



# Standard Test Method for Obtaining and Testing Drilled Cores and Sawed Beams of Concrete<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C 42/C 42M; 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.

*This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the Department of Defense.*

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee ~~C-9~~ C09 on Concrete and Concrete Aggregates and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C09.61 on Testing Concrete for Strength.

Current edition approved ~~Feb. 10, 1999~~ 2003. Published ~~May 1999~~ April 2003. Originally published as C 42-21 T, approved in 1921. Last previous edition ~~C 42-94~~, approved in 1999 as C 42/C 42M-99.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers obtaining, preparing, and testing (1) cores drilled from concrete for length or compressive strength or splitting tensile strength determinations and (2) beams sawed from concrete for flexural strength determinations.

1.2 The values stated in either inch-pound units or SI units shall be regarded separately as standard. SI units are shown in brackets. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system must be used independently of the other. Combining values of from the two units systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

1.3 The text of this standard references notes and footnotes that provide explanatory material. These notes and footnotes (excluding those in tables and figures) shall not be considered as requirements of the standard.

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address 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:

C 39/C 39M Test Method for Compressive Strength of Cylindrical Concrete Specimens<sup>2</sup>

C 78 Test Method for Flexural Strength of Concrete (Using Simple Beam with Third-Point Loading)<sup>2</sup>

C 174/C 174M Test Method for Measuring Length of Drilled Concrete Cores<sup>2</sup>

C 496 Test Method for Splitting Tensile Strength of Cylindrical Concrete Specimens<sup>2</sup>

C 617 Practice for Capping Cylindrical Concrete Specimens<sup>2</sup>

~~C 670~~ Practice 642 Test Method for Density, Absorption, and Voids in Hardened Concrete<sup>2</sup>

C 670 Practice for Preparing Precision and Bias Statements for Test Methods for Construction Materials<sup>2</sup>

C 823 Practice for Examination and Sampling of Hardened Concrete in Constructions<sup>2</sup>

C 1231/C 1231M Practice for Use of Unbonded Caps in Determination of Compressive Strength of Hardened Concrete Cylinders<sup>2</sup>

### 2.2 ACI Standards:

318 Building Code Requirements for Reinforced Structural Concrete<sup>3</sup>

## 3. Significance and Use

3.1 This test method provides standardized procedures for obtaining and testing specimens to determine the compressive, splitting tensile, and flexural strength of in-place concrete. ~~Sampling and sample preparation requirements are given to ensure that dimensional requirements are met and that the specimens are comprised of intact sound concrete as free of flaws as the particular structure will allow.~~ concrete.

3.2 Generally, test specimens are obtained when doubt exists about the in-place concrete quality due either to low strength test results during construction or signs of distress in the structure. ~~Additionally, Another use of this method may be used~~ is to provide strength information on older structures.

<sup>2</sup> Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 04.02.

<sup>3</sup> Available from American Concrete Institute (ACI), P.O. Box 9094, Farmington Hills, MI 48333.

3.3 ~~The~~ Concrete strength is affected by the location of the concrete in a structural element, with the concrete at the bottom tending to be stronger than the concrete at the top. Core strength is also affected by core orientation relative to the horizontal plane of the concrete as placed, with strength tending to be lower when measured parallel to the horizontal plane.<sup>4</sup> These factors shall be considered in planning the locations for obtaining concrete samples and in comparing strength test results.

3.4 The strength of concrete measured by tests of cores and beams is affected by the amount and distribution of moisture in the specimen at the time of test. There is no standard procedure to condition a specimen that will ensure that, at the time of test, it will be in the identical moisture condition as concrete in the structure. The moisture conditioning procedures in this test method are intended to provide reproducible moisture conditions that minimize within-laboratory and between-laboratory variations and to reduce the effects of moisture introduced during specimen preparation.

3.5 There is no universal relationship between the compressive strength of a core and the corresponding compressive strength of standard-cured molded cylinders. The relationship is affected by many factors such as the strength level of the concrete, the in-place temperature and moisture history, and the strength gain characteristics of the concrete. Historically, it has been assumed that core strengths are generally 85 % of the corresponding standard-cured cylinder strengths, but this is not applicable to all situations. The acceptance criteria for core strength is are to be established by the specifying authority, specifier of the tests. ACI 318 provides core strength acceptance criteria for new construction.

