

ห้องสมุดงานวิจัย สำนักงานคณะกรรมการการวิจัยแห่งชาติ



E46291



**ANISOTROPIC ELASTIC PROPERTIES  
OF POLYMER MODIFIED ASPHALT**

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**A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT  
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR  
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ENGINEERING (CIVIL ENGINEERING)  
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING  
KING MONKUT'S UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY THONBURI**

**2011**



## Anisotropic Elastic Properties of Polymer-Modified Asphalt

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A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for  
the Degree of Master of Engineering (Civil Engineering)  
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2011

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Thesis Title	Anisotropic Elastic Properties of Polymer-Modified Asphalt
Thesis Credits	12
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Program	Master of Engineering
Field of Study	Civil Engineering (Geotechnical Engineering)
Department	Civil Engineering
Faculty	Engineering
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## Abstract

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Due to largely increasing traffic volume and truck load, a large volume of hot-mixed asphalt (HMA) pavement in Thailand is susceptible to damage. Use of Polymer-Modified Asphalt (PMA) has become more popular in pavement construction due to its ability to support quantitatively larger traffic load than the HMA. However, PMA is prepared by compaction of aggregates to the specified density, as a result, its strength and deformation properties are anisotropic, depending on the direction of external stress application relative to the direction of compaction. This research is a study of the strength and deformation of PMA that was prepared by compaction in different directions. The strength and deformation of PMA specimen were investigated by performing unconventional unconfined compression tests. The axial and lateral strains were locally measured by means of a pair of local deformation transducers (LDTs) and a set of three clip gages to determine deformation properties which are free from bedding errors. Test results were compared with HMA specimens previously studied. It was found that: 1) the compressive strength and secant stiffness ( $E_{50}$ ) of the vertically compacted PMA specimen were higher than those of the horizontally compacted PMA specimen; 2) at the same stress level, the vertical equivalent elastic Young's moduli,  $E_{v,eq}$ , were higher than the horizontal equivalent elastic Young's moduli,  $E_{h,eq}$ ; and, the vertical-to-horizontal Poisson's ratios,  $\nu_{vh,eq}$ , were higher than the horizontal-to-vertical Poisson's ratios,  $\nu_{hv,eq}$ ; and, 3) at the same density, the compressive strength and the stiffness of PMA were significantly higher than those of HMA.

Keywords: Polymer-Modified Asphalt / Hot-Mixed Asphalt / Anisotropy / Compressive Strength / Stiffness

หัวข้อวิทยานิพนธ์	พฤติกรรมแอนนิโซโทรปีกอิลาสติคของโพลิเมอร์โมดิฟายด์ แอสฟัลต์
หน่วยกิต	12
ผู้เขียน	นายเฉลิมชัย ทองเนื้อแปด
อาจารย์ที่ปรึกษา	ผศ.ดร.วรัช ก้องกิงกุล ผศ.ดร.พรเกษม จงประดิษฐ์
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ภาควิชา	วิศวกรรมโยธา
คณะ	วิศวกรรมศาสตร์
พ.ศ.	2554

