

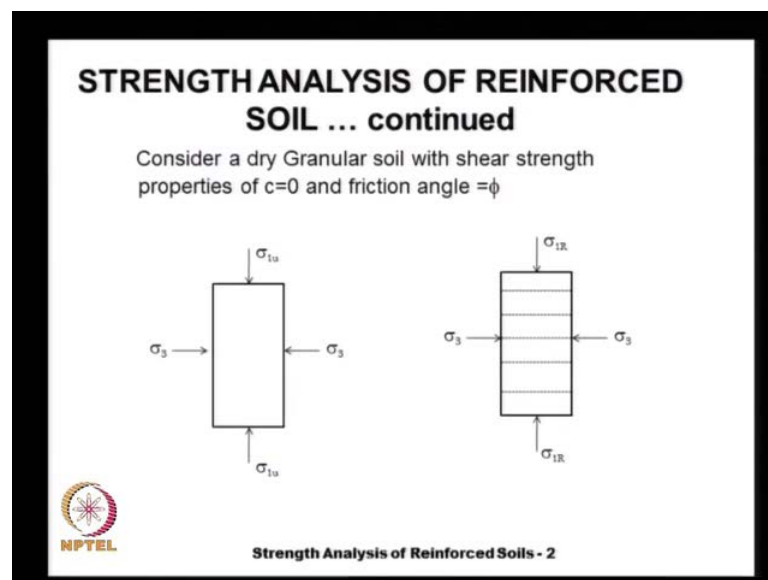
**Geosynthetics and Reinforced Soil Structures**  
**Prof. K. Rajagopal**  
**Department of Civil Engineering**  
**Indian Institute of Technology, Madras**

**Lecture - 5**  
**Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - II**

Hello students, let us continue the lecture from the previous lecture, where we discussed about the strength of the Reinforced soil and some experimental data on the strength of the reinforced soils. And we have seen that as the reinforcement layers are placed in soil, these the compressive strength increases, because of the interactions that take place between reinforcement and the soil.

And because of the placement of the reinforcement the soil is prevented from expanding laterally and because of that higher confinement stresses are generated in the soil. And because of that the vertical stress that we need to apply to fail a soil sample increases, and as we place more and more number of reinforcement layers, the strength of the soil has increased. And now in this lecture let us try to find out some theoretical equations that explain this observed phenomenon.

(Refer Slide Time: 01:18)

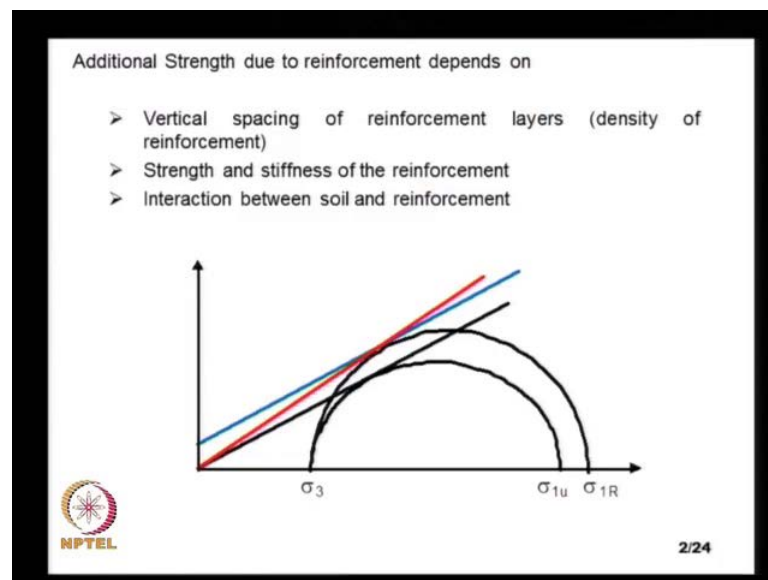


And for the purpose of analysis let us consider a dry granular soil and the reason why, we want to consider only dry granular soils is that, the actual construction, we prefer using dry granular soils, so that they are highly permeable. And then even if there is

some cohesion, because the fines content, we neglect them to so that our designs are on the conservative side. So, the shear stress properties that, we consider in all these analysis are  $c$  equal to 0, that is the cohesive strength is 0 and the friction angle is  $\phi$ .

And the on the left hand side, we have the a sample of unreinforced soil, that is confined with a confining pressure of  $\sigma_3$  and it let us assume that, the vertical stress at, which it fails is  $\sigma_{1u}$  and the right hand side, we have the same soil, but with some reinforcement layers in this case, it fails at  $\sigma_{1r}$ , which is more than  $\sigma_{1u}$ .

(Refer Slide Time: 02:30)



And as we have seen, in the previous class this additional strength that, we get because of the reinforcement layers depends on several factors, that is the vertical spacing between the reinforcement layers. The vertical spacing is very important, if the vertical spacing is very, very large then the rupture surface may develop in between the reinforcement layers and the soil may fail or if the reinforcement spacing is too small then they may not be able to have enough space.

So, that they can develop adequate bond strength between the reinforcement and the soil and the strength and the stiffness of the reinforcement itself, that is say if you use steel strips instead of plastic strips the strength and stiffness of steel is much higher than that of the plastic. So, because of that the inherent strength that, we get for the soil reinforcement composite could be much higher.

And then of course, the other factor that, determines the additional strength, because of the reinforcement is the interaction between the soil and the reinforcement, that is if there is a good bond between the reinforcement and the soil. Then it can develop a higher resistance force and contribute for the increase in the strength of the soil.


(Refer Slide Time: 04:02)

**Limiting stresses in Unreinforced Soil**

Ultimate pressures in unreinforced soil

$$\sigma_{1u} = K_p \sigma_3$$
$$\sigma_{3u} = K_a \sigma_1$$
$$K_a = \frac{1 - \sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi}$$
$$K_p = \frac{1 + \sin \phi}{1 - \sin \phi}$$

in which  $K_a$  and  $K_p$  are Rankine active and passive pressure coefficients respectively



Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2 3/24

And just to recap the ultimate stresses in the unreinforced soil are related like this  $\sigma_{1u}$ , that is the maximum compressive stress that, we can apply is equal to  $K_p$  times  $\sigma_3$  where,  $K_p$  is the rankine's passive at pressure constant. And that is related to friction angle  $\phi$  as  $K_p$  is  $1 + \sin \phi$  by  $1 - \sin \phi$  and  $\sigma_{3u}$  limiting stress  $\sigma_{3u}$  is  $K_a$  times  $\sigma_1$  where,  $K_a$  is called as the rankine active at pressure constant, that is equal to  $1 - \sin \phi$  by  $1 + \sin \phi$ .

