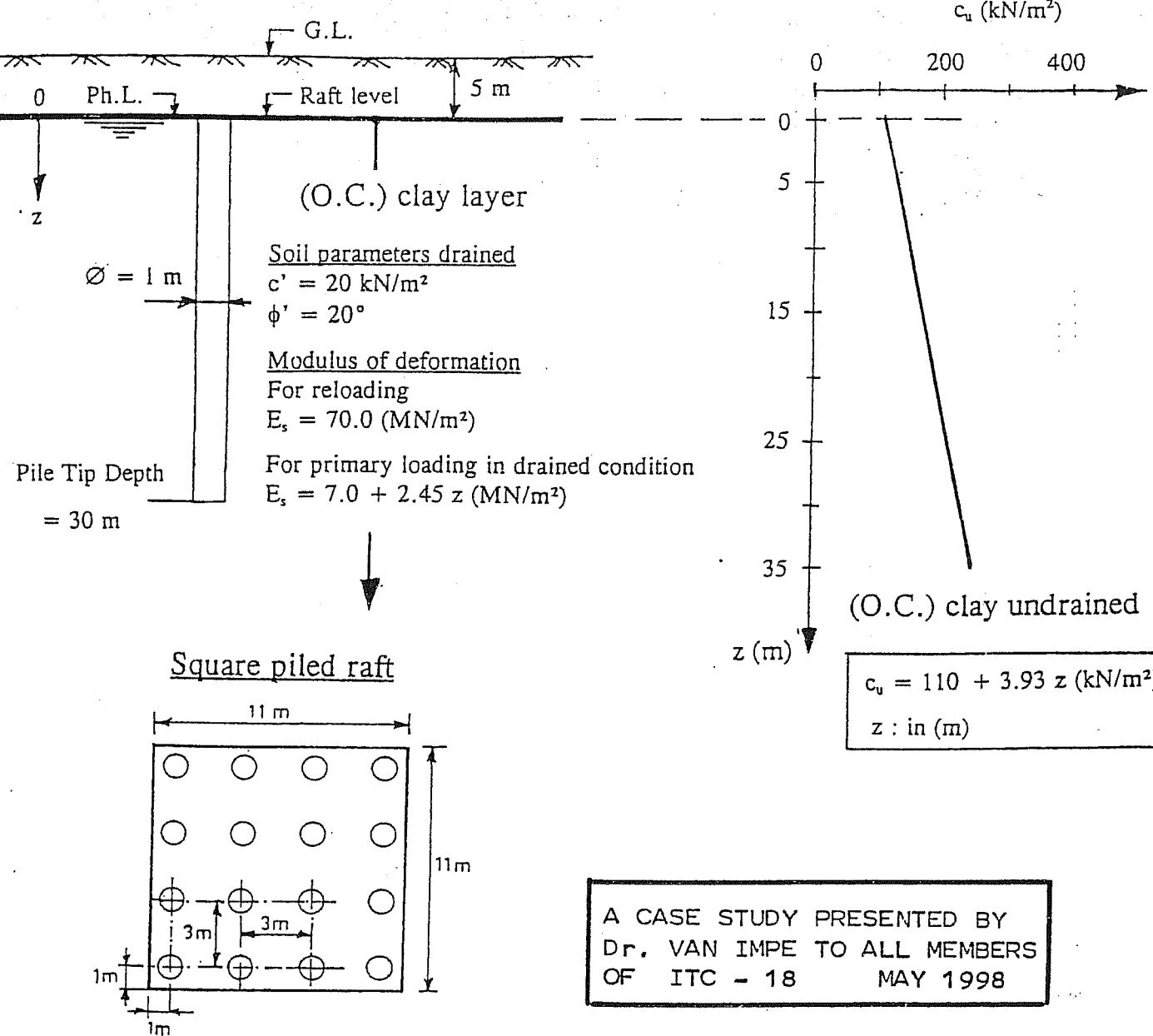


**INTERACTION BETWEEN A SQUARE PILE RAFT EMBEBED  
INTO THE SUBSOIL FOUNDATION**

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Copia del original enviado al TC-18 como resolución del ejemplo académico.



