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Department of Transportation

Materials Manual

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Engineering and Regional Operations
State Materials Laboratory

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ASPHALT WAQTC FOP AASHTO T 166 (18)

BULK SPECIFIC GRAVITY (G_{mb}) OF COMPACTED ASPHALT MIXTURES USING SATURATED SURFACE-DRY SPECIMENS FOP FOR AASHTO T 166

Scope

This procedure covers the determination of bulk specific gravity (G_{mb}) of compacted asphalt mixtures using three methods – A, B, and C – in accordance with AASHTO T 166-16. This FOP is for use on specimens not having open or interconnecting voids or absorbing more than 2.00 percent water by volume, or both. When specimens have open or interconnecting voids or absorbing more than 2.00 percent water by volume, or both, AASHTO T 275 or AASHTO T 331 should be performed.

Overview

- Method A: Suspension
- Method B: Volumeter
- Method C: Rapid test for A or B

Test Specimens

Test specimens may be either laboratory-molded or from asphalt mixture pavement. For specimens it is recommended that the diameter be equal to four times the maximum size of the aggregate and the thickness be at least one and one half times the maximum size.

Test specimens from asphalt mixture pavement will be sampled according to AASHTO R 67.

Terminology

Constant Mass: The state at which a mass does not change more than a given percent, after additional drying for a defined time interval, at a required temperature.

Apparatus - Method A (Suspension)

- Balance or scale: 5 kg capacity, readable to 0.1 g, and fitted with a suitable suspension apparatus and holder to permit weighing the specimen while suspended in water, conforming to AASHTO M 231.
- Suspension apparatus: Wire of the smallest practical size and constructed to permit the container to be fully immersed.
- Water bath: For immersing the specimen in water while suspended under the balance or scale and equipped with an overflow outlet for maintaining a constant water level.
- Towel: Damp cloth towel used for surface drying specimens.
- Oven: Capable of maintaining a temperature of 110 ±5°C (230 ±9°F) for drying the specimens to a constant mass.

- Pan: Pan or other suitable container of known mass, large enough to hold a sample for drying in oven.
- Thermometer: Having a range of 19 to 27°C (66 to 80°F), graduated in 0.1°C (0.2°F) subdivisions.
- Vacuum device: refer to AASHTO R 79 (optional)

Procedure - Method A (Suspension)

Recently molded laboratory samples that have not been exposed to moisture do not need drying.

1. Dry the specimen to constant mass, if required.
   a. Oven method
      i. Initially dry overnight at 52 ±3°C (125 ±5°F).
      ii. Determine and record the mass of the specimen (M_p).
      iii. Return the specimen to the oven for at least 2 hours.
      iv. Determine and record the mass of the specimen (M_n).
      v. Determine percent change by subtracting the new mass determination (M_n) from the previous mass determination (M_p), divide by the previous mass determination (M_p), and multiply by 100.
      vi. Continue drying until there is no more than 0.05 percent change in specimen mass after 2-hour drying intervals (constant mass).
      vii. Constant mass has been achieved; sample is defined as dry.

   Note 1: To expedite the procedure, steps 1 and 2 may be performed last. To further expedite the process, see Method C.

   b. Vacuum dry method
      i. Perform vacuum drying procedure according to AASHTO R 79.
      ii. Determine and record the mass of the specimen (M_p).
      iii. Perform a second vacuum drying procedure.
      iv. Determine and record the mass of the specimen (M_n).
      v. Determine percent change by subtracting the new mass determination (M_n) from the previous mass determination (M_p), divide by the previous mass determination (M_p), and multiply by 100.
      vi. Continue drying until there is no more than 0.05 percent change in specimen mass (constant mass).
      vii. Constant mass has been achieved; sample is defined as dry.

