11-4-1994

Two Dimensional Finite Element Modeling of Swift Delta Soil Nail Wall by "ABAQUS"

Richard James Barrows

Portland State University

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THESIS APPROVAL

The abstract and thesis of Richard James Barrows for the Master of Science in Civil Engineering were presented November 4, 1994, and accepted by the thesis committee and the department.

COMMITTEE APPROVALS:

Trevor D. Smith, Chair
Matthew Mabey
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Franz [signature]

**********************************************************************************************************************************************

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ABSTRACT


Title: Two Dimensional Finite Element Modeling of Swift Delta Soil Nail Wall By "ABAQUS"

Soil nail walls are a form of mechanical earth stabilization for cut situations. They consist of the introduction of passive inclusions (nails) into soil cut lifts. These nailed lifts are then tied together with a structural facing (usually shotcrete). The wall lifts are constructed incrementally from the top of cut down. Soil nail walls are being recognized as having potential for large cost savings over other alternatives.

The increasing need to provide high capacity roadways in restricted rights of way under structures such as bridges will require increasing use of techniques such as combined soil nail and piling walls. The Swift Delta Soil Nail wall required installing nails between some of the existing pipe piling on the Oregon Slough Bridge. This raised questions of whether the piling would undergo internal stress changes due to the nail wall construction. Thus, it was considered
necessary to understand the soil nail wall structure interaction in relation to the existing pile supported abutment.

The purpose of this study was to investigate the Swift Delta Wall using finite element (FE) modeling techniques. Valuable data were available from the instrumentation of the Swift Delta Wall. These data were compared with the results of the FE modeling. This study attempts to answer the following two questions:

1. Is there potential for the introduction of new bending stresses to the existing piling?
2. Is the soil nail wall system influenced by the presence of the piling?

A general purpose FE code called ABAQUS was used to perform both linear and non-linear analyses. The analyses showed that the piling definitely underwent some stress changes. In addition they also indicated that piling influence resulted in lower nail stresses. Comparison of measured data to predicted behavior showed good agreement in wall face deflection but inconsistent agreement in nail stresses. This demonstrated the difficulty of modeling a soil nail due to the many variables resulting from nail installation.
TWO DIMENSIONAL FINITE ELEMENT MODELING OF SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL BY "ABAQUS"

by

Richard James Barrows

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE
in
CIVIL ENGINEERING

Portland State University
1994
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INTRODUCTION

Soil nailing is the term used for a technique of reinforcing the earth in-situ to provide stability for excavations and slopes. The technique employs the introduction of reinforcing elements into a soil mass. The elements, called nails, develop a tensile component in the soil mass and are fabricated of steel. An un-reinforced soil mass may not be stable, especially if it has a free face with a steeper angle than it's apparent cohesion and angle of repose can support. In which case the free face is stabilized with a structural facing element (e.g. shotcrete). The reinforcing elements interact with the soil mass to form a gravity block which can be used to hold back vertical faces. This process is called mechanical stabilized earth. Soil nailing uses passive inclusion to mechanically stabilize in-situ soils (cuts). There are also methods for constructing mechanically stabilized embankments and fill walls (e.g. geotextile walls).

Soil nail stress development (top down) is different than that of reinforced fill walls (bottom up). Stresses tend to be higher at the top of the wall and lower at the bottom. Therefore soil nail walls deflect the most at the top of the wall face as opposed to mechanically stabilized fill walls which show the most horizontal deflection at the bottom of the wall. Soil Nailing uses a top down construction sequence and
was first used in Versias, France to construct an 18 meter high wall\(^1\). The first Soil Nail Wall in the U.S. was constructed in Portland, Oregon at the Good Samaritan Hospital Expansion.

Since 1972 several design methods have been used in the United States and Europe. Most of these design methods are based on limit equilibrium principles. The major differences in analysis procedures being in the definition of factor of safety, soil reinforcement interaction, and resisting forces provided by the reinforcing nails.

The Federal Highway Administration has recognized soil nail walls as having large potential cost savings over other alternatives. Because of this, they are backing the development of nail wall technology and have provided financial support for this project.

The increasing need to provide high capacity roadways in restricted right of ways under structures such as bridges will require increased use of techniques such as combined nail and piling walls. Thus, it was considered necessary to understand the soil nail wall structure interaction in relation to the existing pile supported abutment. This research attempts to answer the following two issues:

\(^{1}\) Transportation Research Board, Report 290, New York, NY, 1980, page 66
1. Is there potential for the introduction of new bending stress to the existing piling?

2. Is the soil nail wall system influenced by the presence of the piling?
The Swift Boulevard Delta Park Interchange is located in Portland, Oregon approximately 1 mile south of the Oregon-Washington border. The interchange allows access from both north and south bound lanes of I-5, Swift Boulevard, and the Delta Park shopping area. The Swift Boulevard Delta Park Interchange is owned by the Oregon Department of Transportation. The Oregon Department of Transportation was responsible for reconstruction design, as well as construction contract administration and construction inspection. Partial funding was received, for the junction reconstruction, from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). As part of the interchange reconstruction, highway engineers were faced with widening Swift Boulevard from two lanes to four under extremely limited geometric and traffic constraints (Figure 1). These are summarized:

**Geometric:** The proposed widening was located under the South end of the Oregon Slough bridge. The widening was bound by the Oregon Slough, north of Swift Boulevard, and the Oregon slough bridge abutment, South of Swift Boulevard. The existing bridge abutment was a pile
supported spill through type with a 2H:1V end slope.

**Traffic** Closure of I-5 was not allowed. Swift Boulevard traffic volumes are extremely high and only temporary non-peak period lane closures were allowed.

**Clearance** Highway engineers decided that to accommodate the proposed widening, the existing abutment slope would be removed and that a retaining wall would be needed in its place. A cast in place retaining wall was considered; but was not cost effective due to the anticipated cost of an extensive temporary shoring system. A tied-back soldier pile wall was also considered; but would require installing the soldier pile through the bridge deck. Thus interrupting I-5 traffic flow and extra cost for repair to the bridge. Soil nailing was considered feasible because it's top down construction method does not require temporary shoring. In addition soil nailing can be performed with relatively small equipment that would be clear of traffic and could also operate in tight spaces.

The permanent wall was next designed by the Oregon Department of Transportation Bridge Section using the Shen
analysis method. An approximately 250 foot long structure with a maximum height of 19 feet was proposed. Figure 2 shows the developed elevation view for the wall.

Construction
The prime construction contractor was Kewitt - Marmjaeo. The subcontractors that worked on the wall were Schnabel Foundations (Nail Wall Construction), L.R. Squire and Associates (Instrumentation Installation), and Johnson Western Gunnite (Nail Wall Structural Shotcrete). Approximately 166 feet of the wall required removal of the abutment end slope and nailing between the existing 14 inch diameter pipe piling, on approximately 4.5 foot centers. It required 275 permanent nails. The nails consisted of #8 (1.0 inch diameter) and #9 (1.125 inch diameter) epoxy coated grade 60 Dywidag Bars. There were 28 sacrificial nails installed to prove that the design anchor capacity could be developed. The structural shotcrete had a 1.5 to 3.0 inch slump and an air entrainment of approximately 7.5% by volume. The nail grout consisted of Type I/II Portland cement, with a water cement ratio of \( \approx 0.5 \).

