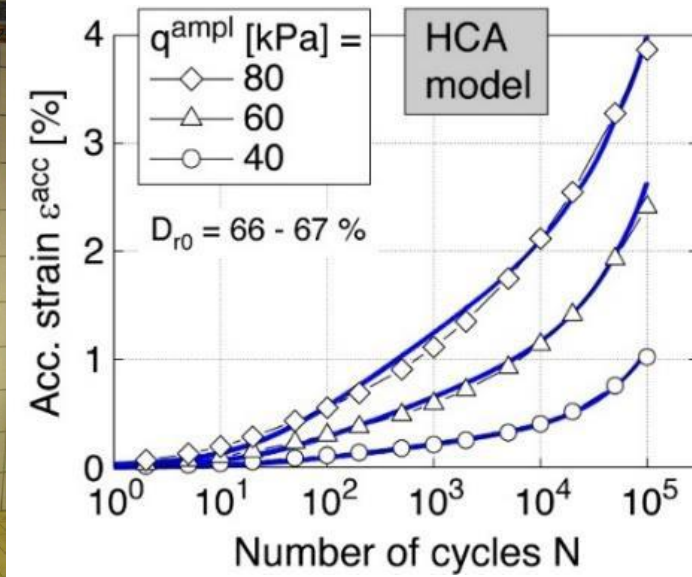
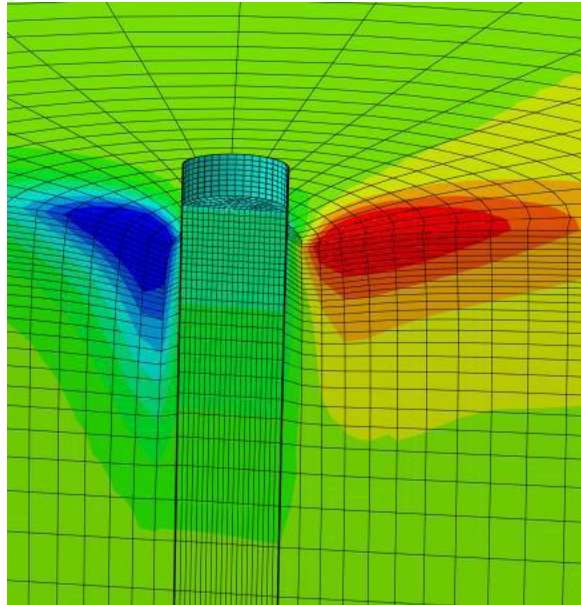


# Cyclic Loading of soils and simulation of accumulation phenomena- Applications to offshore wind turbines

em. Prof. Dr. - Ing. habil., Dr. h. c. Theodoros Triantafyllidis  
and Prof. Dr.- Ing. habil. Torsten Wichtmann

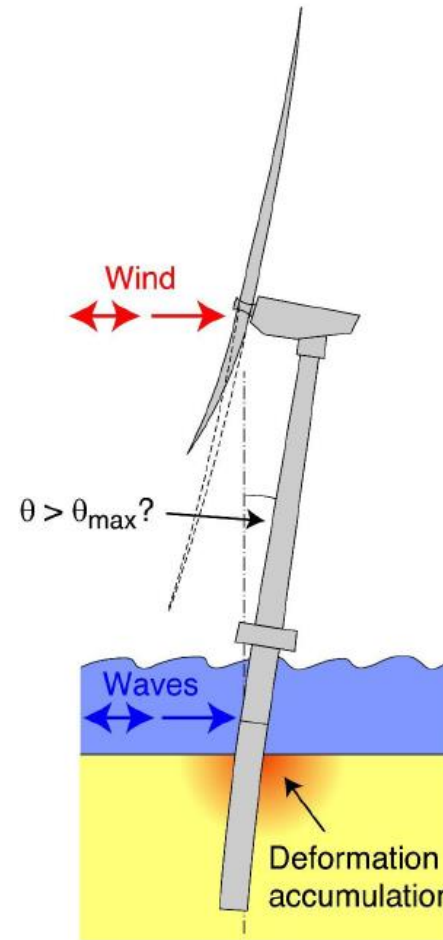


# Contents

- High Cycle Loading on wind turbine structures
- High cycle accumulation model (HCA)
  - Calculation strategy
  - Calibration based on drained cyclic laboratory tests on soils
- Parameters affecting strain accumulation
  - Changing amplitude and direction
  - Combination of monotonic and cyclic loading
  - Multidimensional loading
- Validation of the HCA Model with physical modeling and in situ testing
- Applications to offshore wind turbine foundations
- Summary

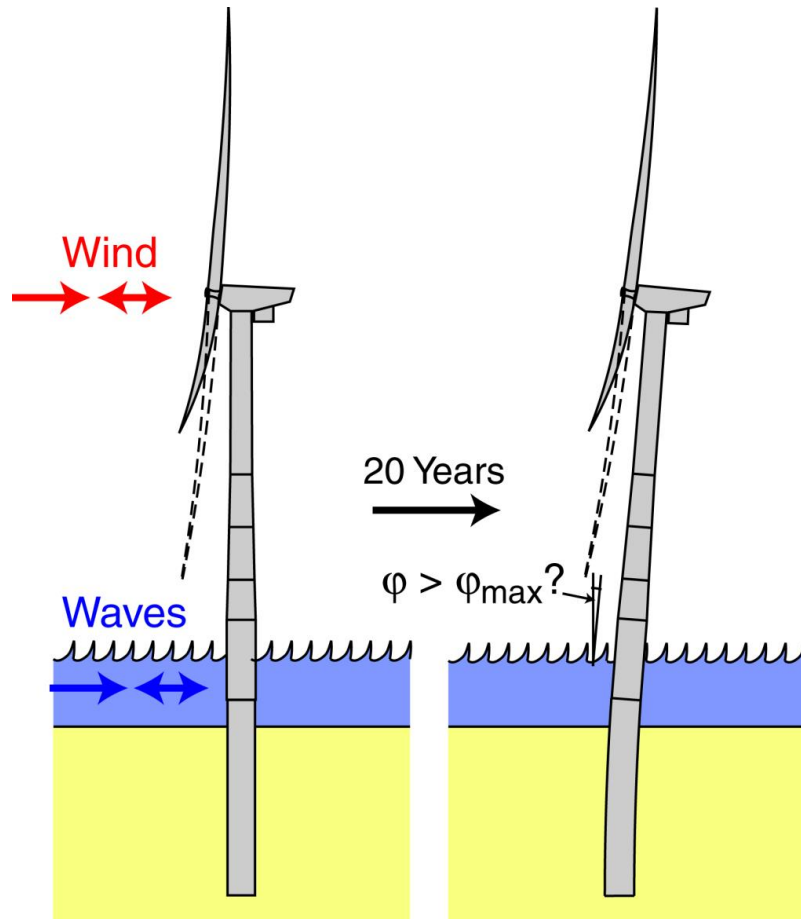
# Why High cycle Loading in WT Design?

- WT structure has to resist a significant number of loading cycles and react with small deformations per loading cycle (accumulation)
- Typically small values of deformation amplitudes ( $\varepsilon \leq 10^{-3}$ ) but large number of cycles  $N$  ( $N \geq 10^6$ ) in their lifetime



Serviceability of WT in its lifetime is of high importance like the tilting angle of the tower at the position of the turbine bearings as well as the deformations of the soil surrounding the monopile foundation as supporting structural element

# HCA Problems for WT foundations



## Problems:

- High number of loading cycles from wind and wave actions (stochastic, multidirectional, changing amplitude and direction)

Serviceability of the structure  
(limited tilting and settlements)

Erosion effects at the interface  
structure / soil (shallow foundations)

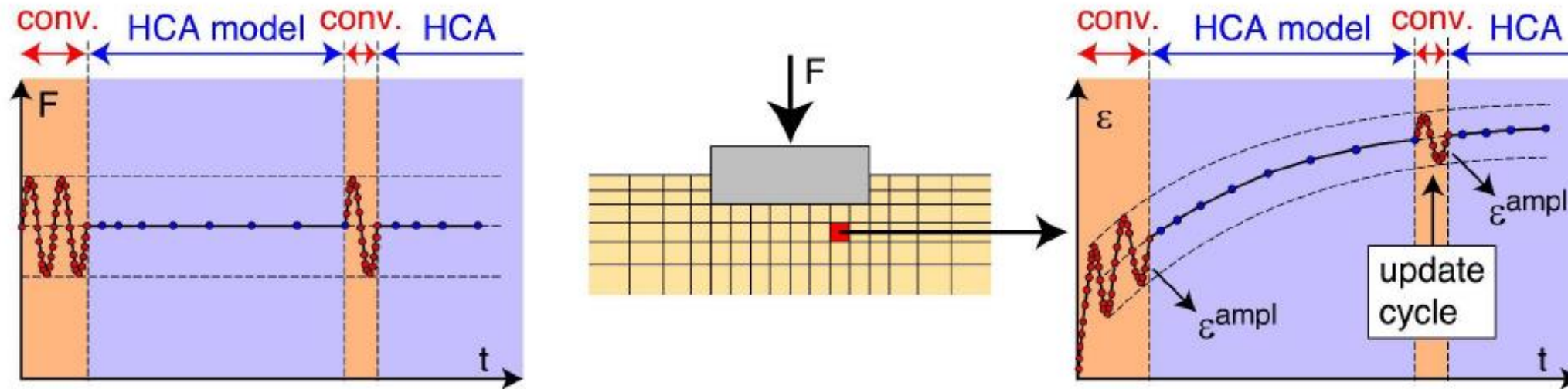
Lack of experience on the long-term behavior  
of such structures

# Numerical Strategies

- **Implicit Formulation** of accumulation using incremental formulations:
  - $\partial\sigma/\partial t = E (\partial\varepsilon/\partial t - \partial\varepsilon^{\text{acc}}/\partial t)$  for every time step ( $10^4$ - $10^6$  No. of cycles)
  - Problem: The numerical error is in the same order as the expected result of the boundary value problem
- **Explicit Formulation of the accumulation for a bundle of cycles**
- $\varepsilon^{\text{acc}}, \Delta N = f(\varepsilon^{\text{ampl}}, \sigma, e, \Delta N, \dots)$  i.e. the accumulation for a great number of cycles  $\Delta N$  can be expressed as the plastic deformation of a dashpot  $\partial\varepsilon^{\text{acc}}/\partial N = C$ , where the time is expressed as the number of cycles  $N$  (like creep deformations)

# HCA – High Cycle Accumulation Model

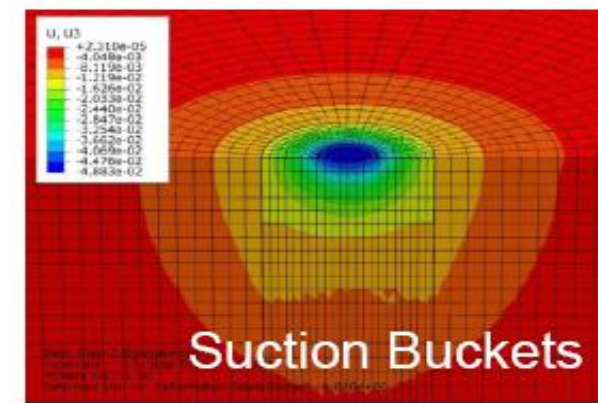
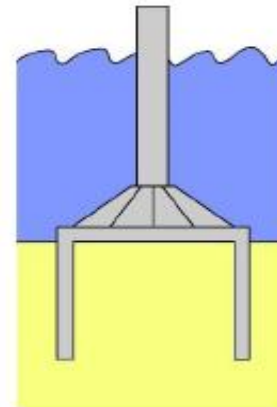
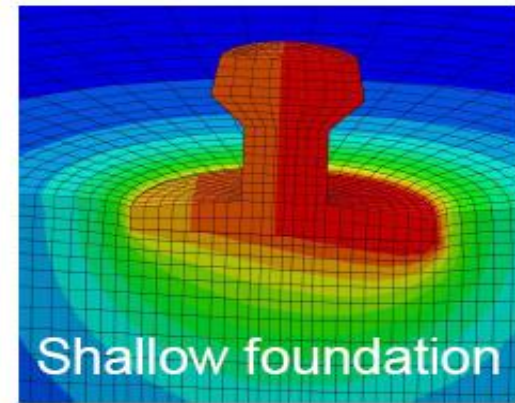
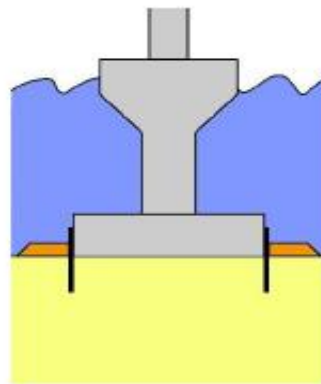
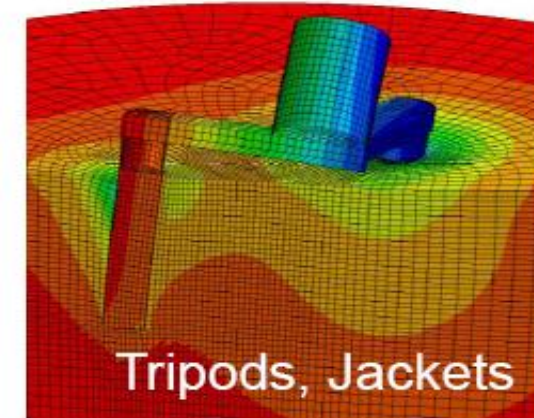
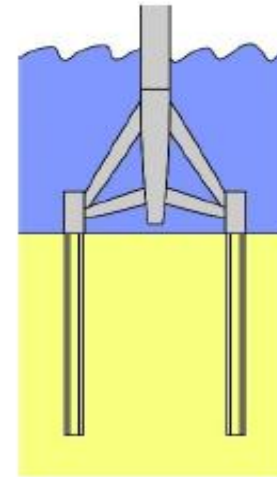
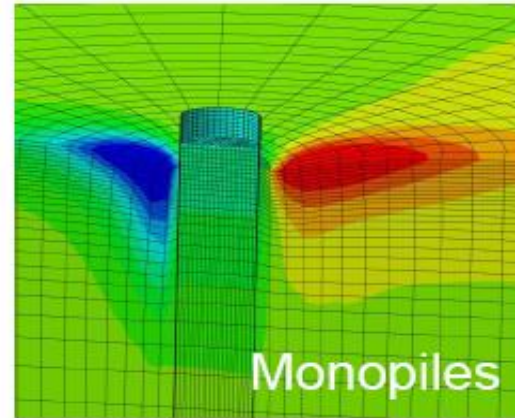
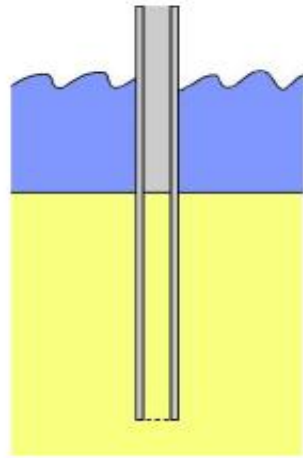
Calculation strategy: coupled „implicit“ + „explicit“ calculation steps



- Only a few cycles are calculated incrementally using an implicit model  $\dot{\sigma}$ - $\dot{\epsilon}$ -
- Larger packages of cycles  $\Delta N$  in between are treated like creep deformations under constant load
- input of the accumulation model: strain amplitudes  $\epsilon^{ampl}$  (determined from the cycles calculated conventionally), void ratio, average stress, deviator stress.....
- advantages: 1) **no limitations** with respect to **possible maximum cycle numbers**  
2) much smaller number of increments  $\rightarrow$  numerical errors minimized (conventional models usually restricted to  $N < 100$ )

## Calculation strategy

- Prediction of long-term deformations for arbitrary types of foundations
- Study of the whole soil-structure interaction under high-cyclic loading is possible



# HCA – High Cycle Accumulation Model

$$\dot{\sigma} = E : (\dot{\epsilon} - \dot{\epsilon}^{acc} - \dot{\epsilon}^{pl})$$

$\dot{\sigma}$  Stress rate (trend of stress)  
 $E$  Elastic stiffness (stress dependent)  
 $\dot{\epsilon}$  Strain rate (trend of strain)  
 $\dot{\epsilon}^{acc}$  Accumulation rate (prescribed)  
 $\dot{\epsilon}^{pl}$  Plastic strain rate (for strain paths touching the yield surface during the cycles)

$$\dot{\epsilon}^{acc} = \dot{\epsilon}^{acc} \mathbf{m}$$

$\mathbf{m}$  Direction of strain accumulation (unit tensor) → Flow direction of MCC-Model  
 $\dot{\epsilon}^{acc}$  intensity of strain accumulation (scalar)

$$\dot{\epsilon}^{acc} = f_{ampl} \dot{f}_N f_p f_Y f_e f_{\pi}$$

Amplitude definition for multidimensional loops

Functions (with material constants) consider:

$f_{ampl}$  Strain amplitude ( $C_{ampl}$ )  
 $\dot{f}_N$  Cyclic preloading ( $C_{N1}, C_{N2}, C_{N3}$ )  
 $f_p, f_Y$  Average mean stress ( $C_p$ ), average stress ratio ( $C_Y$ ),  $\eta^{av} = q^{av}/p^{av}$   
 $f_e$  Void ratio ( $C_e$ )  
 $f_{\pi}$  Changes of the direction of cycles ( $C_{\pi1}, C_{\pi2}$ ), may neglected i.e.  $f_{\pi} = 1$

Niemunis, A., Wichtmann, T., Triantafyllidis, Th. (2005):  
 A high-cycle accumulation model for sand.  
 Computers and Geotechnics, Vol. 32, No. 4, pp. 245-263.

# HCA – High Cycle Accumulation Model

Intensity of accumulation

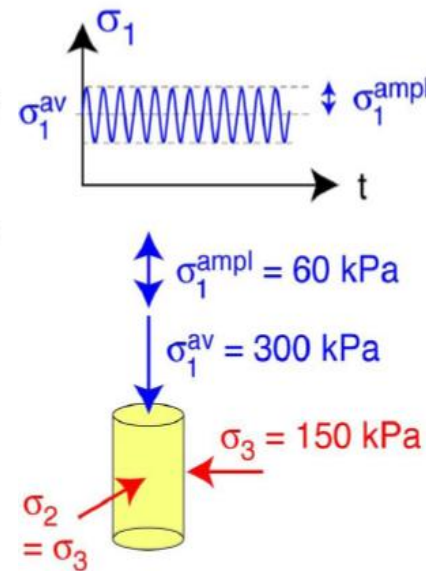
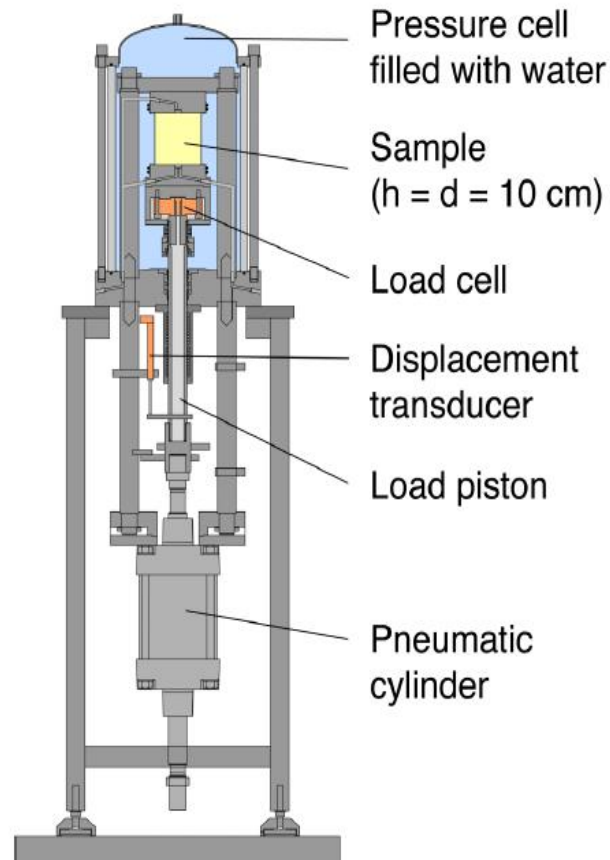
$$\dot{\varepsilon}^{\text{acc}} = f_{\text{ampl}} \dot{f}_N f_p f_Y f_e f_{\pi}$$

Influencing parameter	Function	Parameter
Strain amplitude $\varepsilon^{\text{ampl}}$	$f_{\text{ampl}} = \left( \frac{\varepsilon^{\text{ampl}}}{10^{-4}} \right)^{C_{\text{ampl}}}$	$C_{\text{ampl}}$
Void ratio $e$	$f_e = \frac{(C_e - e)^2}{1 + e} \frac{1 + e_{\text{max}}}{(C_e - e_{\text{max}})^2}$	$C_e$
Average mean pressure $p^{\text{av}}$	$f_p = \exp \left[ -C_p \left( \frac{p^{\text{av}}}{100 \text{ kPa}} - 1 \right) \right]$	$C_p$
Average stress ratio $\bar{Y}^{\text{av}}$	$f_Y = \exp(C_Y \bar{Y}^{\text{av}})$	$C_Y$
Cyclic preloading (number of cycles)	$f_N = C_{N1} [\ln(1 + C_{N2} N) + C_{N3} N]$ $\dot{f}_N = C_{N1} \left[ \frac{C_{N2}}{1 + C_{N2} N} + C_{N3} \right]$	$C_{N1}$ $C_{N2}$ $C_{N3}$
Change of direction of cycles	$f_{\pi}$	$C_{\pi1}, C_{\pi2}$

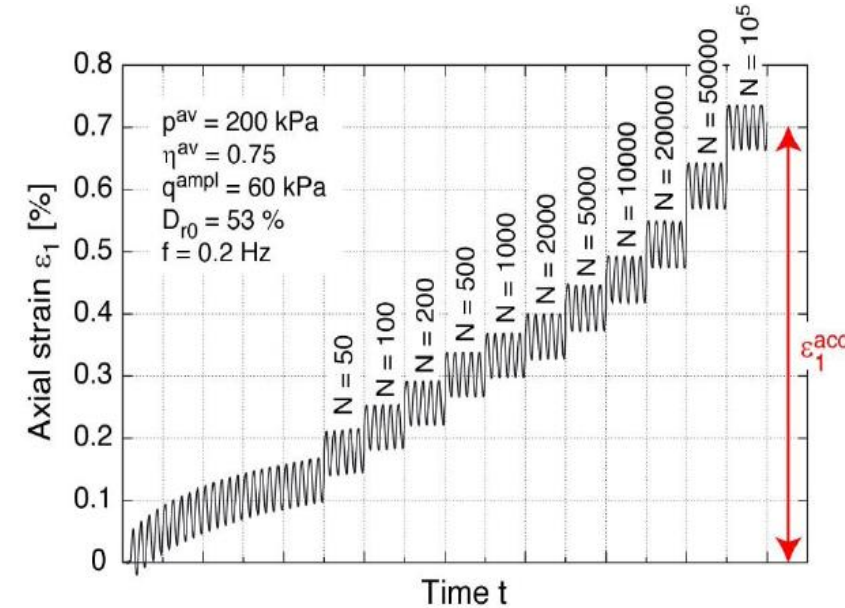
# Calibration of the HCA Model based on drained cyclic triaxial tests



KIT, Karlsruhe



$\sigma$  = effective stress



Wichtmann, T., Niemunis, A., Triantafyllidis, Th. (2005):  
Strain accumulation in sand due to cyclic loading: drained triaxial tests.  
Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering, Vol. 25, No. 12, pp. 967-979.

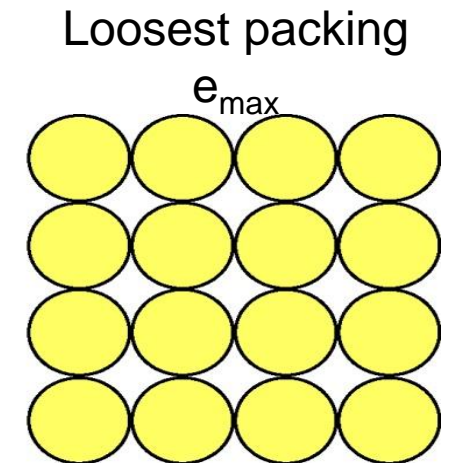
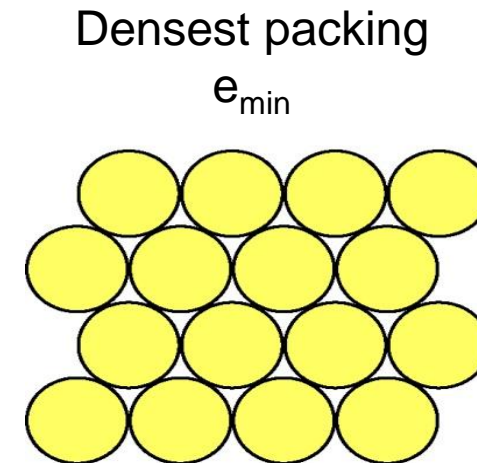
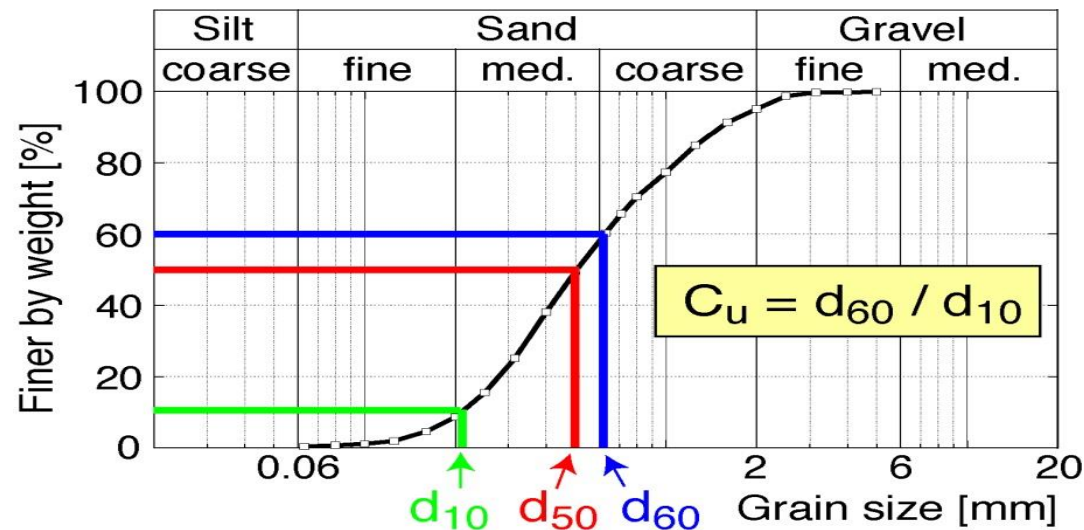
Typical result of a drained cyclic triaxial test on an medium dense soil sample (relative density  $D_{r0} = 0,53$ ) of fine sand

At the University of Patras  
the same device available

# Parameters of HCA model

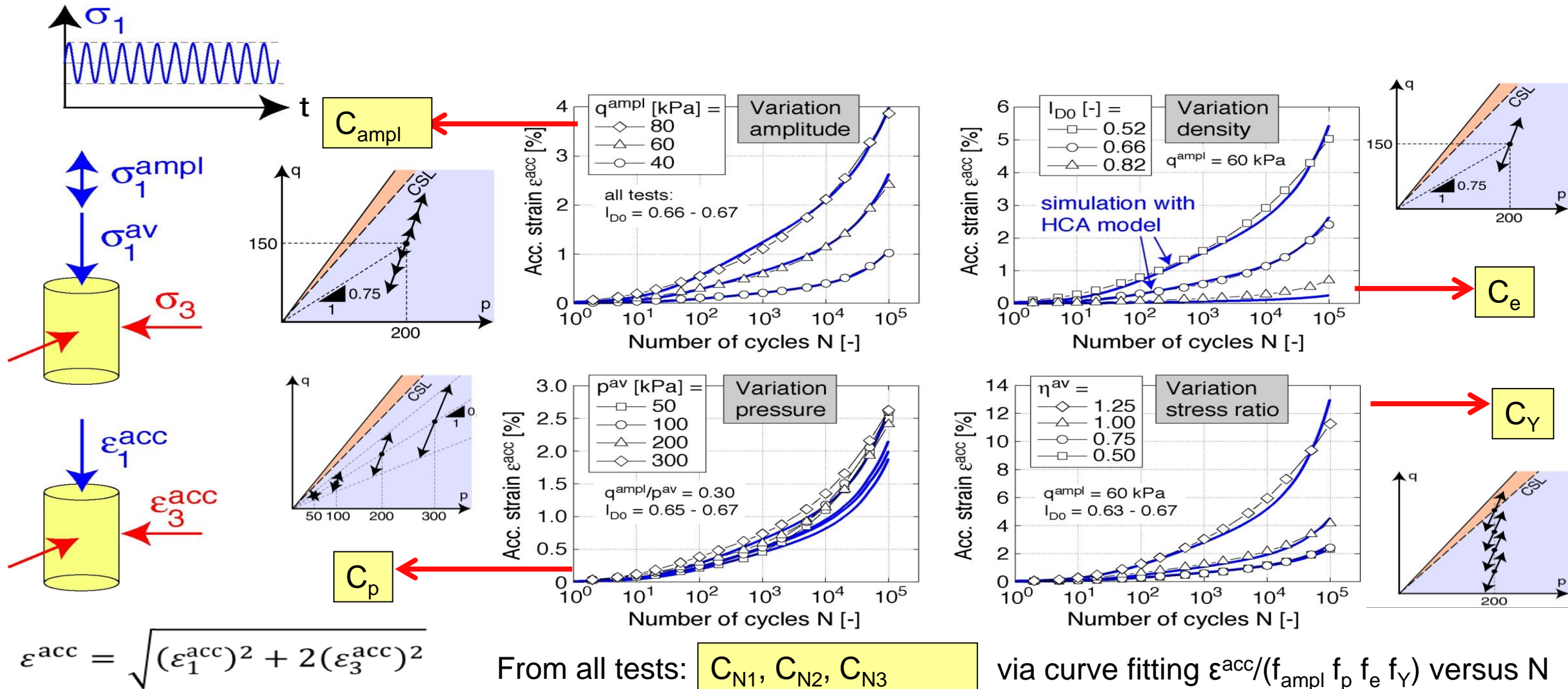
Different ways to obtain a set of parameters (model calibration) :

1. Determination of all parameters from **at least 11 cyclic triaxial tests** with different amplitudes, initial densities and average stresses
2. Estimation of  $C_{\text{ampl}}$ ,  $C_p$ ,  $C_e$  and  $C_Y$  from correlations with  $d_{50}$ ,  $C_u$  and  $e_{\text{min}}$ , determination of  $C_{N1}$ ,  $C_{N2}$  and  $C_{N3}$  from a **single cyclic triaxial test** (large number of cycles  $10^5$ )
3. Estimation of **all parameters from the correlations** with  $d_{50}$ ,  $C_u$  and  $e_{\text{min}}$



# Parameters of HCA model

From at least 11 cyclic triaxial tests



# Parameters of HCA model

Simplified calibration based on the grain size distribution curve

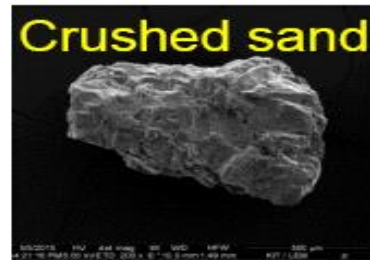
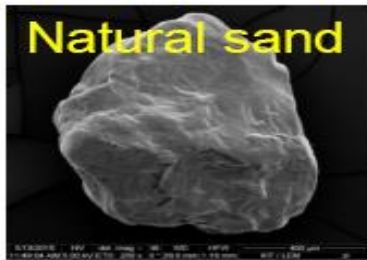
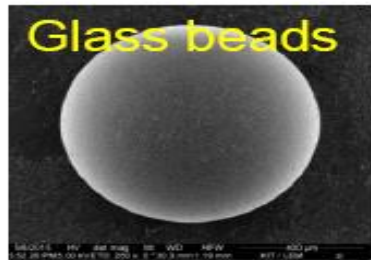
Parameter	Correlation
$C_{\text{ampl}}$	$C_{\text{ampl}} = 1.70$
$C_e$	$C_e = 0.95 \cdot e_{\text{min}}$
$C_p$	$C_p = 0.41 \cdot [1 - 0.34 (d_{50} - 0.6)]$
$C_Y$	$C_Y = 2.60 \cdot [1 + 0.12 \ln(d_{50}/0.6)]$
$C_{N1}$	$C_{N1} = 4.5 \cdot 10^{-4} \cdot [1 - 0.306 \ln(d_{50}/0.6)] \cdot [1 + 3.15 (C_u - 1.5)]$
$C_{N2}$	$C_{N2} = 0.31 \cdot \exp[0.39 (d_{50} - 0.6)] \cdot \exp[12.3(\exp(-0.77 C_u) - 0.315)]$
$C_{N3}$	$C_{N3} = 3.0 \cdot 10^{-5} \cdot \exp[-0.84 (d_{50} - 0.6)] \cdot [1 + 7.85 (C_u - 1.5)]^{0.34}$

From about 350 cyclic triaxial tests on quartz sands with subangular grain shape and  $0.1 \leq d_{50} \leq 6 \text{ mm}$ ,  $1.5 \leq C_u \leq 8$  (= range of validity)

Wichtmann, T., Niemunis, A., Triantafyllidis, Th. (2015): Improved simplified calibration procedure for a high-cycle accumulation model. *Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering*, Vol. 70, pp. 118-132.

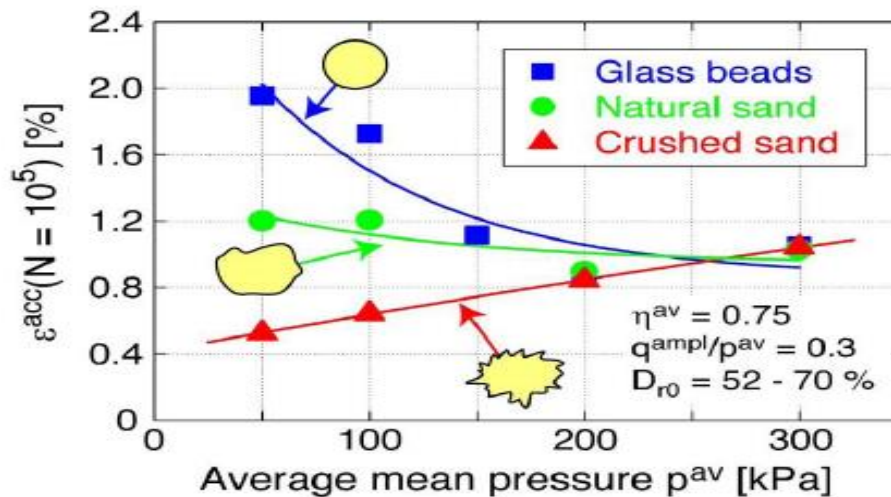
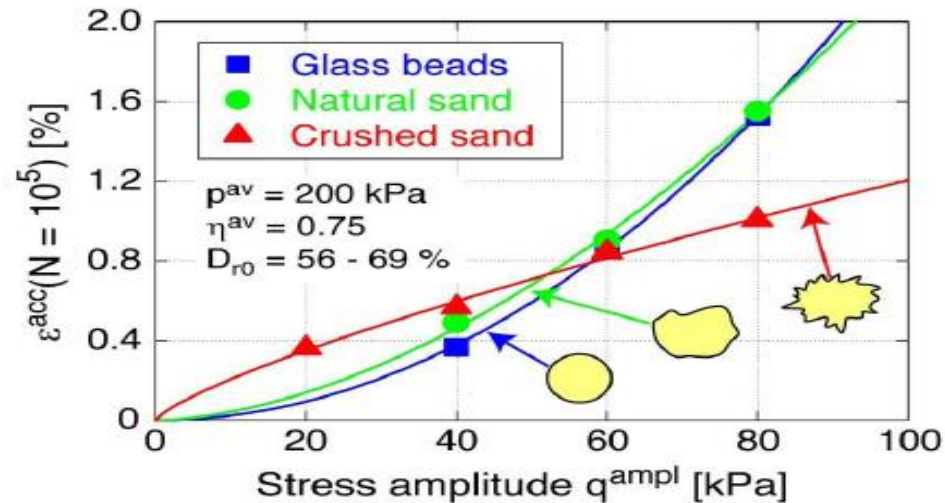
# Influence of grain characteristics shape, roughness, mineralogy etc.

## Particle shape – surface roughness



Wichtmann, T., Triantafyllidis, Th., Späth, L. (2019):  
On the influence of grain shape on the cumulative  
deformations in sand under drained high-cyclic loading.  
Soils and Foundations. Vol. 59, No. 1, pp. 208-227.

