DESIGN AND DETAILING OF RETAINING WALLS

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Learning Outcomes:

- After this class students will be able to do the complete design and detailing of different types of retaining walls.
RETAINING WALL

Retaining walls are usually built to hold back soil mass. However, retaining walls can also be constructed for aesthetic landscaping purposes.
Cantilever Retaining wall with shear key

- Batter
- Drainage Hole
- Toe
- Backfill
- Stem
- Base
- Key
- Heel
Photos of Retaining walls
Classification of Retaining walls

- Gravity wall-Masonry or Plain concrete
- Cantilever retaining wall-RCC (Inverted T and L)
- Counterfort retaining wall-RCC
- Buttress wall-RCC
Classification of Retaining walls

- **Gravity RW**
- **T-Shaped RW**
- **L-Shaped RW**
- **Counterfort RW**
- **Buttress RW**
Earth Pressure (P)

- Earth pressure is the pressure exerted by the retaining material on the retaining wall. This pressure tends to deflect the wall outward.

- **Types of earth pressure:**
  - Active earth pressure or earth pressure ($P_a$) and
  - Passive earth pressure ($P_p$).

- Active earth pressure tends to deflect the wall away from the backfill.
Factors affecting earth pressure

- Earth pressure depends on type of backfill, the height of wall and the soil conditions

Soil conditions: The different soil conditions are

- Dry leveled back fill
- Moist leveled backfill
- Submerged leveled backfill
- Leveled backfill with uniform surcharge
- Backfill with sloping surface
Analysis for dry back fills

Maximum pressure at any height, \( p = k_a \gamma h \)

Total pressure at any height from top,
\[
p_a = \frac{1}{2} \left[ k_a \gamma h \right] h = \frac{[k_a \gamma h^2]}{2}
\]

Bending moment at any height
\[
M = p_a x h / 3 = \frac{[k_a \gamma h^3]}{6}
\]

\[
\therefore \text{Total pressure, } P_a = \frac{[k_a \gamma H^2]}{2}
\]

\[
\therefore \text{Total Bending moment at bottom, } M = \frac{[k_a \gamma H^3]}{6}
\]

H=stem height
• Where, $k_a = \text{Coefficient of active earth pressure}$
  
  $$k_a = \frac{1-\sin\phi}{1+\sin\phi} = \tan^2\phi$$

  $$= \frac{1}{k_p}, \text{coefficient of passive earth pressure}$$

  $\phi = \text{Angle of internal friction or angle of repose}$

  $\gamma = \text{Unit weight or density of backfill}$

• If $\phi = 30^\circ$, $k_a = 1/3$ and $k_p = 3$. Thus $k_a$ is 9 times $k_p$
Backfill with sloping surface

- \( p_a = k_a \gamma H \) at the bottom and is parallel to inclined surface of backfill

- \( k_a = \cos \theta \left[ \frac{\cos \theta - \sqrt{\cos^2 \theta - \cos^2 \phi}}{\cos \theta + \sqrt{\cos^2 \theta - \cos^2 \phi}} \right] \)

- Where \( \theta \) = Angle of surcharge

\[ \therefore \text{Total pressure at bottom} \]
\[ = P_a = k_a \gamma H^2 / 2 \]
Stability requirements of RW

- Following conditions must be satisfied for stability of wall (IS:456-2000).
  - It should not overturn
  - It should not slide
  - It should not subside, i.e. Max. pressure at the toe should not exceed the safe bearing capacity of the soil under working condition
Check against overturning

Factor of safety against overturning
\[ \frac{M_R}{M_O} \geq 1.55 \ (> 1.4/0.9) \]

Where,
- \( M_R \) = Stabilising moment or restoring moment
- \( M_O \) = Overturning moment

As per IS:456-2000,
- \( M_R > 1.2 \times M_O \), ch. DL + 1.4 \( M_O \), ch. IL
- \( 0.9 \times M_R \geq 1.4 \times M_O \), ch. IL
Check against Sliding

- FOS against sliding
  - \( = \) Resisting force to sliding/
  - Horizontal force causing sliding
  - \( = \mu \sum W / Pa \geq 1.55 \) (\( = 1.4 / 0.9 \))

