

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

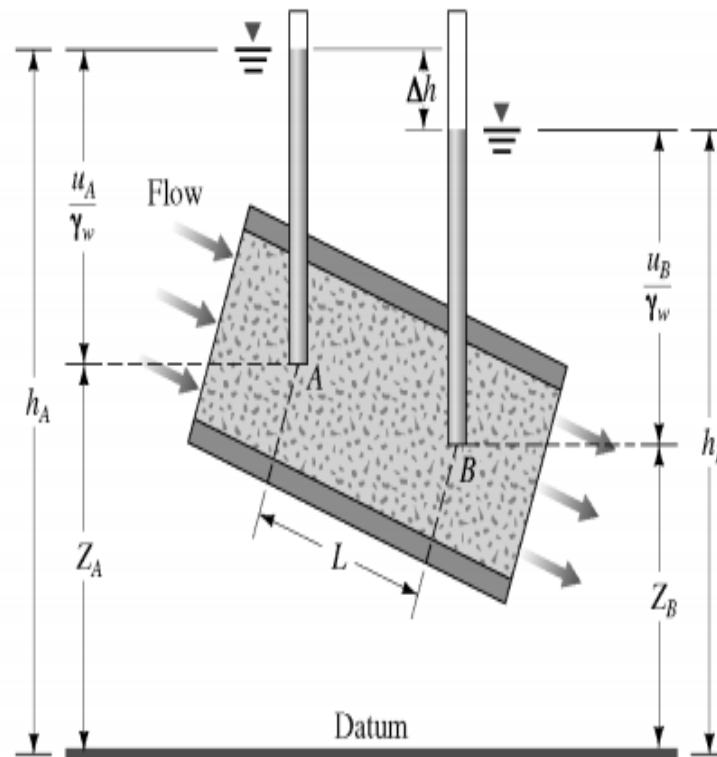


Figure 5.1. Das FGE (2005).

**CHANGE IN HEAD
FROM POINTS
A & B (Δh)**

$$\Delta h = h_A - h_B$$

$$\Delta h = \left(\frac{u_A}{\gamma_w} + Z_A \right) - \left(\frac{u_B}{\gamma_w} + Z_B \right)$$

**Δh can be expressed in
non-dimensional form**

$$i = \frac{\Delta h}{L}$$

Where:

i = Hydraulic Gradient

L = Length of Flow between Points A & B

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

VELOCITY (v) vs. HYDRAULIC GRADIENT (i)

General relationship shown in Figure 5.2

Three Zones:

1. Laminar Flow (I)
2. Transition Flow (II)
3. Turbulent Flow (III)

For most soils, flow is laminar. Therefore:

$$v \propto i$$

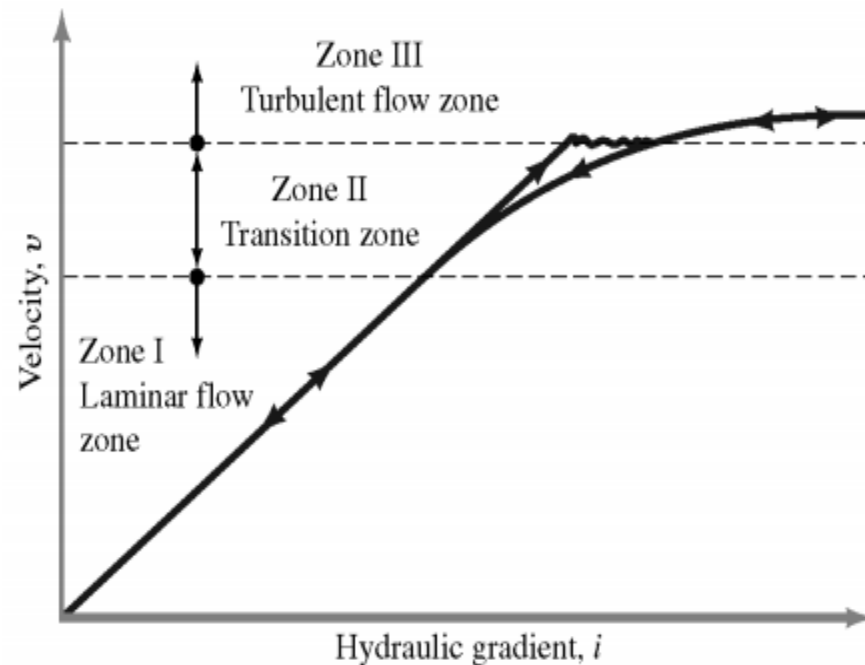


Figure 5.2. Das FGE (2005).

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DARCY'S LAW (1856)

$$v = ki$$

Where:

v = Discharge Velocity (i.e. quantity of water in unit time through unit cross-sectional area at right angles to the direction of flow)

k = Hydraulic Conductivity (i.e. coefficient of permeability)

i = Hydraulic Gradient

* Based on observations of flow of water through clean sands

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HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY (k)

$$k = \frac{\gamma_w}{\eta} \bar{K}$$

Where:

η = Viscosity of Water

\bar{K} = Absolute
Permeability
(units of L^2)

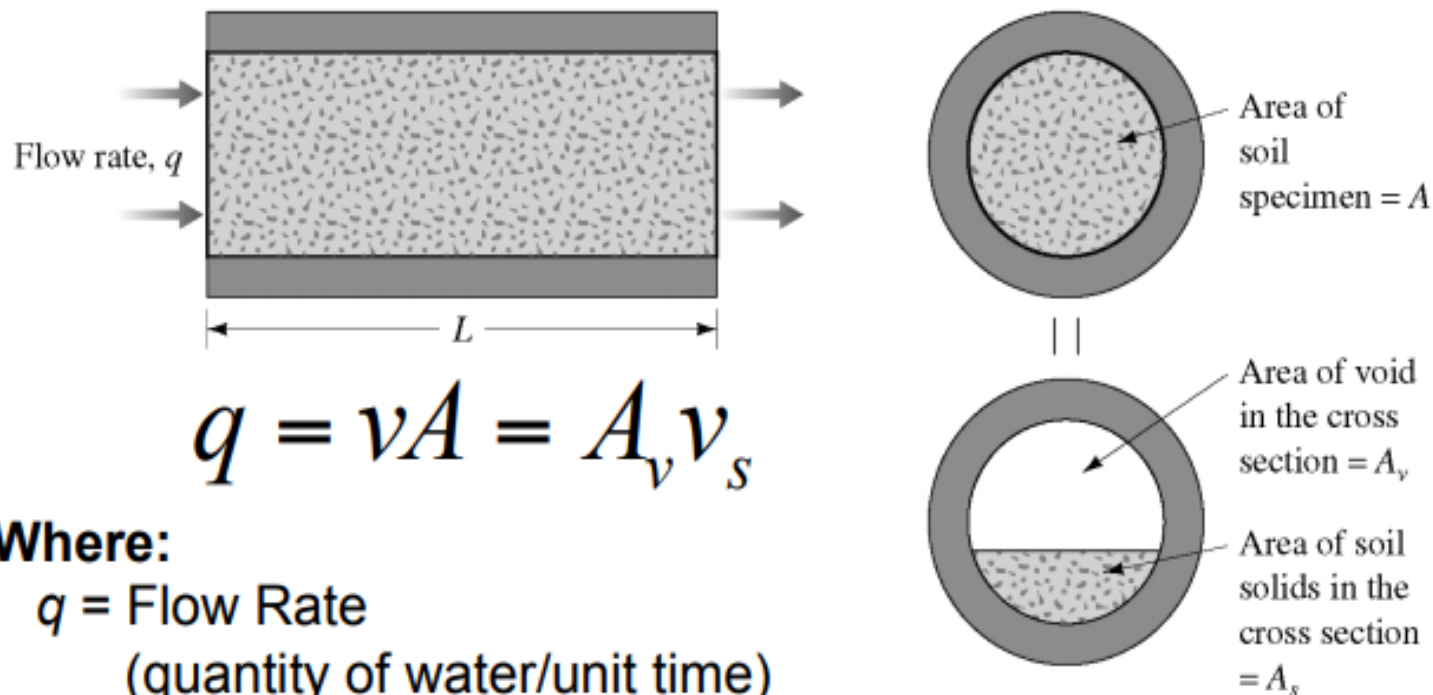
Typical Values of k per Soil Type

Soil Type	k (cm/sec)	k (ft/min)
Clean Gravel	100-1	200-2
Coarse Sand	1-0.01	2-0.02
Fine Sand	0.01-0.001	0.02-0.002
Silty Clay	0.001-0.0000 1	0.002-0.0000 2
Clay	< 0.000001	<0.000002

after Table 5.1. Das FGE (2005)

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DISCHARGE & SEEPAGE VELOCITIES



Where:

q = Flow Rate
(quantity of water/unit time)

A = Total Cross-sectional Area

A_v = Area of Voids

v_s = Seepage Velocity

Figure 5.3. Das FGE (2005).

