

Deep excavations

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A BETTER TOMORROW made possible

Mirny diamond
mine
East Siberia

1200 m diameter
550 m deep



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Deep excavations

- Some thoughts on soil investigation
 - ◆ Where did the soil come from?
 - ◆ Where did the rocks come from?
 - ◆ Where did the earth come from?

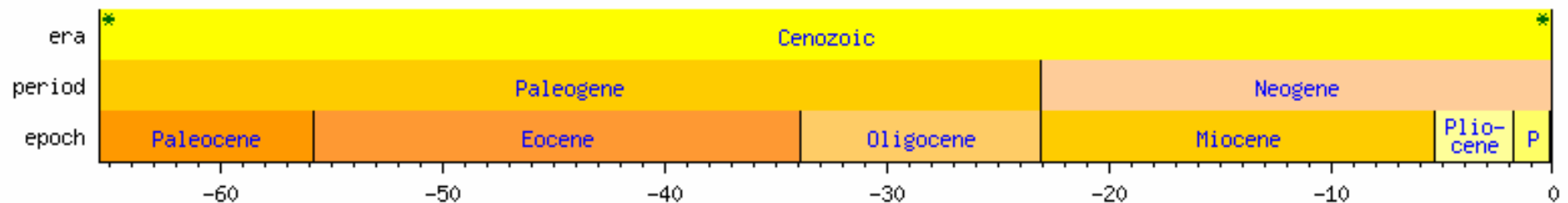
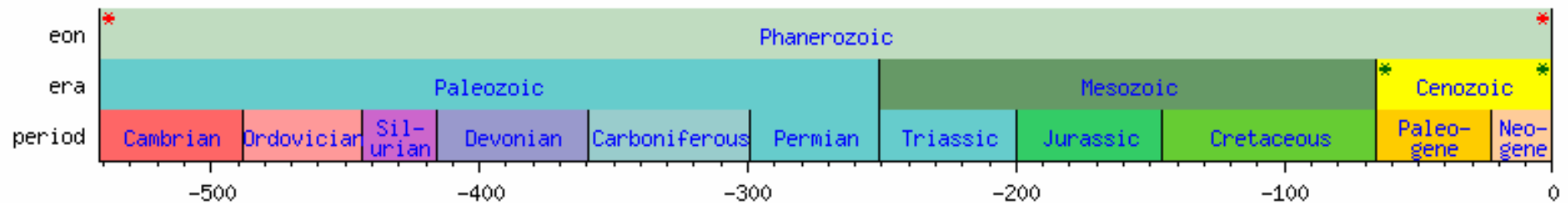
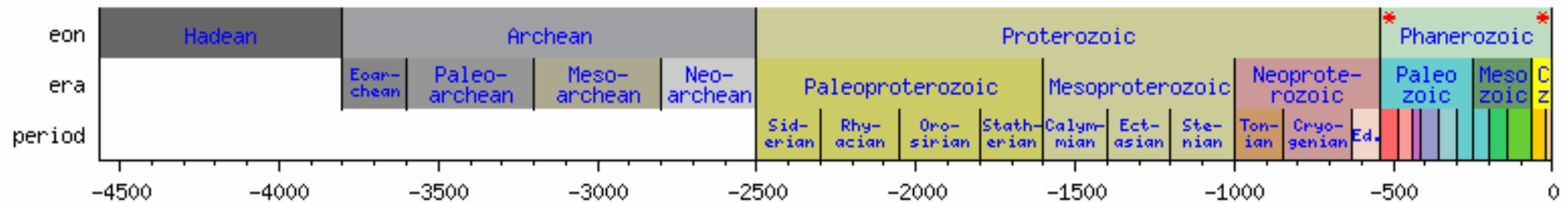
Deep excavations

- Earth born about 4.5 billion years ago
- Solidified cloud of dust and gases left over from creation of the Sun
- For about 500 million years cooled down and core became about 2,000°C
- Oldest rocks on earth's surface about 4.4 billion years old – about 2.5 billion in North Australia
- Radioactive decay caused heating/melting. Iron moved to centre, forced silicates upwards

Deep excavations

- There would have been volcanoes and lava flows, but a thin fairly stable crust formed
- Depressions filled with water rising from within
- Water cycle started
- Weathering of the igneous and volcanic rocks followed
- Erosion through streams and rivers led to deposition as sediments

