

# Variational Method in Deriving $K_0$

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## Abstract

In this paper it is shown that  $K_0$ , the at rest earth pressure coefficient, can be related theoretically to failure parameters of soil ( $c$  and  $\phi$ ). The approach is to use failure mechanism that causes the soil to fail while keeping the at rest lateral pressure. Variational method is used to derive the real  $K_0$ . An approximate and a closed form derivation are obtained in sand. The approximate solution gives an equation for  $K_0$  identical to the traditional equation by Jaky. The closed form equation shows a slightly higher  $K_0$  value and gives a better comparison with experiments. The resulting failure surface is successfully compared to rigidly reinforced soil walls. Further analysis was done to obtain a reasonable approximation of  $K_0$  for clay and overconsolidated sand and clay. The result shows  $K_0$  is not constant with depth due to the cohesion. The tension zone for the at rest condition is also obtained.

## Introduction and Review

The ratio of horizontal to vertical stress is expressed by a factor called the coefficient of lateral stress or lateral stress ratio and is denoted by the symbol  $K$ :  $K = \sigma_h / \sigma_v$ , where  $\sigma_h$  is the horizontal stress and  $\sigma_v$  is the vertical stress. This definition of  $K$  is used whether or

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not the stresses are geostatic. Even when the stresses are static, the value of  $K$  can vary over a rather wide range depending on whether the ground has been stretched or compressed in the horizontal direction by either the forces of nature or the work of man. Often the interest is in the magnitude of the horizontal static stress in the special case where there has been no lateral strain within the ground. In the special case, the interest is the coefficient of lateral stress at rest and uses the symbol  $K_0$ .

Sedimentary soil is built up by an accumulation of sediments from above. As this build-up of overburden continues, there is vertical compression of the soil at any given elevation because of the increase in vertical gravity stress. As the sedimentation takes place, generally over a large lateral area, significant horizontal compression takes place. Since soil is capable of sustaining internal shear stresses, the horizontal stress will be less than the vertical stress. For a sand deposit formed in this way,  $K_0$  will typically have a value between 0.4 and 0.5.

On the other hand, there is evidence that the horizontal stress can exceed the vertical stress if a soil deposit has been heavily preloaded in the past. In effect, the horizontal stresses were "locked-in" when the soil was previously loaded by additional overburden, and did not fully disappear when this loading was removed. For this,  $K_0$  may reach a value of 3.

When the accumulation of sediments from above causes consolidation without locked-in stresses, it is referred to as "normal consolidation". The problem of normally consolidated

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sand under a widely loaded area has been theoretically investigated by Jáký, (1944, 1948) [10,11], and Handy, (1985) [8], yielding

$$K_0 = 1 - \sin \phi \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

where  $\phi$  is the angle of internal friction of the soil. The original derivation of Jáký gives a more complicated expression that he approximated by  $K_0 = 0.9 - \sin \phi$  [10], and later simplified it to equation 1 [11]. Handy shows that if instead of using a flat arch, he had used a catenary, the examination indicates  $K_0 = 1.06(1 - \sin \phi)$  [8]. He mentioned that neither of these derivations is consistent with the common use of  $K_0$  to define the stress ratio in normally consolidated soil under a widely loaded area, as mentioned above, the agreement with experimented data, well investigated by Mayne and Kulhawy, (1982) [17], being defined as coincidence [9]. Similarly, Tschebotarioff, (1953) [28], commented that Jáký's assumptions in the derivation [9] are unacceptable. Handy [8] gave also a mathematical proof, (Eq. 11 of his paper), in which Jáký's equation can be derived using the approximate vertical stress. His final recommendation is to use  $K_0 = 1.1(1 - \sin \phi)$  as a safer approximation, since the equation for  $K_0$  originally derived from a consideration of arching, and for an immobile, rough wall. Practicing engineers can be unaware of these finer distinctions in theoretical and experimental considerations, and use  $K_0$  of Eq. 1 routinely.

In this paper variational method, reference [29], is used first to derive  $K_0$  for normal and overconsolidated sand. The method is applied over a soil failure mechanism the keeps the

at rest lateral forces unchanged. Second: a reasonable approximation is derived for normal and overconsolidated clay. Also, rigid reinforced soil is examined for comparing the derived slip surfaces. The derivation can be readily extended for a slanted wall with a sloped soil on surface. This in turn prepares the way for dynamic analysis.

### **Incipient Shear and $K_0$ Failure Mechanism**

Consider taking a horizontal slice from the ground with a height  $y$ , and introducing an imbalance loading as seen in Fig. 1(a). Assume that the soil was at the at rest condition before introducing the imbalance surcharge loads. It is desirable to show the effect of this imbalance loading on the horizontal force on line A-B. Thus, we need to investigate the loads before and after the imbalance loading. (1) Before: By taking an arbitrary angle  $\alpha$  to create two immobilized wedges, as seen in Fig. 1(a), the sum of the forces yields:

$E_h = N \sin \alpha - F \cos \alpha$ , and  $W = N \cos \alpha + F \sin \alpha$ , where  $W$  is the weight of the wedge,

$E_h$  is the horizontal force on line A-B,  $N$  is the normal force, and  $F$  is the immobilized

friction. (2) After: By using the same arbitrary angles, the change in  $N$  and  $F$ , due to the

imbalance surcharge loading  $q$  and  $-q$ , is  $\Delta N$  and  $\Delta F$  respectively. When considering axisymmetry, the net change  $\Delta N$  and  $\Delta F$  on one wedge is equal and opposite to the net

change on the other wedge. From Fig. 1(b) the new equations yields: (1) the right wedge

(ABD):  $-\Delta N \cos \alpha - \Delta F \sin \alpha = -qy \cot \alpha - T$ , and  $\Delta E_h = -\Delta N \sin \alpha + \Delta F \cos \alpha$ . (2) the

left wedge (ABC):  $\Delta N \cos \alpha + \Delta F \sin \alpha = qy \cot \alpha + T$ , and  $\Delta E_h = \Delta N \sin \alpha - \Delta F \cos \alpha$ .

Equating  $\Delta E_h$  from the left wedge to the right wedge yields  $\Delta F = \Delta N \tan \alpha$ . When

substituting back to find  $\Delta E_h$ , it gives  $\Delta E_h = 0$ . Thus the imbalance loading does not

change the at rest force on line A-B where the maximum shear occurs. If the surcharge

pressure  $q$  and  $-q$  is continually increased the result is a failure surface, where  $\Delta F + F$  in the left wedge (ABC) reaches the failure criterion of a fully mobilized friction. For the right wedge (ABD), the friction will not quite be fully mobilized. To show this, it is sufficient to show that  $(F + \Delta F) / (N + \Delta N) > (F - \Delta F) / (N - \Delta N)$ . This lead to  $\Delta F / \Delta N > F / N$ , or  $\tan \alpha > \tan \alpha - E_h / (N \cos \alpha)$ , which is true.

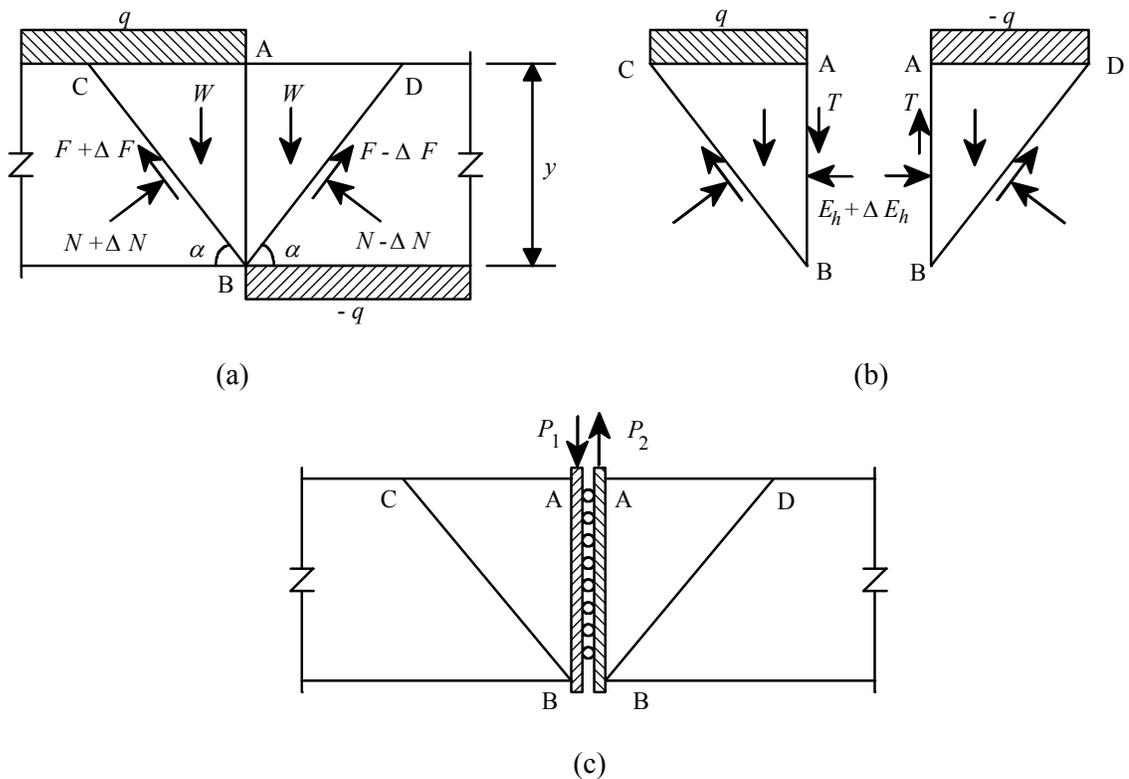


FIG. 1 - Incipient Shear Definitions (a) Horizontal Slice (b) Force Diagram (c) Incipient shear on two sliding walls.

A reasonable question: if the failure surface is not a line, will it change  $\Delta E_h$ ? If the above analysis was to assume a curve instead of a line for the immobile friction, the hypothesis ( $\Delta E_h = 0$ ) would still hold for the right and left vertical slices adjacent to line A-B. This

can be seen by treating the bottom of each slice as a wedge with some slope and a surcharge on top of it. Repeating the analysis on each slice with its corresponding mirror image slice, will give the same results, when summing all the forces. Thus, the hypothesis is valid for any arbitrary curve, and not just a line. Furthermore, if the imbalance loading  $q$  and  $-q$  were any axi-symmetric loading, the hypothesis that  $\Delta E_h = 0$  remains valid. From this observation it is necessary to introduce a name for the type of shear,  $T$ , which was introduced on line A-B to be the *incipient shear*. The full definition of the incipient shear is: *A shear introduced to a boundary or a line is an incipient shear when the normal forces to the boundary or the line do not change*. It is important to note that the horizontal force of Fig. 1(a) does not need to be the at rest force. Thus, the incipient shear hypothesis is applicable for other conditions.

