

Kinematical Element Analysis (KEA)

Theoretical background
and it's application in
geotechnics

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Outline

- **Concepts and fundamental principles**
 - **Mechanical Model**
 - Modeling of multi-part wedge mechanisms
 - Solution of the system's kinematics and kinematic consistency
 - Statics
 - How to construct KE-systems properly
 - **Optimization**
 - Topology ...
 - Geometry of the system
 - **Examples**
 - Stability of slopes
 - Stability of excavation pit constructions
 - Bearing capacity
 - How to take into consideration of flow
-

▪ Concepts and fundamental principles

KEA

Generalized version of rigid wedge analysis
based on Coulomb's ultimate limit state

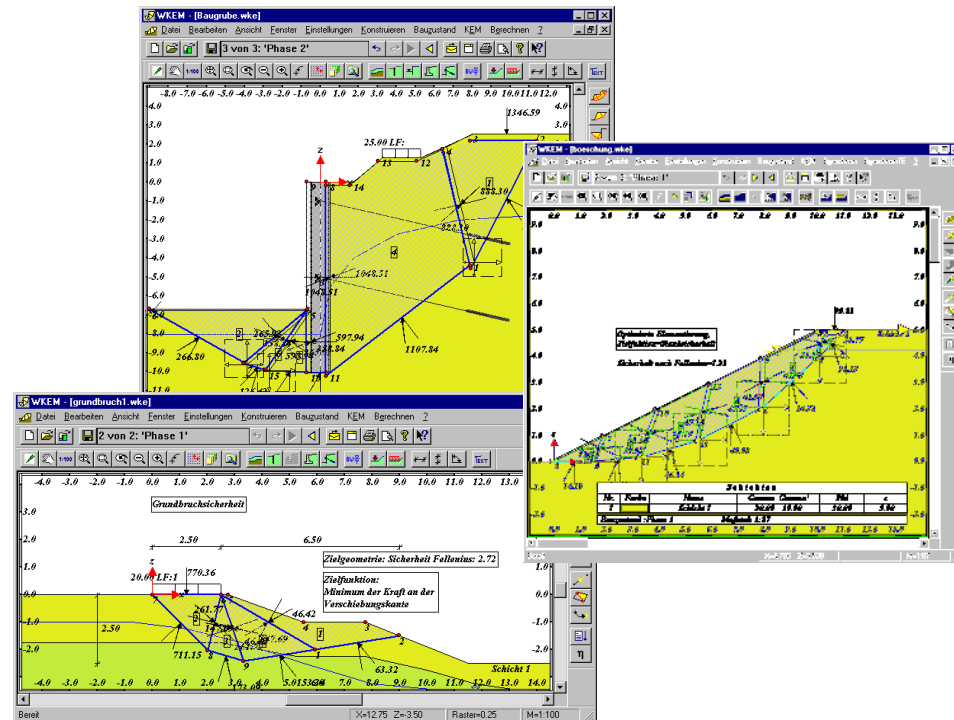
- Free description of the failure mechanism using rigid bodies
- Soil-to-soil contact due to Coulomb's equation
$$\sigma_t = (\sigma_n - u) \cdot \tan(\varphi) + c$$
- Equilibrium of forces acc. to principle of virtual displacements
$$A_i + A_a = \min$$
- Optimization of the geometry

Applicability of KEA in geotechnics

Ultimate limit state analysis

Realistically modelling of failure mechanisms to calculate

- Internal / external stability
- Bearing capacity failure
- active/passive earth pressure



Input values ↔ **Results**

- **Input values:** Soil parameters
 - φ (*Internal friction*)
 - c (*Cohesion*)
- **Results:**
 - Interacting forces at the element's boundaries
 - Stability acc. to Fellenius
(*Reduction of shear parameters $\varphi - c$*)
 - Geometry of failure mechanism
 - Displacementrates

