

A New Probabilistic Common-Origin Approach to Assess Level-Ground Liquefaction Susceptibility and Triggering in all CPT-compatible Soils

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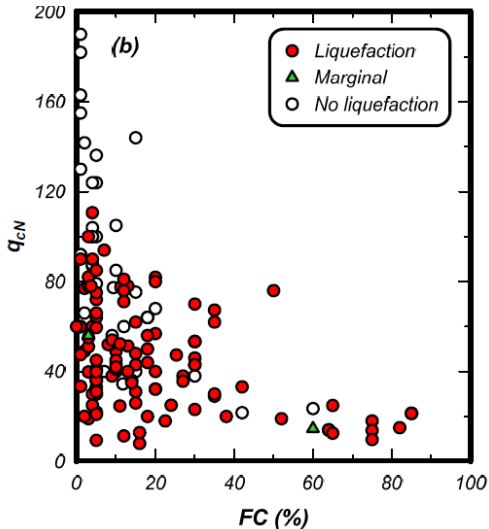
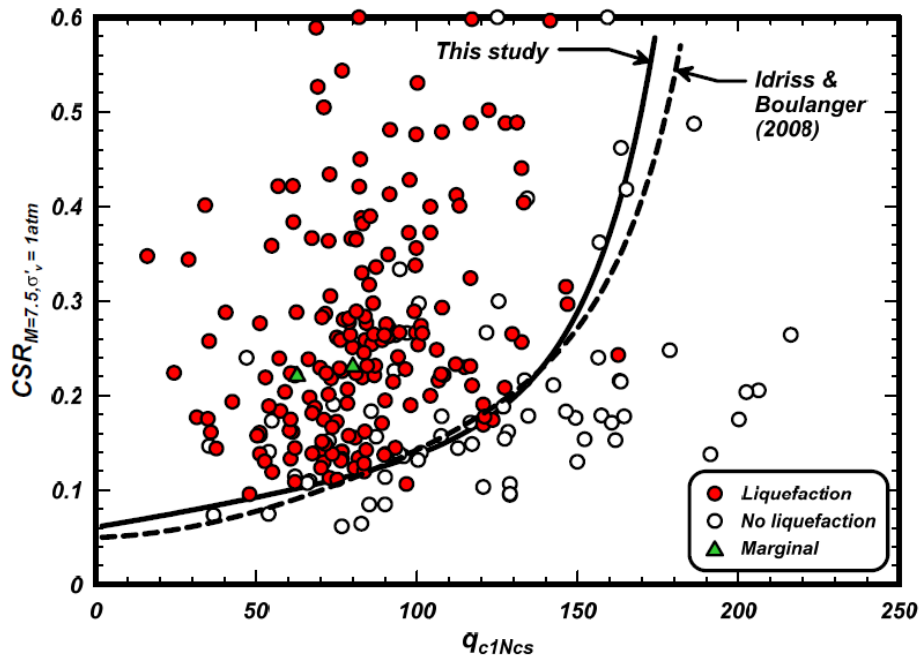
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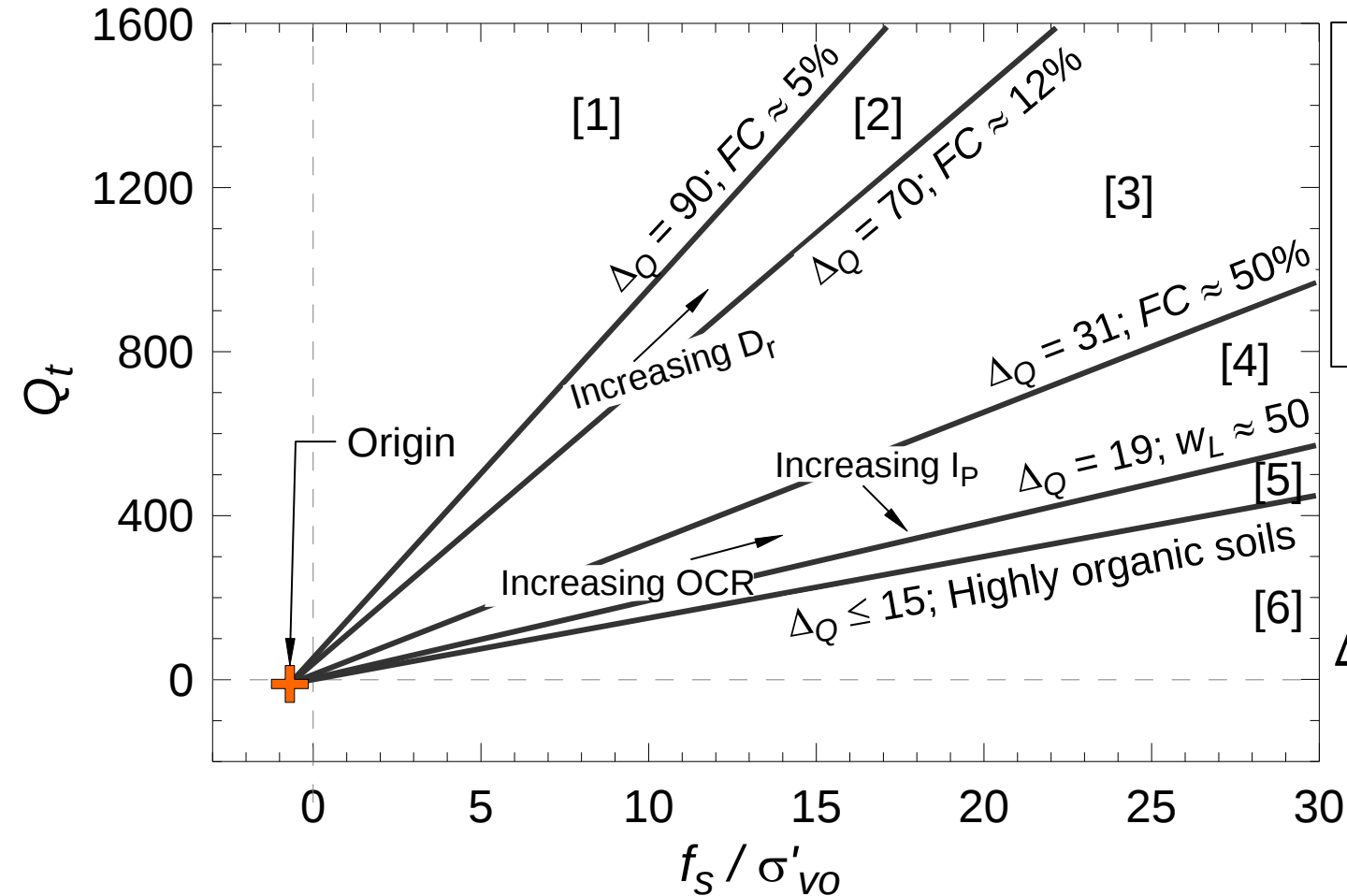
The motivation



- Conventional level-ground liquefaction triggering analysis deals chiefly with coarse-grained sands and silty sands
- 253 cases in Boulanger & Idriss (2014) CPT database
- Only 15 with $FC > 35\%$
- Nearly all fines reported as NP
- 5 cases reported with $PI \leq 10$
- Silty soils “adjusted” to equivalent clean sand penetration resistance using an uncertain fines content adjustment

Boulanger and Idriss (2014)

