

Dilatancy Relation for Overconsolidated Clay

Zhiwei Gao¹; Jidong Zhao²; and Zhen-Yu Yin³

Abstract: A distinct feature of overconsolidated (OC) clays is that their dilatancy behavior is dependent on the degree of overconsolidation. Typically, a heavily OC clay shows volume expansion, whereas a lightly OC clay exhibits volume contraction when subjected to shear. Proper characterization of the stress-dilatancy behavior proves to be important for constitutive modeling of OC clays. This paper presents a dilatancy relation in conjunction with a bounding surface or subloading surface model to simulate the behavior of OC clays. At the same stress ratio, the proposed relation can reasonably capture the relatively more dilative response for clay with a higher overconsolidation ratio (OCR). It may recover to the dilatancy relation of a modified Cam-clay (MCC) model when the soil becomes normally consolidated (NC). A demonstrative example is shown by integrating the dilatancy relation into a bounding surface model. With only three extra parameters in addition to those in the MCC model, the new model and the proposed dilatancy relation provide good predictions on the behavior of OC clay compared with experimental data. DOI: 10.1061/(ASCE)GM.1943-5622.0000793. © 2016 American Society of Civil Engineers.

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Introduction

Naturally deposited clays may exhibit a certain degree of overconsolidation due to their past loading history, such as cyclic loading, repeated compaction, excavation and refilling, and water table variation. A distinct feature of an overconsolidated (OC) clay is that its dilatancy behavior depends closely on the degree of overconsolidation. When subjected to shear, an OC clay shows typically a volume expansion when the overconsolidation ratio (OCR) is high and a volume contraction when the OCR is low (Henkel 1956; Herrmann et al. 1981; Gens 1982; Zervoyanis 1982; Shimizu 1982; Yin et al. 2002; Hattab and Hicher 2004; Nakai and Hinokio 2004). Indeed, dilatancy has always been regarded as key to the characterization of both strength and deformation of soils (Taylor 1948; Rowe 1962; Bolton 1986; Schofield 1998; Jefferies and Shuttle 2002; Mita et al. 2004; Yao et al. 2008; Yao and Zhou 2013; Yin and Chang 2013; Ni et al. 2014; Kimoto et al. 2014; Yao and Wang 2014). Based on the interlocking concept of Taylor (1948), for example, Schofield (1998) has shown that clay on the dry side of the critical state will dilate, and the dilation accounts for the observed difference between the peak and critical state strengths. After the peak, the rate of volume expansion will decrease while the soil gradually approaches the critical state with zero dilatancy.

There have been numerous efforts attempting to address the dilatancy behavior of OC clays, most of which are based on the original or the modified Cam-clay (MCC) models (Roscoe and Schofield 1963; Roscoe and Burland 1968). Representative works include the bounding surface or subloading surface models that incorporate the following MCC dilatancy relation (Yao et al. 2009, 2011):

$$D_{MCC} = \frac{d\varepsilon_v^p}{|d\varepsilon_q^p|} = \frac{M_c^2 - \eta^2}{2\eta} \quad (1)$$

where $d\varepsilon_v^p$ and $d\varepsilon_q^p$ = plastic volumetric and deviatoric strain increments, respectively; $\eta = q/p$ is the stress ratio; $p (= \sigma_{ij}\delta_{ij}/3)$ is the mean stress; $q [= \sqrt{3}(\sigma_{ij} - p\delta_{ij})(\sigma_{ij} - p\delta_{ij})/2]$ is the deviatoric stress, with σ_{ij} and δ_{ij} denoting the stress tensor and Kronecker delta, respectively; $M_c [= 6 \sin \varphi_c / (3 - \sin \varphi_c)]$ is the critical state stress ratio in triaxial compression; and φ_c is the critical state friction angle. The dilatancy relation presented in Eq. (1) is known to fail to capture the dilatancy behavior of heavily OC clays. As long as $\eta < M_c$, the relation gives rise to plastic volume contraction response, whereas experimental observations indicate that heavily OC clays may start to dilate at a stress ratio lower than M_c in triaxial compression (Fig. 1). Therefore, Eq. (1) tends to underestimate the volume expansion of heavily OC clays in drained shear (Yao et al. 2009) or underestimate the amount of negative pore-water pressure generation in undrained shear (Yao et al. 2011). A similar issue may be encountered if a plastic potential function independent of the degree of overconsolidation is used (Banerjee and Yousif 1986; Nakai and Hinokio 2004). Remedying methods have been proposed to overcome this drawback associated with OC clay modeling. In their bounding surface models, Dafalias and Herrmann (1986) as well as Ling et al. (2002), for example, have chosen a mapping center in the p -axis located in between the origin and the apex of the bounding surface (Fig. 2). Because an associated flow rule is defined on the bounding surface, the predicted dilatancy is smaller (or more dilative) when the OCR is higher at the same stress ratio (Fig. 2). A similar idea has been adopted by Hashiguchi (1980) in dealing with the similarity center for the subloading and normal yield surfaces in his model. Pestana and Whittle (1999) have proposed a nonassociated flow rule expressed by a linear interpolation function of the plastic flow at the first yield point and the

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image stress point on the bounding surface for OC clays. Although these approaches have gained more or less success in treating the dilatancy behavior of OC clay in an implicit way, an overly complex formulation involving excessive model parameters that are difficult to calibrate constitutes the main reason they are not widely used for practical application.

Meanwhile, there are also attempts to model clay dilatancy by using the state parameter ψ ($= e - e_c$) as proposed by Been and Jefferies (1985), where e = current void ratio; and e_c = critical void ratio at the same mean effective stress. For example, Scarpelli et al. (2003) have adopted ψ as a state variable to render the response of an OC clay more dilative than that of a normally consolidated (NC) one at the same stress ratio. Special attention, however, has to be paid to ensure that the two conditions, $\psi = 0$ and $\eta = M_c$, are satisfied simultaneously when the clay reaches the critical state (Li and Dafalias 2000). In their micromechanical model for OC clays, Yin and Chang (2009) have introduced an empirical dilatancy relation in terms of e/e_c to account for the effect of overconsolidation. It is yet unclear how the parameters associated with the microscale behavior are determined. It is also noticed that Collins and Muhunthan (2003)

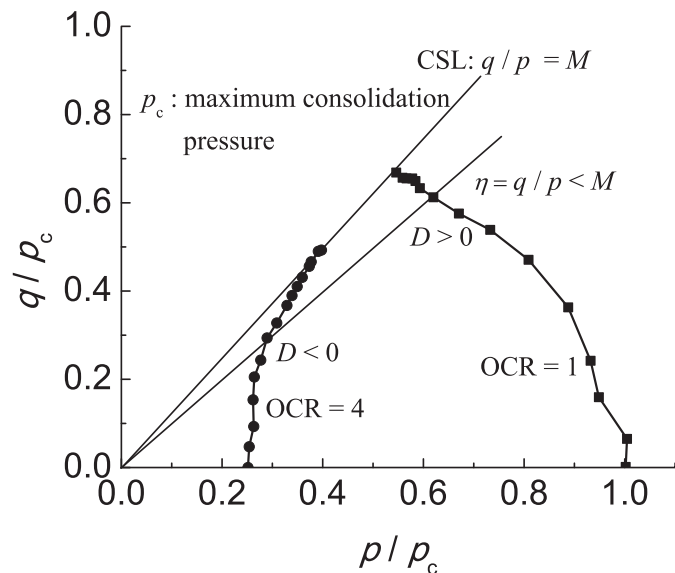


Fig. 1. Typical stress paths for normally consolidated (NC) and OC clays in undrained triaxial compression tests (data from Yin et al. 2002) (Note: CSL = critical state line)

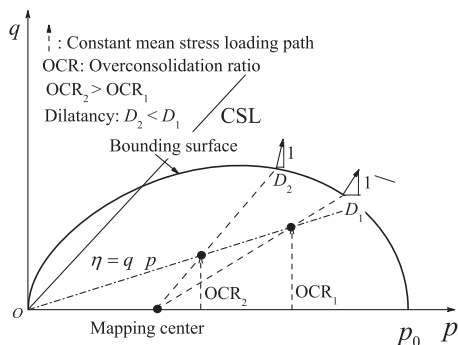


Fig. 2. Illustration of the mapping rule and predicted dilatancy in the bounding surface model proposed by Dafalias and Herrmann (1986) (Note: CSL = critical state line)

have also proposed a stress-dilatancy relation for soils by assuming that the volume changes are induced by two mechanisms (purely kinematic constraint and direct response to changes in stress) within the modern thermomechanical framework. However, such a dilatancy relation cannot account for the effect of overconsolidation.

In this study, a simple dilatancy relation for OC clay will be proposed based on that in the MCC model as presented in Eq. (1). The new relation is able to account for the effect of loading history on the volumetric response of reconstituted clays and can be easily used in either the bounding surface or the subloading surface models for OC clay. A demonstrative bounding surface model is then developed with the implementation of this dilatancy relation, and its performance and advantage in predicting the behavior of OC clay are illustrated.

Simple Dilatancy Relation for OC Clay

A suitable variable characterizing the degree of overconsolidation needs to be selected to formulate the dilatancy relation for OC clays. Indeed, in several bounding surface models for OC clays, the ratio $R = r/\bar{r}$ has been used as a key variable to characterize the degree of overconsolidation, where r and \bar{r} = distances of the current and image stress point from the mapping center, respectively [Fig. 3(b)]. Smaller R corresponds to a higher degree of overconsolidation. By adopting the origin of the $p - q$ plane as the mapping center, this R is used as a descriptor for the degree of overconsolidation. Essentially, R is the reciprocal of the commonly referred OCR at $q = 0$. Based on this definition of R , the following dilatancy relation for OC clay is proposed:

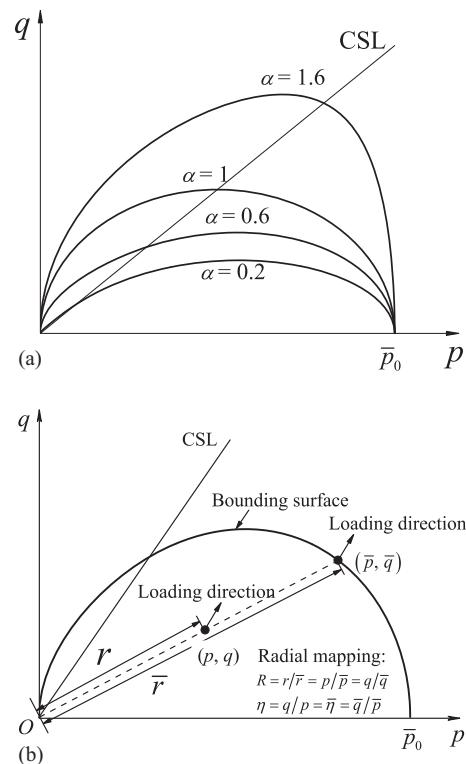


Fig. 3. (a) Variation of the shape of the bounding surface with different α values; (b) the radial mapping rule with the mapping center located at the origin of the $p - q$ plane and the definition of R (Note: CSL = critical state line)

$$D = \frac{d\varepsilon_v^p}{|d\varepsilon_q^p|} = \frac{M_d^2 - \eta^2}{2\eta} \quad (2)$$

where

$$M_d = M_c R^m \quad (3)$$

where $m =$ nonnegative parameter. Indeed, the dilatancy relation in Eq. (2) can be used in the subloading surface models as well. In this case, R should be replaced by the ratio of the size of the subloading surface to that of the normal yield surface as discussed by Hashiguchi (1980) and Yao et al. (2011). This dilatancy relation has the following features:

1. For NC clays with a stress state on the bounding surface (note that OC clays may also become NC as plastic deformation accumulates), $R = 1$ and $M_d = M_c$ [Eq. (3)]. In this case, Eq. (2) is recovered to the dilatancy relation of the MCC model in Eq. (1).
2. As the degree of overconsolidation increases, R decreases, and so do M_d and D [Eqs. (2) and (3)]. This indicates that the response of a clay with a higher degree of overconsolidation would be more dilative (or less contractive) at the same stress ratio η , which is in agreement with experimental observations (Stipho 1978; Nakai and Hinokio 2004).
3. At the critical state, the stress state lies on the bounding surface ($R = 1$) with $\eta = M_c$, thus, $D = 0$.

Bounding Surface Model for OC Clay

Based on the dilatancy equation in Eqs. (2) and (3), a simple bounding surface model for OC clay will be developed. Only the model formulations in the triaxial stress space will be presented. The model can be readily generalized to the three-dimensional stress space using the $g(\theta)$ method (Yin et al. 2013) or the transformed stress method (Yao et al. 2009).

Bounding Surface

The elliptical yield surface of the MCC model has been modified in numerous past studies to achieve better model performance in predicting the undrained shear strength of soils (Yu 1998; Pestana and Whittle 1999; Ling et al. 2002; Yin et al. 2002; Collins 2005; Dafalias et al. 2006; Yin and Chang 2009; Jiang and Ling 2010; Yao et al. 2011). The $\alpha - \gamma$ yield surface proposed by Collins (2005) is used as the bounding surface (α and γ are two parameters controlling the shape of the surface) to model the behavior of OC clay. In particular, as will be shown in the subsequent sections, the assumption of $\alpha = \gamma$ is appropriate for a variety of clays, which will be adopted here. Specifically, the following function is adopted as the bounding surface in the subsequent discussion:

