

Dimensional Stability

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Overview of Topics

EARLY AGE CONCRETE

Plastic shrinkage – shrinkage strain associated with early moisture loss

Thermal shrinkage – shrinkage strain associated with cooling

LATER AGE CONCRETE

Drying shrinkage -shrinkage strain associated with moisture loss in the hardened material

Deformations occur under loading

- Elastic
- Viscoelastic

When does concrete crack?

To understand this, we must consider the way concrete deforms under loading:

- Concrete exhibits both elastic and viscous (time-dependent deformation) behavior
- Concrete is a viscoelastic material
- Viscoelastic behavior can be described using rheological models with 2 components:

linear elastic spring

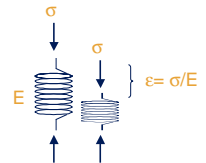


linear viscous dashpot



Pure Linear Elastic Behavior

- Visualized by a spring
- Deformation quantified by Hooke's Law
 $\text{Stress}(t) = E \times \text{strain}(t)$
 where E is the spring constant
- Deformation is instantaneous;
 no continued deformation with time

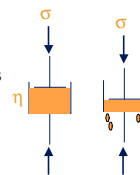


Pure Linear Elastic Behavior



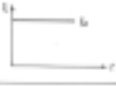



		for constant σ	for constant ϵ
Name	Representation	Creep	Relaxation
Spring			

Pure Viscous Behavior

- Visualized by a dashpot
- Piston displaces a viscous fluid in a cylinder with a perforated bottom
- Deformation quantified by Newton's Law of viscosity
 $\dot{\epsilon}(t) = \sigma(t)/\eta$
 where $\dot{\epsilon}$ is the strain rate $d\epsilon/dt$
 η is the viscosity coefficient



Linear elastic vs. Viscous Behavior

		for constant σ	for constant ϵ
Name	Representation	Creep	Relaxation
(a) Spring			
$\epsilon(t) = \sigma(t)/E$			
(b) Dashpot			
$\dot{\epsilon}(t) = \sigma(t)/\eta$			

Combinations of these two elements can be used to describe more complex behavior.

For example, the Maxwell model:

Equilibrium equation:

$$\sigma_E(t) = \sigma_\eta(t) = \sigma(t)$$

Compatibility equation:

$$\epsilon(t) = \epsilon_E(t) + \epsilon_\eta(t)$$

Constitutive relationships:

$$\sigma_E(t) = E\epsilon_E(t) \text{ spring}$$

$$\sigma_\eta(t) = \eta\dot{\epsilon}_\eta(t) \text{ dashpot}$$



Maxwell Model

- Differentiating $\epsilon(t) = \epsilon_E(t) + \epsilon_\eta(t)$, we get $\dot{\epsilon}(t) = \dot{\epsilon}_E(t) + \dot{\epsilon}_\eta(t)$
- Differentiating $\sigma_E(t) = E\epsilon_E(t)$, we get $\dot{\sigma}_E(t) = E\dot{\epsilon}_E(t)$
- Assuming $\sigma_E(t) = \sigma_\eta(t) = \sigma(t)$ and remembering that $\sigma_\eta(t) = \eta\dot{\epsilon}_\eta(t)$ substituting into we get $\dot{\epsilon}(t) = \dot{\sigma}(t)/E + \sigma(t)/\eta$
- Integrating, we get, for an initial applied stress, σ_0 , $\epsilon(t) = \sigma_0/E + (\sigma_0/\eta)t$

Which predicts that for a constant applied stress σ_0 (i.e., creep), there will be an instantaneous strain and then strain will increase without bounds



Maxwell Model

$$\epsilon(t) = \sigma_0/E + (\sigma_0/\eta)t$$

- If after loading, the system is unloaded, there will be an instantaneous recovery (σ_0/E) in the spring, while a permanent strain $[(\sigma_0/\eta)t]$ remains in the dashpot.

