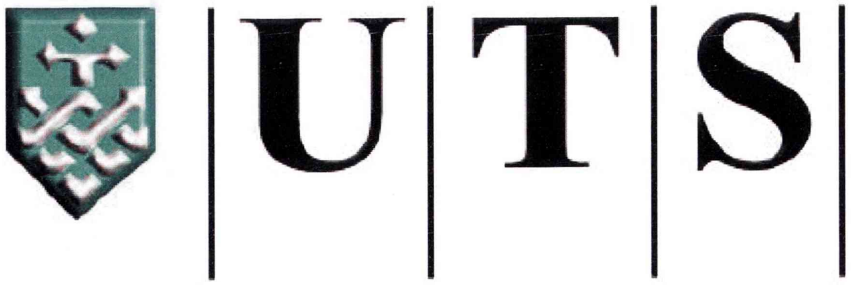

Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology

School of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Centre for Built Infrastructure Research

Investigation into the Ductile and Damping Behaviour of Concrete Incorporating Waste Tyre Rubber

By

Negin Sharifi

Thesis submitted for fulfilment of requirements for

the degree of Master of Engineering

March 2012

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORSHIP/ORIGINALITY

I certify that the work in this thesis has not previously been submitted for a degree nor has it been submitted as part of requirements for a degree except as fully acknowledged within the text.

I also certify that the thesis has been written by me. Any help that I have received in my research work and the preparation of the thesis itself has been acknowledged. In addition, I certify that all information sources and literature used are indicated in the thesis.

Production Note:
Signature removed prior to publication.

Negin Sharifi

March 2012

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ABSTRACT

Sustainable development has grown to be a major concern to the construction industry with the main effort and attention in recent times devoted to developing innovative solutions to preserve the environment and natural resources. One suggested approach in aiding the conservation of natural resources is to recycle waste material for innovative use in construction applications.

This thesis reports on the fundamental findings of an investigation into an elastomeric modified concrete (EMC), in particular its ductile and damping performance. This first-of-its-kind-in-Australia EMC incorporates Styrene Butadiene Rubber (SBR) waste tyre granules as a partial replacement of fine and coarse aggregates.

Another significant feature of this project is that until now 100% Portland cement plain concrete has been utilised to evaluate the mechanical performance of EMC reported in literature, however, in this study the use of a supplementary cementitious material, that of fly ash (FA), is suggested as a partial replacement of Portland cement to create a more environmentally friendly construction material. Moreover, in order to examine the improvement of adhesion properties between the SBR granules and the cementing matrix, a styrene butadiene (SB) copolymer emulsion has been introduced to the couple of mixes.

In the first experimental work stage two sets of EMC were prepared; one with small SBR granules (1 to 4 millimetres) in proportions of 5%, 10% and 15% of the total weight of aggregates; the other with larger SBR granules (12 to 15 millimetres) in proportions of 2%, 4%, 6% and 10% of the total weight of aggregates. In order to evaluate the damping and ductility properties of concrete, several tests were conducted following Australian Standards (AS) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), including compressive strength, static chord modulus of elasticity, modulus of rupture and dynamic modulus of elasticity.

Compared to the control concrete, EMCs demonstrated lower density (mass per unit volume) and higher air content with increasing additions of SBR granules to EMCs. Furthermore, the compressive strength was found to decrease with increasing additions of SBR granules to EMCs. In contrast, static chord modulus of elasticity (MOE) and

modulus of rupture (MOR) of EMCs were found to increase compared to the control concrete. Unlike the control concrete, EMCs did not exhibit a brittle-like failure.

In the second experimental work stage, five reinforced beams (two for four point bending and three for three point bending tests) were made based on Australian standards. There were two sets of tests conducted on beams: destructive and non-destructive. Four point bending and three point bending tests were used to investigate the static properties of beams. To evaluate dynamic properties, hammer test was carried out prior to initiation of loading and also after failure of beam in four point bending test. The stiffness and maximum load of the beams decreased with the addition of SBR granules, however, the damping ratio of the beams increased. The project also included simulation and modelling of static tests using analysis by computer programs.

