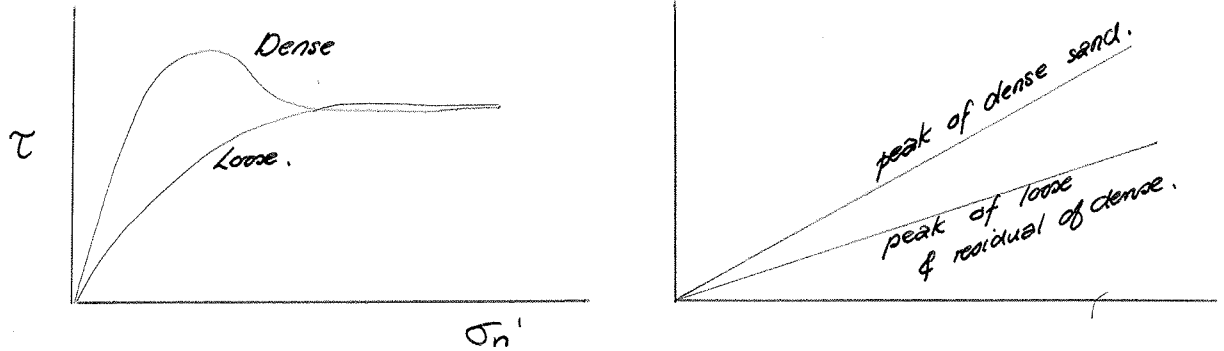


# Stability of Natural Slopes.

## Natural Slopes in Sand

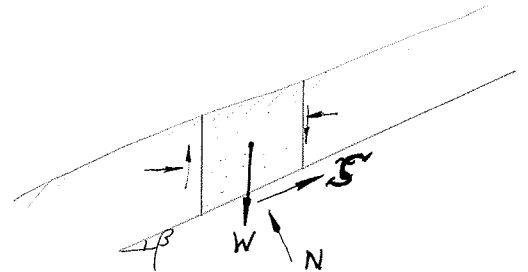
a: Shear strength of sand.



For dense sands  $\phi'_{ave} = 38^\circ - 40^\circ$   
 Loose sands  $\phi'_{ave} = 33^\circ = \phi'_r$  of dense.

b: The infinite slope analysis  
 i) Dry sand.

All the elements are the same and so the side forces are all the same



Resolving normal to the plane

$$W \cos \beta = N$$

Resolving parallel to the plane

$$W \sin \beta = S$$

Since  $S = N \frac{\tan \phi'}{F}$

Thus  $W \sin \beta = W \cos \beta \frac{\tan \phi'}{F}$

$$\therefore F = \frac{\tan \phi'}{\tan \beta}$$

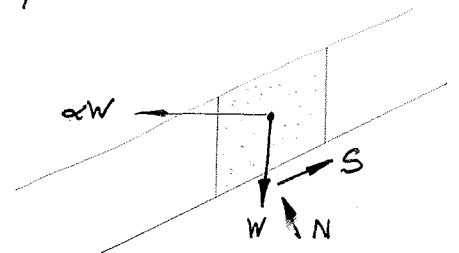
ii) Effect of a horizontal force.

Resolving horizontally = parallel to plane

$$W \sin \beta + \alpha W \cos \beta = S$$

Resolving normally to plane

$$W \cos \beta - \alpha W \sin \beta = N$$



Again  $S = N \frac{\tan \phi'}{F}$

$$\therefore W \sin \beta + \alpha W \cos \beta = (W \cos \beta - \alpha W \sin \beta) \frac{\tan \phi'}{F}$$

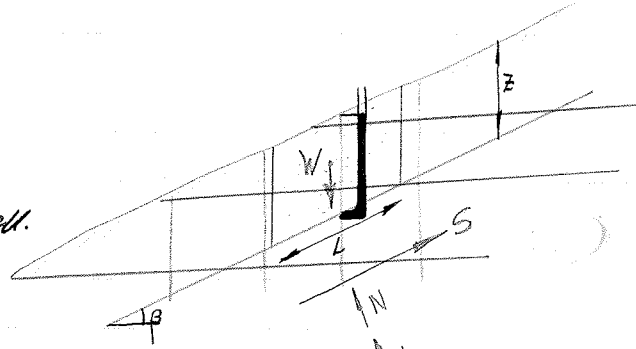
$$\therefore F = \frac{1 - \alpha \tan \beta}{\tan \beta + \alpha} \tan \phi'$$

If  $F=1.0$  then  $\tan \beta_c = \frac{\tan \phi' - \alpha}{1 + \alpha \tan \phi'}$

iii) Effect of Seepage Forces.

Resolving parallel to the slope

Assuming that pore pressures on either side of the wedge cancel.



$$W \sin \beta = S$$

$$\therefore \frac{S}{L} = \frac{\gamma L \cos \beta z \sin \beta}{L}$$

$$\therefore S = \gamma z \cos \beta \sin \beta$$

$\gamma$ : full density

Resolving normal to the surface. (This resolution of total stress is the same error as involved in Terzaghi's)

$$N = W \cos \beta$$

$$\therefore \sigma_n = \frac{W \cos \beta}{L} = \gamma z \cos^2 \beta$$

$$\text{Now } S = \frac{(\sigma_n - u) \tan \phi'}{F}$$

$$\gamma z \cos \beta \sin \beta = \frac{(\gamma z \cos^2 \beta - u) \tan \phi'}{F}$$

$$\therefore F = \left[ 1 - \frac{u}{\gamma z \cos^2 \beta} \right] \frac{\tan \phi'}{\tan \beta}$$

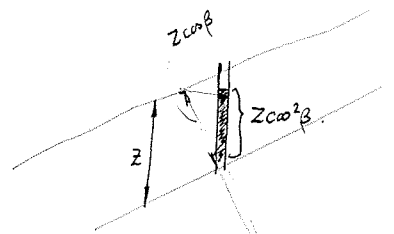
$$\text{Now } r_u = \frac{u}{\gamma z}$$

$$\text{Thus } F = \left[ 1 - \frac{r_u}{\cos^2 \beta} \right] \frac{\tan \phi'}{\tan \beta}$$

Case a: Flow parallel to the slope.

$$u = z \cos^2 \beta \delta \omega$$

$$\therefore r_u = \frac{u}{z \delta} = \frac{\delta \omega \cos^2 \beta}{\delta}$$



$$\text{Thus } F = \left[ 1 - \frac{\delta \omega}{\gamma} \right] \frac{\tan \phi'}{\tan \beta}$$

$$= \frac{\gamma' \tan \phi}{\gamma \tan \beta}$$

Case b Horizontal flow.