It is noteworthy that the hypothesis of the incipient shear was arrived at without the use of elasticity, plasticity, or elastoplastic methods. When comparing with elasticity the result is the same. For example, integrating Flamant's equation, (1892) [27], for any axi-symmetric load on a semi-infinite media yields  $\sigma_h = \sigma_v = 0$ , and the strain is zero at line A-B of Fig. 1(a).

To simplify the analysis it would be beneficial not to deal with the surcharge  $q$ . Consider the two buried walls in the horizontal slice of Fig. 1(c). Between the walls are rollers to give a perfectly smooth surface. If  $P_1 = P_2$ , the wedge analysis is identical to the above for Fig. 1(a). The result is the same hypothesis  $\Delta E_h = 0$ . The first failure surface would be that of  $P_1$ , a downward incipient shear. The failure surface is expected to be different than

that of Fig. 1(a). However, the before and after, at rest lateral forces are kept the same since  $\Delta E_h = 0$ .

From these observations, when considering the downward incipient shear of Fig. 1(c), it is expected that the  $K$  value will have variation inside the wall. It will start at  $K = K_0$  at the wall and will reoccur internally at some distance inside the wall. This is necessary since going further inside the wall, the incipient shear has a lesser influence on the stresses and the at rest forces will reoccur. Thus  $K_0$  will reoccur at some point at  $x = x_m$  from the wall and the boundary condition on the slip surface can be considered to have  $K_0$  at both ends.

Once the  $K_0$  failure mechanism is realized,  $K_0$  can be derived from finding the maximum horizontal force for an active slip surface. Additionally, the boundary condition must be satisfied. Maximizing the horizontal force will lead to  $K_0$ , and not any other active force coefficient because the horizontal force will reduce if the boundary moves slightly outward from zero deformation to an active slip surface. Experiments by Terzaghi (1934, 1941) [25, 26], Sherif et al. (1982,1984) [21, 23], and Fang et al. (1986) [7] indicated that regardless of the outward movement of a rigid wall, the horizontal force reduces from the at rest condition. Thus, the at rest force is the upper bound for an active slip surface failure. These tests were done for translating walls, rotating walls from top and bottom. The outward movement reduces the horizontal force from the at rest condition because it induces tension in the soil. Cohesionless soil can hardly take tension. Thus, if the failing wedge is subdivided into vertical slices, the shear in the slices will reduce. Excessive

outward movement will result in an active condition where the shear in the slices becomes zero. Hence, it is sufficient to find the at rest force by maximization with an active slip surface due to a downward incipient shear with the proper boundary condition. Thus the necessary criterion in deriving  $K_0$  is obtained.

### Boundary Conditions for Sand

Subdividing the failure wedge of the downward incipient shear into vertical slices, following Bishop (1955) [1], yields slices that are each in equilibrium, so that the overturning moments remain in balance and not of concern. Each slice is added together to make the wedge in Fig. 2. The resultant of the boundary forces on a slice can be transformed to a Coulomb, (1776) [3], wedge as shown on Fig. 3(a),(b). From the Coulomb wedge one can write

$$dE_x = \frac{\tan(\alpha - \phi)}{1 + \tan \delta \tan(\alpha - \phi)} \left( \frac{d\bar{w}}{\tan \alpha} \right), \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

$$dW = -\gamma \left[ \frac{(y - dy) + y}{2} \right] \frac{dy}{\tan \alpha} = \frac{d\bar{w}}{\tan \alpha}, \dots\dots\dots (3)$$

$$dE_y = dE_x \tan \delta, \dots\dots\dots (4)$$

and

$$dy = -dx \tan \alpha \dots\dots\dots (5)$$

Extremizing the boundary forces in a slice can be done in three ways: (1) extremizing the horizontal force  $dE_x$ , (2) extremizing the vertical force  $dE_y$ , (3) extremizing the resultant

force of  $dE_x$  and  $dE_y$ . To extremize  $dE_x$  it is necessary to hold  $dy$  constant and vary  $dx$  because  $dE_x = -Kydy$ , and extremizing  $K$  is of interest. Thus  $ydy$  must be

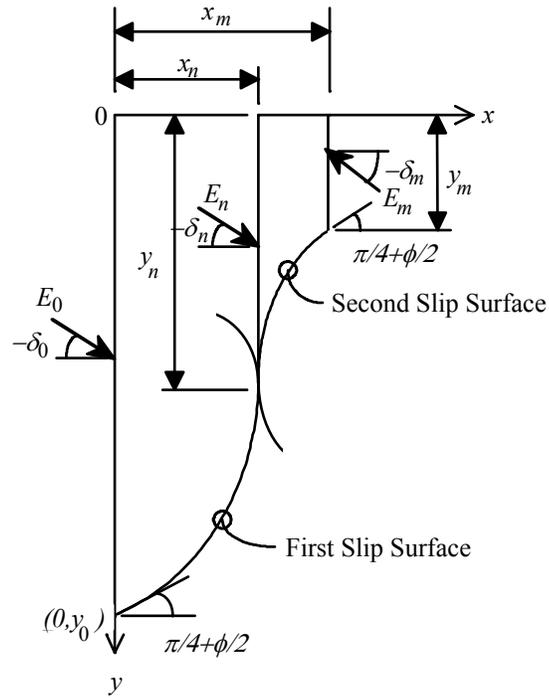


FIG. 2- Slip Surfaces Due To Incipient Shea

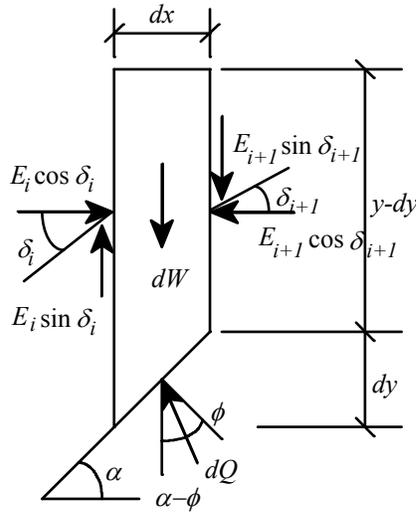


FIG. 3-a Bishop Slice

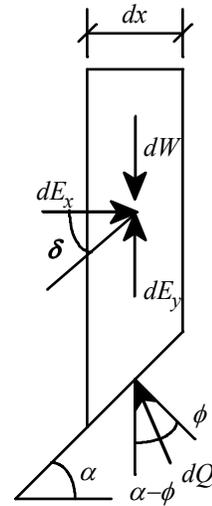


FIG. 3-b Coulomb Wedge

held constant. To extremize  $dE_y$ ,  $dx$  must be held constant and  $dy$  must be varied.  $dE_y$  must be extremized to achieve a constant  $dW = \gamma y dx$ . Thus,  $y dx$  must remain constant. In many cases,  $dE_y$  is taken as  $dE_x \tan \delta$ . In these cases  $dy$  is to be held constant and  $dx$  is to vary. To extremize the resultant it requires  $dx \tan(\alpha - \delta) / \cos \delta$  be held constant. This can be realized by rotating the axis by  $\delta$  from the vertical in order to have the resultant in a horizontal direction.

In the boundaries in Fig. 2, it is desirable to find the angle  $\alpha$  that gives the smallest  $dE_y$ , which causes the first and last slice to fail, while  $dE_x$  is at maximum. From the above consideration on extremizing the forces in a slice, one finds that  $dx$  and  $dy$  must be held constant. This gives no unique solution since two different  $\alpha$ 's can be derived from Eq. 5. However, at the boundaries the forces are already at maximum and  $dE_x = K_0 \gamma y dy$

regardless of  $\alpha$  or the value of the incipient shear. Additionally, the bulk of the movement is in the vertical direction. Thus the failure of these slices will be primarily from  $dE_y$  due to the incipient shear. Therefore the slice wedge at the boundaries can be considered to have movements in the vertical direction, and  $\alpha$  can be obtained by keeping only  $dx$  constant. Writing Eq. 2 in terms of  $dE_x$  and  $dE_y$  with Eq. 5 and Eq. 3, yields

$$-dE_y = -\gamma \frac{[(y - dy) + y]}{2} dx + dE_x \cot(\alpha - \phi) = -\gamma y dx + (\gamma K_0 y dx) \tan \alpha \cot(\alpha - \phi) \dots\dots (6)$$

Minimizing the downward force  $-dE_y$  in Eq. 6,  $-\frac{dE_y}{d\alpha} \Big|_{x=0 \text{ and } x=x_m} = 0$ , yields

$$\alpha = \alpha_0 = \alpha_m = \pi / 4 + \phi / 2 \dots\dots\dots (7)$$

where  $\alpha_0$  is the wedge angle for the first slice, and  $\alpha_m$  is for the last slice. Note:  $\alpha = 0$  is not considered as solution for the minimum of Eq. 6, since the downward movement will cause a non-zero slope in the slices. Also,  $\alpha = \pi / 2 + \phi$  cannot be considered as a solution since  $\alpha \leq \pi / 2$ . Now that the boundary conditions are selected, maximizing the horizontal force with these boundaries must result in  $K_0$ . A first approximation can be done by selecting the slip surface as a line with a slope at all  $\alpha$ 's in the slices to be  $\pi / 4 + \phi / 2$ , and selecting  $\delta = -\phi$  to maximize the horizontal force in Eq. 2. Substituting  $\alpha = \pi / 4 + \phi / 2$ , and  $\delta = -\phi$  in Eq. 2 and integrating  $y$  from  $y_0$  to zero yields

$$E_0 \cos \delta_0 = \int dE_x \cong -\gamma \int_{y_0}^0 \frac{\tan(\pi / 4 - \phi / 2)}{1 - \tan \phi \tan(\pi / 4 - \phi / 2)} \frac{1}{\tan(\pi / 4 + \phi / 2)} y dy$$

$$\cong \frac{\gamma_0^2}{2}(1 - \sin \phi) \dots\dots\dots (8)$$

where the identity  $\tan(\pi / 4 \pm \phi / 2) = \pm \tan \phi + 1 / \cos \phi$  were used. Eq. 8 gives a  $K_0 \cong 1 - \sin \phi$  as in Eq. 1, where Jáky's equation is derived from unacceptable assumptions and is considered a coincidence. There are considerations that need to be investigated for this approximation: (1) The integration of Eq. 4 yields  $\delta_0 = -\phi$ . However, another slip surface can occur before this one, where the incipient shear is lower and reaches a directional angle  $-\delta_0 < \phi$  with a slightly higher  $K_0$  value than Eq. 8. This will be shown later on in the derivation. (2) Eq. 8 is derived by assuming a constant  $K_0$  value in all the slices. This is contrary to common sense since variation in the stresses, thus the  $K$  value, are expected inside the wall. It can be concluded that Eq. 8 or Jáky's equation is only an approximation, and the slip surface and the directional angle  $\delta_0$  are incorrect.

