

AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE PROPERTIES AND CHARACTERISTICS  
OF HOMOGENEOUS TAPERED CABLES

by

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## ABSTRACT

The tapered cable concept is explored and developed. The introduction is followed by a review of historical background, examination of several types of taper from a geometrical viewpoint, and the derivation of the equilibrium equations pertaining to two cases of general interest: the axially suspended cable and the catenary cable configuration. These equations are then used to make comparisons between the optimum, tapered cable and the common cable. Advantages and disadvantages of the tapered cable are summarized and a set of tables is provided to assist in constant-stress catenary cable calculations.

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## CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This report has resulted from a consideration of deep ocean applications of cables and cable systems, specifically steel-wire rope. In such applications, where extremely long lengths of cable are required, a major problem arises. As the cable length increases, so does the cable weight, until a significant portion of the available strength of the cable is used in supporting itself, thereby reducing the permissible payload. A possible solution to this weight-load interdependence is to taper the cable from a large diameter at the top to a smaller diameter at the bottom. This results in a lighter weight cable with greater load-carrying capacity.

The objective of this investigation is to develop the equilibrium equations governing the static configuration to which a tapered cable conforms, and to use these equations to investigate the possible advantages that a tapered cable may have in common ocean applications.

The term "cable" is defined in the traditional mathematical sense as any inextensible, flexible string. A model based on these assumptions can reasonably approximate submarine communication cables, high tension electric power transmission lines, electro-mechanical cables for towed sonar applications, and mooring cables and



chains, provided that the necessary assumptions are appropriate to the application. The term "common cable" will be used for all non-tapered, uniform-diameter cables.

Ocean applications typically fall into one of two major classifications; towing or mooring. The towing application occurs whenever an end of the cable is attached to a ship, or other moving object, and the other end to some payload, which is being pulled along. The mooring application occurs when one end is fixed to the ocean bottom with the cable being supported by a ship, buoy or other floating body and the moor holding the body in a relatively fixed position with respect to the bottom. Fig. 1 illustrates several such deep-ocean applications. Although this study will be largely concerned with mooring situations, many of the same mathematical relationships can be applied to towing problems. Fig. 2 presents a geometrical comparison of the two classifications, showing the relative direction of drag  $D$ , cable weight  $W$ , cable tension  $T$  and current. Cable applications can also be categorized as one-dimensional and two-dimensional.

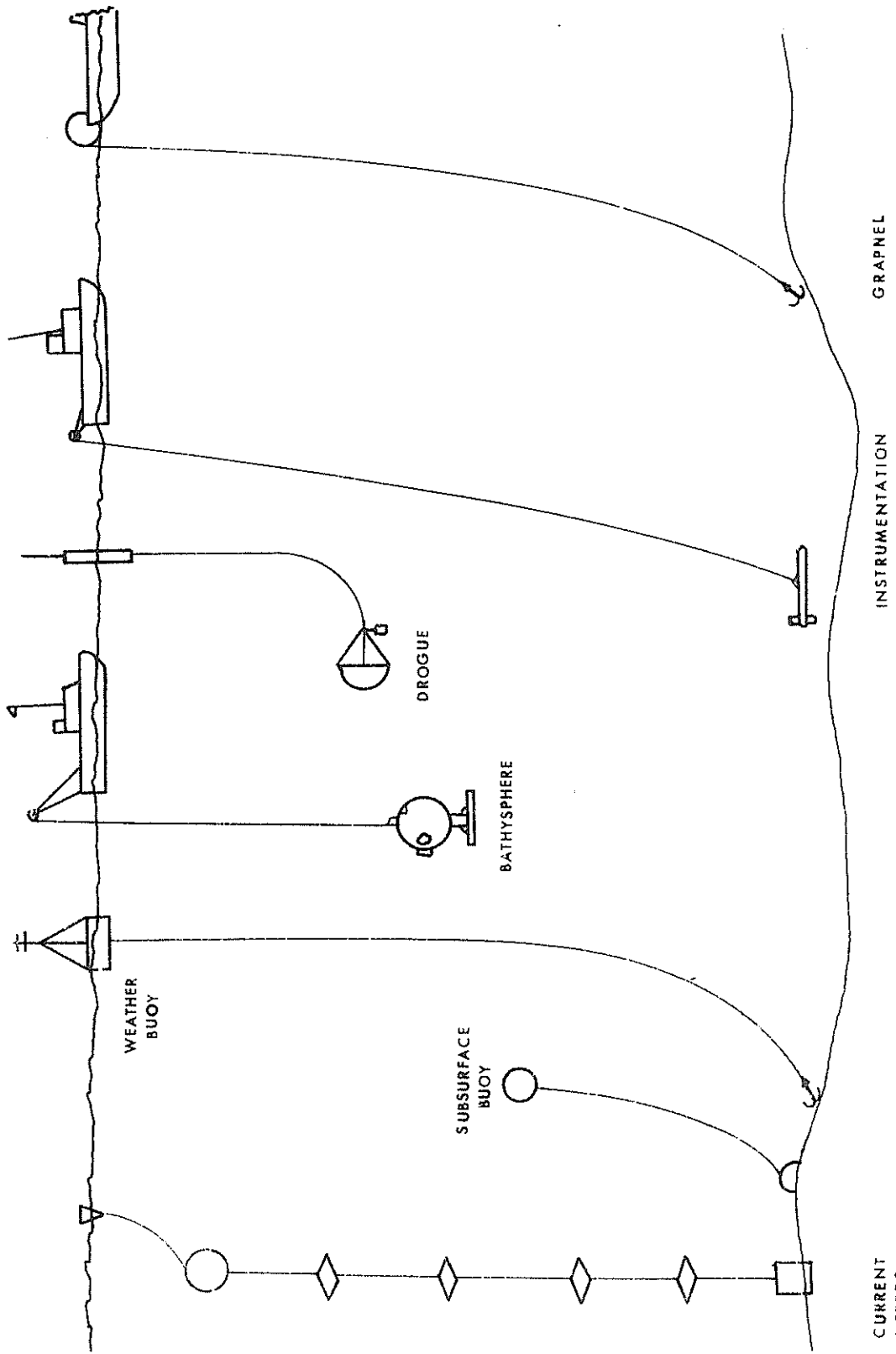


Fig. 1 Deep-Water Cable Applications

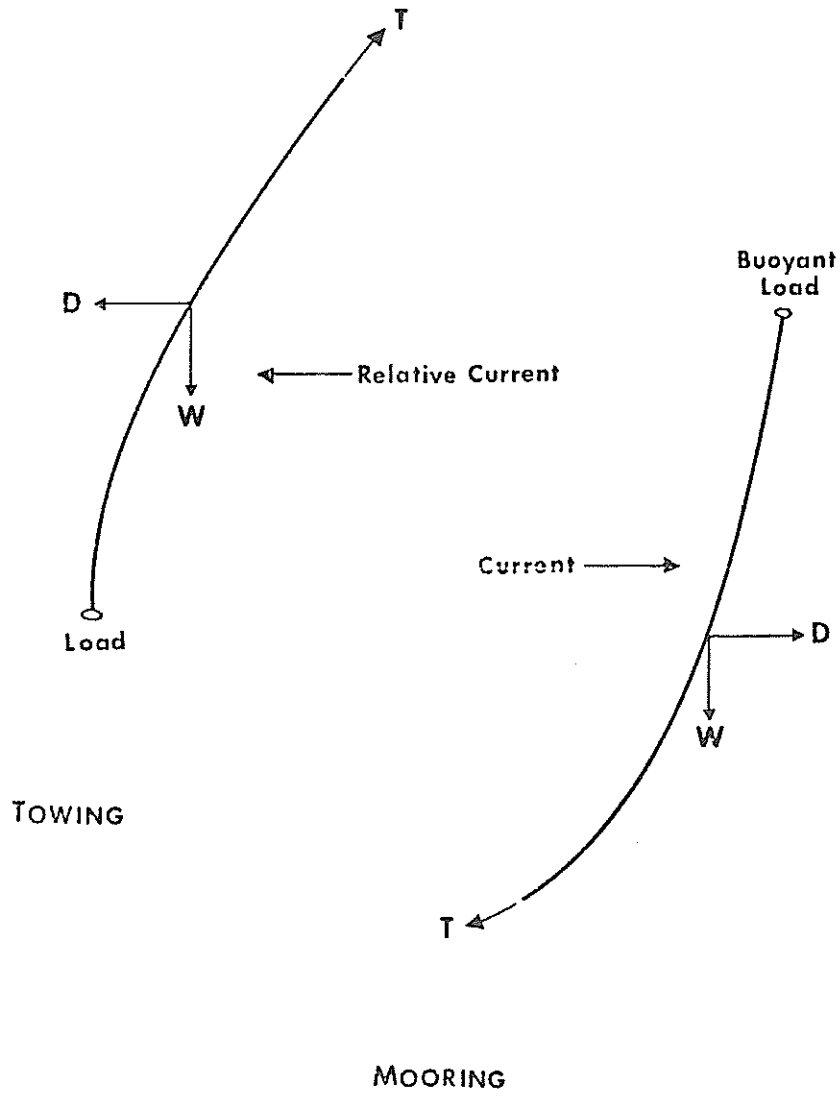


Fig. 2 Towing and Mooring Geometries

## CHAPTER II

### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The use of cables by man goes back before recorded history. Primitive bridges were frequently constructed of cables made from woven vines or native fibers. Existing examples of such suspension bridges can still be found in South America. These were originally designed by the Incas and have been continuously rebuilt until the present time. This has been shown by Jakkula (5) to be fairly typical of man's bridge building over much of the world, including Asia, Africa, Europe and Russia.

By about 65 A.D. the Chinese were constructing what would appear to be rather modern suspension bridges using iron chains as supporting cables with appropriate auxiliary structure to produce a nearly level walkway, many of which were still standing at the turn of the century.

Early applications also existed at sea. One can well imagine even the very early log or raft rider tying up his watercraft with a line to a tree on shore. The method of mooring had changed a great deal by Roman times, with the application of iron chains, to secure ship anchors. The use of iron chains was extremely advanced since, even up until the nineteenth century, rope cables were still used for anchors on most large sailing vessels.

Both suspension bridge and mooring cable applications are closely related mathematically. One of the first scientists to

meditate upon the possible mathematics of cables may have been Galileo. Montucla (9) notes that Galileo considered the hanging chain to take the form of a parabola. Joachim Jurgins, the German geometrician, showed by several methods, in about 1669, that the hanging chain was neither a parabola nor a hyperbola. However, he was unable to shed any light on what the actual shape was. These were the years when calculus was being invented by Newton and Leibniz. Jakob (James) Bernoulli, through Leibniz's writings, had become familiar with calculus. He proceeded to apply it to various problems, one of which was the chain or hanging cable. Bernoulli proposed the problem and he, his brother Johann (Jean), Leibniz and Huygens all solved it. They each published their solutions in the Actes de Leipzig in 1691. A few years later, in 1697, David Gregory published a solution in the Philosophical Transactions in London. All of these solutions result in what is called the "catenary", from the Latin "catenarius", a chain.

The somewhat simpler problem of defining the approximate geometry of a suspension bridge support cable was not solved until 1794, when Nicholas Fuss developed the parabolic cable solution as a result of the proposal to construct a bridge across the Neva River in Russia.

In 1858, the Astronomer Royal of England, G. B. Airy, investigated the shape attained as a submarine cable was deposited. This

study was initiated in response to problems encountered during the laying of the first trans-Atlantic cable. Airy demonstrated that a paying out cable assumes the form of a catenary traveling at the speed of the cable-laying ship, if it is payed out at the same speed as the ship moves and fluid resistance is ignored.

Applications such as the above involve the difficult problem of determining the hydrodynamic forces which act on the cable due to its relative motion through water. Landweber, from 1936 to about 1947, developed Tables of Cable Functions (7), by which the tension and loads on a cable immersed in a uniform current could be determined. This work was extended by Pode (13) and is applicable to both mooring and towing problems. The general availability of digital computers has led many recent investigators (3, 8) to use alternative procedures incorporating numerical techniques. The most commonly used of these is the finite element method, in which the cable is divided into a series of interconnected straight lengths with the solution being carried out in an iterative manner.

#### Tapered Cables

A review of the literature reveals a general lack of such analytical development for the tapered cable. Although Gilbert (4) investigated what he called "the catenary of equal strength" in 1826, and Routh (14) later referred to it in 1891, the idea was apparently dropped due to lack of distinct advantages in bridge applications.

A number of investigators have made casual mention of the tapered cable concept, with Terry (15) commenting on some of the limitations of present day cables (wire ropes) due to the cable's own weight at great depths. This was one of the limitations on Beebe and Barton's Bathysphere of 1934 and Benthoscope of 1950.

In the "Reports of the Swedish Deep-Sea Expedition", Kullenberg (6) describes the use of what he called a tapered cable aboard the Swedish oceanographic vessel ALBATROSS. This cable was composed of three sections with diameters of 20, 16 and 12 millimeters and lengths of 2,170, 2,820 and 3,000 meters, respectively.

Markula (8), in a study of aircraft target towlines, investigated reducing cable tension by use of a tapered cable, providing a reduction in both aerodynamic forces and weight. Markula went on to state that fabrication of the tapered cable was probably not feasible and suggested the use of a stepped diameter cable composed of varying lengths of constant diameter cables; adjacent lengths being of different diameters to roughly approximate the ideal tapered cable concept. The authors include a computer program to aid in design of such a stepped cable.

More recently, Notwatzki (11) considered the advantages to be accrued by a "perfectly tapered cable". He was primarily interested in electro-mechanical cable strength members and presented equations for the case of a simple vertical hanging cable with no horizontal tension components. Notwatzki conceded that it is

difficult to construct a "perfectly tapered cable" but that it can be closely approximated by reducing the strength member area in several steps, i.e., the stepped cable as studied by Markula.

It then appears that while a number of people have actually considered the tapered cable idea, and in some cases attempted limited analysis, none have developed a complete analytical base which permits rational progress. Indeed, it appears that the individual investigators were generally not aware of any previous work in the area, so that little continuity of investigation has been observed.



## CHAPTER III

## ONE-DIMENSIONAL CABLE BEHAVIOR

A cable, if allowed to hang free under the influence of gravity only, conforms to a vertical straight line. This one-dimensional configuration can serve as a convenient medium for considering different types of tapered cables. Simply stated, a tapered cable is one in which the cross-sectional area varies in some specified manner from one end to the other. Table 1 indicates some possible variations with the meaning of symbols defined in Appendix IV.

The first two will be derived in later sections, and are based on constant stress throughout the length of cable for two separate design conditions. The next, the straight-taper "D", is a linear variation of diameter with length (Fig. 3), while the straight-taper "A" is a linear variation of cross-sectional area with length. The remaining types, the parabolic and the sine, are shown to indicate some of the other possibilities.

Two taper conditions will be considered in detail in this paper leading to configurations which have been labeled E-tapered and Constant-Stress Catenary. While these are optimized for their specific applications, they are not necessarily the best for deviations from design conditions, for design situations with currents present, or for other similar but not identical conditions.

The first case to be analyzed is the axially suspended cable. This is exemplified by the Bathysphere illustration in Fig. 1. The

Table 1. - Types of Tapers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Equation</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
E-Tapered	$A_s = A_o e^{\frac{\gamma s}{\sigma}}$	Constant stress hanging line
Constant-Stress Catenary	$A_s = \frac{T_x}{\sigma} \cosh \frac{\gamma s}{\sigma}$	Constant stress cable hanging between two points (Mooring Cable)
Straight-Taper "D"	$D_s = D_o + \frac{D_L - D_o}{L} s$	Based on linear diameter increase.
Straight-Taper "A"	$A_s = A_o + \frac{A_L - A_o}{L} s$	Based on linear area increase.
Parabolic Taper	$D_s = D_o + (D_L - D_o) \left(\frac{s}{L}\right)^2$	
Sine Taper	$A_s = A_o + A_L \sin \frac{\pi s}{2L}$	
	$A_s = A_o + \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} A_L \sin \frac{\pi s}{4L}$	Approximating a linear area increase.

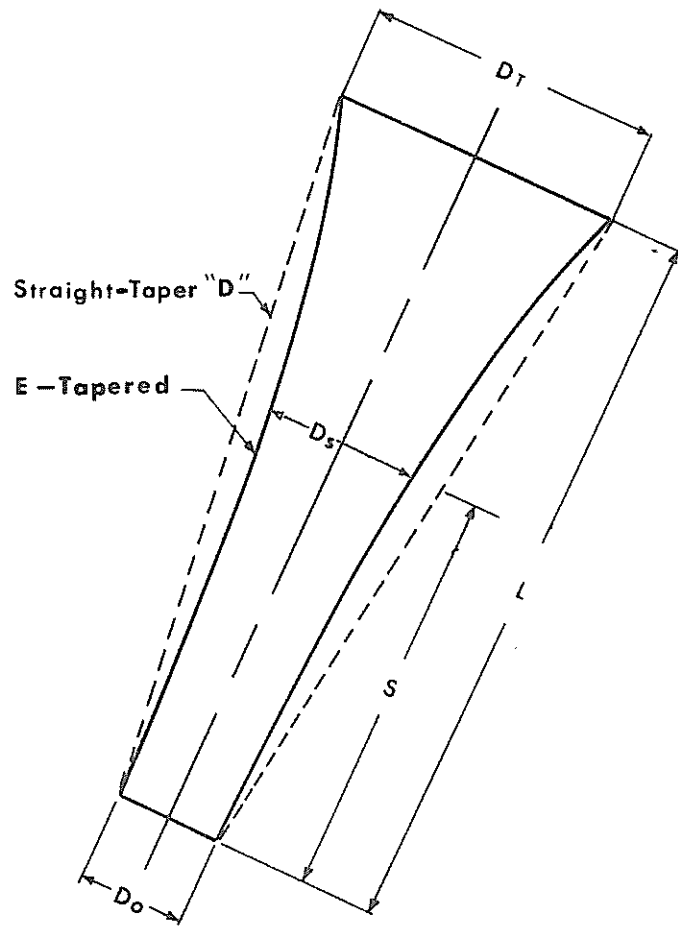


Fig. 3 Types of Taper Illustration

common constant diameter cable will be examined first and then the constant-stress (tapered) cable. These are then compared to illustrate the possible advantages that tapering may provide.

#### Common Axially Suspended Cables

The vertically hung cable assumes the simplest of cable geometries and is therefore an appropriate starting point for considering the effects of tapering. This configuration is also of widespread practical importance. Fig. 4 illustrates this, which can be thought of as a cable hanging from a ship with a load attached to its end. It is assumed that the only external forces that act on the cable are those produced by gravity.

It is apparent that

$$T = \int_0^s w ds + P$$

where:  $P$  = load supported by the cable

$s$  = distance along the cable measured from the bottom end

$T$  = cable tension

$w$  = weight/unit length of cable

When the above expression is integrated, the tension at any point  $s$  along the cable is defined as

$$T = ws + P \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

Cable tension thus varies with the length and distributed weight of the cable. It is then possible to define a factor of safety,  $F_s$ ,

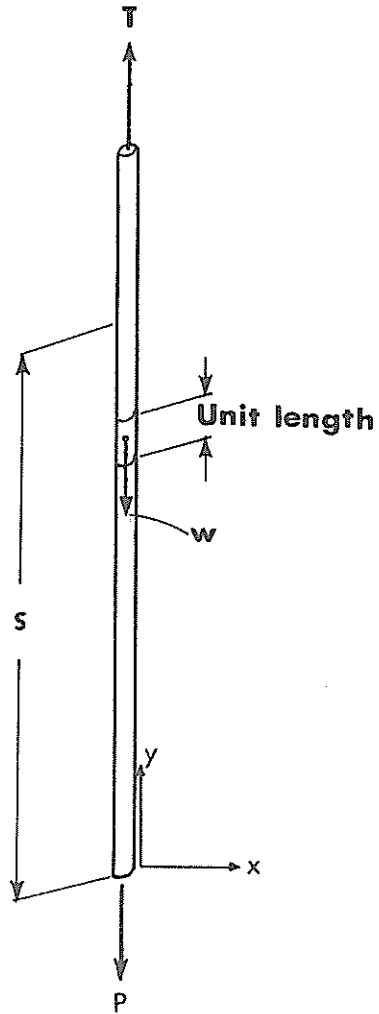


Fig. 4 The Hanging Cable

based on the ultimate static breaking strength,  $S_u$ , as

$$F_s = \frac{S_u}{T}$$

Where the allowable load  $P_a$  that a cable of length  $s$  can carry before exceeding its design condition is

$$P_a = \frac{S_u}{F_s} - ws \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

Fig. 5 illustrates the relation that exists between  $P_a$  and the cable length, for four factor-of-safety values, applied to the tension at the top of the cable.

To use Fig. 5, find the cable length along the left-hand side, then move horizontally to the curve representing the factor of safety of interest and read the allowable load at the top scale. Note the cable-breaking-strength line. It is readily observable that the local factor of safety increases toward the lower end of the cable, pointedly illustrating the fact that the cable is much stronger near the bottom than it needs to be. By the same token, the weight of the cable, which is a major contribution to the low factor of safety at the top of the cable, is much greater than it needs to be. For the steel-wire rope illustrated, at about a length of 55,000 feet, the cable can just support its own weight with a Safety Factor of 1 ( $F_s = 1$ ).

For other materials with greater strength-to-weight ratios, the curves would be displaced to the right, meaning that longer lengths can be supported, or a greater  $P_a$  for the same length.

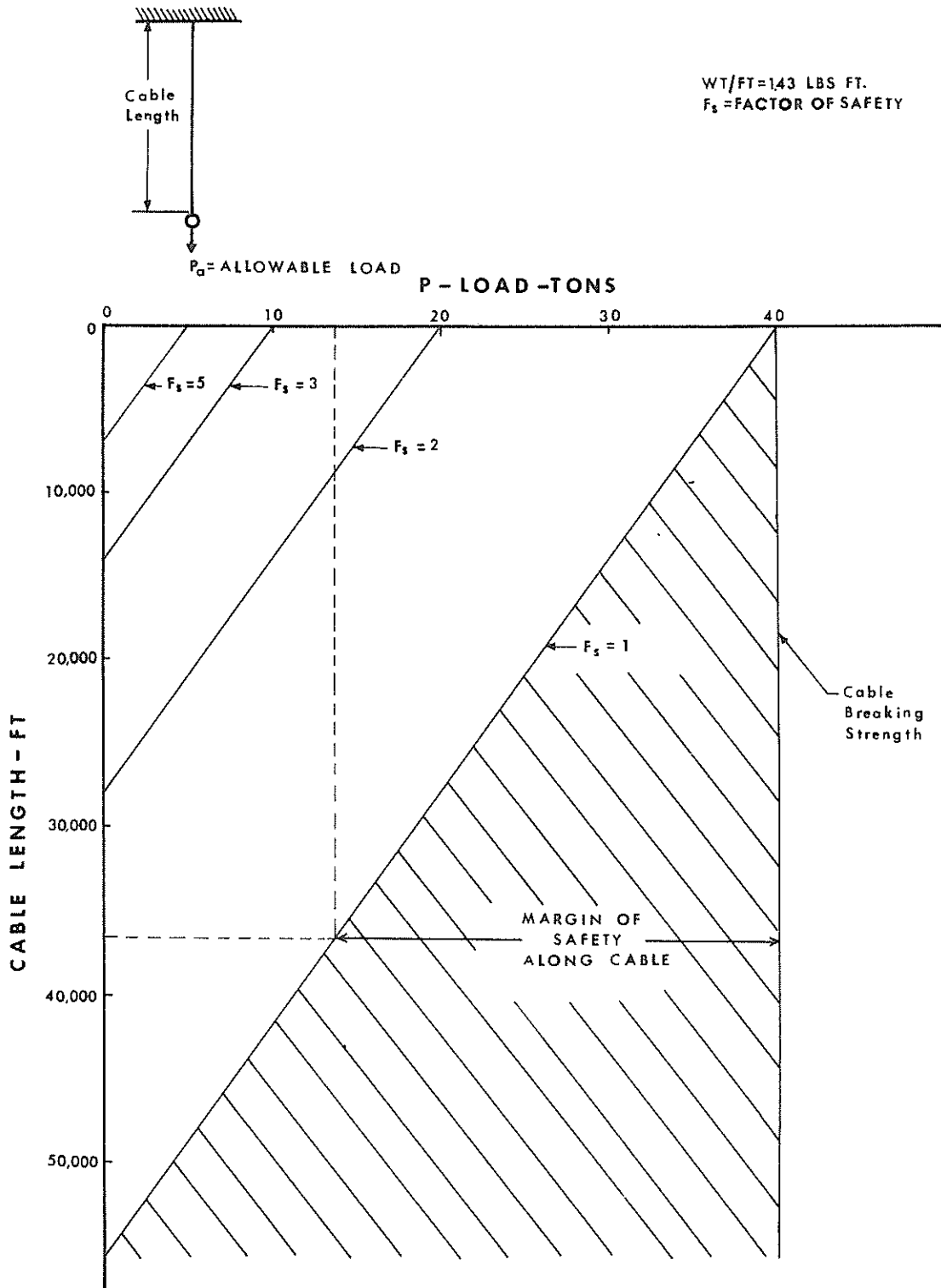


Fig. 5 Cable Load Capacity Characteristics for a 1" Diameter Steel-Wire Rope.

Conversely, for reduced strength-to-weight ratios, only shorter cables or reduced allowable loads are possible. Since safety factors recommended by the wire rope industry are in the order of five, it is readily apparent that deep-water applications of wire rope are highly limited. This is particularly true when additional allowance must be made for dynamic loads being imposed on the cable. It is apparent that if excess material could be removed from the lower end of the cable, where it is not required for supporting the load, and replaced on the upper end, a better cable design would result.

This is what the tapered cable design attempts to do. It may be noted that for materials of lower specific weight, the slope of the  $F_s = 1$  line tends to increase until, for a neutrally buoyant cable, it becomes superimposed over the breaking strength line indicating a constant load-carrying capacity at any cable length.

#### Tapered Axially Suspended Cables

Although several types of tapers are possible, it is highly desirable to devise an optimum taper configuration so as to maximize the load carrying capacity by minimizing the total weight of the cable. Minimal cable weight not only enables a maximum load to be carried by the cable, but reduces the size and required power of a ship's winch. In buoy-mooring applications, a decrease in cable weight may permit reducing the size of the buoy. The optimum use of cable material is achieved only when the stress is constant throughout the cable length.



Fig. 6 depicts a typical section of cable. T defines the tension at the lower end of the cable, and  $\Delta T$  defines the change in tension due to the weight of the section, W. The segment weight may then be defined as

$$W = \gamma \hat{A} \Delta s$$

with

$\gamma$  = unit weight of cable material

$\hat{A}$  = average cross-sectional area of cable

$\Delta s$  = small increment of cable length

If the cable segment is assumed to be in static equilibrium, a summation of forces in the vertical direction gives

$$\frac{\Delta T}{\Delta s} = \gamma \hat{A}$$

Taking the limit as  $\Delta s \rightarrow 0$  results in the following differential equation:

$$dT = \gamma A ds \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

The stress  $\sigma$ , at any point can be expressed as a function of the cable tension and cable area A, at that point

$$\sigma = \frac{T}{A} \dots \dots \dots (4)$$

The substitution of Eq. 4 into Eq. 3 yields

$$dT = \gamma \frac{T}{\sigma} ds \dots \dots \dots (5)$$

When integrated, assuming  $\gamma$  and  $\sigma$  are constant, Eq. 5 provides the following relationship

$$T = T_0 e^{\frac{\gamma s}{\sigma}} \dots \dots \dots (6)$$

where  $T_0$  represents the tension or load at the bottom of the

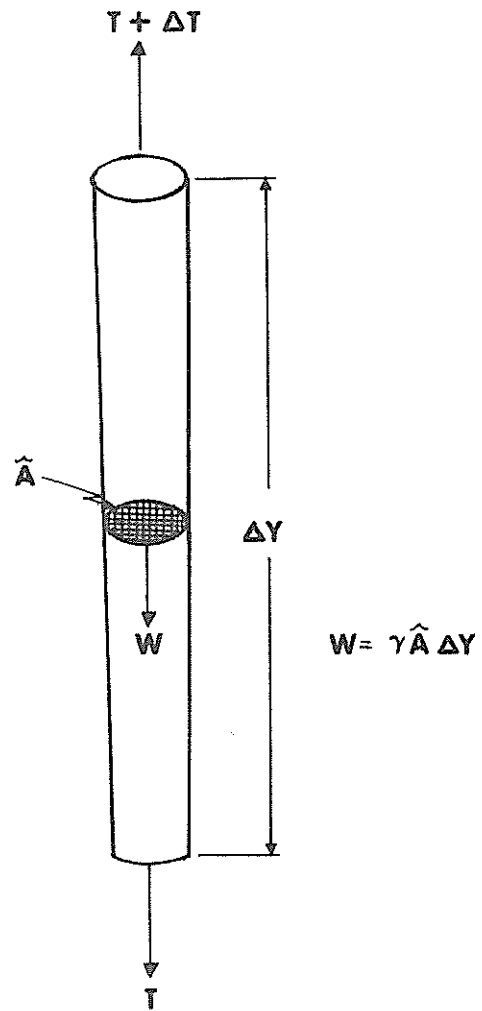


Fig. 6 Forces on a Tapered Cable Segment

cable corresponding to  $s = 0$ . The substitution of Eq. 4 into Eq. 6 allows for a given area at the bottom of cable,  $A_0$ , when  $\sigma$  is expressly defined as being constant throughout the cable.

$$T = A_0 \sigma e^{\frac{\gamma s}{\sigma}} \dots \dots \dots (7)$$

and to provide the area at any distance  $s$  along the cable

$$A = A_0 e^{\frac{\gamma s}{\sigma}} \dots \dots \dots (8)$$

or to reduce to a ratio

$$\frac{T}{T_0} = \frac{A}{A_0} = e^{\frac{\gamma s}{\sigma}} \dots \dots \dots (9)$$

Eqs. 5 and 8 constitute the descriptive equations for what Nowatzki called a "perfectly tapered cable". Herein, this will be referred to as an E-tapered cable.

In Fig. 7, Eq. 9 is plotted using a unit weight,  $\gamma$ , typical of steel-wire rope and several representative values of  $\sigma$ . To use, enter the chart on the length of cable scale and move to the right to the line representing the operating stress level desired. Then the ratio of  $T/T_0$  can be read from the abscissa and  $T$  calculated for the given depth.

It is also possible to show that the total cable weight is given by

$$W = T_0 (e^{\frac{\gamma s}{\sigma}} - 1) \dots \dots \dots (10)$$

$$= A_0 \sigma (e^{\frac{\gamma s}{\sigma}} - 1) \dots \dots \dots (11)$$

CURVES APPLY TO 100,000 psi STEEL

$\gamma = 262$  lbs/cu. Ft.

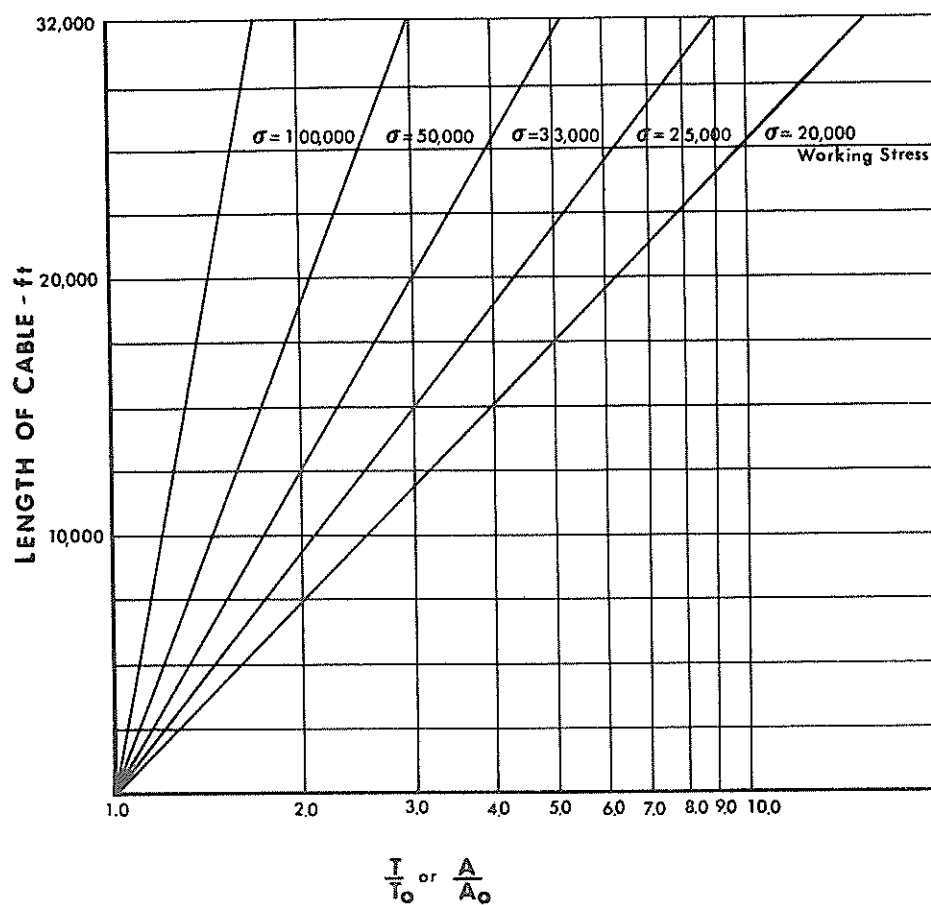


Fig. 7 Tapered Cable Area and Tension Ratios

### Comparison

It is now possible to compare the tapered with the common cable for the axially suspended condition. Parameters of interest to engineering design include cable diameter or area, load carrying capacity, cable weight and potential current effects. Fig. 8 presents a comparison of the common cable cross-sectional area to that of an E-tapered cable with the same top diameter of 1 inch. The tapered cable stress  $\sigma$  was taken as 100,000 psi. This illustrates the major difference in cross-sectional area between the tapered and common cables even for a modest length cable. Two other taper designs, based on the same top and bottom areas have been plotted to show the small variation from the E-tapered configuration that occurs.

Fig. 9 compares the load-carrying capacity of tapered and common cables. In the cases chosen for illustration, the cables are all of 1 inch diameter at the top and are loaded to a maximum stress level of 100,000 psi ( $F_s = 1$ ), or 50,000 psi ( $F_s = 2$ ). It is apparent that the load-carrying capacity of the tapered cable exceeds that of the common cable for the same length. This excess strength is amplified at the higher factor of safety. Fig. 10 illustrates the total weight relationship that exists for cables of the same length. The tapered cable is shown to be lighter in weight at all lengths.

