

PCA

Concrete Technology and Codes

# Designing Concrete Mixtures

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# Designing Concrete Mixtures

## **Objective:**

To determine the most economical and practical combination of readily available materials to produce a concrete that will satisfy the performance requirements under particular conditions of use.

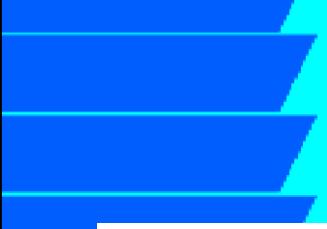
# Components of Concrete

**Up to 8% Air**

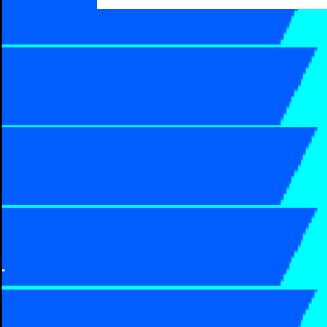
**7-15% Cement**

**60-75% Aggregates  
(Coarse and Fine)**

**14-21% Water**



# Materials for Concrete

- Cement- ASTM C150 (AASHTO M 85)
  - Blended Cement- ASTM C595 (AASHTO M 240) or C 1157
  - Pozzolans (Fly Ash)- ASTM C618 (AASHTO M 295)
  - GGBFS (Slag-Cement)- ASTM C989 (AASHTO M 302)
  - Silica Fume- ASTM C1240 (AASHTO M 307)
  - Water- ASTM C1602 & C1603 (AASHTO M 157)
  - Aggregates- ASTM C33 (AASHTO M 80-Coarse, M 6-Fine)
  - Air-Entraining Admixtures- ASTM C260 (AASHTO M 154)
  - Chemical Admixtures- ASTM C494 (AASHTO M 194)
- 

# Designing Concrete Mixtures

## Objective:

To determine the most economical and practical combination of readily available materials to produce a concrete that will satisfy the performance requirements under particular conditions of use.

## Factors to be considered:

- Workability



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- Workability
- Placement Conditions

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## Factors to be considered:

- Workability
- Placement Conditions
- Strength

$$\sigma = \frac{Mc}{I}$$

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To determine the most economical and practical combination of readily available materials to produce a concrete that will satisfy the performance requirements under particular conditions of use.

## Factors to be considered:



- Workability
- Placement Conditions
- Strength
- Durability

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- Workability
- Placement Conditions
- Strength
- Durability
- Appearance

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To determine the most economical and practical combination of readily available materials to produce a concrete that will satisfy the performance requirements under particular conditions of use.

## Factors to be considered:



- Workability
- Placement Conditions
- Strength
- Durability
- Appearance
- Economy

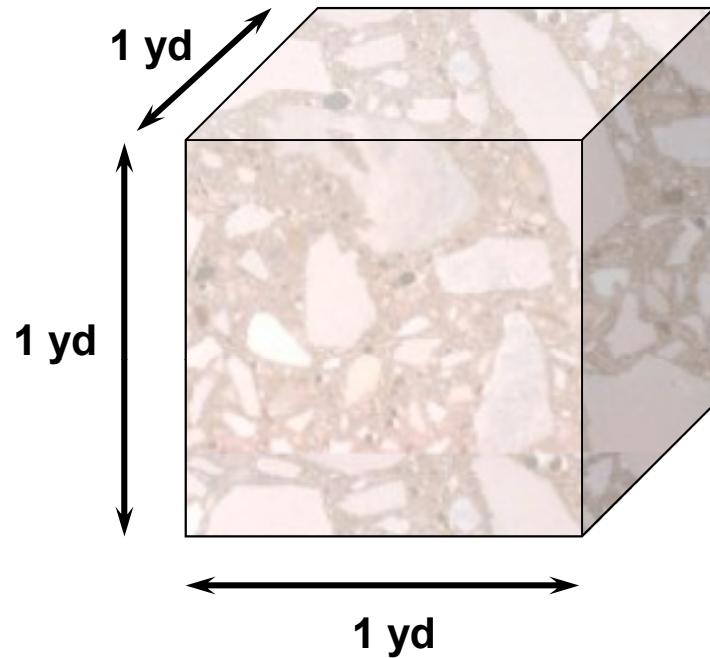


# Proportioning

## Absolute Volume Method

- ACI 211.1 Standard Practice for Selecting Proportions for Normal, Heavyweight and Mass Concrete
- ACI 211.2 Standard Practice for Selecting Proportions for Structural Lightweight Concrete
- ACI 211.3 Standard Practice for Selecting Proportions for No-Slump Concrete
- ACI 211.4R Standard Practice for Selecting Proportions for High Strength Concrete with Portland Cement and Fly Ash
- ACI 211.5 Guide for Submittal of Concrete Proportions

# Absolute Volume

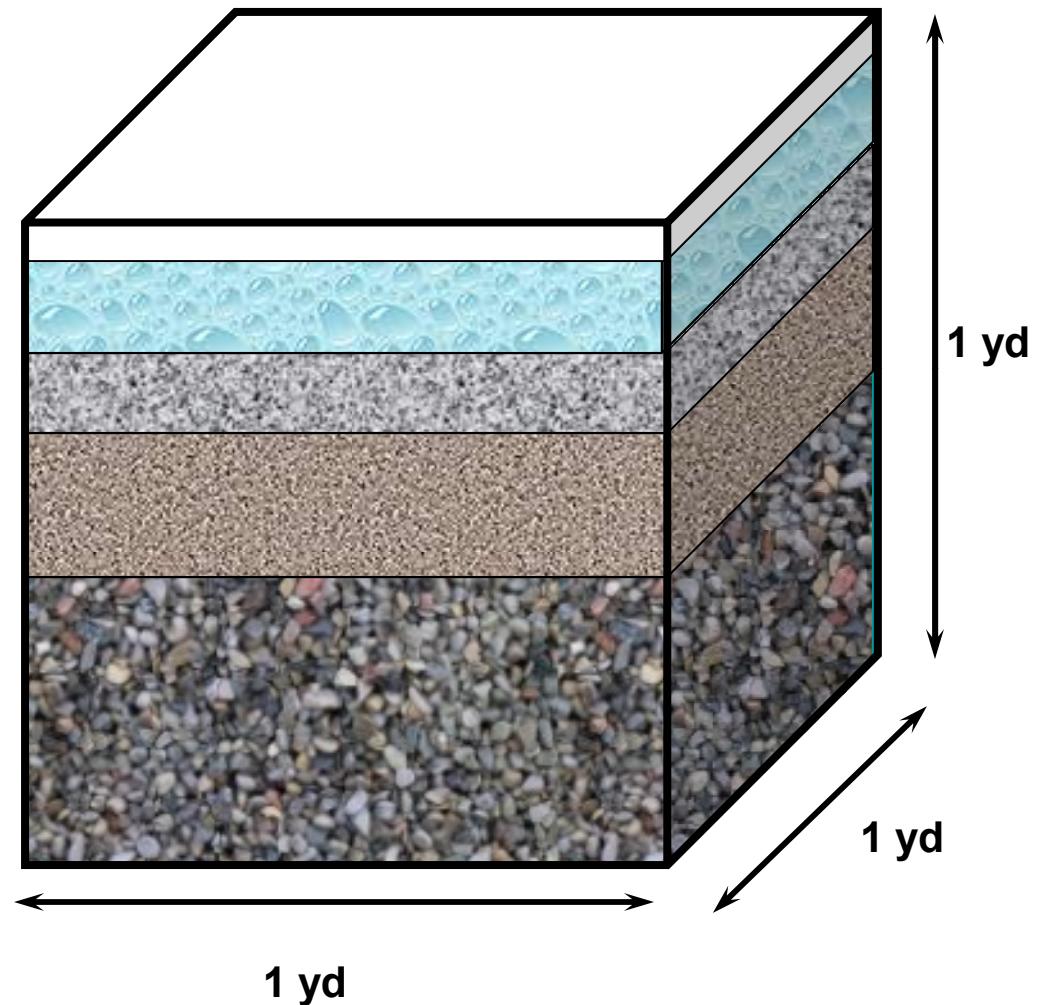


Concrete mixture proportions are usually expressed on the basis of the mass of ingredients per unit volume.

The unit of volume used is either a cubic meter or a cubic yard of concrete.

# Absolute Volume

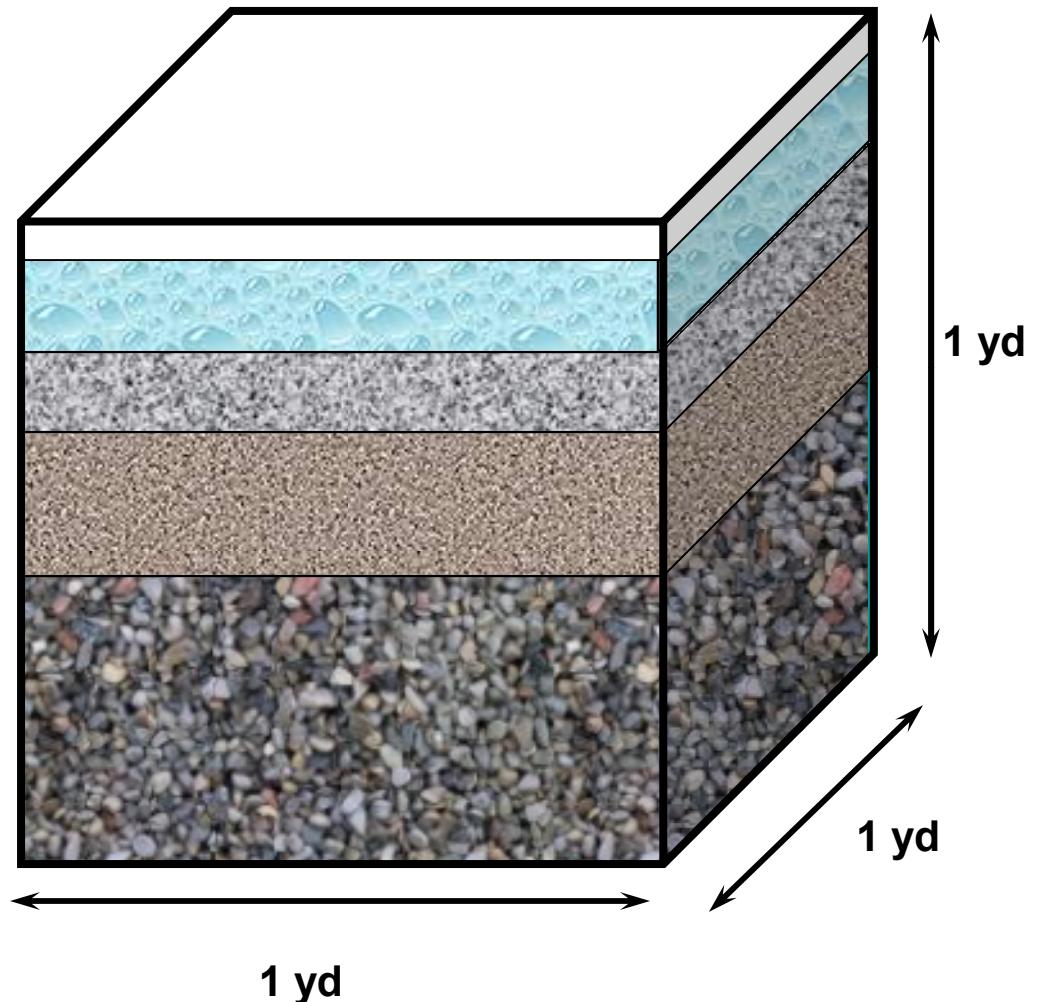
|              | Volume<br>yd <sup>3</sup> |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| Air          | 0.060                     |
| Water        | 0.150                     |
| Cement       | 0.111                     |
| Sand         | 0.245                     |
| Stone        | 0.434                     |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>1.000</b>              |



# Absolute Volume

Calculate the Density of each material based upon specific gravity:

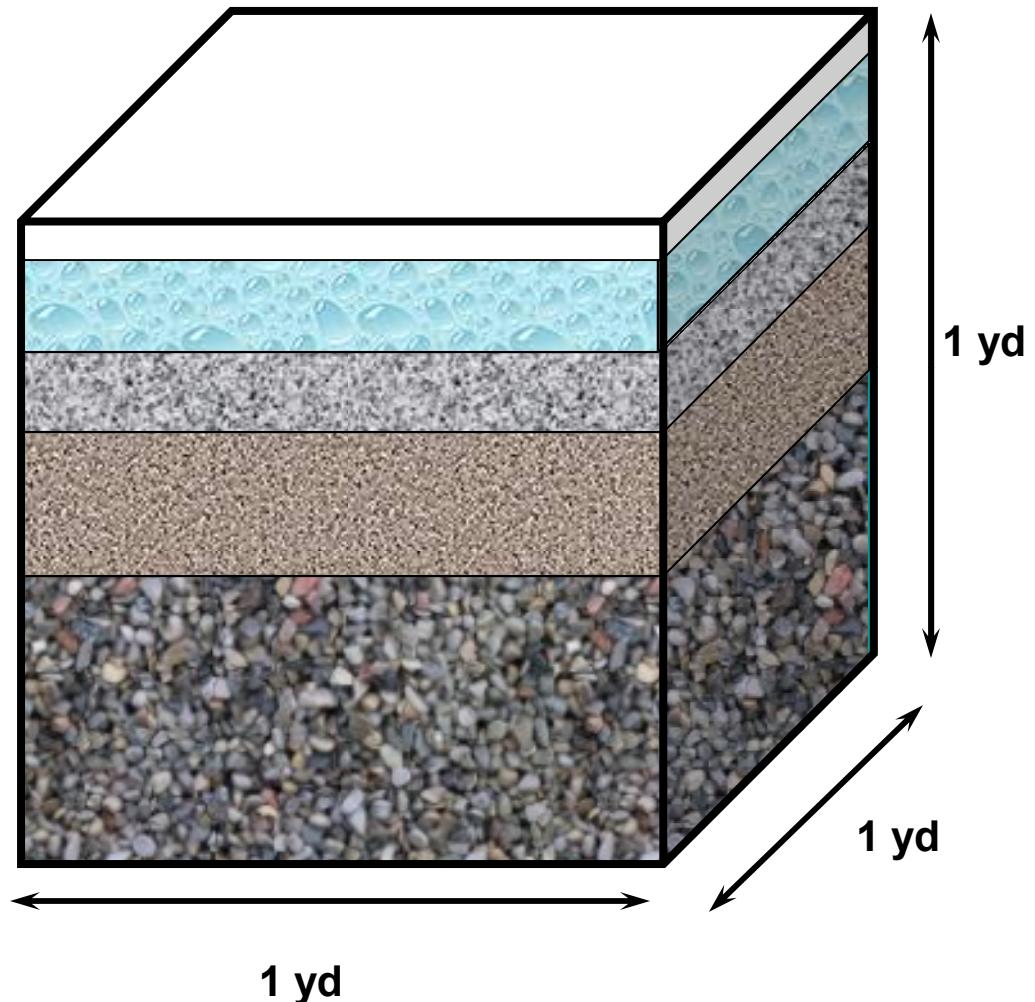
|        | S.G. | Density<br>lb/yd <sup>3</sup>       |
|--------|------|-------------------------------------|
| Air    |      |                                     |
| Water  | 1.0  | $1.0 \times 62.4 \times 27 = 1685$  |
| Cement | 3.15 | $3.15 \times 62.4 \times 27 = 5307$ |
| Sand   | 2.64 | $2.64 \times 62.4 \times 27 = 4448$ |
| Stone  | 2.64 | $2.64 \times 62.4 \times 27 = 4448$ |



# Absolute Volume

Calculate the Mass of each material based upon volume and density:

|        | Volume<br>yd <sup>3</sup> | Density<br>lb/yd <sup>3</sup> | Mass<br>lb |
|--------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Air    | 0.060                     |                               |            |
| Water  | 0.150                     | 1685                          | = 253      |
| Cement | 0.111                     | 5307                          | = 589      |
| Sand   | 0.245                     | 4448                          | = 1090     |
| Stone  | 0.434                     | 4448                          | = 1930     |
| Total  | 1.000                     |                               | 3862       |



# Absolute Volume

## Mixture Proportions

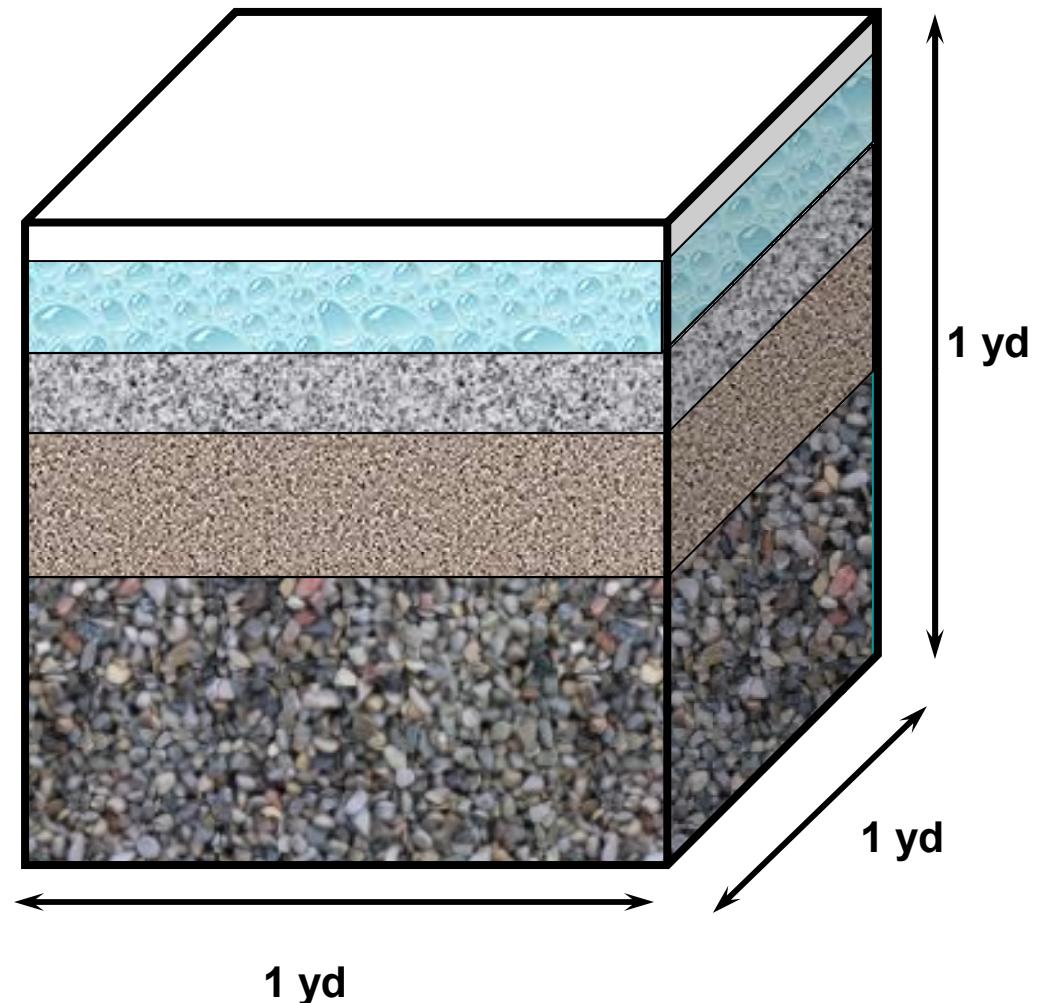
**Water**      253      lb/yd<sup>3</sup>

**Cement**      589      lb/yd<sup>3</sup>

**Sand**      1090      lb/yd<sup>3</sup>

**Stone**      1930      lb/yd<sup>3</sup>

**Air**      6%



# Concrete Mix Design

## Summary of Absolute Volume Method ACI 211.1

1. Strength Requirements

2. Determining W/CM

3. Coarse Aggregates

4. Air Content

5. Workability

6. Water Content

7. Cement Content

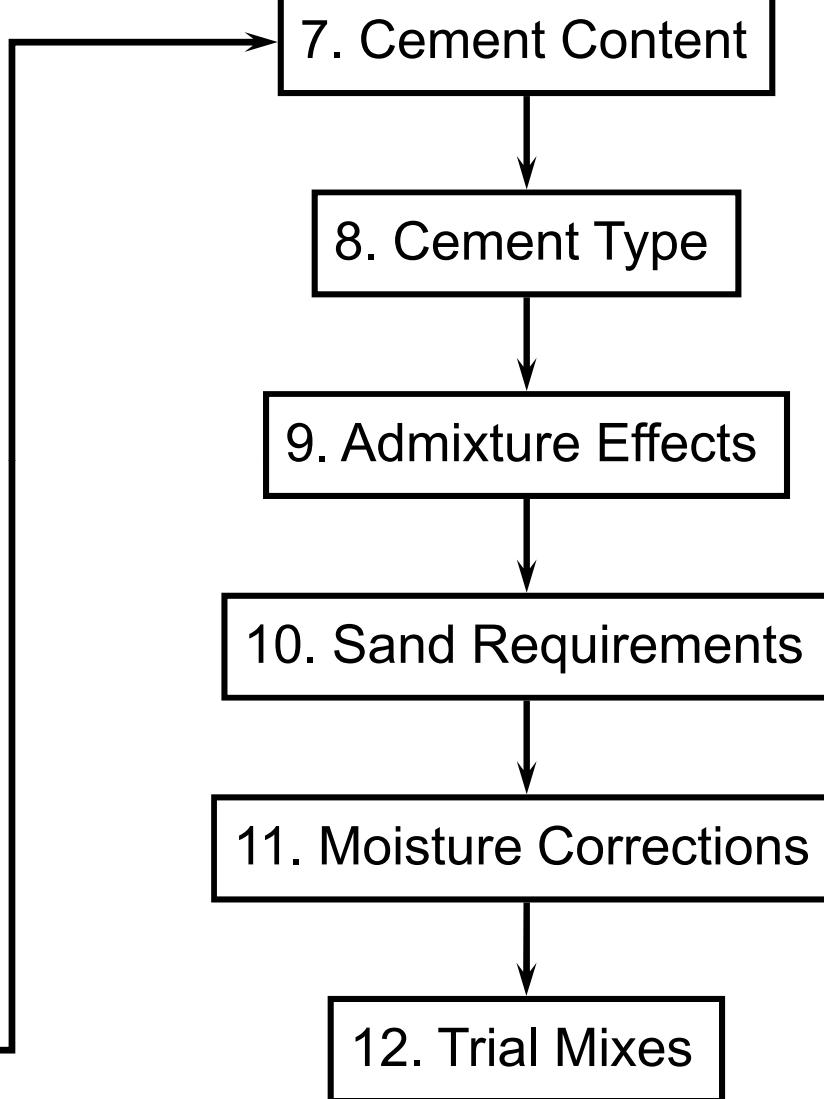
8. Cement Type

9. Admixture Effects

10. Sand Requirements

11. Moisture Corrections

12. Trial Mixes





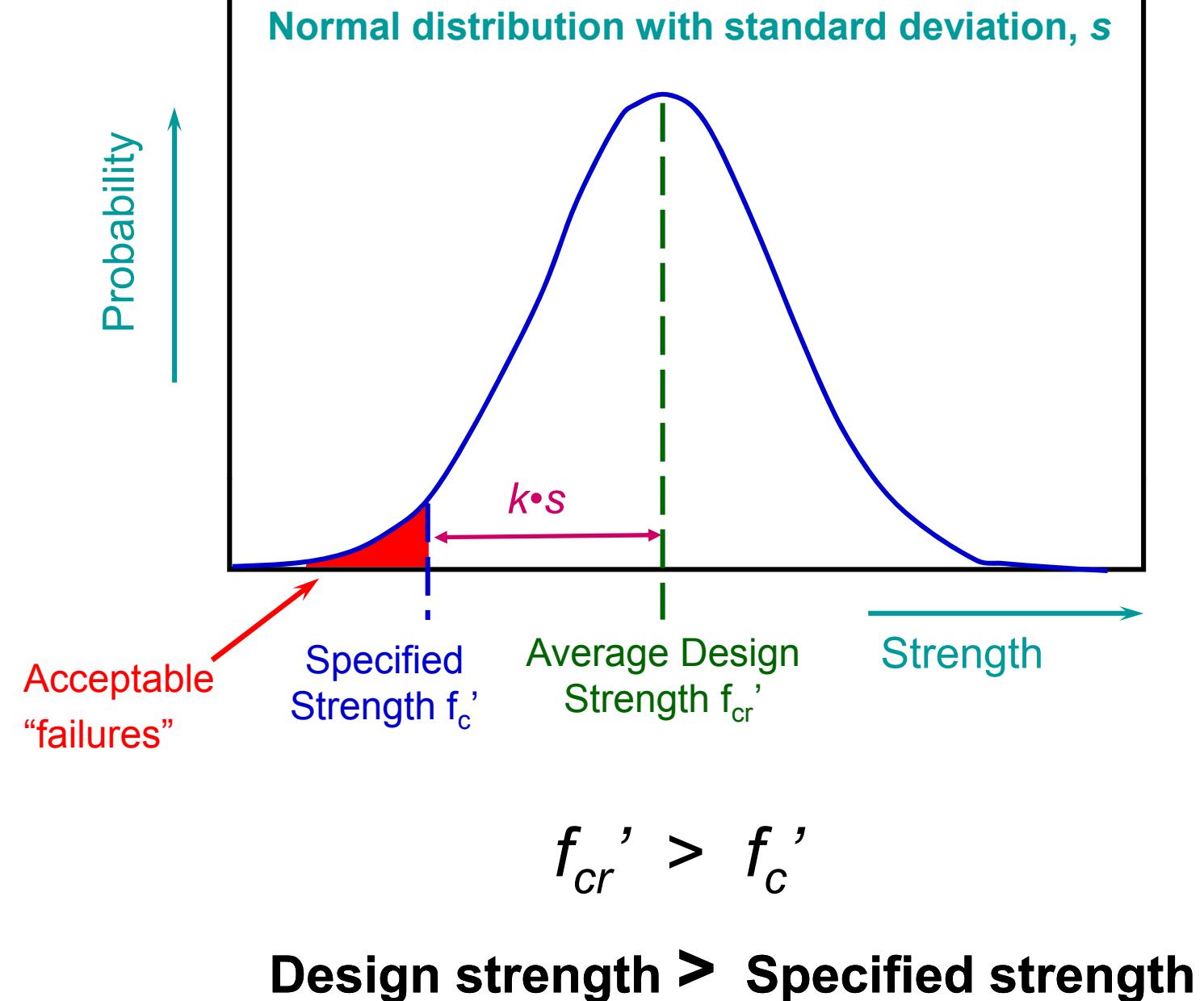
# 1. Strength Requirements

**Specified strength,  $f_c'$ , is determined from:**

- **Structural design considerations**
- **Durability considerations**

**Note:**

Although the durability of concrete is not directly related to strength – strength is used as an indirect means of assuring adequate durability



ACI 318 Building Code has requirements for the average strength  $f_{cr}'$  of a mix in relation to the specified (or required) strength  $f_c'$

**For  $f_c' \leq 35 \text{ MPa (5000 psi)}$ :**

1. The probability that the average of three consecutive tests (a test being defined as an average of two cylinders) is smaller than the specified strength  $f_c'$  is 1%

$$f_{cr}' = f_c' + 1.34S$$

2. The probability of an individual test result being more than 3.45 MPa below the specified strength  $f_c'$  is 1%

$$f_{cr}' = f_c' + 2.33S - 3.45 \text{ MPa}$$

or  $f_{cr}' = f_c' + 2.33S - 500 \text{ psi}$

ACI 318 Building Code has requirements for the average strength  $f_{cr}'$  of a mix in relation to the specified (or required) strength  $f_c'$

**For  $f_c' > 35 \text{ MPa (5000 psi)}$ :**

1. The probability that the average of three consecutive tests (a test being defined as an average of two cylinders) is smaller than the specified strength  $f_c'$  is 1%

$$f_{cr}' = f_c' + 1.34S$$

2. The probability of an individual test result being less than  $0.90f_c'$  is 1%

$$f_{cr}' = 0.90f_c' + 2.33S$$



The standard deviation should be based on at least 30 consecutive strength tests, representing concrete whose design strength is within 7 MPa (1000 psi) of that required for the work made with similar materials and under similar conditions to those expected.