**Sand Analysis**

$K_0$  for sand will be derived from an extremum condition using variational methods with the boundary condition of Eq. 7. With the extremum method one selects arbitrary admissible slip surfaces and determines the forces acting on the boundaries of the earth mass. The definitive slip surface is one, which furnishes an extremum value for the horizontal force. Maximizing the horizontal force  $E_0 \cos \delta_0$  can start by maximizing each slice individually. The horizontal force  $dE_x$  of the slice in Eq. 2 can be treated as a coulomb wedge with a uniform surcharge; it is required that  $\frac{dE_x}{d\alpha} = 0$ . Thus

$$\tan \delta = \left[ \frac{\sin 2\alpha}{\sin 2(\alpha - \phi)} - 1 \right] \frac{1}{\tan(\alpha - \phi)} = \frac{\cos(2\alpha - \phi) \sin \phi}{\sin^2(\alpha - \phi)} = \frac{(\cot^2 \alpha - 1) \cot \phi + 2 \cot \alpha}{(\cot \phi - \cot \alpha)^2} \dots\dots\dots (9)$$

where  $\tan \delta$  is expressed three different ways for convenience and it yields

$$\cot \alpha = -\tan(\delta + \phi) \left[ 1 - \sqrt{1 + \cot(\delta + \phi) \cot \phi} \right] \dots\dots\dots (10)$$

If plotting Eq. 10 it shows that  $\alpha > \phi$  for all  $-\phi \leq \delta \leq \phi$ . Also, Eq.10 is the Coulomb wedge angle for a vertical wall with wall friction. If  $\delta = 0$  in Eq. 9 or 10  $\alpha = \pi/4 + \phi/2$ , where  $-\tan \phi + 1 / \cos \phi = \cot(\pi / 4 + \phi / 2)$ . This checks with an active Coulomb wedge with  $\delta = 0$ . Now, note for  $\alpha > \phi$  in Eq. 2 the force  $dE_x$  is maximized when  $\delta \leq 0$ . Thus the boundary points for the slip surface of Fig. 2 can be taken in the region  $-\phi \leq \delta \leq 0$  or at  $\pi/4 + \phi/2 \leq \alpha \leq \pi/2$ . Thus,  $\alpha_0 = \pi/4 + \phi/2$ , and  $\alpha_n = \pi/2$  as in Eq. 7. For a given  $y_0, x_n$  and  $y_n$  will be determined from these prescribed end points. Substituting Eq. 9 in Eq. 2 and 4 and rearranging yields

$$dE_x = \gamma \sin^2 \phi (\cot \phi - \cot \alpha)^2 \tan \alpha y dx \dots\dots\dots (11)$$

$$\begin{aligned} dE_y &= 2\gamma \sin^2 \phi y dx + \gamma \sin \phi \cos \phi (\cot \alpha - \tan \alpha) y dx \\ &= -\gamma \tan \phi \tan \alpha y dx + \gamma \cos \phi \sin \phi (\tan \phi + \cot \alpha)^2 \tan \alpha y dx \\ &= \tan \phi (\gamma \cot \alpha y dx - dE_x) \dots\dots\dots (12) \end{aligned}$$

Where  $\frac{d\bar{w}}{\tan \alpha}$  is replaced by  $\gamma y dx$ ,  $\gamma$  is the soil constant, and  $dE_y$  is expressed in different

ways for convenience. From Fig. 3a one can write

$$E_i \cos \delta_i - E_{i+1} \cos \delta_{i+1} = dE_x \dots\dots\dots (13)$$

$$E_i \sin \delta_i - E_{i+1} \sin \delta_{i+1} = dE_y \dots\dots\dots (14)$$

When starting with  $E_0$  and ending with  $E_n$  Eqs. 13 and 14 yields

$$E_0 \cos \delta_0 = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} dE_x + E_n \cos \delta_n \dots\dots\dots (15)$$

$$E_0 \sin \delta_0 = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} dE_y + E_n \sin \delta_n \dots\dots\dots (16)$$

By taking  $\tan \alpha = -y'$  in Eq. 11 and 12 and replacing the summation sign by the integral sign in Eq. 15 and 16 it yields

$$E_0 \cos \delta_0 = -\gamma \sin^2 \phi \int_0^{x_n} \left( \cot \phi + \frac{1}{y'} \right)^2 y' y dx + E_n \cos \delta_n \dots\dots\dots (17)$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_0 \sin \delta_0 &= 2\gamma \sin^2 \phi \int_0^{x_n} y dx + \gamma \sin \phi \cos \phi \int_0^{x_n} \left( y' - \frac{1}{y'} \right) y dx + E_n \sin \delta_n \\ &= \gamma \tan \phi \int_0^{x_n} y' y dx - \gamma \sin \phi \cos \phi \int_0^{x_n} \left( \tan \phi - \frac{1}{y'} \right)^2 y' y dx + E_n \sin \delta_n \\ &= -\gamma \tan \phi \int_0^{x_n} \frac{y}{y'} dx - \gamma \tan \phi \int_0^{x_n} dE_x + E_n \sin \delta_n \dots\dots\dots (18) \end{aligned}$$

To use variational method to maximize horizontal force  $E_0 \cos \delta_0$ , Eq. 17 needs to be extremized while Eq. 18 is to be satisfied. Eq. 18 can be satisfied by choosing the proper

directional angles  $\delta_0$  and  $\delta_n$ . Similarly,  $E_0 \cos \delta_0$  can be maximized by extremizing Eq. 18 while Eq. 17 to be satisfied, and again the proper directional angles can satisfy Eq. 17.

Note:  $E_0 \sin \delta_0$  is taken as  $(E_0 \cos \delta_0) \tan \delta_0$ . These conditions leads to a deduction that there are two slip surfaces that can maximize  $E_0 \cos \delta_0$ , and both surfaces can occur.

Since it is desirable to look for the horizontal pressure in Fig. 2, the resulting slip surface from maximizing Eq. 17 will be the first slip surface and the slip surface resulting from maximizing Eq. 18 will be the next one. This situation will become more evident when the slip surfaces are obtained and the boundary conditions are imposed. Thus, Eq. 17 or 18 can be extremized alone while the other can be satisfied with a suitable  $\delta_0$  and  $\delta_n$ .

When starting with Eq. 17 the boundary conditions are prescribed: at  $x = 0$   $y = y_0$ , at  $x = 0$  and  $y = y_0$   $x' = -\tan(\pi / 4 - \phi / 2) = \tan \phi - 1 / \cos \phi$ , and at  $x = x_n$  and  $y = y_n$   $x' = 0$ . Note also that  $E_n \cos \delta_n$  in Eq. 17 is prescribed from a second slip surface such that

$\delta(E_n \cos \delta_n) = 0$ . Thus, the Euler equation [29] from variational method can be applied:

$$\frac{\partial \mathfrak{R}}{\partial y} - \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{\partial \mathfrak{R}}{\partial y'} \right) = 0 \dots\dots\dots (19)$$

$$\text{where } \mathfrak{R} = -\gamma \sin^2 \phi \left( \cot \phi + \frac{1}{y'} \right)^2 y'y \dots\dots\dots (20)$$

Since  $\mathfrak{R}$  does not involve  $x$  explicitly then

$$\mathfrak{R} - y' \frac{\partial \mathfrak{R}}{\partial y'} = h \dots\dots\dots (21)$$

where  $h$  is a constant. Applying Eq. 21 on Eq. 20 yields

$$\frac{1}{y'} = -\cot \phi \left(1 - \frac{h'}{y}\right) \dots\dots\dots (22)$$

where  $h'$  is a new constant. By using the boundary condition  $x' = 0$  at  $y = y_n$ ,  $h'$  can be found and Eq. 22 can be written as

$$\frac{1}{y'} = x' = -\cot \phi \left(1 - \frac{y_n}{y}\right) \dots\dots\dots (23)$$

By using the end condition at  $y = y_0$   $x' = \tan \phi - 1 / \cos \phi$  for  $\alpha_0 = \pi / 4 + \phi / 2$  on Eq. 23 yields

$$y_0 = (1 + \sin \phi) y_n \dots\dots\dots (24)$$

When integrating Eq. 23 and using the end condition at  $x = 0$   $y = y_0$ , it yields the first slip surface Eq.:

$$x = -\cot \phi \left[ y - y_0 - y_n \ln \left| \frac{y}{y_0} \right| \right] \dots\dots\dots (25)$$

By using Eq. 24, Eq. 25 can be written as

$$\Omega = \frac{\cot \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} \left[ -(1 + \sin \phi)(\psi - 1) + \ln \psi \right] \dots\dots\dots (26)$$

Where  $\Omega = \frac{x}{y_0}$  and  $\psi = \frac{y}{y_0}$ . Fig. 4 shows different slip surfaces for various values of  $\phi$

for the region  $\frac{1}{1 + \sin \phi} < \psi < 1$ . The horizontal distance can be written as

$$x_n = \frac{y_0 \cot \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} \left[ \sin \phi + \ln(1 + \sin \phi) \right] \dots\dots\dots (27)$$

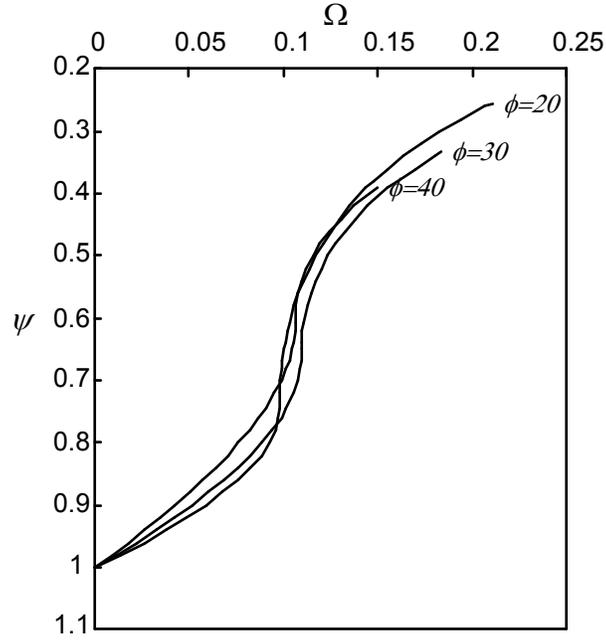


FIG. 4  $K_0$  First Slip Surface

By substituting Eq. 23 in Eq. 17 and 18, changing the interval to  $[y_0, y_n]$  instead of  $[0, x_n]$ , and replacing  $y'dx$  by  $dy$ , yields