(Refer Slide Time: 04:47)

**Forces Developed in Reinforcement Layer**

Reinforcement may fail in two modes

- \* Rupture
- \* Pullout

Let Tensile strength of the reinforcement be  $T_u$

Let width of reinforcement be "b"

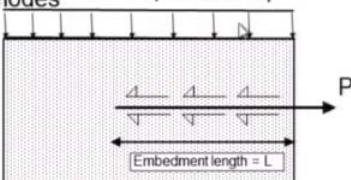
Shear resistance developed along the length of the reinforcement

$$R_p = 2 * \sigma_v * L * b * \tan \delta$$

If  $R_p < T_u$  - pullout failure occurs

If  $T_u < R_p$  - reinforcement will rupture

$\delta$  = interface friction angle between soil and reinforcement,



NPTEL

Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2

4/24

And before, we actually do the strength analysis let us consider, what are the forces that are developed in the reinforcement layer and how does it interact with the soil and how does it fail. See figure place reinforcement layer in the soil, it could fail in 2 different modes that is by rupture, that is as you go on applying tensile force at some point, it will just simply snap or break. And the other mode is by pull out see figure place some reinforcement layer in the soil and go on applying some load at some point it will just simply pull out, that happens when there is not enough bond strength. Either, because of lack of friction between the soil and the reinforcement surface or because of very low embedment length and the casing point is illustrated like this. Let us consider reinforcement of length L embedded in the soil and let us say that the width of the reinforcement layer is b.

And let us assume that the tensile strength of the reinforcement layers is  $T_u$  and the applied pressure is  $\sigma_v$  that is we are applying some pressure and then let us say that on the system, we go on applying some force. So, that the reinforcement layer is pulled out. And as we are pulling the reinforcement layer, the shear resistance forces, they develop along the length of the reinforcement and these resistance forces, they develop both on the top surface and the bottom surface as indicated here. And the pull out resistance  $R_p$  is 2 times, the 2 is because we have the resistance force developed both on the top surface and also on the bottom surface.

And  $R_p$  is 2 times  $\sigma_v$ , that is the vertical stress multiplied by  $L$ , that is the embedment length,  $b$  that is the width and this  $\tan \delta$  where,  $\delta$  is called as the interfacial friction angle between the soil and the reinforcement. And this depends on the interaction that takes place between the soil and the reinforcement that will depend on the surface characteristics of the reinforcement.

So, if the reinforcement is very smooth, the  $\delta$  could be small or if the reinforcement is rough or if it has good aperture openings, then there could be good interlocking between the reinforcement and the soil particles and because of that the  $\delta$  could be high. And now the failure can happen in 2 ways, that is by rupture or pull out, see if the of the pull out or the pull out capacity is less than the tensile strength.

The pull out will the pull out failure will govern, that is the failure will happen by pull out or if the tensile strength is less than pull out capacity then the reinforcement will rupture, that is in even before the pull out failure happens the tensile strength of the of the reinforcement layer is exceeded. So, it will just simply break and the fail, so these are the 2 predominant modes of failure when it comes to the interaction between the reinforcement and the soil.

(Refer Slide Time: 08:36)

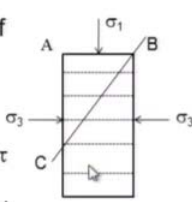
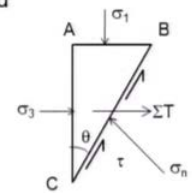
### Equilibrium analysis of soil wedge


Wedge is in equilibrium under the action of

- i. Confining pressure  $\sigma_3$  on face AC
- ii. Vertical pressure  $\sigma_1$  on face AB
- iii. Normal and tangential stresses  $\sigma_n$  and  $\tau$  on surface BC
- iv. Total reinforcement force  $\Sigma T$  developed in all layers cut by the plane BC

Let the length BC be equal to "b"

$AC = b \cos \theta$   
 $AB = b \sin \theta$



Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2

5/24

And now let us analyze the strength of the reinforced soil, let us consider a reinforcement soil specimen like this with certain number of reinforcement layers. And let us consider an arbitrary wedge  $b c$  just as how we consider wedge in the previous case

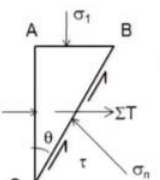
of unreinforced soil. And this the this triangular wedge A B C is in equilibrium under the actions of different forces that is  $\sigma_3$ , that is the confining pressure, that is acting on this face A C.

And vertical stress  $\sigma_1$ , that is acting on this face A B and the normal that is  $\sigma_n$  and tangential forces  $\tau$ , that are acting on this surface B C. And then this the then of course, the reinforcement force, that is  $\Sigma T$  is actually, the reinforcement forces that, we consider for this equilibrium analysis are only coming from those reinforcement layers, that are cut by this rupture surface B C. And the angle between the vertical and this rupture surface is  $\theta$ .

Is actually, please realize that the  $\theta$  that, we used earlier was with respect to the horizontal plane, that is the maximum sorry, the major principle plane, whereas here just for convenience, we are considering the  $\theta$  with respect to the minor principle plane. But, both results should be similar as long as the mathematical analysis is consistent and let us assume that, the length of this surface B C is  $b$ . And because of that the A C by resolving the  $b$  times cosine  $\theta$  and A B that is the length of this horizontal surface is  $b$  times sine  $\theta$ .

(Refer Slide Time: 10:50)

Considering the equilibrium,



$$\Sigma V = 0 \Rightarrow \sigma_1 b \sin \theta = \tau b \cos \theta + \sigma_n b \sin \theta \rightarrow (1)$$


$$\Sigma H = 0 \Rightarrow \sigma_3 b \cos \theta + \Sigma T + \tau b \sin \theta = \sigma_n b \cos \theta \rightarrow (2)$$

$\tau = \sigma_n \tan \phi$  because of soil to soil interaction on BC

Substituting  $\tau$  in Eqs. 1 & 2, we get

$$\sigma_1 \sin \theta = \sigma_n \cos \theta \tan \phi + \sigma_n \sin \theta \rightarrow (3)$$

$$\sigma_3 \cos \theta + \frac{\Sigma T}{b} + \sigma_n \sin \theta \tan \phi = \tau_n \cos \theta \rightarrow (4)$$

 **Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2** 6/24

And let us consider the equilibrium of the wedge and then determine the force equilibrium in both vertical direction, that is the net sum of all the forces. And the

vertical direction  $\sum V$  should be 0 and the net sum of all the forces in the horizontal direction should be 0.

So, this  $\sum V$  is 0 gives us that  $\sum 1 \times A B$  and times  $B$ , that is the width that, we consider is sorry, the width that, we consider is a unit width 1 and then the  $\sum 1$  times  $b \sin \theta$ . Because, this length is  $b \sin \theta$ , that is equal to  $\tau$  times that is the force, that is acting along this length times  $b \cos \theta$  to resolve into vertical direction. And then  $\sum n$ , that is the normal force multiplied by this length  $b \sin \theta$ , because that is the vertical component of this force. And because the  $\sum 3$  and then the reinforcement forces, they are acting in the horizontal direction, we do not consider any vertical component.

And this is 1 equilibrium equation and then  $\sum H$  that is the net sum of all the forces acting in the horizontal direction, that should also be 0. And so this  $\sum 3$  times  $a c$  that is  $b \cos \theta$  plus  $\sum t$ , that is the net reinforcement force plus  $\tau b \sin \theta$  that is the horizontal component of the shear forces, that is equal to that should be equal to  $\sum n$  times  $b \cos \theta$ , that is the horizontal component of this normal forces, that are acting on this rupture surface  $b c$ .

And the relation between this shear stress on the surface  $b c$  and  $\sum n$  is through the morculum relation, that is the  $\tau$  is  $c$  plus  $\sum n \tan \phi$ , but in this case as  $c$  is equal to 0, the  $\tau$  is equal to just simply  $\sum n \tan \phi$ , because it is interaction between the soil to soil interface. And substituting, this value of  $\tau$  in equations 1 and 2, we get  $\sum 1 \times \sin \theta$  is  $\sum n \cos \theta \tan \phi$  plus the  $\sum n \sin \theta$  and then  $\sum 3$  plus  $\sum t$  by  $b$  plus  $\sum n \sin \theta \tan \phi$  is equal to  $\tau n \cos \theta$ .

(Refer Slide Time: 14:00)


From Eq. 3

$$\sigma_n = \frac{\sigma_1 \sin \theta}{\cos \theta \frac{\sin \phi}{\cos \phi} + \sin \theta} = \frac{\sigma_1 \sin \theta \cos \phi}{\cos \theta \sin \phi + \cos \phi \sin \theta}$$

$$= \frac{\sigma_1 \sin \theta \cos \phi}{\sin(\theta + \phi)} \quad \rightarrow (5)$$

Substituting this in Eq.4

$$\sigma_3 \cos \theta + \frac{\sum T}{b} + \frac{\sigma_1 \sin^2 \theta \tan \phi \cos \theta}{\sin(\theta + \phi)}$$

$$= \frac{\sigma_1 \sin \theta \cos \theta \cos \phi}{\sin(\theta + \phi)}$$


Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2

7/24

And then by further simplifying the normal stress on the on this failure plane can be obtained as sigma 1 sine theta divided by cosine theta sine phi by cosine phi plus sine theta. And so by further simplifying, we can get the sigma n as sigma 1 sine theta cosine phi by sine theta plus phi. And if you substitute this sigma n in equation 4, that is this equation, we get a the relation between this sigma 3 and sigma 1 like this, sigma 3 cosine theta plus sigma t, that is the net sum of the reinforcement forces by b plus sigma 1 sine square theta tan phi cosine theta divided by sine of theta plus phi, that is equal sigma 1 sine theta cosine theta cosine phi by sine theta plus phi.

(Refer Slide Time: 15:06)

$$\sigma_3 \cos \theta + \frac{\sum T}{b} + \sigma_1 \frac{\sin^2 \theta \tan \phi \cos \theta}{\sin(\theta + \phi)} = \sigma_1 \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta \cos \phi}{\sin(\theta + \phi)}$$


$$\Rightarrow \sigma_3 \cos \theta + \frac{\sum T}{b} = \sigma_1 \left[ \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta \cos \phi - \sin^2 \theta \sin \phi}{\sin(\theta + \phi)} \right]$$

$$= \sigma_1 \frac{\sin \theta \cos(\theta + \phi)}{\sin(\theta + \phi)} = \sigma_1 \frac{\sin \theta}{\tan(\theta + \phi)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_1 = \sigma_3 \frac{\tan(\theta + \phi)}{\tan \theta} + \frac{\sum T}{b} \frac{\tan(\theta + \phi)}{\sin \theta} \quad \rightarrow (6)$$

**What is  $\Sigma T$ ?**

If  $S_v$  is the vertical spacing,  
 No of reinforcement layers cut by the wedge =  $b \cos \theta / S_v$



Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2

8/24



And we can simplify it like this and this the entire equation and we can simplify that and write the equation like this. And finally, we get  $\sigma_1$  as  $\sigma_3 \tan \theta + \phi$  by  $\tan \theta + \sigma_1$  by  $b \tan \theta + \phi$  by  $\sin \theta$ . And what is this reinforcement force, that is the  $\sigma_1$  of  $t$ .

And is actually, that depends on several factors and let us try to estimate the force, that is developed in the reinforcement layers and let us say that the vertical spacing between the different reinforcement layers is  $S_v$ . And so the number of reinforcement layers cut by the wedge becomes  $b \cos \theta$  that is the length of this wedge a  $c$  is just simply  $b$  times  $\cos \theta$  and that  $b \cos \theta$  divided by the vertical spacing  $S_v$  gives us the number of reinforcement layers.

(Refer Slide Time: 16:22)


If  $T_u$  is the tensile strength of a single reinforcement layer

$$\sum T = T_u \frac{b \cos \theta}{S_v} \text{ (rupture capacity)} \rightarrow (7)$$

If pullout is the failure mode, the net tensile force generated at the verge of failure is,

$$\sum T = 2 \sigma_1 \mu b_r \frac{b \cos \theta}{S_v} \rightarrow (8)$$

$\mu = \text{friction factor} = \tan \delta$



Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2 9/24

And once, we have the number of reinforcement layers, we can calculate the tensile contribution of the reinforcement layers separately, if the failure is by rupture or the failure is by pull out. And if the failure is by rupture and if  $T_u$  is the tensile strength of a single reinforcement layer the  $\sigma_1$  is  $T_u$  times the number of reinforcement layers, that are cut by the wedge that is  $b \cos \theta$ , that is the vertical height divided by  $S_v$ , that is the vertical spacing between different reinforcement layers.

And if pull out is the failure mode, the net tensile force generated at just at the wedge of failure  $\sigma_1$  is 2 times, because we have the shear force, the shear resistance developed both at the upper surface and also the bottom surface. That is 2 times  $\sigma_1$ ,


that is the vertical stress  $\sigma_3$  that is the friction factor  $b r$  is the width of the reinforcement layer and  $b \cos \theta$  by  $S_v$ , that is the number of reinforcement layers. And here the  $\mu$  is the friction factor, that is equal to  $\tan \delta$  and we will see how to determine this friction factor later on through large scale pull out stress that, we perform on the reinforce systems.

(Refer Slide Time: 17:57)

**CASE-I Rupture Failure**

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 \frac{\tan(\theta + \phi)}{\tan \theta} + \frac{\sum T \tan(\theta + \phi)}{b \sin \theta} =$$

$$\sigma_3 \frac{\tan(\theta + \phi)}{\tan \theta} + T_u \frac{b \cos \theta \tan(\theta + \phi)}{b S_v \sin \theta}$$

$$\sigma_1 = \left( \sigma_3 + \frac{T_u}{S_v} \right) \frac{\tan(\theta + \phi)}{\tan \theta} \rightarrow (9)$$


Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2 10/24

And let us consider 2 separate cases, the case 1 for rupture failure, wherein our  $\sigma_1$  is  $\sigma_3 \tan \theta + \phi$  by  $\tan \theta$  plus  $\sigma_3 t$ , that is the net sum of the reinforcement forces by  $b \tan \theta + \phi$  by  $\sin \theta$ . And that is equal to  $\sigma_3 \tan \theta + \phi$  by  $\tan \theta$  plus  $T_u b \cos \theta$  the  $T_u$  is as, we discussed earlier the strength of 1 single reinforcement layer. And the number of reinforcement layers is  $b \cos \theta$  by  $S_v$  divided by  $b$ , that is coming from here from the denominator times  $\tan \theta + \phi$  by  $\sin \theta$ . So, the  $\sigma_1$  can be written as  $\sigma_3 + T_u$  by  $S_v \tan \theta + \phi$  by  $\tan \theta$ , that is our limiting equation. So, if there is a confining pressure of  $\sigma_3$  and reinforcement strength of  $T_u$  spaced at vertical spacing  $S_v$ , we can determine the  $\sigma_1$  like this.