If only 15 to 29 consecutive tests are available – multiply the standard deviation by the following modification factors:

| Number of Tests | Modification Factor |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Less than 15    | Use Tables          |
| 15              | 1.16                |
| 20              | 1.08                |
| 25              | 1.03                |
| 30 or more      | 1.00                |

If less than 15 consecutive tests are available - the following table can be used to determine the required average strength  $f_{cr}'$

| Specified Strength<br>$f_c'$ (MPa) | Required Average<br>Strength $f_{cr}'$ (MPa) |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Less than 21                       | $f_c' + 7.0$                                 |
| 21 to 35                           | $f_c' + 8.5$                                 |
| Over 35                            | $1.10f_c' + 5.0$                             |

| Specified Strength<br>$f_c'$ (psi) | Required Average<br>Strength $f_{cr}'$ (psi) |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Less than 3000                     | $f_c' + 1000$                                |
| 3000 to 5000                       | $f_c' + 1200$                                |
| Over 5000                          | $1.10f_c' + 700$                             |

# Durability Requirements

| Category  | Severity       | Class | Condition   |  | Max w/cm | Min. $f'_c$ (psi) | Cement ?            | USE ? |
|---|----------------|-------|---|--|----------|-------------------|---------------------|-------|
| F<br>(Freezing<br>and<br>Thawing)               | Not Applicable | F0    | Concrete <b>not exposed</b> to freezing-and-thawing cycles  |  | N/A      | 2,500             | No Type Restriction |       |
|   | Moderate       | F1    | Concrete exposed to freezing-and-thawing cycles and <b>occasional</b> exposure to moisture  |  | 0.45     | 4,500             |                     |       |
|   | Severe         | F2    | Concrete exposed to freezing-and-thawing cycles and in <b>continuous</b> contact with moisture  |  | 0.45     | 4,500             |                     |       |
|   | Very Severe    | F3    | Concrete exposed to freezing-and-thawing and in <b>continuous</b> contact with moisture and <b>exposed</b> to deicing chemicals                             |  | 0.45     | 4,500             |                     |       |
| S*<br>(Sulfate)<br><br>*PCA                     |                |       | Water-soluble sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4$ ) in soil (percent by weight)   | Dissolved sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4$ ) in water (ppm) |          |                   |                     |       |
|   | Not Applicable | SO    | $\text{SO}_4 < 0.10$  | $\text{SO}_4 < 150$                                | N/A      | 2,500             | No Type Restriction |       |
|   | Moderate       | S1    | $0.10 \leq \text{SO}_4 < 0.20$  | $150 \leq \text{SO}_4 < 1500$<br>Seawater          | 0.50     | 4,000             | II                  |       |
|   | Severe         | S2    | $0.20 \leq \text{SO}_4 \leq 2.00$   | $1500 \leq \text{SO}_4 \leq 10,000$                | 0.45     | 4,500             | V                   |       |
|   | Very Severe    | S3    | $\text{SO}_4 > 2.00$  | $\text{SO}_4 > 10,000$                             | 0.40*    | 5000*             | V* or V**           |       |
| C<br>(Corrosion Protection)                     | Not Applicable | CO    | Concrete <b>dry or protected</b> from moisture  |  | N/A      | 2,500             | No Type Restriction |       |
|   | Moderate       | C1    | Concrete <b>exposed to moisture but not to external sources of chlorides</b>  |  | N/A      | 2,500             |                     |       |
|   | Severe         | C2    | Concrete <b>exposed to moisture and an external source of chlorides</b> from deicing chemicals, salt, brackish water, seawater, or spray from these sources |  | 0.40     | 5,000             |                     |       |
| <b>Summary of Most Restrictive Requirements</b> |                |       |   |  |          |                   |                     |       |

## 2. Water-Cement Ratio

The water-cement ratio (W/C) is determined from:

- Durability considerations
- Required strength  $f_{cr}'$

- w/c:  $\frac{\text{Quantity of Water}}{\text{Quantity of Cement}}$

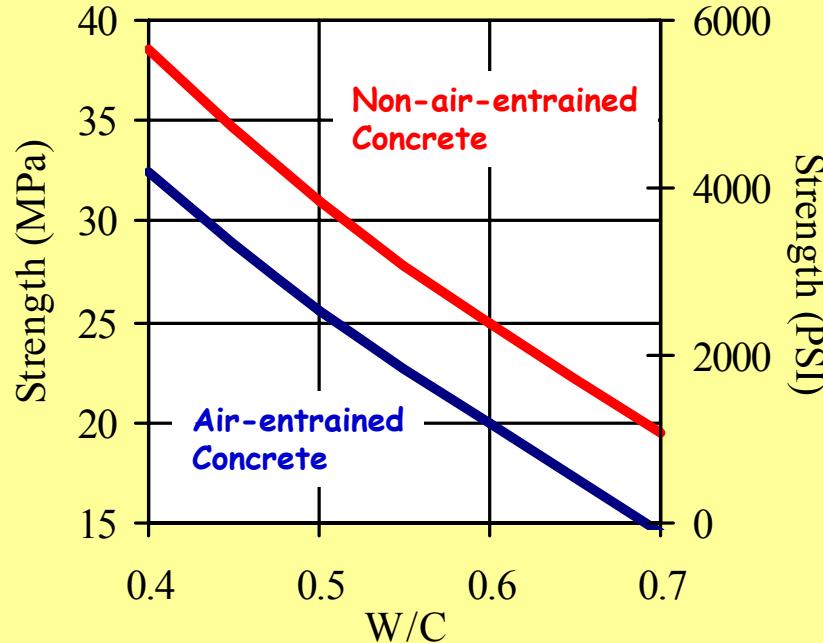
Water in excess of 0.25-0.28 w/c  
is considered “water of convenience”

For optimum workability during  
placement recommend a 0.42-0.45 w/c  
or use of chemical admixtures.

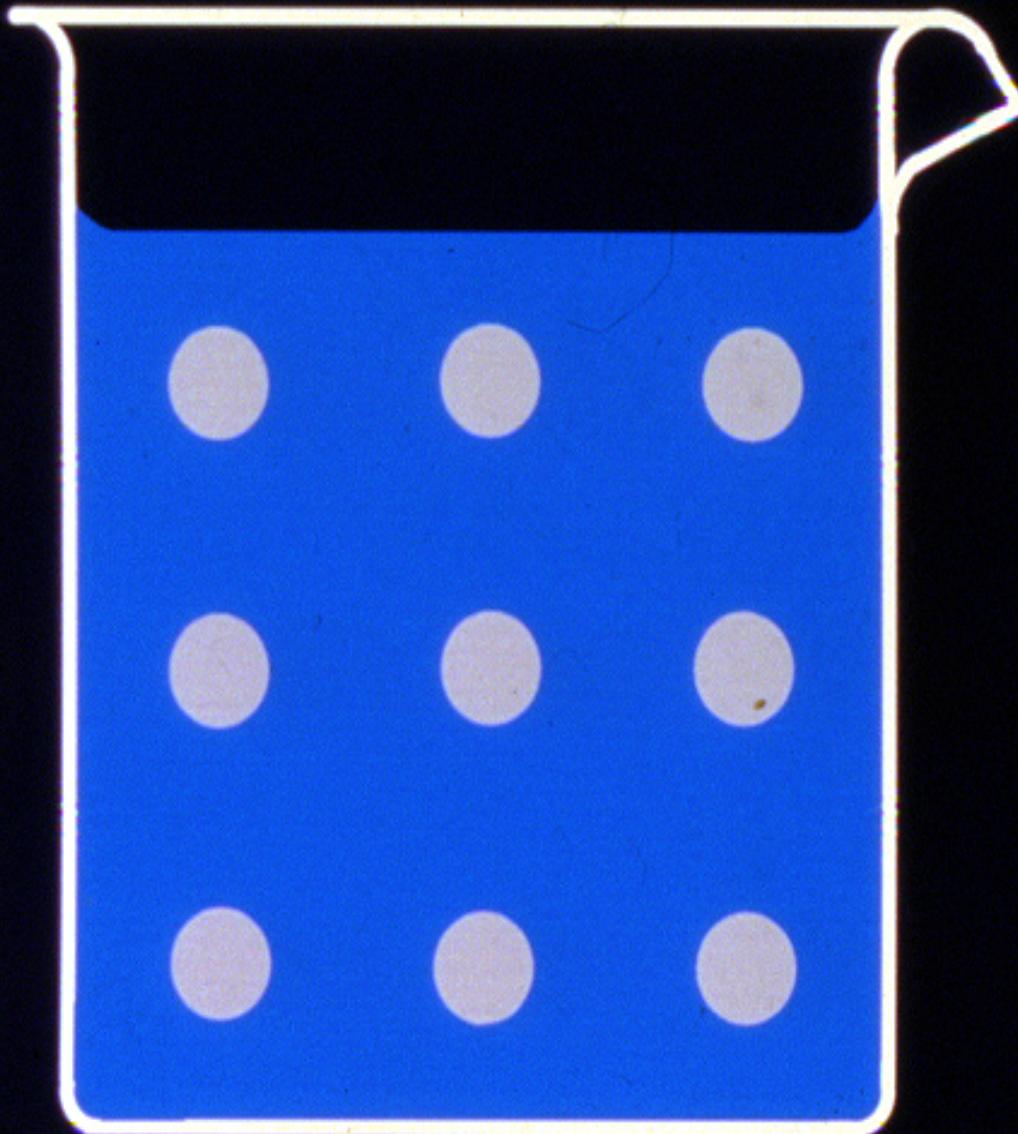
# The Water-Cement Ratio Law

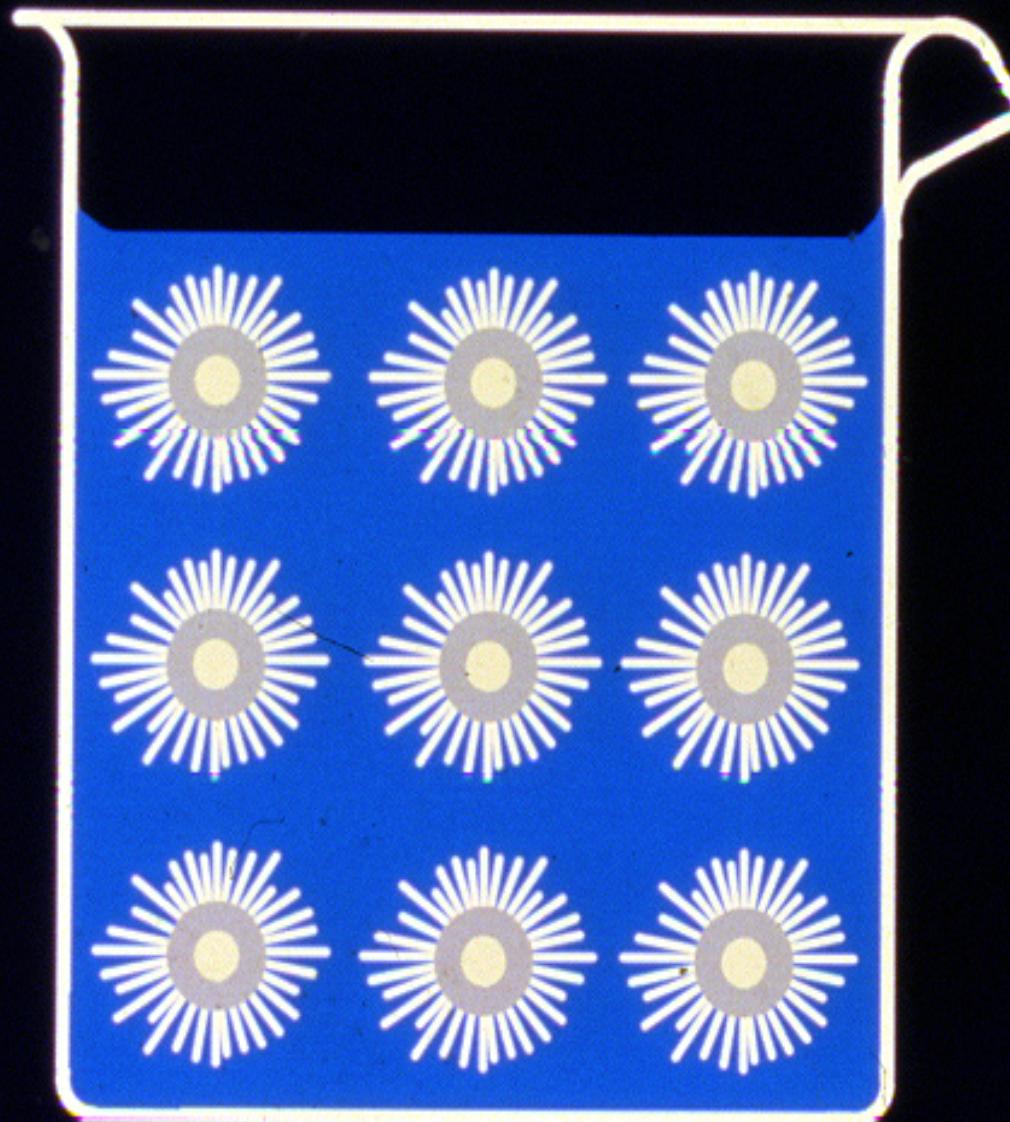
For given materials the strength of the concrete (so long as we have a plastic mix) depends solely on the relative quantity of water as compared with the cement, regardless of mix or size and grading of aggregate.

