

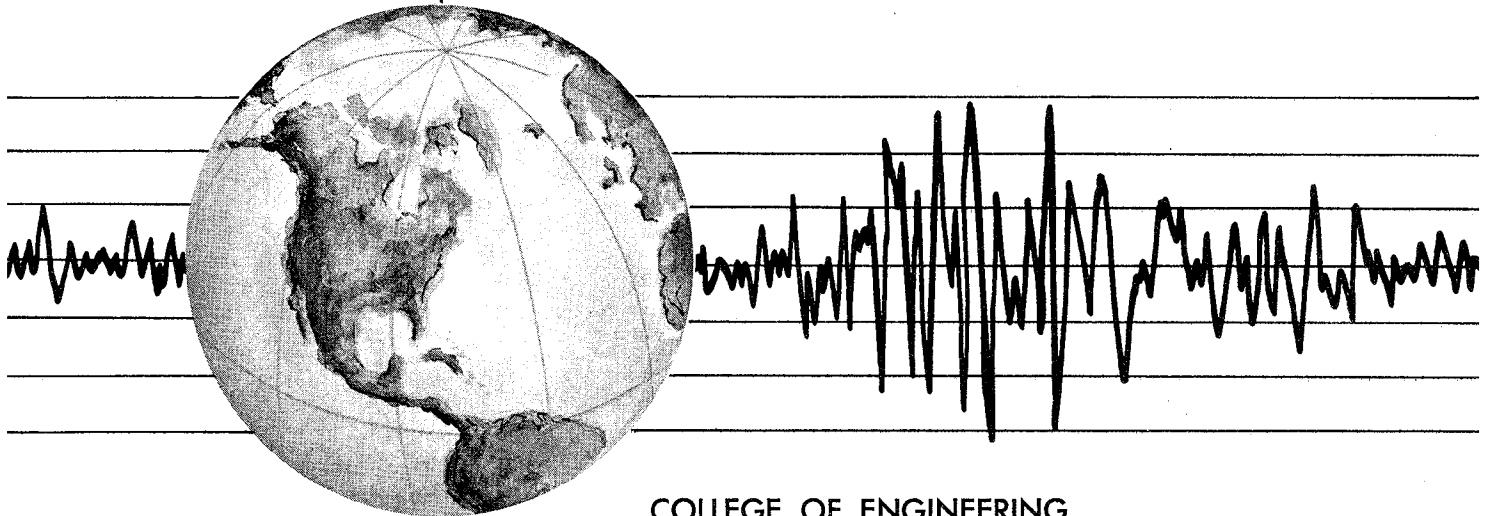
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SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURES FOR THE EVALUATION OF SETTLEMENTS IN CLEAN SANDS

by
KOHJI TOKIMATSU
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COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

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16. Abstract (Limit: 200 words) On the basis of previous studies it appears that the primary factors controlling earthquake-induced settlement are the cyclic stress ratio for saturated sands with pore pressure generation and the cyclic shear strain for dry or partially saturated sands, together with the N-value for the sand and the magnitude of the earthquake. This report reviews previous studies, summarizes available information concerning the settlements of sands during earthquakes and proposes simplified methods of analysis to predict earthquake-induced settlement in both saturated and nonsaturated clean sands. Although the error associated with the estimation of settlements in sands is of the order of +25 to 50% even for static loading conditions, comparison of the numerical results with several case histories indicates that the methods presented in this report can be used in many cases as a first approximation for evaluating the volume changes and settlements of sands due to earthquake shaking.		14.	
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ERRATA

Page 6, Equation (1) should read:

$$\frac{\tau_{av}}{\sigma'_o} = 0.65 \cdot \frac{a_{max}}{g} \cdot \frac{\sigma_o}{\sigma'_o} \cdot r_d \quad (1)$$

Page 22, Equation (6) should read:

$$\gamma_{eff} \left(\frac{G_{eff}}{G_{max}} \right) = \frac{0.65 \cdot a_{max} \cdot \sigma_o \cdot r_d}{g \cdot G_{max}} \quad (6)$$

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ii

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Simplified Procedures for the Evaluation of Settlements in Clean Sands

Due to Earthquake Shaking

by Kohji Tokimatsu¹ and H. Bolton Seed²

Introduction

It has long been recognized that sands tend to settle and densify when they are subjected to earthquake shaking. If the sand is saturated and there is no possibility for drainage, so that constant volume conditions are maintained, the primary cause of the shaking is the generation of excess pore water pressures. Settlement then occurs as the excess pore pressures dissipate. Depending on the characteristics of the soil and the length of the drainage path, the time required for all settlement to develop can vary considerably, varying from almost immediately to about a day. In dry sands, on the other hand, the settlement occurs during the earthquake shaking under conditions of constant effective vertical stress. In both cases, however, the final result of the shaking and the application of cyclic loading is settlement of the sand.

Although methods of evaluating the two types of settlement have been proposed by Lee and Albaisa (1974) and Silver and Seed (1971), there seems to be no recent work on the prediction of settlements in sands which incorporates findings since about 1975. Considering that even small settlements may sometimes have a significant effect on the performance of structures during earthquakes, it seems desirable to review recent findings and field observations relating to the settlements of sands which may be induced by earthquake shaking.

The object of this paper therefore is to review previous studies, to summarize the available information concerning the settlements of sands during

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earthquakes, and to propose simplified methods of analysis to predict earthquake-induced settlement in both saturated and nonsaturated clean sands.

Review of Previous Studies of Settlements of Saturated Sands

On the basis of laboratory cyclic loading test data, Lee and Albaisa (1974) studied the settlement of sands resulting from the dissipation of excess pore water pressures developed during cyclic loading, and concluded that "the amount of reconsolidation volumetric strain for non-liquefaction conditions increases with increasing grain size of soil, decreasing relative density, and increasing excess pore pressure generated during the undrained cyclic loading, but is almost independent of how this excess pore pressure was generated." Because most tests were stopped before a pore pressure ratio of 100% had developed, no trends were found between reconsolidation volumetric strain after liquefaction and any of the variables mentioned.

Recently, Tatsuoka et al. (1984) studied the volumetric strain after initial liquefaction (pore pressure ratio = 100%) and found that the amount of settlement can be significantly influenced by the maximum shear strain developed in the soil as well as the soil density, but that it is relatively insensitive to effective overburden pressure. Thus the maximum shear strain is an important index of probable settlements after liquefaction since it can vary under such conditions even though there are no significant changes in the maximum pore pressure once a condition of liquefaction has developed.

Volumetric Strain After Liquefaction

Relationships between relative density and volumetric strain after initial liquefaction observed in the studies by Lee and Albaisa (1974), Yoshimi, et al., (1975) and Tatsuoka et al., (1984), are summarized in Fig. 1

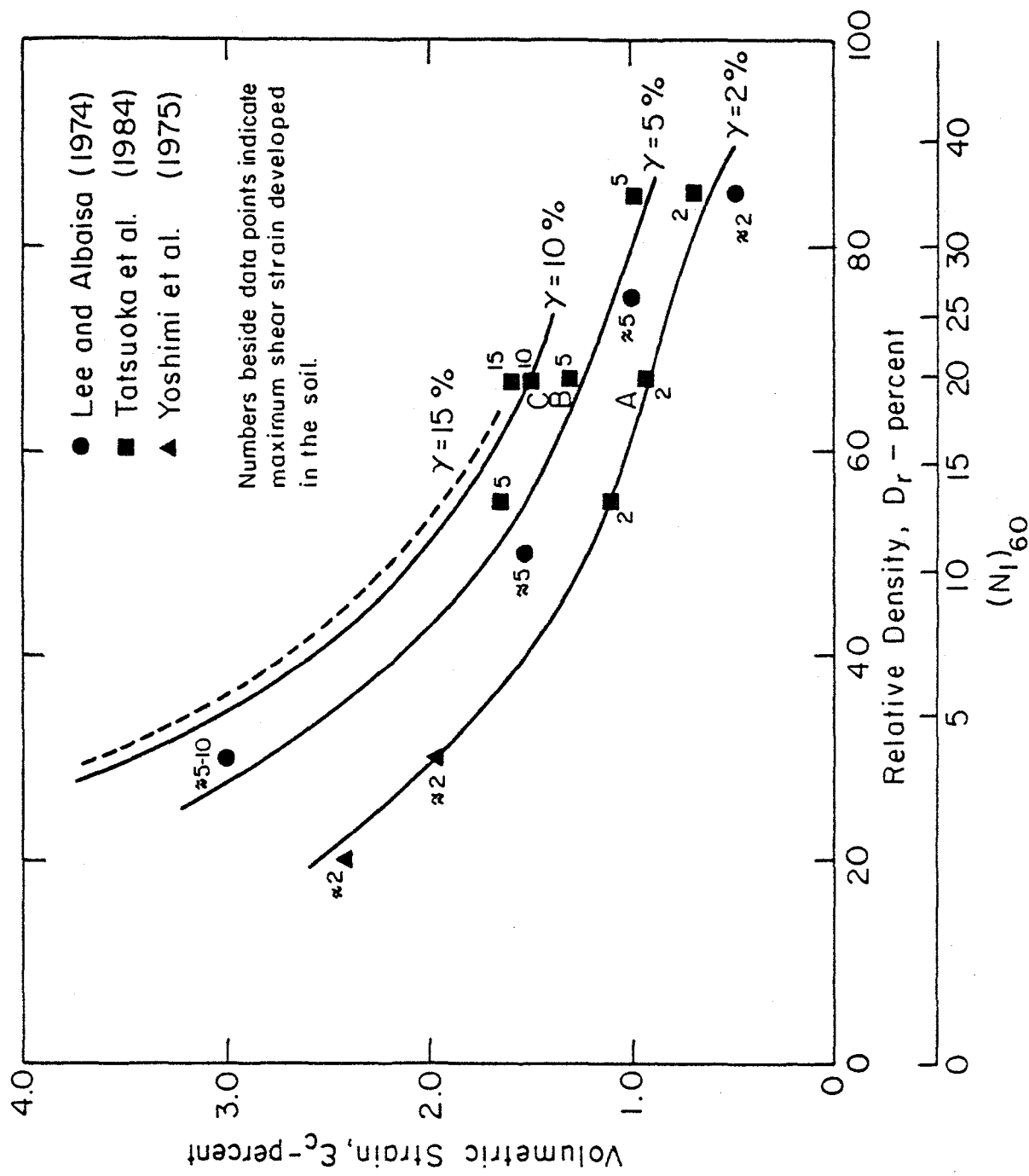


FIG. 1 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VOLUMETRIC STRAIN, INDUCED STRAIN AND RELATIVE DENSITY FOR SANDS

in terms of the maximum shear strain occurring in the tests. Although there were no direct measurements of the induced shear strains in the studies by Lee and Albaisa and by Yoshimi et al., a review of the results permits estimates of the strain level likely to have developed in the sands. Also shown in the figure are the best-fit curves representing the data from all three studies. It may be seen that the volumetric strain decreases significantly with increasing relative density and decreasing induced strain in the soil.

The liquefaction resistance of a sand, usually expressed in terms of the stress ratio (τ_{av}/σ'_o), is strongly dependent on such factors as method of sample preparation and stress history effects. However, these factors are likely to become less significant when dealing with the volumetric strain after liquefaction, and this aspect of soil behavior may well be influenced primarily by only the relative density and the maximum shear strain developed in a sand. Thus it is not unreasonable to expect that the relationship shown in Fig. 1 can be used as an approximate basis for estimating the settlement of other saturated sands after liquefaction, provided that the soil density in the field can be estimated with a reasonable degree of accuracy.

