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Interface Shear Performance between Porous Polyurethane Mixture and Asphalt Sublayer

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Abstract: This paper aims to study interface shear performance between porous polyurethane mixture (PPM) and asphalt mixture with different adhesive materials. Polyurethane, epoxy resin, and SBS (styrene–butadiene–styrene) modified asphalt were selected as adhesive materials to fabricate composite specimens. The interface shear strength and shear fatigue life of composite specimen was measured using inclined shear test. The research results emphasizes that it is necessary to apply adhesive material to the interface between PPM and asphalt mixture, since the untreated interface shear strength is smaller than the ones between two asphalt mixtures. The interface shear strength is affected by the thickness of adhesive layer, temperature, and freezing–thaw condition. In general, the greatest interface shear strength was achieved by using epoxy resin followed by polyurethane and then SBS modified asphalt at 25 °C as the adhesive layer thickness is the same. However, the interface shear strengths of composite specimen with three adhesive materials are similar to each other at high and low temperatures (60 °C and −18 °C) or after freezing–thaw cycles. On the other hand, the composite specimen with epoxy resin as adhesive material has the longest fatigue life; while the SBS modified asphalt has the least fatigue life at 25 °C. The research findings can help select the appropriate adhesive materials and increase the durability and service life of pavement when PPM is used as road surface layer for safety and noise reduction.

Keywords: polyurethane; asphalt mixture; epoxy resin; adhesive layer; shear strength; inclined shear test

1. Introduction

The open graded friction course (OGFC) was mainly used as road surface layer placed on dense graded asphalt layer to improve traffic safety at rainy conditions [1,2]. With the high air void content (18%–22%), OGFC offers safety advantages in terms of high skid resistance and no splash or spray in addition to its benefits in noise reduction and water runoff quality enhancement [3–6]. Despite of the functionality benefits of OGFC, engineering practices have found that the application of OGFC faces three challenges during the service life of pavement, including clogging of air voids [7,8], raveling [9–11], and freezing-induced damage in winter [12,13]. These problems apparently reduce pavement durability and affect the functional benefits of OGFC. Due to the challenges related to OGFC, its use has been limited through the years. A survey conducted in 2016 revealed that 25 states in U.S. do not use OGFC, among which 19 states have used it before but did not continue due to freezing damaged in winter [14].

Recently, porous polyurethane mixture (PPM) has been proposed for road surface layer for noise reduction and better durability [15–18]. Although the cost of PPM is higher, PPM has three advantages over OGFC. The first is that it can be mixed at room temperature, which can significantly save heating energy and eliminate the pollution of asphalt smoke during high temperature mixing [19,20]. The second is that the PPM performs better to resist particle-related clogging due to its high air void (30%), because the pores at the greater porosity are more difficult to be clogged by small particles [18]. Lastly, the polyurethane is hard after curing and can maintain high stiffness during hot days. This makes PPM have better ability to resist deformation-related clogging and produce sufficient bonding with aggregates, which minimize the possibility of raveling [21,22]. The recent work also found that PPM can significantly retard ice-formation time and reduces the adhesive strength with ice, which shows superior anti-icing and deicing performance than OGFC [23].

Since the functional benefit and durability of PPM have been documented, the application of PPM as road surface layer is most beneficial. In this case, the interface bonding between the PPM surface layer and asphalt sublayer is important. However, previous researchers have found that early failure could be caused by the delamination of PPM with its sublayer, especially at tire braking or acceleration conditions [24]. The Japanese Public Works Research Institute (PWRI) found that adhesion of polyurethane mixture was not very durable with dense asphalt mixture but its adhesion with cement concrete was better. Therefore, they developed a semi-flexible layer (porous asphalt with the pores filled with cement) as sublayer of polyurethane mixture to solve the adhesion issue [25]. In the period 2002–2005, full-scale experiments on Japanese highways with eight different types of PPM on three locations all failed within a relative short time after construction (less than one year) owing to raveling, adhesion, and friction problems. The similar interface failure between polyurethane mixture and dense asphalt concrete layer was observed in Sweden only after four months of construction [26]. The reason causing the delamination of PPM could be insufficient bonding between PPM and underlying layer. Therefore, adhesive materials may be needed to improve the interface bonding between PPM and the traditional dense asphalt layer underneath.

Traditionally, asphalt emulsions have been used as tack coat between asphalt layers. It was found that the interface shear strength between asphalt layers was affected by temperature, tack coat type and dosage, surface roughness, and mixture type [27,28]. However, few studies have investigated the effectiveness of adhesive material on interface bonding between PPM and asphalt sublayers.

