



GANDHI INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED COMPUTER AND RESEARCH

RAYAGADA

(Approved by AICTE, Affiliated to SCTE&VT and BPUT - Odisha)

DEPT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING



CONCRETE DIALOGUES

2023-24



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It gives us immense pleasure to present *Concrete Dialogue*, the annual departmental magazine of the Civil Engineering Department. This publication stands as a reflection of the academic excellence, technical competence, and creative spirit of our students and faculty members. *Concrete Dialogue* is a platform where knowledge meets creativity. Authored and edited by students and teachers, the magazine is published in English and showcases a comprehensive report of departmental activities. The magazine provides an opportunity for budding civil engineers to express their innovative ideas, technical insights, research interests, and creative abilities. It encourages students to develop the habit of reading, writing, critical thinking, and professional communication — essential qualities for a successful engineer.

The Editorial Board comprises the Editor, Co-Editor, and Faculty Coordinators who work collectively to review and select quality contributions. We sincerely appreciate the enthusiastic participation of students and staff who contribute articles, technical papers, project summaries, site experiences, creative writings, and innovative ideas. This magazine not only documents the academic journey of the department but also serves as a source of inspiration for students to learn from the experiences and achievements of their peers. We hope that *Concrete Dialogue* continues to motivate young minds to build not only strong structures but also strong ideas for the betterment of society.

Publisher

Gandhi Institute of Advanced Computer and Research, Rayagada

Message from Chairman



Dr. Chandra Dhawaja Panda

It gives me immense pleasure to release the current issue of the technical magazine *CONCRETE DIALOGUE* for the academic year 2023–2024, with a special emphasis on civil engineering. This edition stands as a productive technical resource and a skill-enhancing platform for aspiring civil engineers.

Civil engineering is not merely about structures and materials—it is a canvas for imagination and innovation. It offers a dynamic space for independent thinkers to transform ideas into tangible realities. True engineering education goes beyond infrastructure; it nurtures creativity, fosters collaboration, and builds the capacity to work across disciplines—be it with architects, urban planners, environmentalists, or entrepreneurs.

This issue of *CONCRETE DIALOGUE* captures the spirit of civil engineering through a rich blend of technical articles, project showcases, and student-led innovations. It also highlights co-curricular and extra-curricular engagements at both national and international levels, including conferences, faculty development programs, and institute-industry interactions. Seminars and workshops on sustainable construction, smart infrastructure, and emerging technologies further enrich the learning experience.

I am confident that this edition will be both informative and inspiring for students, faculty, and professionals alike. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the coordinators and editorial team for their tireless efforts in bringing this issue to life. May *CONCRETE DIALOGUE* continue to illuminate the path of innovation and excellence in civil engineering.

Warm wishes and continued success to all!

Message from Secretary



Mr. Manoj Kumar Palo

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I present the latest edition of *Concrete Dialogue*, our annual magazine dedicated to the vibrant world of civil engineering. This publication reflects the collective spirit, innovation, and academic rigor that define our department.

Concrete Dialogue serves not only as a technical repository but also as a platform to showcase the creativity and commitment of our students and faculty. From sustainable construction practices to smart infrastructure solutions, the articles and features in this issue highlight emerging trends and thoughtful explorations in the field.

The magazine also captures the essence of our co-curricular and extra-curricular engagements—conferences, workshops, industry collaborations, and student achievements—that enrich our academic environment and foster holistic development.

I commend the editorial team and contributors for their dedication in curating this insightful volume. May *Concrete Dialogue* continue to inspire, inform, and ignite curiosity among readers.

Warm regards,

Message from the Principal



Dr. Pratap Chandra Mishra

It gives me immense pleasure to release the annual edition of Concrete Dialogue, a magazine that encapsulates the academic vibrancy, technical excellence, and creative spirit of our Civil Engineering Department. Civil engineering plays a pivotal role in shaping the world around us—from resilient infrastructure to sustainable urban development. This magazine reflects the dedication of our students and faculty in exploring innovative solutions and advancing knowledge in this vital field.

Concrete Dialogue is more than a compilation of articles; it is a testament to the collaborative efforts, intellectual curiosity, and achievements that define our academic culture. It highlights not only technical insights but also the diverse engagements of our students in seminars, workshops, competitions, and industry interactions.

I congratulate the editorial team and all contributors for their commitment to producing a publication that informs, inspires, and celebrates the spirit of engineering. May this edition serve as a source of motivation and a reminder of the boundless possibilities that lie ahead.

Best wishes for continued success and excellence.

Message from the Head of the Department



Ms. Jyoti Reddy

It is with great pride that I present this edition of *Concrete Dialogue*, our annual magazine that captures the essence of academic growth, technical innovation, and creative exploration within the Department of Civil Engineering.

This publication reflects the collective efforts of our students and faculty, showcasing insightful articles, project highlights, and glimpses into the vibrant academic life that defines our department. From sustainable construction practices to emerging technologies like BlockIoT, our community continues to push boundaries and embrace forward-thinking solutions.

Concrete Dialogue stands as a testament to our commitment to nurturing talent, fostering interdisciplinary learning, and promoting a culture of inquiry and excellence. I commend the editorial team for their dedication and all contributors for enriching this magazine with their perspectives and achievements.

May this edition inspire continued curiosity, collaboration, and a deeper appreciation for the transformative power of civil engineering.

Vision and Mission of the Institution

Vision

To become a globally recognized, value-driven educational institution committed to excellence in delivering quality education, nurturing students' inherent talents, and developing innovative professionals in technical and managerial fields, thereby equipping them to meet the future challenges of the global economy.

Mission

M₁: To deliver quality education through effective teaching–learning processes that foster academic excellence in technical and managerial disciplines.

M₂: To nurture students' inherent talents by encouraging creativity, critical thinking, innovation, and lifelong learning.

M₃: To develop competent and ethical professionals with strong values, leadership skills, and social responsibility.

M₄: To promote industry-oriented learning and research through collaboration, practical exposure, and adoption of emerging technologies.

M₅: To prepare globally competitive graduates capable of adapting to evolving challenges and contributing effectively to the global economy.