2. Cool the specimen in air to 25 ±5°C (77 ±9°F), and determine and record the dry mass to the nearest 0.1 g. Designate this mass as "A."
3. Fill the water bath to overflow level with water at 25 ±1°C (77 ±1.8°F) and allow the water to stabilize.
4. Zero or tare the balance with the immersion apparatus attached, ensuring that the device is not touching the sides or the bottom of the water bath.
5. Immerse the specimen shaking to remove the air bubbles. Place the specimen on its side in the suspension apparatus. Leave it immersed for 4 ±1 minutes.
6. Determine and record the submerged weight to the nearest 0.1 g. Designate this submerged weight as "C."
7. Remove the sample from the water and quickly surface dry with a damp cloth towel within 5 seconds.
8. Zero or tare the balance.
9. Immediately determine and record the mass of the saturated surface-dry (SSD) specimen to nearest 0.1 g. Designate this mass as "B." Any water that seeps from the specimen during the mass determination is considered part of the saturated specimen. Do not to exceed 15 seconds performing Steps 7 through 9.

Calculations - Method A (Suspension)

Constant Mass:

Calculate constant mass using the following formula:

$$\%Change = \frac{M_p - M_n}{M_p} \times 100$$

Where:

M_p = previous mass measurement, g

M_n = new mass measurement, g

Bulk specific gravity (G_{mb}) and percent water absorbed:

$$G_{mb} = \frac{A}{B - C}$$

$$Percent\ Water\ Absorbed\ (by\ volume) = \frac{B - A}{B - C} \times 100$$

where:

A = Mass of dry specimen in air, g

B = Mass of SSD specimen in air, g

C = Weight of specimen in water at 25 ±1°C (77 ±1.8°F), g

Example:

$$G_{mb} = \frac{4833.6\ g}{4842.4\ g - 2881.3\ g} = 2.465$$

$$\%\ Water\ Absorbed\ (by\ volume) = \frac{4842.4\ g - 4833.6\ g}{4842.4\ g - 2881.3\ g} \times 100 = 0.45\%$$

Apparatus - Method B (Volumeter)

- Balance or scale: 5 kg capacity, readable to 0.1 g and conforming to AASHTO M 231.
- Water bath: Thermostatically controlled to 25 ±0.5°C (77 ±0.9°F).
- Thermometer: Range of 19 to 27°C (66 to 80°F) and graduated in 0.1°C (0.2°F) subdivisions.
- Volumeter: Calibrated to 1200 mL or appropriate capacity for test sample and having a tapered lid with a capillary bore.
- Oven: Capable of maintaining a temperature of 110 ±5°C (230 ±9°F) for drying the specimens to a constant mass.
- Pan: Pan or other suitable container of known mass, large enough to hold a sample for drying in oven.
- Towel: Damp cloth towel used for surface drying specimens.
- Vacuum device: AASHTO R 79 (optional)

Procedure - Method B (Volumeter)

Recently molded laboratory samples that have not been exposed to moisture do not need drying.

1. Dry the specimen to constant mass, if required.
   a. Oven method:
      i. Initially dry overnight at 52 ±3°C (125 ±5°F).
      ii. Determine and record the mass of the specimen (M_p).
      iii. Return the specimen to the oven for at least 2 hours.
      iv. Determine and record the mass of the specimen (M_n).
      v. Determine percent change by subtracting the new mass determination (M_n) from the previous mass determination (M_p), divide by the previous mass determination (M_p), and multiply by 100.
      vi. Continue drying until there is no more than 0.05 percent change in specimen mass after 2-hour drying intervals (constant mass).
      vii. Constant mass has been achieved; sample is defined as dry.

   Note 1: To expedite the procedure, steps 1 and 2 may be performed last. To further expedite the process, see Method C.

   b. Vacuum dry method
      i. Perform vacuum drying procedure according to AASHTO R 79.
      ii. Determine and record the mass of the specimen (M_p).

iii. Perform a second vacuum drying procedure.

iv. Determine and record the mass of the specimen (M_n).

v. Determine percent change by subtracting the new mass determination (M_n) from the previous mass determination (M_p), divide by the previous mass determination (M_p), and multiply by 100.

vi. Continue drying until there is no more than 0.05 percent change in specimen mass (constant mass).

vii. Constant mass has been achieved; sample is defined as dry.