The equipotentials are vertical

$$\therefore u = z \delta \omega$$

$$\therefore r_u = \frac{\delta \omega}{\gamma}$$

$$\therefore F = \left[ 1 - \frac{\delta \omega}{\gamma \cos^2 \beta} \right] \frac{\tan \phi'}{\tan \beta}$$

Example:

Consider a sand of  $\phi' = 35^\circ$

Stable slopes ( $F = 1.0$ ) are thus

i) Free pressure  $u = 0$   $\beta = 35^\circ$

ii) Parallel flow  $\beta = 20^\circ$

iii) Horizontal flow  $\beta = 18^\circ$

Note: The above analysis assumes that the flow lines are parallel to the slope.

### Slope protection

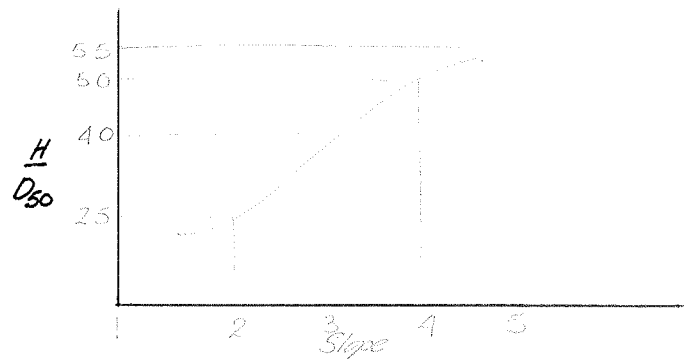
Size of rip rap.

Burgess & Hicks

$H$  = Ht of wave

$D_{50}$  = 50% size of rip rap

The chart applies for  $t = 1.5 D_{50}$



example:  $H = 4'$  on 3:1 slope

$$\therefore \frac{4'}{D_{50}} = 4$$

$$\therefore D_{50} = 1'$$

NOTE:

If  $t = 2.0 D_{50}$  then  $H$  increase by 15%

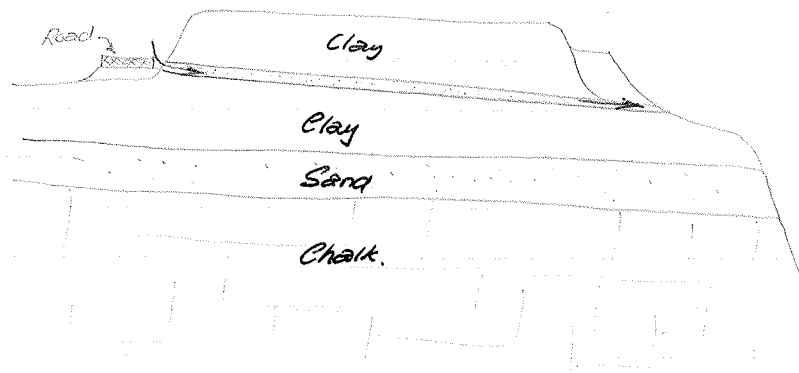
$t = 3.0 D_{50}$  " " " 40%

Ex: Same as above but  $t = 3.0 D_{50}$

$$\therefore \frac{H}{D_{50}} = \frac{140}{100} \times 4.0 = 5.6 \quad \therefore D_{50} = \frac{4}{5.6} = 0.71'$$

## Effects of Internal Erosion

### Newhaven



Water from drain of road ran down the sand layer and there was internal erosion where it appeared above the cliff. Clay was under-cut and hence failures occurred.

Process halted by placing a reverse filter against the sand.

### CLAYS.

There is a fundamental difference between normally consolidated and overconsolidated clays.

#### A: Normally consolidated.

Found round coasts as a result of last rise in the sea after ice caps had begun melting.

Found inland in areas where there has been considerable uplift.

$$\text{Sensitivity} = \frac{\text{Undisturbed unconfined str.}}{\text{Remoulded strength.}}$$

#### B: Overconsolidated clays.

Heavily overconsolidated clay, similar to mudstone.

Boulder Clay are also overconsolidated and can be very hard. They are fully remoulded structureless materials.

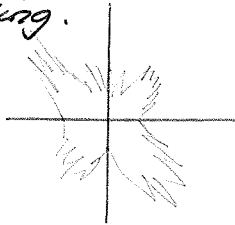
## Structural discontinuities in O.C. Sedimentary Clays

### Fissures.

- Occur in most clays of London type
- 1"-6" in scale and randomly oriented to a first approximation
- The surfaces are never polished but can show some texture eg radial lines etc.
- Seems to be a concentration of fairly horizontal and fairly vertical fissures but no orientation in plan.
- Cracks are tight closed in the ground.
- The fissures are more abundant and smaller near the surface

### Joints

- Found in the London Clay & may be > larger than 1".
- Nearly all are virtually normal to bedding.
- Show strong preferred orientation. NW-SE and minor NE-SW
- Some joints at about 45°.
- The nature of the surface seems to be a brittle fracture



### Bedding Planes

Very common but may be difficult to find in some clays.

Faults Rather special. - find shear zones of tectonic origin.

### Old Slip Surfaces

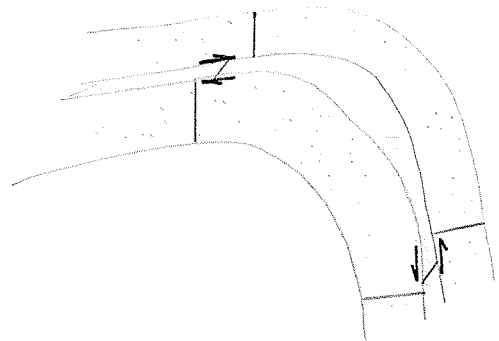
These are very important and must be located.

### Glacial Yells

Don't have fissures or faults or joints of any consequence.

