

# MSE Wall Homework

Geotechnical Design

CEG 4801

Spring 2020

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## Mechanical Stabilized Earth (MSE) Wall



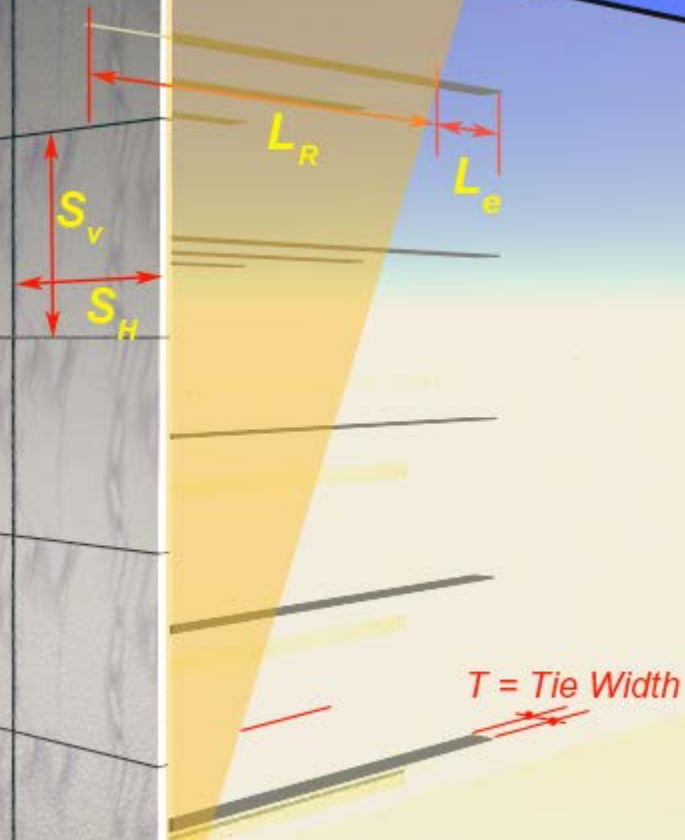
$S_H$  = Horizontal Distance

$S_V$  = Vertical Distance

$L_R$  = Rankine's Length

$L_e$  = Effective Length

$$L_{total} = L_R + L_e$$



By: Kamal Tawfiq, Ph.D., P.E.

A reinforced earth retaining wall is to be **20 ft high**. The properties of the backfill material are  $\gamma = 110 \text{ lb/ft}^3$  and  $\phi = 30^\circ$ . Galvanized steel ties are to be used for the construction of the wall. Design the Reinforcements with  $FS_{(B)} = 1.5$ ,  $FS_{(P)} = 1.5$ ,  $f_y = 29,000 \text{ psi}$  and  $\phi_{tie} = 20^\circ$ . Take  $S_V = S_H = 4'$



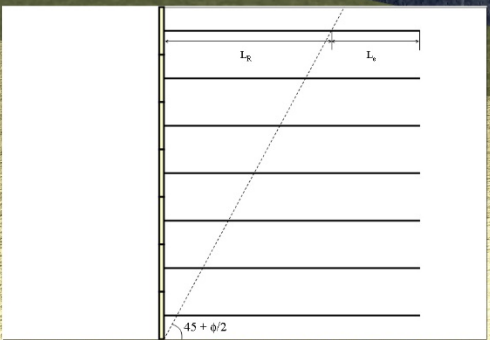
# Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) Wall

- $L_{total} = L_R + L_e$
- $L_R = \text{Rankine's Length}$
- $L_e = \text{Effective Length}$
- $S_H = \text{Horizontal Distance}$
- $S_v = \text{Vertical Distance}$

