

Geostructural Design and Construction Interfaces
I-73 Taxiway Bridge Design-Build

Bon Lien, PE, PhD
Principal Engineer – Geotechnical

Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
Charlotte, North Carolina
E-mail Address: Bon.Lien@amecfw.com



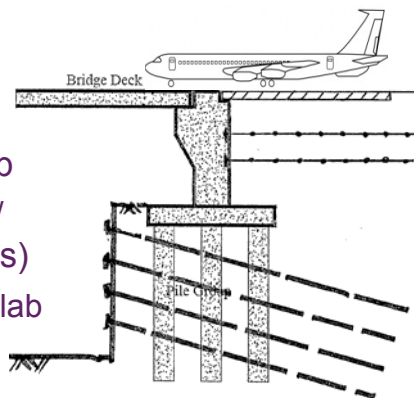


We Will Discuss



Geostructural Design and Construction Interfaces among

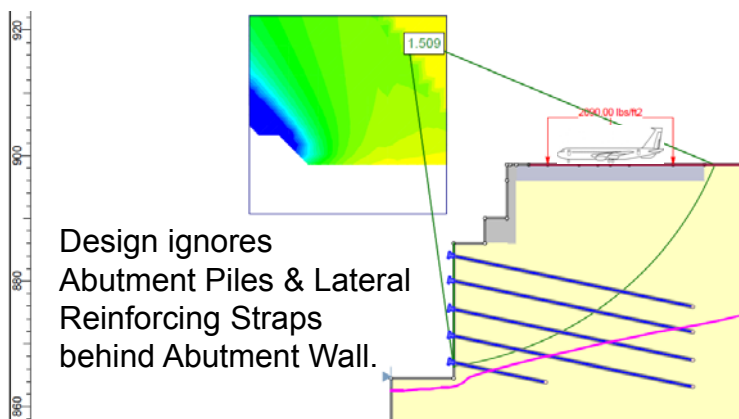
- ❖ Soil Nail Wall
- ❖ Bridge Abutment Piles
- ❖ Bridge Abutment Pile Cap
- ❖ Bridge Abutment Wall (w/ Lateral Reinforcing Straps)
- ❖ Approaching Structural Slab



3



I-73 Taxiway Soil Nail Wall Design



Design ignores Abutment Piles & Lateral Reinforcing Straps behind Abutment Wall.

4



Geostructural Interaction



Construction Sequence

Abutment Piles → Pile Cap during Soil Nail Wall
→ Abutment Wall → Backfill → Bridge Approach Slab

Soil/Ground Movement is Inevitable!

- ▶ Where there is *Stress*, there is ... *Strain*.
- ▶ Where there is *Foundation Loading*, there is ... *Settlement*.
- ▶ Where there is *Excavation*, there is ... *adjacent Ground Movement*.
- ▶ **Soil Nail Wall needs to move to mobilize Nail Resistance.**

