

# Geotechnical Engg :-

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## Introduction :-

It is the branch of civil Engg. concerned with the engineering behaviour of earth material.

→ The engineer determines & designs the type of foundations, earthworks, & pavement subgrades required for the man made structures to the building.

## Soil & Soil Engg :-

Soil engineering is a specialized engineering discipline that helps in understanding the behaviours of soil.

→ Soil mechanics is the branch of soil physics & applied mechanics that describes the behaviour of soils.

## SCOPE of soil mechanics :-

→ Soil mechanics is used to analyze the deformation of & flow of fluids within natural & man-made structures.

→ That are supported on made of soil or structures. Ex: - Applications are building & bridge foundations, retaining walls, dams, & pipeline systems.

## Origin & Formation of soil :-

→ Soils are formed from hard rock masses, loose unconsolidated transported materials & organic residue.

⇒ The term soil is derived from the Latin word "solum".

→ According to soil scientists, soil means that part of the earth's crust that have been changed as a result of soil formation processes.

Origin of soil :-

Formation of soil

Each environment has its own combination of soil-forming factors such as climate, parent material, topography, organisms.

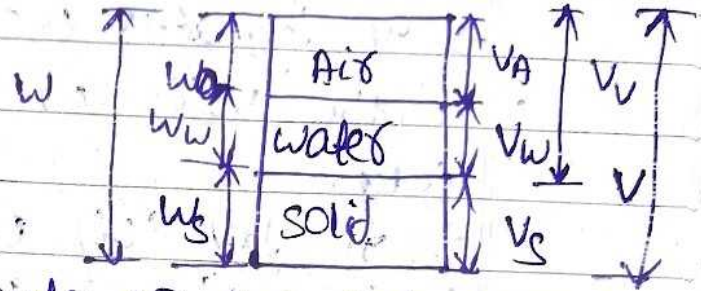
Soil Forming Factor :-

- (1) Geologic factors
- (2) Climatic factors
- (3) Topographic factors
- (4) Biological factors :-

## Chapter - 2

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### Preliminary Definitions & Relationship Soil as a three phase system:-



→ Soil deposits consists of the soil particles & the void space bet<sup>n</sup> the particles.

→ It consists of solid, liquid & gas particles.

→  $V_a$  = volume of Air

$V_w$  = volume of water

$V_s$  = volume of solid

$V_v$  = volume of void

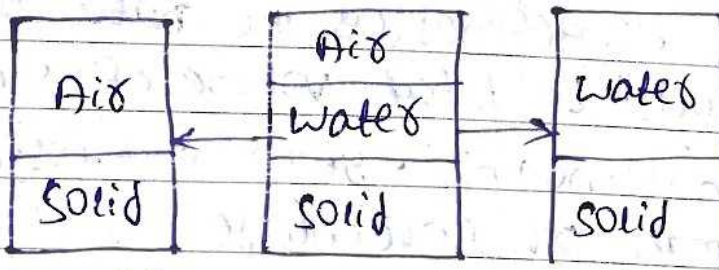
$w_a$  = weight of air

$w_w$  = weight of water

$w_s$  = weight of solid

$W$  = Total weight

$V$  = Total volume



Summer

Rainy season

conversion from 3 phase system.

Water content ( $w$ ): -

It is defined as ratio of weight of water to weight of solid.

- It is also called moisture content
- It has no unit. It is expressed in percentage
- It indicates the amount of water present in the voids in comparison with weight of solids.
- In dry soil water content  $w = 0$ .

$$\rightarrow \boxed{w = \frac{W_w}{W_s}}$$

### Void Ratio (e)

- It is defined as the ratio of volume of voids to volume of solids.
- It has no unit. It is expressed in decimals.
- It indicates the amount of voids present in a soil mass in comparison with the amount of solids.

$$\rightarrow \boxed{e = \frac{V_v}{V_s}}$$

### Porosity (n) :-

- It is defined as the ratio of volume of voids to total volume of soil mass.
- It has no unit. It is expressed in decimals or percentage.
- Its value ranges from 0 to 100%.
- ( $0 < n < 1$ )

$$\rightarrow \text{i.e. } \boxed{n = \frac{V_v}{V}}$$

→ It is denoted by the letter 'w'

→ Mathematically 
$$w = \frac{W_w}{W_s}$$

→ It is expressed as percentage

$$w = \frac{W_w}{W_s} \times 100$$

→ sometime it became more than 100%.

$$w > 100\%$$

→ The water content is also known as moisture content

AIR content ( $a_c$ ) :-

It is the ratio bet<sup>n</sup> volume of air to the volume of void

→ It is denoted by the letter 'ac'

→ Mathematically 
$$a_c = \frac{V_a}{V_v}$$

percentage of air void ( $\eta_a$ ) :-

→ It is the ratio bet<sup>n</sup> volume of air to the total volume

→ It is denoted by the letter ' $\eta_a$ '

→ Mathematically 
$$\eta_a = \frac{V_a}{V}$$

→ It is expressed as percentage

Degree of saturation (S or  $S_r$ ) :-

It is the ratio bet<sup>n</sup> volume of water to volume of void

→ It is denoted by the letter S or  $S_r$

Mathematically 
$$S \text{ or } S_r = \frac{V_w}{V_v}$$

→ It is expressed as percentage

→ BUT in eq<sup>n</sup> it is used as decimal

(i) when  $S = 100\%$  (fully saturated)

(ii) when  $S = 0$  (dry)

### Density of soil :-

It is defined as the mass of soil per unit volume.

### Bulk density ( $\rho$ ) or $\rho_b$ :-

The bulk density is defined as the total mass of the soil per unit of its total volume.

→ It is denoted by the letter  $\rho$ .

mathematically  $\rho = \frac{m}{V}$

It is expressed in terms 'S'

C.G.S.  $\text{g/cm}^3$  (C.G.S.)

M.K.S.  $\text{kg/m}^3$

### Dry density :-

→ It is the mass of solid per unit of total volume of soil mass.

→ It is denoted by the letter  $\rho_d$ .

mathematically  $\rho_d \text{ or } \rho_s = \frac{m_d}{V}$

### Density of solid :-

→ It is denoted by the letter  $\rho_s$ .

→ The density of solid is defined as the mass of soil solid per unit volume of solid.

mathematically  $\rho_s = \frac{m_d}{V_s}$

Q(1)

### Relationship betn $e$ and $\eta$ :-

soln :-  $e = \frac{V_v}{V_s}$

$\eta = \frac{V_w}{V}$

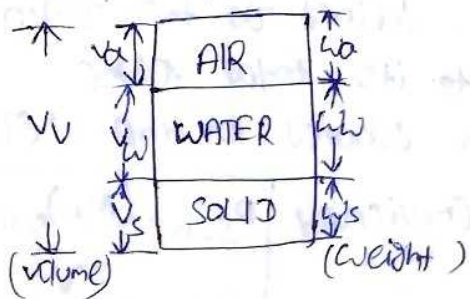
We know that

$e = \frac{V_v}{V_s}$  &  $\eta = \frac{V_w}{V}$

$\frac{1}{\eta} = \frac{1}{\frac{V_w}{V}}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\eta} = \frac{1}{V_w} \times V$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\eta} = \frac{V}{V_w} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\eta} = \frac{V_w + V_s}{V_w}$  ( $\because V = V_w + V_s$ )



23.1.13

Dividing right hand vs in Numerator & Denominator

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\eta} = \frac{\frac{V_w + V_s}{V_s}}{\frac{V_w}{V_s}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\eta} = \frac{\frac{V_w}{V_s} + \frac{V_s}{V_s}}{\frac{V_w}{V_s}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\eta} = \frac{\frac{V_w}{V_s} + 1}{\frac{V_w}{V_s}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\eta} = \frac{e+1}{e}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cancel{\eta}e + \cancel{e}\eta = e$$

$$\Rightarrow e = \eta(e+1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \eta = \frac{e}{e+1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \eta(e+1) = e$$

$$\Rightarrow \eta e + \eta = e$$

$$\Rightarrow \eta = e - \eta e$$

$$\Rightarrow \eta = e(1 - \eta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{e = \frac{\eta}{1 - \eta}}$$

Saturated density :-

→ It is the ratio bet<sup>n</sup> saturated mass - or solid, solid to its total volume

→ It is denoted by the letter 'P<sub>sat</sub>'.

→ mathematically  $\boxed{P_{sat} = \frac{(M_d)_{sat}}{V}}$

Submerged density (P<sub>sub</sub>) or P' :-

→ It is defined as the ratio bet<sup>n</sup> submerged mass of solid to its total volume

→ It is denoted by the letter 'P<sub>sub</sub>' or P

→ mathematically  $\boxed{P_{sub} = \frac{(M_d)_{sub}}{V}}$

$$\& \boxed{P' = P_{sat} - P_w}$$

→ when  $\rho_w =$  density of water in one gram per  $\text{cm}^3$  or  $\text{gm}/\text{cm}^3$

$$\rho_w = 1 \text{ gm}/\text{cm}^3$$

Bulk unit weight / Total unit of weight / weight unit weight :-

→ It is defined as the ratio bet<sup>n</sup> total weight to total volume

→ It is denoted by the letter ' $\gamma$ '

$$\gamma = \frac{W}{V}$$

→ It is expressed in terms of  $\text{KN}/\text{m}^3$

Dry unit weight :-

It is the ratio bet<sup>n</sup> weight of solid to its total volume.

→ It is denoted by the letter ' $\gamma_d$ '

→ Mathematically  $\gamma_d = \frac{W_d}{V}$

$$\text{or } \gamma_s = \frac{W_s}{V}$$

Saturated unit weight :-

→ It is the ratio bet<sup>n</sup> saturated weight of soil solid to its total volume.

→ It is denoted by the letter ' $\gamma_{\text{sat}}$ '

→ Mathematically  $\gamma_{\text{sat}} = \frac{(W_d)_{\text{sat}}}{V}$

Submerged unit weight :-

→ It is the ratio bet<sup>n</sup> submerged weight of soil solid to its total volume.

