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SOIL MECHANICS

CIVIL ENGINEERING

Date of Test : 19/09/2022

ANSWER KEY >

| | | | | |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 7. (b) | 13. (b) | 19. (d) | 25. (c) |
| 2. (b) | 8. (a) | 14. (b) | 20. (d) | 26. (a) |
| 3. (b) | 9. (a) | 15. (d) | 21. (d) | 27. (c) |
| 4. (c) | 10. (b) | 16. (b) | 22. (c) | 28. (b) |
| 5. (c) | 11. (b) | 17. (d) | 23. (b) | 29. (a) |
| 6. (b) | 12. (a) | 18. (b) | 24. (a) | 30. (a) |

DETAILED EXPLANATIONS

1. (b)

$$\therefore K = \frac{aL}{At} \ln\left(\frac{h_1}{h_2}\right)$$

$$h_1 = 40 \text{ cm}, h_2 = 20 \text{ cm}$$

$$a = \frac{\pi}{4} \times 0.5^2 \text{ cm}^2; L = 15 \text{ cm}; A = \frac{\pi}{4} \times 10^2 \text{ cm}^2; t = 1 \times 60 \times 60 = 3600 \text{ s}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore K &= \frac{\frac{\pi}{4}(0.5)^2 \times 15}{\frac{\pi}{4}(10)^2 \times 3600} \ln\left(\frac{40}{20}\right) \\ &= 7.22 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm/s} \\ &= 4.33 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm/min} \end{aligned}$$

2. (b)

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_z &= \frac{2q}{\pi z} = \frac{2 \times 150}{\pi \times 5} \\ &= 19.099 \text{ kN/m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

3. (b)

$$D = 0.4 \text{ m}, L = 15 \text{ m}, c_u = \frac{80}{2} = 40 \text{ kN/m}^2, \alpha = 0.8, \text{FOS} = 3$$

$$Q_{up} = 9c \frac{\pi}{4} d^2 + \alpha c \pi dL$$

$$Q_{up} = 9 \times 40 \times \frac{\pi}{4} \times 0.4^2 + 0.8 \times 40 \times \pi \times 0.4 \times 15$$

$$Q_{up} = 648.42 \text{ kN}$$

$$\therefore \text{Design load capacity of pile} = \frac{648.42}{3} = 216.14 \text{ kN}$$

4. (c)

The total compression is always constant for a given load and does not depend on C_v and k .

7. (b)

$$\begin{aligned} q &= h \sqrt{k_x k_y} \times \frac{N_f}{N_d} \\ &= 8 \times \sqrt{5 \times 10^{-6} \times 6 \times 10^{-6}} \times \frac{6}{18} \\ &= 14.6 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3/\text{s/m} \end{aligned}$$

8. (a)

As per Skempton's theory, net ultimate bearing capacity is given by,

$$q_{nu} = cN_c$$

$$D_f/B = \frac{1.5}{2} = 0.75$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 < \frac{D_f}{B} < 2.5$$

\therefore For square footing,

$$N_c = 6 \left[1 + \frac{0.2D_f}{B} \right] = 6 \times [1 + 0.2 \times 0.75] = 6.9$$

$$\Rightarrow q_{nu} = cN_c = 30 \times 6.9 = 207 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

9. (a)

$$\text{Equation of A-line, } I_p = 0.73 (w_L - 20)$$

$$= 0.73 (60 - 20) = 29.2$$

As soil lies above A-line, the soil will be clay.

Now, as $w_L > 50$, soil will be classified as CH.

10. (b)

For sandy soils,

$$q_u = \gamma D_f N_q + \frac{1}{2} \gamma B N_\gamma \quad (\because c = 0)$$

If water table rises to ground surface from great depth, γ will be replaced by γ' in both terms.

Since γ' is approximately half of γ , ultimate bearing capacity will also become approximately half.

11. (b)

Presence of organic matter reduces the specific gravity of soil.

12. (a)

Maximum depth of unsupported excavation,

$$H_C = \frac{4c}{\gamma \sqrt{k_a}}$$

For pure clay, $\phi = 0$ and thus $k_a = 1$

$$\therefore H_C = \frac{4c}{\gamma} = \frac{4 \times 80}{20} = 16 \text{ m}$$

\therefore Active earth pressure at base level of excavation is

$$P_a = k_a \gamma H_C - 2c \sqrt{k_a}$$

$$= 20 \times 16 - 2 \times 80$$

$$= 160 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

13. (b)

At the steady state condition neither flow nor pore water pressure will change with time.

