# Analysis of Test Embankments in Soft Clays with and without Ground Improvement

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## Geotechnical Parameters, Stability & Settlement Evaluations

Stability
Lateral Movement
Settlement
Rate of Settlement
Residual Settlement

# Geotechnical Investigation at Nong Ngo Hao Airport Site

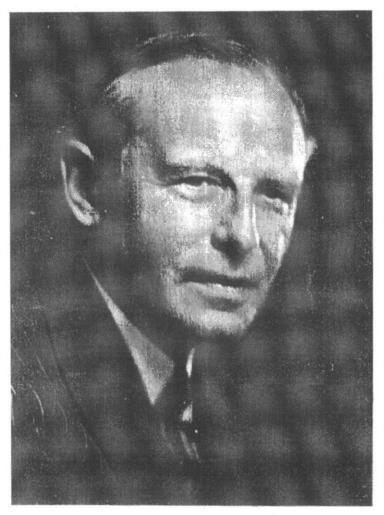
Phase	Year	Title
I	1972 - 1974	Geotechnical Investiga-tions by Asian Institute of Technology and N.D. Lea and Associates, Kampsax
II	1983 - 1984	Pre-loading with Sand Drains, and , Vacuum- Drains; Moh and Associates and NACO
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Full scale fields with prefabricated vertical drains (PVD) at the Second Bangkok International Airport

### Laboratory testing

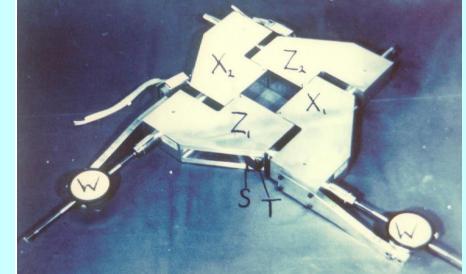
Apparently Karl
Terzaghi had little
faith in single element
tests, theories,
and model tests both 1g
and centrifugal tests
with multiple g

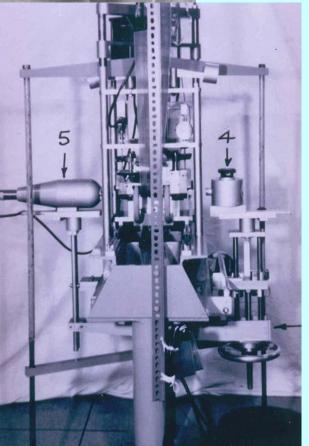


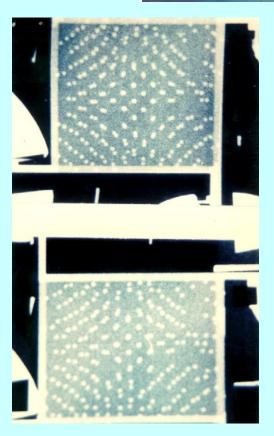
Karl Terzaghi

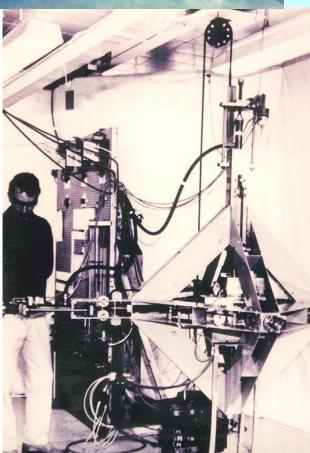


# Laboratory testing

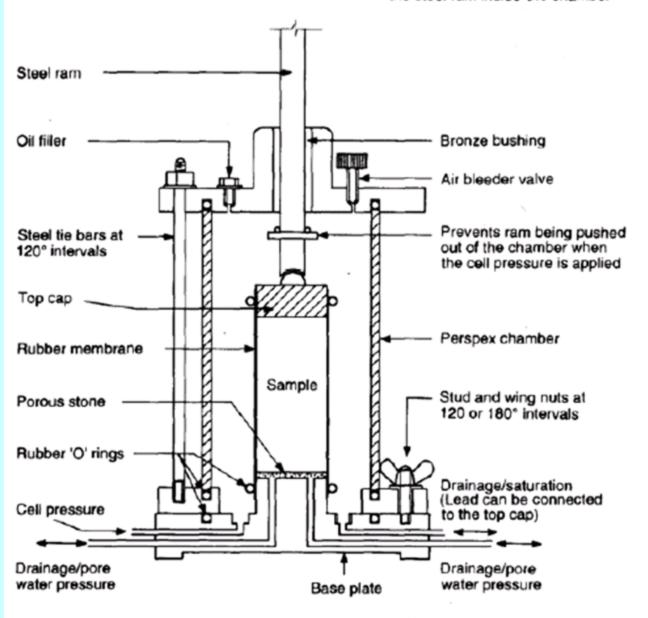




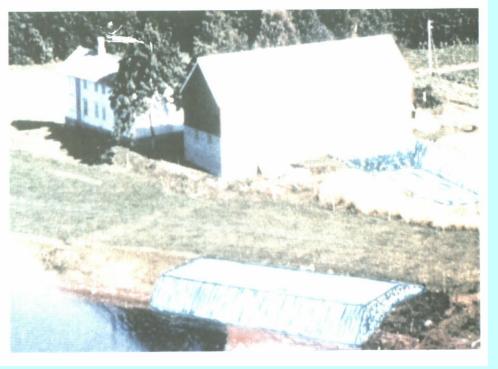


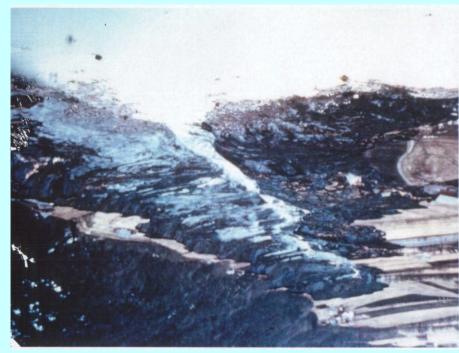


Note: When load measurement uses an electrical load cell this is fitted to the steel ram inside the chamber



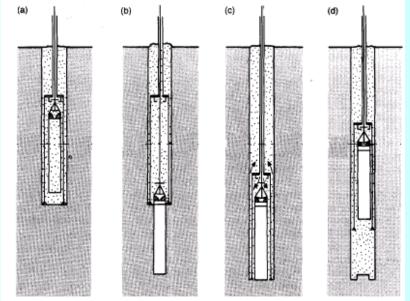
Triaxial cell



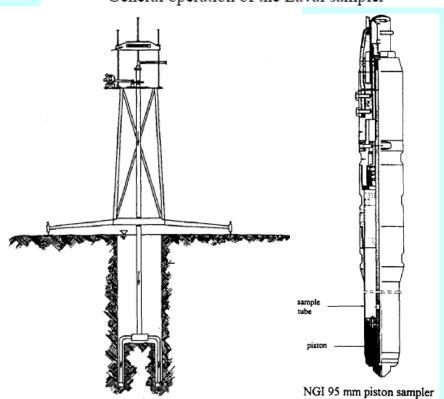


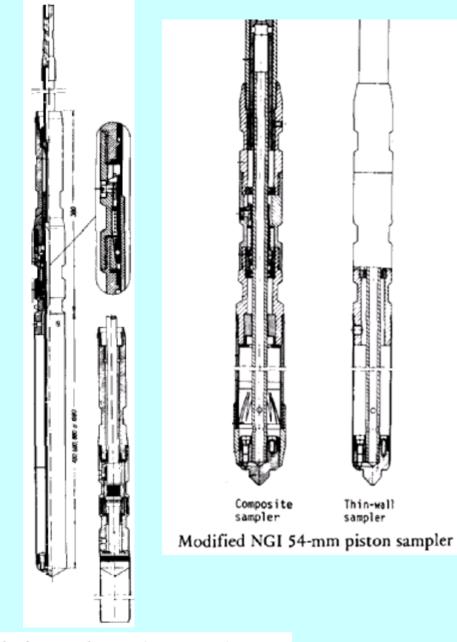




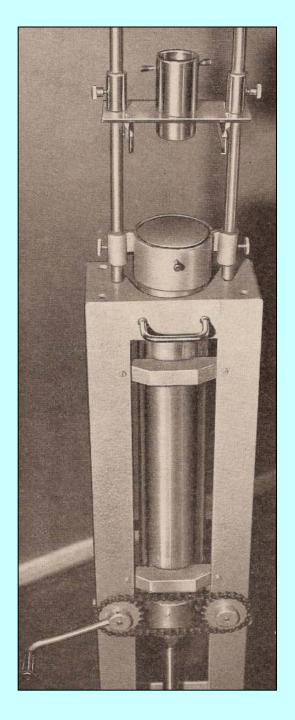


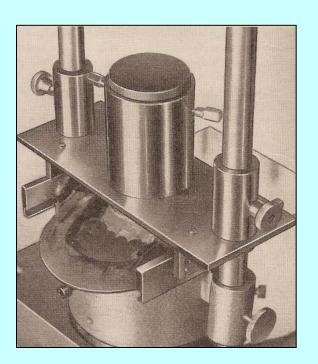
General operation of the Laval sampler

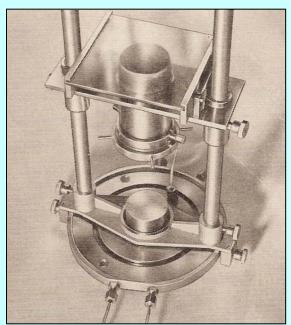


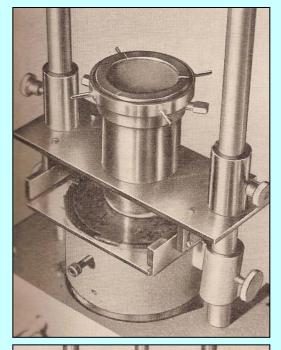


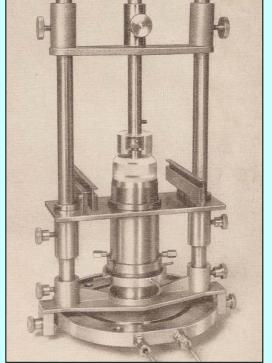
Original NGI 54-mm piston sampler.

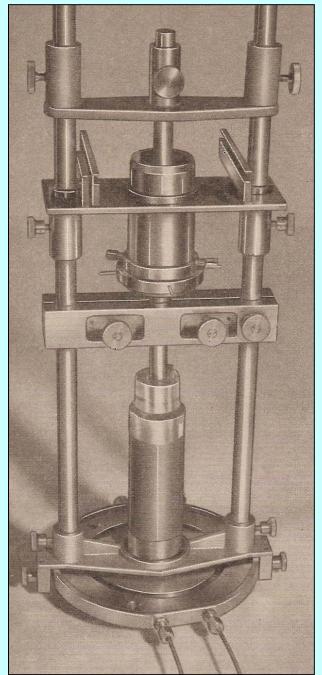


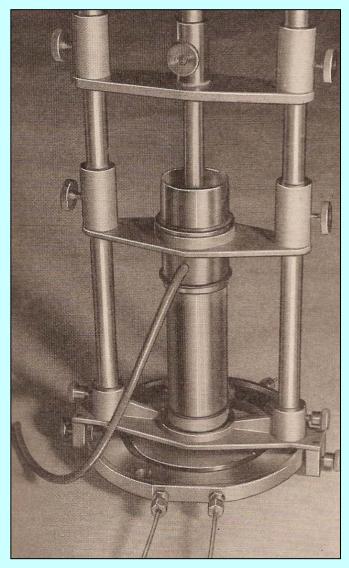




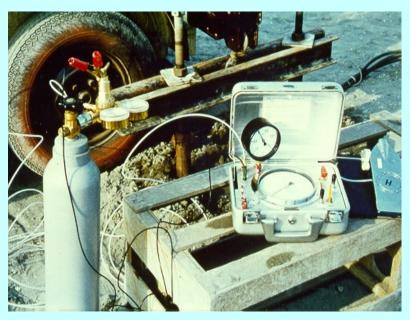


















Vane tests

**CPT-CPTu** 

**Pressuremeter** 

**Dilatometer** 



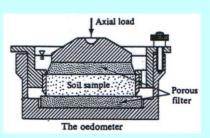
# Large Scaled Tests and Instrumentation

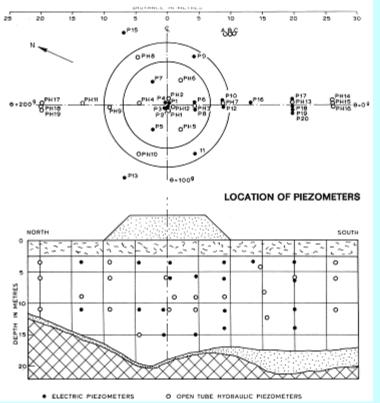
### Major projects

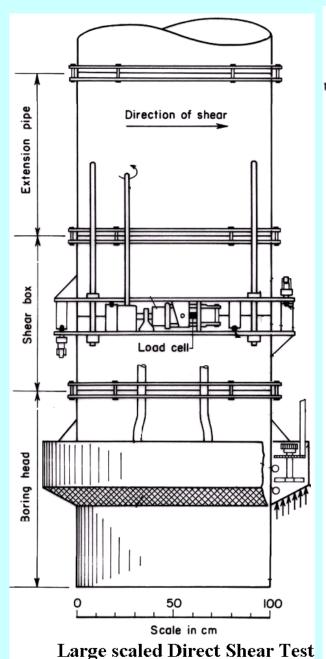
- Oslo, Norway
- Bangkok, Thailand
- Muar site, Malaysia
- Southeast Queensland

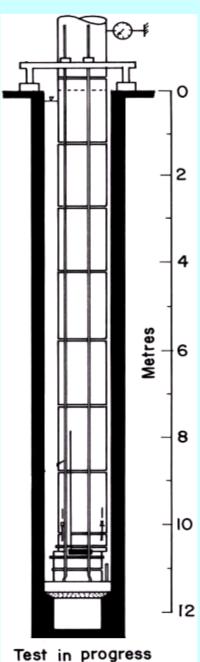
#### **Large Scaled Tests and Instrumentation**











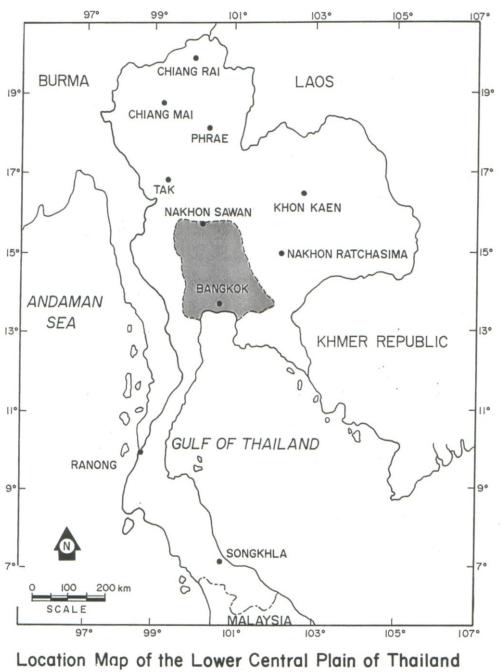
- 1. Gold Coast Highway (stone columns)
- 2. Sunshine Coast Motorway (Vertical drains-PVD)
- 3. Port of Brisbane Motorway (Vertical drains-PVD)

### **Major Projects**

- 1. Instrumented Piles in Sand, Holmen, Drammen, Norway
- 2. Slurry trench excavations for Oslo Subway
- 3. Changi International Airport, Singapore
- 4. Royal Thai Navy Dockyard, Bangkok, Thailand
- 5. Swarnabhumi International Airport, Bangkok, Thailand
- 6. North-South Expressway, Malaysia
- 7. Colombo-Katunayake Expressway, Sri Lanka
- 8. Bangpo-Thermal Power Plant, Bangkok, Thailand



#### **Large Scaled Tests and** Instrumentation



Showing Approximate Location of Bangkok

# Geotechnical Investigation at Nong Ngo Hao Airport Site

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Full scale fields with prefabricated vertical drains (PVD) at the Second Bangkok International Airport





