

Study of Self Compacting Concrete with Replacement of Cement by Silica Fume and Metakaolin

S. Gnana Venkatesh¹, E.Malarvizhi²

¹Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Nandha Engineering College, Erode, Tamilnadu,

²PG Student, Department of Civil Engineering, Nandha Engineering College, Erode, Tamilnadu,

Date of Submission: 15-12-2020

Date of Acceptance: 30-12-2020

ABSTRACT: In this modern era, with the rise of material and labour costs and also with minimal availability of high skilled labours construction works are sometimes delayed or halted. To overcome this, Self Compacting Concrete (SCC) can be used. In this study, Strength of Self Compacting Concrete (SCC) is determined by replacement of cement by Silica Fume and Metakaolin. Silica Fume mix and Metakaolin mix is tested and the results are compared. Cement of M40 grade is to be used. Super plasticizer Conplast SP430 is used for the reduction in water content. Viscosity Modifying Agent is used to lower the slump of concrete. Replacement of cement starting from 2.5% to 15% is done and the optimised replacement is calculated. Mix design is arrived by IS-10262-2019. Fresh concrete tests such as slump test, J ring test, L box tests and V funnel test are done to determine the workability of the concrete. Compressive strength tests, Flexural strength tests, Modulus of elasticity and Split tensile strength test are done to determine the strength of the hardened concrete.

KEYWORDS: SCC, Fly ash, Silica Fume, Superplasticizer, Metakaolin, Viscosity Modifying Agent

I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL

Normally, when concrete is mixed and used in construction it requires use of vibrators or other techniques to remove air bubbles, honey comb like holes which are present at the surface because of air trapping caused during concrete pouring. This air content weakens the concrete structures. Self compacting concrete is administrated to avoid this problem. Self Compacting Concrete (SCC) also known as Self Consolidating Concrete is a special type of concrete mix. It does not require vibration for placing and compaction and it has higher fluidity. SCC was first introduced in Japan in 1986 to counter the shortage of skilled labours. It was first developed by Prof. Okamura, Japan who is known as the "Father of

SCC Technology". SCC is mainly used for casting heavily reinforced sections, under water concreting, Cast in-situ pile foundations and also in columns with congested reinforcement. While using these types of concrete, several special conditions are to be followed to achieve the best outcome. Production of SCC requires more experience and care. The formwork used must be designed to withstand high pressure than regular concrete. Mineral admixtures (Fly ash, GGBS, Marble powder, Silica fume) and chemical admixtures (Super Plasticisers) can be added to achieve SCC. Poly Carboic admixture along with viscosity modifying agents can be used which provides Segregation resistance.

1.2 OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this study is to determine the suitable percentage of Silica fume and Metakaolin replacement mixes and also to compare the results of two mixes.

1.3 SCOPE

The scope of this project is to make use of Silica fume and Metakaolin as a cement replacement materials as both element has cementitious properties and it can be a better replacement for cement.

II. SELF COMPACTING CONCRETE

2.1 SCC WITH VMA:

In SCC the main problem is to maintain the flowability and stability. This can be achieved by using High Range Water Reducing Admixtures (HRWRA) for maintaining flowability and adding VMA for stability. Cellulose Filament (CF), a new type of nano cellulose material is used for rheology modification and strength enhancement in SCC. CF can be used in range from 0.05% to 0.30%. The Results of using CF as VMA is compared with commonly available VMA Welan gum. The results showed that the CF can be used as a VMA and has positive effects on SCC when compared with Welan gum [17]. Polysaccharides can be used as a (VMA)

along with a fine material to improve the viscosity and hence achieve stability in concrete. Three types of polysaccharides welan gum, Xanthan gum and starch ether are used as VMA. Xanthan gum and starch ether reduced the bleeding to zero while welan gum did not reduce the bleeding to zero. The test also showed that the addition of VMA's did not have any beneficial effects on strength of concrete but it increased the stability of SCC. VMA added SCC concretes had sorptivities less than SCC's with out VMA [18]. Rice Husk Ash (RHA) can be used as a VMA to maintain stability of the SCC concrete. The test results showed that the density increased with the amount of RHA. This mainly due to the micro filler effect and products filling the pores and hence densifying the concrete. Water absorption decreased with the increase in RHA content [19]. Silicon Carbide Waste (SCW) can be used as a VMA. With the usage of SCW there is a improvement in viscosity, filling and passing ability, segregation resistance and flowability retention for proper percentage of SCW even though it increases the amount of Superplasticizers used [20].

2.2 SCC WITH VARIOUS REPLACING MATERIALS

Usage of Fly ash and Silica Fume as a cement replacement materials has a beneficial effect on SCC. Both Fly ash and Silica Fume has cementitious properties and thus it can be used as a replacement materials. Maximum Compressive strength is achieved with 30% replacement by Fly ash and 15% replacement by Silica Fume. When both Fly ash And Silica fume are replaced in combination the strength achieved is more when compared with both former replacements with minimum replacement of 10% [1,10]. Using Calcareous High volume of fly ash has more economical and environmental advantages. It improves the consistency of concrete mixes. With more Fly ash content as a replacement the compressive strength decreases. But the 52.5% replacement of fly ash gives great strength [2,7]. High range water reducing plasticizer Varaplast SP123 can be used to increase the workability and can be used along with VMA in SCC with replacement of cement by Type C Fly ash [9]. Metakaolin is a cementitious material which can also be used as a cement replacement material as it has properties similar to cement. Silica Fume and Metakaolin can be replaced in which Silica Fume has maximum strength in early minimal replacement while Metakaolin gives maximum strength at 15% replacement [3]. Silica Fume along with recycled aggregates can be used in SCC to increase the workability and strength. SCC with recycled