Three materials possess different  
grain shape and surface roughness  
but identical grain size distribution  
curve ( $d_{50} = 0.6 \text{ mm}$ ,  $C_u = 1.5$ )

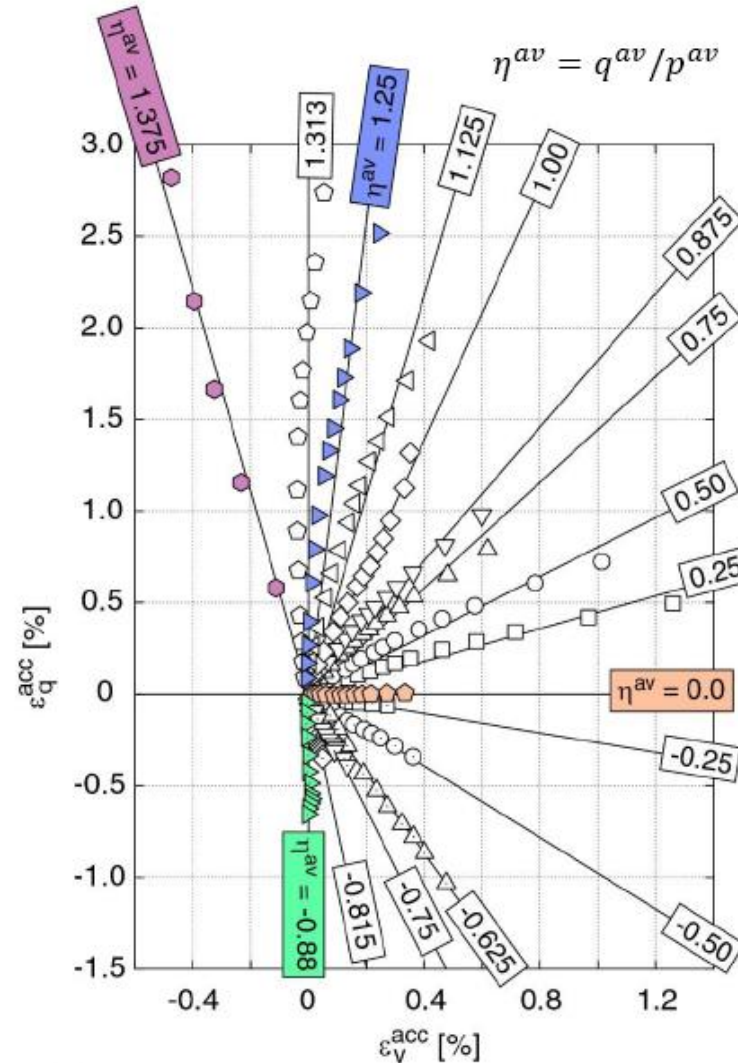
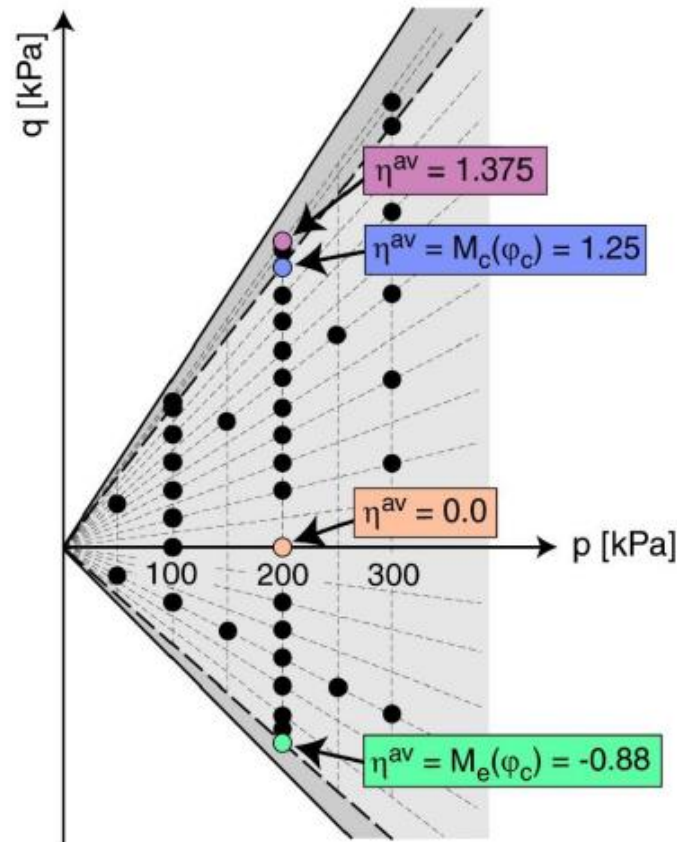


Reduction of  $C_{ampl}$  in the case of grains with high angularity because the grains get easily caught each other and under high pressures a transition from Goddard contact (Cone/Sphere) to Herz contact (Sphere/Sphere) takes place

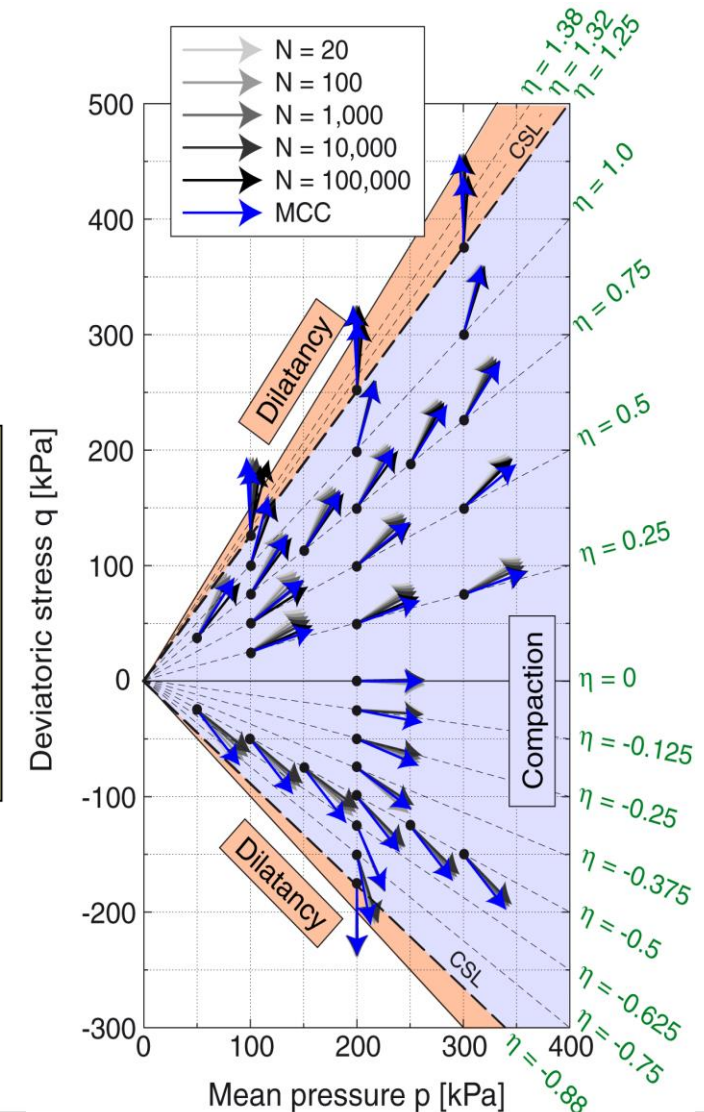
→ Less pronounced amplitude dependence and opposite pressure dependence with increasing angularity of the grains

# High cycle accumulation model

## Calibration based on drained cyclic triaxial tests – direction of accumulation



$$\frac{\dot{\epsilon}_v^{acc}}{\dot{\epsilon}_q^{acc}} = \frac{M_c^2 - \eta^2}{2\eta}$$



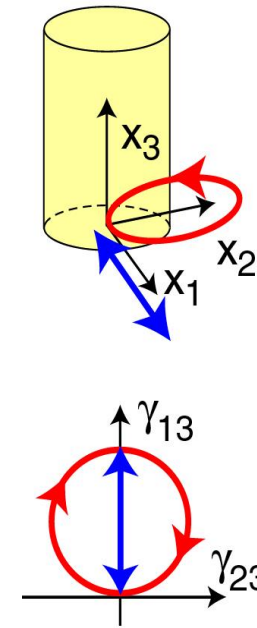
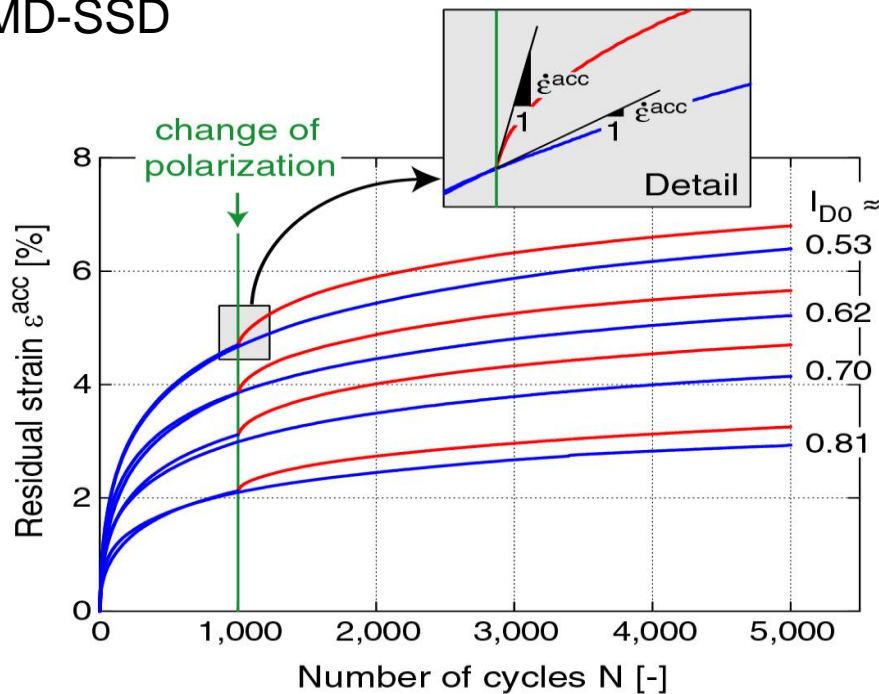
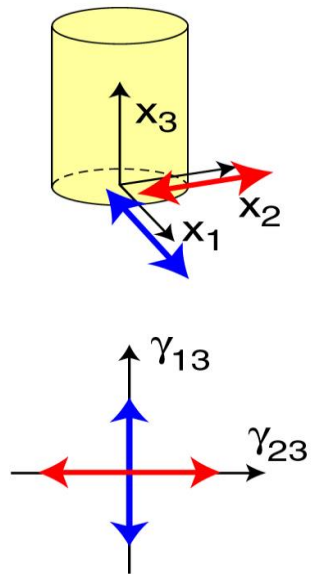
Wichtmann, T., Niemunis, A., Triantafyllidis, Th. (2006):  
Experimental evidence of a unique flow rule of  
non-cohesive soils under high-cyclic loading.  
Acta Geotechnica, Vol. 1, No. 1, pp. 59-73.

$$f_{loading} = 1 \text{ Hz}$$

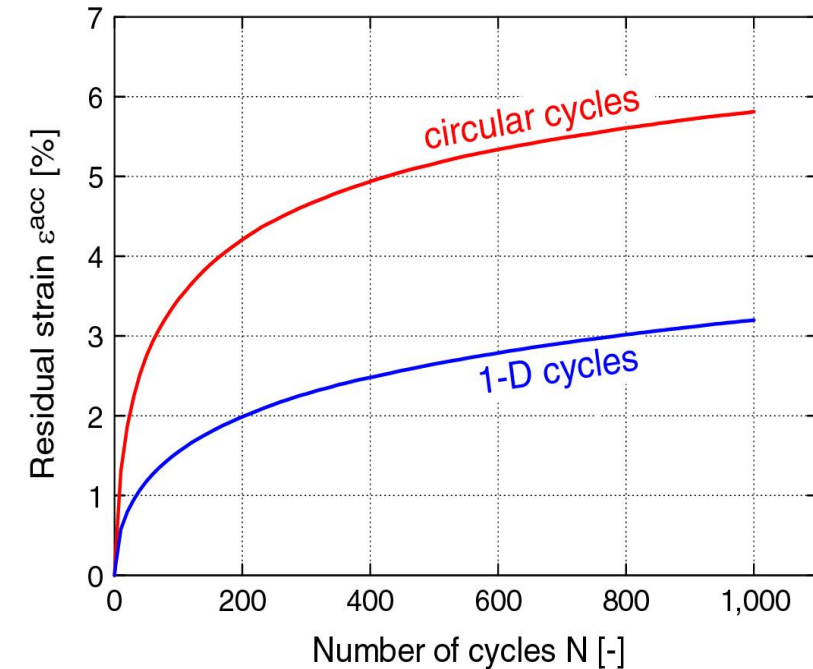
# Problems associated with the offshore wind turbines

- Wind and wave direction as well as amplitude may change
- Any change in direction produces additional accumulations
- Accumulation effects with different amplitudes and cyclic preloading effects are needed.

Results of CMD-SSD



Amplitude in more than one dimension???



$$\dot{\sigma} = E : (\dot{\epsilon} - f_{ampl} f_N f_p f_Y f_e f_{\pi} \mathbf{m} - \dot{\epsilon}^{pl})$$

# Problems associated with the offshore wind turbines

**HCA-Model**  $\dot{\sigma} = E : (\dot{\epsilon} - f_{\text{ampl}} \dot{f}_N f_p f_Y f_e f_\pi \mathbf{m} - \dot{\epsilon}^{\text{pl}})$

Accumulation model:

$$f_N = C_{N1} [\ln(1 + C_{N2}N) + C_{N3}N]$$

$C_{N1}, C_{N2}, C_{N3}$  material constants

Die new historiotropic variable  $g^A$  is defined with the function  $f_N$ :

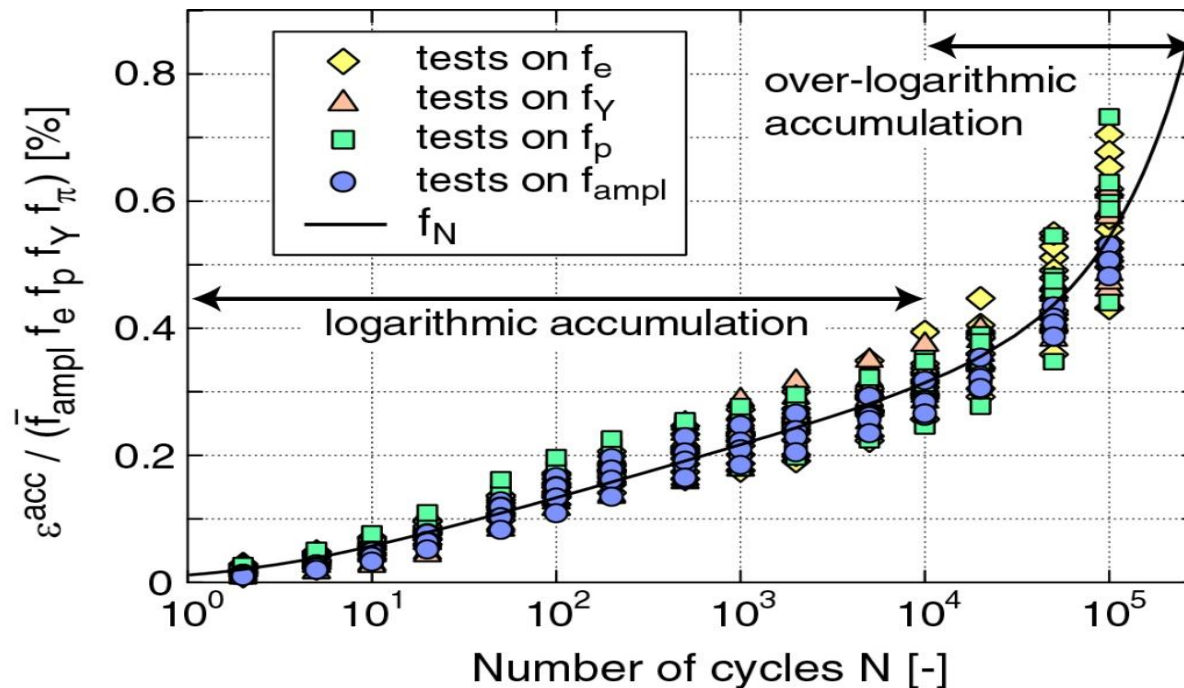
$$\dot{f}_N = \dot{f}_N^A + \dot{f}_N^B$$

$$\dot{f}_N^A = C_{N1} * C_{N2} \exp\left(-\frac{g^A}{C_{N1} f_{\text{ampl}}}\right)$$

$$g^A = \int f_{\text{ampl}} \dot{f}_N^A dN$$

$$\dot{f}_N^B = C_{N1} * C_{N3}$$

Influence of the number of cycles / cyclic preloading  
Wichtmann (2005):



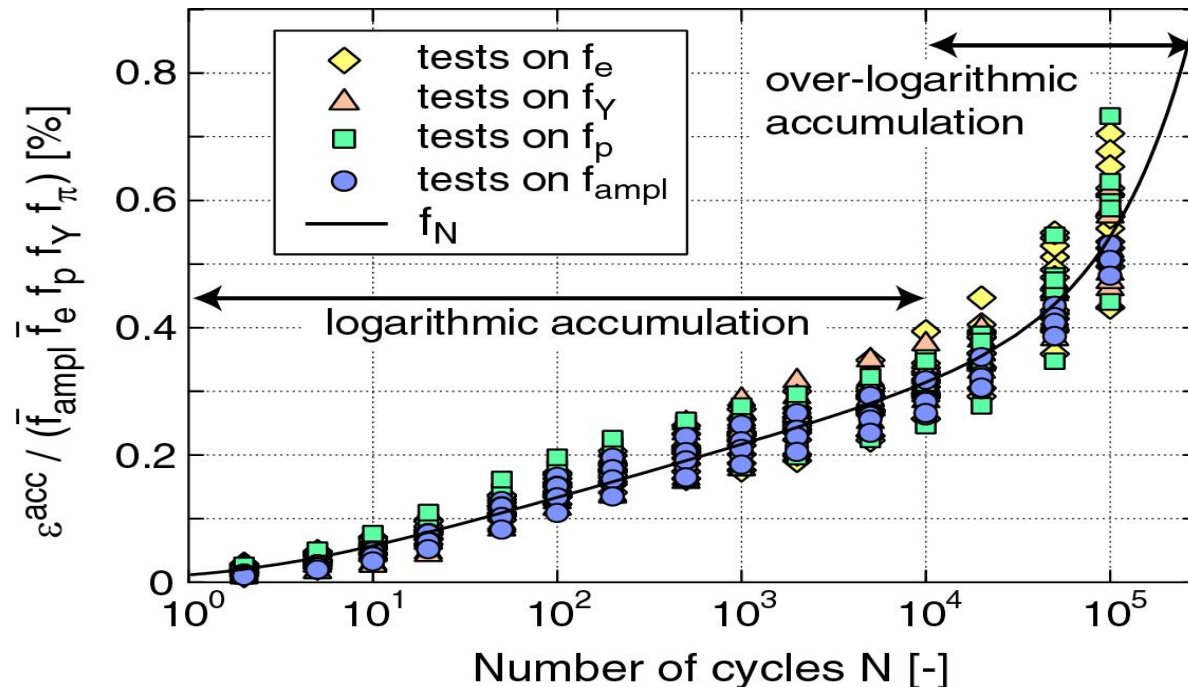
## Influence of amplitude and preloading

$$\dot{\sigma} = E : (\dot{\varepsilon} - f_{\text{ampl}} \dot{f}_N f_p f_Y f_e f_{\pi} \mathbf{m} - \dot{\varepsilon}^{\text{pl}})$$

Test results with only one cyclic amplitude is not sufficient for the solution of the serviceability we need a general form  
The number of cycles must be regarded together with the amplitude.