For relaxation, where the strain ϵ_0 is constant, integration of



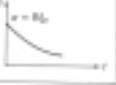
$$\dot{\epsilon}(t) = \dot{\sigma}(t)/E + \sigma(t)/\eta \text{ gives}$$

$$\sigma(t) = E\epsilon_0 e^{-Et/\eta}$$

The ratio η/E is defined as the relaxation time; a small relaxation time indicates that the relaxation process will be fast



Maxwell Model

		for constant σ	for constant ϵ
(a) Maxwell			

Kelvin Model

Equilibrium equation:

$$\sigma(t) = \sigma_E(t) + \sigma_\eta(t)$$

Compatibility equation:

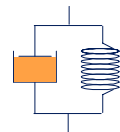
$$\epsilon(t) = \epsilon_E(t) = \epsilon_\eta(t)$$

Constitutive relationships:

$$\sigma_E(t) = E\epsilon_E(t) \text{ spring}$$

$$\sigma_\eta(t) = \eta\dot{\epsilon}_\eta(t) \text{ dashpot}$$

$$\text{Resulting in: } \sigma(t) = E\epsilon_E(t) + \eta\dot{\epsilon}_\eta(t)$$



Kelvin Model: Creep

$$\sigma(t) = E\epsilon_E(t) + \eta\dot{\epsilon}_\eta(t)$$

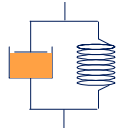
- For creep under stress σ_0 , integrating at $t=0$, yields

$$\epsilon(t) = (\sigma_0/E) (1 - e^{-E t/\eta})$$

Showing that the strain $\epsilon(t)$ increases at a decreasing rate, with an asymptote of σ_0/E

The ratio η/E is defined as the retardation time; a small value indicates creep will proceed quickly.

- In creep, the strain is initially carried by the dashpot and is over time transferred to the spring
- The limit on total deformation is set by the spring

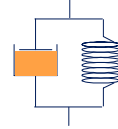


Kelvin Model: Creep and Stress Relaxation

$$\sigma(t) = E\epsilon_E(t) + \eta\dot{\epsilon}_\eta(t)$$

- Upon unloading, in creep, there is no permanent deformation predicted

- Kelvin models cannot be used for stress relaxation, because an infinite stress would be required to produce an instantaneous strain condition.



Kelvin Model

for constant σ for constant ϵ

(a) Kelvin



Standard Solid Model

For creep:

$$1/E_c(t) = \epsilon(t)/\sigma_0 = [(E_1 + E_2)/E_1 E_2] - (1/E_2)e^{-E_2 t/\eta}$$

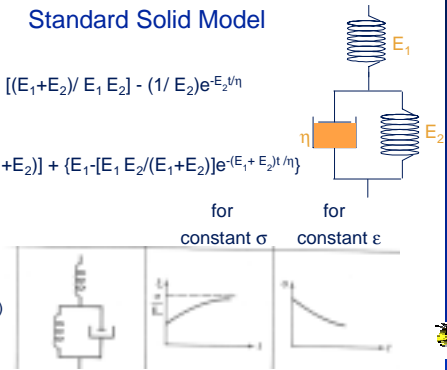
For relaxation:

$$E_r(t) = [E_1 E_2 / (E_1 + E_2)] + \{E_1 - [E_1 E_2 / (E_1 + E_2)]\} e^{-(E_1 + E_2)t/\eta}$$

for constant σ for constant ϵ

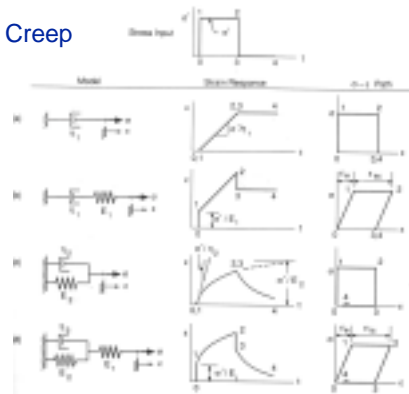
(b) Standard Solid

$$E_\infty = E_1 E_2 / (E_1 + E_2)$$



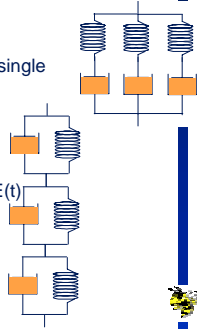
Model	Configuration	Creep (constant σ)	Relaxation (constant ϵ)
(a) Kelvin			
(b) Standard Solid			
(c) Maxwell			
(d) Voigt			
(e) Burgers			

