

5. CONCLUSIONS

This paper probes deep into the influencing factors of flexural-tensile strength of asphalt mixture under cyclic thermal stress in cold regions. Considering the two most significant influencing factors, the author established a BPNN-based model to predict the flexural-tensile strength of asphalt mixture under cyclic thermal stress. The model enjoys a high fitness thanks to the training by a three-layer BPNN. The experimental results show that our model can preliminarily predict the flexural-tensile strength of asphalt mixture under cyclic thermal stress in the cold season, based on the huge amount of existing experimental data on asphalt mixture. The research findings effectively improve the working efficiency of personnel, the utilization rate of materials and the rationality of budget for asphalt concrete pavements.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This paper is supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant No.: 51508223) and Natural Science Foundation of Jilin Province (Grant No.: 20160101267JC).

REFERENCES

- [1] Elwardany, M.D., Rad, F.Y., Castorena, C. (2016). Evaluation of asphalt mixture laboratory long-term ageing methods for performance testing and prediction. *Road Materials & Pavement Design*, 18(sup1): 28-61. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14680629.2016.1266740>
- [2] Achour, T., El Euch Khay, S., Jarraya, E., Neji, J. (2017). Combined contribution of experiments and modeling to better understand mechanical properties of concrete. *Revue des Composites et des Matériaux Avancés*, 27(1-2): 123-136. <https://doi.org/10.3166/rcma.2017.00008>
- [3] Nega, A., Nikraz, H., Leek, C. (2013). Evaluation and validation of characterization methods for fatigue performance of asphalt mixes for Western Australia. *Advanced Materials Research*, 723: 75-85. <https://doi.org/10.4028/www.scientific.net/AMR.723.75>
- [4] Ziaei-Rad, V., Nouri, N., Ziaei-Rad, S. (2012). A numerical study on mechanical performance of asphalt mixture using a meso-scale finite element model. *Finite Elements in Analysis & Design*, 57(57): 81-91. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.finel.2012.03.004>
- [5] Kim, Y.R., Hong, M., Allen, D.H. (2013). Statistical and dimensional analysis of hot-mix asphalt mixture characteristics on asphalt pavement analyser rutting behaviour. *International Journal of Pavement Engineering*, 14(2): 103-115. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10298436.2011.633706>
- [6] Amini, A., Goli, A., Ziari, H. (2017). The influence of nanoclay on the performance properties and moisture susceptibility of rubberized asphalt mixture. *Liquid Fuels Technology*, 35(2): 8. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10916466.2016.1248775>
- [7] Soltani, M., Moghaddam, T.B., Karim, M.R. (2015). Stiffness performance of polyethylene terephthalate modified asphalt mixtures estimation using support vector machine-firefly algorithm. *Measurement*, 63: 232-239. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.measurement.2014.11.022>
- [8] Jeffry, S.N.A., Jaya, R.P., Hassan, N.A. (2018). Mechanical performance of asphalt mixture containing nano-charcoal coconut shell ash. *Construction & Building Materials*, 173: 40-48. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.conbuildmat.2018.04.024>
- [9] Pasetto, M., Baldo, N. (2011). Mix design and performance analysis of asphalt concretes with electric arc furnace slag. *Construction & Building Materials*, 25(8): 3458-3468. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.conbuildmat.2011.03.037>
- [10] Mahmoud, E., Masad, E., Nazarian, S. (2015). Discrete element analysis of the influences of aggregate properties and internal structure on fracture in asphalt mixtures. *Journal of Materials in Civil Engineering*, 22(1): 10-20. [https://doi.org/10.1061/\(ASCE\)MT.1943-5533.0000005](https://doi.org/10.1061/(ASCE)MT.1943-5533.0000005)
- [11] Ozgan, E. (2011). Artificial neural network based modelling of the Marshall Stability of asphalt concrete. *Expert Systems with Applications*, 38(5): 6025-6030. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eswa.2010.11.018>
- [12] Ozturk, H.I., Kutay, M.E. (2014). An artificial neural network model for virtual Superpave asphalt mixture design. *International Journal of Pavement Engineering*, 15(2): 151-162. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eswa.2010.11.018>
- [13] Wang, Z., Cai, L., Wang, X. (2018). Fatigue performance of different thickness structure combinations of hot mix asphalt and cement emulsified asphalt mixtures. *Materials*, 11(7): 1145. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ma11071145>
- [14] Du, S. (2018). Effect of curing conditions on properties of cement asphalt emulsion mixture. *Construction & Building Materials*, 164: 84-93. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.conbuildmat.2017.12.179>
- [15] Zavrtnik, N., Prosen, J., Tušar, M. (2016). The use of artificial neural networks for modeling air void content in aggregate mixture. *Automation in Construction*, 63: 155-161. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.autcon.2015.12.009>