2. Cool the specimen in air to 25 ±5°C (77 ±9°F), and determine and record the dry mass to the nearest 0.1 g. Designate this mass as "A."
3. Immerse the specimen in the temperature-controlled water bath for at least 10 minutes.
4. Fill the volumeter with distilled water at 25 ±1°C (77 ±1.8°F) making sure some water escapes through the capillary bore of the tapered lid.
5. Wipe the volumeter dry. Determine the mass of the volumeter to the nearest 0.1 g. Designate this mass as "D."
6. At the end of the ten-minute period, remove the specimen from the water bath and quickly surface dry with a damp cloth towel within 5 seconds.
7. Immediately determine and record the mass of the SSD specimen to the nearest 0.1 g. Designate this mass as "B." Any water that seeps from the specimen during the mass determination is considered part of the saturated specimen.
8. Place the specimen in the volumeter and let stand 60 seconds.
9. Bring the temperature of the water to 25 ±1°C (77 ±1.8°F) and cover the volumeter, making sure some water escapes through the capillary bore of the tapered lid.
10. Wipe the volumeter dry.
11. Determine and record the mass of the volumeter and specimen to the nearest 0.1 g. Designate this mass as "E."

Note 2: Method B is not acceptable for use with specimens that have more than 6 percent air voids.

Calculations - Method B (Volumeter)

Constant Mass:

Calculate constant mass using the following formula:

$$\%Change = \frac{M_p - M_n}{M_p} \times 100$$

Where:

M_p = previous mass measurement, g

M_n = new mass measurement, g

Bulk specific gravity (G_{mb}) and percent water absorbed:

$$G_{mb} = \frac{A}{B + D - E}$$

$$Percent\ Water\ Absorbed\ (by\ volume) = \frac{B - A}{B + D - E} \times 100$$

where:

G_{mb} = Bulk specific gravity

A = Mass of dry specimen in air, g

B = Mass of SSD specimen in air, g

D = Mass of volumeter filled with water at 25 ±1°C (77 ±1.8°F), g

E = Mass of volumeter filled with specimen and water, g

Example:

$$G_{mb} = \frac{4833.6\ g}{4842.4\ g + 2924.4\ g - 5806.0\ g} = 2.465$$

$$\%\ Water\ Absorbed\ (by\ volume) = \frac{4842.4\ g - 4833.6\ g}{4842.4\ g + 2924.4\ g - 5806.0\ g} \times 100 = 0.45\%$$

Method C (Rapid Test for Method A or B)

See Methods A or B.

Note 3: This procedure can be used for specimens that are not required to be saved and contain substantial amounts of moisture. Cores can be tested the same day as obtained by this method.

Procedure - Method C (Rapid Test for Method A or B)

1. Start on Step 3 of Method A or B, and complete that procedure, then determine dry mass, "A," as follows.
2. Determine and record mass of a large, flat-bottom container.
3. Place the specimen in the container.
4. Place in an oven at a minimum of 105°C (221°F). Do not exceed the Job Mix Formula mixing temperature.
5. Dry until the specimen can be easily separated into fine aggregate particles that are not larger than 6.3 mm (¼ in.).
6. Determine and record the mass of the specimen (M_p).
7. Return the specimen to the oven for at least 2 hours.
8. Determine and record the mass of the specimen (M_n).
9. Determine percent change by subtracting the new mass determination (M_n) from the previous mass determination (M_p), divide by the previous mass determination (M_p), and multiply by 100.
10. Continue drying until there is no more than 0.05 percent change in specimen mass after 2-hour drying intervals (constant mass).
11. Constant mass has been achieved; sample is defined as dry.
12. Cool in air to 25 ±5°C (77 ±9°F).
13. Determine and record the mass of the container and dry specimen to the nearest 0.1 g.
14. Determine and record the mass of the dry specimen to the nearest 0.1 g by subtracting the mass of the container from the mass determined in Step 13. Designate this mass as "A."

Calculations - Method C (Rapid Test for Method A or B)

Complete the calculations as outlined in Methods A or B, as appropriate.

Report

- Results on forms approved by the agency
- Sample ID
- G_{mb} to the nearest 0.001
- Absorption to the nearest 0.01 percent
- Method performed.

ASPHALT	WAQTC	FOP AASHTO T 166 (18)

ASPHALT WAQTC FOP AASHTO T 166 (19)

PERFORMANCE EXAM CHECKLIST

BULK SPECIFIC GRAVITY OF COMPACTED ASPHALT MIXTURES USING SATURATED SURFACE-DRY SPECIMENS FOP FOR AASHTO T 166

Participant Name _____ Exam Date _____

Record the symbols "P" for passing or "F" for failing on each step of the checklist.