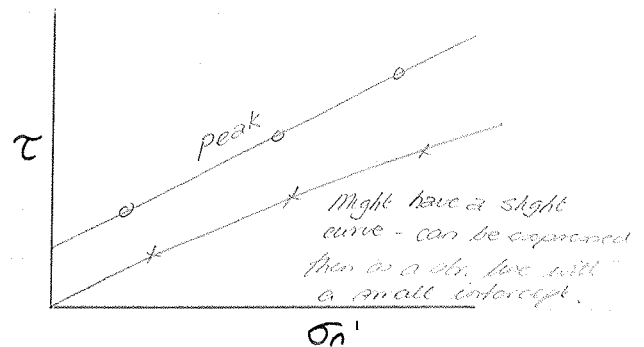
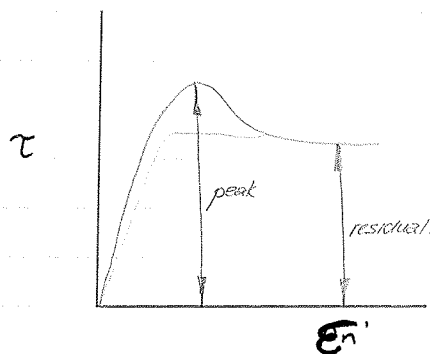
### Shear Zones due to folding

The shearing movements in all such cases are sufficient to reduce the strength to residual.



## Relevant Properties of clay.

### Intact clay.



If one tests an old slip surface then there is no peak to the curve at all.

Material from the joint in a clay might have a small peak.

### Undrained strength.

Changes in total stress have no effect on the effective stresses and hence  $\phi = 0$

$$\text{and } \tau = c_u.$$

Note that if the clay is failed in different ways one gets slightly different answers due to anisotropy. There is no unique value of  $c_u$  but the differences are small.

NIB: The fact that  $c_u$  increases with depth does not contradict the  $\phi = 0$  idea. The reason for the increase is change in water content i.e. change in material.

## Short Term Stability in Saturated Clay

### 1/ Congress Street

$$\phi = 0 \text{ analysis } F = 1.1.$$

NIB: If the  $\phi = 0$  analysis does not give the correct intercal slip surface. It will give a deeper critical surface than in reality.

Thus to apply the  $\phi = 0$  analysis to the actual failure surface is incorrect.

2/ The value of  $c_u$  usually is measured in compression i.e.  $\sigma_1$  increases. In a test  $\sigma_1$  is const.

and  $\sigma_3$  decreases. Thus perhaps a passive type of failure would be a better test for a cut.

2) Huntspill cut.

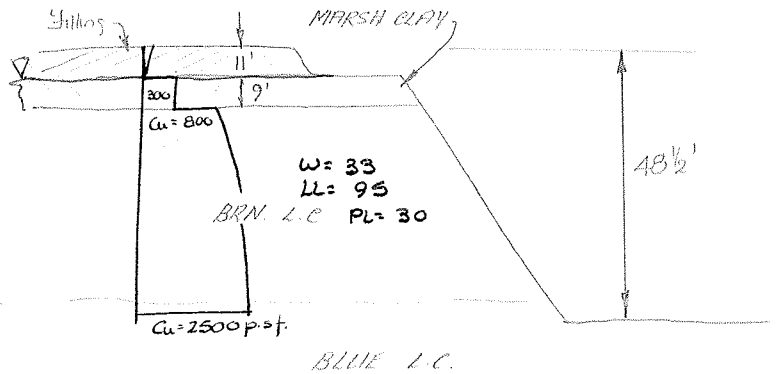
The samples were somewhat disturbed. Hence the measured  $C_u$  was low. Obtained  $F = 0.9$ .

3) Skabbebanne: Sweden.

A number of failures which on average gave a factor of safety  $F = 1.10$ .

Short term in Overconsolidated fissured Clay.

Bradwell 1957.



N<sup>o</sup>1 5 days after middle slip removed.

N<sup>o</sup>2 19 days after N<sup>o</sup>1.  
(ht @ N<sup>o</sup>2 = 47')

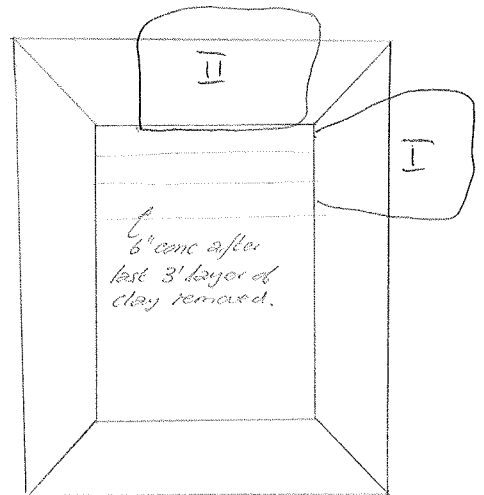
Analysis:

It was considered that all the strength in the marsh clay was mobilized.

Calc.  $C_u$  of L.C. for  $F = 1.0$

Slip N<sup>o</sup>1  $C_u \text{ req.} = 0.56 C_u \text{ meas.}$

N<sup>o</sup>2  $C_u \text{ req.} = 0.52 C_u \text{ meas.}$



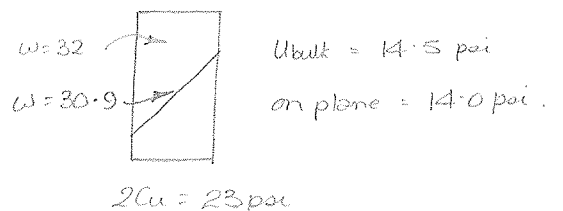
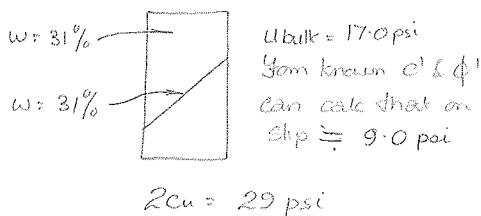
This is in marked contrast to the results obtained with N.C. clays.

Considered time effects on measuring of  $C_u$ .

Time effects were found and are due to pore water migration

15 min test

7 day test



Due to dilatation there is a relative pore pressure depression on the plane in the quick test.

Thus out of total error of 50% there is  $\pm 15\%$  due to time rate of testing.

ie Lab conventional = 100%  
Lab slow = 80%  
Yield = 55%

The difference is due to the presence of fissures. It seems that strength of mass  $\approx 75\%$  lab strength on normal samples.

Also investigated slips that had not failed.

N<sup>o</sup>1:  $\bar{c}_r \approx 0.38 c_{measured}$ .

N<sup>o</sup>2:  $\bar{c}_r \approx 0.4 c_{measured}$ .

