Name of Test Semi-Circular Bend Test (Louisiana method)	Developer(s) Mohamad and co-workers Louisiana Transportation Research Center
Test Method(s)	Adoption by Agencies
LADOTD TR 330-14/ASTM D8044-16	Louisiana
Description Semi-circular specimens are prepared with three notch depths: 25.4 mm, 31.8 mm, and 38.0 mm. Each specimen is simply supported by two bars on the flat surface and the load is applied to the curved surface above the notch. The load is applied at a vertical rate of 0.5 mm/min. For each specimen, the fracture toughness is calculated based on the load and displacement data. Fracture toughness versus notch depth is used to determine the energy release rate, J-integral. Three specimens are tested at each notch depth for a total of nine specimens per mix.	Photographs/Illustrations
Test Results	Test Temperature(s)
J-integral	25°C
Equipment & Cost Load Frame and Fixture Saw for cutting specimens Environmental chamber Saw for notching specimens	\$10,000-\$20,000 \$6,000 \$3,000 \$3,000
Specimen Fabrication	Number of Replicate Specimens
Gyratory specimens, 3 cuts, 1 notch (4 hours)	4 specimens for each notch depth
Specimen Conditioning	Testing Time
Conditioning for a minimum of 0.5 hour at 25°C	1 hour
Data Analysis Complexity	Test Variability
Fair	Medium (20% COV)
Field Validations Fair (pavement sections in Louisiana)	Overall Practicality for Mix Design and QA Good for Mix Design Fair for QA

Key References

- Wu, Z., L. Mohammad, L. Wang, and M. Mull (2005). Fracture Resistance Characterization of Superpave Mixtures Using the Semi-Circular Bending Test, Journal of ASTM International, Vol. 2, No. 3, pp. 1-15.
- Kim, M., L.N. Mohammad, and M.A. Elseifi (2012). Characterization of Fracture Properties of Asphalt Mixtures as Measured by Semicircular Bend Test and Indirect Tension Test, Transportation Research Record, No. 2296, pp. 115-124.