Quiz

***Is the Soil Nail Wall Movement
“Favorable” or “Un-Favorable”?***

5



Soil Nail Wall Movements



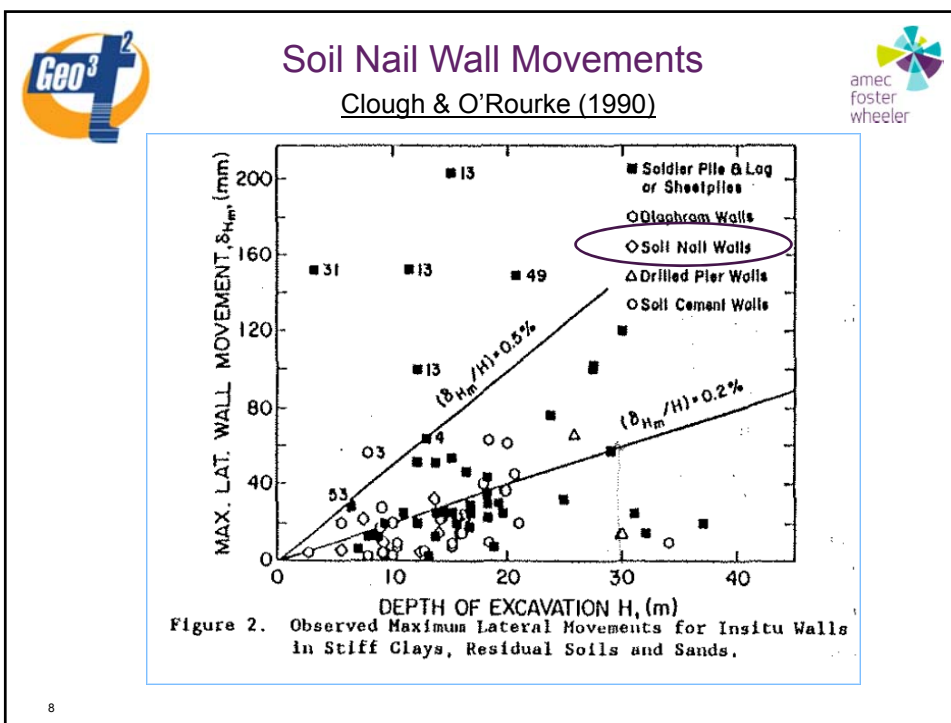
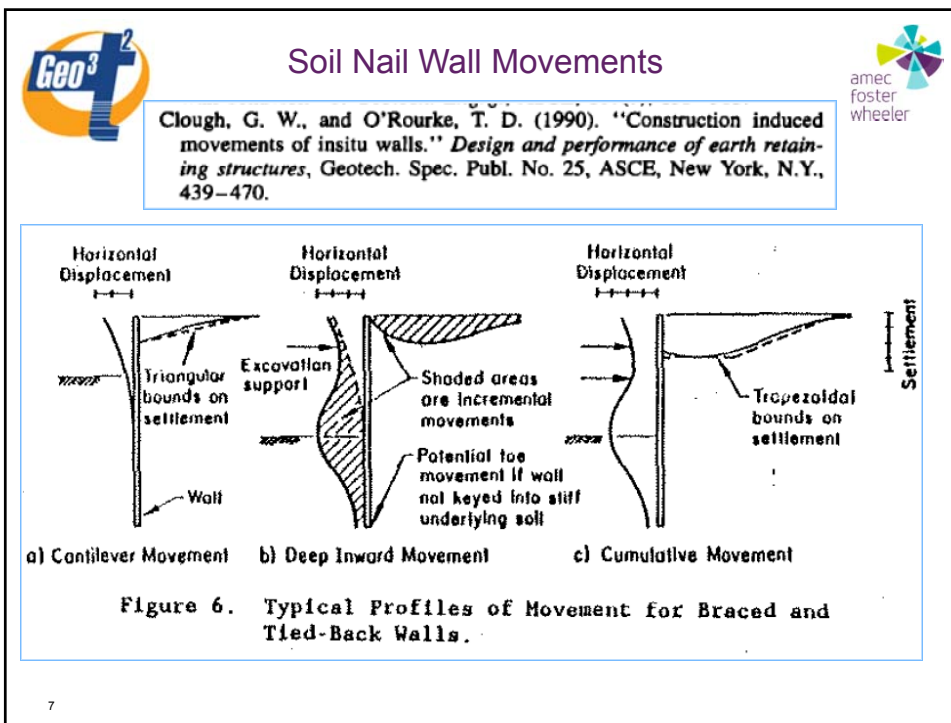
“Un-Favorable” ... Potential Concerns:

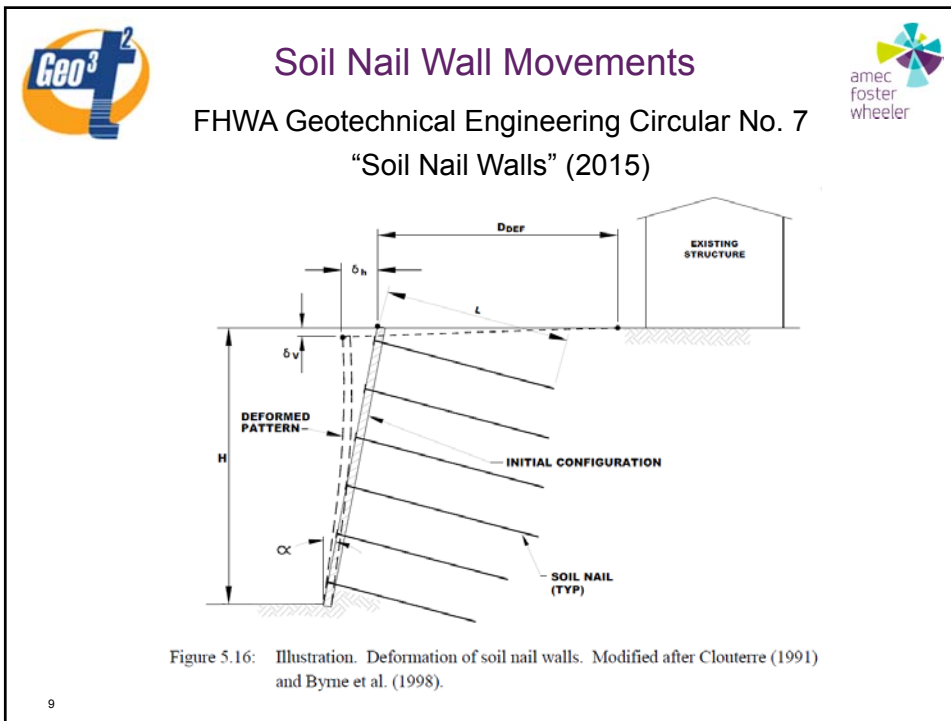
Would Soil Nail Wall Movement affect:

- Pile Abutment Foundation Piles (Micropile vs H-Pile)?
- Pile Cap Position?
- Bridge Abutment Wall?
- Approach Slab Designs?

How to Evaluate Soil Nail Wall Movements?

6





9

Soil Nail Wall Movements

FHWA GEC 7, "Soil Nail Walls" (2015)

$$D_{DEF} = C(1 - \tan \alpha)H$$

Table 5.12: Values of $(\delta_h/H)_i$ and C as Functions of Soil Conditions

Variable	Weathered Rock and Stiff Soil	Sandy Soil	Fine-Grained Soil
$(\delta_h/H)_i$	1/1000	1/500	1/333
C	0.8	1.25	1.5

Note: Modified from Clouterre (1993) and Byrne et al. (1998).

The movements shown above are considered to be relatively small and comparable to those obtained with braced systems and anchored walls. These estimates of deformations have essentially become recommended design values. The adopted tolerable deformation criterion is project-dependent and should consider not only the magnitude of deformation but also the extent of the area behind the wall that may be affected by wall movements. As a first estimate, horizontal deflections greater than 0.005 H during construction should be a cause for concern, as they generally represent an upper limit of acceptable performance.

10



Soil Nail Wall Movements



Rawat & Dey (2014), "Finite Element Modeling of Soil Nailed Wall: Case Study Clouterre Project, France". Proceedings of India Geotechnical Conference, Dec., 18-21, 2104

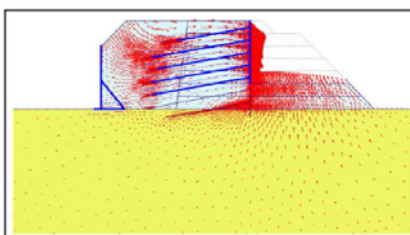
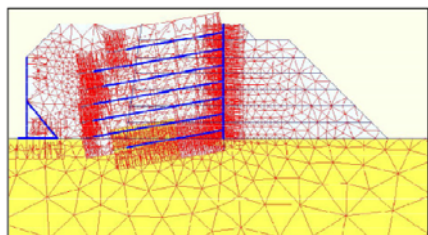


Fig. 4 Adopted meshing of the PLAXIS FE model Fig. 4b Total displacement arrows after Stage 5

11



Soil Nail Wall Movements Rawat & Dey (2014)