Deep excavations



Deep excavations

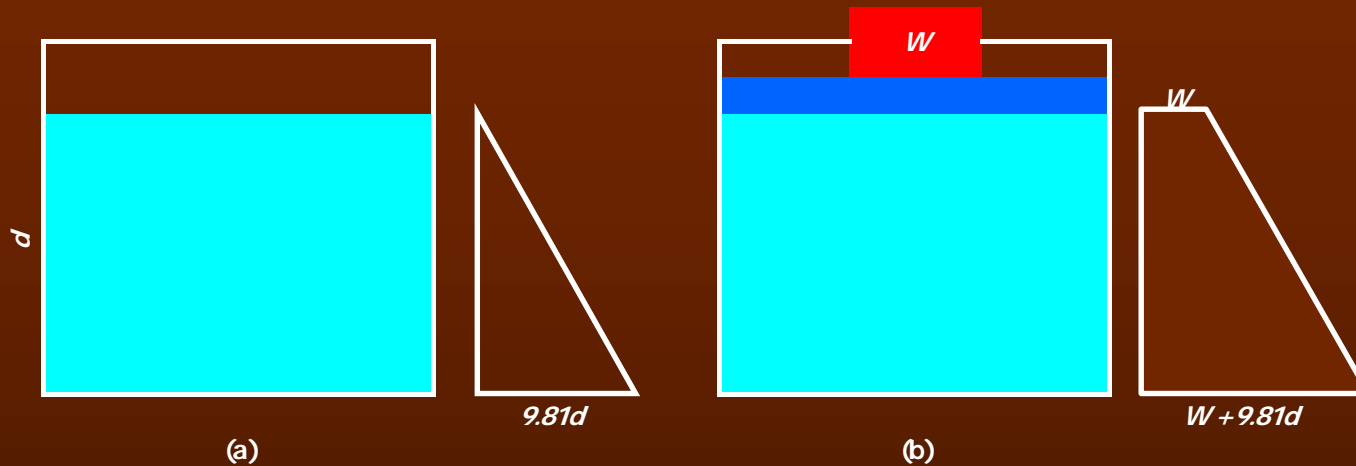
- Oldest rocks around Brisbane about 390 million years
- All soil sediments deposited in Pleistocene (last 2 million years)
- Current deposition is Holocene, about the same as man, last 10,000 years
- Deposition starts as boulders at stream heads, through gravels and sands within river to silts at estuary/delta and marine deposits beneath sea
- Subsequent layers lead to high vertical stresses and consolidation

Deep excavations

- Soil behaviour defined by stress history
- Loose sediments become denser/stiffer through consolidation
- Overconsolidation – caused by glaciation, erosion
- Lateral stresses of stiffened soils – tectonic action, folding, faulting

Deep excavations

Looking first at a tank full of water



Now considering soil, vertical stress is

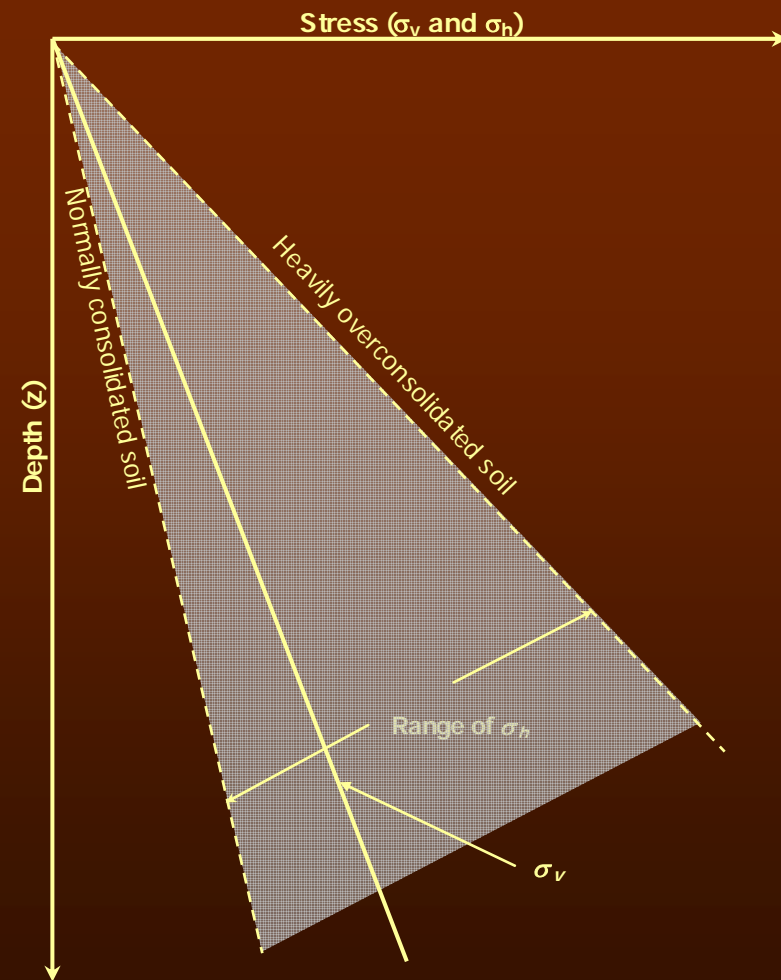
$$\sigma_v = \sum_{i=1}^n z_i \gamma_i$$

Deep excavations

- Assume $\sigma_h = K\sigma_v$
- K = coefficient of lateral earth pressure
- Not a constant – function of:
 - ◆ Soil properties – particle size and shape
 - ◆ Position – varies within a layer
 - ◆ Time – effects of excavation, loading etc
 - ◆ Therefore of stress history – effects of eg glaciation (London Clay)