**Tie Force =  $F = \sigma_a * S_v * S_H$**

**FS (tie Breaking) =  $\frac{w t f_y}{\sigma_a * S_v * S_H} = 2.5 \text{ to } 3$**

**FS (tie pullout) =  $\frac{2 L_e w \sigma_v \tan \phi_H}{\sigma_a * S_v * S_H} = 2.5 \text{ to } 3$**



**Skin Panel**

**Active Wedge**

$L_R$   
 $L_e$

$S_v$   
 $S_H$

$H$

$45 + \phi/2$

**Rankine's Earth Pressure**

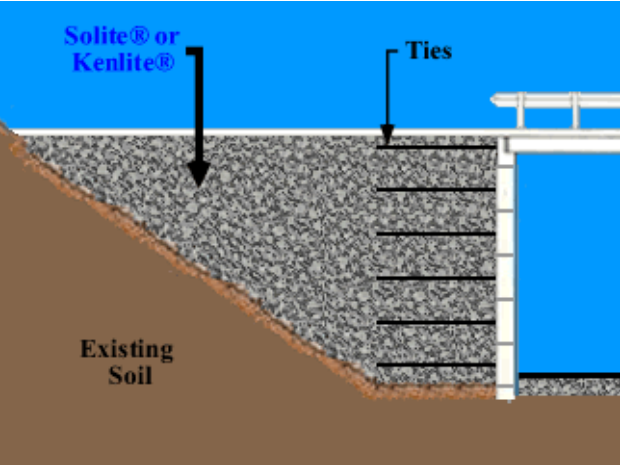
**Steel Tie**

$T = \text{Tie Width}$   
 $W = \text{Tie Width}$

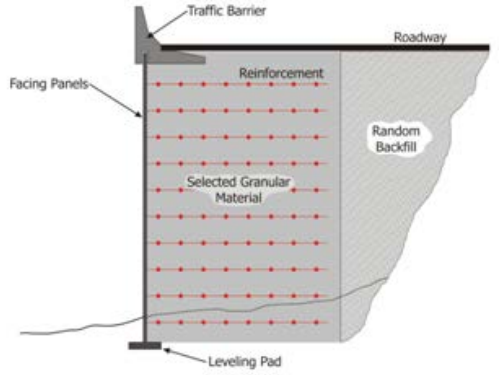
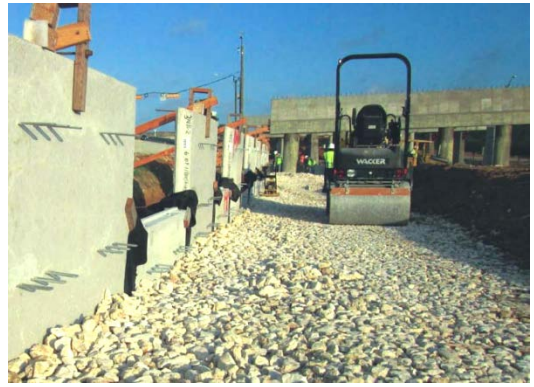
$\gamma H k_a$

Extend the tie beyond the active wedge to provide enough support against earth pressure of the panel