#### 4. Apparatus

4.1 *Core Drill*, for obtaining cylindrical core specimens with diamond impregnated bits attached to a core barrel.

4.2 *Saw*, for cutting beam specimens to size for flexural strength tests and to trim ends of cores. The saw shall have a diamond or silicon-carbide cutting edge and shall be capable of cutting specimens ~~which~~ that conform to the prescribed dimensions, without excessive heating or shock.

#### 5. Sampling

##### 5.1 General:

5.1.1 Samples of hardened concrete for use in the preparation of strength test specimens shall not be taken until the concrete is strong enough to permit sample removal without disturbing the bond between the mortar and the coarse aggregate (see Note 1 and Note 2). When preparing strength test specimens from samples of hardened concrete, samples that show defects or samples that have been damaged in the process of during removal shall not be used.

~~5.1.2 Specimens containing embedded reinforcement shall not be used for determining splitting tensile strength unless the damaged portion(s) are removed and specimens for determining flexural strength the resulting test specimen is of suitable length (see 7.2). Samples of defective or damaged concrete that cannot be tested shall not be used if reinforcement is embedded in reported along with the tensile portion reason that prohibits use of the sample for preparing strength test specimens.~~

NOTE 1—Practice C 823 provides guidance on the development of a sampling plan for concrete in constructions.

NOTE 2—It is not possible to specify a minimum age when concrete is strong enough to withstand damage during removal, because the strength at any age depends on the curing history and strength grade of the concrete. If time permits, the concrete should not be removed before it is 14 days old. If this is not practical, removal of concrete can proceed if the cut surfaces do not display erosion of the mortar and the exposed coarse aggregate particles are embedded firmly in the mortar. In-place test methods may be used to estimate the level of strength development prior to attempting removal of concrete samples.

~~5.1.2 Specimens containing embedded reinforcement shall not be used for determining compressive, splitting tensile, or flexural strength.~~

5.2 *Core Drilling*—~~A core specimen taken perpendicular to a horizontal surface shall be located, when possible, so that its axis is drilled perpendicular to the bed of the concrete as originally placed surface and not near formed joints or obvious edges of a unit of deposit. Record and report the approximate angle between the longitudinal axis of the drilled core and the horizontal plane of the concrete as placed. A specimen taken drilled perpendicular to a vertical surface, or perpendicular to a surface with a batter, shall be taken from near the middle of a unit of deposit when possible and not near formed joints or obvious edges of a unit of deposit. possible.~~

5.3 *Slab Removal*—Remove a slab sufficiently large to secure the desired test specimens without the inclusion of any concrete ~~which~~ that has been cracked, spalled, undercut, or otherwise damaged.

### DRILLED CORES

#### 6. Measuring the Length of Drilled Cores

6.1 ~~Core specimens drilled through a structure~~

6.1 Cores for determining the purpose thickness of measuring pavements, slabs, walls or other structural dimensions elements shall have a diameter of at least 3.75 in. [95 mm]. Measure mm] when the lengths of such cores are stipulated to be measured in

<sup>4</sup>“Development of Precision and Bias Statements for Testing Drilled Cores in Accordance with ASTM C 42,” by Glenn E. Bollin,

<sup>4</sup> Neville, A., “Core Tests: Easy to Perform, Not Easy to Interpret,” *ASTM Journal of Cement, Concrete, and Aggregates/Concrete International*, Vol 15, Vol. 23, No. 7, 1993, 11, November 2001, pp. 59-68.

accordance with Test Method C 174/C 174M.

6.2 For cores ~~which that~~ are not intended for ~~measuring~~ determining structural dimensions, measure the longest and shortest lengths on the cut surface along lines parallel to the core axis. Record the average length to the nearest ¼ in. [5 mm].