Δ_Q approach for soil identification



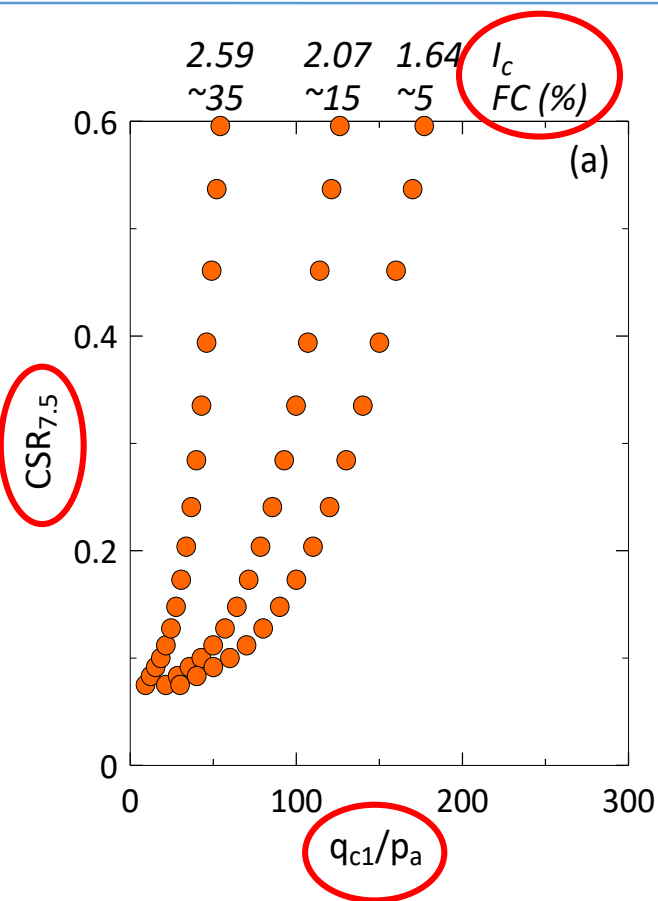
Typical USCS	
[1]	SP, SW
[2]	SP-SM, SP-SC
[3]	SM, SC, GM, GC
[4]	ML, CL
[5]	MH, CH
[6]	OL, OH, Pt

Saye et al. (2017)

$$\Delta_Q = \frac{Q_t + 10}{\frac{f_s}{\sigma'_{v0}} + 0.67}$$

- Δ_Q works for coarse sands through high-plasticity clays and peats
- Not affected by OCR

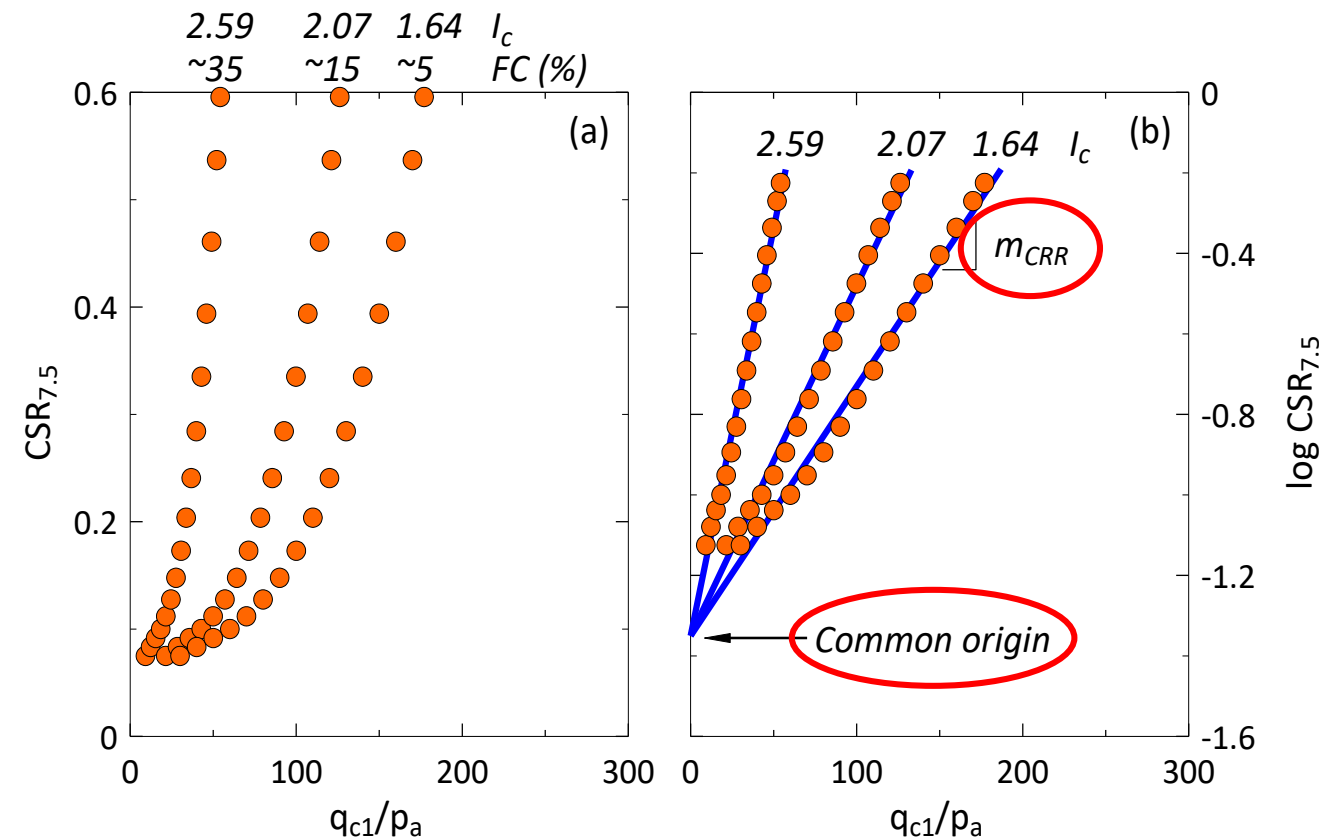
Issue 2: Covering all CPT-compatible soils



- *Liquefaction resistance curves involve 3 variables: seismic demand, soil density & soil type*

Saye et al. (2021)

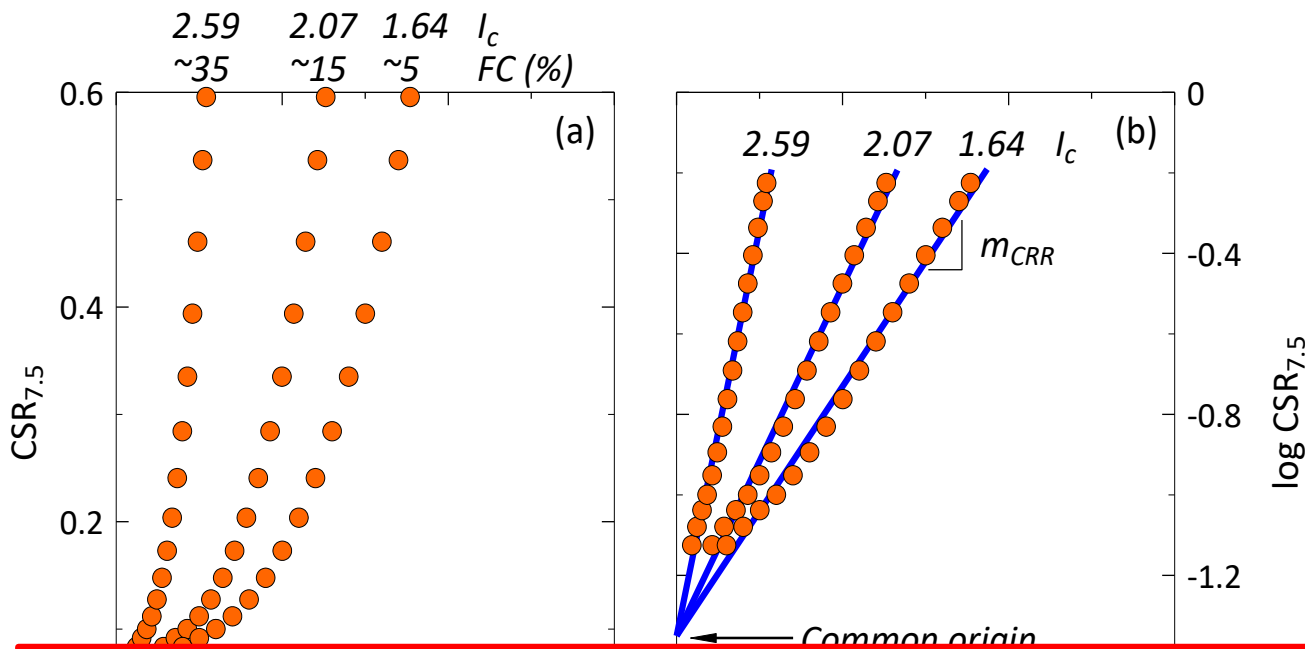
Issue 2: Covering all CPT-compatible soils