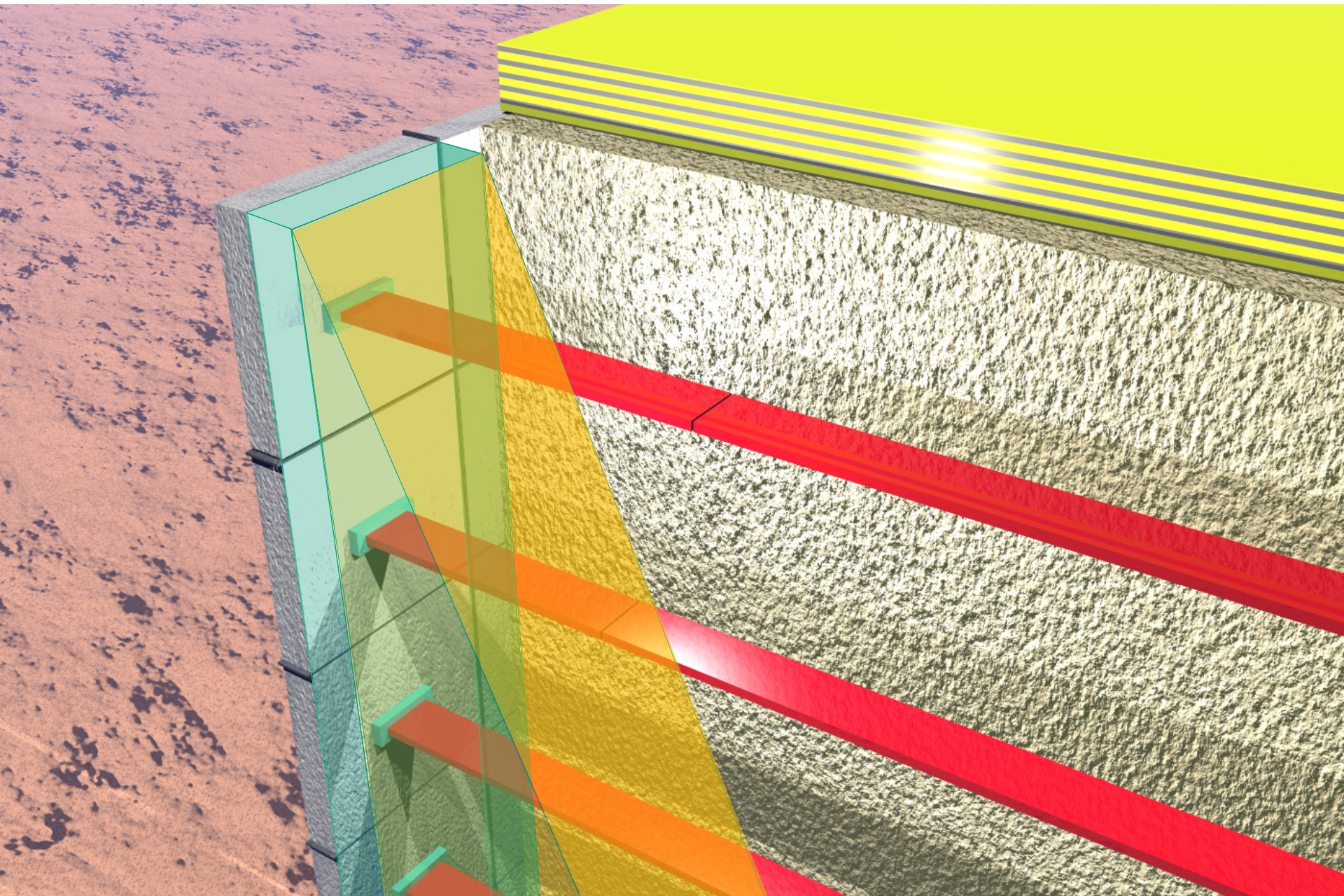




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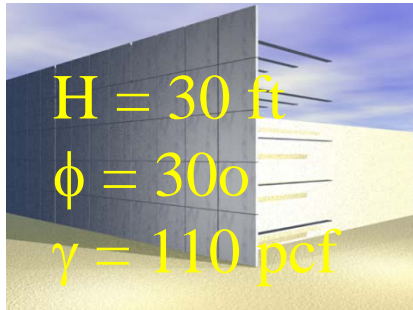
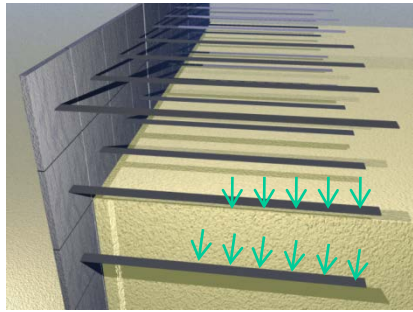




