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16. Abstract  This project focused on the evaluation of the feasibility of using crushed portland cement concrete (CPCC) materials in TxDOT applications. Special interest was given to the use of CPCC fines passing the No.4 sieve. The research approach for exploring potential applications was divided into two ways as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ paving applications: flexible base, cement treated base, and HMA bond breaker; and</li> <li>▪ non-paving applications: portland cement concrete, flowable fill, backfill, and embankment.</li> </ul> Much of the research effort was devoted to a laboratory test program for material characterization. The test program identified aggregate properties, mix design properties, basic mechanistic properties, workability, and moisture susceptibility of the applied mixtures containing crushed concrete materials. Although the use of crushed concrete materials generally resulted in increased water demand and decreased workability, test results indicated that crushed concrete materials are highly feasible to use in the selected applications. However, CPCC fines were determined not to be suitable for the reproduction of portland cement concrete because the loss of workability was so severe in this application. Based on the results of the test program, recommendations and revised specifications, which allow for the use of CPCC fines, are provided for the selected applications: flexible base, cement treated base, HMA bond breaker, flowable fill, backfill, and roadway embankment.			
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# **CHARACTERIZATION OF CRUSHED CONCRETE MATERIALS FOR PAVING AND NON-PAVING APPLICATIONS**

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## **CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION**

### **RESEARCH BACKGROUND**

The production of crushed portland cement concrete (CPCC) continues to grow year by year. Currently, in excess of 100 million tons of crushed concrete are generated annually in the United States. In conjunction with the straight increase of this waste product, recycling of CPCC has been also addressed as an attractive alternative to disposal. Consequently, many agencies responsible for roadway construction all over the world have investigated the reuse of crushed concrete materials. Although crushed concrete contains particles of all size, from inches to microns, most previous studies focused on the use of coarse aggregates (over No. 4 sieve size) of CPCC for making new concrete. These studies found that, in general, the use of CPCC fines (minus No. 4 sieve size) is unacceptable for structural concrete. Since CPCC fines tend to be more angular and absorptive in nature, greater difficulty has been experienced in processing and using them in concrete mixtures than natural sand. Many Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) districts also have successfully used the coarse particles of CPCC as coarse aggregate in concrete for various purposes. However, this has resulted in growing stockpiles of CPCC fines. It is imperative that effective and full use of CPCC be found other than structural concrete. Many TxDOT districts presently use all size particles of CPCC as a base layer material with cement treatment. Greater opportunities can be found for the use of CPCC fines when proper selection, processing, and testing demonstrate conformance to specific requirements.

### **RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**

The main objective of this research is to find ways to effectively use CPCC fines within TxDOT applications. In order to accomplish this, the project has the following sub-objectives:

1. Survey available information to determine the state-of-the-art for the use of CPCC fines.

2. Characterize aggregate properties of CPCC fines produced throughout the state of Texas.
3. Identify areas of possible TxDOT applications of CPCC fines through the gathered information and a review of current TxDOT specifications.
4. Evaluate the properties of applied mixtures associated with the selected areas of TxDOT application.
5. Provide guidelines and specifications regarding the use of CPCC fines in the selected applications.

## **SCOPE OF RESEARCH PROGRAM**

This research program was a joint project by two institutions: the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) at Texas A&M University and the Center for Transportation Research (CTR) at The University of Texas at Austin. Under the framework of the joint project, the research efforts for finding good use of CPCC fines were divided into two different directions. As for the TxDOT applications, one is paving area, and the other is non-paving area. TTI and CTR addressed the paving and non-paving applications, respectively.

Given research objectives, the research team devoted a large part of their research efforts to laboratory work. The laboratory test program consisted of two main stages. The first characterized aggregate properties of CPCC fines. Five samples of CPCC fines were collected from four producers located in three areas of the state; they were then characterized by a set of standard aggregate tests. The second stage consisted of investigating selected TxDOT applications through the material characterization of applied mixtures. Applications investigated included:

- *paving applications*: flexible base, cement treated base, and hot mix asphalt bond breaker; and
- *non-paving applications*: portland cement concrete, flowable fill (controlled low strength material), backfill, and embankment.

Test programs for paving applications focused on the conformance of applied mixtures to the current specifications required for conventional materials. For non-paving applications, the investigation of flowable fill and portland cement concrete involved designing and casting product specimens. The investigation of backfill and embankment entailed investigating the material properties of the CPCC fines and comparing them to the present specified requirements for materials used in these applications. This investigation was accomplished through a thorough review of existing TxDOT specifications and discussions with TxDOT personnel.



## CHAPTER 2. PRELIMINARY STUDIES

The research team conducted a wide survey to obtain the basis for the effective use of recycled CPCC fines. Relevant information has been gathered from published literature as well as practical experience. As a result of the review, several items were selected that have a good potential for TxDOT applications. This chapter also includes a brief introduction on the production of crushed concrete within the state of Texas.

### PAST STUDIES ON THE USE OF CPCC FINES

This section contains the summary of gathered information. Consistent with the designated research scope, the result of the literature review is summarized in two ways: paving and non-paving applications. A field experience of TxDOT for the use of CPCC fines to concrete is introduced at the end of this section.

#### Paving Applications

Although most studies focused on the recycling of coarse particles to new structural concrete, one study performed in Indiana pointed out that great potential exists for fine aggregates from crushed concrete to be used in road construction, besides structural concrete <sup>(1)</sup>. These include shoulder pavement, fill soil stabilizer, pavement base, and subbase materials. In fact, the use of recycled fine aggregates in road base construction was suggested earlier <sup>(2)</sup>. A recent study in Kansas also demonstrated the high feasibility of using graded, recycled aggregates including fines in cement treated base (CTB) applications <sup>(3)</sup>. Field experience indicated that cracking in CTB has not been excessive compared to conventional materials. Researchers also found that recycled concrete materials make CTB mixtures reach initial setting quicker with slightly higher (about 2 percent) density than conventional aggregates.

Crusher fines below 2 mm (No. 10 sieve) was found to modify and somewhat improve the structure of soil materials when they are blended into a plastic wet clay <sup>(4)</sup>. Such improvement is attributed to calcium hydroxide from recycled concrete fines reacting with clay minerals to form clods. It was also found that hardening due to such an effect alone can result in

compressive strength up to 580 psi in road base courses made entirely from compacted crushed concrete aggregates without addition of any pozzolan or hydraulic binder<sup>(5)</sup>. Gradual increase of long-term strength was obtained from the same material when fly ash was added. A mean compressive strength of 1800 psi was obtained after three years of standard curing from reproduced mixtures with 610 lb of recycling dust, 610 lb of class F fly ash, 830 lb of recycled fine aggregates, and 400 lb of water per unit volume of concrete. The average of 28 days compressive strength of the same material was 230 psi. This long-term strength gain is probably due to the pozzolanic reaction between fly ash and calcium hydroxide from the recycled fines. As a consequence, researchers suggested that this process might be used to upgrade the quality of crushed concrete fine aggregates for road base purposes<sup>(6)</sup>.

On the other hand, carbonation processes may make recycled concrete fines unsuitable for drainage layer applications. Recent concerns have centered on the deposit of recycled aggregate associated fines and precipitate suspected of reducing the drainage capacity of recycled base layers and associated drainage systems. Most studies related to this concern demonstrated that calcium-based compounds are present in most recycled concrete aggregates in quantities sufficient to be leached out and precipitated in the presence of carbon dioxide. Snyder found that a precipitate from the recycled concrete aggregate base courses would form on filter fabrics wrapping drain outlets<sup>(7)</sup>. This precipitate significantly reduced the permittivity of such fabrics. It was also noted that insoluble fine residue makes up a major portion of blocking materials found in and around pavement drainage systems. This has caused Michigan Department of Transportation (DOT) to no longer allow the use of recycled fines in drainage layers of pavement bases. He also found that drainage water from such beds showed a high pH during the first year after construction. Tests performed at Lakeville, Minnesota, showed that recycled concrete fines are the principal source of the increased pH and precipitate.

If sufficient calcium hydroxide is found in recycled CPCC fines, they may serve as an active filler of the asphalt concrete mixture so that improved resistance to permanent deformation, fracture, and moisture damage is attained. Illinois' experience of recycling CRC pavement into a full depth Asphalt Concrete (AC) inlay showed the viability of this effect<sup>(8)</sup>. For over six years of service from construction, this recycled AC pavement provided as good a condition as, if no better than, a conventional AC pavement.

## Non-paving Applications

Recycled concrete fines could be used for the development of low strength concrete, while their use has generally been found unsuitable for structural concrete <sup>(1)</sup>. The density of both recycled coarse and fine aggregates has been found to be lower than that of natural aggregates, along with higher water absorption values by a factor of three to six times <sup>(9)</sup>. In concrete applications, mixtures with high proportions of recycled aggregates were found to be harsh or less cohesive and to exhibit higher bleeding, but this could be overcome using filler materials, such as fly ash. One Australian study showed the effect of using recycled aggregates on the engineering properties of concrete mixtures containing these materials <sup>(10)</sup>. The result indicated a reduction in strength and modulus of elasticity, whereas there was increased drying shrinkage and creep. It was also noted that the strength reduction could be recovered by making suitable mix adjustments or by the addition of fly ash or silica fume.

In the 1992 state-of-the-art report by Hansen, the use of crushed concrete fine aggregate as the fine aggregate in new concrete was strongly cautioned against due to the increased water demand of such mixtures <sup>(11)</sup>. Studies have shown that crushed concrete fine aggregate has a much higher absorption and more angular particle shape than virgin sand. These properties have been shown to reduce slump at a given water content and require that additional water be added to maintain workability. The addition of this water increases the water-to-cement ratio, which consequently decreases the concrete compressive strength.

A 1977 study by Buck found that the use of crushed concrete fines as a sand material requires an undue increase in the cement content of the mixture <sup>(12)</sup>. He also found that the specific gravity of recycled aggregates tends to be lower than that of natural aggregate. Buck found that the fines produced by crushing old concrete could be used without a grading modification by increasing the cement content of the mixture by 75 to 100 lb more cement per cubic yard. A related study found that recycled fine aggregate particles possess higher absorption values and a more angular shape <sup>(13)</sup>. This study also found that recycled aggregate particles have a higher surface-to-volume ratio, higher angularity, and, consequently, higher internal friction. These studies conclude that the workability of a mixture with these particles is not as dependent on the water content, as is the case for normal concrete, but rather on the recycled aggregate texture and shape properties.

Another study found that mixtures using recycled CPCC fine aggregates had a sharp increase in water demand compared to similar mixtures that did not include CPCC fine aggregates <sup>(14)</sup>. This increase in water demand was found to be particularly prevalent when CPCC fines passing the No. 100 sieve were included. It was also found that the minus No. 100 portion of the fine aggregate consisted principally of hydrated cement particles. For this reason, researchers concluded that concrete mixtures utilizing recycled fine aggregates should replace the minus No. 100 portion with a corresponding fraction of natural sand.

These studies found that the use of recycled CPCC fines (minus No. 4 sieve materials) in concrete is not practical due to their high absorption and extreme variability compared to natural sand. However, opportunities exist for the use of CPCC fines in applications that can accommodate sands with higher fines contents and that are not sensitive to sands with higher absorption.

## TxDOT Experience

One TxDOT project utilized crushed concrete fines as concrete aggregate. This project, the reconstruction of a section of Interstate 10 in the Houston District, utilized both crushed concrete coarse and fine aggregates. This study was performed to evaluate the performance of pavement using 100 percent recycled aggregates <sup>(15)</sup>. The recycled fine aggregate used in this study was washed of minus No. 200 materials and regraded before application. This study found that the recycled aggregates do not have a pronounced effect on the compressive strength of the concrete. Interestingly, however, a significant reduction was reported for the modulus of elasticity of the mixtures containing recycled aggregates. In addition, this study found that when recycled aggregates are used, changes must be made to the construction sequence to ensure consistent concrete. During the early stages of this project, a difficulty was experienced in producing workable concrete that met the specified strength and durability requirements. This problem was solved by the addition of a sprinkler system that kept the recycled fine aggregate constantly moist <sup>(16)</sup>. Construction crews involved with this project stated that the concrete using recycled sand was inconsistent and extremely difficult to work with. They also noted that the concrete using recycled aggregate set too quickly to be adequately finished.

## POTENTIAL TxDOT APPLICATIONS

Information from the literature indicates that applications other than medium to high strength structural concrete would be relevant for the effective use of recycled CPCC fines. As proposed, the areas of possible TxDOT applications of CPCC fines are addressed in two ways: paving and non-paving applications. All test programs in this project focused on identifying material properties with respect to the development of specifications for proposed potential applications.

Many TxDOT personnel were solicited for information concerning the possible use of CPCC fines in selected applications. These discussions addressed the required end properties of the selected applications, constructability requirements, and environmental issues associated with the substitution of CPCC fines for conventional materials.

### **Paving Applications**

Three potential areas were identified for paving applications: unbound flexible aggregate base, cement treated base, and hot mix asphalt concrete bond breaker. Expected properties to be considered for effective field implementations are summarized below for each item.

#### *Flexible Base*

Flexible base covered under TxDOT Item 247 was identified as a potential area for the use of crushed concrete materials with all size fractions. The shape and texture characteristics of crushed concrete materials are expected to improve performance of the mixture in terms of strength and stiffness. On the other hand, the high absorption of recycled concrete fines may cause the mixtures to be deficient in moisture-related durability. Laboratory testing of flexible base mixtures containing crushed concrete materials should examine the mixture properties with respect to these two conflicting viewpoints. Previous studies also indicated that crushed concrete, especially those containing fine fractions passing No. 200, may have residual cementing effects due to the existence of calcium-based composites in these materials. The strength gain of recycled concrete is usually so slow and eventual as to extend over several years.

This cementing process could eventually upgrade the mechanical long-term properties. Addition of fly ash may be beneficial since fly ash would promote the stiffening process by additional pozzolanic reaction.

### *Cement Treated Base*

Cement treated base that is currently covered under TxDOT Item 276 is one of the most feasible uses of recycled CPCC fines. Cement treatment would compensate any possible detrimental effects from including crushed concrete fines in terms of strength, stiffness, and durability. A practical matter of concern for CTB application is excessive shrinkage and subsequent cracking behavior of the material. Therefore, the mixture's shrinkage cracking potential is an important criterion for successful applications. Clear understanding of the process of shrinkage crack development in CTB is an important prerequisite. Theory and analytical methods for drying shrinkage cracking of cement-bound materials, typically concrete, have been greatly advanced and are discussed elsewhere [\(17\), \(18\), \(19\)](#). The physical processes of drying shrinkage cracking in concrete are briefly described.

When concrete is exposed to a dry environment, moisture in concrete begins to escape to the environment. For a constant environmental condition, the rate of drying and corresponding moisture distribution in concrete are directly influenced by the pore structure and moisture transport mechanism of concrete. These processes can be effectively explained by the non-linear diffusion theory [\(20\)](#). Drying of physically bound water in concrete accompanies volume reduction, that is shrinkage, of concrete. A certain proportion exists between moisture evaporation and the amount of shrinkage. Any restriction to volume change results in stress development in concrete. Cracking will take place when the shrinkage stress becomes greater than the material's strength. However, complexities exist in the analysis of shrinkage cracking due to the time dependent properties of concrete, such as creep, stress relaxation, and hardening.

The development of shrinkage cracking in CTB may be similar to that in concrete. Many experimental studies on conventional CTB mixtures have shown that, as a cement composite, its general trend in mechanistic behavior is not much different from that of concrete [\(21\), \(22\)](#). It is presumed that this trend will also apply to the mixtures containing crushed concrete materials. Obviously, properties particular to the mixture with crushed concrete must be determined.

Ideally, it involves material properties such as the ultimate shrinkage, strength, stiffness, creep or relaxation modulus, and related fracture parameters. Relative to this research project, a specific analysis or prediction of shrinkage cracking is not of interest. However, one aspect of this project will focus on a comparative investigation of the shrinkage cracking potential of CTB mixtures. The shrinkage cracking potential of a CTB mixture can be inferred from the material properties associated with the process of shrinkage cracking. Therefore, laboratory testing of CTB mixtures should concentrate on the material characterization with respect to the shrinkage cracking behavior.

#### *Hot Mix Asphalt Bond Breaker*

Recycled CPCC fines are expected to be usable as a part of fine aggregate or filler in hot mix asphalt (HMA) bond breaker, as covered under Item 345, “Plant Mix Asphalt Stabilized Base.” If recycled concrete fines contain sufficient calcium hydroxide (hydrated lime), it is also expected that CPCC fines may work as an active filler, which contributes to the improvement of cracking resistance and susceptibility to moisture damage in the mixture. On the other hand, inclusion of recycled fines may bring a significant increase of asphalt content, which in turn may cause low mixture stability and higher costs.

Considering the purpose of a bond breaker layer, rigorous structural properties are not necessarily required. Workability with proper mix design properties should suffice for bond breaker applications. Consequently, a program of laboratory testing should focus on the mix design properties and the maximum feasible inclusions of recycled concrete materials in bond breaker mixtures. The maximum aggregate size of bond breaker mixture is normally limited to be less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch due to the thin layer thickness. Therefore, only the fine portion (passing No. 4 sieve) of recycled concrete materials will be considered in bond breaker applications.

#### **Non-paving Applications**

Researchers identified four items as potential TxDOT applications in the non-paving area: portland cement concrete, flowable fill, backfill, and embankment. Expected properties to be considered for effective field implementations are discussed below for each item.

## *Portland Cement Concrete*

The research team discussed with TxDOT personnel the possible applications utilizing low strength portland cement concrete, TxDOT class A and B. Applications discussed included median barriers, curb and gutter, rip-rap, and culverts. In addition to requirements specific to individual applications, general requirements for TxDOT concrete were discussed. During this discussion it was revealed that all concrete used for the above applications is entrained with 6 percent air for durability reasons <sup>(23)</sup>. Approximately 50 percent of curb and gutter cast by TxDOT is extruded, and the remainder is formed and hand placed. Concrete used in extruded mixtures requires a 1½-inch to 2-inch slump; hand placed mixtures require a 3-inch to 4-inch slump. Personnel contacted also indicated that a great deal of difficulty has been experienced when manufactured sand is used in extruded mixtures. These mixtures are typically extremely sticky and, consequently, very difficult to extrude. The possibility of using CPCC fines as aggregate in median barriers and culverts was also explored. However, because these items are usually constructed with a higher grade of concrete, they were eliminated as applications that could use CPCC fines as aggregate <sup>(24)</sup>.

## *Flowable Fill*

Flowable fill, also known as controlled low strength material (CLSM), is presently covered under TxDOT special specification number 4438 <sup>(25)</sup>. TxDOT primarily uses flowable fill as a repair material. Typically, flowable fill is used as a void fill for repairs that are difficult to access. These applications do not anticipate subsequent excavation; therefore, long-term strength gain and the tensile strength of the material are not a concern. Currently, aggregates used in flowable fill must have a plasticity index below 6; all aggregate must pass the ¾-inch sieve, and no more than 30 percent of the aggregate may pass the No. 200 sieve. The 28-day unconfined compressive strength of the hardened flowable fill must be between 80 and 150 psi.

Other studies have investigated the use of high fines materials as aggregate in flowable fill <sup>(26)</sup>. These studies found that while high fines materials can be used as aggregate, they cause difficulties entraining high amounts of air. However, with proper modifications to the mixture design, flowable fill was found to be an application that could make use of the fines.

### *Backfill*

Backfill for structures is covered under TxDOT Item 400.5. Presently, the only material requirements referred to in these specifications relate to limiting materials, such as wood, that will adversely affect compaction or have other deleterious effects. This specification covers backfill for items such as pipe, bridge foundations, retaining walls, and culverts. Item 400.6 covers cement stabilized backfill. This material, which is largely sand mixed with 7 percent portland cement, is primarily used around sewers and manholes. The only material requirement for this application is that use be approved by the engineer, as would be shown on the plans <sup>(27)</sup>.

### *Embankment*

Currently, four types of embankment, TxDOT Item 132, are specified. The four types — A, B, C, and D — are used in different applications, and, consequently, the requirements for their constituent materials differ. Type A embankment has the most stringent material requirements. However, Type A embankments are rarely specified. Type B and C embankments must be constructed from suitable soils that will form a stable embankment. TxDOT personnel felt that embankment would be an application that could reuse large amounts of crushed concrete material. This application could use both CPCC material and/or CPCC fines. The only modification that might be needed for embankments using CPCC materials is to specify that a clay cap be added to minimize surface erosion. However, this minimal modification is not expected to significantly impact the construction of the embankment <sup>(28)</sup>.

## **PRODUCERS OF CRUSHED CONCRETE**

Six producers of crushed concrete were contacted and questioned about various aspects of their concrete crushing operations. Issues discussed with the producers included: the input materials accepted; the approximate volume of crushed concrete produced; disposal problems, if any, encountered with the crushed concrete; and applications utilizing the crushed concrete produced.

## **Williams Brothers**

Williams Brothers Construction produces crushed concrete at two sites in the greater Houston area. Their primary crushing operation occurs at the Airtex crusher located adjacent to Interstate 45 in the northern part of Houston. Presently, crushing, washing, and re-grading operations take place at this location.

Williams Brothers personnel indicated that all concrete crushed at this location comes directly from TxDOT work sites. There are three different stockpiles of crushed concrete in this field. The first stockpile consists of the materials taken directly from the crusher. This stockpile contains all particles from inches to minus No. 200 sieve sized. They reported this material has been successfully used in CTB. The second and third stockpiles involve the process of washing and sieving, in addition to crushing. The second stockpile consists of coarse particles of CPCC remaining on the No. 4 sieve. The coarse aggregates are used as aggregates in fresh concrete primarily during periods of aggregate shortages. The remaining material, that passes the No. 4 sieve, is then washed to remove silt and clay sized particles passing the No. 200 sieve. After washing, this material is regraded to meet ASTM C-33 specifications for fine aggregate. The third stockpile consists of these washed and regraded fine particles of CPCC. However, this material, referred to as regraded washed crushed portland cement concrete (RCPCC) fines, does not perform adequately when used as concrete sand. This material was used during an experimental paving project but has not been used for that purpose since <sup>(29)</sup>. The only application that presently uses this material is cement treated backfill, TxDOT Item 400.6.

## **Southern Crushed Concrete**

Southern Crushed Concrete operates five crushers in the greater Houston area. Southern Crushed Concrete accepts various types of concrete and does not limit the material crushed to concrete from TxDOT projects. TxDOT personnel reported that Southern Crushed Concrete sells all of their crushed concrete as road base and has never had a problem disposing of the material <sup>(16)</sup>.

## **Big City Crushed Concrete**

Big City Crushed Concrete, located in Dallas, runs an urban recycling program and crushes concrete from a variety of sources. Big City does not attempt to use the material as concrete aggregate or as road base for TxDOT applications. After crushing the material, it is separated by size into four products.

Material between 3 inches and 1½ inches is used as a base for heavy duty roads located in landfills. Material between 1½ and ¾ inches is used as septic and free draining fill. Material from 1¾ inches to dust is used in applications ranging from sidewalk base to replacing expansive clays located below residential slabs. The remaining material, which passes the 3/8-inch sieve, is used as a trench backfill material <sup>(30)</sup>.

The trench backfill material is widely used and is the primary product that Big City produces. This material is typically used to backfill sewer lines and has been so successful that certain municipalities have developed special specifications for its use. The City of University Park has a special specification for sewer line backfill and finds that the recycled trench backfill material works better than conventional materials. Mr. Bob Whaling, city engineer, said that the material is cheaper than cement-stabilized sand yet offers better properties than conventional sand. The primary advantage to using the recycled material is that the more angular particles increase the friction angle and reduce the amount of soil that must be excavated when repairs are made. The recycled pipe backfill material has been used on approximately five projects, and the city has been pleased with the results <sup>(31)</sup>.

Big City intentionally does not regrade material to meet existing ASTM and TxDOT approved gradations. They feel that this is a waste of both time and money due to the large number of applications that use the material in its ungraded state. Furthermore, a substantial demand exists for the pipe backfill material, and there are no problems selling all material that they produce <sup>(30)</sup>.

## **Frontera Materials**

Frontera Materials of McAllen produces crushed concrete that ranges in size from 2 inches to dust. They presently have a stockpile of approximately 5000 tons. It has been used as road base and performed acceptably. However, the crushed concrete material does not meet TxDOT specifications and, therefore, is not presently used for base on TxDOT projects. The only other use of this material has been as backfill for temporary retaining walls, and, the crushed concrete material performed well in this application. However, this application is not economical due to costs associated with transporting the material from the stockpile to the job site <sup>(32)</sup>.

## **Linn Materials**

Linn Materials of Harlingen presently has a stockpile of approximately 30,000 cubic yards. This pile contains material ranging in size from 2 ¼ inches to dust. Linn Materials uses all material produced as a subbase for roads and has experienced no problems with this application <sup>(33)</sup>.

## **Ballanger Construction**

Ballanger Construction of San Benito produces crushed concrete and presently has no stockpile. They accept all types of concrete and crush it to a maximum size of 2 inches. Attempts have been made to blend this material with virgin material and to use it as road base. This was unsuccessful due to difficulties in finishing the road base. However, the crushed concrete material works well as a base material and as backfill for box culverts. Ballanger Construction has no problems recycling all crushed concrete that it produces <sup>(34)</sup>.

## CHAPTER 3. AGGREGATE PROPERTIES

This chapter describes the test methods used to characterize the CPCC fines and the results of the tests. The aggregate characterization program, an essential component of this study, allowed the crushed concrete fines to be compared to virgin aggregates by both their physical properties and by the effect they have on the properties of applications such as flowable fill and concrete. The aggregate characterization program consisted of the following tests: wet and dry sieve analysis, specific gravity and absorption, dry rodded unit weight and voids, methylene blue value, plasticity index, pH measurements, and chemical analysis using inductively coupled plasma technology. Aggregate properties for coarse particles of crushed concrete were separately identified when they were required in conjunction with the studies of specific applications.

### MATERIAL COLLECTION

The research team collected crushed concrete for aggregate tests from four crushers around the state of Texas. Included crushers are Williams Brothers, Southern Crushed Concrete, Big City Crushed Concrete, and Frontera Materials. All collected materials were sieved in the lab to extract inclusions of coarse particles over the No. 4 sieve size.

#### Williams Brothers

As described in the [previous chapter](#), the Williams Brothers crusher has three different stockpiles of crushed concrete materials. Each stockpile contains materials such that:

- stockpile 1: base material containing all sized particles from +2 inches to –No. 200,
- stockpile 2: washed coarse aggregates sized +No. 4, and
- stockpile 3: manufactured sand that is washed and regraded fine aggregates sized from –No. 4 to +No. 200.

Considering the various kinds of stockpiles, the Williams Brothers crusher was selected as the primary source of materials throughout the project. Researchers collected a large amount of samples from stockpile 1, base material, and stockpile 3, manufactured sand. The manufactured sand is sometimes denoted as washed and regraded CPCC fines. Materials in stockpile 2, coarse aggregates, were not collected because they could be obtained when necessary from the stockpile 1 samples.

Total samples collected from the Williams Brothers consisted of 30 55-gallon drums. Among them, 13 (10 base material and 3 manufactured sand) were used for studies for paving applications, and 17 (12 base material and 5 manufactured sand) were used for non-paving applications. Researchers used part of those samples for aggregate tests under both paving and non-paving studies.

The base materials from stockpile 1 were sieved in the lab to produce samples of CPCC fines passing No. 4. No additional sieving work was placed for manufactured sand. Samples of CPCC fines and manufactured sand were then separately treated according to ASTM C 702, “Standard Practice for Reducing Samples of Aggregate to Testing Size” to achieve a homogenous sample. Final samples for aggregate testing were taken as needed from the homogenized samples of each material.

In addition to the large sampling, separate small samples were collected from various locations of each stockpile. These samples were used to assess the variability of materials in a single stockpile. Seven 5-gallon samples came from various locations of stockpile 1.

## **Southern Crushed Concrete**

A total of seven 55-gallon drums of crushed concrete were sampled from Southern Crushed Concrete. Studies on paving applications used two of them, and the remaining five barrels were used for aggregate tests in conjunction with the studies on non-paving applications. All stockpiles in Southern Crushed Concrete contain base materials of all-sized particles. Similar to samples taken from the Williams Brothers stockpile 1, materials were divided at the No. 4 sieve size. CPCC fines passing the No. 4 sieve were then treated in accordance with ASTM C 702, “Standard Practice for Reducing Samples of Aggregate to Testing Size” to achieve a homogenous sample.

## **Big City Crushed Concrete**

Big City Crushed Concrete supplied four 55-gallon drums of crushed concrete. These barrels contained samples from different areas of Big City's minus 3/8-inch pipe backfill material. Any material retained on the No. 4 sieve was removed to obtain samples of CPCC fines. Final samples for aggregate testing were then taken as needed. Researchers used this material for the studies on non-paving applications.

## **Frontera Materials**

Frontera Materials supplied four 55-gallon drums. These materials were then sieved to remove any material retained on the No. 4 sieve. The resultant CPCC fines were tested according to the material characterization program. Researchers also used this material for the studies on non-paving applications.

## **Sample Labeling**

Sample identification was organized as follows:

[Two-Letter Code]-[One-Letter Code]-(Sample Number)

The first two-letter code represents the source of materials. It is basically the abbreviation of each source. There are five different sources to be distinguished. They are CPCC fines from four different crushers and manufactured sand from Williams Brothers. The codes WB, SC, BC, and FM represent the CPCC fines collected from Williams Brothers, Southern Crushed Concrete, Big City Crushed Concrete, and Frontera Materials, respectively. The code MS stands for manufactured sand from Williams Brothers.

The one-letter code in the middle delineates the sample group within the given source. It is simply designated according to alphabetic order. CPCC fines from Williams Brothers sources are divided into eight sample groups, so they have the identification from WB-A through WB-H. Recalling the manner in which material collection of the Williams Brothers source was carried

out, WB-A represents the large sample taken with numbers of 55-gallon barrels, and WB-B through WB-H represent small samples taken from seven different locations. Samples WB-B and WB-C came from the top of the stockpile. Samples WB-D through WB-H came from equally spaced areas around the stockpile at about 5 ft above ground. Samples from other sources (SC, BC, FM, and MS) also have the sample group codes from A to C or A to D. The last sample number is used only for the sample of WB-A. For this large sample, eight test samples were taken from the subsets of homogenized materials that resulted from the ASTM C 702 procedure.

The above sample identification system results in 30 subsets of samples as follows:

- WB-A-1 to WB-A-8: Williams Brothers stockpile 1,
- WB-B to WB-H: Williams Brothers stockpile 1 (different locations of the stockpile),
- MS-A to MS-D: Williams Brothers stockpile 3 (washed fines or manufactured sand),
- SC-A to SC-C: Southern Crushed Concrete,
- BC-A to BC-D: Big City Crushed Concrete, and
- FM-A to FM-D: Frontera Materials.

## TEST PROCEDURES FOR AGGREGATE CHARACTERIZATION

This section describes the methods of selected tests for characterizing CPCC fines. The test program includes tests for sieve analysis, specific gravity and absorption, unit weight and voids, methylene blue value, plasticity index, pH measurements, and chemical analysis.

### Wet and Dry Sieve Analysis

The gradation and fineness modulus of each aggregate were determined by first washing and then sieving each aggregate. All aggregates were sampled in the as-delivered state. The material was washed according to ASTM C 117, “Standard Test Method for Materials Finer than No. 200 (75 µm) Sieve in Mineral Aggregates by Washing.” The gradation of the washed sample was determined in accordance with ASTM C 136, “Standard Test Method for Sieve Analysis of Fine and Coarse Aggregates.”

## **Specific Gravity and Absorption**

The specific gravity and absorption capacity of an aggregate affect not only concrete mixture designs but also other aggregate characterization tests. Testing for these properties was conducted in accordance with ASTM C 128, “Standard Test Method for Specific Gravity and Absorption of Fine Aggregate.” This test determined the bulk, surface-saturated dry (SSD) and apparent specific gravity as well as the absorption capacity of each aggregate.

## **Dry Rodded Unit Weight and Voids**

The dry rodded unit weight and voids test determines the bulk density of the aggregate. The bulk density of an aggregate is required for many methods of concrete mixture design. This test was performed in accordance with ASTM C 29, “Bulk Density (Unit Weight) and Voids in Aggregate.” All testing used the rodding procedure.

## **Methylene Blue Test**

The methylene blue test, first used in France, is an effective method to evaluate the presence of potentially harmful materials in the fraction of an aggregate finer than the No. 200 (75  $\mu\text{m}$ ) sieve. The test procedure used in this study was developed in NCHRP Project 4-19 for determining the presence of potentially deleterious materials in aggregates <sup>(35)</sup>. ASTM C 837, “Standard Test Method for Methylene Blue Index of Clay,” is a similar test used to measure methylene blue absorption. However, ASTM C 837 is better suited for clays than crushed concrete fines.

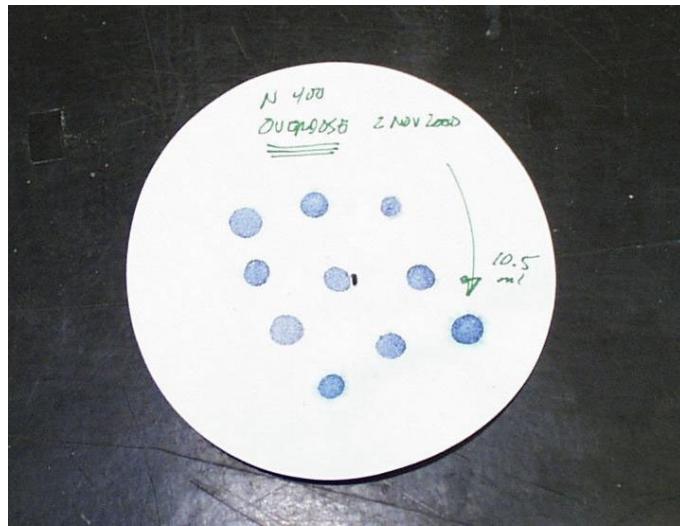
The methylene blue test was performed by saturating 10.0 g ( $\pm 0.05$  g) of sample passing the No. 200 (75  $\mu\text{m}$ ) sieve with 30.0 g ( $\pm 0.05$  g) of distilled water. A solution containing 1 g of methylene blue in enough distilled water to produce 200 ml of solution (each 1 ml of solution contains 5 mg of methylene blue) was used to titrate the slurry. This solution was added to the slurry in 0.5 ml increments as the slurry was mixed. [Figure 3.1](#) shows the setup used for the methylene blue test.

After 1 minute of mixing, a small amount of the solution, containing the sample material and titrated methylene blue, was removed via a glass rod and dropped onto filter paper. If a light blue halo was not observed, an additional 0.5 ml of methylene blue solution was added. This process continued until a halo was observed. Once a halo was observed, the solution was mixed for an additional 5 minutes. If the halo still formed, the methylene blue dosage was recorded. If the halo disappeared during the 5-minute mixing period, an additional sample of methylene blue was added and the process continued. If the sample was known to have a very high methylene blue value, the initial dosages of methylene blue were increased to expedite the testing procedure. [Figure 3.2](#) shows a sample of a completed methylene blue test. The right-most sample has been fully saturated with methylene blue, and a faint blue halo has formed.

In addition to the methylene blue value, a modified methylene blue value was also calculated. The modified methylene blue value was computed by multiplying the methylene blue value by the percentage of material passing the No. 200 sieve. A recent International Center for Aggregates Research (ICAR) study found that the modified methylene blue value is a better indicator of the suitability of an aggregate for concrete applications since it includes both the amount of minus No. 200 material and the methylene blue value <sup>(36)</sup>.



**Figure 3.1. Methylene Blue Test Set-Up.**  
**(Shown from left to right are: timer, beaker and stir bar, and stir plate.)**



**Figure 3.2. Filter Paper Used in Methylene Blue Test.**  
**(Notice halo around the right-most sample.)**

### **Plasticity Index**

The values of liquid limit, plastic limit, and plasticity index distinguish the boundaries of consistency states of soils. These values are an integral part of nearly all soil classification systems. These values also indicate the engineering properties of soils, such as compactability and moisture sensitivity. These values are an essential part of evaluating the suitability of a material for applications such as backfill and embankment. All tests were performed according to ASTM D 4318, “Standard Test Methods for Liquid Limit, Plastic Limit, and Plasticity Index of Soils.”

### **pH Measurements**

As a comparative indicator of alkalinity and related leaching concerns, the pH of CPCC fines was measured in accordance with test method Tex-128-E. Two sets of samples were prepared for the materials of WB-A, MS, and SC. For comparison, a sample of crushed limestone base material was also included in the test. All samples consisted of materials passing the No. 40 sieve. The first set of samples was tested after 24 hours of drying in an oven at

$115\pm5^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The second set was washed over the No. 200 sieve before the oven dry. To make a dispersed aggregate solution, 30 g of each dried sample was added to 150 ml of distilled water. Measurements on each prepared sample conformed to test method Tex 128-E.

