

## UNCOMPACTED VOID CONTENT OF FINE AGGREGATE FOP FOR AASHTO T 304

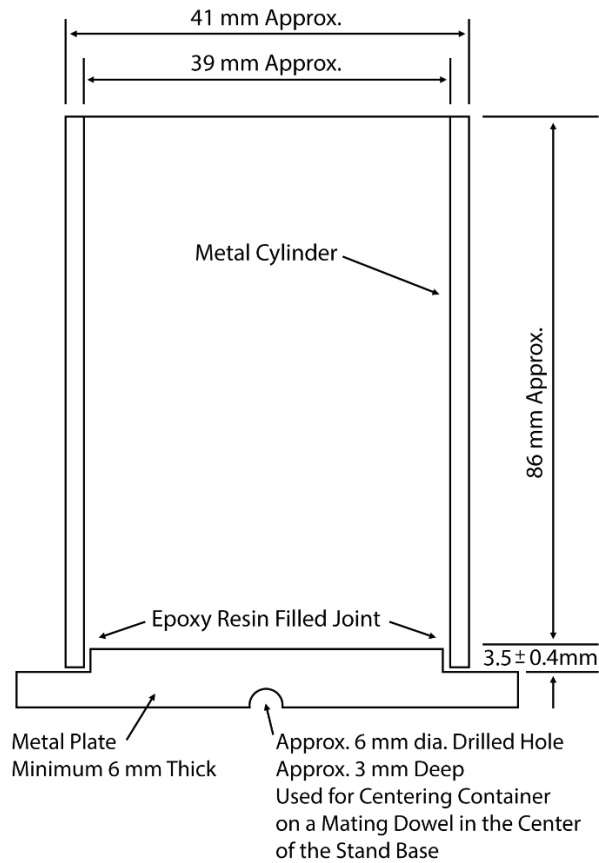
### Scope

This procedure covers the determination of the loose uncompacted void content of a sample of fine aggregate in accordance with AASHTO T 304-22. When measured on an aggregate of a known grading, void content indicates the aggregate's angularity, sphericity, and surface texture compared with other fine aggregates tested in the same grading. When void content is measured on an as-received fine aggregate grading, it can indicate the effect of the fine aggregate on the workability of a mixture in which it is used.

