Birzeit University Faculty of Engineering Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

ENCE 331, Soil Mechanics Quiz #3

Problem 1:

During Atterberg limit tests in the soil mechanics laboratory, the students obtained the following results from a clayey soil.

Liquid limit test:

| Number of blows, N | Moisture content (%) | |
|--------------------|----------------------|--|
| 12 | 35.2 | |
| 19 | 29.5 | |
| 27 | 25.4 | |
| 37 | 21 | |

- Draw the flow curve and obtain the liquid limit.
- If plasticity index of the soil is 6.5 what is the plastic limit of this soil?
- Determine the flow index.
- Determine the liquidity index of the soil if the in-situ moisture content is 23.8%, and comment on the probable engineering behavior of this soil.

Problem 2:

Classify the following soils using USCS

| Sieve analysis — Percent finer | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|---------|--------------|------------------|
| Soil | No. 4 | No. 200 | Liquid limit | Plasticity index |
| 1 | 70 | 30 | 33 | 21 |
| 2 | 48 | 20 | 41 | 22 |
| 3 | 95 | 70 | 52 | 28 |

Classify the following soils using AASHTO

| Soil | Sieve analysis-Percent finer | | | | |
|------|------------------------------|--------|---------|--------------|------------------|
| | No. 10 | No. 40 | No. 200 | Liquid limit | Plasticity index |
| 1 | 85 | 55 | 45 | 28 | 20 |
| 2 | 92 | 75 | 62 | 43 | 28 |
| 3 | 97 | 60 | 30 | 25 | 16 |