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DISCHARGE & SEEPAGE VELOCITIES

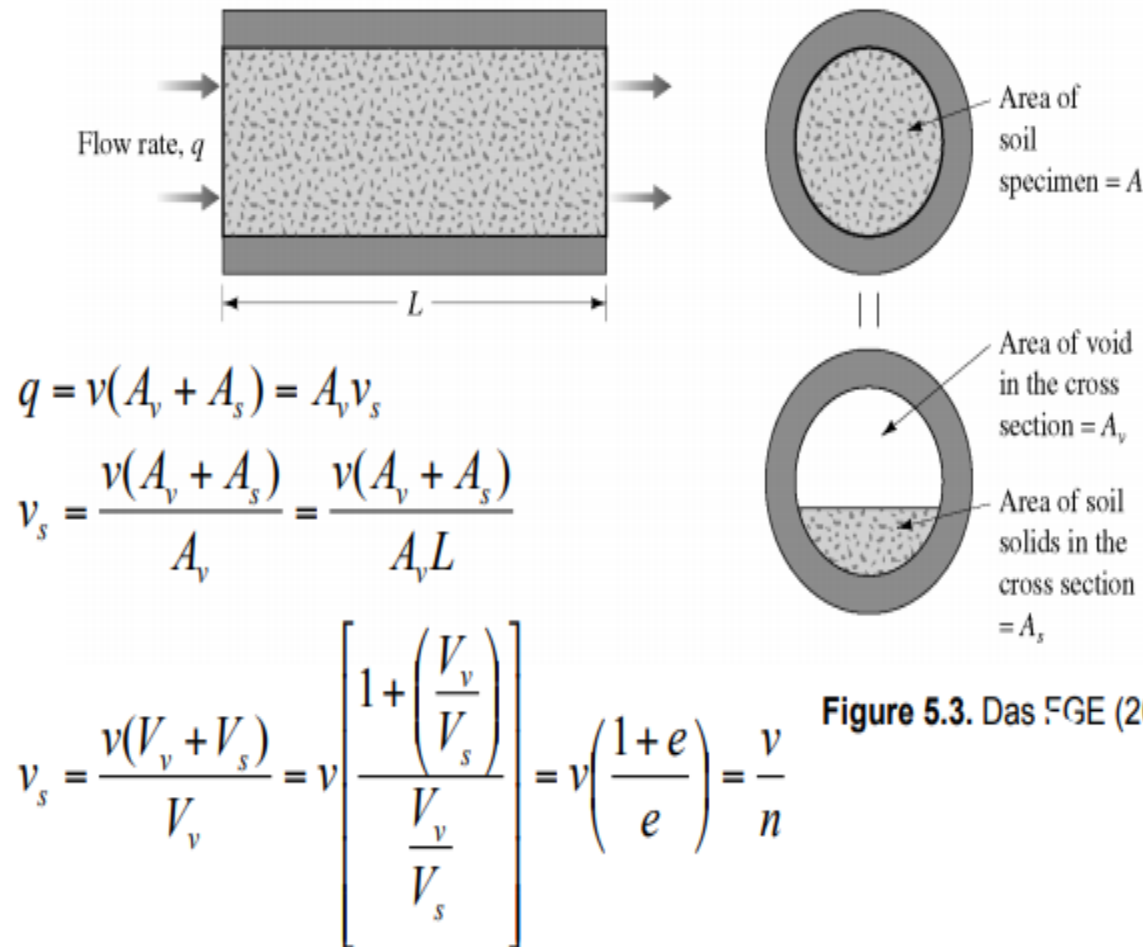
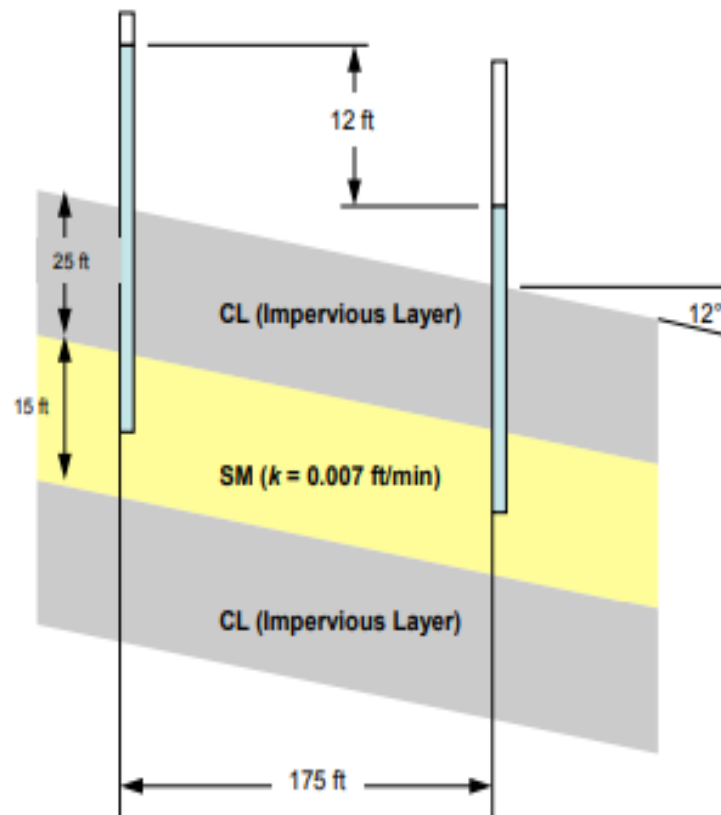


Figure 5.3. Das & FGE (2005).

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EXAMPLE PROBLEM

GIVEN:



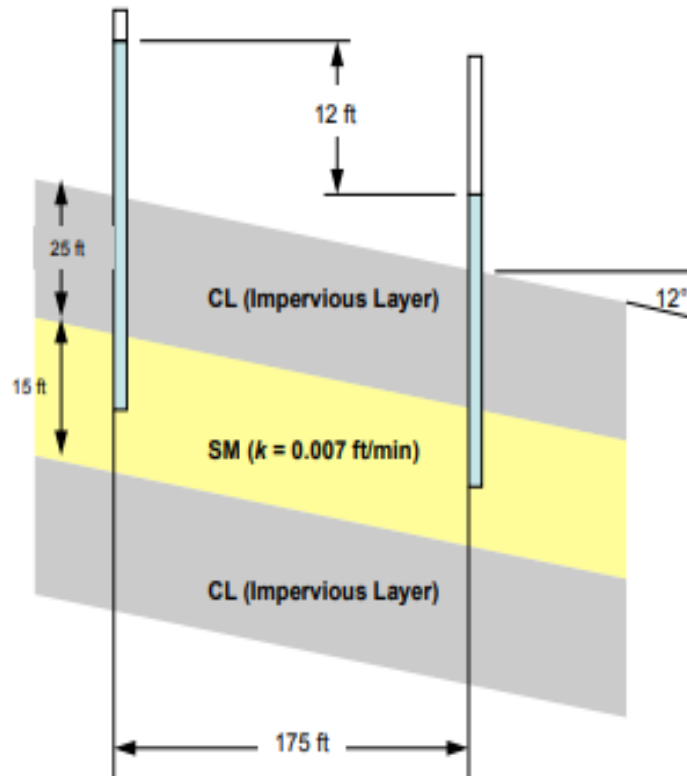
REQUIRED:

Find Hydraulic Gradient (i)
and Flow Rate (q)

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

EXAMPLE PROBLEM – FIND i , q

GIVEN:



SOLUTION:

Hydraulic Gradient (i):

$$i = \frac{\Delta h}{L} \quad i = \frac{12 \text{ ft}}{\left(\frac{175 \text{ ft}}{\cos 12^\circ} \right)} = 0.067$$

Rate of Flow per Time (q):

$$q = kiA$$

$$q = 0.007 \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{min}} (0.067) (15 \text{ ft}) (\cos 12^\circ) (1 \text{ ft})$$

$$q = 6.9 \times 10^{-3} \text{ ft}^3 / \text{min} / \text{ft}$$

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

LABORATORY TESTING OF HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY

Constant Head (ASTM D2434)

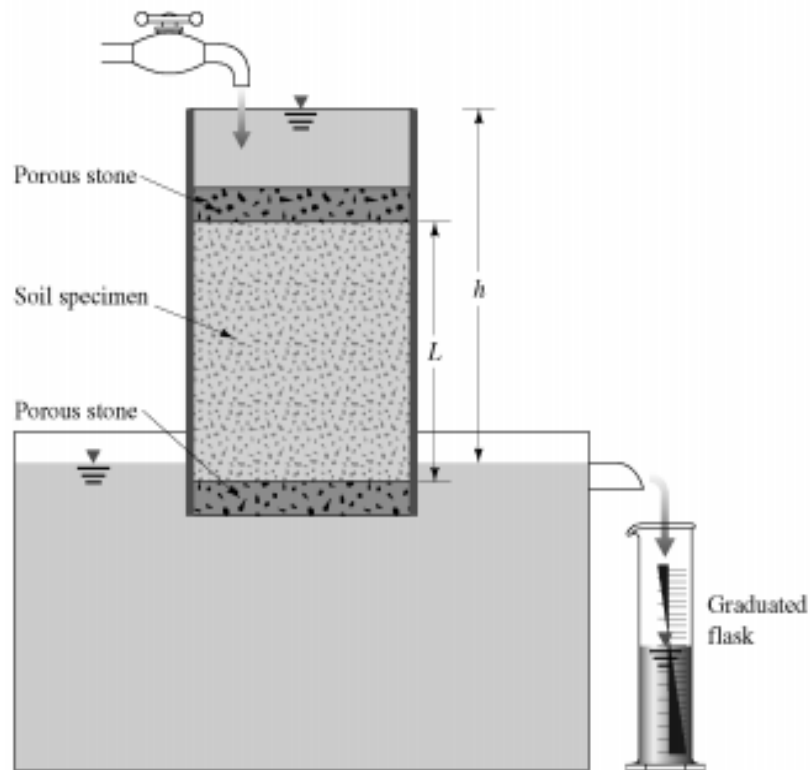


Figure 5.4. Das FGE (2005).