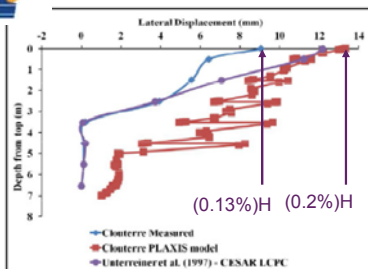


Fig. 7a Lateral displacements at wall facing

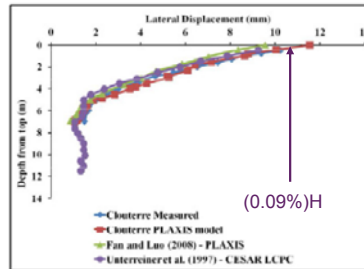


Fig. 7b Lateral displacements 2m from wall facing

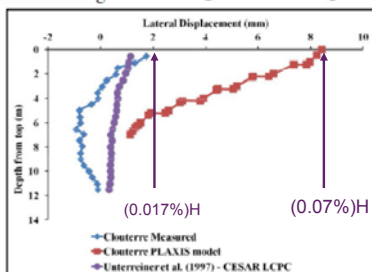


Fig. 7c Lateral displacements 4m from wall facing

12



Soil Nail Wall Movements



Favorable

- ▶ Give a common example that movement is “Favorable” (*Active Earth Pressure*)
- ▶ *For Taxiway Project,*
.... *Lateral Stress Increase on Abutment Wall due to Aircraft Load; based on optimized Approach Structural Slab Design*

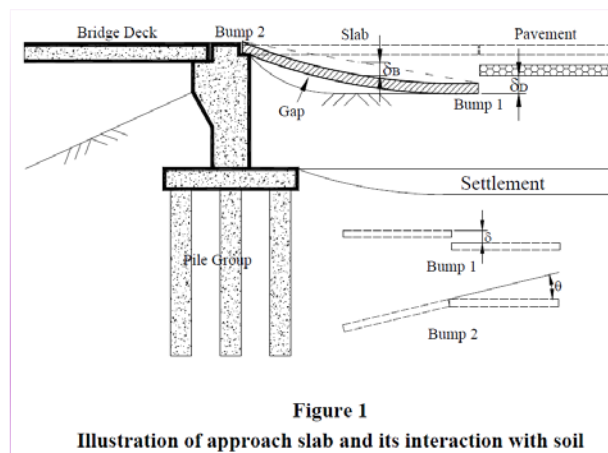
13




Soil (Nail Wall) & Approach Slab Interaction




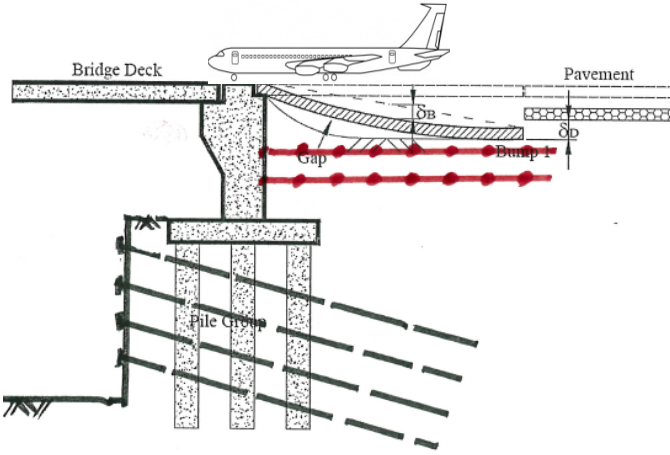
LADOT (2014), “*Field Demonstration of New bridge Approach Slab Designs and Performance*”, Report No. FHWA/LA.13/520




14


 Soil (Nail Wall) & Approach Slab Interaction
I-73 Taxiway End Bent Design Components



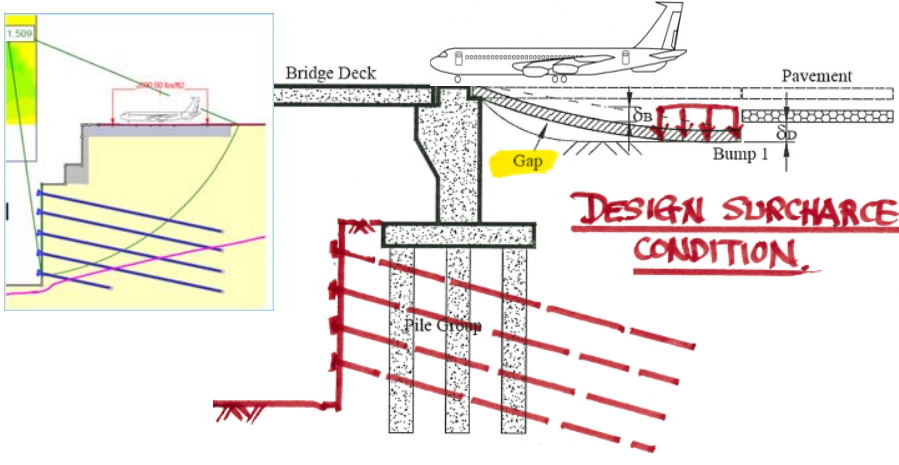


15

 Soil (Nail Wall) & Approach Slab Interaction



How would it affect the Soil Nail Wall Design?



