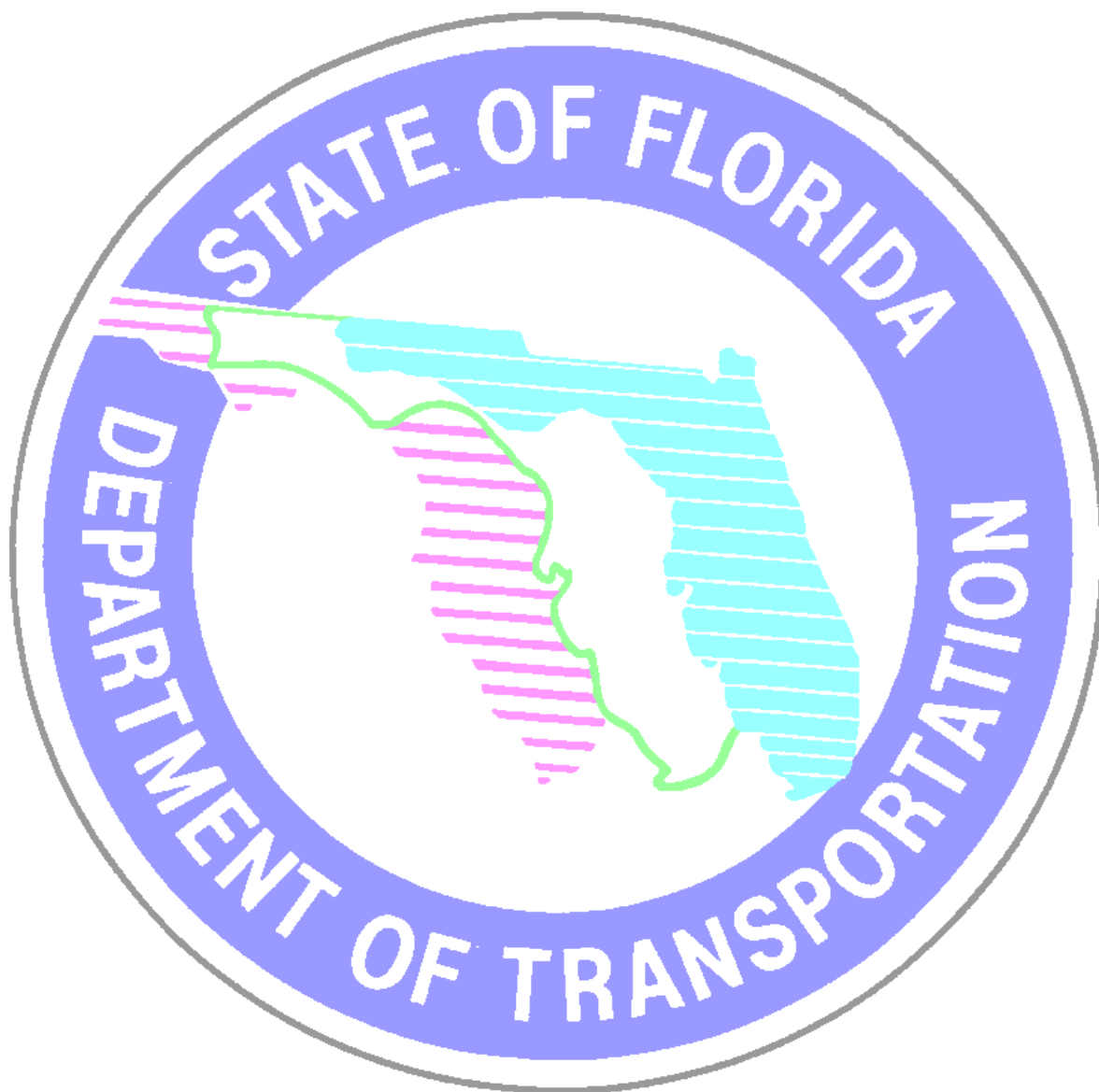


# **Soils and Foundations Handbook**

## **2009**



State Materials Office  
Gainesville, Florida

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# ***Chapter 1***

## **1 Introduction**

The purpose of this handbook is to provide Geotechnical Engineers with a guide to the proper procedures in the performance of geotechnical activities for the Florida Department of Transportation. Specifically, this handbook is intended to define the tasks involved in performing a subsurface investigation and the geotechnical aspects of the design and construction of roadways and roadway structures. General guidelines are presented covering the geotechnical phases of a typical project.

As each project presents unique considerations and requires engineering judgment based on a thorough knowledge of the individual situation, this handbook was not originally intended to serve as the geotechnical scope of services on individual projects. However, in 2002, the Standard Scope and Staff Hour Estimation Task Team elected to use this handbook as the standard minimum scope of work. Therefore, the scope of services for each project may supersede the minimum scope of work outlined in this handbook. The scope of services dictates the specific practices, which are to be used on a particular project. Additionally, the scope defines the required interaction between the Department's Geotechnical Engineer and those performing the geotechnical work.

The design and construction of a roadway and related structures is a complex operation involving the participation of many department units and outside agencies. The key to the successful completion of the project is communication. It is essential that good communication, coordination and interaction exist between the Geotechnical Engineer and these other units and agencies. This interaction should continue throughout all project phases to ensure a reliable and cost-effective design and minimize construction problems.

This handbook is designed to present information in the same sequence, as it would occur during project development for a design-bid-construct project. A general outline of the tasks, which should be performed by a Geotechnical Engineer during a project, is shown in Sections **1.1.1** through **1.1.4**. The details of these tasks are discussed and amplified in subsequent chapters. Chapter 11 discusses the process for a design build project. A general outline of the tasks, which should be performed by a Geotechnical Engineer for a design build project, is shown in Sections [11.1](#) through [11.3](#).

Finally, it should be noted that this is intended neither as an all-encompassing and comprehensive procedural handbook, nor as a design handbook. Methods of subsurface investigation and of analyzing data and solving problems are not discussed in detail. The lists of references at the end of each chapter are but a few of the many sources of information that will provide the engineer with greater insight into investigation procedures and analysis and problem solving techniques. Further assistance is available from the District Geotechnical Engineer, the State Geotechnical Materials Engineer in Gainesville, and the State Geotechnical Engineer and State Construction Geotechnical Engineer in Tallahassee.

## **1.1 Geotechnical Tasks in Typical Highway Projects**

### ***1.1.1 Planning, Development, and Engineering Phase***

- Prepare geotechnical scope of services for consultant projects.
- Assist in corridor and route selection.
- Review existing information.
- Perform field reconnaissance of site and existing structures.
- Plan and supervise field investigation program, field and laboratory testing.
- Analyze all data available.
- Prepare preliminary geotechnical report summarizing available data and providing recommendations
- Identify potential construction requirements and problems (predrilling requirements, vibration and sound impacts).

### ***1.1.2 Project Design Phase***

- Perform additional field investigations and provide additional or revised recommendations if called for in geotechnical report or if project has substantially changed since earlier investigations.
- Assist structural engineer in interpreting and applying geotechnical recommendations to design and special provisions and/or supplemental specifications.
- Design and if applicable perform load test programs or special instrumentation monitoring as deemed necessary.
- Review plans, special provisions and/or supplemental specifications.
- Identify construction activities and techniques to minimize potential construction requirements and problems (performing requirements, vibration and sound impacts).

### ***1.1.3 Construction Phase***

- Establish construction criteria for geotechnical portions of project.
- Inspect construction procedures to assure compliance with design and specifications.
- Design, install, perform, monitor, and evaluate load test programs and/or instrumentation systems.
- Solve unforeseen foundation and/or roadway soils problems.

#### ***1.1.4 Post-Construction Phase***

- Assess and provide solutions to roadway and structure maintenance problems, which are related to the geotechnical characteristics of the site.
- Summarize construction procedures and/or problems and any changes in design made during construction.
- Provide information to State Geotechnical files for reference during the design of future projects.

## **Chapter 2**

### **2 Subsurface Investigation Procedures**

Because of the varying complexity of projects and soil conditions, it is very difficult to establish a rigid format to be followed in conducting each and every subsurface investigation; however, there are basic steps that should be considered for any project. By outlining and describing these steps, it will be possible to standardize procedures and considerably reduce time and expense often required to go back and obtain information not supplied by the initial investigation.

The basic steps are summarized in this and subsequent chapters. In this chapter, review of existing data is discussed, as well as commonly used methods for performing field explorations. Guidelines for minimum investigations for various types of projects are presented in [Chapter 3](#); field and laboratory test methods are discussed in [Chapters 4 & 5](#), respectively. Refer also to ASTM D 420 and D 5434.

#### **2.1 Review of Project Requirements**

The first step in performing a subsurface investigation is a thorough review of the project requirements. It is necessary that the information available to the Geotechnical Engineer include the project location, alignment, structure locations, structure loads, approximate bridge span lengths and pier locations, and cut and fill area locations. The Geotechnical Engineer should have access to typical section, plan and profile sheets, and cross sections with a template for the proposed roadway showing cuts and fills. This information aids the Geotechnical Engineer in planning the investigation and minimizes expensive and time-consuming backtracking.

#### **2.2 Review of Available Data**

After gaining a thorough understanding of the project requirements, the Geotechnical Engineer should collect all relevant available information on the project site. Review of this information can aid the engineer in understanding the geology, geography and topography of the area and assist him in laying out the field explorations and locating potential problems. Contact the District Geotechnical Engineer for assistance in obtaining sources of this available data. Existing data may be available from the following sources:

##### ***2.2.1 Topographic Maps***

These maps are prepared by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey (USCGS) and are readily available. They are sometimes also prepared on a larger scale by the Department during early planning phases of a project. These maps portray physical features, configuration and elevation of the ground surface, and surface water features. This data is valuable in determining accessibility for field equipment and possible problem areas.

### ***2.2.2 Aerial Photographs***

These photographs are available from the Department and other sources. They are valuable in that they can provide the basis for reconnaissance and, depending on the age of the photographs, show manmade structures, excavations, or fills that affect accessibility and the planned depth of exploration. Historical photographs can also help determine the reasons and/or potential of general scour and sinkhole activity.

### ***2.2.3 Geological Maps and Reports***

Considerable information on the geological conditions of an area can often be obtained from geological maps and reports. These reports and maps often show the location and relative position of the different geological strata and present information on the characteristics of the different strata. This data can be used directly to evaluate the rock conditions to be expected and indirectly to estimate possible soil conditions since the parent material is one of the factors controlling soil types. Geological maps and reports can be obtained from the USGS, Florida Geological Survey, university libraries, and other sources.

### ***2.2.4 Natural Resources Conservation Service Surveys***

These surveys are compiled by the U.S. Department of Agriculture usually in the form of county soils maps. These surveys can provide valuable data on shallow surface soils including mineralogical composition, grain size distribution, depth to rock, water table information, drainage characteristics, geologic origin, and presence of organic deposits.

### ***2.2.5 Potentiometric Surface Map***

The potentiometric surface elevation shown on the map (see [Figure 1](#)) can supplement and be correlated with what was found in the field by the drillers. The Potentiometric Surface map can be obtained from the local Water Management District office.

### ***2.2.6 Adjacent Projects***

Data may be available on nearby projects from the Department, or county or city governments. The Department may have soils data on file from state projects and as-built drawings and pile driving records for the final structure. This data is extremely useful in setting preliminary boring locations and depths and in predicting problem areas. Maintenance records for existing nearby roadways and structures may provide additional insight into the subsurface conditions. For example, indications of differential settlement or slope stability problems may provide the engineer with valuable information on the long-term characteristics of the site.

## **2.3 Field Reconnaissance**

Following review of the existing data, the Geotechnical Engineer should visit the project site. This will enable the engineer to gain first-hand knowledge of field



conditions and correlate this information with previous data. The form included as [Figure 2](#) indicates the type of information the engineer should look for. In particular, the following should be noted during the field reconnaissance:

1. Nearby structures should be inspected to ascertain their foundation performance and potential to damage from vibration or settlement from foundation installation. Also, the structure's usages must be looked at to check the impact the foundation installation may have (i.e. a surgical unit, printing company, etc.).
2. On water crossings, banks should be inspected for scour and the streambed inspected for evidence of soil deposits not previously indicated.
3. Note any feature that may affect the boring program, such as accessibility, structures, overhead utilities, signs of buried utilities, or property restrictions.
4. Note any feature that may assist in the engineering analysis, such as the angle of any existing slopes and the stability of any open excavations or trenches.
5. Any drainage features, including signs of seasonal water tables.
6. Any features that may need additional borings or probing such as muck pockets.

## **2.4 Field Exploration Methods**

Assuming access and utility clearances have been obtained and a survey base line has been established in the field, field explorations are begun based on the information gained during the previous steps. Many methods of field exploration exist; some of the more common are described below. These methods are often augmented by in-situ testing (see [Chapter 4](#)).

### ***2.4.1 Test Pits and Trenches***

These are the simplest methods of inspecting subsurface soils. They consist of excavations performed by hand, backhoe, or dozer. Hand excavations are often performed with posthole diggers or hand augers. They offer the advantages of speed and ready access for sampling. They are severely hampered by limitations of depth and by the fact they cannot be used in soft or loose soils or below the water table. In Florida their use is generally limited to borrow pits.

### ***2.4.2 Boreholes***

Borings are probably the most common method of exploration. They can be advanced using a number of methods, as described below. Upon completion, all borings should be backfilled in accordance with applicable Department of Environmental Protection and Water Management District regulations. In many cases this will require grouting.

#### **2.4.2.1 Auger Borings**

Rotating an auger while simultaneously advancing it into the ground; the auger is advanced to the desired depth and then withdrawn. Samples of cuttings can be removed from the auger; however, the depth of the sample can only be approximated. These samples are disturbed and should be used only for material identification. This method is used to establish soil strata and water table elevations, or to advance to the desired stratum before Standard Penetration Testing (SPT) or undisturbed sampling is performed. However, it cannot be used effectively in soft or loose soils below the water table without casing or drilling mud to hold the hole open. See ASTM D 1452.

#### **2.4.2.2 Hollow-Stem Auger Borings**

A hollow-stem auger consists of a continuous flight auger surrounding a hollow drill stem. The hollow-stem auger is advanced similar to other augers; however, removal of the hollow stem auger is not necessary for sampling. SPT and undisturbed samples are obtained through the hollow drill stem, which acts like a casing to hold the hole open. This increases usage of hollow-stem augers in soft and loose soils. See ASTM D 6151.

#### **2.4.2.3 Wash Borings**

In this method, the boring is advanced by a combination of the chopping action of a light bit and the jetting action of water flowing through the bit. This method of advancing the borehole is used only when precise soil information is not required between sample intervals.

#### **2.4.2.4 Percussion Drilling**

In this method, the drill bit advances by power chopping with a limited amount of water in the borehole. Slurry must be periodically removed. The method is not recommended for general exploration because of the difficulty in determining stratum changes and in obtaining undisturbed samples. However, it is useful in penetrating materials not easily penetrated by other methods, such as those containing boulders.

#### **2.4.2.5 Rotary Drilling**

A downward pressure applied during rapid rotation advances hollow drill rods with a cutting bit attached to the bottom. The drill bit cuts the material and drilling fluid washes the cuttings from the borehole. This is, in most cases, the fastest method of advancing the borehole and can be used in any type of soil except those containing considerable amounts of large gravel or boulders. Drilling mud or casing can be used to keep the borehole open in soft or loose soils, although the former makes identifying strata change by examining the cuttings difficult.

#### **2.4.2.6 Coring**

A core barrel is advanced through rock by the application of downward pressure during rotation. Circulating water removes ground-up

material from the hole while also cooling the bit. The rate of advance is controlled so as to obtain the maximum possible core recovery. Refer to [2.4.5.5 Rock Core Sampling](#) for details.

### **2.4.3 Soundings**

A sounding is a method of exploration in which either static or dynamic force is used to cause a rod tipped with a testing device to penetrate soils. Samples are not usually obtained. The depth to rock can easily be deduced from the resistance to penetration. The resistance to penetration can be measured and correlated to various soil properties. See [Chapter 4](#) for details of the cone penetrometer.

### **2.4.4 Geophysical Methods**

These are nondestructive exploratory methods in which no samples can be taken. Geophysical methods can provide information on the general subsurface profile, the depth to bedrock, depth to groundwater, and the location of granular borrow areas, peat deposits, or subsurface anomalies. Results can be significantly affected by many factors however, including the presence of groundwater, non-homogeneity of soil stratum thickness, and the range of wave velocities within a particular stratum. For this reason, geophysical explorations should always be accompanied by conventional borings and an experienced professional must interpret results. (See ASTM D 6429 and US Army Corps of Engineers Engineering Manual EM-1110-1-1802) Geophysical methods commonly used for engineering purposes include:

#### **2.4.4.1 Seismic Refraction and Reflection**

These methods rely on the fact that shock waves travel through different materials at different velocities. The times required for an induced shock wave to travel to set detectors after being refracted or reflected by the various subsurface materials are measured. This data is then used to interpret material types and thickness. Seismic refraction is limited to material stratifications in which velocities increase with depth. For the seismic refraction method, refer to ASTM D 5777. Seismic investigations can be performed from the surface or from various depths within borings. For cross-hole seismic techniques, see ASTM D 4428.

#### **2.4.4.2 Resistivity**

This method is based on the differences in electrical conductivity between subsurface strata. An electric current is passed through the ground between electrodes and the resistivity of the subsurface materials is measured and correlated to material types. Several electrode arrangements have been developed, with the Wenner (4 equally spaced electrodes) being the most commonly used in the United States. Refer to ASTM G 57 and D 6431.

#### **2.4.4.3 Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR)**

The velocity of electromagnetic radiation is dependent upon the material through which it is traveling. GPR uses this principle to analyze the reflections of radar signals transmitted into the ground by a low frequency antenna. Signals are continuously transmitted and received as the antenna is towed across the area of interest, thus providing a profile of the subsurface material interfaces.

#### **2.4.5 Soil Sampling**

Common methods of sampling during field explorations include those listed below. All samples should be properly preserved and carefully transported to the laboratory such that sample properties and integrity are maintained. See ASTM D 4220.

##### **2.4.5.1 Bag Bulk Samples**

These are disturbed samples obtained from auger cuttings or test pits. The quantity of the sample depends on the type of testing to be performed, but can range up to 50 lb or more. Testing performed on these samples includes classification, moisture-density, Limerock Bearing Ratio (LBR), and corrosivity tests. A portion of each sample should be placed in a sealed container for moisture content determination.

##### **2.4.5.2 Split-Barrel**

Also known as a split-spoon sample, this method is used in conjunction with the Standard Penetration Test (see [Chapter 4](#)). The sampler is a 2-inch (O.D.) split barrel which is driven into the soil with a 140-pound hammer dropped 30 inches. After it has been driven 18 inches, it is withdrawn and the sample removed. The sample should be immediately examined, logged and placed in sample jar for storage. These are disturbed samples and are not suitable for strength or consolidation testing. They are adequate for moisture content, gradation, and Atterberg Limits tests, and valuable for visual identification. See ASTM D 1586.

##### **2.4.5.3 Shelby Tube**

This is thin-walled steel tube, usually 3 inches (O.D.) by 30 inches in length. It is pushed into the soil with a relatively rapid, smooth stroke and then retracted. This produces a relatively undisturbed sample provided the Shelby tube ends are sealed immediately upon withdrawal. Refer to ASTM D 1587 (AASHTO T 207).

This sample is suitable for strength and consolidation tests. This sampling method is unsuitable for hard materials. Good samples must have sufficient cohesion to remain in the tube during withdrawal. Refer to ASTM D 1587 (AASHTO T 207).

#### **2.4.5.4 Piston Samplers**

##### **2.4.5.4.1 Stationary**

This sampler has the same standard dimensions as the Shelby Tube, above. A piston is positioned at the bottom of the thin-wall tube while the sampler is lowered to the bottom of the hole, thus preventing disturbed materials from entering the tube. The piston is locked in place on top of the soil to be sampled. A sample is obtained by pressing the tube into the soil with a continuous, steady thrust. The stationary piston is held fixed on top of the soil while the sampling tube is advanced. This creates suction while the sampling tube is retrieved thus aiding in retention of the sample. This sampler is suitable for soft to firm clays and silts. Samples are generally less disturbed and have a better recovery ratio than those from the Shelby Tube method.

##### **2.4.5.4.2 Floating**

This sampler is similar to the stationary method above, except that the piston is not fixed in position but is free to ride on the top of the sample. The soils being sampled must have adequate strength to cause the piston to remain at a fixed depth as the sampling tube is pushed downward. If the soil is too weak, the piston will tend to move downward with the tube and a sample will not be obtained. This method should therefore be limited to stiff or hard cohesive materials.

##### **2.4.5.4.3 Retractable**

This sampler is similar to the stationary sampler, however, after lowering the sampler into position the piston is retracted and locked in place at the top of the sampling tube. A sample is then obtained by pushing the entire assembly downward. This sampler is used for loose or soft soils.

#### **2.4.5.4.4 Hydraulic (Osterberg)**

In this sampler, a movable piston is attached to the top of a thin-wall tube. Sampling is accomplished as hydraulic pressure pushes the movable piston downward until it contacts a stationary piston positioned at the top of the soil sample. The distance over which the sampler is pushed is fixed; it cannot be over-pushed. This sampler is used for very soft to firm cohesive soils.

#### **2.4.5.5 Rock Core Sampling**

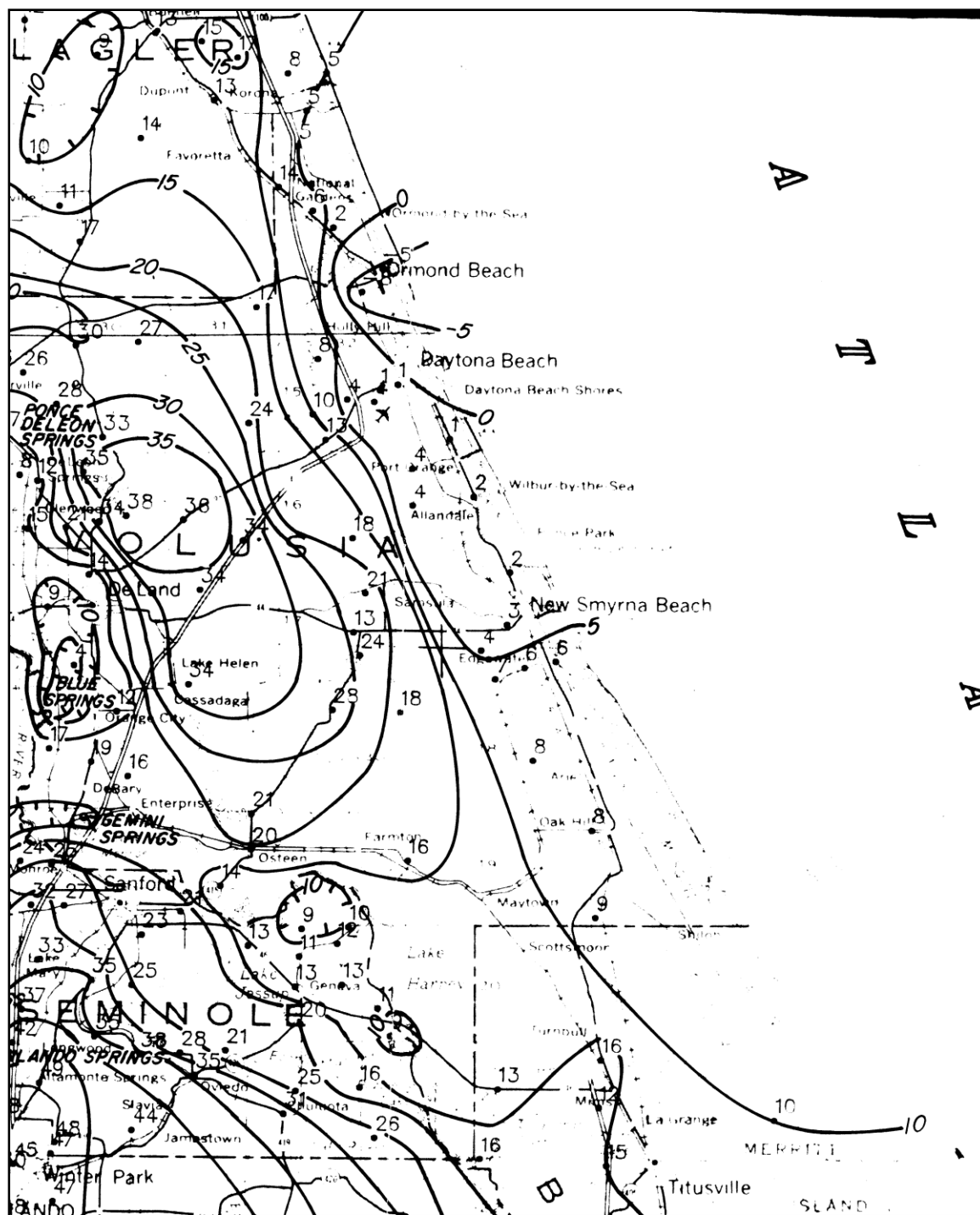
Rock cores shall be obtained in accordance with ASTM D 2113 Standard Practice for Diamond Core Drilling for Site Excavation using a double or triple wall core barrel equipped with diamond or tungsten-carbide tipped bits. There are three basic types of core barrels: Single tube, double tube, and triple tube. Single tube core barrels generally provide poor recovery rates in Florida limestone and their use is not allowed. Double tube core barrels for 2.4 inch cores generally provide lesser quality samples than triple tube barrels, and shall only be used for core samples larger than 3.5 inches. Triple tube core barrels are required for core samples smaller than 3.5 inches and are described below. (Note: face discharge bits generally provide better return in Florida limestone). Refer to ASTM D 5079 for practices of preserving and transporting rock core samples.

##### **2.4.5.5.1 Double Tube Core Barrel**

This core barrel consists of inner and outer tubes equipped with a diamond or tungsten-carbide drill bit. As coring progresses, fluid is introduced downward between the inner and outer tubes to cool the bit and to wash ground-up material to the surface. The inner tube protects the core from the highly erosive action of the drilling fluid. In a rigid type core barrel, both the inner and outer tubes rotate. In a swivel type, the inner tube remains stationary while the outer tube rotates. Several series of swivel type core barrels are available. Barrel sizes vary from EWG or EWM (0.845 inch to 6 inch I.D.). The larger diameter barrels are used in highly erodible materials, such as Florida limestone, to generally obtain better core recovery. The minimum core barrel to be used shall be HW (2.4 inch I.D.), and it is recommended using 4 inch diameter core barrels to better evaluate the Florida limestone properties.

##### **2.4.5.5.2 Triple Tube Core Barrel**

Similar to the double tube, above, but has an additional inner liner, consisting of either a clear plastic solid tube or a thin metal split tube, in which the core is retained. This barrel best preserves fractured and poor quality rock cores.



<small>STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</small> <b>FIELD RECONNAISSANCE REPORT</b>		<small>FORM 675-020-14</small> <small>MATERIALS</small> <small>08/94</small>
PROJECT NO.: _____ COUNTY _____ STA NO. _____		
REPORTED BY: _____ DATE _____		
<b>1. STAKING OF LINE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> WELL STAKED <input type="checkbox"/> POORLY STAKED (WE CAN WORK) <input type="checkbox"/> POORLY STAKED (WE MUST REPLACE) <input type="checkbox"/> REQUEST DIVISION TO RESTAKE	<b>8. BRIDGE SITE - CONTINUED</b> CUT SECTION - METERS _____ FILL SECTION - METERS _____ IF STREAM CROSSING: WILL BARGE BE NECESSARY: _____ EASILY PLACED IN WATER _____ CAN CABLE BE STRETCHED ACROSS STREAM <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO HOW LONG? _____ CURRENT: <input type="checkbox"/> SWIFT <input type="checkbox"/> MODERATE <input type="checkbox"/> SLOW IF PRESENT BRIDGE NEARBY: TYPE OF FOUNDATION _____ ANY PROBLEMS EVIDENT IN OLD BRIDGE (DESCRIBE ON BACK) IS WATER NEARBY FOR WET DRILLING - METERS _____	
<b>2. BENCH MARKS</b> IN PLACE: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO DISTANCE FROM BRIDGE - METERS _____	<b>9. GROUND WATER TABLE</b> CLOSE TO SURFACE - METERS _____ NEARBY WELLS - DEPTH - METERS _____ INTERMEDIATE DEPTH - METERS _____	
<b>3. PROPERTY OWNERS</b> GRANTED PERMISSION: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO REMARKS ON BACK		
<b>4. UTILITIES</b> WILL DRILLERS ENCOUNTER UNDERGROUND UTILITIES? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO AT WHICH HOLES? _____ WHAT TYPE? _____ WHO TO SEE FOR DEFINITE LOCATION _____	<b>10. ROCK</b> BOULDERS OVER AREA? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO DEFINITE OUTCROP? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO (SHOW SKETCH ON BACK) WHAT KIND? _____	
<b>5. GEOLOGIC FORMATION</b>  		
<b>6. SURFACE SOILS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> SAND <input type="checkbox"/> CLAY <input type="checkbox"/> SANDY CLAY <input type="checkbox"/> SILT <input type="checkbox"/> MUCK <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	<b>11. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT NECESSARY</b>  	
<b>7. GENERAL SITE DESCRIPTION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> LEVEL <input type="checkbox"/> ROLLING <input type="checkbox"/> HILLSIDE <input type="checkbox"/> VALLEY <input type="checkbox"/> SWAMP <input type="checkbox"/> GULLIED GROUND COVER <input type="checkbox"/> CLEARER <input type="checkbox"/> FARMED <input type="checkbox"/> BUILDINGS <input type="checkbox"/> HEAVY WOODS <input type="checkbox"/> LIGHT WOODS <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER REMARKS ON BACK		
<b>8. BRIDGE SITE</b> REPLACING _____ WIDENING _____ RELOCATION _____ RIG TYPE _____  <input type="checkbox"/> TRUCK MOUNTED SKID RIG <input type="checkbox"/> SKID RIG <input type="checkbox"/> ROCK CORING RIG <input type="checkbox"/> WASH BORING EQUIPMENT <input type="checkbox"/> WATER WAGON <input type="checkbox"/> PUMP <input type="checkbox"/> HOSE - METERS _____	<b>12. REMARKS ON ACCESS</b> DESCRIBE ANY PROBLEMS ON ACCESS  	
	<b>13. DEBRIS AND SANITARY DUMPS</b> STATIONS _____ REMARKS _____	

**Figure 2, Field Reconnaissance Report**



## 2.5 References

1. Cheney, Richard S. & Chassie, Ronald G., Soils and Foundations Workshop Manual – Second Edition, FHWA HI-88-009, 1993.
2. NAVFAC DM-7.1 - Soil Mechanics, Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 1986.
3. Hannigan, P.J., Goble, G.G., Thendean, G., Likins, G.E., and Rausche, F., Manual on Design and Construction of Driven Pile Foundations, FHWA-HI-97-013 and 014, 1996.
4. Fang, Hsai-Yang, Foundation Engineering Handbook Second Edition, Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, New York, 1990.
5. AASHTO, Manual on Subsurface Investigations, Washington DC, 1988.
6. Munfakh, George , Arman, Ara, Samtani, Naresh, and Castelli, Raymond, Subsurface Investigations, FHWA-HI-97-021, 1997.
7. Recommended Guidelines for Sealing Geotechnical Exploratory Holes, National Cooperative Highway Research Program, NCHRP Report 378
8. Engineering Manual 1110-1-1802, Geophysical Exploration for Engineering and Environmental Investigations, Department of Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1995

## 2.6 Specifications and Standards

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>ASTM</u></b>	<b><u>AASHTO</u></b>
Guide to Site Characterization for Engineering, Design, and Construction Purposes	D 420	-
Standard Practice for Soil Investigation and Sampling by Auger Borings	D 1452	-
Standard Test Method for Penetration Test and Split-Barrel Sampling of Soils	D 1586	T 206
Standard Practice for Thin-Walled Tube Geotechnical Sampling of Soils	D 1587	T 207
Standard Practice for Diamond Core Drilling for Site Investigation	D 2113	T 225
Standard Practices for Preserving and Transporting Soil Samples	D 4220	-
Standard Test Methods for Crosshole Seismic Testing	D 4428	-
Standard Test Method for Determining Subsurface Liquid Levels in a Borehole or Monitoring Well (Observation Well)	D 4750	-
Standard Practices for Preserving and Transporting Rock Core Samples	D 5079	-

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>ASTM</u></b>	<b><u>AASHTO</u></b>
Standard Guide for Field Logging of Subsurface Explorations of Soil and Rock	D 5434	-
Standard Guide for Using the Seismic Refraction Method for Subsurface Investigation	D 5777	-
Standard Practice for Using Hollow-Stem Augers for Geotechnical Exploration and Soil Sampling	D 6151	-
Standard Test Method for Field Measurement of Soil Resistivity Using the Wenner Four-Electrode Method	G 57	-
Standard Guide for Selecting Surface Geophysical Methods	D 6429	-
Standard Guide for Using the Direct Current Resistivity Method for Subsurface Investigation	D 6431	

## ***Chapter 3***

### **3 Subsurface Investigation Guidelines for Highways and Related Structures**

A subsurface investigation should be performed at the site of all new structure, roadway construction, widenings, extensions, and rehabilitation locations as directed by the District Geotechnical Engineer or project scope.

This chapter presents guidelines to plan a subsurface investigation program. As the requirements will vary with the project conditions, engineering judgment is essential in tailoring the investigation to the specific project.

The amounts and types of data obtained during a subsurface investigation are often constrained by limitations of time, manpower, equipment, access, or funds. However, as a minimum, the investigation should provide sufficient data for the Geotechnical Engineer to recommend the most efficient design. Without sufficient data, the engineer must rely on conservative designs, which may cost considerably more than an extended exploration program.

A comprehensive subsurface investigation program might include both conventional borings and other specialized field investigatory or testing methods. While existing data can provide some preliminary indication of the necessary extent of exploration, more often it will be impossible to finalize the investigation plan until some field data is available. Therefore, close communication between the engineer and driller is essential. The results of preliminary borings should be reviewed as soon as possible so that additional borings and in-situ testing, if necessary, can be performed without remobilization and with a minimum loss of time.

#### **3.1 General Requirements**

The extent of the exploration will vary considerably with the nature of the project. However, the following general standards apply to all investigation programs or as appropriate for the specific project and agreed upon by the District Geotechnical Engineer:

1. Preliminary exploration depths should be estimated from data obtained during field reconnaissance, existing data, and local experience. The borings should penetrate unsuitable founding materials (organic soils, soft clays, loose sands, etc.) and terminate in competent material. Competent materials are those suitable for support of the foundations being considered.
2. All borings shall be extended below the estimated scour depths.
3. Each boring, sounding, and test pit should be given a unique identification number for easy reference.
4. The ground surface elevation and actual location shall be accurately determined for each boring, sounding, and test pit. Offshore borings should be referenced to mean sea level with the aid of a tide gauge. (Note: There are two vertical datums. They are the 1927 datum and the 1988 datum;

ensure that the proper one is being referenced.)

5. Locate bridge borings by survey; use a field Global Positioning System (GPS) unit with a manufacturer's rated accuracy of  $\pm 10$  feet to locate the Longitude and Latitude coordinates of roadway, pond and miscellaneous structure borings, and the boundaries of muck probe areas.
6. A sufficient number of samples, suitable for the types of testing intended, should be obtained within each layer of material.
7. Water table observation within each boring or test pit should be recorded when first encountered, at the end of each day and after sufficient time has elapsed for the water table to stabilize. Refer to ASTM D 4750. Other groundwater observations (artesian pressure, etc.) should also be recorded.
8. Unless serving as an observation well, each borehole, sounding, and test pit should be backfilled or grouted according to applicable environmental guidelines. Refer to Reference 6.

### **3.2 Guidelines for Minimum Explorations**

Following is a description of the recommended minimum explorations for various types of projects. It is stressed that these guidelines represent the minimum extent of exploration and testing anticipated for most projects and must be adapted to the specific requirements of each individual project. The District Geotechnical Engineer should be consulted for assistance in determining the requirements of a specific project. Additionally, the Engineer should verify that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) minimum criteria are met. Refer to Reference 3.

It is noted that the guidelines below consider the use of conventional borings only. While this is the most common type of exploration, the Engineer may deem it appropriate on individual projects to include soundings, test pits, geophysical methods, or in-situ testing as supplementary explorations or as substitutes for some, but not all, of the conventional borings noted in the following sections.

#### ***3.2.1 Roadway Soil Surveys***

Soil survey explorations are made along the proposed roadway alignment for the purpose of defining subsurface materials. This information is used in the design of the pavement section, as well as in defining the limits of unsuitable materials and any remedial measures to be taken. Soil survey information is also used in predicting the probable stability of cut or fill slopes.

Minimum criteria for soil surveys vary substantially, depending on the location of the proposed roadway, the anticipated subsurface materials, and the type of roadway. The following are basic guidelines covering general conditions. It is important that the engineer visit the site to ensure that all features are covered. In general, if a structure boring is located in close proximity to a planned soil survey boring, the soil survey boring may be omitted.

- a. At least one boring shall be placed at each 100-foot (30 m) interval.  
Generally, borings are to be staggered left and right of the centerline to

cover the entire roadway corridor. Borings may be spaced further apart if pre-existing information indicates the presence of uniform subsurface conditions. Additional borings shall be located as necessary to define the limits of any undesirable materials or to better define soils stratification.

- b. In areas of highly variable soil conditions, additional borings shall be located at each interval considering the following criteria.
  - 1) For interstate highways, three borings are to be placed at each interval, one within the median and one within each roadway.
  - 2) For four lane roadways, two borings are to be placed at each interval, one within each roadway.
- c. For roadway widenings that provide an additional lane, one boring shall be placed within the additional lane at each interval.
- d. In areas of cut or fill, where stability analysis is anticipated, a minimum of two additional borings shall be placed at each interval near the outer reaches of the sloped areas.
- e. In all cases, at least three samples per mile or 3 per project whichever is greater shall be obtained for each stratum encountered. Each of the samples representing a particular stratum shall be obtained from a different location, with sampling locations spread out over each mile. Samples should be of adequate size to permit classification and moisture content testing.
- f. For new construction, three 100 lb. samples per mile per stratum or 5 per project whichever is greater, of all materials which can be used within 4 feet below the proposed base elevation in accordance with Standard Index 505 shall be obtained and delivered to the State Materials Office in Gainesville for Resilient Modulus ( $M_R$ ) testing. Samples of all strata located in excavation areas (i.e., water retention areas, ditches, cuts, etc.), which can be used in accordance with Standard Index 505 shall also be obtained for  $M_R$  testing.
- g. Corrosion series samples shall be obtained (unless no structures are to be installed) on a frequency of at least one sample per stratum per 1,500 feet of alignment.
- h. When a rigid pavement is being considered for design, obtain sufficient samples to perform laboratory permeability tests based upon the requirements given in the Rigid Pavement Design Manual.
- i. Borings in areas of little or no grade change shall extend a minimum of 5 feet below grade, drainage pipe or culvert invert level whichever is deeper. For projects with proposed buried storm sewer systems, one boring shall be extended to a nominal depth of 20 feet below grade every 500 feet along the alignment of the storm sewer system; project specifics may dictate adjustments. For projects with proposed regular light poles, one boring shall be extended to a nominal depth of 10 feet below grade every

500 feet along the alignment if borings for buried storm sewer systems are not performed; project specifics may dictate adjustments. Borings may or may not include Standard Penetration Tests (SPT), depending on the specific project requirements and its location.

- j. In areas of cut, borings shall extend a minimum of 5 feet below the proposed grade, drainage pipe or culvert invert level whichever is deeper. If poor soil conditions are encountered at this depth, borings shall be extended to suitable materials or to a depth below grade equal to the depth of cut, whichever occurs first. Bag, SPT, undisturbed and core samples shall be obtained as appropriate for analyses.
- k. In areas of fill, borings shall extend to firm material or to a depth of twice the embankment height, whichever occurs first. Bag, SPT, and undisturbed samples shall be obtained as appropriate.
- l. Delineate areas of deleterious materials (muck, plastic soils, trash fill, buried slabs or pavements, etc.) to both the vertical and the horizontal extents.

### **3.2.2 Structures**

The purpose of structure borings is to provide sufficient information about the subsurface materials to permit design of the structure foundations and related geotechnical construction. The following general criteria should satisfy this purpose on most projects; however, it is the engineer's responsibility to assure that appropriate explorations are carried out for each specific project.

All structure borings shall include Standard Penetration Testing (SPT) at regular intervals unless other sampling methods and/or in-situ testing (as defined in **Chapter 4**) are being performed.

The actual elevation and location of each boring and sounding including the Station, Offset, Latitude and Longitude shall be determined by the project surveyor either before or after the boring or sounding is performed.

#### **3.2.2.1 Bridges**

- 1) Perform at least one 2.5-inch minimum diameter SPT boring at each pier or abutment location. The hole pattern should be staggered so that borings occur at the opposite ends of adjacent piers. Pier foundations or abutments over 100 feet in plan length may require at least two borings, preferably at the extremities of the proposed substructure. For structure widenings, the total number of borings may be reduced depending on the information available for the existing structure.
- 2) If pier locations are unknown, a Phase I Investigation including borings spaced approximately every 500 feet, or as directed by the District Geotechnical Engineer, may be performed to provide sufficient information for the structural engineer to complete the

Bridge Development Report process and determine the locations of the bridge piers. The pier specific borings shall be performed in a Phase II Investigation after the bridge pier locations are determined.

- 3) Boring depths must consider the most likely foundation type for the bridge. Borings for driven pile foundations shall be continued until all unsuitable foundation materials have been penetrated and the predicted stress from the shallow foundation loading is less than 10% of the original overburden pressure (see [Figure 3](#) and [Figure 4](#)), or until at least 20 feet of bedrock or other competent bearing material (generally N-values of 50 or greater) is encountered. Borings for rock socketed drilled shafts should continue through competent materials for at least two shaft diameters below the expected shaft tip elevation. (Scour and lateral requirements must be satisfied.)
- 4) When using the Standard Penetration Test, split-spoon samples shall be obtained at a maximum interval of 2.5 to 3.0 feet and at the top of each stratum. Continuous SPT sampling in accordance with ASTM D 1586 is recommended in the top 15 to 20 feet unless the material is obviously unacceptable as a founding material.
- 5) When cohesive soils are encountered, undisturbed samples shall be obtained at 5-foot intervals in at least one boring. Undisturbed samples shall be obtained from more than one boring where possible.
- 6) When rock is encountered, successive core runs shall be made with the objective of obtaining the best possible core recovery. **SPT's shall be performed between core runs, typically at 5-foot intervals.**
- 7) For bridges (including pedestrian bridges) to be supported by non-redundant drilled shaft foundations (See Section 8.2.3 Drilled Shafts.), perform at least one SPT boring at each drilled shaft location during the design phase.
- 8) In-situ vane, pressuremeter, or dilatometer tests (See [Chapter 4](#)) are recommended where soft clays are encountered.
- 9) Corrosion series tests (see [Chapter 4](#)) are required on all new bridge projects. The soil and the water shall be tested. If inland locations are identified to have extremely aggressive environments which do not seem to represent the field conditions, the engineer may obtain three additional samples per project to confirm an extremely aggressive test result and contact the Corrosion Section of the State Materials Office.
- 10) In the case of a water crossing, samples of streambed materials and each underlying stratum shall be obtained for determination of the median particle diameter,  $D_{50}$ , needed for scour analysis. Sample and test materials above the maximum probable depth of scour. Consult the Drainage Engineer as necessary when determining this depth.
- 11) For piers designed for large ship impact loads, pressuremeter tests are recommended to profile the material from the scour elevation to seven

(7) foundation element diameters below the deepest scour elevation at the pier location.

