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# Foundation Design Equations Summary

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JULY 2011

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document presents a summary of commonly applied engineering equations for the design of shallow and deep foundations.

## 2.0 FOUNDATION DESIGN EQUATIONS SUMMARY

Definitions of variables are as follows:-

Allowable (safe) net effective bearing capacity,  $q_{fnet}'$   
 Allowable (safe) net bearing capacity,  $q_{fnet}$   
 Gross effective bearing capacity,  $q_f'$   
 Gross bearing capacity,  $q_f$   
 Net (effective) working pressure,  $q_{wnet}'$   
 Effective surcharge above founding level,  $p_0'$   
 Total surcharge above founding level,  $p_0$   
 Standard penetration test, SPT,  $N$   
 Factor of safety, FOS  
 Water table, WT  
 Depth of water table from ground level,  $z_u$   
 Depth of foundation founding level from ground level,  $D$   
 Width of foundation,  $B$   
 Length of foundation,  $L$   
 Influence factor,  $I_s = f_s \cdot f_d$   
 Shape and rigidity factor,  $f_s$   
 Depth factor,  $f_d$   
 SLS pile axial compression capacity,  $N_{cap,pile,comp,sls}$   
 Base effective bearing capacity,  $Q_b'$   
 Gross effective bearing capacity,  $q_f'(z=L-L_0)$   
 Shaft effective friction capacity,  $Q_s'$   
 Average shaft effective stress,  $\tau_a'$   
 Pile weight minus soil weight removed,  $F_{pile}$   
 Combined base effective bearing and shaft effective friction capacity,  $P_f'$   
 Overall pile effective capacity for vertical (compressive) load,  $P_{cap}$