- *Liquefaction resistance curves involve 3 variables: seismic demand, soil density & soil type*
- *We can combine two variables, seismic demand and soil density into a single term, m_{CRR}*
- *The intercept in semi-log space is termed the “common origin”*

Saye et al. (2021)

Issue 2: Covering all CPT-compatible soils



- *Liquefaction resistance curves involve 3 variables: seismic demand, soil density & soil type*
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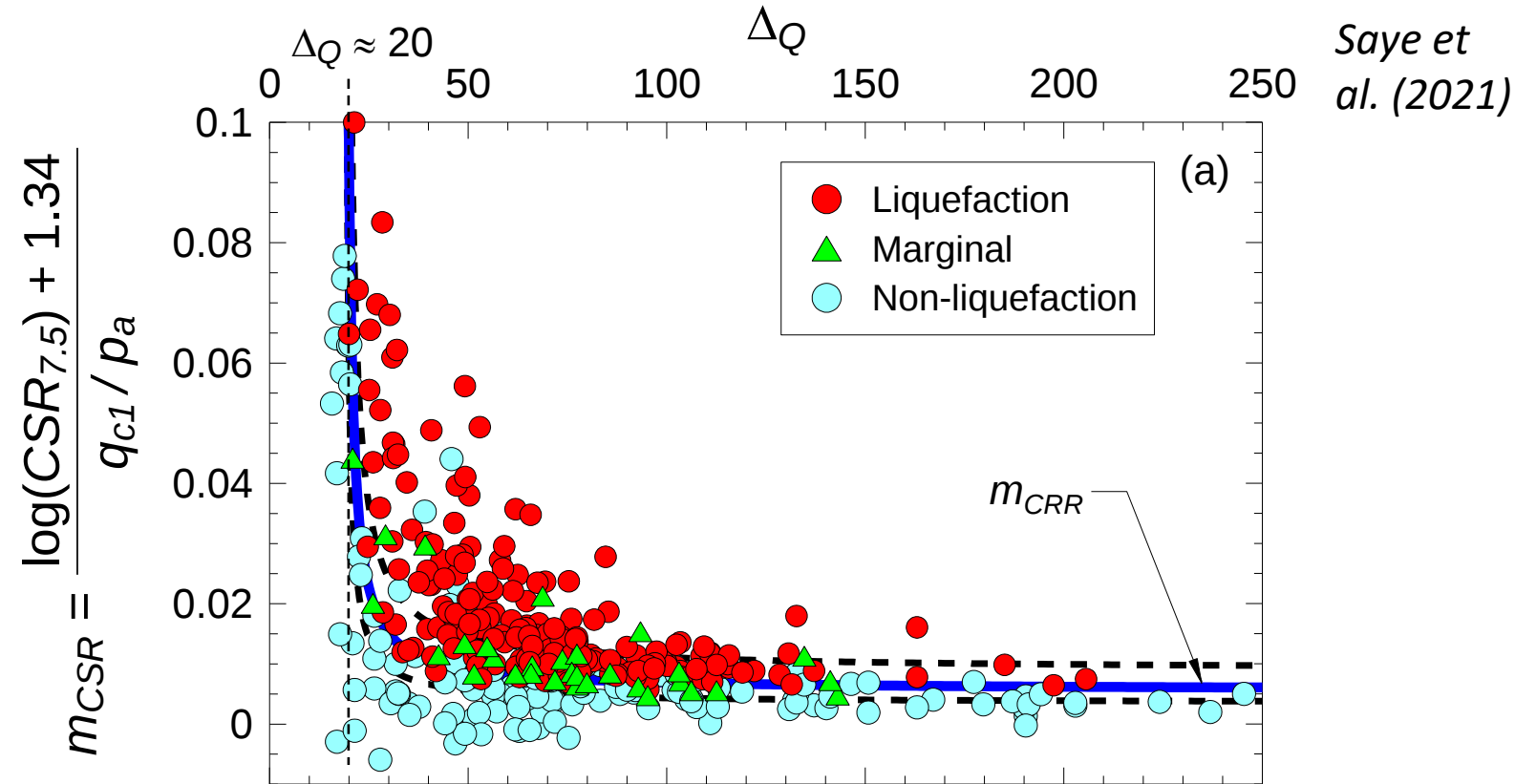
Reference

Common-origin $CRR_{7.5}$ intercept, C_o

Stark and Olson (1995)	-1.30
Robertson and Wride (1998)	-1.35
Moss et al. (2006)	-1.39
Boulanger and Idriss (2016)	-1.22

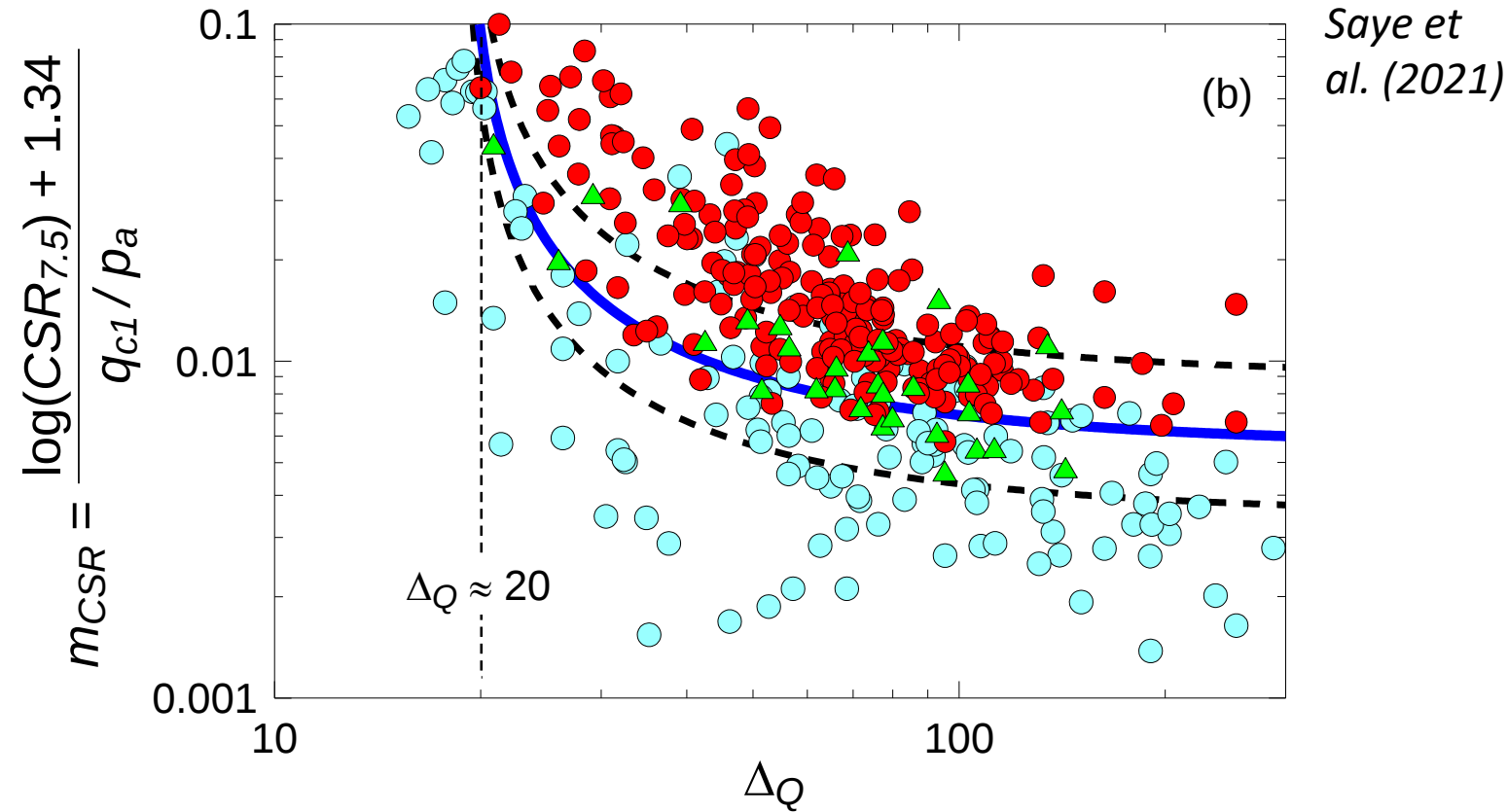
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“Universal” common-origin, Δ_Q liquefaction triggering



