

2022 Edition

2022

# AGGREGATE TECHNICIAN







# Aggregate Technician

## 2022 – Updates

- **Removed** Absorption T85
- **Added** Aggregate Specific Gravity T84, T85, and Core-lok information.
- **AASHTO T85** – Added AASHTO T255 and 122°F for cooling sample.

## 2021 – Updates

- **AASHTO T11** - Mechanical Washing: Do not wash the sample in a mechanical washer for more than 10 min.
- **Added AASHTO T85-Abs** – Absorption of coarse aggregate.

## 2020 – Updates

- **AUDIT NOTIFICATION SLIDE ADDED TO ALL MANUALS:** To all material testers, who work on Missouri Highways, this includes Consultants, Contractors, City, County, and MoDOT workers; you will be audited by **MoDOT IAS Inspectors** and sometimes **FHWA** personnel.
- **No Method Changes for 2020.**





# **COURSE CONTENT**

## **AGGREGATE TECHNICIAN**

<b>AASHTO R 90</b>	Sampling of Aggregate Products
<b>AASHTO R 76</b> ASTM C702	Reducing Samples of Aggregate to Testing Size
<b>AASHTO T 255</b> ASTM C566	Total Evaporable Moisture Content of Aggregate by Drying
<b>AASHTO T 11</b> ASTM C117	Materials Finer Than No. 200 Sieve in Mineral Aggregates by Washing
<b>AASHTO T 27</b> ASTM C136	Sieve Analysis of Fine and Coarse Aggregates
<b>MoDOT TM 71</b>	Deleterious Content of Aggregate
<b>ASTM D 4791</b>	Flat Particles, Elongated Particles, or Flat and Elongated Particles in Coarse Aggregate
<b>AASHTO T 84</b> ASTM C128	Specific Gravity and Absorption of Fine Aggregate
<b>AASHTO T 85</b> ASTM C127	Specific Gravity and Absorption of Coarse Aggregate
<b>MoDOT TM81</b>	Specific Gravity & Absorption of Aggregate Using Automatic Vacuum Sealing Method. (Information Only)

**Glossary**





# **AASHTO R 90**

## **Sampling Aggregate Products**







### Required Audits

**All testers** on Federal-Aid Projects (MoDOT or Off-System) are required by the FHWA to be audited at least once per year.

**Reasons:**

- To ensure proper test procedures are being utilized.
- To ensure testing equipment is calibrated and operating properly.
- **Types of Audits;** procedure or comparison.
- **Be Proactive;** schedule your audit as early as possible with MoDOT Materials in district offices, do NOT wait till the end of the year.
- **Provide Proof;** when audited, present a MoDOT Certification Card, or a MoDOT Letter.

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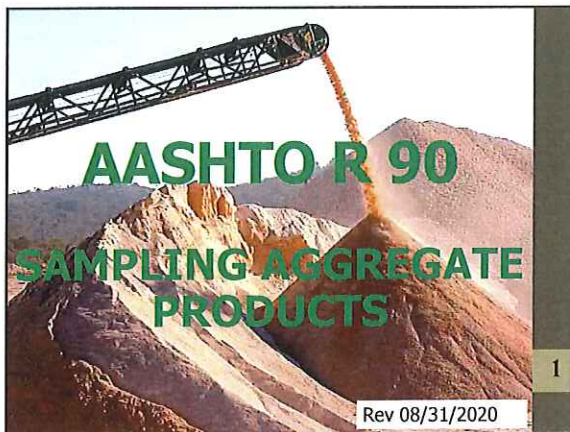
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### SAFETY GEAR

#### **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

- Goggles or Safety Glasses
- Ear Plugs or Ear Muffs
- Steel-Toed Boots
- Hardhat
- Safety Vest
- Dust Mask



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### **SCOPE**

- This practice covers the procedures for obtaining representative samples of Coarse Aggregate (CA), Fine Aggregate (FA), or combinations of Coarse and Fine Aggregate (CA/FA) products to determine compliance with requirements of the specifications under which the aggregate is furnished.
- This method includes sampling from conveyor belts, transport units, roadways, and stockpiles.

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### **SIGNIFICANCE AND USE**

- Sampling is a critical step in determining the quality of the material being evaluated. Care shall be exercised to ensure that samples are representative of the material being evaluated.
- This practice is intended to provide standard requirements and procedures for sampling coarse, fine, and combination of coarse and fine aggregate products.

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### **SECURING SAMPLES**

(All Methods)

- *General:* Where practicable, samples to be tested for quality shall be obtained from the finished product.
- *Inspection:* The material to be sampled shall be visually inspected to determine discernible variations, corrective action shall be taken to establish *homogeneity* in the material prior to sampling.

**Examples of variations:** *Segregation, clay pockets, varying seams, boulders.*

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### TERMINOLOGY

- **Coarse Aggregate (CA)**
  - All the material retained on the #4 (4.75mm) sieve and above.
- **Fine Aggregate (FA)**
  - All the material passing the #4 (4.75mm) sieve.
- **Special Note**
  - MoDOT – Specific sample sizes are on the following chart. **These sizes are different from AASHTO/ASTM specifications.**

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### MoDOT AGGREGATE SAMPLE SIZES

Maximum size Aggregate	Minimum Weight/Mass of Sample
2" (50 mm)	80 lb. (36kg)
1-½" (37.5 mm)	54 lb. (25kg)
1" (25.0 mm)	36 lb. (16kg)
¾" (19.0 mm)	22 lb. (10kg)
½" (12.5 mm)	14 lb. (6kg)
⅜" (9.5 mm)	10 lb. (5kg)
Fines and Natural Sands	500g

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### AGGREGATE SAMPLING PROCEDURES:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Conveyor Belt</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Using a sampling device (belt discharge)</li> <li>2. Using a template</li> </ol> </li> <li>• <b>Stockpiles</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Using a loader</li> <li>2. Using a flat board</li> <li>3. Using a sampling tube (fine aggregate)</li> </ol> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transport Units</b><br/><b>Not recommended, therefore not covered.</b></li> <li>• <b>Roadway</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In place <b>(preferred)</b></li> <li>2. Berm or windrow<br/><b>Not recommended, therefore not covered.</b></li> </ol> </li> </ul> |
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# CONVEYOR BELT SAMPLING

## Sampling Device Procedure

### Coarse Aggregate (CA) & Combined (CA/FA)



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# EQUIPMENT

- Safety Gear; PPE
- Sampling Device
- Proper Containers



Conveyor Belt - Sampling Device

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# PROCEDURE

1. Plant is operating at the usual rate.
2. Select a random sample from a conveyor belt discharge during production.
  - If sampling for quality control or acceptance, record the sampling time, date, and location.
  - Avoid the initial or end of an aggregate run.

Conveyor Belt - Sampling Device

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3. Pass the sampling device at a constant speed through the entire cross-section of the stream flow once in each direction without overflowing the sampling device.
4. Include all material from the sampling device when emptying into the container.
5. Obtain one or more equal increments as required for testing, and combine to form a field sample.

Conveyor Belt - Sampling Device

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## CONVEYOR BELT SAMPLING

### Template Procedure

Coarse Aggregate (CA) & Combined (CA/FA)



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## EQUIPMENT

- Safety gear; PPE
- Template
- Scoop or trowel
- Brush or broom
- Proper containers
- Tag out items



Conveyor Belt - Template

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## PROCEDURE

**NOTE:** Record sampling time or location, or both.

1. **STOP** the conveyor belt.

**Lock and Tag Out !**



2. Select a random sample area from production.

**Note:** Avoid sampling at the beginning or end of an aggregate run.

3. Insert the sampling template on the belt to yield one increment.

Conveyor Belt - Template

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4. Remove all material including the fines from inside the template with a scoop and a brush into a clean dry container.

5. Obtain one or more equal increments to supply enough material for the required test(s).

6. Combine the increments to form a field sample.

Conveyor Belt - Template

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## Conveyor Belt Automatic Sampling Device



- The Automatic Sampling Device is a permanently attached device that allows a sample container to pass perpendicularly through the entire stream of material or diverts the entire stream of material into the container by manual, hydraulic, or pneumatic operation.
- May be used if properly maintained and inspected.

Conveyor Belt - Automatic

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## STOCKPILES



Re-blend a segregated stockpile before sampling.



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### Show Stockpile

Video <https://youtu.be/JXXSssLHrAc>



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## STOCKPILE SAMPLING

### Loader Procedure

Coarse Aggregate (CA) & Combined (CA/FA)



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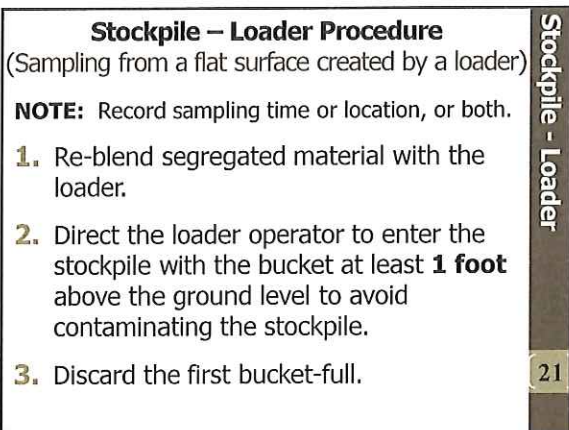
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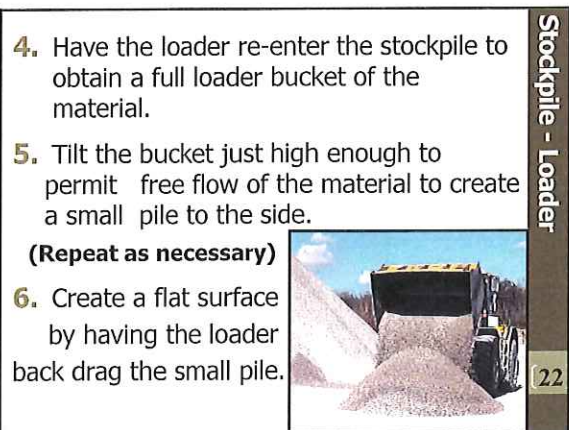
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7. Collect a minimum of **three random** locations from the flat surface that are at least **one foot** from the sample pile edge.
8. Fully insert the shovel, exclude the underlying material, roll back the shovel, and without losing material place it in a clean dry container.
9. Combine the increments to form a field sample.

Stockpile - Loader

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### **STOCKPILE SAMPLING**

**Flat Board & Shovel Procedure**  
Coarse Aggregate (CA) & Combined (CA/FA)



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### **EQUIPMENT**



Stockpiles - Flat Board

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**PROCEDURE**

(Sampling from a horizontal surface on a stockpile face)

**NOTE:** Record sampling time or location, or both.

1. With a shovel, create a horizontal surface with a vertical face.
2. Insert a flat board against a vertical face behind sampling location to prevent sloughing.
3. Do not use sloughed material.
4. Obtain a sample from the horizontal surface near vertical face.

Stockpiles – Flat Board

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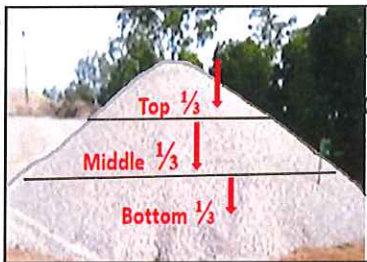
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5. Obtain at least one increment of equal size from the **top** third, **middle** third, and **bottom** third of the pile.
6. Combine the increments to form a field sample.

Stockpiles – Flat Board

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**STOCKPILE SAMPLING**

**Sampling Tube Procedure**

**Fine Aggregate (FA) Only**

Stockpiles – Flat Board

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### EQUIPMENT

- Sampling tube with the dimensions:
  - 1¼" diameter x 6 feet in length, tip cut at a 45° angle



Stockpiles – Sampling Tube 29

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### PROCEDURE

**NOTE:** Record sampling time or location, or both.

1. Remove the outer layer of the stockpile.
2. Using a sampling tube obtain a minimum of **5** samples from random locations on the stockpile.
3. Combine the increments in a clean dry sample container to form a field sample.



Stockpiles – Sampling Tube 30

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### TRANSPORT UNITS

Sampling aggregate from transport units is **NOT** a recommended procedure due to safety concerns and is not covered as part of this certification.

**NOT RECOMMENDED**



Stockpiles – Sampling Tube 31

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## ROADWAY BASE IN-PLACE SAMPLING

Coarse Aggregate (CA) & Combined (CA/FA)



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## EQUIPMENT



Roadway Base -In-Place

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## PROCEDURE

**NOTE:** Record sampling time or location, or both.

- Obtain a representative sample after spreading and before compaction using a random number set for a QC/QA sample.
- If **not** a QC/QA sample, obtain at least **1** or more random increments before compaction for a field sample.
- Clearly mark the specific area from which materials will be removed with the template or square nosed shovel.

Roadway Base -In-Place

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4. With a shovel, remove the full depth of material from inside the marked area; exclude any underlying material.
5. Combine the increments to form a field sample.



Roadway Base -In-Place

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### **STOCKPILES** **Roadway Base Sampling**

- Sampling from a berm or windrow
  - **MoDOT does not sample from berms or windrows.**

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### **SHIPPING SAMPLES**

#### Proper Container

- Bags made for shipping aggregates, or other suitable containers that prevent contamination or loss during shipment.
- **NOTE: MoDOT prefers bags**



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**Proper Identification:**

- Shipping containers for aggregate samples shall have suitable individual identification that is clearly marked on the outside and enclosed.
- Include ID, location, date & time, material type, and quantity of material represented by the sample, if applicable.

**Shipping Samples****38**

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**Common Errors (All methods):**

- Using an improper sampling device.
- Sampling in segregated areas.
- Not obtaining enough increments.
- Not labeling the bags inside and out with proper identification.
- Allowing overflowing of a stream flow device.
- Not being safe. (example; Not performing lock out/tag out on a stopped conveyer belt.)

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# AASHTO R 90: Sampling of Aggregates PROFICIENCY CHECKLIST

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: For all QC/QA or Acceptance sampling, record the time or location or both.**

	Trial 1	Trial 2
<b>Conveyor Belt Sampling – Sampling Device – Coarse/Combined Aggregate</b> NOTE: Automatic belt samplers may be used if properly maintained and inspected.		
1. Plant was operating at the usual rate.		
2. Random samples taken from a conveyor belt discharge taken from production. - Avoided sampling the beginning or end of a run.		
3. Sample taken from the entire cross-section of material once in each direction without overflowing the device.		
4. Included all material from the sampling device into a clean empty container.		
5. Obtained 1 or more increments to form a field sample.		
<b>Conveyor Belt Sampling – Template - Coarse/Combined Aggregate</b>		
1. Conveyor belt stopped, locked and tagged out.		
2. Random samples taken from production. - Avoided sampling at the beginning or end of a run.		
3. Template placed on the belt to yield one increment.		
4. All material inside the template scooped into a proper container including fines.		
5. Obtained 1 or more increments to combine for a field sample.		
<b>Stockpile Sampling – Flat Board – Coarse/Combined Aggregate</b>		
1. Created a horizontal surface with a vertical face.		
2. Inserted board vertically against a vertical face to prevent sloughing.		
3. Discarded sloughed material.		
4. Obtained a sample from the horizontal surface close to the vertical face.		
5. Obtained at least one increment from; the top third, the middle third, and the bottom third of the stockpile.		
6. Combined to form a field sample.		
<b>Stockpile Sampling – Sampling Tube - Fine Aggregate Only</b>		
1. Outer layer of the stockpile removed.		
2. Obtained a minimum of 5 random tube insertions on the stockpile.		
3. Combined to form a field sample.		
<b>Stockpile Sampling – Loader – Coarse/Combined Aggregate</b>		
1. Segregation avoided by re-blending the pile.		
2. Loader entered the pile with bucket at least 1 foot above the ground.		
3. Discarded first bucket-full.		
4. Loader re-entered stockpile to obtain a full loader bucket of material		
5. Bucket tilted just enough to free flow material creating a small sampling pile. (Can go back for more).		
6. Back-dragged the small pile to form a sampling pad.		
7. Randomly collected a minimum of 3 increments with a shovel at least 1 foot from sample pile edge.		
8. Fully Inserted the shovel, excluding underlying material, placed in a clean dry container.		
9. Combined increments to form a field sample.		
<b>Roadway Base Sampling – In-Place – Coarse/Combined Aggregate</b>		
1. Obtained a representative sample after spreading and before compaction using a random number set for a QC/QA sample.		
2. If not a QC/QA sample, obtained at least 1 or more random increments before compaction for a field sample.		
3. Clearly marked the specific area with a template or square nosed shovel.		
4. Used a square nose shovel and or a metal template to mark the area.		
5. With a shovel, removed the full depth of material from inside the marked area excluding underlying material.		
6. Combined increments to form a field sample.		

PASS PASS  
FAIL FAIL

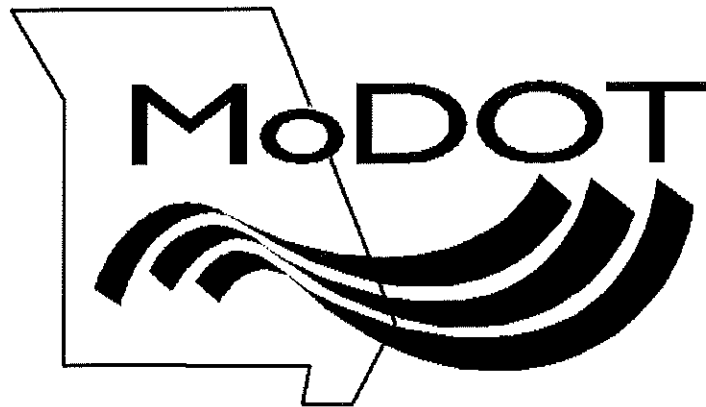
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# **AASHTO R 76**

ASTM C702

## **Reducing Samples of Aggregate To Testing Size**







# AASHTO R 76



## REDUCING SAMPLES OF AGGREGATE TO TESTING SIZE

Rev 10/15/2020

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## SIGNIFICANCE AND USE

- The significance for AASHTO R 76, is to reduce a large sample obtained in the field or produced in the laboratory to the proper size for conducting a number of tests to describe the material and measure its quality. These methods are conducted in such a manner that the smaller test sample portion will be representative of the larger sample and therefore the total supply.

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## SAMPLING

- The samples of aggregate obtained in the field shall be taken in accordance with AASHTO R 90 (ASTM D75), or as required by individual test methods and shall be reduced by AASHTO R 76 (ASTM C702).

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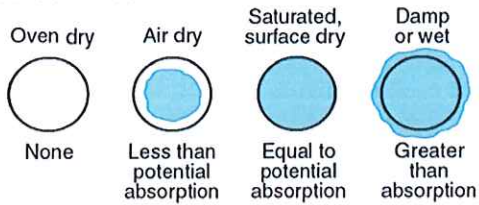
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**The moisture content of aggregate is defined in four states:**



**Total moisture**

**Total Moisture = Free (surface) Moisture + Absorbed Moisture**

**NOTE:** The Damp or Wet State #4 has free moisture on the particle surface.

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### **METHODS**

- **Method A:** Mechanical Splitter
  - Riffle Splitter
- **Method B:** Quartering
  - Canvas
  - Hard, Clean, Level Surface
- **Method C:** Miniature Stockpile

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### **Method Selection**

<b>METHOD A</b> Mechanical Splitter	<b>METHOD B</b> Quartering	<b>METHOD C</b> Miniature Stockpile
"Air Dry"	"Free Moisture"	"Free Moisture"
Fine Aggregate	Fine Aggregates	Fine Aggregates
Coarse Aggregates	Coarse Aggregates	
Combined/Mixed Aggregates	Combined/Mixed Aggregates	

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**Things to know before you begin:**

- Minimize the chance of variability during handling.
- The reduction method used depends upon the maximum aggregate size, the moisture condition, and the equipment available.
- A sample collected in two or more increments shall be thoroughly mixed before reducing.
- The mechanical splitter is the preferred method for reducing coarse aggregate.

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**METHOD A**  
MECHANICAL SPLITTER



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**APPARATUS**

Method A - Mechanical Splitter

- Shall have an even number of equal width chutes.
- At least **8 chutes** for coarse aggregate.
- At least **12 chutes** for fine aggregate.
- Must discharge alternately to each side of the splitter.
- Equipped with 2 receptacles to hold the two halves of the sample following splitting.

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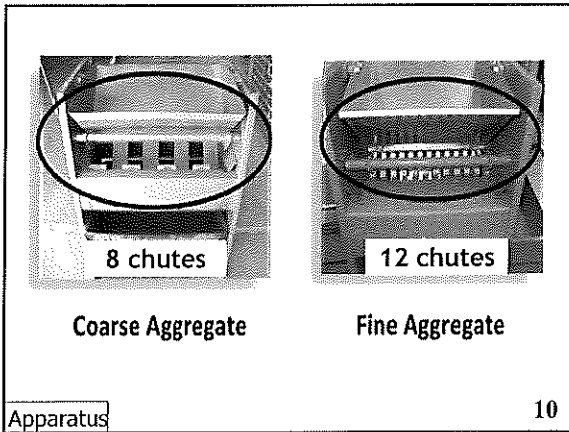
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- Equipped with a hopper or straightedge pan, which has a width equal to or slightly less than the overall width of the assembly of chutes.
- Designed for smooth flow without restriction or loss of material.
- For coarse aggregate and mixed aggregate, the minimum width of the individual chutes shall be approximately 50% larger than the largest particles in the sample to be split.

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- For dry fine aggregate in which the entire sample will pass the  $\frac{3}{8}$ " (9.5mm) sieve, the minimum width of the individual chutes shall be at least 50% larger than the largest particles in the sample and the maximum width shall be  $\frac{3}{4}$ " (19mm).
- **NOTE:** A preliminary split may be made using a mechanical splitter to reduce a fine aggregate sample that is very large. Set the chute openings to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch or more to reduce the sample to not less than 5,000g. Dry the obtained portion and reduced it to testing sample size using Method A.

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### **SAMPLE PREPARATION**

#### Method A - Mechanical Splitter

- Sample should be air-dry.
- Clean the chutes before splitting and between splits.
- Large samples should be representative of the material.  
(Blending may be necessary)

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### **PROCEDURE**

#### Method A - Mechanical Splitter

1. Material is in an air-dry condition.
2. Adjust the openings for the correct chute size.
3. Load the hopper uniformly, distributing the sample from edge to edge, avoiding segregation.
4. The rate at which the sample is introduced shall allow free flowing through the chutes into the receptacles below.

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5. Reintroduce the portion of the sample in one of the receptacles into the splitter as many times as necessary to reduce the sample to the size specified for the intended test.

**NOTE:** The portion of the material collected in the other receptacle may be reserved for reduction in size for the other tests.

Procedure

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Procedure

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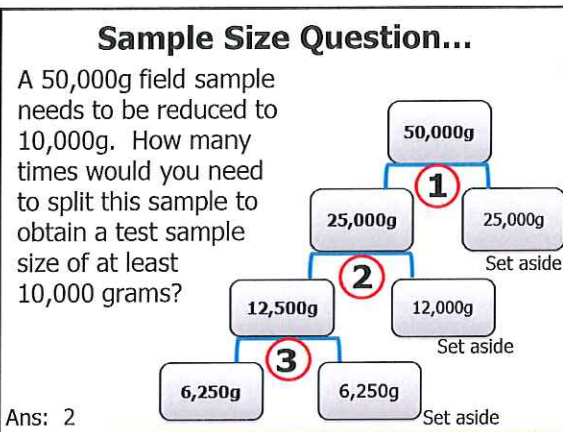
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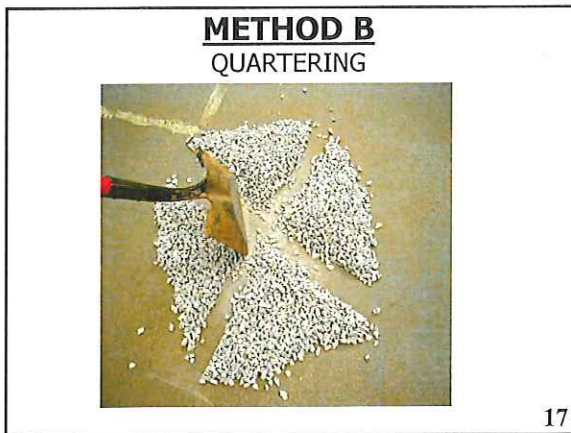
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### **EQUIPMENT**

#### Method B - Quartering

- Straight-edged scoop
- Square-nosed shovel or trowel
- Broom or brush
- Canvas blanket for alternate method approximately 6' x 8'
- Long stick

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### **SAMPLE PREPARATION**

#### Method B - Quartering

- Fine, coarse, or combined aggregates must be in a moist condition.
- For fine aggregates, the sample should be wet enough to stand in a vertical face. If the sample does not have free moisture on the surfaces, the sample may be moistened to achieve this condition.

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### **PROCEDURE**

#### Method B - Quartering

1. Place the sample on a clean, hard, level surface where there will be neither loss of material nor the accidental addition of foreign material.
2. Mix by turning the material over completely at least **THREE** times until thoroughly mixed.
3. Form a conical pile.

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4. Flatten evenly so the diameter is 4-8 times the thickness.
5. Divide this into 4 equal quarters with a shovel or trowel.
6. Remove two diagonally opposite quarters, including all fine material, brush the spaces clean and set the other two quarters aside for later use.

Procedure

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7. Take the remaining 2 quarters, mix and quarter until the sample is reduced to the desired size.

**NOTE:** Save the unused portion until testing is completed.

Procedure

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**Method B - Alternate Quartering Method  
Using a Canvas and Broom Stick**

1. Place a canvas blanket on a clean, level surface.
2. Mix by lifting opposite corners towards each other causing the material to be rolled a minimum of four times.
3. Use a stick to quarter as shown below.



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4. Take opposite quarters to test or to further reduce.



Method B - Alternate Quartering

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**METHOD C**  
**MINIATURE STOCKPILE**



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## **EQUIPMENT**

### Method C - Miniature Stockpile

- Shovel or trowel (For mixing the aggregate)
- Straight-edged scoop
- Small sampling thief, small scoop, or spoon

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## **PROCEDURE**

### Method C - Miniature Stockpile

1. Place the original sample of damp fine aggregate on a hard clean, level surface.
2. Mix the material thoroughly by turning the entire sample over at least three times.
3. With the last turning, shovel the entire sample into a conical pile by depositing each shovel full on top of the preceding one.

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**Optional step:** The conical pile may be flattened to a uniform thickness and diameter by pressing the apex with a shovel or trowel so that each quarter sector of the resulting pile will contain the material originally in it.

4. Obtain a sample by selecting at least **FIVE** increments of material at random locations from the pile and combine them to attain the appropriate sample size.

Procedure

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**Common Errors:**

- Improper method for reduction based on moisture condition.
- Using wrong size chute openings.
- Failure to introduce sample to chutes evenly.
- Failure to use proper flow rate while splitting.

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# AASHTO R 76: Reducing Field Samples of Aggregate to Testing Size PROFICIENCY CHECKLIST

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Trial #	1	2
<b>Method A – Splitting</b>		
<b>8 chutes for Coarse (CA), 12 chutes for Fine (FA)</b>		
1. Material in an air-dry condition.		
2. Adjusted the openings to be 50% larger than the largest particle.		
3. Material spread uniformly on feeder from edge to edge.		
4. Rate of feed slow enough so that sample flows freely through chutes.		
5. Material in one receptacle re-split until desired weight was obtained.		

<b>Method B - Quartering</b>		
1. Moist sample placed on clean, hard, level surface.		
2. Mixed by turning over completely at least 3 times with shovel.		
3. Conical pile formed.		
4. Pile flattened to uniform thickness and diameter of 4-8 times thickness.		
5. Divided into 4 equal portions with shovel or trowel.		
6. Removed two diagonally opposite quarters, including all fines.		
7. Remaining quarters, mixed and quartered until reduced to desired sample size.		
NOTE: The sample may be placed upon a canvas quartering cloth and a stick or pipe may be placed under the tarp to divide the pile into quarters.		