- As per IS:456:2000
  - \( 1.4 = \mu (0.9 \sum W) / Pa \)
Design of Shear key

- In case the wall is unsafe against sliding

- \( p_p = p \tan^2 (45 + \phi/2) \)

- \( = p k_p \)

- where \( p_p = \) Unit passive pressure on soil above shearing plane AB

- \( p = \) Earth pressure at BC

- \( R = \) Total passive resistance = \( p_p \times a \)
Design of Shear key-Contd.,

- If $\sum W =$ Total vertical force acting at the key base
- $\phi =$ shearing angle of passive resistance
- $R =$ Total passive force $= p_p \times a$
- $P_A =$ Active horizontal pressure at key base for $H+a$
- $\mu \sum W =$ Total frictional force under flat base

For equilibrium, $R + \mu \sum W = FOS \times P_A$

$FOS = \frac{(R + \mu \sum W)}{P_A} \geq 1.55$
Maximum pressure at the toe

\[ \sum W \]

Pressure below the Retaining Wall
• Let the resultant R due to \( \sum W \) and \( P_a \) lie at a distance \( x \) from the toe.
• \( X = \frac{\sum M}{\sum W} \),
• \( \sum M \) = sum of all moments about toe.

• Eccentricity of the load = \( e = \frac{b}{2} - x \) < \( \frac{b}{6} \)

• Minimum pressure at heel = \( P_{\text{min}} = \frac{\sum W}{b} \left[ 1 - \frac{6e}{b} \right] \) > Zero.

• For zero pressure, \( e = \frac{b}{6} \), resultant should cut the base within the middle third.
• Maximum pressure at toe =
• \( P_{\text{max}} = \frac{\sum W}{b} \left[ 1 + \frac{6e}{b} \right] \) < SBC of soil.
Depth of foundation

- Rankine’s formula:
  \[ D_f = \frac{SBC}{\gamma} \left[ \frac{1 - \sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} \right]^2 \]
  \[ = \frac{SBC}{\gamma} k_a^2 \]
Preliminary Proportioning (T shaped wall)

- Stem: Top width 200 mm to 400 mm
- Base slab width $b = 0.4H$ to $0.6H$, $0.6H$ to $0.75H$ for surcharged wall
- Base slab thickness $= H/10$ to $H/14$
- Toe projection $= (1/3-1/4) Base width$
Behaviour or structural action

- Behaviour or structural action and design of stem, heel and toe slabs are same as that of any cantilever slab.
Design of Cantilever RW

- Stem, toe and heel acts as cantilever slabs

- Stem design: \( M_u = \text{psf} \left( k_a \gamma H^3 / 6 \right) \)
- Determine the depth \( d \) from \( M_u = M_{u, \text{lim}} = Qbd^2 \)
- Design as balanced section or URS and find steel

- \( M_u = 0.87 f_y A_{st} \left[ d - f_y A_{st} / (f_{ck} b) \right] \)
Curtailment of bars

Effective depth (d) is proportional to h

Bending moment is proportional to $h^3$

$A_{st}$ is $\alpha_1$ to $(BM/d)$ and is $\alpha_1$ to $h^2$

$i.e. \frac{A_{st1}}{A_{st2}} \approx \frac{h_1^2}{h_2^2}$

Every alternate bar cut

Provided $A_{st}$

Cross section

Curtailment curve
Design of Heel and Toe

1. Heel slab and toe slab should also be designed as cantilever. For this stability analysis should be performed as explained and determine the maximum bending moments at the junction.
2. Determine the reinforcement.
3. Also check for shear at the junction.
4. Provide enough development length.
5. Provide the distribution steel
Design Example Cantilever retaining wall

Design a cantilever retaining wall (T type) to retain earth for a height of 4m. The backfill is horizontal. The density of soil is 18kN/m$^3$. Safe bearing capacity of soil is 200 kN/m$^2$. Take the co-efficient of friction between concrete and soil as 0.6. The angle of repose is 30°. Use M20 concrete and Fe415 steel.

