



Geotechnical Engineering–II [CE-321]

BSc Civil Engineering – 5th Semester

Lecture # 23

29-Nov-2017

by

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Lecture Handouts: https://groups.google.com/d/forum/geotech-ii_2015session

RANKINE THEORY OF ACTIVE EARTH PRESSURE

ASSUMPTIONS

1. The soil is *homogeneous* and *isotropic*.
2. The most *critical shear surface is a plane*. *In reality, it is slightly concave upward, but this is a reasonable assumption (especially for the active case) and it simplifies the analysis.*
3. The *backfill surface is planar* (although it does not necessarily need to be horizontal).
4. There is *no friction* between wall and soil.
5. The *wall is infinitely long* so that a representative two-dimensional section of the wall may be analyzed, assuming there is no strain in the direction perpendicular to the section. We refer to this as a *plane strain condition*.

RANKINE THEORY OF ACTIVE EARTH PRESSURE

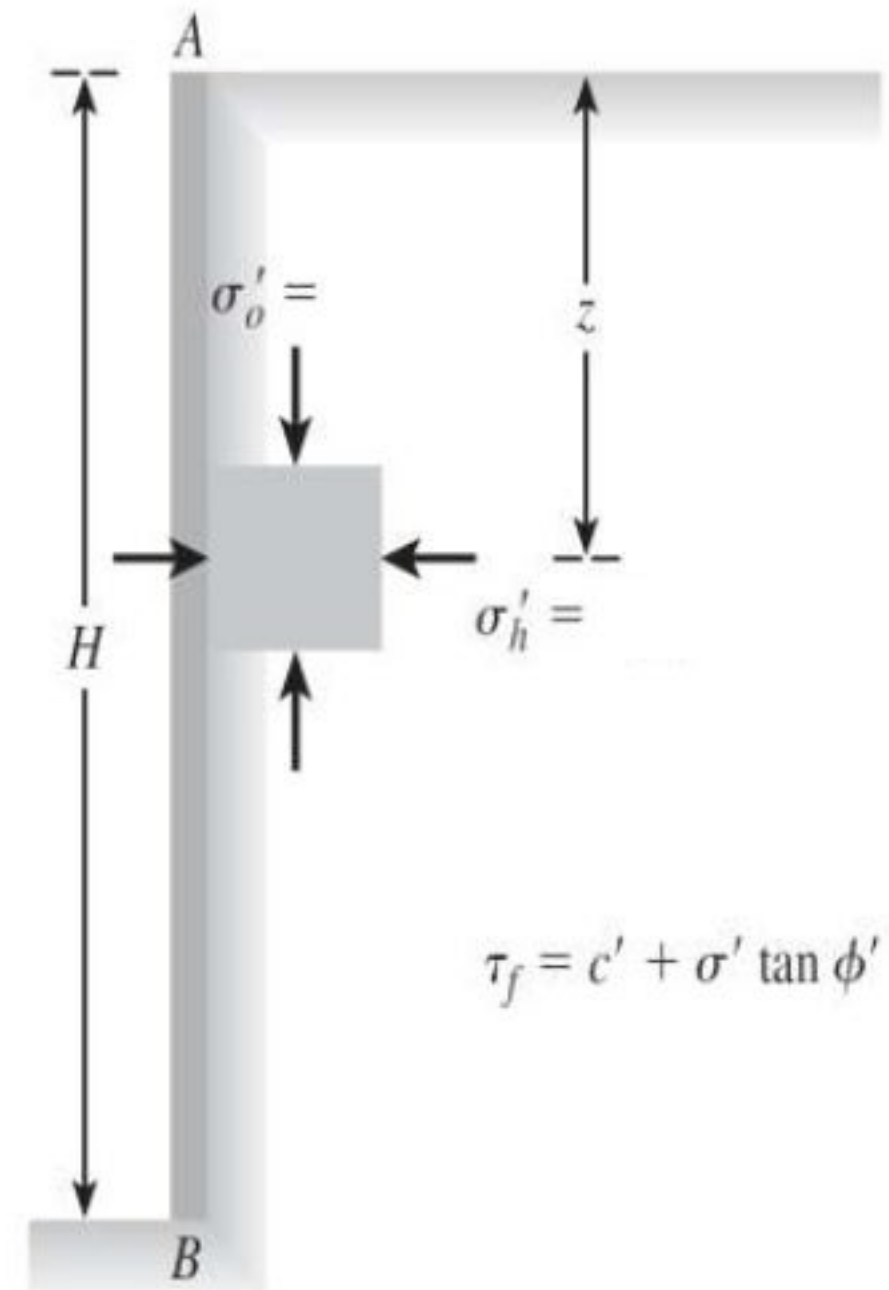
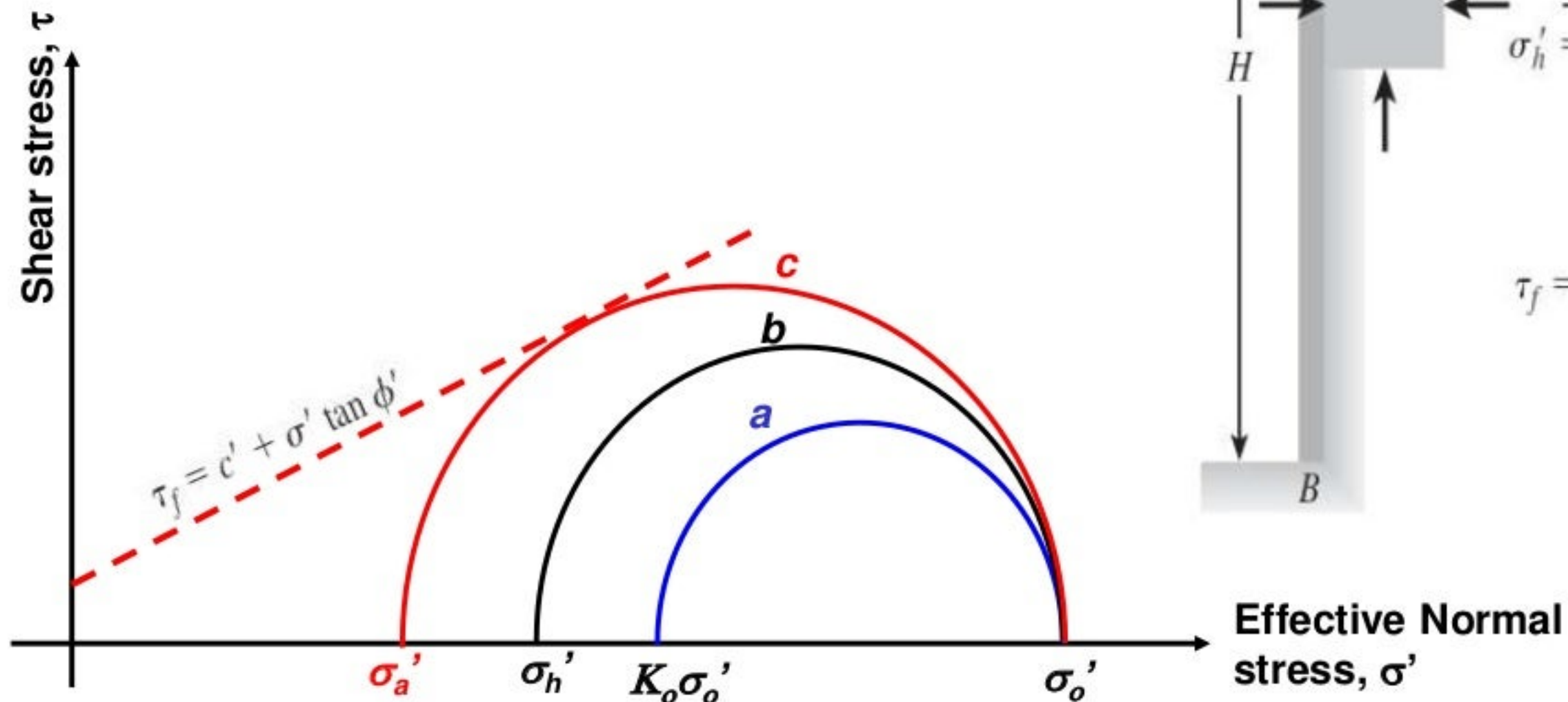
If wall AB is not allowed to move $\rightarrow \sigma'_h = K_o \sigma'_o$