14. (b)

Deformations of soils are function of effective stress.

15. (d)

Quick clay has sensitivity > 30.

17. (d)

Coefficient of compressibility,

$$a_v = \frac{\Delta e}{\Delta \bar{\sigma}} = \frac{0.05}{100 - 50} = 0.001 \text{ m}^2/\text{kN}$$

Coefficient of volume change,

$$m_v = \frac{a_v}{1 + e_0} = \frac{0.001}{1 + 0.7} = \frac{0.001}{1.7}$$

$$\Rightarrow m_v = 5.88 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2/\text{kN}$$

18. (b)

At liquid limit,

$$w_L = \frac{W_w}{W_s} = \frac{m_w}{m_s}$$

$$0.45 = \frac{m_w}{m_s}$$

$$\Rightarrow m_w = 0.45 m_s$$

Volume of soil sample, $V = V_w + V_s$

$$= \frac{m_w}{\rho_w} + \frac{m_s}{\rho_s}$$

$$= \frac{0.45 m_s}{\rho_w} + \frac{m_s}{G \cdot \rho_w} \quad (\because \rho_s = G \rho_w)$$

$$\Rightarrow 23 = \frac{0.45 m_s}{1} + \frac{m_s}{2.73 \times 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow m_s = 28.18 \text{ g}$$

The minimum volume will be attained by soil at shrinkage limit.

At shrinkage limit, $w_s = \frac{m_w}{m_s} = 0.18$

$$\Rightarrow m_w = 0.18 m_s$$

Minimum volume, $V_{\min} = V_w + V_s$

$$= \frac{m_w}{\rho_w} + \frac{m_s}{\rho_s}$$

$$= \frac{0.18 m_s}{\rho_w} + \frac{m_s}{G \rho_w}$$

$$= \frac{0.18 \times 28.18}{1} + \frac{28.18}{2.73 \times 1} = 15.39 \simeq 15.4 \text{ cc} \quad (\because m_s = \text{constant})$$

20. (d)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total stress at } A, \sigma &= \gamma_{\text{sat}} \times 1 \\ &= 19.62 \text{ kN/m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Pore water pressure at } A, u &= -2 \times \gamma_w \\ &= -2 \times 9.81 \\ &= -19.62 \text{ kN/m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Effective stress at } A, \bar{\sigma} &= \sigma - u \\ &= 19.62 - (-19.62) = 39.24 \text{ kN/m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

21. (d)

$$\text{Void ratio, } e = \frac{wG}{S} = \frac{0.4 \times 2.65}{1} \quad [\because \text{ Fully saturated}]$$

$$\Rightarrow e = 1.06$$

Saturated unit weight of clay,

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{\text{sat}} &= \left(\frac{G + e}{1 + e} \right) \gamma_w = \left(\frac{2.65 + 1.06}{1 + 1.06} \right) \times 9.81 \\ &= 17.667 \text{ kN/m}^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Effective stress at centre of clay layer due to clay} = 17.667 \times 3 = 53 \text{ kN/m}^3$$

$$\text{Total initial overburden pressure} = 260 + 53 = 313 \text{ kN/m}^3$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Consolidation settlement, } S &= \frac{H_0 C_c}{1 + e_0} \log_{10} \left(\frac{\bar{\sigma}_0 + \Delta \bar{\sigma}}{\bar{\sigma}_0} \right) \\ &= \frac{6 \times 0.5}{1 + 1.06} \log_{10} \left(\frac{313 + 100}{313} \right) = 0.1754 \text{ m} \\ &= 17.54 \text{ cm} \end{aligned}$$

22. (c)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Effective normal stress, } \bar{\sigma} &= \sigma - u \\ &= 328 - 114 \\ &= 214 \text{ kPa} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Shear resistance, } \tau &= c' + \bar{\sigma} \tan \phi' \\ &= 25 + 214 \times \tan 30^\circ \\ &= 148.55 \text{ kPa} \end{aligned}$$

23. (b)

$$n = 0.5; \quad \therefore e = \frac{n}{1 - n} = \frac{0.5}{0.5} = 1$$

$$\therefore Se = wG$$

$$S = 0.7; e = 1; G = 2.7$$

$$\therefore w = \frac{Se}{G} = \frac{0.7 \times 1}{2.7} = 0.259$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \gamma &= \frac{(G + Se) \gamma_w}{1 + e} = \frac{G \gamma_w (1 + w)}{1 + e} = \frac{2.7 \times 10 \times 1.259}{2} \\ &= 16.99 \text{ kN/m}^3 \end{aligned}$$

