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# A finite difference soil-structure interaction study of a section of the Bonneville Navigation Lock buttress diaphragm wall utilizing pressuremeter test results

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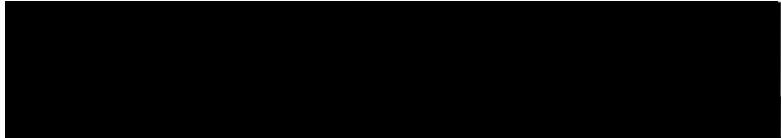
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AN ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS OF Thomas C. McCormack for the  
Master of Science in Civil Engineering presented on  
June 30, 1987.

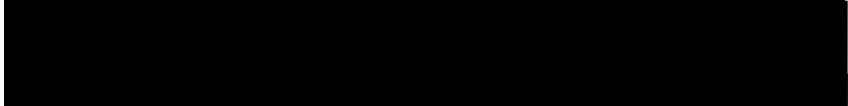
Title: A Finite Difference Soil-Structure Interaction  
Study of a Section of the Bonneville Navigation  
Lock Buttress Diaphragm Wall Utilizing  
Pressuremeter Test Results.

APPROVED BY MEMBERS OF THE THESIS COMMITTEE:

  
Trevor D. Smith, Chairman

  
Franz N. Rad

  
M.M. Gorji

  
Marvin H. Beeson

The P-y curve, used in current practice as an  
efficient line-load vs. soil displacement model for input  
into the finite difference method of laterally loaded pile  
analysis, is extended in this study for use with

cohesionless soils in diaphragm wall analysis on the Personal Computer with the BMCOL7 program. An analogous W-y curve is proposed, an elastic-plastic model with line-load limits developed from classical earth-pressure theories.

A new formula for predicting a horizontal wall modulus for cohesionless soils from the pressuremeter modulus is developed for use in predicting the displacements on the W-y curves. The resulting modulus values are shown to yield reasonable displacements values.

A new procedure for modeling preloaded tie-back anchors and staged excavation for diaphragm walls was developed, utilizing multiple computer runs, updated the W-y curves, and superposition of deflections.

These new developments were applied to a parametric study of a deflection-critical section of the new Bonneville Nav-Lock Buttress Diaphragm Wall, for which extensive high-quality pressuremeter test results were available. Deflection curves of the wall are presented, showing the effect of variations in anchor preload, wall cracking, anchor slip, at-rest pressure, and soil modulus.

The results indicate that preloading will reduce wall deflections by at least 4-fold, but that wall cracking can potentially double deflections. Safety factors against passive soil failure were determined to be about 5 at anchor preload, and more than 40 after full excavation.

A FINITE DIFFERENCE SOIL-STRUCTURE INTERACTION STUDY  
OF A SECTION OF THE BONNEVILLE NAVIGATION LOCK  
BUTTRESS DIAPHRAGM WALL UTILIZING  
PRESSUREMETER TEST RESULTS

by

THOMAS C. McCORMACK

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the  
requirements for the degree of

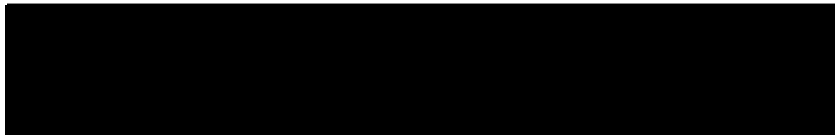
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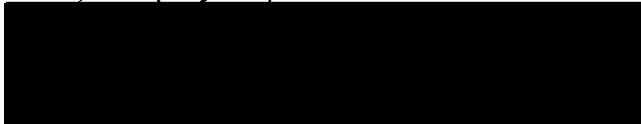
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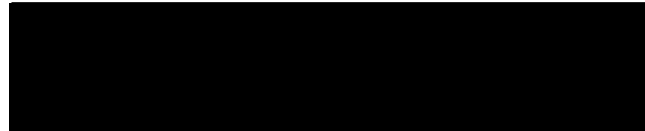
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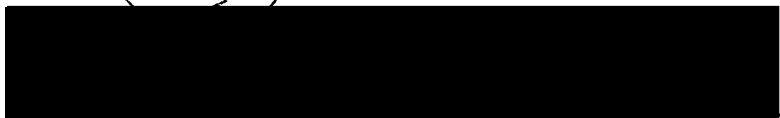
Trevor D. Smith, Chairman



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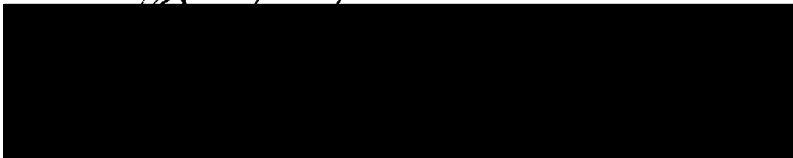


M.M. Gorji



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Franz N. Rad, Head, Department of Civil Engineering



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Bernard Ross, Dean of Graduate Studies

## DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to the author's wife, Susan K., and children, Joseph C. and Elizabeth J., whose love and support made the project both possible and worthwhile.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to the U.S. Army Engineers, Portland District, for generously sponsoring this research, and to Pat Jones for his special interest and enthusiasm in this project.

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### THE NEW BONNEVILLE NAVIGATION LOCK

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Portland District, is in the final design stage of a new Navigation Lock, related structures, and earthwork on the Oregon shore of the Columbia River at Bonneville Dam, 42-miles east of Portland.

#### Project Description

The existing Bonneville Project, which spans the river with features in both Oregon and Washington, consists of a spillway dam, 2 powerhouses, a navigation lock, and a fish hatchery.

The new lock will be located south of the existing lock on the Oregon shore, as shown in Fig. 1 (taken from the USACE Design Memorandum No. 3 (37)). The alignment requires relocation of the Union Pacific railroad that crosses part of the site. The main lock will consist of a massive gravity cast-in-place concrete structure, founded in a competent rock intrusion known as the Bonney Rock Intrusive. Downstream approach walls will be gravity monolith construction, founded in and retaining river deposits.

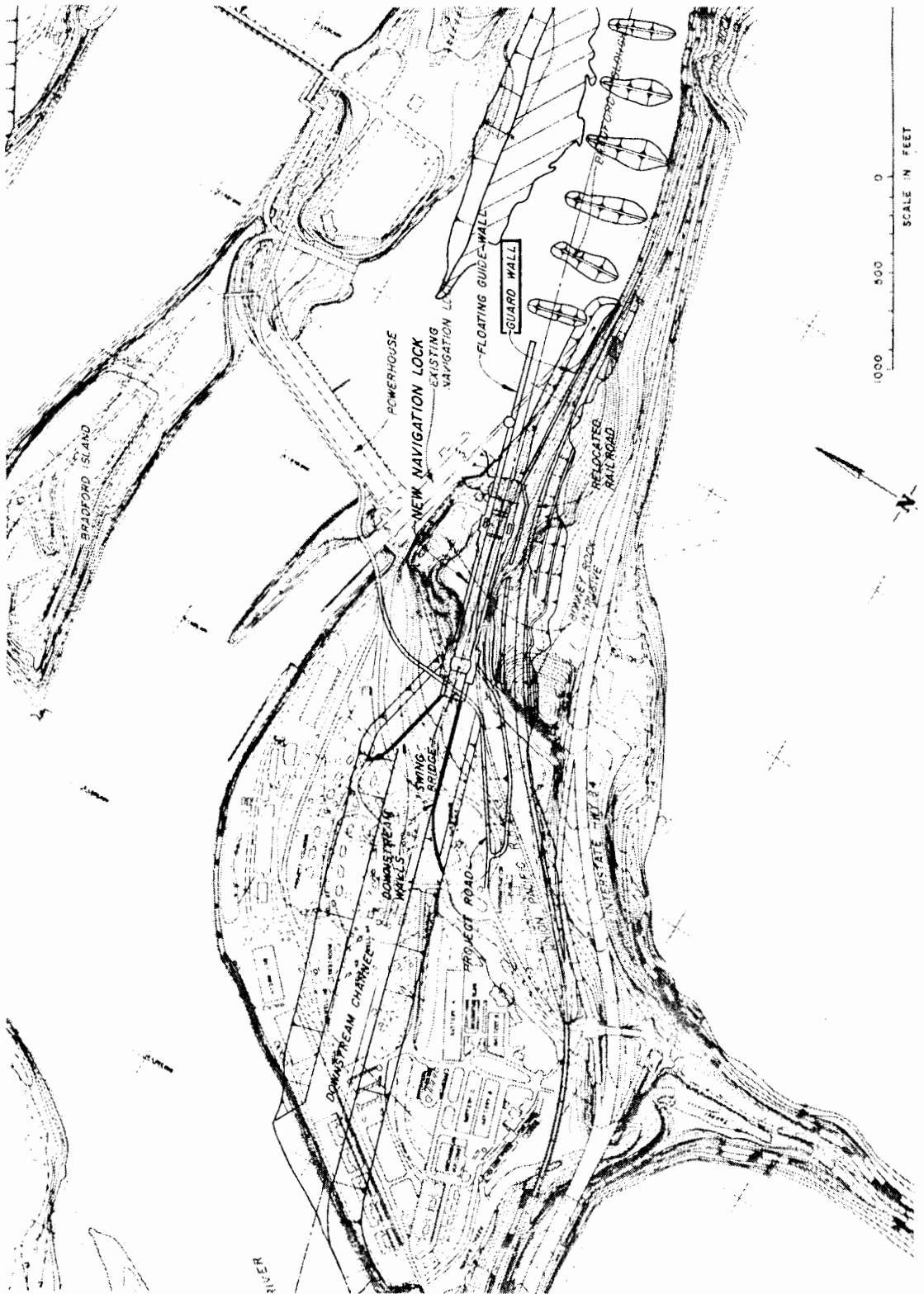


Figure 1. Vicinity Map, after USACE (37).

Upstream of the lock, a permanent anchored Buttress Diaphragm Wall (BDW), denoted as "Guard Wall" in Fig. 1, the topic of the present study, will be constructed in and retain Reworked Slide Debris (RSD) and Slide Block (SB) material. For the upstream 400-feet of lock structure, a temporary diaphragm wall is proposed to retain reworked slide debris encountered in that area during construction.

### Local Geologic Setting

The temporary and the permanent buttress walls are located near the toe of the Tooth Rock Landslide (Fig. 2), a large Pliocene age deep-seated slump block, which occurred 10,000 to 20,000 years ago in response to oversteepened slopes and high ground water levels caused by catastrophic flood waters from glacial Lake Missoula (37). Rapid movement of this slide during failure resulted in the mass sliding beyond the point of equilibrium. Although later episodes of Missoula flooding eroded much of the toe, the surface geomorphology indicates that the slide has been stable since the end of the floods, for at least 10,000 years. Most of the permanent buttress wall is embedded in, and retains, the Tooth Rock Landslide, which consists of two primary materials: large to massive displaced slide blocks (SB), and reworked slide debris (RSD).

In the vicinity of the wall, the SB material consists primarily of large intact rock blocks, ranging in size from

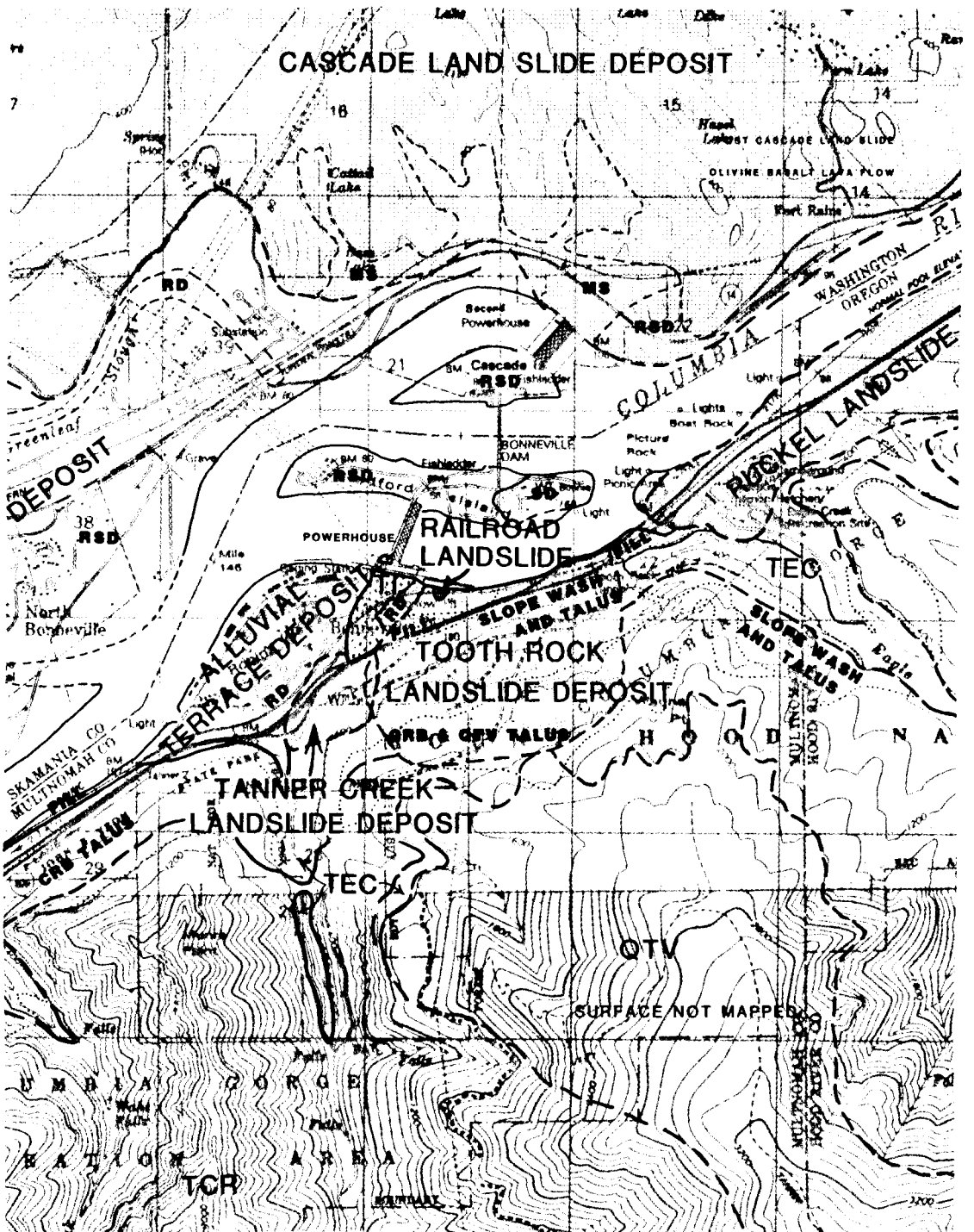


Figure 2. Surface Geology, after USACE (37).



tens to hundreds of feet, composed of Weigle Formation. The slide blocks are internally sheared and partially decomposed.

The RSD material consists of slide material that has been eroded and reworked by the Columbia River, resulting in a heterogeneous mixture of materials from silt to large boulders; much of the unit consists of hard angular rock fragments, with about 5-percent boulder-size to small slide block material. Recent age River Deposits locally overlie the RSD material at the ground surface.

Underlying the Tooth Rock Landslide materials, 2 in-place rock units exist: the Bonney Rock Intrusive (BRI) and the Tertiary age Weigle Formation (Tw).

The Weigle (Tw) unit in the project area consists primarily of fine-grained volcanic derived mudstone, siltstone, claystone, and local conglomerate lenses. The Tw is the oldest (upper Eocene) rock unit in the project area, and forms the foundation rock for the Bonneville Spillway Dam and Second Powerhouse. The unit is probably a lake or embayment deposit, which has undergone slight metamorphic alteration, imparting a greenish hue to the rocks. The beds of Tw strike N30E to N45E, & dip gently SE.

The BRI is a large, irregular diabase body that intruded the older Weigle and Eagle Creek Formations. Most of the BRI is west of the proposed wall location, where it acted as a resistant body and formed the western boundary

of the Tooth Rock Landslide. Smaller sills and plugs of the BRI probably intrude the Weigle Formation, locally altering the older rock.

### Summary of Site Investigations

The following references pertain to site investigation and analyses performed to date:

- 1) Geology, Excavation, and Foundation Design Memorandum No. 3, Bonneville Navigation Lock, USACE (37).
- 2) Pressuremeter Testing and Design Interim Report, Bonneville Navigation Lock, Smith (30).
- 3) Phase II, Tieback Test Program, Bonneville Navigation Lock, Squier (28).
- 4) Geotechnical Study: Exploration, Sampling, and Testing for Retaining Wall Parameters, New Bonneville Navigation Lock, Cornforth (6).

The present study seeks to apply high-quality pressure vs. displacement information obtained from extensive pressuremeter testing conducted at the Nav-Lock site and reported in 2) above.

### The Permanent Buttress Diaphragm Wall

The upstream approach will be bounded on the south side by a 980-foot long permanent Buttress Diaphragm Wall (BDW), the primary subject of this study, retaining primarily landslide deposits, with a 30 to 50-foot dredge depth. The embedded portion is 50-feet deep, to act as

seepage cutoff to enhance stability of the ancient Tooth-Rock Landslide.

The BDW will be installed using slurry trench construction techniques, and as designed consists of heavily reinforced concrete TEE sections, 13 to 14-feet deep. Tieback anchors will be installed at intervals through a grade-beam at the top of the wall. The ground surface retained by the wall will be called upon to support heavy equipment surcharge, and an embankment carrying the relocated double-track Union Pacific Railroad alignment.

The primary design criteria of the BDW is that railroad and navigation traffic not be disrupted, and the stability of the area be maintained during and after construction. The USACE desires that deflections nowhere on the wall exceed 1-inch, during and after construction.