## Chemical Analysis

Two types of chemical analysis were conducted by Analysys Inc. of Austin, Texas. Eleven samples—samples WB-A through WB-H and SC-A, BC-A, and FM-A—were tested for the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA) metals using inductively coupled plasma (ICP) technology. Two of these samples, SC-A and BC-A, were also tested according to the Synthetic Precipitation Leaching Procedure (SPLP). This test, a modified version of the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP), is designed to determine the mobility of contaminates in the material. SPLP uses a slightly less acidic solution than TCLP to measure the mobility of contaminates.

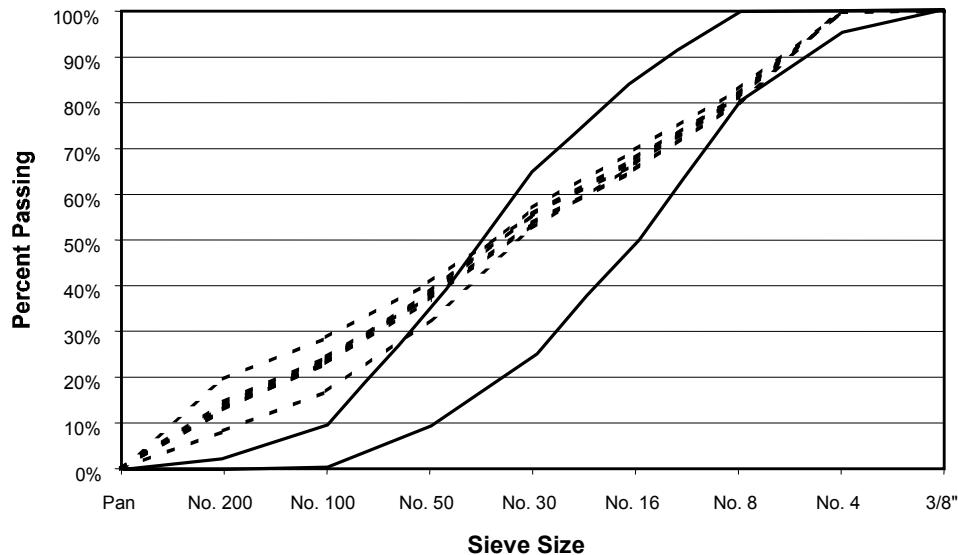
In addition to the CPCC fines samples tested, six samples of concrete sand were tested for total levels of RCRA metals. These samples, three virgin sands and three manufactured sands, came from TxDOT approved producers of fine aggregates.

## TEST RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

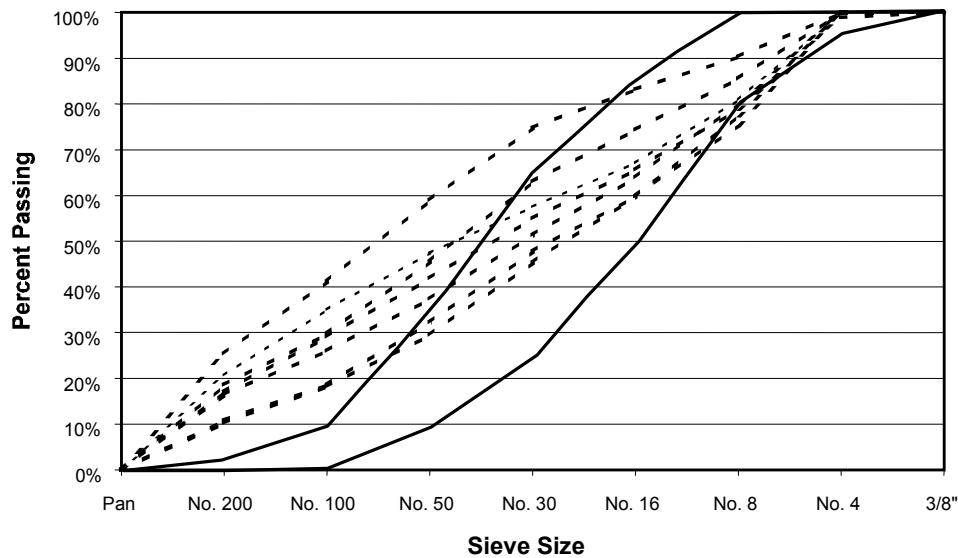
### Wet and Dry Sieve Analysis

The results of the wet and dry sieve analyses are shown in Figures 3.3 to 3.8. The percentage of material passing the No. 200 sieve is shown in Table 3.1. The dotted lines in each graph represent obtained gradation of each sample, and the solid lines show the ASTM C 33 requirements. It can be shown that the crushed concrete samples did not meet ASTM C 33 grading requirements, especially for the materials passing the No. 40 sieve. Typically, between 10 and 20 percent of the crushed concrete material passed the No. 200 sieve. The grading plots also show the considerable variation of the material from different producers and from different areas of a given stockpile. These differences could be caused by a number of factors including crushing speed, type of crusher, type of concrete crushed, and the amount of foreign material

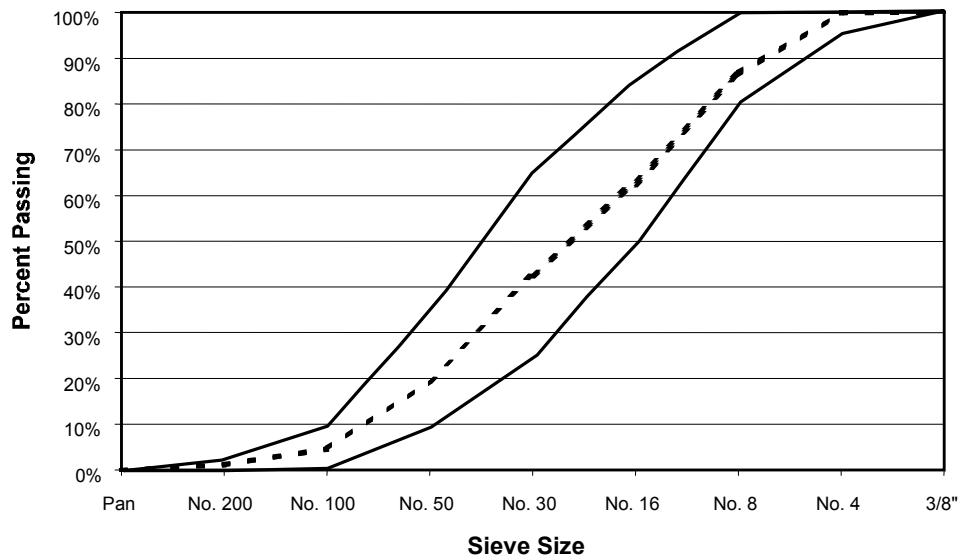
(soil and clay) attached to the concrete as it enters the crusher. The only sample that met ASTM C 33 grading requirements was the Williams Brothers manufactured sand, which is washed CPCC fines. This material is intentionally regraded to meet ASTM C 33.



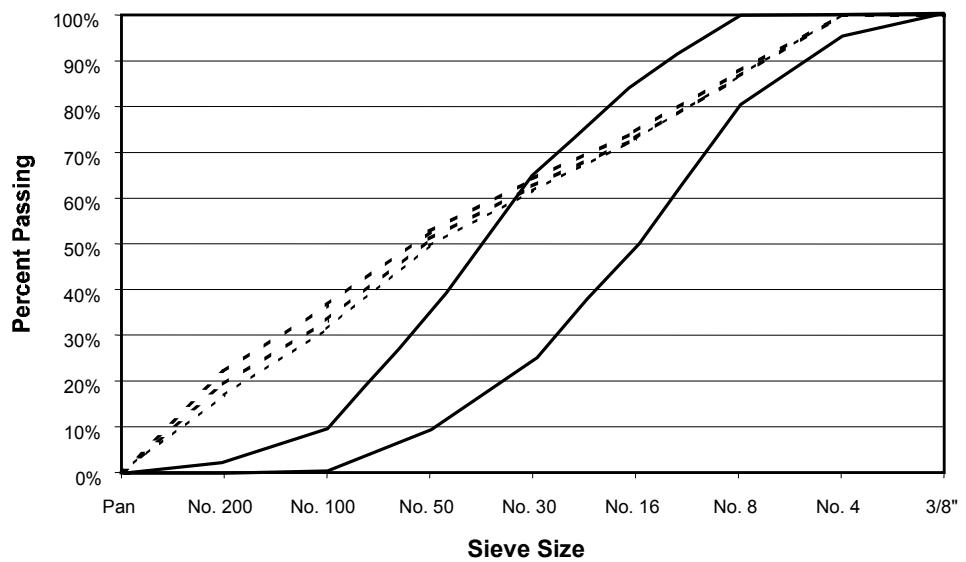
**Figure 3.3. Grading of Williams Brothers CPCC Fines: Samples WB-A-1 to WB-A-8.**



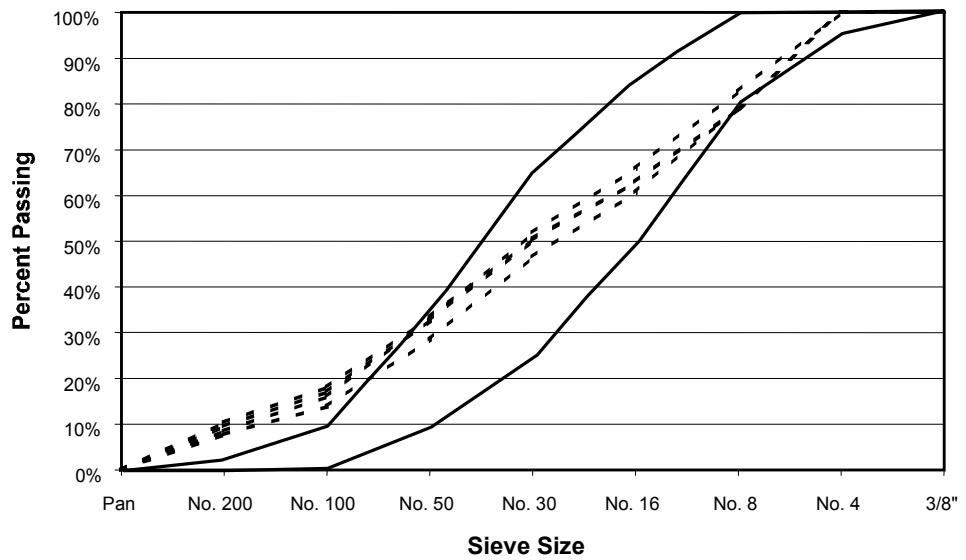
**Figure 3.4. Grading of Williams Brothers CPCC Fines: Samples WB-B to WB-H.**



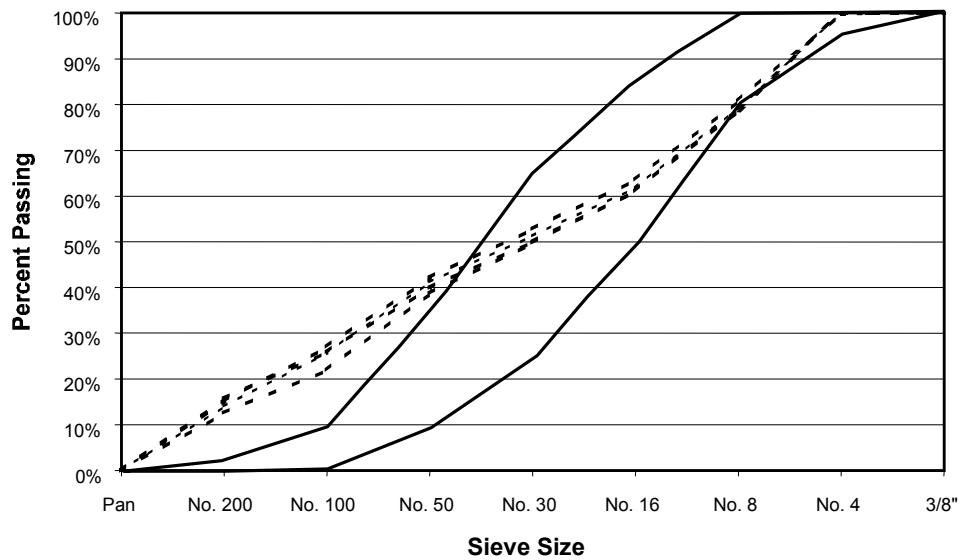
**Figure 3.5. Grading of Williams Brothers Manufactured Sand: Samples MS-A to MS-D.**



**Figure 3.6. Grading of Southern Crushed CPCC Fines: Samples SC-A to SC-D.**



**Figure 3.7. Grading of Big City CPCC Fines: Samples BC-A to BC-D.**



**Figure 3.8. Grading of Frontera Materials CPCC Fines: Samples FM-A to FM-D.**

**Table 3.1. Percent Passing No. 200 Sieve, Methylene Blue Value (MBV),  
and Modified MBV for CPCC Fines.**

Sample ID	% Passing No. 200 Sieve	MBV <sup>(1)</sup>	MMBV <sup>(2)</sup>
WB-A-1	19.60	11	2.16
WB-A-2	8.48	11.75	1.00
WB-A-3	8.27	10.25	0.85
WB-A-4	13.26	11.25	1.49
WB-A-5	13.94	9.5	1.32
WB-A-6	14.63	9.5	1.39
WB-A-7	21.91	9.75	2.14
WB-A-8	13.07	10.25	1.34
WB-B	10.27	11.25	1.16
WB-C	16.42	19	3.12
WB-D	18.56	13.5	2.51
WB-E	17.07	20.5	3.50
WB-F	20.68	16.5	3.41
WB-G	25.34	15.5	3.93
WB-H	10.82	2.5	0.27
SC-A	19.33	27.5	5.32
SC-B	22.06	23	5.07
SC-C	16.93	28	4.74
BC-A	8.54	27.5	2.35
BC-B	7.76	15	1.16
BC-C	9.57	18	1.72
BC-D	10.40	12	1.25
FM-A	15.73	32.5	5.11
FM-B	15.20	27.5	4.18
FM-C	12.57	40	5.03
FM-D	14.01	35	4.90
MS-A	1.29	1.25	0.02
MS-B	1.12	1.25	0.01
MS-C	1.00	1.25	0.01
MS-D	0.96	1.25	0.01

(1) MBV: Methylene Blue Value

(2) MMBV: Modified Methylene Blue Value

$$\text{MMBV} = (\text{MBV}) * (\% \text{ Passing No. 200 Sieve})$$

## **Specific Gravity and Absorption**

[Table 3.2](#) shows the test results for specific gravity, absorption, and dry rodded unit weight. The specific gravity and absorption of the crushed concrete fines varied considerably, not only from producer to producer but also within a stockpile. The bulk specific gravity of the crushed concrete fines varied from 2.10 to 2.38. The samples from Big City typically had lower specific gravity values, while the samples from the Williams Brothers generally had higher values. The absorption capacity also varied greatly. The Big City crushed concrete was by far the most absorptive, more than twice as absorptive as the samples from Southern Crushed Concrete. Most samples had absorption values ranging from 6 to 8 percent.

In addition, the absorption of the Williams Brothers manufactured sand exceeded 5 percent, which is about 2 percent lower than that of unwashed Williams Brothers CPCC fines, and is higher than the absorption of CPCC fines from Southern Crushed Concrete. This indicates that while the minus No. 200 fraction of crushed concrete increases the water demand of the material, the larger particles also significantly contribute to the increased absorption of CPCC fines.

## **Dry Rodded Unit Weight and Voids**

[Table 3.2](#) includes the results of the dry rodded unit weight test. The dry rodded unit weight for material from the Williams Brothers stockpile was typically between 87 and 89 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>. The dry rodded unit weight of material from Frontera Materials and Southern Crushed was slightly lower, ranging from 82 to 85 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>. The Big City crushed concrete showed the greatest variability ranging from 77 to 87 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>.

## **Methylene Blue Test**

Measured methylene blue values for each test sample are included in [Table 3.1](#). The methylene blue value of the crushed concrete samples varied from 2.5 to 40. This variability was even more pronounced when the modified methylene blue value was calculated. The modified

methylene blue value is the product of the percentage of material finer than the No. 200 sieve and

**Table 3.2. Specific Gravity, Absorption, Dry Rodded Unit Weight, and Percent Voids of CPCC Fines.**

Sample ID	Apparent Specific Gravity	Bulk Specific Gravity	Absorption (%)	Dry Rodded Unit Weight (lb/ft <sup>3</sup> )	% Voids
WB-A-1	2.62	2.11	9.28	87.18	33.7
WB-A-2	2.60	2.13	8.4	87.15	34.3
WB-A-3	2.63	2.19	7.64	86.73	36.4
WB-A-4	2.62	2.18	7.58	88.06	35.2
WB-A-5	2.64	2.19	7.78	86.58	36.5
WB-A-6	2.63	2.21	7.08	88.32	35.9
WB-A-7	2.62	2.17	7.87	87.29	35.4
WB-A-8	2.58	2.19	6.83	88.87	34.9
WB-B	2.64	2.22	7.14	88.52	36.0
WB-C	2.56	2.28	4.91	87.75	38.2
WB-D	2.63	2.23	6.81	88.17	36.5
WB-E	2.56	2.24	5.7	85.61	38.7
WB-F	2.58	2.38	3.24	88.92	40.0
WB-G	2.59	2.18	7.35	88.45	34.9
WB-H	2.63	2.21	7.17	98.49	28.5
SC-A	2.53	2.26	4.63	84.31	40.1
SC-B	2.52	2.23	5.15	85.63	38.4
SC-C	2.58	2.35	3.75	82.1	43.9
BC-A	2.58	2.01	10.95	77.74	37.9
BC-B	2.65	2.04	11.2	85.19	33.0
BC-C	2.67	2.19	8.24	87.62	35.8
BC-D	2.60	2.21	7.63	87.59	36.4
FM-A	2.64	2.13	9.1	84.09	36.6
FM-B	2.61	2.17	7.93	84.86	37.2
FM-C	2.64	2.17	8.11	83.45	38.3
FM-D	2.63	2.13	8.83	83.98	36.7
MS-A	2.61	2.25	6.09	93.42	33.4
MS-B	2.62	2.25	6.2	93.01	33.6
MS-C	2.61	2.26	5.96	93.11	33.9
MS-D	2.61	2.26	5.97	93.4	33.7

the methylene blue value. These methylene blue values, and modified methylene blue values, are considerably higher than that of typical concrete aggregates. A recent ICAR study found that most manufactured sands have methylene blue values below four with isolated materials having methylene blue values as high as 12. Certain crushed concrete samples had methylene blue values more than three times this value.

The methylene blue value varied from producer to producer. Typically, the Williams Brothers material had methylene blue values ranging from 10 to 20. Big City material had a slightly greater range but was also between 12 and 28. Materials from Southern Crushed Concrete and Frontera Materials had higher values ranging from 23 to 28 and 27 to 40, respectively. This increase could be due to either the type of material crushed in these operations or the soil conditions in the local areas.

## **Plasticity Index**

The primary interest of performing ASTM D 4318 was to determine the plasticity index of the crushed concrete fines. All samples were first tested for the plastic limit, thus eliminating the necessity to test all samples for the liquid limit. In all cases, it was impossible to determine the plastic limit of the crushed concrete fines. Therefore, all crushed concrete fines were classified as non-plastic. In addition, selected samples were evaluated for the liquid limit to classify the soils according to ASTM D 3398, “Standard Practice for Classification of Soils for Engineering Purposes (Unified Soil Classification System).” The liquid limit of all samples tested was well below 40. Therefore, all samples were classified as silty sand.

## **pH Measurements**

[Table 3.3](#) shows measured pH values for each test sample. The sample CL represents crushed limestone base material. As previously described, researchers performed the test for two sets of samples. The first tests measured pH values of dried samples, which consisted of every material passing the No. 40 sieve. The second set of samples was washed on the No. 200 sieve so as to investigate any impact of ultra fines on the alkalinity of the material. The weight portion

of materials passing the No. 200 sieve in each sample was measured after washing, and the values are also included in the table. The pH values shown in the table are the average of triple measurements for each single sample.

Test results indicate that the removal of ultra fines passing the No. 200 sieve reduced the pH of CPCC fines at about 7 percent. As expected, the pH value of manufactured sand didn't show changes before and after washing. The crushed limestone sample showed an increase of pH value after washing. It was also shown that the pH of laboratory washed WB and SC converges to the pH of MS before wash. It should be noted here that any environmental issues might not be addressed from this pH measurement. The pH values are simply the general comparisons of alkalinity of the materials. More specific studies on the concerns of leaching and contamination are needed for environmental considerations.

**Table 3.3. Results of pH Measurements.**

Sample ID	Average pH Measurements		% passing No. 200
	Before Wash	After Wash	
WB	10.1	9.4	13.9
SC	9.7	9.0	17.1
MS	8.9	8.8	1.9
CL	8.0	8.4	15.5

## Chemical Analysis

The results of the chemical analyses are shown in Tables 3.4 through 3.6. The total values of the RCRA metals for the CPCC fines are higher than that of the concrete sands. This indicates that the sand used in the concrete does not cause the presence of these metals in the CPCC fines. Table 3.6 shows the total levels and the mobility of the associated metals for samples BC-A and SC-A. These samples, chosen because of their lead contents, show that while a total value much higher than the detectability limit of the test may exist, the chemical mobility, according to the SPLP, is nearly always at or below the minimum amount that can be detected by the SPLP.

**Table 3.4. Results of RCRA Metals Totals for Virgin and Manufactured Sand Samples.**

**Table 3.5. Results RCRA Metals Totals Tests for WB and FM Samples.**

**Table 3.6. Results of RCRA Metals Totals and SPLP Tests for BC and SC Samples.**

Metal	BC-A Totals (mg/kg)	BC-A SPLP (mg/l)	SC-A Totals (mg/kg)	SC-A SPLP (mg/l)	Totals Reporting Limit (mg/kg)	SPLP Reporting Limit (mg/kg)
Arsenic	4.07	< 0.02	3.4	< 0.02	2	0.02
Barium	109	< 1	82.9	< 1	2	1
Cadmium	1.48	< 0.005	< 0.5	< 0.005	0.5	0.005
Chromium	19	0.0669	13.5	<0.05	1	0.05
Lead	59.9	< 0.01	20.5	< 0.01	1	0.01
Mercury	< 0.04	< 0.002	< 0.04	< 0.002	0.04	0.002
Selenium	1.11	< 0.05	1.1	< 0.05	1	0.05
Silver	< 2	< 0.1	< 2	< 0.1	2	0.1

## SUMMARY

Researchers performed aggregate characterization tests on materials from four crushed concrete producers located around the state of Texas. Thirty samples were tested for seven physical properties. Furthermore, chemical analyses using inductive couple plasma technology were performed on selected samples to test for levels of the eight RCRA metals.

The aggregate characterization program showed that a great deal of variability exists in crushed concrete material. Crushed concrete fines typically do not meet ASTM C 33 grading requirements and have absorption and methylene blue values much higher than those of typical concrete sands. Crushed concrete varies not only from producer to producer but also within a given stockpile. In cases where a number of samples are taken from the same section of a stockpile and thoroughly mixed, the material properties can vary considerably. This variation could be caused by a variety of factors, including, but not limited to, crushing method, type of concrete crushed, clays and soils introduced during the transportation process, and other contaminates, such as glass or gypsum from building construction.

The methylene blue values and modified methylene blue values of crushed concrete were much higher than those of virgin aggregates. Not only does crushed concrete have fines with a high methylene blue value, it also contains a substantial amount of them. These values are significantly higher than those of virgin aggregates and indicate that difficulties may be encountered, especially with regard to water demand, when using crushed concrete fines as aggregates in concrete mixtures.

The plastic limit of all samples of the crushed concrete fines could not be determined. Therefore, all samples of crushed concrete fines were classified as non-plastic. Furthermore, the liquid limit of the crushed concrete fines is well below 40. As a result, all crushed concrete fines are classified as silt sand based on the Unified Classification System.

The pH measurements showed high alkalinity of CPCC fines. Removal of ultra fine materials passing the No. 200 sieve helped to reduce the high alkalinity of CPCC fines. The alkalinity does not necessarily imply any negative impact on the environment. For the environmental considerations, more specific study is needed on contaminative leachate problems for applied mixtures.

CPCC fines were tested for the presence of RCRA metals through totals testing employing ICP technology. In addition, chemical mobility tests, performed following the SPLP procedure, were performed. The tests for RCRA total contents showed that the CPCC fines contain higher levels of RCRA metals than typical virgin and manufactured sands. However, when two samples were tested to assess these metals' ability to leach, the levels detected in 15 of the 16 cases were below the detectability limits of the test. These values are substantially lower than the present Environmental Protection Agency values for TCLP. Similar values for the SPLP test were unavailable to the researchers. In the single case where levels were detectable, they barely exceeded the detectability limits of the test. Thus, although measurable amounts of heavy metals may exist in CPCC fines, the leaching characteristics of these metals are more important than the presence of the metals in the sample.

## **CHAPTER 4. PAVING APPLICATIONS**

This chapter describes the laboratory test program performed to characterize mixture properties associated with selected paving applications: flexible base, cement treated base, and hot mix asphalt bond breaker. Applied test methods and the results of the tests are included. The test program for each application area was established with considerations of desired field performances with regard to the development of specifications.

### **FLEXIBLE BASE**

Flexible base is currently covered under TxDOT Item 247. The applicability of crushed concrete materials to flexible base mixtures was investigated through a laboratory test program. Flexible base mixtures consisting of 100 percent crushed concrete materials were characterized in terms of strength and durability. The mixture properties were compared with those of conventional crushed limestone aggregate base mixtures. Procedures of applied tests and findings from them are discussed below.

#### **Test Program**

Item 247 specifies five different classes of mixtures and corresponding requirements on the physical properties of aggregates and resulting mixtures. Mixtures of class 3 through class 5 are required to meet the grading and physical properties of aggregate criteria such as liquid limit (LL) and plastic index (PI) limits. In addition to these requirements, strength criteria are imposed for the mixtures of class 1 and class 2. Required minimum compressive strengths (Test Method Tex-117-E) are 35 to 45 psi without confining pressure and 175 psi with 15 psi of lateral confining pressure.

Preliminary tests on aggregates showed that the properties of crushed concrete materials meet the imposed requirements on the physical aggregate properties. These results may be interpreted such that recycled concrete materials can be used in any of the lower class flexible base mixtures as long as aggregate grading conforms to the specifications. However, further

investigations on the mixture properties, including strength, are required to assure the use of crushed concrete materials to all classes of flexible base mixtures. Another concern exists with respect to the durability of mixtures containing the highly absorptive crushed concrete materials. As a consequence, a test program has been designed to address the strength and durability of the mixtures. The test program relative to flexible base applications includes:

- Texas Triaxial Strength Test, and
- Tube Suction Test (TST).

The triaxial test is a standardized test (Test Method Tex-117-E) to evaluate the performance of flexible base mixtures in terms of strength. The tube suction test is a simplified method for estimating a mixture's moisture susceptibility. A standard test method for TST does not yet exist, and the test method recommended by Scullion and Saarenketo <sup>(37)</sup> was employed in this project. TST gives a relative property on the moisture-related durability of mixtures with simple measurements of dielectric values at the surface of the test sample. Detailed descriptions on tests and corresponding results are given in the following sections.

## **Test Variable**

Researchers selected only one variable, the content of soil binders (passing No. 40 materials), for the test of mixtures for flexible base application. The main objective of the tests was to investigate the general engineering properties of base mixtures consisting of crushed concrete materials. Since crushed concrete materials are known to be highly variable in aggregate quality, the variability in a given field condition was considered in determining the test variable.

Field variability for a given stockpile would be mainly manifested by the localized variations in aggregate proportion and size distribution. Contents of materials passing the No. 40 and No. 200 sieves particularly affect the resulting properties of a mixture. Preliminary studies on size distribution of crushed concrete materials showed that there is a proportional relation between the contents of these size fractions. Based on these observations, the content of materials passing the No. 40 sieve was selected as a test variable.

Two levels of passing No. 40 materials' contents were applied for each aggregate source (crushed concrete and crushed limestone). The application levels were selected within the ranges found from the measured size distribution. Applied low and high levels were 22 and 42 percent, respectively, of total aggregate by weight. This combination results in four different test mixes in total, as shown in [Table 4.1](#).

**Table 4.1. Test Mix Combinations for Flexible Base Mixtures.**

<b>Designation</b>	<b>Test Variables</b>	
	<b>Aggregate Source</b>	<b>Level of Passing No. 40</b>
1. RC-Fine Mix	Recycled Concrete (RC)	High (42%)
2. RC-Coarse Mix		Low (22%)
3. CL-Fine Mix	Crushed Limestone(CL)	High (42%)
4. CL-coarse Mix		Low (22%)

## Materials

Test mixtures for flexible base applications contained 100 percent recycled concrete materials, including from the 1-3/4 inches to –No. 200 materials. Conventional crushed limestone base mixtures with the same aggregate size were also tested for comparison. The [previous chapter](#) presented relevant aggregate properties. Aggregates coarser than 1-3/4 inches were sieved out from raw materials in order to facilitate making laboratory size test samples.

## Aggregate Proportioning

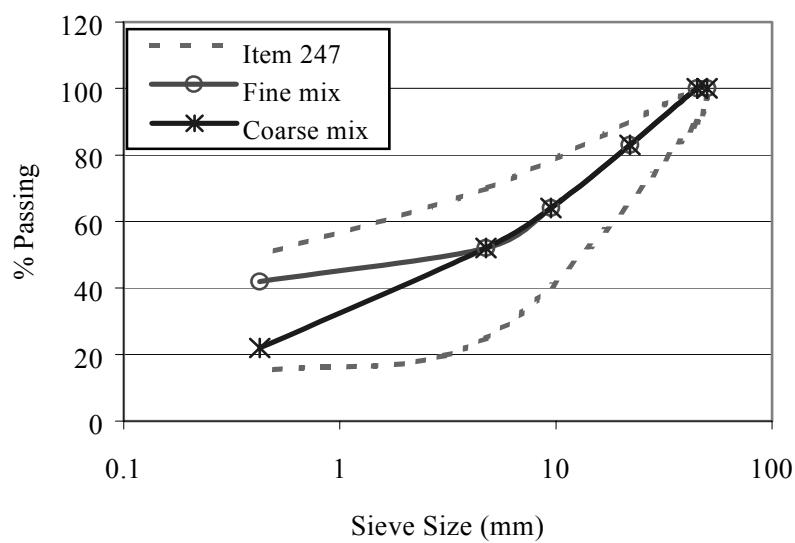
Aggregate gradations for test mixes conform to the grading requirements for Item 247. Proportions of each size of aggregate were kept constant, except fine materials passing the No. 40 sieve. [Table 4.2](#) shows aggregate mix proportioning of the test mixes. Corresponding gradation curves are given with the ranges of specifications in [Figure 4.1](#).

## Moisture Content

Optimum moisture contents (OMC) of test mixes were determined according to Test Method Tex-113-E. Determined OMC and corresponding maximum dry density for each test mix are shown in [Table 4.3](#). All test samples were molded at relevant OMC as their target molding moisture contents.

**Table 4.2. Aggregate Gradations for Flexible Base Test Mixes.**

Sieve	Size (mm)	Percent Passing	
		Fine Mix	Coarse Mix
1.75	45	100	100
3/4	19	83	83
3/8	9.5	64	64
No. 4	4.75	52	52
No. 40	0.425	42	22



**Figure 4.1. Aggregate Gradation for Flexible Base Test Mixes.**

**Table 4.3. Determined OMC and Maximum Dry Density for Each Flexible Base Test Mix.**

Aggregate	Mix	OMC (%)	Max. Dry Density (lb/inch <sup>3</sup> )
Recycled Concrete	1. RC Fine Mix	11.0	131.2
	2. RC Coarse Mix	10.5	132.5
Crushed Limestone	3. CL Fine Mix	7.0	142.7
	4. CL Coarse Mix	6.5	143.0

### Texas Triaxial Test

Triaxial strength tests were conducted according to the accelerated method (Tex-117-E, Part II). Six 6×8-inch cylinder samples were prepared for each of four test mix combinations (see [Table 4.1](#)). For each test mix, three samples were tested without lateral pressure, and the other three were tested with 15 psi of lateral confining pressure. Samples are molded in accordance with Test Method Tex-113-E. It was intended to mold the samples at the OMC and maximum density of each mix. Sample density was measured right after molding, and the moisture content was measured with a broken sample after the test. [Table 4.4](#) shows the measured average sample moisture content and density of each test mix with targeted OMC and maximum density. While the measured sample densities are close to the intended values, moisture contents show some difference between target value and molded samples. From the sample density measurements, it can be assumed that the samples were molded at or near target molding moisture condition. The difference in moisture contents can be explained by the moisture migration that occurred during the process of sample preparation. The test procedure requires samples to be subjected overnight to moisture capillarity before testing. During this process, samples soak up water through porous stone, and the sample moisture content at testing could be higher than OMC. The increase of moisture content will depend on the material and structure of the mixture. The results shown in [Table 4.4](#) indicate that mixtures including recycled concrete materials with high fine content are most absorptive. In general, recycled concrete mixtures are more absorptive than crushed limestone mixtures, and, as expected, the higher the fine contents the more absorptive the mixture regardless of the type of aggregate.

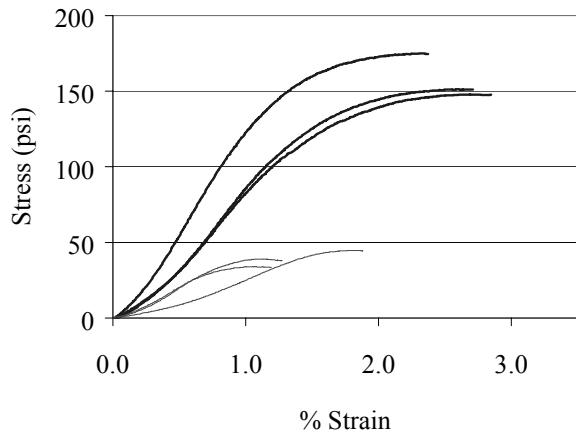
**Table 4.4. Moisture Content and Density of Triaxial Test Samples.**

Mix ID	Moisture Content (%)		Density (lb/inch <sup>3</sup> )	
	OMC	Sample	Max. Density	Sample
1. RC Fine	11.0	13.2	131.2	129.9
2. RC Coarse	10.5	11.4	132.5	131.7
3. CL Fine	7.0	7.6	142.7	143.0
4. CL Coarse	6.5	6.4	143.0	142.4

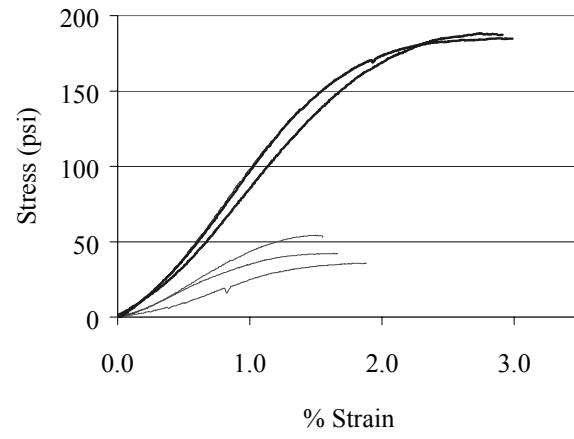
### *Test Results and Discussion*

Figure 4.2 shows the resulting stress-strain relationships of all test samples. It can be seen that, for the same mix proportioning, recycled concrete mixes have about 50 percent higher strength than crushed limestone mixtures. The initial tangent modulus of recycled concrete mixture is also shown to be about twice higher than conventional. The higher angularity of recycled concrete materials seems to overcome possible weaknesses from a higher moisture content of the mixtures. It should be also noted that recycled concrete mixes had greater moisture increase during the overnight capillarity (see Table 4.4). It can be interpreted from this observation such that the recycled concrete base mixture is not as highly moisture susceptible as suggested by the absorptive test results, at least under the triaxial test loading conditions.

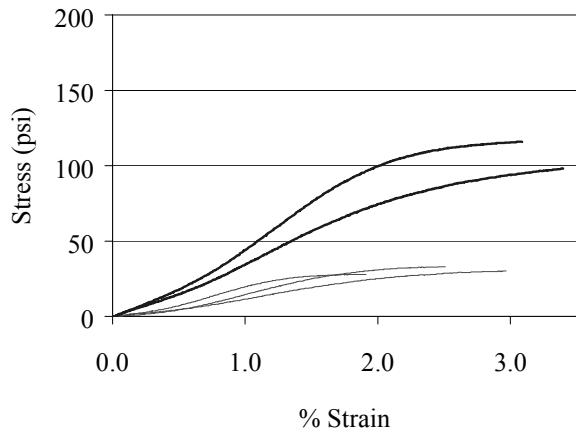
Figure 4.3 shows Mohr-Coulomb failure envelopes for all test samples. For each test mix, failure envelopes are drawn tangent to the minimum and maximum stress circles and vice versa in order to show their range. Using this failure envelope, the triaxial class for each test mix is evaluated according to the test chart in Test Method Tex-117-E. A summary of triaxial test results is presented in Table 4.5. It was shown that the use of crushed concrete materials induces higher internal friction in the mixture. Internal friction angles of crushed concrete mixtures were always estimated to be higher than those of crushed limestone mixtures. A small difference was observed in the average cohesion of each test mixture, while crushed concrete mixtures showed a little greater upper limit.