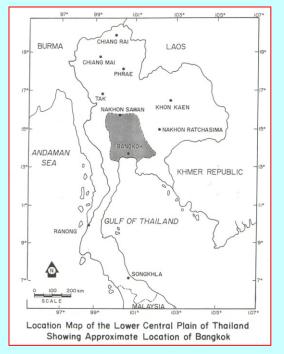


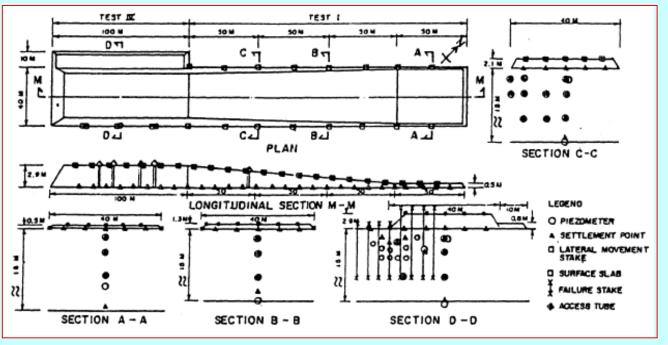




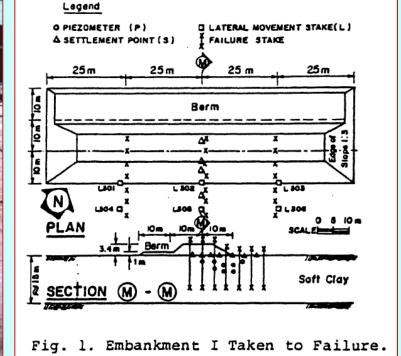


Royal Thai Navy Dockyard



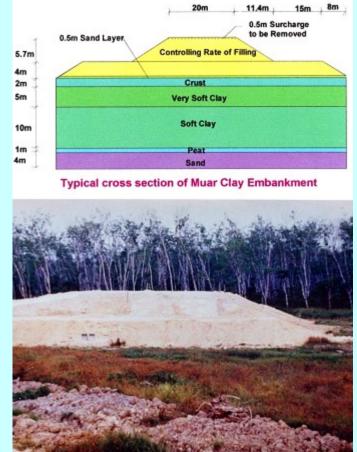


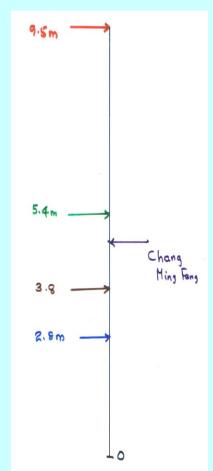


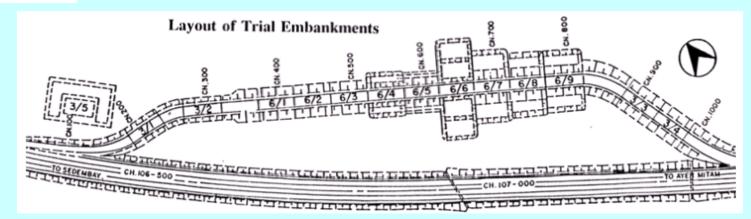






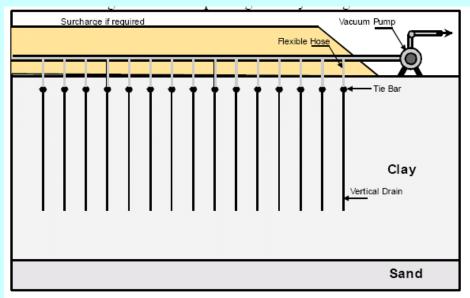






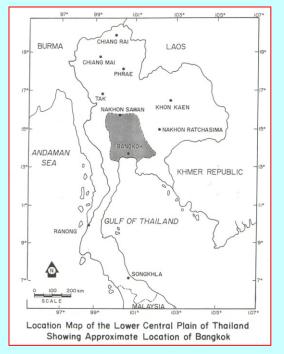


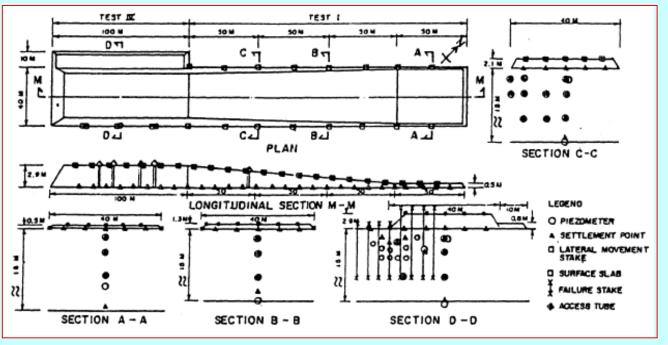




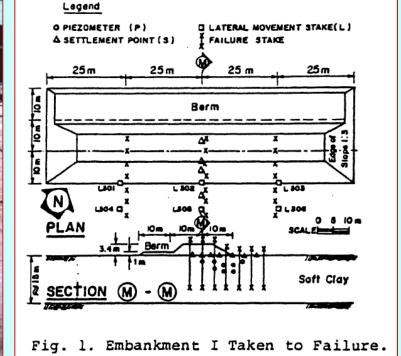


Typical Vacuum Consolidation System





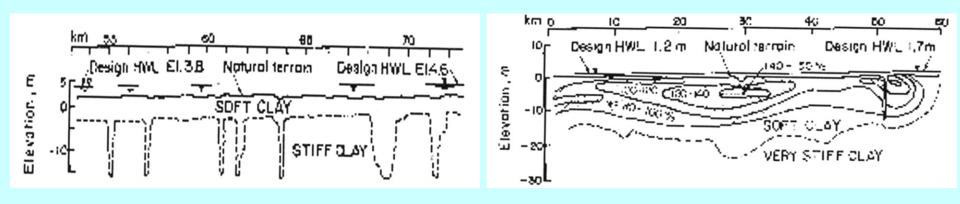


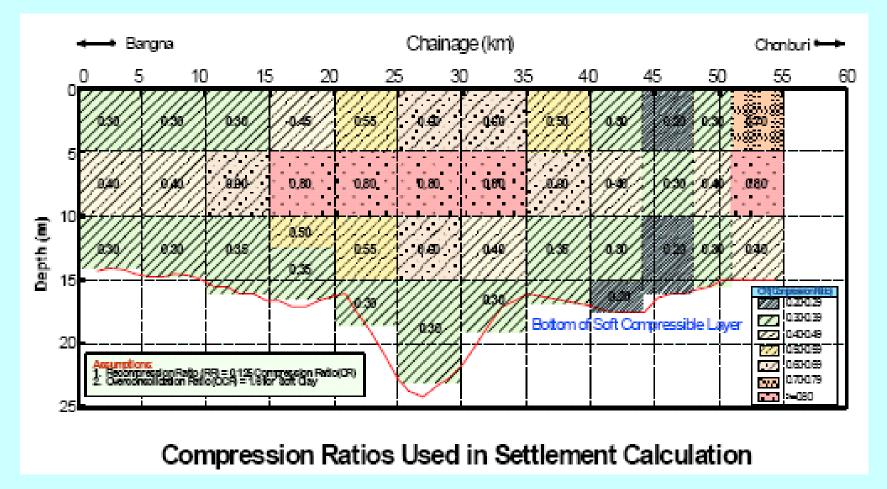


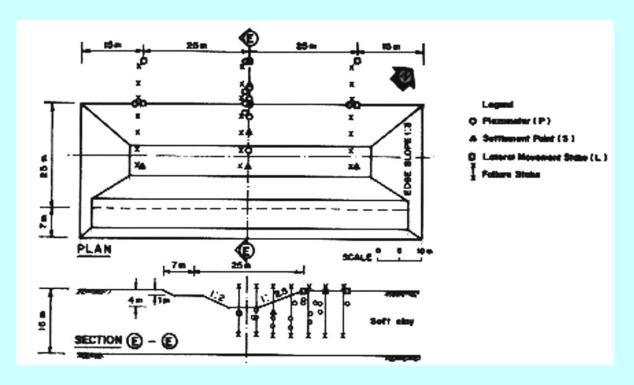
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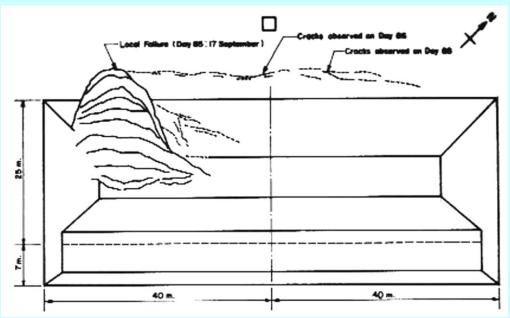
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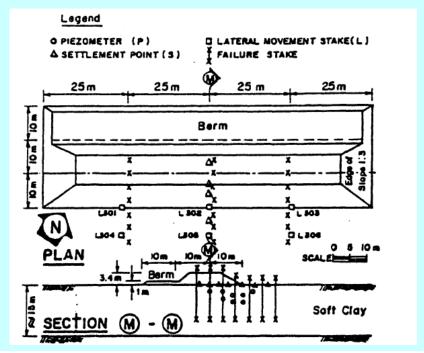
- 1. The need to characterize the various soil layers and to identify the possible presence or absence of deep gullies of soft clays would have resulted in having a large number of boreholes and insitu tests.
- 2. The test embankments and the excavation were carried out to monitor the field settlements under various magnitude of surcharge and to ensure the stability of the embankment and the excavation on a full scale basis and to compare the values estimated from single element laboratory tests and small scale in-situ tests