## บทคัดย่อ

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ในปัจจุบันประเทศไทยมีถนนที่มีผิวทางแอสฟัลต์คอนกรีตเป็นจำนวนมากซึ่งต้องเผชิญกับสภาพการ  
ใช้งานที่หนักหน่วงมากขึ้น เนื่องจากปริมาณการจราจรและน้ำหนักบรรทุกที่เพิ่มมากขึ้น สาเหตุ  
เหล่านี้นำไปสู่ปัญหาความเสียหายบนถนนผิวทางแอสฟัลต์ ด้วยเหตุนี้การสร้างถนนจึงได้มีการนำโ  
ลิเมอร์โมดิฟายด์แอสฟัลต์มาใช้งานมากขึ้นเพื่อแก้ไขปัญหาดังกล่าว อย่างไรก็ตามการเตรียมโ  
ลิเมอร์โมดิฟายด์แอสฟัลต์ทำโดยการบดอัดตามความหนาแน่นที่กำหนด ทำให้คุณสมบัติด้านกำลังและ  
การเสีรูปร่างขึ้นอยู่กับทิศทางของแรงที่กระทำที่สัมพันธ์กับทิศทางการบดอัด งานวิจัยนี้จึงศึกษา  
พฤติกรรมด้านกำลังและการเสีรูปร่างของโพลิเมอร์โมดิฟายด์แอสฟัลต์ที่มีการบดอัดในทิศทางที่  
แตกต่างกันโดยทำการทดสอบแบบแรงอัดแกนเดียว การวัดการเสีรูปร่างของโพลิเมอร์โมดิฟายด์  
แอสฟัลต์เป็นการวัดแบบเฉพาะที่โดยใช้เครื่องมือวัดการเคลื่อนที่เฉพาะจุด (LDT) สำหรับวัดการเสี  
รูปร่างในแนวแกนและเครื่องมือวัดการขยายตัว (clip gage) สำหรับวัดการเสีรูปร่างด้านข้าง ทำให้ผลที่ได้  
จากการวัดด้วยวิธีดังกล่าวไม่ได้รับผลกระทบเนื่องจากความไม่สม่ำเสมอบริเวณหัวตัวอย่าง เมื่อนำผล  
การทดลองที่ได้มาเปรียบเทียบกับผลของแอสฟัลต์คิกคอนกรีตธรรมดาที่ได้ทำการวิจัยมาแล้ว พบว่า  
ค่ากำลังรับแรงอัดของตัวอย่างที่ได้รับการบดอัดในแนวตั้งมีค่ามากกว่าตัวอย่างที่ได้รับการบดอัดใน  
แนวนอน ค่าโมดูลัสสมมูลย์และอัตราส่วนปัวซองของสมมูลย์ของตัวอย่างที่ได้รับการบดอัดในแนวตั้งมี  
ค่ามากกว่าค่าโมดูลัสสมมูลย์และอัตราส่วนปัวซองของสมมูลย์ของตัวอย่างที่ได้รับการบดอัดในแนวนอน  
คุณสมบัติด้านกำลังและการเสีรูปร่างของโพลิเมอร์โมดิฟายด์แอสฟัลต์ดีกว่าแอสฟัลต์คิกคอนกรีต  
ธรรมดาอย่างชัดเจน

คำสำคัญ: โพลิเมอร์โมดิฟายด์แอสฟัลต์ / แอสฟัลต์คิกคอนกรีต / แอนนิโซโทรปี / กำลังรับแรงอัด /

ความแข็ง

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author would like to express his gratitude to my advisor and co-advisor, Asst. Prof. Dr. Warat Kongkitkul and Asst. Prof. Dr. Pornkasem Jongpradist for excellent guidance and strong support throughout this study. Without their help in both academic and personal concerns, this thesis work could not have been completed.

Sincere appreciation is also extended to the other members of the committees, Asst. Dr. Sompote Youwai and Dr. Poranic Jitareekul for their help, encouragement, suggestions, constructive comments and serving as members of my thesis examination committees.

Thanks are also extended to Mr. Noppadon Musika, Mrs. Patcharee Issaro and my friends for their kind help and valuable encouragement.

