

**ASSESSMENT ON RAINFALL BEHAVIOUR AT SINKHOLE TRAGEDIC
AREA IN IPOH NORTH AND PERLIS**

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Report is submitted as
The requirement for the degree of
Bachelor Engineering (Hons) (Civil)

**UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY MARA
OCTOBER 2004**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Assalamualaikum w.b.t

First of all I would like to express my gratitude to the almighty ALLAH S.W.T, in giving me the strength, courage and guidance to complete this thesis with full of its requirement and with a grateful success.

Besides that a thousands bouquet of thanks I would like to express my deepest thankful and appreciation to my advisor, Prof. Ir.Damanhuri Jamaludin for his patients, guidance also his valuable advice throughout this preparation in planning and completing this thesis report.

I also want to acknowledge to the JPS Ampang and Department of Mineral & Geoscience Ipoh,Perak and Kangar, Perlis for all their assistance in forming about the locations of the sinkholes and also for providing valuable data for the usage of this thesis.

My deepest appreciation also goes to my parents, Mr.Mohd Nasir Mahmood and Pn.Latifah Abd Hamid , I owe you all the heartiest gratitude and obligation for your support throughout my days.

Special thanks are extended to all my colleagues and friends who had encouraged me, and giving full of support through these hard days, I also want to thank them all for all of their support.

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ABSTRACT

Sinkhole is a costly recurring problem faced by many countries such as Malaysia where some of the areas having limestone with underground cavities as the bedrock. Economic loss or damages of properties and loss of lives occur in major sinkhole failure.

Erosivity of rainfall and type of soil are the main parameters that might influence and contribute to the sinkhole occurrences. In this research, the erosivity of rainfall is the only parameter taken into consideration and thoroughly analysed in predicting the contributing factor of sinkhole occurrences.

Erosivity factor itself is strongly influence by the climatic condition and it is totally related to the rainfall characteristic and its kinetic energy. Then the relationship between rainfall pattern can be related to ROSE Index to predict the occurrence to the sinkhole.

In this study it was found that sinkholes occurred when the ROSE Index is in the category of high, very high and critical.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL

Sinkhole is hazards to both shallow and deep foundations including piling. A sinkhole is a natural phenomenon in which the ground surface suddenly sinks resulting in a large hole being formed. The common features of sinkhole as reported occurring in Peninsular Malaysia are the approximately circular shape in plan with diameters up to about 10m and the steep or nearly vertical sides with depths up to about 10m.

Recently, sinkhole failure occurrence in Malaysia is becoming one of the major environment disasters. The recent sinkhole occurrence at Kem Oran, Perlis and Sg.Tapah, Ipoh Perak are some of the examples of them. Most of the sinkhole occurred in areas having limestone with layers of cavities as the bedrock.

1.2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

Sinkhole is formed when subsurface erosion into cavities and dissolution channels has created voids in the overburden. Besides posing problems to foundations, they also create problems when they are sometimes activated by the construction process. In this study is to find the relationship between rainfall pattern in Malaysia and sinkhole occurrence within North of Ipoh, Perak and Perlis.