Development of Mathematical Model to Predict Marshal Stability on Modified Asphalt

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Abstract

This paper monitors the rate at which marshal stability experienced improvement through modifiers with shell ash, these are fillers that play a tremendous role in engineering properties of bituminous paving mixes. The study tries to improve the asphaltic materials applying these modifiers, the application of conventional, cement, lime and stone done are used as fillers. But for this study, an attempt has been made to access the effect of non-conventional filler (snail shell ash) the study applied modeling and simulation, this concept try to predict the variation of marshal stability at different percentage of shell ash, the predictive values generated parameters that are validated with experimental data, the values of both parameters observed to be stability and OK and it implies that it meant the criteria for asphalt institute for Mix design. The study from the predictive developed parameters between predictive and experimental values are 6.14 and 6.95 7.3 and 7.1 and 6.1 and 6.25, the results of asphaltic concrete showed that at 6.5% of filler content, the generated simulation validated with experimental parameters satisfied the standard of Marshal Properties. Thus, snail shell at 6.5% snail shell content of asphaltic concrete.

Keywords: Mathematical model; Marshal stability; Modified asphalt

Introduction

Bitumen is byproducts of the distillation process of crude oils. They are black, oily, viscous, flammable materials. Bitumen was used throughout prehistory as a sealant, an adhesive, building mortar, and waterproofing. Ancient Egyptians utilized bitumen in the embalment of their mummies, after 1100 BC. The word from which mummy is derived “mum” means bitumen in Arabic and Persian [1]. Being an organic material, bitumen can be affected by temperature, oxygen, and ultraviolet radiation. These external factors cause it to aged and consequential stiffening of the asphalt mix. Ageing of binder within an asphalt mix can have positive action by increasing both cohesion and stiffness, which improves the resistance to permanent deformation and the load-bearing capacity. At the same time, it has a negative effect by reducing the flexibility of the pavement that leads to more possibility for cracks especially by fatigue [2,3]. Ageing of bitumen in asphalt mixes could be divided into short and long term ageing. Short-term ageing occurs during the mixing and construction process as a result of loss of volatile components and oxidation of bitumen. The long-term ageing takes place through the whole service life of the road via further oxidation of the in-place material (Airey, 2003). The molecules in bitumen can be divided according to their sizes into large molecular size, LMS, (asphaltenes), medium molecular size, MMS, (resins) and small molecular size, SMS, (oil). Noureldin (1995) studied the changes in molecular size distribution caused by oxidation via thin film oven test (TFOT). It was revealed that the changes in molecular size distribution caused by oxidation via thin film oven test (TFOT). It was revealed that the changes in molecular size distribution caused by oxidation via thin film oven test (TFOT). It was revealed that the changes in molecular size distribution caused by oxidation via thin film oven test (TFOT).
bond between aggregate and asphalt and increase the stiffness by adding of rigid materials in less rigid matrix Buttlar et al. (1999). Fillers play an important role in reducing the optimum asphalt content [1]. However, having too much filler in hot mix asphalt can reduce the interaction between aggregates and binder as coating of the aggregates by fillers will increase the amount of binders hence weakening the [1,3]. These fillers differ in surface texture, shape, surface area, void content, mineral composition and other petrochemical properties [5]. Rigden voids' content describes the volume percentage of voids in a dry compacted filler sample. Higher Rigden voids leads to higher stiffening of binder. Fillers tend to increase the resilient modulus of asphalt mixes [6]. However, most of the strength of HMA is attributed to the surface contact between the aggregate particles. Excessive amount of fillers will result in an increase in the bitumen content and can result in a weak asphalt mix [1].