Vision & Mission of Department of Civil Engineering

Vision

To emerge as a center of excellence in civil engineering education, delivering globally relevant knowledge and developing ethically strong engineers dedicated to building the nation.

Mission

M1: To provide strong foundational and advanced knowledge in civil engineering and technology through effective teaching–learning processes.

M2: To inculcate ethical values and professional responsibility among students to develop socially responsible engineers.

M3: To promote practical learning and industry interaction through fieldwork, internships, and real-world projects.

M4: To encourage innovation, research, and sustainable engineering practices addressing global and societal needs.

M5: To prepare competent civil engineers capable of contributing effectively to infrastructure development and national growth.

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WATER RESOURCES ENGINEERING IN CIVIL

By Alaka Labanya, 3rd year civil

What is water resources engineering? Water resources engineering is the study and management of equipment, facilities and techniques that are used to manage and preserve life's most plentiful resource. In addition to assessing how and the best ways in which to control water as it pertains to water-related activities – such as irrigation, waste disposal and canal development – water resource engineers are also frequently involved in water management to ensure that it's safe to drink both for humans, plants and animal usage.

Water resource engineers may be tasked with the awesome responsibility of ensuring that the planning and management of available water supply are adequately leveraged and remain safe to use for as long as possible. They may also be involved in water treatment so that the quality of water is improved upon for various end uses, whether that's recreationally, commercially or industrially.

Why is water resources engineering important? Resources, by their very nature, are finite. There are only a small handful that are naturally renewable – such as wind, solar, hydro and biomass. While water may be renewable in terms of the many different ways it can be used and reused, it's not as abundant as it once was, which many earth scientists and climatologists point to as a function of climate change.

Water resource engineers may be charged with developing new systems or processes for private or government entities that can preserve freshwater sources and find new ones. This may require the assistance of civil engineers involved as well, designing water purification methods through desalination or creating new equipment for contaminant transport when water is used for irrigation purposes. Understanding what works and what doesn't when it comes to water resource management is often a combined effort and may involve a number of different analyses, including hydrologic, which is the study of the water cycle and directions in which it flows, which may be influenced by weather and other environmental forces.



STRUCTURAL DESIGN IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

By Janaki Khosla, 3rd year civil

What is Structural Design in Civil Engineering?

Civil engineering is considered the second-oldest engineering discipline, with military engineering considered the oldest. Civil engineering is a professional discipline that deals with the design, construction and maintenance of the physically and naturally built environment, especially public sector works such as roads, bridges, dams, highways, airports, pipelines, sewage and drainage systems, railways, ports and all the rest.

The professional discipline of civil engineering offers many opportunities for specialization. Coastal engineers specialize in building coastal structures like ports, harbors, levies and storm surge barriers that protect populated areas from flooding and erosion. Environmental engineers specialize in the design and construction of structures and facilities that treat chemical, biological or thermal wastes. There are even geotechnical engineers that analyze the composition of soil to ensure the safety and reliability of building foundations and retaining walls.

In this blog post, we're focusing in on one particular aspect of civil engineering: structural engineering. Structural engineering deals with the design and structural analysis of buildings, bridges, towers, lighthouses, tunnels, and even off-shore structures like oil rigs.

Structural engineers may use somecreativity to design a structure with visual appeal,but they must also ensure that the structure is safeand stable for its intended use. Keep reading to learnmore about structural design in civil engineering.

Basic Principles of Structural Design
Structural engineers combine the core principlesof structural design with a sound backgroundin physics and materials science to ensure thatstructures are built to withstand the loads and forcesthat they will encounter during their usage.Civil engineers that design structure for constructionprojects must be excellent problem solvers. Thedecisions that structural engineers make duringthe structural design phase of the project will affecteverything from the project cost and duration to theultimate safety and viability of the structure.Below, we highlight some of the most importantfactors that structural engineers must considerwhen designing a building.



SOIL MECHANICS

By Hasini Kousalya, 1st year Civil

The term Soil Mechanics was coined by Karl Terzaghi in 1925. He is popularly known as the father of Soil Mechanics. Soil Mechanics is the study of soil, its behaviour, and its use as a material for engineering, which is the focus of the civil engineering subject. In engineering problems involving sediments and other unconsolidated accumulations of solid particles that are produced by the mechanical and chemical disintegration of rocks, regardless of whether they contain an admixture of organic components or not, soil mechanics is the application of laws of mechanics and hydraulics.

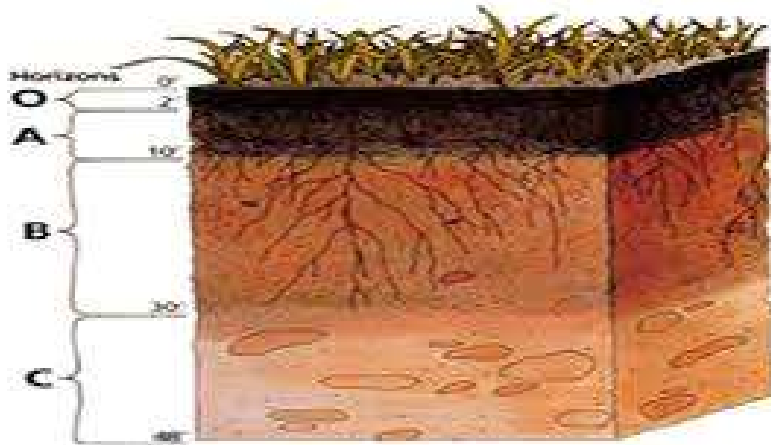
Importance of Soil Mechanics

1. Soil mechanics ensures safe and stable foundation design for structures.
2. It analyses slope stability and prevents landslides and slope failures.
3. Soil mechanics guides the design of retaining structures.
4. It facilitates the selection and implementation of soil improvement techniques.
5. It assesses and mitigates geotechnical hazards.
6. Soil mechanics is crucial for designing underground structures.

Application of Soil Mechanics

The applications of soil mechanics are wide-ranging and include:

- Foundation engineering and design.
- Slope stability analysis and landslide mitigation.
- Retaining wall design and construction.
- Earthworks and embankment design.
- Geotechnical investigation and site characterization.
- Soil improvement techniques and ground modification.
- Underground structure design, such as tunnels and deep foundations.
- Pavement design and analysis.
- Evaluation of soil liquefaction potential.