$$\bar{f} = \frac{(\bar{p} - \alpha\bar{p}_0/2)^2}{[(1 - \alpha)\bar{p} + \alpha\bar{p}_0/2]^2} + \frac{\bar{q}^2}{M_c^2[(1 - \alpha)\bar{p} + \alpha^2\bar{p}_0/2]^2} - 1 = 0 \quad (4)$$

where $\bar{p}_0 =$ size of the bounding surface (Fig. 3). For OC clays with an initially isotropic stress state before shear, $\bar{p}_0 = p_c$, where $p_c =$ maximum consolidation pressure; and \bar{p} and \bar{q} are, respectively, the mean stress and deviatoric stress at the image stress point. Note that a stress quantity with a super bar indicates that it is associated with the bounding surface in this paper. The recommended range of parameter α is 0 to 1.8, which will ensure that the bounding surface stays convex. Eq. (4) is recovered to the MCC yield surface when

$\alpha = 1$. Fig. 3 shows the variations of shape of the bounding surface with different α and the mapping rule used here.

Plastic Modulus

Following Dafalias and Herrmann (1986) as well as Pestana and Whittle (1999), the same isotropic hardening law as in the MCC model is assumed for \bar{p}_0

$$d\bar{p}_0 = \frac{1 + e}{\lambda - \kappa} \bar{p}_0 d\varepsilon_v^p \quad (5)$$

where λ and $\kappa =$ compression and swelling indices, respectively. The following flow rule is used in the model:

$$d\varepsilon_q^p = \langle dL \rangle \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{q}} \quad \text{and} \quad d\varepsilon_v^p = \langle dL \rangle \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{q}} D \quad (6)$$

where $dL =$ loading index; and $\langle \rangle$ are McCauley brackets. According to Eqs. (2) and (6), one has the following relations when the stress state lies on the bounding surface:

$$d\varepsilon_v^p = \langle dL \rangle \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{q}} D_{R=1} = \langle dL \rangle \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{q}} \frac{(M_c^2 - \eta^2)}{2\eta} \quad (7)$$

In conjunction with Eqs. (4) and (7), the condition of consistency on the bounding surface follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{p}} d\bar{p} + \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{q}} d\bar{q} + \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{p}_0} \frac{\partial \bar{p}_0}{\partial \varepsilon_v^p} d\varepsilon_v^p &= \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{p}} d\bar{p} \\ &+ \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{q}} d\bar{q} + \underbrace{\langle dL \rangle \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{p}_0} \frac{\partial \bar{p}_0}{\partial \varepsilon_v^p} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{q}} D}_{-\bar{K}_p} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

The plastic modulus at the image stress point, \bar{K}_p , can therefore be determined based on Eqs. (5)–(8)

$$\bar{K}_p = - \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{p}_0} \frac{(1 + e)\bar{p}_0}{(\lambda - \kappa)} D_{R=1} = - \frac{(1 + e)\bar{p}_0}{(\lambda - \kappa)} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{p}_0} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{q}} \frac{(M_c^2 - \eta^2)}{2\eta} \quad (9)$$

Critical to the performance of a bounding surface model is the relationship between \bar{K}_p , which can describe the increase of stiffness and peak stress ratio of clay with the degree of overconsolidation, and the plastic modulus at the current stress state, K_p . In previous bounding surface models, K_p is typically assumed to be an interpolation function of \bar{K}_p and a shape-hardening function (Dafalias and Herrmann 1986; Ling et al. 2002) or reference modulus (Banerjee and Yousif 1986; Pestana and Whittle 1999). To avoid excessive complication, the expression for K_p in this paper is simply assumed to be of the identical form of \bar{K}_p by simply replacing M_c with a virtual peak stress ratio M_v

$$K_p = - \frac{(1 + e)\bar{p}_0}{(\lambda - \kappa)} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{p}_0} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{q}} \frac{(M_v^2 - \eta^2)}{2\eta} \quad (10)$$

where M_v is related to R according to

$$M_v = M_c R^{-n} \quad (11)$$

where $n =$ nonnegative model parameter. Because the term

$$-\frac{(1+e)\bar{p}_0}{(\lambda-\kappa)} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{p}_0} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{q}}$$

is always positive as long as $\bar{p} > 0$ ($\partial \bar{f} / \partial \bar{p}_0 < 0$ and $\partial \bar{f} / \partial \bar{q} > 0$), the sign of K_p is controlled by the term $M_v^2 - \eta^2$. For OC clay, K_p is dependent on the difference between the current stress ratio η ($= \bar{\eta}$) from the virtual peak stress ratio M_v attainable at the current degree of overconsolidation defined by R . Because $R \leq 1$, the virtual peak stress ratio M_v in Eq. (11) is a decreasing function of R and thus an increasing function with the degree of overconsolidation, which is indeed supported by the experimental observations (Zervoyanis 1982; Nakai and Hinokio 2004; Mita et al. 2004). The introduction of a virtual peak stress ratio is to address the strain-softening response after the peak stress ratio state of OC clay as first discussed by Wood and Belkheir (1994). At the critical state, $R = 1$, $M_v = M$, and $K_p = \bar{K}_p = 0$. The same incremental elastic relation in the MCC model is followed.

