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## PHYSICAL AND MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF ASPHALT CONCRETE OBTAINED FROM BITUMEN MODIFIED BY EPOXIDE OF VEGETABLE ORIGIN

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The properties of fine-grained asphalt concrete and its modified by bio based epoxy rape oil (BERO) form were studied. Rapeseed oil epoxide (ROE) obtained from renewable and ecological raw materials, rapeseed oil in a composition with initiators (hardeners) was used as a modifier. It was found that the introduction of BERO in the amount of 3 % of the mass. allows to increase indicators of limit of durability of asphalt concrete at compression at a temperature of 20 °C and 50 °C. The efficiency of BERO composition and its positive effect on physical and mechanical properties of asphalt concrete is established.

**Key words:** modified asphalt concrete; epoxy; bitumen; compressive strength.

### Introduction

Bitumen is a binder from which asphalt concrete is prepared and its quality directly depends on the properties of the bitumen on the basis of which they are prepared. Bitumens, in turn, are modified in every way to obtain a better road surface. Among the many additives [1–11] that improve the quality of bitumen and asphalt concrete, known polymers, adhesion promoters, fibers, waxes, rubber crumb, natural bitumen, the most popular modifiers are polymers. They are also divided into thermoplastics, thermoplastics, terpolymers and latexes. Such additives are able to reduce the sensitivity of bitumen to temperature changes, increase the cohesive strength and heat resistance of binders, can give them greater elasticity, as well as improve their behavior at low temperatures. This in turn increases the strength, shear strength and crack resistance of asphalt pavements.

The concept of thermosetting modified epoxy asphalt, has some disadvantages like high cost, oil origin and toxicity. Therefore, this work focuses on the study of the properties of asphalt concrete based on bitumen modified by BERO on the basis of renewable environmental raw materials.

In previous works [1, 6, 7] it was found that the modification of road bitumens BERO, allows to improve the quality characteristics of road bitumens, such as adhesion, penetration, softening temperature

[1, 6, 7]. At the same time adhesion improves 3 times both to a stone, and to glass. Other qualitative characteristics of bitumen remain practically unchanged, which can positively affect the strength properties of asphalt concrete.

That is why in this work the influence of the modified BERO bitumen with different hardeners on the physical and mechanical properties of asphalt concrete was studied.

### Materials and methods of research

As raw materials were used both – pure petroleum road bitumen brand BND 70/100, and modified with epoxide of rapeseed oil in the amount of 3 % wt., at a temperature of 160 °C for 2 hours It is proposed to use adipic acid (AA), maleic anhydride (MA) and polyethylene polyamine (PEPA) as hardeners. This choice should show the difference between the properties of the modified bitumen with and without the additive. Characteristics of bitumen modified by BERO, and taken for the formation of samples of asphalt concrete, are presented in Table 1.

The grain composition of the asphalt concrete mixture was selected using particle size distribution curves of dense continuous mixtures. The composition of the mineral part of the asphalt concrete mixture picked up according to DSTU BV.2.7-119-2011 (Table 2). The grain composition of the mineral powder is shown in Table 3.

Table 1

**Characteristics of modified bitumen BERO**

Bitumen	Penetration at 25 °C, $m \cdot 10^{-4}$ (0.1 mm)	Softening point, °C	Adhesion to glass, %	Adhesion to crushed stone, points
BND 70/100	71	46	29.32	2.3
BND 70/100 +BERO +AA	83	47	92.26	4
BND 70/100 + BERO +MA	67	49	35.36	4
BND 70/100 +BERO +PEPA	77	47	97.91	5

Table 2

**Composition of asphalt concrete**

Material	The content of material in asphalt concrete, %
Crushed stone fr. 15–20 mm	6.0
Crushed stone fr. 10–15 mm	15.0
Crushed stone screening 5–10 mm	24.0
Crushed stone screening 0–5 mm	45.0
Mineral powder	10.0
Total, %	100.0
Bitumen (as a percentage by weight over 100 % of min. comp.)	5.5

Table 3

**Grain composition of mineral powder**

The diameter of the sieve hole	The residual particles on the sieve, % wt.						$\Sigma$
	1.25	0.63	0.315	0.14	0.071	<0.071	
Mineral powder	0	0.1	1.2	4.7	12.9	81.1	100



Fig. 1. Photo of samples of asphalt mixtures

Physico-mechanical properties of asphalt concrete mixture were determined on cylindrical samples ( $D = 71.4$  mm,  $h = 71.4 \pm 1.5$  mm) obtained in laboratory conditions by compaction of mixtures in standard forms [12] (Fig. 1).

