



UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER

PROGRAMMES: BSc. LWM 3

COURSE CODE: LUM 303

TITLE OF PAPER: FLUID AND SOIL MECHANICS

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

SPECIAL MATERIAL REQUIRED: NONE

**INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY TWO OTHER
QUESTIONS**

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THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR**

QUESTION 1

- a. Starting with the Bernoulli and Continuity equations derive the following expression that can be used to measure flow rate with a Venturi meter. **[15 marks]**

$$Q_{actual} = c_d A_1 A_2 \sqrt{\frac{2g \left[\frac{p_1 - p_2}{\rho g} + z_1 - z_2 \right]}{A_1^2 - A_2^2}}$$

- b. Also show that when the pressure difference is measured using a manometer the following expression can be used; **[15 marks]**

$$Q_{actual} = c_d A_1 A_2 \sqrt{\frac{2gh \left(\frac{\rho_{man}}{\rho} - 1 \right)}{A_1^2 - A_2^2}}$$

- c. A vane of length 250mm and diameter 100mm is used to measure the shear strength of a saturated soil. If the torque required to fail the vane is 518 Nm, calculate the apparent shear strength of the soil. **[10 marks]**

QUESTION 2

- a. What are the two forms of expressing failure envelope? **[5 marks]**
- b. Outline and discuss the steps of conducting an unconfined compression test. What is the relationship between unconfined compressive strength and undrained shear strength?

[15 marks]

c. What size pipe of new cast iron pipe, 244m long, will deliver $1.06 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ of water with a drop in the in the hydraulic grade line of 65.60m ? (Assume $V = 3.96\text{m/s}$ and $f = 0.02$)

[10 marks]

QUESTION 3

a. A rectangular channel 30.5m wide carries $11.3\text{m}^3/\text{s}$.

(i) Tabulate (as preliminary to preparing a diagram) depth of flow against specific energy for depths from 0.3m to 2.5m. [5 marks]

(ii) Determine the minimum specific energy. [5 marks]

(iii) What type of flow exists when the depth is 0.6m and when it is 2.5m?

[10 marks]

(iv) For $C = 100$, what slopes are necessary to maintain the depths in (iii).

[10 marks]

QUESTION 4

a. In a compaction test the weight of wet soil in the mould (0.001m^3) was 1.88kg. By drying out a small quantity of the soil its moisture content was found to be 20.7%. The specific gravity of the particles was 2.72. Determine;

(i) The dry density [5 marks]

(ii) The void ratio [5marks]

(iii) The percentage air voids [5 marks]

b. Outline the Stoke's law of sedimentation [10 marks]

c. What is the atmospheric pressure in kPa when a mercury barometer reads 742mm?

[5 marks]

APPENDIX

$$E = y + \frac{V^2}{2g}$$

$$y_c = \sqrt[3]{q^2/g} = \frac{3}{2}E_c = V_c^2/g$$

$$Q = CA\sqrt{RS}$$

$$E_{\min} = \frac{3}{2}\sqrt[3]{q^2/g}$$

$$V_c/\sqrt{gy_c} = Fr = 1$$

$$T = c(\pi dh)\frac{d}{2} + c\left(\pi\frac{d^2}{4}\right)\frac{1}{3}d \times 2$$

$$T = c_v(\pi dh)\frac{d}{2} + c_H\left(\pi\frac{d^2}{4}\right)\frac{1}{3}d \times 2$$