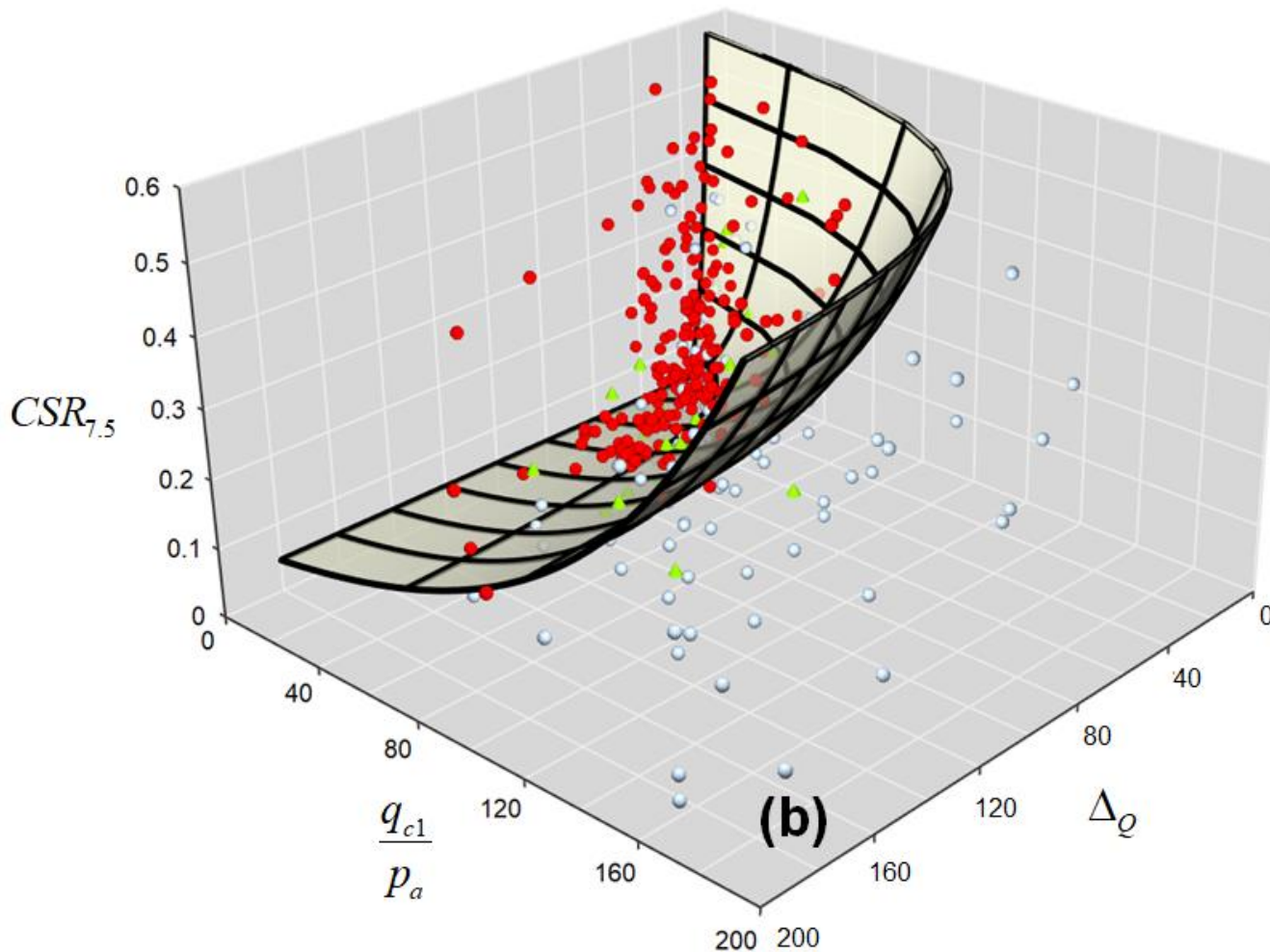
- Re-evaluated 401 CPT-based case records (252L : 149NL; **M**5.5 – 9.0)
- Case histories illustrate a clear separation based on m_{CSR} and Δ_Q
- Limiting Δ_Q corresponds to $LL \approx 30-40$, $PI \approx 15-20$, and $D_{50} \approx 0.03\text{mm}$
- Limiting m_{CRR} corresponds to coarse-grained sands

“Universal” common-origin, Δ_Q liquefaction triggering



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"Universal" common-origin, Δ_Q liquefaction triggering



- Previous figures represent three key variables presented in two-dimensional space to develop a single liquefaction resistance curve
- When separated and presented in three-dimensional space, the single curve becomes a three-dimensional surface

Saye et al. (2021)

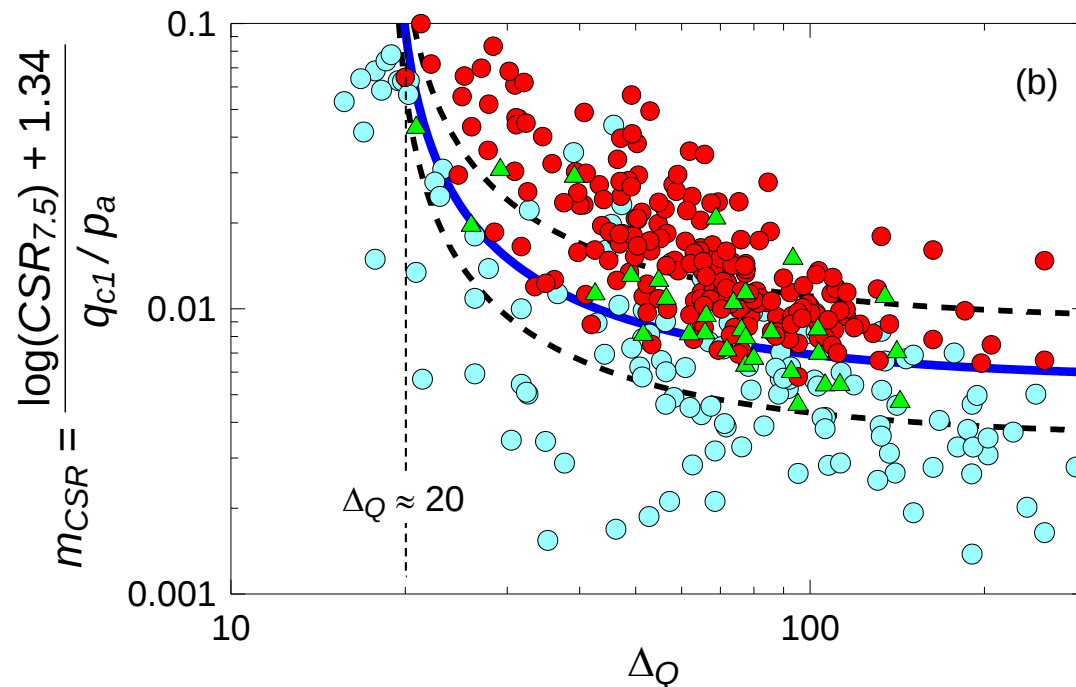
“Universal” common-origin, Δ_Q liquefaction triggering

