

SELFHEALING ASPHALT USING ELECTROMAGNETIC INDUCTION

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ABSTRACT

Due to the rapid urbanization, most of the land mass have become impervious due to the construction of buildings and roads. This paper focuses on providing a sustainable road development in urban areas which help the water to pass through the porous asphalt with self-healing property in sustainable pavement design. The results produced are by reviewing various experimental contents.

Keywords: Porous asphalt, Self-healing, Induction heating.

INTRODUCTION

The impervious nature of soil causes ground water depletion which is creating the water scarcity all over. During monsoon burst on floods large amount of water is being flooded over roads which mixes with sewage. To reduce this flooding and to make water to pass through porous asphalt is employed. These asphalt roads undergo potholes development which reduce the design life, traffic flow and remains reason for most accidents taking places.

This problem can be overcome by making asphalt road with self-healing property.

POROUS ASPHALT ROADS

Asphalts are used for road surface which is easy to apply. i.e., 1. Warm the bitumen 2. Mix the aggregate 3. Apply on surface. Once it cools it becomes hard road surface with pores which allow water to pass through. This porous asphalt road helps in managing storm runoff which drains water through the surface pavement into storm water discharge bed and into soil beneath the pavement. This helps in recharging ground water table and reduces strain in storm runoff sewage.

But these asphalt roads suffer from a major disadvantage of pothole development. These potholes remain major cause for accidents in India which claims 10 lives per day and 3597 death in 2017. Potholes occur when water percolates below and weakens the soil and causes traffic fatigue which causes raveling of aggregates and soil from the place which affects the flow of traffic and requires higher maintenance cost.

This disadvantage can be overcome by making the asphalt roads develop the self-healing nature by two methods which have to be done before laying asphalt roads.

PROCESS OF SELF HEALING

There are three primary steps to be followed for self-healing process;

1. Wetting the two faces of the crack.
2. Diffusion of molecules.
3. Randomization of diffused molecules to attain original strength.

Self-healing takes place at molecular level, when broken molecules are available to form links and chains via hydrogen bonds. So, this process can be termed as Reversible Hydrogen Bonding.

INDUCTION HEATING

To prevent raveling on porous asphalt pavement a raveling porous asphalt was developed. This

method is called as induction heating in which steel wool was added to porous asphalt before laying roads. This steel wool generally provides strength by increasing ductility. It improves cohesive and tensile strength of mixture. Thus, fibre reinforcement asphalt mix would have good resistance to ageing, moisture damage and crack resistance. Under various test using carbon fibres, graphite, steel fibres and wool and conductive polymer poly aniline resulted as carbon and steel wool as best conductive material.

Induction heating process operates by sending an alternating current through the coil and generating an alternating electromagnetic field which induces current flow along the loops formed by steel fibers. This fibre conducts the heat and melt the bitumen around it which causes capillary flow and diffusion of bitumen.

Two kinds of steel wool are been used:

One which has been termed "coarse steel wool" (CSW), with wires of 0.10–0.12 mm thick, and another called "medium steel wool" (MSW), with a thickness of 0.04–0.06 mm.