Influence of the **number of cycles / cyclic preloading**

$$f_N = C_{N1} [\ln(1 + C_{N2}N) + C_{N3}N]$$



### Problems:

1. Number of cycles  $N$  alone should not be used as a state variable in accumulation models, since it contains no information about the amplitude of the cycles

→ **new state variable**  $g^A = f(\varepsilon^{\text{ampl}}, N)$

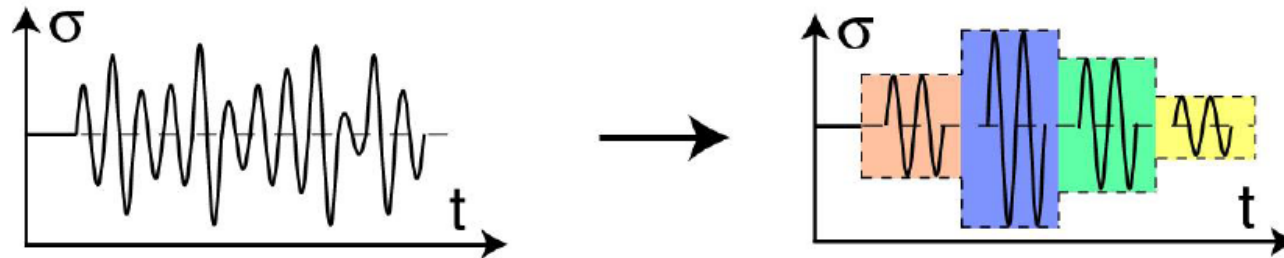
$$g^A = \int f_{\text{ampl}} \dot{f}_N^A dN$$

$$\dot{f}_N^A = C_{N1} C_{N2} \exp\left(-\frac{g^A}{C_{N1} f_{\text{ampl}}}\right)$$

2. Initial value  $N_0$  or  $g_0^A$  in situ (so-called cyclic preloading) is unknown

# Parameters affecting strain accumulation

## Varying amplitude



- For a calculation with the HCA model cycles with different amplitudes have to be grouped into packages of cycles with same amplitude
- Is such bundling conservative?

Wind loading is not of deterministic but rather of stochastic nature with varying average value and amplitude.

The simplest case is the one with constant average stress level and varying amplitude. In this case the Miner's rule apply whereby the sequence of loading is not of importance.

In case of strong average pressure variation a part of the preloading memory is lost (Miner's rule is no more applicable).

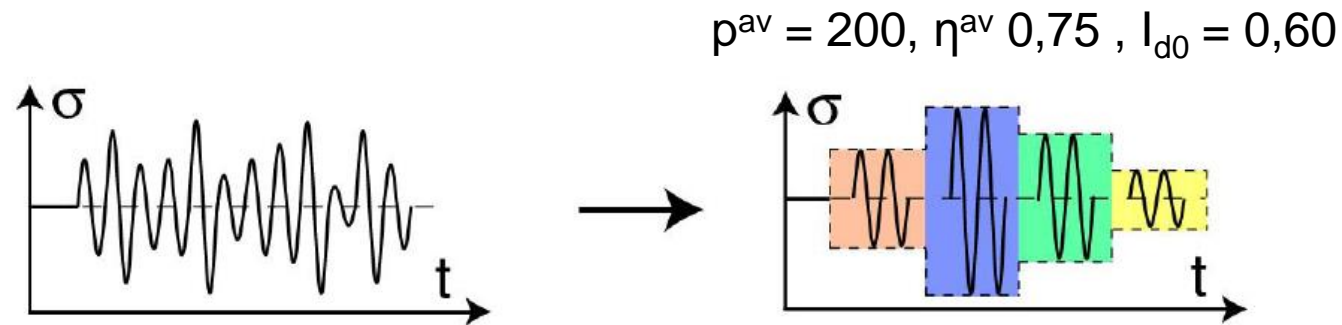
Wichtmann, T., Niemunis, A., Triantafyllidis, Th. (2010):

Strain accumulation in sand due to drained cyclic loading: on the effect of monotonic and cyclic preloading (Miner's rule). *Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering*, Vol. 30, No. 8, pp. 736-745.

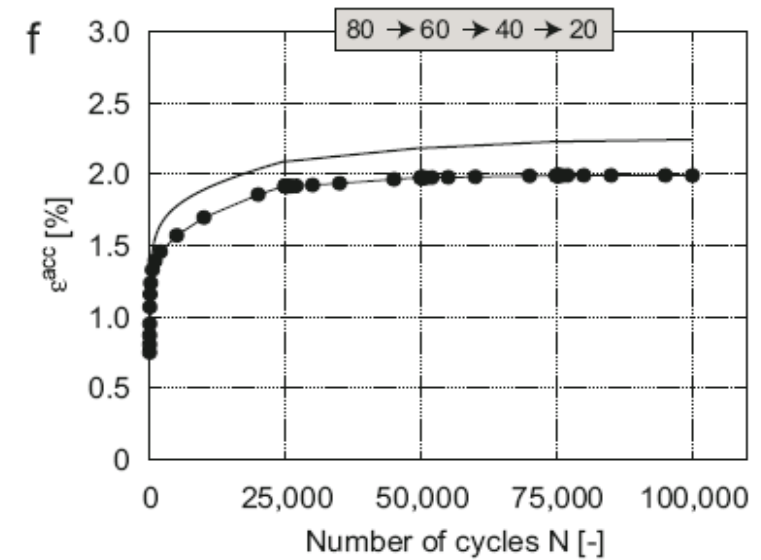
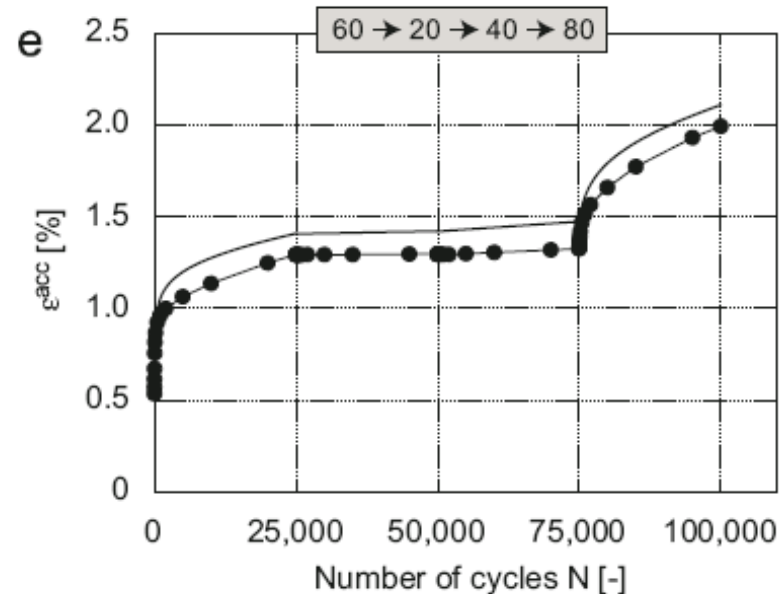
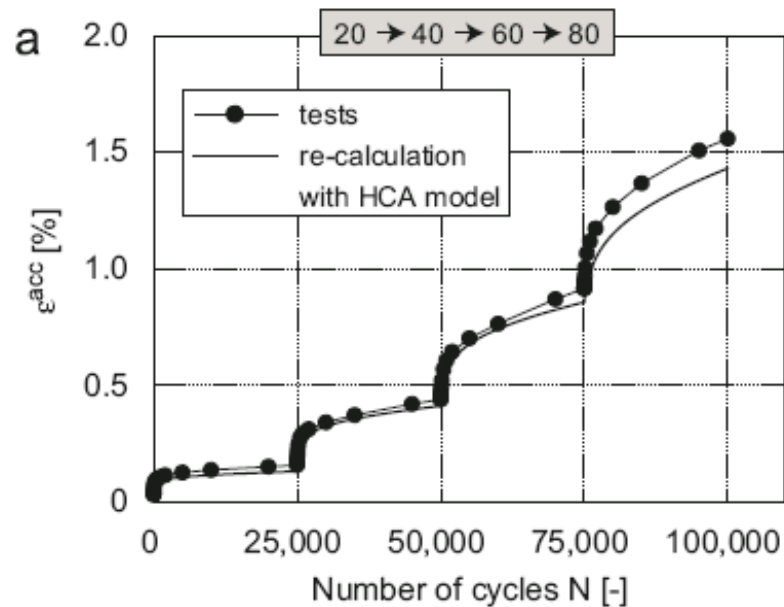
Wichtmann, T., Triantafyllidis, Th. (2017):

Strain accumulation due to packages of cycles with varying amplitude and/or average stress - on the bundling of cycles and the loss of the cyclic preloading memory. *Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering*, Vol. 101, pp. 250-263.

# Sequence of loading on strain accumulation

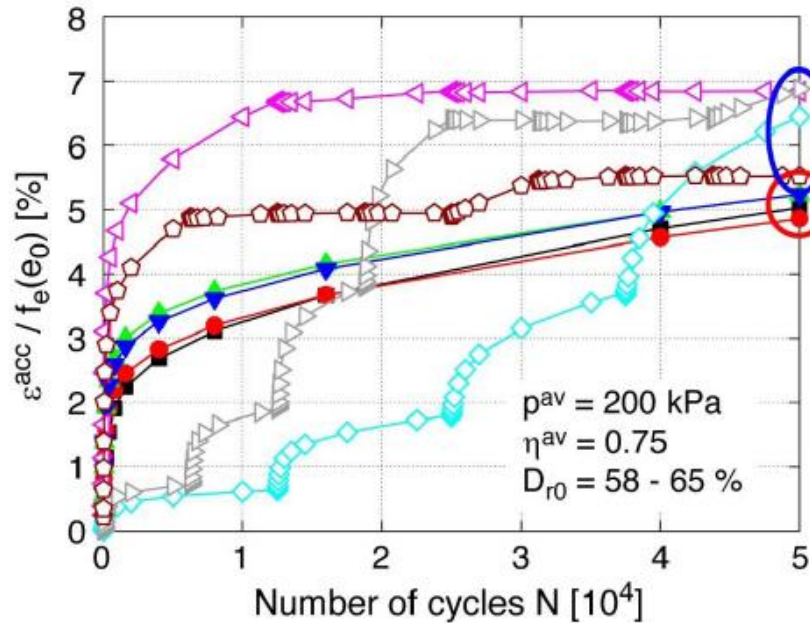


Parameter	Value
$C_{ampl}$	1.76
$C_e$	0.53
$e_{ref}$	0.874
$C_p$	0.42
$C_Y$	2.06
$C_{N\ 1}$	$3.6 \times 10^{-4}$
$C_{N\ 2}$	0.42
$C_{N\ 3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-4}$

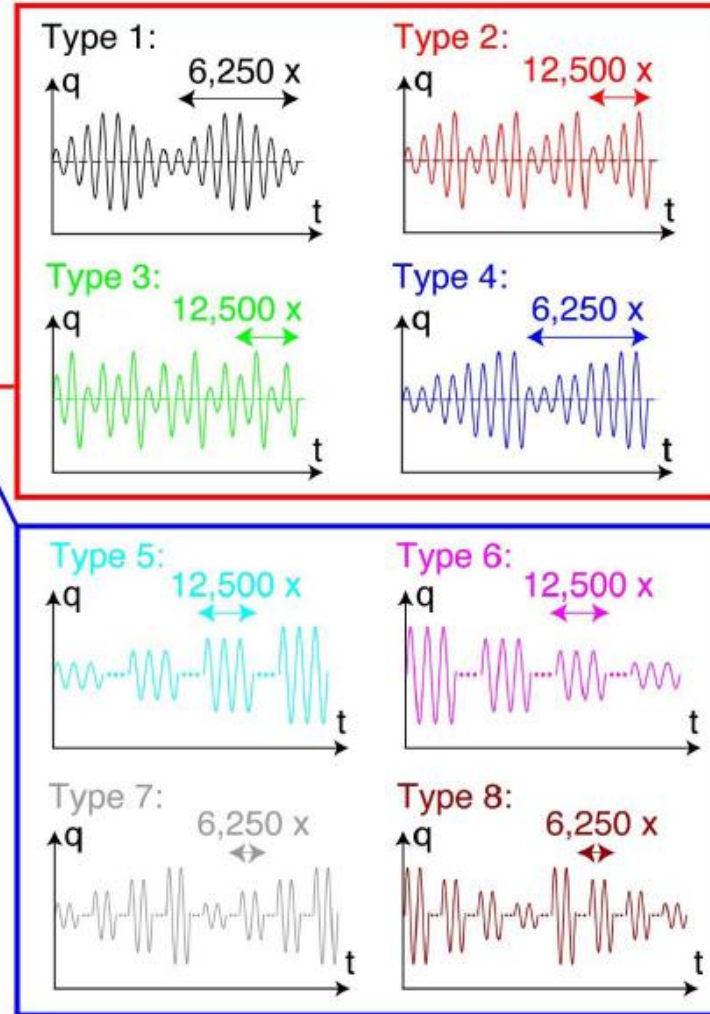


# Parameters affecting strain accumulation

## Frequently changing amplitudes



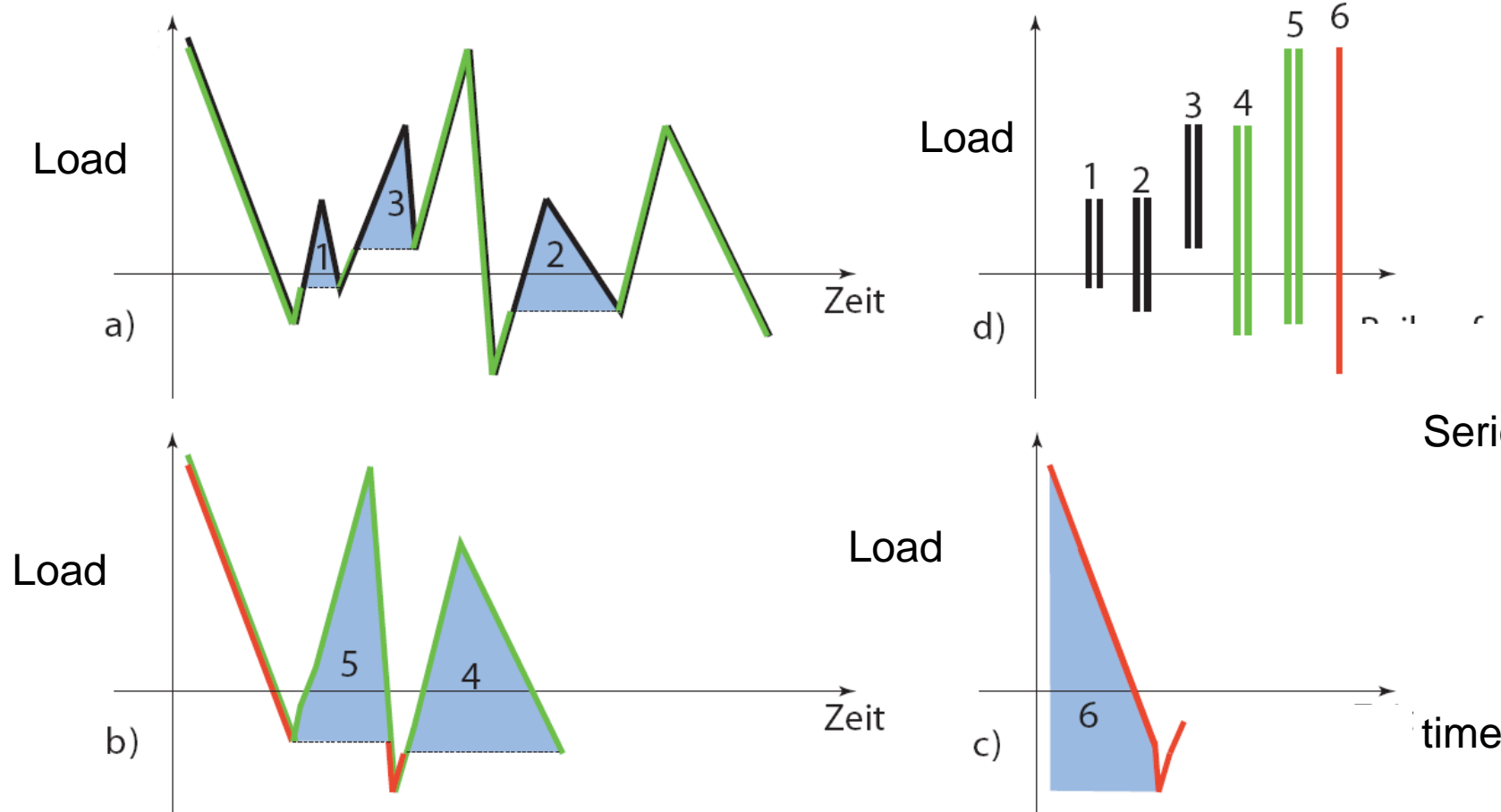
- Slightly lower residual strains for frequently changing amplitudes
- Grouping into bundles is conservative



For constant average stress  $p_{av}$  the grouping into packages (bundles) leads to slightly higher accumulation of strains. Example for  $N = 50000$  in total but different sequences of loading.

The start with the highest amplitude in the majority of studied cases in the model resulted to the maximum of accumulated strains.

# Conversion of a stochastic Signal as a series of bundles of cycles

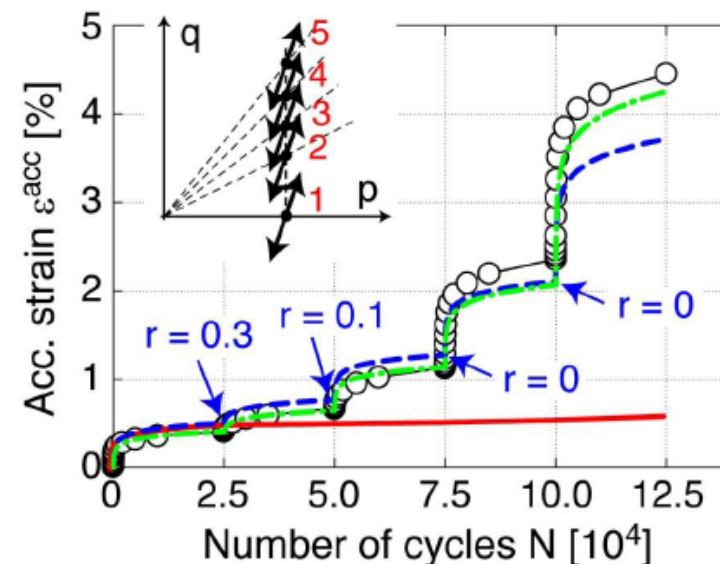
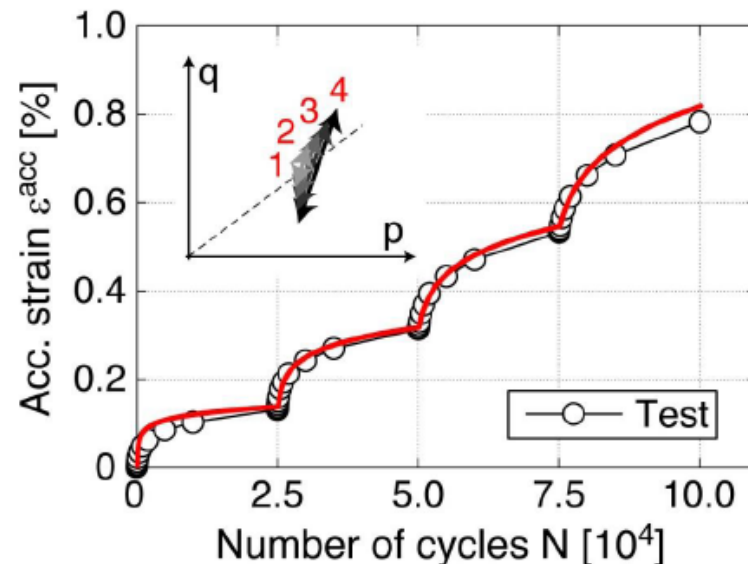
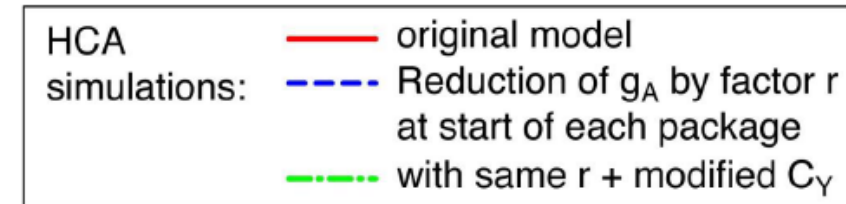


In the general case of varying average stress and amplitude the Rainflow counting method can be applied using half cycles

Series of halfcycles

# Parameters affecting strain accumulation

Monotonic loading phases between bundles of cycles applied at different average stresses – loss of cyclic preloading memory



Wichtmann, T., Triantafyllidis, Th. (2017): Strain accumulation due to packages of cycles with varying amplitude and/or average stress - on the bundling of cycles and the loss of the cyclic preloading memory. *Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering*, Vol. 101, pp. 250-263.