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## LIST OF SYMBOLS

<i>A</i>	=	temperature susceptibility
AC	=	asphaltic cements
AV	=	air voids
$A_0$	=	cross-sectional area of specimen before shearing
<i>C</i>	=	cohesion
CD	=	consolidated drained
CG	=	clip gage transducers
CL	=	cyclic loading
CRS	=	constant rate of strain
CTC	=	conventional triaxial compression
CTE	=	conventional triaxial extension
<i>E</i>	=	modulus of elasticity or Young's modulus
EP	=	electro pneumatic
$E_{eq}$	=	equivalent Young's modulus
$E_h$	=	horizontal elastic Young's moduli
$E_v$	=	vertical elastic Young's moduli
$E_{h,eq}$	=	equivalent horizontal elastic Young's moduli
$E_{v,eq}$	=	equivalent vertical elastic Young's moduli
$E_0$	=	initial Young's modulus
$E_{50}$	=	Elastic Young's modulus defined by the slope of relation between the stress and strain at the half of maximum stress
<i>F</i>	=	vertical force measured by load cell
<i>e</i>	=	void ratio
$f(e)$	=	void ratio function = $(2.17-e)^2/(1+e)$
<i>G</i>	=	shear modulus
$G_s$	=	specific gravity
<i>g</i>	=	acceleration due to gravity
$H_0, L_0$	=	initial height and length of the specimen
HMA	=	hot-mixed asphalt
$\Delta H, \Delta L$	=	changes in height and length of the specimen
IC	=	isotropic compression
<i>K</i>	=	bulk modulus
LDT	=	local deformation transducers
LVDT	=	Linear variable displacement transducer
<i>M</i>	=	total mass
$M_B$	=	mass of asphalt (binder)
$M_{BA}$	=	mass of absorbed asphalt, absorbed into the pores of the aggregate particles
$M_{BE}$	=	mass of effective asphalt, the asphalt binder between particles
$M_G$	=	mass of aggregate
ML	=	monotonic loading
$m_h$	=	slope of $E_h / f(e)$ and $\sigma_h / \sigma_0$
$m_v$	=	slope of $E_v / f(e)$ and $\sigma_v / \sigma_0$
OGFC	=	open-graded friction courses
$P_B$	=	asphalt content
$P_{BE}$	=	asphalt content

$P_{BA}$	=	asphalt absorption
PCC	=	Portland cement concrete
PI	=	penetration index
PSC	=	plane strain compression tests
$p$	=	mean stress
$p'$	=	mean effective stress
$q$	=	deviator stress
SL	=	sustained loading
SBS	=	styrene butadiene styrene
$T$	=	temperature
TC	=	triaxial compression
TE	=	triaxial extension
$t$	=	time
$u$	=	pore pressure
$V$	=	total volume of compacted mix
$V_A$	=	volume of air between the coated aggregate particles in the mix
$V_B$	=	volume of asphalt
$V_{BA}$	=	volume of absorbed asphalt
$V_{BE}$	=	volume of effective asphalt
$V_G$	=	volume of aggregate, the bulk volume including the aggregate pores
$V_{GE}$	=	effective volume of aggregate
$V_{MM}$	=	volume of voidless mix (maximum mix volume)
VFA	=	voids filled with asphalt
VMA	=	voids mineral aggregates
$\rho$	=	Density
$\sigma_v$	=	vertical stress
$\sigma_{v, \max}$	=	maximum vertical stress
$\dot{\sigma}_v$	=	vertical stress rate
$\sigma_h$	=	horizontal stress
$\sigma_{h, \max}$	=	maximum horizontal stress
$\dot{\sigma}_h$	=	horizontal stress rate
$\Delta\sigma_v$	=	vertical stress increments
$\Delta\sigma_h$	=	horizontal stress increments
$\varepsilon$	=	strain
$\varepsilon_a$	=	axial strain
$\varepsilon_p$	=	volumetric strain
$\varepsilon_v$	=	vertical strain
$\varepsilon_h$	=	horizontal strain
$\varepsilon_q$	=	triaxial shear strain
$\varepsilon_r$	=	lateral strain
$\varepsilon_{vol}$	=	volumetric strain in percentage
$\dot{\varepsilon}_v$	=	vertical strain rate
$\dot{\varepsilon}_h$	=	horizontal strain rate
$\Delta\varepsilon_v$	=	vertical strain increments
$\Delta\varepsilon_h$	=	horizontal strain increments
$\tau$	=	shear strength
$\sigma$	=	normal stress
$\nu$	=	Poisson's ratio
$\nu_{eq}$	=	equivalent Poisson's ratio

$\nu_0$	=	initial Poisson's ratio
$\nu_{vh}$	=	Poisson's ratio for horizontal strain due to vertical strain
$\nu_{hv}$	=	Poisson's ratio for vertical strain due to horizontal strain
$\nu_{vh,eq}$	=	equivalent Poisson's ratio for horizontal strain due to vertical strain
$\nu_{hv,eq}$	=	equivalent Poisson's ratio for vertical strain due to horizontal strain
$\nu_{hh}$	=	Poisson's ratio for strain in any horizontal direction due to direct horizontal strain in the perpendicular direction
$\gamma$	=	bulk unit weight of soil