Stress condition in soil $\rightarrow$ Mohr's circle *a*

If wall is allowed to move away from soil mass

$\rightarrow$ horizontal principal stress will decrease $\rightarrow$

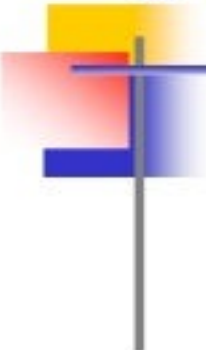
$\rightarrow$ Circle *b* $\rightarrow$ **Circle *c***







RANKINE THEORY OF ACTIVE EARTH PRESSURE


$$\sin \phi' = \frac{\frac{\sigma'_o - \sigma'_a}{2}}{c' \cot \phi' + \frac{\sigma'_o + \sigma'_a}{2}}$$

$$c' \cos \phi' + \frac{\sigma'_o + \sigma'_a}{2} \sin \phi' = \frac{\sigma'_o - \sigma'_a}{2}$$

$$\sigma'_a = \sigma'_o \frac{1 - \sin \phi'}{1 + \sin \phi'} - 2c' \frac{\cos \phi'}{1 + \sin \phi'}$$

RANKINE THEORY OF ACTIVE EARTH PRESSURE

$$\sigma'_a = \sigma'_o \frac{1 - \sin \phi'}{1 + \sin \phi'} - 2c' \frac{\cos \phi'}{1 + \sin \phi'}$$

$\sigma'_o =$ vertical effective overburden pressure $= \gamma z$

$$\frac{1 - \sin \phi'}{1 + \sin \phi'} = \tan^2 \left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

$$\frac{\cos \phi'}{1 + \sin \phi'} = \tan \left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

$$\sigma'_a = \gamma z \tan^2 \left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2} \right) - 2c' \tan \left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

RANKINE THEORY OF ACTIVE EARTH PRESSURE

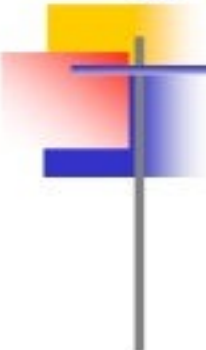
$$\sigma'_a = \gamma z \tan^2\left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2}\right) - 2c' \tan\left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2}\right)$$

For cohesionless soils, $c' = 0$

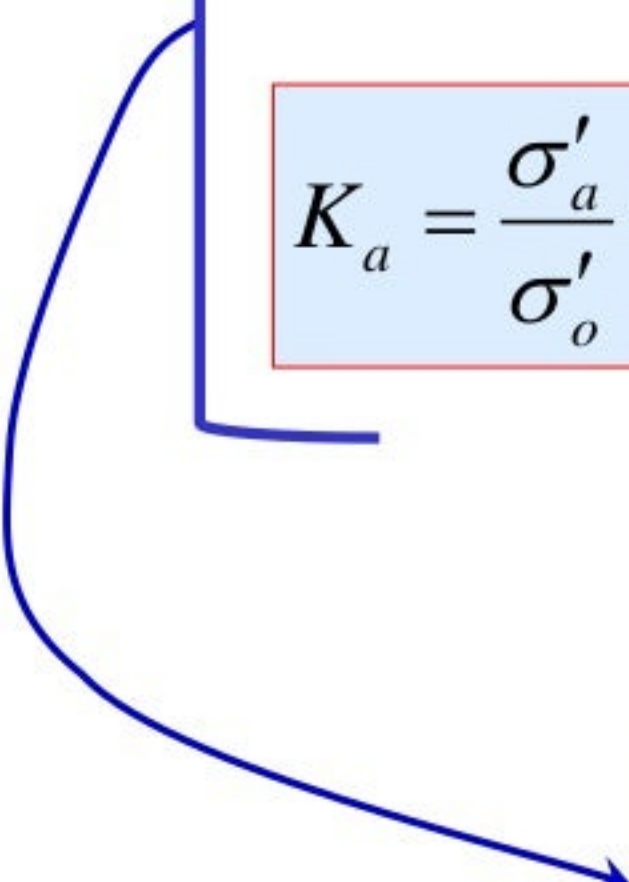
$$\sigma'_a = \sigma'_o \tan^2\left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2}\right)$$

$$K_a = \frac{\sigma'_a}{\sigma'_o} = \tan^2\left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2}\right)$$

RANKINE THEORY OF ACTIVE EARTH PRESSURE

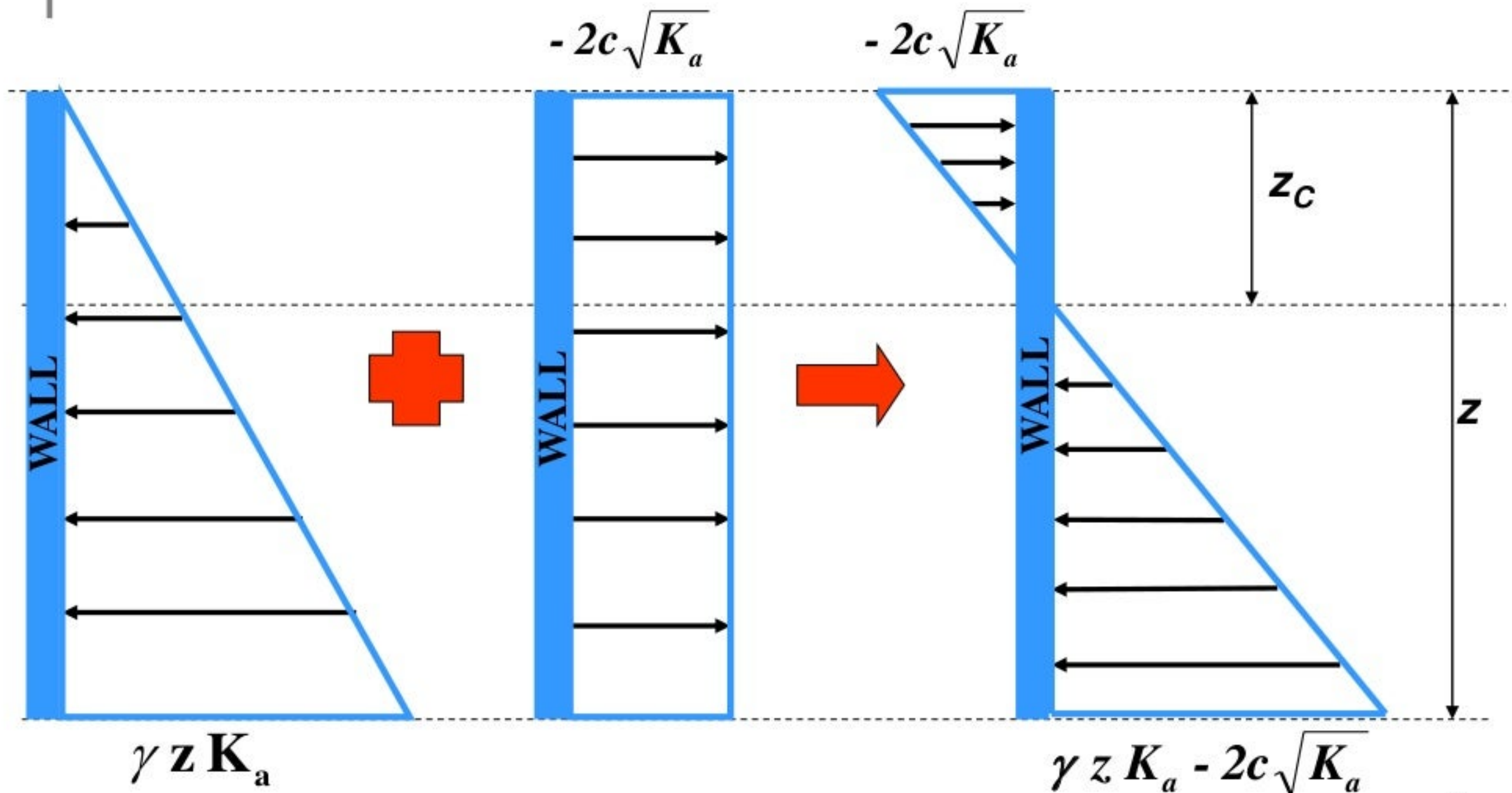

$$\sigma'_a = \gamma z \cdot \tan^2\left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2}\right) - 2c' \cdot \tan\left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2}\right)$$

$$K_a = \frac{\sigma'_a}{\sigma'_o} = \tan^2\left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2}\right) = \frac{1 - \sin \phi'}{1 + \sin \phi'}$$