Theoretical Background

\[
\frac{dC}{dy} + A(y) C(d) = B(y) C^n, \quad n \geq 2 \quad \cdots \quad (1)
\]

Where \(A(y)\) and \(B(y)\) are function of \(y\)

\[
\frac{dC}{dy} + A(y) C(d) = B(y) C^n \quad \cdots \quad (2a)
\]

Divided by (1) through by \(C^n\) we have obtain

\[
C^{-n} \frac{dC}{dy} + A(y) C^{1-n} = B(y) \quad \cdots \quad (2b)
\]

Let \(\beta = C^{1-n}\)

\[
\frac{d\beta}{dy} = \left(1 - n\right)C^{-n} \frac{dC}{dy}
\]

Multiplying Equation (2a) through by \((1-n)\)

\[
\left(1 - n\right)C^{-n} \frac{dC}{dy} + \left(1 - n\right)A(y) C^{1-n} = \left(1 - n\right)B(y) \quad \cdots \quad (3)
\]

\[
\frac{d\beta}{dy} = \left(1 - n\right)C^{-n} \frac{dC}{dy}
\]

\[
2 \frac{d\beta}{dy} + \beta(1 - n)B(y) = 2(1 - n)B(y) \quad \cdots \quad (5)
\]

Let \(\frac{2}{2 - \beta} = \phi^2\)

\[
\beta = \frac{1}{\phi^2} \int (1 - n)B(y)dy = \frac{1}{\phi^2} (1 - n)B(y)Y + K, \quad \cdots \quad (6)
\]

\[
\left[ \frac{\beta}{(1 - n)B(y)Y} \right] \quad \cdots \quad (7)
\]

Materials and Method

The materials which were used in this study were all locally available. Snail Shell Ash was sourced from Mile One Market in Port Harcourt, Rivers State [7-10]. The samples were burnt in an open air and milled using an edge milling machine to obtain the required ashes used as filler.

Material used

The materials used in this study are

1. Aggregates (Fine and Coarse Aggregate)
2. Bitumen (Asphalt Cement)
3. Filler (Snail Shell Ash)
4. Cement

Details of materials

Aggregate: Aggregate is a collective term for same, gravel and crushed stone mineral material in their natural processed state. Fine aggregate defined by (AASNTO M-147) as natural or crushed sand passing the number 10 sieve sand mineral particle passing number 200 sieve. Coarse aggregate defined by (AASNTO M-147) as hard, durable particles or fragments of stone, gravel or slag retained on the number 10 sieve [8-12].

Usually coarse aggregate has a toughness and abrasion resistance requirement. The coarse and fine aggregate were separated to various sizes. Coarse and fine aggregate used in this research was brought from material shop at Mill 3, Diobu Port Harcourt, Rivers State. The coarse and fine aggregates were sieve and recombined in laboratory in order to produce identical controlled gradation.

Bitumen (Asphalt cement): Bitumen is an oil based substance. It is a semisolid hydrocarbon product produced by removing the lighter fractions (such as liquid petroleum gas, petrol and diesel) from has crude oil during the refining process. It is black or brown in color possess water proofing and adhesive properties. It is collectively known as refined bitumen. The asphalt mixture contains approximately 5% bitumen at ambient temperatures bitumen is a stable semi solid substance. The bitumen used for this research project was collected from Setraco Nigeria Limited Site, Enugu-Port Harcourt expressway, Okiegwe Imo State. It was graded bitumen with a checked confirmed penetration of 60/70 and specific gravity of 1.06 (3.1).

Filler (Snail shell ash): Asphalt institute defined filler as a finely divided mineral product at least 65% of which will pass through a number 200 sieve.

Filler play a dual role in asphalt mixtures, firstly the act as a part of the mineral aggregate by filling the voids between the coarse particles in the mixture and thereby strengthen the asphalt mixture. Secondly when mixed with asphalt, fillers form mastic a high consistency binder [13-15]. The type and amount of filler used in hot asphalt mixture would be affecting the properties of the mixed.

The filler used in this experiment is Snail Shell Ash. (SSA), the physical properties of this mineral filler were shown in 3.2.
Laboratory test carried out on the aggregate

The aggregates (which includes sand and crushed rock) used in this research were subjected to various laboratory tests in other to assess their physical characteristics and suitability in the road construction. The tests carried out are Sieve Analysis and specific gravity.

