

Profile Leveling

## Profile Leveling

- To collect data about topography along a reference line.
- Mainly to compute volumes of cut and fill for a proposed linear structure, such as: highways, railroads, transmission lines, canals. Then the best route can be chosen.
- The result: elevations at definite points (stations) along a reference line, usually the center line.


## Staking and Stationing the Reference Line

- First, topography is studied, a center line is chosen.
- Second, points (stations) are marked (staked). Stations are set at starting and ending points, then intermediate stations.
- Distance between the intermediate stations is usually 100 ft , could be less if topography is rough.
- Stationing: a system adopted to specify the relative positions of points along the reference line.
- Distances are written in the form of a sum: $\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{B}$.
- A is hundreds of feet, B is feet.
- For example station K is $(10+24.5)=$ 1024.5 ft from a certain zero, may not exist.
- First station is usually designated with arbitrary value: $10+00,100+00$
- To compute distances along the line, erase the + sign, and subtract the two numbers
- Distance between the stations: $(20+68)$ and $(30+34)=3034-2068=966 \mathrm{ft}$
- First a backsight at a BM is observed.
- Then, a number of intermediate foresights are observed at the stations needed, do not have to be at equal distances.
- When the distance becomes too long, or readings become hard to observe, a turning point is constructed.
- You cannot keep the backsight distance equal to the foresight distance.


Figure 5-11 Profile Leveling

- Elevation computation:
- Elevation of line of sight (LS) $=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{BM}}+\mathrm{BS}_{\mathrm{BM}}$.
- Elevation of any intermediate point $=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{LS}}-\mathrm{FS}_{\mathrm{IP}}$.
-Handle new level positions as in differential leveling, construct a turning point and knowing BS and FS readings, compute a new elevation of line of sight.
- See figure (5-12) page 119 for example of field data and adjustment.


A LEVELING PROCESS THAT INCLUDED 6 POINTS AND 7 READINGS.

Example: Compute the elevations of points 1 through 5 if the elevation of the BM is 22.13 ft

| Point | BS | IS | FS | $\mathrm{HI}=$ <br> $\mathrm{E}+\mathrm{BS}$ | Elevation (E) <br> $=\mathrm{HI} ~-~(I S ~ o r) ~ F S ~$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |$|$| BM 761 | 2.11 |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 |  | 1.14 |  |  |
| 2 |  | 0.95 |  |  |
| 3 | 1.76 |  | 0.84 |  |
| 4 | 2.01 |  | 1.55 |  |
| 5 |  |  | 1.88 |  |

Answer

| Point | BS | IS | FS | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{HI}= \\ & \mathrm{E}+\mathrm{BS} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Elevation (E) } \\ & =\text { HI - (IS or FS) } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BM 761 | 2.11 |  |  | $\begin{array}{\|c} \overline{2} 2.24 \\ 22.14 \end{array}+$ | 22.13 |
| 1 |  | 1.14 |  |  | 2324024-1.14 |
| 2 |  | 0.95 |  |  | 23:494-0.95 |
| 3 | 1.76 |  | 0.84 | $\begin{aligned} & 233.40+ \\ & 1.76 \\ & 1.76 \end{aligned}$ | 2324024-0.84 |
| 4 | 2.01 |  | 1.55 | $\begin{aligned} & 2.2 .3 .31+ \\ & 2.012 \\ & 2.0 \end{aligned}$ | 2234.86-1.55 |
| 5 |  |  | 1.88 |  | $23254.32-1.88$ |

PROFILE LEVELS


BM ROAD to BM STORE

BM Road 3 miles SW of Mpls. 200 yrds. N of Pine St. over pass LOft. E of \&HWY. 169 Top of
RW conc post No. 268 .
Hwy. 169, painted "X"


Page Check:
E gutter. Maple St.
\&Maple St.
W gutter. Maple St.
$+20.05$
$-17.49$
$+2.56$
$\frac{360.48}{363.04}$

Summit 363.04-363.01 $=$ Misclosure $=0.03$

Top of E curb, Elm St.
Bottom of E curb, Elm St.
$\Perp$ Elm St.
BM Store. NE corner Elm St. \& 4th Ave. SE corner Store foundation wall. 3" brass disc set in grout. BM store elev. $=363.01$
O. $\theta . J$ ins

## Drawing and Using Profiles

- Drawn using a software now.The following is for reference only, will not be in exams.
- To manually draw a profile and compute earthwork:
\{the following is for reference only, will not be included in exams\}
- Assume the horizontal axis is the distance and the vertical axis is the elevation.
- Use a larger scale for the elevation than the distance scale, usually 10 times larger.
- Draw the design line at the proposed grade.
- Compute the areas of cut and fill.
- Multiply area by width to get volumes.
- Gradient (percent grade) is the rise or fall in ft per 100 ft , or meter per 100 meter.


