

Study Summary

Principles of Tailings Dam Design



Hydraulic Gradient	$\text{Hydraulic Gradient } (i) = \frac{(h_1 - h_2)}{L}$	h_1 = height of water at point 1 (m) h_2 = height of water at point 2 (m) L = length of the flow path (m)
Density	$\text{Density } (\rho) = \frac{\text{Mass}_{(\text{Soil})}}{\text{Volume}_{(\text{Soil}+\text{Water})}}$	
Void Ratio	$\text{Void Ratio } (e) = \frac{\text{Volume}_{(\text{Voids or Water})}}{\text{Volume}_{(\text{Soil})}}$	
Permeability	$\text{Permeability } (k) = \frac{Q}{iA}$	k = permeability (m/s) Q = flow (m ³ /s) i = hydraulic gradient across the soil A = area of the flow path (m ²)
Overconsolidation Ratio (OCR)	$\text{OCR} = \frac{\text{Historical Load}}{\text{Normal Overburden Load}}$ If OCR = 1, the soil is normally consolidated If OCR = > 1, the soil is overconsolidated	Historical Load The weight or vertical stress of a pre-existing landform above a soil layer. Normal Overburden Load The weight or vertical stress of the current soil load above a soil layer.

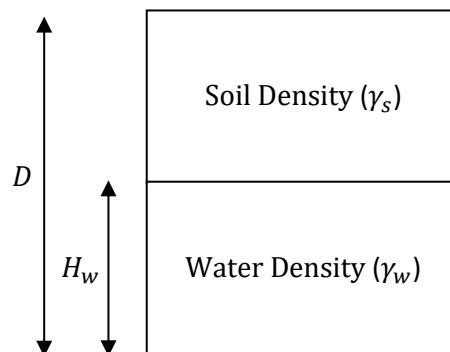
Shear Strength Ratio

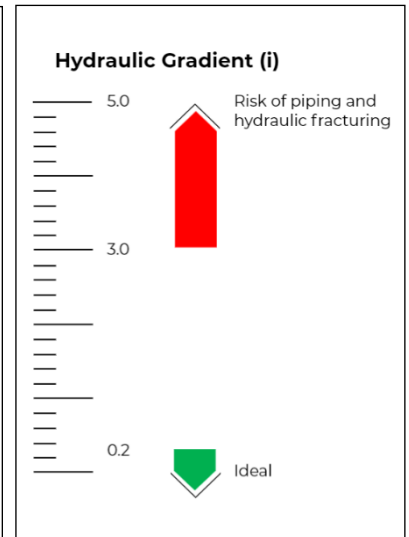
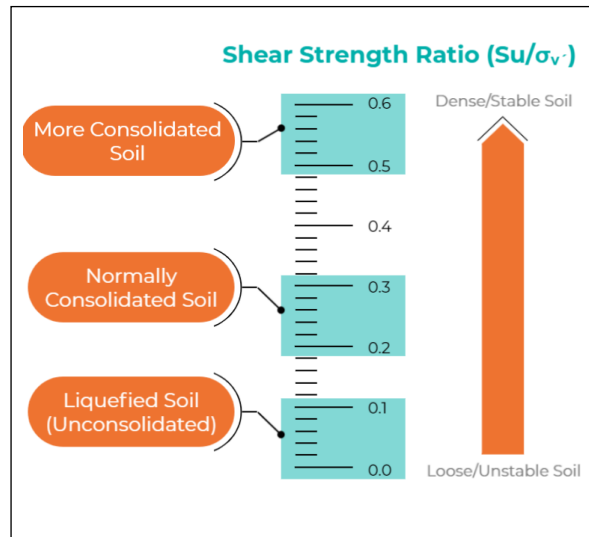
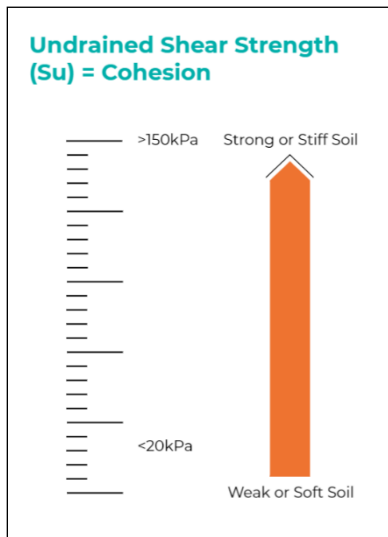
$$\text{Shear Strength Ratio} = \frac{\text{Undrained Shear Strength } (S_u)}{\text{Effective Overburden Pressure } (\sigma_v')}$$

$$\text{Effective Overburden Pressure } (\sigma_v') = \text{Total Pressure on Soil } (\sigma_v) - \text{Pore Pressure } (u)$$

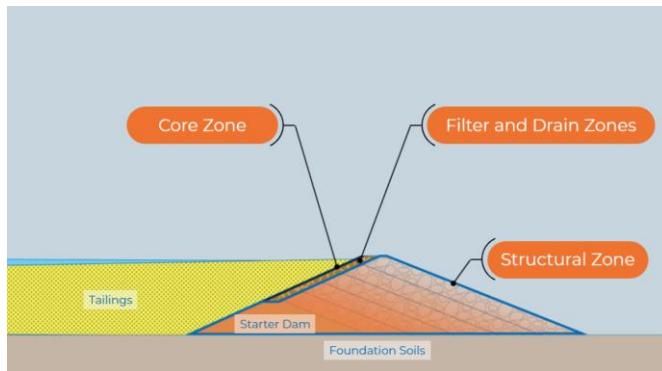
$$\sigma_v = \gamma_s \times D$$

$$u = \gamma_w \times H_w$$

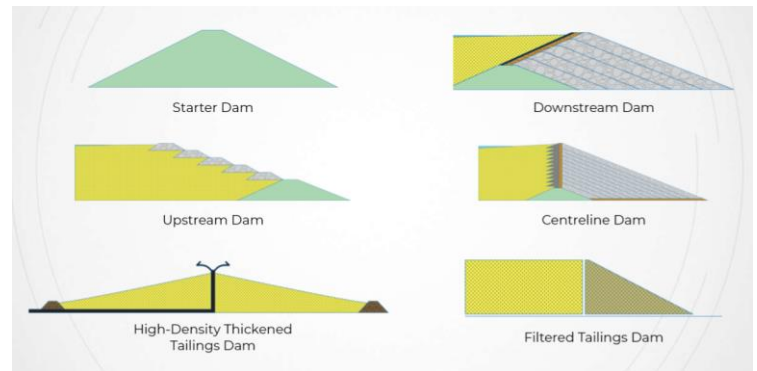




Tailing Dam Zones



Types of Tailings Dams



Upstream Dam Construction Methods