PAVEMENT DESIGN

By Tuna Ataka, 1st year Civil

A layered structure supported by soil subgrade to form the carriageway of a road is called road pavement. It is of two types

- (1) Flexible pavement or bituminous pavement or black top pavement
- (2) Rigid pavement or cement concrete pavement or white surface pavement

Purpose of road pavement

- To carry heavy loads of vehicular traffic and to distribute the same over the larger area underlying subgrade soil.
- To prevent the subgrade soil from bad effect of weathering agencies.
- To provide a smooth riding surface

Types of road Pavement

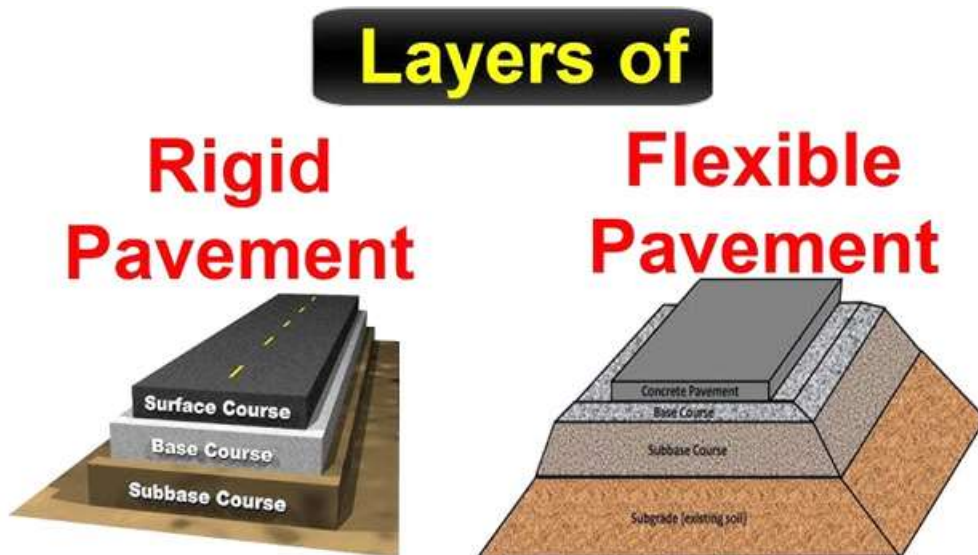
- Flexible pavement
- Rigid pavement

Flexible pavement: The road pavements which can change their shape to some extent without any rupture are known as flexible pavements. Any change of shape occurring in the subgrade and subsequent layers over it is reflected on the top surface of the pavement.

Examples: All bituminous roads, gravel roads, water bound macadam roads, wet mix macadam roads etc.

Rigid pavement: The road pavement which cannot change their shape without rupture are known as rigid pavements.

- Any change of shape occurring in the subgrade is not reflected by the surface of these pavements. Examples; Cement Concrete pavements, Reinforced Cement Concrete pavements etc.



CAVITY WALL INSULATION

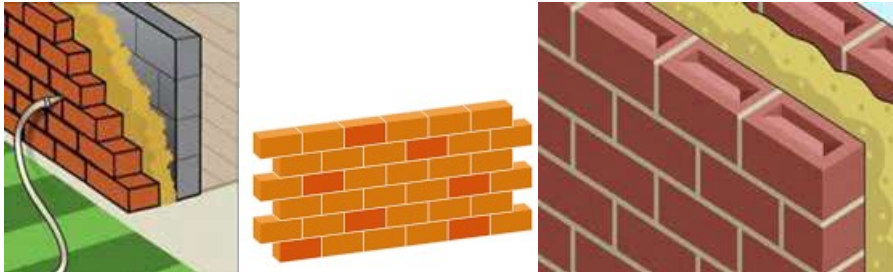
By Partho Kousalya, 1st year Civil

The cavity walls of the Visitor Centre have been filled with insulation which reduces the amount of heat lost through the walls. The installation was a straight forward process and involved the installer drilling small holes (22mm across – slightly smaller than the size of a 10p piece) at around 1m intervals into the outside walls. The insulation was then blown into the cavity.

How it Works

Heat loss occurs because heat naturally flows from hot objects or areas to colder ones. During winter, when a building is warmer than the air outside, heat will flow out of the building

through poorly insulated solid surfaces such as walls, roofs and windows. Cavity wall insulation creates a barrier between the inside and outside of the building which reduces the amount of heat being lost through the walls. This helps to save money on heating bills as the heating system won't have to keep switching on to replace the heat escaping through the walls.



For Your Home

If your home was built after 1930, it is likely to have cavity walls. Cavity walls are made of two layers of brick with a small gap or 'cavity' between them which can often be filled with insulation which can be made from mineral wool, beads, granules or foam. Installing cavity wall insulation can save around 20% on your fuel bill. If your home has cavity walls but was built after 1995, the walls might already be insulated. An installer can check if you have un-insulated cavity walls and whether your home is suitable for insulation. If your home has solid walls (pre 1930), they can still be insulated— from the inside by fitting rigid insulation boards to the wall, or by building a stud wall filled in with mineral wool fibre or externally by fixing a layer of insulation material to the wall, then covering it with a special type of render (plasterwork) or cladding. The finish can be smooth, textured, painted, tiled, panelled, pebble-dashed, or finished with brick slips. Solid wall insulation could save you around 60% on your fuel bills.

COPPER SLAG AS A SUBSTITUTE IN CEMENT AND CONCRETE

By Ranjit Suna 2nd Year Civil

purification process that is produced at various stages. Copper slag is widely utilized as an abrasive, as well as a construction ingredient in the manufacturing of concrete and paving materials. Despite, the giant quantities of waste copper slag results in land filling issues. Land filling of waste copper slag convert the land into unfertile soil and as a result creates environmental problems. Therefore, the waste copper slag may be used as an alternative material in producing sustainable construction materials that lead to both economical and environmental benefits. Most of the studies observed that up to 15% by using the weight of copper slag as Portland cement replacement improves in strength due to declining capillary porosity related to hydrated lime and 40–50% and 40–60% (by weight of sand) of copper slag can be used as a substitute for fine aggregates and coarse combination concrete is improvement in strength. This paper summarizes the use of waste copper slag in producing concrete as aggregate and as a partial replacement to cement. Furthermore, the effect of waste copper slag on the mechanical, durability and the effect of elevated temperatures on the properties of concrete are presented.