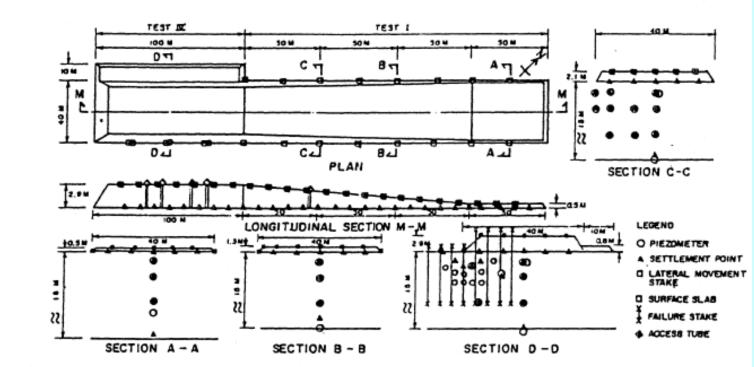




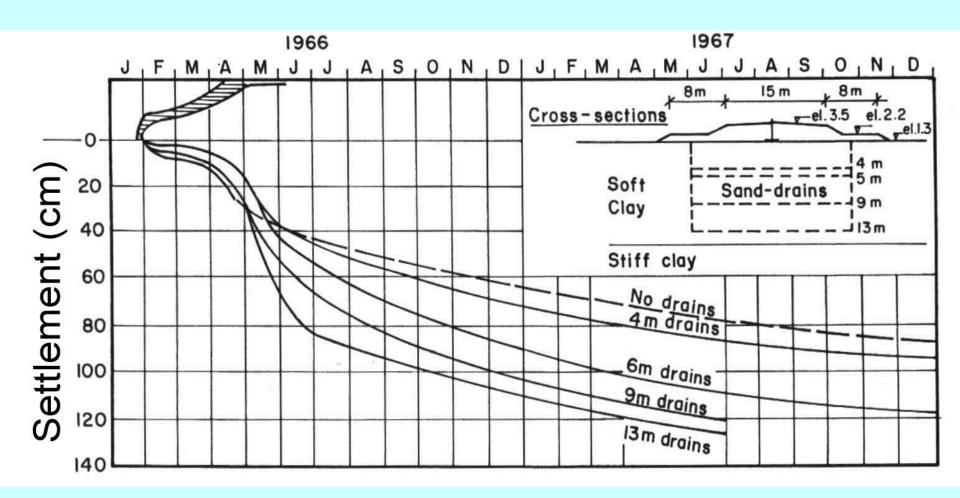








### Sand Drain





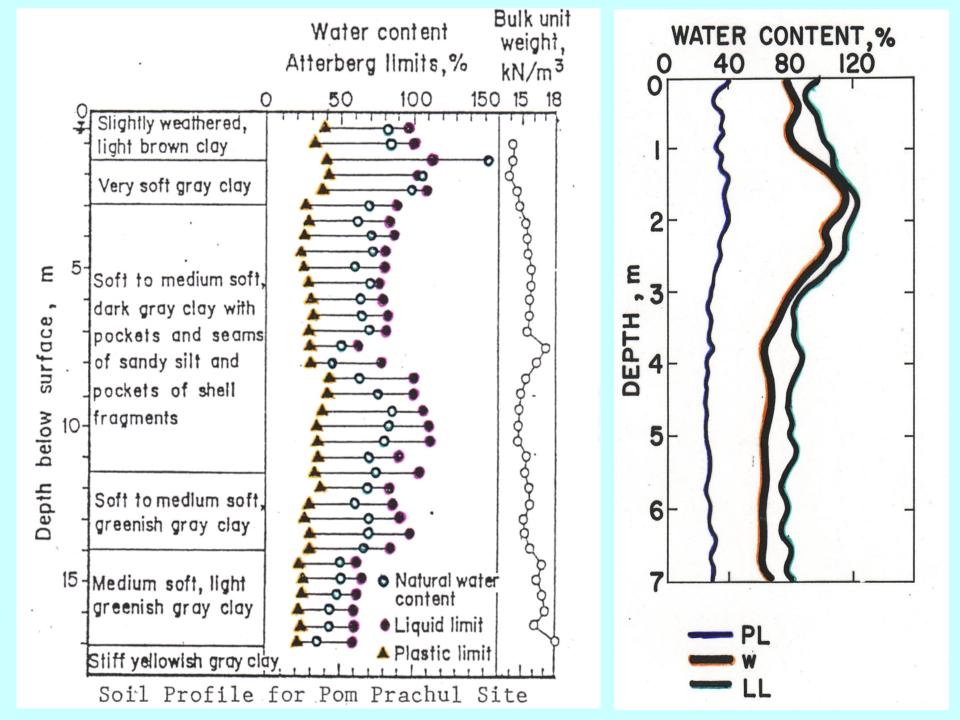


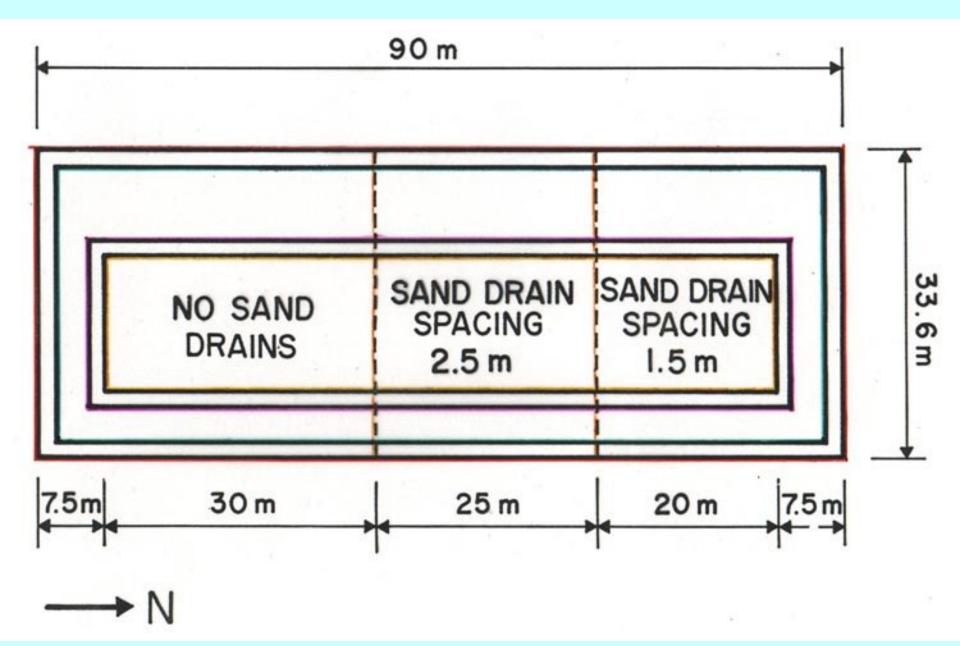


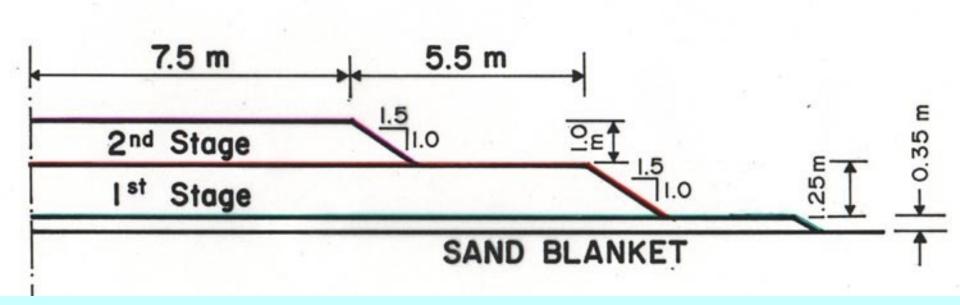


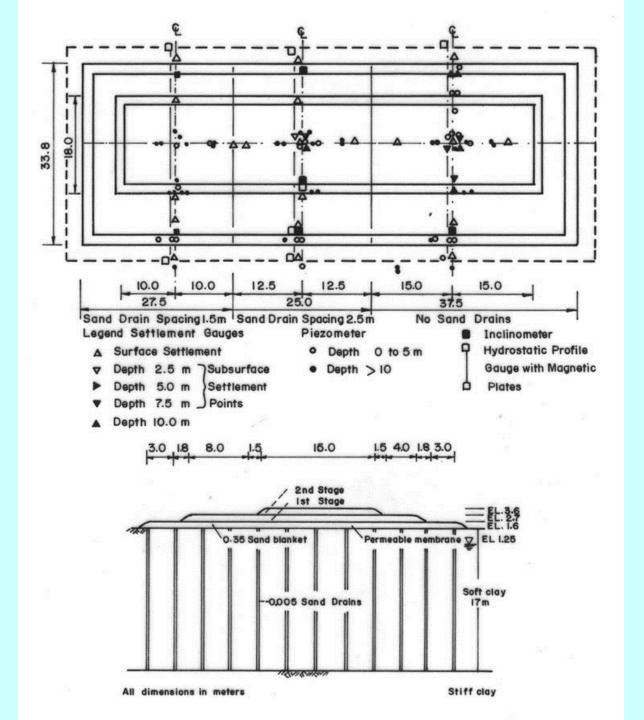


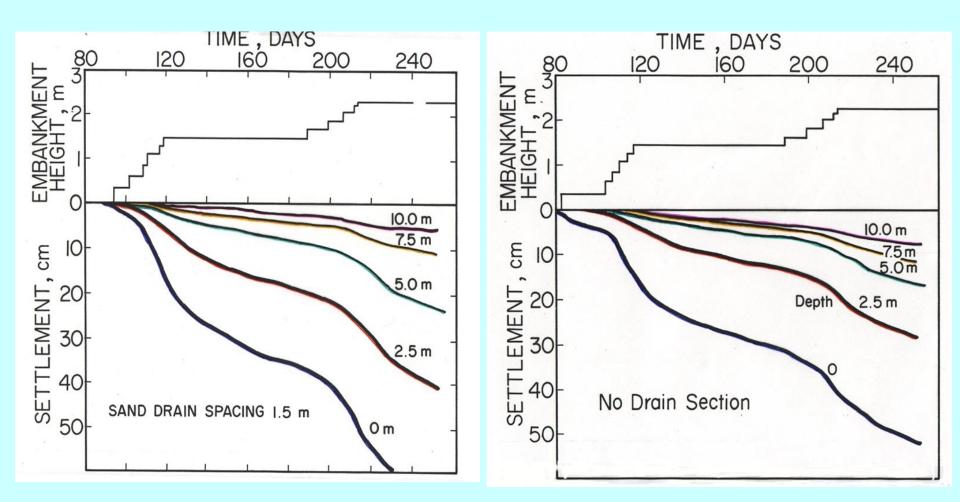
Royal Thai Navy Dockyard

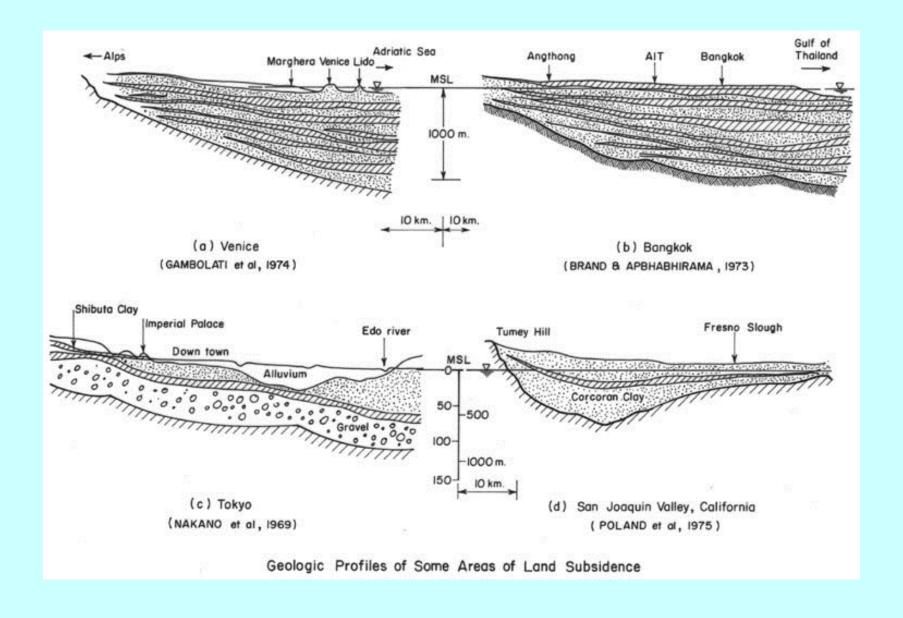


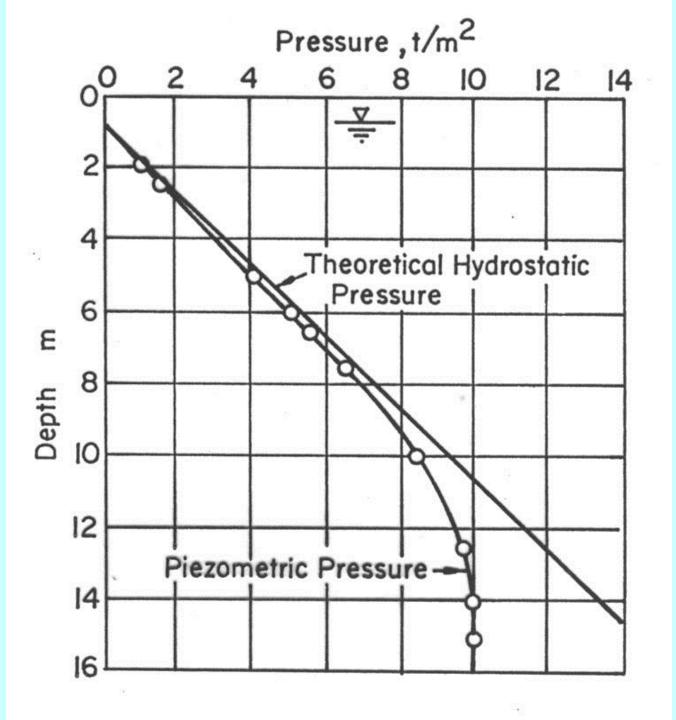


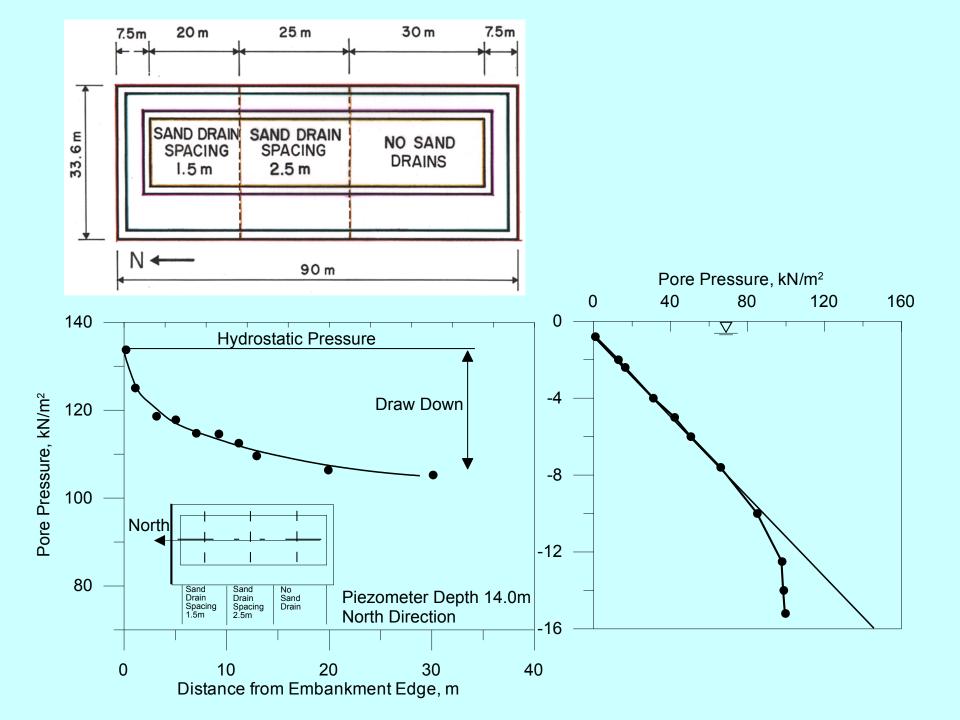


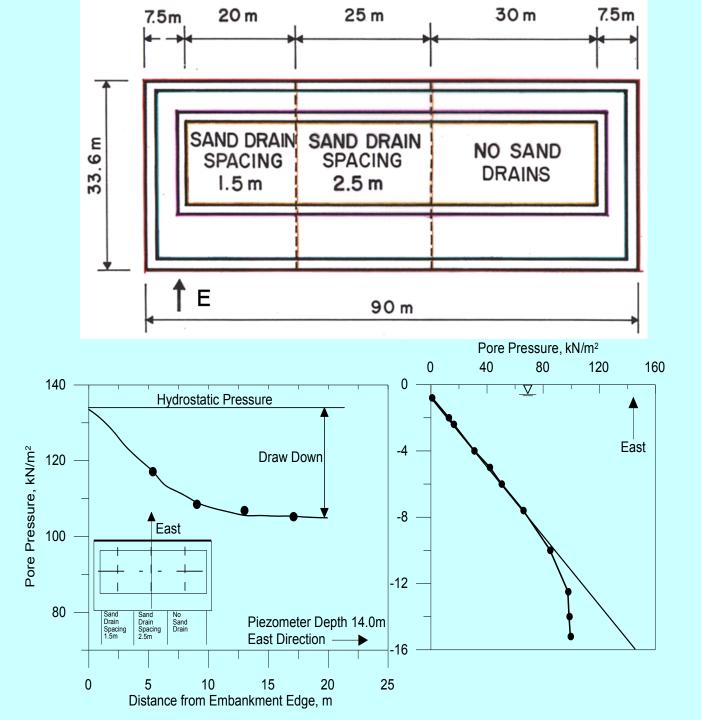


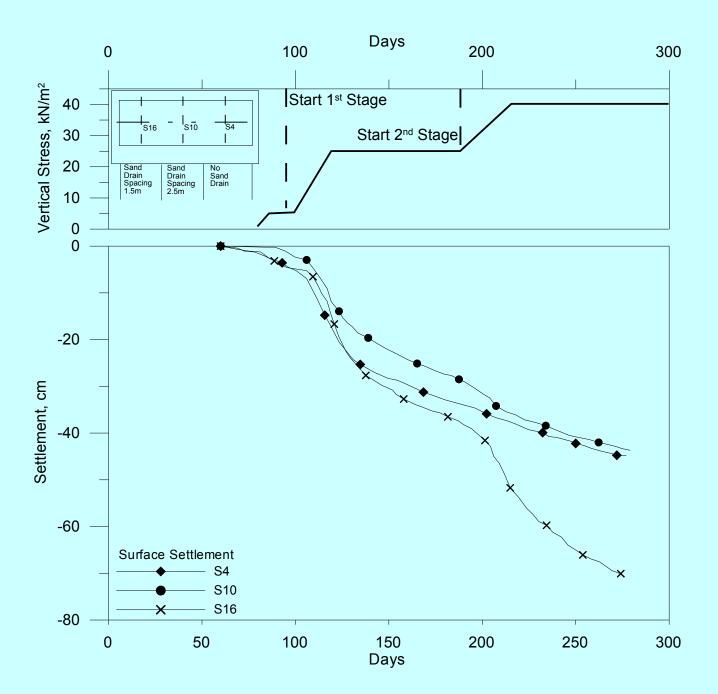












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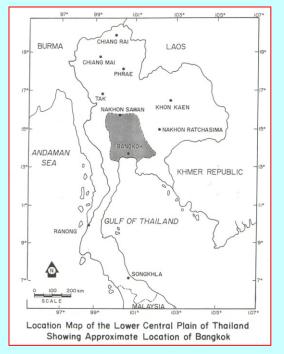
## Surprises and ill-conceived ideas

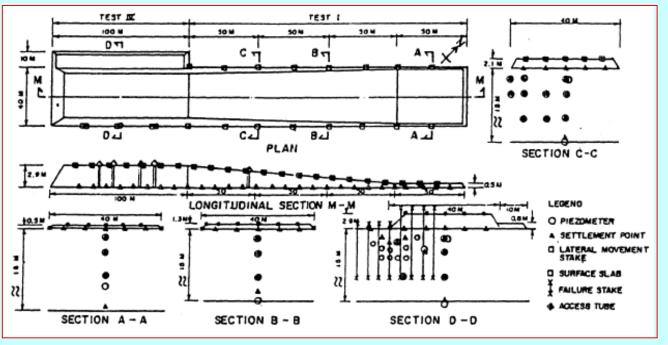
- 1. Insufficient surcharge
- 2. No-drain and drained sections in one embankment
- 3. Recharge and possible hydraulic connections



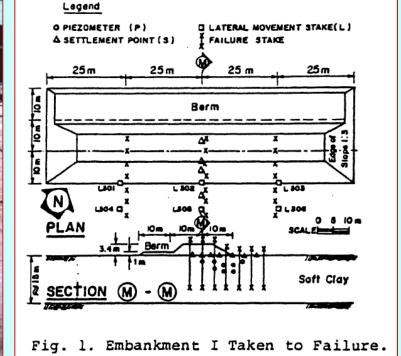
#### Geotechnical Investigation at Nong Ngo Hao Airport Site

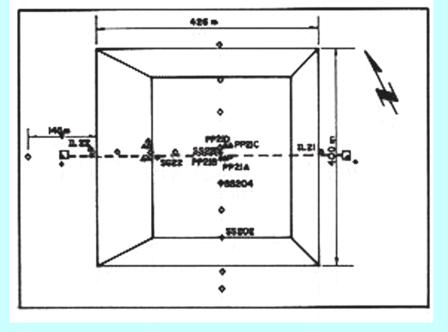
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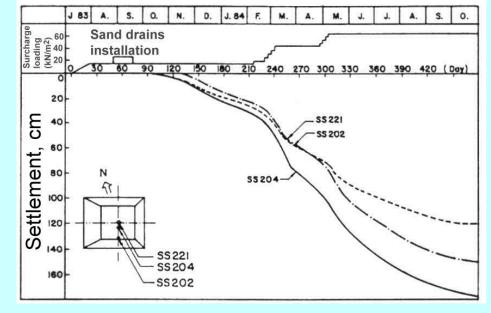


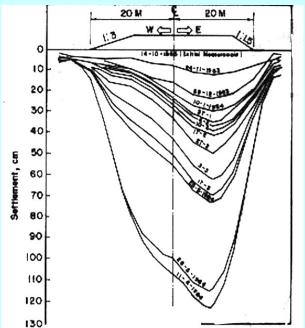


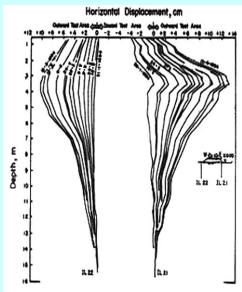






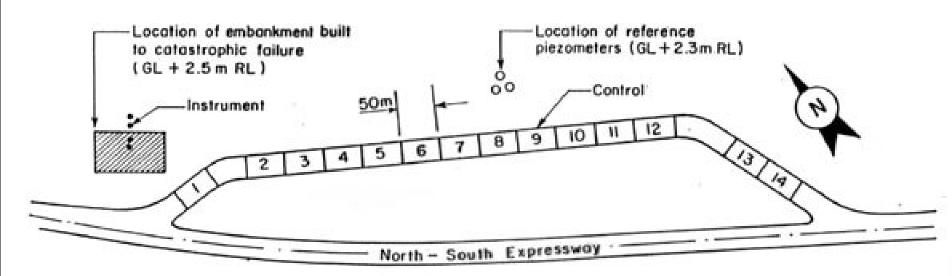


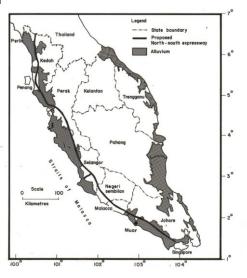






#### TRIAL EMBANKMENTS



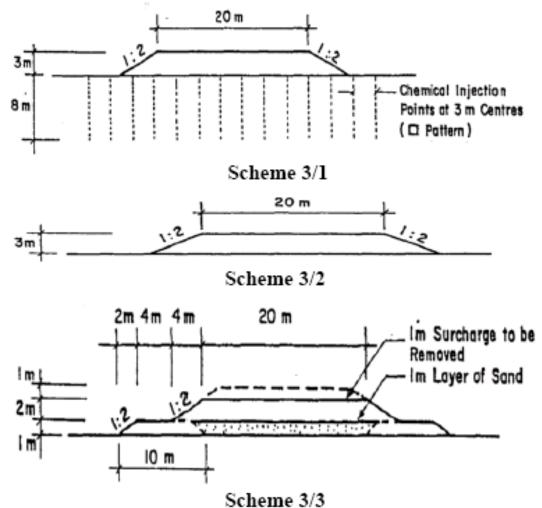


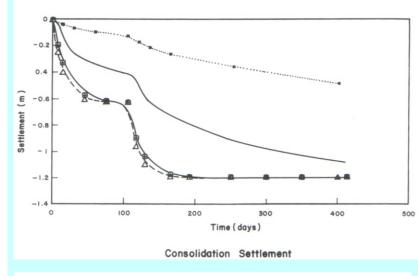
#### Method of Ground Improvement :

- Electro osmosis (6)
- Chemical Injection (184)
- Sand Sandwich (13)
- Preloading & Drains (II, I2 & I4)

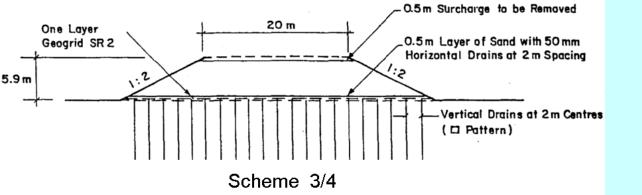
- Micro Piles (3)
- Vocuum Preloading (10)
- Sand Compaction Piles (8)
- Well-point Preloading (5)
  - Prestressed Spun Piles (7)

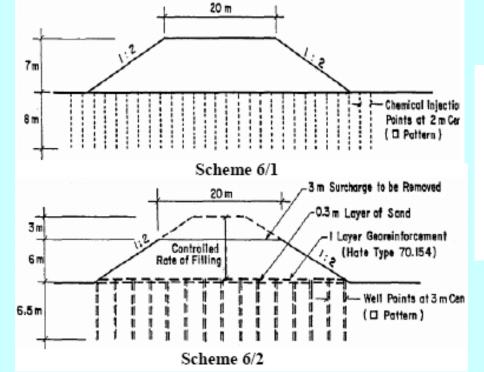
Layout of Trial Embankments



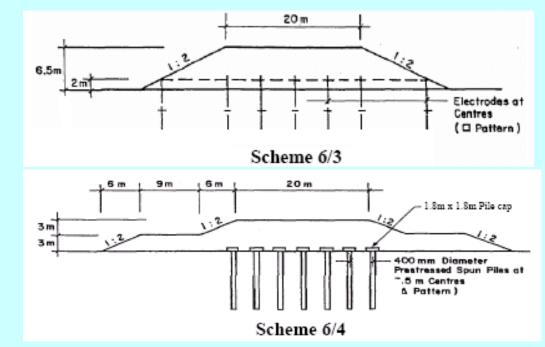


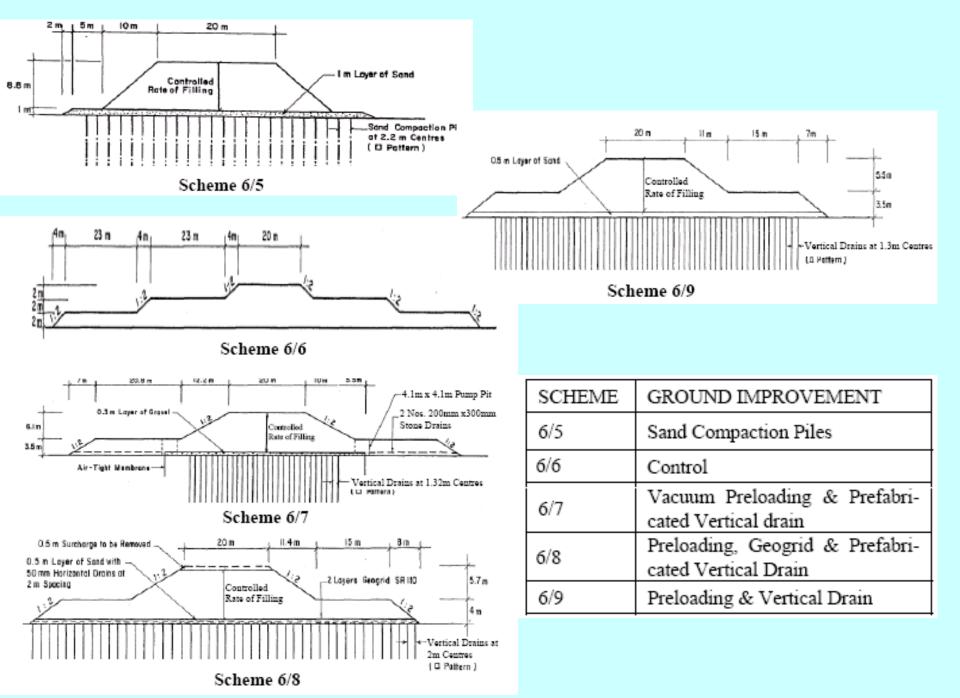
SCHEME	GROUND IMPROVEMENT	
3/1,	Electro Chemical Injection	
3/2.	Control	
3/3	Sand Sandwick Method	
3/4,	Preloading, Geogrid & Prefabri- cated Vertical Drain	

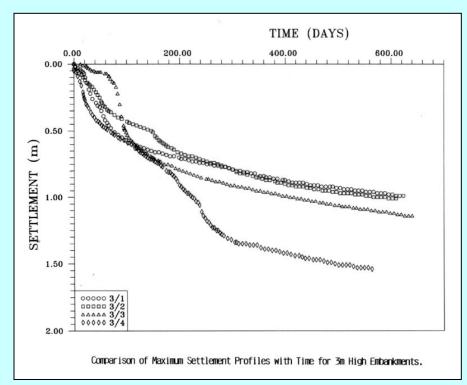


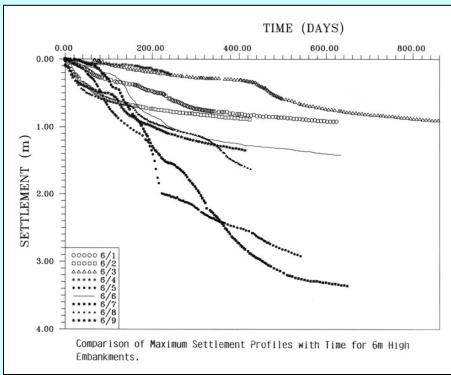


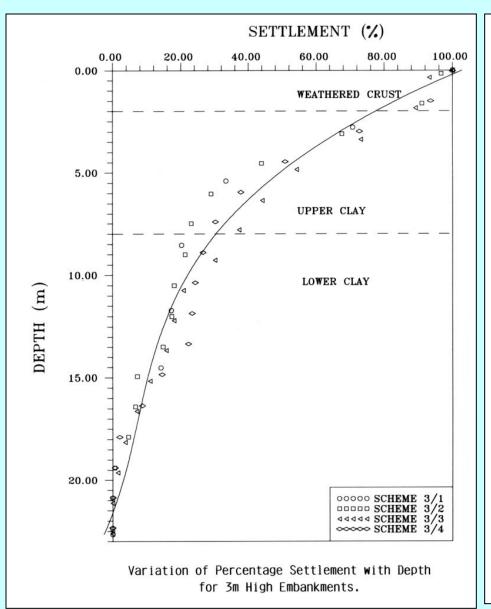
SCHEME	GROUND IMPROVEMENT	
6/1	Electro Chemical Injection	
6/2	Well Point Preloading	
6/3	Electro Osmosis	
6/4	Prestressed Spun Piles	