## 7. Cores for Compressive Strength

7.1 ~~Test Specimen Diameter~~—~~The nominal diameter of core specimens for the determination of compressive strength in load bearing structural members shall be at least 3.750 in. [95 [94 mm]. Core diameters less than 3.75 in. [95mm] are permitted For non-load bearing structural members or when it is impossible to obtain cores with length to diameter (L/D) length-diameter ratio  $\geq 1$  for compressive strength evaluations in cases other (L/D) greater than load-bearing situations; or equal to 1, core diameters less than 3.70 in. [94 mm] are not prohibited (see Note 3). For concrete with nominal maximum aggregate size greater than or equal to 1½ in. [37.5 mm], the core diameters shall be as directed by the specifier of the tests (see Note 4).~~

NOTE 3—~~The compressive strengths of nominal 2-in. [50-mm] diameter should preferably cores are known to be somewhat lower and more variable than those of nominal 4-in. [100-mm] diameter cores. In addition, smaller diameter cores appear to be more sensitive to the effect of the length-diameter ratio.~~<sup>5</sup>

NOTE 4—~~The preferred minimum core diameter is three times the nominal maximum size of the coarse aggregate and must but it should be at least two times the nominal maximum size of the coarse aggregate. The preferred length of the capped specimen is between 1.9 and 2.1 times the diameter. If the ratio of the length to the diameter of the core specimen exceeds 2.1, reduce the length of the specimen so that the ratio is between 2.1 and 1.9. Core specimens with length-to-diameter ratios less than 1.8 require corrections to the measured compressive strength (see 7.7.1). A core having a maximum length of less than 95 % of its diameter before capping or a length less than its diameter after capping shall not be tested. aggregate.~~

7.2 ~~End Preparation Length~~—~~The ends preferred length of core specimens to be tested in compression shall be essentially smooth, perpendicular to the longitudinal axis; capped or ground specimen is between 1.9 and 2.1 times the diameter. If the ratio of the same length to the diameter as (L/D) of the body core exceeds 2.1, reduce the length of the specimen. If necessary, saw core so that the ends ratio of the capped or ground specimen is between 1.9 and 2.1. Core specimens until the following requirements are met:~~

7.2.1 ~~Projections, if any, shall not extend more with length-diameter ratios equal to or less than 0.2 in. [5 mm] above the end surfaces;~~

7.2.2 ~~The end surfaces shall not depart from perpendicularity 1.75 require corrections to the longitudinal axis by more measured compressive strength (see 7.9.1). A strength correction factor is not required for L/D greater than 0.5°, and~~

7.2.3 ~~The diameters 1.75. A core having a maximum length of the ends shall not depart more less than 0.1 in. [2.5 mm] from the mean diameter 95 % of its diameter before capping or a length less than its diameter after capping or end grinding shall not be tested.~~

7.3 ~~Moisture Conditioning~~—~~Test specimens shall be tested in a cores after moisture condition representative of the in-place concrete conditioning as specified in this test method or as directed by the specifying authority:~~

7.3.1 ~~Compressive strength specifier of the tests. The moisture conditioning procedures specified in this test results method are usually used for intended to preserve the evaluation moisture of the in-place concrete strength; therefore, the cores shall be conditioned in drilled core and to provide a reproducible moisture condition most representative of that minimizes the in-place strength. If the concrete service condition is dry, the cores can be tested in either an “as received condition” after allowing the effects of moisture gradients introduced by wetting during drilling and specimen preparation.~~

7.3.1 ~~After cores have been drilled, wipe off surface drill water and allow remaining surface moisture to evaporate in accordance with 7.3.2 or tested in a “dry condition” where the evaporate. When surfaces appear dry, but not later than 1 h after drilling, place cores are air dried in a temperature range of 60 separate plastic bags or nonabsorbent containers and seal to 80°F [16 to 27°C] prevent moisture loss. Maintain cores at a relative humidity less than 60 % for seven days, as directed by the specifying authority.~~

7.3.2 ~~The following procedure is used to bring the ambient temperature, and protect cores from exposure to direct sunlight. Transport the “as received condition.” After drilling, transport the cores to the testing laboratory within 24 h. Dry the as soon as practicable. Keep cores for 12 to 24 h in the sealed plastic bags or nonabsorbent containers at a temperature between 60 all times except during end preparation and 80° [16 for a maximum time of 2 h to 27°C] and at less than 50 % relative humidity. Cap permit capping before testing.~~

