



# Workshop *Eurocodes – Background and Applications*

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 POLITECNICO DI MILANO



## **Eurocode 8**

**Part 5: Foundations, retaining structures and  
geotechnical aspects (EN1998-5: 2003)**

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# Outline

- Object and salient characteristics of EN1998-5:2003
- Ground properties (strength, stiffness and damping parameters)
- Design seismic action and its dependence on ground type
- Requirements of construction site and of foundations soils
- Foundation system: shallow and deep foundations
- Earth retaining structures

# Object of EN1998-5:2003

The norm:

- “rules for the siting and foundation soil of structures for earthquake resistance”, and
- “covers the design of different foundation systems, .. of earth retaining structures .....under seismic actions”

**From Part 1:** “.... It shall be verified that both the foundation elements and the foundation soil are able to resist the action effects resulting from the response of the superstructure without substantial permanent deformations. ”

# Salient characteristics and innovative aspects

- Complementarity with Eurocode 7 (EN 1997e), which does not cover earthquake resistant design.
- Introduction and use of dynamic soil properties ( $\tau_{cyc}$ , shear wave velocity  $v_s$  and damping) in addition to standard static properties ( $\tan \phi'$ ,  $c_u$ ,  $q_u$ ).

*“4.2.2 (2) The profile of the shear wave propagation velocity in the subsoil shall be regarded as the most reliable predictor of the site dependent characteristics of the seismic action at stable sites”*

- Different approaches to safety and strength verifications, depending on seismicity level and type of soil.

*“4.1.2.3 (8) Simplified methods (of slope stability analysis), such as the pseudo-static ones, shall not be used for soils capable of developing high pore water pressures or significant degradation of stiffness under cyclic loading”.*

- In situ investigations, or gathering of reliable equivalent data, to determine the elastic design response spectrum.
- Recognition of seismically-induced permanent ground deformations as a design criterion.

# Ground properties

- Static undrained parameter values ( $c_u, \tan \phi'$ ) can generally be used for strength verifications, with recommended values of material partial factors ( $\gamma_m$ ).
- For cohesionless soil the strength parameter is the cyclic undrained shear strength  $\tau_{cy,u}$  which should take the possible pore pressure build-up into account.
- The soil shear modulus:

$$G = \frac{W}{g} v_s^2$$

and the soil damping ratio are introduced, for use in SSI calculations, as well as their dependence on the seismic shear strain in the soil (through the design ground acceleration).

- For the evaluation of the liquefaction potential, the cyclic soil resistance against liquefaction (based on field performance in past earthquakes) is used, which depends on SPT blowcount or cone penetration resistance.

# Design seismic action: dependence on ground type

The reference ground motion model at a point on the surface is the acceleration elastic response spectrum:

$$S_e(T) = a_g f(T; S, T_B, T_C, T_D)$$

The dependence is established through:

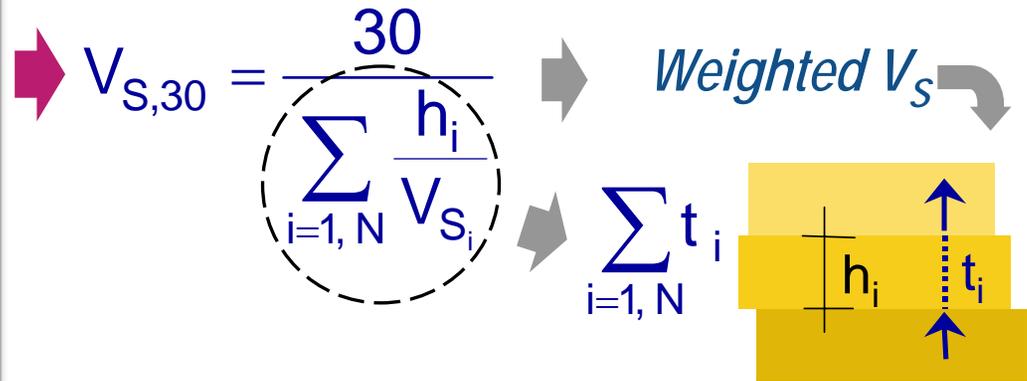
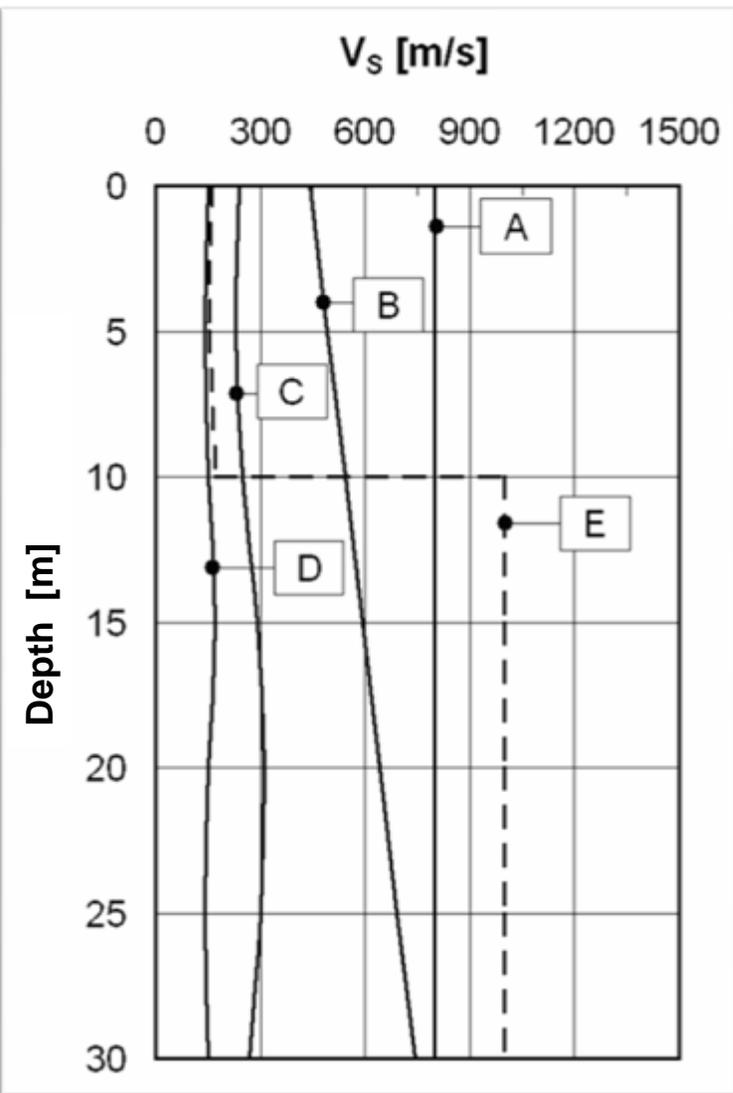
- The constant soil factor  $S$ , which does not modify the spectrum shape but only amplifies it, and **takes a single value for each ground type** ;
- The “control periods”  $T_B, T_C, T_D$  which modify the shape by enlarging the spectral plateau

*Remark:* it would be desirable to make  $S$  a smoothly varying function of  $V_{s30}$ , e. g.:

$$S = (V_{s30} / V_a)^{b_v}$$

with  $b_v$  and  $V_a$  constants

# Identification of ground types



*Particular cases:*

Types S1, S2  $\rightarrow$  Special studies

# Seismic action: dependence on ground type

In seismic geotechnical verifications, such as:

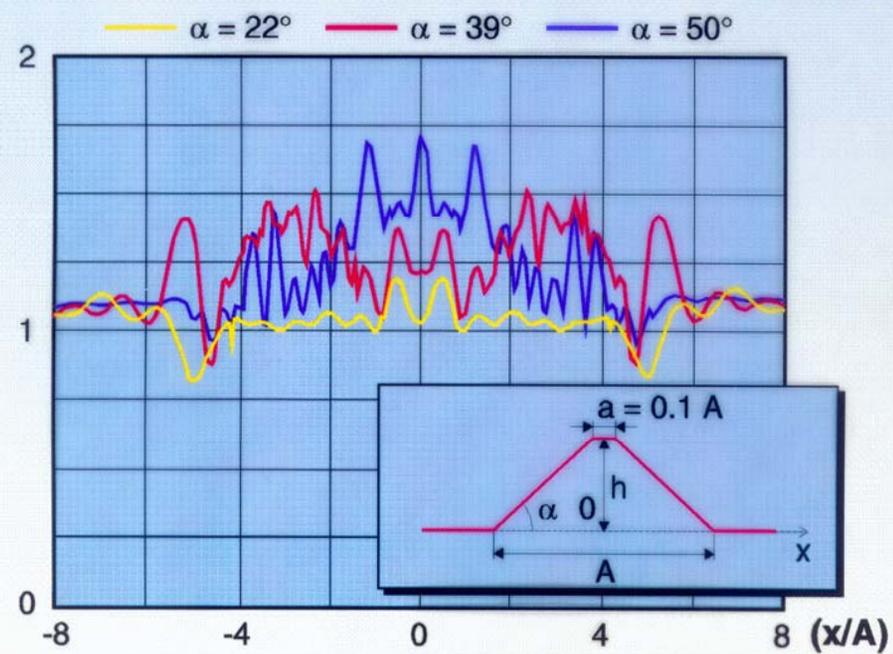
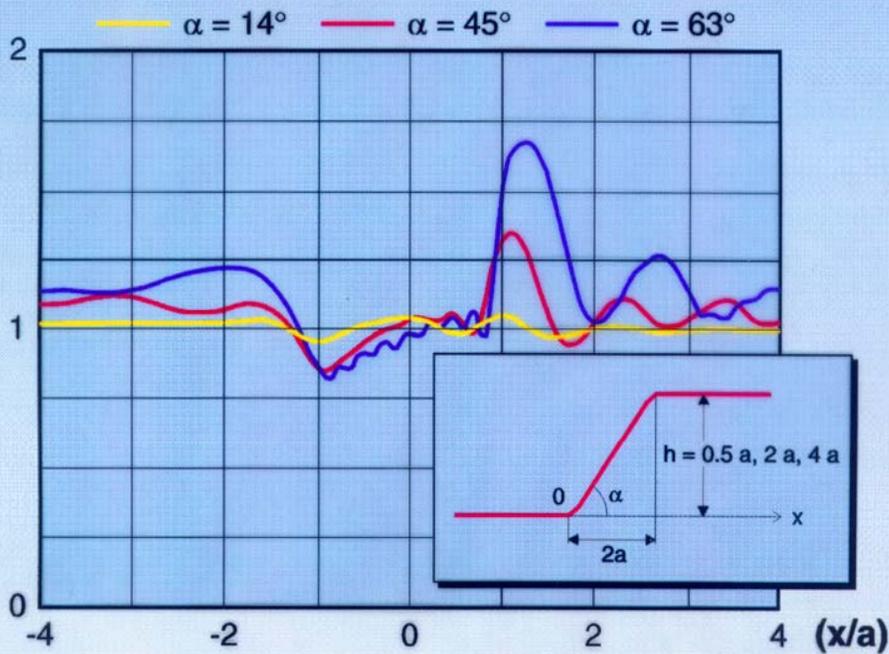
- Slope stability
- Liquefaction hazard occurrence
- Stability of retaining works

the seismic action is directly determined by the design ground acceleration  $a_g S$ , multiplied by a reductive coefficient, as follows:

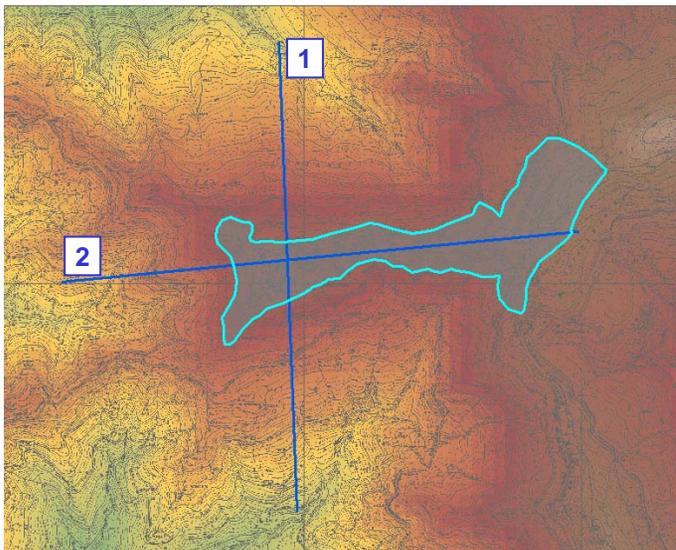
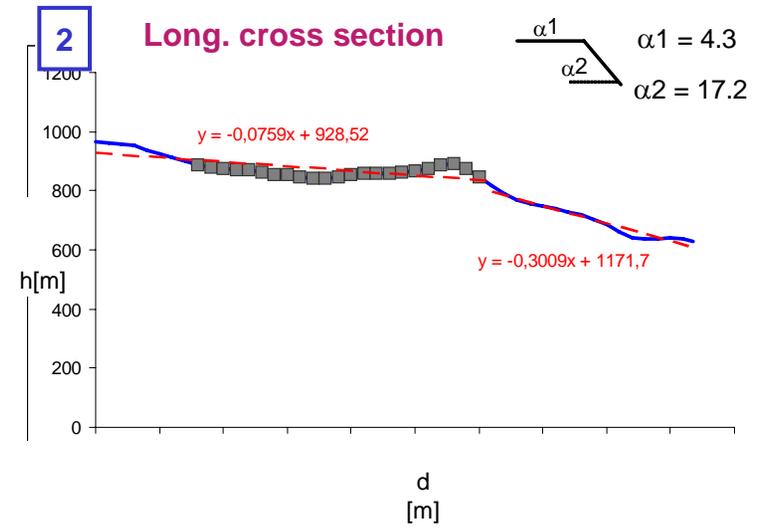
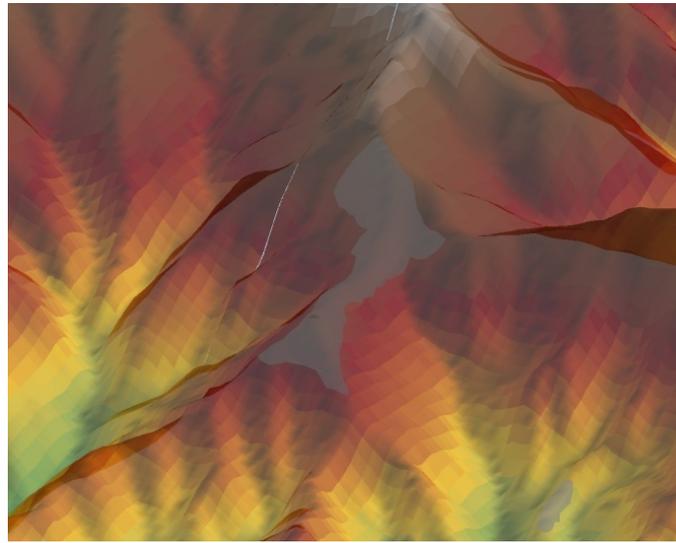
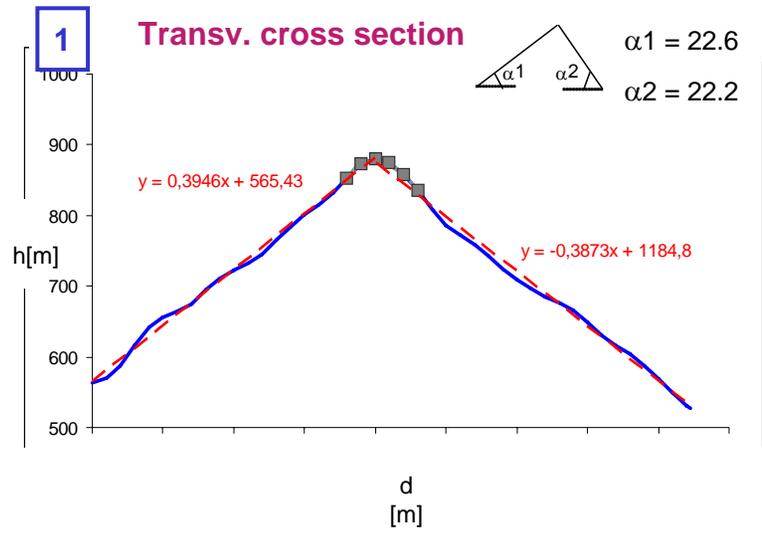
- $(0.5 a_g S) / g$  seismic coefficient for pseudo-static slope stability verifications
- $0.65 a_g S$  effective acceleration for checking the liquefaction potential in a saturated sand deposit
- $[(a_g/g)S]/r$  seismic coefficient for computing the dynamic thrust in the pseudo-static verification of a retaining work.