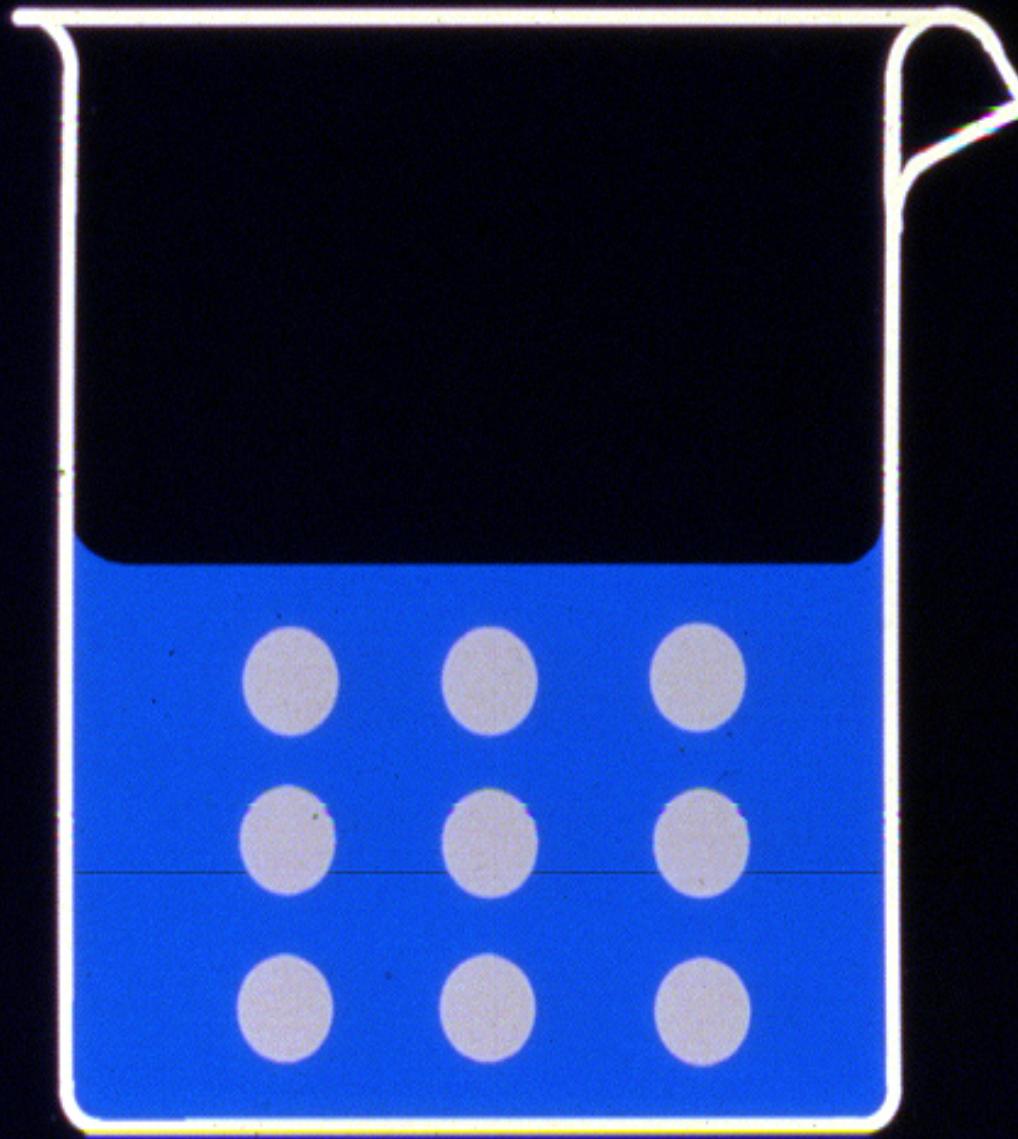
Typical Relationship for PC Concrete

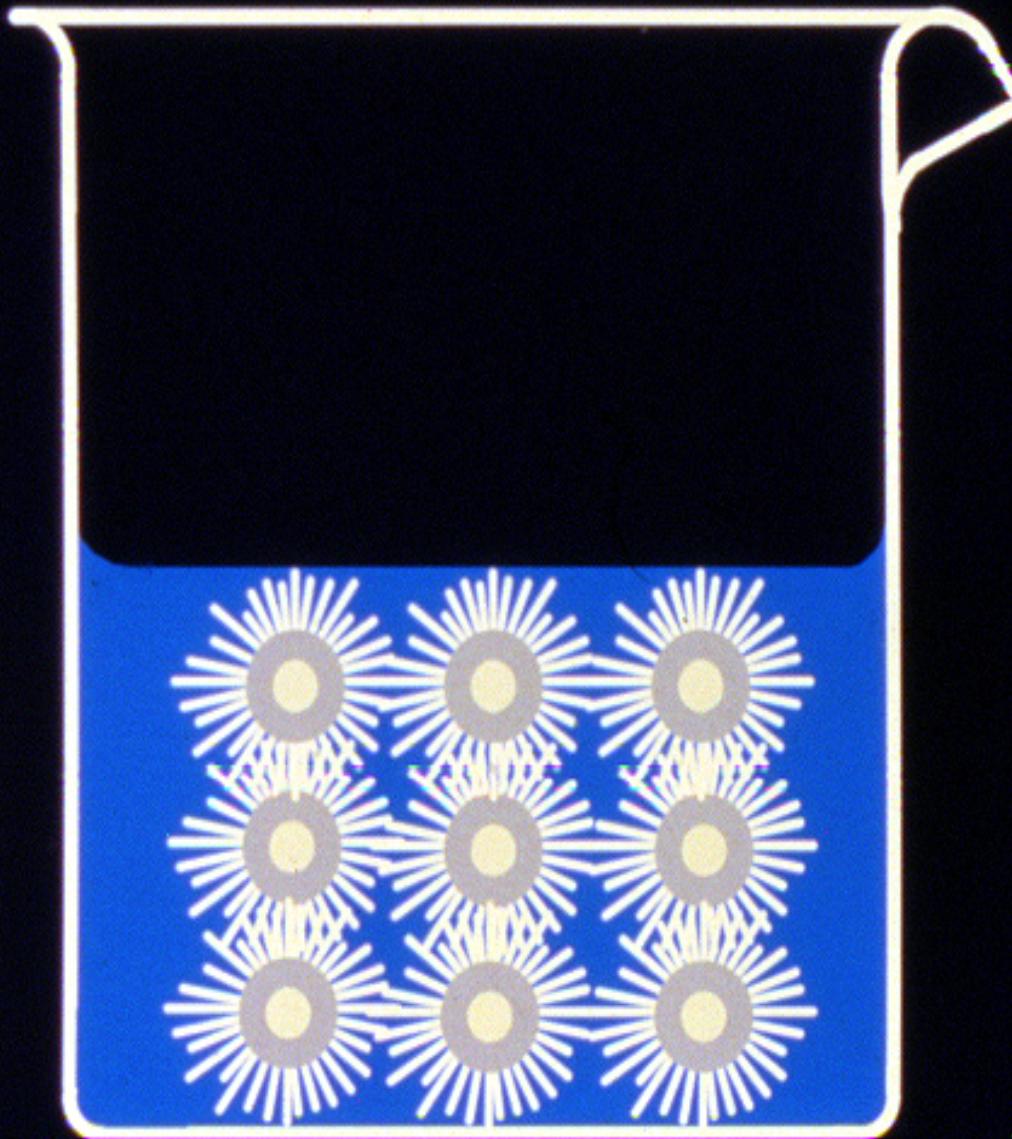


Duff A. Abrams  
May, 1918





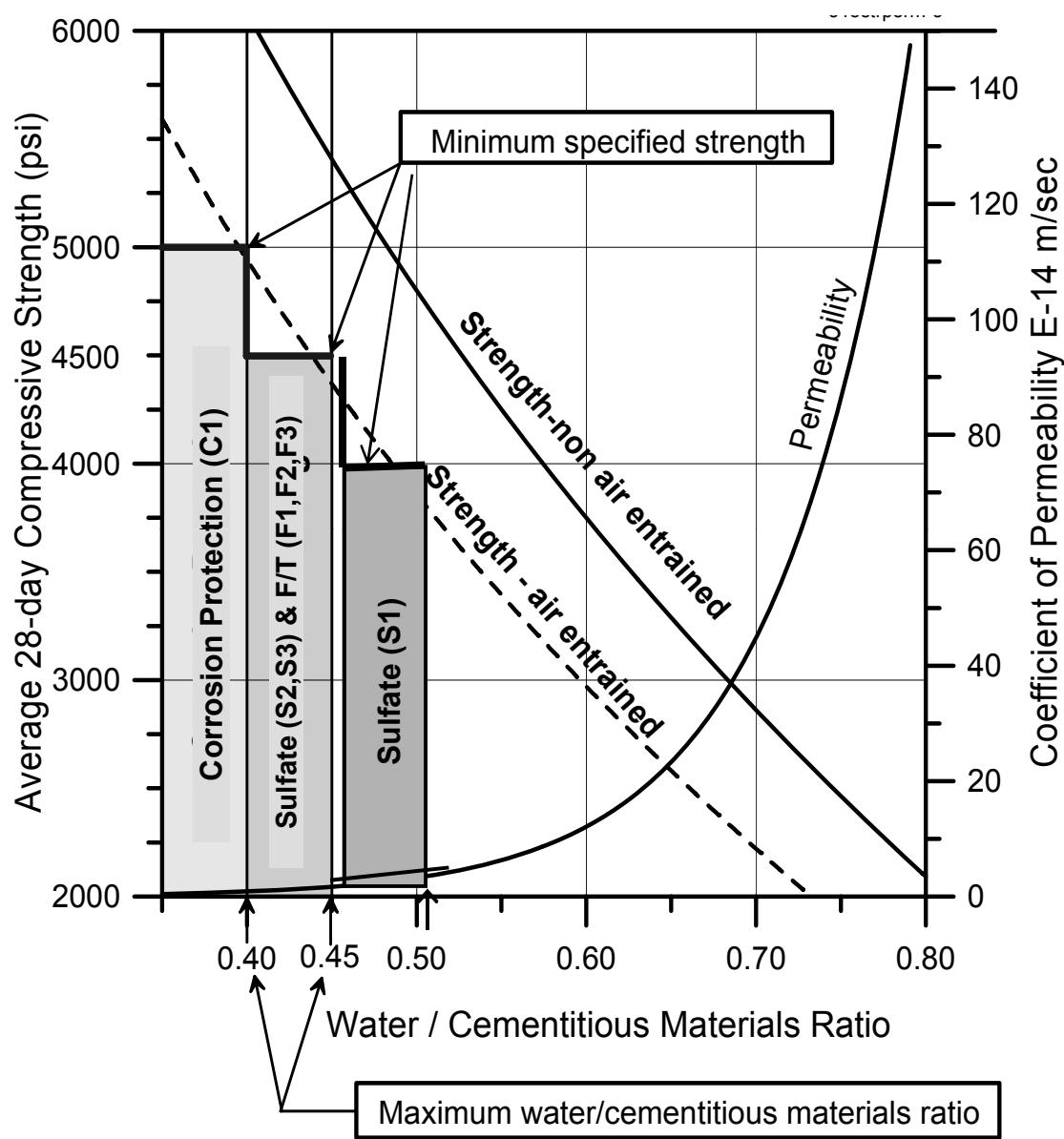




# Durability Requirements

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|   | Very Severe    | F3    | Concrete exposed to freezing-and-thawing and in <b>continuous</b> contact with moisture and <b>exposed</b> to deicing chemicals                             |  | 0.45     | 4,500             |                     |       |
| S*<br>(Sulfate)<br><br>*PCA                     |                |       | Water-soluble sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4$ ) in soil (percent by weight)   | Dissolved sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4$ ) in water (ppm) |          |                   |                     |       |
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| <b>Summary of Most Restrictive Requirements</b> |                |       |   |  |          |                   |                     |       |

# Durability Considerations



(Image adapted from Hover 2003)