The basic construction sequence used on this project is as follows:

---

STEP  | PROCESS
--- | ---
1. Cut | - Excavate to the back of shotcrete wall face.
2. Reinforcement | - Place reinforcing steel (W20xW20 mesh)

(construction sequence continued)

STEP  | PROCESS
--- | ---
3. Guide Wire | - Place guide wires to control the shotcrete lift thickness.
4. Shotcrete | - Apply shotcrete pneumatically.
5. Drill | - Drill nail holes.

6. Nail Installation | - Insert #8 and #9 nails (Dwyidag bars) in dry nail hole.
7. Grout | - Pressure grout nails with a minimum 150 psi pressure.
8. Repeat | - Start the next wall lift.

In general the construction equipment used was small and compact. Table I shows the equipment used, in the construction sequence above, and it's purpose.

Construction Problem Areas
The temporary cut face suffered sloughing problems during the project. Sloughing was attributed to loose material at the face and accidental over excavation during the cut sequence.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Construction Phase</th>
<th>Process Time Hrs/Lift</th>
<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Model/Type</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-Cut</td>
<td>.75</td>
<td>Dozer</td>
<td>Catapiller D6</td>
<td>Rough cut wall excavation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-Cut</td>
<td>.5</td>
<td>Loader</td>
<td>Rubber Tired</td>
<td>Removal of spoilings from wall cut.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-Cut</td>
<td>.75</td>
<td>Dozer</td>
<td>John Deer 450</td>
<td>Close up wall excavation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-Cut</td>
<td>.5</td>
<td>Backhoe</td>
<td>Case 580</td>
<td>Close up wall excavation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-Shotcrete</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>Shotcrete pump</td>
<td>Swing tube type.</td>
<td>Apply struct. shotcrete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-Nail Installation</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>Drill</td>
<td>Krupp DHR-580A</td>
<td>Drilled nail holes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The sloughing was severe enough at times to influence the instrument readings, possibly giving misleading information relative to the specified wall construction procedure.

The project created a unique problem in that the stress states of the existing bridge foundation would be disturbed. Past experience has shown that soil nailed structures deflect horizontally about \(0.1 - 0.4\) percent relative to wall height\(^3\). At Swift Delta, predicted maximum horizontal deflection would then be approximately \(0.75 - 1.26\) inches. Since the wall face would be directly in front of the existing bridge piling, it is assumed that the piling also would deflect laterally and therefore a new bending stress would be induced.

\(^{3}\) French Soil Nail Manual
FIGURE 1: Location and Wall Plan

Legend
- Test Pit (TP)
- Boring (TB)

PLAN
Scale 1' : 20
after ODOT ref 1.2
FIGURE 2: Developed Elevation View
INSTRUMENTATION

The wall was fully instrumented with two separate sections located at UV line Station 130+59 (instrument section #1) and UV line Station 131+05 (instrument section #2). Figure 3 and Figure 4 show typical cross sections for the two instrumentation sections. The wall was instrumented to monitor nail stress distribution, pile cap deflection, wall deflection, pile bending strain, and wall earth pressure. The instrumentation consisted of vibrating wire strain gages, slope inclinometers, load cells, earth pressure cells, optical survey, and a single point extensometer. Table A-1 of Appendix A lists the instruments employed as well as the quantity, manufacturer, and accuracy. Vibrating wire strain gage locations were equally spaced down the dywidag bars (nails). Each location contained a gage on the top and bottom of the bar. Electronic load cells were located at the nail heads on rows one, three, and five at each instrument section and were cast into the final shotcrete face. The inclinometers were installed at UV line Station 130+62 (SI-130) and UV Station 131+25 (SI-129) approximately 3.5 feet behind the wall face. During construction instrument readings were taken after each wall lift was completed. Figures 5 through 9 are typical plots from the reduced instrumentation data with the reading date given on each figure. Post construction instrument readings were taken on monthly intervals. The full data is not presented in this report but
is available in the *Swift Delta Interchange Soil Nail Wall Instrumentation Data* report, available from FHWA, Region 10.

The vibrating wire strain gages were placed along the nails to measure both axial and bending strains. Load cells were placed at the nail heads to measure the nail load developed at the face. The single point extensometer was installed behind the pile cap to measure outward deflection of the pile cap. Four strain gages were also placed on two of the bridge piling at depths of approximately 5 and 12 feet. Earth pressure cells were placed behind the wall facing to measure the earth pressure behind the wall. Optical survey points were established along the wall face to measure horizontal deflection. Finally slope inclinometers were placed behind the wall as an additional means to monitor horizontal wall deflection. Instrumentation results for the earth pressure cells, pile strain gages and optical survey were found to be inconsistent and thought unreliable. Because of this they were not referenced for this report.
INSTRUMENTATION SECTION 1

FIGURE 3: Instrument Section #1 Cross Section
INSTRUMENTATION SECTION 2
(Slope "UV" 15' = 0.481)

FIGURE 4: Instrument Section #2 Cross Section
Tensile Nail Loads During Construction, Section 2, Row 1

FIGURE 6: Instrument Section #2 Nail Load Plots

Nail Length From Wall Face (feet)

Axial Nail Load (kips)

- - 12-10-90  - 12-13-90  - 12-18-90  - 1-16-91  - 3-16-91
FIGURE 7: Pile Cap Extensometer Plot
Multi-Deflection Plot - SD129
Vector Magnitude
Deflection (m)

Deflections During Construction (to 3-16-91)

FIGURE 8: SD 129 Slope Inclinometer Plot
FIGURE 9: SD 130 Slope Inclinometer Plot
SOIL TESTING

The soil fill behind the wall generally consisted of clean, uniform grained, loose dredge sand, previously borrowed from the Columbia River. There were also zones of low plasticity silt fill material and large pieces of wasted concrete, asphalt and cast iron pipe.

Laboratory Soils Testing At Swift Delta

Laboratory testing was performed by the Oregon State Highway Division (ODOT) during their investigation for the soil nail wall. Table II and III summarizes the laboratory testing results with the following notation:

- LL - Liquid limit
- IP - Plastic index
- Gama dry - Dry unit weight (pcf).
- Gama sat - Saturated unit weight (pcf).
- Su (torv) - Undrained shear strength from torvane (psf).
- Phi - Internal friction angle degrees.
- USCS - Unified soil classification system.

Table II represents the results of the only triaxial testing performed for this project on an undisturbed sample taken from test boring TB 115. This boring was not located in the immediate vicinity of the wall. The extent of shear strength testing conducted for wall design was not judged adequate for refined FEM input.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hole #</th>
<th>Depth</th>
<th>LL</th>
<th>PI</th>
<th>Gama dry</th>
<th>Phi</th>
<th>C (psf)</th>
<th>Su (tsf)</th>
<th>USCS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TB-115</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>129.6</td>
<td>.37</td>
<td>ML-CL</td>
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Insitu Testing At Swift Delta

To supplement the laboratory test program and form a test basis to develop constitutive parameters, Pressuremeter testing (PMT) was done in December 1990 and May 1991. Five pressuremeter tests were performed behind the wall in the vicinity of instrument section #2. A Texam pressuremeter unit (manufactured by Rocktest Inc.) utilizing EX and BX (32mm dia. and 62 mm dia respectively) probe sizes was used for these tests. The primary soil parameter used in the following report was the soil modulus $E_0$. From the pressuremeter testing a modulus value ranging from 200 - 500 ksf was estimated. It is interesting to note that French soil nail wall preliminary designs are based on correlations to pressuremeter test data\(^4\). The following table summarizes the pressuremeter test results for this project, in terms of net limit pressure, $P_{\text{l}}$, with $P_0$ as the at rest pressure.