## SOIL-STRUCTURE INTERACTION

### Limitations of Classical Design Methods

Traditionally, anchored bulkheads have been analyzed by assuming that the driving and resisting soil pressures are at the full active or passive limit condition, that a point of inflection exists either near the dredge line or not at all, and that the tie-back anchor undergoes negligible deflection. The anchor load, bending moment diagram, and embedment safety factor is then obtained by simple limit equilibrium statics.

These traditional procedures, when applied with judgement by experienced engineers, have proven adequate for flexible sheet-pile walls, whose flexural stiffness is generally small compared to the anchor and soil stiffnesses. However, the Bonneville BDW does not meet this criteria for traditional analysis techniques. The BDW is flexurally very stiff, and the 100 to 150-foot long tie-backs are well beyond the traditional lengths and are axially very flexible. Further, the traditional method does not permit a reliable method of calculating deflections, which are in the case of the BDW the primary design criteria. Clearly, some other technique must be employed to derive reliable design information.

The fundamental analytical problem is that both applied and resisting soil pressures vary depending upon wall movement, which in turn depends on those soil pressures, as well as on wall and anchor stiffness. A soil-structure interaction approach is required to analyze this highly indeterminate relationship.

#### The Finite Difference Method

Currently, the most efficient technique for solving soil-structure interaction problems is the Finite Difference Method (FDM), a 2-dimensional "beam on elastic foundation" analysis in which the differential equation of the elastic curve is discretized at nodes which react to

"Winkler Soil Springs". Matlock and Ingram (21) extended this method to include non-linear load-displacement expressions (p-y curves) at the nodes, and formulated a numerical solution, commonly known as the BMCOL Series; one of the earliest of the series is the BMCOL7 program (32).

The finite difference solution via BMCOL7 requires non-linear soil line-load vs. displacement information as input to the program, such as given by a typical W-y curve for walls shown in Fig. 3(b).

#### The Need for High Quality Soil Information

Lack of a soil line-load vs. displacement model of a precision consistent with a reinforced concrete or steel sheet-pile wall model, for input into BMCOL7, is a fundamental problem. Conventional field and laboratory testing methods emphasize limit (failure strength) parameters, are deficient in pressure vs. displacement information. Dissatisfaction with presently existing methods of estimating horizontal soil line-load vs. displacement is expressed in the literature (15).

Successful use of numerical solutions to soil-structure interaction problems mandates that the line-load vs. displacement information for the soil be of a quality comparable to that of the structural steel or reinforced concrete. At the present time, insitu pressuremeter testing has the highest potential for

providing usable information on the horizontal deformation of soil.

### The Pressuremeter

The pressuremeter (PMT) was invented in France in the 1950's, and has a sound theoretical basis with over 30-years of practical application in France and elsewhere in the world.

The PMT consists of a cylindrical bladder which is lowered into a predrilled borehole and expanded by hydraulic or pneumatic pressure, as shown schematically in Fig. 3(a). The pressure required to inflate the probe (and hence the soil cavity), and the probe volume increase (and hence the radial strain of the cavity) are recorded and plotted, as shown on the right side of Fig. 3(a). The PMT can be mechanically visualized as an "inside-out" triaxial test, wherein the soil surrounding the insitu cavity is brought to failure by a measured principal stress state. It has enormous potential to increase our practical knowledge of the insitu behavior of soils from the information provided on the pressure vs. displacement relationship; this is apparant from the curve in Fig. 3(a), which is in fact a non-linear horizontal soil stress-strain relationship. Note it's similarity to a hypothetical non-linear W-y curve for a wall in Fig. 3(b).

An added feature of the PMT is the ability to obtain

pressure vs. displacement information in any situation wherein a borehole can be obtained. This is particularly significant in cohesionless materials, such as at Bonneville, from which it is almost impossible to obtain undisturbed soils for laboratory testing.

#### RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

The objective of this research was to study existing pressuremeter theories, and propose a new method for predicting W-y curves in cohesionless material to describe the line-load vs. displacement soil response for slurry-constructed retaining walls.

Secondly, a new procedure for modeling preloaded tie-back anchors for slurry-constructed walls was developed, for application with the W-y curves and BMCOL7 program.

Finally, these 2 new developments were applied to the BDW with the results of the pressuremeter tests conducted at the Bonneville Nav-Lock site by Smith (30). A parametric study of a critical section of the BDW was made to determine the effects of anchor preload, wall cracking, anchor slip, at-rest pressure, and horizontal soil modulus on deflections and bending moment.

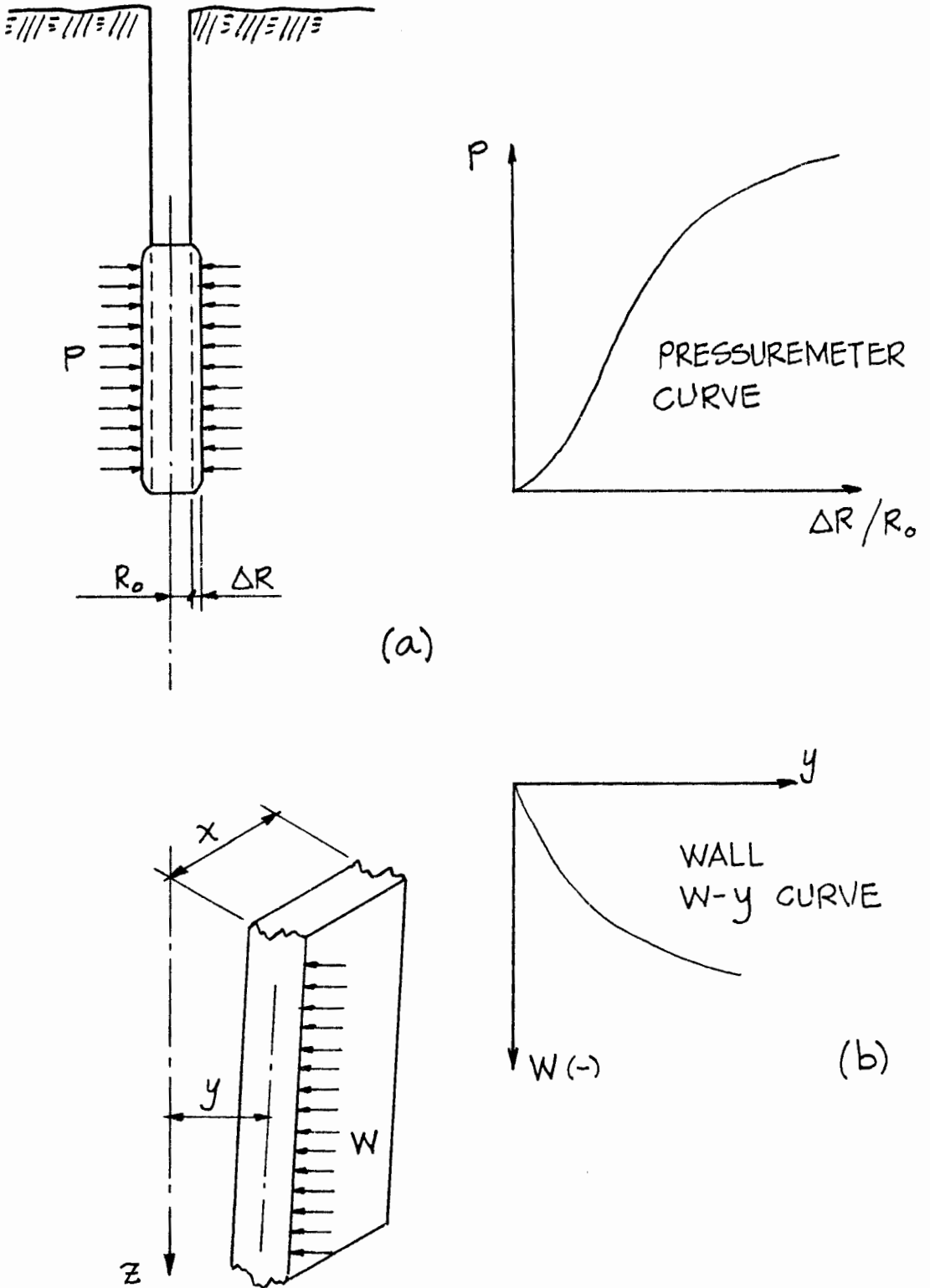


Figure 3. Comparison between pressuremeter  $p-\epsilon_r$  and wall  $W-y$  curves.



## CHAPTER II

### SOIL-STRUCTURE INTERACTION FOR RETAINING WALLS

As stated in the Introduction, the correct solution for displacements of a bulkhead retaining wall is a highly indeterminate problem. The lateral flexural movement of the wall must be compatible with the highly non-linear horizontal stress-strain response of the soil in contact with it.

### THE FINITE DIFFERENCE METHOD (FDM)

#### Beam-on-Elastic-Subgrade Model

Currently, the most efficient method of solving the soil-structure compatibility problem uses an extension of the beam-on-elastic-subgrade model. The soil mass is modeled as a series of discrete, closely spaced, independent "Winkler" spring supports (after Winkler, who in 1867 developed this idea to analyze railroad track).

Applying the beam-on-elastic-subgrade model to vertical bulkhead wall analysis requires, obviously, standing the beam "on-end", and a correct mathematical formulation and solution to the problem which includes non-linear Winkler soil springs.

### Finite Difference Formulation

Based on the work of Hetenyi (13), the general differential equation for a beam/column-on-elastic-subgrade, with applied transverse loads, axial loads, and linear-elastic Winkler springs, is

$$EI \frac{d^4y}{dx^4} + P_x \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = p - ky \quad . . . . . (1)$$

where

- $EI$  = Flexural stiffness of member ( $FL^{-1}$ )
- $P_x$  = Axial compression (F)
- $y$  = Flexural deflection (L)
- $x$  = Distance along the member (L)
- $p$  = applied transverse line-load ( $FL^{-1}$ )
- $k$  = Spring stiffness ( $FL^{-2}$ )

Extension of Eq. 1 to the solution of soil-structure problems dates back almost 30-years, to research on the lateral load behavior of foundation piles on offshore structures, by Gleser (10), McClelland and Focht (20), and Matlock and Reese (18).

In the Finite Difference Method (FDM) (24), the flexural characteristics of the member and spring response of the soil is concentrated at each node. The model can be visualized as a linear structure made up of short, rigid members (the space between the nodes), each of which is connected by "flexible" joints (the nodes), to which may be

applied loads, rigid supports, or springs.

The governing differential equation, Eq. 1, is then approximated by a set of difference equations between the nodes. A non-linear soil response problem is solved by simultaneous solution of the difference equations, wherein repeated trial and adjustments to the soil spring stiffnesses are made until successive deflection solutions agree within an acceptable tolerance.

### BMCOL7

The BMCOL series, a computerized finite difference solution of linear bending members with spring supports, began with Matlock and Ingram (21). The series was extended in the 1960's at the University of Texas/Austin, to incorporate non-linear springs and a variety of boundary conditions.

BMCOL7, a powerful and versatile design-oriented member of the BMCOL series, is currently available on both the Portland State University IBM Mainframe, as well as an IBM-PC version in the Civil Engineering Department (39). The IBM-PC version of BMCOL7 was used in the analysis of the Buttress Diaphragm Walls for this study. The 100-foot high BDW was discretized into 100 nodes 1-foot apart. Relevant features of BMCOL 7 include:

- 1) Nonlinear loads, line-loads, and reactions can be freely discontinuous along the length of the

structure, input directly as p-y curves. The finite difference solution is iterative, "updating" modulus values between iterations as required to converge on a compatible solution.

- 2) The program can model axial-flexural interaction.
- 3) Deflection or slope may be specified as boundary conditions at any node point.
- 4) Bending stiffness may be discontinuous and/or varied along the length of the member.
- 5) Nodal point tabulation and plot of net nodal force, deflection, slope, shear, and moment are produced.
- 6) The use of a recursion solution allows a rapid solution time to be achieved despite the necessary iterations. The current PC version in compiled BASIC generates a complete solution for a 100-node problem in less than 1-minute.

#### THE ELASTIC-PLASTIC W-y CURVE

As a retaining wall deflects laterally, the resulting induced soil pressure or reaction varies with that deflection. As described by Haliburton (14,15), the soil response for bulkhead walls may be modeled at any point along the height of the wall as a non-linear curve of line-load vs. deflection, as shown in Figs. 4(c) and 4(e). These curves are analogous to the the well-known "P-y" curves used for the same purpose in modeling laterally

loaded piles. Haliburton further notes that simplification of the curve to an "elastic-plastic" shape, as shown by the dashed lines in Figs. 4(c) and 4(e), is reasonable, and captures the relevant features of the soil response. The elastic-plastic model will be followed for this study.

### The At-Rest Intercept

A lateral (horizontal) soil pressure exists in an undisturbed cohesionless soil deposit in which no movement has occurred, and is referred to as the earth pressure at-rest.

The ordinate at which the wall  $W$ - $y$  curve crosses the  $W$ -axis, shown as the  $W_0$  point in the left hand diagrams of Figs. 4(b) and 4(d), represents the horizontal resultant pressure on the wall corresponding to  $y = 0$ , i.e., no movement, multiplied by the effective width ( $x$  dimension) of wall under consideration. Since soils are generally incapable of transmitting tension, pressures can act only to push on one face or the other of the wall, and hence the  $W$ - $y$  curve is a plot of resultant horizontal line-load on the wall. If the total vertical effective pressure in the soil from all effects is the same on both sides of the wall,  $W_0$  will be equal and opposite from each side and the curve will pass through the origin of the  $W$ - $y$  axes. Typically, however, soil levels are different on opposite sides, and  $W_0$  is shifted off the origin, as in Fig. 4.

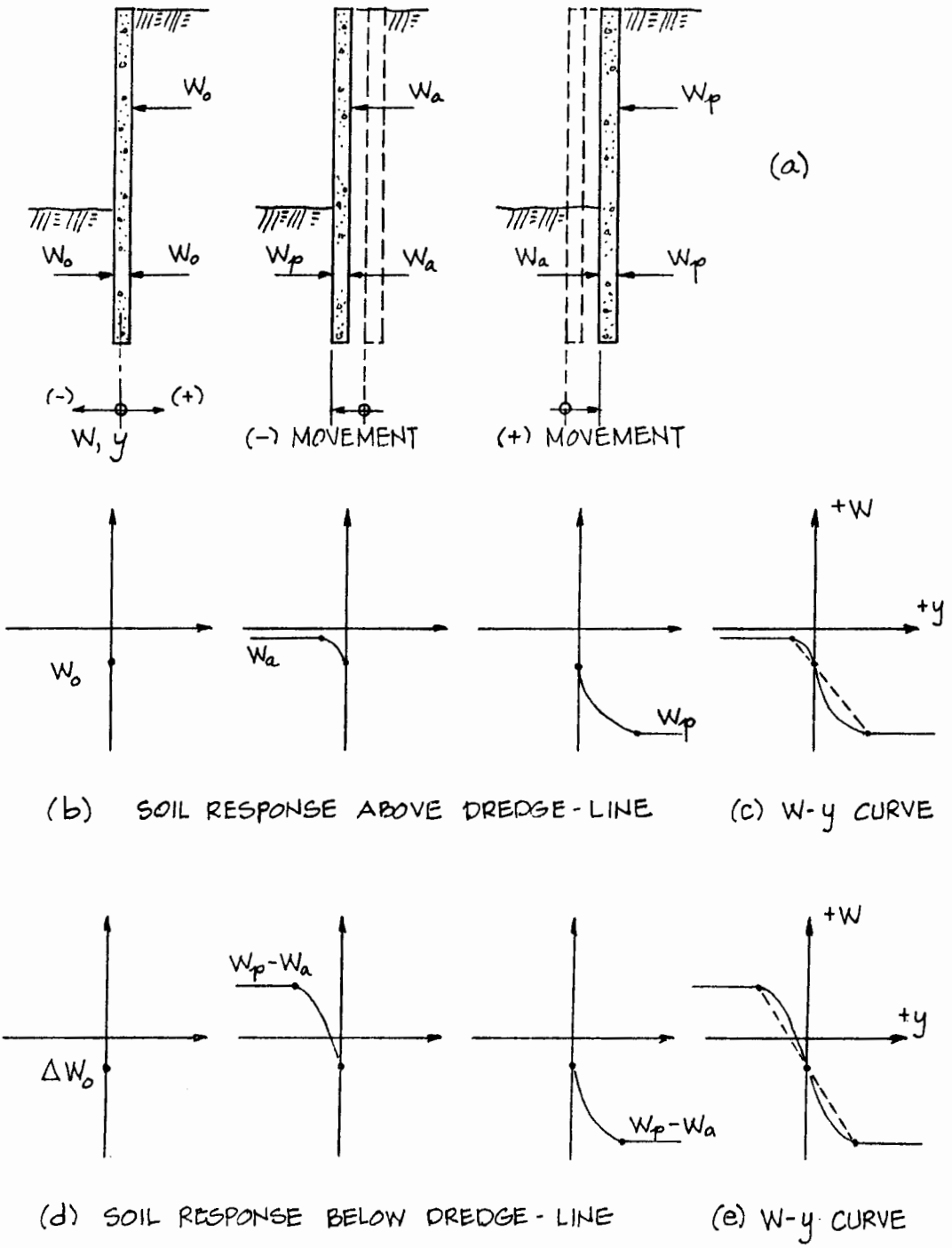


Figure 4. Elastic-plastic W-y curve derivation.

The at-rest intercept in a mass of undisturbed soil is computed by applying a coefficient,  $K_0$ , to the total vertical effective stress in the soil, multiplied by the effective wall width,

$$W_0 = K_0 \sigma'_v x \quad \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

where  $W_0$  = horizontal at-rest line-load ( $FL^{-1}$ )

$K_0$  = coefficient of earth pressure at-rest

$\sigma'_v$  = the total vertical effective stress at the depth in question, including the effects of surcharge loads

$x$  = effective width of wall considered

The effective width of wall considered corresponds to the x-dimension shown in Fig. 3(b). For example, if a 15-foot wide TEE-section of wall is considered as the effective width, x is 15-feet. Alternatively, the structural section properties ( $EI$ ,  $A$ ) may be divided by 15, and x becomes 1-foot (the procedure used in this study).