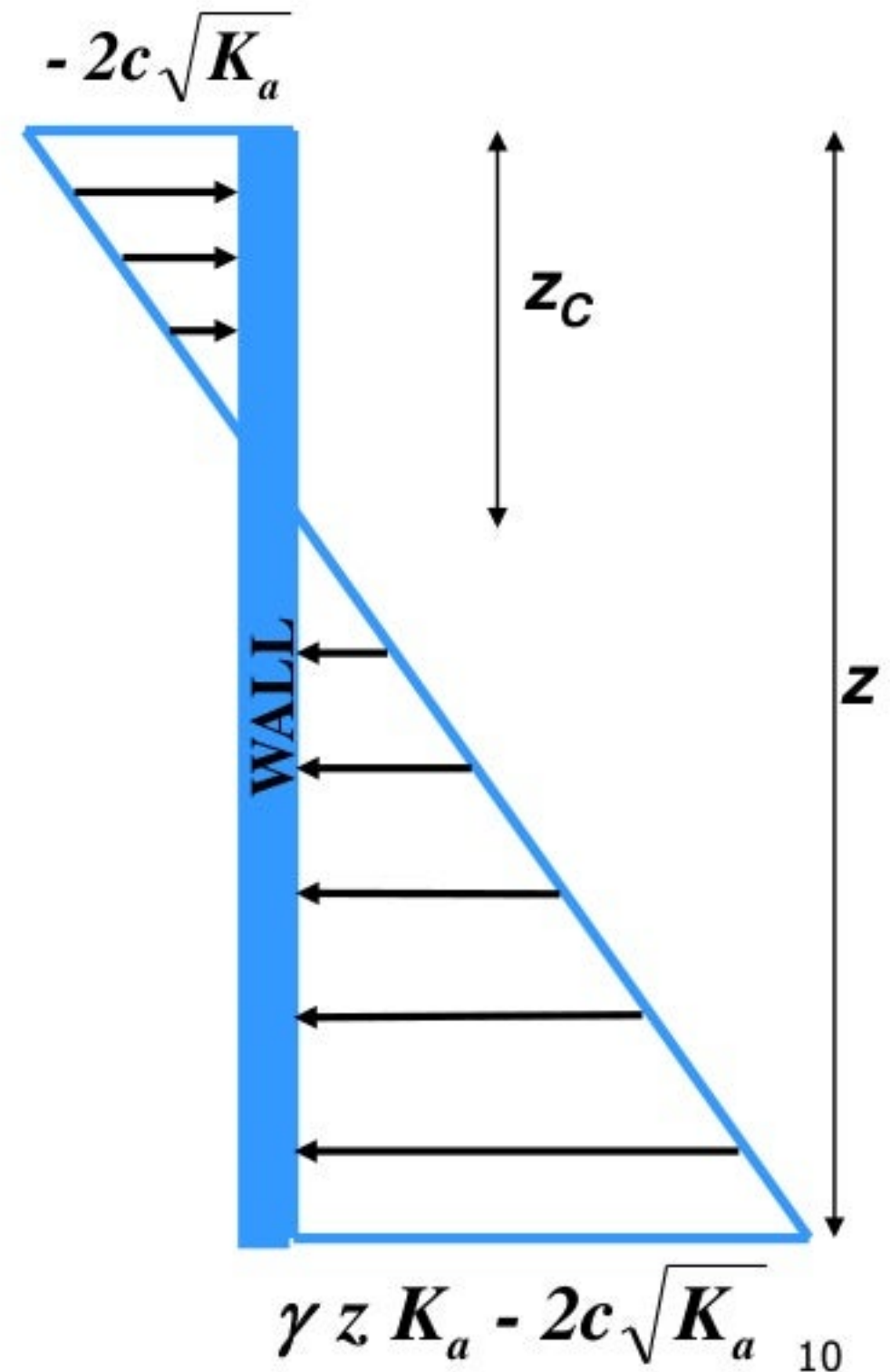
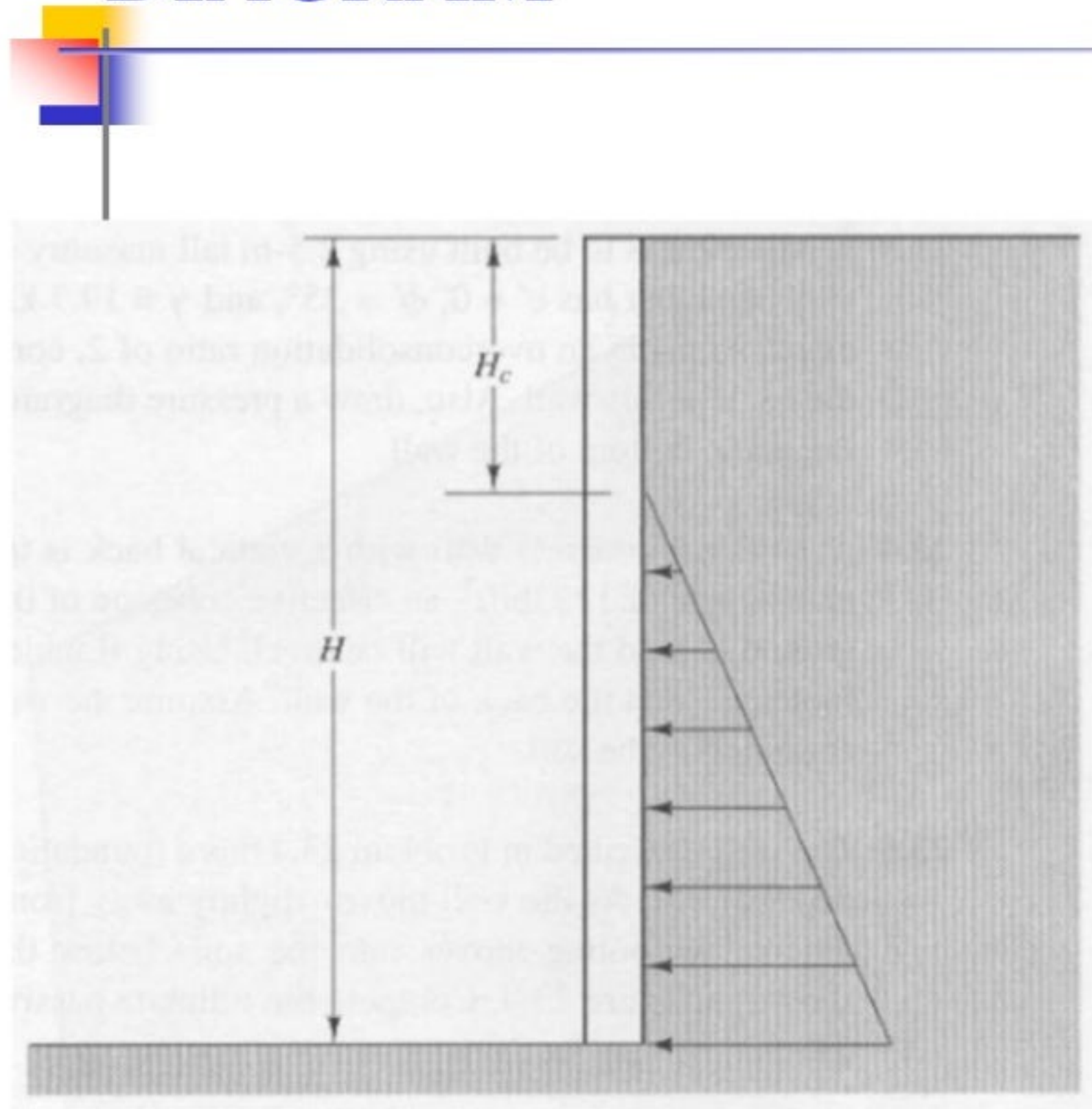

$$\sigma'_a = \gamma z K_a - 2c' \sqrt{K_a}$$

RANKINE ACTIVE PRESSURE DIAGRAM

$$\sigma'_a = \gamma z K_a - 2c' \sqrt{K_a}$$



RANKINE ACTIVE PRESSURE DIAGRAM



RANKINE THEORY OF ACTIVE EARTH PRESSURE

-- DEPTH OF UNSUPPORTED CUT --

$$\sigma'_a = \gamma z K_a - 2c' \sqrt{K_a}$$

General Case
($c-\phi$ soil)