This study encompassed a large experimental component and through specific testing, the best performing materials is selected to achieve the highest damping-to-ductility ratio.

NOTATION

A_s = area of the steel reinforcement

C = damping coefficient

c_{cr} = critical damping coefficient

d = the effective depth

Δ = deflection

ε = strain in concrete

E = modulus of elasticity

EI = flexural Stiffness

f = frequency

f_s = the ultimate strength for the steel reinforcement

f_c = the compressive strength of the concrete beam

f_{cm} = average value of modulus of elasticity

I = the moment of inertia

k = stiffness of the system

L_c = length of specimen, for calculation of concrete dynamic modulus of elasticity

L = the span length

M = mass of specimen for calculation of concrete dynamic modulus of elasticity

M_u = the maximum bending moment

m = mass of the system

m' = number of cycles for calculation of the damping of the beam

n = fundamental transverse frequency

n' = fundamental longitudinal frequency

P = the applied load

T = correction factor, for calculation of concrete dynamic modulus of elasticity

t, b = dimensions of cross section of prism, for calculation of concrete dynamic modulus of elasticity

u_n = displacement on the curve at nth cycle for calculation of the damping of the beam

u_{n+m} = displacement on the curve at (n+m)th cycle for calculation of the damping of the beam

ω = natural frequency of the undamped system

ω_n = natural frequency of the beam

ξ = damping Ratio

ρA = mass per unit length

LIST OF SYMBOLS

AC: Air Content

ACI: American Concrete Institute

AS: Australian Standards

ASTM: American Society for Testing and Materials

BSG: Bulk Specific Gravity

EMC: Elastomeric Modified Concrete

FA: Fly Ash

FRC: Fibre Reinforced concrete

HWR: High Range Water Reducing Admixture

LVDT: Linear variable differential transformer

MC: Moisture Content

MOE: Modulus of Elasticity

MOR: Modulus of Rupture

PC: Portland Cement

PP: Polypropylene

PVA: Polyvinyl-alcohol

SB: Styrene Butadiene

SBR: Styrene Butadiene Rubber

SCM: Supplementary Cementitious Material

SL: Shrinkage Limited

SSD: Saturated Surface Dry

List of contents

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORSHIP/ORIGINALITY **I**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS **II**

PUBLICATION **III**

ABSTRACT **IV**

NOTATION **VI**

LIST OF CONTENTS **IX**

LIST OF TABLES **XIV**

LIST OF FIGURES **XVI**

1. INTRODUCTION **1**

1.1 Preamble 1

1.2 Problem Definition 1

1.2.1 Sustainable Building and Construction 1
1.2.1.1 Styrene Butadiene rubber (SBR) 3
1.2.1.2 Manufactured Fine Sand 4
1.2.1.3 Fly Ash 5