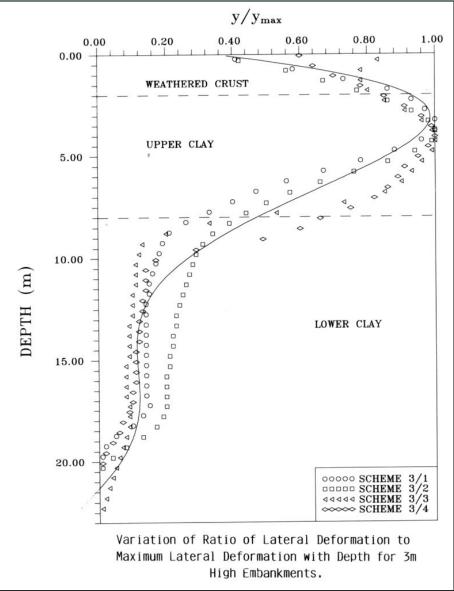


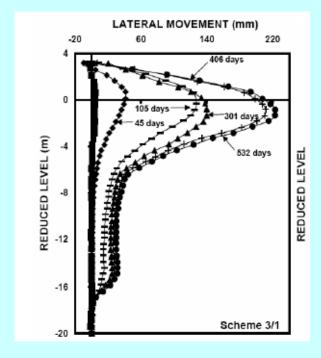


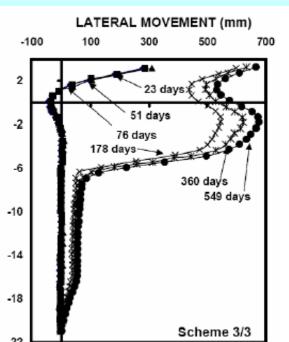


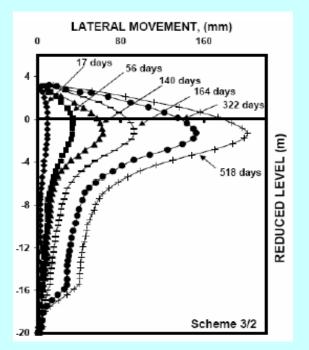


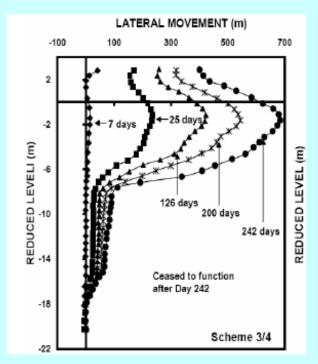


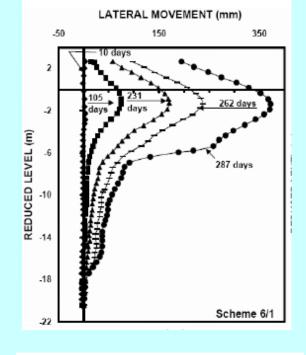


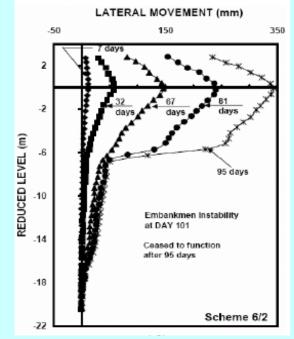


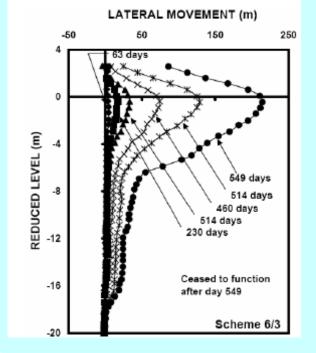


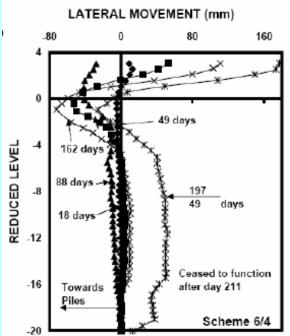


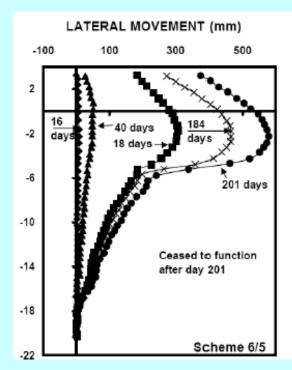


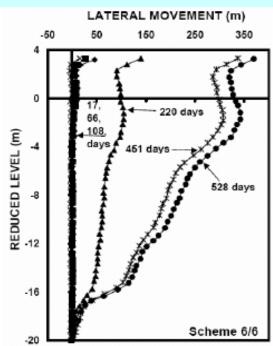


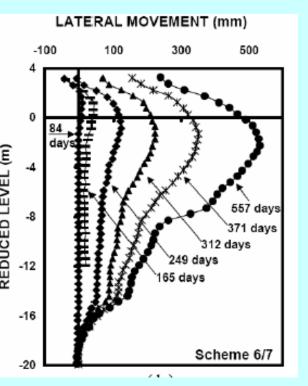


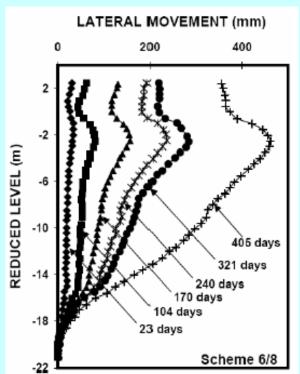


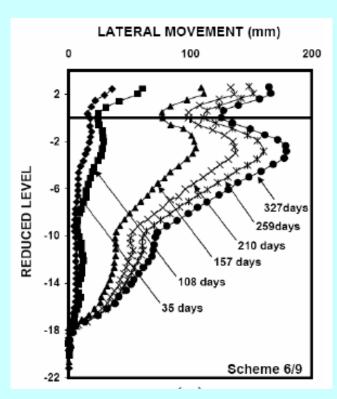


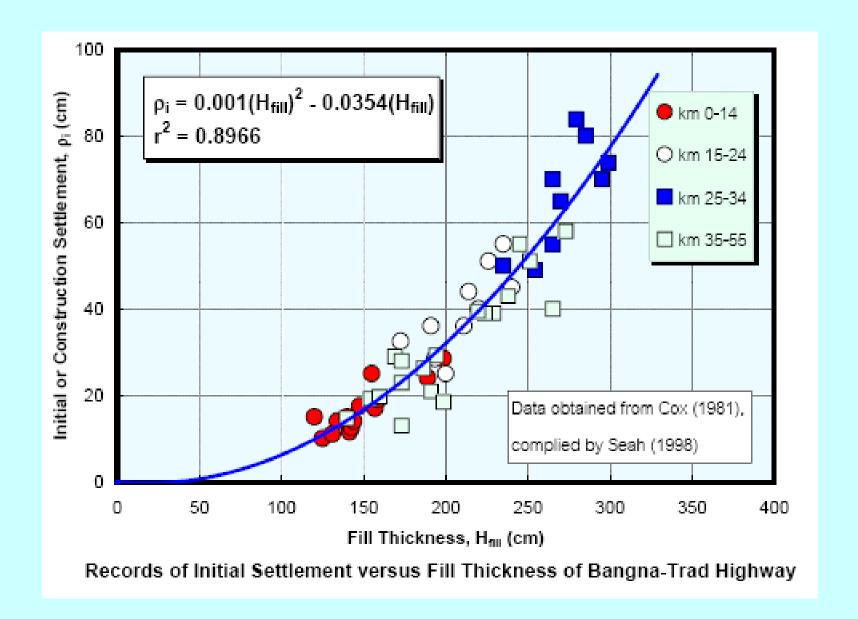


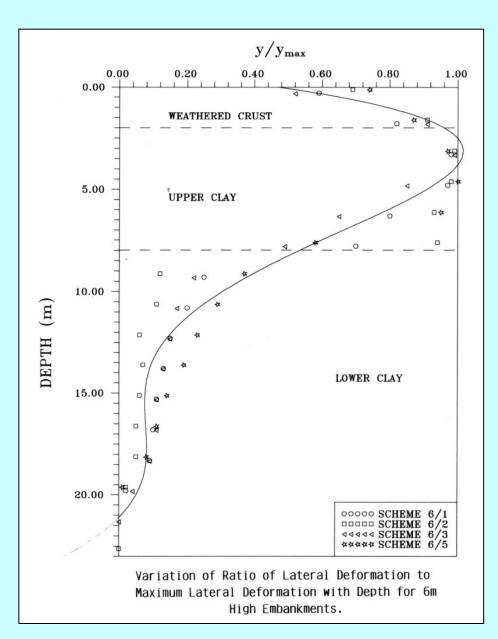


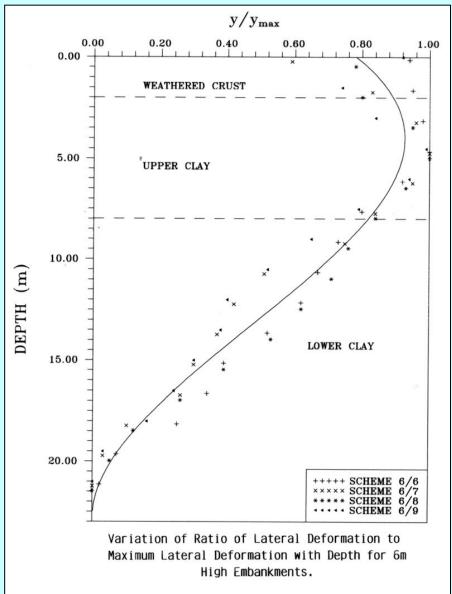


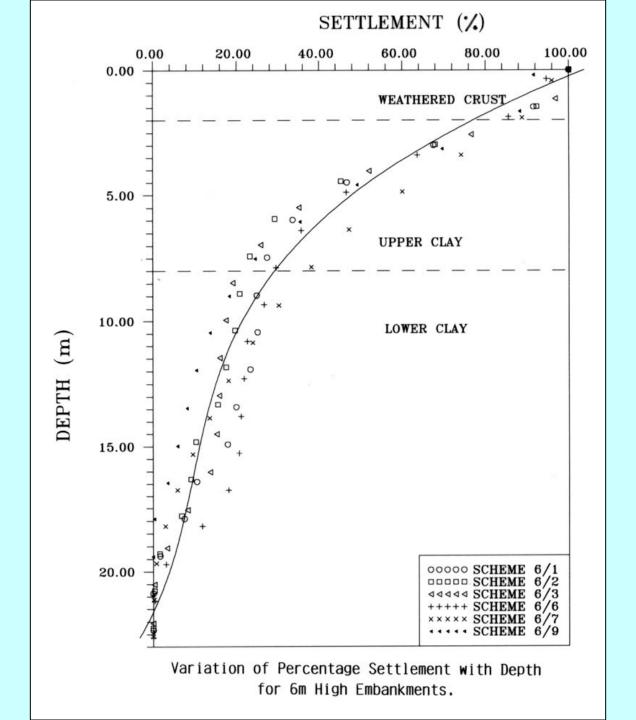


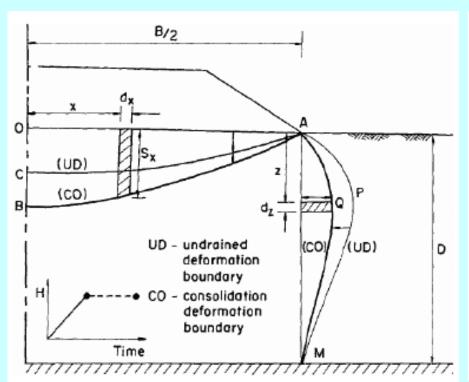


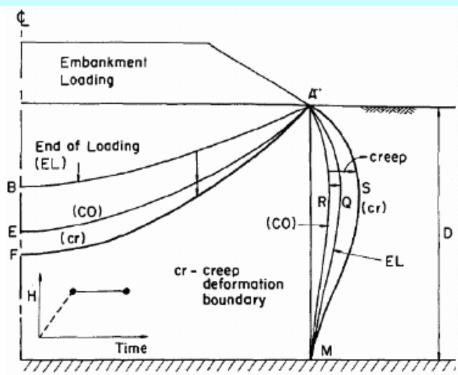


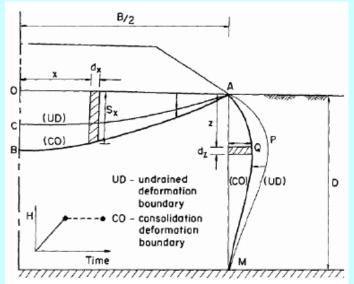


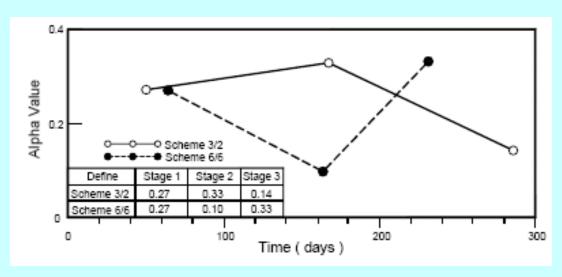


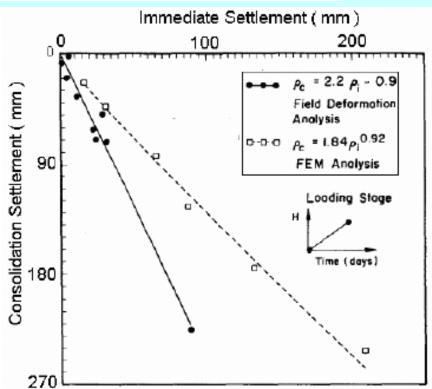


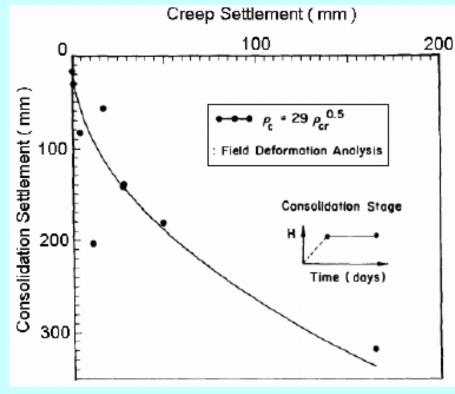


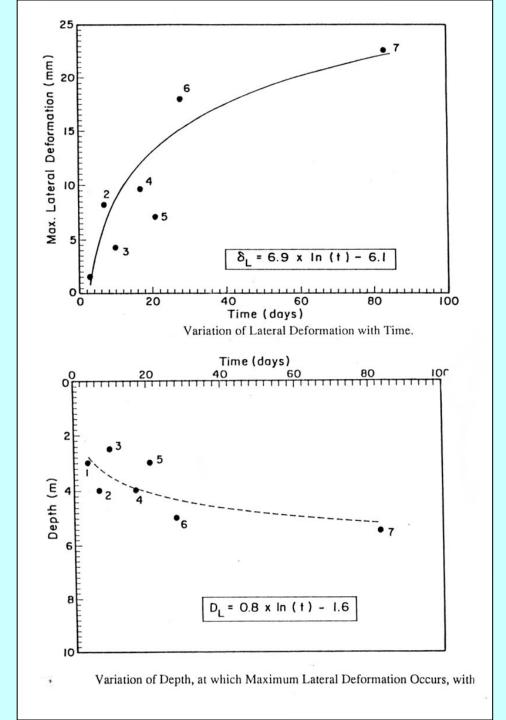


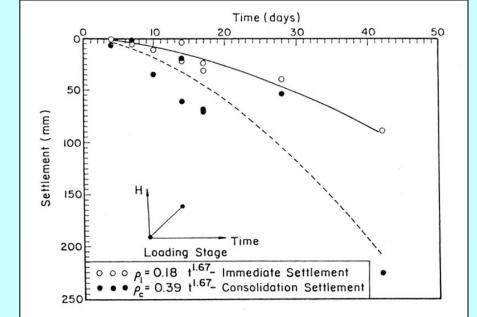




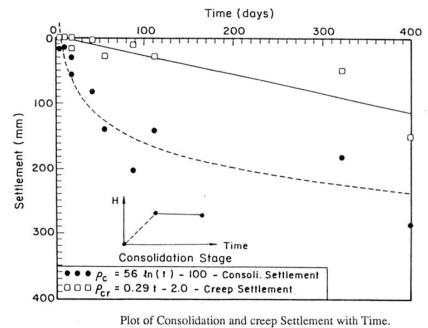








Plot of Immediate and Consolidation Settlement with Time.



# Geotechnical studies at the new Bangkok international airport site (1972-1996)

### Geotechnical Investigation at Nong Ngo Hao Airport Site

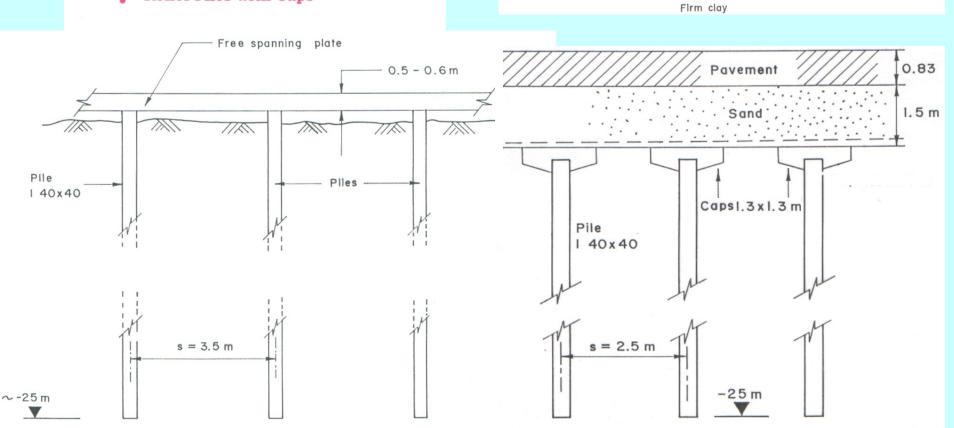
Phase	Year	Title	
I	1972 - 1974	Geotechnical Investiga-tions by Asian Institute of Technology and N.D. Lea and Associates, Kampsax	
II	1983 - 1984	Pre-loading with Sand Drains, and , Vacuum- Drains; Moh and Associates and NACO	
III	1992	An Independent Soil Engineering Study; Norwegian Geotechnical Institute in cooperation the STS Engineering Consultant Co. Ltd.	
IV	1993 - 1995	Full scale Field test of Prefabricated vertical drains by the Asian Institute of Technology	



Full scale fields with prefabricated vertical drains (PVD) at the Second Bangkok International Airport



- Preconsolidation with Vertical Drain
- Deep Soil Improvement
- Piles supporting a free spanning concrete slab
- . Relief Piles with Caps



-16 m

Pavement

Sand

2,33 m

1.9 m

11

Reinforcement

l m

11

11

Original ground

Improved Soil

colums







#### **PVD** Installation



- 1. From published information, the types of suitable Prefabricated Vertical Drains (PVD).
- 2. Laboratory tests to determine the desirable PVD properties.
- 3. Field performance of at least three PVD types.
- 4. Controlling parameters, i.e., PVD properties, spacing and depth of PVD.
- 5. Comparative performance of PVD and sand drains (as studied in 1983).
- 6. Criteria for selecting PVD, design approach, installation procedures and specifications.

#### **Background**

- 1. Previous negative experience with large diameter sand drains by NGI in highway projects in Bangkok.
- 2. Previous negative experience with sandwicks at the Dockyard site in Bangkok.
- 3. Previous negative experience with vacuum drains at the airport site in Bangkok.
- 4. No clear evidence of pore pressure dissipation at the Changi reclamation project in Singapore.
- 5. Performance of Desol PVD at the Muar site in Malaysia.
- 6. Piezometric draw-down due to deep well pumping and possible fear of hydraulic connections between PVD and the underlying aquifers in Bangkok.

