

# Development of mortar abrasion test for evaluating fine aggregates and wear resistance of concrete pavements

**1.0 Introduction** 



Conducted experimental testing of alternative abrasion resistance of concrete mortars using a variety of fine aggregates as a means of gaining a more effective evaluation of microtexture retention and frictional performance of PCC pavements

Development and results of a testing program that involved the adaptation of the Aggregate Abrasion Value (AAV) test (British Standard EN1097-8 2009)



MAV/ AAV Apparatus

Exposes aggregates to grinding by direct shear on a large mechanical lap wheel that rotates at 30 revolution per minutes for a total of 500 revelation while Silica Sand is fed through the machine as an abrasive agent 3) AAV=  $(3x \Delta mass loss)/relative density$ 

AAV– Average abrasion index of two specimen

Fine aggregate samples were obtained from stockpiles of processed concrete sands

e Contact ce Contact Jutwash Terrace Outwash Ice Contact Outwash Dutwash ce Contact Quarry Outwash Dutwash Outwash Ice Contact

208 (A) 209 (A)

211 (A)

310 (A)

401 (A)

402 (A)

403 (A)

Insoluble

Residue

96.6 95.4



Abrasion test for mortar coupons using 30 different concrete sands from various suppliers in Ontario MAV=Average Mass loss of 4 tested coupon

Fine Aggregate

abrasion loss for each fine aggregate mortar mix was determined at the ages of 7 days (MAV<sub>7</sub>) and 28 days(MAV<sub>28</sub>)

1) Compressive strength of mortar cubes (ASTM C109) 2) Absorption and relative density (MTO LS-605) 3) Insoluble Residue-IR (MTO LS-613) 4) Petrographic Analysis (MTO LS-616) 5) Micro-Deval abrasion loss– MDA (MTO LS-619)



Uncompacted Void Content MDA Test

Physical, chemical and Petrographic Analysis of Fine Aggregate Sample ncompact Bulk Void (%) Silicates Carbonates I lite. | Micas | Chert LS 628 Density L2-019 
 27.0
 67.1
 0.0
 0.5
 5.4
 0.0

 26.4
 73.4
 0.0
 0.1
 0.1
 0.0
2.715 43.4 41.6 11.70.9913.21.06 
 2.636
 41.4
 31.0
 68.3
 0.0
 0.2
 0.5
 0.0

 2.636
 41.4
 31.0
 68.3
 0.0
 0.2
 0.5
 0.0

 2.602
 40.1
 50.3
 46.1
 0.0
 0.3
 3.1
 0.0

 2.664
 40.2
 56.3
 41.9
 0.0
 0.5
 0.0
 1.3

 2.623
 41.4
 40.9
 55.2
 0.0
 0.2
 0.0
 3.7

 2.668
 41.1
 53.6
 45.3
 0.0
 0.4
 0.0
 0.7
0.67 15.5 0.82 2.685 45.3 C04 475 434 84 0.45 39.9 54.1 0.0 0.6 0.0 0.56 <u>41.7</u> 40.1 2.686 2.676 2.751 0.59 52.2 45.8 0.0 1.3 0.0 55.7 43.8 44.1 37.4 60.6 0.0 0.0 0.5 1.00 
 2.682
 45.1
 52.8
 43.0
 0.1
 0.0
 0.5
 1.5

 2.726
 47.9
 95.8
 0.0
 0.0
 4.2
 0.0
 0.0

 2.692
 41.7
 41.1
 57.3
 0.0
 0.6
 0.4
 0.5

 2.718
 41.7
 28.7
 70.6
 0.0
 0.7
 0.0
 0.0
<u>2.676</u> 2.748 42.3 47.2 33.6 61.7 0.0 0.6 1.3 0.0 0.0 0.0 2.74647.21.438.60.00.00.00.02.66441.838.261.30.00.50.00.02.68240.344.254.70.01.10.00.02.69731.462.836.20.00.90.00.12.65742.872.123.80.03.40.60.22.6842.253.943.90.01.80.00.42.66343.355.841.60.12.50.00.1<u>41.8 38.2 61.3 0.0 0.5 0.0</u> 0.55 0.98 0.92 0.81 
 43.4
 95.0
 0.0
 0.0
 5.0
 0.0
 0.0

