27 or Eqn 7.56 (Das FGE 2006).

1. Find  $T_v$  from calculated  $U$ . To find time to when surcharge loading should be removed (i.e.  $t_2$ ):

$$t_2 = \frac{T_v H_{dr}^2}{c_v}$$

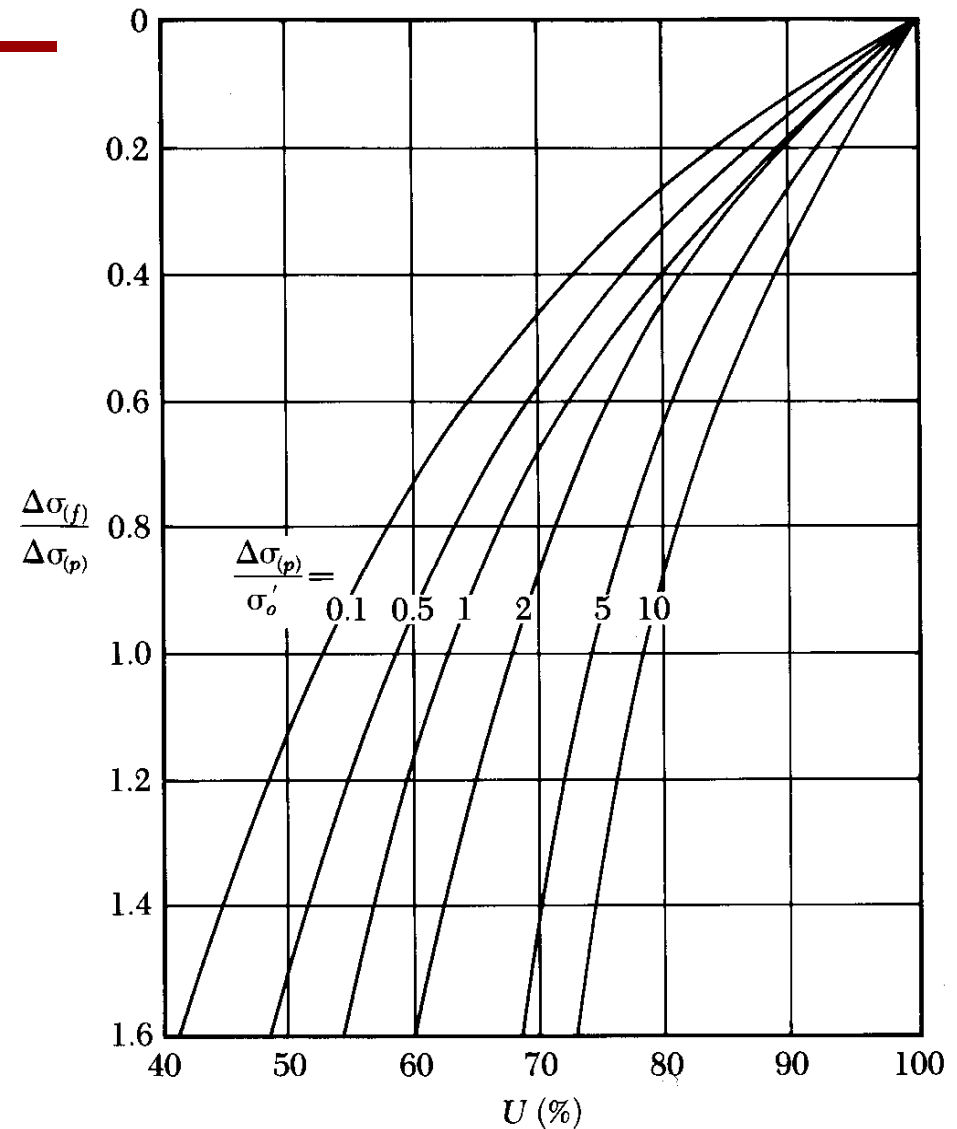
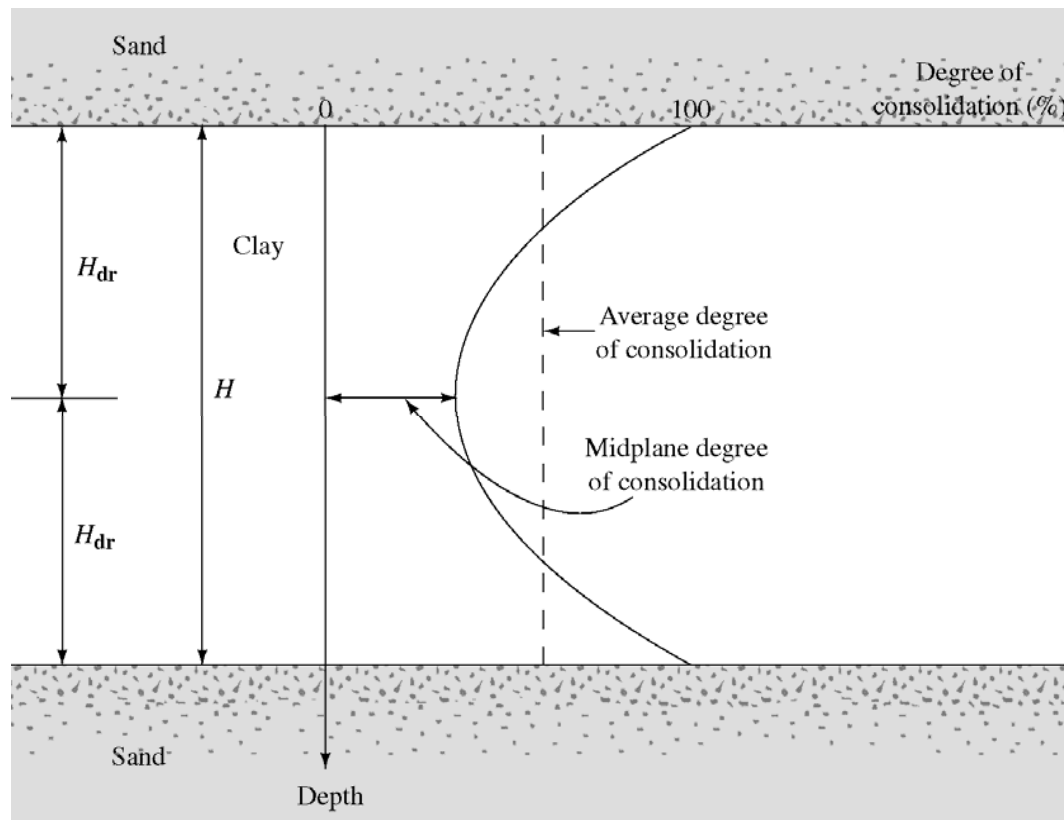