Solution
Data: $h' = 4m$, SBC= 200 kN/m$^2$, $\gamma= 18$ kN/m$^3$, $\mu=0.6$, $\phi=30^\circ$
Depth of foundation

- To fix the height of retaining wall \( H \)
- \( H = h' + D_f \)

- Depth of foundation

- \[ D_f = \frac{SBC}{\gamma} \left[ \frac{1 - \sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} \right]^2 \]

- = 1.23m say 1.2m ,
- Therefore \( H = 5.2m \)
Proportioning of wall

- Thickness of base slab = \((1/10 \text{ to } 1/14)H\)
- 0.52 m to 0.43 m, say 450 mm

- Width of base slab = \(b = (0.5 \text{ to } 0.6) \text{ H}\)
- 2.6 m to 3.12 m say 3 m

- Toe projection = \(p_j = (1/3 \text{ to } ¼)H\)
- 1 m to 0.75 m say 0.75 m

- Provide 450 mm thickness for the stem at the base and 200 mm at the top
Design of stem

- \( P_h = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3} \times 18 \times 4.75^2 = 67.68 \text{ kN} \)
- \( M = P_h \frac{h}{3} = 0.333 \times 18 \times 4.75^3 / 6 \)
  = 107.1 \text{ kN-m} 
- \( M_u = 1.5 \times M = 160.6 \text{ kN-m} \)

- Taking 1m length of wall,
- \( M_u / bd^2 = 1.004 < 2.76, \text{ URS} \)
- (Here \( d=450\) - eff. Cover=450-50=400 mm)
- To find steel
- \( P_t = 0.295\% < 0.96\% \)
- \( A_{st} = 0.295 \times 1000 \times 400 / 100 = 1180 \text{ mm}^2 \)
- \#12 @ 90 < 300 mm and 3d ok
- \( A_{st} \) provided= 1266 mm\(^2\) [0.32\%]

Or \( M_u = \left[k_a \gamma H^3\right]/6 \)
Curtailment of bars-Stem

- Curtail 50% steel from top
- \((h_1/h_2)^2 = 50%/100% = \frac{1}{2}\)
- \((h_1/4.75)^2 = \frac{1}{2}, h_1 = 3.36\, \text{m}\)
- Actual point of cutoff
  - \(= 3.36-L_d = 3.36-0.564 = 2.74\, \text{m from top}\).
- Spacing of bars = 180 mm c/c < 300 mm and 3d ok
Design of stem-Contd.,

- Development length (Stem steel)
  
  \[ L_d = 47 \varphi_{bar} = 47 \times 12 = 564 \text{ mm} \]

- Secondary steel for stem at front
  
  - 0.12% GA
  
  \[ = 0.12 \times 450 \times 1000 / 100 = 540 \text{ mm}^2 \]
  
  - #10 @ 140 < 450 mm and 5d ok

- Distribution steel
  
  - 0.12% GA = 0.12 \times 450 \times 1000 / 100 = 540 \text{ mm}^2
  
  - #10 @ 140 < 450 mm and 5d ok
• **Check for shear**

- Max. SF at Junction, \( xx = P_h = 67.68 \text{ kN} \)
- Ultimate SF = \( V_u = 1.5 \times 67.68 = 101.52 \text{ kN} \)
- Nominal shear stress = \( \zeta_v = V_u / bd \)
  \[ = 101.52 \times 1000 / 1000 \times 400 = 0.25 \text{ MPa} \]
- To find \( \zeta_c \): \( 100A_{st} / bd = 0.32\% \),
- From IS:456-2000, \( \zeta_c = 0.38 \text{ MPa} \)
- \( \zeta_v < \zeta_c \), Hence safe in shear.
## Stability analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Load</th>
<th>Magnitude, kN</th>
<th>Distance from A, m</th>
<th>BM about A kN-m</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stem W1</td>
<td>0.2x4.75x1x25 = 23.75</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>26.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stem W2</td>
<td>½ x0.25x4.75x1x25 = 14.84</td>
<td>0.75 + 2/3x0.25 =0.316</td>
<td>13.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. slab W3</td>
<td>3.0x0.45x1x25=33.75</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>50.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back fill, W4</td>
<td>1.8x4.75x1x18 = 153.9</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>323.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>ΣW= 226.24</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ΣM_R=413.55</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Pre. =P_H</td>
<td>P_H =0.333x18x5.2²/2</td>
<td>H/3 =5.2/3</td>
<td>M_O=140.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pressure below the Retaining Wall