Creep



More Sophisticated Rheological Models

- Combine Maxwell elements in parallel
 - A series combination would reduce to a single Maxwell element
 - Combine Kelvin elements in series
 - A parallel combination would reduce to a single Kelvin element
 - Allow E and η to be time-dependent [i.e., $E(t)$ and $\eta(t)$] to allow for aging in concrete
 - For variable loading, use principle of superposition to make the effects additive
 - applicable for basic creep only
- See Mehta and Monteiro for more details...



When does concrete crack?

To understand this, we must consider the way concrete deforms under loading:

- Concrete exhibits both elastic and viscous (time-dependent deformation) behavior
- Concrete is a viscoelastic material
- Under constant load, deformation increases with time (creep)
- Under constant strain - such as when a concrete member is under restraint - stress decreases with time (stress relaxation)
- Therefore, STRESS RELAXATION REDUCES ACTUAL STRESSES IN CONCRETE!

Extensibility

- Original State
- Unrestrained Shrinkage
- Restrained Shrinkage
- Stress Relaxation
- When $\sigma_t \geq f_t$, cracking occurs

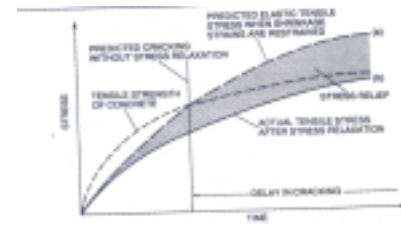
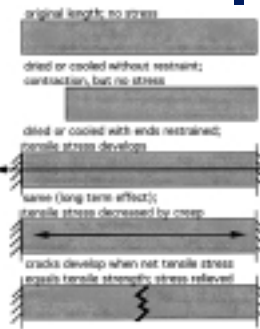


Figure 4-6 Influence of shrinkage and creep on concrete cracking. (Adaptation of Figure 4-10, W. Kelly et al., *Structural Concrete: The Composite Material*, John Wiley & Sons, 1992.)

Under restraining conditions in concrete, the principal stresses are reduced by shrinkage and creep (stress relaxation) due to viscoelastic behavior in addition to deformation and cracking in most instances.

Drying Shrinkage and Creep

- Drying Shrinkage** - strain in hardened concrete caused by loss of water; occurs in the paste; is restrained by the aggregate
 - **Chemical Shrinkage** - shrinkage due to change in solid volume during hydration
 - **Autogenous Shrinkage** - shrinkage due to "self-desiccation" during hydration
 - **Carbonation Shrinkage** - shrinkage due to reaction with CO_2
- Creep** - time-dependent strain in hardened concrete results from applied stress; occurs in the paste; is restrained by the aggregate

Drying Shrinkage and Creep

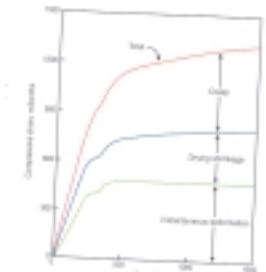
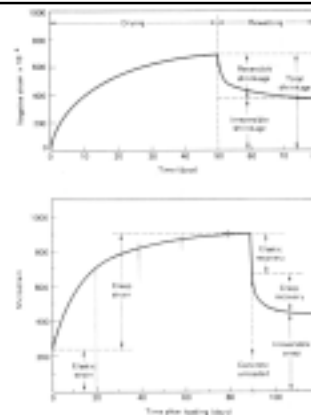


Fig. 4-10 Summation of shrinkage and creep in a reinforced concrete column during construction of a tall building (Chen and Gray, 1977).