An extension of the HCA model is possible in combination with the implicit model used for the determination of the strain amplitude

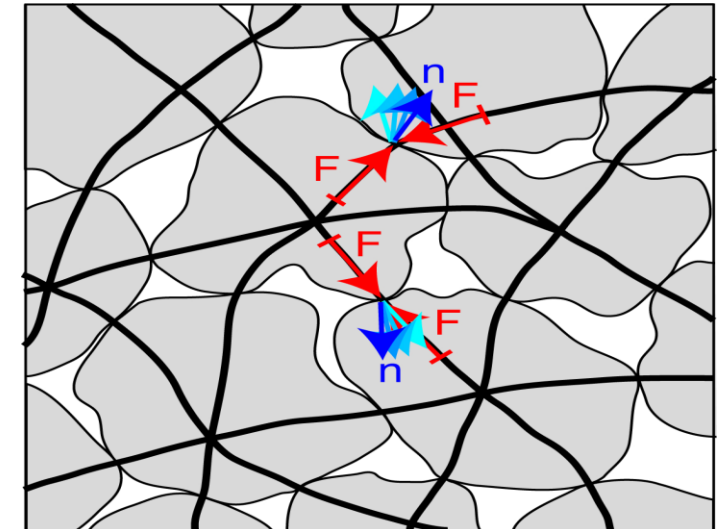
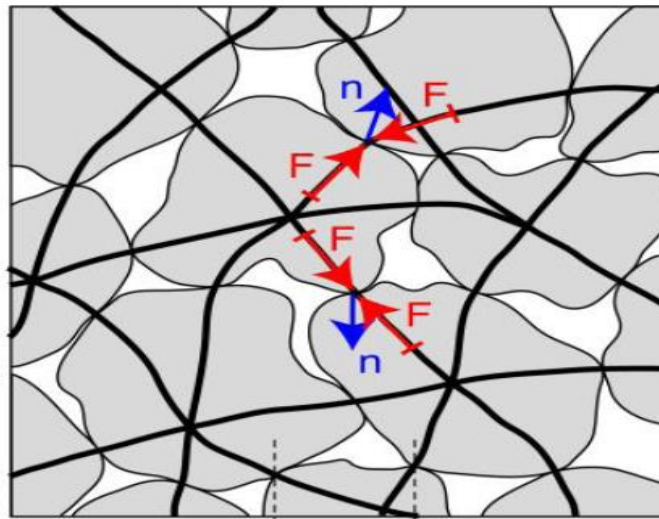
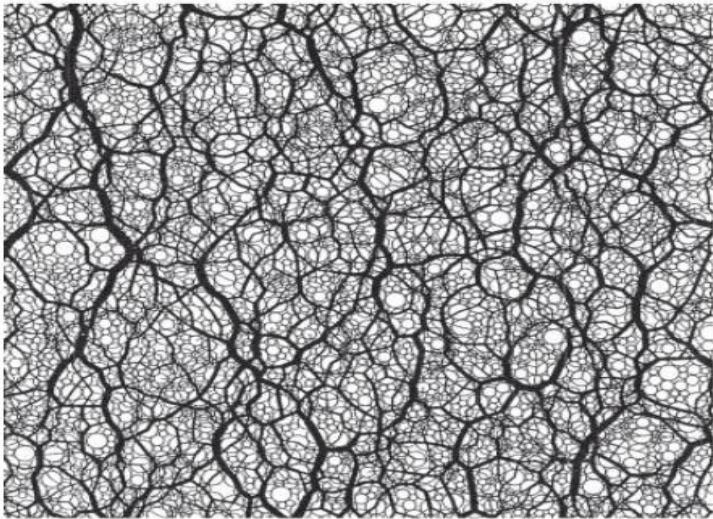
(see further WS presentations for advanced modelling)

→ HCA calculation procedure has to be extended by a „forgetting mode“

## Analogy to the fractal structures of the force interparticle chains

Force interparticle chains depend on the surface angularity of grains

→ fractal structure in the stochastic sense

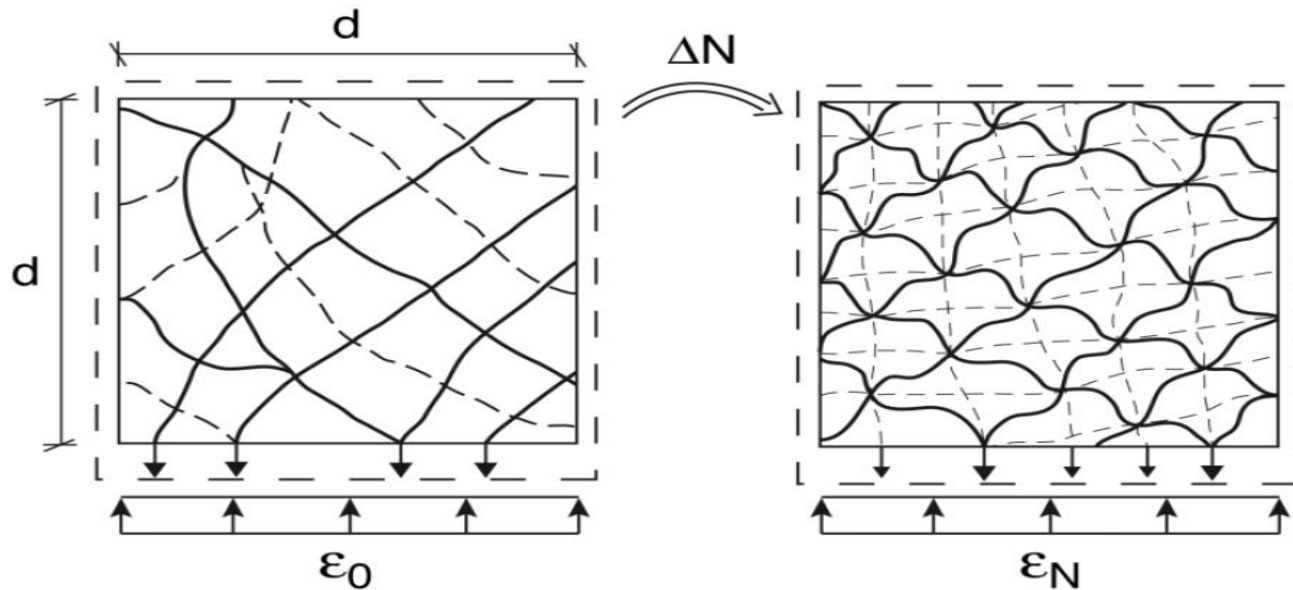


Cyclic loading lead to changes of the grain contacts

→ changes in direction and intensity of the intergranular forces with the number of cycles

# Analogy to the fractal structures of the force interparticle chains

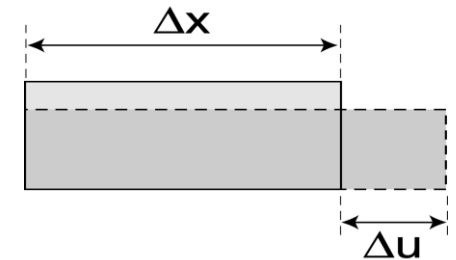
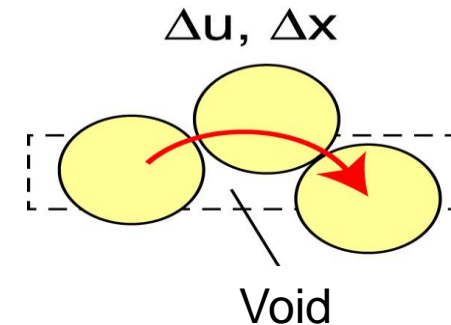
- The structure of the force chains can not be described via homogenisation to a continuum. A better description with the fractional calculus is possible (fractional derivatives)
- Changes of the load chains due to the number of cycles has an influence on the strain accumulation :



$$\varepsilon = D_N^\alpha = \frac{\partial^\alpha \varepsilon}{\partial N^\alpha}$$

$$\Delta \varepsilon(N) = I_{\Delta N}^\alpha D_{\Delta N}^\alpha \varepsilon = \varepsilon_N - \varepsilon_0$$

The strain path due to grain contacts is not the direct line between the elements in a continuum but they follow the chain of forces of the adjacent grains. Displacements and paths can be described with a power function.



$$\varepsilon_{fract} = \frac{\partial u^\alpha}{\partial x^\alpha}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \varepsilon$$

## HCA-Model-rate of strain accumulation as a power function

$$f_N = C_{N1} \ln(1 + C_{N2}N) \quad (5.12)$$

$$f_N = C_{N1} [\ln(1 + C_{N2}N) + C_{N3}N] \quad (5.13)$$

$$f_N = C_{N1} N^{C_{N2}} \quad (5.14)$$

Power function

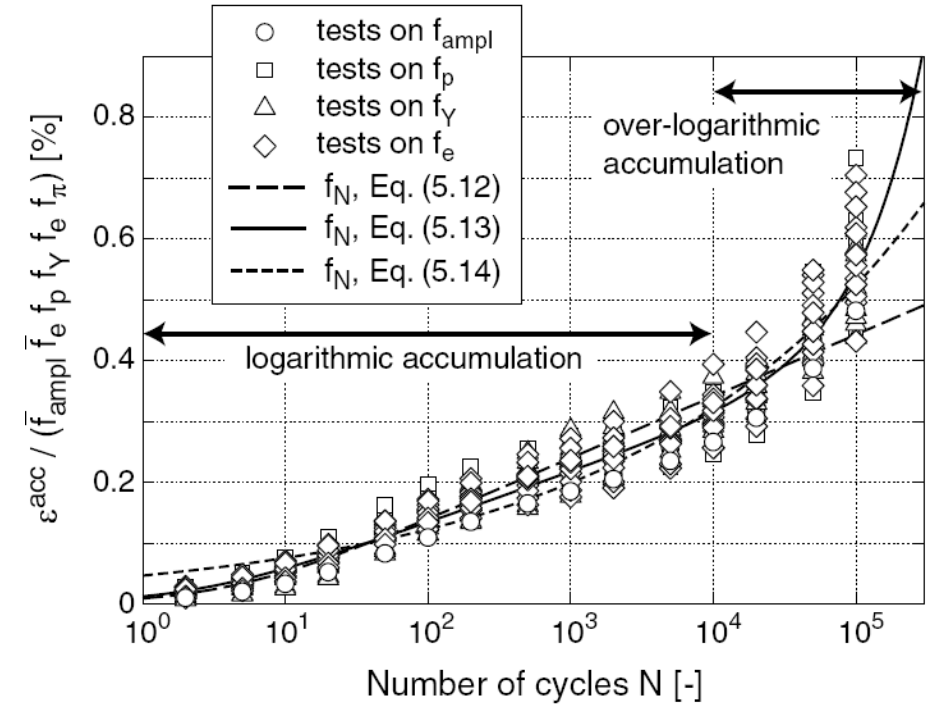
$$\varepsilon^{acc} = C_{N1} \cdot N^{C_{N2}}$$

$$\dot{\varepsilon}^{acc} = C_{N1} C_{N2} \cdot N^{-(1-C_{N2})}$$

Rate of accumulation and fractal dimension do not depend on the number of cycles N ( log-log graph )

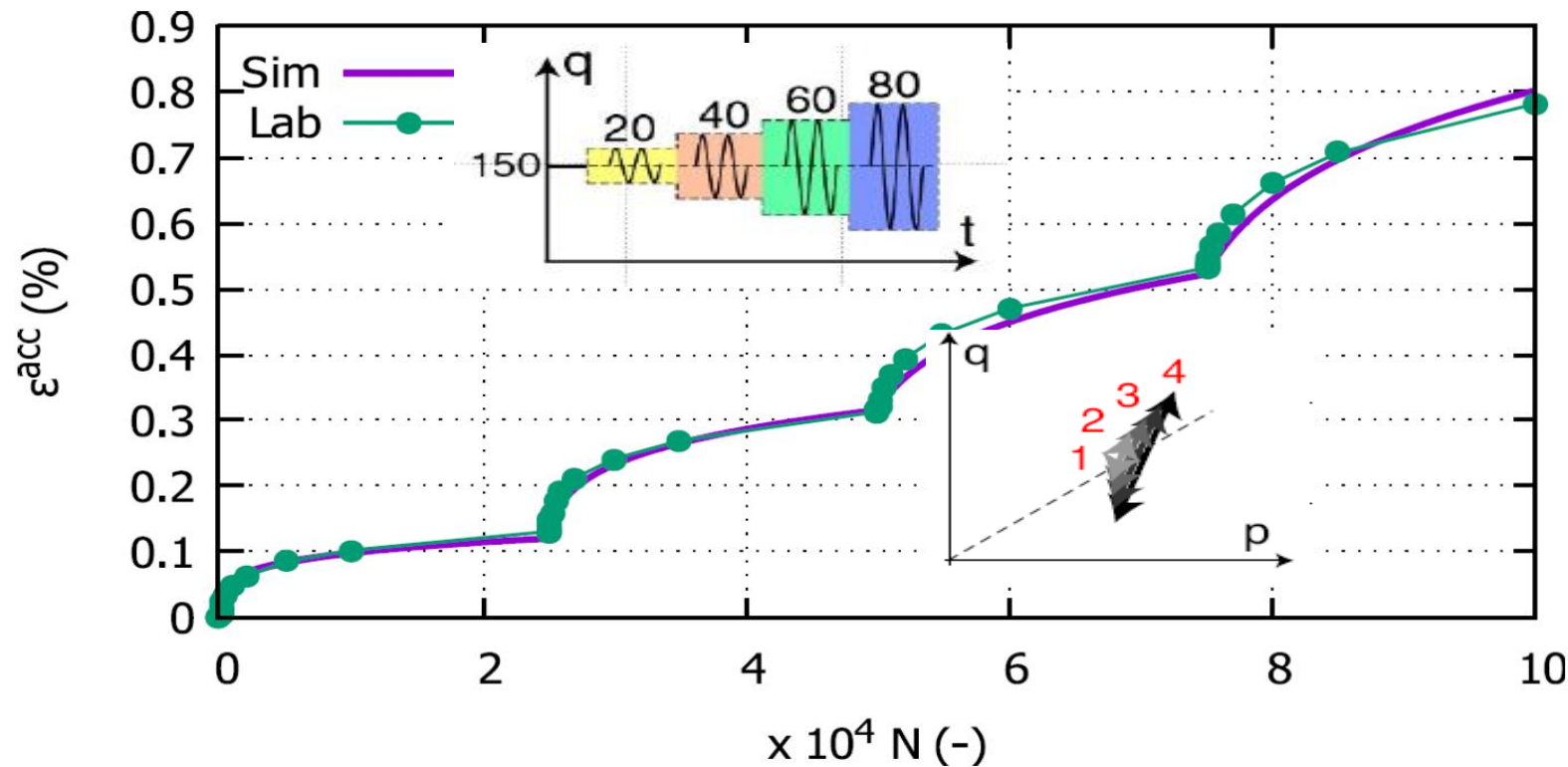
$$\frac{D^{C_{N2}} \varepsilon^{acc}}{D N^{C_{N2}}} = C_{N2} \cdot C_{N1} \cdot \Gamma(C_{N2}) \neq f(N)$$

(Gamma Function)

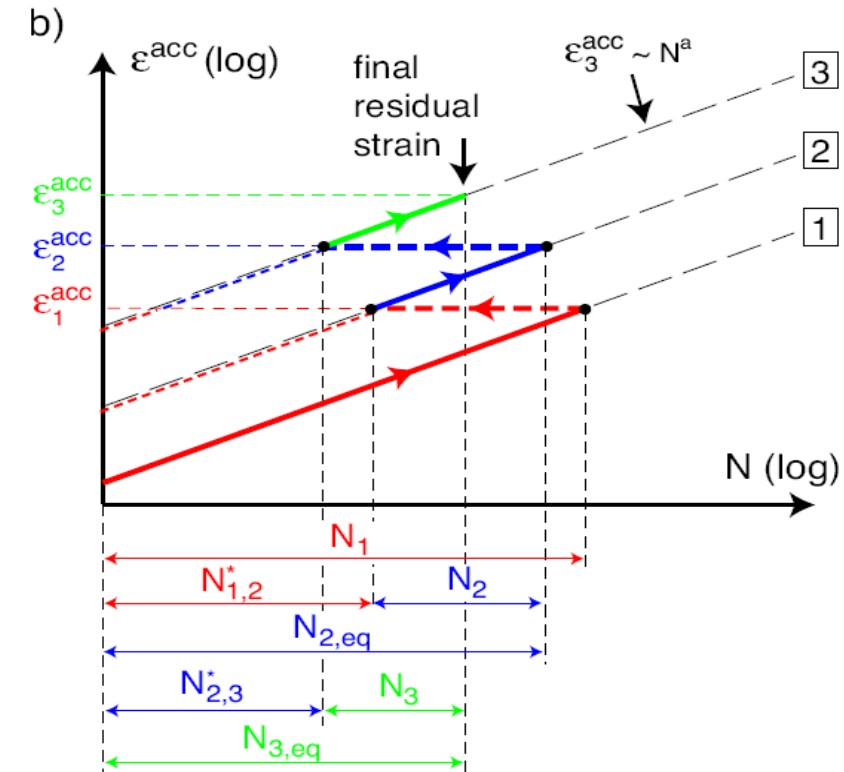


## HCA-Model-for the accumulation using fractional calculus

Integration over the rate of accumulation with the numbers of cycles leads to the accumulation of deformation  $\epsilon^{\text{acc}}$  for different amplitudes of loading but for the same average of stresses with the fractional calculus



$$C_{N1} = 6,48 \cdot 10^{-4}, \quad C_{N2} = 0,177$$



# Problems associated with the offshore wind turbines

## Definition of the Amplitude in multidimensional cyclic loading

### Multidimensional cyclic loading

- Multidimensional stress and strain paths result e.g. from moving loads (traffic)
- HCA model incorporates a multidimensional amplitude definition for 6D paths
- Strain amplitude  $\varepsilon^{\text{ampl}}$  is obtained from spans  $2R^{(i)}$  and directions  $\mathbf{r}^{(i)}$  determined from a series of projections of the strain loop from the 6D to 1D space

Niemunis (2003), Niemunis et al. (2005)

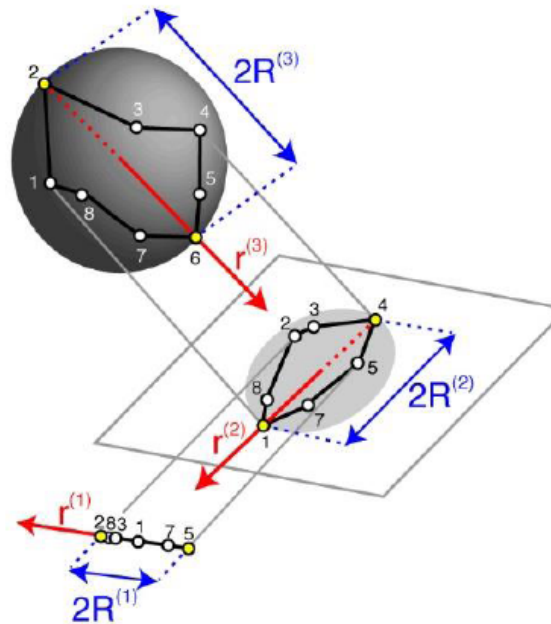
Niemunis, A., Wichtmann, T., Triantafyllidis, Th. (2005):  
A high-cycle accumulation model for sand.  
Computers and Geotechnics, Vol. 32, No. 4, pp. 245-263.

$$\varepsilon^{\text{ampl}} = \left\| \sum_{i=1}^6 R^{(i)} \mathbf{r}^{(i)} \otimes \mathbf{r}^{(i)} \right\|$$

- Confirmed for 1D and 2D strain paths

Wichtmann, T., Niemunis, A., Triantafyllidis, Th. (2007):  
On the influence of the polarization and the shape of the strain  
loop on strain accumulation in sand under high-cyclic loading.  
Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering, Vol. 27, No. 1, pp. 14-28.