The at-rest coefficient,  $K_0$ , is dependent upon the properties of the material, and the manner in which it was deposited. Establishing  $K_0$  precisely is not possible; a range of values can be estimated using engineering judgement and knowledge of the soil conditions likely to exist at the site. For sand, Terzaghi (35) gives a range of  $K_0$  from 0.4 to 1.2. The lower value is for sand deposited in horizontal layers without compaction.

$K_0$  in ancient landslide deposits will likely be greater than 1.0, generated as part of the mechanism to stop the slide.

### The Active and Passive Limits

Following the elastic-plastic  $W$ - $y$  curve model, the sign convention is by definition the same for both  $W$  and  $y$ , and is generally (+) inward, toward the retained soil, and (-) outward, toward the channel.

From the middle figures in Figs. 4(a) and (b), it is apparant that for the fully excavated condition above the dredge line, (-) movement, i.e., to the left, at a given depth, will cause the at-rest line-load  $W_0$ , to decrease to a (-) active line-load,  $W_a$ . Movement to the right (+), as in the right-hand diagrams of the same Figs., will cause the at-rest line-load to increase to the (-) passive level available at that depth,  $W_p$ . Above the dredge line, both the active and passive line-loads are negative, since in each case the pressure is exerted outward against the wall. Fig. 4(c) gives a complete description of the soil response at a point above the dredge line.

Since the  $W$  value of the curve is actually the resultant of pressure applied to both sides of the wall, the value of the passive limit for a curve below the dredge line can be derived similarly, as shown in Fig.



4(d). For large (-) movements, the ultimate (+) line-load is equal to the value of the passive line-load available from the soil mass in front of the "toe", at the level for which the curve is being drawn, minus the active value from the retained side, i.e.,  $W_p - W_a$ . Similarly, for large (+) movements, the resulting (-) line-load is equal to the passive value of the retained soil mass, minus the active value exerted by the soil in front of the toe.

The value of the active and passive limits may be obtained by applying a coefficient of active or passive earth pressure, respectively, to the total vertical effective stress in the soil at the depth in question, multiplied by the effective wall width, as follows:

$$W_a = K_a \sigma'_v \times \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

$$W_p = K_p \sigma'_v \times \dots \dots \dots (4)$$

where  $W_a$  = active line-load at the depth in question  
 $W_p$  = passive line-load available at that depth  
 $K_a$  = the coefficient of active earth pressure  
 $K_p$  = the coefficient of passive earth pressure

The value of the active and passive coefficients,  $K_a$  and  $K_p$ , are available from classical limit equilibrium theory. For cohesionless materials against rough walls, the Coulomb Theory, dating from 1776, is still applicable. From Terzaghi (34),

$$K_a = \frac{\sin^2(\alpha + \phi)}{\sin^2\alpha \sin(\alpha - \delta)} \left[ 1 + \sqrt{\frac{\sin(\phi + \delta) \sin(\phi - \beta)}{\sin(\alpha - \delta) \sin(\alpha + \beta)}} \right]^2 \dots \dots \dots (5)$$

and,

$$K_p = \frac{\sin^2(\alpha - \phi)}{\sin^2\alpha \sin(\alpha + \delta)} \left[ 1 - \sqrt{\frac{\sin(\phi + \delta) \sin(\phi + \beta)}{\sin(\alpha + \delta) \sin(\alpha + \beta)}} \right]^2 \dots \dots \dots (6)$$

- where  $\alpha$  = Angle of wall back face from vertical.
- $\beta$  = Angle of sloping surcharge above horizontal.
- $\delta$  = Angle of wall friction.
- $\phi$  = Angle of internal friction of the soil.

The Horizontal Modulus

In the preceding discussion, it was shown that the ordinate values for the W-y curve can be established, or estimated, from classical soil mechanics. Less information is available to estimate the amount of displacement from at-rest to produce the full active and passive condition. The slope of the W-y curve between the at-rest intercept and the elastic or plastic limit is the horizontal modulus of subgrade reaction,

$$k_w = \frac{W/x}{y} \quad . . . . . (7)$$

where  $k_w$  = horizontal modulus of subgrade reaction ( $FL^{-3}$ )

To date, virtually all of the research to establish values of field soil modulus have been conducted on laterally loaded vertical pile models. Attempting to extend the modulus values established in the pile research to retaining structures has been unsuccessful, and dissatisfaction is expressed in the literature regarding availability of reasonable wall values. This situation exists because of the differences inherent in soil response against a "linear" pile versus a "planar" retaining wall, such as the effect of side shear on piles, noted by Smith (30,31,33), which is clearly absent for long walls.

As previously discussed, reasonable deflection results from soil-structure interaction analysis are possible only if the quality of the soil model is compatible with the quality of the structural model. To this end, the next section of this study attempts an improvement in the value of horizontal modulus, using an analytical derivation from high-quality in-situ pressuremeter test data.

## CHAPTER III

### HORIZONTAL WALL MODULUS VALUES FOR COHESIONLESS SOIL FROM PRESSUREMETER TEST RESULTS

#### BACKGROUND

The most difficult aspect in formulating W-y curves for BMCOL7 input is the amount of deflection to assign to the  $W_a$  and  $W_p$  "break points." In the elastic-plastic W-y model, as shown in Figs. 4(c) and 4(e), for pressures inside the plastic "envelope" a linear relationship for horizontal pressure vs. deflection is assumed. This relationship, the slope of the W-y curve, is commonly referred to as the horizontal modulus of subgrade reaction.

#### Terzaghi's Early Work

The original development of the horizontal modulus of subgrade reaction originates with Terzaghi's 1955 paper (35). His notation was,

$$k_h = \frac{p}{y} \quad \dots \dots \dots (8)$$

where  $k_h$  = horizontal modulus of subgrade reaction  
( $FL^{-3}$ ; Terzaghi's units are tons/cu. ft.)  
 $p$  = horizontal soil pressure  
 $y$  = horizontal soil displacement at  $p$  pressure

Terzaghi developed the now well-known concept that the distortion settlement of a footing is proportional to it's width, and extended this concept to laterally loaded piles and bulkhead walls. For piles, the displacement was shown to be proportional to pile width, whereas for walls the displacement is proportional to the height of the wall.

Terzaghi clearly recognized that these displacements are actually proportional to a pseudo-depth of significant stress/strain penetration, i.e. a pressure bulb, which was in turn proportional to the loaded area: footing width, pile width, and wall height. He proposed that for bulkhead walls retaining sands or gravels,  $K_h$  varied directly with a constant based only on relative density,  $I_h$ , with the depth below the free surface,  $z$ , and inversely with the total depth of wall embedment,  $D$ , as follows:

$$K_h = I_h \frac{z}{D} \dots \dots \dots (9)$$

where  $z$  = depth to point at which  $K_h$  is computed

$D$  = total embedded depth of wall

Terzaghi (35) also gives "empirical" values for  $I_h$  in his landmark paper. Attempting to apply Terzaghi's empirical values to real world problems is frustrating. Since  $I_h$  depends only on the relative density of the soil,  $K_h$  at the bottom of a 10-foot high and 100-foot high wall for a given soil are the same.

### The Need for Better Modulus Values

It is well-known that soil stiffness in cohesionless materials increases with confining pressure and hence stiffness increases with depth. This fact is not correctly modeled by Terzaghi in Eq. 9. In the case of the BDW, using the highest  $I_n$  value given by Terzaghi for dense cohesionless soil results in a predicted wall movement of at least 18-inches before passive soil failure is reached. This much movement is about 5 times more than could intuitively be expected to result in passive wedging of the very dense granular soil in contact with this wall. Sowers (34) provides empirical coefficients that indicate the movement should about 3 to 4 inches.

Since successful application of soil-structure interaction analysis is dependent upon an accurate model of soil load-deflection response, clearly there is a need for better values than the existing empirical method. Certainly, Terzaghi never imagined that his conservative estimates of  $K_n$  would ever be applied to something as precise as the FDM analysis.

### DERIVATION OF WALL MODULUS FROM THE PRESSUREMETER MODULUS

#### Radial Displacement in the PMT Test

The pressuremeter (PMT) test relates horizontal pressure to displacement. Baguelin et al (2) demonstrated that for plane strain around a cylindrical cavity, the

shear modulus is computed directly from the linear portion of the pressure vs. volume change curve from the PMT test,

$$G = \frac{\Delta p}{\Delta V} V_m \dots \dots \dots (10)$$

where G = Shear Modulus

$\Delta p$  = Change in pressure on linear portion of PMT curve

$\Delta V$  = Change in volume over linear portion of PMT curve

$V_m$  = Average volume over which  $\Delta p$  occurs

In Eq. 10, the denominator  $\Delta V/V_m$  is the cavity volume strain over the linear portion of the curve. Alternatively, the strain of the expanding cavity can be measured as radial strain, as indicated in Fig. 3(a). Radial strain can be expressed in terms of volume strain,

$$\epsilon_r = \frac{\Delta R}{R_0} = \sqrt{\Delta V/V_0 + 1} - 1 \dots \dots \dots (11)$$

where  $\epsilon_r$  = radial strain

$V_0$  = initial PMT cavity volume

$R_0$  = initial cavity radius

$\Delta R$  = increase in cavity radius

When the volume strain = 100% (at the arbitrarily defined "limit pressure," the pressure required to double the initial cavity volume), the radial strain is 41% (this

corresponds to the right-hand side of the PMT curve in Fig. 3(a), where the slope has "flattened out", and correlates with the ultimate shear strength of the soil). However, at the low volume strain associated with the linear portion of the pressuremeter curve, the radial strain is very close to 1/2 the corresponding volume strain,

$$\frac{\Delta V}{V_0} \approx 2 \frac{\Delta R}{R_0} \dots \dots \dots (12)$$

For these small radial strains,  $V_0 \approx V_m$ , and substituting Eq. 12 into Eq. 10 gives the shear modulus in terms of radial strain,

$$G = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta p}{\Delta R} R_0 \dots \dots \dots (13)$$

From mechanics of materials, the modulus of elasticity is related to the shear modulus as,

$$E = 2(1 + \nu) G$$

where  $\nu$  = Poisson's ratio.

The Menard (pressuremeter) Modulus,  $E_m$ , is defined as the modulus of elasticity when  $\nu = 0.33$ ,

$$E_m = 2.66 G \dots \dots \dots (14)$$

where  $E_m$  = The Menard Modulus.

Substituting Eq. 14 into Eq. 13 and solving for  $\Delta R$  yields the radial displacement in terms of the



Menard Modulus and the initial cavity radius,

$$\Delta R = \frac{P}{.75 E_m} R_0 \quad . . . . . (15)$$

Further, substituting Eq. 15 into Eq. 11 yields the radial strain in terms of the Menard Modulus only,

$$\epsilon_r = \frac{\Delta R}{R_0} = \frac{P}{.75 E_m} \quad . . . . . (15a)$$

Rearranging again yields the radial displacement in terms of radial strain and initial cavity radius,

$$\Delta R = \epsilon_r R_0 \quad . . . . . (15b)$$

Bearing in mind that although  $\Delta R$  has been described as the increase in the cavity radius, it is also a radial displacement of the soil annulus surrounding the cavity, Eq. 15 illustrates that for a given cavity pressure, the radial displacement of the soil annulus is a function only of initial cavity radius,  $R_0$ . By similitude, for example, a cavity of 1-inch initial radius that displaces 1/4-inch radially under a given cavity pressure suggests that another cavity of 10-inch initial radius will displace 2.5-inches radially under the same pressure increase in the same soil.

### Flat Plate vs. Radial Displacement

The deformation of the soil behind a retaining wall can be idealized as the strain of the soil in contact with the face of the wall, multiplied by some gage distance,

$$y = \epsilon_w R_w \quad . . . . . (16)$$

where  $\epsilon_w$  = strain of soil in contact with the wall.

$R_w$  = equivalent gage distance into soil mass behind wall over which  $\epsilon_w$  produces  $y$ .

Note the similarity between Eq. 15b and 16. In each equation, a displacement is equal to a strain times a gage length. Eq. 16 can be visualized as a "flat-plate" version of Eq. 15b, wherein the pressuremeter cavity has been conceptually sliced longitudinally and "unwrapped" to a flat wall shape.

The next step in relating displacement behind a wall,  $y$ , to radial displacement in the PMT test,  $\Delta R$ , is to find the relationship between the strains,  $\epsilon_r$  and  $\epsilon_w$ .

A soil element in the annulus around an expanding PMT cavity displaces in the tangential, or  $\theta$ , as well as the radial, or  $r$ , direction. Following Baguelin's (2) procedure of simplifying the problem to an elastic-plastic model, radial and tangential strains are assumed to be approximately equal over the range of small displacements associated with the linear portion of the PMT curve, as

shown in Fig. 5(a), i.e.,

$$\epsilon_r \approx \epsilon_\theta$$

However, behind a long retaining wall, soil elements cannot expand in a direction parallel to the wall, due to continuity with neighboring elements. Therefore,  $\epsilon_w$  in Eq. 16 must be adjusted by  $\nu$  to relate it to  $\epsilon_r$  from the PMT test. From the definition of Poisson's ratio, and as shown in Fig. 5(b),

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_w &= \epsilon_r - \nu \epsilon_r \\ &= \epsilon_r (1-\nu) \end{aligned} \quad \dots \dots \dots (17)$$

Substituting Eq. 15a into Eq. 17,

$$\epsilon_w = \frac{p}{.75 E_m} (1-\nu) \quad \dots \dots \dots (18)$$

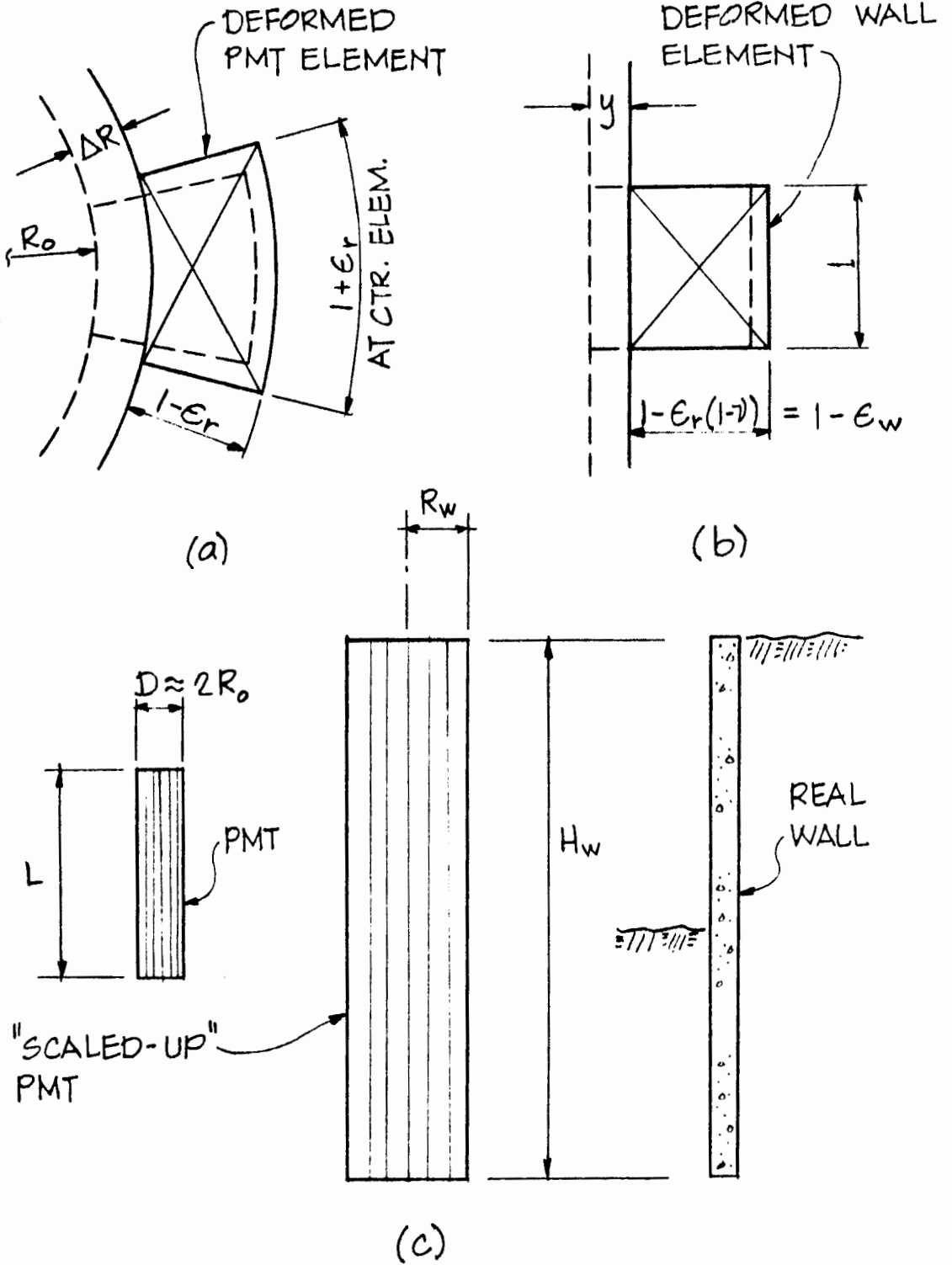
Substituting Eq. 18 into Eq. 16 gives wall displacement,  $y$  in terms of the pressuremeter modulus and wall gage length,

$$y = \frac{p}{.75 E_m} (1-\nu) R_w \quad \dots \dots \dots (19)$$

### Scaling-Up the PMT Probe to a Real Wall

Intuitively, if  $R_w$  in Eq. 19 is replaced by  $R_o$ , the result is a relationship between pressure  $p$  and displacement  $y$  for a flat plate the size of the unwrapped PMT probe.