#### **List of PVD Considered from Worldwide Survey**

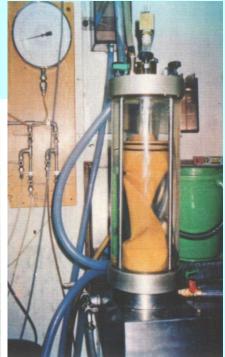
- Alidrain (Studded on both sides)
- Ameridrain (408)
- Castle Board (CS1)
- Colbond (CX 1000)
- Flodrain (FD4-EX)
- Geodrain (L-Type)
- Mebra (MD-7007)
- (i) Drains with separate core and filter:
  - (a) grooved core :Ameridrain, Mebra and Geodrain
  - (b) studded core :Flodrain
  - (c) filament core :Colbond
- (ii) Drains with filter fixed to core
  - (a) grooved core: Castle Board

PVD Selection, Installation Procedures and Specifications

- Criteria to ensure safe installation of the Drains
- Criteria to ensure the Optimal Performance of the Drains
- Proven record of successful use in similar Soil Conditions
- Cost and Availability

#### **Specification Criteria for PVD**

Properties	Test Designation	Proposed Values
Apparent Opening Size, µm	ASTM D4751-87	Less than 90
Grab Tensile Strength, kN	ASTM D4632-91	Greater than 0.35
Trapezoidal Tear Strength, kN	ASTM D4533-91	Greater than 0.10
Puncture Resistance, kN	ASTM D4833-88	Greater than 0.10
Burst Strength, kN	ASTM D3786-80a	Greater than 900
Discharge Capacity at 7 days, 200 kPa at Hydraulic Gradient of 1 m <sup>3</sup> /yr	ASTM D4716-87	Greater than 500
Discharge Capacity @, 200 kPa and Hydraulic Gradient of 1 m <sup>3</sup> /yr	Modified Triaxial (Straight)	Greater than 500
Equivalent Dia. = (Length + Width)/2		Greater than 50 mm
O <sub>90</sub> /D <sub>85</sub> (Opening Size of Filter / Grain Size of Clay)		Less than 3
O <sub>50</sub> /D <sub>50</sub> (Opening Size of Filter / Grain Size of Clay)		Less than 24





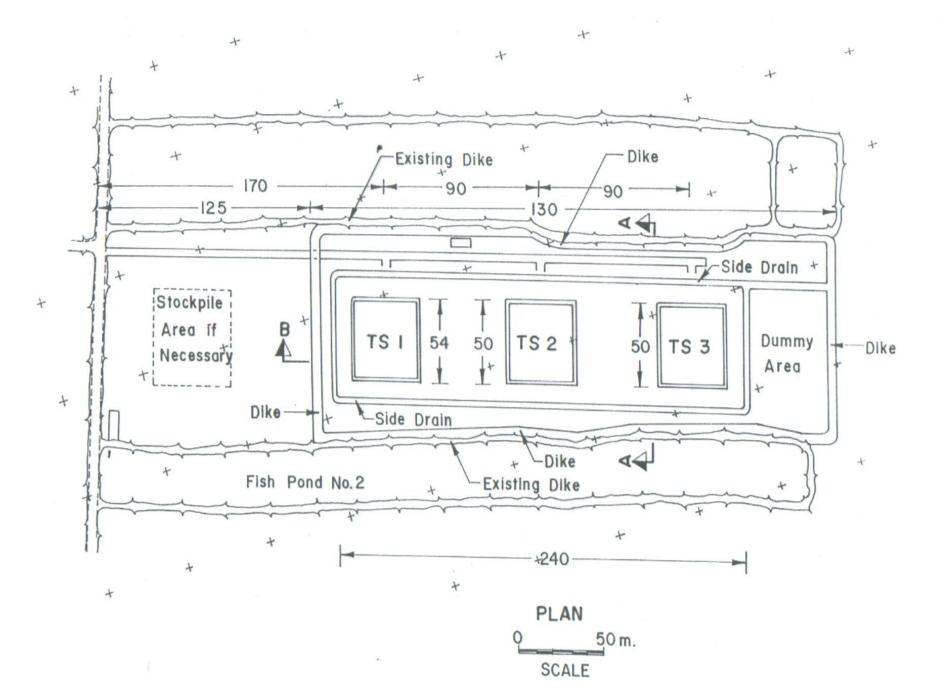


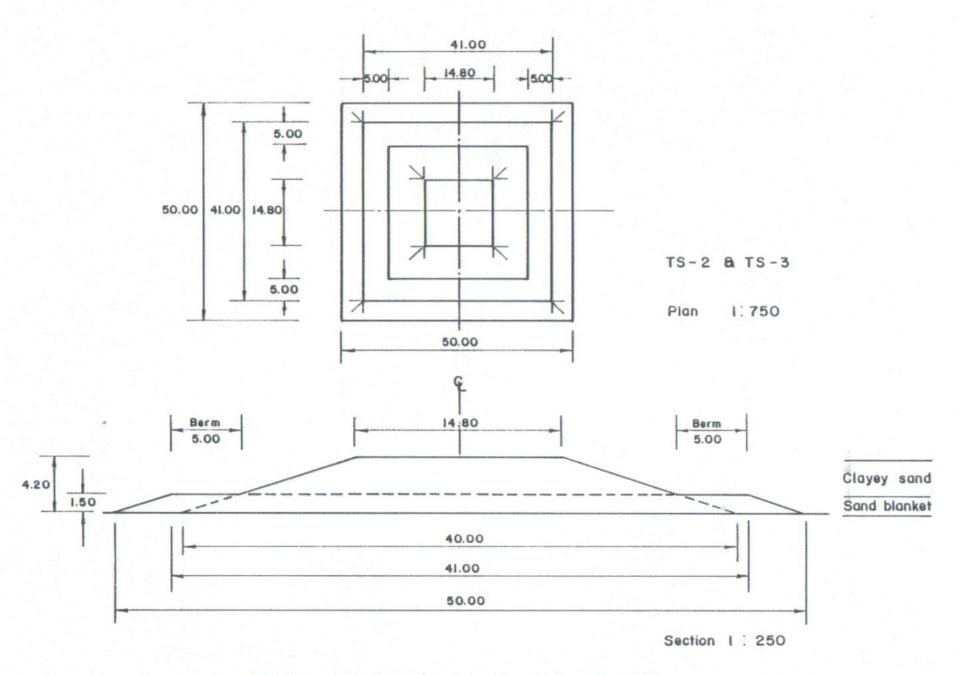


#### Salient Features of the Project

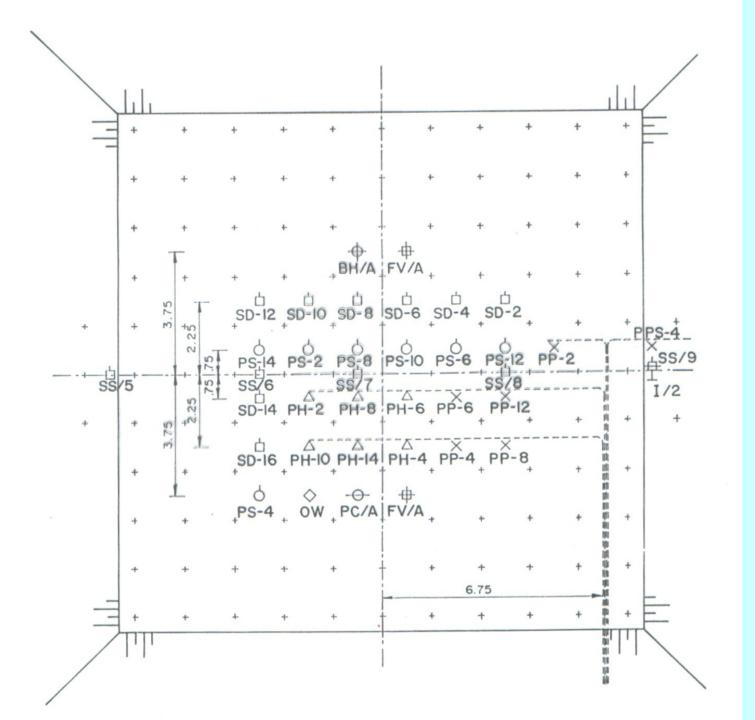
- 1. Selection of PVD
- 2. Construction in the rainy season under flooded conditions
- 3. Stability of the test embankments
- 4. Have to really prove that the settlement is due to consolidation and not from undrained yielding without any volume change

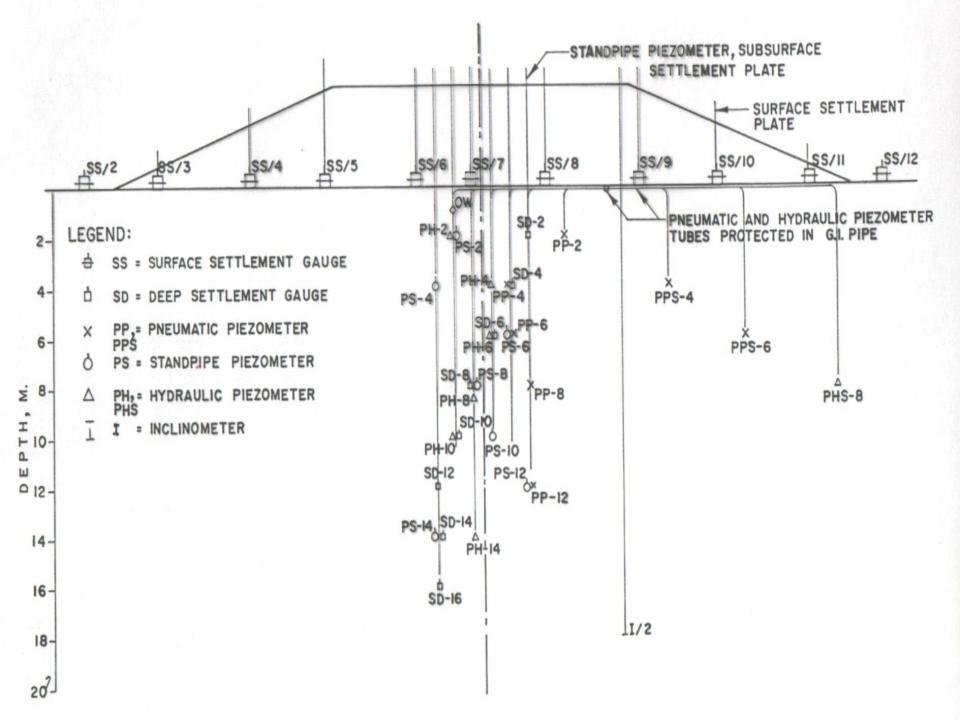
- 5. The piezometric draw-down due to subsidence made the computation of settlement from pore pressure dissipation difficult.
- 6. Computations need to convince that the degree of consolidation estimated from pore pressure dissipation and settlement measurements are comparable.
- 7. Undrained strength measurements should reflect the strength increase due to water content reductions.
- 8. Reason for continuing settlements.

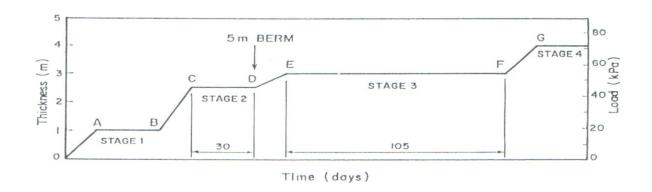




Details of Test Embankments TS2 and TS3







SUMMARY OF THE STABILITY ANALYSIS

POINT	THICKNESS (m)	LOAD (kPa)	DURATION (Days)	FACTOR OF SAFETY	
				with 5 kPa Load	without Load
С	2.5	45		1.18	1.30
D	2.5	45	30	1.33	1.48
E	3.0	54		1.23	1.34
F	3.0	54	105	1.54	1.65
G	4.0	72		1.26	1.34

Calculated Strength Gain and Settlement at the End of Each Loading Stage

POINT	$\Delta\sigma_{ m v}'$	$RS_{u}$ $=S_{u}/S_{uo}$	$\Delta \sigma_{\mathbf{v}}'/\Delta q_{\mathbf{c}}$	$\Delta \sigma_{\mathbf{v}}'/\Delta u_{\mathbf{p}}$	Sc	S <sub>c</sub> /S <sub>c1</sub>
D	(kPa)	1.07	0.25	0.25	(cm) 22	0.17
F	35.1	1.07	0.25	0.83	65	0.50

 $\Delta \sigma_{\mathbf{v}}'$ : Increase of effective stress at calculated time

cc : Embankment load at calculated time

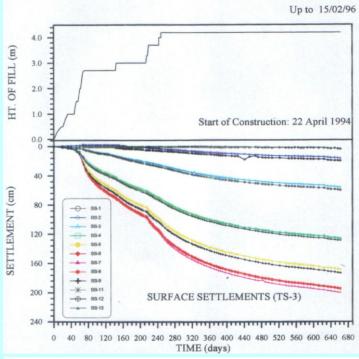
Δun : Excess pore pressure just after adding the additional load

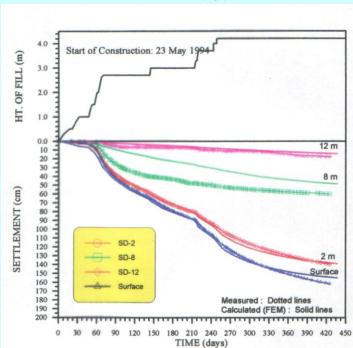
including the remaining pore pressure from the previous stage

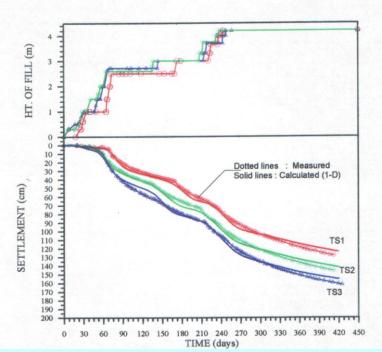
Sc : Consolidation settlement at calculated time

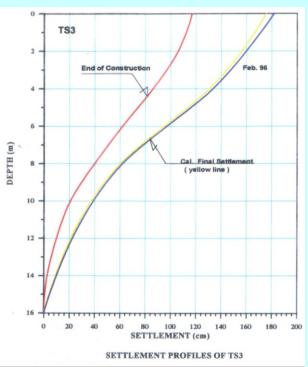
Scf : Final consolidation sextrement at 72 kPa load=130 cm

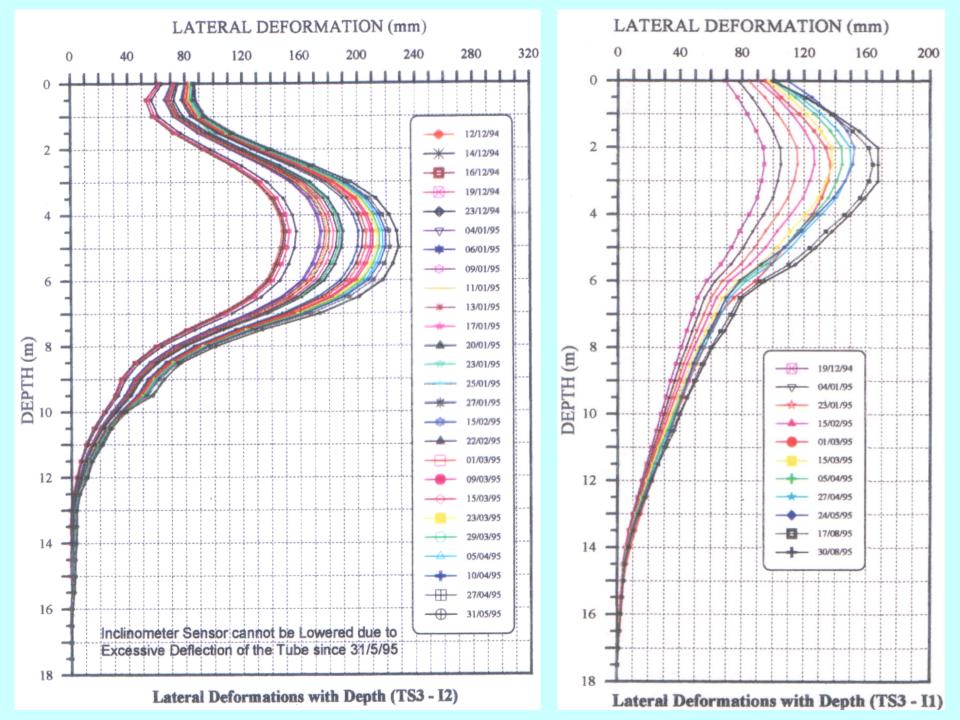
Fig. 4.18 Summary of Stability and Settlement Analyses for Embankment TS3 (with 1.0 in Drain Spacing)

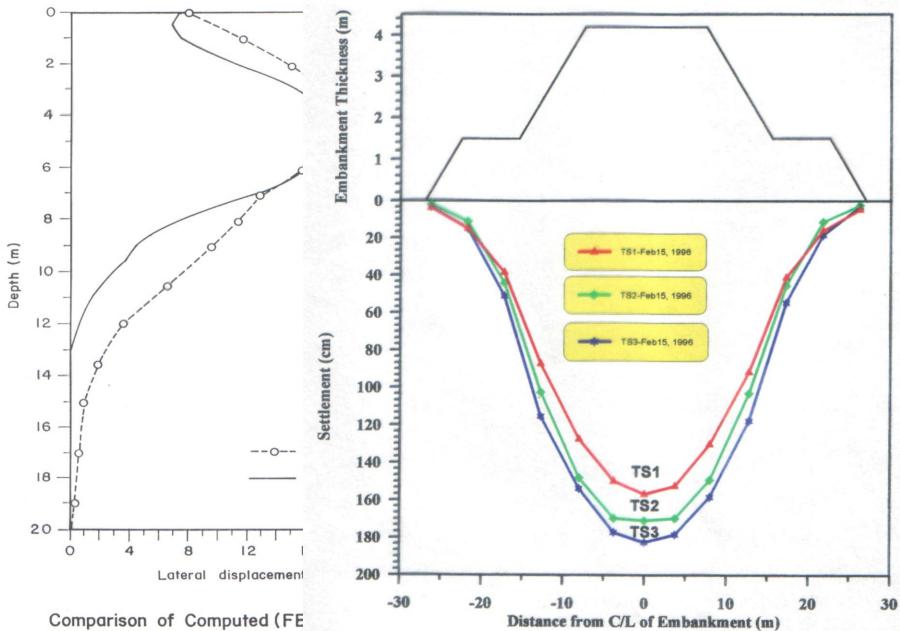






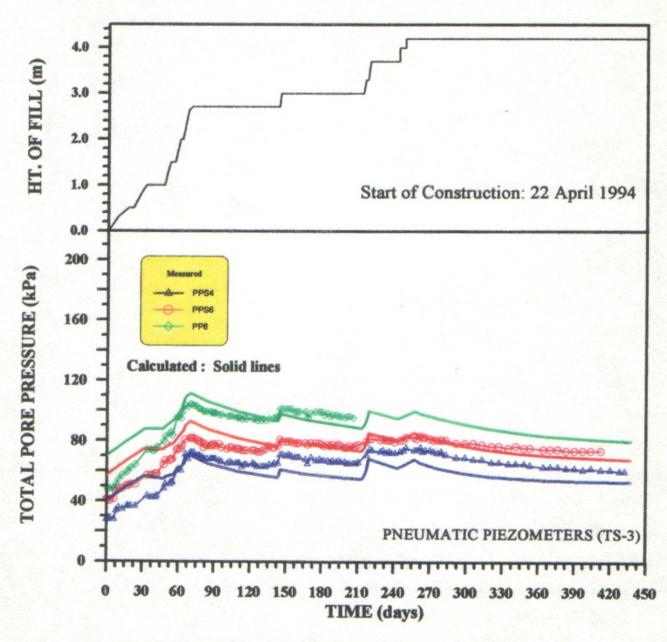






Lateral Deformations at the for Embankment TS3

Fig. 6.7 Surface Settlement Profile across the Embankments Cross Sections (TS1, TS2 and TS3)



Comparison of FEM Calculated and Measured Total Pore Pressures at Different Depths 4 m, 6 m, and 8 m for TS3 Embankment