Copper slag can be used in concrete in the following ways:

- Fine aggregate in cement mortars
- Coarse aggregates in high strength concrete
- Raw materials for clinker, cement replacement, coarse and fine aggregates

Copper slag can be used up to 60% without any harmful impact on the mechanical strength of concrete. However, copper slag has lower water absorption and creates higher slump which causes bleeding in concrete.



CSIBRIDGE: AN INTEGRATED BRIDGE DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

By Reena Naik, 2nd Year Civil

Easy-to-use, integrated software program for modelling, analysis, and design of bridge structures. The ease with which all of these critical tasks can be accomplished makes CSiBridge the most versatile and productive bridge design package in the industry. Welcome to the new world of CSiBridge! A bridge can be analysed in CSiBridge by generating a model, to determine the response of bridge structures to the weight of vehicle live loads which it will carry to fulfil its objective. Considerable power and flexibility are provided for determining the maximum and minimum displacements, forces, and stresses from multiple lanes loads on complex structures, such as highway interchanges. The effects of vehicle live loads can be combined

with static and dynamic loads, and envelopes of the response can be computed. The bridge model to be analysed can be created using easy to use templates accessed through the File > New command or a general F.E.M. model can be built manually using frame, shell, solid and link elements. Alternatively, a mixed approach can be used wherein part of bridge model can be generated using templates and remaining model can be completed manually by adding frame or finite element objects. The superstructure can be represented by a simple "spine" (or "spline") model using frame elements or it can be modelled in full 3D detail using shell or solid elements. A spine model is the simplest model as it gives the complete response of a bridge structure quickly to get a "feel" of the problem at hand. Lanes are defined that represent a zone on the bridge where the live loads can move on the superstructure. Lanes may have width and can follow any straight or curved path. Multiple lanes need not be parallel or of the same length so that complex traffic patterns may be considered. The program automatically determines how the lanes load the superstructure, even if they are eccentric to a spine model. Conventional influence lines and surfaces for loading of each lane can be displayed for any response quantity. Vehicle live loads can be selected from a set of standard highways and railway vehicles or users can specify their own vehicle live loads. Vehicles are grouped in vehicle classes, such that the most severe loading of each class governs. Wheel loads for a

vehicle needn't be at a constant distance and may be at a variable distance and CSiBridge will automatically work out the maximum response for a variable axle load too.

What CSiBridge Can Do?

CSiBridge offers the widest assortment of analysis and design tools available for the engineer working on bridges. The following list represents just a portion of the features included in the CSiBridge software:

- Bridge Analysis Options
- Staged Construction
- Cable-Stayed Bridge
- Stress Ribbon and Extradosed bridges
- CSiLoadOptimizer to find cable loads to have a desired Bridge profile
- Influence Surfaces
- Superstructure Design
 - Steel and Concrete
- Load Rating
- Results and Output
- Bridge Animations
- Automated step-by-step Seismic Design of Bridge including Nonlinear Pushover and/or Time History Analysis
- Bridge Wizard
- Bridge Object Modelling
- Section Designer
- Parametric Deck Sections
- Lanes and Vehicles
- Rail Track modelling for completely automated Non-Linear Rail Structure Interaction analysis
- Bearing and Bridge Pier Modelling
- Post-Tensioned Box Girders
- Pretensioned Precast Bridge sections
- Cast in place (CIP) or precast Segmental Bridges
- Foundation Modelling including complex soil modelling
- Loading and Analysis

Design Features

CSiBridge uses the SAPFire analysis engine, the state-of-the-art equation solver that powers all of CSI's software. This proprietary solver exploits the latest in numerical technology to provide incredibly rapid solution times and virtually limitless model capacity.

Superstructure designs can be performed on a variety of superstructure types, including steel girder and prestressed concrete precast I-girder, bulb tees, box and multicell box girders. The steel girder design allows engineers to optimize the design such that the girder properties may be resized and checked interactively. Stress, flexural, and shear designs in accordance with the IRC, AASHTO LRFD 2012 (steel and concrete), AASHTO STD 2002 (concrete), CAN/CSA-S6-06, and EUROCODE. The steel design results include a number of design plots that allow the user to view demand and capacities for shear and flexure design results.

SEFFECT OF SALT WATER ON THE COMPRESSIVESTRENGTH OF CERAMIC POWDER CONCRETE

By S. Sunil, 2nd Year Civil

The ceramic industry inevitably generates wastes,irrespective of the improvements introduced inmanufacturing processes. This research examinesthe feasibility of using ceramic wastes in concreteand the effects of fresh and salt water environmentson the compressive strength of the concrete. Inthisstudy the cement has been replaced with ceramic waste powder accordingly in the range of 0%,5%,10%, 15%, 20%, and 30% by weight for concretewhich was cured for 56 days in two liquid media(fresh and salt water).The findings revealed thatuse of waste ceramic enhances the properties ofconcrete cured both in fresh and salt water media,based on the results from the compressive test,higher compressive strength occurred in concretecured in salt water than fresh water. The resultsdemonstrate that the use of ceramic powder asactive replacement endows cement with positivecharacteristics like major mechanical strengthand the economic advantages. The concrete alsoexhibited a high compressive strength in both waterbodies. Reuse of this kind of waste has economic andenvironmental advantages (onshore and offshorestructures). Indirectly, all the above contribute toa better quality of life for citizens introduce theconcept of sustainability and greenhouse in theconstruction sector.



GREEN CONCRETE

By Tapan Bidika, 2nd Year Civil

Concrete which is made from concretewastes that are eco-friendly are called as “Greenconcrete”. Green concrete is the Production ofconcrete using as many as recycled materials aspossible and leaving the smallest carbon footprintas possible. The other name for green concreteis resource saving structures with reducedenvironmental impact for e.g. energy saving, CO2emissions, waste water.

