

**LECTURE NOTES  
ON  
GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING (TH. 2)  
FOR  
DIPLOMA IN CIVIL ENGINEERING  
(3<sup>RD</sup> SEMESTER STUDENTS)**

**AS PER SCTE&VT SYLLABUS**



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### 3.0 Determination Of Index

#### Properties :-

Index properties are those properties which helps in identification and classification of soil.

#### 3.1 Water Content

There are various methods of determining the water content of soil sample, and they are :-

- i) Oven-drying method
- ii) Sand bath method
- iii) Alcohol Method
- iv) Calcium Carbide method
- v) Pycnometer method
- vi) Radiation method
- vii) Torstoy - balance method.

#### i) Oven-drying Method

Most accurate method of determining water content.

A soil sample is kept in a clean container & put in an oven to maintain a temp. between  $105^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $110^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

The sample is kept for 24 hrs for complete drying.

- Mass of clean non-corroddible container is taken with its lid ( $M_1$ )
  - Mass of moist soil in container with lid is taken as  $M_2$ .
  - Then, container with moist soil is placed in oven after removing the lid.
  - After drying, container is removed from oven & allowed to cool in a desiccator.
  - The mass of <sup>dry</sup> soil, the container & lid is taken as  $M_3$ .
- The water content is calculated from following expression :-

$$\omega = \frac{M_2 - M_3}{M_3 - M_1} \times 100$$

$M_1$  = Mass of container + lid

$M_2$  = mass of container + lid + moist soil

$M_3$  = mass of container + lid + dry soil.

## ii) Pycnometer Method

↳ Quick method of determining water content.

↳ Pycnometer is a large density bottle of about 900 ml capacity.

↳ Conical break cap, having .6 mm dia hole at its top is screwed to the open end of pycnometer.

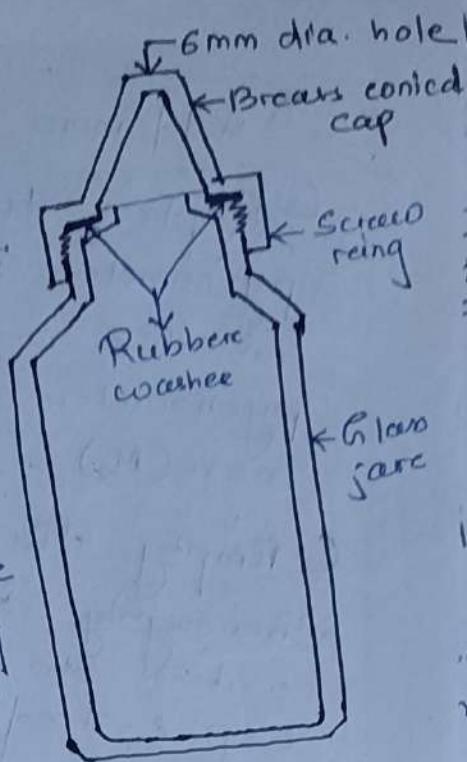
↳ Rubber washer is placed between conical cap and the neck of the bottle so no leakage of water takes place.

### Procedure:-

↳ Take clean, dry pycnometer and find the mass with its cap & washer ( $M_1$ ).

↳ Put 200 gm to 400 gm of wet soil sample in the pycnometer and find its mass with its cap & washer ( $M_2$ ) -

↳ Fill the pycnometer to half its height with coater & mix with glass rod.



- ↳ Add more water & stir it.
- ↳ Replace the screw top & fill the pycnometer flask with the hole in the conical cap. Dry the pycnometer from outside. Find the mass ( $M_3$ ).
- ↳ Empty the pycnometers, clean it thoroughly & fill it with clean water to the hole of conical cap & find mass  $M_4$ .

Water content is calculated using following formula :-

$$\omega = \left[ \frac{\{(M_2 - M_1)\}}{\{(M_3 - M_4)\}} \cdot \left( \frac{G-1}{G} \right) - 1 \right] \times 100.$$

### 3.2 Specific Gravity

Specific gravity of soil is determined by :-

i) 50 ml density bottle

ii) 500 ml flask

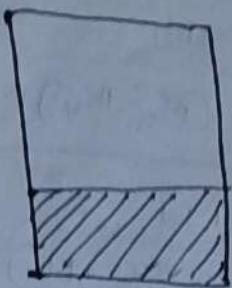
iii) Pycnometer.

→ Density bottle is most accurate & suitable for all type of soils.

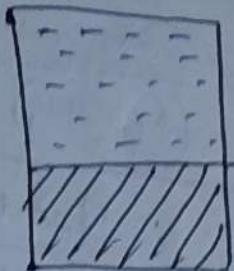
→ Flask or Pycnometer is used only for coarse grained soils.



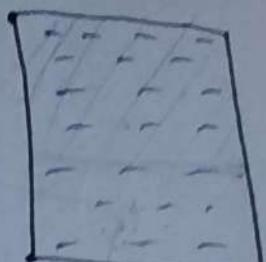
Empty  
Bottle ( $M_1$ )



Bottle + Dry  
soil ( $M_2$ )



Bottle +  
soil + water  
( $M_3$ )



Bottle +  
water ( $M_4$ )

→ Mass of empty dry bottle is taken as  $M_1$ .

→ Sample of oven dried soil, cooled in desiccator, placed in bottle  $M_2$ .

→ Bottle is filled with distilled water (or Kerosene) gradually, removing the entrapped air either by applying vacuum or by shaking the bottle. The mass is taken as  $M_3$ .

→ The bottle is emptied completely & thoroughly washed & clean water (or Kerosene) is filled to top. The mass is taken as  $M_4$ .

$$\text{Dry mass of soil} = M_2 - M_1 = M_d.$$

$$G = \frac{\text{Dry mass of soil}}{\text{Mass of water of equal volume.}}$$

$$= \frac{M_2 - M_1}{(M_4 - M_1) - (M_3 - M_2)}$$

$$\Rightarrow G_i = \frac{M_2 - M_1}{(M_2 - M_1) - (M_3 - M_4)}$$

$$G_i = \frac{M_2 - M_1}{M_d - (M_3 - M_4)}$$

### 3.3. Particle Size Distribution

- ↳ Percentage of various sizes of particles in a dry soil sample is found by particle size analysis or mechanical analysis.
- ↳ Mechanical analysis is meant for the separation of soil into different size fractions.
- ↳ Mechanical analysis is performed in two stages :-
  - i) Sieve analysis,
  - ii) Sedimentation analysis or wet mechanical analysis.
- ↳ Sieve analysis is meant for coarse grained soil & sedimentation analysis for fine grained soil.

## Sieve Analysis :-

- ⇒ In IS, the sieves are designated by the size of aperture (openings) <sup>in</sup> mm.
- ⇒ Sieve analysis can be divided into two parts :-
  - i) Coarse analysis
  - ii) Fine analysis.
- ⇒ Soil sample is separated into two fractions by sieving through 4.75 mm IS sieve.
- ⇒ If the sample is retained on 4.75 mm IS sieve is termed as gravel fractions & used for coarse analysis.
- ⇒ Set of sieves used for coarse analysis are :- 100, 63, 20, 10 & 4.75 mm
- ⇒ Set of sieves used for fine sieve analysis are :- 2mm, 1mm, 600μ, 425μ, 300μ, 212μ, 150μ & 75μ IS sieves.
- ⇒ The sieves are arranged one over the other by keeping the largest opening sieve at the top & smallest opening sieve at the bottom.
- ⇒ A receiver is kept at bottom &

- a cover is kept at the top.
- the sample is placed on the top sieve, and the whole assembly is fitted on sieve shaking machine.
- 10 mins. of shaking is desirable for soils with small particles.
- the soil sample retained on each sieve is weighed.
- Percentage of soil retained on each sieve is calculated on the basis of total mass of soil sample taken.
- It is advisable to wash the soil portion passing through 4.75 mm sieve over 75  $\mu$  sieve so that silt & clay particles sticking to sand will be washed off.
- the fraction retained on 75  $\mu$  sieve is dried in the oven.
- The dried portion is then sieved through 2mm, 1mm, 600  $\mu$ , 424, 300  $\mu$ , 212  $\mu$ , 150  $\mu$  & 75  $\mu$ .
- If the portion passing 75  $\mu$  size is substantial or considerable, wet analysis is done for further sub-division of particle size distribution.

## Sedimentation Analysis

In wet mechanical analysis or sedimentation analysis, the soil fraction finer than 75  $\mu$  size is kept in suspension in a liquid medium.

$\Rightarrow$  This analysis is based on Stokes law.

$\Rightarrow$  Stokes law states that the velocity at which the grains settle out of suspension, all other factors being equal, is dependent upon the shape, weight & size of grains.

$\Rightarrow$  It is assumed that the soil particles are spherical & have same sp. gravity.

$\Rightarrow$  The coarser particles settle more quickly than the finer ones.

$$\text{so. } v = \frac{2}{9} \gamma^2 \frac{\rho_s - \rho_w}{n}$$
$$= \frac{1}{18} D^2 \frac{\rho_s - \rho_w}{n}$$

$v$  = terminal velocity of sinking spherical particle ( $m/s$ )

$\gamma$  = radius of spherical particle ( $m$ ) " " ( $m$ )

$D$  = diameter "

$\rho_s$  = unit wt of particles ( $KN/m^3$ )

$\rho_w$  = " " " water/liquid ( $KN/m^3$ )

$$\eta = \text{viscosity of water/liquid } (\text{KN} \cdot \text{s/m}^2)$$

$$\eta = \frac{\tau d}{g}$$

$\tau$  = viscosity in poise.  
 $g$  = acceleration due to gravity.

⇒ Sedimentation analysis is done by :-  
 i) Hydrometer ii) Pipette.

- In both the methods, a suitable amount of oven dried soil sample, finer than 75  $\mu$  size, is mixed with a given volume  $V$  of distilled water.
- The analysis is based on the assumption that :-

- i) Soil particles are spherical
- ii) Particles settle independent of other particles.
- iii) Wall of jar, in which suspension is kept, also do not affect the settlement.

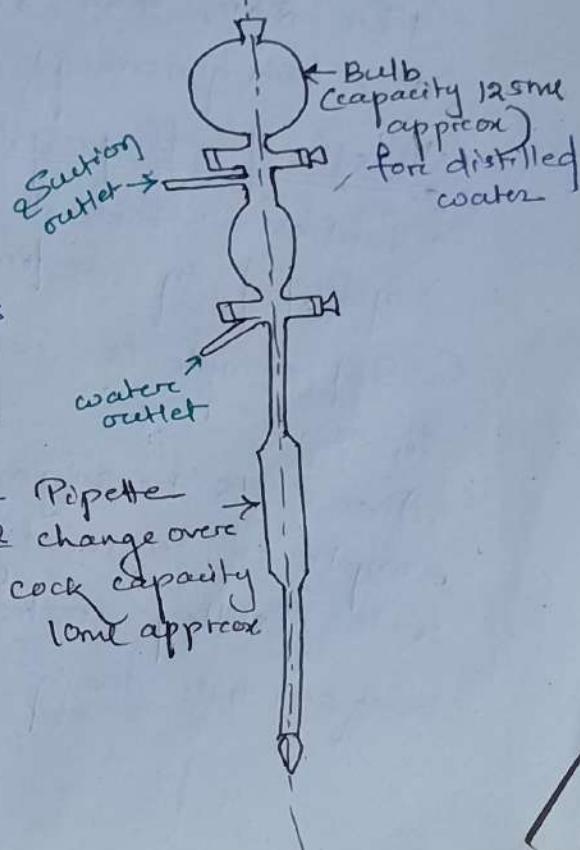
### Hydrometer Method

- ⇒ The principle of the test is same in both hydrometer & pipet method.

## i) Pipette Method

- It is a standard sedimentation method & used in laboratory.
- The equipment consists of a pipette, jar and a no. of sampling bottles.
- A boiling tube of 500ml capacity is used in place of a jar.
- The pipette consists of:
  - i) a 125ml bulb with stop cock, for keeping distilled water.
  - ii) a three way stop cock.
  - iii) Suction & water outlet.
  - iv) Sampling pipette of 10ml capacity,

The method consist of drawing off samples of soil suspensions, 10ml in volume; by means of pipette from a depth of 10 cm at various time intervals after commencement of test.



→ The pipette should be inserted by the boiling tube about 25 sec before the selected time interval & time taken for sucking the sample should not be more than 10 to 20 sec.

→ Each sample is transferred into suitable sampling bottle & dried in an oven.

→  $M_D$  (mass of solids) per ml of suspension is thus found by taking the dry mass & dividing it by 10.

→ The time intervals are  $\frac{1}{2}$  min, 1 min, 2 min, 4 min, 8 min, 15 min & 30 min & 1 hr, 2 hr, 4 hr, 8 hr, 16 hr, 24 hr from the commencement of the test.

#### Method of preparing soil suspension

↪ Particles finer than  $\#5\text{e}$  size are excluded by sedimentation analysis.

↪ Soil sample is washed thoroughly  $\#5\text{e}$  sieve.

↪ About 12 to 30 gm of oven dried sample is accurately weighed & mixed with distilled water in a dish or beakers to form smooth paste

- of For proper dispersion of soil, a dispersing agent is added to the soil.
- Some dispersing agents are sodium oxalate, sodium silicate & sodium polyphosphate compounds.
- A dispersing solution containing 33 gm of sodium hexametaphosphate & 3 gm of sodium carbonate in distilled water to make 1 lit of solution.
- 25 ml of this solution is added to the dish (& mix having soil) & distilled water & mixture is warmed up gently for 10 mins.
- The contents are transferred to a mechanical mixer.
- Soil suspension is mixed or stirred for 15 mins or longer for highly clayey soil.
- The suspension is washed through 75 μ sieve & suspension which has passed through the sieve is transferred to 500 ml capacity boiling tube.
- The tube is then put in a constant temperature water bath.

- ⇒ when temp. in the tube has been stabilized to the temp. of the bath, the soil suspension is thoroughly shaken by inverting the tube & replacing it in the bath.
- ⇒ Stop watch is started & soil sample are collected at various intervals with help of pipette.
- ⇒ The soil which contains organic matter & calcium compounds are pretreated before dispersing agents are mixed since these contents act as cementing agent & cause particles to settle as aggregation of particles instead of individuals.
- ⇒ Process of removing these organic matters & calcium compounds is known as pretreatment.
  - ⇒ Soil is first treated with hydrogen peroxide solution to remove the organic matter by oxidation. The mixture of soil & hydrogen peroxide is kept warming at a temp. not exceeding  $60^{\circ}\text{C}$ , till no further evolution of gas takes place.

of the remaining hydrogen peroxide in the solution is then decomposed by boiling the solution.

→ To remove calcium compounds, the cooled mixture of soil is then treated with 0.2 N hydrochloric acid.

### HYDROMETER METHOD

→ It is another method of sedimentation analysis.

→ The principle of the test is same in both the pipette & hydrometer method.

→ In pipette method, Mass Ms per ml of suspension is found directly by collecting 10 ml. Sample of soil suspension from sampling depth He.

→ In hydrometer method, Ms is computed indirectly by reading the density of soil suspension at the depth He at various time interval.

→ In pipette method, Sampling depth (He) is constant (10 cm) but in hydrometer method, the sampling depth increases as the particle settle with the increase in the time interval.

→ Calibration of the hydrometer and sedimentation jar is required before starting sedimentation test.

→ On the hydrometer, the reading on the stem gives the density of soil suspension situated at center of bulb at any time.

→ Hydrometer reading are recorded after subtracting & multiplying the remaining digits by 1000. It is designated as Rh.

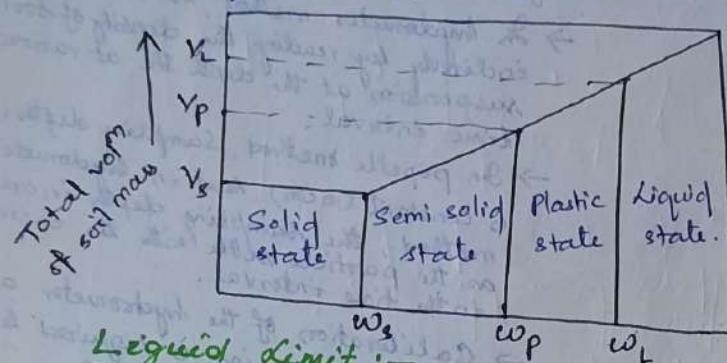
→ The hydrometer reading Rh increases in the downstream direction towards the hydrometer scale.

→ Let H be the ht in cm between any hydrometer reading Rh and the neck & the h as ht of bulb.

- Sedimentation jar contains soil suspension.
- When hydrometer is immersed in the jar made level as rises to a.a., the rise is equal to  $V_{10}$  of the hydrometer divided by interval area of section A of jar.
- Similarly the level  $l$  rises to top, where  $l$  is the level situated at a depth  $h$  below the top level a.a.

### 3.4 CONSISTENCY OF SOIL :-

- Consistency is the relative ease with which soil can be deformed.
- Atterberg divided various stages of consistency from liquid to solid state into 4 stages!
  - Liquid state
  - Plastic state.
  - Semi solid state.
- There are certain limits known as consistency limit & atterberg limit depending upon water content.
- For Engg. purpose the atterberg limits are ! -  
Liquid limit, plastic limit & shrinkage limit.



#### Liquid Limit :-

- It is the water content corresponding to the limit between liquid & plastic state of consistency of soil.
- It is the minimum water content at which the soil is still in the liquid state, but has shear strength.
- It is the minimum water content at which a part of soil is cut by a groove of standard dimension will flow together from a distance of 12 mm under an impact of 25 kN in the device.

### Plastic limit ( $W_p$ ):-

- It is the water content corresponding to the limit between plastic & semi solid state of consistency of soil.
- It is the min water content at which an soil will just begin to ~~creep~~ <sup>creep</sup> & the rolled in to a thread of 3mm in dia.

### Shrinkage Limit ( $W_s$ ):-

It is the maximum water content at which a reduction in water content will not cause a decrease in the volume of a soil mass.

### Plastic Index ( $I_p$ ):-

It is defined as the numerical difference between the liquid limit and the plastic limit of the soil.

$$I_p = W_L - W_p.$$

### Plasticity :-

It is the property of a soil which allows it to deform rapidly with out Vol. change.

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

It is the ratio of the liquid limit minus the natural water content to the plasticity index of soil.

$$I_c = \frac{W_L - W}{I_p}.$$

### Liquidity Index ( $I_L$ ):-

It is the ratio of natural water content of the soil minus its plastic limit to its plasticity index.

$$I_L = \frac{W - W_p}{I_p}$$

### Determination of Liquid Limit:-

- Liquid limit is determined by an apparatus designed by casagrande named as casagrande liquid limit apparatus.
- It is consist of hard rubber base, over which a brass cup is placed which can be raised and lowered with the help of a handle.
- Height of fall can be adjusted with the help of adjusting screw & before conducting the test, ht. of fall is adjusted to 1cm.

→ Two types of grooving tools are used:-

i) Casagrande tool.

ii) ASTM tool.

→ Casagrande tool cut a groove of 2mm wide at bottom, 11mm wide at top and 8mm high.

→ ASTM tool cut a groove 2 mm wide at bottom, 13.6 mm at top & 10 mm deep.

### Procedure

→ About 100 gm of soil sample passing through 425μ IS sieve is taken in a porcelain dish. Some quantity of water is added to it & thoroughly mixed to form a soil paste of uniform colour.

→ The height of fall of cup of the liquid limit device is adjusted to be 1 cm.