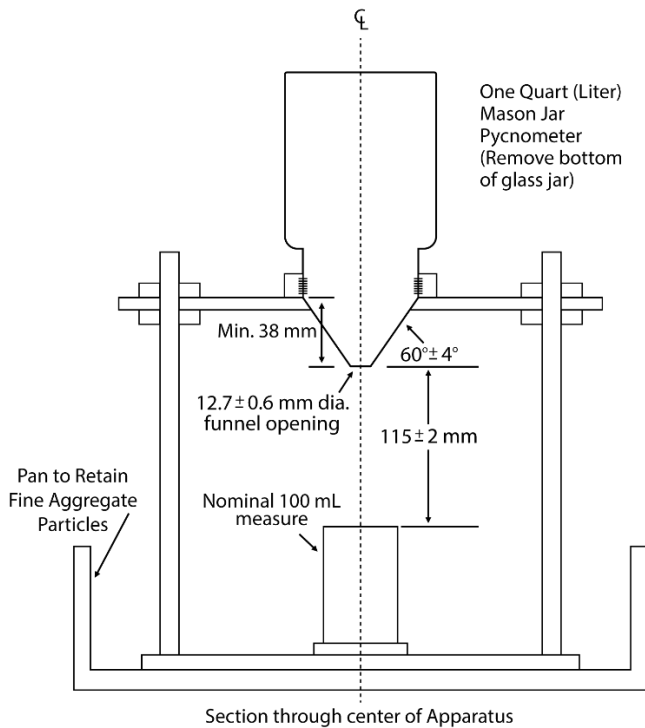
### Apparatus

- Cylindrical Measure – approximately 100 mL right cylinder made of seamless smooth wall metal, inside diameter approximately 39 mm and inside height approximately 86 mm, with a metal bottom at least 6 mm thick, which is firmly sealed to the cylinder with means for aligning the axis of the cylinder with that of the funnel (see Figure 1).
- Funnel – the lateral surface of the right frustum of a smooth metal cone at least 38 mm high sloped  $60 \pm 4$  degrees from the horizontal with an opening of  $12.7 \pm 0.6$  mm diameter with a volume of at least 200 mL or with a supplemental glass or metal container to provide the required volume (see Figure 2).
- Funnel Stand – A three or four-legged support capable of holding the funnel firmly in position  $115 \pm 2$  mm above the top of the cylinder with the axis of the funnel colinear (within a 4 degree angle and a displacement of 2 mm) with the axis of the cylindrical measure. A suitable arrangement is shown in Figure 2.
- Glass Plate – minimum 4 mm thick, approximately 60 mm by 60 mm used to calibrate the cylindrical measure.
- Pan – flat metal or plastic pan of sufficient size to contain the funnel stand and to prevent loss of material.
- Metal spatula with a straight edged blade approximately 100 mm long, and at least 20 mm wide with an end cut at a right angle to the edges.
- Scale or balance accurate and readable to  $\pm 0.1$  g within the range of use, capable of weighing the cylindrical measure and its contents.

**Figure 1**



**Figure 2**



### Preparation of Test Samples

Obtain the standard graded sample from one of the following:

1. Use the sieve analysis samples from the FOP for AASHTO T 27/11.
2. Store the dry separate size fractions obtained from one (or more) sieve analysis in separate containers for each size.

OR:

1. Obtain sample according to the FOP for AASHTO R 90
2. Reduce according to the FOP for AASHTO R 76
3. Wash sample over a 150- $\mu\text{m}$  (No. 100) or 75- $\mu\text{m}$  (No. 200) sieve according to FOP for AASHTO T 27/11.
4. Dry to constant mass according to the FOP for AASHTO T 255.
5. Using sieves in Table 1, separate into individual size fractions according to FOP for AASHTO T 27/11
6. Weigh out and combine the following quantities of material identified in Table 1.

**Table 1**

<b>Individual Size Fraction</b>		
<b>Passing</b>	<b>Retained On</b>	<b>Mass g</b>
No. 8 (2.36 mm)	No. 16 (1.18 mm)	44.0 $\pm$ 0.2
No. 16 (1.18 mm)	No. 30 (600 $\mu\text{m}$ )	57.0 $\pm$ 0.2
No. 30 (600 $\mu\text{m}$ )	No. 50 (300 $\mu\text{m}$ )	72.0 $\pm$ 0.2
No. 50 (300 $\mu\text{m}$ )	No. 100 (150 $\mu\text{m}$ )	17.0 $\pm$ 0.2
	Total	190.0 $\pm$ 0.2

## Specific Gravity of Fine Aggregate

The fine aggregate bulk specific gravity ( $G_{sb}$ ) is used to determine the uncompacted void content. Use the  $G_{sb}$  from the source if it is known. If it is unknown determine the  $G_{sb}$  on the minus No. 4 (4.75 mm) material according to AASHTO T 84.

If the  $G_{sb}$  of some size fractions differ by more than 0.05 from the  $G_{sb}$  typical of the complete sample, the  $G_{sb}$  of the fraction (or fractions) being tested must be determined.

**Note 1:** An indicator of differences in specific gravity of various particle sizes is a comparison of specific gravities run on the fine aggregate in different gradings. Specific gravity can be run on gradings with and without specific size fractions of interest. If specific gravity differences exceed 0.05, determine the specific gravity of the individual 2.36 mm (No. 8) to 150  $\mu$ m (No. 100) sizes for use either by direct measurement or by calculation using the specific gravity data on gradings with and without the size fraction of interest. A difference in specific gravity of 0.05 will change the calculated void content about 1 percent.