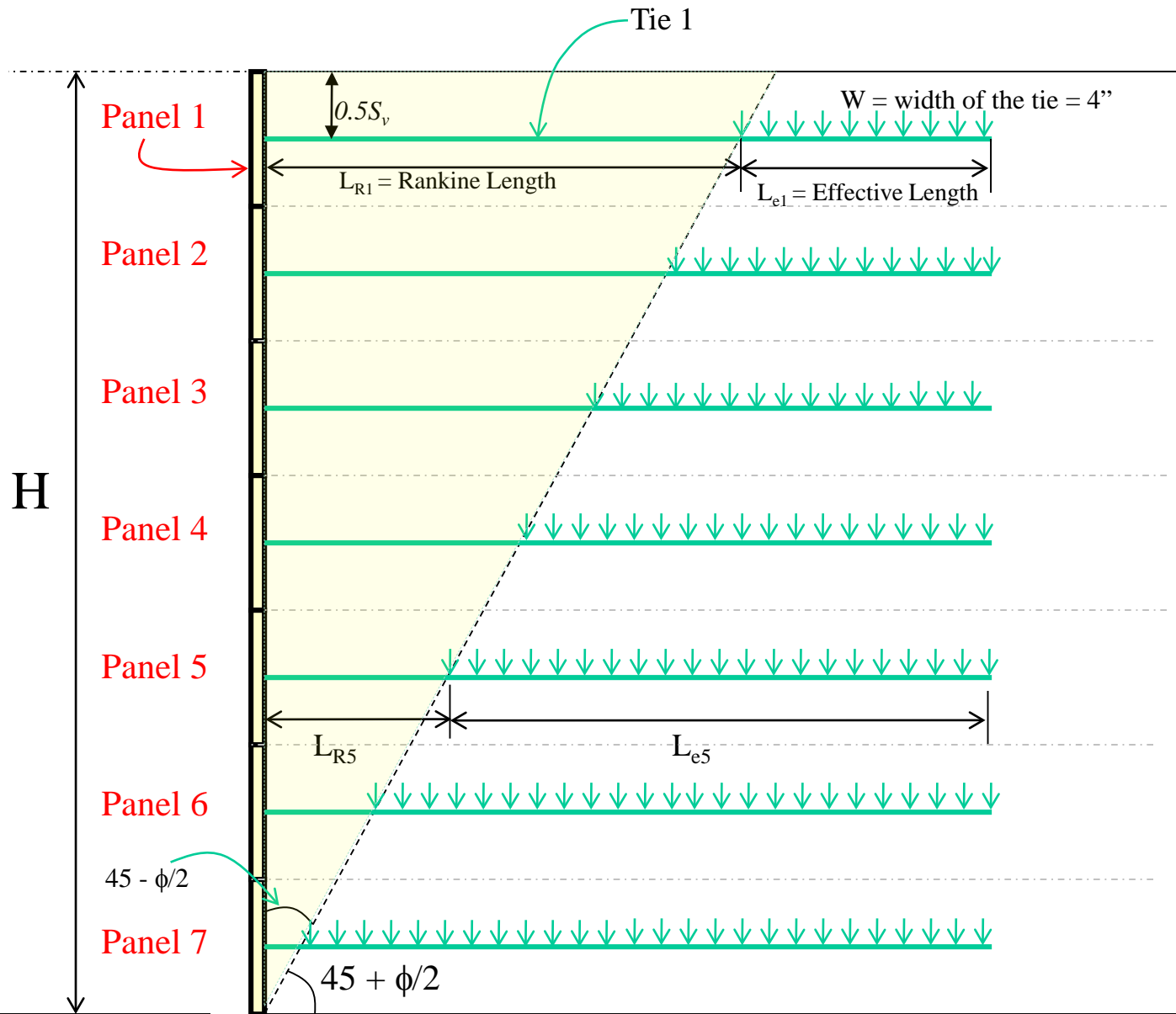
$$L_{R1} = (H - 0.5 S_v) \tan (45 - \phi/2)$$

$$L_{e1} = \frac{2.5(\sigma_a \cdot S_v \cdot S_H)}{2 w \sigma_v \tan \phi_\mu}$$