- Purpose: Validation for up to 4D strain paths



In 3D Problems we need in general 6 components of the strains to describe the deformation behavior.

The amplitude is defined in 1D and therefore a new definition for the amplitude in order to capture its dimensionality is required.

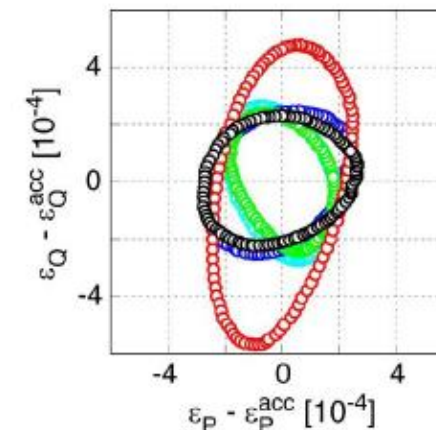
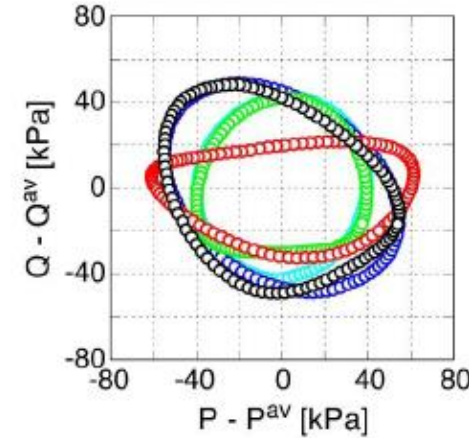
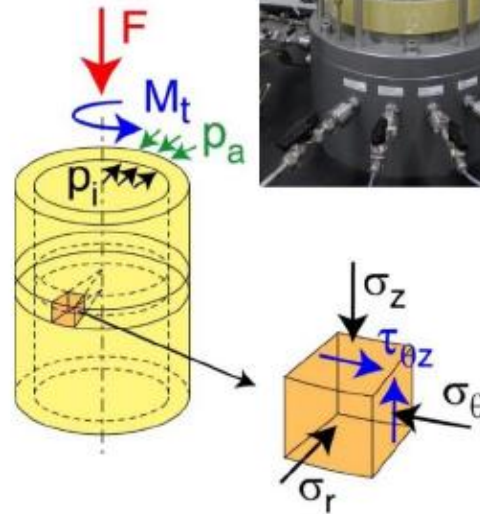
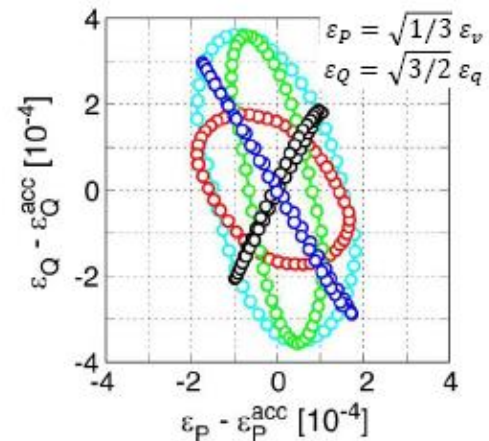
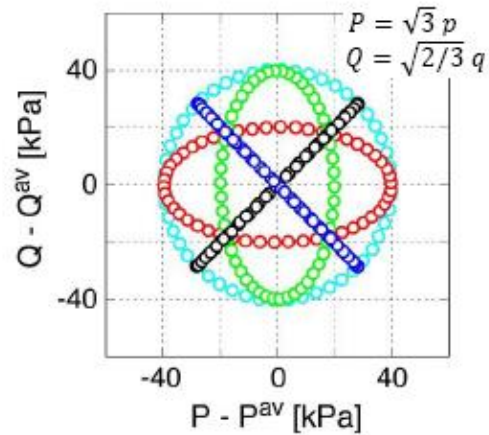
Subsequent projections of the 6D hypersphere of the largest strain spans to the lower dimensions will be used and the euclidian norm of the projections is used for the new amplitude definition

Is this definition correct or validated?

# Parameters affecting the strain accumulation

## Multidimensional cycling loading

- a) Cylindrical specimens (water saturated)
- b) Cube shaped specimens with local measurement (dry)
- c) Hollow cylinder specimens (water saturated)



## Stress tensor

$$\begin{matrix} \sigma_{rr} & \sigma_{r\theta} & \sigma_{rz} \\ \sigma_{\theta r} & \sigma_{\theta\theta} & \sigma_{\theta z} \\ \sigma_{zr} & \sigma_{z\theta} & \sigma_{zz} \end{matrix}$$

4 components can be varied

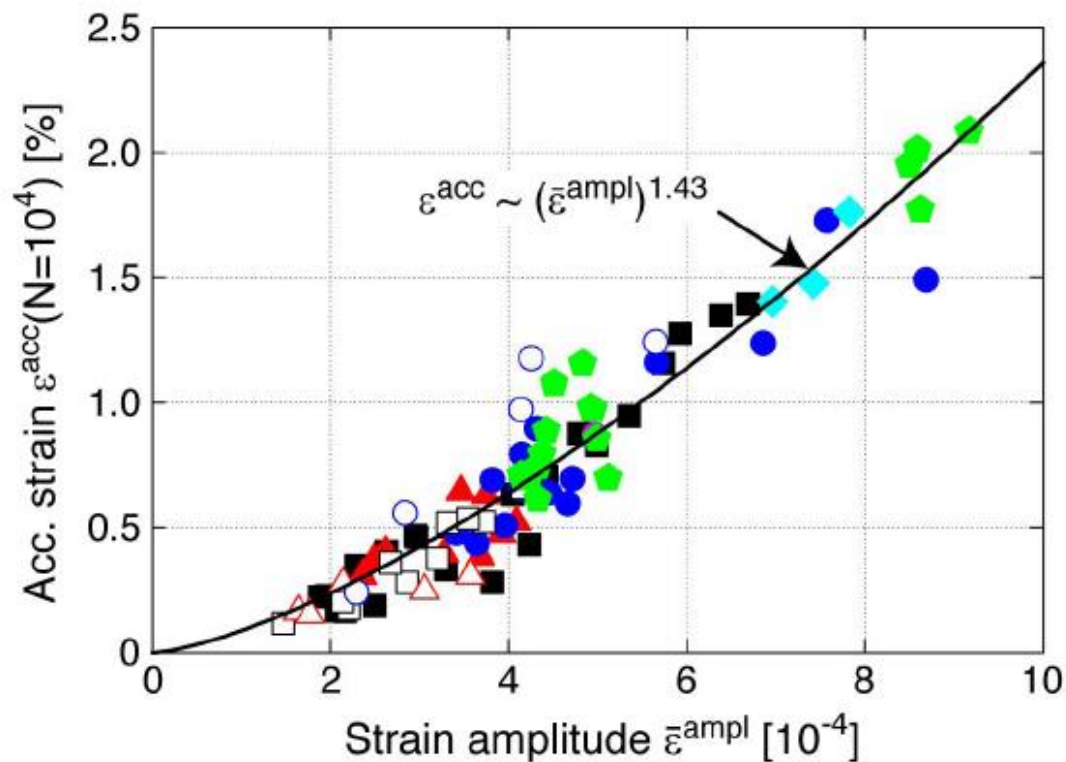
Dissertation  
L. Knittel, KIT (2020)

Knittel, L. (2020):  
Behaviour of granular soils  
under multidimensional  
cyclic loading (in German),  
PhD thesis, KIT, Karlsruhe  
Issue No. 188

# Parameters affecting the strain accumulation

## Multidimensional cycling loading

Karlsruhe fine sand,  $D_{r0} \approx 40\%$



Full cylinder, water-saturated:

- 1D
- ▲ 2D, elliptical
- 2D, circular

Cube-shaped, dry:

- 1D
- △ 2D, elliptical
- 2D, circular

Hollow cylinder:

- 2D, circular
- ◆ 3D
- ◆ 4D

Knittel, L. (2020)

Results:

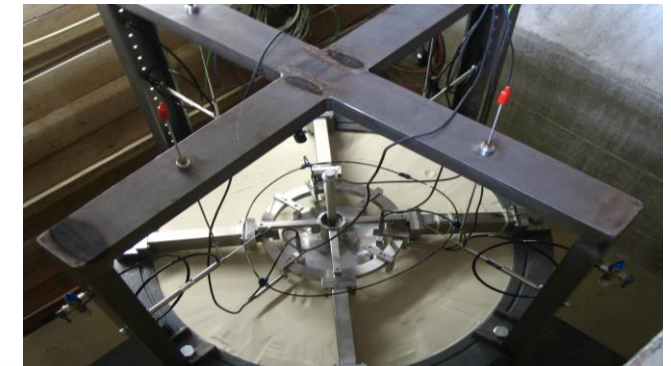
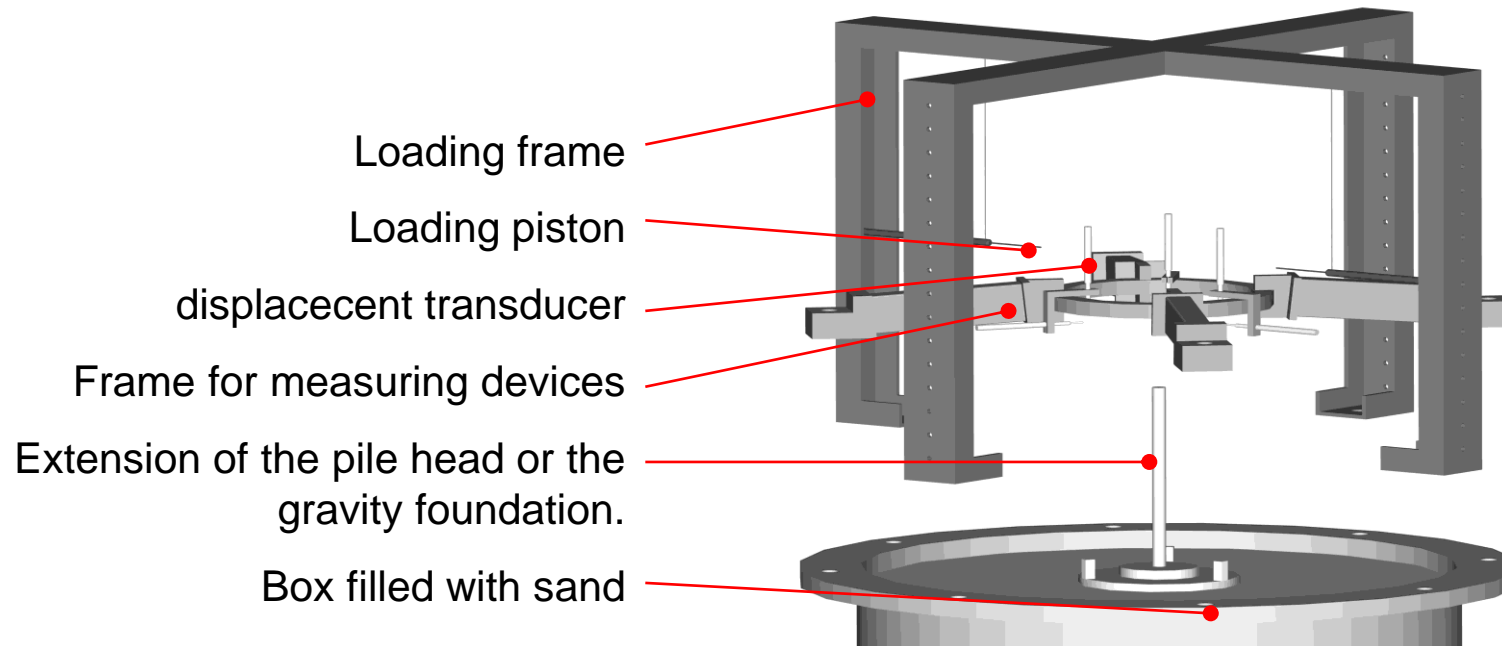
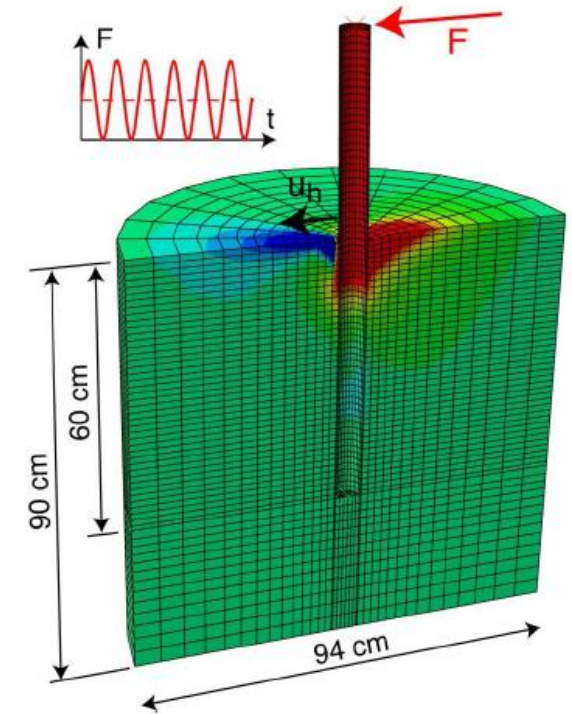
- 1) Using the definition of the multidimensional amplitude the experimental data for 1D to 4D strain paths lead to a single function  $f_{\text{ampl}}$ .
- 2) The definition of the multidimensional amplitude is validated for up to 4D strain paths
- 3) This validation is sufficient for the analysis of monopile or gravity foundations of WTs

# Validations of the HCA Model with model and in situ tests

Testing box is a steel cylinder  $D = 94 \text{ cm}$ ,  $H = 143 \text{ cm}$  with possible extensions for higher water level than the soil surface and mounting of the loading and measuring frames

- Sand dry,  $d_{50} = 0,164 \text{ mm}$ ,  $C_u = 2,2$ ,  $\varphi_c = 33^\circ$
- $e_{\min} = 0,67$ ,  $e_{\max} = 1,05$ , relative density  $I_D \approx 90\text{-}93\%$
- Preparation methods: dry raining, moist tamping in layers, Soil mass  $\approx 1550 \text{ kg}$

FE model:

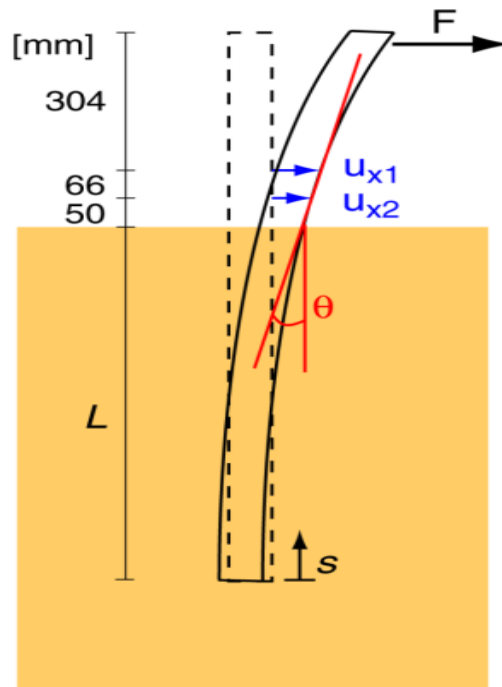


# Validations of the HCA Model with model and in situ tests

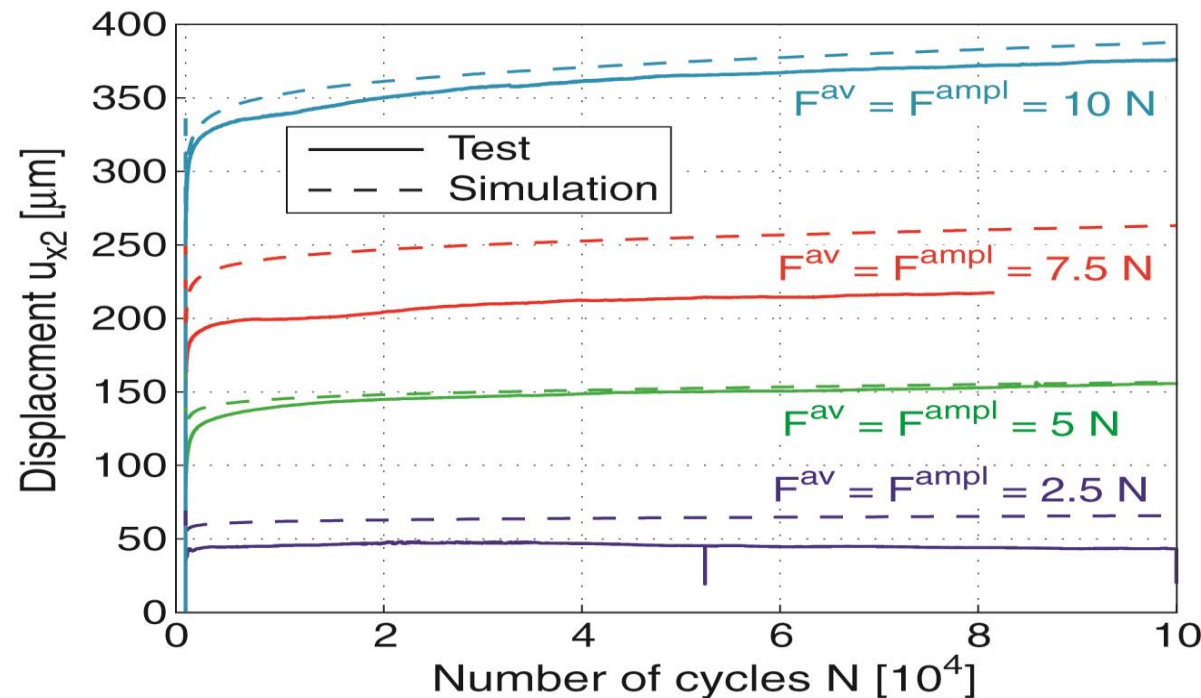
Based on small-scale (1:50) model tests

- Model tests on shallow and monopile foundations (1:50) with high-cyclic loading
- Aim: Inspection of the HCA model under clearly defined boundary conditions