## W/CM required for strength:

- Use data from field or trial mixtures using the same materials
- Where no data are available – may estimate using the table shown:

| Required design<br>strength<br>$f_{cr}'$ (psi) | W/CM              |               |
|--|-------------------|---------------|
|  | Non-Air Entrained | Air-Entrained |
| 7000   | 0.33              | -             |
| 6000   | 0.41              | 0.32          |
| 5000   | 0.48              | 0.40          |
| 4000   | 0.57              | 0.48          |
| 3000   | 0.68              | 0.59          |
| 2000   | 0.82              | 0.74          |

### 3. Coarse Aggregate Requirements

#### Influence of Aggregates

- **Physical Properties**

- Gradation

- Shape

- Size

- Surface texture

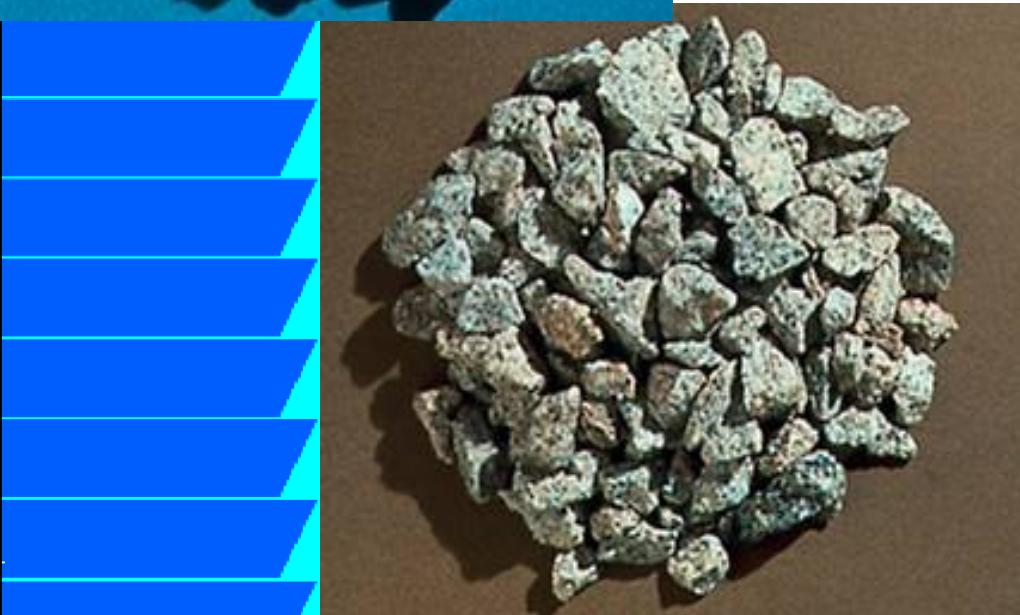
- Color

*Specified by-*

*ASTM C33*

*(Fine- AASHTO M 6)*

*(Coarse- AASHTO M 80)*



### 3. Coarse Aggregate Requirements

#### Influence of Aggregates

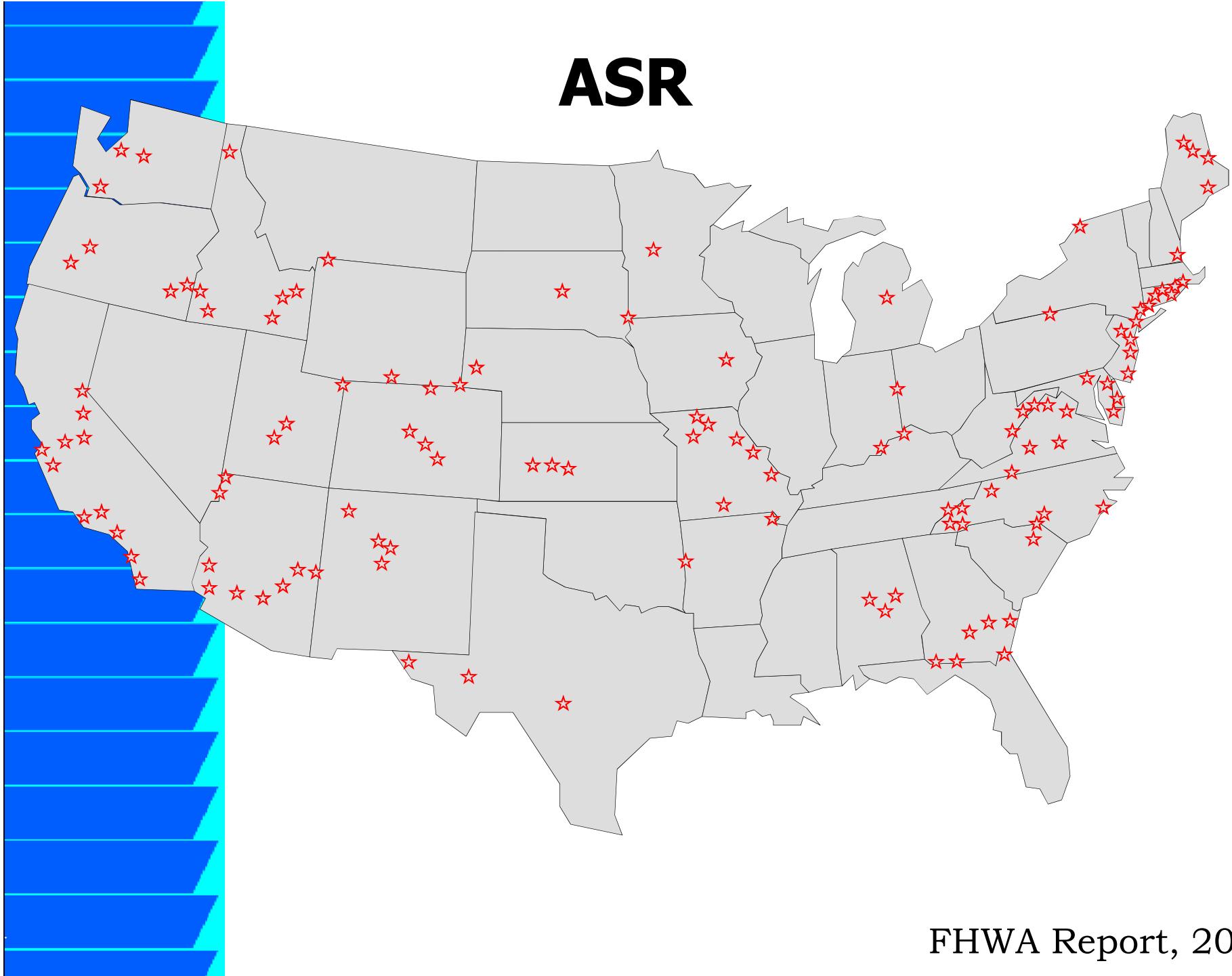
- **DURABILITY**  
Weathering  
Impurities



# Harmful Materials

| Substances   | Effect on concrete                                     | Test designation                                |
|--|--|---|
| Organic impurities   | Affects setting and hardening, may cause deterioration | ASTM C40<br>ASTM C87                            |
| Materials finer than the 75- $\mu\text{m}$ (No. 200) sieve | Affects bond, increases water requirement              | ASTM C117                                       |
| Coal, lignite, or other lightweight materials              | Affects durability, may cause stains and popouts       | ASTM C123                                       |
| Soft particles   | Affects durability                                     | ASTM C235                                       |
| Clay lumps and friable particles                           | Affects workability and durability, may cause popouts  | ASTM C142                                       |
| Chert of less than 2.40 relative density                   | Affects durability, may cause popouts                  | ASTM C123<br>ASTM C295                          |
| Alkali-reactive aggregates                                 | Causes abnormal expansion, map cracking, and popouts   | ASTM C227, C289, C295, C342, C586, C1260, C1293 |

# ASR



FHWA Report, 2002



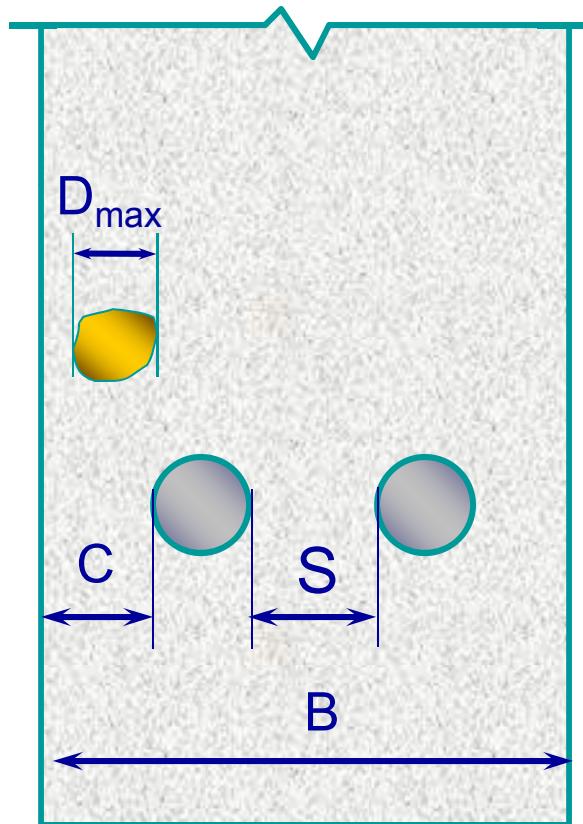
Maximum aggregate size,  $D_{\max}$ , is governed by:

Cover between steel and forms, C:  $D_{\max} \leq \frac{3}{4}C$

Spacing between bars, S:  $D_{\max} \leq \frac{3}{4}S$

Distance between forms, B:  $D_{\max} \leq \frac{B}{5}$

In general, coarse aggregate graded up to the largest size practical for the job conditions provides the most economical mix.





Maximum aggregate size,  $D_{\max}$ , is governed by:

Thickness of the slab,  $T$ :  $D_{\max} \leq T/3$

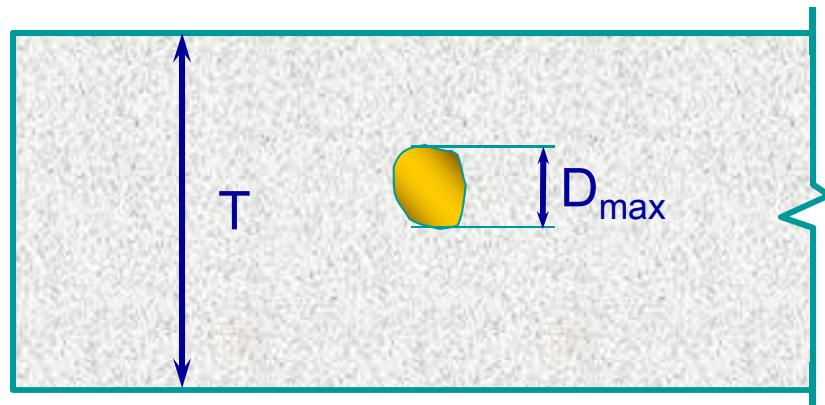
For pumped concrete:

$D_{\max} \leq 1/3$  diameter of hose

or  $\leq 40$  mm ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  in.)

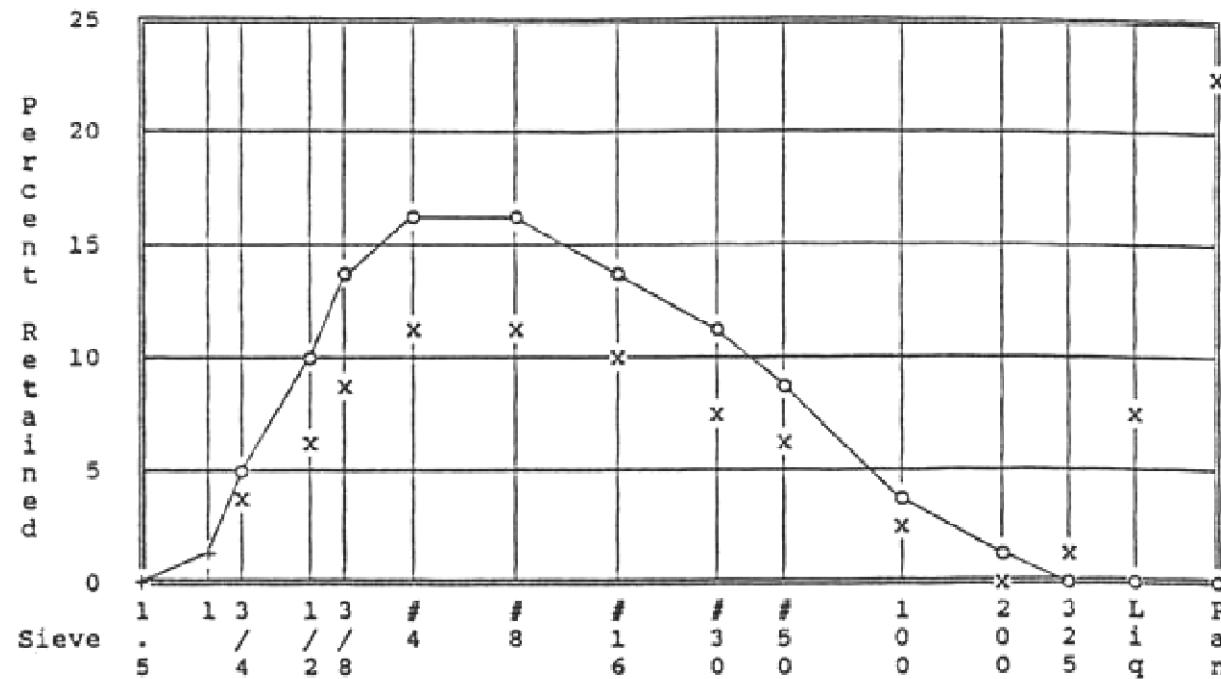
whichever is smaller

In general, coarse aggregate graded up to the largest size practical for the job conditions provides the most economical mix.