- 12) The minimum number of borings required to be evenly spaced at each non-redundant drilled shaft location will be dependent on the shaft size as follows:

Maximum Shaft Diameter, feet	Minimum Borings/Shaft	Minimum Borings/Pier
For fairly uniform sites:		
<=8	1	1
9 to 10	1	2
For highly variable sites:		
<=7	1	1
8 to 10	2	2

Highly variable sites include those in known highly variable geologic areas and those determined to be highly variable during the subsoil exploration program.

Contact the State Geotechnical Engineer for exploration requirements for drilled shaft diameters larger than 10 feet (if allowed).

Core the limestone load bearing strata and test core samples. Borings shall extend to not less than 3 shaft diameters below the proposed/final shaft tip elevation or to the depth required above in Item 3), whichever is deeper. Pilot holes shall be required as necessary during construction in cases where the original boring depth is insufficient, where shafts are lengthened or shaft locations are modified. Borings shall be located by survey within one (1) foot of the shaft location. If access during the design phase limits the ability to accomplish this accuracy, plan notes shall be used to require the pilot holes to be taken during construction. However, every effort shall be made to perform these borings and test the cores during the design phase in lieu of the need for pilot holes and rock core testing during construction.

#### **3.2.2.2 Approach Embankments**

- 1) At least one boring shall be taken at the point of highest fill; usually the borings taken for the bridge abutment will satisfy this purpose.

If settlement or stability problems are anticipated, as may occur due to the height of the proposed embankment and/or the presence of poor foundation soils, additional borings shall be taken along the alignment. If a boring was not performed at the bridge abutment, the first of these borings shall be no more than 15 feet from the abutment. The remaining borings shall be placed at 100-foot intervals until the height



of the fill is less than 5 feet. Borings shall be taken at the toe of the proposed embankment slopes as well as the embankment centerline.

- 2) Borings shall extend to a depth of twice the proposed embankment height and unsuitable founding materials have been penetrated. In the event suitable founding materials are not encountered, borings shall be continued until the superimposed stress is less than 10% of the original overburden pressure (see [Figure 5](#)).
- 3) Sampling and in-situ testing criteria are in accordance with ASTM D-1586.

#### **3.2.2.3 Retaining Walls**

- 1) At retaining wall locations borings shall be taken at a maximum interval of one per 150 feet of the wall, as close to the wall alignment as possible. Borings shall be extended below the bottom of the wall a minimum of twice the wall height or at least 10 feet into competent material. This applies to all earth retaining structures, proprietary systems as well as precast and cast-in-place.
- 2) Sampling and in-situ testing criteria are in accordance with ASTM D-1586.

#### **3.2.2.4 Sound Walls**

- 1) Sound Wall Borings shall be taken at a maximum interval of one per 200 feet of the wall, as close to the wall alignment as possible. In general, borings shall be extended below the bottom of the wall to a depth of twice the wall height or 30 feet whichever is less.
- 2) Sampling and in-situ testing criteria are in accordance with ASTM D-1586.

#### **3.2.2.5 Buildings**

In general, one boring should be taken at each corner and one in the center. This may be reduced for small buildings. For extremely large buildings or highly variable site conditions, one boring should be taken at each support location. Other criteria are the same as for bridges.

#### **3.2.2.6 Drainage Structures**

- 1) Borings shall be taken at proposed locations of box culverts. Trenches or hand auger borings may suffice for smaller structures.
- 2) For box culverts, borings shall extend a minimum of 15 feet below the bottom of the culvert or until firm material is encountered, whichever is deeper.
- 3) For smaller structures, borings or trenches shall extend at least 5 feet below the bottom of the structure or until firm material is encountered, whichever is deeper.

- 4) Corrosion testing must be performed for each site. Material from each stratum above the invert elevation and any standing water shall be tested. For drainage systems parallel to roadway alignments, tests shall be performed at 1,500-foot intervals along the alignment.

#### **3.2.2.7 High Mast Lighting, and Overhead Sign Structures**

- 1) One boring shall be taken at each designated location.
- 2) Borings shall be 40 feet into suitable soil or 10 feet into competent rock with 15 feet minimum total depth. Deeper borings may be required for cases with higher than normal torsional loads.
- 3) Sampling and in-situ testing criteria are in accordance with ASTM D-1586.

#### **3.2.2.8 Mast Arms Assemblies and Strain Poles**

- 1) One boring to 25 feet into suitable soil or 10 feet into competent rock with 15 feet minimum total depth (Auger, SPT or CPT) shall be taken in the area of each designated location (for uniform sites one boring can cover more than one foundation location).
- 2) For Standard Mast Arm Assemblies, verify that the soil strength properties at the foundation locations meet or exceed the soil strength properties assumed for the Standard Mast Arm Assemblies in the Standard Indices. A site-specific design must be performed for those sites having weaker strength properties.
- 3) For mast arm assemblies not covered in the standards an analysis and design must be performed.

#### **3.2.2.9 CCTV Poles**

- 1) One boring shall be taken at each designated location.
- 2) Borings shall be 20 feet into suitable soil or 10 feet into competent rock with 15 feet minimum total depth. Deeper borings may be required for cases with higher than normal loads.
- 3) Sampling and in-situ testing criteria are in accordance with ASTM D-1586.

#### **3.2.2.10 Cable Barriers**

- 1) One boring to 20 feet into suitable soil or 15 feet into competent rock (Auger, SPT or CPT) shall be taken in the area of each designated location for cable barrier end anchorages placed beyond the shoulder point of the embankment (in the median or outside the roadway).
- 2) For Standard Cable Barrier End Anchorages, verify that the soil strength properties at the foundation locations meet or exceed the soil strength properties assumed for the Standard Mast Arm Assemblies in

the Standard Indices. A site-specific design must be performed for those sites having weaker strength properties.

- 3) In addition to the soil borings at the end anchors, a geotechnical assessment of the soils along the cable barrier alignment between the anchor locations shall occur. This may be done using any of the normal preliminary investigation methods (topographic maps, aerial photos, geological maps and reports, etc.) as well as original roadway plans. As a minimum, a visual assessment in the field is required. Areas that appear to have high organic content or that are saturated for extended periods should be investigated by taking site specific borings as needed.

#### **3.2.2.11 Tunnels**

Due to the greatly varying conditions under which tunnels are constructed, investigation criteria for tunnels shall be established by the District Geotechnical Engineer for each project on an individual basis.

#### **3.2.2.12 Other Structures**

Contact the District Geotechnical Engineer for instructions concerning other structures not covered in this section.

### ***3.2.3 Borrow Areas***

Test pits, trenches, and various types of borings can be used for exploration of potential borrow areas. Samples should be obtained to permit classification, moisture, compaction, permeability test, LBR, and/or corrosion testing of each material type, as applicable. The extent of the exploration will depend on the size of the borrow area and the amount and type of borrow needed.

### ***3.2.4 Open Retention Ponds***

Two auger borings (SPT borings with continuous sampling may be substituted) shall be taken per 40,000 feet<sup>2</sup> of pond, with a minimum depth of 5 feet below the deepest elevation of the pond, or until a confining layer is encountered or local Water Management District criteria are satisfied. A minimum of two field permeability tests per pond shall be performed, with this number increasing for larger ponds.

Sufficient testing must be accomplished to verify whether the excavated material can be used for embankment fill. If rock is to be excavated from the pond, sufficient SPT borings must be accomplished to estimate the volume and hardness of the rock to be removed.

### ***3.2.5 Closed Retention Ponds***

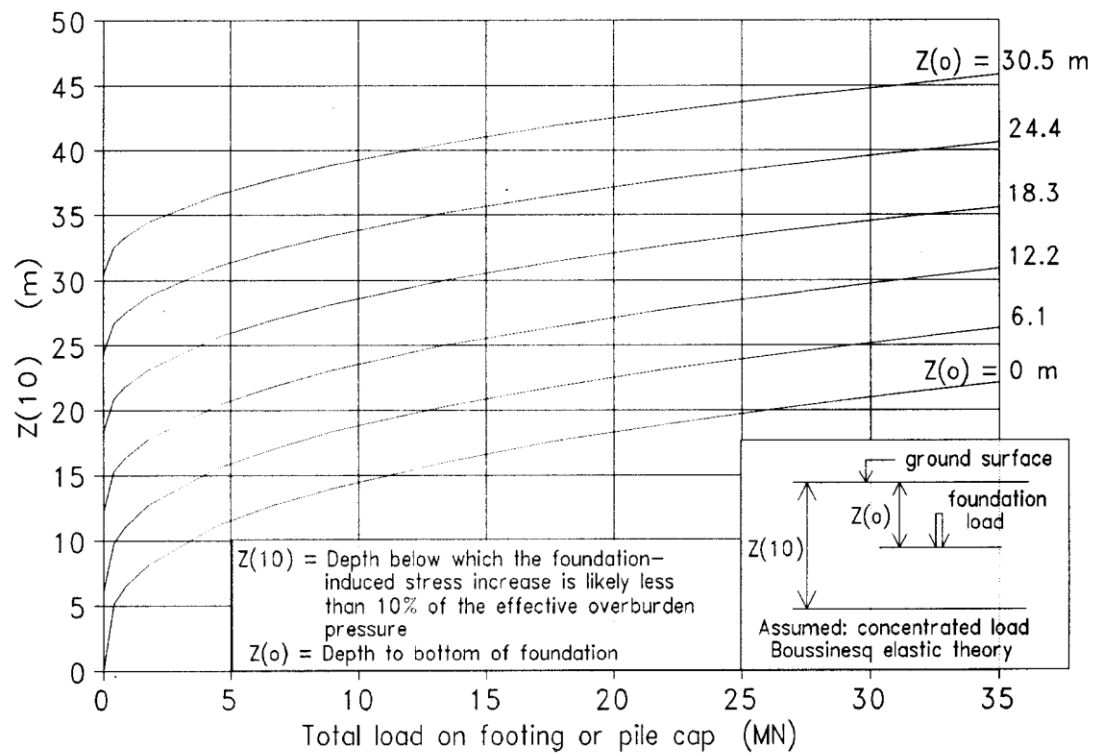
One auger boring (SPT borings with continuous sampling may be substituted) shall be taken per 40,000 feet<sup>2</sup> of pond, with a minimum depth of five feet below the deepest elevation of the pond, and one SPT boring per 40,000 feet<sup>2</sup> of pond, with a minimum depth of two times the proposed water height or until

local Water Management District criteria are satisfied. A minimum of two field permeability tests per pond shall be performed, with this number increasing for larger ponds.

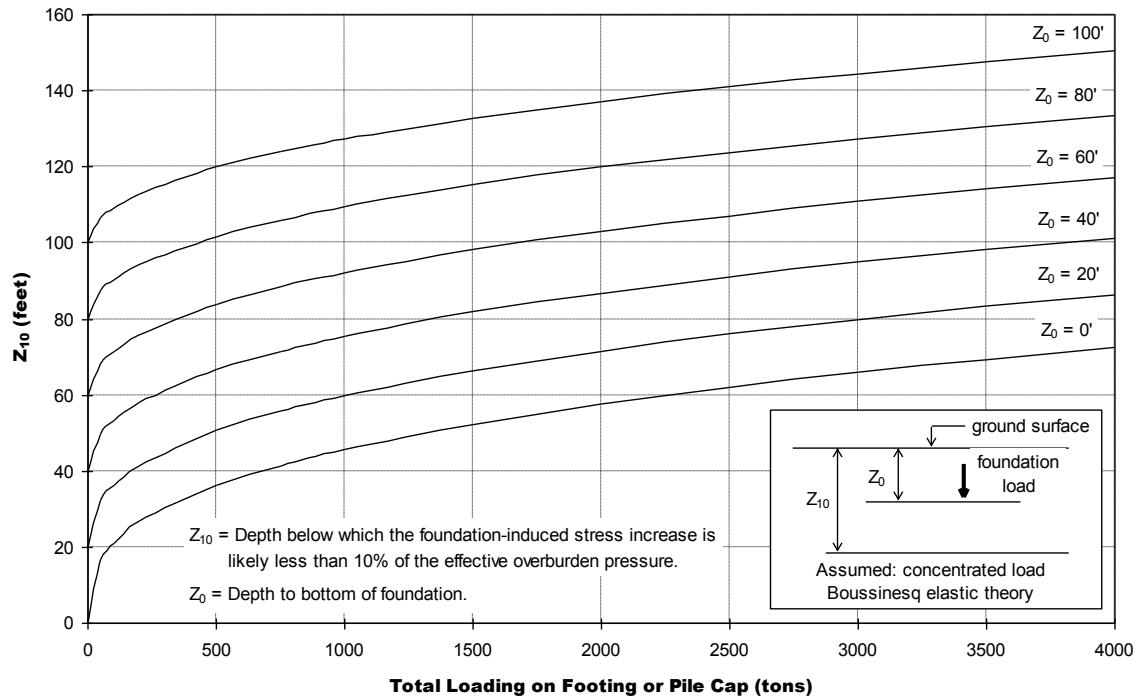
Sufficient testing must be accomplished to verify whether the excavated material can be used for embankment fill. If rock is to be excavated from the pond, sufficient SPT borings must be accomplished to estimate the volume and hardness of the rock to be removed.

### ***3.2.6 Exfiltration Trenches***

One auger boring (SPT borings with continuous sampling may be substituted) shall be taken per 1,000 feet of continuous exfiltration trench, with a minimum depth of 20 feet. A minimum of one open hole percolation test per 1,000 feet of continuous exfiltration trench shall be performed.



**Figure 3, Depth below which the Foundation-Induced Vertical Normal Stress Increase is likely less than 10% of the Effective Overburden Pressure (Metric)(Adapted from Schmertmann, 1967)**



**Figure 4, Depth below which the Foundation-Induced Vertical Normal Stress Increase is likely less than 10% of the Effective Overburden Pressure (English)(Adapted from Schmertmann, 1967)**

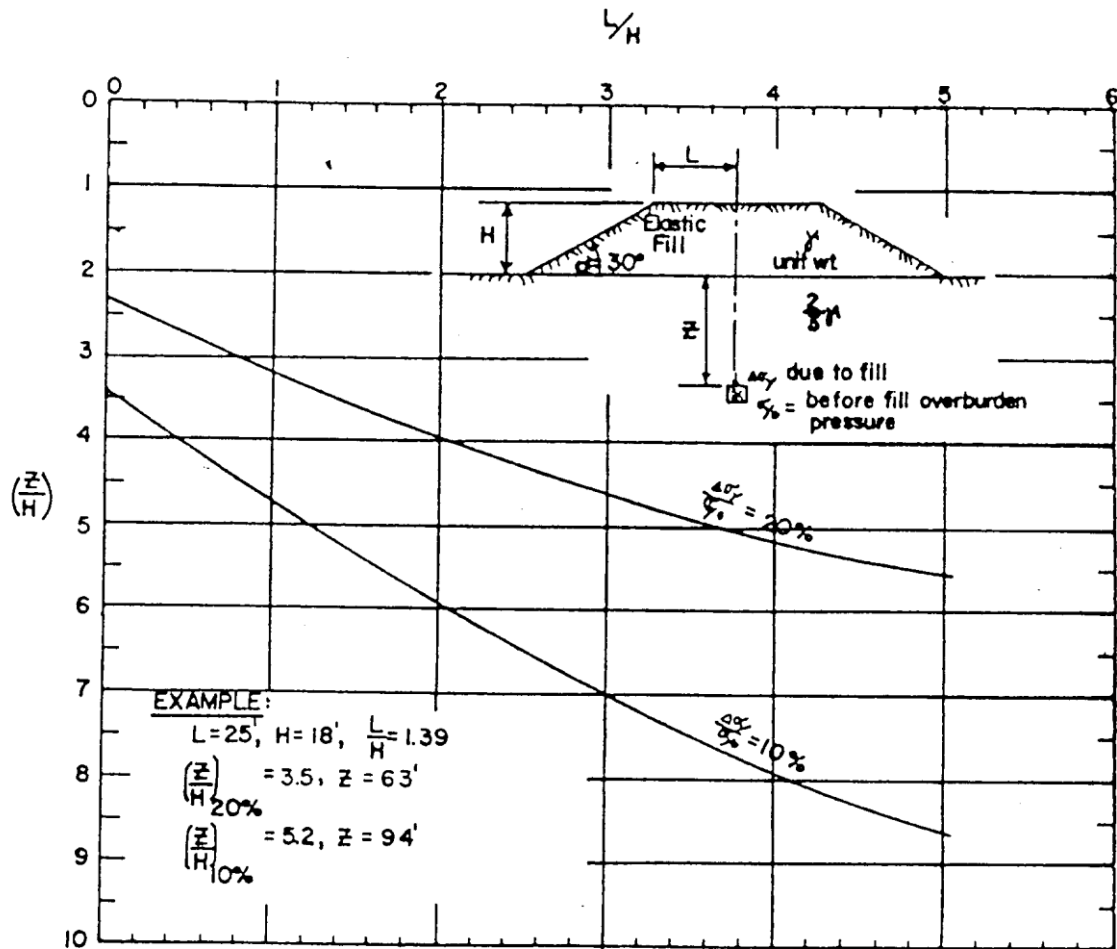


Figure 5, Chart for Determining the Maximum Depth of Significant Increase in Vertical Stress in the Foundation Soils Resulting from an Infinitely Long Trapezoidal Fill (both fill and foundation assumed homogeneous, isotropic and elastic). (After Schmertmann, 1967)

### 3.3 References

1. Cheney, Richard S. & Chassie, Ronald G., Soils and Foundations Workshop Manual – Second Edition, FHWA HI-88-009, 1993.
2. NAVFAC DM-7.1 Soils Mechanics, Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 1986.
3. “Checklist and Guidelines for Review of Geotechnical Reports and Preliminary Plans and Specifications,” Federal Highway Administration, 1985.
4. Schmertmann, J.H., Guidelines For Use In The Soils Investigation and Design of Foundations For Bridge Structures In The State Of Florida, Research Report 121-A, Florida Department of Transportation, 1967.
5. Munfakh, George, Arman, Ara, Samtani, Naresh, and Castelli, Raymond, Subsurface Investigations, FHWA-HI-97-021, 1997.
6. Recommended Guidelines for Sealing Geotechnical Exploratory Holes, National Cooperative Highway Research Program, NCHRP Report 378.
7. Rigid Pavement Design Manual, FDOT, (Current version).

### 3.4 Specifications and Standards

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>ASTM</u></b>	<b><u>AASHTO</u></b>	<b><u>FM</u></b>
Standard Test Method for Penetration Test and Split-Barrel Sampling of Soils	D 1586	T 206	-
Standard Test Method for Determining Subsurface Liquid Levels in a Borehole or Monitoring Well (Observation Well)	D 4750	-	-



## Chapter 4

### 4 In-situ Testing

The testing described in this chapter provides the Geotechnical Engineer with soil and rock parameters determined in-situ. This is important on all projects, especially those involving soft clays, loose sands and/or sands below the water table, due to the difficulty of obtaining representative samples suitable for laboratory testing. For each test included, a brief description of the equipment, the test method, and the use of the data is presented.

#### 4.1 Standard Penetration Test (SPT)

This test is probably the most widely used field test in the United States. It has the advantages of simplicity, the availability of a wide variety of correlations for its data, and the fact that a sample is obtainable with each test. A standard split barrel sampler is advanced into the soil by dropping a 140-pound safety or automatic hammer on the drill rod from a height of 30 inches. (Note: Use of a donut hammer is not permitted). The sampler is advanced a total of 18 inches. The number of blows required to advance the sampler for each of three 6-inch increments is recorded. The sum of the number of blows for the second and third increments is called the Standard Penetration Value, or more commonly, N-value (blows per foot). Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 1586.

When Standard Penetration Tests (SPT) are performed in soil layers containing shell or similar materials, the sampler may become plugged. A plugged sampler will cause the SPT N-value to be much larger than for an unplugged sampler and, therefore, not a representative index of the soil layer properties. In this circumstance, a realistic design requires reducing the N-value used for design to the trend of the N-values which do not appear distorted. (see [Figure 6](#) and [Reference 3](#)) However, the actual N-values should be presented on the Report of Core Borings Sheet.

During design, the N-values may need to be corrected for overburden pressure. A great many correlations exist relating the corrected N-values to relative density, angle of internal friction, shear strength, and other parameters. Design methods are available for using N-values in the design of driven piles, embankments, spread footings and drilled shafts. However, when using FB-Deep, the N-values should not be corrected since the design methodology is based on uncorrected N-values.

The SPT values should not be used indiscriminately. They are sensitive to the fluctuations in individual drilling practices and equipment. Studies have also indicated that the results are more reliable in sands than clays. Although extensive use of this test in subsurface exploration is recommended, it should always be augmented by other field and laboratory tests, particularly when dealing with clays. The type of hammer (safety or automatic) shall be noted on the boring logs, since this will affect the actual input driving energy.

A method to measure the energy during the SPT has been developed (ASTM D 4633). Since there is a wide variability of performance in SPT hammers, this method is useful to evaluate an individual hammer's performance. The SPT

installation procedure is similar to pile driving because it is governed by stress wave propagation. As a result, if force and velocity measurements are obtained during a test, the energy transmitted can be determined.

The FDOT sponsored a study in which 224 energy measurements were taken during SPT tests using safety hammers and compared to 113 energy measurements taken during SPT tests using automatic hammers. Each drill rig was evaluated using multiple drill crews, multiple sampling depths and multiple types of drill rods. The study concluded that the efficiency for automatic SPT hammers on average was 79.8%; whereas, most safety hammers averaged 64.5%. Because most design correlations and FDOT design programs are based on safety hammer N-values, N-values obtained during SPT tests performed using an automatic hammer shall be converted for design to an equivalent safety hammer N-value efficiency by the following relationship:

$$N_{ES} = \xi * N_{AUTO}$$

where:

$N_{AUTO}$  = The Automatic Hammer N-value

$\xi$  = The Equivalent Safety Hammer Conversion Factor

and

$N_{ES}$  = The Equivalent Safety Hammer N-value

Based on the results of the Department's study a value of 1.24 shall be used for  $\xi$  in the above relationship. No other multiplier shall be used to convert automatic hammer N-values to equivalent safety hammer N-values without written concurrence from the State Geotechnical Engineer.

Design calculations using SPT-N value correlations should be performed using  $N_{ES}$ , however, only the actual field SPT-N values should be plotted on the soil profiles depicting the results of SPT borings.

## **4.2 Cone Penetrometer Test (CPT)**

The Cone Penetrometer Test is a quasi-static penetration test in which a cylindrical rod with a conical point is advanced through the soil at a constant rate and the resistance to penetration is measured. A series of tests performed at varying depths at one location is commonly called a sounding.

Several types of penetrometer are in use, including mechanical (mantle) cone, mechanical friction-cone, electric cone, electric friction-cone, piezocone, and hand cone penetrometers. Cone penetrometers measure the resistance to penetration at the tip of the penetrometer, or the end-bearing component of resistance. Friction-cone penetrometers are equipped with a friction sleeve, which provides the added capability of measuring the side friction component of resistance. Mechanical penetrometers have telescoping tips allowing measurements to be taken incrementally, generally at intervals of 8 inches or less. Electronic penetrometers use electronic force transducers to obtain continuous measurements with depth. Piezocone penetrometers are electronic penetrometers, which are also capable of measuring pore water pressures during penetration. Hand cone penetrometers are similar to mechanical cone penetrometers, except they are usually limited to determining cone tip resistance. Hand cone penetrometers are normally used to

determine the strength of soils at shallow depth, and they are very useful for evaluating the strength of soils explored by hand auger methods.

For all types of penetrometers, cone dimensions of a 60-degree tip angle and a  $10 \text{ cm}^2$  ( $1.55 \text{ in}^2$ ) projected end area are standard. Friction sleeve outside diameter is the same as the base of the cone. Penetration rates should be between 0.4 to 0.8 in/sec. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 3441 (mechanical cones) and ASTM D 5778 (electronic friction cones and piezocones).

The penetrometer data is plotted showing the end-bearing resistance, the friction resistance and the friction ratio (friction resistance divided by end bearing resistance) vs. depth. Pore pressures, if measured, can also be plotted with depth. The results should also be presented in tabular form indicating the interpreted results of the raw data. See [Figure 7](#), [Figure 8](#), and [Figure 9](#) (Note: the log for a standard cone penetration test would only include the first three plots: tip resistance, local friction, and friction ratio; shown in [Figure 34](#) ).

The friction ratio plot can be analyzed to determine soil type. Many correlations of the cone test results to other soil parameters have been made, and design methods are available for spread footings and piles. The penetrometer can be used in sands or clays, but not in rock or other extremely strong soils. Generally, soil samples are not obtained with soundings, so penetrometer exploration should always be augmented by SPT borings or other borings with soil samples taken.

The piezocone penetrometer can also be used to measure the dissipation rate of the excessive pore water pressure. This type of test is useful for subsoils, such as fibrous peat or muck that are very sensitive to sampling techniques. The cone should be equipped with a pressure transducer that is capable of measuring the induced water pressure. To perform this test, the cone will be advanced into the subsoil at a standard rate of 0.8 inch/sec. Pore water pressures will be measured immediately and at several time intervals thereafter. Use the recorded data to plot a pore pressure versus log-time graph. Using this graph one can directly calculate the pore water pressure dissipation rate or rate of settlement of the soil.

### **4.3 Dynamic Cone Penetrometer Test**

This test is similar to the cone penetrometer test except, instead of being pushed at a constant rate, the cone is driven into the soil. The number of blows required to advance the cone in 6-inch increments is recorded. A single test generally consists of two increments. Tests can be performed continuously to the depth desired with an expendable cone, which is left in the ground upon drill rod withdrawal, or they can be performed at specified intervals by using a retractable cone and advancing the hole by auger or other means between tests. Samples are not obtained.

Blow counts can generally be used to identify material type and relative density. In granular soils, blow counts from the second 6-inch increment tend to be larger than for the first increment. In cohesive soils, the blow counts from the two increments tend to be about the same. While correlations between blow counts and engineering properties of the soil exist, they are not as widely accepted as those for the SPT. Shallow tests should be performed in accordance with ASTM D 6951. For deeper tests, the equipment, testing procedure and interpretation of the results should be based upon the manufacturer's recommendations.

#### **4.4 Dilatometer Test (DMT)**

The dilatometer is a 3.75-inch wide and 0.55-inch thick stainless steel blade with a thin 2.4-inch diameter expandable metal membrane on one side. While the membrane is flush with the blade surface, the blade is either pushed or driven into the soil using a penetrometer or drilling rig. Rods carry pneumatic and electrical lines from the membrane to the surface. At depth intervals of 8 inch, the pressurized gas expands the membrane and both the pressure required to begin membrane movement and that required to expand the membrane into the soil 0.04 inches are measured. Additionally, upon venting the pressure corresponding to the return of the membrane to its original position may be recorded (see [Figure 10](#), [Figure 11](#), and [Figure 12](#)). Refer to References 5, 6, and 7.

Through developed correlations, information can be deduced concerning material type, pore water pressure, in-situ horizontal and vertical stresses, void ratio or relative density, modulus, shear strength parameters, and consolidation parameters. Compared to the pressuremeter, the flat dilatometer has the advantage of reduced soil disturbance during penetration. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 6635.

#### **4.5 Pressuremeter Test (PMT)**

This test is performed with a cylindrical probe placed at the desired depth in a borehole. The Menard type pressuremeter requires pre-drilling of the borehole; the self-boring type pressuremeter advances the hole itself, thus reducing soil disturbance. The PENCEL pressuremeter can be set in place by pressing it to the test depth or by direct driving from ground surface or from within a predrilled borehole. The hollow center PENCEL probe can be used in series with the static cone penetrometer. The Menard probe contains three flexible rubber membranes (see [Figure 13](#)). The middle membrane provides measurements, while the outer two are “guard cells” to reduce the influence of end effects on the measurements. When in place, the guard cell membranes are inflated by pressurized gas while the middle membrane is inflated with water by means of pressurized gas. The pressure in all the cells is incremented and decremented by the same amount. The measured volume change of the middle membrane is plotted against applied pressure. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 4719.

Studies have shown that the “guard cells” can be eliminated without sacrificing the accuracy of the test data provided the probe is sufficiently long. Furthermore, pumped air can be substituted for the pressurized gas used to inflate the membrane with water. The TEXAM<sup>®</sup> pressuremeter is an example of this type.

Results are interpreted based on semi-empirical correlations from past tests and observation. In-situ horizontal stresses, shear strength, bearing capacities, and settlement can be estimated using these correlations. The pressuremeter test results can be used to obtain load transfer curves (p-y curves) for lateral load analyses. The pressuremeter test is very sensitive to borehole disturbance and the data may be difficult to interpret for some soils.

#### **4.6 Field Vane Test**

This test consists of advancing a four-bladed vane into cohesive soil to the desired depth and applying a measured torque at a constant rate until the soil fails in

shear along a cylindrical surface. (See [Figure 14](#)) The torque measured at failure provides the undrained shear strength of the soil. A second test run immediately after remolding at the same depth provides the remolded strength of the soil and thus information on soil sensitivity. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D-2573.

This method is commonly used for measuring shear strength in soft clays and organic deposits. It should not be used in stiff and hard clays. Results can be affected by the presence of gravel, shells, roots, or sand layers. Shear strength may be overestimated in highly plastic clays and a correction factor should be applied.

#### **4.7 Percolation Test**

The percolation test is used to ascertain the vertical percolation rate of unsaturated soil, i.e., the rate at which the water moves through near surface soils. The most common tests consist of digging a 4 to 12 inch diameter hole to the stratum for which information is required, cleaning and backfilling the bottom with coarse sand or gravel, filling the hole with water and providing a soaking period of sufficient length to achieve saturation. During the soaking period, water is added as necessary to prevent loss of all water. The percolation rate is then obtained by filling the hole to a prescribed water level and measuring the drop in water level over a set time. The times required for soaking and for measuring the percolation rate vary with the soil type; local practice should be consulted for specific requirements. See also References 8 and 9.

Results of this test are generally used in evaluating site suitability for septic system drainage fields.

#### **4.8 Infiltration Test**

The infiltration rate of a soil is the maximum rate at which water can enter the soil from the surface under specified conditions. The most common test in Florida uses a double-ring infiltrometer. Two open cylinders, approximately 20 inch high and 12 to 24 inch in diameter, are driven concentrically into the ground. The outer ring is driven to a depth of about 6 inch, the inner ring to a depth of 2 to 4 inch. Both are partially filled with water. As the water infiltrates into the soil, measured volumes are added to keep the water levels constant. The volumes of water added to the inner ring and to the annular space during a specific time interval, equivalent to the amounts, which have infiltrated the soil. These are converted into infiltration rates, expressed in units of length per unit time, usually inches per hour. The infiltration rate is taken as the maximum steady state infiltration velocity occurring over a period of several hours. In the case of differing velocities for the inner ring and the annular space, the maximum velocity from the inner ring should be used. The time required to run the test is dependent upon soil type. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 3385.

Drainage engineers in evaluating runoff, ditch or swale infiltration use information from this test.

#### **4.9 Permeability Test**

Field permeability tests measure the coefficient of permeability (hydraulic conductivity) of in-place materials. The coefficient of permeability is the factor of

proportionality relating the rate of fluid discharge per unit of cross-sectional area to the hydraulic gradient (the pressure or “head” inducing flow, divided by the length of the flow path). This relation is usually expressed as:

$$Q/A = \frac{HK}{L}$$

Where  $Q$  is discharge rate (volume/time);  $A$  is cross-sectional area,  $H/L$  is the hydraulic gradient (dimensionless); and  $K$  is the coefficient of permeability, expressed in length per unit time (cm/sc, ft/day, etc.). The area and length factors are often combined in a “shape factor” or “conductivity coefficient” (See Reference 2). Permeability is the most variable of all the materials properties commonly used in geotechnical analysis. A permeability spread of ten or more orders of magnitude has been reported for a number of different types of tests and materials. Measurement of permeability is highly sensitive to both natural and test conditions. The difficulties inherent in field permeability testing require that great care be taken to minimize sources of error and to correctly interpret, and compensate for, deviations from ideal test conditions.

Factors Affecting Tests: The following five physical characteristics influence the performance and applicability of permeability tests:

- (1) position of the water level,
- (2) type of material – rock or soil,
- (3) depth of the test zone,
- (4) permeability of the test zone, and
- (5) heterogeneity and anisotropy of the test zone.

To account for these factors, it is necessary to isolate the test zone. Methods for doing so are shown in References 2 & 17.

Many types of field permeability tests can be performed. In geotechnical exploration, equilibrium tests are the most common. These include constant and variable head gravity tests and pressure (Packer) tests conducted in single borings. In a few geotechnical investigations, and commonly in water resource or environmental studies, non-equilibrium “aquifer” or “pump” tests are conducted (a well is pumped at a constant rate for an extended period of time). Typical ranges of permeability coefficients and suggested test methods from Reference 18 are presented in Figure 15. Formulas for computing permeability coefficients from constant and variable head tests are included in Figure 16. For in-situ variable head tests, see References 17 and 2. Perform laboratory tests according to ASTM D 5856.

#### **4.9.1 Constant Head Test**

The most commonly used permeability test is the constant head test. However, it may be difficult to perform in materials of either very high or very low permeability since the flow of water may be difficult to maintain or to measure.

#### **4.9.2 Rising Head Test**

In a saturated zone with sufficiently permeable materials the rising head test is more accurate than a constant or a falling head test. Plugging of the pores by fines or

by air bubbles is less apt to occur in a rising head test. In an unsaturated zone, the rising head test is inapplicable.

#### **4.9.3 Falling Head Test**

In zones where the flow rates are very high or very low, the falling head test may be easier to perform than a constant head test. In an area of unknown permeability the constant head and rising head tests should be attempted before a falling head test.

#### **4.9.4 Pumping Test**

In large scale seepage investigations or groundwater resource studies, the expense of aquifer or pumping tests may be justified as they provide more accurate and useful data than any other type of test. Pump tests require a test well, pumping equipment, and lengthy test times. Observation wells are necessary. A vast number of interpretive techniques have been published for special conditions.

Permeability calculations are made based on the rate of pumping, the measured draw down, and the configuration of the test hole and observation wells. Refer to ASTM D 4050 and Reference 17.

### **4.10 Environmental Corrosion Tests**

These tests are carried out on soil and water at structure locations, on structural backfill materials and on subsurface materials along drainage alignments to determine the corrosion classification to be considered during design. For structures, materials are classified as slightly, moderately, or extremely aggressive, depending on their pH, resistivity, chloride content, and sulfate content. (Refer to the latest Structures Design Guidelines, for the criteria, which defines each class). For roadway drainage systems, test results for each stratum are presented for use in determining alternate culvert materials. Testing shall be performed in the field and/or the laboratory according to the standard procedures listed below.

#### ***4.10.1 pH of Soils***

- a) FM 5-550

#### ***4.10.2 pH of Water***

- a) FM 5-550

#### ***4.10.3 Chloride Ion in Water***

- a) FM 5-552

#### ***4.10.4 Chloride Ion in Soil***

- a) FM 5-552

#### ***4.10.5 Sulfate Ion in Brackish Water***

- a) FM 5-553

#### ***4.10.6 Sulfates in Soil***

- a) FM 5-553

#### ***4.10.7 Electrical Resistance of Water***

- a) FM 5-551

#### ***4.10.8 Electrical Resistance of Soil***

- a) FM 5-551

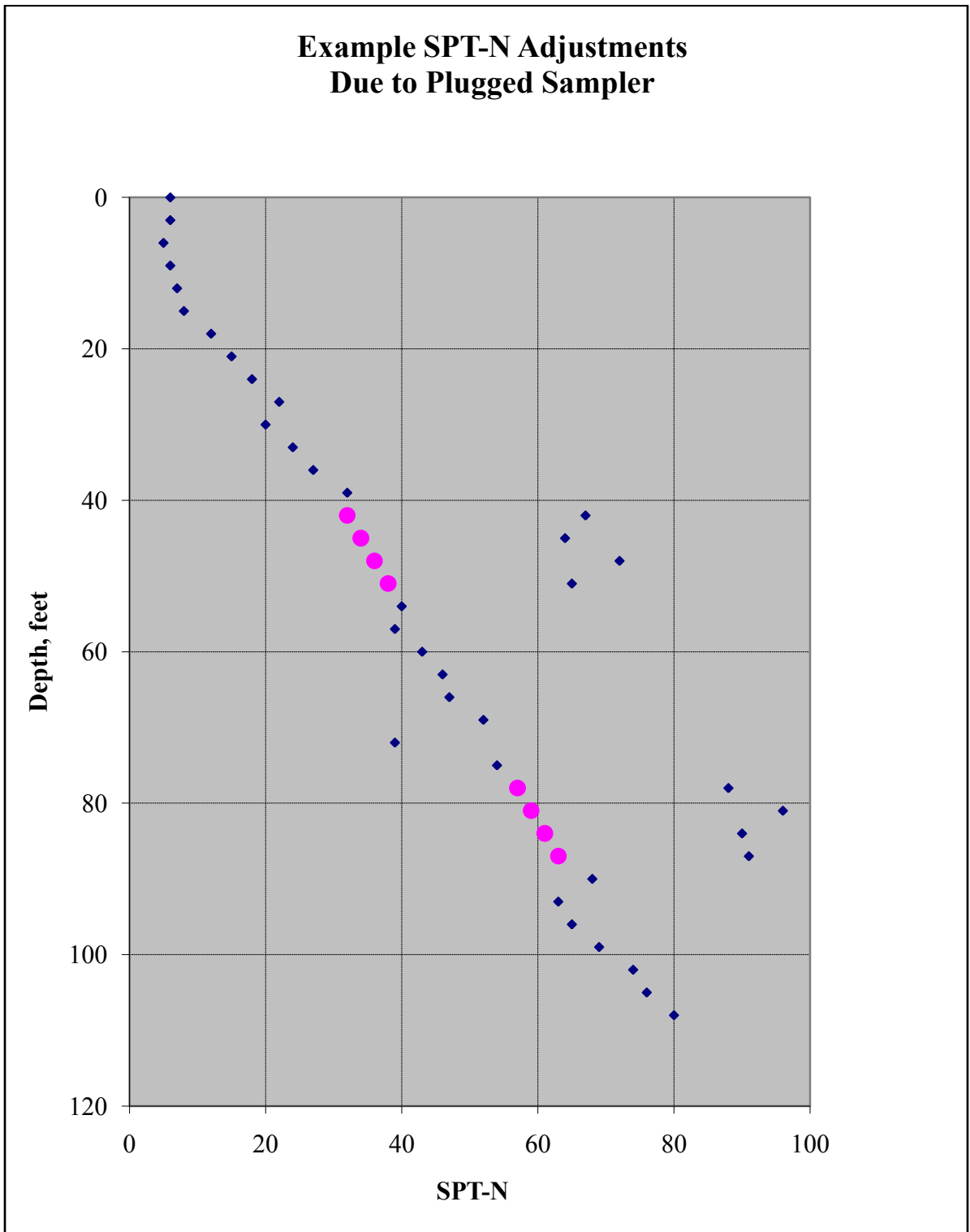
### **4.11 Grout Plug Pull-out Test**

This test is performed when the design of drilled shafts in rock is anticipated. However, the values obtained from this test should be used carefully.

A 4-inch diameter (minimum) by 30-inch long core hole is made to the desired depth in rock. A high strength steel bar with a bottom plate and a reinforcing cage over the length to be grouted is lowered to the bottom of the hole. Sufficient grout is poured into the hole to form a grout plug approximately 2 feet long. After curing, a center hole jack is used to incrementally apply a tension load to the plug with the intent of inducing a shear failure at the grout - limestone interface. The plug is extracted, the failure surface examined, and the actual plug dimensions measured.

The ultimate shear strength of the grout-limestone interface is determined by dividing the failure load by the plug perimeter area. This value can be used to estimate the skin friction of the rock-socketed portion of the drilled shaft.