Tensions, displacements do not get calculated

Mechanical Model

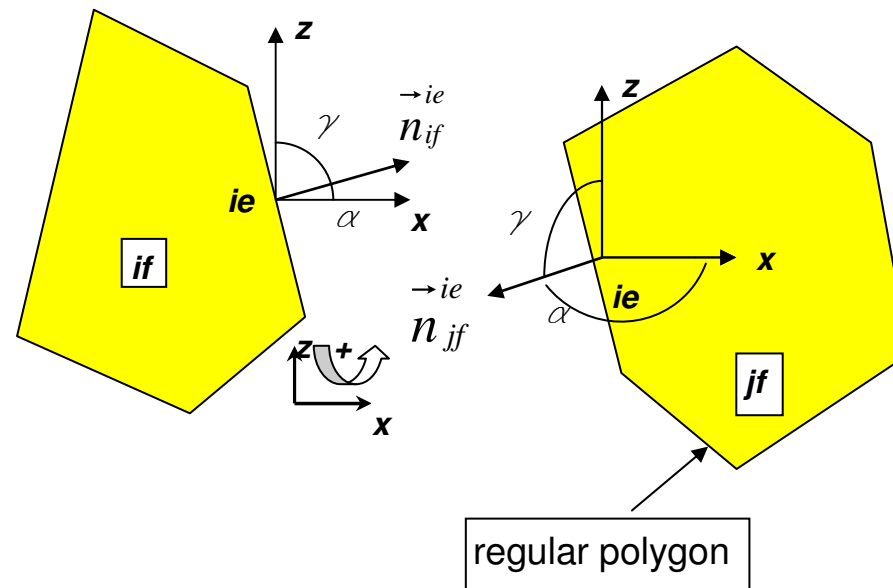
Geometry edge, face

$$\mathbf{n}_{ie}^{ifT} = [\cos \alpha \quad \cos \gamma]_{ie}^{if}$$

$$\cos \alpha_{ie}^{if} = \frac{dz_{ie}^{if}}{d_{ie}} \quad \cos \gamma_{ie}^{if} = -\frac{dx_{ie}^{if}}{d_{ie}}$$

$$dx_{ie}^{if} = x_{jv}^{if} - x_{iv}^{if} \quad dz_{ie}^{if} = z_{jv}^{if} - z_{iv}^{if}$$

$$d_{ie} = \sqrt{(dx_{ie}^{if})^2 + (dz_{ie}^{if})^2}$$

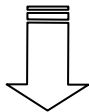


Kinematics

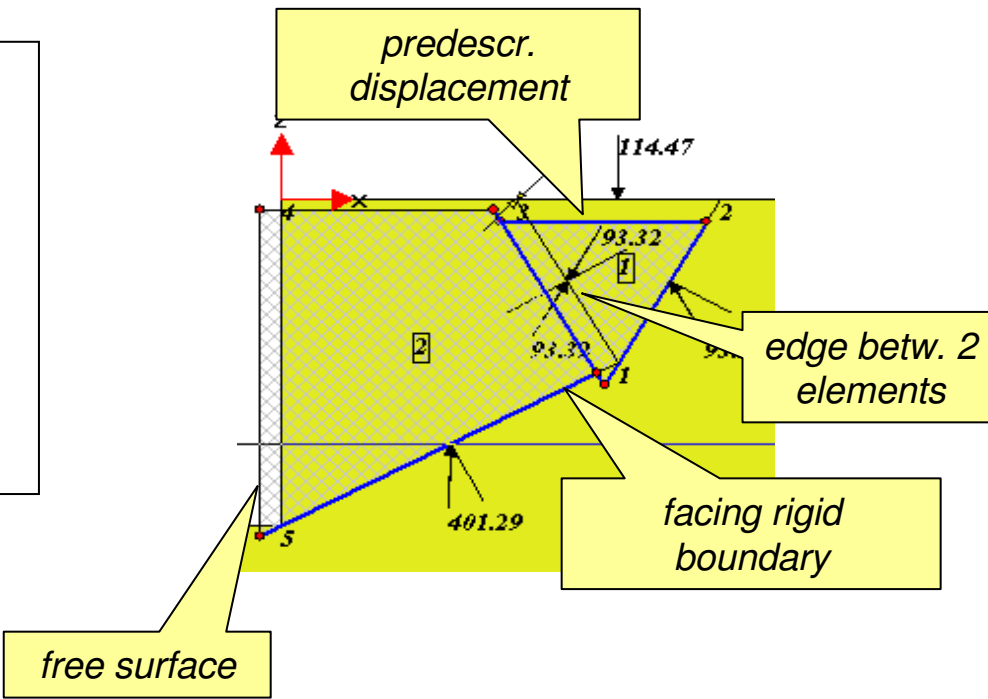


Multi-part wedge structure

- Boundary conditions:**
- Edges between elements
 - Edges with prescribed displacement
 - Edges facing rigid boundary area
 - Edges with no constraints (free resp. gaping edges)