The shear strain developed in situ during earthquakes may be estimated from Fig. 2 (after Seed et al., (1984a)) which shows values of the shear strain potential for any combination of cyclic shear stress ratio and normalized SPT N-value for a magnitude 7.5 earthquake. A similar chart was presented by Tokimatsu and Yoshimi (1983) for N-values measured in Japanese practice where the effective energy delivered by the hammer is generally higher than that in U.S. practice. A recent study by Tokimatsu and Yoshimi (1984) showed that the maximum strain potential is reasonably consistent with the limiting strain potentials proposed by Seed (1979) when the difference in energy ratios in SPT determinations in the two countries is taken into account.

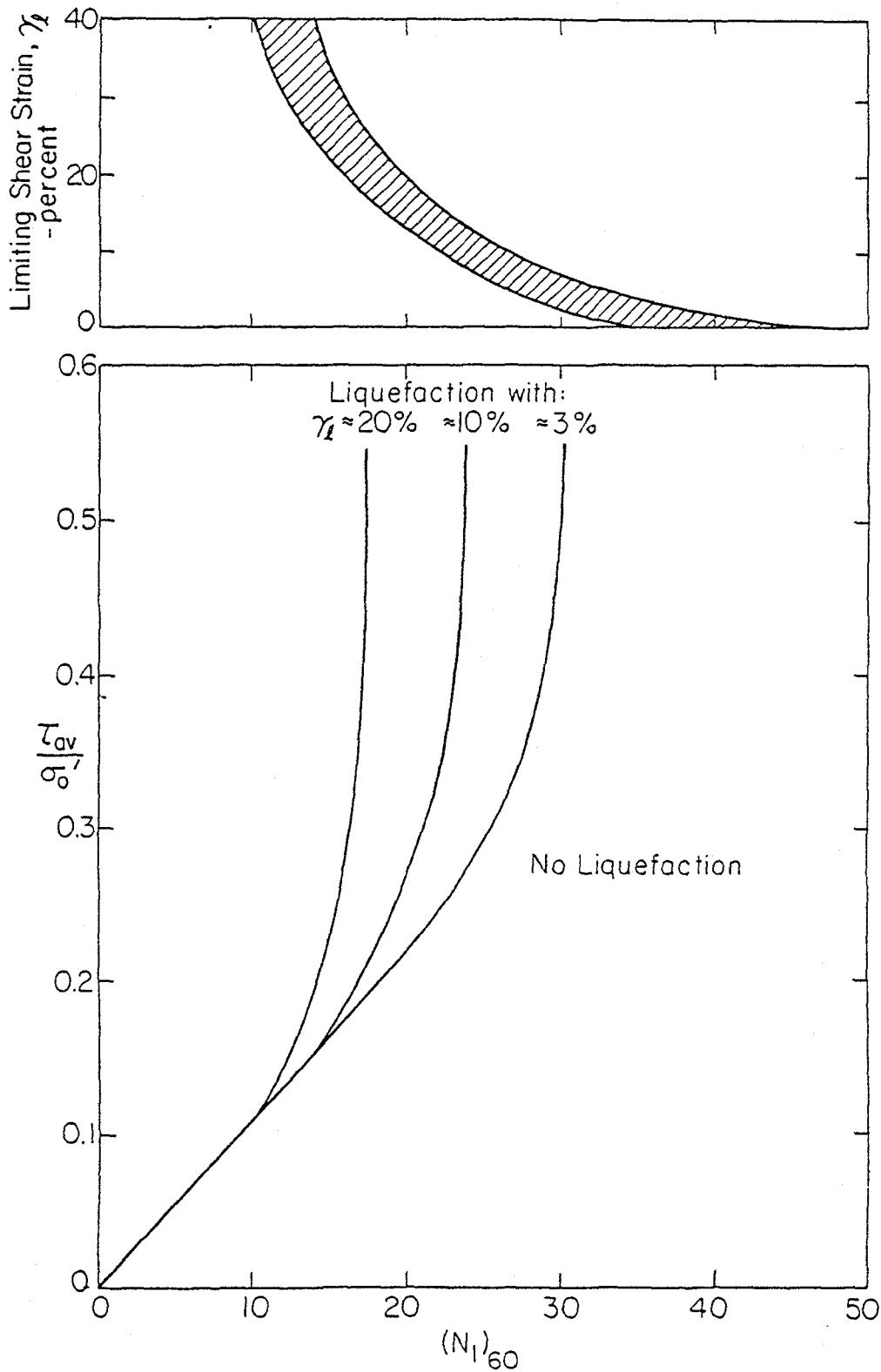


FIG. 2 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CYCLIC STRESS RATIO CAUSING LIQUEFACTION, SPT N-VALUE AND LIMITING SHEAR STRAIN (after Seed et al., 1984)

The shear stress ratio in Fig. 2 is given by:

$$\frac{\tau_{av}}{\sigma_o'} = 0.65 \cdot a_{max} \cdot \frac{\sigma_o}{\sigma_o'} \cdot r_d \quad (1)$$

in which τ_{av} = average cyclic shear stress induced by the earthquake shaking, a_{max} = maximum horizontal acceleration at the ground surface, σ_o = total overburden pressure at the depth considered, σ_o' = effective overburden pressure, and r_d = stress reduction factor varying from a value of 1 at the ground surface to a value of about 0.9 at a depth of 30 ft. The normalized SPT N-value (Kovacs et al., (1984); Seed, et al., (1984a)) may be determined by:

$$(N_1)_{60} = C_{ER} \cdot C_N \cdot N \quad (2)$$

in which $(N_1)_{60}$ = SPT N-value normalized to an effective overburden pressure of 1 tsf and to an effective energy delivered to the drill rods equal to 60% of the theoretical free-fall energy, N = measured SPT N-value, C_N = a correction factor in terms of effective stress as shown in Fig. 3, and C_{ER} = a correction factor for the energy developed in the SPT determinations. Typical values of C_{ER} for current practice are summarized in Table 1 (Seed, et al., (1984a)).

The results presented in Figs. 1 and 2 may be combined with the aid of a relationship between relative density and SPT N_1 -values. It has been found in Japanese practice (e.g. Tatsuoka, et al., (1978); Tokimatsu and Yoshimi, (1983)) that a good relationship between these parameters is provided by the expression proposed by Meyerhof (1957), viz.:

$$D_r = 21 \sqrt{\frac{N_j}{\sigma_o' + 0.7}} \quad (3)$$

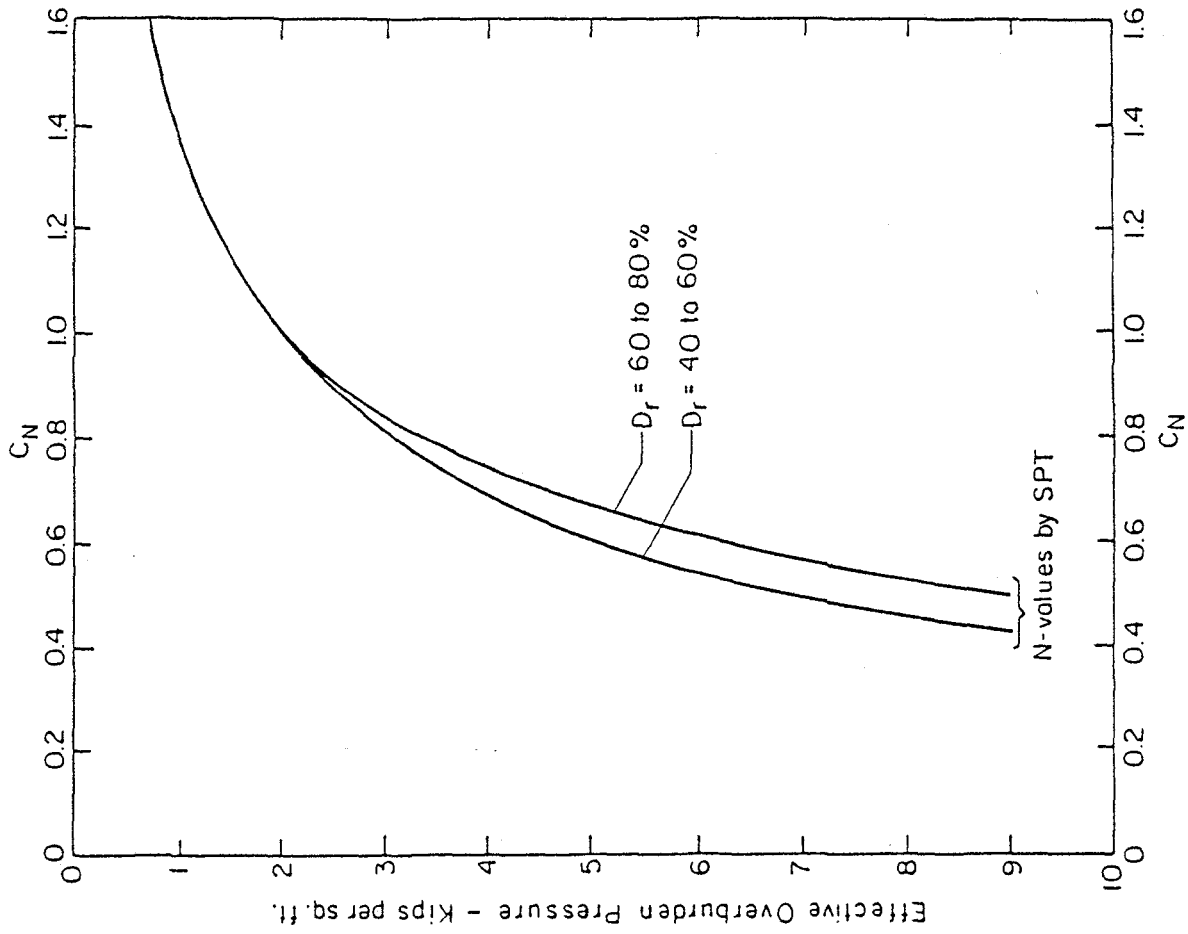


FIG. 3 CURVES FOR DETERMINATION OF C_N

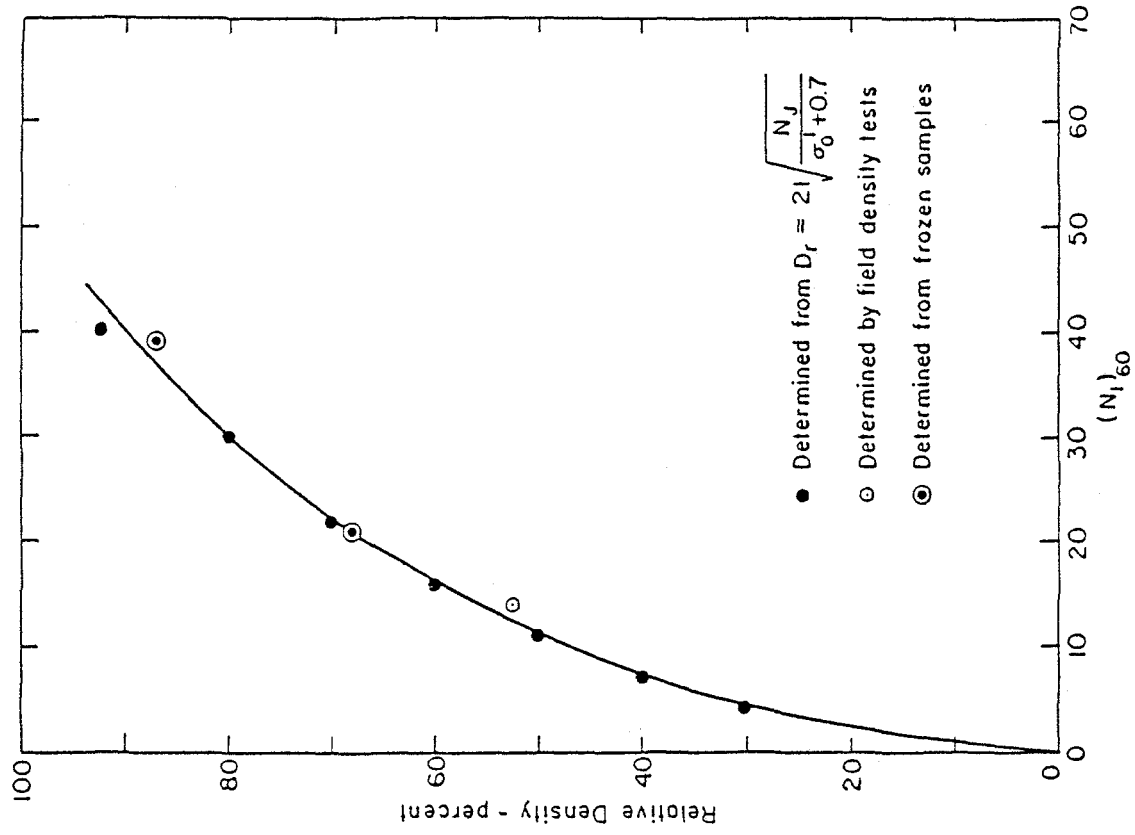


FIG. 4 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELATIVE DENSITY AND $(N_1)_{60}$

Table 1 Rod-Energies in SPT-Practice

Country	Hammer Type	Hammer Release	Estimated Rod Energy (%)	Correction Factor for 60% Rod Energy
I. JAPAN**				
A.	Donut	Free-Fall	78	78/60 = 1.3
B.	Donut	Rope & Pulley with special throw release	67	67/60 = 1.12
II. USA				
A.	Safety	Rope & Pulley	60	60/60 = 1.0
B.	Donut	Rope & Pulley	60/1.33 = 45	45/60 = 0.75
III. ARGENTINA				
A.	Donut	Rope & Pulley	45	45/60 = 0.75
IV. EUROPE				
A.	Donut	Free-Fall	60	60/60 = 1.0
V. CHINA				
A.	Donut	Free-Fall	60	60/60 = 1.0
B.	Donut	Rope & Pulley	60X 0.825 = 50	50/60 = 0.83

*Prevalent method in this country today.

**Japanese SPT results have additional corrections for borehole diameter and frequency effects.

where N_J = SPT N-value measured in Japanese practice

σ'_o = effective overburden pressure in ksc.

However Japanese practice in the measurement of N-values involves the use of a higher energy ratio than that used in U.S. practice, together with other minor differences (Seed, et al., (1984a)). Thus the authors have chosen to convert the results expressed by Eqn. (3) to corresponding values in terms of N_{60} , where N_{60} is the SPT N-value determined by a method providing 60% of the theoretical free-fall energy to the drill rods as well as other standards of practice as listed in Table 2. Points expressing this relationship are plotted in Fig. 4.

Table 2 Recommended SPT Procedure for Use in Settlement Correlations

- A. Borehole: 4 to 5-inch diameter rotary borehole with bentonite drilling mud for borehole stability
- B. Drill Bit: Upward deflection of drilling mud (tricone of baffled drag bit)
- C. Sampler: O.D. = 2.00 inches
I.D. = 1.38 inches - constant (i.e. no room for lines in barrel)
- D. Drill Rods: A or AW for depths less than 50 feet
N or NW for greater depths
- E. Energy Delivered to Sampler: 2520 in.-lbs. (60% of theoretical maximum)
- F. Blowcount Rate: 30 to 40 blows per minute
- G. Penetration Resistance Count: Measures over range of 6 to 18 inches of penetration into the ground

Also shown in Fig. 4 are several points determined by recent studies on natural deposits of sand where the relative density was measured using undisturbed samples obtained by in-situ freezing (Tokimatsu and Yoshimi (1983));

Yoshimi, (1984)) and a data point from an old deposit where the relative density was determined on the basis of field density measurements. It may be seen that all of the results shown are in good agreement and the relationship shown on this figure has therefore been adopted for use in the present study. It should be noted that this relationship is somewhat different from that provided by laboratory studies since it takes into account the effect of ageing on the SPT N-value of sands (Mitchell, (1984)), and is thus likely to be indicative of the relationship which might be expected for natural or older deposits.

The relationship between relative density and $(N_1)_{60}$ shown in Fig. 4 is plotted along the abscissa in Fig. 1, thereby providing an approximate relationship between volumetric strain after liquefaction and SPT N-values expressed in terms of $(N_1)_{60}$.

The volumetric strains for different combinations of $(N_1)_{60}$ -values and shear strain can be read off from Fig. 1 and plotted at the corresponding points on Fig. 2, as shown on Fig. 5. For example, the points labelled A, B, and C in Fig. 1 corresponding to $(N_1)_{60} = 20$ and shear strains of 2, 5 and 10% would correspond to volumetric strains of 0.9, 1.2 and 1.5% and would be plotted as points A', B' and C' in Fig. 5. It is now possible, based on the values of volumetric strains after liquefaction shown on Fig. 5, to draw equi-volumetric shear strain lines on the stress ratio vs SPT $(N_1)_{60}$ chart as shown by the solid lines in Fig. 6. It should be noted that the resulting volumetric strains after liquefaction may be as high as 2 to 3% for loose to medium dense sands and even higher for very loose sands.