Deep excavations

Overconsolidation ratios of up to about 100 have been measured



Deep excavations

- Define coefficient of lateral earth pressure at rest K_0
 - ◆ Normally consolidated soils < 1 , maybe 0.4 to 0.5
 - ◆ Overconsolidated soils and decomposed rocks, maybe 3



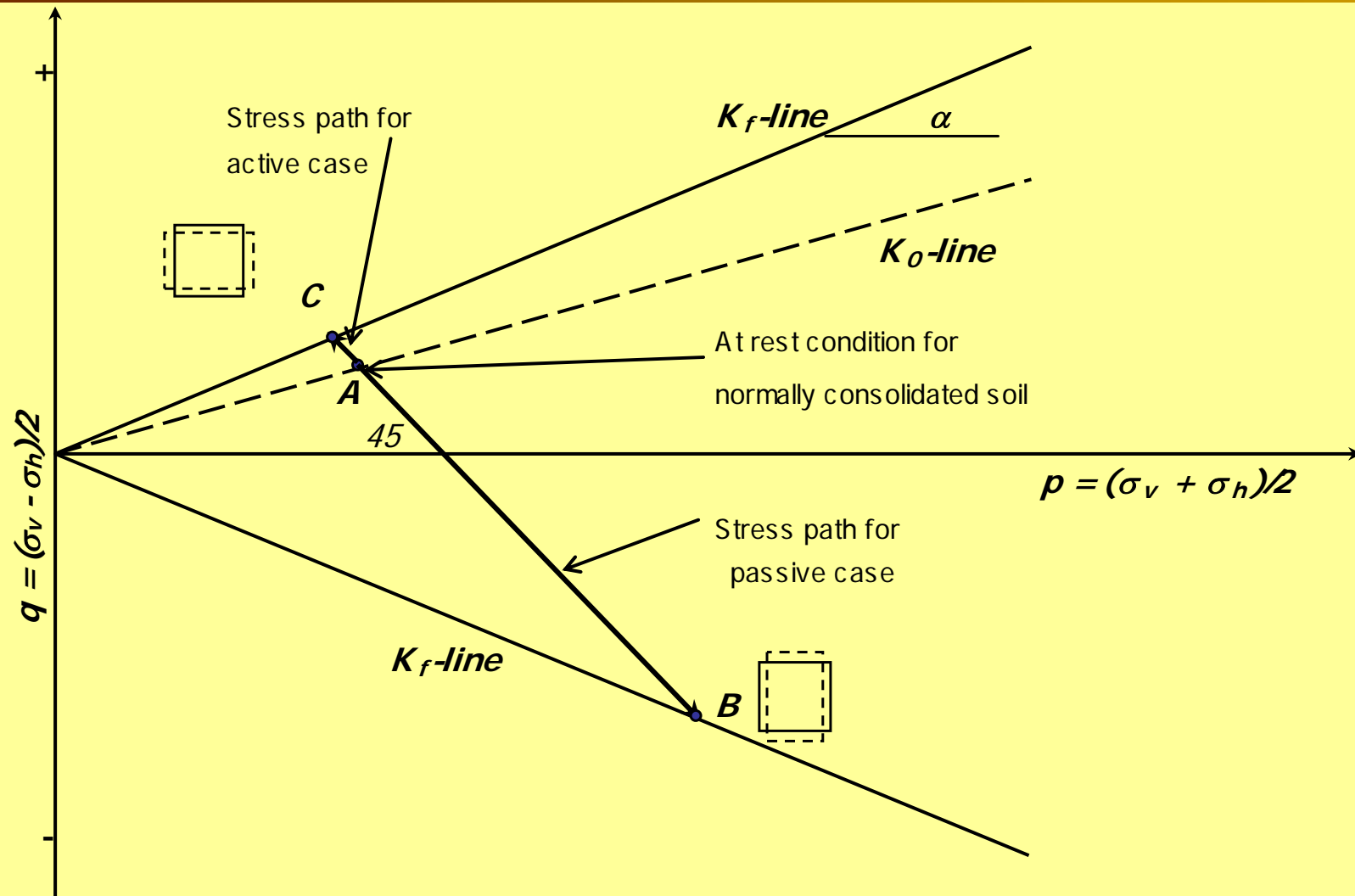
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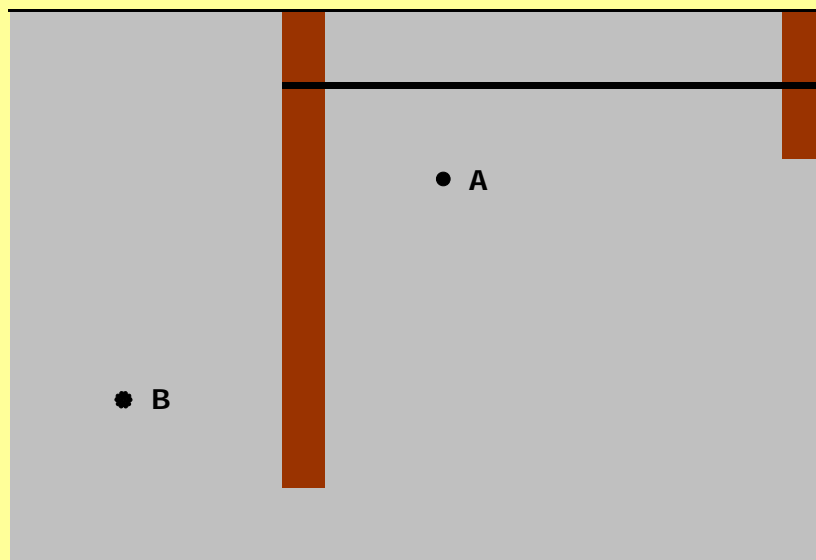
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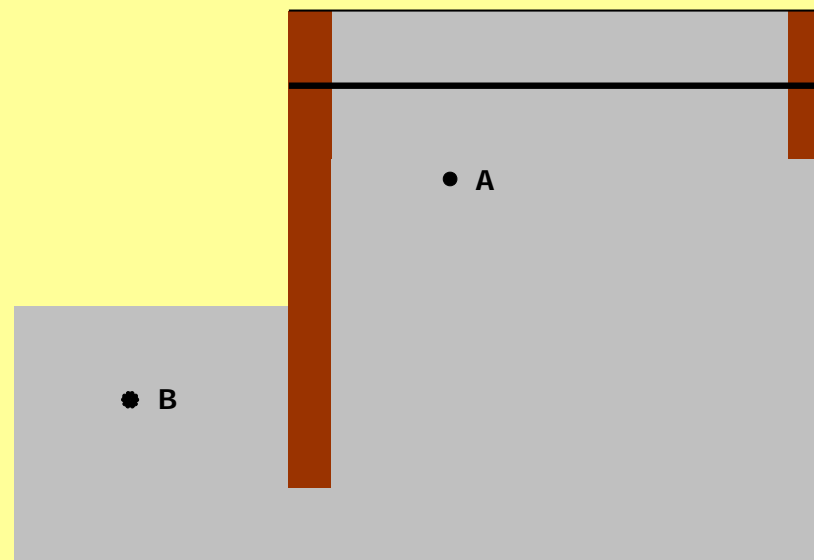
Deep excavations