2. Objectives and Scope

This study aims to study interface shear performance between porous polyurethane mixture (PPM) and asphalt sublayer with different adhesive materials. Polyurethane, epoxy resin, and SBS (styrene–butadiene–styrene) modified asphalt were selected as adhesive materials to fabricate composite specimens. The interface shear strength of composite specimen was measured using inclined shear test at different temperatures and freezing–thaw conditions. The shear fatigue life of composite specimen with different adhesive materials was also investigated. The test results can be used to select the better performing adhesive material for long-term durability of PPM as surface layer.

3. Experimental Materials

Laboratory composite specimens were prepared for shear test with the upper layer and the bottom layer. Three types of upper layer materials were used, including one porous polyurethane mixture with the nominal maximum aggregate size of 9.5 mm (PPM-10) and two asphalt mixtures with the nominal maximum aggregate size of 13 mm (AC-13 and OGFC-13). The sublayer material is asphalt mixture with the nominal maximum aggregate size of 19 mm (AC-20).

Polyurethane was prepared by mixing two components with certain proportion followed by adding catalyst. The mass ratio of catalyst with respect to the two components is determined by the curing time of polyurethane. Based on recommendations from the manufacturer of polyurethane, 2‰ catalyst is usually used if the curing time is required within 15 min after mixing. The two components were isocyanate

prepolymer (component A) and the mixture of polyether polyol and pentaerythritol (component B). The polyurethane before solidification was transparent yellow liquid under room temperature. Table 1 gives the basic properties of polyurethane. On the other hand, the SBS modified asphalt was obtained by mixing 70# base asphalt with 4% SBS polymer at high temperature. The epoxy resin was obtained by manually mixing the resin with curing agent at mass ratio of 1:1 at the temperature of 20~30 °C. It is noted that the mixing should be done unidirectional at constant speed for about one minute in order to prevent the generation of bubbles during mixing or non-uniform mass distribution after mixing.

Table 1. Basic properties of polyurethane binder.

Index	Density (g/cm ³)	Curing Time (min)	pH Value
Value	1.003	5~1200	6.7

To prepare porous polyurethane mixture (PPM), basalt aggregates with single grain size of 4.75~9.5 mm were mixed with polyurethane at the mass ratio of 94:6 under room temperature. It should be noted that the mass ratio of polyurethane to aggregate particles was determined by the inverse relationship between the dosage of polyurethane and the Cantabro mass loss of specimen measured following AASHTO T108. It was found that the scattering loss rate achieved its minimum value of 6.4% when the dosage of polyurethane was 6%. The aggregate gradation and polyurethane binder content of PPM-10 can be found in authors' previous work [23].

Three types of asphalt mixture, AC-20, AC-13 and OGFC-13, were prepared by mixing limestone aggregates with 70# base bitumen. The aggregate gradations, asphalt contents (AC), and air void (AV) contents of different asphalt mixtures are showed in Table 2. The air void contents of PPM and OGFC were determined from the measured bulk specific gravity using paraffin-coated method (AASHTO T275) and the measured theoretical maximum specific gravity (AASHTO T209); while the saturated surface dry method (AASHTO T166) was used for the bulk specific gravity of dense-graded AC specimens.

Table 2. Mix designs for different asphalt mixtures.

Type	Mass Percentage (%) Passing the Below Sieve Size (mm)												AC (%)	AV (%)
	26.5	19	16	13.2	9.5	4.75	2.36	1.18	0.6	0.3	0.15	0.075		
AC-20	100	95.3	89.6	78.4	65.6	51	39.0	28.4	16	9	7.1	5.4	4.6	4.9
AC-13	100	100	100	95	76.5	56.2	42.4	29	20	12.7	7.9	5.4	5.0	4.2
OGFC-13	100	100	100	94.7	68.5	18.2	14.2	10.5	7.5	5.9	4.8	4	5.1	20.3
PPM-10	Single grain size of 4.75–9.0 mm												6.0	32.4

Three types of adhesive materials were used at the interface of composite specimen, including polyurethane, epoxy resin, and SBS modified asphalt. It should be noted that the desired thickness of adhesive material applied at the interface was achieved by controlling the mass of adhesive material after knowing the density and coating area. The density of polyurethane, epoxy resin, and SBS modified asphalt is 1.003 g/cm³, 0.971 g/cm³ and 1.030 g/cm³, respectively.