Forces acting on the wall and the pressure below the wall

$max. P_{max} = 120.6 \text{ kN/m}^2$

$min. P_{min} = 30.16 \text{ kN/m}^2$
Stability checks

- Check for overturning
  \[ \text{FOS} = \frac{\Sigma M_R}{\Sigma M_O} = 2.94 > 1.55 \text{ safe} \]

- Check for Sliding
  \[ \text{FOS} = \mu \frac{\Sigma W}{P_H} = 2.94 > 1.55 \text{ safe} \]

- Check for subsidence
  \[ X = \frac{\Sigma M}{\Sigma W} = 1.20 \text{ m} > b/3 \text{ and } e = b/2 - x = \frac{3}{2} - 1.2 = 0.3 \text{ m} < \frac{b}{6} \]

- Pressure below the base slab
  - \( P_{\text{Max}} = 120.66 \text{ kN/m}^2 < \text{SBC, safe} \)
  - \( P_{\text{Min}} = 30.16 \text{ kN/m}^2 > \text{zero, No tension or separation, safe} \)
### Design of heel slab

Pressure below the Retaining Wall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Load</th>
<th>Magnitude, kN</th>
<th>Distance from C, m</th>
<th>BM, MC, kN-m</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Backfill</td>
<td>153.9</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>138.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heel slab</td>
<td>0.45x1.8x25 = 27.25</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>18.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pressure dist. rectangle</td>
<td>30.16 x 1.8 = 54.29</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>-48.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pressure dist. Triangle</td>
<td>½ x 24.1 x1.8=21.69</td>
<td>1/3x1.8</td>
<td>-13.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Load</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>$\Sigma M_C=94.86$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Design of heel slab-
Contd.,

- $M_u = 1.5 \times 94.86 = 142.3 \text{ kNm}$
- $M_u / bd^2 = 0.89 < 2.76, \text{ URS}$
- $P_t = 0.264 \% < 0.96 \%$
- $A_{st} = 0.264 \times 1000 \times 400 / 100$
- $= 1056 \text{ mm}^2$

- #16@ 190 < 300 mm and 3d ok
- $A_{st}$ provided = 1058mm [0.27%]

OR $M_u = 0.87 f_y A_{st} [d - (f_y A_{st} / f_{ck} b)]$
Design of heel slab-
Contd.,

- Development length:
  - $L_d = 47 \varphi_{\text{bar}}$
  - $= 47 \times 16 = 752\text{mm}$

- Distribution steel
  - Same, #10 @ 140
  - < 450 mm and 5d ok
Design of heel slab-Contd.,

- Check for shear at junction (Tension)
- Maximum shear $V = 105.17$ kN,
- $V_{u,\text{max}} = 157.76$ kN,

- Nominal shear stress $\zeta_v = V_u / bd$
  - $= 101.52 \times 1000 / (1000 \times 400) = 0.39$ MPa

- To find $\zeta_c$: $100A_{st} / bd = 0.27\%$,
- From IS:456-2000, $\zeta_c = 0.37$ MPa
- $\zeta_v$ slightly greater than $\zeta_c$,
- Hence slightly unsafe in shear.
Design of toe slab

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Load</th>
<th>Magnitude, kN</th>
<th>Distance from C, m</th>
<th>Bending moment, $M_C$, kN-m</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toe slab</td>
<td>$0.75 \times 0.45 \times 25 = 0.75/2$</td>
<td>$0.75/2$</td>
<td>$-3.164$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pressure distribution, rectangle</td>
<td>$97.99 \times 0.75$</td>
<td>$0.75/2$</td>
<td>$27.60$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pressure distribution, triangle</td>
<td>$\frac{1}{2} \times 22.6 \times 1.0.75$</td>
<td>$2/3 \times 1 = 0.75$</td>
<td>$4.24$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Load at junction</td>
<td></td>
<td>Total BM at junction</td>
<td>$\Sigma M = 28.67$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Design of toe slab

- \( M_u = 1.5 \times 28.67 = 43 \text{ kN-m} \)
- \( M_u / bd^2 = 0.27 < 2.76, \text{ URS} \)
- \( P_t = 0.085\% \) Very small, provide 0.12\%GA
- \( A_{st} = 540 \text{ mm}^2 \)
- \#10 @ 140 < 300 mm and 3d ok
- Development length:
- \( L_d = 47 \varphi_{bar} = 47 \times 10 = 470 \text{ mm} \)
Design of toe slab-Contd.,

