



Designation: D 1635 – 00

# Standard Test Method for Flexural Strength of Soil-Cement Using Simple Beam with Third-Point Loading<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 1635; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

## 1. Scope \*

1.1 This test method covers the determination of the flexural strength of soil-cement by the use of a simple beam with third-point loading.

NOTE 1—For methods of molding soil-cement specimens, see Practice D 1632.

1.2 *Units*—The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to inch-pound units, which are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.2.1 The converted inch-pound units use the gravitational system of units. In this system, the pound (lbf) represents a unit of force (weight), while the unit for mass is slugs. The converted slug unit is not given, unless dynamic ( $F = ma$ ) calculations are involved.

1.3 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

## 2. Referenced Documents

### 2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 653 Terminology Relating to Soil, Rock, and Contained Fluids<sup>2</sup>

D 1632 Practice for Making and Curing Soil-Cement Compression and Flexure Test Specimens in the Laboratory<sup>2</sup>

D 3740 Practice for the Minimum Requirements for Agencies Engaged in the Testing and/or Inspection of Soil and Rock as Used in Engineering Design and Construction<sup>2</sup>

E 4 Standard Practices for Force Verification of Testing Machines<sup>3</sup>

## 3. Terminology

### 3.1 Definitions:

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D18 on Soil and Rock and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D18.15 on Stabilization by Admixtures.

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<sup>2</sup> *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 04.08.

<sup>3</sup> *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 03.01.

3.1.1 For common definitions of terms in this standard, refer to Terminology D 653.

## 4. Significance and Use

4.1 This test method is used to determine the flexural strength of soil-cement. Flexural strength is significant in pavement design and is used to determine slab thickness.

NOTE 2—The quality of the result produced by this standard is dependent on the competence of the personnel performing it, and the suitability of the equipment and facilities used. Agencies that meet the criteria of Practice D 3740 are generally considered capable of competent and objective testing/sampling/inspection/etc. Users of this standard are cautioned that compliance with Practice D 3740 does not in itself assure reliable results. Reliable results depend on many factors; Practice D 3740 provides a means of evaluating some of those factors.

## 5. Apparatus

5.1 *Testing Machine*—The testing machine may be of any type having sufficient capacity and control to provide the rate of loading (prescribed in 7.2). It shall conform to the requirements of Section 15 of Practices E 4. The testing machine shall be equipped with a spherically seated head block having a bearing surface of at least 75 % of the width of the beam but not greatly in excess of the width of the beam. The movable portion of this block shall be held closely in the spherical seat, but the design shall be such that the bearing face may be rotated freely and tilted through small angles in any direction.

5.2 The third-point loading method used in making flexure tests of soil-cement shall employ bearing blocks that will ensure that forces applied to the beam will be vertical only and applied without eccentricity. A diagrammatic drawing of an apparatus that accomplishes this purpose is shown in Fig. 1. The apparatus shall be designed to incorporate the following principles:

5.2.1 The distance between supports and points of load application shall remain constant for a given apparatus.

5.2.2 The direction of the reactions shall be parallel to the direction of the applied load at all times during the test.

5.2.3 The load shall be applied at a uniform rate and in such a manner as to avoid shock.

\*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard.