Performance Evaluation of Geogrid in Flexible Pavement Using Mechanical-Empirical Design Approach

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Abstract	In the past decade, numerous studies have shown that incorporating geogrid in the pavement could effectively improve the pavement performance. The major benefit of using geogrid in the flexible pavement is to improve its rutting performance as the result of the reinforcement function of geogrid. Mechanical-empirical pavement design guide (MEPDG) developed to provide the pavement performance prediction throughout its design life. However, MEPDG is not able to consider the effect of incorporating geogrid in the flexible pavement. In this study, a design procedure was proposed to obtain an equivalent geogrid pavement structure, which satisfies MEPDG design input requirements. In this procedure, a 2D finite element method was used to simulate geogrid reinforced and non-reinforced pavement structures. The iteration process based on stress-strain analysis of finite element model (FEM) used to obtain an equivalent structure input for MEPDG. The geogrid reinforced rutting performance can be predicted by analyzing the equivalent geogrid structure using MEPDG. A significant life improvement of pavement with geogrid was observed compared to pavement without geogrid. The results showed that the incorporating of geogrid in asphalt pavement layer significantly reduce the rutting of pavement layer, thus will contribute to extension of pavement service life.
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