

# 3.3 FOUNDATIONS SUBJECTED TO ECCENTRIC LOAD

### 3.3.1 CONTINUOUS FOUNDATION WITH ECCENTRIC LOAD

When a shallow foundation is subjected to an eccentric load, it is assumed that the contact pressure decreases linearly from the toe to the heel; however, at ultimate load, the contact pressure is not linear. This problem was analyzed by Meyerhof<sup>1</sup> who suggested the concept of effective width B'. The effective width is defined as (Figure 3.6)

$$B' = B - 2e$$
 (3.21)

where

e = load eccentricity

According to this concept, the bearing capacity of a continuous foundation can be determined by assuming that the load acts centrally along the effective contact width as shown in Figure 3.6. Thus, for a continuous foundation [from equation (2.82)] with vertical loading,

$$q_u = cN_c\lambda_{cd} + qN_q\lambda_{qd} + \frac{1}{2}\gamma B'N_{\gamma}\lambda_{\gamma d}$$
 (3.22)

Note that the shape factors for a continuous foundation are equal to one. The ultimate load per unit length of the foundation  $Q_a$  can now be calculated as

$$Q_u = q_u A'$$

where

$$A' = \text{effective area} = B' \times 1 = B'$$

### 3.3.1.1 Reduction Factor Method

Purkayastha and Char<sup>8</sup> carried out stability analyses of eccentrically loaded *continuous founda*tions supported by sand (c = 0) using the method of slices proposed by Janbu.<sup>9</sup> Based on that analysis, they proposed that

$$R_k = 1 - \frac{q_{u(\text{eccentric})}}{q_{u(\text{centric})}}$$
(3.23)

where

 $R_k = \text{reduction factor}$ 

 $q_{u(\text{eccentric})}$  = ultimate bearing capacity of eccentrically loaded continuous foundations

 $q_{u(centric)}$  = ultimate bearing capacity of centrally loaded continuous foundations

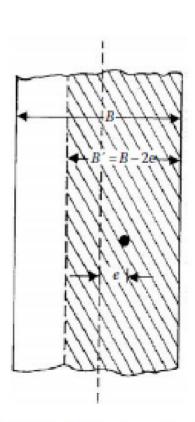


FIGURE 3.6 Effective width B'.

Second Edition

# SHALLOW FOUNDATIONS

**Bearing Capacity and Settlement** 



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# 16.7

# Ultimate Load for Shallow Foundations Under Eccentric Load

### One-Way Eccentricity

To calculate the bearing capacity of shallow foundations with eccentric loading, Meyerhof (1953) introduced the concept of effective area. This concept can be explained with reference to Figure 16.13, in which a footing of length L and width B is subjected to an eccentric load,  $Q_a$ . If  $Q_a$  is the ultimate load on the footing, it may be approximated as follows:

 Referring to Figures 16.13b and 16.13c, calculate the effective dimensions of the foundation. If the eccentricity (e) is in the x direction (Figure 16.13b), the effective dimensions are

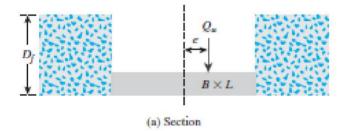
$$X = B - 2e$$

and

$$Y = L$$

However, if the eccentricity is in the y direction (Figure 16.13c), the effective dimensions are

$$Y = L - 2e$$



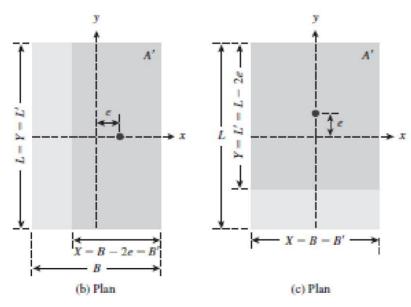


Figure 16.13 Ultimate load for shallow foundation under eccentric load

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# PRINCIPLES OF GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING









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