

Experimental Study on Concrete Using Metakaolin and Alccofineas Replacement of Cement

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ABSTRACT

A comparative study on high strength concrete by partial replacement of cement by Metakaolin and Alccofine in different percentages and expecting to achieve more strength than conventional concrete mix of M50. Metakaolin mineral admixture obtained by the calcination of kaolin a clay mineral increases the compressive and flexural strength of concrete upto a limit of 20%. Alccofine is a new generation micro-fine particles size much smaller than other hydraulic materials like cement, silica fume, flyash, GGBS etc. It has the special attributes to enhance the performance of concrete in the fresh stage because of its optimized particle size distribution. Specimens of shapes namely cubes, cylinders and prisms or beams are casted in order to test the compressive strength, split tensile strength and flexural strength of concrete at an interval of 7 days, 14 days and 28 days of curing. It is obtained that the percentage of replacement of cement with 5% Metakaolin and 15% Alccofine gives the better results when compared with other percentages.

KEYWORDS-

Metakaolin, Alccofine, compression strength, Flexural Strength, Pozzolanic material.

I. INTRODUCTION

In construction the word concrete comes from Latin word "Concretus" which means compact or condensed. concrete is the second most used substance in the world after water and it is widely used for construction building material. Concrete is a composite material composed of coarse aggregate, fine aggregate, cement and water.

Concrete is one of the most durable building materials. A cement is a binding material for concrete and mortar. Cement is a substance used for civil engineering construction that sets, hardens and adhere to other materials to bind them together. The impact of cement on the environment is of concern, as the manufacture of cement is responsible for about 2.5% of

global emissions from industrial sources. Although Portland cement demands are decreasing in industrial nations, it is increasing dramatically in developing countries. Cement production is one of the major causes of environmental pollution due to release of large amounts of toxic gases. Portland cement production leads to major CO₂ emissions it causes globally environmental pollution. By reducing the usage of cement, we can control the CO₂ emissions. For this we are replacing the cement by mineral admixtures such as Metakaolin and Alccofine to check the durability and strength of concrete by replacing of cement. Ordinary Portland cement is composed of four basic chemical compounds i.e., tricalcium silicate, dicalcium silicate, tricalcium aluminate and tetra calcium aluminoferrite whereas the OPC is used in the residential, non-residential and infrastructure buildings. OPC is good for house construction whereas in general OPC 53 grade is used for all RCC structures like footing, column, beam and slabs whenever initial and ultimate strength is the major structural requirement.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

1. Aaron Duncan et al.,

“Enhanced Metakaolin reactivity in blended cement with additional calcium hydroxide” in the journal of Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute (MDIP), 2022. For replacement ratio of 20 and 30 weight % metakaolin at increase in calcium hydroxide is observed until the 7th day followed by a decrease during further hydration time. For the samples with replacement ratio of 40% metakaolin the reduction of CH already starts at a first day.

2. Ram Chandar Karra et al.,

“Experimental and Statistical Evaluations of Strength Properties of Concrete with Iron Ore Tailings as Fine Aggregate” in the journal of American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), 2022. Alccofine was used as a partial replacement for cement by 10% consistently for all concrete mix with the partial replacement of fine aggregates with IOT. The workability of concrete decreased with increase in alccofine replacement. This might be due to the high surface area of the IOT aggregates, therefore increasing the demand of water content with the reference varying water to cement ratio the workability of concrete increases with reference to the control concrete.

3. Mandala Sheshu Kumar et al.,

“Investigation of the Strength and Durability of Partially Replacing Cement with GGBS and Alccofine” in the journal of International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology (IJIRSET), 2021. Alccofine was used as a partial cement replacement, resulting in high early strength. Compared to all other blends, Concrete of M60 grade with 15% and Compressive, split tensile, and flexural strength was higher in alccofine and 30% GGBS.

4. Ajay Sharma et al.,

“Durability study of Conventional Alccofine Concrete with utilization of Pond ash as the Partial Replacement of Fine Aggregate” in the journal of International Journal for Scientific Research & Development, 2021. The M-40 grade of concrete with pond ash as a replacement of fine aggregate using different percentages of Alccofine. M 40 grade achieved 5% of strength by Alccofine at 28 days. that the maximum compressive strength is 44.46 (N/mm²) after 28 days of curing.

5. M Thomas et al.,

“Experimental study on effects on properties of concrete with partially replacement of cement by metakaolin” in the journal of International Journal of civil engineering and technology IJCIT, 2020. They observed that flexural strength of different concrete mixes, increases at all stages in comparison of the control mix. At 10% replacement of metakaolin strength observed to be maximum and after strength is decreasing at 28 days maximum Flexural strength of M20 & M25 grade of concrete is 4.4 N/mm² and 4.9 N/mm².