4. Test Method

4.1. Specimen Preparation

A special cylindrical test mold (inner diameter of 101.6 mm and height of 150 mm) made of steel was custom-made for fabricating the composite specimen. According to the Marshall method, the sublayer (AC-20) was initially prepared in the mold after the compaction of 75 times on each side of the specimen, and cured at room temperature for 12 h without demold. After that, the adhesive material (if needed) was applied on the surface of sublayer and then the upper layer (PPM-10 or AC-13 or OGFC-13) was fabricated after the compaction of 75 times on the top of upper layer, as shown

in Figure 1. The SBS modified asphalt was hot-applied at the interface directly. When epoxy resin and polyurethane were used as adhesive materials, the upper layer should be formed within 15 min to ensure that adhesive materials were not solidified and could penetrate into the upper layer. The composite specimen was then cured for 12 h at room temperature before testing.

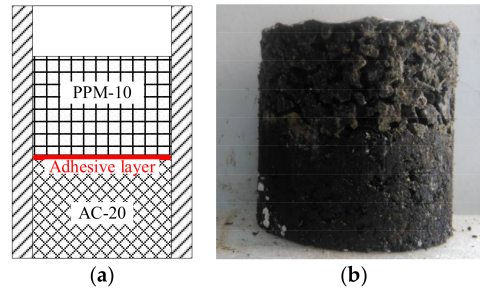


Figure 1. Preparation of composite specimen: (a) Schematic illustration and (b) picture of real specimen.

4.2. Inclined Shear Test

Several testing methods have been used to characterize the interface bonding performance. The modes in these testing methods can be mainly divided into shear, tension, and torsion, in which shearing is the most widely used one. Two types of shear test (direct shear test and inclined shear test) have been used to measure interface shear strength. In the direct shear test, the load direction is parallel to the interface and the confining stress is applied separately [29]. As for the inclined shear test, the load is applied in both parallel and vertical directions with respect to the interface at the same time using an inclined frame [30]. Although the setup of inclined shear test is relatively simple, the ratio of confining pressure to shear stress is defined by the inclined angle and fixed during the test. In the direct shear test, the confining pressure can be applied with varying magnitudes. Further work can be conducted to evaluate interface shear failure using different testing procedures, such as Texas overlay test.

Figure 2 presents the setup of inclined shear test in the laboratory used in this study. The inclination angle between interface axis and horizontal direction was set at 45° so that the interface was loaded with equivalent shear force and normal force. The load was applied at 5 mm/min until the layer interface failed. The shear bonding strength of interface was calculated using Equation (1).

$$\tau = \frac{F \cdot \sin 45^\circ}{S} \quad (1)$$

where, τ denotes shear bonding strength of interface; F denotes the maximal vertical load; and S presents the interface contact area between two layers.

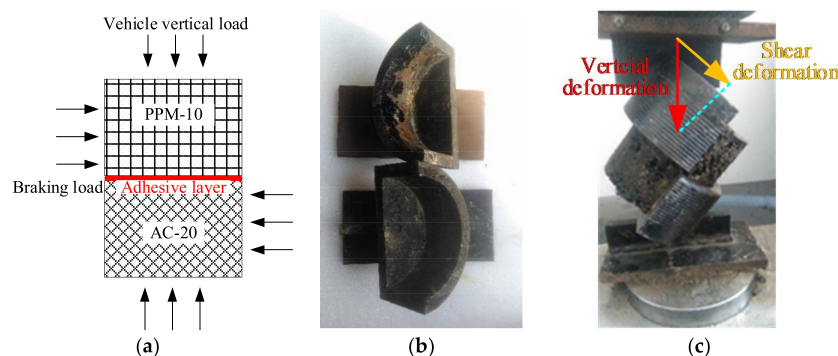


Figure 2. Illustration of inclined shear test: (a) Force on the specimen; (b) shear clamps; and (c) test setup with specimen.

4.3. Test Conditions

Asphalt pavement is subject to different climate conditions during its service life, including high temperature in summer, freezing–thaw in winter, and water infiltration during rainfall. At rainy days, water can drain vertically through the OGFC and laterally flow to pavement shoulder at wet weather condition due to the internal interconnected voids, which cause less moisture-related distress in OGFC pavement. However, it is documented that the open and interconnected pores in porous asphalt mixtures are easier to be damaged by the volume change due to freezing and thaw as compared to dense-graded asphalt mixtures [13]. Thus, shearing test was applied to composite specimens at different temperatures ($-18\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, $25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ and $60\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$) and after freezing–thaw cycles. The details of test matrix were presented in Table 3. At each freezing–thaw cycle, the composite specimens were frozen under $-18\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for four hours and then immersed in water bath at $15\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for four hours. This process was repeated for four times.

Table 3. Test matrix of composite specimens.