At $z_c \rightarrow \sigma'_a = 0$

$$0 = \gamma z_c K_a - 2c' \sqrt{K_a}$$

$$z_c = \frac{2c' \sqrt{K_a}}{\gamma K_a}$$

$$z_c = \frac{2c'}{\gamma \sqrt{K_a}}$$

Cohesionless Soils
($c' = 0$)

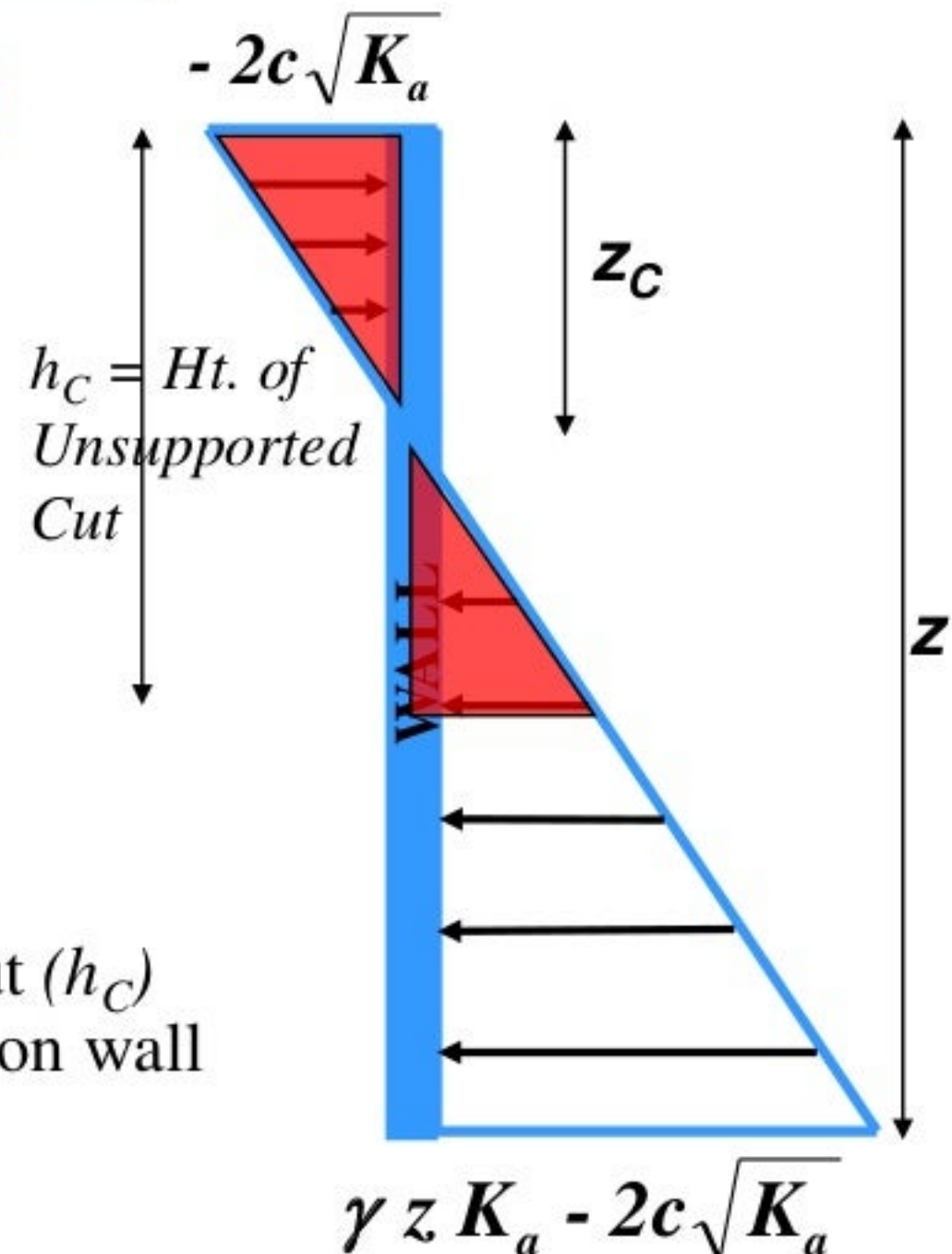
$$z_c = 0$$

Cohesive Soils
($\phi = 0$)

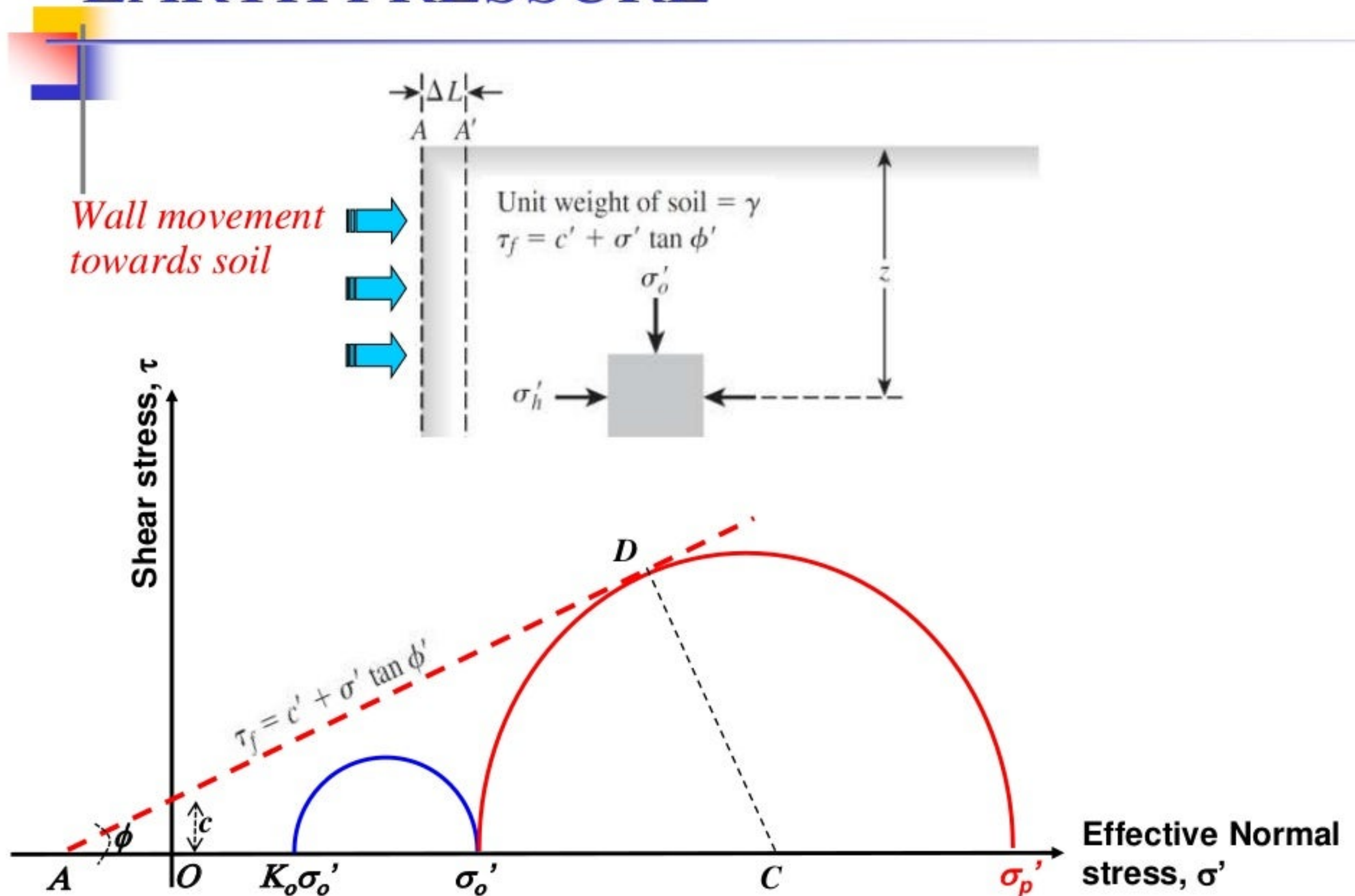
$$K_a = 1 \rightarrow z_c = \frac{2c'}{\gamma}$$

