

Conference, Date, Location:

6th Conference on Dam Engineering, 15.-17.02.2011, Lisbon

Content:

Seepage Control of Concrete Faced Dams with respect to Surface Slab Cracking

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Outline

- Introduction
- Design Fundamentals for CFRD / CFSGD
- Cracking of Surface Slabs
- Seepage conditions due to Cracks in Surface Slabs
- Conclusion





General Information

Country

- Area: 779,452 km²
10 x Austria / 2 x Germany / 8 x Portugal
- Location: 3% Europe + 97% Asia
- Population: 70.6 Mio. Inhabitants
74% of population in major cities
Austria: 8.2 / Germany: 82.3 / Portugal: 10.6
- Aver. Age: 27.3 a
Austria: 42 / Germany: 41 / Portugal: 40
- Pop. density: 91 Inhabitants/km²
Austria: 100 / Germany: 229 / Portugal: 119
- Religion: 99% Muslims





Energy Market / Hydropower

Prognosis of Energy Demand

- 2005: 160 10³ GWh/a
- 2010: 242 10³ GWh/a (+50%)
- 2020: 356 to 476 10³ GWh/a (min +122%)
- Growth rate 8.2% in 2008 (economy 4%, pop. 1-2%)

Strategy in Hydropower Sector

- Utilization of Economically Feasible Energy Potential (EFEP) of Hydropower
- EFEP = 125 to 188 TWh/a
- Currently, 1/3 of EFEP is utilized
- Privatization of Energy Market 2000/01
- Expected Private Investment (~ 50,000 Mio. € in 2020!)
- Thread of Energy Deficit in 2012–2015 (2020)
- Currently, 2,000 HEPP in development

Introduction

Design Fundamentals

Cracking of Surface Slabs

Seepage Conditions

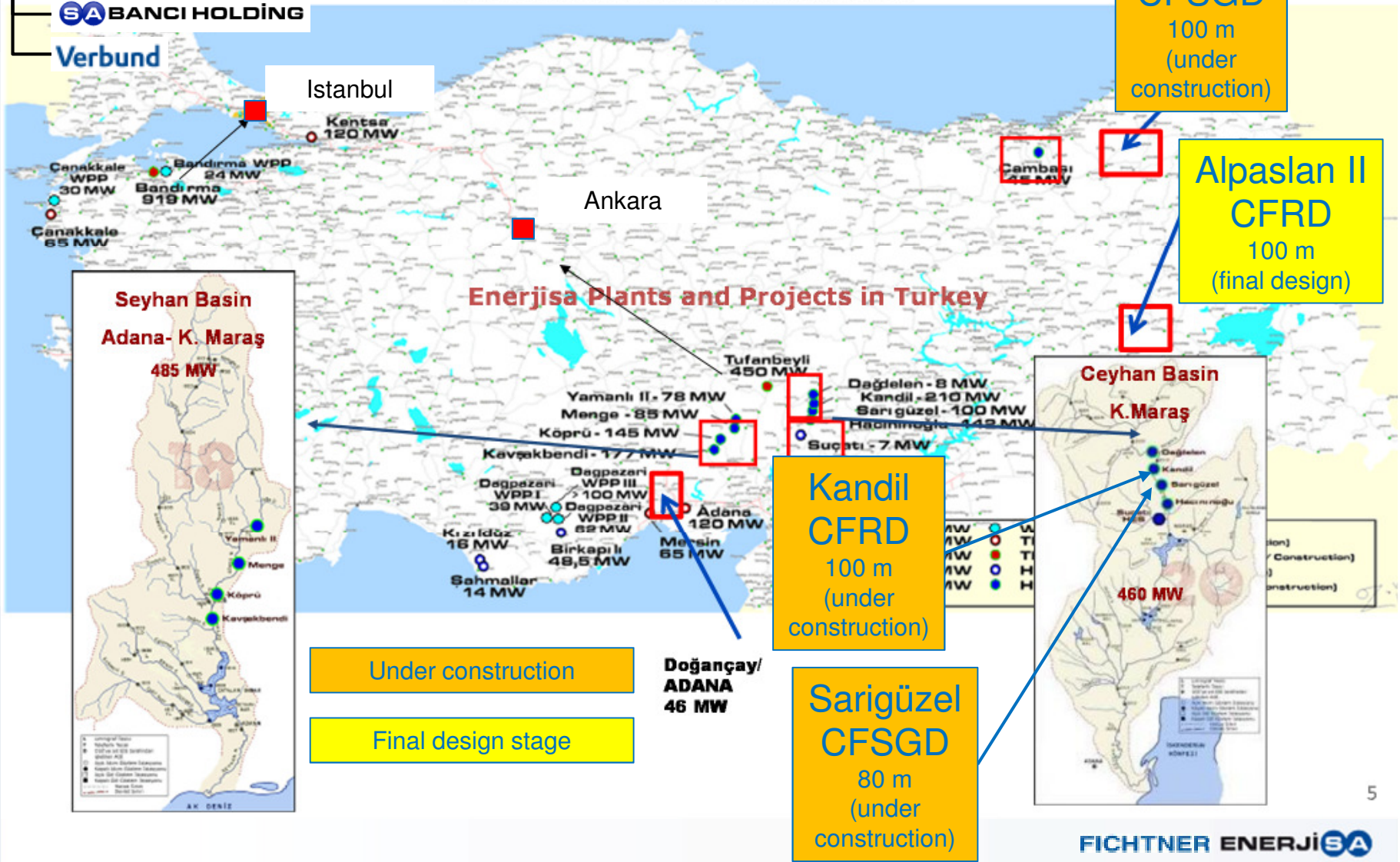
Conclusion



Seepage Control of Concrete Faced Dams with respect to Surface Slab Cracking



ENERJISA POWER PLANTS AND PROJECTS





Typical Cross-Section CFSGD

(adapted from Fell et al., 2005^A)