 51.2
 89.1
 0.0
 0.0
 10.9
 0.0
 0.0

 41.0
 99.5
 0.0
 0.0
 0.5
 0.1
 0.0
0.37 2.711 2.79 0.49 NE03 94.5 92.1 4.0 0.46 2.697

\*Insufficient material for testing

### 3.1 Mortar Mix Design

- Mix used for this investigation was adopted from the requirements the MTO Method of Test for Bars. LS-620. with a water/cement= 0.44. Fineness Modulus of 2.9.
- General Use Type 10 cement provided by St.Mary Mortar quantities for 8 MAV coupon and 6 compressive strength cube

Design Quantities of Individual Mortar Mixes for Test Specimens

Material	*Mass (g)	Cumulative % Retained		
	2.36 mm	269.2	10	
Aggregate (By Retained Sieve Size)	1.18 mm	673.0	35	
	600 µm	673.0	60	
	300 µm	673.0	85	
	150 µm	403.8	100	
Water	526.4	-		
GU Cement	1196.4	-		

3.2 Mixing, Casting and curing of mortar coupons

- Mortar coupons were prepared using the AAV molds
- Mold dimensions are 92±0.1 mm in length, 54±0.1 mm in width and 16±0.1
- mm in depth Depth of the specimen was reduced to 15±0.1 mm to diminish the breakage
- of the mortar during demolding

ASTM C305 mixing procedure



- Mix was casted into MAV and compressive strength molds in 2 lifts and each lift was compacted 36 times
- Specimens were placed in curing room until test dates

3.3 MAV Testing

- I) Specimen were surface dried using a towel after removal of curing room
- 1) Initial weight of specimen was measured prior to test
- 2) A weight is placed centrally on top of the specimen on wheel lap to prevent movemen
- 1) Use of Ottawa silica sand as an abrasive agent
- 2) After testing the final mass was recorded.
- 3) Average mass loss of 4 specimens for each aggregate was
- reported as test result

## **4.0 Results and Discussion**

- 4.1 MAV Results
- MAV= Average mass loss of 4 coupon for each designated aggregate source
- Outliers were eliminated if average MAV differed by more than 0.2 Compressive strength results were reported as per ASTM C109 Standard