All holes were drilled by hand augers and each test conducted in accordance with ASTM D4719. The results shown in Figures 10 and 11 illustrate the high quality data which is generally consistent with testing uniform sand at increasing depth. Figure 12 is a summary of the limit pressure and modulus at depth for the testing.

\(^4\) page 11, FHWA Tour for Geotechnology-Soil Nailing, June 1993
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FIGURE 10: EX Probe Pressuremeter Test Results
FIGURE 11: BX Probe Pressuremeter Test Results
Swift Delta PMT Summary

Pressuremeter Limit Pressure (ksf)

Increase of Eo with Depth

Increase of Pl* with Depth

Pl* @ 1 ksf/ft

Eo @ 5 ksf/ft

FIGURE 12: Pressuremeter Test Results Summary
TWO DIMENSIONAL FINITE ELEMENT MODELING

The monitored results of the project instrumentation are not enough alone to answer the questions presented in Section 1. Instrumentation data in conjunction with soil nail wall/bridge foundation modeling was performed to provide a more thorough analysis. Limit equilibrium based analysis can only describe the wall soil stress state at plastic failure and has no provision for linking the pile into the soil nail model. Limit equilibrium modeling was not suitable for the scope of this report. Finite element modeling was chosen as it had the ability to model the stress state of the soil nails, wall face, piling, and the soil during construction.

Instrumentation data was used to assist in calibration of the soil parameters. Attempting to correctly predict the exact soil stresses would not be practical, because of the limitations of two dimensional modeling and the limited information available on the soil strength parameters.

ABAQUS

All modeling was performed with the commercial finite element code ABAQUS versions 4.8 - 5.2. ABAQUS is produced by
Hibbitt, Karlson, and Sorenson Inc. It is a general purpose finite element program widely used for geotechnical analysis. It's capabilities are well documented for solving non-linear soil deformation problems. ABAQUS was run on both SUN SPARC one UNIX based work stations, and on the San Diego Super Computing Center's Cray MXP computer.

**PATRAN**

Pre-finite and post-finite element work was done using the UNIX based program PATRAN (produced by PDA Engineering). The pre-processor generated the finite element meshes used in the modeling. The post-processor generated all stress, strain, and deformation fringe plots. These fringe plots proved to be a very powerful tool in analyzing the complex output from ABAQUS. Figure 13 is an example of PATRAN postprocessing graphics.

**Finite Element Mesh Development**

The soil nail wall/pile foundation system was simplified to two dimensions. This was necessary due to the extremely large computational effort that a full non-linear, three dimensional model would require. Wherever the mesh geometry would allow,
4 node quadrilateral elements were used, to achieve the slope, 3 node triangular elements were also used. Past research has indicated that the behavior of anchors in sand is concentrated in its near vicinity. Anchor influence is considered to be insignificant at a maximum distance of 30 diameters. The location of the boundary of discrete semi-infinite zones was found to be 20 diameters by Deasi et. al. An 84 foot long by 35 foot high mesh boundary was used. The back of the wall face was placed a minimum of 80 diameters from the rear boundary (behind the nails). The nails were modeled with a single column of elements using a hexagon shape. The shotcrete face was modeled as two columns of elements; the first column to simulate the shotcrete wall face being placed in a "lift by lift" sequence; the second (outer) column to simulate the single application of shotcrete that was applied to the entire wall face. Bridge piling were modeled similar to the nails, with one column of elements and a hexagon shape.

Two wall geometries were modeled, the first of which is located under the bridge Figure 14 (instrument section #1 UV - Station 130+59). Figure 13 also shows the intensity of the mesh in the areas of interest such as the nails and wall face. The second is located outside the influence of the bridge foundation system (instrument section #2 UV - Line Station 131+05) Figure 15. Instrument section #1 consisted of

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approximately 450 elements and instrument section #2 consisted of approximately 435 elements. The two sections were analyzed for comparison of the effects of the pile foundation relative to a section that was not influenced by the pile foundation. Both plain strain and nonlinear analysis were performed on the same finite element meshes.

1 ksf Line Load Validation

The global geometry for the two finite element (FE) meshes is very similar, with the difference being the removal of elements near the pile cap for instrument section #1 to create a 2H:1V slope above the wall face. This removal creates instrument section #2. Thus instrument section #1 was constructed first and verified by placing a 1 ksf surface line load behind the pile cap and then analyzing it under purely elastic conditions. Figure 13 is the horizontal stress fringe plot and shows very reasonable results with a maximum compressive stress of approximately 1 ksf transitioning to lower compressive stress states below and outward from the load initiation area. Figure 13 is a combined deformed mesh and vertical deflection fringe plot. It can easily been seen that the maximum vertical deflection is at the surface and is on the order of two tenths of a foot. This deflection was compared with a closed form approximation to the vertical line.
load on a finite layer\textsuperscript{7}. The closed form solution predicted approximately .16 foot deflection. This is a very good comparison to the FE results. Appendix B contains additional fringe plots of horizontal stress, vertical strain, horizontal strain, and maximum shear stress for the 1 ksf line load condition. The results presented show that there are no obvious defects in the FE model and that it is ready for more advanced FE modeling as follows.

FIGURE 13: 1 ksf Line Load Vertical Stress
FIGURE 14: Finite Element Mesh Instrument Section #1
FIGURE 15: Finite Element Mesh Instrument Section #2
FIGURE 16: 1 ksf Line Load Horizontal Stress
PLANE STRAIN MODELING

Finite element modeling steps were first performed in plane strain elasticity for all models. This simplified the initial debugging process of the models. Three models were developed, two for instrument section #1 and one for instrument section #2. The instrument section #1 models consisted of one with the nails active (file name = linln) and the other with the nails and pile active (file name = linlp). In order to model the actual construction process a dynamic excavation process was developed. This process included removing elements to simulate the excavation of a soil lift, removing elements to simulate the drilling of the soil nail hole, replacing the nail drill hole elements with steel/grout elements to simulate the nail insertion, and adding shotcrete elements to the exposed soil face to simulate the structural shotcrete wall face. ABAQUS would not allow two different material properties to be assigned to one element. This would be needed at the nail locations to model the removal of soil and the insertion of a grouted nail by changing the soils material property to that of a nail section. Since this could not be permitted, dual elements had to be developed at the nail locations so that both soil and nail material properties could be used there at various stages of the model execution.

Capturing the piles influence was done with model linlp.
The nails and pile are connected to each other as one material where they cross each other in the mesh. The nails are modeled in all cases as a 6 inch tall cross section with a 1 foot width. The nail modulus was proportioned to take into account its width and steel/grout properties. The instrument section #2 model (file name = lin2n) contained just the nails.

The FE modeling steps are listed below for the lininp model and are based on the actual construction process that was used to construct the Swift Delta Soil Nail Wall as discussed in the construction section of this report.
lin1p (nolin1p) Instrument Section #1 Soil Nail

Modeling Steps

Step 1 - Removal of shotcrete, Nail, and pile elements.

Step 2 - Geostatic Turn On

Step 3 - Pile Installation

Step 4 - a) Excavation #1 (3.5 Ft)
          b) Add shotcrete to face.
          c) Drill nail hole by removing slope elements.
          d) Install Nail #1 (15 degrees 21.0 Ft)

Step 5 - a) Excavation #2 (5.5 Ft)
          b) Add shotcrete to face.
          c) Drill nail hole by removing slope elements.
          d) Install Nail #2 (15 degrees 21.1 Ft)

Step 6 - a) Excavation #3 (2.0 Ft).
          b) Add shotcrete to face.
          c) Drill nail hole by removing slope elements.
          d) Install Nail #3 (15 deg. 22.3 Ft).