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_0 \cos \delta_0 &= -\gamma \sin^2 \phi \int_{y_0}^{y_n} \frac{y_n^2 \cot^2 \phi}{y} dy + E_n \cos \delta_n \\
 &= \gamma y_n^2 \cos^2 \phi \ln \left| \frac{y_0}{y_n} \right| + E_n \cos \delta_n \dots\dots\dots (28)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$E_0 \sin \delta_0 = \frac{\gamma \cot \phi}{2} (y_n - y_0)(3y_n - y_0) + \gamma y_n^2 \cot \phi \cos^2 \phi \ln \left| \frac{y_0}{y_n} \right| + E_n \sin \delta_n \dots\dots\dots (29)$$

Substituting Eq. 24 in Eq. 28 and 29 yields

$$E_0 \cos \delta_0 = \gamma y_n^2 \cos^2 \phi \ln(1 + \sin \phi) + E_n \cos \delta_n \dots\dots\dots (30)$$

$$E_0 \sin \delta_0 = -\gamma \frac{y_n^2 \cos \phi}{2} (2 - \sin \phi) + \gamma y_n^2 \cot \phi \cos^2 \phi \ln(1 + \sin \phi) + E_n \sin \delta_n \dots\dots\dots (31)$$

Thus the analysis of the first slip surface is obtained. Note for  $x > x_n$  Eq. 23 has no  $y$  values. In fact the curve circles toward the first boundary, as seen in Fig. 2, indicating another slip surface must occur in order to reach the top of the ground. So, it remains to find the second slip surface and the force  $E_n$ . Consider the second slip surface shown in Fig. 2.

For maximum condition in the slice using Eq. 2 and for matching the end of the first slip surface, the boundary condition can be taken as  $\alpha_n = \pi / 2$  and  $\alpha_m = \pi / 4 + \phi / 2$ .

Rewriting Eq. 17 and 18 in terms of the forces of the second slip surface in Fig. 2, yields

$$E_n \cos \delta_n = -\gamma \sin^2 \phi \int_{x_n}^{x_m} \left( \cot \phi + \frac{1}{y'} \right)^2 y' y dx + E_m \cos \delta_m \dots\dots\dots (32)$$

$$E_n \sin \delta_n = \gamma \tan \phi \int_{x_n}^{x_m} y' y dx - \gamma \sin \phi \cos \phi \int_{x_n}^{x_m} \left( \tan \phi - \frac{1}{y'} \right)^2 y' y dx + E_m \sin \delta_m \dots\dots\dots (33)$$

Using variational method on Eq. 33 to extremize  $E_n \cos \delta_n$  yields

$$x' = \tan \phi \left( 1 - \frac{h'}{y} \right) \dots\dots\dots (34)$$

where  $h'$  is a constant. By using the boundary condition at  $y = y_n$   $x' = 1 / y' = 0$  for  $\alpha_n = \pi / 2$  on Eq. 34,  $h'$  is found and the equation can be rewritten as

$$x' = \tan \phi \left( 1 - \frac{y_n}{y} \right) \dots\dots\dots (35)$$

Using the other end condition at  $y = y_m$   $x' = \tan \phi - 1 / \cos \phi$  for  $\alpha_m = \pi / 4 + \phi / 2$ , Eq. 35 yields

$$y_m = y_n \sin \phi \dots\dots\dots (36)$$

When integrating Eq. 35 and using the end condition at  $x = x_n$   $y = y_n$ , the second slip surface is obtained:

$$x = \tan \phi \left( y - y_n - y_n \ln \left| \frac{y}{y_n} \right| \right) + x_n \dots\dots\dots (37)$$

From Eq. 24, 27 and 36, Eq. 37 can be rewritten as

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{1 + \sin \phi} \left\{ \tan \phi \left[ (1 + \sin \phi) \psi - 1 - \ln \left[ (1 + \sin \phi) \psi \right] \right] + \cot \phi \left[ \sin \phi - \ln(1 + \sin \phi) \right] \right\} \dots\dots\dots (38)$$

Where  $\Omega = \frac{x}{y_0}$  ,  $\psi = \frac{y}{y_0}$  , and  $\frac{\sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} < \psi < \frac{1}{1 + \sin \phi}$  , see Fig. 4 for the plot of  $\Omega$  and

$\psi$  for the second slip surface. The total horizontal distance can be written as

$$x_m = \frac{y_0}{1 + \sin \phi} \left\{ \tan \phi \left[ \sin \phi - 1 - \ln(\sin \phi) \right] + \cot \phi \left[ \sin \phi - \ln(1 + \sin \phi) \right] \right\} \dots\dots\dots (39)$$

By substituting Eq. 35 in Eq. 32 and 33 with the interval  $[y_n, y_m]$  instead of  $[x_n, x_m]$  and with  $y'dx = dy$ , it yields

$$E_n \cos \delta_n = \gamma_n^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{2 \cos^2 \phi} \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{y_m}{y_n} \right)^2 \right] - 2 \tan^2 \phi \left[ 1 - \frac{y_m}{y_n} \right] - \tan^2 \phi \sin^2 \phi \ln \left| \frac{y_m}{y_n} \right| \right\} + E_m \cos \delta_m \dots\dots\dots (40)$$

$$E_n \sin \delta_n = \gamma_n^2 \left\{ -\frac{\tan \phi}{2} \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{y_m}{y_n} \right)^2 \right] - \tan \phi \sin^2 \phi \ln \left| \frac{y_m}{y_n} \right| \right\} + E_m \sin \delta_m \dots\dots\dots (41)$$

Substituting Eq. 36 in Eq. 40 and 41 yields

$$E_n \cos \delta_n = \gamma_n^2 \left[ \frac{1}{2} - 2 \tan^2 \phi (1 - \sin \phi) - \tan^2 \phi \sin^2 \phi \ln(\sin \phi) \right] + E_m \cos \delta_m \dots\dots\dots (42)$$

$$E_n \sin \delta_n = -\gamma_n^2 \left[ \frac{\sin \phi \cos \phi}{2} + \tan \phi \sin^2 \phi \ln(\sin \phi) \right] + E_m \sin \delta_m \dots\dots\dots (43)$$

Substituting Eq. 42 and 43 in Eq. 30 and 31 yields

$$E_0 \cos \delta_0 = \gamma_n^2 \left[ \cos^2 \phi \ln(1 + \sin \phi) + \frac{1}{2} - 2 \tan^2 \phi (1 - \sin \phi) - \tan^2 \phi \sin^2 \phi \ln(\sin \phi) \right] + E_m \cos \delta_m \dots\dots\dots (44)$$

$$E_0 \sin \delta_0 = \gamma_n^2 \left[ -\frac{\cos \phi}{2} (2 - \sin \phi) + \cot \phi \cos^2 \phi \ln(1 + \sin \phi) - \frac{\sin \phi \cos \phi}{2} - \tan \phi \sin^2 \phi \ln(\sin \phi) \right] + E_m \sin \delta_m \dots\dots\dots (45)$$

Now Eq. 44 and 45 gives the maximum possible  $E_0 \cos \delta_0$  for the given boundary conditions. Since the boundary conditions are satisfied, the horizontal forces can be taken as  $E_0 \cos \delta_0 = \gamma K_0 \frac{y_0^2}{2}$ , and  $E_m \cos \delta_m = \gamma K_0 \frac{y_m^2}{2}$  in Eq. 44. Thus, from Eq. 44, 24, and  $36 K_0$  can be found:

$$K_0 = \frac{2 \cos^2 \phi \ln(1 + \sin \phi) + 1 - 4(1 - \sin \phi) \tan^2 \phi - 2 \tan^2 \phi \sin^2 \phi \ln(\sin \phi)}{(1 + \sin \phi)^2 - \sin^2 \phi} \dots\dots\dots (46)$$

Since  $\delta_0$  and  $\delta_m$  are arbitrary, they can be set equal. This can be realized since the incipient shear can be assumed to vary linearly with depth at the boundaries. Thus, from

Eq. 45, setting  $E_0 \sin \delta_0 = E_0 \cos \delta_0 \tan \delta_0 = \gamma K_0 \frac{y_0^2}{2} \tan \delta_0$  and

$E_m \sin \delta_m = E_m \cos \delta_m = \gamma K_0 \frac{y_m^2}{2} \tan \delta_0$ , it yields the incipient shear directional angle:

$$\tan \delta_0 = \tan \delta_m = \frac{-\cos \phi (2 - \sin \phi) + 2 \cot \phi \cos^2 \phi \ln(1 + \sin \phi) - \sin \phi \cos \phi - 2 \tan \phi \sin^2 \phi \ln(\sin \phi)}{[(1 + \sin \phi)^2 - \sin^2 \phi] K_0} \dots\dots\dots (47)$$

From Eq. 30 and 31  $\tan \delta_n$  can be expressed as:

$$\tan \delta_n = \frac{E_0 \sin \delta_0 + \gamma_n^2 \cos \phi (2 - \sin \phi) / 2 - \gamma_n^2 \cot \phi \cos^2 \phi \ln(1 + \sin \phi)}{E_0 \cos \delta_0 - \gamma_n^2 \cos^2 \phi \ln(1 + \sin \phi)} \dots\dots\dots (48)$$

or

$$\tan \delta_n = \frac{K_0 (1 + \sin \phi)^2 \tan \delta_0 + \cos \phi (2 - \sin \phi) - 2 \cot \phi \cos^2 \phi \ln(1 + \sin \phi)}{K_0 (1 + \sin \phi)^2 - 2 \cos^2 \phi \ln(1 + \sin \phi)} \dots\dots\dots (49)$$

Table 1 gives the comparison of different  $K_0$  for Jáký, Handy, and as derived. Note  $-\delta_0 < \phi$  for all  $\phi$  and the incipient shear is smaller indicating that  $K_0$  of Eq. 46 supersedes that of Eq. 8.

Due to the propagation of the incipient shear, it can be anticipated that the two slip surfaces can repeat for  $x > x_m$ . Now, it is important to show that the  $K_0$  of Eq. 46 is the same when considering all the slip surfaces to the top of the ground. Let  $K_1$  be the term in the bracket of Eq. 44. Utilizing Eqs. 24 and 36, an expression from one set of slip surfaces to another can be obtained:  $y_n(\text{bot}) / y_n(\text{top}) = \sin \phi / (1 + \sin \phi)$ . Using this relation and substituting all sets of slip surfaces in Eq. 44 yields

$$E_0 \cos \delta_0 = \gamma K_1 y_n^2 \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} \right)^4 + \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} \right)^6 + \dots \right] \quad (50)$$

or

$$E_0 \cos \delta_0 = \gamma K_1 y_n^2 \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} \right)^{2i} = \frac{\gamma K_1 y_n^2 (1 + \sin \phi)^2}{(1 + \sin \phi)^2 - \sin^2 \phi} = \frac{\gamma K_0 y_0^2}{2} \dots \quad (51)$$

This gives exactly the same  $K_0$  of Eq. 46. Thus, the solution is consistent, and this method of substitution can also be done on Eq. 45 to show that  $\tan \delta_0$  is exactly the same as that of Eq. 47. Consequently, the assumption that  $\delta_0 = \delta_m$  is correct.