$$K^{sys} \cdot v^{sys} = r^{sys}$$



Kinematics: Example

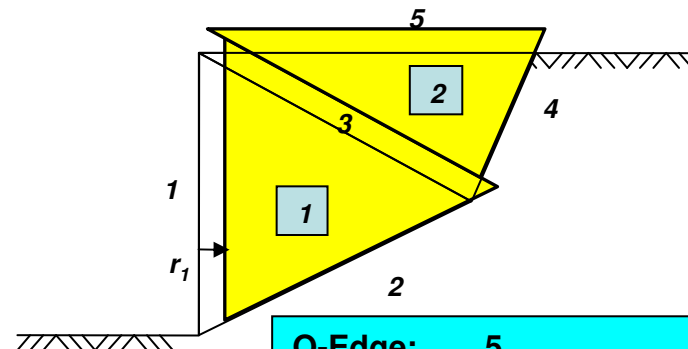
Setting up system kinematic-matrix for a 2-wedge mechanism

edge	element			
	1		2	
1	n_x	n_z	0	0
2	n_x	n_z	0	0
3	n_x	n_z	n_x	n_z
4	0	0	n_x	n_z

$$K^{sys}$$

$$\cdot v^{sys} = \begin{pmatrix} r_1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\cdot v^{sys} = r^{sys}$$

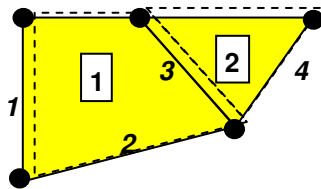


- O-Edge:** 5
- DR-Edge:** 2, 4
- DF-Edge:** 1 (gets displ. by r_1 in +dir.)
- I-Edge:** 3

Discretization



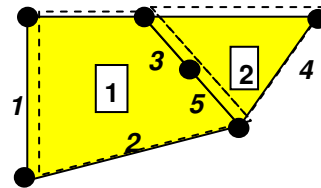
$$K^{sys} \cdot v^{sys} = r^{sys}$$



4 equations
4 unknowns

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}$$

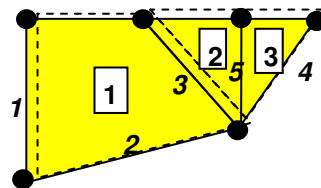
unique solution



5 equations
4 unknowns

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 \\ 5 & \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}$$

residual solution?

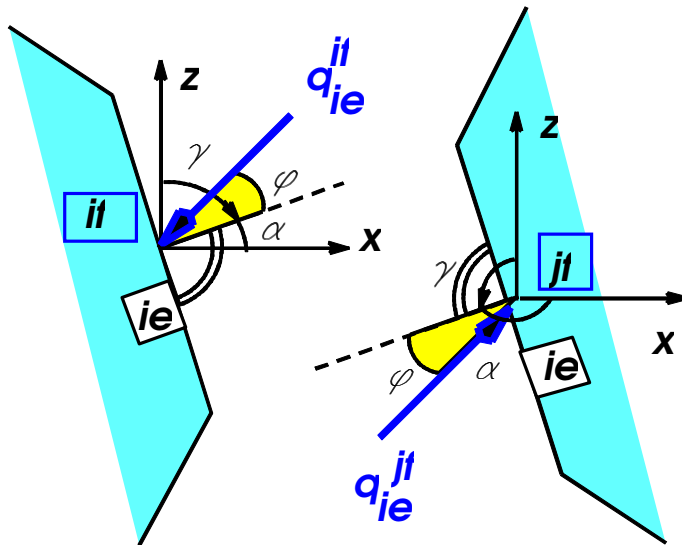


5 equations
6 unknowns

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}$$

more than one solution

Statics



System:

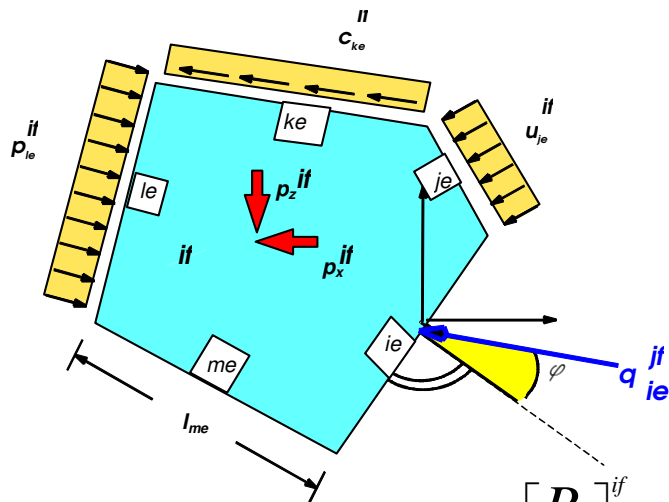
$$F^{sys} = R^{sys} \cdot Q^{sys} + P^{sys}$$

Element:

$$F^{if} = \begin{bmatrix} R_{ie} & R_{je} & \dots & R_{ne} \end{bmatrix}^{if} \cdot Q^{if} + p^{if}$$