- Rankine states
 - ◆ Active pressure limit K_a — *as soil is stretched, e.g. upper part of wall moving towards excavation*
 - ◆ Passive pressure limit K_p — *as soil is compressed horizontally, e.g. toe of wall moving towards excavation*





(a)

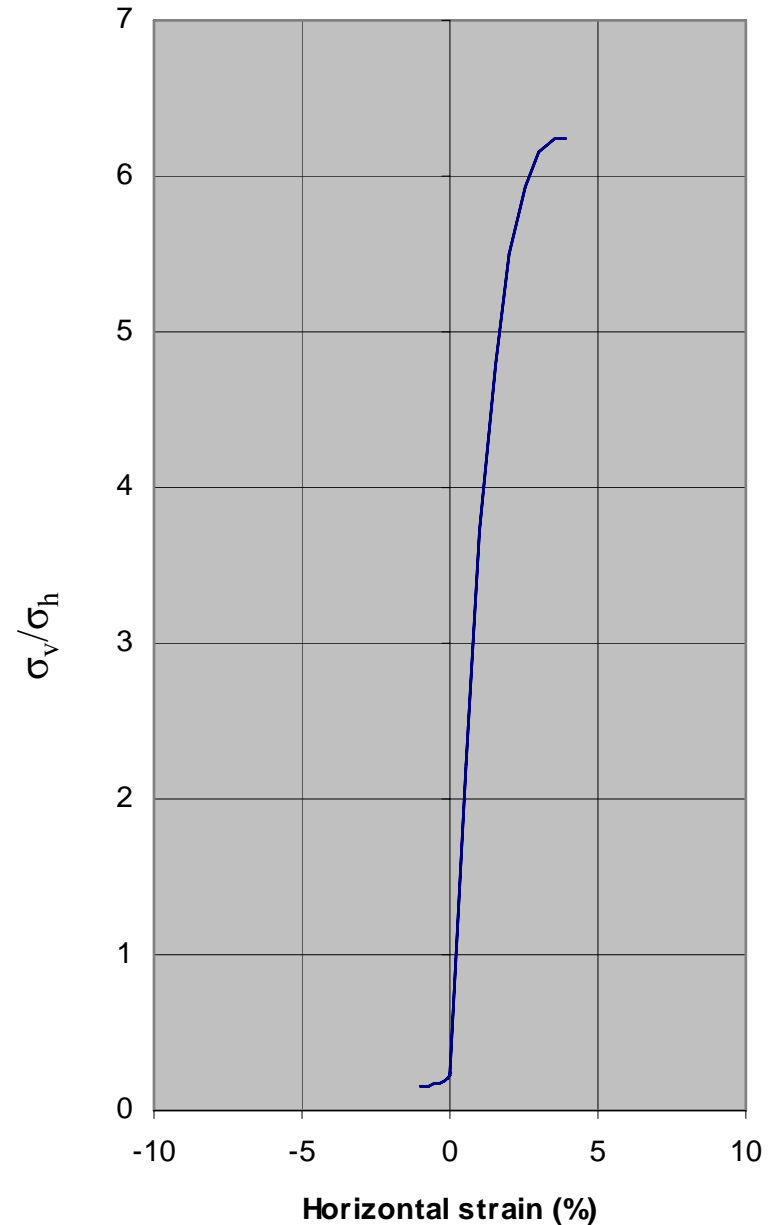


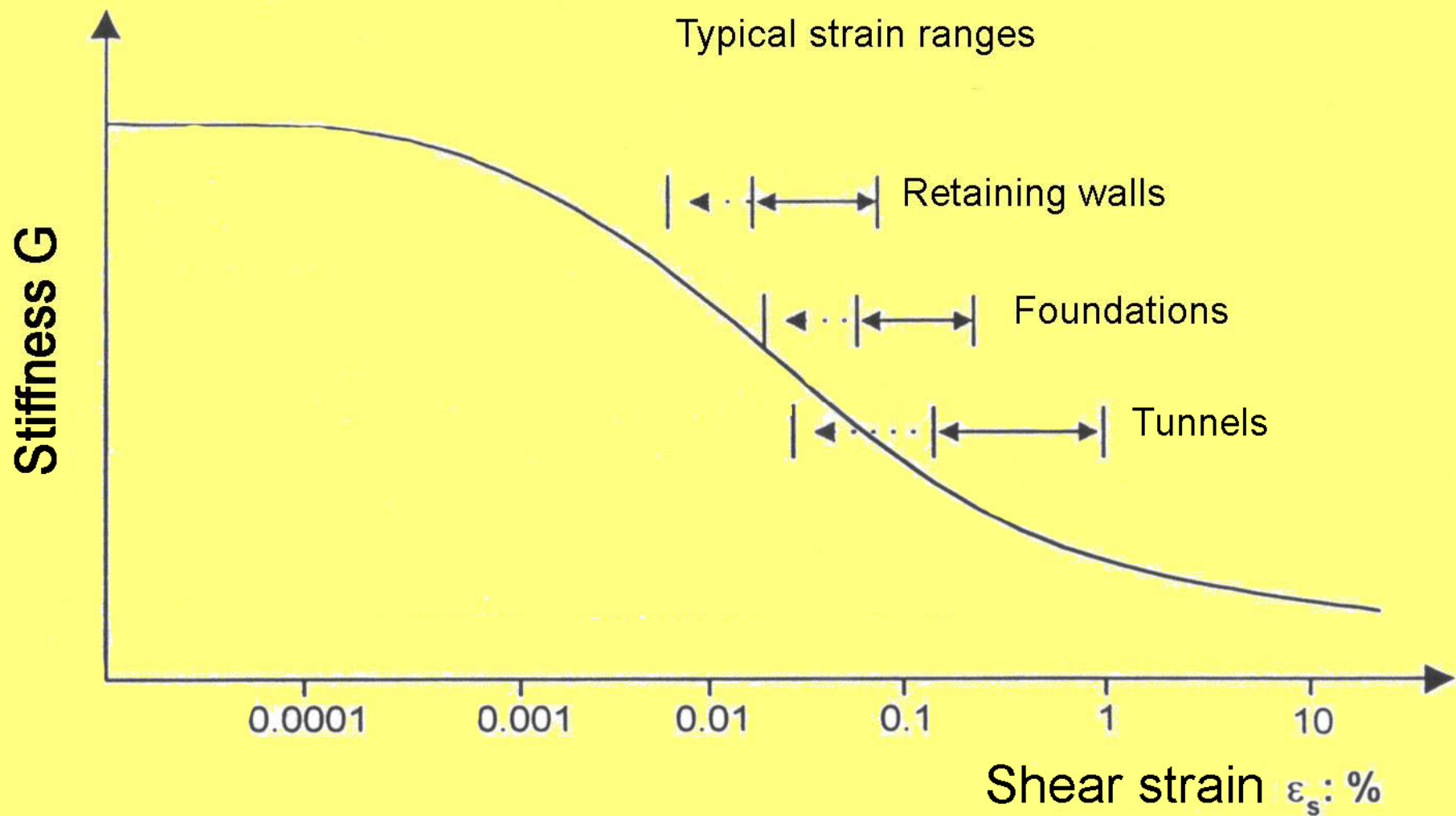
(b)

Compression Unloading test and
Extension Loading test on dense
sand. Note:

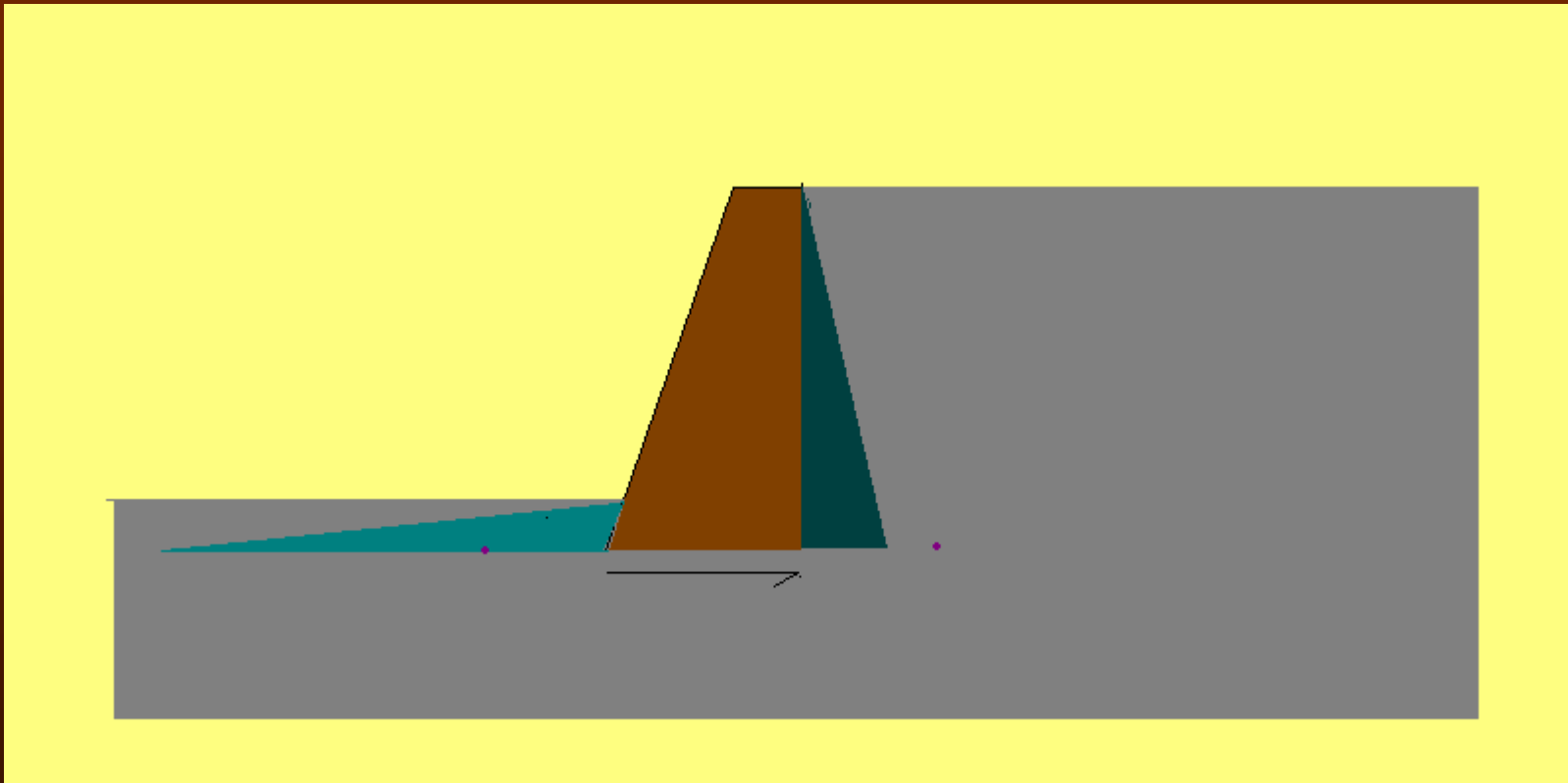
- Strain to active state $\sim 0.5\%$
- Strain to half passive state $\sim 0.5\%$
- Strain to full passive state $\sim 3\%$

For loose sand strain to full passive
state $\sim 15\%$





Gravity wall – large strains



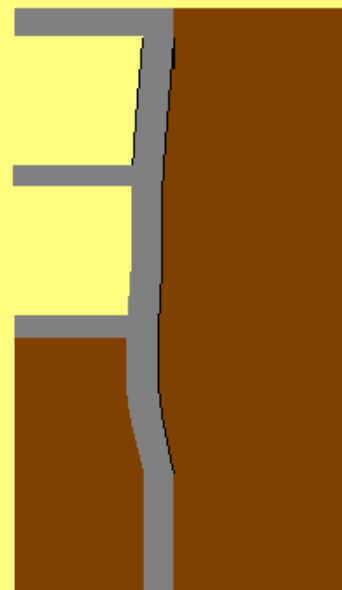
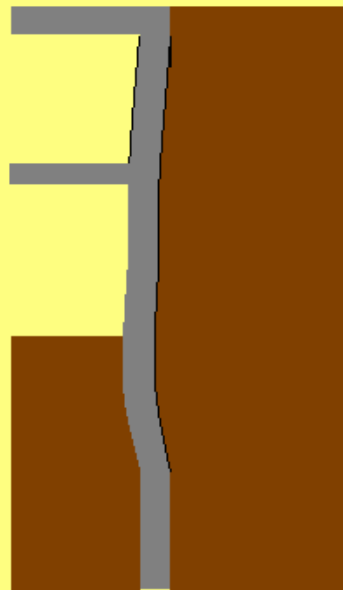
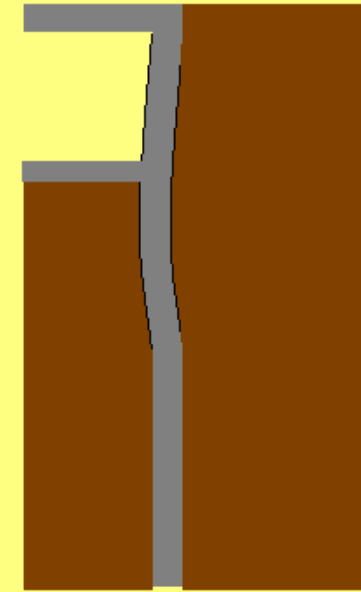
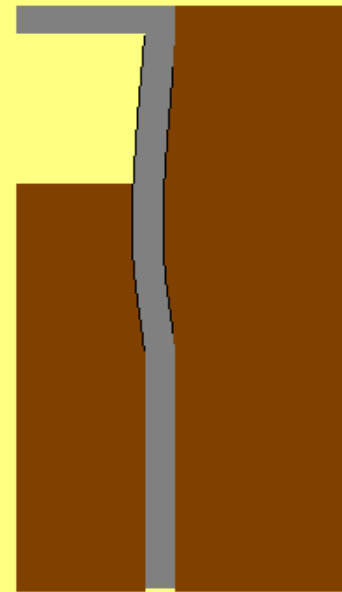
Deep excavations