Parameters Affecting Drying Shrinkage and Creep

Pore parameters	
Porosity	with rate and degree of hydration
Age of paste	
Curing temperature	
Cement composition	
Moisture content	
Admixtures	
Concrete parameters	
Aggregate stiffness	
Aggregate content (cement content)	
Volumetric ratio	
Thickness	
Environmental parameters	
Applied stress	affect only creep
Direction of load	
Relative humidity	
Rate of drying	
Time of drying	

Drying Shrinkage

- Inadequate allowance for drying shrinkage can lead to cracking and warping or curling
- Must provide adequately spaced joints in slabs and pavements
- Joints define where the crack will form, rather than allowing for random crack formation
- Can then seal joints to prevent moisture ingress



Drying Shrinkage

Domain 1 - loss of water from large capillary pore (macropores, > 50nm)

Domain 2 - loss of water from small capillary pores and interlayer space in C-S-H (i.e., meso- and micropores)

Domain 3 - loss of adsorbed water

Domain 4 - continued loss of adsorbed water and loss of interlayer water

Domain 5 - loss of water to due decomposition of C-S-H

DUE TO FIRE

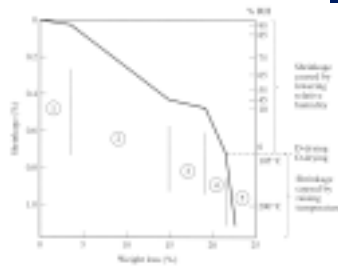


FIGURE 18.4 Moisture-dependent shrinkage-water loss relationship for concrete prior to drying.

Mechanisms

Three phenomena are believed to contribute to drying shrinkage, resulting in a volumetric contraction:

- (1) Capillary stress, P_{cap}
- (2) Disjoining pressure, P_{dis}
- (3) Changes in the surface free energy, P_{sfe}

Each are related to:

- Porosity and pore structure in the HCP
- Van der Waals bonding in the C-S-H
- High surface area of the C-S-H
- Microporosity of the C-S-H

Capillary Stress

- Active in Domains 1 and 2, between RH 95% and 45%
- Water held in small capillary pores is partially under the influence of surface interactions exerted by the pore walls
- At suitably low RH, water can be lost
- In this case, water is under hydrostatic tension and a meniscus forms
- The water exerts a corresponding hydrostatic compression on the pore walls, perhaps inducing a reduction in pore size
- Stress induced is related to the RH; higher stresses as RH approaches 45%; no capillary stress beyond RH of 45% as menisci are not stable



Disjoining Pressure

- Adsorption of water at the surface of the C-S-H layers creates a disjoining pressure
- The pressure increases with increasing RH (or water layer thickness)
- When the pressure exceeds the strength of the Van der Waals bonding between the C-S-H layers, the layers are forced apart, creating a dilation
- C-S-H exists in this dilated state after hydration
- On first drying, water is lost and the disjoining pressure decreases; layers of C-S-H are brought closer by Van der Waals attraction, resulting in a net volumetric shrinkage
- Occurs to RH ~45%



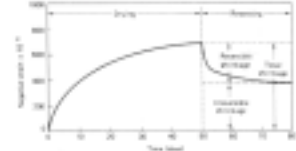
Surface Free Energy

- Responsible for shrinkage below RH 45%; greatest below 20%
- As the most tightly held water is removed, the surface free energy of the C-S-H grows
- A pressure is generated, proportional to the surface free energy and the surface area
- This pressure leading to compression of the solid



Irreversible Shrinkage

- Drying shrinkage is only partially reversible upon rewetting
 - Changes in structure
 - Changes in bonding
 - Microcracking



- Relative amounts of reversible/irreversible shrinkage are due to many factors, including w/c, cement composition, degree of hydration, use of SCMs, use of chemical admixtures, curing history (temperature, RH), drying history...

