

DEVELOPMENTS IN GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING 47

THEORETICAL FOUNDATION ENGINEERING

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CONTENTS

Preface

vii

CHAPTER 1	LATERAL EARTH PRESSURE	1
1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	At-Rest Earth Pressure	3
1.3	At-Rest Force and Resultant	7
1.4	Rankine Active Pressure (Rotation about Bottom of Wall)	13
1.5	Active Pressure with Wall Friction--Coulomb's Active Pressure Theory	23
1.6	Graphical Solutions for Coulomb's Active Force	29
1.7	Graphical Procedure for Coulomb's Active Force for a $c-\phi$ Soil Backfill	33
1.8	Active Earth Pressure for Backfill with Vertical Drain	35
1.9	Wall Rotation Required for Active Earth Pressure Condition	37
1.10	Active Force on Wall with Rotation about Top	38
1.10.1	Dubrova's Solution	40
1.10.2	Terzaghi's General Wedge Theory	43
1.10.3	Empirical Pressure Diagrams for Design of Braced Cuts	49
1.11	Active Earth Pressure for Lateral Translation of Wall	50
1.12	Rankine Passive Pressure (Rotation about the Bottom of the Wall)	56

1.13	Passive Pressure with Wall Friction (Coulomb's Passive Pressure)	63
1.14	Passive Pressure by Using Curved Failure Surface	65
1.15	Other Solutions for Passive Pressure (Rotation about the Bottom)	70
1.16	Dubrova's Method for Calculation of Passive Pressure Distribution	76
1.17	Experimental Results for Passive Pressure	78
1.18	Wall Rotation Required for Passive Earth Pressure Condition	80
1.19	Stability of Slurry Trench Cuts in Saturated Clay	81
1.20	Stability of Unsupported Axisymmetric Excavations in Saturated Clay	84
1.21	Lateral Earth Pressure on Linings of Circular Shafts in Sand	86
1.22	Lateral Earth Pressure on Linings of Circular Shafts in Saturated Clay	96
	References	100

CHAPTER 2	SHEET PILE WALLS	103
2.1	Introduction	103
2.2	Types of Sheet Pile Walls	104
2.3	Anchors in Sheet Pile Wall Design	108
2.4	Construction Methods for Sheet Pile Walls	109
2.5	Lateral Earth Pressure--General Considerations	111
2.6	Cantilever Sheet Pile Walls Penetrating into Sand	114
2.7	Cantilever Sheet Pile Walls Penetrating into Clay Layer	126
2.8	Anchored Sheet Pile Wall Penetrating into Sand--Free Earth Support Method	131
2.9	Lateral Earth Pressure Due to Strip Load Near a Wall	133
2.10	Rowe's Moment Reduction Method	135
2.11	Anchored Sheet Pile Wall with Sloping Dredge Line	140
2.12	Computational Pressure Diagram Method	141

2.13	Anchored Sheet Pile Wall Penetrating into Clay--Free Earth Support Method	146
2.14	Fixed Earth Support Method for Anchored Sheet Pile Walls	150
2.15	Other Observations on Anchored Sheet Pile Wall Design	156
	References	158

CHAPTER 3	HOLDING CAPACITY OF ANCHOR SLABS AND HELICAL ANCHORS	160
3.1	Introduction	160
3.2	Ultimate Holding Capacity of Shallow Vertical Anchor Slabs in Sand	160
3.2.1	Teng's Procedure for Shallow Anchors	162
3.2.2	Ovesen and Stromann's Procedure for Shallow Anchors	164
3.2.3	Analysis of Shallow Anchors by Biarez, Boucraut, and Negre	170
3.2.4	Meyerhof's Theory	171
3.2.5	Neeley, Stuart, and Graham's Method	172
3.2.6	Load-Displacement Relationship for Shallow Vertical Anchors in Sand	174
3.2.7	Deep Vertical Anchors in Sand	177
3.2.8	Soil Friction Angle for Estimation of the Ultimate Anchor Capacity	179
3.3	Vertical Anchor Slabs in Clay	180
3.4	Uplift Capacity of Horizontal Anchors in Sand	183
3.5	Uplift Capacity of Horizontal Group Anchors	192
3.6	Uplift Capacity of Horizontal Group Anchors in Clay	194
3.7	Uplift Capacity of Helical Anchors	200
	References	205