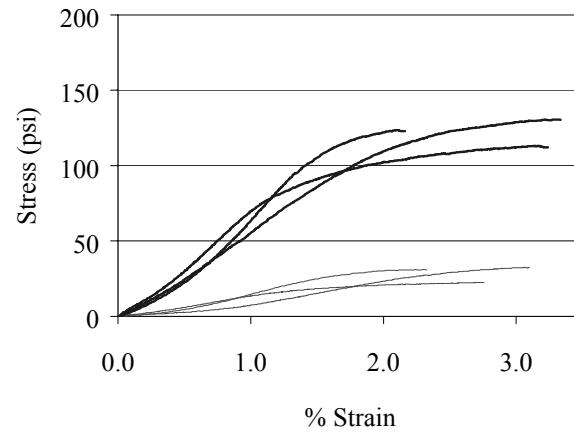
**(a) Mix 1, RC Fine**



**(b) Mix 2, RC Coarse**



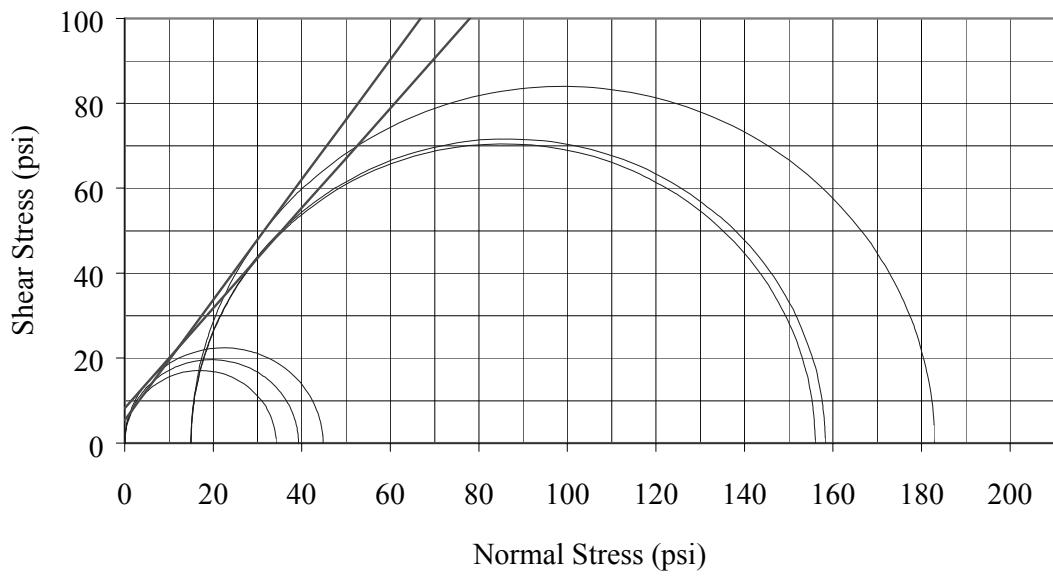
**(c) Mix 3, CL Fine**



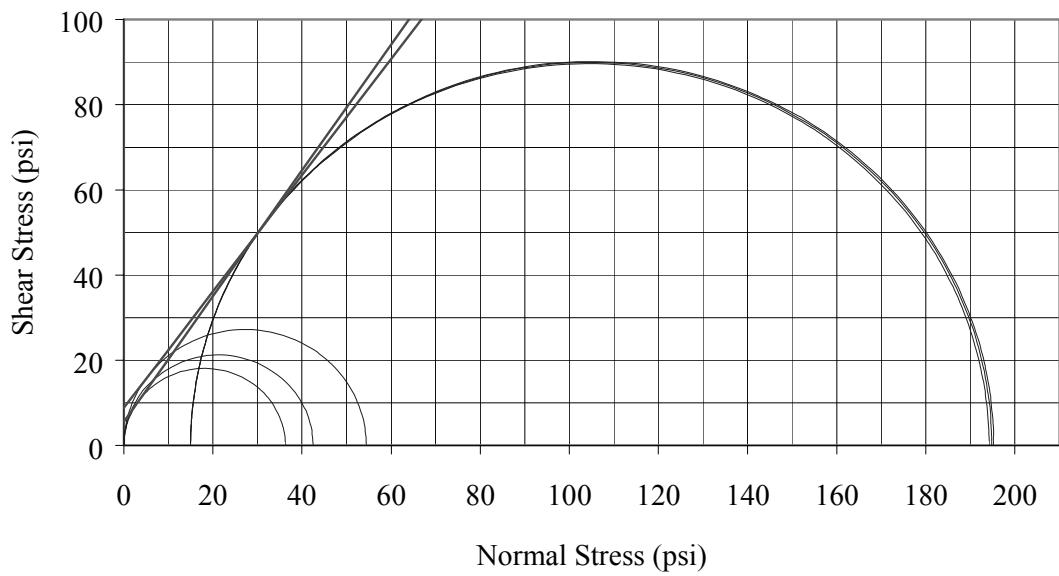
**(d) Mix 4, CL Coarse**

with 15 psi lateral pressure	without lateral pressure
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**Figure 4.2. Stress-Strain Relations of Flexible Base Test Mixtures.**

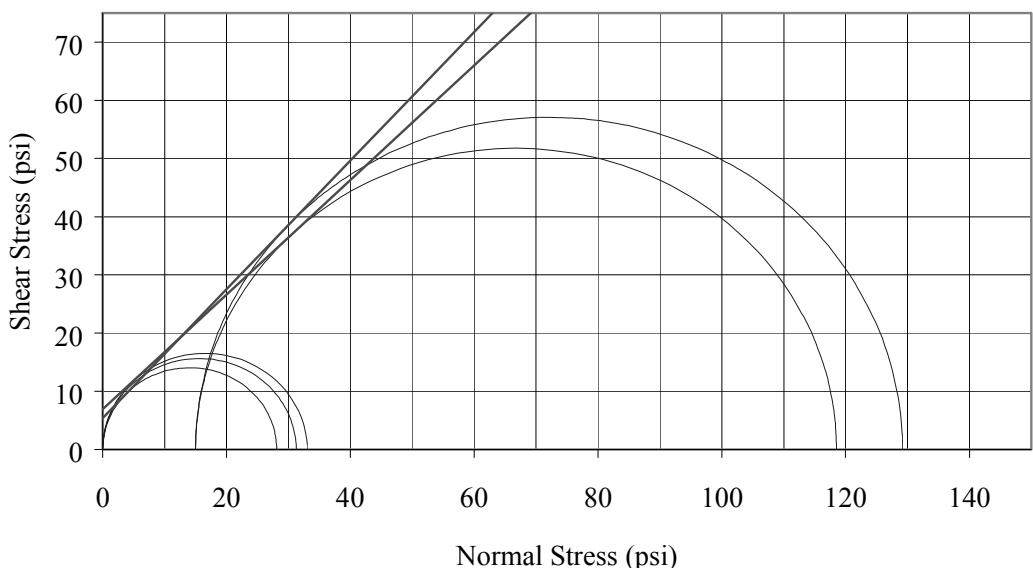


(a) Mix 1, RC Fine

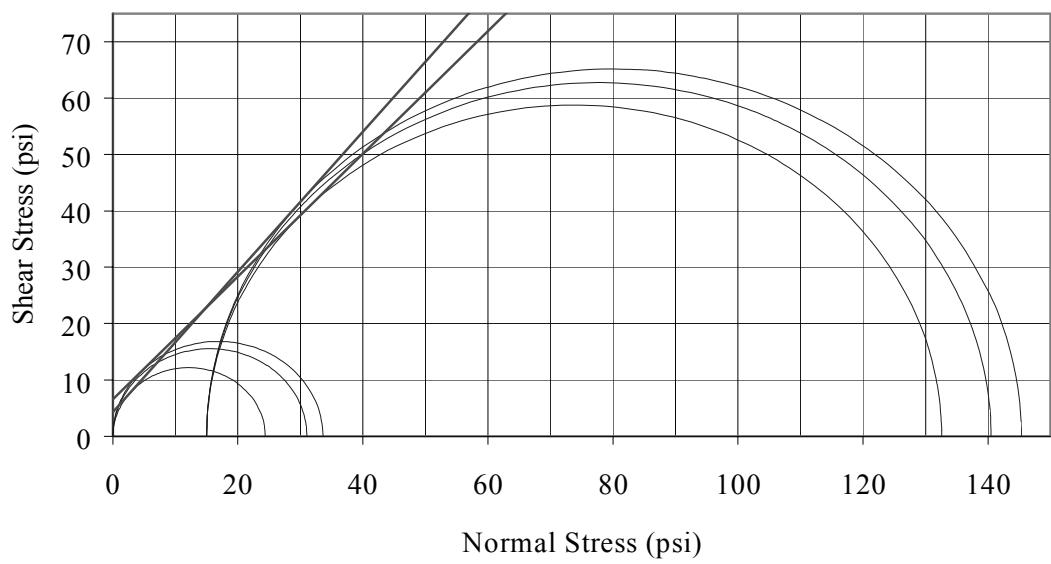


(b) Mix 2, RC Coarse

**Figure 4.3. Mohr-Coulomb Failure Envelope for Flexible Base Test Mixtures.**



(c) Mix 3, CL Fine



(d) Mix 4, CL Coarse

Figure 4.3. Mohr-Coulomb Failure Envelope for Flexible Base Test Mixtures (continued).

**Table 4.5. Summary of Triaxial Test Results.**

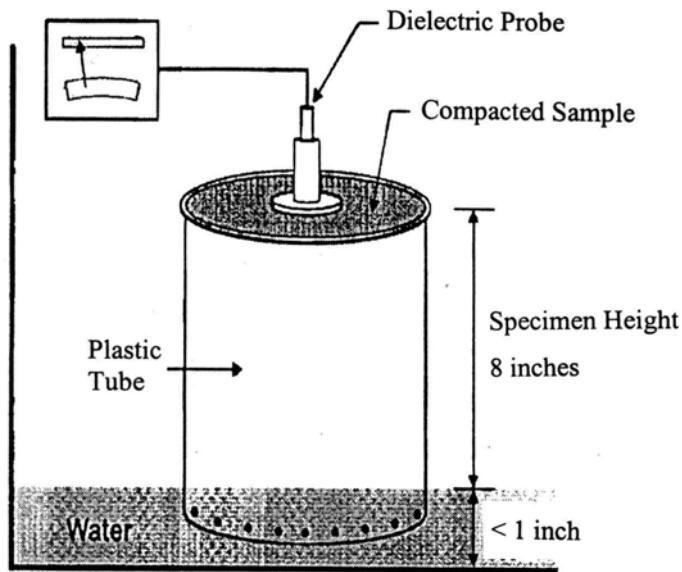
		Mix ID			
		1. RC Fine	2. RC Coarse	3. CL Fine	4. CL Coarse
Normal Strength (psi)	$\sigma_3^*$ = 0 psi	39.4	44.4	30.8	29.4
	$\sigma_3$ = 15 psi	165.7	194.8	123.9	139.5
Shear Strength (psi)	$\sigma_3$ = 0 psi	19.7	21.2	15.4	14.8
	$\sigma_3$ = 15 psi	75.3	89.9	54.5	62.2
Cohesion (psi)		5.4-8.2	5.6-8.9	5.4-6.9	4.3-6.5
Internal Friction Angle (deg)		49.7-54.8	53.7-55.9	44.5-47.9	47.4-51.2
Triaxial Class		2.6-2.7	2.2-2.5	3.1-3.2	3.0-3.1

\*  $\sigma_3$  = Lateral Confining Pressure

Listed normal and shear strengths are the average value of three samples for each test mix. Note that the minimum requirements for normal strength in the TxDOT specifications are 35 psi without lateral confining pressure and 175 psi with 15 psi confining pressure. Test results indicate that the strength of recycled concrete mixtures satisfy, for the most part, these requirements. Referring to [Figure 4.3](#), measured compressive strength of all six samples for test mix #2 (coarse mix with crushed concrete) exceeded these requirements. The test results indicate that crushed concrete materials can be applied to any specified flexible base mix under the current specifications with proper selection of mix proportioning. On the other hand, crushed limestone used in this project is not suitable for class 1 or class 2 applications.

### Tube Suction Test

A test set up for the tube suction test is illustrated in [Figure 4.4](#). Because a standard test method is not yet available, the test method recommended by Scullion and Saarenketo was applied in this project, with a small modification.<sup>(37)</sup> TST involves monitoring of dielectric values at the surface of a cylinder sample that is partly submerged at the bottom. The surface dielectric value normally increases with time due to capillary rise. The rate of increase and its



**Figure 4.4. Test Set-Up for Tube Suction Test.**

ultimate value reflect the water-affinity of the material as well as the pore structure of the mixture. A fast and high increase of the surface dielectric indicates that the mixture quickly absorbs much water. The dielectric itself is the measure of the free, unbound water in the sample. It is common sense that excessive free water is responsible for poor field performance of the base layer under traffic loads or freeze-thaw cycling. Therefore, it may be interpreted that mixtures showing a larger variance of surface dielectric are more likely to be moisture susceptible than mixtures in stable dielectric readings with time. However, a quantitative relationship between surface dielectric and field performance is not yet available. An experimental study found that materials showing large changes in surface dielectric also had poor field performance properties, as measured by their resilient modulus and permanent deformation behavior <sup>(38)</sup>. The proposed criteria are based on experimental results such that, for flexible base mixtures, the allowable limit of surface dielectric is 10, and the failure limit is 16. It has been recommended that materials exceeding the failure limit should be considered for chemical stabilization. Materials in between allowable and failure limits could be accepted for unbound base layer applications, but they may not perform well under heavy traffic loads, especially in areas that are subject to freeze-thaw cycling.

However, it should be noted that recycled concrete materials were not included in the experiments. Therefore, the proposed criteria may not be relevant for the mixtures containing recycled concrete materials.

Samples were compacted in accordance with test method Tex-113-E in a  $\phi 6H8$ -inch plastic cylinder mold, which is normally used for making concrete cylinders. Four cylinders, one for each test mix, were prepared with the same mix design that was used for the triaxial tests. It was intended to mold the samples at the optimum moisture content. The bottom of the mold is closed, and a series of small diameter holes are drilled around the side, near the bottom. Water flows into the sample through these holes. Compacted cylinder molds were dried in a 104°F room for 3 days, and then the initial moisture content was checked by weight change from the time of molding, assuming the samples were molded exactly at OMC. Drying is allowed only through the top surface of the mold. Afterwards, the samples were placed in a pan containing water of at most a 1-inch depth. Capillary rise in the sample was monitored for 10 days at the top surface with a dielectric probe. The final moisture contents of samples were measured after the tests.

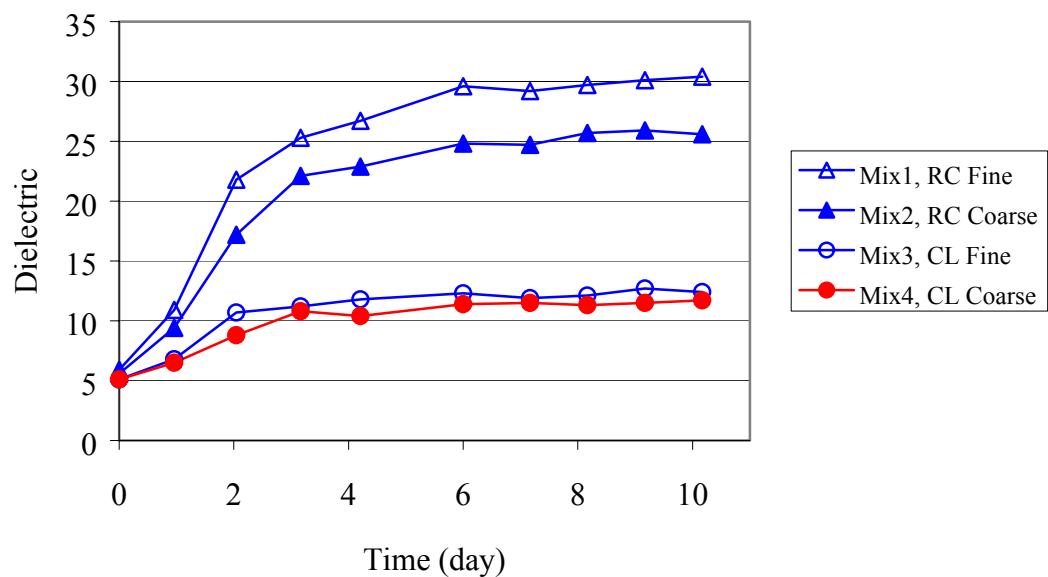
### *Test Results and Discussion*

Results of the tests are summarized in [Table 4.6](#). The initial dielectric was measured right after the dried samples were put into the water container. The final value was measured at the end of 10 days of monitoring. Transient dielectric values between the initial and final state are shown in [Figure 4.5](#). Recall that the proposed criteria for the final surface dielectric are 10 for the allowable limit and 16 for the failure limit <sup>(38)</sup>. Under these criteria, recycled concrete mixtures are not suitable for unbound flexible base applications. However, as previously noted, the proposed criteria are not directly applicable to recycled concrete materials. Consideration needs to be given to shape and texture characteristics.

The triaxial test results described in the previous section indicate that higher moisture requirements over the OMC would not be very detrimental to the strength properties of crushed concrete mixtures. An interesting result was obtained from a recent study conducted at the Texas Transportation Institute <sup>(39)</sup>. In that study, unconfined compressive strengths of recycled concrete mixtures were determined before and after TST. TST resulted in 30.9 as the final dielectric and

**Table 4.6. Results of Tube Suction Tests on Flexible Base Test Mixtures.**

Mix ID	Dielectric Measurements		Sample Moisture Content (%)		
	Initial	Final	OMC	Initial (% of OMC)	Final (% of OMC)
1. RC Fine	5.9	30.4	11.0	8.7 (79.1)	13.5 (122.7)
2. RC Coarse	5.8	25.6	10.5	8.5 (81.0)	13.1 (124.8)
3. CL Fine	5.1	12.4	7.0	5.4 (77.1)	6.8 (97.1)
4. CL Coarse	5.1	11.7	6.5	5.3 (81.5)	6.2 (95.4)



**Figure 4.5. Results of Tube Suction Tests on Flexible Base Test Mixtures.**

about a 15 percent increase of sample moisture content compared to the OMC. Interestingly, however, the sample after TST showed 37 percent higher strength than before TST. More study is needed on the development of performance criteria for recycled concrete materials with respect to the surface dielectric measurements.

Also included in [Table 4.6](#) is the change of sample moisture contents during the tests. The initial moisture content is estimated by the weight of the dried sample. All mixtures showed, after the 3 days of the drying process, about a 20 percent reduction in moisture content compared to OMC, although recycled concrete mixtures had greater net change in sample weight. The final moisture content was directly measured from the sample after testing. As expected, recycled concrete materials are shown to be highly absorptive. While the capillary rise in crushed limestone resulted in moisture recovery close to the initial moisture content, recycled concrete mixtures continued to soak up water beyond the initial condition. Measured moisture contents of recycled concrete samples were more than 20 percent higher than OMC.

## Summary

Researchers examined the feasibility of using crushed concrete materials in flexible base mixtures (Item 247) through selected laboratory tests. Mixtures consisting of crushed concrete materials were characterized by the Texas triaxial test and tube suction test for the properties related respectively to strength and moisture susceptibility. Two different mixture gradations, fine and coarse, were determined so as to produce test mixtures containing 42 percent and 22 percent of materials passing the No. 40 sieve, respectively. The mixture properties were compared to those of conventional crushed limestone base mixtures. All test mixtures were compacted at the optimum moisture content. The absorptive nature of crushed concrete materials required 50 percent higher moisture content to reach OMC.

The strength of crushed concrete mixtures satisfied, for the most part, the strength requirements of Item 247. Crushed concrete mixtures always showed higher strength than conventional limestone mixtures, regardless of the higher moisture content. The moisture content of crushed concrete mixture samples increased from 10 to 20 percent of OMC during the overnight capillary rise before testing, while limestone mixture samples showed less than a 10 percent increase relative to OMC. Higher angularity of crushed concrete materials resulted in

a higher friction angle of the mixture. The triaxial class of crushed concrete mixtures was determined in the range of 2.2 to 2.7. Although the range is not very wide, coarse mixtures showed a lower triaxial class at which the mixture can be expected to have better performance in terms of strength.

It was shown again by TST that the use of crushed concrete materials results in highly absorptive mixtures. Based on the dielectric measurements, crushed concrete mixtures failed to meet the currently accepted failure criteria of moisture susceptibility for flexible base materials. However, the criteria did not cover crushed concrete materials when they were proposed. The triaxial test results indicated that crushed concrete mixtures are as highly moisture susceptible as suggested by the absorptive properties. More study is recommended to develop performance criteria for crushed concrete flexible base mixtures with respect to the moisture susceptibility, especially under the repeated loading condition.

## **CEMENT TREATED BASE**

Literature and existing practical experience indicate that cement treated base is one of the most promising applications for the use of recycled concrete materials in the paving area. CTB is currently covered under TxDOT Item 276. Researchers investigated the applicability of crushed concrete materials to CTB through a laboratory test program.

### **Test Program**

The effect of cement hardening is expected to compensate the possible weakness in terms of durability, which may result from the use of recycled concrete materials. On the other hand, cement treatment may aggravate drying shrinkage of the mixture and cause a concern for the early age shrinkage cracking in the layer. The growth of shrinkage cracks to unacceptable wide ones may bring a premature failure of a pavement structure. Therefore, the main focus in CTB applications particularly points to the drying shrinkage and shrinkage cracking behavior of the mixtures. Relevant aggregate and mixture properties were evaluated through a laboratory test program. One more concern of CTB application is moisture-related durability of applied mixtures. Some experiences have indicated that moisture ingress or cycling in the CTB layer

may cause significant loss of serviceability of the pavement structure. Like the flexible base mixtures, the tube suction test was performed on the CTB test mixtures. The test program in the study of CTB applications includes:

- tests for compressive strength and elastic modulus,
- free shrinkage measurements,
- stress relaxation tests,
- restrained shrinkage ring tests, and
- tube suction tests.

Measurements of elastic properties and linear free shrinkage provide parameters associated with material behavior for predicting shrinkage cracking of CTB mixtures. Free shrinkage represents a mixture's tendency to shrink when it is drying. When a CTB layer is restrained against the free shrinkage, shrinkage strain and stress develop. The degree of stress development under a given strain condition depends on the stiffness of the material. When the developed stress becomes greater than the material's resistance to cracking, the shrinkage crack will start to propagate. It should be noted that shrinkage cracking is time dependent. The strength increases with time so that the probability of cracking reduces. On the other hand, the modulus of elasticity also increases with time so that the stress at a given strain becomes larger. Furthermore, stress relaxation occurs under the sustained action of restrained shrinkage, and it is especially significant at the early ages of cement based mixtures. These time dependent material properties were evaluated for both crushed concrete and crushed limestone test mixtures and compared to each other so as to estimate the shrinkage cracking potential of the CTB mixtures.

## Test Variables

It was intended to include as many parameters as possible that are anticipated to have large effects on the produced mixture behavior. Within the limitations of resources, researchers selected the following three mix parameters as test variables. These variables are expected to be the most influencing parameters on the mixture behavior:

- fraction of coarse aggregate (remaining No. 4 sieve) to total aggregate by weight,
- fraction of fines (passing No. 200 sieve) to total aggregate by weight, and
- cement content by weight of total aggregate.

Two different application levels are provided relative to each mix variable in accordance with a two-level, three-variable factorial ( $2^3$ ) design in formulating the material proportioning of test mixtures. [Table 4.7](#) shows the selected application level for each mix variable. They are selected so as to cover the practical range of field variations for each variable. This experimental design results in eight factorials for each aggregate source, as shown in [Table 4.8](#).

**Table 4.7. Test Variables and Application Levels for CTB Test Mix Design.**

Test Variable	Designation	Low Level (-)	High Level (+)
% Coarse Aggregate (+No. 4 Sieve)	CA	48% *	58%
% Fines Passing No. 200 Sieve	F	5%	10%
Cement Content	C	4%	8%

\* Fractions are in weights

**Table 4.8. Complete Factorial of CTB Test Mixtures.**

Mix ID <sup>(1)</sup>	Test Variables and Their Application Levels <sup>(2)</sup>		
	CA	F	C
1	-	-	-
2	+	-	-
3	-	+	-
4	+	+	-
5	-	-	+
6	+	-	+
7	-	+	+
8	+	+	+

(1) A two-letter code, RA or CL precedes the numeric ID that represents mixtures including recycled crushed concrete or conventional crushed limestone material, respectively (e.g., RA-1 or CL-3).

(2) -: Low level of application, +: High level of application (refer to [Table 4.7](#))

## Materials

Crushed concrete base materials taken from the Williams Brothers stockpile 1 were used throughout the test program for CTB mixtures. This material includes all particles from 2 inches to the minus No. 200 sieve. [Table 4.9](#) shows basic aggregate properties of this material. These material properties are the average value of three to five replications. They were determined by separate aggregate tests other than the tests described in the [Chapter 3](#). The materials used in CTB applications contained fewer fines passing the No. 200 sieve compared to the materials used in the aggregate characterization program.

For comparison purposes, conventional crushed limestone base materials were also utilized throughout the test program. These materials were obtained from an aggregate supplier in Houston. [Table 4.10](#) shows aggregate properties of applied crushed limestone base material. Due to the geometric limitations of laboratory samples, the maximum aggregate size was limited to 3/4 inches throughout the test program. Type I portland cement was added to the aggregate mixtures according to the selected test mix design. Distilled water was used as mixing water.

**Table 4.9. Aggregate Properties of Crushed Concrete Applied to the Tests on CTB Mixtures.**

Aggregate Size	Specific Gravity			Absorption (%)	Minus No. 200 Material Content (%)
	Dry	SSD	Apparent		
Coarse; +No. 4	2.249 <sup>(1)</sup> (0.019) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.381 (0.011)	2.590 (0.005)	5.847 (0.388)	N/A
Fine; -No. 4	2.295 (0.027)	2.363 (0.013)	2.457 (0.001)	2.950 (0.636)	6.99 (0.564)

(1): average value of three to five replications

(2): standard deviation

**Table 4.10. Aggregate Properties of Crushed Limestone Base Materials.**

Aggregate Size	Specific Gravity			Absorption (%)	Minus No. 200 Material Content (%)
	Dry	SSD	Apparent		
Coarse; +No. 4	2.415 <sup>(1)</sup> (0.008) <sup>(2)</sup>	2.507 (0.004)	2.660 (0.010)	3.802 (0.257)	N/A
Fine; -No. 4	2.386 (0.017)	2.477 (0.009)	2.542 (0.007)	2.357 (0.541)	18.45 (1.770)

(1): average value of three to five replications

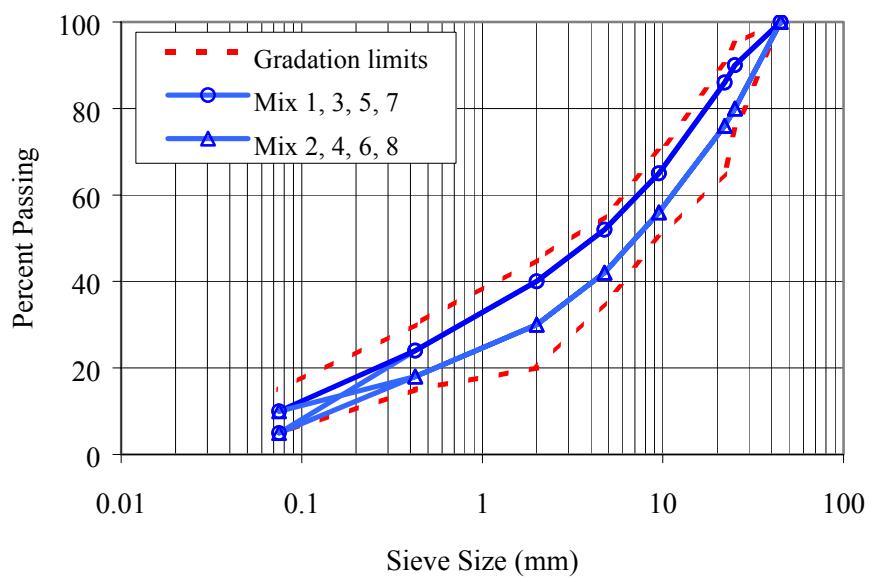
(2): standard deviation

## Aggregate Proportioning

Aggregate gradations for test mixes conform to the grading requirements for Grade 1 of TxDOT Item 247 as well as Type I-B in ASTM D 1241. It was intended for the gradation limits to meet both standard requirements. [Table 4.11](#) shows the determined aggregate mix proportioning of test mixes. Corresponding gradation curves are given in [Figure 4.6](#) with the limit curves. All bulk aggregate samples were sieved down to each size and re-mixed so as to satisfy the determined test gradations. Note that the maximum aggregate size for test specimens was reduced to 3/4 inches. Proportions of coarse aggregates were accordingly adjusted within

**Table 4.11. Aggregate Gradations for CTB Test Mixtures.**

Sieve	Size (mm)	Percent Passing			
		Mix 1, 5	Mix 3, 7	Mix 2, 6	Mix 4, 8
1.75	45	100	100	100	100
1	25	90	90	80	80
3/4	19	86	86	76	76
3/8	9.5	65	65	56	56
No. 4	4.75	52	52	42	42
No. 10	2	40	40	30	30
No. 40	0.425	24	24	18	18
No. 200	0.075	5	10	5	10



**Figure 4.6. Aggregate Gradation Curves for CTB Test Mixes.**

determined mix proportions. The portion of aggregates greater than 3/4 inches was evenly distributed to the portions of aggregates remaining from 3/8 inches and No. 4 sieves.

## Moisture Content

Moisture content is also one of the significant influencing factors on mixture performance. However, inclusion of moisture content into mix variables will induce unnecessarily large numbers of test mix cases. To be consistent with field conditions where granular base or CTB courses are mixed and placed at OMC with controlled density, it was intended to mold all test mixtures with moisture content fixed at OMC. Therefore, OMC for each of 16 test mixtures (eight mixtures for each aggregate source) was determined in accordance with ASTM D 558, “Moisture-Density Relations of Soil-Cement Mixtures.” [Table 4.12](#) represents the obtained OMC and maximum dry density of the 16 test mixtures.

The results listed in [Table 4.12](#) indicate that OMC and maximum density are mainly dictated by the coarse aggregates proportion (mixes 1, 3, 5, 7 vs. mixes 2, 4, 6, 8) rather than the other two test variables. With this observation, the results of OMC tests are re-summarized in [Table 4.13](#) with respect to the mixture characteristics between fine and coarse gradations. The difference of OMC between fine and coarse mixtures is about 0.5 percent of total moisture content. Due to the high absorption, OMC of recycled crushed concrete mixtures are much higher than that of conventional crushed limestone base mixtures. It is noteworthy that for crushed concrete mixtures, the coarse mixtures require larger amounts of water to reach OMC than the fine mixtures. The opposite is the case for crushed limestone mixtures. Referring to [Table 4.9](#) and [4.10](#), relatively high fine contents and low absorption of coarse aggregates in crushed limestone materials might be the cause of this observation.

The maximum density does not show significant difference between fine and coarse mixtures for the same aggregate source. The difference is, in fact, statistically insignificant. But the mixture density of two different materials showed substantial difference due to the bulk specific gravity of each aggregate source.

Molding moisture contents of the samples for further tests are determined based on the OMC of each mixture. The moisture content of all test specimens was applied at a slightly lower level than OMC for each mix. Selected molding moisture content for each test mix is shown in the last column of [Table 4.13](#).

**Table 4.12. Obtained Optimum Moisture Content (OMC) for Each CTB Test Mixture.**

Mix ID	Crushed Concrete (RA)			Crushed Limestone (CL)		
	OMC (%)	$\gamma_{d\text{-max}}$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	$\gamma_{d\text{-max}}$ (pcf)	OMC (%)	$\gamma_{d\text{-max}}$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	$\gamma_{d\text{-max}}$ (pcf)
1	10.7	2.151	134.3	7.2	2.330	145.5
2	11.2	2.142	133.7	6.4	2.319	144.8
3	10.7	2.151	134.3	7.1	2.321	144.9
4	11.1	2.138	133.5	6.7	2.318	144.7
5	10.8	2.153	134.4	7.3	2.328	145.3
6	11.1	2.145	133.9	6.7	2.316	144.6
7	10.8	2.147	134.0	7.3	2.320	144.8
8	11.3	2.141	133.7	6.8	2.316	144.6

**Table 4.13. Observed OMC with Respect to the Mix Characteristics and Selected Molding Moisture Contents for Test Mixtures.**

Aggregate	Mix	OMC (%)		Max. Dry Density (pcf)		Selected Molding Moisture Content
		Mean	SD *	Mean	SD	
Crushed Concrete (RA)	Fine Mixes (Mix 1,3,5,7)	10.75	0.058	121.5	0.418	10.5
	Coarse Mixes (Mix 2,4,6,8)	11.18	0.096	121.3	0.479	11.0
Crushed Limestone (CL)	Fine Mixes (Mix 1,3,5,7)	7.23	0.096	134.8	0.312	7.0
	Coarse Mixes (Mix 2,4,6,8)	6.65	0.173	133.7	0.417	6.5

\* SD: Standard Deviation

## Uniaxial Compression

The compressive strength and elastic modulus of test mixtures were determined under uniaxial compression. The applied test method referred to ASTM D 1633, “Test Method for Compressive Strength of Molded Soil-Cement Cylinders”; ASTM C 39, “Test Method for Compressive Strength of Cylindrical Concrete Specimen”; and ASTM C 469, “Test Method for Static Modulus of Elasticity and Poisson’s Ratio of Concrete in Compression”. However, Poisson’s ratio was not measured. Cylinder specimens ( $\phi 4 \times 8$  inch) were used for the tests. Cylinders were compacted in accordance with ASTM D 1632, “Practice for Making and Curing Soil-Cement Compression and Flexure Test Specimens in the Laboratory”. To measure the axial deformation in the specimen, three Linear Variable Differential Transducer (LVDTs) with a 4-inch gage length were installed in axial direction at the middle of the cylinder. A servo-hydraulic type MTS machine was used throughout the tests. Constant rate compressive loading was applied to samples by moving the cross head of the testing machine at a rate of 0.05 inches per minute. [Figure 4.7](#) shows the test set up. Samples were tested at four different ages after 1, 3, 7, and 28 days of curing at moisture room (77°F, 100%RH). At least three replications were made for each test case.



**Figure 4.7. Configuration for Uniaxial Compression Tests.**

## *Compressive Strength*

**Table 4.14** shows average compressive strengths of all specimens tested at different curing times. The compressive strength of crushed concrete mixtures are 15 to 50 percent lower than that of crushed limestone mixtures having the same mix proportioning and age. In general more than 30 percent lower strength was observed for crushed concrete mixtures. Specification Item 276 requires minimum design strength of CTB mixtures as 400 to 500 psi at 7 days. Test results indicate that crushed concrete mixtures would satisfy the strength requirements when the mixture is properly designed, especially for cement content.

**Table 4.14. Average Compressive Strength of CTB Samples at Different Curing Times.**

Aggregate	Mix ID	Compressive Strength @ Different Ages (psi)			
		1 day	3 days	7 days	28 days
Crushed Concrete (RA)	1	257.8	243.8	397.4	603.7 <sup>(1)</sup>
	2	195.0	282.2	455.0	646.6 <sup>(1)</sup>
	3	257.7	286.3	454.5	550.8 <sup>(1)</sup>
	4	208.2	400.2 <sup>(2)</sup>	398.8	527.4 <sup>(3)</sup>
	5	290.3	534.6	759.8 <sup>(4)</sup>	1070.3
	6	345.1	647.3	886.6	1220.5
	7	289.1	N/A	797.0	963.0
	8	395.9	676.5 <sup>(5)</sup>	819.6	908.6
Crushed Limestone (CL)	1	378.9	524.3	630.6	1012.1
	2	318.1	490.0	519.7	556.9
	3	474.2 <sup>(6)</sup>	598.7	508.3	908.5 <sup>(7)</sup>
	4	278.7	543.8 <sup>(5)</sup>	461.4	734.2 <sup>(8)</sup>
	5	630.7	1083.8	1221.1	1709.5
	6	606.8	988.4	1224.0	1319.3
	7	648.0	1224.3	1501.7 <sup>(4)</sup>	1556.5
	8	550.5	921.7 <sup>(5)</sup>	1190.4	1292.8

(1) Tested at 34 days; (2) Tested at 5 days; (3) Tested at 33 days; (4) Tested at 8 days

(5) Tested at 4 days; (6) Tested at 2 days; (7) Tested at 29 days; (8) Tested at 30 days

To investigate the effects of test variables on strength development, comparisons were made for each variable between the average 28 day strengths of mixtures having low and high contents of the variable. [Figure 4.8](#) shows the comparisons made for both crushed concrete mixtures and crushed limestone mixtures. The first two bars adhering in the left of [Figure 4.8 \(a\)](#), for example, show the effect of coarse aggregate proportion. The empty and solid bars indicate the average strengths of test mixtures 1, 3, 5, 7 (fine mixes) and 2, 4, 6, 8 (coarse mixes), respectively (refer to [Table 4.8](#)). The last two bars in the same figure compare the average strengths of mixtures 1, 2, 3, 4 (low cement content) and mixtures 5, 6, 7, 8 (high cement content). It is clearly shown that cement content is the most influencing factor for strength development of CTB mixtures for both aggregates. It seems that twice the cement content results in the mixture developing twice the strength. Although the other two variables affect strength, the effect of cement content dominates. The effects of interactions between the variables were also investigated. However, it was found that the interactions do not have significant influences and were less than 10 percent difference of strength on average.