$\phi$	Jáky	Jáky	Handy	Handy	Derived	$\delta_0 = \delta_m^*$	$\delta_n^*$
Deg.	$1 - \sin\phi$	$0.9 - \sin\phi$	$1.1(1 - \sin\phi)$	$1.06(1 - \sin\phi)$	$K_0$	Deg.	Deg.
***0	1.0000	0.9000	1.1000	1.0600	1.0000	0.00	-0.00
10	0.8264	0.7264	0.9090	0.8759	0.8989	-8.90	-9.58
20	0.6580	0.5580	0.7238	0.6975	0.7150	-16.67	-18.37
30	0.5000	0.4000	0.5500	0.5300	0.5285	-24.36	-26.74
40	0.3572	0.2572	0.3929	0.3786	0.3648	-32.51	-35.06
50	0.2340	0.1340	0.2574	0.2480	0.2311	-41.54	-43.72
60	0.1340	0.0340	0.1474	0.1420	0.1287	-51.77	-53.18
70	0.0603	-0.0397	0.0663	0.0639	0.0567	-63.38	-63.97
80	0.0152	-0.0848	0.0167	0.0161	0.0141	-76.29	-76.38
**90	0.0000	-0.1000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	-90.00	-90.00

\* Derived in this paper.

\*\* As in completely rigid.

\*\*\* As in hydrostatic.

Table 1-  $K_0$  comparison

### Comparing $K_0$ sand with experiments

Mayne and Kulhawy, (1982) [17], made a statistical analysis of 171 tests, where some of these tests had missing  $\phi$  values (some in clay and some in sand). Their result showed that Jáky's equation is applicable. However, the linear regression was biased toward curve fitting Jáky's equation. Their correlation number  $r = 0.802$  for 121 points. Adding 17

more tests, see reference [ 4, 5, 6, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20], and computing the absolute value of the error on 138 tests yields:

<u>Error</u>	<u>Derived</u>	<u>Jáky</u>
0 to 1%	23	18
1 to 5%	58	70
5 to 16%	57	50
Total No. of tests	138	138

It is clear from this observation that the derived  $K_0$  compares with experiments just as good, perhaps a little better.

### **Comparison of the slip surface for sand with experiments**

There is no available experimental data publication on slip surfaces for  $K_0$  due to shear failure. However, it is notable that the slip surfaces are similar results to slip surfaces of rigid reinforced earth problems. In the reinforced soil walls (rigid type), the developments of the force  $E_0 \cos \delta_0$  and  $E_0 \sin \delta_0$  are dissipated in the reinforcements. Thus  $dE_x$  and  $dE_y$  in every slice are reduced by the tension of each segment in the reinforcements, ending with  $E_0 = 0$  at the face of the wall. The problem of maximization has the same equations as the rigid wall. In this case, the forces in the reinforcements need to be maximized instead of the force on the boundaries. Thus,  $\sum dE_x$  and  $\sum dE_y$  needs to be maximized, where the slice of Fig. 3(a) and (b) will have reinforcements sticking out of it and  $dE_x$  and  $dE_y$  represent the resultant forces. Thus, the resulting slip surface must be the

same as the derived ones. Also, the boundary conditions on the slip surface are the same. Experimentally  $\alpha_0 = \pi/4 + \phi/2$ , see Juran and Christopher, (1989) [13]. Thus, from the first slip surface in Eq. 28 and 29,  $-\delta_n$  will have higher values than  $\phi$ , since  $\delta_0 = 0$ . This is expected since the shear can be taken by the reinforcements. The second slip surface will finish at a point similar to the front face, since that portion of the wall can be taken as a surcharge on a layer of reinforcements. Thus the tension in these reinforcements takes the lateral load leaving the upper surface at the surcharge area to start anew. Thus,  $\alpha_m = \pi/4 + \phi/2$ . At this point  $\delta_m$  will have a value similar to  $\delta_n$ . Thus, from there on it can be considered similar to an incipient shear at zero deflection, and the slip surfaces will repeat. When integrating over all the slip surfaces, the final horizontal and vertical forces to the top of the wall will not be zero; they represent the total horizontal and vertical forces in the reinforcements. In both cases, the friction on the bottom of the slices is fully mobilized causing an active slip surface. Even though the equations come out the same, due to the variational function, the location of the forces are not in the same place. To find the location of  $\sum dE_x$  and  $\sum dE_y$  in a reinforced earth mass, it is necessary to take moments of the slices. Thus  $M_x = \sum y dE_x$  and  $M_y = \sum x dE_y$ . By integrating over all the slip surfaces, to the top of ground, the moments can be obtained, thus the location of the forces.

When comparing with an experiment found by Juran, Beech, and De Laure[12] this gives a good result. Their experiment gave data for a slip surface for a rigid inclusion

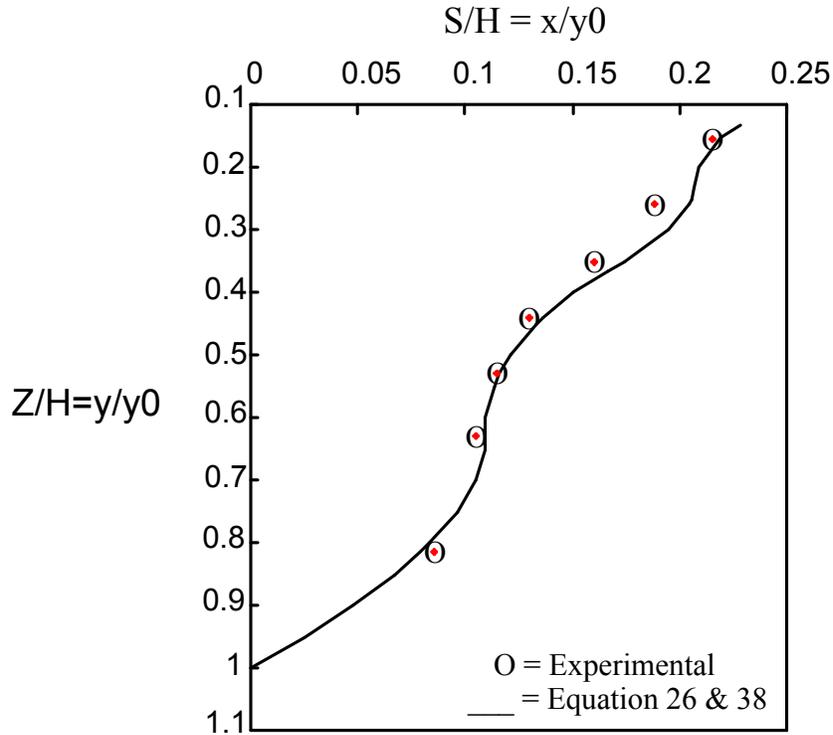


FIG. 5 Comparison of Slip Surface with Experiment (Juran et al.1984) for  $\phi = 35$

(a relatively rigid polystyrene) soil nailed wall. The rigid polystyrene strips failed because of excessive bending. The failure surface was observed in the soil using colored sand coinciding with the location of the breakage points in the reinforcements. However, when the failure is induced by excessive nail bending, the breakage points are located at a certain distance behind the failure surface observed in the soil. It is expected that in a rigid soil nailed wall the slip surface in front of the breakage points is that of  $K_0$ . Fig. 5 shows an excellent result ( 0.7% Ave error or 0.7cm for  $H = 100\text{cm}$ ) for  $\phi = 35$  deg using Eq. 26 and 38 repeatedly. Note: the total  $x$  distance from the face of the wall to the slip surface on the top surface is equal to  $x_m (1 + \sin \phi)$ , where  $x_m$  is that of Eq. 39.

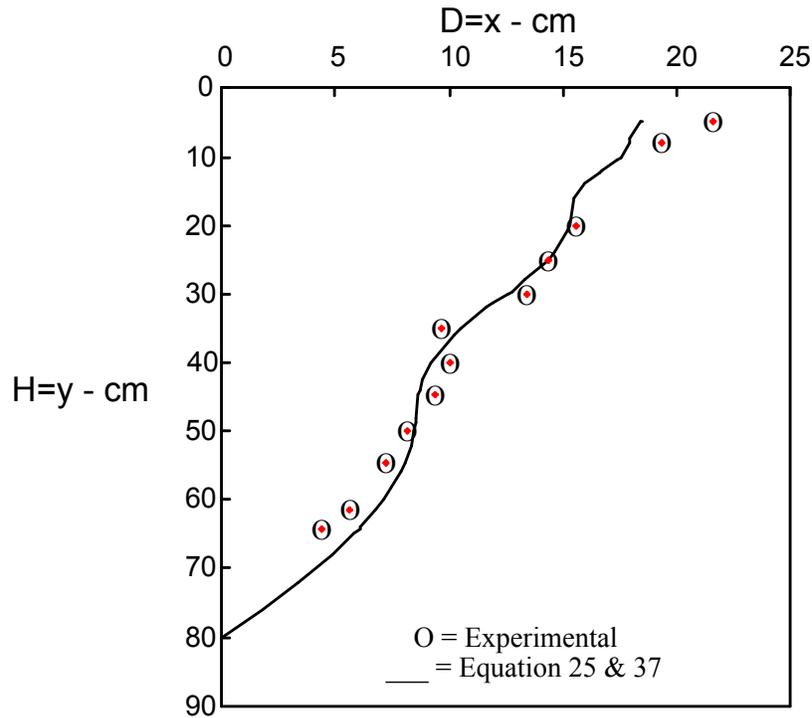


FIG. 6 Comparison of Slip Surface with Experiment (Juran et al. 1989)

(Model No. 3 - End of Construction)  $\phi = 40$  and  $y_0 = 80$  cm

Juran and Christopher[13] did a laboratory model study on geosynthetic reinforced soil retaining walls. The soil used in the study was a fine Fontainbleau sand (poorly graded, average grain diameter 0.1 mm) with  $\phi = 40$ . Colored sand was used to detect the failure surface in the soil. Three different types of geosynthetic reinforcing materials were used: Woven polyester strips; non-woven geotextiles; and plastic grids. The results on the tension forces measured in the woven geotextile strips correspond fairly well to those estimated, assuming that the soil is at  $K_0$  state stress. In his third model wall (Model No. 3) the initial failure surface at end of construction was observed to be quite different from