Leda Clay. High sensitivity

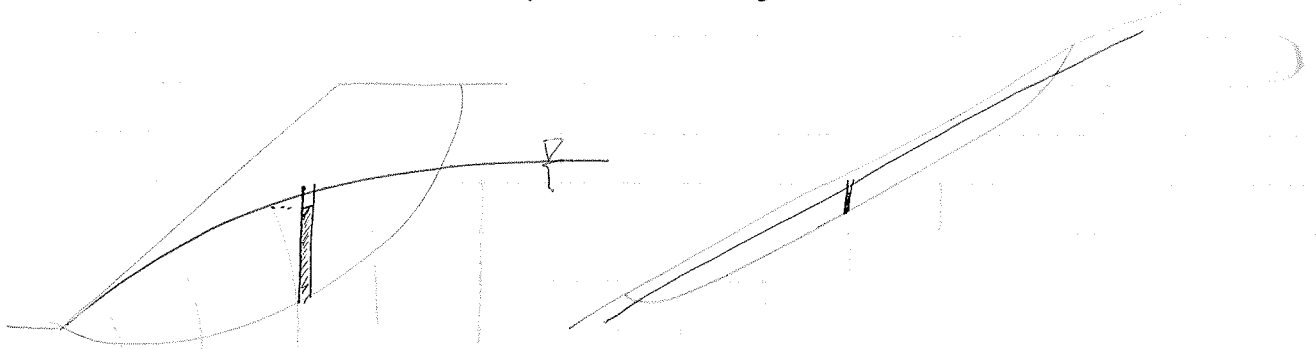
$w = 60$   $LL = 57$   $PL = 26$ .

Obtained  $c_{req} = 0.75 c_{meas}$ .

This material is recorded as a fissured clay.

#### LONG TERM STABILITY.

Pore pressures are gauged by the flow net. There are seasonal variations in the flow net as the water table varies with vegetation requirements.



Cuttings

Natural Slopes.

In a natural slope the slip often takes place through the weathered zone  $\approx 5'$ . Often one finds a major pore pressure discontinuity in the slope. In the weathered material the piezometric level may be near the surface whereas in the unweathered material it may not be up to the level of the

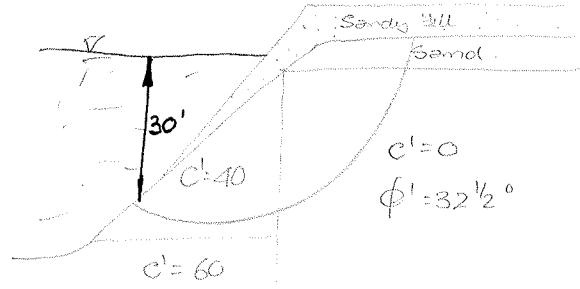


weathered zone even.

Normally consolidated clay.

a) Drammen

Calculated  $F = 1.01$   
using peak values.

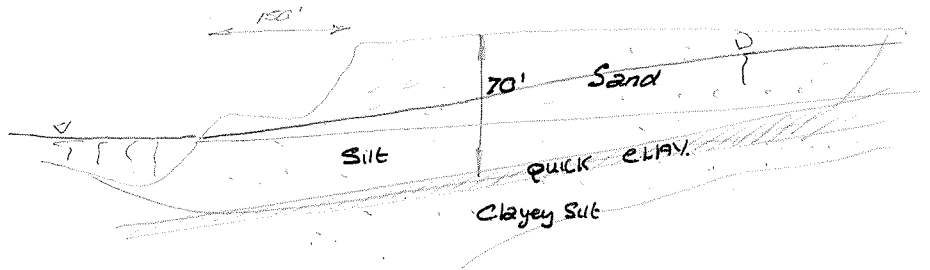


Quick Clays.

$St > 100$

$w = 43$

$L_L = 32$



The materials are nearly normally consolidated.

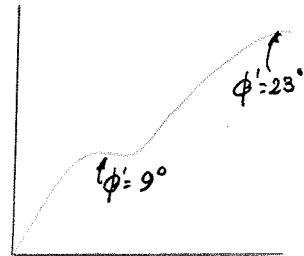
Calculated that for  $F = 1.0$   $c' = 0$

$\phi' = 8^\circ$

Large scale in-situ shear box test  $\phi' = 9^\circ$

All previous results had given  $\phi' = 20^\circ$

After some very careful sampling obtained stress strain curves as shown.

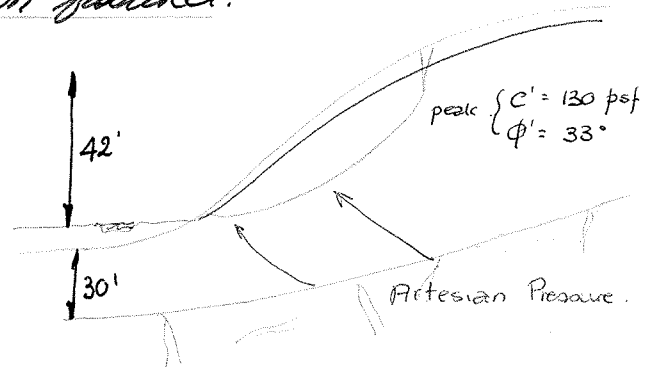


When the sample is sheared there is a collapse at about  $\phi' = 9^\circ$ . It is difficult to say whether at this stage the material is drained or undrained.

Overconsolidated clays - non featured.

Glacial Till at Selset.

Slip triggered off by slightly larger erosion at a corner in the river

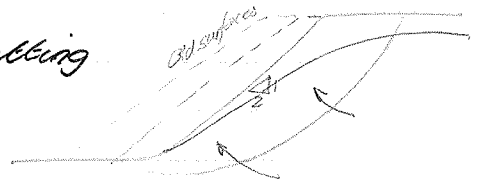


Bishop's method

$F = 1.03$  on peak.

$= 0.7$  on residual

Lightly O.C clay at Lodalen. - rubbing



The actual slip surface was determined by borings.

Analysis for  $c' = 200$  psf  
 $\phi' = 27^\circ$

gave  $F = 1.05$ .

Because  $c'$  fairly small and  $\phi'$  quite high these parameters are close to the Hensler parameters and hence the initial surface is very close to the actual surface.

The residual was not measured but with  $c' = 0$  &  $\phi' = 27^\circ$   $F = 0.70$ .

Overconsolidated Assured Clay.

LONDON CLAY.

