

Final term exam

Name: Atif ali

ID # 7886

Section: B

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Subject: Highway & Traffic  
engineering

Submitted to: Sir Farhan Khan

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Q#01  
Part(A)

## Comparison of flexible vs Rigid Pavement

### \* Flexible pavement :-

- Bitumen is used as a binder in flexible pavement.
- Deformation in the sub grade is transferred to the upper layer.
- Load is transferred by grain to grain contact.
- Flexible pavements have low initial construction costs but have low maintenance cost.
- How low life span usually 10-15 years.
- Surfacing cannot be laid directly on the sub grade but a sub base is needed.
- Road can be used for traffic within 24 hours.

## \* ~~Cement~~ Rigid pavements:-

- Cement is used as a binder in rigid pavements.
- Deformation in the sub grade is not transferred to subsequent layers.
- No phenomenon of grain to grain load transfer exists.
- Rigid pavements have low maintenance cost but have high initial construction costs.
- life span is more as compare to flexible usually 30+ years.
- Surfacing can be directly laid on the sub grade.
- Road cannot be used until 14 days of curing.

Q#01

Part (B) Advantages of Water bond over  
over Min Macadem:-

- The main advantage of Wet-Mix Macadem is that it is composed of a well-graded Mixture. This ensures good interlock and high stability.
- Addition of water while mixing facilitates the handling of the mixture. The operation of laying is much simpler than that of water-bound macadem, where the screenings and binding material have to be added in stages and forced into voids. If a crusher-run material is used, there is no possibility of plastic fines entering into the mixture.
- The compaction is greatly facilitated by the moisture added which lubricates the individual particles.
- One advantage of the wet-mix macadem is that it is slightly costlier than water-bound macadem.

This is because the specification involves the use of milling plant and paver. On the other hand, water-bound macadam has been traditionally a labour-oriented specification.

- The aggregates for wet-mix macadam ~~has been traditionally~~ will have to be crusher-run. Whereas the aggregates for water-bound macadam are generally hand-broken.

Q# 01  
Part(c)

## Asphalt

## bitumen

• Asphalt is generally used as a term to refer to the combination of bitumen and gravel specification for road construction.

• Asphalt is produced in a plant that heat, dries and mix aggregate between and send into a composite.

• In some literature bitumen is actually the liquid binder that holds asphalt together.

• Bitumen sprayed and then covered with an aggregate. This is then repeated to give a two coat seal.

Q#02

Solution:

For a design speed of 75 mph

$K = 319$  from table 15.5

$$\text{Minimum length} = 319 [3 - (-4)]$$

$$= 2184 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{Station of BVC} = (345 + 60) - \left[ \frac{21 + 84}{2} \right]$$

$$= 334 + 68$$

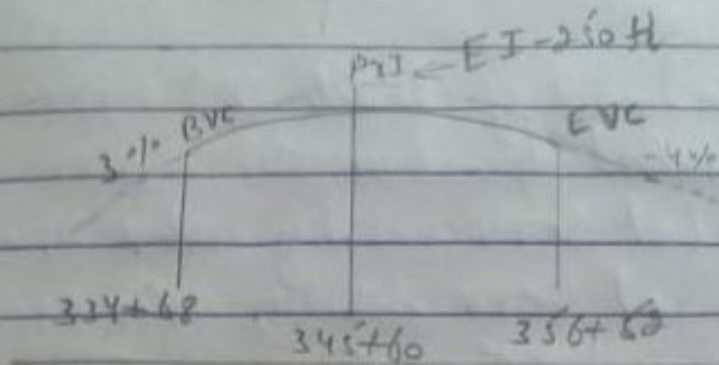
$$\text{Station of EVC} = (334 + 68) + (21 + 84)$$

~~$$= 356 + 68$$~~

$$= 356 + 52$$

$$\text{Elevation of BVC} = 250 - \left[ 0.03 \times \frac{2184}{2} \right]$$

$$= 217.24 \text{ ft}$$



Station	Distance from BVC	Tangent elevation	offset $y = Ax^2/200$	Curve elevation (Tangent elevation offset) ft
BVC 334+68	0	217.24	0.01	217.24
BVC 335+00	32	217.24 + 32 = 218.2	0.02	218.18
BVC 336+00	132	221.20	0.28	220.92
BVC 337+00	232	224.20	0.86	223.34
BVC 338+00	332	230.20	<del>1.77</del> 1.77	225.43
BVC 339+00	432	233.20	4.54	229.21
BVC 340+00	532	236.20	6.40	228.66
BVC 341+00	632	239.20	8.59	229.80
BVC 342+00	732	242.20	11.09	230.61
BVC 343+00	832	245.20	13.92	231.11
BVC 344+00	932	248.20	17.07	231.29
BVC 345+00	1032	248.20	20.54	231.13
BVC 346+00	1132	251.20	24.32	230.66
BVC 347+00	1232	254.20	28.403	229.88
BVC 348+00	1332	257.20	32.86	228.77
BVC 349+00	1432	260.20	37.61	227.34
BVC 350+00	1532	263.20	42.68	225.59
BVC 351+00	1632	266.20	48.07	223.52
BVC 352+00	1732	269.20	53.79	221.13
BVC 353+00	1832	272.20	59.82	218.41
BVC 354+00	1932	275.20	66.17	215.38
BVC 355+00	2032	278.20	72.84	212.03
BVC 356+00	2132	281.20	76.44	208.36
	2184	282.20		206.20