# Requirements for siting and foundation soils

Amplitude response (averaged over frequency) along slopes of different geometry



# Example of simplified 3D representation of a settlement on a crest: Baiardo



# Requirements of the construction site: Proximity to seismically active surface faults

- “(1) Buildings of importance classes II, III, IV defined in EN 1998-1:2004, 4.2.5, shall not be erected in the immediate vicinity of tectonic faults recognised as being seismically active in official documents issued by competent national authorities.*
- (2) An absence of movement in the Late Quaternary may be used to identify non active faults for most structures that are not critical for public safety.*
- (3) Special geological investigations shall be carried out for urban planning purposes and for important structures to be erected near potentially active faults in areas of high seismicity, in order to determine the ensuing hazard in terms of ground rupture and the severity of ground shaking..”*

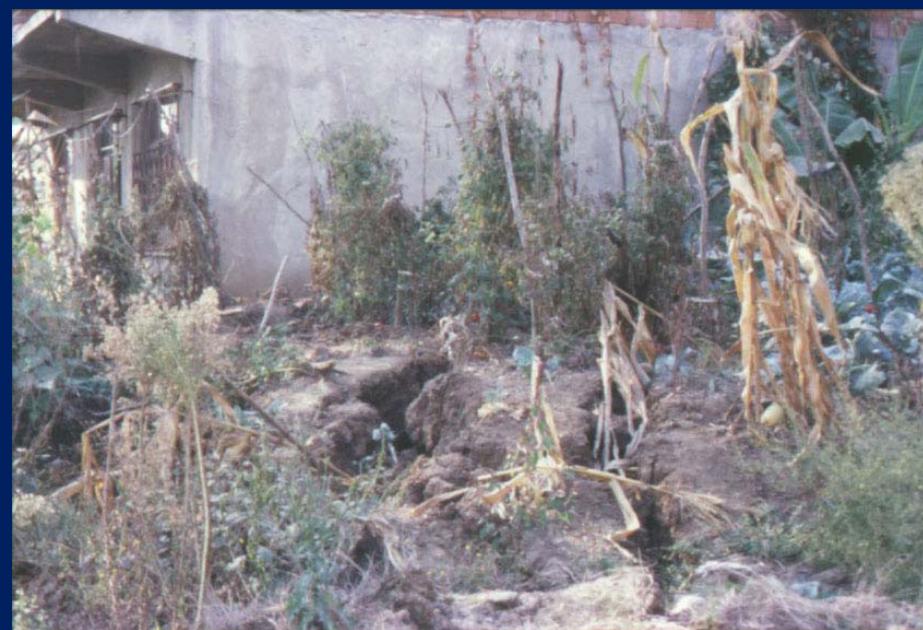
# Izmit, Turkey, M 7.3 earthquake of August 1999

## Fault rupture (double stranded) near Golcuk



# Izmit, Turkey, M 7.3 earthquake of August 1999

## Details of fault rupture



# Izmit, Turkey, M 7.3 earthquake of August 1999

## Damages to buildings



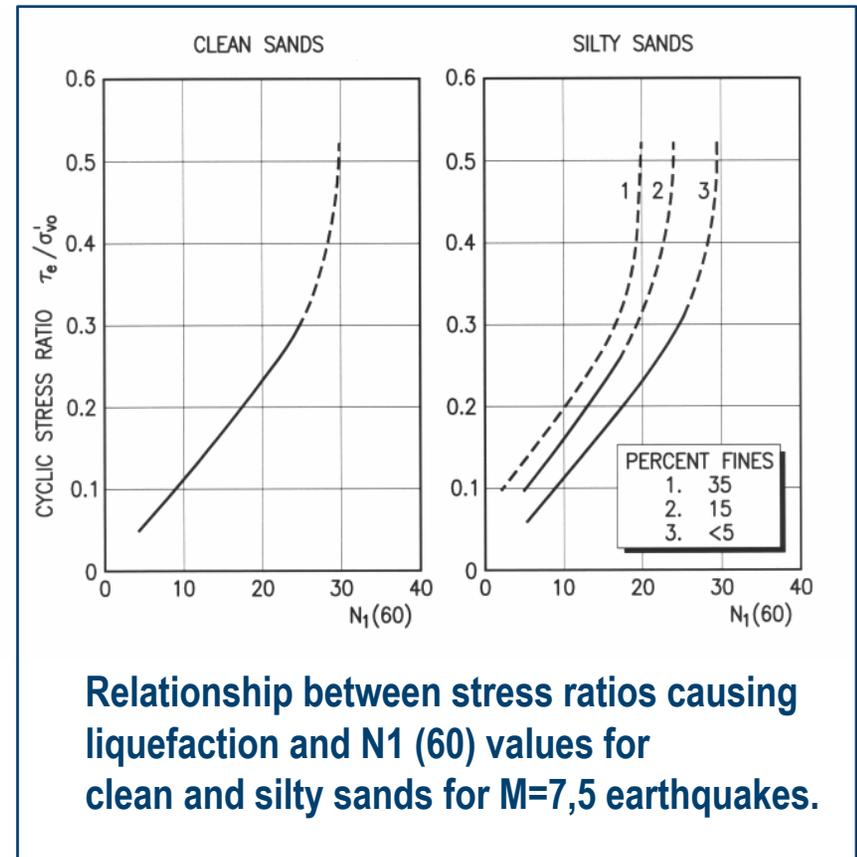
# Requirements for siting and foundation soils

## POTENTIALLY LIQUEFIABLE SOILS

Detailed guidelines and charts (Annex B) are provided for evaluating the liquefaction susceptibility of saturated cohesionless foundation soils through the well known empirical method based on  $N_{SPT}$  or  $CPT$  resistance.

The guidelines are not unduly conservative, because evaluation of liquefaction susceptibility can be omitted if:

- The sandy soil layer or lens lies at more than 15 m depth from ground surface
- The design ground acceleration is less than  $0.15 g$  and, at the same time:  $N_{SPT}$  is sufficiently high, or the content of plastic fines in the soil is sufficiently high.



**A minimum safety factor of 1.25 (in terms of shear stresses) is recommended.**

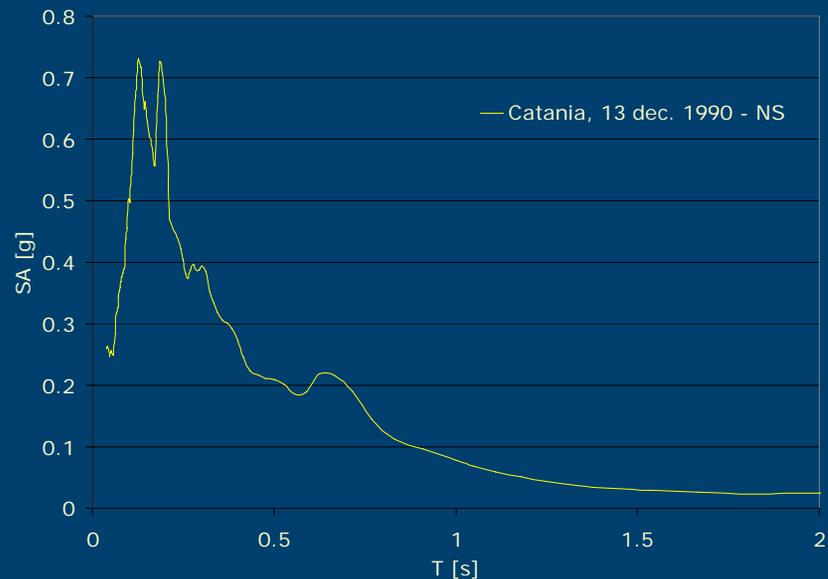
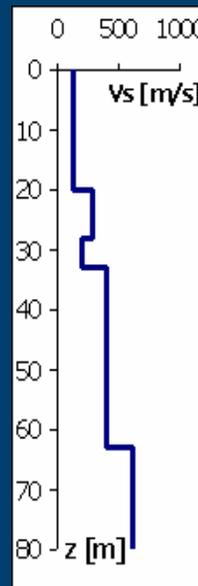
# Ground investigations and studies