Consistent with Terzaghi's general idea that the displacement of a bulkhead wall is proportional to it's



**Figure 5.** Deformation of a unit soil element behind the face of (a) a PMT cavity, (b) a wall, and (c) scaling-up the PMT probe to a real wall.

embedment or height, Eq. 19 can be applied to a real wall if the unwrapped PMT is conceptually "scaled-up" so the probe length is equal to the height of the wall, maintaining the same L/D ratio of the probe actually used. Clearly,  $R_w$  in Eq. 19 becomes the "scaled-up"  $R_o$ . As shown in Fig. 5(c),

$$\frac{L}{D} = \frac{H_w}{2 R_w} \quad \dots \dots \dots (20)$$

where  $L$  = pressuremeter probe length

$D$  = initial pressuremeter diameter =  $2R_o$

$H_w$  = height of the retaining wall

Briaud et al (4) demonstrated that any probe with an L/D ratio of 5 or more produces a response very close to the plane strain assumed in all current pressuremeter theory. Since a shorter probe will not produce the assumed plane strain conditions and should therefore not be used, and since a longer probe will produce the same plane strain conditions achieved in an L/D = 5 probe, L/D = 5 should be used in Eq. 20, rather than the L/D of the actual probe used. Making this substitution in Eq. 20,

$$R_w = \frac{H_w}{10} \quad \dots \dots \dots (21)$$

Substituting Eq. 21 into Eq. 19 gives an expression for wall displacement in terms of applied pressure, pressuremeter modulus, and height of wall,

$$y = \frac{p}{.75 E_m} (1-\nu) \frac{H_w}{10} \dots \dots \dots (22)$$

### The PMT Wall Modulus

Substituting Eq. 22 into Eq. 8, and changing the modulus notation from  $k_h$  to  $k_w$ , to indicate the application to walls, gives a final expression for wall modulus in terms of pressuremeter modulus, poisons ratio, and height of wall,

$$k_w = \frac{7.5}{(1-\nu)} \frac{E_m}{H_w} \dots \dots \dots (23)$$

Eq. 23 represents the horizontal modulus of subgrade reaction corresponding to  $E_m$  at a specific elevation on a wall of height  $H_w$ . It can be seen from Fig. 6, for the usual values of  $\nu$  for soils, that  $k_w(H_w)/E_m$  varies from about 10 to 15. For soils in which  $\nu$  is approximately .33, a value from 10 to 12 should be used. For the BDW, a value of 10 was used, in conjunction with Eq. 7, to establish the W-y curves used in Chapter IV, as follows,

$$k_w = 10 \frac{E_m}{H_w} \dots \dots \dots (24)$$

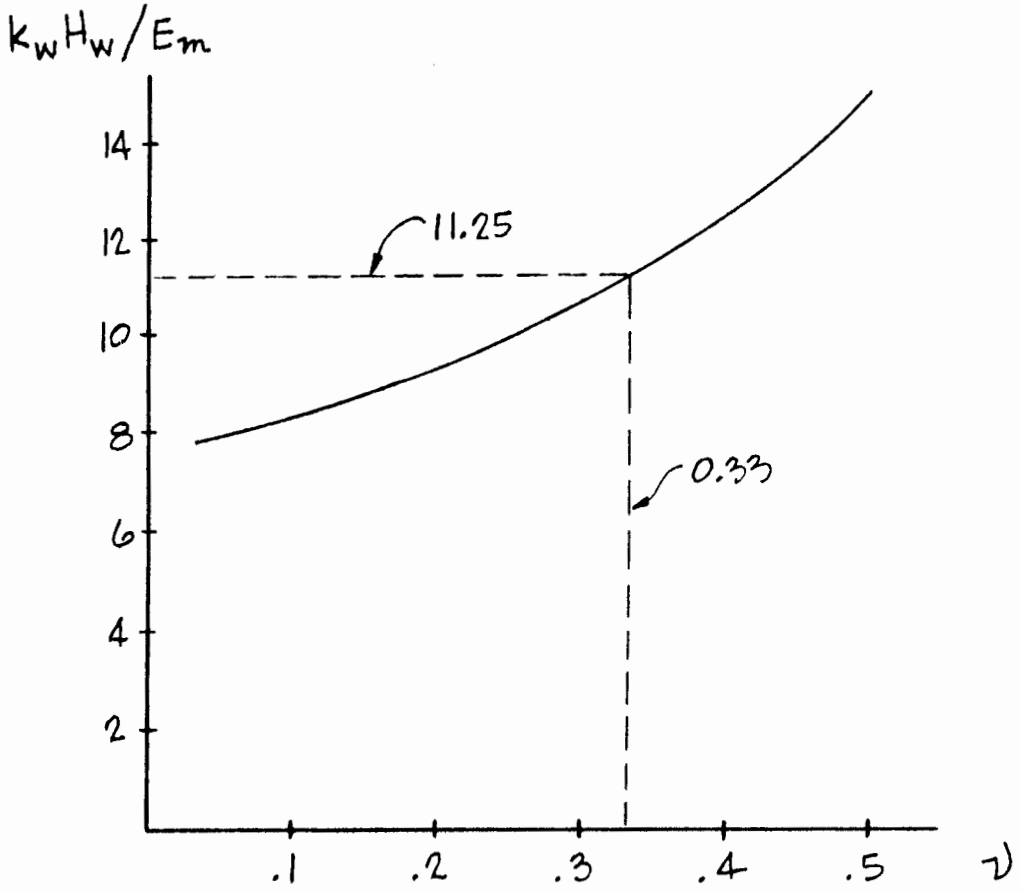


Figure 6.  $(k_w H_w) / E_m$  vs. Poisson's Ratio,  $\nu$ .

### Comparing the PMT Wall Modulus to Terzaghi

Since the pressuremeter modulus  $E_m$  normally increases linearly with depth for sands and gravels, Eq. 23 was re-written to appear similar to Terzaghi's notation from Eq. 9, making a change from  $l_h$  to  $l_w$ , once again to indicate that the application is for walls,

$$k_w = \frac{7.5}{(1-\nu)} \frac{E_m}{z} \frac{z}{H_w}$$

$$= l_w \frac{z}{H_w} \dots \dots \dots (25)$$

where  $l_w = \frac{7.5}{(1-\nu)} \frac{E_m}{z}$

$\frac{E_m}{z}$  = variation of Menard Modulus with depth.

In order to compare Terzaghi's  $k_h$  with  $k_w$ , a hypothetical 15-foot high wall retaining cohesionless sand was considered. The amount of movement required to reach full passive resistance at the base of the wall,  $y_p$ , was computed both methods and compared with empirical coefficients from Sowers (34). The results of this comparison are tabulated in Table I.

From the empirical wall movement coefficients given by Sowers (34), the expected movement to mobilize passive resistance is between .005 and .01 of the wall height, or .90 to 1.80-inches. It is apparant that  $k_w$  yields a displacement within these bounds, whereas the values of movement from Terzaghi's  $k_h$  are 4 to 5 times too high.



Similarly, it was previously noted that movements on the order of at least 18-inches are required, using Terzaghi's  $K_h$ , to reach full passive resistance in the BDW. This movement becomes more reasonable, about 3-inches, when  $K_w$  is used, as shown in Chapter IV.

TABLE I

## EXAMPLE 15-FOOT HIGH WALL RETAINING COHESIONLESS SAND

Rel. Density:	LOOSE	MEDIUM	DENSE
$\phi'$ , degrees:	25	30	35
$K_p$	4	6	8
$\gamma$ , pcf	90	110	120
TERZAGHI:			
$l_h$ , tcf	4	8	20
$K_h$ , pci	5	9	23
$\gamma_p$ , inches	7.5"	7.6"	4.4"
$K_w$ from PMT:			
$E_m$ , kPa	3000	8000	15,000
$K_w$ , pci	23	62	116
$\gamma_p$ , inches	1.6"	1.1"	0.9"
SOWERS:			
$\gamma_p$	1.8"	1.4"	0.9"

## CHAPTER IV

### A PARAMETRIC STUDY OF A SECTION OF THE PERMANENT BUTTRESS DIAPHRAGM WALL

#### THE BUTTRESS DIAPHRAGM WALL, STATION 17+00 TO 19+60

The section of the BDW selected for the parametric soil-structure interaction study lies between stations 17+00 and 19+60, at the west end of the BDW, near the SE corner of the actual lock structure.

#### Geometry and Design

This section of wall, BDW 17+00 to 19+60, is potentially critical for deflections. It has the greatest elevation from top of wall to dredge line, 51-feet. In addition, this part of the wall is within the lock construction coffer-dam, and will be excavated in the dry, resulting in higher outward pressures against the wall than will be generated for the other stations, which will be wet dredged.

The geometry and cross sectional properties of BDW 17+00 to 19+60, as the design stood in January, 1987, were provided by the USACE in January, 1987. The geometry is summarized in Fig. 7. A summary of wall cross-section structural properties is given in Table II.

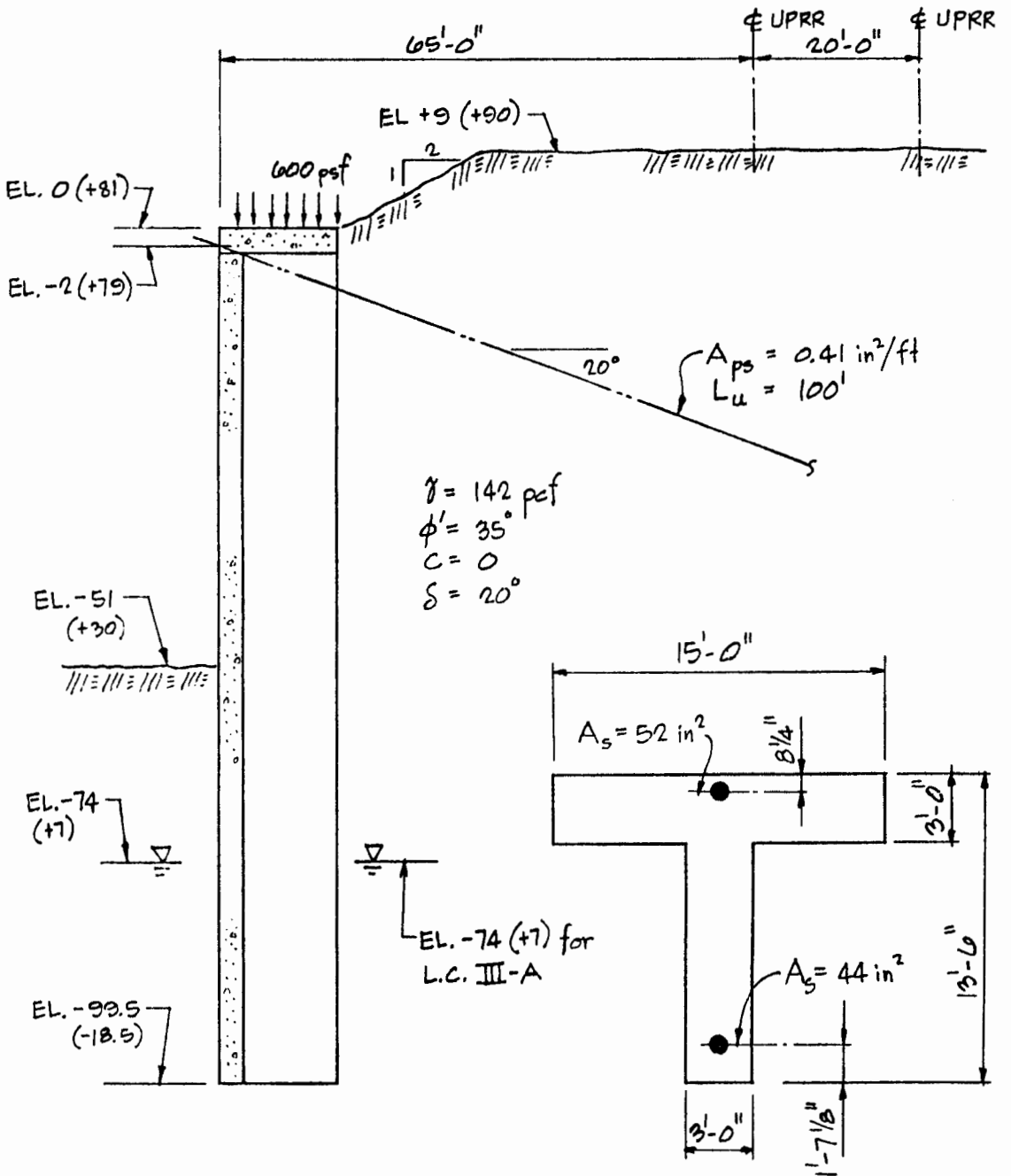


Figure 7. Bonneville BDW, Sta. 17+00 to 19+60.

Throughout this study, elevations are referred to El. 0 at the top of the wall. In Fig. 7, a second set of elevations are given in parentheses, which correspond to the reference elevations used by the Corps.

TABLE II  
STRUCTURAL PROPERTIES OF BDW STA. 17+00 TO 19+60

STRUCTURAL PROPERTY	VALUE
Concrete strength, $f'_c$	6000 psi
Gross section stiffness, $EI_g$	$7.1 \times 10^{12}$ #-in <sup>2</sup> /ft
Cracked section stiffness, $EI_{cr}$	$1.7 \times 10^{12}$ #-in <sup>2</sup> /ft
Stem cracking moment, $M_{cr}$ (-)	706 k-ft/ft
Flange cracking moment, $M_{cr}$ (+)	1,521 k-ft/ft
Area of tie-back anchors, $A_{ps}$	0.41 in <sup>2</sup> /ft
Effective length of anchors, L	100 ft
Strength of tieback anchors, $f_{pu}$	270 ksi
Anchor prestress level, $f_{ps}$	$0.45 \times f_{pu}$
Anchor preload, horiz. component	49.8 k/ft

#### Loading Condition III-A

For the parametric study, one critical loading condition was used: L.C. III-A, a dewatered construction loading condition. Additionally, we have imposed final

embankment surcharge loads while the wall remains in the dewatered condition. The sequence of construction and loading events modeled are as follows:

1. The railroad embankment shown on Fig. 7 is in place.
2. The wall is constructed in-place by slurry techniques.
3. The coffer dam is constructed, and both sides of the wall are dewatered to El. -74, and will remain dewatered throughout this sequence.
4. The channel-side of the wall is excavated to El. -5, the tieback anchors are installed at El. -2, and the anchors are preloaded.
5. The channel-side of the wall is excavated in the dry to El. -51.
6. The railroad embankment is subjected to the two 16,000 lb/ft railroad line loads.
7. The surface of the retained soil behind the wall is subjected to a 600 psf equipment surcharge.

#### SOIL PROPERTIES AT THE BDW FROM PMT RESULTS

The soil model used in this study was derived in part from the "Pressuremeter Testing and Design Interim Report", Smith (30), which includes a discussion of material behavior, strength characteristics, and design considerations, as well as a comprehensive set of high-quality pressuremeter test results.

### Mohr-Coulomb Parameters

The materials retained by the BDW can be considered, from a conservative design standpoint, as a coarse, angular gravel. The material is assumed cohesionless, with all design based on drained behavior. Initial horizontal ( $K_0$ ) ground stresses are probably in excess of overburden pressure, due to the high stresses mobilized from inertia forces to reach equilibrium in the ancient slide. A summary of the "Mohr-Coulomb" strength parameters taken from the report for use in this study are given in Table III.

TABLE III

GEOTECHNICAL PROPERTIES FOR SB MATERIAL AT THE BDW FROM THE PRESSUREMETER TESTING AND DESIGN INTERIM REPORT

GEOTECHNICAL PROPERTY	VALUE
Effective friction angle, $\phi'$	35 degrees
Cohesion, $c'$	0
Unit weight, $\gamma$	142 pcf
Submerged unit weight, $\gamma'$	80 pcf
At-rest coefficient, $K_0$	1.0 to 1.5

after Smith (30)

### The Pressuremeter Modulus

Pressuremeter tests conducted in SB (slide block) materials in drill hole DH 1751 show the expected linear increase of pressuremeter modulus with increase in depth. This data is plotted, and a straight line fit made to establish  $E_m$  vs. depth, in Fig. 8. From this fit, a value for the rate of increase in  $E_m$  of 320 psi per foot of depth was found.

## ANALYSIS PROCEDURE

### W-Y Curves

Parameters were derived from Table III and Fig. 8 for direct use in computing the W-Y curves for the wall. Active and passive pressure coefficients were derived from Eqs. 5 and 6, using a wall friction value from (24). The wall modulus,  $K_w$ , was determined from Fig. 8 and Eq. 24. A summary of the derived values is shown in Table IV.