Q#03

Solution:-

Reliability level (R) = 99%

Standard deviation (So) = 0.49

Initial serviceability index  $P_i = 4.5$ Terminal serviceability index  $P_t = 2.5$ 

$$\Delta PSI = 4.5 - 2.5 = 2.0$$

Finding SMI and DI (Surface course).

Step#01:- Draw the line finding the reliability level of 99% and the over all standard deviation So of 0.49.

Step#02:- Draw a line joining point A to the ESAL of  $2 \times 10^6$ .

Step#03:- Draw a line joining point A to the ESAL B and resilient modulus and extent this line.

Step#04:- Draw a horizontal line from the point C to intersect the design serviceability.

→ low (PSI) Curve at point D

$$\Delta PSI = 4.5 - 2.5 = 2$$

→ DI of Surface Course is 2.6

Step # 05:- Resilient value of Asphalt  
 $= 450,000 \text{ lb/in}^2$

Therefore  $a_1 = 0.44$

Thickness of surface course  $D_1$

$$D_1 = SN_1 / a_1$$

$$2.6 / 0.44$$

$$= 5.9''$$

Thickness should be taken to the nearest 0.5''

So thickness of surface course is 6''

$$SN_1 = D_1 \times a_1$$

$$SN_1 = 6 \times 0.44 = 2.64$$

Finding  $SN_2$  and  $D_2$  (Base Course).

$$D_2 = (SN_2 - SN_1) / a_2 m_2$$

$$= (38.264) / 0.14 \times 0.80$$

$$D_2 = 10.36''$$

Use 12''

So thickness of base course is 12''

$$SN_2^* = 0.14 \times 0.80 \times 12 + SN_1^*$$

$$SN_2^* = 398$$

Finding  $SN_2$  and  $D_3$  (Sub base course)

$$D_2 = (SN_1 - SN_2) / a_2 m_2$$

$$D_2 = (44 - 3.98) / 0.10 \cdot 0.80$$

$$D_2 = 5.25''$$

We will use 6'' as a sub base

$$SN_3 = 2.64 + 1.34 + 6'' \times 0.10 \times 0.80$$

$$SN_2 = 4.46 > 4.4 \text{ okey}$$

Final design:-

Surface Course = 6''

Base Course = 10''

Subbase = 6''

Total pavement thickness = 24''

Q#04

## \* Pavement Distress:-

=> Distress is a condition of pavement structure that reduce serviceability or leads to reduction in service life.

=> Distress could occur in pavement due to.

- Unstable mixer.
- Higher wheel loads than those considered in design.

## \* Alligator Cracking:-

=> Possible causes

- Over loading
- Inadequate structural design
- Poor construction.

Repair: Crack sealing is effective.

## \* Block Cracking:-

=> Possible causes:-

- HMA shrinkage
- Asphalt binder aging
- Poor choice of asphalt binder in the mix design

Repair:- ~~Crack sealing is effective~~

- Low severity
- High severity cracks

Q#04

**Pavement Distress:-**

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⇒ Distress could occur in pavement due to.

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- Higher wheel loads than those considered in design.

**Alligator Cracking:-**

⇒ Possible causes

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- Inadequate structural design
- Poor construction.

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**Block Cracking:-**

⇒ Possible causes:-

- HMA shrinkage
- Asphalt binder aging
- Poor choice of asphalt binder in the mix design

Repair: ~~Crack sealing is effective~~

- Low severity
- High severity cracks

## \* Potholes:-

Small bowl shape depression in the pavement surface that penetrate all the way through the HMA layer down to base course.

## \* Rutting:-

Surface depression in the wheel path are particularly evident after a rain when they are filled with water.

## Possible causes:-

Insufficient compaction of HMA layer during construction.

- Sub grade rutting.
- Improper Mix design.

Repair:-  $\Rightarrow$  Slight ruts.

## \* Bleeding:-

## Possible causes:-

- Excessive asphalt binder in the HMA.

- Excessive application of asphalt binder during BST application
- Low HMA air void content

## \* Polished aggregates:-

### Possible Causes:-

Repeated traffic application this can occur quicker if the aggregate is susceptible to abrasion.

### Repair:-

Apply a skid-resistance slurry seal BST or non structural overlay.