Height of unsupported cut (h_c)
 $\rightarrow$ Zero Net force acting on wall

$$h_c = 2 \times z_c$$



RANKINE THEORY OF PASSIVE EARTH PRESSURE



RANKINE THEORY OF PASSIVE EARTH PRESSURE

Derivation: similar to that for active state

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma'_p &= \sigma'_o \tan^2\left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2}\right) + 2c' \tan\left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2}\right) \\ &= \gamma z \tan^2\left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2}\right) + 2c' \tan\left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2}\right)\end{aligned}$$

For cohesionless soils, $c' = 0$

$$\sigma'_p = \sigma'_o \tan^2\left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2}\right)$$

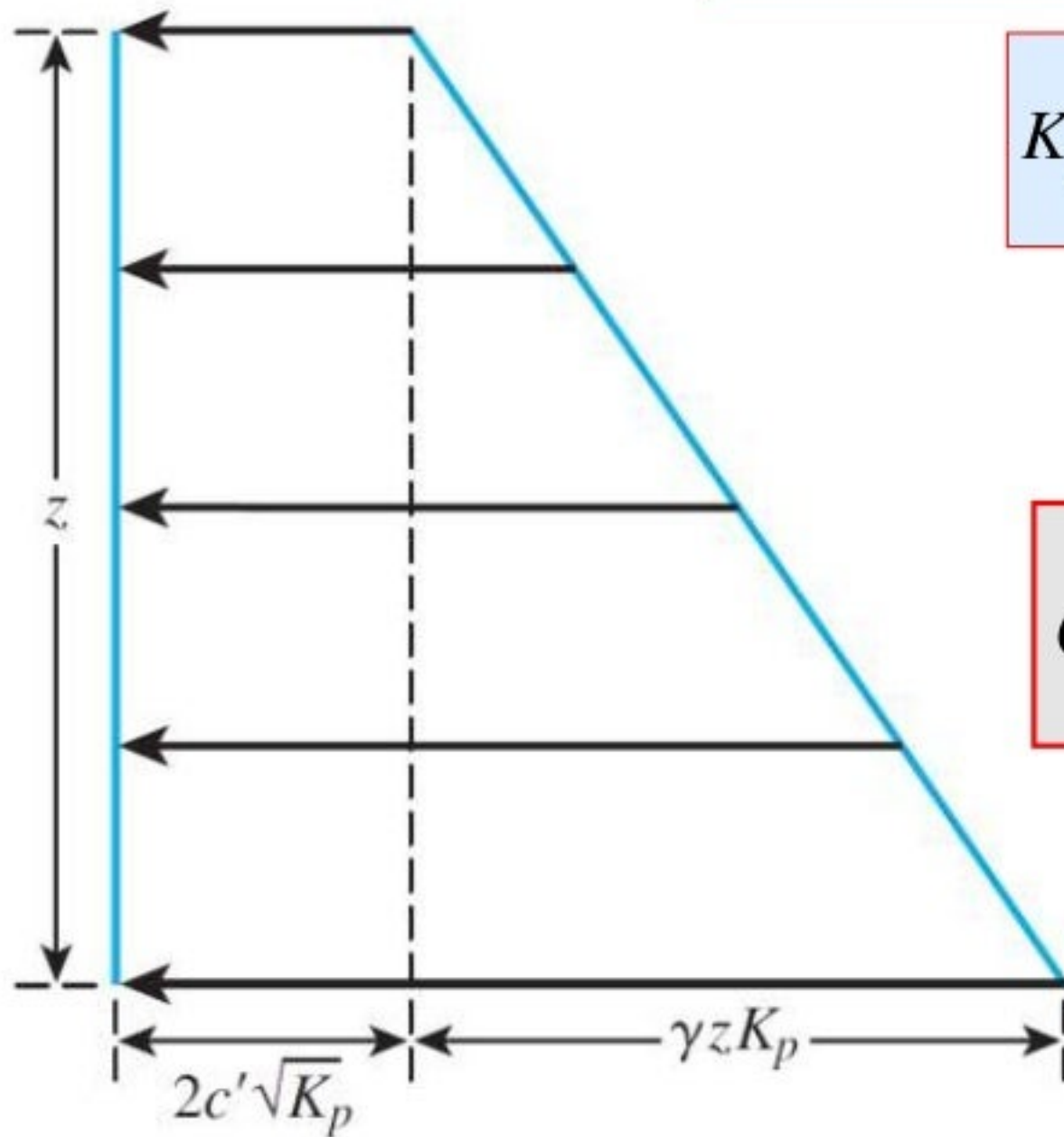
$$\frac{\sigma'_p}{\sigma'_o} = K_p = \tan^2\left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2}\right)$$

RANKINE THEORY OF PASSIVE EARTH PRESSURE

$$\sigma'_p = \gamma z \cdot \tan^2 \left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right) + 2c' \cdot \tan \left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

