



**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER**

**PROGRAMMES:** BSc. Agric 3 (LWM)

**COURSE CODE:** LUM 303 (NEW PROGRAMME)

**TITLE OF PAPER:** FLUID AND SOIL MECHANICS

**TIME ALLOWED:** TWO (2) HOURS

**SPECIAL MATERIAL REQUIRED:** MATHEMATICAL BOX OF  
INSTRUMENTS AND GRAPH PAPER

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

**DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN  
GRANTED BY THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR**

**SECTION 1: COMPULSORY****QUESTION 1**

(a) With the aid of sketches explain the difference between active and passive soil failure.

[15 marks]

(b) A series of direct shear box tests is performed on a moist silt soil. The shear box is a square single ring device with a sample length and width of  $5.08 \times 5.08$  cm. At soil failure, the following shear forces,  $T$ , were recorded for different vertical forces,  $N$ . Find the cohesion and angle of internal friction of the soil.

[20 marks]

<b>N (N)</b>	20	40	80	160	360
<b>T (N)</b>	31	40	59	100	175

(c) Define permeability

[5 marks]

**SECTION 2: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS****QUESTION 2**

(a) A 3000kW track laying tractor with a mass of 50 tonnes and a 4.8m blade cuts the soil at a 400mm depth. Given that the mass of the blade, excluding the arms is 4 tonnes, calculate;

(i) The effective soil force,  $P$ .

[15 marks]

(ii) The draft,  $H$ .

[5 marks]

(iii) The vertical force,  $V$ .

[5 marks]

Given that,  $\alpha = 53^\circ$ ,  $\gamma = 19.6 \text{ kN/m}^3$ ,  $\phi = 30^\circ$ ,  $\delta = 20^\circ$ ,  $c = 20 \text{ kPa}$ , and  $c_a = 4 \text{ kPa}$

(b) State the Bernoulli's theorem and discuss its significance in fluid dynamics. [5 marks]

**QUESTION 3**

(a) Define the following terms and outline their significance with regard to fluid mechanics;

(i) Specific weight [5 marks]

(ii) Fluid pressure [5 marks]

(iii) Viscosity [5 marks]

(iv) Flow nets [5 marks]

(b) A rectangular channel conveys water at  $6.0 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ . Find the critical depth,  $y_c$ , and critical velocity,  $v_c$ , for the following widths:

(i) Four meters [5 marks]

(ii) Three meters [5 marks]

**QUESTION 4**

(a) Define effective stress and comment on its importance in practical soil mechanics.

[10 marks]

(b) A 1m diameter new cast iron pipe ( $C=130$ ) is 845m long and has a loss of 1.11m. Find the discharge capacity of the pipe according to the Hazen-Williams formula.

[10 marks]

(c) Write short notes on pump performance (characteristics) curves.

[10 marks]

## APPENDIX

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

$$q = \frac{Q}{w}$$

$$\cot \beta = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{\sin(\alpha + \delta) \sin(\delta + \phi)}{\sin \alpha \sin \phi}} - \cos(\alpha + \delta + \phi)}{\sin(\alpha + \delta + \phi)}$$

$$k_p = \frac{(\cot \alpha + \cot \beta) \sin(\beta + \phi)}{2 \sin(\alpha + \beta + \delta + \phi)}$$

$$k_{ca} = \frac{-\cos(\alpha + \beta + \phi)}{\sin \alpha \sin(\alpha + \beta + \delta + \phi)}$$

$$P = (\gamma h^2 k_p + c h k_c + c_a h k_{ca}) w$$

$$H = P \sin(\alpha + \delta) + c_a h w \cot \alpha$$

$$V = P \cos(\alpha + \delta) - c_a h w + W$$

The Hazen-Williams formula is given by;

$$V = 0.8492 C R^{0.63} S^{0.54}$$