



BSI Standards Publication

Testing hardened concrete

Part 18: Determination of the chloride migration coefficient

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 12390-18:2021+A1:2024. It supersedes BS EN 12390-18:2021, which is withdrawn.

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English Version

Testing hardened concrete - Part 18: Determination of the chloride migration coefficient

Essais pour béton durci - Partie 18 : Détermination du coefficient de migration des chlorures

Prüfung von Festbeton - Teil 18: Bestimmung des Chloridmigrationskoeffizienten

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European foreword

This document (EN 12390-18:2021+A1:2024) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 104 “Concrete and related products”, the secretariat of which is held by SN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by April 2025, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by April 2025.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document includes Amendment 1 approved by CEN on 26 August 2024.

This document supersedes  EN 12390-18:2021 .

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A list of all parts in the EN 12390 series, published under the general title “Testing hardened concrete”, can be found on the CEN website.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

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1 Scope

This document specifies the procedure for obtaining the non-steady-state chloride migration coefficient of specimens of hardened concrete at a specified age (see Annex A). The test procedure does not take into account any interaction of concrete with the saline solution over time. The test result is a durability indicator with respect to the resistance of the concrete investigated against chloride penetration.

The test procedure does not apply to concrete specimens with surface treatments such as silanes.

If the aggregate or any other embedded elements (such as metallic fibres or conducting particles) are electrically conductive, this will influence the magnitude of chloride migration. This fact is taken into account when establishing threshold values. It prevents comparison of chloride migration values between concretes if the aggregates induce a difference of half an order of magnitude (higher or lower) of chloride migration.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 12390-2, *Testing hardened concrete — Part 2: Making and curing specimens for strength tests*

EN 14488-1, *Testing sprayed concrete — Sampling fresh and hardened concrete*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

3.1 migration cell

apparatus for holding a cylindrical test specimen with a lateral sealing of non-conductive material enabling the test specimen to be exposed on two parallel surfaces to test solutions

3.2 migration test set-up

test container with a migration cell support, migration cell test solutions, sleeve, sleeve clamps, electrodes and electronics

3.3 migration

movement of ions under the action of an external electrical field

3.4 chloride migration coefficient

transport property which reflects the resistance against chloride penetration under the action of an externally applied electrical field

4 Symbols

c_d	Chloride concentration at which a colour change occurs, $c_d = 0,07 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{l}^{-1}$
c_0	Chloride concentration of the potassium hydroxide solution (catholyte) $[\text{mol}\cdot\text{l}^{-1}]$
d, h	Diameter and height, respectively, of the cylindrical specimen $[\text{m}]$
M_{ns}	Chloride migration coefficient (non steady-state) $[\times 10^{-12} \text{ m}^2\cdot\text{s}^{-1}]$
E	Voltage gradient $[\text{V}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}]$
erf^{-1}	Inverse Error Function
F	Faraday Constant, $F = 9,649 \cdot 10^4 \text{ J} \cdot (\text{V}\cdot\text{mol})^{-1}$
m_w	Mass of the water-saturated test specimen $[\text{kg}]$
R	Gas constant, $R = 8,314 \text{ J} \cdot (\text{K}\cdot\text{mol})^{-1}$
t	Duration of the migration test with an external voltage over the test specimen applied $[\text{s}]$
T	Absolute, mean temperature of both test solutions during the migration test $[\text{K}]$
U	Absolute value of the applied voltage $[\text{V}]$
x_d	Mean penetration depth of chloride ions of the two halves of the split test specimen $\langle A_1 \rangle [\text{m}] \langle A_1 \rangle$
x_{max}	Maximum penetration depth $\langle A_1 \rangle [\text{m}] \langle A_1 \rangle$
z	Ionic charge, for chloride ions $z = 1$

5 Principle

A specimen of concrete or mortar is placed between a chloride free and a chloride containing alkaline solution and an electric voltage is applied between two external electrodes to drive the chloride ions into the concrete specimen. After a given period of time, the specimen is split and the penetration depth of the free chloride ions is determined by using a suitable colour indicator solution. The chloride migration coefficient is calculated based on the measured depth of penetration, the magnitude of the applied voltage and other parameters.

NOTE This procedure can also be applied for testing products according to EN 1504-3 [1], EN 14487-1 [2].

6 Apparatus and equipment

Laboratory room with an air temperature of $(20 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$:

- 1) scale with an instrumental measurement uncertainty not exceeding $\pm 0,05 \text{ g}$;
- 2) vernier calliper gauge with an instrumental measurement uncertainty not exceeding $\pm 0,05 \text{ mm}$;
- 3) ruler with an instrumental measurement uncertainty not exceeding $\pm 0,05 \text{ mm}$;
- 4) water bath for storing the test specimens under water at $(20 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$;
- 5) thermometer with an instrumental measurement uncertainty not exceeding $\pm 0,5 ^\circ\text{C}$;
- 6) drying oven with ventilation and adjustable temperature;
- 7) migration set-up comprising (also see Figure 1 to Figure 4):