→ A portion of soil paste in porcelain dish is placed in the liquid limit device & levelled by means of spatula.

→ Using standard grooving tool, a groove is cut in the soil.

→ Cup is given blows by rotating the handle at 2  $\frac{\text{rev}}{\text{sec}}$  revolution per second.

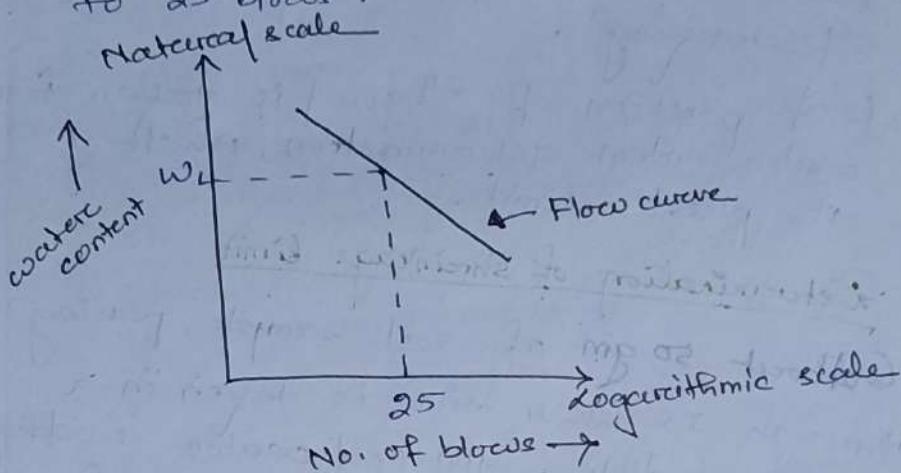
→ The number of blows required to close the groove for a distance of 13 mm is noted down.

→ The above steps are repeated to get at least 4 concurrent sets of number of blows & water content.

It is convenient to increase the water content in successive steps and obtain values near about 40, 30, 20 & 10.

The water content values are plotted as ordinate on natural scale against number of blows as abscissa on logarithmic scale to obtain straight line, which is known as flow curve.

If from this plot the liquid limit is obtained as water content corresponding to 25 blows.



### Determination of plastic limit

About 30 gms of soil sample passing through 425  $\mu$  IS sieve is taken & some quantity of water is added & thoroughly mixed to form a soil paste which can be rolled into balls between palms of ~~hands~~ hands.

A small portion of the ball is then rolled on a smooth plate into a

- thread of 3 mm diameter & the thread is looked for signs of cracking.
- ↳ If no cracks are seen ; the thread is picked up and again rolled into a ball between palms to reduce water content .
  - ↳ The ball is then rolled on smooth plate a into a thread of 3 mm dia.
  - ↳ The steps are repeated until a 3 mm diameter thread first shows signs of cracking .
  - ↳ A portion of thread is taken for water content determination , which gives the plastic limit .

### Determination of shrinkage limit

- ↳ About 50 gm of soil sample passing through IS 4251 sieve is taken in a porcelain dish , distilled water is added to it , and mixed thoroughly to form a soil paste of slightly flowing consistency .
- ↳ The shrinkage dish (cup of 45 mm dia and 15 mm ht) is weighed after coating inner side of the cup with a thin layer of grease or oil . The shrinkage cup is filled with the soil paste in 3 layers , the cup being being gently tapped on a

cushioned surface after filling with each layer to enclose expulsion of air bubbles.

→ The surface of soil is levelled & outer side of cup is cleaned. The mass of shrinkage cup with wet soil pat is found & this is deducted from mass of shrinkage cup to get mass of wet soil pat ( $M_1$ ).

→ The wet soil is allowed to dry in air for some time, then kept in oven & dried for 24 hrs at 105 to  $110^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

→ Then mass of dry soil ( $M_d$ ) is found.

→ The volume of dry soil ( $V_d$ ) is found by mercury displacement method.

→ The volume of wet soil ( $V_1$ ) is equal to volume of shrinkage dish which is found by filling it with mercury & finding mass of mercury required to fill it after removing convex portion at the top by pressing with a flat plate.

→ Volume is obtained by dividing mass by density of mercury.

## 4.0 Classification Of Soil

### 4.1 General

- ⇒ Soil is classified into various groups depending on engg. properties and characteristics.
- ⇒ From engg. point of view, soil is classified with the objective of finding the suitability of soil for construction of dam, highway, foundation & other engg. structures.
- ⇒ The soil may be classified to following systems :—
  - i) Particle size classification
  - ii) Textural classification.
  - iii) Highway research Board (HRB) classification.
  - iv) Unified soil classification.
  - v) Soil classification.

#### ii) Particle Size Classification

- ↳ Soil is arranged according to grain size
- ↳ Gravel, sand, silt & clay are used to indicate grain size.
- ↳ They designate the particle size,

naturally occurring soil have mixture of particles of different sizes.

➢ Silt size & clay size are mostly used word in place of simply silt or clay in this system.

➢ Three such systems which have been widely used are :-

(a) U.S Bureau of Soil & Public Roads

Administration (PRA) classification system.

(b) M.I.T. classification system.

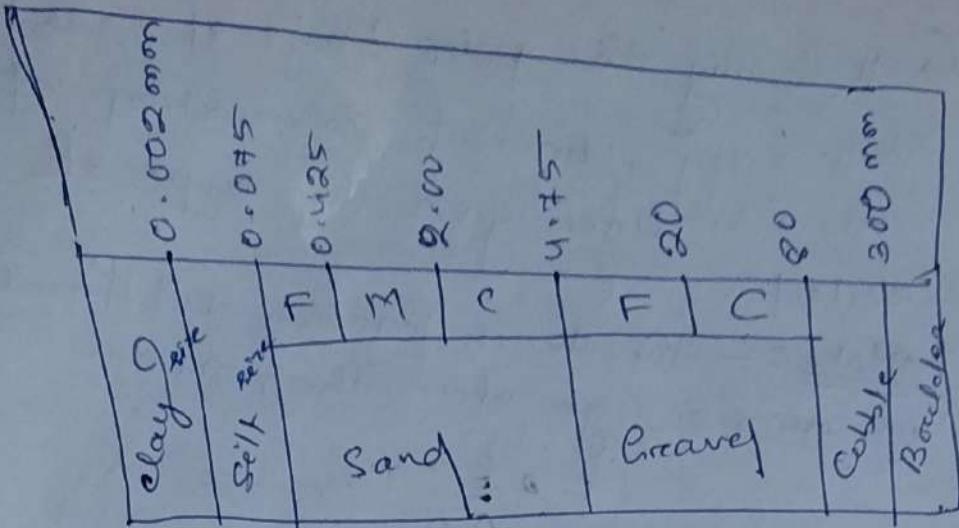
(c) Indian Standard particle size classification system (based on M.I.T. system)

Class size 0.000mm	0.05	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.8	2.0mm
Silt size	Silt	Very fine	Fine	Medium	Coarse	
			Sand			
						Fine gravel
						Gravel

(a) U.S. Bureau of Soil & PRA classification system.

Class size 0.02mm	0.006	0.02	0.06	0.2	0.6	2.0mm
Silt size	F	M	C	F	M	C
				Sand		
						Gravel

(b) M.I.T. classification



(c) IS classification:

### Textural Classification

- Naturally occurring soil composed of sand, silt & clay.
  - Soil classification of composite soil based on particle size distribution is known as textural classification.
  - It is a triangular classification & it is suitable for coarse grained soil.
- Example :- A soil sample is found to consist of 30% sand, 30% silt & 40% clay : Classify the soil using textural classification.

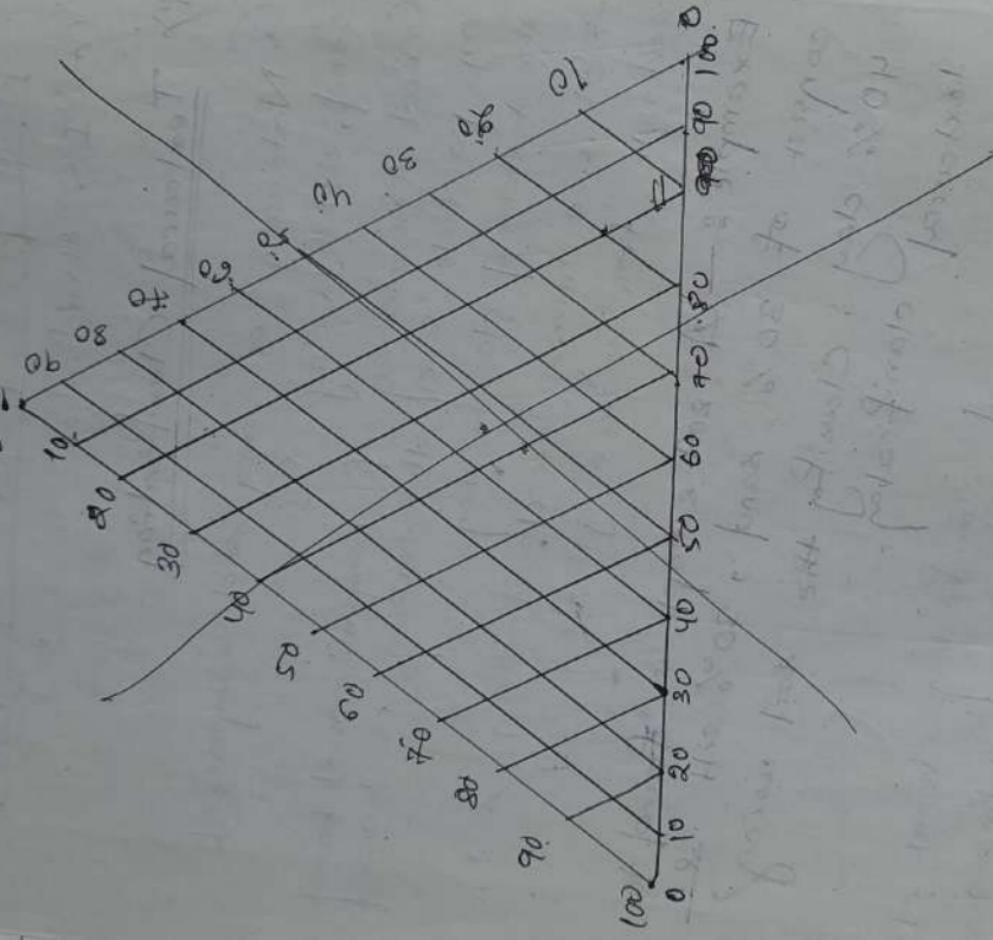
→ The textural classification chart of U.S.P.R.A (U.S. Public Road Administration) has been developed to classify composite soil.

1) Ques

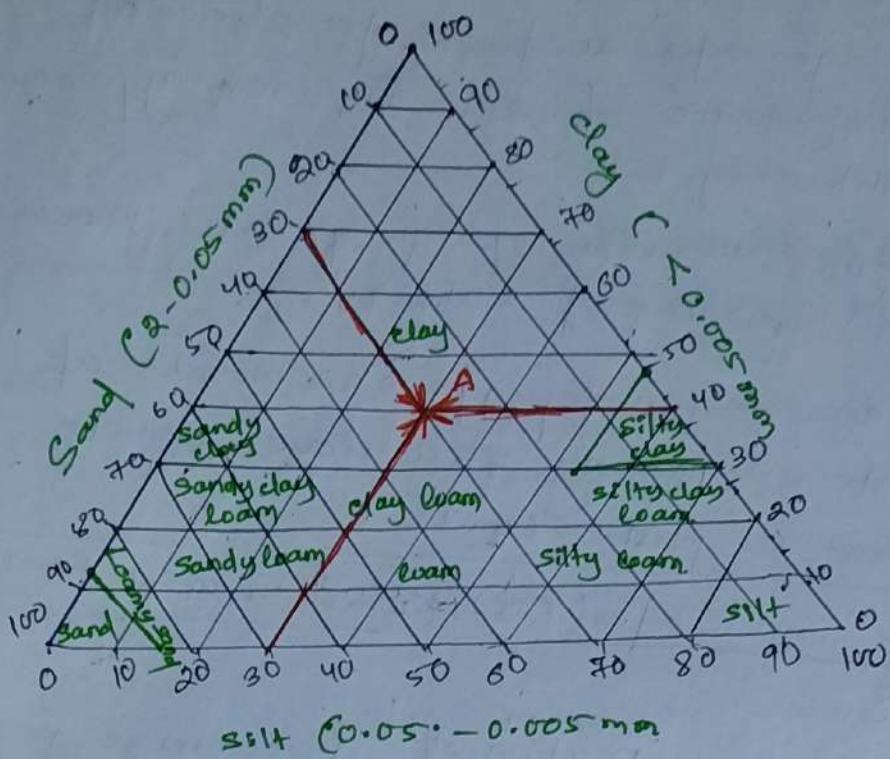
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6 Knowing the percentage of sand, silt & clay, lines of intersection of the 3 lines gives the type of soil.

Note :- The chart ignores soil fraction of size greater than 2.00 mm.



P-4.4



From respective points on 3 sides, it intersects at point A, which lies in the region marked as clay. Hence the soil can be classified as clay.

(iii) Highway Research Board (HRB) classif.

- It is also known as Public Road Administration (PRA) classification.
  - It is used for pavement construction.
  - Soil is divided into 7 primary groups, named as A-1, A-2 - - - A7.
  - Group A-1 is divided into two sub-groups and group A-2 is divided

into 4 sub-groups.

Groups index used to describe the performance of soil when used in pavement construction.

Higher the value of group index, poorer the quality of material.

Group index depends on amount of material passing #56 sieve, liquid limit & plastic limit.

$$\text{Group Index (GI)} = 0.2a + 0.005ac + 0.01bd$$

where,

a = that portion of percentage for passing #56 sieve greater than 35 & not exceeding 45 expressed as whole no. (0 to 40)

b = that portion of percentage passing #56 sieve, greater than 15 & not exceeding 55 expressed as a whole number (0 to 40).

c = that portion of numerical liquid limit greater than 40 & not exceeding 60 expressed as a positive whole number (0 to 40)

d. that portion of numerical plasticity index greater than 10 & not exceeding 30 expressed as positive whole number (0 to 20).

#### (iv) Unified Soil Classification System

This system is used for the construction of foundation, earth dam, canal, earth slopes etc.

4. The coarse grained soils are classified on the basis of grading size distribution while the fine grained soils are classified on the basis of their plasticity.

5. The soil is first classified into 2 groups

- (a) Coarse grained soil
- (b) Fine grained soil.

##### (a) Coarse grained soil

CGP - the soil retained on 75 u is more than 50%, then the soil is coarse grained soil.

6. A coarse grained soil is called gravel (G) when 50% or more of coarse fraction is retained on 4.75 mm sieve otherwise termed as sand (S).  
Coarse grained soil containing less than

5% fines, are designated as GW & SW if they are well graded and designated as GP & SP if they are poorly graded.

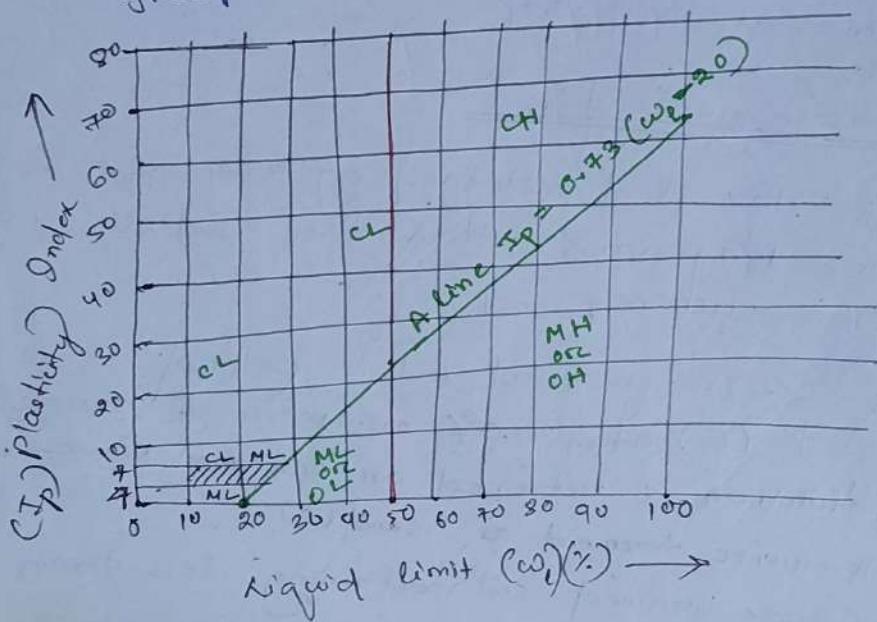
if 9% percent of fines lie between 5 to 12%, coarse grained soil are designated as G.W - GM or SP-SM.

### (b) Fine grained soil

G.A. soil is termed as fine grained if more than 50% of soil sample passes through 75  $\mu$  sieve.

Fine grained soil is such, divided into soil (M) & clay (C) based on liquid limit & plasticity index.

Organic soils are also included in this group.



75 μ IS sieve size.

ii) Fine grained soil :- when more than half of the material by mass is smaller than 75 μ IS sieve size.

iii) Highly organic soil & other miscellaneous soil material :- It contains organic matter like peat & decomposed vegetable matter.

i) Coarse grained Soil :-

It is divided into sub divisions :-

(a) Gravel (G) :-

when more than half of coarse fraction (75 μ) is larger than 4.75 mm IS sieve size. It is designated by G.

(b) Sands (S) :-

when more than half of coarse fraction (75 μ) is smaller than 4.75 mm IS sieve size. It includes sands & sandy soils.

→ Gravel & Sand are further sub-divided into 4 groups depending upon grading :-

w = well graded, clean.

c = well graded with clay binder

p = poorly graded, fairly clean

M = containing fine materials not covered by other groups.

- ↳ The A-line in the chart has equation  
 $I_p = 0.73(C_{LL} - 20)$
- ↳ The A-line separates clay like materials from silty & organic soil materials.
- ↳ Fine grained soils are further subdivided into soil possessing low (L) or High (H) plasticity when liquid limit is less than 50% or more than 50%.
- ↳ When plasticity index & liquid limit plot lies in the hatched portion of plasticity chart, the soil is given dual symbol CL-ML
- ↳ When soil having characteristics of more than one group are termed as boundary soil & gives dual group symbols.  
 For e.g.: - GW-GC means well graded gravel with clay fines.
- ↳ Organic silts (OL or OH) & inorganic soils (ML or MH) are also plotted on plasticity chart.
- ↳ Soils having liquid limit about 30% or less is known as organic (OL or OH). If liquid limit is higher, it is known as inorganic (ML or MH).

#### (V) Indian Standard Classification System

- ↳ The soil is broadly divided into 3 divisions:-
- ⇒ Coarse grained soil :- when more than half of the material by mass is larger than

These symbols are used in combination to designate the type of coarse grained soil.  
ex:- G.C means clayey gravel.

## 2) Fine Grained Soil :-

It is divided into 3 sub-divisions:-

- i) Inorganic silts & very fine sand (M)
- ii) Inorganic clays (C)

## 3) Organic silts & clay & organic matter (O)

Fine grained soil is further divided into groups depending upon liquid limit which is good index of compressibility:-

- i) Silt & clay of low compressibility having liquid limit less than 35 & represented by L.
- ii) Silt & clay of medium compressibility having liquid limit greater than 35 & less than 50 & represented by I.
- iii) Silt & clay of high compressibility having liquid limit greater than 50 & represented by H.

Combination of these symbol indicates the type of fine grained soil. Ex:- ML means inorganic silt with low to medium compressibility.