Model Calibration and Verification

Parameter Determination

There are a total of eight parameters for the model, five of which are identical to those in the Cam-clay models. These parameters can be calibrated according to the following procedure:

1. Parameter φ_c is normally calibrated according to the failure stress ratio M_c of NC clay in triaxial compression. Both λ and κ can be determined based on the isotropic consolidation/swelling or odometer tests on a reconstituted clay. Poisson's ratio ν (in the range of 0–0.5) controls the elastic response of clays and can be calibrated to fit the $\varepsilon_q(\varepsilon_a) - q$ relation in triaxial compression tests at small strain levels (the small strain nonlinearity is not considered here), where $\varepsilon_a =$ axial strain. Because the initial void ratio e_0 is also required in the model implementation, the location of the normal consolidation line in the $e - p$ plane needs to be determined, or equivalently, the value of Γ , which is the void ratio at the reference pressure p_r on the normal compression line. Because the void ratio variation is not significant in most cases, the average values of $\lambda/(1+e_0)$ and $\kappa/(1+e_0)$ may also be used in the model implementation without knowing Γ (Dafalias and Herrmann 1986; Yao et al. 2011). The other three parameters, α , m , and n , can be calibrated as follows.
2. Parameter α : Under undrained triaxial compression/extension loading conditions, the model gives the following relation (Appendix)

$$p_f/p_i = (\text{OCR} \cdot \alpha/2)^{(\lambda-\kappa)/\lambda} \quad (12)$$

where $p_f =$ mean effective stress at critical state; and $p_i =$ initial confining pressure. Because λ and κ are known, α can be evaluated from Eq. (12) directly (the test data on NC clay is recommended because the critical state is easier to identify). Generally, it is found that a smaller α makes the soil behavior more contractive with lower peak shear strength, as shown in the case for Boston blue clay (data from Pestana et al. 2002) (Fig. 4). In Fig. 4, the dashed lines represent a sensitivity study of the model simulation with $\alpha = 0.5$ and $\alpha = 1$ for the NC clay compared with the solid lines, which stand for the model predictions with the parameters shown in Table 1. According to this trend, α can also be calibrated based on the drained tests (e.g., in the cases of black kaolinite clay, as will be discussed next).

3. Parameters m and n : These two parameters should be calibrated based on the test results on OC clay. The variation of m

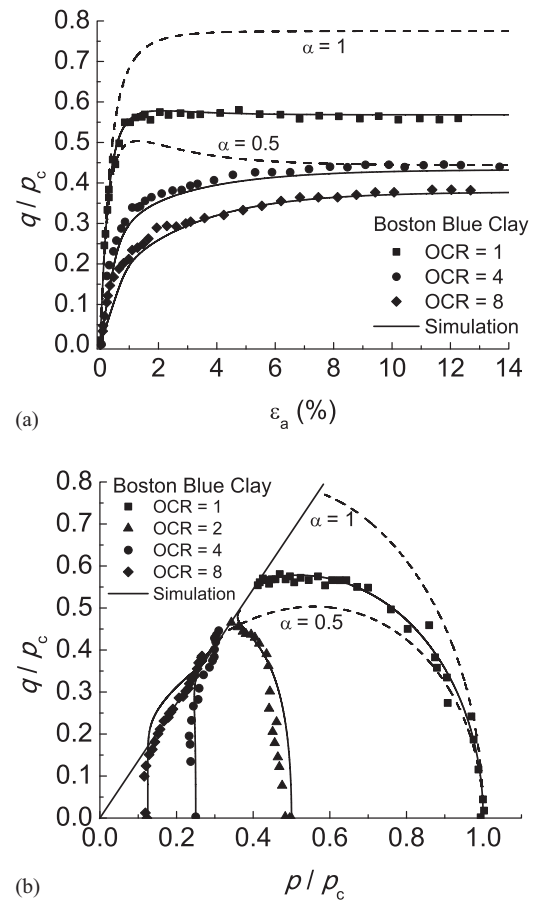


Fig. 4. Comparison between the model simulation and test results on Boston blue clay (data from Pestana et al. 2002) as well as the parametric study results for α in the NC case: (a) $\varepsilon_a - q/p_c$ relations; (b) effective stress paths