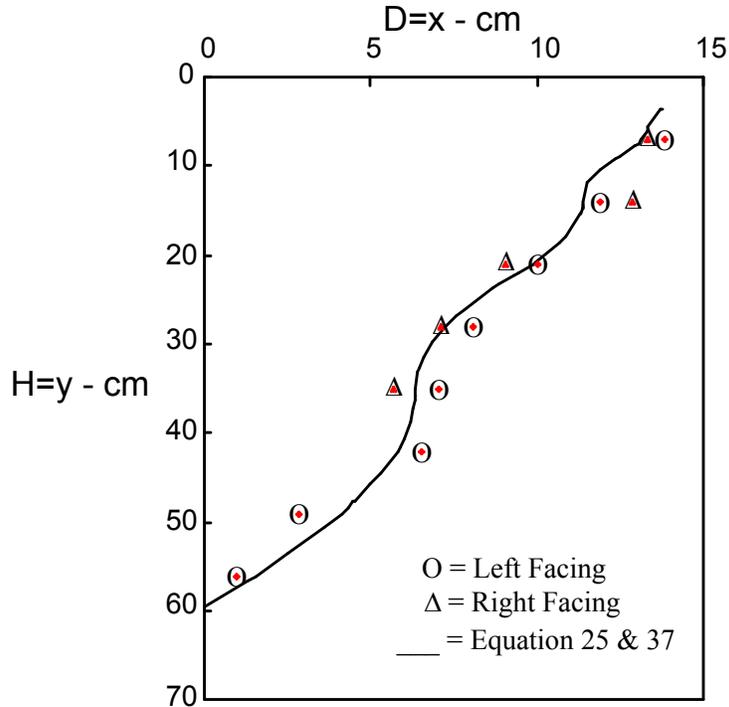


FIG. 7 Comparison of Slip Surface with Experiment (Juran et al. 1989)

(Model No. 7 - with Plastic Grids)  $\phi = 40$  and  $y_0 = 59.5$  cm

Coulomb's failure plane, whereas the final one (failure after 12hr) corresponds fairly well to Coulomb's failure plane. It is expected that the initial failure surface at end of construction will correspond to  $K_0$  failure surface. Fig. 6 shows an excellent result ( 1.3% Ave error or 1.05cm for H = 80cm) for  $\phi = 40$  deg, where the angle  $\phi = 40$  gives the exact Coulomb's failure plane observed after 12hr. The results on the tension forces measured in the non-woven geotextiles for low overburden correspond fairly well to those estimated, assuming that the soil is at  $K_a$  state stress. However, as the overburden stress increases, the reinforcement material seems to undergo a strain hardening phenomenon and the tension forces in the reinforcements approach those predicted, considering a  $K_0$

state of stress in the soil. The initial failure surface is expected to be of a  $K_0$  slip surface but it was not recorded. However, it was mentioned in Juran, Ider, and Farrag[14] to be an inclination of 75 to 78 degrees; which is expected for a  $K_0$ . The result on the tension forces measured in the plastic grid are close to those predicted, assuming that the soil is at  $K_0$  state stress. The initial and final surface is quite different from the Coulomb failure surface. This is expected since rigid inclusions were used. Fig. 7 shows excellent result ( 1.12% Ave error or 0.66cm for H = 59.5cm) for  $\phi = 40$  deg.

### **Overconsolidation of sand**

When the present effective overburden pressure is the maximum pressure to which the soil has been subjected at any time in its history, the deposit is referred to as normally consolidated. A soil deposit that has been fully consolidated under a pressure larger than that of the present overburden is called overconsolidated. The  $K_0$  of Eq. 8 and 46 is referred to as normal consolidation because the weight used in the derivation is the existing weight, and no prehistoric weight causing locked-in stresses were used. To achieve overconsolidation forces, locked-in horizontal forces must enter the equations and be considered on each slice. For the purpose of demonstration of dependencies, a one-dimensional approach will be used. Consider the structural beam in Fig. 8.

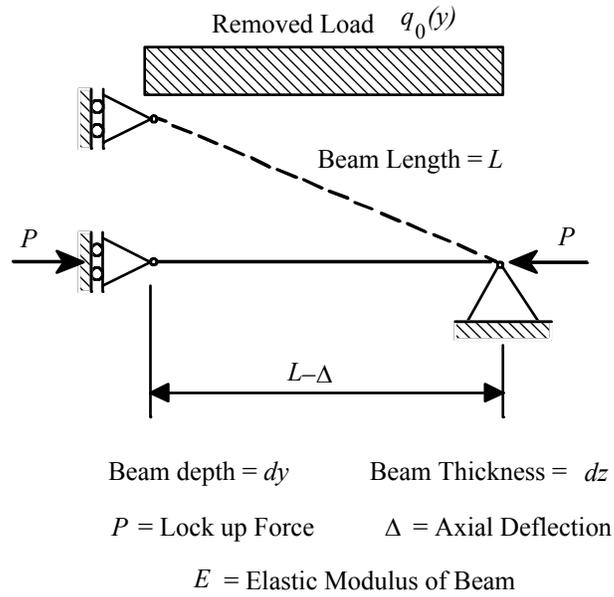


FIG. 8 - Locked-in Force in a Beam

The uniform load  $q_0(y)$  has deflected the beam axially to a horizontal position. Then the load  $q_0(y)$  is removed from the beam. If the beam cannot go completely back to its original position, the result is a locked-in force  $P$ . Writing the force  $P$  in terms of deflection yields:  $P = dzdy\Delta E / L$ . When considering that the locked-in force in the structural beam corresponds to locked-in forces in soil,  $E$  can be replaced by the soil spring modulus  $E'$  due to the intensity of the contact pressure.  $\Delta$  can be replaced by the change in unit weight from loose to dense:  $L / (L - \Delta) = \gamma_L / \gamma_D$ ,  $\Delta = (1 - \gamma_L / \gamma_D)L$ , where  $\gamma_L$  is the loose unit weight and  $\gamma_D$  is the dense unit weight after load removal (or rebound). Thus,  $P = dzdyE'(1 - \gamma_L / \gamma_D)$ . Terzaghi, (1955) [24], recommended values for cohesiveless soil spring constants  $E' = n_h y$ . Where  $n_h$  is the subgrade modulus, and  $y$  is the depth. His tests were done under compression loading and  $n_h$  has a range from 7-56 Tons/ft<sup>3</sup> (or 0.22-1.79 kg/cm<sup>3</sup>) for dry moist sand, and 4-34 Tons/ft<sup>3</sup> (or 0.13-1.09 kg/cm<sup>3</sup>) for submerged sand. Thus, the compressive force in the soil can be estimated, and

$P_{compressive} = n_h(1 - \gamma_L / \gamma_D) y dz dy$ . To find the necessary locked-in stresses to be used along with the at rest forces, one must find the expansion force. Since soil is not elastic, the compression force is not equal to the expansion force and it is much greater. Consequently, the compression force can be reduced by using the expansion to compression voids ratio. Thus the expansion locked-in force becomes

$$P_{expansion} = n_h \frac{e_e - e_c}{e_i - e_c} \left( 1 - \frac{\gamma_L}{\gamma_D} \right) y dz dy \dots\dots\dots (52)$$

So,  $e_e$  is the expansion voids ratio at rebound or at load removal at  $\gamma_D$ ,  $e_c$  is the compressed voids ratio at full load, and  $e_i$  is the initial voids ratio at loose state  $\gamma_L$ . Now, if the prehistoric surcharge is  $q_c(y)$ , then the compressive horizontal force is  $K_0 q_c(y) dy dz$ . However, not all of the surcharge can be used since some expansion in the soil will occur after the removal of the surcharge. Thus, at compression to  $\gamma_D$  the horizontal locked-in force can be taken as  $q(y) dy dz$ , where  $q(y)$  is to be determined.

Equating this force with the expansion force of Eq. 52 yields

$$q(y) = n_h \frac{e_e - e_c}{e_i - e_c} \left( 1 - \frac{\gamma_L}{\gamma_D} \right) y dy \dots\dots\dots (53)$$

In order to include  $q(y)$  in the derivation, the forces must be split into loose condition plus the locked-in force of Eq. 53. This is necessary since the estimated  $\Delta$  was for loose to dense sand. Additionally, from Fig. 8, the overconsolidation force is to be considered only in the horizontal direction. Thus, the resultant  $dE_x$  and  $dE_y$  for Eq. 2, 3, and 4 becomes:

$$dE_x = \frac{\tan(\alpha - \phi)}{1 + \tan \delta \tan(\alpha - \phi)} \frac{d\bar{w}}{\tan \alpha} + n_h \frac{e_e - e_c}{e_i - e_c} \left(1 - \frac{\gamma_L}{\gamma_D}\right) y dy \dots\dots\dots (54)$$

$$dE_y = \frac{\tan(\alpha - \phi) \tan \delta}{1 + \tan \delta \tan(\alpha - \phi)} \frac{d\bar{w}}{\tan \alpha} \dots\dots\dots (55)$$

$$dW = -\gamma_L \left[ \frac{(y - dy) + y}{2} \right] \frac{dy}{\tan \alpha} = \frac{d\bar{w}}{\tan \alpha} \dots\dots\dots (56)$$