Gradation test (Sieve analysis): Sieve analysis for both coarse and fine aggregate was carried out and their corresponding particles size distribution was plotted on a log graph in Appendix D.

a. Apparatus
- Set of sieves
- Weighing balance
- Sieve shaker
- Dusting brush

b. Test procedure
- Dry the aggregates in an oven for 24 hours.
- Measure specified weights of 1000g both aggregates separately
- Shake the aggregate in a sieve shaker or manually (with hand) for not less than 2 minutes on each sieve size
- Record the weights retained in each sieve size on a data sheet.
- Calculate the percentage retained on each sieve size
- Calculate the percentage passing for each sieve by subtracting the cumulative percent retained by 100 percent from each sieve size
- Obtained the particle size distribution by plotting the percent passing on each sieve by the corresponding sieve size.

The aggregate gradation for coarse and fine aggregate is presented in Appendix D.

Aggregate specific gravity test: The specific gravity test was conducted for the coarse and fine aggregate.

a. Apparatus
- Density bottle / pycnometer
- Weigh balance
- Oven

b. Test procedure
- Soak a specified weight of aggregate in distilled water for 24 hours
- Weigh the soaked sample in water
- Dry the soaked sample in air
- Oven dry the sample at 1050 c for 24 hours
- Weigh dried sample again in air
- Obtain specific gravities of samples by dividing the weight of the oven dried samples in water.

The specific gravities for the aggregates are presented in the appendix B.

Proportioning of aggregates

The aggregate mix was proportioned such that the specification requirement was met as shown in appendix D the graphical plot by straight line method involved plotting on a straight line the percent passing on each sieve size by the corresponding sieve size for both aggregate on the separate graph. This graph was used to obtain the uniformity coefficient Cu and Cc [16,17].

Laboratory tests carried out on bitumen

Bitumen specific gravity test:
- Pycnometer
- Weigh balance
- Thermometer
- Water bath
- Spoon

a. Test procedure: The pycnometer method was used for the bitumen which involves weighing a given volume of the bitumen and also obtaining the weight an equal volume of water [18-21]. The specific gravity was thus obtained by diving the weight of an equal volume of binder by the weight of an equal volume of water. Appendix B shows the result of the specific gravity of the material used in this research.

Viscosity test: This test helps to determine the viscosity or resistance to flow of bitumen
- Apparatus
- Viscometer
- Water bath
- Thermometer
- Receiver
- Time recorded

a. Test procedure: Using a standard viscometer to determine the comparative and time at which the 50ml of bitumen will flow from an orifice of 10mm diameters in the viscometer. The bitumen is prevented from flowing out by a brass ball that fits the orifice of the viscometer. The sample was heated to a temperature of 780 c and was poured into the viscometer and regulated to the temperature of 700c. When the test temperature is ascertained, the ball is raised, and the bitumen is caught by a calibrated receiver directly under the orifice of the viscometer and the time at which the sample reaches the 50ml gradation mark was recorded as the viscosity.
**Softening point test:** Softening point is the temperature at which the sample becomes soft enough to allow the ball eye loped in the sample.

a. **Apparatus:**
- Rings-Brass, square shouldered rings
- Ball steel balls
- Ball centering guides
- Bath- A squat, heat resistant glass vessel
- Ring holder
- Thermometer
- Reagent

b. **Test procedure:** The softening point test is essentially a ball and ring test which involves placing a steel ball on a mass of bitumen contained in a brass ring and heated in a water bath until the bitumen is soft enough to allow the ball fall through a height of 25mm. the temperature of the water at which this occurs is known as the softening point of the bitumen.

**Penetration test**

a. **Apparatus**
- Penetrometer
- Needle for bitumen test
- Additional weight (50gm)
- Two sample ready for use with steel plate
- Hot plate for melting
- Stop watch

b. **Test procedure**

The penetration test involves the determination of the extent to which a standard needle penetrates a well prepared sample of bitumen under definitely specified conditions of temperature, load and time. A penetrometer was used which allowed a 100g needle to move vertically downward without friction and the distance moved by the needle in units of tenths of millimeters was recorded as the penetration of the bitumen. Hence the procedure was repeated four times and the average value of the penetration obtained and recorded for further analysis. The bitumen used for this experiment was collected from and has confirmed penetration of 60/70. The compacted samples were allowed to cool, after which they were removed and kept for 24 hours before other tests were carried on the samples to determine its bulk density, stability, flow and voids.

