Stability of Cantilever Retaining Wall Against Sliding

Alternatives for increasing the factor of safety with respect to sliding

- 1. Increase the width of the base slab (i.e., the heel of the footing).
- 2. Use a key to the base slab. If a key is included, the passive force per unit length of the wall becomes
- 3. Use a *deadman anchor at the stem of the retaining wall*

Base Key

(c) Possible sliding modes when using a heel key.

Figure 12-14 Stability against sliding by using a base key.

Common Proportions of Cantilever Wall

Tentative design dimensions for a cantilever retaining wall. Batter shown is optional.

Example 1

Given

The cross section of a cantilever retaining wall is shown in Figure 1. Calculate the factors of safety with respect to overturning, sliding, and bearing capacity.

Solution

From the figure, *H' = H1 + H2 + T1 = 8 tan 10° + 19.5 + 2 =* 22.91 ft

The Rankine active force per unit length of wall =

$$
K_a = \cos \alpha \frac{\cos \alpha - \sqrt{\cos^2 \alpha - \cos^2 \phi}}{\cos \alpha + \sqrt{\cos^2 \alpha - \cos^2 \phi}}
$$

\n
$$
K_a = \cos 10 \frac{\cos 10 - \sqrt{\cos^2 10 - \cos^2 30}}{\cos 10 + \sqrt{\cos^2 10 - \cos^2 30}} = 0.34
$$

\n
$$
P_a = \text{Lateral Pressure from Surface} + \text{Lateral Pressure from Soil}
$$

\n
$$
P_{a1} = qH'k_a
$$

\n
$$
P_{a2} = \frac{1}{2} \gamma H'^2 k_a
$$

\n
$$
P_{a1} = 120 \times 22.9 \times 0.34
$$

\n
$$
Y_{a1} = \frac{22.9}{2} = 11.45 \text{ ft}
$$

\n
$$
P_{a2} = 10252.22 = 11186.54 \text{ lb} / \text{ ft}
$$

\n
$$
Y_{a1} = \frac{22.9}{3} = 7.63 \text{ ft}
$$

^aFor section numbers, refer to Figure 8.12

 $\gamma_{\rm concrete}=23.58~\rm kN/m^3$

The overturning moment

$$
M_o = P_h \left(\frac{H'}{3}\right) = 160.43 \left(\frac{7.158}{3}\right) = 382.79 \text{ kN-m/m}
$$

and

$$
\text{FS}_{\text{(overturning)}} = \frac{\Sigma M_R}{M_o} = \frac{1130.02}{382.79} = 2.95 > 2, \text{OK}
$$

Factor of Safety against Sliding From Eq. (8.11),

 $\text{FS}_{\text{(sliding)}} = \frac{(\Sigma V) \tan(k_1 \phi_2') + B k_2 c_2' + P_p}{P_a \cos \alpha}$

Let $k_1 = k_2 = \frac{2}{3}$. Also, $P = \frac{1}{2}K \sqrt{D^2 + 2c_2' \sqrt{K}} D$

$$
K_p = \tan^2\left(45 + \frac{\phi_2'}{2}\right) = \tan^2(45 + 10) = 2.04
$$

and

 $D = 1.5 m$

So

$$
P_p = \frac{1}{2}(2.04)(19)(1.5)^2 + 2(40)(\sqrt{2.04})(1.5)
$$

= 43.61 + 171.39 = 215 kN/m

Hence,

$$
FS_{\text{(sliding)}} = \frac{(470.71)\tan\left(\frac{2 \times 20}{3}\right) + (4)\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)(40) + 215}{160.43}
$$

$$
= \frac{111.56 + 106.67 + 215}{160.43} = 2.7 > 1.5, OK
$$

Note: For some designs, the depth D in a passive pressure calculation may be take be equal to the thickness of the base slab.

Factor of Safety against Bearing Capacity Failure Combining Eqs. (8.16), (8.17), and (8.18) yields

$$
e = \frac{B}{2} - \frac{\Sigma M_R - \Sigma M_o}{\Sigma V} = \frac{4}{2} - \frac{1130.02 - 382.79}{470.71}
$$

$$
= 0.411 \text{ m} < \frac{B}{6} = \frac{4}{6} = 0.666 \text{ m}
$$

Again, from Eqs. (8.20) and (8.21)

$$
q_{\text{heel}}^{\text{toe}} = \frac{\Sigma V}{B} \left(1 \pm \frac{6e}{B} \right) = \frac{470.71}{4} \left(1 \pm \frac{6 \times 0.411}{4} \right) = 190.2 \text{ kN/m}^2 \text{ (toe)}
$$

$$
= 45.13 \text{ kN/m}^2 \text{ (heel)}
$$

The ultimate bearing capacity of the soil can be determined from Eq. (8.22)

$$
q_u = c'_2 N_c F_{cd} F_{ci} + q N_q F_{qd} F_{qi} + \frac{1}{2} \gamma_2 B' N_\gamma F_{\gamma d} F_{\gamma i}
$$

For
$$
\phi_2' = 20^\circ
$$
 (see Table 3.3), $N_c = 14.83$, $N_q = 6.4$, and $N_\gamma = 5.39$. Also,
\n $q = \gamma_2 D = (19) (1.5) = 28.5 \text{ kN/m}^2$
\n $B' = B - 2e = 4 - 2(0.411) = 3.178 \text{ m}$
\n $F_{cd} = F_{qd} - \frac{1 - F_{qd}}{N_c \tan \phi_2'} = 1.148 - \frac{1 - 1.148}{(14.83) (\tan 20)} = 1.175$
\n $F_{qd} = 1 + 2 \tan \phi_2' (1 - \sin \phi_2')^2 \left(\frac{D}{B'}\right) = 1 + 0.315 \left(\frac{1.5}{3.178}\right) = 1.148$
\n $F_{\gamma d} = 1$
\n $F_{ci} = F_{qi} = \left(1 - \frac{\psi^\circ}{90^\circ}\right)^2$

and

$$
\psi = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{P_a \cos \alpha}{\Sigma V}\right) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{160.43}{470.71}\right) = 18.82^{\circ}
$$

So

$$
F_{ci} = F_{qi} = \left(1 - \frac{18.82}{90}\right)^2 = 0.626
$$

and

v v

$$
F_{\gamma i} = \left(1 - \frac{\psi}{\phi_2'}\right)^2 = \left(1 - \frac{18.82}{20}\right)^2 \approx 0
$$

Hence,

$$
q_u = (40) (14.83) (1.175) (0.626) + (28.5) (6.4) (1.148) (0.626)
$$

+ $\frac{1}{2}$ (19) (5.93) (3.178) (1) (0)
= 436.33 + 131.08 + 0 = 567.41 kN/m²

and

$$
\text{FS}_{\text{(bearing capacity)}} = \frac{q_u}{q_{\text{ toe}}} = \frac{567.41}{190.2} = 2.98
$$

Note: FS_(bearing capacity) is less than 3. Some repropertioning will be needed.