1.2.2 Damping Properties 7

1.2.3 Ductility Properties 8

1.3 Research Objectives 8

1.4 Research Significance 9

1.5 Thesis Layout 10

2. LITERATURE REVIEW **11**

2.1 Preface 11

2.2 Styrene Butadiene Rubber (SBR) Sourced from Waste Tyre 11

2.2.1	Car Tyre	12
2.2.1.1	Material	12
2.2.1.2	Components	13
2.2.1.3	Manufacturing of New Tyres	14
2.2.2	What is Waste Tyre?	14
2.2.2.1	The Mechanical Properties of Waste Tyres	15
2.2.2.2	Applications of Waste Tyres	15
2.2.2.3	What is the Problem with Waste Tyres?	16
2.2.3	Using SBR, Sourced from Waste Tyres, in Civil Engineering Applications:	17
2.2.3.1	Geotechnical Applications	17
2.2.3.2	Asphalt Mixtures	18
2.2.3.3	In Producing Mortars	18
2.2.3.4	In Manufacturing Concretes	19
2.3	Styrene Butadiene (SB) Latex	23
2.4	Ductility	26
2.5	Damping	29
2.6	Concluding Remarks	32
3.	**INVESTIGATION INTO THE FRESH, HARDENED AND DYNAMIC PROPERTIES OF ELASTOMERIC MODIFIED CONCRETE (EMC)**	**34**
3.1	Preface	34
3.2	Raw Materials	34
3.2.1	Shrinkage Limited (SL) Portland Cement	34
3.2.2	Fly Ash (FA)	35
3.2.3	Fine Aggregate and Coarse Aggregate	36
3.2.4	High Range Water Reducing Admixture (HWR)	38
3.2.5	Water	38
3.2.6	Styrene Butadiene (SB) Latex	38
3.2.7	Styrene Butadiene Rubber (SBR)	39
3.2.8	Steel Reinforcement	40
3.3	Specimen Preparation and Testing	40
3.3.1	Experimental Program and Concrete Mix Proportion	40

3.3.2	Preparation of Materials	43
3.3.3	Preliminary Study Prior to Mixing	43
3.3.4	Measurement of Materials	44
3.3.5	Mixing Concrete	44
3.3.6	Compaction by Vibration	46
3.3.7	Sampling	47
3.3.8	Specimen Moulding	47
3.3.9	Finishing	48
3.3.10	Specimen Demoulding and Curing	48
3.4	Testing Program	49
3.4.1	Fresh State	49
3.4.1.1	High Range Water Reducing Admixture (HWR)	51
3.4.1.2	Wet Density	54
3.4.1.3	Air Content (AC)	56
3.4.2	Hardened Concrete Properties	58
3.4.2.1	Compressive Strength	58
3.4.2.2	Effect of SB Latex on the Compressive Strength	60
3.4.2.3	Effect of SBR Granules Size on Compressive Strength	60
3.4.2.4	Compressive Strength to Density Ratio	61
3.4.2.5	Modulus of Rupture	62
3.4.2.6	Effect of SB Latex on MOR	64
3.4.2.7	Effect of SBR Granule size on MOR	65
3.4.2.8	Relative Compressive Strength versus Relative MOR	65
3.4.2.9	Modulus of Elasticity (MOE)	67
3.4.2.10	MOE as a Function of Compressive Strength	69
3.4.3	Dynamic Properties	71
3.4.3.1	Calculation	73
3.4.3.2	Results: Fundamental Transverse and Longitudinal Resonant Frequencies	76
3.4.3.3	Dynamic Modulus of Elasticity	79
3.4.3.4	Damping Ratio	83
3.4.3.5	Comparison of Dynamic MOE with Chord (static) MOE	85
3.4.3.6	Dynamic modulus of elasticity versus compressive strength	85
3.4.4	Modes of Failure	86
3.5	Concluding Remarks	91
3.5.1	Fresh Properties	91

3.5.2 Hardened Properties 92

3.5.3 Dynamic Properties 93

3.5.4 Failure Mode 94

4. INVESTIGATION INTO THE STRUCTURAL PROPERTIES OF THE ELASTOMERIC MODIFIED CONCRETE 95

4.1 Preface 95

4.2 Fabrication of the Beams 95

4.2.1 Design 95

4.2.2 Casting and Curing 98

4.3 Four-point bending Test Set up 100

4.3.1 Experimental Program 100

4.3.2 Test Channels 101

4.3.3 Four-point bending Test Set up 101

4.3.4 Parameters Calculated in Four-point Bending Test 104

4.3.5 Results 106

4.3.6 Discussion 115

4.4 Three-point Bending (cyclic test) Test 117

4.4.1 Experimental Program 117

4.4.2 Test Channels 117

4.4.3 Set up 118

4.4.4 Results 122

4.4.5 Discussion 130

4.5 Dynamic Test (hammer test) 131

4.5.1 Theory: 135

4.5.2 Results: 137

4.5.2.1 Calculation of the Frequency (theoretically) 137

4.5.2.2 Calculation of the Frequency (from graph) 137

4.5.2.3 Comparison of the Results of Theory and Experiments 140

4.5.2.4 Calculation of the Dynamic Modulus of Elasticity 141
4.5.2.5 Comparison of the Dynamic EI and EI from Four-point Bending Test 142
4.5.2.6 Calculation of the Damping 142