→ It is denoted by the letter ' $\gamma_{\text{sub}}$ ' or ' $\gamma'$ '

→ Mathematically  $\gamma_{\text{sub}} = \frac{(W_d)_{\text{sub}}}{V}$

$$\text{or } \gamma' = \gamma_{\text{sat}} - \gamma_w$$

where  $\gamma_w =$  unit weight of water ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) =  $9.81 \text{ KN}/\text{m}^3$

or  $1000 \text{ KN}/\text{m}^3$



(2) Relationship between  $a_c$  &  $S$

Ans:- From the definition

$$a_c = \frac{V_a}{V_v}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_c = \frac{V_v - V_w}{V_v}$$

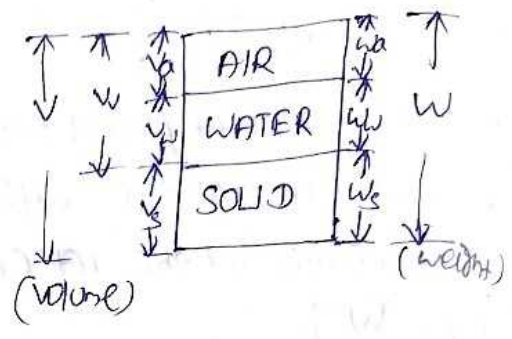
Dividing right hand side  $V_v$  on the numerator & denominator

$$\Rightarrow a_c = \frac{\frac{V_v}{V_v} - \frac{V_w}{V_v}}{\frac{V_v}{V_v}}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_c = \frac{V_v - V_w}{V_v} \Rightarrow a_c = \frac{V_v}{V_v} - \frac{V_w}{V_v} \times \frac{V_v}{V_v}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_c = \frac{V_v}{V_v} - \frac{V_w}{V_v} \times 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{a_c = 1 - S}$$



(3) Derive the relationship between  $\eta_a$ ,  $a_c$  &  $\eta$ ?

Soln:- From the definition

$$\text{Percentage of air void } (\eta_a) = \frac{V_a}{V}$$

$$\text{Air content } a_c = \frac{V_a}{V_v}$$

$$\text{Porosity } (\eta) = \frac{V_v}{V}$$

Dividing

$$\eta_a = \frac{V_a}{V}$$

Dividing right hand side  $V_v$  on the numerator & denominator

$$\Rightarrow \eta_a = \frac{V_a}{V_v} \times \frac{V_v}{V}$$

$$\Rightarrow \eta_a = \frac{V_a}{V_v} \times \frac{V_v}{V}$$

$$\Rightarrow \eta_a = \frac{V_a}{V_v} \times \eta$$

$$\Rightarrow \eta_a = a_c \times \eta \Rightarrow \boxed{\eta_a = \eta \times a_c}$$

Relationship between

specific gravity ( $G_s$ ) :-

specific gravity is defined as the ratio of the weight of a given volume of soil at a given temp. to the weight of an equal volume of water at the same temp.

→ It is denoted by the letter  $G_s$

→ mathematically  $G_s = \frac{\gamma_s}{\gamma_w}$

④ Relationship between  $e, w, G_s$  &  $S$  :-

$$e = \frac{wG_s}{S}$$

Ans: From the definition

$$e = \frac{V_w}{V_s}$$

From the definition

$$w = \frac{W_w}{W_s}$$

From the definition

$$\text{Specific Gravity } G_s = \frac{\gamma_s}{\gamma_w}$$

From the definition

$$S = \frac{V_w}{V_v}$$

From the definition

$$\gamma_s = \frac{W_s}{V_s}$$

From the definition

$$\gamma_w = \frac{W_w}{V_w}$$

$$\frac{\gamma_s}{1} = \frac{W_s}{V_s}$$

$$\Rightarrow W_s = \gamma_s \cdot V_s$$

$$\gamma_w = \frac{W_w}{V_w}$$

$$\Rightarrow W_w = \gamma_w \cdot V_w$$

Putting the value

$$w = \frac{W_w}{W_s}$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega = \frac{\gamma_w \cdot V_w}{\gamma_s \cdot V_s} \quad \dots (1)$$

From the definition

$$G = \frac{\gamma_s}{\gamma_w}$$

$$\Rightarrow \gamma_s = G \cdot \gamma_w$$

Now putting the value of  $\gamma_s$  in eq<sup>n</sup> (1)

$$\omega = \frac{\gamma_w \cdot V_w}{G \cdot \gamma_w \cdot V_s} = \frac{V_w}{G \cdot V_s}$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega = \frac{1}{G} \times \frac{V_w}{V_s}$$

dividing right hand side  $V_w$

$$\Rightarrow \omega = \frac{1}{G} \times \frac{\frac{V_w}{V_w}}{\frac{V_s}{V_w}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega = \frac{1}{G} \times \frac{V_w}{V_w} \times \frac{V_w}{V_s}$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega = \frac{1}{G} \times s \times e$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega = \frac{se}{G}$$

$$\Rightarrow se = \omega G$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{e = \frac{\omega G}{s}}$$

⑤ Relationship between  $\gamma_d, G, e, \omega$

$$\boxed{\gamma_d = \frac{G \gamma_w}{1+e}}$$

⑥ Relationship between  $e, s, \gamma_a$

$$\boxed{\gamma_a = \frac{e - se}{e + 1}}$$

⑦ Relationship between  $\gamma, G, s, e$  &  $\gamma_w$

$$\boxed{\gamma = \frac{(G + se) \gamma_w}{1+e}}$$

⑧ Relationship between  $\gamma_d, \gamma$  &  $\omega$

$$\boxed{\gamma_d = \frac{\gamma}{1+\omega}}$$

④ Relationship between  $\gamma_d$ ,  $G$ ,  $w$  &  $\eta$

$$\gamma_d = \frac{(1-\eta)G\gamma_w}{1+eG}$$

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⑤ Relationship between  $\gamma_d$ ,  $G$ ,  $e$ ,  $w$  :-

$$\gamma_d = \frac{G\gamma_w}{1+e}$$

Soln:- From the definition

$$\text{Dry unit weight } (\gamma_d) = \frac{W_d}{V} = \frac{W_s}{V} \quad \dots (1)$$

$$\text{or } \gamma_s = \frac{W_s}{V_s}$$

$$\Rightarrow W_s = \gamma_s \cdot V_s$$

Specific gravity

$$G = \frac{\gamma_s}{\gamma_w}$$

$$\Rightarrow \gamma_s = G \cdot \gamma_w$$

Putting the value of  $W_s$  in eq<sup>n</sup> (1) we get

$$\gamma_d = \frac{\gamma_s \cdot V_s}{V} \quad \dots (2)$$

Putting the value of  $W_s$  in eq<sup>n</sup> (2) we get

$$\gamma_d = \frac{G \cdot \gamma_w \cdot V_s}{V}$$

Dividing right hand side  $V_s$  we get

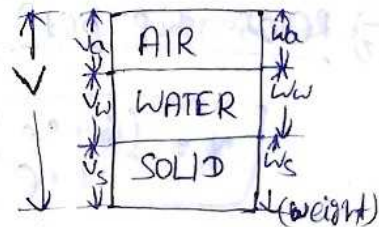
$$\gamma_d = \frac{G \cdot \gamma_w \cdot V_s}{\frac{V}{V_s}} = \frac{G \cdot \gamma_w}{\frac{V}{V_s}}$$

$$\gamma_d = \frac{G \cdot \gamma_w}{\frac{V_w + V_s}{V_s}} \quad [\because V = V_w + V_s]$$

$$\gamma_d = \frac{G \cdot \gamma_w}{\frac{W}{\gamma_w} + \frac{V_s}{\gamma_w}}$$

$$= \frac{G \cdot \gamma_w}{e+1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \gamma_d = \frac{G \cdot \gamma_w}{1+e}$$



A sample of wet soil has a volume of  $0.0192 \text{ m}^3$  & a mass of  $32 \text{ kg}$ . When the sample is dry in an oven its mass is reduced to  $28.5 \text{ kg}$ . Take specific gravity of soil sample is  $2.65$ . Determine the bulk density, dry density, water content, void ratio &  $\gamma_{\text{sat}}$ .

Soln:- Data given

$$V = \text{volume of soil mass} = 0.0192 \text{ m}^3$$

$$W = \text{weight of mass} = 32 \text{ kg}$$

$$W_s \text{ or } W_d = \text{weight of soil solid} = 28.5 \text{ kg}$$

$$G = \text{specific gravity} = 2.65$$

$$\text{Weight of water } W_w = W - W_s$$

$$= 32 - 28.5 = 3.5 \text{ kg}$$

$$\text{Bulk density } \gamma = \frac{W}{V} = \frac{32}{0.0192} = 1666.667 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

Dry density

$$P_d = \frac{M_d}{V} = \frac{28.5}{0.0192} = 1484.375 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

Water content

$$w = \frac{W_w}{W_s} = \frac{3.5}{28.5} \times 100 = 12.28\%$$

We know the relationship

$$\gamma_d = \frac{G \cdot \gamma_w}{1+e} \quad (\text{where take } \gamma_w = 1000 \text{ kg/m}^3)$$

$$\Rightarrow 1484.375 = \frac{2.65 \times 1000}{1+e}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1484.375 (1+e) = 2.65 \times 1000$$

$$\Rightarrow 1+e = \frac{2.65 \times 1000}{1484.375} = 1.785$$

$$\Rightarrow e = 1.785 - 1 = 0.785$$

We know the relationship

$$\gamma_{\text{sat}} = \frac{\gamma_w (G+se)}{1+e}$$

$$\gamma_{\text{sat}} = \frac{\gamma_w (G+e)}{1+e} \quad (\text{where } s=1)$$

$$= \frac{1000 (2.65 + 0.785)}{1 + 0.785} = 1924.370 \text{ kg/m}^3 \text{ (Ans)}$$

## Chapter 3 Determination of Index Properties

~~10/10~~

### Water content :-

It is the ratio betn weight of water to the weight of solid

→ It is denoted by the letter 'w'

→ It is expressed by Percentage

→ Mathematically  $w = \frac{W_w}{W_s}$

### Determination of Water content :-

The water content of a soil sample can be determined by following method

i) oven drying method

ii) sand bath method

iii) pycnometer method

iv) calcium carbide method

### Oven drying method :-

The oven drying is a laboratory method, this is a very accurate method & quick method.

### procedure :-

→ First take a empty container & clean the container properly. The container weighing balance which is 'W<sub>1</sub>'

→ A specimen of weight wet soil is placed in the container & again weighing the container with wet soil which is 'W<sub>2</sub>'

→ The container is placed in the oven for drying for 24 hours at a temp betn 105°C to 110°C.

→ When the soil is completely drying in the oven <sup>Cool</sup> put the dry soil & again weighing the container with soil after drying which is 'W<sub>3</sub>'.

Mathematically  $w = \frac{\text{Weight of water } W_2 - W_3}{W_3 - W_1} \times 100$

→ If the temp is lower than the 105°C may not be cause completely evaporation of water

→ If the temp. is higher than the 110°C may cause breaking down the crystalline structure of the soil particle.