### The 2-Stage Procedure

The soil-structure interaction analysis was conducted by making 2 separate runs on BMCOL7. This procedure, the first documented attempt to accurately model deflections in staged slurry-wall construction, was devised because the tieback anchors are preloaded prior to excavation of the channel side of the wall. The soil pressure vs. wall deformation response during preload is different from, and

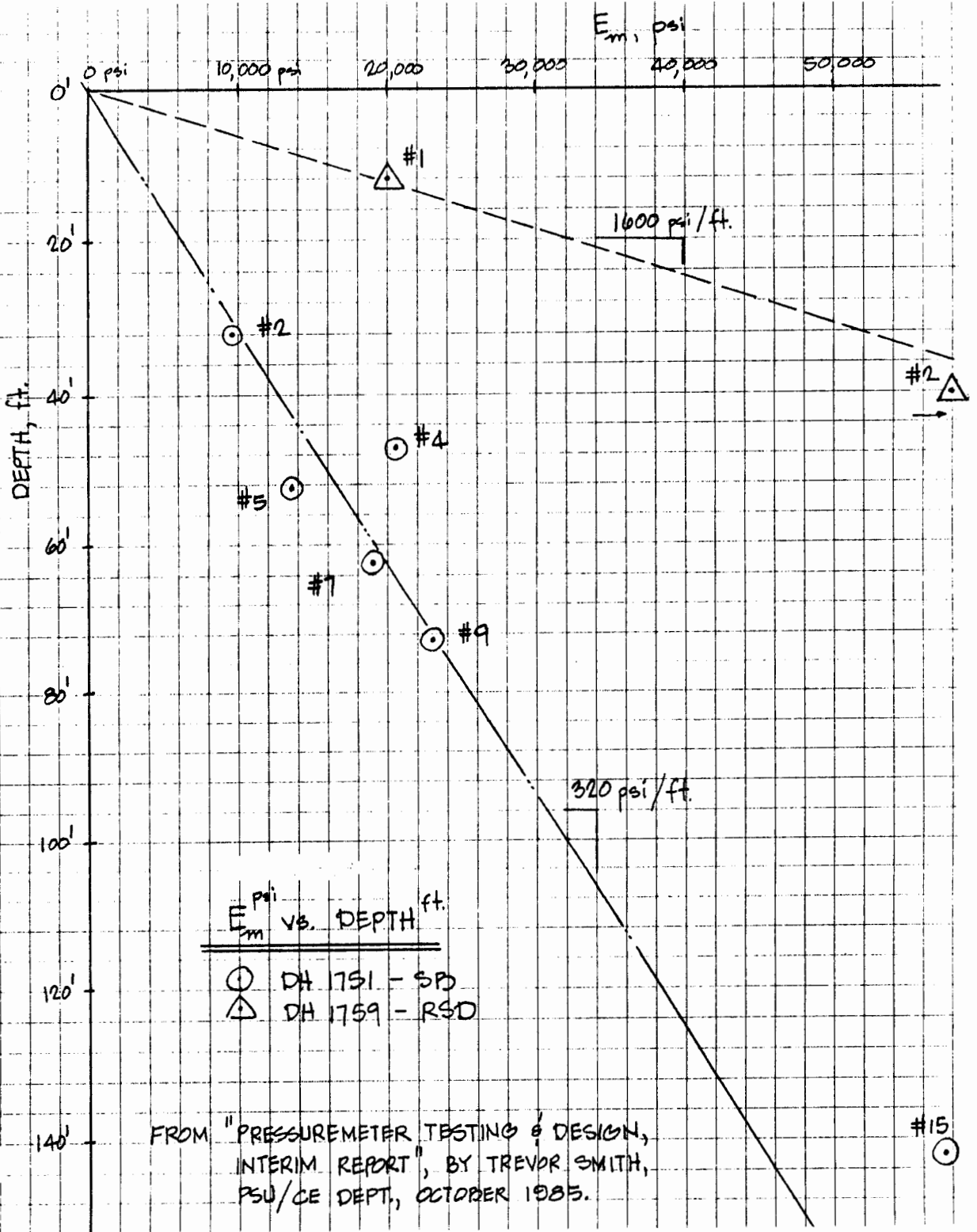


Figure 8. Pressuremeter modulus vs. depth.



influences the result of, the response after excavation. Another way of visualizing this effect is that not only is the anchor prestressed, but also the soil is precompressed during preloading.

TABLE IV  
PARAMETERS DERIVED FROM THE PMT RESULTS USED TO DEVELOP THE W-Y CURVES FOR THE BDW.

PARAMETER	VALUE
Wall friction angle, $\delta$	20 degrees
Active pressure coefficient, $K_a$	0.25
Passive coefficient, $K_p$	8.0
PMT modulus increase, $E_m$	320 psi/ft
Wall horizontal modulus, $k_w$	4600 pcf/ft

This procedure requires hand generation of two complete sets of W-Y curves, the set for the second run based on the outcome of the first. An example of this procedure is illustrated in Fig. 9, which shows a schematic representation of BDW 17+00 - 19+60 at the first and second stage of analysis, with corresponding W-Y curves at El -20.

The first stage, shown on the top half of Fig. 9, corresponds to anchor preloading, as described in Step 4 under Loading Condition Analyzed, above. Channel side

# W-Y CURVE EXAMPLE

$F_{P/L} = 49.8^k, K_o = 1.0, k_w = 4600 z, A_{ps} = .41$

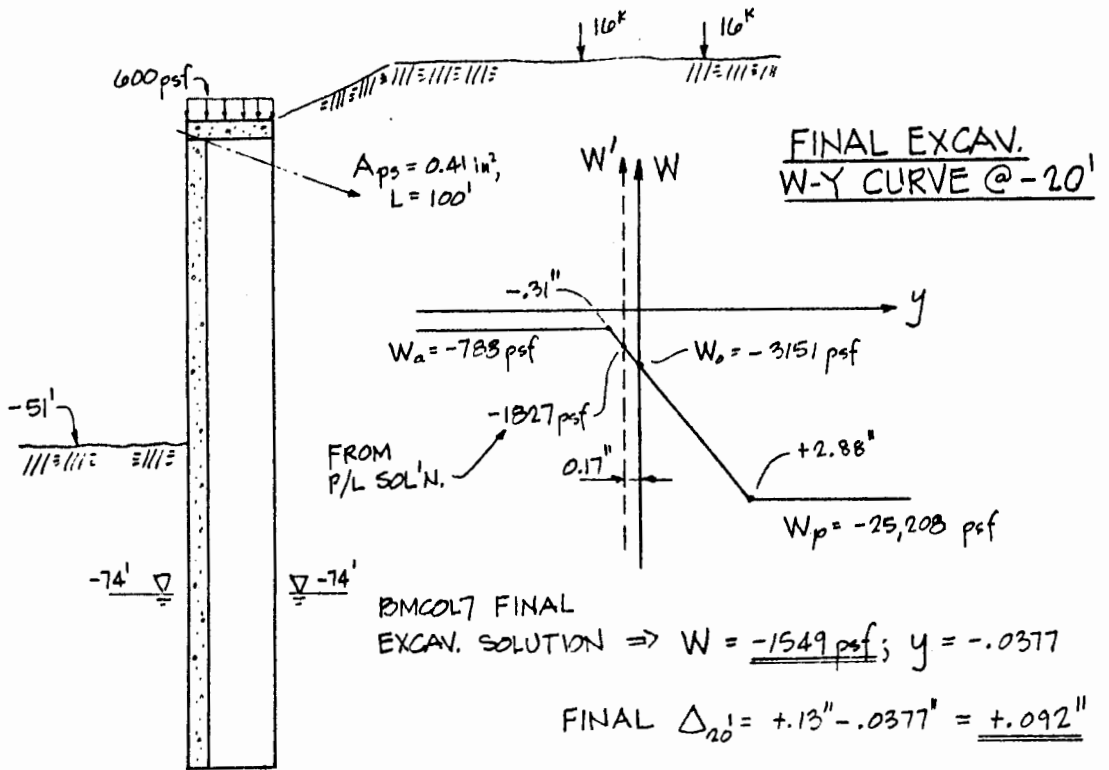
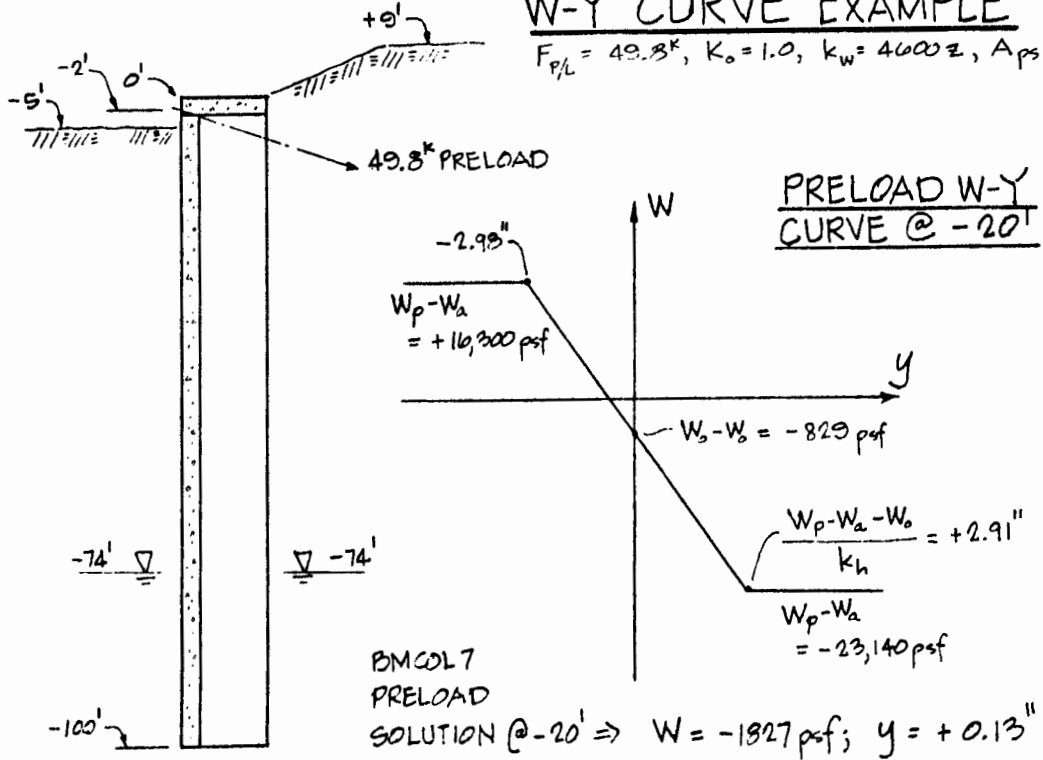


Figure 9. W-y curve example.

excavation is assumed to El -5, to allow for installation of the anchors; the railroad embankment has been constructed to El. +9. The W-Y curve shows that before any movement occurs (i.e.,  $Y = 0$ ), there is a net (resultant) pressure on the wall of -829 psf, corresponding to the difference in at-rest pressures on each side of the wall at El. -20; note that the (-) indicates the resultant pressure is directed toward the channel side, because the small excavation on that side has reduced vertical overburden and hence in-situ horizontal pressures on the channel side. Movements in excess of 2.98-inches toward the channel side mobilize full passive resistance of the soil on that side of the wall (less active pressure from the hill side). Movements in excess of 2.91-inches toward the hill side are resisted by the passive pressure from the hill side soil, less the active pressure from the channel side. The 2.91-inches of movement to reach full passive resistance was computed by subtracting the net at-rest pressure on the wall from the passive-active resultant, and dividing by the wall modulus,  $k_w$ , which was determined by multiplying the value in Table III by 20-feet. W-Y curves were established in likewise fashion at approximately every 10-feet of wall elevation, for input into the BMCOL7 analysis, along with the anchor preload. The result of this analysis indicates a resultant pressure at El -20 of -1827 psf, corresponding to a deflection of +0.13-inches. These

numbers can be checked for consistency on the W-Y curve.

The second-stage of analysis is shown on the bottom half of Fig. 9, corresponding to full excavation to El. -51 on the channel side, and the addition of railroad line load and distributed equipment surcharge loads, as described in the final Step 7 under Loading Condition Analyzed, above. A completely different W-Y curve must now be established at El. -20, because the soil resistance on the channel side is gone. This new curve is computed in similar fashion as previously described, but using the active, at-rest, and passive values of the hill side soil mass only. One additional step is required: the result of the first stage must be incorporated, since preloading the anchor also in effect preloads the soil. This effect is incorporated by moving the W-axis of the stage-2 W-Y curve so the  $Y=0$  pressure corresponds to the pressure the soil sees at the end of preload --- in this case, -1827 psf.

Final deflections are established by superimposing the values from stage-1 and stage-2; this is necessary because stage-2 was run with what amounts to preloaded pressures from stage-1, but starting with a new datum for deflections. This superposition is not required for final pressures, shears and moments, since the preloaded soil pressure has been incorporated by the shift of the W-axis previously described.

## THE PARAMETRIC STUDY

Five parameters were studied for their effect on deflection, bending moment, and passive soil failure. They were anchor preload, anchor stiffness, wall section stiffness, soil at-rest pressure coefficient, and horizontal modulus.

In order to determine the influence in the variation of each parameter, they were varied one at a time from a control configuration, consisting of a "Best Estimate" (BE) of each parameter, as tabulated in Table V.

The variation of the selected parameters is shown in Table VI. In effect, Table V represents a single configuration analyzed, and Table VI represents 7 additional analyses, with a parameter varied one at a time.

TABLE V  
BEST ESTIMATE VALUE OF PARAMETRIC STUDY VARIABLES.

PARAMETER	BEST ESTIMATE VALUE
Anchor preload, horiz. component	49.8 k/ft
Section stiffness, $EI = EI_g$	$7.1 \times 10^{12}$ #-in <sup>2</sup> /ft
Area of tie-back anchors, $A_{ps}$	0.41 in <sup>2</sup> /ft
At-rest pressure coefficient, $K_0$	1.0
Wall horizontal modulus, $K_w$	4600 pcf/ft

TABLE VI  
 VARIATION OF "BEST ESTIMATE" PARAMETERS.

PARAMETER	VALUE VARIED from "BEST ESTIMATE"
Anchor preload, horiz. component	24.9 k/ft, 0
Section stiffness, $EI = EI_{cr}$	$1.7 \times 10^{12}$ #-in <sup>2</sup> /ft
Area of tie-back anchors, $A_{ps}$	0.205 in <sup>2</sup> /ft
At-rest pressure coefficient, $K_0$	0.5, 1.5
Wall horizontal modulus, $K_w$	2300 pcf/ft

### Anchor Preload

The Best Estimate value of the tieback anchor preload corresponds to the intended preload of  $0.45 \times f_{pu} \times A_{ps} = 49.8$  kips/ft. Two other analyses were made, one with one-half that value, 24.9 kips/ft, and one with no preload. The results of these runs are shown graphically in Figs. 10, 11, and 12. The left diagram in these Figures shows resultant soil pressure vs. height of wall, and the right hand diagram shows deflection and bending moment vs. height of wall. For the pressure and deflection values, two curves are shown: one is at the end of preload (stage-1), with the second after excavation and application of surcharge loads (stage-2).

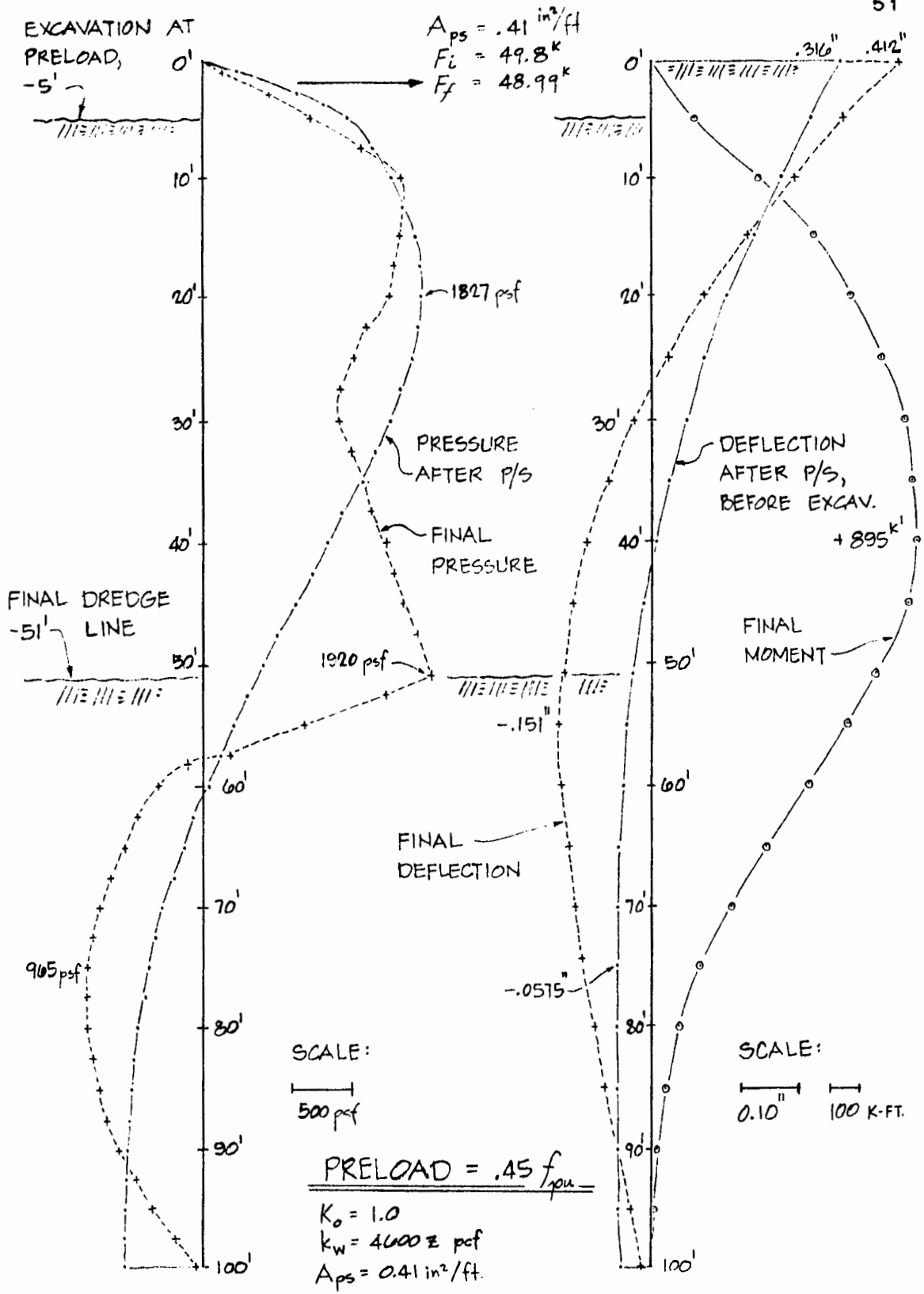


Figure 10. Preload = .45 x fpu.