Step 7 - a) Excavation #4 (3.0 Ft)
          b) Add shotcrete to face.
          c) Drill nail hole by removing slope elements.
          d) Install Nail #4 (15 degrees 20.9 Ft)

Step 8 - a) Excavation #5 (3.0 Ft).
          b) Add shotcrete to face.
          c) Drill nail hole by removing soil elements.
          d) Install Nail #5 (25 degrees 20.3 Ft)
(Model Steps, continued)

9 - a) Excavation #6 (1.5 Ft)
   b) Add shotcrete to excavation #6 and the second shotcrete application to the entire wall face.

10 - Geostatic turn on.

Fringe Plot Scaling
All of the vertical and horizontal stress fringe plots have been scaled to show soil response. Therefore, fringe plot ranges start at zero stress and end at a maximum compressive stress of -3500 psf. All of the major stress fringe plots were scaled to show nail response. These fringe plots start at zero stress and end at 10,000 psf (tension).
Geostatic Turn On

The FE modeling, begins with the activation of a geostatic stress field. This stress field sets the mesh to a gravity stress state which increases with depth in proportion to overburden pressure. ABAQUS requires that all non-horizontal boundaries be fixed in the horizontal direction. This results in a pseudo-geostatic stress field for slopes, such as the 2H:1V at Swift Delta. With this, good comparison was still obtained between ABAQUS for step 2 geostatic turn on of horizontal and vertical stress (Figures 17 and 18) and the predicted stress states for instantaneously loaded linear elastic embankments by Poulos et al 1972.

Incremental Modeling

All three models were checked in linear elasticity through the complete incremental modeling process. This included the introduction of the five nails and the separate application of a final shotcrete lift. For the sake of redundancy, linln are the only linear elastic results presented in Figures 18 through 23, which are the horizontal stress fringe plots and illustrate the sequential modeling steps. The plots show reasonable results except for a small stress anomaly below nail #5 at the wall face. It appeared to be a defect in the

7Poulos and Davis
mesh but after analyzing the input data it could not be isolated. It did not appear to interfere with the models functioning. Analysis of the major stress fringe plots, (Figures 24 through 30), show the behavior of the nails. Figure 24 shows that the 1st nail installed is in an extremely high state of stress (maximum 3,300 psf) relative to the surrounding soil. This elevated stress state is not what would be expected from a typical nail installation, there the nail would be at a zero state of stress until a soil lift was excavated below the nail. The reason for the ABAQUS model high nail initial stress state is probably due to high soil strains developed after the soil cut lift was made. The problem occurs when the nail elements are introduced as a material with a much higher modulus that must undergo the same amount of strain as the lower modulus soil did originally. Therefore a correspondingly high state of nail stress is the result. Figures 25 and 26 show that the second nails initial stress of approximately maximum 3,300 psf dissipates to approximately 2,000 psf with the subsequent excavation of lift #3. This same phenomenon is repeated for nails #3 and #4, but is not seen in nail #5 which is installed at a high stress state and seems to remain at a high stress state. This FEM anomaly illustrates the difficulty in modeling soil nails.
FIGURE 17: LIN1N Geostatic Turn On Model Step 2 Horiz. Stress
FIGURE 18: LIN1N Model Step 3
FIGURE 19: LIN1N Model Step 4
FIGURE 20: LIN1N Model Step 5
FIGURE 21: LIN1N Model Step 6
FIGURE 22: LIN1N Model Step 8
FIGURE 24: LIN1N Model Step 3
SWIFT DELTA FINITE ELEMENT MESH
LIN1N MODEL STEP 4

FIGURE 25: LIN1N Model Step 4
FIGURE 26: LIN1N Model Step 5 Major Stress
FIGURE 27: Model Step 6 Major Stress
SWIFT DELTA FINITE ELEMENT MESH
LIN1N MODEL STEP 7

FIGURE 28: LIN1N Model Step 7 Major Stress
FIGURE 29: NOLIN1N Step 8 Major Stress
FIGURE 30: LIN1N Model Step 9 Major Stress
NON LINEAR PLANE STRAIN ANALYSIS

Introduction
Most engineering construction materials, including soils, initially respond elastically on loading. Elastic behavior implies that when a material is loaded and then unloaded, the deformation is fully recoverable and the materials shape is left un-deformed. If the load exceeds the yield load then deformation will occur. Plasticity theories model a material’s mechanical response as it undergoes nonrecoverable deformation in a ductile fashion. Plasticity theories have been developed mostly for metal, but they can also be applied to soils, rock, concrete, ice, and other materials. Metals and soils behave very differently when loaded but the fundamental concepts of plasticity theories are sufficiently general that models based on this concepts have been developed and proven for a wide range of materials. Most of the plasticity models that ABAQUS uses are based on incremental theories, in which the strain is decomposed into an elastic part and inelastic (plastic) part. Plasticity models that do not use the above method are usually called "deformation" based plasticity models, in which stress is defined from the total mechanical strain. Incremental plasticity models are usually formulated in terms of a yield surface, which generalizes the concept of yield load into a test function, which can be used to determine if a material will behave purely elastic at a particular state of stress. A flow rule,
that defines the inelastic deformation that must occur if the material point is no longer performing purely elastically, and some evolution laws that define the hardening, the way in which the yield and or flow definitions change as inelastic deformation occurs. These models also need an elasticity definition to deal with the recoverable part of strain.

Rate independent, yield behavior does not depend on soil pressure state. Due to the lack of sophisticated soils testing at the Swift Delta site, a complex soil plasticity model is not appropriate. A simple soil model using bilinear material idealization was used. The kinematic hardening model used in ABAQUS was the Prager-Ziegler model. This model gives good results up to about 20% strain, but does not take into account rate effects or soil pressure state in relation to yield behavior.

The elastic region of the soil model was defined the same way as the purely linear finite element analysis, with an elastic modulus and a Poisons Ratio. The plastic region is defined by the yield stress, hardened stress, and hardened strain.

In the past two decades many formulations of nonlinear soil behavior have been published. The most successful being the hyperbolic soil model proposed by J.M. Duncan, which has

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been incorporated into numerous geotechnical problems. There are many shortcomings of the classical solution such as the parameters describing the soil behavior being derived from conventional triaxial tests. The hyperbolic, stress-dependent soil model proposed by J.M. Duncan et al utilizes a total of nine parameters to describe stress-strain characteristics of the soil.

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9Duncan, J.M.; Byrne, P.; Wong KLS.; Mabry, P. Strength, Stress-Strain and Bulk Modulous Parameters For Finite Element Analyses of Stresses and Movements in Soil Masses. Geotechnical Engineering. 1980. Department of Civil Engineering, University of California, Berkeley.
The non-linear ABAQUS models were developed by modifying the linear models discussed previously and incorporating the material properties shown in table 4. The modification consisted of replacing the single layer linear elastic soil properties with a three layer elasto-plastic system. The non-linear file names are as follows:

- nolin1n - Instrument section #1 nails in, pile out.
- nolin1p - Instrument section #1 nails in, pile in.
- nolin2n - Instrument section #2 nail in, pile out.