→ Hence  $105^{\circ}$ - $110^{\circ}$ C temp. is chosen for most of the soil

### Sand bath method :-

#### Procedure

→ Sand bath method is a field method for the determination of water content. This method is rapid but not accurate

#### Procedure :-

→ A sand bath is a large open vessel containing sand to a depth of 5 cm. A tray is taken & weighted which is  $W_1$

→ The specimen of soil sample is taken in a tray & weighted which is  $W_2$

→ The tray is then placed on the sand bath. The sand bath is heated over a stove. Drying takes about 20-60 minutes depending upon the type of soil. During ~~the~~ <sup>steaming</sup> heating the soil specimen is stirred by a knife. When over heating occurs, the white turns brown colour. When drying ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> complete the tray is removed from the sand bath, cooled & weighted which is  $W_3$ .

→ Mathematically water content ( $w$ ) =  $\frac{W_2 - W_3}{W_1 - W_3}$

$$\text{So } w = \frac{W_2 - W_3}{W_1 - W_3} \times 100$$

### Pycnometer method :-

→ This is also a quick method of determining the water content of those soil whose specific gravity accurately known.

→ A pycnometer is a glass jar of about 900 ml capacity.

A conical brass cap having 6 mm diameter hole at ~~top~~ its top. A rubber washer is placed between the conical cap & the jar to prevent leakage of water.

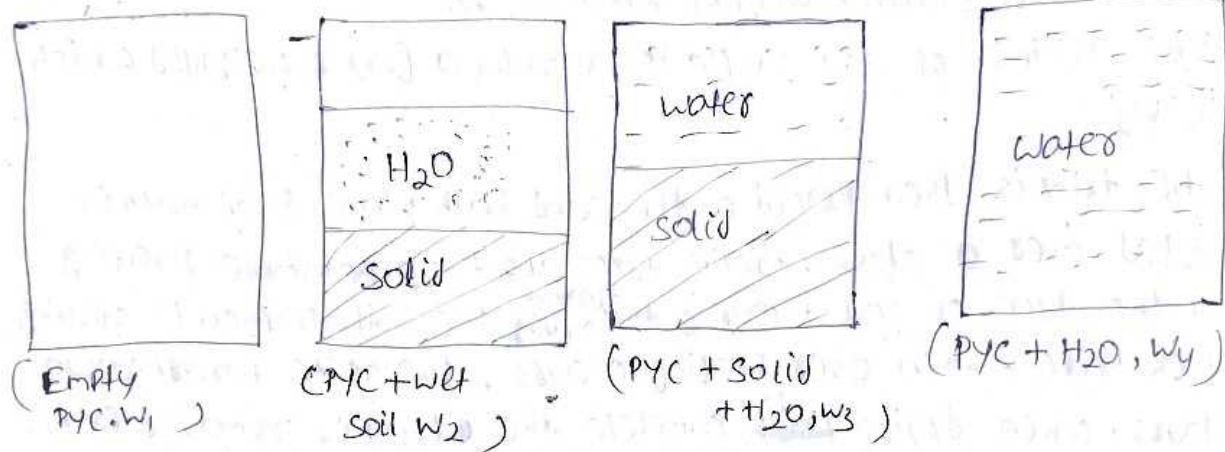
#### Procedure :-

→ Take a clean, dry pycnometer & find its mass <sup>with its</sup> ~~which is~~ cap & washer which is  $W_1$

→ A sample of wet soil about 200 gm. to 400 gm. is taken in the pycnometer & weighted which is  $W_2$

→ ~~Fill~~ Fill the pycnometer to half of its height & mix it thoroughly with the glass rod & more water is added & stir it. Replace the skew top & fill the pycnometer with the hole in the conical cap. Dry the pycnometer from out side & weighted which is  $w_3$

→ Empty the pycnometer clean it slowly thoroughly & fill it with clean water to the whole of the conical cap & wet which is  $w_4$



→ mathematically  
 water content ( $w$ ) =  $\left[ \left( \frac{w_2 - w_1}{w_3 - w_4} \right) \left( \frac{G - 1}{G} \right) + 1 \right] \times 100$

### Problem ✓

A pycnometer test for the determination of water content of a soil sample having sp. gravity 2.70. The weight of moist soil equal to 230.75 gm. weight of pycnometer with full of water is ~~2965~~ 2965.20 gm. weight of pycnometer with soil and water 3092.85 gm. calculate the water content of the soil.

A:- weight of moist/wet soil = 230.75 gm

weight of pycnometer full of water = 2965.20 gm =  $w_4$

Full soil +  $H_2O$  =  $w_3$  = 3092.85 gm

wet of pyc. + moist of soil =  $w_2$

$\Rightarrow w_1 + 230.75 = w_2$

$\Rightarrow w_1 - w_2 = 230.75$  gm

water content  $w$  =  $\left[ \left( \frac{w_2 - w_1}{w_3 - w_4} \right) \left( \frac{G - 1}{G} \right) + 1 \right] \times 100$



$$\Rightarrow W = \left[ \left( \frac{230 \cdot 75}{3092 \cdot 85 - 2965 \cdot 20} \right) \left( \frac{270 - 1}{270} \right) - 1 \right] \times 100$$

$$\Rightarrow W = 13.82\%$$

### Particle size analysis :-

The method of separation of soil into different fraction based on the particle size known as particle size analysis. It is also known as mechanical analysis.

#### TYPE OF Particle size Analysis :-

Mechanical analysis are two type

- sieve analysis
- sedimentation analysis

#### sieve analysis :-

- sieves are designated by the size of square opening in mm or micron
- sieves are various size ranging from 80mm to 75μ are available
- The diameter sieves is generally 15cm to 20cm
- It is meant for coarse grain soil
- The coarse grains soil is divided into two types
  - (i) Gravel fraction
  - (ii) sand fraction

#### Gravel fraction :-

- The sieves size more than 4.75mm is known as gravel fraction.
- A set up coarse grain consisting of the sieves of size 80mm, 40mm, 20mm, 10mm, 4.75mm required for gravel fraction.

#### sand fraction :-

- The sieves size less than 4.75mm is known as sand fraction.
- A set up size consisting of 200μ, 2mm, 1mm, 600μ, 425μ, 212μ, 150μ, 75μ is used for sand fraction.

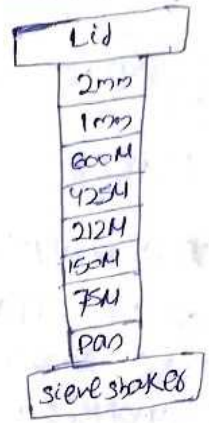
#### Types of sieves analysis :-

There are two types of sieves analysis

- Dry sieves analysis
- weight sieves analysis

Dry sieves Analysis :-

- sieves are over the other with decrease size top to bottom.
- The sieves are stepped one over the other with decreasing size from top to bottom.
- The sample is placed in top sieve.
- The sieve of the largest opening is kept at the top.
- A lid is placed at the top of the largest sieve.
- A pan which has no opening is placed at the bottom of the smallest sieve.
- The set up sieve is kept on the sieve shaker or hand sieving is done for 15 minutes generally.
- The mass of soil retaining on its each sieves & pan is weighted with the help of weighting balancing machine.
- The mass of the retain soil is checked against original mass.



Fines modulus :-

It is ratio of cumulative % of weight retain to the hundred or percent.

Fines modulus =  $\frac{\text{cumulative \% of weight retain}}{100}$

→ It has no unit.

Take total weight - W

Sieve particle size	Weight retained	% of retain	Cumulative % of retain	Percentage of fines
900 mm	$W_1$	$\frac{W_1}{W} \times 100$	$C_1 = P_1$	$100 - C_1$
80 mm	$W_2$	$\frac{W_2}{W} \times 100$	$C_2 = P_1 + P_2$	$100 - C_2$
40 mm	$W_3$	$\frac{W_3}{W} \times 100$	$C_3 = P_1 + P_2 + P_3$	$100 - C_3$
20 mm	$W_4$	$\frac{W_4}{W} \times 100$	$C_4 = P_1 + P_2 + P_3 + P_4$	$100 - C_4$
10 mm	$W_5$	$\frac{W_5}{W} \times 100$	$C_5 = P_1 + P_2 + P_3 + P_4 + P_5$	$100 - C_5$
4.75 mm	$W_6$	$\frac{W_6}{W} \times 100$	$C_6 = P_1 + P_2 + P_3 + P_4 + P_5 + P_6$	$100 - C_6$
2.36 mm	$W_7$	$\frac{W_7}{W} \times 100$	$C_7 = P_1 + P_2 + P_3 + P_4 + P_5 + P_6 + P_7$	$100 - C_7$

## well sieve Analysis :-

If the soil contains substantial quantity (say more than 5%) of fine particles, a well sieve analysis is required.

## Particle size distribution curve :-

→ It indicates the distribution of particle different sizes of soil mass.

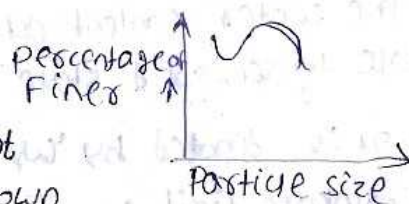
→ It gives idea about the type of gradation of soil.

→ It is also known as gradation of curve.

→ The Particle size distribution curve is plotted on a semi-log graph paper. The Percentage of Finer is plotted as ordinate on a ~~linear~~ <sup>natural</sup> scale & the particle size is plotted as abscissa on logarithm scale. A soil sample may be either well graded or poorly graded.

## Well graded soil :-

If a soil contains the particles of different sizes in good proportion such a soil is known as well graded soil or uniformly graded soil.



## Poorly graded soil :-

When the soil has an ~~excess~~ <sup>excess</sup> of certain particles & deficiency of others is known as poorly graded soil.

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## Consistency of soil :-

→ Consistency of soil means degree of firmness of the soil which may be termed as soft, stiff or hard.

→ As per Swedish agricultural Engineer Atterberg's findings, it is found that a fine grain soil exists in 4 steps

- 1) Liquid state
- 2) Plastic state
- 3) Semi solid state
- 4) Solid state

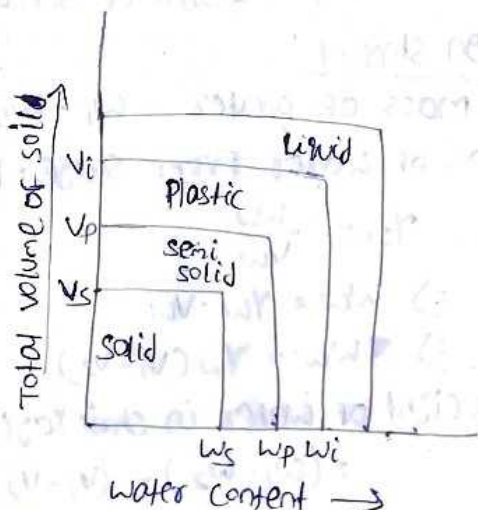
## Consistency limit :-

→ The water content at which the soil changes from one step to another is known as consistency limit.