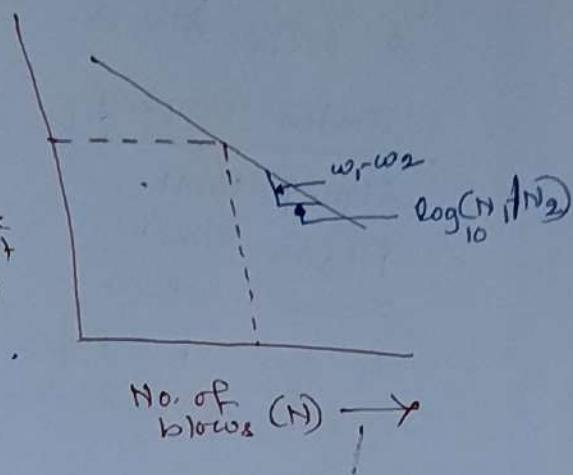
Let A-line, dividing inorganic clay from soil with  
2 organic soil has following equation:-

$$I_p = 0.73 (\omega_L - 20)$$

## Flow INDEX

'Flow index' ( $I_f$ ) is the slope of the flow curve obtained between number of blows & the water content ( $w$ ) in Casagrande's method of determination of liquid limit.

from fig.,



$$\text{Flow index } I_f = \frac{w_1 - w_2}{\log_{10}(N_2/N_1)}$$

$N_1$  = no. of blows at water content  $w_1$ .  
 $N_2$  = " " " " "

$$\log_{10}(N_2/N_1) = 1 \text{ when } N_2/N_1 = 10.$$

as  $\log_{10} 10 = 1$

## TOUGHNESS INDEX

If is

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

$I_p$  = Plasticity index =  $w_L - w_P$

$I_f$  = Flow index.

Q:- Following index properties were determined for  
2 soils A & B.

Index Property	A	B
Liquid limit.	65	35
Plastic limit	25	20
water content	35	25
Sp. gr. of solids	2.7	2.65
Degree of saturation	100%	100%

which have (1) greater bulk density  
(2) greater dry density (3) greater void ratio.

	A	B
Plasticity index	$65 - 25 = 40\%$	$35 - 20 = 15\%$
$I_p = C_w - w_p$		
Void ratio	$0.35 \times 2.7 = 0.945$	$0.25 \times 2.65 = 0.663$
$e = w/G$		
Dry density	$\frac{2.7 \times 1}{1.945} = 1.388$	$\frac{2.65 \times 1}{1.663} = 1.594 \times 1.25$
$\delta_d = \frac{Gw}{1+e}$		
Bulk density	$1.388 \times 1.35 = 1.874 \text{ g/me.}$	$= 1.992 \text{ g/me.}$
$\gamma = \delta_d (1+w)$		

As plasticity index of A is more,  
it has more clay particles.

## 6.0 COMPACTION & CONSOLIDATION

### 6.1 Compaction

It is the process by which the soil particles are artificially arranged & packed together into a closer state of contact by mechanical means in order to decrease the porosity of soil & increase the dry density.

#### 6.1.1 Light & Heavy Compaction Test

The test equipment consist of :—

- i) Cylindrical metal mould having internal dia of 4 inches ( $10.15\text{ cm}$ ), internal effective height of 4.6 inches ( $11.7\text{ cm}$ ) & a capacity of  $0.945\text{ ft.}^3$  ( $1000\text{ ml}$ ).
- ii) detachable base plate
- iii) Collar of 2 inches ( $5\text{ cm}$ ) effective height
- iv) Rammer of  $2.5\text{ kg}$  in mass.

#### Procedure :

- 1) ~~500~~  $5\text{ kg}$  of soil is taken & water is added to it of different percentages.
- 2) The mould with base plate is weighed as  $M_1$ . The exterior collar is to be attached with the mould.
- 3) The moist soil in the mould is compacted by dropping the rammer ~~falling~~ through a height of  $30.5\text{ cm}$ .

(p) The above compaction is done by giving 25 blows on 6 layers soil layers & the cylinder is filled by filling soil in different layers, each layer being compacted in above manner.

(q) The extension collar is then removed & the compacted soil is levelled off care of to the top of the mould by means of straight edge.

(r) Then the mould & soil is weighed as  $M_2$ .

(s) Soil is removed from the mould & a small sample of soil is taken for water content determination.

(t) The process is repeated after adding suitable amount of water to the soil in an increasing order.

(u) Then Bulk density  $\delta$ , at each compaction is calculated as follows:-

$$\delta = \frac{M_2 - M_1}{V_m}$$

$M_2 - M_1$  = Mass of compacted soil

$V_m$  = Volume of soil  
= Volume of mould

→ Dry density  $\delta_d$  is calculated from the relation :-

$$\delta_d = \frac{\rho}{1+w}$$

w = moisture content of soil in %.

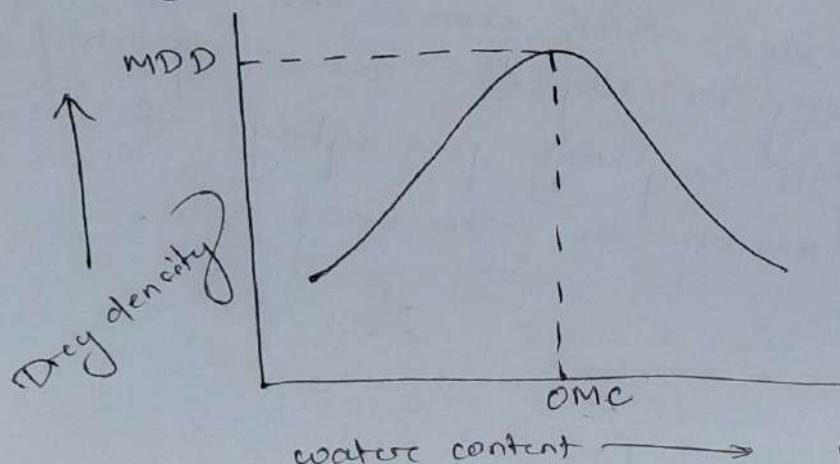
### 6.1.2 OMC & MDD

→ As, a number of times, the above test is repeated, a no. of dry densities at corresponding water contents are obtained.

→ A smooth curve or compaction curve is plotted between water content as abscissa & dry densities as ordinate.

→ The dry density goes on increasing as the water content is increased, till the maximum density is reached.

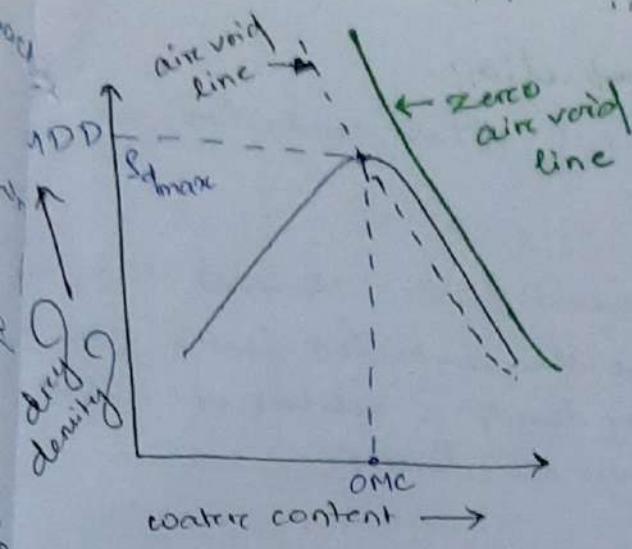
→ The water content corresponding to max. density is called optimum moisture content (OMC).



- G The maximum or peak point of compression curve is called maximum dry density, D<sub>D</sub> is also known as ~~Standard~~ Modified Proctor Test.
- G The equipments required for light & heavy compaction tests are same, except for in heavy compaction test :-  
 i) Hammer is of 4.9 kg & its height of 150mm.  
 ii) The soil is compacted in 5 equal layers instead of 3.  
 iii) Each layer is given 25 blows of hammer if 1000ml mould is used & 55 blows if 2250ml mould is used.
- G So, Heavy compaction method is also known as ~~Modified~~ Proctor Test.

### 6.1.3 Zero air void line :-

A line which shows the water content dry density relating for the compacted soil containing a constant percentage of air voids is known as air void line.



$$S_d = \frac{(1-n_a) G_s \delta_w}{1+wG_s}$$

$n_a$  = % air void

$S_d$  = dry density

$w$  = water content of  
compacted soil

$G_s \delta_w$  = sp. gravity

$\delta_w$  = density of water.

- If the theoretical maximum compaction force for any given water content corresponds to zero air voids condition ( $n_a=0$ ), the line showing dry density for soil containing no air voids is called zero air void line or saturation line, with eq?

$$S_d = \frac{G_s \delta_w}{1+wG_s}$$

- Alternatively, a line showing the relation between water content & dry density for a constant degree of saturation  $S$ ,

$$S_d = \frac{G_s \delta_w}{1+\frac{wG_s}{S}}$$

## 6.2 . Factors Affecting Compaction:-

The various factors which affect compaction are as follow:-

### (i) Water Content:-

From laboratory experiments, it is observed that the water content increases, the compacted density goes on increasing, till a maximum dry density is achieved after which further addition of water decreases the density.

### (ii) Amount of Compaction:-

Amount of compaction greatly affects the maximum dry density & optimum water content of a given soil. The effect of increasing the compactive energy results in an increase in max. dry density and decrease in optimum water content.

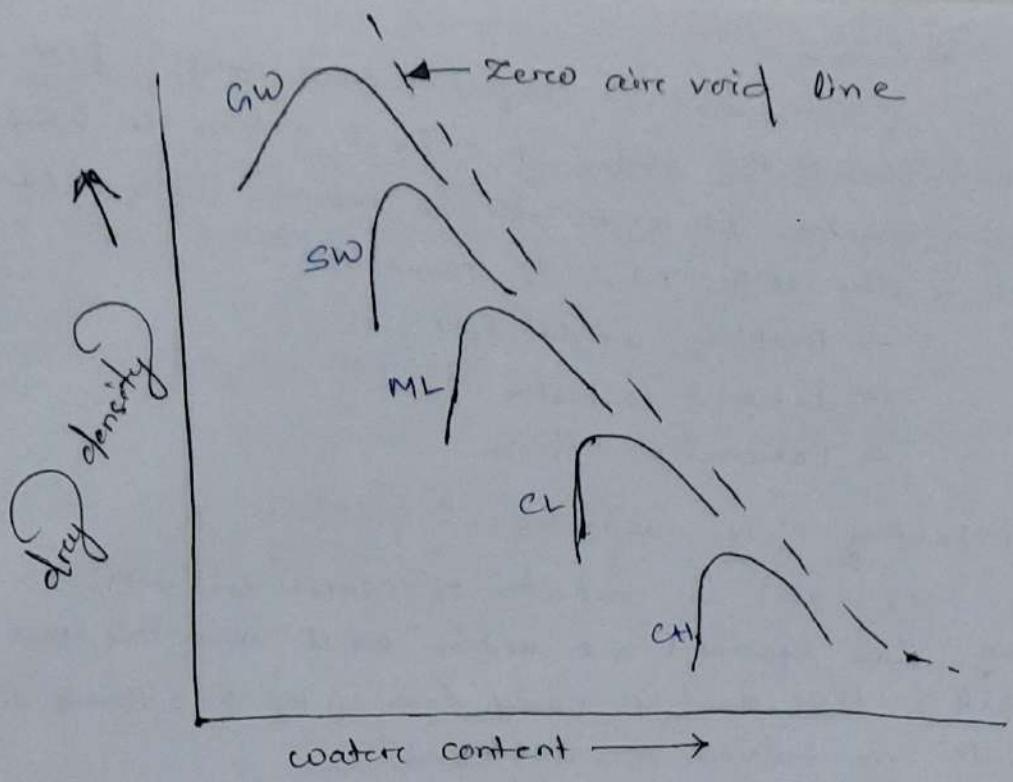
### (iii) Method of compaction:-

Type of compaction or the manner in which the compactive effort is applied affects density. The weight of compacting equipment, manner of operation such as dynamic or impact, static, kneading or rolling and time & area of contact between the compacting element & soil plays role.

### (iv) Types of soil:-

The maximum dry density achieved by the soil largely depends upon the type of soil. Well graded coarse grained soil attain a much higher density and lower optimum water content than fine grained soil which require more water for lubrication because of greater specific surface.

Figure shows the water content & dry density curve for a range of soil types. The coarse grained soils can be compacted to higher dry densities than fine grained soil.



#### (v) Addition of Admixtures:-

The compaction characteristics of a soil can be modified by a number of admixtures. These admixtures can be used in construction of stabilized soil.

#### Field Compaction Methods:-

There are various types of compacting equipment.

Use of these compacting machines depends on soil type and moisture condition.

The soil compaction equipment can be divided into two conditions groups:-

(i) Light soil compacting equipment.

(ii) Heavy soil compacting equipment.

#### (i) Light soil compacting equipment:-

These equipments are used for soil compacting of small areas only and where the compaction effort needed is less.

Some of the equipments are:-

a) Rammer

b) Vibratory equipment.

### a) Rammer:-

It is used for compacting small areas by providing impact load to the soil. It is light & can be hand operated. It is suitable for compacting cohesive soils as well as other soils. It is of three types:-  
→ Dropping weight type.  
→ Internal combustion type.  
→ Pneumatic type.

### b) Vibrating Plate Compactors:-

It is used for compaction of coarse soil with stones. These equipments are used for small areas. The usual weights of these machines varies from 100 kg to 2 tonnes with plate area between  $0.16 \text{ m}^2$  &  $1.6 \text{ m}^2$ .

### Vibro Tamper:-

It is used for compaction of small areas in confined space. This machine is suitable for compaction of all types of soil by vibration set up in a base plate through a spring activated by an engine driven reciprocity mechanism. They are usually manually guided & weigh between 50 & 100 kg.

### (ii) Heavy Soil Compaction Equipments:-

These equipments are used for large areas. Different types of soils, following are different types of these equipments-

#### a) Smooth wheeled rollers:-

- It is of two types:-  
→ Static smooth wheeled roller  
→ Vibrating smooth wheeled roller.

The most suitable soils for these roller type are well graded sand, gravel, crushed rock, asphalt etc. Where crushing is required. These are used on soils which does not require great pressure for compaction. These rollers are

generally used for finishing the upper surface of soil.

These roller are used for compaction of uniform sands.

The performance of smooth wheeled rollers depend on load per cm width it transfers to the soil & diameter of the drum. The load per cm width is derived from the gross weight of drum.

The smooth wheeled roller consist of one large steel drum in front & two steel drum on the rear. The gross weight of these rollers is in the range of 8-10 tonnes. The other type of smooth wheel roller is called Tandem roller, which weight between 6-8 tonnes.

→ Vibrating smooth wheel rollers:-

These rollers are helpful from several considerations:-

(i) Higher compaction level can be achieved with minimum work.

(ii) Compaction can be done up to greater depths.

(iii) Output is many times more than conventional rollers.

These rollers are expensive but in the long run the cost becomes economical due to their outputs & improved performance. The latest work specifications for excavation recommends the use of vibratory rollers due to their advantage over static smooth wheeled rollers.

b) Sheepfoot Rollers:-

→ These are used for compacting fine grained soil such as heavy clay & silty clay. These are used for compaction

of soil in dams, embankments, subgrade, layers in pavement & rail road construction projects.

→ They are static & vibrating types. Vibratory types rollers are used for compaction of all fine grained soil.

→ It consist of steel drum on which projecting legs are fixed & can apply a pressure upto  $19 \text{ kg/cm}^2$  or more.

The weight of drum can be increased by ballasting with water or wet sand.

→ The compaction of soil is mainly due to foot penetrating & exerting pressure on the soil. The pressure is maximum when foot is vertical.

c) Pneumatic tyred roller:-

→ These are also known as rubber tyred rollers. It is used for compaction of coarse grained soil with some fines.

These are least suitable for uniform coarse soils & rocks.

→ These rollers have wheels on both axels. The wheels are staggered for ~~staggered~~ compaction of soil layers with uniform pressure throughout the width of rollers.

## Diamond Rollers :-

It is used for compaction of weathered rocky, well graded coarse soils. It is not suitable for clayey soils, silty clays & uniform soils. The main use of these rollers are in subgrade & sub-base in road construction.

The rollers have a cylindrical heavy steel surface containing a network of steel bars forming a grid with square holes. The wt. of these rollers can be increased by ballasting with concrete block.

## Ex Pad foot / Tamping Rollers :-

It is similar to sheep foot rollers with legs of larger area than sheep foot rollers. These rollers are more preferred than sheep foot rollers due to high production capacity & they are replacing sheep foot rollers.

The degree of compaction achieved is more than sheep foot roller. They operate at high speed & are capable to break large lumps. It is best suitable for compacting cohesive soil.

## 6.4 CONSOLIDATION

- In a soil sample, there are voids which are either filled with air, or water or both.
- When the voids are filled with air alone, compression of soil occurs rapidly, because air is compressible & can escape easily from voids.
- When saturated soil have its voids filled with incompressible water, decrease in volume or compression can take place when water is expelled out of the voids. Such a compression resulting from long term loading & escape of pore water is termed as consolidation.
- According to Terzaghi, every process involving a decrease in water content of saturated soil without replacement of water by air is called consolidation.

### Distinction Between Compaction & Consolidation

#### Compaction

- Compaction is the compression of soil by expulsion of air from the voids of soil.
- It is a quick process.

#### Consolidation

- Consolidation is the compression of soil by expulsion of water from voids of soil.
- It is slow process.

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## 8.0 EARTH PRESSURE ON RETAINING STRUCTURES

When soil mass is retained at a higher level a retaining wall, the retained mass of soil tends to slide which is resisted by the retaining wall. It exerts a pressure on the retaining wall, known as lateral earth pressure.

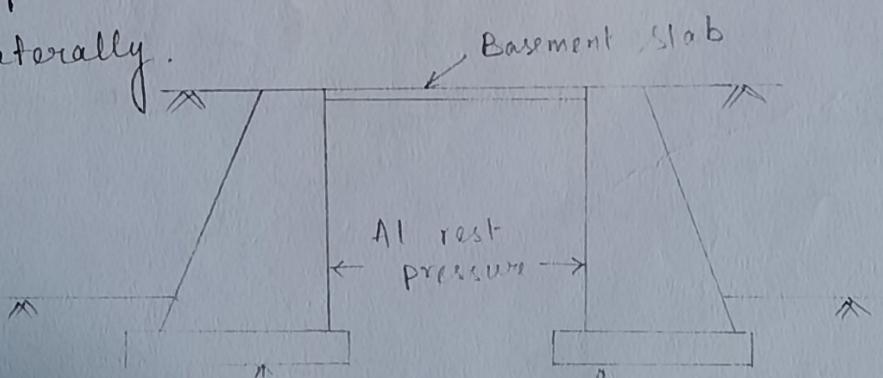
The retaining wall is constructed first & then the soil behind the wall is backfilled hence the soil retained is known as backfill.

The back of the wall is either vertical or slightly inclined to the vertical.

Lateral earth pressure can be grouped into 3 categories, depending upon the movement of the retaining wall with respect to the soil retained.

**At-Rest Pressure:-**

When the soil mass is not subjected to any lateral movement the lateral earth pressure is called at-rest pressure. It occurs when the retaining wall is firmly fixed at its top & not allowed to rotate or move laterally.



The basement retaining walls which are restrained against the movement by the basement slab at their tops.