(Refer Slide Time: 19:16)

What is the limiting  $\sigma_1$  at which failure happens, as  $\theta$  is the arbitrary variable


$$\frac{\partial \sigma_1}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left[ \frac{\tan(\theta + \phi)}{\tan \theta} \right] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \left( \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{\phi}{2} \right) \quad \rightarrow (10)$$

which is the familiar quantity from Rankine's theory

Substituting this in the above equation

$$\sigma_1 = \left( \sigma_3 + \frac{T_U}{S_V} \right) \tan^2 \left( 45 + \frac{\phi}{2} \right)$$

$$\sigma_{1z} = \left( \sigma_3 + \frac{T_U}{S_V} \right) K_p \quad \rightarrow (10)$$


Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2 11/24

And because our phi sorry, our theta is an arbitrary angle, that we have taken for different thetas, we may get different sigma 1 and how do we know at, which exactly at, which sigma 1 the failure happens and we can determine that by differentiating, that equation with respect to theta and setting it to 0. So, here delta sigma 1 by tau sigma 1 by tau theta is tau by tau theta of tan theta plus phi by tan theta and by setting that to 0, we get theta is phi by 4 minus phi by 2, in the earlier case, we have got it as pi by 4 plus phi by 2. But, that is with respect to horizontal plane, that is major principle plane whereas, here this is with respect to minor principle plane, that is the vertical axis.

So, in fact, the result now that, we have pi by 4 plus phi by 2, if we add it to the earlier equation of pi by 4 plus phi by 2, we get pi by 2, that is the angle between the major principle plane and the minor principle plane, that is 90 degrees. So, here once again our theta is the familiar quantity that, we can get from Rankine's failure theory as we discussed in the earlier lecture.

So, our theta is pi by 4 minus phi by 2 and if we substitute this, in the above equation that is sigma 1 is sigma 3 plus t by S v times tan theta plus phi by tan theta. We can, we get a relation that is sigma 1 is sigma 3 plus T u by S v tan square phi 45 plus phi by 2. And this tan square plus 45 by 2 is nothing but K p that K p is the Rankine's passive at pressure constant. So, this sigma 1 reinforced soil is sigma 3 plus T u by S v times K p.

(Refer Slide Time: 21:34)

For unreinforced soil, there is no contribution from the reinforcement

$$\therefore \sigma_{1U} = \sigma_3 K_p$$

$$\sigma_{1R} = \sigma_3 K_p + 2c\sqrt{K_p} \rightarrow (11)$$

$$= \left( \sigma_3 + \frac{T_U}{S_V} \right) K_p \rightarrow (12)$$

By equating the two equations, we get

$$C = \text{apparent cohesion} = \frac{T_U}{2S_V} \sqrt{K_p} \rightarrow (13)$$

NPTEL  
Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2  
12/24

And if we have an unreinforced soil, there is no contribution from the reinforcement or we can say  $T_u$  as 0 and in that case, the  $\sigma_{1U}$  is just simply  $\sigma_3$  times  $K_p$ , which is the same as what we got earlier and if there is a contribution from the reinforcement this is that  $\sigma_{1R}$  is  $\sigma_3$  plus  $T_u$  by  $S_v$  times  $K_p$ . And we can also write it, in terms of this  $\sigma_3$  and apparent cohesion  $C$  like this  $\sigma_3 K_p$  plus  $2C$  square root  $K_p$ . And from the earlier theory, we can also write that is equal to  $\sigma_3$  plus  $T_u$  by  $S_v$  times  $K_p$  and by equating, these 2, we can get an equation for the apparent cohesion  $t$  as  $2C$  by sorry, the  $C$  is  $t$  by  $2S_v$  times square root  $K_p$  and this is the equation to determine the apparent cohesion  $C$ .

(Refer Slide Time: 22:54)

**Case-2 Sliding Failure**

By substituting for  $\Sigma T$  from Eq. (8) in Eq. (6)


$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 \frac{\tan(\theta + \phi)}{\tan \theta} + \frac{2\sigma_1 b_r \mu \cos \theta \tan(\theta + \phi)}{S_v \sin \theta} \rightarrow (14)$$

or

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 \frac{\tan(\theta + \phi) / \tan \theta}{1 - \frac{2b_r \mu \tan(\theta + \phi)}{S_v \tan \theta}}$$

For finding the limiting  $\sigma_1$  when failure occurs  $\frac{\partial \sigma_1}{\partial \theta} = 0$

Once again, we get  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{\phi}{2}$



Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2

13/24

And now, let us consider the other failure mode that is by pull out. The pull out failure happens when the pull out capacity  $r_p$  is less than the tensile strength and by substituting  $\sigma_3$  from equation 8, that is the  $\sigma_t$  in terms of the  $\sigma_1$ . The width of the reinforcement and then the friction factor  $\mu$  and so on. This  $\sigma_1$  is equal to  $\sigma_3$  plus  $\tan \theta + \phi$  by  $\tan \theta$  plus  $2 \sigma_1 b_r$ , that is the width of the reinforcement  $\mu$  is the friction factor, times cosine  $\theta$  divided by  $S_v$ , that is the vertical spacing between the reinforcement layers.


And multiplied by  $\tan \theta + \phi$  by sine  $\theta$  or we can simplify this equation and write sine  $\sigma_1$  as  $\sigma_3$  times  $\tan \theta + \phi$  by  $\tan \theta$ , this whole divided by  $1 - \frac{2 b_r \mu \tan \theta + \phi}{S_v \tan \theta}$ . And for finding the limiting  $\sigma_1$ , when the failure happens, we can determine  $\frac{d\sigma_1}{d\theta}$  and set it to 0 and once again, we get the familiar quantity that the rupture plane is equal to  $\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{\phi}{2}$ , that is the rupture plane is at an angle of  $45 - \frac{\phi}{2}$  with respect to minor principle plane.