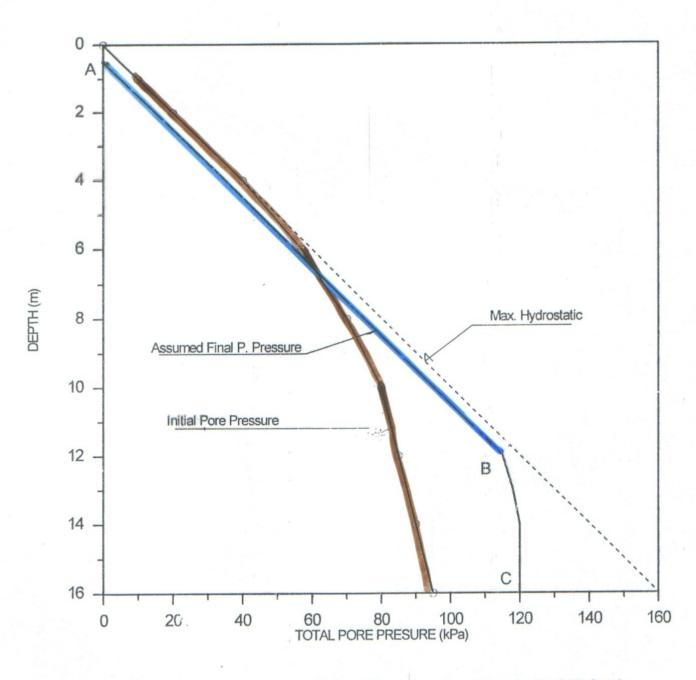
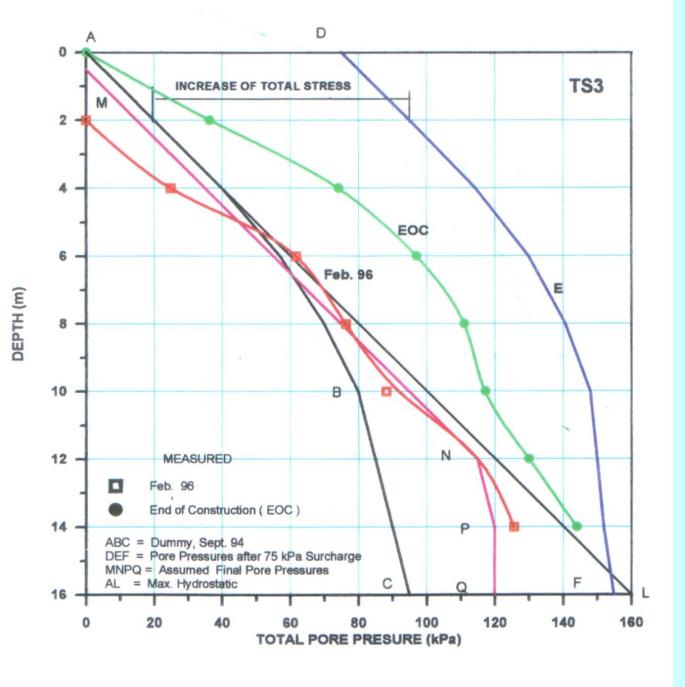
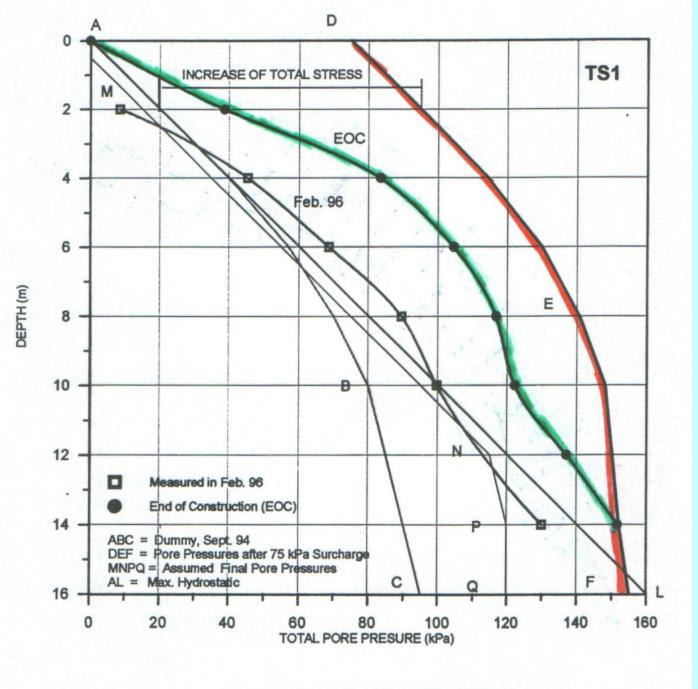


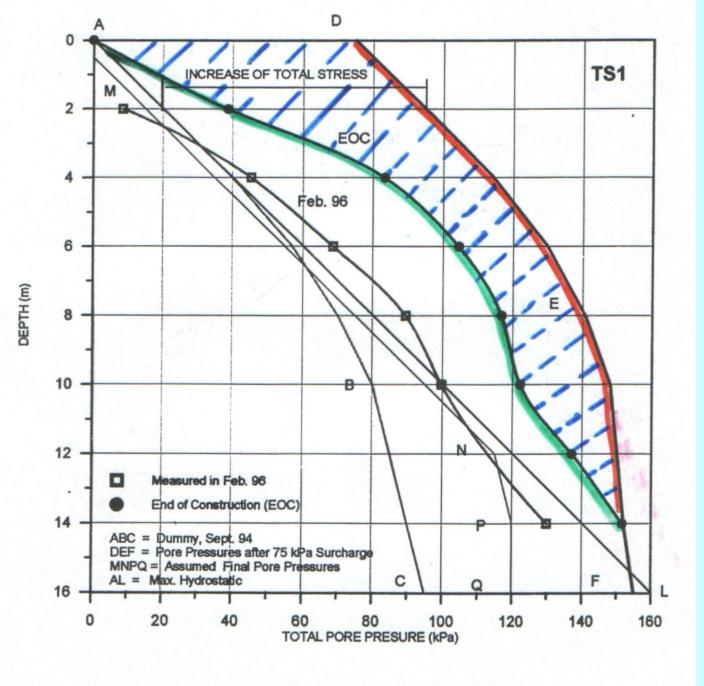
Fig. 6.26: Piezometric Drawdowns (Initial and Assumed Final Values)



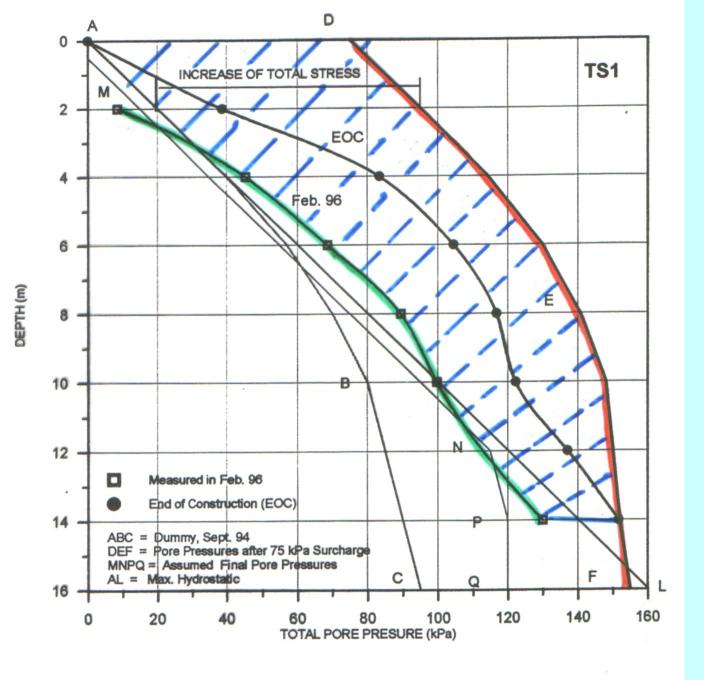
**PORE PRESSURE PROFILES IN TS3** 



PORE PRESSURE PROFILE IN TS1



PORE PRESSURE PROFILE IN TS1



**PORE PRESSURE PROFILE IN TS1** 

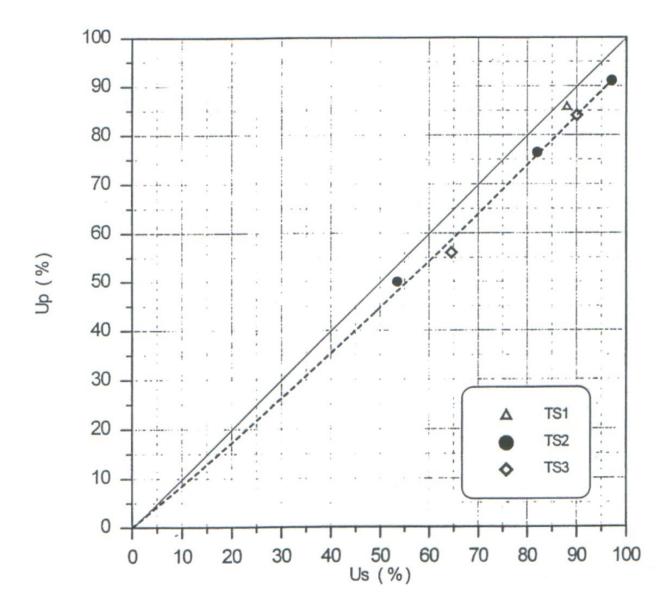
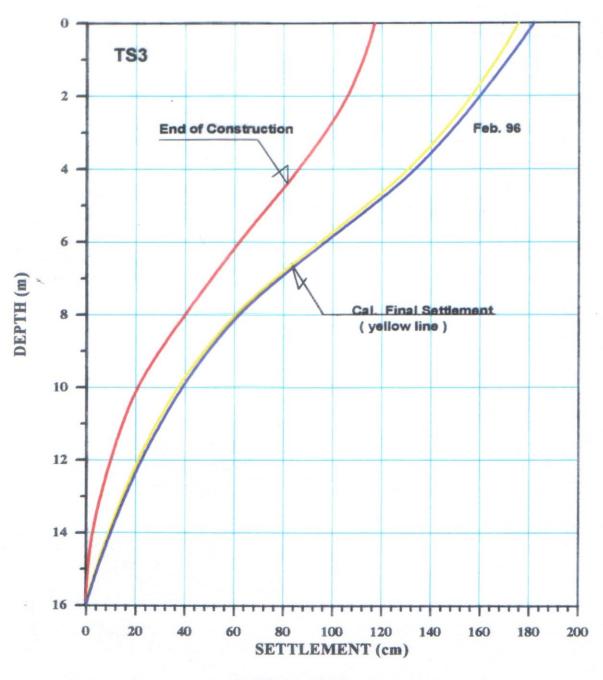
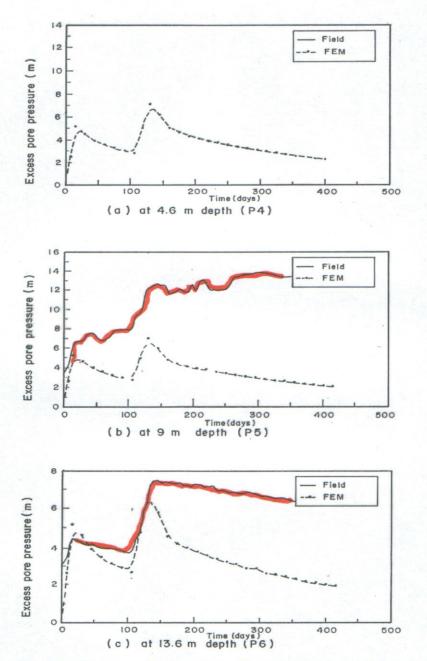


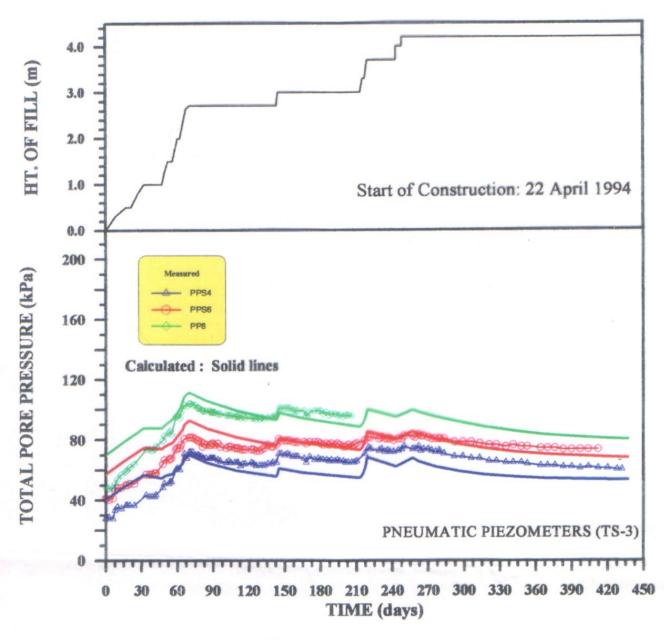
Fig. 14 Relation of Degree of Consolidation from Settlement (Us and Up)



SETTLEMENT PROFILES OF TS3



Center Line Excess Pore Pressure - Time Relationships of the Embankment with Vertical Drains



Comparison of FEM Calculated and Measured Total Pore Pressures at Different Depths 4 m, 6 m, and 8 m for TS3 Embankment

Figure 3.1 Back calculation of pore pressure dissipation TS3

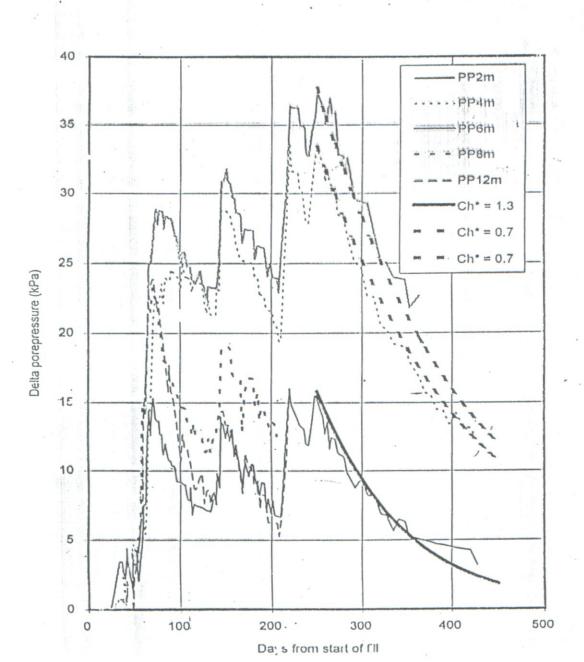
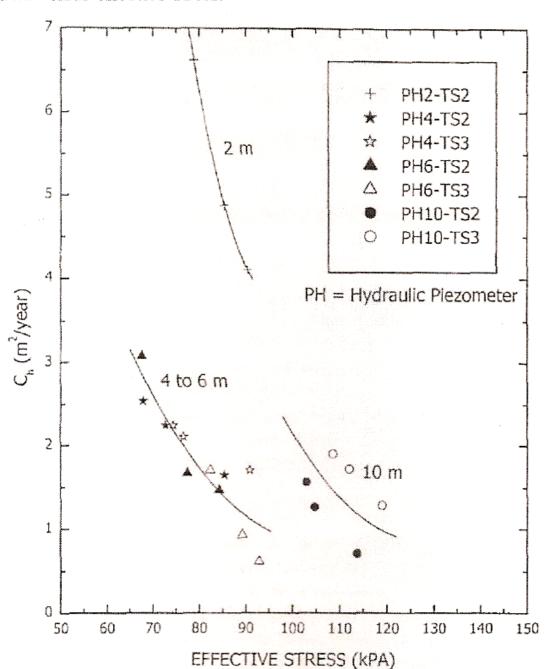
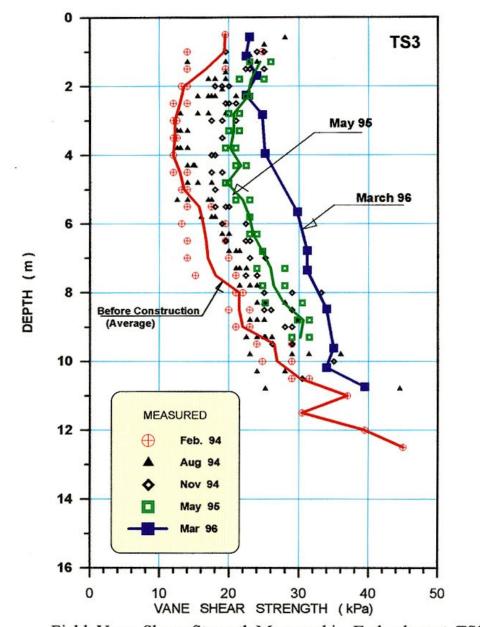
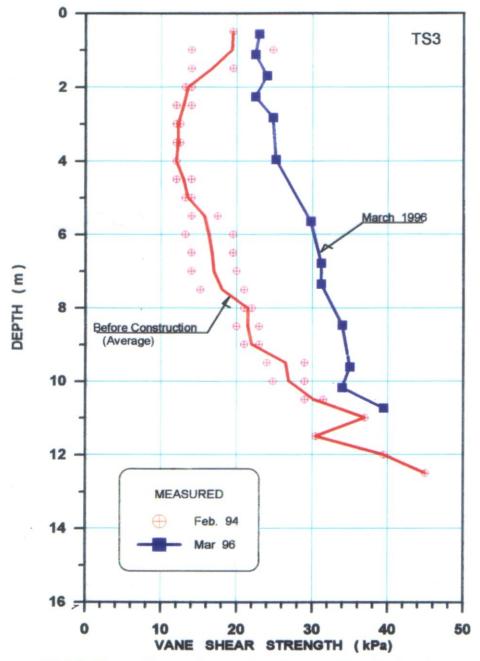


Fig. 15. Plot of back-calculated  $C_{\rm h}$  values from the pore-pressure data versus effective stress.