Another effort was undertaken to establish a prediction model for compressive strength development with time. As previously stated, estimation of time dependent properties of the CTB mixture is the key factor for understanding shrinkage cracking behavior of the mixture. Regression parameters were found for the hyperbolic equation proposed by ACI 209 for concrete application. The prediction equation has the form of the following equation:

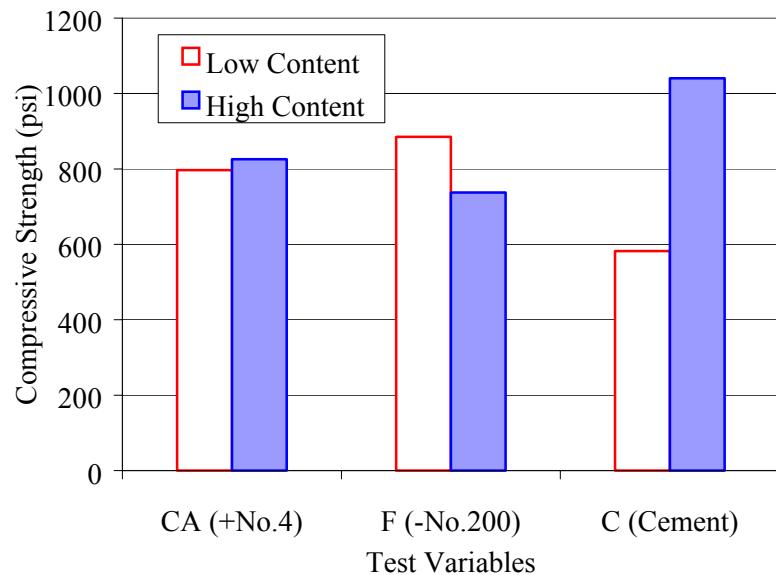
$$f_c(t) = f_c(28) \frac{t}{a + b \cdot t} \quad (1)$$

where,  $f_c(t)$  = compressive strength at any time  $t$

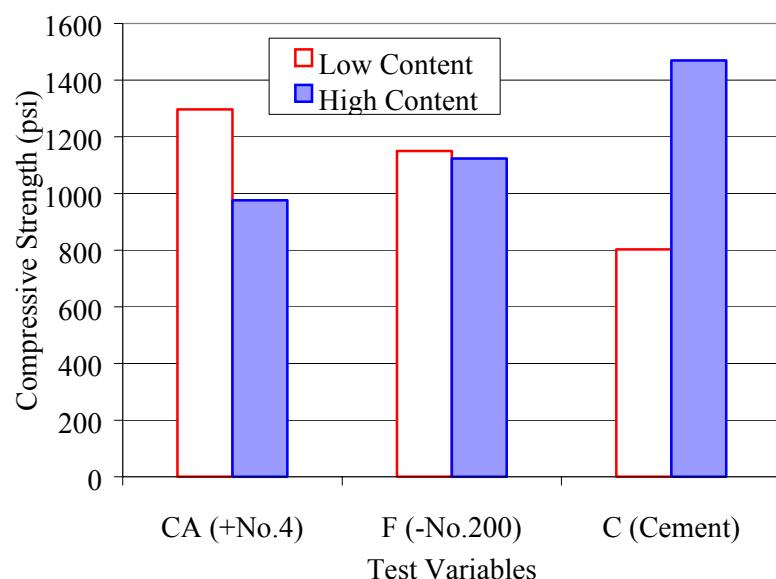
$f_c(28)$  = 28-day compressive strength

a, b = parameters

ACI 209 provided the parameters for normal concrete such that  $a=4.0$  and  $b=0.85$ . This study proposes different parameters for CTB mixtures such that  $a=2.5$  and  $b=0.9$ . The proposed parameters can be used for both aggregate mixtures, crushed concrete, and crushed limestone, in any mix proportioning. The equation estimates the compressive strength of CTB mixtures at any



**(a) Crushed Concrete Mixtures**



**(b) Crushed Limestone Mixtures**

**Figure 4.8. Effect of Test Variables on the Compressive Strength of CTB Test Mixtures.**

time with a given 28 day compressive strength value. [Figure 4.9](#) shows the prediction curves of compressive strength with average test data. Both the current ACI 209 and the proposed equations give similar estimations, while the ACI equation gives a little more conservative values compared to the test data for CTB mixtures.

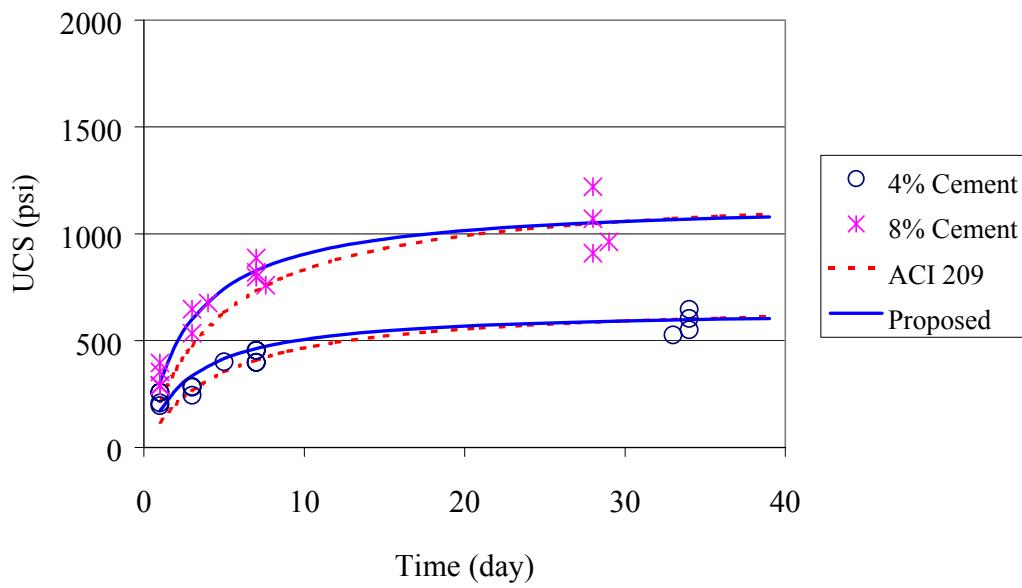
### *Modulus of Elasticity*

The modulus of elasticity of the test sample was evaluated from the stress-strain curve. Stress was calculated by dividing applied load to the cross section of a 4-inch diameter cylinder specimen. Strain was calculated by dividing measured LVDT displacement to the length of LVDT (4 inches). The modulus of elasticity was then determined using the initial secant modulus up to 25 percent of ultimate stress. [Figure 4.10](#) shows typical stress-strain relationships observed from the tests. It includes stress-strain curves observed from 3, 7, and 28 day samples of test mixtures RA-5 and CL-5. Note that the axis scales are different for each aggregate mixture. It was found that the mixtures having compressive strengths higher than 500 psi show the stress-strain behavior similar to that of normal concrete. The lower strength mixtures tend to show unbound mixture behavior such that some yielding plateau exists.

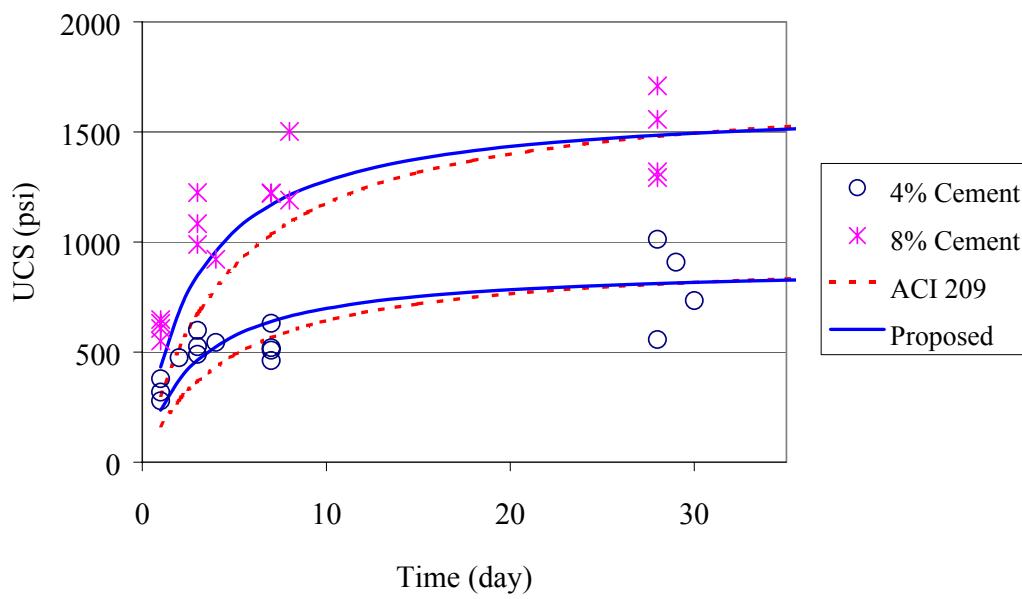
The average values of observed modulus of elasticity of test mixtures are summarized in [Table 4.15](#). The effects of test variables on modulus of elasticity appear to be same as that of compressive strength. The most influencing parameter is again the cement content. Use of more cement results in stiffer mixtures. The ratio of elastic modulus of 8 percent cement mixtures to 4 percent cement mixtures reaches over 2.0 in very early ages, but the ratio ranges 1.3 to 1.7 for the samples cured more than 7 days.

[Figure 4.11](#) shows the development of modulus of elasticity in test mixtures. Solid lines in the figure were drawn by [equation \(1\)](#) with the same parameters but with modulus of elasticity substituted strengths. As shown, it gives reasonable estimates of the time dependent elastic modulus of CTB mixtures for both aggregates.

Along with the strength development, the change of modulus with time is also an important factor in shrinkage cracking behavior of CTB mixtures. It is also crucial for mechanistic thickness design approaches, although thickness design is not of interest in this project. Previous studies have recommended that the development of modulus of elasticity in

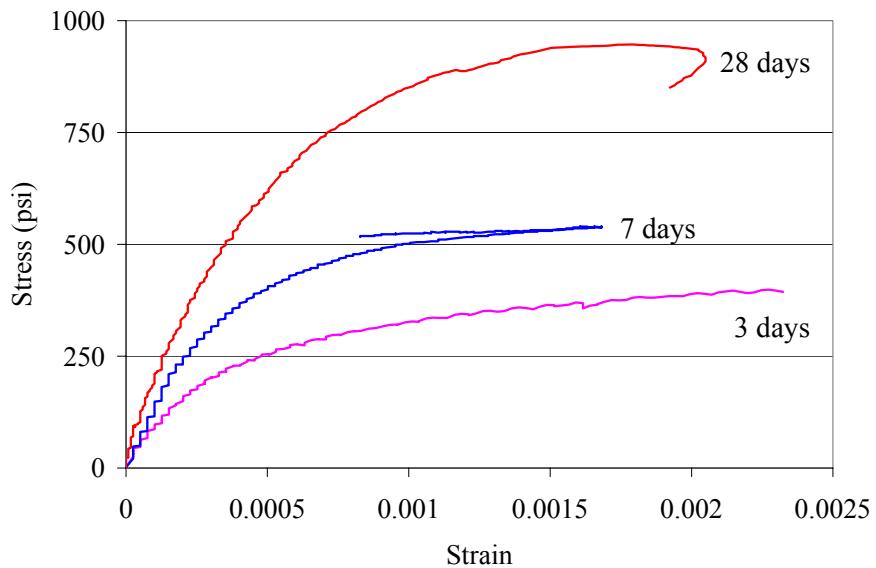


**(a) Crushed Concrete Mixtures**

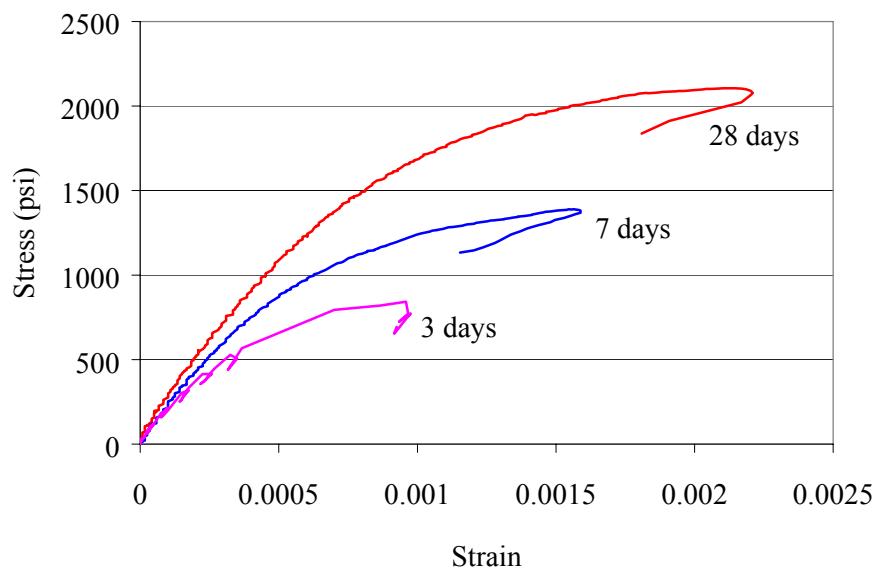


**(b) Crushed Limestone Mixtures**

**Figure 4.9. Prediction of Compressive Strength Developments in CTB Mixtures.**



**(a) Crushed Concrete Mixtures: RA-5**



**(b) Crushed Limestone Mixtures: CL-5**

**Figure 4.10. Typical Compressive Stress-Strain Relations in CTB Mixtures.**

**Table 4.15. Average Modulus of Elasticity of CTB Samples at Different Curing Times.**

Aggregate	Mix ID	Modulus of Elasticity @ Different Ages ( $\times 10^6$ psi)			
		1 day	3 days	7 days	28 days
Crushed Concrete (RA)	1	0.464	0.377	0.628	0.847 <sup>(1)</sup>
	2	0.289	0.391	0.807	0.858 <sup>(1)</sup>
	3	0.380	0.515	0.864	0.996 <sup>(1)</sup>
	4	0.322	0.727 <sup>(2)</sup>	0.804	0.944 <sup>(3)</sup>
	5	0.475	0.861	1.057 <sup>(4)</sup>	1.426
	6	0.584	0.945	1.298	1.312
	7	0.551	N/A	1.111	1.243
	8	0.727	1.110 <sup>(5)</sup>	1.200	1.276
Crushed Limestone (CL)	1	0.561	0.657	0.872	1.050
	2	0.760	0.823	0.842	0.878
	3	0.764 <sup>(6)</sup>	0.837	0.843	1.198 <sup>(7)</sup>
	4	0.516	0.905 <sup>(5)</sup>	0.917	1.200 <sup>(8)</sup>
	5	1.039	1.466	1.744	1.780
	6	1.038	1.454	1.614	1.545
	7	0.840	1.405	1.786 <sup>(4)</sup>	1.910
	8	1.080	1.463 <sup>(5)</sup>	1.446	1.678

(1) Tested at 34 days; (2) Tested at 5 days; (3) Tested at 33 days; (4) Tested at 8 days  
(5) Tested at 4 days; (6) Tested at 2 days; (7) Tested at 29 days; (8) Tested at 30 days

CTB mixtures could be predicted by the model proposed for normal concrete [\(22, 40\)](#).

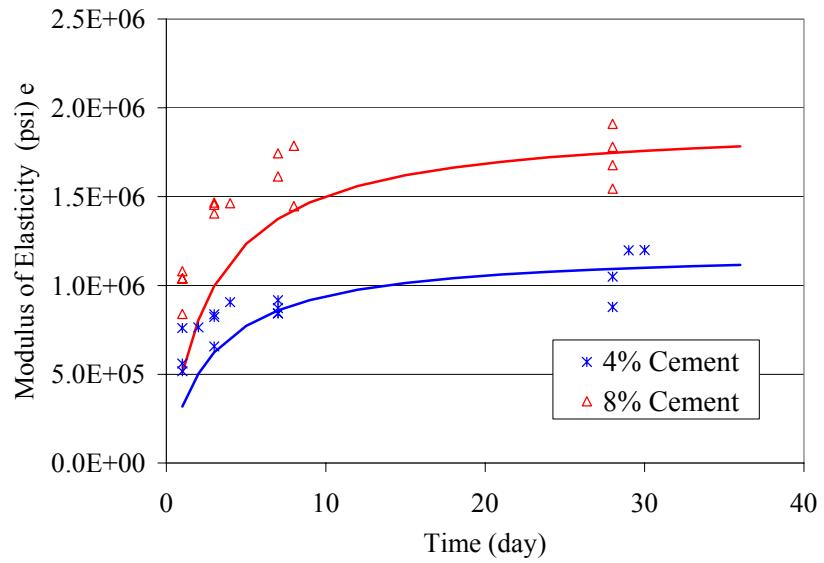
The model most frequently referred to that proposed by ACI. That is:

$$E(t) = 33 \cdot w^{1.5} \cdot f_c(t)^{0.5} \quad (2)$$

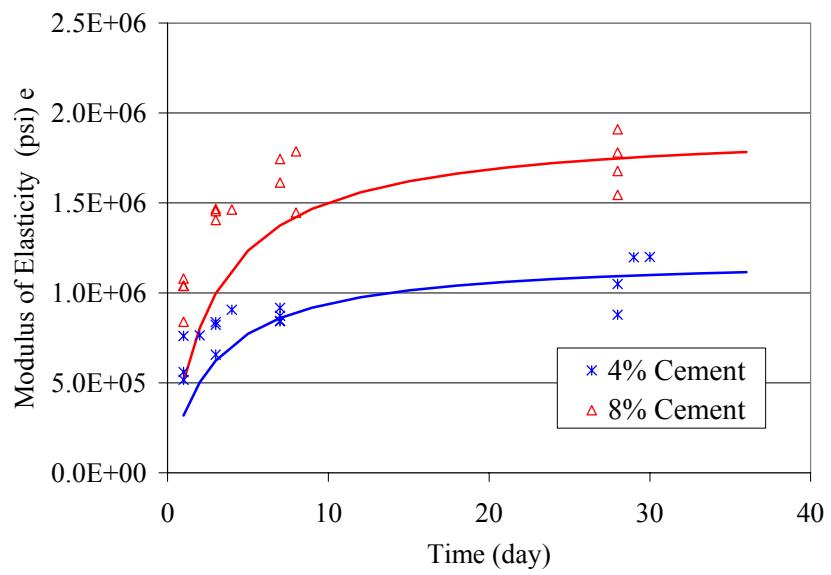
where,  $E(t)$  = modulus of elasticity in psi at any time  $t$

$w$  = density in pcf

$f_c(t)$  = compressive strength in psi at any time  $t$



(a) Crushed Concrete Mixtures



(b) Crushed Limestone Mixtures

Figure 4.11. Development of Modulus of Elasticity in CTB Mixtures.

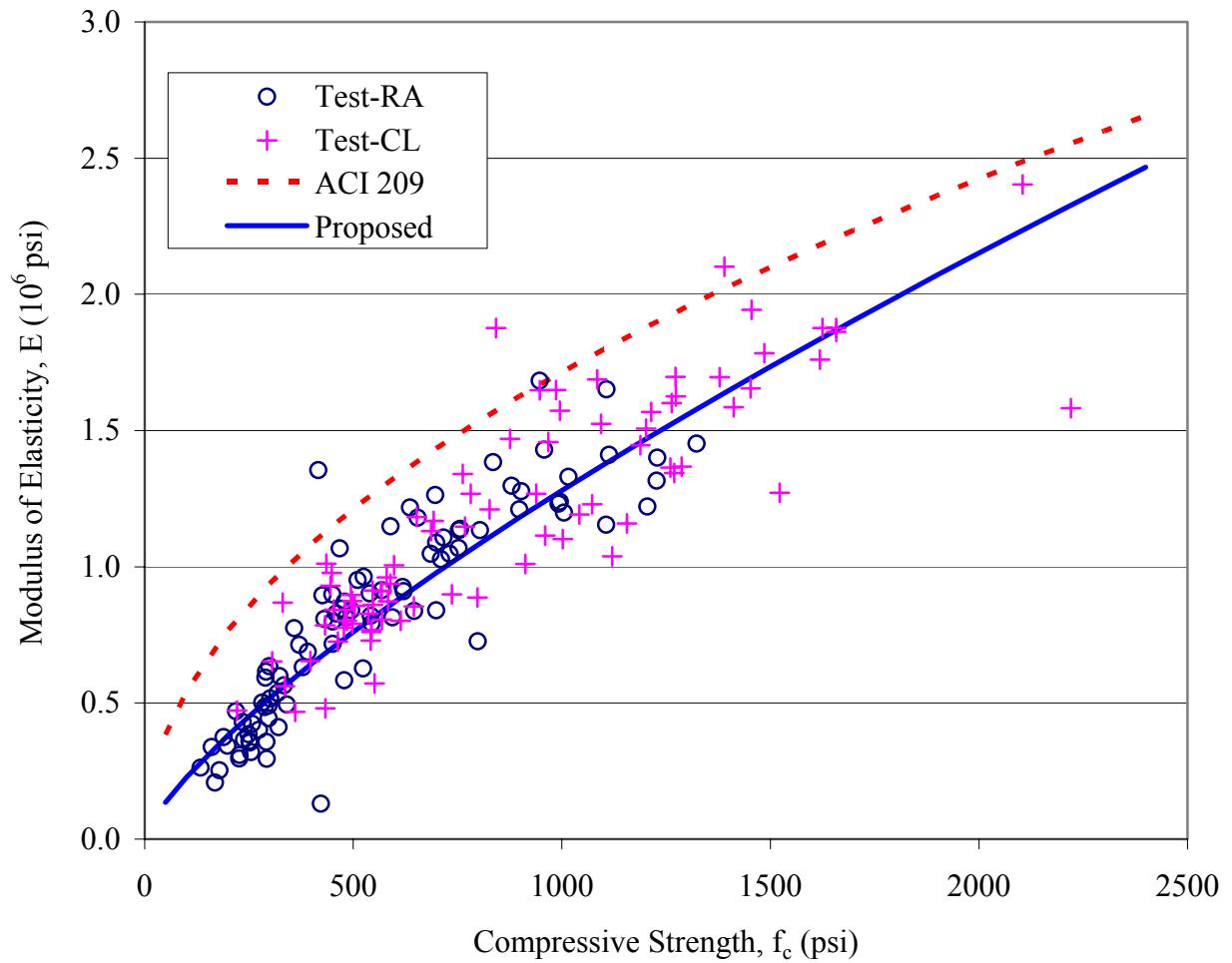
However, it was found in this project that the above equation produces appreciable errors when applied to CTB mixtures. New parameters relevant to CTB mixtures were found in this project by regression analysis of observed strength and modulus relations. The proposed equation is:

$$E(t) = 4.38 \cdot w^{1.5} \cdot f_c(t)^{0.75} \quad (3)$$

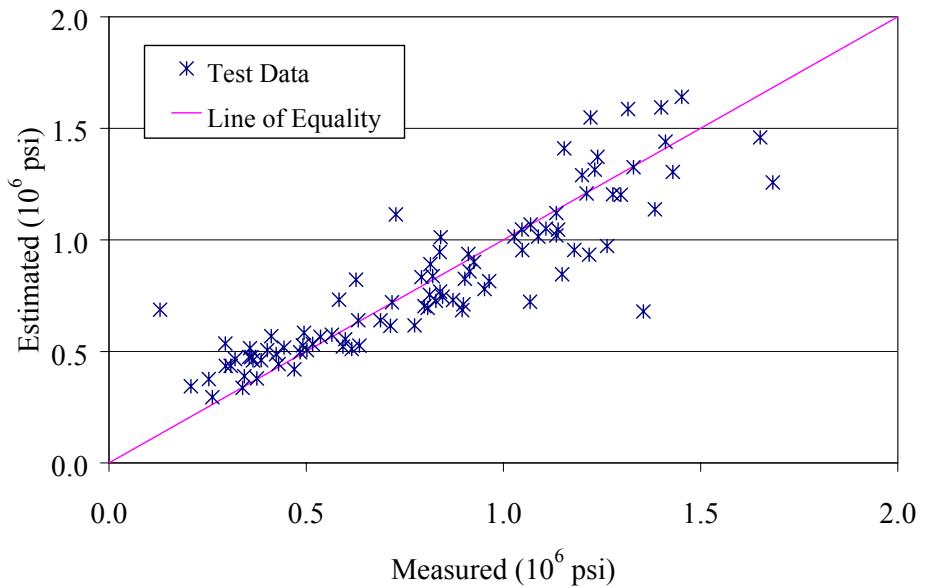
[Equation \(3\)](#) estimates time dependent elastic modulus of CTB mixtures with given mixture density and compressive strength. This can be used for both crushed concrete and crushed limestone mixtures in any mix proportioning. Compressive strength for a given time can be estimated by [equation \(1\)](#). Therefore, when the 28 day compressive strength is known, the time dependent strength and modulus of CTB mixtures can be estimated by using equations [\(1\)](#) and [\(3\)](#).

[Figure 4.12](#) shows the prediction curves of modulus of elasticity with observed test data. The data points represent the results of all test specimens of each aggregate mixture without classifying the different mix proportioning. The proposed equation shows good agreement to test data, while the ACI equation overestimates modulus for a given strength. In fact, the ACI equation has been proposed for normal concrete that generally has compressive strength in the range of 3000 to 5000 psi. The equation proposed in this project covers CTB mixtures in a wide range of compressive strengths from 200 to 2000 psi. Note that data points obtained for both aggregate mixtures fall on the same line. Also note that field applied CTB mixtures with any type of aggregates generally have a compressive strength between 400 to 1500 psi. It is expected from these observations that the proposed equation will be effective for any CTB mixture in the proper strength range.

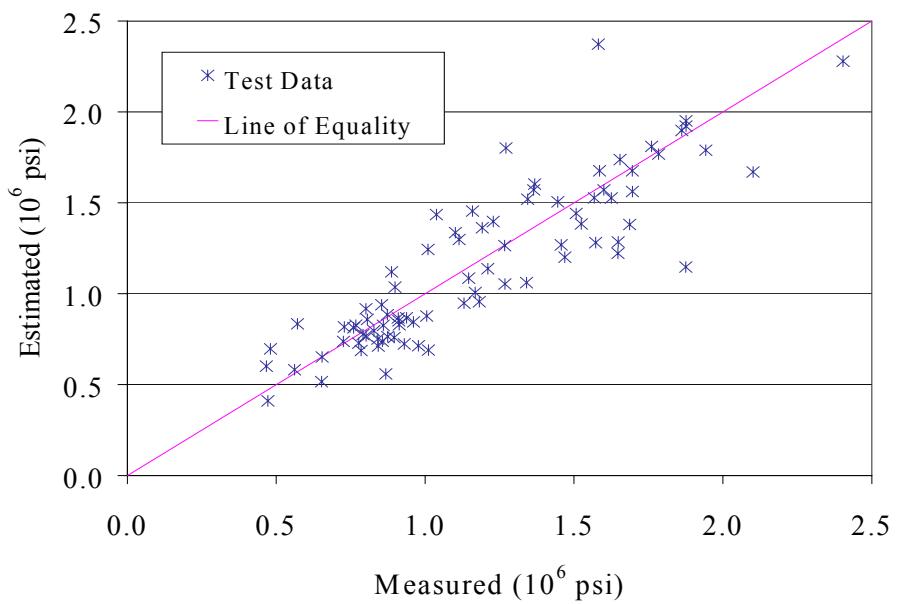
[Figure 4.13](#) shows the goodness of fit using the equation proposed in this project. The modulus of elasticity of test samples were estimated with measured 28 day compressive strength and sample density. Test samples were compacted at a higher density than the maximum dry density obtained from the preliminary tests for OMC determination (see [Table 4.13](#)). Average sample densities of crushed concrete mixtures were 134.1 and 134.2 pcf for low and high cement content mixtures, respectively. Crushed limestone mixture samples had an average density of 144.3 for low and 145.5 for high cement content mixtures.



**Figure 4.12. Relationship between Compressive Strength and Modulus of Elasticity in CTB Mixtures.**



**(a) Crushed Concrete Mixtures**



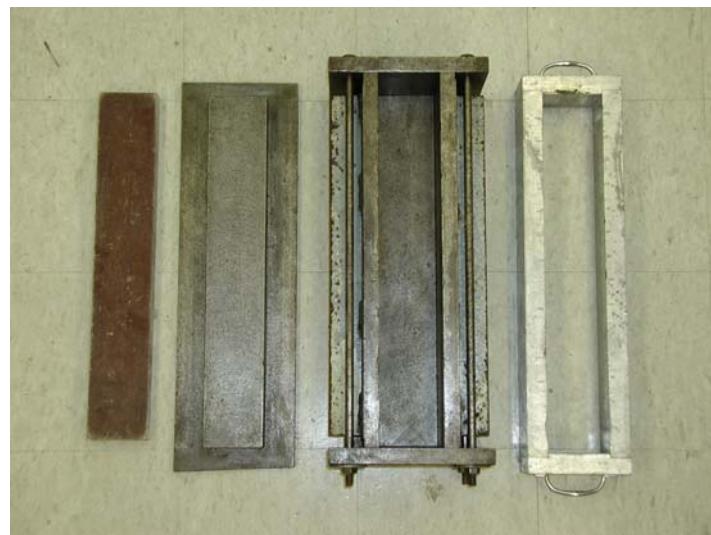
**(b) Crushed Limestone Mixtures**

**Figure 4.13. Comparisons of Measured and Estimated Modulus of Elasticity for CTB Test Mixtures.**

## Free Shrinkage

The development of unrestrained free shrinkage under a constant temperature and humidity condition at 77°F, 40%RH was identified in accordance with ASTM C 157, “Test Method for Length Change of Hardened Hydraulic-Cement Mortar and Concrete.” Samples were compacted in a 3×3×18-inch beam mold, shown in [Figure 4.14](#), for three layers and 50 blows per layer with an 18-inch, 10-lb rammer. Samples were demolded on the next day and cut by half-length with a saw-cut machine, producing two beams for each test mixture. Samples were placed at a moisture room with 77°F, 100%RH for another day to remove the excessive water applied during saw cutting. During this period, two pointing pin gages were attached to each beam with epoxy at about 8 inches apart. At least a half day was required for the epoxy to develop enough bond strength so that no slip could occur at the interface between the pins and beam surface. Therefore, drying of the beams and the corresponding shrinkage measurements initiated from 2 or 2.5 days after molding.

Samples were placed in a drying room (77°F, 40%RH) during the measurements. A digital dial gage with the accuracy of 1/1000 mm was used to measure the shrinkage deformations. [Figure 4.15](#) shows the configuration of shrinkage measurements. Measurements lasted up to more than 40 days of drying until the deformation showed stationary with time.



**Figure 4.14. Compaction Mold for Shrinkage Beam Samples.**



**Figure 4.15. Set-Up for Drying Shrinkage Measurement.**

#### *Test Results and Discussion*

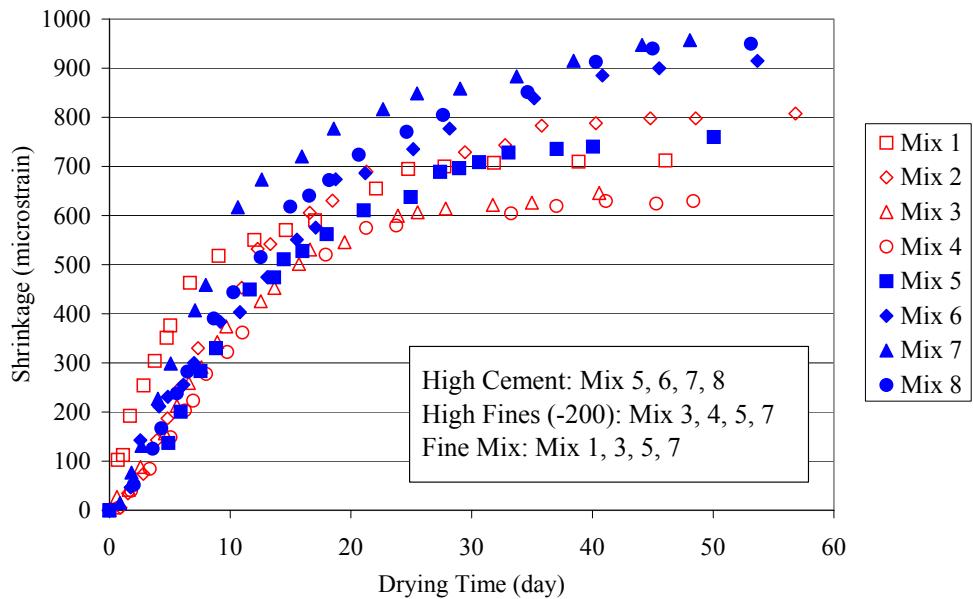
[Table 4.16](#) shows the average drying shrinkage deformation obtained from two beam specimens for each test mixture. Observed shrinkage curves are shown in [Figure 4.16](#).

**Table 4.16. Summary of Drying Shrinkage Measurements in CTB Mixtures (\*).**

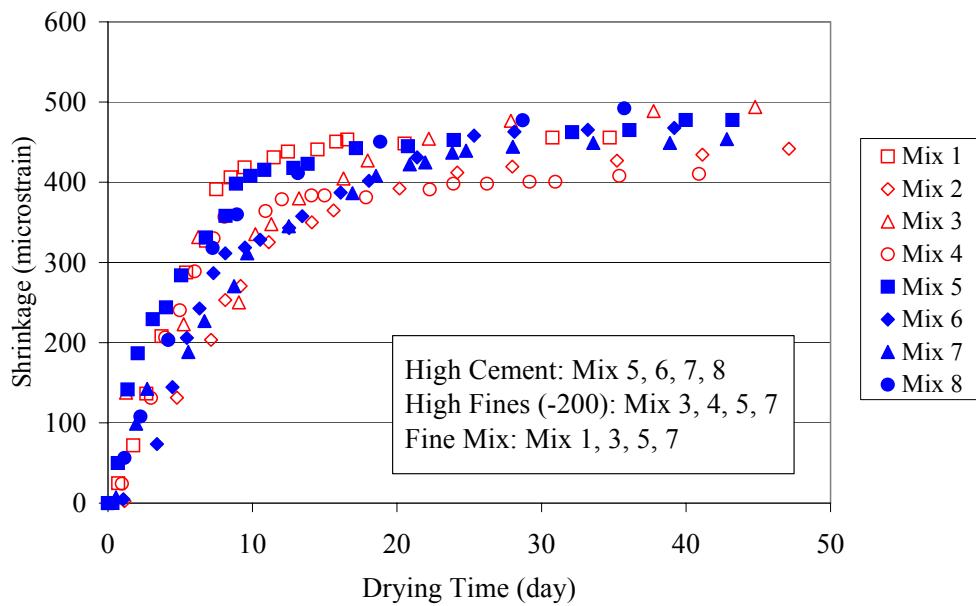
Mix ID	Crushed Concrete (RA)			Crushed Limestone (CL)		
	5 days	10 days	Ultimate <sup>(**)</sup>	5 days	10 days	Ultimate <sup>(**)</sup>
1	376 (53) <sup>(***)</sup>	525 (74)	712	281 (62)	421 (92)	456
2	212 (26)	446 (55)	807	133 (30)	289 (65)	444
3	182 (28)	382 (59)	646	219 (44)	335 (68)	493
4	148 (24)	322 (51)	629	240 (59)	361 (88)	410
5	152 (20)	387 (51)	760	283 (59)	409 (86)	477
6	234 (26)	395 (43)	915	178 (38)	323 (69)	468
7	298 (31)	605 (63)	957	178 (39)	312 (69)	454
8	231 (24)	441 (46)	949	213 (43)	361 (73)	492

(\*) Units in microstrains ( $10^{-6}$  inch/inch); (\*\* ) Shrinkage at the end of test;

(\*\*\* ) Values in ( ) are % of ultimate shrinkage



(a) Crushed Concrete Mixtures



(b) Crushed Limestone Mixtures

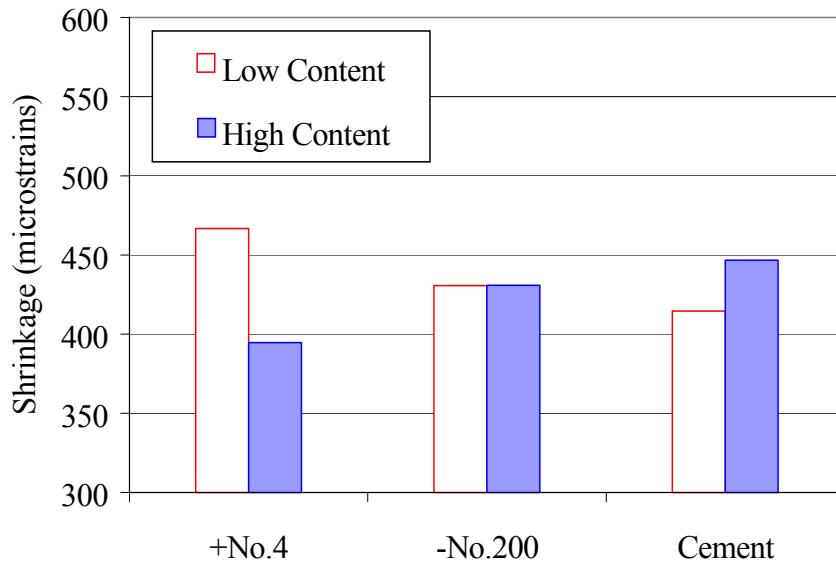
Figure 4.16. Results of Drying Shrinkage Measurements in CTB Mixtures.