Figure 7.27. Das FGE (2006).

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION

## Difference between Average Degree of Consolidation and Midplane Degree of Consolidation



**Removal of Surcharge  
may still cause net  
settlement**  
(swelling near drainage  
layers, settlement @  
middle)

**Conservative Approach:**  
Assume  $U$  is the midplane  
degree of consolidation.

**Figure 7.28.** Das FGE (2006).

# TIME RATE OF CONSOLIDATION

## Midplane Degree of Consolidation

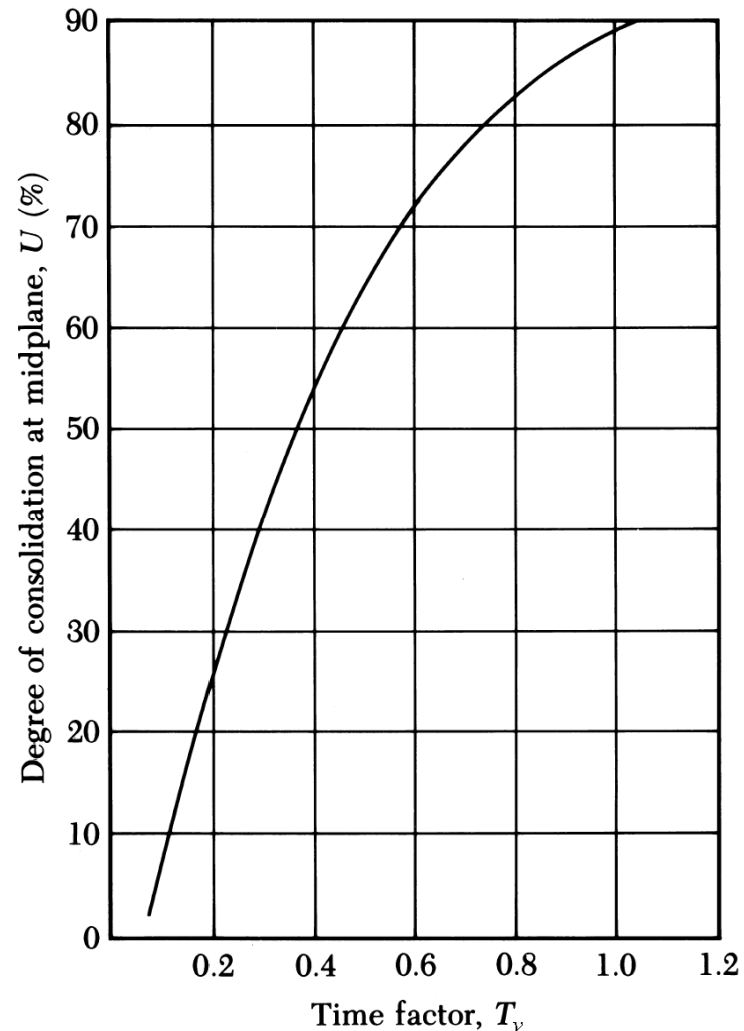
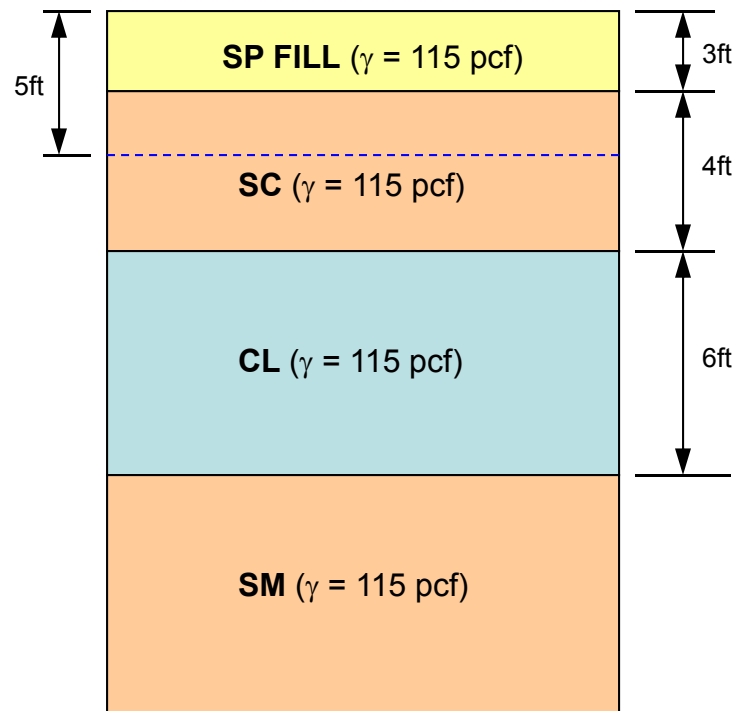


