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**UNIVERSITI TUN HUSSEIN ONN MALAYSIA**

**FINAL EXAMINATION  
SEMESTER I  
SESSION 2013/2014**

**COURSE NAME** : ADVANCED FOUNDATION  
ENGINEERING  
**COURSE CODE** : BFG 40103/BFG 4013  
**PROGRAMME** : 4 BFF  
**EXAMINATION DATE** : DECEMBER 2013/JANUARY 2014  
**DURATION** : 3 HOURS  
**INSTRUCTION** : ANSWER **FOUR(4)** QUESTIONS  
ONLY

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF **TWELVE (12)** PAGES

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- Q1** (a) On some occasions, mat foundations may have to be built on rocks. We may use Terzaghi's bearing capacity equations with the bearing capacity factors given by Stagg and Zienkiewicz (1968). The cohesion ( $c'$ ) of rock can be estimated from the unconfined compression strength ( $q_{uc}$ ). Bowles (1996) suggested that the calculated ultimate bearing capacity ( $q_u$ ) should be modified as  $q_{u(\text{modified})} = q_u (RQD)^2$

Clearly explain the reasons why that  $q_u$  for design purposes has to be modified according to Bowles.

(5 marks)

- (b) Two continuous shallow foundations are constructed alongside each other in a granular soil. For the foundation:  $B = 1.2$  m,  $D_f = 1$  m, and center-to-center spacing = 2 m. For the soil: friction angle,  $\phi'$  is  $35^\circ$  and unit weight,  $\gamma$  is  $16.8$  kN/m<sup>3</sup>.

Use a factor of safety,  $FS = 4$ , estimate the net allowable bearing capacity of the foundations.

(10 marks)

- (c) A mat foundation with dimensions of 3 m x 3 m was constructed in a sand deposit ( $\gamma = 17$  kN/m<sup>3</sup>) at a depth of 2 m (foundation level) but resting on a bed of siltstone. The properties of siltstone are as follows:  $\gamma = 25$  kN/m<sup>3</sup>,  $\phi' = 31^\circ$ ,  $c' = 32$  MN/m<sup>2</sup> and  $RQD = 50\%$ . By using the factor of safety ( $FS$ ) = 4 and allowable stress in concrete ( $f_c'$ ) = 30 MN/m<sup>2</sup>, determine the allowable load capacity of the foundation.

(10 marks)

- Q2** (a) Critically discuss **FOUR (4)** advantages of using drilled-shaft foundation in civil engineering project.

(8 marks)

- (b) Figure **Q2(b)** shows a drilled shaft without a bell. Given:  $L_1 = 8.20$  m,  $L_2 = 2.60$  m,  $D_s = 1.0$  m,  $c_{u(1)} = 40$  kN/m<sup>2</sup> and  $c_{u(2)} = 120$  kN/m<sup>2</sup>.

Determine:

- (i) The net ultimate point bearing capacity
- (ii) The ultimate skin resistance
- (iii) The working load,  $Q_w$  for  $FS = 3$ .

(12 marks)

- (c) The most common procedure used in the construction of drilled-shaft involves rotary drilling. There are three major types of construction methods: the dry method, the casing method, and the *wet method*.

Explain the procedure for the *wet method* with the aids of appropriate sketches.

(5 marks)

- Q3** (a) Foundation supporting engines or machines are subjected to vibration caused by unbalanced machine forces as well as the static weight. Discuss **FOUR (4)** main design considerations for a safe and well performance of machine foundation.

(10 marks)

- (b) A reinforced concrete foundation of 2.5 m in diameter is designed to support a machine which has a total weight ( machine and foundation ) of 280 kN. The machine imparts a vertical vibrating force  $Q = Q_0 \sin \omega t$  with  $Q_0 = 28$  kN (not frequency dependent). The operating frequency is 150 cpm. For the soil supporting the foundation of unit weight = 19 kN/m<sup>3</sup>, shear modulus = 45000 kPa, and Poisson' ratio = 0.3, determine:

- (i) Resonant frequency
- (ii) The ratio of resonant frequency to the operating frequency
- (iii) The amplitude of vertical vibration at the resonant frequency.

(15 marks)

- Q4** (a) In some parts of the world, certain soils make the construction of foundations extremely difficult. For example , *expansive* and *collapsible* soils may cause high differential movements in structure through excessive settlement.

Clearly explain the differences between *expansive soil* and *collapsible soil*.