Volumetric Strain After Incomplete Liquefaction

Even though liquefaction may not occur, some pore pressure may be

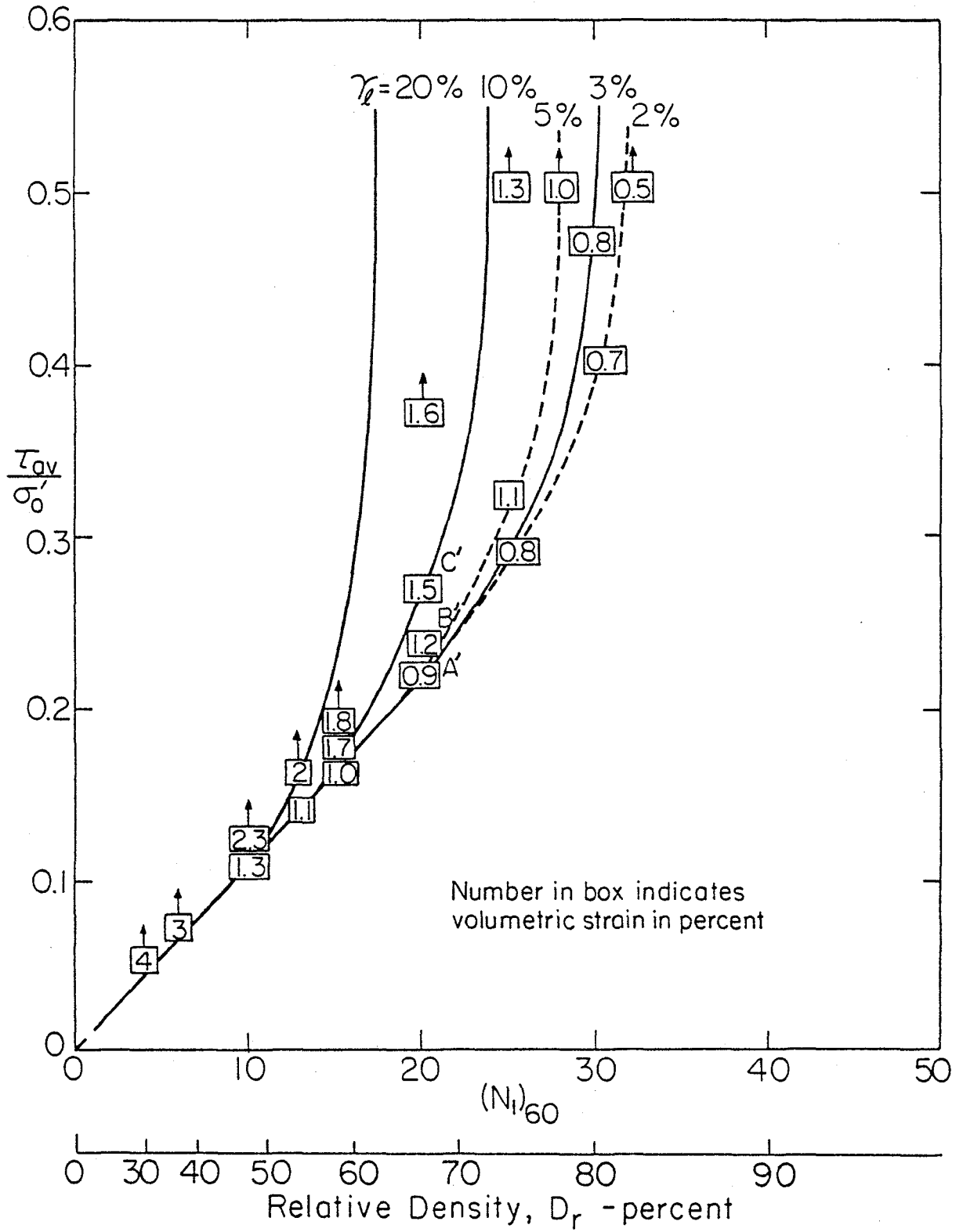


FIG. 5 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CYCLIC STRESS RATIO, VOLUMETRIC STRAIN AND $(N_1)_{60}$

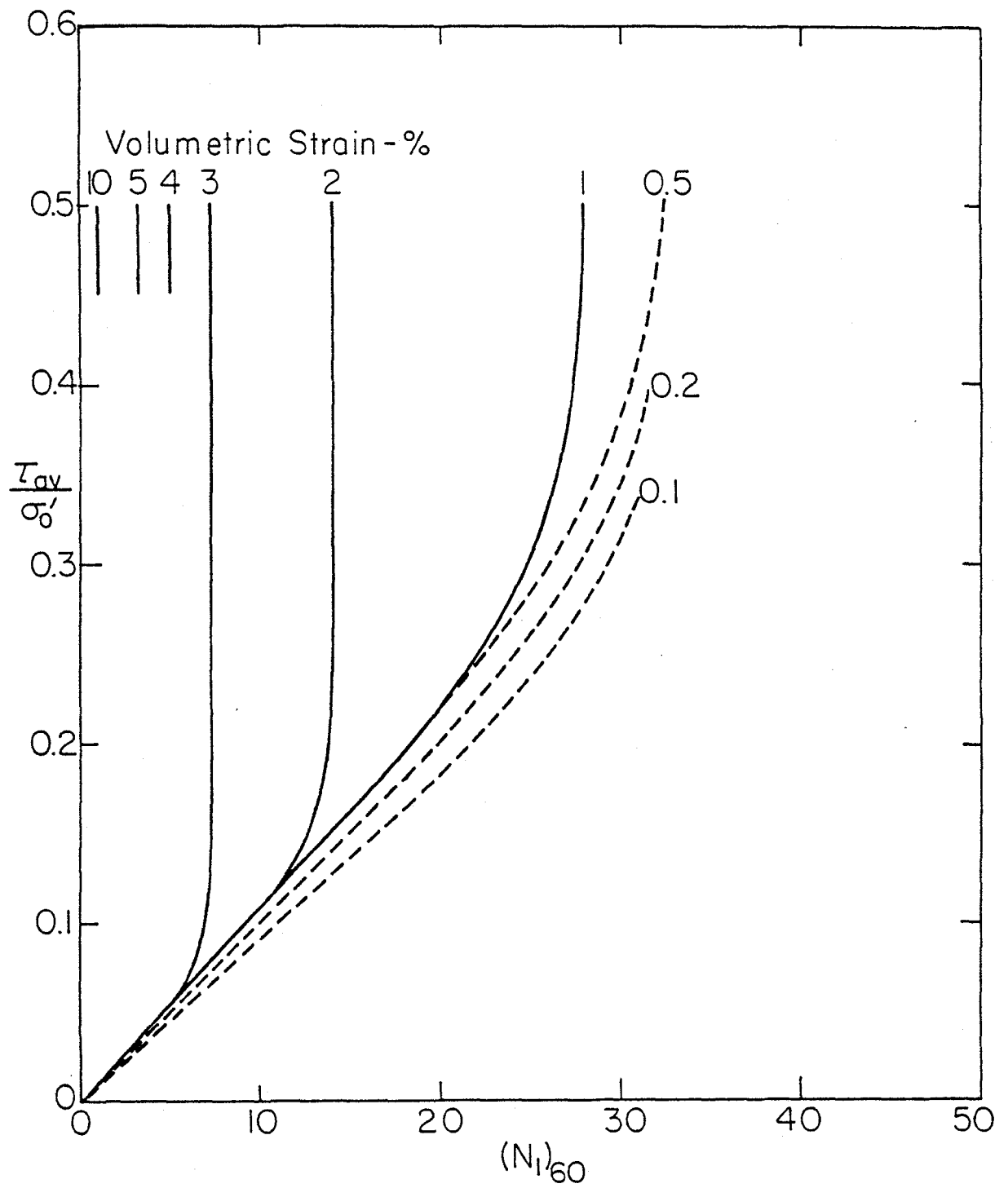


FIG. 6 PROPOSED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CYCLIC STRESS RATIO, $(N_1)_{60}$ AND VOLUMETRIC STRAIN FOR SATURATED CLEAN SANDS

generated in sand deposits by earthquake shaking and the dissipation of this pore pressure may result in small amounts of settlement. This condition corresponds to the zone below the boundary line for liquefaction shown in Fig. 2 and below the solid line marked volumetric strain = 0.5% in Fig. 6. The pore pressure generated under such conditions may be expressed in terms of the normalized stress ratio; that is the ratio of the actual shear stress ratio to the stress ratio just causing liquefaction. The relationship between the pore pressure ratio and the normalized stress ratio generally falls within the shaded area in Fig. 7 and for most sands may be represented by the broken line shown in the figure (Tokimatsu and Yoshimi, (1983)).

Lee and Albaisa (1974) plotted volumetric strain as a function of induced pore pressure ratio as shown in Fig. 8 and concluded that, for pore pressure ratios less than about 0.6, the relationship between volumetric strain and peak pore pressure ratio could be represented for practical purposes by the dashed line shown in the figure for sands with relative densities in the range of 30 to 80% and regardless of the confining pressure. Thus by combining the average results shown in Figs. 7 and 8, Fig. 9 can readily be prepared to determine a relationship between volumetric strain and normalized stress ratio. Note that even for a condition where the stress ratio is about 0.8 times that required to cause liquefaction (i.e. factor of safety against liquefaction is about 1.25) the resulting volumetric strain is only about 0.1%. The relationship shown in Fig. 9 is also drawn in Fig. 6 with broken lines.

It may be noted that if the normalized stress ratio is less than 0.7, the induced pore pressure ratio is likely to be less than 0.1 according to Fig. 7, and hence the effect of pore pressure generation on settlement is likely to be insignificant for most structures.

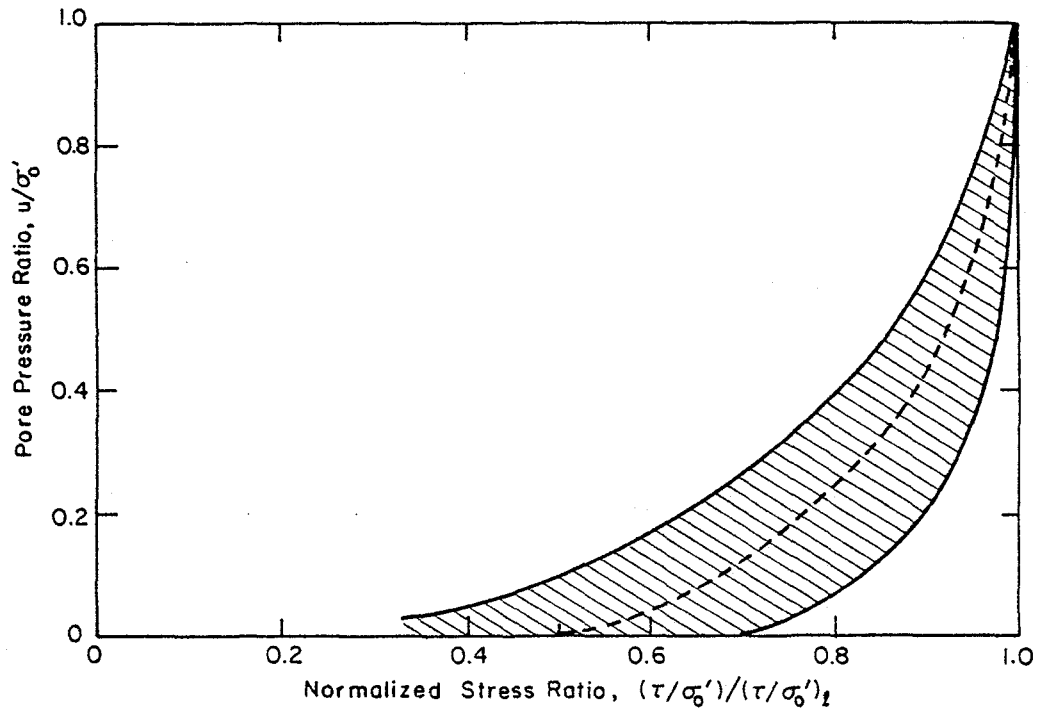


FIG. 7 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INDUCED PORE PRESSURE RATIO AND NORMALIZED STRESS RATIO FOR CLEAN SANDS

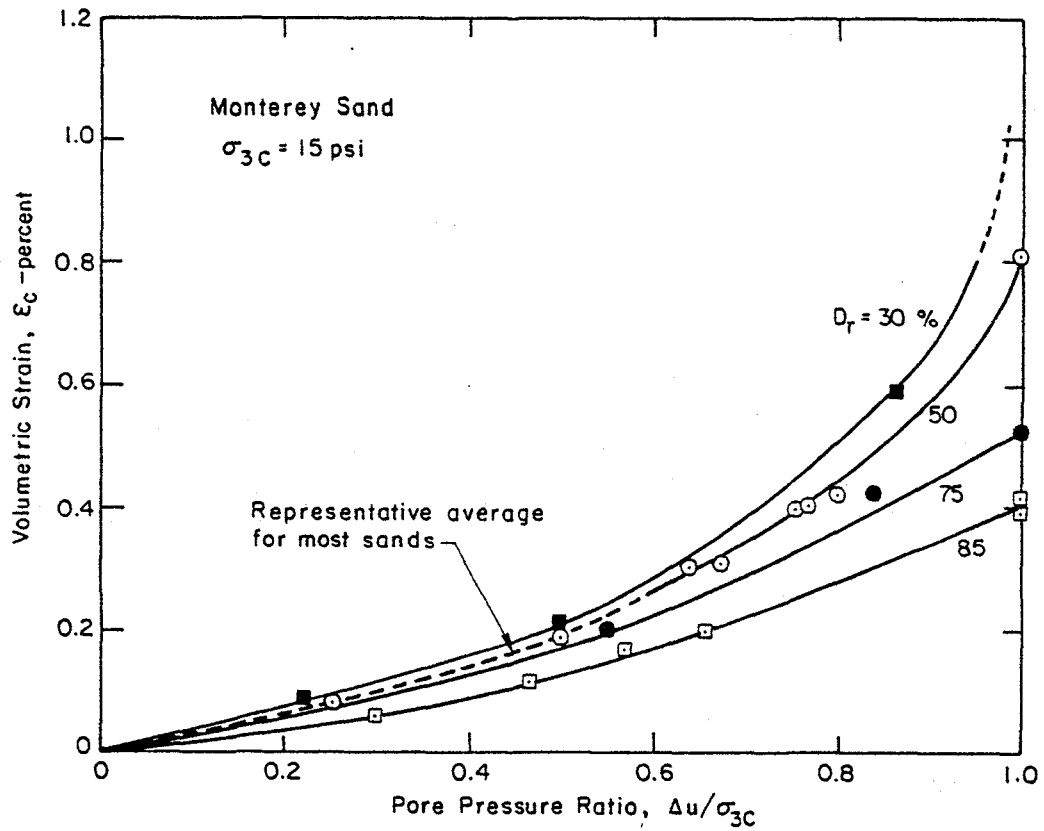


FIG. 8 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VOLUMETRIC STRAIN AND INDUCED PORE PRESSURE RATIO (after Lee and Albaisa, 1974)

Effects of Earthquake Magnitude on Settlement in Saturated Sands

The chart in Fig. 6 can be extended to other magnitude events by noting that the main difference between different magnitude earthquakes is the difference in number of cycles of stress they produce (e.g. Seed, et al., (1983)). The relative values of stress ratio required to cause liquefaction for earthquakes of different magnitudes to the stress ratio required to cause liquefaction for a M = 7.5 event are summarized in Table 3, together with the corresponding numbers of cycles induced by the earthquakes. Thus by multiplying the values of the ordinate for each eqi-volumetric strain line in Fig. 6 by the scaling factors shown in Column 3 of Table 3, volumetric strain charts can be obtained for earthquakes with different magnitudes. Alternatively Fig. 6 can be used for any magnitude event simply by modifying the values of the cyclic stress ratios for those earthquakes into equivalent values for M = 7.5 earthquakes using the relationship

$$\left(\frac{\tau_{av}}{\sigma_o'}\right)_{M=7.5} = \left(\frac{\tau_{av}}{\sigma_o'}\right)_{M=M} \times \frac{1}{r_m} \quad (3)$$

where r_m has the values shown in Column 3 of Table 3.