Test results indicated that the final shrinkage values of crushed concrete mixtures at the end of the test were about twice higher than that of conventional crushed limestone mixtures. However, the shrinkage rate was found to be slower for crushed concrete mixtures than limestone mixtures. Crushed concrete mixtures shrunk about 25 and 50 percents of the ultimate shrinkage in 5 and 10 days of drying, respectively, while crushed limestone mixtures reached more than 40 and 70 percents in those periods. The absolute amount of shrinkage within 10 days of drying was shown to be close for both aggregate mixtures. This slow shrinkage rate is one of the advantageous factors against early age shrinkage cracking even though the mixture shows higher ultimate shrinkage.

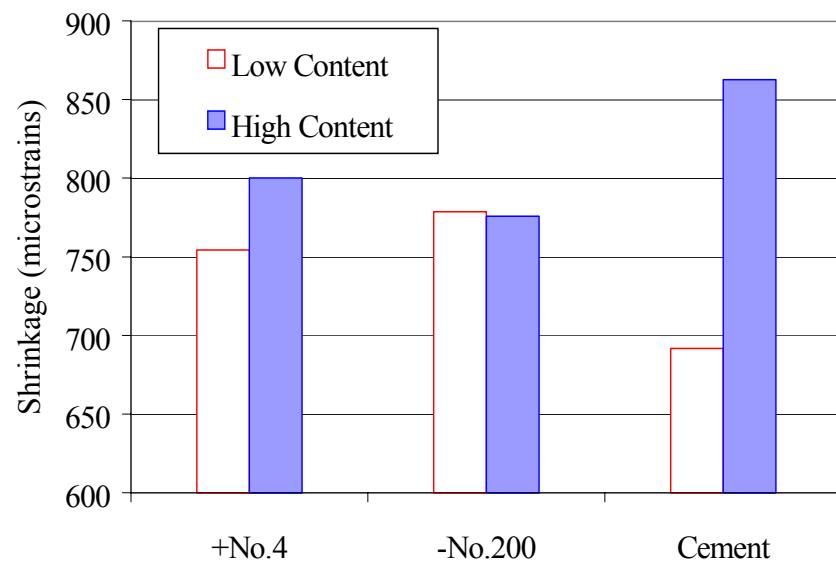
As shown in [Figure 4.16](#), the effects of test variables on the shrinkage of CTB mixtures are not so distinctive. Especially for crushed limestone mixtures, very close shrinkage curves were observed for the whole test period in all test mixtures, regardless of mix proportioning. At the same drying periods, the differences in observed shrinkage for crushed limestone mixtures were generally no more than 10 percent between any set of test mixtures. Use of high cement content in crushed limestone mixtures resulted in just a 5 percent increase for ultimate shrinkage compared to low cement mixtures. Although the same trend was observed for crushed concrete mixtures within 10 days of drying, at longer periods of drying, mixtures with high cement content (solid dots in [Figure 4.16](#)) showed 10 to 20 percent higher shrinkage than low cement mixtures (empty dots).

[Figures 4.17](#) and [4.18](#) provide more specific comparisons on the effects of test variables for crushed concrete and crushed limestone mixtures, respectively. For each aggregate mixture, a separate comparison was made for the average drying shrinkage measured after 10 days and 40 days of drying. Note that the scales of ordinates are different, but their ranges are all in 300 microstrains. Empty bars represent the average shrinkage of mixtures having low content of each test variable, while solid bars represent that of mixtures with high content of each variable.

Mixtures having low content of +No. 4 aggregates, that is fine mixtures, showed a 5 to 15 percent higher shrinkage than coarse mixtures. However, fine mixtures of crushed concrete showed a 5 percent less average shrinkage after 40 days of drying than coarse mixtures. In general, fine mixtures shrunk more in early ages than coarse mixtures, and as drying continues more than 10 days, the difference of shrinkage between fine and coarse mixtures becomes smaller.

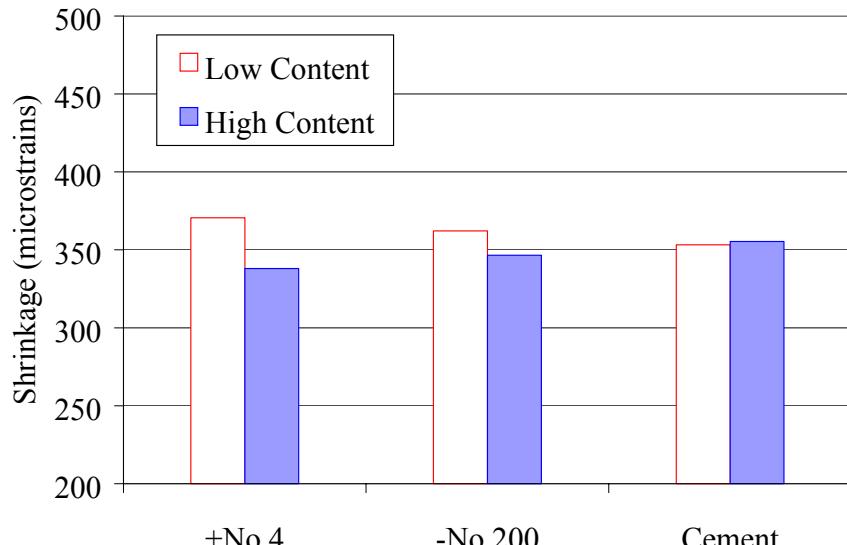


**(a) At 10 Days of Drying**

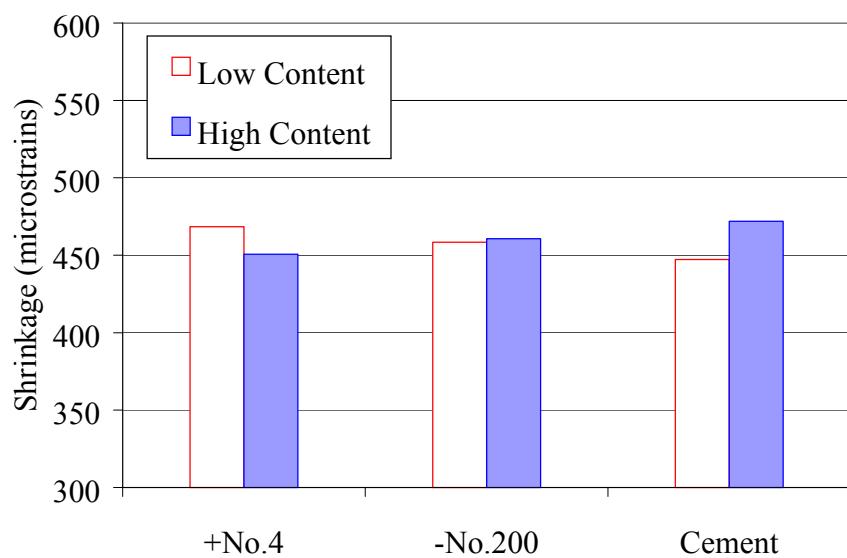


**(b) At 40 Days of Drying**

**Figure 4.17. Effects of Test Variables on Drying Shrinkage of Crushed Concrete CTB Mixtures.**



(a) At 10 Days of Drying



(b) At 40 Days of Drying

**Figure 4.18. Effects of Test Variables on Drying Shrinkage of Crushed Limestone CTB Mixtures.**

All mixtures with high cement content showed greater average shrinkage than low cement mixtures. Crushed concrete mixtures were shown to be more sensitive to cement content than conventional limestone mixtures. The effect of cement content in both aggregate mixtures also appears to be appreciable at a longer period of drying. It can be shown that, for both aggregate mixtures, the effect of passing No. 200 materials on drying shrinkage of the mixture is negligible.

## Stress Relaxation Test

As described earlier, stress relaxation is one important factor to be considered in the studies of shrinkage cracking behavior of concrete, as well as CTB mixtures. Restrained shrinkage results in shrinkage stress development, and shrinkage cracking occurs when the stress becomes greater than the material's resistance to cracking. Since, however, the restrained shrinkage acts as a sustained strain condition, resulting stress reduces with time by stress relaxation. The stress relaxation properties of CTB mixtures, including crushed concrete materials, were identified by tensile relaxation tests. The same tests were conducted on conventional crushed limestone CTB mixtures, and the stress relaxation properties of those two different mixtures were compared.

### *Sample Preparation and Test*

Tests were conducted on 7 day and 28 day cured specimens for the mixtures of RA-5 and CL-5. One sample was tested for each test case. To investigate more relevant material properties with respect to shrinkage stress development and cracking, researchers determined to take the tests under uniaxial tension mode with a dog-bone shaped specimen. [Figure 4.19](#) shows the specially designed compaction mold for the dog-bone shaped CTB specimens. The length of the specimen was 12 inches and included two 3-inch length tapered sections and a 6-inch test section in the middle. The test section had a constant width of 4 inches, while the width of each tapered section linearly varied from 4 inches at the middle to 5.5 inches at the end of the specimen. The depth of the specimen was 4 inches.



**Figure 4.19. Compaction Mold for Relaxation Test Specimen.**

The sample was compacted in four layers with 52 drops of an 18-inch, 10-lb rammer per each layer. Samples were demolded the next day and cured in 77°F, 100% RH moisture room until one day before the scheduled testing. The end fixture was attached at the end of the curing period. Special fixtures that allow specimens to undergo direct tensioning were epoxy glued on both ends of the specimen. To provide a clean surface for bonding purposes, specimens were saw cut 0.5 inch from both ends. The epoxy glue required a 1 day curing time to develop sufficient bond strength for the tests. The fixture glued specimens were cured for 1 day in a testing room to minimize moisture effects on the epoxy bond.

The relaxation test was performed by applying constant displacement to the specimen and tracking the change in load applied to the specimen. In this study, constant tensile displacement was applied at 30 percent of the elastic failure limit. The failure limit was estimated based on the results of compressive strength tests. Tensile strength was assumed to be 1/8 of compressive strength for the same mixture. In addition, the modulus of elasticity for a mixture was assumed to be the same whether in compression or tension. The failure strain was then calculated by dividing the estimated tensile strength by the modulus of elasticity. Multiplication of gage

length to the failure strain gave the elastic failure limit within the gage length. Considering the linearity, 30 percent of this elastic failure limit was applied to the specimen.

Four LVDTs, two in vertical and two in lateral, were installed on the surface of the specimen. The gage lengths of vertical and lateral LVDTs were 4 and 3 inches, respectively. [Figure 4.20](#) shows a prepared specimen that is installed in the testing machine, and [Figure 4.21](#) shows the overall configuration of the test. The tests were conducted with a servo-hydraulic MTS machine. This machine allows the tests to be controlled by the constant LVDT displacement. Another vertical LVDT was installed on the other side of the specimen shown in the figure. A predetermined level of axial displacement that is 30 percent of the failure limit for each test specimen was applied to the specimen through one of the vertical LVDTs. The load cell attached on the top of specimen measured the change of applied force under the constant displacement condition.



**Figure 4.20. Relaxation Test Specimen in Ready.**



**Figure 4.21. Tensile Relaxation Test System.**

#### *Test Results and Discussion*

Figure 4.22 shows test results manifested by the change in modulus with time for each test mixture. Raw data shows the change of stress under the given constant strain condition. The data were converted to the time dependent relaxation modulus by the relationship shown in equation (4). Solid lines in Figure 4.22 represent best fits of the data for each mixture. Curve fitting was performed with a simple power law as shown in equation (5).

$$E'(t) = \frac{\sigma(t)}{\varepsilon_0} \quad (4)$$

where,  $E'(t)$  = observed modulus with time (psi)

$\sigma(t)$  = measured stress with time (psi)

$\varepsilon_0$  = constant strain applied to test specimen

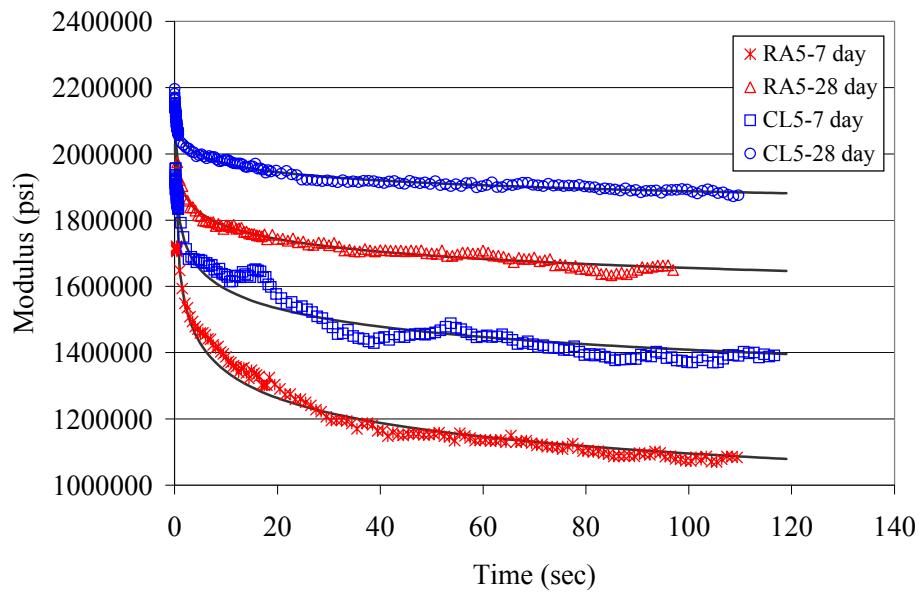
$$E(t) = E_1 \cdot t^{-n} \quad (5)$$

where,  $E(t)$  = relaxation modulus (psi)

$t$  = time (sec)

$E_1, n$  = regression parameters

Regression parameters  $E_1$  and  $n$  have physical meanings, and they are generally regarded as material properties. The parameter  $E_1$  gives a rough estimation of the initial modulus that is similar to the modulus of elasticity, and  $n$  represents the material's ability to relax stress. The higher the  $n$  values the greater the stress relaxation at the same condition. Highly viscous materials, such as bituminous binder, generally have  $n$  values at around or over 0.5. The range of  $n$  values for asphalt concrete mixtures is about 0.3 to 0.5. As cement bound material, CTB mixtures were found to have less than 0.1 for their  $n$  values. Observed parameters  $E_1$  and  $n$  are summarized in [Table 4.17](#) with the modulus of elasticity in compression obtained earlier for each test mixture.



**Figure 4.22. Results of Tensile Relaxation Tests for CTB Mixtures.**

**Table 4.17. Parameters for Relaxation Modulus of CTB Mixtures.**

Mix ID	Age	n	E <sub>1</sub> ( $\times 10^6$ psi)	E <sub>c</sub> * ( $\times 10^6$ psi)
RA-5	7 days	0.0884	1.646	1.057
	28 days	0.0319	1.918	1.426
CL-5	7 days	0.0528	1.797	1.744
	28 days	0.0187	2.057	1.780

\* Modulus of elasticity in compression at each age (refer to [Table 4.15](#))

Test results indicate that crushed concrete mixtures experience a greater amount of stress relaxation than conventional limestone mixtures. This implies that for the same amount of shrinkage, stress development in crushed concrete mixtures would be less than in conventional crushed limestone mixtures. In conjunction with previous results of strength and shrinkage measurements, it can be concluded that crushed concrete mixtures may not necessarily have a greater potential for shrinkage cracking in a given drying condition in spite of the increased (almost double) shrinkage that occurs in it over that which occurs in conventional crushed limestone mixtures. Compared to crushed limestone mixtures, CTB mixtures including crushed concrete have a lower modulus of elasticity and a higher relaxation property, which contribute to lower the stress at a given restrained shrinkage condition. On the other hand, the low strength of crushed concrete mixtures certainly has an adverse effect with respect to the shrinkage cracking potential. The combined cracking potentials of CTB mixtures with both crushed concrete and limestone aggregates are compared in the following section with the results of the restrained shrinkage ring test.

As CTB mixtures in early ages are less stiff than aged mixtures, more relaxation occurs at early ages. Regardless of aggregate type, the *n* values of 7 day cured specimens were more than 2.5 times higher than the *n* values of 28 day samples.

### Restrained Shrinkage Ring Test

The main purpose of the restrained shrinkage ring test is to compare the shrinkage cracking potentials of different CTB mixtures consisting of crushed concrete or conventional

crushed limestone base materials. Two high cement content CTB mixtures were selected for this purpose on the assumption that they would produce data that could be easily compared. Tested mixtures, RA-5 and CL-5, have the same designations as the mixtures used for the relaxation tests. Although a standard test method is not yet available, many studies used the shrinkage ring test to identify the cracking tendency of particular concrete mixture <sup>(41, 42)</sup>. Specimen geometry and test apparatus are shown in [Figure 4.23](#).

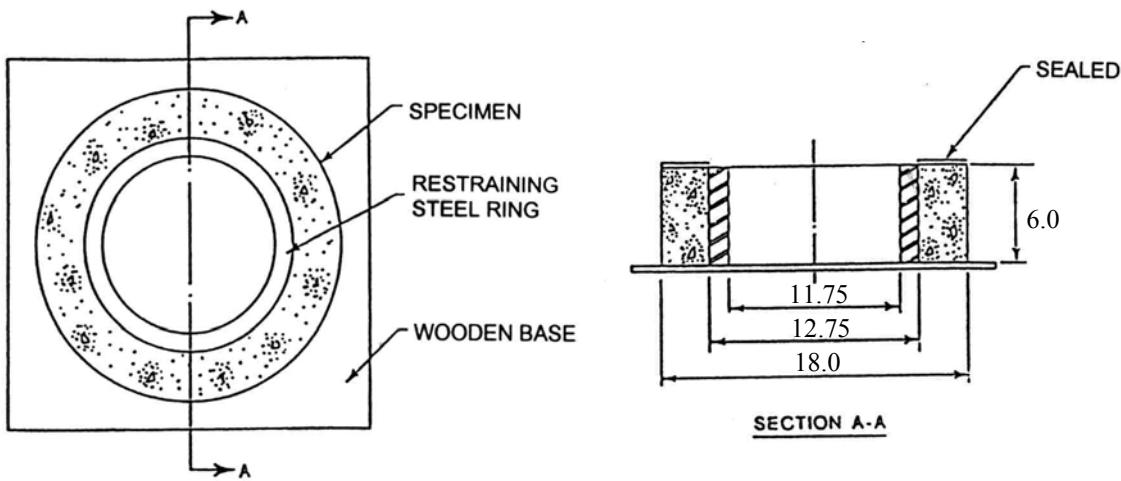
### *Sample Preparation and Test*

The steel ring restrains the free shrinkage of the specimen placed around the ring. The steel ring used in this study has an inside diameter of 11.75 inches and a thickness of 0.5 inches. To constrain the mixture during compaction, another steel ring with an inside diameter of 18 inches was placed concentrically at the outside of the specimen so that the thickness of the compacted specimen was 2.625 inches. The specimens were formed at a height of 6 inches.

Specimens were compacted in five layers with a 10-lb rammer and 125 drops per layer. The top of the compacted specimen was covered with a plastic sheet and weighted with wooden plates to minimize moisture loss. After 1 day of curing at room temperature, the outside ring was removed to limit drying only in the radial direction through the circumferential surface of the exposed ring specimen.

The specimen and restraining steel ring were instrumented with strain gages to measure their displacements due to drying shrinkage of the specimen. Six strain gages were attached on the inside of the steel ring, and six concrete strain gages were attached on the CTB specimen surface after the removal of the outside steel ring. Circumferential strains of the steel ring and CTB specimen were measured from these strain gages with data logging equipment as shown in [Figure 4.23 \(b\)](#).

For monitoring the strains, each specimen was placed in a drying room at 77°F, 40%RH after the installation of outside strain gages. In fact, the specimen was initially exposed to drying for about 3 hours prior to the first measurement because of the strain gage installation. Although this 3 hour pre-drying at the very early ages of cement bound mixtures may have had an effect on stress relaxation, it was ignored in this comparative investigation. The measurements were ceased after three weeks to 25 days of drying. According to the results of the free shrinkage



(a) Specimen Geometry



(b) Test Set-Up

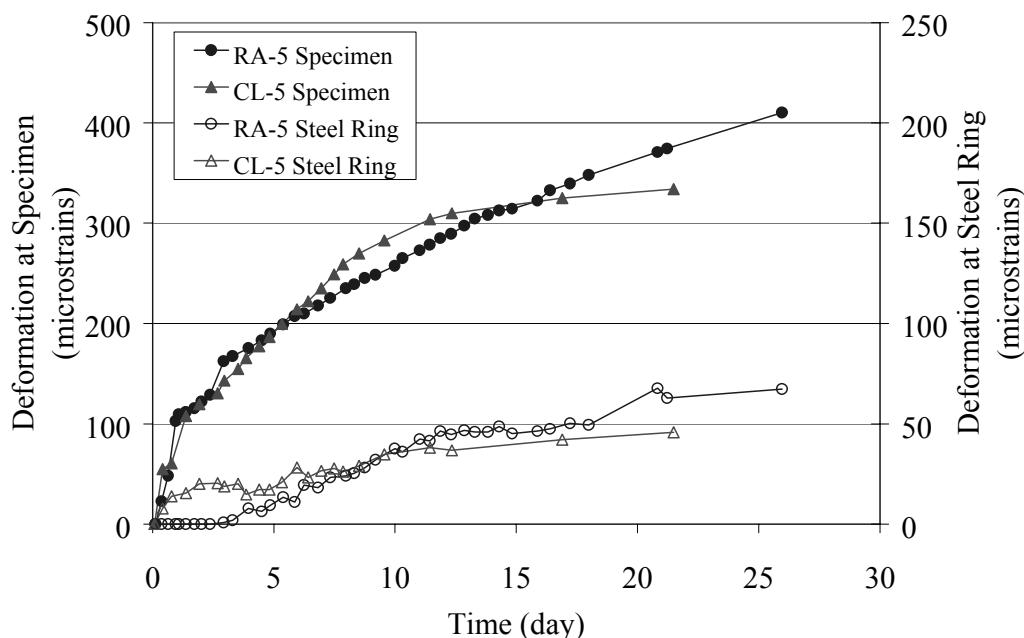
Figure 4.23. Configuration for the Restrained Shrinkage Ring Test.

measurements, the rate of drying shrinkage for both mixtures diminished rapidly after that period, and there was no significant increase in drying shrinkage. Along with the strain gage readings, the specimen had been continuously checked for possible crack development.

### *Test Results and Discussion*

[Figure 4.24](#) shows the measured strains at the surface of the specimen and steel ring for both the crushed concrete mixture, RA-5, and the conventional limestone mixture, CL-5. While the free shrinkage measurements showed that crushed concrete mixtures tend to shrink more than conventional limestone mixtures, the shrinkage ring test resulted in very similar strains in both RA-5 and CL-5 specimens, particularly within the first two weeks of drying. Afterwards, the strains in the CL-5 specimen became steady. As observed from the free shrinkage tests, however, the deformation of the RA-5 specimen kept increasing with a somewhat reduced shrinkage rate and seemed to reach asymptote after three weeks of drying.

The amount of restraint in the test was estimated from the free shrinkage measurements and ring specimen deformations. [Figure 4.25](#) shows the estimated restrained shrinkage or



**Figure 4.24. Measured Deformations from the Restrained Shrinkage Ring Tests.**

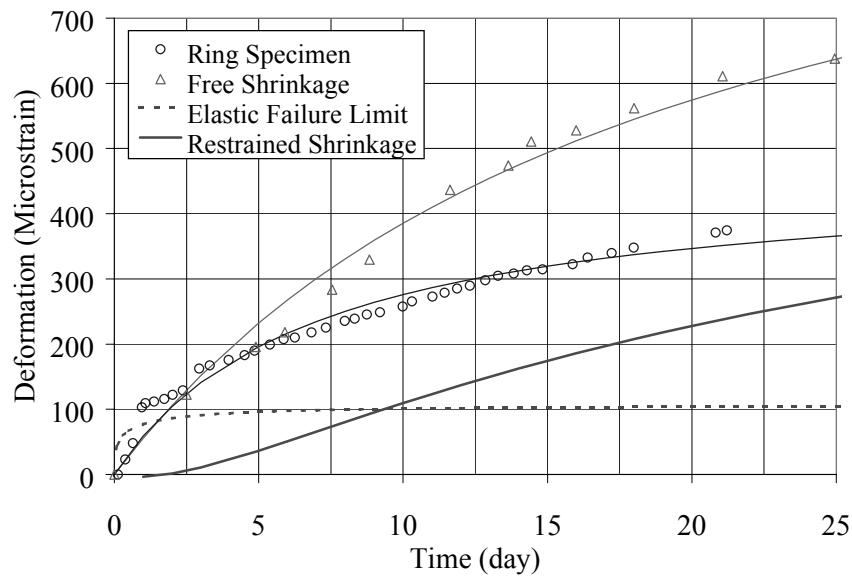
shrinkage strain compared with the measurements and the strain limit to failure. The elastic failure limit was estimated with the results of the uniaxial compression tests. Equations (1) and (3) proposed from the results of uniaxial compression tests give the time dependent compressive strength and modulus of elasticity of CTB mixtures. The tensile strength of CTB mixtures was assumed to be 1/8 of its compressive strength. By applying the well known constitutive equation for elastic materials,  $\sigma = E \cdot \varepsilon$ , the time dependent elastic limit of tensile strain to failure was calculated.

Notice that, according to the compressive strength test results, recycled concrete mixtures have a 30 percent lower strength on average than conventional mixtures. However, because the modulus of elasticity of recycled concrete mixtures is also lower than that of conventional limestone mixtures, the estimated strain limits in both mixtures are very close at all times, as shown in [Figure 4.25](#).

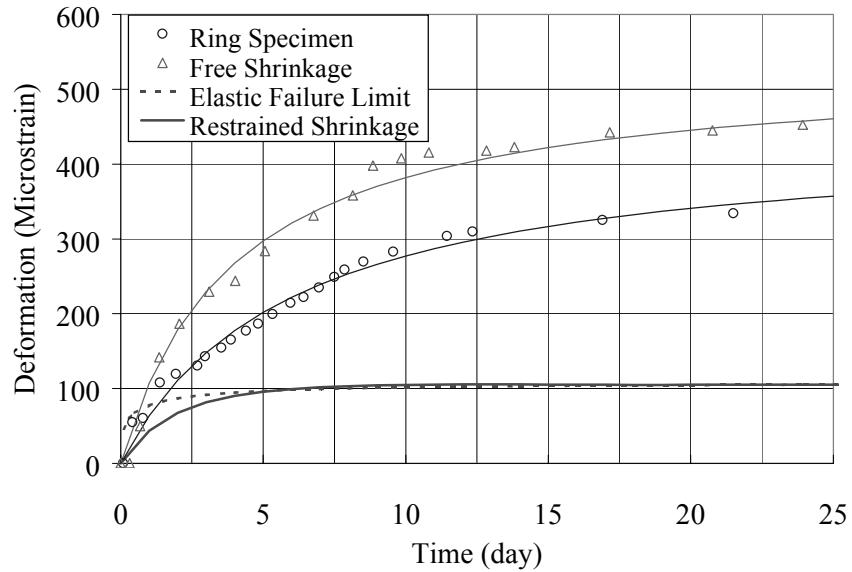
The restrained shrinkage shown in the figure is the difference between free shrinkage and the measured deformation of the restrained ring specimen. This restrained shrinkage strain is believed to contribute to the shrinkage stress development. To obtain a continuous estimation of the restrained shrinkage in time, measured deformations were fitted by regression analysis. The thin lines drawn over the data points are the best-fit curves determined for each measurement. The development of restrained shrinkage or shrinkage strain with time was estimated by continuous subtraction of the ring specimen deformation curve from the free shrinkage curve.

[Figure 4.25](#) also indicates that the deformations of ring specimens are virtually the same for the two different mixtures. This implies that the ring test set-up provides an identical shrinkage field for any test mixture. The difference in restrained shrinkage resulted from the difference in the free shrinkage of the mixtures. Therefore, different patterns were observed for the development of restrained shrinkage strains on mixtures RA-5 and CL-5. The restrained shrinkage strain of the RA-5 specimen reached the failure limit after 9 days of drying and continued to linearly increase over the limit. On the other hand, the restrained shrinkage strain of the CL-5 specimen reached the failure limit after 6 days of drying and did not show further increase.

The estimated shrinkage strains and failure limits were converted to shrinkage stresses and strengths using the previous compressive test results. [Figure 4.26](#) shows the comparisons of converted stress and strength for the two CTB mixtures. In conjunction with the theory of



(a) Crushed Concrete Mixture, RA-5



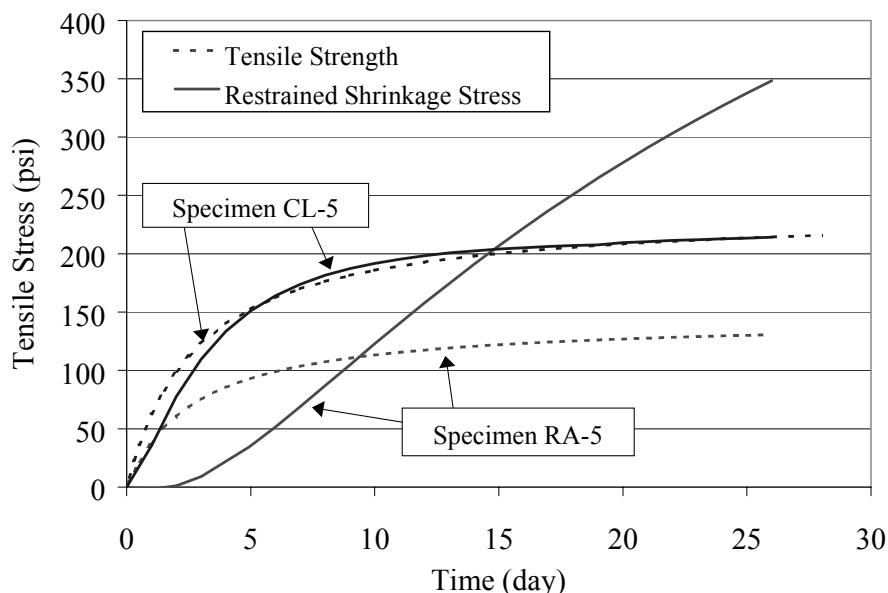
(b) Crushed Limestone Mixture, CL-5

**Figure 4.25. Development of Restrained Shrinkage Strains in the Shrinkage Ring Tests.**

strength of materials, the specimens were expected to initiate cracking at the moment that the shrinkage stress crossed over the tensile strength. Both specimens, however, did not crack until much later. This indicates that the actual stress developed in the specimen relaxed under the sustained shrinkage strain condition down to a level that is lower than the tensile strength of the material.

The strength of the CL-5 mixture seemed to exceed the shrinkage stress developed in the ring specimen. Apparently, only a small amount of stress relaxation is needed to prevent shrinkage cracking in this case. In contrast, the mixture RA-5 has relatively low strength but high shrinkage. The estimated shrinkage stress in the RA-5 specimen exceeds 2.5 times the strength of this mixture. Therefore, much higher relaxation is required for the RA-5 mixture to prevent shrinkage cracking in the specimen. The fact that both specimens did not crack at all indicates that the crushed concrete mixture has enough relaxation to more than compensate for the high shrinkage tendency of the mixture.

It is noteworthy that conditions in the field may cause more severe shrinkage conditions than the laboratory conditions. However, the degree of restraint in the field is much less than the ring test set-up so that the development of shrinkage stress in a field applied CTB layer is not



**Figure 4.26. Comparisons of Stress and Strength Developments in Shrinkage Ring Specimens.**

necessarily higher than that which occurred in the ring specimen. Nonetheless, field performance of CTB mixtures with respect to the shrinkage cracking needs to be studied further.

### Tube Suction Test

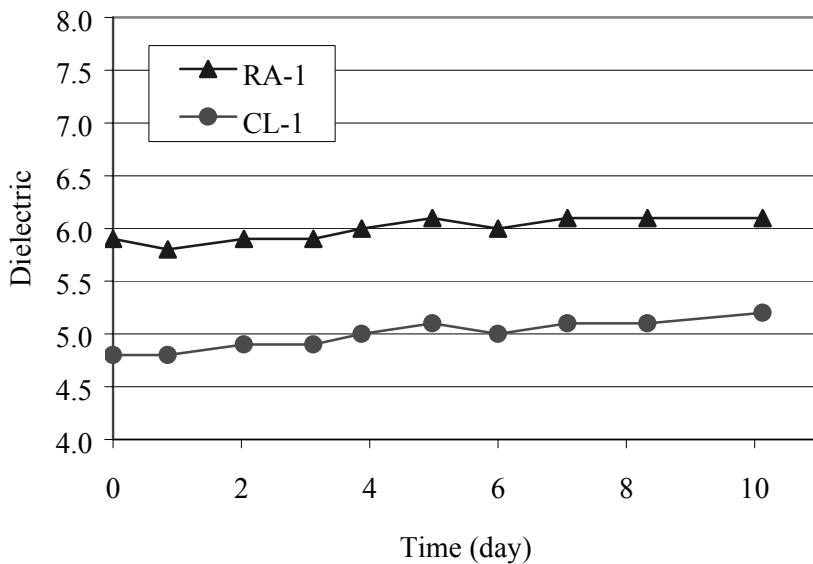
As in for the study on flexible base applications, moisture susceptibility of CTB mixtures was investigated by the tube suction test. The test method is basically the same as the method used for flexible base mixtures. The difference is that while the flexible base mixtures had been moved to a 104°C drying room right after compaction, the compacted CTB mixtures were moist cured for 7 days before the drying.

The tests were conducted on the low cement mixtures with crushed concrete and crushed limestone aggregates that are mixtures of RA-1 and CL-1. Each test mixture was compacted in a  $\phi 6 \times 8$ -inch plastic cylinder mold. Compacted cylinder molds had been cured for 7 days in a moisture room at 77°C, 100% RH and then dried in a 104°C room for 3 days. The dried cylinders were then placed in a pan containing water of at most a 1-inch depth. Capillary rise in the sample was monitored for 10 days with a dielectric probe.

### *Test Results and Discussion*

[Figure 4.27](#) shows the surface dielectric measurements on the specimens during the test period. The measurements initiated after the dried specimens were put into the water container. The measured initial dielectric values are 5.9 and 4.8 for RA-1 and CL-1 mixtures, respectively. The final dielectrics after 10 days of capillary rise were recorded at 6.1 for RA-1 and 5.2 for CL-1.

Although the performance criteria on the dielectric values of CTB mixtures are not yet available, test results indicate that the test specimens for both aggregates are not moisture susceptible under capillary rise condition. Both test specimens showed stable surface dielectrics during the test period. Comparing the TST results on flexible base mixtures, it seems that cement treatment considerably reduces the capillary rise in the mixture, which in turn reduces the moisture susceptibility of the mixture.



**Figure 4.27** Results of Tube Suction Tests on CTB Test Mixtures.

## Summary

The feasibility of using crushed concrete materials in cement treated base mixtures, covered under Item 276, was examined through selected laboratory tests. CTB mixtures, consisting of crushed concrete and conventional crushed limestone base materials, were characterized and compared for the properties related to shrinkage cracking behavior and moisture susceptibility. All test mixtures were compacted at OMC, and, like the flexible base mixtures, CTB with crushed concrete materials required about 50 percent higher moisture content than conventional crushed limestone mixtures to reach OMC.