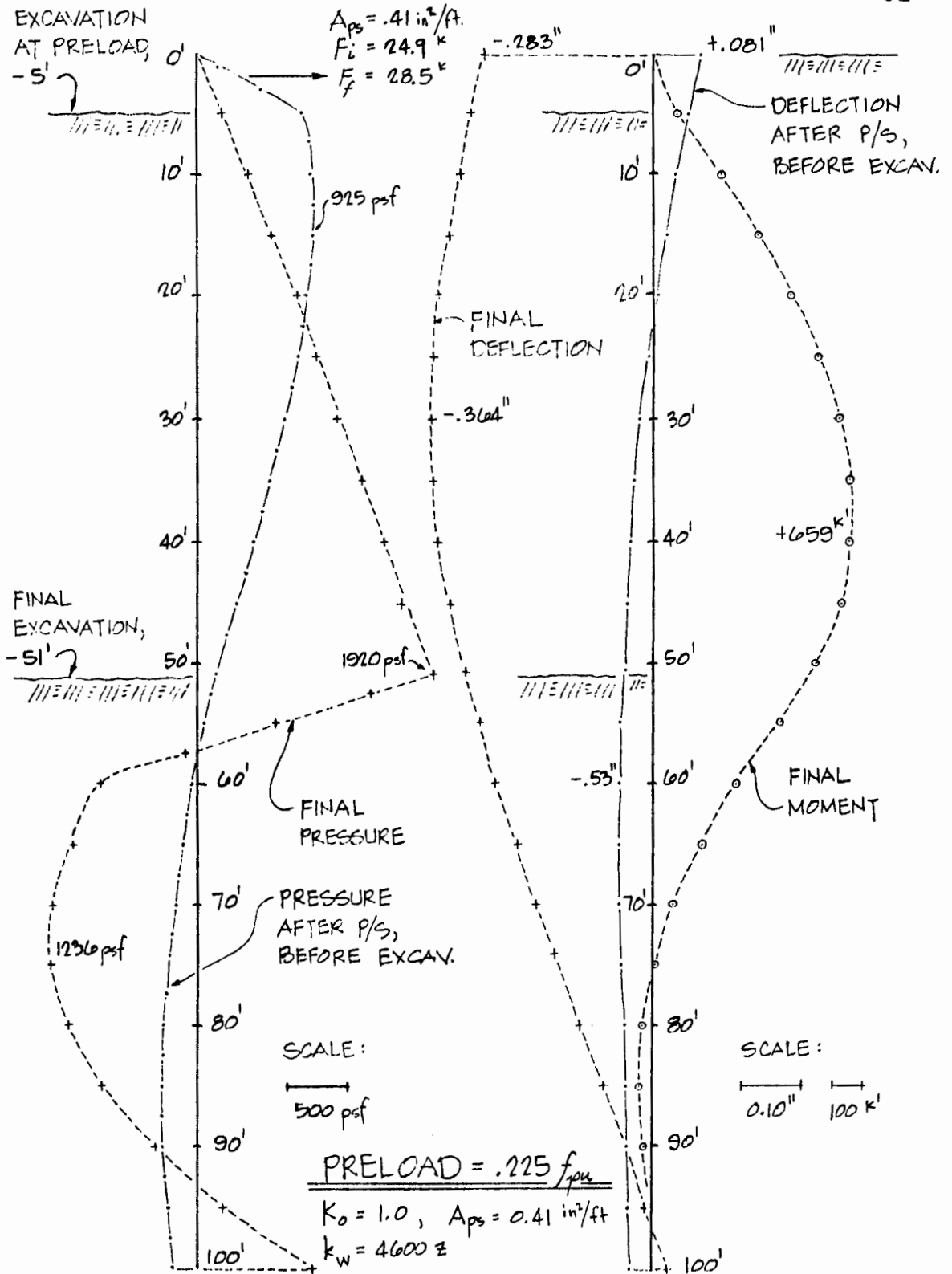


Figure 11. Preload = .225 x fpu.



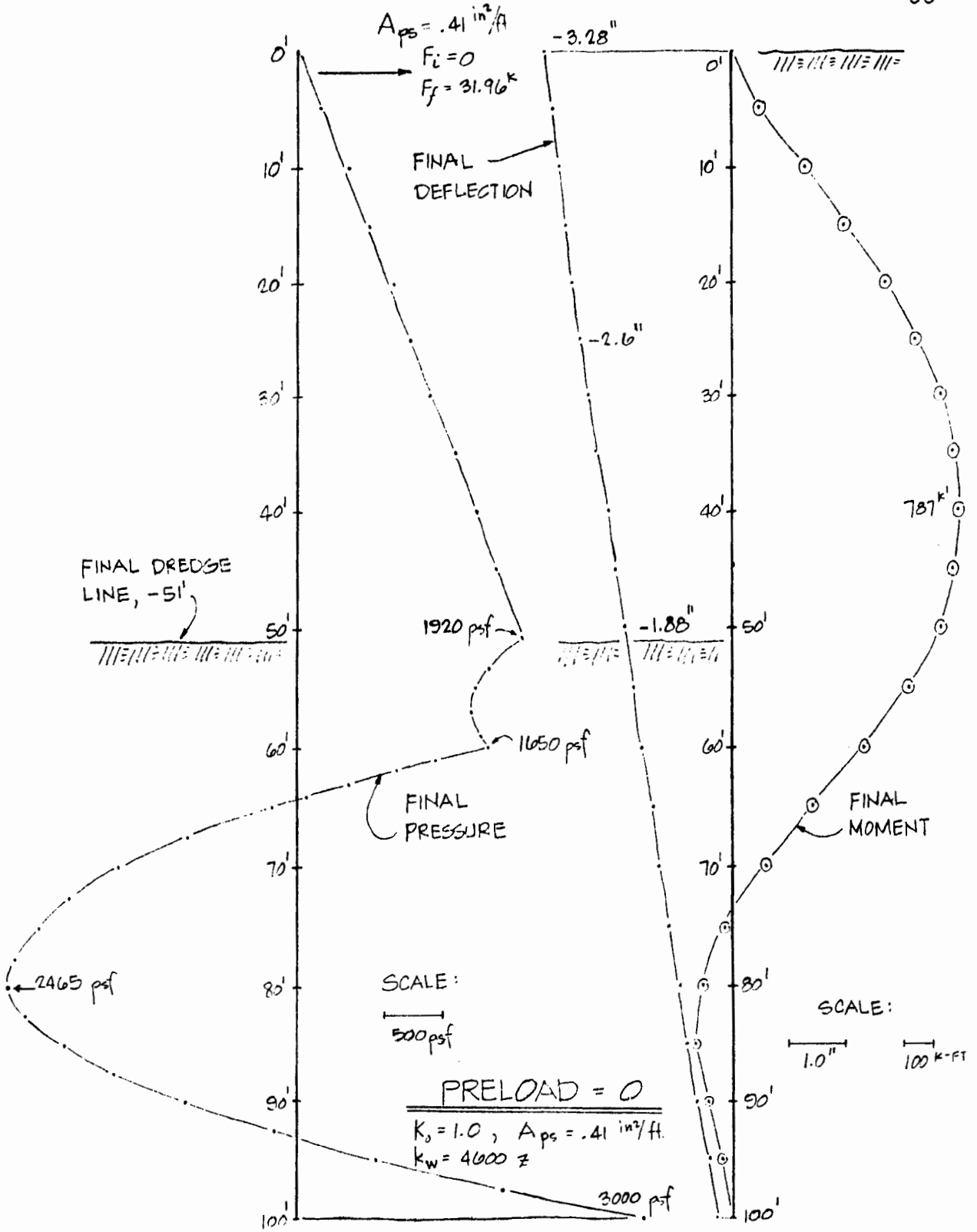


Figure 12. Preload = 0.

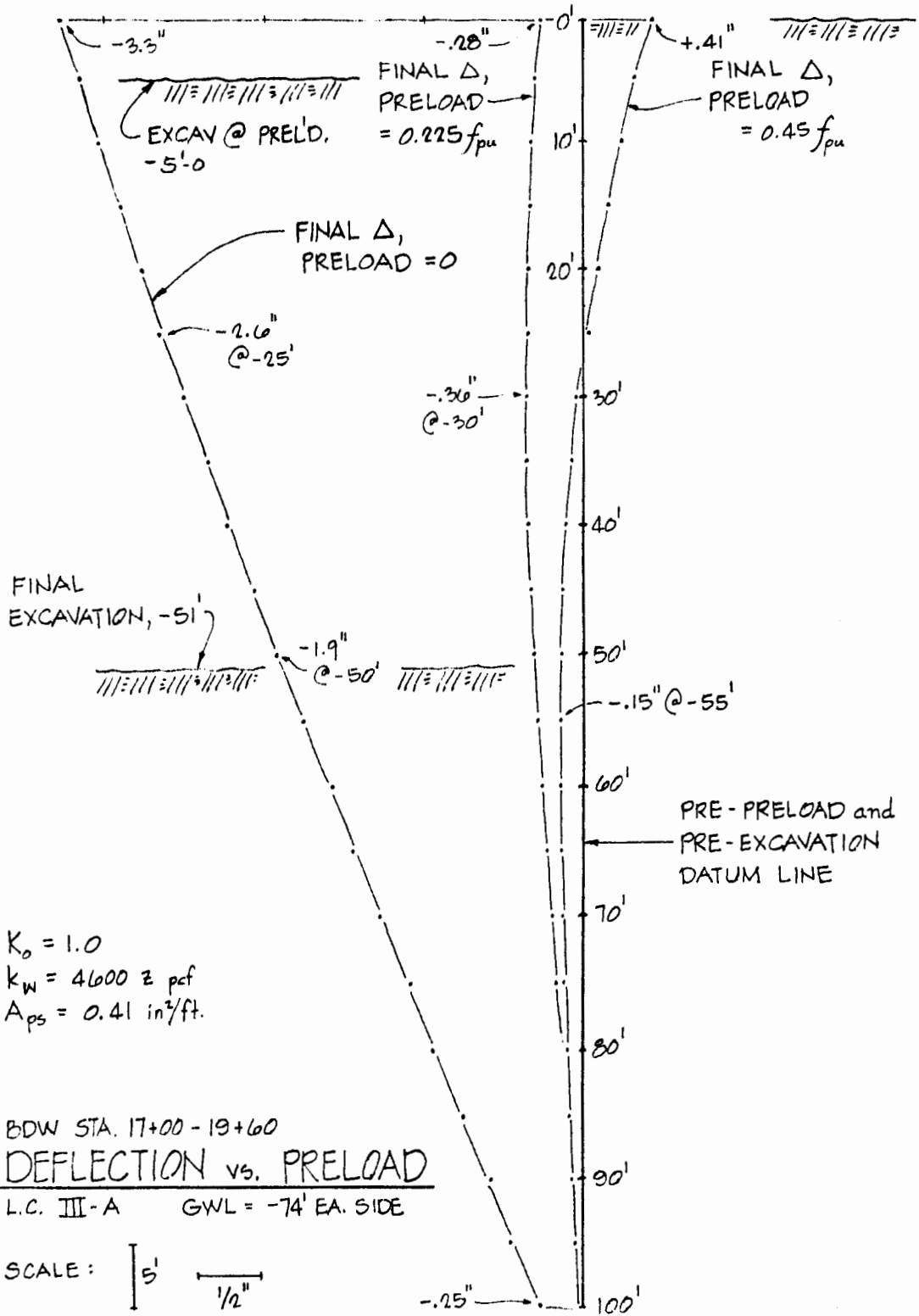
Final (stage-2) deflection curves for the 3 preload conditions are superimposed on one diagram for comparison in Fig. 13 (note that the curve showing + 0.41-inches at the top of the wall corresponds to the "Best Estimate" configuration; this curve will re-appear for reference on subsequent diagrams in this report). Final moment curves for the 3 preload conditions are superimposed on Fig. 14.

### Section and Anchor Stiffness

Although none of the first 3 runs investigating anchor preload variations resulted in a maximum bending moment that was in excess of wall section cracking moment, an additional run was made of the Best Estimate configuration with a fully cracked wall stiffness, for the full height of the wall. This was done for correlation with USACE analyses, which were made assuming a cracked section, which could exist along the wall from causes other than bending stress.

Another "structural" variation of interest is the effect of tieback anchor slip on deflection. A more flexible anchor can be modeled by changing the cross-section area of the anchor. To model a slipping, and hence flexible anchor, a run was made of the "BE" configuration, but with one-half the anchor load, i.e. 24.9 kips/ft, and one-half the anchor area, i.e. 0.205 in<sup>2</sup>/ft.

Deflections resulting from these reductions in wall



**Figure 13. Deflection vs. Preload.**

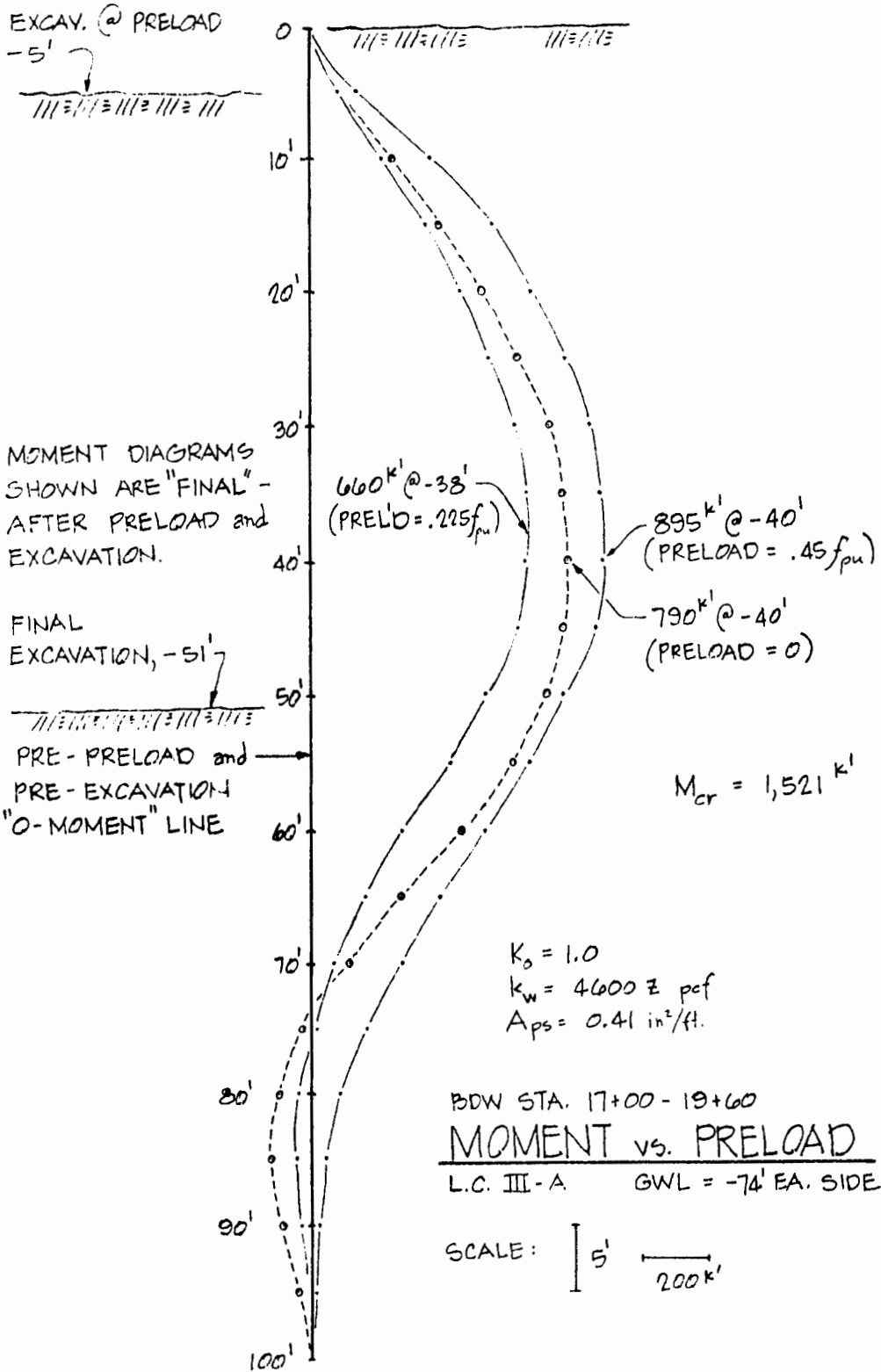


Figure 14. Moment vs. Preload.

section and tieback anchor stiffness are shown graphically on Fig. 15, along with the Best Estimate deflection curve for reference.

### In-Situ At-Rest Pressure

The in-situ at rest, or  $K_0$ , pressure is probably the most difficult parameter to reliably estimate, since it's value is hard to measure, and dependent upon geologic depositional conditions. Hence, investigation of variations in  $K_0$  are of importance, owing to it's uncertain nature.

$K_0$  could vary from as low as 0.4, a value corresponding to sand loosely deposited in horizontal layers without compaction, to about 1.5, as suggested by Smith (30). BMCOL7 runs were made with  $K_0$  of 0.5, 1.0, and 1.5. The resulting final (stage-2) deflection for these 3 configurations are plotted in Fig. 16. Note that the curve for  $K_0 = 1.0$  is also the reference Best Estimate value.