# Aggregate Optimization

- Combined fineness modulus
- 8 to 18% retained on each standard sieve
- Coarseness factor chart
- 0.45 power chart





# Fineness Modulus of Sand

- The fineness modulus is calculated from the particle size distribution of the fine aggregate (sand).
- Values for sand suitable for concrete should range between 2.3 and 3.1
- Coarse sand has a higher fineness modulus than fine sand.
- The fineness modulus influences the bulk volume of coarse aggregate.

# Calculating the fineness of modulus

| Sieve size       | % retained |  |  |
|------------------|------------|--|--|
| 9.5 mm (3/8 in.) | 0          |  |  |
| 4.75 mm (No. 4)  | 2          |  |  |
| 2.36 mm (No. 8)  | 13         |  |  |
| 1.18 mm (No. 16) | 20         |  |  |
| 600 µm (No. 30)  | 20         |  |  |
| 300 µm (No. 50)  | 24         |  |  |
| 150 µm (No. 100) | 18         |  |  |
| Pan              | 3          |  |  |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>100</b> |  |  |

# Calculating the fineness of modulus

| Sieve size       | % retained | Cumulative % passing |  |
|------------------|------------|----------------------|--|
| 9.5 mm (3/8 in.) | 0          | 100                  |  |
| 4.75 mm (No. 4)  | 2          | 98                   |  |
| 2.36 mm (No. 8)  | 13         | 85                   |  |
| 1.18 mm (No. 16) | 20         | 65                   |  |
| 600 µm (No. 30)  | 20         | 45                   |  |
| 300 µm (No. 50)  | 24         | 21                   |  |
| 150 µm (No. 100) | 18         | 3                    |  |
| Pan              | 3          | 0                    |  |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>100</b> |                      |  |

# Calculating the fineness of modulus

| Sieve size       | % retained | Cumulative % passing | Cumulative % retained |
|------------------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 9.5 mm (3/8 in.) | 0          | 100                  | 0                     |
| 4.75 mm (No. 4)  | 2          | 98                   | 2                     |
| 2.36 mm (No. 8)  | 13         | 85                   | 15                    |
| 1.18 mm (No. 16) | 20         | 65                   | 35                    |
| 600 µm (No. 30)  | 20         | 45                   | 55                    |
| 300 µm (No. 50)  | 24         | 21                   | 79                    |
| 150 µm (No. 100) | 18         | 3                    | 97                    |
| Pan              | 3          | 0                    | -                     |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>100</b> |                      | <b>283</b>            |

$$\text{Fineness modulus, FM} = \frac{283}{100} = 2.83$$

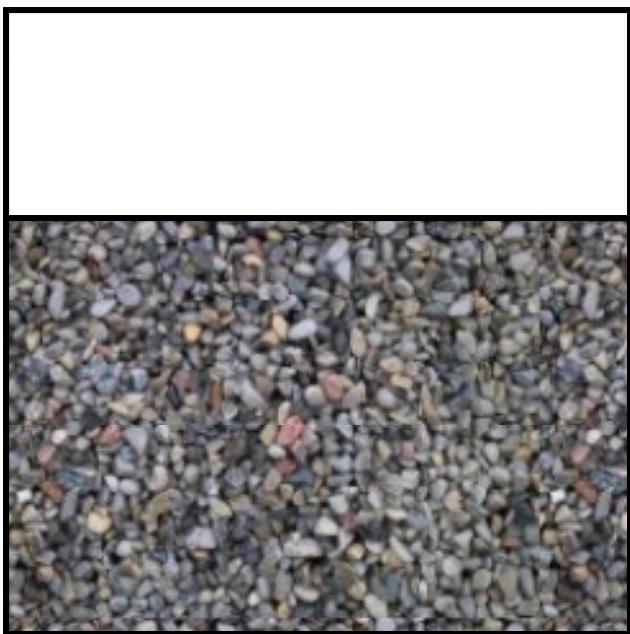
# Bulk Volume of Coarse Aggregate

| Max. Size<br>mm (in.) | Bulk volume of dry-rodded coarse aggregate per unit volume of concrete for different fineness moduli of fine aggregate |      |      |      |
|-----------------------|--|------|------|------|
|                       | 2.40   | 2.60 | 2.80 | 3.00 |
| 9.5 (3/8)             | 0.50   | 0.48 | 0.46 | 0.44 |
| 12.5 (½)              | 0.59   | 0.57 | 0.55 | 0.53 |
| 19 (¾)                | 0.66   | 0.64 | 0.62 | 0.60 |
| 25 (1)                | 0.71   | 0.69 | 0.67 | 0.65 |
| 37.5 (1½)             | 0.75   | 0.73 | 0.71 | 0.69 |
| 50 (2)                | 0.78   | 0.76 | 0.74 | 0.72 |
| 75 (3)                | 0.82   | 0.80 | 0.78 | 0.76 |
| 150 (6)               | 0.87   | 0.85 | 0.83 | 0.81 |

## Bulk volume:

- Volume occupied by dry-rodded coarse aggregates
- Includes void space between the aggregate

**1 yd<sup>3</sup>**



**Bulk volume = 0.67**

Bulk volume occupied  
by the coarse aggregate  
is **0.67 yd<sup>3</sup>**

**0.670 yd<sup>3</sup>**

# Bulk Volume of Coarse Aggregate

| Max. Size<br>mm (in.) | Bulk volume of dry-rodded coarse aggregate per unit volume of concrete for different fineness moduli of fine aggregate |      |      |      |
|-----------------------|--|------|------|------|
|                       | 2.40   | 2.60 | 2.80 | 3.00 |
| 10 (3/8)              | 0.50   | 0.48 | 0.46 | 0.44 |
| 12.5 (½)              | 0.59   | 0.57 | 0.55 | 0.53 |
| 20 (¾)                | 0.66   | 0.64 | 0.62 | 0.60 |
| 25 (1)                | 0.71   | 0.69 | 0.67 | 0.65 |
| 37.5 (1½)             | 0.75   | 0.73 | 0.71 | 0.69 |
| 50 (2)                | 0.78   | 0.76 | 0.74 | 0.72 |
| 75 (3)                | 0.82   | 0.80 | 0.78 | 0.76 |
| 150 (6)               | 0.87   | 0.85 | 0.83 | 0.81 |



# Bulk Volume of Coarse Aggregate

The values in the tables are based on aggregates in a dry-rodded condition (ASTM C29).

They are suitable for producing concrete with a moderate workability suitable for general concrete construction

For less workable concrete (slipform paving) – the bulk volume may be increased by about 10%

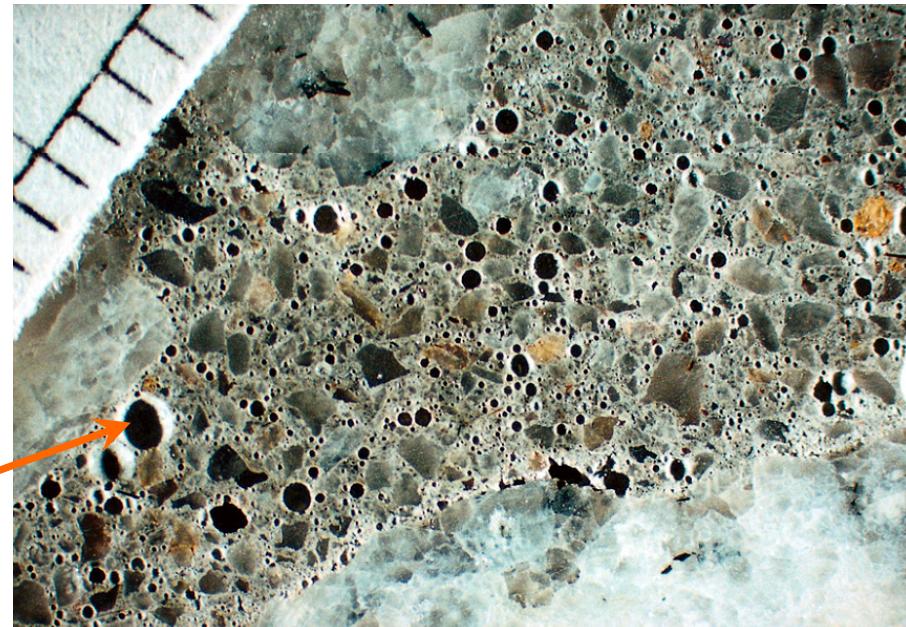
For more workable concrete (pumped concrete) – the bulk volume may be reduced by up to 10%

## 4. Air Content

Entrained air must be used in concrete that will be exposed to freezing and thawing and can be used to improve workability even when not required.

The amount of air required in concrete depends on:

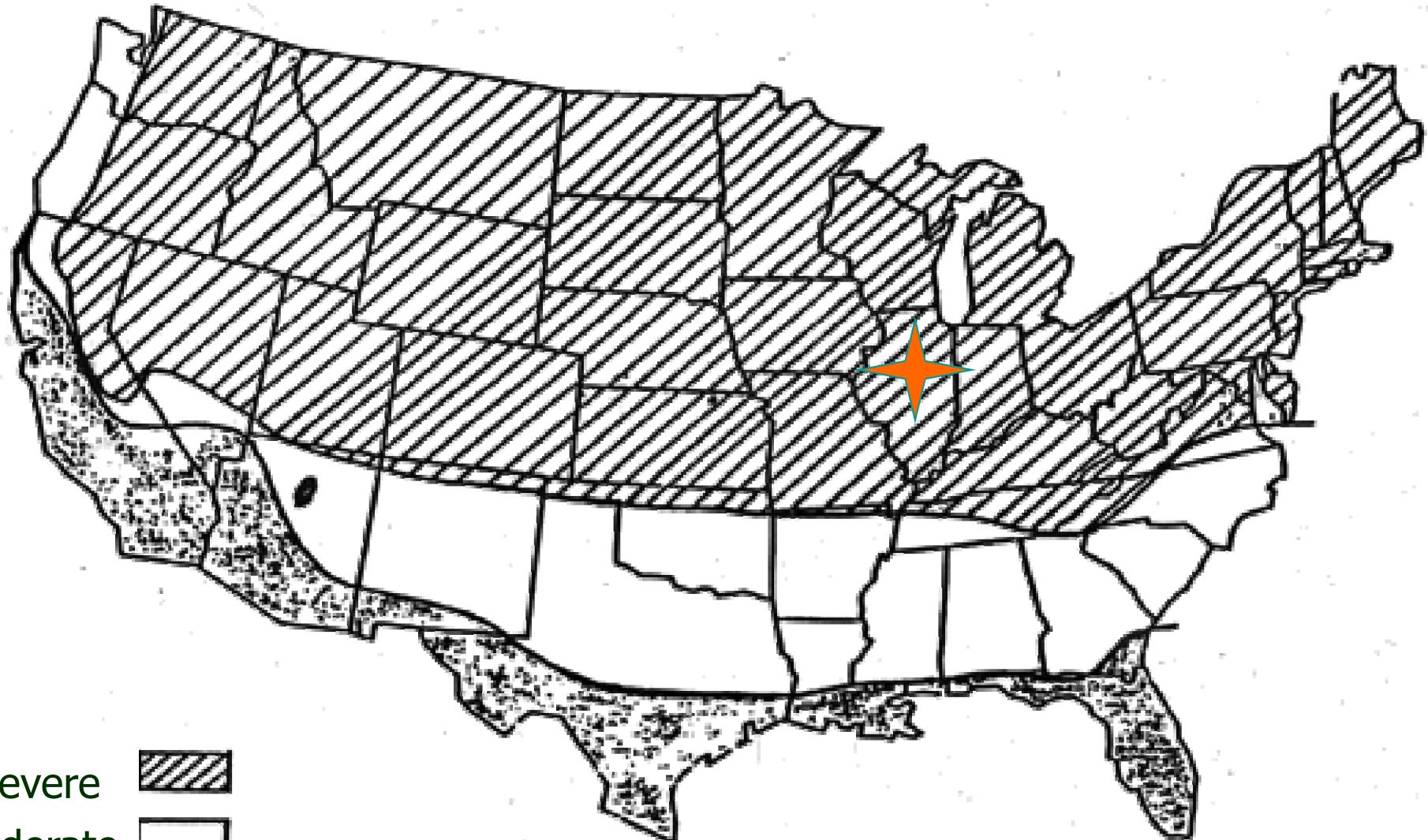
- Max. aggregate size
- Level of exposure



Entrained Air

*Air is entrained in the paste fraction of the concrete, and in properly proportioned mixes, the volume of the paste decreases as the max. aggregate size increases*

• C 33



- Severe
- Moderate
- Negligible

## Weathering Regions

# 4. Air Content

ACI 318-08 Durability Requirements:

| Nominal maximum aggregate size, in.* | Air content, percent |                            |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
|                                      | Exposure Class F1    | Exposure Classes F2 and F3 |
| 3/8                                  | 6                    | 7.5                        |
| 1/2                                  | 5.5                  | 7                          |
| 3/4                                  | 5                    | 6                          |
| 1                                    | 4.5                  | 6                          |
| 1-1/2                                | 4.5                  | 5.5                        |
| 2†                                   | 4                    | 5                          |
| 3†                                   | 3.5                  | 4.5                        |

\*See ASTM C33 for tolerance on oversize for various nominal maximum size designations.