Test	Freeze–Thaw Cycle	Thickness of Adhesive Layer (mm)	Temperature of Shearing Test ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)
Shear test	No	0.3, 0.5, 1.0	-18 , 25, 60
Shear test	Yes	0.5	25
Shear fatigue test	No	0.5	25

Although the shear strength may indicate the shear resistance of interface for the purpose of ranking, the interface between surface layer and sublayer of asphalt pavement sustains repetitive shear force due to traffic loading. Therefore, stress-controlled inclined shear fatigue test was conducted to evaluate fatigue life of the interface in the composite specimen under repeated loading cycles. The inclined shear test setup shown in Figure 2 was used for fatigue test. A sinusoidal load wave with the frequency of 10 Hz and peak stress of 0.4 MPa without rest time between cycles was applied at $25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for shear fatigue test. The loading frequency and magnitude was selected based on the typical shear stress magnitude experienced at near-surface under truck loading at highway speeds [24]. The cyclic loading in the fatigue test was applied until that the interface in composite specimen failed. Although currently there is no standard available for shear fatigue test, the similar fatigue test approach has been used in the previous work as the more realistic test to represent the failure process of pavement interface under repeated traffic loading [31,32].

It is noted that uniform shear stress in the interface was assumed in the calculation of shear stress. In the real case, the shear stress may have stress concentrations due to the stiffness difference between asphalt binder and aggregate. This should be investigated with microstructure-based model in future work.

5. Results and Discussion

5.1. Shear Strength of Composite Specimen without Adhesive Material

Figure 3 illustrates shear stress–deformation curves of three composite specimens without adhesive material at $25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. The shear deformation was the projection of total vertical deformation in the direction of interface, as shown in Figure 2c. It can be seen that the interface shear stress first increases to the peak value and then decreases with the increase of shear displacement. The composite specimen PPM-10 + AC-20 has the lowest interface shear strength among three composite specimens without adhesive material. This indicates that the bonding between PPM and asphalt mixture is insufficient compared to the interface between two asphalt layers, which may cause delamination between PPM and its underlying asphalt layer.

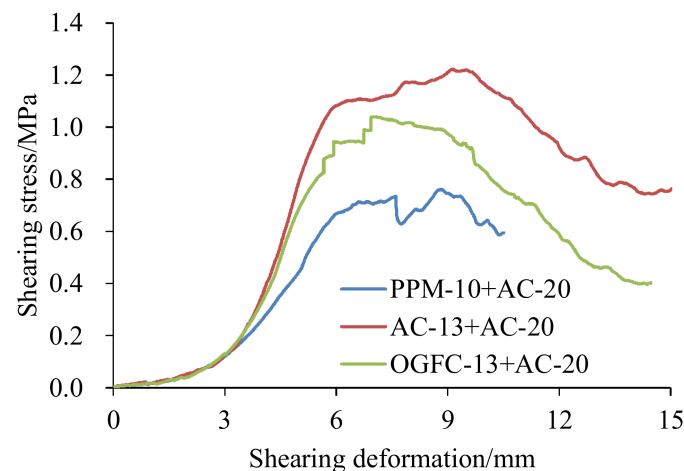


Figure 3. Shear stress-deformation curves of three composite specimens without adhesive materials.

The average shear strengths of three replicates of composite specimens without adhesive material are showed in Figure 4. The standard deviation values were shown as the error bar from the averages in the figure. The results show that the interface shear strength of PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimen is the lowest at both 25 °C and 60 °C. This can be caused by two reasons. The first reason is the inter-penetration between the upper and lower layer. For AC-13 + AC-20 and OGFC-13 + AC-20 specimen, the asphalt binder of AC-20 penetrated into the upper layer when AC-13 and AC-20 specimens were compacted at high temperatures, which was different from the case of PPM that was mixed at room temperature. Another reason is that the greater air void of PPM-10 causes the interface contact area smaller than those of the other two composite specimens, resulting in the smaller shear strength. This is similar to the finding reported by previous work, in which it was found that the contact area was an important factor affecting the interface shear strength between OGFC and dense-graded asphalt mixture [32]. The effect of air void on shear strength can be proved by the observation that the interface shear strength between AC-13 and AC-20 is greater than the one between OGFC-13 and AC-20.