Sheet pile walls

- Mana and Clough (1981) suggest 0.2 to 2%
- Baggett and Buttling (1977) ~ 1.4%

Diaphragm walls

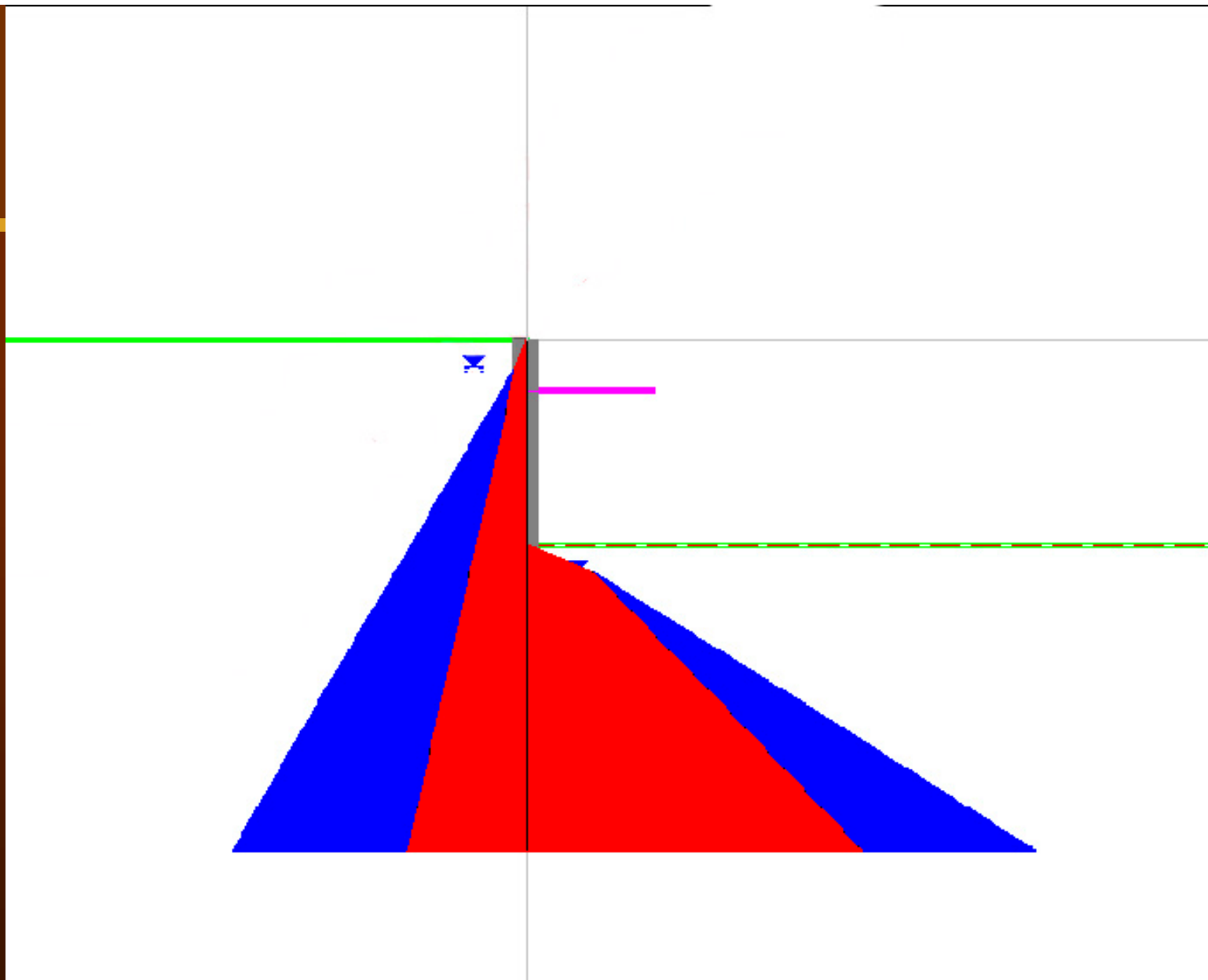
Small strains;
~ 0.1% for top
down and 0.2%
for strutted
excavations



