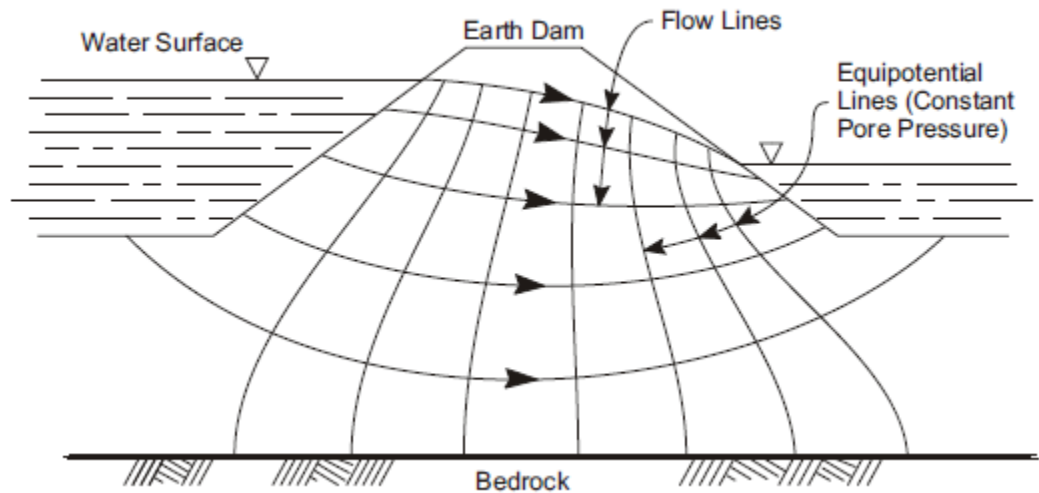# Load pattern

A **load pattern** is the spatial distribution of a specific set of forces, displacements, temperatures, and other effects which act on a structure. Any combination of joints and elements may be subjected to loading and kinematic conditions. Each load pattern is assigned a design type (DEAD, WIND, QUAKE, etc.) which classifies the load and initiates the associated computational process. Users may define an unlimited number of load patterns. Load patterns are then applied through load cases to generate analysis results.

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