6. Devachan Letal.,

“The review of engineering properties of metal-based concrete towards combatting chloride attack in coastal and marine structures” in the journal of OA journal advances in civil engineering, 2020. This study explores that mechanical properties compressive and flexural strength improved as the MK content increased. The optimum MK replacement content was determined to fall between 5 and 15%, with a notable reduction in the concrete strength provides properties beyond this replacement level.

7. G Kiran Kumar et al.,

“Strength of concrete with RHA and metakaolin” in the journal of International research journal of engineering and technology, 2019. By replacing MK by 10% level of OPC get that maximum compressive strength compared to other replacement levels. These concretes have 6.14% split tensile strength of their compressive strength that 28 days' time and show the highest values at 10% replacement.

8. Giovanna Palumbo et al.,

“Fiber Bragg Grating Sensors for Real Time Monitoring of Early Age Curing and Shrinkage of Different Metakaolin Based Inorganic Binders” in the journal of IEEE Sensors Journal, 2019 under the topic of Fiber Bragg Grating Sensors for Real Time Monitoring of Early Age Curing and Shrinkage of Different Metakaolin-Based Inorganic Binders. The proposed system allows for controlling the rheology of the binding systems made by metakaolin in the early-age behavior recorded by metakaolin-geopolymer, which represents an important suitable alternative to traditional cementitious matrix composites especially for their minor environmental impact metakaolin-geopolymer.

III. MATERIALS USED.

1. METAKAOLIN

Metakaolin (Meta + kaolin) is an admixture used as a partial replacement of cement in High strength concrete (HSC). It is the anhydrous calcined form of the clay mineral kaolinite. A concrete is said to be high strength if it attains the compressive strength of more than 40Mpa. Metakaolin is prepared by calcination of kaolin it is a clay mineral at a temperature of 650-800°C for 30-60 minutes and completely evaporating its bound water. The particle size of metakaolin is smaller than cement particles, but not as fine as silica fume. The average size of metakaolin is below 2micron. Metakaolin has a pozzolanic properties. Chemical formula for metakaolin is $Al_2O_3 \cdot 2SiO_2 \cdot 2H_2O$. It reacts with calcium hydroxide one of the byproducts of hydration reaction of

cement and results in additional C-S-H gel which results in increased strength. Metakaolin is in powder form and is generally white or grey in color. It has the chemical composition of silica (54%), Alumina (38.3%), Ferric oxide (4.28%), Calcium oxide (0.39%), Magnesium oxide (0.08%), Sodium oxide (0.12%) and potassium oxide (0.5%). The use of metakaolin in high performance concrete increases the compressive strength and flexure strength. It reduces the efflorescence in concrete. It reduces the size of pores in cement paste by transforming finer particles into discontinuous pores. When cement is partially reacted with metakaolin it reacts with calcium hydroxide and results in extra C-S-H gel. Use of 15% metakaolin increases the workability. It is economical in the aspects of Durability



Figure 1: Metakaolin

The advantages of metakaolin in high strength concrete areas follows

- Reduces the heat of hydration leading to shrinkage and crack control.
- Ecofriendly by reducing amount of CO₂ emission.
- Increases the compressive strength of concrete up to 20%.
- Accelerates the initial setting time of concrete.
- Strength of durability of concrete increases.

The metakaolin has its various applications in the construction areas follows

- High rise buildings.
- Nuclear power stations.
- Mass concreting.
- Dams and Bridges.

2. ALCCOFINE

The mineral admixture **Alccofine** is a new generation micro-fine particle size much smaller than other hydraulic materials like cement, silica fume, fly ash, GGBS etc. For high strength, Alccofine is a new generation microfine concrete material and which is important in respect of workability as well as strength. Also, Alccofine is easy to use and it can be added directly with cement. The ultrafine particle of Alccofine provides better and smooth surface finish. It has the special attributes to enhance the performance of concrete in the fresh stage because of its optimized particle size distribution. Alccofine is produced in completely controlled conditions with special type of instruments to manufacture optimizing particle size distribution which is its unique property. It also improves the rate of strength obtained in concrete mixes with high pozzolanic material content

like flyash, GGBS, etc. Alccofine 1203 and alccofine 1101 are two types of alccofine with low calcium silicate and high calcium silicate respectively. Alccofine 1200 series is of 1201, 1202, 1203 which represents fine, micro fine,

ultrafine particle size respectively. Alccofine 1201 is an alccofine with high calcium silicate. Alccofine-1203 is an eco-friendly and low calcium silicate-based microfine material that consists of a high amount of glass content with high reactivity



Figure:2 Alccofine

Alccofine-1203 is a highly processed material obtained from GGBS, the waste material generated from the iron ore industries in India. Alccofine-1203 is a fine powder. Due to the controlled granulation.