When performing the boundary analysis,  $dE_x$  in Eq. 6 must have the additional term in Eq. 54, and so the resulting boundary condition remains the same. Furthermore, when performing the same analysis for obtaining  $\delta$  and variational analysis the result leads to the same slip surfaces. Therefore, the resulting coefficient  $K_{0c}$  for over consolidation becomes:

$$K_{0c} = K_0 + \frac{n_h}{\gamma_L} \frac{e_e - e_c}{e_i - e_c} \left(1 - \frac{\gamma_L}{\gamma_D}\right) = K_0 + \frac{n_h}{\gamma_D} \frac{e_e - e_c}{e_i - e_c} \left(\frac{\gamma_D}{\gamma_L} - 1\right) \dots\dots\dots (57)$$

$$\tan \delta_{0c} = \frac{K_0}{K_{0c}} \tan \delta_0 \dots\dots\dots (58)$$

Where,  $K_0$  is of Eq. 46 (with  $\phi$  for loose sand), and  $\delta_0$  is of Eq. 47 (with  $\phi$  for loose sand). It is remarkable that  $\phi$  has no influence on the additive term due to overconsolidation, and  $\gamma_L$  and  $\gamma_D$  has the greatest influence. Let  $k_h = (n_h / \gamma_D)[(e_e - e_c) / (e_i - e_c)]$ . The term  $k_h$  is approximately constant, since  $n_h$  is obtained by similar methods as the expansion to compression deflection ratio.  $n_h$  varies with the density of material, and so are the required voids ratios. The variation of  $\gamma_D$  from  $\gamma_L$  is in the range from 0 to 6%. So,  $\gamma_D$  can be considered approximately constant. Thus, the term  $k_h$  can be considered constant. On

the other hand, the incipient shear angle is reduced per Eq. 58. This is expected, since the failure wedge will be reached sooner due to overconsolidation. It is important to keep in mind that Eq. 57 and Eq. 58 were derived to investigate dependencies for a very complex problem. However, it is of merit to compare with experimental results. Sherif et. al., (1985) [22], showed that the variation of the additional term to  $K_0(\text{loose})$  is linearly dependent with  $\gamma_D/\gamma_L$ . Their experimental results for dry Ottawa Sand gave the value for  $k_h = 5.5$ . When using an average value  $n_h = 27$  tcf and  $\gamma_D = 100$  pcf (from Sherif et. al.) it yields  $(e_e - e_c)/(e_i - e_c) = 5.5/540 = 0.01$ . This is a very reasonable expansion to compression deflection ratio in sand. Thus it appears that Eq. 57 and 58 are valid for the conditions described above. When repeating the analysis in a higher dimension, as in a circular plate or a square plate with plane strain analysis, new equations can be derived. Thus,  $P = dzdy\Delta E/[L(1+\nu)(1-2\nu)]$ , where  $\nu$  is Poisson's ratio. From the volume ratio of before and after,  $\Delta/L = 1 - \sqrt{\gamma_L/\gamma_D}$  giving  $K_{0c} = K_0 + 10.6[\gamma_D/\gamma_L - \sqrt{\gamma_D/\gamma_L}]$ , where  $\nu$  was replaced by .3 for sand and  $k_h = 5.5$  (from Sherif et. al.). When comparing numerically this equation with Sherif's equation the results is of no significance in the difference in the additive term to  $K_0$  where  $1 < \gamma_D/\gamma_L < 1.07$ .

### **Clay Analysis**

Preliminary analysis indicates when the cohesion "c" is involved in the equations, mathematical harmony is difficult to achieve. It indicates that c will influence the slip

surfaces,  $K_0$ , and the incipient shear angle. If the solution is to be done for only cohesion with  $\phi = 0$ , the boundary angle becomes 45 degrees, and the variational equation gives a 45 degrees line as the slip surface. This is an indication that if cohesion is added it will influence the solution more toward a line than a curve. Thus, a reasonable approximation of the solution for the normal consolidating clay can be obtained by using similar procedures as in Eq. 8. Table 1 shows the difference between Eq. 8 (Jáky's Eq. 1) and the derived Eq. 46 ranges from 0 to 8%. This difference can always be handled with a safety factor similar to the one proposed by Handy, (1985) [8]. When adding the cohesion  $c$  on the bottom of the slice, while keeping it in an upward direction and separate from  $dQ$  in Fig. 3-b, the resultant  $dE_x$  and  $dE_y$  for Eq. 2, 3, and 4 becomes:

$$dE_x = \frac{\gamma \bar{d}w \tan(\alpha - \phi) \cot \alpha + c[\tan(\alpha - \phi) + \cot \alpha]dy \pm c' \tan(\alpha - \phi)dy}{1 + \tan \delta \tan(\alpha - \phi)} \dots\dots\dots (59)$$

$$d\bar{E}_y = dE_y \pm c' dy = dE_x \tan \delta \dots\dots\dots (60)$$

where  $c'$  is the adhesion on the slice's boundary,  $c' dy$  is taken in front of the slice, and  $d\bar{E}_y$  is the resultant vertical force separate from the adhesion so that the directional angle  $\delta$  is separated from the adhesion to insure  $|\delta| < \phi$ . This can be seen by noting the cohesion on the bottom of the slice reduces  $dE_x$  and  $d\bar{E}_y$  since it reduces  $dW$ . If assuming all  $\alpha$ 's greater than  $\pi/4$ , due to an active slip surface, then  $d\bar{E}_y$  will reduce more than  $dE_x$ . Thus  $d\bar{E}_y / dE_x$  will be lower than if there was no cohesion. Hence,  $|\delta| < \phi$  as long as the adhesion is separated.

For the boundary condition Eq. 59 is rewritten in terms of  $dE_x$ ,  $dE_y$ , and  $dx$ :

$$-dE_y = -\gamma y dx + dE_x \cot(\alpha - \phi) + c dx [\tan \alpha + \cot(\alpha - \phi)] \dots\dots\dots (61)$$

$dE_x$  at the boundary is the at rest force and it can be taken as  $-(\gamma K_0 y dy - \bar{K}_0 c dy)$ , where  $\bar{K}_0$  is the additional term for cohesion. Thus Eq. 61 becomes:

$$-dE_y = -\gamma y dx + (K_0 y - \bar{K}_0 c) dx \tan \alpha \cot(\alpha - \phi) + c dx [\tan \alpha + \cot(\alpha - \phi)] \dots\dots\dots (62)$$

Minimizing the force  $-dE_y$  in Eq. 62,  $-\frac{dE_y}{d\alpha} \Big|_{x=0 \text{ and } x=x_m} = 0$ , yields  $\alpha = \alpha_0 = \alpha_m = \pi/4 + \phi/2$ .

Substituting in Eq. 59  $\tan(\alpha - \phi) = \tan(\pi/4 - \phi/2) = -\tan \phi + 1 / \cos \phi$ ,

$\cot \alpha = \tan(\pi/4 - \phi/2)$ ,  $c' = c$ ,  $\delta = -\phi$ , taking the adhesion at the back of the slice to be in the opposite direction of the incipient shear so that the minus sign of the  $\pm$  sign applies, and integrating from  $y_0$  to 0 yields the force:

$$E_0 \cos \delta_0 = \gamma \frac{y_0^2}{2} (1 - \sin \phi) - c y_0 \cos \phi \dots\dots\dots (63)$$

Thus, the stress is

$$\sigma_h = \frac{dE_x}{dy_0} = \gamma y_0 (1 - \sin \phi) - c \cos \phi \dots\dots\dots (64)$$

The most remarkable conclusion in Eq. 64 is that  $K_0$  for clay is not constant when using  $\sigma_h / \sigma_v = \sigma_h / \gamma y$ . Preliminary investigation indicates that even if the closed form solution is achieved the result is the same. But each term is still individualized by  $y_0$ . In consideration of the simplicity of Eq. 64, other notable remarks can be made: (1) The equation is consistent with soil mechanics equations with cohesion such as active pressure, passive pressure and bearing capacities, where the cohesion and the cohesionless terms are two separate terms and not mixed. (2) The distance to zero stress calculated in active condition is at  $y_1 = 2c / \gamma \sqrt{K_a}$ , and Eq. 64 gives one half this distance. This indicates that during a wall movement from at rest condition until an active condition the surcharge due to the tension zone increases by 1/2. This is also consistent with common sense, since one expects  $y_1$  to be between zero, or no tension, and the active tension zone, the maximum tension zone. 1/2 is exactly the average value. (3) If considering the undrain shear strength  $S_u$ , the stress becomes  $\sigma_h = \gamma y - S_u$ , which is greater than the active condition  $\gamma y - 2S_u$ . This is expected from the at rest condition to be higher than the active condition for short-term loading. (4) When the ground is at rest, and due to gravity weight, tension must exist on top causing tension cracks [from earthquake or any traction force](#). Comparing with elasticity, the elastic solution gives zero stress on top, which is contrary to physical evidence. Tension cracks exist in clay even in the at rest condition [due to earthquake or any traction force](#). From these considerations, Eq. 64 offers a reasonable working formula for normally consolidated clay.

### Comparison with Experimental value for Clay

Unfortunately, all the available tests did not account for cohesion. If considering

$$K_0 = \frac{\sigma_h}{\sigma_v} = 1 - \sin \phi - \frac{c}{\gamma y} \cos \phi, \text{ the test will match depending on the load applied with } \sigma_h.$$

Thus, if  $\sigma_h$  is high, so the overburden is high, then  $c \cos \phi / \gamma y$  becomes a small number and in this case  $K_0 \cong 1 - \sin \phi$  matches Mayne and Kulhawy, (1982) [17]. On the other hand, Brooker and Ireland, (1965) [2], recommended  $K_0 = 0.95 - \sin \phi$  for five different kinds of clay. This may be an indication that  $c$  was high for these clays and the term  $c \cos \phi / \gamma y$  reduces the overall  $K_0$ . For example: if  $\gamma y = 94$ psi, for a high overburden,  $c = 5$ psi and  $\phi = 20^\circ$ , it gives  $c \cos \phi / \gamma y = 0.05$  for the clay used in their experiments. This cohesion to initial stress ratio accounts for the overall reduction in  $K_0$ . In any case, Eq. 64 suggests new verification tests are necessary for clay. This becomes a primary recommendation of this manuscript.

### Overconsolidation in Clay

If setting the  $c = 0$  in the closed form solution for clay (if obtained), the results must be the same as the equations for cohesionless soil. Thus, the equation of overconsolidation of sand, Eq. 54, must be modified for clay, where  $E' \neq n_h y$ . Substituting and integrating from  $y_0$  to 0 over all sets of slip surfaces for cohesionless terms, and integrating over  $y_0$  to  $y_2$  for the overconsolidating term, yields

$$\int dE_x = \gamma_L K_0 \frac{y_0^2}{2} + E' \frac{e_e - e_c}{e_i - e_c} \left(1 - \frac{\gamma_L}{\gamma_D}\right) (y_0 - y_2) \dots\dots\dots (65)$$

where  $y_2$  is the distance from the top of surface where overconsolidation stress starts.

Adding back the cohesion term to the equation, and expressing it as stress as in Eq. 64, yields

$$\sigma_h = \gamma_L (1 - \sin \phi) y - c \cos \phi + E' \frac{e_e - e_c}{e_i - e_c} \left(1 - \frac{\gamma_L}{\gamma_D}\right) \dots\dots\dots (66)$$

Note: the additive term in Eq. 66 for overconsolidation is independent of  $\phi$  and  $y$ , predicting a constant value throughout the ground, when higher than the cohesion term. This constant value is very reasonable for clay when  $E'$  is constant with depth. However, in practice the additive term for overconsolidation should start at a distance at least greater than  $y_1$  (the distance of tension in the ground). This is necessary since locked-in stresses cannot occur on the top surface.

When repeating the analysis in a higher dimension, as in a circular or square plate with plane strain analysis, equation 66 is replaced by:

$$\sigma_h = \gamma_L (1 - \sin \phi) y - c \cos \phi + E' \frac{e_e - e_c}{e_i - e_c} \frac{1}{(1 + \nu)(1 - 2\nu)} \left(1 - \sqrt{\frac{\gamma_L}{\gamma_D}}\right) \dots\dots\dots (67)$$

Eq. 67 is preferred than Eq. 66 since it is more realistic.