Falling Head (no ASTM)

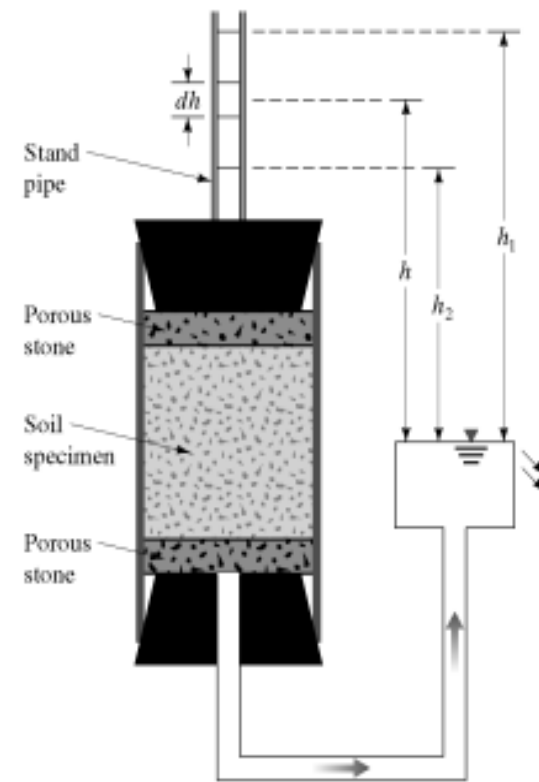


Figure 5.5. Das FGE (2005).

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LABORATORY TESTING OF HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY

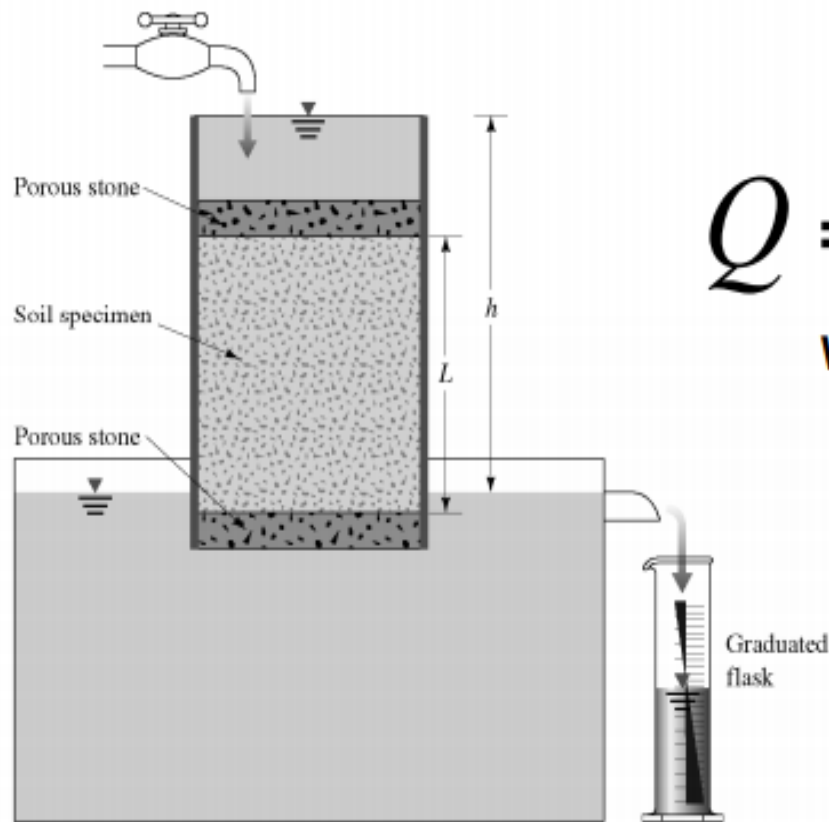


Figure 5.4. Das FGE (2005).

Constant Head
(ASTM D2434)

$$Q = Avt = A(ki)t$$

Where:

Q = Quantity of water collected over time t

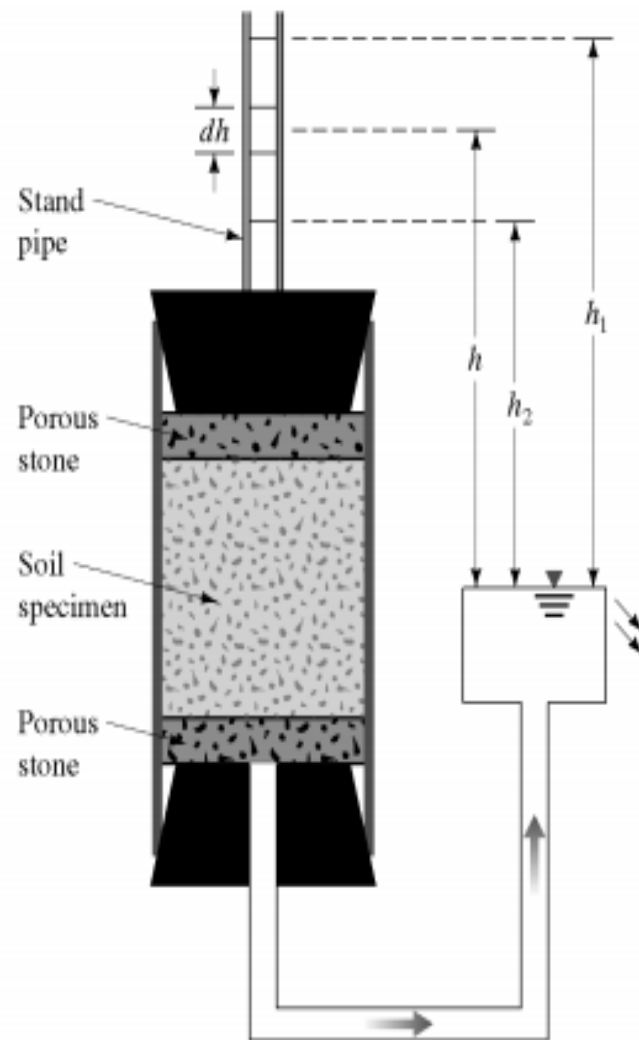
t = Duration of water collection

$$Q = A \left(k \frac{h}{L} \right) t$$

$$k = \frac{QL}{Aht}$$

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

LABORATORY TESTING OF HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY



Falling Head (No ASTM)

$$q = k \frac{h}{L} A = -a \frac{dh}{dt}$$

Where:

A = Cross-sectional area of Soil

a = Cross-sectional area of Standpipe

after rearranging above equation

$$dt = \frac{aL}{Ak} \left(-\frac{dh}{h} \right)$$

Integrate from limits 0 to t → ← Integrate from limits h₁ to h₂

after integration

$$t = \frac{aL}{Ak} \log_e \frac{h_1}{h_2} \text{ or } k = 2.303 \frac{aL}{At} \log_{10} \frac{h_1}{h_2}$$

Figure 5.5. Das FGE (2005).

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EMPIRICAL RELATIONSHIPS FOR HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY

Uniform Sands - Hazen Formula
(Hazen, 1930):

$$k(cm/sec) = cD_{10}^2$$

Where:

c = Constant between 1 to 1.5

D_{10} = Effective Size (in mm)

Sands – Kozeny-Carman
(Loudon 1952 and
Perloff and Baron 1976):

$$k = C_1 \frac{e^3}{1 + e}$$

Where:

C = Constant (to be determined)

e = Void Ratio

Sands – Casagrande
(Unpublished):

$$k = 1.4e^2 k_{0.85}$$

Where:

e = Void Ratio

$k_{0.85}$ = Hydraulic Conductivity @ $e = 0.85$

Normally Consolidated Clays
(Samarasinghe, Huang, and Drnevich, 1982):

$$k = C_2 \left(\frac{e^n}{1 + e} \right)$$

Where:

C_2 = Constant to be determined experimentally

n = Constant to be determined experimentally

e = Void Ratio

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EXAMPLE - ESTIMATION OF HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY (NORMALLY CONSOLIDATED CLAYS)

GIVEN:

Normally consolidated clay with e and k measurements from 1D Consolidation Test.

Void Ratio (e)	k (cm/sec)
1.2	0.6×10^{-7}
1.52	1.52×10^{-7}

REQUIRED:

Find k for same clay with a void ratio of 1.4.

SOLUTION:

Using (Samarasinghe, Huang, and Drnevich, 1982) Equation:

$$\frac{k_1}{k_2} = \frac{C_2 \left[\frac{e_1^n}{1+e_1} \right]}{C_2 \left[\frac{e_2^n}{1+e_2} \right]} \quad \text{Substituting known quantities} \quad \frac{0.6 \text{ cm/sec}}{1.52 \text{ cm/sec}} = \left(\frac{1.2}{1.52} \right)^n \left(\frac{2.52}{2.2} \right)$$

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

EXAMPLE - ESTIMATION OF HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY (NORMALLY CONSOLIDATED CLAYS) (continued)

$$\frac{0.6 \text{ cm / sec}}{1.52 \text{ cm / sec}} = \left(\frac{1.2}{1.52} \right)^n \left(\frac{2.52}{2.2} \right) \therefore n = 4.5$$

$$k_1 = C_2 \left(\frac{e_1^n}{1 + e_1} \right)$$

$$0.6 \times 10^{-7} \text{ cm / sec} = \left(\frac{1.2^{4.5}}{1 + 1.2} \right)$$

$$\therefore C_2 = 0.581 \times 10^{-7} \text{ cm / sec}$$

$$k_{e=1.4} = (0.581 \times 10^{-7} \text{ cm / sec}) \left(\frac{1.4^{4.5}}{1 + 1.4} \right) = 1.1 \times 10^{-7} \text{ cm / sec}$$

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

EQUIVALENT HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY IN STRATIFIED SOILS – HORIZONTAL DIRECTION

Considering cross-section of Unit Length 1.