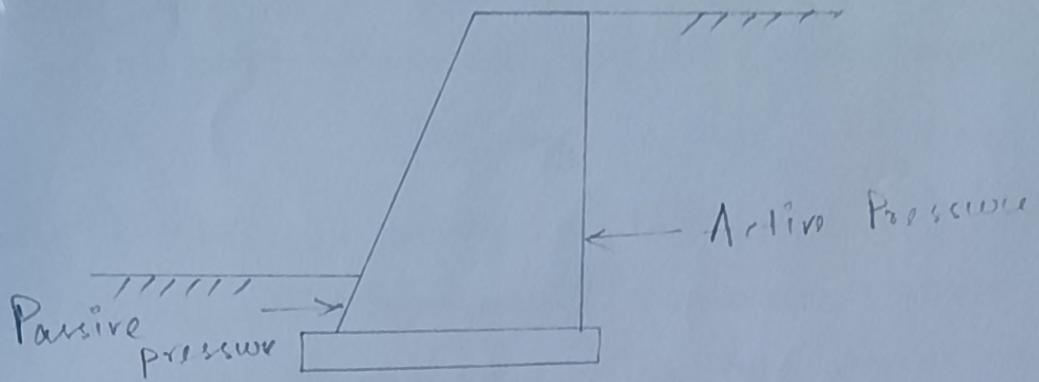
The bridge abutment wall which is restrained top by the bridge slab. The at-rest condition also known as elastic equilibrium.

### Active Pressure :-

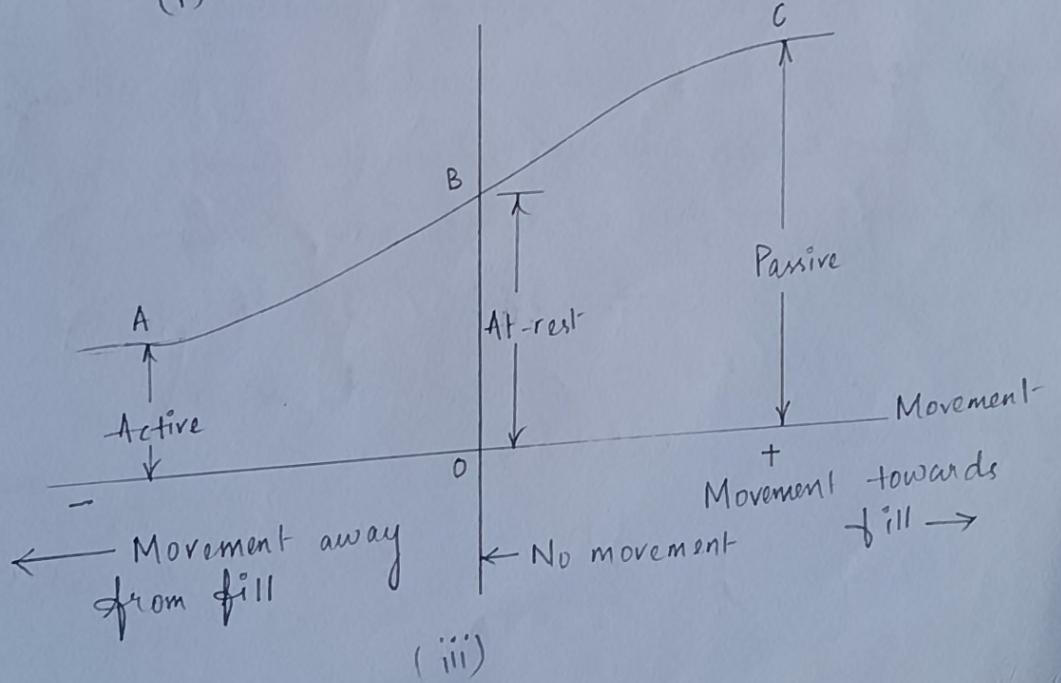
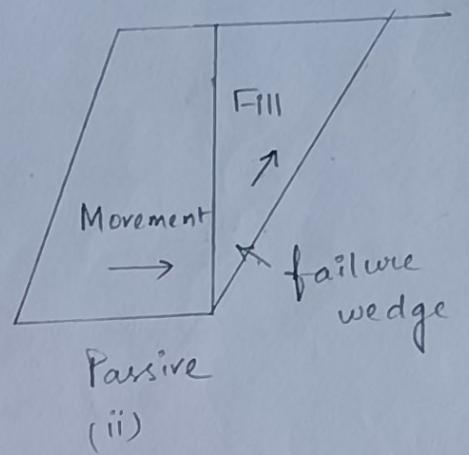
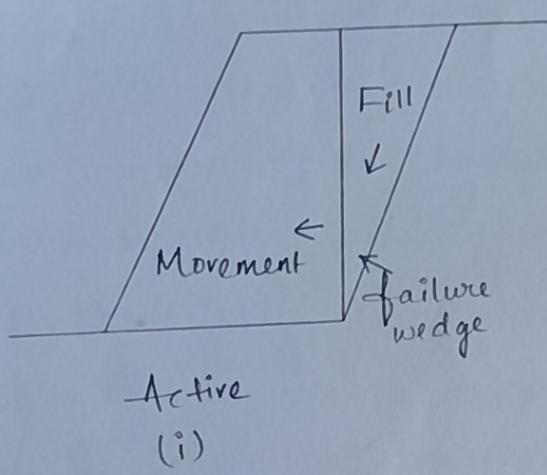
When the soil mass yields in such a way that it tends to stretch horizontally. It is a state of plastic equilibrium as the entire soil mass is on the verge of failure. A retaining wall when moves away from backfill, there is a stretching of the soil mass and active state of earth pressure exists.

### Passive Pressure :-

When the movement of the wall is such that the soil tends to compress horizontally. When the wall moves towards the backfill, there is an increase in the pressure on the wall & this increase continues until a max. value has reached after which there is no increase in the pressure & value will become constant. This pressure is known as passive earth pressure.



Variation of Pressure :-



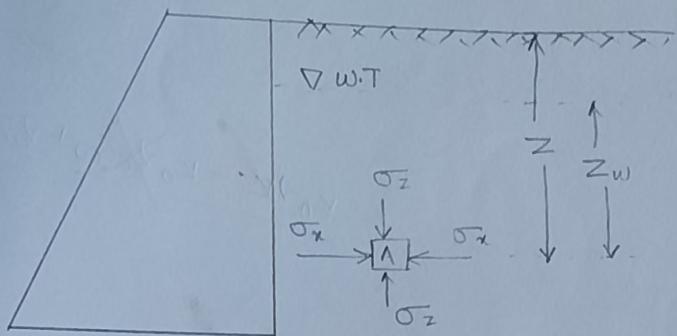
From fig.(i) we can see that the wall moves from the backfill and some portion of the backfill located immediately behind the wall tries to move away from the rest of soil mass.

This wedge - position is known as failure wedge which moves downward & outward. The lateral pressure exerted on wall is minimum in this case. The horizontal strain required to reach the active state of plastic equilibrium is very small.

In fig.(ii) the wall moves towards the backfill & the earth pressure increases. The failure wedge moves upward & inward. The maximum value of the earth pressure is the passive earth pressure.

So, the minimum earth pressure is the active state & the maximum earth pressure is the passive state. These are two extreme conditions of plastic equilibrium. The at-rest condition is a special case of an elastic equilibrium when the state of stress corresponding to the condition where there is no movement.

Ba...  
bre...  
v...  
la...  
e...  
A Pressure At-Rest.



A retaining wall is considered in which no movement takes place. The vertical effective stress at point A at a depth  $z$  is given by,

$$\bar{\sigma}_z = \gamma z - \gamma_w z_w$$

The coefficient of earth pressure at-rest ( $K_0$ ) is equal to the ratio of the horizontal stress to the vertical stress,

$$K_0 = \frac{\bar{\sigma}_x}{\bar{\sigma}_z}$$

$$\bar{\sigma}_x = \underbrace{K_0 \bar{\sigma}_z}_{\bar{\sigma}_x} = K_0 (\gamma z - \gamma_w z_w)$$

The horizontal stress  $\bar{\sigma}_x$  is represented as  $p_0$ ,

$$p_0 = K_0 \bar{\sigma}_z$$

The coefficient of lateral earth pressure at rest ( $K_0$ ) relates the effective stress.

The total lateral pressure ( $p_h$ ) is equal to the sum of horizontal effective pressure ( $p_0$ ) &

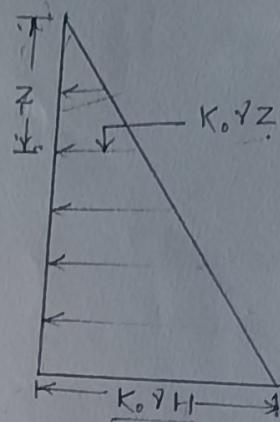
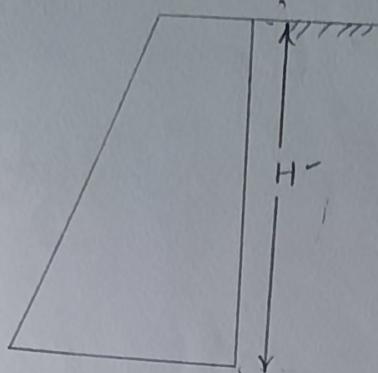
base water pressure ( $u$ ).

$$p_h = p_0 + u$$

Lateral earth pressure at depth  $z$ , is

$$p_h = K_o (\gamma z - \gamma_w z_w) + \gamma_w z_w$$

$$= \cancel{K_o \gamma z} - \cancel{K_o \gamma_w z_w} + \gamma_w z_w$$



At rest pressure

$$\begin{aligned} & K_o \times \sigma \\ & K_o \times 2D - \gamma_w D \\ & \Rightarrow K_o \times D \\ & = K_o \times H \end{aligned}$$

The pressure distribution is triangular with zero pressure at the top ( $z=0$ ), and max. pressure at the bottom of wall.

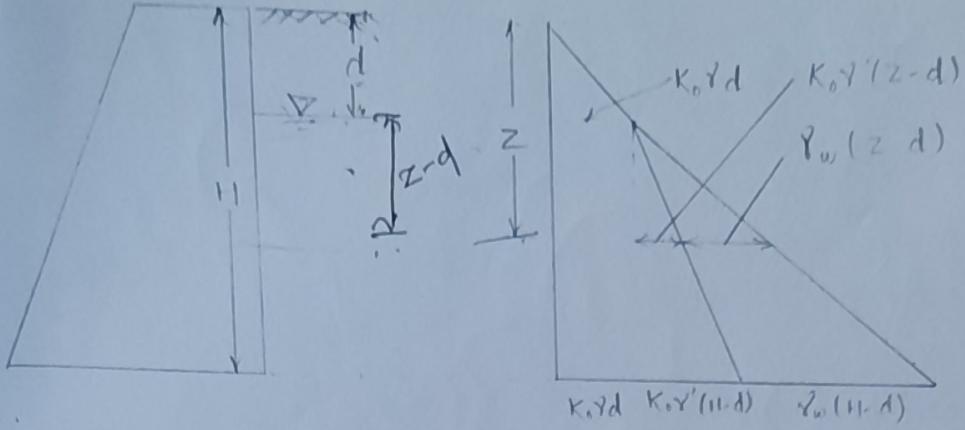
The pressure at bottom of wall is given by,

$$p_h = K_o \gamma H$$

Total pressure force per unit length of wall is given by,

$$P = \int_0^H K_o \gamma z dz = K_o \gamma \left[ \frac{z^2}{2} \right]_0^H$$

$$P = \frac{1}{2} K_o \gamma H^2$$



The pressure at depth  $z > d$  is given by,

$$P_h = K_0 (\gamma z - \gamma_w (z-d)) + \gamma_w (z-d)$$

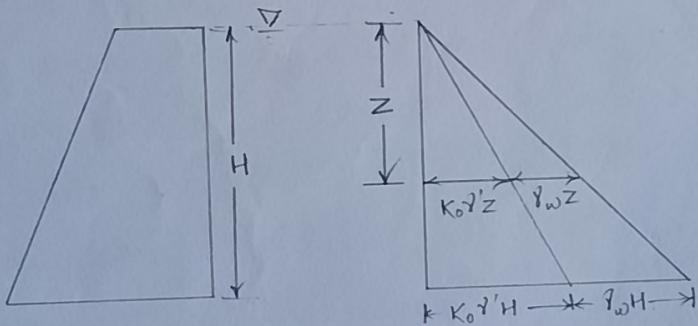
$$P_h = K_0 \gamma d + K_0 \gamma' (z-d) + \gamma_w (z-d).$$

The pressure at bottom ( $z = H$ ) of the wall is given by,

$$P_h = K_0 \gamma d + K_0 \gamma' (H-d) + \gamma_w (H-d).$$

If water table is at the ground surface, the pressure at the bottom of wall is given by, taking  $d=0$ ,

$$P_h = K_0 \gamma' H + \gamma_w H.$$



The resultant pressure acts at a distance of  $H/3$  from the base obtained from triangular pressure distribution diagram.

$K_0$  can be computed from the following <sup>exp.</sup>

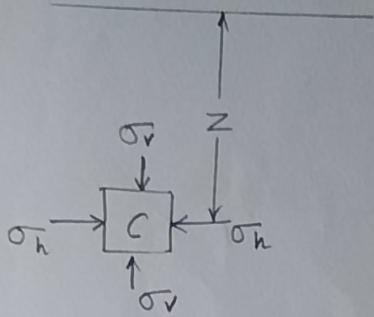
$$K_0 = 1 - \sin \phi$$

$$\frac{\sigma_h}{\sigma_v} = K_0 = \frac{\mu}{1-\mu}$$

where,

$\mu$  = Poisson's ratio.

### Active Earth Pressure:-



Consider an element  $C$  at a depth  $z$  below the ground level. The horizontal pressure is,

$$\sigma_h = K_0 \sigma_v$$

where,

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_v &= \text{vertical stress at } C \\ &= \gamma z\end{aligned}$$

→ The stress  $\sigma_h$  is minor principal stress &  $\sigma_v$  is major principal stress.

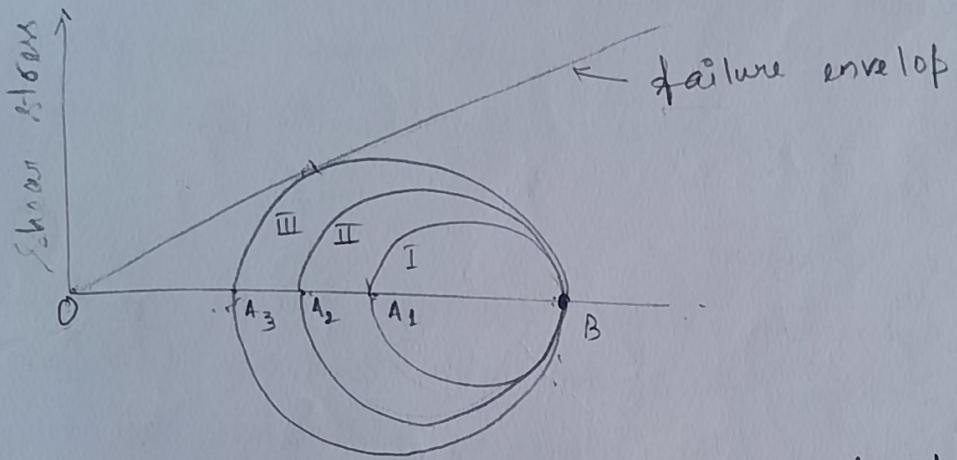
A retaining wall retains earth, if the retaining wall were not there, the backfill would assume a flat stable slope. When the backfill is retained, the wedge of soil above certain slope tends to slide & move away from rest of the backfill for equilibrium. It tends to push or rotate the wall away from the backfill if the wall is free to move.

Movement of wall away from backfill causes expansion of backfill, resulting in stress release

by reducing the lateral earth pressure. Thus the movement of wall away from the backfill, is horizontal strain in backfill in form of expansion and less is lateral earth pressure. (19)

Initially the wall is in state of rest, subjected to vertical stress due to self wt. of soil above the element & lateral earth pressure in horizontal direction.

The state of stress in soil is represented by Mohr's Circle I, where OB is vertical stress & OA<sub>1</sub> is lateral earth pressure at rest.



When lateral earth pressure tends to push the wall away from backfill, the movement of wall away from the backfill causes expansion of backfill resulting in stress release, thereby reducing the lateral earth pressure. Thus more the movement of wall away from the backfill, more is the

horizontal strain in the backfill in form of sign & the less is the lateral earth pressure.

(ii) The Mohr's Circle II in which  $\sigma_h = \sigma_3 = \sigma_{A_2}$  & reduced lateral earth pressure while vertical  $\sigma_V = \sigma_1 = \sigma_B$  remains constant.

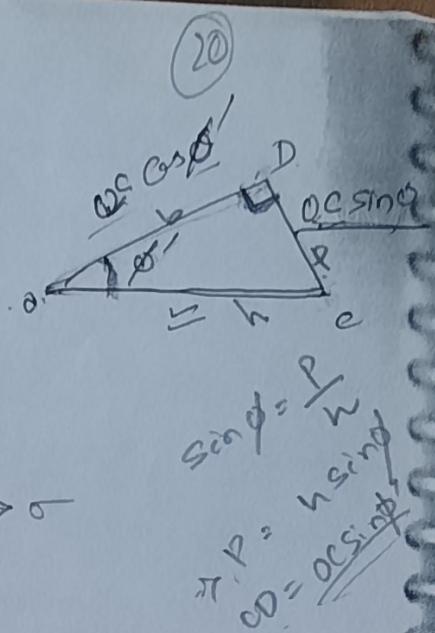
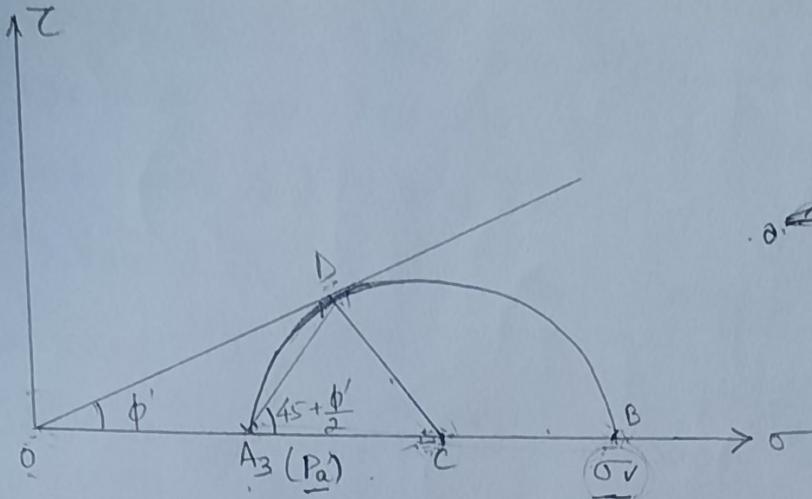
The decrease in earth pressure due to movement of wall away from the backfill & expansion & release continues until Mohr's Circle touches failure envelope of backfill material & it is obtained from Mohr's Circle (III) where backfill is on verge of failure and no further decrease in lateral earth pressure can take place.

This minimum lateral earth pressure exerted on the retaining wall, when the wall moves away from the backfill is known as active earth pressure.

### Passive Earth Pressure:-

All retaining walls are not placed on the ground surface on the front side but are laid at some depth. Hence, the retaining walls has soil to some depth on its front side. When wall moves away from the backfill due to active earth pressure, it actually moves towards the soil on front side.