### Square piled raft

#### raft

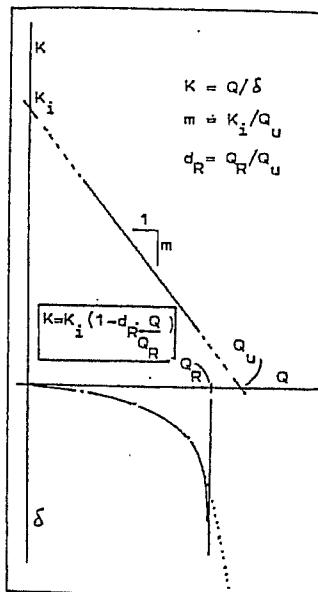
- level of soil-raft interaction : at Phr. level (at 5 m depth)
- thickness of raft in concrete : 2 m
- area of raft :  $11 \text{ m} \times 11 \text{ m}$
- total load ; (uniformly spread) on top of the raft : 80 MN

#### piles

- 16 reinforced concrete, 'ideally' bored piles
- $E_{\text{concrete}}$  : 35000 MPa
- $\emptyset = 1 \text{ m}$  : 1 m
- pile tip at depth of : 30 m
- pile interdistance (axis to axis) : 3 m

INTERACTION BETWEEN A SQUARE PILED RAFT EMBEDDED INTO THE SUBSOIL FOUNDATION

1.- Settlement of a rigid cap (C) into the ground, as an individual footing, can be evaluated by this expression:  $\delta_C = 1 / [K_{Ci} (1/Q_C - d_{RC}/Q_{CR})]$  in which  $\delta_C$ : rigid cap settlement;  $K_{Ci}$ : equivalent "constant" spring at the origin;  $Q_C$ : central load transmitted by the cap, which is considered as an isolated base;  $Q_{CR}$ : load bearing capacity of cap at "failure";  $d_{RC} = Q_{CR}/Q_{Cu}$  being  $Q_{Cu}$  the "ultimate" load when the lineal relation between  $K = Q/\delta$  and  $Q$  is accomplished ( $K = K_i - m \cdot Q$ ).



2.- For an individual rigid pile, the settlement  $\delta_o$  can be estimated by  $\delta_o = 1 / [K_{Pi} (1/Q_P - d_{RP}/Q_{PR})]$ .

3.- A group of piles (G) under a rigid cap (C) with approximately square form, compared with a single pile, settle according to these empirical formulas

$$\frac{\delta}{\delta_o} = \left[ \frac{2B(m)/B(m) + B_o(m)}{B_o(m)} \right]^n \quad \frac{\delta}{\delta_o} = r / 1 + \alpha(r-1)$$

( $B_o$ : single pile diameter;  $B$ : width of group;  $r = B/B_o$ ).

■ pile group through soft soils resting into very dense sands or gravelly sands  $n=2$ ;  $\alpha=0,2$

■ Idem for medium dense sands or grav. sands  $n=3$ ;  $\alpha=0,1$

■ Idem a group of piles working prevailingly by friction  $n=4$ ;  $\alpha=0,05$

4.- The load  $Q_T$  transmitted by the cap resting on piles, produce a settlement  $\delta_T = \delta_C = \delta_G$ . To this value, the cap and the group of piles take loads whose total sum is  $Q_C + Q_G = Q_T$ . This expression can be written

$$\frac{K_{Ci}}{\frac{1}{\delta} + K_{Ci} \cdot d_{RC}/Q_{CR}} + \frac{K_{Gi}}{\frac{1}{\delta} + K_{Gi} \cdot d_{RG}/Q_{GR}} = Q_T \quad \text{that became } a\delta^2 + b\delta + c = 0$$