4.6 Finite Element Modelling 145

4.7 Concluding Remarks 150

4.7.1 Four-point Bending Test: 150

4.7.2 Three-point Bending Test: 150

4.7.3 Dynamic (hammer) Test: 151

5. CONCLUSIONS 152

5.1 Preface 152

5.2 Economic Feasibility of EMCs 152

5.3 Concluding Remarks 156

5.3.1 Investigation into the Fresh, Hardened and Dynamic Properties of EMC 156

5.3.2 Investigation into the Structural Properties of the Elastomeric Modified Concrete 157

5.4 Further work 158

5.5 Proposed Applications 159

5.6 Final Remarks 160

REFERENCES 161

LIST OF STANDARDS 163

APPENDIX A: COMPARISON OF RESULTS WITH OTHER WORKS 166

APPENDIX B: THREE-POINT BENDING TEST COMPLETE CYCLES 179

APPENDIX C: FOUR-POINT BENDING TEST STRAIN GRAPHS 182

APPENDIX D: PHOTOS OF THE BEAMS 189

List of Tables

Table 2-1 - Waste Tyre Classification 14
Table 2-2 - Mechanical Properties of Tyre Wastes 15
Table 2-3 – Percentage Breakdown of Current Usage of Waste Tyres 16
Table 3-1- Significant Composition of SL Portland Cement 35
Table 3-2 - Physical and Chemical Properties of SL Portland Cement 35
Table 3-3 - Chemical Composition of Eraring Fly Ash by XRF method 36
Table 3-4 - Typical Properties of Eraring Fly Ash 36
Table 3-5 - Particle Size Distribution (sieving method) of Fine Aggregates 37
Table 3-6 - Particle Size Distribution (sieving method) of Coarse Aggregates 37
Table 3-7 - Properties of Aggregates 38
Table 3-8 - Experimental Program 41
Table 3-9 - Raw Material Proportions of Control Mixes 41
Table 3-10 - Raw Material Proportions of Mixes with SBR Granules 42
Table 3-11 - MC of Aggregates 43
Table 3-12 - Results of the Fresh Properties Tests 50
Table 3-13 - Hardened EMC Properties 58
Table 3-14 - Optimum SBR Granules Percentage for MOR 62
Table 3-15 - Compressive Strength and MOE results of a Similar Project 67
Table 3-16 - Fundamental Transverse (n) and Longitudinal (n') Resonant Frequencies 76
Table 3-17 - Dynamic MOE 79
Table 3-18– Damping Ratio (%) 83
Table 3-19 - Comparison of Dynamic MOE with Chord (static) MOE 85
Table 4-1 - Beam Experimental Program 98
Table 4-2 - Four-point Bending Experimental Program 100
Table 4-3 - Compressive Strength of Four-point Bending Observation Specimens 107
Table 4-4 – Load and Deflection at Different Points of Four – point Bending Test 109
Table 4-5 - Ductility Factor and EI at Different Points of Four – point Bending Test 109
Table 4-6 - Strain of Strain Gauge at Mid Span Reinforcement 113
Table 4-7 - Area under Load - Deflection Curve (kN.mm) 114
Table 4-8 - Three-point Bending Test Experimental Program 117
Table 4-9 - Compressive Strength of Three-point Bending Observation Specimens 122
Table 4-10 - Area under the Hysteresis Loops 128
Table 4-11 - Total Area and Cumulative Area up to 30kN of Three-point Bending Load-Deflection Curve 129
Table 4-12 - Dynamic Test Experimental Program 135
Table 4-13 - Boundary Conditions of Beams 136
Table 4-14 - Values of $\beta 2$ for Different Modes 136
Table 4-15 - Frequency of the Beams (theoretically) 137
Table 4-16 - First Frequency of the Beams (from graph) 140
Table 4-17 - Comparison of the First Frequency Results from Theory and Experiments 140
Table 4-18 - Dynamic Modulus of Elasticity of the Beams 141
Table 4-19 - Comparison of Dynamic EI and Static EI 142
Table 4-20 - Damping Ratio of Beams before and after Failure 143
Table 5-1 - Mass of the Different Components of the Case Study in Ardebil 153