**Results and discussion**

After forming asphalt concrete samples on the basis of standard and modified bitumens, their physical and mechanical characteristics were determined and changes in the properties of asphalt concrete prepared on the basis of modified BERO bitumen were studied. All tests were performed in the laboratory according to DSTU B B.2.7-89-99. The test results are shown in table 4.

The effect on the compressive strength of asphalt concrete at a temperature of 20 °C is almost the same for all modified bitumens. And the compressive strength of asphalt concrete at a temperature of 50 °C already varies depending on the hardener used. Analyzing the obtained results, we observe that BERO is suitable for use as a bitumen modifier. In particular, at a temperature of 20 °C the highest strength index shows

asphalt concrete modified BERO in a composition with polyethylene polyamine, while at a temperature of 50 °C the best strength results show a composition of BERO with maleic anhydride. In general, BERO modified asphalt concrete has higher compressive strength at 20 °C and 50 °C (compared to asphalt

concrete based on unmodified bitumen). As a result, the cohesive strength of the mixture also increases. This may indicate that they are characterized by greater heat resistance, and asphalt pavements equipped with their use will have greater track resistance in operating conditions.

Table 4

**Physico-mechanical characteristics of fine-grained asphalt concrete**

Index	Average density, g/cm <sup>3</sup>	Water saturation, % vol.	Compressive strength, MPa at temperature	
			20 °C	50 °C
BND 70/100	2.37	2.8	5.6	2.2
BND 70/100 + BERO +AA	2.37	2.3	6.5	2.2
BND 70/100 + BERO +MA	2.37	3.2	6.6	2.6
BND 70/100 + BERO +PEPA	2.37	3.0	6.7	2.4
Compliance with requirements DSTU B B.2.7-119: 2011 A-2	–	Not more than 3.5	Not less than 2.7	Not less than 1.2

It is known about a large number of additives for modification of road bitumens. They are usually good modifiers and are characterized by high physical-mechanical indicators, however, it should be noted that their price is also quite high. The main reason that restrains the increase in the use of asphalt concrete based on modified bitumen is the high cost of modifiers. Their introduction into bitumen increases the cost of the binder by 1.5–3 times.

The use of cheaper additives does not reduce costs due to the required higher content in the mixture. In addition, cheap additives do not provide bitumen with the necessary properties, such as: elasticity, high heat resistance, increased ductility and deformability at low temperatures, etc. [6].

Modification of bitumen by BERO additive is technologically simple, does not require specific equipment and is performed by standard technology, then this additive is cheap and is made on the basis of domestic, cheap, environmentally friendly and renewable raw materials.

Therefore, a modifying additive BERO:

- can improve the physical and mechanical properties of modified bitumens (adhesion, penetration, softening temperature);
- is easy and cheap to use;
- improves properties of asphalt concrete;

- can compete with modern effective foreign analogues.

**Conclusions**

The results of research indicate the effectiveness of the additive BERO and its positive effect on the compressive strength, which will increase the durability of the road surface.

Bitumen modified by BERO meets the standards [13]. Its characteristics are preferred for modified bitumens. Asphalt concrete modified with BERO has higher strength values compared to other asphalt concretes.

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### **ФІЗИКО-МЕХАНІЧНІ ВЛАСТИВОСТІ АСФАЛЬТОБЕТОНУ, ОДЕРЖАНОГО З БІТУМУ, МОДИФІКОВАНОГО ЕПОКСИДОМ РОСЛИННОГО ПОХОДЖЕННЯ**

Досліджено властивості дрібнозернистого асфальтобетону та його форми, модифікованої екологічним епоксидом ріпакової олії (BERO). Як модифікатор використано епоксид ріпакової олії (ERO), одержаний із відновлюваної та екологічної сировини, ріпакової олії в композиції з ініціаторами (затверджувачами). Встановлено, що введення BERO в кількості 3 % мас. дає змогу підвищити показники границі міцності асфальтобетону на стиск за температури 20 °С та 50 °С. Встановлено ефективність дії композиції BERO та її позитивний вплив на фізико-механічні властивості асфальтобетону.

**Ключові слова:** модифікований асфальтобетон; епоксидна смола; бітум; міцність на стиск