Figure 7.29. Das FGE (2006).

# SURCHARGING EXAMPLE



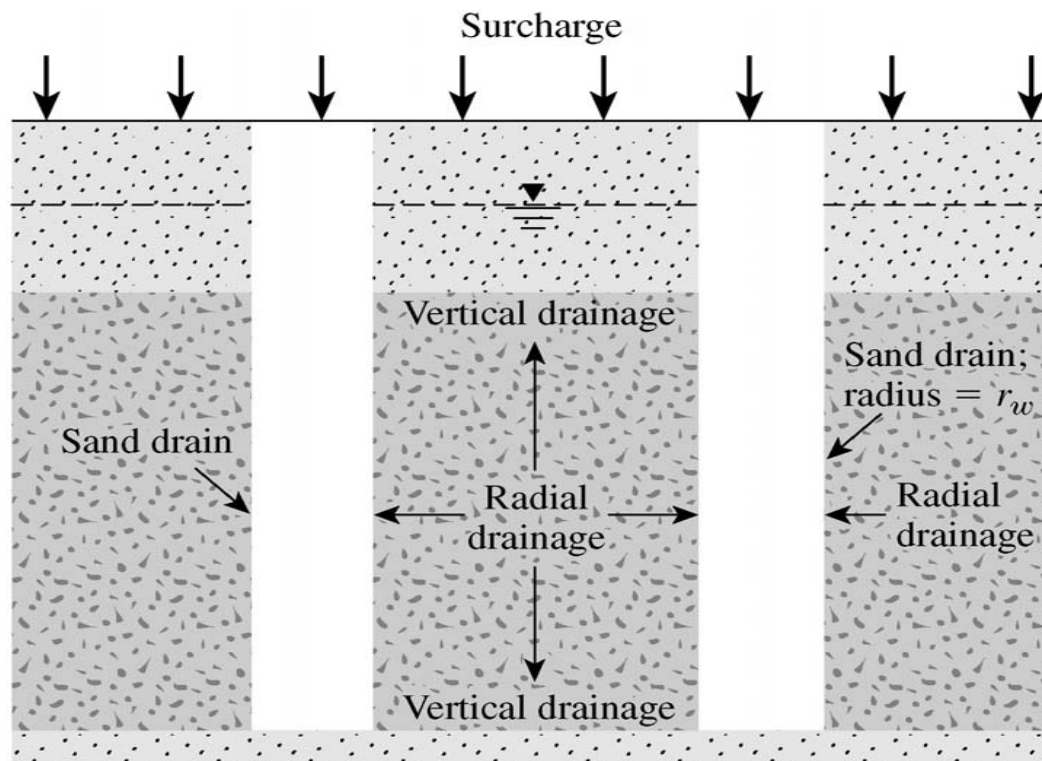
**REQUIRED:** Determine the following:

- If  $c_v = 0.000004$  ft<sup>2</sup>/sec, how long would it take to get to 99% average degree of consolidation?
- If a surcharge of 4 ft of fill was placed in addition to the 3 ft of fill planned, when would you be able to remove the surcharge? Use the same value for  $c_v$  given in a.

**GIVEN:** Soil Profile (NTS).  
2 way drainage.

# GROUND MODIFICATION FOR CONSOLIDATION

## SAND DRAINS

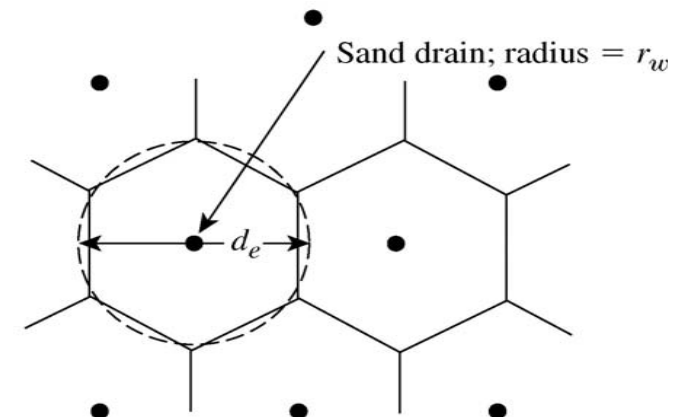


□ Sand □ Clay layer

### Section View

Figure 10.38. Das PGE (2006).