†Air contents apply to total mixture. When testing concretes, however, aggregate particles larger than 1-1/2 in. are removed by sieving and air content is measured on the sieved fraction (tolerance on air content as delivered applies to this value). Air content of total mixture is computed from value measured on the sieved fraction passing the 1-1/2 in. sieve in accordance with ASTM C231.

## 4. Air Content

Typical (entrapped) air content percents %  
in non-air-entrained concrete

| Nominal Maximum Aggregate Size |         |         |       |           |       |       |        |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|--------|
| 10 mm                          | 12.5 mm | 20 mm   | 25 mm | 37.5 mm   | 50 mm | 75 mm | 150 mm |
| 3/8 in.                        | 1/2 in. | 3/4 in. | 1 in. | 1-1/2 in. | 2 in. | 3 in. | 6 in.  |
| 3.0                            | 2.5     | 2.0     | 1.5   | 1.0       | 0.5   | 0.3   | 0.2    |

## 4. Air Content



Effect of air content on water demand

Rule of thumb: decrease water by  
 $3 \text{ kg/m}^3$  ( $5 \text{ lb/yd}^3$ ) for each 1% air

## 5. Workability Requirements

Concrete must always be made with a **workability**, **consistency** and **plasticity** suitable for job placement conditions.



Slump is a measure of concrete consistency.

Slump should not be used to compare mixtures of totally different proportions.

## 5. Workability Requirements

When slump is not specified –

Caution using the workability table in ACI 211:

| Concrete construction                            | Slump, mm (in.) |         |
|--|-----------------|---------|
|  | Maximum         | Minimum |
| Reinforced foundation walls and footings         | 75 (3)          | 25 (1)  |
| Plain footings, caissons, and substructure walls | 75 (3)          | 25 (1)  |
| Beams and reinforced walls                       | 100 (4)         | 25 (1)  |
| Building columns                                 | 100 (4)         | 25 (1)  |
| Pavements and slabs                              | 75 (3)          | 25 (1)  |
| Mass concrete                                    | 75 (3)          | 25 (1)  |



## 6. Water Content

Water demand is influenced by:

- slump requirements
- aggregate size
- aggregate shape
- air content
- cementing materials content
- temperature
- admixtures  
(water-reducing & superplasticizing)

# 6. Water Content

## Adjusting slump:

Slump increased by 10 mm by adding 2 kg/m<sup>3</sup>  
of water (increased by 1 in. by adding 10 lb/yd<sup>3</sup>)



## 6. Water Content

Water requirements (lb/yd<sup>3</sup>) for non-air-entrained concrete

| Slump<br>(in) | Nominal Maximum Aggregate Size |         |         |       |           |       |       |
|---------------|--------------------------------|---------|---------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|
|               | 3/8 in.                        | 1/2 in. | 3/4 in. | 1 in. | 1-1/2 in. | 2 in. | 3 in. |
| 1 to 2        | 350                            | 335     | 315     | 300   | 275       | 260   | 220   |
| 3 to 4        | 385                            | 365     | 340     | 325   | 300       | 285   | 245   |
| 6 to 7        | 410                            | 385     | 360     | 340   | 315       | 300   | 270   |

Values shown are for angular aggregate (crushed stone). These estimates can be reduced by approximately 20 lb for sub-angular aggregate, 35 lb for gravel with some crushed particles, and 45 lb for rounded gravel.

## 6. Water Content

Water requirements (lb/yd<sup>3</sup>) for air-entrained concrete

| Slump<br>(in) | Nominal Maximum Aggregate Size |         |         |       |           |       |       |
|---------------|--------------------------------|---------|---------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|
|               | 3/8 in.                        | 1/2 in. | 3/4 in. | 1 in. | 1-1/2 in. | 2 in. | 3 in. |
| 1 to 2        | 305                            | 295     | 280     | 270   | 250       | 240   | 205   |
| 3 to 4        | 340                            | 325     | 305     | 295   | 275       | 265   | 225   |
| 6 to 7        | 365                            | 345     | 325     | 310   | 290       | 280   | 260   |

Values shown are for angular aggregate (crushed stone). These estimates can be reduced by approximately 20 lb for sub-angular aggregate, 35 lb for gravel with some crushed particles, and 45 lb for rounded gravel.

## 7. Cement Content

$$\text{Cement Material Content} = \frac{\text{Water Content}}{\text{W/CM}}$$



A minimum cement content may be specified for the purpose of:

- Durability
- Finishability
- Improved wear resistance
- Appearance

# Cement Content

$$\text{Cement Material Content} = \frac{\text{Water Content}}{\text{W/CM}}$$



Excessively high cementitious material contents should be avoided for:

- economy
- avoid adverse effects
  - workability
  - shrinkage
  - heat of hydration

*Illinois*

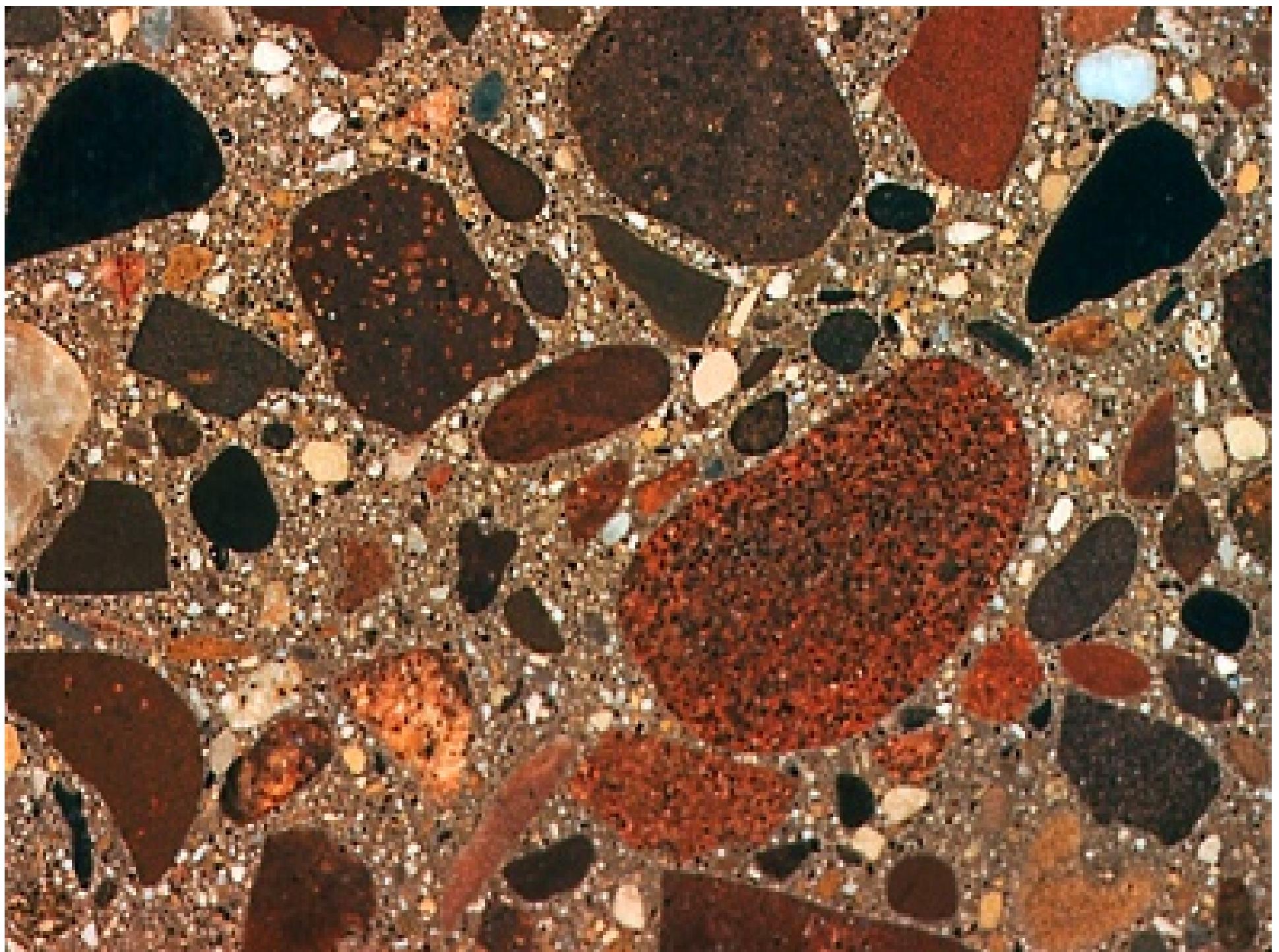
03-04  
4C0068532

6 BAG MX

Land of Lincoln

B  
TRUCK

BUMPER CAPACITY ONLY  
VEHICLE CAPACITY  
MAY DIFFER  
SEE OWNER'S GUIDE



# Cement Content

General recommendations:

- Cementitious material  $\geq 335 \text{ kg/m}^3$  ( $564 \text{ lb/yd}^3$ ) for severe freeze-thaw, deicer, and sulfate exposures
- Cementitious material  $\geq 390 \text{ kg/m}^3$  ( $650 \text{ lb/yd}^3$ ) for concrete to be placed under water (also  $\text{W/CM} \leq 0.45$ )

flatwork follow recommendations in table:

| Max. Aggregate, mm (in) | Min Cement, kg/m <sup>3</sup> (lb/yd <sup>3</sup> ) |
|-------------------------|---|
| 37.5 (1½)               | 280 (470)   |
| 25 (1)                  | 310 (520)   |
| 20 (¾)                  | 320 (540)   |
| 12.5 (½)                | 350 (590)   |
| 10 (3/8)                | 360 (610)   |



## 8. Cement Type



- Type I
  - ◆ Normal
- Type II
  - ◆ Moderate Sulfate Resistance
- Type III
  - ◆ High Early Strength
- Type IV
  - ◆ Low Heat of Hydration
- Type V
  - ◆ High Sulfate Resistance

*Specified by: ASTM C150,  
AASHTO M 85*

## 8. Cement Type

Requirements for Sulfate Exposure

| Sulfate exposure* | Cement Type              |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| S0- Negligible    | No special type required |
| S1- Moderate      | II, MS, IP(MS), IS(MS)   |
| S2- Severe        | V, HS                    |
| S3- Very Severe   | V*, HS                   |

\*PCA Requirements

## 8. Cement Type

The use of pozzolans or slag or blended cements should be considered in conjunction with portland cement for the purposes of:



- Improving economy
- Improving workability
- Reducing heat of hydration
- Increasing long-term strength
- Improving durability
  - Reduced permeability
  - Resistance to chloride ingress & corrosion
  - ASR resistance
  - Sulfate resistance

*Specified by ASTM C595  
(AASHTO M 240) or  
ASTM C1157*



## Typical Amounts of SCM in Concrete by Mass of Cementing Materials

- Fly ash
  - ◆ Class C 15% to 40%
  - ◆ Class F 15% to 20%
- Slag 30% to 45%
- Silica fume 5% to 10%
- Calcined clay 15% to 35%
- ◆ Metakaolin 10%
- Calcined shale 15% to 35%



## 8. Cement Type

The use of pozzolans or slag impacts the mix proportions in a number of ways, including:

- Changes in water demand
  - Fly ash reduces
  - Silica fume (and to a lesser effect metakaolin) increases
  - Slag has minimal effect
- Changes in volume of cementitious material component due to different specific gravities (Portland cement = 3.15):
  - Fly ash = 1.9 to 2.8
  - Silica fume = 2.25
  - Slag = 2.85 to 2.95
  - Metakaolin = 2.5
- Changes relationship between W/CM and strength



## Limits on SCM Content

The ACI 318 Building Code also places limits on the maximum amount of supplementary cementing material (SCM) allowed in concrete exposed to deicing salts as follows:

- Slag  $\leq 50\%$
- Fly ash  $\leq 25\%$
- Silica fume  $\leq 10\%$
- Total SCM in concrete with slag  $\leq 50\%$
- Total SCM in concrete without slag  $\leq 35\%$



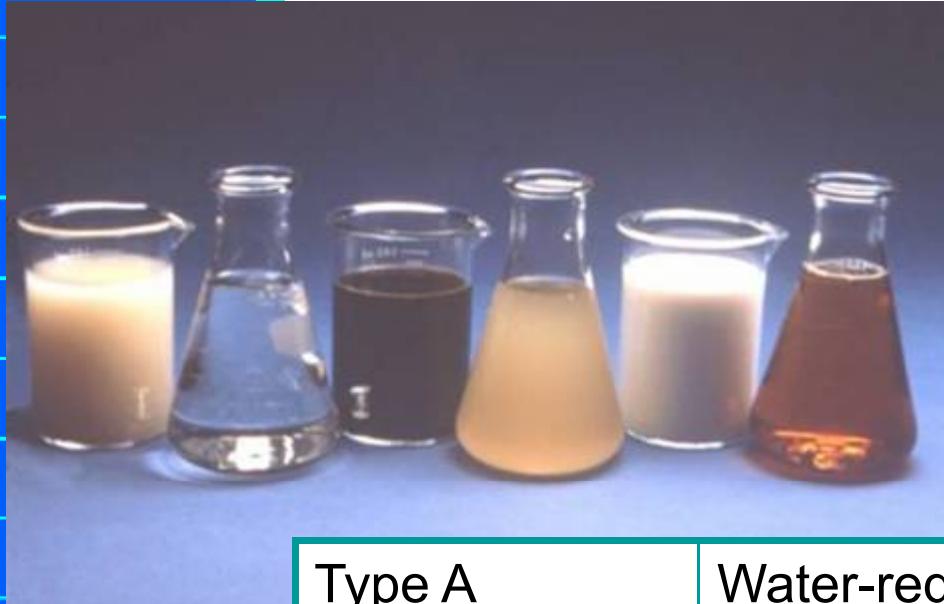
## 9. Admixture Effects

The use of admixtures may affect the water requirements and air content of concrete:

- Water reducers typically decrease water requirements by 5 to 10% and may increase air contents by up to 1%
- High-range water reducers decrease water contents between 12 to 30% and may increase air contents by up to 1%
- Calcium chloride-based admixtures reduce water requirements by about 3% and increase air by up to 0.5%
- Retarders may increase air contents

The use of fibers will also affect water demand

# Chemical Admixtures



ASTM C494 (AASHTO M 194)

## Classification

Water Reducing &  
Set Control Admixtures

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| Type A | Water-reducer                          |
| Type B | Retarding                              |
| Type C | Accelerating                           |
| Type D | Water-reducing & retarding             |
| Type E | Water-reducing & accelerating          |
| Type F | Water-reducing, high range             |
| Type G | Water-reducing, high-range & retarding |

## 9. Admixture Effects

Chloride-containing admixtures should be used with caution in reinforced concrete because of the increased risk of corrosion of the embedded steel reinforcement.