7.3.2 ~~If water is used during sawing or grinding of core ends, complete these operations as soon as practicable, but no later than 2 days after drilling of cores unless stipulated otherwise by the cores, and test them within 48 h specifier of receipt.~~

7.3.3 ~~When tests. After completing end preparation, wipe off surface moisture, allow the specifying authority so directs; surfaces to dry, and place the cores shall be tested in a moisture condition other than achieved by conditioning according to 7.3.1 sealed plastic bags or 7.3.2.~~

7.3.4 ~~Further guidance for core strength evaluation considerations is found in ACI 318, Chapter 5.~~

7.4 ~~Capping~~—~~The ends nonabsorbent containers. Minimize the duration of exposure to water during end preparation.~~

<sup>5</sup> These numbers represent, respectively, the (1s %)

<sup>5</sup> Bartlett, F.M. and (d2s %) limits as described in ASTM Practice C 670: MacGregor, J.G., “Effect of Core Diameter on Concrete Core Strengths,” *ACI Materials Journal*, Vol. 91, No. 5, September-October 1994, pp. 460-470.

~~7.3.3 Allow the cores shall conform to remain in the tolerance requirements of Test Method C 39. The ends shall be sawed sealed plastic bags or ground to tolerance or capped in accordance with capping procedures nonabsorbent containers for hardened concrete specimens at least 5 days after last being wetted and before testing, unless stipulated otherwise by the specifier of Practice C 617 tests.~~

~~NOTE 2—Prior 5—The waiting period of at least 5 days is intended to capping; reduce moisture gradients introduced when the core is drilled or wetted during sawing or grinding.~~

~~7.3.4 When directiofn is given to test cores in a moisture condition other than achieved by conditioning according to 7.3.1, 7.3.2, and 7.3.3, report the alternative procedure.~~

~~7.4 Sawing of Ends—The ends of core may specimens to be determined by weighing it tested in compression shall be flat, and dividing it by perpendicular to the vo longitudinal axis. If necessary, saw the ends of cores that will be capped so that the following requirements are met:~~

~~7.4.1 Projections, if any, shall not extend more than 0.2 in. [5 mm] above the end surfaces.~~

~~7.4.2 The end surfaces shall not depart from perpendicularity to the average diameter and length, or longitudinal axis by any other standard method for determining density. more than 0.5 degrees.~~

~~7.5 Measurement—Prior to testing, measureDensity—When required by the length specifier of the capped specimen to tests, determine the nearest 0.1 in. [2.0 mm] density by weighing the core before capping and use this length to compute dividing the length-to-diameter ratio. Determine the average diameter mass by averaging two measurements taken at right angles to each other about the midheight volume of the specimen. Measure core diameters to calculated from the nearest 0.01 in. [0.2 mm] whenever possible, but average diameter and length. Alternatively, determine the density from the mass in air and submerged mass in accordance with Test Method C 642. After submerged weighing, dry cores in accordance with 7.3.2 and store in sealed plastic bags or nonabsorbent containers for at least-to the nearest 0.1 in. [2.0 mm]. 5 days before testing.~~

~~7.6 Testing—TestCapping—If the specimens in accordance with ends of the applicable provisions cores do not conform to the perpendicularity and planeness requirements of Test Method C 39/C 39M, they shall be sawed or ground to meet those requirements or capped in accordance with Practice C 617. If cores are capped in accordance with Practice C 617, the capping device shall accommodate actual core diameters and produce caps that are concentric with the core ends. Measure core lengths to the nearest 0.1 in. [2 mm] before capping. Unbonded caps in accordance with Practice C 1231/C 1231M are not permitted.~~

~~7.7 Measurement—Before testing, measure the length of the capped or ground specimen to the nearest 0.1 in. [2 mm] and use this length to compute the length-diameter (L/D) ratio. Determine the average diameter by averaging two measurements taken at right angles to each other at the midheight of the specimen. Measure core diameters to the nearest 0.01 in. [0.2 mm] when the difference in core diameters does not exceed 2 % of their average, otherwise measure to the nearest 0.1 in. [2 mm]. Do not test cores if the difference between the largest and smallest diameter exceeds 5 % of their average.~~