$r_w$  = Sand Drain Radius  
 $d_e$  = Effective Diameter



### Plan View – Triangular Spacing

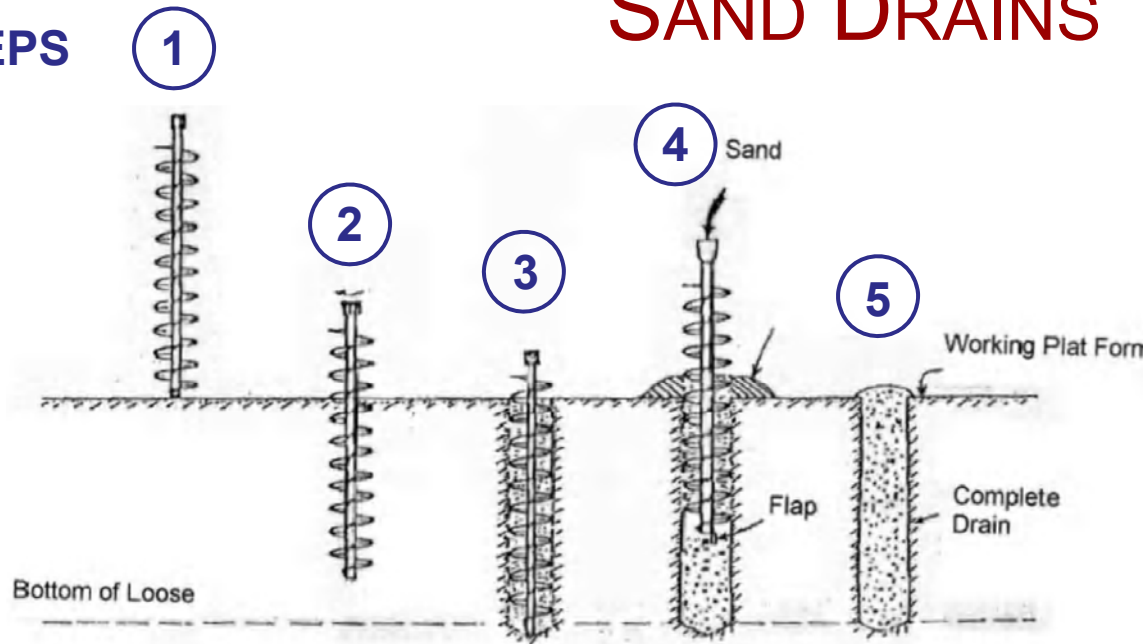
Figure 10.38. Das PGE (2006)

**Reduction Drainage Path =  
Reduction in Drainage Time**

# GROUND MODIFICATION FOR CONSOLIDATION

## SAND DRAINS

STEPS



1. Place auger at drain location.
2. Screw auger to selected depth.
3. Rotate auger at selected depth to remove soil.
4. Inject sand while auger is extracted.
5. Complete sand drain to working platform level.

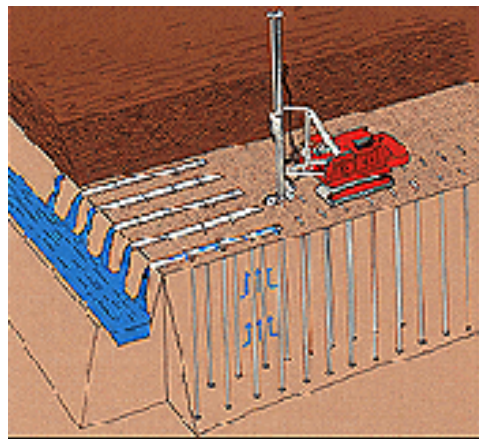
**Sand Drain Installation: Auger Method**  
(Kirmani, 2004)



Figure 10.39. Das PGE (2006).