<b>Method C – Miniature Stockpile (Damp Fine Aggregate Only)</b>		
1. Moist fine aggregate sample placed on clean, hard, level surface.		
2. Material thoroughly mixed by turning over completely three times.		
3. Small stockpile formed.		
4. Obtain at least 5 samples taken at random with sampling thief, small scoop, or spoon, combined to attain appropriate sample size.		

Pass   Pass

Fail   Fail

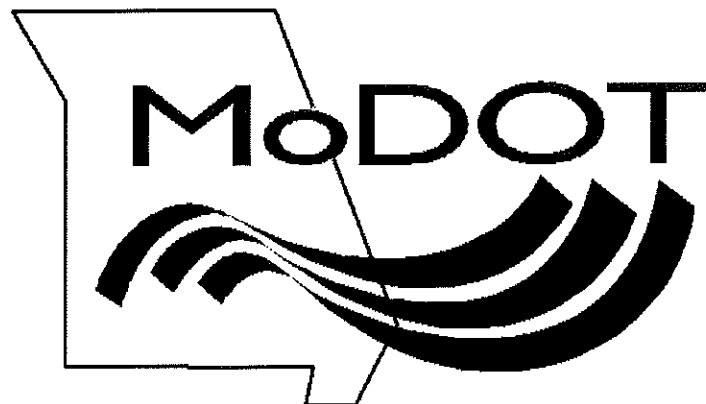
Examiner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# **AASHTO T 255**

ASTM C566

## **Total Evaporable Moisture Content of Aggregate by Drying**





# AASHTO T 255

## Total Evaporable Moisture Content of Aggregate by Drying



Rev. 10/15/2020

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### SCOPE

- This test method covers the determination of the percentage of evaporable moisture in a sample of aggregate by drying both surface moisture and moisture in the pores of the aggregate. Some aggregate may contain water that is chemically combined with the minerals in the aggregate. Such water is not evaporable and is not included in the percentage determined by this method.

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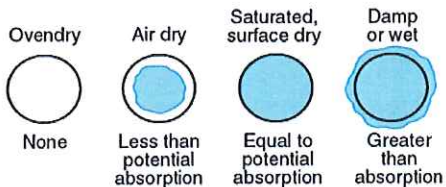
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The moisture content of aggregate is defined in four states:



Total moisture

Total Moisture = Free (surface) Moisture + Absorbed Moisture

**NOTE:** The Damp or Wet State #4 has FREE moisture on the particle surface.

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### SIGNIFICANCE AND USE

- Used for adjusting batch quantities of ingredients for concrete.
- Measures the moisture in a test sample.
- Calculates the free moisture of aggregates to adjust for water-cement ratio.
- Affects the concrete plant report calculations.
- Affects the asphalt plant production rate and asphalt-cement content.
- NOTE: Larger particles will require greater time for the moisture to travel from the interior to the surface.

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### EQUIPMENT

- Scale
  - Readable to 0.1 percent of the sample mass, or better
- Source of Heat
  - Ventilated oven  $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
  - Hot plate
  - Ventilated microwave oven
  - Electric heat lamps



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### • Sample Container

- Air tight cans
  - Not affected by heat
  - Sufficient volume size

### • Other Items

- Gloves
- Metal Spoon
- Brush
- Pans

### • Shovel or Scoop

- for sampling



Equipment

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### SAMPLING

- Obtain a sample in accordance with AASHTO R90/ASTM D75.
- Secure a sample of the aggregate representative of the moisture content in the supply being tested and having a mass not less than the amount listed in Table 1 using the *Nominal Maximum Size of Aggregate*. (See Glossary for definition)
- Protect the sample against moisture loss prior to determining the mass.

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**AASHTO Sample Size (TABLE 1)**

Nominal Maximum Size of Aggregate in. (mm)	Minimum Sample Mass Lbs. (g.)
#4 (4.75)	1.1 (500)
3/8" (9.5)	3.3 (1,500)
1/2" (12.5)	4.4 (2,000)
3/4" (19.0)	6.6 (3,000)
1" (25.0)	8.8 (4,000)
1 1/2" (37.5)	13.2 (6,000)

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### Moisture Content- Video

<https://youtu.be/YXfpniVawc0>

#### Performance Review

3. DETERMINE THE MASS OF THE SAMPLE TO THE NEAREST 0.1%. USE A SCALE SENSITIVE ENOUGH FOR THE SIZE OF THE SAMPLE



T  
Training LLC

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### PROCEDURE

1. Obtain representative sample in an air tight container.

- It is advised to retrieve sample from interior of aggregate stockpile.
- Cover immediately to prevent any moisture loss.
- Protect the sample against moisture loss when transporting to a testing facility and prior to determining the mass.

2. Weigh and record the wet sample to the nearest 0.1% of the total mass, typically 0.1g.

(From this point on do not lose material or overheat the sample.)

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3. Dry the sample using one of the following; oven, hot plate, or microwave oven.

– Ventilated Oven: (Preferred)

- Easily regulated at  $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).
- Good for sensitive aggregates.

– Hot Plate: (Fast) Exercise caution!

- Periodically stir to avoid overheating causing aggregate to fracture.
- If aggregate cannot be heated without fracture, use a ventilated oven.

Procedure

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– Ventilated Microwave Oven: Use a non-metal container, stirring is optional.

(If the material explodes you can not use the microwave, go to another method of drying.)

**NOTE:** Material used in the microwave cannot be used for any other test method.

Procedure

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4. Remove the sample from the heat source when the sample is thoroughly dried to a *constant mass*.

The sample is thoroughly dried to a constant mass when further heating causes, or would cause, less than 0.1 % additional loss in mass.

5. Allow to cool.

6. Weigh and record the mass of the dried sample to the nearest 0.1 % of the total mass.

Procedure

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### **CALCULATIONS**

- Determine the total evaporable moisture content

$$p = \frac{W - D}{D} \times 100$$

- $p$  = percent total evaporable moisture content
- $W$  = mass of original sample, (g)
- $D$  = mass of dried sample, (g)

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### **Class Practice**

Calculate the total evaporable moisture content:

- Mass of original sample = 3,523.0 g
- Mass of dried sample = 3,501.0 g
- Report your answer to the nearest 0.1%

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### Answer

$$p = \frac{W - D}{D} \times 100$$

$$\frac{3523.0 - 3501.0}{3501.0} \times 100 = 0.6\% \text{ Moisture}$$

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### REPORTING RESULTS

- Record results in the bound field book to the nearest **0.1 %** total moisture.
- Notify plant operator of results.

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### Common Errors:

- Overheating
- Insufficient sample size
- Loss of material when stirring
- Loss of moisture prior to testing
- Sample not dried to a constant mass

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# AASHTO T 255: Total Evaporable Moisture Content of Aggregate by Drying PROFICIENCY CHECKLIST

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

	Trial #	1	2														
1. Representative test sample secured																	
2. Test sample mass conforms to following from the AASHTO T 255 Table:																	
<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Nominal Maximum Size of Aggregate in. (mm)</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Minimum Sample Mass Lbs. (g.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">#4 (4.75)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.1 (500)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3/8" (9.5)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.3 (1,500)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1/2" (12.5)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4.4 (2,000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3/4" (19.0)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6.6 (3,000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1" (25.0)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8.8 (4,000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1 1/2" (37.5)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13.2 (6,000)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Nominal Maximum Size of Aggregate in. (mm)	Minimum Sample Mass Lbs. (g.)	#4 (4.75)	1.1 (500)	3/8" (9.5)	3.3 (1,500)	1/2" (12.5)	4.4 (2,000)	3/4" (19.0)	6.6 (3,000)	1" (25.0)	8.8 (4,000)	1 1/2" (37.5)	13.2 (6,000)			
Nominal Maximum Size of Aggregate in. (mm)	Minimum Sample Mass Lbs. (g.)																
#4 (4.75)	1.1 (500)																
3/8" (9.5)	3.3 (1,500)																
1/2" (12.5)	4.4 (2,000)																
3/4" (19.0)	6.6 (3,000)																
1" (25.0)	8.8 (4,000)																
1 1/2" (37.5)	13.2 (6,000)																
3. Mass determined to the nearest 0.1% of the total mass																	
4. Loss of moisture avoided prior to determining the mass																	
5. Sample dried by a suitable heat source																	
6. If heated by means other than a controlled temperature oven, is sample stirred to avoid localized overheating																	
7. Sample dried to constant mass and mass determined to nearest 0.1% of the total mass																	
8. Moisture content calculated by: $\% \text{ moisture} = \frac{\text{wet sample mass} - \text{dried sample mass}}{\text{dried sample mass}} \times 100$																	

PASS    PASS

FAIL    FAIL

Examiner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





# **AASHTO T 11**

ASTM C117

**Materials Finer Than**

**No. 200 Sieve in Mineral  
Aggregates**

**by Washing**





## AASHTO T11



MATERIALS FINER THAN  
No. 200 (75  $\mu$ m) SIEVE IN  
MINERAL AGGREGATES BY WASHING

Rev 10/14/2020

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### SCOPE

- This test washes the fine particles through the #200 (75  $\mu$ m) sieve to give an accurate determination of the minus #200 portion in a sample.



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### SIGNIFICANCE AND USE

- Material finer than the # 200 (75- $\mu$ m) sieve can be separated from larger particles much more efficiently and completely by wet sieving than through the use of dry sieving. Therefore, when accurate determinations of material finer than #200 in fine or coarse aggregate is desired, this test method should be used on the sample prior to dry sieving in accordance with AASHTO T 27.

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### EQUIPMENT

- Oven capable of  $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- Scale, reads to 0.1% of the sample mass or better
- Sieve #200  
Plus a  
#8 sieve or a  
#16 sieve
- Suitable container
- Wetting agent  
for "Method B"
- Water
- Spoon

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### SAMPLING

- Sample the aggregate in accordance with AASHTO R 90 (ASTM D75).
- Thoroughly mix the sample of aggregate to be tested and reduce the quantity to an amount suitable for testing using the methods described in AASHTO R 76.
- The test specimen shall be a representative sample based on AASHTO Table 1.

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### AASHTO Table 1 – Sample Mass Requirements

Nominal Maximum Size (NMA), in.(mm)	Minimum Weight of Sample, grams
#4 (4.75)	300
3/8" (9.5)	1000
3/4" (19.0)	2500
1 1/2" (37.5) or larger	5000

• Nominal Maximum Aggregate Size; (NMA) is defined as the smallest sieve which 100% of sample passes.

• **Note:** If the aggregate size is an in-between size just go to the next size on the chart for the amount ex: 1/2" you would go to 2500 grams.

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### **SAMPLE PREPARATION**

#### **Method A**

- Dry the test sample to a constant mass at  $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and determine the mass to the nearest 0.1 % of the mass of the test sample.
- Check the #200 sieve for damage before testing.  
(if damaged replace the sieve)

**NOTE:** Take care not to overload the #200 sieve during washing.

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### **PROCEDURE**

#### **Method A**

1. Place the sample into a washing pan/vessel suitable for heating in the oven.
2. Add water to cover the aggregate.

#### **Optional Method B:**

**Add a small amount of wetting agent only once per sample during agitation.**

3. Agitate the sample.  
(Use a spoon or similar tool to agitate the sample.)

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4. Immediately pour the wash water through the nest of sieves avoiding the decantation of the coarser particles.

**Nest of sieves:** Is the use of two or more sieves stacked together. In this case the stack consist of two sieves. Use either a sieve size #8 or #16 placed on top of a #200 sieve. This will protect the delicate #200 sieve from damage while washing.

5. Add another charge of water to the sample in the pan, agitate, decant the wash water through the nest of sieves as before. Repeat several times until the wash water is clear.

Procedure

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6. Material on sieves returned to washed sample.
- Do not decant any water from the pan except through a # 200 sieve to avoid loss of material.
  - **MECHANICAL WASHING** (Optional):  
If mechanical washing equipment is used, the charging of water, agitating, and decanting will be a continuous operation.

Mechanical Washers: Maximum wash time is **10 minutes**.

**10 MINUTES MAX**

Procedure

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7. Oven dry the sample to a constant mass at a temperature of  $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), weigh to the nearest 0.1 % of the original mass of the sample. (Typically 1 gram)

8. Calculate the loss and report the results.

Procedure

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### CALCULATIONS

- Calculate the amount of material passing a # 200 sieve by washing as follows:

$$A = \frac{(B - C)}{B} \times 100$$

A = Total % passing #200 (75  $\mu\text{m}$ ) sieve

B = Original dry mass of sample (grams)

C = Dry mass of sample after washing and drying to constant mass (grams)

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### REPORTING

Report the percentage of material finer than the #200 sieve by washing to the nearest **0.1 % if the loss is less than 10%.**

Report the result to the nearest **whole number if the loss is 10% or more.**

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### Sample Calculations

$$A = \frac{(B - C)}{B} \times 100$$

$$B = 532 \text{ grams}$$

$$C = 521 \text{ grams}$$

$$A = \frac{(532 - 521)}{532} \times 100$$

$$A = 2.1\%$$

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### Classroom Exercise and Reporting Results

Determine the percent of minus #200 material and report the answer to the nearest 0.1% if less than 10%, to the nearest 1% if 10% or more:

Original dry weight (B) = 3171 g

Washed dry weight (C) = 2729 g

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ANSWER

$$A = \frac{(B - C)}{B} \times 100$$

$$A = \frac{3171 - 2729}{3171} \times 100$$

Answer: A = 13.94  
Reported: A = **14%**

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### Common Errors:

- Overloading #200 sieve
- Losing sample when transferring or washing
- Using a damaged #200 sieve

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# AASHTO T 11: Materials Finer Than No. 200 Sieve in Mineral Aggregates by Washing

## PROFICIENCY CHECKLIST

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Trial #	1	2
1. Test sample dried to constant mass at 230 ± 9°F (110 ± 5°C).		
2. Test sample allowed to cool and mass determined to 0.1%.		
3. #200 sieve checked for damage. Cover the #200 with a #8 or #16 sieve.		
4. Sample placed in a container and covered with water.		
5. Wetting agent added. (optional)		
6. Sample and contents of container vigorously agitated. <b>Note: Mechanical washers maximum time 10min of washing.</b>		
7. Wash water poured through the sieve nest.		
8. Wash water free of coarse particles.		
9. Operation continued until wash water is clear.		
10. Material on sieves returned to washed sample.		
11. Excess water decanted from washed sample only through the #200 sieve.		
12. Washed aggregate dried to constant mass at 230 ± 9°F (110 ± 5°C).		
13. Washed aggregate mass cooled and determined to 0.1%.		
14. Calculation: % less than #200 = $\frac{\text{Orig. dry mass} - \text{Final dry mass}}{\text{Orig. dry mass}} \times 100$		

PASS PASS

FAIL FAIL

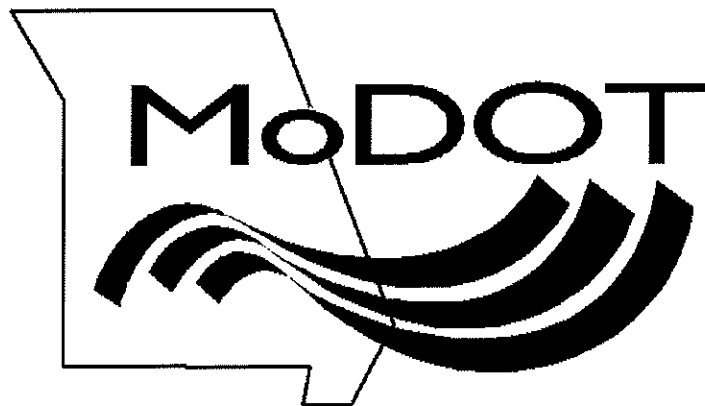
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# **AASHTO T 27**

ASTM C136

## **Sieve Analysis of Fine and Coarse Aggregates**








# AASHTO T 27

ASTM C136



SIEVE ANALYSIS OF  
FINE AND COARSE  
AGGREGATES

NOTE: Updates are highlighted in yellow.

Rev 10/07/2020

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## SCOPE

- Sieve analysis of aggregate is used to determine compliance with design, production control requirements, and verification of specifications.
- According to AASHTO, either Cumulative or Non-Cumulative methods may be used.

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## SIGNIFICANCE AND USE

- This method is used primarily to determine the grading of materials proposed for use as aggregates or being used as aggregates. The results are used to determine compliance of the particle size distribution with applicable specification requirements and to provide necessary data for control of the production of various aggregate products. The data may also be useful in developing relationships concerning porosity and packing.
- Accurate determination of material finer than the #200 sieve cannot be achieved by use of this method alone. Therefore AASHTO T 11 for material finer than the #200 sieve by washing should be used.

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### EQUIPMENT

- **Scale** – readable to 0.1% of the sample mass or better
- **Sieves**
- **Brushes** – soft and stiff brushes
- **Pans**
- **Oven**– Capable of maintaining  $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
  - A **Hot Plate** may be used

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- **Mechanical Shaker**

- Check sieving thoroughness every **12 months** or **as needed** throughout the year.
  - The timer will be calibrated/verified during this process.
- A Record of this verification will be kept in the lab's Quality Manual System (QMS).
- See appendix for **AASHTO R 18** calibrating/verification process of mechanical sieve shakers.

Equipment

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- **Brushes**

- Vary to clean out sieves
  - $\geq \#30$  sieve use a wire brush or stiff brush
  - $< \#30$  sieve use a soft bristle brush



Equipment

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## DEFINITIONS AND LANGUAGE

- **Nominal Maximum Aggregate Size (NMAS)**
  - For AASHTO T 27 this is defined as the smallest sieve that the specification for the material being tested allows for 100% of the material to pass.

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## Interchangeable Words

- Sieve Analysis and Gradation
- Weight and Mass
- Minus (*sieve #*) Material and Material Passing through a (*sieve #*)
  - Example: -4 Material = Material Passing through #4 sieve
- Plus (*sieve #*) Material and Material Retained on a (*sieve #*)
  - Example: +4 Material = Material retained on a #4 sieve

Definitions and Language

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## THREE THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE SIEVE ANALYSIS

1. Sieve Condition
2. Check Sieving Thoroughness
3. Sieve Overloading

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### 1. SIEVE CONDITION

- Check sieves for the following conditions prior to use.
  - Large Holes
  - Tears
  - Unevenly spaced wires
  - Cracks around rim
  - Bowled screens
  - Cleanliness
  - Periodically examine finer mesh sieves against a backlight or white background for damaged openings or perimeter separations; use magnified viewing if needed.
- Wash finer sieves periodically per manufacturers instructions.
- Replace or repair any damaged sieves.



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### 2. CHECK SIEVING THOROUGHNESS

- Use a snug fitting pan and cover to prevent sample loss.
- Strike side of sieve with heel of hand at a rate of **150 times per minute**, turning about **1/6 turn** every **25 strokes**.



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- There should not be more than **0.5 %** by mass of the total sample pass any sieve during **1 minute** of continuous hand sieving.

- If **>0.5%** increase the time for sieving.
- For more information see the Annex in this chapter section **A2 TIME EVALUATION**.



Sieving Thoroughness

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### 3. SIEVE OVERLOADING

- For sieves with openings **smaller than #4**, the quantity retained on any sieve at the completion of the sieving operation shall not exceed (**4g/in<sup>2</sup>**) of sieving surface area.

- For sieves with openings **#4 and greater**, the quantity retained in kg shall not exceed the product of:

**2.5 X [sieve opening, mm x (effective sieving area, m<sup>2</sup>)]**

(This quantity is shown in AASHTO T27 Table 1)

See **Table 1** on the next slide for an example of allowable amounts on an 8" diameter sieve, and 14" square sieve.

See ANNEX A1 at the end of this chapter for more information.

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**AASHTO TABLE 1**

Maximum Allowable Quantity Of Material Retained\*

Sieve Opening Size	8" Diameter Sieve	14" Square Sieve
2" (50 mm)	7.9 lbs (3.6 kg)	33.7 lbs (15.3 kg)
1½" (37.5 mm)	6.0 lbs (2.7 kg)	25.4 lbs (11.5 kg)
1" (25.0 mm)	4.0 lbs (1.8 kg)	17.0 lbs (7.7 kg)
¾" (19.0 mm)	3.1 lbs (1.4 kg)	12.8 lbs (5.8 kg)
½" (12.5 mm)	2.0 lbs (0.89 kg)	8.4 lbs (3.8 kg)
⅜" (9.5 mm)	1.5 lbs (0.67 kg)	6.4 lbs (2.9 kg)
No. 4 (4.75 mm)	0.7 lbs (0.33 kg)	3.3 lbs (1.5 kg)

\*Table 1 of the current AASHTO T 27 standard shows a complete table of different size sieves of the maximum allowable quantities of material retained on a sieve.

Sieve Overloading

14

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- To **prevent** sieve overloading on an individual sieve use one or more of the following methods:

- Insert additional sieves.
- Split sample into two or more portions, sieve each portion individually and combine the portions retained on the sieve before calculating the percentage of the sample on the sieve.
- Use sieves having a larger frame size that provides a greater sieving area.

Sieve Overloading

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### SAMPLING

- Sample the aggregate in accordance with AASHTO R 90/ASTM D75.
- Thoroughly mix the sample and reduce to sample size using AASHTO R76.
- Use the Nominal Maximum Aggregate Size of the sample to determine the amount needed for testing from the MoDOT-EPG Chart on the next slide.

**Note:** The MoDOT-EPG Chart required amounts are different than that of AASHTO T 27.

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### **MoDOT-EPG CHART**

#### **MoDOT Sample Sizes for Aggregate Gradation Test**

Nominal Maximum Agg. Size in. (mm)	Minimum Mass of Test Sample lb. (g)
3/8" (9.5)	2.5 (1,000)
1/2" (12.5)	3.5 (1,500)
3/4" (19.0)	5.5 (2,500)
1" (25.0)	9 (4,000)
1 1/2" (37.5)	13.5 (6,000)

Dried Fine Aggregate, Minimum **500** grams.  
Found in the **MoDOT** EPG Section 1001 17

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### SAMPLE PREPARATION

- Dry the reduced sample to a constant mass in an oven at  $230 \pm 9^\circ\text{F}$  ( $110 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ ). A hot plate can be used – fracturing of aggregates should be avoided.



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### PROCEDURE Sieve Analysis



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- Weigh the dried sample and record the weight to the nearest gram. (Original Dry Mass)



Procedure – Original Dry Mass

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### PERFORM AASHTO T 11 (Optional)

**NOTE:** Test T 11 is an **option**, but is generally used with T 27.

- Perform **AASHTO T 11** (Washing out the minus #200 fines from the sample).
- Dry the **washed aggregate** to a constant mass at  $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).
- Allow to cool.
- Weigh the **washed dried sample** and record the weight to the nearest gram.

**Note:** This weight will be called the "Washed Dry Mass" on your sieve analysis worksheet.

Procedure – AASHTO T 11

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- Stack the sieves by assembling the required sieves in order of decreasing size.

• **NOTE:** Use of additional sieves may be added to prevent the required sieves from being overloaded.

- **NOTE:** For particles that are 3 inches and larger, use a Mechanical Screen-Shaker or Hand Sieve particles.



Procedure – Stacking Sieves

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Procedure – Stacking Sieves

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- Carefully load the sieves by taking the dried, pre-weighed sample and pour it into the top of the sieve stack.

- Do not lose any material.

- Put the lid on top.



Procedure – Loading Sieves

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- Agitate and shake each sieve **mechanically** or **by hand** for a sufficient period, established by trial or checked by measurement on the actual test sample, to meet the criterion for adequacy of sieving.
- **Sieving Criterion**
  - Shake until  $\leq 0.5\%$  by mass of the total sample passes during **1 minute** of continuous hand sieving.

Procedure - Agitation

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- **Mechanical Sieving:** Place the stack of sieves in a Mechanical Shaker set at the calibrated/verified time.  
(Approximately 7-10 min)

- If the timer was not calibrated/verified, **Hand Sieve** after agitation.



Procedure – Mechanical Agitation

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**Sieving by HAND:** Shake until  $\leq 0.5\%$  by mass of the total sample passes during 1 minute of continuous hand sieving

**NOTE:** Do NOT force particles or manipulate them to go through the sieve openings.



Procedure – Manual Agitation

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• Method used to check mechanical shakers and hand sieving:

- Tap side of sieve sharply with heel of hand 150 strokes/minute, rotating 1/6 turn every 25 strokes.
- Shake until  $\leq 0.5\%$  by mass of the total sample passes during 1 minute of continuous hand sieving.



Procedure – Check for Sieving Thoroughness

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- After agitating the sample, unload and weigh the retained material on each sieve.
- Start with the largest sieve from the top of the stack and unload the retained aggregates using the appropriate BRUSH to clean out the sieves.



Procedure – Unloading and Weighing

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- Weigh and record the retained aggregates from each sieve using either the **Non-Cumulative procedure** or **Cumulative procedure**



Procedure – Unloading and Weighing

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#### WEIGHING - Non - Cumulative Process

- Unload each sieve fraction separately into its own individual (tared) pan.
- Weigh each pan separately and write the weight next to the corresponding sieve size on the report.
- Record to nearest 0.1 % by total mass, typically 1 gram.

#### For The Minus #200

- Tare out a different pan and unload the minus #200 material from the pan from the sieve nest and record the weight.

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#### WEIGHING - Cumulative Process

- Unload the material retained on the largest sieve into a tared pan and record the weight to the nearest 0.1% of the total mass, typically 1 gram.
- **Do not tare (zero) scale**, add material from next sieve into the same pan, record the combined weight.
- Repeat unloading and recording the combined weight until all sieves have been unloaded from the sieve stack into the same pan.

#### For The Minus #200

- Tare out a different pan and unload the minus #200 material from the pan from the sieve nest and record the weight.

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#### CALCULATE AND REPORT

Depending upon the form, the material tested and the specification, the report shall include one of the following:

- Total percentage of material passing each sieve.
- Total percentage of material retained on each sieve.
- Percentage of material retained between consecutive sieves.
- ✓ All values for the percent passing are reported to the nearest whole number for all sieves including material passing the (No. #200) sieve for values  $\geq 10\%$ .
- ✓ Material passing the (No. # 200) sieve for values less than 10% , reported to the nearest tenth (0.1)%.

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### SIEVING ACCURACY

- **MoDOT sieving accuracy:** Sieving accuracy tolerance for sieve analysis is  $\pm 1$  gram per sieve used. This can be found in the MoDOT EPG.

**We will use MODOT sieving accuracy for this certification.**

- **AASHTO T 27 sieving accuracy:** The total mass of the material after sieving should check closely with the total original dry mass of the sample placed on the sieves. If the two amounts differ by more than 0.3%, based on the total original dry sample mass, the results should not be used for acceptance purposes.

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### CALCULATIONS -NON-CUMULATIVE

**Equation for all sieves:**

$$\% \text{Passing} = \frac{\text{total weight passing}}{\text{original dry weight}} \times 100$$

**Equation for the pan (Minus #200):**

$$\% \text{ passing \#200} = \frac{(T11 \text{ loss} + \text{pan weight})}{\text{original dry weight}} \times 100$$

**Equation for T11 loss:**

$$A = \text{Total \% passing \#200} \quad A = \frac{(B-C)}{B} \times 100$$

B = Original dry mass of sample

C = Dry mass of sample after washing & drying to constant mass.

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### CALCULATIONS - CUMULATIVE

**Equation for all sieves:**

$$\% \text{Passing} = 1 - \left( \frac{\text{cumulative weight}}{\text{original dry weight}} \right) \times 100$$

**Equation for the pan (Minus #200):**

$$\% \text{ passing \#200} = \frac{(T11 \text{ loss} + \text{pan weight})}{\text{original dry weight}} \times 100$$

**Equation for T11 loss:**

$$A = \text{Total \% passing \#200} \quad A = \frac{(B-C)}{B} \times 100$$

B = Original dry mass of sample

C = Dry mass of sample after washing & drying to constant mass

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Calculation of the Fineness Modulus  
"FOR INFORMATION ONLY"

- Calculate the fineness modulus, when required, by adding the total percentages of material in the sample that are coarser than each of the following sieves (cumulative percentages retained), and dividing the sum by 100; Sieves: #100, #50, #30, #16, #8, #4, #  $\frac{3}{8}$ , #  $\frac{3}{4}$ , # 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and larger, increasing the ratio of 2 to 1.
- Report the fineness modulus to the nearest 0.01%.