Foundation Type	Structural Capacity	Geotechnical Capacity			Geotechnical Settlement		
		Cohesionless Soils	Cohesive Soils	Rocks	Cohesionless Soils	Cohesive Soils	Rocks
Pad	ULS	Empirical	Empirical	Empirical	Elastic	Elastic	Elastic
	<p>Excluding soil-structure interaction, the pad footing is designed to resist the ULS pressure stemming from the ULS column loads. Note that the DL of the pad is NOT included in the analysis.</p>	$q_{fnet}' \approx k.30N/FOS = k.10N, k = 0.5$ if WT above depth of B	$q_{fnet}' \approx k.42.6N/FOS = k.14.2N, k = 0.67$ if WT above ground level	$q_{fnet}' \approx k.30N/FOS = k.10N, k = 1.0$ if WT above depth of B	$\delta = q_{wnet}' \cdot B \cdot (1-v^2) \cdot I_s/E$ $v = 0.15-0.25$  $I_s = f_s \cdot f_d$ $f_s = 1.12(L/B)^{0.39}$ <i>Flexible Rectangular</i> $f_s = 0.90(L/B)^{0.38}$ <i>Rigid Rectangular</i> $f_s = 1.0$ <i>Flexible Circular</i> $f_s = 0.79$ <i>Rigid Circular</i> $f_d = 1-0.08(D/B) \cdot [1+(4/3) \cdot (B/L)]$  E = 1000N Normally Consolidated E = 2000N Over Consolidated	$\delta = q_{wnet}' \cdot B \cdot (1-v^2) \cdot I_s/E$ $v = 0.30-0.50$  $I_s = f_s \cdot f_d$ $f_s = 1.12(L/B)^{0.39}$ <i>Flexible Rectangular</i> $f_s = 0.90(L/B)^{0.38}$ <i>Rigid Rectangular</i> $f_s = 1.0$ <i>Flexible Circular</i> $f_s = 0.79$ <i>Rigid Circular</i> $f_d = 1-0.08(D/B) \cdot [1+(4/3) \cdot (B/L)]$  E = 200S <sub>u</sub>	$\delta = q_{wnet}' \cdot (B/E) \cdot I_p \cdot F_B \cdot F_D$
		Terzaghi	Terzaghi	Terzaghi	Burland and Burbidge	Elastic and 1D Consolidation	
		$q_{fnet}' = (q_f' - p_0')/FOS$ $q_f' = s_c \cdot d_c \cdot N_{c,strip} \cdot C' + s_q \cdot d_q \cdot N_{q,strip} \cdot p_0' + s_\gamma \cdot d_\gamma \cdot N_{\gamma,strip} \cdot B/2 \cdot \gamma'$  $s_c = (s_q \cdot N_q - 1)/(N_q - 1)$ $d_c = 1 + 0.4 \tan^{-1}(D/B)$ <i>Prandtl,</i> $N_{c,strip} = (N_{q,strip} - 1) \cdot \cot \phi'$  $s_q = 1 + (B'/L') \sin \phi'$ $d_q = 1 + 2 \tan \phi' (1 - \sin \phi')^2 \cdot \tan^{-1}(D/B')$ <i>Reissner,</i> $N_{q,strip} = e^{2 \tan \phi'} \cdot \tan^2(45^\circ + \phi'/2)$  $s_\gamma = 1 - 0.3(B'/L')$ $d_\gamma = 1.0$ <i>Hansen,</i> $N_{\gamma,strip} = 2.0(N_{q,strip} - 1) \cdot \tan \phi'$	$q_{fnet}' = (q_f - p_0)/FOS$  $q_f = s_c \cdot d_c \cdot N_{c,strip} \cdot S_u + p_0$  $s_c = 1 + 0.2(B/L)$ $d_c = 1 + (0.053D/B)^{0.5}$ for D/B ≤ 4.0 <i>Skempton, N<sub>c,strip</sub> = (2+π)</i>	$q_{fnet}' = (q_f' - p_0')/FOS$ $q_f' = s_c \cdot d_c \cdot N_{c,strip} \cdot C' + s_q \cdot d_q \cdot N_{q,strip} \cdot p_0' + s_\gamma \cdot d_\gamma \cdot N_{\gamma,strip} \cdot B/2 \cdot \gamma'$  $s_c = (s_q \cdot N_q - 1)/(N_q - 1)$ $d_c = 1 + 0.4 \tan^{-1}(D/B)$ <i>Tomlinson, N<sub>c,strip</sub></i>  $s_q = 1 + (B'/L') \sin \phi'$ $d_q = 1 + 2 \tan \phi' (1 - \sin \phi')^2 \cdot \tan^{-1}(D/B')$ <i>Tomlinson, N<sub>q,strip</sub></i>  $s_\gamma = 1 - 0.3(B'/L')$ $d_\gamma = 1.0$ <i>Tomlinson, N<sub>\gamma,strip</sub></i>	$\delta = 1.71 q_{wnet}' \cdot B^{0.7} / N^{1.4}$	<i>Rectangular</i> $\delta = \sum \Delta \delta = \sum [m_v \cdot \Delta \sigma_v' \cdot \Delta H]$ $\Delta \sigma_v' = 4 \cdot q_{wnet}' \cdot I_\sigma$ $m = (B/2)/z$ $n = (L/2)/z$  <i>Circular</i> $\delta = \sum \Delta \delta = \sum [m_v \cdot \Delta \sigma_v' \cdot \Delta H]$ $\Delta \sigma_v' = 1 \cdot q_{wnet}' \cdot I_\sigma$	

Foundation Type	Structural Capacity	Geotechnical Capacity			Geotechnical Settlement		
		Cohesionless Soils	Cohesive Soils	Rocks	Cohesionless Soils	Cohesive Soils	Rocks
Strip	ULS	Empirical	Empirical	Empirical	Elastic	Elastic	Elastic
	... as that for pads	$q_{fnet}' \approx k.21N/FOS = k.7N, k = 0.5$ if WT above depth of B	$q_{fnet}' \approx k.35.5N/FOS = k.11.8N, k = 0.67$ if WT above ground level	$q_{fnet}' \approx k.21N/FOS = k.7N, k = 1.0$ if WT above depth of B	... as that for pads	... as that for pads	... as that for pads
	... as that for pads	Terzaghi	Terzaghi	Terzaghi	Burland and Burbidge	Elastic and 1D Consolidation	