	7-Day				28-Day					
Sample	Compressive Strength (MPa)	MAV <sub>7</sub> (g)	S	Мах	Min	Compressive Strength (MPa)	MAV <sub>28</sub> (g)	S	Мах	Min
W01	50.5	10.95	1.85	12.6	9.3	59.8	10.27	0.51	10.7	9.7
W05	48.4	12.58	1.38	13.8	10.7	57.1	11.08	1.03	12.0	9.6
W06	48.3	11.6	0.70	12.5	11.0	52.6	10.50	1.03	11.7	9.2
W09	47.7	11.75	0.97	12.7	10.5	53.1	10.08	1.70	12.5	8.8
C01	45.7	10.65	1.40	12.3	9.3	56.9	10.28	0.94	11.4	9.4
C02	43.9	10.70	1.34	12.3	9.5	61.0	9.80	0.27	10.0	9.5
C03	49.4	9.87	0.32	10.1	9.5	55.7	9.33	0.77	10.3	8.5
C04	38.7	10.08	0.34	10.4	9.6	51.9	9.68	0.81	10.4	8.6
C05	46.0	12.20	0.61	12.9	11.7	54.8	11.30	0.51	11.8	10.6
C06	46.4	12.15	0.92	12.8	9.4	55.9	10.60	0.80	11.5	9.8
C07	47.9	11.93	0.85	12.8	11.1	60.3	10.83	0.90	12.1	10.2
C08	46.1	10.90	1.14	12.6	10.2	61.5	10.10	0.62	10.6	9.2
C09	45.8	11.18	0.68	11.9	10.5	61.4	10.93	0.67	11.5	10.2
C11	42.3	10.20	0.36	10.5	9.8	60.2	9.90	0.27	10.1	9.5
C12	54.7	11.80	0.96	12.5	10.4	66.4	11.45	0.39	11.8	10.9
C13	53.4	10.24	0.82	10.9	9.4	63.9	9.76	0.92	10.5	9.1
C14	47.7	11.35	0.83	12.1	10.4	54.0	10.28	0.25	10.6	10.0
C15	49.7	12.58	0.67	13.5	11.9	55.6	9.83	0.55	10.2	9.2
C16	50.9	13.45	0.58	14.3	13.1	55.7	11.65	0.86	12.4	10.5
C17	39.7	11.53	0.92	12.7	10.7	56.1	10.33	0.82	11.3	9.3
C19	42.0	14.8	1.67	16.0	9.1	52.7	11.18	1.63	12.8	9.4
E01	42.1	11.10	0.52	11.7	10.8	52.4	10.23	0.59	10.8	9.4
E02	44.9	11.50	1.50	13.0	10.0	53.7	11.70	0.84	12.6	10.8
E05	52.7	11.70	0.53	12.4	11.2	60.9	10.67	0.67	11.1	9.9
E06	43.3	12.60	0.70	13.4	12.1	51.0	10.05	0.99	11.4	9.3
E07	48.9	11.90	0.56	12.5	11.4	52.1	10.50	0.37	10.9	10.1
E10	51.2	10.53	0.60	11.3	10.0	52.9	11.53	0.49	11.1	10.2
NE01	50.5	11.10	0.98	11.9	10.0	57.4	10.73	0.46	11.0	10.2
NE02	38.9	13.71	0.77	14.9	12.5	47.5	12.76	0.49	13.6	12.0
NE03	48.2	9.90	1.25	11.2	8.7	61.9	8.75	0.93	9.4	7.4
Average	46.9	11.55	-	-	-	56.5	10.54	-	-	-
Max	54.7	14.80	-	-	-	66.4	12.76	-	-	-
Min	38.7	9.88	-	-	-	47.5	8.75	-	-	-
Range	16.0	4.93	_	-	-	18.9	4.01	-	-	-
Standard Deviation	4.1	1.13	-	-	-	4.3	0.80	-	-	-

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Accelerated Detection of Potential Deleterious Alkali-Silica Reactive Aggregate by Expansion of Mortar











# 7 and 28-day Compressive Strength and MAV (Mass Loss) results



Sample NE03 after abrasion testing - 7-day (left) and 28 day (right)

- Surface Texture for NE03 Specimen containing 99.5% silicate mineral aggregate as determined b petrographic analysis and 94.5% IR<sub>T</sub>
- MAV<sub>7</sub> specimen has a rough texture with exposed aggregates on the surface, while an evenly abraded surface is visualized for MAV<sub>28</sub> coupon



- Surface Texture for C06 Specimen with intermediate silicate and carbonate mineral - LS-616 silicate =50.7%, IR<sub>T</sub> = 48.7%
- Small difference in terms of MAV<sub>7</sub> and MAV<sub>28</sub> surface texture
- Both specimens are abraded evenly but the MAV<sub>7</sub> coupon has a slightly rougher texture with respect to MAV<sub>28</sub>



asted MAV and compressive strength

Close view of MAV/AAV Apparatus





4.3 IR and Petrographic Analysis



IR<sub>⊤</sub> vs. MAV 

Carbonate Content (%

 $\begin{array}{c} & \mathsf{MAV7} & \mathsf{y} = -0.0174x + 12.499, \mathsf{R}^2 = 0.1152 \\ & \square \mathsf{MAV28} & \mathsf{y} = -0.0042x + 10.764, \mathsf{R}^2 = 0.0132 \\ \end{array}$ 0 25 50 75 IR<sub>T</sub> (%)

$$\begin{array}{c} 4 \\ 2 \\ \bullet MAV7 \\ 0 \\ \hline MAV28 \\ y = -0.0053x + 10.803, R^2 = 0.1543 \\ \hline MAV28 \\ y = -0.0053x + 10.803, R^2 = 0.0223 \\ \hline 0 \\ 25 \\ \hline R_{R.75} \\ (\%) \end{array}$$