- Check for shear: at d from junction (at xx as wall is in compression)

- Net shear force at the section
- \( V = \frac{(120.6 + 110.04)}{2} \times 0.35 - 0.45 \times 0.35 \times 25 = 75.45 \text{kN} \)
- \( V_{ul,\text{max}} = 75.45 \times 1.5 = 113.18 \text{ kN} \)

- \( \zeta_v = \frac{113.17 \times 1000}{(1000 \times 400)} = 0.28 \text{ MPa} \)

- \( p_t \leq 0.25\% \), From IS:456-2000, \( \zeta_c = 0.37 \text{ MPa} \)
- \( \zeta_v < \zeta_c \), Hence safe in shear.
Other details

- Construction joint
  - A key 200 mm wide x 50 mm deep
  - with nominal steel
  - #10 @ 250, 600 mm length in two rows

- Drainage
  - 100 mm dia. pipes as weep holes at 3m c/c at bottom
  - Also provide 200 mm gravel blanket at the back of the stem for back drain.
Drawing and detailing

L/S ELEVATION OF WALL

#16 @ 190

#12 @ 190

#12 @ 90

#10 @ 140

C/S OF WALL

#16 @ 190

#10 @ 140

L/S ELEVATION OF WALL
Drawing and detailing

BASE SLAB DETAILS

PLAN OF BASE SLAB
Important Points for drawing

Note
1. Adopt a suitable scale such as 1:20
2. Show all the details and do neat drawing
3. Show the development length for all bars at the junction
4. Name the different parts such as stem, toe, heel, backfill, weep holes, blanket, etc.,
5. Show the dimensions of all parts
6. Detail the steel in all the drawings
7. Lines with double headed arrows represents the development lengths in the cross section
Design and Detailing of Counterfort Retaining wall

- When \( H \) exceeds about 6m,
- Stem and heel thickness is more
- More bending and more steel
- Cantilever-T type—Uneconomical
- Counterforts—Trapezoidal section
- 1.5m -3m c/c
Parts of CRW

- Same as that of Cantilever Retaining wall Plus Counterfort

- Stem
- Toe
- Heel
- Base slab
- Counterforts

Cross section

Plan
Design of Stem

- The stem acts as a continuous slab
- Soil pressure acts as the load on the slab.
- Earth pressure varies linearly over the height
- The slab deflects away from the earth face between the counterforts
- The bending moment in the stem is maximum at the base and reduces towards top.
- But the thickness of the wall is kept constant and only the area of steel is reduced.

\[ p = K_a \gamma h \]
Maximum Bending moments for stem

- Maximum +ve B.M = \( \frac{pl^2}{16} \)
- (occurring mid-way between counterforts)
- and
- Maximum -ve B.M = \( \frac{pl^2}{12} \)
- (occurring at inner face of counterforts)

Where ‘l’ is the clear distance between the counterforts
- and ‘p’ is the intensity of soil pressure
Design of Toe Slab

- The base width $b = 0.6H$ to $0.7H$
- The projection $= 1/3$ to $1/4$ of base width.
- The toe slab is subjected to an upward soil reaction and is designed as a cantilever slab fixed at the front face of the stem.
- Reinforcement is provided on earth face along the length of the toe slab.
- In case the toe slab projection is large i.e. $> b/3$, front counterforts are provided above the toe slab and the slab is designed as a continuous horizontal slab spanning between the front counterforts.
The heel slab is designed as a continuous slab spanning over the counterforts and is subjected to downward forces due to weight of soil plus self weight of slab and an upward force due to soil reaction.

- Maximum +ve B.M = \( \frac{pl^2}{16} \)
- (mid-way between counterforts)
- And
- Maximum -ve B.M = \( \frac{pl^2}{12} \)
- (occurring at counterforts)
Design of Counterforts

• The counterforts are subjected to outward reaction from the stem.
• This produces tension along the outer sloping face of the counterforts.
• The inner face supporting the stem is in compression. Thus counterforts are designed as a T-beam of varying depth.
• The main steel provided along the sloping face shall be anchored properly at both ends.
• The depth of the counterfort is measured perpendicular to the sloping side.
Behaviour of Counterfort RW

Important points
- Loads on Wall
- Deflected shape
- Nature of BMs
- Position of steel
- Counterfort details
thankyou