The performance of alccofine is superior to all other admixtures used in India. Due to its fineness of alccofine 1203 it gives reduced water demand for the workability of concrete even up to 70% substitution level as per requirement.



Fig3 Alccofine-1203

The advantages of alccofine are

- Improves durability parameters of concrete by refined pore structures and reduces permeability of concrete.
- Improves the rate of strength obtained in concrete mixes with high pozzolanic material contents like flyash, GGBS (Ground Granulated Blast-Furnace Slag).

IV. DESIGN

1. MIXPROPORTIONBYREPLACEMENTOFMETAKAOLIN5%ANDALCCOFINE15%

Qualityofcement	396kg/m ³
Qualityoffineaggregate	626kg/m ³
Qualityofcoarseaggregate	1124kg/m ³
Qualityofwater	187kg/m ³
QuantityofMetakaolin	24.75kg/m ³
QuantityofAlccofine	74.25kg/m ³
W/Cratio	0.37
Mixratio	1:1.58:2.84

2. MIXPROPORTIONBYREPLACEMENTOFMETAKAOLIN10%ANDALCCOFINE 10%

Qualityofcement	396kg/m ³
Qualityoffineaggregate	616kg/m ³
Qualityofcoarseaggregate	1105kg/m ³
Qualityofwater	186kg/m ³
QuantityofMetakaolin	49.5kg/m ³
QuantityofAlccofine	49.5kg/m ³
W/Cratio	0.37
Mixratio	1:1.55:2.79

3. MIXPROPORTIONBYREPLACEMENTOFMETAKAOLIN15%ANDALCCOFINE5%

Qualityofcement	396kg/m ³
Qualityoffineaggregate	615kg/m ³
Qualityofcoarseaggregate	1104kg/m ³
Qualityofwater	188kg/m ³
QuantityofMetakaolin	74.25kg/m ³