Table 3 Scaling Factors for Effect of Earthquake Magnitude on Effective Cyclic Stress Ratio

Earthquake Magnitude, M (1)	Number of Representative Cycles at $0.65 \tau_{max}$ (2)	Scaling Factor for Stress Ratio, r_m (3)
8-1/2	26	0.89
7-1/2	15	1.0
6-3/4	10	1.13
6	5	1.32
5-1/4	2-3	1.5

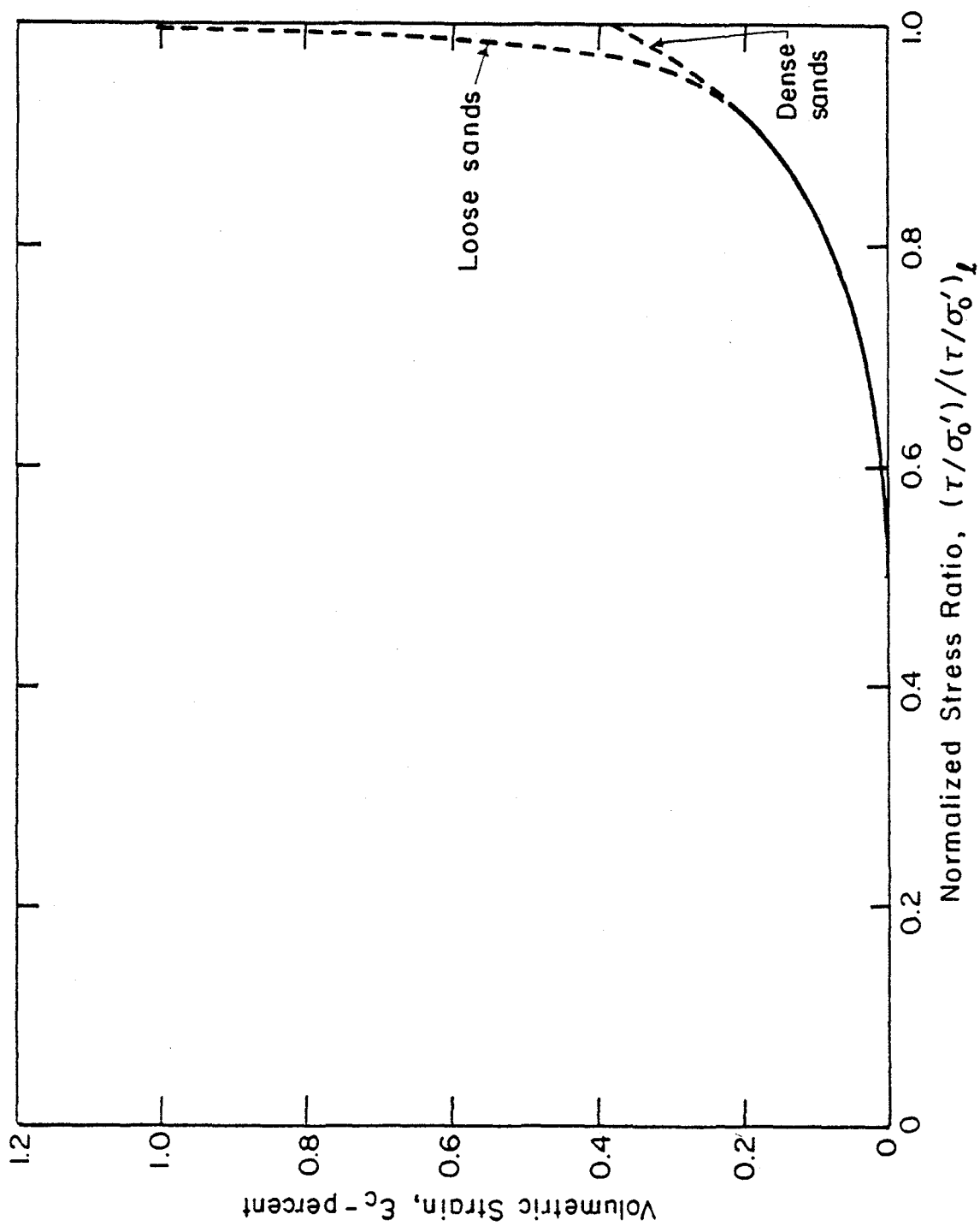


FIG. 9 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VOLUMETRIC STRAIN AND NORMALIZED PORE PRESSURE RATIO FOR SATURATED CLEAN SANDS

Observed Settlements in Saturated Sands

In order to compare the values of volumetric strain shown on the chart in Fig. 6 with field behavior, information concerning volumetric strains for several field cases of seismically induced settlement of saturated sands are summarized in Table 4, and the resulting volumetric strains are plotted on the chart in Fig. 10. Although the number of field cases for which data is available is quite limited, the field evidence is generally consistent with the lines drawn in the figure.

Typical examples of the computation of settlements for two cases reported by Ohsaki (1970) where settlements occurred in saturated sand during the Tokachi-oki earthquake of 1968 are shown in Table 5. The sites are designated P6 and P1 respectively. For site P6 the sand deposit was extremely loose to a depth of about 20 ft and the observed maximum settlement was about 20 inches. Based on values of the volumetric strain in different depth zones taken from the chart in Fig. 6, the computed settlement was 15.5 inches as shown in the upper part of Table 4. For site P1 the sand was medium dense and the observed settlement was only about 0.6 inch. The computed value, determined as shown in the lower part of Table 4, was about 0.7 inch. In both cases the computed settlements are in good agreement with the reported values. This good agreement between the measured and predicted values indicates the possibility of using the chart as a basis for estimating probable settlements of saturated sands due to earthquake shaking.

Review of Previous Studies on Dry Sands

Silver and Seed (1971) have shown that the settlement of dry sands due to cyclic loading is a function of: (1) the relative density of the soil; (2) the magnitude of the cyclic shear strain; and (3) the number of strain cycles. It

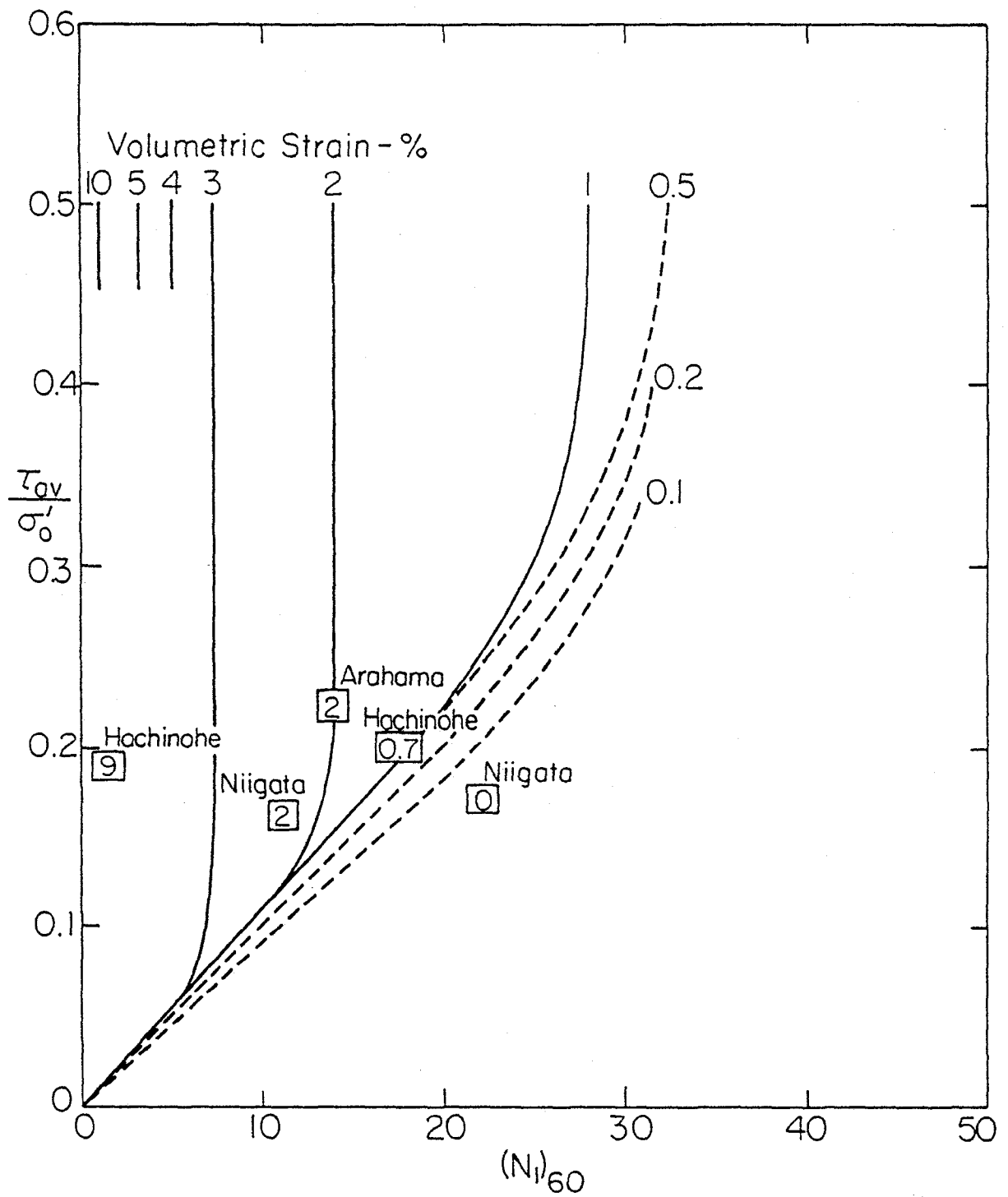


FIG. 10 COMPARISON OF PROPOSED CHART FOR DETERMINATION OF VOLUMETRIC STRAIN WITH FIELD PERFORMANCE OF SATURATED SANDS

Table 4 Field Observations of Earthquake-Induced Settlements in Saturated Sands

Earthquake	Year	Magni- tude	Maximum Accelera- tion	Thickness of Layer Causing Major Settlement (ft)	Observed Settle- ment (in)	Volumetric Strain (%)	Average Stress Ratio	Average SPT (N_1)/60	Fines Content (%)	Reference
Tokachioki	1968	7.9	0.2	16	15-20	9	0.19	1.4	5	Ohsaki (1970)
"	"	7.9	0.23	7	0.5-0.7	0.7	0.2	17.5	5	"
Niigata	1964	7.5	0.16	30	8	2	0.16	11	2	Building Research
"	"	7.5	0.18	30	0	0	0.17	22	2	Institute (1965)
Miyagiken Oki	1978	7.4	0.2	30	8	2	0.22	14	0	Tohno et al. (1981)

Table 5 Computation of Settlement for Saturated Sand--Comparison of Proposed Method with Field Observation made by Ohsaki (1970)

P-6

Water Table 4 ft
Estimated Maximum Acceleration ≈ 0.20

Layer #	Thickness (ft)	N	C_{ER}	σ_o	σ'_o	C_N	$(N_1)_{60}$	(τ/σ'_o) ave	Volumetric Strain (%)	Settlement (in)
1	4	1	0.82*	240	240					
2	3.3	0.5	0.82*	678	575	1.7	0.7	0.155	10	4
3	3.3	0.5	0.82*	1074	764	1.57	0.6	0.185	10	4
4	3.3	0.5	1.09	1470	954	1.44	0.8	0.20	10	4
5	3.3	2	1.09	1866	1144	1.34	2.9	0.21	5.5	2.2
6	3.3	5	1.09	2262	1334	1.24	6.8	0.215	3.2	1.3
7	3.3	23	1.21	2658	1523	1.16	32	0.22	0	
8	3.3	33	1.21	3054	1713	1.09	44	0.225	0	
9	3.3	28	1.21	3450	1903	1.03	35	0.225	0	
10	3.3	33	1.21	3846	2093	0.97	39	0.225	0	

Estimated settlement = 15.5 in
Actual settlement ≈ 20 in (max)

P-1

Water Table 3.3 ft
Estimated Maximum Acceleration ≈ 0.23

Layer #	Thickness (ft)	N	C_{ER}	σ_o	σ'_o	C_N	$(N_1)_{60}$	(τ/σ'_o) ave	Volumetric Strain (%)	Settlement (in)
1	3.3	12	0.82*	198	198					
2	3.3	12	0.82*	594	490	1.8	18	0.185	0.3	0.1
3	3.3	13	0.82*	990	681	1.63	17	0.22	1.5	0.6
4	3.3	20	1.21	1386	870	1.50	36	0.24	0	
5	3.3	36	1.21	1782	1060	1.38	60	0.25	0	

Estimated settlement = 0.7 in
Actual settlement $\approx 0.5 \sim 0.7$ in

*Corrected by 0.75.

was also found that for a given density and number of cycles, settlement is not significantly affected by the value of the vertical stress and depends only on the shear strain amplitude in the soil. Based on these results, Seed and Silver (1972) suggested a procedure for estimating the probable settlement of dry sand, involving a response analysis for the deposit to determine the induced shear strains developed at different depths in the soil. The analysis was modified by Pyke, et al. (1975) to allow for multidirectional shaking effects which were found to have an important influence on the magnitude of settlements.