90 2 4 6 8 10 12 Mica (%) ample C19 after abrasion testing – 7-day (left) and 28 day (right) <3% Mica Content –0.5158  $R^2$  correlation between IR<sub>R 75</sub> and MAV<sub>7</sub> Surface Texture for C19 Specimen with 98.6% **4.4 MDA and Petrographic Analysi** carbonate mineral and 2.4% IR<sub>T</sub> MDA vs. MAV 7 and 28 days MAV do not show any significant correlation with MDA No observable surface texture variation between MAV<sub>7</sub> loss has slightly improved relationship in comparison to MAV<sub>28</sub> the tested coupons for 7 day and 28 day curing MDA and MAV tests are fundamentally different in how abrasion loss is Both coupons have a very smooth surface texture simulated. MDA test produces abrasion by tumbling motion within a rotating with evenly abraded surface iar while MVA test abrades the test specimen by shear attrition. Aggregate samples in this experiment meet the MDA requirements of MTO's v = 0.0676x + 10.94,  $R^2 = 0.02$ ■MAV28 current specifications of 20% maximum loss for concrete sands exposed on y = -0.0176x + 10.728, R<sup>2</sup> = 0.00

-y = 9.6304 + 0.36594x R= 0.988

Silicate Content vs. MDA

**4%** 

v = -0.0948x + 15.701,  $R^2 = 0.4266$ 

25 50 75

Absorption vs. MDA

y = 6.0607x + 5.601, R<sup>2</sup> = 0.5887

Absorption (%

0 0.5 1 1.5

.5 Relative Density

<sup>16</sup> Bulk Relative Density vs. MAV

2 → MAV7 y = 14.124x - 26.394, R<sup>2</sup> = 0.

2.6 2.7

Bulk Relative Density

□MAV28

y = 11.17x - 19.475, R<sup>2</sup> = 0.276

Silicate Content (%)



Sample NE02 after abrasion testing – 7-day (left) and 28 day (right) Surface texture for NE02 Specimen with 89.9% silicate and by 10.9% Mica mineral ( $IR_T = 95.8\%$ ) MAV<sub>7</sub> exhibits a rough surface texture with some coarser aggregates being abrade

Even abraded surface texture may be seen on the MAV<sub>28</sub> coupon, with fewer coarser aggregates

being abraded.

7 day compressive strength ranged from 38.7MPa to 54.7MPa and 28 days compressive strength ranged from 47.5 MPa to 66.4 MPa Higher compressive strengths resulted in lower MAV mass loss, although both 7 day and 28 day strengths show little correlation with MAV test results Both data sets show similar patterns - 28 day curing resulted in lower MAV losses, which is assumed to be a result of improved bond development due to prolonged cement hydration

Significant Variation in compressive strength for both 7 and 28 days even though the same W:C ratio, fineness modulus and same casting and curing regime was used for all mixes

Probability of occurrence for MAV losses at 7 and 28 days using Microsoft Excel Individual MAV data point and statistical mean and standard deviation (s) were inputted into the NORM distribution function to generate probability of occurrence Function determines the probability of each MAV losses with respect to the mean