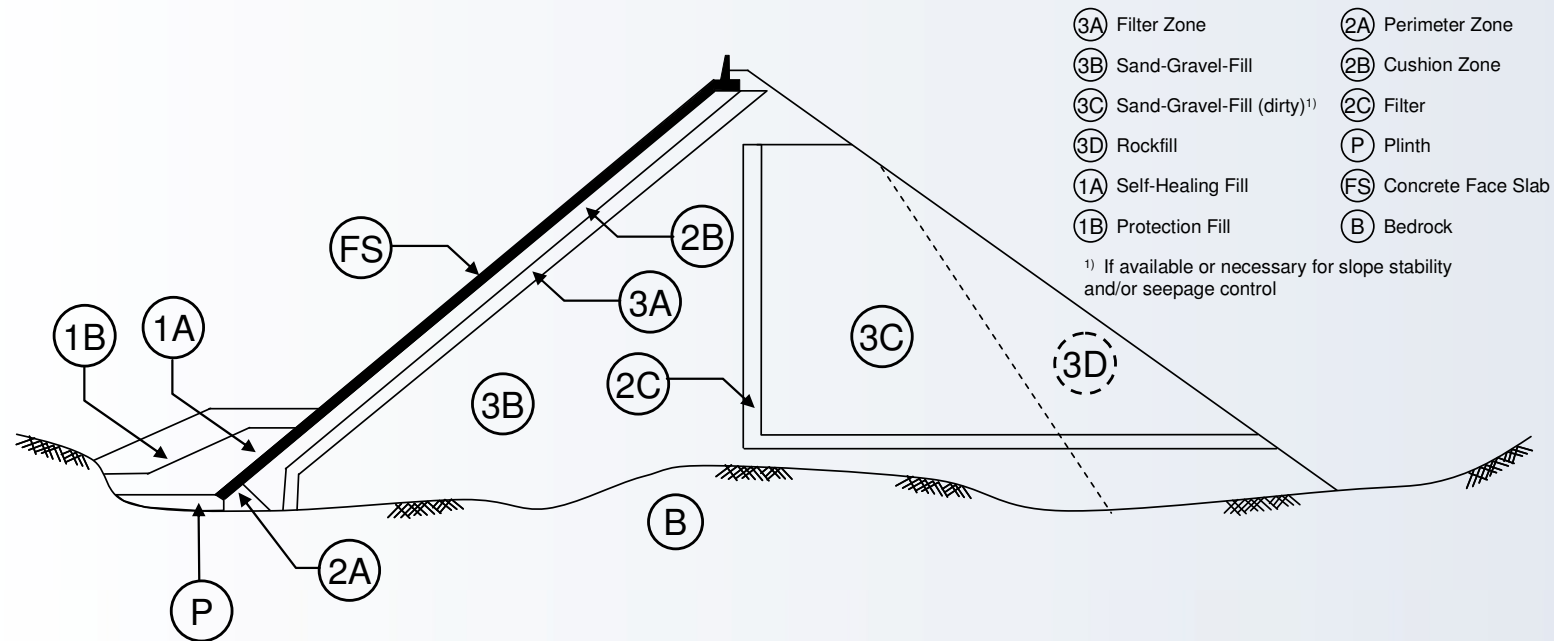
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Literature:

^{A)} R. Fell, P. MacGregor, D. Stapledon, G. Bell, Geotechnical Engineering of Dams, A. A. Balkema Publishers, Leiden London New York Philadelphia Singapore (2005)



Sand-Gravel Fill vs. Rockfill

Comparison

Aspect	Rockfill		Sand-Gravel
• Occurrence:	Quarry - Processing	↔	Natural deposits (alluvium)
• Seepage:	Free draining ¹⁾	↔	Sand and fine particles
	Simple zoning	↔	Seepage control zoning
• Shear strength:	Crushed angular grains	↔	Rounded grains
	High friction angle	↔	Friction angle controlled by main components
• Stress:	Sensitive, weak materials	↔	Less dependent
• Deformation: (see next slide)	Less favourable	↔	High elasticity moduli

Notes:

¹⁾ Considered loads and dam (seepage) conditions are not likely to allow extensive pore water pressures within the dam body.

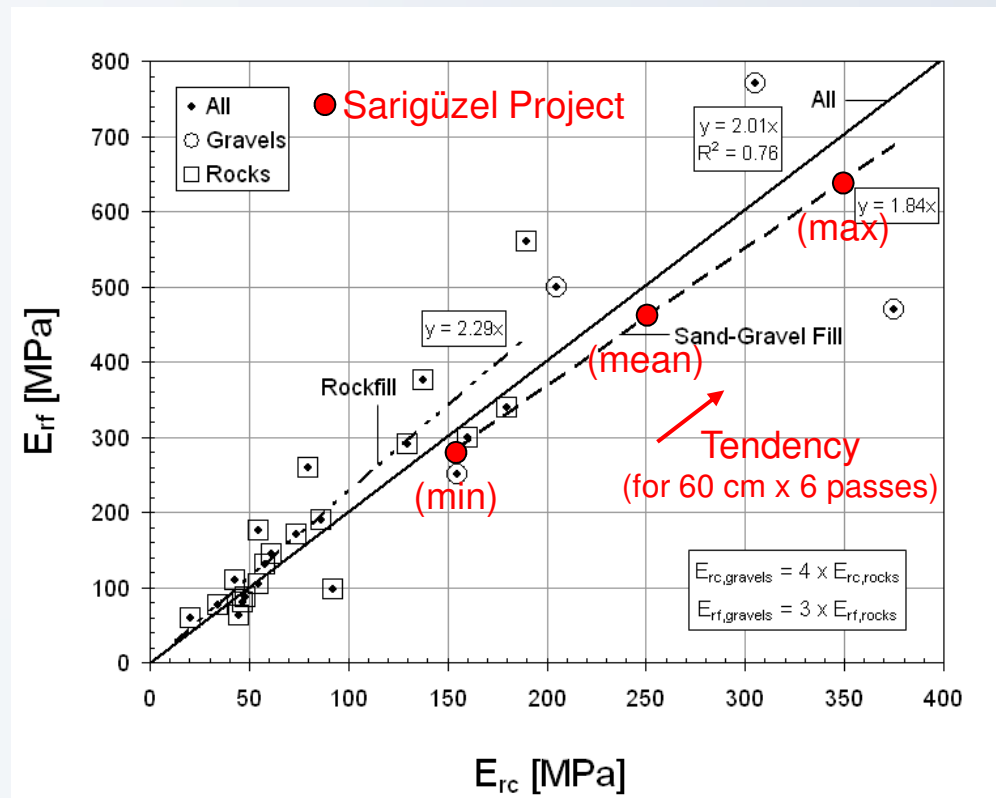


Sand-Gravel Fill vs. Rockfill

Elasticity Modulus

- Well-graded material (probably)
- Higher values for SG
- Less stress dependent
- Less deformation

- Less layer height
- Number of passes 4-8





Cracking of Surface Slabs

Experiences / Case Studies

- Seepage flow in CFRDs & CFSGDs
 - Ita (Brazil): 1,700 l/s; H = 125 m
 - Shiroro (Nigeria): 2,000 l/s; H = 125 m (→ 100 l/s after sealing joints)
 - Scofield (USA): 5,600 l/s; H = 40 m
 - Campos Novos (Brazil): 1,400 l/s; H = 202 m (50 MPa)
 - Barra Grande (Brazil): 1,300 l/s; H = 185 m
 - Aguamilpa (Mexico): 200 l/s; H = 187 m
 - El Cajon (Mexico): 150 l/s; H = 188 m
 - Shuibuya (China): 40 l/s; H = 233 m (80-100 MPa)
- Maximum slab deformation
 - Salt Spring (USA): > 1.0 % of height (dumped rockfill)
 - Shuibuya (China): 0.5 % of height (double of expected)

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Cracking of Surface Slabs

Reasons for Cracking

- Deformation cracks are of major concern
- Tension / compression cracks
- 50% of deformation during „First impoundment“
- Likelihood of cracking for $E < 50 \text{ MPa}$ and large dams is high

- Geotechnical investigation – lack of information/data
- Design inconsistencies (Gouhou dam (!), Aguamilpa)
- Unfavourable material properties
- Construction works
- Dynamic loads - Earthquake (next slide)
- ...

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Cracking of Surface Slabs

Dynamic Loads - Earthquake

Direct impact

- **Displacement** of the surface slab blocks
- Failure of **joint sealing** components (copper inlays)
- Deformation, displacements of filter layers (functionality, seepage control)
- **Loosening** of soil/rock strength
- **Liquefaction** (should be excluded by choice of materials for SG or RF)

Indirect impacts

- **Landslides** → Impulse on dam body, surface slab, shock waves, overtopping...
- **Rockfalls**
- ...
- Determination of design parameters & evaluation of impact **difficult**

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Cracking of Surface Slabs

Earthquake in Turkey

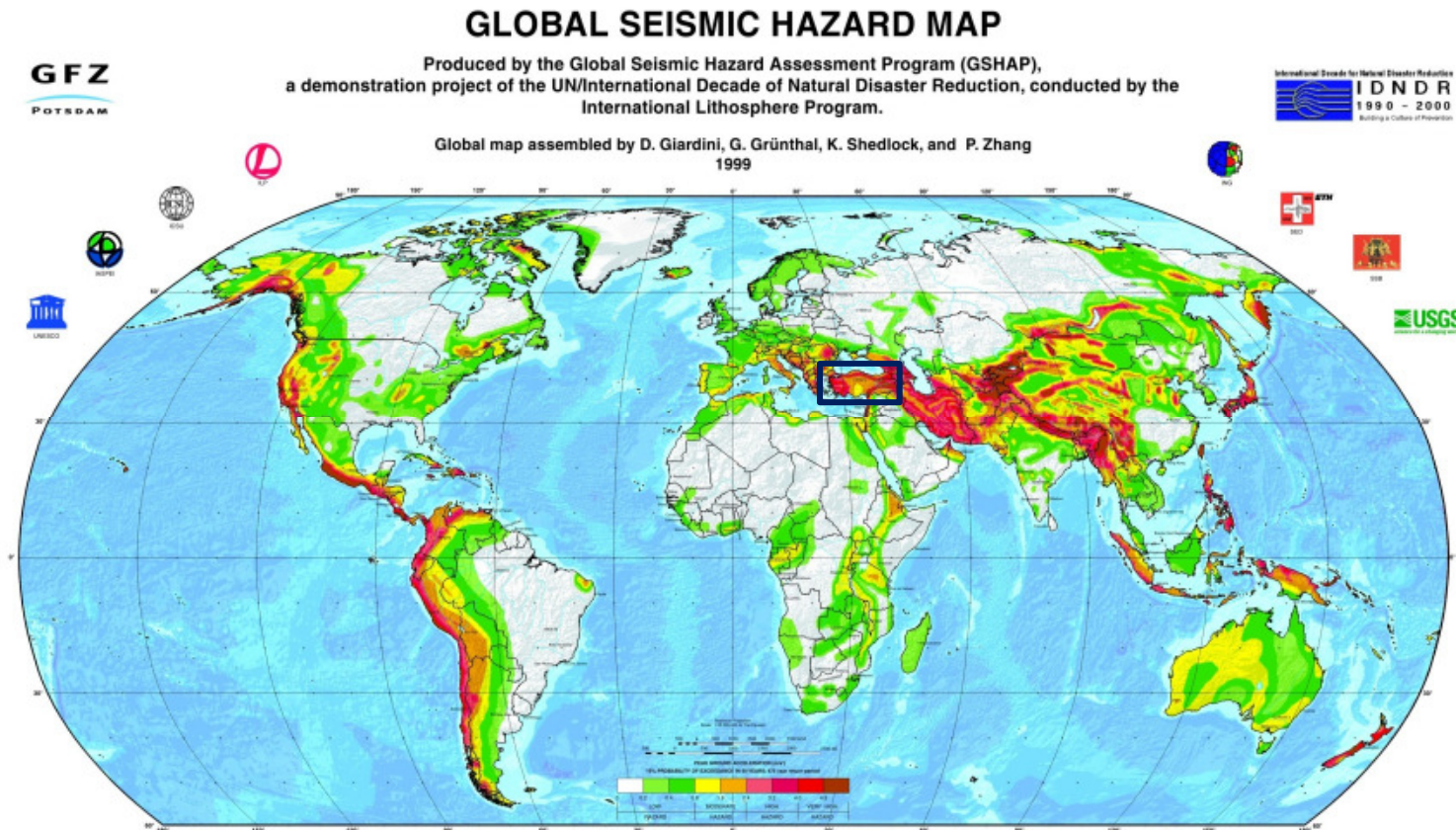
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Earthquake in Turkey

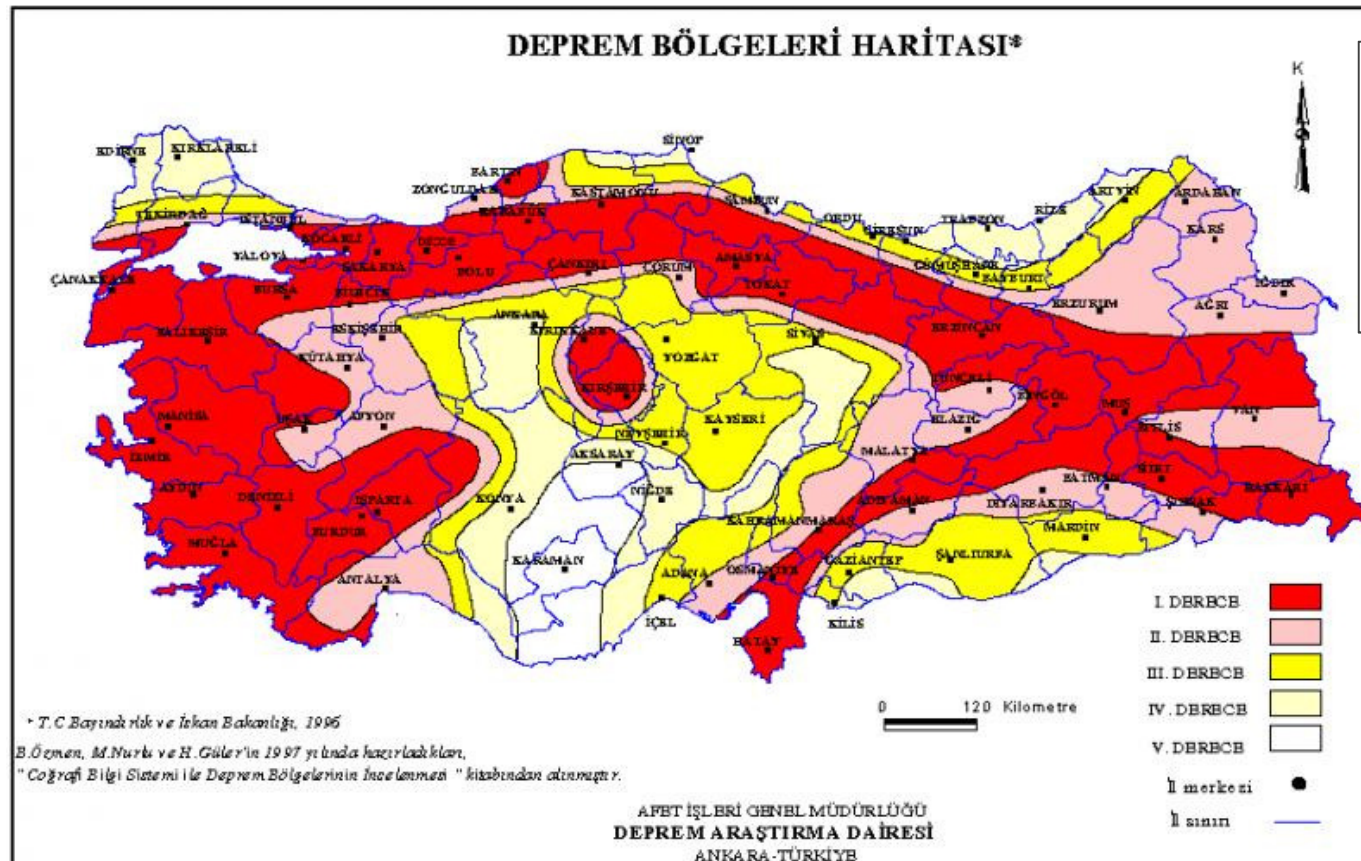
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PGA values
1st: > 0.4g
2nd: 0.3g - 0.4g
3rd: 0.2g - 0.3g
4th: 0.2g - 0.1g
5th: <0.1g



Cracking of Surface Slabs

Consequences & Countermeasures

- Seepage intrusion/increase
 - Pore water pressures
 - Hydrodynamic soil deformation (erosion, suffusion)
 - Seepage losses (electricity generation!)
 - Damages & failure
 - Fatalities (!) & economic/social impacts
- Rapid drawdown (if possible, stability of upstream slope)
- Addition of silty sand, flyash, bentonite...
- Joint design → More joints more flexibility
- Proper choice of the deformation parameters of different zones
- Local increase of slab thickness
- Zoning for seepage control & self-healing zone 1A
- Refurbishment measures (concrete, geomembranes...)

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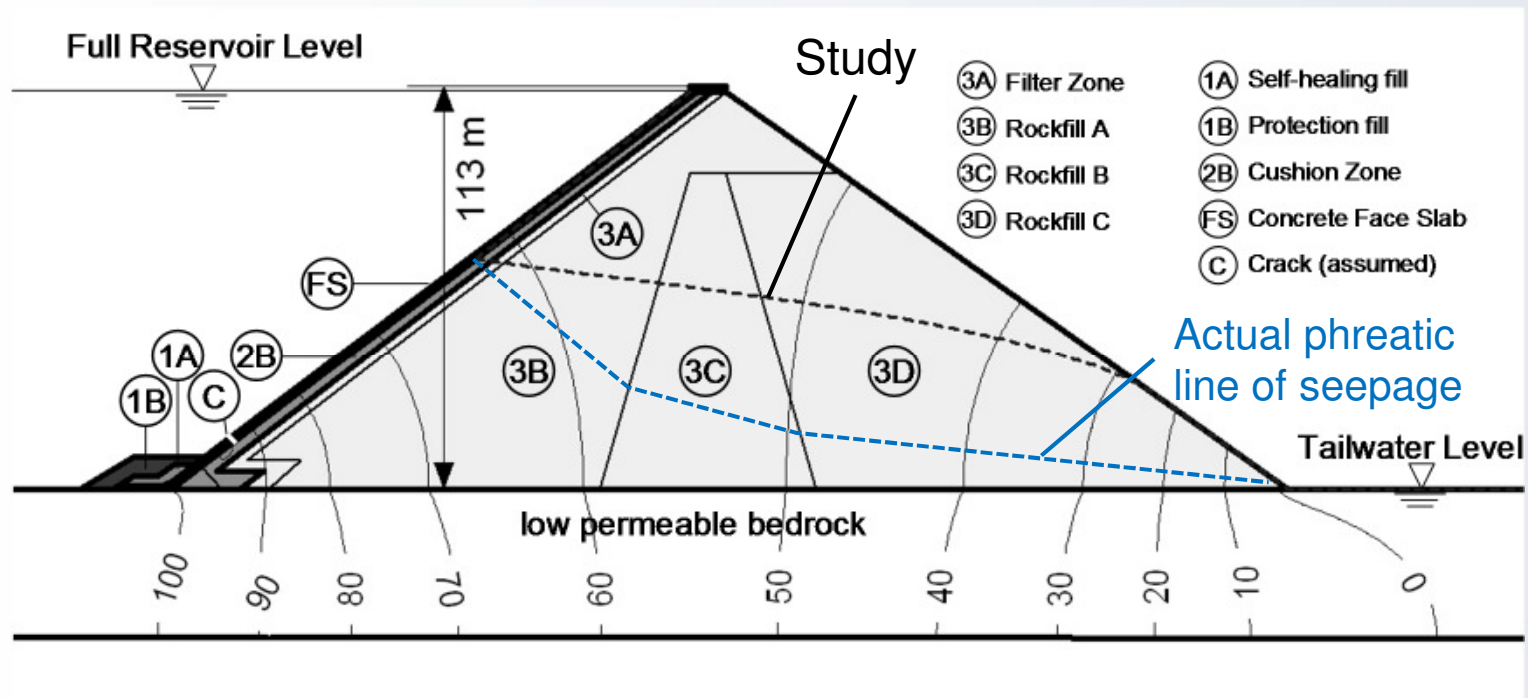
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Seepage Conditions CFRD