An example input file nolin1p is located in appendix D.
RESULTS INTERPRETATION

Interpretation of Instrument Section #2 Results

The interpretation of the results consist of PATRAN fringe plots and x-y plots generated in a spread sheet using PATRAN output data results. Instrument section #2 has the least complicated model and the least number of variables. Because of this detailed discussion of Instrument Section #2 results are presented first:

Horizontal Soil Stresses

Horizontal stress fringe plots for models 3, 5, and 8 are shown in Figures 31, 32, and 33 respectively. In comparison to the elastic results, there is only a slight difference in horizontal stresses. The soil stresses within the limits of the nails are somewhat discontinuous.

Vertical Soil Stresses

Vertical stress plots for model steps 3, 5, and 8 are shown in Figures 34, 35, and 36 respectively. As with the horizontal stresses, the soil stress within the limits of the nails are somewhat broken up. The vertical stresses behind the nails however, are not discontinuous and are at the same approximate stress as before the nails were introduced. There is considerable stress change in front of the wall facing. As Figure 36 shows for step 8, the compressive stress is higher
near the wall face, rapidly dissipating to zero vertical stress, as would be required for the stress level, at the ground surface in front of the wall.

Nail Stresses
Major stress plots for model steps 3, 5, and 8 are presented in Figures 37, 38, and 39 respectively. These plots show the nails being introduced at what appears to be an elevated state of stress. This must be due to a modulus incompatibility that has previously been discussed under plain strain modeling. In Figure 39 model step 8, the nail stress conforms reasonably well to what would be anticipated, which is to have the highest nail forces at the top of the wall incremental decreasing to the bottom of the wall. This is with the exception of the newly introduced nail 5. Since tension in a row of nails starts only when the lower levels are being excavated.

Deflections
The soil deflection in front of the wall facing is shown in model step 8 (Figures 41 and 42). The plots show that the soil in front of the wall face along the lift excavation boundary heaves up slightly. The heave is on the order of .05 feet for all three lifts plotted. This heave does correlate with the vertical stress changes across the excavation lift boundary discussed above.
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN2N STATIC STEP 3

FIGURE 31: NOLIN2N Model Step 3 Horiz Stress
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN2N STATIC STEP 5

FIGURE 32: Model NOLIN2N Static Step 5 Horiz. Stress
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN2N STATIC STEP 8

FIGURE 33: Model NOLIN2N Static Step 8 Horiz. Stress
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN2N STATIC STEP 5

FIGURE 35: Model NOLIN2N Static Step 5 Vert. Stress
Figure 36: Model NOLIN2N Static Step 8 Vert. Stress
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS
MODEL NOLIN2N STATIC STEP 3

FIGURE 37: Model NOLIN2N Static Step 3 Major Stress
FIGURE 38: Model NOLIN2N Static Step 5 Major Stress
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN1N STATIC STEP 8

FIGURE 39: Model NOLIN2N Static Step 8 Major Stress
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN2N STATIC STEP 8

FIGURE 40: Model NOLIN2N Static Step 8 Horiz. Strain
FIGURE 41: Model NOLIN2N Static Step 8 Vert. Disp.
Section #1 Results
This report attempts the difficult task of solving a three dimensional problem in two dimensions. Two separate models were developed one with piles and nails present (nolin1p) and the other with just the nails present (nolin1n). The bridge pile was inserted into the nolin1p model immediately after the geostatic turn on was completed. This put the pile in the model in a un-stressed state and the piles own self weight stresses are not accounted for. Because of this it is important to realize when analyzing the fringe plots for the nolin1p and nolin1n models that the nolin1p model has an additional step and the same two model steps will not correspond with the same excavation lifts. The following sections presents the data for the two models simultaneously and discusses the results in detail:

Horizontal Soil Stress
The horizontal stress fields for the two instrument section #1 models appear to be identical. Figures 43 through 48 present the patran horizontal stress fringe plot results for nolin1n and nolin1p model steps 3, 5, and 8. The stress plots show a very reasonable geostatic stress field at locations away from the nail inclusions and clearly show the presence of the nails as tensile elements.
Vertical Stresses

The *nolinlp* fringe plot (Figure 49) clearly shows that the piling was introduced at a zero stress state. In addition there is some vertical stress imbalance in the pile at the elevation of the bottom of the excavation lift. This vertical stress imbalance is a sign that bending stresses are being generated as a result of the excavation. Figures 50 and 51 show that new pile stresses are not introduced during excavation lifts two and three. After excavation lift four (Figure 52) some minor stress changes in the pile can be seen above nail three. Again after excavation lift five, changes in pile vertical stress can be seen (Figure 53). At the location were nail three intersects the pile continued minor bending stresses have been developed. For reference *nolinln* fringe plots are shown in Figure 3, 5, and 8 (Figures 54 through 56). These plots show vertical stress fields that are consistent with the *nolin2n* plots and appear reasonable.

Nail Stresses

As discussed previously the nails in the first excavation lift of *nolinln* and *nolinlp* appear to be introduced at a stress level higher than the actual (Figures 57 and 58 respectively). The major stress fringe plot for step 3 of the *nolinln* model (Figure 57) also shows much higher tensile stresses in the wall face (maximum 5,333 psf) than the corresponding maximum tensile stress of 1,333 psf for the *nolinlp* model (Figure 58).
It is important to note that the peak stresses for the nolin1n model are present at the back of the shotcrete wall face whereas the peak stresses for the nolin1p model are directly behind the piling. This is because the nail and the pile are tied together in the nolin1p model. Although this is not geometrically correct it could be an approach to modeling arching effects between the existing piling, nails, and shotcrete face. Excavation step four shows a considerable reduction in nail stress for nails three through four in the nolin1p model (Figure 59) as compared with the nolin1n model (Figure 60). Closer inspection of figures 59 and 60 reveal that there maybe significant pile nail interaction. This is based on the fact that the nolin1p models stress is distributed down a much shorter length of the nail than the nolin1n model. Logically if the pile had no nail interaction effect in the nolin1p model than the nail stresses would be the same as the nolin1n model and shifted to the back of the nail a distance equal to the pile diameter. This phenomenon is also apparent in the last excavation lift (Figures 61 and 62) but not as pronounced as in the previous excavation lift. The effect maybe somewhat masked in the last excavation lift, because a large overall stress redistribution takes place in the existing nails due to the large lift height and the steeper angle of the last nail.
Pile Stresses
Most fringe plots were scaled in major stress from 0 to 1500 psf (tension), for clarity other ranges were also used. Figure 63 illustrates the true zero stress state that the pile was installed under. After the first excavation lift (Figure 64) shows the pile under going a stress change from zero stress to one that is tensile. This appears to be a result of the excavation unloading. The stress change is not completely uniform and it is certain that some minor bending stresses are introduced. Figure 65 further confirms that tensile major stresses are induced in the pile as the excavation sequence advances. Unfortunately it is very difficult to determine true bending stresses. With this model it is only safe to say that some bending stresses are being developed.

Deflections
The same heaving of the excavation lift base has been identified for both the nol in 1 n and the nol in 1 p models as was seen in the nol in 2 n model. The horizontal and vertical node deflections for excavation lift 6 is identical for all three models. An x-y plot of those displacements is presented in Figure 66. This is reasonable since for the most part the three models have identical conditions in front of the wall face.
Again the deflections correspond well with the vertical stress fields in front of the wall as can be seen in Figure 56.

Figure 67 and 68 are x-y plots of the shotcrete wall facing deflection profiles for the nolin1n and nolin1p models respectively. Both models show reasonable deflection of the wall face with the maximum being at the top. The wall face deflection are in proportion to the size of the excavation lifts, which can be seen between excavation lifts one and two. There is not a major contrast between the deflections for the nolin1n and nolin1p model and interestingly the nolin1p model shows slightly more deflection (.033 ft) than the nolin1n model (.031 ft).