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**COMMON ERRORS**

- Insufficient sample size.
- Overloading sieves.
- Loss of material when transferring from sieve to weighing pan.
- Insufficient cleaning of sieves.
- Using worn or cracked sieves.
- Sieving not thorough.
- Losing material performing AASHTO T 11. (washing minus #200) prior to gradation.

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**SIEVE ANALYSIS  
PRACTICE  
PROBLEMS**

\*We will use Mo-DOT EPG sieving accuracy for this certification.

NOTE: At the end of the module you will find enlarged copies of the slides and blank practice sheets.

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<p>Class Problem 1A</p> <p>Instruction and Practice</p> <p>For Cumulative and Non-cumulative Sieve Analysis</p>	Class Problem	1A
	Weighed Amounts, g	
	Dry Original Mass (g):	5226
	(T11) Dry Washed Mass (g):	5195
	37.5mm (1 1/2")	
	25mm (1")	0
	19mm (3/4")	464
	12.5mm (1/2")	2304
	9.5mm (3/8")	1162
	4.75mm (#4)	1182
	2.36mm (#8)	53
	1.18mm (#16)	
	600µm (#30)	
	300µm (#50)	
	150µm (#100)	
	75µm (#200)	26
	Pan	2

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Non - Cumulative Process - Class Problem 1A					
Original Dry Mass:	(A) 5226	g			
(AASHTO T11) Dry Mass Washed:	5195	g			
Washing Loss (Minus #200):	31	g			
Sieve Size	Indiv. Sieve Weight Retd. (g)		Weight Passing (g)		Reported % Passing
25mm (1")	0	A - 0 =	5226	$\frac{5226}{5226} \times 100 =$	100
19mm (3/4")	464	5226 - 464 =	4762	$\frac{4762}{5226} \times 100 =$	91
12.5mm (1/2")	2304	4762 - 2304 =	2458	$\frac{2458}{5226} \times 100 =$	47
9.5mm (3/8")	1162	2458 - 1162 =	1296	$\frac{1296}{5226} \times 100 =$	25
4.75mm (#4)	1182	1296 - 1182 =	114	$\frac{114}{5226} \times 100 =$	2
2.36mm (#8)	53	114 - 53 =	61	$\frac{61}{5226} \times 100 =$	1
1.18mm (#16)					
600µm (#30)					
300µm (#50)					
150µm (#100)					
75µm (#200)	26	61 - 26 =	35		X
Pan (Minus #200)	2				X
Washing Loss (Minus #200)	31				X
Total (Minus #200)	33	2 + 31		$\frac{33}{5226} \times 100 =$	0.6
Total Weight Retained: (B) 5224					
Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1/sieve?	Yes	(5226-5224) = 2 < 7			

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Non - Cumulative Process - Class Problem 1A					
Original Dry Mass:	(A) 5226	g			
(AASHTO T11) Dry Mass Washed:	5195	g			
Washing Loss:	31	g			
Sieve Size	Indiv. Sieve Weight Retd. (g)		Weight Passing (g)		Reported % Passing
25mm (1")	0		5226		100%
19mm (3/4")	464		4762		91
12.5mm (1/2")	2304		2458		47
9.5mm (3/8")	1162		1296		25
4.75mm (#4)	1182		114		2
2.36mm (#8)	53		61		1
1.18mm (#16)					
600µm (#30)					
300µm (#50)					
150µm (#100)					
75µm (#200)	26		35	X	X
Pan (Minus #200)	2				X
Washing Loss (Minus #200)	31				X
Total (Minus #200)	33				0.6
Total Weight Retained: (B) 5224					
Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1/sieve?	Yes				

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Cumulative Process – Class Problem 1A						
Original Dry Mass (A) 5226						
(AASHTO T11) Dry Mass Washed 5195						
Washing Loss (Minus #200) 31						
Sieve Size	Indiv. Sieve Weight Retd. (g)	Total Retained (g)	% Retained			Reported % Passing
25mm (1")	0	0	0			100
19mm (3/4")	464	0 + 464 = 464	$\frac{464}{5226} \times 100 = 8.9$	8.9	100 - 8.9 =	91
12.5mm (1/2")	2304	464 + 2304 = 2768	$\frac{2768}{5226} \times 100 = 53.0$	53.0	100 - 53.0 =	47
9.5mm (3/8")	1162	2768 + 1162 = 3930	$\frac{3930}{5226} \times 100 = 75.2$	75.2	100 - 75.2 =	25
4.75mm (#4)	1182	3930 + 1182 = 5112	$\frac{5112}{5226} \times 100 = 97.8$	97.8	100 - 97.8 =	2
2.36mm (#8)	53	5112 + 53 = 5165	$\frac{5165}{5226} \times 100 = 98.8$	98.8	100 - 98.8 =	1
1.18mm (#16)						
600µm (#30)						
300µm (#60)						
150µm (#100)						
75µm (#200)	26	5165 + 26 = 5191	X			X
Pan (Minus #200)	2					X
Washing Loss (Minus #200)	31					X
Total (Minus #200)	33	2 + 31	$\frac{33}{5226} \times 100 =$			0.6
Total Weight Retained: (B) 5224		5191 + 33 = 5224				
Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1 sieve?	Yes	(5226-5224) = 2 < 7				

Enlarged

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Cumulative Process – Class Problem 1A					
Original Dry Mass: (A) 5226		g	Enlarged		
(AASHTO T11) Dry Mass Washed: 5195		g			
Washing Loss: 31		g			
Sieve Size	Indiv. Sieve Weight Retd. (g)	Total Retained (g)	% Retained	Reported % Passing	
25mm (1")	0	0	0	100	
19mm (3/4")	464	464	8.9	91	
12.5mm (1/2")	2304	2768	53.0	47	
9.5mm (3/8")	1162	3930	75.2	25	
4.75mm (#4)	1182	5112	97.8	2	
2.36mm (#8)	53	5165	98.8	1	
1.18mm (#16)			0.0	100	
600µm (#30)			0.0	100	
300µm (#60)			0.0	100	
150µm (#100)			0.0	100	
75µm (#200)	26	5191	X	X	
Pan (Minus #200)	2			X	
Washing Loss (Minus #200)	31			X	
Total (Minus #200)	33			0.6	
Total Weight Retained: (B) 5224					
Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1/sieve? Yes					

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Class Problem 2B	Class Problem	2B
	Weighted Amounts, g	
Work this Gradation Out Cumulative And Then Non-cumulative	Dry Original Mass (g):	5040
	(T11) Dry Washed Mass (g):	4571
	37.5mm (1 1/2")	
	25mm (1")	
	19mm (3/4")	0
	12.5mm (1/2")	1150
	9.5mm (3/8")	
	4.75mm (#4)	1700
	2.36mm (#8)	1275
	1.18mm (#16)	
	600µm (#30)	
	300µm (#60)	
	150µm (#100)	
	75µm (#200)	398
	Pan	44

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**Non - Cumulative Class Problem 2B**

Dry Original Mass (g): 5040 (A)

(T11) Dry Washed Mass (g): 4571

Washing Loss (g): 469

**2B**

Enlarged copy at the end of module

Sieve Size	Indiv. Sieve Wt. Retained (g)	Weight Passing (g)	Reported % Passing
37.5mm (1 1/2")			
25mm (1")			
19mm (3/4")	0	5040	100
12.5mm (1/2")	1150	3890	77
9.5mm (3/8")			
4.75mm (#4)	1700	2190	43
2.36mm (#8)	1275	915	18
1.18mm (#16)			
600µm (#30)			
300µm (#50)			
150µm (#100)			
75µm (#200)	398		
Pan	44		
Washing Loss (g):	469		% Passing -200
<b>Total Minus #200</b>	<b>513</b>		<b>10</b>
<b>Total Weight Retained:</b>	<b>5036 (B)</b>		

Modot Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1/sieve? 5040 - 5036 = 4 4 < 5 = yes **46**

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**CUMULATIVE CLASS PROBLEM - 2B**

Dry Original Mass (g): 5040 (A)

(T11) Dry Washed Mass (g): 4571

Washing Loss (g): 469

**2B**

Enlarged copy at the end of module

Sieve Size	Cumulative wt. Retained (g)	% Retained	Reported % Passing
37.5mm (1 1/2")			
25mm (1")			
19mm (3/4")	0	0	100
12.5mm (1/2")	1150	23	77
9.5mm (3/8")			
4.75mm (#4)	2850	57	43
2.36mm (#8)	4125	82	18
1.18mm (#16)			
600µm (#30)			
300µm (#50)			
150µm (#100)			
75µm (#200)	4523		
Pan	44		
Washing Loss (g):	469		% Passing -200
<b>Total Minus #200</b>	<b>513</b>		<b>10</b>
<b>Total Weight Retained:</b>	<b>5036 (B)</b>		

Modot Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1/sieve? 5040 - 5036 = 4 4 < 5 = yes **47**

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**Fine Gradation Class Problem 3A**

Complete the sieve analysis on the blank worksheet provided using the weights listed here.

You may choose either Cumulative or Non-cumulative method.

When you are finished the instructor will check it.

CLASS PROBLEM: **3A**

FINE Agg

Weighed Amounts, g

Dry Original Mass (g): 526

(T11) Dry Washed Mass (g): 520

37.5mm (1 1/2")	
25mm (1")	
19mm (3/4")	
12.5mm (1/2")	
9.5mm (3/8")	0
4.75mm (#4)	25
2.36mm (#8)	60
1.18mm (#16)	209
600µm (#30)	168
300µm (#50)	40
150µm (#100)	13
75µm (#200)	2
Pan	1

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# CUMULATIVE - Problem 1A

Updated 10/14/2020

Dry Original Mass (g): 5226 (A)  
 (T11) Dry Washed Mass (g): 5195  
 Washing Loss (g): 31

Sieve Size	Cumulative wt. Retained (g)	% Retained	% Passing
37.5mm (1½")			
25mm (1")	0	0	100
19mm (¾")	0+464 = 464	(464/5226) x 100 = 9	100-9 = 91
12.5mm (½")	464+2304 = 2768	(2768/5226) x 100=53	100-53 = 47
9.5mm (⅜")	2768+1162 = 3930	(3930/5226) x 100 = 75	100-75 =25
4.75mm (#4)	5112	98	100 - 98 = 2
2.36mm (# 8)	5165	99	1
1.18mm (#16)			
600µm (#30)			
300µm (#50)			
150µm (#100)			
75µm (#200)	5165 + 26 = 5191		
Pan (#200):	2		
+ Washing Loss (#200):	31		% Passing -200
=Total Minus (#200):	33		(33/A)*100=0.6
<b>Total Weight Retained:</b>	5224 (B)	Also add Total -200	<b>0.6</b>

# NON-CUMULATIVE - Problem 1A

Dry Original Mass (g): 5226 (A)  
 (T11) Dry Washed Mass (g): 5195  
 Washing Loss (g): 31

Sieve Size	Indiv. Sieve Wt. Retained (g)		% Passing
37.5mm (1½")			
25mm (1")	0	A - 0 = 5226	(5226/5226) x 100 =100
19mm (¾")	464	5226-464=4762	(4762/5226) x 100 = 91
12.5mm (½")	2304	4762-2304 =2458	(2458/5226) x 100 = 47
9.5mm (⅜")	1162	2458-1162= 1296	(1296/5226) x 100 = 25
4.75mm (#4)	1182	114	2
2.36mm (# 8)	53	61	1
1.18mm (#16)			
600µm (#30)			
300µm (#50)			
150µm (#100)			
75µm (#200)	26		
Pan (#200):	2		
+ Washing Loss (#200):	31		% Passing -200
=Total Minus (#200):	33		(33/A)*100=0.6
<b>Total Weight Retained:</b>	5224 (B)	Also add Total -200	<b>0.6</b>



## Non – Cumulative Process - Class Problem 1A

Original Dry Mass:	(A) 5226	g
(AASHTO T11) Dry Mass Washed:	5195	g
Washing Loss (Minus #200)	31	g

Enlarged

Sieve Size	Indiv. Sieve Weight Retd. (g)		Weight Passing (g)		Reported % Passing
25mm (1")	0	$A - 0 =$	5226	$\frac{5226}{5226} \times 100 =$	100
19mm (¾")	464	$5226 - 464 =$	4762	$\frac{4762}{5226} \times 100 =$	91
12.5mm (½")	2304	$4762 - 2304 =$	2458	$\frac{2458}{5226} \times 100 =$	47
9.5mm (¼")	1162	$2458 - 1162 =$	1296	$\frac{1296}{5226} \times 100 =$	25
4.75mm (#4)	1182	$1296 - 1182 =$	114	$\frac{114}{5226} \times 100 =$	2
2.36mm (#8)	53	$114 - 53 =$	61	$\frac{61}{5226} \times 100 =$	1
1.18mm (#16)					
600µm (#30)					
300µm (#50)					
300µm (#50)					
150µm (#100)					
75µm (#200)	26	$61 - 26 =$	35		X
Pan (Minus #200)	2				X
Washing Loss (Minus #200)	31				X
Total (Minus #200)	33	$= 2 + 31$		$\frac{33}{5226} \times 100 =$	0.6
Total Weight Retained :	(B) 5224				
Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1/sieve?		Yes	$(5226-5224) = 2 < 7$		

## Non – Cumulative Process – Class Problem 1A

Original Dry Mass:	(A) 5226	g
(AASHTO T11) Dry Mass Washed:	5195	g
Washing Loss:	31	g

Enlarged

Sieve Size	Indiv. Sieve Weight Retd. (g)	Weight Passing (g)		Reported % Passing
25mm (1")	0	5226		100%
19mm (¾")	464	4762		91
12.5mm (½")	2304	2458		47
9.5mm (¼")	1162	1296		25
4.75mm (#4)	1182	114		2
2.36mm (#8)	53	61		1
1.18mm (#16)				
600µm (#30)				
300µm (#50)				
300µm (#50)				
150µm (#100)				
75µm (#200)	26	35	X	X
Pan (Minus #200)	2			X
Washing Loss (Minus #200)	31			X
Total (Minus #200)	33			0.6
Total Weight Retained :	(B) 5224			
Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1/sieve?		Yes		





## Cumulative Process – Class Problem 1A

Original Dry Mass:	(A) 5226	g
(AASHTO T11) Dry Mass Washed:	5195	g
Washing Loss (Minus #200)	31	g

Sieve Size	Indiv. Sieve Weight Retd. (g)		Total Retained (g)		% Retained		Reported % Passing
25mm (1")	0		0		0		100
19mm (¾")	464	$0 + 464 =$	464	$\frac{464}{5226} \times 100 =$	8.9	$100 - 8.9 =$	91
12.5mm (½")	2304	$464 + 2304 =$	2768	$\frac{2768}{5226} \times 100 =$	53.0	$100 - 53.0 =$	47
9.5mm (¾")	1162	$2768 + 1162 =$	3930	$\frac{3930}{5226} \times 100 =$	75.2	$100 - 75.2 =$	25
4.75mm (#4)	1182	$3930 + 1182 =$	5112	$\frac{5112}{5226} \times 100 =$	97.8	$100 - 97.8 =$	2
2.36mm (#8)	53	$5112 + 53 =$	5165	$\frac{5165}{5226} \times 100 =$	98.8	$100 - 98.8 =$	1
1.18mm (#16)							
600µm (#30)							
300µm (#50)							
300µm (#50)							
150µm (#100)							
75µm (#200)	26	$5165 + 26 =$	5191		X		X
Pan (Minus #200)	2						X
Washing Loss (Minus #200)	31						X
Total (Minus #200)	33	$= 2 + 31$		$\frac{33}{5226} \times 100 =$			0.6
Total Weight Retained :	(B) 5224	$= 33 + 5191$					
Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1/sieve?	Yes	$(5226-5224) = 2 < 7$					

Enlarged

## Cumulative Process – Class Problem 1A

Original Dry Mass:	(A) 5226	g
(AASHTO T11) Dry Mass Washed:	5195	g
Washing Loss:	31	g

Sieve Size	Indiv. Sieve Weight Retd. (g)	Total Retained (g)	% Retained	Reported % Passing
25mm (1")	0	0	0	100
19mm (¾")	464	464	8.9	91
12.5mm (½")	2304	2768	53.0	47
9.5mm (¾")	1162	3930	75.2	25
4.75mm (#4)	1182	5112	97.8	2
2.36mm (#8)	53	5165	98.8	1
1.18mm (#16)			0.0	100
600µm (#30)			0.0	100
300µm (#50)			0.0	100
300µm (#50)			0.0	100
150µm (#100)			0.0	100
75µm (#200)	26	5191	X	X
Pan (Minus #200)	2			X
Washing Loss (Minus #200)	31			X
Total (Minus #200)	33			0.6
Total Weight Retained :	(B) 5224			
Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1/sieve?	Yes			

Enlarged



**CUMULATIVE Class Problem 2B****ANSWERS – 2B**

Dry Original Mass (g): 5040 (A)  
 (T11) Dry Washed Mass (g): 4571  
 Washing Loss (g): 469

Sieve Size	Cumulative wt. Retained (g)	% Retained	% Passing
37.5mm (1½")			
25mm (1")			
19mm (¾")	0	0	100
12.5mm (½")	1150	23	77
9.5mm (⅜")			
4.75mm (#4)	2850	57	43
2.36mm (# 8)	4125	82	18
1.18mm (#16)			
600µm (#30)			
300µm (#50)			
150µm (#100)			
75µm (#200)	4523	(B)	% Passing -200
Pan	44		
Washing Loss (g)	469		
<b>Total Minus #200</b>	513		
<b>Total Weight Retained:</b>	5036		
			10

MoDOT Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1/sieve? 5040 - 5036 = 4 4 < 5 = YES

**Non - CUMULATIVE Class Problem 2B**

Dry Original Mass (g): 5040 (A)  
 (T11) Dry Washed Mass (g): 4571  
 Washing Loss (g): 469

Sieve Size	Individual Sieve wt. Retained (g)	Wt. passing	% Passing
37.5mm (1½")			
25mm (1")			
19mm (¾")	0	5040	100
12.5mm (½")	1150	3890	77
9.5mm (⅜")			
4.75mm (#4)	1700	2190	43
2.36mm (# 8)	1275	915	18
1.18mm (#16)			
600µm (#30)			
300µm (#50)			
150µm (#100)			
75µm (#200)	398	(B)	% Passing -200
Pan	44		
Washing Loss (g)	469		
<b>Total Minus #200</b>	513		
<b>Total Weight Retained:</b>	5036		
			10





- 8.2. Select sieves with suitable openings to furnish the information required by the specifications covering the material to be tested. Use additional sieves as desired or necessary to provide other information, such as fineness modulus, or to regulate the amount of material on a sieve to meet the requirements of Annex A1. Nest the sieves in order of decreasing size of opening from top to bottom and place the sample, or portion of the sample if it is to be sieved in more than one increment, on the top sieve. Agitate the sieves by hand or by mechanical apparatus for a sufficient period, established by trial or checked by measurement on the actual test sample, to meet the criterion for adequacy of sieving described in Annex A2.
- 8.3. Limit the quantity of material on a given sieve so that all particles have opportunity to reach sieve openings a number of times during the sieving operation.
- 8.3.1. *Prevent an overload of material on an individual sieve as described in Table A1 by one or a combination of the following methods:*
- 8.4. Unless a mechanical sieve shaker is used, hand sieve particles retained on the 75 mm (3 in.) by determining the smallest sieve opening through which each particle will pass by rotating the particles, if necessary, in order to determine whether they will pass through a particular opening; however, do not force particles to pass through an opening.
- 8.5. Determine the mass of each size increment on a scale or balance conforming to the requirements specified in Section 6.1 to the nearest 0.1 percent of the total original dry sample mass. The total mass of the material after sieving should check closely with the total original dry mass of the sample placed on the sieves. If the two amounts differ by more than 0.3 percent, based on the total original dry sample mass, the results should not be used for acceptance purposes.

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## ANNEX A

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(Mandatory Information)

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### A1. OVERLOAD DETERMINATION

- A1.1. Do not exceed a mass of 7 kg/m<sup>2</sup> (4 g/in<sup>2</sup>) of sieving surface for sieves with openings smaller than 4.75 mm (No. 4) at the completion of the sieving operation.
- A1.2. Do not exceed a mass in kilograms of the product of 2.5 × (sieve opening in mm) × (effective sieving area) for sieves with openings 4.75 mm (No. 4) and larger. This mass is shown in Table A1.1 for five sieve-frame dimensions in common use. Do not cause permanent deformation of the sieve cloth due to overloading.
- Note A1**—The 7 kg/m<sup>2</sup> (4 g/in<sup>2</sup>) amounts to 200 g for the usual 203-mm (8-in.) diameter sieve [with effective or clear sieving surface diameter of 190.5 mm (7 1/2 in.)] or 450 g for a 305-mm (12-in.) diameter sieve [with effective or clear sieving surface diameter of 292.1 mm (11 1/2 in.)]. The amount of material retained on a sieve may be regulated by: (1) the introduction of a sieve

with larger openings immediately above the given sieve, (2) testing the sample in multiple increments, or (3) testing the sample over a nest of sieves with a larger sieve-frame dimension.

**Table A3.1—Maximum Allowable Mass of Material Retained on a Sieve, kg**

Sieve Opening Size	Nominal Dimensions of Sieve <sup>a</sup>				
	203.2 mm, dia <sup>b</sup>	254 mm, dia <sup>b</sup>	304.8 mm, dia <sup>b</sup>	350 by 350, mm	372 by 580, mm
	Sieving Area, m <sup>2</sup>				
	0.0285	0.0457	0.0670	0.1225	0.2158
125 mm (5 in.)	c	c	c	c	67.4
100 mm (4 in.)	c	c	c	30.6	53.9
90 mm (3 1/2 in.)	c	c	15.1	27.6	48.5
75 mm (3 in.)	c	8.6	12.6	23.0	40.5
63 mm (2 1/2 in.)	c	7.2	10.6	19.3	34.0
50 mm (2 in.)	3.6	5.7	8.4	15.3	27.0
37.5 mm (1 1/2 in.)	2.7	4.3	6.3	11.5	20.2
25.0 mm (1 in.)	1.8	2.9	4.2	7.7	13.5
19.0 mm (3/4 in.)	1.4	2.2	3.2	5.8	10.2
12.5 mm (1/2 in.)	0.89	1.4	2.1	3.8	6.7
9.5 mm (3/8 in.)	0.67	1.1	1.6	2.9	5.1
4.75 mm (No. 4)	0.33	0.54	0.80	1.5	2.6

<sup>a</sup> Sieve-frame dimensions in inch units: 8.0-in. diameter, 10.0-in. diameter, 12.0-in. diameter, 13.8 by 13.8 in. (14 by 14 in. nominal); 14.6 by 22.8 in. (16 by 24 in. nominal).

<sup>b</sup> The sieve area for round sieves is based on an effective or clear diameter of 12.7 mm (1/2 in.) less than the nominal frame diameter because ASTM E11 permits the sealer between the sieve cloth and the frame to extend 6.35 mm (1/4 in.) over the sieve cloth. Thus, the effective or clear sieving diameter for a 203.2-mm (8.0-in.) diameter sieve frame is 190.5 mm (7 1/2 in.). Sieves produced by some manufacturers do not infringe on the sieve cloth by the full 6.35 mm (1/4 in.).

<sup>c</sup> Sieves indicated have less than five full openings and should not be used for sieve testing.

## A2. TIME EVALUATION

A2.1. The minimum time requirement shall be evaluated for each shaker at least annually by the following method:

A2.1.1. Shake the sample over nested sieves for approximately 10 min.

**Note A2**—If the sample material may be prone to degradation, reduce the initial shaking time in Section A2.1.1 to 5 min, and begin each recheck with a new sample.

A2.1.2. Provide a snug-fitting pan and cover for each sieve and hold the items in a slightly inclined position in one hand.

A2.1.3. Hand-shake each sieve continuously for 60 s by striking the side of the sieve sharply and with an upward motion against the heel of the other hand at the rate of about 150 times per min, turning the sieve about one sixth of a revolution at intervals of about 25 strokes.

A2.2. If more than 0.5 percent by mass of the total sample before sieving passes any sieve after one minute of continuous hand sieving, adjust the shaker time and repeat Section A2.1.

A2.3. In determining sieving time for sieve sizes larger than 4.75 mm (No. 4), limit the material on the sieve to a single layer of particles.

A2.4. If the size of the mounted testing sieves makes the described sieving motion impractical, use 203-mm (8-in.) diameter sieves to verify the adequacy of sieving.



- A2.5. If the mass retained on any sieve exceeds the maximum allowable mass per Table A1.1, select a different sample and repeat Section A2.

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<sup>1</sup> Similar but not identical to ASTM C136-06.

**Equipment Checked: MECHANICAL SHAKERS****Purpose:**

This method provides instructions for checking the sieving thoroughness and time required to sieve a sample.

**Equipment Required:**

1. Stopwatch readable to 0.1s
2. Balance, readable to 0.1g
3. Appropriate sieves, pans, lids

**Tolerance:**

Equipment shall meet the sieving thoroughness specified in the applicable test method(s).

**Procedure:**

1. Obtain a well graded sample that covers the range of sieves to be used in the mechanical shaker.
2. Starting at the lower end of the estimated sieving time, run the mechanical shaker.
3. Conduct a hand check on each sieve in the stack for sieving sufficiency as follows:
  - a. Hold the individual sieve, provided with a snug-fitting pan and cover, in a slightly inclined position in one hand.
  - b. Strike the side of the sieve sharply and, with an upward motion against the heel of the other hand at the rate of about 150 times per minute, turn the sieve about one-sixth of a revolution at intervals of about 25 strokes.
  - c. In determining the sufficiency of sieving for sizes larger than the No 4. sieve, limit the material on the sieve to a single layer of particles. If the size of the mounted testing sieves makes the described motion impractical, use 8-inch diameter sieves to verify the sufficiency of sieving.
4. Determine the sieving sufficiency according the applicable test method(s).
5. Repeat the sieving and sufficiency check procedure for at least two more sieving times.
6. The first sieving time the sufficiency check meets the tolerance should be noted as the standard sieving time for your mechanic shaker.

**Considerations:**

1. Certain test methods note that excessive sieve time (more than 10 minutes) to adequate sieving can result in degradation of the sample.
2. Different aggregate hardness or aggregate angularity may require different sieving times with a mechanical shaker to avoid sample degradation. Additional checks may be required using the different types encountered by the laboratory. (required if complying with C1077)
3. Overloading individual sieves with too much material during the check will result in erroneous results.