Horizontal movements increase progressively as excavation proceeds downwards. Typical values are about 0.1% of excavation depth for good workmanship in reasonable soil

Deep excavations

- Diaphragm walls – “Concurrent tunnelling and station excavation at Bangkok MRTA North” – Yeow, Gaba & Pillai – 15th SEAGC
 - ◆ Use of BRICK model and CamClay – very small strains = high stiffness = low soil pressure = low bending moment = low reinforcement requirement = cost saving.
 - ◆ After construction, wall stiffness is low, so IF error occurs, higher pressure = higher bending moment = greater deflection = lower stiffness = higher pressure = higher bending moment = greater deflection = lower stiffness = higher pressure = higher bending moment



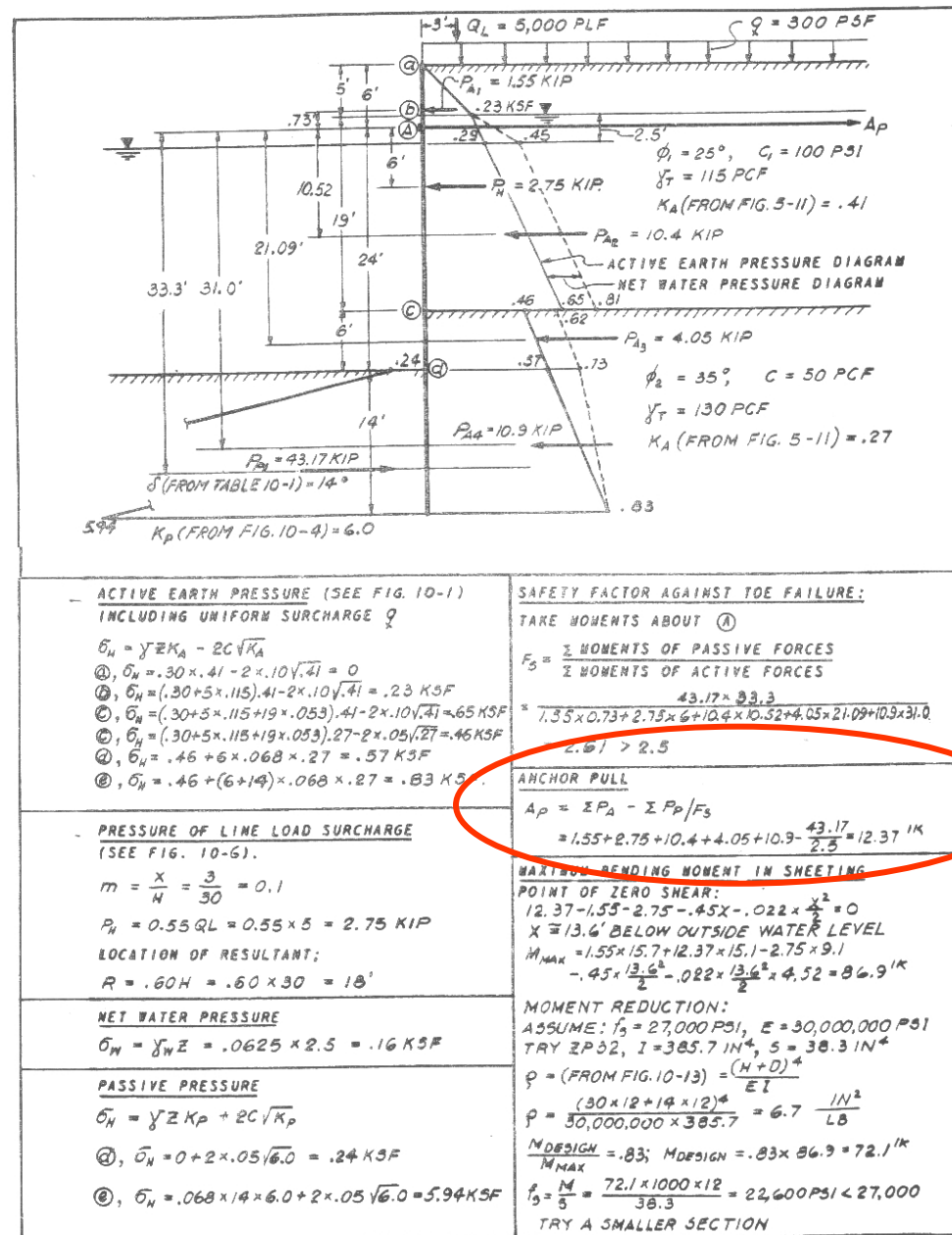


FIGURE 10-15
Example of Analysis of Anchored Bulkhead