

नेपाल सरकार  
भौतिक पूर्वाधार तथा यातायात मन्त्रालय  
सडक विभाग

# Concrete Mix Design

बिनोद प्रसाद सापकोटा  
सिनियर डिभिजनल  
ईन्जिनियर

## Introduction

-Process, Calculation in lab to find the amount of ingredients of Concrete  
-process of finding the combination of constituents that would give concrete of properties complying with certain specifications, economically.

Ingredients/ constituents

- Cement
- Water
- Fine Aggregate ( Sand)
- Coarse Aggregate
- Admixture

Mix Design Procedure

- **Step 1**
  - **Sampling**
    - **The method of sampling shall be in according to with IS: 2430-1986**
    - **Collection of Sand and Aggregate from Site**
    - **Test of Ingredients (as per spec)**
    - **If not in the limit specified in Code –reject Sample or modify Sample**

Mix Design Procedure **Step 1 Continue**

- **Test on Ingredients**
  - **Cement**

Characteristics	Requirement			Remarks
	OC	HSC		
Fineness , m2/Kg :( By Blaine's Air permeability Method		225		Same in New Spec
Minimum Setting Time ( Initial, Minutes)		45		
Maximum Setting Time( Final, Minutes)		600		
Soundness( by Le chatelier's method) mm, Maximum		10		
Minimum Average Compressive Strength of Three Mortar Cubes				
3 days	16	23	27	
7 days	22	33	37	
28 days	33	43	53	

### Mix Design Procedure **Step 1 Continue**

- **Test on Ingredients**
  - **Fine Aggregate**

FINE AGGREGATES As per IS Code 383				
IS sieve Designation	Percentage passing for (by weight)			
	Grading zone I	Grading zone II	Grading zone III	Grading zone IV
10 mm	100	100	100	100
4.75 mm	90-100	90-100	90-100	95-100
2.36 mm	60-95	75-100	85-100	95-100
1.18 mm	30-70	55-90	75-100	90-100
600 $\mu$ m	15-34	35-59	60-79	80-100
300 $\mu$ m	5-20	8-30	12-40	15-50
150 $\mu$ m	0-10	0-10	0-10	0-15
Fineness Modulus	2.71-4	2.11-3.37	1.71-2.72	1.35-2.25

**Job mix Fineness Modulus  $\pm 0.3$  for ordinary Concrete,  $\pm 0.2$  high quality Concrete (in case of change in source)**

### Mix Design Procedure **Step 1 Continue**

- **Test on Ingredients**
  - **Coarse Aggregate**

Characteristics	Requirement		Remarks
Class A, B, C, D, E	OC	HSC	
Flakiness Index	<25	<15	
Water Absorption	<2 %		
Los Angeles Abrasion (LAA)	<45%	<35%	
Aggregate Crushing Value ( ACV)	<30%		
Alkali Aggregate Reactivity			
Physical Test			
Chemical Test			

Mix Design Procedure **Step 1 Continue**

• **Test on Ingredients**  
 • **Coarse Aggregate**

The coarse aggregate shall be used conform to IS: 383 -1970. Table No. 2

Is sieve designation	Percentage passing for <b>graded aggregate</b> of Nominal Size			
	40 mm	20 mm	16 mm	12.5 mm
40 mm	95-100	100	-	
20 mm	30-70	95-100	100	100
16 mm	-	-	90-100	-
12.5 mm	-	-	-	90-100
10 mm	10-35	25-55	30-70	40-85
4.75 mm	0-5	0-10	0-10	0-10
2.36 mm	-	-	-	

Mix Design Procedure **Step 1 Continue**

• **Test on Ingredients**  
 • **Coarse Aggregate**

The coarse aggregate shall be used conform to IS: 383 -1970. Table No. 2

Is sieve designation	Percentage passing for <b>graded aggregate</b> of Nominal Size			
	40 mm	20 mm	16 mm	12.5 mm
40 mm	95-100	100	-	
20 mm	30-70	95-100	100	100
16 mm	-	-	90-100	-
12.5 mm	-	-	-	90-100
10 mm	10-35	25-55	30-70	40-85
4.75 mm	0-5	0-10	0-10	0-10
2.36 mm	-	-	-	

## Mix Design Procedure **Step 1 Continue**

- **Test on Ingredients**
  - **Coarse Aggregate**

Is sieve designation	Percentage passing for <i>single sized</i> aggregate of Nominal Size					
	63 mm	40 mm	20 mm	16 mm	12.5 mm	10 mm
80 mm	100	-	-	-	-	-
63 mm	85-100	100	-	-	-	-
40 mm	0-30	85-100	100	-	-	-
20 mm	0-5	0-20	85-100	100	-	-
16 mm	-	-	-	85-100	100	-
12.5 mm	-	-	-	-	85-100	100
10 mm	0-5	0-5	0-20	0-30	0-45	85-100
4.75 mm	-	-	0-5	0-5	0-10	0-20
2.36 mm	-	-	-	-	-	0-5