~~7.8 Testing—Test the specimens in accordance with Test Method C 39/C 39M. Test the specimens within 7 days after coring, unless specified otherwise.~~

~~7.9 Calculation—Calculate the compressive strength of each specimen using the computed cross-sectional area based on the average diameter of the specimen.~~

~~7.9.1 If the ratio of length to diameter (L/D) of the specimen is 1.75 or less, correct the result obtained in-7.7 7.9 by multiplying by the appropriate correction factors shown in the following table (see Note-3): 6):~~

Ratio of Length to Diameter (L/D)	Strength Correction Factor
1.75	0.98
1.50	0.96
1.25	0.93
1.00	0.87

Use interpolation to determine correction factors for L/D values not given in the table.

~~NOTE 36—Correction factors depend on various conditions such as moisture condition, strength level, and elastic modulus. Average values for corrections due to length-diameter ratio are given in the table. These correction factors apply to-lightweight low-density concrete weighing having a density between 100 and 120 lb/ft<sup>3</sup> [1600 and 19920 kg/m<sup>3</sup>] and to normal-weight density concrete. They are applicable to both dry and wet concrete for strengths between 2000 psi and 6000 psi [14 MPa to 42 MPa]. For strengths above 10000 psi [70 MPa], test data on cores show that the correction factors may be larger than the values listed above. Thus, these factors should be applied to high-strength concrete with caution.~~

~~7.8<sup>6</sup>~~

~~7.10 Report—Report the results as required by Test Method C 39/C 39M with the addition of the following information:~~

~~7.810.1 Length of core as drilled to the nearest ¼ in. [5 mm],~~

~~7.10.2 Length of test specimen before and after capping or end grinding to the nearest 0.1 in. [2 mm], and average diameter of core to the nearest 0.01 in. [0.2 mm] or 0.1 in. [2 mm],~~

<sup>6</sup> “PoBartlett, F.M. and MacGregor, J.G. “Effect of Core Length-to-Diameter Ratio on Concrete Core Proficiency Sample Program” by G.W. Steele, Strategic Highway Research Program, SHRP-P-636, National Research Council, Washington, D.C., 1993. Strengths,” *ACI Materials Journal*, Vol. 91, No. 4, July-August 1994, pp. 339-348.



7.8.10.23 Compressive strength to the nearest 10 psi [0.1 MPa] when the diameter is measured to the nearest 0.01 in. [0.20 mm] and to the nearest 50 psi [0.5 MPa] when the diameter is measured to the nearest 0.1 in. [2.0 mm], after correction for length-diameter ratio when required,

7.8.10.34 Direction of application of the load on the specimen with respect to the horizontal plane of the concrete as placed,

7.8.10.45 The moisture conditioning history:

7.10.5.1 The date and time core was obtained and first placed in sealed bag or nonabsorbent container,

7.10.5.2 If water was used during end preparation, the date and time end preparation was completed and core placed in sealed bag or nonabsorbent container,

7.10.6 The date and time when tested,

7.8.10.57 Nominal maximum size of concrete aggregate.

7.10.8 If determined, the density,

7.10.9 If applicable, description of defects in cores that could not be tested, and

7.10.10 If any deviation from this test method was required, describe the deviation and explain why it was necessary.

7.11 Precision:<sup>7</sup>

7.9.11.1 The single-operator coefficient of variation on cores has been found to be 3.2 %<sup>8</sup> for a range of compressive strength between 4500 psi [32.0 MPa] and 7000 psi [48.3 MPa]. Therefore, results of two properly conducted tests of single cores by the same operator on the same sample of material should not differ from each other by more than 9 %<sup>8</sup> of their average.

7.9.11.2 The multi-laboratory coefficient of variation on cores has been found to be 4.7 %<sup>8</sup> for a range of compressive strength between 4500 psi [32.0 MPa] and 7000 psi [48.3 MPa]. Therefore, results of two properly conducted tests on cores sampled from the same hardened concrete (where a single test is defined as the average of two observations (cores), each made on separate adjacent drilled 4 in. [100 mm] diameter cores), and tested by two different laboratories should not differ from each other by more than 13 %<sup>8</sup> of their average.