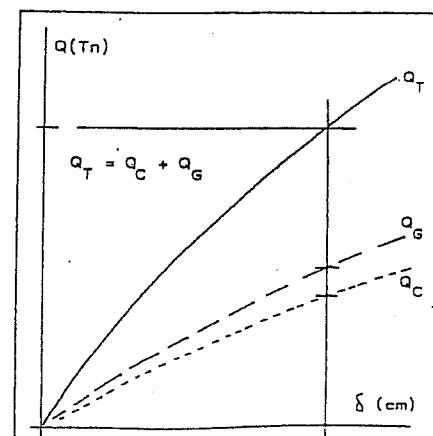
wherein  $a = K_{Ci} \cdot K_{Gi} \left[ \left( d_{RC}/Q_{CR} + d_{RG}/Q_{GR} \right) - d_{RC}/Q_{CR} \cdot d_{RG}/Q_{GR} \cdot Q_T \right]$

$$b = K_{Ci} + K_{Gi} - (K_{Ci} \cdot d_{RC}/Q_{CR} + K_{Gi} \cdot d_{RG}/Q_{GR}) Q_T \quad \square \quad c = -Q_T$$

Solving the equation, the global foundation settlement can be estimated and the respective fraction of the total load on the global foundation  $Q_T$ , in this case  $Q_C$  and  $Q_G$ , can be evaluated.

5.- The problem is solved applying the equality  $Q_C + Q_G = Q_T$ . Dividing by  $\delta$ , we have  $K_C + K_G = K_T$  and for  $Q=0$ ,  $K_{Ci} + K_{Gi} = K_{Ti}$ . The value of  $K_T$  can be calculated with  $K_T = K_{Ti} (1 - d_{RT} \cdot Q_T / Q_{TR})$ . From  $\delta_T$  we have the values of  $Q_C$  and  $Q_G$ . When "cap and group m values" are very different, the matching should be made from the  $m_T$  value.

NOTE: The results of this semiempirical approach could be into  $\pm 30\%$  of the true values.



CAP square  $B=11\text{m}$ ;  $A=B^2=121\text{m}^2$ ;  $t_C=2\text{m}$ ;  $D_f=5\text{m}$  Piles  $B_o=1\text{m}$ ;  $d=3B_o=3\text{m}$ ;  $n=16$   $L_p=30\text{m}$ ;  $B=3d+1=10\text{m}$ ; Reinforced concrete "ideally" bored piles Total load above cap:  $80 \text{ MN} = 8000 \text{ Tn}$ ; Concrete:  $35000 \text{ MPa} = 350 \times 10^4 \text{ Tn/m}^2 = E_b$  Subsoil: (O.C.) clay undrained  $c_u = 110 + 3,93 z (\text{kN/m}^2)$ ;  $z(\text{m})$  starting from  $D_f = 5\text{m}$

CAP (as isolated footing):  $C = c_u = 110 + 3,93 \times 2/3 \times 11 = 140 \text{ kN/m}^2 = 14 \text{ Tn/m}^2$ ;  $q_u = 28 \text{ Tn/m}^2$ ;  $E_i \approx 300 q_u \pm 30\%$ ;  $E_i = 300 \times 28 = 8400 \text{ Tn/m}^2$ ;  $k_i = 1,1 \times 1,5 \times 8400 / 11 = 1260 \text{ Tn/m}^3$ ;  $I = 11 \times 2^3 / 12 = 7,33 \text{ m}^4$ ;  $\mathcal{L}_i = 10(4 \times 350 \times 7,33 / 1260 \times 11)^{0.25} = 9,3 \text{ m}$ ;  $\mathcal{L}_i \approx B$  : rigid cap