Figure 69 is a horizontal displacement fringe plot for the nolin1p model after the insertion of the fifth nail (model step 8). This plot clearly shows that the pile deflection is in direct proportion to wall face deflection. Therefore the pile cap translates the full .033 ft that the wall face did at the end of excavation lift 6. This supports the fact that some bending stresses were identified in early sections of this report. For assistance in visualizing the pile bending see figure 70 an exaggerated deformed mesh plot for the nolin1p model.
COMPARISON BETWEEN FEM RESULTS AND INSTRUMENT MEASUREMENTS

The following section identifies the similarities and discrepancies with the instrument data collected at the Swift Delta wall.

Deflections

The field measurement data that will be used for comparison is the single point pile cap extensometer located at Approx UV Station 128+00 and the slope inclinometers SI 129 and SI 130 located at UV Stations 131+25 and 130+62 respectively. It is important to note that SI 130 was a replacement inclinometer for one that was destroyed during construction. Therefore it does not cover full wall construction.

When interpreting soil nail wall deflection data it is important to recall the following factors that effect wall displacement:

- Rate of construction
- Height of excavation phases and spacing between nails
- Extensibility of nails
- Global safety factor of the wall
- L/H ratio
- Inclination of the nails and, in this case, their bending stiffness
Bearing capacity of the foundation soils

The nolin2n and nolin1n wall face displacements are identical. Apparently the removal of the concrete pile cap was an even exchange of overburden pressure for the 2H:1V soil slope. This gives some validation to the nolin1n model as being a control section without the influence of the bridge pile to the nolinlp model. Modeled wall displacements were slightly less than those predicted by the h/1000 - 4h/1000 rule of thumb however exceptionally good agreement was obtained between the single point extensometer (max deflection= .32 inches from figure 7) and the ABAQUS models (max deflection= .4 inches from figure 68). The two slope inclinometers recorded higher deflections than those of the abaqus model and the extensometer. SI 130 had a maximum deflection of approximately .7 inches (Figure 9) and SI 129 had a maximum deflection of approximately .5 inches (Figure 8). The higher deflections can be attributed in part to excessive sloughing of material during construction. This slough occurred in the vicinity of both SI 130 and SI 129. Another reason for the higher monitored deflections was the length of time it took for construction in the area of the two slope inclinometers. In this area it took longer than that under the bridge near instrument section #1. This may be something to consider for

---

10 Recommendations Clouterre 1991 (Presses Ponts et chaussées), p. 55
future FE modeling and that is to incorporate a time function.

The horizontal displacement fringe plot in figure 69 clearly shows that the nailed zone behaves as a gravity block. This is the way soil nail walls are suspected to behave and give strong validation to the ABAQUS modeling techniques used.

**Measured Nail Stresses**

The field measurement data that will be used for comparison are the nail strain gages and load cells. Due to the modelia soil nail with ABAQUS and the resulting high initial stress states, direct comparison of nail stresses or loads will not be made. Instead the nail stress distributions from the ABAQUS models will be compared to the reduced nail loads that were developed from the instrument data (figures 71 through 76). The measured data is not plotted with respect to lift sequence but rather the date it was recorded on. The actual construction lift dates are as follows: Lift 1 - Completed 12/10/90

Lift 2 - Completed 12/12/90
Lift 3 - Completed 1/8/90
Lift 4 - Completed 1/16/91
Lift 5 - Completed 1/24/91

For ease of comparison of the model data to the instrument data the noln1n, noln1p, and noln2n nail stresses were plotted versus nail length (figures 77 through 85). In general the stress trends in the ABAQAS models
nolin1n, nolin1p, and nolin2n compare well with the measured loads. In particular the instrument section one - nail one, load distribution compares well with the nolin1n and nolin1p models. Some of the apparent random load measured in instrument section two compares well enough to the nolin2n model to make one reconsider it's randomness.
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN2N STATIC STEP 8

FIGURE 42: Model NOLIN2N static Step 8 Horiz. Disp.
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN1N STATIC STEP 3

FIGURE 43: Model NOLIN1N Static Step 3 Horiz. Stress

nolin1n3.fil
FIGURE 44: Model NOLIN1P Static Step 4 Horiz. Stress
FIGURE 45: Model NOLIN1N Static Step 5 Horiz. Stress
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN1P STATIC STEP 6

FIGURE 46: Model NOLIN1P Static Step 6 Horiz. Stress
FIGURE 47: Model NOLIN1P Static Step 9 Horiz. Stress
FIGURE 48: NOLIN1N Model Static Step 8 Horiz. Stress
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN1P STATIC STEP 4

FIGURE 49: Model NOLIN1P Static Step 8 Vert. Stress
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN1P STATIC STEP 5

FIGURE 50: Model NOLIN1P Static Step 5 Vert. Stress

Vert Stress (psf)

-3500.
-3267.
-3033.
-2800.
-2567.
-2333.
-2100.
-1867.
-1633.
-1400.
-1167.
-933.3
-700.0
-466.7
-233.3
0.
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

FIGURE 51: Model NOLIN1P Static Step 6 Vert. Stress

Vert Stress

-3500.

-3267.

-3033.

-2800.

-2567.

-2333.

-2100.

-1867.

-1633.

-1400.

-1167.

-933.3

-700.0

-466.7

-233.3

0.
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

FIGURE 52: Model NOLIN1P Static Step 7 Vert. Stress

nolin1p3.fil
FIGURE 53: Model NOLIN1P Static Step 9 Vert. Stress
FIGURE 54: Model NONLIN1N Static Step 3 Vert. Stress
Vert Stress


SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NONLIN1N STATIC STEP 5

FIGURE 55: Model NONLIN1N Static Step 5 Vert. Stress
FIGURE 56: NOLIN1N Model Step 8 Vert Stress
### Fig. 57: Model NONLIN1N Static Step 3 Major Stress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Stress (psf)</th>
<th>10000.</th>
<th>9333.</th>
<th>8667.</th>
<th>8000.</th>
<th>7333.</th>
<th>6667.</th>
<th>6000.</th>
<th>5333.</th>
<th>4667.</th>
<th>4000.</th>
<th>3333.</th>
<th>2667.</th>
<th>2000.</th>
<th>1333.</th>
<th>666.7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**nolin1n3.fil**  
**FIGURE 57:** Model NONLIN1N Static Step 3 Major Stress
FIGURE 58: Model NONLIN1P Static Step 4 Major Stress

nolin1p3.fil
FIGURE 59: Model NONLIN1P Static Step 7 Major Stress
FIGURE 60: Model NONLIN1N Static Step 6 Major Stress
FIGURE 61: Model NONLIN1P Static Step 9 Major Stress
FIGURE 62: Model NONLIN1P Static Step 8 Major Stress
FIGURE 63: Model NONLIN1P, Static Step 3 Major Stress
FIGURE 64: Model NONLIN1P Static Step 4 Major Stress
FIGURE 65: Model NONLIN1P Static Step 6 Major Stress
Swift Delta FEM Results
Lift #6 Excav Deflec vs Dist from Face

FIGURE 66: Soil Excavation Lift Displacement
Swift Delta FEM Results
Shotcrete Face Deflection vs Height

[Graph showing the relationship between face deflection and distance down the face for various lifts and examples.]

FIGURE 67: NONLIN1 Wall Face Deflection
Swift Delta FEM Results
Shotcrete Face Deflection vs Height.

