



**MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
(MMUST)**

**MAIN CAMPUS**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2019/2020 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**THIRD YEAR SEMESTER TWO  
MAIN EXAMINATIONS**

**FOR THE DEGREE  
OF  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL AND STRUCTURAL  
ENGINEERING**

**COURSE CODE: CSE 314**

**COURSE TITLE: STRUCTURAL TIMBER DESIGN**

**DATE: WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020 TIME: 9.00 – 11.00 AM**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. This paper contains **FOUR** questions
2. **QUESTION ONE IS COMPULSORY**
3. Attempt any other **TWO** questions
4. **BS 5268-2** is allowed
5. Marks for each question are indicated in the parenthesis.

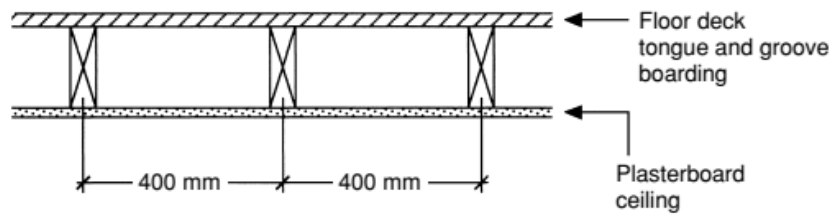
Examination duration is **2 Hour**

MMUST observes **ZERO** tolerance to examination cheating

*This Paper Consists of 4 Printed Pages. Please Turn Over.*

**Question ONE (30 marks)**

- a) Design the timber floor joist for a domestic dwelling (**Figure Q1a**) using timber of strength class C18 given that:
- The joists are spaced at 400 mm Centers;
  - the floor has an effective span of 3.8 m;
  - the flooring is tongue and groove boarding with a self-weight of  $0.1 \text{ kN/m}^2$ ;
  - the ceiling is of plasterboard with a self-weight of  $0.2 \text{ kN/m}^2$

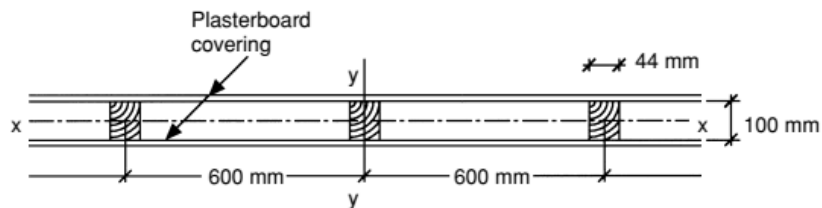
**Figure Q1a**

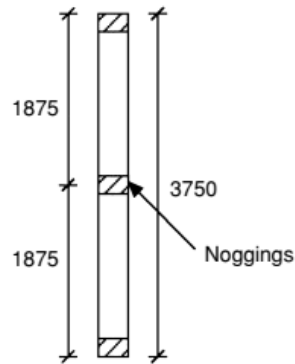
[20 Marks]

- b) Discuss the permissible stress design and state its major drawback [4 Marks]
- c) Discuss the physical properties of timber [6 Marks]

**Question TWO (20 marks)**

- a) A stud wall panel (**Figure Q2**) has an overall height of 3.75 m including top and bottom rails and vertical studs at 600 mm centres with nogging pieces at mid-height. Assuming that the studs, rail framing and nogging pieces comprise  $44 \times 100 \text{ mm}$  section of strength class C22, calculate the maximum uniformly distributed long term total load the panel is able to support.





**Figure Q2**

[12 Marks]

b) State and explain the natural defects in timber

[8 Marks]

**Question THREE (20 marks)**

Design of a glued laminated timber beam for the roof of a restaurant is required. The beam is to span 9.8m centre to centre on 125mm wide bearings under service class 2 conditions. It is proposed to use a combined-grade lay-up using softwood timber in strength classes of C18 and C16 with laminations of 36 mm finished thickness. The beam is subjected to a dead load of 0.67 kN/m excluding self-weight, from t & g boarding and roofing, and an imposed medium-term load of 2.25 kN/m.

[20 Marks]

**Question FOUR (20 marks)**

A proposed temporary platform is to be constructed using decking supported by the timber ply-web I-beam sections indicated in **Figure Q4**. Using the design data given, check the suitability of the proposed beam section with respect to:

- i. Bending,
- ii. Panel shear,
- iii. Rolling shear and
- iv. Deflection.

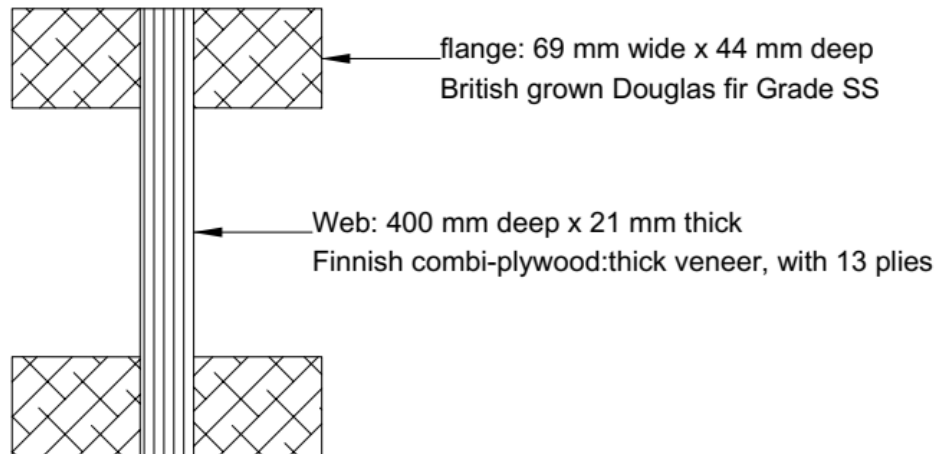
**Design data:**

Characteristic dead load (including self-weight) 0.3 kN/m

Characteristic imposed load (medium term) 3.0 kN/m

Span of beam 5.4 m

Exposure condition Service Class 2



**Figure Q4**

[20 Marks]