Many cable applications involve towing a sonar or instrumenta-

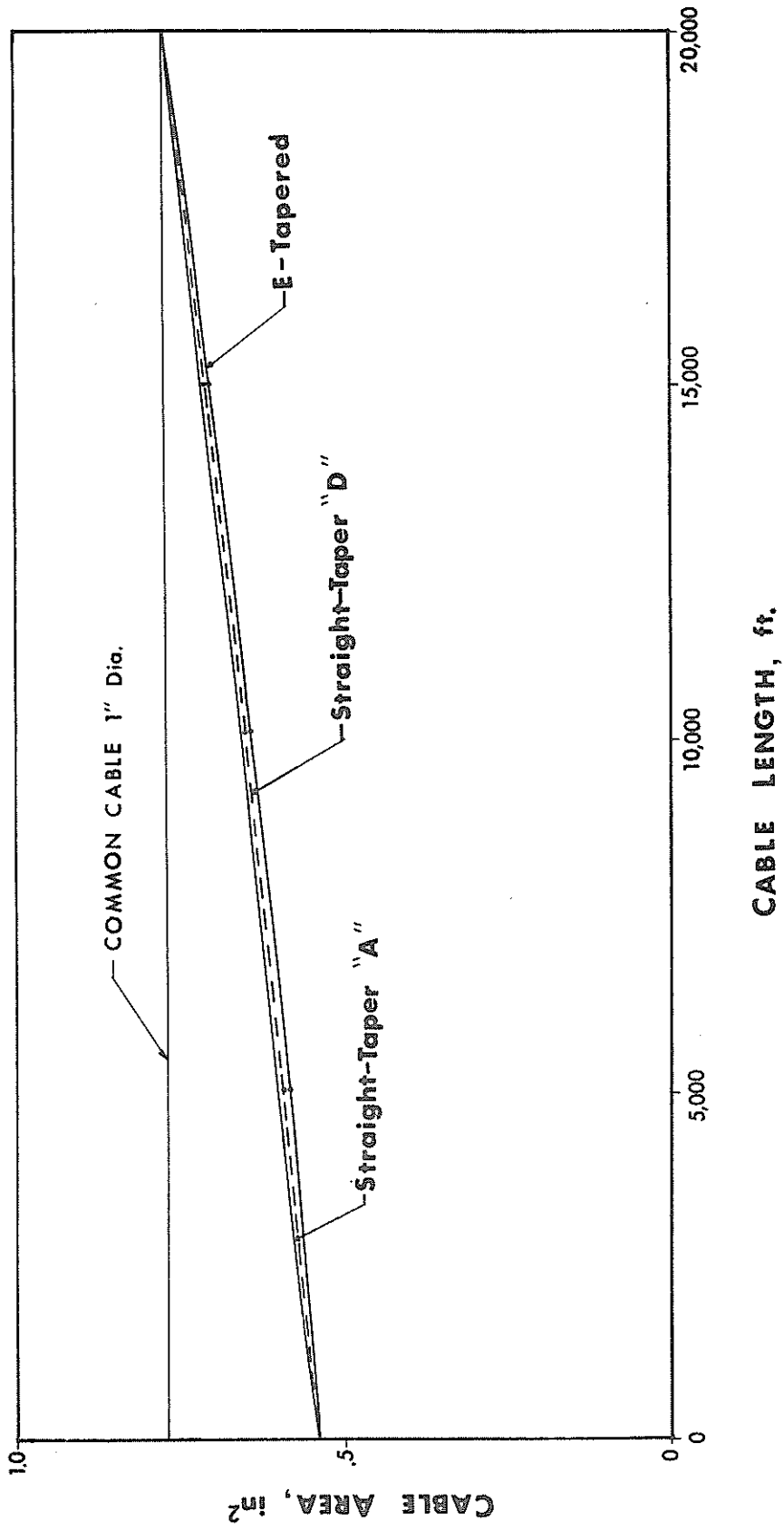


Fig. 8 Cable Area Variation for Four Types of Cables

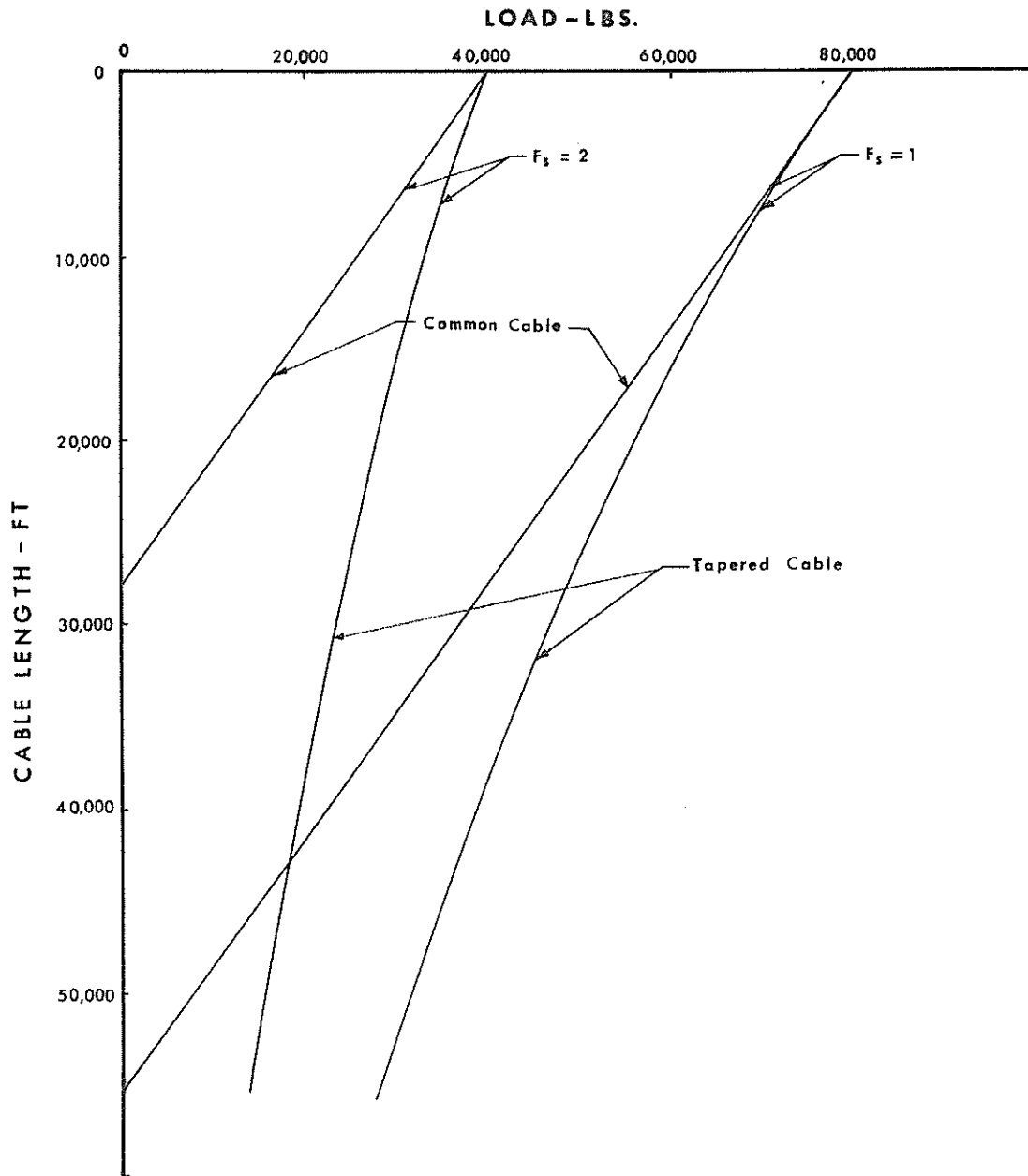


Fig. 9 Load-Capacity Comparisons for Cables with a 1" Top Diameter and a Maximum Tensile Stress of 100,000 psi.

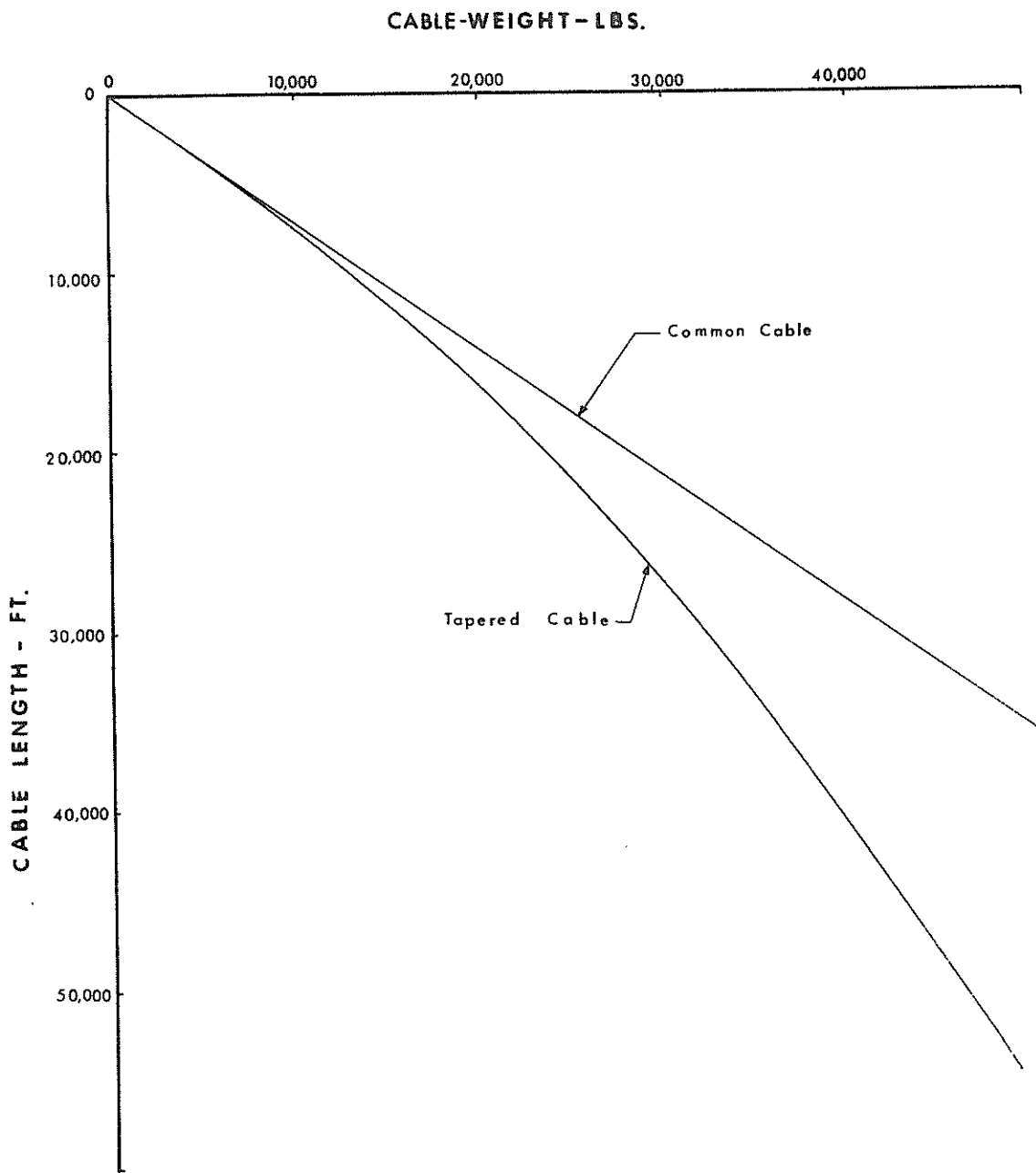


Fig. 10 Weight Comparison for 1" Top Diameter Cables



tion device behind a slowly moving ship. Tapering should reduce the drag on such a cable and thereby produce a lower cable tension for the same load, and reduced length to reach the same operational level. To enable a comparison of current effects upon cables, a finite element computer program was used as described in Appendix VI. This program makes it possible to incorporate cable position hydrodynamic forces into the equilibrium analysis. Fig. 11 depicts the effects of 1-knot, 2-knot and 4-knot currents on the cables, each having a 1 inch top diameter and a 8,000 pound load suspended from the lower end. The cables were selected to represent a typical configuration for a towed instrumentation package with the drag of the load being simulated by use of a 1,000 pound constant horizontal force in the direction of the current. This force is maintained constant for all currents so that the effect of the currents on the cable will not be obscured. The difference in drag for this set of conditions is shown to be very small as illustrated by the small separation between the common cables and the tapered cables at all currents.

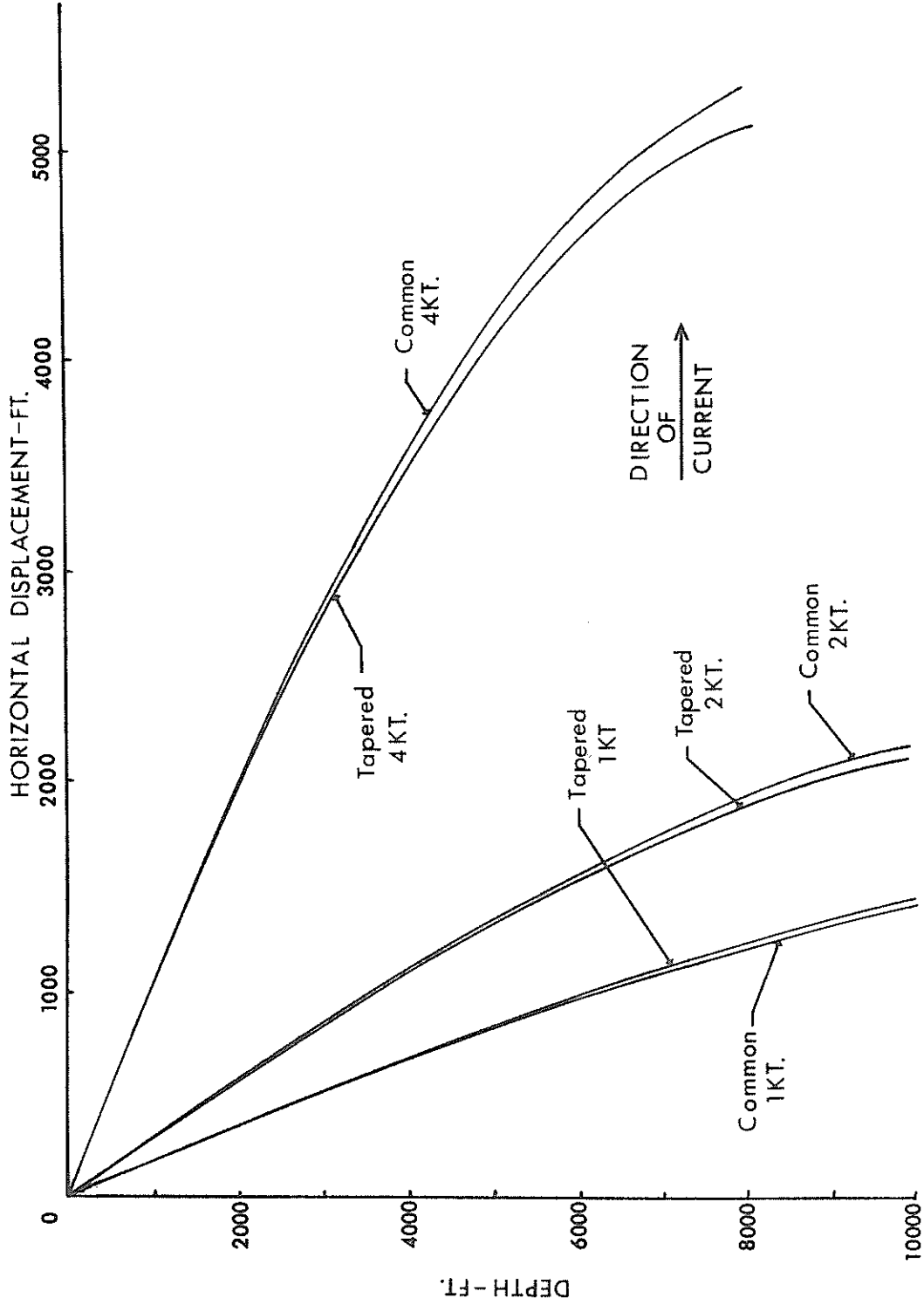


Fig. 11 Current Effect on Cables

## CHAPTER IV

## TWO-DIMENSIONAL CABLE BEHAVIOR

Many cable applications in the ocean are of a two- and three-dimensional nature. Consequently, the one-dimensional theory presented must be expanded. A good example of this is the sub-surface buoy with a multi-legged moor illustrated in Fig. 1. Each of these mooring legs conform to a segment of a catenary if currents are not present. Analysis of these mooring cables can usually be performed in a two-dimensional framework. It is often desirable, when using mechanical anchors, to have a length of chain laying on the sea floor to insure that the shank of the anchor is not lifted by the motion of the moored vessel and to absorb some of the shock brought about by the action of waves (Fig. 12).

In this type of situation, the cable or chain is tangent to the sea floor at the lowest point of the catenary. The cases to follow will all be limited to cables which are tangent to the sea floor.

## The Common Catenary

A homogeneous constant diameter cable takes the form of a catenary when supported between the points separated by a horizontal distance. It is useful to examine the catenary in some detail since it is a basic cable shape occurring when hydrodynamic forces are not present. Fig. 13 illustrates a portion of such a cable

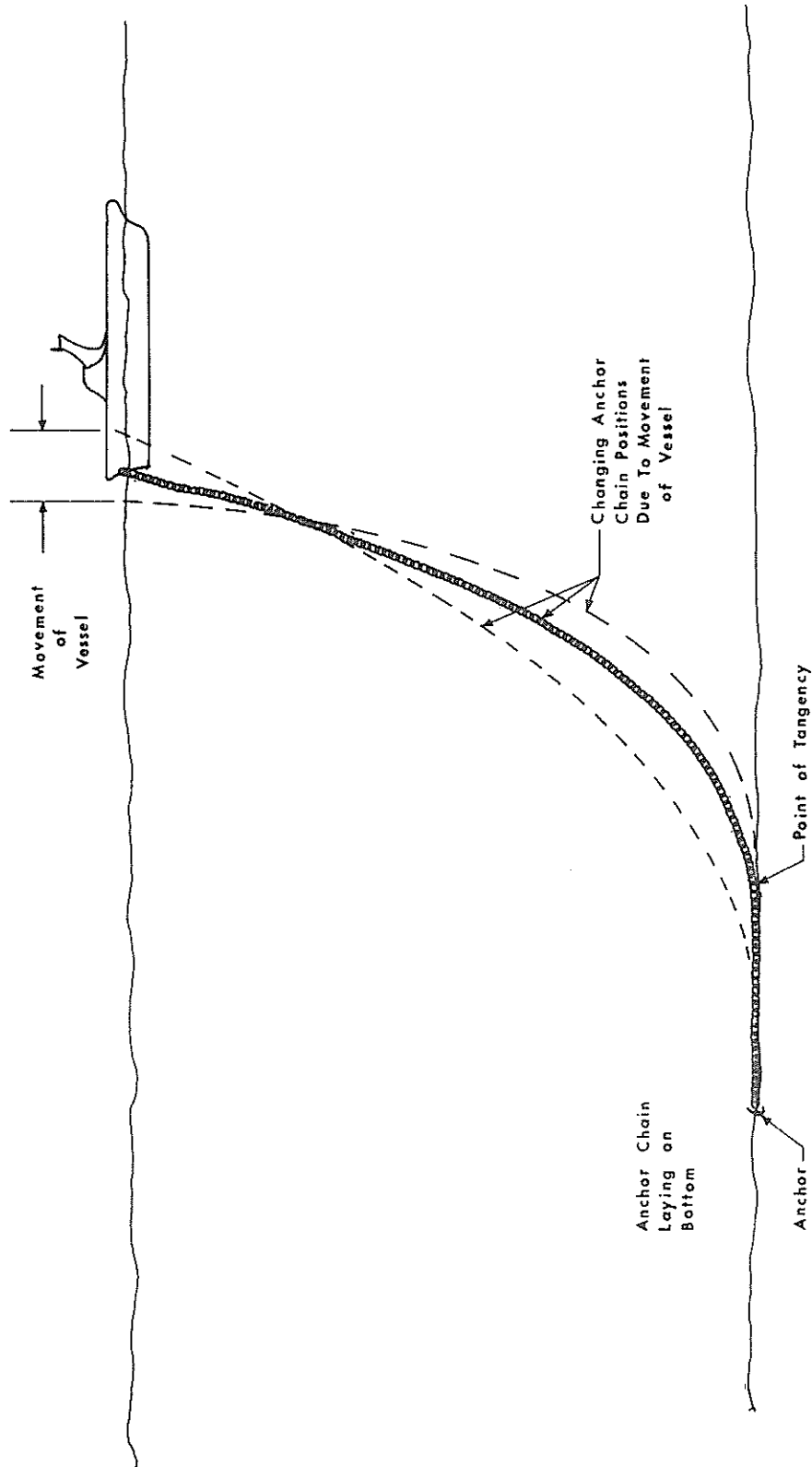


Fig. 12 Anchor Cable Configuration

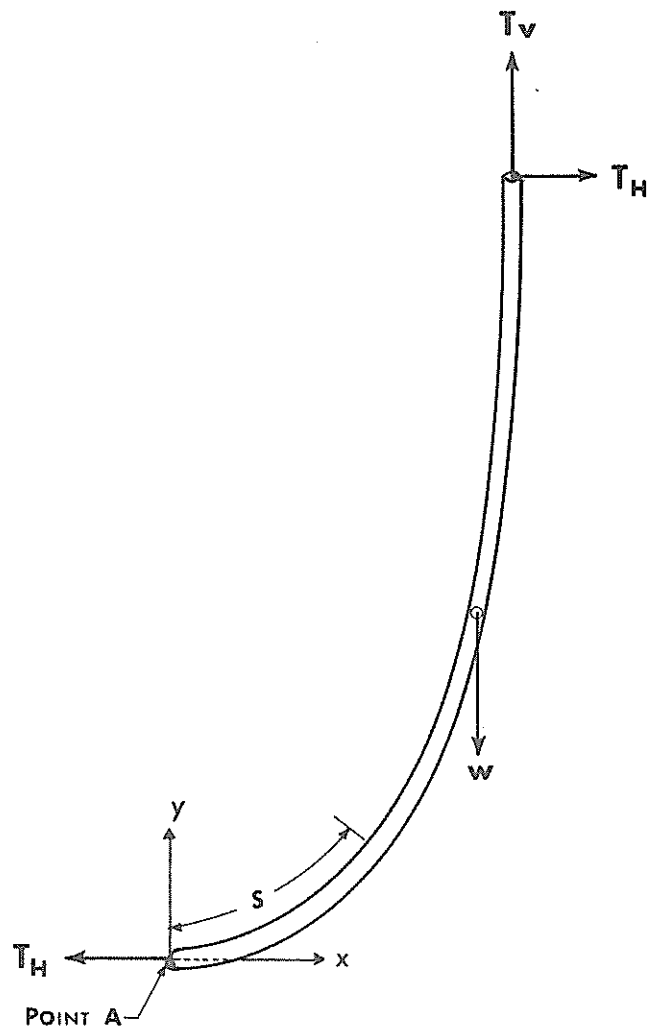


Fig. 13 Catenary Nomenclature and Coordinate System

as it might appear in a mooring application. The tension at any point along the cable is composed of a horizontal and a vertical component. The horizontal component  $T_H$  is the same everywhere along the cable, while the vertical component,  $T_V$ , is equal to the weight of the cable between point A, where the slope of the cable is 0, and the point of interest. At point A, the point where the cable becomes tangent to the ocean floor,  $T = T_H$ , and the tension at any point is defined as