(Refer Slide Time: 24:39)

$$\sigma_{1R} = \frac{\sigma_3 K_p}{1 - \frac{2b_r f^*}{S_v} K_p} = \sigma_3 \bar{K}_p$$

$$\bar{K}_p = \frac{K_p}{1 - \frac{2b_r f^*}{S_v} K_p} = \frac{1 + \sin \phi_r}{1 - \sin \phi_r} = \tan^2 \left( 45 + \frac{\phi_r}{2} \right)$$

$$\bar{K}_p > K_p$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi_R > \phi$$


Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2

14/24

And if we substitute this in the previous equation, we get  $\sigma_{1R}$  as  $\sigma_3 K_p$  by 1 minus  $2 b_r f^*$  that is  $f^*$  is nothing but the friction factor divided by  $S_v$  times  $K_p$  that is I am combining this entire quantity. And write it as  $\bar{K}_p$ , that is the modified passive at pressure coefficient wherein  $\bar{K}_p$  is equal to  $K_p$  by 1 minus  $2 b_r$  by  $S_v f^*$  times  $K_p$ . And let us write it in a very simple form in terms of  $\phi_r$ , that is the friction angle of the reinforce soil as  $1 + \sin \phi_r$  by  $1 - \sin \phi_r$ , that is equal to  $\tan^2 45 + \phi_r$  by 2.

And as long as our reinforcement does develop some pull out resistance, that is through this quantity  $2 b_r f^*$  by  $S_v$  times  $K_p$  our  $\bar{K}_p$  will be greater than  $\phi$  and  $\phi_R$ , that is the reinforcement, sorry the friction angle of the reinforce soil will be greater than the friction angle of the unreinforced soil.

(Refer Slide Time: 26:12)

We can say that the friction angle of reinforced sand will be more than that of unreinforced sand when failure mode is by pullout or frictional failure.


Frictional failure occurs when

$$2\sigma_1 b_r f^* \frac{b \cos \theta}{S_v} < T_U \frac{b \cos \theta}{S_v}$$

$$\frac{2\sigma_3 K_p b_r \mu}{1 - \frac{2b_r f^*}{S_v} K_p} < T_U$$

$$\sigma_3 < \frac{T_U \left[ 1 - \frac{2b_r \mu}{S_v} K_p \right]}{2b_r \mu K_p}$$

- At low confining pressures, pullout failure happens
- At high confining pressures, rupture failure happens



Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2 15/24

So, actually we can say that the friction angle of the reinforced sand will be more than that of the unreinforced sand when the failure mode is by pull out or frictional failure. Thus actually, we can see that the denominator here is less than 1 and sorry, the denominator here is less than 1, so because of that the  $K_p$  is always  $K_p$  bar is always greater than  $K_p$ . And so our friction angle  $\phi_r$  is always greater than friction angle  $\phi$ .

So, our  $\sigma_3$  is actually, we can determine the critical confining pressure when the failure is by pull out or when the pressure is by rupture, that is we can equate, the pull out capacity to the tensile strength capacity like this. The  $2\sigma_1 b_r f^* \frac{b \cos \theta}{S_v}$  is less than  $T_U \frac{b \cos \theta}{S_v}$ , that is the on the left hand side, we have the pull out capacity, because of the interaction between the soil and the reinforcement layer.

And the right hand side, we have the total reinforcement strength, that is the  $T_U$  the strength of 1 single layer of reinforcement multiplied by the number of reinforcement layers, that is  $b \cos \theta$  by  $S_v$ . And so by simplifying, we can write that the  $2\sigma_3 K_p b_r$ , that is the  $\sigma_1$  is related to  $\sigma_3$  as like this at the limiting state  $b_r$  times  $\mu$  is actually.  $\mu$  is nothing but the  $f^*$ , that is the that is the friction factor divided by  $1 - \frac{2b_r f^*}{S_v} K_p$ , that is less than  $T_U$  or we can actually, write  $\sigma_3$  as  $T_U \frac{1 - \frac{2b_r \mu}{S_v} K_p}{2b_r \mu K_p}$ , that whole thing divided by  $2b_r \mu K_p$ .

So, at very low confining pressures, we can say that, the pull out failure is governing that is the pull out failure is the failure pattern and at very high confining pressures the rupture failure governs, that is at very high confining pressures the frictional force, that is developed between the soil and the reinforcement is so high that the pull out capacity will be much higher than the reinforcement capacity. And because of that the reinforcement strength is less than the pull out capacity and there the failure is governed by the by the rupture.

(Refer Slide Time: 29:31)

**Numerical Examples**


**Case – 1 Rupture of Reinforcement** (low strength reinforcement at very high confining pressure)

$$\sigma_{1r} = \left( \sigma_3 + \frac{T_U}{S_V} \right) K_p \quad \bar{C} = \frac{T_U}{2S_V} \sqrt{K_p}$$

Say  $T_U = 30 \text{ kN/m}; S_V = 0.5 \text{ m}; \phi = 30^\circ$

$$K_p = \frac{1 + \sin \phi}{1 - \sin \phi} = 3$$

$$\bar{C} = \frac{30}{2 \times 0.5} \times \sqrt{3} = 51.96 \text{ kPa}$$



Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2

16/24

Well let us look at some small numerical example, we have seen that, the  $\sigma_{1r}$  is equal to  $\sigma_3$  plus  $T_u$  by  $S_v$  times  $K_p$ , that is equal to  $\bar{C}$ , we have seen that the apparent cohesion  $\bar{C}$  is  $T_u$  by  $2 S_v$  times square root  $K_p$ . And let us substitute some numbers the  $T_u$ , let us say that the tensile strength is 30 kilo Newtons per meter and the vertical spacing is half a meter 0.5 meters. And let us say that the friction angle  $\phi$  is 30 degrees and for this case the  $K_p$  is  $1 + \sin \phi$  by  $1 - \sin \phi$ , that is 3 and our  $\bar{C}$ , that is apparent cohesion is 30, that is the tensile strength and divided by 2 times 0.5, that is the 2 times the vertical spacing  $S_v$  multiplied by square root of 3 that comes to nearly 52 kPa a 52 kilo pascals.



(Refer Slide Time: 30:36)


$c \propto T_u$   
 $\propto 1/S_v$   
 $\propto \text{Friction angle}$   
 Highly frictional soils to be used in reinforced soil

$\bar{c} = \frac{T_u}{2S_v} \sqrt{K_p}$

**Case – 2 Pullout failure** (At low confining pressures, or for very strong reinforcement we have pullout failure)

$$\sigma_{1r} = \left[ \frac{K_p}{1 - \frac{2b_r \mu}{S_v} K_p} \right] \sigma_3$$

$$\bar{K}_p = \frac{K_p}{1 - \frac{2b_r \mu}{S_v} K_p} = \frac{1 + \sin \phi_r}{1 - \sin \phi_r} = \tan^2 \left( 45 + \frac{\phi_r}{2} \right)$$


 Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2 17/24

That is 5 tones per meter square and here actually from this equation  $\bar{c}$  is  $T_u$  by  $2 S_v$  square root  $K_p$ , we see that the apparent cohesion is directly proportional to tensile strength of the reinforcement or inversely proportional to the vertical spacing between the reinforcement layers or directly proportional to the friction angle. Because, the  $K_p$  is in the numerator and because of this reason, we prefer using highly frictional soils. So, that we get a higher influence of the reinforcement.

