

IMPACT OF LOADING RATE ON MOR AND MOE OF THE PARTICLEBOARD APPLYING A STANDARD BENDING TEST

Mira Miri -Milosavljevi , Vladislava Mihailovi , Marija Turkovi

ABSTRACT

According to the European Standard EN 310:1993 for determination of the MOE and MOR of wood-based panels, it is necessary to select the loading rate on test samples, so that the maximum load is reached within $60 \pm 30s$ (30-90s). During the test the sample often breaks after only a few seconds, which is far below the required lower time limit. The results obtained for these samples should be discarded; otherwise the resulting values for MOR and MOE will be biased.

This paper is focused on the impact of loading rate on MOR and MOE of the particleboard in a standard bending test. The test was carried out in two ways: (i) by using the maximum load that can be obtained on the test device, and (ii) by applying a much lower load, for which the sample failure occurs at the prescribed time interval. In either case, the given time for achieving the maximum load was the same, which resulted in significant differences in loading rates. The obtained results for MOR and MOE were compared. Differences in the values obtained in the two applied loading rates indicate a potential error that can be made in determining MOR and MOE if the requirement regarding the time prescribed to reach the maximum force is not met.

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