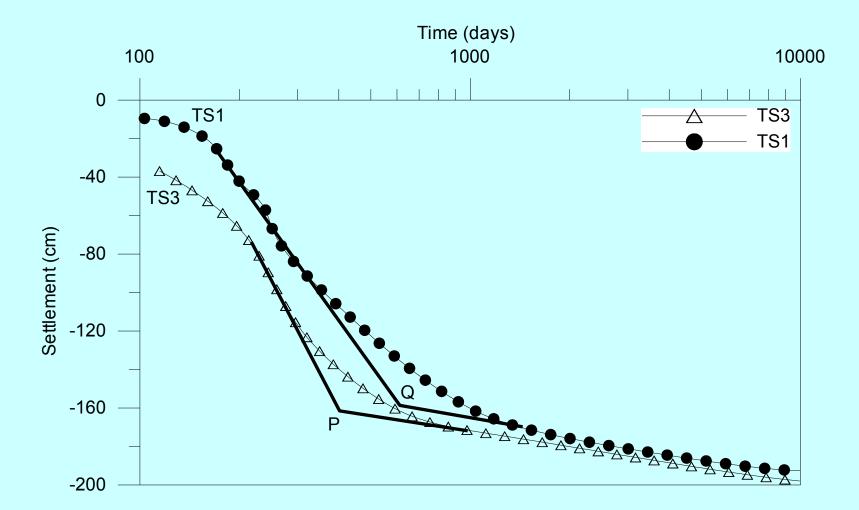


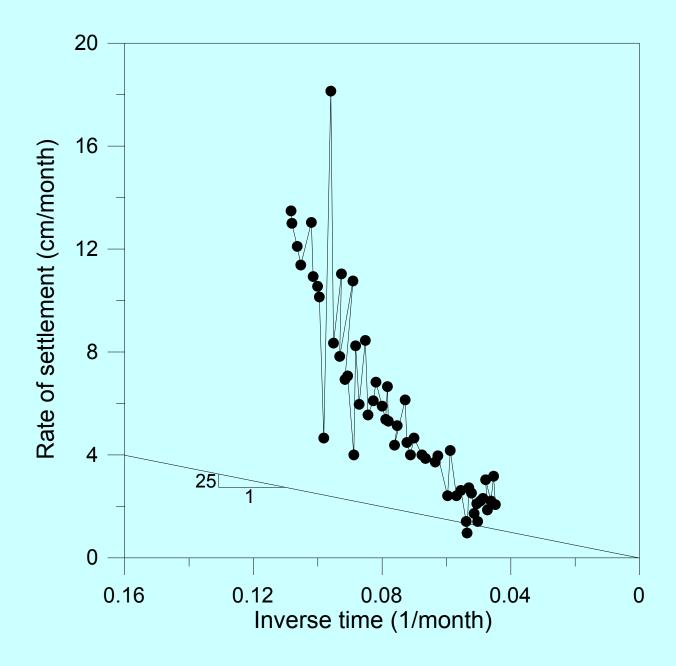


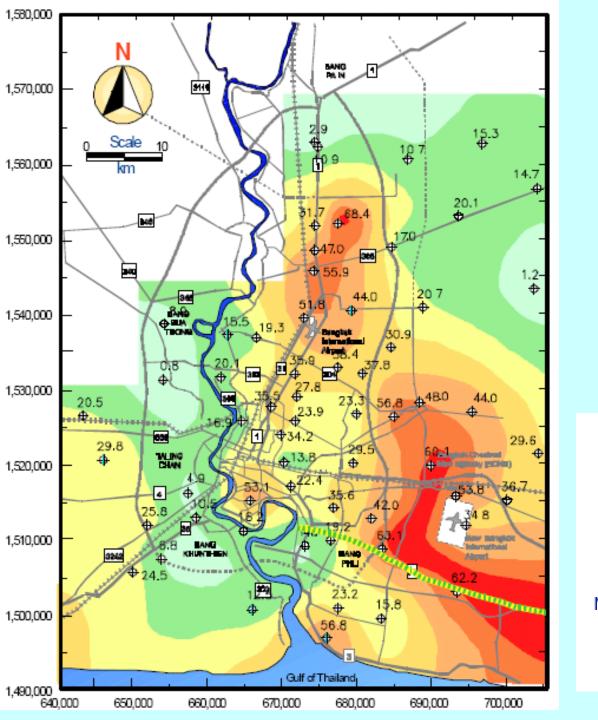
Field Vane Shear Strength Measured in Embankment TS3

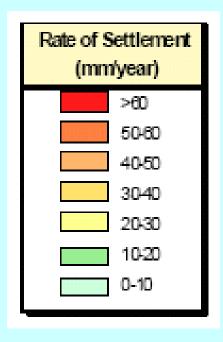


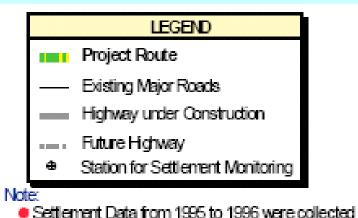
Field Vane Shear Strength Measured in Embankment TS3











Data are filtered by the Consultant.

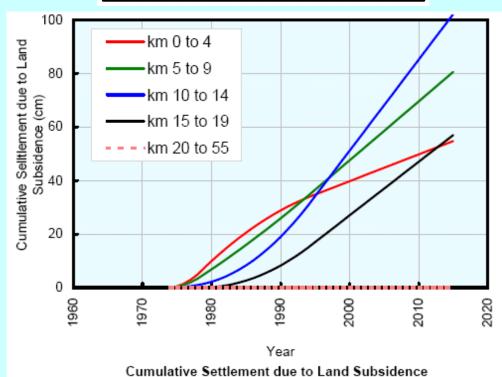
from the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR).

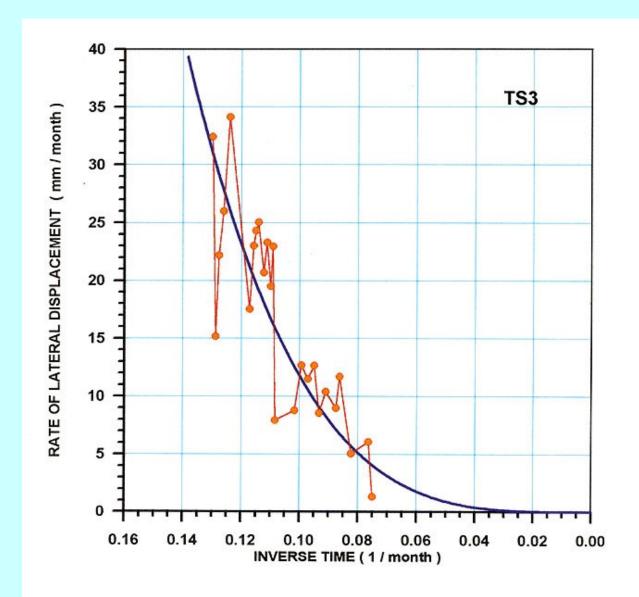




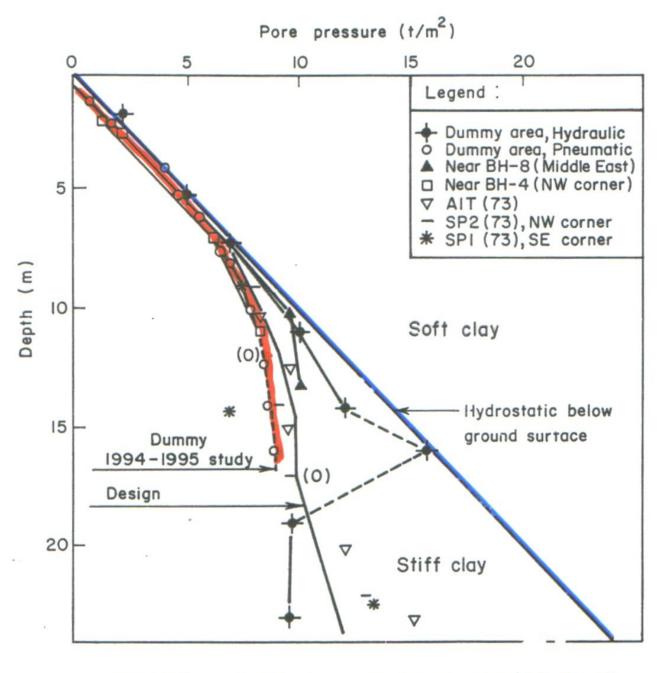




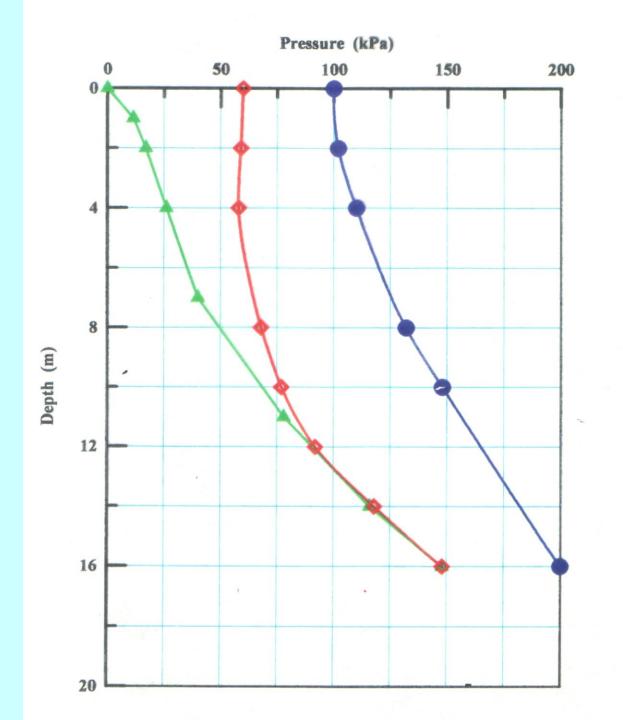




RATE OF LATERAL DISPLACEMENT vs INVERSE TIME PLOT FOR TS3



Variation of Piezometric Pressures with Depth



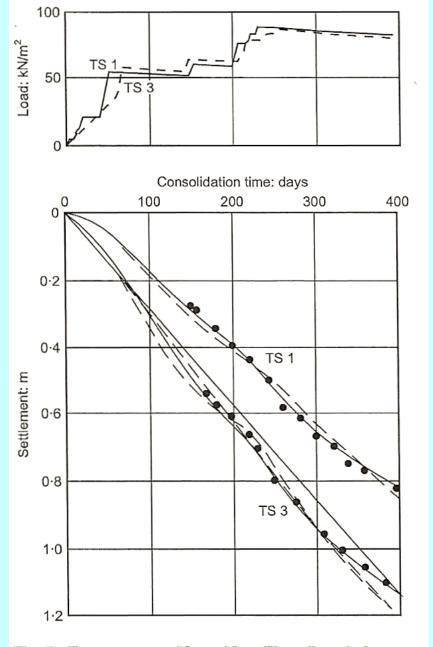


Fig. 7. Test areas at Nong Ngu Hao, Bangkok: measured and calculated settlements and loading conditions for TS 1 and TS 3; broken lines represent equation (1), full lines represent equation (4)

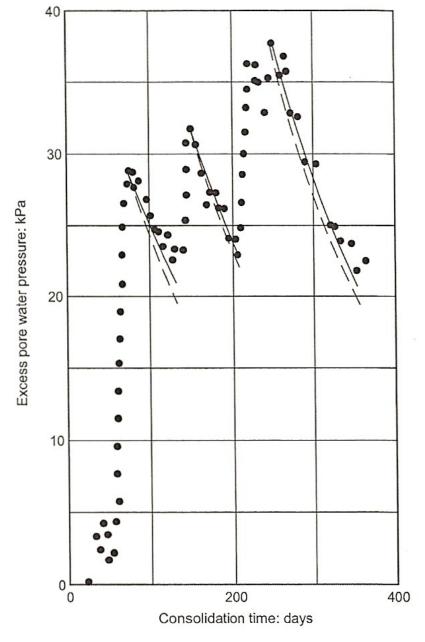


Fig. 8. Test areas at Nong Ngu Hao, Bangkok: measured and calculated excess pore pressure dissipation in test area TS 3; full lines represent equation (4), broken line equation (1)

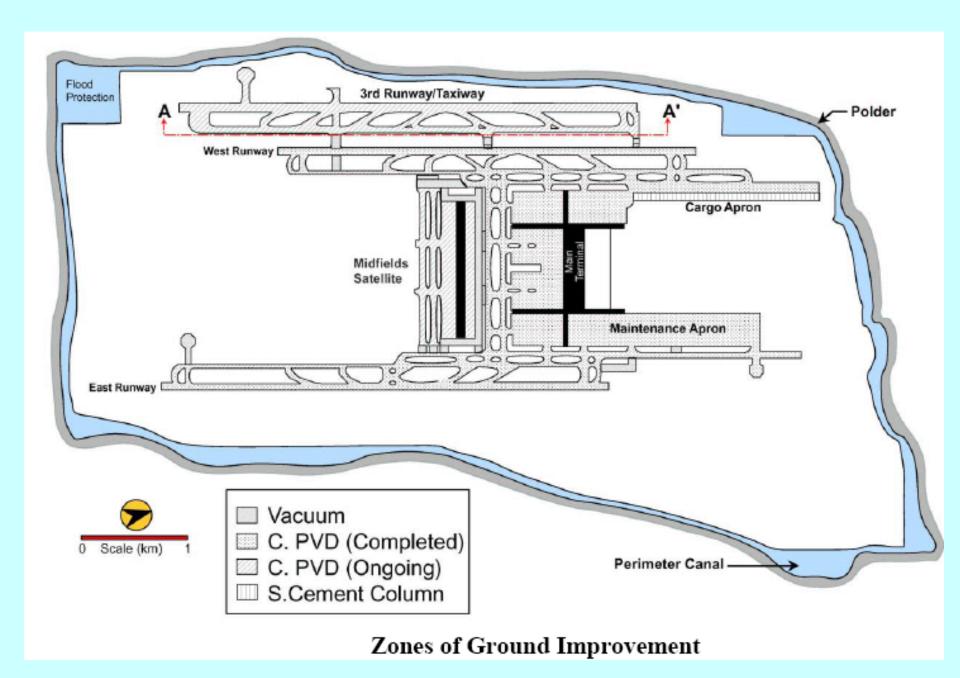
- 1. Selection of PVD
- 2. Construction in the rainy season under flooded conditions
- 3. Stability of the test embankments
- 4. Have to really prove that the settlement is due to consolidation and not from undrained yielding without any volume change

- 5. The piezometric draw-down due to subsidence made the computation of settlement from pore pressure dissipation difficult.
- 6. Computations need to convince that the degree of consolidation estimated from pore pressure dissipation and settlement measurements are comparable.
- 7. Undrained strength measurements should reflect the strength increase due to water content reductions.
- 8. Reason for continuing settlements.

The performance of the test embankment was satisfactory in the sense

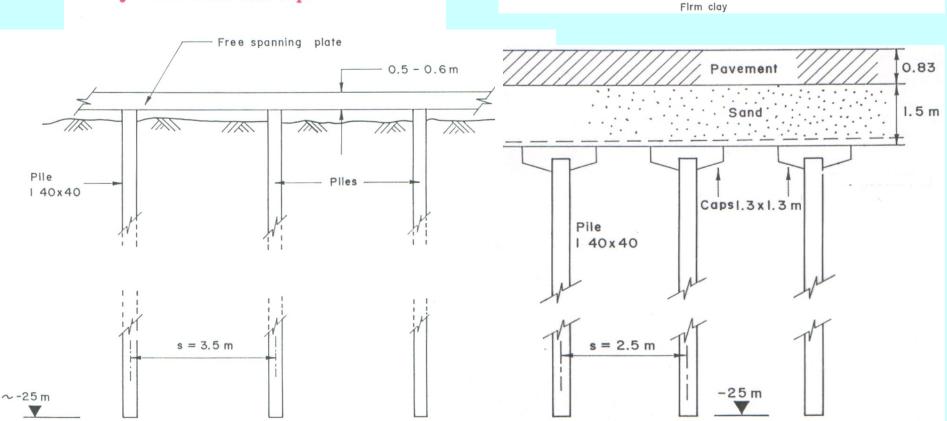
- 1. The consolidation settlements were 90 pc of the total settlement.
- 2. The degree of consolidation computed from the pore pressure dissipation is of the same order as those computed from settlement measurements.

- 3. The strength increase was the same as the strength increase corresponding to water content reductions.
- 4. The undrained creep and secondary consolidation can be erased with the partial removal of surcharge.





- Preconsolidation with Vertical Drain
- Deep Soil Improvement
- Piles supporting a free spanning concrete slab
- . Relief Piles with Caps



-16 m

Pavement

Sand

2,33 m

1.9 m

11

Reinforcement

l m

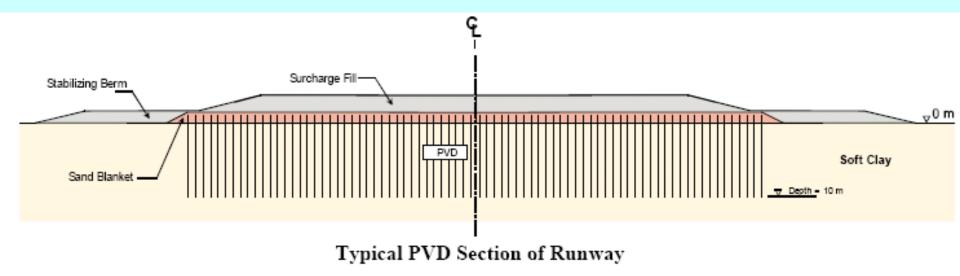
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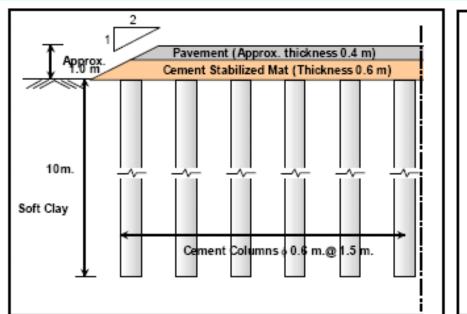
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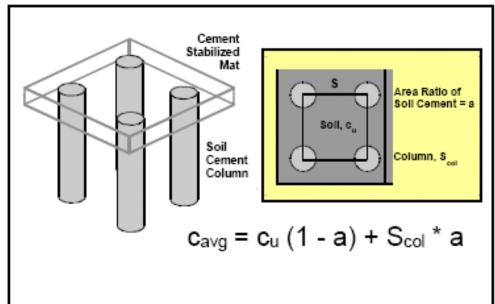
Original ground

Improved Soil

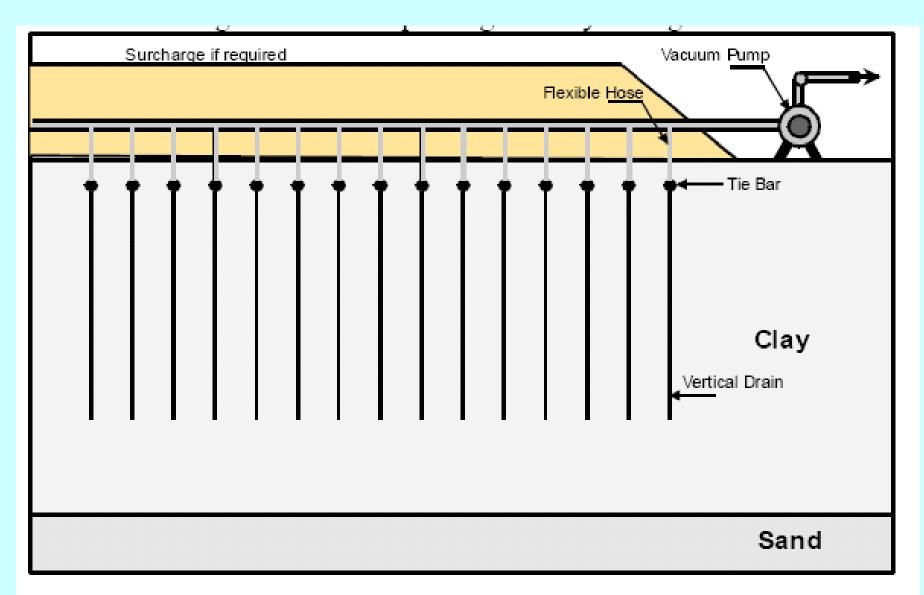
colums







Typical Soil Cement Column Design



Typical Vacuum Consolidation System

### SOIL MECHANICS AND FOUNDATION ENGINEERING EDUCATION IN 1949

- Scope of field limited mainly to:
  - Soil Classification
  - Capillarity and seepage
  - Stress analysis by elasticity
  - Consolidation and settlement analysis
  - Shear strength
  - Slope stability
  - Lateral pressures
  - Bearing capacity
  - Shallow and deep foundations
- \* Emphasis largely on saturated clays and sands

#### DEVELOPMENTS FROM 1950 - 1960

- Slope stability
- Shear strength
- Soil structure, causes of clay sensitivity
- Compacted clay properties
- Pavement design
- Soil stabilization
- Transient loading