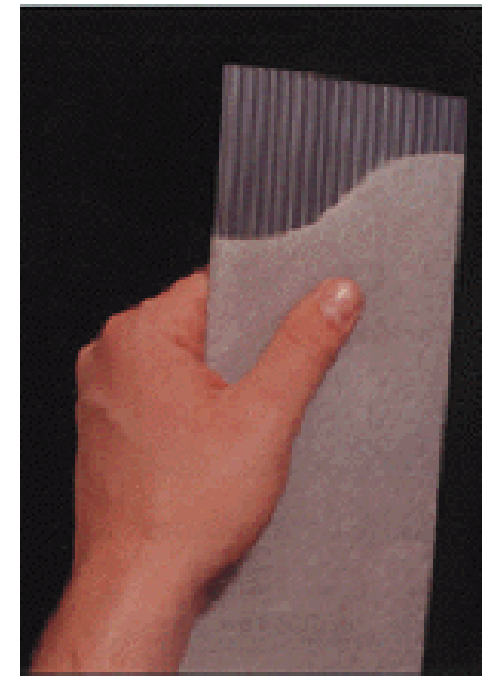
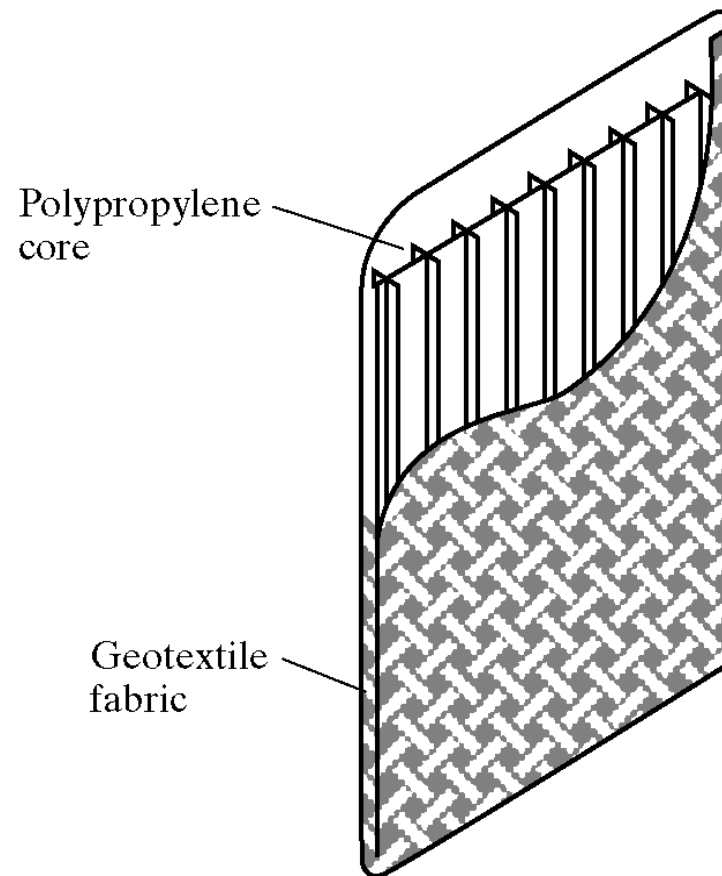
# GROUND MODIFICATION FOR CONSOLIDATION

## PREFABRICATED VERTICAL DRAINS (PVD's) (A.K.A. WICK DRAINS)



### Conceptual Concept

Courtesy of [www.americanwick.com](http://www.americanwick.com)



Courtesy of  
[www.americandrainagesystems.com](http://www.americandrainagesystems.com)

Figure 7.31. Das FGE (2006).

# GROUND MODIFICATION FOR CONSOLIDATION

## PREFABRICATED VERTICAL DRAINS (PVD'S) (A.K.A. WICK DRAINS)



Courtesy of [www.nilex.com](http://www.nilex.com)



Courtesy of [www.americandrainagesystems.com](http://www.americandrainagesystems.com)



Courtesy of [www.nilex.com](http://www.nilex.com)

# GROUND MODIFICATION FOR CONSOLIDATION

## RADIAL CONSOLIDATION

$U_r$  = Average Degree of Radial Consolidation

$$U_r = 1 - \exp\left(\frac{-8T_r}{m}\right) \quad \text{Barron (1948)}$$

$$m = \left(\frac{n^2}{n^2 - 1}\right) \ln(n) - \frac{3n^2 - 1}{4n^2}$$

$$n = \frac{d_e}{2r_w}$$

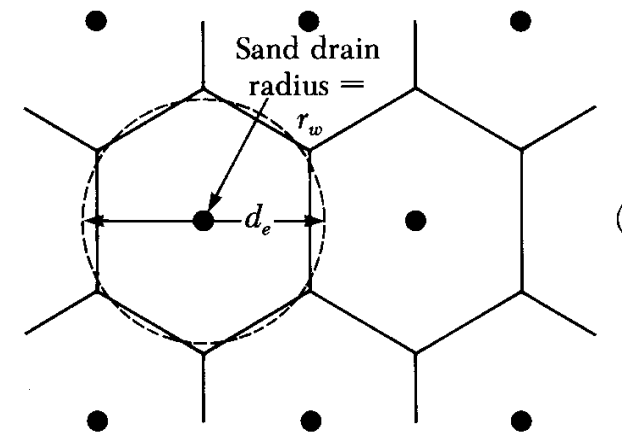
$d_e$  = Effective Diameter  
 $r_w$  = Sand Drain Radius

$$T_r = \frac{c_{vr}t}{d_e^2}$$

$c_{vr}$  = Coefficient of Radial Consolidation  
 $T_r$  = Time Factor for Radial Consolidation

$$c_{vr} = \frac{k_h}{\left[\frac{\Delta e}{\Delta \sigma'(1 + e_o)}\right] \gamma_w}$$

$k_h$  = Coefficient of Horizontal Permeability  
 $T_r$  = Time Factor for Radial Consolidation  
 $e_o$  = Initial Void Ratio