(typically in the range of 0–0.6 based on our experience) does not have significant influence on the predicted $\varepsilon_q(\varepsilon_a) - q$ relations (e.g., the case for the Boston blue clay shown in Fig. 4). One can first set $m = 0$ and calibrate n through fitting the $\varepsilon_q(\varepsilon_a) - q$ relation under either a drained or undrained condition. Generally, greater n gives a stiffer response because both M_v and K_p are increasing functions of n for $R \leq 1$ [Eqs. (10) and (11)]. Parameter m can then be calibrated by fitting the $\varepsilon_q - \varepsilon_v$ relation in drained cases (e.g., the black kaolinite case shown in Fig. 5) or the $p - q$ relation in undrained cases (e.g., the Boston blue clay shown in Fig. 4).

Model Verification

The dilatancy relation and the bounding surface modeling have been verified on a total of three different OC clays, including the Boston blue clay (data from Pestana et al. 2002), the black kaolinite clay (Zervoyanis 1982), and the kaolin clay (Stipho 1978). The model parameters are determined according to the procedure outlined in the last subsection. Their final values and typical range are summarized in Table 1. Furthermore, it is instructive to explain the details on model parameter determination for the three clays to be treated in the study:

1. Boston blue clay: The five parameters inherited from the Cam-clay models (φ , λ , κ , ν , and Γ) are directly obtained from the literature (Pestana et al. 2002). Parameter α is calculated using

Table 1. Model Parameters for Clays

Materials	φ (degrees)	λ	κ	ν	$\Gamma(p_r)$ (kPa)	α	m	n
Boston blue clay	33.5	0.184	0.036	0.1	1.01 (300)	0.68	0.3	1.5
Black kaolinite clay	21.1	0.235	0.0827	0.2	1.298 (161)	1.3	0	0.5
Kaolin clay	26.3	0.14	0.05	0.25	$e_0 \approx 0.95^a$	0.65	0.2	2
Typical range						0.65–1.3	0–0.6	0.5–2

^aThis parameter could not be obtained based on existing data. The initial void ratio was used in the model complementation instead.

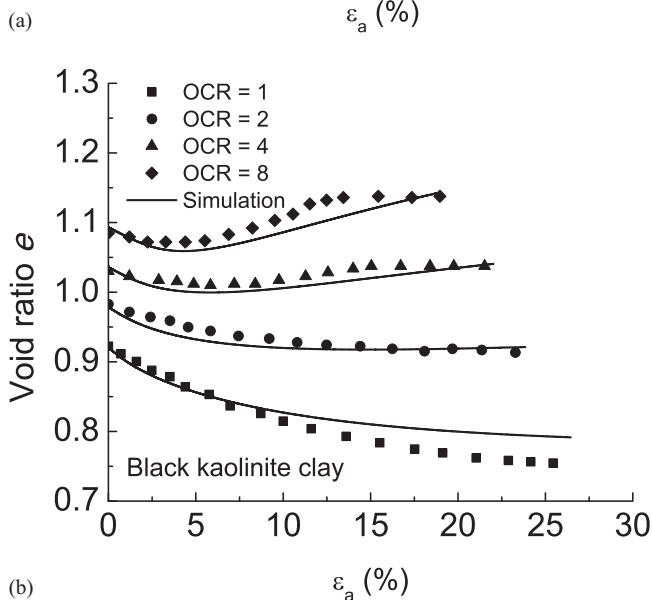
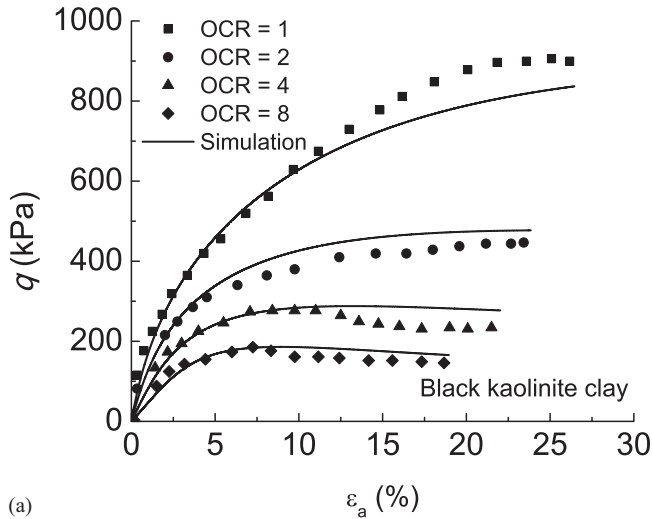