- loss of the data set
- 35% and 50% probability of occurrence around the mean value for MAV<sub>7</sub> and MAV<sub>28</sub> Higher probability for MAV<sub>28</sub> test data demonstrates a lower mass loss, and
- $IR_{T}$  reports the total residue left behind after digestion with HCI while  $IR_{R,7}$ results only include the residue retained on the 75µm sieve after washing
- Material passing the 75µm sieve is silt and clay sized particles, which may k comprised of a significant amount of silicate clays minerals. Difference in IR<sub>T</sub> and IR<sub>R.75</sub> may be used as an estimate of the clay component of carbonate rocks.
- Both IR and carbonate content determined by petrographic analysis correlate well. but a better correlation is demonstrated between the IR<sub>R.75</sub> results and carbonate minerals - both of these tests examine the retained 75µm fraction
- general decrease in MAV losses even though R<sup>2</sup> is IOW
- MAV<sub>7</sub> results shows slightly correlation with improved respect to both IR<sub>T</sub> and IR<sub>R.75</sub> results in comparison with MAV<sub>28</sub> due to the lower bond strength of the 7 day samples
- R<sup>2</sup> coefficient for IR<sub>R.75</sub> results with respect to MAV<sub>7</sub> was improved by 34% in § comparison with IR<sub>T</sub> results demonstrating a better relationsh



subsequent higher resistance to abrasion with increasing age and curing time

Strong R<sup>2</sup> between Mica content and MAV for samples that contained high IR<sub>T</sub>(%) variable Mica and MAV Loss

pavement surfaces

Silicate Content vs. MAV<sub>7</sub>

the second

y = -0.0222x + 12.795, R<sup>2</sup> = 0.145

 $y = 0.5684x + 11.201, R^2 = 0.0298$ 

25 50 75

Silicate (%)

Absorption vs. MAV



Abrasion loss for MDA and MAV depends on aggregate's hardness and strength

- As Silicate content (LS-616) increases, the MDA and MAV<sub>7</sub> losses decrease for the data range in this experiment
- MDA has a significantly higher R<sup>2</sup> than MAV<sub>7</sub> due to influence of cement bond developmen that led to increased resistance of total mix against abrasion for MAV results
- $R^2$  between MDA and absorption is much stronger in compare to MAV
- Aggregates in MDA tests are unbound in saturated environment whereas MAV test is conducted in dry on bound particles

MAV<sub>7</sub> and MAV<sub>28</sub> values increase with increasing bulk relative density of aggregates with R<sup>2</sup> values of 0.2227 and 0.2761 respectively Denser aggregates would result in higher mass loss for the same volume of material abraded.

## 5.0 Summary

MAV test examined the response to abrasion of a total mortar mix using a modification of existing equipment used by MTO to measure the abrasion resistance of coarse aggregates by (AAV)

Mortar mix design provided a low w:c ratio - led to relatively high compressive strength cured specimens. High compressive strengths represent a strong frictional bonding between the aggregate and the cement paste, which may led to the small range of abrasion loss for the various aggregate

Increased curing time the abrasion loss measurement loses its sensitivity with respect to the aggregate's hardness and becomes more dependent on the performance and bonding development of the cement paste as it has been demonstrated through the reduction of MAV

Abrasion of mortars in the AAV apparatus reflected properties of both the mineral and the cement paste. Abrasion resistance as a function of the individual aggregate properties was not measured

Increases in carbonate minerals by IR test resulted in increased in MAV test results indicating a lower resistance to abrasion

Presence of micaceous minerals were identified as being significant in determining resistance to abrasion of the cement mortars. Aggregates containing high mica content showed low resistance to abrasion. Aggregates with less than 3% mica content led to an increase in R<sup>2</sup> between the MAV and IR results

No relationship was demonstrated between MDA test (measures abrasion of a wet aggregate, and MAV test (measures abrasion of a mortar with the same aggregate). In general increasing silicate mineral content resulted in higher resistance to abrasion. However, MAV was less sensitive to this parameter

No significant relationship between MAV losses and an aggregate's absorption capacity

Test results identifies the positive effects of proper curing on abrasion resistance concrete pavement 6.0 Future Directions

This specific MAV test method requires further investigation to increase the sensitivity of aggregates against abrasion by: i) Reducing the curing time - reduce the overall cement hydration, and corresponding bond strength; ii) Modification to the water to cement ratio - reducing bond strength effects iii) Variability of fine aggregate's strength in terms of higher MDA loss (>20%) beyond the acceptable limit of concrete pavement specification

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