



Functional Durability-related Bitumen Specification

Permanent Deformation (rutting): Correlations and recommendations for further bitumen testing

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Introduction

- **Permanent deformation or rutting**
Visco-plastic deformations in the asphalt layer caused by the repeated passage of heavy vehicles, particularly under low speed traffic and high temperature conditions



The higher the
temperature



The greater the
tendency to **rutting**

Test methods to assess both **bitumen properties** and **asphalt behaviour** to **permanent deformation** are typically conducted **at elevated temperatures**

Test methods to address bitumen properties and asphalt behaviour

- “Data form”

Binder properties			Mixture properties		
Elevated service temperature properties			Elevated service temperature properties		
Complex modulus	DSR		Stiffness	Stiffness test	
	other		Permanent deformation	Wheel tracking test	x
Dynamic viscosity	Cone&Plate			Cyclic compression test	
	Coaxial cylinders			other	
	Capillary viscosimeter		Intermediate and/or low service temperature properties		
	other		Stiffness	Stiffness test	
Zero Shear Viscosity	Oscillation method		Strength	Indirect tensile test	x
	Creep method			Direct tensile test	
	other			other	
Softening point	R&B	x	Low temperature cracking	Thermal stress restrained specimen test	
Creep stiffness	Repeated Creep Test			Crack propagation test	
Compliance and recovery	MSCR test			other	
	Elastic recovery	x	Fatigue cracking	Fatigue test	x
Intermediate and/or low service temperature properties			Adhesion	Aggregate/Binder affinity	
Complex modulus	DSR			Particle loss of Porous Asphalt	
	other			other	
Penetration	Penetration	x			
			Ageing/Weathering		
			short term ageing	RTFOT	
				TFOT	
				RFT	
				other	
			long term ageing	PAV	
				RCAT	
				Modified German RFT	
				Modified RTFOT	
			State binder		
				Pure	
				Modified	x
				Unaged	x
				Short term aged	
				Long term aged	
				Recovered	

Test methods to address bitumen properties

> Viscosity

- Capillary Viscometer Test
- Coaxial Cylinder Viscosity (CCV) Test
- Cone and Plate Viscosity Test
- Creep Zero/Low Shear Viscosity (ZSV/LSV) Test
- Oscillation Zero/Low Shear Viscosity (ZSV/LSV) Test

> Softening point

- Ring and Ball (R&B) Test method

> Elastic and recovery properties

- Multiple Stress Creep and Recovery (MSCR) Test
- Elastic Recovery Test

> Complex modulus and phase angle

- Dynamic Shear Rheometer (DSR) Test

> Performance Grading

- Performance Grade (PG) classification (Superpave high temperature parameter)

Test methods to address asphalt behaviour

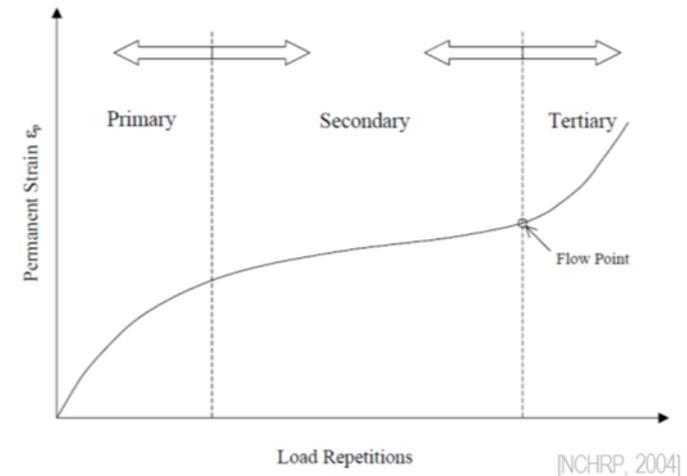
> in Europe

- Wheel Tracking test, WTT (EN 12697-22)
- Cyclic compression test, CCT (EN 12697-25)

> other used tests

- SUPERPAVE shear tester, SST
- Simple Performance Tests, SPT
(e.g. Dynamic modulus test; Flow Number;
Flow Time)