- Dam Zoning / Foundation on Bedrock

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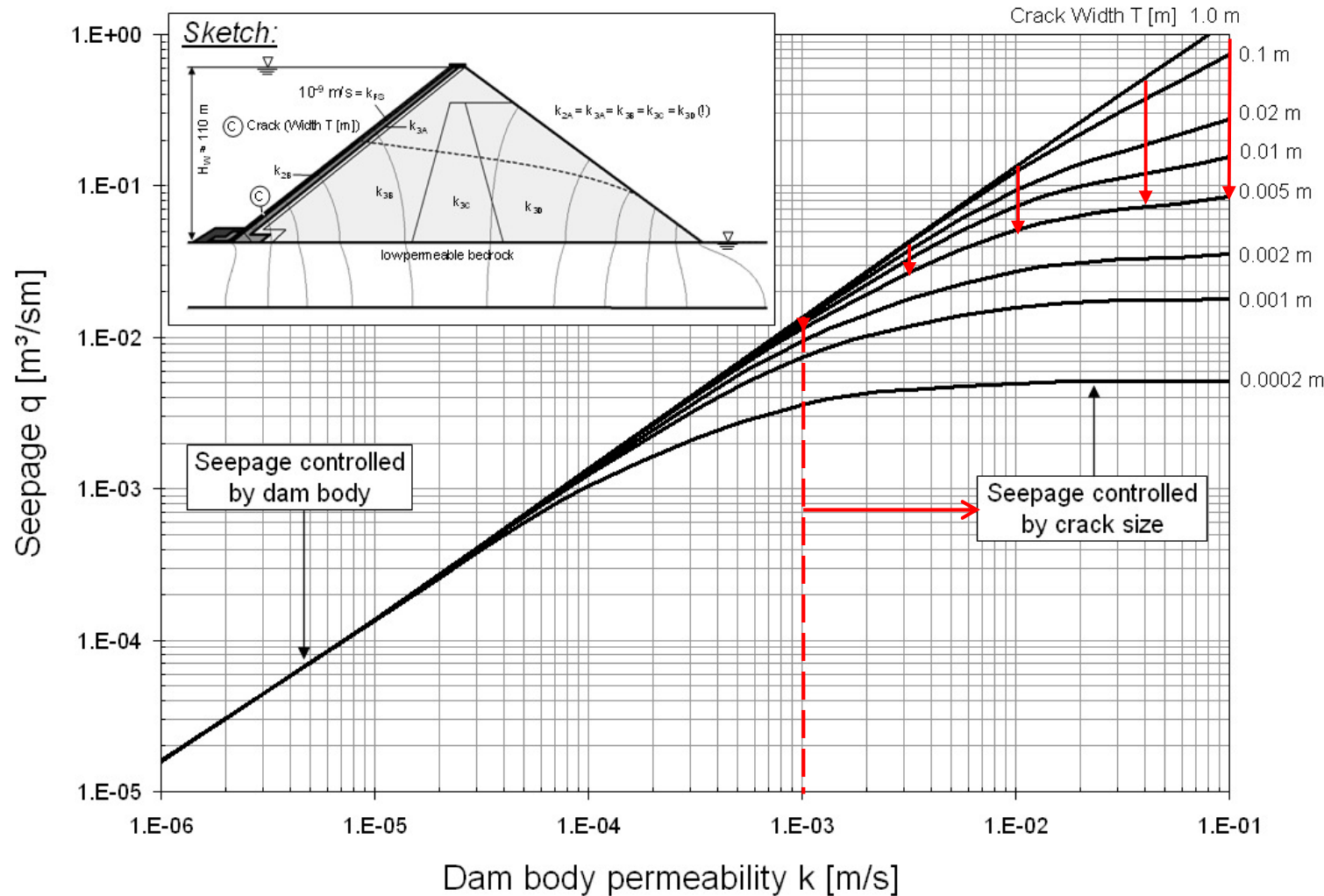