- Weathered clay 20'-30' thick
- Zone of seasonal variation in temp & moisture  $\pm 10'$
- Ground water 0-6'
- Brown clay occurs below water

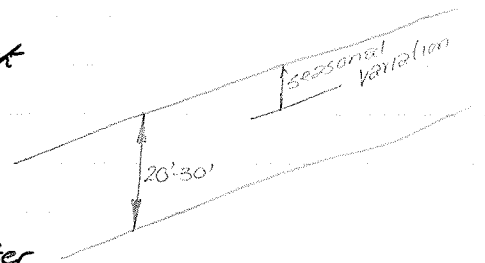
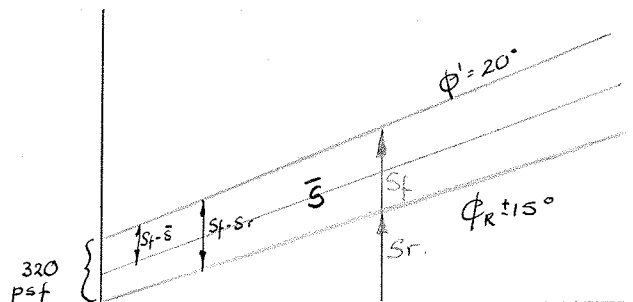


table due probably to oxidation by dissolved oxygen.

- Apparently no known clay below the terrace gravels - more formed since placement of gravels.
- Often have an upper zone of reworked London clay.

• Mechanical properties of upper 30', with the exception of the zone of seasonal variation.

Peak  $c' = 320$   
 $\phi' = 20^\circ$   
Residual  $\phi' = \pm 15^\circ$



Residual Factor.

$$\bar{S} = R S_r + (1-R) S_f$$

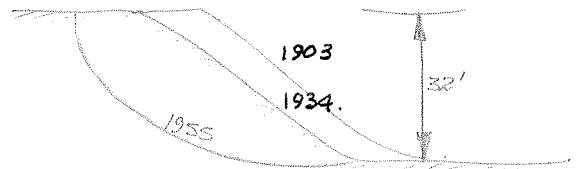
$$\text{i.e. } R = \frac{S_f - \bar{S}}{S_f - S_r} = \frac{\frac{S_f}{\bar{S}} - 1}{\frac{S_f}{\bar{S}} - \frac{S_r}{\bar{S}}} = \frac{F_f - 1}{F_f - F_R}$$

$$F = \text{Factor of Safety} = \frac{\text{Available Shear Strength}}{\text{Required Shear Strength}}$$

CUTTINGS

a: Northolt.

$F_f = 1.57$   
 $F_r = 0.57$   
 Hence  $R = 0.56$  ie required  $c' = 140$   
 $\phi' = 18^\circ$



b: Sudbury Hill.

Cutting 1900 - Failure 1949.

$F_f = 2.08$   
 $F_r = 0.74$   
 $\therefore R = 0.80$

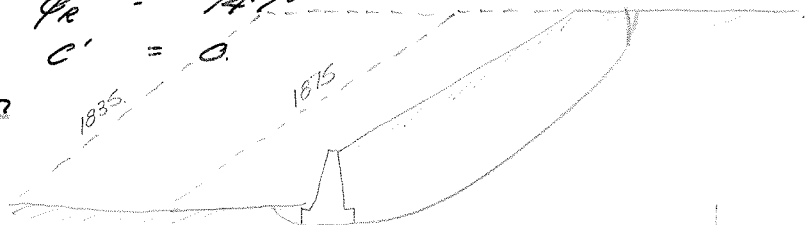
Because this slip was never cleaned up but just had material removed at the toe when necessary it was possible at the time of the investigation to use it as a "grant shear box" test.

ie  $F = 1.0$  and hence could calculate

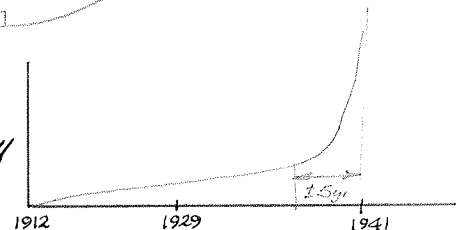
$\phi'_r = 14.7^\circ$   
 $c' = 0$

c/ Kensal Green

$F_f = 1.6$   
 $F_r = 0.6$   
 $\therefore R = 0.61$



Forward  
mov. of wall



The measurements on the crest of the wall showed that some form of progressive failure was taking place.

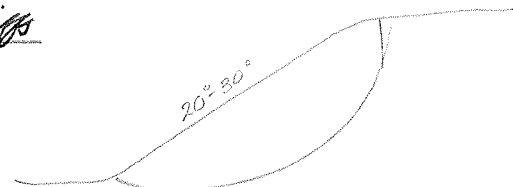
This is due in the case of cuttings to a decrease in  $\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3$  with a resultant opening of the fissures. This<sup>3</sup> allows softening of the material and hence failure due to a loss in strength.

NATURAL SLOPES

It is possible to divide the natural slopes of shale time into four divisions

a/ Actively eroding cliffs

This means a rate of erosion of about  $\pm 5'$  per year.



b: Eroded Cliffs where the rate of retreat is such that the removal of material by the sea is less than the max possible rate of supply by mudflows.

Average slope  $15^{\circ} - 25^{\circ}$

c: Defended Cliffs

Protection works have been carried out to prevent marine erosion.

Have usually not protected for more than 100 years.

d: Abandoned Cliffs

The sea has retreated and the slopes have been free of erosion at the toe for centuries.

eg Hadleigh Castle:

Regeneration slope  $12^{\circ}$  after  $\pm 700$ yr.

### Long term scale slopes

These are inland valley slopes the majority of which have not been actively eroded for a great time. These slopes may be divided into

a: Unstable - varying from  $8^{\circ} - 12^{\circ}$

b: Stable - there are no stable slopes of more than  $10^{\circ}$ . Usually stable below about  $8\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ .

### Analysis of these results.

Consider that failure of these slopes can take place at  $\phi_R = 15^{\circ}$ .

Assume that GWL = 1' below surface.

Thus using the infinite slope analysis we have.