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
Method A:		
1. Mass of dry sample determined.		
a. Sample dried to constant mass if required?	_____	_____
b. Cooled in air to 25 ±5°C (77 ±9°F)?	_____	_____
c. Dry mass determined to 0.1g?	_____	_____
2. Water at the overflow?	_____	_____
3. Balance zeroed?	_____	_____
4. Immersed weight determined.		
a. Water at 25 ±1°C (77 ±1.8°F)?	_____	_____
b. Immersed, shaken, on side, for 4 ±1 min.?	_____	_____
c. Immersed weight determined to 0.1g?	_____	_____
5. Sample rapidly surface dried with damp towel and saturated surface dry (SSD) mass determined to 0.1 g (entire operation performed within 15 seconds)?	_____	_____
6. G_{mb} calculated to the nearest 0.001?	_____	_____
7. Absorption calculated to the nearest 0.01 percent	_____	_____

OVER

ASPHALT WAQTC FOP AASHTO T 166 (19)

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
Method B:		
1. Specimen dried, cooled, and mass determined as in Method A?	_____	_____
2. Saturated surface-dry (SSD) mass determined to 0.1g.		
a. Immersed at least 10 minutes at 25 ±1°C (77 ±1.8°F)?	_____	_____
b. Sample rapidly dried with damp towel?	_____	_____
c. Specimen mass determined to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
d. Any water that seeps from specimen included in mass?	_____	_____
3. Mass of volumeter filled with distilled water at 25 ±1°C (77 ±1.8°F) determined?	_____	_____
4. SSD specimen placed into volumeter and let stand for 1 minute?	_____	_____
5. Temperature of water brought to 25 ±1°C (77 ±1.8°F) and volumeter covered, allowing some water to escape through the capillary bore of the tapered lid?	_____	_____
6. Volumeter wiped dry, and mass of volumeter and contents determined?	_____	_____
7. G_{mb} calculated to the nearest 0.001?	_____	_____
8. Absorption calculated to the nearest 0.01 percent?	_____	_____
Method C/A:		
1. Immersed weight determined.		
a. Water at 25 ±1°C (77 ±1.8°F)?	_____	_____
b. Immersed, shaken, on side, for 4 ±1 minutes?	_____	_____
c. Immersed weight determined to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
2. Sample rapidly surface dried with damp cloth (within 5 seconds)?	_____	_____
3. Saturated surface dry mass determined to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
4. Dry mass determined by:		
a. Heating in oven at a minimum of 105°C (221°F)?	_____	_____
b. Breaking down to 6.3 mm (¼ in.) particles?	_____	_____
c. Drying in oven to constant mass (change less than 0.05 percent in 2 hours of additional drying)?	_____	_____
d. Cooled in air to 25 ±5°C (77 ±9°F) and mass determined to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
5. G_{mb} calculated to the nearest 0.001?	_____	_____
6. Absorption calculated to the nearest 0.01?	_____	_____

OVER

ASPHALT WAQTC FOP AASHTO T 166 (19)

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
Method C/B:		
1. Saturated surface-dry (SSD) mass determined to 0.1g.		
a. Immersed at least 10 minutes at 25 ±1°C (77 ±1.8°F)?	_____	_____
b. Sample rapidly dried with damp towel (within 5 seconds)?	_____	_____
c. Specimen mass determined to 0.1g?	_____	_____
d. Any water that seeps from specimen included in mass?	_____	_____
2. Mass of volumeter filled with distilled water at 25 ±1°C (77 ±1.8°F) determined to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
3. SSD specimen placed into volumeter and let stand for 1 minute?	_____	_____
4. Temperature of water brought to 25 ±1°C (77 ±1.8°F) and volumeter covered, allowing some water to escape through the capillary pore of the tapered lid?	_____	_____
5. Volumeter wiped dry, and mass of volumeter and contents determined to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
6. Dry mass determined by:		
a. Warming in oven at a minimum of 105°C (221°F)?	_____	_____
b. Breaking down to 6.3 mm (¼ in.) particles?	_____	_____
c. Drying in oven to constant mass (change less than 0.05 percent in 2 hours of additional drying)?	_____	_____
d. Cooled in air to 25 ±5°C (77 ±9°F) and mass determined to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
7. G_{mb} calculated to the nearest 0.001?	_____	_____
8. Absorption calculated to the nearest 0.01 percent?	_____	_____