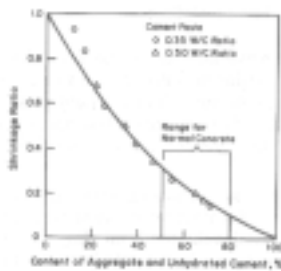
Shrinkage: Effect of Aggregate Content

Powers 1961:

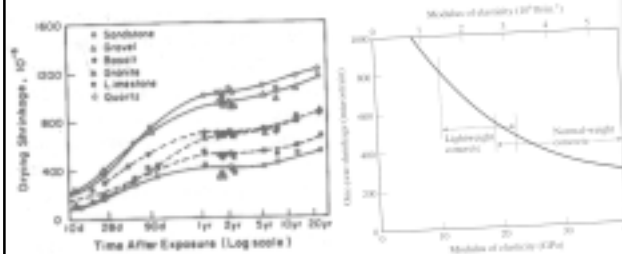
$$\epsilon_{\text{concrete}} = \epsilon_{\text{paste}} (1 - V_{\text{agg}})^n$$

L'Hermite:

n 1.2-1.7, depending on E_{agg}



Shrinkage: Effect of Aggregate Type



Shrinkage: Effect of w/c, cement content, and water content

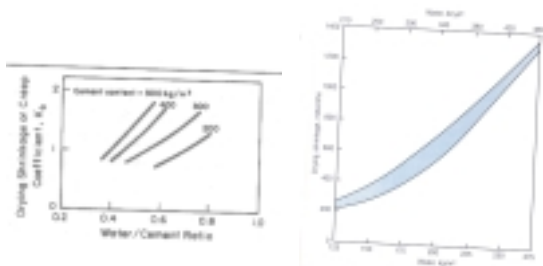


Fig. 10.10 Relationship between total water content and drying shrinkage. A large number of specimens with various proportions is represented within the shaded area of the curves. Drying shrinkage increases with increasing water content.

Shrinkage: Effect of Specimen Geometry

- Size and shape determine rate of moisture loss

h_0 = theoretical thickness = area of section/semiperimeter in contact with atmosphere

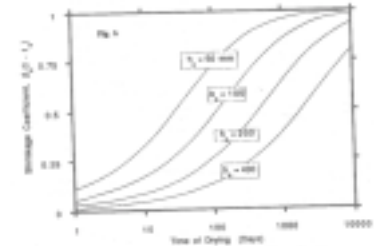


Figure 10.11 Influence of specimen size and relative humidity on the creep coefficient. (a) Influence of specimen size on the drying shrinkage coefficient (data from specimens given by ISH P3 Under Omb, 1996)

Shrinkage: Effect of Specimen Geometry

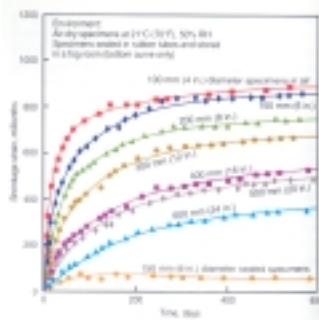
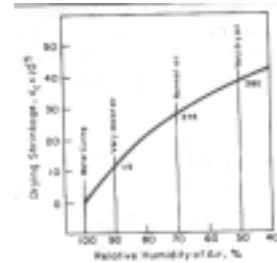
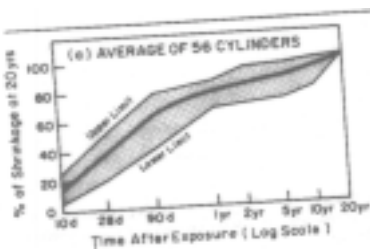


Fig. 19-12. Drying shrinkage of various sizes of cylindrical specimens made of Elgin, Illinois gravel concrete (Hansen and Matsuo 1966).