**Figure 6 Example SPT-N Adjustments Due to Plugged Sampler**

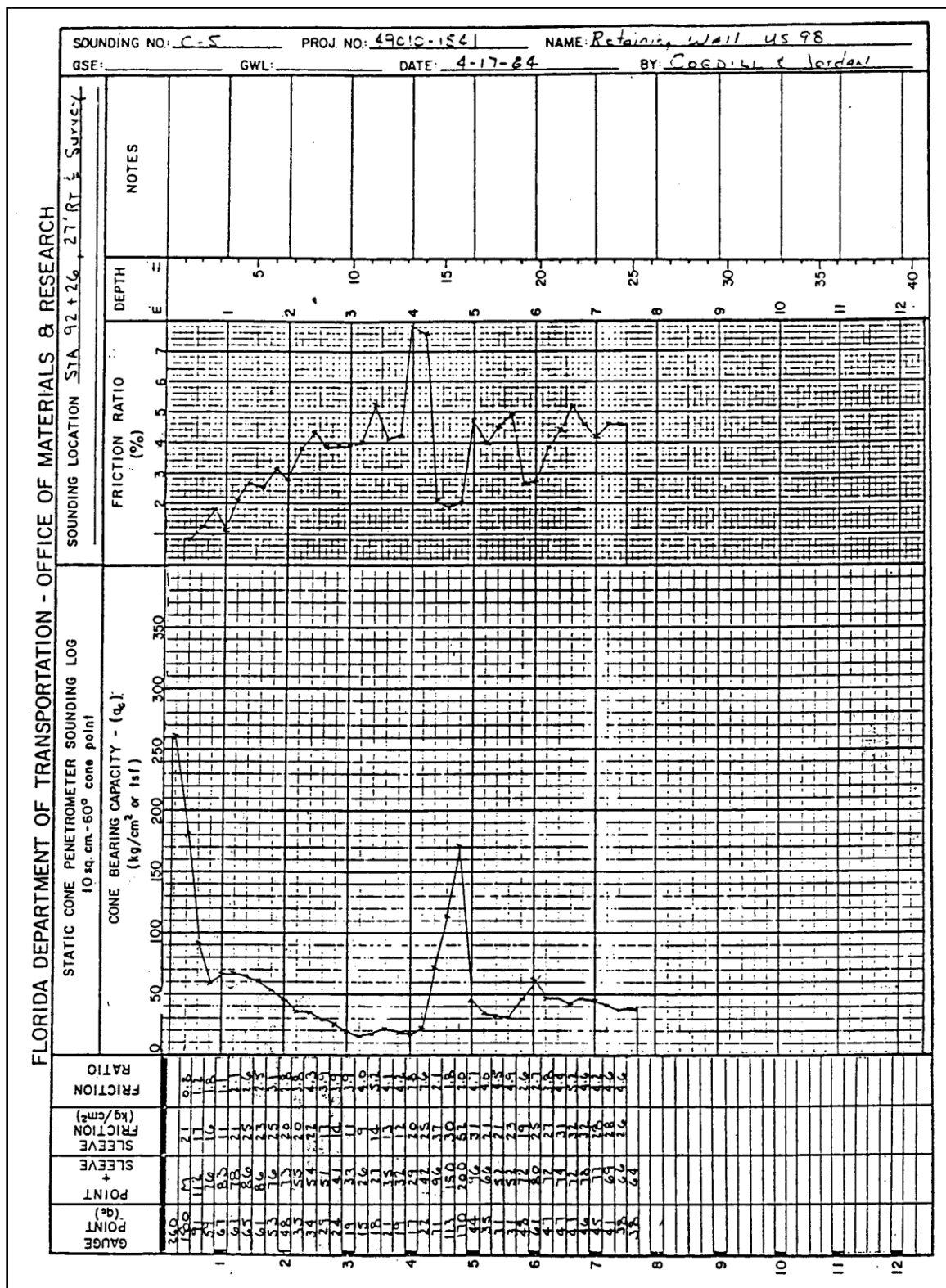


Figure 7, Typical Log from Mechanical Friction-Cone

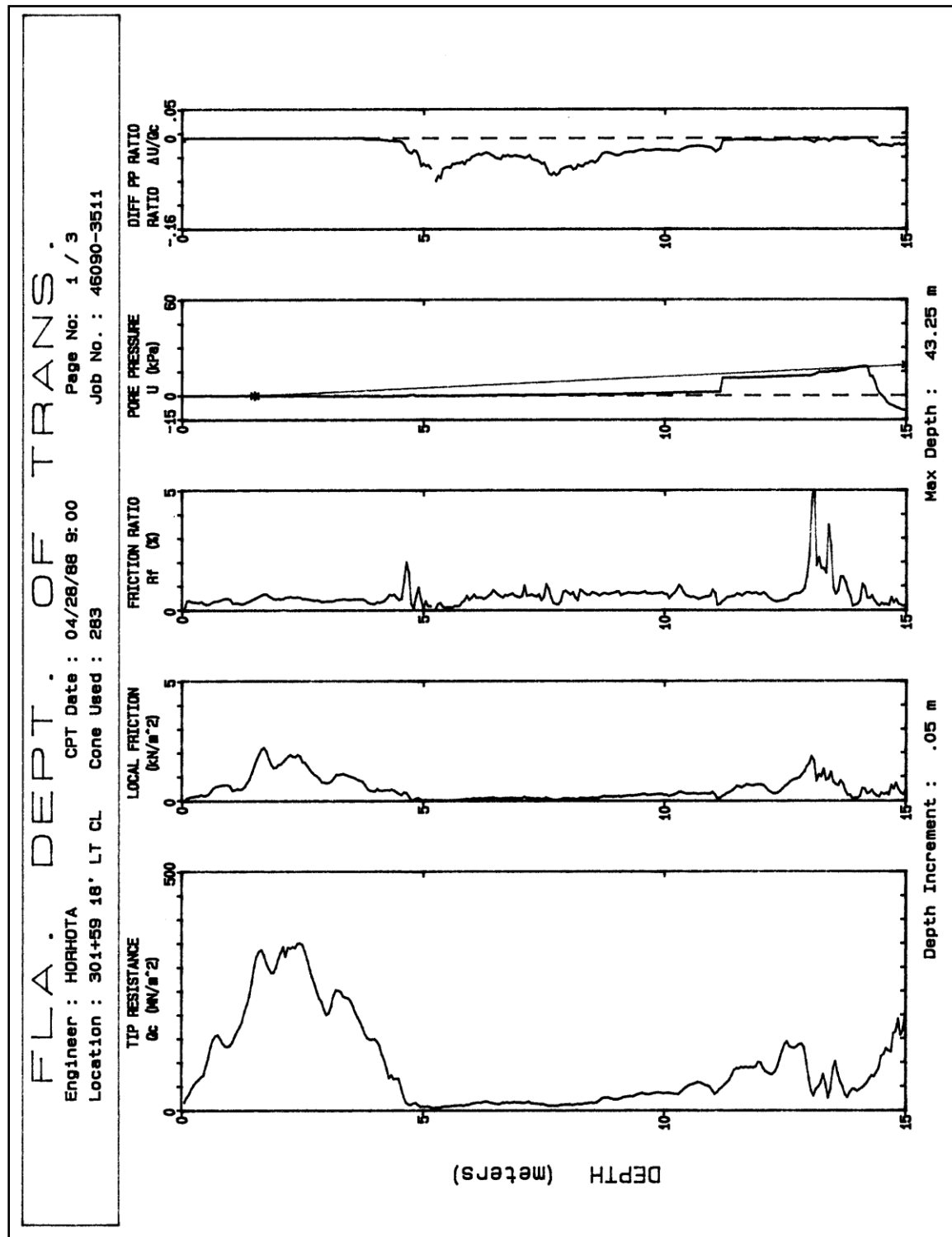


Figure 8, Typical Log from Electric Piezocone

FLORIDA D.O.T MATERIALS OFFICE										
CPT DATE :04/28/88 9:00					ENGINEER :BLANTON					
LOCATION :301+59 6 m LT CL					Cone Used :283					
Job No. :46090-3511					Water table (meters) : 1.5					
Tot. Unit Wt. (avg) : 510 N/m <sup>3</sup>										
DEPTH (meters)	Qc (avg) (MN/m <sup>2</sup> )	Fs (avg) (kN/m <sup>2</sup> )	Rf (avg) (%)	SIGV' (MPa)	SOIL BEHAVIOUR TYPE	Eq - Dr (%)	PHI deg.	SPT N	Su (MPa)	
0.50	53.24	0.16	0.31	0.04	sand to silty sand	>90	>48	13	UNDEFINED	
1.00	139.74	0.56	0.40	0.13	sand	>90	>48	27	UNDEFINED	
1.50	205.64	0.71	0.35	0.22	sand	>90	>48	39	UNDEFINED	
2.00	312.59	1.77	0.57	0.28	gravelly sand to sand	>90	>48	50	UNDEFINED	
2.50	341.26	1.77	0.52	0.31	gravelly sand to sand	>90	>48	>50	UNDEFINED	
3.00	262.08	1.08	0.41	0.35	gravelly sand to sand	>90	>48	42	UNDEFINED	
3.50	236.04	1.00	0.42	0.38	sand	>90	>48	45	UNDEFINED	
4.00	173.89	0.67	0.39	0.42	sand	>90	46-48	33	UNDEFINED	
4.50	92.91	0.41	0.44	0.45	sand to silty sand	70-80	44-46	22	UNDEFINED	
5.00	17.01	0.13	0.79	0.49	sandy silt to clayey silt	UNDFND	UNDFD	7	1.07	
5.50	6.64	0.01	0.21	0.52	sensitive fine grained	UNDFND	UNDFD	3	.38	
6.00	10.38	0.03	0.32	0.55	sandy silt to clayey silt	UNDFND	UNDFD	4	.62	
6.50	16.33	0.10	0.60	0.59	sandy silt to clayey silt	UNDFND	UNDFD	6	1.01	
7.00	15.86	0.10	0.61	0.62	sandy silt to clayey silt	UNDFND	UNDFD	6	.97	
7.50	14.86	0.09	0.63	0.66	sandy silt to clayey silt	UNDFND	UNDFD	6	.90	
8.00	10.37	0.06	0.61	0.69	sandy silt to clayey silt	UNDFND	UNDFD	4	.60	
8.50	13.54	0.09	0.67	0.73	sandy silt to clayey silt	UNDFND	UNDFD	5	.80	
9.00	22.86	0.16	0.70	0.76	silty sand to sandy silt	<40	34-36	7	UNDEFINED	
9.50	29.15	0.21	0.71	0.80	silty sand to sandy silt	<40	36-38	9	UNDEFINED	
10.00	35.88	0.26	0.72	0.83	silty sand to sandy silt	<40	36-38	11	UNDEFINED	
10.50	39.31	0.28	0.71	0.87	silty sand to sandy silt	40-50	36-38	13	UNDEFINED	
11.00	53.59	0.30	0.56	0.90	sand to silty sand	50-60	38-40	13	UNDEFINED	
11.50	58.47	0.30	0.52	0.94	sand to silty sand	50-60	38-40	14	UNDEFINED	
12.00	92.18	0.64	0.69	0.97	sand to silty sand	60-70	40-42	22	UNDEFINED	
12.50	94.25	0.44	0.47	1.01	sand to silty sand	60-70	40-42	23	UNDEFINED	
13.00	125.46	1.04	0.83	1.04	sand to silty sand	70-80	40-42	30	UNDEFINED	
13.50	50.89	1.15	2.26	1.08	sandy silt to clayey silt	UNDFND	UNDFD	19	3.24	
14.00	51.81	0.39	0.76	1.11	silty sand to sandy silt	40-50	36-38	17	UNDEFINED	
14.50	68.95	0.32	0.46	1.15	sand to silty sand	50-60	38-40	17	UNDEFINED	
15.00	154.16	0.41	0.27	1.18	sand	70-80	42-44	30	UNDEFINED	
15.50	214.47	0.46	0.22	1.22	gravelly sand to sand	80-90	42-44	34	UNDEFINED	
16.00	239.03	0.43	0.18	1.25	gravelly sand to sand	80-90	42-44	38	UNDEFINED	
16.50	168.43	0.21	0.13	1.29	sand	70-80	42-44	32	UNDEFINED	
17.00	102.13	0.13	0.13	1.32	sand	60-70	38-40	20	UNDEFINED	
17.50	101.49	0.22	0.22	1.36	sand	60-70	38-40	19	UNDEFINED	
18.00	171.24	0.28	0.16	1.39	sand	70-80	40-42	33	UNDEFINED	
18.50	174.32	0.23	0.13	1.43	sand	70-80	40-42	33	UNDEFINED	
19.00	191.14	0.25	0.13	1.46	sand	70-80	42-44	37	UNDEFINED	
Dr - All sands (Jamiolkowski et al. 1985)      PHI - Robertson and Campanella 1983      Su: Nk= 15										
**** Note: For interpretation purposes the PLOTTED CPT PROFILE should be used with the TABULATED OUTPUT from CPTINTR1 (v 3.04) ****										

Figure 9, Typical Interpreted Output from Electric Cone Penetrometer

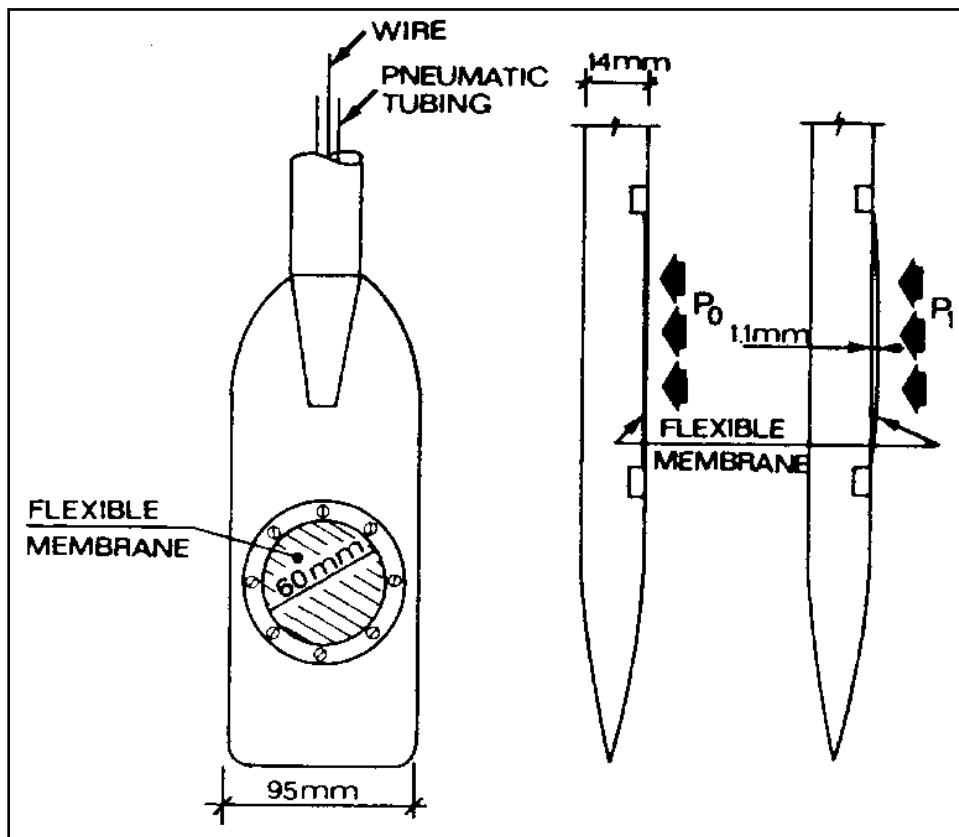


Figure 10, Schematic of the Marchetti Flat Dilatometer (After Baldi, et al., 1986)

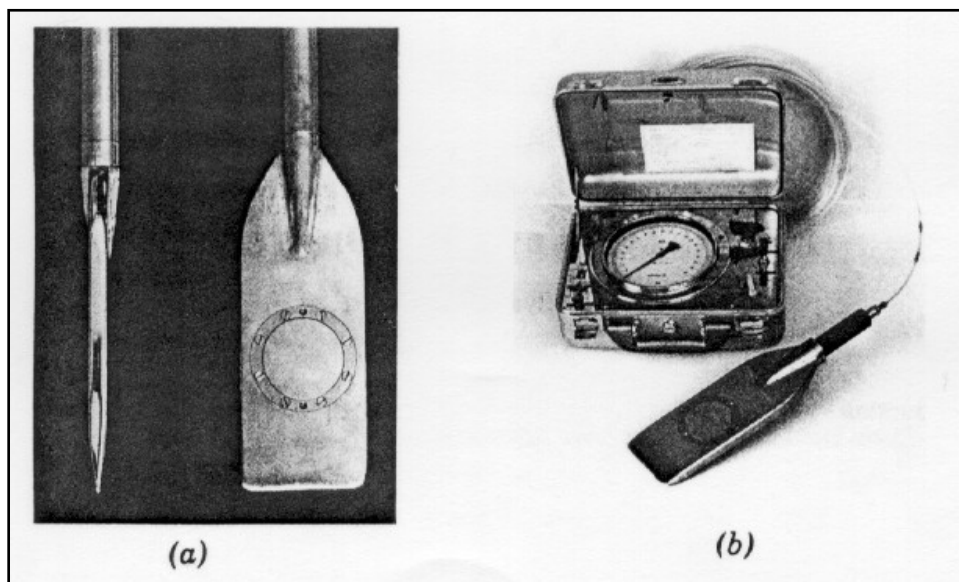
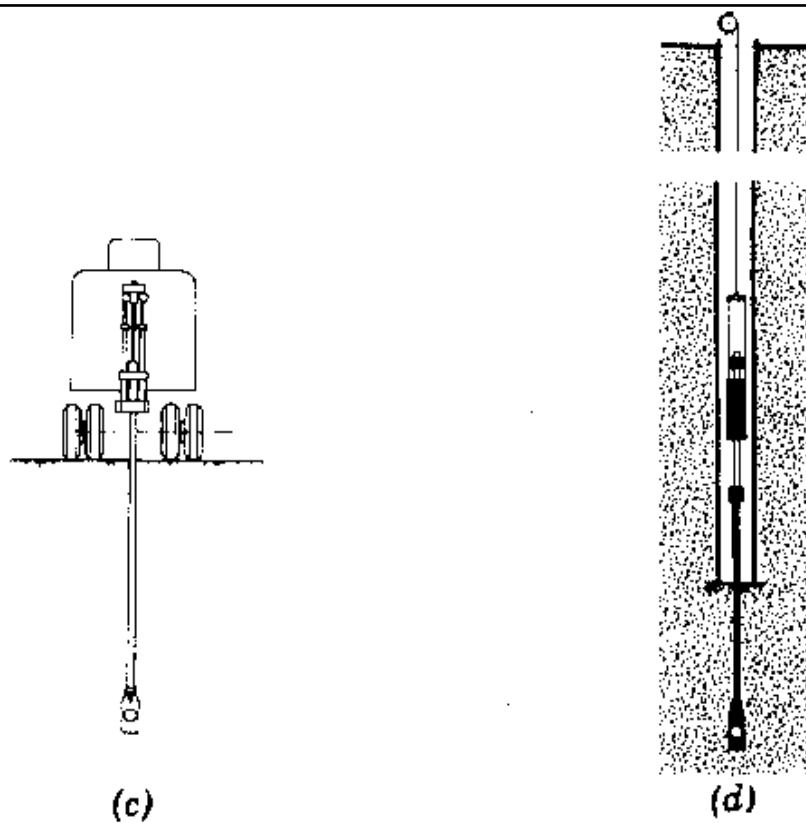


Figure 11, Dilatometer (After Marchetti 1980)



**Flat Dilatometer: (a) Side View and Front View; (b) Blade, Control Unit and Cable; (c) Dilatometer Being Jacked into Ground; (d) Dilatometer Being Driven by Down-The-Hole Wireline Hammer**

**Figure 12, Dilatometer (Continued)**

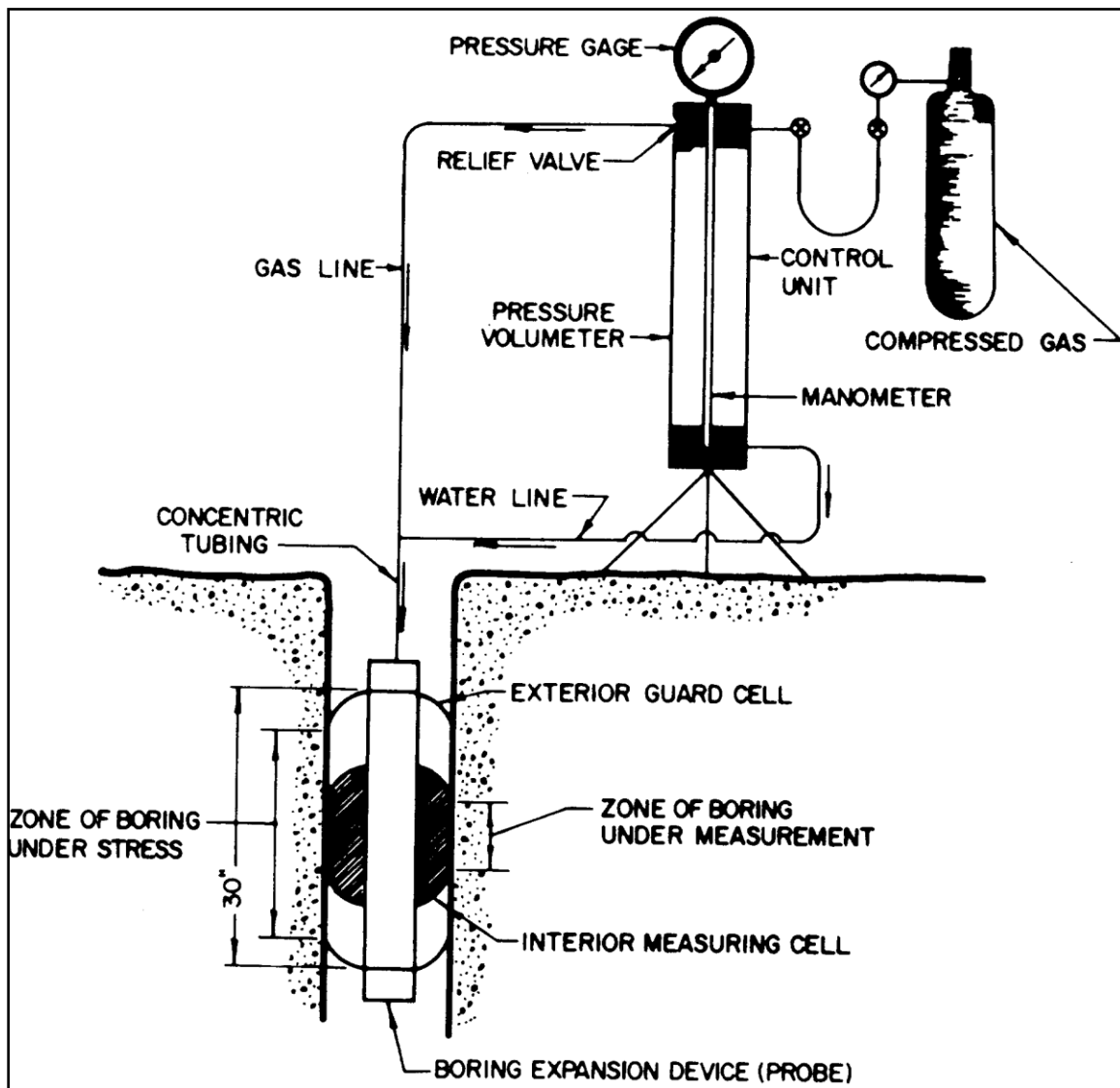


Figure 13, Menard Pressuremeter Equipment (After NAVFAC, 1986)

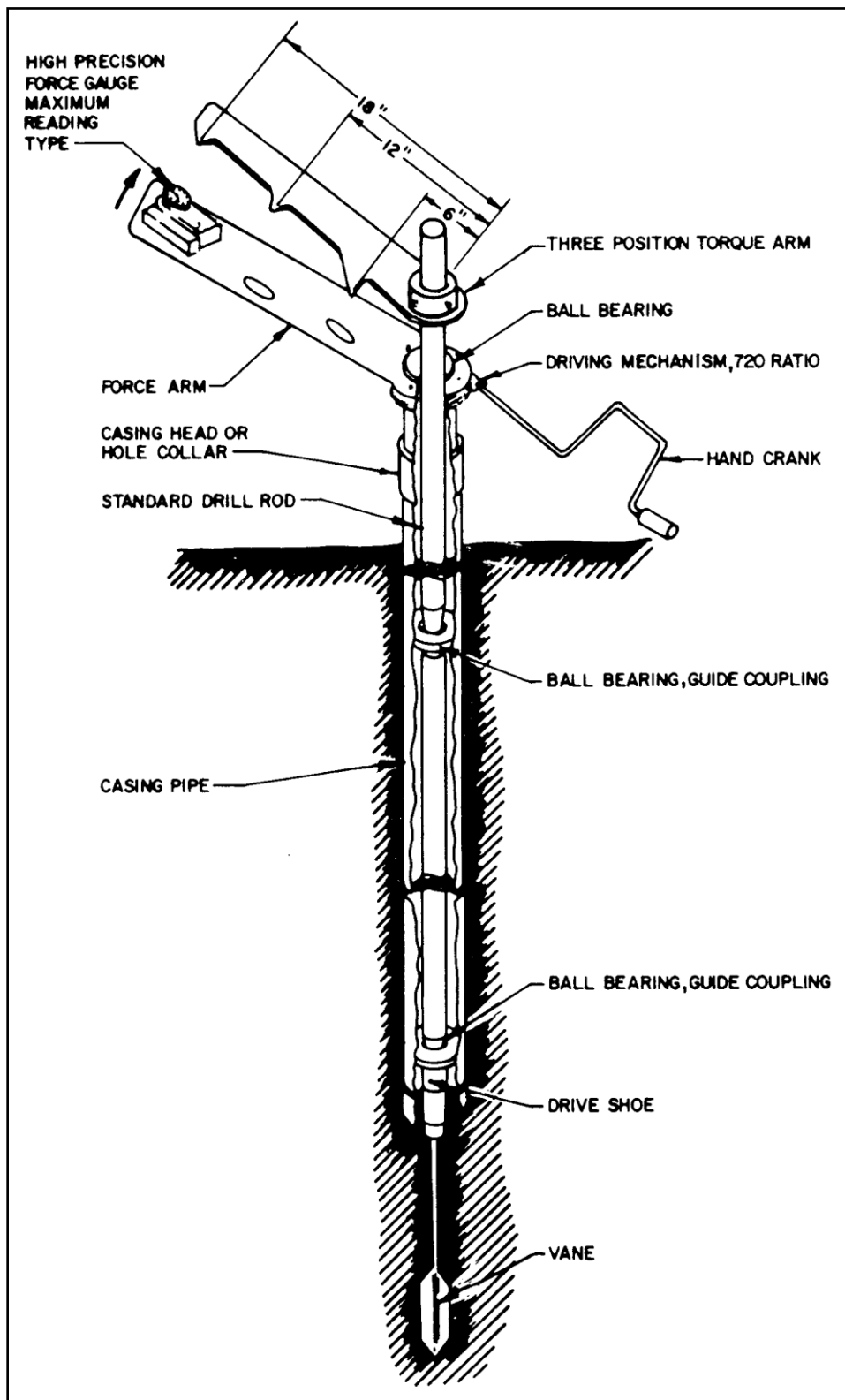
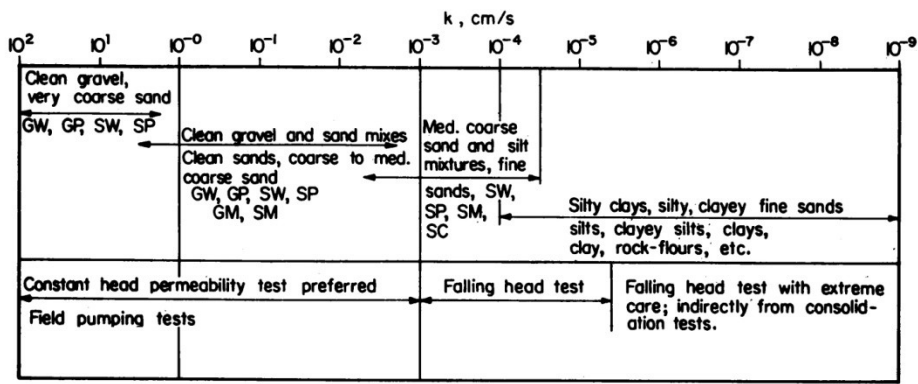


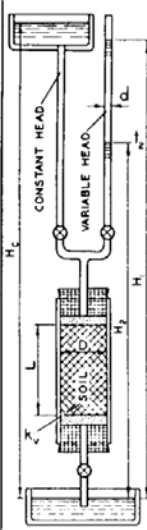
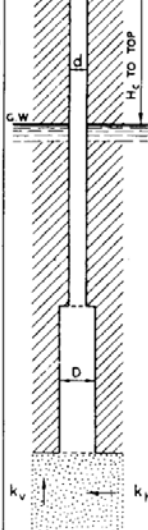
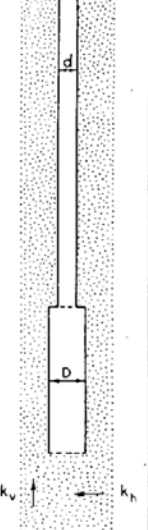
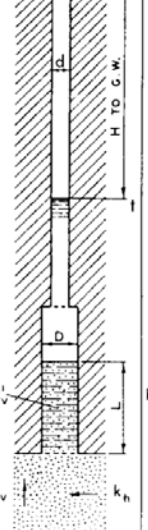
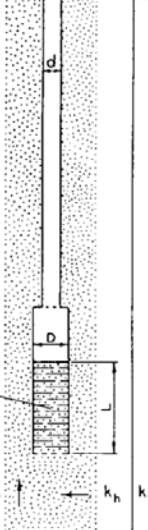
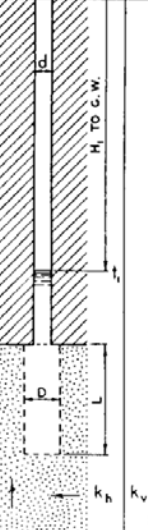

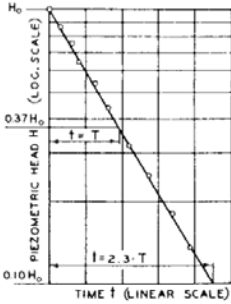
Figure 14, Vane Shear Test Equipment (After NAVFAC, 1986)

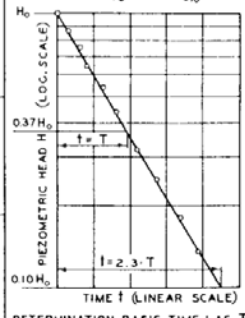




**Figure 8-6** Typical ranges of permeability coefficients and suggested test methods.

**Figure 15, Permeability Test Methods (from Bowles, 1984)**

													
LABORATORY PERMEAMETER (CONSOLIDOMETER) A		FLUSH BOTTOM AT IMPERVIOUS BOUNDARY B		FLUSH BOTTOM IN UNIFORM SOIL C		SOIL IN CASING AT IMPERVIOUS BOUNDARY D		SOIL IN CASING IN UNIFORM SOIL E		WELL POINT-FILTER AT IMPERVIOUS BOUNDARY F		WELL POINT-FILTER IN UNIFORM SOIL G	
CASE	CONSTANT HEAD	VARIABLE HEAD		BASIC TIME LAG		NOTATION							
A	$k_v = \frac{4 \cdot q \cdot L}{\pi \cdot D^2 \cdot H_c}$	$k_v = \frac{d^2 \cdot L}{D^2 \cdot (t_2 - t_1)} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ $k_v = \frac{L}{t_2 - t_1} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ FOR $d = D$		$k_v = \frac{d^2 \cdot L}{D^2 \cdot T}$ $k_v = \frac{L}{T}$ FOR $d = D$		<p>D = DIAM. INTAKE, SAMPLE, CM d = DIAMETER, STANDPIPE, CM L = LENGTH, INTAKE, SAMPLE, CM H<sub>c</sub> = CONSTANT PIEZ. HEAD, CM H<sub>1</sub> = PIEZ. HEAD FOR <math>t = t_1</math>, CM H<sub>2</sub> = PIEZ. HEAD FOR <math>t = t_2</math>, CM q = FLOW OF WATER, CM<sup>3</sup>/SEC. t = TIME, SEC. T = BASIC TIME LAG, SEC. k'<sub>v</sub> = VERT. PERM. CASING, CM/SEC. k<sub>v</sub> = VERT. PERM. GROUND, CM/SEC. k<sub>h</sub> = HORIZ. PERM. GROUND, CM/SEC. k<sub>m</sub> = MEAN COEFF. PERM. CM/SEC. m = TRANSFORMATION RATIO <math>k_m = \sqrt{k_h \cdot k_v}</math>    <math>m = \sqrt{k_h / k_v}</math> <math>\ln = \log_e = 2.3 \log_{10}</math></p> 							
B	$k_m = \frac{q}{2 \cdot D \cdot H_c}$	$k_m = \frac{\pi \cdot d^2}{8 \cdot D \cdot (t_2 - t_1)} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ $k_m = \frac{\pi \cdot D}{8 \cdot (t_2 - t_1)} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ FOR $d = D$		$k_m = \frac{\pi \cdot d^2}{8 \cdot D \cdot T}$ $k_m = \frac{\pi \cdot D}{8 \cdot T}$ FOR $d = D$									
C	$k_m = \frac{q}{2.75 \cdot D \cdot H_c}$	$k_m = \frac{\pi \cdot d^2}{11 \cdot D \cdot (t_2 - t_1)} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ $k_m = \frac{\pi \cdot D}{11 \cdot (t_2 - t_1)} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ FOR $d = D$		$k_m = \frac{\pi \cdot d^2}{11 \cdot D \cdot T}$ $k_m = \frac{\pi \cdot D}{11 \cdot T}$ FOR $d = D$									
D	$k'_v = \frac{4 \cdot q \cdot \left[ \frac{\pi \cdot k'_v \cdot D}{8 \cdot k_v \cdot m} + L \right]}{\pi \cdot D^2 \cdot H_c}$	$k'_v = \frac{d^2 \cdot \left[ \frac{\pi \cdot k'_v \cdot D}{8 \cdot k_v \cdot m} + L \right]}{D^2 \cdot (t_2 - t_1)} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ $k'_v = \frac{\pi \cdot D}{8 \cdot (t_2 - t_1)} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ FOR $k'_v = k_v$ $k'_v = \frac{\pi \cdot D}{8 \cdot T} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ FOR $d = D$		$k'_v = \frac{d^2 \cdot \left[ \frac{\pi \cdot k'_v \cdot D}{8 \cdot k_v \cdot m} + L \right]}{D^2 \cdot T}$ $k'_v = \frac{\pi \cdot D}{8 \cdot T} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ FOR $k'_v = k_v$ $k'_v = \frac{\pi \cdot D}{8 \cdot T}$ FOR $d = D$									
E	$k'_v = \frac{4 \cdot q \cdot \left[ \frac{\pi \cdot k'_v \cdot D}{11 \cdot k_v \cdot m} + L \right]}{\pi \cdot D^2 \cdot H_c}$	$k'_v = \frac{d^2 \cdot \left[ \frac{\pi \cdot k'_v \cdot D}{11 \cdot k_v \cdot m} + L \right]}{D^2 \cdot (t_2 - t_1)} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ $k'_v = \frac{\pi \cdot D}{11 \cdot (t_2 - t_1)} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ FOR $k'_v = k_v$ $k'_v = \frac{\pi \cdot D}{11 \cdot T} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ FOR $d = D$		$k'_v = \frac{d^2 \cdot \left[ \frac{\pi \cdot k'_v \cdot D}{11 \cdot k_v \cdot m} + L \right]}{D^2 \cdot T}$ $k'_v = \frac{\pi \cdot D}{11 \cdot T} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ FOR $k'_v = k_v$ $k'_v = \frac{\pi \cdot D}{11 \cdot T}$ FOR $d = D$									
F	$k_h = \frac{q \cdot \ln \left[ \frac{2mL}{D} + \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{2mL}{D} \right)^2} \right]}{2 \cdot \pi \cdot L \cdot H_c}$	$k_h = \frac{d^2 \cdot \ln \left[ \frac{2mL}{D} + \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{2mL}{D} \right)^2} \right]}{8 \cdot L \cdot (t_2 - t_1)} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ $k_h = \frac{d^2 \cdot \ln \left( \frac{4mL}{D} \right)}{8 \cdot L \cdot (t_2 - t_1)} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ FOR $\frac{2mL}{D} > 4$		$k_h = \frac{d^2 \cdot \ln \left[ \frac{2mL}{D} + \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{2mL}{D} \right)^2} \right]}{8 \cdot L \cdot T}$ $k_h = \frac{d^2 \cdot \ln \left( \frac{4mL}{D} \right)}{8 \cdot L \cdot T}$ FOR $\frac{2mL}{D} > 4$									
G	$k_h = \frac{q \cdot \ln \left[ \frac{mL}{D} + \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{mL}{D} \right)^2} \right]}{2 \cdot \pi \cdot L \cdot H_c}$	$k_h = \frac{d^2 \cdot \ln \left[ \frac{mL}{D} + \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{mL}{D} \right)^2} \right]}{8 \cdot L \cdot (t_2 - t_1)} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ $k_h = \frac{d^2 \cdot \ln \left( \frac{2mL}{D} \right)}{8 \cdot L \cdot (t_2 - t_1)} \ln \frac{H_1}{H_2}$ FOR $\frac{mL}{D} > 4$		$k_h = \frac{d^2 \cdot \ln \left[ \frac{mL}{D} + \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{mL}{D} \right)^2} \right]}{8 \cdot L \cdot T}$ $k_h = \frac{d^2 \cdot \ln \left( \frac{2mL}{D} \right)}{8 \cdot L \cdot T}$ FOR $\frac{mL}{D} > 4$									



#### ASSUMPTIONS

SOIL AT INTAKE, INFINITE DEPTH AND DIRECTIONAL ISOTROPY ( $k_v$  AND  $k_h$  CONSTANT) - NO DISTURBANCE, SEGREGATION, SWELLING OR CONSOLIDATION OF SOIL - NO SEDIMENTATION OR LEAKAGE - NO AIR OR GAS IN SOIL, WELL POINT, OR PIPE - HYDRAULIC LOSSES IN PIPES, WELL POINT OR FILTER NEGLIGIBLE

Figure 16, Formulas for Determination of Permeability (Hvorslev, 1951)

## 4.12 References

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## 19. 4.13 Specifications and Standards

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>ASTM</u></b>	<b><u>AASHTO</u></b>	<b><u>FM</u></b>
Standard Test Method for Penetration Test and Split-Barrel Sampling of Soils	D 1586	T 206	-
Standard Test Method for Field Vane Shear Test in Cohesive Soil	D 2573	T 223	-
Standard Test Method for Deep, Quasi-Static, Cone and Friction-Cone Penetration Tests of Soil	D 3441	-	-
Standard Test Method for Infiltration Rate of Soils in Field Using Double-Ring Infiltrometer	D 3385	-	-
Standard Test Method (Field Procedure) for Withdrawal and Injection Well Tests for Determining Hydraulic Properties of Aquifer Systems	D 4050	-	-
Standard Test Method for Pressuremeter Testing in Soils	D 4719	-	-
Standard Test Method for Determining Subsurface Liquid Levels in a Borehole or Monitoring Well (Observation Well)	D 4750	-	-
Standard Practices for Preserving and Transporting Rock Core Samples	D 5079	-	-
Standard Test Method for Performing Electronic Friction Cone and Piezocone Penetration Testing of Soils	D 5778	-	-
Standard Test Method for Use of the Dynamic Cone Penetrometer in Shallow Pavement Applications	D 6951	-	-
Standard Test Method for Measuring pH of Soil for Use in Corrosion Testing	-	-	5-550
Standard Test Method for Field Measurement of Soil Resistivity Using the Wenner Four-Electrode Method	-	-	
Standard Test Method for Determining Minimum Laboratory Soil Resistivity	-	-	5-551
Standard Test Method for Sulfate Ion in Brackish Water, Seawater, and Brines	-	-	5-553
Standard Test Methods for Chloride Ion In Water	-	-	5-552
Standard Test Methods for Electrical Conductivity and Resistivity of Water	-	-	5-551
Standard Test Methods for pH of Water	-	-	5-550

## **Chapter 5**

### **5 Laboratory Tests**

As with other phases of a subsurface investigation program, the laboratory testing must be intelligently planned in advance but flexible enough to be modified based on test results. The ideal laboratory program will provide the engineer with sufficient data to complete an economical design, yet not tie up laboratory personnel and equipment with superfluous testing. The cost for laboratory testing is insignificant compared to the cost of an over-conservative design.

This chapter is limited to a brief description of the tests, their purpose and the uses of the resulting data. Detailed instructions on test procedures will be found in the References and Specifications and Standards listed at the end of the chapter. Tests shall be performed and results presented as described in the listed References and Specifications and Standards except as stated herein. Not every test outlined below is applicable to every project. Engineering judgment must be exercised in setting up a testing program that will produce the information required on each specific project.

### **5.1 Soils**

#### **5.1.1 Grain-Size Analysis**

This test is performed in two stages: sieve analysis for coarse-grained soils (sands, gravels) and hydrometer analysis for fine-grained soils (clays, silts). Soils containing both types are tested in sequence, with the material passing the No. 200 sieve (0.075 mm or smaller) analyzed by hydrometer.

##### **5.1.1.1 Sieve Analysis**

This test provides a direct measurement of the particle size distribution of a soil by causing the sample to pass through a series of wire screens with progressively smaller openings of known size. The amount of material retained on each sieve is weighed. See ASTM C 136.

##### **5.1.1.2 Hydrometer**

This test is based on Stokes Law. The diameter of a soil particle is defined as the diameter of a sphere which has the same unit mass and which falls at the same velocity as the particle. Thus, a particle size distribution is obtained by using a hydrometer to measure the change in specific gravity of a soil-water suspension as soil particles settle out over time.

Results are reported on a combined grain size distribution plot as the percentage of sample smaller than, by weight, versus the log of the particle diameter. These data are necessary for a complete classification of the soil. The curve also provides other parameters, such as effective diameter ( $D_{10}$ ) and coefficient of uniformity ( $C_u$ ). Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 422 (AASHTO T 88).

### **5.1.2 Moisture Content**

The moisture content,  $w$ , is defined as the ratio of the weight of water in a sample to the weight of solids. The wet sample is weighed, and then oven-dried to a constant weight at a temperature of about 230° F (110° C). The weight after drying is the weight of solids. The change in weight, which has occurred during drying, is equivalent to the weight of water. For organic soils, a reduced drying temperature of approximately 140° F (60° C) is sometimes recommended. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 2216 (AASHTO T 265).

The moisture content is valuable in determining the properties of soils and can be correlated with other parameters. A good technique is to plot the moisture content from SPT samples as a function of depth.

### **5.1.3 Atterberg Limits**

The liquid limit, plastic limit and shrinkage limit are all Atterberg Limits. However, for classification purposes, the term Atterberg Limits generally refers to the liquid and plastic limits only. The tests for these two are described here; the shrinkage limit test is described in Section 5.1.8 of this chapter.

The liquid limit (LL) is the moisture content of a soil at the boundary between the liquid and plastic states. The plastic limit (PL) is the moisture content at the boundary between the plastic and semi-solid states. The plasticity index (PI) is the difference between the LL and PL. The results are generally reported as LL/PI values and can be plotted on the same graph as the moisture content above. These values are useful in soil classification and have been correlated with other parameters.

#### **5.1.3.1 Liquid Limit**

The liquid limit is determined by ascertaining the moisture content at which two halves of a soil cake will flow together for a distance of 0.5 inch along the bottom of the groove separating the halves, when the bowl they are in is dropped 25 times for a distance of 0.4 inches at the rate of 2 drops/second. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 4318 (AASHTO T 89).

#### **5.1.3.2 Plastic Limit**

The plastic limit is determined by ascertaining the lowest moisture content at which the material can be rolled into threads 0.125 inches in diameter without crumbling. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 4318 (AASHTO T 90).

### **5.1.4 Specific Gravity of Soils**

The specific gravity of soil,  $G_s$ , is defined as the ratio of the mass in air of a given volume of soil particles to the mass in air of an equal volume of gas free distilled water at a stated temperature (typically 68° F). The specific gravity is determined by means of a calibrated pycnometer, by which the mass and temperature of a deaired soil/distilled water sample is measured. Tests shall be

performed in accordance with ASTM D 854 (AASHTO T 100). This method is used for soil samples composed of particles less than the No. 4 U.S. standard sieve (0.187 inch). For particles larger than this sieve, use the procedures for Specific Gravity and Absorption of Coarse Aggregate (ASTM C 127 or AASHTO T 85).

The specific gravity of soils is needed to relate a weight of soil to its volume, and it is used in the computations of other laboratory tests.

### **5.1.5 Strength Tests**

The shear strength of a soil is the maximum shearing stress the soil structure can resist before failure. Soils generally derive their strength from friction between particles (expressed as the angle of internal friction,  $\phi$ ), or cohesion between particles (expressed as the cohesion,  $c$  in units of force/unit area), or both. These parameters are expressed in the form of total stress ( $c, \phi$ ) or effective stress ( $c, \phi$ ). The total stress on any subsurface element is produced by the overburden pressure plus any applied loads. The effective stress equals the total stress minus the pore water pressure.