### Horizontal Wall Modulus

The horizontal wall modulus,  $K_w$ , was derived from pressuremeter results from DH 1751, using the method derived in the third section of this thesis. For this study, a value of 4600 pcf/ft was found. To study the influence of this value on deflection, a BMCOL7 run was made with One-half of the derived stiffness value. The

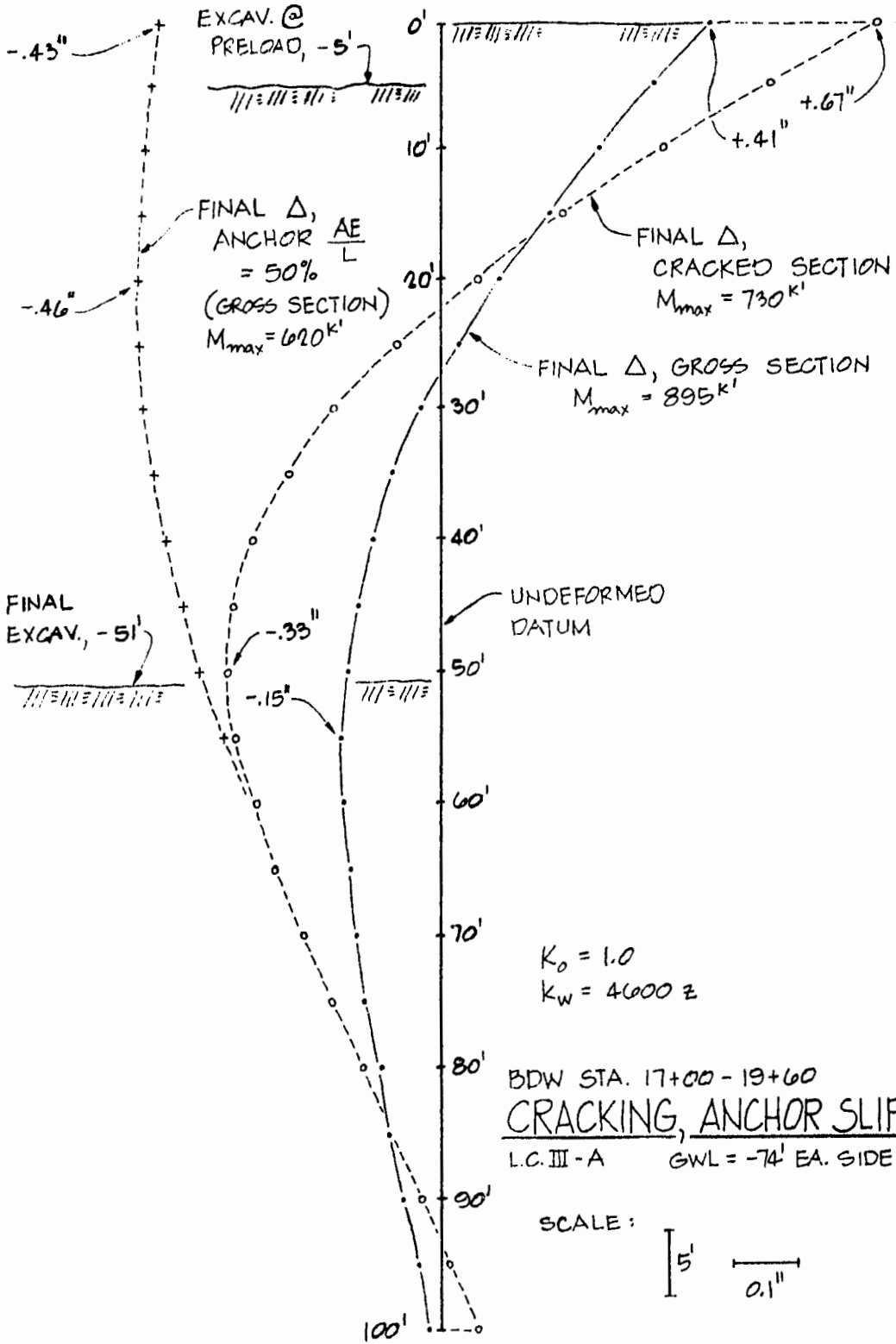


Figure 15. Cracking, anchor slip.

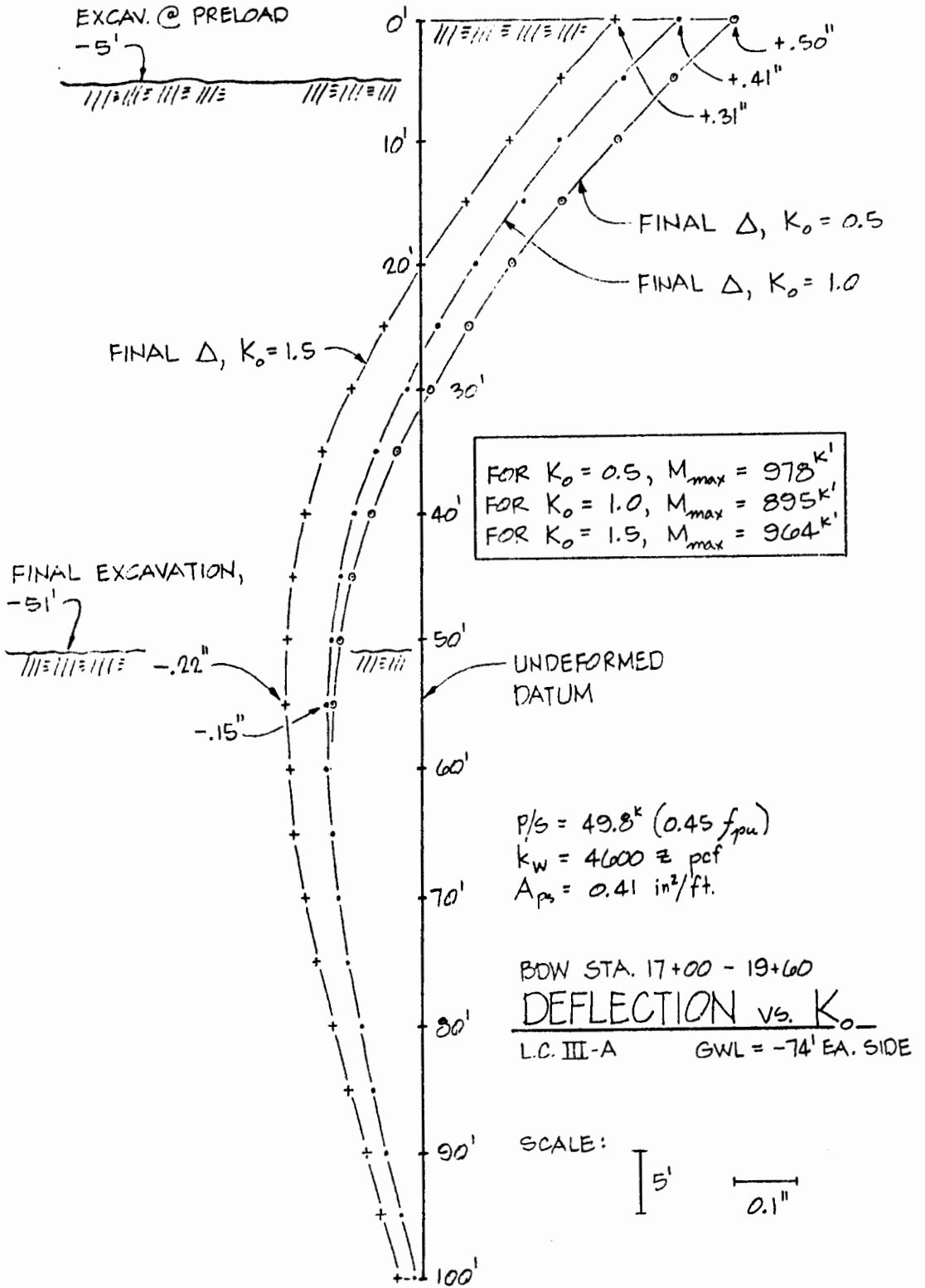


Figure 16. Deflection vs.  $K_o$ .

resulting final (stage-2) deflection is plotted, along with the Best Estimate deflection curve, in Fig. 17.

## SUMMARY OF RESULTS

A tabular summary of results of the Best Estimate configuration, showing final (stage-2) anchor force, maximum moment, and deflections at the top of the wall and near the dredge line, are shown in Table VII. A similar tabulation of the 7 "one-at-a-time" parametric variations follows in Table VIII.

### Effect of Parameters on Deflection

A graphical display of the effect of preload,  $K_0$ , and  $k_w$  on the deflection at the top of the wall, and at the dredge line, is shown in Fig. 18.

### Effect of Parameters on Moment and Anchor Force

A graphical display of the effect of preload,  $K_0$ , and  $k_w$  on top of wall and dredge line deflection is shown in Fig. 19.

### Effect of Parameters on Passive Factor of Safety

A graphical display of the effect of preload,  $K_0$ , and  $k_w$  on soil passive failure factor of safety is shown in Fig. 20.



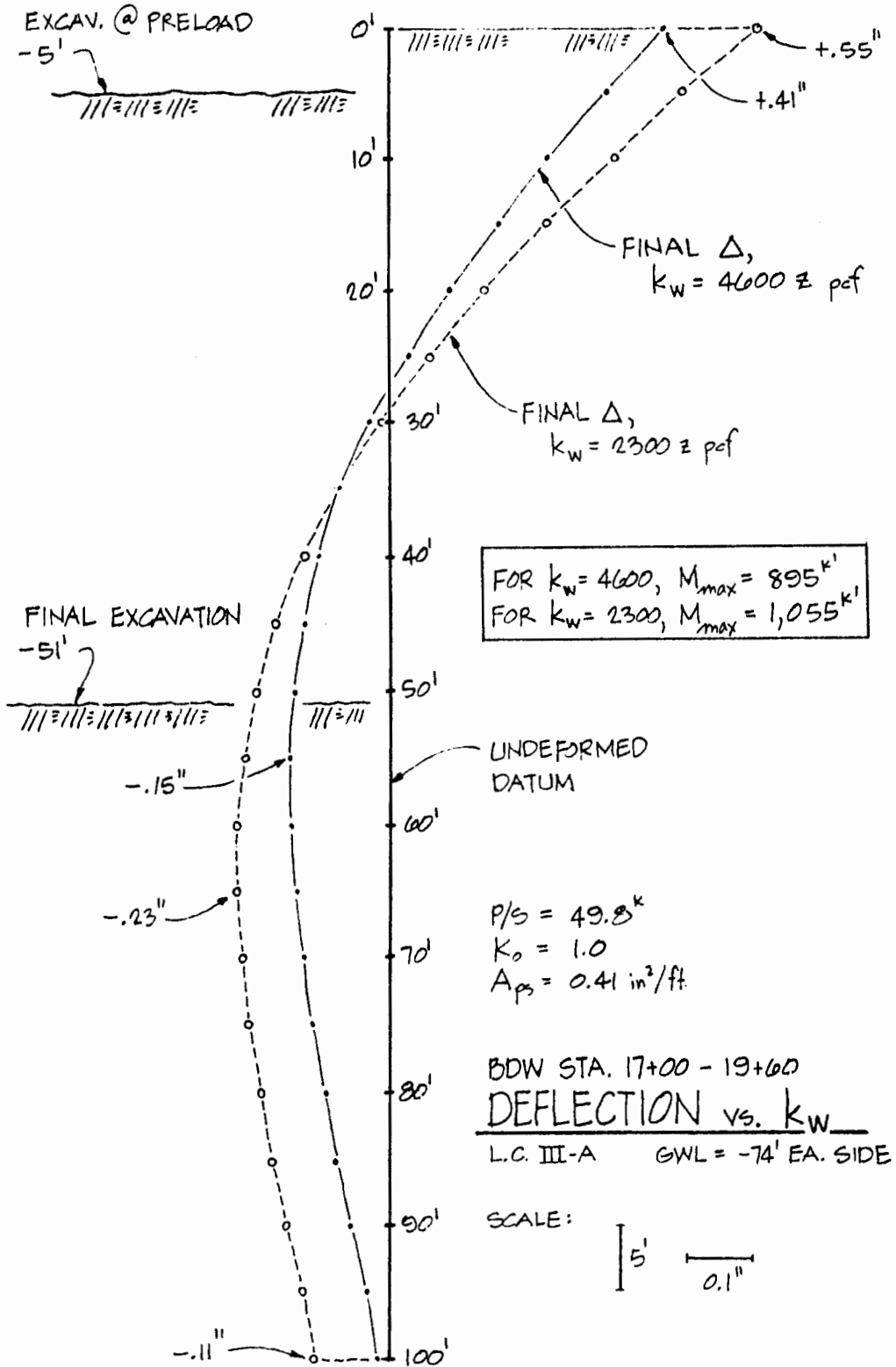


Figure 17. Deflection vs.  $k_w$ .

TABLE VII

FINAL (STAGE-2) ANCHOR FORCE, MAXIMUM MOMENT, AND DEFLECTION  
FOR THE BEST ESTIMATE PARAMETRIC CONFIGURATION

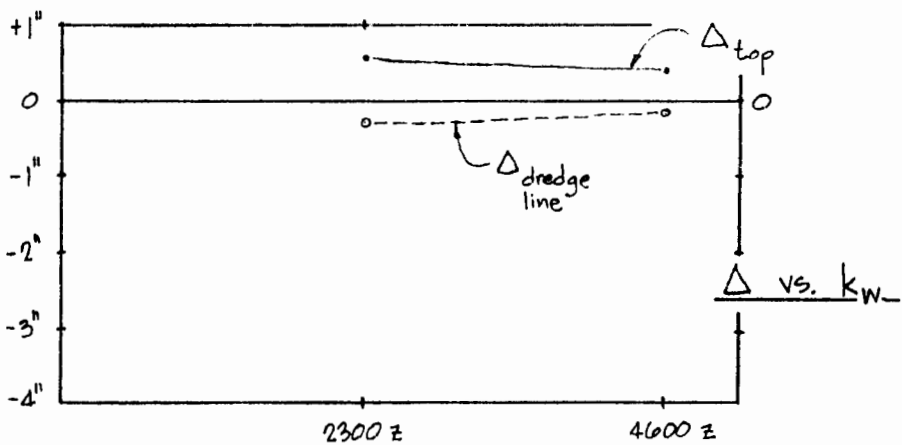
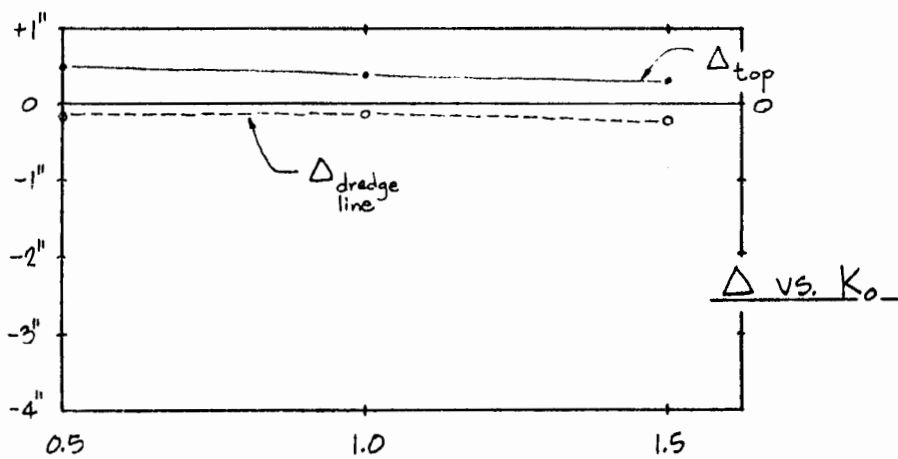
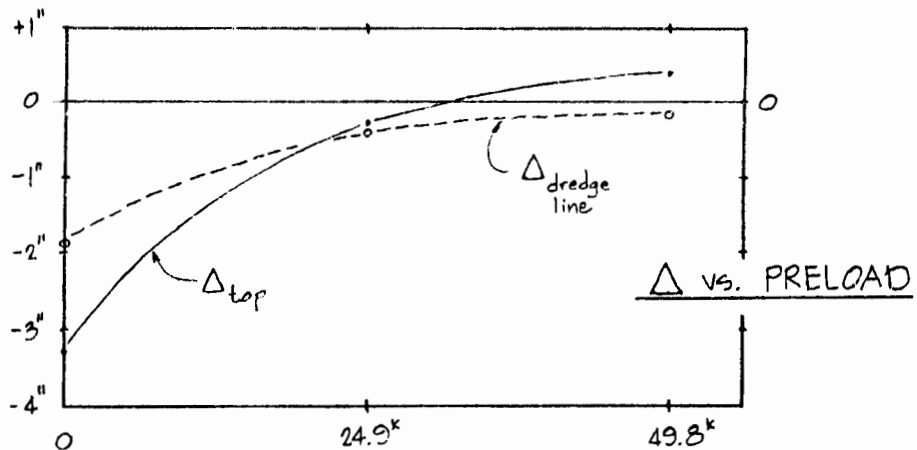
preload = 49.8,  $A_{ps} = .41$ ,  $EI = EI_g$ ,  $K_o = 1.0$ ,  $K_w = 4600z$

	ANCHOR FORCE	MAXIMUM MOMENT	Δ TOP OF WALL	Δ DREDGE LINE
BEST ESTIMATE	49.0 K	895 k'	+ .41"	- .15"

TABLE VIII

FINAL (STAGE-2) ANCHOR FORCE, MAXIMUM MOMENT, AND DEFLECTION  
FOR PARAMETRIC VARIATIONS FROM BEST ESTIMATE

	ANCHOR FORCE	MAXIMUM MOMENT	Δ TOP OF WALL	Δ DREDGE LINE
PRELOAD = 24.9	28.5	659	- .28	- .36
PRELOAD = 0	32.0	787	- 3.28	- 1.9
PRELOAD = 24.9; $A_{ps} = .205$	27.4	620	- .43	- .37
$EI = EI_{cr}$	46.7	730	+ .67	- .33
$K_o = 0.5$	48.8	978	+ .50	- .15
$K_o = 1.5$	49.2	964	+ .31	- .22
$K_w = 2300 z$	49.0	1,055	+ .55	- .23