Step 1: Compute Δ_Q for each row of CPT data

Step 2: Compute $CSR_{7.5}$ for each row (using Youd et al. 2001 r_d and MSF)

Step 3: Compute the median m_{CRR} for each layer:

$$m_{CRR} = \begin{cases} \frac{\Delta_Q}{178(\Delta_Q) - 3349} \leq 0.1 & \text{for } \Delta_Q \geq 20 \\ N/A \dots \text{not susceptible!} & \text{for } \Delta_Q < 20 \end{cases}$$



Saye et al.
(2021)

“Universal” common-origin, Δ_Q liquefaction triggering

Step 4a: Compute $CRR_{7.5}$ and FS_L for each susceptible layer:

$$\log_{10} CRR_{7.5} = m_{CRR} \left(\frac{q_{c1}}{p_a} \right) - 1.34 + \sigma \cdot \Phi^{-1}[P_L]$$

$$\sigma = \begin{cases} 0.20 & \text{no uncertainty in } q_{c1} \text{ and } CSR_{7.5} \\ 0.24 & \text{uncertainty exists in } q_{c1} \text{ and } CSR_{7.5} \end{cases}$$

$$FS_L = \frac{CRR_{7.5}}{CSR_{7.5}} = 10^{\log_{10} CRR_{7.5} - \log_{10} CSR_{7.5}}$$

Recommended Values for Deterministic Calculation:

$$\sigma = 0.24$$

$$P_L = 0.35$$

Saye et al. (2021)

“Universal” common-origin, Δ_Q liquefaction triggering

Step 4b: Compute P_L for each susceptible layer:

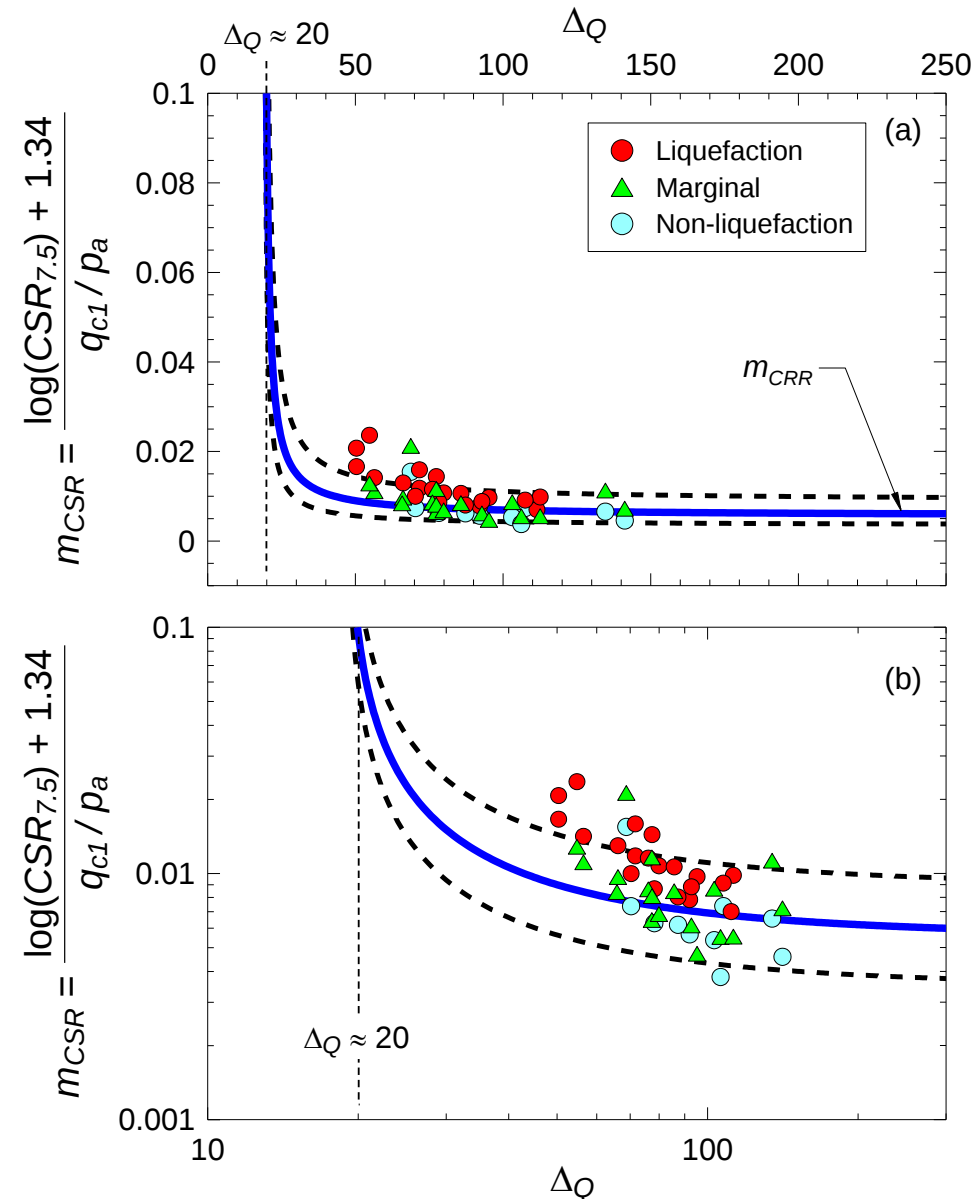
$$P_L = \Phi \left[\frac{\left(m_{CRR} \left(\frac{q_{c1}}{p_a} \right) - 1.34 \right) - \log_{10} CSR_{7.5}}{\sigma} \right]$$

$$\sigma = \begin{cases} 0.20 & \text{no uncertainty in } q_{c1} \text{ and } CSR_{7.5} \\ 0.24 & \text{uncertainty exists in } q_{c1} \text{ and } CSR_{7.5} \end{cases}$$

Recommended for typical projects

Saye et al. (2021)