The technology considers all phasesof a concrete construction’s life cycle, i.e.structural design, specification, manufacturingand maintenance, and it includes all aspects ofperformance ,i.e.

- Mechanical properties (strength, shrinkage,creep, static behaviour etc.)
- Fire resistance (spalling, heat transfer etc.)
- Durability (corrosion protection, frost, newdeterioration mechanisms etc.)
- Thermodynamic properties (input to the otherproperties)
- Environmental aspects (CO2-emission, energy,recycling etc.)

Several factors which enhance the suitability of green concrete in structures include:

- Reduce the dead load of the structure andreduce the crane age load; allow handling,lifting flexibility with lighter weight.
- Reduction of emission of carbon dioxide by30%.
- Increased concrete industries use of wasteproducts by 20%.
- Good thermal and fire resistance, soundinsulation than the traditional concrete.
- Improve damping resistance of the building.
- Use of new types of residual products,previously land filled or disposed of in other ways.
- No environmental pollution and sustainabledevelopment.
- It requires less maintenance and repairs.
- Compressive strength behaviour of the concretewith water cement ratio is more than that of conventional concrete.
- Flexural strength of the green concrete isalmost same as conventional concrete.
- CO2-neutral, waste-derived fuels shallsubstitute fossil fuels in the cement production by at least 10 %.

- Use of concrete industries own residual products.

Benefits to using green concrete

- Lasts Longer
- Uses Industrial Waste
- Reduces Energy Consumption
- CO2 Emissions

LIGHT EMITTING CONCRETE

By Hrushikesh Nayak, 2nd Year Civil

Concrete is the world's most widely used construction material due to its versatility, durability, sustainability, and economy. Concrete is a mixture of aggregates (sand + gravel or crushed stone) held together by a binder of cementitious paste, typically made up of Portland cement and water. It may also contain supplementary cementing materials (SCMs), such as fly ash or slag cement, and chemical admixtures. Light-emitting cement is a green construction material designed to illuminate highways, roads, and bicycle lanes without using electricity. Light-emitting cement absorbs solar energy during the day and radiates light at night.

This innovative cement was developed by Dr. Jose Carlos Rubio from the Michoacan University of Saint Nicholas of Hidalgo in Mexico. The research focused on modifying the microstructure of cement to absorb solar energy and emit light in darkness.

How that concrete made:

The light emitting concrete composition comprises light-emitting pigments. The light emitting pigments include a titanium powder, a sulphide powder and resins, cement, sand, gravel and water. The method of synthesizing a light emitting concrete structure comprises preparing slurry. The slurry is prepared by mixing sand, gravel, cement and water. Further, a light emitting pigment mixture is prepared. The light emitting pigment mixture is prepared by mixing a titanium powder, resins and a sulphide powder. The light-emitting pigment mixture is added to the slurry. The slurry is molded by adding the slurry in molds. The molds are further kept at a temperature of 15-20° C. for at least 12-14 hours. The slurry is cured at a temperature of less than 30° C. for 24 hours.

Advantages of light emitting concrete:

- The material is sustainable since it is formed by condensation of silicates usually found in clay, sand, or dust.
- The process is ecofriendly as the only gas released during manufacturing is water vapor.
- The cement is said to have a life span of 100 years and is being fabricated to emit green or blue light.
- The cement has the power to remain lit for about 12 hours after dark.

- The level of brightness can be adjusted during production.
- The cement is inorganic, and its material components are recyclable.
- It could reduce the overhead costs of decorating homes.

Disadvantage of Light emitting concrete:

- Cement is an opaque body that does not allow light to pass into its interior.
- Although it is manufactured like ordinary cement, the change in the microscopic structure needed to make it glow modifies the structural properties of the material. It may not have the same applications as the ordinary cement and is intended to be used on surfaces as a coating material.



PARTIAL REPLACEMENT OF CEMENT BY PROSOPIS JULIFLORA ASH AND FINE AGGREGATE BY STEEL SLAG

By Rohit Bala, 3rd Year Civil

The performance of concrete by partial replacement of cement with Prosopis Juliflora Ash and Fine aggregate with Steel Slag. Steel Slag is an industrial waste which is generated during the production of steel. In India, annual outcome of Steel Slag is about 10 Million Tonne. It is very important to utilize these wastes in order to avoid the land pollution. Therefore, replacing some of the natural aggregate by Steel Slag would lead to considerable environmental benefits. Prosopis Juliflora Ash is the residue powder left after the combustion of wood, such as burning wood in home, hotels or an industrial power plant. It is also difficult to decompose and also absorbs more groundwater. Therefore, using PJA as a partial replacement of cement providing the green and clean environment. In this proposed work Prosopis Juliflora Ash with specified ratio of about 2.5%, 5%, 7.5% & 10% is replaced for cement and 10%, 20%, 30% & 40% of Steel Slag for partial replacement of fine aggregate is used. The mechanical properties of concrete such as compressive strength, tensile strength and workability has been evaluated. The optimum percentage of combined percentage was found to be 7.5% of PJA and 30% of SS. The project result reveals that 7.5% of PJA and 30% of SS enhance the strength of concrete compared to other replacements.



PRECAST CONCRETE TECHNOLOGY

By Sibaranjan Sarasabhadra, 3rd year Civil

As the construction & Real Estate Sector in India & several countries booming rapidly. Today, we can see that the Indian & International construction majors are adopting precast concrete technology in constructing their latest projects. Precast concrete technology is a durable and versatile technology for construction. In this technology the different elements or panels of concrete are produced under strict quality control measures in state-of-the-art factories by highly trained personnel, with virtually no wastage. There are dedicated precast factories which serve to produce for multiple construction projects as well as on-site precast factories which serve a particular construction project. Precast concrete technology consists of custom-designed precast concrete elements such as:

- beams
- columns
- wall panels
- partition walls
- load bearing walls facades
- preinstalled windows
- staircases
- central core

These elements offer flexibility in size and shape with a variety of surface finishes and colour options. With precast concrete technology, the developers have a world of creative possibilities in application and design. Precast concrete technology also offers an abundance of in precast concrete technology; the precast elements are manufactured or cast in a strictly controlled environment with state-of-the-art machinery by the experts. These elements are then erected on the site with the help of the cranes. Then the precast elements are joined together as per specification with grouts and screed to provide the required strength and rigidity to the structure.