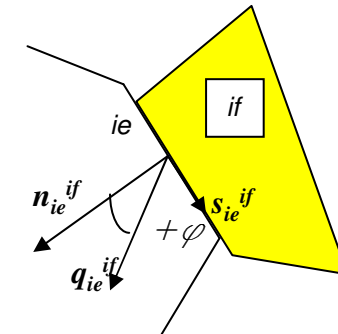
$$\begin{bmatrix} F_x \\ F_z \end{bmatrix}^{if} = \begin{bmatrix} R_{ie_x} & R_{je_x} & \dots & R_{ne_x} \\ R_{ie_z} & R_{je_z} & \dots & R_{ne_z} \end{bmatrix}^{if} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} Q_{ie} \\ Q_{je} \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ Q_{ne} \end{bmatrix} + \sum_{i=0}^{i=ne} \begin{bmatrix} p_x^i \\ p_z^i \end{bmatrix}^{if}$$

Equilibrium of forces at one element



$$s_{ie}^{if} = \begin{pmatrix} s_x \\ s_z \end{pmatrix}_{ie}^{if} = T_{ie}^{ifT} \cdot \tilde{s}_{ie}^{if}$$

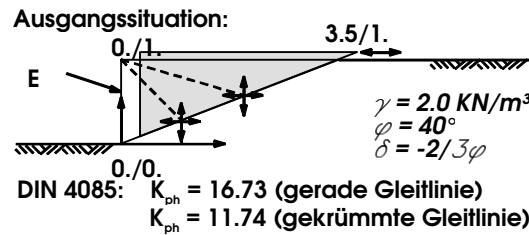
$$d_{ie}^{if} = n \times s = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ n_x \cdot s_z - n_z \cdot s_x \end{pmatrix}_{ie}^{if}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} R_x \\ R_z \end{bmatrix}_{ie}^{if} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \varphi & \chi \cdot \sin \varphi \\ -\chi \cdot \sin \varphi & \cos \varphi \end{bmatrix}_{ie}^{if} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} n_x \\ n_z \end{bmatrix}_{ie}^{if}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} P_x \\ P_z \end{bmatrix}_{ie}^{if} = \begin{bmatrix} \zeta^* \cdot \cos \gamma \cdot c \cdot l \\ -\zeta^* \cdot \cos \alpha \cdot c \cdot l \end{bmatrix}_{ie}^{if} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha \cdot (u + p) \cdot l \\ \cos \gamma \cdot (u + p) \cdot l \end{bmatrix}_{ie}^{if}$$

Remarks on discretization level



1 Element: Zielgeometrie:

Kantenkräfte:
 Nr.2: 21.542
 Nr.4: $18.717 \cdot \cos(\delta) = 16.726$

Optimierungsfreiheitsgrade: 1

5.175/1.

3 Elemente: Zielgeometrie:

Kantenkräfte:
 Nr.2: 8.434
 Nr.7: 2.747
 Nr.5: 4.480
 Nr.4: $12.988 \cdot \cos(\delta) = 11.607$

Optimierungsfreiheitsgrade: 5

0.795/0.00 1.239/0.0 3.312/1.

2 Elemente: Zielgeometrie:

Kantenkräfte:
 Nr.2: 9.705
 Nr.5: 6.352
 Nr.4: $13.2729 \cdot \cos(\delta) = 11.861$

Optimierungsfreiheitsgrade: 3
 vgl. (GUDE) Kap. 2.1.2.4:

$K_{pt} = 13.27 \cdot \cos(\delta) = 11.86, \vartheta_{1,0} = 0^\circ, \vartheta_{1/2} = 45^\circ, \vartheta_{2,0} = 21^\circ$

0.987/0.0 3.491/1.

1 Element, spiralförmige Gleitfläche: Zielgeometrie:

Kantenkraft:
 $Q = 13.126 \cdot \cos(\delta) = 11.729$

Optimierungsfreiheitsgrade: 1

Pol: $x = -1.997$
 $z = 2.380$

2.959/1.