Quantity of Alccofine	24.75kg/m ³
W/Cratio	0.37
Mixratio	1:1.55:2.79

V. RESULT AND ANALYSIS

COMPRESSIVESTRENGTH



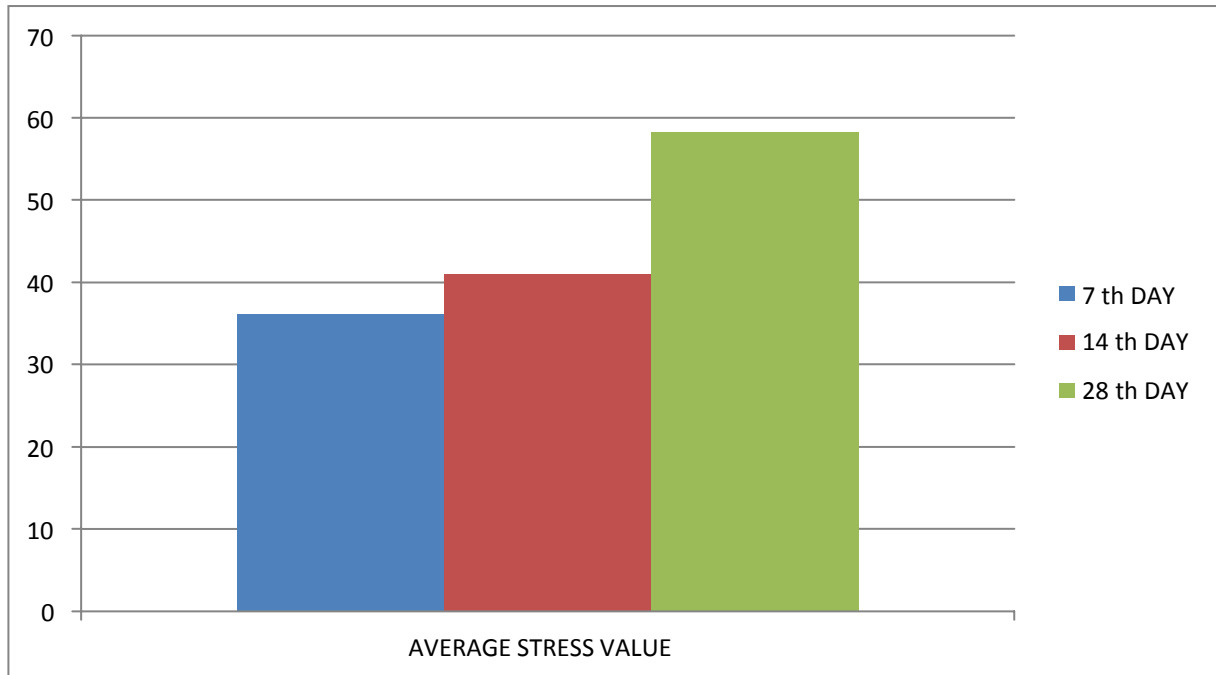
Figure3:CompressionTest

- The cubes were casted for size 150bmm × 150 mm × 150 mm with the help of calculated mix design for M50 grade concrete. After the curing period the tests were taken for 7th day, 14th day and 28th day. The compressive strength is determined by using the formula
- STRESS=P/A**
Where P=load A=area of the casted cubes

COMPRESSIONSTRENGTHRESULTSOFCONVENTIONALCONCRETE

DAYS	TRIALS	LOAD,kN	STRESS	AVERAGE
7 th DAY	TRIAL1	805	35.78	36.13N/mm ²
	TRIAL2	821	36.49	
	TRIAL3	813	36.13	
14 th DAY	TRIAL1	932	41.43	40.98N/mm ²
	TRIAL2	910	40.44	
	TRIAL3	924	41.07	
28 th DAY	TRIAL1	1308	58.13	58.21N/mm ²
	TRIAL2	1309	58.18	

	TRIAL3	1312	58.31
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SPLITTENSILESTRENGTH

i. The cylinder was casted and tests are taken for 7th day, 14th day and 28th day by using the formula

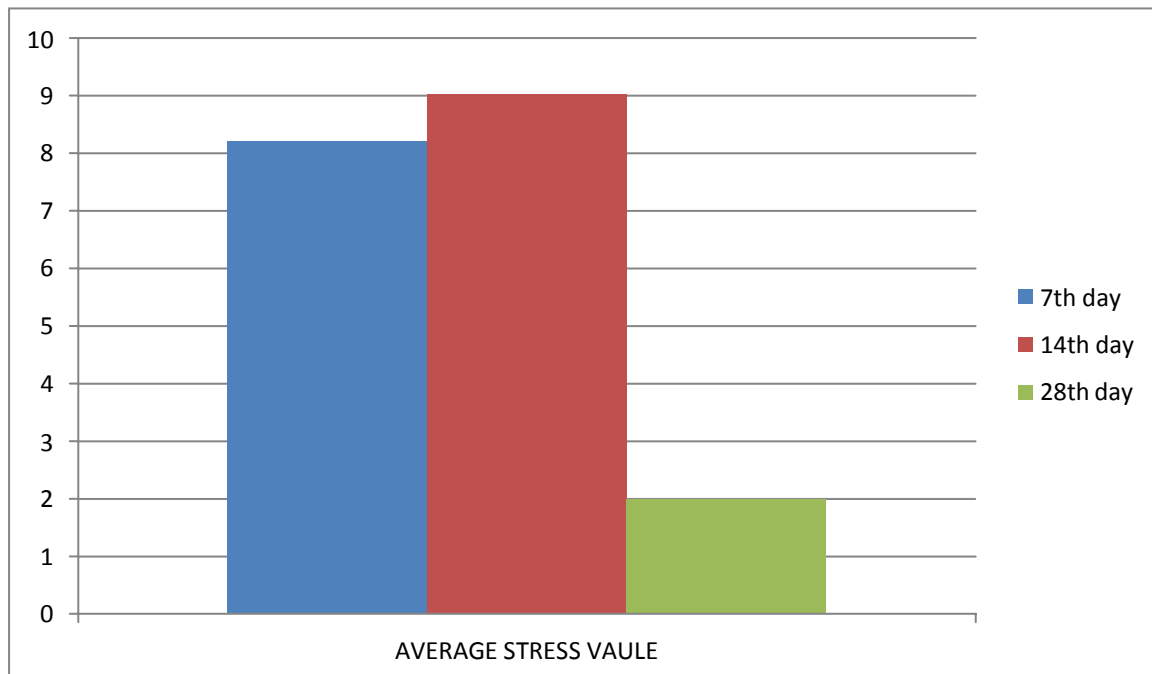
ii. $Stress = \frac{2P}{\pi l D}$

where, P=Load L=Length of the cylinder D=Diameter of the cylinder



Split Tensile Strength Values for Conventional Concrete

DAYS	TRIALS	LOAD,kN	STRESS	AVERAGE
7 th DAY	TRIAL1	152	8.6	8.20N/mm ²
	TRIAL2	140	7.92	
	TRIAL3	143	8.09	
14 th DAY	TRIAL1	168	9.51	9.02N/mm ²
	TRIAL2	157	8.88	
	TRIAL3	153	8.66	
28 th DAY	TRIAL1	181	10.24	9.96N/mm ²
	TRIAL2	176	9.96	
	TRIAL3	171	9.68	



