

## CHAPTER III

### BASIC THEORY

#### III.1. Clay

Clay is type of soils that contain mostly very small fine particles. The particles of the clays are consists of silicates of aluminum/iron/magnesium. According to reference (Wikipedia, 2014; Braja, 2011) it is stated that clay is one of active mineral component of soil. It is mostly consist of crystalline and colloidal materials. In soils, clay is physically defined as any mineral particle less than  $2\ \mu\text{m}$  ( $8 \times 10^{-5}$  in) in effective diameter. Chemically, clay is minerals with certain reactive properties on it. Clay minerals are complex aluminum silicates which is usually consist of two basic units: silica-tetrahedron and alumina octahedron. Most clays are crystalline and most are made up of three or four planes of oxygen held together by planes of aluminium and silicon by way of ionic bonds that formed together becomes a single layer of clay. The spatial arrangement of oxygen atoms determines structures of the clay. On the clay structures Oxygen is half of its weight of, but on a volume basis oxygen is ninety percent. Sometimes, the layers of clay are held together through hydrogen bonds or potassium bridges and as a result swell less in the presence of water. Clays such as montmorillonite, have layers that are loosely attached and will swell greatly when water intervenes.

The characteristic of the clay is typically different than other types of soils. Its sensitivity to water content alteration is the special characteristic of clay soils. The strength of the clay is highly affected by water content. In construction projects, clay may create some problems that usually related to swelling and

shrinkage problems. In dry condition the clay soils is hard enough, but in saturated condition clay soil's strength decrease significantly. The other behavior of the clay can be seen on the table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Types of soils behavior  
Source : (<http://ed.wikipedia.org/wiki/clay> at 2/10/2014;19:21)

Property/Behavior	Sand	Silt	Clay
Water-holding capacity	Low	Medium-High	High
Drainage rate	High	Slow-Medium	Very Slow
Soil organic matter	Low	Medium-High	High-Medium
Compact-ability	Low	Medium	High
Susceptibility to erosion	Moderate	High	Low
Shrink/Swell Potential	Very Low	Low	Moderate-High

### III.2. Fly Ash

Fly ash is the residues from coal burning process. Depend on source of the coal being burned, the components of fly ash vary considerably, but all fly ash includes substantial amounts of silicon dioxide ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ) and calcium oxide ( $\text{CaO}$ ). Fly ash particles are generally spherical in shape and range in size from 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  to 300  $\mu\text{m}$ . Fly ash is usually found as product of coal that burned in electric power generation facilities. Compared to other stabilizer such as lime and cement, fly-ash has little cementitious properties. Mostly fly ashes belong to secondary binders; that cannot produce the desired effect on their own. However, if fly-ash is combined with small amount of activator, it can react chemically to form cementitious compound to improved strength of soft soil. Fly ashes are readily available, cheaper and environmental friendly.

According to literature, (Bhuvaneshwari et al, 2005, FM 5-410) there are two common classes of fly ashes; class C and class F. Class C fly ashes are

produced from burning subbituminous coal; it has high cementing properties because of high content of free CaO. Class C from lignite has the highest CaO (above 30%) resulting in self-cementing characteristics. Class F fly ashes are produced by burning anthracite and bituminous coal; it has low self-cementing properties due to limited content of CaO.

According to ASTM C618 there are two types of fly ash: Class F fly ash and Class C fly ash. SiO<sub>2</sub>, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and occasionally CaO are the main chemical components present in fly ashes. The main difference between these two classes is the amount of calcium, silica, alumina, and iron content in the ash. The chemical properties of the fly ash are largely influenced by the chemical content of the coal burned and curing time.

Table 3.2 Chemical component of fly-ash

Component	Bituminous Class F (%)	Non-bituminous Class C (%)	Lignite (%)
SiO <sub>2</sub>	20-60	40-60	15-45
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	5-35	20-30	10-25
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	10-40	4-10	4-15
CaO	1-12	5-30	15-40
MgO	0-5	1-6	3-10
SO <sub>3</sub>	0-4	0-2	0-10
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0-4	0-2	0-6
K <sub>2</sub> O	0-3	0-4	0-4
LOI	0-15	0-3	0-5

### III.3. Lime

According to references (Wikipedia, 2014), Lime is a calcium that contain inorganic material such as carbonates, oxides and hydroxides predominate. Otherwise, lime is calcium oxide or calcium hydroxide. It is also the name of the natural mineral (native lime) CaO which occurs as a product of coal seam fires and in altered limestone xenoliths in volcanic paste. The word lime originates with its earliest use as building mortar and has the sense of sticking or adhering.

The rocks and minerals derived from these materials are the products such as limestone or chalk, that are composed primarily of calcium carbonate. They may be cut, crushed or pulverized and chemically altered. Burning process or usually called calcination converts them into the highly caustic material quicklime (calcium oxide, CaO) and, through addition of water, it can changes it into the less caustic but still strongly alkaline. Other products such as hydrated lime (calcium hydroxide, Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub>), is formed trough the process of which is called slaking of lime.

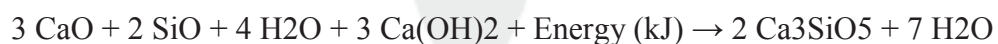
According to references (Sherwood, 1993; Hicks, 2002; EuroSoilStab, 2002) Lime provides an economical way of soil stabilization. Using lime as stabilization materials for soils can provide an increase strength brought by cation exchange capacity rather than cementing effect brought by pozzolanic reaction. Lime stabilization may refer to pozzolanic reaction bought by reaction between pozzolana materials and lime in presence of water to produce cementitious compounds. The effect of stabilization can be brought by either CaO (quicklime) or Ca (OH)<sub>2</sub> (hydrated lime). Lime slurry also can be used in dry soils conditions

where water may be required to achieve effective compaction. In the other hands, presence of sulphur and organic materials may inhibit the lime stabilization process. Sulphate such as gypsum will react with lime and swell, which may have effect on soil strength.

#### **III.4. Soil Stabilization**

According to references (Wikipedia, 2014), soil stabilization is physical and chemical modification of soils to modify their physical properties. Stabilization of the soils can increase the shear strength of a soil and control the shrink-swell properties of a soil, thus improving the load-bearing capacity of a sub-grade to support that applied on its surface. Stabilization can be used to treat a wide range of sub-grade materials from expansive clays to granular materials. Stabilization can be achieved with a variety of chemical additives such as lime, fly ash, and Portland cement.

During the soil stabilizations process, pozzolanic reactions occurred due to adding of pozzolanic materials. Pozzolanic reaction is the reaction of pozzolan (lime, cement, fly-ash, kilin dust, etc.) to form cementitious product. The chemical reactions of pozzolan can be written as:



Silica + Water + Calcium Hydroxyde + Energy → Calcium-Sylicate-Hydrate + Water

Ground performance is important to performance of the buildings. Soil stabilization is done in order to increase the following properties:

1. Shear strength : the ability to resist shear stresses developed as a result of loading;
  2. Modulus (stiffness) : the ability to respond elastically and minimize permanent deformation when subjected to loading;
  3. Resistance to moisture : the ability to resist the absorption of water, thus maintaining shear strength and modulus, and decreasing volumetric swell;
  4. Stability – the ability to maintain its physical volume and mass when subjected to load or moisture, and
  5. Durability – the ability to maintain material and engineering properties when exposed to environmental conditions such as moisture and temperature changes.
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