Shrinkage: Effect of RH

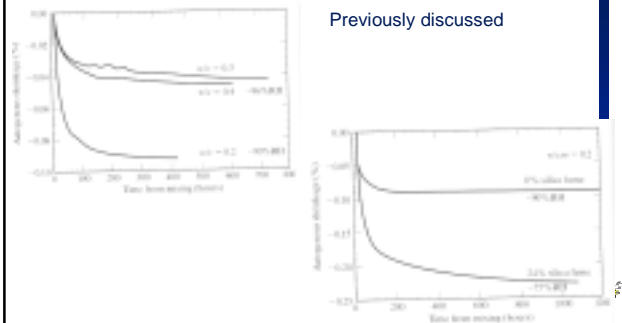


Shrinkage: Effect of Time



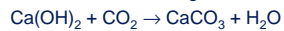
Autogenous Shrinkage

Previously discussed



Carbonation Shrinkage

Atmospheric CO_2 will react with hydration products leading to irreversible shrinkage due to water loss:



Note: the C/S ratio of the product C-S-H will be less than that of the reactant C-S-H

Probable mechanisms:

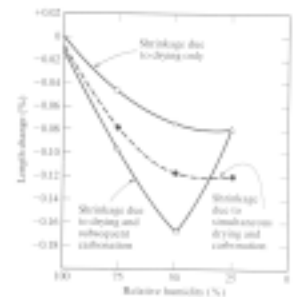
- Water loss
- Rearrangement of C-S-H structure

Can be used *advantageously* to prevent in service shrinkage

Carbonation Shrinkage

Depends on RH; worst at 50% RH

- <50% rate of carbonation is low due to lack of water
- >50% presence of water slows CO_2 ingress



Creep

Creep - time-dependent strain in hardened concrete results from applied stress

Similarities to shrinkage:

- Strain-time curves
- Magnitude of deformation
- Only partially reversible
- Paste related deformation
- Aggregate restrains deformation
- Mechanisms lie in changes in C-S-H
- Affected by largely the same parameters



Definitions

Basic creep – creep without drying (100%RH)

Drying creep – when concrete is under load and also exposed to low RH environment

total strain > elastic strain + shrinkage strain + creep strain

- the drying creep is the additional strain that occurs

Total creep – sum of basic and drying creep

Specific creep = creep strain/applied stress
10⁻⁶/lb/in² or 150x10⁻⁶/MPa are typical values

Creep coefficient = creep strain/elastic strain



Mechanisms

Like drying shrinkage, creep in concrete likely results from loss/movement of adsorbed water in the HCP, leading to a rearrangement of the C-S-H structure and porosity.

Driving force IS different!

In addition, with creep there may be some additional factors which contribute to the deformation:

- effects of microcracking in TZ
- additional effects of drying during creep
- delayed elastic strain in the aggregate (which may receive more of the load over time)



Mechanisms

Role of Moisture in Creep:

- The presence of a sufficient amount of adsorbed water between C-S-H layers may allow for slip to occur under shear stress
- With applied stress, water held in micropores may migrate to larger capillary pores, resulting in a net contraction
- New bonds may form in the C-S-H due to moisture migration and slip



Creep: Effect of Time

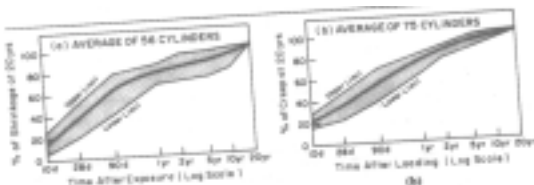


Figure 4-12 The time dependency of (a) drying shrinkage and (b) creep. (From G. E. Thwaitt et al., Proc. ASTM, Vol. 58, 1958. Reprinted with permission from ASTM. Copyright, ASTM, 1901 Race Street, Philadelphia PA 19105.)
For a wide range of concrete mixtures, drying shrinkage and creep show a similar time dependency.



Creep: Effect of Aggregate Content

$$\epsilon_{\text{concrete}} = \epsilon_{\text{paste}} (1 - V_{\text{agg}})^{\alpha}$$

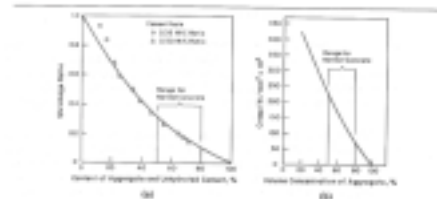


Figure 4-14 Influence of aggregate content on (a) drying shrinkage and (b) creep. (a) From ACI Monograph 4, 1971, p. 126; (b) from Concrete Society (London), Technical Paper 38, 1973.)