Table 5-2 - Experimental Program of Economic Feasibility of EMCs 154
Table 5-3 - Cost of the Raw Materials Suggested by Industry 154
Table 5-4 - Final Price and the Amount of Saved Mineral Aggregates 155

Appendix:

Table 1 - Properties of PP Fibres 166
Table 2 - Damping Ratio of Mixes without SB Latex 173
Table 3 - Damping Ratio of Mixes with SB Latex 173
Table 4 - Dynamic Frequency of Mixes without SB Latex 174
Table 5 - Dynamic Frequency of Mixes with SB Latex 174
Table 6 - Dynamic MOE of Mixes without SB Latex 175
Table 7 - Dynamic MOE of Mixes with SB Latex 175
Table 8 -Area under the Three-point Bending Hysteresis Loop 177
Table 9 - Frequency of the Beams (theoretically) – Hz 178
Table 10 - First Frequency of the Beams (from graph) - Hz 178

List of Figures

Figure 1-1 - Photomicrograph made with a Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) of Fly Ash particles at 2000 X magnification 7
Figure 2-1 - Breakdown of Ingredients of Passenger Car Modern Radial Tyres (AG 2008-9) 12
Figure 2-2 - The components of a Car Tyre (AG 2008-9) 13
Figure 2-3 - Classification of polymer-based admixtures, (Ohama 1998) 24
Figure 2-4 - Chemical structure of SB Latex, (Ohama 1998) 25
Figure 2-5 - Ductility Types (V2000) 27
Figure 3-1 - SBR granules 1-4 mm **Figure 3-2 - SBR granules 12-15 mm** 39
Figure 3-3 - Stress versus Strain of the Steel Reinforcing Bar 40
Figure 3-4 - Mixing Procedure for Concrete 45
Figure 3-5 - Adding HWR to the Mix 46
Figure 3-6 - External Vibration Table 46
Figure 3-7 - Specimen Cylinder and Prism Moulds 47
Figure 3-8 - Specimen Curing Tank 48
Figure 3-9 - Air Content Test 49
Figure 3-10 - Slump Test 49
Figure 3-11 - HWR Amount of Concrete Mixes 51
Figure 3-12 - HWR amount for Different SBR Granules Sizes 53
Figure 3-13 - HWR amount for Mixes with or without SB Latex 53
Figure 3-14 - Wet Density of Control Mixes and Mixes Incorporating SBR Granules 54
Figure 3-15–Effect of Different Sizes of SBR Granules on Wet Density 55
Figure 3-16 - AC of Control Mixes and Mixes Incorporating SBR Granules 56
Figure 3-17- Effect of SB Latex on AC in Mixes Incorporating SBR Granules 57
Figure 3-18 - Compressive Strength at Different Ages of Curing 59
Figure 3-19 - Effect of SB Latex on the Compressive Strength 60
Figure 3-20 - Effect of SBR Granules Size on Compressive Strength 61
Figure 3-21 - Compressive Strength - Density versus SBR Granules Percentage 61
Figure 3-22 - Modulus of Rupture of Concrete Mixes 63
Figure 3-23 - Effect of SB Latex on 14 Day MOR 64
Figure 3-24 - Effect of SB Latex on 28 Day MOR 64
Figure 3-25 - Effect of SBR Granule size on MOR 65
Figure 3-26 - Relative 28 Day Compressive and MOR strength 66
Figure 3-27 -MOE Value of Concrete Mixes 68
Figure 3-28 - Effect of SB Latex on the amount of MOE 69
Figure 3-29 - MOE as a Function of Compressive Strength - Empirical versus Experimental Prediction 70
Figure 3-30 - MOE as a Function of Compressive Strength - Empirical versus Experimental Prediction 70
Figure 3-31 - Schematic of Apparatus for Impact Resonance Test 71
Figure 3-32 - Positions Where Specimens were Struck in Different Modes 72
Figure 3-33 - Hammer Used for Dynamic Test 72
Figure 3-34 - Dynamic Test (transverse mode) 73