Then let us look at the other case of failure, that is the pull out failure at very low confining pressures or for very, very strong reinforcement layers, we will have pull out failure. The relation between the  $\sigma_{1r}$  and  $\sigma_3$  when the failure is by pull out is through this equation  $\sigma_{1r}$  is  $K_p$  by  $1 - \frac{2 b_r \mu}{S_v} K_p$  times  $\sigma_3$ . And we can actually, write this whole thing as  $\bar{K}_p$  as  $K_p$  by  $1 - \frac{2 b_r \mu}{S_v} K_p$ , that is  $\frac{1 + \sin \phi_r}{1 - \sin \phi_r}$  or that is equal to  $\tan^2 45 + \phi_r$  by 2.


(Refer Slide Time: 32:14)

Say  $K_p = 3$ ,  $\phi = 30^\circ$ ,  $S_v = 0.5$  m,  $b_r = 50$  mm = 0.05 m

say,  $\mu = 0.60$   $\bar{K}_p = \frac{3}{1 - \frac{2 \times 0.05 \times 0.6}{0.5} \times 3} = 4.69 \Rightarrow \phi_R = 40.4^\circ$

Say,  $\mu = 0.70$   $\bar{K}_p = \frac{3}{1 - \frac{2 \times 0.05 \times 0.7}{0.5} \times 3} = 5.17 \Rightarrow \phi_R = 42.5^\circ$

With higher interfacial friction, benefit of the reinforcement layers is higher.

 NPTEL

Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2

18/24

And now let us, substitute some typical numbers, let us say that our friction angle is 30 degrees and for that  $k_p$  is 3 and vertical spacing, once again let us assume, that it is at 500 millimeters, that is 0.5 meters. And the  $b_r$ , that is the width of the reinforcement layer that is 50 mm, that is equal to 0.05. And now, let us work out for 2 different friction factors, one for a friction factor of 0.6 where,  $K_p$  bar is 3 divided by that is the  $K_p$  by 1 minus 2 times  $b_r$ , that is 0.05 times, the friction factor 0.6 divided by vertical spacing 0.5 multiplied by  $K_p$ , that is equal to 4.69. And then by taking the inverse of this, we get the  $\phi$  for the reinforced soil is 40.4 degrees. And now let us assume that the friction factor between the soil and the reinforcement is slightly higher at 0.7 and if you do the calculation for  $K_p$  bar, it comes out as 5.17 as opposed to only 4.69 in the previous case.

So, in this case the friction angle of the reinforced soil comes out as 42.5. So, from this simple example, we see that as the interfacial friction angle between the soil and the reinforcement increases, we get higher benefit of the reinforcement layers. So, this is the effect of better interaction between the reinforcement and the soil.

(Refer Slide Time: 34:13)


**Critical confining pressure**

$$\sigma_{3c} = \frac{T_U \left[ 1 - \frac{2 b_r \mu}{S_V} K_p \right]}{2 b_r \mu K_p}$$

Say,  $T_U = 30 \text{ kN/m}$   $K_p = 3$ ,  $\phi = 30^\circ$   $S_V = 0.5 \text{ m}$   
 $b_r = 0.05 \text{ m}$   $\mu = 0.6$

$$\sigma_{3c} = \frac{30 \times \left[ 1 - \frac{2 \times 0.05 \times 0.6}{0.5} \times 3 \right]}{2 \times 0.05 \times 0.6 \times 3}$$

$$\sigma_{3c} = 106.7 \text{ kPa}$$

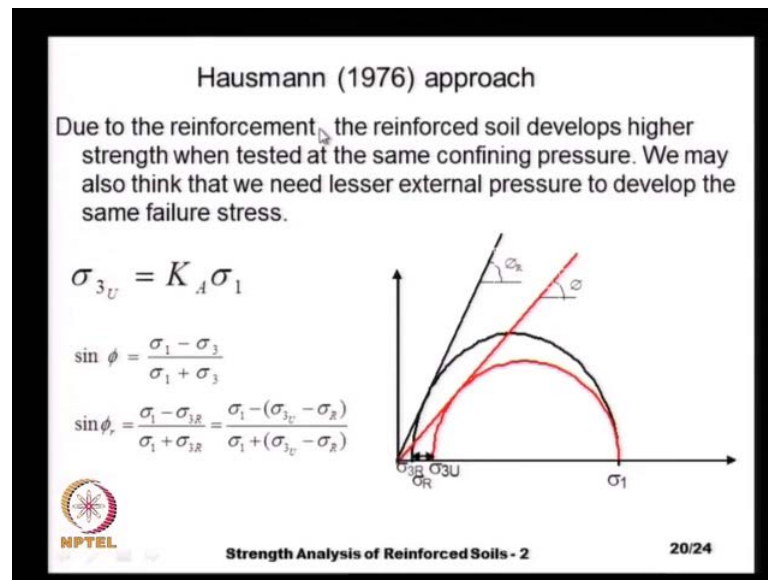
  $T_U$  increases,  $\sigma_{3c}$  increases.

NPTEL Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2 19/24

And let us calculate the critical confining pressure corresponding to the pull out failure mode  $\sigma_{3c}$  is  $T_U$  multiplied by  $1 - \frac{2 b_r \mu}{S_V} K_p$  divided by  $2 b_r \mu K_p$ . And by substituting all our parameters, that is  $T_U$  is 30 kilo Newton per meter  $K_p$  is 3  $\phi$  is 30 degrees  $S_V$  vertical spacing is 0.5 meters and the  $b_r$ , that is the width of the reinforcement layers as 0.05 meters. And the friction factor  $\mu$  is 0.6. So, our  $\sigma_{3c}$  is  $30 \times \left[ 1 - \frac{2 \times 0.05 \times 0.6}{0.5} \times 3 \right]$  that is 3 divided by  $2 \times b_r$ , that is 0.05  $\mu$  is 0.6  $K_p$  is 3.

And so the critical confining pressure comes out as 106.7 and actually from this equation, we see that as the  $T_U$  increases our  $\sigma_{3c}$  increases. And that means, that for this particular properties that, we have if your confining pressure is less than this value of 106.7 kilo Pascal, your failure is by pull out and if your confining pressure is higher the failure is by rupture. That is actually, this is an important relation or important fact to be considered in design, because if your pull out is going to govern then we need to give higher reinforcement length. So, that the failure does not happen or the reinforcement strength is higher.

(Refer Slide Time: 36:15)



See the previous analysis is directly based on equilibrium between the different forces on the failure wedge and Hausmann in 1976, he has proposed a slightly different approach, but then the results are similar to what we get earlier. But conceptually, the Hausmann approach is superior, because it is directly based on the more circles and then the conceptual understanding of the development of the apparent cohesion and then the friction angle.