#### DEVELOPMENTS FROM 1970-1980

- Constitutive modeling
- In-situ testing
- Expansive soils
- Soil dynamics
- Centrifuge testing
- Partly saturated soils
- Geotechnical earthquake engineering
- Underground construction





#### RESEARCH WITH HIGH PAYOFF BY 2010

- Faster, less expensive, more reliable in-situ testing
- Rapid methods of site assessment/characterization/investigation
- Less expensive, easier to use high level analysis methods
- New and better ground improvement technologies





## RESEARCH WITH HIGH PAYOFF BY 2010 (Cont.)

- How to apply GIS and the WWW to maximize value of our collective knowledge base
- ❖ 21<sup>st</sup> Century implementation of the Observational Method - real time integration of observations, test data, analysis and design during construction





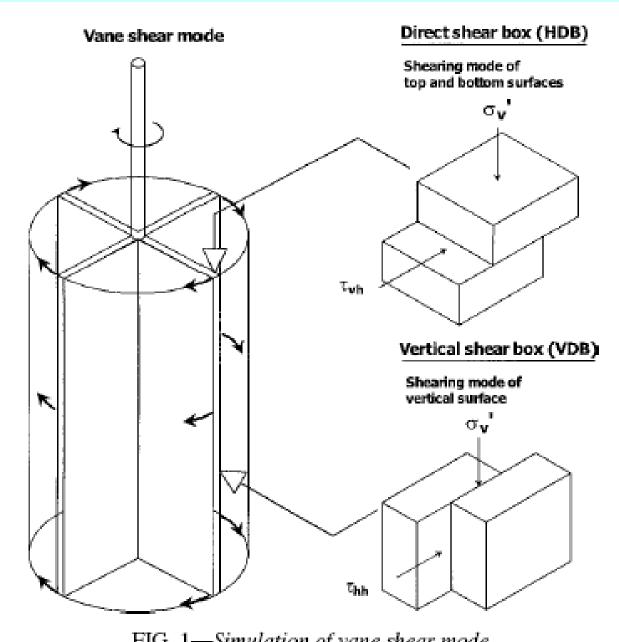
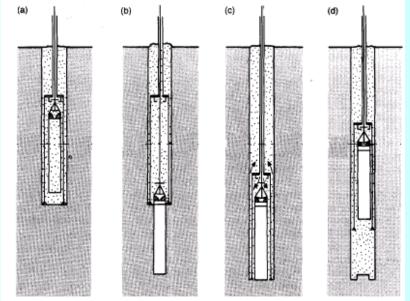
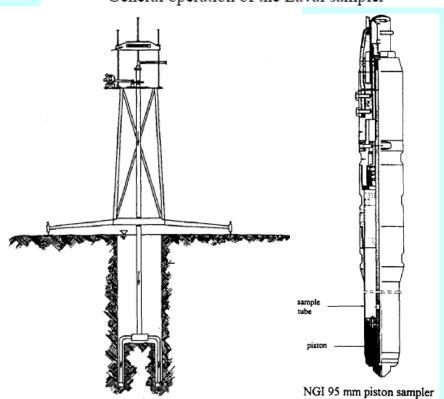
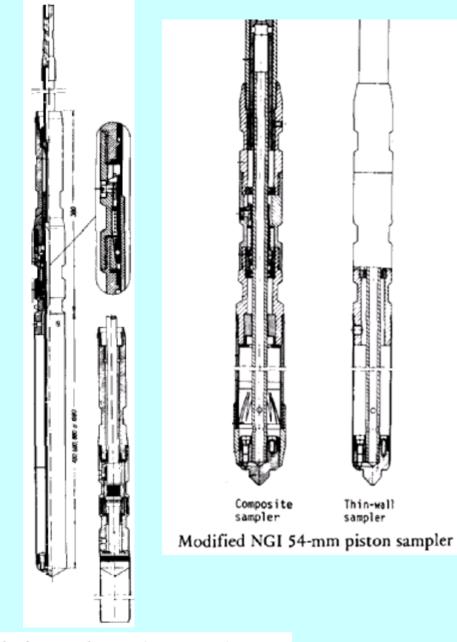


FIG. 1—Simulation of vane shear mode.

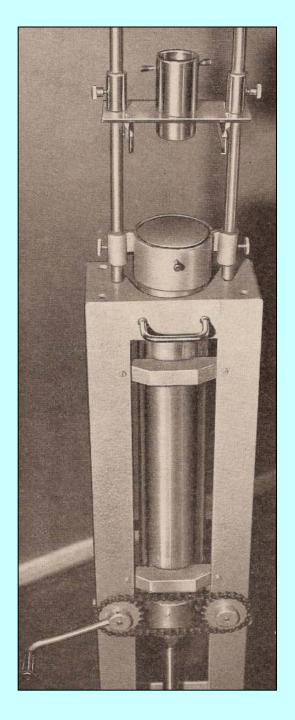


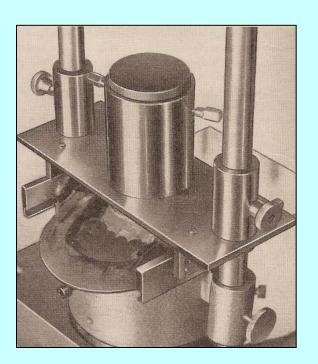
General operation of the Laval sampler

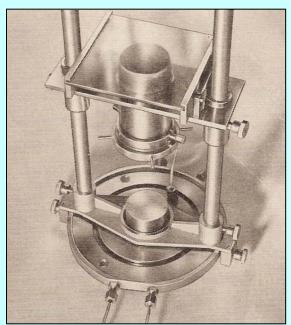


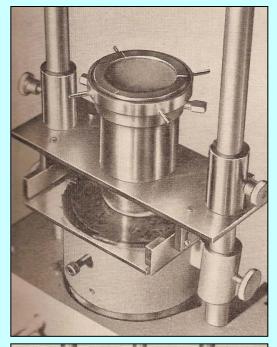


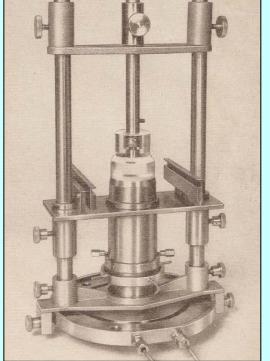
Original NGI 54-mm piston sampler.

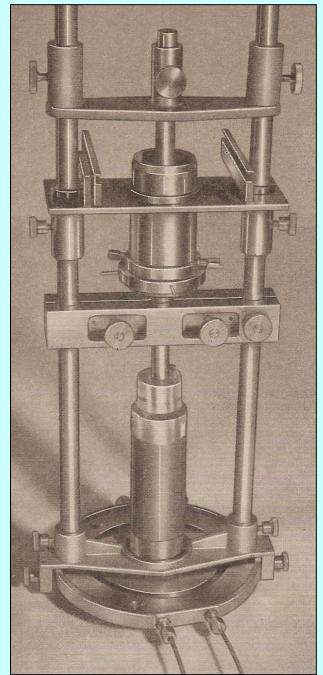


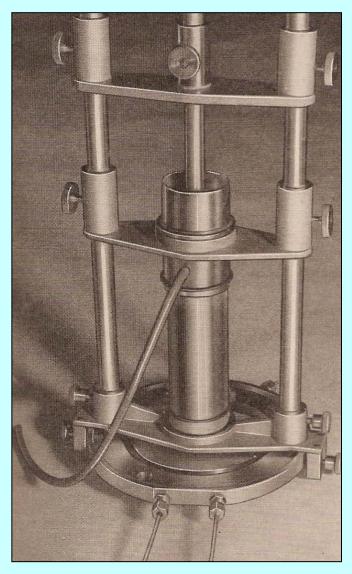
























December 24, 1996

Professor A.S. Balasubramaniam Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4 Klong Luang Pathumthani 12120 Thailand

Dear Professor Bala:

The following responds to your letter of 5 December.

I would agree with you that a lot of geotechnical work will occur in the 21st Century. I see a lot of activity by the geotechnical firms. I do not, however, see active and exciting research and devlopment in geotechnical engineering as we saw during the 50's and 60's. I think several factors contribute to the lack of top quality geotechnical research - i.e. lack of research funds; large growth in our Profession which becomes more and more a business; decreased strength of our socities; etc.

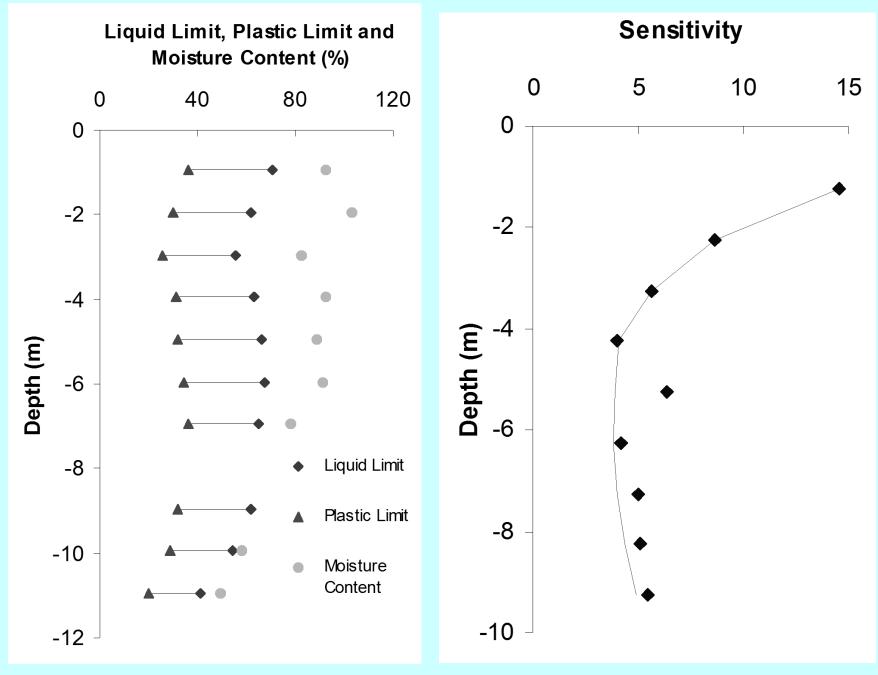
Best wishes for the season and the New Year.

Sincerely yours,

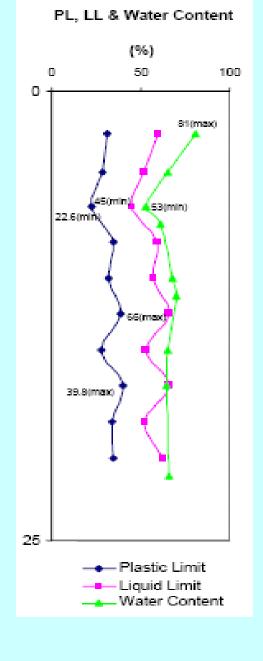
T. William Lambe

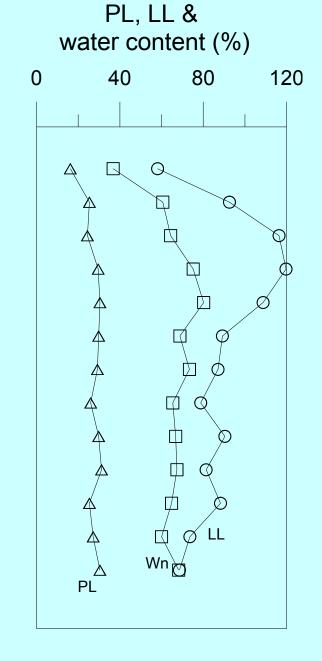
TWL/cl

- 1. Gold Coast Highway (stone columns)
- 2. Sunshine Coast Motorway (Vertical drains-PVD)
- 3. Port of Brisbane Motorway (Vertical drains-PVD)



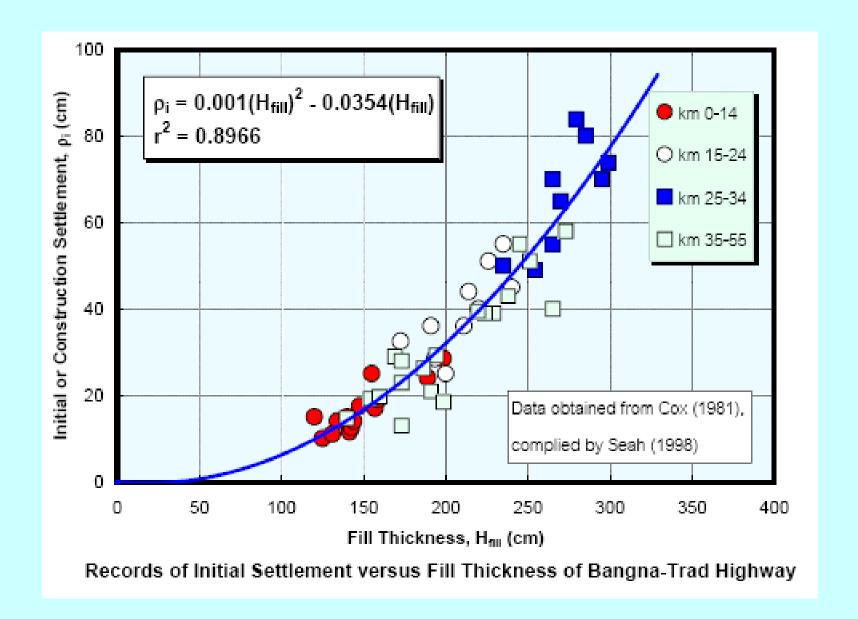
**Gold Coast Highway** 

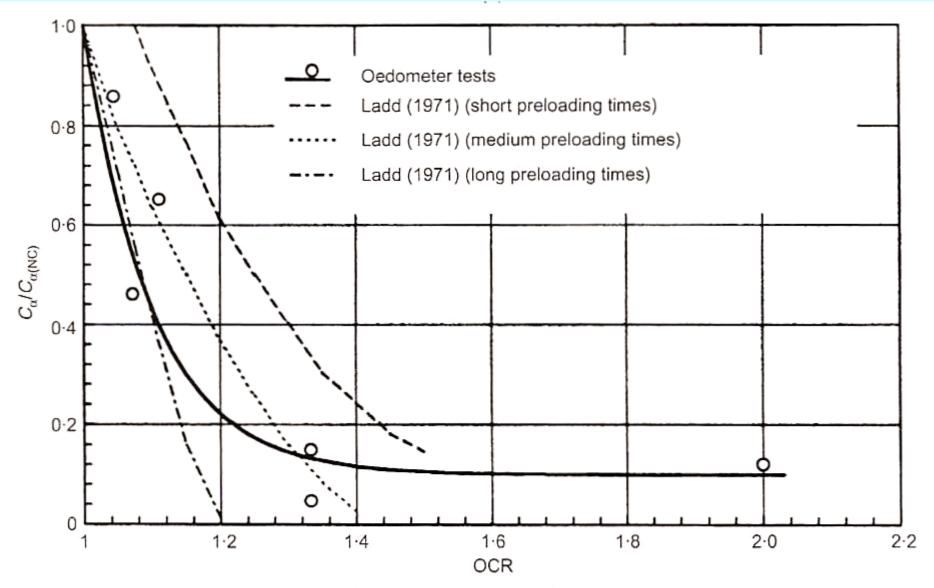




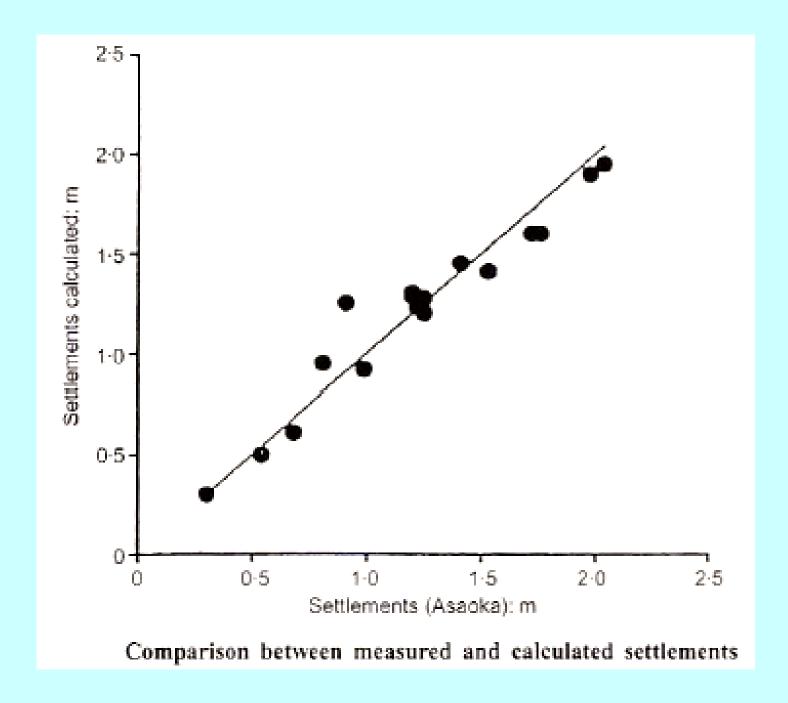
**Port of Brisbane Motorway** 

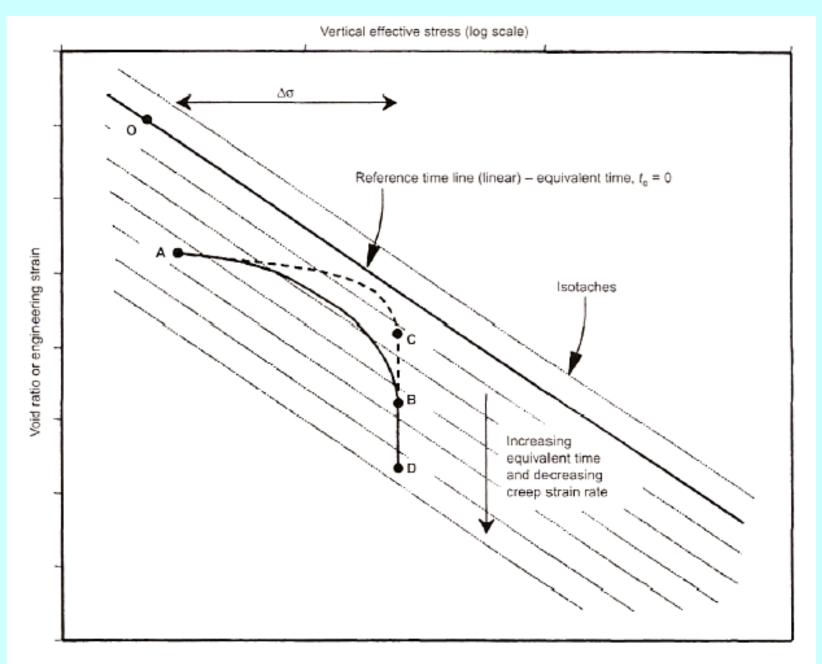
**Sunshine Motorway** 





Reduction of secondary compression coefficient with overconsolidation ratio observed in oedometer tests





Elastic visco-plastic constitutive model showing isotaches and stress-strain path during compression

How reliable are the soft clay parameters from lab tests for settlement computations- magnitude, rate and secondary settlement;

Is there any magic number to separate immediate settlement from total settlement?

Are the modules etc. good enough to estimate immediate settlement?

Stress path methods etc. are these now forgotten?

The reliability of the laboratory values depends, of course, very much on the sampling methods and the personnel performing the lab tests.

It is extremely important that the samples are as undisturbed as possible and that the laboratory equipment is good. The laboratory test are carried out by advanced lab personnel

# Vacuum consolidation at

## Bangpo Thermal Power Plant-- Bangkok