Development of compressive strength and elastic modulus were evaluated for eight mix combinations determined by three test variables: cement content, coarse aggregate fraction, and content of passing the No. 200 materials. The cement content was found to be the most influencing factor for the mixture properties. Twice the cement content seems to result in twice the strength of the mixture. In general, about a 30 percent lower strength was observed for crushed concrete mixtures than conventional limestone mixtures. However, test results indicated that crushed concrete mixtures would satisfy the strength requirements of Item 276 when the mixture is properly designed, especially for cement content.

A proportional relationship was observed for the CTB mixtures with both aggregate sources between compressive strength and modulus of elasticity. However, difference in the modulus of elasticity between the two materials was a little narrower than the strength difference. Crushed concrete mixtures showed 20 to 25 percent lower modulus values than crushed limestone mixtures. Prediction models were proposed for time dependent compressive strength and modulus of elasticity of CTB mixtures based on the ACI equations prepared for normal concrete. Good agreement was observed between test data and the estimations. It is expected that the models will be useful for any CTB mixtures having a compressive strength between 200 to 2000 psi.

The results of free shrinkage measurements indicated that crushed concrete mixtures tend to shrink more than conventional limestone mixtures. After 40 days of drying, crushed concrete mixtures showed twice the shrinkage of limestone mixtures. However, the shrinkage rate was slower in crushed concrete samples so that the absolute amount of shrinkage at 10 days of drying was shown to be close in both aggregate mixtures. This slow shrinkage rate would alleviate shrinkage cracking potential in early ages, even though the mixture shrinks more in the ultimate state.

Tensile relaxation tests were conducted with 7 and 28 days cured CTB mixtures. Test results indicated that crushed concrete mixtures tend to relax more under sustained strain conditions than crushed limestone mixtures. This implies, for a given restrained shrinkage condition, stress development in crushed concrete mixtures would be less than in conventional limestone mixtures.

All the evaluated properties, including strength, elastic modulus, free shrinkage, and relaxation, provide a combined effect on the mixture's shrinkage cracking potential. Compared to crushed limestone mixtures, CTB with crushed concrete was shown to have lower strength and higher shrinkage tendency, but lower stiffness and higher relaxation characteristics. The first two properties increase shrinkage cracking potential of the mixture, but the latter two reduce it.

The results of the restrained shrinkage ring test indicated that crushed concrete mixtures do not necessarily have a higher shrinkage cracking potential as compared to the limestone mixtures. The test continued for 25 days of drying under restrained conditions. During the first two weeks of testing, less shrinkage stress was estimated for crushed concrete mixtures than

for the crushed limestone mixtures. At later ages, stress conditions near the strength of the material was estimated for crushed limestone mixtures, while the stress in crushed concrete mixtures continued to increase up to about 2.5 times the strength. However, the lack of cracking suggests that the stress relaxation in the crushed concrete mixture compensated for the high shrinkage stress.

More severe conditions related to drying shrinkage are expected under field conditions, such as non-linear shrinkage over the depth of a layer that is likely to cause very highly localized stress. On the other hand, however, the degree of restraints in the field condition is generally much less than that which occurred in the ring test configuration so that the development of cracking may be offset, similar to what was experienced in the lab. As before, the field performance of CTB mixtures with respect to shrinkage cracking behavior needs to be studied further.

Moisture susceptibility of CTB mixtures was evaluated by the tube suction test. Test results indicated that the specimens of both crushed concrete and crushed limestone materials are not moisture susceptible. Both specimens showed very stable surface dielectrics during the 10 days of testing. Comparing the TST results on flexible base mixtures, it seems that cement treatment considerably reduces the capillary rise in the mixture and subsequent moisture susceptibility.

## **HOT MIX ASPHALT BOND BREAKER**

Laboratory tests for the study on hot mix asphalt bond breaker applications included:

- Mix design, and
- Moisture sensitivity test.

The main purpose of the test program is to find the maximum substitution of recycled CPCC fines for natural or other conventional fine aggregates in HMA bond breaker mixtures. The maximum inclusion of CPCC fines was so determined as the aggregate gradation to meet the requirements as specified in Item 3116 Type B. Mix design properties and the optimum asphalt

content of those selected aggregate blends were investigated in accordance with test method Tex-204-F.

One important item in the test program was to evaluate the designed mixture for its susceptibility to moisture damage. In particular, since crushed concrete fines tend to have high absorption, it was necessary to investigate the moisture damage potential. The moisture sensitivity test was used to determine the moisture susceptibility of the designed mixtures. The tests were conducted in accordance with test methods Tex-531-C and Tex-226-F.

## Mix Design

Three different aggregate sources were used in this test program. The first was locally obtained aggregate blend that is currently used as a conventional Type B bond breaker mixture. This aggregate blend consists of Gifford Hill 1-inch aggregate, Fordyce D/F blend, Gifford Hill washed screenings, and Texcon S&S sand. In addition to this, the washed and regraded CPCC fines from the Williams Brothers crusher and unwashed CPCC fines from the Southern Crushed Concrete were used as the second and third aggregate sources. Referring to the sample labeling system shown in [Chapter 3](#), the codes MS and SC designate washed and unwashed CPCC fines, respectively. Asphalt binder of the grade PG-64-22 was used in all mixtures.

### *Aggregate Blending*

Three mix designs (Design A, B, and C) were produced with the three different aggregate sources. The first design, Design A, was the control mix with conventional materials. Designs B and C included recycled CPCC fines as substitutions for part of the conventional fine aggregates of the control mix. To maximize the amount of CPCC fines included in Designs B and C, individual aggregate sources were blended to meet the gradation requirements for a Type B bond breaker as specified in Item 3116. Finalized aggregate blends for each mix design are summarized below:

- Design A: 30% Gifford Hill 1-inch aggregate  
33% Fordyce D/F Blend

- 27% Gifford Hill washed screenings
- 10% Texcon S&S sand
- Design B: 40% Gifford Hill 1-inch aggregate  
20% Fordyce D/F Blend  
40% Washed and regraded CPCC fines (Williams Brothers)
- Design C: 40% Gifford Hill 1-inch aggregate  
20% Fordyce D/F Blend  
40% Unwashed CPCC fines (Southern Crushed Concrete)

Resulting aggregate gradations for each design are shown in [Table 4.18](#) with the specifications. [Figure 4.28](#) shows the relevant gradation curves.

### *Mix Design Results*

Individual batches of the blended aggregates were mixed with various asphalt binder contents according to test method Tex-204-F. Details for mixing and compaction procedures conformed to test methods Tex-205-F and Tex-206-F. The mixing temperature was controlled at 290°F. When mixing was completed, the mixtures were cured in a 250°F oven for 2 hours. A set of three specimens was molded for selected asphalt contents to obtain the optimum amount of asphalt in the mixture. These specimens were compacted by the use of the gyratory molding press. The compacted specimens were allowed to cool down to room temperature and then measured for height, density, and Hveem Stability. [Table 4.19](#) presents a summary of the final mix design results on the three test mixes.

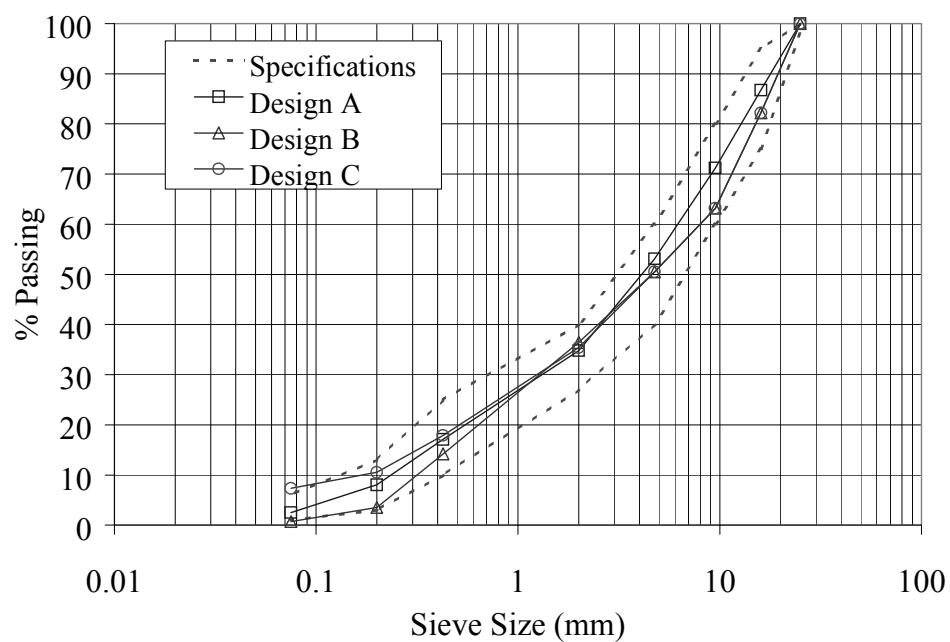
### **Moisture Sensitivity**

After determining the optimum asphalt content, eight specimens from each design were molded and investigated for the possibility of moisture induced damage in accordance with test method Tex-531-C. These specimens were molded to a density of 93±1 percent. The eight specimens

**Table 4.18. Final Aggregate Gradations for HMA Bond Breaker Design Mixtures.**

Sieve Size	Specification *	Design A	Design B	Design C
1"	98-100	100	100	100
5/8"	75-95	86.7	82.2	82.2
3/8"	60-80	71.2	63.2	63.2
#4	40-60	53.1	50.5	50.5
#10	27-40	34.8	34.6	35.5
#40	10-25	17.1	14.2	17.9
#80	3-13	8.0	3.5	10.5
#200	1-6	2.5	0.7	7.3

\* Item 3116 Type B covered under Item 345



**Figure 4.28. Gradation Curves for HMA Bond Breaker Design Mixtures.**

**Table 4.19. Results of Mix Design for Bond Breaker Applications.**

Design Property	Design A	Design B	Design C
Optimum Asphalt Content (%)	4.2	5.4	5.5
Hveem Stability (%)	50	57	60
Compacted Sp. Gr. ( $G_{mb}$ )	2.444	2.331	2.343
VMA (%)	13.6	15.9	16.1

for each mix design were divided into two groups according to the test purpose so that each group consisted of four specimens. One group of specimens was placed in an empty dessicator until testing without any conditioning. The other group was subject to moisture conditioning in an attempt to induce stripping in the specimen. The latter group of specimens was placed in a vacuum chamber filled with water and saturated for 30 minutes at a residual pressure of 50 mmHg. According to the specimens' weights measured after the vacuum saturation, the specimens were expected to have achieved more than 90 percent of saturation.

Each specimen was sealed in a plastic bag along with 10 ml of additional water and then placed in a freezer at  $0\pm 5^{\circ}\text{F}$  for a minimum of 15 hours. After the freezing period, the specimens were subjected to thawing in a  $140\pm 1.8^{\circ}\text{F}$  water bath for 24 hours, and then in a  $77\pm 1^{\circ}\text{F}$  water bath for 3 to 4 hours. Both conditioned and unconditioned specimens were tested to failure by indirect tensile loading in accordance with test method Tex-226-F.

#### *Test Results and Discussion*

To express the numerical index or resistance of the test mixtures to the detrimental effect of water, the tensile strength ratio (TSR) was used. TSR is defined as follows:

$$\text{TSR} = \frac{\text{S2}}{\text{S1}}$$

where, S1 = average indirect tensile strength of unconditioned (dry) specimens

S2 = average indirect tensile strength of moisture conditioned specimens

A summary of the indirect tensile strength test results for the three mixtures is presented in [Table 4.20](#). Strength test results for the unconditioned specimens indicate that the use of CPCC fines would produce more favorable mixtures in terms of strength. The high angularity of CPCC fines is thought to contribute to this trend.

However, when the specimens were subjected to moisture conditioning, mixtures including CPCC fines failed at lower stress levels in the strength tests and, therefore, produced lower TSR than the conventional mixture. This observation can be simply interpreted such that the use of CPCC fines may produce more moisture susceptible mixtures compared to conventional materials. However, it should be noted that TSR values for bond breaker mixtures are used for comparison purposes only and not for absolute evaluation of the mixture. It is also noted that the allowable limits of TSR have not been established yet for bond breaker mixtures. Furthermore, conventional mixtures currently under use showed very low TSR values as an HMA mixture. Normally, 60 to 80 percent of TSR values are required for an HMA surface course. Considering the purpose of the bond breaker layer in a pavement structure, the requirements of TSR for bond breaker could be much lower than that of surface course mixtures. More studies should follow up these observations.

Researchers also investigated the possible use of additives to alleviate the moisture susceptibility of the mixtures. Considering the simplicity and the possible cost increase, 1 percent of lime by weight of the asphalt binder was added to three mixtures. The same tests were performed for these three lime treated mixtures. A summary of the test results on the mixtures with lime is shown in [Table 4.21](#). Comparisons of all the test results are provided in [Figure 4.29](#). The solid and empty bars are comparing the tensile strengths of moisture conditioned and unconditioned dry specimens for each test mixture. The lines give a comparison of TSR for the mixtures with and without lime.

Tensile strength as well as TSR was increased in all test mixtures by adding 1 percent lime. It was shown, however, that the crushed concrete mixtures, Designs B and C, still have

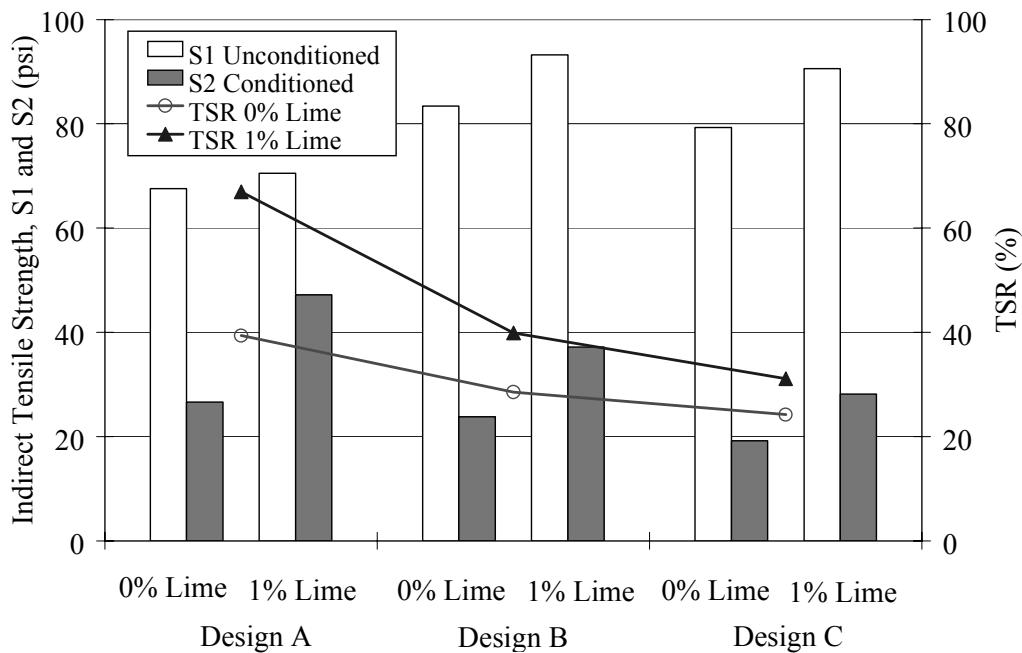
lower TSR than the conventional Design A mixture. It was also shown that the TSR of crushed concrete mixtures with 1 percent lime approaches the TSR of the conventional Design A mixture without lime. It is noteworthy that the Design A mixture is currently used without lime and without any reported problems relative to moisture damage.

**Table 4.20. Tensile Strength Test Results for HMA Bond Breaker Mixtures.**

		<b>Design A</b>	<b>Design B</b>	<b>Design C</b>
Average Indirect Tensile Strength (psi)	S1	67.6	83.4	79.3
	S2	26.6	23.8	19.2
Tensile Strength Ratio, TSR (%)		39.3	28.5	24.2

**Table 4.21. Tensile Strength Test Results for 1 Percent Lime Added  
HMA Bond Breaker Mixtures.**

		<b>Design A</b>	<b>Design B</b>	<b>Design C</b>
Average Indirect Tensile Strength (psi)	S1	70.5	93.2	90.6
	S2	47.2	37.2	28.2
Tensile Strength Ratio, TSR (%)		67.0	39.9	31.1



**Figure 4.29. Indirect Tensile Tests and Moisture Sensitivity of Bond Breaker Test Mixtures.**

### Summary

HMA bond breaker mixtures containing crushed concrete fine aggregates were evaluated for mix design properties and moisture susceptibility, and then compared to those of conventional mixtures. Two types of crushed concrete materials were utilized: unwashed CPCC fines and manufactured sand (washed and regraded CPCC fines). The maximum inclusions of crushed concrete materials were determined in accordance with Item 3116 Type B, which is covered under Item 345. It was shown that both CPCC fines and manufactured sand could substitute up to 40 percent of conventional materials.

Mix design results indicated that use of crushed concrete materials caused the optimum asphalt content to increase. The Hveem stability of crushed concrete mixtures was shown to be about 10 percent higher than that of conventional mixtures. In general, design properties of the mixtures containing crushed concrete materials satisfied the requirements of Item 345.

Eight specimens from each of the three mix designs, one conventional and two crushed concrete mixtures, were molded and investigated for moisture susceptibility. As expected, crushed concrete mixtures were shown to be more moisture sensitive with respect to the strength

property than conventional mixtures. Possible use of lime was investigated to alleviate the moisture sensitivity of crushed concrete mixtures. Crushed concrete mixtures including 1 percent lime showed a reduction in moisture sensitivity to the level experienced in conventional mixtures.

## CHAPTER 5. NON-PAVING APPLICATIONS

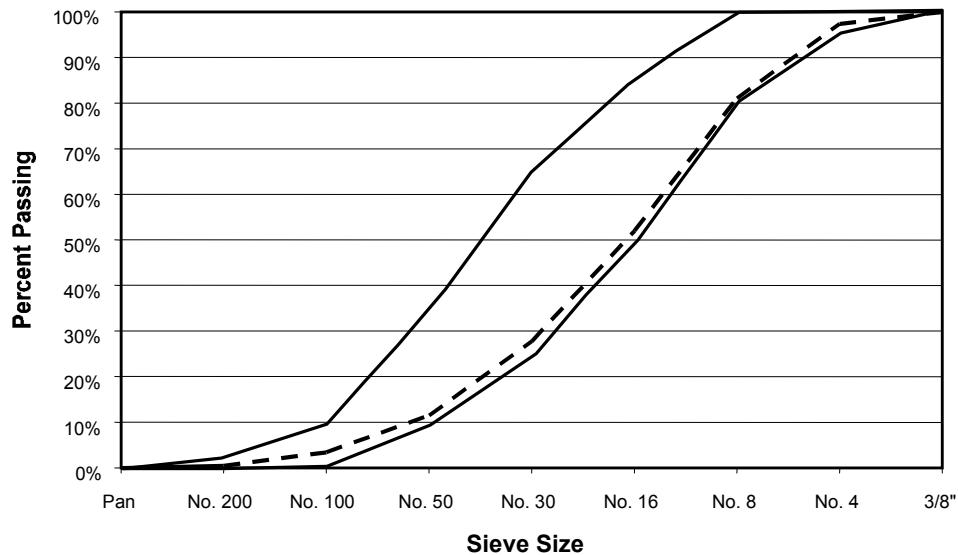
### FLOWABLE FILL

This chapter describes the test methods used to evaluate crushed concrete fines as a possible aggregate for flowable fill, or controlled low strength material. Nine mixtures of flowable fill were mixed and evaluated on both their fresh and hardened properties including flow, unit weight, air content, bleeding, setting time, strength, and load-deflection responses. Mixtures containing concrete sand, crushed concrete fines, and a blend of the two were cast. In addition, both air entrained and fly ash supplemented mixtures were cast and evaluated.

### Materials

Two types of fine aggregate were used in this project. Concrete sand conforming to ASTM C 33, “Standard Specification for Concrete Aggregates,” was used in control mixtures and mixtures that contained a blend of concrete sand and crushed concrete. [Figure 5.1](#) shows the gradation curve for the concrete sand. In all other mixtures, crushed concrete fines were used as the aggregate. All crushed concrete fines came from a sample obtained from the Williams Brothers crushing operation (sample “WB-A”). The material properties of this sample were given in [Chapter 3](#).

The applied test mixtures consisted of Type I portland cement, class F fly ash, air entraining (AE) agent, and water, in addition to fine aggregates. The portland cement used in this project was a locally available Type I cement conforming to ASTM C 150, “Standard Specification for Portland Cement.” The fly ash used in this project was a Class F fly ash conforming to ASTM C 618, “Standard Specification for Coal Fly Ash for Use as a Mineral Admixture in Portland Cement Concrete.” [Table 5.1](#) shows the chemical composition of this fly ash. A liquid AE agent, specifically designed for use in CLSM, was used throughout this project. The water used in all mixtures was tap water conforming to ASTM C 94, “Standard Specification for Ready-Mixed Concrete.”



**Figure 5.1. Grading Graph of Concrete Sand Used in Flowable Fill Mixtures.**

**Table 5.1. Chemical Composition of Class F Fly Ash.**

Silicon Dioxide	$\text{SiO}_2$	55.24
Aluminum Oxide	$\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$	29.43
Iron Oxide	$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$	5.19
Calcium Oxide	$\text{CaO}$	1.59
Magnesium Oxide	$\text{MgO}$	0.93
Sodium Oxide	$\text{Na}_2\text{O}$	0.24
Potassium Oxide	$\text{K}_2\text{O}$	2.18
Titanium Dioxide	$\text{TiO}_2$	1.44
Manganese Dioxide	$\text{MnO}_2$	0.03
Phosphorus Pentoxide	$\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$	0.28
Strontium Oxide	$\text{SrO}$	0.10
Barium Oxide	$\text{BaO}$	0.07
Sulfur Trioxide	$\text{SO}_3$	0.38
Ignition		2.90

## Mixture Proportioning

Air entrained and fly ash mixtures were proportioned and cast. The mixture proportions of all mixtures are shown in [Table 5.2](#). Three air entrained and six fly ash mixtures were cast. For both types of flowable fill, control mixtures containing concrete sand were cast. In addition, mixtures containing a blend of crushed concrete and concrete sand were cast. These intermediate mixtures assessed the feasibility of using an aggregate blend in this application.

A second round of mixtures, containing fly ash and varying cement contents, was cast to determine how much additional cement was required to use crushed concrete fines as aggregate yet achieve strengths similar to those of mixtures using concrete sand as aggregate.

A three tiered labeling system was devised to easily distinguish the mixtures. The mixtures were labeled first by mixture type, either AE or fly ash (F), then by cement content (50, 100, 150, or 200), and finally by the percentage of the aggregate that was crushed concrete fines (either 100, 50, or 0 percents).

**Table 5.2. Mixture Proportions for Flowable Fill Mixtures.**

Mix ID *	Cement (lb/yd <sup>3</sup> )	Water (lb/yd <sup>3</sup> )	Crushed concrete (lb/yd <sup>3</sup> )	Concrete Sand (lb/yd <sup>3</sup> )	Class F Fly-ash (lb/yd <sup>3</sup> )	AEA (oz/yd <sup>3</sup> )
AE/50/100	51	471	2528	0	0	10.09
AE/50/50	51	397	1265	1264	0	4.94
AE50/0	51	226	0	2528	0	0.78
FA/50/100	51	556	2528	0	303	0
FA/50/50	51	440	1265	1264	303	0
FA/50/0	51	307	0	2528	303	0
FA/100/100	102	576	2528	0	303	0
FA/150/100	152	574	2528	0	303	0
FA/200/100	202	608	2528	0	303	0

\* Mixture Identification = Mix Type<sup>(1)</sup> / Cement Content / Aggregate<sup>(2)</sup>

(1) AE = Air Entrained; FA = Fly Ash

(2) 100 = CPCC Fines; 0 = Sand

## Sample Preparation

All mixing of flowable fill was performed using a 4-ft<sup>3</sup> portable concrete mixer. The mixer was first charged with the dry ingredients. These materials were dry mixed to form a homogenous mixture. Water was then added to the mixture while flow measurements were taken periodically. When the flow of the mixture exceeded 7.5 inches, mixing stopped, and cylinders were cast.

Mixtures containing the air entraining admixture were mixed to reach both 7.5 inches of flow and the maximum air content. In this case small doses of air entraining admixture were added as the flowable fill was mixed. Air content measurements were taken after every addition of air entraining admixture. This process stopped when the air content of the mixture could no longer be increased by the addition of air entraining admixture.

All compressive and splitting tensile strength specimens were cast in specially modified 3-inch by 6-inch cylinder molds. [Figure 5.2](#) shows the modified mold. These molds, standard single use molds conforming to ASTM C 470, “Standard Specification for Molds for Forming Concrete Test Cylinders Vertically,” were cut longitudinally to facilitate removal of the specimens. Two full-length longitudinal cuts were made along opposite sides of the molds. These cuts were then taped to restore rigidity to the mold and to prevent water from leaking from



**Figure 5.2. Cylinders Used for Flowable Fill Test Specimens.**  
**(Shown on the left is a vertically cut cylinder; on the right is a cylinder taped and ready to be filled with fresh flowable fill.)**

the molds when the cylinders were cast. To remove the cylinders, the tape was removed, and the opposite sides of the cylinder were pulled apart. This modification allowed extremely low strength cylinders to be removed with minimal damage.

Immediately after casting, all specimens were placed in a moist curing room kept at 73°C and 100% RH, conforming to ASTM C 511, “Standard Specification for Moist Cabinets, Moist Rooms, and Water Storage Tanks Used in the Testing of Hydraulic Cements and Concretes.” Specimens were left in this room, in their molds with their caps on, until they were tested.

## Flow

The ability for a flowable fill mixture to flow easily into a confined area is one of its most important properties. For this reason, all mixtures were mixed to achieve a constant flow. The flow of each mixture was measured using ASTM D 6103, “Standard Test Method for Flow Consistency of Controlled Low Strength Material.” This method consists of lifting a bottomless 3-inch by 6-inch cylinder filled with flowable fill. As the cylinder is lifted, the material flows out. The diameter of the resulting specimen is measured. Typically an 8-inch diameter indicates sufficient flow.

All mixtures had a final flow value between 7.75 inches and 8.5 inches. [Table 5.3](#) shows the water required to achieve approximately 8 inches of flow and the final flow value. The data in [Table 5.3](#) show that flowable fill using crushed concrete fines requires considerably more water to reach a given flow value than a similar mixture made with concrete sand. The increased water demand is believed to be caused by the large amount of very fine particles found in the crushed concrete fines. [Figure 5.3](#) shows a collapsed flow specimen and the method used to measure flow of the mixture.

## Unit Weight, Air Content, and Bleeding

The unit weight and air content of all flowable fill mixtures were measured according to ASTM D 6023, “Standard Test Method for Flow Consistency of Controlled Low-Strength Material.” The bleeding of each mixture was measured during the 24 hours immediately

**Table 5.3. Water Demand vs. Flow for Flowable Fill Mixtures.**

Mix ID *	Water Demand (lb/yd <sup>3</sup> )	Flow (inch)
AE/50/199	471	7.75
AE/50/50	397	7.75
AE/50/0	226	7.75
FA/50/100	556	8.5
FA/50/50	440	8.0
FA/50/0	307	7.75
FA/100/100	576	8.0
FA/150/100	574	8.0
FA/200/100	608	8.25

**\* Mixture Identification:**

Mix Type <sup>a</sup> / Cement Content / Aggregate <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> AE = Air Entrained, FA = Fly Ash

<sup>b</sup> 100, 50 = CPCC Fines, 0 = Sand



**Figure 5.3. Collapsed Flow Specimen and Method Used to Measure Flow.**

following mixing. Bleeding was measured by filling a 6-inch diameter by 8-inch height aluminum can with fresh flowable fill. The initial weight of the flowable fill was recorded, and the can was covered with a snug-fitting lid. At regular intervals, any excess water was removed from the sample using an air piston. The sample was then re-weighed, and that weight was recorded. This process continued until the sample stopped bleeding. The final amount of bleeding was computed by dividing the total weight of bleed water by the initial weight of flowable fill.

[Table 5.4](#) shows the results of the unit weight and air content tests along with the air entraining admixture dosage and bleed percentage of each mixture. This shows that the use of crushed concrete fines as aggregate in flowable fill can considerably decrease the unit weight of the mixture. [Table 5.4](#) also shows that while the mixtures containing crushed concrete had much greater water demands, they generally had smaller bleed percentages than mixtures using concrete sand as aggregate. This is believed to be caused by the large amount of fine material in the crushed concrete.

[Table 5.4](#) also shows the air content vs. air entraining agent dosage for air entrained mixtures. [Table 5.4](#) also shows that, while it was possible to entrain air in the mixtures

**Table 5.4. Unit Weight, Percent Air, Air Entraining Agent Dosage, and Bleed Percentage for Flowable Fill Mixtures.**

Mix ID	Unit Weight (lb/ft <sup>3</sup> )	Air (%)	Air Entraining Agent (oz/yd <sup>3</sup> )	Bleedwater (%)
AE/50/100	111.6	7.5%	10.09	0.75%
AE/50/50	114.8	11.0%	4.94	0.81%
AE/50/0	106.7	23.0%	0.78	0.87%
FA/50/100	116.7	2.0	0	0.61%
FA/50/50	1.28.3	2.0%	0	0.33%
FA/50/0	135.8	3.0%	0	0.70%
FA/100/100	117.9	2.0%	0	0.21%
FA150/100	119.4	2.0%	0	0.11%
FA/200/100	118.5	2.0%	0	0.22%

Mixture Identification:

Mix Type / Cement Content / % of Aggregate CPCC Fines

containing crushed concrete fines, it was not economical. The mixture containing crushed concrete fines required more than 10 times the amount of air entraining agent required to entrain 23 percent air in the mixture using concrete sand as aggregate.

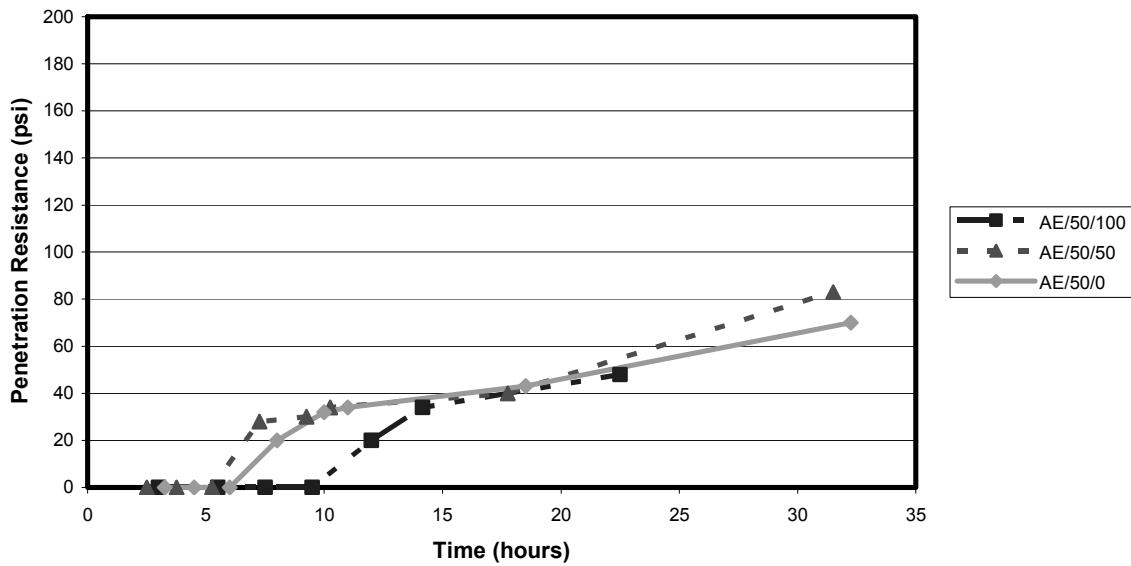
### **Setting Time**

The setting time of the flowable fill mixtures was measured using a slightly modified version of ASTM C 403, “Standard Test Method for Time of Setting of Concrete Mixtures by Penetration Resistance.” The same apparatus and testing procedure outlined in this test method were used to measure the setting time of the flowable fill mixtures. However, flowable fill does not have penetration resistances that correspond with “initial set” and “final set.” The values found from this test were used to determine how fast the different mixtures developed an ability to withstand load.

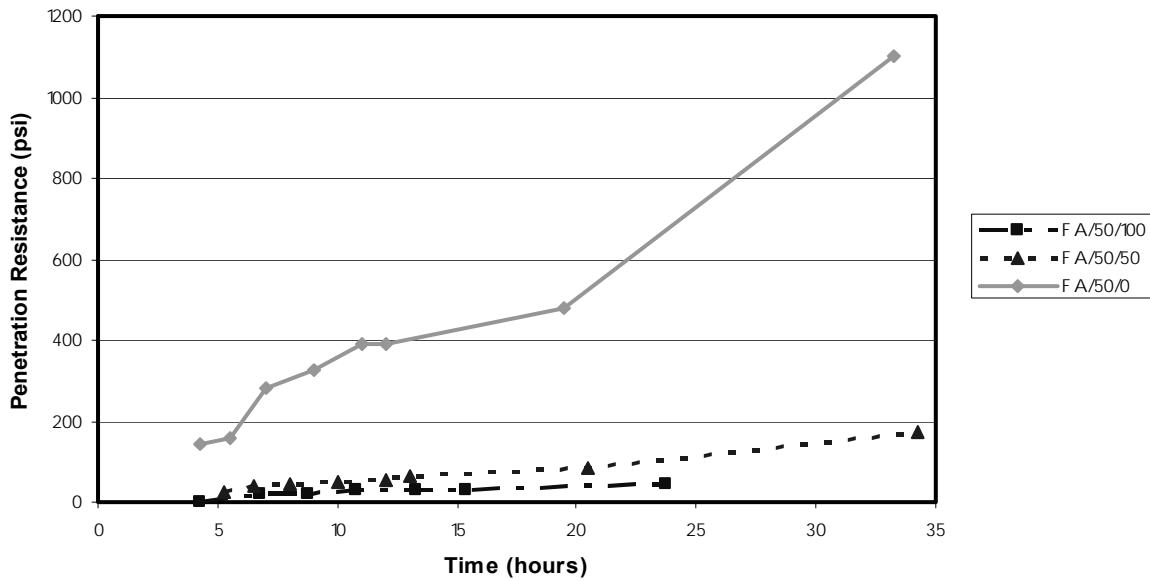
The results of the setting time tests are shown in Figures 5.4 through 5.6. Figure 5.4 shows that there was no significant change to the setting time for the air entrained mixtures. Figure 5.5 shows that for a given cement content, the flowable fill mixtures containing crushed concrete took much longer to develop strength than mixtures containing concrete sand. This difference is due to the increased water demand of the mixtures containing crushed concrete. Figure 5.6 shows the setting time measurements for mixtures using crushed concrete fines as aggregate and varying cement contents. As the cement content of the mixture increased, the penetration resistance at a given time increased.

### **Splitting Tensile Strength**

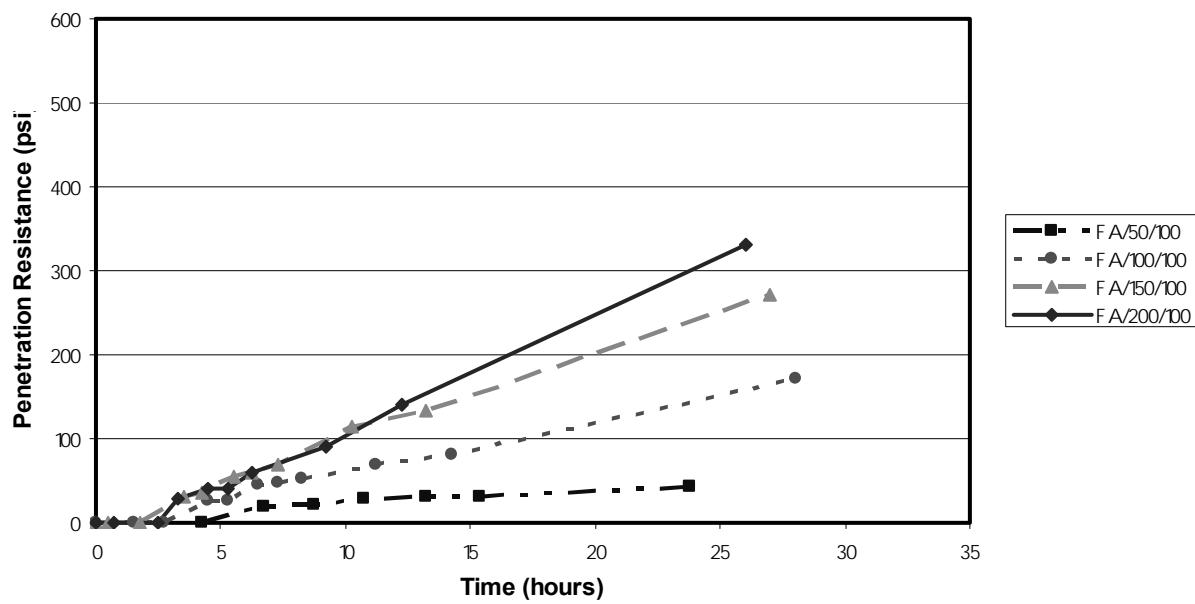
The splitting tensile strength of all mixtures was measured at 7, 28, and 91 days. The splitting tensile strength of the flowable fill cylinders was evaluated using a modified version of ASTM C 496, “Standard Test Method for Splitting Tensile Strength of Cylindrical Concrete Specimens.” The only modification to the above specification was that the specimens were not loaded at the specified load rate. Rather than being loaded following a constant load rate, they were loaded at a constant displacement of 0.01 inches per minute. A failed splitting tensile strength specimen is shown in Figure 5.7.