Rutting process in asphalt mixes
under repeated loads



Possible correlations derived from literature review

Bitumen viscosity

Number of found relevant studies

- Capillary Viscometer Test: (1)
- Coaxial Cylinder Viscosity Test: 0
- Cone and Plate Viscosity Test: 0
- Creep Zero/Low Shear Viscosity: 3 (4)
- Oscillation Zero/Low Shear Viscosity: 2

Note: EVT – Equiviscous temperature

Paper	Correlated data	Type of correlation	Data sets	R ²	Comment
Paper 042 (Robertus et al., 2012)	WT Rut Rate mm/s) vs. ZSV (kPa*s)	Power (y= a.x ^b)	14	0.93	U / UA
			30	0.49	U & PMB
Paper 043 (Morea, 2012)	WT rut rate (µm/min) vs. LSV (Pa*s)	y=a+b/x	29	0,87	U & PMB / UA & A
				0,86	
Paper 047 (Gungor & Sağlık, 2012)	Axial deformation [mm] from TCCT vs. ZSV [Pa*s]	Power (y= a.x ^b)	12	0.92	U & PMB / A (TCCT@40°C)
			12	0.84	U & PMB / A (TCCT@50°C)
Paper 067 (Guericke & Schlame, 2008)	HWT Rut Depth (mm) vs. ZSV [Pa*s]	Power (y= a.x ^b)	25	0.81	U & PMB / A (WTT at +40° C)
			6	0.91	U & PMB / A (WTT at +50° C)
			11	0.91	U & PMB / A (WTT at +60° C)
Paper 499 (De Visscher & Vanelstraete, 2009)	PRD [%] vs. EVT1 [° C]	Linear (y= a + bx)	6	0.86	U
			11	0.83	U & PMB
	PRD [%] vs. EVT2 [° C]	Linear (y= a + bx)	6	0.85	U
			11	0.49	U & PMB
	Creep rate [µm/m/n] vs. EVT1	Linear (y= a + bx)	6	0.83	U
			11	0.77	U & PMB
Creep rate [µm/m/n] vs. EVT2	Linear (y= a + bx)	6	0.83	U	
		11	0.76	U & PMB	

Bitumen viscosity

- Studies on **creep Zero/Low Shear Viscosity** show that correlation between binder viscosity (**ZSF/LSV**) and **wheel tracking** parameter is good only when **non modified binders** are used. However, when the **axial strain** from **Triaxial Cyclic Compression Tests (TCCT)** is linked to **ZSF/LSV**, a good correlation can be achieved even when **modified binders** are taken into consideration
- Studies on **oscillation Low Shear Viscosity** reveal that good correlations could be achieved when:
 - the binder viscosity (**ZSF/LSV**) is linked with the **rut depth (WT)** and
 - the **equiviscous temperature 1 (EVT1, temperature at which the viscosity measured at very low shear rate is 2000 Pa.s)** is linked to the **proportional rut depth (WT)** and the **creep rate (TCCT)**

Possible correlations derived from literature review

Bitumen softening point

Number of found relevant studies

- Ring and Ball (R&B) test method: 7

Paper	Correlated data	Type of correlation	Data sets	R ²	Comment
Paper 026 (Eckmann et al., 2012)	Rut depth [mm] vs. softening point [° C]	Linear ($y = a + bx$)	4	0.82	U (20/30 pen grade) + PMB
			4	0.99	U (35/50 pen grade) + PMB
Paper 042 (Robertus et al., 2012)	Rut rate [mm/s] vs. softening point [° C]	Linear ($y = a + bx$)	19	0.68	U + PMB
			7	0.95	U
Paper 067 (Guericke & Schlampe, 2008)	Rut depth [mm] vs. softening point [° C]	Linear ($y = a + bx$)	11	0.84	U + PMB
Paper 425 (Dreessen & Pascal, 2009)	Softening point [° C] vs. rut depth [mm]	Logarithmic ($y = a \ln x + b$)	13	0.60	U + PMB
Paper 504 (Tusar et al., 2009)	Rut depth [mm] vs. softening point [° C]	Logarithmic ($y = a \ln x + b$)	7	0.91	U + PMB
Paper 532 (Renken, 2012)	Rut depth [mm] vs. softening point [° C]	Non correlation found	N/A	N/A	N/A
Paper 558 (Reyes-Lizcano et al., 2009)	Accumulated axial strain [%] vs. softening point [° C]	Linear ($y = a + bx$)	9	0.54	PMB