Dry Original Mass (g): \_\_\_\_\_ **(A)**

(T11) Dry Washed Mass (g): \_\_\_\_\_

Washing Loss (g): \_\_\_\_\_

Sieve Size	Individual Sieve Weight Retd. (g)			% Passing
37.5mm (1½")				
25mm (1")				
19mm (¾")				
12.5mm (½")				
9.5mm (⅜")				
4.75mm (#4)				
2.36mm (# 8)				
1.18mm (#16)				
600µm (#30)				
300µm (#50)				
150µm (#100)				
75µm (#200)				
Pan				
Washing Loss (g)				
Total Minus #200				
Total Weight Retained:				

% Passing -200

MoDOT Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1/sieve? \_\_\_\_\_



Dry Original Mass (g): _____ <b>(A)</b> (T11) Dry Washed Mass (g): _____ Washing Loss (g): _____				
Sieve Size	Individual Sieve Weight Retd. (g)			% Passing
37.5mm (1 1/2")				
25mm (1")				
19mm (3/4")				
12.5mm (1/2")				
9.5mm (3/8")				
4.75mm (#4)				
2.36mm (# 8)				
1.18mm (#16)				
600µm (#30)				
300µm (#50)				
150µm (#100)				
75µm (#200)				
Pan				
Washing Loss (g)				
Total Minus #200				
Total Weight Retained:				

% Passing -200

MoDOT Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1/sieve? \_\_\_\_\_



Dry Original Mass (g): \_\_\_\_\_ **(A)**

(T11) Dry Washed Mass (g): \_\_\_\_\_

Washing Loss (g): \_\_\_\_\_

Sieve Size	Individual Sieve Weight Retd. (g)			% Passing
37.5mm (1 1/2")				
25mm (1")				
19mm (3/4")				
12.5mm (1/2")				
9.5mm (3/8")				
4.75mm (#4)				
2.36mm (# 8)				
1.18mm (#16)				
600µm (#30)				
300µm (#50)				
150µm (#100)				
75µm (#200)				
Pan				
Washing Loss (g)				
Total Minus #200				
Total Weight Retained:				

**(B)**

% Passing -200

MoDOT Accuracy Check = (A-B) = Less than 1/sieve? \_\_\_\_\_





## Category: 1001 General Requirements for Material – Engineering Policy Guide

### 1001.5 Field Testing Procedures

#### 1001.5.1 Sieve Analysis

The frequency of aggregate Quality Assurance tests shall be in accordance with the specifications. This includes retained samples from quality control tests and independent samples. Sieve analysis of mineral filler shall be in accordance with AASHTO T37. Sieve analysis for the determination of particle size distribution of coarse and fine aggregate shall be performed in accordance with AASHTO T27 and T11, with the following exceptions.

##### 1001.5.1.1 Apparatus



##### Sample being split

- (a) Stove - Electric, natural gas, propane, or other suitable burner capable of maintaining a controlled temperature, may be used in lieu of an oven.
- (b) Pans - Pans of sufficient size and quantity for washing and drying samples and for holding separated fractions of material.
- (c) Brass sieve brush.
- (d) Large spoon or trowel.
- (e) Sample splitter.

##### 1001.5.1.2 Sample Preparation

Samples of aggregate for sieve analysis shall be taken in accordance with [EPG 1001.3 Sampling Procedures](#) and reduced to the proper size for testing in accordance with ~~AASHTO T248~~ **AASHTO R76**. The sample for testing shall be approximately the size shown below and shall be the end result of the

sampling method. The selection of samples of an exact predetermined weight (mass) shall not be attempted.

**Table 1001.5.1.2 Size of Testing**

<b>Coarse Aggregate</b>	
<b>Maximum Size of Particle<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Minimum Weight (Mass) of Sample lb. (kg)</b>
2" (50 mm)	20 (9)
1-1/2" (37.5 mm)	13.5 (6)
1" (25.0 mm)	9 (4)
3/4" (19.0 mm)	5.5 (2.5)
1/2" (12.5 mm)	3.5 (1.5)
3/8" (9.5 mm)	2.5 (1)
<sup>1</sup> Maximum size of particle is defined as the smallest sieve through which 100 percent of material will pass.	
<b>Fine Aggregate</b>	
Manufactured Fines and Natural Sand	500 grams

### 1001.5.1.3 Procedure

The sieve analysis shall be performed in accordance AASHTO T27. When determination of the minus 200 material is required, this shall be performed in accordance with AASHTO T11. A dry gradation may be run on any material where the accuracy of the sieve analysis does not require washing. The district Construction and Materials Engineer should be consulted when there is a question as to whether a dry or washed gradation should be run.

### 1001.5.1.4 Worksheet Form T-630R and Calculations, Passing Basis

One method for calculating gradation on a passing basis is as follows: The material that has been separated by the sieving operation shall be weighed starting with the largest size retained. This weight (mass) shall be recorded in the plant inspector's workbook on the line corresponding to the sieve on which the material is retained. Examples are given in [Fig 1001.10.2 Form T-630R Example 1, page 1](#) and

[page 2](#). The second largest sized material is then added to the largest size in the weigh pan and the accumulated total is recorded on the line corresponding to the sieve on which the material is retained. This operation is continued with the accumulated total being recorded on the line corresponding to the sieve on which the material is retained down to the smallest sieve, in this example, the No. 200 (75  $\mu$ m) size sieve. The final quantity of material remaining in the pan (in this instance, minus No. 200 (75  $\mu$ m) material) should be recorded on the line designated as "PAN." The "PAN + LOSS" is the sum of the "LOSS" from washing over a No. 200 (75  $\mu$ m) sieve plus the amount retained in the "PAN". The quantity retained on the smallest sieve is then added to the quantity in the "PAN + LOSS" and is to be recorded on the line designated as "TOTAL". The "TOTAL" should equal the original dry weight (mass) within a tolerance of one gram for each sieve that the material passed through. The difference between the "TOTAL" and the "ORIGINAL DRY WEIGHT (MASS)" is recorded on the line designated "DIFFERENCE". Tolerance for the sieving is plus or minus 1 gram per sieve. In the examples above, the tolerance should be equal to or less than plus or minus 5 grams (five sieves were used, beginning with the smallest sieve through which 100 percent passed). This tolerance is to be recorded on the line designated as "SIEVE ACCURACY".

The total amount of material finer than the smallest sieve shall be determined by adding the weight (mass) of material passing the smallest sieve obtained by dry sieving to that lost by washing. In the example, the amount lost by washing as recorded on the "LOSS" line was found to be 442 grams. The 7 on the "PAN" line shows that 7 additional grams were obtained in the dry sieving operation. This total quantity, 449 grams, is recorded on the "PAN + LOSS" line.

Except for the smallest sieve used, the percent passing is determined by dividing the quantity shown for each sieve by the original dry weight (mass) and subtracting the percentage from 100. The percentage passing the smallest sieve is found by dividing the quantity shown on the "PAN + LOSS" line by the original dry weight (mass). The percentage for the smallest sieve is shown on the line for that sieve.

Enter the SM Sample ID in the column next to "RECORD NO," then enter information from Form T-630R in SM.

The following shows Form T-630R being used to record the gradation of a material produced to meet Section 1003 specifications.



FORM T-630R

## PLANT INSPECTION AGGREGATE WORKSHEET

MATERIAL	PRODUCT OR SPEC. NO.
FACILITY CODE	PRODUCER
PURCHASE ORDER NO.	PLANT LOCATION
CONSIGNEE TO	LEDGE
DESIGNATION	

## MECHANICAL SIEVE ANALYSIS

RECORD NO.						
DATE						
INSPECTOR						
ORIG/WET WT.	%	%	%	%	%	
ORIG.DRY WT.						
WASHED DRY WT.						
LOSS						
FIELD MOIST.						
						SPEC LIMIT
37.5 mm (1 1/2")						
25 mm (1")						
19 mm (3/4")						
12.5 mm (1/2")						
9.5 mm (3/8")						
4.75 mm (# 4)						
2.36 mm (# 8)						
2.0 mm (#10)						
1.18 mm (#16)						
850 µm (# 20)						
600 µm (# 30)						
425 µm (# 40)						
300 µm (# 50)						
150 µm (#100)						
75 µm (#200)						
PAN						
PAN + LOSS						
TOTAL						
DIFFERENCE						
SIEVE ACCURACY						
TONS ACC/REJ.						
QUALITY DETERMINATION						
ORIG.WT.						
DELT						
SHALE						
CHERT						
OTHER						
TOTAL DELT						
PLASTICITY INDEX						
IN COMPUTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REPORT DATA AND REMARKS



## AASHTO T 27: Sieve Analysis of Fine and Coarse Aggregate PROFICIENCY CHECKLIST

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Trial#	1	2
<b>Fine Aggregate</b>		
1. Reduced per AASHTO R76		
2. Minimum sample mass 500 g		
<b>Coarse Aggregate</b>		
1. Reduced per AASHTO R76 used sample size determined from nominal maximum aggregate size, and MoDOT's EPG chart		
2. Sample dried to constant mass at $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$ ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), weighed to nearest 0.1% by mass (typically, 1 gram) and recorded		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AASHTO T 11 may be performed at this point, Washing Material Finer Than No. 200 Sieve, dried to a constant mass at <math>230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}</math> (<math>110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}</math>), weight recorded, and weight loss calculated to nearest whole number</li> </ul>		
3. Stacked appropriate sieves in descending order		
4. Poured sample in the top sieve without losing material		
5. Agitated <b>Manually</b> or <b>Mechanically</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Manual Sieving</b> continued until not more than 0.5% by mass of the total sample passes a given sieve during 1 minute of continuous hand sieving</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mechanical Sieving</b> Verified annually</li> <li>- Timer verified/calibrated for sieving thoroughness. (Established by trial or checked by measurement on the actual test sample to meet the 0.5% criteria as in hand sieving above. (Records kept in the lab)</li> <li>- Set at verified/calibrated time approximately 7-10 min.</li> <li>- Or if timer not verified/calibrated, hand sieved afterwards for sieving accuracy</li> </ul>		
6. Precautions taken to not overload sieves		
7. Weighed material in each sieve either by <b>Non-Cumulative</b> or <b>Cumulative</b> method		
8. Total mass of material after sieving agrees with mass before sieving to within 1 gram per sieve used (If not, do not use for acceptance testing)		
9. Percentages calculated to nearest 0.1% and reported to nearest whole number		
10. Percentage calculations based on original dry sample mass, including the passing No. 200 fraction if T 11 was used		

PASS PASS

FAIL FAIL

Examiner: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_





# **MoDOT TM 71**

**DELETERIOUS CONTENT**

**Of**

**AGGREGATE**







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**SCOPE**

- This test method covers the determination of the percentages of various types of deleterious in a sample of aggregate by examining each piece and separating them into the various types of deleterious groups as described in the MoDOT EPG Section 106.
- **NOTE:** MoDOT TM 71 also covers the procedure for Determining the Deleterious of Fine Aggregate which is tested in accordance with AASHTO T 113 this will **NOT** be covered in this certification.

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**SIGNIFICANCE**

Deleterious material can have a detrimental effect on the durability and life-span of concrete and asphalt mixtures. Most deleterious substances have tendencies to deteriorate or cause degradation in concrete or asphalt mixtures.

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**Some issues caused by deleterious:**

- Clay, mud balls and other foreign material will breakdown quickly and cause pitting and excessive air void pockets.
- Hard chert has non-cohesive properties that will cause it to "pop out" of concrete.



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**Quality:**

- The quality of an aggregate depends on the application of its intended use and can be found in the following MoDOT EPG specifications:

- 1002, Asphaltic Concrete
- 1003, Seal Coats
- 1004, Bituminous Surface
- 1005, Concrete
- 1006, Surfacing
- 1007, Bases

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**Deleterious groups:**

- Shale
- Other Foreign Material (OFM)
- Extremely Soft Rock (Deleterious)
- Soft Chert
- Hard Chert
  - Samples can vary in the types and quantity of deleterious from one to the other depending on the product type and location.

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### **EQUIPMENT**

- Containers –size and shape to contain the sample.
- Sieve – #4 (4.75 mm) sieve to divide the sample.
- Water – to wet sample for observation
- Scale – accurate to within 0.5 percent of the weight of the sample.
- Lamp or a good light source.

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### **MoDOT EPG TM 71**

Maximum Size inches (mm)	Minimum Sample Size of Plus 4 material
2" (50)	10,000 grams
1 ½" (37.5)	9,000 grams
1" (25.0)	5,000 grams
¾" (19.0)	3,000 grams
½" (12.5)	2,000 grams
⅜" (9.5)	1,000 grams

TM 71: Maximum size is defined as the smallest sieve through which 100 % of the material will pass.

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### **PROCEDURE**

1. Material shall be tested in an "as received" condition. (May be dried in an oven at 140°F if needed)
2. Reduce the sample according to the maximum size of aggregate, with a surplus for sieving.
3. Sieve the reduced sample over a #4 sieve and discard the passing material.
4. Check the plus #4 sample weight to see if there is at least the minimum amount for testing using the MoDOT TM 71 Table.

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5. Record the weight of the plus #4 material to the nearest whole gram. (Original Mass)

Plus #4 material = material retained on the #4 sieve

6. Set up a work station with a good light source, plenty of pans to work with, and a pan or spray bottle of water.



Procedure

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7. Obtain a handful of the sample and **briefly** wet the material. Do **Not** let the entire sample soak in water, some deleterious particles will dissolve!

8. Visually examine each piece for deleterious particles and separate into specific groups according to specifications: OFM, Hard Chert, Soft Chert, Shale, etc.

Procedure

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9. After the sample has been completely examined, weigh each deleterious group separately to the nearest whole gram. Discard the non-deleterious.

10. Calculate the percentage of each group and record the results.

Procedure

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### CALCULATIONS

- % Deleterious Substances =  $\frac{C}{W} \times 100$
- **C** = Actual weight (mass) of deleterious substance.
- **W** = Weight (Mass) of test sample for the portion retained on the #4 sieve.
- Report % Deleterious to the nearest **0.1%**

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### NOTES

- For 1002 Asphaltic Concrete: The Soft Chert is used in the calculation of the Deleterious Content and the Total Chert Content.
- The number of groups vary by product type.
- MoDOT TM 71 gives specific description based on product type.

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### EXAMPLE PROBLEM

1A

Sample: 1002 Material (Asphalt) ID NO.      Date:     

	Mass, grams		
Original Mass #4	3000		
Deleterious Rock (Very soft rock)	55	Percent	
Shale	7	=	% Shale
OFM	3	=	% OFM
Soft Chert	15		
Hard Chert	114		
		Percent	
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert =		=	% Total Deleterious Rock
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert + Shale + OFM =		=	% Total Deleterious Material
Hard Chert + Soft Chert =		=	% Total Chert

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**EXAMPLE PROBLEM**

Sample: 1002 Material (Asphalt) ID NO.        Date:

1A

Mass, grams			
Original Mass ±4	3000		
Deleterious Rock (Very soft rock)	55	Percent	
Shale	7	=	0.2 % Shale
OFM	3	=	0.1 % OFM
Soft Chert	15		
Hard Chert	114		
		Percent	
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert =	70	=	2.3 % Total Deleterious Rock
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert + Shale + OFM =	80	=	2.7 % Total Deleterious Material
Hard Chert + Soft Chert =	129	=	4.3 % Total Chert

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**EXAMPLE PROBLEM**

Sample: 1002 Material (Asphalt) ID NO.        Date:

1B

Mass, grams			
Original Mass ±4	3000		
Deleterious Rock (Very soft rock)	60	Percent	
Shale	9	=	% Shale
OFM	1	=	% OFM
Soft Chert	15		
Hard Chert	125		
		Percent	
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert =		=	% Total Deleterious Rock
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert + Shale + OFM =		=	% Total Deleterious Material
Hard Chert + Soft Chert =		=	% Total Chert

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**EXAMPLE PROBLEM**

Sample: 1002 Material ID NO.        Date:

1B

Mass, grams			
Original Mass ±4	3000		
Deleterious Rock (Very soft rock)	60	Percent	
Shale	9	=	0.3 % Shale
OFM	1	=	0.0 % OFM
Soft Chert	15		
Hard Chert	125		
		Percent	
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert =	75	=	2.5 % Total Deleterious Rock
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert + Shale + OFM =	85	=	2.8 % Total Deleterious Material
Hard Chert + Soft Chert =	140	=	4.7 % Total Chert

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**Summary:**

- Quality must be determined according to specification requirements for various aggregates.
- Only material retained on #4 sieve is considered for deleterious determination.
- Any particle considered soft by means of chipping or spalling with the finger or fingernail is considered deleterious.
- Any substance that will reduce the effectiveness of the product will be considered detrimental, including material considered as Other Foreign Material (OFM).

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**Descriptions of Specific  
Deleterious Groups  
and  
Tips on How to Determine  
Deleterious**

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**Shale:** A dull looking grayish, green, or brownish rock made of clay or mud. Shale leaves a black mark on a non-glazed ceramic bowl.



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**Other Foreign Material:** Mud-balls, sticks, shell, lignite, and other miscellaneous items.



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• **Extremely Soft and or Porous Rock (Deleterious):** Has a dull appearance, which can be easily spalled or chipped off with the finger nail.



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• **Soft Chert:** Will groove.



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**Hard Chert:** Has sharp edges, vary in color from white to black. Chert in lime-stone must be at least 50% chert to qualify as chert. Hard chert is hard enough to mark with a metal screwdriver. Has a non cohesive property that will cause it to pop-out of concrete



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**Example Problem****1A**Sample: 1002 Material (Asphalt)

ID NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mass, grams

Original Mass +4	3000
Deleterious Rock (Very soft rock)	55
Shale	7
OFM	3
Soft Chert	15
Hard Chert	114

Percent

=		% Shale
=		% OFM

Percent

Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert =		=		% Total Deleterious Rock
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert + Shale + OFM =		=		% Total Deleterious Material
Hard Chert + Soft Chert =		=		% Total Chert

**Example Problem****1A**Sample: 1002 Material (Asphalt)

ID NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mass, grams

Original Mass +4	3000
Deleterious Rock (Very soft rock)	55
Shale	7
OFM	3
Soft Chert	15
Hard Chert	114

Percent

=	0.2	% Shale
=	0.1	% OFM

Percent

Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert =	70	=	2.3	% Total Deleterious Rock
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert + Shale + OFM =	80	=	2.7	% Total Deleterious Material
Hard Chert + Soft Chert =	129	=	4.3	% Total Chert



**Example Problem****1B**Sample: 1002 Material (Asphalt)

ID NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mass, grams			
Original Mass +4	3000		
Deleterious Rock (Very soft rock)	60		
Shale	9	=	<input type="text"/> % Shale
OFM	1	=	<input type="text"/> % OFM
Soft Chert	15		
Hard Chert	125		
		Percent	
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert =	<input type="text"/>	=	<input type="text"/> % Total Deleterious Rock
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert + Shale + OFM =	<input type="text"/>	=	<input type="text"/> % Total Deleterious Material
Hard Chert + Soft Chert =	<input type="text"/>	=	<input type="text"/> % Total Chert

**Example Problem Answers****1B**Sample: 1002 Material

ID NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mass, grams			
Original Mass +4	3000		
Deleterious Rock (Very soft rock)	60		
Shale	9	=	<input type="text"/> 0.3 % Shale
OFM	1	=	<input type="text"/> 0.0 % OFM
Soft Chert	15		
Hard Chert	125		
		Percent	
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert =	<input type="text"/> 75	=	<input type="text"/> 2.5 % Total Deleterious Rock
Deleterious Rock + Soft Chert + Shale + OFM =	<input type="text"/> 85	=	<input type="text"/> 2.8 % Total Deleterious Material
Hard Chert + Soft Chert =	<input type="text"/> 140	=	<input type="text"/> 4.7 % Total Chert



## 106.3.2.71 TM-71 Deleterious Content of Aggregate – Engineering Policy Guide

### 106.3.2.71 TM-71, Deleterious Content of Aggregate

This test method determines the deleterious content of fine and coarse aggregates.

#### 106.3.2.71.1 Apparatus

- 1) Containers of such a size and shape to contain the sample.
- 2) Sieves - No. 4 (4.75 mm) and No. 16 (1.18 mm).
- 3) Water to wet particles for observation.
- 4) Balance sensitive to within 0.5 percent of the weight (mass) of sample to be weighed.

#### 106.3.2.71.2 Procedure for Coarse Aggregate Deleterious

##### 106.3.2.71.2.1 Preparation

The sample shall be tested in an "as obtained" condition. The obtained sample shall be sieved over a No. 4 (4.75 mm) sieve, discarding the material passing the sieve. The material retained shall be the test sample used to determine the deleterious content.

##### 106.3.2.71.2.2 Sample Size

Recommended minimum test sample sizes of plus No. 4 (4.75 mm) material are as follows:

Maximum Size <sup>1</sup> , in. (mm)	Sample Size, g
2 (50)	10,000
1 ½ (37.5)	9,000
1 (25.0)	5,000
¾ (19.0)	3,000
½ (12.5)	2,000
⅜ (9.5)	1,000
<sup>1</sup> Maximum size is defined as the smallest sieve through which 100 percent of the material will pass.	

##### 106.3.2.71.2.3 Test

Each individual particle comprising the sample shall be examined piece-by-piece and separated into the various constituents as required by the specifications and in accordance with the descriptions shown in



## 106.3.2.71 TM-71 Deleterious Content of Aggregate – Engineering Policy Guide

EPG 106.3.2.71.6, Deleterious Definitions. The sample may be rinsed at the time of examination but shall not be soaked in water. Material not considered deleterious may be discarded except as needed for review. Each deleterious constituent shall be weighed, and the weight recorded. In some instances when required by the specification, the constituents are to be combined prior to weighing.

### 106.3.2.71.3 Procedure for Fine Aggregate Deleterious

#### 106.3.2.71.3.1 Lightweight (Low Mass Density) Particle Content including Coal and Lignite

The test shall be in accordance with AASHTO T 113, however lightweight (low mass density) sand particles are not considered deleterious lightweight (low mass density) particles.

#### 106.3.2.71.3.2 Percent Other Deleterious Substances, Clay Lumps and Shale in Fine Aggregate

##### 106.3.2.71.3.2.1 Preparation

Recommended test sample size is approximately 200 grams, before sample is sieved over the No. 16 sieve.

##### 106.3.2.71.3.2.2 Sample Size

The sample shall be tested in a dry condition (dried to a constant weight). Sample shall be sieved over a No. 16 sieve, discarding material passing the sieve. The material retained shall be the test sample used to determine the clay lumps and shale.

##### 106.3.2.71.3.2.3 Procedure

The test sample shall be visually examined for shale, clay lumps and other deleterious substances. Particles may be lightly rinsed at the time of examination, but shall not be soaked in water. The deleterious substances shall be separated out into the constituents required by specification.

Shale is determined by using a non-glazed ceramic bowl (Plastic Index bowl). If particles leave a black mark on the bowl when pressure is applied to the material while moving it across the bottom of the bowl, this material is considered shale.

### 106.3.2.71.4 Calculations for Deleterious Content

The percentage of a deleterious substance shall be calculated as follows:

$$P = 100 \times C / W$$

Where:

P = Percentage of each deleterious substance component.

C = Actual weight (mass) of deleterious substance for that component.

**Quick Test for Per Cent of  
Deleterious Material**

[Report, 2009](#)

See also: [Innovation Library](#)

### 106.3.2.71 TM-71 Deleterious Content of Aggregate – Engineering Policy Guide

W = Weight (mass) of test sample for the portion retained on the No. 4 sieve

#### 106.3.2.71.5 Reports

Report the percent deleterious obtained for each constituent required by specification, to the nearest tenth (0.1).

#### 106.3.2.71.6 Definitions of Deleterious Materials

The definition of deleterious material varies with the intended use and the anticipated affect on the final product.

##### **106.3.2.71.6.1 Coarse Aggregate for Portland Cement Concrete**

For coarse aggregate for portland cement concrete ([Sec 1005](#)), the following definitions apply:

###### **106.3.2.71.6.1.1 Deleterious Rock**

Deleterious rock includes the following material:

(1) Shaly rock. A rock that is generally contaminated with shale to a high degree. Color may vary but the rock usually has a dull gray appearance and is reasonably uniform in appearance. Also may occur in the form of numerous shale lines or seams closely spaced throughout the particle, thus giving a laminated or streaked appearance.

(2) Cap plus 20 percent. A rock particle with a line of demarcation of a layer or “cap” of shale or shaly rock which usually occurs on one face, but may be found on two faces; in either case, the summation of the percent of “caps” exceeds 20 percent of the volume of the rock particle.

(3) Extremely soft and/or porous rock. A rock which can be readily broken with the fingers. In some cases, due to the size or shape of the rock it cannot be broken, however, small areas can be spalled or chipped off with the fingers. Porosity or high absorption may be detected by rapid disappearance of surface water or by breaking rock in half and observing the depth of penetration of moisture.

###### **106.3.2.71.6.1.2 Shale**

A fine-grained rock formed by the consolidation of clay, mud, or silt; generally having a finely stratified or laminated structure.

###### **106.3.2.71.6.1.3 Chert in Limestone**

A fine-grained rock consisting of silica minerals, sharp-edged and may be highly absorptive. May occur in the form of nodules, lenses, or layers in limestone formations; and may vary in color from white to black. Quartz-type material is excluded. Any particle that contains more than 50% chert will be entirely classified as chert.

**106.3.2.71.6.1.4 Other Foreign Material**

Clay lumps, mud balls, lignite, coal, roots, sticks and other foreign material not related to the inherent material being inspected.

**106.3.2.71.6.1.5 Material Passing No. 200 [75 µm] Sieve**

The portion of material passing a No. 200 (75 µm) sieve as determined by a washed analysis.

**106.3.2.71.6.1.6 Thin or Elongated Pieces**

Rock particles that have a length greater than five times the maximum thickness. In case two sizes of coarse material are required to be combined into coarse aggregate, the limitation on "thin or elongated pieces" shall apply only to the coarser size so combined and shall only apply to particles retained on the 3/4 in. (19.0 mm) sieve. In the case of coarse aggregate produced without combining two sizes, the limitation on "thin or elongated pieces" shall apply only to particles retained on a 3/4 in. (19.0 mm) sieve.

**106.3.2.71.6.2 Coarse Aggregate for Asphaltic Concrete, Plant Mix Bituminous Pavement, Plant Mix Bituminous and Seal Coats**

For coarse aggregate for asphaltic concrete, plant mix bituminous pavement, plant mix bituminous leveling and seal coats ([Sec 1002](#) and [Sec 1003](#)), the following definitions apply

**106.3.2.71.6.2.1 Deleterious Rock**

Deleterious rock includes the following materials:

- (1) Shaly rock. A rock that is generally contaminated with shale to a high degree. Color may vary but the rock usually has a dull gray appearance and is reasonably uniform in appearance. Also may occur in the form of numerous shale lines or seams closely spaced throughout the particle, thus giving a laminated or streaked appearance.
- (2) Cap plus 20 percent. A rock particle with a line of demarcation of a layer or "cap" of shale or shaly rock which usually occurs on one face, but may be found on two faces; in either case the summation of percent of "caps" exceeds 20 percent of the volume of the rock particle.
- (3) Extremely soft rock. A rock that can be readily broken with the fingers. In some cases, due to size or shape of the rock it cannot be broken, however, small areas can be spalled or chipped off with the fingers.
- (4) Chert. Chert which is soft and highly absorptive is considered deleterious.



**106.3.2.71.6.2.2 Shale**

A fine-grained rock formed by the consolidation of clay, mud, or silt; generally having a finely stratified or laminated structure.

**106.3.2.71.6.2.3 Other Foreign Material**

Clay lumps, mud balls, lignite, coal, roots, sticks, and other foreign material not related to the inherent material being inspected.

**106.3.2.71.6.3 Coarse Aggregate for Bituminous Surface and Plant Mix Bituminous Base**

For coarse aggregate for bituminous surface and plant mix bituminous base ([Sec 1004](#)), the following definitions apply:

**106.3.2.71.6.3.1 Deleterious Rock**

Deleterious rock includes the following materials:

(1) Shaly rock. A rock that is generally contaminated with shale to a high degree. Color may vary, but the rock usually has a dull gray appearance and is reasonably uniform in appearance. Pieces of rock having shaly seams, skin shale, and pieces of rock, which are not predominantly shaly, are not to be considered as deleterious.

(2) Extremely soft rock. A rock that can be readily broken with fingers, or from which small areas can be spalled or chipped off readily with the fingers **or fingernail**.

**106.3.2.71.6.3.2 Shale**

A fine-grained rock formed by the consolidation of clay, mud or silt; generally having a finely stratified or laminated structure.

**106.3.2.71.6.3.3 Mud balls**

Balls of mud.

**106.3.2.71.6.3.4 Clay**

A clay material that is more or less uniformly dispersed throughout the produced product.

**106.3.2.71.6.3.5 Other Foreign Material**

Any material not related to the inherent material being inspected.