Aggregate content in concrete is the most important factor affecting drying shrinkage and creep. Unhydrated cement does not shrink and therefore may be included in the aggregate.



Creep: Effect of Aggregate Type

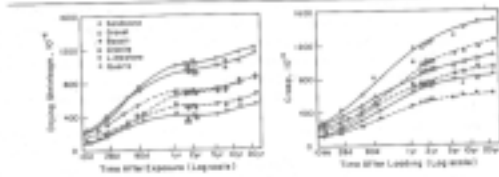


Figure 4-18 Influence of aggregate type on drying shrinkage and creep. (From C. E. Trossell et al., Proc. ASTM, Vol. 58, 1958, and ACI Monograph 6, 1971, pp. 128, 150. Reprinted with permission from ASTM Copyright, ASTM, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.)

The modulus of elasticity of aggregate can affect the magnitude of ultimate drying shrinkage and creep up to 2-57 stress. Generally, stone limestone and quartz have higher elastic modulus than sandstone and gravel.

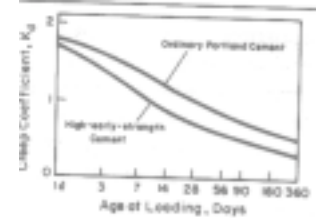
Creep: Effect of Cement Type

Creep increases with:

- Increasing C_3A
- Decreasing C_3S
- An optimal gypsum content seems to exist

Similar effects are seen with shrinkage

Poorly understood



Creep: Effect of Stress Magnitude

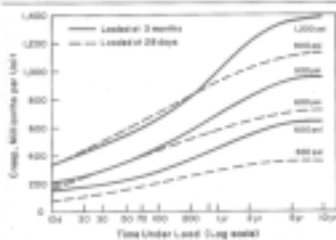


Figure 4-34 Effect of magnitude of sustained stress on creep. (From C. E. Trossell et al., Proc. ASTM, Vol. 58, 1958. Reprinted with permission from ASTM, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia PA 19103.)

Creep is directly proportional to the magnitude of sustained stress. With 90-day-old concrete specimens, the amount of ultimate creep doubled when the loading stress was increased from 600 psi to 1200 psi. Because of the effect of strength on creep, the figure shows that, at a given stress level, lower creep values were obtained for the longer period of curing before application of the load.

Creep: Effect of Age

- At early ages, porosity is greater
- At later ages, even though porosity does not decrease appreciably, creep does; perhaps due to aging of C-S-H which may improve its resistance to stress

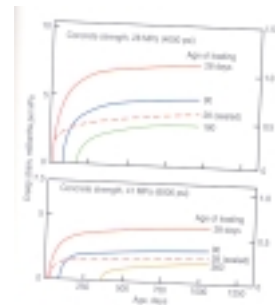


Fig. 11-25 Relationship of time and age of loading to creep of two different strength concrete. Specimens were allowed to dry during loading, except for stress applied as noted (Russell and Corley 1971).

Creep: Effect of Curing Method

Curing at high temperatures may accelerate C-S-H aging

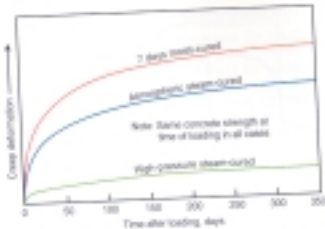


Fig. 19-26 Effect of curing method on magnitude of creep for typical normal-density concrete (Hessert 1954).

Creep: Effect of Temperature

Although creep develops faster at higher temperature, there is some evidence that long term creep may be lower due to aging of C-S-H

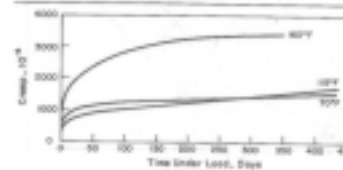


Figure 4-15 Effect of concrete temperature on creep. (From E. W. Huser and A. M. Neville, J. ACI, Proc., Vol. 64, No. 2, 1967, and ACI Monograph 6, 1971, p. 142.)