Monopiles:

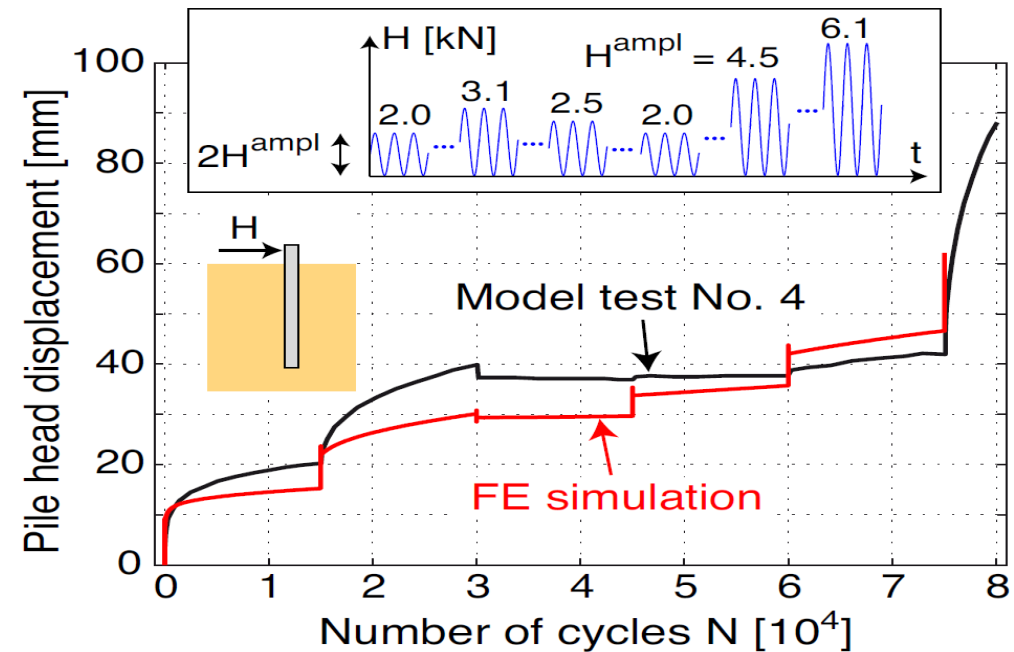
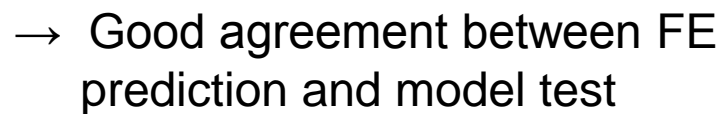


Bending moments in the pile due to accumulation effects under swelling loads



Good agreement between FE prediction and model test

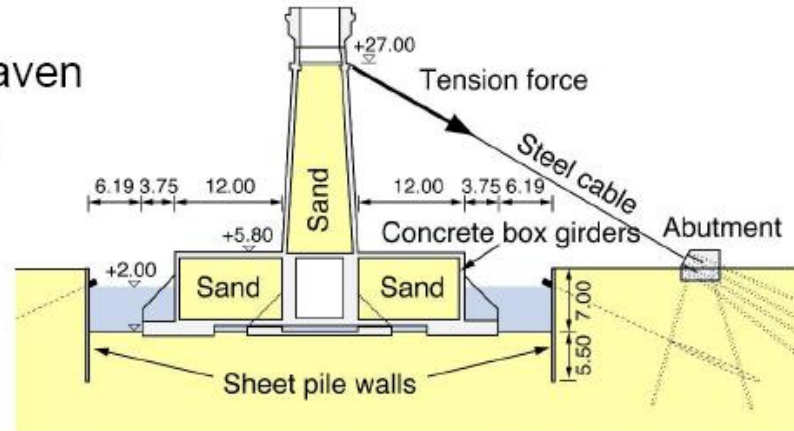
- HCA model parameters of Berlin Sand determined based on cyclic tests performed at IBF
- FE-Model:



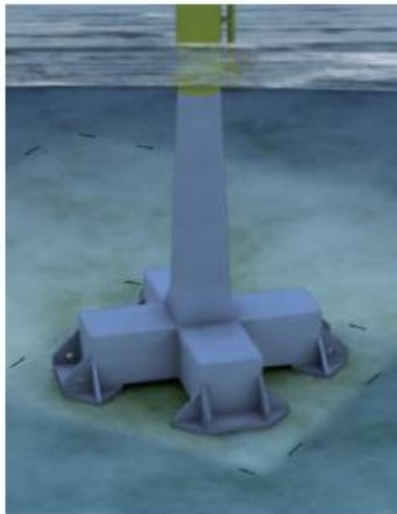
# Validations of the HCA Model with model and in situ tests

Zachert, H., Wichtmann, T., Kudella, P., Triantafyllidis, Th. (2020): Inspection of a high-cycle accumulation model for sand based on recalculations of a full-scale test on a gravity base foundation for offshore wind turbines. *Computers and Geotechnics*, Vol. 126, Paper No. 103727

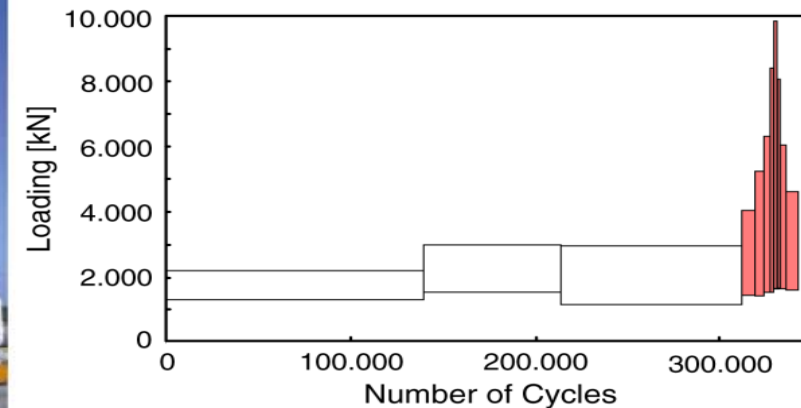
- Construction of a prototype near Cuxhaven
- Instrumentation of subsoil + foundation
- Simulation of 20 storm events by cyclic tension loads applied to tower (approx. 1.6 million cycles)



In situ test of Ed. Züblin AG on a shallow foundations on the shoreline in an excavation pit with back anchored sheet pile walls



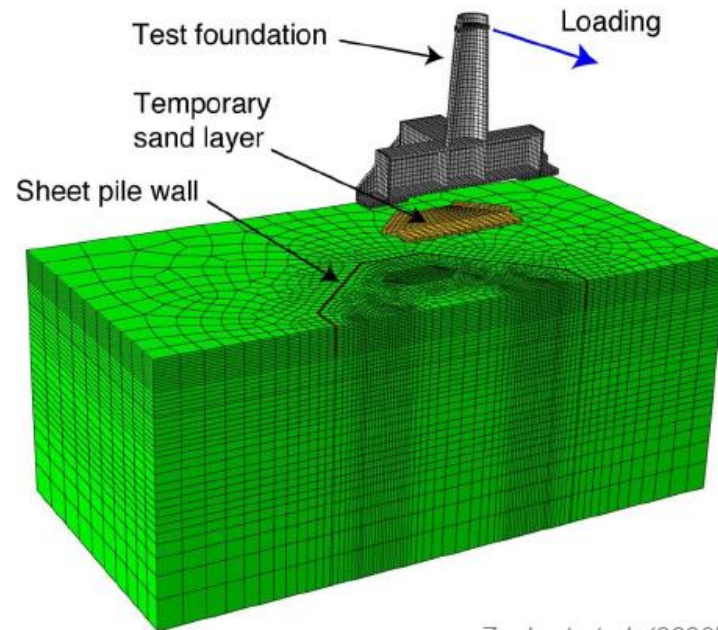
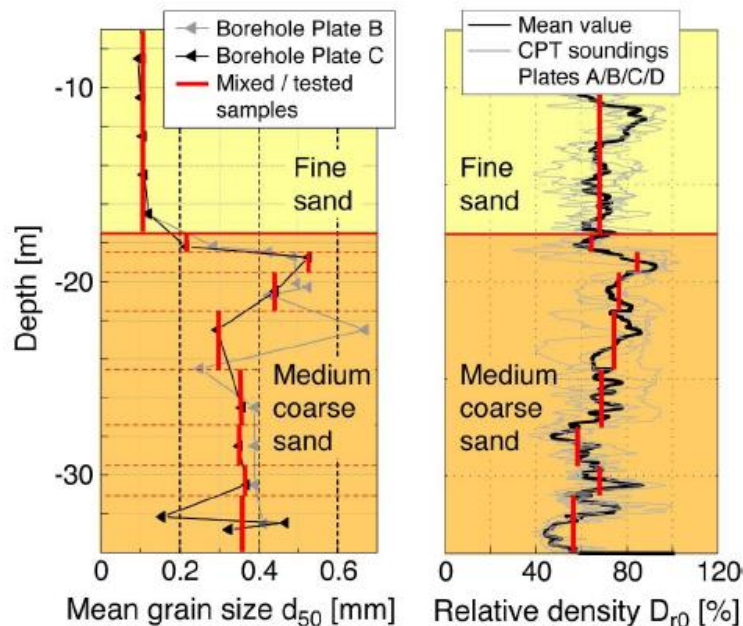
First storm event after 320 K cycles



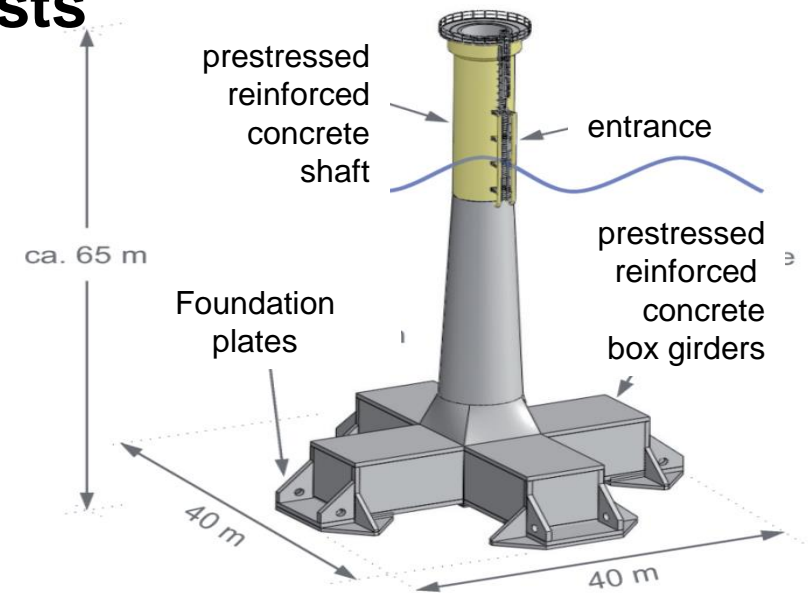
# Validations of the HCA Model with model and in situ tests

Based on full-scale test of Ed. Züblin AG  
on a shallow foundation with high-cyclic loading  
(1,5 Million cycles with different amplitudes) including  
several storm events

- Determination of soil profile, constitutive parameters of the sand layers (from laboratory tests) and initial relative density (from CPT soundings)
- Generation of FE model considering the construction phases

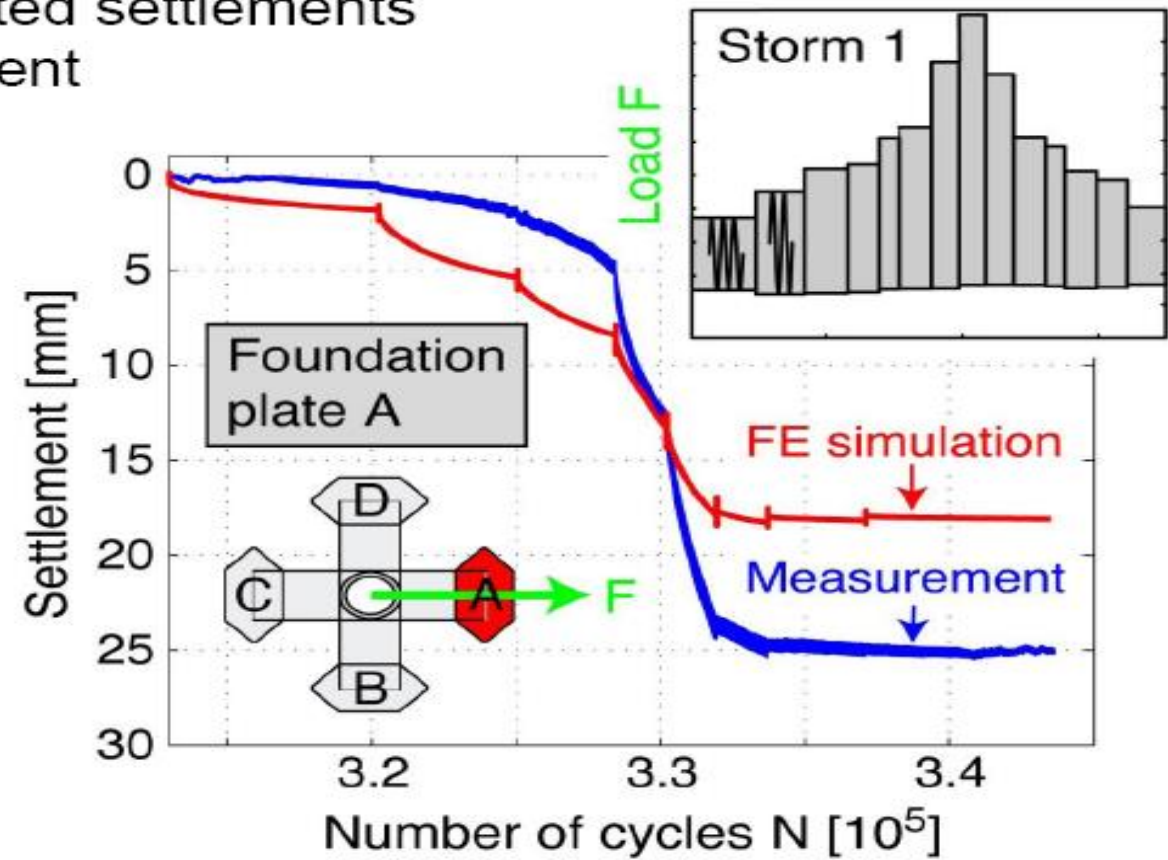
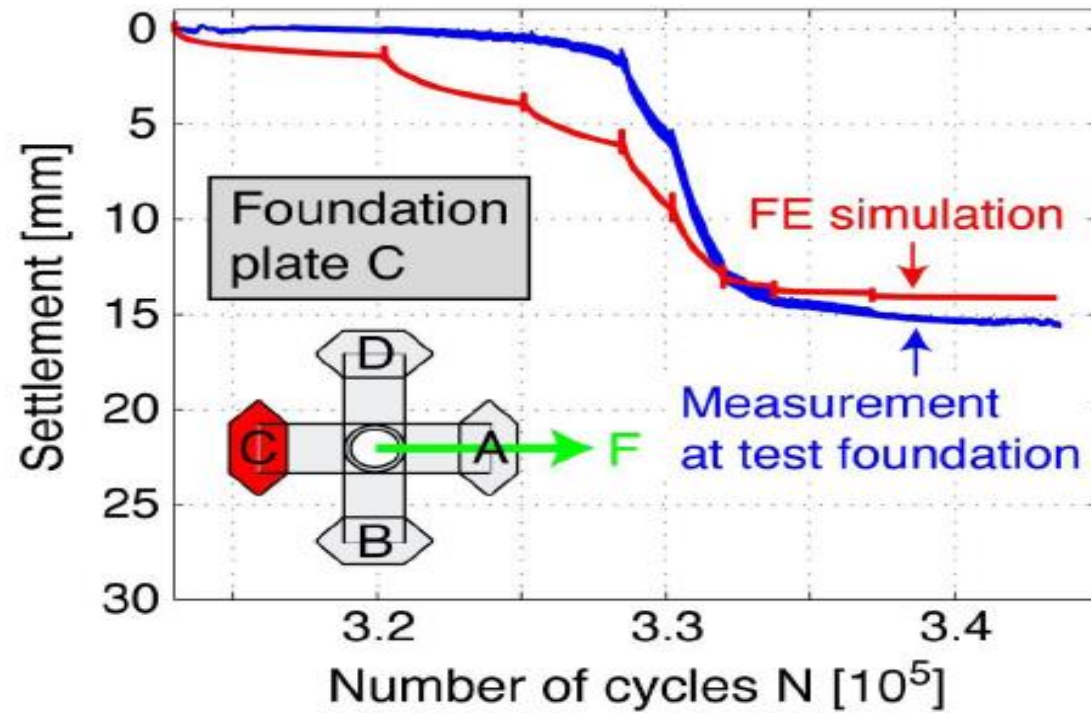


Zachert et al. (2020)



- FE-model (87000 brick elements)
- Determination of HCA model parameters at the institute of soil mechanics and rock mechanics IBF(KIT)

- Comparison of measured and calculated settlements of plates A and C during first storm event