**Figure 18.** Deflection vs. Preload,  $K_0$ , and  $k_w$ .

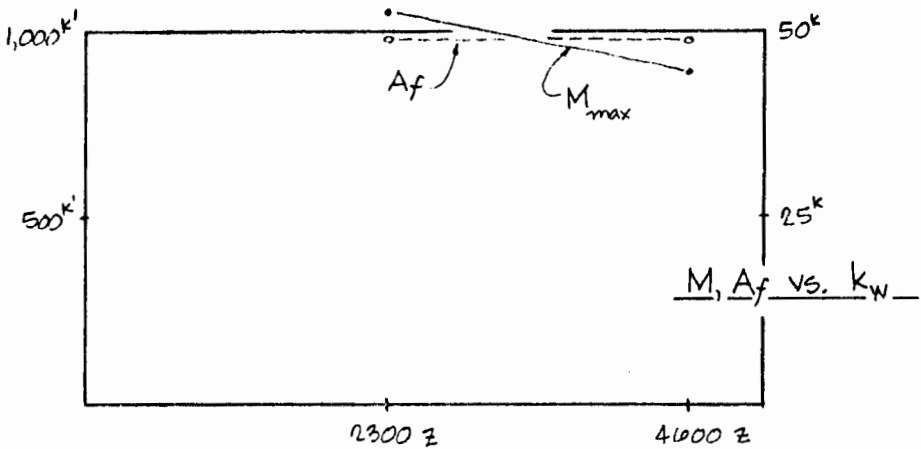
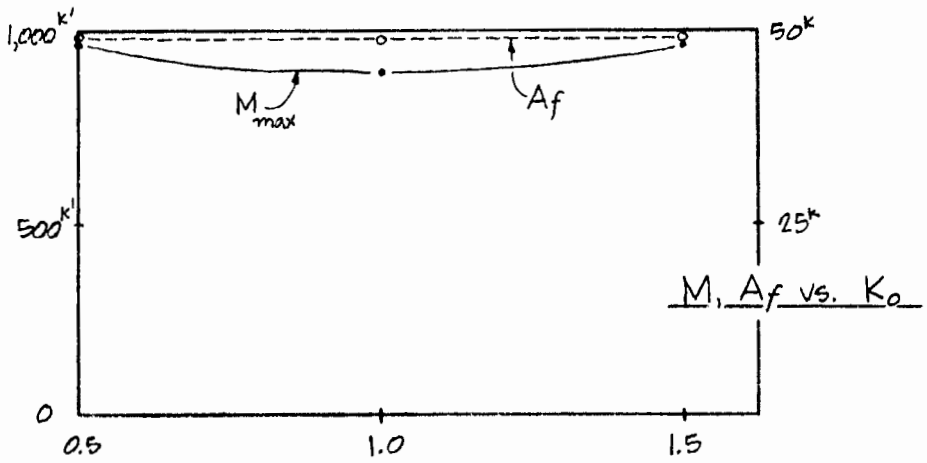
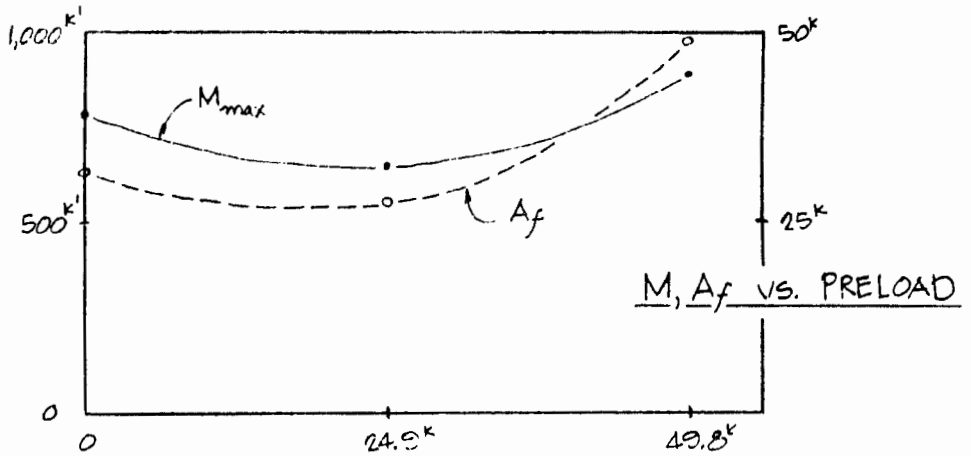
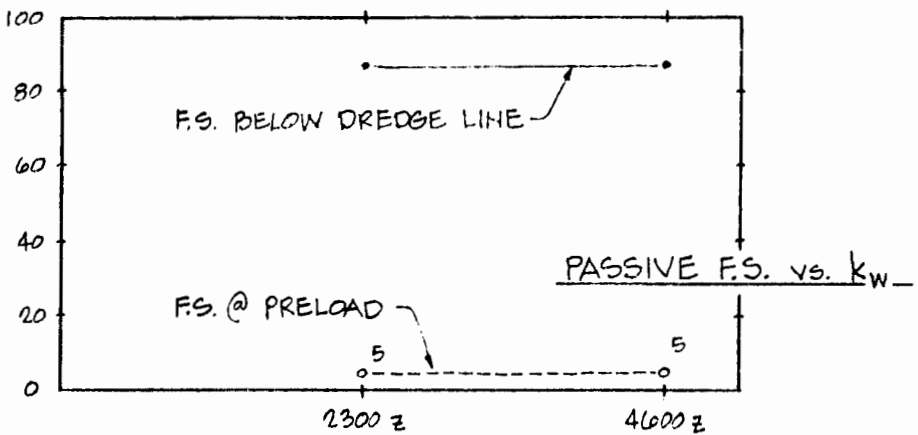
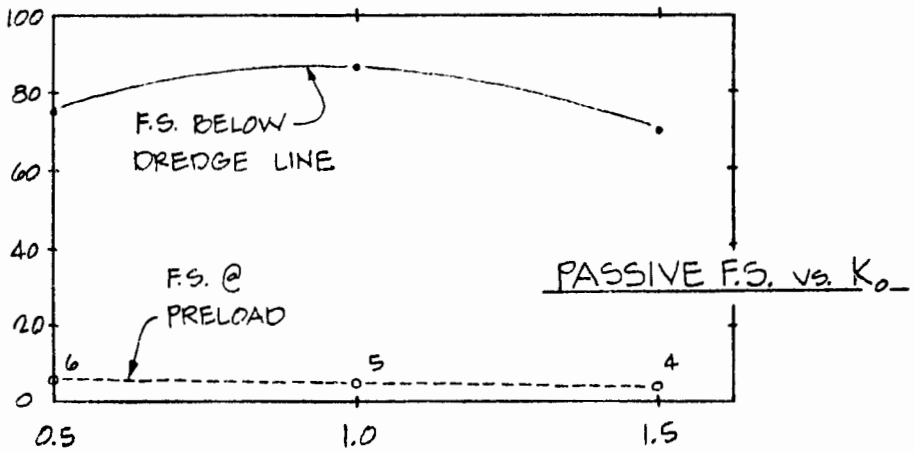
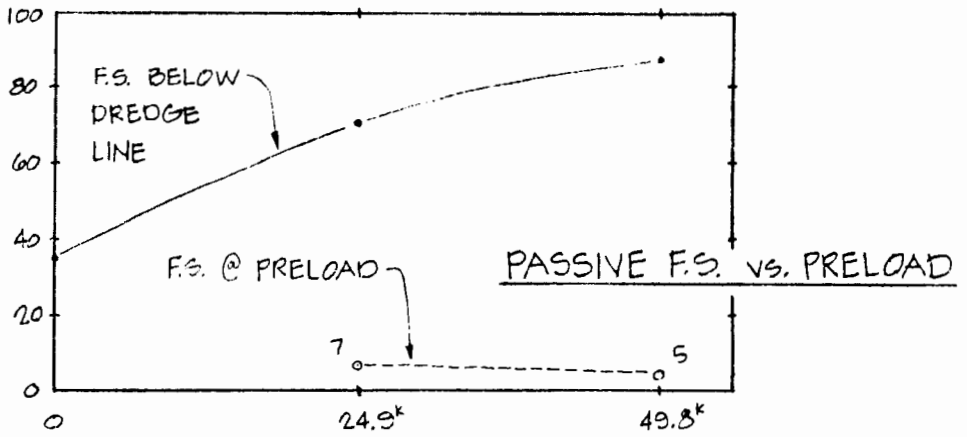


Figure 19. Moment and  $A_f$  vs. Preload,  $K_0$ , and  $k_w$ .



**Figure 20.** Passive F.S. vs. Preload,  $K_0$ , and  $K_w$ .

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### PARAMETRIC STUDY CONCLUSIONS

Based on the parametric study consisting of 8 separate analyses of the BDW, as summarized in the preceding section, several conclusions can be drawn. In itemizing these conclusions, it is helpful in visualizing the soil-structure response to separate the list into items that result from variations in the 1) Structural Conditions, from those that result from variations in the 2) Geotechnical Conditions.

#### Variations in the Structural Conditions

"Structural Conditions" are defined as variations in anchor load, and anchor and wall stiffness.

- 1) Preloading, to the full 49.8 kips/ft, reduces final dredge-line deflection from almost 2-inches to less than 1/4-inch outward.
- 2) Preloading reduces final top of wall deflection from more than 3-inches outward to about 1/2-inch inward.
- 3) Preloading increases final maximum bending moment by 15-percent.

- 4) Preloading increases final anchor load 50-percent over the 0-preload case.
- 5) The amount of preload obtained is much more significant than variations in the axial stiffness of the anchors.
- 6) The maximum moments obtained were on the order of  $1/2$  to  $2/3$  of the wall cracking moment.
- 7) If the wall section is cracked, the change in maximum moment is small, but deflections are roughly doubled.

#### Variations in the Geotechnical Conditions

These conditions are defined as those whose variations create changes in the wall W-Y curve generation.

- 1) Safety Factor against passive soil failure behind the anchor during preloading is on the order of 5.
- 2) Final safety factor against passive failure below dredge line in front of the wall is 40 or more.
- 3) Variations in  $K_0$ , the in-situ at-rest pressure coefficient, have a negligible effect on deflections, anchor load, bending moment, and passive F.S.
- 4) Variations in  $K_w$ , the horizontal modulus, have a negligible effect on deflections, passive F.S., and anchor load.
- 5) Halving  $K_w$  results in a 20-percent increase in bending moment.

## RECOMMENDED ANALYSIS PROCEDURE

The correct determination of retaining wall deflections, pressures, and bending moments is a soil-structure interaction problem. Currently, the most efficient solution is an application of the finite-difference method on the personal computer, using a non-linear code such as the BMCOL7-PC program (32). In utilizing BMCOL7, the designer must correctly address staged construction, anchor preload, wall cracking, and soil W-Y curve development.

Staged Construction for a Preloaded Anchor

The W-Y curve at any point on a retaining wall depends on the properties of the soil in contact with each side of the wall, as well as pre-existing vertical and horizontal stresses in the soil. Pre-existing vertical stresses depend upon soil overburden plus surcharge loads, and pre-existing horizontal stresses depend on the at-rest coefficient plus the effect of anchor preload from preceding runs.

When a tieback anchor is preloaded prior to wall excavation, the W-Y curves that act in response to the final excavation are different from those that act in response to the preload. Therefore at least 2 runs must be made on BMCOL7: one at preload, and a second at final excavation. An additional run would likewise be required



for every additional anchor down the vertical face of the wall.

The W-Y curves must be re-established at all locations for the second stage, including re-adjusting the displacement origin of the curves to account for the response at preload. Final deflections will consist of superimposing the result from the 2 runs.

It is normally not necessary to make additional runs, corresponding to multiple levels of excavation between preloaded anchors, provided that the soil pressures resulting from preload do not reach passive failure (i.e., the flat part of the W-Y curve). This is only likely to occur for weak soils, very high preloads, and/or very flexible walls.

The tieback anchor should be modeled as a concentrated load for the preload stage, and as a concentrated W-Y curve with the Y-origin displaced to correspond to the preload amount at the excavation stage.

#### Wall Cracking and Stiffness

The results of the present study indicate that wall cracking has a significant effect on final deflections. It is therefore recommended that wall cracking moment be calculated (normally it will be different for positive and negative moment), and compared with the resulting moments from each run. Where the cracking moment is approached or

exceeded, it will be necessary to make a re-run, entering the cracked (transformed area) section stiffness for the portion of the wall that is cracked. Since this may result in a change in the length of the wall where moments exceed  $M_{cr}$ , several iterations may be required for convergence, for each run.

### W-Y Curve Derivation

BMCOL7 requires that the soil load-deflection response be described down the height of the wall. The recommended procedure for establishing the W-Y curves is as follows:

- 1) Determine the insitu effective vertical stress on each side of the wall, from any convenient theory.
- 2) Using classical theory and Eqs. 5 & 6, determine the active and passive pressure coefficients,  $K_a$  &  $K_p$ .
- 3) Determine the active and passive limits on each side of the wall from Eqs. 3 and 4.
- 4) Determine the W-axis intercept as the difference between Eqs. 2 from each side of the wall.
- 5) From pressuremeter test results, determine the linear increase in the pressuremeter modulus with depth, i.e.,  $E_m/z$ .
- 6) Find the horizontal wall modulus,  $K_w$ , from the pressuremeter modulus and Eqs. 23 or 25, and Fig. 6.
- 7) Determine the displacement ( $y$  value) from  $y=0$  to the

active and passive limits, by solving Eq. 7 for  $y$ , taking  $W$  in Eq. 7 as the difference between the active or passive limit and the net at-rest ( $W$ -axis) intercept, as shown in Fig. 9.

#### RECOMMENDED AREAS FOR FURTHER STUDY

Based on the results of this study, the following areas warrant further investigation:

- 1) Expand the BMCOL7-PC program to incorporate staged construction and preloaded anchors by automatically updating the  $W$ - $y$  curves for succeeding stages and superposing the accumulated deflections from preceding stages.
- 2) Conduct Finite Element Method studies of the Permanent and Temporary Buttress Diaphragm Walls, using USACE's SOILSTRUCT program, to verify and refine the Finite Difference Method results and range of soil modulus values.
- 3) Conduct laboratory model studies to enhance the hyperbolic soil model input to SOILSTRUCT with pressuremeter test result data.
- 4) Make a pseudo 3-dimensional FEM study of the diaphragm walls, to identify important limitations of the Finite Difference Method analyses.
- 5) Research thoroughly the topic of large slurry wall

designs and case histories, emphasizing 3-D and field construction aspects and their effect on modeling with the Finite Element Method.

- 6) Study the existing ground horizontal stresses at the diaphragm wall site, and examine the impact on slope stability of the lock construction, using the FEADAM program (available at PSU).
- 7) Select appropriate soil/structure monitoring equipment to install at the Diaphragm Walls to monitor actual field deflections during and after construction.

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## NOTATION AND ABBREVIATIONS

$A_f$	Final (stage-2) Anchor force.
$A_{ps}$	Area of prestressed tieback anchors.
BE	Best estimate configuration.
BDW	Buttress Diaphragm Wall.
BRI	Bonney Rock Intrusive.
$c$	Cohesion.
D	Pressuremeter probe diameter.
$E_m$	Menard (pressuremeter) modulus.
$EI_{cr}$	Cracked bending stiffness of wall.
$EI_g$	Gross bending stiffness of wall.
EL	Elevation.
FDM	Finite difference method.
FEM	Finite Element method.
FS	Factor of safety.
$f'_c$	Concrete strength.
$f_{ps}$	Tieback anchor prestress level.
$f_{pu}$	Tieback anchor ultimate strength.
G	Shear modulus.
GWL	Groundwater level.
$H_w$	Height of wall.
LC	Loading condition.
$I_h$	Terzaghi's material coefficient for subgrade reaction.

$l_w$	Coefficient for walls from pressuremeter modulus.
$K_a$	Coefficient of active earth pressure.
$K_o$	Coefficient of insitu earth pressure at-rest.
$K_p$	Coefficient of passive earth pressure.
$K_h$	Terzaghi's horizontal modulus of subgrade reaction.
$K_w$	Horizontal modulus of subgrade reaction for walls.
$L$	Pressuremeter probe length; unbonded tieback length.
$M_{cr}$	Cracking moment.
$M_{max}$	Maximum moment.
$p$	Horizontal pressure.
PC	Personal computer.
PMT	Pressuremeter.
PSU	Portland State University.
$R$	PMT cavity radius.
$R_o$	Initial PMT cavity radius.
$R_w$	Equivalent gage distance over which $\epsilon_w$ produces $y$ .
RSD	Reworked slide debris.
SB	Slide block material.
SSI	Soil-structure interaction.
Tw	Tertiary Weigle Formation.
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
$V$	PMT cavity volume.
$V_m$	Average volume for a given PMT pressure change.
$V_o$	Initial PMT cavity volume.
$W$	Horizontal wall line-load.
$W_a$	Active soil line-load against wall.

$W_0$	Horizontal wall line-load in at-rest condition.
$W_p$	Passive soil line-load against wall.
$y$	Horizontal displacement.
$\alpha$	Angle from vertical of wall back face.
$\beta$	Angle above horizontal of sloping surcharge.
$\Delta$	Wall deflection.
$\delta$	Angle of wall friction.
$\epsilon_r$	Radial strain.
$\epsilon_w$	Strain in soil immediately behind wall.
$\epsilon_\theta$	Tangential strain.
$\gamma$	Soil unit weight.
$\nu$	Poisson's ratio.
$\phi$	Angle of internal friction.
$\sigma_r$	Radial stress.
$\sigma_v$	Vertical effective stress from all causes.
$x$	Effective width of wall.
$z$	Vertical depth.