→ The graph is plotted in between

Total volume of soil and water content.

→ The total volume of soil is plotted as ordinate & the water content is plotted as abscissa.



### Liquid state / Liquid Limit :-

The minimum water content at which the soil remaining liquid state is known as liquid state or liquid limit.

or

→ The water content at which the soil changes from liquid state to plastic state is known as liquid limit.

→ It is denoted by 'WL'.

### Plastic limit :-

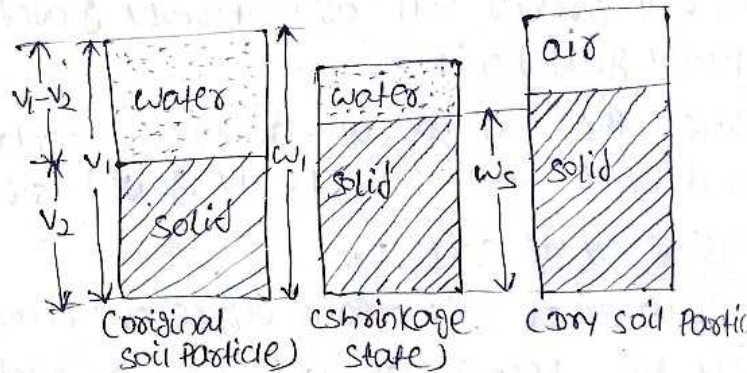
The minimum water content at which the soil remain in plastic state is known as plastic limit.

or

The water content at which the soil changes from plastic state to semisolid state is known as plastic limit.

→ It is denoted by 'WP'.

### Shrinkage Limit :-



Here  $v_1$  = volume of soil sample

$v_2$  = volume of soil at shrinkage state

$w_1$  = Total weight of soil

$w_s$  = weight of solid

### 9th stage - 1

$$\text{mass of water} = w_1 - w_s$$

loss of water from stage - 1 to stage - 2

$$\gamma_w = \frac{w_w}{v_w}$$

$$\Rightarrow w_w = \gamma_w \cdot v_w$$

$$\Rightarrow w_w = \gamma_w (v_1 - v_2)$$

weight of water in shrinkage state

$$= (w_1 - w_s) - (v_1 - v_2) \gamma_w$$

$$\text{Shrinkage limit} = \frac{\text{weight of water in shrinkage state}}{\text{weight of solid in shrinkage state}}$$

Mathematically

$$\frac{(w_1 - w_s) - (v_1 - v_2) \gamma_w}{w_s}$$

Plasticity Index ( $I_p$ ):

→ The difference between <sup>liquid</sup> and plastic limit is known as plasticity index.

→ It is denoted by  $I_p$

→ Mathematically  $I_p = w_L - w_p$

where  $w_L$  = Liquid limit

$w_p$  = Plastic limit

Shrinkage Index ( $I_s$ ):

→ The difference between plastic limit & shrinkage limit is known as shrinkage index.

→ It is denoted by  $I_s$

→ Mathematically  $I_s = w_p - w_s$

where  $w_p$  = Plastic limit

$w_s$  = Shrinkage limit

Liquidity Index ( $I_L$ ):

→ It is denoted by  $I_L$

→ Mathematically  $I_L = \left( \frac{w - w_p}{I_p} \right) \times 100$

where  $I_p$  = Plastic Index

$w_p$  = Plastic limit

$w$  = natural water content

→ When  $w$  becomes  $w_p$  then the liquidity index becomes zero

$$\text{so } w = w_p, \quad I_L = \left( \frac{w_p - w_p}{I_p} \right) \times 100$$

$$I_L = 0$$

→ Then the soil is in hard state. sometimes it is also known as water plasticity ratio.

→ When  $w$  becomes  $w_L$  then the liquidity index is 100% or 1

Hence the soil is in liquid state.

→ Mathematically  $I_L = \left( \frac{w_L - w_p}{I_p} \right) \times 100$

$$I_L = \left( \frac{I_p}{I_p} \right) \times 100$$

$$I_L = 100\% \text{ or } 1$$

### Volumetric shrinkage ( $V_s$ ): -

→ It is denoted by the letter ' $V_s$ '

$$\text{Mathematically } V_s = \left( \frac{V_1 - V_d}{V_d} \right) \times 100$$

where  $V_1$  = volume of soil mass with respect to water content  $w_1$   
 $V_d = V_2$  (volume of soil mass with respect to water content  $w_2$ )

### Shrinkage ratio (SR): -

→ It is denoted by SR.

$$\Rightarrow \text{Mathematically } SR = \left( \frac{\frac{V_1 - V_d}{V_d}}{w_1 - w_2} \right) \times 100$$

### Consistency Index ( $I_c$ ): -

→ It is denoted by  $I_c$ .

$$\text{Mathematically } I_c = \left( \frac{w_L - w}{I_p} \right) \times 100$$

When  $w$  becomes  $w_p$  the consistency index is 100% or 1

$$I_c = \left( \frac{w_L - w_p}{I_p} \right) \times 100$$

$$= \left( \frac{I_p}{I_p} \right) \times 100 = 100\% \text{ (Then the soil is hard or strong)}$$

→ The soil is relatively strong or hard

→ When  $w$  becomes  $w_L$  then the soil is soft

$$\text{Mathematically } I_c = \left( \frac{w_L - w_L}{I_p} \right) \times 100$$

$$I_c = 0 \text{ (Thin the soil is soft)}$$

### Flow Index ( $I_f$ ): -

$$\Rightarrow \text{It is denoted by } I_f = \frac{w_1 - w_2}{\log_{10} \left( \frac{N_2}{N_1} \right)}$$

when  $N_1$  = Number of blows

$w_1$  = Corresponding water content

$N_2$  = Number of blows

$w_2$  = Corresponding water content.

### Toughness Index ( $I_t$ or $I_t$ ): -

$$\text{Mathematically } I_t = \frac{I_p}{I_f}$$

when  $I_p$  = Plastic index

$I_f$  = Flow index.

\* A soil has liquid limit 30% & a flow index 15.5%. If the plastic limit is 15%. Determine the plasticity index, toughness index if the water content of the soil at its natural condition in the fill is 25%. then find the liquidity index & consistency index.

Soln :- Data is given

$$\text{Liquid limit (WL)} = 30\%$$

$$\text{Flow index (IF)} = 15.5\%$$

$$\text{Plastic limit (WP)} = 15\%$$

$$\text{Natural water content (W)} = 25\%$$

$$\text{Plastic index (IP)} = \text{WL} - \text{WP} \\ = 30 - 15 = 15$$

$$\text{Toughness index (IT)} = \frac{\text{IP}}{\text{IF}} = \frac{15}{15.5} = 0.967 \times 100 = 96.77\%$$

$$\text{Liquidity index (IL)} = \left( \frac{\text{W} - \text{WP}}{\text{IP}} \right) \times 100$$

$$= \left( \frac{25 - 15}{15} \right) \times 100 = \left( \frac{10}{15} \right) \times 100 = 66.67\%$$

$$\text{Consistency index (IC)} = \left( \frac{\text{WL} - \text{W}}{\text{IP}} \right) \times 100$$

$$= \left( \frac{30 - 25}{15} \right) \times 100$$

$$= \frac{5}{15} \times 100 = 33.33\%$$

Specific Gravity (G<sub>s</sub>) :-

→ It is denoted by the letter 'G<sub>s</sub>'.

$$G_s = \frac{1}{\left( \frac{1}{S_r} - \frac{W_s}{100} \right)}$$

\* The Atterberg limits of a soil sample are WL = 52%, WP = 35%. W<sub>s</sub> = 14%. If the specimen of the soil shrink from a volume 16 cc at liquid limit 8.2 cc when it is over dried. Calculate shrinkage ratio & specific gravity of soil solid.

Data given :-

$$\text{WL} = 52\% = W_1$$

$$\text{WP} = 35\% = W_2$$

$$W_s = 14\%$$

Find out Shrinkage ratio (S<sub>r</sub>) = ?

Specific gravity (G<sub>s</sub>) = ?

$$\text{Shrinkage ratio (SR)} = \left( \frac{\frac{V_1 - V_2}{V_2}}{W_1 - W_2} \right) \times 100$$

$$= \left( \frac{\frac{16 - 8.2}{8.2}}{52 - 35} \right) \times 100 = 2.5$$

$$\text{Specific gravity (G)} = \frac{1}{\left( \frac{1}{\text{SR}} - \frac{W_s}{100} \right)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\left( \frac{1}{2.5} - \frac{14}{100} \right)} = 3.85$$

### Chapter-4 Permeability

\* What is permeability?

A:- The property of material or soil which permits the passage or seepage of water (other fluids) through its interconnecting voids is known as permeability.

→ A material having continuous voids is called permeable.

→ Gravel are highly permeable.

→ stiff clay is least permeable & hence such a clay may be termed as impermeable.

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### Darcy's Law

→ This law states that "for a laminar flow in a homogeneous soil velocity of flow is directly proportional to the hydraulic gradient."

Mathematically

$V \propto i$   
where  $V$  = velocity of flow  
 $i$  = hydraulic gradient

$$V = Ki$$

or coefficient of permeability



Rate of discharge ( $q$ ) :-

$$q = A \cdot V$$

where  $A$  = Cross sectional area of soil mass

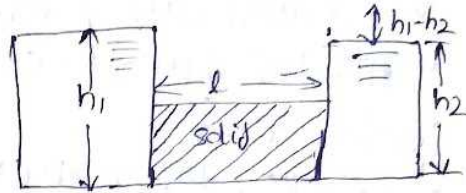
$V$  = velocity

So  $q = K A i$

$$q = K i A \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

If the soil sample of the length ' $L$ ' and

cross sectional area ' $A$ ' is subjected to differential head of water  $(h_1 - h_2)$



Then the hydraulic gradient  $i = \frac{h_1 - h_2}{L}$

Now putting the value in eqn (1) we get

$$q = K \times \frac{h_1 - h_2}{L} \times A$$

Co-efficient of permeability :-

When the hydraulic gradient is unity (means 1) then

$$V = K \times i$$

$$V = K \quad \text{or} \quad K = V$$

Hence the co-efficient of permeability is defined as the average velocity of flow of water through the homogeneous soil mass under unit hydraulic gradient.