Bitumen softening point by R&B test method

- Some studies find a reasonable correlation between **R&B** and **wheel tracking** results, even when polymer-modified binders are used for testing. But these studies are generally limited to samples from the same binder source, i.e. one unmodified bitumen-base was used to produce the polymer-modified samples. When a **mix of unmodified and modified binders** is used that are not from the same base bitumen, poor correlations were found.
- **R&B** is considered as a traditional test method with a large background in data. However, it is of general understanding that this test is not suitable for **modified bituminous binder**

Possible correlations derived from literature review

Bitumen elastic and recovery properties

Number of found relevant studies

- Elastic Recovery Test: 0
- Multiple Stress Creep and Recovery Test: 8

Paper	Correlated data	Type of correlation	Data sets	R ²	Comment
Paper 042 (Robertus et al., 2012)	WTT small size, rut rate vs. J _{nr} (T=45 and 60 °C; t=1 kPa)	log _y =a*log x	20	0,79 UA 0,90 RTFOT	5U, 11 PmB, 2 wax modified, 2 special
Paper 185 (D'Angelo et al., 2007)	ALF of FHWA vs. J _{nr} (T=64 °C; t=25,6 kPa)	Linear (y= a + bx)	6	0,81	U and PmB
	Field rutting (after 6 yrs) vs. J _{nr} (T=64 °C; t=0,8 kPa)	Linear (y= a + bx)	7	0,77	U and PmB
Paper 516 (Laukkanen et al., 2014)	WTT large size device vs. J _{nr} (t= 3200 Pa)	Linear (ax+b) rut rate	9	0,98	U&PMB/UA
Paper 562 (Tabatabaee& Tabatabaee, 2010)	unconf. cyclic creep test vs. J _{nr} (t= 3200 Pa)	not clear ?	6	0,83	U&CMB / A
		Linear ?			U.D.C. at 40° C

Paper	Correlated data	Type of correlation	Data sets	R ²	Comment
Paper 023 (Dueñas et al., 2012)	WTT, rut depth vs. J _{nr} (T=60 °C; t=3,2 kPa)	Linear (y= a + bx)	4	0,87	U, PmB and Crumb Rubber Modified
	Compliance in CCT vs. J _{nr} (T=60 °C; t=3,2 kPa)	Linear (y= a + bx)	4	0,69	U, PmB and Crumb Rubber Modified
	% recovery in CCT vs. %Recovery MSCR (T=60 °C; t=3,2 kPa)	Linear (y= a + bx)	4	0,96	U, PmB and Crumb Rubber Modified
Paper 035 (Dreessen & Gallet, 2012), paper 425 (Dreessen& Pascal, 2009) paper 501 (Dreessen et al., 2009)	WTT large size device, rut depth vs. J _{nr} (T=60 °C; t=3,2 kPa)	Linear (y= a + bx)	15	0,44	7U, 6 PmB and 2 special All RTFOT
	WTT large size device, rut depth vs. J _{nr} (T=60 °C; t=25,6 kPa)		15	0,77	7U, 6 PmB and 2 special All RTFOT

MSCR parameters: %R - Percent recovery & J_{nr} - non-recoverable creep compliance

Bitumen recovery properties by the MSCR test

- In general, studies report quite good correlations – often at higher stress levels – for both **paving grade binders & polymer modified binders**
 - The **MSCR test result** which is directly related to permanent deformation is **Jnr**. **%R** is correlated in only one study (**cyclic creep test** on asphalt). This correlation was also fairly good, although the number of binders considered was small (only 4).
 - In most studies the **MSCR** test is compared to **wheel tracking tests**: either the French WT (large size device) or the Hamburg WT (small size device).
 - From some of the papers reviewed, *it seems* that for good correlations with the permanent deformation tests on the asphalt mix, it is better:
 - to test the binders after short-term ageing (e.g. after RTFOT)
 - higher stress levels are used ($\geq 3,2$ MPa) in the MSCR tests
- ▶ **Further investigation is needed**