**Optimum bitumen content (OBC) determination:** The optimum bitumen content from the control mix (unmodified sample) was obtained by taking the average of the binder contents at maximum stability, maximum unit weight (Density) and median limit of air voids. This is the asphalt content required for optimum performance and suitable for best stability.

**Modified sample preparation (Using snail shell ash filler):** The preparation of the cement modified asphalt concrete samples followed the same procedure as for the unmodified (0% filler) samples as already described. However, there were slight modifications during its preparation which are as follows:

- The weight of the bitumen was kept constant at its optimum bitumen content of the overall weight of mould.
- The snail shell ash was introduced in varying contents of 1.5%, 2.5%, 3.5%, 4.5%, 5.5% and 6.5%.
- The snail shell ash was introduced with aggregate and heated in the mixing bowl prior to the addition of the bitumen.

Three samples of the snail shell ash modified asphalt concrete were prepared to ensure a more accurate result.

**Bulk density test:** The bulk density test was performed as soon as the freshly compacted samples were cooled to room temperature. The procedure for this test is outlined below:
• Weigh the compacted mould in air
• Soak mould in water (completely submerged) for one hour and weigh in air.
• Soak the mould in water for one hour and weigh in water
• Calculate the bulk density of the mould using the equation below:

\[ e = \frac{W_{ao}}{W_{a1} - W_w} \]

Eq.3.1

Where 
- \( e \) = Bulk density
- \( W_{ao} \) = Weight of sample in air
- \( W_{a1} \) = Weight of sample in air water after one hour soaking
- \( W_w \) = Weight of sample in water after one hour soaking

**Stability and flow test:** The stability and flow tests were carried out simultaneously to obtain stability values in Newton (N) and flow values in millimeters (mm) of the asphalt concrete mix. The marshal testing machine and a water bath are the equipment used for this test. The procedure for the stability and flow tests is as follows:

- Heat the asphalt concrete mould in the water bath for 30 to 40 minutes at 60°C constant temperature
- Cleanse the testing head and lightly oil the guiding rods
- Remove the sample from the bath and dry it carefully
- Position the sample in the lower testing head and fit it with upper testing head
- Position the head assembly in the marshel testing machine with the flow meter in position
- Apply the testing load on the sample at a constant rate of deformation of 50mm/minute until failure occurs. The point of failure is the point where the maximum load is obtained
- The load dial reading and the flow meter reading at the point of failure are recorded.

**Result and Discussion**

The Marshall Stability and flow test provides the performance prediction measure for the Marshall Mix design method (Tables 1-4). The stability portion of the test measures the maximum load supported by the test specimen at a loading rate of 50.8 mm/minute. Marshall Stability of a test specimen is the maximum load required to produce failure when the specimen is preheated to a prescribed temperature placed in a special test head and the load is applied at a constant strain, the Figure 1 here express the variation of growth rate of marshal stability on the modification of shell ash, fluctuation of the stability are based on the rate of reactions at different percentage of modifiers, the predictive values observed vacillation based on it mechanical properties and characteristics. The performance of pavement is determined by the properties of bitumen [22]. As bitumen is known to be viscoelastic material with suitable mechanical and rheological properties for water proofing and protective covering for roofs and roads, these are due to its good adhesion properties of aggregate, the study of marshal stability has determined the optimum rate of stability from this modifier can carry, these are subjected to the required condition based on the required specifications. The predictive and experimental values generated best correlation; these were observed from the entire Figures (2-4) through their graphical representations.

![Figure 1: Predictive and Experimental Values of Marshal Stability at Different Snail Shell Ash Percentage.](image-url)
Figure 2: Predictive and Experimental Values of Marshal Stability at Different Snail Shell Ash Percentage.

Figure 3: Predictive and Experimental Values of Marshal Stability at Different Snail Shell Ash Percentage.