The method outlined below is a simplified version of the Seed and Silver method of analysis and offers the advantage that it can be performed without the need for a response analysis for the deposit.

Shear Strain Developed in the Ground During Earthquakes

As stated above, the primary factor controlling settlements in dry sands is the cyclic shear strain induced in the soil at various depths. Values of this strain may be estimated as follows.

At any given depth in a soil deposit, the effective shear strain, γ_{eff} induced by earthquake shaking may be estimated from the relationship:

$$\gamma_{eff} = \frac{\tau_{av}}{G_{eff}} = \frac{\tau_{av}}{G_{max} \cdot (G_{eff}/G_{max})} \quad (4)$$

in which G_{max} = shear modulus at low strain level, G_{eff} = effective shear modulus at induced strain level and τ_{av} = average cyclic shear stress at the corresponding depth. τ_{av} may be computed from the relationship (Seed and Idriss, (1971)):

$$\tau_{av} = 0.65 \cdot \frac{a_{max}}{g} \cdot \sigma_o \cdot r_d \quad (5)$$

Substituting Eq. (5) into Eq. (4) and rearranging the terms leads to:

$$\gamma_{eff} \left(\frac{G_{eff}}{G_{max}} \right) = \frac{0.65 \cdot a_{max} \cdot \sigma_o \cdot r_d}{G_{max}} \quad (6)$$

The right hand side of this equation can readily be evaluated for any given depth, since G_{max} may be determined from the relationship (Seed and Idriss, (1970)):

$$G_{max} = 1000 \cdot (K_2)_{max} \cdot (\sigma'_m)^{1/2} \text{ in psf units}$$

where $(K_2)_{max} \approx 20(N_1)_{60}^{1/3}$.

The latter equation is based on the correlation proposed by Ohta and Goto (1976) as a result of numerous field shear wave measurements in Japan and subsequently modified to the above form by Seed, et al., (1984b).

Having thus determined a value for the product $\gamma_{eff} \cdot (G_{eff}/G_{max})$, a value for γ_{eff} can be determined as follows. A typical representative relationship between the ratio G_{eff}/G_{max} and shear strain for sands, based on the work of many investigations is shown in Fig. 11(a). Most investigators find relationships lying within the band shown in this figure (Seed, et al., (1984b)). In detail the relationship is also dependent on the confining pressure as shown by Hardin and Drnevich (1971), Shibata and Soelarno (1975) and Iwasaki, et al., (1978) and is perhaps best represented in detail by the family of curves proposed by Iwasaki, et al., shown in Fig. 11(b). From these relationships, values of the product of $(G_{eff}/G_{max}) \cdot \gamma_{eff}$ can readily be computed and plotted against the effective shear strain, γ_{eff} , as shown in Fig. 12.

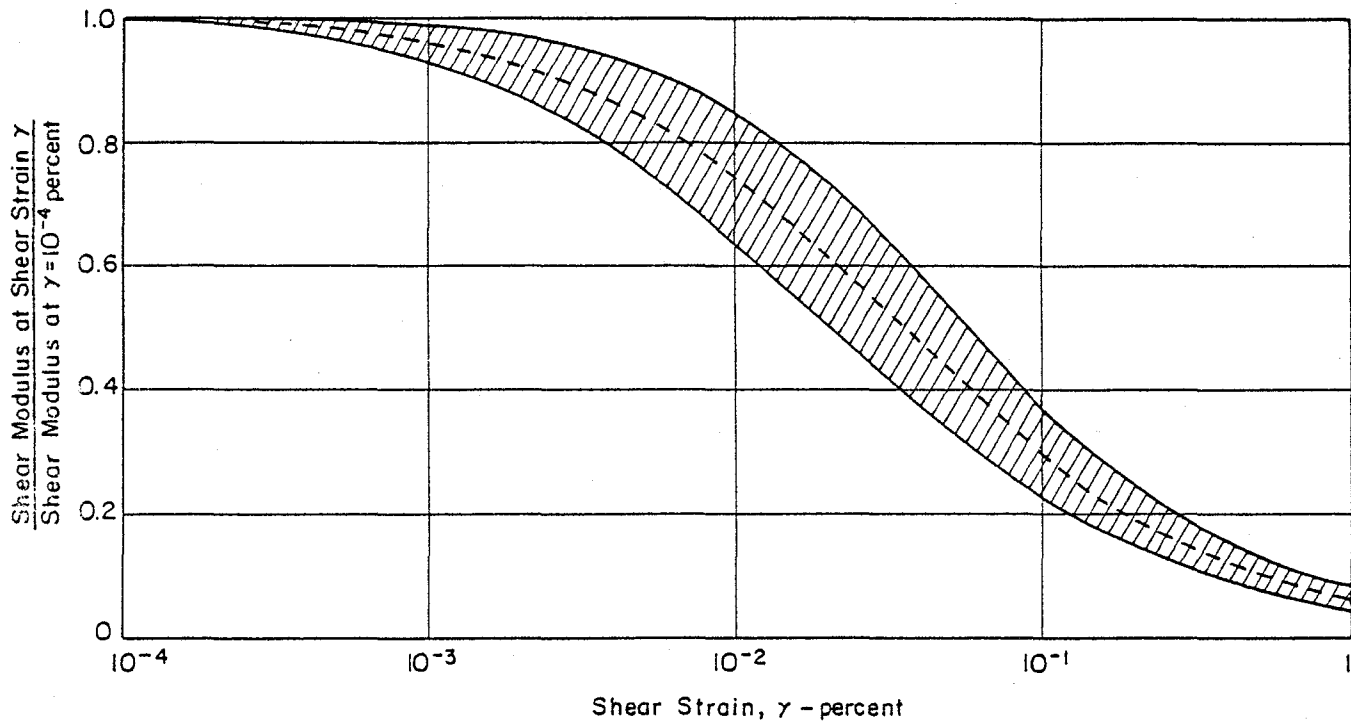


FIG. 11(a) RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHEAR MODULUS AND STRAIN FOR SANDS
(after Seed et al., 1984)

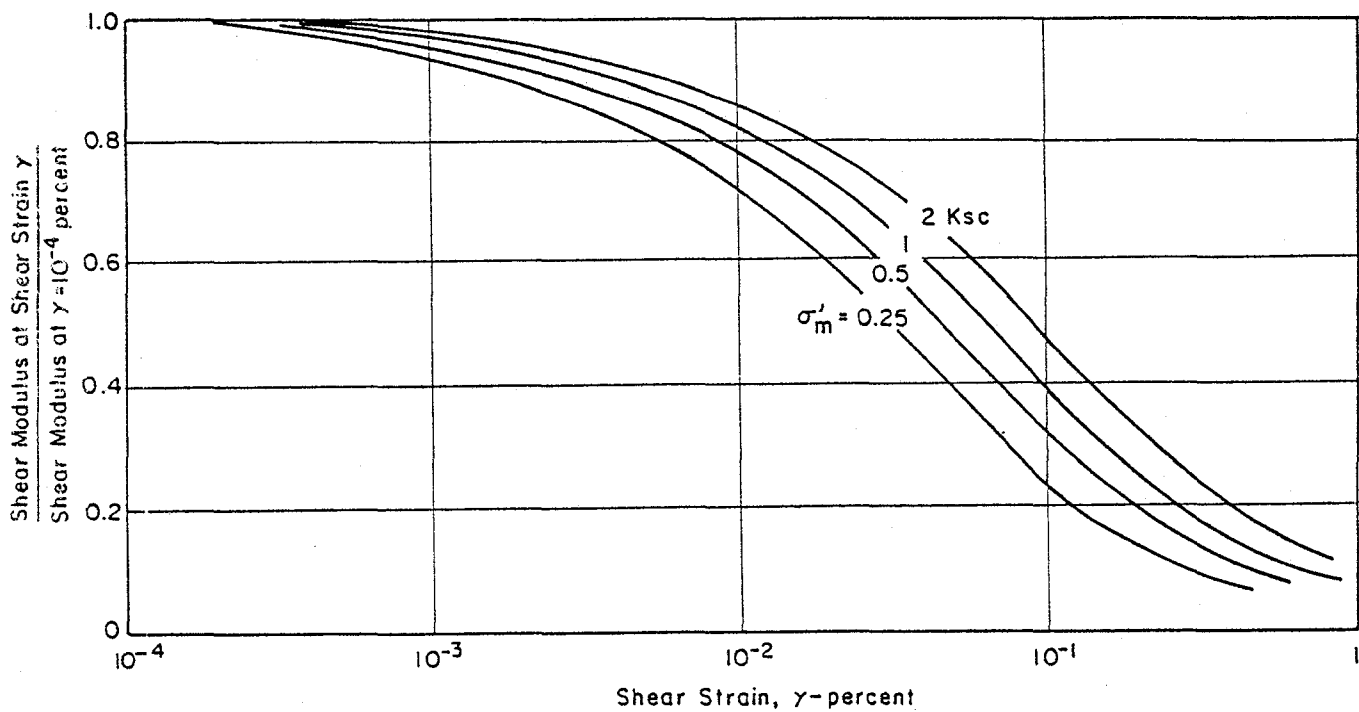


FIG. 11(b) RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHEAR MODULUS AND STRAIN FOR SANDS
(after Iwasaki et al., 1978)