$$L_1 = L_{R1} + L_{e1}$$



H

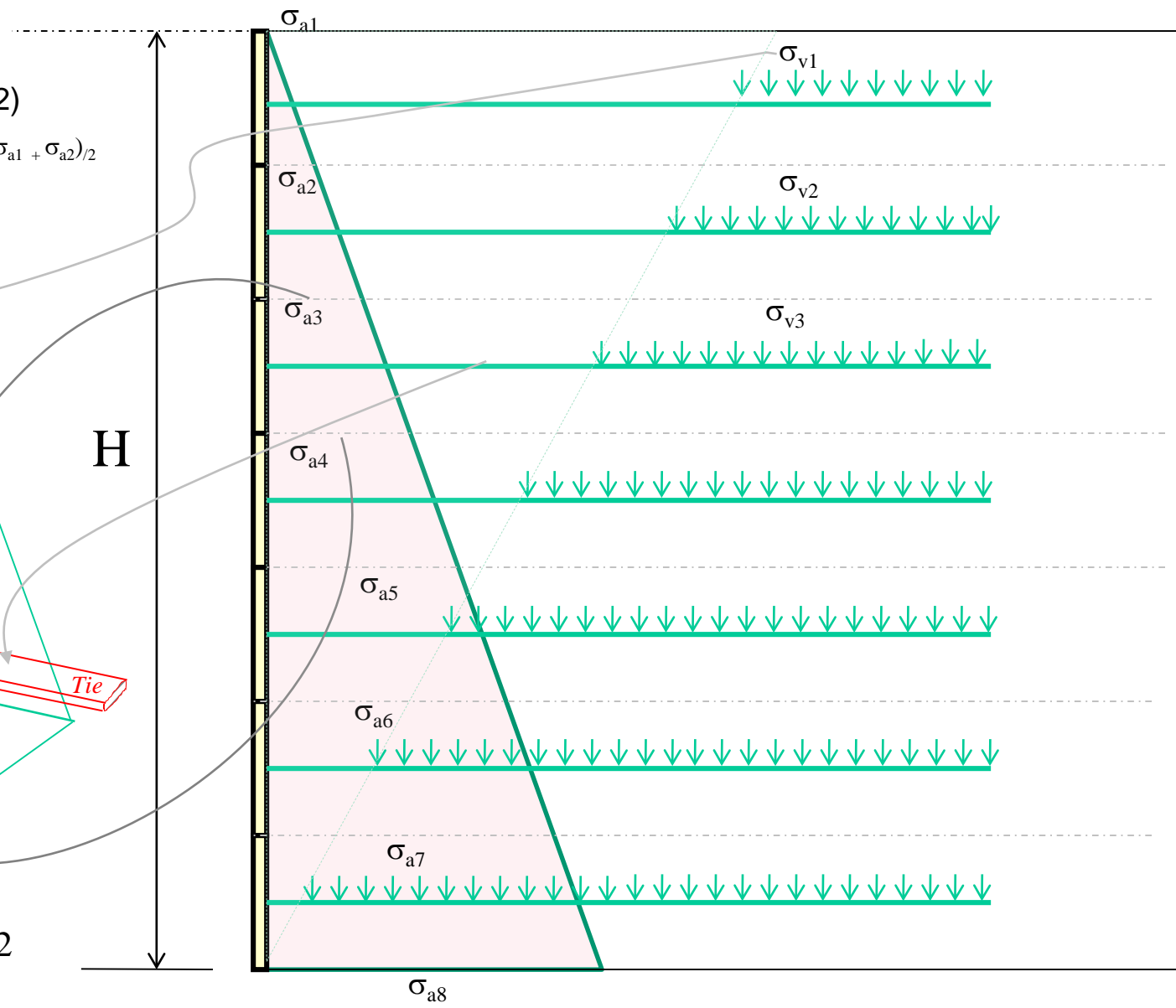
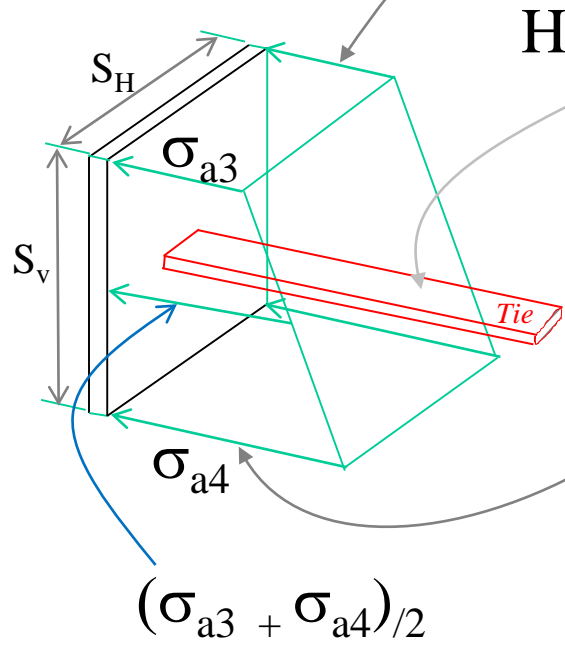