Possible correlations derived from literature review

Bitumen complex modulus (G^*) and phase angle ($\sin \delta$)

Number of found relevant studies

- Dynamic Shear Rheometer (DSR) Test: 6

DSR test parameters:

G^* - Complex shear modulus

$G^*/\sin \delta$ @ 10 rad/s

R_j - unified evaluation index

Paper	Correlated data	Type of correlation	Data sets	R ²	Comment
Paper 042 (Robertus et al., 2012)	WT Rut Rate vs. G^* (kPa)	Power ($y= a \cdot x^b$)	14	0,94	U / UA
			30	<0,70	U & PMB / UA
Paper 047 (Gungor & Sağlık, 2012)	TCCT Deformation (mm) vs. $G^*/\sin \delta$ (kPa)	Power ($y= a \cdot x^b$)	12	0,37	U & PMB / A (TCCT@40°C)
			12	0,40	U & PMB / A (TCCT@50°C)
Paper 061. (Beckedahl et al., 2008)	WT Rut Depth (mm) vs. $G^*/\sin \delta$ (kPa)	Power ($y=a \cdot x^b$)	3	0,93	U & PMB / UA
			3	0,95	U & PMB / UA
Paper 067 (Guericke & Schlame, 2008)	HWT Rut Depth (mm) vs. $T_{(G^*/\sin \delta=2.2kPa)}$ (°C)	Linear	11	0,77	U & PMB / A
Paper 308. (Tan et al., 2014)	WT dynamic stability (time/mm) vs. R_j	Linear ($y= a + bx$)	7	0,99	U & PMB / UA
		Grey relational analysis	2	0,89	U / UA
	WT dynamic stability (time/mm) vs. $G^*/\sin \delta$ (KPa)	Linear ($y= a + bx$)	7	0,99	U & PMB / UA
		Grey relational analysis	2	0,89	U / UA
		Grey relational analysis	5	0,59	PMB / UA
Paper 425 (Dreessen & Pascal, 2009)	FWT rutting (%) vs. $G^*/\sin \delta$ (KPa)	Logarithmic ($y= a \ln x+b$)	15	0,27	U & PMB / A

Bitumen complex modulus and phase angle by DSR test

- G^* was only considered in one of the studies. In this case, a good correlation was found with the **wheel tracking rut rate** in the analysis of seven **unmodified bitumen**. Conversely, very weak correlations were detected for most **polymer modified bitumen**. G^* generally underestimates the contribution to rutting resistance
- R_J (unified evaluation index) was considered in only one study and a good correlation was found both for **unmodified** and **PMB binders**
- Most of the papers determine $G^*/\sin \delta$, finding that it is not suitable to evaluate the asphalt resistance to permanent deformation, when analyzing an ensemble of **unmodified** and **polymer modified** bituminous binders. Nevertheless, better correlations are achieved for higher frequencies

Recommendations

- > Most promising tests providing better correlations:
 - the **Zero/Low Shear Viscosity (ZSV/LSV) by creep or oscillation** test method [CEN/TS 15325 (ZSV); CEN/TS 15324 (LSV)]
 - the **non-recoverable compliance (J_{nr})** from the **Multiple Stress Creep and Recovery (MSCR)** test method [EN 16659]
- > Comparing both type of tests (**Creep or oscillation Zero/Low Shear Viscosity** and **MSCR** tests), it seems that the MSCR test method is more promising in a near future, given that, at the present, it seems to be an easier test method for the laboratories to implement, there is a European standard specifying the test and it is a method preferred in other countries as well, such as USA.
- ▶ **However, further research (namely on the MSCR test stress level) is needed!**



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Thanks for your attention!