**106.3.2.71.6.4 Coarse Aggregate for Surfacing**

For coarse aggregate for surfacing ([Sec 1006](#)), the following definitions apply:

**106.3.2.71.6.4.1 Deleterious Rock**

Deleterious rock includes extremely soft rock; a rock that can be readily broken or spalled with the fingers or fingernail.

**106.3.2.71.6.4.2 Shale**

A fine-grained rock formed by the consolidation of clay, mud, or silt; generally having a finely stratified or laminated structure.

**106.3.2.71.6.4.3 Mud Balls**

Balls of mud.

**106.3.2.71.6.4.4 Other Foreign Material**

Any material not related to the inherent material being inspected.

**106.3.2.71.6.5 Coarse Aggregate for Base**

For coarse aggregate for base ([Sec 1007](#)), the following definitions apply:

**106.3.2.71.6.5.1 Deleterious Rock**

Deleterious rock includes extremely soft rock; a rock that can be readily broken or spalled with the fingers or fingernail.

**106.3.2.71.6.5.2 Shale**

A fine-grained rock formed by the consolidated of clay, mud or silt; generally having a finely stratified or laminated structure.

**106.3.2.71.6.5.3 Mud Balls**

Balls of mud.

# TM71: Deleterious Content of Aggregate PROFICIENCY CHECKLIST

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

	Trial #	1	2															
1. Material tested in an as received condition (may be dried at 140°F)																		
2. Reduced the sample according to the Maximum Size aggregate using the TM71 table below: Note: Surplus this amount for sieving																		
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Maximum Size Inches (mm)</th> <th style="width: 75%;">Minimum Sample Size of +4 material</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2 (50)</td> <td>10,000 grams</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1½ (37.5)</td> <td>9,000 grams</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 (25.0)</td> <td>5,000 grams</td> </tr> <tr> <td>¾ (19.0)</td> <td>3,000 grams</td> </tr> <tr> <td>½ (12.5)</td> <td>2,000 grams</td> </tr> <tr> <td>⅜ (9.5)</td> <td>1,000 grams</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Maximum size is defined as the smallest sieve through which 100% of the material will pass.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Maximum Size Inches (mm)	Minimum Sample Size of +4 material	2 (50)	10,000 grams	1½ (37.5)	9,000 grams	1 (25.0)	5,000 grams	¾ (19.0)	3,000 grams	½ (12.5)	2,000 grams	⅜ (9.5)	1,000 grams	Maximum size is defined as the smallest sieve through which 100% of the material will pass.			
Maximum Size Inches (mm)	Minimum Sample Size of +4 material																	
2 (50)	10,000 grams																	
1½ (37.5)	9,000 grams																	
1 (25.0)	5,000 grams																	
¾ (19.0)	3,000 grams																	
½ (12.5)	2,000 grams																	
⅜ (9.5)	1,000 grams																	
Maximum size is defined as the smallest sieve through which 100% of the material will pass.																		
3. Sieved the reduced sample over a #4 sieve and discarded the passing material																		
4. Reweighed the plus 4 material to see if the sample meets the minimum size needed from the table.																		
5. Recorded the weight of the plus #4 material as the Original Mass																		
6. Set-up a workstation with a good light, a pan or spray bottle of water and several sorting pans																		
7. Obtained a handful, briefly wet a few particles and visually examined each particle <b>(Do not soak the particles in water)</b>																		
8. Examined each piece and separated the deleterious particles into specific groups according to specifications: (OFM, Hard Chert, Soft chert, Shale, etc.)																		
9. Recorded the weight of each group of deleterious found in the sample to the nearest whole gram																		
<b>NOTES:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Groups are defined in the test method and will vary based on product type as well as the presence of any given group</li> <li>❖ For 1002 material, keep soft chert separate as it will be included in both deleterious and hard chert</li> </ul>																		
10. Calculate the percentage of each group identified, report to nearest 0.1% for each category $P = \frac{C}{W} \times 100$ Where: P = Percentage of each deleterious component C = Actual weight (mass) of deleterious for each group W = Weight (mass) of test sample for the portion retained on the #4 sieve																		

PASS PASS

FAIL FAIL

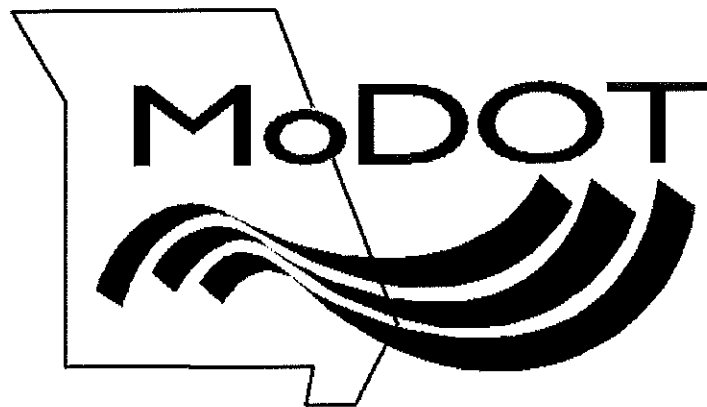
Examiner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





# **ASTM D 4791**

**Flat Particles, Elongated Particles,  
Or Flat and Elongated Particles  
In Coarse Aggregate**





# ASTM D4791



Flat Particles, Elongated Particles,  
or Flat and Elongated Particles in  
Coarse Aggregate

Rev. 12/06/2019

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## SCOPE

- This test method covers the determination of the percentages of flat particles, elongated particles, or flat and elongated particles in coarse aggregates.
- Two procedures, Method A and Method B, are presented in ASTM D4791.
- Method A uses 4 groups of F&E:
  1. Flat particles,
  2. Elongated particles
  3. Particles that meet the criteria of both groups
  4. Neither flat nor elongated.

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- Method A is a reflection of the original procedure as developed prior to Superpave and is intended for all non-Superpave applications *and will NOT be covered in this certification. For more information on Method A, see the Appendix.*
- Method B is a comparison of the maximum particle dimension to the minimum particle dimension and is intended for use with Superpave specifications.

Scope

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### **SIGNIFICANCE AND USE**

- The particle shape of coarse aggregate influences the properties of some construction materials and may affect their placement and consolidation.
- This test method provides a means for checking compliance with specifications that limit such particles or to determine the relative shape characteristics of coarse aggregate.

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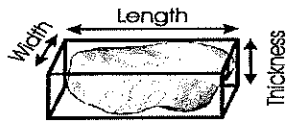
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### **Definitions**



- **Flat and Elongated Particles (F&E)** - Those particles having a ratio of length to thickness greater than a specified value
- **Length** - The longest dimension
- **Thickness** - The smallest dimension
- **Width** - Intermediate dimension of the particle that is greater than or equal to the thickness

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### **Detrimental affects when used in mixtures:**

- Interferes with placement and consolidation.
- Fractures or breaks more easily.
- When an aggregate particle breaks, it creates a face that is not coated with binder, increasing the potential of the mix to strip or ravel.
- When the coarse aggregate fractures the gradation will likely change, which may be detrimental to the mix.

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**Material Tested:**

**ASTM**

- Material larger than  $\frac{3}{4}$ " (19mm) or #4 (4.75mm) as determined by specification requirements.

**MoDOT**

- See Engineering Policy Guide (EPG)
- 106.7.71 TM 71, Deleterious Content of Aggregate (106.7.71.6.1.6)

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**MoDOT Materials Tested:**

**1002**

- Test all sieves with more than 10% retained (on #4 sieve and above)
- Test only 5:1 comparison
- Do a weighted average calculation and report this result

**SMA (Stone Mastic Aggregate)**

- Test all sieves with more than 10% retained on #4 sieve and above
- Test both 3:1 and 5:1 comparison
- Do a weighted average calculation and report this result

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**1005**

- Test all sieves with more than 10% retained on  $\frac{3}{4}$ " sieve and above.
- Test only 5:1 comparison
  - Do NOT do a weighted average calculation

MoDOT Materials Tested

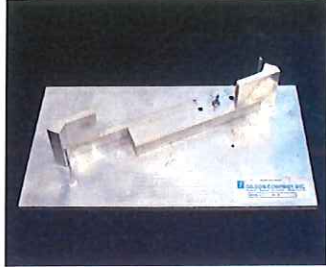
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### EQUIPMENT

- Proportional Caliper Device
- Scale, accurate to 0.5% of the sample mass
- Oven or hot plate



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### SAMPLING

- Sample the coarse aggregate in accordance with Practice AASHTO R 90 (ASTM D75).
- Thoroughly mix the sample and reduce it to an amount suitable for testing using the applicable procedures described in practice AASHTO R 76. The sample for testing shall be approximately the mass desired when dry and shall be the end result of the reduction. Reduction to an exact predetermined mass shall not be permitted.

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### **ASTM D4791 Sample Size**

Maximum Retained Sieve Size in.(mm)	Minimum Amounts lb. (Mass in grams)
$\frac{3}{8}$ " (9.5)	2 (1000)
$\frac{1}{2}$ " (12.5)	4 (2000)
$\frac{3}{4}$ " (19.0)	11 (5000)
1" (25.0)	22 (10,000)
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " (37.5)	33 (15,000)

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**By particle count:**

- Does not need to be oven dried.
- Perform AASHTO T27
- Reduce each fraction that has a minimum of 10% retained until approximately 100 particles remain
- Approximately 100 particles needed for testing

**By mass/weight:**

- Oven dry @  $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- Perform AASHTO T27
- Test all sieves with more than 10% retained on the #4 sieve and above as required by MoDOT specifications.

Sampling 13

13

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**SUPERPAVE PROCEDURE; METHOD B**

Acquire the amounts to be tested by count or mass.

1. Each particle in each size fraction tested and placed into one of two groups:  
Flat & Elongated OR Not Flat & Elongated
2. Proportional caliper device positioned at proper ratio? 3:1, 5:1, etc.
3. Test each particle in the caliper by setting the larger opening to the particle length.

14

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4. Place the particle through the opposite side of the caliper for thickness, if it slips through the smaller measure, the particle is flat and elongated.
5. Weigh the amount of F&E of each fraction and record each to the nearest whole gram on the report.

**NOTE:** Particle is flat and elongated if the thickness can be passed through the smaller opening.

Method B 15

15

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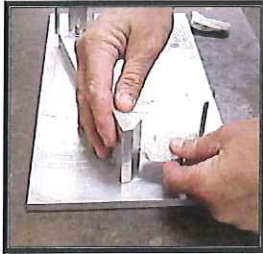
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## Evaluating Aggregates



**Figure 1**  
Checking Elongation



**Figure 2**  
Checking Flatness

16

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## CALCULATIONS & REPORTING

- Report each group to nearest 1%. Test all sieves with more than 10% retained on #4 sieve and above as required by MoDOT Specifications.  
**NOTE:** If a sieve size has less than 10% retained, see example calculation sheet item for guidance.
- Report each F&E group to nearest whole number.
- When required, the weighted average percentages based on the actual or assumed proportions of the various sieve sizes tested.

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A = Weight retained on each particular sieve

$$B = \frac{(A)}{\text{Original mass of sample}} \times 100 \quad \text{Report to nearest 0.1\%}$$

C = Weight of mass tested (Approximately 100 pieces)

D = Weight of flat and elongated particles

$$E = \frac{D}{C} \times 100 \quad \text{Report to nearest 1\%}$$

$$F = \frac{B}{\text{TPR}} \quad \text{Report to nearest 0.001}$$

$$G = E \times F \quad \text{Report to nearest 1\%}$$

Calculations & Reporting

18

18

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### Common testing errors:

- Not obtaining a representative sample
- Not reducing the sample properly
- Not sieving to completion
- Improper positioning in the machine

19

19

### Class Room F&E Problems

There are enlarged copies at the end of this module.

20

20

### Flat and Elongated by Mass **Problem 1A**

Original Mass of Sample 6301 grams Ratio 5 to 1.

Report to:	0 g	0.0	0	0	0	0.000	0
Sieve Sizes	Mass Retained T27 (A)	Percent Retained % (B)	Number or Mass Tested (C)	Number or Mass F & E (D)	Percent F & E (E)	Sieve Fraction Retained Factor (F)	Percent F&E Weighted Ave. (G)
37.5mm 1 1/2"	0						
25.0mm 1"	0						
19.0mm 3/4"	2644		1973	8			
12.5mm 1/2"	3232		1632	44			
9.5mm 3/8"	69		0	0			
4.75mm #4	119		0	0			
Total % Retained (TPR)			(TPR)				
					Total		

21

21

Original Mass of Sample 6301 grams Ratio 5 to 1 **Answers 1A**

Sieve Sizes	Mass Retained (A)	Percent Retained (B)	Number or Mass Tested (C)	Number or Mass F & E (D)	Percent F & E (E)	Sieve Fraction Retained Factor (F)	Percent F&E Weighted Ave. (G)
37.5mm 1 1/2"	0						
25.0mm 1"	0						
19.0mm 3/4"	2644	42.0	1973	8	0	.436	0
12.5mm 1/2"	3232	51.3	1632	44	3	.533	2
9.5mm 3/8"	69	1.1<10%	0	0	3	0.011	0
4.75mm #4	119	1.9<10%	0	0	3	.020	0
Total % Retained	96.3	(TPR)				1.000	
						Total	2%

22

**Flat and Elongated by Mass** **Problem 2B**

Original Mass of Sample 7300 Ratio 5 to 1

Sieve Sizes	Mass Retained (A)	Percent Retained (B)	Number or Mass Tested (C)	Number or Mass F & E (D)	Percent F & E (E)	Sieve Fraction Retained Factor (F)	Percent F&E Weighted Ave. (G)
37.5mm 1 1/2"							
25.0mm 1"	0		0	0			
19.0mm 3/4"	2710		1840	13			
12.5mm 1/2"	3252		1588	51			
9.5mm 3/8"	70		0	0			
4.75mm #4	1252		825	33			
Total % Retained		(TPR)				Total	

23

**Flat and Elongated by Mass** **Problem 2B**

Original Mass of Sample 7400 Ratio 5 to 1

Sieve Sizes	Mass Retained (A)	Percent Retained (B)	Number or Mass Tested (C)	Number or Mass F & E (D)	Percent F & E (E)	Sieve Fraction Retained Factor (F)	Percent F&E Weighted Ave. (G)
37.5mm 1 1/2"							
25.0mm 1"	0		0	0			
19.0mm 3/4"	2710	37.1	1840	13	1		
12.5mm 1/2"	3252	44.5	1588	51	3		
9.5mm 3/8"	70	1.0	0	0	1		
4.75mm #4	1252	17.2	825	33	4		
Total % Retained	99.8	(TPR)				Total	

For column E where zero is:  $3-4 = 7(7-2) = 3.5 = 4$   
 Using the number above and below the zero, add, divide by 2 = 4

24

**Answers 2B**

Original Mass of Sample 7300 Ratio 5 to 1

Sieve Size:	Mass Retained (A)	Percent Retained (B)	Number or Mass Tested (C)	Number or Mass F & E (D)	Percent F & E (E)	Sieve Fraction Retained Factor (F)	Percent F&E Weighted Ave. (G)
37.5mm 1 1/2"							
25.0mm 1"	0		0	0			
19.0mm 3/4"	2710	37.1	1840	13	1	0.372	0
12.5mm 1/2"	3252	44.5	1588	51	3	0.446	1
9.5mm 3/8"	70	1.0	0	0	1	0.010	0
4.75mm #4	1282	17.2	325	33	4	0.172	1
Total % Retained		99.8	(TPR)			1.000	
For column E where zero is: $3 \div 4 = 7(7 - 2) = 3.5 = 4$ Using the number above and below the zero, add, divide by 2 = 4						Total	25%

25

25

**Problem 3C**

Original Mass of Sample COUNT Ratio 5 to 1

Report to:	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.000	0
Sieve Sizes	Mass Retained T27 (A)	Percent Retained % (B)	Number or Mass Tested (C)	Number or Mass F & E (D)	Percent F & E (E)	Sieve Fraction Retained Factor (F)	Percent F&E Weighted Ave. (G)
37.5mm 1 1/2"							
25.0mm 1"							
19.0mm 3/4"							
12.5mm 1/2"		10.2	102	4			
9.5mm 3/8"		10.5	104	1			
4.75mm #4		35.8	109	3			
Total % Retained (TPR)		56.5	(TPR)				
						Total	

26

26

**Answer 3C**

Original Mass of Sample COUNT Ratio 5 to 1

Report to:	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.000	0
Sieve Sizes	Mass Retained T27 (A)	Percent Retained % (B)	Number or Mass Tested (C)	Number or Mass F & E (D)	Percent F & E (E)	Sieve Fraction Retained Factor (F)	Percent F&E Weighted Ave. (G)
37.5mm 1 1/2"							
25.0mm 1"							
19.0mm 3/4"							
12.5mm 1/2"		10.2	102	4	4	0.181	1
9.5mm 3/8"		10.5	104	1	1	0.186	0
4.75mm #4		35.8	109	3	3	0.634	2
Total % Retained (TPR)		56.5	(TPR)				
						Total	3

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# FLAT AND ELONGATED PARTICLES (ASTM D 4791)

Problem 1A

Project: J8P0633 Mix Design: SP250 05-43 Date: 7/25/08  
Material/Stockpile ID 1" Fraction Technician: Bob Poteet

Original Mass of Sample 6301 Ratio 5 to 1.

Report to: 0 0.0 0 0 0 0.000 0

Sieve Sizes	Mass Retained (A)	Percent Retained (B)	Number or Mass Tested (C)	Number or Mass F & E (D)	Percent F & E (E)	Sieve Fraction Retained Factor (F)	Percent F&E Weighted Ave. (G)
37.5mm 1 ½"	0						
25.0mm 1"	0		0	0			
19.0mm ¾"	2644		1973	8			
12.5mm ½"	3232		1632	44			
9.5mm ⅜"	69		0	0			
4.75mm #4	119		0	0			
Total % Retained			(TPR)				
						Total	

A = Weight retained on each particular sieve

$$B = \frac{(A)}{\text{original mass of sample}} \times 100$$

C = Weight of mass tested (Approximately 100 pieces)

D = Weight of Flat and Elongated particles

$$E = \frac{D}{C} \times 100$$

$$F = \frac{B}{TPR} \quad (9.1) \text{ (E\&G) Calculated to nearest 1\%}$$

(9.2) When a weighted average for a sample is required, assume that the sieve sizes not tested (those representing less than 10% of the sample) have the same percentage of F&E particles as the next smaller or next larger size, or use the average for the next smaller and next large sizes, if both are present.



# FLAT AND ELONGATED PARTICLES (ASTM D 4791)

Answer 1A

Project: J8P0633 Mix Design: SP250 05-43 Date: 7/25/08  
Material/Stockpile ID 1" Fraction Technician: Bob Poteet

Original Mass of Sample 6301 Ratio 5 to 1.

Report to:		0	0.0	0	0	0	0.000	0
Sieve Sizes	Mass Retained (A)	Percent Retained (B)	Number or Mass Tested (C)	Number or Mass F & E (D)	Percent F & E (E)	Sieve Fraction Retained Factor (F)	Percent F&E Weighted Ave. (G)	
37.5mm 1 1/2"	0							
25.0mm 1"	0		0	0				
19.0mm 3/4"	2644	42.0	1973	8	0	0.436	0	
12.5mm 1/2"	3232	51.3	1632	44	3	0.533	2	
9.5mm 3/8"	69	1.1<10%	0	0	3	0.011	0	
4.75mm #4	119	1.9<10%	0	0	3	0.020	0	
Total % Retained		96.3	(TPR)			1.000		
						Total	2%	

A = Weight retained on each particular sieve

$$B = \frac{(A)}{\text{original mass of sample}} \times 100$$

C = Weight of mass tested (Approximately 100 pieces)

D = Weight of Flat and Elongated particles

$$E = \frac{D}{C} \times 100$$

$$F = \frac{B}{TPR} \quad (9.1) \text{ (E\&G) Calculated to nearest 1\%}$$

(9.2) When a weighted average for a sample is required, assume that the sieve sizes not tested (those representing less than 10% of the sample) have the same percentage of F&E particles as the next smaller or next larger size, or use the average for the next smaller and next large sizes, if both are present.



**FLAT AND ELONGATED PARTICLES (ASTM D 4791)**
**Problem 2B**

 Project: \_\_\_\_\_ Mix Design: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 2017 .

Material/Stockpile ID \_\_\_\_\_ Technician \_\_\_\_\_

 Original Mass of Sample 7300 Ratio 5 to 1 .

Sieve Sizes	Mass Retained (A)	Percent Retained (B)	Number or Mass Tested (C)	Number or Mass F & E (D)	Percent F & E (E)	Sieve Fraction Retained Factor (F)	Percent F&E Weighted Ave. (G)
37.5mm 1 ½”							
25.0mm 1”	0		0	0			
19.0mm ¾”	2710		1840	13			
12.5mm ½”	3252		1588	51			
9.5mm ⅜”	70		0	0			
4.75mm #4	1252		825	33			
Total % Retained			(TPR)				
						Total	

A = Weight retained on each particular sieve

$$B = \frac{(A)}{\text{original mass of sample}} \times 100$$

C = Weight of mass tested (Approximately 100 pieces)

D = Weight of Flat and Elongated particles

$$E = \frac{D}{C} \times 100$$

$$F = \frac{B}{TPR} \quad (9.1) \text{ (E\&G) Calculated to nearest 1\%}$$

(9.2) When a weighted average for a sample is required, assume that the sieve sizes not tested (those representing less than 10% of the sample) have the same percentage of F&E particles as the next smaller or next larger size, or use the average for the next smaller and next large sizes, if both are present.





# FLAT AND ELONGATED PARTICLES (ASTM D 4791)

Answer 2B

Project: \_\_\_\_\_ Mix Design: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 2017 .  
Material/Stockpile ID \_\_\_\_\_ Technician \_\_\_\_\_

Original Mass of Sample 7300 Ratio 5 to 1 .

Sieve Sizes	Mass Retained (A)	Percent Retained (B)	Number or Mass Tested (C)	Number or Mass F & E (D)	Percent F & E (E)	Sieve Fraction Retained Factor (F)	Percent F&E Weighted Ave. (G)
37.5mm 1 ½”							
25.0mm 1”	0		0	0			
19.0mm ¾”	2710	37.1	1840	13	1	0.372	0
12.5mm ½”	3252	44.5	1588	51	3	0.446	1
9.5mm ⅜”	70	1.0 <10%	0	0	4	0.010	0
4.75mm #4	1252	17.2	825	33	4	0.172	1
Total % Retained		99.8	(TPR)			1.000	
For column E where zero is : 3+4 =7 (7 ÷ 2) = 3.5 = 4 Using the number above and below the zero, add, divide by 2 =4						Total	2%

A = Weight retained on each particular sieve

$$B = \frac{(A)}{\text{original mass of sample}} \times 100$$

C = Weight of mass tested (Approximately 100 pieces)

D = Weight of Flat and Elongated particles

$$E = \frac{D}{C} \times 100$$

$$F = \frac{B}{TPR} \quad (9.1) \text{ (E\&G) Calculated to nearest 1\%}$$

(9.2) When a weighted average for a sample is required, assume that the sieve sizes not tested (those representing less than 10% of the sample) have the same percentage of F&E particles as the next smaller or next larger size, or use the average for the next smaller and next large sizes, if both are present.



**FLAT AND ELONGATED PARTICLES (ASTM D 4791)**
**Problem 3C**

 Project: J8P0633 Mix Design: SP250 05-43 Date: 7/25/08

 Material/Stockpile ID ¾" Fraction Technician: Bob Poteet

 Original Mass of Sample Count Ratio 5 to 1

Sieve Sizes	Mass Retained  (A)	Percent Retained  (B)	Number or Mass Tested (C)	Number or Mass F & E (D)	Percent F & E  (E)	Sieve Fraction Retained Factor (F)	Percent F&E Weighted Ave. (G)
37.5mm 1 ½”							
25.0mm 1”			0	0			
19.0mm ¾”			0	0			
12.5mm ½”		10.2	102	4			
9.5mm ⅜”		10.5	104	1			
4.75mm #4		35.8	109	3			
Total % Retained		56.5	(TPR)				
						Total	

A = Weight retained on each particular sieve

$$B = \frac{(A)}{\text{original mass of sample}} \times 100$$

C = Weight of mass tested (Approximately 100 pieces)

D = Weight of Flat and Elongated particles

$$E = \frac{D}{C} \times 100$$

$$F = \frac{B}{\text{TPR}}$$

(9.1) (E&amp;G) Calculated to nearest 1%

$$G = E \times F$$

(9.2) When a weighted average for a sample is required, assume that the sieve sizes not tested (those representing less than 10% of the sample) have the same percentage of F&E particles as the next smaller or next larger size, or use the average for the next smaller and next large sizes, if both are present.



**FLAT AND ELONGATED PARTICLES (ASTM D 4791)**
**Answer 3C**

Project: J8P0633 Mix Design: SP250 05-43 Date: 7/25/08.  
 Material/Stockpile ID ¾" Fraction Technician: Bob Poteet

Original Mass of Sample Count Ratio 5 to 1.

Sieve Sizes	Mass Retained (A)	Percent Retained (B)	Number or Mass Tested (C)	Number or Mass F & E (D)	Percent F & E (E)	Sieve Fraction Retained Factor (F)	Percent F&E Weighted Ave. (G)
37.5mm 1 ½”							
25.0mm 1”			0	0			
19.0mm ¾”			0	0			
12.5mm ½”		10.2	102	4	4	0.181	1
9.5mm ⅜”		10.5	104	1	1	0.186	0
4.75mm #4		35.8	109	3	3	0.634	2
Total % Retained		56.5	(TPR)			1.001	
						Total	3

A = Weight retained on each particular sieve

$$B = \frac{(A)}{\text{original mass of sample}} \times 100$$

C = Weight of mass tested (Approximately 100 pieces)

D = Weight of Flat and Elongated particles

$$E = \frac{D}{C} \times 100$$

$$F = \frac{B}{TPR} \quad (9.1) \text{ (E\&G) Calculated to nearest 1\%}$$

$$G = E \times F$$

(9.2) When a weighted average for a sample is required, assume that the sieve sizes not tested (those representing less than 10% of the sample) have the same percentage of F&E particles as the next smaller or next larger size, or use the average for the next smaller and next large sizes, if both are present.





106.3.2.71.6.1.6 Thin or Elongated Pieces – Engineering Policy Guide

**106.3.2.71.6.1.6 Flat or Elongated Pieces**

Rock particles that have a length greater than five times the maximum thickness. In case two sizes of coarse material are required to be combined into coarse aggregate, the limitation on “thin or elongated pieces” shall apply only to the coarser size so combined and shall only apply to particles retained on the 3/4 in. (19.0 mm) sieve. In the case of coarse aggregate produced without combining two sizes, the limitation on “thin or elongated pieces” shall apply only to particles retained on a 3/4 in. (19.0 mm) sieve.