**Plan View – Sand Drain  
Triangular Spacing**  
Figure 7.30. Das FGE (2006).



# 14.330 SOIL MECHANICS

## Consolidation

# TIME RATE OF RADIAL CONSOLIDATION

## Variation of $T_r$ with $U$ - Table 7.3 Das PGE (2006).

Degree of consolidation, $U_r$ (%)	Time factor, $T_r$ , for values of $n$					Degree of consolidation, $U_r$ (%)	Time factor, $T_r$ , for values of $n$				
	5	10	15	20	25		5	10	15	20	25
0	0	0	0	0	0	38	0.0560	0.0943	0.1178	0.1347	0.1479
1	0.0012	0.0020	0.0025	0.0028	0.0031	39	0.0579	0.0975	0.1218	0.1393	0.1529
2	0.0024	0.0040	0.0050	0.0057	0.0063	40	0.0598	0.1008	0.1259	0.1439	0.1580
3	0.0036	0.0060	0.0075	0.0086	0.0094	41	0.0618	0.1041	0.1300	0.1487	0.1632
4	0.0048	0.0081	0.0101	0.0115	0.0126	42	0.0638	0.1075	0.1342	0.1535	0.1685
5	0.0060	0.0101	0.0126	0.0145	0.0159	43	0.0658	0.1109	0.1385	0.1584	0.1739
6	0.0072	0.0122	0.0153	0.0174	0.0191	44	0.0679	0.1144	0.1429	0.1634	0.1793
7	0.0085	0.0143	0.0179	0.0205	0.0225	45	0.0700	0.1180	0.1473	0.1684	0.1849
8	0.0098	0.0165	0.0206	0.0235	0.0258	46	0.0721	0.1216	0.1518	0.1736	0.1906
9	0.0110	0.0186	0.0232	0.0266	0.0292	47	0.0743	0.1253	0.1564	0.1789	0.1964
10	0.0123	0.0208	0.0260	0.0297	0.0326	48	0.0766	0.1290	0.1611	0.1842	0.2023
11	0.0136	0.0230	0.0287	0.0328	0.0360	49	0.0788	0.1329	0.1659	0.1897	0.2083
12	0.0150	0.0252	0.0315	0.0360	0.0395	50	0.0811	0.1368	0.1708	0.1953	0.2144
13	0.0163	0.0275	0.0343	0.0392	0.0431	51	0.0835	0.1407	0.1758	0.2020	0.2206
14	0.0177	0.0298	0.0372	0.0425	0.0467	52	0.0859	0.1448	0.1809	0.2068	0.2270
15	0.0190	0.0321	0.0401	0.0458	0.0503	53	0.0884	0.1490	0.1860	0.2127	0.2335
16	0.0204	0.0344	0.0430	0.0491	0.0539	54	0.0909	0.1532	0.1913	0.2188	0.2402
17	0.0218	0.0368	0.0459	0.0525	0.0576	55	0.0935	0.1575	0.1968	0.2250	0.2470
18	0.0232	0.0392	0.0489	0.0559	0.0614	56	0.0961	0.1620	0.2023	0.2313	0.2539
19	0.0247	0.0416	0.0519	0.0594	0.0652	57	0.0988	0.1665	0.2080	0.2378	0.2610
20	0.0261	0.0440	0.0550	0.0629	0.0690	58	0.1016	0.1712	0.2138	0.2444	0.2683
21	0.0276	0.0465	0.0581	0.0664	0.0729	59	0.1044	0.1759	0.2197	0.2512	0.2758
22	0.0291	0.0490	0.0612	0.0700	0.0769	60	0.1073	0.1808	0.2258	0.2582	0.2834
23	0.0306	0.0516	0.0644	0.0736	0.0808	61	0.1102	0.1858	0.2320	0.2653	0.2912
24	0.0321	0.0541	0.0676	0.0773	0.0849	62	0.1133	0.1909	0.2384	0.2726	0.2993
25	0.0337	0.0568	0.0709	0.0811	0.0890	63	0.1164	0.1962	0.2450	0.2801	0.3075
26	0.0353	0.0594	0.0742	0.0848	0.0931	64	0.1196	0.2016	0.2517	0.2878	0.3160
27	0.0368	0.0621	0.0776	0.0887	0.0973	65	0.1229	0.2071	0.2587	0.2958	0.3247
28	0.0385	0.0648	0.0810	0.0926	0.1016	66	0.1263	0.2128	0.2658	0.3039	0.3337
29	0.0401	0.0676	0.0844	0.0965	0.1059	67	0.1298	0.2187	0.2732	0.3124	0.3429
30	0.0418	0.0704	0.0879	0.1005	0.1103	68	0.1334	0.2248	0.2808	0.3210	0.3524
31	0.0434	0.0732	0.0914	0.1045	0.1148	69	0.1371	0.2311	0.2886	0.3300	0.3623
32	0.0452	0.0761	0.0950	0.1087	0.1193	70	0.1409	0.2375	0.2967	0.3392	0.3724
33	0.0469	0.0790	0.0987	0.1128	0.1239	71	0.1449	0.2442	0.3050	0.3488	0.3829
34	0.0486	0.0820	0.1024	0.1171	0.1285	72	0.1490	0.2512	0.3134	0.3586	0.3937
35	0.0504	0.0850	0.1062	0.1214	0.1332	73	0.1533	0.2583	0.3226	0.3689	0.4050
36	0.0522	0.0881	0.1100	0.1257	0.1380	74	0.1577	0.2658	0.3319	0.3795	0.4167
37	0.0541	0.0912	0.1139	0.1302	0.1429	75	0.1623	0.2735	0.3416	0.3906	0.4288
						76	0.1671	0.2816	0.3517	0.4021	0.4414
						77	0.1720	0.2900	0.3621	0.4141	0.4546
						78	0.1773	0.2988	0.3731	0.4266	0.4683
						79	0.1827	0.3079	0.3846	0.4397	0.4827
						80	0.1884	0.3175	0.3966	0.4534	0.4978
						81	0.1944	0.3277	0.4090	0.4679	0.5137
						82	0.2007	0.3383	0.4225	0.4831	0.5304
						83	0.2074	0.3496	0.4366	0.4922	0.5481
						84	0.2146	0.3616	0.4516	0.5163	0.5668