7.10.2 Bias—Since there is no accepted reference material suitable for determining the bias for the procedure in this test method, no statement on bias is being made.

## 8. Cores for Tensile Splitting Tensile Strength

8.1 Test Specimens—The specimens shall conform to the dimensional requirements in 7.1, 7.2, 7.4.1; and 7.24.2. Ends are not to be capped.

8.2 Moisture Conditioning—Prior to testing condition—Condition the specimens as described in 7.3, or as directed by the specifier of tests.

8.3 Bearing Surfaces—The line of contact between the specimen and each bearing strip shall be straight and free of any projections or depressions higher or deeper than 0.01 in. [0.2 mm]. When the line of contact is not straight or contains projections or depressions having heights or depths greater than 0.01 in., grind or cap the specimen so as to produce bearing lines meeting these requirements. Do not use test specimens with projections or depressions greater than 0.1 in. [2.0 mm]. When capping is employed, the caps shall be as thin as practicable and shall be formed of high-strength gypsum plaster.

NOTE #7—Fig. 1 illustrates a device suitable for applying caps to 6-in. (150-mm) diameter the bearing surfaces of core specimens.

8.4 Testing—Test the specimens in accordance with the applicable provisions of Test Method C 496.

8.5 Calculation and Report—Calculate the splitting tensile strength and report the results as required in Test Method C 496. When grinding or capping of the bearing surfaces is required, measure the diameter between the finished surfaces. Indicate that the specimen was a core and state its moisture condition at provide the time of testing, moisture conditioning history as in 7.10.5.

8.6 Precision:<sup>9</sup>

8.6.1 The within laboratory single operator coefficient of variation for splitting tensile strength between 520 psi [3.6 MPa] and 590 psi [4.1 MPa] of cores has been found to be 5.3 %<sup>8</sup>. Therefore, results of two properly conducted tests by the same operator in the same laboratory on the same sample of material should not differ by more than 14.9 %<sup>8</sup> of their average.

8.6.2 The multi-laboratory coefficient of variation for splitting tensile strength between 520 psi [3.6 MPa] and 590 psi [4.1 MPa] of cores has been found to be 15.0 %<sup>8</sup>. Therefore, results of two properly conducted tests on the same sample of material of hardened concrete and tested by two different laboratories should not differ from each other by more than 42.3 %<sup>8</sup> of their average.

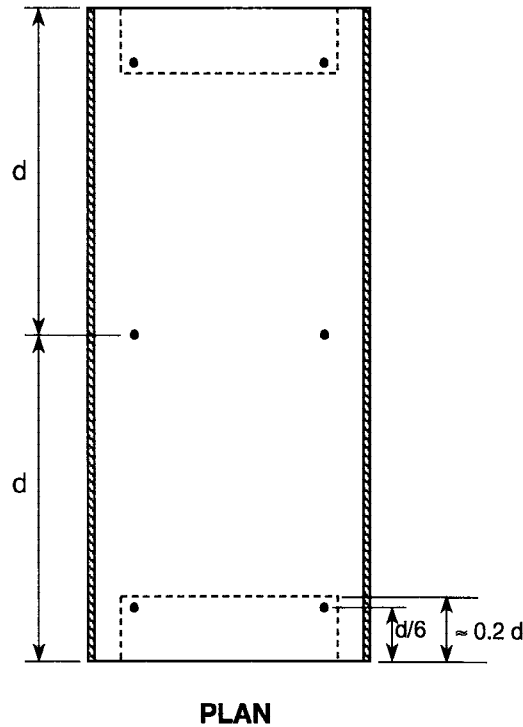
8.7 Bias—Since there is no accepted reference materials suitable for determining the bias for the procedure in this test method, no statement on bias is being made.