$$L_{R1} = (H - 0.5 S_v) \tan (45 - \phi/2)$$

$$L_{e1} = \frac{2.5(\sigma_a \cdot S_v \cdot S_H)}{2 w \sigma_v \tan \phi_\mu}$$

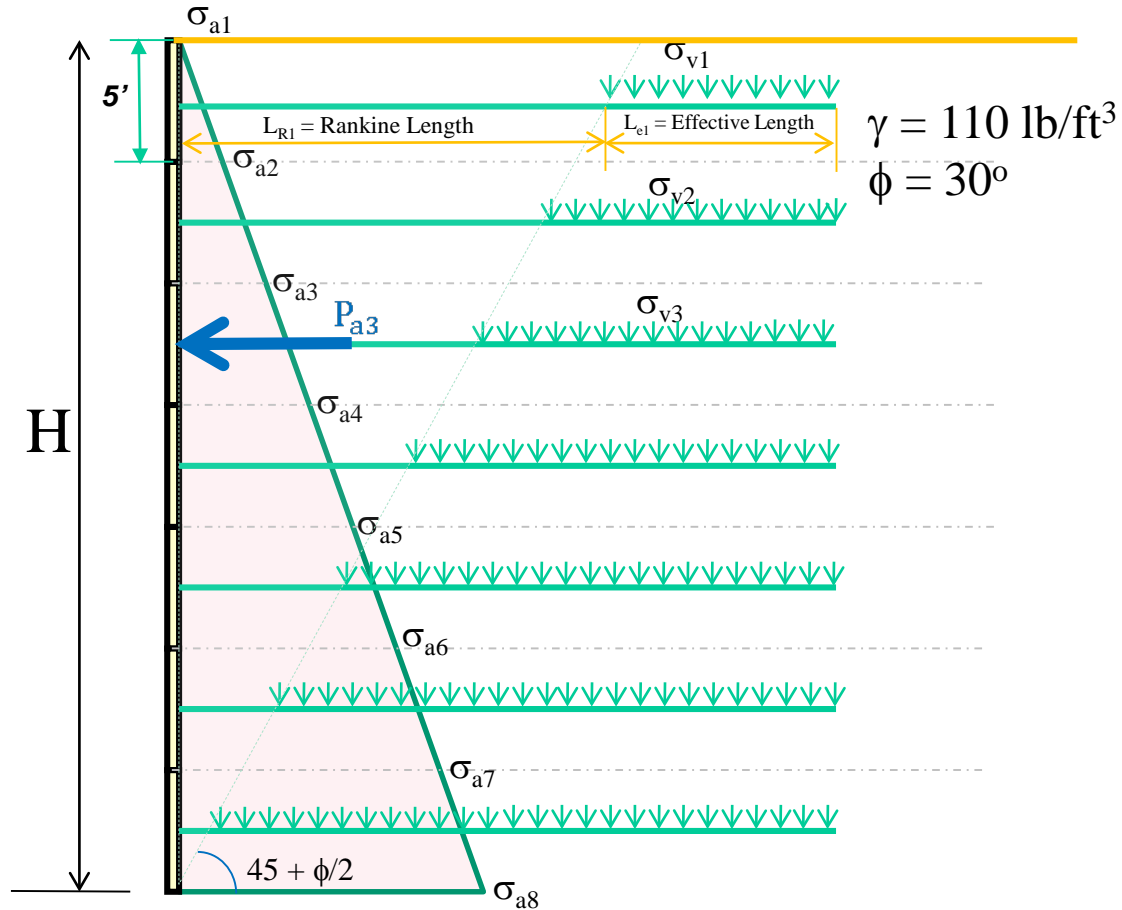
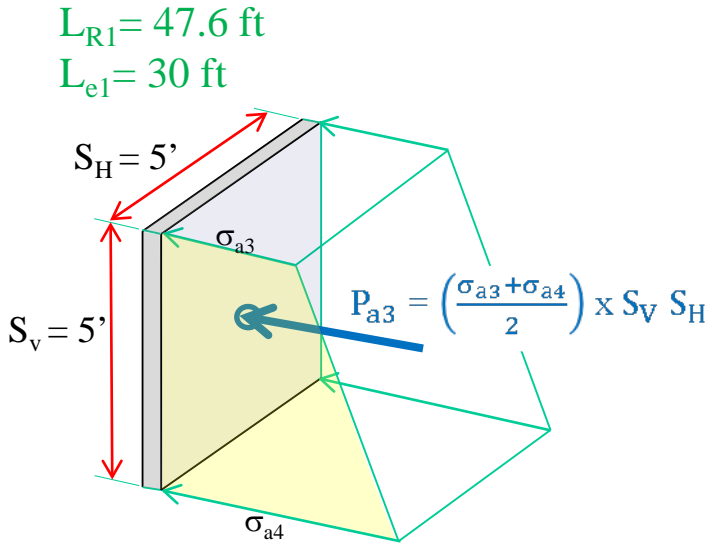
Tie width