**OBIECTIVES:** Determine average subsoil profile for selecting design response spectrum and dynamic soil properties

## CRITERIA:

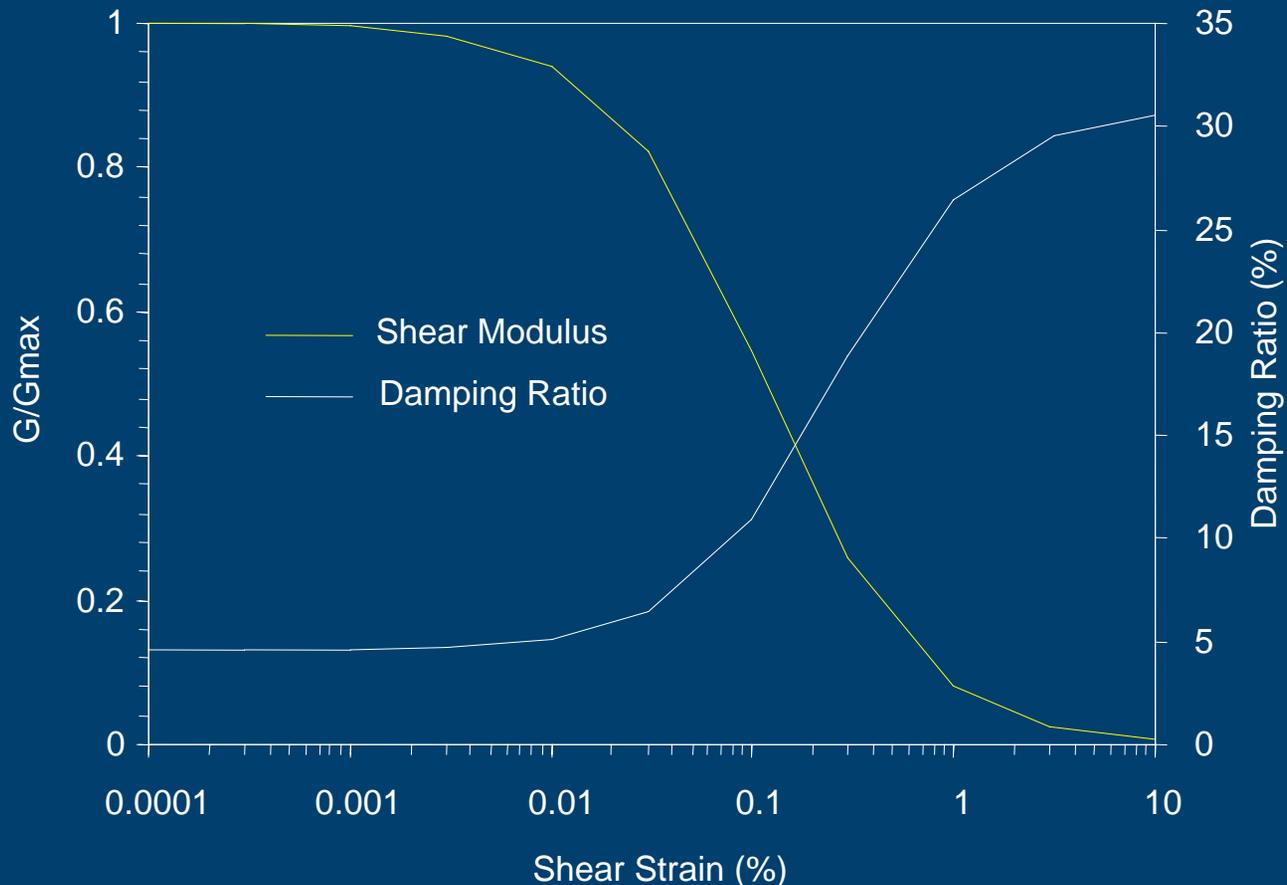
- The  $v_s$  profile at the site is taken as “the most reliable predictor of the site dependent characteristics of the seismic action at stable sites”
- Estimating the  $v_s$  profile by empirical correlations (e. g. with  $N_{SPT}$ ) is allowed, provided the inherent scatter is taken into account

$V_s$  profile at Catania  
strong motion station on  
deep sediments  
(ground type C/D)



# Ground investigations and studies

Indicative reduction factors for  $v_s$  or  $G_{max}$ , and for internal damping in the soil are provided as a function of shear strain amplitude (through the peak ground acceleration)



# Foundation system

## BASIC RULE

Only one foundation type to be used for the same structure, unless this consists of dynamically independent units. E. g. use of piles and shallow foundations in the same structure must be avoided, except for bridges and pipelines.

## DESIGN ACTION EFFECTS

Action effects transmitted to the foundations are evaluated according to capacity design considerations for *dissipative structures* (high ductility), while allowable seismic action combination applies for *non-dissipative structures* (essentially responding in the elastic range).

## DIRECT FOUNDATIONS (Footings)

Stability of footings is to be checked against sliding failure, i. e.

$$V_{sd} \leq N_{sd} \tan \delta + E_{pd}$$

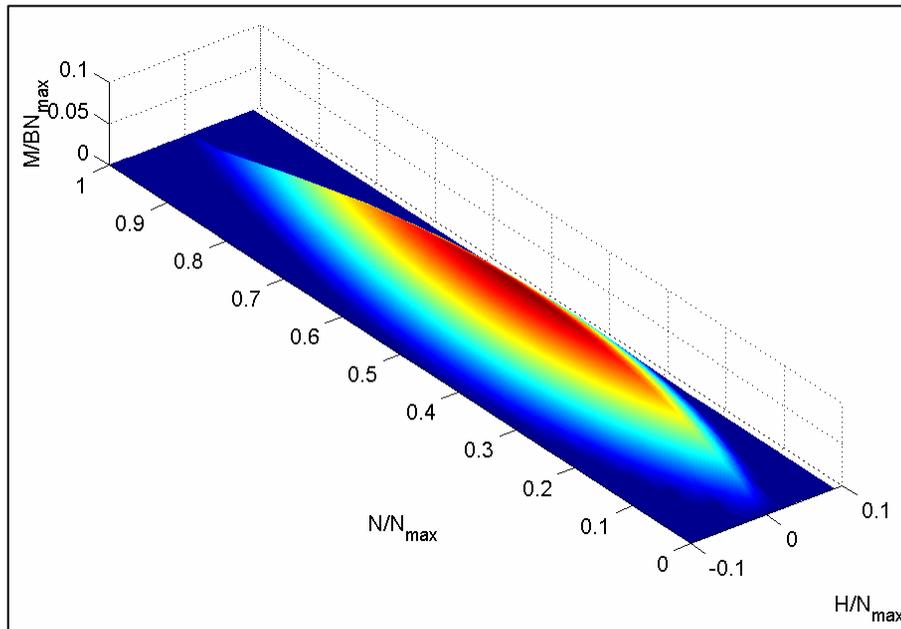
shear force          friction resistance          lateral resistance

and against bearing capacity failure (Annex F, see following two slides). Factors to be taken into account include: Inclination and eccentricity of structural load, inertia forces in the soil, pore pressure effects, non-linear soil behaviour.

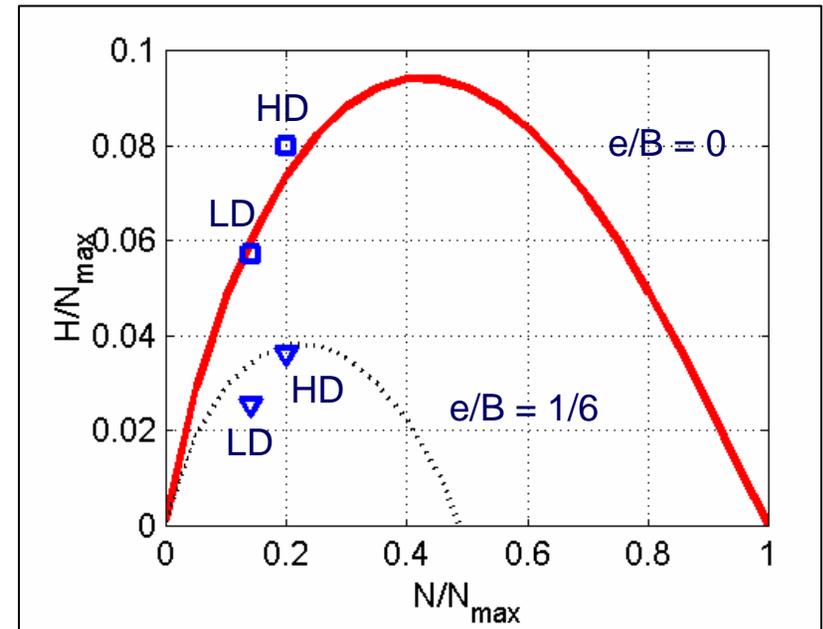
# Foundation system

## Bounding surface of external loads

A single expression has been obtained for both cohesive and granular soils; it is introduced in Annex F of Part 5



3D view of bounding surface



Cross-sections for vanishing  $F$  and different load eccentricities

# Foundation system

## Piles and piers

Should be designed to resist both:

- (a) *Inertia forces* from the superstructure, and
- (b) *Kinematic forces* due to the earthquake-induced soil deformations.

