Fabric and Engineering Properties of Coarse Sediments

Monday, November 10, 2014
14:30 – 15:30, 1690 Beyster Building

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Abstract: Lightly consolidated and/or weakly cemented coarse sediments: silts, sands, and gravels of various origins are found in many depositional environments. Along the Pacific Coast steep slopes in marine terrace deposits are underlain by these types of deposits and the evaluation of their strength characteristics poses a particular challenge. This presentation will first address some of the factors controlling the engineering properties of these materials, concentrating on the role of fabric and cementation. Then the results of a geotechnical investigation of the stability of slopes in weakly and moderately consolidated/cemented sand bluffs will be presented. Finally, examples of similar behavior in a range of different geologic deposits will be discussed.

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