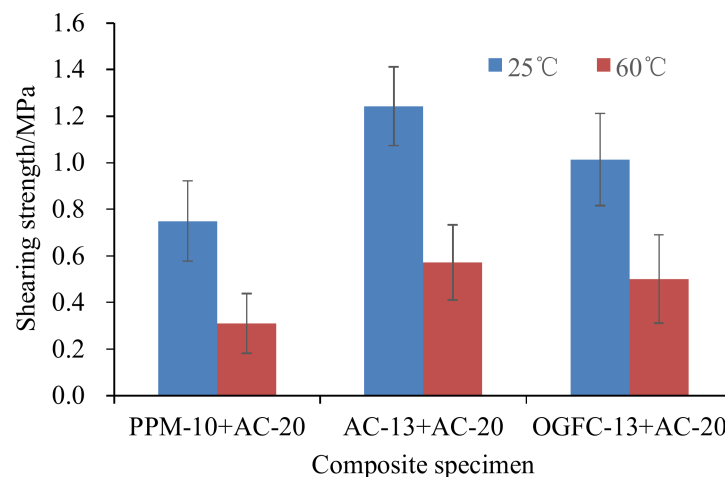


Figure 4. Shear strengths of composite specimen without adhesive materials.

Figure 5 shows the appearance of fractured surfaces after shear testing of composite specimen. It can be noticed that the fractured surface of PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimen is smooth, which indicates the pure interfacial failure. However, the fractured surfaces of AC-13 + AC-20 or OGFC-13 + AC-20 composite specimen were found much rougher, which indicated that the failure was

not pure interfacial sliding due to interlocking of aggregates and inter-penetration of asphalt binder across the interface. The texture profile of interface can be measured using laser sensor or microscopy if more accurate quantification is needed. The insufficient bond between PPM-10 and AC-20 may cause earlier failure of pavement due to slippage cracking or shoveling. Thus, it is necessary to apply adhesive materials to increase the bonding of PPM with the sublayer.

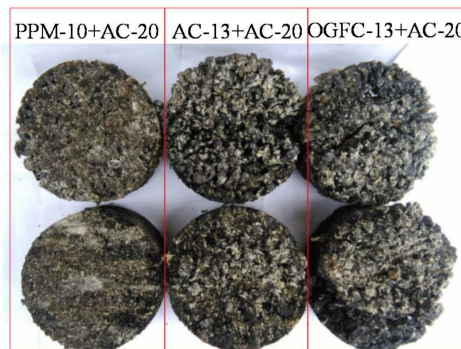


Figure 5. Appearance of fracture surface after shear test for composite specimens without adhesive materials.

5.2. Shear Strength of Composite Specimen with Adhesive Materials

Three types of adhesive materials were applied on PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimens with different adhesive materials and adhesive layer thicknesses at 25 °C. The shear strengths of three replicates of each composite specimen were tested and the results are presented in Figure 6. The standard deviation values were shown as the error bar from the averages in the figure. The mass amounts of adhesive materials used for different thicknesses are shown in Table 4.

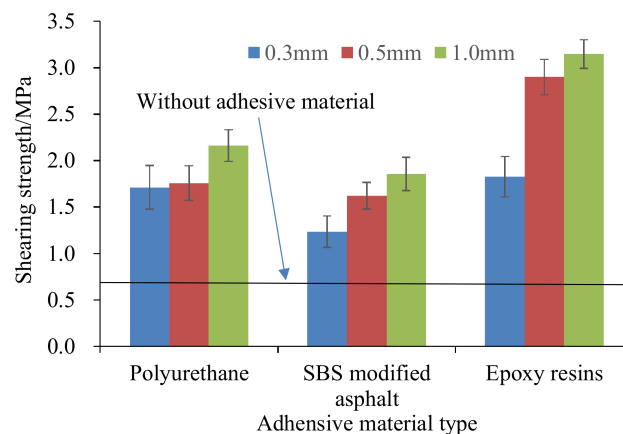


Figure 6. Shear strengths of PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimen with different adhesive materials and thicknesses at 25 °C.

Table 4. The mass of adhesive material for different thicknesses.

Mass of Adhesive Material at Thickness of	0.3 mm	0.5 mm	1.0 mm
Polyurethane (g)	2.4	4.1	8.1
SBS modified asphalt (g)	2.5	4.2	8.3
Epoxy resins (g)	2.4	3.9	7.9

According to the results in Figure 6, all the shear strengths of composite specimens are improved as the adhesive layer thickness increases. As polyurethane is used as adhesive material, the interface

shear strengths with the adhesive layer thickness of 0.3 mm or 0.5 mm were very close to each other, but both increased significantly when the adhesive layer thickness increased to 1.0 mm. As SBS modified asphalt was used as adhesive material, the gradual increase of interface shear strength was notable with the increase of adhesive layer thickness, but in general the shear strength was relatively smaller. Meanwhile, the shear strength of epoxy resin increased significantly when the adhesive layer thickness increased from 0.3 mm to 0.5 mm, but increased slightly as the thickness reached 1 mm. In general, the greatest interface shear strength was achieved by using epoxy resin followed by polyurethane and then SBS modified asphalt as the adhesive layer thickness is the same.