Comments: First attempt: Pass_____Fail_____ Second attempt: Pass_____Fail_____

Examiner Signature _____WAQTC #:_____

ASPHALT	WAQTC	FOP AASHTO T 166 (19)

WSDOT Errata to FOP for AASHTO T 312

Asphalt Mixture Specimens by Means of the Superpave Gyratory Compactor

WAQTC FOP for AASHTO T 312 has been adopted by WSDOT with the following changes:

Equipment Preparation

Include bullet below:

Pre-heat molds and plates in the oven set no more than 25° F above the compaction temperature shown on the mix design report.

Sample Preparation

Plant Produced Asphalt Mixtures

Replace step 3 with below:

3. Place in the oven until the material is 5° F above the compaction temperature shown on the mix design report.

Compaction Procedure

Replace step 3 and 11 with below:

3. Remove the pan of HMA from the oven and in one motion invert the pan onto the construction paper, vinyl mat, etc. Quickly remove any material that remains in the pan and include it with the HMA sample to be compacted. Grasp opposing edges of the paper and roll them together to form the HMA into a cylindrical shape. Insert one end of the paper roll into the bottom of the compaction mold and remove the paper as the HMA slides into the mold. This process needs to be accomplished in approximately 60 seconds. Place the mixture into the mold in one lift. Care should be taken to avoid segregation in the mold.

ASPHALT II WAQTC FOP AASHTO T 312 (19)

ASPHALT MIXTURE SPECIMENS BY MEANS OF THE SUPERPAVE GYRATORY COMPACTOR FOP FOR AASHTO T 312

Scope

This procedure covers preparing specimens, using samples of plant produced asphalt mixtures, for determining the mechanical and volumetric properties of asphalt mixtures in accordance with AASHTO T 312-19.

Apparatus

- Superpave Gyratory Compactor (SGC) meeting the requirements of AASHTO T 312
- Molds meeting the requirements of AASHTO T 312
- Chute, mold funnel or both (Optional)
- Scale meeting the requirements of AASHTO M 231 Class G 5
- Oven, thermostatically controlled, capable of maintaining set temperature within ±3ºC (±5ºF)
- Thermometers accurate to ±1ºC (±2°F) between 10 and 232°C (50 - 450°F)

Note 1: Non-Contact thermometers are not acceptable.

- Miscellaneous pans, spoons, spatulas, hot pads, gloves, paper discs, markers, etc.

Equipment Requirements

The calibration shall be performed on the SGC per the Manufacturer's instructions. See agency requirements for the calibration frequency.

The mold and base plate dimensions shall be checked every twelve months or 80 hours of operation to determine that they are within the tolerances listed in AASHTO T 312.

Equipment Preparation

Prepare the equipment in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. At a minimum preparation includes:

- Warm-up gyratory compactor
- Verify machine settings
  - Internal Angle: 1.16 ±0.02°
  - Ram Pressure: 600 kPa ±18 kPa
  - Number of gyrations

Note 2: The number of gyrations (N_{des}) is obtained from the Job Mix Formula (JMF).

- Lubricate bearing surfaces
- Prepare recording device as required
- Pre-heat molds and plates at the compaction temperature range (minimum of 30 min.) or before reuse reheat (minimum of 5 min.)

Note 3: The use of multiple molds will speed up the compaction process.

- Pre-heat chute, mold funnel, spatulas, and other apparatus (not to exceed the maximum compaction temperature)

Sample Preparation

Laboratory Prepared Asphalt Mixtures

This is a sample produced during the Mix Design process using aggregate and binder that is combined in the laboratory. When designing asphalt mixtures using the gyratory compactor, refer to AASHTO T 312 and AASHTO R 35.