This movement is resisted by the front soil & exerts a lateral pressure on the wall, in the direction opposite to active earth pressure.



$$P_a = OA_3 = OC - A_3 C$$

$$A_3 C = DC = OC \sin \phi'$$

$$\checkmark P_a = OC - OC \sin \phi' = OC(1 - \sin \phi') \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

$$O_r = OB = OC + CB = OC + OC \sin \phi' \quad OB = CD.$$

$$O_r = OC(1 + \sin \phi') \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

From eqn. (i) & (ii),

$$\frac{P_a}{O_r} = \frac{1 - \sin \phi'}{1 + \sin \phi'}$$

$$P_a = \left( \frac{1 - \sin \phi'}{1 + \sin \phi'} \right) O_r$$

$$P_a = K_a \cdot Z$$

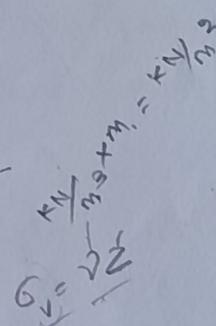
$K_a$  = coefficient of active earth pressure.

$$= \frac{1 - \sin \phi'}{1 + \sin \phi'} = \tan^2 \left( 45 - \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

at rest  
 $K_a^2 / 2$

active  $K_a^2$

passive  $K_p^2$

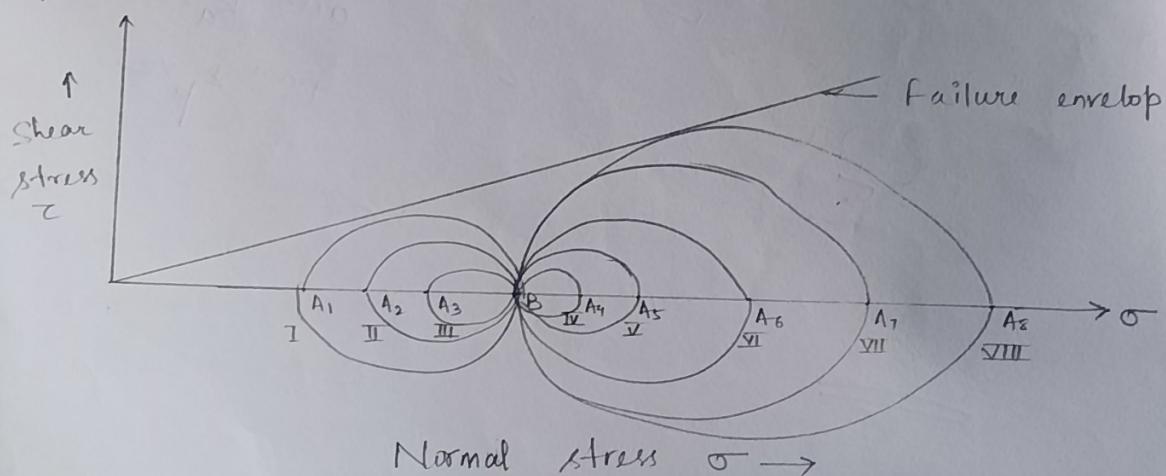


## Passive Earth Pressure :-

All retaining walls are not placed on the surface on the front side but are laid at depth. Hence, the retaining wall has soil to depth on its front side. When wall moves from the backfill due to active earth pressure, it actually moves towards the soil on front side.

This movement is resisted by the front soil exerts a lateral pressure on the wall in the direction opp. to active earth pressure. The movement of wall towards the front soil causes comp. of soil which ultimately increases the lateral pressure from the front soil.

More the movement of wall towards the front soil, the more is horizontal strain in the front soil in form of paction and more is lateral earth pressure.



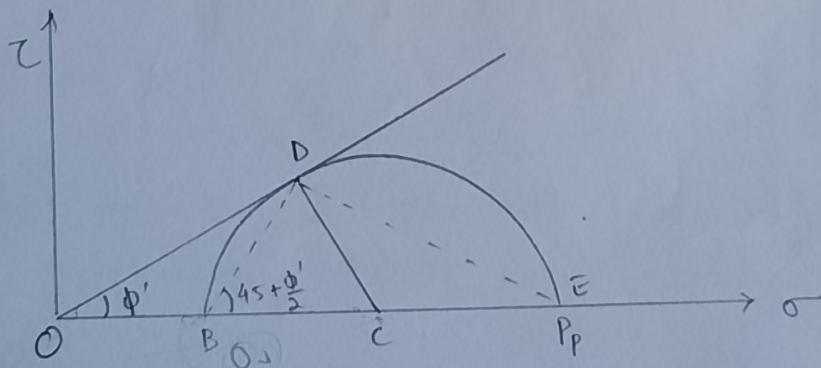
In Mohr's Circle II,  $\sigma_h = \sigma_v - \sigma_b$  is increased  
lateral earth pressure, whereas vertical stress  $\sigma_v = \sigma_b$   
remains constant.

Increase in lateral earth pressure causes decrease  
diameter of Mohr's Circle as II & III. Further  
increase in lateral earth pressure <sup>from</sup> front soil makes  
it higher than vertical stress. At this stage lateral  
earth pressure becomes major principal stress &  
vertical stress becomes the minor principal stress.

The increase in lateral earth pressure due to  
movement of wall towards the front soil & compression  
continues until Mohr's circle touches the failure  
envelope of front soil.

When Mohr's circle touches the failure  
envelope, the front soil is on verge of failure &  
no further increase in lateral earth pressure can  
take place.

The max. lateral earth pressure exerted on  
the retaining wall, when the wall moves towards  
the front soil, while it reaches its limiting  
equilibrium, is known as passive earth pressure.



$$P_p = \sigma_c + \sigma_l$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_c + \sigma_l = \sigma_c + \sigma_c \sin \phi' \cdot \sigma_c (1 + \sin \phi')$$

$$\sigma_l = \sigma_c - \sigma_c \cos \phi' = \sigma_c - \sigma_c \cos \phi'$$

$$\therefore \sigma_l = \sigma_c (1 - \cos \phi')$$

From eqn. (i) & (ii),

$$\frac{P_p}{\sigma_l} = \frac{\sigma_c (1 + \sin \phi')}{\sigma_c (1 - \cos \phi')} \cdot \frac{1 + \sin \phi'}{1 - \cos \phi'}$$

$$\Rightarrow P_p = \left( \frac{1 + \sin \phi'}{1 - \cos \phi'} \right) \sigma_l$$

$$P_p = K_p \gamma Z$$

$K_p$  = coefficient of passive earth pressure,

$$K_p = \frac{1 + \sin \phi'}{1 - \cos \phi'} = \tan^2 \left( 45 + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

### Rankine's Theory:-

Rankine's theory of lateral earth pressure is applied to uniform cohesionless soils only. Following are the assumptions of Rankine's theory:-

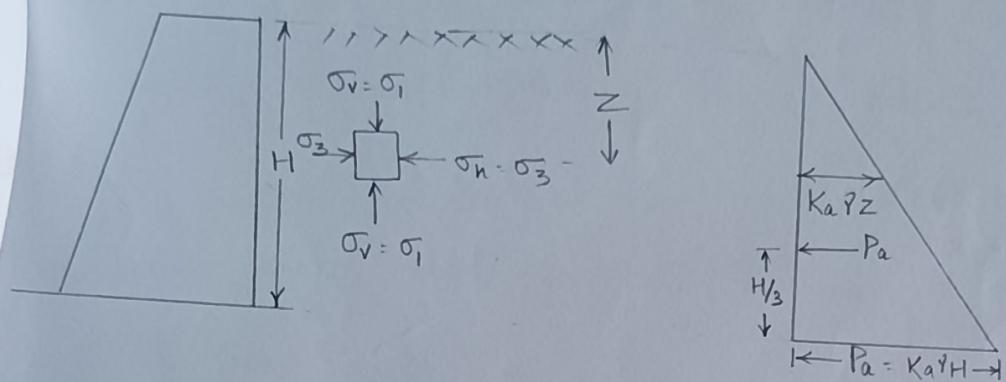
- i) The soil mass is semi-infinite, homogeneous, dry & cohesionless.
- ii) The ground surface is plane which may be horizontal or inclined.
- iii) The back of the wall is vertical & smooth.
- iv) The wall yields about the base & satisfies the deformation conditions for plastic equilibrium.

The following cases of cohesionless backfill will be considered :-

(22)

- (i) Dry or moist backfill with no surcharge.
- Submerged backfill.
- Backfill with uniform surcharge.

Dry or moist Backfill with no surcharge :-



Consider an element at depth  $z$  below the ground surface.

When wall is at the point of moving outward (i.e away from the backfill) active state of plastic equilibrium is established. The horizontal pressure  $\sigma_h$  is then min. principal stress  $\sigma_3$  & vertical pressure  $\sigma_v$  is major principal stress  $\sigma_1$ .

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 \tan^2(45 + \frac{\phi}{2})$$

$$\frac{\sigma_3}{\sigma_1} = \frac{\sigma_h}{\sigma_v} = \frac{P_a}{\sigma_v} = \frac{1}{\tan^2(45 + \frac{\phi}{2})} = \cot^2(45 + \frac{\phi}{2})$$

$$P_o = \sigma_r + \sigma_f$$

where,

$$\sigma_h = \text{lateral earth pressure} = p_a$$

$$\sigma_v = \text{vertical pressure} = \gamma \cdot z$$

$$p_a = \gamma \cdot z \cdot \cot^2(45^\circ + \frac{\phi}{2}) = K_a \gamma z$$

$$K_a = \frac{1 - \sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi}$$

At  $z = H$ , the earth pressure is,

$$p_a = K_a \gamma H$$

The total active earth pressure  $p_a$ ,

$$p_a = \frac{1}{2} K_a \gamma H^2$$

acting at  $H/3$  above base of wall.

If soil is dry,  $\gamma$  is dry unit wt. of soil & if wet,  $\gamma$  is moist unit wt.

### Submerged Backfill :-

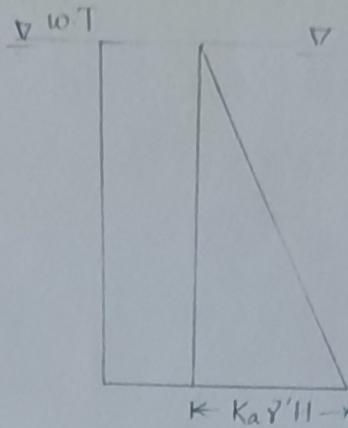
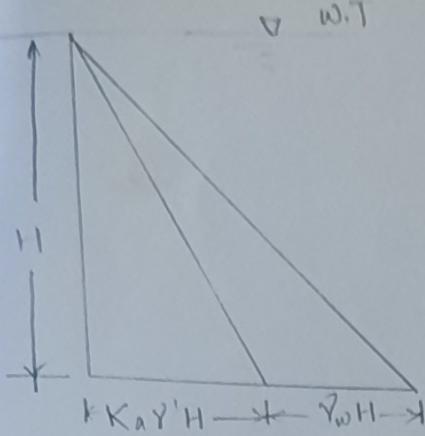
In this case, the sandfill behind retaining wall is saturated with water.

The lateral pressure is made up of two components:

- i) lateral pressure due to submerged wt.  $\gamma'$  of soil.
- ii) lateral pressure due to water.

The pressure at a depth  $z$  below the surface,

$$p_a = K_a \gamma' z + \gamma_w z$$

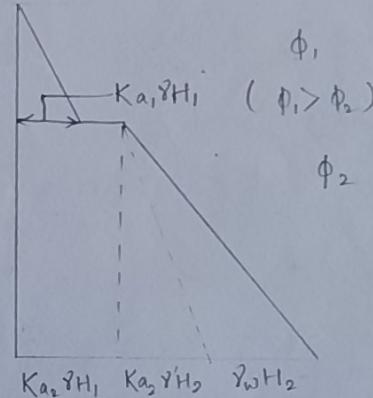
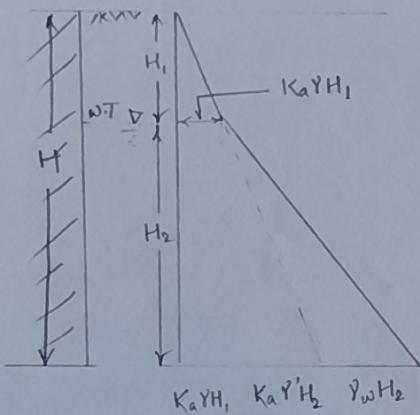


The pressure at base of retaining wall ( $z=H$ ) is,

$$P_a = K_a \gamma' H + P_w H$$

If water stands on both sides of wall the water pressure need not be considered,

$$P_a = K_a \gamma' H$$



If backfill is partly submerged i.e. the backfill is moist to a depth  $H_1$  below the ground level & then it is submerged, the lateral pressure at base is

$$P_a = K_a \gamma H_1 + K_a \gamma' H_2 + \gamma_w H_2$$

It is assumed that the value of  $\phi$  is same as well as submerged soil.

If value of  $\phi$  is different i.e.  $\phi_1 & \phi_2$ , the earth pressure coefficient  $K_a$  &  $K_a'$  will be different for both positions.

If  $\phi$  increases,  $K_a$  decrease.

The lateral earth pressure at the base,

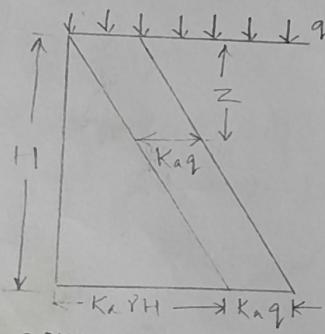
$$P_a = K_a \gamma H_1 + K_a' \gamma' H_2 + \gamma_w H_2$$

### Backfill with Uniform Surcharge :-

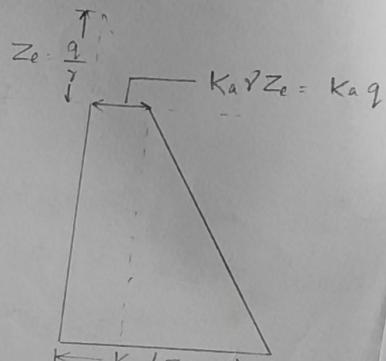
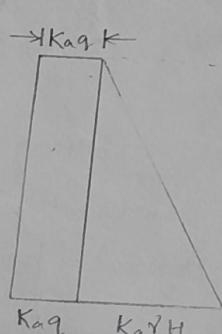
If the backfill is horizontal & carries a surcharge of uniform intensity  $q$  per unit area, the vertical pressure increment, at any depth  $z$ , will increase by  $q$ . The increase in pressure due to this will be  $K_a q$ .

Hence, lateral pressure at any depth  $z$  is given by,

$$P_a = K_a \gamma z + K_a q$$



At the base of wall,  $P_a = K_a \gamma H + K_a q$



# 9.0 FOUNDATION ENGINEERING

## DEFINITION:-

It is the lower portion of the building usually set below ground level, which transmits the loads of the super structure to the supporting soil. So, foundation is that part of the structure which is in direct contact with the ground to which loads are transmitted.

## FUNCTIONS OF FOUNDATION:-

### i) Reduction of Load Intensity

Foundation distributes the loads of the super structure, to a larger area so that the intensity of the load at its base ( total load divided by the total area) does not exceed the safe bearing capacity of the sub-soil.

### ii) Even Distribution of Load

Foundation distribute the non-uniform load of super structure evenly to the sub-soil. For example, two columns carrying unequal loads can have a combined footing which may transmit the load to sub-soil evenly with uniform soil pressure. Due to this, unequal or differential settlements are minimized.

### iii) Provision of level Surface

- Foundation provide leveled & hard surface which the super structure can be built.

### iv) Lateral Stability

It anchors the super structure to the ground thus imparting lateral stability to the super structure. The stability of the building, again against sliding & overturning due to horizontal forces (such as wind, earthquake etc) is increased due to foundation.

### v) Safety against Undermining

It provides the structural safety against undermining or scouring due to burrowing animals & flood water.

### vi) Protection Against Soil Movements

Special foundation measures prevents or minimizes the cracks in the superstructure, due to expansion or contraction of the sub-soil because of moisture movement in some problematic soils.

### SHALLOW FOUNDATION:

A foundation is said to be shallow if its depth is equal to or less than the width of foundation.

## FOUNDATION:

When the depth of foundation is greater or equal to width of foundation, it is known as deep foundation.

(3)

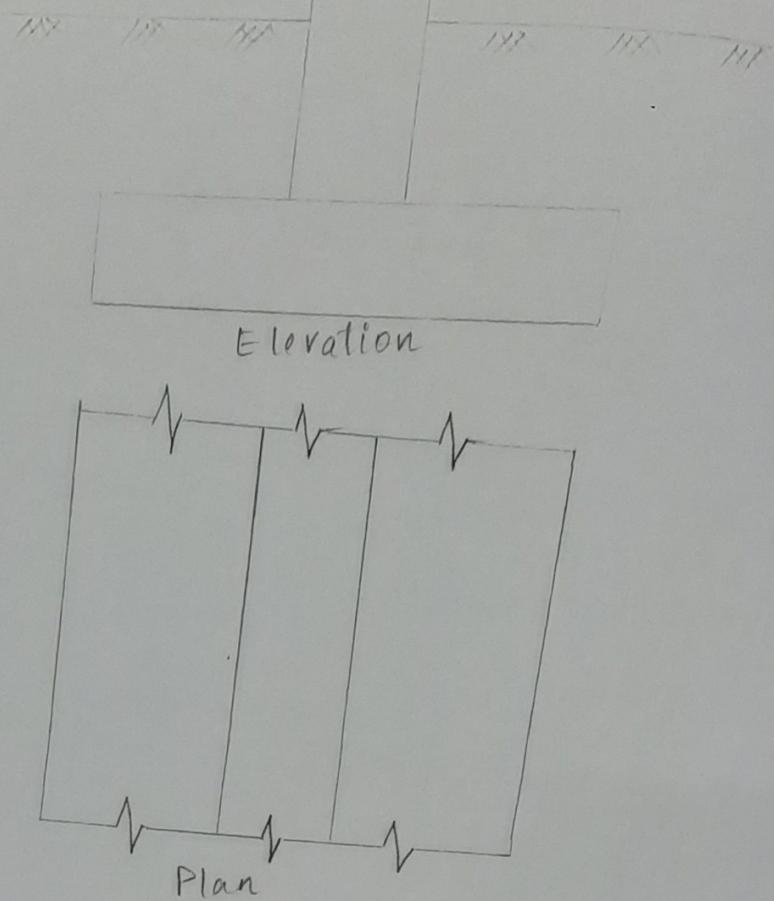
## TYPES OF SHALLOW FOUNDATION:-

The various types of shallow foundations are as follows:-

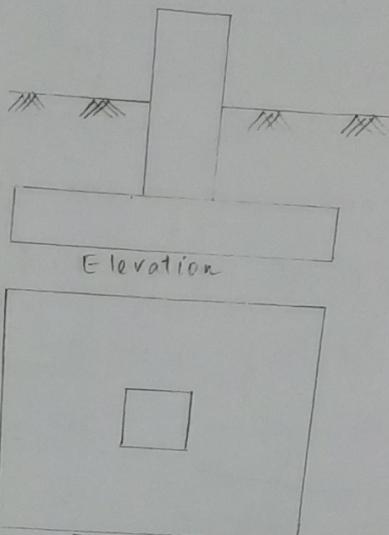
- i) Strip footing
- ii) Spread or Isolated footing
- iii) Combined footing.
- iv) Strap or Cantilever footing
- v) Mat or Raft foundation

### Strip Footing:-

A strip footing is provided for a load bearing wall. A strip footing is also provided for a row of columns which are so closely spaced that their spread footings overlap or nearly touch each other. In such a case, it is more economical to provide a strip footing than to provide a no. of spread footings in one line. A strip footing is also known as continuous footing.