Total flow through cross-section can be written as:

$$q = v \cdot 1 \cdot H$$

$$q = v_1 \cdot 1 \cdot H_1 + v_2 \cdot 1 \cdot H_2 + \dots + v_n \cdot 1 \cdot H_n$$

Where:

v = Average Discharge Velocity

v_1 = Discharge Velocity in Layer 1

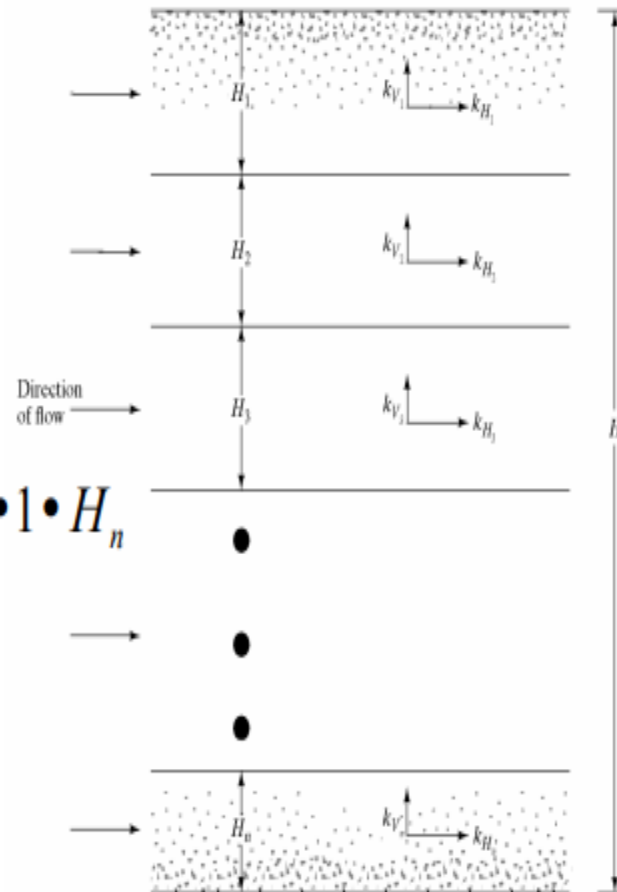


Figure 5.7. Das FGE (2005).

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

EQUIVALENT HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY IN STRATIFIED SOILS – HORIZONTAL DIRECTION

Substituting $v=ki$ into q equation and using H to denote Horizontal Direction

$$v = k_{H(eq)} i_{eq}$$

$$v_1 = k_{H1} i_1; v_2 = k_{H2} i_2; \dots; v_n = k_n i_n$$

Noting that $i_{eq} = i_1 = i_2 = \dots = i_n$

$$k_{H(eq)} = \frac{1}{H} (k_{H1} H_1 + k_{H2} H_2 + \dots + k_{Hn} H_n)$$

Where $k_{H(eq)}$ = Equivalent Hydraulic Conductivity in Horizontal Direction

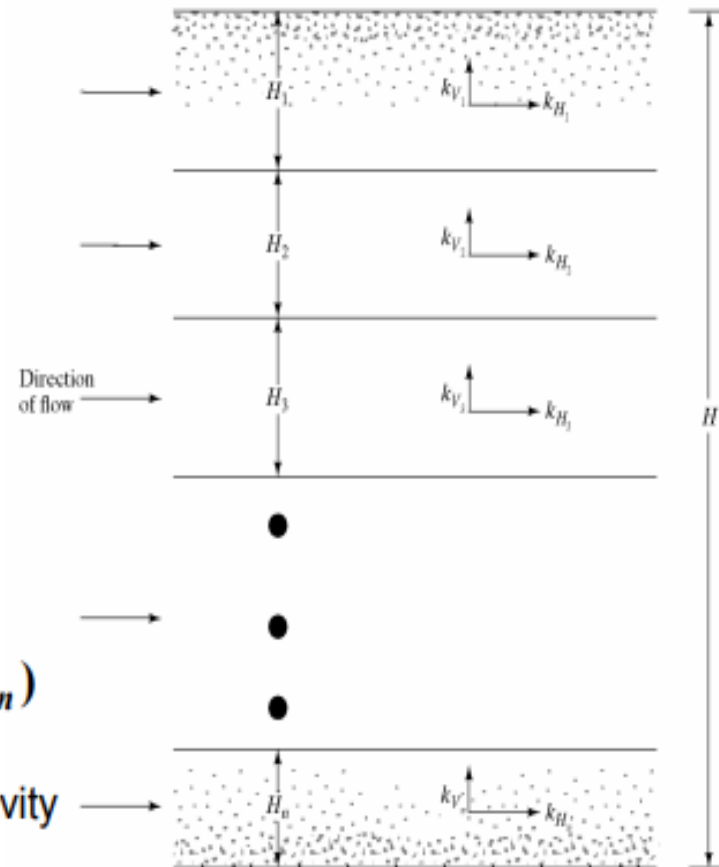


Figure 5.7. Das FGE (2005).

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

EQUIVALENT HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY IN STRATIFIED SOILS – VERTICAL DIRECTION

Total Head Loss = h
 h = Sum Head Loss in Each Layer

$$v = v_1 = v_2 = \dots = v_n$$

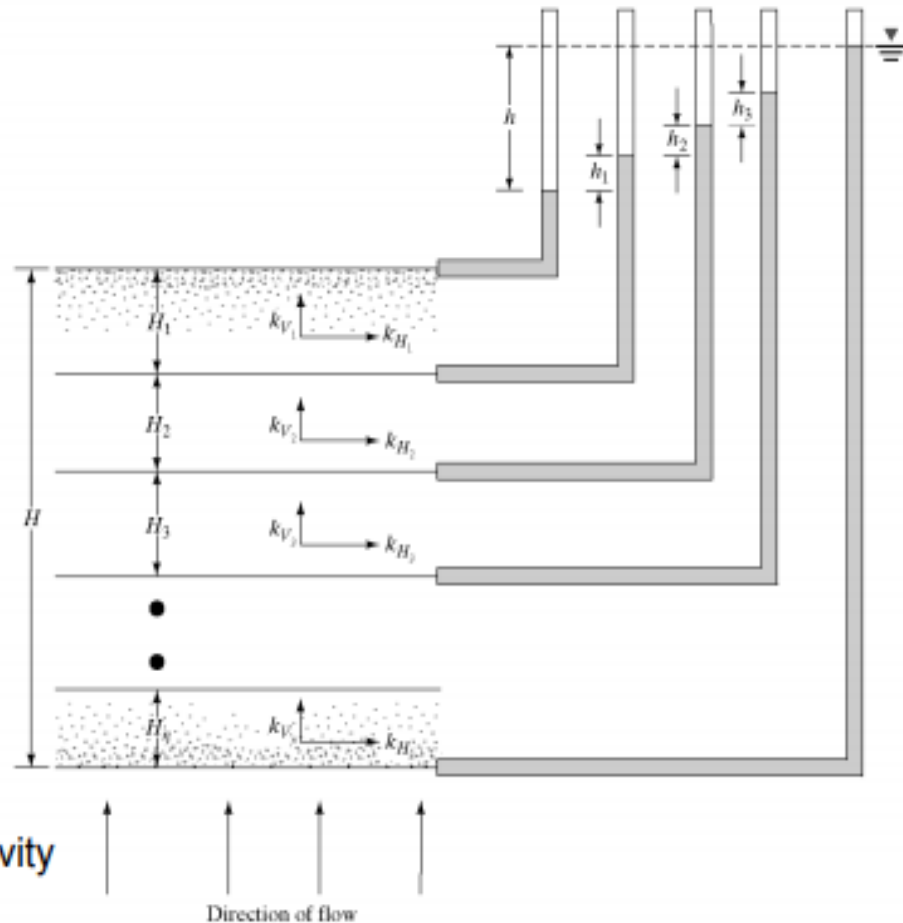
and

$$h = h_1 = h_2 = \dots = h_n$$

Using Darcy's Law ($v=ki$) into v equation and using V to denote Vertical Direction

$$k_{V(eq)} \frac{h}{H} = k_{V1} i_1 = \dots = k_{Vn} i_n$$

Where $k_{V(eq)}$ = Equivalent Hydraulic Conductivity in Vertical Direction



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FIELD PERMEABILITY TEST BY PUMPING WELLS UNCONFINED PERMEABLE LAYER UNDERLAIN BY IMPERMEABLE LAYER