// Flow parallel to slope.

$$F = \frac{\gamma'}{\gamma} \frac{\tan \phi'}{\tan \beta}$$

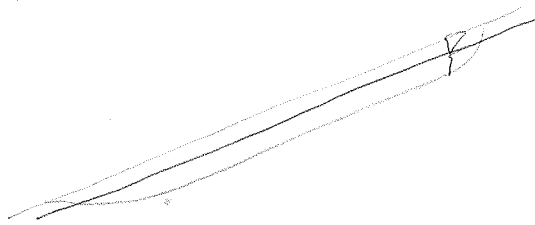
$$\tan \beta = \frac{1}{2} \tan 15^{\circ}$$

Thus  $\beta = 10^{\circ}$ .

Another factor that must be considered is that

all these slopes have been subjected to solifluction processes. Most of the slopes are similar to what they were after the last glaciation. The slipping is in material that has been reworked and thus in stable slopes one finds shear surfaces which must have been formed in glacial times.

Difference between rapidly eroded slopes and inland slopes.



pres ht  $\approx$  head of clay



$T_u = \text{smaller.}$

The steeper the slope the lower the p.p ratio. The steep angles of say some of the defended slopes can be explained with reasonable accuracy using usual values of  $\phi$  on the probable pore water distribution

For defended slopes  $\phi'$  is probably close to residual.

Cause of slopes flatter than  $\pm 10^\circ$ .

The reasons have nothing to do with mechanics and are compounded of

- 1/ Solifluction
- 2/ Soil Creep

Movements on existing slip surfaces.

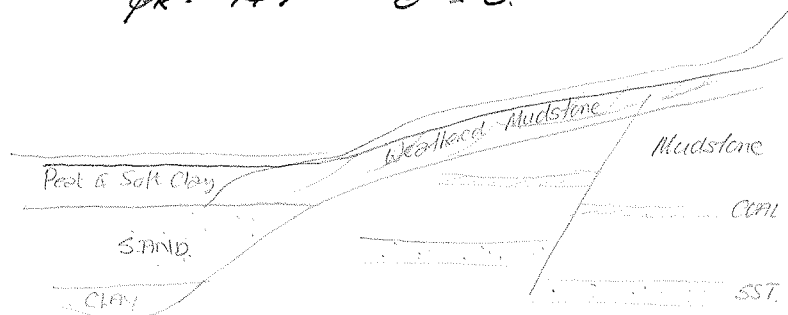
a: Sudbury Hill - already considered.

$F = 1.0$

$\phi'_R = 14.7^\circ \quad c' = 0.$

b: Walton Wood.

Many old slip surfaces and once the embankment for M6



was placed, slides occurred.

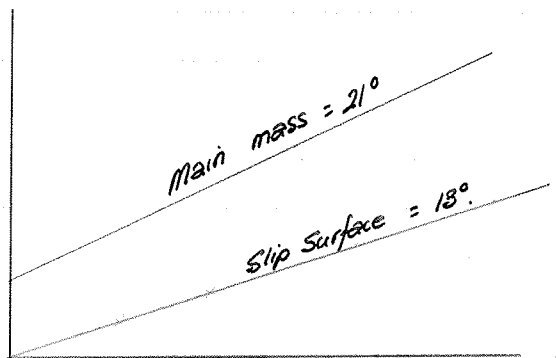
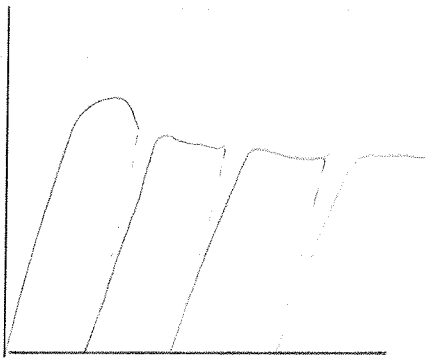
For  $F = 1.0$  if  $c' \text{ taken} = 0$   
then  $\phi' = 14^\circ$

Samples taken across the slip surface yielded  
 $\phi'_{ave} = 13^\circ$

The strengths across the slip surfaces were  $\frac{1}{3}$  of those in the surroundings.

In a narrow band of  $\pm 50 \mu$ , the clay particles were oriented, as opposed to the rest of the mass.

Residual testing using the reversing shear box



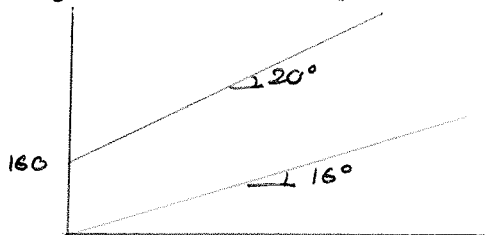
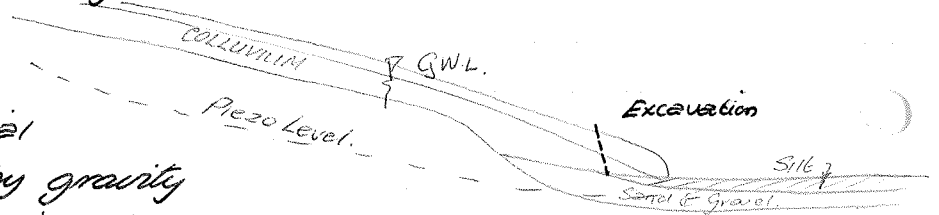
The shear box results lay exactly on the  $13^\circ$  line obtained by testing the actual slip material.

c: Newton: W. Virginia

Colluvium is material

put in place by gravity

The material in which the old slip surfaces were found was rock fragments in a matrix of silt. However at the slip surfaces there was a band of clay possibly produced by the grinding action of the movements.

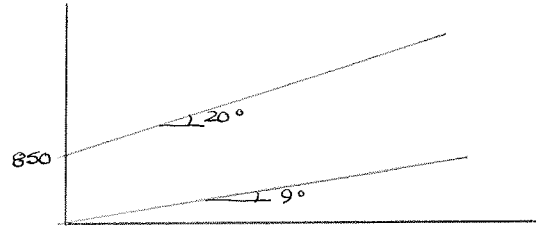


$F = 1.05$  on residual.