If defining  $OCR = (\sigma_0 + \sigma_1) / \sigma_0 = 1 + \sigma_1 / \sigma_0$ , where  $\sigma_0$  is the initial stress  $\gamma_L y$ , and  $\sigma_0 + \sigma_1$  is the initial plus the overburden stress, then the additive term can be expressed as:

$$q(y) = \frac{e_e - e_c}{e_i - e_c} K_0 \sigma_1 = \frac{e_e - e_c}{e_i - e_c} (OCR - 1) \sigma_h \dots\dots\dots (68)$$

where  $\sigma_h$  is of Eq. 64. Substituting Eq. 68 in Eq. 66 to replace the additive term yields:

$$\sigma_h = \gamma_L (1 - \sin \phi) y - c \cos \phi + [\gamma_L (1 - \sin \phi) y - c \cos \phi] \left( \frac{e_e - e_c}{e_i - e_c} \right) (OCR - 1) \dots\dots\dots (69)$$

and

$$K_{0c} = \left[ 1 - \sin \phi - \frac{c \cos \phi}{\gamma_L y} \right] \left[ 1 + \frac{e_e - e_c}{e_i - e_c} (OCR - 1) \right] \dots\dots\dots (70)$$

Eq. 70 indicates  $K_{0c}$  varies linearly with OCR for a constant expansion to compression deflection ratio independent of OCR, and for a given initial stress  $\gamma_L y$ . If comparing Eq. 70 with Brooker and Ireland, (1965) [2] for five clays, four clays gives a secant slope of 0.075 (Chicago Clay, London Clay, Goose Lake Flour, and Weald Clay), and one clay gives 0.042 (Bearpaw Shale). This gives an expansion to compression deflection ratios of 0.13, 0.11, 0.14, 0.12, and 0.06 respectively. This is a very reasonable expansion to compression deflection ratio  $(e_e - e_c) / (e_i - e_c)$  for clay. Thus, Eq. 70 appears to be a reasonable approximation.

## Conclusion

The mystery of why Jáký's equation agrees with experimental data is resolved.

Furthermore, the established incipient shear failure mechanism in obtaining  $K_0$  should satisfy many engineers and scholars who believe  $K_0$  should not be related to failure parameters ( $\phi$  &  $c$ ), since no failure criterion seem to appear in the at rest condition.

Additionally, the incipient shear failure mechanism offers solutions for other problems besides  $K_0$ . Variational method has been used in the analysis to obtain a closed form solution for  $K_0$  for sand. The methods are classical and conventional and only practical assumptions were used. The extremum condition indicates the existence of two slip surfaces back to back. If using a line approximation with the same boundary condition the result is identical to Jáký's equation. On the other hand if using the closed form equation, the result is a slightly higher value for  $K_0$ . The derived  $K_0$  is in excellent agreement with experimental results and matches safety factor recommendations for Jáký's  $K_0$ . The corresponding slip surfaces are in excellent agreement with rigid reinforced earth walls. The analysis was carried out further to establish physical criterion and equations for overconsolidating sand. The result is in fair agreement with experiments and shows the different parameters influencing the locked-in forces. Finally, the analysis is repeated for deriving  $K_0$  for normal and overconsolidating clay. The slip surface used is approximate, but gives a reasonable approximation for  $K_0$ . The results are in good standing with experiments. The derived equations were used to determine the tension zone distance in clay. This distance is one half the active distance and is very reasonable. In general, in clay,  $K_0$  is not constant with depth as apparent in the results. The paper offers the real  $K_0$  with a high confidence factor. However, further experiments and research are necessary

to verify the many consequences of using variational methods. The following are recommended experiments and research:

- 1) Experiment to verify the tension zone distance in clay.
- 2) Experiment to verify the effect of  $c$  in  $K_0$  in clay.
- 3) Further research is needed in overconsolidating clay since the additive term related to OCR is shown experimentally non-linear indicating the expansion to compression deflection ratio is dependent on OCR.

The derivation can be readily extended for a slanted wall with a sloped soil on surface. This in turn prepares the way for dynamic analysis. The theory can also be extended for multi-layers of different soils in the ground. The equations derived in this manuscript are expected to be used in a wide variety of engineering practice.

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## Appendix II.- Notation

*The following symbols are used in this paper:*

- $\alpha$  = angle of the failure wedge, or of failure a slice, with the horizontal;
- $\alpha_0$  = slice wedge angle with the horizontal at start of first slip surface at  $x = 0$ ;
- $\alpha_m$  = slice wedge angle with the horizontal at end of second slip surface;
- $\alpha_n$  = slice wedge angle at end of first slip surface or start of second slip surface;
- $c$  = cohesion in clay;
- $c'$  = adhesion on the slice boundary;
- $D$  =  $x$  - term used in experimental paper by others;
- $\Delta$  = axial deflection of a beam;
- $\delta$  = Coulomb friction, directional frictional angle between  $dE_x$  and  $dE_y$ ;
- $\delta_0$  = directional angle at first slice boundary at  $x = 0$  = incipient shear angle;
- $\delta_i$  = directional angle at slice boundary at  $x$ ;
- $\delta_m$  = directional angle at last slice boundary at  $x = x_m$  = incipient shear angle;
- $\delta_n$  = directional angle at slice boundary at  $x = x_n$ ;
- $E$  = elastic modulus of beam;
- $E'$  = spring modulus of soil;
- $E_0$  = directional force of first slice boundary at  $x = x_0$ ;

$E_h$	= horizontal force at rest;
$\Delta E_h$	= change in horizontal force;
$E_i$	= directional force of slice boundary at $x$ ;
$E_m$	= directional force of last slice boundary at $x = x_m$ ;
$E_n$	= directional force of slice boundary at $x = x_n$ ;
$dE_x$	= slice horizontal resultant force;
$dE_y$	= slice vertical resultant force;
$d\bar{E}_y$	= resultant of vertical force on a slice separate from slice adhesion;
$e_c$	= compressed void ratio at full load;
$e_e$	= expansion void ratio at rebound or at load removal;
$e_i$	= initial voids ratio at loose state;
$F$	= immobile friction force;
$\Delta F$	= change in immobile friction force;
$\phi$	= angle of internal friction of soil;
$\gamma$	= soil unit weight;
$\gamma_D$	= unit weight of soil at dense state or at rebound state;
$\gamma_L$	= unit weight of soil at loose state or initial state;
$H$	= $y$ - term used in experimental paper by others;
$h$	= mathematical coefficient in the slip surface equations;
$h'$	= mathematical coefficient in the slip surface equations related to $h$ ;
$i$	= integer counter;
$K$	= coefficient of lateral earth pressure or lateral stress ratio;

$K_0$	= at rest earth pressure coefficient;
$\bar{K}_0$	= additive term for the coefficient of earth pressure for cohesion;
$K_{0c}$	= coefficient of lateral earth pressure at rest for overconsolidation;
$K_1$	= dimensionless coefficient representing a term in an equation;
$K_a$	= active earth pressure coefficient;
$K_p$	= passive earth pressure coefficient;
$k_h$	= $(n_h / \gamma_D)[(e_e - e_c) / (e_i - e_c)]$ ;
$L$	= length of beam;
$m$	= integer;
$M_x$	= total moment of the horizontal forces of all the slices;
$M_y$	= total moment of the vertical forces of all the slices;
$\nu$	= Poisson's ratio;
$N$	= normal force;
$\Delta N$	= change in normal force;
$n$	= integer;
$n_h$	= subgrade modulus of sand;
OCR	= overconsolidation ratio;
$P$	= locked-in force in a beam;
$P_1$	= downward shear force on wall;
$P_2$	= upward shear force on wall;
$dQ$	= reactive force on bottom of failure wedge or slice to maintain equilibrium;
$q$	= uniform surcharge pressure;

$q(y)$	= unknown horizontal stress for overconsolidation;
$q_0(y)$	= uniform surcharge load that causes locked-in force in a beam;
$q_c(y)$	= prehistoric surcharge;
$\mathfrak{R}$	= calculus of variation function of mixed variables representing the integrand;
$r$	= correlation number;
$S/H$	= $x/y_0$ - term used in experimental paper by others;
$S_u$	= undrain shear strength for short term loading;
$\sigma_0$	= initial stress = $\gamma_L y$ - in overconsolidations;
$\sigma_1$	= overburden stress in overconsolidations;
$\sigma_h$	= the horizontal stress in soil;
$\sigma_v$	= the vertical stress in soil;
$T$	= incipient shear;
$W$	= vertical force from weight of wedge;
$dW$	= weight of slice;
$d\bar{w}$	= weight of slice times $\tan\alpha$ ;
$\Omega$	= dimensionless variable = $x/y_0$ ;
$x$	= coordinate $x$ -axis;
$dx$	= width of slice's wedge;
$x'$	= $dx/dy$ ;
$x_m$	= distance to tip of second slip surface;
$\psi$	= dimensionless variable = $y/y_0$ ;
$y$	= coordinate height at $y$ -axis;

- $dy$  = height of slice's wedge;
- $y'$  =  $dy/dx$ ;
- $y_0$  = height of wall or start of first slip surface at  $x = 0$ ;
- $y_1$  = tension zone distance in clay;
- $y_2$  = distance from the top surface to where the overconsolidation stress starts;
- $y_m$  = height distance at end of second slip surface;
- $y_n$  = height distance at end of first slip surface or start of second slip surface;
- $Z/H$  =  $y/y_0$  - term used in experimental paper by others;
- $dz$  = beam thickness;

### Appendix III.- Numerical Check

*With the advent of software technology, numerical differentiation and integration easily has become easier. Algebra can be checked from one equation to a reduced equation by numerical substitution to give identical values. Many software programs are available to do the checking. All of the derived equations were checked with MATHCAD on a personal computer, including starting with the variational (Euler equation). The following constants' relations are necessary if the reader needs to double-check the writer:*

Eq. 22 ..... 
$$h' = -\frac{h}{2\gamma \sin \phi \cos \phi};$$

and

Eq. 34 ..... 
$$h' = \frac{h}{2\gamma \sin^2 \phi}.$$

Note: when using Sherif's expression their recommendations were to use  $\gamma_D$  and  $K_0 = 1 - \sin\phi$  for calculating the forces and the stresses. This effects the comparison slightly. Analysis shows the average  $k_h = 5.87$  instead 5.5 in the region  $32 < \phi < 44$  degrees and  $1.03 < \gamma_D/\gamma_L < 1.07$ . The analysis used  $K_0$  from Eq. 46 and used  $\gamma_L$  in calculating the forces and the stresses.