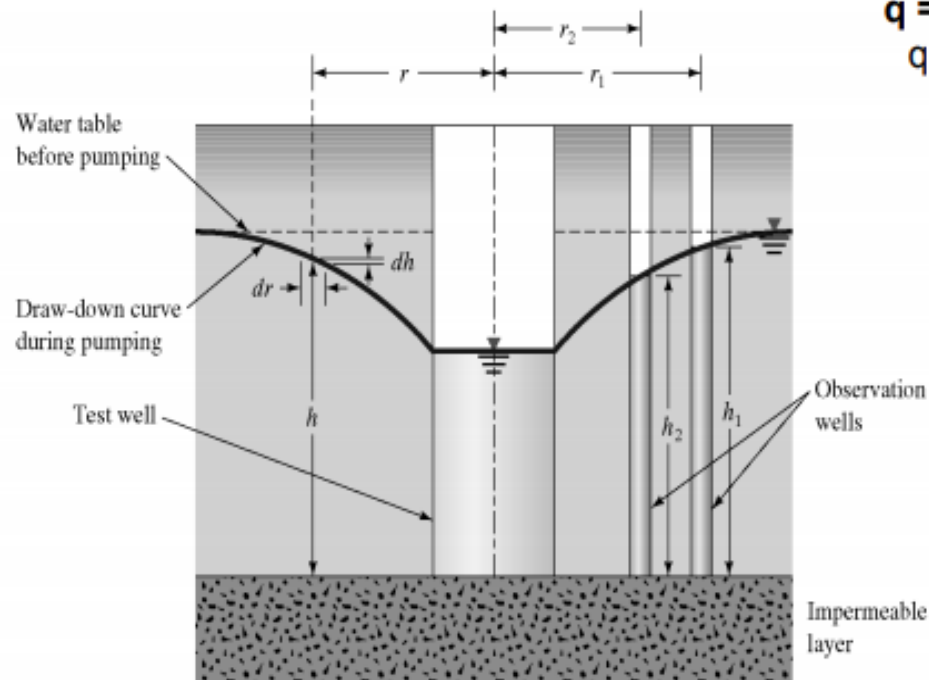


Figure 5.9. Das FGE (2005).

Field Measurements Taken:

q, r_1, r_2, h_1, h_2

q = Groundwater Flow into Well
 q also is rate of discharge from pumping

Equation:

$$q = k \left(\frac{dh}{dr} \right) 2\pi r h$$

can be re-written as

$$\int_{r_2}^{r_1} \frac{dr}{r} = \left(\frac{2\pi k}{q} \right) \int_{h_2}^{h_1} h dh$$

Solving Equation:

$$k_{field} = \frac{2.303q \log_{10} \left(\frac{r_1}{r_2} \right)}{\pi(h_1^2 - h_2^2)}$$

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

FIELD PERMEABILITY TEST BY PUMPING WELLS WELL PENETRATING CONFINED AQUIFER

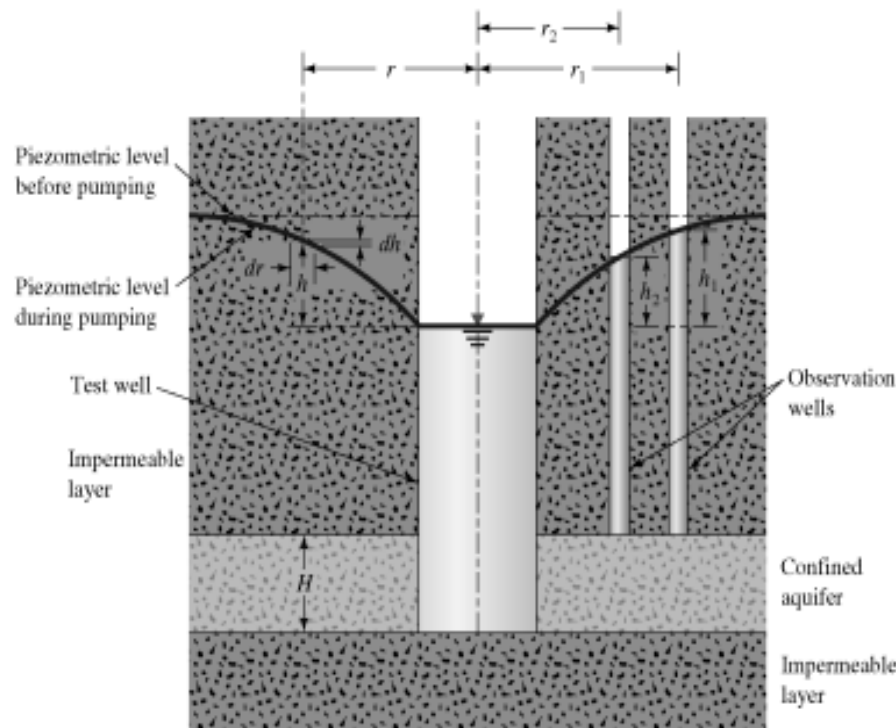


Figure 5.10. Das FGE (2005).

Field Measurements Taken:

q, r_1, r_2, h_1, h_2

q = Groundwater Flow into Well
 q also is rate of discharge from pumping

Equation:

$$q = k \left(\frac{dh}{dr} \right) 2\pi r H$$

can be re-written as

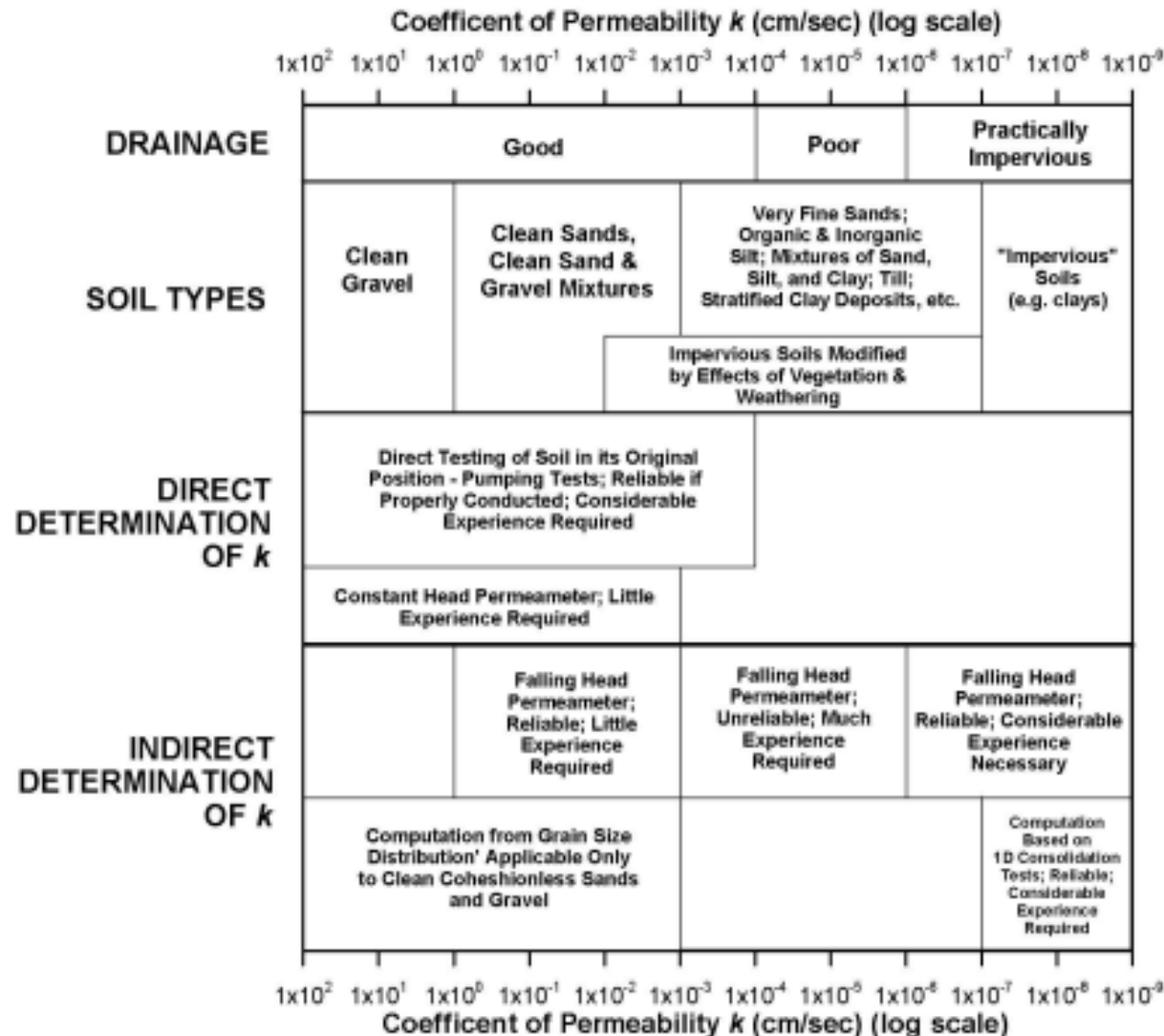
$$\int_{r_2}^{r_1} \frac{dr}{r} = \int_{h_2}^{h_1} \frac{2\pi k H}{q} dh$$

Solving Equation:

$$k_{field} = \frac{q \log_{10} \left(\frac{r_1}{r_2} \right)}{2.727 H (h_1 - h_2)}$$