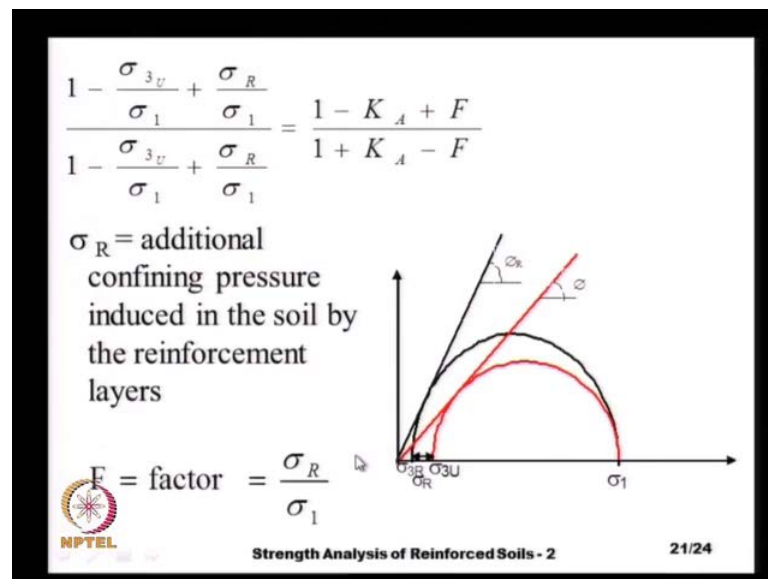
And what he said is that, because of the placement of the reinforcement layers reinforced soil develops higher strength when tested at the same confining pressure. Because of the additional contribution by the reinforcement or on the other hand, we can say that, if you want to get the same ultimate compressive strength, we can test reinforce soil at a lesser confining pressure, because of the effect of reinforcement layers and get the same the same compressive strength.

And actually, that is illustrated here, this red circle is for the unreinforced soil, which has a friction angle of phi and this black circle is for the reinforced soil and because here in both the cases. The sigma 1 is the same and the because of the reinforcement effects, we can test the reinforced soil at a lesser confining pressure, that is equal to sigma 3 R. And then the is actually the friction angle of the reinforce soil is higher than, that of the phi that is phi r.

And because we know that  $\sin \phi$  is  $\frac{\sigma_1 - \sigma_3}{\sigma_1 + \sigma_3}$ , that is the limiting relation is actually,  $K_a$  is  $\frac{1 - \sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi}$  and we can transform the relation. And by using this equation  $\sigma_3$  as  $K_a$  times  $\sigma_1$ , we get this relation and the  $\sin \phi$  is actually,  $\frac{\sigma_1 - \sigma_3}{\sigma_1 + \sigma_3}$ , because that is the confining pressure, that we need to test reinforced soil. So, that the same vertical stress  $\sigma_1$  is obtained.

So, the  $\sin \phi$  is  $\frac{\sigma_1 - \sigma_3}{\sigma_1 + \sigma_3}$  and let us say that at the difference between this  $\sigma_3$  and  $\sigma_3$  is  $\sigma_R$ . And that is the  $\sigma_1 - \sigma_3 - \sigma_R$ , that is  $\sigma_3$  divided by  $\sigma_1 + \sigma_3 - \sigma_R$ , and by expanding, this relation and by taking out  $\sigma_1$  as a common factor.

(Refer Slide Time: 39:51)



We get  $1 - \frac{\sigma_3 + \sigma_R}{\sigma_1}$ , that is  $\frac{1 - K_a + F}{1 + K_a - F}$ , that is  $\frac{\sigma_3 + \sigma_R}{\sigma_1}$  is nothing but Rankine active at pressure constant  $K_a$  plus some factor  $F$ . Let us say that  $\frac{\sigma_R}{\sigma_1}$  is some factor  $F$  that divided by  $1 + K_a - F$ . And  $\sigma_R$  is the additional confining pressure induced by the soil by reinforcement and as  $F$  is greater than 0. This ratio is going to be very high and because of that, your friction angle  $\phi$  is growing to be greater than  $\phi$ , because our  $\sin \phi$  is  $\frac{1 - K_a}{1 + K_a}$ . And

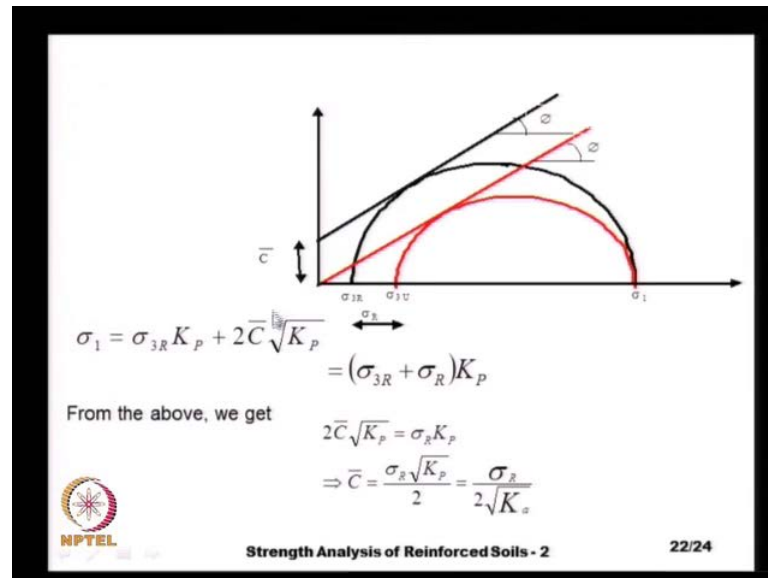
sine  $\phi$  or is  $1 - K_a + F$ , that is we are adding something in the numerator and  $1 - K_a - F$ , that is we are subtracting something  $F$  from the denominator.

So, because of that the ratio of the numerator divided by the denominator is going to be greater than that for unreinforced soil. So, our the friction angle for the reinforced soil  $\phi_R$  is going to be greater than  $\phi$ . So, this  $\sigma_R$  is actually, the additional confining pressure induced in the soil by the reinforcement layers. And this additional confining pressure, because of the reinforcement layers, once again it depends on several factors that is the vertical spacing of the reinforcement, that is  $S_v$  and then the strength and stiffness of the reinforcement layers, that is if you use metallic reinforcement, they will be stronger and they will be stiffer.

So, because of that they may induce higher confinement in the soil and then the interaction between the reinforcement and the soil that is the friction factor  $\mu$  say, if the  $\mu$  is higher. Then obviously, mobilize higher confinement forces and you have higher additional confinement, because of the reinforcement layers. So, this  $F$  is just simply written as  $\sigma_R$  by  $\sigma_1$  and that explains the relation between the  $\phi$  and  $\phi_R$ .

And Hausmann is actually, he has also considered another approach, that is the pseudo cohesion approach or apparent cohesion approach. See initially, we call it as apparent cohesion, because we have taken a dry granular soil that has 0 cohesion, that is the  $C$  is 0, because the particles, they do not have any inter granular attraction forces unlike in the clays.