At a stress-strain ratio of 70 percent, the 90-day creep can increase 2.3 times if the surrounding temperature is raised from 77°F to 102°F.

Creep: Effect of Temperature

- Creep may increase linearly with temperature to 175F(80C)
- Above 175F(80C), some report continued linear increase in creep, while other report a maximum at 175F(80C)

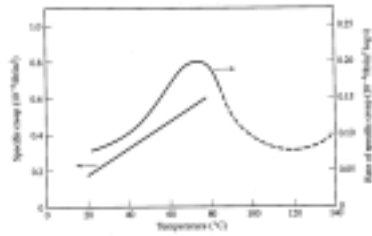
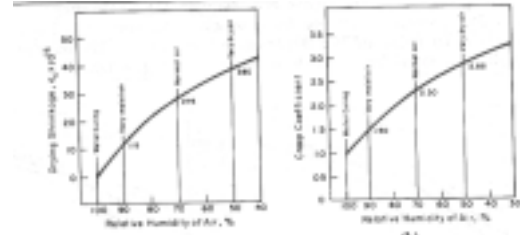


FIGURE 16.20 Effect of temperature on decrease of creep (Based on data from R. DeGroot, in Concrete for Nuclear Reactors, SP-36, Vol. 1, pp. 50-56, American Concrete Institute, Reston, VA, 1975.)

Creep: Effect of RH



Creep: Effect of Specimen Size and RH

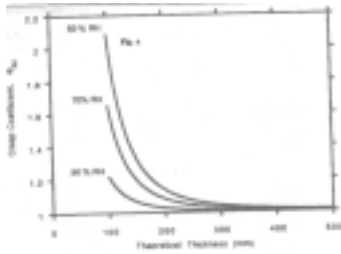


Figure 6-24 (a) Influence of specimen size and relative humidity on creep coefficient. (b) Influence of specimen size and relative humidity on the drying shrinkage coefficient. (Data from test program by CEB-FIP, Lausanne, 1966.)

Creep Recovery

- Only a small portion (perhaps 10-20%) of creep strain is recovered upon unloading
- Portion of irreversible creep increases with duration loading
- Pre-loading exposure to higher temperature may decrease the proportion of the irreversible component (aging effect)
- Also, the age at which loading occurs can influence the proportion of irreversible creep

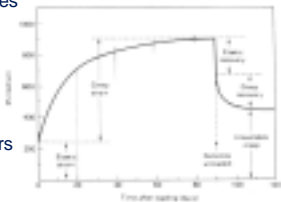


TABLE 6-3 COMBINATIONS OF LOADING, RESTRAINING, AND HUMIDITY CONDITIONS

MECHANISM	EXAMPLE	STRAIN VERSUS TIME	STRESS VERSUS TIME	NOTES
BASIC CREEP				• Creep increases with increasing age, increasing relative humidity, and increasing temperature.
STRESS RELAXATION				• Creep increases with increasing age, increasing relative humidity, and increasing temperature.
STRESS RELAXATION WITH RESTRAINING				• Creep increases with increasing age, increasing relative humidity, and increasing temperature.
STRESS RELAXATION WITH RESTRAINING AND HUMIDITY				• Creep increases with increasing age, increasing relative humidity, and increasing temperature.

MECHANISM	EXAMPLE	STRAIN VERSUS TIME	STRESS VERSUS TIME	NOTES
STRESS RELAXATION WITH RESTRAINING				• Creep increases with increasing age, increasing relative humidity, and increasing temperature.
CREEP & STRESS RELAXATION				• Creep increases with increasing age, increasing relative humidity, and increasing temperature.
STRESS RELAXATION WITH RESTRAINING AND HUMIDITY				• Creep increases with increasing age, increasing relative humidity, and increasing temperature.
STRESS RELAXATION WITH RESTRAINING AND HUMIDITY				• Creep increases with increasing age, increasing relative humidity, and increasing temperature.