Seepage Conditions CFRD

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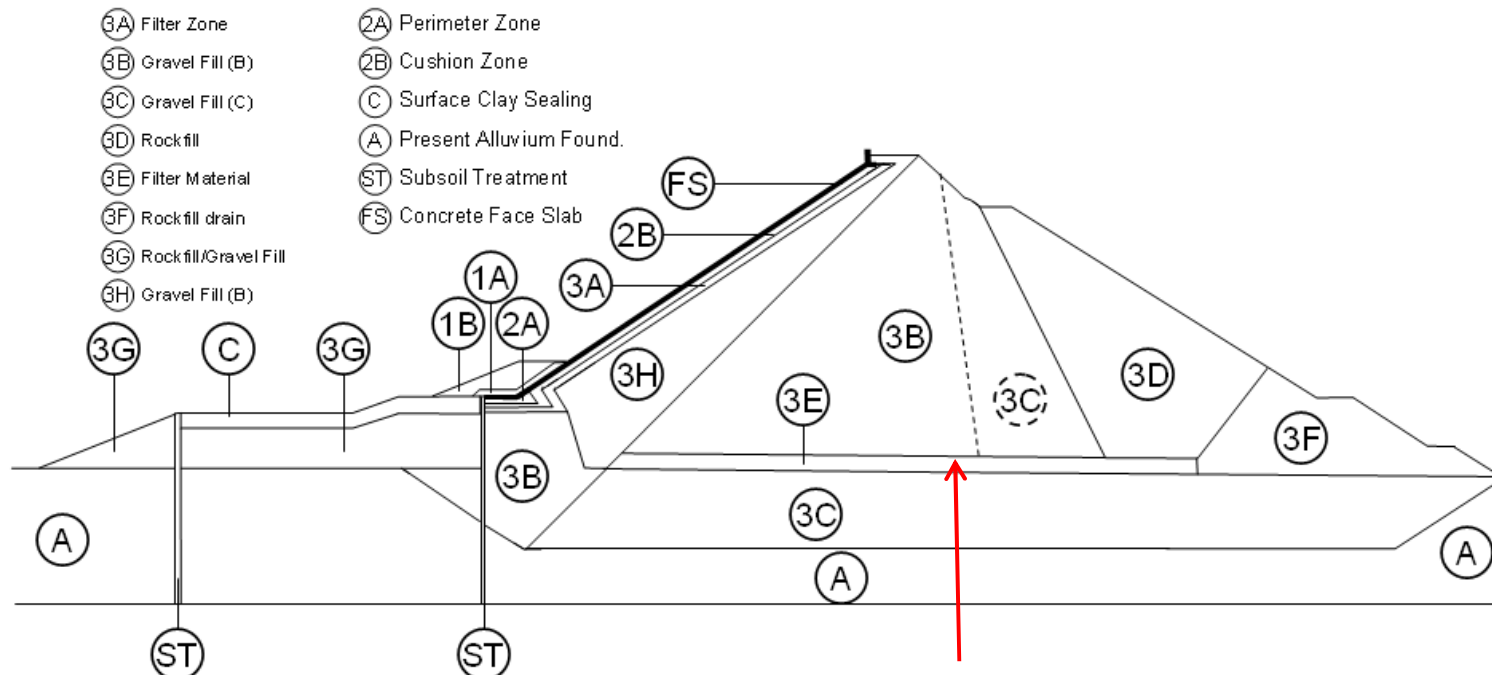