The common methods of ascertaining these parameters in the laboratory are discussed below. All of these tests should be performed only on undisturbed samples.

#### **5.1.5.1 Unconfined Compression Tests**

While under no confining pressure, a cylindrical sample is subjected to an axial load until failure. This test is only performed on cohesive soils. Total stress parameters are obtained. The cohesion is taken as one-half the unconfined compressive strength,  $q_u$ . This test is a fast and economical means of approximating the shear strength at shallow depths, but the reliability is poor with increasing depth. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 2166 (AASHTO T 208).

#### **5.1.5.2 Triaxial Compression Tests**

In this test a cylindrical sample is subjected to an axial load until failure while also being subjected to confining pressure approximating the in-situ stress conditions. Various types of tests are possible with the triaxial apparatus as summarized below.

##### **5.1.5.2.1 Unconsolidated-Undrained (UU), or Q Test**

In this test the specimen is not permitted to change its initial water content before or during shear. The results are total stress parameters. This test is used primarily in the calculation of immediate embankment stability during quick-loading conditions. Refer to ASTM D 2850 (AASHTO T 296).

##### **5.1.5.2.2 Consolidated-Undrained (CU), or R Test**

In this test the specimen is allowed to consolidate under the

confining pressure prior to shear, but no drainage is permitted during shear. A minimum of three tests at different confining pressures is required to derive the total stress parameters. If pore pressure measurements are taken during testing, the effective stress parameters can also be derived. Refer to ASTM D 4767 (AASHTO T 297).

#### **5.1.5.2.3 Consolidated-Drained (CD), or S Test**

This test is similar to the CU test (above) except that drainage is permitted during shear and the rate of shear is very slow. Thus, the buildup of excess pore pressure is prevented. As with the CU test, a minimum of three tests is required. Effective stress parameters are obtained. This test is used to determine parameters for calculating long-term stability of embankments.

#### **5.1.5.3 Direct Shear**

In this test a thin soil sample is placed in a shear box consisting of two parallel blocks and a normal force is applied. One block remains fixed while the other block is moved parallel to it in a horizontal direction. The soil fails by shearing along a plane that is forced to be horizontal. A series of at least three tests with varying normal forces is required to define the shear strength parameters for a particular soil. This test is typically run as a consolidated-drained test on cohesionless materials. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 3080 (AASHTO T 236).

#### **5.1.5.4 Miniature Vane Shear (Torvane) and Pocket Penetrometer**

These tests are used only as an index of the undrained shear strength ( $S_u$ ) of clay samples and should not be used in place of a laboratory test program. Both tests consist of hand-held devices that are pushed into the sample and either a torque resistance (torvane) or a tip resistance (pocket penetrometer) is measured. They can be performed in the lab or in the field, typically on the ends of undisturbed thin-walled tube samples, as well as along the sides of test pits. Miniature vane shear tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 4648.

#### **5.1.6 Consolidation Test**

When large loads such as embankments are applied to the surface, cohesive subsoils will consolidate, i.e., settle over time, through a combination of the rearrangement of the individual particles and the squeezing out of water. The amount and rate of settlement is of great importance in construction. For example, an embankment may settle until a gap exists between an approach and a bridge abutment. The calculation of settlement involves many factors, including the magnitude of the load, the effect of the load at the depth at which compressible soils exist, the water table, and characteristics of the soil itself. Consolidation testing is performed to ascertain the nature of these characteristics.



#### **5.1.6.1 One-Dimensional Test**

The most often used method of consolidation testing is the one-dimensional test. In this test, a specimen is placed in a consolidometer (oedometer) between two porous stones, which permit drainage. Specimen size can vary depending on the equipment used. Various loading procedures can be used during a one-dimensional test with incremental loading being the most common. With this procedure the specimen is subjected to increasing loads, usually beginning at approximately 1/16 tsf and doubling each increment up to 16 tsf. After each load application the change in sample height is monitored incrementally for, generally, 24 hours. To evaluate the recompression parameters of the sample, an unload/reload cycle can be performed during the loading schedule. To better evaluate the recompression parameters for over consolidated clays, the unload/reload cycle may be performed after the preconsolidation pressure has been defined. After the maximum loading has been reached, the loading is removed in decrements. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 2435 (AASHTO T 216).

The data from a consolidation test is usually presented on an  $e$ -log  $p$  curve, which plots void ratio ( $e$ ) as a function of the log of pressure ( $p$ ), or an  $\epsilon$ -log  $p$  curve where  $\epsilon$  equals % strain. The parameters necessary for settlement calculation can be derived from these curves: compression index ( $C_c$ ), recompression index ( $C_r$ ), preconsolidation pressure ( $p_o$  or  $P_c$ ) and initial void ratio ( $e_o$ ). A separate plot is prepared of change in sample height versus log time for each load increment; from this, the coefficient of consolidation ( $c_v$ ) and coefficient of secondary compression ( $C_\alpha$ ) can be derived. These parameters are used to predict the rate of primary settlement and amount of secondary compression.

For high organic materials (organic content greater than 50%), FDOT-sponsored studies have shown that end of primary consolidation occurs quickly in the laboratory and field, and that a major portion of the total settlement is due to secondary compression (creep). As a result, differentiating between primary consolidation and creep settlement on the individual loading's settlement versus time plots can be very difficult and generate misleading results. To analyze results from one-dimensional consolidation tests for these types of materials, use the Square Root (Taylor) Method to identify the end of primary consolidation for each load sequence. In addition, each load sequence must be maintained for at least 24 hours to identify a slope of the secondary compression portion of the settlement versus time plot.

#### **5.1.6.2 Constant Rate of Strain Test**

Other loading methods include the Constant Rate of Strain Test (ASTM D 4186) in which the sample is subjected to a constantly changing load while maintaining a constant rate of strain; and the single-increment test, sometimes used for organic soils, in which the sample is subjected only to the

load expected in the field. A direct analogy is drawn between laboratory consolidation and field settlement amounts and rates.

### ***5.1.7 Organic Content***

Organic soils demonstrate very poor engineering characteristics, most notably low strength and high compressibility. In the field these soils can usually be identified by their dark color, musty odor and low unit weight. The most used laboratory test for design purposes is the Ignition Loss test, which measures how much of a sample's mass burns off when placed in a muffle furnace. The results are presented as a percentage of the total sample mass. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 2974 (AASHTO T 267).

### ***5.1.8 Shrinkage and Swell***

#### **5.1.8.1 Shrinkage**

These tests are performed to determine the limits of a soil's tendency to lose volume during decreases in moisture content. The shrinkage limit (SL) is defined as the maximum water content at which a reduction in water content will not cause a decrease in volume of the soil mass. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 427 (AASHTO T 92).

#### **5.1.8.2 Swell**

Some soils, particularly those containing montmorillonite clay, tend to increase their volume when their moisture content increases. These soils are unsuitable for roadway construction. The swell potential can be estimated from the test methods shown in ASTM D 4546 (AASHTO T 258).

### ***5.1.9 Permeability***

The laboratory determination of soil permeability can be performed by one of the following test methods. Permeability can also be determined either directly or indirectly from a consolidation test.

#### **5.1.9.1 Constant-Head Test**

This test uses a permeameter into which the sample is placed and compacted to the desired relative density. Water (preferably de-aired) is introduced via an inlet valve until the sample is saturated. Water is then allowed to flow through the sample while a constant head is maintained. The permeability is measured by the quantity of flow of discharge over a specified time. This method is generally preferred for use with coarse-grained soils with  $k > 10^{-3}$  cm/sec (Bowles 1984). Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 5856.

#### **5.1.9.2 Falling-Head Test**

This test uses an apparatus and procedure similar to the constant-head test (above), but the head is not kept constant. The permeability is measured by the decrease in head over a specified time. This method is often considered more economical for tests of long duration, such as tests on fine-grained soils with  $k$  between  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  and  $10^{-3}$  cm/sec (Bowles 1984). Tests shall be performed in accordance with FM 5-513 or ASTM D 5856.

#### **5.1.9.3 Flexible Wall Permeability**

For fine-grained soils, tests performed using a triaxial cell are generally preferred. In-situ conditions can be modeled by application of an appropriate confining pressure. The sample can be saturated using back pressuring techniques. Water is then allowed to flow through the sample and measurements are taken until steady-state conditions occur. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 5084.

#### **5.1.10 Environmental Corrosion Tests**

These tests are performed to determine the corrosion classification of soil and water. A series of tests includes pH, resistivity, chloride content, and sulfate content testing. The testing can be done either in the laboratory or in the field. See the **Environmental Corrosion Tests** section in **Chapter 4** for a list of test procedures.

#### **5.1.11 Compaction Tests**

These tests are used to determine the optimum water content and maximum dry density, which can be achieved for a particular soil using a designated compactive effort. Results are used to determine appropriate methods of field compaction and to provide a standard by which to judge the acceptability of field compaction.

Compacting a sample in a test mold of known volume using a specified compactive effort performs the test. The water content and the weight of the sample required to fill the mold are determined. Results are plotted as density versus water content. By varying the water content of the sample, several points on the moisture-density curve shall be obtained in accordance with the standard procedures specified.

The compactive effort used is dependent upon the proposed purpose of the site and the loading to which it will be subjected. The most commonly used laboratory test compactive efforts are described below.

##### **5.1.11.1 Standard Proctor**

This test method uses a 5.5-poundrammer dropped from a height of 12 inches. The sample is compacted in three layers. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 698 (AASHTO T 99).

#### **5.1.11.2 Modified Proctor**

This test method uses a 10-pound rammer dropped from a height of 18 inches. The sample is compacted in five layers. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 1557 (AASHTO T 180).

#### **5.1.12 Relative Density Tests**

Proctor tests often do not produce a well-defined moisture-density curve for cohesionless, free-draining soils. Additionally, maximum densities from Proctor tests may be less than those obtained in the field or by vibratory methods. For these soils, it may be preferable to perform tests, which determine standard maximum and minimum densities of the soil. The density of the in-situ soil can then be compared with these maximum and minimum densities and its relative density and/or percent compaction can be calculated.

##### **5.1.12.1 Maximum Index Density**

This test requires that either oven-dried or wet soil be placed in a mold of known volume, and that a 2-psi surcharge load is applied. The mold is then vertically vibrated at a specified frequency for a specified time. The weight and volume of the sample after vibrating are used to calculate the maximum index density. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 4253.

##### **5.1.12.2 Minimum Index Density**

This test is performed to establish the loosest condition, which can be attained by standard laboratory procedures. Several methods can be used, but the preferred method is to carefully pour a steady stream of oven-dried soil into a mold of known volume through a funnel. Funnel height should be adjusted continuously to maintain a free fall of the soil of approximately 0.5 inches. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 4254.

#### **5.1.13 Limerock Bearing Ratio (LBR)**

This test is used to determine the bearing value of limerock and other soils, which are used as base, stabilized subgrade, or embankment materials in Florida. This value is then used in the design of pavements.

A minimum of four, and preferably five, samples is compacted at varying moisture contents to establish a moisture-density curve for the material. Compaction procedures are similar to those of the modified Proctor test. There are two options, the soaked and the unsoaked methods. For the soaked method, the samples are soaked for a period of 48 hours under a surcharge mass of at least 2.5 lb. For the unsoaked method, the samples are tested without any soak period. For both methods a penetration test is then performed on each sample by causing a 1.95-inch diameter piston to penetrate the soil at a constant rate and to a depth of 0.5 inches. A load-penetration curve is plotted for each sample and the LBR corresponding to 0.1-inch penetration is calculated. The maximum LBR for a material is determined from a plot of LBR versus moisture content. Tests shall be performed in accordance with FM 5-515.

#### ***5.1.14 Resilient Modulus Test (Dynamic)***

This test is used to determine the dynamic elastic modulus of a base or subgrade soil under conditions that represent a reasonable simulation of the physical conditions and stress states of such materials under flexible pavements subjected to wheel loads. A prepared cylindrical sample is placed in a triaxial chamber and conditioned under static or dynamic stresses. A repeated axial stress is then applied at a fixed magnitude, duration, and frequency. The resilient modulus,  $M_r$ , is calculated by dividing the deviator stress by the resilient axial strain. This value is used in the design and evaluation of pavement systems. Tests shall be performed in accordance with AASHTO T 307.

### **5.2 Rock Cores**

Laboratory tests on rock are performed on small samples of intact cores. However, the properties of in-situ rock are often determined by the presence of joints, bedding planes, etc. It is also important that the rock cores come from the zone that the foundations are founded in. Laboratory test results must therefore be considered in conjunction with knowledge of the in-situ characteristics of the rock mass. Some of the more common laboratory tests are:

#### ***5.2.1 Unconfined Compression Test***

This test is performed on intact rock core specimens, which preferably have a length of at least two times the diameter. The specimen is placed in the testing machine and loaded axially at an approximately constant rate such that failure occurs within 2 to 15 minutes. **Note: the testing machine must be of the proper size for the samples being tested.** Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 2938.

#### ***5.2.2 Absorption and Bulk Specific Gravity***

Absorption is a measure of the amount of water, which an initially dry specimen can absorb during a 48-hour soaking period. It is indicative of the porosity of the sample. Bulk specific gravity is used to calculate the unit weight of the material. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM C 97.

#### ***5.2.3 Splitting Tensile Strength Test***

This test is an indirect tensile strength test similar to the point load test; however, the compressive loads are line loads applied parallel to the core's axis by steel bearing plates between which the specimen is placed horizontally. Loading is applied continuously such that failure occurs within one to ten minutes. The splitting tensile strength of the specimen is calculated from the results. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 3967 **except that the minimum  $t/D$  (length-to-diameter) ratio shall be 1.0 when testing.**

#### ***5.2.4 Triaxial Compression Strength***

This test is performed to provide shearing strengths and elastic properties of rock under a confining pressure. It is commonly used to simulate the stress

conditions under which the rock exists in the field. Tests shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 2664.

#### ***5.2.5 Unit Weight of Sample***

This is a direct determination of either the moist or total weight of the rock core sample divided by the total cylindrical volume of the intact sample (for the total/moist unit weight), or the oven-dried weight divided by the total volume (for the dry unit weight). This measurement includes any voids or pore spaces in the sample, and therefore can be a relative indicator of the strength of the core sample. Samples should be tested at the moisture content representative of field conditions, and samples should be preserved until time of testing. Moisture contents shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 2216.

#### ***5.2.6 Rock Scour Rate Determination***

A rotating erosion test apparatus (RETA) was developed during research sponsored by the Department to measure the erosion of intact 4 inch long by 2.4 inch diameter rock core samples. Results from these tests can be used to model the erodibility of cohesive soils and soft rock and estimate scour depths. When reduced scour susceptibility is suspected, contact the District Geotechnical Engineer to determine the availability of scour testing for site-specific applications.

### **5.3 References**

1. Lambe, T. William, Soil Testing for Engineers, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. New York, NY, 1951.
2. NAVFAC DM-7.1 - Soil Mechanics, Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 1986.
3. Munfakh, George, Arman, Ara, Samtani, Naresh, and Castelli, Raymond, Subsurface Investigations, FHWA-HI-97-021, 1997.
4. Bowles, J. E., "Engineering Properties of Soils and Their Measurement", 3rd ed., McGraw Hill Book Company, New York, 1986

## 5.4 Specifications and Standards

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>ASTM</u></b>	<b><u>AASHTO</u></b>	<b><u>FM</u></b>
Permeability - Falling Head	-	-	5-513
Limerock Bearing Ratio	-	-	5-515
Resilient Modulus of Soils and Aggregate Materials	-	T 307	-
Absorption and Bulk Specific Gravity of Dimension Stone	C 97	-	-
Standard Test Method for Specific Gravity and Absorption of Coarse Aggregate	C 127	T 85	1-T 85
Standard Test Method for Particle-Size Analysis of Soils	D 422	T 88	-
Test Method for Shrinkage Factors of Soils by the Mercury Method	D 427	T 92	-
Test Method for Laboratory Compaction Characteristics of Soil Using Standard Effort (12,400 ft-lbf/ft <sup>3</sup> (600 kN-m/m <sup>3</sup> ))	D 698	T 99	-
Standard Test Method for Specific Gravity of Soils	D 854	T 100	-
Test Method for Laboratory Compaction Characteristics of Soil Using Modified Effort (56,000 ft-lbf/ft <sup>3</sup> (2,700 kN-m/m <sup>3</sup> ))	D 1557	T 180	5-521
Standard Test Method for Unconfined Compressive Strength of Cohesive Soil	D 2166	T 208	-
Standard Test Method for Laboratory Determination of Water (Moisture) Content of Soil and Rock	D 2216	T 265	-
Standard Test Method for Permeability of Granular Soils (Constant Head)	D 2434	T 215	-
Standard Test Method for One-Dimensional Consolidation Properties of Soils	D 2435	T 216	-
Standard Test Method for Triaxial Compressive Strength of Undrained Rock Core Specimens Without Pore Pressure Measurements	D 2664	-	-
Standard Test Method for Unconsolidated, Undrained Compressive Strength of Cohesive Soils in Triaxial Compression	D 2850	T 296	-
Standard Test Method for Unconfined Compressive Strength of Intact Rock Core Specimens	D 2938	-	-
Standard Test Methods for Moisture, Ash, and Organic Matter of Peat and Other Organic Soils	D 2974	T 267	1-T 267

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>ASTM</u></b>	<b><u>AASHTO</u></b>	<b><u>FM</u></b>
Standard Test Method for Direct Shear Test of Soils Under Consolidated Drained Conditions	D 3080	T 236	-
Standard Test Method for Splitting Tensile Strength of Intact Rock Core Specimens	D 3967	-	-
Standard Test Method for One-Dimensional Consolidation Properties of Soils Using Controlled-Strain Loading	D 4186	-	-
Standard Test Methods for Maximum Index Density and Unit Weight of Soils Using a Vibratory Table	D 4253	-	-
Standard Test Method for Minimum Index Density and Unit Weight of Soils and Calculation of Relative Density	D 4254	-	-
Standard Test Method for Liquid Limit, Plastic Limit, and Plasticity Index of Soils	D 4318	T 89 & T 90	-
Standard Test Methods for One-Dimensional Swell or Settlement Potential of Cohesive Soils	D 4546	T 258	-
Standard Test Method for Laboratory Miniature Vane Shear Test for Saturated Fine-Grained Clayey Soil	D 4648	-	-
Standard Test Method for Consolidated Undrained Triaxial Compression Test for Cohesive Soils	D 4767	T 297	-
Standard Practices for Preserving and Transporting Rock Core Samples	D 5079	-	-
Standard Test Method for Measurement of Hydraulic Conductivity of Saturated Porous Materials Using a Flexible Wall Permeameter	D 5084	-	-
Standard Test Method for Measurement of Hydraulic Conductivity of Porous Material Using a Rigid-Wall, Compaction-Mold Permeameter	D 5856		



## **Chapter 6**

### **6 Materials Description, Classification, and Logging**

During field exploration a log must be kept of the materials encountered. A field engineer, a geologist, or the driller usually keeps the field log. Details of the subsurface conditions encountered, including basic material descriptions, and details of the drilling and sampling methods should be recorded. Upon delivery of the samples to the laboratory, an experienced technician will generally verify or modify material descriptions and classifications based on the results of laboratory testing and/or detailed visual-manual inspection of samples. See ASTM D 5434.

Material descriptions, classifications, and other information obtained during the subsurface explorations are heavily relied upon throughout the remainder of the investigation program and during the design and construction phases of a project. It is therefore necessary that the method of reporting this data is standardized. Records of subsurface explorations should follow as closely as possible the standardized format presented in this chapter.

#### **6.1 Materials Description and Classification**

A detailed description for each material stratum encountered should be included on the log. The extent of detail will be somewhat dependent upon the material itself and on the purpose of the project. However, the descriptions should be sufficiently detailed to provide the engineer with an understanding of the material present at the site. Since it is rarely possible to test all of the samples obtained during an exploration program, the descriptions should be sufficiently detailed to permit grouping of similar materials and choice of representative samples for testing.

##### **6.1.1 Soils**

Soils should be described in general accordance with the Description and Identification of Soils (Visual - Manual Procedure) of ASTM D 2488. This procedure employs visual examination and simple manual tests to identify soil characteristics, which are then included in the material description. For example, estimates of grain-size distribution by visual examination indicate whether the soil is fine-grained or coarse-grained. Manual tests for dry strength, dilatancy, toughness, and plasticity indicate the type of fine-grained soil. Organics are identified by color and odor. A detailed soil description should comply with the following format:

- Color
- Constituents
- Grading
- Relative Density or Consistency
- Moisture Content
- Particle Angularity and Shape
- Additional Descriptive Terms

## Classification

### **6.1.1.1 Color**

The color description is restricted to two colors. If more than two colors exist, the soil should be described as multi-colored or mottled and the two predominant colors given.

### **6.1.1.2 Constituents**

Constituents are identified considering grain size distribution and the results of the manual tests. In addition to the principal constituent, other constituents which may affect the engineering properties of the soil should be identified. Secondary constituents are generally indicated as modifiers to the principal constituent (i.e., sandy clay or silty gravel). Other constituents can be included in the description using the terminology of ASTM D 2488 through the use of terms such as trace (<5%), few (5-10%), little (15-25%), some (30-45%) and mostly (50-100%).

### **6.1.1.3 Grading**

#### **6.1.1.3.1 Coarse-Grained Soils**

Coarse-grained soils are defined as either:

##### **6.1.1.3.1.1 Well-Graded**

Soil contains a good representation of all particle sizes from largest to smallest.

##### **6.1.1.3.1.2 Poorly-Graded**

Soil contains particles about the same size. A soil of this type is sometimes described as being uniform.

##### **6.1.1.3.1.3 Gap-Graded**

Soil does not contain one or more intermediate particles sizes. A soil consisting of gravel and fine sand would be gap graded because of the absence of medium and coarse sand sizes.

#### **6.1.1.3.2 Fine-Grained Soil**

Descriptions of fine-grained soils should not include a grading.

### **6.1.1.4 Relative Density and Consistency**

Relative density refers to the degree of compactness of a coarse-grained soil. Consistency refers to the stiffness of a fine-grained soil. When evaluating subsoil conditions using correlations based on safety hammer SPT tests, SPT-N values obtained using an automatic hammer should be increased by a factor of 1.24 to produce the equivalent safety hammer SPT-N value.

However, only actual field recorded (uncorrected) SPT-N values shall be included on the [Report of Core Borings Sheet](#).

Standard Penetration Test N-values (blows per foot) are usually used to define the relative density and consistency as follows:

**Table 1, Relative Density or Consistency**

<i>Granular Materials</i>		
<b>Relative Density</b>	<b>Safety Hammer SPT N-Value (Blow/Foot)</b>	<b>Automatic Hammer SPT N-Value (Blow/Foot)</b>
Very Loose	Less than 4	Less than 3
Loose	4 – 10	3 – 8
Medium Dense	10 – 30	8 – 24
Dense	30 – 50	24 – 40
Very Dense	Greater than 50	Greater than 40
<i>Silts and Clays</i>		
<b>Consistency</b>	<b>Safety Hammer SPT N-Value (Blow/Foot)</b>	<b>Automatic Hammer SPT N-Value (Blow/Foot)</b>
Very Soft	Less than 2	Less than 1
Soft	2 – 4	1 – 3
Firm	4 – 8	3 – 6
Stiff	8 – 15	6 – 12
Very Stiff	15 – 30	12 – 24
Hard	Greater than 30	Greater than 24

If SPT data is not available, consistency can be estimated in the field based on visual-manual examination of the material. Refer to ASTM D 2488 for consistency criteria.

The pocket penetrometer and torvane devices may be used in the field as an index of the remolded undrained shear strength of clay samples. See Section 5.15.4.

#### **6.1.1.5 Friction Angle vs. SPT-N**

Various published correlations estimate the angle of internal friction,  $\phi$ , of cohesionless soils based on SPT-N values and effective overburden pressure. Some of these correlations are widely accepted whereas, others are more likely to overestimate triaxial test data. In the absence of laboratory shear strength testing,  $\phi$  estimates for cohesionless soils, based on SPT-N, shall not exceed the values proposed by Peck, 1974 (see [Figure17](#)). These values are based on SPT-N values obtained at an effective overburden pressure of one ton per square foot. The correction factor,  $C_N$ , proposed by Peck, 1974 (see [Figure18](#)) may be used to “correct” N values obtained at overburden pressures other than 1 tsf.

#### **6.1.1.6 Moisture Content**

The in-situ moisture content of a soil should be described as dry, moist, or wet.

#### **6.1.1.7 Particle Angularity and Shape**

Coarse-grained soils are described as angular, sub-angular, sub-rounded, or rounded. Gravel, cobbles, and boulders can be described as flat, elongated, or flat and elongated. Descriptions of fine-grained soils will not include a particle angularity or shape.

#### **6.1.1.8 Organic Content**

The organic content of materials can greatly alter its engineering properties. In general, materials with an organic content greater than 5% are considered unsuitable for use in roadway embankments. In some instances materials with lesser organic contents are desired. Classify organic soils as follows:

- Organic Material = O.C. > 5% but < 20%
- Highly Organic Material = O.C. > 20 but < 75%; highly organic materials are often referred to as “muck” in other FDOT documents.
- Peat = O.C. > 75% (which is defined in ASTM D 4427)

#### **6.1.1.9 Additional Descriptive Terms**

Any additional descriptive terms considered to be helpful in identifying the soil should be included. Examples of such terms include calcareous, cemented, micaceous and gritty. Material origins or local names should be included in parentheses (i.e., fill, ironrock)

#### **6.1.1.10 Classification**

A soil classification should permit the engineer to easily relate the soil description to its behavior characteristics. All soils should be classified according to one of the following two systems.

##### **6.1.1.10.1 Unified Soil Classification System (USCS)**

This system is used primarily for engineering purposes and is particularly useful to the Geotechnical Engineer. Therefore, they should be used for all structural-related projects; such as bridges, retaining walls, buildings, etc. Precise classification requires that a grain size analysis and Atterberg Limits tests be performed on the sample. The method is discussed in detail in ASTM D 2487 and a summary is reprinted in [Figure 19](#) and [Figure 20](#) for convenience.

##### **6.1.1.10.2 AASHTO Classification System**

This system is used generally to classify soils for highway construction purposes and therefore will most often be used in conjunction with roadway soil surveys. Like the Unified System, this system requires

grain size analysis and Atterberg Limit tests for precise classification. The system is discussed in detail in ASTM 3282 or AASHTO M 145, and a summary is reprinted in [Figure 21](#) and [Figure 22](#) for convenience.

### **6.1.2 Rocks**

In Florida, only sedimentary rocks are encountered within the practical depths for structure foundations. Descriptions of sedimentary rocks are based on visual observations and simple tests. Descriptions should comply with the following format:

Color  
Constituents  
Weathering  
Grain Size  
Cementation  
Additional Descriptive Terms

#### **6.1.2.1 Color**

As with soils, the description should be limited to two predominant colors.

#### **6.1.2.2 Constituents**

The principal constituent is the rock type constituting the major portion of the stratum being investigated. Since the formations encountered in Florida normally consist of only one rock type, the use of modifying constituents will generally not be applicable; however, when more than one rock type is present in any given formation, both should be included in the description.

#### **6.1.2.3 Weathering**

The degree of weathering should be described. Classical classification systems do not apply to Florida rock.

#### **6.1.2.4 Hardness**

Classical classification systems do not apply to Florida rock. Do not include subjective descriptions of rock hardness. Include only the objective indicators of the rock hardness (SPT-N values, excessive drilling time and down pressure, results of core testing, etc.) that would lead others to your subjective conclusions.

#### **6.1.2.6 Additional Description Terms**

Use any additional terms that will aid in describing the type and condition of the rock being described. Terms such as fossiliferous, friable, indurated, and micaceous are to be used where applicable. Formation names should be included in parentheses.

## 6.2 Logging

The standard boring log included as [Figure 23](#) and [Figure 24](#), or its equivalent as approved by the District Geotechnical Engineer, shall be used for all borings and test pits. A sample completed log is included as [Figure 25](#) and [Figure 26](#). The majority of information to be included on this form is self-explanatory. Information that should be presented in the remarks column includes:

### ***6.2.1 Comments on Drilling Procedures and/or Problems***

Any occurrences, which may indicate characteristics of the in-situ material, should be reported. Such occurrences include obstructions; difficulties in drilling such as caving, flowing sands, caverns, loss of drilling fluid, falling drill rods, change in drilling method and termination of boring above planned depth.

### ***6.2.2 Test Results***

Results of tests performed on samples in the field, such as pocket penetrometer or torvane tests should be noted. Results of tests on in-situ materials, such as field vane tests, should also be recorded.

### ***6.2.3 Rock Quality Designation (RQD)***

In addition to the percent recovery, the RQD should be recorded for each core run. RQD is a modified core recovery, which is best used on NX size core or larger (HW is FDOT minimum size allowed). It describes the quality of rock based on the degree and amount of natural fracturing. Determine the RQD by summing the lengths of all core pieces equal to or longer than 4 inches (ignoring fresh irregular breaks caused by drilling) and dividing that sum by the total length of the core run.

Expressing the RQD as a percentage, the rock quality is described as follows:

<u>RQD (%)</u>	<u>Description of Rock Quality</u>
0 - 25	Very poor
25 - 50	Poor
50 - 75	Fair
75 - 90	Good
90 - 100	Excellent

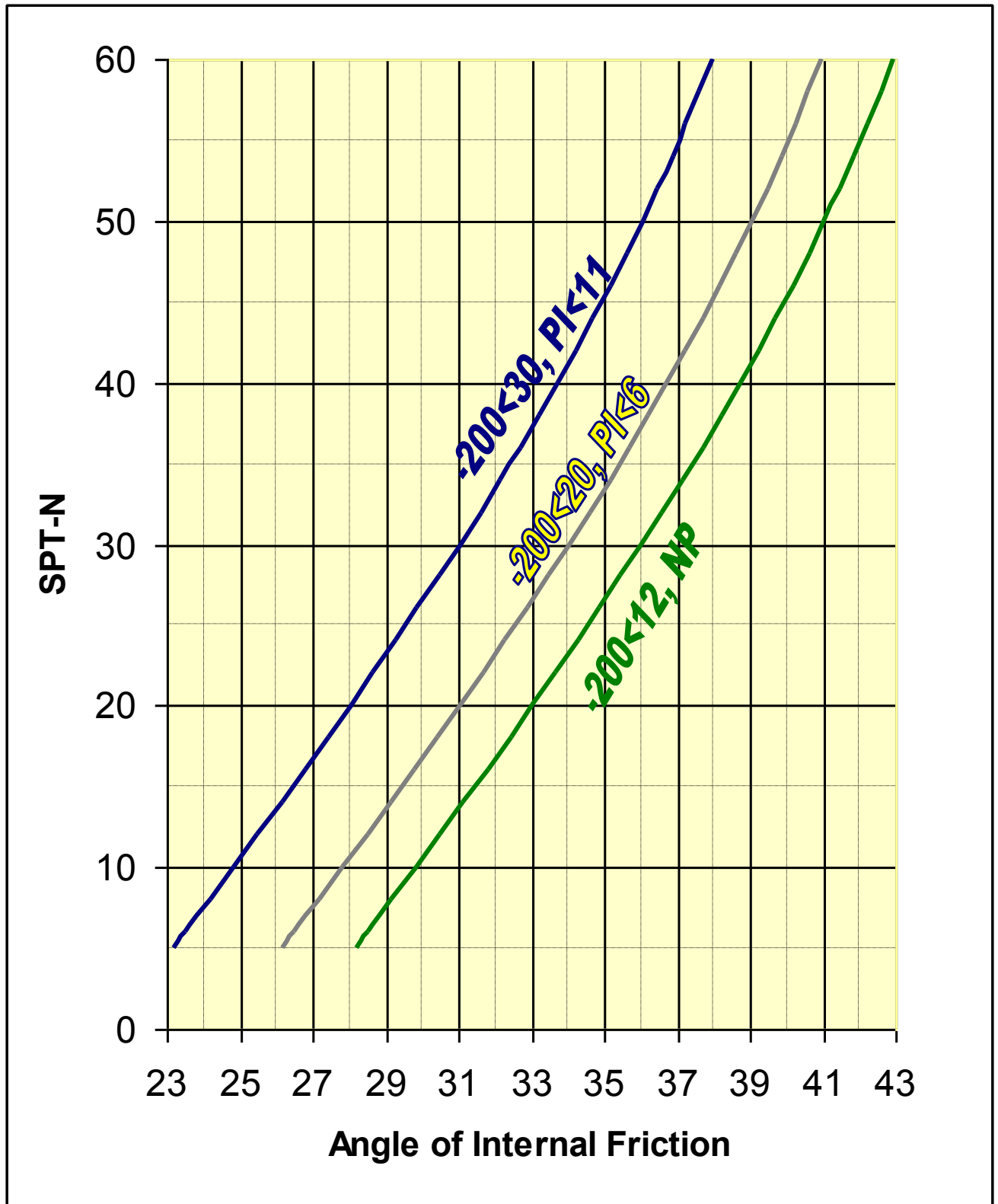


Figure 17 - Angle of Internal Friction vs. SPT-N (After Peck, 1974)

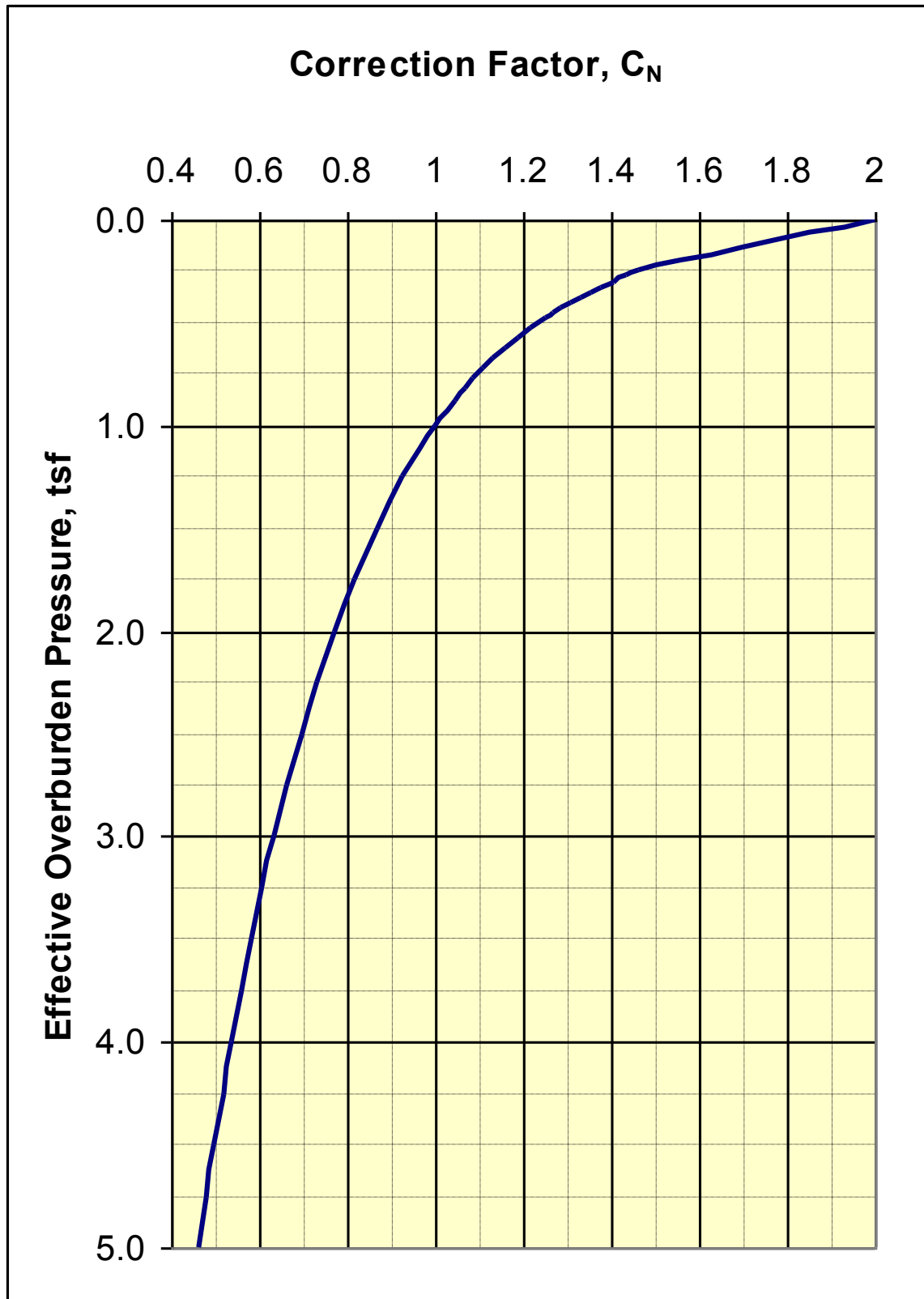


Figure 18 -  $C_N$  vs. Effective Overburden Pressure (After Peck, 1974)



Criteria for Assigning Group Symbols and Group Names Using Laboratory Tests <sup>A</sup>				Soil Classification	
				Group Symbol	Group Name <sup>B</sup>
COARSE-GRAINED SOILS More than 50 % retained on No. 200 sieve	Gravels	Clean Gravels	Cu ≥ 4 and 1 ≤ Cc ≤ 3 <sup>E</sup>	GW	Well-graded gravel <sup>F</sup>
	More than 50 % of coarse fraction retained on No. 4 sieve	Less than 5 % fines <sup>C</sup>	Cu < 4 and/or 1 > Cc > 3 <sup>E</sup>	GP	Poorly graded gravel <sup>F</sup>
		Gravels with Fines	Fines classify as ML or MH	GM	Silty gravel <sup>F,G,H</sup>
		More than 12 % fines <sup>C</sup>	Fines classify as CL or CH	GC	Clayey gravel <sup>F,G,H</sup>
FINE-GRAINED SOILS 50 % or more passes the No. 200 sieve	Sands	Clean Sands	Cu ≥ 6 and 1 ≤ Cc ≤ 3 <sup>E</sup>	SW	Well-graded sand <sup>I</sup>
	50 % or more of coarse fraction passes No. 4 sieve	Less than 5 % fines <sup>D</sup>	Cu < 6 and/or 1 > Cc > 3 <sup>E</sup>	SP	Poorly graded sand <sup>I</sup>
		Sands with Fines	Fines classify as ML or MH	SM	Silty sand <sup>G,H,I</sup>
		More than 12 % fines <sup>D</sup>	Fines classify as CL or CH	SC	Clayey sand <sup>G,H,I</sup>
HIGHLY ORGANIC SOILS	Silts and Clays	inorganic	PI > 7 and plots on or above "A" line <sup>J</sup>	CL	Lean clay <sup>K,L,M</sup>
	Liquid limit less than 50		PI < 4 or plots below "A" line <sup>J</sup>	ML	Silt <sup>K,L,M</sup>
		organic	Liquid limit – oven dried < 0.75 Liquid limit – not dried	OL	Organic clay <sup>K,L,M,N</sup> Organic silt <sup>K,L,M,O</sup>
	Silts and Clays	inorganic	PI plots on or above "A" line	CH	Fat clay <sup>K,L,M</sup>
	Liquid limit 50 or more		PI plots below "A" line	MH	Elastic silt <sup>K,L,M</sup>
HIGHLY ORGANIC SOILS		organic	Liquid limit – oven dried < 0.75 Liquid limit – not dried	OH	Organic clay <sup>K,L,M,P</sup> Organic silt <sup>K,L,M,O</sup>
		Primarily organic matter, dark in color, and organic odor		PT	Peat

Figure 19, Unified Soil Classification System (After ASTM, 1993)

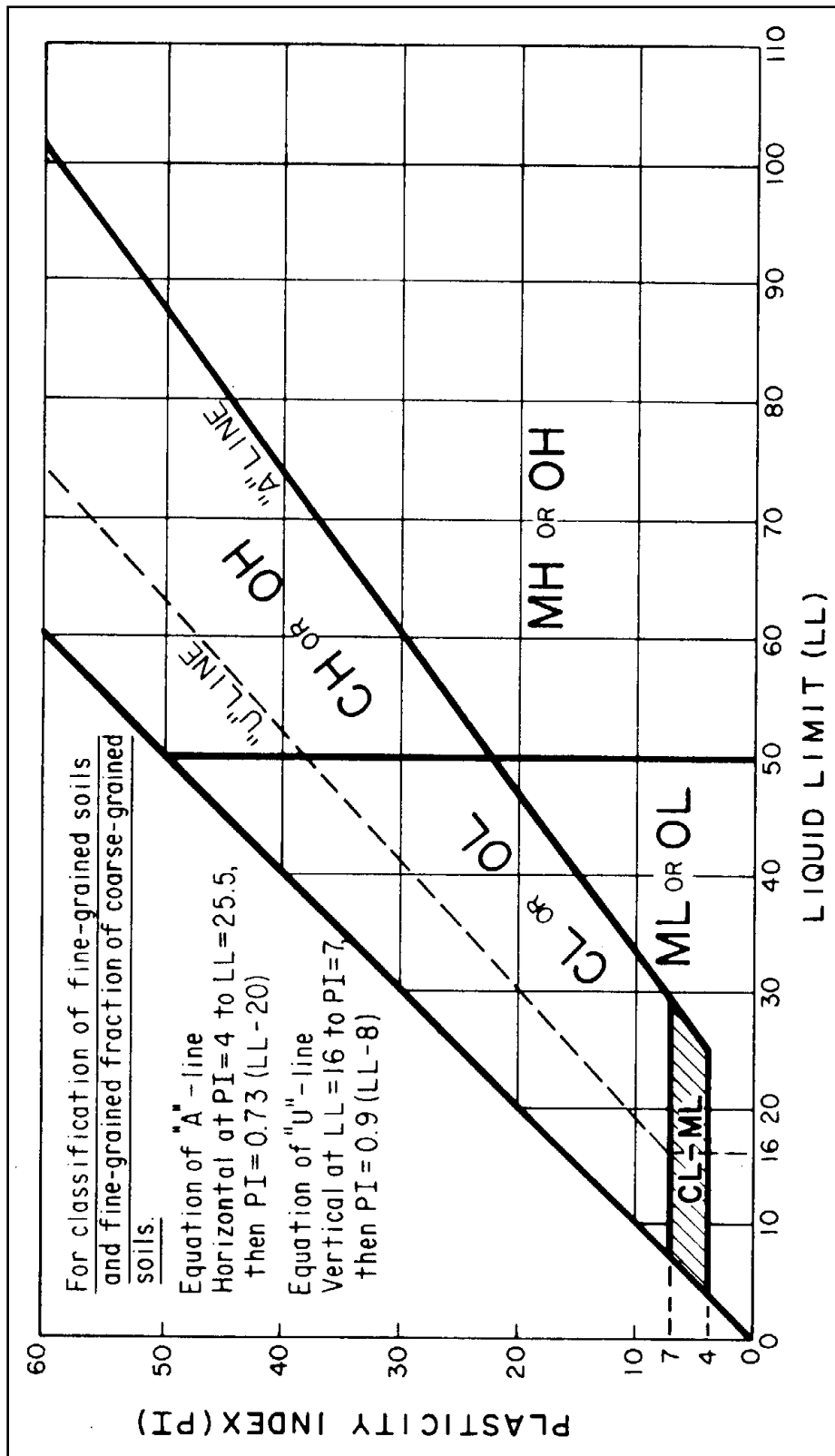


Figure 20, Unified Soil Classification System (After ASTM, 1993)(Cont.)