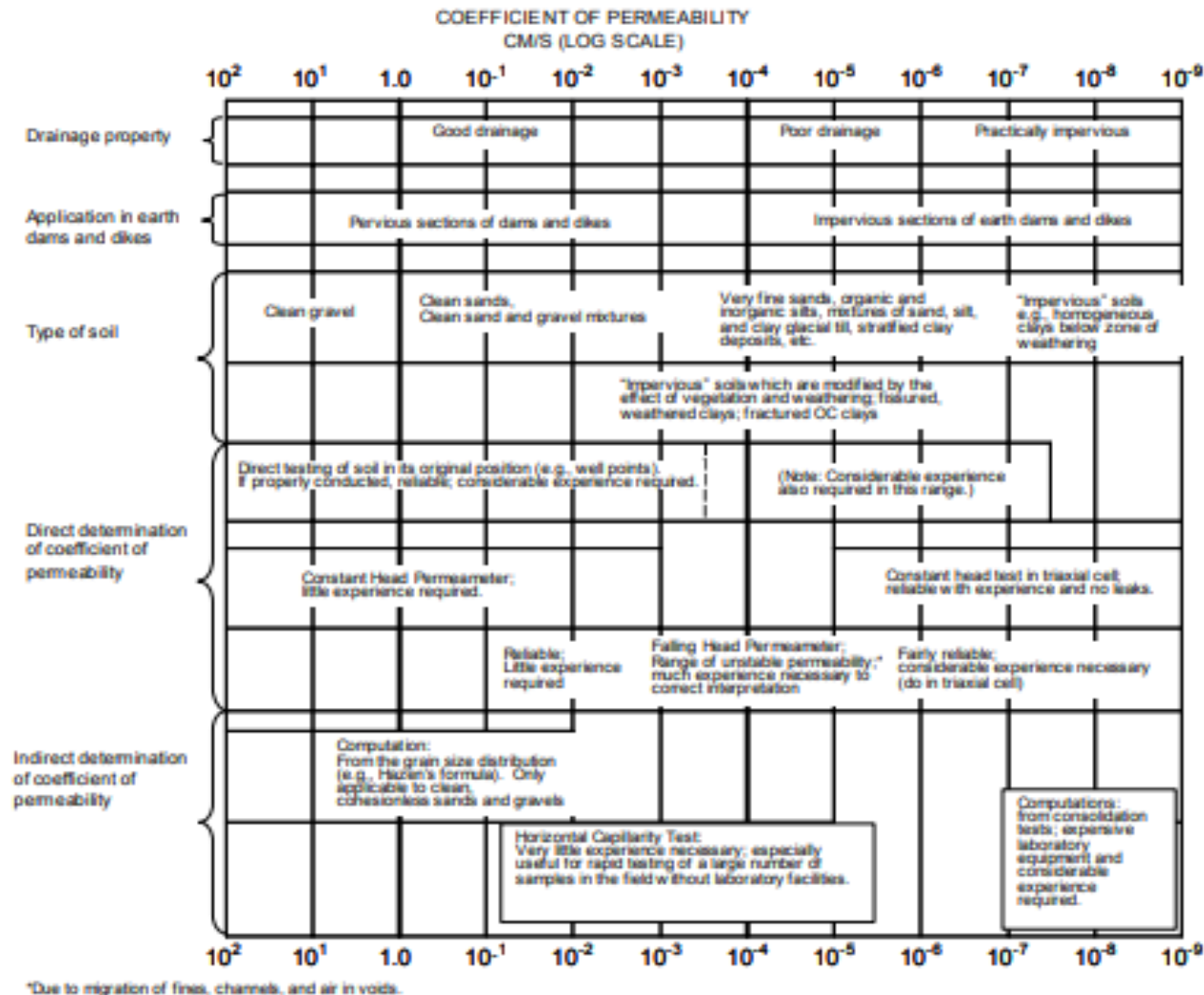
SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

SOIL PERMEABILITY & DRAINAGE



SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

SOIL PERMEABILITY & DRAINAGE



From FHWA IF-02-034 *Evaluation of Soil and Rock Properties.*

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

FLOW NETS DEFINITION OF TERMS

Flow Net: Graphical Construction used to calculate groundwater flow through soil. Comprised of **Flow Lines** and **Equipotential Lines**.

Flow Line: A line along which a water particle moves through a permeable soil medium.

Flow Channel: Strip between any two adjacent **Flow Lines**.

Equipotential Lines: A line along which the potential head at all points is equal.

NOTE: Flow Lines and Equipotential Lines must meet at right angles!

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

FLOW NETS

FLOW AROUND SHEET PILE WALL

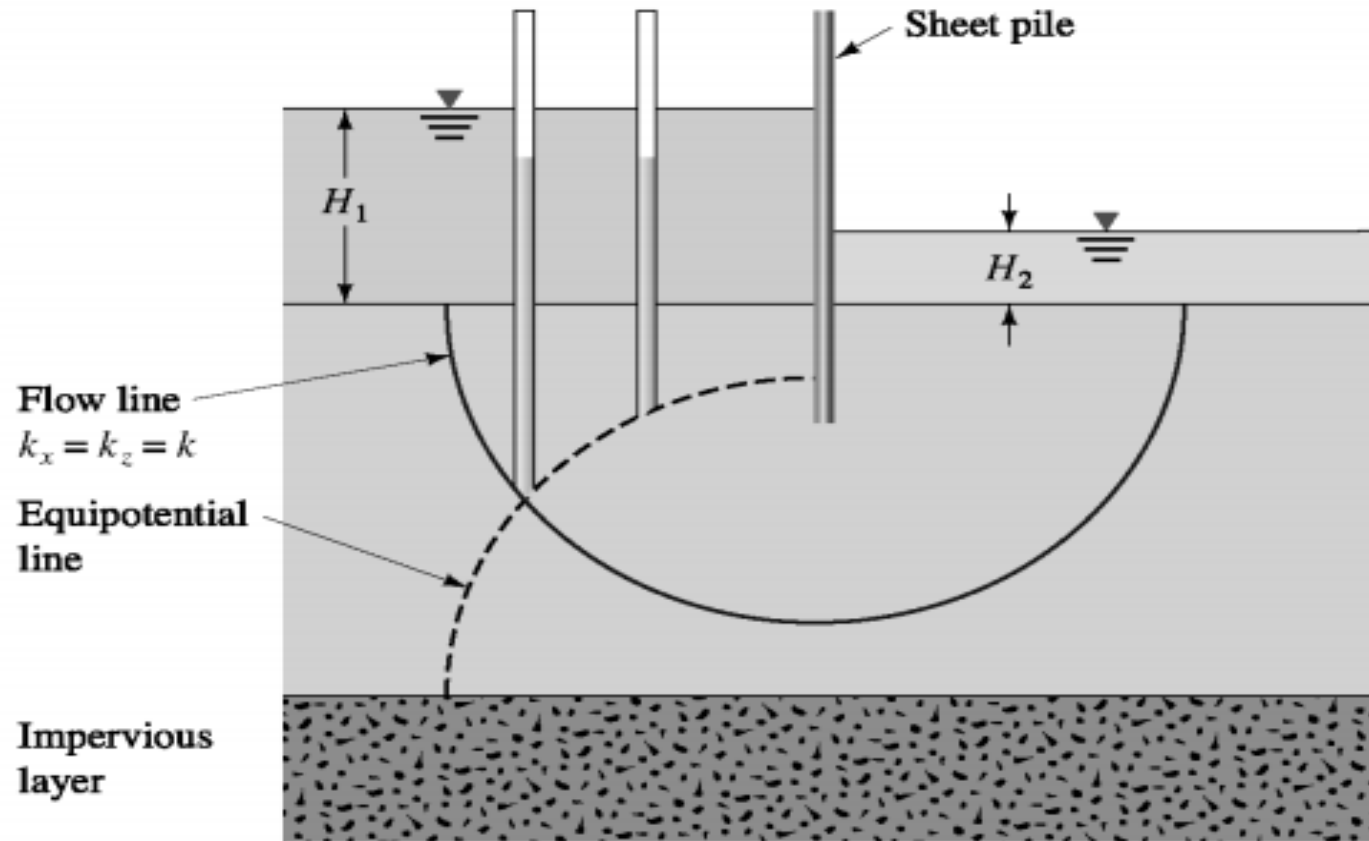


Figure 5.12a. Das FGE (2005).