aggregates and Silica fume showed better results when compared with SCC with recycled aggregates and without Silica Fume [4]. SCC produced with high volume of Fly ash and Metakaolin with the addition of 5% of hydrated lime gives maximum strength when compared with fly ash replacement only. Formation of gismondine and C-S-H in SCC can are shown by the XRD and SEM analysis [5]. SCC can be produced with replacement of Fly ash and Dolomite powder. Mix with 3: 1 ratio of Fly ash and Dolomite powder seem to satisfy EFNARC standards [6]. Granite waste and Fly ash which has lower carbon footprints can be used in the production of SCC. Granite waste can be used as a replacement for fine aggregates. When the mix with replacement of granite waste alone has adverse effect on the fresh properties of the concrete. But when it is used alongside Fly ash the adverse effect can be reduced due to the presence of Fly ash [8]. When Silica Fume is used in Fly ash based Self Compacting Concrete it increased the hardened properties of the concrete. Here Silica Fume is used as a partial replacement for Fly ash [11]. Fly ash has lower early strength due to slower pozzolanic reaction rate. Nano Silica which is among one of the available Nano materials can be used along with Fly ash. The presence of Nano Silica can accelerate the reaction rate and fill the voids of Calcium-Silicate-Hydrates [12]. Fly ash along with Wood ash and Superplasticizer Master Glenium SKY B233 an admixture can be used as replacing materials. Wood ash replacement alone adversely affects the strength of the concrete. But when used along with Fly ash it can be beneficial [13]. Alcoffine is a new generation ultra-fine supplementary cementitious material which can used as a cement replacement in SCC. The replacement of Alcoffine when compared with fly ash replacement gives more strength. Because of the high pozzolanic nature of Alcoffine it resulted in production of C-S-H gel helps in formation of compact structure in concrete [14]. Calcium Carbonate does not have pozzolonic property but it has filler effects and Fly ash has pozzolonic property. SCC containing Fly ash and Calcium Carbonate blends satisfy EFNARC standards requirements of Filling ability, Passing ability and resistance to segregation [15]. Oil palm shell along with fly ash can be used as a replacement material in SCC [16].

III. MATERIALS TO BE USED

3.1 CEMENT

A **cement** is a binder, a substance used for construction that sets, hardens, and adheres to other materials to bind them together. Cement is seldom used on its own, but rather to bind sand and

gravel (aggregate) together. Cement mixed with fine aggregate produces mortar for masonry, or with sand and gravel, produces concrete. Concrete is the most widely used material in existence and is only behind water as the planet's most-consumed resource.

3.2 M-SAND

Manufactured is an alternative for river sand. Due to fast growing construction industry, the demand for sand has increased tremendously, causing deficiency of river sand in most part of the world. Due to depletion of good quality river sand for the use of construction, the use of manufactured sand has been increased. Another reason for use of M Sand is its availability and transportation cost.

3.3 COARSE AGGREGATE

Coarse aggregate is mined from rock quarries or dredged from river beds, therefore the size, shape, hardness, texture and many other properties can vary greatly based on location. Even materials coming from the same quarry or pit and type of stone can vary greatly. Most generally, coarse aggregate can be characterized as either smooth or rounded (such as river gravel) or angular (such as crushed stone).

3.4 FLY ASH

Fly ash is a fine powder that is a by product of burning pulverized coal in electric generation power plants. Fly ash is a pozzolan, a substance containing aluminous and siliceous material that forms cement in the presence of water. When mixed with lime and water, fly ash forms a compound similar to Portland cement.

3.5 SILICA FUME

Silica fume is an ultrafine material with spherical particles less than 1 μm in diameter, the average being about 0.15 μm . This makes it approximately 100 times smaller than the average cement particle. The bulk density of silica fume depends on the degree of densification in the silo and varies from 130 (undensified) to 600 kg/m^3 . The specific gravity of silica fume is generally in the range of 2.2 to 2.3.

3.6 SUPERPLASTICIZER

Super Plasticizers (SP's), also known as high range water reducers, are additives used in making high strength concrete. Plasticizers are chemical compounds that enable the production of concrete with approximately 15% less water content. Super plasticizers allow reduction in water content by 30% or more. These additives are

employed at the level of a few weight percent. Plasticizers and super plasticizers retard the curing of concrete.

3.7 VISCOSITY MODIFYING AGENT

VMAs are used to reduce the slump of concrete, essentially performing the opposite of a high range water reducer (superplasticizer). The main function of VMA in a concrete mix is to alter the rheological properties of concrete, especially the plastic viscosity of fresh concrete.

3.8 METAKAOLIN

Metakaolin is the anhydrous calcinated form of the clay mineral kaolinite. Minerals that are rich in kaolinite are known as china clay or kaolin, traditionally used in the manufacture of porcelain. The particle size of metakaolin is smaller than cement particles, but not as fine as silica fume. Considered to have twice the reactivity of most other pozzolans, metakaolin is a valuable admixture for concrete/cement applications.

IV. TESTS TO BE CONDUCTED

Fresh concrete tests such as Slump cone test, L-Box test, V- Funnel test are to be performed. Compressive strength test, Split tensile test and Flexural strength test are also proposed to be conducted. Mix designs are arrived by using IS 10262-2019

V. CONCLUSION

From the above journals it is evident that Self Compacting Concrete plays a vital role in construction industry. The cement is been replaced in order to reduce the environmental degradation. From the above journals many materials such as Alcoffine, Dolomite powder, Granite waste, Oil palm shell are replaced and works are being done.

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