$$T = \sqrt{T_H^2 + T_V^2} \dots \dots \dots (12)$$

where

$T_H$  = constant horizontal tension component

$T_V = W = ws$

$W =$  total weight of cable length  $s$

Due to the space required, the complete derivation of the catenary has been relegated to Appendix II. There the assumptions are made and the formulation of the basic cable differential equations are provided. This has the intended purpose of introducing the reader to the basic method of solving the cable equations used later to expressly solve for the constant-stress catenary relations. From this development, the following two-dimensional equations are determined which describe the geometric shape of the catenary, and give the length of cable,  $s$ , between the origin point, A, and the point  $(x, y)$  on the cable (Fig. 13).

$$y = a \cosh \frac{x}{a} \dots \dots \dots (13)$$

$$s = a \sinh \frac{x}{a} \dots \dots \dots (14)$$

where

$$a = \frac{T_H}{w} \dots \dots \dots (15)$$

Fig. 14 depicts a family of catenaries. The only distinguishing variable involved in these curves is the parameter  $a$ . This parameter is uniquely determinable for any combination of  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $L$  and reflects a change in either the horizontal tension component or cable weight. The catenary can be considered as a fundamental shape for any uniform cable hanging under its own weight.

### The Constant-Stress Catenary

Next to be considered is a tapered cable suspended in a two-dimensional manner. The constant-stress condition is again imposed. Thus Eq. 5, derived for a tapered axially suspended cable, still holds.

In this case, however, if the condition

$$dT = dT_y$$

as in the catenary and

$$T = \sqrt{T_H^2 + T_V^2}$$

are incorporated, Eq. 5 becomes

$$dT_y = \gamma \frac{\sqrt{T_H^2 + T_V^2}}{\sigma} ds \dots \dots \dots (16)$$

Since  $\gamma$  will be a constant, it is possible to proceed in a manner similar to that of the catenary derivation. The complete derivation of the constant-stress catenary is presented in Appendix III. The

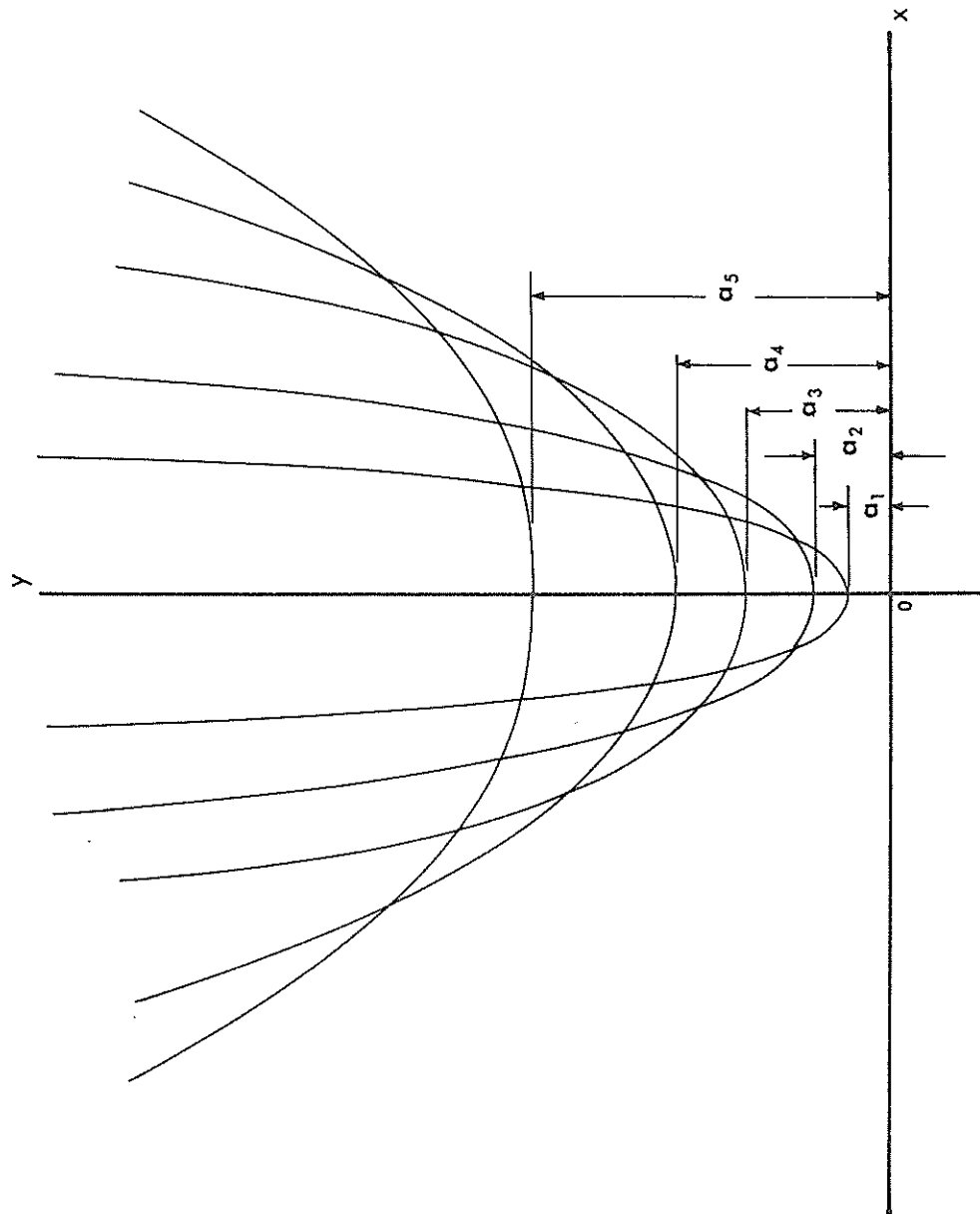


Fig. 14 Family of Catenaries



important geometrical relationships that are determined and will be required subsequently are

$$y = c \log_e \sec \frac{x}{c} \dots \dots \dots (17)$$

$$s = c \cosh^{-1} \frac{y}{c} \dots \dots \dots (18)$$

and

$$A = \frac{T_H}{\sigma} \cosh \frac{s}{c} \dots \dots \dots (19)$$

where

$$c = \frac{\sigma}{\gamma} \dots \dots \dots (20)$$

Eq. 17 defines the geometrical form of the constant-stress catenary. It has the general mathematical form  $f(x) = \log_e \sec x$  (when  $c = 1$ ). To assist the reader in visualizing the curve shape, this function has been plotted in Fig. 15.

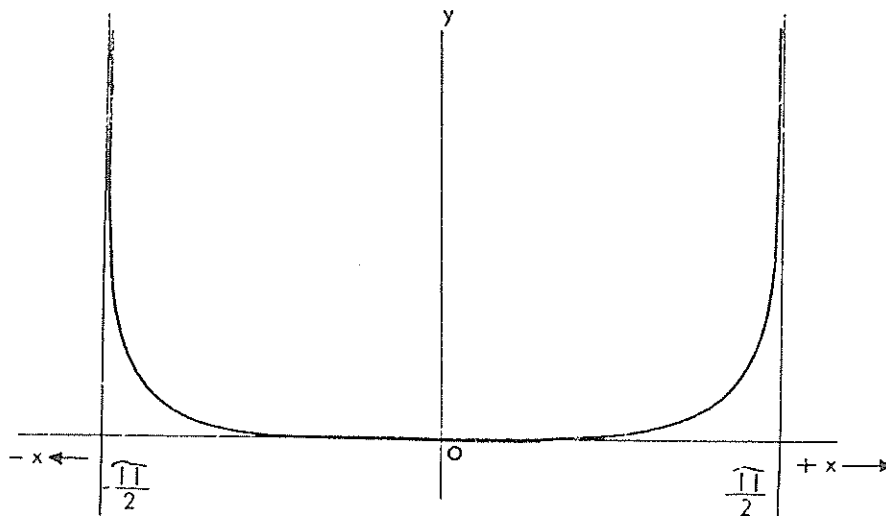


Fig. 15 Log (sec x) Function

It should be noted that as  $x$  approaches asymptotes of  $\pm \frac{\pi}{2}$ ,  $y$  approaches  $\infty$ . Therefore, the values of  $|\frac{\gamma}{\sigma} x|$  are always less than  $|\frac{\pi}{2}|$ . For the convenience of the reader, in applying the constant-stress catenary relations, a table of  $\log(\sec x)$  functions has been computed and is included as Appendix V.

Eq. 18 defines the length of the cable, as measured from the tangency point A as shown in Fig. 13.

Eq. 19 defines the required cross-sectional area variation such that the stress is constant along the length of the cable. The term  $\frac{\sigma}{\gamma}$  can be considered a parameter for the constant stress catenary, similar to the catenary parameter  $\alpha$ .

Eqs. 17 and 18 can be rearranged as follows:

$$\frac{\gamma y}{\sigma} = \log_e \sec \frac{\gamma x}{\sigma}$$

$$e^{\frac{\gamma y}{\sigma}} = \sec \frac{\gamma x}{\sigma}$$

and

$$e^{\frac{\gamma y}{\sigma}} = \cosh \frac{\gamma s}{\sigma}$$

The term,  $e^{\frac{\gamma y}{\sigma}}$  is seen to be the function describing the area ratio from the tapered axially suspended cable. Therefore, Eqs. 17 and 18 are very closely related to Eqs. 8 and 11, as might be expected. The left-hand term indicates the effect of depth on the taper, while the right-hand term controls the cable-length relationship. Thus  $e^{\frac{\gamma}{\sigma} y}$  holds for both types of constant stress cables that have

been discussed, while the right-hand term represents the modification based on length of cable and geometry. It can then be seen that for a given parameter  $c$ ,  $A_0$  and depth, the area of the cable is the same, at any given depth, for an axially suspended constant-stress cable as for a constant-stress catenary. Fig. 7 thus applies in two-dimensional cases also.

Fig. 16 illustrates what might be considered to be typical of ocean-mooring geometries using the constant-stress catenary, with  $\gamma$  and  $\sigma$  selected to represent appropriate values for steel wire rope. Note that if  $A_0$  is held constant, then varying  $\sigma$  has an effect similar to varying  $T_H$  in the simple catenary since  $T_0 = T_H$

and  $\frac{T_H}{A_0} = \sigma$  when  $s = 0$ . Therefore, these curves can be thought

of as representing three different values of  $T_H$ , assuming constant  $A_0$ , or three different values of  $A_0$  assuming constant  $T_H$ . Both alternatives assume a constant  $\gamma$ .

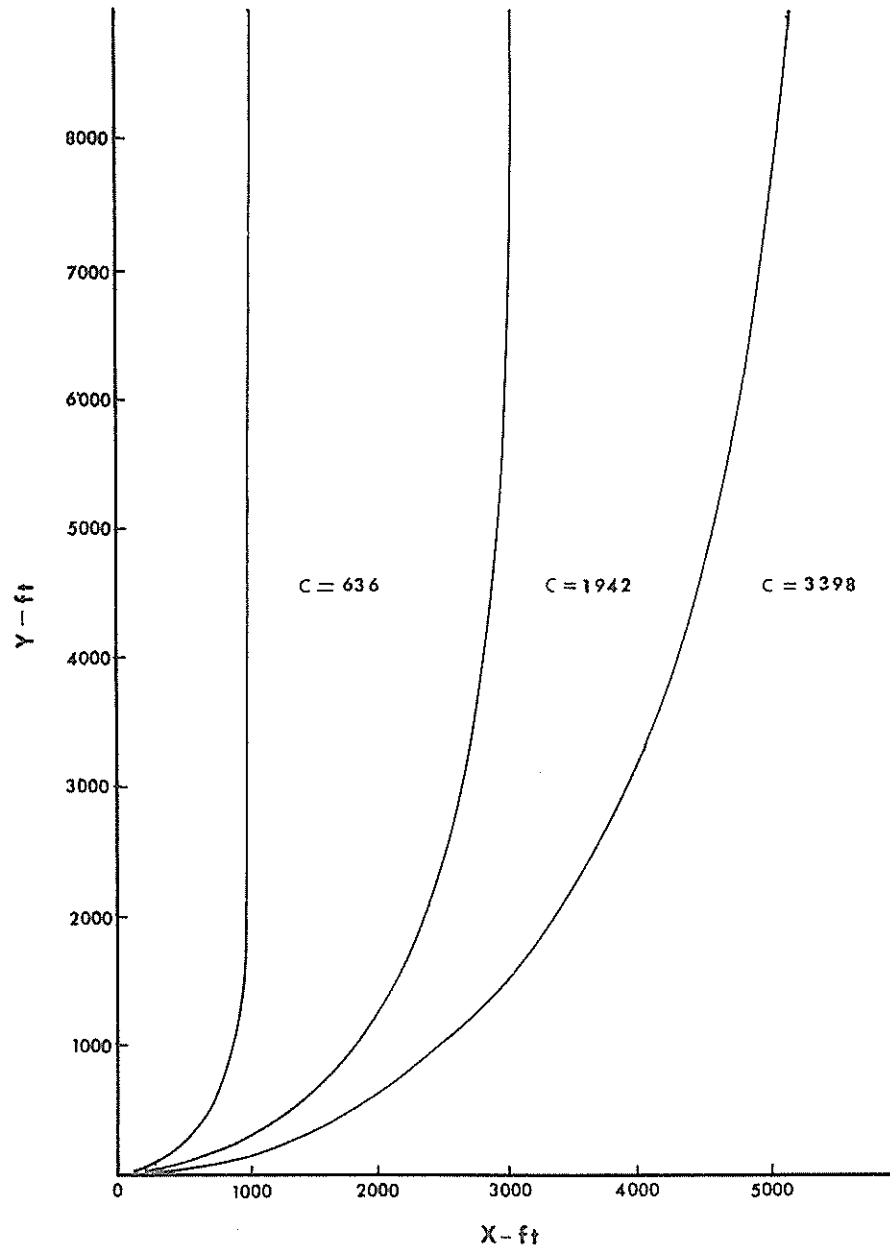


Fig. 16 Typical Ocean-Mooring Geometries, Constant-Stress Catenaries

### Comparison

A comparison will now be made of the tapered cable to the common cable under two-dimensional conditions. As noted, Fig. 7 applies to both the E-tapered cable and the constant-stress catenary. Figs. 9 and 10 are then of general application and further discussion of load-carrying capacity and cable weight is not required.

All of the comparisons that follow are based on a mooring system geometry in which the mooring cable is tangent to the sea bottom. This has been specified for simplicity since, as Ref. 2 demonstrates, an infinite number of other possibilities exist.

The situations depicted are representative of mooring applications using tapered cables, and lend themselves to comparison with present mooring practice. These comparisons are intended to illustrate the trends to be expected and to provide a qualitative understanding of the relationships. Consideration is first given to the purely mathematical form of the catenary and constant-stress catenary geometrical expression. This is shown in Fig. 17 with both curves fitted between the points (0,0) and (1,000, 10,000). These curves are tangent to the x axis (0,0) as they might be in a slack moor. It should be noted that the axis scale is distorted. This has the effect of exaggerating the curve separation due to the closeness of the curves.