(7 marks)

- (b) If a soil possesses a high swell potential (expansive soil), a commonly used technique for dealing with this type of soil is changing the nature or properties of the soil. Briefly explain **TWO (2)** techniques or methods that can be practically applied to change the nature or properties of expansive soil.

(8 marks)

- (c) In the design of braced excavation, theoretically the sheet piles are required to be driven only up to the bottom of the excavation. However in normal construction practice the sheet piles are driven to a certain depth below the bottom of the excavation. Discuss the reasons for this practice.

(10 marks)

- Q5** (a) Define the following members and neatly sketch their locations in a braced excavation system used in construction work:

- (i) sheet pile
- (ii) soldier beam
- (iii) lagging
- (iv) wale
- (v) strut
- (vi) wedge

(9 marks)

- (b) A 7 m deep braced excavation in clay is shown in Figure **Q5(b)**. The unit weight ( $\gamma$ ) and cohesion ( $c$ ) of the soil is  $17.5 \text{ kN/m}^3$  and  $60 \text{ kN/m}^2$  respectively. The center-to-center spacing of struts in the plan is 5 m.

- (i) Draw the earth pressure diagram
- (ii) Determine the loads in the struts A, B and C
- (iii) If the length of the excavation is 12.5 m, determine the factor of safety against bottom heave for the braced excavation.

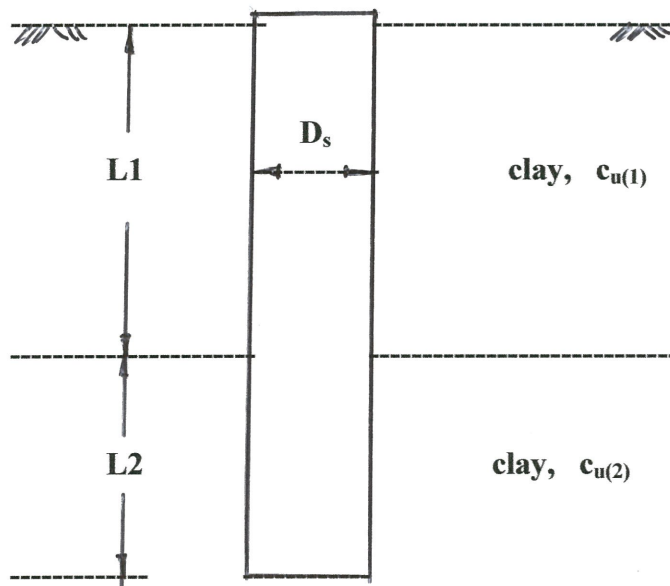
(16 marks)

- END OF QUESTION -

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**FIGURE Q2 (b)**

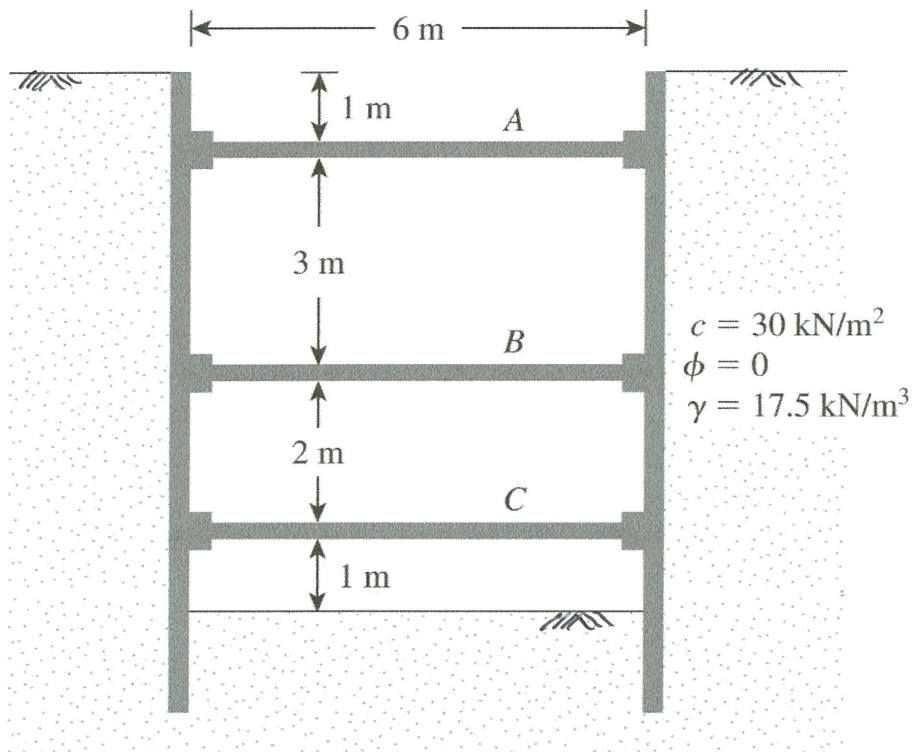
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**FIGURE Q5(b)**