FIGURE 68: NONLIN1P Wall Face Deflection
FIGURE 69: Model NONLIN1P Step 8 Horiz. Disp.
FIGURE 71: Instrument Section 1 Row 1 and 2 Nail Loads

Tensile Nail Loads During Construction, Section 1, Row 1

Tensile Nail Loads During Construction, Section 1, Row 2

FIGURE 71: Instrument Section 1 Row 1 and 2 Nail Loads
FIGURE 72: Instrument Section 1 Row 3 and 4 Nail Loads
FIGURE 73: Instrument Section 1 Row 5 Nail Loads
FIGURE 74: Instrument Section 2 Row 1 And 2 Nail Loads
FIGURE 75: Instrument Section 2 Row 3 And 4 Nail Loads
Tensile Nail Loads During Construction, Section 2, Row 5

FIGURE 76: Instrument Section 2 Row 5 Nail Loads
Swift Delta FEM Results
Nail #1 Stress vs Nail Length (nolin1n)

Nail #2 Stress vs Nail Length (nolin1n)

FIGURE 77: NONLIN1N Nail 1 and 2 Stresses
Swift Delta FEM Results

Nail #3 Stress vs Nail Length (nolin1n)

Nail #4 Stress vs Nail Length (nolin1n)

FIGURE 78: NONLIN1N Nail 3 and 4 Stresses
Swift Delta FEM Results

Nail #5 Stress vs Nail Length (nolin1n)

FIGURE 79: NOLIN1N Nail 5 Stress
Swift Delta FEM Results

Nail #1 Stress vs Nail Length (nolin1p)

Nail #2 Stress vs Nail Length (nolin1p)

FIGURE 80: NONLIN1P Nail 1 And 2 Stresses
Swift Delta FEM Results

Nail #3 Stress vs Nail Length (nolin1p)

Nail #4 Stress vs Nail Length (nolin1p)

FIGURE 81: NONLIN1P Nail 3 And 4 Stresses
Swift Delta FEM Results

Nail #5 Stress vs Nail Length (nolin1p)

FIGURE 82: NONLIN1P Nail 5 And 4 Stresses
Swift Delta FEM Results
Nail #1 Stress vs Nail Length (nolin2n)

Nail #2 Stress vs Nail Length (nolin2n)

FIGURE 83: NONLIN2N Nail 1 And 2 Stresses
Swift Delta FEM Results

Nail #3 Stress vs Nail Length (noli2n)

Nail #4 Stress vs Nail Length (nolin2n)

FIGURE 84: NONLIN2N Nail 3 And 4 Stresses
Swift Delta FEM Results
Nail #5 Stress vs Nail Length (noln2n)

FIGURE 85: NONLIN2N Nail 5
CONCLUSIONS AND FURTHER STUDY

At the time that this project was started no other FE codes written specifically for soil nail walls was available. The application of ABAQUS was not routine and the general purpose FE code was not soil nail friendly. Even with this good comparison of modeled deflections to measured data (figure 86) give some support to the validity of the ABAQUS models. However, comparison of predicted nail stresses to measured did not show particularly good agreement. This is in part due to the difficulty in modeling soil nails which mainly lies with the variability in grouting and nail/soil modulus incompatibility. The results of this report indicate that the presence of the pile within the nail zone results in lower over all nail stresses. This is possibly due to soil arching between piling. The nail zone was found to form a gravity block. Within this block horizontal displacements were found to be relatively uniform. This type of movement confirms what has been suggested by others, and that is that soil nail walls behave in a gravity block fashion. With this type of behavior and considering the piling. The piling has to be deflecting with the soil mass and under going new bending stresses.
Further study in this area could include continued FEM work with nails that more correctly model the initial stress state. A time function should be considered to simulate actual construction time. In addition more full scale studies of pile supported bridge abutment/nail walls should be performed. These studies should incorporate piling instrumentation to accurately measure any nail wall induced bending. The future modeling results and measurements should be combined and used to form a design procedure for pile supported abutments with nail walls in front of them.
Swift Delta FEM Results
Measured and Predicted Face Deflection

FIGURE 86: Measured and Predicted Wall Face Deflection
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument Type</th>
<th>Manufacturer</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Readout Units</th>
<th>Accuracy</th>
<th>Qty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vibrating Wire Strain Gages</td>
<td>Geokon/RST</td>
<td>VK4100</td>
<td>Micro Strain</td>
<td>+/-1 Micro E</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Load Cell</td>
<td>Carlson/RST</td>
<td>SCA-100-1.5x4.00</td>
<td>Micro Strain</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pneumatic Earth Cell</td>
<td>SINCO</td>
<td>51408200</td>
<td>psi</td>
<td>.25%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiltmeter/Plates</td>
<td>SINCO</td>
<td>50304400/503 2300</td>
<td>2(sin)theta</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Point Extensometer</td>
<td>RST</td>
<td>EX-1</td>
<td>In</td>
<td>1 in 10,000</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey Tag Line</td>
<td>Wild EDM</td>
<td>T-16</td>
<td>Feet</td>
<td>.05 Ft</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Load Cell Read Out</td>
<td>RST</td>
<td>Micro E 350</td>
<td>Micro Strain</td>
<td>+/- 1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strain Gage Readout</td>
<td>Geokon/RST</td>
<td>GK-401</td>
<td>Micro Strain</td>
<td>+/- 1 psi</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Pressure Cell Readout</td>
<td>SINCO</td>
<td></td>
<td>+/- 1 psi</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LVDT Extensometers</td>
<td>RST</td>
<td>EX-1</td>
<td>In</td>
<td>1 in 100</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX B

NOLIN1NP INPUT FILE
**DENSITY
145.0
**

*INITIAL CONDITIONS, TYPE=STRESS, GEOSTATIC
SOIL, 0.0, 0.35, -3500.0, 0.0, 1.0
**

*----------- REMOVAL OF ELEMENTS TO BE INSTALLED DURING CONSTRUCTION -----------
**

*STEP, AMPLITUDE=RAMP
**

LOAD 1 REMOVAL OF ELEMENTS TO BE ADDED LATER.
**

*STATIC
*DLLOAD
*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
PILE
*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
AP1SC
*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
AP2SC
*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
AP3SC
*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
AP4SC
*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
AP5SC
*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
AP6SC
*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
NAIL1
*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
NAIL2
*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
NAIL3
*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
NAIL4
*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
NAIL5
**

*END STEP
**

*STEP, AMPLITUDE=RAMP
**

*----------- GRAVITY CONDITIONS ----------------------------------------------
**

*----------- GRAVITY LOAD -----------------------------------------------
**

LOAD 2 APPLICATION OF GEOSTATIC STRESS
*GEOSTATIC
*DLLOAD, OP=NEW
SOIL, BY, -102.0
**

*BOUNDARY, OP=NEW

1, 1, 0.0
2, 1, 0.0
3, 1, 0.0
4, 1, 0.0
5, 1, 0.0
6, 1, 0.0
7, 1, 0.0
8, 1, 0.0
9, 1, 0.0
10, 1, 0.0
11, 1, 0.0
12, 1, 0.0
**EL FILE2, POSITION=CENTROIDAL
S
SINV
E
EE
**

*NODE FILE, GLOBAL=YES U
*EL PRINT, ELSET=NAIL1, POSITION=CENTROIDAL S
SINV
S
EE
*EL PRINT, ELSET=NAIL2, POSITION=CENTROIDAL S
SINV
E
EE
**