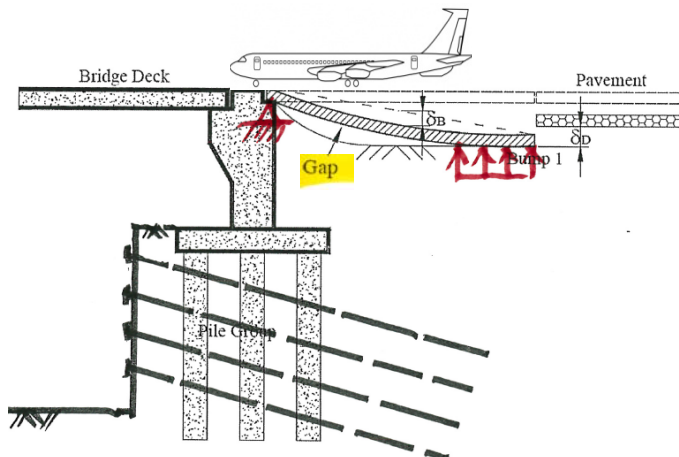
16



Soil (Nail Wall) & Approach Slab Interaction



How would it affect the Approach Structural Slab Design?



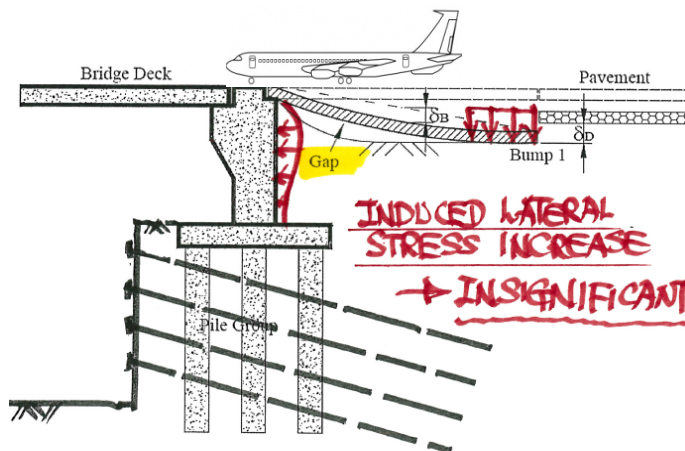
17



Soil (Nail Wall) & Approach Slab Interaction



How would it affect the Abutment Wall Design?




18



Q&A

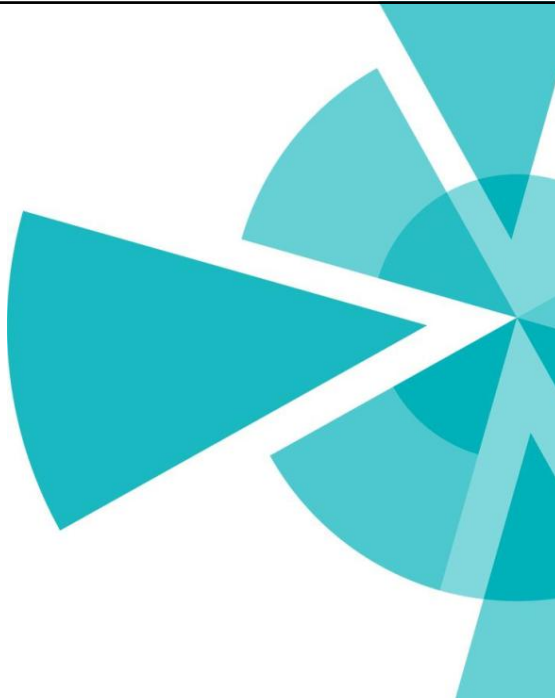


21



Thank you!

Bon Lien, PE, PhD
Amec Foster Wheeler
Bon.Lien@amecfw.com
(704) 357-5613



22