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

FLOW NETS

FLOW AROUND SHEET PILE WALL

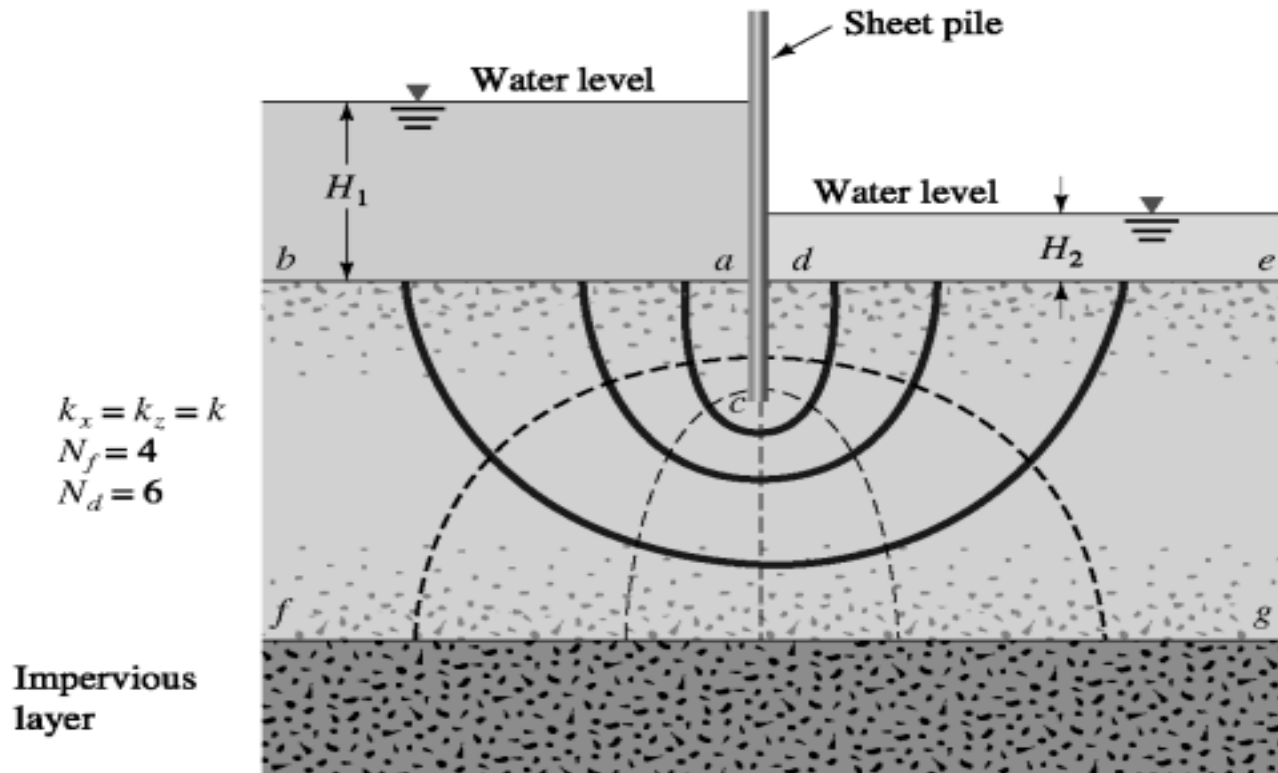


Figure 5.12b. Das FGE (2005).

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

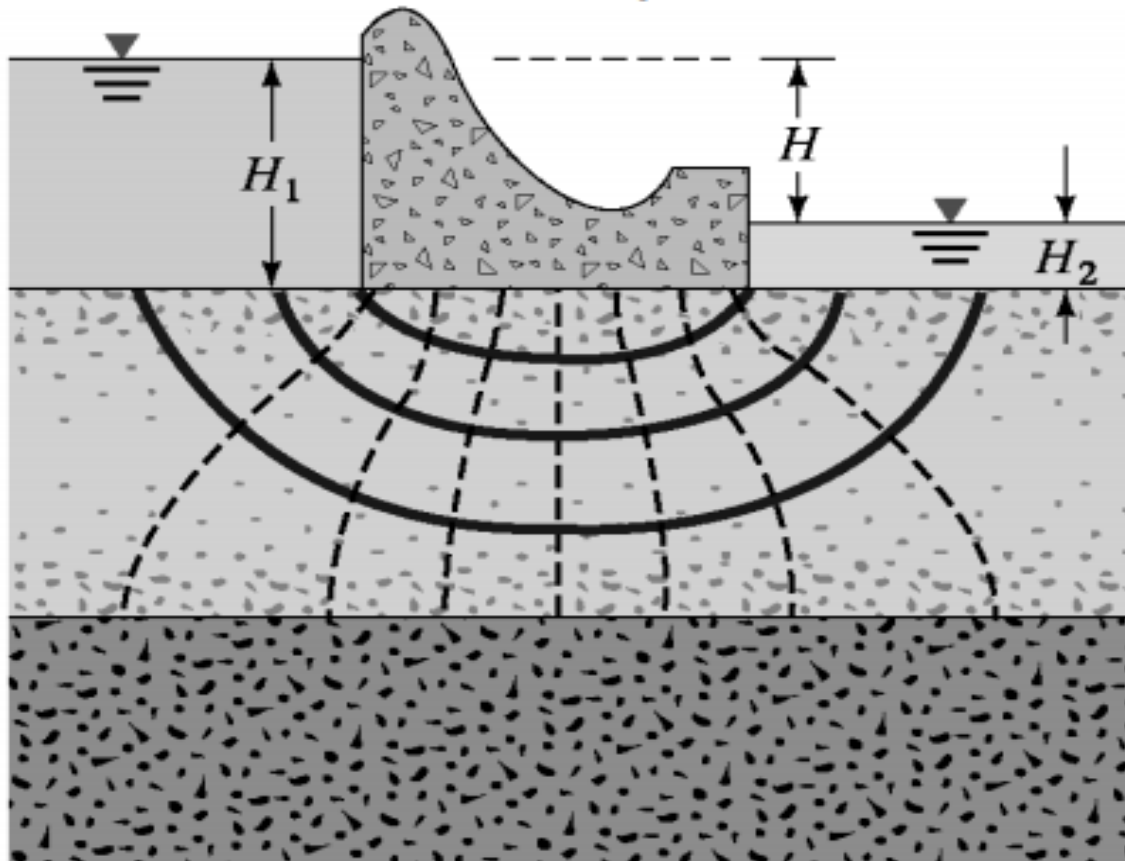
FLOW NETS – BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

1. The upstream and downstream surfaces of the permeable layer (i.e. lines *ab* and *de* in Figure 12b Das FGE (2005)) are equipotential lines.
2. Because *ab* and *de* are equipotential lines, all the flow lines intersect them at right angles.
3. The boundary of the impervious layer (i.e. line *fg* in Figure 12b Das FGE (2005)) is a flow line, as is the surface of the impervious sheet pile (i.e. line *acd* in Figure 12b Das FGE (2005)).
4. The equipotential lines intersect *acd* and *fg* (Figure 12b Das FGE (2005)) at right angles.

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

FLOW NETS

Flow under a Impermeable Dam



$$\begin{aligned}k_x &= k_z = k \\ N_f &= 4 \\ N_d &= 8\end{aligned}$$

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

FLOW NETS

Seepage Calculations

**Rate of Seepage Through
Flow Channel (per unit length):**

$$\Delta q_1 = \Delta q_2 = \Delta q_3 = \dots = \Delta q_n$$

Using Darcy's Law
($q = vA = kiA$)

$$\Delta q = k \left(\frac{h_1 - h_2}{l_1} \right) l_1 = k \left(\frac{h_2 - h_3}{l_2} \right) l_2 = k \left(\frac{h_3 - h_4}{l_3} \right) l_3 = \dots$$

Potential Drop

$$h_1 - h_2 = h_2 - h_3 = h_3 - h_4 = \dots = \frac{H}{N_d}$$

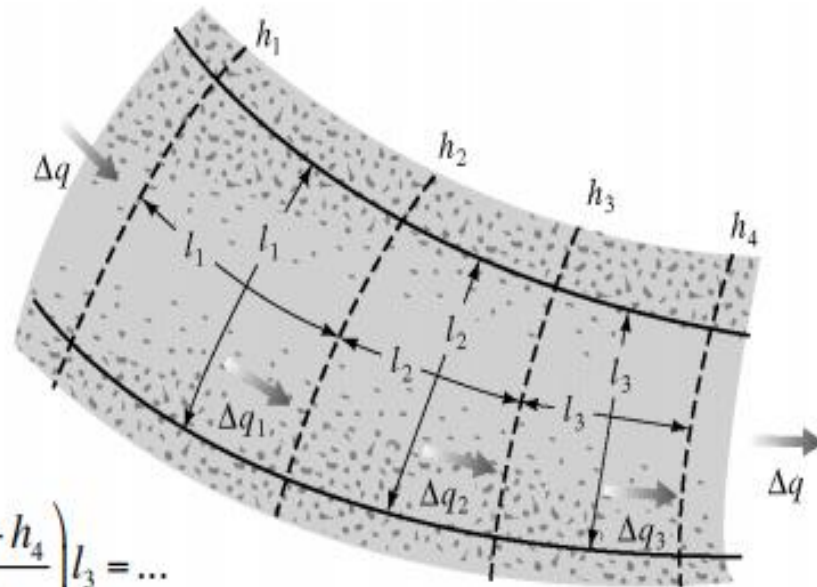


Figure 5.14. Das FGE (2005).

Where:

H = Head Difference

N_d = Number of Potential Drops

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

FLOW NETS

FLOW AROUND SHEET PILE WALL EXAMPLE

GIVEN:

Flow Net in Figure 5.17.