Foundation Type	Structural Capacity	Geotechnical Capacity			Geotechnical Settlement		
		Cohesionless Soils	Cohesive Soils	Rocks	Cohesionless Soils	Cohesive Soils	Rocks
<b>Raft</b>	<b>ULS</b>	<b>Empirical</b>	<b>Empirical</b>	<b>Empirical</b>	<b>Elastic</b>	<b>Elastic</b>	<b>Elastic</b>
	<i>Excluding soil-structure interaction, raft designed as series of pad footings, strip footings, multi-column footings, combined footings and strap footings culminating in an inverted flat slab (in the case of a solid raft) or an inverted one- or two-way spanning slab (in the case of a stripped raft) to resist the ULS pressure stemming from the ULS column loads. Note that as with the pad, strip, multi-column and combined footings the DL of the raft is NOT included in the inverted flat, one- or two-way spanning slab analysis.</i>	... as that for pads	... as that for pads	... as that for pads	... as that for pads	... as that for pads	... as that for pads
	<i>Including soil-structure interaction, raft analysed and designed to the ULS column loads with soil stiffness modelled beneath the raft as springs based on the modulus of the subgrade reaction over the pressure bulb, each sub-soil layer contributing a spring stiffness connected in series.</i>						
	<b>SLS</b>	<b>Terzaghi</b>	<b>Terzaghi</b>	<b>Terzaghi</b>	<b>Burland and Burbidge</b>	<b>Elastic and 1D Consolidation</b>	
<i>Including soil-structure interaction, raft analysed to the SLS column loads with soil stiffness modelled beneath the raft as springs based on the modulus of the subgrade reaction over the pressure bulb, each sub-soil layer contributing a spring stiffness connected in series. Raft stiffness modified to limit angular distortion to distance/350.</i>	... as that for pads	... as that for pads	... as that for pads	... as that for pads	... as that for pads		

Foundation Type	Structural Capacity	Geotechnical Capacity			Geotechnical Settlement		
		Cohesionless Soils	Cohesive Soils	Rocks	Cohesionless Soils	Cohesive Soils	Rocks
<b>Piled Raft</b> <i>(note that the piled raft may be a solid raft or a stripped one- or two-way spanning raft)</i>	<b>ULS</b>	<b>Empirical</b>	<b>Empirical</b>	<b>Empirical</b>	<b>Elastic</b>	<b>Elastic</b>	<b>Elastic</b>
	<i>Including soil-structure interaction, piled raft analysed and designed to the ULS column loads with soil stiffness modelled beneath the piled raft, along and beneath the piles as springs based on the modulus of the subgrade reaction over the pressure bulb, each sub-soil layer contributing a spring stiffness connected in series.</i>	... as that for pads and piles to their respective stiffness ratios	... as that for pads and piles to their respective stiffness ratios	... as that for pads and piles to their respective stiffness ratios	... as that for pads and piles to their respective stiffness ratios	... as that for pads and piles to their respective stiffness ratios	... as that for pads and piles to their respective stiffness ratios
	<b>SLS</b>	<b>Terzaghi</b>	<b>Terzaghi</b>	<b>Terzaghi</b>	<b>Burland and Burbidge / Empirical</b>	<b>Elastic and 1D Consolidation / Empirical</b>	
	<i>Including soil-structure interaction, piled raft analysed to the SLS column loads with soil stiffness modelled beneath the piled raft, along and beneath the piles as springs based on the modulus of the subgrade reaction over the pressure bulb, each sub-soil layer contributing a spring stiffness connected in series. Raft stiffness, pile size, pile spacing and pile depth modified to limit angular distortion to distance/350.</i>	... as that for pads and piles to their respective stiffness ratios	... as that for pads and piles to their respective stiffness ratios	... as that for pads and piles to their respective stiffness ratios	... as that for pads and piles to their respective stiffness ratios	... as that for pads and piles to their respective stiffness ratios	