The distinction in geometry between the curves is largely due to the weight of the constant-stress catenary cable being concentrated

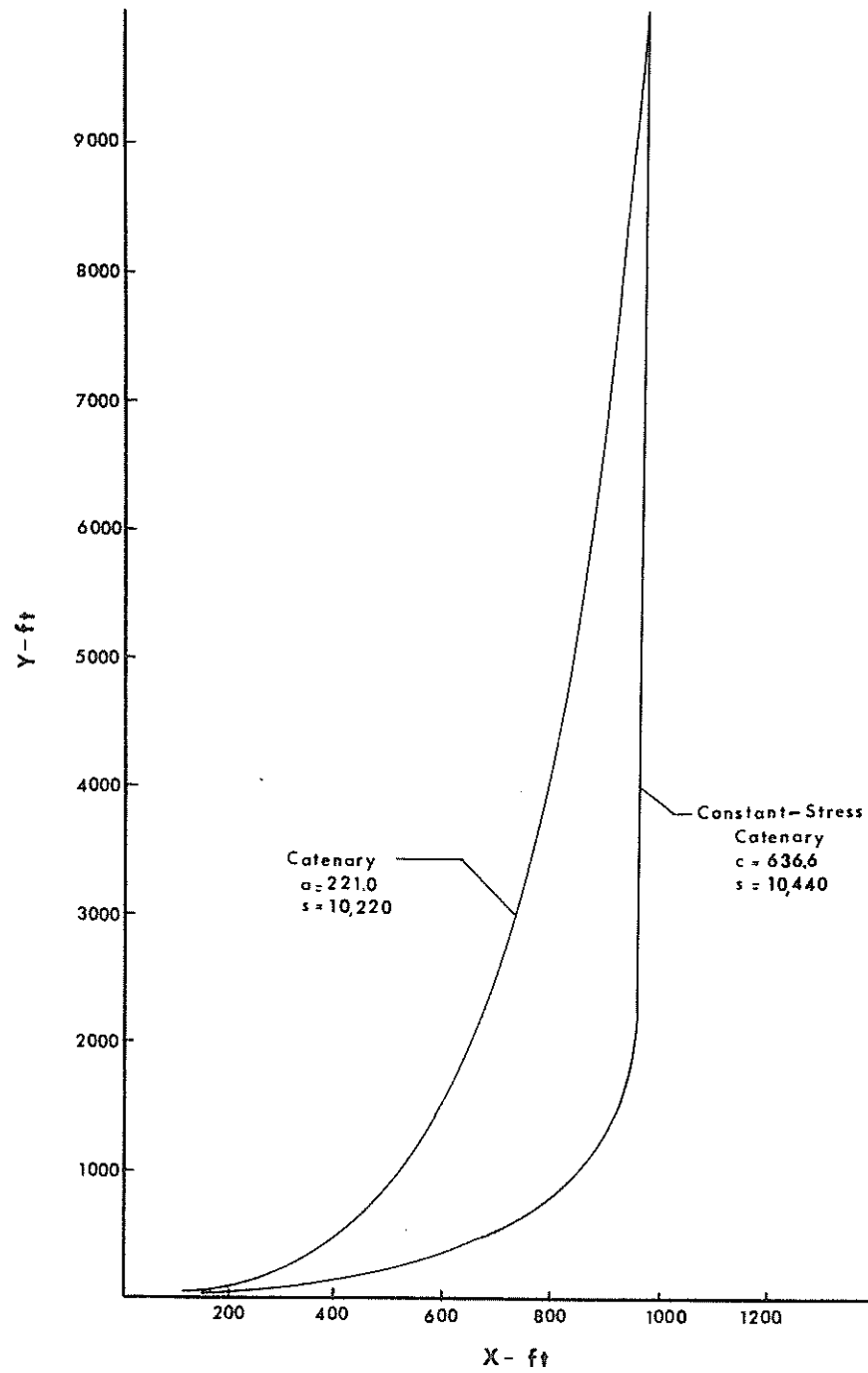


Fig. 17 Geometry of Curves Fitted Between Two Given Points

in the upper section of the cable. The curved portion will be much smaller in cross-sectional area than the upper, nearly straight section and contains very little of the total weight of the cable. This lack of bottom weight results in a smaller horizontal tension component than that of a catenary with a similar top diameter. However, these curves are not principally related to diameters or horizontal tensions. They can be considered as generic, as they fit many combinations of cable sizes, horizontal tensions, cable densities, etc. and should be viewed as mathematical shapes only. When considering factors other than the cable geometry, as defined by the curve parameter (a or c), account must also be taken of the material, the cable size, etc.

Fig. 18, also a generic curve, illustrates the effect of similar length cables on the geometry. In this case both curves or cables are 10,440 feet long and the horizontal tensions are again different. The catenary can be observed to extend much further in the horizontal direction.

Fig. 19 departs from the generic curve, as a comparison is made between two cables with the same horizontal tension component. This illustrates the major difference in the concentration of weight between the two types of cables. The weight near the bottom reduces the horizontal displacement of the catenary, whereas the constant stress cable is very sensitive to changes in horizontal force. This configuration could represent a moored buoy under the influence

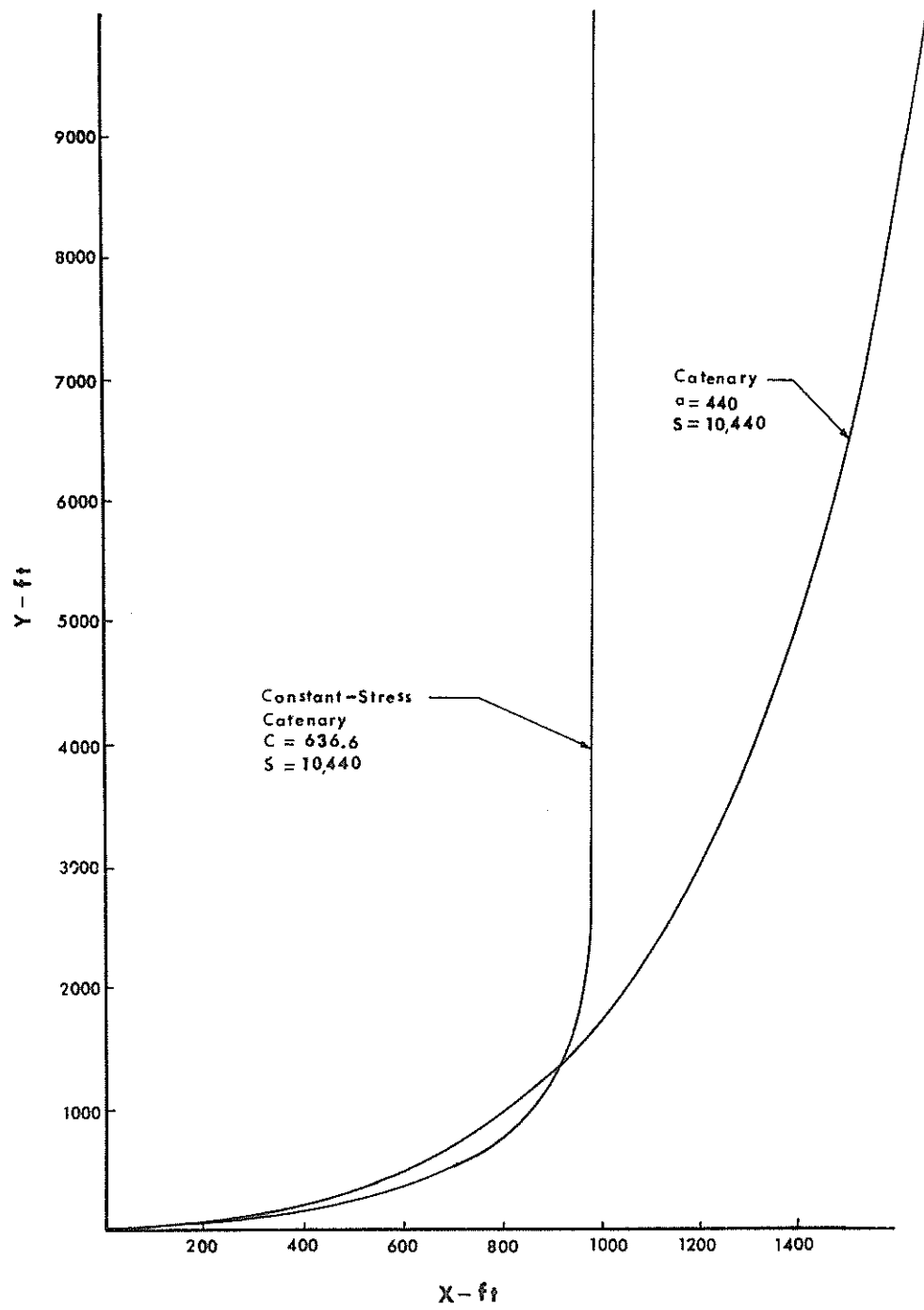


Fig. 18 Comparison of Curves of the Same Length



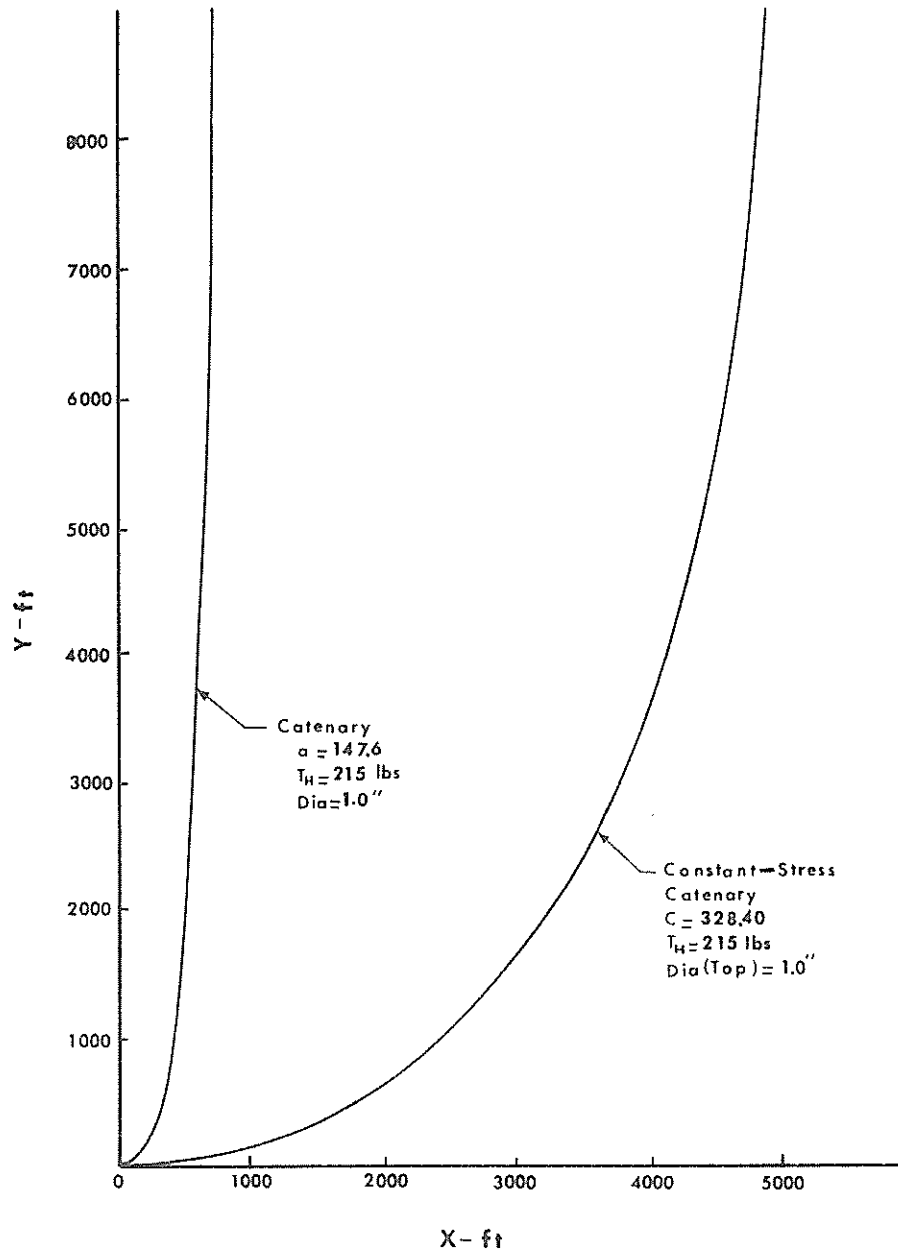


Fig. 19 Catenary vs Constant-Stress Catenary Comparison, with Same Horizontal Tension Component.

of a steady wind load. If the cable is subjected to an underwater current load another configuration results.

The finite-element computer program described in Appendix VI was used to simulate the effects of current on the cable. Resulting configurations are shown in Fig. 20. Both .5-knot and 1-knot currents were imposed in the x direction. The large effect of the current on the constant stress cable is clearly indicated whereas a very small effect is observed on the catenary. This is as expected since, as Fig. 17 reveals, the constant-stress cable is very sensitive to  $T_H$ . Fig. 21 provides a plot of the corresponding cable stresses under the same loading conditions represented by Fig. 20. It should be noted that tapered cables subjected to current loads can no longer be considered to be under constant stress. This indicates that to obtain maximum benefit from a tapered cable, it is necessary to incorporate the combined influence of any anticipated currents as well as static loading into the design analysis.

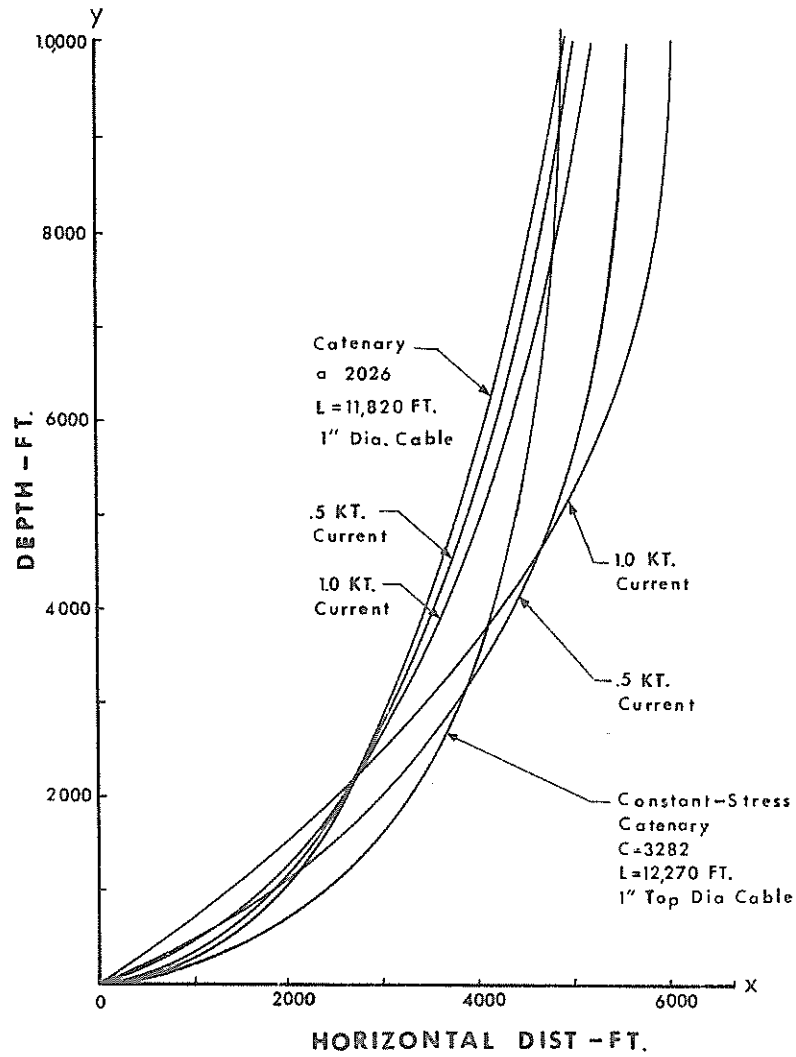


Fig. 20 Comparison - Cables With and Without Currents

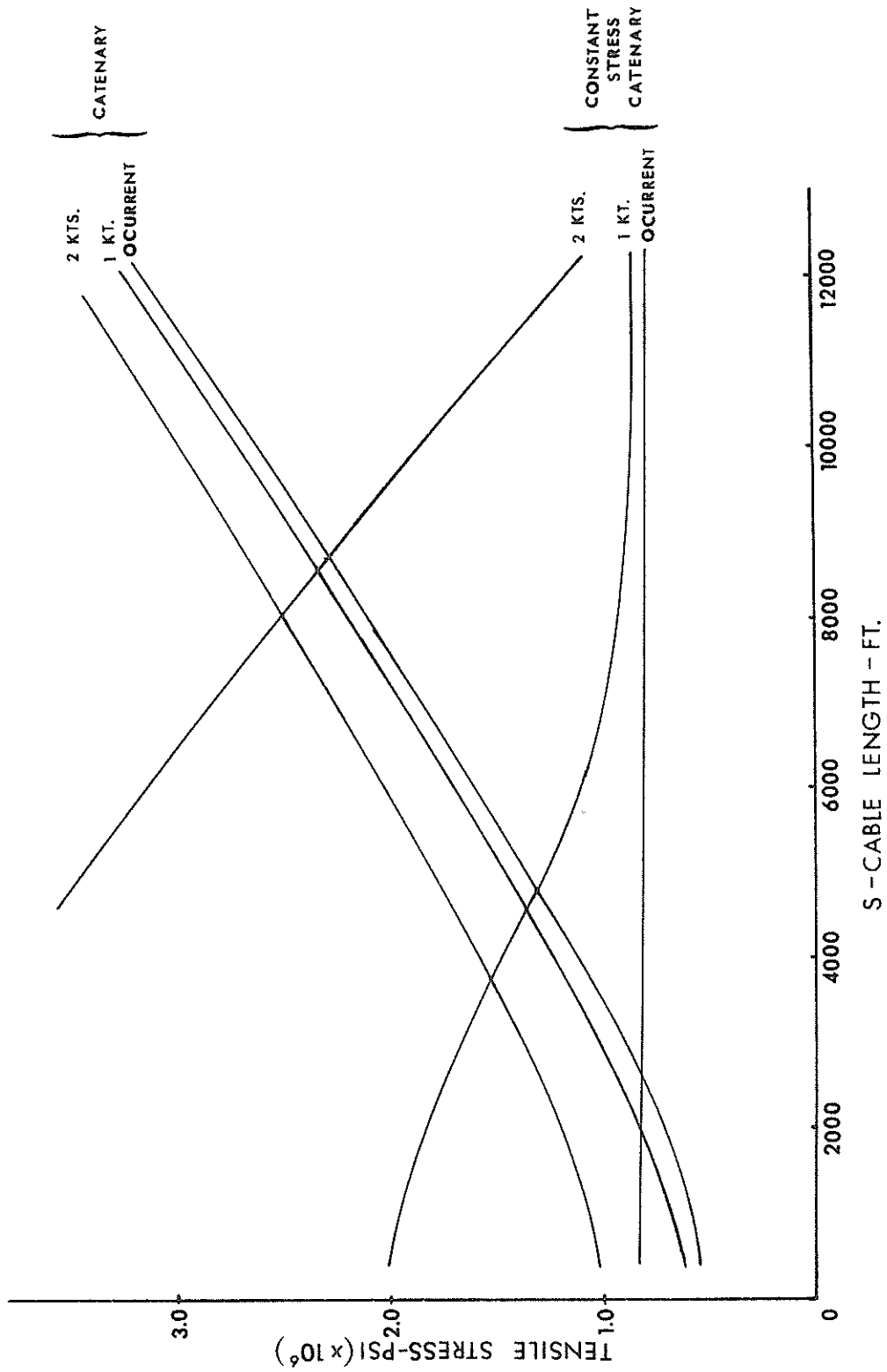


Fig. 21 Comparison - Cable Tensile Stress

## CHAPTER V

## CONCLUSIONS

This investigation has resulted in the development of analytical expressions describing the static behavior of tapered cables for two cases of practical importance. These equations have been substantiated by use of a finite-element computer program which has also enabled consideration of the effects of currents on such cables. Both common and tapered cables have been compared under several selected conditions leading to the following conclusions:

For any given length and top diameter, the tapered cable weighs less and has a greater load capacity than a similar common cable. This results in the tapered cable having a load capacity and resulting application at depths or cable lengths not possible with a common cable. In general, these advantages are all magnified for materials of increasing density and decreasing strength, or for increasing safety factors. There are no advantages in tapering for materials which are neutrally buoyant, since the cable weight does not have any effect on the loading. The tapered cable has the greatest value for applications requiring very long lengths or great depths.