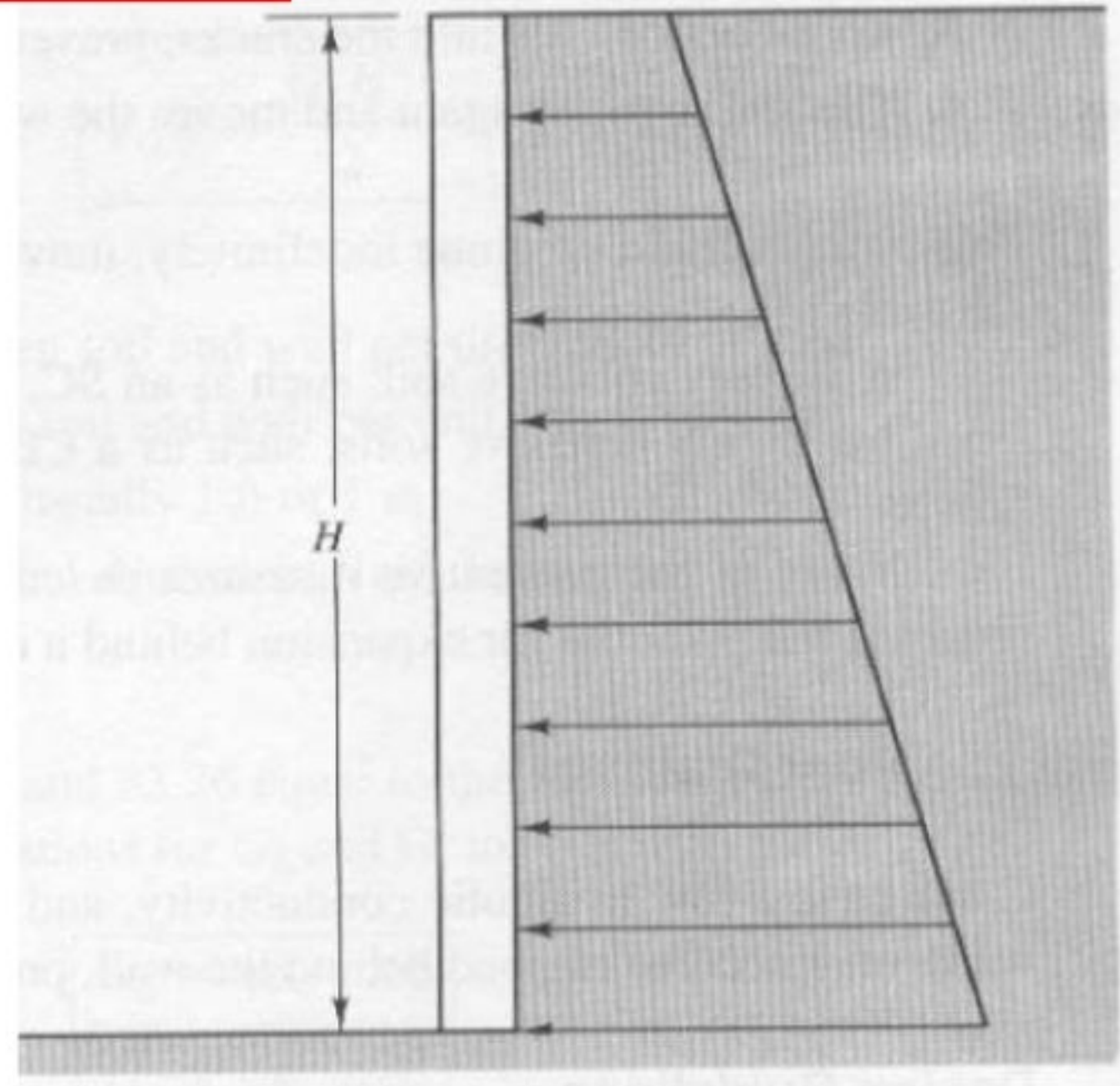
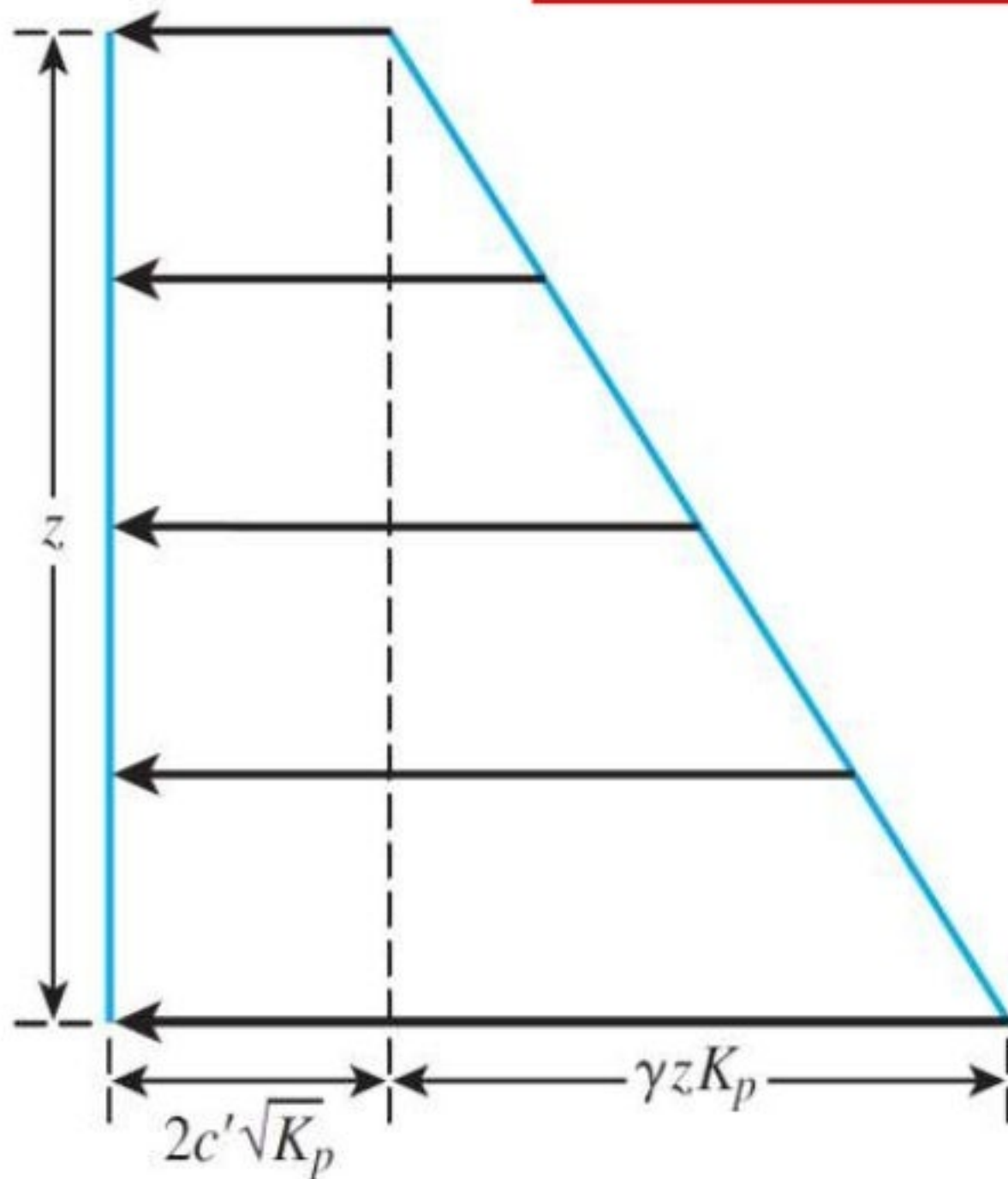
$$K_p = \frac{\sigma'_p}{\sigma'_o} = \tan^2 \left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right) = \frac{1 + \sin \phi'}{1 - \sin \phi'}$$