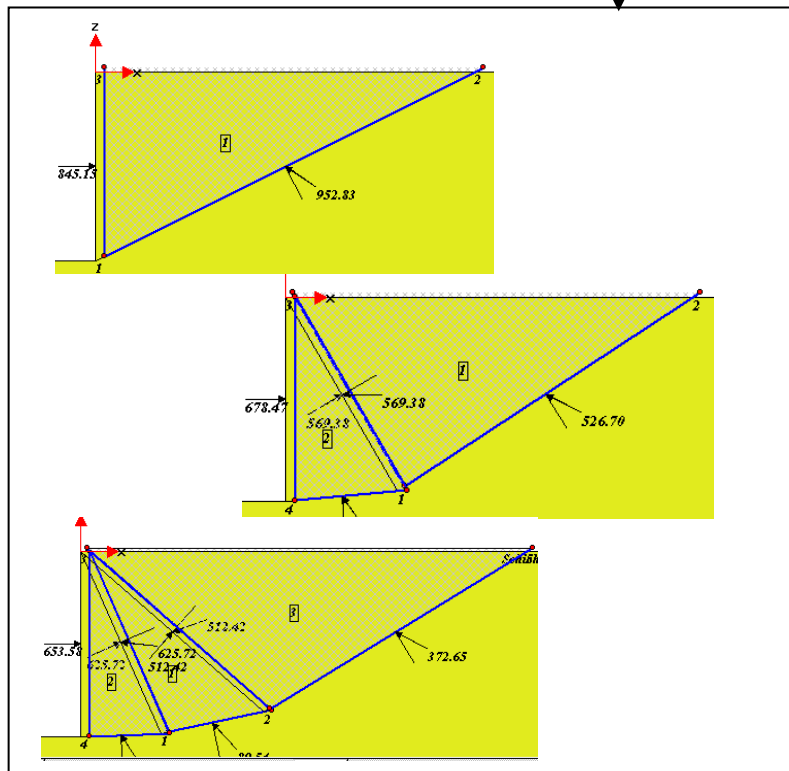
$\varphi = 40^\circ$

KEA – Kinematical Element Analysis

Optimization

Mechanism

Geoemtry



Aim ...

- For calculation of **earth pressure** the **remaining force** of the edge(s) that have prescribed displacement(s) gets optimized (maximized for active and minimized for passive earth pressure).
- For **internal / external stability** the aim is defined **acc. to Fellenius** (φ , c -reduction for every step during optimization)
- **Bearing capacity**: Minimum of **remaining force** at displ. edges OR safety acc. to **Fellenius**.

Methods for geometry optimization

Geometry gets changed interactively

- Adv.:*
- A solution close to the global optimum may be found easily.
 - 'Intelligent' way of searching.
- Disadv.:*
- Not automatically.

Mathematical downhill method (incl. penalty function)

- Adv.:*
- Fast convergent in most cases.
- Disadv.:*
- Solution may not be global optimum.

Total Enumeration

- Adv.:*
- Predefined interval of solution gets "scanned" completely.
 - Within this interval the solution found is a global optimum.
- Disadv.:*
- Interval of solution has to be defined.
 - Calculation takes a long time.

Evolution strategy or genetic Algorithms

- Adv.:*
- It is pretty likely that the global optimum gets found.
- Disadv.:*
- Parameters for the algorithm have to be defined properly.
 - Calculation takes a long time.

Proposal for geometry optimization



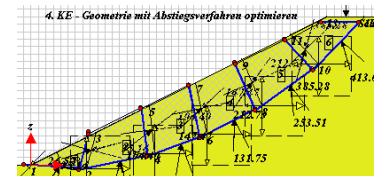
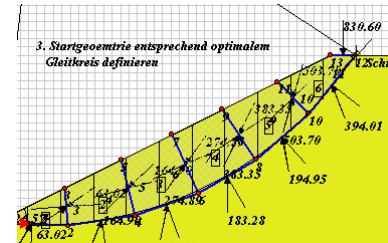
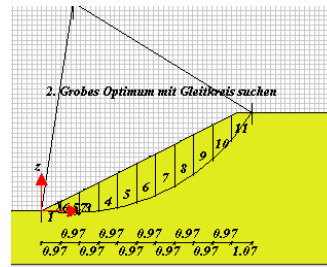
1. Find coarse solution using slipcircle analysis