The disadvantages of the tapered cable appear as follows: In a mooring situation the tapered cable exhibits greater motion on deflection due to currents and tends to be less desirable in any situation where weight is an advantage. The design of a tapered cable

depends on the application with constant stress only achievable at the design conditions. Tapered cable manufacturing will probably prove difficult and/or expensive, although this was not examined in this study. Tapered cables appear to be applicable to both towing and mooring situations with no clear delineation of preferred usage between the two. However, this thesis should be considered as a beginning for tapered cable studies with more parametric evaluation being in order. Further work is also needed to investigate the practicality and possibility of manufacture of such cables, and to examine their elastic properties, particularly with regard to dynamic performance.

## APPENDIX I

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## APPENDIX II

## DERIVATION OF CATENARY EQUATIONS

The method used herein to derive the equations for the common catenary utilizes a vectorial format following the approach taken by Dominguez (2).

Consider Fig 22.  $\Delta s$  represents a small portion of a cable acted upon by a distributed load,  $w(s)$ , whose resultant is  $\bar{w} \Delta s$ . It is assumed that the cable is completely flexible and inextensible. The cable tensions at either end are represented by  $\bar{T}$  and  $\bar{T} + \Delta\bar{T}$  respectively, with  $\bar{r}$  being the position vector of any point a distance  $s$  along the cable.

For static equilibrium

$$\Sigma \bar{F} = 0$$

Where  $\bar{F}$  represents the external forces acting on the element.

Therefore,

$$-\bar{T} + (\bar{T} + \Delta\bar{T}) + \bar{w} \Delta s = 0$$

which reduces to

$$\frac{\Delta\bar{T}}{\Delta s} + \bar{w} = 0$$

and in the limit as  $\Delta s \rightarrow 0$  becomes

$$\frac{d\bar{T}}{ds} + \bar{w} = 0 \dots \dots \dots (23)$$

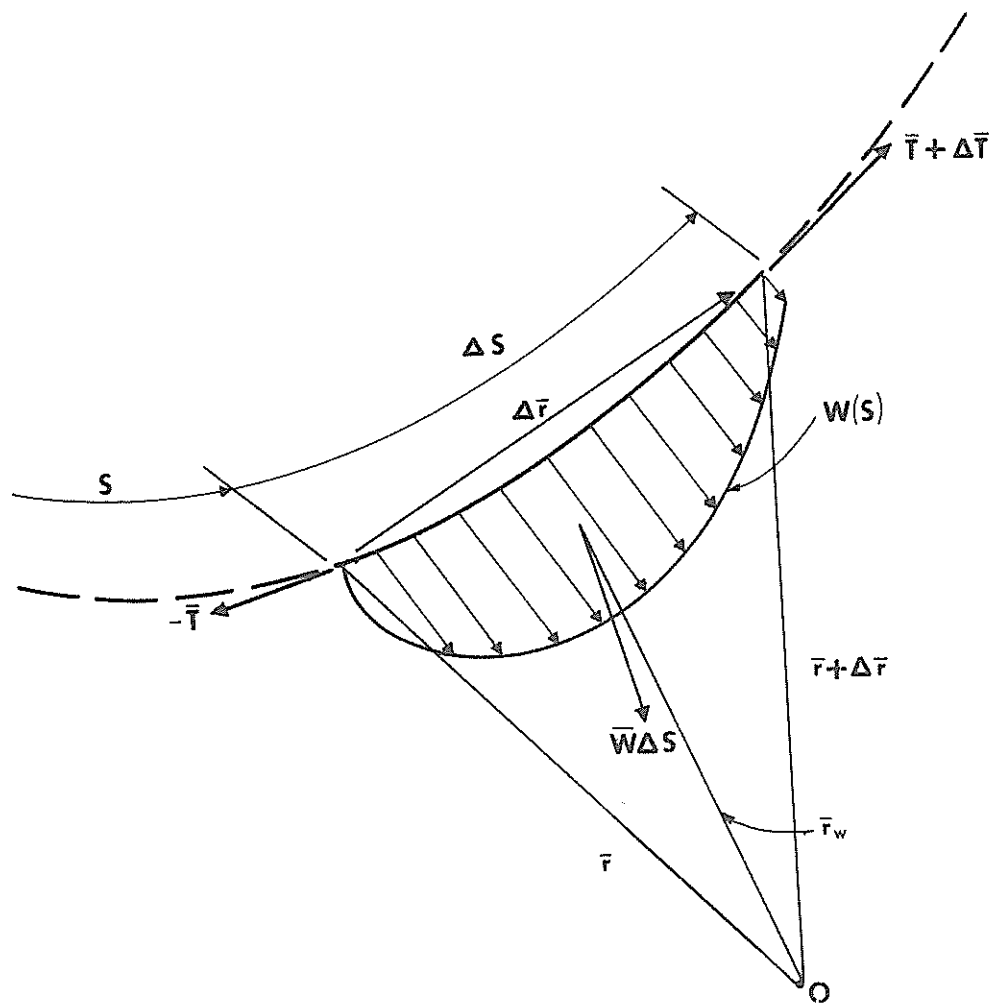


Fig. 22 Equilibrium of a Cable Element Influenced by an External Loading

Static equilibrium also requires

$$\Sigma \bar{M}_O = 0$$

where  $\bar{M}_O$  is the moment produced by a force  $\bar{F}$  about any arbitrary point

O. Therefore,

$$\bar{r} \times (-\bar{T}) + (\bar{r} + \Delta\bar{r}) \times (\bar{T} + \Delta\bar{T}) + \bar{r}_w \times \bar{w}\Delta s = 0$$

Expansion and division by  $\Delta s$  gives

$$\bar{r} \times \frac{\Delta\bar{T}}{\Delta s} + \frac{\Delta\bar{r}}{\Delta s} \times \bar{T} + \frac{\Delta\bar{r}}{\Delta s} \times \Delta\bar{T} + \bar{r}_w \times \bar{w} = 0$$

Taking the limit as  $\Delta s \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\Delta\bar{T} \rightarrow 0$  and  $\bar{r}_w \rightarrow \bar{r}$  results in

$$\bar{r} \times \left( \frac{d\bar{T}}{ds} + \bar{w} \right) + \frac{d\bar{r}}{ds} \times \bar{T} = 0$$

Since  $\frac{d\bar{T}}{ds} + \bar{w} = 0$  from Eq. 23 above,

Then

$$\frac{d\bar{r}}{ds} \times \bar{T} = 0 \dots \dots \dots (24)$$

Eqs (23) and (24) can be considered the basic differential equations governing the statics of a suspended cable subjected to a distributed loading.

If the additional assumption, that the cable is loaded solely by its own weight, is applied, then

$$\bar{w} = \bar{w}(s) = w(s)\bar{j}$$

where  $\bar{i}$ ,  $\bar{j}$  and  $\bar{k}$  are unit vectors in the x, y and z directions respectively. The cable tension at any point can be represented as

$$\bar{T} = T_x\bar{i} + T_y\bar{j} + T_z\bar{k} \dots \dots \dots (25)$$

where  $T_x$ ,  $T_y$  and  $T_z$  are the components of tension  $\bar{T}$ , in the x, y and z directions (Fig 23).

Then

$$T = \sqrt{T_x^2 + T_y^2 + T_z^2} \dots \dots \dots (26)$$

or

$$T = \sqrt{T_H^2 + T_y^2} \dots \dots \dots (27)$$

Where

$$T_H = \sqrt{T_x^2 + T_z^2} \dots \dots \dots (28)$$

Note that  $T_H$  is the total horizontal tension component. The substitution of Eq. 25 into Eq. 23 results in

$$\frac{dT_x}{ds} \bar{i} + \frac{dT_y}{ds} \bar{j} + \frac{dT_z}{ds} \bar{k} + w(s)\bar{j} = 0$$

If coefficients of like unit vectors are equated, then

$$\frac{dT_x}{ds} = 0 \dots \dots \dots (29)$$

$$\frac{dT_z}{ds} = 0 \dots \dots \dots (30)$$

$$\frac{dT_y}{ds} + w(s) = 0 \dots \dots \dots (31)$$

Eqs 29 and 30 indicate that the horizontal components of tension are constant. Rearranging terms and integrating Eq. 31 yields

$$T_y = - \int w(s)ds + C_1 \dots \dots \dots (32)$$

Where  $C_1$  represents a constant of integration. The position vector  $\bar{r}$  can be expressed as

$$\bar{r} = x\bar{i} + y\bar{j} + z\bar{k} \dots \dots \dots (33)$$

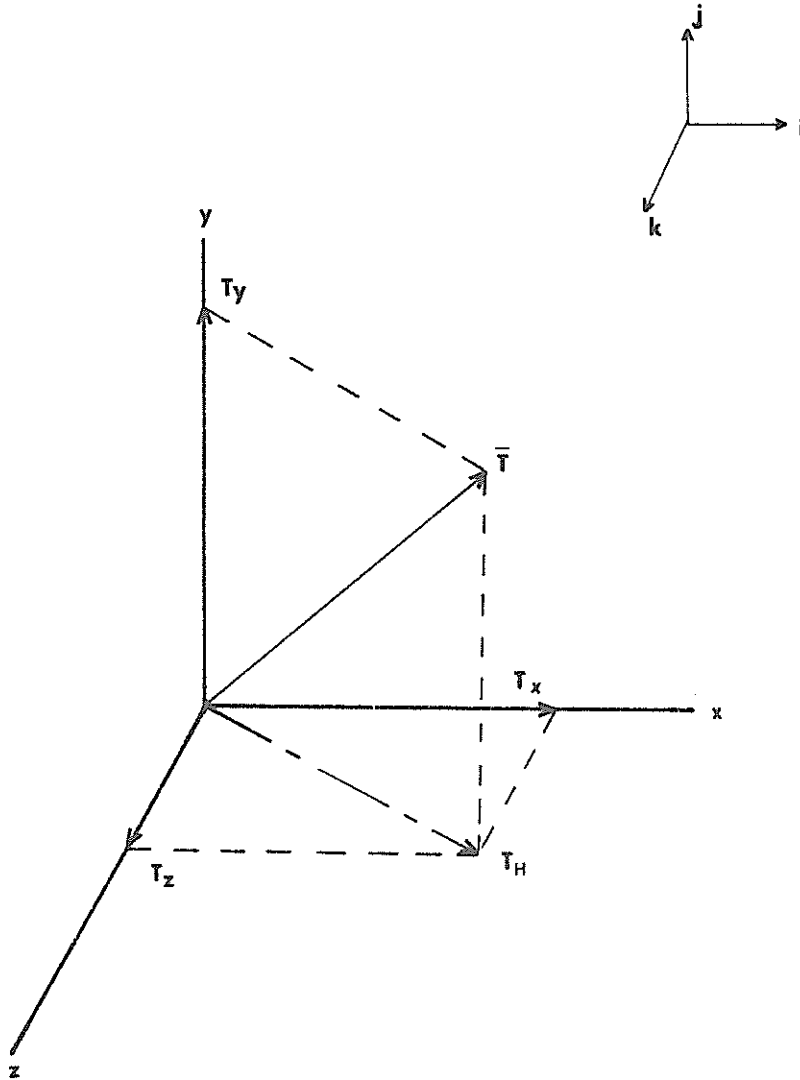


Fig. 23 Tension Components and Coordinate System

Substituting Eq. 33 into 24 yields

$$\left(\frac{dx}{ds} \bar{i} + \frac{dy}{ds} \bar{j} + \frac{dz}{ds} \bar{k}\right) \times (T_x \bar{i} + T_y \bar{j} + T_z \bar{k}) = 0$$

Expanding and separating terms results in

$$\frac{T_x}{dx} = \frac{T_y}{dy} = \frac{T_z}{dz} \dots \dots \dots (34)$$

Since  $T_x = \text{constant}$  and

$T_z = \text{constant}$  from Eq. 29 and 30, then

$$\frac{dx}{dz} = \frac{T_x}{T_z} = \text{constant} \dots \dots \dots (35)$$

Integrating yields:

$$x = \frac{T_x}{T_z} z + C_2 \dots \dots \dots (36)$$

This reveals that a cable hanging under its own weight projects as a straight line in the x-z plane.

Selecting axis location such that  $z = 0$  when  $x = 0$ , then

$C_2 = 0$  and

$$x = \frac{T_x}{T_z} z \dots \dots \dots (37)$$

Substituting Eq. 34 into Eq. 32 yields

$$\frac{dy}{dz} = -\frac{1}{T_z} \int w(s) ds + C_1 \dots \dots \dots (38)$$

Considering the case of a homogeneous cable of constant diameter, results in uniform loading

$$w(s) = -w = \text{constant weight/unit length of cable}$$

and

$$\frac{dy}{dz} = -\frac{1}{T_z} \int -w ds + C_1$$

or

$$\frac{dy}{dz} = \frac{ws}{T_z} + C_1$$

If the origin of the coordinate system is selected at the point where

$$\frac{dy}{dz} = 0$$

Then  $s = 0$ ,  $C_1 = 0$  and

$$\frac{dy}{dz} = \frac{ws}{T_z} \dots \dots \dots (39)$$

Referring then to Eq. 34

$$T_y = ws$$

A similar substitution of Eq. 34 into Eq. 32, integrating and evaluating boundary conditions yields

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{ws}{T_x} \dots \dots \dots (40)$$

Next consider the geometrical relationship

$$ds^2 = dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2$$

Dividing by  $dz^2$  gives

$$\frac{ds^2}{dz^2} = \frac{dx^2}{dz^2} + \frac{dy^2}{dz^2} + 1 \dots \dots \dots (41)$$

Substituting Eqs. 35 and 39 into Eq. 41 and combining terms yields

$$\frac{ds}{dz} = \frac{\sqrt{T_x^2 + T_z^2 + (ws)^2}}{T_z}$$

which when inverted, and the variables separated gives

$$dz = \frac{T_z ds}{\sqrt{T_x^2 + T_z^2 + (ws)^2}}$$

Inserting Eq. 28

$$dz = \frac{T_z ds}{\sqrt{T_H^2 + (ws)^2}}$$

Rearranging and integrating gives

$$z = \frac{T_z}{w} \sinh^{-1} \frac{ws}{T_H} + C_3 \dots \dots \dots (42)$$

If  $z = 0$  at  $s = 0$ , then  $C_3 = 0$ .

$$z = \frac{T_z}{w} \sinh^{-1} \frac{ws}{T_H} \dots \dots \dots (43)$$

and inverting

$$s = \frac{T_H}{w} \sinh \frac{wz}{T_z} \dots \dots \dots (44)$$

By a similar approach

$$x = \frac{T_x}{w} \sinh^{-1} \frac{ws}{T_H} \dots \dots \dots (45)$$

and inverting

$$s = \frac{T_H}{w} \sinh \frac{wx}{T_x} \dots \dots \dots (46)$$



Substituting Eq. 44 into Eq. 39

$$\frac{dy}{dz} = \frac{T_H}{T_z} \sinh \frac{wz}{T_z}$$

Integrating gives

$$y = \frac{T_H}{w} \cosh \frac{wz}{T_z} + C_4 \dots \dots \dots (47)$$

Letting  $y = \frac{T_H}{w}$  at  $z = 0$ , then  $C_4 = 0$

and

$$y = \frac{T_H}{w} \cosh \frac{wz}{T_z} \dots \dots \dots (48)$$

Similarly, inserting Eq. 46 into 40

$$y = \frac{T_H}{w} \cosh \frac{wx}{T_x} \dots \dots \dots (49)$$

Finally, it can be seen that

$$y = \frac{T_H}{w} \cosh \frac{wz}{T_z} = \frac{T_H}{w} \cosh \frac{wx}{T_x} \dots \dots \dots (50)$$

$$s = \frac{T_H}{w} \sinh \frac{wz}{T_z} = \frac{T_H}{w} \sinh \frac{wx}{T_x} \dots \dots \dots (51)$$

which constitute the symmetric equations of the catenary in three-dimensional space.

## APPENDIX III

## DERIVATION OF CONSTANT-STRESS CATENARY

The method of solution used below is basically similar to that used in Appendix II. This constant-stress catenary derivation starts with the basic cable equations

$$\frac{d\bar{T}}{ds} + \bar{w} = 0 \dots\dots\dots (23)$$

and

$$\frac{d\bar{r}}{ds} \times \bar{T} = 0 \dots\dots\dots (24)$$

discussed in Appendix I. Assuming that the cable is loaded solely by its own weight, it was shown that

$$\frac{dT_x}{ds} = 0 \dots\dots\dots (29)$$

and

$$\frac{dT_z}{ds} = 0 \dots\dots\dots (30)$$

$$\frac{dT_y}{ds} + w(s) = 0 \dots\dots\dots (31)$$

In the case of the tapered cable, it must be recognized that  $w(s)$  varies throughout the total length of the cable. If it is assumed that the material is of constant density, then

$$w(s) = -\gamma A(s) \dots\dots\dots (52)$$

where  $\gamma$  = weight per unit volume of the cable material and  $A(s)$  is the cross-sectional area of the cable (Fig. 24).