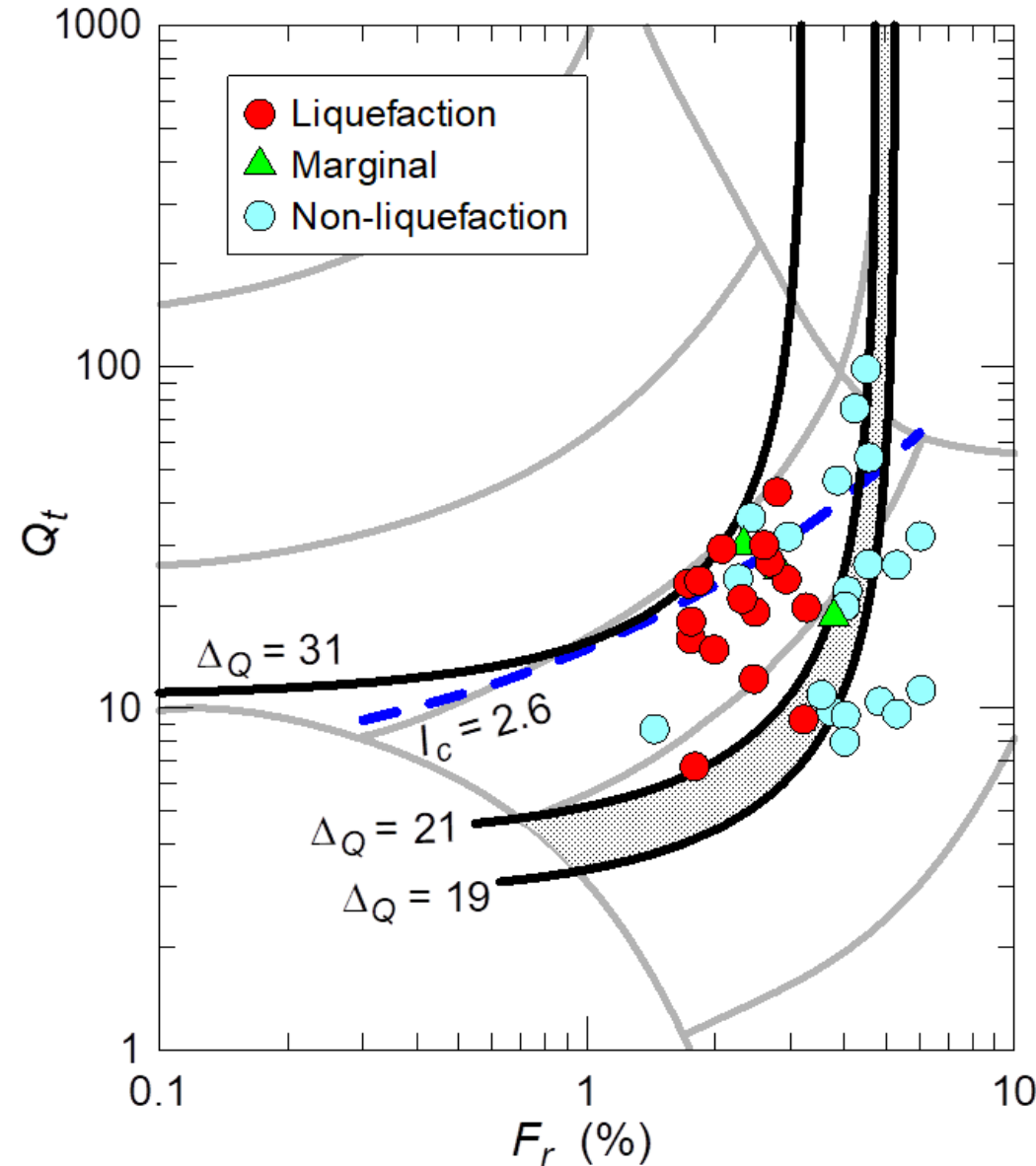
Does it work for clean & silty sand data?



- *Green et al. presented 25 “select” sites subjected to the 2010 Darfield (M7.1) and 2011 Christchurch (M6.2), New Zealand earthquakes*
- *Other liquefaction triggering methods have relatively poorly differentiated case records*
- *Common-origin, ΔQ method misclassifies only 1 non-liquefaction case record*

Saye et al. (2021)

Does Δ_Q improve susceptibility classification of clays?



- *Robertson and Wride (1998) suggested that soils with $I_c > 2.6$ are not susceptible to “sand-like” liquefaction*
- *New database indicates many sites with $\Delta_Q < 31$ have manifest traditional liquefaction behavior*
- *$\Delta_Q \geq 20$ is reasonable threshold to identify non-sensitive, fine-grained soils that are susceptible to significant cyclic softening and liquefaction behavior*

Saye et al. (2021)

WARNING!!!

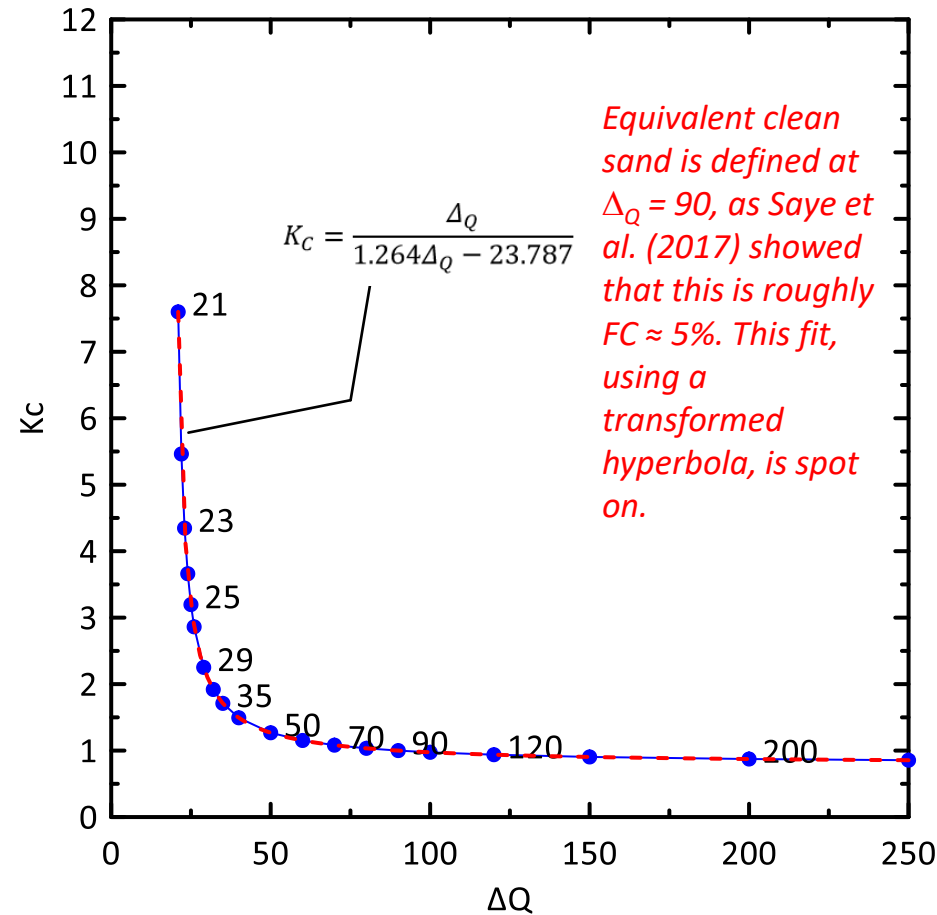
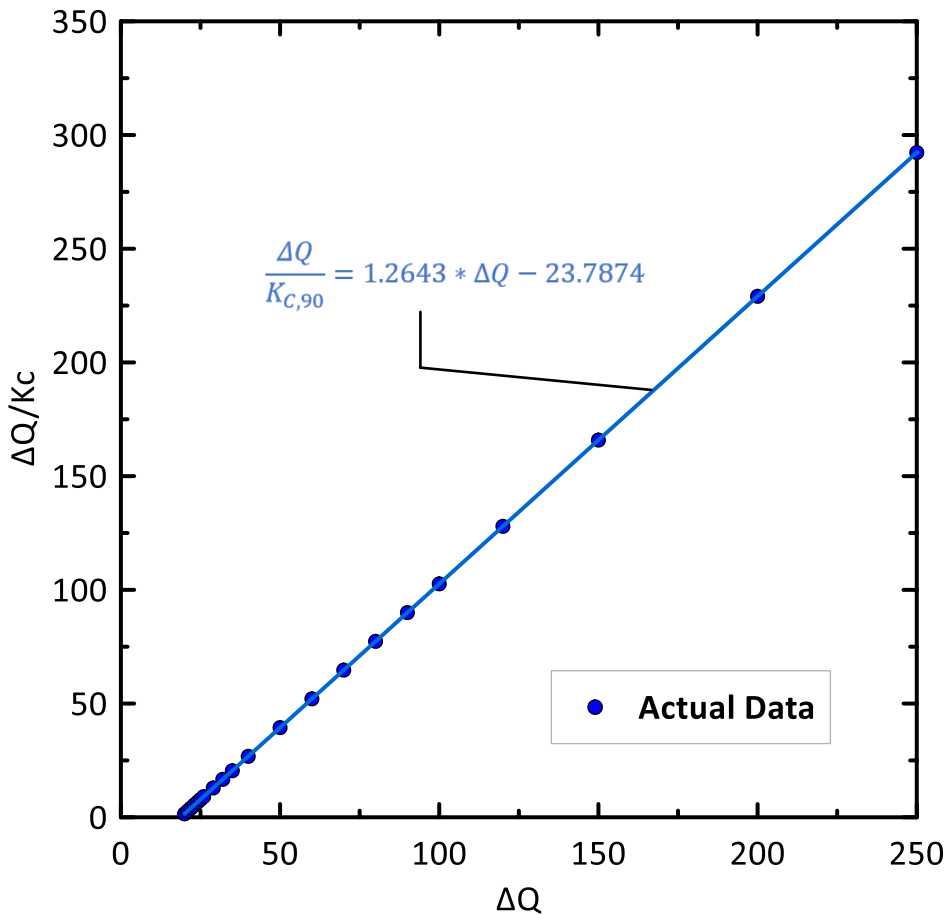
Do Not Use Saye et al. (2021) method to estimate post-liquefaction settlement (e.g., Ishihara and Yoshimine 1992) or lateral spread without first converting CPT tip resistance to $DQ = 90$ equivalent (....effectively a “clean-sand equivalent”)