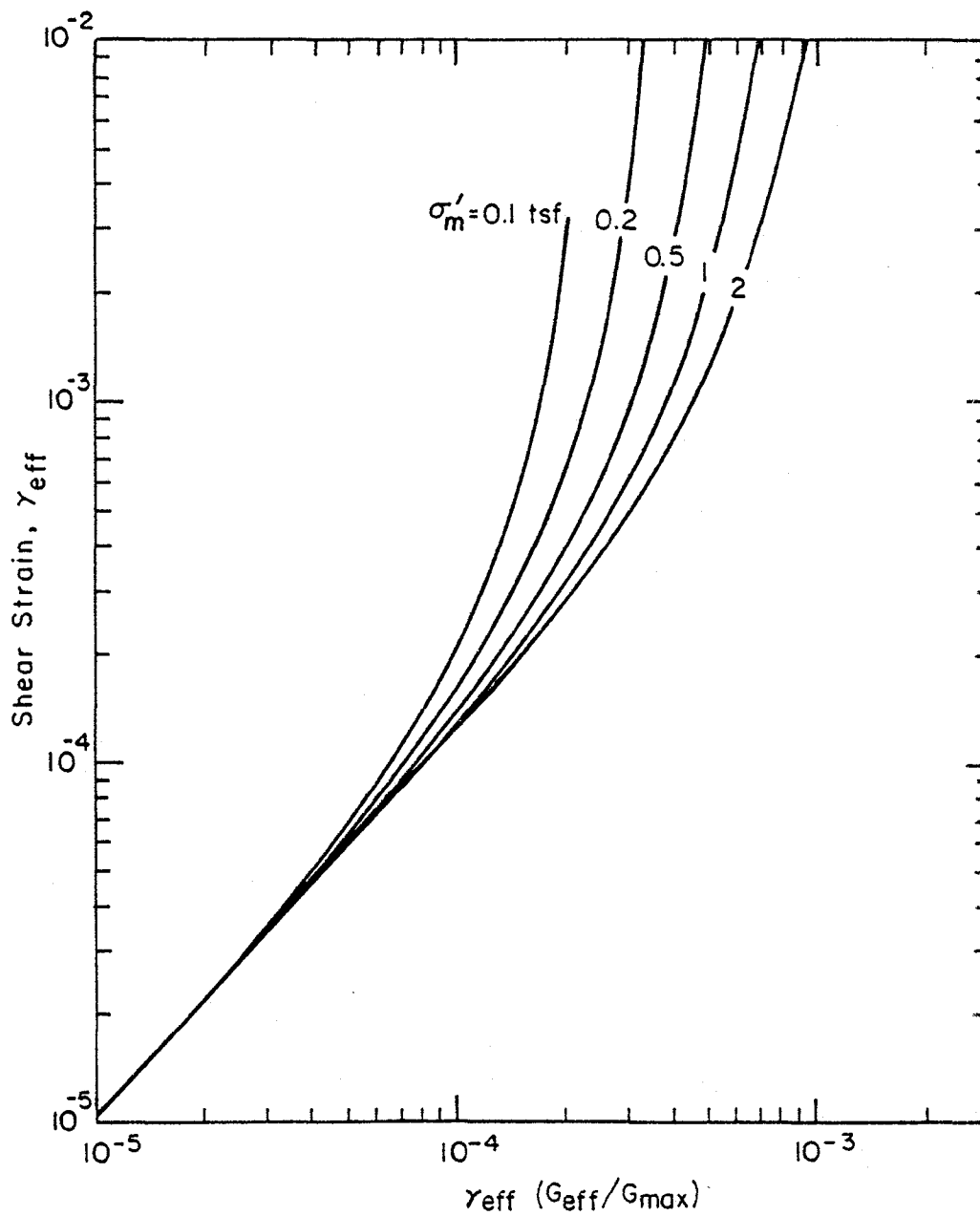


FIG. 12 PLOT FOR DETERMINATION OF INDUCED STRAIN IN SAND DEPOSITS

Thus since the value of the product $(G_{\text{eff}}/G_{\text{max}}) \cdot \gamma_{\text{eff}}$ can be determined for a layer at any depth by means of Eqn. (6), the corresponding value of γ_{eff} can readily be read off from the curves presented in Fig. 12. This procedure is not so accurate as performing a dynamic response analysis but it is probably accurate enough for most settlement estimates in practice.

Volumetric Strain vs. Shear Strain for Dry Sands

Silver and Seed (1971) presented relationships between volumetric strain and shear strain for sands at different relative densities from which the relations after 15 cycles are summarized in Fig. 13. Combining the relationships presented in Figs. 13 and 4, leads to the relationships between volumetric strain and shear strain for sands with different SPT N_1 -values as shown in Fig. 14.

The relationships shown in Figs. 13 and 14 are applicable only for cases involving 15 equivalent uniform strain cycles which is typically representative of a magnitude 7.5 earthquake. However, the results can be extended to different magnitude events by a procedure similar to that adopted for saturated sands (e.g., Seed, et al., (1983)). The number of cycles representative of different magnitude events is again tabulated in Table 6.

Table 6 Influence of Earthquake Magnitude on Volumetric Strain Ratio for Dry Sands

Earthquake Magnitude (1)	Number of Representative Cycles at $0.65 \tau_{\text{max}}$ (2)	Volumetric Strain Ratio $\epsilon_{C,N} / \epsilon_{C,N=15}$ (3)
8-1/2	26	1.25
7-1/2	15	1.
6-3/4	10	0.85
6	5	0.6
5-1/4	2-3	0.4

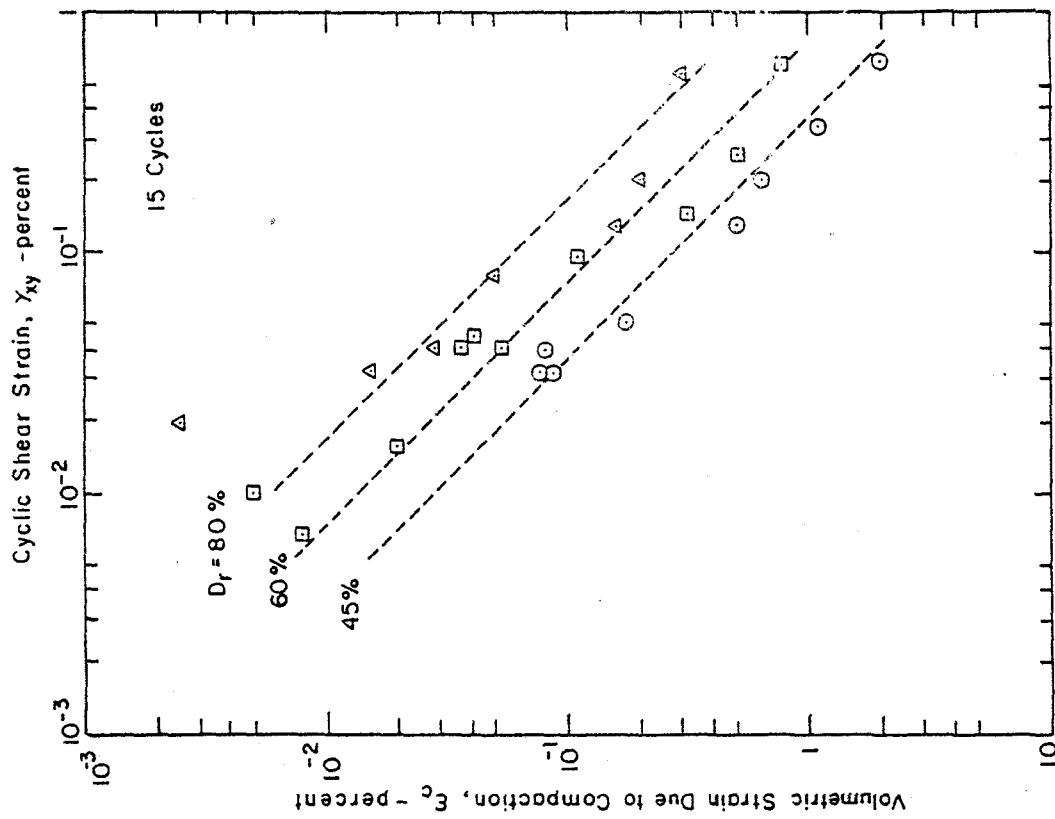


FIG. 13 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VOLUMETRIC STRAIN AND SHEAR STRAIN FOR DRY SANDS (after Silver and Seed, 1971)

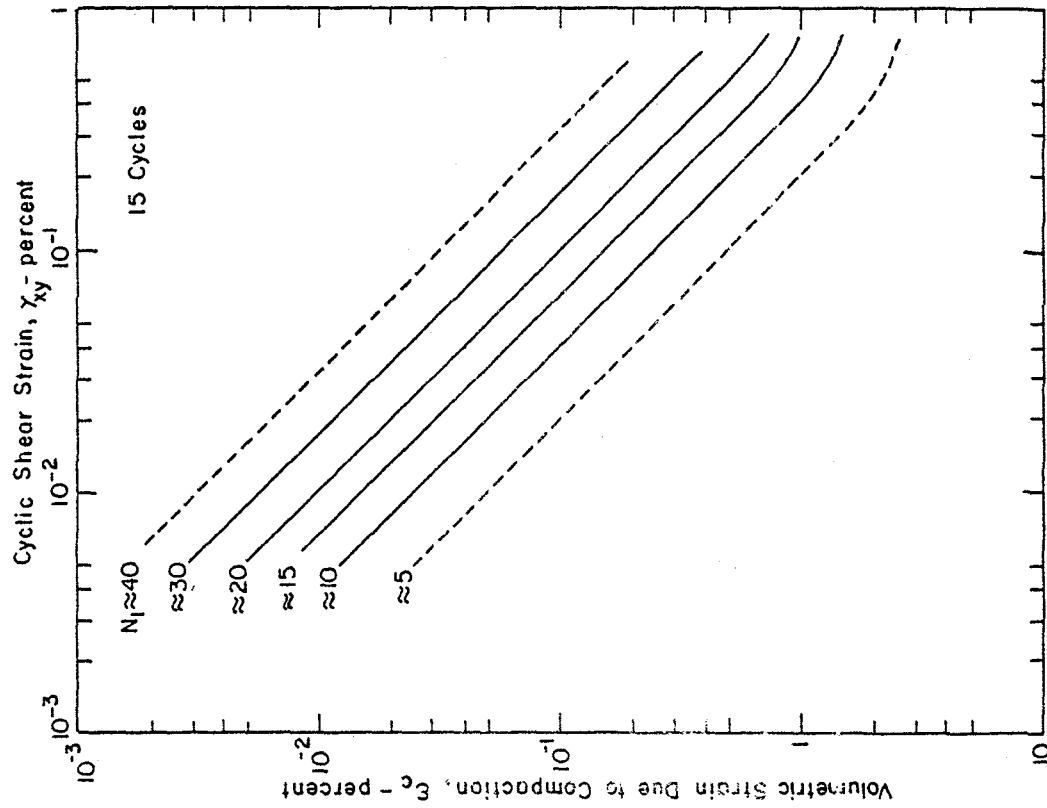


FIG. 14 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VOLUMETRIC STRAIN, SHEAR STRAIN AND PENETRATION RESISTANCE FOR DRY SANDS

A review of previous studies (e.g., Silver and Seed, (1971)) shows that the volumetric strain ratios for different numbers of cycles normalized to that for 15 cycles generally falls within the shaded zone shown in Fig. 15 and may be represented by the average line shown in the figure. Thus the ratio of values of volumetric strain in any number of cycles to that for 15 cycles can be readily determined from Fig. 15, and values are listed in the third column of Table 6. By multiplying the volumetric strain from Fig. 14 by the factor shown in Column 3 of Table 6, the volumetric strain can be determined for earthquakes with different magnitudes. It should be noted however that the correction factors are different from those listed in Table 3, since the correction is made here for volumetric strain rather than shear stress ratio.

Finally it is necessary to note that the relations shown in Fig. 14 are based on unidirectional simple shear conditions whereas under actual earthquake loading conditions, soils are subjected to multidirectional shaking. Tests by Pyke, et al., (1975) using multidirectional shear as well as unidirectional shear led to the conclusion that "the settlements caused by combined horizontal motions are about equal to the sum of the settlements caused by the components acting alone." This means that the volumetric strain estimated from Fig. 14 should be doubled to take multidirectional shaking effects into account.