Figure 3-35 - Analysis of Dynamic Test of Concrete Specimens in LabView 74
Figure 3-36 - Transverse Frequency 77
Figure 3-37 - Longitudinal Frequency 77
Figure 3-38 - Longitudinal Frequency versus Transverse Frequency 78
Figure 3-39 - Transverse Dynamic MOE 80
Figure 3-40 - Longitudinal Dynamic MOE 80
Figure 3-41 - Longitudinal versus Transverse Dynamic MOE 82
Figure 3-42– Damping Ratio (%) 84
Figure 3-43–Compressive Strength as a Function of Dynamic MOE 86
Figure 3-44 - Compression Failure of Specimen Incorporating SBR Granules 87
Figure 3-45 - Flexural Failure of Control Concrete under Flexural Test 87
Figure 3-46 - Flexural Failure of Specimens Incorporating SBR Granules under Flexural Test 88
Figure 3-47–Cement-rubber Interface Failure of Specimens Incorporating SBR 88
Figure 3-48 - Dispersion of SBR Granules in the Hardened Concrete 89
Figure 3-49 - Compressive Failure at Post Maximum Failure Load 90
Figure 4-1 - Typical steel reinforcement for the beams 96
Figure 4-2 - Beam Moulds 99
Figure 4-3 - Beam Reinforcement Cage 100
Figure 4-4 - Four-point Bending Test Set up (LVDT and Strain Gauges) 101
Figure 4-5 - Four-point Bending Test Set up (supports) 102
Figure 4-6 - Strain Gauges on the Surface of the Concrete 102
Figure 4-7 - Schematic of the Four-point Bending Test Set up 103
Figure 4-8 - Parameters Calculated in Four-point Bending Test 106
Figure 4-9 – (Load – Deflection) Curve of the Beams 108
Figure 4-10 - Four-point Bending Test Results 110
Figure 4-11 - Deflection at Different Points of Four-point Bending Test 110
Figure 4-12 - Ductility Factor of Beams 111
Figure 4-13 - EI at Different Points of Four-point Bending Test 111
Figure 4-14 - Calculation of Area under Load - Deflection Curves 114
Figure 4-15 - Definition of Modulus of Resilience 115
Figure 4-16 - The Three-point Bending Test Set up 119
Figure 4-17 - Hinge Clamping System 120
Figure 4-18 - Schematic of Three-point Bending Test 121
Figure 4-19 - R5SBR10 Cycle 1 123
Figure 4-20 - R5SBR10 Cycle 2 123
Figure 4-21 - R5SBR10 Cycle 3 124
Figure 4-22 - R5SBR10 Cycle 4 124
Figure 4-23 - R5SBR10 Cycle 5 125
Figure 4-24 - R5SBR10 Cycle 6 125
Figure 4-25 - R5SBR10 Cycle 7 126
Figure 4-26 - R5SBR10 Cycle 8 126
Figure 4-27 - R5SBR10 Cycle 9 127
Figure 4-28 - R5SBR10 Cycle 10 127
Figure 4-29 - Area up to 30kN under Three-point Bending Load-Deflection Curve 129
Figure 4-30 - Total Area under Three-point Bending Load - Deflection Curve 130

