# Permanent deformation and Fatigue damages of Asphalt Concrete



Mequanent Mulugeta Alamnie PhD Student

**UiA** University of Agder



### BACKGROUND

- Asphalt concrete is a fundamental pavement material
- Heterogeneous, thermo-piezo-rheological material
- The main objective of asphalt concrete design and service life prediction is to estimate the critical or flow strain ( $\mathcal{E}_c$ ) and the number of cycles ( $N_f$ ) to initiate fatigue cracking.
- Permanent deformation (rutting) & fatigue cracking are the primary damage modes.

#### Domains of behavior





## BACKGROUND

- The tradition design criteria were the critical tensile strain at bottom of AC layer and vertical stress or strain on top of subgrade
- Top-down cracking due to shear stress is not incorporated







### BACKGROUND

- Existing design methods considered the two damages independently.
- Permanent deformation and fatigue cracking happened concurrently by the same load on the field.
- Independent treatment of the two damages has limitations for the mechanistic pavement design (far from the actual condition).
- The damage characterization and modeling is still not well studied
- Damage modeling can be unified or coupled for a balanced pavement design, performance prediction.

1/12/2022



## **PRIMARY PAVEMENT DAMAGES - EU**



Source: Main road deterioration (COST Project (European Commission, 1999))

#### Main Damages Norway:

- Rutting (in asphalt layers, subgrade, Studded tyres wear)
- Longitudinal unevenness
- Frost heave

#### Sweden:

- Rutting (in asphalt layers, subgrade, Studded tyres wear)
- Cracking initiated at the surface
- General surface cracking
- Longitudinal Cracking in wheelpath
- Cracks at bottom of base course
- Frost heave





### **MAIN SOURCES OF RUTTING DAMAGE**





#### Mode 2: Rutting from weak subgrade



Mode 3: Rutting caused mainly by studded tire wear





### **NEAR SURFACE STRESS DISTRIBUTION AND DAMAGE**

Tires - pavement bending to near-surface transvers stress distribution



- Sharp shear stresses are causes of surface cracks.
- Rutting (mainly mode 1 and 2) accompanied cracking



UiA University



## **ASPHALT CONCRETE DAMAGES**

#### **Permanent deformation**

 Creep-recovery involves hardening-relaxation and viscous flow over number of cycles



#### **Fatigue cracking**

 Tension-Compression or T-T loads cause stiffness deterioration, exhaustion, and cracking







## **ENERGY APPROACH**

Damage evolves energy dissipation (as heat, viscoplastic flow, crack initiation, etc.)

Dissipated energy (DE) is the area under the stressstrain hysteresis loop.

$$DE = \int_{0}^{\tau} \sigma(t) \frac{\partial \varepsilon(\tau)}{\partial \tau} d\tau$$

- The DE for a strain-controlled fatigue test with sinusoidal strain wave,  $DE_F = \pi E_i^* \varepsilon_i^2 \sin(\varphi_i)$
- DE for a creep-recovery permanent deformation,

$$DE_{PD} = \sigma_o * \varepsilon_{vp}$$

### Dissipated energy ratio (DER):

- Definition;  $DER = n \times \frac{DE_1}{DE_n}$
- For creep-recovery,

$$DER_{PD} = n\left(\frac{k}{\varepsilon_{vp}}\right)$$

Cyclic fatigue,

$$DER = \left(\frac{n}{E^*_n}\right) \left(\frac{E^*_1 \sin \varphi_1}{\sin \varphi_n}\right) = n \left(\frac{E^*_1}{E^*_n}\right) \left(\frac{\varphi_1}{\varphi_n}\right)$$

1/12/2022



# **CONTINUUM DAMAGE APPROACH**

- Continuum mechanics interpreted damage as reduction of effect area of material.
- A damage variable,  $\omega \in [0,1)$  can be defined as;



 The total damage due to creep and fatigue can be expressed as follow.

$$d\omega = d\omega_f + d\omega_c$$

$$\omega = \int_0^{N_c} \frac{\partial \omega_c}{\partial N} \partial N + \int_0^{N_f} \frac{\partial \omega_f}{\partial N} \partial N$$

 Analytical Creep-fatigue interaction model like,

$$\frac{\omega_f}{1-I_{cf}\omega_c} + \frac{\omega_c}{1-I_{fc}\omega_f} = 1$$

 $I_{cf}$  and  $I_{fc}$  are interaction coefficients.





## VISCOELASTIC CONTINUUM DAMAGE MODEL

 Schapery's Viscoelastic Continuum damage (VECD) model (<u>Schapery, 1990</u>)

 $\frac{dS}{dt} = \left(-\frac{\partial W^R}{\partial S}\right)^{\alpha}$ 

- Pseudo strain energy,  $W^R = \frac{1}{2}\sigma\varepsilon_i^R$
- Pseudo strain,  $\varepsilon_i^R = \frac{1}{E_R} \int_0^t E(t-\tau) \frac{d\varepsilon}{d\tau} d\tau$
- Pseudo stiffness,  $C = \frac{\sigma(t)}{\varepsilon_i^R}$
- Accumulated damage after one load cycle,

$$\Delta S = \left[ -\frac{DMR}{2} \left( \varepsilon_{a,i}^R \right)^2 \left( C_i^* - C_{i+1}^* \right) \right]^{\frac{\alpha}{1+\alpha}} (\Delta t_R)^{\frac{1}{1+\alpha}}$$

 $C=1-aS^b$ 

a, b – constants



1/12/2022

#### CI UIA University of Agder

## **MATERIAL, SAMPLE PREPARATION**



mixtures were also used.