**Job Mix ??**

## Mix Design Procedure

- **Step 2**
  - **Calculation of Target strength**

$$F_{tg} = F_{ck} + \text{Standard Error or Risk Factor} * \text{Standard Deviation}$$

**Step 2 Continue..**

Assumed Standard Deviation as per IS 10262-2009			Risk Factor as per IS: 10262-2009	
S.N	Grade of concrete	Assumed standard deviation N/mm <sup>2</sup>	Accepted proportion of flow results	Risk Factor
			1 in 5	0.84
i	M 10		1 in 10	1.28
ii	M 15	3.5	1 in 15	1.5
iii	M 20	4	1 in 20	1.65
iv	M 25		1 in 40	1.86
v	M 30		1 in 100	2.33
vi	M 35			
vii	M 40	5		
Viii	M 45			
IX	M 50			
X	M 55			

**For Example**  
**For M40**  
**F<sub>tg</sub> = 40 + (1.65 \* 5)**  
**F<sub>tg</sub> = 48.25 N/mm<sup>2</sup>**

**Mix Design Procedure**

- **Step 3**
  - **Selection of W/C Ratio and Cement Content**
    - **Choose exposure condition, Max. W/C ratio and Minimum Cement Content**

Minimum cement content, maximum water-cement ratio and minimum grade of concrete for different exposures					S.N.	Nominal maximum size of aggregate (mm)	Adjustment to minimum cement content in table no 5 (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Table no.5 IS 456:2000							
Maximum nominal aggregates size 20 mm					1	10	+40
					2	20	0
		Minimum cement content (kg/CUM)	Maximum free cement ratio	Minimum grade of concrete	3	40	-30
Plane concrete	Mild	220	0.6	-			
	moderate	240	0.6	M-15			
	Sever	250	0.5	M-20			
	Very sever	260	0.45	M-20			
	extreme	280	0.45	M-25			
Reinforced concrete	Mild	300	0.55	M-20			
	moderate	300	0.5	M-25			
	Sever	320	0.45	M-30			
	Very sever	340	0.45	M-35			
	extreme	360	0.4	M-40			

## Mix Design Procedure

### • Step 4

#### • Selection of Water Content

- Choose Nominal Size of Aggregate (Generally 20 mm)-  
186 lit (Max.)

S.N.	Nominal Maximum size of aggregates	Maximum water content KG
	2	
1		3
I	10	208
ii	20	186
iii	40	165

- Ideal Condition- Angular Agg, 25-50 mm Slump Value, SSD Agg
- Make Adjustment as per IS Code (456-2000)
  - Factors
    - Slump Value –increase 3% for each 25 mm slump value
    - Aggregate –sub-agnular, rounded + crushed particles, Rounded- Reduce %wc
    - Admixture- reduces up to 20%
  - Get final Value of Water Content

## Mix Design Procedure

### • Step 5

#### • Selection of Cement Content

- Choose W/C Ratio less than Max W/C as above Step 3
- For Example
  - W/C= .35 (Say), Adjusted Water Content say 180 , Than cement content= ?? (KG)

## Mix Design Procedure

### • Step 6

#### • Quantity of Admixtures

- Find Quantity – Product/Company Specification
- Plasticizers- Flow gel +micro silica, Mark flow30 + Micro silica, Normet ( Tamsen 53I) + microsilica
  - For Example
    - Micro silica= 5% of By weight of Cement
    - Mark flow 30= 0.6% By Weight of Cement

## Mix Design Procedure

### • Step 7

#### • Calculation of Volume of Coarse and Fine aggregate

IS 10262:2009 Table 3 volume of coarse Aggregates per unit volume of total Aggregates for Different Zones of fine aggregates (clauses 4.4, A-7 and B-7)

S.N.	Nominal size of total Aggregates(mm)	Volume of coarse aggregates per unit volume of maximum size of total aggregates for different zones of fine aggregates			
		Zone IV	Zone III	Zone II	Zone I
1	10	0.5	0.48	0.46	0.44
2	20	0.66	0.64	0.62	0.6
3	40	0.75	0.73	0.71	0.69

Volumes are based on aggregates in saturated surface dry condition.