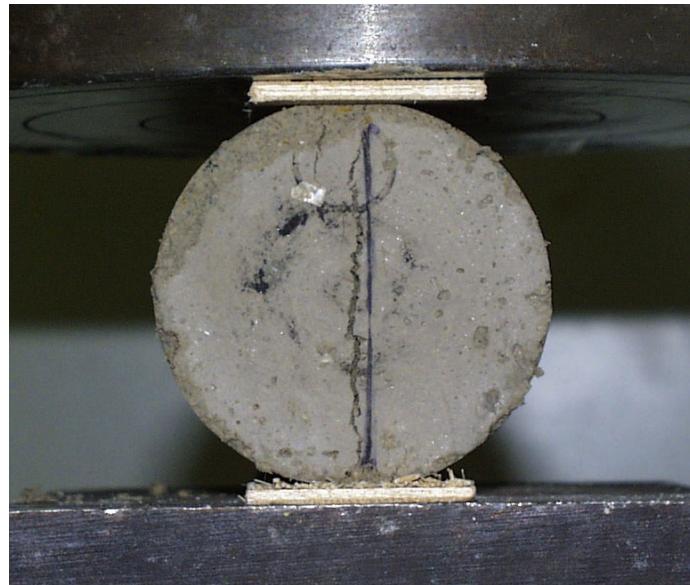
**Figure 5.4. Setting Time Graph for Air Entrained Flowable Fill Mixtures.**



**Figure 5.5. Setting Time Graph for Fly Ash Flowable Fill Mixtures.**



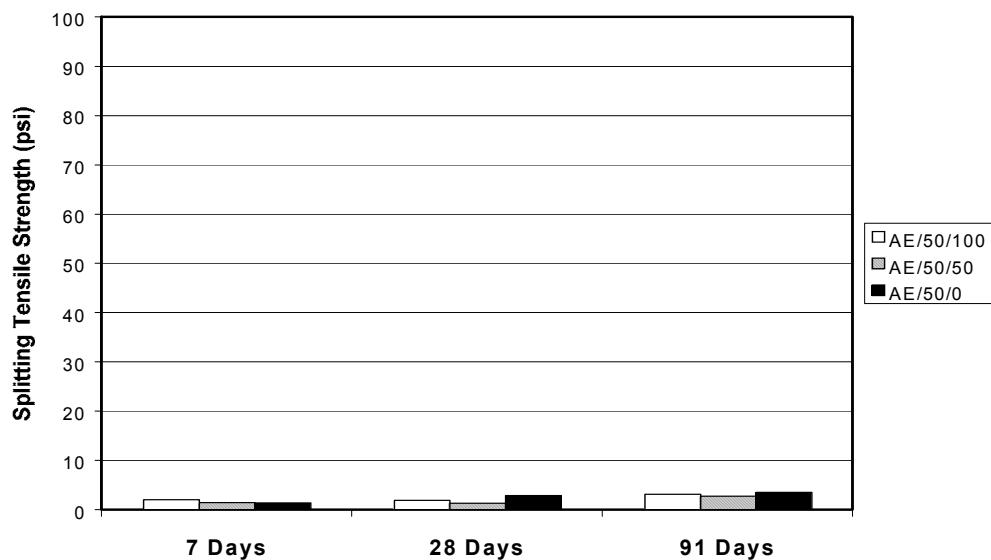
**Figure 5.6. Setting Time Graph for Fly Ash Flowable Fill Mixtures Containing Varying Cement Contents.**



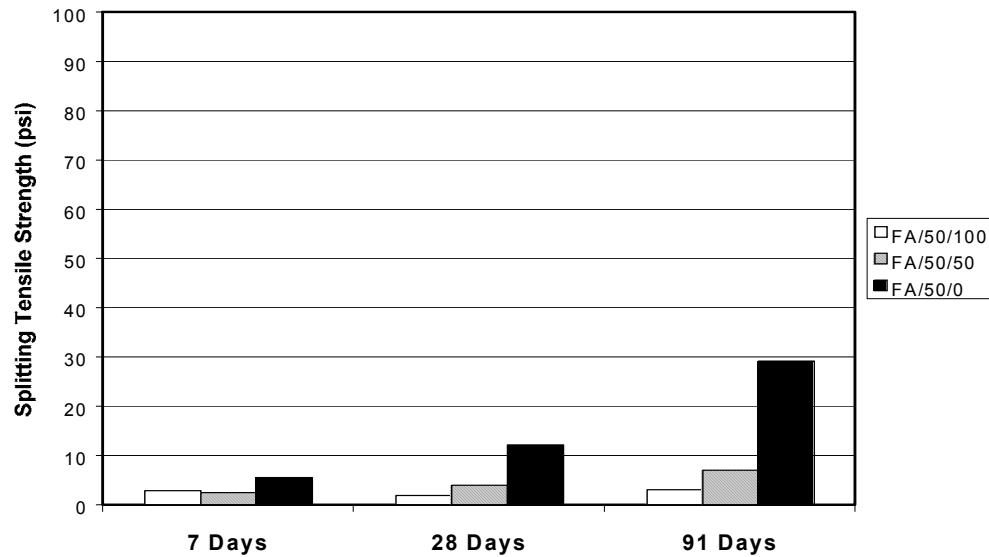
**Figure 5.7. Flowable Fill Specimen Failed in Splitting Tension.**

The results of the splitting tensile strength tests are shown in Figures 5.8 through 5.10. The splitting tensile strengths of air entrained mixtures were very low, and the use of crushed concrete fines as aggregate did not significantly impact the splitting tensile strength of the mixtures. The splitting tensile strength of all air entrained mixtures remained low enough to ensure easy excavation at a future date. Figure 5.9 shows that flowable fill made with crushed concrete fines instead of concrete sand has a much lower splitting tensile strength. This decrease in splitting tensile strength is believed to be a result of the increased water content of the mixtures using crushed concrete fines as aggregate. However, the decrease in splitting tensile strength is desirable because it ensures that the flowable fill will be easy to excavate.

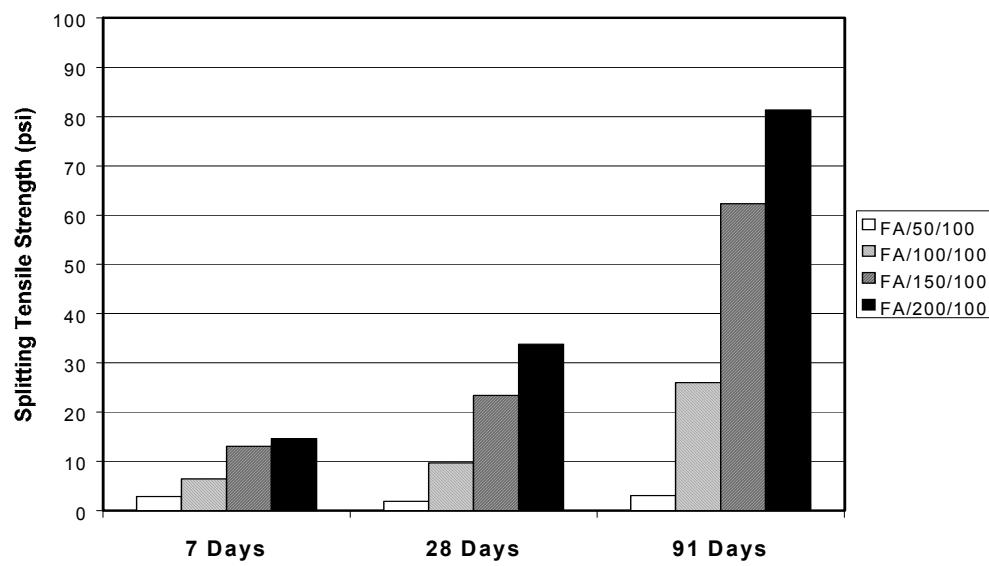
The splitting tensile strengths of flowable fill mixtures using crushed concrete fines and various cement contents are shown in Figure 5.10. As the cement content of the mixtures increased, the splitting tensile strength of the mixtures also increased. However, the strengths of the mixtures containing 150 and 200 lb of cement exceeded the splitting tensile strength of the flowable fill mixture made with concrete sand and 50 lb of cement. This indicates that it may be difficult to excavate these mixtures and that it is unnecessary to use more than 150 lb of cement in flowable fill mixtures.



**Figure 5.8. Splitting Tensile Strength of Air Entrained Flowable Fill Mixtures at 7, 28, and 91 Days.**



**Figure 5.9. Splitting Tensile Strength of Fly Ash Flowable Fill Mixtures at 7, 28, and 91 Days.**



**Figure 5.10. Splitting Tensile Strength of Fly Ash Flowable Fill Mixtures Containing Varying Cement Contents at 7, 28, and 91 Days.**

## Compressive Strength

The compressive strength of the flowable fill mixtures was measured at 7, 28, and 91 days. The compressive strength was measured by testing three 3-inch by 6-inch cylindrical specimens to failure. All specimens were capped with sulfur caps according to ASTM C 617, “Standard Practice for Capping Cylindrical Concrete Specimens.” All specimens were loaded at a rate of 0.015 inch/minute. This displacement rate ensured that no specimens failed in under two minutes. The set-up used to test samples for compressive strength is shown in [Figure 5.11](#). The protocol for compressive strength testing was based on research currently being conducted at The University of Texas as part of NCHRP Project 24-12(1).

A failed compressive strength specimen is shown in [Figure 5.12](#). The results of these tests are shown in Figures [5.13](#) to [5.15](#). The compressive strengths of air entrained mixtures



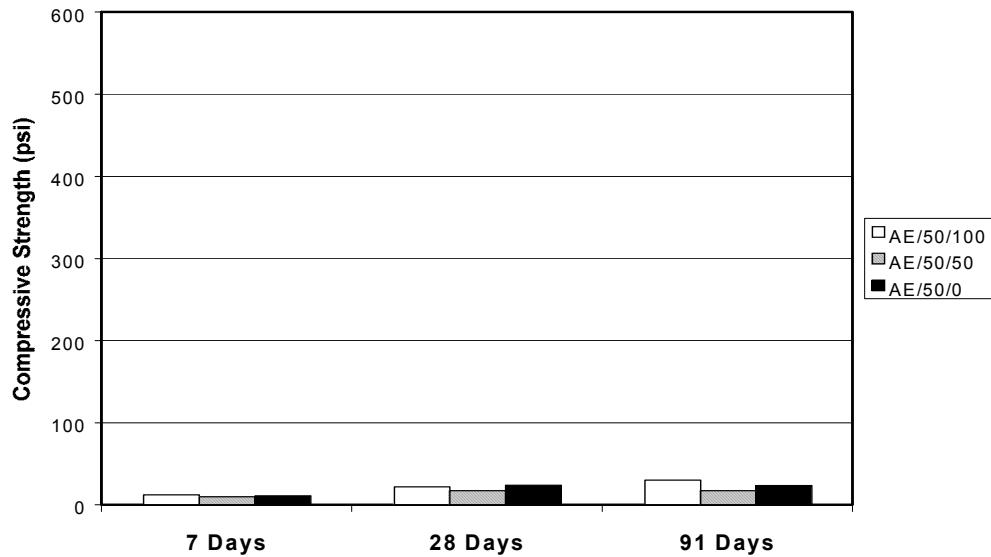
**Figure 5.11. Compressive Strength Tests on Flowable Fill Mixtures.**



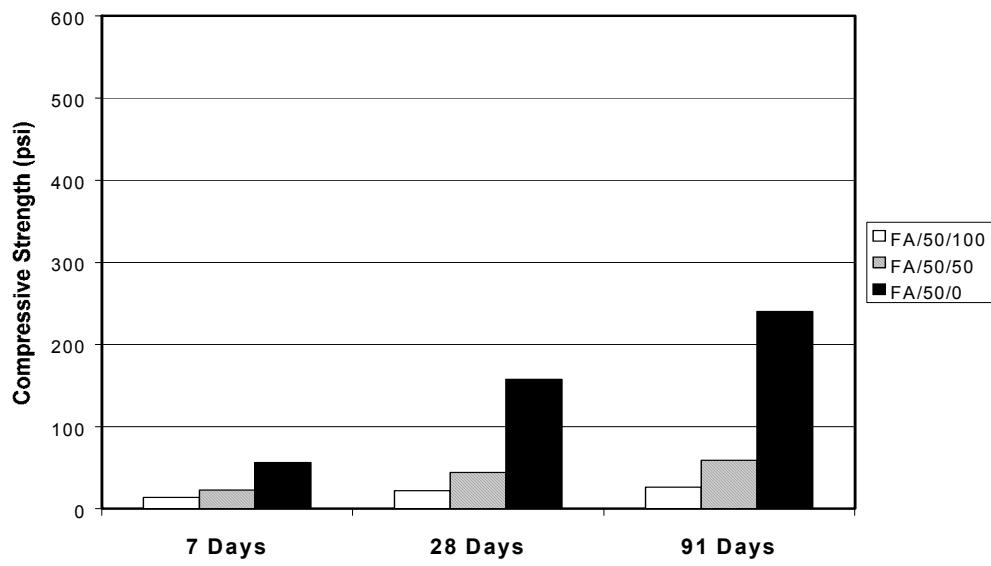
**Figure 5.12. Flowable Fill Specimen Failed in Compression.**

were very low, and the use of crushed concrete fines as aggregate did not significantly impact the compressive strength of the mixtures. [Figure 5.14](#) shows that flowable fill mixture made with crushed concrete fines instead of concrete sand had a much lower compressive strength. This decrease in compressive strength, like the decrease in splitting tensile strength, is believed to be caused by the increased water demand of mixtures containing crushed concrete fines.

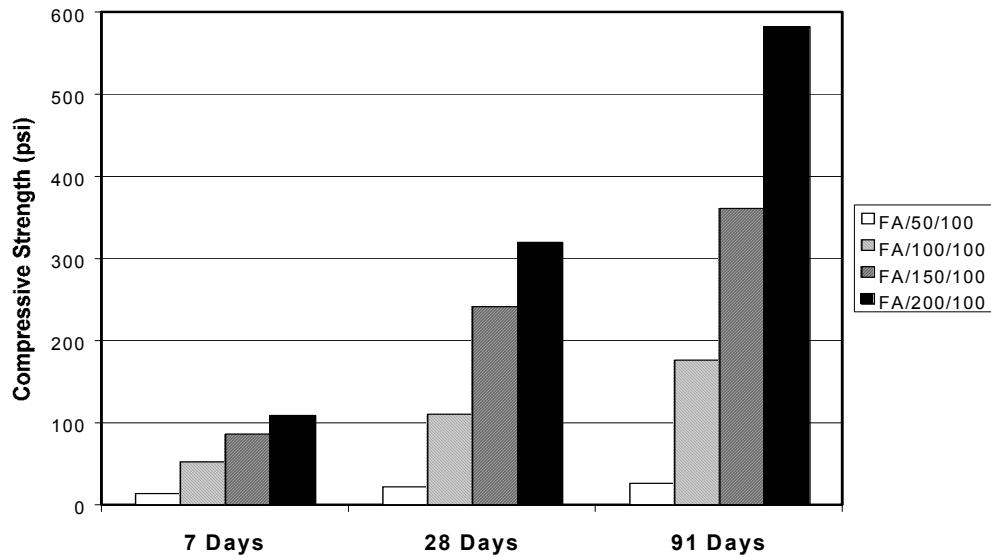
[Figure 5.15](#) shows the compressive strengths of flowable fill mixtures using crushed concrete fines and various cement contents. As the cement content of the mixtures increased, the compressive strength of the mixtures also increased. However, the strengths of the mixtures containing 150 and 200 lb of cement exceeded the compressive strength of the flowable fill mixture made with concrete sand and 50 lb of cement. These strengths, exceeding 200 psi, are generally not required of flowable fill and indicate that this much cement need not be used in flowable fill.



**Figure 5.13. Compressive Strength of Air Entrained Flowable Fill Mixtures at 7, 28, and 91 Days.**



**Figure 5.14. Compressive Strength of Fly Ash Flowable Fill Mixtures at 7, 28, and 91 Days.**



**Figure 5.15. Compressive Strength of Fly Ash Flowable Fill Mixtures Containing Varying Cement Contents at 7, 28, and 91 Days.**

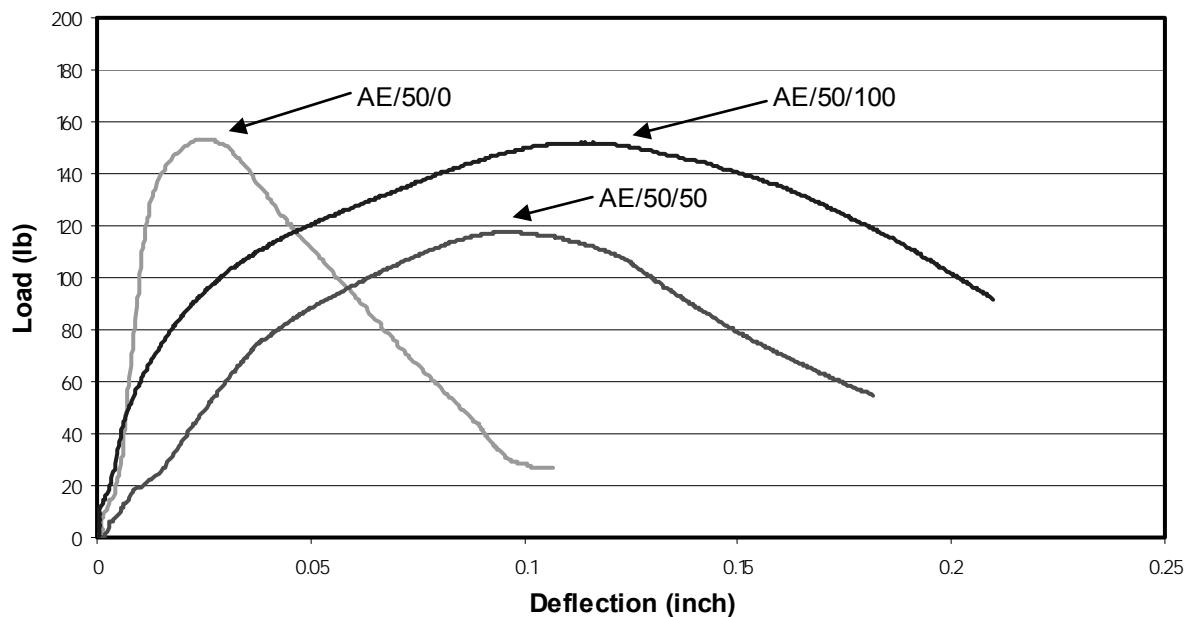
### Load-Deflection Response

The load-deflection response of each mixture was measured while testing the cylinders in compression. During every compressive strength test, load and displacement readings were taken every  $\frac{1}{2}$  second. These load displacement curves were plotted to help illustrate the effect of different mixture proportions on the properties of flowable fill.

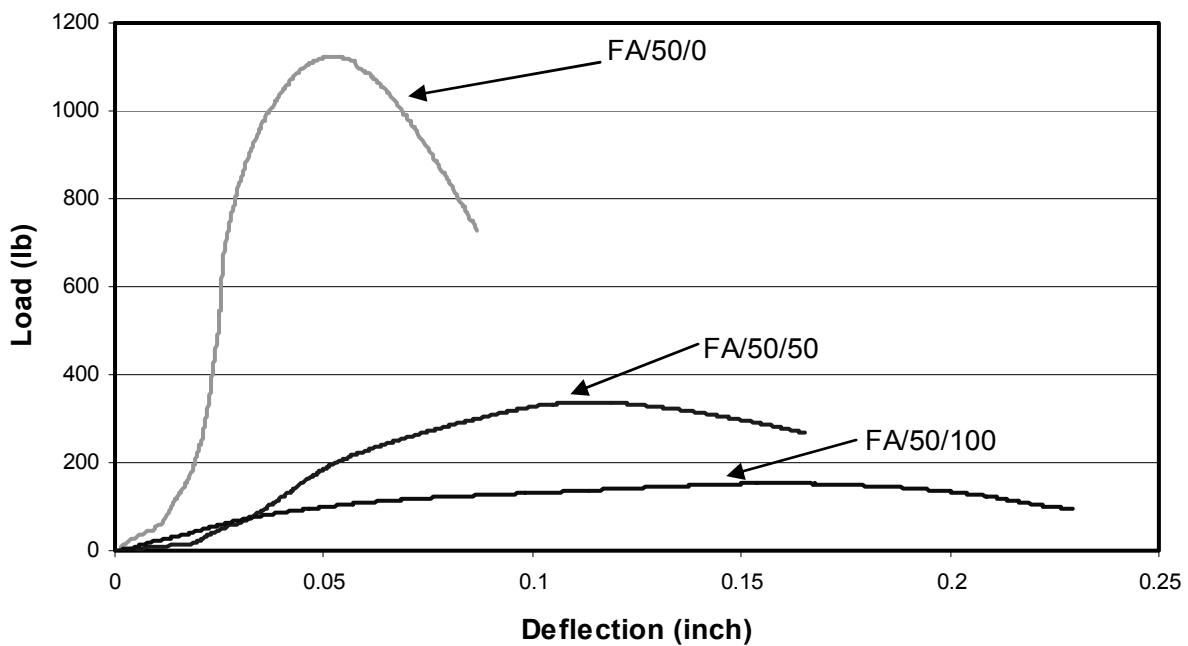
The load-deflection response of selected flowable fill mixtures is shown in Figures 5.16 to 5.18. Figure 5.16 shows typical load-deflection behavior of the three air entrained mixtures at 28 days. Although the three mixtures have similar ultimate compressive strengths, the load-deflection behavior of the three mixtures varies considerably. The control, mixture AE/50/0, reaches its ultimate strength at a relatively small deflection and then rapidly unloads. In contrast, the mixtures containing crushed concrete exhibit considerably more ductility and reach their ultimate strength at larger deflections. Figure 5.17 shows the load-deflection response of selected specimens from the fly ash mixtures. This figure shows that flowable fill using crushed

concrete fines as aggregate is considerably more ductile than mixtures made with concrete sand. Furthermore, for a given cement content, the flowable fill mixtures containing crushed concrete fines have substantially lower compressive strengths than those made with concrete sand.

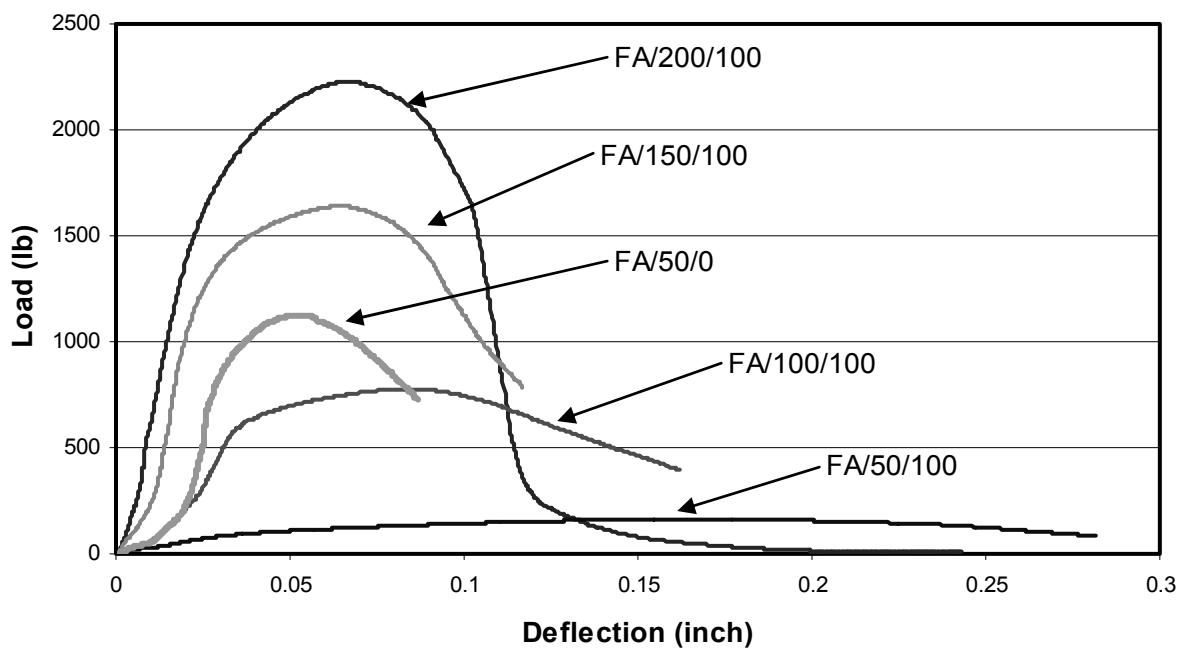
Figure 5.18 shows the 28 day load-deflection response of mixtures made with various cement contents and crushed concrete fines as aggregate. As the cement content of the mixture increases, the mixtures containing crushed concrete begin to behave more like mixtures containing concrete sand. To show this effect, the load-deflection curve of a cylinder from mixture FA/50/0 is also shown in this graph. Also, as the cement content of the flowable fill mixtures increased, the mixtures containing CPCC fines began to behave more like the control mixture. The ductility of the mixtures decreased, and the strength of the mixtures increased.



**Figure 5.16. Load-Deflection Response of Air Entrained Mixtures at 28 Days.**



**Figure 5.17. Load-Deflection Response of Fly Ash Mixtures at 28 Days.**



**Figure 5.18. Load-Deflection Response of Fly Ash Mixtures Containing Varying Cement Contents at 28 Days.**

## **Summary**

Nine flowable fill mixtures, three air entrained and six using fly ash, were cast and evaluated based on fresh and hardened properties. Mixtures containing crushed concrete fines were compared to control mixtures that used concrete sand as aggregate. In addition, mixtures using a blend of crushed concrete fines and concrete sand were cast to evaluate the feasibility of using blended aggregates in flowable fill. A final set of mixtures, using fly ash and varying cement contents, was tested to determine the additional amount of cement required to achieve strengths similar to those of the control mixtures.

Air entrained mixtures using crushed concrete fines required much larger doses of air entraining agent to achieve moderate air contents. Ten times the dosage used for the control batch was added to the mixtures containing crushed concrete fines. This dosage only produced air contents one-third of that of the control mixture. This difficulty to entrain air was likely caused by the large amount of minus No. 200 material present in the crushed concrete fines.

The water demand for all mixtures, air entrained and fly ash, was considerably higher for mixtures containing crushed concrete fines as aggregate compared to the water demand for the control mixtures. The increased water demand was likely caused by the large amount of minus No. 200 material in the crushed concrete fines. Consequently, the strengths of mixtures containing crushed concrete fines were considerably lower than those of mixtures containing concrete sand.

Flowable fill mixtures incorporating slight modifications to the mixture design exhibited similar properties to flowable fill mixtures made with sand. The high fines content of crushed concrete fines increased the water demand of mixtures making use of this material. However, mixtures incorporating crushed concrete fines bled and subsided less due to the high fines content of the crushed concrete fines.

It is difficult to entrain air into mixtures containing large amounts of fines due to the deleterious effect these fines have on the entrained air. Mixtures containing fly ash and crushed concrete fines are much weaker than similarly proportioned mixtures containing fly ash and sand. This decrease in strength, caused by the increased water demand, can be compensated for by increasing the cement content of mixtures using crushed concrete fines. Fly ash mixtures

containing crushed concrete fines also require more time to develop initial strength. This delay in strength gain can also be overcome by increasing the cement content of the mixture.

## PORLAND CEMENT CONCRETE

This section describes the test methods used to evaluate crushed concrete fines as a possible aggregate for portland cement concrete. Four mixtures of concrete were evaluated based on both their fresh and hardened properties including slump, unit weight, air content, and compressive and flexural strength. Mixtures containing CPCC fines and a blend of CPCC fines and concrete sand were cast and evaluated.

### Materials

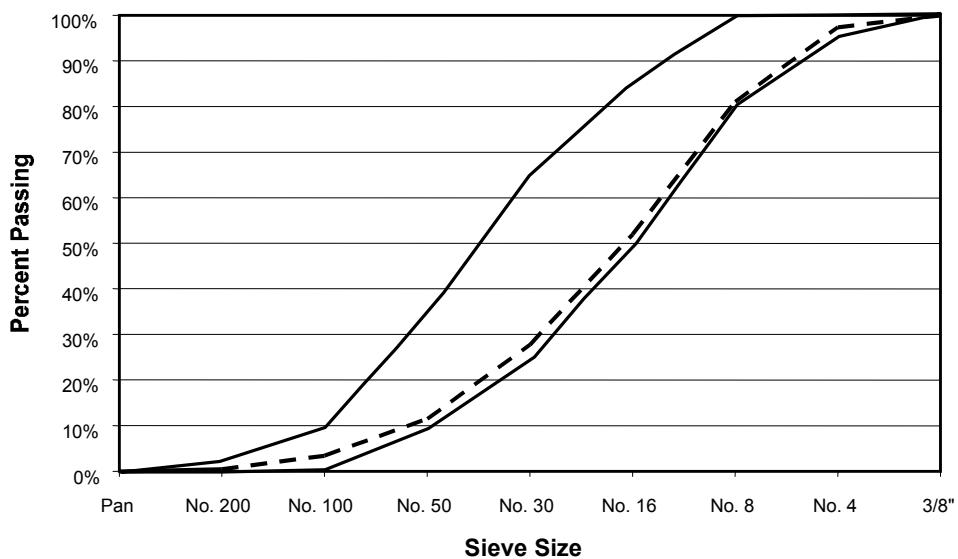
A  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch river gravel, ASTM #67, was used as the coarse aggregate in all concrete mixtures. [Table 5.5](#) shows the grading of the coarse aggregate and the ASTM C-33, “Standard Specification for Concrete Aggregate,” grading limits. Two types of fine aggregate were used in this project. Concrete sand conforming to ASTM C 33, “Standard Specification for Concrete Aggregates,” was used in mixtures that contained a blend of concrete sand and crushed concrete. The grading of the ASTM C 33 sand is shown in [Figure 5.19](#). In all other mixtures, crushed concrete fines were used as the aggregate. All crushed concrete fines came from the large sample obtained from the Williams Brothers crushing operation (sample “WB-A”). The material properties of this sample are detailed in [Chapter 3](#).

The portland cement used in this project was a locally available Type I cement conforming to ASTM C 150, “Standard Specification for Portland Cement.” The water used in all mixtures was tap water conforming to ASTM C 94, “Standard Specification for Ready-Mixed Concrete.”

A mid-range water reducing admixture (MRWRA) was used throughout the project. The manufacturer’s suggested dosage is 3 to 10 oz per 100 lb of cement. This mid-range water reducer is described as an ASTM C 94 Type A and F admixture that is specially formulated to reduce water demand and facilitate concrete placement. All mixtures in this project were given the manufacturer’s maximum recommended dosage.

**Table 5.5. Grading of Coarse Aggregate Used in Concrete Mixtures.**

Sieve Size	Percent Passing by Weight	ASTM C 33 Grading Limits (#67)
1 inch	100	100
3/4 inch	94	95 – 100
1/2 inch	59	–
3/8 inch	32	20 – 55
No. 4	4	0 – 10
No. 8	1	0 – 5



**Figure 5.19. Grading Graph for Concrete Sand Used in Concrete Mixtures.**

### Mixture Proportioning

A three tiered labeling system was devised to distinguish the mixtures. The mixtures were labeled first by fine aggregate type, either crushed concrete fines (CC) or a 50:50 blend of crushed concrete fines and ASTM C 33 concrete sand (BL); then by cement content (5 or 5-1/4

sacks per cubic yard), and finally by the fine aggregate percentage (of the total aggregate by weight).

Four trial batches of concrete were proportioned to meet the criteria specified for a TxDOT class A concrete. All mixtures were proportioned as 5-sack mixtures and used the maximum recommended dosage of mid-range water reducing admixture. The initial mixture, CC/5.25/45, was designed using typical TxDOT mixture proportions for Class A concrete. However, during mixing the water required to achieve more than a 1-inch slump would have caused the water-to-cement ratio of the mixture to exceed 0.7. As a result, an additional  $\frac{1}{4}$  sack per cubic yard was added to the mixture so that the slump could exceed 1 inch, and the water-to-cement ratio would remain below 0.7.

A second round of three mixtures was proportioned based on the initial mixture. These mixtures, containing 5 sacks of cement and the maximum dosage of mid-range water reducing admixture, employed varying aggregate ratios. The percentage of fine aggregate was reduced to 40 and 35 percent in mixtures CC/5/40 and CC/5/35, respectively. Mixture BL/5/40 was the same as CC/5/40, except half of the crushed concrete fines was replaced with ASTM C 33 concrete sand. The mixture proportions of all concrete mixtures are shown in [Table 5.6](#).

**Table 5.6. Mixture Proportions for Concrete Mixtures.**

Mix ID	Cement (lb/yd <sup>3</sup> )	Water (lb/yd <sup>3</sup> )	Coarse Aggregate (lb/yd <sup>3</sup> )	Crushed Concrete (lb/yd <sup>3</sup> )	Concrete Sand (lb/yd <sup>3</sup> )	MRWRA (oz/yd <sup>3</sup> )
CC/5.25/45	495	342	1675	1400	0	47
BL/5/40	470	260	1854	608	608	47
CC/5/40	470	311	1854	1216	0	47
CC/5/35	470	311	2026	1090	0	47

## Sample Preparation

All concrete was mixed in a 4-ft<sup>3</sup> portable concrete mixer. The mixer was first charged with the dry ingredients. These materials were dry mixed to form a homogenous mixture. Water

and water reducing admixture were then added to the mixture while slump measurements were taken periodically.

All compressive specimens were cast in plastic 4-inch by 8-inch cylinder molds. These molds conformed to ASTM C 470, "Standard Specification for Molds for Forming Concrete Test Cylinders Vertically." Flexural strength specimens were cast in 3-inch by 4-inch by 16-inch steel molds.

Immediately after casting, all specimens were covered with moist burlap. All samples remained in the location in which they were placed for 24 hours. After 24 hours they were removed from their molds and placed in a moist curing room kept at 73°C and 100% RH, conforming to ASTM C 511, "Standard Specification for Moist Cabinets, Moist Rooms, and Water Storage Tanks Used in the Testing of Hydraulic Cements and Concretes." Specimens were left in this room until they were tested.

### **Slump, Unit Weight, and Air Content**

The slump of each mixture was measured in accordance with ASTM C 143, "Standard Test Method for Slump of Hydraulic Cement Concrete." The unit weight and air content were measured simultaneously according to ASTM C 138, "Standard Test Method for Unit Weight, Yield, and Air Content (Gravimetric) of Concrete." A  $\frac{1}{4}$ -ft<sup>3</sup> stainless steel measure was used to compute the unit weight and air content.

The test results are shown in [Table 5.7](#). Mixture BL/5/40, made with a 50:50 blend of concrete sand and crushed concrete fines, had the greatest slump. For mixtures using only crushed concrete fines as fine aggregate, the slump increased as the fine aggregate-coarse aggregate ratio decreased.

All air contents shown in this table represent the total entrapped air content as no air entraining admixture was used in the concrete mixtures. As shown in the table, the unit weight of all mixtures ranges between 140 lb/ft<sup>3</sup> and 144 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>. The air content for mixtures containing only CPCC fines as aggregate never exceeded 2.0 percent. However, the air content of the trial mixture containing a blend of crushed concrete fines and concrete sand was 3.2 percent. Hence, it is concluded that concrete mixtures using CPCC fines have lower air contents due to the large amount of –No. 200 particles in the aggregate.

