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Mix Design

- **≻** Purpose
 - ► To select the optimum combination of materials (aggregates, asphalt, etc.) to meet specific mixture characteristics and performance properties
- **≻** Methods
 - ▶ Marshall
 - ▶ Hveem
 - ► Superpave

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Mixture Characteristics

- **≻** Density
- ➤ Air voids
- **≻VMA**
- ➤ Binder content
- > Film thickness
- ➤ Dust to effective asphalt ratio

Density > Definition – Weight per unit volume lb/ft³ > Density – Bulk S.G. x unit weight of water (62.4 lb/ft³) > High Density _____ Performance

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Maximum Density (Voidless unit weight)

➤ Theoretical Maximum Specific Gravity of Bituminous Paving Mixtures (ASTM D2041) — The ratio of the weight in air of a unit volume of an uncompacted bituminous paving mixture at a stated temperature to the weight of an equal volume of gas-free distilled water at a stated temperature. It is also called Rice Specific Gravity, or theoretical maximum density (TMD).

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Air Voids

- **>** Definition
 - ► Air spaces between coated aggregate in compacted mix
- ➤ Some necessary
- > Too high vs too low
- ➤ Design usually 3% to 5%
- > Related to density

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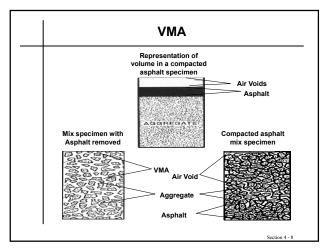
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Voids in the Mineral Aggregate (VMA)

- **≻** Definition
 - Void spaces between aggreate in compacted mix
- > Air voids and asphalt volume
- > Total space available for asphalt
- ➤ High VMA
 - ▶ High film thickness
 - ► High durability
- **≻ Low VMA**
 - ▶ Low film thickness
 - ▶ Dry mix
 - ► Low durability

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Asphalt Content

- **➢** Definition
 - ▶ % of asphalt by weight, in a mix
 - ► The optimum % of asphalt to meet mix design and performance criteria
- ➤ Function of:
 - ▶ Gradation
 - ◆Surface area
 - +% minus #200
 - ► Aggregate Absorption
- ➤ Total vs. Effective

Performance Properties > Stability > Durability > Impermeability > Workability > Flexibility > Fatigue Resistance > Skid Resistance

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Stability Definition – Ability to resist shoving and rutting under loads Requirements can vary with load

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Stability (continued) > Function of: Internal Friction of Aggregate Shape Size Surface characteristics Cohesion Increases with loading Increases with binder viscosity Decreases with time Asphalt Content Temperature

Durability > Definition – Ability to resist weather, traffic, time > Function of: • Asphalt Content • Film thickness • Low air voids • Aggregate Gradation • Dense mixes • Impermeability • Aggregate Water Susceptibility • Stripping • Asphalt Aging • Compaction

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Impermeability

- ➤ Definition Resistance to passage of air or water
- > Function of:
 - ► Asphalt Content
 - ◆High air voids
 - **▶** Compaction

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Workability

- ➤ Definition Ease of placing and compacting
- ➤ Function of:
 - ► Aggregate Gradation
 - ◆Coarse Fraction
 - Sand Fraction
 - •Minus #200
 - ► Aggregate Shape
 - ► Asphalt Content
 - ► Asphalt Viscosity

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Flexibility Definition – Ability to adjust to movements due to loads or settlement without cracking Function of: Aggregate Gradation Dense vs. open Asphalt Content Temperature Asphalt Grade

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Skid Resistance Definition – Ability to minimize slipping or hydroplaning, especially when wet Function of: Aggregate Gradation Surface Texture Asphalt Content Aggregate Durability Mix Stability

Mix Design

- Purpose To select the optimum combination of materials to meet mixture characteristics and performance properties
- > Properties to be Balanced
 - ► Stability vs. Workability
 - ▶ Durability vs. Skid Resistance
 - ▶ Durability vs. Flexibility
 - ► Stability vs. Flexibility

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Mix Design (continued)

- **≻Optimize Properties**
 - ► Enough AC for Durability
 - ► Adequate Stability for Traffic
 - ► Adequate Voids for Additional Compaction under Traffic
 - Low Enough Voids to keep out Air and Moisture
 - ► Adequate Workability

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