Key factors which are enabling the growth of precast concrete technology in India are:

- quality
- speed of construction

- value-for-money
- avoiding large labour force on site
- almost 1/3rd less delivery time than the conventional methods
- delivering quality products
- large spans can be achieved using prestressed elements

The following practical considerations make precast concrete technology the best choice for almost all types of construction projects:

- wastage-control
- speed of construction
- best of quality
- virtually no repair or reworking cost

There is a great potential in the Indian market to become a major hub for the precast concrete technology across the globe.



SURFACE ENGINEERING BY SYLOCON

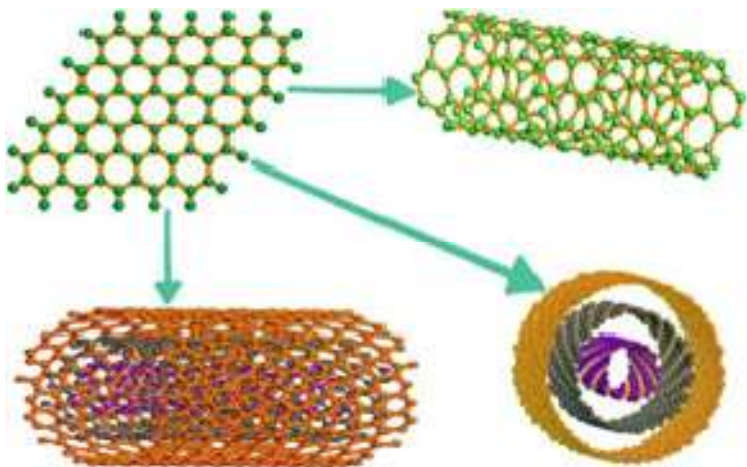
By Partho Kousalya, 3rd Year Civil

The Nano composite plaster additive is closely related with Surface engineering. This is a time-honored solution to protect masonry and concrete from aggressive weather action consistently. This strengthens the masonry units and concrete as well as serves to shield the structure against weather actions. From the point of Surface engineering, now there is a range of techniques available to get rid of material degradation. But, in some cases it's noticed that shielding material itself degrades due to Biological and Biochemical modes of materials degradation. Different type of modes is found in this field. I would like to add few relevant points for better understanding of this claim of self-degradation of shielding materials by the Biological and Biochemical effects. If we talk about few polymers those are widely used in shielding purposes like PVC, Polyurethane, Nylon, Different Acrylics, POLY (Styrene Butadiene Styrene) – SBS, Styrene Butadiene Copolymer, etc. we find the mode of degradation of different types of shielding material those are based on these kinds of protective polymers.

- POLY (Styrene Butadiene Styrene) – SBS, Styrene Butadiene Copolymer – The Biocompatibility of ESBS Membrane was evaluated with the cell culture of fibroblasts on the membrane. It revealed that the cells not only remained viable but also proliferated on the surface of the various ESBS membranes and the population doubling time for fibroblast culture decreased.
- PVC - This popular item itself is degraded by microorganisms like Fungi (e.g. *Aureobasidium Pullulans*) and bacteria (e.g. *Pseudomonas Aeruginosa*). The main mode of action is increased loss of plasticizers due to microbial degradation.
- Polyurethane – This is widely used base material for shielding. But, that too is degraded by Fungi (e.g. *Chaetomium Globosum*) and bacteria (e.g. *Bacillus Subtilis*). The enzymatic activity of Fungi and bacteria causes a major failure of the shielding products based on this.
- Nylon - This is strange degradation of this shielding compound by wood – degrading fungi (e.g. *Bjerkandera Adusta*) and bacteria (e.g. *Bacillus Pallidus*). The degradation is physical disruption and enzymatic degradation.

- Acrylics – This popular material is decayed by Melanin producing fungi that causes physical disruption.
- Interestingly Fungi can also affect glass by colonizing its surface and secreting organic acids, which etch the surface of the glass.

This form of damage is relatively mild and mainly significant in tropical climates. These clear evidences prove that shielding materials should have its own durability property to withstand weather action to protect the underneath substances. Considering all above the degradation and mode of actions of different microorganisms, SYLOCON® is engineered to protect and provide honoured life of cement-based building materials. The specific characteristic of SYLOCON® is commonly known as a plaster additive for crack free plastering and water ingress and efflorescence. But the recent analysis has proved its unique efficacy to prolong its sustainability against weather action. Thus, the underneath substances remain intact and durability of building is enhanced. The most important mode of this reaction in terms of Surface engineering between the Nano particles in SYLOCON® is a slow and prolonged process, as the agglomeration occurs within the pores or voids in cement mortar.



TECHNOLOGY OF OSMOTIC RENDERS IN WATERPROOFING WORLD

By Rajkumar Naik, 3rd Year Civil

The concrete gets wet or water initially get below the membrane to create the osmotic cell by initial saturation, condensation and liquid water within holes and voids below the membrane and vapour diffusion from. Osmosis is the chemical-physical phenomenon whereby two liquid solutions spread into one another through a semi-permeable membrane and is caused by the difference in concentration between the two liquids. Specially formulated cement systems, which are defined as 'osmotic renders', provided important waterproofing performances both in the occasional and permanent presence of rainwater, natural water, groundwater, etc.

Basic Working Principle

The particular adhesion of osmotic waterproofing systems, determined by the deep osmotic diffusion, also made them suitable for operating both in conditions of positive and negative water pressure. In building materials (and not only) adhesion and adherence are the result of two different mechanisms that can be present both separately and as more often happens, in coaction: mechanical adhesion and chemical adhesion. The osmotic or diffusive adhesion also comes into play in the osmotic process.