$K_i = k_i A = 1260 \times 121 = 1525 \text{ Tn/cm}$ ;  $Q_{CR} = p A = (c_N c_s d_c + q) A = 13100 \text{ Tn}$ ; subsoil: stiff to very stiff  $d_{RC} \approx 0,85$ ;  $Q_{Cu} = 13100 / 0,85 = 15412 \text{ Tn}$ ;  $m_C = K_i / Q_{Cu} = 1525 / 15412 \approx 0,1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

$$Q_C = K_{Ci} / (1/\delta_C + m_C) = 1525 / (1/\delta_C + 0,1) \quad Q_C(\text{Tn}) ; \quad \delta(\text{cm})$$

PILE Friction  $Q_F = \pi B_o L_f = \pi \times 1 \times 30 \times 10 \text{ Tn/m}^2 = 942 \text{ Tn}$ ;  $\delta_{RF} \approx 10^{-3} L \pm 30\%$   $\delta \approx 3 \text{ cm}$ ;  $K_{RF} = 942 / 3 = 314 \text{ Tn/cm}$ ;  $d_{RF} \approx 0,75$ ;  $K_{iF} = K_{RF} / (1-d_{RF}) = 1256 \text{ Tn/cm}$ ;  $Q_{uF} = 942 / 0,75 = 1256 \text{ Tn}$ ;  $m = K_{iF} / Q_{uF} = 1$ ;  $Q_F(\text{Tn}) = 1256 / (1/\delta) + 1 \quad (\text{cm})$

Point  $Q_{RP} = c_N c_s + q$ ;  $c_u = 110 + 3,93 \times 30 = 22,8 \text{ Tn/m}^2$ ;  $q = 9 + 0,75 \times 30 = 31,5 \text{ Tn/m}^2$

$$Q_{RP} = (22,8 \times 15 + 31,5) \pi / 4 = 293 \text{ Tn}$$
;  $E_i \approx 300 \times 2 \times 22,8 = 13680 \text{ Tn/m}^2$ ;  $K_{iP} = k_i A_P = (1,5 \times 1,5 \times 13680 / 1 \times \pi 1^2 / 4) / 100 = 242 \text{ Tn/cm}$ ;  $d_{RP} = 0,85$ ;  $Q_{uP} = 293 / 0,85 = 345 \text{ Tn}$ ;  $m = 242 / 345 = 0,7$

$$\delta_e = \beta \cdot \delta_p \quad ; \quad \beta = 9$$

$\delta_T$ (cm)	$\delta_p$ (cm)	$q_p$ (Tn)	$q_g$ ( $1/q_p$ ) (Tn)	$q_c$ (Tn)	$q_t$ (Tn)
1	1/9	151	2415	1386	3801
2	2/9	276	4412	2542	6954
2,6	2,6/9	341	5453	3147	8600
3	3/9	381	6091	3519	9610
4	4/9	470	7523	4357	11880

$\delta$ (cm)	$q_p$ (Tn)	$q_f$ (Tn)	$q_t$ (Tn)	$\delta + \delta$ (cm)	$K = q_t / \delta$ (Tn/cm)
0,1	22,6	114,2	136,8	0,15	913
0,25	51,5	251	303	0,36	841
0,5	89,6	419	508	0,685	742
1	142	625	770	1,28	602
2	201	837	1039	2,38	437
3	234	942	1176	3,43	343
5	268	1047	1315	5,48	240

"elastic":  $K_{ip} = 1050 \text{ Tn/cm}$ ;  $d_{RP} = 0,772$   
 $m = 0,614 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

"rigid":  $K_{ip} = 1500 \text{ Tn/cm}$ ;  $d_{RP} = 0,772$ ;  $m = 0,94$

Then, for rigid piles,  $Q_T = 8600 \text{ Tn}$  and  $\delta_T = 2,6 \text{ cm}$ . The calculation is presented in the upper table.

If we consider the elasticity of piles  $\Delta = P \cdot L' / E_b \cdot A_p$ ; the respective values are included in the lower table. The general prediction can be seen in the last figure. "Rigid" piles: load taken by cap, 37%; by group, 63%. "Elastic" piles: 43% and 57% respectively.

