

**CE 468 GEOTECHNICAL DESIGN**  
**DESIGN PROBLEM: PRELOADING WITH VERTICAL DRAINS**

Refer to Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 given below where the terminology and symbols regarding the preloading and vertical drains are described.

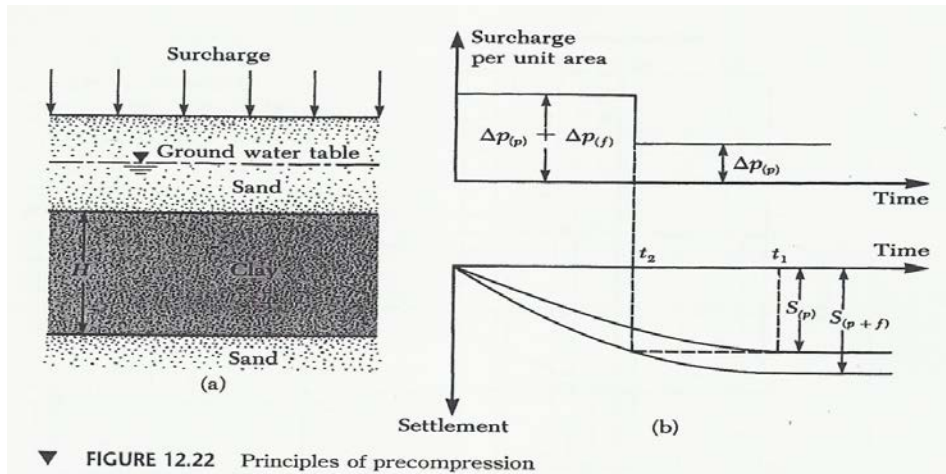


FIG.1

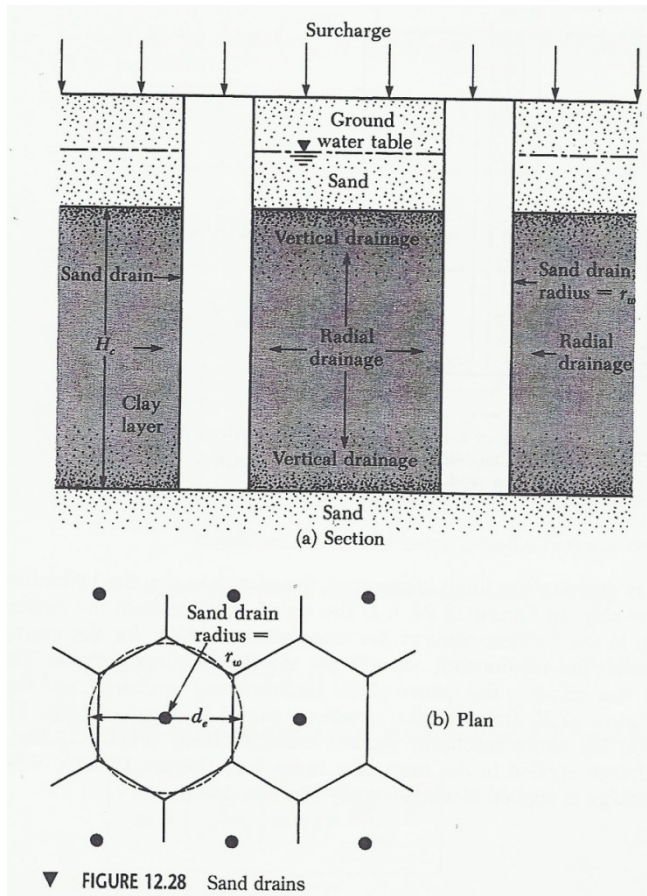


FIG. 2

During the construction of a highway bridge, the average permanent load on the clay layer is expected to increase by about  $115 \text{ kN/m}^2$ . The average effective overburden pressure at the middle of the clay layer is  $210 \text{ kN/m}^2$ .

Here ,  $H_c = 6 \text{ m}$ ,  $C_c = 0.28$ ,  $C_v = 0.36 \text{ m}^2/\text{mo}$ . The clay is normally consolidated.

Determine :

- a. The total primary consolidation settlement of the bridge without preloading
- b. The surcharge,  $\Delta p(f)$  needed primary consolidation to eliminate the entire settlement in 9 mo.

Solve the problem, given above ,with the addition of some sand drains. Assume that:

$$r_w = 0.1 \text{ m}$$

$$d_w = 3.0 \text{ m}$$

$$C_v = C_{vr} = 0.36 \text{ m}^2/\text{mo}$$

Note: Do not consider smear effects.