Unit of permeability or co-efficient of permeability :-

Unit of permeability is same as velocity i.e. meter/second, m/day or cm/second

Factor affecting permeability :- <sup>15 MP</sup>

The factors affecting permeability can be easily understood from the expression for the co-efficient of permeability.

$$K = DS^2 \times \frac{\gamma_w}{\eta} \times \frac{e^3}{1+e} \times C$$

where  $DS$  = Diameter of spherical grain

$\gamma_w$  = Unit weight of water

$\eta$  = viscosity

$e$  = void ratio

$C$  = constant known as new shape constant

## The factors affecting permeability are

- (i) Grain size
- (ii) properties of pore fluid
- (iii) Effect of void ratio
- (iv) structural arrangement of soil particles
- (v) Entrapped air & foreign matter
- (vi) Adsorbed water in clayey soil

### Grain size :-

→ It indicates, the permeability is directly proportional to grain size.

→ Mathematically

$$K \propto D_s^2$$

$$\Rightarrow K = C D_s^2$$

where  $C = \text{constant}$

$D_s = \text{Diameter of grain}$

Generally,  $D_{10}$  is used here

$$\Rightarrow K = C D_{10}^2$$

where  $D_{10} = \text{Effective size}$

### Properties of pore fluid :-

→ It indicates, the permeability is directly proportional to the unit weight of water & inversely proportional to the viscosity

Mathematically

$$K \propto \gamma_w$$

$$K \propto \frac{1}{\eta}$$

$$\Rightarrow K \propto \frac{\gamma_w}{\eta}$$

$$\Rightarrow K = K_p \cdot \frac{\gamma_w}{\eta}$$

$$\Rightarrow K_p = K \cdot \frac{\eta}{\gamma_w}$$

where  $K_p = \text{constant known as physical permeability constant}$ .

### Effect of void ratio :-

→ Though the unit weight of water does not change with the temp, there is a great variation in viscosity with temp.

### Effect of void ratio :-

→ It indicates that the effect of void ratio on the values of permeability

→ Mathematically

$$\frac{1}{k_2} = \left[ \frac{c_1 e_1^3}{1 + e_1} \right] + \left[ \frac{c_2 e_2^3}{1 + e_2} \right]$$

→ If the void space in a soil particle is more than permeability increases.

Structural arrangement of soil particle: +

→ The fine grain soil with flocculated structure more permeable than the fine grain soil with this dispersed structure.

Entrapped air & Foreign matter:

→ Entrapped air in the void of soil mass decreases the permeability

→ Organic void foreign matter present in the void mass decreases the permeability.

→ Effect adsorbed water in clay soil: -

The adsorbed water surrounding the fine soil particle is not free to move & requires pore space or void space available for passage of water or flow of water. So this presence in soil decreases the permeability.

## Chapter - 5      COMPACTION

Definition: - It is a mechanical method by which pressing the soil particle close to each other

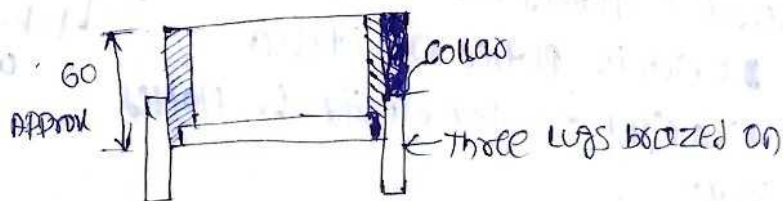
→ Due to compaction, the stability & bearing capacity of soil increases

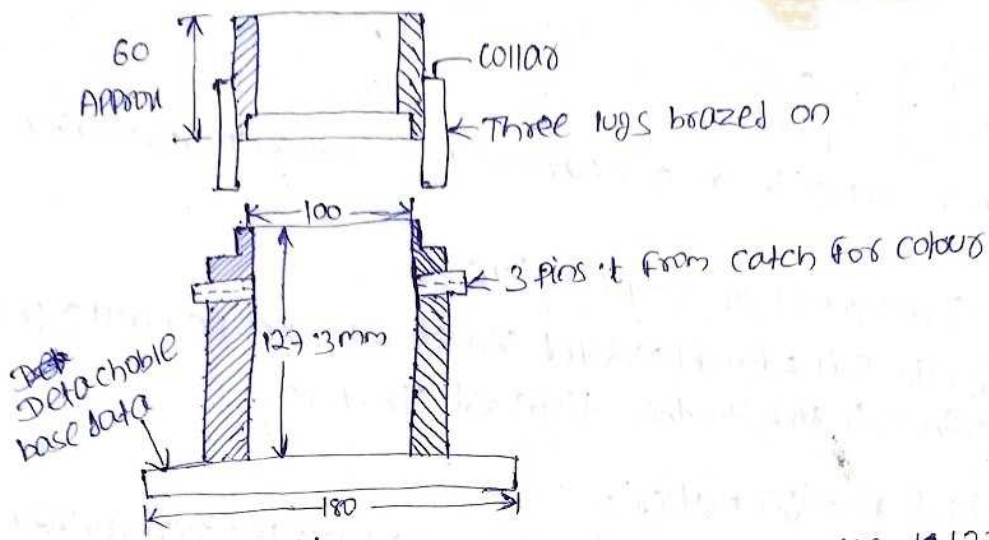
→ Due to compaction, the permeability decreases.

→ It is required for the construction of earth dam, highway & railway.

→ The amount of compaction & water content can be find out by standard Proctor test.

Standard - Proctor test:





→ It consists of a ~~mold~~ mold of 100 mm internal diameter, 127.3 mm height & 1000 ml capacity.

→ The mold has a base plate & removable collar of height 60 mm

→ The required amount of soil is taken in the mold

→ The soil was compacted in the mold 3 equal layers

→ Each layer has given 25 blows

→ A rammer compacted ~~each~~ <sup>is</sup> of weight 2.6 kg mass with a free fall of height 310 mm of collar 60 mm.

→ If the percentage of soil retained on 4.75 mm sieve is <sup>more</sup> ~~more~~ than 20% large mold should be used.

→ The size of mold of diameter of 150 mm height of 127.3 mm & capacity 2250 ml & no. of blows required 28

→ mathematically  $\gamma_d = \frac{\gamma}{1+w}$

where  $\gamma_d$  = dry unit weight

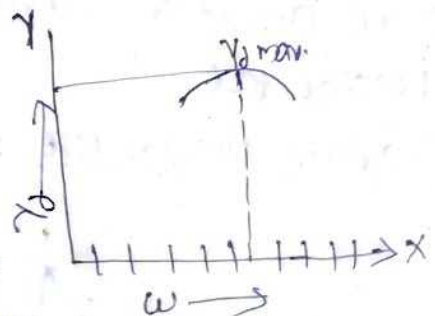
$\gamma$  = bulk unit weight

$w$  = water content

### Compaction Curve :-

→ It is a curve which is plotted on a graph paper

→ This curve is plotted betn the water content & which is plotted as abscissa & dry unit weight or dry density is plotted as ordinate.

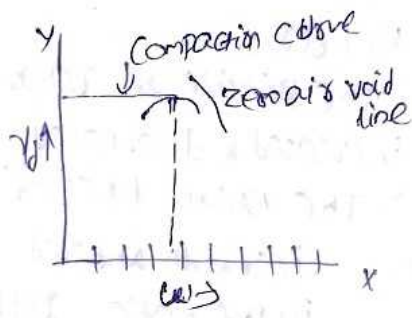


- There is increase in water content  $w$  &  $\gamma_d$  also increases.
- A stage will occur given we will increase the water content then  $\gamma_d$  cannot increase.  $\gamma_d$  value decreases.
- The water content for settling to the maximum dry density is known as optimum moisture content or OMC

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zero air void line :-

→ When there is no air void all degree of saturation is 100% at that



→ instant we can find  $\gamma_d$

→ In this condition the soil became saturated by reduction of  $\gamma_d$  in air void to zero but with no changes with water content.

→ The zero air void line is also known as saturation line

→ The zero air void line curve is plotted between water content & dry density on a graph paper

→ The water content as abscissa & the dry density is plotted as ordinate

→ It is more or less parallel to the right limb of the compaction curve.

→ The soil could also become saturated by increasing the water content such that all air voids are filled

→ The dry density is calculated by following formula

$$\gamma_d = \frac{(1 - m_a) G \gamma_w}{1 + w G}$$

where  $w$  = water content

$G$  = specific gravity

$\gamma_w$  = unit weight

$m_a$  = percentage of air void

Method of Compaction / Field compaction method / method of compaction

used in Field :-

- Several methods are used for compaction of soil in field are
  - Rammer or Tapper
  - Roller
  - Vibrator

## Rammer / Tamber :-

- A hand operated rammer consists of a block of iron or stone about 3-5 kg is mass attach to a wooden rod
- The rammer or tamber is lifted by about .3 m & drop on the soil to be compacted.
- It can be used for all types of the soil
- It is not used where large quantities of soil are involved

## Roller :-

- The principle of rollers is the application of pressure, which is slowly increased & decreased
- The various types of rollers which are used for the compaction are
  - i) Smooth wheeled rollers
  - ii) Pneumatic rollers
  - iii) Sheep's Foot rollers

### Smooth wheeled rollers :-

- The compacting efficiency of the smooth field rollers are suitable to roll a wide range of soils, such as pavement materials for the various layer.

### Pneumatic rollers :-

- This type of rollers are pulled by tractors.
- This type of roller is more suitable to compact the fine sand

### Sheep's foot roller :-

- This type of roller consists of a ~~whole~~ of steel cylinder
- The weight of this type of roller can be increased by filling the drum <sup>with</sup> soil
- This rollers may be <sup>pulled</sup> ~~be~~ by tractors.
- The efficiency of this type of rollers depends on the weight of the roller.
- This type of roller ~~gives~~ <sup>gives</sup> adequate compaction
- However the top layer of the subgrade may be compacted using smooth wheel roller so as to get a properly finished surface.

## vibrator:-

- ⇒ The vibrator consists of vibrating unit
- ⇒ These are used to remove void space
- ⇒ The vibrators are available a variety of form in the market.

## Consolidation :-

Definition :- The compression of saturated soil under steady static pressure is termed as consolidation which is termed as consolidation, it is completely due to expulsion of water from the voids.

→ It is generally related to fine grained soils such as silts & clays. Saturated clay consolidate at a much slower rate due to their low permeability.

## Distinction bet<sup>n</sup> compaction & consolidation :-

### Compaction

- 1) Mechanical process by which unit weight of soil increased at a particular water content
- 2) Expulsion of pore air
- 3) Always partially saturated soil
- 4) Instantaneous process
- 5) Mechanical equipment are used e.g. rammers & rollers.
- 6) Leads to increase in shear strength of soil, stability & bearing capacity.