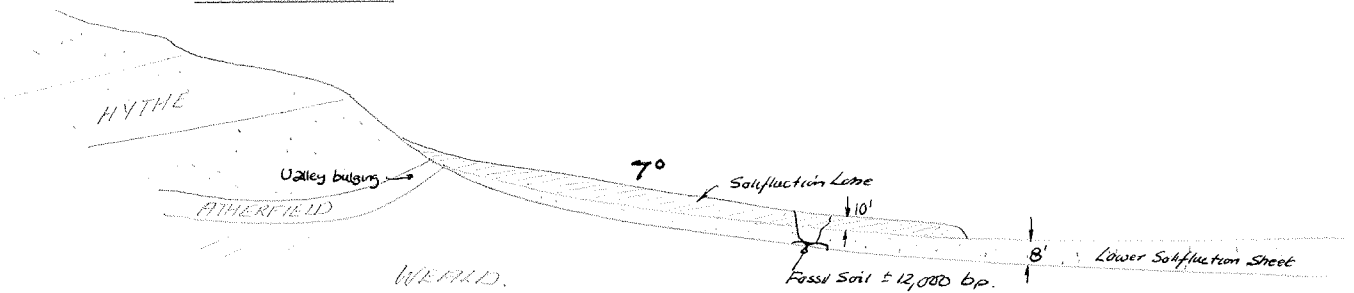
d: South Saskatchewan Dam.

An old slip through a soft shale, reactivated due to a new cutting

measured residual  $\pm 9^\circ$



e: Sevenoaks.



The solidification material.

- fragments of Hythe beds + considerable portion of chert which is found further up the scarp. The angular chert lumps were up to 18".

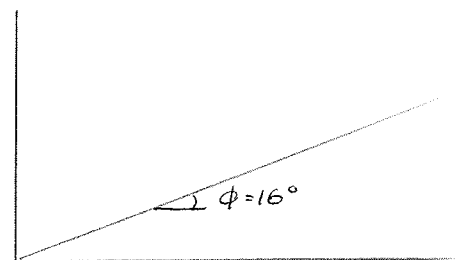
- The main sheet (of Weichselian origin) has no topographical expression but extends at least 3/4 m. from the scarp.

- The upper material (Zone III of late glacial) occurs in tongues stretching out some 1200' from the scarp.

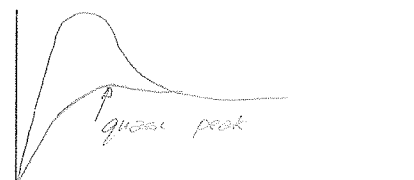
- Origin is intense frost shattering of the Hythe beds followed by slumping & sloughing down the slope on melting

Strength.

Above the old soil and underlying the main chert was a heavily sheared clay layer.



In general tests on the slip surfaces have shown  $\phi_r = 14^\circ$  with virtually no peak to the stress-strain curve.



The FOS of the lobes using  $\phi = 16^\circ$

and the winter pegs levels = 108

NB: Shears found in Weald Clay below the last sheet with strength at residual. No movement for 10000 yr. Thus no build up of strength with time

## Remedial Measures

Remedial measures may be classified as follows.

- 1/ Those that decrease the disturbing moments
- 2/ Those that increase the shear strength.
- 3/ Those that prevent erosion

A: DECREASE DISTURBING FORCES.

a: Flatten slopes

In redesign of a sloped area one must use  $\phi_r$ .

b: Reduce the height or add a toe weight.

B: INCREASE SHEAR STRENGTH.

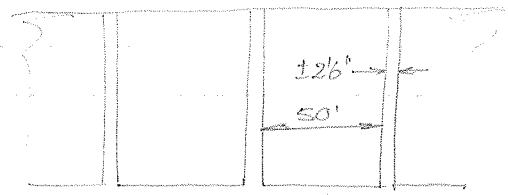
a: Drainage

b: Mechanical means eg piles.

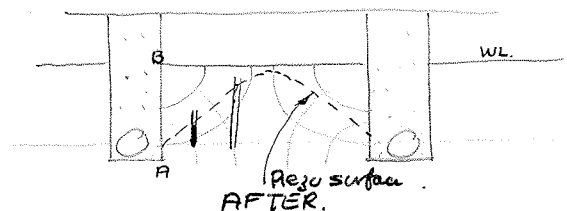
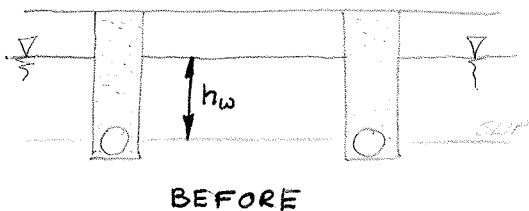
Drainage.

In natural hillside slope this is about the only method available. Not much aid from a toe weight.

If possible the drains should extend below the slip surface, but this is not necessary.



These drains work even if the ground water is not lowered because they change the flow pattern and hence the pore water pressures.



The water level afterwards still remains the same but AB is now a surface at atmospheric pressure (neither flow surface nor phreatic surface) and so the pore pressures on the slip surface drop.



Example : If the water level is near the surface then

$$s = (100 - 50) \tan \phi'$$

If drains are installed so that the average pore pressure, now approximate parabolic, =  $\frac{2}{3}$  previous then

$$s = (100 - \frac{2}{3}50) \tan \phi'$$

$\therefore$  Gain in shear strength  $\approx 1.3$ .

In practice there will be some ground water lowering as well and this will help even more.

It is because the flow pattern is changed that drainage can be used in clays. Usually the mass permeability of a clay is less than that of the intact clay  $\therefore$  ground water lowering as well.

#### b) Mechanical strengthening

- May need very heavy piling to resist the deformation forces.
- Grouting : It is necessary to know the position of the slip surface. It then seems that a thin layer of grout is injected along the slip surface. This probably results in an increase in the angle of friction

There are other specialized techniques

eg Electro osmosis

Electro chemical hardening

#### c) PREVENTION OF INTERNAL EROSION.

This is in the case where flow from a sandy material is removing soil. eg Newhaven.

Solved by reverse filters

The validity of the  $\phi=0$  analysis is restricted to saturated soils (stiff fissured clays under a reduction of normal stress are an exception) in which insufficient time has elapsed, after the stress change considered, for an increase or decrease in water content to occur. It is therefore an end of construction method. Whether the factor of safety subsequent to construction will have a lower value depends on the sign and magnitude of the stress change. Essentially this method is restricted to use only when the field conditions correspond to the lab conditions i.e. where the shear stress tending to cause failure is applied under undrained conditions. There is an error due to the fact that the principal stress directions, <sup>in more practical problems</sup> differ from those in the laboratory. This is not usually worked out and has been discussed by Hansen and Gibson.