$$\sigma'_p = \gamma z K_p + 2c' \sqrt{K_p}$$



RANKINE THEORY OF PASSIVE EARTH PRESSURE

$$\sigma'_p = \gamma z K_p + 2c' \sqrt{K_p}$$

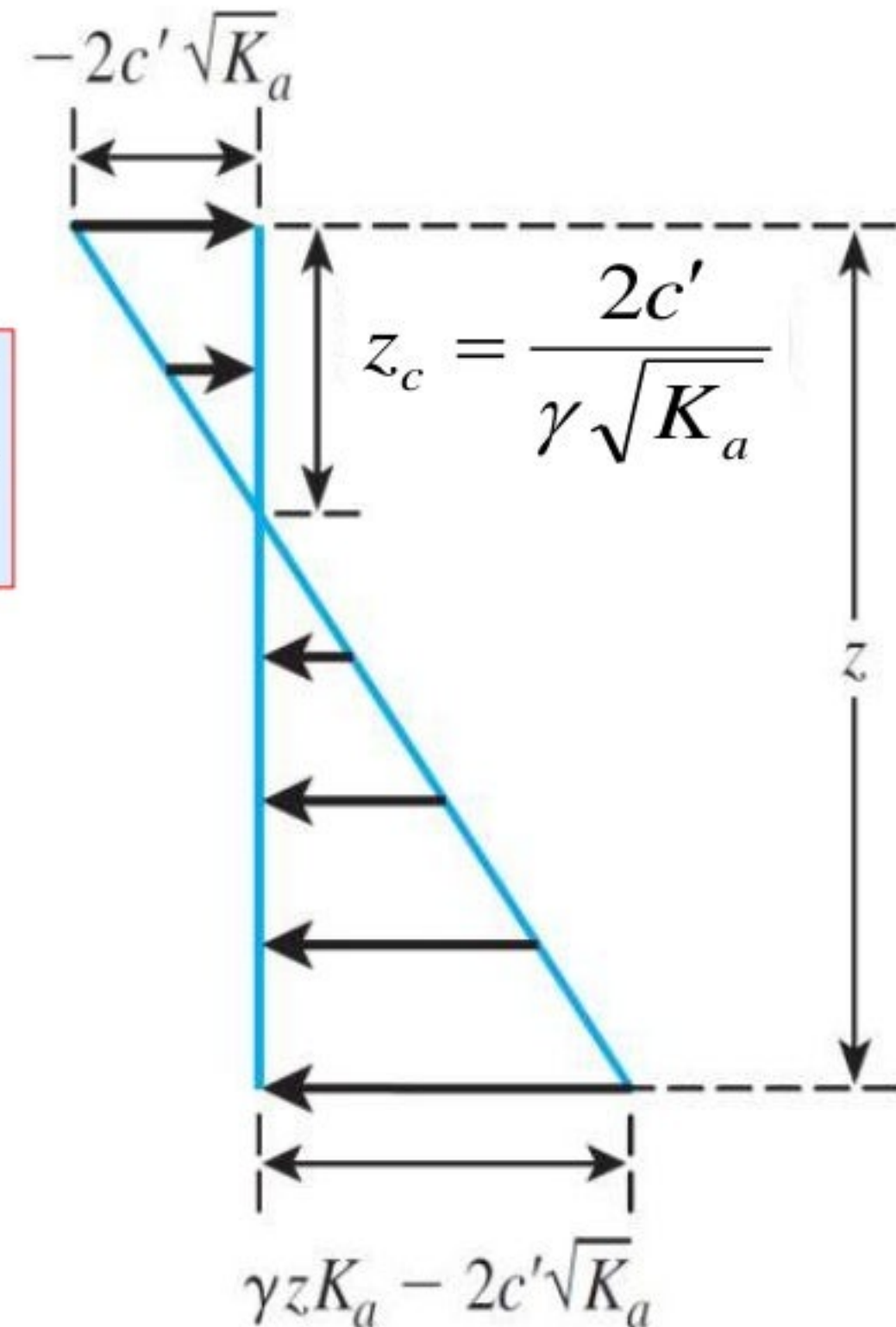


RANKINE THEORY

ACTIVE PRESSURE -- SUMMARY --

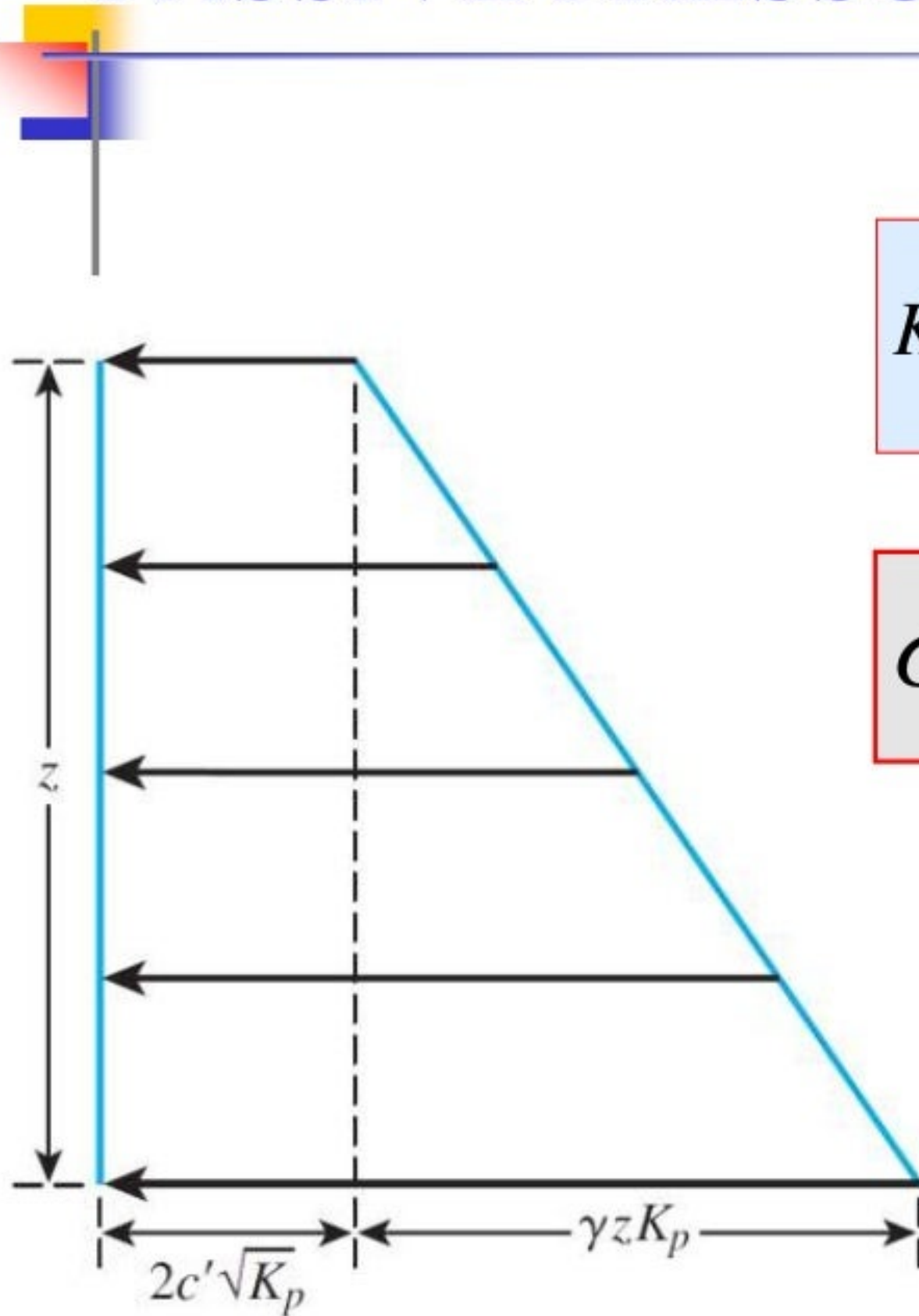
$$K_a = \frac{\sigma'_a}{\sigma'_o} = \tan^2 \left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2} \right) = \frac{1 - \sin \phi'}{1 + \sin \phi'}$$

$$\sigma'_a = \gamma z K_a - 2c' \sqrt{K_a}$$



RANKINE THEORY

PASSIVE PRESSURE -- SUMMARY --



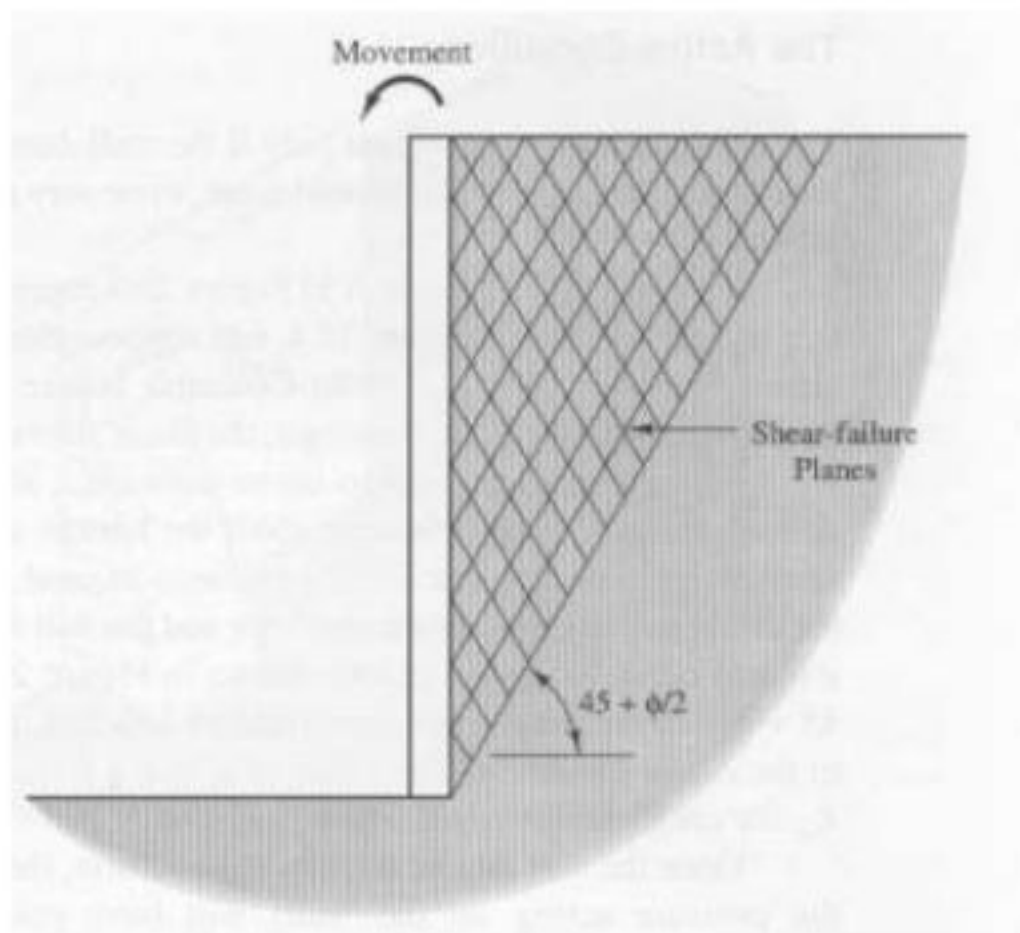
$$K_p = \frac{\sigma'_p}{\sigma'_o} = \tan^2\left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2}\right) = \frac{1 + \sin \phi'}{1 - \sin \phi'}$$