Final Performance

With 22% mixing water - thickness 2.5 mm: It is tested in accordance to EN 1504-2 (surface protection system for concrete, where this membrane comes in the category of Moisture Control and Increase Resistivity coating.) Coefficient of permeability to free water ($\text{kg/m}^2 \cdot \text{h} \cdot 0.5$): Note $w < 0.05$ Class III (low permeability) according to EN 1062-1. Permeability to water vapour - equivalent air thickness SD - (m): $SD < 1$ Class I (permeable to water vapour). Bond strength on concrete (substrate in MC 0.40 - water/cement ratio = 0.40) according to EN 1766 (MPa): > 2

Advantage of Osmotic Renders on Crystalline Coatings

- Osmotic renders are compatible for potable water tanks whereas crystalline coatings are not.

- Osmotic renders are recommended for both concrete & masonry structure, crystalline coating only react with the free lime present in concrete surface to give the reactive solution
- Osmotic renders bonding with concrete surface is more than 2M Pa gives extra assurance towards the integrity of the watertightness, whereas crystalline deeply penetrate in the pores and does not have any surface reaction.
- Osmotic renders can bear negative pressure up to 1 ATM whereas crystalline coatings have no testing for negative pressure.

UTILIZATION OF DEMOLISHED WASTE AS COARSE AGGREGATE IN CONCRETE

By Pramesh Jakaka, 3rd Year Civil

Demolishing concrete building usually produces huge amounts of remains and wastes worldwide that have promising possibilities to be utilized as coarse aggregate for new mixes of concrete. High numbers of structures around the world currently need to be removed for several reasons, such as reaching the end of the expected life, to be replaced by new investments, or were not built by the local and international standards. Maintaining or removal of such structures leads to large quantities of concrete ruins. Reusing these concrete wastes will help in saving landfill spaces in addition to more sustainability in natural resources. Core samples for demolished concrete were tested to determine its compressive strength. The core test results can be thought of as aggregate properties for the new concrete. Then, the compressive strength and splitting tensile strength of the new recycled aggregate concrete (RAC) were determined experimentally by casting a cube and cylinders, respectively. It was found that the evolution of compressive strength of recycled aggregate concrete is similar in behaviour to the concrete with natural aggregate, except that it is about 10% lower in values. It was also seen that water absorption for recycled aggregate is noticeably higher than that for natural aggregate, and should be substituted for in the mix design.



Masonry waste



Construction and Demolition Wastes (CDW)



Concrete waste



Ceramic waste



Mortar waste



Drywall



Excavation material



Others:

- Asphalt
- Wood
- Metals
- Polymers
- Glass
- Cardboard/Paper

MACADAM ROAD

By Sabitri Kadraka, 3rd Year Civil

Macadam is a form of pavement invented by John Macadam of Scotland in the 18th century. Macadam's road cross section was composed of a compacted subgrade of crushed granite or greenstone designed to support the load, covered by a surface of the light stone to absorb wear and tear and shed water to the drainage ditches. Macadam's are all based on the principle of an aggregate coated with a binder, usually bitumen, hence "bituminous macadam". Asphalts are a mixture of asphaltic cement or mortar (often bitumen with fine aggregates such as sands and grits) and some coarser aggregate, such as gravel or crushed rock. Not only did Macadam's design result in a smoother surface and carriage ride, but it was cheaper to build and lasted longer. Modern asphalt is quite similar. The roadway surface and construction process took Macadam's name. Macadam roads can be classified into following types:

- 1) Water bound macadam
- 2) Traffic bound macadam
- 3) Bituminous macadam
- 4) Cement macadam

Water bound macadam: broken stone bound together by stone dust and water applied during construction (seldom construction).

Traffic bound macadam: It is the wearing course composed of broken stones or gravel, consolidated by the action of traffic. This type of surface is generally built gradually by

successive application of two or more layers. The compacted thickness of each layer may vary from 2.5 to 5.0 cm. Bituminous macadam: crushed stone base or wearing surface in which fragments are bonded together by bituminous material; the aggregate layer is compacted and bituminous material is applied to the surface. Cement macadam: It is similar to bituminous macadam. The only difference is that in this case, cement is used in place of bitumen. Constructor



RAILS

By Rajkumar Naik, 1st year Civil

A rail is a horizontally extending steel bar between supports that serves as a track for trains, automobiles, and other vehicles.

Types of Rails

There are three types of rails:

- Double-headed rails
- Bull-headed rails
- Flat-footed rails

1. Double-Headed rails

These rails were used in the early stages of railroad development. They are divided into three sections: • Upper table • Web • Lower table

The upper and lower tables were identical, and they were introduced in the hopes of doubling the rail's lifespan. When the upper table wears out, the rails can be placed on the chair upside down and reversed, allowing the lower table to be used. However, this plan quickly proved to be incorrect since the continuous contact of the lower table with the chair caused the lower table's surface to become rough, making smooth train operation impossible. As a result, this type of rail is almost obsolete. These rails are now available in lengths ranging from 20 to 24 feet.

2. Bull-Headed rails

This type of rail is made up of three pieces: • The head • The web • The foot Steel was used to construct these rails. The head is larger than the foot, and the foot holds the wooden keys that fasten the rails in place. As a result, the foot's sole purpose is to provide the required strength and rigidity to rails. When these rails are used, two cast iron chairs are required for each sleeper. Their weight ranges from 85 to 95 pounds, and they can grow up to 60 feet long.

3. Flat-footed rails

These rails were first invented in 1836 by Charles Vignoles, and so are also known as Vignols rails. They are divided into three sections: • The head • The web • The foot This type of rail has grown in popularity to the point where it now makes up over 90% of all railway lines in the world. The benefits of flat-footed rails are as follows: • They don't require a chair and can be spiked or keyed to the sleepers directly.

- They are thus cost-effective. They're less expensive than bull-headed rails.
- Both vertically and laterally, they are substantially stiffer; for curves, lateral rigidity is crucial.

- They are less prone to kinking and have a more consistent top surface than bull-headed rails. The weights from train wheels are distributed over a large number of sleepers and hence a broader area, resulting in increased track stability, longer rail and sleeper life, lower maintenance costs, less rail failure, and fewer traffic delays.