**Table 5.7. Fresh Properties of Trial Concrete Mixtures.**

Mix ID	Slump (inch)	Water Cement Ratio	Unit Weight (lb/ft <sup>3</sup> )	Air (%)
CC/5.25/45	1.5	0.69	140	1.0
BL/5/40	2.5	0.55	144	3.2
CC/5/40	2	0.66	144	2.0
CC/5/35	2.5	0.66	143	1.0

### Compressive Strength

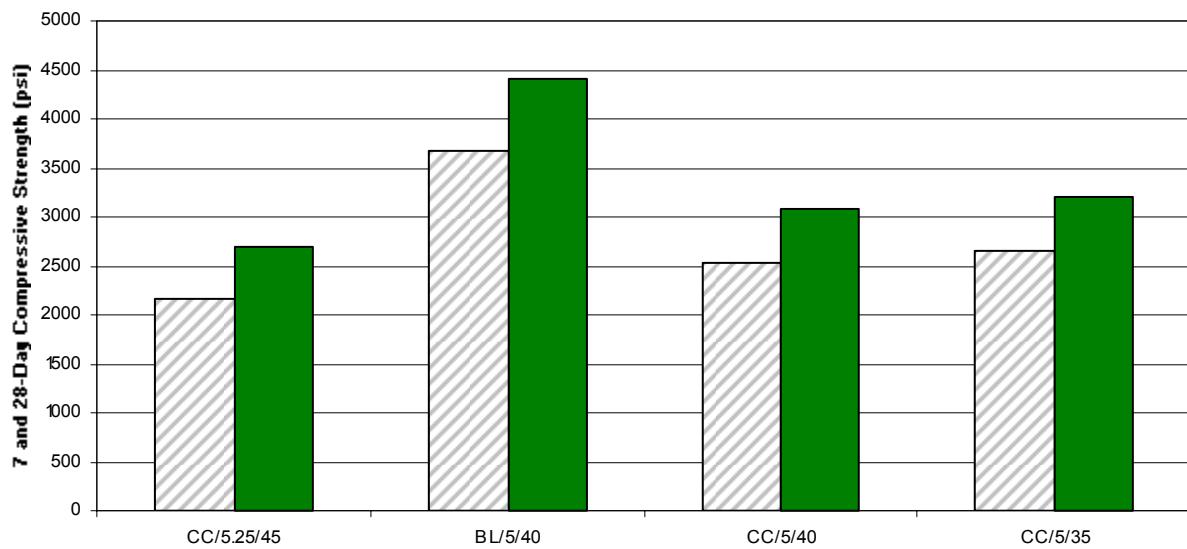
Compressive strength tests were performed according to ASTM C 39, “Standard Test Method for Compressive Strength of Cylindrical Concrete Specimens” using a 600-kip capacity hydraulically operated compression machine. Three 4-inch by 8-inch cylinders were tested for each mixture. These specimens, capped with neoprene pads inserted in steel caps, were loaded at a rate of  $35 \pm 15$  psi per second until failure.

The results of the compressive strength tests are shown in [Figure 5.20](#). Mixture BL/5/40 had both the highest 7 day and 28 day compressive strength. All mixtures except mixture CC/5.25/45 met the TxDOT Class A 28 day compressive strength requirements.

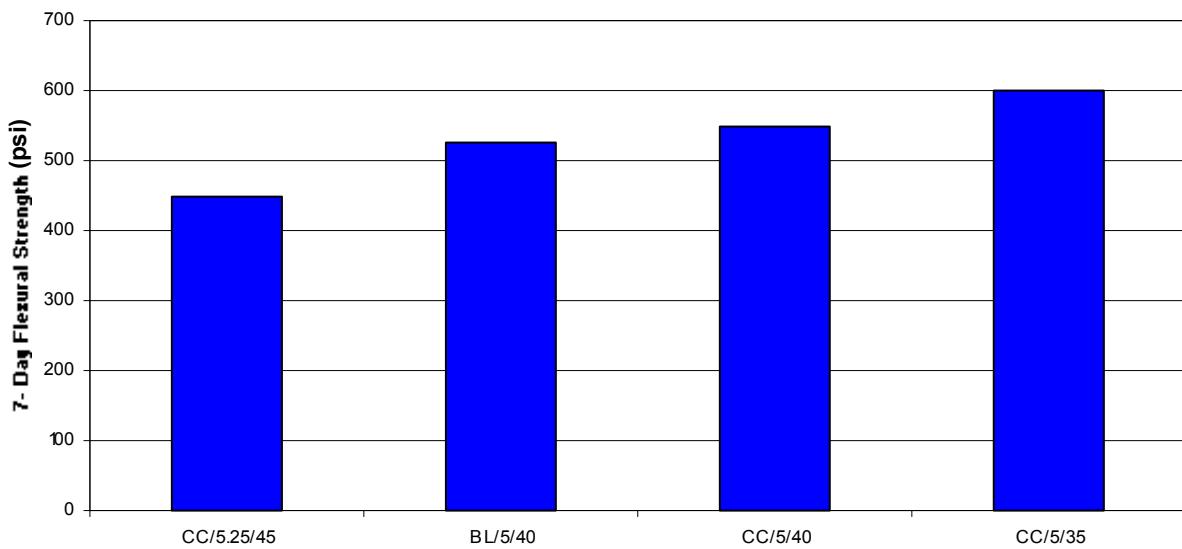
### Flexural Strength

The flexural strength (modulus of rupture) of all mixtures was evaluated according to ASTM C 78, “Standard Test Method for Flexural Strength of Concrete (Using Simple Beam with Third-Point Loading).” Three prisms, 3 inches by 4 inches by 16 inches, were cast for each mixture. These prisms were oriented with a 4-inch depth during loading. They were loaded at a rate of  $150 \pm 25$  psi per second until rupture occurred,

The 7 day flexural strength results are shown in [Figure 5.21](#). All mixtures except mixture CC/4.5/45 met the TxDOT specified 7 day flexural strength for Class A concrete.



**Figure 5.20. Compressive Strengths of Concrete Mixtures at 7 (Striped) and 28 (Black) Days.**



**Figure 5.21. Flexural Strengths of Concrete Mixtures at 7 Days.**

## **Summary**

Four trial concrete mixtures were designed to evaluate the feasibility of using crushed concrete fines as fine aggregate in TxDOT Class A concrete. Three mixtures contained crushed concrete fines, and one mixture contained a blend of ASTM C 33 concrete sand and crushed concrete fines. All mixtures were designed as 5-sack mixtures and used the maximum manufacturer's suggested dosage of mid-range water reducing admixture.

All mixtures had extremely high water demands and low slump values. The mixture using a blend of fine aggregates was the only one that met the TxDOT specified water-to-cement ratio for Class A concrete. Three mixtures, using increasingly smaller amounts of crushed concrete fines, were cast in an attempt to find a workable mixture incorporating crushed concrete fines. Mixtures using a smaller amount of crushed concrete fines were more workable than those using more crushed concrete fines.

The compressive strengths of all but the initial trial mixture met the TxDOT specified compressive strength for Class A concrete. Also, the flexural strength of all mixtures exceeded that specified for TxDOT Class A concrete.

Although it is possible to use CPCC fines as aggregate in low strength portland cement concrete, it is not recommended. The mixtures containing CPCC fines were extremely stiff and difficult to finish. Furthermore, these mixtures required large dosages of water reducing admixtures to achieve minimal levels of workability. The use of CPCC fines as concrete aggregate results in uneconomical mixtures with moderate strengths that are extremely difficult to place.

## **GEOTECHNICAL APPLICATIONS**

This section describes the present TxDOT standards in place for material used in backfill and embankment. These requirements are compared to the material properties of CPCC and CPCC fines to evaluate the possibility of using CPCC fines in these applications. This chapter summarizes conversations with TxDOT personnel and concludes with recommendations for the use of crushed concrete fines in backfill and embankment.

## **Backfill**

Backfill for structures is covered under TxDOT Item 400.5. Presently, the only stated material requirements are that the material be free of materials that will restrict compaction and deleterious materials, such as wood. This specification covers backfill for items such as pipe, bridge foundations, retaining walls, and culverts. Item 400.6 covers cement stabilized backfill. This material, sand mixed with 7 percent portland cement, is primarily used around sewers and manholes. The only material requirement for this application is that the approved material be specified on the plans. CPCC fines meet these requirements.

The results of the materials classification tests show that CPCC fines meet the present requirements for materials used in TxDOT Item 400 backfill. Based upon the findings of this study, CPCC fines are recommended for use in pipe backfill and cement stabilized backfill. A revised version of the specification for these items is included in [Appendix B](#). Additionally, ongoing research as part of TxDOT Item 4177, which investigates durability aspects of using CPCC in mechanically stabilized earthwalls, may yield useful information related to the corrosion of metals when CPCC materials are used. The findings of these durability studies concerning corrosion of metals should be reviewed when making further revisions to the applicable specifications.

## **Embankment**

As stated in [Chapter 2](#), four types of embankment are described in TxDOT Item 132. The two most commonly specified types of embankment are Type B and C. These types of embankment require that the materials consist of suitable earth material that will form a stable embankment and that the material is specified on the plans. CPCC fines meet these requirements.

The results of the materials classification tests show that the CPCC fines and CPCC meet the present requirements for materials used in TxDOT Item 132 Type C embankment. Based upon the results of these tests, CPCC fines and CPCC are recommended for use in TxDOT Type C embankments. A revised version of the specification for these items is included in [Appendix B](#).



## **CHAPTER 6. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS**

The overall objective of this research was to determine effective ways associated with TxDOT applications for the use of crushed portland cement concrete fine materials passing the No. 4 sieve. Specifically the goals were to:

- characterize aggregate properties of CPCC fines;
- select possible TxDOT applications that could incorporate the use of CPCC fines without sacrificing workability or quality;
- cast trial batches of the selected applications, and evaluate the feasibility of using CPCC fines; and
- provide guidelines and specifications for the selected applications.

The aggregate characterization program showed that CPCC fines contained a substantial amount of material finer than the No. 200 sieve. This fraction of the material contained both particles of hydrated cement and other contaminates, such as soil and clays, from the demolition and removal process. It was found that the gradation of CPCC fines was highly variable from different areas within one stockpile of crushed concrete. The methylene blue value, typically an indicator of an aggregate's suitability to be used in concrete, was much higher than that of typical virgin aggregates. Total content tests, using ICP technology, found measurable amounts of RCRA metals in samples of CPCC fines. However, the ability of these metals to leach from the samples was at or below the detectable limits of the SPLP leaching test. Thus, it appears that although these metals may be present in CPCC fines, they do not leach from the sample and, therefore, are not a serious problem.

Potential TxDOT applications were addressed in two directions: paving and non-paving applications. According to the results of preliminary study from literature and field experience, potential areas of TxDOT applications were identified as follows:

- paving applications: flexible base, cement treated base, HMA bond breaker; and
- non-paving applications: portland cement concrete, flowable fill, backfill, embankment.

The feasibility of using CPCC fines to each selected application was investigated through laboratory tests. Test programs mainly focused on the conformity of applied mixtures to the current TxDOT specifications. Findings, concluding remarks, and recommendations for field implementation are summarized in the following sections for each application.

## PAVING APPLICATIONS

### *Flexible Base*

1. Flexible base mixtures consisting of 100 percent crushed concrete materials were evaluated for strength and moisture susceptibility, and the properties were compared to those of conventional crushed limestone base mixtures.
2. The use of crushed concrete materials resulted in increased water demand to reach OMC. Furthermore, an excessive capillary rise was observed for crushed concrete mixtures under a continued soaking condition, indicating possible moisture susceptibility of the mixture.
3. However, the strength test results indicated that crushed concrete mixtures are not so highly moisture susceptible as suggested by the absorptive properties.
4. The strength of crushed concrete mixtures satisfied, for the most part, the minimum requirements of Item 247. Crushed concrete mixtures always showed higher strength than conventional mixtures.
5. Test results support the use of crushed concrete materials, including CPCC fines in flexible base mixtures.
6. A revision of TxDOT Item 247, which allows the use of crushed concrete materials, is attached in [Appendix A](#).

### *Cement Treated Base*

1. CTB mixtures consisted of crushed concrete materials, and conventional crushed limestone base materials were characterized and compared for the properties related to shrinkage cracking behavior and moisture susceptibility.

2. Although the compressive strength of crushed concrete mixtures was generally lower than conventional CTB, they were shown to satisfy the requirements of Item 276 when the cement content is properly selected.
3. A proportional relationship was observed between compressive strength and modulus of elasticity of CTB mixtures. Therefore, the modulus of crushed concrete mixtures was also lower than conventional.
4. Prediction models were established for the dependent compressive strength and modulus of elasticity of CTB. Good agreement was observed between test data and estimations. The proposed models are expected to be useful for any CTB mixture.
5. The use of crushed concrete materials also resulted in greater tendencies of the mixture for drying shrinkage as well as stress relaxation.
6. As a combined effect of all relevant material properties, it was found that crushed concrete mixtures are not more vulnerable to shrinkage cracking compared to conventional CTB, albeit the mixture has lower strength and a higher tendency for shrinkage. Lower modulus of crushed concrete mixtures produces smaller stress under a given strain, and the strong relaxation property seems to further reduce the stress to a level that could avoid cracking.
7. Like the flexible base application, the use of crushed concrete materials resulted in increased water demand to reach OMC. Contrary to flexible base mixtures, however, all CTB mixtures showed stable dielectric values under continued soaking. Cement treatment seems to reduce capillary rise in the mixture and to subsequently eliminate moisture susceptibility.
8. As experienced by many TxDOT districts, crushed concrete materials including CPCC fines are highly recommended for use in CTB mixtures.
9. A revision of TxDOT Item 276, which allows the use of crushed concrete materials, is attached in [Appendix A](#).

#### HMA Bond Breaker

1. HMA bond breaker mix designs were produced with crushed concrete materials substituting fine aggregates of conventional mixture in the forms of manufactured sand and CPCC fines.

2. According to the gradation requirements of Item 3116 Type B, the maximum substitutions of crushed concrete materials were determined at 40 percent of total aggregates for both manufactured sand and CPCC fines.
3. The use of crushed concrete materials resulted in a slight increase of the optimum asphalt content but higher strength and stability. In general, design properties of the mixtures satisfied the requirements of Item 345.
4. Crushed concrete mixtures were also shown to be more moisture susceptible than conventional with regard to strength. When moisture sensitivity is a primary design criteria for bond breaker, limited amounts of lime could be used as a stabilizer.
5. Crushed concrete materials including CPCC fines are recommended for use in HMA bond breaker mixtures.
6. A revision of TxDOT Item 345, which allows the use of crushed concrete materials, is attached in [Appendix A](#).

## **NON-PAVING APPLICATIONS**

### **Flowable Fill**

1. Flowable fill can be produced using CPCC fines instead of conventional aggregates, such as ASTM C 33 concrete sand.
2. Due to the large amount of - No. 200 material in the CPCC fines, it was difficult to entrain air into flowable fill mixtures containing this material. Therefore, trial mixing is recommended when air entrainment is desired. Trial mixing will identify any potential problems with air entrainment for a specific source of CPCC fines.
3. The high level of - No. 200 material in the CPCC fines increased the water demand of flowable fill using CPCC fines.
4. For the same mixture proportions, flowable fill with CPCC fines was weaker than flowable fill using conventional aggregates.
5. Increasing the cement content of the mixtures compensated for the strength decrease due to the increased water demand.
6. It is recommended that fly ash flowable fill be made with CPCC fines.

7. A revision of TxDOT Special Specification 4438, which allows the use of CPCC fines, is attached in [Appendix B](#) of this document. Recommended changes to the specification are underlined.

*Portland Cement Concrete*

1. The use of CPCC fines in portland cement concrete caused increased water demand and severely diminished workability.
2. Even with large dosages of water reducing admixtures, concrete using CPCC fines was extremely stiff and unworkable.
3. As a result of the increased water demand and low workability, CPCC fines should not be considered as potential aggregates for portland cement concrete.
4. An abundance of TxDOT applications capable of using unwashed and ungraded CPCC appear to exist. Therefore, the future production of washed CPCC fines should be re-evaluated to ensure the most efficient use of the entire crushed product.

*Backfill*

1. Both unwashed and washed CPCC fines meet current TxDOT standards for Items 400.5 and 400.6.
2. CPCC fines are recommended for use in these applications.
3. A revision of TxDOT Item 400, which allows the use of CPCC fines, is attached in [Appendix B](#) of this document. Recommended changes to the specification are underlined.

*Embankment*

1. Both washed and unwashed CPCC fines meet current TxDOT standards for Type C embankment.
2. CPCC fines are recommended for use in this application.
3. A revision of TxDOT Item 132, which allows the use of CPCC fines, is attached in [Appendix B](#) of this document. Recommended changes to the specification are underlined.

## FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

The following considerations are suggested regarding field implementation as well as other areas of future study.

### General

1. A better method to determine the specific gravity and absorption of high fines materials, such as CPCC fines, should be developed.
2. Continued efforts should be made to reduce the amount of CPCC fines produced and/or find additional uses for the material.

### Paving Applications

1. Flexible base mixtures consisting of crushed concrete materials showed so-called bulking behavior when the test specimens were compacted. It is recommended for field studies to address workability, especially related to compaction and finishing of the layer.
2. Material behavior under repeated loading and environmental cycling should be identified in the field as well as the laboratory. Specific interest is given to resilient modulus and permanent deformation for flexible base and fatigue behavior for CTB applications.

### Non-paving Applications

1. Flowable fill mixture proportions for mixtures incorporating CPCC fines should be investigated with the objective of reducing the amount of fly ash used in flowable fill using CPCC fines due to the high amount of - No. 200 material in CPCC fines. This reduction in fly ash content could eliminate concerns of long term strength gain and excavatability.
2. The presence of heavy metals and their ability to leach from CPCC fines should be investigated. If significant levels of heavy metals are found in CPCC fines, an investigation to determine both the cause of these contaminants and their ability to leach from the sample should be performed. An assessment of acceptable SPLP limits and procedures for accurately assessing the levels of heavy metals and their ability to leach from various samples may need to be developed.

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**APPENDIX A.**  
**REVISED SPECIFICATIONS: PAVING APPLICATIONS**



## **A. 1 ITEM 247 FLEXIBLE BASE**

This revision is proposed to allow crushed concrete materials in Item 247, Flexible Base. Requirements and guidance not included in this revision shall default to Item 247.

### **247.2 Materials.**

#### **(2) Physical Requirements.**

**(e) Type D.** Type D material shall be crushed concrete produced for recycling purposes. Crushed concrete shall have a minimum of 50 percent of the particles retained on the No. 4 sieve. Crushed concrete shall be blended with other types of material in order to meet Grade 1 criteria.

**(f) Type E.** As shown on the plans.

**(3) Pilot Grading.** When pilot grading is required on the plans, the flexible base with Type A, B, C, and E materials shall not vary from the designated pilot grading of each sieve size by more than five (5) percentage points. The flexible base with Type D material shall not vary from the designated pilot grading of each sieve size by more than seven (7) percentage points. However, the flexible base grading shall be within the master grading limits as shown in Table 1. The pilot grading may be varied by the Engineer as necessary to insure that the base material produced will meet the physical requirements shown in Table 1.

**(5) Tolerances.** Unless otherwise shown on the plans, the limits establishing reasonably close conformity with the specified gradation and plasticity index are defined by the following:

**(a) Gradation.** The Engineer may accept the material providing not more than one (1) out of the most recent five (5) consecutive gradation tests performed are outside the specified limits for master grading or pilot grading, as applicable, on any individual sieve by no more than

five (5) percentage points for Type A, B, C, and E materials and seven (7) percentage points for Type D material.

**(6) Material Sources.** The flexible base ..... the exposed strata.

Unless otherwise shown on the plans, ..... through the entire depth of the stockpile.

When temporary stockpiles are ..... from the Contractor's estimates.

Blending of materials from more than one (1) source to produce Type B, C, D or E flexible base will be allowed when approved by the Engineer.

## A.2 ITEM 276 PORTLAND CEMENT TREATED BASE (PLANT MIXED)

This revision is proposed to allow crushed concrete materials in Item 276, “Portland Cement Treated Base.” Requirements and guidance not included in this revision shall default to Item 276.

**276.2 Materials.** Materials shall conform to the requirements shown on the plans and to the following requirements.

**(a) Flexible Base.** New base material shall conform to the material requirements of Item 247, “Flexible Base,” including revised Type D material, crushed concrete, and shall be of the type and grade as shown on the plans.

**276.4 Mix Design.** Cement content will be selected by the Engineer ..... in accordance with Test Method Tex-120-E.

When Type D flexible base or any blends with crushed concrete material is selected to apply, cement content shall be determined by the following strength requirement:

<u>Minimum Design Compressive Strength</u>	<u>Allowable Cement Content (%)</u>
400 psi at 7 days of moist curing	4–8

When material properties or sources change, the Engineer may require the Contractor to provide additional mix design tests and adjust the cement content as required.

## A.3 SPECIAL SPECIFICATION: HOT MIX ASPHALT BOND BREAKER

**1. DESCRIPTION.** This special specification is provided to allow crushed concrete materials in hot mix asphalt bond breaker that is primarily covered by Item 345, "Asphalt Stabilized Base (Plant Mix)." Requirements and guidance not included in this specification shall default to Item 345.

### 2. MATERIALS

**(1) Aggregate.** The aggregate shall be composed of one (1) or more virgin aggregates and crushed portland cement concrete (CPCC) fines. CPCC fines are defined for the size as the materials passing the No. 4 sieve.

The aggregate blend shall constitute a uniform mixture that meets the following grading requirement. The inclusion of CPCC fines in the aggregate blend shall be determined in accordance with the grading requirement, and it shall not be more than 50 percent of the total aggregate.

<u>Sieve</u>	<u>Percent Passing</u>
1 inch	100
3/8 inch	60-80
No. 4	30-70
No. 40	10-35

Materials passing the No. 40 sieve shall have a plasticity index (PI) not to exceed eight (8) and a liquid limit (LL) not to exceed 35 when tested in accordance with test method TEX-106-E.

**(2) Additives.** Additives to facilitate mixing and/or improve the quality of the mixture may be used with the Engineer's approval. Unless otherwise shown on the plans, the Contractor

may choose to use a limited amount of lime, no more than 1 percent of the total aggregate, to reduce the moisture susceptibility of the mixture.

### **3. MIX DESIGN**

Unless otherwise shown on the plans, the Contractor shall furnish an acceptable mix meeting the following requirements.

The mixture shall contain between 3 to 9 percent asphalt when designed in accordance with Test Method Tex-126-E. At optimum asphalt content, the design specimen shall have the slow strength of 30 psi when tested in accordance with test method Tex-126-E, unless a higher requirement is shown on the plans.

The HMA bond breaker shall have a laboratory molded density of 96 percent plus or minus 1.5 percent. If the nominal aggregate size is less than 1/2 inch, test method Tex-204-F shall be used for the design of the mixture.



**APPENDIX B.**  
**REVISED SPECIFICATIONS: NON-PAVING APPLICATIONS**



## B. 1 SPECIAL SPECIFICATION ITEM 4438 FLOWABLE BACKFILL

**1. DESCRIPTION.** This item shall govern for flowable backfill composed of portland cement, fly ash (optional), fine aggregate, water, and admixtures when required by the Engineer. Flowable backfill may be used, when shown on the plans or approved by the Engineer, as trench, hole, or other cavity backfill, structural, insulating, and isolation fill, pavement bases, conduit bedding, erosion control, void filling, and other uses.

### 2. MATERIALS.

**(1) Cement.** The cement shall be either Type I or II portland cement conforming to Item 524, "Hydraulic Cement."

**(2) Fly Ash.** Fly ash, when used, shall conform to the requirements of Item 421, "Portland Cement Concrete."

**(3) Admixtures.** Admixtures shall be added to the mix in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and shall be tested by the Contractor to ensure they accomplish the desired effects in the mix.

**(4) Fine Aggregate.** The fine aggregate shall be fine enough to stay in suspension in the mortar to the extent required for proper flow. The fine aggregate shall conform to the following gradation and plasticity index (PI) requirements and can be derived from either natural or manufactured aggregate (i.e., crushed concrete) or a blend of the two.

<u>Sieve Size</u>	<u>Percent Passing</u>
3/4 inch	100
No. 200	0-30

PI shall not exceed six (6) when tested in accordance with Test Method Tex-106-A. The fine aggregate gradation shall be tested in accordance with Test Method Tex-401-A.

**(5) Mixing Water.** Mixing water shall conform to the requirements of Item 421, "Portland Cement Concrete."

**3. MIX DESIGN.** Unless otherwise shown on the plans, the Contractor shall furnish an acceptable mix meeting the following requirements:

**(1) Strength.** The 28 day compressive strength range, when tested in accordance with Test Method Tex-418-A, shall be 80 psi to 150 psi, to ensure efficient future excavation. Variations of the specified strength will be allowed as approved by the Engineer.

**(2) Consistence.** The mix shall be designated to be placed without consolidation and shall fill all intended voids. The consistency shall be tested by filling an open-ended three (3) inch diameter by six (6) inches high cylinder to the top with flowable fill. The cylinder shall be immediately pulled straight up, and the correct consistency of the mix shall produce a minimum of eight (8) inch diameter circular spread with no segregation.

The Contractor shall have the option of using specialty type admixtures to enhance the flowability, reduce shrinkage, and reduce segregation by maintaining solids in suspension. When shrinkage is a concern, the Engineer may require the flowable backfill to contain a shrinkage compensator or other chemical admixtures to enhance the properties of the mix. All admixtures shall be proportioned in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

The flowable fill shall be mixed by a central-mixed concrete plant, ready-mix concrete truck, pugmill, or other method approved by the Engineer.

**4. QUALITY FLOWABLE FILL.** Unless otherwise shown on the plans, the Contractor shall furnish and properly maintain all test molds. The test molds shall meet the requirements of Test Method Tex-418-A and, in the opinion of the Engineer, must be satisfactory for use at the time of use. In addition, the Contractor shall be responsible for furnishing personnel to remove the test specimens from the molds and transport them to the proper curing location at the schedule designated by the Engineer and in accordance with the governing

specification. For all concrete items, the Contractor shall have a wheelbarrow, or other container acceptable to the Engineer, available to use in the sampling of the concrete. The Contractor is responsible for disposing of used, broken test specimens. A strength test is defined as the average of the breaking strength of two (2) cylinders. Each specimen will be tested in accordance with Test Method Tex-418-A.

Curing of the specimen shall be in accordance with the following. Storage conditions during the first 24 hours have an important influence on the strength developed in concrete. During the first 24 hours, all test specimens shall be stored under conditions that prevent loss of moisture and where the temperature range is 60 to 80 °F.

Immediately after forming the cylinders, cover them with cover plates or caps, then with several thicknesses of wet burlap or wet cotton mats.

Keep the covering thoroughly saturated until the cylinders are removed from the molds. For shipment to the laboratory for strength testing, wrap the cylinders carefully in wet paper, secure in wet burlap or seal in a plastic bag.

**5. CONSTRUCTION METHODS.** The Contractor shall submit a construction method and a plan for approval of the Engineer. The Contractor must provide a means of filling the entire void area and be able to demonstrate that this has been accomplished. This must be done without the use of a vibrator. Care shall be taken to prevent the movement of the insert structure from its designated location. If voids are found in the fill or if any of the requirements are not met as shown on the plans, it will be the Contractor's responsibility to remove and replace or correct the problem without additional cost to the State.

**6. MEASUREMENT.** This item will be measured by the cubic yard of material in place. Cubic yards will be computed on the basis of the measured area to the lines and grades shown on the plans or as directed by the Engineer. Measurement will not include additional volume caused by slips, slides, or cave-ins resulting from the action of the elements or the Contractor's operations.

**7. PAYMENT.** The work performed and materials furnished in accordance with this item and measured as provided under "Measurement" will be paid for at the unit price bid for "Flowable Backfill." This price shall be full compensation for furnishing, hauling, and placing all materials and for all tools, labor, equipment, and incidentals necessary to complete the work.

## B. 2 ITEM 400 BACKFILL

### 400.5 Backfill

(1) **General.** As soon as practical, all portions of the excavation not occupied by the permanent structure shall be backfilled. Backfill material may be obtained from excavation or from other sources. Backfill material shall be free from stones of such size as to interfere with compaction; free from large lumps which will not break down readily under compaction; and free from frozen lumps, wood, or other extraneous material.

Backfill which will not support any portion of the completed roadbed or embankment shall be placed in layers not more than 10 inches in depth (loose measurement). Backfill which will support any portion of the roadbed or embankment shall be placed in uniform layers not to exceed eight (8) inches in depth (loose measurement). Each layer of backfill shall be compacted to a density comparable with the adjacent undisturbed soil or as shown on the plans.

Each layer of backfill material, if dry, shall be wetted uniformly to the moisture content required to obtain a density comparable with the adjacent undisturbed soil or as shown on the plans and shall be compacted to that density by means of mechanical tamps or rammers. The use of rolling equipment of the type generally used in compacting embankments will be permitted on portions which are accessible to such equipment.

When tamping equipment is furnished which, when proven to the satisfaction of the Engineer, will adequately compact the backfill material to the density required, the eight (8) inch and 10 inch lifts (loose measurement) specified above may be increased to lifts not to exceed 12 inches.

Cohesionless materials, such as sand, gravel, or manufactured aggregate (i.e., crushed concrete), may be used for general backfilling purposes. Compaction of cohesionless materials shall be done with vibratory equipment, water ponding, or a combination thereof.

**(2) Bridge Foundations, Retaining Walls, and Culverts.** No backfill shall be placed against any structure until the concrete has reached the minimum flexural strength required in Item 421, "Portland Cement Concrete." .....

**(3) Pipe.** After the bedding and pipes have been installed as required, the selected backfill materials shall be brought to proper moisture condition, placed along both sides of the pipe equally, in uniform layers not exceeding eight (8) inches in depth (loose measurement), and each lift thoroughly compacted mechanically. Special care shall be taken to secure thorough compaction of the materials placed under the haunches of the pipe and to prevent damage or displacement of the pipe. Filling and/or backfilling shall be continued in this manner to the elevation of the top of the pipe. Backfill above the top of the pipe by the Contractor during construction shall be replaced at the Contractor's expense or repaired to the satisfaction of the Engineer.

The Engineer may reject any material containing more than 20 percent by weight of material retained on a three (3) inch sieve, or material excavated in such a manner as to produce large lumps not easily broken down or which cannot be spread in loose layers. In general, material excavated by means of a trenching machine will meet the requirements above, provided large stones are not present.

Where sewers extend beyond the toe of slope of the embankment and the depth of cover provided by backfill to the original ground level is less than the minimum required by the specifications for the type of pipe involved, additional material shall be placed and compacted, as herein specified for backfill outside the limits of the roadbed, until this minimum cover has been provided.

**400.6. Cement Stabilized Backfill.** When shown on the plans, the excavation shall be backfilled to the elevations shown with cement stabilized backfill. Unless otherwise shown on the plans, cement stabilized backfill shall contain aggregate, water, and a minimum of seven (7) percent portland cement based on the dry weight of the aggregate, in accordance with Test Method

Tex-120-E. Aggregate shall be as shown on the plans and may be natural, manufactured (i.e., crushed concrete) or a blend of the two, or as approved by the Engineer.

Cement stabilized backfill below the top of sewers, manholes, inlets, or other structures shall be placed equally along all sides of the structure so as to prevent strain on or displacement of the structure. Cement stabilized backfill shall be placed in a manner that will completely fill all voids in the trench. Should compaction be required to fill all voids, hand operated tampers may be used.

**400.7. Measurement.** Excavation and backfill will be measured by the cubic yard. Cutting and restoring of pavement will be measured by the square yard.

This is a plans quantity measurement item, and the quantity to be paid for will be that quantity shown in the proposal and on the “Estimate and Quantity” sheet of the contract plans, except as may be modified by Article 9.8. If no adjustment of quantities is required, additional measurements or calculations will not be required.

## B.3 ITEM 132 EMBANKMENT

**132.1. Description.** This item shall govern for the placement and compaction of all materials necessary for the construction of roadway embankments, levees and dykes, or any designated section of the roadway where additional material is required.

**132.2. Material.** Materials may be furnished from required excavation in the areas shown in the plans or from off right of way sources obtained by the Contractor and meeting the requirements herein. All embankment shall conform to one of the following types as shown on the plans, except that material which is in a retaining-wall-backfill area shall meet the requirements for backfill material of the pertinent retaining-wall item:

**Type A.** This material shall consist of suitable granular material, free from vegetation or other objectionable matter, and reasonably free from lumps of earth. This material shall be suitable for forming a stable embankment and, when tested in accordance with Test Methods Tex-104-E, Tex-105-E, Tex-106-E, and Tex-107-E, Part II shall meet the following requirements:

The liquid limit shall not exceed ..... 45

The plasticity index shall not exceed ..... 15

The bar linear shrinkage shall not be less than ..... 2

**Type B.** This material shall consist of suitable earth material such as rock, loam, clay, or other such materials as approved by the Engineer that will form a stable embankment.

**Type C.** This material, which may include man-made aggregate (i.e., crushed concrete), shall be suitable and shall conform to the specification requirements shown on the plans.

**Type D.** This material shall be that obtained from required excavation areas shown on the plans and will be used in embankment.

**APPENDIX C.**  
**GRADING DATA FOR CPCC FINES**



**Table C.1. Sieve Results for Samples WB-A.1 to WB-A.8 (Percent Passing).**

<b>Sample ID</b>	<b>WB-A.1</b>	<b>WB-A.2</b>	<b>WB-A.3</b>	<b>WB-A.4</b>	<b>WB-A.5</b>	<b>WB-A.6</b>	<b>WB-A.7</b>	<b>WB-A.8</b>
<b>3/8-in Sieve</b>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
<b>No. 4</b>	100.0%	99.9%	100.0%	99.9%	99.8%	99.9%	99.9%	100.0%
<b>No. 8</b>	80.9%	81.4%	81.4%	80.1%	81.9%	80.1%	82.9%	81.3%
<b>No. 16</b>	66.7%	67.2%	66.8%	65.4%	67.5%	65.6%	69.7%	68.1%
<b>No. 30</b>	55.7%	52.9%	52.6%	53.5%	55.5%	53.8%	57.1%	55.7%
<b>No. 50</b>	40.8%	32.8%	32.4%	36.9%	38.7%	37.7%	38.5%	38.0%
<b>No. 100</b>	28.7%	17.3%	16.9%	23.1%	23.9%	24.4%	23.4%	23.0%
<b>No. 200</b>	19.6%	8.5%	8.3%	13.3%	13.9%	14.6%	12.9%	13.1%

**Table C.2. Sieve Results for Samples WB-B to WB-H (Percent Passing).**

Sample ID	WB-B	WB-C	WB-D	WB-E	WB-F	WB-G	WB-H
<b>3/8-in Sieve</b>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
<b>No. 4</b>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	98.9%	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%
<b>No. 8</b>	77.5%	80.1%	85.5%	78.9%	80.9%	90.3%	75.4%
<b>No. 16</b>	59.8%	64.0%	74.4%	65.6%	67.1%	83.2%	59.9%
<b>No. 30</b>	45.4%	51.4%	63.1%	55.0%	57.5%	74.8%	47.8%
<b>No. 50</b>	29.5%	37.4%	45.6%	41.9%	47.5%	59.0%	32.2%
<b>No. 100</b>	18.2%	26.0%	29.8%	29.1%	35.0%	41.2%	18.6%
<b>No. 200</b>	10.3%	16.4%	18.6%	17.1%	20.7%	25.3%	10.8%

**Table C.3. Sieve Results for Samples WB-MS-A.1 to SC-A.3 (Percent Passing).**

<b>Sample ID</b>	<b>WB-MS-A.1</b>	<b>WB-MS-A.2</b>	<b>WB-MS-A.3</b>	<b>WB-MS-A.4</b>	<b>SC-A.1</b>	<b>SC-A.2</b>	<b>SC-A.3</b>
<b>3/8-in Sieve</b>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
<b>No. 4</b>	100.0%	99.7%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
<b>No. 8</b>	86.4%	86.1%	86.7%	87.0%	86.4%	87.6%	86.7%
<b>No. 16</b>	62.2%	62.5%	63.1%	63.6%	73.1%	74.6%	72.9%
<b>No. 30</b>	42.3%	42.7%	42.9%	43.0%	62.6%	64.2%	61.7%
<b>No. 50</b>	19.5%	19.4%	19.3%	19.4%	51.1%	52.7%	49.7%
<b>No. 100</b>	4.8%	4.6%	4.4%	4.4%	33.3%	36.5%	31.4%
<b>No. 200</b>	1.3%	1.1%	1.0%	96.0%	19.3%	22.1%	16.9%

**Table C.4. Sieve Results for Samples BC-A to FM-D (Percent Passing).**

<b>Sample ID</b>	<b>BC-A</b>	<b>BC-B</b>	<b>BC-C</b>	<b>BC-D</b>	<b>FM-A</b>	<b>FM-B</b>	<b>FM-C</b>	<b>FM-D</b>
<b>3/8-in Sieve</b>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
<b>No. 4</b>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.8%
<b>No. 8</b>	82.8%	79.2%	79.3%	79.0%	78.8%	80.9%	79.3%	79.4%
<b>No. 16</b>	65.9%	60.7%	63.1%	63.0%	61.1%	63.6%	61.2%	61.9%
<b>No. 30</b>	52.0%	46.6%	50.2%	50.6%	50.1%	52.9%	49.8%	51.4%
<b>No. 50</b>	32.9%	28.5%	32.6%	33.4%	40.0%	42.2%	38.8%	41.2%
<b>No. 100</b>	16.0%	13.9%	17.1%	18.1%	25.9%	27.1%	21.9%	25.7%
<b>No. 200</b>	8.5%	7.8%	9.6%	10.4%	15.7%	15.2%	12.6%	14.0%