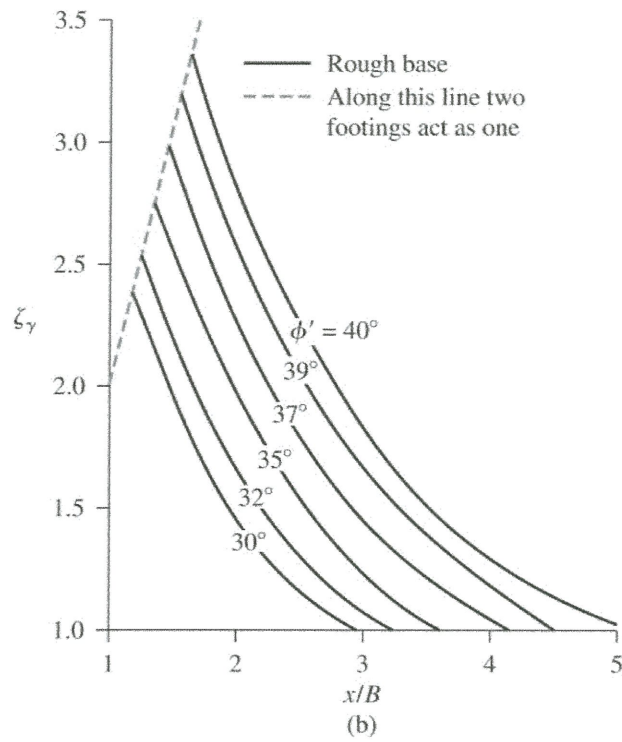
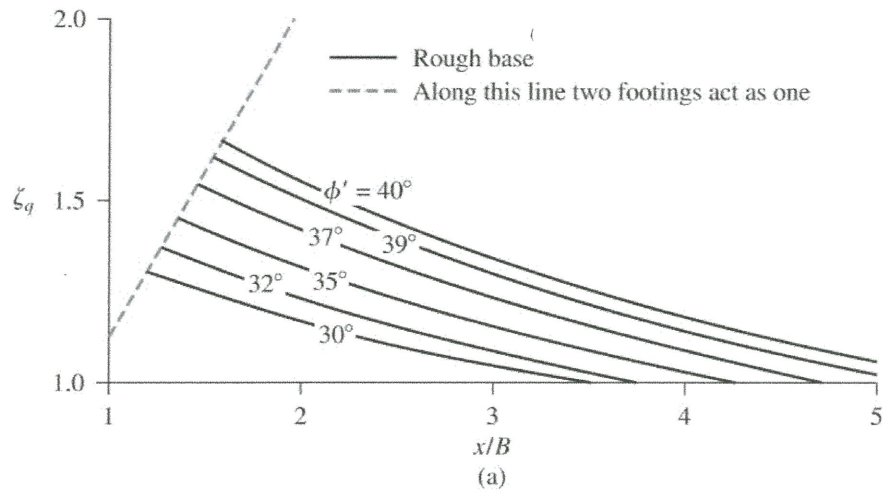
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Variation of efficiency ratios with  $x/B$  and  $\phi'$

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Terzaghi's Bearing Capacity Factors—Eqs. (3.4), (3.5), and (3.6) a From Kumbhojkar (1993)