RAILWAY SLEEPERS

By Swagita Naik, 1st Year Civil

Railway sleepers constitute an important component of the railway track. These maintain proper gauge and also facilitate the transfer of point load from the wheel loads to the uniformly distributed load to the ballast. The sleepers rest on the ballast and are also referred as ties. Functions of railway sleepers the main functions of sleepers in railway track are:

- These keep the rails firmly in place also maintain a uniform gauge.
- These facilitate the transfer of wheel loads to the ballast.
- Rail sleepers lessen the vibrations emanating from the rails.
- These provide lateral and longitudinal stability.

Types of sleepers in railway

1. Wooden sleepers: Wooden sleepers are typically 2600 mm long, 254 mm broad, and 127 mm thick in cross-section.

- Wooden sleepers are treated with preservatives after being seasoned (drying for up to 12 months to remove the juice/sap) for the preservation of timber. Creosote is an oil that is typically applied to or sprayed on the surfaces of wooden sleepers.
- These sleepers are either made of soft wood or hardwood.
- Due to the easy availability of wood, these sleepers are extensively used.

Benefits of wooden sleepers

- Wooden sleepers are less expensive than other types of sleepers.
- They are lightweight, making them portable and simple to handle during installation.
- On wooden sleepers, fasteners may be fitted with ease. The rails are adequately protected since they are effective insulators.
- Wooden sleepers can be used to maintain the rail gauge effectively.
- They are appropriate for all kind of rail sections.
- These possess sufficient elasticity which allows them to absorb vibrations and shocks. In fact, wooden sleepers have the best track elasticity among all the types of sleepers.

Disadvantages of wooden sleepers

- Wooden sleepers are easily vulnerable to pest and weather attacks.
- They are prone to fire.
- With wooden sleepers, maintaining a uniform gauge can be a challenging task.
- The scrap value of wooden sleepers is less.
- They can only last for a period of 12 to 15 years.

2. Steel sleepers

- Steel sleepers can be used when wooden or concrete sleepers cannot be adopted.
- In heavier curves that are prone to gauge widening, steel sleepers are extensively used.
- The signal control system may face issues due to steel sleepers.
- Furthermore, these sleepers are also prone to fatigue cracking issues.
- Steel and concrete sleepers are now often used on railroads due to a shortage of wood and other economic concerns.

Advantages of steel sleepers

- Steel sleepers are durable and resilient.
- They have a span of 35 years.
- Less damage sustained in these sleepers during handling and transportation.
- They are resistant to attack of vermin and fire.
- Steel sleepers have a high scrap value.

Disadvantages of steel sleepers

- It is susceptible to corrosion.
- Cannot be used for track circuiting.
- It can only be used with the rails for which it was designed.
- Throughout the service of steel sleepers, cracks appear at the rail seats.
- Higher number of fittings is needed overall in steel sleepers.

3. Cast iron sleepers

- Cast iron sleepers are used extensively worldwide, but particularly in Indian railways.
- They come in two varieties: pot sleepers and plate-shaped cast iron sleepers.
- Curves sharper than 4 degrees are not ideal for pot type sleepers.
- In Indian railways, cast 9 type sleepers are extensively adopted.

Advantages of cast iron sleepers

- Cast iron sleepers have a life span of 60 years.

- They can be produced easily and locally, so there is no need for extensive shipping.
- Cast iron sleepers are resistant to vermin attacks.
- They provide the rail a sturdy seat.
- Cast iron has a high scrap value because wornout sleepers may be reshaped into new ones.
- Cast iron sleepers can prevent creep in rails.

Disadvantages of cast iron sleepers

- Due to its fragile nature, cast iron is damaged during handled. So dealing with the transportation and placement of cast iron sleepers is a challenging task.
- Cast iron sleepers are not appropriate for coastal areas since salt water may readily harm and corrode them.
- The derailment may cause serious damage to cast iron sleepers.
- When compared to other sleeping materials, cast iron is more costly. It is thus not profitable.
- These require many fastenings for attaching the rail to the sleeper.
- Maintenance of cast iron sleepers should be done properly.

4. Concrete railway sleepers

- Concrete sleepers have a life span of upto 40 years.
- They are simple to mold into the desired shape to withstand forces brought on by heavy traffic.
- The additional weight of concrete sleepers strengthens the rail's ability to withstand stresses brought on by thermal expansion, which can cause the track to buckle. Notably, concrete sleepers weigh around 2.5 to 3 times as much as wooden sleepers.
- Nowadays, pre-tensioned concrete sleepers are typically used.

Advantages of concrete sleepers

- It is more resilient and has a longer lifespan up to 50 years.
- Compared to steel and wood, it is more affordable.
- Concrete sleepers are simple to produce.
- It is resistant to attacks from pests.
- It is resistant to fire.
- Concrete sleepers provide good track circuiting.

Disadvantages of concrete sleepers

- Concrete sleepers are fragile and prone to sudden cracking.

- They need to be replaced since overhauling them is not possible.
- These require large number of fittings
- They have no scrap value.

5. Prestressed concrete sleepers

Concrete sleepers in which prestressed cement concrete is employed are called prestressed concrete sleepers.

Advantages of prestressed concrete sleepers

- These have a life expectancy of 40 to 50 years.
- Lesser number of fittings are required.
- The gauge is uniform and simple to adjust.
- Strong connections are possible between the rail and the sleeper.
- The track has greater lateral and longitudinal stability.
- Track circuiting is feasible in case of prestressed concrete sleepers.
- These are more resilient and less likely to degrade.
- There is an effective check on the creep in rails.
- They can endure the strains brought exerted by heavy traffic.
- They have a low cost of maintenance.

Disadvantages of prestressed concrete sleepers

- They have a higher initial cost.
- These sleepers are prone to breakage when subjected to rough handling.
- Renewal of prestressed concrete sleepers is difficult.
- Scrap value of these sleepers is zero.

Requirement of railway sleepers

- The initial cost and maintenance cost of railway sleepers should be low.
- Sleepers should have a moderate weight and they should be easy to handle
- They should possess a sufficient bearing area.
- These should offer sufficient track circuiting.
- Sleepers should resist shocks and vibrations.
- Removal of fasteners and their overhauling should be easy.
- Sleepers should have an easy maintenance and gauge adjustments.