Spread or Isolated Footing:-

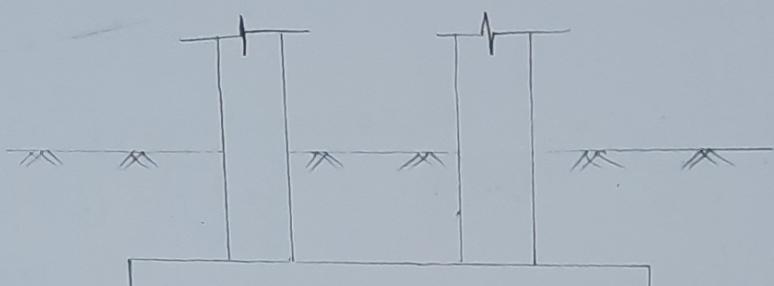


A spread footing also called as isolated footing and individual footing is provided to support an individual column.

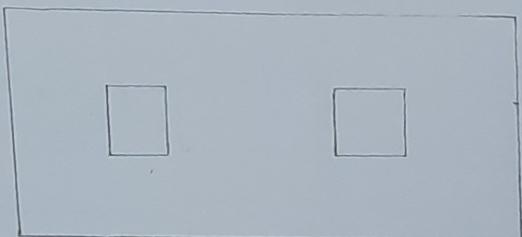
A spread footing is circular, square or rectangular slab of uniform thickness. Sometimes it is stepped to spread the load over a large area.

## Combined Footing :-

A combined footing supports two columns. It is used when the two columns are so close to each other that their individual footings would overlap. A combined footing is also provided when the property line is so close to one column that a spread footing would be eccentrically loaded when kept entirely within the property line. By combining it with that of an interior column, the load is evenly distributed. A combined footing may be rectangular or trapezoidal in plan.



Elevation



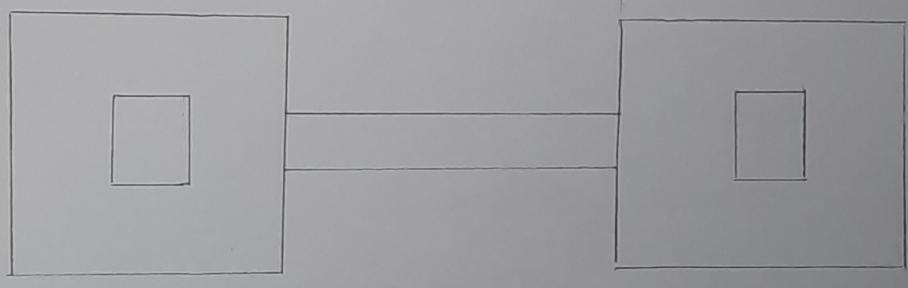
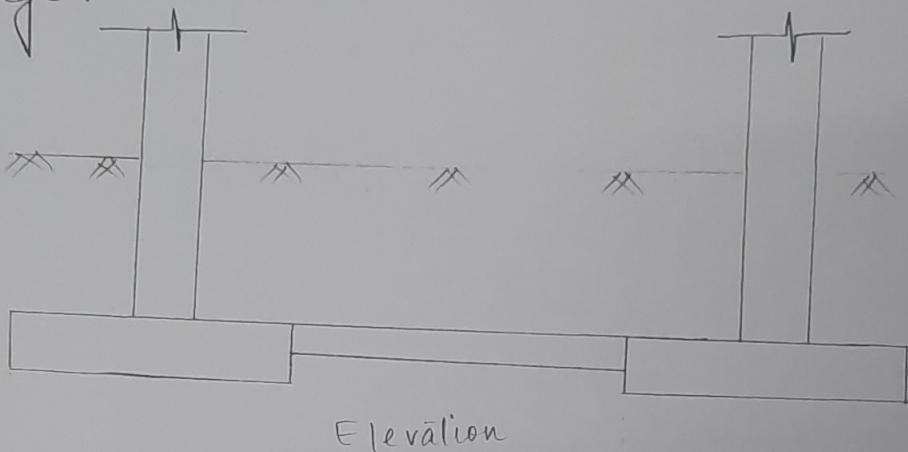
Plan

## iv) Provision of Level Foundation:

### Strip or Cantilever Footing:

A strip (or cantilever) footing consists of isolated footings connected with a structural or a lever. The strip connects the two footings that they behave as one unit. The strip is designed as a rigid beam. The individual footings are so designed that their combined line of action passes through the resultant of the total load.

A strip footing is more economical than a combined footing when the allowable soil pressure is relatively high & the distance between the columns is large.

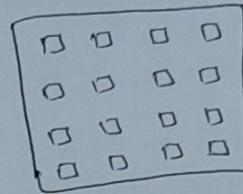


Plan

## 6) Mat or Raft Foundation :-

A mat or raft foundation is a large slab supporting a no. of columns & walls under the entire structure or a large part of the structure. A mat is required when the allowable soil pressure is low or where the columns & walls are so close that individual footings would overlap or nearly touch each other.

Mat foundations are useful in reducing the differential settlements on non-homogeneous soil or where there is a large variation in the loads on individual columns.



## (T) TYPES OF DEEP FOUNDATION:-

Deep foundation is classified into the following

three types:-

- 1) Pile foundation
- 2) Pier foundation
- 3) Well (Caisson) foundation

### Pile Foundation :-

Pile is a slender member with small area of cross-section relative to its length. They can transfer load either by friction or by bearing. Pile foundation

Provision :-  
are used when :-

- The load is to be transferred to stronger or compressible stratum, preferably rock.
- The granular soil need to be compacted.
- The horizontal & inclined forces need to be carried from the bridge abutments & retaining walls.

### Classification of Pile Foundation :-

The pile foundation can be further classified following types on various basis such as function, material, method of installation which are listed below

i) Based on function :-

- Bearing pile
- Friction pile
- Combined pile (both bearing & friction)

ii) Based on material :-

- Timber piles
- Concrete piles
- Steel piles

iii) Based on method of installation :-

- Large displacement piles
- Small displacement piles
- Non-displacement piles

## Foundation :-

(2)

These are underground cylindrical structural elements that support heavier load of the structure. Shallow foundation cannot resist. Pier foundation can only transfer load by bearing. Pier foundation are shallower in depth than the pile foundation. Pier foundation are used when:-

- 3. The top strata is a decomposed rock underlying sound rock strata.
- 4. The soil is stiff clay that occurs large resistance for driving the bearing pile.

## Well (Caissons) Foundation:-

Caissons refer to box or a case. These are hollow inside & are usually constructed at the site & sunk in place into a hard bearing strata. As they are expensive in construction, they are restricted to major foundation works. Well foundations are suitable when the soil contains large boulders obstructing the penetration during installation of pier or pile foundations. Caissons are used for bridge piers, abutments in rivers & lakes & other

are used when :-  
shore protection works. They are used to  
heavy vertical loads & horizontal loads  
in the construction of large water front  
as pump houses.

### Classification of Wall Foundation :-

- Open caissons
- Pneumatic caissons
- Box caissons

## OF FAILURE :-

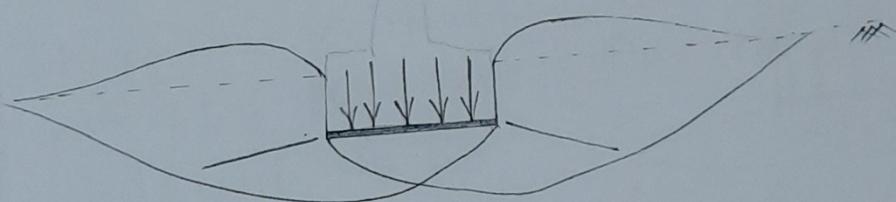
When load of the structure is more than bearing capacity of soil, the footing fails. There are three types of failures, they are :-

i) General shear failure.

- ii) Local shear failure
- iii) Punching shear failure.

### General Shear Failure :-

- Continuous failure surfaces develop between the edge of footing & ground surface.
- When pressure on footing reaches ultimate bearing capacity, the soil around edge of footing gradually spreads downwards & outwards.
- In this type of failure considerable bulging of soil takes place.
- It occurs in soil of low compressibility i.e. dense or stiff soil.



are used when :-

Characteristics of general shear failure :-

- i) It has well defined failure surface, upto ground surface.
- ii) There is considerable bulging of soil mass to the footing.
- iii) Failure is accompanied by tilting of footing.
- iv) Failure is sudden.
- v) The ultimate bearing capacity is well defined.

Local Shear Failure :-

- In this failure significant compression of soil under the footing takes place due to this reason the failure surfaces do not reach the ground surface and only slight hearing occurs.
- In this failure tilting of foundation is not expected.
- Failure is not sudden & characterised by occurrence of relatively large settlements.



<sup>10</sup>  
Failure occurs in soil of high compressibility  
and in sand having relative density lying  
between 35 & 70%.

Ultimate bearing capacity in such type of failure  
not well defined.

Characteristics of local shear failure :-

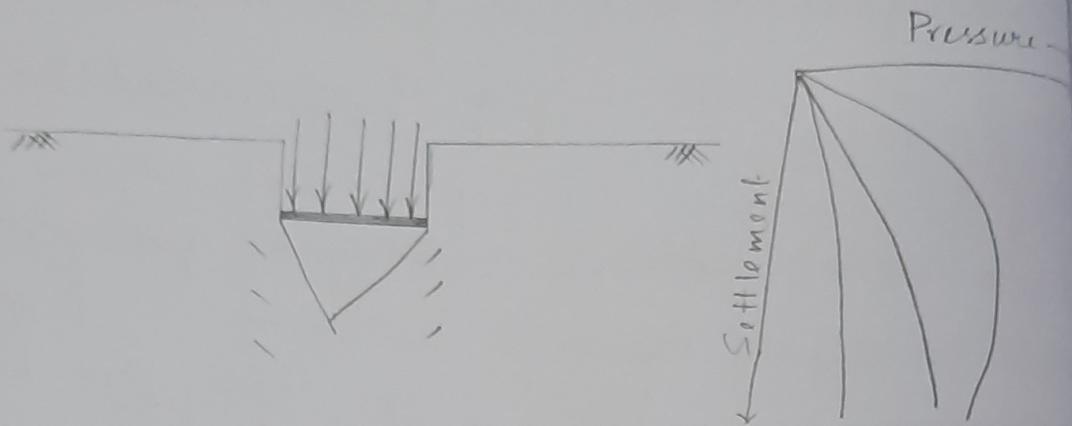
- Failure surfaces do not reach ground surface.
- There is only slight bulging of soil around the footing.
- Failure is not sudden & no tilting of footing.
- Failure is defined by large settlements.
- Ultimate bearing capacity is not well defined.

arching Shear Failure :-

- It occurs in relatively high compressible soil under the footing along with shearing in vertical direction around the edge of footing.
- It occurs in relatively loose sand with relative density less than 35%. It also occurs in soil of low compressibility.

are used when :-

- The failure surface is vertical or slight and follows the perimeter of base & never the ground surface.
- There is no heaving of the ground surface from the edges & no tilting of footing.
- Relatively large settlements takes place.
- The ultimate bearing capacity is not well defined.



Characteristics of Punching shear failure :-

- i) No failure pattern is observed.
- ii) The failure surface which is vertical, follows the perimeter of base.
- iii) No bulging of soil around the footing.
- iv) No tilting of footing.
- v) Ultimate bearing capacity is not well defined.
- vi) Large settlement takes place.

## BEARING CAPACITY OF SOIL:-

Foundation Soil:- It is -the upper part of the earth carrying -the load of -the structure.

Bearing Capacity :- It is -the capacity of soil to support -the loads applied to the ground.

Gross Pressure Intensity ( $q$ ) :- It is -the total pressure at -the base of -the footing due to weight of the superstructure, self-weight of footing & wt. of earth fill , if any .

\* Net-pressure intensity ( $q_n$ ):- It is -the excess pressure, or the difference in intensities of -the gross pressure after the construction of the structure and original overburden pressure .

$$q_n = q - \gamma D$$

where,

$D$  = depth of footing

$\gamma$  = avg. unit wt. of soil above foundation base.

\* Ultimate Bearing Capacity ( $q_u$ ):-

It is the minimum gross pressure intensity at the base of foundation at which the soil fails

\* Provisional values are used when no test results are available.

\* Net Ultimate Bearing Capacity ( $q_{nf}$ ):- It is the minimum net pressure intensity causing shear failure of soil.

$$q_f = q_{nf} + \bar{\sigma} \quad \text{or} \quad q_{nf} = q_s - \bar{\sigma}$$

where,

$\bar{\sigma}$  = effective surcharge at the base level of foundation.

\* Effective surcharge at the base level of foundation ( $\bar{\sigma}$ ):- It is the intensity of vertical pressure at the base level of foundation, computing assuming total unit wt. of the portion of the soil above the water table & submerged unit wt. for the portion below the water table.

\* Net safe bearing Capacity ( $q_{ns}$ ):- It is the net ultimate bearing capacity divided by a factor of safety F.

$$q_{ns} = \frac{q_{nf}}{F}$$

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

$$q_s = q_{ns} + \gamma D = \frac{q_{ns}}{F} + \gamma D$$

(7)

is also known as ultimate bearing capacity divided by a factor of safety F.

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.

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 detrimental to the structure.  
(harmful or damaging)

Minimum Depth :-

IS codes specifies that all foundations should extend to a depth of at least 50cm below the natural ground surface. But in case of rocks, only the top soil should be removed & the surface should be cleaned.

Sometimes, the minimum depth of foundation is determined from Rankines formula,

$$D_{\min} = \frac{q}{\gamma} \left( \frac{1 - \sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} \right)$$

where,

$q$ : intensity of loading

$\gamma$ : unit wt. of soil.

Bearing Capacity of Soil using Terzaghi

$$q_p = c N_c + \bar{\sigma} N_q + 0.5 \gamma B N_y$$

$$\Rightarrow q_{ns} = c N_c + \bar{\sigma} (N_q - 1) + 0.5 \gamma B N_y$$

where,

$c \cdot N_c$  = effect of cohesion

$\bar{\sigma} N_q$  = effect of overburden

$\gamma B N_y$  = effect of soil in shearing zone.

$N_c, N_q$  &  $N_y$  = Bearing capacity factors.

Terzaghi gave the following eqn. for bearing capacity factors.

$$N_c = (N_q - 1) \cdot \cot \phi$$

$$N_q = \frac{a^2}{2 \cdot \cos^2 (45 + \frac{\phi}{2})}$$

$$N_y = \frac{1}{2} \tan \phi \left[ \frac{K_p \gamma}{\cos^2 \phi} - 1 \right]$$

$K_p$  = passive earth pressure coefficient

( $3\frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$ ). tan  $\phi$

case of taking account the shape of the footing (strip, round, square etc). Terzaghi used only shape factors with cohesion ( $S_c$ ) & base ( $S_y$ ) terms. Taking into account these factors, Terzaghi's original eqn. can be written as :-

$$q_f = c N_c S_c + \bar{\sigma} N_q + 0.5 \gamma B N_y S_y$$

Shape	Strip	Round	Square	Rectangle
$S_c$	→ 1.0	→ 1.3	→ 1.3	→ $1 + 0.3 \frac{B}{L}$
$S_y$	→ 1.0	→ 0.6	→ 0.8	→ 0.8 or $1 - 0.2 \frac{B}{L}$

a) Frictional cohesive soil ( $c-\phi$  soil)

For circular footing

$$q_f = 1.3 c N_c + \bar{\sigma} N_q + 0.3 \gamma B N_y$$

where,  $B$  = dia. of footing

For square footing,

$$q_f = 1.3 c N_c + \bar{\sigma} N_q + 0.4 \gamma B N_y$$

where,  $B$  = width or length of footing

For strip footing,

$$q_f = c N_c + \bar{\sigma} N_q + 0.5 \gamma B N_y$$

$\rightarrow$  Cohesive Soil ( $\phi = 0, c > 0$ ) ✓

For circular footing,

$$q_f = 1.3cN_c + \bar{\sigma} = 7.4c + \bar{\sigma}$$

For strip footing,

$$q_f = c 5.7c + \bar{\sigma}$$

For rectangular & square footing,

$$q_f = c N_c \left(1 + 0.3 \frac{B}{L}\right) + \bar{\sigma}$$

c) Non-cohesive Soil ( $\phi > 0, c = 0$ ) ✓

For strip footing,

$$q_f = \bar{\sigma} N_q + 0.5 \gamma B N_y$$

For rectangular & square footing,

$$q_f = \bar{\sigma} N_q + 0.4 \gamma B N_y$$

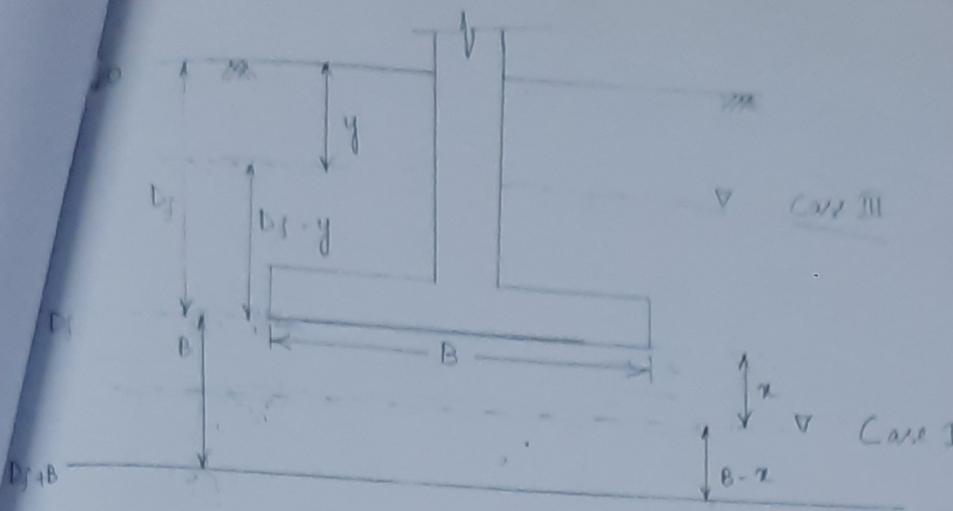
For circular footing,

$$q_f = \bar{\sigma} N_q + 0.3 \gamma B N_y$$

Terzaghi's Equation for Location of Water Table:-

Terzaghi's eqn. for strip footing,

$$q_{nf} = c N_c + \bar{\sigma} (N_q - 1) + 0.5 \gamma B N_y$$



Case I - when water table is below depth  $D_f + B$ ,

$$q_{mf} = cN_c + \gamma D(N_g - 1) + 0.5 \gamma_B N_g$$

where,

$\gamma$  = Bulk unit wt.