Unless you do this, you will SEVERELY overestimate the predicted settlements and lateral spread displacements from the CPT data.

Publication by Olson, Franke, Saye, and others is forthcoming.....

Courtesy of S. Olson..... “sneak peak” of the correction

Correction Factor 3



$$q_{c,\Delta_Q=90} = q_{c1,n} \times K_C$$

Overview

- *New procedure to simultaneously assess liquefaction susceptibility and triggering for nearly all CPT-compatible soils ranging from non-sensitive clays to clean sands*
- *Based on 401 case records with available CPT data*
- *Eliminates need to estimate the fines content of the soil*
- *$\Delta_Q = 20$ threshold corresponds approximately to $LL \approx 30-40$, $PI \approx 15-20$, and $D_{50} \approx 0.03\text{mm}$*
- *Differentiates the liquefaction resistance of clean sands based on CPT parameters rather than treating all clean sands identically*
- *Forthcoming clean-sand correction for q_{c1N} based on Δ_Q will reduce the tendency for common-origin method FS_{liq} to overpredict settlements and lateral disp.*

Thank you for your attention!

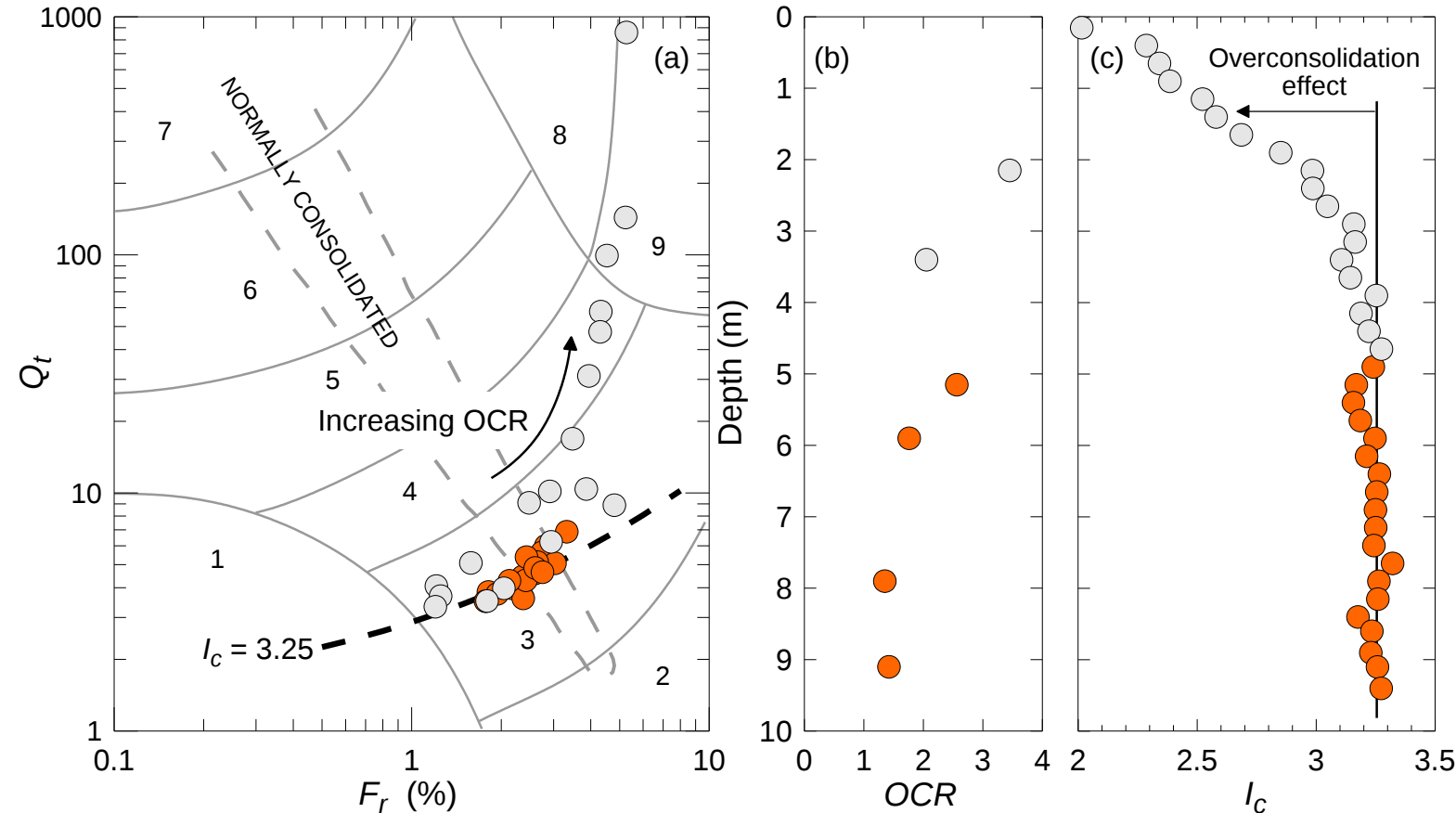
Questions?