(Refer Slide Time: 43:04)



And so we can develop a strength envelop, that is parallel to this line phi, but intersecting the vertical axis at some intercept C bar. And the and if we assume that the friction angle for both reinforce soil and the unreinforced soil are the same at phi the sigma 1 is sigma 3 R K p plus 2 C b 2 C bar K p square root of K p, that is equal to sigma 3 R plus sigma R.

That is actually, the additional confining pressure times K p that is by looking at this equation that is I am sorry, the sigma the additional confinement pressure, that is the by equating, these 2 quantities because this sigma 3 R K p cancels out with sigma 3 R K p. We can equate 2 C v 2 C bar square root K p as sigma R times K p or C bar is sigma R by 2 times square root K a.

And this is actually, this is the that is apparent cohesion is equal to the increase in the confining pressure the sigma R divided by 2 times square root K a. And is actually, this is a beautiful relation that gives us relation between the developed cohesion, that is apparent cohesion C bar and then the confinement, that is provided by the reinforcement layers.


(Refer Slide Time: 44:58)

**What is  $\sigma_R$ ?**

$\sigma_R$  is related to the strength of reinforcement, vertical spacing, interaction and other factors

$$\sigma_R = \frac{\text{Reinforcement force per unit width} \times \eta}{S_v}$$
$$= \frac{T_u}{S_v} \times \eta$$

$\eta$  = efficiency factor to account for uneven distribution of reinforcement forces



Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2 23/24

And this sigma R, that is related to the strength of the reinforcement vertical spacing interaction and other factors that govern the force, that is developed by the reinforcement layers that are cut by the rupture wedge. So, the sigma R, we can actually, if the reinforcement failure is by rupture, reinforcement force per unit width multiplied by some eta, that is the efficiency factor divided by S v. The sigma R, we can write as T u by a by S v times eta or if the failure is governed by pull out, we can write the other equation and then the we can develop an equation for sigma R. The reason for placing the eta is to account for uneven distribution of reinforcement forces. Is actually, the we have assumed the extreme relation, that the failure is either by pull out or by rupture, but if we go back and see the fundamental.



(Refer Slide Time: 46:17)


### Equilibrium analysis of soil wedge

Wedge is in equilibrium under the action of

- i. Confining pressure  $\sigma_3$  on face AC
- ii. Vertical pressure  $\sigma_1$  on face AB
- iii. Normal and tangential stresses  $\sigma_n$  and  $\tau$  on surface BC
- iv. Total reinforcement force  $\Sigma T$  developed in all layers cut by the plane BC

Let the length BC be equal to "b"

AC = b cos $\theta$   
 AB = b sin $\theta$


Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2
5/24

Fact that not all the reinforcement layers have equal embedment length say for example, the this particular layer, it has got, so much of length within the failure wedge whereas, this has only this much. And this particular one has much lesser length the embedment length. So, it is possible that some layers may undergo rupture failure, whereas some other layers may undergo pull out failure and because the contribution that we get by rupture and pull out are not the same, it is very difficult to quantify.

(Refer Slide Time: 47:05)


### What is $\sigma_R$ ?

$\sigma_R$  is related to the strength of reinforcement, vertical spacing, interaction and other factors

$$\sigma_R = \frac{\text{Reinforcement force per unit width} \times \eta}{S_V}$$

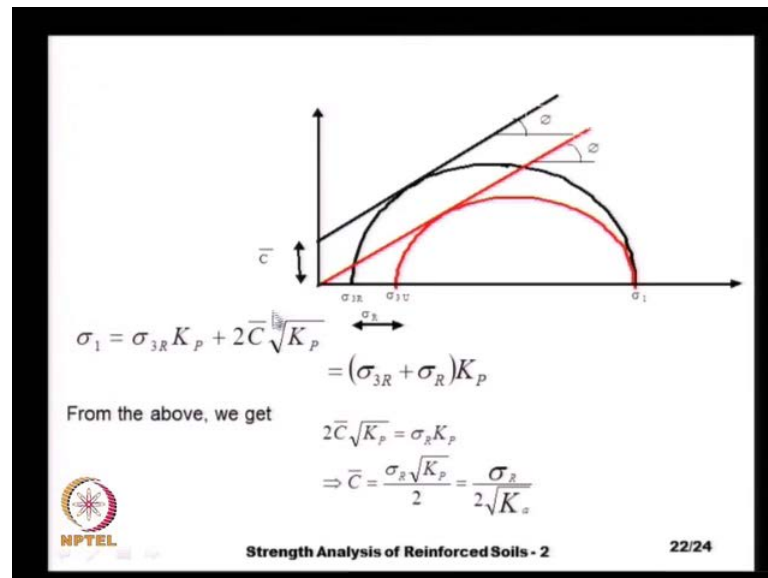
$$= \frac{T_V}{S_V} \times \eta$$

$\eta$  = efficiency factor to account for uneven distribution of reinforcement forces


Strength Analysis of Reinforced Soils - 2
23/24

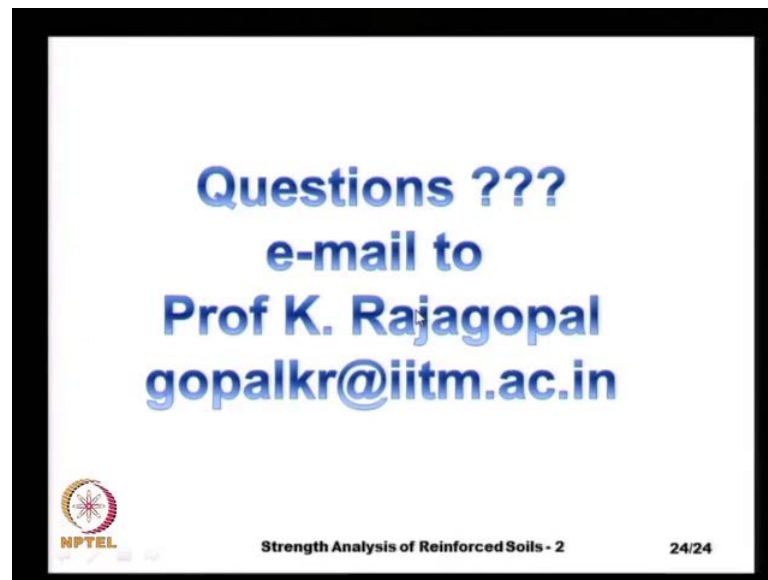
What exactly is the force, that is developed. So, we put in some efficiency factor  $\eta$  and is actually, when it comes to the design, we consider each and every reinforcement layer and then calculate the reinforcement contribution either as the tensile strength or the pull out force, whichever is lesser is actually, considered for the design purposes.

(Refer Slide Time: 47:37)



So, this is actually the Hausmann concept is very similar to that of the equilibrium of the failure wedge, but it is a bit more philosophical, because the entire analysis of the strength is through the more Culoumb relation through this more circles.

(Refer Slide Time: 48:03)



So, this these concepts, we are going to employ for our design purposes and if you have any questions, you can send an email to me and I will try to respond back to you as early as possible.

Thank you.