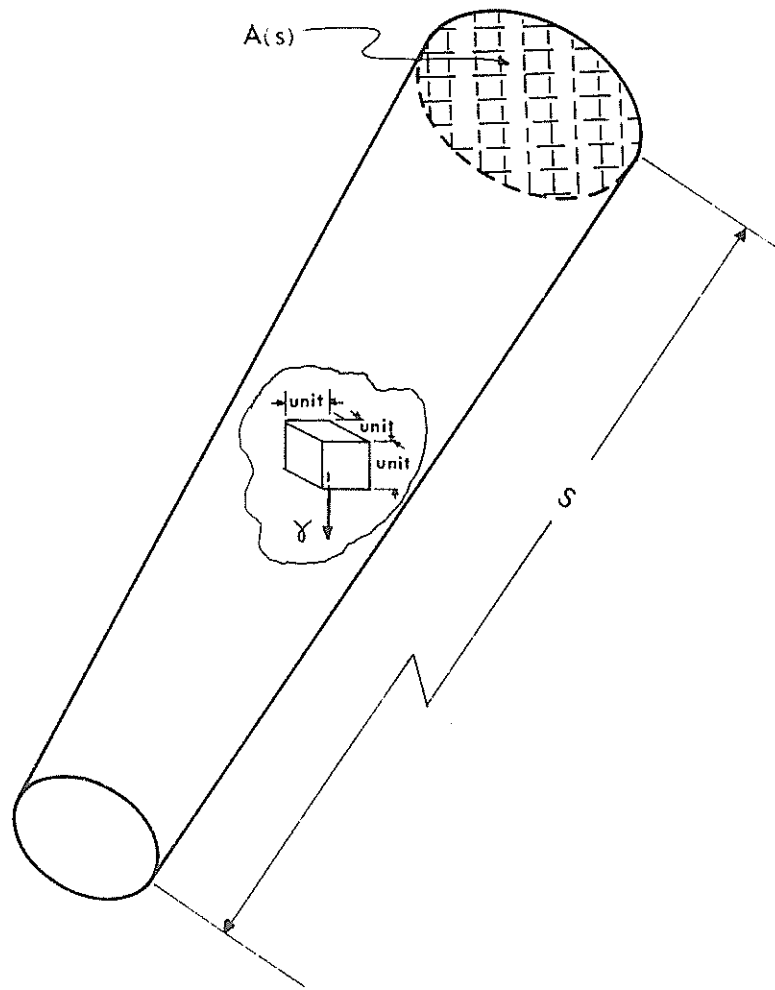


Fig. 24 Typical Section of Cable

Inserting Eq. 52 into Eq. 31 results in

$$dT_y = \gamma A(s) ds \dots \dots \dots (53)$$

If constant stress is required, then the cross-sectional area and cable tension at any point are related:

$$A = \frac{T}{\sigma} \dots \dots \dots (54)$$

Substituting Eqs. 54 and 27 into Eq. 52,

$$dT_y = \gamma \frac{\sqrt{T_H^2 + T_y^2}}{\sigma} ds$$

rearranging and integrating yields

$$\text{Log}_e (T_y + \sqrt{T_H^2 + T_y^2}) = \frac{\gamma}{\sigma} s + C_5 \dots \dots (55)$$

Applying the boundary conditions (Fig. 25)

$$T_y = 0 \text{ at } s = 0, \text{ gives}$$

$$C_5 = \text{Log}_e T_H$$

thus

$$\text{Log}_e (T_y + \sqrt{T_H^2 + T_y^2}) = \frac{\gamma}{\sigma} s + \text{Log}_e T_H$$

Combining terms results in

$$\text{Log}_e \left( \frac{T_y + \sqrt{T_H^2 + T_y^2}}{T_H} \right) = \frac{\gamma}{\sigma} s$$

which by identity is

$$\text{Sinh} \frac{\gamma s}{\sigma} = \frac{T_y}{T_H} \dots \dots \dots (56)$$

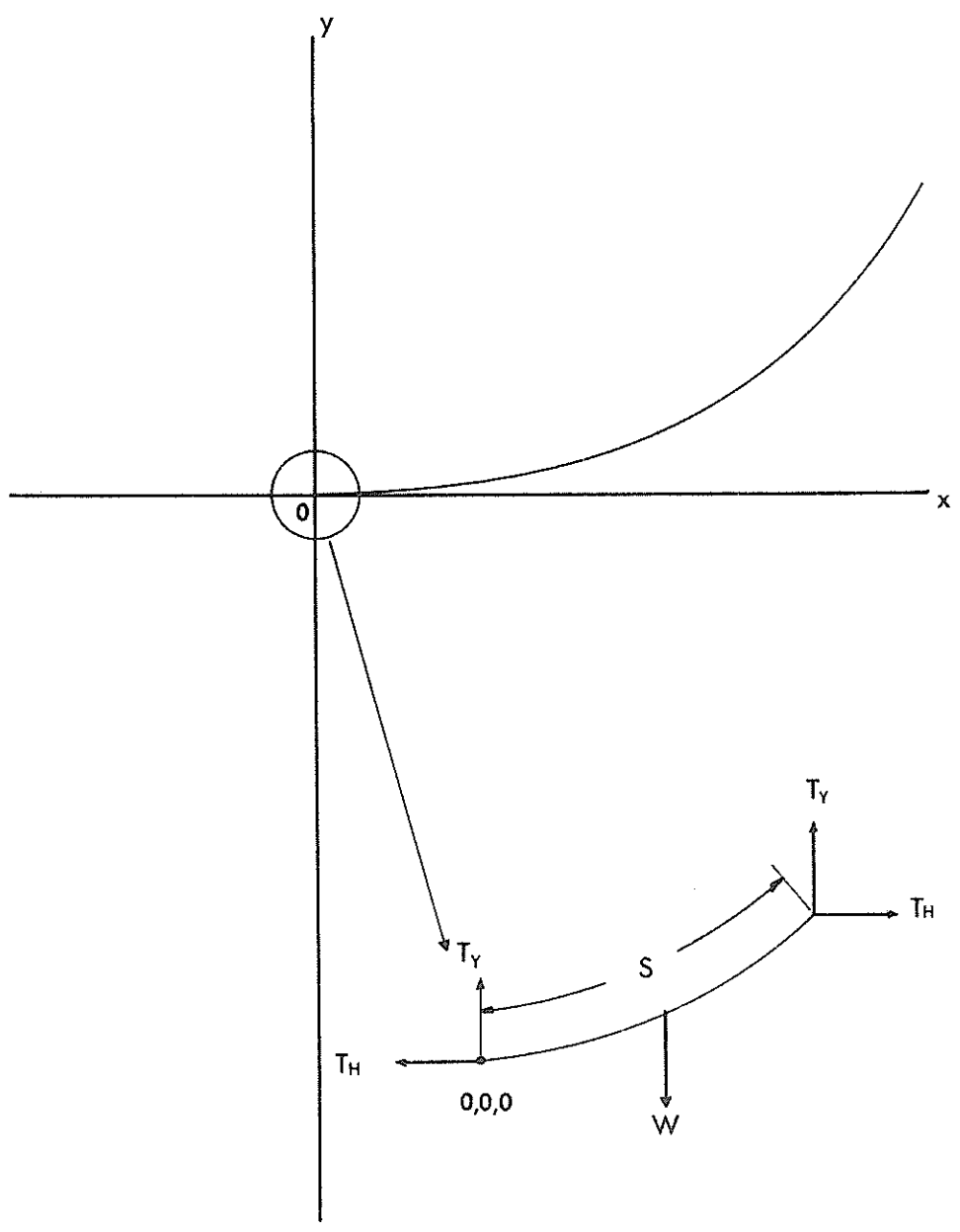


Fig. 25 Boundary Conditions at Origin

Eq. 34 can be inserted into Eq.41 and with some manipulation produce

$$\frac{T_y}{T_H} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{ds}{dy}\right)^2 - 1}} \dots \dots \dots (57)$$

Substituting Eq. 57 back into Eq. 56 gives

$$\text{Sinh } \frac{ys}{\sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{ds}{dy}\right)^2 - 1}}$$

which by rearrangement and use of identity becomes

$$\frac{dy}{ds} = \text{Tanh } \frac{ys}{\sigma} \dots \dots \dots (58)$$

The square root of  $\left(\frac{dy}{ds}\right)^2$  produces both positive and negative roots. Since the negative root represents negative values of  $\text{Tanh } \frac{ys}{\sigma}$ , it will represent, when integrated, the negative (or mirror image) of the curve of interest,  $\text{Cosh } \frac{ys}{\sigma}$ . Therefore, the negative root is discarded since it has no physical meaning for mooring applications. These functions are illustrated in Fig. 26. Separating variables in Eq. 58 and integrating gives

$$y = \frac{\sigma}{\gamma} \text{Log}_e \text{Cosh } \frac{ys}{\sigma} + C_6 \dots \dots \dots (59)$$

Applying the boundary conditions of  $y = 0$  when  $s = 0$ ,  $\text{cosh} = 1$ ,  $\text{Log } 1 = 0$ ,  $C_6 = 0$  and

$$y = \frac{\sigma}{\gamma} \text{Log}_e \text{Cosh } \frac{ys}{\sigma} \dots \dots \dots (60)$$

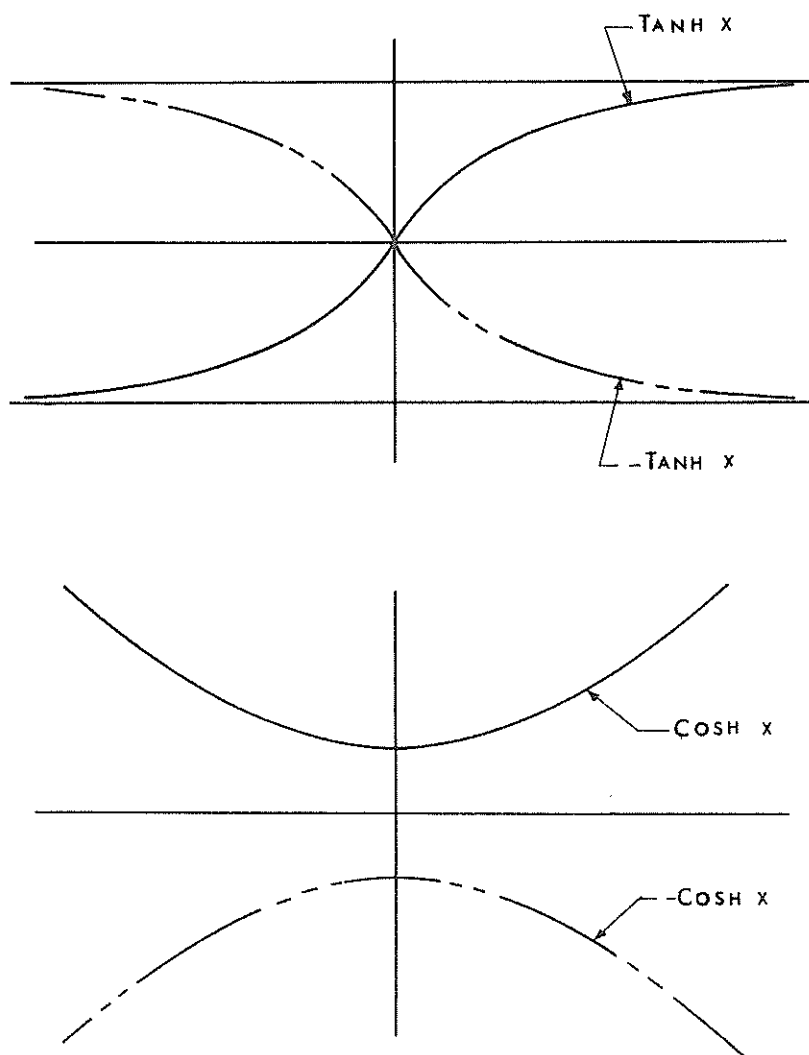


Fig. 26 Hyperbolic Functions

Inverting Eq. 60 produces

$$e^{\frac{Yy}{\sigma}} = \text{Cosh } \frac{Ys}{\sigma}$$

and

$$\text{Cosh}^{-1} e^{\frac{Yy}{\sigma}} = \frac{Ys}{\sigma}$$

Differentiation then yields

$$\frac{ds}{dy} = \frac{\frac{Y}{e^{\frac{Yy}{\sigma}}} y}{\sqrt{\frac{2Yy}{e^{\frac{Yy}{\sigma}}} - 1}} \dots \dots \dots (61)$$

Substituting Eq. 41 for  $\frac{ds}{dy}$  gives

$$\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dx}{dy}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dz}{dy}\right)^2} = \frac{\frac{Yy}{e^{\frac{Yy}{\sigma}}}}{\sqrt{\frac{2Yy}{e^{\frac{Yy}{\sigma}}} - 1}}$$

which reduces to

$$dz \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dz}\right)^2 + 1} = \frac{dy}{\sqrt{\frac{2Yy}{e^{\frac{Yy}{\sigma}}} - 1}}$$

Inserting Eq. 34 for  $\frac{dx}{dz}$  yields

$$dz \sqrt{\left(\frac{T_x}{T_z}\right)^2 + 1} = \frac{\frac{Y}{e^{\frac{Yy}{\sigma}}} y dy}{\frac{Y}{e^{\frac{Yy}{\sigma}}} y \sqrt{\frac{2Yy}{e^{\frac{Yy}{\sigma}}} - 1}}$$

Note: Since  $T_x$  and  $T_z$  are constants, then

$$\sqrt{\left(\frac{T_x}{T_z}\right)^2 + 1} \text{ is also a constant}$$



Integrating yields

$$z \sqrt{\left(\frac{T_x}{T_z}\right)^2 + 1} = \frac{\sigma}{\gamma} \sec^{-1} e^{\frac{\gamma}{\sigma} y} + C_7 \dots \dots \dots (62)$$

Considering the boundary conditions

$$z = 0 \text{ and } C_7 = 0 \text{ when } y = 0$$

i.e. curve goes through the origin, and

$$z \sqrt{\left(\frac{T_x}{T_z}\right)^2 + 1} = \frac{\sigma}{\gamma} \sec^{-1} e^{\frac{\gamma}{\sigma} y} \dots \dots \dots (63)$$

inverting

$$\sec \frac{\sigma}{\gamma} z \sqrt{\left(\frac{T_x}{T_z}\right)^2 + 1} = e^{\frac{\gamma}{\sigma} y}$$

Taking the log of each side

$$y = \frac{\sigma}{\gamma} \text{Log}_e \sec \frac{\gamma}{\sigma} z \sqrt{\left(\frac{T_x}{T_z}\right)^2 + 1} \dots \dots \dots (64)$$

Using Eq. 37, Eq. 64 becomes

$$y = \frac{\sigma}{\gamma} \text{Log}_e \sec \frac{\gamma}{\sigma} \sqrt{x^2 + z^2} \dots \dots \dots (65)$$

This constitutes the principal equation of a constant-stress catenary.

Cable Tension

Combining Eq. 27 with Eq. 56 yields

$$T = T_H \sqrt{\text{Sinh}^2 \frac{\gamma s}{\sigma} + 1} = T_H \text{Cosh} \frac{\gamma s}{\sigma}$$

Substituting Eq. 28 for  $T_H$

$$T = \sqrt{T_x^2 + T_z^2} \operatorname{Cosh} \frac{\gamma s}{\sigma} \dots \dots \dots (66)$$

Eq. 66 depicts the tension at any point a distance  $s$  along the cable.

### Cable Area

As noted previously, Eq. 54

$$A = \frac{T}{\sigma}$$

Substituting Eq. 66 for  $T$  gives

$$A = \frac{\sqrt{T_x^2 + T_z^2}}{\sigma} \operatorname{Cosh} \frac{\gamma s}{\sigma} \dots \dots \dots (67)$$

"A" represents the cross sectional area of the cable at a distance  $s$  from the bottom end, (Fig. 25).

### Cable Weight

The total cable weight  $W$  can be expressed as

$$W = \int \gamma A ds = \int \gamma \frac{T_H}{\sigma} \operatorname{Cosh} \frac{\gamma s}{\sigma} ds$$

which upon integration becomes

$$W = T_H \operatorname{Sinh} \frac{\gamma s}{\sigma} + C_8$$

Considering the boundary conditions at

$$s = 0, W = 0 \text{ and } C_8 = 0$$

Therefore

$$W = T_H \operatorname{Sinh} \frac{\gamma s}{\sigma}$$

Substituting Eq. 28 for  $T_H$

$$W = \sqrt{T_x^2 + T_z^2} \sinh \frac{Ys}{\sigma} \dots \dots \dots (68)$$

which represents the weight of a length  $s$  of cable, measured from the origin.

## APPENDIX IV

## Notation

A	area
$A_L$	cable area at distance L
$A_O$	cable area at bottom end of tapered cable
$A_S$	cable area distance s along a tapered cable
$D_L$	diameter at distance L along a tapered cable
$D_O$	bottom diameter of tapered cable
$D_T$	top diameter of tapered cable
$F_S$	factor of safety
L	total cable length
P	load supported by the cable
$P_a$	allowable load
T	cable tension
$T_H$	horizontal cable tension component
$T_V$	vertical component of cable tension, = $T_y$
$T_x$	component of cable tension in X direction
$T_y$	component of cable tension in Y direction
$T_z$	component of cable tension in Z direction
W	total cable weight
a	catenary parameter
c	constant-stress catenary parameter
s	length along cable

## Notation (Continued)

$w$	weight per unit length of cable
$w(s)$	weight as a function of distance along cable
$x, y, z$	base coordinates
$( )_o$	subscript $o$ indicates end condition
$\bar{i}, \bar{j}, \bar{k}$	unit vectors $x, y, z$ directions
$\bar{r}$	position vector for a point in space
$\bar{T}$	vectorial representation of tension
$\sigma$	cable tensile stress = $T/A$
$\gamma$	cable unit weight

## APPENDIX V

Tables of  
Log (sec x)  
Functions

X = IN DEGREES	X = IN RAD.	SEC(XRAD) =	LOGSEC =
0.0000000000000000 00	0.0000000000000000 00	0.1000000000000000 01	0.0000000000000000 00
0.1000000000000000 00	0.1745329251994333 00	0.101542266118857450 01	0.15308831465985680 -01
0.2000000000000000 00	0.349065875039886660 00	0.1064177724759120 01	0.62202456357899490 -01
0.3000000000000000 00	0.52359877559829980 00	0.11547005383792520 01	0.143841036225889100 00
0.4000000000000000 00	0.69813170679773310 00	0.13054072893322880 01	0.26651509118705720 00
0.5000000000000000 00	0.87268462599716620 00	0.15557238268904150 01	0.44194092083887630 00
0.6000000000000000 00	0.87268462599716620 00	0.15557238268904150 01	0.44194092083887630 00
0.7000000000000000 00	0.95593108394688270 00	0.17434467986211020 01	0.55586407082114940 00
0.8000000000000000 00	0.10471975911995990 01	0.2000000000000000 01	0.69314718055994760 00
0.9000000000000000 00	0.11344640137963160 01	0.23662015831525050 01	0.86128596190680860 00
1.0000000000000000 00	0.12217304763960320 01	0.29238044001630990 01	0.10728856450409240 01
1.1000000000000000 00	0.12217304763960320 01	0.29238044001630990 01	0.10728856450409240 01
1.2000000000000000 00	0.12391837689159760 01	0.30715534867572550 01	0.11221834553583100 01
1.3000000000000000 00	0.12568370614359150 01	0.32360679747998040 01	0.11743590056195530 01
1.4000000000000000 00	0.12740903959588620 01	0.34293036198332840 01	0.12297293248630350 01
1.5000000000000000 00	0.12915436464758050 01	0.36279592785431150 01	0.12886692054247970 01
1.6000000000000000 00	0.13089959389957490 01	0.38637033051562920 01	0.13516261290223580 01
1.7000000000000000 00	0.132684022315156920 01	0.41335636944387700 01	0.14191403503748970 01
1.8000000000000000 00	0.1345039524335350 01	0.4445411482598270 01	0.14918724366916530 01
1.9000000000000000 00	0.1361355815595795 01	0.480973447441590 01	0.15706418528095300 01
2.0000000000000000 00	0.1378910199755270 01	0.52608430541574860 01	0.16564823754999010 01
2.1000000000000000 00	0.13962634015954650 01	0.57597704831436770 01	0.17507239941348880 01
2.2000000000000000 00	0.13962634015954650 01	0.57597704831436770 01	0.17507239941348880 01
2.3000000000000000 00	0.13962634015954650 01	0.57597704831436770 01	0.17507239941348880 01
2.4000000000000000 00	0.14047930473954370 01	0.60538057956803410 01	0.18015213263278180 01
2.5000000000000000 00	0.14137156941154080 01	0.63924632214997190 01	0.18551181104403130 01
2.6000000000000000 00	0.14224433403753300 01	0.67654690750586430 01	0.191183159773465370 01
2.7000000000000000 00	0.1431169366953520 01	0.71852495363277810 01	0.19720367899845400 01
2.8000000000000000 00	0.14399966328953230 01	0.76612975755404550 01	0.20361813656912240 01
2.9000000000000000 00	0.14488232791952920 01	0.82055070441251650 01	0.2104805763872260 01
3.0000000000000000 00	0.1457349254152660 01	0.88336714719976530 01	0.21785707233460200 01
3.1000000000000000 00	0.14659795718752380 01	0.95657742335057230 01	0.2258295868978070 01
3.2000000000000000 00	0.14748032179352100 01	0.10463343524623480 02	0.23450151242937290 01
3.3000000000000000 00	0.14837993641951820 01	0.11473713245670030 02	0.24400596142053670 01
3.4000000000000000 00	0.14922505104551530 01	0.12745474843182620 02	0.25451779635304220 01
3.5000000000000000 00	0.15009831567151250 01	0.14335547025203940 02	0.26627459490317440 01
3.6000000000000000 00	0.1509708029790940 01	0.1539038239398600 02	0.27960860011545570 01
3.7000000000000000 00	0.15184384492350680 01	0.1910732269297910 02	0.29500716442659750 01
3.8000000000000000 00	0.15271630954950400 01	0.2292585676053930 02	0.31322515631184980 01
3.9000000000000000 00	0.15359877417550110 01	0.286653748347844780 02	0.335292871009520 01
4.0000000000000000 00	0.154461336863149830 01	0.3820150004111850 02	0.36428760910749850 01
4.1000000000000000 00	0.1553343336749950 01	0.512986493498553820 02	0.40482777351263580 01





X	Y	Z	IN DEGREES	X	Y	Z	IN RAD.	SEC (RAD)	LOG SEC
0.8999990000000000	0.8999990000000000	0.8999990000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.5729577959288604	0.5729577959288604	0.5729577959288604	0.0606	0.5729577959288604	0.13258567338409830
0.8999991000000000	0.8999991000000000	0.8999991000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.6366197734097216	0.6366197734097216	0.6366197734097216	0.0606	0.6366197734097216	0.13363927854311810
0.8999992000000000	0.8999992000000000	0.8999992000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.7161972553230520	0.7161972553230520	0.7161972553230520	0.0606	0.7161972553230520	0.134481710890023620
0.8999993000000000	0.8999993000000000	0.8999993000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.8185111511313220	0.8185111511313220	0.8185111511313220	0.0606	0.8185111511313220	0.13615242283004920
0.8999994000000000	0.8999994000000000	0.8999994000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.95492866084445680	0.95492866084445680	0.95492866084445680	0.0606	0.95492866084445680	0.137693929262974860
0.8999995000000000	0.8999995000000000	0.8999995000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.11459155932312840	0.11459155932312840	0.11459155932312840	0.0606	0.11459155932312840	0.13951714520168440
0.8999996000000000	0.8999996000000000	0.8999996000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.14323944927556020	0.14323944927556020	0.14323944927556020	0.0700	0.14323944927556020	0.14174958072331920
0.8999997000000000	0.8999997000000000	0.8999997000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.1909893257414280	0.1909893257414280	0.1909893257414280	0.0700	0.1909893257414280	0.14462540145866130
0.8999998000000000	0.8999998000000000	0.8999998000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.28647891391703130	0.28647891391703130	0.28647891391703130	0.0700	0.28647891391703130	0.14868005256139210
0.8999999000000000	0.8999999000000000	0.8999999000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.57295780325657050	0.57295780325657050	0.57295780325657050	0.0700	0.57295780325657050	0.15561152444193140
0.8999990000000000	0.8999990000000000	0.8999990000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.63661978189094170	0.63661978189094170	0.63661978189094170	0.0700	0.63661978189094170	0.15666512960628120
0.8999991000000000	0.8999991000000000	0.8999991000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.7161972553230520	0.7161972553230520	0.7161972553230520	0.0700	0.7161972553230520	0.15784295997255950
0.8999992000000000	0.8999992000000000	0.8999992000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.8185111511313220	0.8185111511313220	0.8185111511313220	0.0700	0.8185111511313220	0.15917827392556900
0.8999993000000000	0.8999993000000000	0.8999993000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.95492866084445680	0.95492866084445680	0.95492866084445680	0.0700	0.95492866084445680	0.16071978074287400
0.8999994000000000	0.8999994000000000	0.8999994000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.11459155932312840	0.11459155932312840	0.11459155932312840	0.0800	0.11459155932312840	0.162542939633745890
0.8999995000000000	0.8999995000000000	0.8999995000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.14323944927556020	0.14323944927556020	0.14323944927556020	0.0800	0.14323944927556020	0.16477443194052900
0.8999996000000000	0.8999996000000000	0.8999996000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.1909893257414280	0.1909893257414280	0.1909893257414280	0.0800	0.1909893257414280	0.16765125274831360
0.8999997000000000	0.8999997000000000	0.8999997000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.28647891391703130	0.28647891391703130	0.28647891391703130	0.0800	0.28647891391703130	0.17170590399592870
0.8999998000000000	0.8999998000000000	0.8999998000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.57295786794905890	0.57295786794905890	0.57295786794905890	0.0800	0.57295786794905890	0.17863737650096870
0.8999999000000000	0.8999999000000000	0.8999999000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.63661985398352230	0.63661985398352230	0.63661985398352230	0.0800	0.63661985398352230	0.17863737650096870
0.8999990000000000	0.8999990000000000	0.8999990000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.71619734567069850	0.71619734567069850	0.71619734567069850	0.0800	0.71619734567069850	0.17969096166864920
0.8999991000000000	0.8999991000000000	0.8999991000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.81651126679967630	0.81651126679967630	0.81651126679967630	0.0800	0.81651126679967630	0.18086881216399090
0.8999992000000000	0.8999992000000000	0.8999992000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.95492866084445680	0.95492866084445680	0.95492866084445680	0.0800	0.95492866084445680	0.182204126266866490
0.8999993000000000	0.8999993000000000	0.8999993000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.11459155932312840	0.11459155932312840	0.11459155932312840	0.0900	0.11459155932312840	0.18374563330484240
0.8999994000000000	0.8999994000000000	0.8999994000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.14323944927556020	0.14323944927556020	0.14323944927556020	0.0900	0.14323944927556020	0.18526884920584900
0.8999995000000000	0.8999995000000000	0.8999995000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.1909893257414280	0.1909893257414280	0.1909893257414280	0.0900	0.1909893257414280	0.18780028521859150
0.8999996000000000	0.8999996000000000	0.8999996000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.28647891391703130	0.28647891391703130	0.28647891391703130	0.0900	0.28647891391703130	0.19067710610964280
0.8999997000000000	0.8999997000000000	0.8999997000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.572957832022440660	0.572957832022440660	0.572957832022440660	0.0900	0.572957832022440660	0.19473175852299260
0.8999998000000000	0.8999998000000000	0.8999998000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.63661985398352230	0.63661985398352230	0.63661985398352230	0.0900	0.63661985398352230	0.20166323532459900
0.8999999000000000	0.8999999000000000	0.8999999000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.71619798973378380	0.71619798973378380	0.71619798973378380	0.0900	0.71619798973378380	0.20271684159140130
0.8999990000000000	0.8999990000000000	0.8999990000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.818511223654576690	0.818511223654576690	0.818511223654576690	0.0900	0.818511223654576690	0.20389467208674320
0.8999991000000000	0.8999991000000000	0.8999991000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.95492866084445680	0.95492866084445680	0.95492866084445680	0.1000	0.95492866084445680	0.20522998904628000
0.8999992000000000	0.8999992000000000	0.8999992000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.11459175564509730	0.11459175564509730	0.11459175564509730	0.1000	0.11459175564509730	0.20677149489293160
0.8999993000000000	0.8999993000000000	0.8999993000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.14323975986285310	0.14323975986285310	0.14323975986285310	0.1000	0.14323975986285310	0.20859471512381480
0.8999994000000000	0.8999994000000000	0.8999994000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.19098636118664880	0.19098636118664880	0.19098636118664880	0.1000	0.19098636118664880	0.21082615513336880
0.8999995000000000	0.8999995000000000	0.8999995000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.28647987574013660	0.28647987574013660	0.28647987574013660	0.1000	0.28647987574013660	0.21370297669055570
0.8999996000000000	0.8999996000000000	0.8999996000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.57296175525032320	0.57296175525032320	0.57296175525032320	0.1000	0.57296175525032320	0.2175763942901210
0.8999997000000000	0.8999997000000000	0.8999997000000000	0.1600000000000000	0.63661985398352230	0.63661985398352230	0.63661985398352230	0.1000	0.63661985398352230	0.222468914620681740





## APPENDIX VI

## COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR A TAPERED CABLE

Current loading on cable systems presents one of the more difficult problems to the analyst. This is due to both the non-linearity of hydrodynamic loads and to the configuration dependence of such loads. These difficulties have lead to the frequent use of finite-element models with a digital computer to handle cable/current problems. Although these methods are approximate, the solutions tend to be very good and in general can be made increasingly accurate by decreasing the size and increasing the number of elements within cost constraints.

To enable a simulation of the tapered cable concept, a finite-element computer program has been prepared. This is largely based on the program discussed by Dominguez (3), using the same hydrodynamic sub-program for calculating drag forces but having an additional sub-program to generate cable diameter for various types of tapered cables. The method, accuracy to be obtained, and the hydrodynamic loading criteria have been fully described in reference (3). The program has provision for accepting any type of taper and presently contains four types -- common cable, constant-stress catenary, E-tapered and straight-taper "D".

Results

The program was first used (Fig. 27) to compare its results to

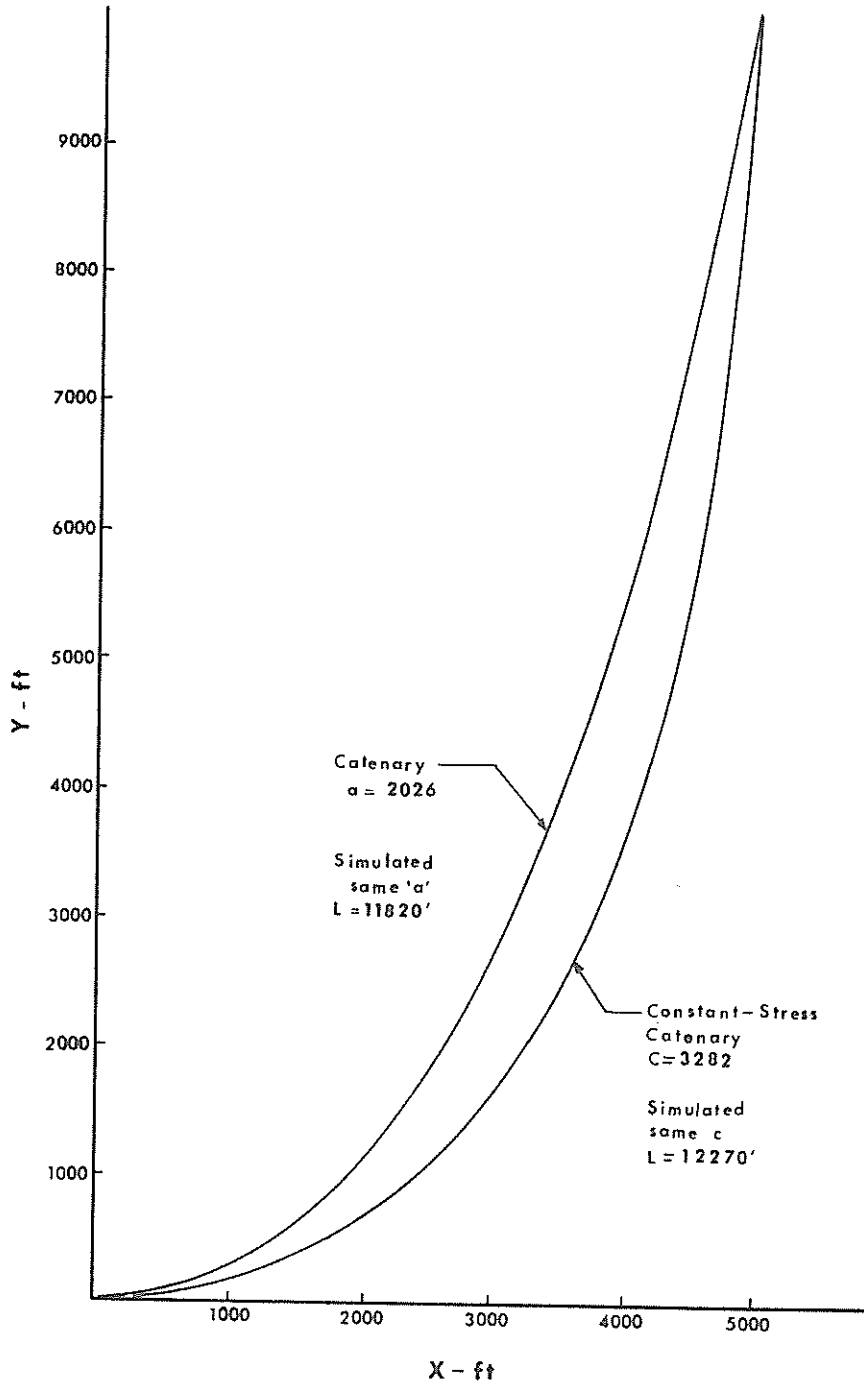


Fig. 27 Analytical and Computer Simulation

the analytical expression for static cable configurations previously derived. It was then used to simulate the effects of current on the same cable configuration.

Fig. 27 illustrates two curves fitted through (0.0) and (5,000, 10,000). In this case, the cables were selected and were also simulated, using a finite element model, to confirm the equations and trends previously defined. Table II lists the coordinates along the constant-stress catenary and shows the very good fit obtained. Fig. 28 depicts the stress obtained from the same finite-element simulations. The common cable has less stress at the bottom, as excess material is present as illustrated in Fig. 6.

The tapered cable, on the other hand, has a nearly constant stress throughout its length as anticipated. The computer simulation therefore, presents a very satisfactory cable model, confirming the analytical results presented elsewhere in this report.

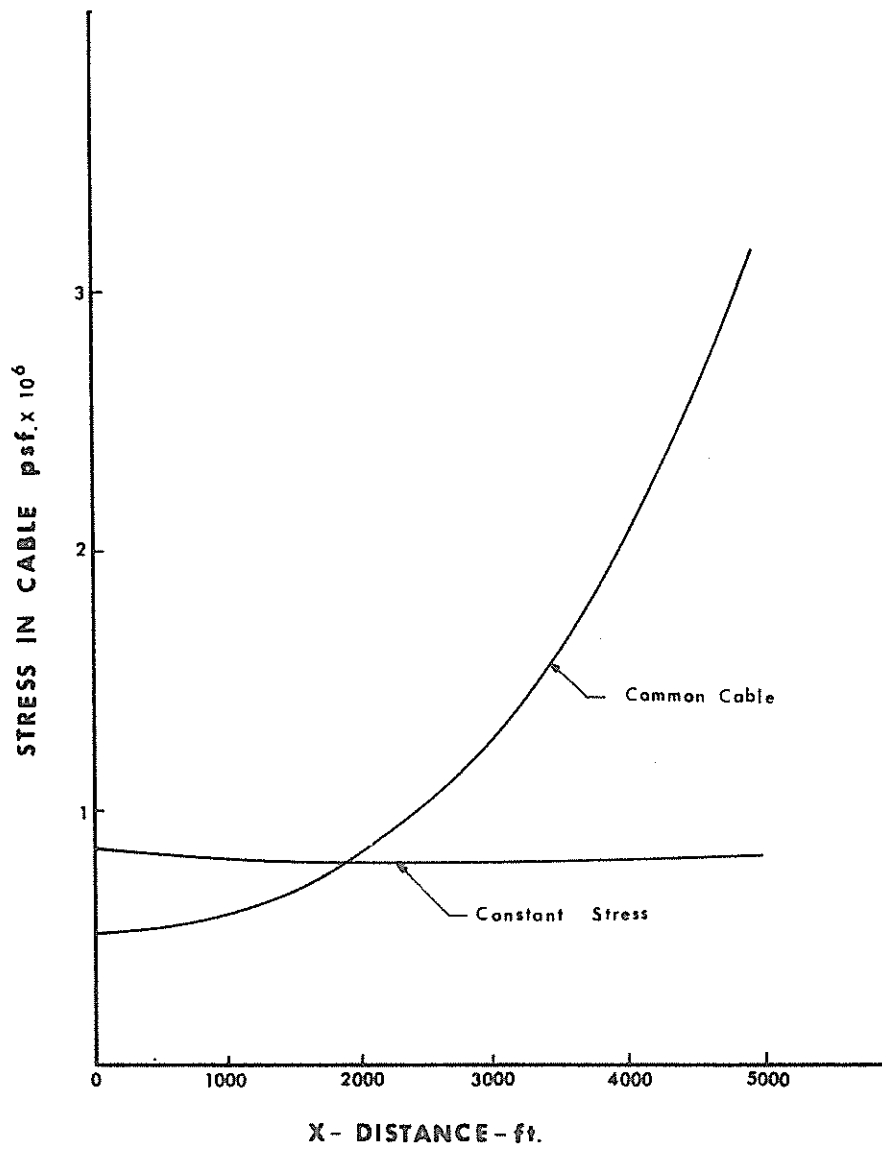


Fig. 28 Cable Tensile Stress

Table 2. - Comparison - Analytical to  
Finite-Element Simulation

---

Calculated		Finite Element	
X =	Y =	X =	Y =
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
500.00	38.21	488.90	34.96
1000.00	154.67	967.15	143.76
1500.00	355.19	1535.33	373.22
2000.00	650.86	1957.40	623.08
2500.00	1060.78	2526.05	1089.24
3000.00	1618.09	3012.88	1640.62
3500.00	2384.27	3481.24	2359.73
4000.00	3490.12	3988.75	3475.53
4500.00	5298.95	4507.02	5366.95
5000.00	9955.38	4994.43	9999.77