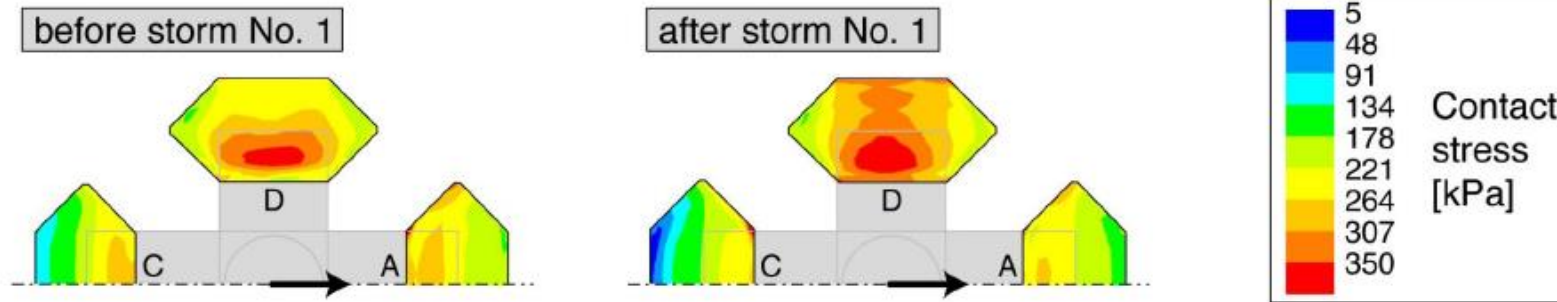
→ Satisfying agreement between measured data and FE simulations for plate C, underestimation of settlement for plate A

Zachert et al. (2020)

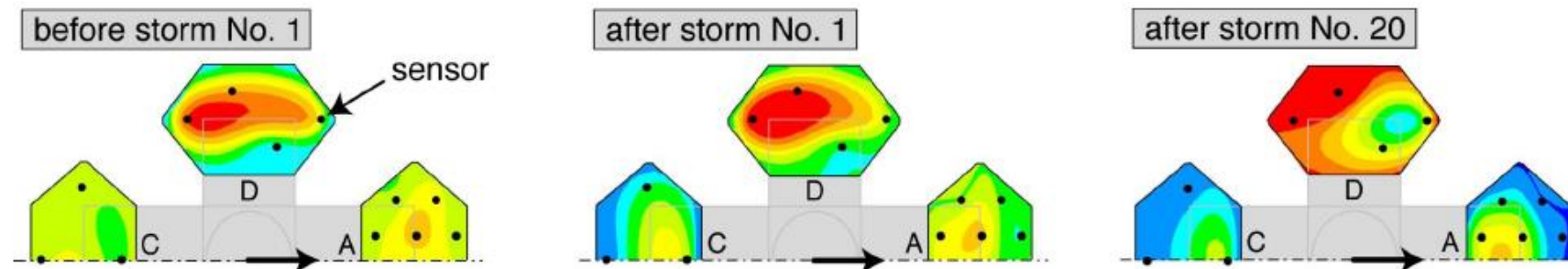
# Validations of the HCA Model with model and in situ tests

- Contact stresses: Redistribution from plates A and C to B and D

## FE simulations:



## Measured:



→ Qualitative and quantitative similar

Before the first storm event the model predict an **increasing concentration of stresses perpendicular to the direction of loading** and this effect seems to become more pronounced with the number of the storm events.

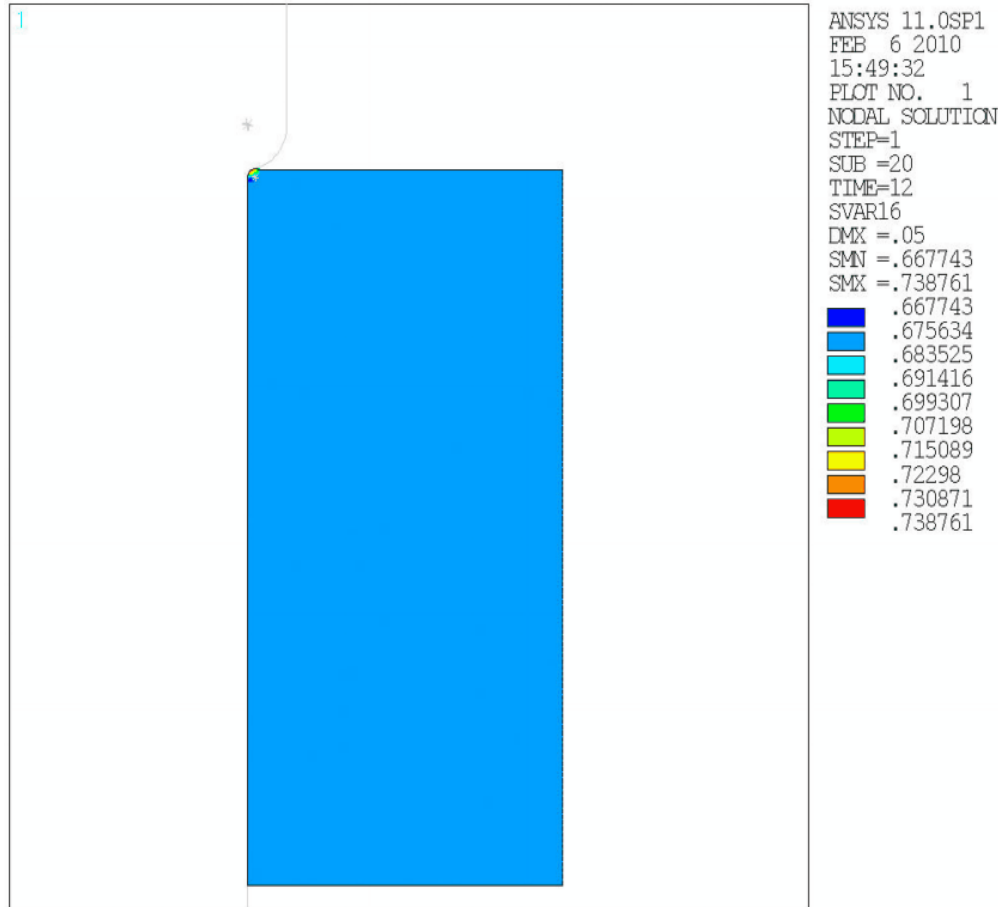
Similar results have been also measured in the in situ test validating the model's predictions

Zachert et al. (2020)

# Influence of the installation methods on behaviour of monopile foundation

## Quasi-static pile penetration in dry sand:

### Evolution of void ratio



Calculations with a combined Euler – Lagrange Formulation and adaptive FE meshing

$$\dot{\phi} = \frac{\partial \hat{\phi}}{\partial t} + \nabla_c \phi$$

Material time derivative

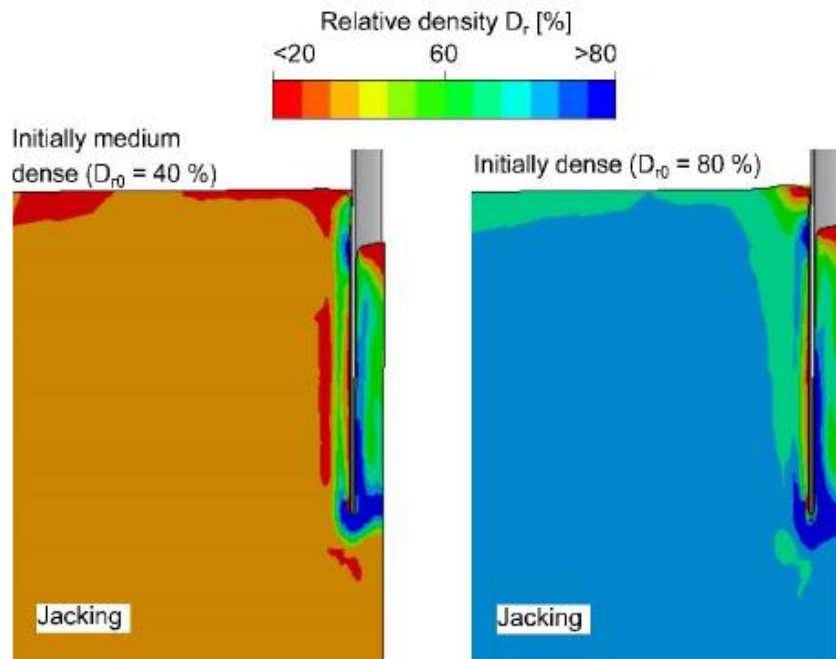
Local time derivative at fixed reference point

Convective term due to relative velocity

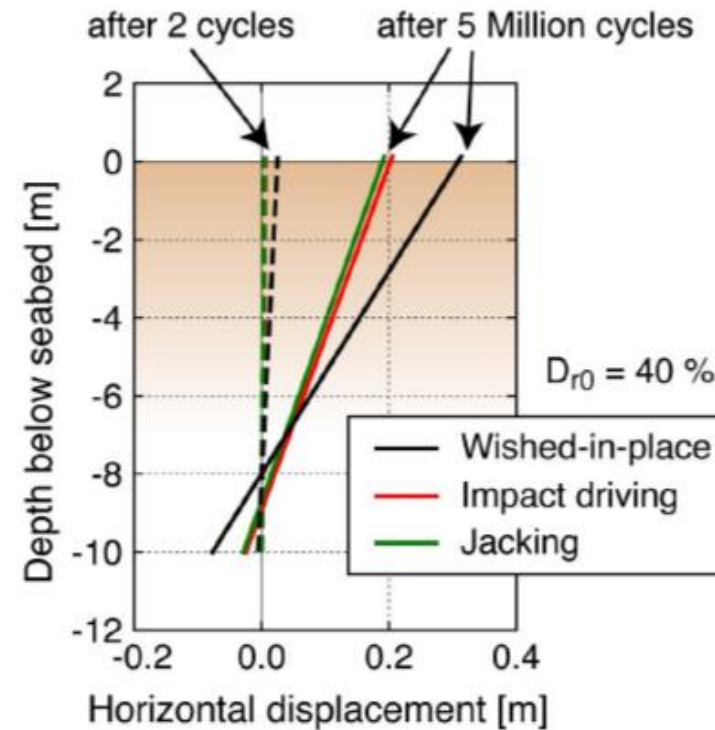
$c = 0$	Lagrange
$c = v$	Euler

# Influence of the installation methods on the high cycle behaviour of WT monopile foundation

Density changes due to installation  
(simulated with a CEL model, afterwards  
state is transferred to Lagrangian model)

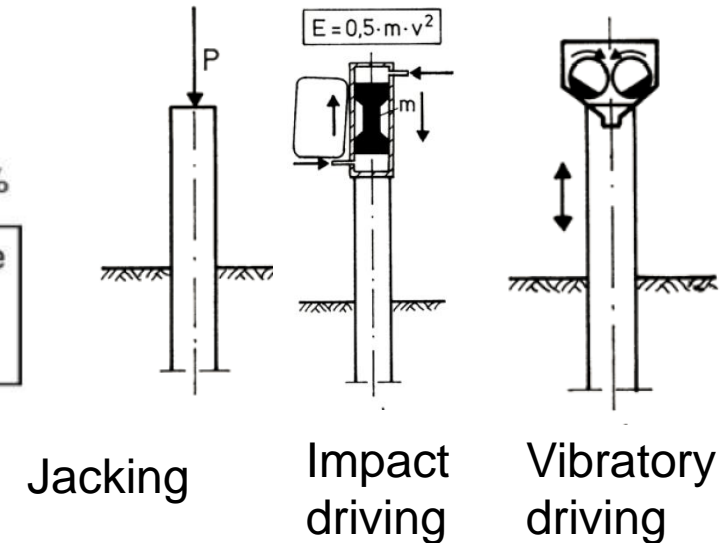


Pile deflections  
due to high-cyclic loading:



Further installation methods:

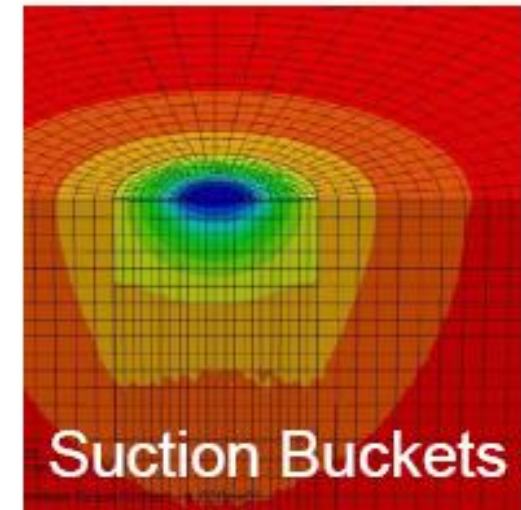
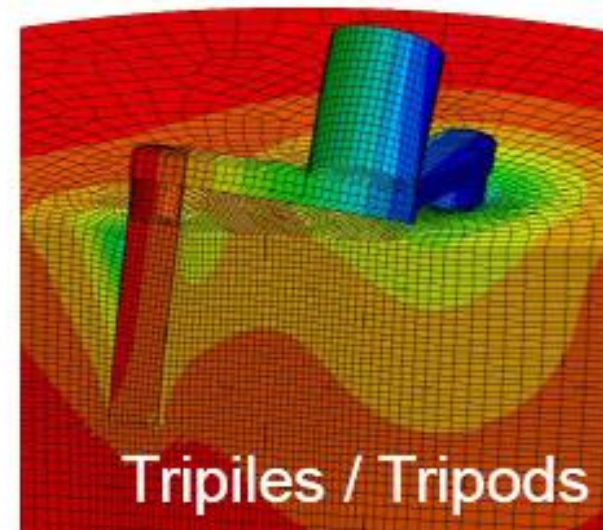
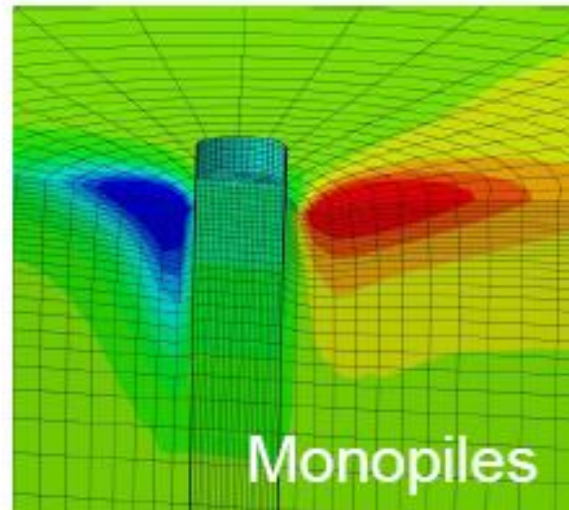
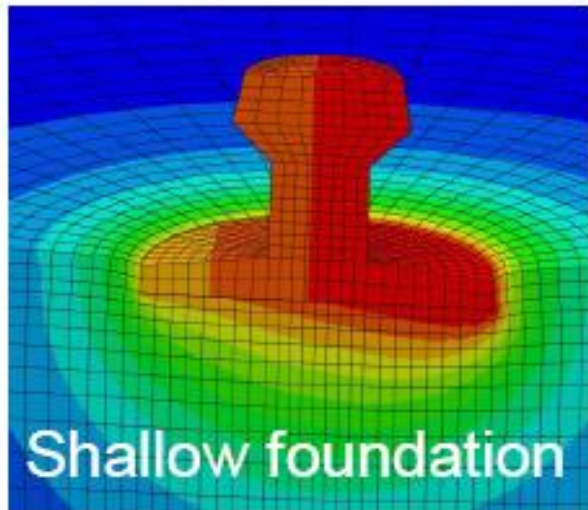
- Impact driving
- Vibratory driving
- Boring
- and combinations thereof



Staubach, P., Machacek, J., Moscoso, M.C., Wichtmann, T. (2020):  
Impact of different installation procedures on the long-term cyclic behaviour of piles in sand: a numerical study.  
Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering, Vol. 138, Paper No. 106223

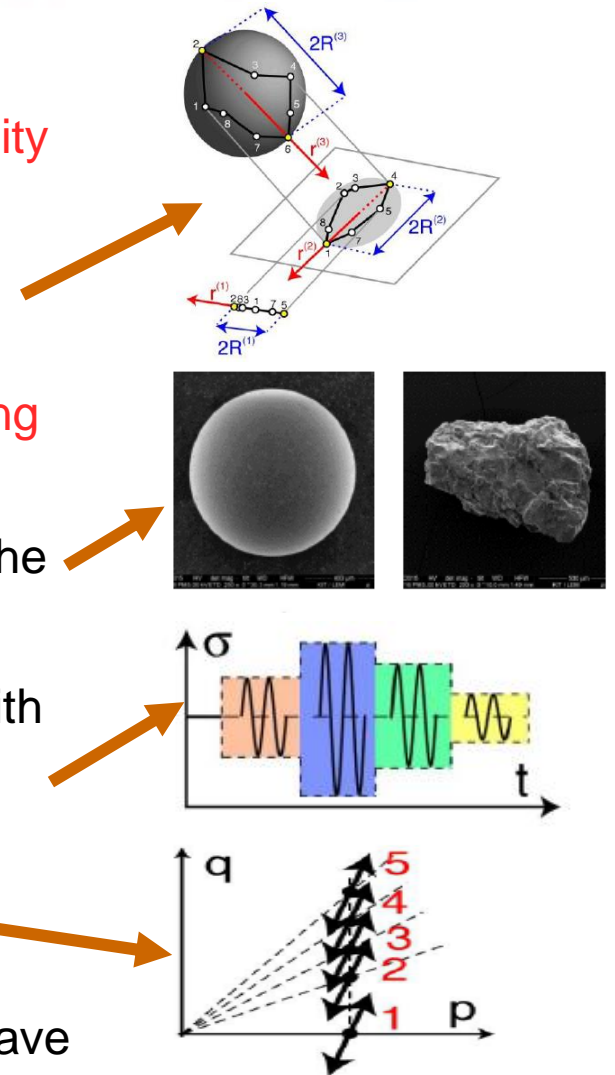
# Summary

- The high cycle loading on the foundation structure due to wind and waves can be easily captured by the HCA Modell
- **HCA model requires:**
  - Cyclic triaxial tests
  - Detailed determination of material parameters and soil parameters
- **HCA model is validated with small scale model tests and real scale tests (settlements, PWP development and contact pressure rearrangement)**
  - Flexible in application to conventional or new types of foundation structure or to any boundary value problem without restrictions



# Summary

- The accumulated strain increases with **increasing strain amplitude, decreasing density and increasing average stress ratio**
- The definition of the **multidimensional amplitude** has been confirmed with up to **4-D cyclic strain paths**
- The accumulated strain increases with **decreasing mean grain size  $d_{50}$  and increasing uniformity coefficient  $C_u$**
- The **shape and the surface characteristics of the grains** have a strong influence on the amplitude and pressure dependence of the strain accumulation
- The **bundling of a cycling loading** with random amplitudes into series of packages with constant amplitude is conservative. The accumulation of different amplitudes can be dealt with **fractional calculus**
- Monotonic loading phases between packages of cycles may partly **erase the cyclic preloading memory** – **ongoing research**
- Installation methods** influence strongly the cyclic behaviour of monopiles and they have to be considered – **ongoing research**



# Thank you for your attention!