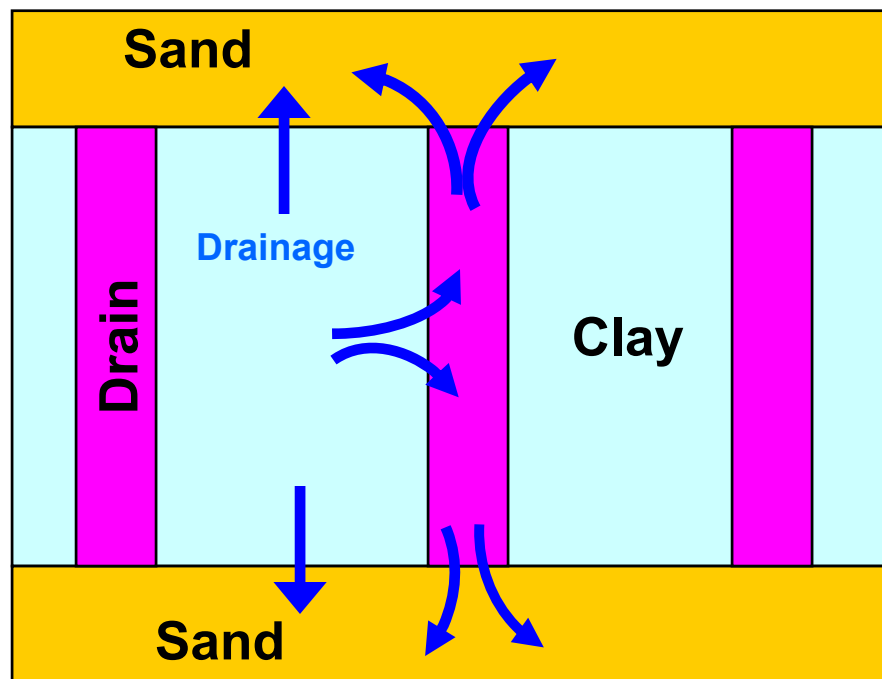
## TIME RATE OF RADIAL CONSOLIDATION

Variation of  $T_r$  with  $U$  - Table 7.3 Das PGE (2006).

Degree of consolidation, $U_r$ (%)	<i>Time factor, <math>T_r</math>, for values of <math>n</math></i>				
	5	10	15	20	25
85	0.2221	0.3743	0.4675	0.5345	0.5868
86	0.2302	0.3879	0.4845	0.5539	0.6081
87	0.2388	0.4025	0.5027	0.5748	0.6311
88	0.2482	0.4183	0.5225	0.5974	0.6558
89	0.2584	0.4355	0.5439	0.6219	0.6827
90	0.2696	0.4543	0.5674	0.6487	0.7122
91	0.2819	0.4751	0.5933	0.6784	0.7448
92	0.2957	0.4983	0.6224	0.7116	0.7812
93	0.3113	0.5247	0.6553	0.7492	0.8225
94	0.3293	0.5551	0.6932	0.7927	0.8702
95	0.3507	0.5910	0.7382	0.8440	0.9266
96	0.3768	0.6351	0.7932	0.9069	0.9956
97	0.4105	0.6918	0.8640	0.9879	1.0846
98	0.4580	0.7718	0.9640	1.1022	1.2100
99	0.5391	0.9086	1.1347	1.2974	1.4244

# GROUND MODIFICATION FOR CONSOLIDATION

AVERAGE DEGREE OF CONSOLIDATION DUE TO VERTICAL & RADIAL DRAINAGE



## Vertical and Radial Drainage

Courtesy of [www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov](http://www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov)