Plant Produced Asphalt Mixtures

- Determine initial sample size, number of gyrations (N_{des}), and compaction temperature range from the Job Mix Formula (JMF).
- Obtain the sample in accordance with the FOP for AASHTO R 97.
- Reduce the sample in accordance with the FOP for AASHTO R 47.
- The sample size should be such that it results in a compacted specimen that is 115 ±5mm at the desired number of gyrations.

Note 4: Replicate specimens are generally prepared. Refer to agency requirements.

If the material is not in the compaction temperature range:

1. Place the appropriate sample mass into a container.
2. Spread to a depth of 1 to 2 in. for even heating of mixture.
3. Place in the oven until the material is within the compaction temperature range.

Note 5: The material properties may be altered when the times of delivery of the test sample and the placement of the material on the roadway are different.

Compaction Procedure

Follow the manufacturer's recommended loading procedure. This may require the steps below to be performed in a different order. Steps 1 through 8 must be performed before the sample and mold cools below minimum compaction temperature.

1. Remove pre-heated mold and plate(s) from the oven (verify mold and plate(s) has been cleaned if previously used).
2. Place the base plate and paper disc in bottom of mold.
3. Place the mix into the mold in a single lift (care should be taken to avoid segregation or loss of material).
4. Level the mix in the mold.
5. Place a paper disc and the heated upper plate (if required) on top of the leveled sample.
6. Load the mold into the compactor; check settings.
7. Start the compaction process.
    a. Check the pressure (600 ±18 kPa).
    b. Check the angle (1.16 ±0.02°).
8. Upon completion of the compaction process, record the number of gyrations and specimen height.

Note 6: If the specimen is not 115 ±5mm follow agency requirements.

9. Extrude the specimen from the mold; a brief cooling period may be necessary before fully extruding some specimens to ensure the specimens are not damaged.

Note 7: Clean molds after each use.

10. Carefully remove the paper discs.
11. Cool the compacted specimen to room temperature.
12. Identify the specimen with chalk or other marker.

Report

- On forms approved by the agency
- Sample ID
- Number of gyrations
- Specimen height to the nearest 0.1 mm

ASPHALT II	WAQTC	FOP AASHTO T 312 (19)

ASPHALT II WAQTC FOP AASHTO T 312 (19)

PERFORMANCE EXAM CHECKLIST

GYRATORY COMPACTION OF ASPHALT MIXTURES FOP FOR AASHTO T 312

Participant Name _____ Exam Date _____

Record the symbols "P" for passing or "F" for failing on each step of the checklist.

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
1. Angle, pressure and number of gyrations set?	_____	_____
2. Bearing surfaces, rotating base surface, and rollers lubricated?	_____	_____
3. Representative sample obtained according to the FOP for AASHTO R 97?	_____	_____
4. Sample reduced according to FOP AASHTO R 47?	_____	_____
5. Sample placed in a container and spread to 1 or 2 inches thick for even heating?	_____	_____
6. Asphalt mixture heated to compaction temperature range?	_____	_____
7. Mold, base plate, and upper plate heated to compaction temperature range?	_____	_____
8. Mold, base plate, and upper plate (if required) removed from oven and paper disk placed on bottom of mold?	_____	_____
9. Mix placed into mold in one lift without segregation?	_____	_____
10. Paper disk placed on top of the asphalt mixture?	_____	_____
11. Mold placed into compactor and upper plate clamped into place?	_____	_____
12. Pressure applied at 600 kPa ±18 kPa?	_____	_____
13. Specified number of gyrations applied?	_____	_____
14. Proper angle confirmed from display?	_____	_____
15. Compacted specimen removed from mold, paper disc(s) removed, and allowed to cool to room temperature?	_____	_____
16. Asphalt mixture sample measured to a height of 115 ±5 mm at required gyrations?	_____	_____

Comments: First attempt: Pass_____Fail_____ Second attempt: Pass_____Fail_____

Examiner Signature _____WAQTC #:_____

ASPHALT II	WAQTC	FOP AASHTO T 312 (19)

WSDOT SOP 731

Method for Determining Volumetric Properties of Hot Mix Asphalt

1. Scope

This procedure covers the determination of volumetric properties of Hot Mix Asphalt, i.e., Air Voids (Va), Voids in Mineral Aggregate (VMA), Voids Filled with Asphalt (VFA), and Dust to Binder Ratio ($P_{\#200}/P_{be}$).