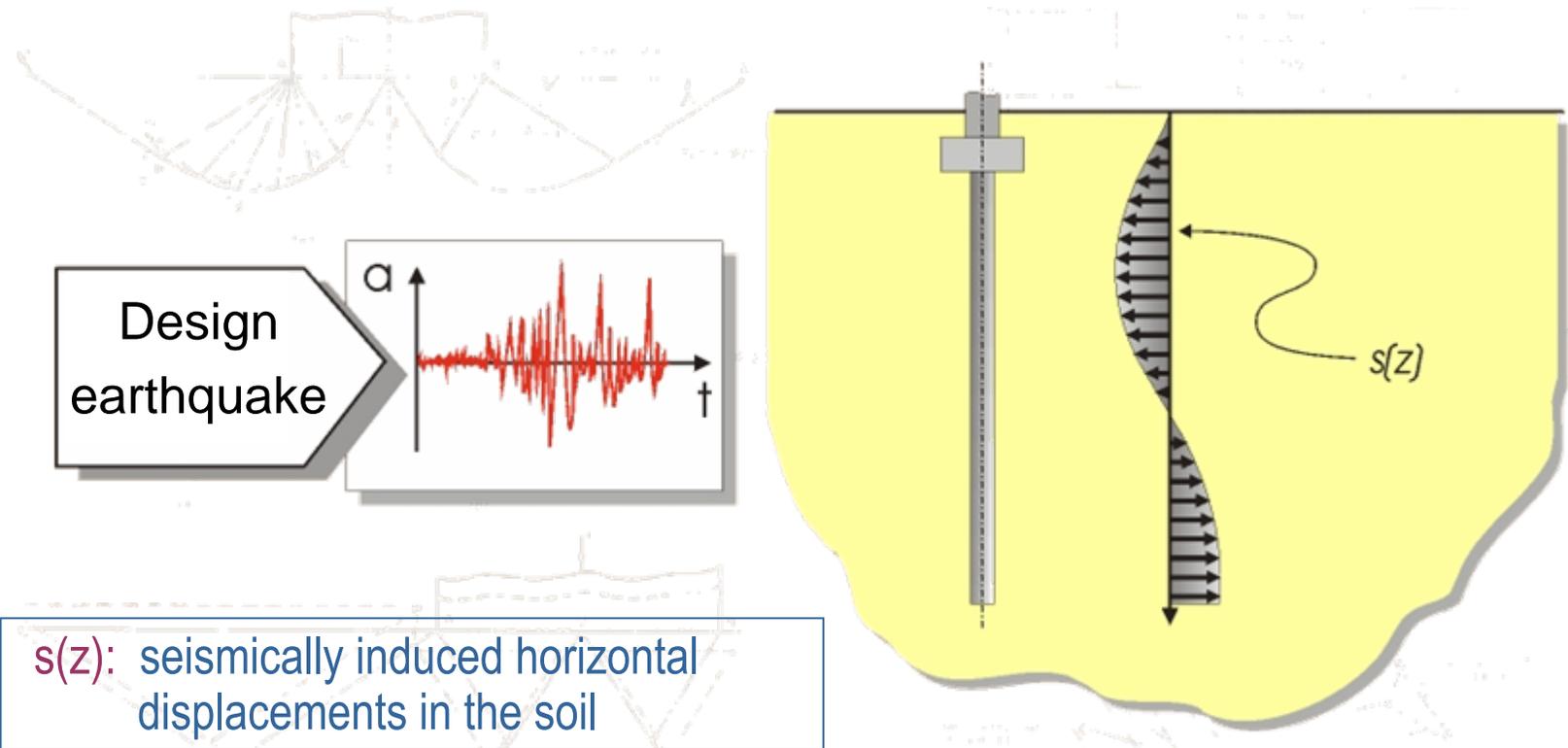
The latter apply if **all of the following conditions occur**:

- b1.* Class D, S1, or S2 soil profile with consecutive layers of sharply contrasting stiffness
- b2.* Design ground acceleration  $> 0.10$  g, and
- b3.* The supported structure is of importance category III or IV.

Although piles will generally be designed to remain elastic, **they may under certain conditions develop plastic hinges at their head.**

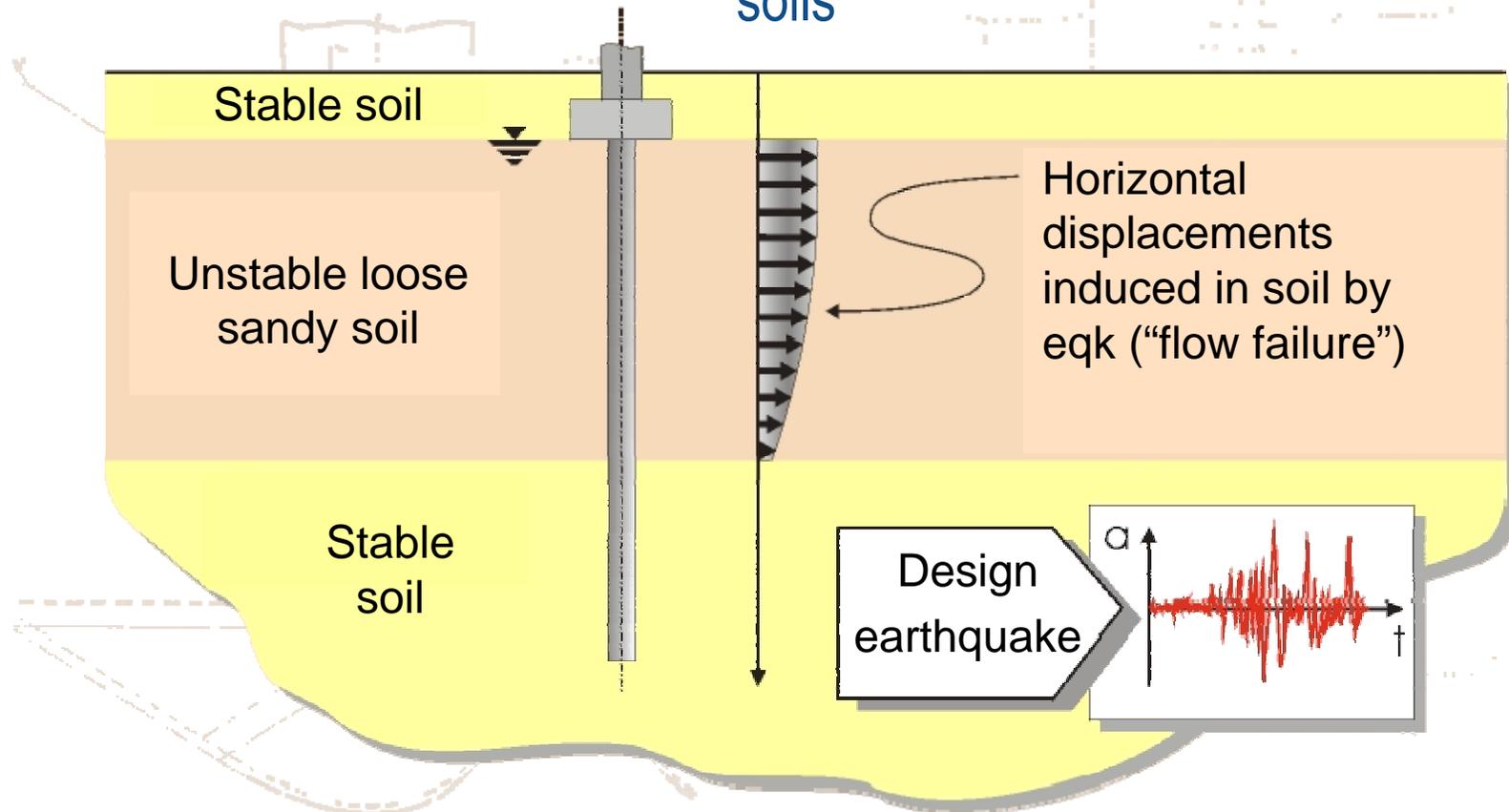
# Kinematic forces on piles

Kinematic forces induced by earthquake on piles in “stable” soils



# Kinematic forces on piles

Kinematic forces induced by earthquake on piles in “unstable” loose soils



# Effects of kinematic forces on piles



(NISEE slide collection)

# Earth retaining structures

## General requirements and considerations

- Permanent displacements/tilting may be acceptable, provided functional or aesthetic requirements are not violated
- Structural choice is based on static loads , but seismic action may lead to different solution
- Build-up of significant PWP in backfill or supported soil is to be absolutely avoided
- Methods of analysis should in principle account for:
  - inertial and interaction effects between structure and soil (even non-linear)
  - hydrodynamic effects in the presence of water (in the soil, and on outer face of wall)
  - compatibility of deformations of soil, wall, and free tendons)

**NB: After introducing requirements for general methods of analysis, the code only provides prescriptions for pseudo-static verifications**

# Experimental observations (flexible retaining walls)

## 1) Effects on retaining walls in historical earthquakes

- Liquefiable soils (harbour facilities) → Collapse (0.6 – 4m displacements)

Loma Prieta (California, 1989) –  $M_W=7.1$

Kobe (Giappone, 1995) –  $M_W=6.9$

Bhuj (India, 2001) –  $M_W=7.6$

- Non-liquefiable soils → Good behaviour (<10cm displacements)

Northridge (California, 1994) –  $M_W=6.8$

Kobe (Giappone, 1995) –  $M_W=6.9$

Taiwan (1999) –  $M_W=7.6$

## 2) Dynamic experimental tests

- Shaking table
- Dynamic centrifuge tests



# Earth retaining structures

Simplified (pseudo-static) analysis: the seismic action can be reduced by **kind of ductility factor**  $r$ :

$$k_h = a_g \gamma_I S / r$$

$$k_v = \pm 0,5 k_h \text{ (Spectrum Type 1)}$$

$$k_v = \pm 0,33 k_h \text{ (Spectrum Type 2)}$$

Values of reduction factor  $r$  and residual displacement

Type of retaining structure	$r$	Acceptable residual displacement, $d_r$ (mm)
<i>Free gravity walls that can accept a displacement</i>	2	$300 a_g \gamma_I S / g$
<i>As above, but less "tolerant"</i>	1,5	$200 a_g \gamma_I S / g$
<i>Flexural reinforced concrete walls, anchored or braced walls, reinforced concrete walls founded on vertical piles, restrained basement walls and bridge abutments</i>	1	0

For loose, saturated granular soils,  $r = 1$  and **FS against liquefaction not less than 2**.