$$U_{v,r} = 1 - (1 - U_r)(1 - U_v)$$

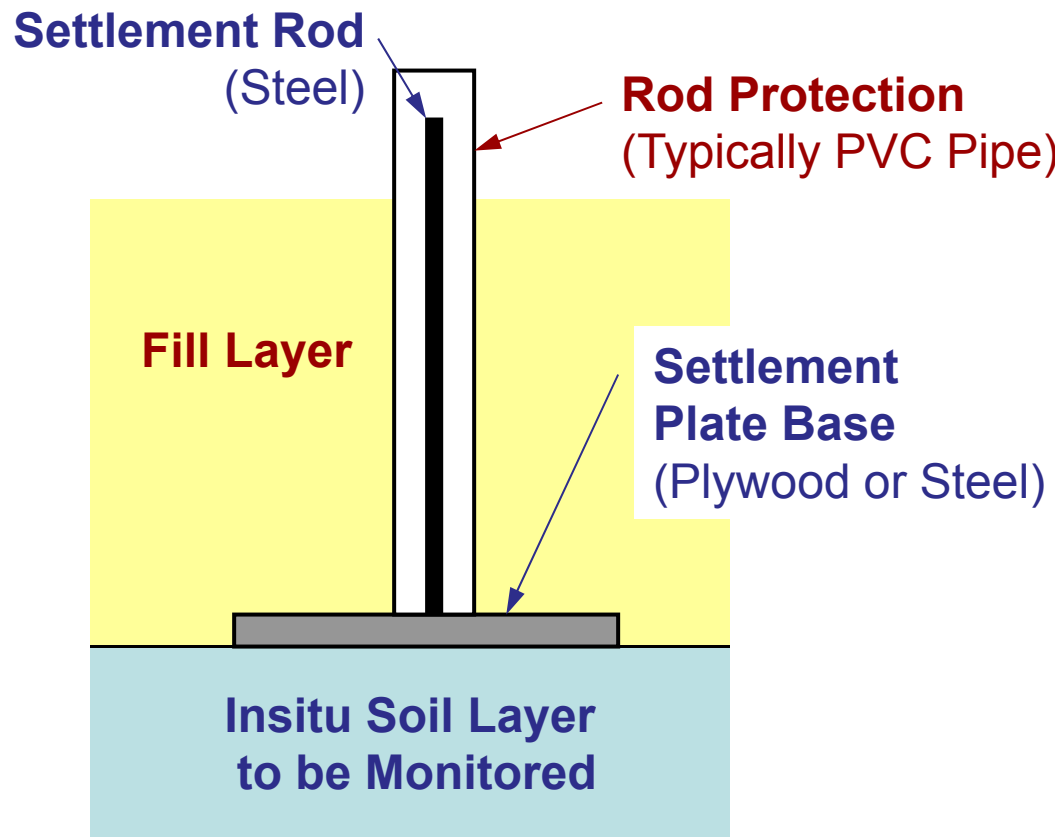
Where:

$U_{v,r}$  = Average Degree of Consolidation  
due to Vertical & Radial Drainage

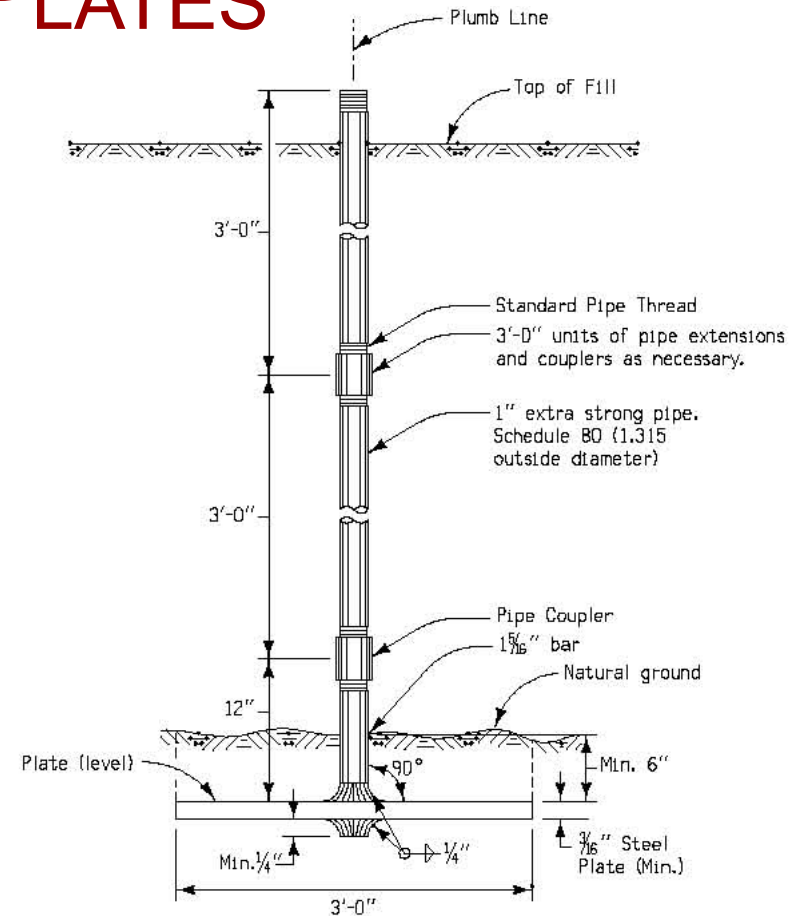
$U_v$  = Average Degree of Consolidation  
due to Vertical Drainage

$U_r$  = Average Degree of Consolidation  
due to Radial Drainage

# CONSOLIDATION MONITORING SETTLEMENT PLATES



**General Concept**



**Standard Plan Detail**

(Courtesy of Iowa DOT) Slide 73 of 74

# SURCHARGING INSTRUMENTATION EXAMPLE