2. Define start geometry according to slipcircle



3. Optimize by means of math. downhill method

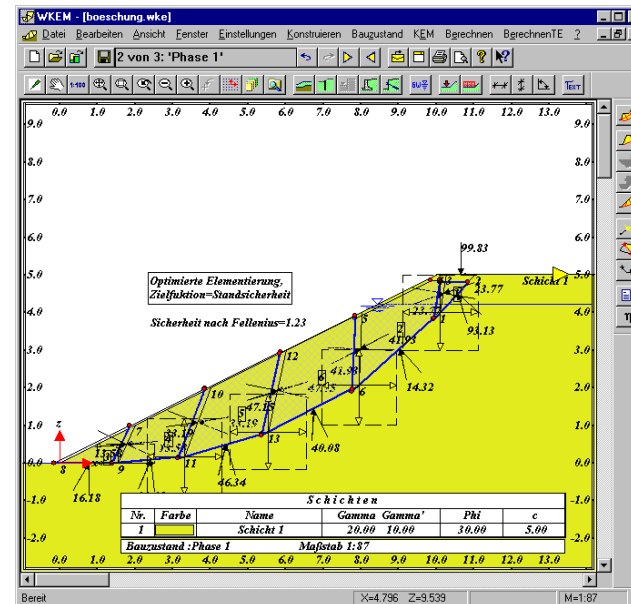
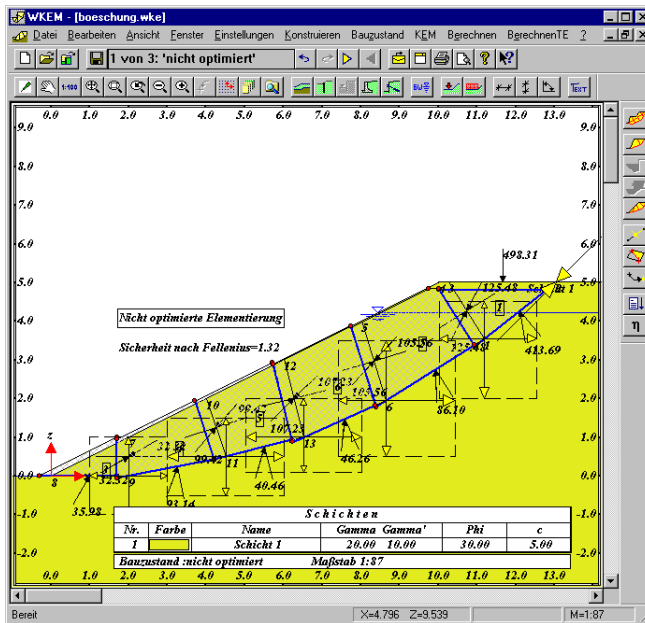


Example: Slope stability

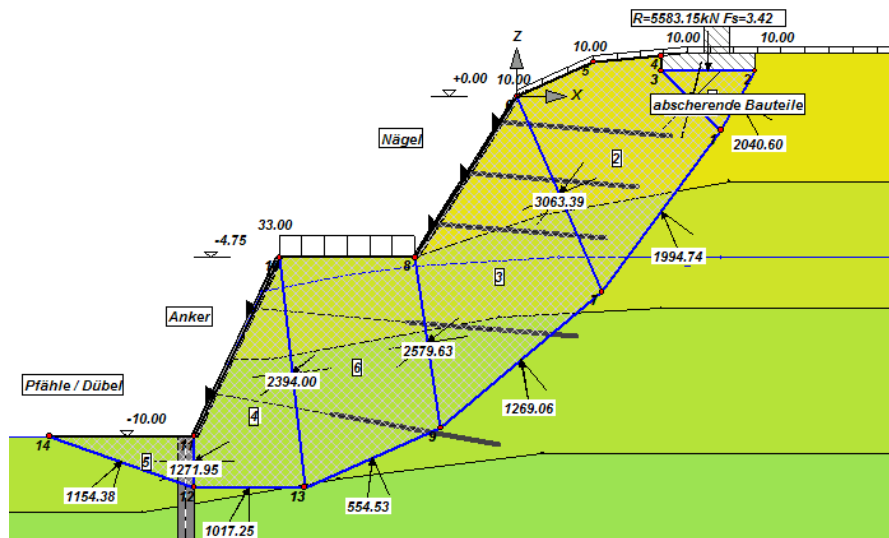


Start mechanism ...