FLEXURAL STRENGTH

The beam was casted and it is tested for 7th day, 14th day and 28th day. In order to calculate the flexural strength, the following formula is used.

$$\text{STRESS} = P / bd^2$$

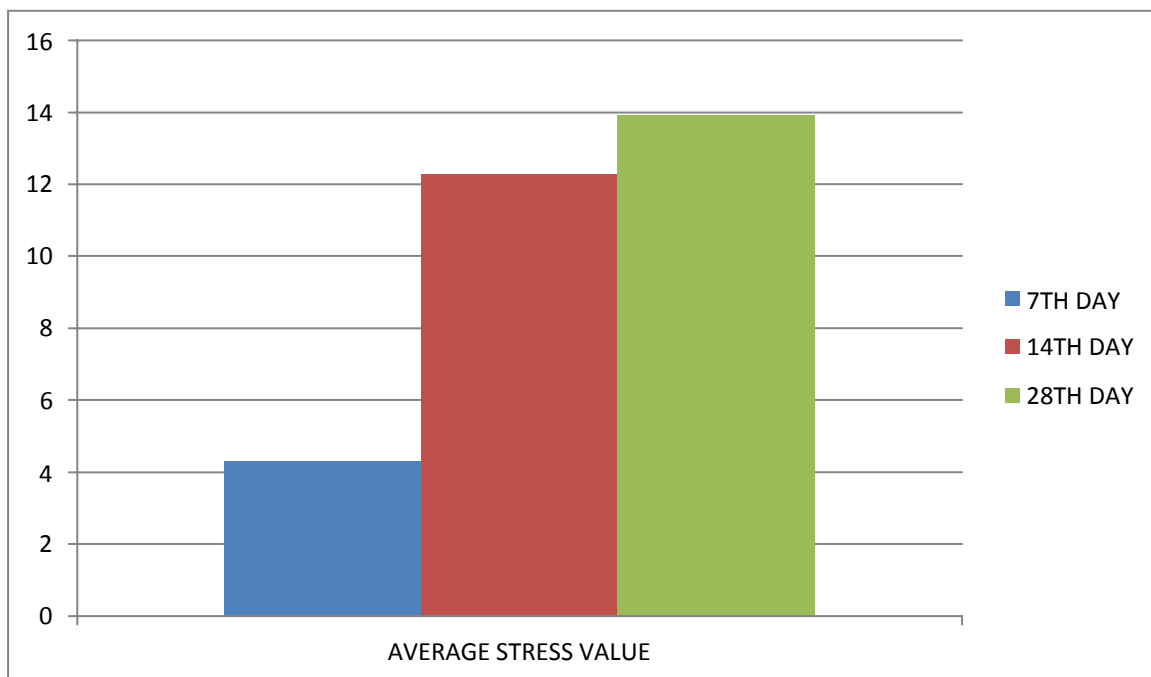
Where, P = Load

l = Length of the beam or prism
 b = Breadth of beam or prism

d = Depth or Height of the beam or prism

Flexural Strength Values for Conventional Concrete

DAYS	TRIALS	LOAD, kN	STRESS	AVERAGE
7 th DAY	TRIAL1	26	10.4	10.4N/mm ²
	TRIAL2	25	10	
	TRIAL3	27	10.8	
14 th DAY	TRIAL1	30	12	12.27N/mm ²
	TRIAL2	31	12.4	
	TRIAL3	31	12.4	
28 th DAY	TRIAL1	35	14	13.9N/mm ²
	TRIAL2	34	13.6	
	TRIAL3	35	14	



VI. CONCLUSION

This investigation was conducted to evaluate the performance of concrete containing different percentages of 5%, 10% and 15% of Metakaolin and Alccofine as partial replacement of cement. The compressive strength, split tensile strength and flexural strength test were conducted on the

materials of concrete and the reports were given for different percentages. From the test results taken for 7th day, 14th day and 28th day of Compressive strength, split tensile strength, Flexural strength of concrete for various percentages (5%, 10% and 15%) of Metakaolin and Alccofine the maximum strength attains at the replacement of

5% Metakaolin and 15% Alccofine and it was found to be appropriate, economical and gives the best result for the future use.

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