Fig. 5. Model simulations for the behavior of black kaolinite clay in drained triaxial compression at $p_c = 800$ kPa (data from Zervoyanis 1982): (a) $\varepsilon_a - q$ relations; (b) $\varepsilon_a - e$ relations

Eq. (12) based on the effective stress path for NC samples, and n is then determined by fitting the $\varepsilon_a - q$ relations for the OC samples shown in Fig. 4(a) by imposing $m = 0$. Finally, m is obtained to fit the effective stress paths for OC samples by keeping the other parameters at their determined values.

- Black kaolinite clay: The parameters inherited from the Cam-clay models (φ , λ , κ , ν , and Γ) are obtained according to Yin et al. (2013). Because there is no undrained test data available for this soil, Eq. (12) cannot be used to determine α . Thus, α is determined by fitting the $\varepsilon_a - q$ and $\varepsilon_a - e$ relations for the NC sample. Parameter n is then determined by fitting the $\varepsilon_a - q$ relations for OC samples in Fig. 5(a) by keeping $m = 0$.

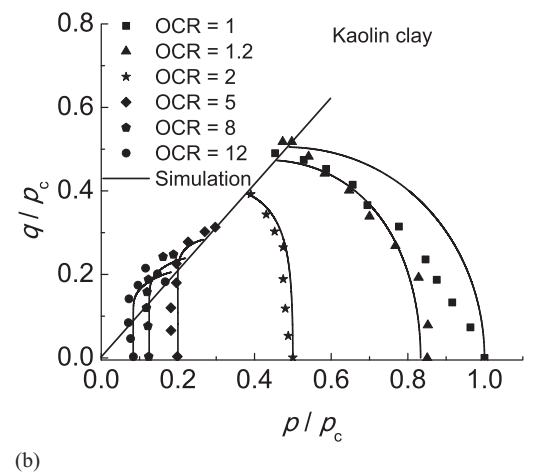
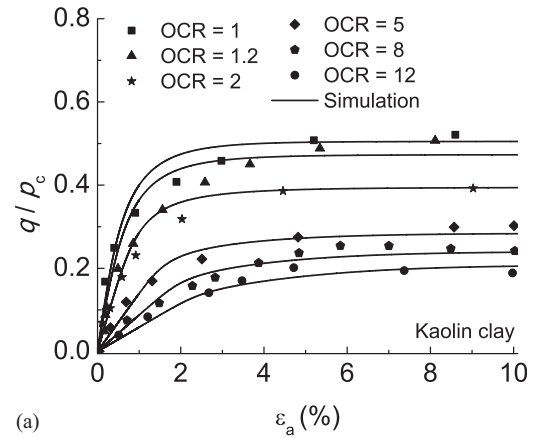


Fig. 6. Model simulations for the behavior of kaolin clay in undrained triaxial compression (data from Stipho 1978; Ling et al. 2002): (a) $\varepsilon_a - q/p_c$ relations; (b) effective stress paths

Finally, m is obtained to best fit the $\varepsilon_a - e$ relations for the OC samples while keeping the other parameters unchanged.

- Kaolin clay: The parameters inherited from the Cam-clay models (φ , λ , κ , ν , and Γ) are obtained according to Banerjee and Yousif (1986). The rest of the parameters are determined following the same procedure for the Boston blue clay.

The model predictions are comparatively presented in Figs. 4–6 with test results on these clays. From Figs. 4–6, a good comparison can be found between the model predictions with the test data on the Boston blue clay (data from Pestana et al. 2002), the black kaolinite clay (Zervoyanis 1982), and the kaolin clay (Stipho 1978). In particular, in the case of black kaolinite clay, the proposed dilatancy relation in Eq. (2) is shown to offer very good predictions on the trend of dilatancy change with OCR compared with the test data [Fig. 5(b)]. Meanwhile, it is noticed that the model slightly overpredicts the undrained shear strength of kaolin clay at the low OCR to NC range, but provides faithful predictions for the middle to high OCR cases

(Fig. 6). Because the model parameters are considered to be inherent material parameters, m and n have been determined to best fit an entire group of test results over a range of OCRs rather than for a single OCR. As a result, the model predictions may appear to be good for some OCRs but less satisfactory for some others.