best solution found

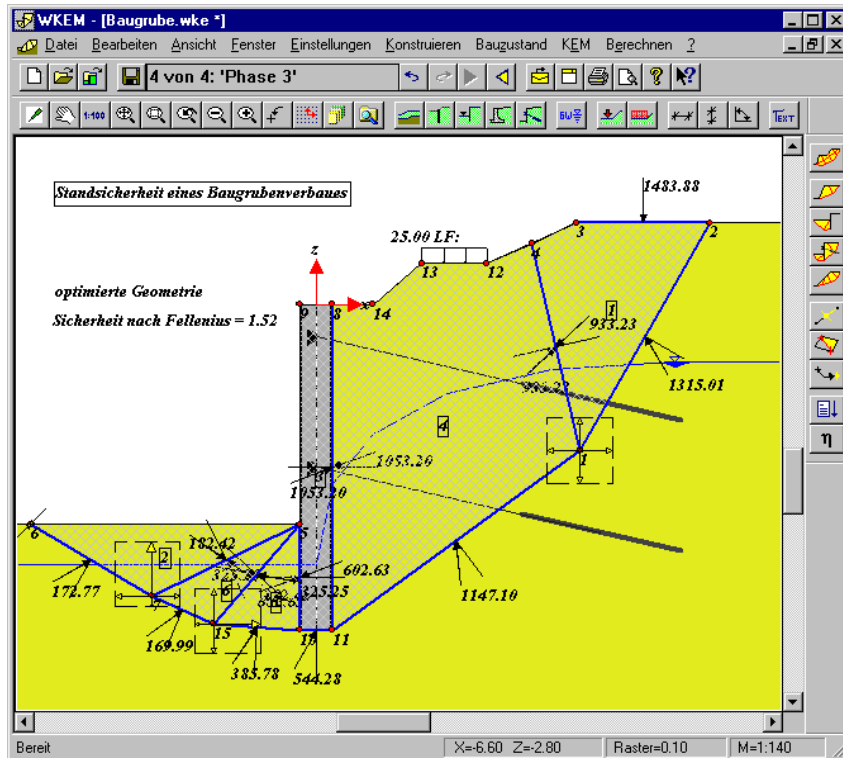


Construction elements



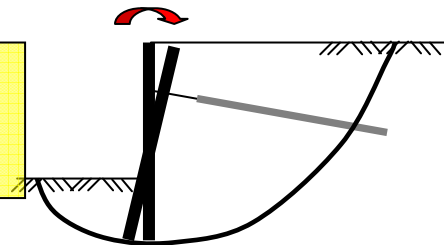
- ⇒ Geosynthetics
- ⇒ Dowels / Piles
- ⇒ Anchors (prestressed)
- ⇒ Nails (non prestressed)
- ⇒ Retainment walls
- ⇒ Grundwater level(s), and saturation lines
- ⇒ Construction components (i.e. concrete foundations, ...)

Example: Internal/external Stability of an exc. retention construction

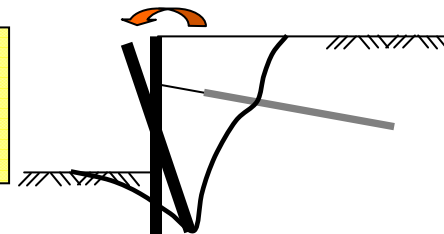


Potential collapse mechanism ?

EB 45
 „external stability“



EB 44
 „internal stability“

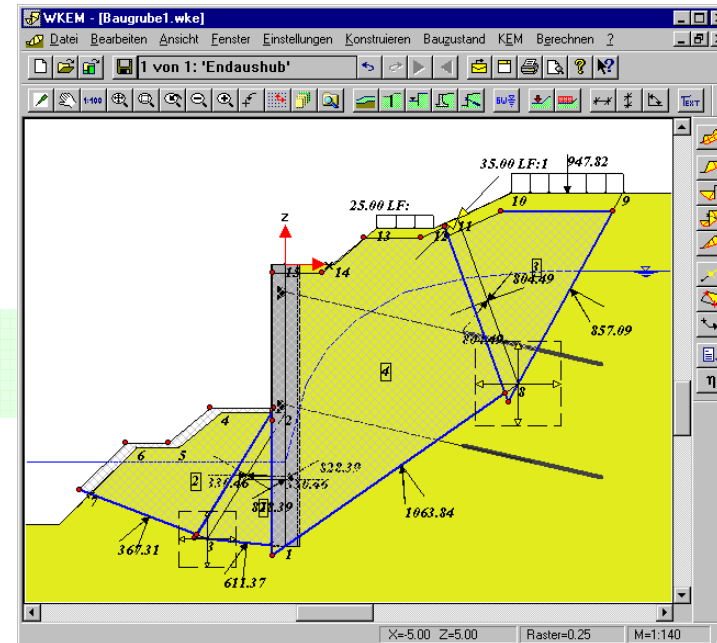


Example: Internal/external stability of an exc. retainment construction



Advantages ...

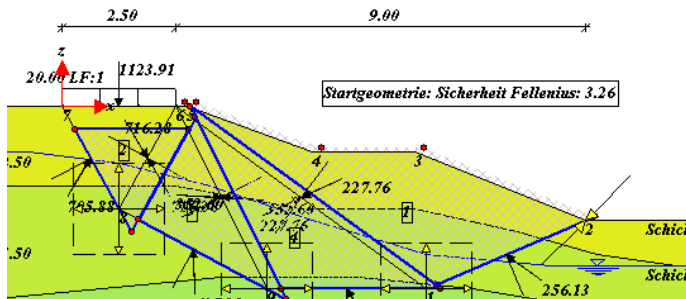
- ➔ No need to distinguish between „internal“ and „external“ stability
- ➔ Groundwater: Water pressure and flow gets taken into account element by element correctly
- ➔ Earth resistance gets considered automatically (Kinematics!)
- ➔ Definition for stability may be defined by user