### Stability of cuts.

The pore pressure equation

$$\Delta u = B \{ \Delta \sigma_3 + A(\Delta \sigma_1 + \Delta \sigma_3) \}$$

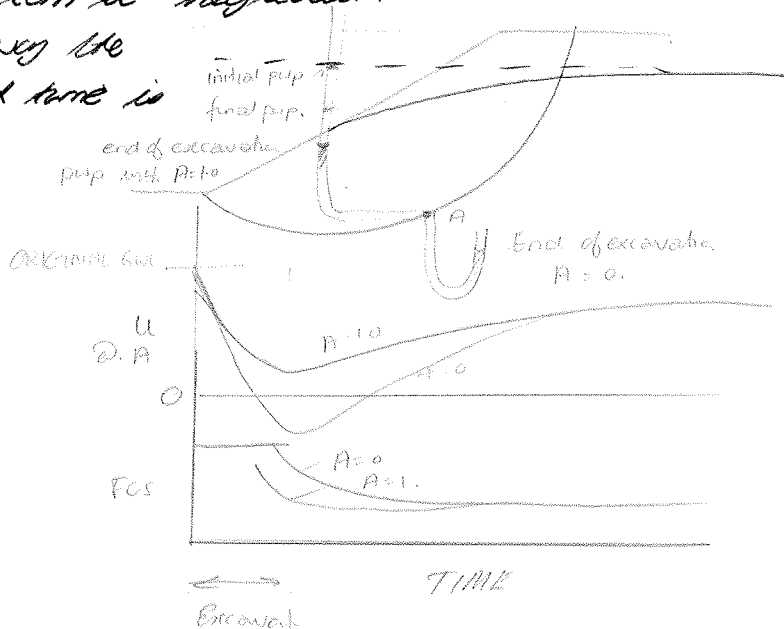
may be written for  $B=1.0$

$$\Delta u = \frac{\Delta \sigma_1 + \Delta \sigma_3}{2} + (A - \frac{1}{2})(\Delta \sigma_1 - \Delta \sigma_3)$$

This shows that the reduction in mean principal stress will lead to a decrease in pore pressure and the shear term will also lead to a reduction unless  $A > \frac{1}{2}$ , if the unknown effect on pore pressure of the changes in principal stress direction can be neglected.

A typical example showing the variation of the FOS with time is thus as follows.

In the majority of cases unless special drainage measures have to be taken to lower the final G.N.L. the FOS reaches its minimum value under the long term equilibrium.



In temporary work where the end of construction condition is of primary interest the factor of safety may be calculated using the  $\phi_u = 0$  analysis and the undrained shear strength. This method may also be used to check that the initial factor of safety is not lower than the long term factor of safety, as it avoids the necessity of explicitly determining the stress distribution and pore pressure values at the end of construction.

The method however does not give satisfactory results with stiff fissured clays when ordinary methods of testing are employed. The F.O.S is far too high and it is due to the fact that the unconfined  $\sigma_{ult}$  is measured under normally procedure.

The measured strength is too high because of

1. Rate of testing too fast
2. Size of sample is not representative

#### d. Natural Slopes:

It may be thought that the factor of safety for a long term slope stability problem could be calculated using the  $\phi = 0$  analysis using the undrained strength of samples from the slope where pore pressure and water content equilibrium have been attained.

A large number of case records indicated that this is very unreliable because:

The fundamental difference is that in the undrained test the pore pressure is a function of the stress applied during the test and is not necessarily equal to the pore pressure in situ. To obtain a factor of safety of 1.0 for a slope in permanent equilibrium using undrained tests would require that the same pore pressure should be set up in the sample when the in-situ normal and shear stresses were replaced. This is in general prevented by the irreversibility of the shear strain characteristics of the soil and by the changes in the principal stress directions.

The problem is made worse by the fact that

The water content changes both in overconsolidated and in sensitive clays are very localized at failure and samples which do not pick up these layers have very little bearing on the stability analysis

Inter-relationship between  $\phi=0$  and effective stress analysis

1. Both total and effective stress methods of stability analysis will agree in giving a F.O.S = 1.0 for a soil mass brought to limiting equilibrium by a change in stress under undrained conditions

2. Although the F is the same the position of the critical sliding surface will be different in each case. The closer the value of  $\phi$  approximates to the true angle of internal friction the more realistic is the position of the failure surface

The choice of  $\phi=0$  method for short term stability is thus generally a matter of convenience as

1. Pore pressures don't have to be explicitly calculated.

2. Gaps between slices can be neglected unless the slip surface is non-circular.

For factors of safety greater than 1.0 the two methods will not in general give numerically equal values of F. In the effective stress method the pore pressure is predicted for the stresses in the soil under the actual loading conditions and the value of F expresses the amount of  $c'$  and  $\phi'$  necessary for limiting equilibrium. The total stress method implicitly uses a value of pore pressure related to the pore pressure at failure in the undrained test. The high F shown by the  $\phi=0$  analysis on a slope of o.c. clay where the pore pressures tend to drop during shear will not be shown to be some extent in  $c' \phi'$  analysis.

A comparison between  $c' \phi'$  and  $\phi_u$  methods can only be made when the shear stress tending to cause instability has been applied under undrained conditions

## Measurement of undrained shear strength

The undrained strength is obtained from undrained triaxial tests on undisturbed samples (or from unconfined compression tests, except on stiff fissured clays) and from vane tests in situ.

It is also determined from plate loading tests and large in-situ shear box tests.

It cannot be obtained, without mark of error on the unsafe side, from consolidated undrained tests where the sample is reconsolidated under the overburden pressure. This effect is serious in N.C. clays of low plasticity.

It is probably more realistic to calculate the value of the pore pressure parameter  $A$  for undisturbed soil from the relationship between the undrained strength of undisturbed samples and the values of  $c'$  or  $\phi'$  rather than to measure it in a C.U. test.

The value of  $A$  measured on an undisturbed sample in an undrained test is very different from that the in-situ value under the same change in stress. This is because of the stress history given to the sample on removal from the ground. The release of the deviator stress existing in samples normally consolidated under no lateral yield plays a large part in this alteration.

Tests have shown that the effective stresses in a sample when unconfined or under an all round pressure may be  $< \frac{1}{2}$  the in situ values. However when the sample is failed the strength determined agrees closely to that measured in the field.

This is consistent with the observations that for a limited number of soils and stress paths the strength and the water content are uniquely related. If this is the fact that provides the empirical justification for the use of the  $\phi = 0$  analysis then the reconsolidated the samples under the existing overburden pressure will inevitably lead to an overestimate of the in-situ strength of the soil.