<sup>7</sup> These numbers represent, respectively, the (1s%)

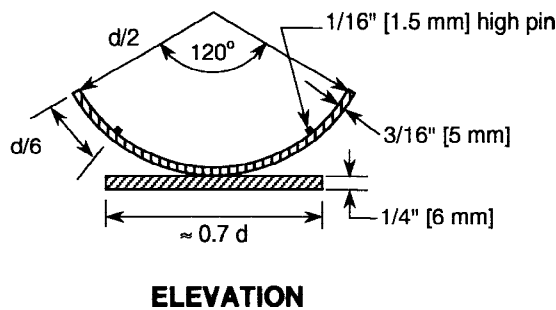
<sup>7</sup> Bollin, G. E., "Development of Precision and (d2s%) limits as described Bias Statements for Testing Drilled Cores in Practice C 670. Accordance with ASTM C 42." *ASTM Journal of Cement, Concrete, and Aggregates*, Vol 15, No. 1, 1993.

<sup>8</sup> These numbers represent, respectively, the (1s %) and (d2s %) limits as described in Practice C 670.

<sup>9</sup> Steele, G.W., "Portland Cement Concrete Core Proficiency Sample Program," Strategic Highway Research Program, SHRP-P-636, National Research Council, Washington, D.C., 1993.



d = nominal core diameter



**FIG. 1 Suitable Capping Device for Splitting Tensile Strength Test  
BEAMS FOR FLEXURAL TESTING**

### 9. Flexural Strength

9.1 *Test Specimens*—~~A~~—Unless otherwise specified, a beam specimen for the determination of flexural strength shall in general have a nominal cross section of 6 by 6 in. [150 by 150 mm] (Note 5, 8). The specimen shall be at least 21 in. [530 mm] in length, but when two tests for flexural strength are to be made in one beam specimen, it shall be at least 33 in. [840 mm] in length. Perform the sawing operation so that the concrete will not be weakened by shock or by heating. The sawed surfaces shall be smooth, plane, parallel, and free from steps, ridges, and grooves. Take care in handling sawed beam specimens to avoid chipping or cracking.

NOTE 58—In many cases, particularly with prisms cut from pavement slabs, the width will be governed by the size of the coarse aggregate and the depth by the thickness of the slab.

9.2 *Moisture Conditioning*—~~Submerge~~—Protect the surfaces of sawed specimens from evaporation by covering them with wet burlap and plastic sheeting during transportation and storage. Test the specimens within 7 days of sawing. Submerge the test specimens in lime-saturated water at  $73.5 \pm 3.5^\circ\text{F}$  [ $23.0 \pm 2.0^\circ\text{C}$ ] for at least 40 h immediately prior to the flexure test. Test the specimens promptly after removal from water storage. During the period between removal from water storage and testing, keep the specimens moist by covering with a wet blanket of burlap or other suitable absorbent fabric.

9.2.1 When the specifying authority for the project specifier of tests so directs, beams shall be tested in a moisture condition other than that achieved by conditioning in accordance with 9.2.

NOTE 9—Relatively small amounts of drying of the surface of flexural specimens induce tensile stresses in the extreme fibers that will markedly reduce the indicated flexural strength.

9.3 *Testing*—Test the specimens in accordance with the applicable provisions of Test Method C 78.

NOTE 610—Sawing may greatly reduce the indicated flexural strength; beams shall, therefore, be tested with a molded surface in tension whenever possible. The location of the tension face with respect to the position of the concrete as placed and the position of the sawed surfaces should be reported.

9.4 *Report*—Report the results in accordance with the applicable provisions of Test Method C 78 and the requirements of this test method, including the moisture condition at the time of testing. Identify orientation of the specimen's finished, sawed, and tension faces with respect to their positions in the test apparatus.

## **10. Precision and Bias**

10.1 *Precision*—Data are not available for preparing a statement on the precision of flexural strength measured on sawed beams.

NOTE 11—Users of this method who have replicate test data that may be appropriate for a statement on repeatability are encouraged to contact the chairman of the subcommittee.

10.2 *Bias*—Since there is no accepted reference material suitable for determining the bias for the procedure in this test method, no statement on bias is being made.

## **11. Keywords**

101.1 compressive strength; ~~concrete~~; concrete coring; concrete sawing; concrete strength; flexural strength; splitting tensile strength

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