### Procedure

1. Record the mass of the empty measure to the nearest 0.1 g.
2. Mix test sample with the spatula until it appears to be homogeneous.
3. Position the jar and funnel section in the stand and center the cylindrical measure as shown in Figure 2.
4. Using a finger, block the opening of the funnel, pour the test sample into the funnel.
5. Level the material in the funnel with the spatula.
6. Withdraw finger allowing the sample to freely flow into the cylindrical measure.
7. After the funnel empties, strike-off excess fine aggregate from the cylindrical measure with a rapid single pass of the spatula with the width of the blade vertical using the straight part of its edge in light contact with the top of the measure.

Until strike-off is complete, avoid vibration or disturbance which could cause compaction of the material in the measure.

**Note 2:** After strike-off, the cylindrical measure may be tapped lightly to compact the sample to make it easier to transfer the container to scale or balance without spilling any of the sample.

8. Brush adhering grains from the outside of the container.
9. Determine and record the mass of the cylindrical measure and contents to the nearest 0.1 g.
10. Recombine the sample from the pan and cylindrical measure.
11. Stir until homogenous.
12. Repeat Steps 3 through 9.
13. Determine net mass of aggregate in measure by subtracting mass of the measure from the mass of measure and fine aggregate.
14. Calculate the uncompacted void content ( $U_s$ ) of each determination to the nearest 0.1 percent.
15. Average the results of the two determinations ( $U_m$ ) to the nearest 0.1 percent.

**Calculations**

**Calculate the uncompacted voids for each determination:**

$$U_s = \frac{V - \left(\frac{F}{G_{sb}}\right)}{V} \times 100$$

Where:

$U_s$  = uncompacted voids in the material to the nearest 0.1 percent

$V$  = volume of cylindrical measure, mL

$F$  = net mass, g, of fine aggregate in measure

$G_{sb}$  = Bulk dry specific gravity of fine aggregate

**Calculate the average uncompacted voids for the two determinations:**

$$U_m = \frac{U_1 + U_2}{2}$$

Where:

$U_m$  = the average uncompacted void content to the nearest 0.1 percent

$U_1$  = first determination

$U_2$  = second determination

**Example:**

$$U_s = \frac{99.8 \text{ mL} - \left(\frac{146.2 \text{ g}}{2.636}\right)}{99.8 \text{ mL}} \times 100 = 44.4\%$$

Where:

$U_s$  = uncompacted voids in the material to the nearest 0.1 percent

$V$  = 99.8 mL

$F$  = 146.2 g

$G_{sb}$  = 2.636

The average uncompacted voids for the two determinations:

$$U_m = \frac{48.7\% + 49.9\%}{2} = 49.3\%$$

Where:

$U_m$  = the average uncompacted void content to the nearest 0.1 percent

$U_1$  = 48.7%

$U_2$  = 49.9%

## Report

- The Uncompacted Voids ( $U_m$ ) in percent to the nearest 0.1 percent.
- The specific gravity value used in the calculations.

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**ANNEX — CALIBRATION OF CYLINDRICAL MEASURE**

(Mandatory Information)

1. Apply a light coat of grease to the top edge of the dry, empty cylindrical measure.
2. Determine the mass of the measure, grease, and glass plate to the nearest 0.1 g.
3. Fill the measure with freshly boiled, deionized water at a temperature of 18 to 24°C (64.4 to 75.2°F).
4. Record the temperature of the water.
5. Place the glass plate on the measure, being sure that no air bubbles remain.
6. Dry the outer surfaces of the measure.
7. Determine the combined mass of measure, glass plate, grease, and water to the nearest 0.1 g.

**Calculations**

Calculate the volume of the measure as follows:

$$V = 1000 \times \frac{M}{D}$$

Where:

- V = volume of cylinder, to the nearest 0.1 mL  
M = net mass of water, g  
D = density of water kg/m<sup>3</sup> (see Table B1 in the FOP for AASHTO T 99/T 180 for density at the temperature used)

**Example**

$$V = 1000 \times \frac{99.6}{997.99} = 99.8 \text{ mL}$$

Where:

- V = volume of cylinder, to the nearest 0.1 mL  
M = 99.6 g  
D = 997.99 kg/m<sup>3</sup>, density of water at 21°C (69.8°F)