Figure 4-31 - Schematic of Dynamic Tests on Beams 132
Figure 4-32 - Dynamic Test Set up 133
Figure 4-33 - Hammer for Dynamic Test 134
Figure 4-34 - Accelerometer 134
Figure 4-35 - Sum of FRF for C1 (Before applying the load) 138
Figure 4-36 - Sum of FRF for C1 (After failure) 139
Figure 4-37 - Acceleration Time History 144
Figure 4-38 FE Analysis of Beam C1 146
Figure 4-39 - FE Analysis of Beam C2F 147
Figure 4-40 - FE Analysis of Beam R3SBR10 148
Figure 4-41 - FE Analysis of Beam R4SBR6 149

Appendix

Figure 1 - 18 mm Monofilament PP fibre 167
Figure 2 - 19 mm Fibrillated PP fibre 167
Figure 3 - HWR of Mixes without SB Latex 168
Figure 4 - HWR of Mixes with SB Latex 168
Figure 5 - Wet Density of Mixes without SB Latex 169
Figure 6 - Wet Density of Mixes with SB Latex 169
Figure 7 - AC of Mixes without SB Latex 170
Figure 8 - AC of Mixes with SB Latex 170
Figure 9 - 28 days Compressive Strength of Mixes without SB Latex 171
Figure 10 - 28 days Compressive Strength of Mixes with SB Latex 171
Figure 11 - MOR of Mixes without SB Latex 172
Figure 12 - MOR of Mixes with SB Latex 172
Figure 13 - Four Point Bending Load – Deflection Curve of the Beams 176
Figure 14 - Three-point Bending Test Load-deflection Curve R6SBR6 179
Figure 15 - Three-point Bending Load-Deflection Curve of R5SBR10 180
Figure 16 - Three-point Bending Load-Deflection Curve of R7SBR5L10 181
Figure 17 - R3SBR10 Strain Diagram @10kN 182
Figure 18 - R3SBR10 Strain Diagram @20kN 182
Figure 19 - R3SBR10 Strain Diagram @30kN 182
Figure 20 - R3SBR10 Strain Diagram @40kN 183
Figure 21 - R3SBR10 Strain Diagram @50kN 183
Figure 22 - R3SBR10 Strain Diagram @60kN 183
Figure 23 - R3SBR10 Strain Diagram @70kN 184
Figure 24 - R3SBR10 Strain Diagram @80kN 184
Figure 25 - R3SBR10 Strain Diagram @90kN 184
Figure 26 - R4SBR6 Strain Diagram @10kN 185
Figure 27 - R4SBR6 Strain Diagram @20kN 185
Figure 28 - R4SBR6 Strain Diagram @30kN 185
Figure 29 - R4SBR6 Strain Diagram @40kN 186
Figure 30 - R4SBR6 Strain Diagram @50kN 186
Figure 31 - R4SBR6 Strain Diagram @60Kn 186

Figure 32 - R4SBR6 Strain Diagram @70kN 187
Figure 33 - R4SBR6 Strain Diagram @80kN 187
Figure 34 - R4SBR6 Strain Diagram @90kN 187
Figure 35 - R4SBR6 Strain Diagram @100kN 188
Figure 36 - Three-point Bending Test Failure (30% FA +10% SB Latex) 189
Figure 37 – Crack Propagation of Three-point Bending Beam Failure (30% FA) 189
Figure 38 - Three-point Bending Test Failure (30% FA) 190
Figure 39 - Three-point Bending Test Failure 190
Figure 40 - Three-point Bending Test Failure (30% FA+10%SBR(1-4mm)) 191
Figure 41 - Crack Propagation of Three-point Bending Test Failure 191
Figure 42 - Three-point Bending Test Failure (30% FA+6%SBR (12-15mm)) 192
Figure 43 - Crack Propagation of Three-point Bending Test Failure 192
Figure 44 - Four-point Bending Test (30% FA) 193