Figure 4: Predictive and Experimental Values of Marshal Stability at Different Snail Shell Ash Percentage.
Table 1: Predictive and Experimental Values of Marshal Stability at Different Snail Shell Ash Percentage.

| Percentage of Snail Shell Ash (SSA) % | Predictive Marshall Stability | Experimental Marshall Stability |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 0                                    | 6.061                         | 6.91                          |
| 1.5                                  | 6.663                         | 6.75                          |
| 2.5                                  | 5.225                         | 5.95                          |
| 3.5                                  | 7.316                         | 7.01                          |
| 4.5                                  | 6.413                         | 6.14                          |
| 5.5                                  | 5.599                         | 6.36                          |
| 6.5                                  | 6.176                         | 6.36                          |

Table 2: Predictive and Experimental Values of Marshal Stability at Different Snail Shell Ash Percentage.

| Percentage of Snail Shell Ash (SSA) % | Predictive Marshall Stability | Experimental Marshall Stability |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 0                                    | 6.14                          | 6.93                          |
| 1.5                                  | 6.0482375                    | 6.76                          |
| 2.5                                  | 6.4188125                    | 5.97                          |
| 3.5                                  | 6.5418875                    | 7.05                          |
| 4.5                                  | 6.3988265                    | 6.16                          |
| 5.5                                  | 5.9663375                    | 6.37                          |
| 6.5                                  | 6.1161125                    | 6.35                          |

Table 3: Predictive and Experimental Values of Marshal Stability at Different Snail Shell Ash Percentage.

| Percentage of Snail Shell Ash (SSA) % | Predictive Marshall Stability | Experimental Marshall Stability |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 0                                    | 6.14                          | 6.95                          |
| 1.5                                  | 6.0477875                    | 6.05                          |
| 2.5                                  | 6.4175625                    | 5.92                          |
| 3.5                                  | 6.5394375                    | 7.03                          |
| 4.5                                  | 6.3048125                    | 6.18                          |
| 5.5                                  | 5.9602875                    | 6.22                          |
| 6.5                                  | 6.1076625                    | 6.24                          |

Table 3.1: Typical Binder Properties.

| Property                          | Typical Data | ASTM Method |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Penetration @ 25 °C               | 1/10         | D5          |
| Softening Point R & B mm          | 45-52        | D36         |
| Solubility in 1.1.1 trichloroethylene, min °C | 99.5 | D2042 |
| Ductility @ 25 °C, min %          | 100          | D113        |
| Flash Point (Cleveland Gopen Cup), min cm | 276 | D92 |
| Loss on Heating °C                | 0.3          | D6          |
| Drop in Penetration after Heating % | 20          | D5          |
| Relative Density @ 25/25 °C %     | 1.00-1.06    | D70         |

Table 3.2: Physical Properties of the Mineral Filler.

| Filler                | Specific Gravity | % Passing Sieve No. 0.09MM |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Snail Shell Ash (SSA) | 3.07             | 96                        |

Table 4: Predictive and Experimental Values of Marshal Stability at Different Snail Shell Ash Percentage.

| Percentage of Snail Shell Ash (SSA) % | Predictive Marshall Stability | Experimental Marshall Stability |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 0                                    | 6.0778                       | 6.94                          |
| 1.5                                  | 6.2671                       | 6.03                          |
| 2.5                                  | 6.3355                       | 5.88                          |
| 3.5                                  | 6.3452                       | 7.02                          |
| 4.5                                  | 6.29605                      | 6.13                          |
| 5.5                                  | 6.1801                       | 6.25                          |
| 6.5                                  | 5.99135                      | 6.12                          |

Conclusion

The study has provided the platform to determine the performance rate of the materials in terms of its suitability from values of various ratios, the developed parameters and its experimental values were observe to meet up the passing medium criteria for medium traffic thus suitable for light traffic, the study express the rate at which these modified asphalt such as viscoelastic material with suitable mechanical and rheological properties for water proofing and protective covering for roofs and roads. These are due to its good adhesion properties of aggregates. One of the most important properties of bitumen mixture is its ability to resist shoving and rutting under traffic. Therefore, stability should be high enough to handle traffic adequately, but not higher than the traffic conditions require. Because low stability causes unraveling and flow of the road surface.

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Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest.

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