### Consolidation

- 1) Natural process under sustained load due to which volume of soil decreases gradually.
- 2) Occurs due to expel of pore water.
- 3) Always full saturated soil.
- 4) Time taking process
- 5) Natural process that occurs over long period of time.
- 6) No such benefits.

## Shear strength

### concept of shear strength :-

The shear strength of soil is the resistance to deformation by continuous shear displacement of soil particles or on masses upon the action of a shear stress.



### 18.3. MOHR-COULOMB FAILURE THEORY

Of the many theories of failure that have been proposed, only that formulated by Mohr (1900) has been useful in case of soils. The following are essential points of Mohr's strength theory :

1. Material fails essentially by shear. The critical shear stress causing failure depends upon the properties of the material as well as on normal stress on the failure plane.
2. The ultimate strength of the material is determined by the stresses on the potential failure plane (or plane of shear).
3. When the material is subjected to three dimensional principal stress (i.e.  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3$ ) the intermediate principal stress does not have any influence on the strength of material. In other words, the failure criterion is independent of the intermediate principal stress.

**Note.** For detailed discussions on various theories of failure, see Chapter 19, where the effect of the intermediate principal stress has also been discussed.

The theory was first expressed by Coulomb (1776) and later generalised by Mohr. The theory can be expressed algebraically by the equation.

$$\tau_f = s = F(\sigma) \quad \dots(18.6)$$

where  $\tau_f = s =$  shear stress on failure plane, at failure = shear resistance of material  
 $F(\sigma) =$  function of normal stress

If the normal and shear stress corresponding to failure are plotted, then a curve is obtained. The plot or the curve is called the *strength envelope*. Coulomb defined the function  $F(\sigma)$  as a linear function of  $\sigma$  and gave the following strength equation :

$$s = c + \sigma \tan \phi \quad \dots(18.7)$$

where the empirical constants  $c$  and  $\phi$  represent respectively, the intercepts on the shear axis, and the slope of the straight line of Eq. 18.7 [Fig 18.3 (a)]. These parameters are usually termed as *cohesion* and *angle of internal friction* or *shearing resistance* respectively.

## MEASUREMENT OF SHEAR STRENGTH

The measurement of shear strength of soil involves certain test observations at failure with the help of which the *failure envelope* or *strength envelope* can be plotted corresponding to a given set of conditions (specially the drainage conditions). Shearing resistance can be determined in the laboratory by the following four methods :

- |                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| (1) Direct shear test           | (2) Triaxial shear test |
| (3) Unconfined compression test | (4) Vane shear test.    |

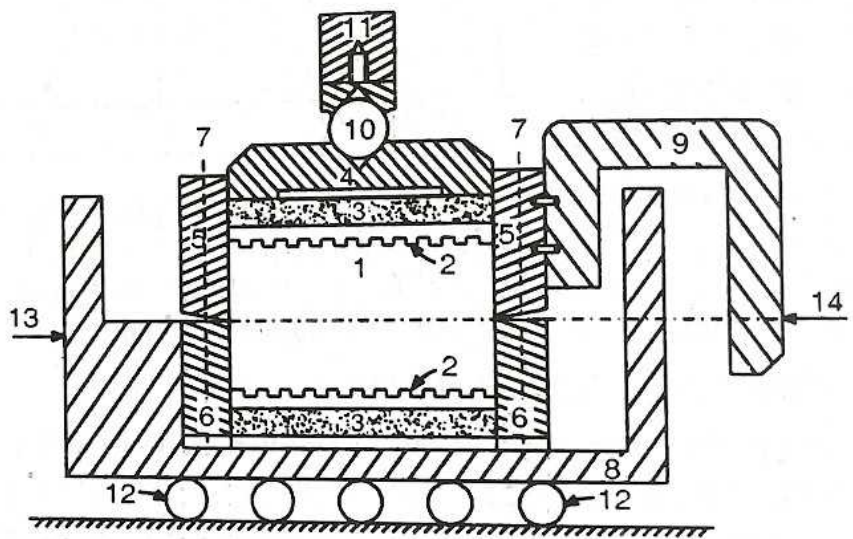
Again depending upon the *drainage conditions*, three types of shear tests have been developed :

- (a) Undrained test or quick test
- (b) Consolidated undrained test
- (c) Drained test.

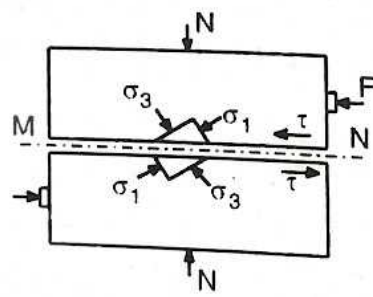
In the *undrained* or *quick test*, no drainage of water is permitted. Hence there is no dissipation of pore pressure during the entire test. In the *drained test*, drainage is permitted throughout the test during the application of both normal and shear stresses, so that full consolidation occurs and no excess pore pressure is set up at any stage of the test. In the consolidated-undrained test, drainage is permitted under the initially applied normal stress only and full primary consolidation or softening is allowed to take place. In this test, drainage is allowed afterwards. The parameters  $c$  and  $\phi$  are not fundamental properties of the soil; they may simply be considered merely coefficients derived from the geometry of the graph obtained by the plotting shear stress at failure against normal stress. They vary with drainage conditions of the test.

### 18.6. DIRECT SHEAR TEST

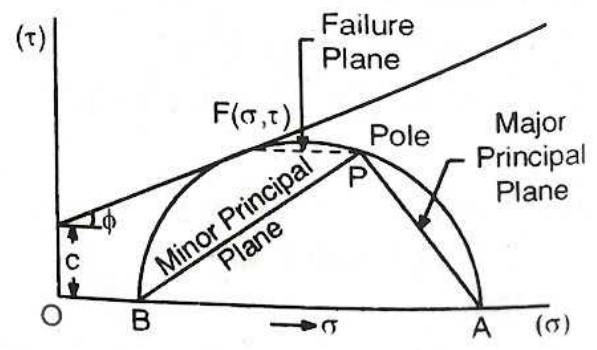
This is a simple and commonly used test and is performed in a shear-box apparatus (Fig. 18.6). The apparatus consists of a two piece shear box of square or circular cross-section. The lower half of the box is rigidly held in position in a container which rests on slides or rollers and which can be pushed forward at a constant rate by geared drives either by electric motor or by hand. The upper half of the box butts against a proving ring. The soil sample is compacted in the shear box, and is held between two metal grids and porous stones (or plates). As shown in Fig. 18.6 (a), the upper half of the specimen is held in the upper box and the lower half in the lower box, and the interface between the two parts of the box is at the level of the centre of the specimen. A load is applied on the specimen from a loading yoke bearing upon steel balls of pre-



(a) Parts of direct shear box.



(b) Principle of direct shear box



(c) Mohr's envelope and principal stresses during the test

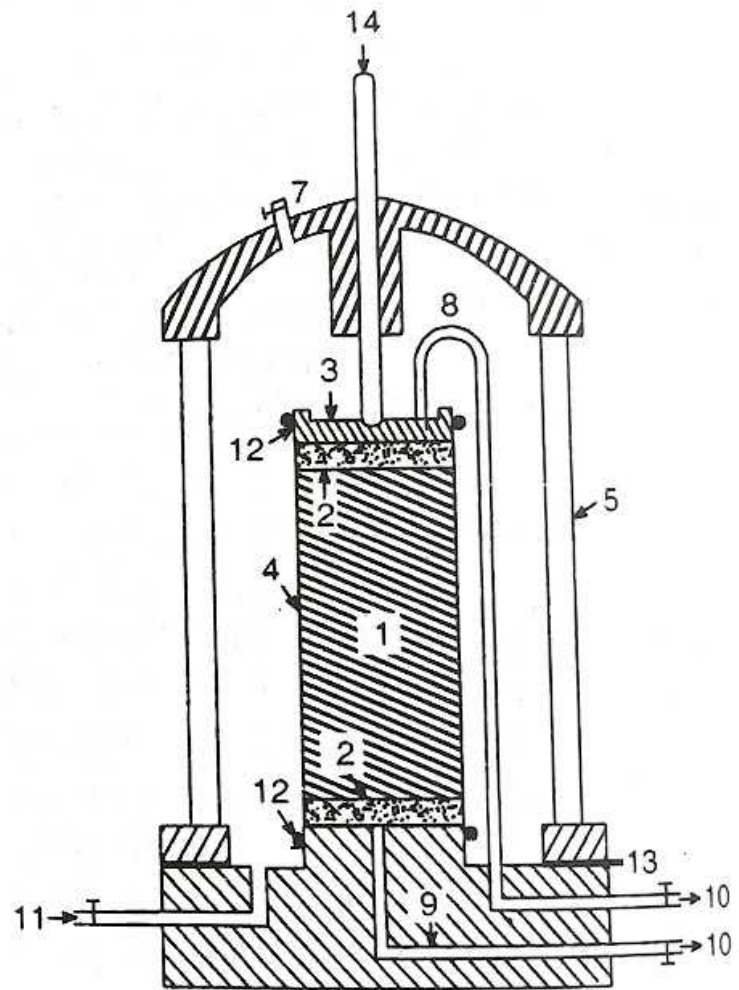
- |                  |                                          |                                               |
|------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1. SOIL SPECIMEN | 6. LOWER PART                            | 11. LOADING YOKE                              |
| 2. METAL GRIDS   | 7. SCREWS TO FIX TWO HALVES OF SHEAR BOX | 12. ROLLERS                                   |
| 3. POROUS STONES | 8. CONTAINER FOR SHEAR BOX               | 13. SHEAR FORCE APPLIED BY JACK               |
| 4. LOADING PAD   | 9. U-ARM                                 | 14. SHEAR RESISTANCE MEASURED BY PROVING RING |
| 5. UPPER PART    | 10. STEEL BALL                           |                                               |

FIG. 18.6. SHEAR BOX TEST.

## 18.7. TRIAXIAL COMPRESSION TEST

The strength test more commonly used in a research laboratory today is the triaxial compression test, first introduced in the U.S.A. by A. Casagrande and Karl Terzaghi in 1936-37. The solid specimen, cylindrical in shape, is subjected to direct stresses acting in three mutually perpendicular directions. In the common solid cylindrical specimen test, the major principal stress  $\sigma_1$  is applied in the vertical direction, and the other two principal stresses  $\sigma_2$  and  $\sigma_3$  ( $\sigma_2 = \sigma_3$ ) are applied in the horizontal direction by the fluid pressure round the specimen.