Foundation Type	Structural Capacity	Geotechnical Capacity			Geotechnical Settlement		
		Cohesionless Soils	Cohesive Soils	Rocks	Cohesionless Soils	Cohesive Soils	Rocks
Pile Cap and Pile (note that the pile cap may be disconnected individual pile caps, connected solid slab or a connected stripped one- or two-way spanning slab)	<b>ULS</b>	<b>Empirical</b>	<b>Empirical</b>	<b>Empirical</b>	<b>Empirical</b>	<b>Empirical</b>	<b>Empirical</b>
	Pile cap designed employing well proportioned span to depth truss analogy method and sufficient pile cap and pile rebar anchorages.  Solid or stripped one- or two-way spanning slab designed to suspend between the pile points.	$P_{cap} = \text{MIN} (Q_b/3.0 + Q_s/1.5, P_f/2.0) - F_{pile}$ $Q_b' = (\pi D_b^2/4 \text{ or } D_b^2) \cdot q_f'(z=L-L_0)$ $q_f'(z=L-L_0) = 250 \cdot N(z=L-L_0) \quad (<= q_{f\text{limit}}'(z=L-L_0))$ $Q_s' = (\pi D \text{ or } 4D) \cdot (L-L_0) \cdot \tau_a'$ $\tau_a' = [\tau_a'(z=0) + \tau_a'(z=L-L_0)]/2$ $\tau_a'(z=0) = 2.0 \cdot N(z=0) \quad (<= \tau_{a\text{limit}}'(z))$ $\tau_a'(z=L-L_0) = 2.0 \cdot N(z=L-L_0) \quad (<= \tau_{a\text{limit}}'(z))$ $F_{pile} = A_{ps} \cdot L \cdot (\rho_c - \gamma_{dry})$ $P_f' = Q_b' + Q_s'$	... as that for cohesionless soils	... as that for cohesionless soils	$d = z_b + z_s$ $z_b = z_{bc} \cdot (z_b/z_{bc})$ $z_{bc} = 5\% \cdot (D_b)$ $z_b/z_{bc}$ $z_s = z_{sc} \cdot (z_s/z_{sc})$ $z_{sc}$ $z_s/z_{sc}$	... as that for cohesionless soils	... as that for cohesionless soils
	<b>SLS</b>	<b>Terzaghi</b>	<b>Terzaghi</b>	<b>Terzaghi</b>			
Precast driven square RC pile or insitu bored circular RC pile, $N_{cap,pile,comp,sls} = 0.25 f_{cu} \cdot A_{ps}$  Precast (pretensioned spun) driven circular RC pile, $N_{cap,pile,comp,sls} = 0.25 (f_{cu} - f_{pe}) \cdot A_p$  Insitu bored circular RC pile (API Micropile), $N_{cap,pile,comp,sls} = f_{y,API} \cdot A_{API}/2.0$ (reinforcement only) $= 0.5 f_{y,API} \cdot (A_{API} + A_{c,API} \cdot E_c/E_s)/2.0$ (composite section (strain compatibility)) $= (0.91 f_{y,API} \cdot A_{API} + 0.45 f_{cu} \cdot A_{c,API})/2.0$ (concrete filled CHS)	$P_{cap} = \text{MIN} (Q_b/3.0 + Q_s/1.5, P_f/2.0) - F_{pile}$ $Q_b' = (\pi D_b^2/4 \text{ or } D_b^2) \cdot q_f'(z=L-L_0)$ $q_f'(z=L-L_0) = s_c \cdot d_c \cdot N_{c,strip} \cdot C' + s_q \cdot d_q \cdot N_{q,strip} \cdot \sigma_v'(z=L-L_0) + s_\gamma \cdot d_\gamma \cdot N_{\gamma,strip} \cdot D_b/2 \cdot \gamma' \quad (<= q_{f\text{limit}}'(z=L-L_0))$ $s_c = (s_q \cdot N_q - 1) / (N_q - 1)$ $d_c = 1 + 0.4 \tan^{-1}((L_c + L)/D_b)$ Prandtl, $N_{c,strip} = (N_{q,strip} - 1) \cdot \cot \phi'$ $s_q = 1 + (D_b/D_b) \sin \phi'$ $d_q = 1 + 2 \tan \phi' (1 - \sin \phi')^2 \cdot \tan^{-1}((L_c + L)/D_b)$ Reissner, $N_{q,strip} = e^{2 \tan \phi'} \cdot \tan^2(45^\circ + \phi'/2)$ $s_\gamma = 1 - 0.3 (D_b/D_b)$ $d_\gamma = 1.0$ Hansen, $N_{\gamma,strip} = 2.0 (N_{q,strip} - 1) \cdot \tan \phi'$ $Q_s' = (\pi D \text{ or } 4D) \cdot (L-L_0) \cdot \tau_a'$ $\tau_a' = [\tau_a'(z=0) + \tau_a'(z=L-L_0)]/2$ $\tau_a'(z=0) = K_s \cdot \tan \delta' \cdot \sigma_v'(z=0) \quad (<= \tau_{a\text{limit}}'(z))$ $\tau_a'(z=L-L_0) = K_s \cdot \tan \delta' \cdot \sigma_v'(z=L-L_0) \quad (<= \tau_{a\text{limit}}'(z))$ $\tau_a' = \sigma_h' \cdot \tan \delta' = K_s \sigma_v' \cdot \tan \delta'$ $K_s \cdot \tan \delta' = k_{Ks} \cdot K_0 \cdot \tan \delta' = k_{Ks} \cdot (1 - \sin \phi') \cdot \tan \delta'$ $F_{pile} = A_{ps} \cdot L \cdot (\rho_c - \gamma_{dry})$ $P_f' = Q_b' + Q_s'$	$P_{cap} = \text{MIN} (Q_b/3.0 + Q_s/1.5, P_f/2.0) - F_{pile}$ $Q_b = (\pi D_b^2/4 \text{ or } D_b^2) \cdot q_f(z=L-L_0)$ $q_f(z=L-L_0) = N_c \cdot S_u(z=L-L_0) \quad (<= q_{f\text{limit}}(z=L-L_0))$ $N_c = 9.0$ $Q_s = (\pi D \text{ or } 4D) \cdot (L-L_0) \cdot S_a$ $S_a = [S_a(z=0) + S_a(z=L-L_0)]/2$ $S_a(z=0) = F \cdot \alpha \cdot S_u(z=0) \quad (<= S_{a\text{limit}}(z))$ $S_a(z=L-L_0) = F \cdot \alpha \cdot S_u(z=L-L_0) \quad (<= S_{a\text{limit}}(z))$ $F_{pile} = A_{ps} \cdot L \cdot (\rho_c - \gamma_{dry})$ $P_f = Q_b + Q_s$	$P_{cap} = \text{MIN} (Q_b/3.0 + Q_s/1.5, P_f/2.0) - F_{pile}$ $Q_b' = (\pi D_b^2/4 \text{ or } D_b^2) \cdot q_f'(z=L-L_0)$ $q_f'(z=L-L_0) = s_c \cdot d_c \cdot N_{c,strip} \cdot C' + s_q \cdot d_q \cdot N_{q,strip} \cdot \sigma_v'(z=L-L_0) + s_\gamma \cdot d_\gamma \cdot N_{\gamma,strip} \cdot D_b/2 \cdot \gamma' \quad (<= q_{f\text{limit}}'(z=L-L_0))$ $s_c = (s_q \cdot N_q - 1) / (N_q - 1)$ $d_c = 1 + 0.4 \tan^{-1}((L_c + L)/D_b)$ Kulhawy and Goodman, $N_{c,strip} = 2 N_\phi^{1/2} (N_\phi + 1),$ $N_\phi = \tan^2(45^\circ + \phi/2)$ $s_q = 1 + (D_b/D_b) \sin \phi'$ $d_q = 1 + 2 \tan \phi' (1 - \sin \phi')^2 \cdot \tan^{-1}((L_c + L)/D_b)$ Kulhawy and Goodman, $N_{q,strip} = N_\phi^2, N_\phi = \tan^2(45^\circ + \phi/2)$ $s_\gamma = 1 - 0.3 (D_b/D_b)$ $d_\gamma = 1.0$ Kulhawy and Goodman, $N_{\gamma,strip} = N_\phi^{1/2} (N_\phi^2 - 1),$ $N_\phi = \tan^2(45^\circ + \phi/2)$ $Q_s' = (\pi D \text{ or } 4D) \cdot (L-L_0) \cdot \tau_a'$ $\tau_a' = [\tau_a'(z=0) + \tau_a'(z=L-L_0)]/2$ $\tau_a'(z=0) = K_s \cdot \tan \delta' \cdot \sigma_v'(z=0) \quad (<= \tau_{a\text{limit}}'(z))$ $\tau_a'(z=L-L_0) = K_s \cdot \tan \delta' \cdot \sigma_v'(z=L-L_0) \quad (<= \tau_{a\text{limit}}'(z))$ $\tau_a' = \sigma_h' \cdot \tan \delta' = K_s \sigma_v' \cdot \tan \delta'$ $K_s \cdot \tan \delta' = k_{Ks} \cdot K_0 \cdot \tan \delta' = k_{Ks} \cdot (1 - \sin \phi') \cdot \tan \delta'$ $F_{pile} = A_{ps} \cdot L \cdot (\rho_c - \gamma_{dry})$ $P_f' = Q_b' + Q_s'$				