Classification of Soils and Soil-Aggregate Mixtures						
General Classification	Granular Materials (35 % or less passing No. 200)			Silt-Clay Materials (More than 35 % passing No. 200)		
Group Classification	A-1	A-3 <sup>A</sup>	A-2	A-4	A-5	A-6
Sieve analysis, % passing:						
No. 10 (2.00 mm)	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. 40 (425 μm)	50 max	51 min	...	...	...	...
No. 200 (75 μm)	25 max	10 max	35 max	36 min	36 min	36 min
Characteristics of fraction passing No. 40 (425 μm):						
Liquid limit	...	...	<sup>B</sup>	40 max	41 min	41 min
Plasticity index	6 max	N.P.	<sup>B</sup>	10 max	10 max	11 min
General rating as subgrade	Excellent to Good			Fair to Poor		
<sup>A</sup> The placing of A-3 before A-2 is necessary in the "left to right elimination process" and does not indicate superiority of A-3 over A-2. <sup>B</sup> See Table 2 for values. <i>Reprinted with permission of American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials</i>						
Classification of Soils and Soil-Aggregate Mixtures						
General Classification	Granular Materials (35 % or less passing No. 200)			Silt-Clay Materials (More than 35 % passing No. 200)		
Group classification	A-1		A-3	A-2		
	A-1-a	A-1-b	A-2-4	A-2-5	A-2-6	A-2-7
Sieve analysis, % passing:						
No. 10 (2.00 mm)	50 max	...	...	...	...	...
No. 40 (425 μm)	30 max	50 max	51 min	...	...	...
No. 200 (75 μm)	15 max	25 max	10 max	35 max	35 max	35 max
Characteristics of fraction passing No. 40 (425 μm):						
Liquid limit	...	...	...	40 max	41 min	41 min
Plasticity index	6 max	...	N.P.	10 max	11 min	11 min
Usual types of significant constituent materials	Stone Fragments, Gravel and Sand		Fine Sand	Silty or Clayey Gravel and Sand		Silty Soils
General rating as subgrade	Excellent to Good			Fair to Poor		
<sup>A</sup> Plasticity index of A-7-5 subgroup is equal to or less than LL minus 30. Plasticity index of A-7-6 subgroup is greater than LL minus 30 (see Fig. 1). <i>Reprinted with permission of American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.</i>						

Figure 21, AASHTO Soil Classification System (After ASTM, 1993)

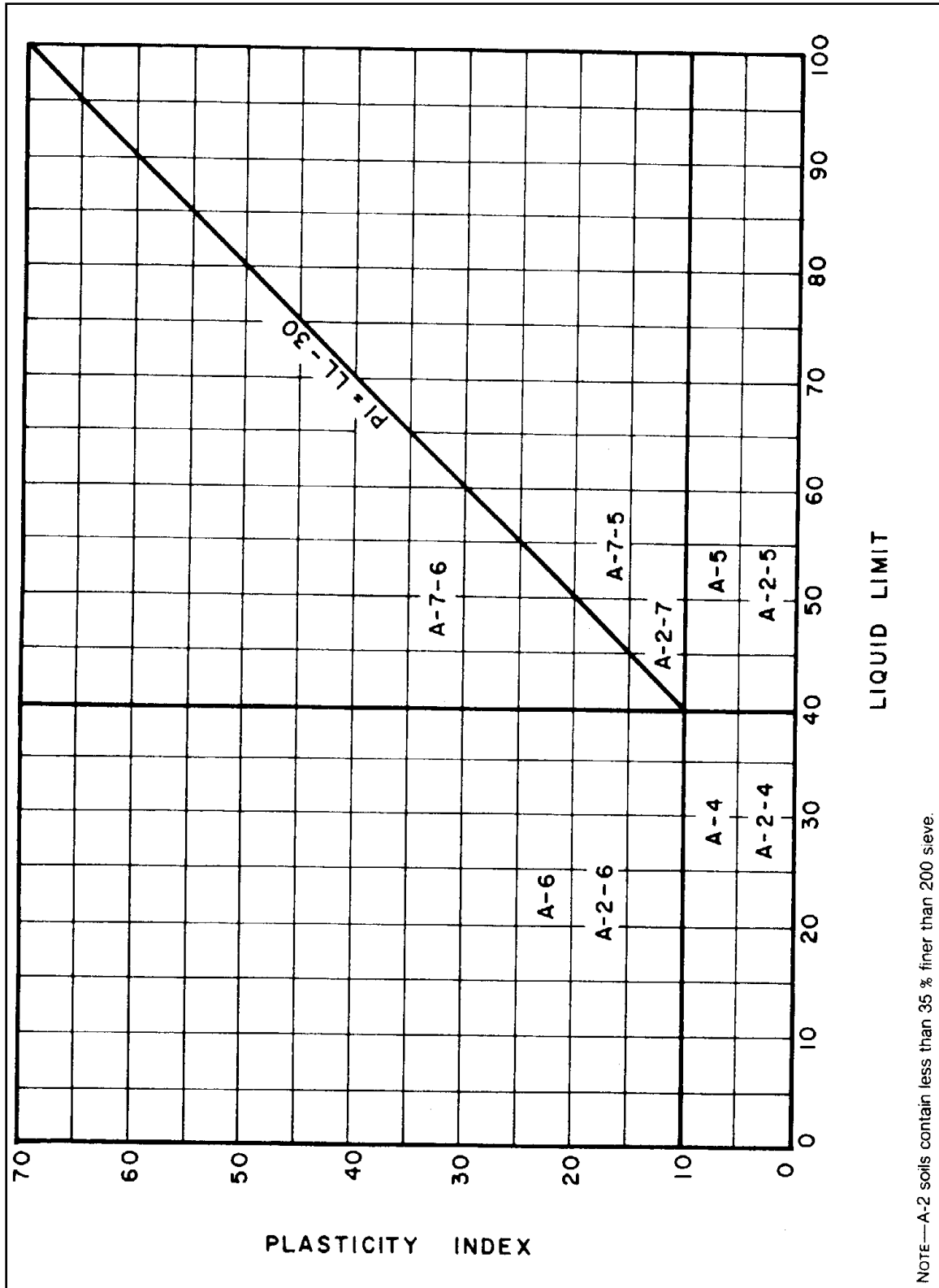



Figure 22, AASHTO Soil Classification System (After ASTM, 1993) (Cont.)

FORM 675-020-12  
MATERIALS - 05/94

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FORM 675-020-12  
MATERIALS - 05/94


### Figure 25, English Typical Boring Log

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
**FIELD BORING LOG**

FORM 675-020-13  
 MATERIALS - 05/94

SHEET 1 OF 5

PROJECT NO. 79100-1523 NAME S.R. 40 / Tomoka River COUNTY Volusia DISTRICT 5  
 LOCATION STA 14+80, 27.5 m RT CL Survey TOWNSHIP 14S RANGE 31E SECTION 25  
 ROAD NUMBER State Road # 40 SURFACE ELEVATION +0.68 m, NGVD  
 EQUIPMENT TYPE CME 45 RIG NO. 7476 BORING NO. 4  
 DATE STARTED 8/27/90 COMPLETED 8/28/90 DRILLED BY Jenkins  
 LOGGED BY Dawson BORING TYPE: AUGER, WASHED, PERCUSSION, ROTARY, Rotary  
 WATER TABLE: 0 HR. 0.46 m 24 HRS. 0.46 m HRS.          CASED, UNCASD, DRILLING MUD, Cased/Uncased

SAMPLE CONDITIONS:  DISTURBED            SAMPLE TYPES: A: AUGER TESTS: W.C.: WATER CONTENT (%)  
 GOOD SB: SPLIT BARREL T: TORVANE (kPa)  
 LOST S: SHELBY TUBE V: IN-SITU VANE TEST (kPa)  
 CORE SAMPLE RC: ROCK CORE          SIZE

ELEV. (M)	DEPTH (M)	S.P.T. BLOWS	MATERIAL DESCRIPTION	SAMPLES			TESTS	REMARKS
				CON.	NO. TYPE	REC. (%)		
		2						
		4	Dark brown fine SAND, trace peat (SP)					
		4		G	S-1	100		
		4						
		2	Light grey to dark brown fine SAND (SP)					
		3		G	S-2	20		
		2						
		2					WC = 20	
		2		G	S-3	50	-200 = 3	
-0.82	1.5	2						
		3						
		3		G	S-4	100		
		2						
		3						
		4		G	S-5	100		
		3						
		4					WC = 20	
		3		G	S-6	100	-200 = 3	
		5						
-2.32	3.0	6						
		7		G	S-7	100		
		3						
		9						
		13		G	S-8	100		
		8						
		7	Greenish-grey silty fine SAND, few shell fragments (SM)				WC = 29	
		5		G	S-9	100	-200 = 18	
		6						
		9						
-3.82	4.5	4		G	S-10	100		
			Light to dark grey fine SAND with silt, trace to few shell (SP-SM)					
		7						
		8						
		11		G	S-11	75		
-5.32	6.0	7						
		2						


RECYCLED PAPER 

Figure 26, Metric Typical Boring Log



### 6.3 References

1. Cheney, Richard S. & Chassie, Ronald G., Soils and Foundations Workshop Manual – Second Edition, FHWA HI-88-009, 1993.
2. NAVFAC DM-7.1-Soil Mechanics, Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 1986.
3. Munfakh, George, Arman, Ara, Samtani, Naresh, and Castelli, Raymond, Subsurface Investigations, FHWA-HI-97-021, 1997.

### 6.4 Specifications and Standards

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>ASTM</u></b>	<b><u>AASHTO</u></b>	<b><u>FM</u></b>
Standard Classification of Soils for Engineering Purposes (Unified Soil Classification System)	D 2487	-	-
Standard Practice for Description and Identification of Soils (Visual-Manual Procedure)	D 2488	-	-
Standard Classification of Soils and Soil-Aggregate Mixtures for Highway Construction Purposes	D 3282	M 145	-
Standard Guide for Field Logging of Subsurface Explorations of Soil and Rock	D 5434	-	-

## **Chapter 7**

### **7 Field Instrumentation**

#### **7.1 Instrumentation**

Field instrumentation can be used on major projects during the analysis and design phase to assist the engineer in refinement of the design. An instrumented test embankment constructed during the preliminary stages of a project to assist in settlement prediction is an example.

On projects where analysis has indicated potential problems with embankment or structure settlement or stability, construction must be monitored through the use of field instrumentation. The location of such instrumentation should be included in the foundation design. This instrumentation allows the engineer to assess the settlement rate and evaluate stability as construction proceeds. The installation of this instrumentation and the interpretation of the ensuing data should be made by the Geotechnical Engineer in consultation with the construction engineer. Also included in the design package should be special provisions and the hold points, time or limitations of construction (for example, fill shall halt until settlement is less than 1 inch per 24 hours, etc.) needs to be indicated for the contractor. Many of the special provisions are available from the District or State Geotechnical Engineers.

Additionally, field instrumentation can be installed to provide data on existing structures or embankments. For example, slope indicators placed within an unstable area of an existing slope can provide the engineer with information, which is valuable in assessing the cause of the problem and in designing the necessary remedial measures.

Many of the instruments described in this chapter involve equipment such as inclinometer casing, settlement platform risers, or junction boxes, which protrude above ground in the construction area. These protuberances are particularly susceptible to damage from construction equipment. The Geotechnical Engineer must work with the construction engineer to ensure that the contractor understands the importance of these instruments and the need to protect them. The special provisions should carry penalties attached to them for the negligent damage to these instruments occurring during construction.

The most commonly used types of instrumentation are discussed below (Reference 2 and 4 is recommended for more detail):

##### ***7.1.1 Inclinometers (Slope Indicators)***

These instruments are used to monitor embankment or cut slope stability. An inclinometer casing consists of a grooved metal or plastic tube that is installed in a borehole. The bottom of the tube must be in rock or dense material, which will not experience any movement, thereby achieving a stable point of fixity. A sensing probe is lowered down the tube and deflection of the tube is measured. Successive readings can be plotted to provide the engineer with information about

the rate of subsurface movement with depth (see [Figure 27](#)). Refer to ASTM D 6230 (AASHTO T 254).

Care must be taken when installing the casing so that spiraling of the casing does not occur because of poor installation techniques. This will result in the orientation of the grooves at depth being different than at the surface. This can be checked with a spiral-checking sensor, and the data adjusted with most new computerized data reduction routines. Also, the space between the borehole wall and the casing should be backfilled with a firm grout, sand, or gravel. For installation in highly compressible soils, use of telescoping couplings should be used to prevent damage of the casing.

To monitor embankment construction, inclinometers should be placed at or near the toes of slopes of high-fill embankments where slope stability or lateral squeeze is considered a potential problem. The casing should penetrate the strata in which problems are anticipated. Readings should be taken often during embankment construction. Fill operations should be halted if any sudden increase in movement rate is detected. The technical special provision [144 Digital Inclinometer Casing and Pneumatic Pore-Pressure Transducers Assembly](#) should be modified for site conditions, other pore-pressure transducer types and included in the contract package.

### ***7.1.2 Settlement Indicators***

Settlement instruments simply record the amount and rate of the settlement under a load; they are most commonly used on projects with high fill embankments where significant settlement is predicted. The simplest form is the settlement platform or plate, which consists of a square wooden platform or steel plate placed on the existing ground surface prior to embankment construction. A reference rod and protecting pipe are attached to the platform. As fill operations progress, additional rods and pipes are added. (See [Figure 28](#) or **Standard Index 540**). Settlement is evaluated by periodically measuring the elevation of the top of the reference rod. Benchmarks used for reference datum shall be known to be stable and remote from all possible vertical movement. It is recommended to use multiple benchmarks and to survey between them at regular intervals.

Settlement platforms should be placed at those points under the embankment where maximum settlement is predicted. On large jobs two or more per embankment are common. The platform elevation must be recorded before embankment construction begins. This is imperative, as all future readings will be compared with the initial reading. Readings thereafter should be taken periodically until the embankment and surcharge (if any) are completed, then at a reduced frequency. The settlement data should be plotted as a function of time. The Geotechnical Engineer should analyze this data to determine when the rate of settlement has slowed sufficiently for construction to continue. The special provision [141 Settlement Plates](#) should be modified for site conditions and included in the contract package.

A disadvantage to the use of settlement platforms is the potential for damage to the marker pipe by construction equipment. Also, care must be taken

in choosing a stable survey reference which will not be subject to settlement. If the reference is underlain by muck, other soft soils or, is too close to construction activities, it may also settle with time.

Alternatives to settlement plates include borehole installed probe extensometers and spider magnets in which a probe lowered down a compressible pipe can identify points along the pipe either mechanically or electrically, and thereby, the distance between these points can be determined. Surveying at the top of the pipe needs to be performed to get absolute elevations if the pipe is not seated into an incompressible soil layer. This method allows a settlement profile within the compressible soil layer to be obtained. Care must be taken during installation and grouting the pipe in the borehole so that it is allowed to settle in the same fashion as the surrounding soil.

### ***7.1.3 Piezometers***

Piezometers are used to measure the amount of water pressure within the saturated pores of a specific zone of soil. The critical levels to which the excess pore pressure will increase prior to failure can be estimated during design. During construction, the piezometers are used to monitor the pore water pressure buildup. After construction, the dissipation of the excess pore water pressure over time is used as a guide to consolidation rate. Thus, piezometers can be used to control the rate of fill placement during embankment construction over soft soils.

The simplest type of piezometer is an open standpipe extending through the fill, but its use may be limited by the response time lag inherent in all open standpipe piezometers. More useful and common in Florida are the vibrating wire and the pneumatic piezometers. Pneumatic piezometers consist of a sensor body with a flexible diaphragm attached. This sensor is installed in the ground and attached to a junction box with twin tubes. The junction box outlet can be connected to a readout unit. Pressurized gas is applied to the inlet tube. As the applied gas pressure equals and then exceeds the pore water pressure, the diaphragm deflects allowing gas to vent through the outlet tube. The gas supply is then turned off and the diaphragm returns to its original position when the pressure in the inlet tube equals the pore water pressure. This pressure is recorded (see [Figure 29](#)). Refer to AASHTO T 252. Vibrating wire piezometers are read directly by the readout unit. Electrical resistance piezometers are also available, however, the use of electrical resistance piezometers is generally limited to applications where dynamic responses are to be measured.

Piezometers should be placed prior to construction in the strata in which problems are most likely to develop. If the problem stratum is more than 10 feet (3 m) thick, more than one piezometer should be placed, at varying depths. The junction box should be located at a convenient location but outside the construction area if possible, however, the wire leads or pneumatic tubing need to be protected from excessive strain due to settlements.

The pore water pressure should be checked often during embankment construction. After the fill is in place, it can be monitored at a decreasing frequency. The data should be plotted (as pressure or feet (meters) of head) as a

function of time. A good practice is to plot pore water pressure, settlement, and embankment elevation on the same time-scale plot for comparison. The special provision 144 Digital Inclinator Casing and Pneumatic Pore-Pressure Transducers Assembly should be modified for site conditions and included in the contract package.

#### ***7.1.4 Tiltmeters***

Tiltmeters measure the inclination of discrete parts of structures from the norm. They are most commonly used to monitor tilting of bridge abutments and decks or retaining walls, and can also be used to monitor rotational failure surfaces in landslides. Types range from a simple plumb line to more sophisticated equipment.

#### ***7.1.5 Monitoring Wells***

A monitoring or observation well is used to monitor groundwater levels or to provide ready access for sampling to detect groundwater contamination. It consists of a perforated section of pipe or well point attached to a riser pipe, installed in a sand-filled borehole.

Monitoring wells should also be installed in conjunction with piezometers to provide a base reference necessary for calculating changes in pore pressure. The monitoring well should be placed in an unimpacted area of construction to reflect the true static water table elevation. Installation and decommissioning of monitoring wells shall be in accordance with local DEP and Water Management District rules and regulations.

#### ***7.1.6 Vibration Monitoring***

It is sometimes desirable to monitor the ground vibrations induced by blasting, pile driving, construction equipment, or traffic. This is especially critical when construction is in close proximity to sensitive structures or equipment, which may become damaged if subjected to excessive vibration.

A vibration-monitoring unit typically consists of a recording control unit, one or more geophones, and connecting cables. Sound sensors to detect noise levels are also available. Geophones and/or sound sensors are placed at locations where data on vibration levels is desired. Peak particle velocities, principle frequencies, peak sound pressure levels, and actual waveforms can be recorded. Results are compared with pre-established vibration-limiting criteria, which are based on structure conditions, equipment sensitivity, or human tolerance.

#### ***7.1.7 Special Instrumentation***

Earth pressure cells and strain gauges fall into this category of special instruments. They are not normally used in monitoring construction projects but only in research and special projects. These instruments require experienced personnel to install and interpret the data. Consult the State Materials Office for assistance.

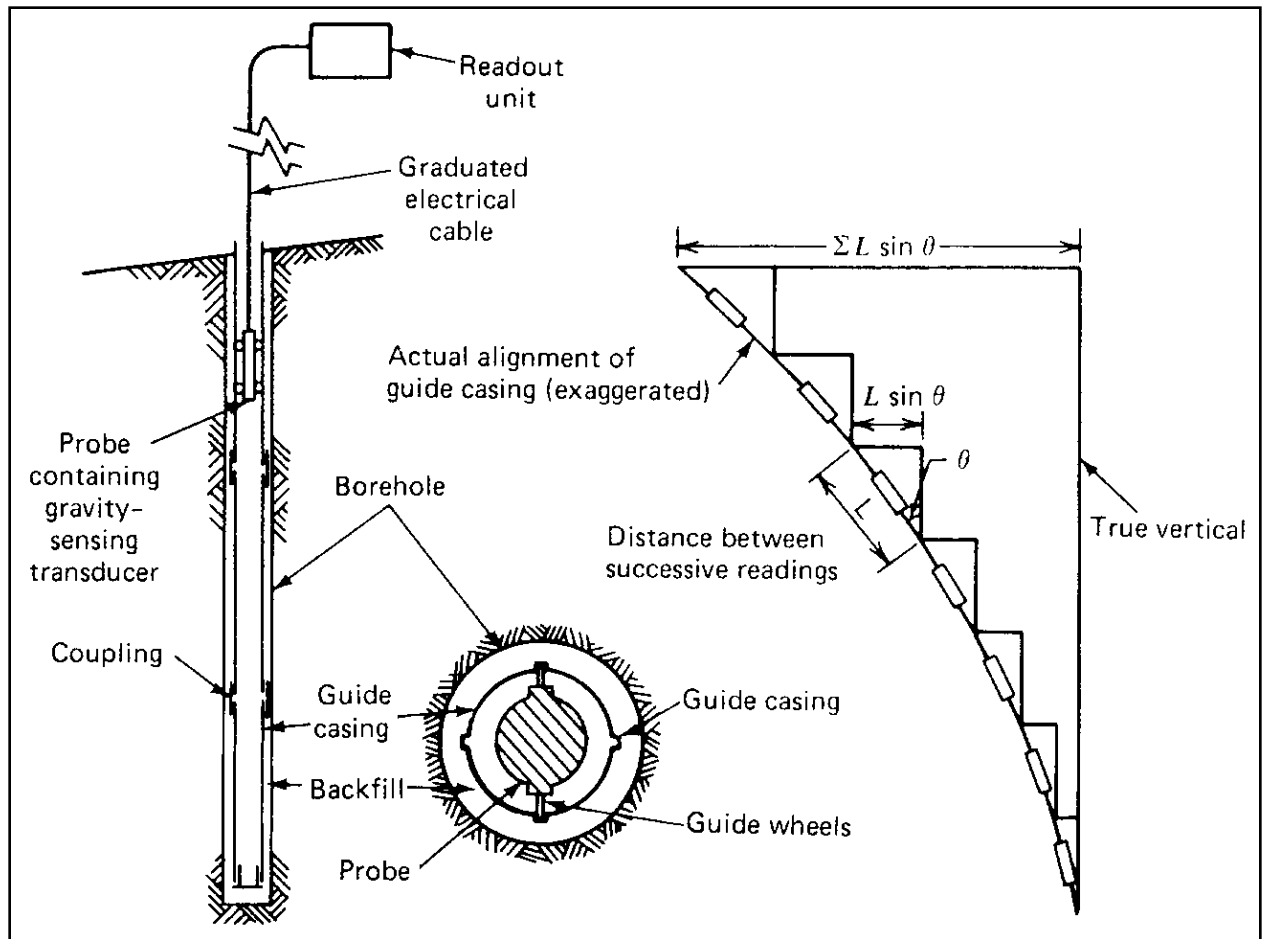
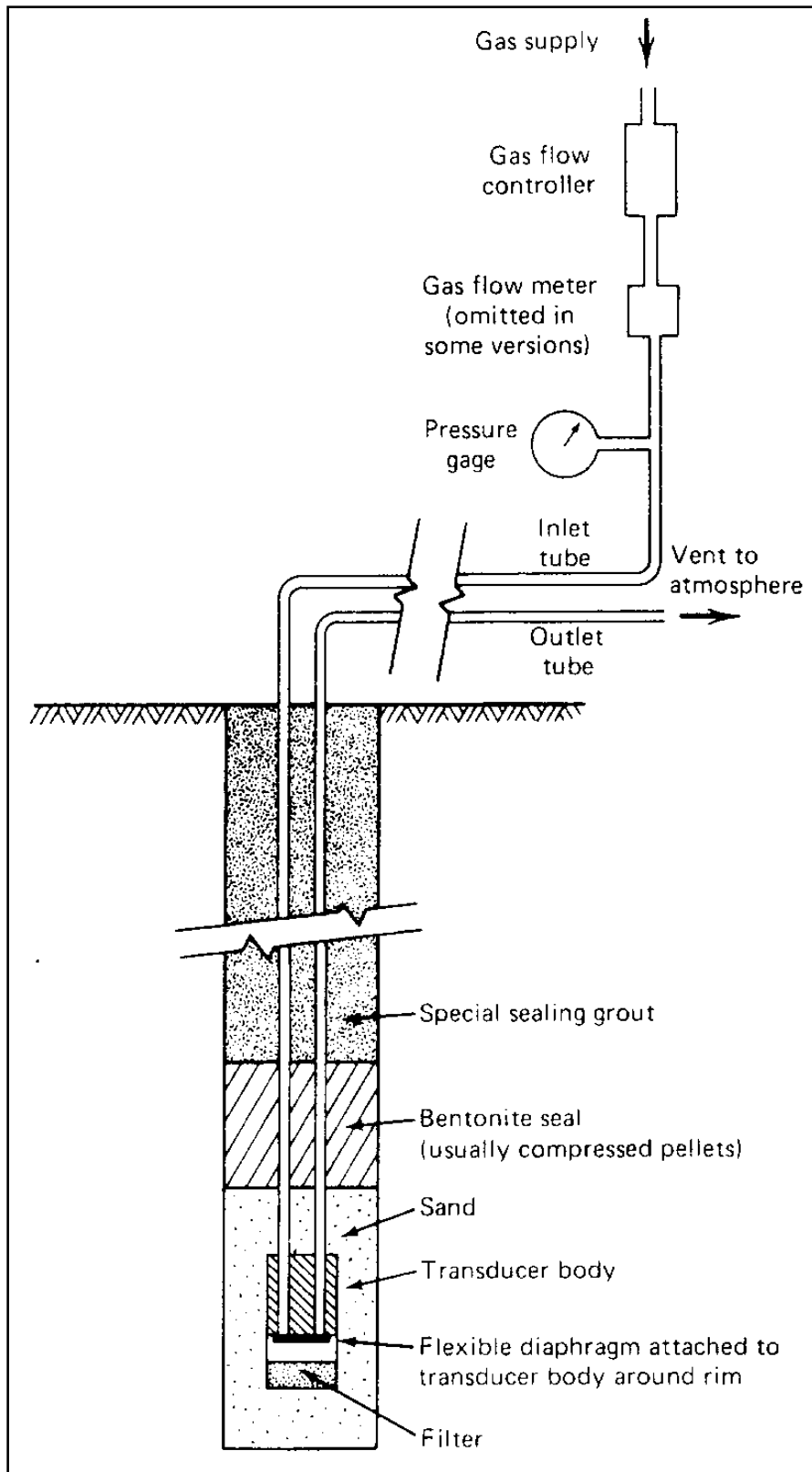


Figure 27, Principle of Inclinometer Operation (After Dunncliff, 1988)





**Figure 29, Typical Pneumatic Piezometer (After Dunnicliff, 1988)**



## 7.2 References

1. Cheney, Richard S. & Chassie, Ronald G., Soils and Foundations Workshop Manual – Second Edition, FHWA HI-88-009, 1993.
2. Dunnicliff, John, Geotechnical Instrumentation for Monitoring Field Performance, Wiley-Interscience, New York, 1993.
3. Roadway and Traffic Design Standards, Florida Department of Transportation, (Current version).
4. Dunnicliff, John, Geotechnical Instrumentation, FHWA-HI-98-034, 1998.

## 7.3 Specifications and Standards

<u>Subject</u>	<u>ASTM</u>	<u>AASHTO</u>	<u>FM</u>	<u>STD. INDEX</u>
Settlement Platform	-	-	-	540
Standard Test Method for Measurements of Pore Pressures in Soils	-	T 252	-	-
Standard Test Method for Monitoring Ground Movement Using Probe-Type Inclinedometers	D 6230	T 254	-	-

## **Chapter 8**

### **8 Analysis and Design**

Once all exploration and testing have been completed, the Geotechnical Engineer must organize and analyze all existing data and provide design recommendations. The scope of the analysis will of course depend upon the scope of the project and the soils involved.

This chapter will discuss the major factors, which must be considered during the analysis and design phase and possible methods of solving potential problems. [Table 2](#) and [Table 3](#) present FHWA guidelines regarding analyses which should be performed. The references cited in the text provide suggested methods of analysis and design. A list of computer programs, which are used by the Department to aid analysis, is given in [Tables 4](#) through 12.

In using these references and computer programs, the engineer should remember that engineering technology progresses rapidly and those methods are being improved or new methods introduced frequently. The engineer should keep abreast of the state-of-the-art in order to produce the most efficient and economical designs, although, the engineer needs to consult with the District Geotechnical Engineer prior to utilizing new techniques. The suggested references, programs, and solutions represent only a few possibilities and should by no means be considered exhaustive.

#### **8.1 Roadway Embankment Materials**

The suitability of in-situ materials for use as roadway embankment is determined by analysis of the results of soil survey explorations. Embankment materials must comply with Standard Index 505.

The subsurface materials identified during soil survey explorations should be classified, usually according to the AASHTO classification system, and stratified. Soils must be stratified such that similar soils are contained within the same stratum. Stratifications shall be based upon the material removal and utilization requirements of Standard Indexes 500 and 505. If testing identifies dissimilar types within the same stratum, additional sampling and testing may be required to better define the in-situ materials. Restratification may be required. On occasion, dissimilar soil types may be grouped for such reasons as borderline test results or insufficient quantities of in-situ material to economically justify separation during construction. These cases should be the exception, not the norm. Some engineering judgment must undoubtedly be used in stratifying soil types. All conclusions should be clearly explained and justified in the geotechnical report. In all cases, the soil stratifications must meet the approval of the District Geotechnical Engineer.

Once stratified, each stratum must be analyzed to define characteristics that may affect the design. Such characteristics include:

##### ***8.1.1 Limits of Unsuitable Materials***

The limits of all in-situ materials considered unsuitable for pavement

embankments should be defined and the effect of each material on roadway performance should be assessed. Refer to Standard Index 500 for requirements on excavation and replacement of these materials. In areas where complete excavation is not required but the potential for problems exists, possible solutions to be considered include stabilization with lime, cement, or flyash, placement of geotextile, surcharging, and combinations of these and other methods.

### **8.1.2 Limerock Bearing Ratio (LBR)**

When LBR testing is permitted by the State Materials Office for design purposes, a design LBR value should be chosen based on test results and the stratification of subsurface materials. The design value should be representative of actual field conditions. Two methods are applied to the LBR test data to account for variabilities in materials, moisture contents and field versus laboratory conditions. The design LBR is the lower of the values determined by each of the following two methods:

#### **8.1.2.1 $\pm 2\%$ of Optimum Method**

The LBR values corresponding to moisture contents 2% above and 2% below the moisture content of the maximum LBR value (Refer to [Table 13](#)). The average of these values is the design LBR value from this method. It may be substantially lower than the average of the maximum LBRs.

#### **8.1.2.2 90% Method**

Maximum LBR values are sorted into ascending or descending order. For each value, the percentage of values, which are equal to or greater than that value, is calculated. These percentages are plotted versus the maximum LBR values. The LBR value corresponding to 90% is used as the design value from this method (Refer to [Figure 30](#)). Thus, 90% of the individual tests results are equal to or greater than the design value derived from this method.

### **8.1.3 Resilient Modulus ( $M_r$ )**

If the resilient modulus is to be determined directly from laboratory testing (AASHTO T 307) for roadway embankment materials, a design resilient modulus shall be chosen based on test results at 11 psi bulk stress and the stratification of subsurface materials. The design value should be representative of actual field conditions.

The following method is generally applied to the  $M_r$  test data to account for variabilities in materials and to provide for an optimum pavement design (Reference 30): **90%  $M_r$  Method**

Resilient modulus values using AASHTO T 307 at 11 psi bulk stress are sorted into descending order. For each value, the percentage of values, which are equal to or greater than that value, is calculated. These percentages are plotted versus the  $M_r$  values. The  $M_r$  value corresponding to 90% is used as the design value. Thus, 90% of the individual tests result are equal to or greater than the design value.

#### ***8.1.4 Corrosivity***

Results of field and/or laboratory tests should be reviewed and the potential for corrosion of the various structure foundation and drainage system components should be assessed.

#### ***8.1.5 Drainage***

The permeability and infiltration rate of the embankment materials should be estimated based on test results or knowledge of the material characteristics. This data, along with data on the depth to groundwater, can then be used in assessing the need for and in designing drainage systems, including pavement underdrains and retention, detention, and infiltration ponds.

#### ***8.1.6 Earthwork Factors***

Truck and fill adjustment factors used in estimating earthwork quantities should be estimated based on local experience. See **Borrow Excavation (Truck Measure)** in the **Plans Preparation Manual** for example calculations using these factors

#### ***8.1.7 Other Considerations***

Other characteristics which can be detected from soil survey explorations and which can affect the roadway design include expansive soils, springs, sinkholes, potential grading problems due to the presence of rock, etc. The effect of these characteristics on roadway performance should be assessed.

### **8.2 Foundation Types**

As an absolute minimum, spread footings, driven piles and drilled shafts should be considered as potential foundation types for each structure. For sound barrier walls, auger-cast piles may be the preferred foundation. On some projects, one or more of these alternatives will be obviously not feasible for the subsurface conditions present. Analysis of design capacity should be based on SPT and/or cone penetrometer results, laboratory and/or in-situ strength tests, consolidation tests, and the results of instrumentation programs, if available.

Analyze all foundations in accordance with the latest requirements of the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications* except where specific requirements have been superseded by the Structures Design Guidelines or those contained herein. Particular attention shall be paid to deflections in the service limit state, especially for drilled shafts where large deflections may be required to satisfy the strength limit state.

### ***8.2.1 Spread Footings***

The use of spread footings is generally controlled by the depth to material of adequate bearing capacity and the potential for settlement of footings placed at this depth.

#### **8.2.1.1 Design Procedure**

References 3, 5, 6 and 24 offer good methods. Reference 6 was developed specifically for the Florida Department of Transportation.

#### **8.2.1.2 Considerations**

Varying depths of footings should be considered to achieve maximum economy of design. For water crossings, depth of scour will be a controlling factor, which may preclude consideration of spread footings. Settlement possibilities, including the amount of total settlement, rate of settlement, and the potential for differential settlement, should be addressed. Difficult conditions for dewatering and preparation of foundation soils should be addressed. Ground improvement methods which permit the use of spread footings in otherwise marginal cases (grouting, vibratory compaction, etc.) should be considered where their use might be more economical than deep foundations.

### ***8.2.2 Driven Piles***

Driven piles must be designed for axial and lateral loading conditions as applicable. The following types of driven piles are considered acceptable for supporting structural loads on permanent FDOT structures (depending on environmental restrictions): Steel H-piles, Steel Pipe Piles, Prestressed Concrete Piles larger than 18" square and Concrete Cylinder Piles of 54" or 60" diameter. Timber piles may be used for temporary bridges, however, steel piles are chosen more often by contractors. Other pile types and sizes may be considered for design-build projects and contractor's value added submittals.

#### **8.2.2.1 Design Procedure**

References 3, 6, 7 and 8 are all recommended. Reference 7 in particular gives an excellent overview of design procedures. The computer program FB-Deep is available for assessment of axial design capacity and the computer program FB-Pier is available for assessment of lateral design capacity and pile group settlement through the [Bridge Software Institute](#) (BSI). The Help Files for the FB-Deep & FB-Pier programs are both recommended references.

References 6, 7 & 32 are recommended for analyzing group effects. See Appendix C for a step by step design procedure for the analysis of downdrag.

#### **8.2.2.2 Considerations**

Various pile types and sizes should be analyzed to achieve an optimum

design. For water crossings, depth of scour must be considered for both axial and lateral load analyses. Address pile group effects, settlement and downdrag as applicable. Test pile locations should be recommended and the need for static and/or dynamic testing addressed. Consider the driveability of the piles. See the Structures Design Guidelines for load limits for driving of different pile sizes. References 5, 6, 7 & 32 are recommended for analyzing group effects. In FB-Deep analyses, code sand layers containing 30% (“Some” by ASTM D-2488) or greater quantities of shell as soil type 4.

On FDOT projects, steel pipe piles are normally driven closed end. In extremely aggressive conditions they are normally filled with reinforced concrete.

### **8.2.3 Drilled Shafts**

As with driven piles, drilled shafts must be designed considering both axial and lateral loads.

#### **8.2.3.1 Design Procedure for Major Structures**

Reference 9 is a comprehensive study. General foundation analysis considerations are further described below. The computer program FB-Deep is available for assessment of axial design capacity and the computer program FB-Pier is available for assessment of lateral design capacity and shaft group settlement through the [Bridge Software Institute](#) (BSI). The Help Files for the FB-Deep & FB-Pier programs are both recommended references.

Non-redundant drilled shaft bridge foundations shall have special design requirements as follows:

1. All shafts in non-redundant bridge foundations shall be a minimum of four feet in diameter.
2. Consider the effects of combined axial loads and moment to properly evaluate the geotechnical bearing resistance of the shaft and the effect on the distribution of the stresses across the shaft bottom. There is often sufficient horizontal reaction to resist moments in shafts embedded at least seven shaft diameters below the design ground surface.
3. The following plans note shall be included for all non-redundant drilled shaft foundations:

Inspect each drilled shaft excavation using a Shaft Inspection Device (SID) to ensure shaft cleanliness at the time of concrete placement.

Various drilled shaft sizes should be analyzed to achieve an optimum design. For water crossings, depth of scour must be considered. Allowable settlement and any anticipated construction problems should be considered. The method of construction (dry, slurry, or casing) should be addressed, as this will affect the side friction and end bearing values assumed during design. Both the unit side friction and mobilized end bearing values should be analyzed and presented. References 6, 7 & 32 are recommended for analyzing

group effects. See Appendix C for a step by step design procedure for the analysis of downdrag.

#### **8.2.3.2 Considerations**

In sand, drilled shafts with pressure grouted tips should be considered. Pressure grouted tips are most effective in loose to medium dense sands.

Load tests on test shafts should be specified when necessary to verify capacity and/or constructability. Reinforced test shafts (test holes) are always required for bridges, and their locations shall be specified in the plans. Refer to the Structures Design Guidelines for additional considerations.

#### **8.2.3.3 Design Procedure for Miscellaneous Structures**

Drilled shafts for miscellaneous structures must be designed considering both axial and lateral loads, however the design for lateral loads will normally govern. The controlling loading condition for miscellaneous structures is normally due to wind loading during the design storm event after several days of continuous rain would have occurred. Therefore, the design groundwater level is normally at the ground surface. When drilled shafts for miscellaneous structures will be founded in limestone, the guidelines in Appendix B for rock may be used.

### ***8.2.4 Auger-Cast Piles***

As with driven piles and drilled shafts, auger-cast piles must be designed considering both axial and lateral loads. However lateral loads typically govern when auger-cast-piles are used for sound wall foundations. All other uses require a design exception signed by the State Structures Design Engineer.

#### **8.2.4.1 Design Procedure**

Generic designs for sound barrier wall foundations are presented in Design Standards 5200 through 5206 for subgrade materials with effective unit weight = 50 pcf,  $\phi = 30^\circ$  &  $c = 0$ . If the site specific soil conditions are weaker than these values or if a site specific design is desired, auger-cast piles shall be designed in accordance with the procedure outlined in [Appendix B](#). Consult with the District Geotechnical Engineer for local guidelines regarding auger-cast piles.

### ***8.2.5 Micro Piles***

In special cases micro piles may be the preferred foundation system. This would typically be in cases of limited access at foundations that are to be strengthened.

#### **8.2.5.1 Design Procedure**

Reference 28 is a comprehensive study.

## **8.3 Foundation Analysis**

Along with an axial analysis (as outlined in the previous section) for deep foundations, the following factors must also be addressed.

### ***8.3.1 Lateral Loads***

Lateral load analyses for deep foundations shall be performed on all retaining structures and almost all bridges permitting navigation. The Structural Engineer using soil parameters provided by the Geotechnical Engineer shall perform the analyses for bridges. The Geotechnical Engineer shall check the final lateral load analysis for correct soil property application. The associated minimum tip elevations requirement (elevation where structure stability is achieved plus 5 feet {1.5 meters}) must be reviewed. Designs may need to be changed if lateral deflection is excessive. Reference 10 is recommended.

### ***8.3.2 Scour***

For structures over water, scour susceptibility may control the design. Design for scour requires coordination of efforts between the Hydraulics Engineer, Geotechnical Engineer, and the Structures Engineer. This multi-discipline effort, which is needed for the proper iterative procedure used for scour design, is described in the FDOT Structures Design Guidelines.

### ***8.3.3 Downdrag***

For piles driven through a soil layer(s) subject to consolidation, a load transfer (negative skin friction) occurs due to the consolidating soil settling around the pile. The downward forces created by this process are known as downdrag. The results of downdrag can be either excessive settlements or overstressing the pile if it is an end bearing pile.

Driving additional piles to carry these additional downdrag loads is expensive. To minimize the downdrag forces: (a) place the embankment fill and allow the compressible soil(s) to consolidate prior to driving, or (b) use a polyethylene wrap around the pile within the embankment fill placed after driving, or (c) bitumen coatings may be used to reduce the load transferred by the adjacent soil(s), but a means for protecting this coating during driving must be used. The Geotechnical Engineer shall provide the downdrag values along with recommended methods to reduce the effect of downdrag. See [Appendix C](#) or Reference 34 for a step by step design procedure for the analysis of downdrag.

### ***8.3.4 Construction Requirements***

This would identify any project specific requirements that may be required for constructability. This would include items like preaugering, jetting, vibration monitoring artesian water, etc. It would also identify any nearby structures and occupants usages that would be impacted from the installation of the foundations and special techniques required to minimize these impacts.



## **8.4 Embankment Settlement/Stability**

These factors should be addressed concurrently, as various options to solve settlement problems will also impact stability.

### **8.4.1 Settlement**

Settlement calculations should be based on the results of consolidation tests performed on high-quality samples. For embankments over soft soils requiring reinforcement, see Roadway and Traffic Design Standards Index 501 for standard details.

#### **8.4.1.1 Design Procedure**

References 3 and 11 are recommended.

#### **8.4.1.2 Considerations**

The results of consolidation calculations should be plotted on a time-settlement curve and included in the report. For high organic content materials (organic content greater than 50%), total settlement estimates should be based on primary consolidation and secondary compression (creep) settlements over the design life of the roadway. In these cases, creep estimates must be based on coefficient of secondary compression values obtained from laboratory consolidation test results. If excessive settlement over too lengthy a time period is predicted (the criteria can vary) the engineer must propose a method of dealing with the problem. Not every possible solution is applicable to every project because of constraints of construction time, stability, etc. The Geotechnical Engineer may also need to design and monitor a field instrumentation program.

#### **8.4.1.3 Possible Solutions**

1. Reduce fill height. This is seldom practical except in planning phase.
2. Provide waiting period to allow for the majority of consolidation to occur.
3. Increase surcharge height.
4. Use a lightweight fill.
5. Install wick drains within the compressible material to be surcharged.
6. Excavate soft compressible material and backfill with granular soil.
7. Ground modification such as stone columns, dynamic compaction, etc.
8. Deep soil mixing.
9. Combinations of some of the above.

