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**Chao, N. C.; Lo, W. C.**

## **Consolidation in Unsaturated Soils with Body Forces**

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Verfügbar unter/Available at: <https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.11970/108501>

Vorgeschlagene Zitierweise/Suggested citation:

Chao, N. C.; Lo, W. C. (2016): Consolidation in Unsaturated Soils with Body Forces. In: Yu, Pao-Shan; Lo, Wie-Cheng (Hg.): ICHE 2016. Proceedings of the 12th International Conference on Hydroscience & Engineering, November 6-10, 2016, Tainan, Taiwan. Tainan: NCKU.

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## **Consolidation in Unsaturated Soils with Body Forces**

*Nan-Chieh Chao, Wei-Cheng Lo*

Department of Hydraulic and Ocean Engineering, National Cheng Kung University  
Tainan, Taiwan

### **ABSTRACT**

Soil consolidation is a transient process by which soil volume is decreased due to the coupling between deformation of a porous medium and interstitial fluid flows. The influence of body force has been conventionally ignored in the consolidation theory of poroelasticity for either saturated or unsaturated soils. In the current study, gravity effect is well taken account in the coupled diffusion equations derived by Lo et al. (2014) for describing one-dimensional consolidation in unsaturated soils, thus leading to additional first-order time-derivative terms. Finite-difference approach is used to solve those equations. Numerical calculations are then conducted with respect to various initial water saturations and soil heights for unsaturated clays as illustrative examples. The result is compared to that typically obtained with neglecting body forces to quantify the impact of gravity on consolidation in unsaturated soils.

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Gratitude is expressed for financial support to the Ministry of Science and Technology, Taiwan, under Contract No. MOST 103-2116-M-006-00.