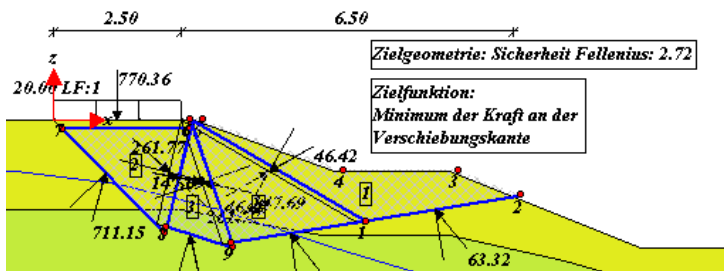
Example: Base failure



Start mechanism:

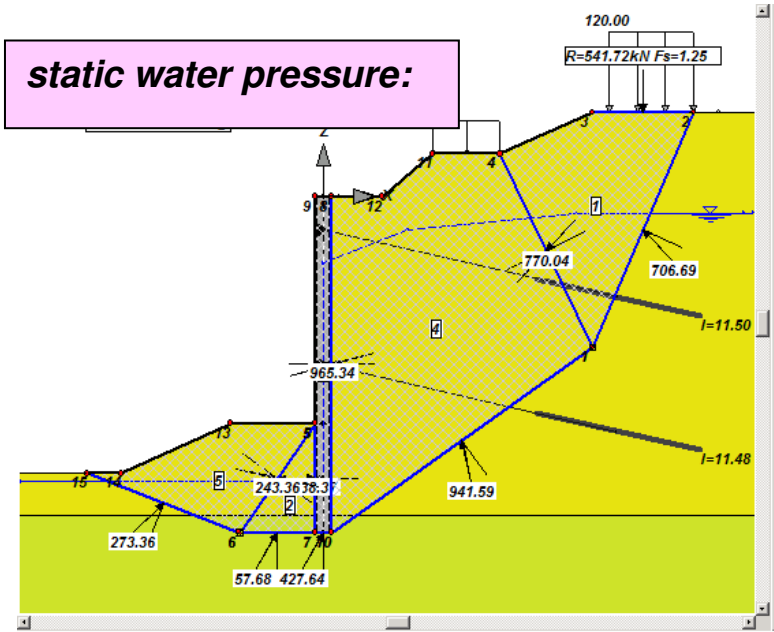


resulting geometry:

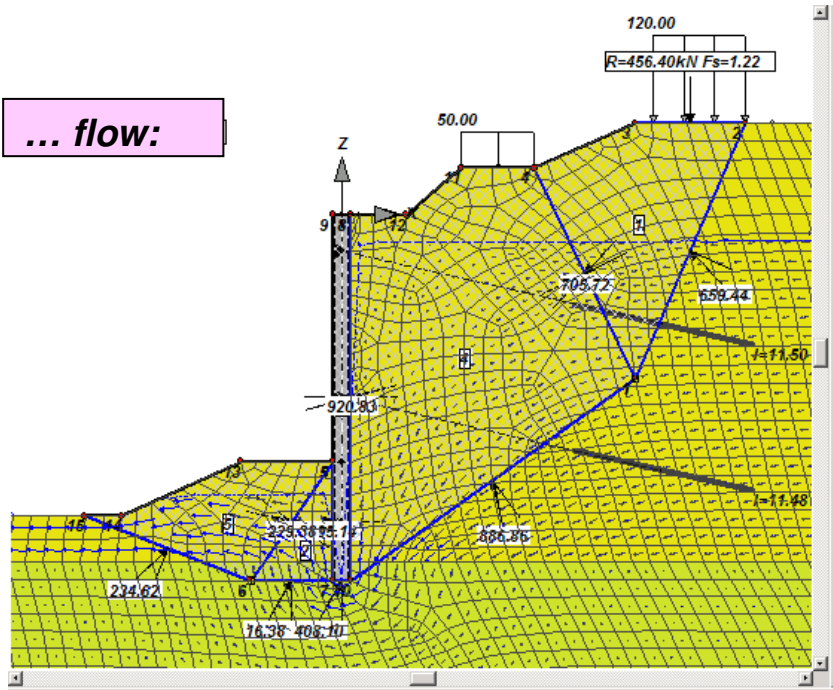


- Arbitrary ground surface
- Arbitrary geometry of soil layers
- Water / flow gets taken into account
- Arbitrary (concentrated) loads

Example: Flow



... flow:





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Thanks for your attention !