# ASTM D4791: Flat Particles, Elongated Particles, or Flat and Elongated Particles in Coarse Aggregate PROFICIENCY CHECKLIST

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Sample Preparation	Trial #	1	2														
1. Sampled in accordance with AASHTO R 90																	
2. Determined the Nominal Maximum size of the aggregate sample																	
3. Reduced the sample using AASHTO R 76 to the testing size using the Table below																	
<table border="1" style="margin: 5px auto; width: 80%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Nominal Maximum Size in. (mm)</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Minimum Mass lb. (g.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3/8 (9.5)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2 (1000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1/2 (12.5)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4 (2000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3/4 (19.0)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11 (5000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1 (25.0)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">22 (10,000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1 1/2 (37.5)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">33 (15,000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2 (50)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">44 (20,000)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Nominal Maximum Size in. (mm)	Minimum Mass lb. (g.)	3/8 (9.5)	2 (1000)	1/2 (12.5)	4 (2000)	3/4 (19.0)	11 (5000)	1 (25.0)	22 (10,000)	1 1/2 (37.5)	33 (15,000)	2 (50)	44 (20,000)			
Nominal Maximum Size in. (mm)	Minimum Mass lb. (g.)																
3/8 (9.5)	2 (1000)																
1/2 (12.5)	4 (2000)																
3/4 (19.0)	11 (5000)																
1 (25.0)	22 (10,000)																
1 1/2 (37.5)	33 (15,000)																
2 (50)	44 (20,000)																
4. Determined to test either by Count or Mass																	
5. For Mass, sample oven-dried to constant mass at 230 ± 9°F (110 ± 5°C) For Count, sample is tested in an as is condition																	
6. Sieve analysis completed according to AASHTO T 27, recorded the mass retained of each fraction in column A of the report																	
7. Obtained the fractions needed to test per Count or Mass: <b>By Particle Count:</b> From the Sieve Analysis each fraction from the #4 or 3/4" sieve and above as required by specification, with a minimum of 10% retained will be reduced to approximately 100 particles  <b>By Mass:</b> Use the material retained on the #4 or 3/4" sieve and above as required by MoDOT EPG specifications 1002, 1005, etc.																	
<b>Procedure: Method B - Flat and Elongated Particle Test</b>																	
1. Sorted each particle in each size fraction into one of two groups: (1) Flat and elongated OR (2) Not flat and elongated																	
2. Proportional caliper device positioned at the proper ratio 5:1 or 3:1																	
3. Tested each particle in the caliper by setting the larger opening to the particle length																	
4. Placed the particle through the opposite side of the caliper for thickness, if it slips through the smaller measure, the particle is flat and elongated																	
5. Weighed the amount of F&E of each fraction and recorded each to the nearest whole number on the report																	
<b>Calculations</b>																	
Percentage of flat and elongated particles calculated to nearest 1% for each sieve size as required																	

PASS PASS

FAIL FAIL

Examiner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

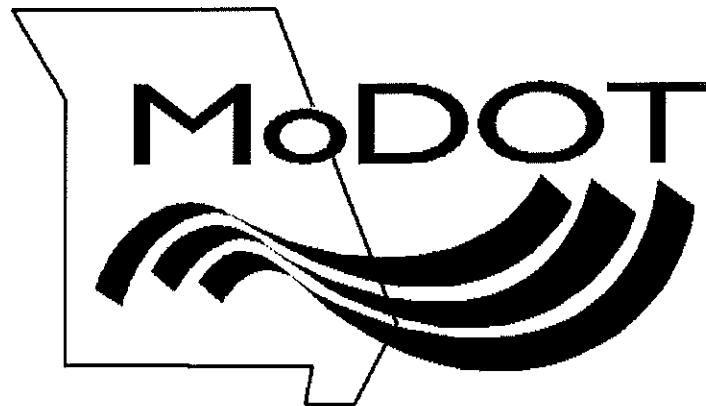


# **AASHTO T84**

ASTM C126

**Specific Gravity and**

**Absorption  
of  
Fine Aggregate**







# AASHTO T 84

## Test for Specific Gravity and Absorption of Fine Aggregate

Rev 12/16/2019

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### SCOPE

- This method covers the determination of bulk, and apparent specific gravity, at 74.4°F (23°C), and the absorption of fine aggregate after 15-19 hours of soaking in water.

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### SIGNIFICANCE AND USE

- Bulk specific gravity is the characteristic generally used for calculation of the volume occupied by the aggregate in various mixtures containing aggregate including Portland cement concrete, bituminous concrete, and other mixtures that are proportioned or analyzed on an absolute volume basis.

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- Bulk specific gravity is also used in the computation of voids in aggregate in AASHTO T19M/T19 Unit Weight.
- Bulk specific gravity determined on the SSD basis is used if the aggregate is wet; that is, if its absorption has been satisfied.
- Apparent specific gravity pertains to the relative density of the solid material making up the primary particles not including the pore space within the particles that is accessible to water. This value is not widely used in construction aggregate technology.

Significance and Use

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- Absorption values are used to calculate the change in the mass of an aggregate due to water absorbed in the pore spaces within the particles, compared to the dry condition, when it is deemed that the aggregate has been in contact with water long enough to satisfy most of the absorption potential. The laboratory standard for absorption is that obtained after soaking dry aggregate in water.

Significance and Use

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### TERMINOLOGY

- **Oven Dried:** Dried to a constant mass at a temperature of  $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).
- **Air Dried:** Dried at a temperature  $\leq 140^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $60^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).
- **Constant Mass:** The mass at which additional drying of the sample would result in less than an additional 0.1% loss in mass.
- **Saturated Surface Dry (SSD):** When the aggregate is saturated on the inside but the surface is dry.

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## EQUIPMENT

- Balance readable to 0.1 grams
- 500 ml Pycnometer (flask)
- Conical mold
- Tamper
- Oven capable of  $230 \pm 9^\circ\text{F}$  ( $110 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ )
- No. 4 Sieve



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## Calibrate the Pycnometer

- ~ Fill with water to calibration mark
- ~ Water @  $73.4 \pm 3^\circ\text{F}$
- ~ Read bottom of meniscus
- ~ Weigh and record the weight of the "Pyc + Water"

Bottom of Meniscus touches the line for full capacity.



Weigh to the nearest 0.1 grams  
And record this as "B" in the equation.

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Calibration

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## SAMPLE PREPARATION

- Obtain a representative field sample (ASHTO R90).
- Mix and reduce (AASHTO R76).
- Sieve over a #4 sieve, collect approximately 1,000 grams of minus #4 material.
- Oven dry the minus #4 material in a pan to a constant weight at  $230 \pm 9^\circ\text{F}$  ( $110 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ ).

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- Allow the sample to cool to comfortable handling temperature.
- Cover the sample with water for **15-19** (or add at least 6% moisture,  $0.06 \times \text{test weight}$ )

Sample Preparation

(10)

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### PROCEDURE

- Set up a calibrated pynometer partially filled with water and a funnel near a scale and ready to go.
- After the 15-19 hour soak, decant excess water from the sample with care to avoid loss of fines.



(11)

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- After soaking, spread the sample on a flat, nonabsorbent surface.
- Uniformly dry the sample with a gentle current of warm air, stir frequently.
 

**Note:** It may be necessary to work the sample with your hands in a rubbing motion to break up any lumps that develop.
- Keep stirring, until the sample approaches a free-flowing condition.

**Note:** Sample must be on the wet side of SSD when beginning the cone test.

Procedure

(12)

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**Things to know before starting the cone test:** If the sample falls flat, on the first cone test, or before the SSD state, it has been dried past the SSD condition.

Procedure

**What to do. . .**

- Mix in a few milliliters of water
- Cover
- Let stand for 30 minutes.
- Return to nonabsorbent surface, stirring and continuing with cone testing till SSD is reached.



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**Cone Test:**

- Place the mold on a flat, nonabsorbent surface, with the large diameter down.
- Fill the mold to overflowing.

Procedure



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- Tamp 25 times with **5mm** drops (0.2 in).
- Allow the tamper to fall freely.

Procedure



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- ## Procedure



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- ## Procedure



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## Procedure

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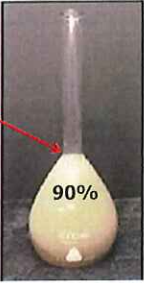
- 18

[illegible]



- Fill Pycnometer with additional Water to approximately 90% capacity.
- Usually 90% is just into or slightly below the neck of the flask.

Procedure



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- Roll, invert, and agitate the pycnometer to remove all the air bubbles.
- This should take around 15-20 minutes.


Procedure



Rolling



Invert and twist



Taps to agitate

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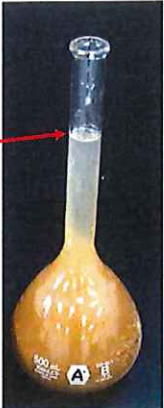
- After removing air from the sample, adjust the water level in the pycnometer to its calibrated capacity.

**NOTES:**

The etched line at top of neck on the flask is the calibrated capacity.

If foam developed on the water surface, use a paper towel or isopropyl alcohol to reduce this.

Procedure



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- Place the pycnometer in a bath  $73.4 \pm 3^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $23.0 \pm 1.7^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). After 30-45 minutes check the water inside the pycnometer with a thermometer to verify that the temperature is at  $73.4 \pm 3^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $23.0 \pm 1.7^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).
- If at temperature move on to the next step. Otherwise give the flask more time in the bath and check again later.

Procedure

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- Determine total mass of the pycnometer, sample, and water. Weigh to 0.1 gram = "C" in the equation.
- Remove the sample from pycnometer into a small pre-weighed pan.
- Weigh to the nearest 0.1 grams.
- Oven dry sample to constant weight at  $230 \pm 9^{\circ}$  ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).

Procedure

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23

- Cool sample in air at room temperature for  $1.0 \pm 0.5$  hour(s), weigh the dry sample to the nearest 0.1g. Report as "A" in the equation.

**Note: All weights determined to 0.1 gram.**

Procedure

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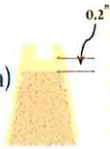
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### Cone Test Summary

- Fill cone to overflowing
- Tamp 25 times from a height of 0.2" (5mm)
- Clean aggregate from base of cone
- Lift cone vertically






**First Trial**  
Wet  
Aggregate  
Maintains Shape



**Re-do**  
Dry  
NO Shape



**2 or more Trials  
To reach SSD**  
SSD  
Aggregate  
Slumps Slightly

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25

### CALCULATIONS

#### Bulk Specific Gravity

$$\text{Bulk Specific Gravity} = \frac{A}{(B + S - C)}$$

A = mass of oven-dry sample in air (g)  
 B = mass of pycnometer filled with water (g)  
 S = mass of saturated surface-dry sample (g)  
 C = mass of pycnometer with sample and water to calibrated mark (g)

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#### Bulk Specific Gravity (SSD)

- Saturated Surface Dry Basis

$$SSD = \frac{S}{(B + S - C)}$$

S = mass of the saturated surface-dry sample (g)  
 B = mass of pycnometer filled with water (g)  
 C = mass of pycnometer with sample and water to calibration mark (g)

Calculations

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### Apparent Specific Gravity

$$App\ Sp.\ Gr. = \frac{A}{(B + A - C)}$$

A = mass of oven dry sample in air  
B = mass of pycnometer filled with water  
C = mass of pycnometer with sample and water to the calibration mark

Calculations

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### Absorption Percent

$$Abs.\% = \left[ \frac{(S - A)}{A} \right] \times 100$$

A = mass of oven dry sample in air  
B = mass of pycnometer filled with water  
S = mass of the saturated surface dry sample  
C = mass of pycnometer with sample and water to the calibration mark

Calculations

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### REPORTING

- Report the Specific Gravities
  - to the hundredth, **0.01**, for **1005 Concrete**
  - to the thousandth, **0.001**, for **1002 Asphalt**
- Report the Absorption to the tenth, **0.1**
- Alternative: For, naturally moist condition report the source of the sample and the procedures used to prevent drying prior to testing.

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### Reporting for AASHTO M6:

For AASHTO M6: Fine aggregate for Hydraulic Cement Concrete.

Report specific gravity results to the nearest 0.01 and absorption to the nearest 0.1%.

Reporting

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### Notes:

#### T84 for Aggregate Maintained in A Naturally Moist Condition

- As an alternative, where the absorption and specific gravity values are to be used in their naturally moist condition, the requirement for initial drying to constant mass may be eliminated and, if the surfaces of the particles have been kept wet, the required soaking may also be eliminated.

Sample Preparation

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### Notes:

- **Definitions:** Are in the glossary.
- **Tests for materials that do not readily slump:**

1. Provisional Cone Test
2. Provisional Surface Test
3. Colorimetric procedures
4. SSD on single-size material

Special Notes

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See the appendix for more information

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## Practice Calculations

Asphalt (1002) Sample		
499.9 g	Mass of oven-dry sample in air	A
683.7g	Mass of pycnometer filled with water	B
503.3g	Mass of saturated-surface-dry sample	S
990.1g	Mass of pyc., water, and sample	C

Using the information above, Find;

- Bulk Specific Gravity,
- SSD,
- Apparent Specific Gravity,
- Absorption Percent.

Use regular rounding.

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**Answers:**

ASPHALT SAMPLE

*This slide is enlarged*

Bulk Sp. Gr. (O.D. basis) =  $\frac{A}{B + S - C} = \frac{499.9}{683.7 + 503.3 - 990.1} = 2.539$

Bulk Sp. Gr. (SSD basis) =  $\frac{S}{B + S - C} = \frac{503.3}{683.7 + 503.3 - 990.1} = 2.556$

Apparent Sp. Gr. =  $\frac{A}{B + A - C} = \frac{499.9}{683.7 + 499.9 - 990.1} = 2.583$

Absorption, percent =  $\frac{S - A}{A} \times 100 = \frac{503.3 - 499.9}{499.9} \times 100 = 0.7\%$

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# EXAMPLE OF CALCULATIONS FOR FINE SPECIFIC GRAVITY

## ASPHALT SAMPLE

$$\text{Bulk Sp. Gr. (O.D. basis)} = \frac{A}{B + S - C} = \frac{( \quad 499.9 \quad )}{( \quad 683.7 \quad ) + ( \quad 503.3 \quad ) - ( \quad 990.1 \quad )} = \frac{\boxed{2.539}}{2.538852}$$

Where: A = mass of oven-dry sample in air, g.

B = mass of pycnometer filled with water, g.

C = mass of pycnometer with sample and water to calibration mark, g.

S = mass of saturated-surface-dry sample, g.

499.9
683.7
990.1
503.3

$$\text{Bulk Sp. Gr. (SSD basis)} = \frac{S}{B + S - C} = \frac{( \quad 503.3 \quad )}{( \quad 683.7 \quad ) + ( \quad 503.3 \quad ) - ( \quad 990.1 \quad )} = \frac{\boxed{2.556}}{2.556120}$$

$$\text{Apparent Sp. Gr.} = \frac{A}{B + A - C} = \frac{( \quad 499.9 \quad )}{( \quad 683.7 \quad ) + ( \quad 499.9 \quad ) - ( \quad 990.1 \quad )} = \frac{\boxed{2.583}}{2.583463}$$

$$\text{Absorption, percent} = \frac{S - A}{A} \times 100 = \frac{( \quad 503.3 \quad ) - ( \quad 499.9 \quad )}{( \quad 499.9 \quad )} \times 100 = \frac{\boxed{0.7}}{0.680136} \%$$



# AASHTO T 84: Specific Gravity for Fine Aggregate PROFICIENCY CHECKLIST

(rev 12/16/2019)

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Trial #	1	2
<b>Sample Preparation</b>		
1. Obtain a representative sample. (AASHTO R90)		
2. Mix and Reduce. (AASHTO R76)		
3. Sieved over #4 sieve, keep minus 4 material (approximately 1,000 g)		
4. Dried to constant mass at $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$ ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) <b>Note:</b> Oven drying not necessary if naturally moist condition is desired <b>Note:</b> See Provisional Tests 1-4 for materials that do not readily slump found in appendix		
5. Sample is covered with water, allowed to stand 15-19 hours		
6. Pycnometer calibrated at $73.4 \pm 3^{\circ}\text{F}$ record this weight to nearest 0.1g (This is "B" in the equation)		
7. After 15-19hrs, decant the excess water off the sample without loss of fines		
8. Calibrated pycnometer partially filled with water, set by the scale		
<b>STEPS 9-15 is the CONE TEST</b>		
9. Sample spread on a flat nonabsorbent surface		
10. Sample uniformly dried by a current of warm air		
11. Mold placed on flat nonabsorbent surface and filled to overflowing		
12. Tamped 25 times with 5 mm drop, and allowed to fall freely		
13. Sample removed from around base and mold lifted vertically		
14. Sample should retain the shape of the cone on first trial. If slumps on the first trial, water added, sample covered and allowed to stand for 30min...then back to cone testing.		
15. Drying continued and slump test repeated at frequent intervals until sample slumps slightly = SSD Condition		
16. Immediately weighed $500 \pm 10\text{g}$ of the SSD sample to the partially filled pycnometer. (Report the mass to nearest 0.01 this is "S" in the equation)		
17. Pycnometer filled to 90% of total capacity and agitated to eliminate air bubbles. <b>Note:</b> Paper towel or isopropyl alcohol may be used to disperse foam on the water surface		
18. Pycnometer filled with water to the calibrated capacity line.		
19. When temperature of contents reach $73.4 \pm 3^{\circ}\text{F}$ ( $23.0 \pm 1.7^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), towel dried the outside of the pycnometer and determined the total mass of the pycnometer, sample, and water to the nearest 0.1g (Report this as "C" in the equation)		
20. Sample removed from the pycnometer, placed in a pre-weighed pan and dried to constant mass at $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$ ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ )		
21. Sample cooled in air at room temperature for $1.0 \pm 0.5$ hr. and dry mass determined to the nearest 0.1g, this is "A" in the equation.		
22. Calculations completed as needed: <b>Report:</b> Specific Gravity for Asphalt (1002) to the nearest: <b>0.001</b> Specific Gravity for Concrete (1005) and M6 to the nearest: <b>0.01</b> And Absorptions Report to the nearest: <b>0.1%</b>		

PASS    PASS

FAIL    FAIL

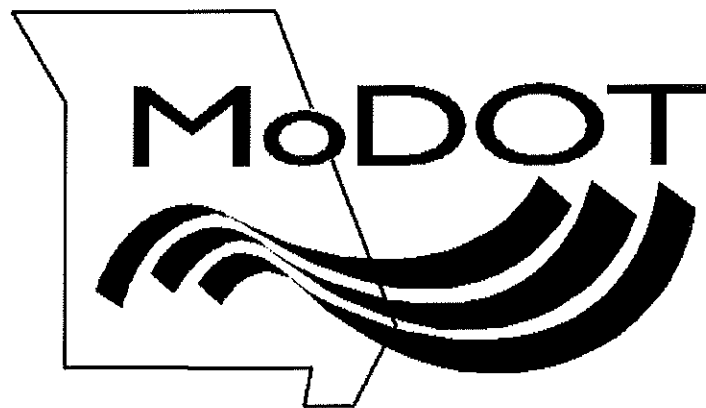
Examiner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# **AASHTO T85**

(ASTM C127)

## **Specific Gravity and Absorption of COARSE Aggregate**







# AASHTO T85

## Specific Gravity and Absorption of Coarse Aggregate

~ Types of specific gravities and absorption

- ~ Apparent ( $G_{sa}$ )
- ~ Bulk ( $G_{sb}$ )
- ~ Bulk SSD ( $G_{sb_{ssd}}$ )
- ~ % Absorption ( $Abs$ )

### Gsb

stone
bulk

NOTE: All updates are highlighted in yellow. Rev 09/21/2021

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## SCOPE

- This method covers the determination of specific gravity and absorption of coarse aggregate.
- The specific gravity may be expressed as bulk specific gravity, bulk specific gravity (saturated surface-dry (SSD)), or apparent specific gravity.
- The bulk specific gravity (SSD) and absorption are based on aggregate after 15-19 hours of soaking in water.
- This method is not intended to be used with lightweight aggregates.

NOTE: Definitions are in the glossary.

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## SIGNIFICANCE AND USE

- Bulk specific gravity** is the characteristic generally used for calculation of the volume occupied by the aggregate in various mixtures containing aggregate, including Portland cement concrete, bituminous concrete, and other mixtures that are proportioned or analyzed on an absolute volume basis.

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- Apparent specific gravity pertains to the relative density of the solid material making up the constituent particles not including the pore space within the particles that is accessible to water.
- Absorption values are used to calculate the change in the mass of an aggregate due to water absorbed in the pore spaces within the constituent particles, compared to the dry condition, when it is deemed that the aggregate has been in contact with water long enough to satisfy most of the absorption potential.

Significance and Use

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### EQUIPMENT

- Scale M231, Class G5
- Sieves #4 or #8
- Basket mesh [No.6 or (No.10 or smaller)]
- Towels
- Oven capable of maintaining  $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- Water Tank - Watertight with an overflow outlet for maintaining a constant water level.
- Suspended Apparatus - A wire of smallest practical size.



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### SAMPLING

- Obtain a representative field sample using AASHTO R 90
- Mix and reduce the sample according to AASHTO R 76 and Chart A
- Dry sieve over a #4 sieve
  - Exceptions to using a #4 sieve:
    - Use a #8 sieve as indicated by specification.
    - Use a #8 sieve if the coarse aggregate contains a large quantity of material finer than the #4 sieve. Keep the minus No.8 material and test per AASHTO T84 for fine aggregate.

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### Sample Size – Chart A

Nominal Maximum Size	Minimum Mass of Sample needed For testing
½" (12.5mm) or less	2000 grams
¾" (19.0mm)	3000 grams
1" (25.0mm)	4000 grams
1 ½" (37.5mm)	5000 grams

Sampling

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- Reject all aggregate passing the #4 sieve.
- Keep all the retained #4 aggregate, this is the plus 4 material.
  - Plus 4 aggregate = +4 aggregate
- Wash the +4 aggregate to remove dust or other coatings.

**NOTE:** All of these mean the same . . .

- Aggregate retained on # 4 sieve
- Plus 4 aggregate
- +4 aggregate
- Sometimes the aggregate may contain foreign material like shells and pieces of glass because of this sometimes aggregate is called +4 material.

Sampling

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### PROCEDURE

- Dry the +4 aggregate to a constant mass at 230 ± 9°F (110 ± 5°C), according to AASHTO T255.
  - Cool the aggregate at room temperature for 1-3 hours.
- (The sample should be comfortable to handle ~ 122°F (50°C).)

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- Place the +4 aggregate sample in a plastic container, and cover it with water for 15-19 hours.



Procedure

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#### Prepare the water bath:

- Overflow the water outlet.

Adjust the temperature to:  
73.4 ± °F (23.0 ± 1.7°C)



Procedure

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- Drain excess water from the +4 aggregate sample and place it onto a large absorbent cloth.



- Dry the aggregate surfaces with an absorbent cloth until all visible surface water is gone.
- Wipe the larger particles individually.

Procedure

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**NOTE:** Throughout the procedure, avoid evaporation of water from the aggregate pores.

- Tare the scale.
- Weigh the sample and write the SSD mass as "B" in the calculations.
  - SSD = Saturated Surface Dry
- Determine the mass to the nearest 1 gram or 0.1%.



Procedure

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- Immediately place sample in the wire basket.
- Shake the basket while immersed to remove entrapped air.
- Weigh the sample in water to the nearest 1g. (This weight is "C" in the calculations).



Procedure

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- Place the sample in a pan for the oven.
  - Remove all particles from the basket
- Dry to a constant weight at  $230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).
- Cool sample for 1-3 hours or when comfortably handle  $122^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $\sim 50^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).
- Determine the dry mass
  - Record to the nearest 1g,
  - use this as "A" in the calculations.

Procedure

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### Calculations

$$\text{Bulk Specific Gravity} = \frac{A}{(B - C)}$$

- Mass of Dry Sample (A) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Mass Surface Dry Sample (B) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Mass of Sample in Water (C) = \_\_\_\_\_

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### Calculations

$$\text{Apparent Specific Gravity} = \frac{A}{(A - C)}$$

- Mass of Dry Sample (A) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Mass Surface Dry Sample (B) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Mass of Sample in Water (C) = \_\_\_\_\_

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### Calculations

$$\text{SSD Specific Gravity} = \frac{B}{(B - C)}$$

- Mass of Dry Sample (A) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Mass Surface Dry Sample (B) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Mass of Sample in Water (C) = \_\_\_\_\_

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### Calculations

$$\text{Absorption Percent} = \frac{(B - A)}{A} \times 100$$

- Mass of Dry Sample (A) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Mass Surface Dry Sample (B) = \_\_\_\_\_
- Mass of Sample in Water (C) = \_\_\_\_\_

Calculations

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### Reporting

- ▲ Report the Specific Gravities
  - ▲ 0.01, for **1005 (Concrete)**
  - ▲ 0.01 for **M80 (Hydraulic Cement Concrete)**
  - ▲ 0.001, for **1002 (Asphalt)**.
- ▲ Report the Absorption to the tenth, **0.1**
- ▲ **Use regular rounding**

Note: If the specific gravity and absorption values were tested in an as received condition, note this in the report.

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- **NOTE:** Where the absorption and specific gravity values are to be used in proportioning concrete mixtures in which the aggregates will be in their **naturally moist condition**, the requirement for initial drying to constant mass may be eliminated, and, if the surfaces of the particles in the sample have been kept continuously wet until test, the required soaking may also be eliminated.

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# AASHTO T 85: Specific Gravity and Absorption Of Coarse Aggregate

## PROFICIENCY CHECKLIST

Revised on: 09/21/2021

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Trial#	1	2
<b>Procedure</b>		
1. Sample obtained by ASHTO R90, and Reduced per AASHTO R76		
2. Screened on No. 4 sieve (4.75mm) or No. 8 (2.36mm) sieve		
3. Sample mass as follows: ½ in. or less – 2 kg; ¾ in. – 3 kg; 1 in. – 4 kg; 1 ½ in. – 5kg		
4. Washed to clean surfaces of particles		
5. Dried to constant mass at 230 ± 9°F (110 ± 5°C) and cooled to room temperature for 1 to 3 hours (for up to 1 ½ in. nominal maximum size, longer for larger sizes) <b>According to AASHTO T255.</b>		
6. Covered with water for 15 to 19 hours		
7. Prepared bath, overflowed the water for level, and adjusted temperature to 73.4 ± 3°F (23.0 ± 1.7°C)		
8. Rolled in cloth to remove visible films of water		
9. Larger particles wiped individually		
10. Evaporation avoided		
11. Weigh the SSD sample and Record all masses determined to the nearest 1g or 0.1% of sample mass.		
12. Sample immediately placed in the wire basket		
13. Entrapped air removed before weighing by shaking the wire basket while immersed.		
14. Mass determined in water at 73.4 ± 3°F (23.0 ± 1.7°C)		
15. Dried to constant mass at 230 ± 9°F (110 ± 5°C) and cooled to room temperature for 1 to 3 hours [or until aggregate has cooled to comfortable handling temperature, approximately <b>122°F (50°C)</b> ]		
16. Weigh the dry sample and record the mass		
17. Calculated the Bulk Specific Gravity and Absorption.		
<b>Report:</b> Specific Gravity for Asphalt (1002) to the nearest: <b>0.001</b> Concrete (1005) and M80 to the nearest: <b>0.01</b> And Absorption to the nearest: <b>0.1%</b>		

PASS      PASS

FAIL      FAIL

Examiner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# MoDOT TM-81

**"Core-Lok"**

**"INFOMATIONAL ONLY"**







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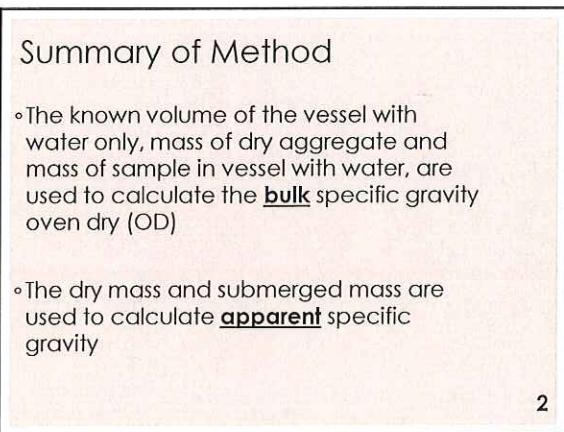
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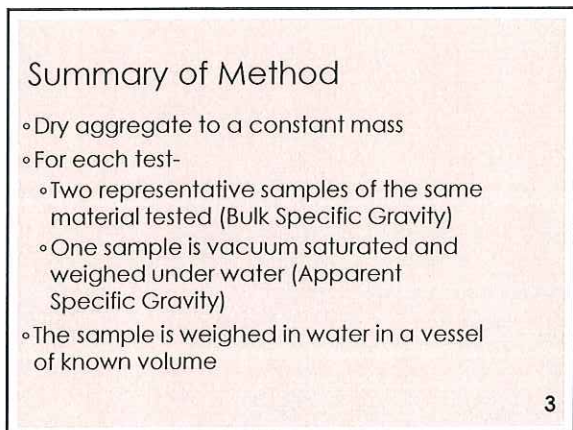
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## Summary of Method

- The results from the two (bulk and apparent) are then used to calculate absorption and bulk specific gravity saturated surface dry (SSD)
- This test can be used for rapid determination of aggregate properties in construction testing laboratories

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## Equipment

- Balance – readable to 0.1%
- Water Bath – 24 x 18 x 18 in. Min., capable of maintaining water temperature of  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ )



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## Equipment

- Sample holder – for displacement
- Vacuum Chamber – for placing aggregate in vacuum and sealing in a bag in one operation



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## Equipment

- A Vacuum Measurement Gauge – independent of the vacuum sealing device, capable of reading down to 3mm Hg  $\pm$  1 mm Hg
- Plastic bags - two sizes are required with minimums specified for dimensions, opening and thickness

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## Equipment

- Pycnometer – two sizes, the smaller equipped with fixture to hold the lid in place during test



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## Equipment

- Accessories – timer, knife or scissors, spray bottle of isopropyl alcohol, bucket, syringe, small paint brush
- Rubber sheets



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### Verification & Calibration

- Verify the vacuum system annually, when relocated or after major repairs
- Calibrate pycnometer daily – calibration is achieved by repeating the procedure until three masses are within
  - 0.5 gram for fine aggregates (small pyc)
  - 1 gram for coarse aggregates (large pyc)

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### Verification & Calibration

- Condition the pycnometer by submerging in water maintained at  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ .



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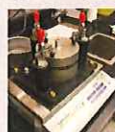
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### Verification & Calibration

- Fill pycnometer with water and weigh in the same manner as you will with a sample.



- Small pycnometer is weighed using the clamping device.



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## Sampling

- Sample in accordance with AASHTO T 2
- For fine aggregate, thoroughly mix sample and reduce it to one sample,  $1000 \pm 10$  grams for the apparent SpGr, and two samples,  $500 \pm 3$  grams for the bulk SpGr.
- Use AASHTO T 248 to reduce material.

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## Sampling

- For Coarse or Combined aggregates, thoroughly mix sample and reduce it to one sample,  $2000 \pm 10$  grams for the apparent SpGr, and two samples,  $1000 \pm 10$  grams for the bulk SpGr.
- Use AASHTO T 248 to reduce material.
- When coarse aggregates of large size are encountered, it may be easier to perform the test using two or more sub-samples.

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## Test Procedure Bulk Specific Gravity

- Dry samples to a constant mass.
- Allow to cool to room temperature.
- Weigh a  $1000 \pm 10$  grams sample and record.



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### Test Procedure Bulk Specific Gravity

- Fill the conditioned pycnometer half full with water at test temperature ( $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ )



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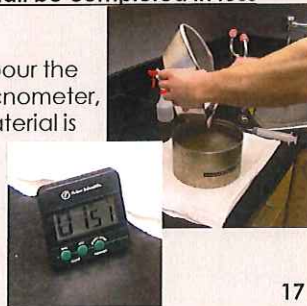
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### Test Procedure Bulk Specific Gravity

**The following steps shall be completed in less than 2 min.**

- Slowly and evenly pour the sample into the pycnometer, ensuring that no material is lost in the process



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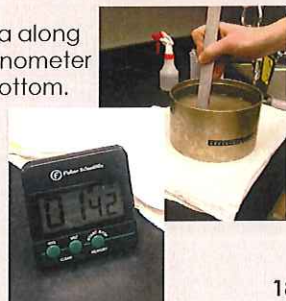
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### Test Procedure Bulk Specific Gravity

- Insert a metal spatula along the inside of the pycnometer until it reaches the bottom.



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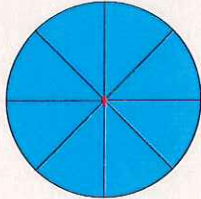
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### Test Procedure

#### Bulk Specific Gravity

- Slowly drag the spatula to the center
- Repeat 7 more times moving 45° along the wall



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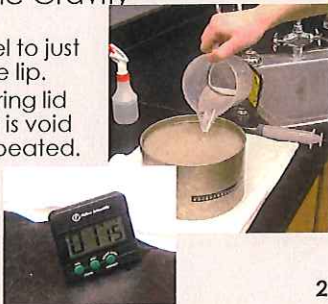
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### Test Procedure

#### Bulk Specific Gravity

- Top off water level to just below (10mm) the lip.
- If water spills during lid placement, test is void and must be repeated.



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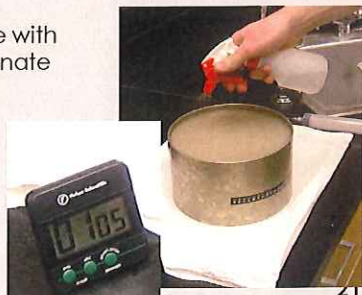
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### Test Procedure

#### Bulk Specific Gravity

- Use spray bottle with alcohol to eliminate bubbles



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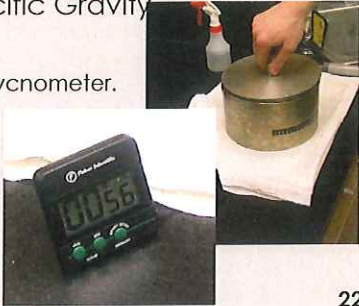
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Test Procedure  
Bulk Specific Gravity

- Place lid on pycnometer.



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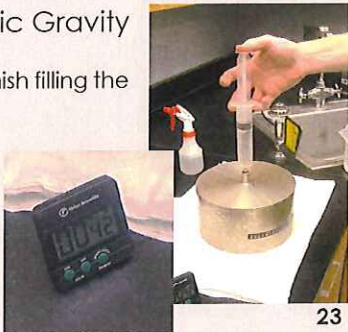
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Test Procedure  
Bulk Specific Gravity

- Use syringe to finish filling the pycnometer



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Test Procedure  
Bulk Specific Gravity

- For fine aggregates, the clamping device must be installed prior to injection



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## Test Procedure Bulk Specific Gravity

- Fill pycnometer until water just comes out of hole on the surface of the lid.



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## Test Procedure Bulk Specific Gravity

- Dry water from around hole on surface
- **"Times up!"**
- Place pycnometer on scale
- Record mass



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## Test Procedure Bulk Specific Gravity

- Repeat procedure for a second sample.
- Record average

Sample Designation	Test Method	Temperature (°C)	Mass of Sample (g)	Mass of Water (g)	Mass of Pycnometer (g)	Mass of Pycnometer + Water (g)	Mass of Pycnometer + Sample (g)	Mass of Pycnometer + Sample + Water (g)	Mass of Pycnometer + Sample + Water + Air (g)
Sample 1	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 2	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 3	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 4	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 5	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 6	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 7	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 8	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 9	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 10	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 11	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 12	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 13	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 14	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 15	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 16	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 17	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 18	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 19	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
Sample 20	1	20	100.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	110.0	110.0	110.0

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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Set vacuum device according to manufactures recommendation



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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Before using, check condition of plastic bags, discard if flaw is discovered
- Weigh both bags and record



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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Weigh rubber sheets
- Record



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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Weigh  $2000 \pm 10$  grams of aggregate
- Record



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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Place sample in small bag
- Use caution to prevent damaging the bag



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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Place large bag into vacuum chamber



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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Place first rubber sheet into large bag
- Push all the way to the back of the large bag



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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Place the small bag containing the sample into the large bag
- Center it on top of the rubber sheet



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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Manually spread the sample inside the small bag
- Lightly spray mist samples that contain high amounts of minus No. 200 material



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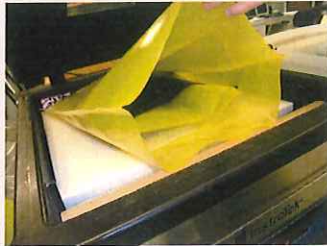
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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Place the second rubber sheet on top of the small bag



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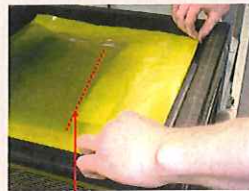
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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Place the open end of the large external bag over the seal bar
- Bag should extend over the bar a minimum of 1/2"



Position of seal bar

Ensure that rubber pads are not over seal bar

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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- With bag assembly in the proper position, close lid of vacuum device
- Machine will begin vacuum cycle & bag seal automatically



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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity



- After vacuum cycle is finished, chamber will open automatically
- Remove sample pack and immediately submerge in water

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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- While keeping completely submerged, cut one corner of the bag 3-4" to allow water into the bag

▲ Note:  
make slit in  
bag large  
enough to  
get your  
hand into  
the bag



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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Open the cut portion with your hand to allow water to flow freely into the bag (25 seconds)
- Allow any small air bubbles to escape



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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- After water is filled in, cut the other corner similar to the first
- Do not completely remove any cut portion as this needs weighed as a complete package

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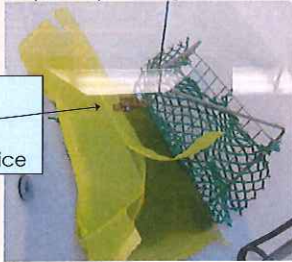
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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Place complete package on weighing device

Clip aids in stability of package on weighing device



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### Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Ensure that no part of the package is touching the bottom or sides of the water bath
- Allow sample to remain in the water bath for a minimum of 20 minutes
- Record mass

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## Test Procedure Apparent Specific Gravity

- Recorded weights

Test Name	Test ID	Test Date	Test Time	Test Location	Test Results	Test Status
ASG	1	10/10/10	10:00	Lab	2.65	Pass
ASG	2	10/10/10	10:05	Lab	2.65	Pass
ASG	3	10/10/10	10:10	Lab	2.65	Pass
ASG	4	10/10/10	10:15	Lab	2.65	Pass
ASG	5	10/10/10	10:20	Lab	2.65	Pass
ASG	6	10/10/10	10:25	Lab	2.65	Pass
ASG	7	10/10/10	10:30	Lab	2.65	Pass
ASG	8	10/10/10	10:35	Lab	2.65	Pass
ASG	9	10/10/10	10:40	Lab	2.65	Pass
ASG	10	10/10/10	10:45	Lab	2.65	Pass

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## Calculations

- Results may be obtained using software developed by the equipment manufacturer. Alternatively, users can develop their own software and correlations for calculation of the results with the equations given in section 10.0 of the test method

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# Aggregate Worksheet

(Fine Aggregate Only) Weight of pycnometer and fixture filled with water.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ Avg. \_\_\_\_\_

(Coarse Aggregates Only) Weight of pycnometer filled with water.

1. 5625.8 2. 5625.2 3. 5625.7 Avg. 5625.56

Sample Number or Label	Trial Number	Aggregate Grade (Coarse or Fine)	A. Dry Sample Weight (g)	B. Sample Weight in Pycnometer Filled with Water (g)	C. Bag Weight (g)	D. Weight of Two (2) Rubber Sheets	E. Dry Sample Weight (g)	F. Weight of Sealed Sample Opened Under Water
	Sample A	Coarse	1000.2	6253.7				
	Sample B	Coarse	1000.2	6253.6				
	Re-test							
	Avg		1000.2	6253.65	77.6	207	2000.7	1289.7
	Sample A							
	Sample B							
	Re-test							
	Avg							
	Sample A							
	Sample B							
	Re-test							
	Avg							
	Sample A							
	Sample B							
	Re-test							
	Avg							
	Sample A							
	Sample B							
	Re-test							
	Avg							
	Sample A							
	Sample B							
	Re-test							
	Avg							























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## Standard Method of Test for

# Specific Gravity and Absorption of Aggregate Using Automatic Vacuum Sealing Method

## AASHTO Format MoDOT TM-81

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### 1. SCOPE

- 1.1 This standard covers the determination of specific gravity and absorption of fine aggregates by Method A and coarse and blended aggregates by Method B.
- 1.2 The values are stated in SI units and are regarded as the standard units.
- 1.3 A multi-laboratory precision and bias statement for coarse and combined aggregate tests in this standard has not been developed at this time. Therefore, this standard should not be used for acceptance or rejection of coarse and combined aggregate materials for purchasing purposes.
- 1.4 *This standard may involve hazardous materials, operations and equipment. This standard does not purport to address all of the safety problems associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to consult and establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

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### 2. REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

- 2.1 *AASHTO Standards:*
- M43, Sizes of Aggregate for Road and Bridge Construction
  - M 29, Wire-Cloth Sieves for Testing Purposes
  - M 132, Terms Relating to Density and Specific Gravity of Solids, Liquids and Gases
  - M 231, Weighing Devices Used in the Testing of Materials
  - T 2, Standard Practice for Sampling of aggregates
  - T 19, Standard Test Method for Bulk Density (Unit Weight) and Voids in Aggregate
  - T 27, Test Method for Sieve Analysis of Fine and Coarse Aggregates
  - T 85, Standard Test method for Specific Gravity and Absorption of Coarse Aggregate
  - T 84, Standard Test Method for Specific Gravity and Absorption of Fine Aggregate
  - T 248, Standard Practice for Reducing Samples of Aggregate to Testing Size
- 2.2 *ASTM Standards:*
- D4753, Standard Specification for Evaluating, Selecting, and Specifying Balances and Scales for Use in Testing Soil, Rock and Related Construction Materials
  - C 670, Standard Practice for Preparing Precision and Bias Statements for Test Methods for Construction Materials



- C 691, Standard Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method
- C29/ C29 M, Standard Test Method for Bulk Density (Unit Weight) and Voids in Aggregate
- C 127, Standard Test method for Density, Relative Density (Specific Gravity), and Absorption of Coarse Aggregate
- C128, Standard Test Method for Density, Relative Density (Specific Gravity), and Absorption of Fine Aggregate
- C 125, Terminology Relating to Concrete and Concrete Aggregates
- C 702, Standard Practice for Reducing Samples of Aggregate to Testing Size
- D 75, Standard Practice for Sampling of Aggregates
- D 136, Test Method for Sieve Analysis of Fine and Coarse Aggregates

2.3

*Other Standards:*

- CoreLok Operational Instructions (InstroTek, Inc.)

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### 3. TERMINOLOGY

3.1

*Definitions:*

3.1.1

*absorption*—the increase in the mass of aggregate due to water in the pores of the material, but not including water adhering to the outside surface of the particles, expressed as a percentage of the dry mass. The aggregate is considered “dry” when it has been maintained at a temperature of  $110 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$  for sufficient time to remove all uncombined water.

3.1.2

*specific gravity*—the ratio of the mass (or weight in air) of a unit volume of a material to the mass of the same volume of water at stated temperatures. Values are dimensionless.

3.1.2.1

*apparent specific gravity*—the ratio of the weight in air of a unit volume of the impermeable portion of aggregate at a stated temperature to the weight in air of an equal volume of gas-free distilled water at a stated temperature.

3.1.2.2

*bulk specific gravity*—the ratio of the weight in air of a unit volume of aggregate (including the permeable and impermeable voids in the particles, but not including the voids between particles) at a stated temperature to the weight in air of an equal volume of gas-free distilled water at a stated temperature.

3.1.2.3

*bulk specific gravity (SSD)*—the ratio of the mass in air of a unit volume of aggregate, including the mass of water within the voids filled to the extent achieved by vacuum saturating (but not including the voids between particles) at a stated temperature, compared to the weight in air of an equal volume of gas-free distilled water at a stated temperature.

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### 4. SUMMARY OF METHOD

4.1

Sufficient aggregate sample is dried to constant mass. For each test, two representative dry aggregate samples of the same material are selected for testing. One sample is evacuated in a vacuum chamber inside a plastic bag and opened under water for rapid saturation of the aggregate. The dry mass and submerged mass of the sample is used for calculation of apparent specific gravity. The second sample of the same aggregate is tested in a known volume metal pycnometer. The known mass of the pycnometer with water, mass of the dry aggregate, and mass of the







aggregate and pycnometer filled with water is used for calculation of bulk specific gravity oven dry (OD.) The results from the two samples tested are then used to calculate absorption, and bulk specific gravity saturated-surface-dry (SSD.)

- 4.2 This test can be completed in less than 30 minutes and can be used for rapid determination of aggregate properties in construction testing laboratories.
- 4.3 This test can be performed on fine, coarse and blended (combined) aggregates by using appropriate plastic bag and pycnometer sizes.

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## 5. SIGNIFICANCE AND USE

- 5.1 Bulk specific gravity is the characteristic generally used for calculation of the volume occupied by the aggregate in various mixtures containing aggregate, including Portland cement concrete, hot mix asphalt, and other mixtures that are proportioned or analyzed on an absolute volume basis. Bulk specific gravity is also used in the computation of voids in aggregate in test T 19. Bulk specific gravity SSD is used if the aggregate is wet, that is, if its absorption has been satisfied. Conversely, the bulk specific gravity OD is used for computations when the aggregate is dry or assumed to be dry.
- 5.2 Apparent specific gravity pertains to the solid material making up the constituent particles not including the pore space within the particles which is accessible to water.
- 5.3 Absorption values are used to calculate the change in the mass of an aggregate due to water absorbed in the pore spaces within the constituent particles, compared to the dry condition, when it is deemed that the aggregate has been in contact with water long enough to satisfy most of the absorption potential. The laboratory standard for absorption is that obtained after submerging dry aggregate for a prescribed period of time.

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## 6. APPARATUS

- 6.1 *Balance*—A balance that conforms to M 231. The balance shall be sensitive, readable and accurate to 0.1% of the test sample mass. The balance shall be equipped with suitable apparatus for suspending the sample in water.
- 6.2 *Water Bath*—A container with minimum dimensions (Length × Width × Depth) of 610 × 460 × 460 mm (24 × 18 × 18 in.) or a large cylindrical container with a minimum diameter of 460 mm and depth of 460 mm (18 × 18 in), for completely submerging the sample in water while suspended, equipped with an overflow outlet for maintaining a constant water level. Temperature controls may be used to maintain the water temperature at  $25 \pm 1^\circ \text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ \text{F}$ ).  
**Note 1**—It is preferable to keep the water temperature constant by using a temperature controlled heater. Also, to reduce the chance for the bag to touch the sides of the water tank, it is preferable to elevate the water tank to a level at which the sample can be placed on the weighing mechanism while the operator is standing up (waist height), and the placement of the sample and the bag in the water tank can easily be inspected.
- 6.3 Sample *holder* for water displacement of the sample, having no sharp edges.
- 6.4 *Vacuum Chamber*—with a pump capable of evacuating a sealed and enclosed chamber to a pressure of 6 mm Hg, when at sea level. The device shall automatically seal the plastic bag and



exhaust air back into the chamber in a controlled manner to ensure proper conformance of the plastic to the specimen. The air exhaust and vacuum operation time shall be set at the factory so that the chamber is brought to atmospheric pressure in 80 to 125 seconds, after the completion of the vacuum operations.

- 6.5 *A Vacuum Measurement Gauge*, independent of the vacuum sealing device, that could be placed directly inside the chamber to verify vacuum performance and the chamber door sealing condition of the unit. The gauge shall be capable of reading down to 3 mm Hg and readable to  $\pm 1$  mm Hg.
- 6.6 *Plastic Bags*, used with the vacuum device, shall be one of the two following sizes: The smaller bags shall have a minimum opening of 235 mm (9.25 in.) and maximum opening of 260 mm (10.25 in.) and the larger bags shall have a minimum opening of 375 mm (14.75 in.) and a maximum opening of 394 mm (15.5 in.). The bags shall be of plastic material, shall be puncture resistant, and shall be impermeable to water. The bags shall have a minimum thickness of 0.127mm (0.005 in.). The manufacturer shall provide the apparent specific gravity for the bags.
- 6.7 Small metal pycnometer with  $137 \pm 0.13$  mm ( $5.375 \pm 0.005$  in.) inside diameter (ID) and  $89 \pm 0.41$  mm ( $3.5 \pm 0.016$  in.) height, for testing fine aggregates. The pycnometer shall be machined to be smooth on all surfaces. The inside of the lid shall be machined at a  $5^\circ$  angle to create an inverted conical surface. The pycnometer shall be equipped with a temperature strip to allow the user to monitor temperature during testing.
- 6.8 Large metal pycnometer with  $198 \pm 0.13$  mm ( $7.776 \pm 0.005$  in.) ID and  $114 \pm 0.8$  mm ( $4.5 \pm 0.03$  in.) height, for testing coarse and blended aggregate. The pycnometer shall be machined to be smooth on all surfaces. The inside of the lid shall be machined at a  $5^\circ$  angle to create an inverted conical surface. The pycnometer shall be equipped with a temperature strip to allow the user to monitor temperature during testing.
- 6.9 Fine aggregate fixture to hold and secure the lid on the small metal pycnometer from lifting during fine aggregate tests. The fixture shall be provided with a level indicator.
- 6.10 *Accessories*— A bag cutting knife or scissors, spray bottle filled with isopropyl alcohol, a bucket large enough to allow the pycnometer to be fully submerged in water, water containers to dispense water into pycnometer during testing, syringe with a needle no larger in diameter than 3 mm (0.125 in.), small paint brush and 25 mm (1 in.) wide aluminum spatula.
- 6.11 Rubber sheets, for protecting the plastic bags against punctures caused by sharp edges on coarse and blended aggregate samples. The manufacturer shall provide the apparent specific gravity for the rubber sheets.

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## 7. VERIFICATION

- 7.1 *System Verification:*
- 7.1.1 The vacuum settings of the vacuum chamber shall be verified once every 12 months and after major repairs and after each shipment or relocation.
- 7.1.2 Place the gauge inside the vacuum chamber and record the setting, while the vacuum unit is operating. The gauge should indicate a pressure of 6 mm Hg (6 TORR) or less. The unit shall not be used if the gauge reading is above 6 mm Hg (6 TORR).



- 7.1.3 Vacuum gauge used for verification shall be verified for accuracy once every three years.

**Note 2**— In line vacuum gauges, while capable of indicating vacuum performance of the pump, are not suitable for use in enclosed vacuum chambers and cannot accurately measure vacuum levels.

7.2 *Calibration of the Small Pycnometer:*

- 7.2.1 Prior to testing, condition the pycnometer to  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ) by placing it inside a bucket of water that is maintained at  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ). Place the fine aggregate fixture on a level surface. Use a level indicator or the provided level to level the fixture.
- 7.2.2 Remove the pycnometer from the water bucket and dry it with a towel. Place the pycnometer in the fixture and push it back until it makes contact with the stops.
- 7.2.3 Fill the pycnometer with  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ) water to approximately 10 mm (0.375 in.) from the top. Using the alcohol spray bottle, spray the surface of the water to remove bubbles.
- 7.2.4 Gently place the lid on the pycnometer and close the clamps on the fixture.
- 7.2.5 Using a syringe filled with  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ) water, slowly fill the pycnometer through the large fill hole on the lid post. Make sure the syringe tip is far enough in the pycnometer to be below the water level. Gentle application in this step prevents formation of air bubbles inside the pycnometer.
- 7.2.6 Fill the pycnometer until water comes out the 3 mm (1/8-in.) hole on the surface of the lid.
- 7.2.7 Wipe any remaining water from the top of the lid with a towel.
- 7.2.8 Place the entire fixture with the pycnometer on the scale and record the mass. Record the mass in the top portion of the Aggregate Worksheet. (See Appendix X.1)
- 7.2.9 Clean the pycnometer and repeat steps 7.2.1 to 7.2.8 two more times and average the calibration masses obtained in 7.2.8.
- 7.2.10 If the range for the 3 calibration masses is larger than 0.5 grams, then the test is not being run correctly. Check to see if the fixture is level. Make certain the water injection with the syringe is done below the pycnometer water surface and is applied gently. Check the water temperature. Check the pycnometer temperature. Repeat the above procedure until you have three masses that are within  $\pm 0.5$  gram.
- 7.2.11 Re-calibrate the pycnometer daily.

7.3 *Calibration of the Large Pycnometer:*

- 7.3.1 Prior to testing, condition the pycnometer to  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ) by placing it inside a bucket of water that is maintained at  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ).



- 7.3.2 Remove the pycnometer from the water bucket and dry it with a towel. Set the pycnometer on a level surface.
- 7.3.3 Fill the pycnometer with  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ) water to approximately 10 mm (0.375 in.) from the top. Using the alcohol spray bottle, spray the surface of the water to remove any air bubbles.
- 7.3.4 Gently place the lid on the pycnometer. Using a syringe filled with  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ) water, slowly fill the pycnometer through the large fill hole on the lid post. Make sure the syringe tip is far enough in the pycnometer to be below the water level. Gentle application in this step prevents formation of air bubbles inside the pycnometer. Fill the pycnometer until water comes out the 3 mm (1/8-in.) hole on the surface of the lid.
- 7.3.5 Wipe any remaining water from the top of the lid and sides with a towel. Place the pycnometer on the scale and record the mass. Record the mass in the top portion of the Aggregate Worksheet.
- 7.3.6 Clean the pycnometer and repeat steps 7.3.2 to 7.3.5 two more times and average the calibration masses obtained in 7.3.5.
- 7.3.7 If the range for the 3 calibration masses is larger than 1 gram, then the test is not being run correctly. Check to see if the fixture is level. Make certain the water injection with the syringe is done below the pycnometer water surface and is applied gently. Check the water temperature. Check the pycnometer temperature. Repeat the above procedure until you have three masses that are within 1 gram range.
- 7.3.8 Re-calibrate the pycnometer daily.

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## 8. SAMPLING

- 8.1 *Fine aggregate samples (Method A):*
- 8.1.1 Sampling shall be done in accordance with T 2. For fine aggregate testing thoroughly mix the sample and reduce it to obtain one  $1000 \pm 10$  gram sample for apparent specific gravity and two  $500 \pm 3$  gram samples for bulk specific gravity determination. For aggregate reduction use the appropriate procedures described in T 248.
- 8.2 *Coarse aggregate samples (Method B):*
- 8.2.1 Sample the aggregate in accordance with T 2.
- 8.2.2 Dry the aggregate to constant mass and thoroughly mix the sample of aggregate and reduce it to one  $2000 \pm 10$  gram sample for determination of apparent specific gravity and two  $1000 \pm 10$  gram samples for determination of bulk specific gravity. For reduction of the aggregate samples, use the appropriate procedures in T 248.
- 8.2.3 If the sample is tested in two or more size fractions, determine the grading of the sample in accordance with test T 27, including the sieves used for separating the size fractions for the determinations in this method.





**Note 3**— When testing coarse aggregate of large nominal maximum size requiring large test samples, it may be more convenient to perform the test on two or more sub samples, and the values obtained combined for the computations.

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## 9. PROCEDURES

### 9.1 *Method A, Fine Aggregate Test:*

9.1.1 Make certain water temperature used for this test remains at  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ).

9.1.2 Prior to testing, condition the pycnometer to  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ) by placing it inside a bucket of water that is maintained at  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ).

### 9.1.3 *Determine Bulk Specific Gravity:*

9.1.3.1 Make certain the samples are dried to constant mass.

9.1.3.2 For a single test select and separate two  $500 \pm 3$  gram samples (samples A and B) for the test in the pycnometer and one  $1000 \pm 10$  gram sample for vacuum saturation test.

9.1.3.3 Allow the sample to cool to room temperature.

9.1.3.4 Place the empty pycnometer in the fixture and push it back until it makes contact with the stops.

9.1.3.5 Weigh a  $500 \pm 3$  gram dry sample that is at  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ) and record in column A of the worksheet.

9.1.3.6 Steps 9.1.3.8 to 9.1.3.15 shall be completed in less than 2 minutes.

9.1.3.7 Place approximately 500 ml (halfway full) of  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ) water in the pycnometer.

9.1.3.8 Slowly and evenly pour the sample into the pycnometer. Make certain aggregate is not lost in the process of filling the pycnometer. Use a brush if necessary to sweep any remaining fines into the pycnometer. If any aggregate is lost during the process of filling the pycnometer, start the test over.

9.1.3.9 Use a metal spatula and push it to the bottom of the pycnometer against the inside circumference. Slowly and gently drag the spatula to the center of the pycnometer, removing the spatula after reaching the center. Repeat this procedure 7 more times so that the entire circumference is covered in 8 equal angles, i.e. every 45 degrees until the starting point is reached. If necessary, use a squeeze water bottle to rinse any sample residue off the spatula into the pycnometer.

9.1.3.10 Fill the pycnometer with  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ) water to approximately 10 mm (0.375 in.) of the pycnometer rim. It is important that the water level is kept at or below the 10 mm line to avoid spills during lid placement.

9.1.3.11 Use the spray bottle filled with isopropyl alcohol and spray the top of the water to remove air bubbles.

- 9.1.3.12 Gently place the lid on the pycnometer and lock the clamps. Using the syringe, slowly fill the pycnometer through the center hole on top of the lid post. Make sure the syringe tip is far enough in the pycnometer to be below the water level. Gentle application in this step will prevent formation of air bubbles inside the pycnometer.
- 9.1.3.13 Fill the pycnometer until water just comes out the 3 mm (1/8-in.) hole on the surface of the lid.
- 9.1.3.14 Wipe any remaining water from around the 3 mm (1/8-in.) hole with a towel.
- 9.1.3.15 Weigh the sample, pycnometer and the fixture. Record this mass in column B of the worksheet.
- 9.1.3.16 Repeat steps 9.1.3.6 to 9.1.4.15 for the second  $500 \pm 3$  gram sample, Sample B.
- 9.1.3.17 Average the mass in each column of the worksheet for sample A and sample B.
- 9.1.3.18 Record the average weight of the pycnometer from section 7.2.9 in column C.
- 9.1.4 *Determine Apparent Specific Gravity:*
- 9.1.4.1 Set the vacuum device according to manufacturer's recommendation.
- 9.1.4.2 Use a small plastic bag and inspect the bag to make sure there are no holes, stress points or side seal discontinuities in the bag. If any of the above conditions are noticed, use another bag.
- 9.1.4.3 Weigh the bag and record in column D of the worksheet.
- Note 4**—Always handle the bag with care to avoid creating weak points and punctures.
- 9.1.4.4 Weigh  $1000 \pm 10$  grams of oven dry aggregate and record the mass in column F.
- 9.1.4.5 Place the sample in the bag. Support the bottom of the bag on a smooth tabletop when pouring the aggregate to protect against punctures and impact points.
- 9.1.4.6 Place the bag containing the sample inside the vacuum chamber.
- 9.1.4.7 Grab the two sides of the bag and spread the sample flat by gently shaking the bag side to side. Do not press down or spread the sample from outside the bag. Pressing down on the sample from outside the bag will cause the bag to puncture and will negatively impact the results. Lightly spray mist aggregates with high minus 75- $\mu\text{m}$  (No. 200) sieve material to hold down dust prior to sealing.
- 9.1.4.8 Place the open end of the bag over the seal bar and close the chamber door. The unit will draw a vacuum and seal the bag, before the chamber door opens.
- 9.1.4.9 Gently remove the sample from the chamber and immediately submerge the sample in a large water tank equipped with a balance for water displacement analysis. It is extremely important that the bag be removed from the vacuum chamber and immediately placed in the water bath. Leaving the bag in the vacuum chamber or on a bench top after sealing can cause air to slowly enter the bag and can result in low apparent specific gravity results.



- 9.1.4.10 Cut one corner of the bag, approximately 25 to 50 mm (1 to 2 in.) from the side while the top of the bag is at least 2-inch below the surface of the water. Make sure the bag is completely submerged before cutting. Introducing air into the bag will produce inaccurate results.
- 9.1.4.11 Open the cut portion of the bag and hold open for 45 seconds. Allow the water to freely flow into the bag. Allow any small residual air bubbles to escape. Do not shake or squeeze the sample, as these actions will cause the fines to escape from the bag.
- 9.1.4.12 After water has filled in, cut the other corner of the bag approximately 25 to 50 mm (1 to 2 in.). Squeeze any residual air bubbles on top portion of the bag through the cut corners by running your fingers across the top of the bag. Do not completely remove corners from bag nor allow any portion of the bag to reach the surface of the water.
- 9.1.4.13 Place the bag containing the aggregate on the weighing basket in the water to obtain the under water mass. The bag may be folded before placing it on the basket. However, once on the basket under water, unfold the bag and allow water to freely flow into the bag. Keep the sample and bag under water at all times. Make certain the bag or the sample are not touching the bottom, the sides, or floating out of the water tank. If the bag contacts the tank it will negatively impact the results of this test.
- 9.1.4.14 Allow the sample to stay in the water bath for a minimum of fifteen (15) minutes.
- 9.1.4.15 Record the submerged mass in column G of the worksheet.
- 9.1.4.16 Results may be obtained using software developed by the equipment manufacturer. Alternatively, users can develop their own software and correlations for calculation of the results with equations given in section 10.0.
- 9.2 *Method B, Coarse and Combined Aggregate Test:*
- 9.2.1 Make certain water temperature used for this test remains at  $25 \pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{F}$ )
- 9.2.2 Prior to testing, condition the pycnometer to  $25 \pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) by placing it inside a bucket of water that is maintained at  $25 \pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{F}$ ).
- 9.2.3 *Determine Bulk Specific Gravity:*
- 9.2.3.1 Make certain the samples are dried to constant mass.
- 9.2.3.2 Allow the sample to cool to room temperature.
- 9.2.3.3 For a single test select and separate two  $1000 \pm 10$  gram samples (samples A and B) for the test in the pycnometer and one  $2000 \pm 10$  gram sample for vacuum saturation test.
- 9.2.3.4 Make certain the pycnometer is set on a level surface.
- 9.2.3.5 Weigh a  $1000 \pm 10$  gram dry sample (sample A) that is at  $25 \pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) and record in column A of the worksheet.







- 9.2.3.6 Steps 9.2.3.8 to 9.2.3.15 shall be completed in less than 2 minutes.
- 9.2.3.7 Place approximately 1000 ml (halfway full) of  $25 \pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) water in the pycnometer.
- 9.2.3.8 Slowly and evenly pour the sample into the pycnometer. Make certain aggregate is not lost in the process of filling the pycnometer. Use appropriate pouring techniques to help in transferring the aggregate into the pycnometer. If any aggregate is lost during the process of filling the pycnometer, start the test over.
- 9.2.3.9 Use a metal spatula and push it to the bottom of the pycnometer against the inside circumference. Slowly and gently drag the spatula to the center of the pycnometer, removing the spatula after reaching the center. Repeat this procedure 7 more times so that the entire circumference is covered in 8 equal angles, i.e. every 45 degrees until the starting point is reached. If necessary, use a squeeze water bottle to rinse any sample residue off the spatula into the pycnometer.
- 9.2.3.10 Fill the pycnometer with  $25 \pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $77 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) water to approximately 10 mm (0.375 in.) of the pycnometer rim. It is important that the water level is kept at or below the 10 mm line in order to avoid spills during lid placement
- 9.2.3.11 Use the spray bottle filled with isopropyl alcohol and spray the top of the water to remove air bubbles.
- 9.2.3.12 Gently place the lid on the pycnometer. Using the syringe, slowly fill the pycnometer through the center hole on top of the lid post. Make sure the syringe tip is far enough in the pycnometer to be below the water level. Gentle application in this step will prevent formation of air bubbles inside the pycnometer.
- 9.2.3.13 Fill the pycnometer until you see water coming out the 3 mm (1/8-in.) hole on the surface of the lid.
- 9.2.3.14 Wipe any remaining water from around the 3 mm (1/8-in.) hole with a towel.
- 9.2.3.15 Weigh the pycnometer and the fixture. Record this mass in column B of the worksheet.
- 9.2.3.16 Repeat steps 9.2.3.6 to 9.2.3.15 for the second  $1000 \pm 10$  gram sample, Sample B.
- 9.2.3.17 Average the mass in each column of the worksheet, for Sample A and Sample B.
- 9.2.3.18 Record the average weight of the pycnometer from section 7.3.6 in column C.
- 9.2.4 *Determine Apparent Specific Gravity:*
- 9.2.4.1 Set the vacuum device according to manufacturers recommendation.
- 9.2.4.2 Use one small and one large plastic bag. Inspect both bags to make sure there are no holes, stress points or side seal discontinuities in the bag. If any of the above conditions are noticed, use another bag.
- 9.2.4.3 Weigh both bags and record the mass in column D of the worksheet.



**Note 5**—Always handle the bag with care to avoid creating weak points and punctures.

- 9.2.4.4 Weigh the two rubber sheets and record the mass in column E.
- 9.2.4.5 Weigh  $2000 \pm 10$  grams of aggregate and record the mass in column F.
- 9.2.4.6 Place the sample in the small bag. When filling, support the bottom of the bag on a smooth tabletop to protect against puncture and impact points.
- 9.2.4.7 Place the large bag into the vacuum chamber, then place one of the rubber sheets inside the large bag. The rubber sheet should be flat, centered, and pushed all the way to the back of the large bag.
- 9.2.4.8 Place the small bag containing the sample into the large bag centered on top of the rubber sheet. Manually spread the sample inside the small bag. Be sure the area taken up by the sample inside the small bag remains completely contained within the area of the rubber sheets. Lightly spray mist aggregates with high minus 75- $\mu\text{m}$  (No. 200) sieve material to hold down dust prior to sealing.
- 9.2.4.9 Place the other rubber sheet on top of the small bag, inside the large bag. The small bag should be between the two rubber sheets.
- 9.2.4.10 Place the open end of the large external bag over the seal bar and close the chamber door. Make certain the rubber sheets are not over the seal bar.
- 9.2.4.11 After the chamber door opens, gently remove the sample from the chamber. Immediately place the sample in the water, for water displacement analysis.
- 9.2.4.12 Cut one corner of the bag, approximately 70 to 100 mm (3 to 4 in.) from the side. Make sure the bag is completely submerged before cutting. Introducing air into the bag will produce inaccurate results.
- 9.2.4.13 Open the cut portion of the large bag and the small bag with your fingers and hold open for 25 seconds. Allow water to freely flow into the bags. Allow any small residual air bubbles to escape from the bags.
- 9.2.4.14 After water has filled in, cut the other corner of the bag approximately 70 to 100 mm (3 to 4 in.). Squeeze any residual air bubbles out of the cut corners by running your fingers across the top of the bag. Do not completely remove corners from bag nor allow any portion of the bag to reach the surface of the water.
- 9.2.4.15 Place the bags containing the rubber sheets and the aggregate on the provided weighing basket under water. You may fold the bag to place it on the basket. However, once on the basket under water, unfold the bag and allow water to freely flow into the bag.
- 9.2.4.16 Make certain the bag or the sample are not touching the bottom, the sides, or floating out of the water tank. If the bag contacts the tank during mass measurement, it will negatively impact the results of this test. Allow the sample to stay in the water bath for a minimum of twenty (20) minutes.



- 9.2.4.17 Record the submerged mass in column G of the worksheet.
- 9.2.4.18 Results may be obtained using software developed by the equipment manufacturer. Alternatively, users can develop their own software and correlations for calculation of the results with equations given in section 10.0.

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## 10. CALCULATIONS

### 10.1 *Initial Specific Gravity:*

- 10.1.1 *Initial Bulk Specific Gravity*—Calculate the bulk specific gravity, 25°C (77°F) as follows:

$$\text{Cor } G_{sb} = \frac{A}{C - (B - A)} \quad (1)$$

where:

- $A$  = Mass of oven-dry sample 1 in air, g  
 $B$  = Mass of pycnometer and oven-dry sample in water, g  
 $C$  = Mass of plastic bag(s), g  
 $D$  = Mass of 2 rubber sheets, g  
 $E$  = Mass of oven-dry sample 2 in air, g  
 $F$  = Mass of saturated sample 2 in water, g  
 $\rho_{bag}$  = Density of plastic bag(s)  
 $\rho_{rbr}$  = Density of rubber sheets

- 10.1.2 *Initial Apparent Specific Gravity*—Calculate the bulk specific gravity, 25°C (77°F) as follows:

$$\text{Cor } G_{sa} = \frac{F}{(D + E + F - G) - (D / \rho_{bag} - E / \rho_{rbr})} \quad (2)$$

- 10.1.3 *Initial Absorption*—Calculate the absorption, percent, as follows:

$$\text{Cor Abs} = \frac{\text{Cor } G_{sa} - \text{Cor } G_{sb}}{\text{Cor } G_{sa} \times \text{Cor } G_{sb}} \times 100 \quad (3)$$

- 10.1.4 *Initial Bulk Specific Gravity (Saturated-Surface-Dry)*—Calculate the bulk specific gravity, 25°C (77°F) on the basis of saturated-surface-dry aggregate as follows:

$$\text{Cor } G_{sb}(\text{SSD}) = (1 + \text{Cor Abs} / 100) \times \text{Cor } G_{sb} \quad (4)$$

- 10.2 Predicted properties account for the effects of absorption during the measurement of the dry aggregate volume by correlating the results to those obtained by T 85 using absorption. When an aggregate does not contain a coarse fraction, e.g. natural sand, T 84 absorption may be used. The result of equations 1 and 2 are used to calculate the following:

**Note 6**—Development of regression equations for correlation of properties may be found in Missouri Department of Transportation Report OR06.016. These equations may be substituted for correlation to local aggregates.





10.2.1 *Predicted Bulk Specific Gravity—*

$$G_{sb} = 0.342355 + 0.8751137CorG_{sb} - 0.051843Abs_{T85} \quad (5)$$

where:

$Abs_{T85}$  = Absorption from T 85

10.2.2 *Predicted Apparent Specific Gravity—*

$$G_{sa} = 0.24680896 + 0.90993947CorG_{sa} - 0.02031058Abs_{T85} \quad (6)$$

10.2.3 *Predicted Absorption—*

$$Abs = \frac{G_{sa} - G_{sb}}{G_{sa} \times G_{sb}} \times 100 \quad (7)$$

10.2.4 *Predicted Bulk Specific Gravity (Saturated-Surface-Dry)—*

$$G_{sb} (SSD) = (1 + Abs / 100) \times G_{sb} \quad (8)$$

10.3 *Average Specific Gravity Values—*When the sample is tested in separate size fractions, the average value for bulk specific gravity, bulk specific gravity (SSD), or apparent specific gravity can be computed as the weighted average of the values as computed in accordance with Section 9.1 using the following equation:

$$G = \frac{1}{\frac{P_1}{100 G_1} + \frac{P_2}{100 G_2} + \dots + \frac{P_n}{100 G_n}} \quad (9)$$

where:

$G$  = average specific gravity (All forms of expression of specific gravity can be averaged in this manner.);

$G_1, G_2 \dots G_n$  = appropriate specific gravity values for each size fraction depending on the type of specific gravity being averaged; and

$P_1, P_2 \dots P_n$  = mass percentages of each size fraction present in the original sample.

**Note 7—**Some users of this method may wish to express the results in terms of density. Density may be determined by multiplying the bulk specific gravity, bulk specific gravity (SSD), or apparent specific gravity by the density of water (997.5 kg/m<sup>3</sup> or 0.9975 Mg/m<sup>3</sup> or 62.27 lb/ft<sup>3</sup> at 23°C). Some authorities recommend using the density of water at 4°C (1000 kg/m<sup>3</sup> or 1.000 Mg/m<sup>3</sup> or 62.43 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>) as being sufficiently accurate. Results should be expressed to three significant figures. The density terminology corresponding to bulk specific gravity, bulk specific gravity (SSD), and apparent specific gravity has not been standardized.

10.4 *Average Absorption—*Calculate the percentage of absorption, as follows:

$$Absorption, percent = [(B - A) / A] \times 100 \quad (10)$$

- 10.5 *Average Absorption Value*—When the sample is tested in separate size fractions, the average absorption value is the average of the values as computed in Section 9.3, weighted in proportion to the mass percentages of the size fractions in the original sample as follows:

$$A = (P_1 A_1 / 100) + (P_2 A_2 / 100) + \cdots (P_n A_n / 100) \quad (11)$$

where:

- $A$  = average absorption, percent;  
 $A_1, A_2 \dots A_n$  = absorption percentages for each size fraction; and  
 $P_1, P_2 \dots P_n$  = mass percentages of each size fraction present in the original sample.

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## 11. REPORT

- 11.1 Report predicted specific gravity results to the nearest 0.001, and indicate the type of specific gravity, whether bulk, bulk (SSD), or apparent.
- 11.2 Report the predicted absorption result to the nearest 0.1 percent.



## X1. WORKSHEET

(Fine Aggregate Only) Mass of pycnometer and fixture filled with water.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ Avg. \_\_\_\_\_

(Coarse Aggregates Only) Mass of pycnometer filled with water.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ Avg. \_\_\_\_\_

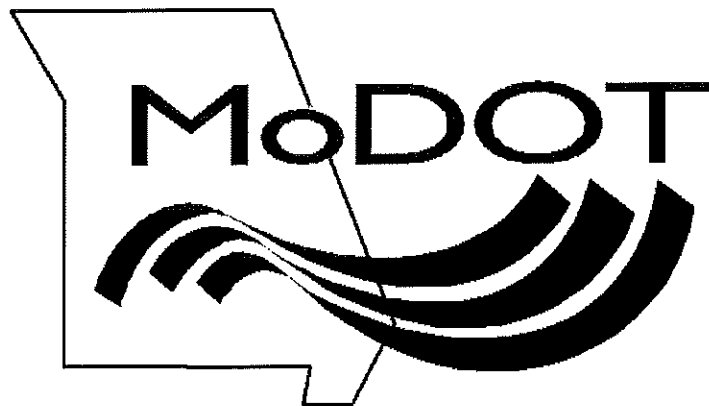
Sample Number or Label	Trial Number	Aggregate Grade (Coarse or Fine)	A Dry Sample Mass (g)	B Sample Mass in Pycnometer Filled with Water (g)	C Mass of Pycnometer Filled with Water-Avg. (g)	D Bag Mass (g)	E Mass of Two (2) Rubber Sheets (g)	F Dry Sample Mass (g)	G Mass of Sealed Sample Opened Under Water
	Sample A								
	Sample B								
	Re-test								
	Avg								
	Sample A								
	Sample B								
	Re-test								
	Avg								
	Sample A								
	Sample B								
	Re-test								
	Avg								
	Sample A								
	Sample B								
	Re-test								
	Avg								





# **Appendix**

## **Aggregate Technician**







## FLAT AND ELONGATED PARTICLES (ASTM D4791)

### 8.3 Method A

Test each of the particles in each size fraction, and place in one of four groups:

- (1) Flat particles,
- (2) Elongated particles,
- (3) Particles that meet the criteria of both groups 1 and 2,
- (4) Neither flat nor elongated particles that do not meet the criteria of either group 1 or group 2.

Each particle shall be subjected to the Flat Particle Test and Elongated Particle Test. If the particle is determined to be flat but not elongated, the particle is placed in the “flat” group. If it is determined that the particle is not flat, but is elongated, the particle is placed in the “elongated” group. In some cases it may be possible for a particle to meet the criteria of both a flat particle and an elongated particle. In this case the particle is placed in the “particles that meet the criteria of both groups 1 and 2. If the particle is not flat and is not elongated, it is placed in the “particles that do not meet the criteria of either group 1 or group 2.

8.3.1 Use the proportional caliper device, positioned at the proper ratio see Figure 4 below:

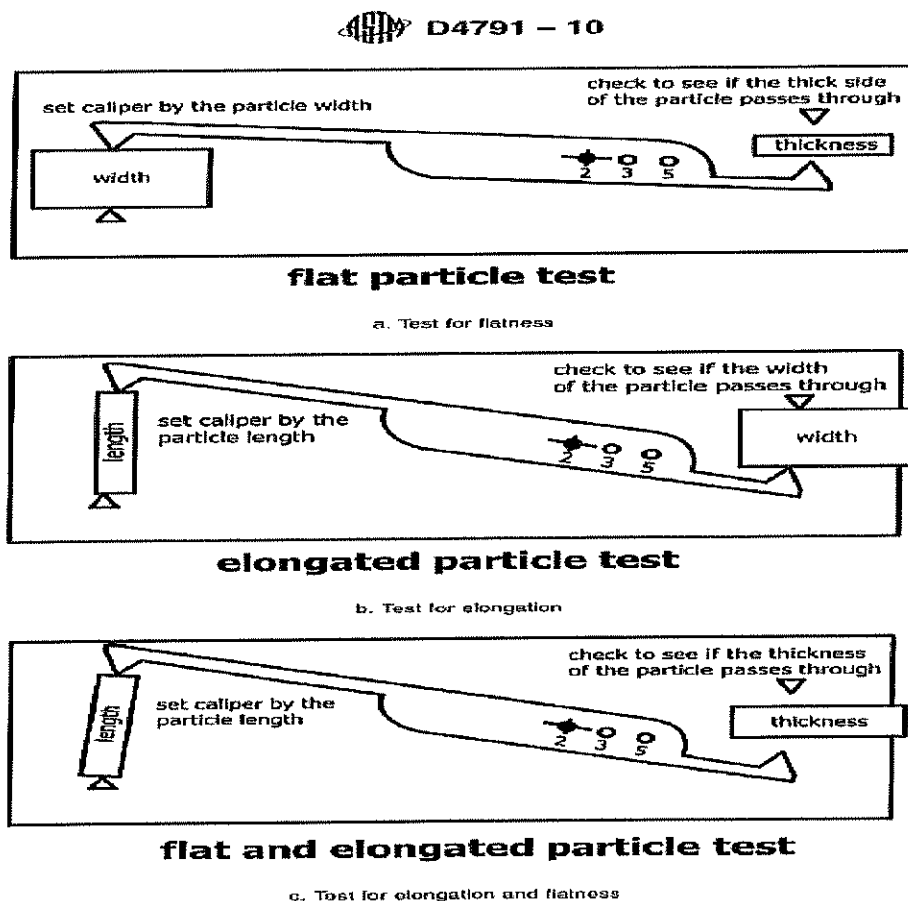


FIG. 4 Use of Proportional Caliper

8.3.1.1 Flat Particle Test – Set the larger opening equal to the maximum particle width. The particle is flat if the maximum thickness can be placed through the smaller opening.

8.3.1.2 Elongated Particle Test – Set the larger opening equal to the maximum particle length. The particle is elongated if the maximum width can be placed through the smaller opening.

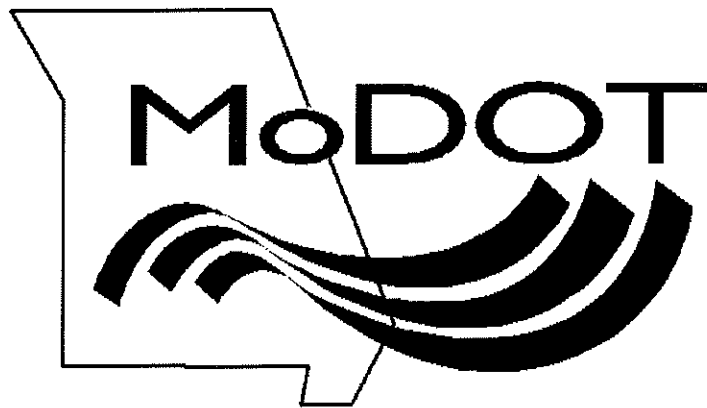
8.3.2 After each of the particles have been classified into one of the groups described in 8.3, determine the proportion of the sample in each group by either count or by mas, as required.

**The following have been used on materials that do not readily slump:**

- 1. Provisional Cone Test** - Fill the cone mold as described in the presentation for T84, except only use 10 drops of the tamper. Add more fine aggregate and use 10 drops of the tamper again. Then add material two more times using three and two drops of the tamper, respectively. Level off the material even with the top of the mold, remove loose material from the base, and lift the mold vertically.
- 2. Provisional Surface Test** – If airborne fines are noted when the fine aggregate is such that it will not slump when it is at a moisture condition, add more moisture to the sand, and at the onset of the surface-dry condition, with the hand lightly pat approximately 100g of the material on a flat, dry, clean, dark, or dull nonabsorbent surface such as a sheet of rubber, a worn oxidized, galvanized, or steel surface, or a black-painted metal surface. After 1 to 3 seconds, remove the fine aggregate. If noticeable moisture shows on the test surface for more than 1 to 2 seconds, then surface moisture is considered to be present on the fine aggregate.
- 3. Colorimetric** procedures described by Kandhal and Lee, Highway Research Record No. 307, page 44.
- 4.** For reaching the SSD condition on a **single-size material** that slumps when wet, hard-finish paper towels can be used to surface-dry the material until the point is just reached where the paper towel does not appear to be picking up moisture from the surfaces of the fine aggregate particles.



# Glossary







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## **Aggregate Glossary of Terms**

**Absorption** – The increase in mass (weight) due to water contained in the pores of the material.

**Air Dry Aggregate** – Aggregate that is dry at the particle surface but containing some internal moisture.

**Coarse Aggregate** – Aggregate which is predominately larger than the #4 (4.75mm) sieve.

**Combined Aggregate** – Aggregate that is a blend of both coarse and fine particles.

**Field Sample** – A quantity of the material of sufficient size to provide an acceptable estimate of the average quality of a unit.

**Fine Aggregate** – Aggregate which has a nominal maximum size of the #4 (4.75mm) sieve or smaller.

**Lot**- A sizable isolated quantity of bulk material from a single source, assumed to have been produced by the same process (for example, a day's production or a specific mass or volume).

**Maximum Aggregate Size**-(*Superpave*) One size larger than the nominal maximum aggregate size.

**Maximum size of Aggregate/particle** – (*in specifications for aggregate*) the smallest sieve opening through which the entire amount of aggregate is required to pass.

**Nominal Maximum Size** – Nominal Maximum is defined as the smallest sieve which 100% of sample passes.

**Oven Dry Aggregate** – Aggregate that has no internal or external moisture.

**Saturated Surface Dry** – An ideal condition in which the aggregate can neither absorb nor contribute water. In this condition, the interior has absorbed all the moisture it can hold, but the surface is dry = No Free Moisture.

**Sieve Analysis** – Determination of particle size distribution (gradation) using a series of progressively finer sieves.

**Test Portion** - A quantity of the material to be tested of sufficient size extracted from the larger field sample by a procedure designed to ensure accurate representation of the field sample, and thus of the unit sampled.

**Sieving to Completion** – Having no more than 0.5 % of aggregate particles retained on any sieve after shaking which should have passed through that sieve. Percent is calculated by mass of material retained divided by the original mass.

**Tare** – The mass (weight) of a pan or container. Normally the balance is adjusted to a “zero” reading by moving the scale counterbalance, or in the case of electronic scales, by tapping the tare button after the pan is placed on the scale to get a zero reading.

**Unit**- A batch or finite subdivision of a lot of bulk material (for example, a truck load or a specific area covered).

**Wet Aggregate** – Aggregate containing moisture on the particle surface.

**Absorption:** The increase in the mass of aggregate due to water in the pores of the material, but not including water adhering to the outside surface of the particles, expressed as a percentage of the dry mass. The aggregate is considered “dry” when it has been maintained at a temperature of  $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$  for sufficient time to remove all uncombined water by reaching a constant mass.

**Bulk Specific Gravity (also known as Bulk Dry Specific Gravity):** The ratio of the weight in air of a unit volume of aggregate (including the permeable and impermeable voids in the particles, but not including the voids between particles) at a stated temperature to the weight in air of an equal volume of gas-free distilled water at a stated temperature.

**Bulk Specific Gravity (SSD):** The ratio of the mass in air of a unit volume of aggregate, including the mass of water within the voids filled to the extent achieved by submerging in water for 15 to 19 hours (but not including the voids between particles) at a stated temperature, compared to the weight in air of an equal volume of gas-free distilled water at a stated temperature.

**Apparent Specific Gravity:** The ratio of the weight in air of a unit volume of the impermeable portion of aggregate at a stated temperature to the weight in air of an equal volume of gas-free distilled water at a stated temperature.

**SSD – Saturated Surface Dry:** The condition in which the aggregate has been soaked in water and has absorbed water into its pore spaces. The excess, free surface moisture has been removed so that the particles are still saturated, but the surface of the particle is essentially dry.

**Specific Gravity** – The ratio of the mass (or weight in air) of a unit volume of a material to the mass of the same volume of gas-free distilled water at stated temperatures. Values are dimensionless.