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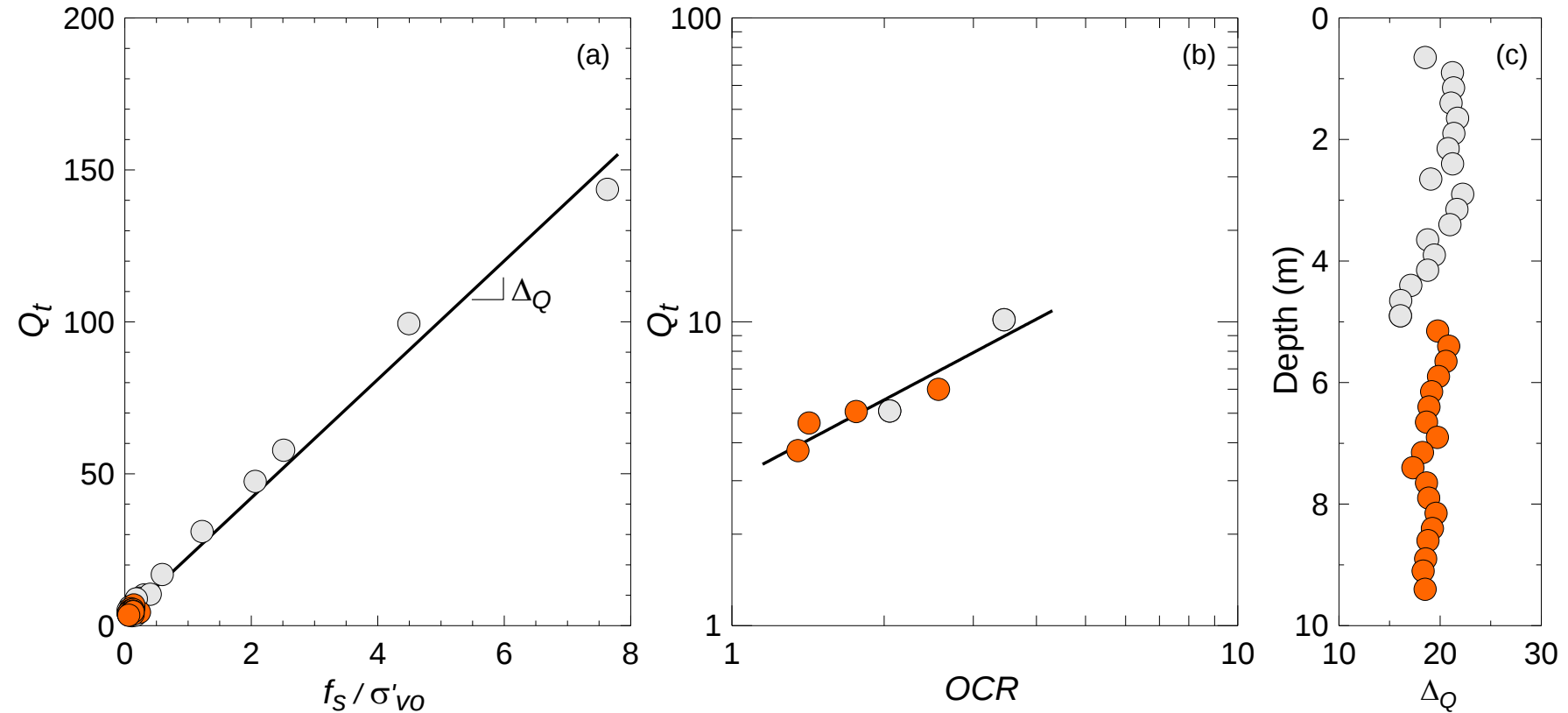
A “new” consistent method to interpret soil type

Saye et al.
(2017)



- Robertson $I_c = 2 - 3.2$ above 3m and $I_c = 3.1 - 3.3$ below ~3m
- Non-liquefiable based on I_c
- B-S = liquefiable; I-B = not liquefiable; R-W = not liq below ~1.5m

Δ_Q approach for soil identification

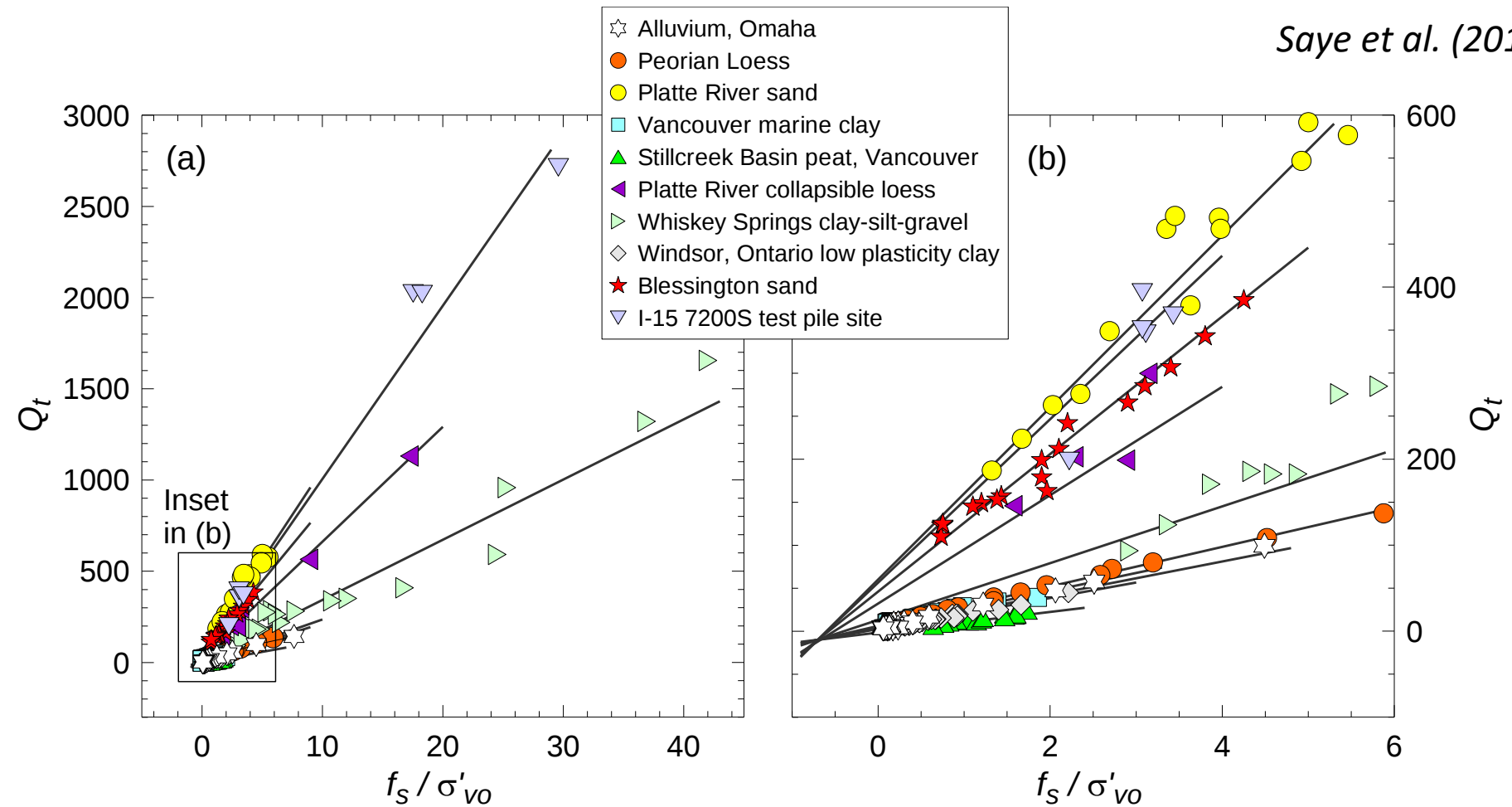


Saye et al.
(2017)

- $\Delta_Q = \text{slope of } Q_t \text{ and } f_s / \sigma'_{v0} \text{ with offset origin}$
- Δ_Q is nearly constant with depth and unaffected by OCR

Δ_Q approach for soil identification – multiple sites

Saye et al. (2017)



- Δ_Q works for coarse sands through high-plasticity clays and peats
- Not affected by OCR