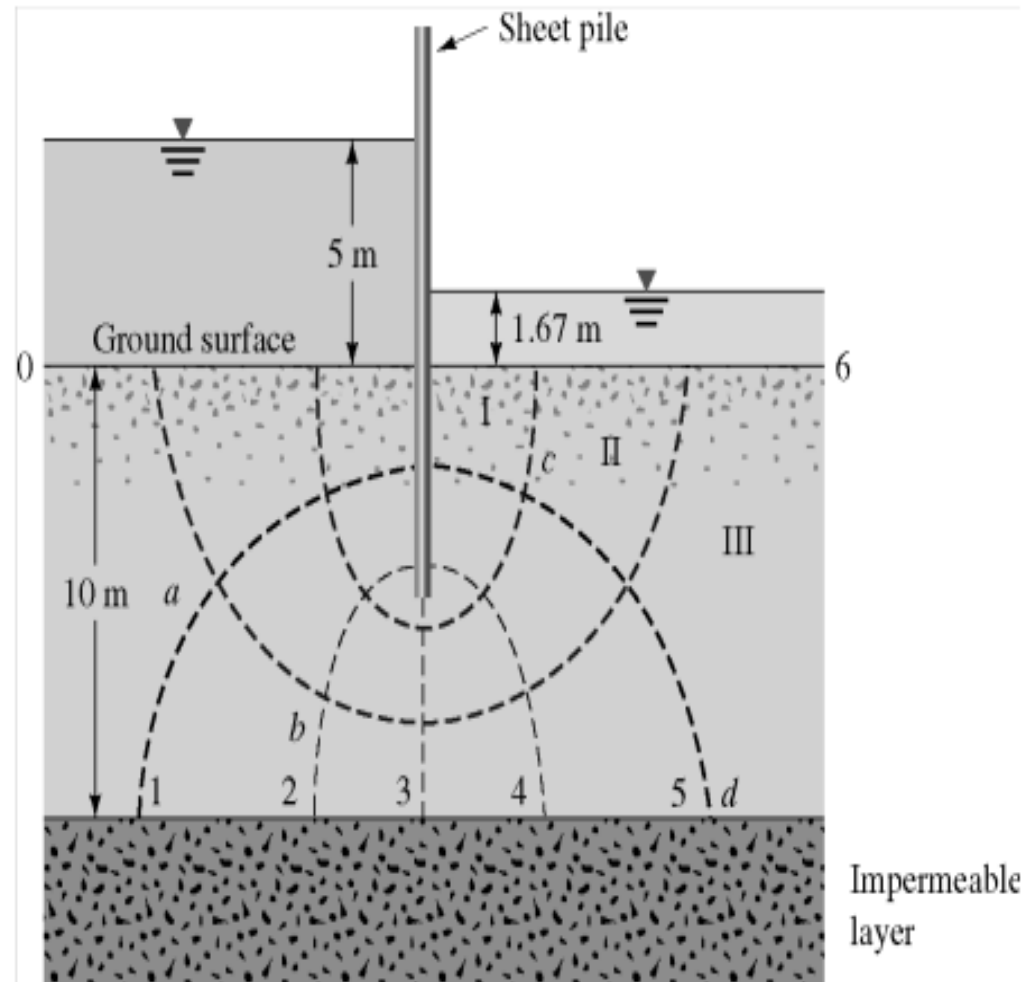
$$N_f = 3$$

$$N_d = 6$$

$$k_x = k_z = 5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm/sec}$$

DETERMINE:

- How high water will rise in piezometers at points *a*, *b*, *c*, and *d*.
- Rate of seepage through flow channel II.
- Total rate of seepage.



SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

FLOW NETS

FLOW AROUND SHEET PILE WALL EXAMPLE

SOLUTION:

$$\text{Potential Drop} = \frac{H}{N_d}$$
$$\frac{(5\text{m} - 1.67\text{m})}{6} = 0.56\text{m}$$

At Pt a:

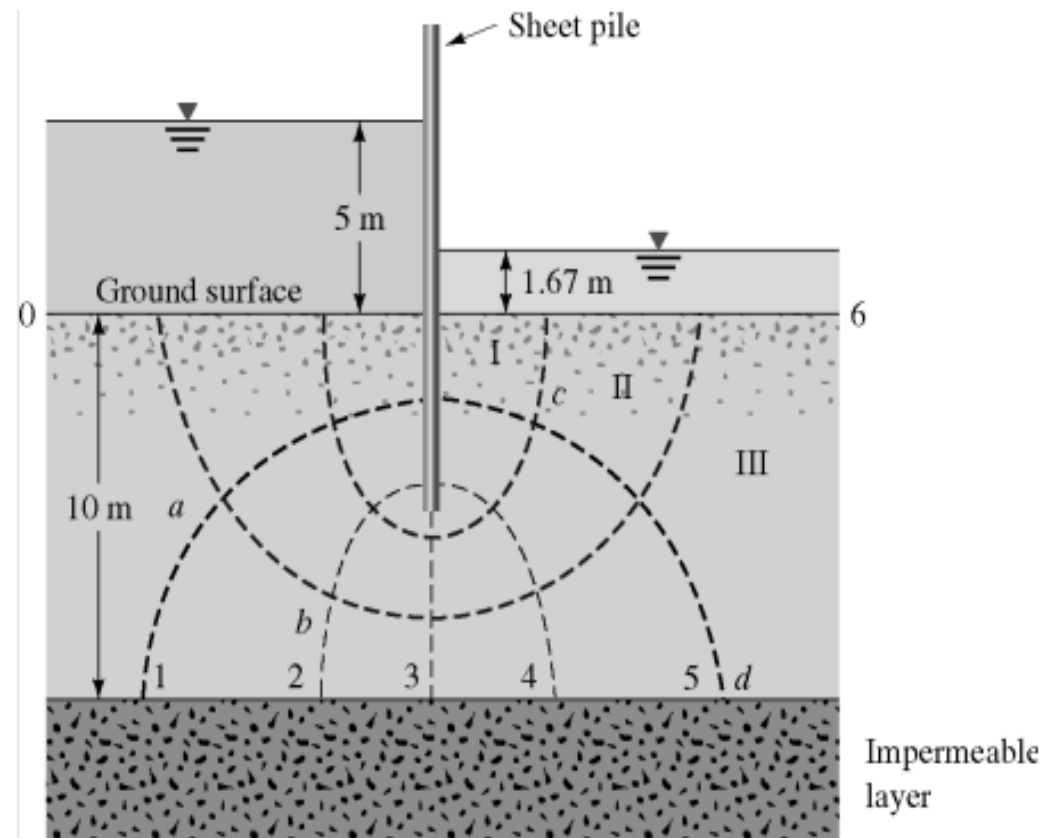
$$\text{Water in standpipe} = (5\text{m} - 1 \times 0.56\text{m}) = 4.44\text{m}$$

At Pt b:

$$\text{Water in standpipe} = (5\text{m} - 2 \times 0.56\text{m}) = 3.88\text{m}$$

At Pts c and d:

$$\text{Water in standpipe} = (5\text{m} - 5 \times 0.56\text{m}) = 2.20\text{m}$$



SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

SEEPAGE AND SOIL PERMEABILITY

FLOW NETS

FLOW AROUND SHEET PILE WALL EXAMPLE

SOLUTION:

$$\Delta q = k \frac{H}{N_d}$$

$$k = 5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm/sec} \\ = 5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m/sec}$$

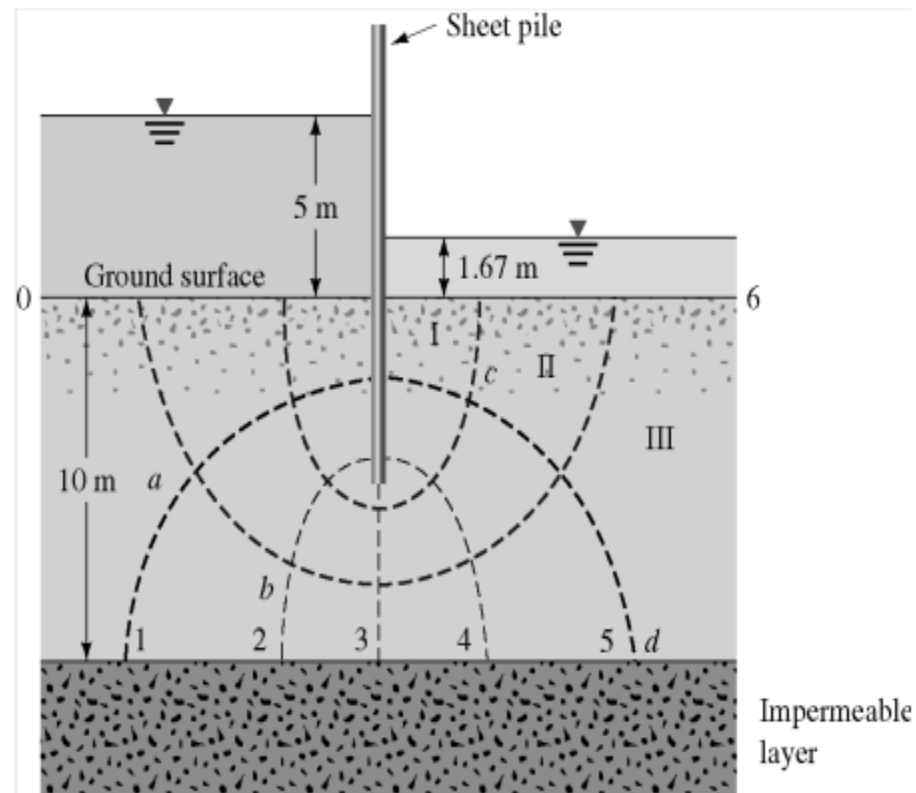
$$\Delta q = (5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m/sec})(0.56 \text{ m})$$

$$\Delta q = 2.8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^3/\text{sec/m}$$

$$q = k \frac{HN_f}{N_d} = \Delta q N_f$$

$$q = (2.8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^3/\text{sec/m}) * 3$$

$$q = 8.4 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^3/\text{sec/m}$$



ALL FIGURES WERE TAKEN FROM THE BOOK ENTITLED

“GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING” BY DAS (2012).