The provisions for pseudo-static analysis follow a standard approach (Mononobe and Okabe), given in **Annex E**.

# Earth retaining structures

## Resistance and stability verifications

- **Foundation soil** The following need be verified:
  - Stability of slope
  - Stability w. r. to failure by sliding and loss of bearing capacity, for shallow foundation.

Design actions: permanent gravity loads, horizontal thrust  $E_d$ , seismic action.

- **Anchorage** They shall assure equilibrium and have a sufficient capacity to adapt to the seismic deformations of the ground . The distance  $L_e$  between the anchor and the wall shall exceed the distance  $L_s$ , required for non-seismic loads :

$$L_e = L_s (1 + 1.5 S a_g)$$

- **Backfill material** must be immune from liquefaction.
- **Structural strength** under the combination of the seismic action with other possible loads, equilibrium must be achieved without exceeding the strength of any structural element:

$$R_d > S_d$$

$R_d$  : design resistance of the element, evaluated as for the non seismic situation  
 $S_d$  : design value of the action effect, as obtained from the analysis.

# Examples of numerical analyses: simple flexible wall

(from M. Eng. Thesis of O. Zanoli, Politecnico di Milano, Dec. 2007)

## Soil profile properties

Ground categories B, C, D: governed by  $V_{s,30}$

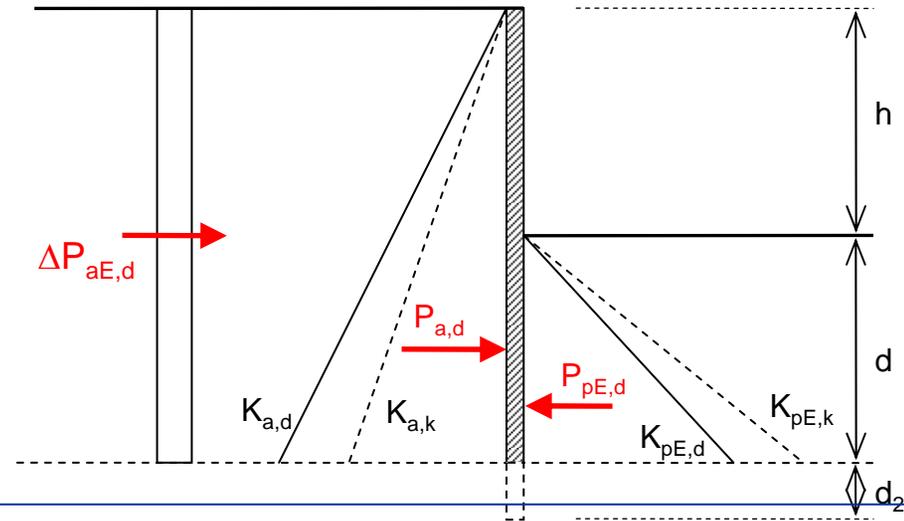
Coarse grained, dry,  $\gamma_S=20\text{kN/m}^3$ ,  $\phi=34^\circ$ ,

$c'=0$ ,  $\psi=0^\circ$ ,  $\delta_A=0^\circ$ ,  $\delta_p = \phi$

## RC flexible wall

Unit weight  $\gamma_{RC}=25\text{kN/m}^3$ ,  $\nu_{RC}=0.3$ ,  $E_{RC}=28\text{GPa}$

Excavation depth  $h=3, 5, 7\text{m} +$  Embedment ( $d$ )



## Pre-dimensioning (EC 8)

1) Design strength :  $\tan \phi_d = \tan \phi / 1.25$

2) Seismic coefficients  $\begin{cases} k_v = 0 \\ k_h = \frac{1}{r} S \frac{a_{gR}}{g} \end{cases}$

3) Thrusts  $\begin{cases} P_{AE,d} = P_{A,d} + \Delta P_{AE,d} = \frac{1}{2} \gamma (h+d)^2 K_A + \gamma (h+d)^2 \Delta K_{AE} \\ P_{PE,d} = \frac{1}{2} \gamma d^2 K_{PE} \end{cases}$

4) Rotational equilibrium w. r. to base

5) 20% increase in embedment  $d$

	h3d5	h5d8	h7d11
Excavation d. [m]	3	5	7
Embedment [m]	5	8	11
H total [m]	8	13	18

# Examples of numerical analyses: simple flexible wall

(from

M. Eng. Thesis of O. Zanoli, Politecnico di Milano, Dec. 2007)

## Material models

**Soil:** coarse grained, homogeneous,  $V_s=156\text{m/s}$ , elastic-plastic non associated constitutive model, Mohr-Coulomb rupture criterion( $f=32^\circ$ ).

**Flexible wall:** 13m height, 5m excavation, linear elastic behaviour,  $E=28\text{ GPa}$ ,  $\nu=0.3$ .

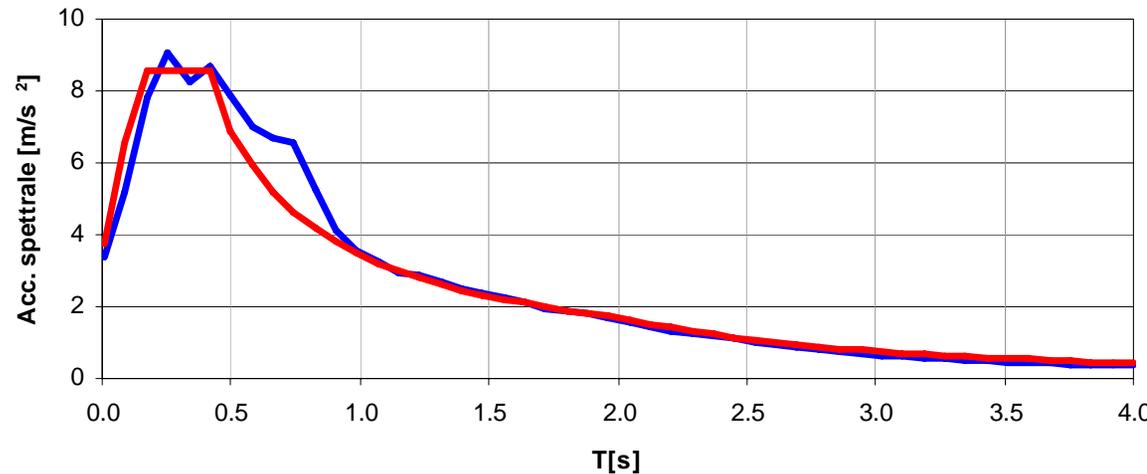
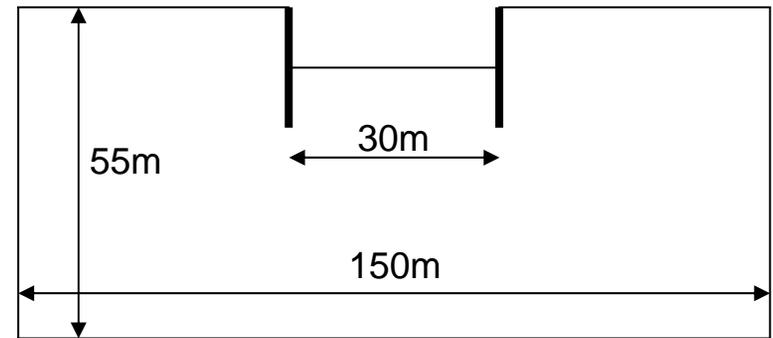
## Base excitation

2 groups of 7 accelerograms on ground type A

Zone I  
( $a_{max}=0.35g$ )