### **8.4.2 Stability**

Stability analyses are performed based on the results of in-situ strength tests and/or laboratory strength tests on high quality samples. A range of possible

material strengths is often considered, thus providing the engineer with a range of soil resistance from which to judge the stability of the slope. Any construction or utility placement that will require trenching or excavation will need a stability analysis. LRFD slope stability analyses shall be based on a resistance factor of 0.75 at any time the slope will support or impact traffic. A slope supporting structures shall be based on a resistance factors of 0.65 or lower in accordance with the current AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications.

#### **8.4.2.1 Design Procedure**

References 3 and 20 are recommended. Various computer programs are available to assist in the analysis.

#### **8.4.2.2 Considerations**

Soil resistance should be calculated for all possible slope conditions (i.e., surcharge loading, varying fill heights and/or slopes, varying water tables, etc.) for the service limit state. The engineer must design a method of dealing with potential stability problems and may need to design and monitor a field instrumentation program.

#### **8.4.2.3 Possible Solutions**

1. Realign highway.
2. Reduce fill height.

Note: These first two solutions are seldom practical unless the problem is identified early in the planning phase.

3. Flatten slope (Right of way requirements?).
4. Staged construction, to allow soft soil to gain strength through consolidation.
5. Excavate and replace soft soils.
6. Include geotextile or geogrid within the embankment.
7. Place berms at toe.
8. Use lightweight fills.
9. Ground modification such as stone columns, dynamic compaction, etc.
10. Using obstructions to keep vehicles from parking on or approaching the crest of the slope.
11. Installing an underdrain system to depress the phreatic surface in the slope.
12. Constructing a trench at the top of the slope to divert surface water from the slope face.
13. Combinations of the above.

## **8.5 Retaining Wall Design**

All retaining walls; including gravity walls, cantilever walls, crib walls, and mechanically stabilized earth (MSE) walls and soil nail walls; must be designed in accordance with the current AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications (except as noted in the FDOT Structures Design Guidelines and the FDOT Plans Preparation Manual) with adequate soil resistance against bearing, sliding, overturning, and overall stability. A design analysis is still required when standard index walls are used on a project.

### **8.5.1 Gravity Walls**

#### **8.5.1.1 Design Procedure**

Reference 5 is recommended.

#### **8.5.1.2 Consideration**

All gravity walls including those taken from the standard indexes should be checked for stability. (The standard index for gravity walls may be found on the FDOT Roadway Design Office webpage.) These walls are sensitive to differential settlements so they must be carefully checked. Refer to the FDOT Structures Design Guidelines and the FDOT Plans Preparation Manual for procedures on design of walls.

### **8.5.2 Counterfort Walls**

#### **8.5.2.1 Design Procedure**

References 32, 5, 15, and 31 are recommended for Counterfort walls.

#### **8.5.2.2 Consideration**

This type of wall is typically not as economical as an MSE wall but it is competitive with other walls. It can be used in extremely aggressive environments. Speed of construction is another advantage in congested areas. Refer to the FDOT Structures Design Guidelines and the FDOT Plans Preparation Manual for procedures on design of walls.

### **8.5.3 MSE Walls**

#### **8.5.3.1 Design Procedure**

References 32, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 are recommended for MSE walls.

#### **8.5.3.2 Consideration**

The use of proprietary MSE wall systems is growing more common as right-of-ways become limited and congestion grows. FDOT maintains standard indices of wall systems pre-approved for use as permanent and critical temporary walls.

For all proprietary systems, the Geotechnical Engineer is responsible for external stability and assuring that the design is compatible with the actual

subsurface conditions. The system proprietor is responsible for internal stability. Control drawings will be provided to the proprietary wall companies, which indicate the minimum lengths of reinforcement required for external stability. Drawings produced by the proprietor will show the actual reinforcement lengths required. These lengths will be the longer of those required for external stability, as given by the Geotechnical Engineer, and those required for internal stability, as calculated by the proprietor. Refer to the FDOT Structures Design Guidelines and the FDOT Plans Preparation Manual for procedures on design of proprietary walls.

#### ***8.5.4 Sheet Pile Walls***

##### **8.5.4.1 Design Procedure**

Refer to the FDOT Structures Design Guidelines and the FDOT Plans Preparation Manual for procedures on design of walls.

##### **8.5.4.2 Consideration**

The engineer is responsible for all permanent sheet pile walls and all temporary sheet pile walls considered critical. When coatings will be used on wall panels, ensure the reduction in friction between the wall panel and the soil is properly considered; assume zero friction when a bitumen coating or coal tar epoxy is used. Cofferdam excavation design, should consider flow nets to determine exceedance pressure, etc. to determine sheet pile penetration depth.

Consider preforming and other installation effects on the resulting friction between the wall panel and the soil or rock.

#### ***8.5.5 Soil Nail Walls***

##### **8.5.5.1 Design Procedure**

Reference 25 is recommended for soil nail walls.

##### **8.5.2 Consideration**

Refer to the FDOT Structures Design Guidelines and the FDOT Plans Preparation Manual for procedures on design of walls.

#### ***8.5.6 Soldier Pile/Panel Walls***

##### **8.5.6.1 Design Procedure**

The analysis and design of soldier piles is different from sheet pile walls because the failure of individual pile elements is different from continuous walls. The failure mechanism of the individual pile is analogous to a bearing failure in front of the pile; the total resistance force assumes the pile has an effective width of 3B (or three times the width of the pile) for all types of soil. The bearing resistance pressures for cohesive soils are considered to be uniform with a magnitude of  $2c$  (two times the cohesion) neglecting the soil resistance of 1.5 times the pile width (B) from the bottom of excavation. For

granular soils, determine  $K_p$  without wall friction and neglect the soil resistance to a depth equal to one B below the bottom of excavation. References 32, 5, 15, and 31 are recommended for Soldier Pile/Panel walls.

#### **8.5.6.2 Consideration**

Soldier pile and lagging walls usually consist of steel H-piles and horizontal lagging and are primarily used for top-down construction. Soldier pile walls can be cantilevered or anchored, temporary or permanent. For permanent applications in Florida, concrete pile and panel lagging is usually preferred. Soldier Pile/Panel walls should be considered in locations where sheet pile walls are needed, however, sheet pile installation difficulties are expected. Refer to the FDOT Structures Design Guidelines and the FDOT Plans Preparation Manual for procedures on design of walls.

### **8.6 Steepened Slopes**

All steepened slopes must be designed for external stability including all failure possibilities such as sliding, deep-seated overall instability, local bearing capacity failure at the toe (lateral squeeze), and excessive settlement from both short- and long-term conditions. Reinforcement requirements must be designed to adequately account for the internal stability of the slope. See Roadway and Traffic Design Standards Index 501 for standard details.

#### **8.6.1 Design Procedure**

References 13, 17 and 32 are recommended.

**Table 2, Geotechnical Engineering Analysis Required in Reference 1 for Embankments, Cut Slopes, Structure Foundations and Retaining Walls**

Soil Classification		Embankment and Cut Slopes		Structure Foundations (Bridges and Retaining Structures)		Retaining Structures (Conventional, Crib and MSE)	
Unified	AASHTO <sup>1</sup>	Soil Type	Slope Stability <sup>2</sup> Analysis	Settlement Analysis	Bearing Capacity Analysis	Settlement Analysis	Lateral Earth Pressure
GW	A-1-a	GRAVEL	Generally not required if cut or fill slope is 1.5H to 1V or flatter, and underdrains are used to draw down the water table in a cut slope.  Erosion of slopes may be a problem for SW or SM soils.	Generally not required except possibly for SC soils.	Required for spread footings, pile or drilled shaft foundations.	Generally not needed except for SC soils or for large, heavy structures.	GW, SP, SW & SP soils generally suitable for backfill behind or in retaining or reinforced soil walls.
GP	A-1-a	Well-graded GRAVEL					
GM	A-1-b	Poorly-graded GRAVEL					
GC	A-2-6	Silty GRAVEL					
SW	A-2-7	Clayey SAND					
SP	A-1-b	Well-graded SAND					
SM	A-3	Poorly-graded SAND					
SC	A-2-4	Silty SAND	Required unless non-plastic, Erosion of slopes may be a problem.	Required unless non-plastic.	Spread footings generally adequate except possibly for SC soils	Empirical correlations with SPT values usually used to estimate settlement	GM, GC, SM & SC soils generally suitable if have less than 15% fines.
	A-2-5	Clayey SAND					
	A-2-6						
	A-2-7						
ML	A-4	SILT Inorganic silt Sandy		Required unless non-plastic.	Required. Spread footing generally adequate.	Required. Can use SPT values if non-plastic.	Lateral earth pressure analysis required using soil angle of internal friction.
CL	A-6	CLAY Inorganic Lean Clay	Required	Required			These soils are not recommended for use directly behind or in retaining or reinforced soil walls.
OL	A-4	SILT Organic	Required	Required			

**Table 3, Geotechnical Engineering Analysis Required in Reference 1(Continued)**

Soil Classification		Embankment and Cut Slopes		Structure Foundations (Bridges and Retaining Structures)		Retaining Structures (Conventional, Crib and MSE)	
Unified	AASHTO <sup>1</sup>	Soil Type	Slope Stability <sup>2</sup> Analysis	Settlement Analysis	Bearing Capacity Analysis	Settlement Analysis	Stability Analysis
MH	A-5	SILT Inorganic	Required. Erosion of slopes may be a problem.	Required.	Required.	Required.	These soils are not recommended for use directly behind or in retaining walls.
CH	A-7	CLAY Inorganic Fat Clay	Required.	Required.	Deep foundation generally required unless soil has been preloaded.	Consolidation test data needed to estimate settlement amount and time.	All walls should be designed to provide minimum F.S. = 2 against overturning & F.S. = 1.5 against sliding along base.
OH	A-7	CLAY Organic	Required.	Required.	Deep foundation required unless peat excavated and replaced.	Highly compressible and not suitable for foundation support	External slope stability considerations same as previously given for cut slopes & embankments
PT	----	PEAT Muck	Required.	Required. Long term settlement can be significant			
Rock			Fills – not required for slopes 1.5H to 1V or flatter. Cuts – required but depends on spacing, orientation and strength of discontinuities and durability of rock	Required for spread footings or drilled shafts. Empirically related to RQD <sup>3</sup>	Required where rock is badly weathered or closely fractured (low RQD). May require in situ test such as pressuremeter.	Required. Use rock backfill angle of internal friction.	
REMARKS:							
Soils – temporary ground water control may be needed for foundation excavations in GW through SM soils.							
Backfill specifications for reinforced soil walls using metal reinforcements should meet the following requirements in insure use of non-corrosive backfill: pH range = 5 to 10; Resistivity > 3000 ohm-cm; Chlorides < 100 ppm; Sulfates < 200 ppm; Organic content 1% maximum							
Rock – Durability of shales (siltstone, claystone, mudstone, etc.) to be used in fills should be checked. Non-durable shales should be embanked as soils, i.e., placed in maximum 0.3 m (1 ft) loose lifts and compacted with heavy sheepsfoot or grid rollers.							

## 8.7 Computer Programs used in FDOT

**Table 4, Driven Piles**

FB-Deep	Bridge Software Institute <a href="http://bsi-web.ce.ufl.edu/">http://bsi-web.ce.ufl.edu/</a>	Computes static pile capacities based on SPT or CPT data. Used for precast concrete, concrete cylinder, steel H- or steel pipe piles, and drilled shafts.
WEAP	Gobel, G.G. & Rausche, Frank, WEAP 87, Wave Equation Analysis of Pile Foundations, Volumes I-V, FHWA, 1987.	Dynamic analysis of pile capacity and drivability.
PILE LOAD TEST DATA BASE	University of Florida, FDOT	Database consisting of results from in-situ tests and load tests. The program Access is used to review the data.

**Table 5, Drilled Shafts**

FB-Deep	Bridge Software Institute <a href="http://bsi-web.ce.ufl.edu/">http://bsi-web.ce.ufl.edu/</a>	Computes static drilled shaft and driven pile capacities based on SPT or CPT data.
Drilled Shaft Axial Load Test Database	University of Florida, FDOT	Data Consisting of results from in-situ tests and load tests. Requires Access database program.

**Table 6, Lateral Loads**

FB-Pier FB-MultiPier	Bridge Software Institute <a href="http://bsi-web.ce.ufl.edu/">http://bsi-web.ce.ufl.edu/</a>	The Lateral Pile Group Structural Analysis Program is a 3-D nonlinear substructure analysis program.
COM624P	COM624P - Laterally Loaded Pile Analysis Program for the Microcomputer, Version 2.0, FHWA-SA-91-048, 1993. <a href="http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/software.HTM">http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/software.HTM</a>	Computes deflections and stresses for laterally loaded piles and drilled shafts.



LPIle	Ensoft	Computes deflections and stresses for laterally loaded piles and drilled shafts.
Lateral Load Test Database	University of Florida	Database of lateral load tests. Database uses Excel.

**Table 7, Spread Footings**

CBEAR	CBEAR Users Manual, FHWA-SA-94-034, 1996. <a href="http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/software.HTM">http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/software.HTM</a>	Computes ultimate bearing capacity of spread or continuous footings on layered soil profiles.
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**Table 8, Sheet Piling**

CWALSHT	Dawkins, William P., <u>Users Guide: Computer Program For Design and Analysis of Sheet Pile Walls by Classical Methods</u> , Waterways Experiment Station, 1991.	Design and analysis of either anchored or cantilevered sheet pile retaining walls. Moments, shear, and deflection are shown graphically. Analysis of anchored walls does not follow AASHTO requirements.
Shoring	Civil Tech, <u>CT-SHORING WINDOWS 3.X, 95, NT VERSION Users Manual</u>	Excavation supporting system design and analysis.
SPW 911	Pile Buck International, Inc. P.O. Box 64-3609 Vero Beach, FL, 32964-3299 <a href="mailto:info@pilebuckinternational.com">info@pilebuckinternational.com</a>	Care must be exercised to ensure analyses are in accordance with the AASHTO code earth pressure diagrams. Program may mix methods when inappropriate values are changed. Use Coulomb method.

**Table 9, Slope Stability**

PCSTABL	<u>PC-STABL5M Users Manual</u> , FHWA, 1990.  <u>PC-STABL6 Users Manual</u> , FHWA, 1990.	Calculates factor of safety against rotational, irregular, or sliding wedge failure by simplified Bishop or Janbu, or Spencer method of slices. Version 6 is used for embankments w/reinforcement by simplified Bishop method.
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RSS	<u>RSS Reinforced Slope Stability</u> <u>A Mircocomputer Program</u> <u>User's Manual</u> , FHWA-SA-96-039, 1997 <a href="http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/software.HTM">http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/software.HTM</a>	A computer program for the design and analysis of reinforced soil slopes (RSS Reinforced Slope Stability). This program analyzes and designs soil slopes strengthened with horizontal reinforcement, as well as analyzing unreinforced soil slopes. The analysis is performed using a two-dimensional limit equilibrium method.
XSTABL	Interactive Software Designs, Inc., <u>XSTABL An Integrated Slope Stability Analysis Program for Personal Computers</u> <u>Reference Manual</u> .	Program performs a two dimensional limit equilibrium analysis to compute the factor of safety for a layered slope using the modified Bishop or Janbu methods.

**Table 10, Embankment Settlement**

FOSSA	<u>EMBANK Users Manual</u> , FHWA-SA-92-045, 1993.	Calculates compression settlement due embankment loads.
DILLY	University of Florida, McTrans Transportation Research Center, 1989.	Reduces data from dilatometer tests and calculates settlements of footings and embankments.

**Table 11, Soil Nailing**

GoldNail	Golder Associates, <u>GoldNail A Stability Analysis Computer Program for Soil Nail Wall Design Reference Manual Version 3.11</u>	The program is a slip-surface, limiting-equilibrium, slope-stability model based on satisfying overall limiting equilibrium (translational and rotational) of individual free bodies defined by circular slip surfaces. GoldNail can analyze slopes with and without soil nail reinforcement or structural facing.
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**Table 12, Walls and Steepened Slopes**

MSEW 3.0	ADAMA Engineering, Inc., <u>Mechanically Stabilized Earth Walls Software Version 3.0</u>	The program can be applied to walls reinforced with geogrids, geotextiles, wire mesh, or metal strips. It allows for reduction factors associated with polymeric reinforcement or for corrosion of metallic reinforcement.
ReSSA	Reinforced Steepened Slopes	A computer program for the design and analysis of reinforced soil slopes (RSS Reinforced Slope Stability). This program analyzes and designs soil slopes strengthened with horizontal reinforcement, as well as analyzing unreinforced soil slopes. The analysis is performed using a two dimensional limit equilibrium method.

MSE LRFD	FDOT Structures Design Office <a href="http://www.dot.state.fl.us/structures/proglib.shtm">http://www.dot.state.fl.us/structures/proglib.shtm</a> (See Note 3)	An Excel spreadsheet for external stability analysis of MSE walls by LRFD methods.
Cantilever LRFD	FDOT Structures Design Office <a href="http://www.dot.state.fl.us/structures/proglib.shtm">http://www.dot.state.fl.us/structures/proglib.shtm</a> (See Note 3)	An Excel spreadsheet for external stability analysis of cantilever retaining walls by LRFD methods.

NOTE:

- 1) The programs included in this list are generally available from public sources. Many additional programs, which perform similar tasks, can be obtained from the private sector.
- 2) Many of the programs listed are continually updated or revised. It is the user's responsibility to become familiarize with the latest versions.
- 3) FDOT's programs are available on the FDOT's Structures Internet site. The address is: <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/structures/proglib.shtm> . Geotechnical programs are listed below the table of structural engineering/design programs
- 4) **Programs not listed require approval from the State Geotechnical Engineer**

**Table 13, Example  $\pm 2\%$  of Optimum Method Calculation**

TEST NO.	MAXIMUM LBR	LBR AT MOISTURE CONTENTS: (OF OPTIMUM LBR)	
		- 2%	+ 2%
1	165	30	18
2	35	25	25
3	64	60	45
4	35	12	8
5	85	20	45
6	55	45	20
7	33	7	10
MEAN LBR VALUE:	67.42	28.42	24.43
AVERAGE = 26.42 (26) => DESIGN LBR = 26			

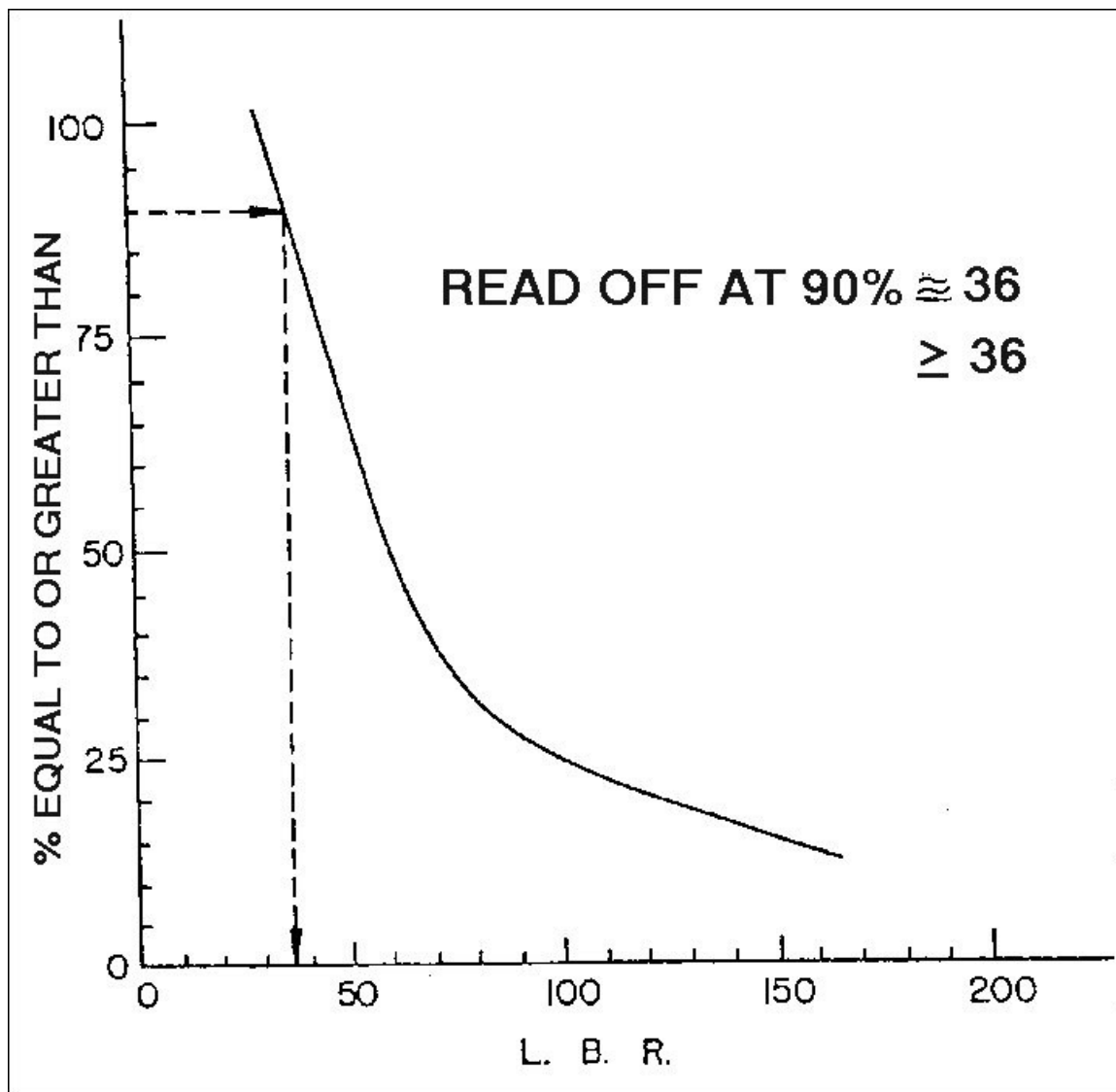


Figure 30, Design Example 1 (LBR Design Methods) 90% Method

## 8.8 References

1. “Checklist and Guidelines for Review of Geotechnical Reports and Preliminary Plans and Specifications”, Federal Highway Administration, 1985.
2. Roadway and Traffic Design Standards, Florida Department of Transportation, (Current version).
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## **Chapter 9**

### **9 Presentation of Geotechnical Information**

Upon completion of the subsurface investigation and analysis, the information obtained must be compiled in a report format that is clear and easy to follow. This report will serve as the permanent record of all geotechnical data known during design of the project, and it will be referenced throughout the design, construction and service life of the project. It is perhaps the most critical function of the geotechnical process.

The geotechnical report shall present the data collected in a clear manner, draw conclusions from the data and make recommendations for the geotechnical related portions of the project. The format and contents of the geotechnical report are somewhat dependent on the type of project. Most projects will generally require either a roadway soil survey or a structure related foundation investigation, or both. For reports prepared by consultants, the basis for the consultants' recommendations shall be documented in the report and retained. The department's final decision may be documented separately (i.e., in letter form to the structures engineer in charge of the project).

This chapter describes the format for presentation of geotechnical data for each type of project. General outlines of the topics to be discussed in the geotechnical report are presented. For any given project, certain items may be unnecessary while other items will need to be added. Also included in this chapter are discussions on the finalization and distribution of the geotechnical report and on the incorporation of its recommendations into the design.

#### **9.1 Roadway Soil Survey**

The geotechnical report for a roadway soil survey presents conclusions and recommendations concerning the suitability of in-situ materials for use as embankment materials. Special problems affecting roadway design, such as slope stability or excessive settlement may also be discussed if applicable. The following is a general outline of the topics, which should be included.

##### **9.1.1 General Information**

- a. List of information provided to the geotechnical consultant (alignment, foundation layout, 30% plans, scour estimate, etc.).
- b. Description of the project, including location, type, and any design assumptions.
- c. Description of significant geologic and topographic features of the site.
- d. Description of width, composition, and condition of existing roadway.
- e. Description of methods used during the subsurface explorations, in-situ testing, and laboratory testing.
- f. Soil conservation (NRCS/USDA) and USGS maps.
- g. Provide the make and model of the GPS unit used to determine the Latitude and Longitude coordinates of borings, bulk samples, muck probe areas, etc.

### ***9.1.2 Conclusion and Recommendations***

- a. Provide an explanation of stratification of in-situ materials including observed groundwater level and estimated seasonal high/low groundwater levels.
- b. Evaluate the strength and extent of unsuitable soils within the proposed alignment including their probable effect on roadway performance. Indicate the anticipated horizontal and vertical extent of removal of unsuitable materials. Provide recommendations for special construction considerations, to minimize anticipated problems.
- c. Provide a recommended design LBR based on the most conservative value from either the 90% Method or the  $\pm 2\%$  of Optimum LBR Method.
- d. Provide estimated soil drainage characteristics and permeability or infiltration rates. In the case of rigid pavement design, include average laboratory permeability values for each stratum based on the requirements given in the Rigid Pavement Design Manual.
- e. Provide recommendations for cut or fill sections when seepage, stability or settlements are significant.
- f. Provide recommendations and considerations for any proposed walls.
- g. Provide recommendations and considerations for any proposed storm water retention ponds.
- h. Provide recommendations to minimize the effects of roadway construction (vibratory rollers, utility excavations, sheet pile installation, etc.) on surrounding structures and on the usage of those structures.

### ***9.1.3 Roadway Soils Survey (Report of Tests) Sheet***

This sheet presents a material description and results of classification and corrosivity tests for each stratum. Recommendations for material utilization in accordance with Standard Indexes 500 and 505 are provided. Visual classification of muck is not sufficient; present organic and moisture content test results. The number of lab tests performed for each stratum shall be included for corrosion tests results as well as classification tests. Include the range of result values of all tests performed for each stratum. Round all test values except pH to the most appropriate whole number; round pH test results to one decimal place. The Report of Tests Sheet is included in the report and the construction plans. [Figure 31](#) is an example of a typical test results sheet.

### ***9.1.4 Roadway Cross Sections***

Stratified boring logs are plotted on the cross section sheets included in the construction plans. Each material stratum is numbered corresponding to the strata on the test results sheet. [Figure 32](#) is an example of a typical cross sections sheet. If cross sections sheets are to be prepared by others, the appropriate subsurface information should be provided. The Geotechnical Engineer shall verify that the data has been correctly incorporated.

The anticipated horizontal and vertical limits for removal of unsuitable materials shall be indicated on the cross sections.

## **9.2 Structures Investigation**

### **9.2.1 Introduction**

The geotechnical report for a structure presents the conclusions and recommendations for the most suitable foundation types and information required for incorporating such foundations into the design of the structure. Recommendations for related work, such as approach embankments and retaining walls, are also included. Special construction considerations are noted. Items stated in the FDOT Specification 455 shall not be repeated and copied into the report. Only the site-specific items should be recommended for the special provisions. The following is a general guide to the contents of a typical structure foundation report.

### **9.2.2 Scope of Investigation**

- a. Description of type of project, location of project, and any assumptions related to the project.
- b. Vicinity map, including potentiometric map, USGS and soil survey maps (NRCS/USDA), depicting project location.
- c. Summary of general content of report.

### **9.2.3 Interpretation of Subsurface Conditions**

- a. Description of the methods used in the field investigation, including the types and frequencies of all in-situ tests.
- b. Description of the laboratory-testing phase, including any special test methods employed.
- c. Boring location plan and plots of boring logs and cone soundings. See [Figure 33](#) and [Figure 34](#) for examples of Report of Core Borings and Report of Cone Soundings sheets. Provide the longitude and latitude of each boring or sounding below the station, offset and elevation on the Report of Core Borings and Report of Cone Soundings sheets. Use the standard soil type symbols shown in [Figure 35](#) when plotting boring logs. Note the size of rock core sampled, and the minimum acceptable rock core diameter to be used shall be 2.4 inch (although 4 inch diameter rock cores are preferable). Provide the make and model of the GPS unit used to determine the Latitude and Longitude coordinates of borings, bulk samples, muck probe areas, etc.

These sheets are included in the final plans; see the **Core Borings** section of the *FDOT Structures Detailing Manual* for additional requirements for these sheets.

- d. Estimated depths of scour (usually determined by the Hydraulics Engineer), if applicable.
- e. Environmental class for both substructure and superstructure, based on results of corrosivity tests. This information is also reported on the Report of Core

Borings sheet. For extremely aggressive classification note what parameter placed it in that category.

- f. Summary table of soil parameters determined from field and laboratory testing.
- g. Table of soil parameters to use with computer modeling (such as the FB-Pier or FB-MultiPier program). These parameters can be broken up into zones across the bridge length.
- h. Recommendations and considerations for any proposed walls. MSE or cast-in-place wall recommendations.

#### **9.2.4 Existing Structures Survey and Evaluation**

Structures in close proximity to construction activities should be evaluated for potential damages caused by these activities. The usage of the structures should also be included in this evaluation. This needs to happen early in the design process. Vibration, settlement, noise and any other damaging results of these construction activities should be considered in the evaluation. When warranted, the recommendations should include possible means of reducing the damaging effects of the construction activity, such as time restraints on certain operations, underpinning, monitoring, or even purchasing of the property. [Table 14](#) shows what is needed in a report. [Table 15](#) and the notes that follow are examples of what may be shown on the plan sheets.

Where there is a potential impact on existing structures in the surrounding area, the report should include the structure's address, type of construction, the estimated vibration level that may cause damage, the usage (storage building, hospital, etc.), what the potential problem may be and what actions should be taken to minimize the impact.

**Table 14, Example Existing Structures Evaluation Table for Geotechnical Report**

<b>Address</b>	<b>Structure Type</b>	<b>Structure Usage</b>	<b>Potential Problem</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
230 Walnut Street	Concrete	Storage Units	Damage from vibration	Vibration monitoring during installation of piers 3 – 7.
235 Walnut Street	Brick	House	Damage from vibration	Vibration monitoring during installation of piers 13 – 14.
238 Spruce Ave.	Concrete	Hotel	Noise	Limit pile drive from 9 am to 7 pm
245 Spruce Ave.	Stucco	House	Vibration causing cracking of stucco	Pre & Post survey, repair any new cracks.

**Table 15, Example Plans Note and Table for Existing Structures**

Address	Structure Type	Structure Usage	Recommendation
230 Walnut Street	Concrete	Storage Units	Perform vibration and settlement monitoring during the installation of piers 3-7
235 Walnut Street	Brick	House	Perform vibration and settlement monitoring during the installation of piers 13-14

Typical Notes:

Noise Restrictions: The contractor shall strictly adhere to all local noise ordinances. All pile driving operations shall be limited to the hours of 7:00 am to 6 pm. Methods of maintaining construction noise levels may include but not be limited to temporary noise barriers, enclosures for equipment, mufflers, etc. There will be no separate payment for any of these measures.

Vibration: The contractor shall provide surveys and settlement/vibration monitoring of the existing structures listed, as per FDOT Standard Specifications. The cost of all vibration monitoring as required here and specified in Section 455 shall be paid for under Pay Item No. 455-18, Protection of Existing Structures.

#### ***9.2.5 Structure Foundation Analysis and Recommendations***

Alternate foundation recommendations should be provided for all structures including recommendations for spread footings, driven piles, and drilled shafts. An explanation should be included for any of these alternates judged not to be feasible. The types of analyses performed should be summarized.

##### **9.2.5.1 Spread Footings**

1. Summarize evaluation including reason(s) for selections and/or exclusions.
2. Elevation of bottom of footing or depth to competent bearing material.
3. Design soil pressure based on settlement and bearing capacity.
4. Estimated short and long term settlements assuming spread footings are constructed in accordance with Specification 455.
5. Soil improvement method(s).
6. Recommendations for technical special provisions for footing construction, including compaction requirements and the need for particular construction methods such as dewatering or proof rolling in addition to the Specification 455 requirements. Estimate the reduction in settlements anticipated resulting from these special requirements.
7. Sinkhole potential.

##### **9.2.5.2 Driven Piles**

1. Suitable pile types and reasons for design selections and exclusions.
2. Plotted design curves of soil resistance for selected pile size alternates. Plotted curves should present the Davisson capacity, ultimate skin friction and mobilized end bearing versus pile tip elevation for the

existing soil profile. The Davisson capacity is equivalent to the LRFD's nominal resistance ( $Q_n$ ).

Unless otherwise specified, separate pile analyses for recommended pile sizes are to be performed for each SPT boring and/or CPT sounding. A corresponding pile capacity curve for each analysis must also be provided. When more than one boring is taken at a pile group or when it is appropriate to otherwise generalize the soil strata, the corresponding pile capacity curves are to be shown on the same plot and a recommended relationship established for that particular structure(s).

3. Estimated elevation of consistent bearing layer suitable for providing the required nominal driving resistance.
4. Recommendations for minimum pile length or bearing elevation to minimize post-construction settlements, if applicable.
5. Minimum pile spacing shall be at least three times the width of the pile used.
6. Estimated pile settlement and pile group settlement.
7. Effects of scour, downdrag, and lateral squeeze, if applicable.
8. Estimated maximum driving resistance to be encountered in reaching the minimum tip elevation. If the FB-Deep ultimate bearing capacity computed at or above the minimum tip elevation exceeds the maximum ultimate resistance defined in the Structures Design Guideline for the pile size(s) used, determine the preforming or jetting elevations required to reduce the driving resistance to an acceptable magnitude. Provide additional capacity curves required by the FDOT Structures Design Guidelines separately.
9. Recommended locations of test piles and pile installation criteria for dynamic monitoring.
10. Selection of load test types, locations and depths where applicable. For static, Statnamic or Osterberg load testing, the ultimate load the test should be taken to must be shown in the plans for LRFD designs, the greater of 2 times the factored design load or the design nominal resistance)
11. Recommendations for special provisions for pile installation (special needs or restrictions). Special construction techniques may be needed to minimize the effects of foundation installation discussed in **Section 9.2.4**.
12. Present recommendations for information to be placed in the Pile Data Table shown in the FDOT Structures Design Guidelines.
13. Present soil parameters to be used for lateral analysis accounting for installation techniques and scour. The Geotechnical Engineer shall check the final lateral load analyses for correct soil property application.
14. On small projects with reasonably predictable bearing layers, provide the

production pile lengths in the Pile Data Table for each bent rather than test pile lengths.

15. Provide notes requiring dynamic load tests on an adequate number of production piles to verify hammer performance and determine production pile installation criteria for all projects with predetermined pile lengths.

#### **9.2.5.3 Drilled Shafts**

1. Include plots of resistance versus tip elevation for selected alternate shaft sizes. Plots should be developed for both factored ( $Q_r$ ) and nominal ( $Q_n$ ) resistance and should show end bearing, skin friction and total resistance (end bearing shall not be discounted). Depths of scour analyzed should be included.
2. Unless otherwise specified, separate shaft analyses for the recommended shaft sizes are to be performed for each SPT boring and/or CPT sounding. Provide resistance versus tip elevation curves for each analysis. When more than one boring is taken at a shaft group or when it is appropriate to otherwise generalize the soil strata, the corresponding resistance versus tip elevation curves are to be shown on the same plot and a recommended relationship established for that particular structure(s). Indicate the unit skin friction and end bearing values used for the analyses. Ensure socket lengths are sufficient to prevent punching shear failure in cases where the foundation is anticipated to tip in a strong layer underlain by weaker layer.
3. Provide recommendations for minimum shaft length or bearing elevation, for shaft diameter, and design soil resistance. The minimum socket length should be indicated, if applicable (non-lateral).
4. Minimum shaft spacing or influence of group effects on capacity.
5. Effects of scour, downdrag, and lateral squeeze, if any.
6. Estimate drilled shaft settlement and shaft group settlement.
7. Recommend test types, locations and depths. For static, Statnamic or Osterberg load testing, the ultimate load the test should be taken to must be shown in the plans (for LRFD designs, the greater of 2 times the factored design load or the nominal resistance).
8. Evaluate the need for technical special provisions for shaft installation (special needs or restrictions). Special construction techniques may be needed to minimize the effects of foundation installation discussed in **Section 9.2.4**.
9. Present recommendations for information to be placed in the Drilled Shaft Data Table shown in the FDOT Structures Design Guidelines.
10. Include the potentiometric Surface Map information.
11. Present soil/rock parameters to be used for lateral analysis accounting for installation techniques and scour. The Geotechnical Engineer shall check the final lateral load analysis for correct soil/rock property application.



### ***9.2.6 Approach Embankments Considerations***

#### **9.2.6.1 Settlement**

1. Estimated magnitude and rate of settlement.
2. Evaluation of possible alternatives if magnitude or time required for settlement is excessive and recommended treatment based on economic analysis, time and environmental constraints.
3. If surcharge is required, maintain surcharge load until at least 90% of total expected settlement has occurred.

#### **9.2.6.2 Stability**

1. Estimated overall stability using the latest AASHTO LRFD resistance factors.
2. Evaluation of possible treatment alternatives if required resistance is not provided. Recommended treatment based on economic analysis, time and environmental constraints.
3. Verify stability for fully saturated conditions.

#### **9.2.6.3 Construction Considerations**

1. Special fill requirements and drainage at abutment walls.
2. Construction monitoring program.
3. Recommendations for special provisions for embankment construction.

### ***9.2.7 Retaining Walls and Seawalls***

- a. Settlement potential
- b. Recommended lateral earth pressure parameters.
- c. Recommended wall type according to FDOT Plans Preparation Manual Volume 1 Sections 30.2.3, 30.2.4 and Flowchart, and Design Standard Index 5300.
- d. Factored soil resistance or alternate foundation recommendations.
- e. Factored soil resistance and loads with respect to sliding and overturning (including standard index wall designs).
- f. Overall stability of walls.
- g. Recommendations for special provisions for fill material (except MSE walls), drainage.
- h. Special considerations for tiebacks, geotextiles, reinforcing materials, etc., if applicable.
- i. MSE reinforcement lengths required for external stability, if applicable. See the FDOT Structures Design Guidelines and the FDOT Plans Preparation Manual for details.

### ***9.2.8 Steepened Slopes***

- a. Estimated resistance factor against internal and external stability failure based on LRFD .
- b. Spacing and lengths of reinforcement to provide a stable slope.
- c. Design parameters for reinforcement (design strength, durability criteria, and soil-reinforcement interaction). (See Roadway and Traffic Design Standards Index 501)
- d. Fill material properties.
- e. Special drainage considerations (subsurface and surface water runoff control).
- f. Verify stability for fully saturated conditions.

### **9.2.9 Technical Special Provisions**

Technical Special Provisions (TSP's) shall be used to change the Standard Specifications for a project only when extraordinary, project specific conditions exist.

The department has available a number of Technical Special Provisions for various items of work tailored to previous projects. These Technical Special Provisions can be obtained from the District Geotechnical Engineer or <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/geotechnical/>.

TSP's obtained from the Department were tailored to reflect the specific needs of a project, and they will need to be revised to reflect the needs of your specific project.

### **9.2.10 Appendix**

All structure investigation reports shall include an appendix, containing the following information:

- a. Report of Core Boring Sheets. (See [Figure 33](#) & [Figure 35](#)) (Note the FDOT Geotechnical CADD Standard menu is available for Microstation.)
- b. Report of Cone Sounding Sheet. (See [Figure 34](#))
- c. Data logs or reports from specialized field tests.
- d. Laboratory test data sheets. The following are examples of what should be provided.
  1. Rock Cores: Location, elevation, Maximum Load, Core Length, Core Diameter, Moist Density, Dry Density, Splitting Tensile Strength, Unconfined Compressive Strength, Strain at 50% of Unconfined Compressive Strength, Strain at Failure and Corrected Tangent Modulus (adjust the origin to eliminate seating stresses; use the adjusted origin and the slope of the linear portion of the Stress vs. Strain curve).
  2. Rock core data reduction and statistical analyses obtaining design side resistance for drilled shaft socket in rock, if applicable, according to Appendix A of this Handbook.
  3. Gradations: Location, elevation, test results.

4. Corrosion Tests: Location, elevation, test results.
- e. Engineering analyses and notes.
- f. FHWA checklist.
- g. Copies of actual field boring logs with all drillers' notes and hand written refinements, if any (not typed logs).
- h. Any other pertinent information.

### 9.3 Final or Supplementary Report

To obtain the optimum benefit from the geotechnical investigation, it is imperative that the Geotechnical Engineer and the project design and construction engineers interact throughout the duration of the project. The input from the Geotechnical Engineer should be incorporated into the project as it develops. Often, the geotechnical report, which is initially prepared, is considered preliminary. As the design of the project progresses, the geotechnical recommendations may have to be modified. When the project approaches the final design stage, the Geotechnical Engineer should prepare a final or supplementary report to revise his assumptions and recommendations if necessary in accordance with the final design plans. The following topics should be included in this report:

1. Final recommended foundation type and alternates.
2. Size and bearing elevation of footing or size, length, and number of piles or drilled shafts at each structural foundation unit.
3. Final factored design loads.
4. Requirements for construction control for foundation installation.
5. Possible construction problems, such as adjacent structures, and recommended solutions.
6. Comments issued on the preliminary Report by the District Geotechnical Office and the State Geotechnical Office (if applicable) and the corresponding responses.

### 9.4 Signing and Sealing

Unless plans are required to be electronically signed and sealed, geotechnical documents shall be signed and sealed by the Professional Engineer in responsible charge in accordance with Florida Statutes and the Rules of the State Board of Professional Engineers. The following documents are included:

**Table 16, Signing and Sealing Placement**

Geotechnical Report	First page of official copy
Technical Special Provisions	First page of official copy
Roadway Soils Survey Sheet	Title Block
Report of Core Borings Sheet	Title Block
Report of Cone Soundings Sheet	Title Block

Other Geotechnical Sheets	Title Block
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For supplemental specifications and special provisions, which cover other topics in addition to Geotechnical Engineering, the engineer in responsible charge of the geotechnical portions should indicate the applicable pages.

Originals of the sheets for plans shall be signed and dated by the responsible engineer within the space designated "Approved By". One record set of prints shall be signed, sealed, and dated.

## 9.5 Distribution

The following offices should be provided copies of geotechnical reports, as applicable:

1. Project Manager.
2. District Geotechnical Engineer.
3. District Drainage Engineer.
4. District Structural Design Section.
5. Roadway Design Section.
6. State Geotechnical Engineer (for Category II structures).

## 9.6 Plan and Specification Review

In addition to writing the report, the Geotechnical Engineer shall review all phases of the plans and specifications to ensure that the geotechnical recommendations have been correctly incorporated. A marked up set of prints from the Quality Control Review, signed by the geotechnical reviewer, shall be submitted with each phase submittal. The responsible Professional Engineer performing the Quality Control review shall provide a signed statement certifying the review was conducted.

FDOT Standard and Supplemental Specifications should not be changed except in rare cases, then only with the approval of the District Geotechnical Engineer.