$\phi'$	$N_c$	$N_q$	$N_\gamma^a$	$\phi'$	$N_c$	$N_q$	$N_\gamma^a$
0	5.70	1.00	0.00	26	27.09	14.21	9.84
1	6.00	1.10	0.01	27	29.24	15.90	11.60
2	6.30	1.22	0.04	28	31.61	17.81	13.70
3	6.62	1.35	0.06	29	34.24	19.98	16.18
4	6.97	1.49	0.10	30	37.16	22.46	19.13
5	7.34	1.64	0.14	31	40.41	25.28	22.65
6	7.73	1.81	0.20	32	44.04	28.52	26.87
7	8.15	2.00	0.27	33	48.09	32.23	31.94
8	8.60	2.21	0.35	34	52.64	36.50	38.04
9	9.09	2.44	0.44	35	57.75	41.44	45.41
10	9.61	2.69	0.56	36	63.53	47.16	54.36
11	10.16	2.98	0.69	37	70.01	53.80	65.27
12	10.76	3.29	0.85	38	77.50	61.55	78.61
13	11.41	3.63	1.04	39	85.97	70.61	95.03
14	12.11	4.02	1.26	40	95.66	81.27	115.31
15	12.86	4.45	1.52	41	106.81	93.85	140.51
16	13.68	4.92	1.82	42	119.67	108.75	171.99
17	14.60	5.45	2.18	43	134.58	126.50	211.56
18	15.12	6.04	2.59	44	151.95	147.74	261.60
19	16.56	6.70	3.07	45	172.28	173.28	325.34
20	17.69	7.44	3.64	46	196.22	204.19	407.11
21	18.92	8.26	4.31	47	224.55	241.80	512.84
22	20.27	9.19	5.09	48	258.28	287.85	650.67
23	21.75	10.23	6.00	49	298.71	344.63	831.99
24	23.36	11.40	7.08	50	347.50	415.14	1072.80
25	25.13	12.72	8.34				

<sup>a</sup>From Kumbhojkar (1993)



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$$q_u = qN_q\zeta_q + \frac{1}{2}\gamma BN_\gamma\zeta_\gamma$$

where  $\zeta_q, \zeta_\gamma$  = efficiency ratios.

$$q_{net}(\text{kN/m}^2) = \frac{N_{60}}{0.08} \left( \frac{B + 0.3}{B} \right)^2 F_d \left( \frac{S_e}{25} \right)$$

where

$N_{60}$  = standard penetration resistance

$B$  = width (m)

$F_d = 1 + 0.33(D_f/B) \leq 1.33$

$S_e$  = settlement, (mm)

$$Q_{p(net)} = A_p c_u N_c^*$$

$$(\text{if } c_{u(2)}/p_a > 1, N_c^* \approx 9.)$$

$$Q_s = \sum_{L=0}^{L=L_1} \alpha^* c_u p \Delta L$$

$$\alpha^* = 0.21 + 0.25 \left( \frac{p_a}{c_u} \right) \leq 1$$

where  $p_a$  = atmospheric pressure  $\approx 100 \text{ kN/m}^2$ .

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$$q_u = c'N_c + qN_q + \frac{1}{2}\gamma BN_\gamma$$

$$q_u = 1.3c'N_c + qN_q + 0.4\gamma BN_\gamma$$

$$q_u = 1.3c'N_c + qN_q + 0.3\gamma BN_\gamma$$

$$N_c = 5 \tan^4\left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2}\right)$$

$$N_q = \tan^6\left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2}\right)$$

$$N_\gamma = N_q + 1$$

$$q_{uc} = 2c' \tan\left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2}\right)$$

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$$B_z = \left( \frac{1-\mu}{4} \right) \left( \frac{m}{\rho r_0^3} \right) = \left( \frac{1-\mu}{4} \right) \left( \frac{W}{\gamma r_0^3} \right)$$

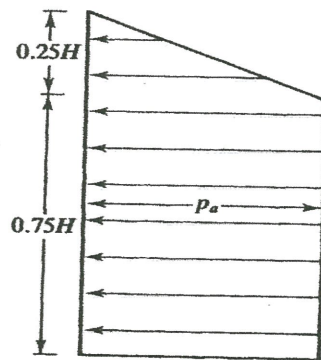
$$f_m = \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \right) \left( \sqrt{\frac{G}{\rho}} \right) \left( \frac{1}{r_0} \right) \sqrt{\frac{B_z - 0.36}{B_z}}$$

$$A_{z(\text{resonance})} = \frac{Q_0(1-\mu)}{4Gr_0} \frac{B_z}{0.85\sqrt{B_z - 0.18}}$$

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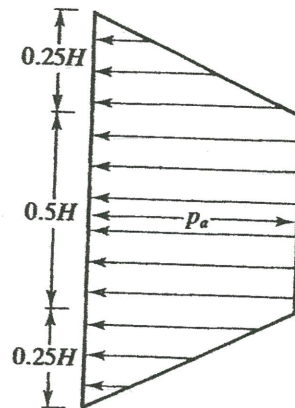
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$$\frac{\gamma H}{c} > 4$$

$$p_a = \gamma H \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{4c}{\gamma H} \right) \right]$$

or  $p = 0.3\gamma H$



$$\frac{\gamma H}{c} \leq 4$$

$p_a = 0.2\gamma H$  to  $0.4\gamma H$  with an average of  $0.3\gamma H$