Computation of Settlements in Dry Sand During the San Fernando Earthquake

Seed and Silver (1972) computed the settlement in a 50-ft thick deposit of sand with a relative density of 45% subjected to a maximum surface acceleration of 0.45g as shown in Fig. 16 and concluded that the computed settlement of 2.5 in. was in fairly good agreement with settlements observed during the San Fernando earthquake of 1971. The same soil profile has been

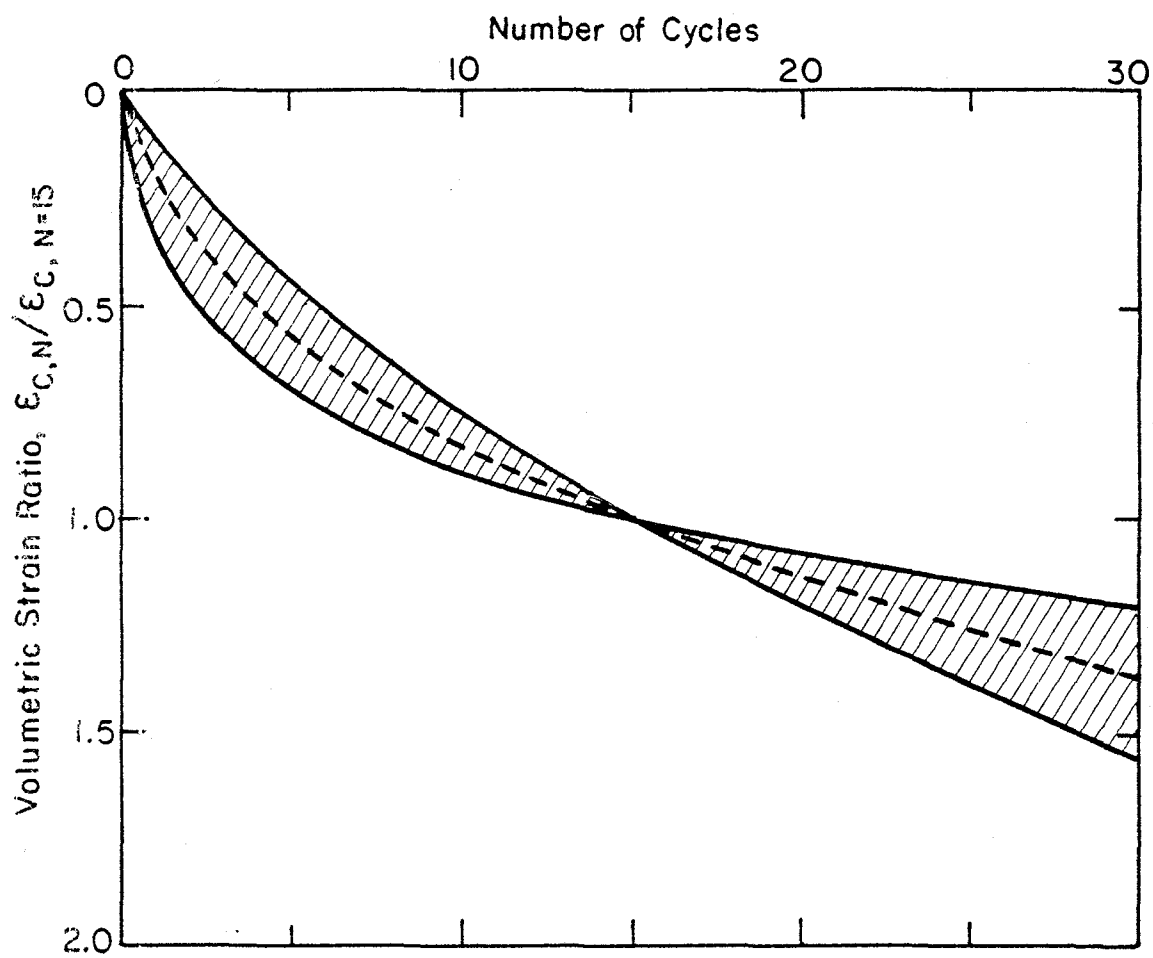


FIG. 15 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VOLUMETRIC STRAIN RATIO AND NUMBER OF CYCLES FOR DRY SANDS

evaluated using the simplified method described above. The results of the analyses are shown in Table 7 and the results are compared with those by Seed and Silver (1972) in Fig. 16. It may be noted that the strain distribution determined by the approximate method is in good accord with the values computed by Seed and Silver and that the estimated settlement of about 3 in. is reasonably consistent with field observations.

Conclusions

Simplified methods of analysis have been proposed for estimating probable settlements of either saturated or unsaturated sand deposits subjected to earthquake shaking. Based on a review of previous studies, it appears that the primary factors controlling earthquake-induced settlement are the cyclic stress ratio for saturated sands with pore pressure generation and the cyclic shear strain for dry or partially saturated sands, together with the N-value for the sand and the magnitude of this earthquake.

It should be recognized that, even under static loading conditions, the error associated with the estimation of settlements in sands is on the order of ± 25 to 50%. It is therefore reasonable to expect less accuracy in predicting settlements for the more complicated conditions associated with earthquake loading. However, comparison of the numerical results with several case histories indicates that the methods presented herein can be used in many cases as a first approximation for evaluating the volume changes and settlements of sands due to earthquake shaking. In the application of the methods, it is of course essential to check that the final results are reasonable in the light of available experience.

Acknowledgment

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Table 7 Computation of Settlement for Deposit of Dry Sand

Layer #	Thickness (ft)	$\sigma_0 = \sigma'_0$ (psf)	D_r (%)	N_1	G_{max} (ksf)	*3)	γ_{eff}	$\frac{G_{eff}}{G_{max}}$	γ_{eff}	$\epsilon_{C,M=7.5}$ (%)	*1)	$\epsilon_{C,M=6.6}$ (%)	*2)	Settlement (in)
1	5	240	45	9	520	1.3×10^{-4}	5×10^{-4}	0.14	0.11	0.22	0.11	0.22	0.13	
2	5	715	45	9	900	2.3	8	0.23	0.18	0.36	0.18	0.36	0.22	
3	10	1425	45	9	1270	3.2	12	0.35	0.28	0.56	0.28	0.56	0.67	
4	10	2375	45	9	1630	4.0	14	0.40	0.32	0.64	0.32	0.64	0.77	
5	10	3325	45	9	1930	4.5	15	0.45	0.36	0.72	0.36	0.72	0.86	
6	10	4275	45	9	2190	4.6	13	0.38	0.30	0.60	0.30	0.60	0.72	

3.37 in

*1) $\epsilon_{C,M=6.6} / \epsilon_{C,M=7.5} = 0.80$

*3) $G_{max} = K_2 \cdot 1000 (\sigma'_m)^{1/2} \approx 20 N_1^{1/3} (\sigma'_m)^{1/2} \times 1000$

*2) Multi-directional effect

*4) $M = 6.6, a_{max} = 0.45$

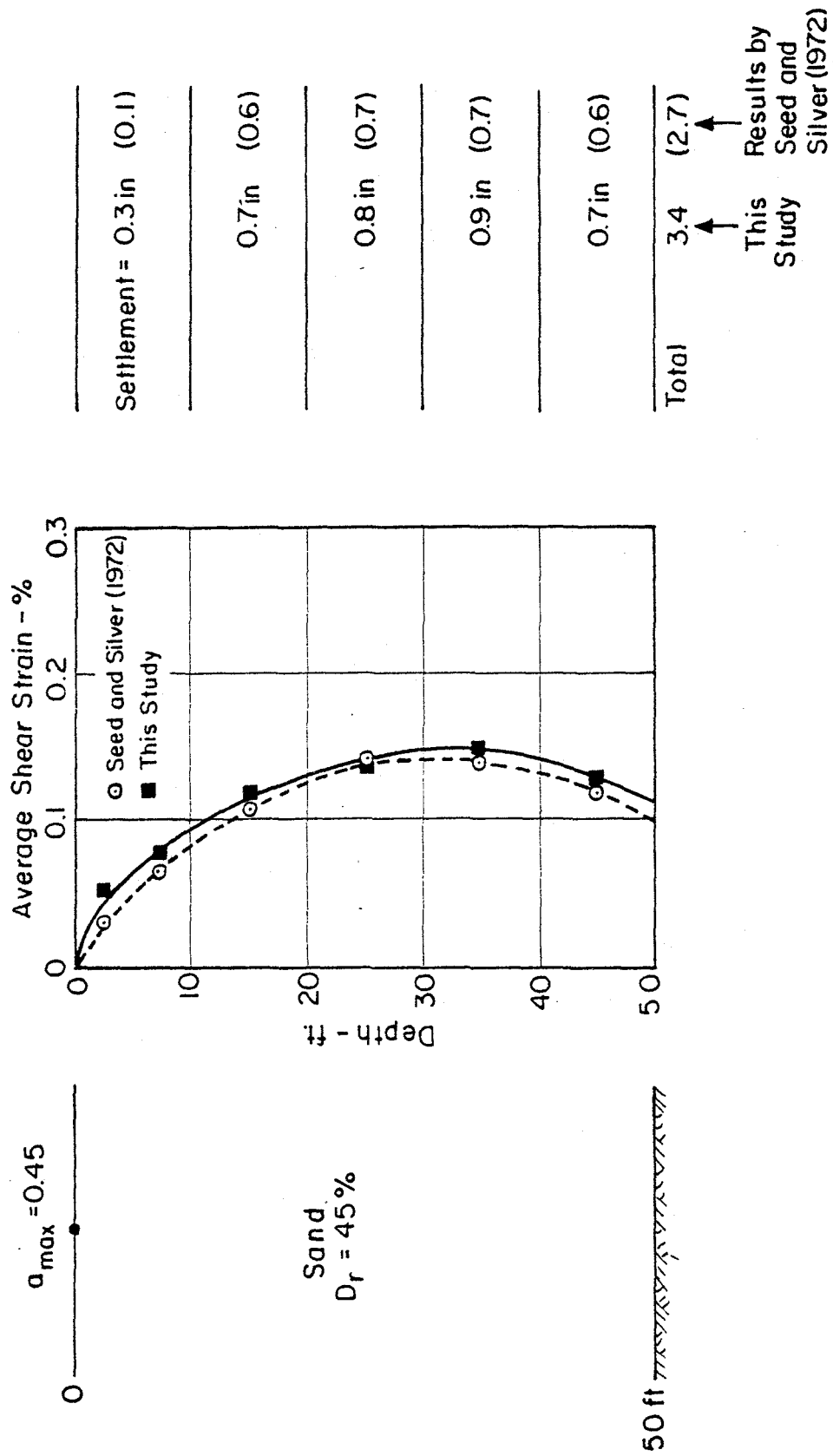


FIG. 16 COMPUTATION OF SETTLEMENT FOR 50 FT DEEP SAND LAYER

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Appendix 1 - Nomenclature

a_{\max}	maximum horizontal acceleration at the ground surface
C_{ER}	connection factor for the energy developed in the SPT determinations
C_N	correction factor in terms of effective stress
D_r	relative density
G_{eff}	effective shear modulus at induced strain level
G_{\max}	shear modulus at low strain level
g	acceleration of gravity
$(K_2)_{\max}$	soil modulus coefficient
M	earthquake magnitude
N	measured SPT N-value
N_J	SPT N-value in Japanese practice
N_{60}	SPT N-value determined by a method providing 60% of the theoretical free-fall energy to the drill rods
$(N_1)_{60}$	SPT N-value normalized to an effective overburden pressure of 1 tsf and to an effective energy delivered to the drill rods equal to 60% of the theoretical free-fall energy
r_d	stress reduction factor
r_m	scaling factor for stress ratio in terms of earthquake magnitude
γ_{eff}	effective shear strain induced by earthquake shaking
ϵ_c	volumetric strain
$\epsilon_{c,N}$	volumetric strain after N cycles
σ_o	total overburden pressure
σ_m	mean principal effective stress
σ_o'	effective overburden pressure
τ_{av}	average cyclic shear stress
τ_{\max}	maximum cyclic shear stress

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