Zone II  
( $a_{max}=0.25g$ )

Average response spectra  
matching EC8 elastic spectrum



# Results of EC8 pseudo-static vs. 2D dynamic (FEM) analyses

(from the M. Eng. Thesis of O. Zanoli, Politecnico di Milano)

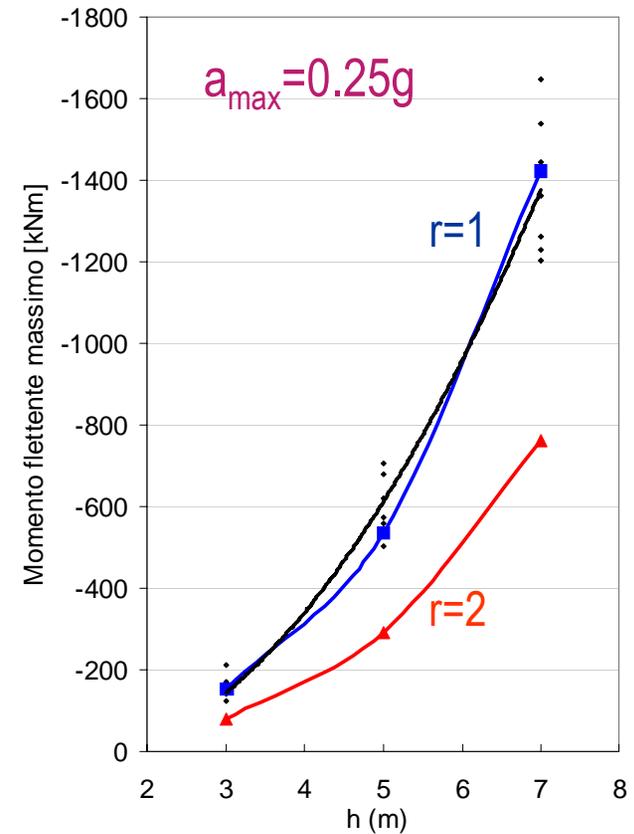
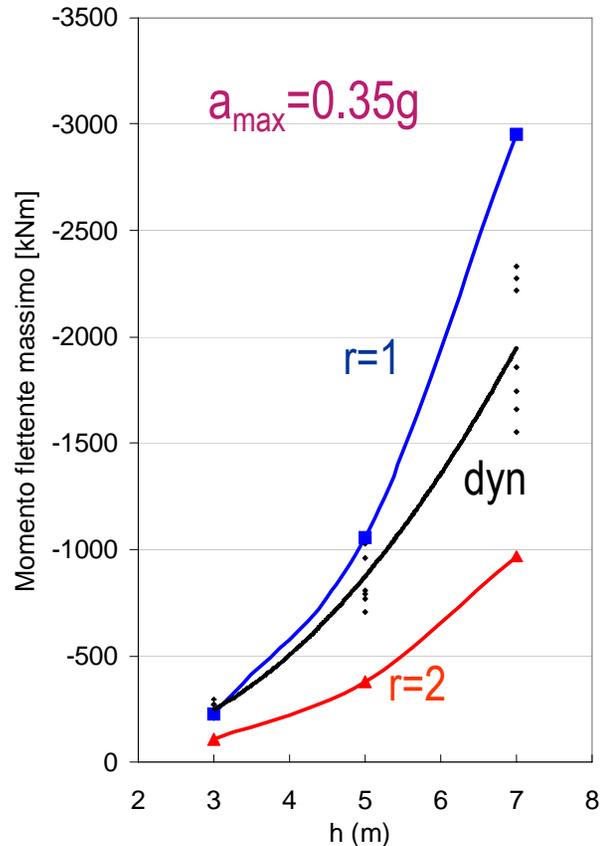
## Bending moment profiles in retaining wall

↳ Eurocode 8: pseudo-static analyses with assigned  $k_h$  values for  $r = 1, 2$ ;

↳ Dynamic analyses: average  $M_{max}$  values over groups of input accelerograms

### Ground type B

(Both pseudo-static and dynamic FEM analyses performed with commercial software FLAC)



• Maximum Mmax values    ■ Pseudo-static r=1    ▲ Pseudo-static r=2    — Average dynamic values

# Results of EC8 pseudo-static vs. 2D dynamic (FEM) analyses

(from the M. Eng. Thesis of O. Zanoli, Politecnico di Milano)

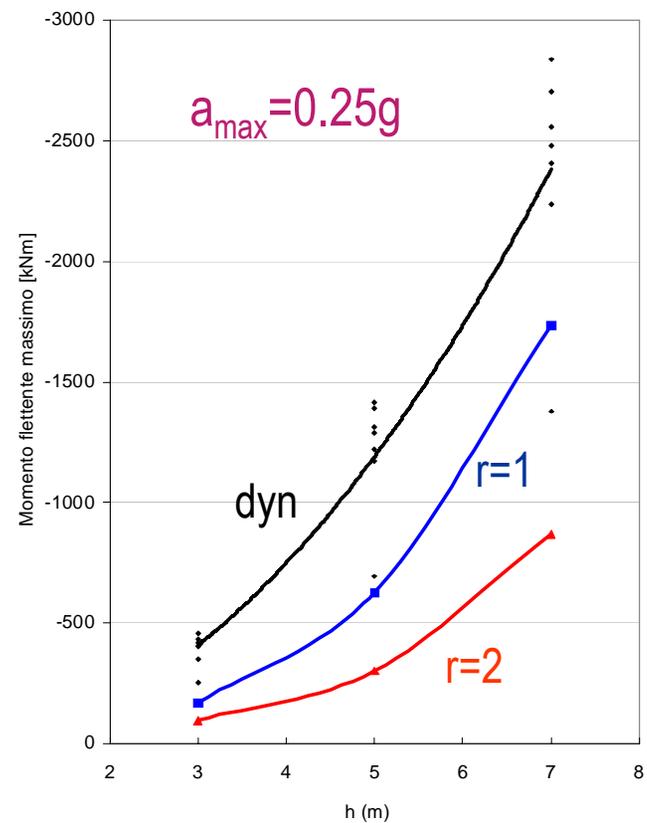
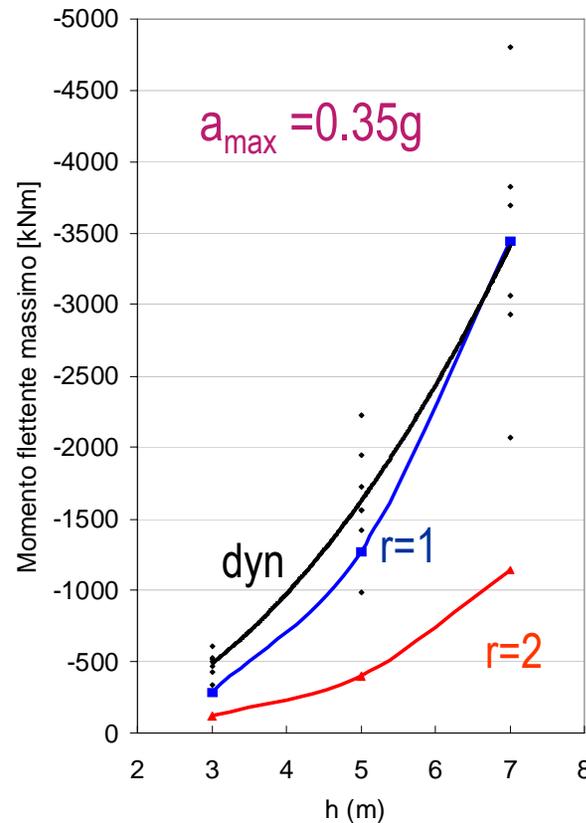
## Bending moment profiles in retaining wall

↳ Eurocode 8: pseudo-static analyses with assigned  $k_h$  values for  $r=1, 2$ ;

↳ Dynamic analyses: average  $M_{max}$  values over groups of input accelerograms

### Ground type D

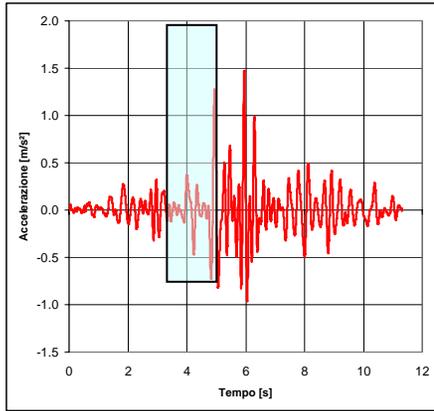
(Both pseudo-static and dynamic FEM analyses performed with commercial software FLAC)



