Standard Test Method for Static Segregation of Self-Consolidating Concrete Using Column Technique

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C1610/C1610M; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the determination of static segregation of self-consolidating concrete (SCC) by measuring the coarse aggregate content in the top and bottom portions of a cylindrical specimen (or column).

1.2 This test method is not applicable to self-consolidating concrete containing lightweight aggregate.

1.3 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

1.4 The text of this standard references notes and footnotes that provide explanatory material. These notes and footnotes (excluding those in tables and figures) shall not be considered as requirements of the standard.

1.5 This test method is applicable under laboratory and field conditions.

1.6 This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use. (Warning—Fresh hydraulic cementitious mixtures are caustic and may cause chemical burns to skin and tissue upon prolonged exposure.)

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

C125 Terminology Relating to Concrete and Concrete Aggregates
C127 Test Method for Density, Relative Density (Specific Gravity), and Absorption of Coarse Aggregate
C173/C173M Test Method for Air Content of Freshly Mixed Concrete by the Volumetric Method
C192/C192M Practice for Making and Curing Concrete Test Specimens in the Laboratory
C231 Test Method for Air Content of Freshly Mixed Concrete by the Pressure Method
C1712 Test Method for Rapid Assessment of Static Segregation Resistance of Self-Consolidating Concrete Using Penetration Test
D1785 Specification for Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Plastic Pipe, Schedules 40, 80, and 120

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 For definitions of terms used in this test method, refer to Terminology C125.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 Static Segregation, n—settlement of coarse aggregate particles in an undisturbed mass of fresh concrete.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 A sample of freshly-mixed self-consolidating concrete is placed in a cylindrical mold without tamping or vibration. The mold is separated into three sections representing different levels of the cylindrical specimen (or column). Portions of concrete from the top and bottom section are washed on a 4.75 mm (No. 4) sieve, leaving the coarse aggregate on the sieve. The masses of coarse aggregate in the top and the bottom sections are determined and the percent static segregation is calculated.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 This test method provides users with a procedure to determine the potential static segregation of self-consolidating concrete.

NOTE 1—This test method may not be sufficiently rapid to evaluate self-consolidating concrete mixtures in the field before placement. Test Method C1712 provides a rapid method for assessing static segregation resistance of self-consolidating concrete.
5.2 This test method shall be used to develop self-consolidating concrete mixtures with segregation not exceeding specified limits. Self-consolidating concrete is a fluid concrete that can be prone to segregation if not proportioned to be cohesive. A cohesive self-consolidating concrete is important for all applications but is especially critical for deep-section applications such as walls or columns. Therefore, the degree of segregation can indicate if a mixture is suitable for the application.

Note 2—Some level of segregation is tolerable as long as the desired strength and durability performance is achieved.

6. Apparatus

6.1 Balance—as described in Test Method C127.

6.2 Column Mold—The column portion of the mold shall be poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC) plastic pipe Schedule 40 meeting the requirements of Specification D1785. The column shall be 200 mm [8 in.] in nominal diameter × 660 mm [26 in.] in height and separated into 3 sections. The top section shall be 165 mm [6.5 in.] in height, the middle section 330 mm [13 in.] in height, and the bottom section 165 mm [6.5 in.] in height, as shown in Fig. 1. Each section shall have its ends flat and plane and be marked as “Top”, “Middle”, or “Bottom” relative to its location in the column. Couplers, brackets, clamps, or other equivalent fastening systems shall be used for securing the column sections together to form a mortar-tight joint and to secure the column to the base plate. The column mold shall be securely attached to a non-absorbent, rigid base plate measuring at least 300 mm [12 in.] × 300 mm [12 in.] square.

Note 3—Experience has shown that a base plate made from sealed or laminated plywood at least 20 mm [0.75 in.] thick is suitable for securing the column.

6.3 Collector Plate—The collector plate, used to obtain concrete from the top section of the column, shall be made of any nonabsorbent, rigid material measuring at least 510 mm. [20 in] × 510 mm [20 in.] square. The plate shall contain a cut out section in the center measuring 220 mm [8.7 in.] across and it shall contain a rigid lip that is at least 50 mm [2 in.] high running around three sides of the perimeter of the plate, as shown in Fig. 2.

Note 4—To facilitate the ease with which the test can be performed, the collector plate may contain legs or another support system so that only one person is needed to perform the concrete collection process from the top section.

6.4 Strike-off Bar—As described in Test Method C173/C173M or Test Method C231.
6.5 Sieve—A 4.75 mm (No. 4) rectangular sieve with minimum dimensions of 330 mm [13 in.] × 630 mm [25 in.].