Case II - when water table is between  $D_f$  &  $D_f + B$ ,

$$q_{mf} = cN_c + \gamma D(N_g - 1) + 0.5 [x\gamma + (B - x)\gamma_{sub}] N_g$$

Case III - when water table is between 0 to  $D_f$ ,

$$q_{mf} = cN_c + [\gamma y + (D_f - y)\gamma_{sub}] (N_g - 1) + 0.5 \gamma_B N_g$$

$$q_u = (cN_c + \gamma D N_g + 0.5 \gamma_B N_g) - \gamma D$$

$$q_m = q_u - \gamma D - \gamma D(N_g - 1)$$

Another Method,

$$q_{nf} = c N_c + 8 D_f (N_q - 1) R_{w_1} + 0.5 \gamma_B N_y R_{w_2}$$

$R_{w_1}$  &  $R_{w_2}$  = correction factors for the terms  
 $N_q$  &  $N_y$  for the effect of water.

$$R_{w_1} = 0.5 \left( 1 + \frac{D_w}{D_f} \right) \text{ when } 0 < \frac{D_w}{B} \leq 1$$

where  $D_w$  = depth of water table below the  
level limited to a depth of  $D_f$ .

$$\& R_{w_2} = 0.5 \left( 1 + \frac{D_w'}{B} \right) \text{ when } 0 < \frac{D_w'}{B} < 1$$

where,

$D_w'$  = depth of water table measured from the  
base of footing with a limiting value  
equal to width of footing.

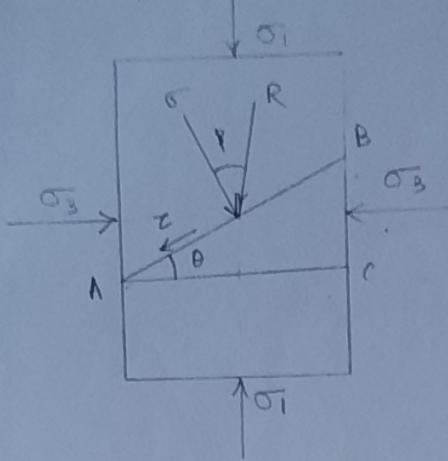
## 7.0 Shear Strength.

It is the maximum resistance to shear stress just before failure.

- Soils are not much subjected to direct shear, they are subjected to direct compression from which shear stress develops.
- Shear failure of soil occurs when shear stress induced due to the applied compressive load exceeds the shear strength of the soil.
- Failure in soil occurs by relative movement of the particles and not by breaking of particles.
- At every point on a stressed body, there are three planes on which the shear stresses are zero. These planes are known as principal planes. The plane with max. compressive stress ( $\sigma_1$ ) is called major principal plane and with minimum compressive stress ( $\sigma_3$ ) as minor principal plane. The third principal plane is subjected to a stress which has the value between  $\sigma_1$  &  $\sigma_3$ , Known as intermediate principal plane.
- The stresses on intermediate principal plane are not much relevant only major principal stress ( $\sigma_1$ ) & minor principal stress ( $\sigma_3$ ) are generally important.

In soil mechanics compressive stresses are taken as positive & tensile stresses as negative.

### 7.1 Concept of shear strength



Consider a plane. The major & minor principal stresses acts on this plane. The major principal plane is horizontal & minor principal plane is vertical.

The plane AB is inclined at an angle  $\theta$  to the major principal

plane AC.

Resolving forces acting on wedge ABC in horizontal,

$$\sigma_3 \text{ BC} = \sigma_{AB} \sin\theta - \tau_{AB} \cos\theta$$

where,  $\sigma$  = normal stress on AB.

$\tau$  = shear stress on AB.

The above eqn. is simplified as,

$$\sigma_3 \frac{BC}{AB} = \sigma \sin\theta - \tau \cos\theta.$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_3 \sin\theta = \sigma \sin\theta - \tau \cos\theta \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

Resolving forces vertical,

$$\sigma_1 \text{ AC} = \sigma_{AB} \cos\theta + \tau_{AB} \sin\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_1 \cos\theta = \sigma \cos\theta + \tau \sin\theta \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

In this method, an angle  $\theta$  is selected & normal stresses are plotted along horizontal axis  
 construction is known as Mohr's Circle.  
 a plane inclined to principal planes. The graphical method for determination of stress is graphical method for determination of stress.

Otto Mohr, a German scientist derived a

Mohr's Circle:-

Plane AC.

Plane AB, making an angle  $\theta$  with the major principal

Eqn. (a) & (b) give the stresses on the inclined

$$(b) \quad \sigma = \frac{\sigma_1 + \sigma_3}{2} + \frac{(\sigma_1 - \sigma_3)}{2} \cos \alpha \theta \quad \leftarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma = \sigma_3 + (\sigma_1 - \sigma_3) \left( \frac{1 + \cos \alpha \theta}{2} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_3 = \sigma - (\sigma_1 - \sigma_3) \cos^2 \theta$$

$$\sigma_3 \sin \theta = \sigma \sin \theta - \frac{\sigma_1 - \sigma_3}{2} \sin \alpha \theta \cdot \cos \theta$$

Substituting the value of  $\sigma_3$  in eqn. (1),

$$(a) \quad \Rightarrow C = \frac{1}{2} (\sigma_1 - \sigma_3) \sin \alpha \theta$$

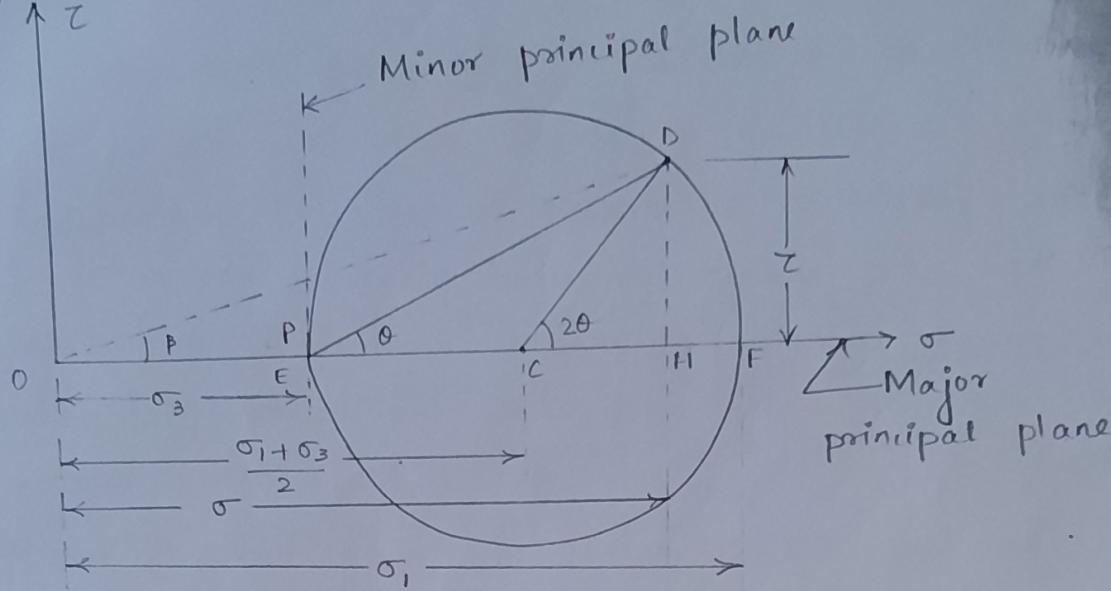
$$(\sigma_1 - \sigma_3) \sin \alpha \theta = \sigma (\cos \alpha \theta - \cos \theta) + 2 (\sin \theta)$$

$$(\sigma_1 - \sigma_3) \sin \theta \cos \theta = \sigma (\cos \theta \sin \theta - \cos \theta \sin \theta) + 2 (\sin \theta)$$

Multiplying eqn. (1) by  $\cos \theta$  & adding eqn. 8

shear stresses on vertical axis.  
As comp. stress are taken positive, they are plotted towards right of origin.

The positive shear stresses are plotted upward from origin



Point E represents the minor principal stress  $\sigma_3$  & point F, the major principal stress  $\sigma_1$ . Point C is the mid-point with the normal stress coordinate equal to  $\frac{(\sigma_1 + \sigma_3)}{2}$ . The circle is drawn with C as center and EF as diameter.

This circle is known as Mohr's circle. Each point on the circle gives the stresses  $\sigma$  &  $\tau$  on a particular plane.

The point D on the circle gives the stresses on the plane AB inclined at an angle  $\theta$  to the

major principal plane. The line DE makes an angle with  $\sigma$ -axis. The angle DCF subtended at the center is twice the angle DEC.

$$OH = OC + CH$$

$$\Rightarrow OH = \frac{\sigma_1 + \sigma_3}{2} + \frac{\sigma_1 - \sigma_3}{2} \cos 2\theta = \sigma$$

$$\Rightarrow DH = CD \sin 2\theta = \frac{\sigma_1 - \sigma_3}{2} \sin 2\theta = \tau$$

The point E is known as pole (P).

When the major principal plane is horizontal & the minor principal plane is vertical & pole lies at the point E which indicates the minor principal stress.

The line OD represents the magnitude of resultant stress on inclined plane AB. The angle of the obliquity of the resultant with the normal of the plane AB is equal to the angle  $\beta$ .

7.3

Mohr-Coulomb Failure Theory :-

Many theories of failure have been proposed, out of them that formulated by Mohr has been useful in case of soil.

Following are essential points of Mohr's strength theory :-

- i) Material fails essentially by shear. The critical shear stress causing failure depends upon the

properties of material as well as normal stress on failure plane.

(2)

The ultimate strength of the material is determined by the stresses on the failure plane.

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.

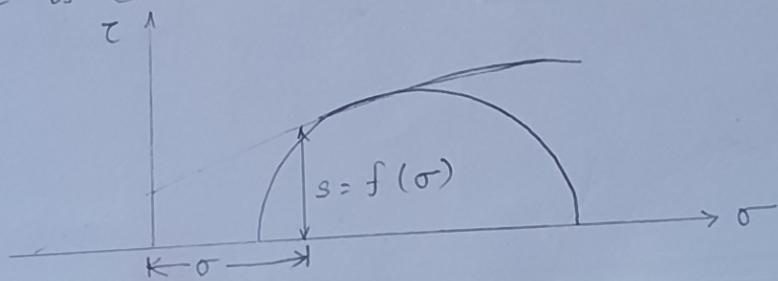
The soil fails when the shear stress ( $\tau_f$ ) on the failure plane at failure is a unique function of the normal stress ( $\sigma$ ) acting on that plane.

$$\tau_f = f(\sigma)$$

Since the shear stress on the failure plane at failure is defined as shear strength ( $s$ ), the eqn. can be written as,

$$s = f(\sigma)$$

If the normal & shear stress corresponding to failure are plotted, then a curve is obtained. The plot or the curve is called the strength envelope.



Failure of the material occurs when the circle of the stresses touches the strength Mohr circle represents all possible combinations of normal stresses at the stressed point.

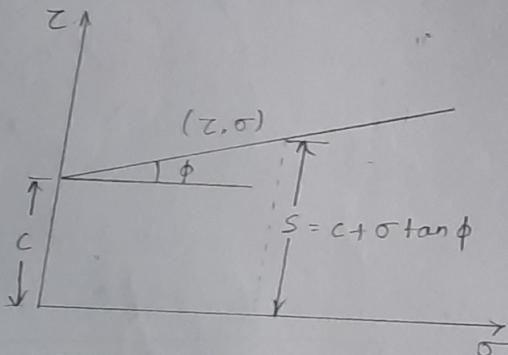
Any Mohr's circle which does not cross the envelope & lies below the envelope represents a no failure or stable condition.

The Mohr circle cannot cross the Mohr envelope as the failure would have already occurred as the Mohr circle touches the envelope.

Coulomb defined the function  $F(\sigma)$  as a linear function of  $\sigma$  & gave the following strength equation

$$S = C + \sigma \tan \phi$$

Mohr envelope is replaced by a straight line by Coulomb.



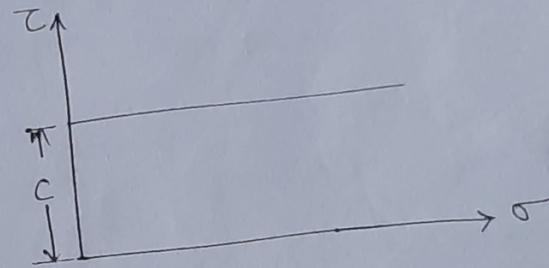
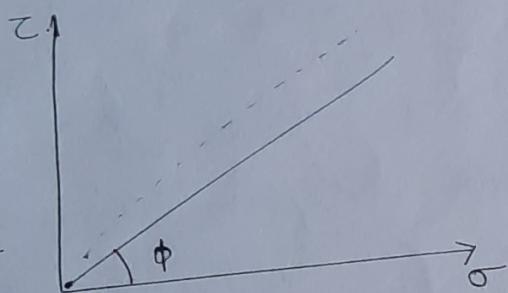
C is the cohesion. Cohesion holds the particles of the soil together in a soil mass, and is independent of normal stress.

angle  $\phi$  is called the angle of internal friction. It represents the frictional resistance between the particles, which is directly proportional to the normal stress.

Coulomb considered the relationship between shear strength & normal stress can be represented by a straight line.

Mohr theory recognises that the shear strength depends on normal stress, but indicates that the relation is not linear.

For a ideal pure friction material, the straight line passes through the origin. However, dense sand exhibit a slightly curved straight line, indicated by dashed line.



In case of purely cohesive (plastic) material, for the straight line is parallel to  $\sigma$ -axis. The strength of such soil is independent of normal stress acting on the plane of failure.

Failure of soil

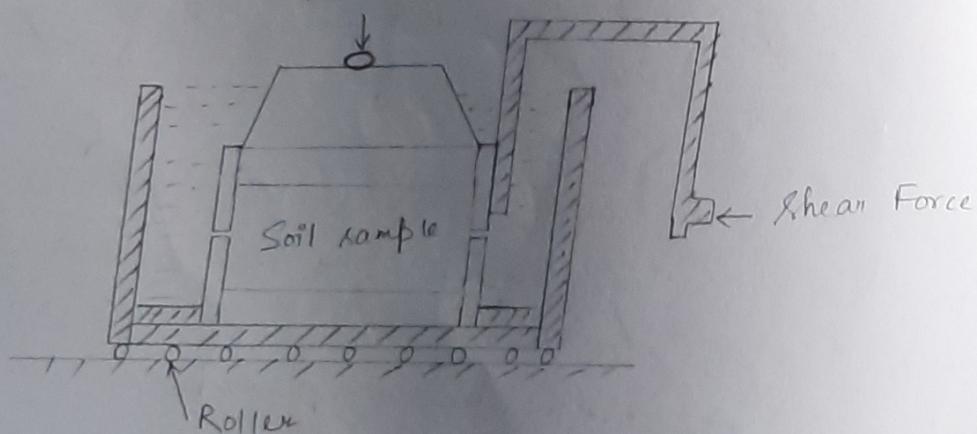
So, the Mohr envelope can be considered straight if the angle of internal friction is assumed to be constant. Depending upon the material the failure envelope may be straight or curved, & it may pass through the origin or it may intersect the shear stress axis.

#### 7.4 Measurement of shear strength

##### Direct Shear Test :-

The test is carried out on a soil sample confined in a metal box of square cross-section which is split horizontally at mid-height. A small clearance is maintained between the two halves of the box. The soil is sheared along a predetermined plane by moving the top half of the box relative to the bottom half. The box is usually square in plan of size 60mm x 60mm. A typical shear box is given below.

Normal load



The sample is fully or partially saturated; porous metal plates & porous stones are placed below & above the sample to allow free drainage. If the sample is dry, solid metal plates are used. Load normal to the plane of shearing can be applied to the soil sample through the lid of the box.

Tests on sands & gravels can be performed quickly, and are usually performed dry as it is found that water does not significantly affect the drained strength. For clays, the rate of shearing must be chosen to prevent excess pore pressure building up.

As a vertical normal load is applied to the sample, shearing stress is gradually applied horizontally, by causing the two halves of the box to move relative to each other. The shear load is measured together with the corresponding shear displacement. The change of thickness of the sample is also measured.

A number of samples of the soil are tested each under different vertical loads & the value of shear stress at failure is plotted against the normal stress for each test. Provided there is no

excess pore water pressure in the soil, the effective stresses will be identical. From the point of failure, the failure envelope can be obtained.

Advantages of the test :-

- It is easy to test sands & gravels.
- Large samples can be tested in large shear box, as small samples can give misleading results due to imperfections such as fractures & fissures, may not be truly representative.
- Samples can be sheared along predetermined planes, when the shear strength along fissures or other selected planes are needed.

Disadvantages of the test :-

- The failure plane is always horizontal in the test, & this may not be the weakest plane in the sample. Failure of the soil occurs progressively from the edges towards center of sample.
- There is no provision for measuring pore water pressure in the shear box & so it is not possible to determine effective stresses from undrained test.

ear box apparatus cannot give reliable undrained strengths because it is impossible to prevent fluidised drainage away from shear plane.

(20)

### Unconfined Compression Test :-

It is a special form of triaxial test in which the confining pressure is zero. The test can be conducted only on clayey soil which can stand without confinement.

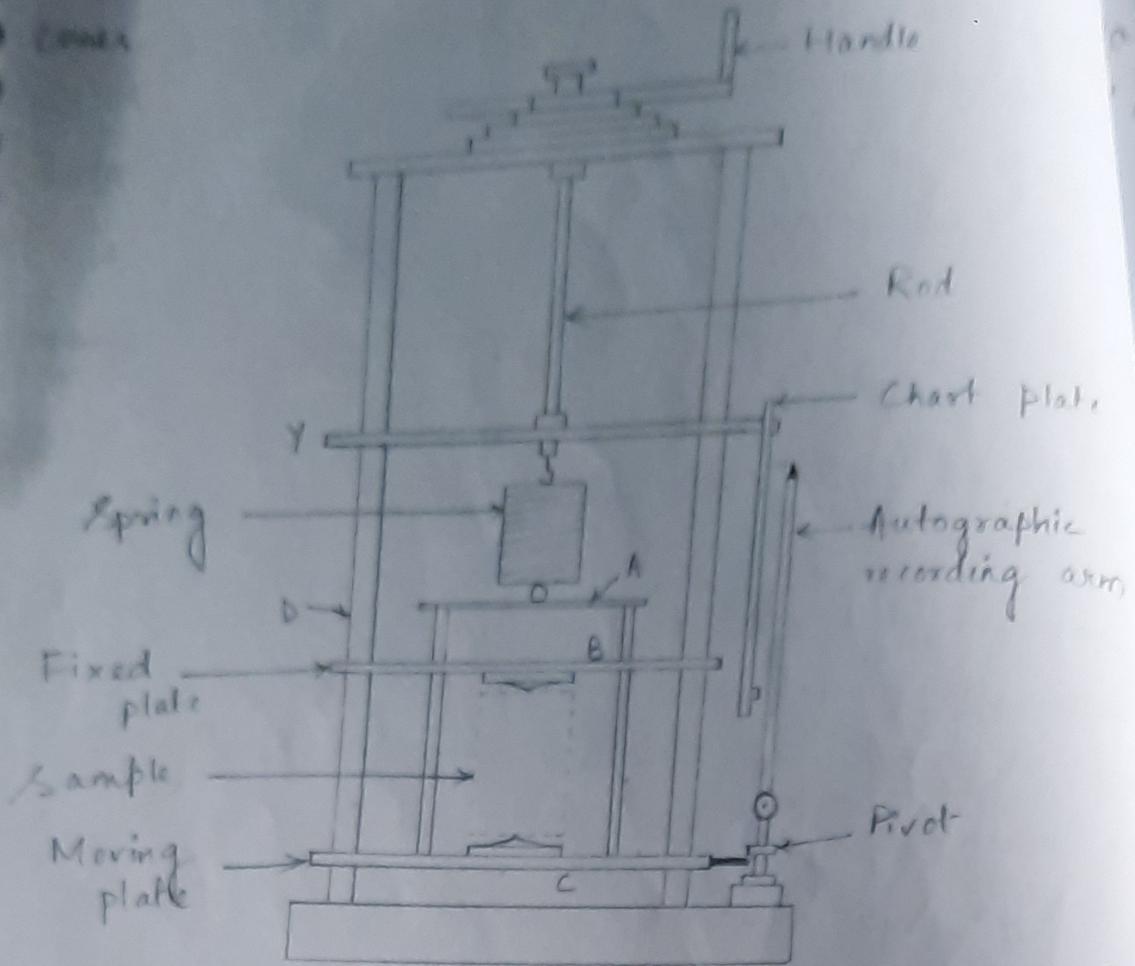
Although the test can be conducted in a triaxial test apparatus as a U-U test, it is more convenient to perform it in an unconfined compression testing machine.