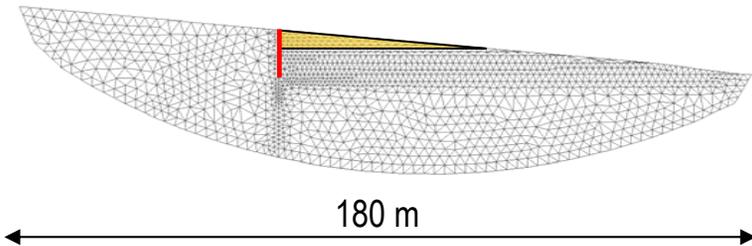
• Maximum  $M_{max}$  values    —■— Pseudo-static  $r=1$     —▲— Pseudo-static  $r=2$     — Average dynamic values

# Examples of numerical analyses

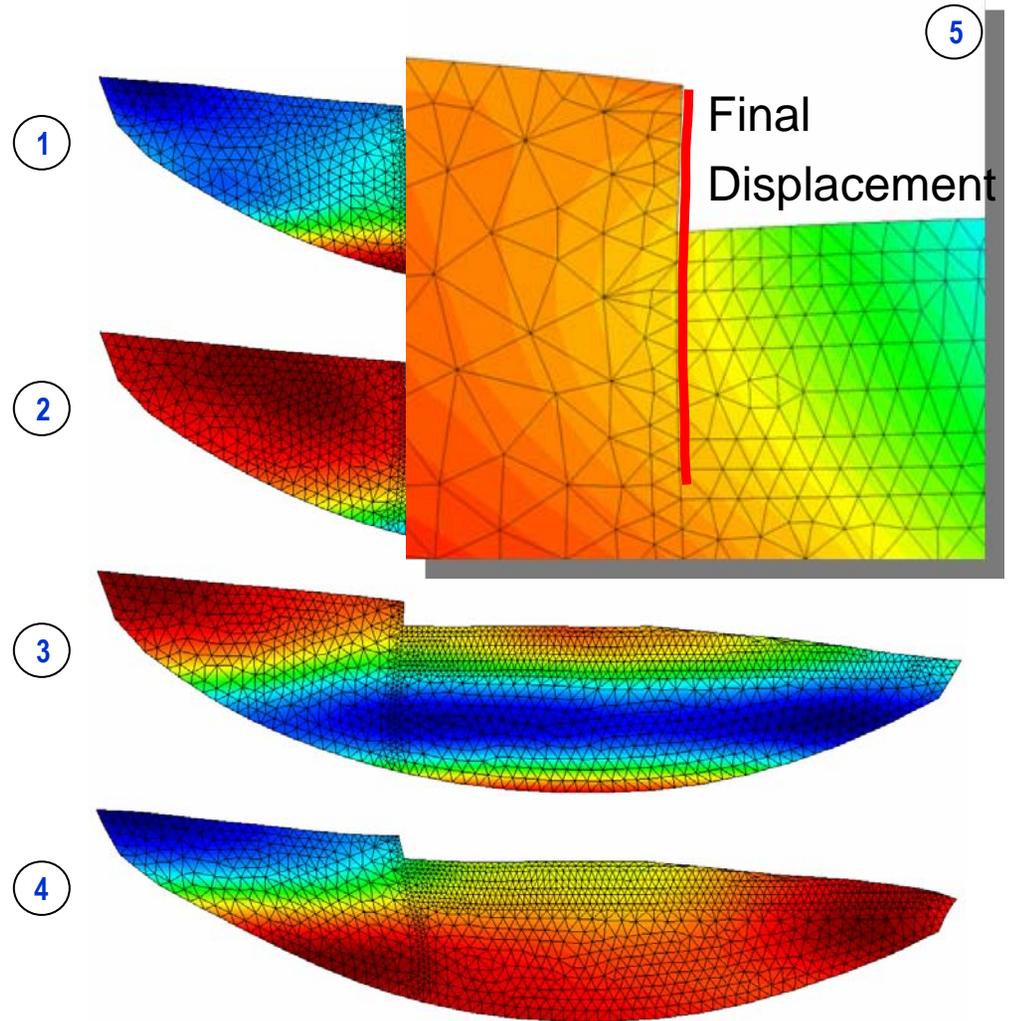
Complexity of wave propagation phenomena in soil – flexible wall systems  
(other example with  $a_{max} = 0.15g$ )



Nonlinear dynamic analyses  
performed with FEM code  
Gefdyn

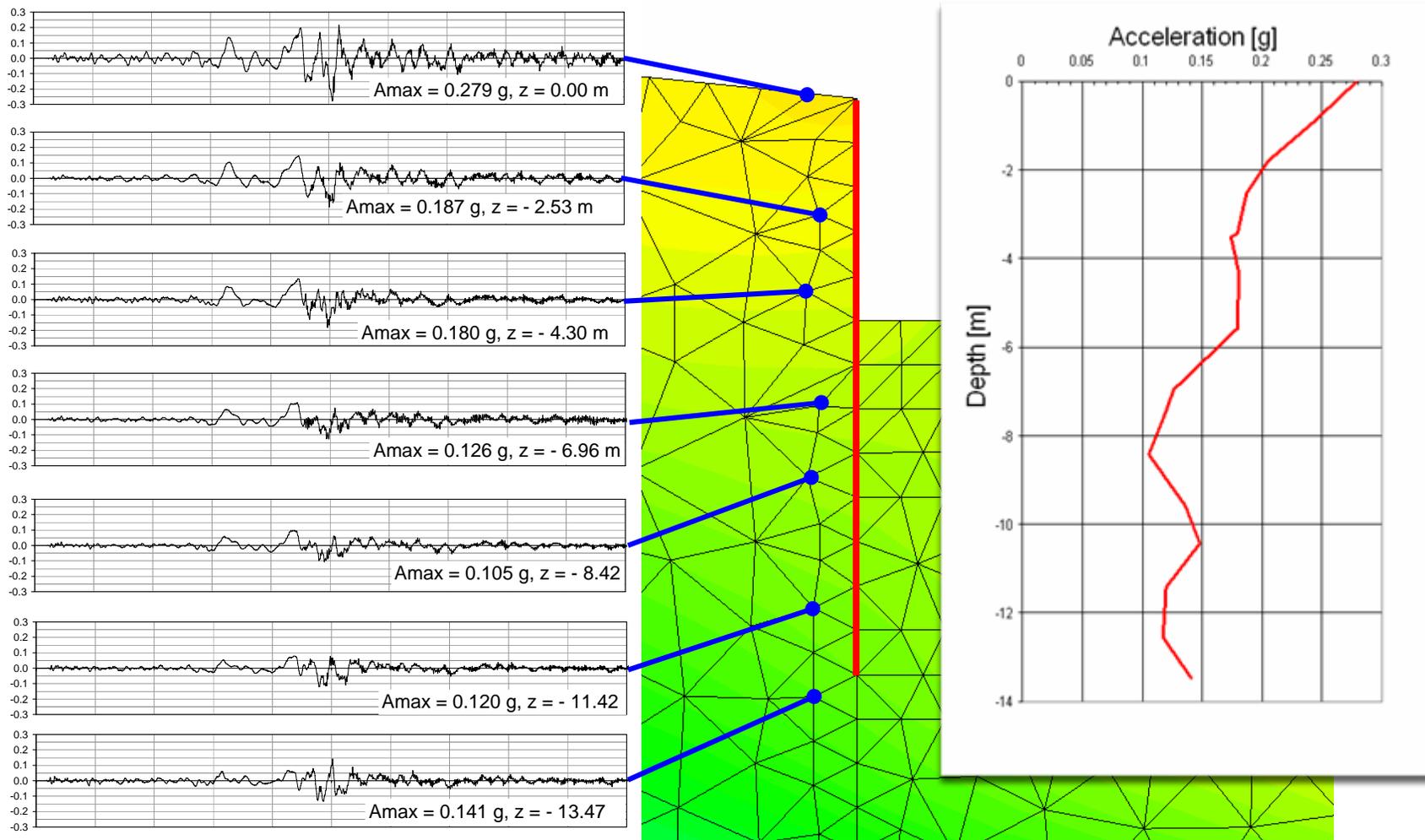


Snapshots of displacement field at different instants



# Examples of numerical analyses

Acceleration profile showing amplification of soil-wall seismic motion from depth to surface (example with  $a_{max} = 0.23g$ )



**Suggested reference:**

**Designers' Guide to EN 1998-1  
and EN 1998-5**

*Eurocode 8: Design of structures  
for earthquake resistance.  
General rules, seismic actions,  
design rules for buildings, foundations  
and retaining structures*

**Michael N. Fardis, Eduardo Carvalho, Amr Elnashai, Ezio Faccioli, Paolo Pinto  
and Andre Plumier.**

Published by Thomas Telford, UK, 2006