2. References

T 329	WSDOT FOP for AASHTO Moisture Content of Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) by Oven Method
T 27/11	WSDOT FOP for WAQTC/AASHTO Sieve Analysis of Fine and Coarse Aggregates
T 166	WSDOT FOP for AASHTO Bulk Specific Gravity of Compacted Hot Mix Asphalt Using Saturated Surface-Dry Specimens
R 97	FOP for AASHTO Sampling of Asphalt Mixtures
T 209	WSDOT FOP for AASHTO Theoretical Maximum Specific Gravity and Density of Hot Mix Asphalt Paving Mixtures
T 308	WSDOT FOP for AASHTO Determining the Asphalt Binder Content of Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) by the Ignition Method
T 312	WSDOT FOP for AASHTO Preparing Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) Specimens by Means of the Superpave Gyratory Compactor
R 47	WSDOT Errata to FOP for AASHTO Reducing Samples of Asphalt Mixtures to Testing Size

3. Calibration of Compactor

a. The gyratory compactor will be calibrated in accordance with WSDOT VP-58 and according to the manufacturer's established calibration procedure. Anytime the gyratory compactor is moved to a new testing site a new calibration is required in accordance with WSDOT VP-58.

4. Test Samples

a. All test samples shall be obtained per FOP for AASHTO R 97, and reduced in accordance with WSDOT Test Method T 712. It is recommended that the gyratory test sample be the first sample acquired in order to minimize heat loss.

b. The size of the gyratory sample shall be such that it will produce a compacted specimen 115.0 ± 5.0 mm in height. Generally, the mix design verification report from the State Materials Laboratory initial starting mass is adequate.

c. Place the gyratory sample in an oven set no more than 25° F above the compaction temperature (Note 1) as soon as possible to reduce sample cooling. The gyratory test is temperature sensitive. The sample should be heated five degrees above the compaction temperature as shown on the mix design verification report.

Note 1: Any change in compaction temperature must be confirmed by the temperature viscosity chart provided by the asphalt supplier, which can be obtained from the Paving Contractor.

5. Procedure

a. Place a compaction mold, base plate, and top plate (if required), in an oven set at no more than 350°F for a minimum of 60 minutes prior to the estimated beginning of compaction. Subsequent uses of a conditioned mold will require 5 minutes of reheating.

b. Place a thermometer into the center of the mix, do not stir the mixture. (Note 3) Compact the sample immediately upon achieving compaction temperature in accordance with step 4 (c).

Note 2: While the gyratory test sample is heating it is beneficial to prepare and/or run the other tests as times permits.

c. Perform the sample compaction in accordance with WSDOT FOP for AASHTO T 312 Section 9.

d. Determine theoretical maximum density per WSDOT FOP for AASHTO T 209.

e. Determine asphalt content and gradation per WSDOT FOP for AASHTO T 308 and WSDOT FOP for WAQTC/AASHTO T 27/11.

f. Determine moisture content per WSDOT FOP for AASHTO T 329.

g. Allow the gyratory compacted specimen to cool in air to 25 ±5°C (77 ±9°F). Determine the Bulk Specific Gravity (Gmb) of the specimen in accordance with WSDOT FOP for AASHTO T 166 Method A.

Note 3: For repeatability between operators the retest sample should be cooled for the same amount of time at room temperature as the original specimen. When sending retest samples to the Region or State Laboratory, note the time the original sample was cooled at room temperature in the remarks section of the transmittal.