The test equipment specially consists of a high pressure cylindrical cell, made of perspex or other transparent material, fitted between the base and the top cap. Three outlet connections are generally provided through the base : cell fluid inlet, pore water out let from the bottom of the specimen and the drainage



1. SOIL SPECIMEN
2. POROUS DISC
3. TOP CAP
4. RUBBER MEMBRANE
5. PERSPEX CYLINDER
6. LOADING RAM
7. AIR RELEASE VALVE
8. TOP DRAINAGE TUBE

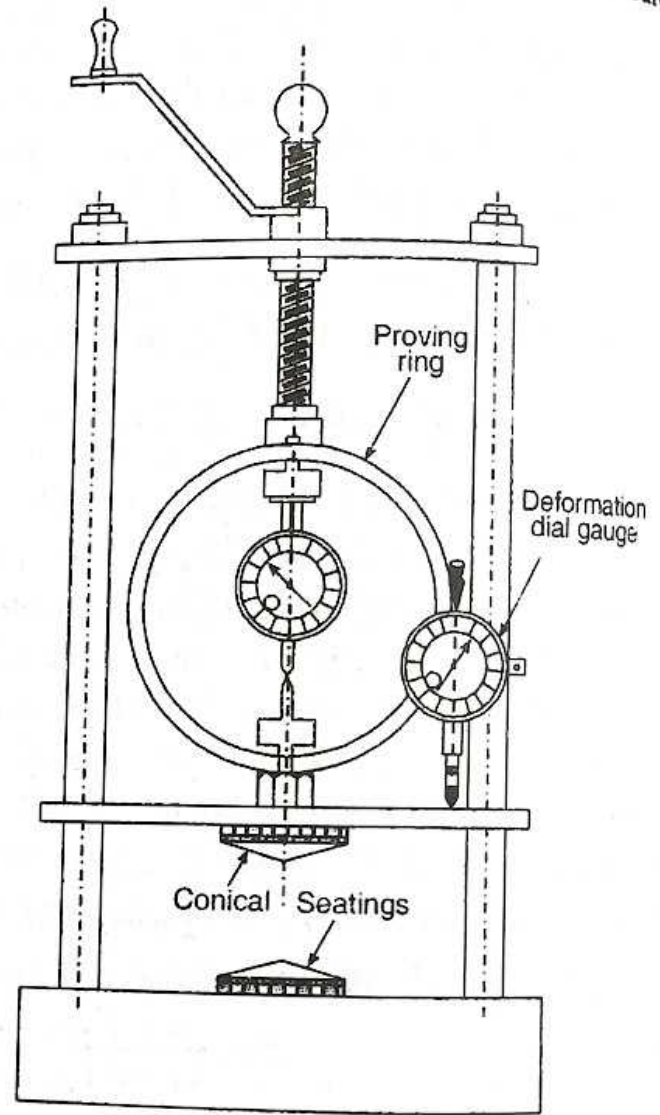
9. BOTTOM DRAINAGE TUBE
10. CONNECTIONS FOR DRAINAGE OR PORE PRESSURE MEASUREMENT
11. CELL FLUID INLET
12. RUBBER RINGS
13. SEALING RING
14. AXIAL LOAD THROUGH PROVING RING

FIG. 18.7. THE TRIAXIAL CELL.

## 18.8. UNCONFINED COMPRESSION TEST

The unconfined compression test is a special case of triaxial compression test in which  $\sigma_2 = \sigma_3 = 0$ . The cell pressure in the triaxial cell is also called the confining pressure. In the absence of such a confining pressure, the uniaxial test is called the unconfined compression test. The cylindrical specimen of soil is subjected to major principal stress  $\sigma_1$  till the specimen fails due to shearing along a critical plane of failure.

In its simplest form, the apparatus consists of a small load frame fitted with a proving ring to measure the vertical stress applied to the soil specimen. Fig. 18.12 (a) shows an unconfined compression tester (Goyal and Singh, 1958). The deformation of the sample is measured with the help of a separate dial gauge. The ends of the cylindrical specimen are hollowed in the form of cone. The cone seatings reduce the tendency of the specimen to become barrel shaped by reducing end-restraints. During the test, load versus deformation readings are taken and a graph is plotted. When a brittle failure occurs, the proving ring dial indicates a definite maximum load which drops rapidly with the further increase of strain. In the plastic failure, no definite maximum load is indicated. In such a case, the load corresponding to 20% strain is arbitrarily taken as the failure load.



(a) The unconfined compression tester

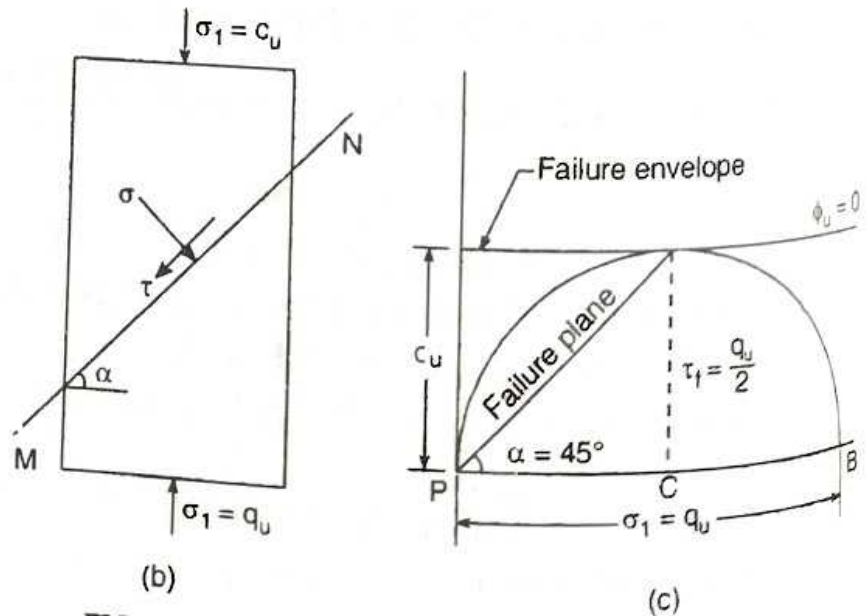


FIG. 18.12. UNCONFINED COMPRESSION TEST.

### 20.3. EARTH PRESSURE AT REST\*

The earth pressure at rest, exerted on the back of a rigid, unyielding retaining structure, can be calculated using theory of elasticity, assuming the soil to be semi-infinite, homogeneous, elastic and isotropic. Consider an element of soil at a depth  $z$ , being acted upon by vertical stress  $\sigma_v$  and horizontal stress  $\sigma_h$ . There will be no shear stress. The lateral strain  $\epsilon_h$  in the horizontal direction is given by :

$$\epsilon_h = \frac{1}{E} [ \sigma_h - \mu (\sigma_h + \sigma_v) ]$$

The earth pressure at rest corresponding to the condition of zero lateral strain ( $\epsilon_h = 0$ ).

Hence  $\sigma_h = \mu (\sigma_h + \sigma_v)$  or  $\frac{\sigma_h}{\sigma_v} = K_0 = \frac{\mu}{1 - \mu} \dots(20.10)$

where  $K_0$  is coefficient of the earth pressure at rest.

Designating the lateral earth pressure ( $\sigma_h$ ) at rest by  $p_0$  and substituting  $\sigma_v = \gamma z$ , we have

$$p_0 = K_0 \gamma z$$

The pressure distribution diagram is thus triangular with zero intensity at  $z = 0$  and an intensity of  $K_0 \gamma H$  at the base of the wall, where  $z = H$ . The total pressure  $P_0$  per unit length for the vertical height  $H$  is given by

$$P_0 = \int_0^H K_0 \gamma z \cdot dz = \frac{1}{2} K_0 \gamma H^2 \dots(20.12)$$

The behaviour of soil is not in accordance with the elastic theory and do not have a well-defined value of the Poisson's ratio. Table 20.1 gives some value of  $K_0$  available from experience.

$$P_0 = \frac{\lambda}{2} \times 0.5010$$

## 20.4. ACTIVE EARTH PRESSURE : RANKINE'S THEORY

As originally proposed, Rankine's theory of lateral earth pressure is applied to uniform cohesionless soils only. Later, it was extended to include cohesive soils, by Resal (1910) and by Bell (1915). The theory has also been extended to stratified, partially immersed and submerged soils. Following are the assumptions of the Rankine theory :

1. The soil mass is semi-infinite, homogeneous, dry and cohesionless.
2. The ground surface is a plane which may be horizontal or inclined.
3. The back of the wall is vertical and smooth. In other words, there are no shearing stresses between the wall and the soil and the stress relationship for any element adjacent to the wall is the same as for any other element far away from the wall.
4. The wall yields about the base and thus satisfies the deformation condition for plastic equilibrium.

However, the retaining walls are constructed of masonry or concrete, and hence the back of the wall is never smooth. Due to this, frictional forces develop. As a consequence of Rankine's assumption of no-existence of frictional forces at the wall face, the resultant pressure must be parallel to the surface of the backfill. The existence of the friction makes the resultant pressure inclined to the normal to the wall at an angle that approaches the friction angle between the soil and the wall.

The following cases of cohesionless backfill will now be considered :

1. Dry or moist backfill with no surcharge.
2. Submerged backfill
3. Backfill with uniform surcharge.



# Bearing Capacity

## 24.1. DEFINITIONS

1. **Footing.** A footing is a portion of the foundation of a structure that transmits loads directly to the soil.
2. **Foundation.** A foundation is that part of the structure which is in direct contact with and transmits loads to the ground.
3. **Foundation soil.** It is the upper part of the earth mass carrying the load of the structure.
4. **Bearing capacity.** The supporting power of a soil or rock is referred to as its bearing capacity. The term bearing capacity is defined after attaching certain qualifying prefixes, as defined below.
5. **Gross pressure intensity ( $q$ ).** The gross pressure intensity  $q$  is the total pressure at the base of the footing due to the weight of the superstructure, self-weight of the footing and the weight of the earth fill, if any.
6. **Net pressure intensity ( $q_n$ ).** It is defined as the excess pressure, or the difference in intensities of the gross pressure after the construction of the structure and the original overburden pressure. Thus, if  $D$  is the depth of footing

$$q_n = q - \bar{\sigma} = q - \gamma D \quad \dots(24.1)$$

where  $\gamma$  is the average unit weight of soil above the foundation base.

7. **Ultimate bearing capacity ( $q_f$ ).** The ultimate bearing capacity is defined as the minimum gross pressure intensity at the base of the foundation at which the soil fails in shear. (When the term bearing capacity is used in this book without any prefix, it may be understood to be ultimate bearing capacity).