There are two types of machines :-

- i) Machine with spring
- ii) Machine with proving ring.

#### Machine with Spring :-

In this test, the unconfined compression testing machine is loaded with spring. It consists of two metal cones which are fixed on horizontal which are fixed on horizontal loading plates B & C supported on vertical post. The upper loading plate B is fixed in position, whereas the lower plate C can slide on the vertical post.



When handle is turned, the plate A is lifted upward. As the plate A is attached to the plate C, the latter plate is also lifted. When the handle is slowly, a compressive force acts on the specimen. Eventually, the specimen fails in shear.

The compressive force is proportional to the extension of the spring.

The strain in specimen is indicated on a chart fixed to the machine. As lower plate C moves upward, the pen attached to this plate swings sideways.

lateral movement of the pen is proportional to strain in the specimen.

(2)

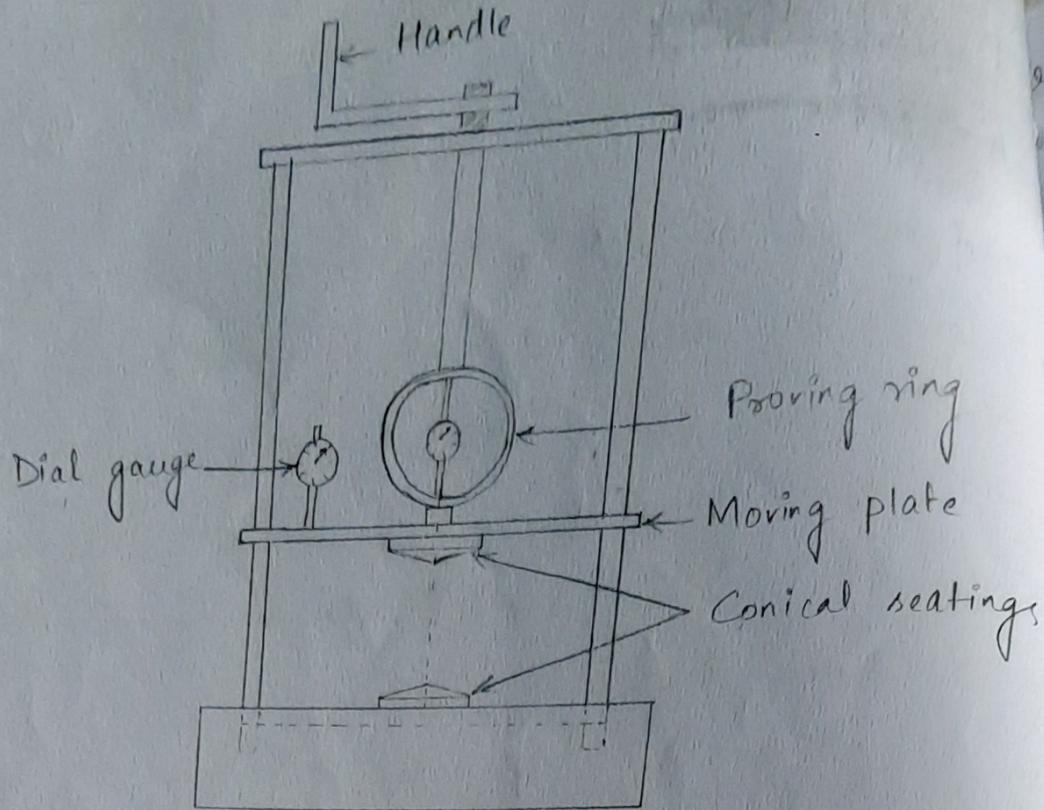
The chart plate is attached to the yoke Y. As the yoke moves upward when the handle is rotated, the chart plate moves upward. The pivot of the arm of the pen also moves upward with the lower plate. The vertical movement of the pen relative to the chart is equal to the extension of the spring & hence the compressive force.

Thus the chart gives a plot between the deformation & compressive force. Spring of different stiffness can be used depending upon the expected compressive strength of the specimen.

Machine with a Proving Ring:-

In this machine a proving ring is used to measure the compressive force. There are two plates have cone seatings for the specimen. The specimen is placed on the bottom plate so that it makes contact with the upper plate. The dial gauge & proving ring are set to zero.

The compressive load is applied to the specimen by turning the handle. As the handle is turned the upper plate moves downward & causes compression.



As the handle is turned the shearing is continued till the specimen fails or till 20% of axial strain occurs, whichever is earlier.

The compressive force is determined from the pore ring reading & the axial strain is found from the dial gauge reading.

In an unconfined compression test, the minor principal stress ( $\sigma_3$ ) is zero. The Mohr circle passes through the origin which is also the pole.

The major principal stress ( $\sigma_1$ ) is equal to the deviator stress,

$$\sigma_1 = \frac{P}{A}$$

P: axial load

(2)

A = cross-sectional area.

The axial stress at which the soil fails is known as unconfined compressive strength ( $q_u$ ).

The unconfined compression test is generally applicable to saturated clays for which the apparent angle of shearing resistance  $\phi_u$  is zero.

$$\sigma_1 = 2 C_u$$

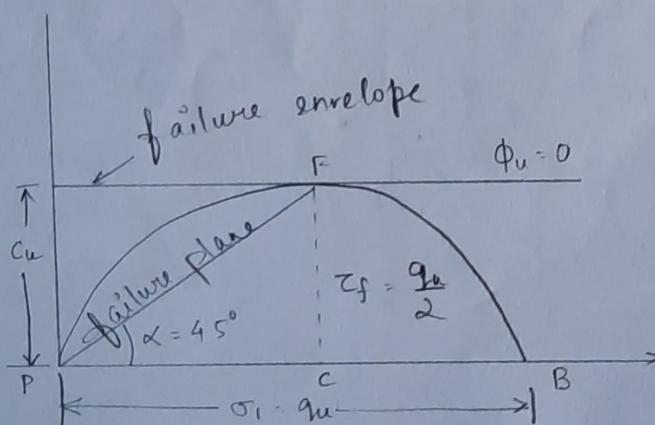
when Mohr circle is drawn, its radius is equal to  $\frac{\sigma_1}{2} = C_u$ . The failure envelope is horizontal. PF is the failure plane, & the stresses on the failure plane are

$$\sigma = \frac{\sigma_1}{2} = \frac{q_u}{2}$$

$$\tau_f = \frac{\sigma_1}{2} = \frac{q_u}{2} = C_u$$

where,

$q_u$  = unconfined compressive strength at failure.



Failure of the specimen

The compressive strength is calculated on the changed cross sectional area  $A_2$  at failure,

$$A_2 = \frac{V}{L_1 - \Delta L} = \frac{A_1}{1 - \frac{\Delta L}{L_1}}$$

where,

$V$  = initial vol. of the specimen

$L_1$  = initial length of specimen

$\Delta L$  = change in length at failure

Merits:-

- i) The test is convenient, simple & quick.
- ii) It is suited for measuring the unconsolidated-undrained shear strength of intact, saturated clay.
- iii) The sensitivity of the soil may be easily determined by conducting the test on an undisturbed sample & then on the remoulded sample.

Demerits:-

- i) The test cannot be conducted on fissured clay.
- ii) The test may be misleading for soils for which the angle of shearing resistance is not zero. For such soils, the shear strength is not equal to half the compressive strength.

## The Shear Test :-

Undrained shear strength of soft clay is determined in laboratory by vane shear test. The test can be conducted in the field on the soil at the bottom of bore hole.

The test can be performed even without drilling a bore hole by direct penetration of the vane from ground surface if it is provided with strong shoe to protect it.

The apparatus consist of a vertical steel rod having four thin stainless steel blades fixed at its bottom end. The IS code recommends that the height  $H$  of the vane should be equal to twice of the overall diameter  $D$ . The diameter & length of the rod are recommended as 2.5 mm & 60 mm.

For conducting the test in laboratory, a specimen of size 38 mm diameter & 75 mm height is taken in a container which is fixed securely at bottom.

Failure or "specimen".

- The vane is gradually lowered into the specimen.
- The top of the specimen vane is at a depth of mm below the top of specimen. The reading of strain indicator & torque indicator are taken.

Torque is applied gradually to upper end of rod at the rate of about  $6^{\circ}$  per minute. The acting on the specimen is indicated by a pointer to the spring. The torque is continued till the soil fails in shear. The shear strength of soil is given by,

$$S = \frac{T}{\pi \left( \frac{D^2 H}{2} + \frac{D^3}{6} \right)}$$

where,

$T$ : torque in Nm &  $S$  = N/m

$$= T_1 + T_2$$

$T_1$  = resisting torque at the sides

$T_2$  = resisting torque at the top & bottom.

If top of the vane is above the soil surface & depth of the vane inside the sample is  $H_1$ ,

$$S = \frac{T}{\pi \left( \frac{D^2 H_1}{2} + \frac{D^3}{12} \right)}$$

R  
Vane shear test can be used to determine the sensitivity of soil. After the initial test, the vane rotated rapidly through several revolutions such that the soil becomes remoulded. The test is repeated on the remoulded soil & shear strength in remoulded state is determined,

(24)

$$\text{Sensitivity} = \frac{(s) \text{ undisturbed}}{(s) \text{ remoulded}}$$

Merits :-

- i) Test is simple & quick.
- ii) Ideally suited for determination of in-situ undrained shear strength of non-fissured, fully saturated clay.
- iii) The test can be conveniently used to determine the sensitivity of the soil.

Demerits :-

- iv) Test cannot be conducted on fissured clay or clay containing sand or silt.
- v) Test does not give accurate results when the failure envelope is not horizontal.

## Machine Foundation:-

### Soil Dynamics:-

It is that part of soil mechanics which deals with soil under dynamic conditions. It studies effect of forces on soil in any way associated with causing motion in soil.

In some cases foundations are subjected to dynamic loads. These loads may result from various causes such as vibratory motion of machine, movement of vehicles, impact of hammer, earthquake, winds, waves, nuclear blast & pile driving. The dynamic loads transmitted to the foundation & their effect on the strata below can be determined using the principles of soil dynamics and theory of vibrations.

Machine foundations are subjected to dynamic forces caused by the machine. The dynamic forces are transmitted to the foundation supporting the machine. Although the moving parts of the machines are generally balanced, there is always some unbalance in practice which causes eccentricity of rotating parts.

### Various Terms:-

Vibration:- It is the time-dependent, repeated motion of translational or rotational type.

periodic motion :- It is the motion which repeats itself periodically in equal time intervals.

Period (T) :- The time period in which the motion itself is called the period of motion or simply period. (39)

vii) Cycle :- The motion completed in the period is called the cycle of motion.

viii) Frequency :- (f) - The no. of cycles of motion in a unit of time is known as the frequency of the vibration. It is usually expressed in hertz (ie cycles per second).

$$T = \frac{1}{f}$$

vix) free Vibration :- It occurs under the influence of forces inherent in the system itself, without any external force. However, to start free vibrations, some external force or natural disturbance is required. Once started, the vibration continue without an external force.

vii) Forced Vibration :- It occurs under the influence of a continuous external force.

viii) Natural frequency :- The system under free vibrations vibrates at the frequency known as

Failure of the machine is due to resonance. The natural frequency is the characteristic of the system. A system may have more than one natural frequency.

ix) Resonance :- When the frequency of the exciting force is equal to one of the natural frequencies of the system, the amplitudes of motion become extremely large. This condition is known as resonance.

x) Damping :- The resistance to motion which develops due to friction & other causes is known as damping.

xi) Degree of freedom :- The no. of independent coordinates required to describe the motion of a system is called degree of freedom.

### Types of Machines :-

Basically, there are three types of machines :-

i) Machines which produce a periodic unbalanced force, such as reciprocating engines & compressors. The speed of such machines is generally less than 600 r.p.m. In these machines, the rotary motion of the crank is converted into the translatory motion.

Machine which produce impact loads, such as hammers & punch presses. In these machines, the dynamic force attains a peak value in a very short time & then dies out gradually. The response is a pulsating curve. It vanishes before the next pulse. The speed is usually between 60 to 150 blows per minute.

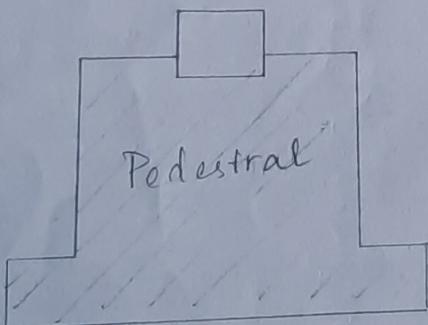
(26)

High speed machines, such as turbines & rotary compressors. The speed of such machines is very high, sometimes, it is even more than 3000 rpm.

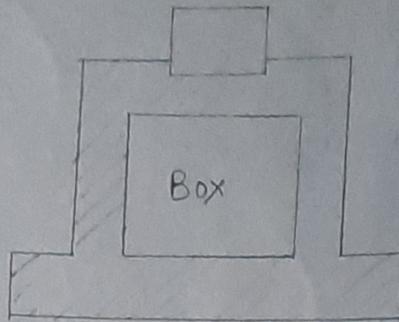
### Types of Machine foundations :-

The following 4 types of machine foundations are commonly used:-

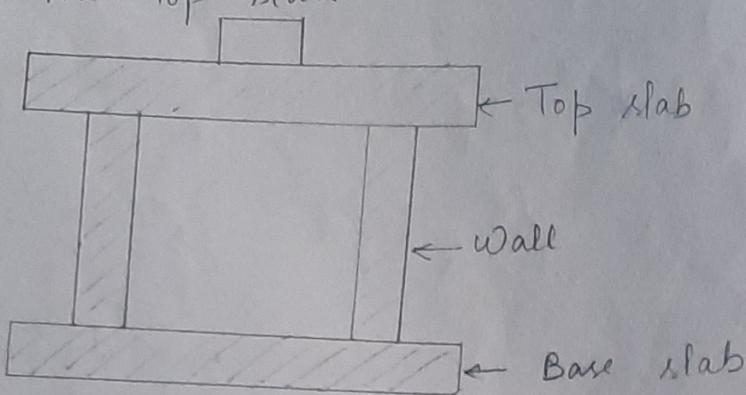
i) Block type - This type of machine foundation consists of a pedestal resting on a footing. The foundation has a large mass & a small natural frequency.



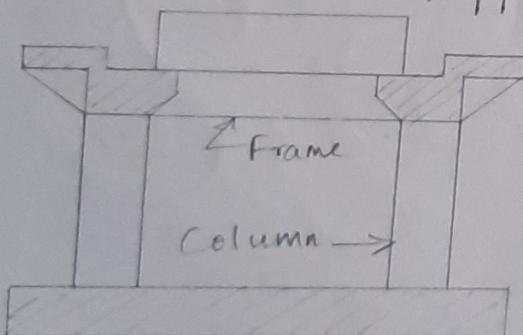
Box type :- The foundation consists of a hollow block. The mass of the foundation is less than in the block type & the natural frequency is increased.



iii) Wall type:- A wall type of foundation consists of a pair of walls having a top slab. The machine rests on the top slab.



iv) Framed type:- This type of foundation consists of vertical columns having a horizontal frame at their tops. The machine is supported on the frame.



General Requirements :-

Like ordinary foundations, it should be safe against shear failure caused by superimposed loads, and also the settlements should be within the safe limits.

The soil pressure should normally not exceed 80% of the allowable pressure for static loading.

- ii) There should be no possibility of resonance. The natural frequency of the foundation should be either greater than or smaller than the operating frequency of the machine.
- iii) The amplitudes under service conditions should be within the permissible limits for the machine.
- iv) The combined center of gravity of the machine & the foundation should be on the vertical line passing through the center of gravity of the base plane.
- v) Machine foundation should be taken to a level lower than the level of the foundation of the adjacent buildings & should be properly separated.
- vi) The vibrations induced should neither be annoying to the persons nor detrimental to other structures.
- vii) The depth of ground water table should be at least one-fourth fourth of the width of the foundation.

Failure of the foundation  
below the base plane

- Design Criteria for Reciprocating type Machines
- The size of the foundation block (in plan) should be larger than the bed plate of the machine with minimum allround clearance of 15cm.
  - The width of the foundation should be at least equal to the distance of the center of gravity of the crank shaft to the bottom of foundation in all vertical machines.
  - The depth of the foundation should be such as to rest the foundation on a good bearing strata and to ensure stability against rotation in a vertical plane.
  - Whenever possible, the operating frequency should be lower than the natural frequency of the foundation soil system & the frequency ratio should be less than 0.5. When the operating frequency is higher than the natural frequency of the foundation soil system of the machine, the frequency ratio should be more than 2 for important machines & more than 1.5 for others.
  - The combined center of gravity of machine & the foundation block should be as much below the top of the foundation as possible.

## Requirements for Impact Type

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The design requirements of the impact type machines, as drop & forge hammers, are different than of the reciprocating type machine.

The stresses produced at the time of impact in the foundation base (soil, timber, sleeper, spring elements or pile) should be within 0.8 times allowable static stresses.

The design of entire foundation system should be such that the centers of gravity of the anvil (a base block for hammer on which material is forged into shape by repeated striking) & of the foundation block, as well as the joints at which the resultant of forces in the elastic joints act, coincide with the line of fall of the hammer to the weight block which strikes the material being forged.

→ The max. vertical vibrational amplitude of the foundation block should not be more than 1.2 mm. In case of foundations on sand below the ground water, the permissible amplitude should not be more than 0.8 mm.

→ For the anvil, the permissible amplitude, which depends upon the weight of the tup should be taken from the following table :-

Weight of tuf

upto 1.1

2.1

More than 3.1

Max. permissible

→ 1mm

→ 2mm

→ 3 to 4 mm.

→ The area of foundation block should be such that the safe loading intensity of soil is never exceeded during the operation of the hammer. The depth of foundation block should be so designed that it is safe both in punching shear & bending. However, the following minimum thickness of foundation block should be provided.

Weight of tuf (tonnes)

upto 1.0

1.0 to 2.0

2.0 to 4.0

4.0 to 6.0

over 6.0

Max. depth of foundation blo

→ 1mm

→ 1.25 mm

→ 1.75 mm

→ 2.25 mm

→ 2.5 mm.

→ The wt. of anvil may be generally kept at 25 times the weight of tuf. The wt. of the foundation block generally varies from 66 to 120 times the wt. of the tuf. Where the foundation rest on stiff clays or compact sandy deposits, the wt. should be from 75 to 80 times the wt. of tuf. For moderately firm to soft clays & for medium dense to loose sandy deposits, the wt. of the block should be

m go to 120 -times -the wt. of slab. (3)

The foundation block should be made of reinforced concrete & reinforcement should be arranged along the three axes & also diagonally to prevent shear. More reinforcement should be provided at the top side of the foundation block than at the other side. Reinforcement at the top may be provided in the form of layers of grills made of 16 mm dia. bars suitably spaced to allow easy pouring of concrete. The reinforcement should be provided at least 25 kg per m<sup>3</sup> of concrete.