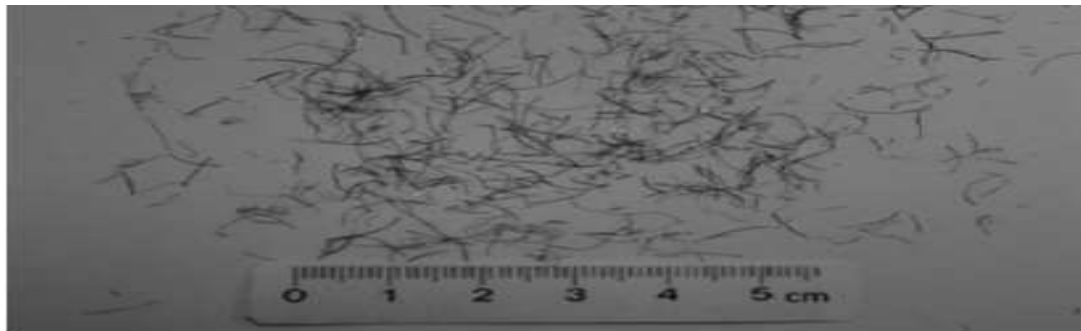


Fig1: Steel wool used for healing of cracks

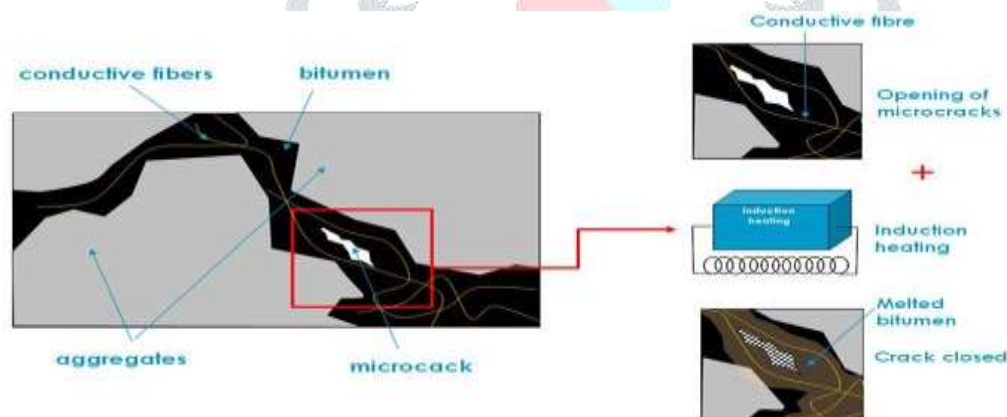


Fig2: Healing of crack using induction heating

Various steel wool of long, short and medium were compared by various test which proved medium steel wool of 1 cm with 0.157 mm diameter as best steel wool for induction heating process.

One adverse effect is that overheating of asphalt mix would cause bitumen swelling and drainage from aggregate which is a severe problem. Thus, optimum heating of mix is 85°C. The heating should not be done too early or too late. When applied too early the stiffness of bitumen gets loosened when applied too late the healing process would be less.

The heating of asphalt with induction energy to increase its healing rate. The first prerequisite of induction heating is that the heated material must

be conductive. In many previous studies it has been demonstrated how it is possible to make asphalt or concrete conductive by adding electrical conductive fillers and fibers. The second prerequisite is that these fillers and fibers are connected in closed-loop circuits. In Figure 8 a schematic representation is given of the system in which inductive energy is used for the healing of asphalt concrete. First a microcrack appears in the bitumen. If enough volume of conductive fibers or fillers is added they will form closed-

loop circuits all around the microcrack. Then, if this magnetically susceptible and electrically conductive material is placed in the vicinity of a coil, eddy currents are induced in the closed-

loops circuits, with the same frequency of the magnetic field. Heat is generated through the energy lost when eddy currents meet with the resistance of the material and, finally, bitumen is melted and the crack is closed. When fibers are added to the mixture, the thickness film of mastic around the aggregates is reduced. This can have a negative effect on the mechanical properties of asphalt concrete pavements so, to ensure the durability of this porous asphalt, bitumen content needs to be increased.

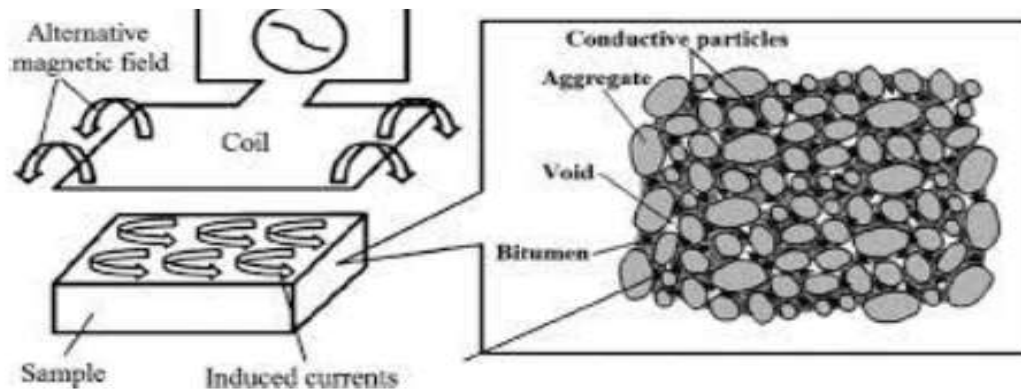


Fig 3: Magnetising the steel wool using induction heating

CONCLUSION

Thus, by employing porous asphalt we can reduce the runoff and recharge the ground water table. The raveling of stone from porous asphalt can also be prevented by Induction heating process. This increases the lifetime of the road and causes reduction in budget segregated for road maintenance.

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