8. **Net ultimate bearing capacity ( $q_{nf}$ ).** It is the minimum net pressure intensity causing shear failure of soil. The *ultimate bearing capacity*  $q_f$  and the *net ultimate capacity* are evidently connected by the following relation :

$$q_f = q_{nf} + \bar{\sigma} \quad \dots(24.2) \quad \text{or} \quad q_{nf} = q_f - \bar{\sigma} \quad \dots(24.2 \ a)$$

where  $\bar{\sigma}$  is the *effective surcharge* at the base level of the foundation.

9. **Effective surcharge at the base level of foundation ( $\bar{\sigma}$ ).** It is the intensity of vertical pressure at the base level of foundation, computed assuming total unit weight for

the portion of the soil above the water table and submerged unit weight for the portion below the water table.

10. **Net safe bearing capacity ( $q_{ns}$ ).** The net safe bearing capacity is the net ultimate bearing capacity divided by a factor of safety  $F$

$$q_{ns} = \frac{q_{nf}}{F} \quad \dots(23)$$

11 **Safe bearing capacity ( $q_s$ ).** The maximum pressure which the soil can safely withstand without risk of shear failure is called the safe bearing capacity. It is equal to the net safe bearing capacity plus original overburden pressure:

$$q_s = q_{ns} + \gamma D = \frac{q_{nf}}{F} + \gamma D \quad \dots(24)$$

Sometimes, the safe bearing capacity is also referred to as the ultimate bearing capacity  $q_f$  divided by a factor of safety  $F$ .

12. **Safe bearing pressure or Net soil pressure for specified settlement.** It is the intensity of loading that will cause a permissible settlement or specified settlement for the structure.

13. **Allowable bearing capacity or pressure ( $q_a$ ).** It is the net loading intensity at which neither the soil fails in shear nor there is excessive settlement detrimental to the structure.

## 24.2. MINIMUM DEPTH OF FOUNDATION : RANKINE'S ANALYSIS

Rankine considered the equilibrium of two soil elements, one immediately below the foundation (element I), and the other just beyond the edge of the footing (element II) but adjacent to element I. When the load on the footing increases, and approaches a value  $q_f$ , a state of plastic equilibrium is reached under the footing. For the shear failure element I, element II must also fail by lateral thrust from element I. During the state of shear failure (plastic equilibrium), the following principal stress relationship exists

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 \tan^2 \alpha + 2c \tan \alpha \quad \dots(24.5)$$

For cohesionless soil  $\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 \tan^2 \alpha$  ... (24.5 a)

For element II :  $\sigma_3 = \sigma_v = \gamma D$

$$\therefore \sigma_1 = \sigma_h = \gamma D \tan^2 \alpha \quad \dots(1)$$

For element I :

$$\therefore \sigma_3 = \sigma_h = \sigma_1 \text{ of element II} \\ = \gamma D \tan^2 \alpha$$

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 \tan^2 \alpha = \gamma D \tan^4 \alpha$$

But  $\sigma_1 = q_f$

$$\therefore q_f = \gamma D \tan^4 \alpha = \gamma D \left[ \frac{1 + \sin \phi}{1 - \sin \phi} \right]^2 \quad \dots(24.6)$$

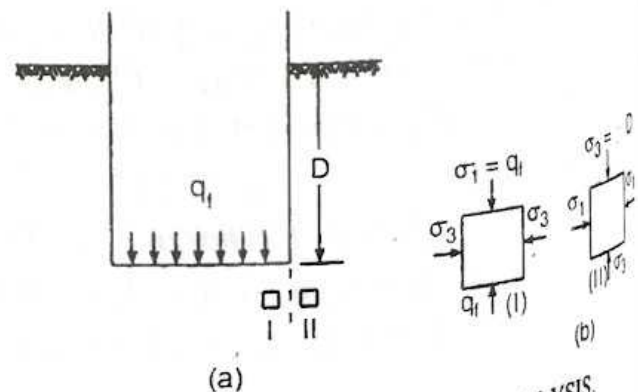


FIG. 24.1. RANKINE'S ANALYSIS.

In the effective stress analysis the above expression reduces to

$$q_f = \gamma D \left[ \frac{1 + \sin \phi'}{1 - \sin \phi'} \right]^2 \quad \dots(24.7)$$

Eq. 24.6 gives the bearing capacity of cohesionless soils as zero at the ground surface. This is not consistent with the general experience. Eq. 24.6 may be used in the following form to get the minimum depth of foundation

$$D_{min} = \frac{q}{\gamma} \left[ \frac{1 - \sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} \right]^2 \quad \dots(24.8)$$

where  $q$  = intensity of loading.

### 24.3. TYPES OF BEARING CAPACITY FAILURES

Experimental investigations have indicated that when a footing fails due to insufficient bearing capacity, distinct failure patterns are developed, depending upon type of failure mechanism. Failure is accompanied by appearance of *failure surfaces* and by building of sheared mass of soil. Vesic (1963) observed three types of bearing capacity failures (Fig. 24.2).

1. General shear failure, 2. Local shear failure and 3. Punching shear failure.

**1. General shear failure :** In the case of *general shear failure*, continuous failure surfaces develop between the edges of the footing and the ground surface, as shown in Fig. 24.2 (a). When the pressure approaches the value of  $q_f$ , the state of *plastic equilibrium* is reached initially in the soil around the edges of the footing, and it then gradually spreads downwards and outwards. Ultimately, the state of plastic equilibrium is fully developed throughout the soil above the failure surfaces. The failure is accompanied by appearance of failure surfaces and by considerable bulging of sheared mass of soil. However, the final slip movement would occur only on one side, accompanied by *tilting* of the footing. Such a failure occurs in soils of *low compressibility*, i.e. dense or stiff soil, and the pressure-settlement curve is of the general form as shown is curve *a* of Fig. 24.2 (d). Following are the typical characteristics of general shear failure.

- (i) It has well defined failure surfaces, reaching upto ground surface

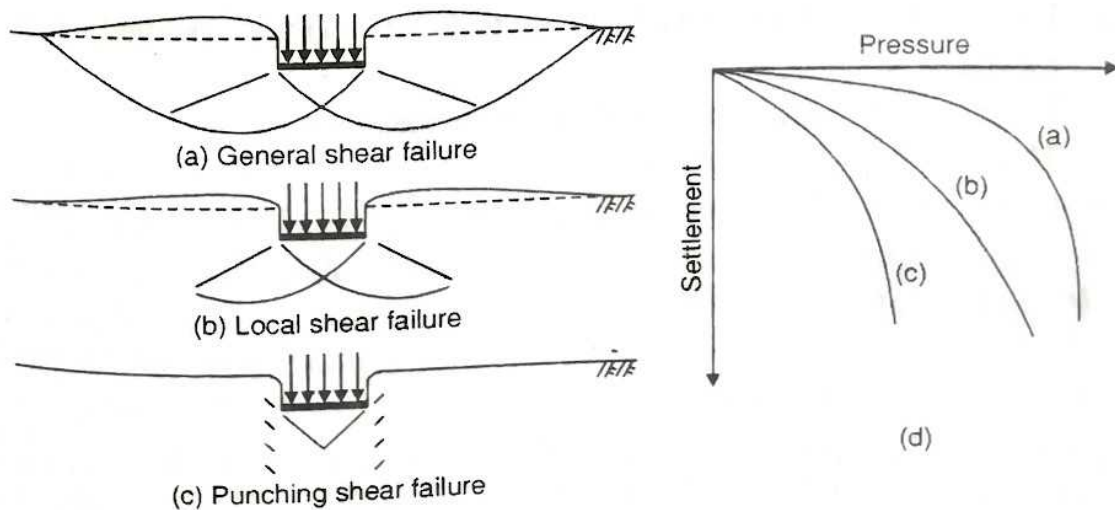


FIG 24.2 MODES OF BEARING CAPACITY FAILURES

- (ii) There is considerable bulging of sheared mass of soil adjacent to the footing
- (iii) Failure is accompanied by tilting of the footing
- (iv) Failure is sudden, with pronounced peak resistance
- (v) The ultimate bearing capacity is well defined

2. **Local shear failure** : In *local shear failure*, there is significant compression of the soil under the footing and only partial development of state of plastic equilibrium. Due to this reason, the failure surfaces do not reach the ground surface and only slight heaving occurs. The pressure-settlement curve is represented by curve *b* of Fig. 24.2(d), where the peak of the base resistance may never be reached. In such a failure, tilting of foundation is not expected. Local shear failure is associated with soils of high compressibility and in sands having relative density lying between 35 and 70 percent. The failure is not sudden, and it is characterised by occurrence of relatively large settlements which would not be acceptable in practice. Also, ultimate bearing capacity in such a failure is not well defined. Following are typical *characteristics* of local shear failure :

1. Failure pattern is clearly defined only immediately below the footing
2. The failure surfaces do not reach ground surface
3. There is only slight bulging of soil around the footing
4. Failure is not sudden and there is no tilting of footing
5. Failure is defined by large settlements
6. Ultimate bearing capacity is not well defined.

3. **Punching shear failure** : *Punching shear failure* occurs where there is relatively high compression of soil under the footing, accompanied by shearing in the vertical direction around the edges of the footing. Punching shear may occur in relatively loose sand with relative density less than 35%. Punching shear failure may also occur in a soil of low compressibility if the foundation is located at considerable depth. The failure surface, which is vertical or slightly inclined and follows the perimeter of the base, never reaches the ground surface. There is no heaving of the ground surface away from the edges and no tilting of the footing. Relatively large settlements occur in this mode. The ultimate bearing capacity is not well defined. Following the *characteristics* of punching shear failure:

- (i) No failure pattern is observed.
- (ii) The failure surface, which is vertical or slightly inclined, follows the perimeter of the base.
- (iii) There is no bulging of soil around the footing
- (iv) There is no tilting of footing
- (v) Failure is characterised in terms of very large settlements
- (vi) The ultimate bearing capacity is not well defined.

**Conditions for typical mode of failure :**

Table 24.1 gives the conditions under which a typical mode of failure may occur.

**Modes of failure of footings in sand**

Fig. 24.3 shows the modes of failure of footings in sand. As the relative depth/width ratio increases, the limiting relative densities at which failure type change increases.

## Assumptions in Terzaghi's Analysis

1. The soil is homogeneous and isotropic and its shear strength is represented by Coulomb's equation.
2. The strip footing has a rough base, and the problem is essentially two dimensional.
3. The elastic zone has straight boundaries inclined at  $\psi = \phi$  to the horizontal, and the plastic zones fully develop.,
4.  $P_p$  consists of three components which can be calculated separately and added, although the critical surface for these components are not identical.
5. Failure zones do not extend above the horizontal plane through the base of the footing, *i.e.* the shear resistance of soil above the base is neglected and the effect of soil around the footing is considered equivalent to a surcharge  $\sigma = \gamma D$ .