The stress-deformation curves of interface shear test for composite specimens with 0.3 mm adhesive layer are presented in Figure 7. The results show that the stress-deformation curves are apparently different for three different adhesive materials. The differences were observed in the shear failure pattern and deformation. The interface with epoxy resin had the sudden reduction in shear stress at the maximum shear deformation, while the shear stress of the interfaces with the other two adhesive materials gradually decreased after the peak strength. Since the epoxy resin provides high adhesive strength, the glued aggregates by epoxy resin near the interface can sustain the greater shear stress. As the load increases, aggregate may get broken or be pushed out, which causes the sudden reduction of shear strength. On the other hand, the interfaces with three different adhesive materials had different shear displacements at failure.

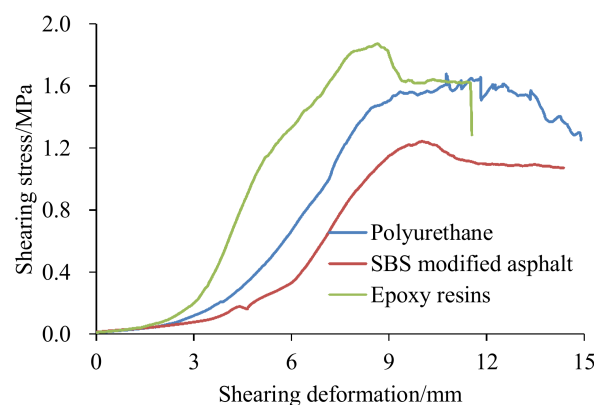


Figure 7. Stress-deformation curves of PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimens during shear test with 0.3 mm adhesive layer.

5.3. Influence of Temperature

The interface shear strengths of PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimen with 0.5 mm adhesive layer at different temperatures are shown in Figure 8. The results show that three adhesive materials offer comparative shear strengths at $-18\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ and $60\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. However, compared to SBS modified asphalt or polyurethane, epoxy resin has much greater interface shear strength at $25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. It is noted that although the interface shear strength between PPM and asphalt layer decreases significantly as the temperature increases, the shear strengths with adhesive materials are still greater than the ones without adhesive materials at the same temperature.

The stress-deformation curves of interface shear test for composite specimens with 0.5 mm SBS modified asphalt adhesive layer are presented in Figure 9. The stress-deformation curves are quite different in the peak (shearing strength) for three different temperatures. The shear strength increases greatly with the decrease of temperature. In addition, the failure deformation corresponding to the peak value of shear stress slightly increases as the decrease of temperature. This indicates that the interface shear failure potential of PPM-10 + AC-20 greater in summer.

The appearances of fractured surface after shear testing of PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimens with 0.5 mm polyurethane as adhesive layer at different temperatures are shown in Figure 10. When the

temperature is -18°C or 25°C , the major bonding failure mode is the separation of layers at the interface. However, when temperature rises to 60°C , the damage includes not only the interfacial shear failure, but also longitudinal cracks in the upper layer and sublayer. This is due to the strength reduction of mixtures at high temperatures, combined with the stress concentration during the inclined shear test, Figure 11 illustrates the possible stress concentration after the interface slippage occurs, which may cause the cracking of mixtures.

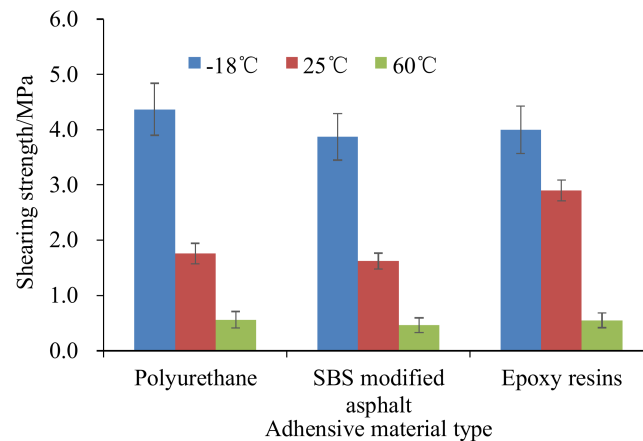


Figure 8. Shear strengths of PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimen with 0.5 mm adhesive layer at different temperatures.