$$L_1 = L_{R1} + L_{e1}$$



**Example:**

A reinforced earth retaining wall is to be **30 ft high**. The properties of the backfill material are  $\gamma = 110 \text{ lb/ft}^3$  and  $\phi = 30^\circ$ . Galvanized steel ties are to be used for the construction of the wall. Design the Reinforcements with  $FS_{(B)} = 3$ ,  $FS_{(p)} = 3$ ,  $f_y = 29,000 \text{ psi}$  and  $\phi_{\text{tie}} = 20^\circ$ . The properties of the in-situ soil below the retaining wall are  $\gamma = 120 \text{ lb/ft}^3$ ,  $\phi = 30^\circ$ , and  $c = 150 \text{ lb/ft}^2$ . Design the panels and the ties of the wall.





# Solution:

$$k_a = \frac{1 - \sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} = \frac{1 - \sin 30}{1 + \sin 30} = 0.33$$

Point	Tie	Depth (ft)	Vertical Stress ( $\sigma_v$ ) lb/ft <sup>2</sup>	Horizontal Stress ( $\sigma_a$ ) lb/ft <sup>2</sup>	$\sigma_a \cdot S_v \cdot S_H$	$\sigma_v \cdot \tan \phi_m$	$L_e$	$L_R$	$L_{total}$	$t = \frac{\sigma_a \cdot S_v \cdot S_H}{S_H/w \cdot f_y}$
1		0	0	0						
	Tie 1	2.5	275	90.75	2268.75	100.09	102.0	47.63	150	0.058675
2		5	550	181.5						
	Tie 2	7.5	825	272.25	6806.25	300.28	102.0	38.97	141	0.176024
3		10	1100	363						
	Tie 3	12.5	1375	453.75	11343.75	500.46	102.0	30.31	132	0.293373
4		15	1650	544.5						
	Tie 4	17.5	1925	635.25	15881.25	700.64	102.0	21.65	124	0.410722
5		20	2200	726						
	Tie 5	22.5	2475	816.75	20418.75	900.83	102.0	12.99	115	0.528071
6		25	2750	907.5						
	Tie 6	27.5	3025	998.25	24956.25	1101.01	102.0	4.33	106	0.645420
7		30	3300	1089						