

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Perspective and Background	1
1.1.1	Role of transportation in nation's economy	1
1.1.2	Development of highway infrastructure	2
1.1.3	Asphalt concrete pavement	2
1.2	Material properties of asphalt concrete	4
1.2.1	Behaviour of asphalt concrete mix	4
1.2.2	Behaviour of unbound granular materials	5
1.3	Mechanistic Empirical approach of asphalt pavement design	6
1.4	Structural analysis of layered system	9
1.5	Problem statement	10
1.6	Research objectives	10
1.7	Thesis outline	12
2	Literature review	15
2.1	Introduction	15
2.2	Review of pavement design	16
2.2.1	Principles of asphalt pavement design	17
2.2.2	Empirical methods	18
2.2.3	Mechanistic Empirical design	19

2.3	Modelling of asphalt concrete pavement layers-----	31
2.3.1	Analytical models-----	32
2.3.2	Experimental models -----	33
2.3.3	Numerical models-----	46
2.4	Finite element modelling of asphalt concrete pavement system-----	49
2.4.1	Finite element modelling of asphalt pavement -----	50
2.4.2	Finite element modelling of load/tire -----	60
2.4.3	Finite element modelling of tire-pavement interaction -----	67
2.5	Problem statement and research gap-----	70
2.6	Summary of chapter-----	72
3	Research methodology and finite element modelling -----	74
3.1	Introduction-----	74
3.2	Step I: Linear viscoelastic material characterization of asphalt mixes-----	78
3.3	Step II: Nonlinear stress dependent behaviour of unbound granular materials	81
3.4	Step III: Finite element modelling of tire-pavement system -----	83
3.4.1	Finite element modelling of asphalt pavement -----	83
3.4.2	FE modelling of solid tire-----	86
3.4.3	FE modelling of tire-pavement interaction-----	88
3.4.4	Description of element type and boundary conditions -----	89
3.5	Validation of FE model-----	92
3.6	Step IV: Parametric analysis and structural response of asphalt pavement ----	96
3.7	Summary-----	96

4	Material characterization of asphalt concrete mixes	100
4.1	Introduction	100
4.2	Material characterization of asphalt concrete mix	100
4.2.1	Stress-strain relationship	101
4.2.2	Mechanical modelling of asphalt mix behaviour	103
4.2.3	Interconversion of stress relaxation and creep compliance data	104
4.3	Material properties	106
4.3.1	Physical properties of asphalt binders	108
4.3.2	Physical properties of aggregates	109
4.3.3	Physical properties of asphalt concrete mix	110
4.4	Test procedures	113
4.4.1	Linear elastic response of asphalt mixes	114
4.4.2	Viscoelastic material properties of asphalt mix	119
4.5	Creep compliance test results	125
4.6	Conversion of creep compliance data to stress relaxation modulus	127
4.7	Summary	129
5	Material characterization of unbound granular layers	132
5.1	Introduction	132
5.2	Mechanical behaviour of UGMs	132
5.3	Non-linear stress dependent material behaviour of UGM	133
5.3.1	K- θ model	135
5.3.2	Uzan model	137

5.3.3	Universal octahedral shear stress model-----	138
5.3.4	NCHRP model-----	139
5.3.5	Bilinear model-----	139
5.4	Material selection and properties-----	140
5.4.1	Physical properties of soil -----	141
5.4.2	Physical properties of aggregates -----	129
5.4.3	Properties of emulsion treated stabilized base -----	132
5.5	Resilient modulus test using triaxial compression testing -----	134
5.5.1	Determination of OMC -----	135
5.5.2	Determination of resilient modulus -----	135
5.5.3	Resilient modulus test results -----	141
5.5.4	Stress dependent material modelling-----	145
5.5.5	Hypo-elastic material modelling-----	150
5.6	Summary-----	154
6	Parametric analysis of asphalt pavement -----	157
6.1	Introduction-----	157
6.1.1	Stage I: Linear elastic materials and uniform loading -----	159
6.1.2	Stage II: Linear elastic materials and nonuniform loading-----	160
6.1.3	Stage III: LVE AC, elastic UGMs and nonuniform loading-----	161
6.1.4	Stage IV: LVE AC, stress dependent UGMs and nonuniform loading -	161
6.2	Linear elastic material properties and uniform loading -----	162
6.3	Linear elastic materials and nonuniform loading -----	165

6.3.1	Effect of load on the structural response of AC pavement-----	165
6.3.2	Effect of mix type and temperature -----	170
6.3.3	Effect of layer thicknesses-----	175
6.3.4	Effect of emulsion treated stabilized base-----	177
6.3.5	Performance of emulsion treated base in overloading cases-----	182
6.4	Pavement response using LVE AC and linear elastic UGMs-----	184
6.4.1	Effect of loading -----	185
6.4.2	Effect of air void in the asphalt mix-----	189
6.4.3	Effect of temperature on LVE response of asphalt pavement -----	193
6.4.4	Effect of layer thickness on LVE response of asphalt pavement -----	201
6.5	Linear viscoelastic AC, stress dependent UGMs and nonuniform loading --	208
6.5.1	Effect of loading -----	209
6.6	Summary-----	211
7	Conclusions and future scope-----	216
7.1	Introduction -----	216
7.2	Conclusions -----	216
7.2.1	Material characterization of asphalt mixes-----	217
7.2.2	Material characterization of UGMs -----	218
7.2.3	FE modelling of tire-pavement system -----	218
7.2.4	Parametric analysis of asphalt concrete pavement under overloading and different environmental conditions -----	219
7.3	Contributions of the study-----	222

7.4	Limitations of the study -----	223
7.5	Recommendations for future study -----	223