## 9.7 Electronic Files

The consultant shall submit an electronic copy of the final approved geotechnical report in MS Word format. Include the boring log sheets in DGN format, and include the input files used in the analysis programs (FB-Deep, FB-Pier, etc.). All electronic files shall be submitted on a single Windows XP readable CD-Rom.

If the consultant uses a computer program in the design process that is not listed for use in this handbook, the following additional items shall be included in the report submittal:

1. Example hand calculations verifying the results of the consultant's computer programs shall be included in the calculations package.

2. A copy of the geotechnical Consultant's program and the computer input data files on Windows readable CD-Rom.

## **9.8 Unwanted**

Some of the things we do not wish to see in the report are:

1. Do not summarize or retype standard test methods or FDOT specifications into the report. Specifications and test methods should be referenced by number, and the reader can look it up if needed.
2. Do not change the Standard Specifications without valid justification. (For example, do not change the MSE wall backfill gradation; base your design on the backfill material required in the Standard Specifications.)
3. Do not include long verbal descriptions when a simple table will be more clear.
4. Do not bury the capacity curves in printed computer output files.

STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
MATERIALS AND RESEARCH

DATE OF SURVEY : 2/15/2007-5/1/2007  
SURVEY MADE BY : HARTFORD TESTING COMPANY  
SUBMITTED BY : LARRY BALLARD, P.E.

DISTRICT : 3  
ROAD NO : S.R. 166  
COUNTY : JACKSON

PROJECT NAME : \_\_\_\_\_  
FINANCIAL PROJECT ID : \_\_\_\_\_

CROSS SECTION SOIL SURVEY FOR THE DESIGN OF ROADS  
SURVEY BEGINS STA. : 400+00 SURVEY ENDS STA. : 554+00  
REFERENCE: BASELINE SURVEY

ORGANIC CONTENT				SIEVE ANALYSIS RESULTS				ATTENBERG LIMITS (%)				CORROSION TEST RESULTS							
STRATUM NO.	NO. OF TESTS	% ORGANIC	MOISTURE CONTENT	NO. OF TESTS	10 MESH	40 MESH	60 MESH	100 MESH	200 MESH	NO. OF TESTS	LIQUID LIMIT	PLASTIC INDEX	ASPHT GROUP	DESCRIPTION	NO. OF TESTS	RESISTIVITY OHM-CM	CHLORIDE %	SULFATES %	pH
1																			
2	4	8-20	71-93	59-82	44-55	3-40				N.P.				ROCK BASE, ASPHALTIC CONCRETE	7	34000-40000	40-60	18-72	6.4-8.3
3	7	3-4	86-94	65-71	34-46	15-21				N.P.				SUBGRADE, GRAY & TAN SAND W/TRACE SILT, LIMEROCK & SHELL	4	25000-38000	60-80	84-96	8.4-8.9
4	3	1-2	71-93	60-90	53-82	31-45				N.P.				FULL DARK BROWN SAND W/SOME SILT & TRACE LIMEROCK	3	6600-8000	60-80	156-206	7.5-8.2
5	3		59-100	96-98	75-80	30-34				N.P.				GRAY AND BROWN SILTY SAND W/TRACE CLAY AND LIMEROCK FRAGMENTS	3	20000-35000	120	120	4.5-5.2
6	3	16-40	20-40							N.P.				TAN AND LIGHT GRAY SILTY SAND W/SOME CLAY AND TRACE SHELL					
7	3		88-92	73-79	60-69	9-15				N.P.				MUCK, ORGANIC DARK BROWN SILTY SAND W/SOME CLAY					
8	3	16-20	91-99	88-91	71-80	10-15				N.P.				YELLOW AND GRAY SILTY SAND CLAY					
9														MUCK, BROWN SAND W/SOME ORGANIC AND TRACE SHELL					
														NATURAL LIMESTONE					

EMBANKMENT AND SUBGRADE MATERIAL

STRATA BOUNDARIES ARE APPROXIMATE MAKE FINAL CHECK AFTER GRADING

SW - WATER TABLE ENCOUNTERED

GNE - GROUND WATER NOT ENCOUNTERED

The material from Stratum Number 1 is Rock Base under Asphaltic Concrete.

The material from Stratum Number 2 appears satisfactory for use in the embankment when utilized in accordance with Index 500.

The material from Stratum Number 3 appears satisfactory for use in the embankment when utilized in accordance with Index 505. However, this material is likely to retain excess moisture and may be difficult to dry and compact. It should be used in the embankment above the water level existing at the time of construction. This material may not be used in the subgrade portion of the roadbed due to its organic content.

The material from Stratum Numbers 4 and 5 are plastic materials and shall be removed in accordance with Index 500. They may be placed above the existing water level at the time of construction, to within 4 feet of the proposed base. They should be placed uniformly in the lower portion of the embankment for some distance along the project rather than full depths for short distances.

The material from Stratum Numbers 6 and 8 is ORGANIC/A-8 material and shall be removed in accordance with Index 500, except where noted in the cross sections.

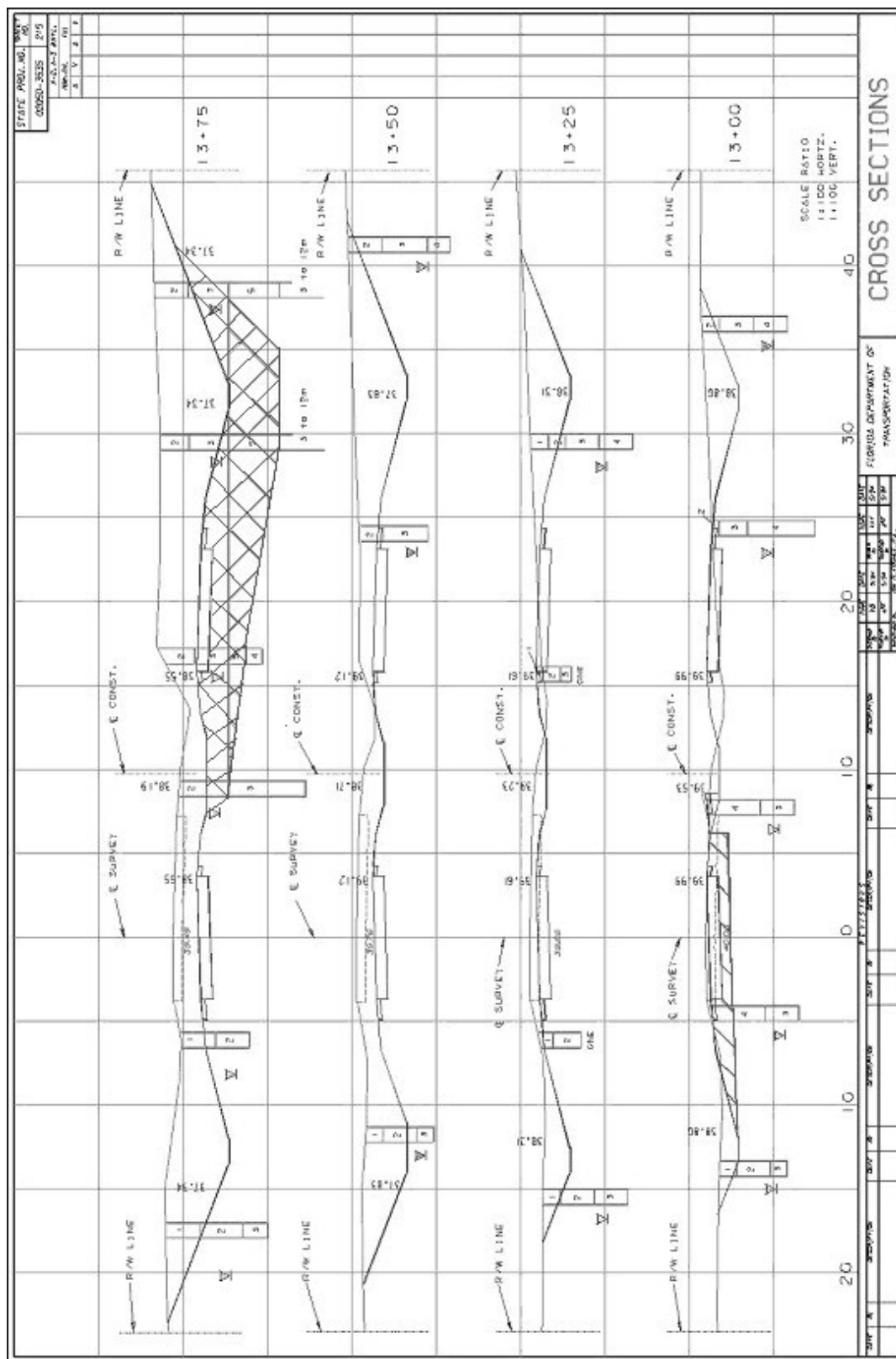
The material from Stratum Number 7 is Highly Plastic material and shall be removed in accordance with Index 500. It may be used within the project limits as indicated in Index 500 only when encountered within the project limits and is not to be used when obtained from outside the project limits.

The material from Stratum Number 9 is the Natural Limestone Formation. Special tests and equipment may be required to excavate and/or dewater this material.

REVISIONS		DESCRIPTION		STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION		FINANCIAL PROJECT ID	
DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION	ROAD NO.	COUNTY	FINANCIAL PROJECT ID	SHEET NO.
				166	JACKSON	123456-1-52-Q1	

ROADWAY SOILS SURVEY

Figure 31, Typical Report of Tests Sheet



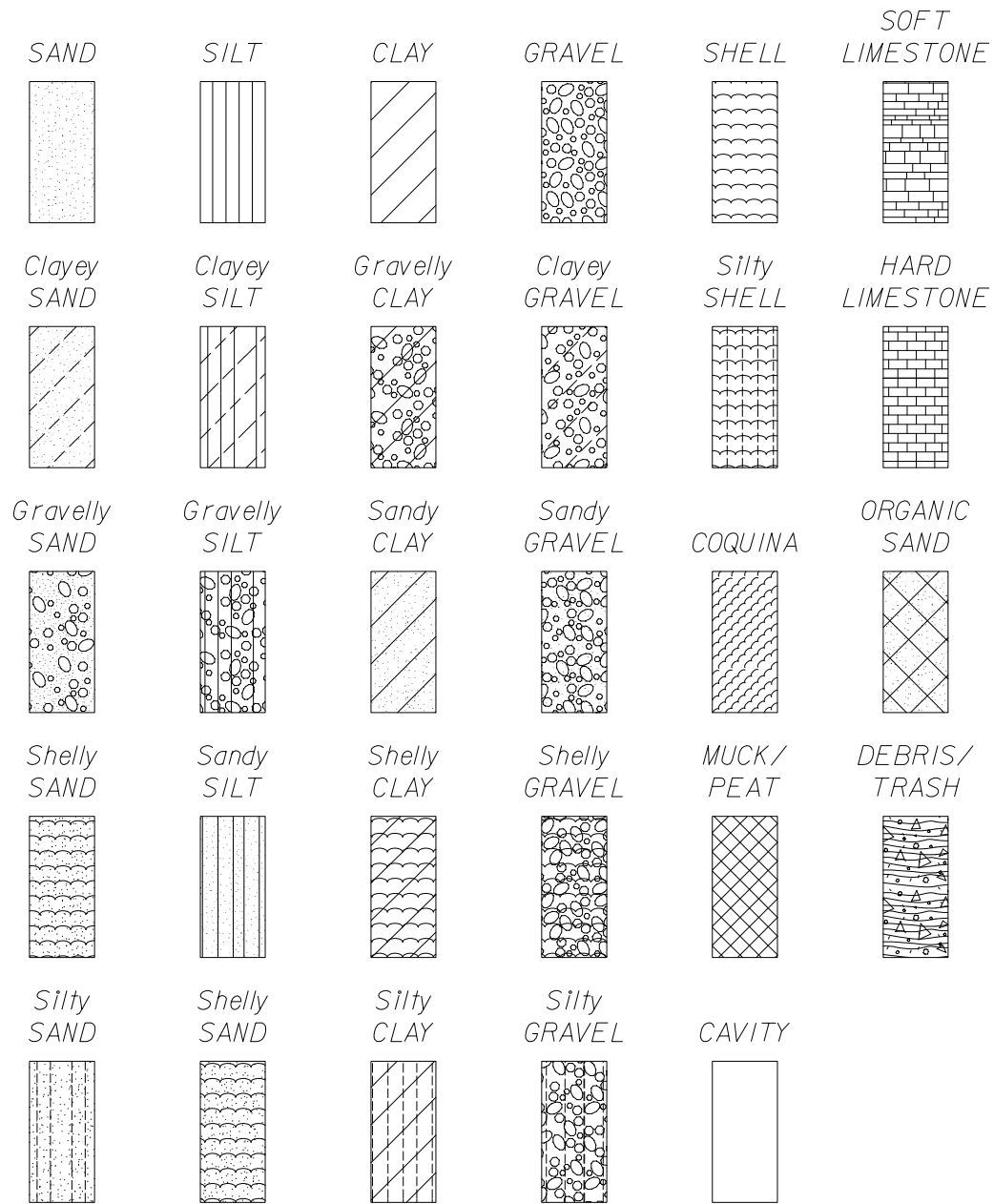
### Figure 32 Typical Roadway Cross-Section Sheet











**Figure 35, Standard Soil Type Symbols**

**Table 9.1 Applicability of Standard Soil Type Symbols**

Symbol	Soil Type
SAND	Sand with $\leq 12\%$ fines
Clayey SAND	Sand with 12% to 50% Clay
Gravelly SAND	Sand with $> 30\%$ Gravel
Shelly SAND	Sand with $>30\%$ Shell
Silty SAND	Sand with 12% to 50% Silt
SILT	Silt with $LL < 50$
Clayey SILT	Elastic Silt
Gravelly SILT	Silt with $> 30\%$ Gravel
Sandy SILT	Sand/Silt mixture with $>50\%$ Silt
Shelly SILT	Silt with $>30\%$ Shell
CLAY	Fat Clay
Gravelly CLAY	Clay with $> 30\%$ Gravel
Sandy CLAY	Clay with $> 30\%$ Sand
Shelly CLAY	Clay with $>30\%$ Shell
Silty CLAY	Clay with $> 30\%$ Silt
GRAVEL	Gravel with $\leq 12\%$ fines
Clayey GRAVEL	Gravel with 12% to 50% Clay
Sandy GRAVEL	Gravel with $> 30\%$ Sand
Shelly GRAVEL	Gravel with $>30\%$ Shell
Silty GRAVEL	Gravel with 12% to 50% Silt
SHELL	Shell with $\leq 12\%$ fines
Silty SHELL	Shell with 12% to 50% Silt
COQUINA	Cemented Coquina
MUCK/PEAT	Highly Organic Soils with Organic Content $> 20\%$
Organic SAND	Sand with Organic Content = 5% to 20%
Soft LIMESTONE	Limestone with $N \leq 50$
Hard LIMESTONE	Limestone with $N > 50$
CAVITY	Void

## 9.10 Specifications and Standards

### Subject

Standard Practice for the Use of Metric (SI) Units  
in Building Design and Construction

### ASTM

E 621

### AASHTO

-

### FM

-

## **Chapter 10**

### **10 Construction and Post-Construction**

A Geotechnical Engineer's involvement does not end with the completion of the final report; he may also be involved in the preconstruction, construction and maintenance phases of a project.

During construction, in-situ materials and construction methods for geotechnical elements must be inspected to assure compliance with the design assumptions and the project specifications. Such inspection tasks include subgrade and/or embankment compaction control, assurance of proper backfilling techniques around structural elements, and routine footing, drilled shaft, and piling installation inspection. While the Geotechnical Engineer may not regularly be involved in these inspections, he must assure that sufficient geotechnical information is provided to a qualified inspector. He must also be prepared to review the procedures and the inspection records if needed.

Where existing structures may be sensitive to vibrations or movement, pre-construction and post-construction surveys of the structures should be performed. Mitigating action shall be taken to reduce the impact. It may also be desirable to monitor construction-induced vibrations, groundwater level changes, and/or settlement or heave of the structures. A qualified Geotechnical Engineer should be involved in the placement of these monitoring devices as well as the interpretation of the resulting data.

On major projects especially, several other aspects of the construction phase may require significant input from the Geotechnical Engineer. Involvement of the Geotechnical Engineer is often required post-construction as well. Tasks, which in all cases require the direct involvement of a Geotechnical Engineer, include those discussed below.

#### **10.1 Dynamic Pile Driving Analysis**

The wave equation uses a mass-spring-dashpot system to dynamically model the behavior of a pile subjected to impact driving. The latest version of the WEAP computer program is recommended. Based on pile driving equipment data supplied by the contractor, the Geotechnical Engineer can use the wave equation program to determine the relationship between ultimate pile capacity and the penetration resistance (the number of blows per foot). The program also determines the relationship between stresses induced in the pile during driving and the penetration resistance. These relationships are then used to determine the suitability of the proposed driving system and to determine in the field if adequate pile capacity can be obtained.

#### **10.2 Dynamic Monitoring of Pile Driving**

Measurements of the dynamic pile response can be obtained during driving by the Pile Driving Analyzer (PDA). (See [Figure 36](#) and [Figure 37](#)). These measurements are used to determine:

1. Pile capacity
2. Driving stresses and probable damage to the pile

3. Energy transfer to the pile and therefore the efficiency and suitability of the pile driving system.
4. The soil parameters used in wave equation analysis
5. Possible reasons for pile installation problems.

On major projects, dynamic monitoring of pile driving can be used together with static load tests to confirm design-bearing capacities. Quite often, the use of dynamic measurements decreases the number of static load tests required. This will result in time, as well as, cost savings to a load test program. On smaller projects, dynamic measurements alone may serve as a load test. The advancement in the design of the PDA system in recent years has made this equipment an indispensable tool for the field-testing and inspection of driven piles. Refer to ASTM D 4945.

Similar measurements may be obtained using the Embedded Data Collector (EDC) system developed under FDOT sponsored research. This system utilizes strain and acceleration measurements at both the top and bottom of the pile. Currently EDCs are required to be installed in all square concrete test piles. When EDCs are embedded in production piles, concurrent monitoring of the first few piles with the PDA is required to provide a baseline of comparison when interpreting EDC data. Refer to [Standard Index 20602](#).

### **10.3 Load Tests**

Many major projects involving driven piles or drilled shafts will require the use of load tests. These tests are conducted to verify that actual pile or shaft response to loading is as assumed by the designer, and to ensure that the actual ultimate capacities are not less than the computed ultimate loads used during design. The project Geotechnical Engineer should be involved in the load testing itself, and the interpretation of the resultant data. He should be prepared to modify designs where necessary based on load test data.

#### ***10.3.1 Static Load Tests***

Three types are commonly used based on type of loading: axial compression (refer to ASTM D 1143) (see [Figure 38](#)), axial tension (refer to ASTM D 3689), or lateral load (refer to ASTM D 3966). In each case, the test typically consists of a jack/load cell system to apply a loading based on the desired application against a reaction system and measuring the resulting displacement. Use of the state-owned load test equipment needs to be scheduled as early as possible of the anticipated time of the load test, and needs to be arranged through the State Materials Office, which maintains this equipment.

#### ***10.3.2 Statnamic Load Tests***

Statnamic applies axial or lateral loads up to 5,000 tons (44 MN) (see [Figure 39](#) and [Figure 40](#)). The load application is between a static load and a dynamic load. The associated dynamic and rate of loading effects differ by soil type and are subtracted, resulting in the equivalent static load curve. No reaction piles are required. The duration of loading is on the order of 10 Hz. The load cell and

LVDTs provide direct measurements of load-displacement behavior. Drilled shafts tested by the Statnamic method should be instrumented with electronic resistance strain gauges at various elevations to measure load transfer characteristics. Statnamic produces load versus displacement results immediately on site. ASTM Standard D 7383, Procedure A describes this type of testing.

### ***10.3.3 Other Rapid Load Tests***

Alternative Axial Compressive Force Pulse (Rapid) Load Tests are described in ASTM Standard D 7383, Procedure B, however, these alternative test methods have not been adequately calibrated to static load test results to determine an appropriate resistance factor for FDOT projects.

### ***10.3.4 Osterberg Load Tests***

The Osterberg Load Cell is cast into the bottom of a pile or anywhere in a drilled shaft (see [Figure 41](#)). The cell expands to jack against the foundation's end bearing capacity so no reaction system is required. The cell can be placed above the bottom of a drilled shaft to equal out the loading. Or multiple cells can be used to isolate various zones. Currently there is no ASTM standard on this type of testing.

## **10.4 Pile/Drilled Shaft Damage Assessment**

Various test methods are available to assess the quality of the in-place deep foundation unit. These quality assurance tests need to be performed by qualified personnel and the results need to be analyzed and interpreted by experienced engineers in order to provide meaningful results.

### ***10.4.1 Pile Integrity Testing***

The use of low strain impact non-destructive testing (pulse-echo, etc.) has become common to determine cracks or breaks in driven piles caused by high stresses, necking or large voids which might have occurred during the construction of drilled shafts, or the actual length of piles for existing structures (one such product, the P.I.T. from Pile Dynamics, Inc., is shown in [Figure 42](#)). The Geotechnical Engineer should evaluate results of these tests. Refer to ASTM D 5882.

### ***10.4.2 Crosshole Sonic Logging***

Crosshole Sonic Logging has been used to determine the integrity of drilled shafts and slurry walls. The test involves lowering probes to the bottom of water-filled access tubes, and recording the compression waves emitted from a source probe in one tube by a receiver in another tube at the same or different (offset) elevations. The probes are pulled back to the surface at the same rate, and this procedure is repeated at various test configurations in order to obtain a profile of the entire depth of the shaft. Potential defects are indicated by delays in the signal arrival time and lower energies at a given test depth. This test method is limited to detecting defects between the access tubes used during each test. Since access tubes are needed for this test, the design of the reinforcement cage must take the total number and location of these tubes into account. Concrete mixtures producing

large amounts of bleed-water have caused CSL tests to indicate zones with apparently poor quality concrete. Refer to ASTM D 6760.

#### ***10.4.3 Gamma-Gamma Density Logging***

Gamma-gamma density logging is performed using a radioactive source and receiver within the same access tube. It is used to measure changes in uniformity of the cylindrical zone surrounding the outside of the access tube. The radius of the tested zone is dependent on the equipment used. This test method can be used to detect anomalies outside the cage of reinforcing steel.

### **10.5 Drilled Shaft Construction**

Using the wet method during construction of a drilled shaft, slurry is used to maintain a positive head inside the open shaft in order to keep the hole open prior to placement of concrete. In order to ensure the slurry shall meet the requirements to perform properly, the following control tests shall be performed: density, viscosity, sand content, and pH of the slurry. Refer to FM 8-R13B-1, 8-R13B-2, 8-R13B-3, and 8-R13B-4, respectively.

In order to evaluate the quality of the rock directly below the shaft excavation, rock cores shall be taken to a minimum depth of 5 feet and up to 20 feet below the bottom of the drilled shaft excavation of redundant drilled shafts or three shaft diameters below the bottom of the drilled shaft excavation for non-redundant shafts. Coring shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D 2113 using a double wall or triple wall core barrel. The core barrel shall be designed to provide core samples from 4 to 6 inches in diameter and allow the cored material to be removed in an undisturbed state. Refer to ASTM D 2113 and ASTM D 5079.

### **10.6 Shaft Inspection Device (SID)**

A piece of equipment that is used to inspect the bottom cleanliness of drilled shafts prior to placement of concrete through the use of an inspection bell which houses a high resolution video camera (See [Figure 43](#)). The inspection bell is lowered from a service platform to the bottom of the shaft, and the operator can view the condition of the bottom via the camera. The bell is fitted with a depth gage to indicate the thickness of debris on the shaft bottom. Sufficient views of the shaft bottom are used to inspect a statistically significant portion of the shaft bottom. The Shaft Inspection Device uses pressurized nitrogen to overcome the static head of the drilling fluids, purge the fluids from the camera bell, and provide an unobstructed view of the shaft. A small reduction in air pressure would allow drilling fluid to slowly enter the bell.

When the shaft bottom is flat (as required in Specifications) and the bell is plumb, a layer of water or drilling fluid in the bell can be used measure the thickness of sediments mounds "away" from the sediment depth gauge. When the fluid rises to the 1/2" pin on the gauge, the percentage of the view covered with sediment deposits thicker than 1/2" may be estimated; these sediments are above the fluid level. When the 1/2" depth pin is missing the first mark (1.0 cm) depth must be used. The same procedure may also be used to determine whether any portion of the view contains sediments in excess of 1-1/2" [4.0 cm] thick. Special care must be used to ensure the

fluid does not erode the sediment as it enters the bell, especially if the operator attempts to fill the bell with water using the water jets intended for flushing these sediments, instead of filling the bell with drilling fluid as described above.

The SID also has the capability to sample the sidewalls of shafts in soil in order to evaluate the buildup of slurry along the sidewalls. Use of the state-owned shaft inspection devices need to be scheduled as early as possible of the anticipated use, and need to be arranged through the State Materials Office, which maintains this equipment.

## **10.7 Field Instrumentation Monitoring**

Field instrumentation is often used during construction and afterward to assure that actual field conditions are in agreement with the assumptions made during design or to monitor changes in conditions, which may occur during construction. Refer to **Chapter 7** for descriptions of some of the more common types of field instrumentation.

All field instrumentation should be installed, and have readings taken, by qualified personnel under the supervision of a Geotechnical Engineer. A Geotechnical Engineer should interpret all data and recommend any necessary action. For example, in projects where surcharging or precompression is required to improve the foundation soils, waiting periods are required. It is essential that the Geotechnical Engineer communicate with the construction engineer when required waiting periods determined from actual measurements differ from predicted periods so that the project schedule can be properly adapted.

## **10.8 Troubleshooting**

No matter how carefully a project was investigated and designed, the possibility exists that unforeseen problems will arise during construction or afterward. The Geotechnical Engineer should be prepared to investigate when such problems occur. He should then recommend changes in design or construction method if necessary to minimize construction down time. If it is determined that maintenance problems have a geotechnical basis, he should recommend remedial actions that will eliminate, or at least reduce, the problems.

## **10.9 Records**

Invaluable geotechnical information is obtained during all construction projects. This data is often helpful during the design of other projects under similar conditions. Problems, which occurred during construction of one project, can possibly be avoided on future projects if the design engineer has access to information about the problems.

Complete records of the geotechnical aspects of the construction and maintenance phases of a project should be kept. Any specialized construction procedures or design changes should be noted. Construction and maintenance problems and their solutions should be described in detail. This information should then be provided to the District Geotechnical Engineer and the State Geotechnical Engineer in Tallahassee.



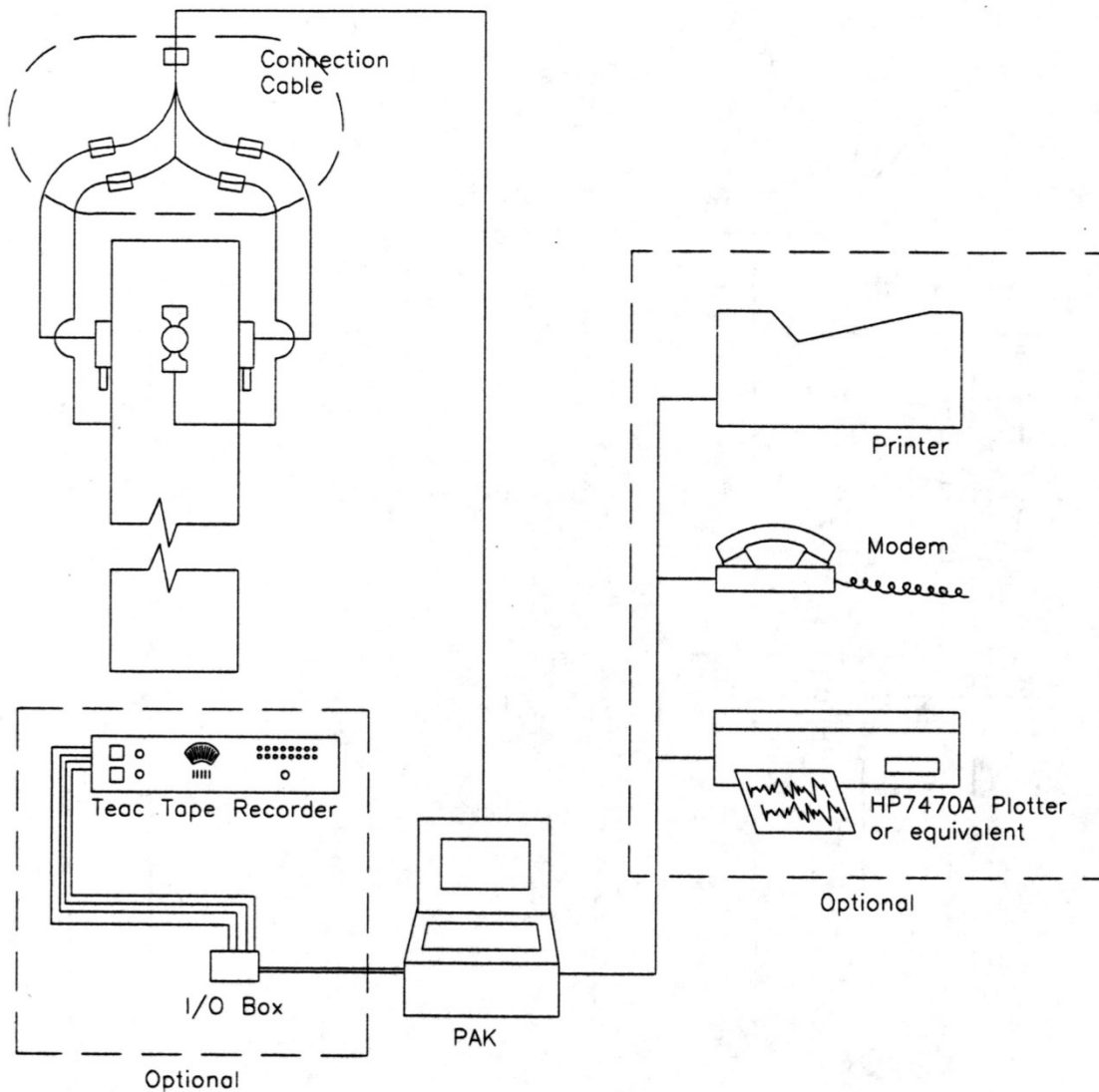


Figure 3637, Schematic of Pile Driving Analyzer and Data Recording System (After PDI, 1996)



Figure [3738](#), Pile Driving Analyzer, Model PAK (After PDI, 1993)



Figure 3839, Static Load Test



Figure 3940, Axial Statnamic Load Test



Figure 4041, Lateral Statnamic Load Test



Figure 4142, Osterberg Load Cells



Figure 4243, Pile Integrity Tester (After PDI, 1993)





Figure 43<sup>44</sup>, Shaft Inspection Device

## 10.10 References

1. Butler, H.D. and Hoy, Horace E.; The Texas Quick-Load Method for Foundation Load Testing - Users Manual, FHWA-IP-77-8, 1976.
2. Goble, G.G. & Rausche, Frank, GRLWEAP, Wave Equation Analysis of Pile Foundations, GRL & Associates, Inc., 1991.
3. Shih-Tower and Reese, Lymon C.; Com624P – Laterally Loaded Pile Analysis Program for the Microcomputer Version 2.0, FHWA-SA-91-048.
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5. Dunnicliff, John, Geotechnical Instrumentation for Monitoring Field Performance, NCHRP Synthesis 89, Transportation Research Board, 1993.
6. Osterberg, J.O.; The Osterberg CELL for Load Testing Drilled Shafts and Driven Piles, FHWA-SA-94-035, 1995.
7. Hannigan, P.J., Goble, G.G., Thendean, G., Likins, G.E., and Rausche, F., Manual on Design and Construction of Driven Pile Foundations, FHWA-HI-97-013 and 14, 1996.
8. Pile Driving Analyzer Manual, PAK, Pile Dynamics, Inc., Cleveland, Ohio, 1997.
9. Paikowsky, Samuel G. and Tolosko, Terry A.; Extrapolation of Pile Capacity From Non-Failed Load Tests, FHWA-RD-99-170, 1999.
10. Dunnicliff, John, Geotechnical Instrumentation, FHWA-HI-98-034, 1998.

## 10.11 Specifications and Standards

<u>Subject</u>	<u>ASTM</u>	<u>AASHTO</u>	<u>FM</u>
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Viscosity of Slurry	-	-	8-RP13B-2
PH of Slurry	-	-	8-RP13B-4
Standard Test Method for Piles Under Static Axial Compressive Load	D 1143	-	-
Standard Test Method for Individual Piles Under Static Axial Tensile Load	D 3689	-	-
Standard Test Method for Piles Under Lateral Loads	D 3966	-	-
Standard Test Method for Density of Bentonitic Slurries	D 4380	-	8-RP13B-1
Standard Test Method for Sand Content by Volume of Bentonitic Slurries	D 4381	-	8-RP13B-3

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>ASTM</u></b>	<b><u>AASHTO</u></b>	<b><u>FM</u></b>
Standard Test Method for High-Strain Dynamic Testing of Piles	D 4945	T 298	-
Standard Practices for Preserving and Transporting Rock Core Samples	D 5079	-	-
Standard Test Method for Low Strain Integrity Testing of Piles	D 5882	-	-
Standard Test Method for Integrity Testing of Concrete Deep Foundations by Ultrasonic Crosshole Testing	D 6760	-	-
Standard Test Methods for Axial Compressive Force Pulse (Rapid) Testing of Deep Foundations	D 7383	-	-



## **Chapter 11**

### **11 Design-Build Projects**

Typically more geotechnical investigation is performed for Design-build projects than for normal design-bid-construct projects. This occurs because a preliminary investigation is performed by the Department during the planning and development phase, and then during the design and construction phase, the Design-build team performs the design specific investigation. The total may exceed 120% of a normal investigation. The Design-build team shall be responsible for its own analysis of any and all data used by the team.

#### **11.1 Planning and Development Phase:**

##### ***11.1.1 Department's Geotechnical Engineer Responsibilities***

The Department's geotechnical engineer gathers data on the conditions at the site sufficient for the design-build team to make a realistic proposal. It is preferred to perform as complete a geotechnical field and laboratory investigation as time permits, and provide the data to the Design-build teams for their use in preparing preliminary designs and technical proposals. Upon completion of the preliminary subsurface investigation, the information obtained must be compiled in a format, which will present the data collected to the various design-build teams. The evaluation of the subsurface data should establish the limits of areas of relative uniformity for load testing. The limited geotechnical data collected prior to bidding is provided to prospective teams for information only. Preliminary geotechnical reports prepared by the Department for use by Design-Build Teams should not include analysis of the geotechnical information or any suggestions for handling any potential problems.

##### ***11.1.2 Design-build Team Responsibilities***

Design-Build Teams are not yet selected at this time. Potential teams submit letters of interests from which a short list is determined.

#### **11.2 Technical Proposals & Bidding Phase**

##### ***11.2.1 Department's Geotechnical Engineer Responsibilities***

The Department's geotechnical engineer answers questions from the design-build team through the project manager, reviews technical proposals and provides recommendations to other technical reviewers regarding the completeness and appropriateness of proposed supplemental field testing and load testing programs.

##### ***11.2.2 Design-Build Team Responsibilities***

Short listed Design-Build Teams perform analyses of the preliminary geotechnical data and any additional data they gather independently. The teams determine the

appropriate design and construction methods based on their approach/equipment, the requirements provided in this document and the Request For Proposals for the project; submit technical proposals and bids.

## **11.3 Design/Construction Phase**

### ***11.3.1 Department's Geotechnical Engineer***

The Department's geotechnical engineer reviews design and construction methods for compliance with the contract documents and performs verification testing as required.

### ***11.3.2 Design-Build Team***

The design-build team meets the requirements set forth in the contract documents. The team shall:

- a) Gather additional geotechnical data and testing (such as borings, field tests, laboratory tests, load tests, etc.) as required.
- b) Complete the design process.
- c) Prepare geotechnical reports including, as a minimum:
  1. Geotechnical report for roadway soil survey:
    - a. Description of significant geologic and topographic features of the site.
    - b. Description of width, composition, and condition of existing roadway.
    - c. Description of specialized methods used during subsurface exploration, in-situ testing, and laboratory testing; along with the raw data from these tests.
    - d. Soil conservation services (SCS/USDA) and USGS maps, depicting the project location.
    - e. Boring location plan, plots of boring logs and/or cone soundings
    - f. Results of roadway soil survey borings performed.
    - g. Any other pertinent information.
    - h. Analysis of the geotechnical information.
    - i. Recommendations on handling problem conditions observed in the borings.
    - j. All additional information required in Chapter 9.
  2. Geotechnical report for structures:
    - a. Vicinity map, potentiometric map, USGS and soil survey maps (SCS/USDA), depicting the project location.
    - b. Description of the methods used in the field investigation, including the types and frequencies of all in-situ tests.

- c. Description of the laboratory-testing phase, including any special test methods employed.
  - d. Boring location plan and plots of boring logs and/or cone soundings. Note the size of rock core sampled. For exploratory borings, rock cores shall produce 2.4 inch minimum diameter samples (although 4 inch diameter rock cores are preferable). For pilot holes, performed in drilled shaft locations, rock cores shall produce 4 inch minimum diameter samples. [Figures 33](#) and [Figure 34](#) present examples of Report of Core Borings and Report of Cone Soundings sheets. Include these sheets in the final plans. Plot the borings using the standard soil type symbols shown in [Figure 35](#).
  - e. Environmental classification for both substructure and superstructure, based on results of corrosivity tests. This information is also reported on the Report of Core Borings sheet. For extremely aggressive classification, note which parameter(s) requires the category.
  - f. Any other pertinent information.
  - g. Analysis of the geotechnical information.
  - h. Anticipated procedures for handling problem conditions observed in the borings.
  - i. All information required in Chapter 9 for Structures.
- d) Submit signed & sealed load test reports to the Department.
  - e) Submit a signed & sealed letter to the Department confirming the design assumptions were verified by load tests (if load tests were performed) before proceeding with production foundation construction.
  - f) In addition to the requirements outlined in the Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, drive test piles to a sufficient distance below the elevation where the Nominal Bearing Resistance was achieved or Minimum Tip elevation, whichever is deeper, to ensure the bearing stratum is of sufficient thickness to prevent punching shear failure.
  - g) Construct the project.
  - h) Certify the foundation capacity and integrity prior to the Department's verification testing.

## ***Appendix A***

### **Determination of Design Skin Friction for Drilled Shafts Socketed in the Florida Limestone**

# DETERMINATION OF DESIGN SIDE SHEAR RESISTANCE FROM TEST DATA TO DESIGN PARAMETERS FOR DRILLED SHAFTS SOCKETED IN FLORIDA LIMESTONE

**Remark:** This article is an updated version of the papers Peter Lai presented in the 1996 & 1998 Design Conferences, as well as the inclusion in the Appendix of the FDOT's Soils and Foundation Handbook, 2002. This update is to clarify the contents that are most often misinterpreted by engineers and present an example.

## Introduction

The highly variable strength properties of the Florida limestone formation always prompted the question of what design side shear resistance should be used for a drilled shaft socketed in it. Some engineers even decide that doing any tests on rock cores obtained from the project site is senseless because of the uncertainties associated with a spatial variability of the limestone. This presentation provides a method for determining a reasonable design side shear resistance value from a statistically significant number of unconfined compression and splitting tensile tests.

## Design Method

On the basis of the study done by the University of Florida, the following method proposed by Prof. McVay seems to be the most appropriate for the Florida limestones. The ultimate side shear resistance for the portion socketed in the rock is expressed as

$$f_{su} = \frac{1}{2} * \sqrt{q_u} * \sqrt{q_t} \quad (1)$$

where  $f_{su}$  is the ultimate side shear resistance,  
 $q_u$  is the unconfined compression strength of rock core, and  
 $q_t$  is the splitting tensile strength (McVay, 1992).

$$(f_{su})_{DESIGN} = REC * f_{su} \quad (2)$$

To consider the spatial variations of the rock qualities, the average **REC** (% recovery in decimal) is applied to the ultimate unit side shear resistance,  $f_{su}$ , and the product is used as the design ultimate side shear resistance.

This method has been used by the Department engineers for several years now and it has provided reasonable estimates of design side shear resistance as compared with load test data. However, there are some uncertainties of how to obtain the  $q_w$ ,  $q_t$  and  $REC$  values.

### **Rock Sampling and Laboratory Testing**

A critical component of this design method work is the quality of the rock cores. The rock core sample quality is dependent upon the sampling techniques as well as the size and type of the core barrel used. Due to the porous nature of the Florida limestone, the larger diameter samplers are more favorable than the smaller diameter samplers since they will provide more representative specimens. Therefore, in the FDOT's 'Soils and Foundation Manual', a minimum core barrel size of 61 mm (2.4") I.D. is required and a 101.6 mm (4") I.D. core barrel is recommended for better evaluation of the Florida limestone properties. Furthermore, the manual also requires a triple or double barrel as a minimum to have better percentage recovery as well as RQD depending on the core size. After obtaining the better quality core samples, the engineer can select more representative specimens for laboratory unconfined compression and splitting tensile tests. Thus better shear strength test data can be obtained for more accurate design side shear resistance.

### **Variability**

The variability of the Florida limestone formations is very large. To obtain representative design values for drilled shafts, one has to obtain a lot of rock core samples. The number of specimens needed for the design depends on the desired level of confidence. The following relationship identifies the amount of standard error (E) in terms of the number of laboratory specimen tested (n), the confidence level (t), and the standard deviation of strength test ( $\sigma$ ) can be expressed as (Smith, 1986),

$$E = \frac{t\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \quad (3)$$

This equation is useful to gauge the number of core specimens needed for the design confidence level, however, since the variability of the rock strengths is so big that the mean value of the samples cannot be used for design most of the time. As an aid, plotting a frequency distribution (histogram) of the rock core test results (both the  $q_u$  and  $q_t$  results individually) can assist the designer in determining a sufficient number of tests in order to identify a clear distribution (i.e. normal, log-normal, etc.)

### **Check the Big Picture**

First the borings and core recoveries and test results for a project need to be reviewed for uniformity. Determine whether the test results are reasonably consistent across the project, whether there are different approximate areas or sites (Paikowsky, 2004) within the project, whether there are two or more reasonably different strata, or whether the project is so variable that each boring appears to be from a different site. A histogram of the rock core test results can identify secondary peaks in the data which may indicate a secondary distribution exists within the project site. This would indicate that there are

significant site variabilities which warrant separating the data into multiple sets to represent different areas or strata within the project.

When borings show extreme variability, the engineer needs to prudently reconsider whether the drilled shaft design is likely to be appropriate for each and every pier on the project. When the project location subsoils are so variable trends can not be reasonably discerned, more data, or a different foundation type, is needed.

### Data Reduction Method

The data reduction method presented here is intended to provide a means to obtain a more reliable  $q_u$ ,  $q_t$  and  $REC$  values that can provide realistic design side shear resistance for the rock formations. This method involves the following steps of analyses for each area or site within the project limits.