*END STEP
**

------------------------PILE INSTALLATION------------------------

*STEP, AMPLITUDE=RAMP
*STATIC
*DLOAD
**----------------------Remove Pile Soil Elements----------------------

*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE FILEX
**------------------- Add Pile Elements ------------------------------------

*MODEL CHANGE, INCLUDE
PILE
*EL FILE, POSITION=CENTRODIAL
S
E
SINV
EE
*END STEP
**

**------------------- EXCAVATION LIFT #1 ----------------------------------

**

**STEP, AMPLITUDE=RAMP
LOAD 3 Excavation of soil lift and the installation of Nail#1
*STATIC
*DLOAD

**------------------- Remove Soil Slope for Lift #1 --------------------------

*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE EX1S
**

**------------------- Add Shotcrete to newly cut soil face -----------------

*MODEL CHANGE, INCLUDE AP1SC

**------------------- Remove Soil in nail location (drill) -------------------

*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE SNEL1
**

**------------------- Install soil nail in wall -----------------------------

*MODEL CHANGE, INCLUDE NAIL1
**

*EL FILE, POSITION=CENTRODIAL
S
E
SINV
EE

*NODE FILE, GLOBAL=YES
U

*EL PRINT, ELSET=PNAIL1, POSITION=CENTRODIAL
S
SINV
E
EE

*NODE PRINT, NSET=FACE1
U

*NODE PRINT, NSET=H1
U

*END STEP
**

------------------- EXCAVATION LIFT #2 ----------------------------------

**STEP, AMPLITUDE=RAMP
LOAD 4 Excavation of soil lift #2 and the installation of Nail#2
*STATIC
*DLOAD

**------------------- Remove Soil Slope for Lift #2 --------------------------

*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE EX2S

**------------------- Add Shotcrete to Newly Cut Soil Face ------------------

*MODEL CHANGE, INCLUDE AP2SC

**------------------- Remove Soil in Nail Location ---------------------------

*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE SNEL2
**

------------------- Install Soil Nail in Wall -------------------------------
*MODEL CHANGE, INCLUDE
NAIL2
**
*EL FILE, POSITION=CENTRODIAL
S
E
SINV
EE
**
*NODE FILE, GLOBAL=YES
U
**
*EL PRINT, ELSET=PNAIL2, POSITION=CENTRODIAL
S
E
**
*NODE PRINT, NSET=FACE1
U
**
*NODE PRINT, NSET=H2
U
**
*END STEP
**
**----------------------EXCAVATION LIFT #3-----------------------------­
*STEP, AMPLITUDE=RAMP
LOAD 5 Excavation of soil lift #3 and the installation of Nail#3
*STATIC
*DLOAD
**----------------------EXCAVATION LIFT #3-----------------------------­
*STEP, AMPLITUDE=RAMP
LOAD 6 Excavation of soil lift #4 and the installation of Nail#4
*STATIC
*DLOAD
**------------------ Remove Soil Slope for Lift #4 ---------------------------**

*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
EX5S

**------------------ Add Shotcrete to Newly Cut Soil Face -------------------**

*MODEL CHANGE, INCLUDE
AP4SC

**------------------ Remove Soil in Nail Location --------------------------**

*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
SNEL4

**------------------ Install Soil Nail in Wall -----------------------------**

*MODEL CHANGE, INCLUDE
NAIL4

**

*EL FILE, POSITION=CENTRODIAL
S
E

*NODE FILE, GLOBAL=YES
U

*EL PRINT, ELSET=PNAIL4, POSITION=CENTRODIAL
S
E

*NODE PRINT, NSET=H4
U

*NODE PRINT, NSET=FACE1
U

*END STEP

**

**------------------ EXCAVATION LIFT #5 -------------------------------**

*STEP, AMPLITUDE=RAMP
LOAD 7 Excavation of soil lift #5 and the installation of Nail#5.

*STATIC

*DLOAD

**------------------ Remove Soil Slope for Lift #5 --------------------------**

*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
EXSS

**------------------ Add Shotcrete to Newly Cut Soil Face -------------------**

*MODEL CHANGE, INCLUDE
APSSC

**------------------ Remove Soil in Nail Location --------------------------**

*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE
SNEL5

**------------------ Install Soil Nail in Wall -----------------------------**

*MODEL CHANGE, INCLUDE
NAIL5

**

*EL FILE, POSITION=CENTRODIAL
S
E
SINV
EE

*NODE FILE, GLOBAL=YES
U

*EL PRINT, ELSET=PNAIL5, POSITION=CENTRODIAL
S
E

*NODE PRINT, NSET=H5
U

*NODE PRINT, NSET=FACE1
**END STEP

**----------------------EXCAVATION LIFT #6 -------------------------------

*STATIC

**---------------------- Remove Soil Slope for Lift #6 ------------------------

*MODEL CHANGE, REMOVE EX6S

**-----------------Add Shotcrete to Newly Cut Soil Face ---------------------

*MODEL CHANGE, INCLUDE APESC

**

*EL FILE, POSITION=CENTRODIAL

**

*NODE FILE, GLOBAL=YES

**

*EL PRINT, ELSET=PNAIL5, POSITION=CENTRODIAL

**

*NODE PRINT, NSET=H6

**

*NODE PRINT, NSET=FACE1

**

**END STEP

**

*STEP, AMPLITUDE=RAMP

**---------------------- Activate Shotcrete WEIGHT -------------------------

*GEOSTATIC

*LOAD SHOT, BY, -145.0

**

*EL FILE, POSITION=CENTRODIAL

**

*NODE FILE, GLOBAL=YES

**

*EL PRINT, ELSET=PNAIL5, POSITION=CENTRODIAL

**

*NODE PRINT, NSET=H6

**

*NODE PRINT, NSET=FACE1

**

*FILE FORMAT, ASCII

END STEP
APPENDIX C

LINEAR ELASTIC PATRAN PLOTS
SWIFT DELTA FINITE ELEMENT MESH

LIN1N MODEL STEP 5
APPENDIX D

NON-LINEAR PATRAN PLOTS
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN1N STATIC STEP 4

Horiz Stress (psf)
0
-233.3
-466.7
-700.0
-933.3
-1167
-1400
-1633
-1867
-2100
-2333
-2567
-2800
-3033
-3267
-3500
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL FEM RESULTS
MODEL NOLIN1N STATIC STEP 6

Horiz Stress (psf)

-3500
-3267
-3033
-2800
-2567
-2333
-2100
-1867
-1633
-1400
-1167
-933.3
-700.0
-466.7
-233.3
0

nolin1n3.fil
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN1P STATIC STEP 3

Vert Strain

0.001649
0.001304
0.0009592
0.0006144
0.0002696
-0.00007518
-0.0004200
-0.0007647
-0.001110
-0.001454
-0.001799
-0.002144
-0.002489
-0.002833
-0.003178
-0.003523
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS
MODEL NOLIN1P STATIC STEP 4

nolin1p3.fil
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN1P STATIC STEP 8

Major Strain

-0.000000001000 -1--'
U1 1--'

nolin1p3.fil
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN1N GEOSTATIC STEP 2

Horiz Stress (psf)

-3500.
-3267.
-3033.
-2800.
-2567.
-2333.
-2100.
-1867.
-1633.
-1400.
-1167.
-933.3
-700.0
-466.7
-233.3
0.

nolin1n3.fil
SWIFT DELTA SOIL NAIL WALL FEM RESULTS

MODEL NOLIN2N STATIC STEP 8
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