$$\sigma'_p = \gamma z K_p + 2c'\sqrt{K_p}$$

RANKINE THEORY

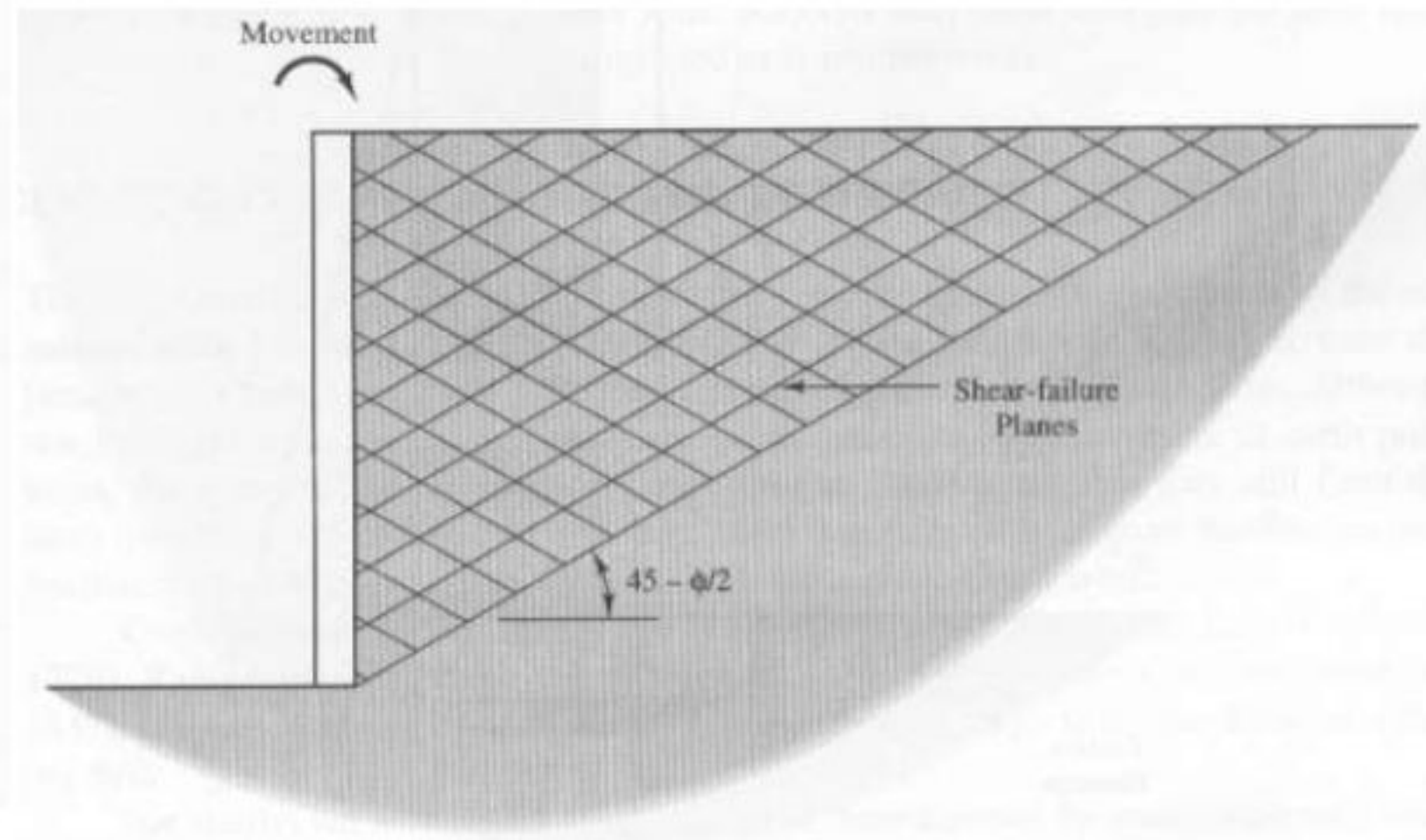
-- INCLINATION OF FAILURE PLANE --

Active Case



$$\text{Failure plane inclination} = \tan\left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2}\right)$$

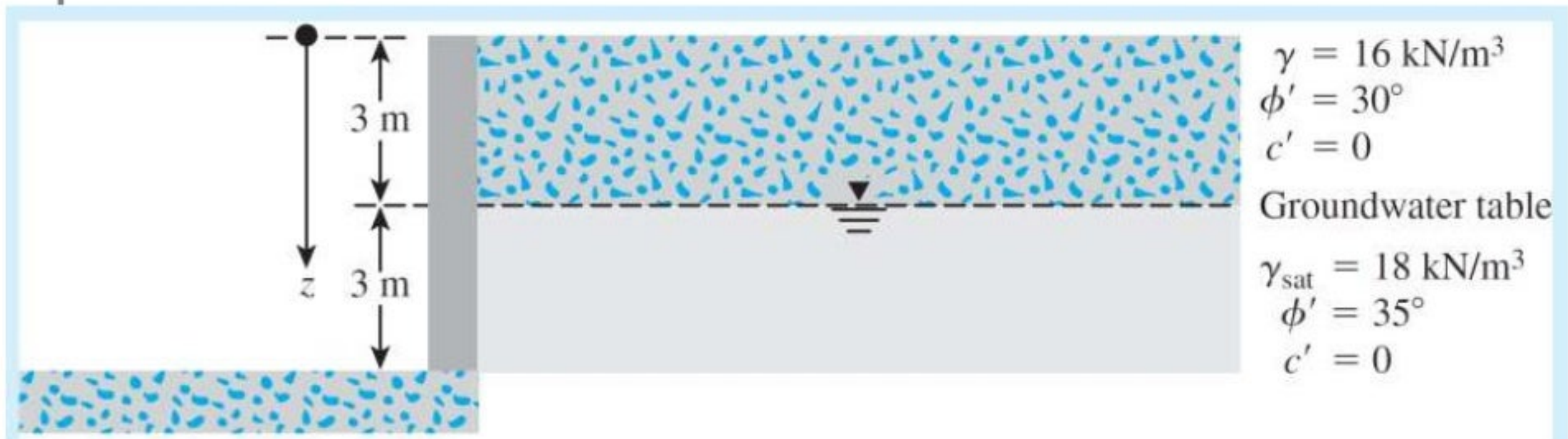
Passive Case



$$\text{Failure plane inclination} = \tan\left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2}\right)$$

Practice Problem #3

For the retaining wall shown in Figure 13.19a, determine the force per unit length of the wall for Rankine's active state. Also find the location of the resultant.



$$K_a = \frac{\sigma'_a}{\sigma'_o} = \tan^2 \left(45 - \frac{\phi'}{2} \right) = \frac{1 - \sin \phi'}{1 + \sin \phi'}$$

$$\sigma'_a = \gamma z K_a - 2c' \sqrt{K_a}$$



REFERENCE MATERIAL

Principles of Geotechnical Engineering – (7th Edition)

Braja M. Das

Chapter #13

Essentials of Soil Mechanics and Foundations (7th Edition)

David F. McCarthy

Chapter #17

Geotechnical Engineering – Principles and Practices – (2nd Edition)

Coduto, Yueng, and Kitch

Chapter #17

CONCLUDED