6.6 Sample Receptacle—A pan or wheelbarrow that is water-tight, has a nonabsorbent surface, and is large enough to allow both remixing of the entire sample and retain a volume of concrete sufficient to fill the column mold.

6.7 Pouring Vessel for SCC—A water-tight container having a volume such that concrete is not spilled during placement in the column mold.

Note 5—A pouring vessel with a pouring lip is useful in reducing the probability of concrete spilling while filling the mold.

6.8 Other Tools—Items such as shovels and scoops capable of remixing the concrete in the sample receptacle, filling the pouring vessel, or both.

7. Sample

7.1 Obtain a sample of freshly-mixed self-consolidating concrete in accordance with Practice C192/C192M and place it in the sample receptacle.

8. Procedure

8.1 Perform this test on a flat, level work surface. Do not subject the work surface or the column mold to vibration or disturbance.

8.2 Remixing of Sample: Remix the sample obtained in accordance with 7.1 in the sample receptacle using a shovel or scoop so that the concrete is homogeneous.

8.3 Dampen the interior of the mold, removing any standing water on the base plate within the column.

8.4 Fill Pouring Vessel—Immediately fill the pouring vessel with a portion of SCC from the sample receptacle, either by passing the pouring vessel through the concrete or by scooping concrete into the vessel.

8.5 Filling Procedure—Immediately fill the mold with SCC by tilting the pouring vessel. Position the lowest point on the rim of the pouring vessel no more than 125 mm [5 in.] above the top of the mold. Ensure an even distribution of concrete, without rodding the concrete or tapping the sides of the mold, while filling the mold.

8.6 If necessary, repeat the procedures in 8.4 and 8.5 until the mold is filled slightly above its rim. Completely fill the mold within 2 min.

8.7 After filling the mold, strike off the top surface by sliding the strike-off bar across the top rim of the mold with a sawing motion until the concrete surface is level with the top of the mold.

8.8 Allow the concrete to stand undisturbed in the mold for 15 ± 1 min.

8.9 Immediately following the standing period, securely hold the top section of the mold and remove the fastening system. Complete Steps 8.10 – 8.17 within 20 min thereafter.

8.10 Place the cut out section of the collector plate around the column just below the joint between the “Top” and “Middle” sections to catch and collect concrete.

8.11 Grasp the upper section of the mold and, using a horizontal rotating motion, screed the concrete in the top section of the column on to the collector plate and then deposit it into a plastic pail.

8.12 Repeat Steps 8.9 – 8.11 to remove the concrete from the middle section of the mold. Discard this concrete.

8.13 Place the concrete sample collected from the upper section of the mold onto the 4.75 mm (No. 4) sieve.

8.14 Wash the concrete on the 4.75 mm (No. 4) sieve so that only coarse aggregate remains on the sieve. Deposit the coarse aggregate into a clean plastic pail.
8.15 Repeat Steps 8.13 and 8.14 for the concrete retained in the bottom section of the mold.

8.16 Bring the coarse aggregate obtained from both the top and bottom sections of the mold to a surface-dry condition by rolling it in a large absorbent cloth until all visible films of water are removed.

8.17 Determine the mass of coarse aggregate from the top and bottom sections of the mold to the nearest 50 g [0.1 lb].

9. Calculation

9.1 Calculate the percent static segregation using the following equation:

\[ S = \frac{(CA_B - CA_T)}{(CA_B + CA_T)} \times 100, \text{if } CA_B > CA_T \]
\[ S = 0, \text{if } CA_B \leq CA_T \]

where:
- \( S \) = static segregation, percent
- \( CA_T \) = mass of coarse aggregate in the top section of the column
- \( CA_B \) = mass of coarse aggregate in the bottom section of the column

10. Report

10.1 Mixture designation.

10.2 The mass of coarse aggregate obtained from the top and bottom sections of the column separately to the nearest 0.05 kg [0.1 lb].

10.3 The static segregation to the nearest 0.1 percent.

11. Precision and Bias

11.1 Precision—The estimate of the precision of this test method is provisional. A repeatability standard deviation of 0.2 % was obtained from a study involving five replicate batches of a concrete mixture with a mean static segregation of 3.8 %.

11.2 Bias—The procedure used in this test method has no bias since coarse aggregate segregation of self-consolidating concrete is defined only in terms of this method.

12. Keywords

12.1 coarse aggregate; self-consolidating concrete; stability; static segregation

REFERENCES


SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Committee C09 has identified the location of selected changes to this standard since the last issue (C1610/C1610M – 10) that may impact the use of this standard. (Approved April 1, 2014.)

(1) Revised definition of Sample Receptacle in 6.6 and Small Tools in 6.8.

(2) Added definition for Pouring Vessel in 6.7.

(3) Revised Section 8.

(4) Added new 8.3.