6. Volumetric Calculations

Calculations

a. Calculate $\%G_{mm}$ @ N_{design} as follows:

$$\%G_{mm}@N_{design} = \frac{G_{mb}}{G_{mm}} \times 100$$

Example:

$$\%G_{mm}@N_{design} = \frac{2.383}{2.493} \times 100 = 95.6\%$$

Where:

$\%G_{mm}@N_{design}$ = % theoretical maximum specific gravity @ N_{design}
G_{mb} = Bulk specific gravity of the compacted specimen
G_{mm} = Maximum specific gravity of the paving mixture
N_{design} = Number of design gyrations

b. Calculate $\%G_{mm}$ @N_{ini} as follows:

$$\%G_{mm}@N_{ini} = 100 \times \left(\frac{G_{mb} \times h_d}{G_{mm} \times h_i}\right)$$

Example:

$$\%G_{mm}@N_{ini} = 100 \times \left(\frac{2.383 \times 110.0}{2.493 \times 123.1}\right) = 85.4\%$$

Where:

$\%G_{mm}@N_{ini}$ = Percent theoretical maximum specific gravity @ $N_{initial}$
h_d = Height of specimen at design gyration level
h_i = Height of specimen at initial design gyration level
$N_{initial}$ = Number of initial gyrations

c. Calculate Air Voids (V_a) as follow:

$$V_a = 100 \times \left(1 - \left(\frac{G_{mb}}{G_{mm}}\right)\right)$$

Example:

$$V_a = 100 \times \left(1 - \left(\frac{2.383}{2.493}\right)\right) = 4.4\%$$

Where:

V_a = Percent air voids

d. Calculate Voids in Mineral Aggregate (VMA) as follows:

$$VMA = 100 - \left(\frac{(G_{mb} \times P_s)}{G_{sb}}\right)$$

Example:

$$VMA = 100 - \left(\frac{(2.383 \times 94.8)}{2.630}\right) = 14.1\%$$

Where:

P_s = Percent of aggregate in the mixture (100-P_b)

Example:

100% mix – 5.2% asphalt = 94.8% aggregate

Where:

G_{sb} = Bulk specific gravity of the combined aggregate

VMA = Voids in Mineral Aggregate, percent

e. Calculate Voids Filled with Asphalt (VFA) as follows:

$$VFA = 100 \times \left(\frac{VMA - V_a}{VMA}\right)$$

Example:

$$VFA = 100 \times \left(\frac{14.1 - 4.4}{14.1}\right) = 68.8\%$$

Where:

VFA = Voids Filled with Asphalt, percent

f. Calculate Gravity Stone Effective (G_{se}) as follows:

$$G_{se} = \frac{100 - P_b}{\left(\frac{100}{G_{mm}} - \frac{P_b}{G_b}\right)}$$

Example:

$$G_{se} = \frac{100 - 5.2}{\left(\frac{100}{2.493} - \frac{5.2}{1.025}\right)} = 2.706$$

Where:

G_{se} = Gravity Stone Effective (specific gravity of aggregates, excluding voids permeable to asphalt)

P_b = Percent of binder

G_b = Gravity binder

Note 4: G_b is the specific gravity of the asphalt binder. It is imperative that current G_b is used in the volumetric calculations. Any changes in the binder specific gravity must be confirmed by the temperature viscosity curve provided by the asphalt supplier, which can be obtained from the paving Contractor.

g. Calculate Percent Binder Effective (P_{be}) as follows:

$$P_{be} = P_b - \left(\frac{(P_s \times G_b)(G_{se} - G_{sb})}{(G_{se} \times G_{sb})} \right)$$

Example:

$$P_{be} = 5.2 - \left(\frac{(94.8 \times 1.025)(2.706 - 2.630)}{(2.706 \times 2.630)} \right) = 4.2$$

Where:

P_{be} = Percent binder effective, the percent by mass of effective asphalt content minus the quantity of binder lost by absorption into the aggregate particles.
P_s = Percent of aggregate in the mixture
G_b = Gravity binder
G_{se} = Effective specific gravity of the aggregate
G_{sb} = Bulk specific gravity of the combined aggregate
P_b = Percent of binder

h. Calculate dust-to-binder ratio (P_{200}/P_{be}) as follows:

$$P_{200}/P_{be} = P_{200} \div P_{be}$$

Example:

5.0 ÷ 3.6 = 1.4

Where:

P_{200}/P_{be} = Dust-to-binder ratio
P_{200} = Percent of aggregate passing the No. 200 sieve

7. Report

Report the results using one or more of the following of the following:

- Materials Testing System (MATS)
- WSDOT Form 350-560 for asphalt content, gradation, and moisture content
- WSDOT Form 350-162 for volumetric properties
- Form approved in writing by the State Materials Engineer