Conclusion

Dilatancy of clay is closely related to the degree of overconsolidation. Their intercorrelation should be properly considered in constitutive modeling for clays. A simple dilatancy relation accounting for the influence of overconsolidation in clay has been proposed in this study. This relation can be readily implemented in a bounding/subloading surface model. As an illustrative example, a predictive bounding surface model for OC clay has been proposed based on this dilatancy relation. The model includes three extra parameters in addition to the original five in the Cam-clay model, all of which can be conveniently determined according to routine laboratory test results on NC and OC clays under either drained or undrained triaxial compression conditions. Detailed procedures for determining these model parameters have been provided. The model has been demonstrated to perform reasonably well in predicting the behavior of three clays compared with their test data.

Indeed, the proposed dilatancy relation is generic and can be easily implemented in any other bounding/subloading surface models for clays if overconsolidation is of a concern. In its present form, however, the dilatancy relation is unable to account for the influence of anisotropy on the mechanical behavior of clays (Ling et al. 2002; Anandarajah and Dafalias 1986; Dafalias et al. 2006). Its extension to account for anisotropy may be possibly made in conjunction with the recent progress on anisotropic critical state theory (Li and Dafalias 2012; Gao et al. 2014; Gao and Zhao 2015; Zhao and Gao 2016), which will be a future pursuit of the authors. In addition, the dilatancy of clay in cyclic loading has been found dependent not only on the degree of overconsolidation but also shear strain accumulation (Ni et al. 2014; Kimoto et al. 2014). Substantial modifications may be required if the dilatancy relation is to be used to address the cyclic response of clay. Last, if a subloading surface or bounding surface model implemented with the dilatancy relation is used to treat a boundary value problem, great care needs to be taken pertaining to its numerical implementation (e.g., via finite elements) because it is a well-known challenge for such a complex soil model. In this regard, the explicit stress integration method with automatic error control (Sloan et al. 2001) has been found effective for implementing complex bounding/subloading surface models (Gao and Zhao 2013; Zhao et al. 2005) and can be used for the implementation.

Appendix. Relationship between p_f and p_i

The relationship between p_f and p_i can be derived based on Fig. 7. Points B and C denote the initial and final states of the sample in Fig. 7. The void ratio at Point B (e_B) is

$$e_B = e_A + \kappa \ln\left(\frac{p_c}{p_i}\right) = e_A + \kappa \ln(\text{OCR}) \quad (13)$$

where e_A = void ratio at Point A.

The void ratio at Point C (e_C) is

$$e_C = e_A + \kappa \ln\left(\frac{p_c}{p_x}\right) - \lambda \ln\left(\frac{p_f}{p_x}\right) \quad (14)$$

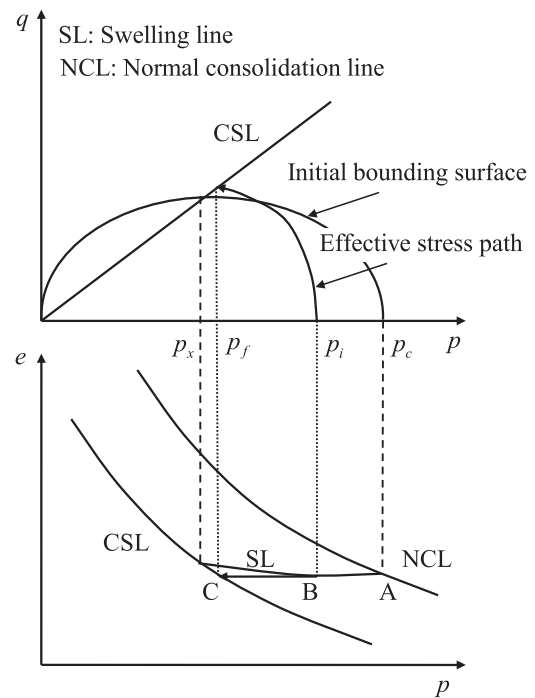


Fig. 7. Relationship between p_f and p_i in undrained triaxial compression test (Note: CSL = critical state line)

Because

$$p_x = \frac{\alpha}{2} p_c = \frac{\alpha}{2} p_i \cdot \text{OCR}$$

one can get the following relation based on Eq. (14)

$$e_C = e_A + \kappa \ln\left(\frac{2}{\alpha}\right) - \lambda \ln\left(\frac{2p_f}{\alpha p_i \cdot \text{OCR}}\right) \quad (15)$$

Because the void ratio of the sample keeps constant in undrained loading, $e_C = e_B$. Thus, the relationship between p_f and p_i can be obtained based on Eqs. (13) and (15) as

$$p_f/p_i = (\text{OCR} \cdot \alpha/2)^{(\lambda-\kappa)/\lambda} \quad (16)$$

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