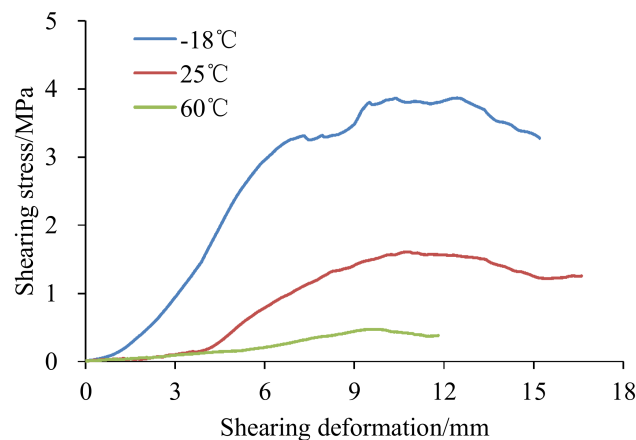


Figure 9. Stress-deformation curves of PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimens with 0.5 mm SBS modified asphalt adhesive layer at different temperatures.

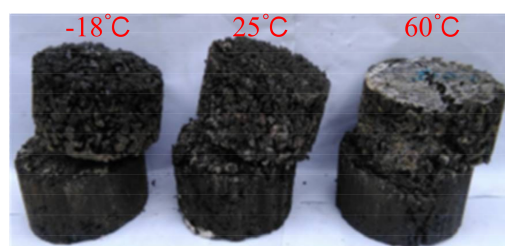


Figure 10. Appearance of PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimen after shear test.

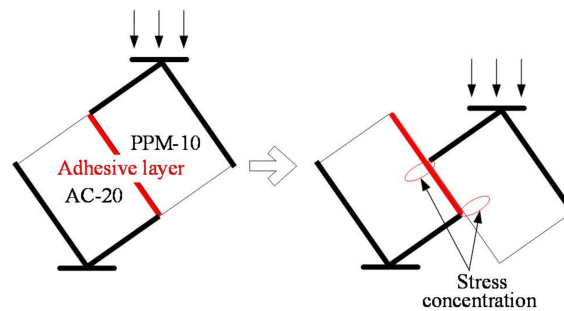


Figure 11. Illustration of stress concentrations during inclined shear test.

5.4. Influence of Freezing–Thaw Cycles

After four freezing–thaw cycles, the shear strength of PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimen with 0.5 mm adhesive layer was tested at 25 °C. The test results are shown in Figure 12, in which the standard deviation values were shown as the error bar from the averages in the figure. The results show that all the interface shear strengths decrease after freezing–thaw cycles and the results are similar among different adhesive materials. On the other hand, the shear strength of interface with epoxy resin dropped by about 50% after freezing–thaw cycles, while the shear strength of interface with SBS modified asphalt or polyurethane had much smaller reduction. This indicates that the adhesive ability of SBS modified asphalt or polyurethane is less sensitive to freezing–thaw condition as compared to epoxy resin. Again, all the interface shear strengths after freezing–thaw cycles are greater as compared to the interface of PPM and AC-20 without any adhesive material.

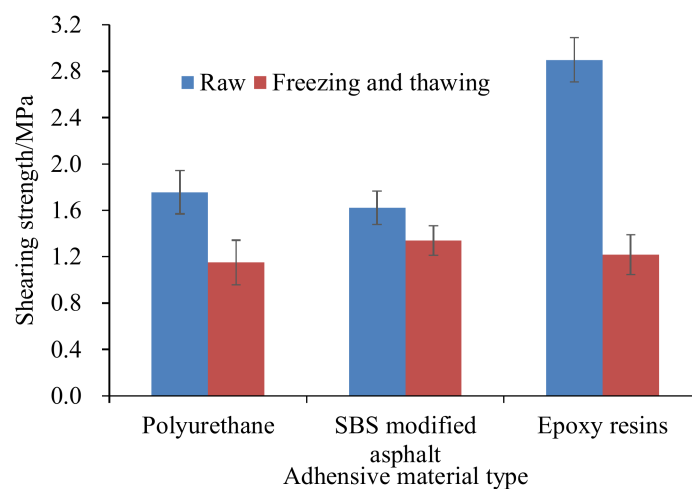


Figure 12. Shear strengths of PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimen after freezing–thaw cycle with 0.5 mm adhesive layer.

5.5. Shear Fatigue Test

Shear fatigue tests were performed on composite specimens at 25 °C with the peak shearing stress of 0.4 MPa and the frequency of 10 Hz. Figure 13a shows the change of shear displacement throughout the test. It can be found that the displacement amplitude increases with the increase of number of loading cycles in the first half of the curve. The shear displacement of the interface with epoxy resin is stable in the back half of curve, while the shear displacements of the interfaces with SBS modified asphalt and polyurethane increases rapidly and interface shearing failure occurs at the end of the curve. The number of loading cycles corresponding to the rapid increase of shear displacement was defined as the shear fatigue life. It can be seen that the fatigue life of composite specimen with SBS

modified asphalt and polyurethane is 1500 and 32,500, respectively; while the epoxy resin provides fatigue life of more than 85,000 cycles for PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimen.