CHAPTER 4	ULTIMATE BEARING CAPACITY OF SHALLOW FOUNDATIONS	206
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4.1	Introduction	206
4.2	Types of Bearing Capacity Failure	206
4.3	Terzaghi's Bearing Capacity Theory	210
4.4	Some Observations on Terzaghi's Bearing Capacity Theory	221
4.5	Meyerhof's Bearing Capacity Theory	224
4.6	General Bearing Capacity Equation	237
4.7	Other Solutions for Bearing Capacity Factors	241
4.8	Effect of Water Table	248
4.9	Bearing Capacity of Foundations on Anisotropic Soil Extending to a Great Depth	249
4.10	Ultimate Bearing Capacity Due to Vertical Eccentric Load	260
4.11	Foundations Supported by a Soil with a Rigid Rough Base at a Limited Depth	277
4.12	Bearing Capacity of Foundations on Slopes	283
4.13	Bearing Capacity of Foundations on Layered Soil	286
4.14	Continuous Foundation on Weak Clay with a Granular Trench	317
4.15	Shallow Foundation Above Voids	322
4.16	Interference of Shallow Continuous Foundation in Granular Soil	325
4.17	Foundation Settlement	330
	References	339

CHAPTER 5	SLOPE STABILITY	342
5.1	Introduction	342
5.2	Factor of Safety--Definition	344
5.3	Stability of Finite Slopes ($c-\phi$ Soil)--Plane Failure Surface	346
5.4	Stability of Clay Slopes ($\phi=0$ Condition)	350
5.5	Clay Slopes with Anisotropic Strength Properties ($\phi=0$ Condition)	356
5.6	Stability of Slopes in Clay ($\phi=0$ Condition) with c_u Increasing with Depth	361
5.7	Stability of Finite Slopes with $c-\phi$ Soils--Mass Procedure	365

5.7.1	Taylor's Friction Circle Method	366
5.7.2	Cousins' Stability Analysis ($c-\phi$ Soil)	375
5.8	Method of Slices	385
5.8.1	Ordinary Method of Slices	386
5.8.2	Bishop's Simplified Method of Slices	390
5.8.3	Bishop and Morgenstern's Method of Slices	391
5.8.4	Morgenstern's Method of Slices for Rapid Drawdown Condition	398
5.8.5	Spencer's Method of Slices	399
5.9	Limit Analysis Solutions for Slopes	413
5.10	Estimation of Ditch Safety by Using a Cycloidal Failure Surface	416
5.10.1	Calculation of the Side Slopes for Ditch with Deeper Cuts	422
	References	424

APPENDIX A	THE POLE METHOD FOR FINDING STRESSES FROM MOHR'S CIRCLE	426
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APPENDIX B	PROPERTIES OF LOGARITHMIC SPIRALS AND LOGARITHMIC SPIRAL SECTORS	429
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APPENDIX C	HELICAL ANCHORS	434
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INDEX		436
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(5.129).

Example 5.11. Refer to Example 5.10. Other quantities remaining the same, if $H=3$ m determine β_{cr} .

Solution.

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left[1 - \left(\frac{H\gamma}{\sigma} \right) \frac{(1 - \sin\phi)}{2 \tan^2(45 + \phi/2)} \right]$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \theta &= \cos^{-1} \left[1 - \frac{(3)(17.5)}{16} \frac{1 - \sin 12^\circ}{2 \tan^2(45 + 12/2)} \right] \\ &= \cos^{-1} \left[1 - \frac{(3.281)(0.792)}{3.05} \right] = \cos^{-1}(0.148) = 81.49^\circ \end{aligned}$$

However

$$\theta_c = 90 - \phi = 90 - 12 = 68^\circ$$

So, $\theta > \theta_c$. Now, $\theta = 81.49^\circ = \theta''$. Substituting $\phi = 12^\circ$ and $\theta'' = 81.49^\circ$ in Eq. (5.130) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_{cr} &= \tan^{-1} \left\{ \frac{(3)(17.5)}{16} \times \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{\cos 12(1 - \sin 12)}{2(1 + \sin 12) \left[\left(\frac{\pi}{180} 81.49 \right) - \sin 81.49 - \pi/2 + \left(\frac{\pi}{180} 12 \right) + \cos 12^\circ \right]} \right\} \\ &= 87^\circ \end{aligned}$$

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