24. (a)

$$\eta_g = 1 - \frac{\theta}{90} \left[\frac{(n-1)m + (m-1)n}{mn} \right]$$

Here, $m = 4, n = 5$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{d}{s} \right) = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{400}{1000} \right) = 21.8^\circ$$

$$\therefore \eta_g = 1 - \frac{21.8}{90} \left[\frac{(5-1)4 + (4-1)5}{4 \times 5} \right]$$

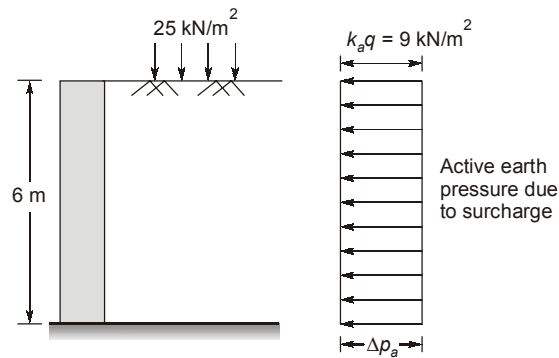
$$= 0.6246 = 62.46\%$$

$$\therefore Q_g = n \cdot Q_u \cdot \eta_g$$

$$= 20 \times 380 \times \frac{62.46}{100} = 4746.96 \text{ kN}$$

$$\approx 4747 \text{ kN}$$

25. (c)



$$k_a = \frac{1 - \sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} = \frac{1 - \sin 28^\circ}{1 + \sin 28^\circ} = 0.36$$

Increase in active earth pressure,

$$\Delta p_a = k_a q = 0.36 \times 25 = 9 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

Increase in total active thrust,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta P_a &= \Delta p_a h = 9 \times 6 \\ &= 54 \text{ kN/m length of the wall} \end{aligned}$$

26. (a)

When the infinite slope is subjected to full depth seepage (submerged condition)

$$\text{Factor of safety, } F = \frac{c' + \gamma' H \cos^2 \beta \tan \phi}{\gamma_{\text{sat}} H \cos \beta \sin \beta}$$

Here, $F = 1$ and $H = H_c$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore H_c &= \frac{c'}{\cos^2 \beta (\gamma_{\text{sat}} \tan \beta - \gamma' \tan \phi')} \\ &= \frac{10}{\cos^2 18^\circ \{17 \times \tan 18^\circ - (17 - 9.81) \tan 14^\circ\}} = 2.96 \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

27. (c)

For rectangular footing,

$$q_u = \left(1 + 0.3 \frac{B}{L}\right) c N_c + \gamma D_f N_q + \left(1 - 0.2 \frac{B}{L}\right) \frac{1}{2} \gamma B N_\gamma$$

 \therefore For sand,

$$c = 0$$

 \therefore

$$\begin{aligned} q_u &= 19 \times 2 \times 25 + \left(1 - 0.2 \times \frac{2}{3}\right) \times \frac{1}{2} \times 19 \times 2 \times 18 \\ &= 950 + 296.4 \\ &= 1246.4 \text{ kN/m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

28. (b)

$$c' = 13 \text{ kN/m}^2, \quad \phi' = 30^\circ$$

$$\bar{\sigma}_{3f} = 50 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$\text{Compressive strength} = \bar{\sigma}_{1f} - \bar{\sigma}_{3f}$$

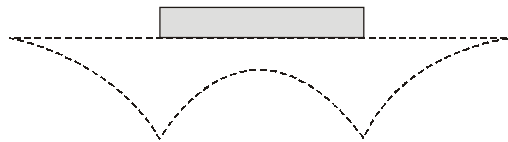
We know that

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\sigma}_{1f} &= \bar{\sigma}_{3f} \tan^2 \left(45^\circ + \frac{\phi'}{2}\right) + 2c \tan \left(45^\circ + \frac{\phi'}{2}\right) \\ &= 50 \tan^2 \left(45^\circ + \frac{30^\circ}{2}\right) + 2 \times 13 \times \tan \left(45^\circ + \frac{30^\circ}{2}\right) \\ &= 50 \times (\sqrt{3})^2 + 2 \times 13 \times \sqrt{3} \\ &\simeq 195 \text{ kN/m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

 \therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Compressive strength} &= \bar{\sigma}_{1f} - \bar{\sigma}_{3f} \\ &= 195 - 50 = 145 \text{ kN/m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

29. (a)



This is the distribution of deformation for sand in case of flexible footing.