Seepage Conditions CFSGD

- CFSGD Zoning / Foundation on Alluvium
→ Principle Dam Design of Case Study

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Drain design

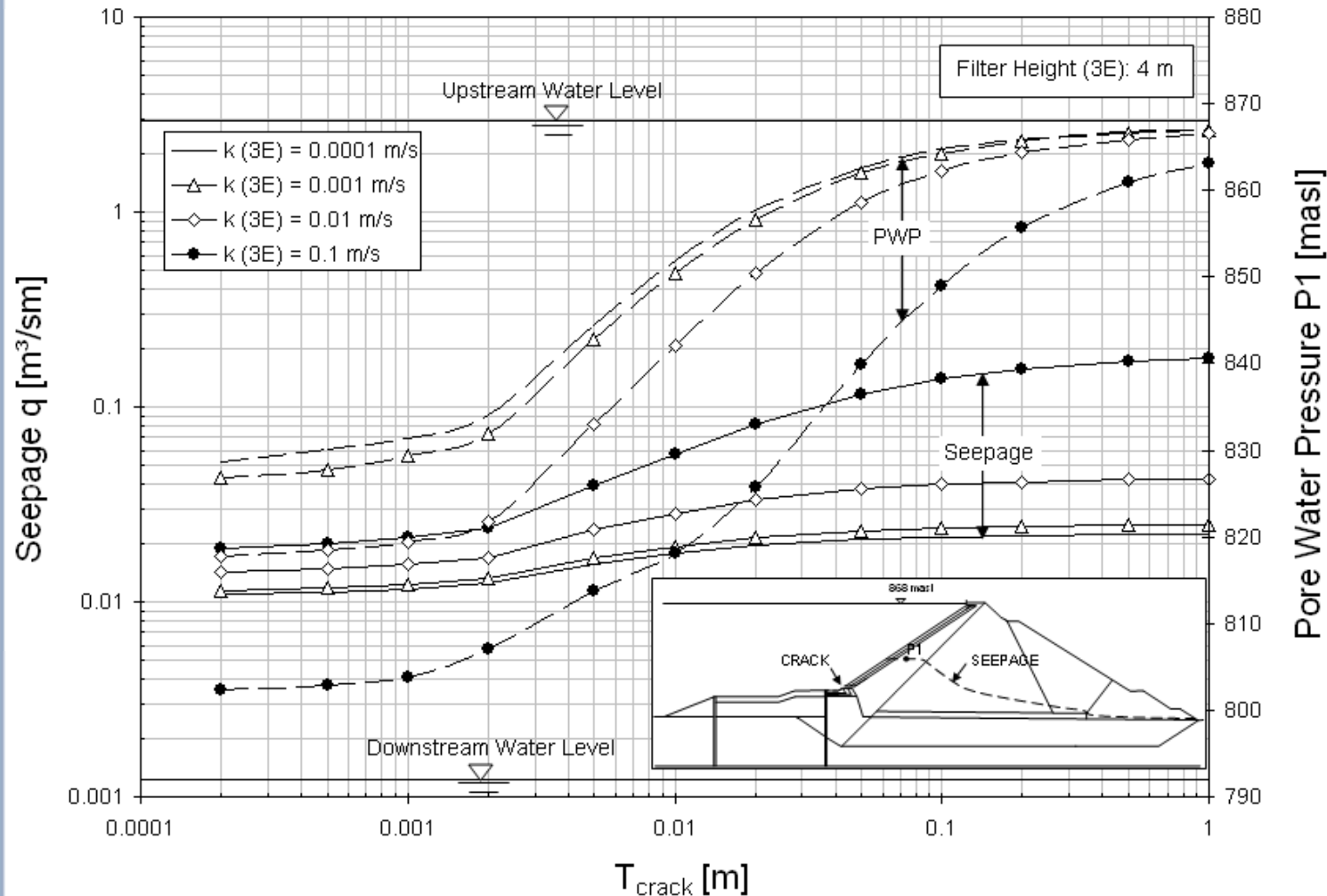


Seepage Conditions CFSGD

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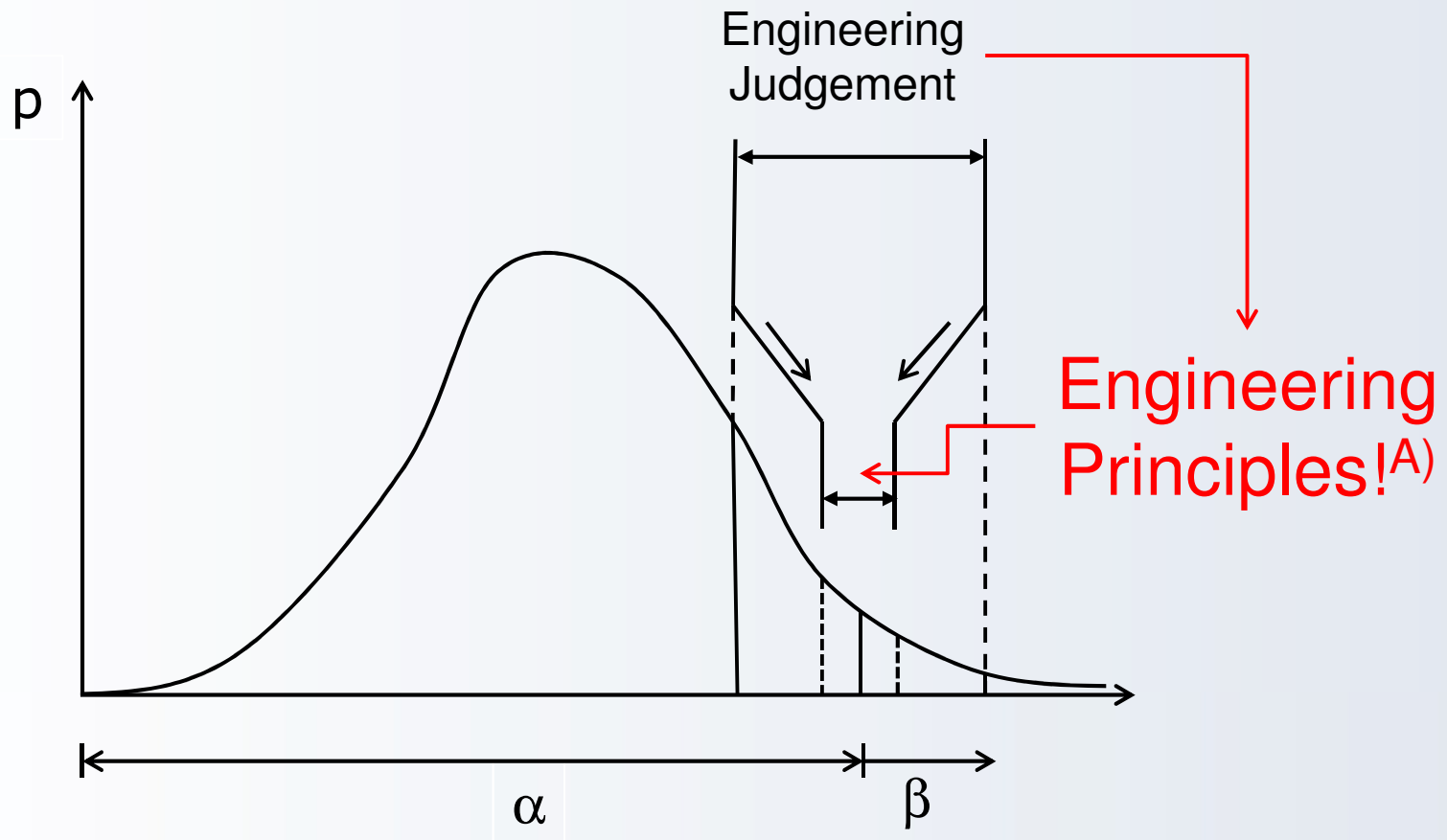


Conclusion

- Static loads → Cracking „predictable“ for the case of reliable construction works and constant material quality
 - Dynamic loading → Cracking „hardly predictable“ (case studies? Wenchuan China 2008)
 - Adaptation of zoning/design in order to control seepage conditions in case of cracking
 - Pore water pressures → Draining
 - Erosion/suffusion → Filter
- Direct consequences of cracking to be controlled



Thank you.



Reference:

^{A)} Hartford, D. (2011): Risk management in embankment dams – Geotechnical component. Session 4: Future Directions: beginning by going back to the scientific foundations. LNEC, Portugal