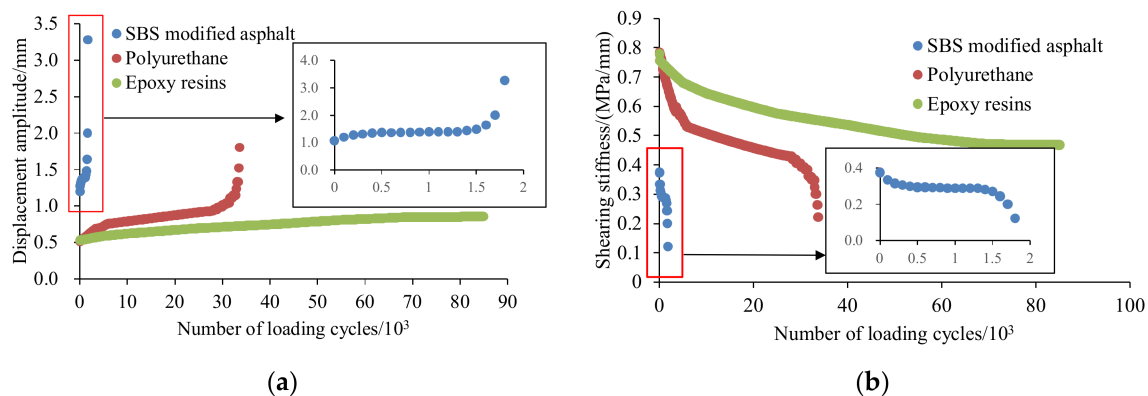


Figure 13. Response curves of (a) interface displacement vs. number of loading cycles; and (b) shear stiffness vs. number of loading cycles.

Figure 13b shows the interface shear stiffness of composite specimen with three adhesive materials obtained from fatigue test. The interface shear stiffness was calculated using Equation (2).

$$S = \frac{\tau}{\varepsilon} \quad (2)$$

where τ is the shear stress level applied in fatigue test (MPa), which is 0.4 MPa in the paper; and ε is the shear displacement (mm).

The results show that with the increase of loading cycle, the interface shear stiffness gradually decreases. As the number of loading cycle approaches fatigue life, the shear stiffness decreases rapidly. It was found that the initial stiffness of composite specimen with SBS modified asphalt was 0.37 MPa/mm, while the initial stiffness of composite specimens with polyurethane and epoxy resin reached 0.77 MPa/mm. This indicates that polyurethane and epoxy resin become stiff after curing, which provides the stronger bond than asphalt. Despite of the lowest value during three adhesive materials, the interface shear stiffness of PPM-10 + AC-20 composite specimen with SBS modified asphalt is comparable to that of composite specimen of OGFC-dense asphalt mixture with asphalt emulsion as adhesive material reported in literature [33]. The testing results also proves the feasibility of using the inclined shear fatigue test for measuring shearing fatigue life and shearing stiffness.

6. Conclusions

This study investigated shear performance of composite specimen with different adhesive materials using the inclined shear test. The following conclusions can be concluded:

- (1) It is necessary to apply adhesive material to the interface between porous polyurethane mixture and asphalt mixture, since the untreated interface shear strength is smaller than the ones between two asphalt mixtures.
- (2) The interface shear strength increases as the thickness of adhesive layer increases, although the trends vary depending on the material. In general, the greatest interface shear strength was achieved by using epoxy resin followed by polyurethane and then SBS modified asphalt at 25 °C as the adhesive layer thickness is the same.
- (3) The interface shear strength decreases as the temperature increases or after freezing–thaw cycles. The interface shear strengths of composite specimen with three adhesive materials are similar to each other at high and low temperatures (60 °C and −18 °C) or after freezing–thaw cycles, which is different from the trend at 25 °C.

- (4) The composite specimen with epoxy resin as adhesive material has the longest fatigue life; while the SBS modified asphalt has the least fatigue life at 25 °C. Further work will be conducted to evaluate fatigue life of interface at different temperatures and freezing–thaw conditions.

The research findings can help select the appropriate adhesive materials to enhance the interface bonding between porous polyurethane mixture and asphalt layers. Future research should be conducted to investigate the cost-effectiveness of different adhesive materials using field performance data. This will significantly increase the durability and service life of pavement and reduce the life-cycle cost when porous polyurethane mixture is used as road surface layer for safety and noise reduction.

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