ACI 318 Building Code limits the amount of chloride in reinforced and prestressed concrete.

|  | * Chloride (%) |
|--|----------------|
| Prestressed concrete   | 0.06           |
| Reinforced concrete exposed to chloride in service                         | 0.15           |
| Reinforced concrete that will be dry or protected from moisture in service | 1.00           |
| Other reinforced concrete construction                                     | 0.30           |

*\* Maximum water-soluble chloride ion expressed as a mass percentage of the cementitious material content*

# 10. Fine Aggregate Requirements

Mass proportions ( $\text{kg/m}^3$  or  $\text{lb/yd}^3$ )

- Cement content
- Water content
- Coarse aggregate content

Air content (% volume)

Already determined

Convert to volumetric proportions using the appropriate material density.

Calculate the volume of sand required to make up a unit volume ( $1 \text{ m}^3$  or  $1 \text{ yd}^3$ )

Convert volume of sand to mass quantity using appropriate density.

# 10. Fine Aggregate Requirements

|                     | Mass per<br>unit volume<br>(lb/cy) | Density<br>(lb/cy) | Volume<br>(cy) |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Cement              | 665                                |                    |                |
| Water               | 265                                |                    |                |
| Air                 |                                    |                    | 0.060          |
| Coarse<br>Aggregate | 1833                               |                    |                |
| Fine Aggregate      |                                    |                    |                |
| Total               |                                    |                    |                |

# 10. Fine Aggregate Requirements

|                  | Mass per unit volume<br>(lb/cy) | Density<br>(lb/cy) | Volume<br>(cy) |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Cement           | 665                             | 5307               |                |
| Water            | 265                             | 1685               |                |
| Air              |                                 |                    | 0.060          |
| Coarse Aggregate | 1833                            | 4515               |                |
| Fine Aggregate   |                                 | 4448               |                |
| Total            |                                 |                    |                |

# 10. Fine Aggregate Requirements

|                  | Mass per unit volume<br>(lb/cy) | Density<br>(lb/cy) | Volume<br>(cy) |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Cement           | 665                             | 5307               | 0.125          |
| Water            | 265                             | 1685               |                |
| Air              |                                 |                    | 0.060          |
| Coarse Aggregate | 1833                            | 4515               |                |
| Fine Aggregate   |                                 | 4448               |                |
| Total            |                                 |                    |                |

Volume of cement =  
mass/density =  $665/5307 = 0.125$

# 10. Fine Aggregate Requirements

|                  | Mass per unit volume<br>(lb/cy) | Density<br>(lb/cy) | Volume<br>(cy) |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Cement           | 665                             | 5307               | 0.125          |
| Water            | 265                             | 1685               | 0.157          |
| Air              |                                 |                    | 0.060          |
| Coarse Aggregate | 1833                            | 4515               | 0.406          |
| Fine Aggregate   |                                 | 4448               |                |
| Total            |                                 |                    | 1.000          |

# 10. Fine Aggregate Requirements

|                  | Mass per unit volume<br>(lb/cy) | Density<br>(lb/cy) | Volume<br>(cy) |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Cement           | 665                             | 5307               | 0.125          |
| Water            | 265                             | 1685               | 0.157          |
| Air              |                                 |                    | 0.060          |
| Coarse Aggregate | 1833                            | 4515               | 0.406          |
| Fine Aggregate   |                                 | 4448               | 0.252          |
| Total            |                                 |                    | 1.000          |

Volume sand =

$$1.000 - (0.125 + 0.157 + 0.060 + 0.406) = 0.252 \text{ yd}^3$$

# 10. Fine Aggregate Requirements

|                  | Mass per unit volume<br>(lb/cy) | Density<br>(lb/cy) | Volume<br>(cy) |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Cement           | 665                             | 5307               | 0.125          |
| Water            | 265                             | 1685               | 0.157          |
| Air              |                                 |                    | 0.060          |
| Coarse Aggregate | 1833                            | 4515               | 0.406          |
| Fine Aggregate   | 1121                            | 4448               | 0.252          |
| Total            |                                 |                    | 1.000          |

Mass of sand =  
volume x density =  $4448 \times 0.252 = 1121$  lb

# 10. Fine Aggregate Requirements

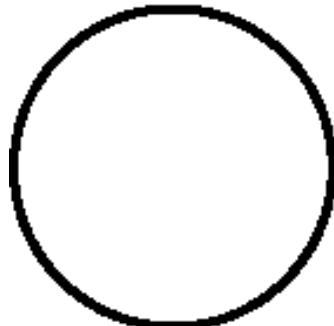
|                  | Mass per unit volume<br>(lb/cy) | Density<br>(lb/cy) | Volume<br>(cy) |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Cement           | 665                             | 5307               | 0.125          |
| Water            | 265                             | 1685               | 0.157          |
| Air              |                                 |                    | 0.060          |
| Coarse Aggregate | 1833                            | 4515               | 0.406          |
| Fine Aggregate   | 1121                            | 4448               | 0.252          |
| Total            | 3884                            |                    | 1.000          |

Concrete density =  
 $665 + 265 + 1833 + 1121 = 3884 \text{ lb/yd}^3$

# 11. Moisture Corrections

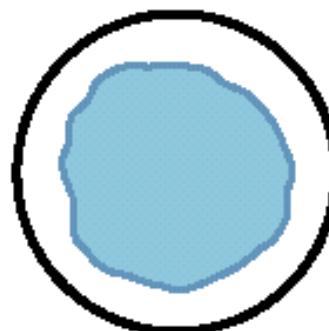
## State

Ovendry



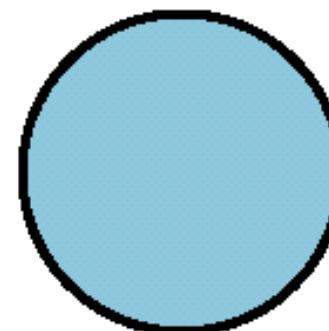
None

Air dry



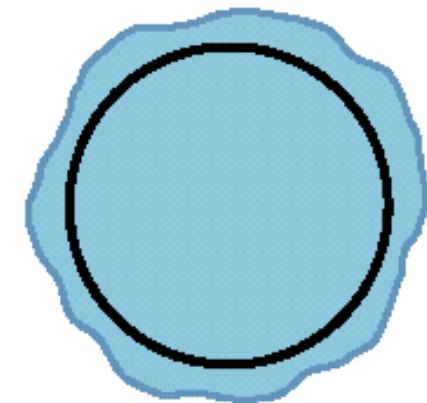
Less than potential absorption

Saturated,  
surface dry



Equal to potential absorption

Damp or wet



Greater than absorption

Total moisture



## 11. Moisture Corrections

$$M_{batch} = M_{SSD} \times \frac{1 + mc}{1 + abs}$$

$M_{batch}$  = Mass of aggregate to be batched

$M_{SSD}$  = Mass required in mix design (in SSD)

$mc$  = Moisture content of aggregate

$abs$  = Aggregate absorption

# 11. Moisture Corrections

$$M_{batch} = M_{SSD} \times \frac{1+mc}{1+abs}$$

$M_{batch}$  = Mass of aggregate to be batched

$M_{SSD}$  = Mass required in mix design (in SSD)

$mc$  = Moisture content of aggregate

$abs$  = Aggregate absorption

## Example:

A mix design requires 1050 lb/yd<sup>3</sup> of (SSD) sand. The sand has an absorption value of 1.5% and a current moisture content of 2.9%. The quantity required for batching is:

$$M_{batch} = 1050 \times \frac{1+0.029}{1+0.015} = 1064.5 \text{ lb/yd}^3$$



## 11. Moisture Corrections

$$W_{corr} = M_{SSD} \times \frac{(abs - mc)}{1 + abs}$$

$W_{corr}$    =    Correction to water content

# 11. Moisture Corrections

$$W_{corr} = M_{SSD} \times \frac{(abs - mc)}{1 + abs}$$

$W_{corr}$  = Correction to water content

Example:

A mix design requires 650 kg/m<sup>3</sup> of (SSD) sand. The sand has an absorption value of 1.5% and a current moisture content of 2.9%. The quantity required for batching is:

$$M_{batch} = 1050 \times \frac{1 + 0.029}{1 + 0.015} = 1064.5 \text{ lb/yd}^3$$

$$W_{corr} = 1050 \times \frac{(0.015 - 0.029)}{1.015} = -14.5 \text{ lb/yd}^3$$

## 12. Trial Batches

Trial batches are performed to determine whether the slump, air content and strength are as required. If not, modifications to the mix design are made and further trials are performed until the properties of the concrete are satisfactory.



## 12. Trial Batches

Trial batches are performed to determine whether the slump, air content and strength are as required. If not, modifications to the mix design are made and further trials are performed until the properties of the concrete are satisfactory.



In addition to these tests, some qualitative assessment of the mix may be carried out to determine if it has the desired characteristics

# Concrete Mix Design

## Summary of Absolute Volume Method ACI 211.1

1. Strength Requirements

2. Determining W/CM

3. Coarse Aggregates

4. Air Content

5. Workability

6. Water Content

7. Cement Content

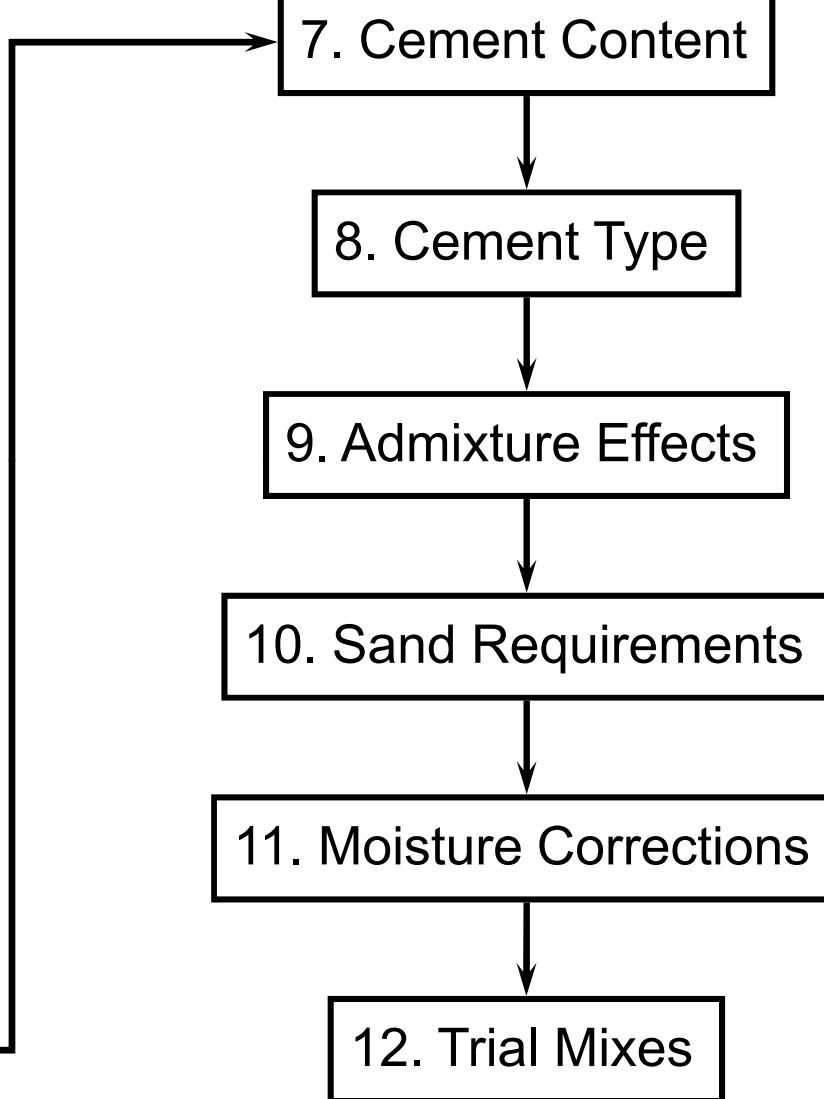
8. Cement Type

9. Admixture Effects

10. Sand Requirements

11. Moisture Corrections

12. Trial Mixes



?