#### CI UIA University of Agder

## **TESTING FACILITIES**

### Universal testing machine (UTM-130)

Environmental Chamber (-50 to +80)

### Tests conducted;

- Dynamic Modulus test (frequency sweep)
- Creep-recovery (uniaxial / triaxial)
- Uniaxial fatigue test (tensioncompression or tension-tension)





### **TEST METHODS**

#### Parameters for dynamic modulus, uniaxial fatigue and creep-recovery tests

#### Dynamic modulus test conditions – undamaged test

Temperature (oC)	Frequency (Hz)	Confining pressure (kPa)	Control-Strain (με)
-10, 5, 21, 40, 55	25, 10, 5, 2, 1, 0.5, 0.2, 0.1	0, 10, 100, 200, 300	50

#### **Uniaxial Fatigue test conditions**

Temperature (°C)	Frequency (Hz)	Target strain (με)	Mode
10,15, 21, 30	10	100, 150, 200, 300, 400	T-C, T-T

#### **Repeated Creep-recovery test conditions**

Temperature (oC)	Loading time (sec)	Confining pressure (kPa)	Stress (MPa)
30, 40, 50	0.1, 0.4, 1, 1.6	0, 50, 100, 150, 200	0.5 to 2





### **TEST METHODS**

### Sequential test Approach for damage characterization

- 1. Creep recovery followed by uniaxial fatigue test
- 2. Uniaxial Fatigue test followed by Creep-recovery test





## **RESULTS – DYNAMIC MODULUS TEST**

### **Linear Viscoelastic properties**

- Dynamic modulus (E\*), Relaxation Modulus E(t)
- Time-Temperature Superposition Principle
- The Prony series
- Maximum slope of E(t) t curve:
- viscoelastic damage parameter,  $\alpha$

$$E(t) = E_{\infty} + \sum_{m=1}^{M} E_m \left( e^{\left(-t/\rho_m\right)} \right)$$
$$S_o = \max \left\{ \frac{\Delta \log(E(t))}{\Delta \log(t)} \right\} \qquad \alpha = \frac{1}{S_o} - \frac{1}{S_o} + \frac{1}{S_o} \right\}$$







## **RESULTS – CREEP-RECOVERY TESTS**

### Permanent deformation evolution

- Flow Number or Flow Time (based on strain rate) is the classic criterion for creep damage.
  - Micro-cracks initiate, shear failure at constant volume starts
- Alternatively, the Dissipated Energy Ratio (DER) criterion gives more comprehensive creep phases  $DER = N \left(\frac{DE_1}{DE_n}\right)$
- Using E.g. Francken model (Francken, 1977)

$$\varepsilon_{\rm vp} = AN^{\rm B} + C(e^{\rm DN} - 1) \qquad \varepsilon_{\rm vp}^{\cdot} = ABN^{\rm B-1} + CDe^{\rm DN}$$
$$DER = N\left(\frac{\kappa}{\varepsilon_{\rm vp}}\right) \qquad K = A + C(e^{\rm D} - 1)$$

 The Peak Value (PV) marks the beginning of macro-crack or excessive deformation.

### Four phases of creep using DER Curve







## **RESULTS – CREEP-RECOVERY TESTS**

### Permanent deformation evolution

 The number of cycles between micro crack initiation (FN) and macro-crack formation (Npv) is the endurance limit (NR).

80 70 PV 60 **DER** (-) 50 FN 40 30 20 10 0 2 3 Strain (%) 4 5 0 1

NR is the remaining life

- Before macro-cracks
- Grace period until resurfacing



 $NR = N_{PV} - FN$ 



### RESULTS

### **Fatigue damage evolution**

• The classic model for fatigue life





- DER for fatigue
  - Effect of Target strain amplitude



19

2.4

2

### **F** – **C SEQUENCE**

### Effect of Pre-fatigue on permanent deformation

- The PD part of the test is performed well with in the secondary creep stage (before FN)
- The effect of about 40% fatigue damage on PD was marginal.
- This can be because of healing during conditioning time
- The effect on Flow number is not consistent.
- F-C sequence may not be the common damage formation



-H-S5-F150

H-S7-F400

#### Example: Effect of fatigue cracking on PD (SMA11-L)





### **F-C SEQUENCE**

#### Effect of pre-fatigue cracking on Permanent deformation evolution;

Effect of strain amplitude flow number



#### E.g. Fatigue at 10oC, PD at 40°C, $\sigma = 0.65$ MPa

E.g. F at 10oC, PD at 30°C,  $\sigma = 2MPa$ 

21



### **C-F SEQUENCE**

### Effect of strain hardening on fatigue response

- The PD part of the test is performed well with in the secondary creep stage (before FN)
- Strain hardening accelerate fatigue damage







# **CREEP AND FATIGUE DAMAGES**

The continuum-based damage modeling





F15 -300 means 15 °C and at 300 micro-strain)



## CONCLUSION

- From the experimental investigation, the effect of pre-fatigue on permanent deformation, and effect of pre-deformation on fatigue damage are critical.
- It is necessary to investigate these damage sequences for 'balanced' performance prediction.
- The C-F sequence is believed to the most realistic pavement damage sequence. The study showed significant effect of strain hardening on fatigue cracking damage.
- Both energy approach and continuum method can be used for damage modeling. The continuum approach is more natural way.
- The sequential test procedure (STP) and energy approach is simple to evaluate the interaction between F and PD.

 Further research, fatigue and permanent deformation damage interaction, prediction and modeling (similar to Balanced mix design)



1/12/2022

# Acknowledgement







Norwegian University of Science and Technology





1/12/2022



## Thank you for you attention!

7





