

Reg No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**APJ ABDUL KALAM TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY**  
**FOURTH SEMESTER B.TECH DEGREE EXAMINATION(S), DECEMBER 2019**

**Course Code: CE208**

**Course Name: GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING I**

Max. Marks: 100

Duration: 3 Hours

**(Graph sheets may be supplied on request)**

**PART A**

*Answer any two full questions, each carries 15 marks*

Marks

- 1 a) Define void ratio, porosity, air content and percentage of air voids. 5
- b) An embankment having total volume of  $2500 \text{ m}^3$  is to be constructed having bulk density of  $1.98 \text{ gm/cm}^3$  and placement water content of 18%. The soil is to be obtained from either borrow area A or borrow area B which has void ratio of 0.78 and 0.69 respectively. The water contents of these areas 16% and 12% respectively. If the cost of excavation is Rs.  $36/\text{m}^3$  from each area. The cost of transportation is Rs.33 and Rs.37 per  $\text{m}^3$  from borrow area A and borrow area B respectively. Which area is more economical? Take specific gravity of soils as 2.66. 10
- 2 a) With the help of particle size distribution graph, define the following (i) Well graded soil (ii) poorly graded soil (iii) gap graded soil 5
- b) The wet weight of the soil specimen having size 40 mm diameter and 80 mm height is 1.6N. Its weight after 24 hrs of oven drying is 1.4N. Determine the water content, dry unit weight, bulk unit weight, void ratio and degree of saturation. The specific gravity of soil can be taken as 2.7. 10
- 3 a) Sketch the plasticity chart used for classifying a fine-grained soil. Classify the soil as per IS classification system 7  
 Percentage of soil finer than 75-micron sieve = 14%  
 Percentage of soil finer than 4.75 mm sieve = 63%  
 Liquid limit = 28%  
 Plasticity index = 12%
- b) An air-dried soil sample weighting 500 gm was sieved in the laboratory. The results are given below. Draw the grain size distribution curve and find the uniformity coefficient, coefficient of curvature, effective size, percentage of gravel and percentage of sand. 8

IS sieve (mm)	4.75	2.0	1.0	0.425	0.212	0.15	0.075	pan
Mass retained (gm)	10	165	100	85	40	30	50	20

**PART B**

*Answer any two full questions, each carries 15 marks*

- 4 a) Determine the ratio of average coefficient of permeability in the horizontal to vertical direction for a deposit consists of three layers 6m, 1.5m and 3m and having coefficient of permeability  $2.5 \times 10^{-2}$  mm/s,  $3.5 \times 10^{-5}$  mm/s,  $4.5 \times 10^{-2}$  mm/s. Assume the layer to be isotropic. 7
- b) A direct shear test was conducted on sand gave a failure shear stress of  $70 \text{ kN/m}^2$  when the normal stress was  $200 \text{ kN/m}^2$ . Draw the mohr circle, mohr failure envelope and find the angle of shear resistance. Find the principal stresses at failure and orientation principal planes. 8
- 5 a) State and explain Darcy' s law. 4
- b) In a variable head permeability test the initial head is 50 cm. The head drops by 15cm in 15 minutes. Find the time required to run the test for the final head to become 20 cm. Take the height and cross sectional area of the soil sample as 6 cm and  $50 \text{ cm}^2$  respectively. Take the area of stand pipe as  $0.5 \text{ cm}^2$ . 5
- c) An unconfined compression test was conducted on clay sample 150 mm diameter and 300 mm height. The failure load was 150N and axial deformation at the time of failure was 3 mm. Find the cohesive strength of the soil. 6
- 6 a) Write the merits and demerits of direct shear test 6
- b) A soil profile consists of surface layer of gravel 4 m thickness having density  $17 \text{ kN/m}^3$ , an intermediate layer of clay 3.5m thickness having saturated density  $18 \text{ kN/m}^3$  and bottom layer of sand 4 m thickness having saturated density of  $19 \text{ kN/m}^3$ . The water table is at 4m from ground level. Determine the total stress, neutral stress and effective stress at bottom and interface layers. 9

**PART C**

*Answer any two full questions, each carries 20 marks*

- 7 a) Define normally consolidated soil, over consolidated soil and under consolidated soil. 5
- b) Write down the weight of hammer, height of fall, number of layers, volume of the mould and number of blows per layer for I.S.Light compaction test. 7.5
- c) At a site the soil consists of sand up to 3.5m depth and from 3.5m to 7m the soil is normally consolidated clay. The water table is at 1.5m from ground level. The density of sand is  $19 \text{ kN/m}^3$  above the water table and  $20 \text{ kN/m}^3$  below the water table. The natural water content and specific gravity of clay are 60% and 2.65 respectively. The liquid limit of clay is 75%. Estimate the probable settlement of clay layer, if the pressure at mid-height of clay layer increases by 40kPa. 7.5
- 8 a) Explain the method to find the preconsolidation pressure. 6
- b) Explain the procedure for determination of coefficient of consolidation by logarithm of time fitting method. 6

- c) An undisturbed sample of clay 20mm thickness consolidated 50% in 25 minutes 8  
in the laboratory when drainage allowed at top and bottom. The same clay having  
thickness 5m exist in the filed with sandy layer at top and bottom of clay. Find  
the time required to consolidate 50% and 90% in the field.
- 9 a) Find the factor of safety with respect to cohesion of clay laid at a slope of 1 in 2 5  
for a height of 12m. The angle of friction and cohesive strength are respectively  
 $10^0$  and  $30 \text{ kN/m}^2$ . Take the density of soil as  $20 \text{ kN/m}^3$ . The stability number for  
the given condition is 0.064.
- b) Explain Swedish circle method 7
- c) The maximum dry density of a soil sample obtained from light compaction test is 8  
 $1.85 \text{ g/cc}$  and optimum moisture content is 14%. If the specific gravity of solids  
is 2.65, determine the degree of saturation of soil at OMC and the dry density  
corresponding to zero air void condition at OMC.

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