1. Find the mean and standard deviations of both the  $q_u$  and  $q_t$  strength test data sets.
2. Establish the upper and lower limits of each type of strength test data set by using the mean values, +/- one standard deviation.
3. Discount all the data in the data sets that are larger or smaller than the established upper and lower limits, respectively.
4. Recalculate the mean and standard deviation of the data within the boundaries of each modified strength test data set computed above.
5. Establish the upper and lower bounds of  $q_u$  and  $q_t$  by setting the calculated mean value as the design upper bound value and the mean minus one standard deviation as the design lower bound value.
6. Use the  $q_u$  and  $q_t$  obtained from steps 4 and 5 to calculate the respective upper and lower bounds of the ultimate side shear resistance,  $f_{su}$ .
7. Multiply the ultimate side shear resistance  $f_{su}$  by the mean  $REC$ (in decimal) to account for the spatial variability.
8. Consider these two design boundaries the global side shear resistance values for the area or site within the project.
9. A resistance factor should be applied to these side shear resistance values depending on the construction method used. The following table may be used as a guide to obtain an appropriate a resistance factor for the Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) method.

Drilled Shaft Design Basis	Resistance Factor, $\phi$	
	Redundant	Non-redundant
Neglecting end bearing	0.60	0.50
Including 1/3 end bearing	0.55	0.45
Static Load Testing*	0.75	0.65

\*Number of load tests required depends on the uniformity of the project.

The engineer should then decide which value is appropriate for the design. For a project with uniform subsurface, a few load tests may qualify the use of the resistance factors listed above. However, if the subsurface at the project is erratic, it requires more tests to qualify for the use of these factors because each area or

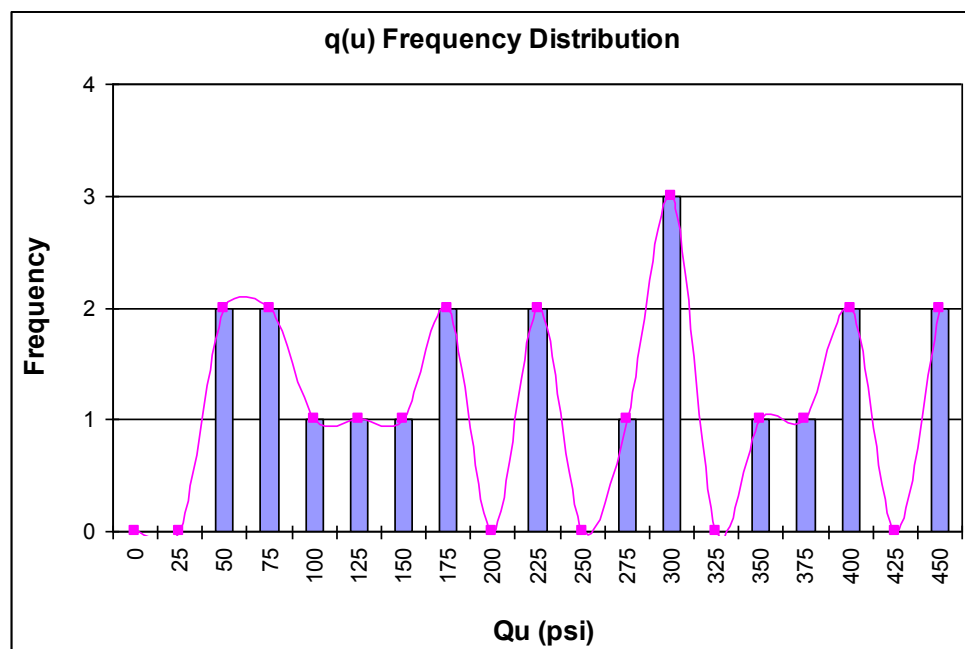
site within the project limits requires separate load tests. If a representative soil profile cannot be obtained, the number of load tests may be as many as the number of various soil profiles that are existing at the project.

10. Generated a chart to index the global side shear resistance boundary values determined in Step 8 with the boundary SPT N-values performed between core runs. The boundary SPT N-values vary from various geological formations. In general, the lower bound N-value range from 20 to 30 blows per foot and the upper bound ranges from 50 to 100 blows per foot. N-values falling within these boundaries can be used to obtain the design side shear resistance values from the chart. Note that the correlations are for specific site use only since the SPT N-values are being used as indices. See Section 3.2 for SPT and rock core requirements during structure borings.
11. Design the shaft based on local boring logs. When N values are absent, use the design lower bound rock strength to design the drilled shaft socket.

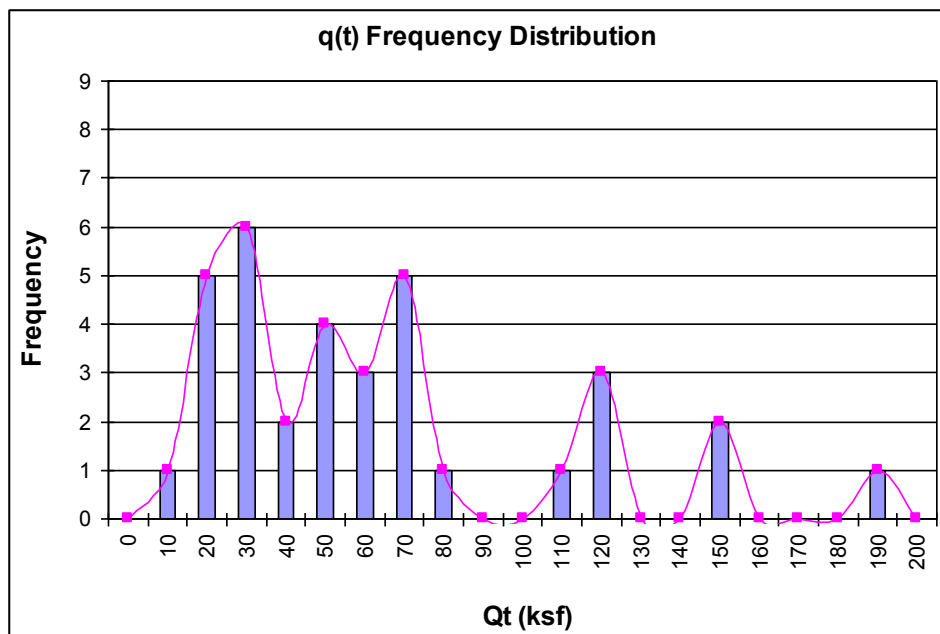
The following example is meant to illustrate the analyses outline above. The data, especially the side shear resistance vs. SPT-N-value chart, are not meant for any real design purposes.

**Example:** Design a shaft with 48" diameter and in a group of four shafts. Each shaft will support a factored design load of 2,500 kips. Assuming there will not be any load test for the project. Thus, a resistance factor of 0.55 will be used for the design.

Steps 1 to 5 Rock test data reduction







**Table 1, EXAMPLE DATA SET**

Boring No.	Core Sample Elevations		% REC	$q_u$ , ksf	$q_t$ , ksf
	Top	Bottom			
B-1	-62.24	-65.42	30		32.2
B-1	-72.42	-75.42	67	97.2	27.4
B-1	-82.42	-87.42	13		114.2
B-2	-36.58	-41.58	18	169.1	
B-9	-74.42	-82.42	5		26.5
B-9	-89.42	-94.4	43		24.7
B-9	-89.4	-94.4	43		32.9
S-12	-30	-35	60	211.2	68.4
S-12	-35	-40	48	117.0	19.4
S-12	-50	-55	48		19.6
B-7	-44.4	-52.4	18		43.5
B-7	-92.9	-97.4	98		26.3
B-7	-97.4	-102.4	66		117.5
B-7	-134.4	-142.4	35	140.6	64.7
B-11	-34.2	-39.2	38		144.0
B-11	-34.2	-39.2	38	379.5	189.1
B-11	-34.2	-39.2	38		112.6
B-11	-76.4	-81.4	33		26.3
B-11	-90.4	-95.4	60		68.7
N-14	-40	-43	63	389.4	
B-10	-33.4	-41.4	46	283.5	148.8
B-10	-33.4	-41.4	46		52.7
B-10	-46.4	-51.4	69	444.4	49.9
B-10	-46.4	-54.4	69	212.9	60.5

B-10	-46.4	-51.4	69		65.8
B-8	-48.9	-57.9	48	158.7	55.5
B-8	-48.9	-57.9	48	272.8	54.0
B-8	-48.9	-57.9	48		76.8
B-8	-59.9	-67.9	50	285.1	40.4
B-8	-99.9	-107.9	17		14.1
N-17	-58.1	-63	33	432.0	45.3
S-15	-48.5	-53.5	55	51.4	
S-15	-48.5	-53.5	55		17.5
S-15	-65	-70	61	38.4	7.7
B-6	-64.1	-72.1	51	58.2	12.4
B-6	-74	-82	57	365.4	101.4
B-6	-114	-122	45		21.0
N-25	-58.8	-63.3	85	26.6	
N-25	-68.8	-73.3	80	281.3	
N-25	-73.3	-78.3	47	331.5	
SUM			1941	4745.7	1981.1
MEAN			48.5	226.0	58.3
STANDARD DEVIATION				134.3	44.3
UPPER BOUND				360.2	102.6
LOWER BOUND				91.7	14.0

Use the upper and lower bounds of  $q_u$  and  $q_t$  as guides to limit the data set so that no data are higher than the upper bound value and no data are lower than the lower bound value. The modified data set is presented in the following table

Table 2, **MODIFIED EXAMPLE DATA SET**

Boring No.	Core Sample Elevations		% REC	$q_u$ , ksf	$q_t$ , ksf
	Top	Bottom			
B-1	-62.24	-65.42	30		32.2
B-1	-72.42	-75.42	67	97.2	27.4
B-1	-82.42	-87.42	13		<del>114.2</del>
B-2	-36.58	-41.58	18	169.1	
B-9	-74.42	-82.42	5		26.5
B-9	-89.42	-94.4	43		24.7
B-9	-89.4	-94.4	43		32.9
S-12	-30	-35	60	211.2	68.4
S-12	-35	-40	48	117.0	19.4
S-12	-50	-55	48		19.6
B-7	-44.4	-52.4	18		43.5
B-7	-92.9	-97.4	98		26.3
B-7	-97.4	-102.4	66		<del>117.5</del>
B-7	-134.4	-142.4	35	140.6	64.7
B-11	-34.2	-39.2	38		<del>144.0</del>

B-11	-34.2	-39.2	38	<del>379.5</del>	<del>189.1</del>
B-11	-34.2	-39.2	38		<del>112.6</del>
B-11	-76.4	-81.4	33		26.3
B-11	-90.4	-95.4	60		68.7
N-14	-40	-43	63	<del>389.4</del>	
B-10	-33.4	-41.4	46	283.5	<del>148.8</del>
B-10	-33.4	-41.4	46		52.7
B-10	-46.4	-51.4	69	444.4	49.9
B-10	-46.4	-54.4	69	212.9	60.5
B-10	-46.4	-51.4	69		65.8
B-8	-48.9	-57.9	48	158.7	55.5
B-8	-48.9	-57.9	48	272.8	54.0
B-8	-48.9	-57.9	48		76.8
B-8	-59.9	-67.9	50	285.1	40.4
B-8	-99.9	-107.9	17		14.1
N-17	-58.1	-63	33	<del>432.0</del>	45.3
S-15	-48.5	-53.5	55	<del>51.4</del>	
S-15	-48.5	-53.5	55		17.5
S-15	-65	-70	61	<del>38.4</del>	<del>7.7</del>
B-6	-64.1	-72.1	51	<del>58.2</del>	<del>12.4</del>
B-6	-74	-82	57	<del>365.4</del>	101.4
B-6	-114	-122	45		21.0
N-25	-58.8	-63.3	85	<del>26.6</del>	
N-25	-68.8	-73.3	80	281.3	
N-25	-73.3	-78.3	47	331.5	
SUM			1941	2560.7	1134.9
MEAN			48.5	213.4	43.6
STANDARD DEVIATION				77.0	22.2
LOWER BOUND				136.4	21.5

Step 6 Calculate the ultimate side shear resistance,  $f_{su}$

By using the above  $q_u$  and  $q_t$  values the following  $f_{su}$  values can be calculated;

Ult. Mean Value(Upper Boundary) 
$$f_{su} = \frac{I}{2} * \sqrt{213.4} * \sqrt{43.6} = 48.3 \text{ ksf}$$

Ult. Lower Value (Lower Boundary) 
$$f_{su} = \frac{I}{2} * \sqrt{136.4} * \sqrt{21.5} = 27.1 \text{ ksf}$$

Steps 7 & 8 Spatial variability consideration and establish the design ultimate side shear boundaries

The design ultimate side shear resistance should also account for the spatial variability of the site by multiplying the mean %REC value (in decimal) to the above mean, which based on FDOT experience is more representative as the high end value, and low values respectively and obtain;

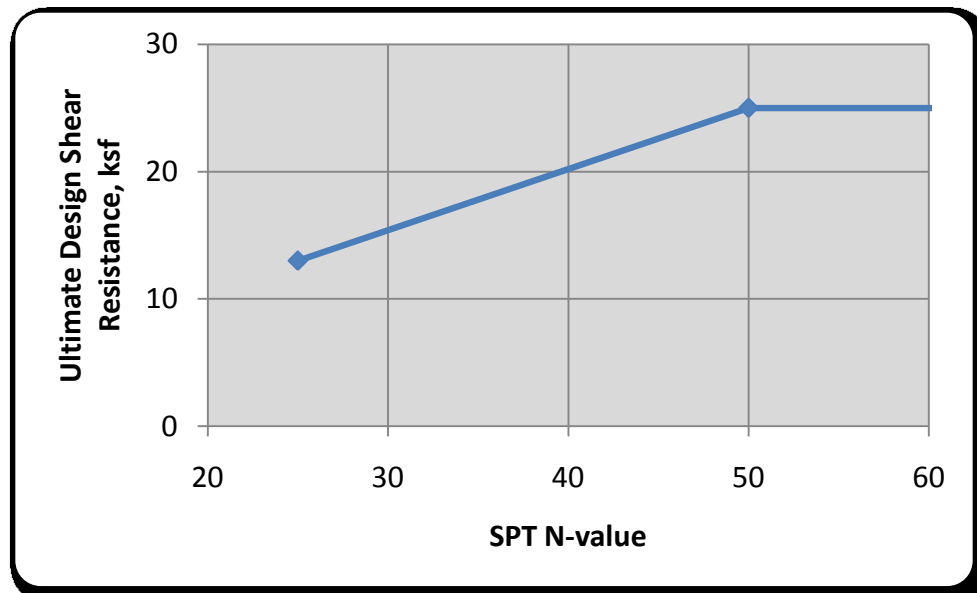
$$\text{Design Upper Boundary} \quad (f_{su})_{DESIGN} = .485 * 48.3 = 23.4 \text{ ksf}$$

$$\text{Design Lower Boundary} \quad (f_{su})_{DESIGN} = .485 * 27.1 = 13.1 \text{ ksf}$$

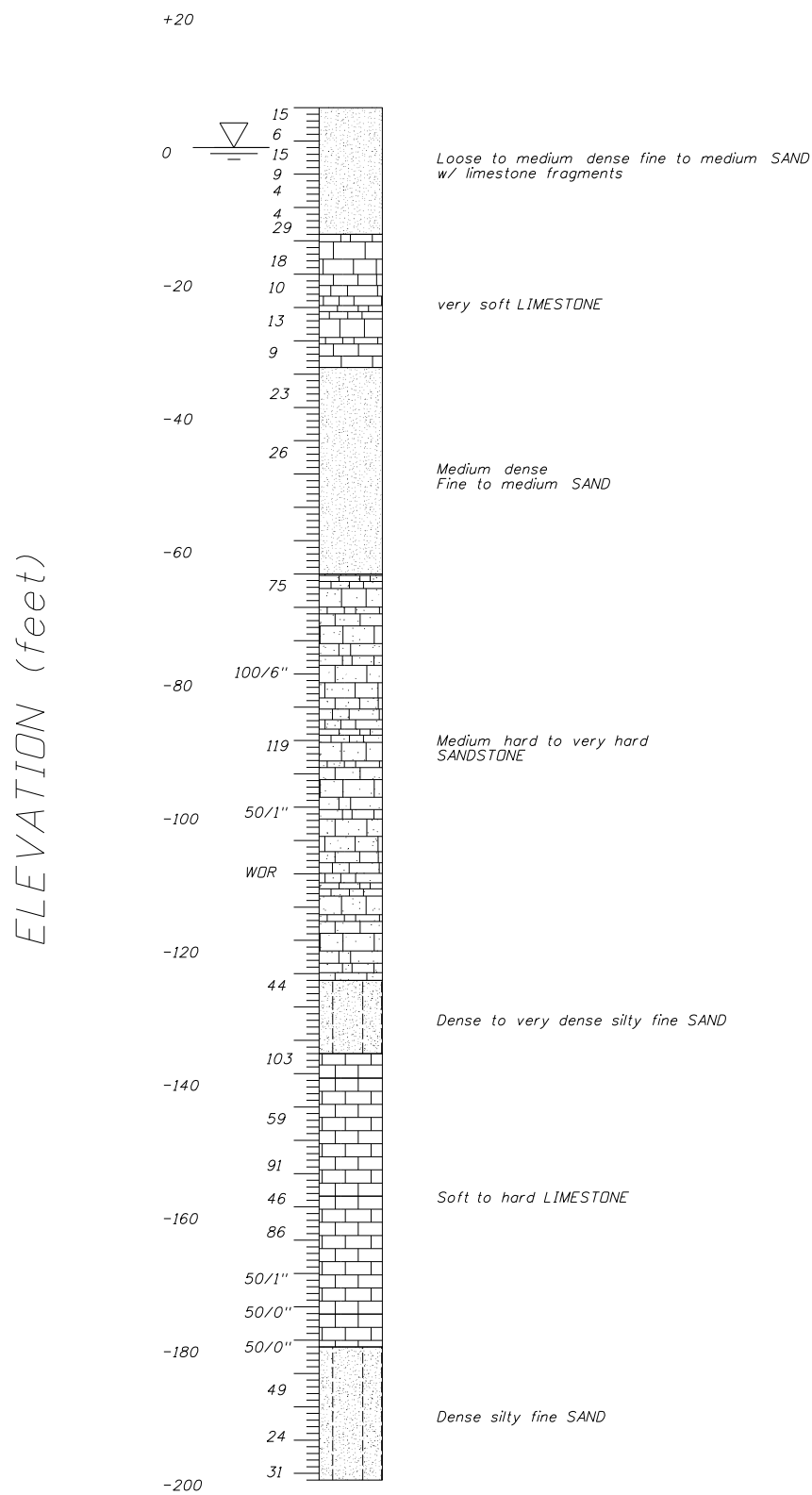
Step 9 Select the appropriate design resistance factor based on design conditions and whether the design parameters for this site will be verified by a load test.

Step 10 Generate a design side shear resistance chart

Using the above calculated global ultimate design shear resistance together with the lower and upper bound SPT N-values of 25 and 50 (the minimum and maximum SPT values in the rock core data set being evaluated), respectively; the following design chart is generated.



Step 11 Design shaft using local subsurface information – boring log at pier location



The following table is a summary of the boring log and how it will be used the shaft design.

Layer	Soil Description	Elev., ft	Thickness, ft	Ave N- value	Unit Side shear, ksf	Side Resistance, Kips/ft
1	sand	5.7 to -13	18.7	9	-*	-
2	Soft limestone	-13 to -23	10	16	-**	-
3	sand	-23 to -64	41	25	-*	-
4	limestone	-64 to -109	45	>50	23.4	294.4

Notes: \*Neglected because of high ground water table and casing may be used.

\*\*The soft limestone layer is very close to the top of the shaft. If casing is used, the rock-casing interface will shatter during the installation. In the second case, if casing is not used, the rock-shaft interface will slip and the deformation will pass the peak strength strain into the residual strength range due to high stress concentration at the top part of the shaft. Thus, in both cases, the upper limestone stratum will behave like granular material and should be design as such.

Diameter of shaft-----D=48" or 4'

Perimeter area per foot of shaft----- $A = \pi * D = 12.57 \text{ ft}^2$

Side resistance per foot of rock socket, kips/ft---- $R_s = A * \text{unit side shear} = 294.4$

Factored design load, kips ----- $Q = 2,500 / 0.55 = 4545.5$

Total required socket length, ft----- $L = 4545.5 / 294.4 = 15.4$

Thus the design shaft should socket 15.5 feet into the limestone or tipped at elevation -79.5' if only side resistance is used. Shaft base resistance can also be utilized for design, however, a strain compatible design, such as O'Neal's Design Method for IGM must be used.

## References:

McVay, M. C., Townsend, F.C., and Williams, R.C. (1992), "Design of Socketed Drilled Shafts in Limestone" ASCE Journal of Geotechnical Engineering, Vol. 118, No. 10, October, 1992.

O'Neal, M., "Drilled Shafts: Construction Procedures and Design Methods" Publication No. FHWA-IF-99-025, August 1999.

Paikowsky, S. G., "Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) for Deep Foundations" NCHRP Report 507, 2004

## **Appendix B**

### **Design Guidelines for Auger Cast Piles for Sound Walls**

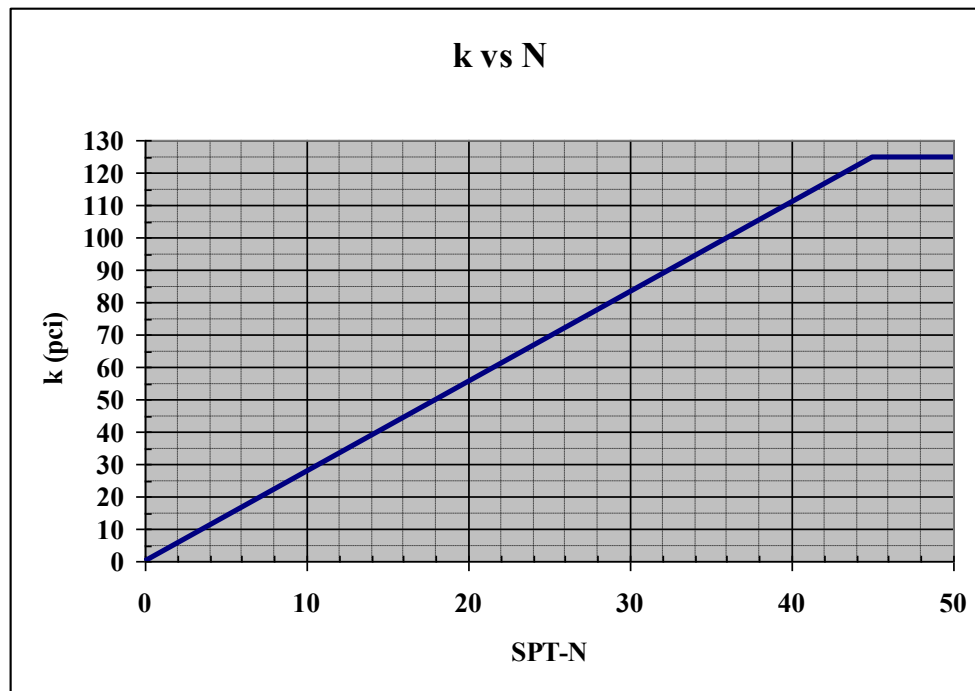
## LATERAL LOAD RESISTANCE

Critical lateral load and moment shall include the Design Wind required by the Department Policies including the 30% gust increase. Under the critical lateral load (typically computed by Structural Engineers) the auger cast pile shall limit the deflections of panels, posts or top of barrier, and deflections at the top of the auger cast piles to the requirements specified in Section 32.6 of the Plans and Preparation Manual.

Computer programs such as LPILE, or COM624 shall be used to determine the deflections and rotations.

### k values in Sands.

k values input into LPILE, or COM624 shall not exceed the following values in pounds per cubic inch, without lateral load tests:



Note: No distinction will be made between dry and submerged conditions.

### Friction Angles in Sand

The following typical correlation may be used to estimate the soil friction angle,  $\phi$ :

$$\phi = N/4 + 28$$

As an alternative, the procedure described in [6.1.1.5 Friction Angle vs. SPT-N](#) shall be used. The maximum  $\Phi$  value shall be limited to 35 degrees for silty sand (A-2-4) and 38 degrees for clean sand (A-3), unless higher friction angles are statistically supported by laboratory shear strength test results.



### **Walls founded on berms**

When walls are founded through compacted select fill berm, include the portion of the pile with less than 2.5D horizontal soil cover (face-of-pile to face-of-slope) in the unsupported length, and design the portion of the pile with more than 2.5D soil cover as though founded in level ground.

### **Clay**

Use the LPILE or COM624 program guideline to determine  $k$  and  $\varepsilon_{50}$  values. However, limit the properties of clay to stiff clay or weaker (design values for undrained shear strength shall not exceed 2000 psf and the  $\varepsilon_{50}$  shall not be less than 0.007), unless laboratory stress-strain measurements indicate otherwise.

### **Rock**

The results of SPT borings are most often used for designing sound wall foundations in shallow limestone strata. Less conservative designs require more vigorous sampling and testing to demonstrate that less conservative design values are appropriate in all locations. In the absence of a comprehensive, vigorous sampling and testing program, the design based on SPT borings shall be as follows:

Rock material with N-values less than 10 blows/foot shall be modeled as sand. Rock material with N-values between 10 and 25 blows/foot shall be modeled as sandy gravel:

$$\text{Friction Angle, } \phi = N/4 + 33$$

The maximum friction angle value shall be limited to 40 degrees, unless higher friction angles are statistically supported by laboratory shear strength test results.

Rock material with N-values of 25 blows/foot or more:

- Use the LPILE or COM624 program guideline to model p-y curves of weak rock.

Modeling rock as stiff clay will be acceptable, provided reasonable conservatism in the selection of  $k$  and undrained shear strength are adopted.

## **AXIAL LOAD RESISTANCE (will not normally control the design)**

### **Side Resistance in Sands**

Side resistance in cohesionless soils shall be computed by the FHWA Method (Beta Method) specified in the Publication FHWA-IF-99-025 (August, 1999) for drilled shafts as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} f_s &= P'_v \beta_c \\ \beta_c &= \beta * N/15 \text{ where } \beta_c \leq \beta \\ \beta &= 1.5 - 0.135 (z)^{0.5} \text{ (z, depth in ft) where } 1.2 \geq \beta \geq 0.25 \\ \beta &= 1.5 - 0.245 (z)^{0.5} \text{ (z, depth in meters) where } 1.2 \geq \beta \geq 0.25 \end{aligned}$$

where  $f_s$  = Ultimate unit side resistance  
The maximum value of  $f_s$  shall be limited to 2.1 tsf, unless load test results indicate otherwise.  
 $P'_v$  = Effective vertical stress

### **Side Resistance in Rock:**

When limestone and calcareous rock cores are obtained for laboratory testing, ultimate unit side resistance shall be estimated as discussed in Appendix A.

When rock cores and laboratory testing are not available, use the following approach:

- If SPT N-value in rock is less than 25 blows / foot, assume sand behavior.
- If SPT N-value in rock is greater than or equal to 25 blows / foot, use the following:  
 $f_s = 0.1 N$  (tsf) where  $f_s \leq 5.0$  tsf

### **Side Resistance in Clay**

Model inorganic clays and silts in accordance with FHWA methods. Shear strength values should be estimated from UU tests, unconfined tests, vane tests, etc. If only SPT tests are available, Consultants are expected to use reasonable judgment in the selection of undrained shear strength from correlations available in the literature.

The shear strength of clay estimated from SPT-N values or CPT results shall not exceed 2000 psf, unless laboratory stress-strain measurements indicate otherwise.

Side resistance shall be computed by the FHWA Method (Alpha Method) specified in the Publication FHWA-IF-99-025 (August, 1999) for drilled shafts as follows:

$$f_s = \alpha S_u$$

where  $S_u$  = Design undrained shear strength of clay (psf)  
 $\alpha$  = A dimensionless correlation coefficient as defined below:  
 $\alpha = 0$  between 0 to 5 feet depth  
 $\alpha = 0$  for a distance of B (the pile diameter) above the base  
 $\alpha = 0.55$  for  $1.5 \geq S_u/P_a$   
 $\alpha = 0.55 - 0.1 (S_u/P_a - 1.5)$  for  $2.5 \geq S_u/P_a \geq 1.5$   
for  $S_u/P_a > 2.5$ , follow FHWA-IF-99-025 Figure B.10  
 $P_a$  = Atmospheric pressure (2116 psf at 0 ft Mean Sea Level)

### **Organic Soils**

Neglect any side resistance in soils with an organic content greater than 5.0% by ASTM D 2974.

### **End Bearing Resistance**

Neglect any end bearing resistance.

### **Factors of Safety**

To compute an allowable axial load, a minimum factor of safety of 2.0 shall be used. The service axial load shall not exceed this allowable load.

For LRFD design, use a Load Factor in accordance with the latest AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications and a Resistance Factor of 0.6.

### **DESIGN WATER TABLE**

For structures where the design is controlled by hurricane force wind loads, the design water table shall be at the ground surface.

For load conditions not associated with hurricane force wind loads, the seasonal high water table estimated for the location shall be the water table used for computation of axial capacity and lateral load analysis. If no information is available to determine the seasonal high water table, the designer will assume the water table at the ground surface. The foundation analysis shall include a justification for the selected design water level.

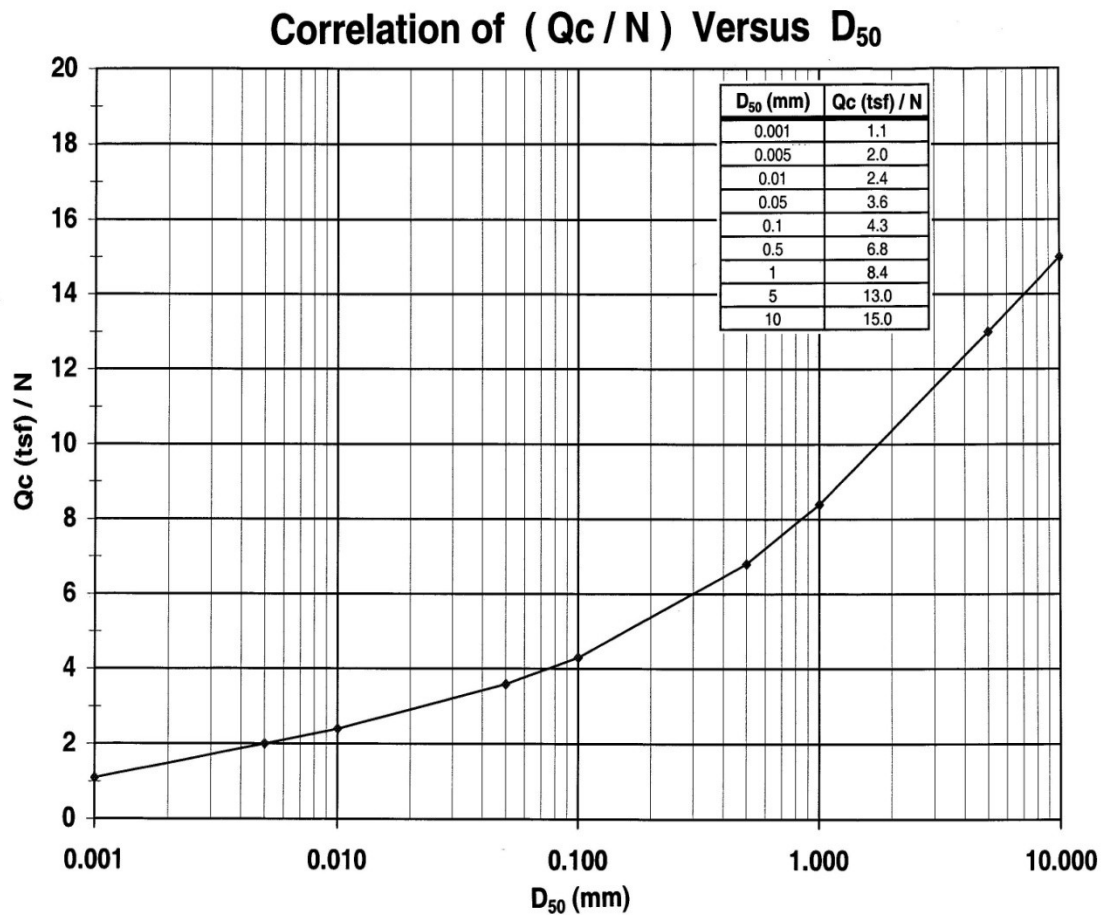
### **SPT ENERGY CORRECTIONS**

SPT N values from automatic hammers may be corrected to account for higher energy as compared with safety hammer. The energy correction factor shall not exceed 1.24.

### **USE OF STATIC CONE PENETROMETER TESTS**

If static cone penetrometer test (CPT) is used in the geotechnical investigation, the cone resistance data shall be converted to SPT N-values. The converted SPT N-values shall in turn be used in the foundation design according to the methods indicated in the previous sections of these design guidelines.

The correlation presented in [FIGURE B1](#) shall be used in the conversion of the CPT cone tip resistance,  $Q_c$  (tsf) to SPT N-values, based on mean particle size,  $D_{50}$  (mm) of the material. The use of design parameters that are less conservative than the values obtained from cone tip resistance to N-value correlations, and other sections of this document, shall be statistically supported by the results of high-quality laboratory tests and/or in-situ tests for the specific soil/rock deposits.



**Figure B 1**

#### **REQUIRED COMPUTATIONS FOR GEOTECHNICAL REVIEW**

Reports, Shop Drawings, VECP submittals, and Design-Build submittals, shall include calculations and numerical program outputs of all the cases and loadings considered in the design. Copies of structural calculations indicating wind loads computations and structural deflections at the top of the wall (due to pole and panel bending) shall also be included in the geotechnical package of computations.

## ***Appendix C***

### **Step by Step Design Procedure for the Analysis of Downdrag**

## Negative Shaft Resistance or Downdrag

*The following is adapted from FHWA HI 97-013  
Design and Construction of Driven Pile Foundations (1998)*

When piles are installed through a soil deposit undergoing consolidation, the resulting relative downward movement of the soil around piles induces "downdrag" forces on the piles. These "downdrag" forces are also called negative shaft resistance. Negative shaft resistance is the reverse of the usual positive shaft resistance developed along the pile surface. The downdrag force increases the axial load on the pile and can be especially significant on long piles driven through compressible soils. Therefore, the potential for negative shaft resistance must be considered in pile design. Batter piles should be avoided in soil conditions where large soil settlements are expected because of the additional bending forces imposed on the piles, which can result in pile deformation and damage. Settlement computations should be performed to determine the amount of settlement the soil surrounding the piles is expected to undergo after the piles are installed. The amount of relative settlement between soil and pile that is necessary to mobilize negative shaft resistance is about 10 to 12 mm ( $\frac{1}{2}$  inch). At that movement, the maximum value of negative shaft resistance is equal to the soil-pile adhesion. The negative shaft resistance can not exceed this value because slip of the soil along the pile shaft occurs at this value. It is particularly important in the design of friction piles to determine the depth at which the pile will be unaffected by negative shaft resistance. Only below that depth can positive shaft resistance forces provide support to resist vertical loads.

The most common situation where large negative shaft resistance develops occurs when fill is placed over a compressible layer immediately prior to, or after piles are driven. Negative shaft resistance can also develop whenever the effective overburden pressure is increased on a compressible layer through which a pile is driven; due to lowering of the ground water table, for example.

### STEP BY STEP DESIGN PROCEDURE FOR ANALYSIS OF DOWNDRAG LOADING

#### STEP 1

Establish the simplified soil profile and soil properties for computing settlement.

#### STEP 2

Determine the overburden pressure increase,  $\Delta p$ , versus depth due to the approach embankment fill. There are many methods and computer programs available for this purpose. An acceptable hand method is included at the end of this appendix.

#### STEP 3

Perform settlement computations for the soil layers along the embedded pile length.

a. Determine the consolidation parameters for each soil layer, preferably from laboratory consolidation test results.

- b. Compute the settlement of each soil layer .
- c. Compute the total settlement over the embedded pile length, i.e. the sum of the settlements from each soil layer and partial soil layers. Do not include soil settlements below the pile toe.

#### STEP 4

Determine the pile length that will experience negative shaft resistance. Negative shaft resistance occurs due to the settlement between soil and pile. The amount of settlement between soil and pile necessary to mobilize the negative shaft resistance is about ½ inch. Therefore, negative shaft resistance will occur on the pile shaft in each soil layer or portion of a soil layer with ½ inch more settlement than the settlement of the pile.

#### STEP 5

Determine magnitude of negative shaft resistance,  $Q_{dd}$ . The method used to calculate the ultimate negative shaft resistance over the pile length determined in Step 4 is the same method used to calculate the ultimate positive shaft resistance, except that it will act in the opposite direction.

#### STEP 6

Calculate the ultimate pile capacity provided by the positive shaft resistance and the toe resistance,  $Q_{ult}$ . Positive shaft and toe resistances will develop below the depth where the relative pile-soil movements are less than ½ inch. The positive soil resistances can be calculated on the pile length remaining below the negative shaft resistance depth from Step 4 using an appropriate static analysis method for the soil type as described in this chapter.

#### STEP 7

Calculate the net ultimate pile capacity,  $Q_{net}$  available to resist imposed loads.

$$Q_{net} = Q_{ult} - Q_{dd}$$

#### STEP 8

Calculate the DOWNDRAG value for the Pile Data Table of the plans as

$$\text{DOWNDRAG} = Q_{dd} + (\text{Dynamic Resistance of soil contributing to } Q_{dd})$$

#### STEP 9

Consider alternatives to obtain higher net ultimate pile capacity such as preloading or surcharging to reduce settlements prior to pile installation, use of lightweight fills to reduce settlements that cause downdrag loads, isolation of pile from consolidating soil, etc.

Method to determine the overburden pressure increase,  $\Delta p$ , versus depth due to the approach embankment fill.

The overburden pressure increase,  $\Delta p$ , is equal to the pressure coefficient,  $K_f$ , determined from the pressure distribution chart presented in Figure 9.53, multiplied by the height of fill,  $h_f$ , and the unit weight of fill,  $\gamma$ . The pressure distribution chart provides the pressure coefficient,  $K_f$ , at various depths below the bottom of the fill ( $xb_f$ ), and also at various distances from the centerline of the fill. The depth below the bottom of the fill is given as a multiple of "b," where b, is the distance from the centerline of the fill to the midpoint of the fill side slope, as shown in the Figure below.

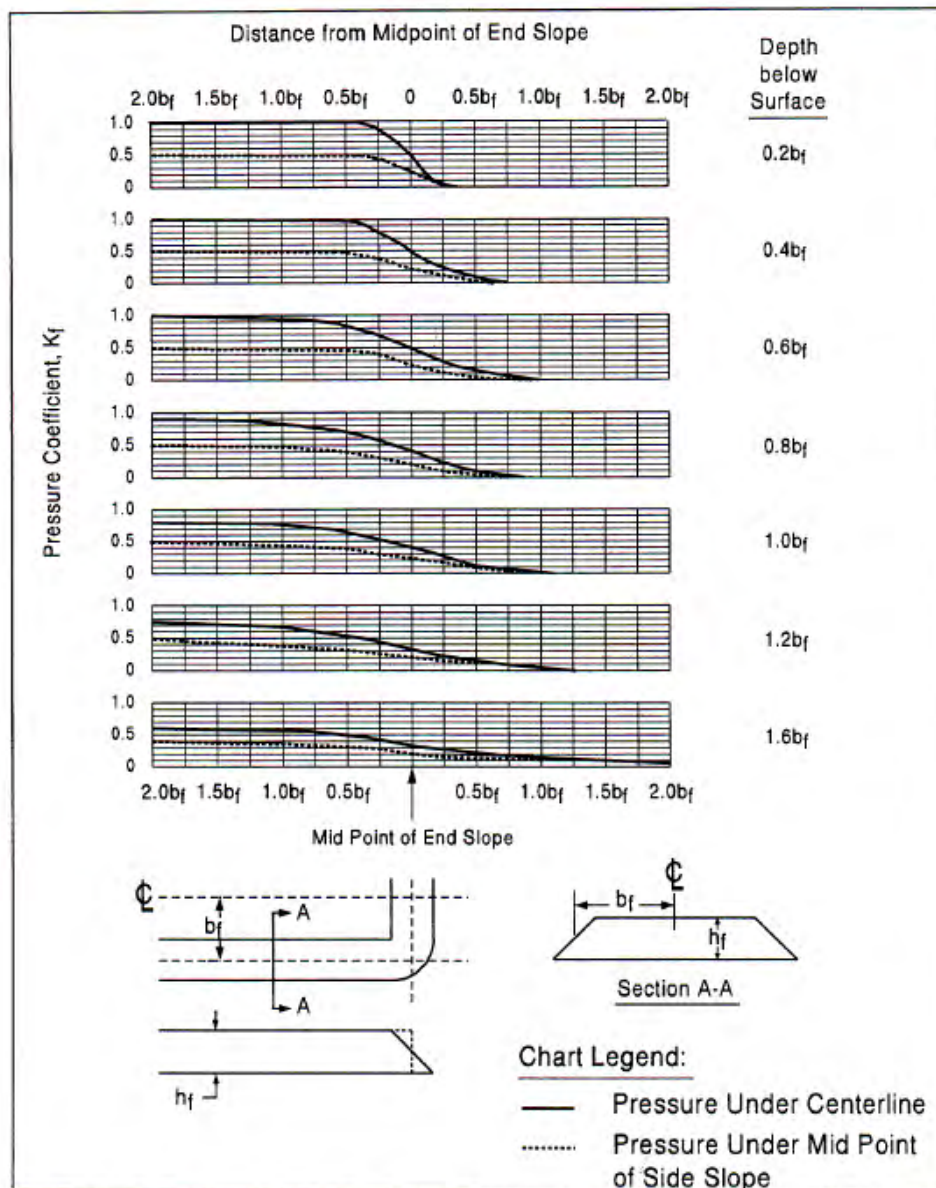


Figure 9.53 Pressure Distribution Chart Beneath the End of a Fill (After Cheney and Chassie, 1993)



## ***Appendix D***

### **Specifications and Standards**

## ASTM

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>ASTM</u></b>
Absorption and Bulk Specific Gravity of Dimension Stone	C 97
Standard Test Method for Specific Gravity and Absorption of Coarse Aggregate	C 127
Guide to Site Characterization for Engineering, Design, and Construction Purposes	D 420
Standard Test Method for Particle-Size Analysis of Soils	D 422
Test Method for Shrinkage Factors of Soils by the Mercury Method	D 427
Standard Test Methods for Chloride Ion In Water	D 512
Test Method for Laboratory Compaction Characteristics of Soil Using Standard Effort (12,400 ft-lbf/ft <sup>3</sup> (600 kN-m/m <sup>3</sup> ))	D 698
Standard Test Method for Specific Gravity of Soils	D 854
Standard Test Methods for Electrical Conductivity and Resistivity of Water	D 1125
Standard Test Method for Piles Under Static Axial Compressive Load	D 1143
Standard Test Methods for pH of Water	D 1293
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## ***Appendix E***

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