Adjustment should be made in table no 3, it is only for w-c ratio 0.50 and if the water cement ratio change every +/-0.05 the coarse aggregate change by +/- 0.01

**Eg.. w/c=.35, difference =0.15 for W/C=0.5, Than, (0.01\*3)=.03 will be added on volume specified in table 3 i.E .62 (sand Zone ii) will be 0 .65**



## Mix Design Procedure

### • Step 7 Continue...

- From IS Table 3 10262-2000
  - Find Volume of Coarse Aggregate
- For Example  
For 20 mm nominal size of Coarse Aggregate and zone 2 of fine aggregate with w/c=0.5, is .62 Cum (Coarse Aggregate)
- Adjustment
    - Every  $\pm 0.05$  w/c change =  $\pm 0.01$  (Inversely)
- After Adjustment find the volume of fine Aggregate i.e 1- Vol. of Coarse Agg

## Mix Design Procedure

### • Step 8.

#### • Calculation of Mass of Coarse Aggregate

$$V = \left[ W + \frac{C}{S_c} + \frac{1}{1-p} * \frac{C_a}{S_{c_a}} \right] * \frac{1}{1000}$$

Where, v= absolute volume of fresh concrete=1 cum

*W* = mass of water (kg/m<sup>3</sup>)

*C*=mass of cement (kg/m<sup>3</sup>)

*S<sub>c</sub>* = specific gravity of cement=3.15

*P*= ratio of fine aggregate and total aggregate by absolute volume

*c<sub>a</sub>*=total mass of coarse aggregate (kg) per m<sup>3</sup> =???

*sc<sub>a</sub>* = specific gravity of saturated surface dry coarse aggregates

*For admixture what???*

## Mix Design Procedure

- **Step 8.. Continue**
  - **Calculation of Volume of fine Aggregate**

$$V = \left[ W + \frac{C}{s_c} + \frac{1}{p} * \frac{f_a}{s_{fa}} \right] * \frac{1}{1000}$$

Where, v= absolute volume of fresh concrete=1 cum  
*W* = mass of water (kg/m<sup>3</sup>)  
*C*=mass of cement (kg/m<sup>3</sup>)  
*S<sub>c</sub>* = specific gravity of cement=3.15  
*f<sub>a</sub>*=total mass of fine aggregate (kg) per m<sup>3</sup> =???  
*s<sub>fa</sub>* = specific gravity of saturated surface dry fine aggregates

## Mix Design Procedure

- **Step 9 Aggregate moisture correction**
  - Saturated surface dry condition up to this step
  - In site, Aggregate are in dry Condition so
    - the amount of mixing water should be increased by amount equal to the moisture likely to be absorbed by the aggregates
    - Necessary adjustments are also required to be made in mass of aggregates
    - Lab input Data
      - Water absorption and water content( Free Surface Moisture) of Fine and Course Aggregate

Mix Design Procedure

• **Step 9 Aggregate moisture correction**

- Increase in weight of coarse Aggregate is equal to water content percentage of Course aggregate
- Increase in weight of fine Aggregate is equal to water content percentage of fine aggregate

• **Batch Weight of Water**

Final Water Content=

$$W_{BW} = W - \left( Ca \times \frac{MC_{CA} - A_{CA}}{100\%} \right) - \left( Fa \times \frac{MC_{FA} - A_{FA}}{100\%} \right)$$

*Ca* = weight of coarse aggregate provided by initial design

*Mc<sub>CA</sub>* = moisture content by coarse aggregate

*A<sub>CA</sub>* = Water Absorption of Coarse Aggregate

*Fa* = weight of fine aggregate provided by initial design

*A<sub>FA</sub>* = Water Absorption of fine Aggregate

*Mc<sub>FA</sub>* = moisture content of fine aggregate

*W* = Initial design weight of water

Mix Design Procedure

• **Step 9 Continue..**

Now we get Final Values

Hence the Ratio					
	Water	Cement	Fine Agg	Course Agg	Remarks
KG	148.52	450.656	650.67	1229.83	Per Cum
Ratio	0.329	1	1.443	2.729	
Round off	0.32	1	1.4	2.7	

**Batching ??- for this case use .4x.4X.4 cube box- One bag cement- 35 kg sand 2 times, 76.5 kg aggregate 2 times.. Batching by weight is best way to quality control, Concrete batching plant is preferable**

## Mix Design Procedure

### • Step 10 Trail Mixes

Case	Procedure	Parameter	Remarks
Trail 1	As per initial design step 1-9	Find Slump	Change in Slump Value go to Trail 2
		Value	Not Change in Slump Value go to Trail 3
Trail 2	Change in Water Content and admixture	W/C keep Constant	Better to change water content only and repeat step 4 to 9
Trail 3	Add 10% on W/C ratio	Keep Water Contain Constant	Repeat Step 5 to 9
Trail 4	reduce 10% on W/C ratio	keep Water Contain Constant	Repeat Step 5 to 10

## Mix Design Procedure

### Lab Test Equipment

- Slump apparatus set
- Mixer small capacity up to .5 cum
- Weight Balance ( capacity up to 20 kg)  
accuracy up to 1 gram)
- Beaker capacity up to 1 litre
- Cube Mould ( min 30 nos) 15 cm
- Compressive strength Test machine capacity  
up to 2000 KN
- Tray, shovel, gloves, gallon

**Note : Test equipment on Cement, sand and  
Aggregate are not included.**

Mix Design Procedure

**Excel Sheet Exercise**

