

EXPERIMENTAL STUDY ON PERFORMANCE COMPARING OF FERRO CEMENT AND GEOPOLYMER OF STEEL MESH

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Abstract: *Cement is most important component in construction field. Cement has various uses and provides strength to the construction. But recently cement has become most expensive component of concrete and also releases CO₂ in atmosphere. Emission of CO₂ is a serious factor for the environment which increases the global temperature and leads to climatic change. The reason for climatic changes is not only global warming but also global dimming due to the pollution in the atmosphere. This effect is due to the decreasing in the content of sunlight reached to the surface of earth. From this aspect, the global warming become a serious issue and need to reduce the effect. The carbon dioxide emitted from cement causes global warming. Apart from the environmental friendly nature, Ordinary Portland cement binder offers early strength and resistance against sulphate and acid attacks. Researchers developed amorphous to 3-dimensional silico-aluminate which is called as geo polymer. This is a new polymer in which cement is replaced by an activated and low calcium fly ash by alkaline solutions. So, we need to make concrete more environmental friendly with the help of other cementitious or industrial materials such as fly ash. Geo polymer is the recent development in the mortar world. Here we replace with fly ash and cement is activated by alkaline solutions which act as a binder in the concrete mixture. Various investigations are carried out to examine the compressive strength and split tensile strength of geo polymer and Ferro cement mortar and their relationship by increasing volume in percentage and specific surface of steel mesh. In the experimental work, we maintained the ratio of activated liquid to fly ash is 0.60 by mass. The values of SiO₂, H₂O, sodium silicate solution with Na₂O and sodium hydroxide solution were maintained throughout the experiment . In this experiment we use cylinders of geo polymer mortar with dimensions of 150x300mm. These cylinders are casted and placed at 900C for the duration of 8 hours. The result shows that the effect of different volume fraction percentage of steel mesh on split tensile strength and compressive strength of geo polymer mortar and Ferro cement. Following values of percentages of sodium silicate solution with other solutions are 16.36%, 34.36%, 49.28% of Na₂O, SiO₂ and H₂O respectively. These values must be constant throughout the experiment. In this experiment, we evaluate the compressive strength, split tensile strength, comparison of geo polymer mortar and Ferro cement.*

Key words: *Concrete mix, Compressive Strength, Split tensile Strength .*

I. INTRODUCTION

The behavior of geo polymer mortar is almost similar to the ordinary Portland cement mortar. The combination of potassium hydroxide or sodium hydroxide and potassium silicate or sodium silicate produces alkaline liquid which is used in geo polymerization. Researchers examined that when samples are immersed in 5% of hydrochloric acid and sulphuric acid solution geo polymer has low mass loss. In this experiment the result shows that the effect of different volume fraction percentage of steel mesh on split tensile strength and compressive strength of geo polymer mortar and Ferro cement. Geo-polymers are a type of inorganic polymer that can be formed at room temperature by using industrial waste or by-products as source materials to form a solid binder that looks like and performs a similar function to OPC. Geo-polymer binder can be used in applications to fully or partially replace OPC with environmental and technical benefits, including an 80 - 90% reduction in CO₂ emissions and improved resistance to fire and aggressive chemicals. Geo polymer cement is made from aluminum and silicon, instead of calcium and silicon. The sources of aluminum in nature are not present as carbonates and therefore, when made active for use as cement, do not release vast quantities of CO₂. The most readily available raw materials containing aluminum and silicon are fly ash and slag – these are the -materials that Zeo bond uses to create its low carbon emission binder. The main process difference between OPC and geo polymer cement is that OPC relies on a high-energy manufacturing process that imparts high potential energy to the material via calcinations. This means the activated material will react readily with a low energy material such as water. On the other hand, geo polymer cement uses very low energy materials, like fly ashes, slag and other industrial wastes and a small amount of high chemical energy materials (alkali hydroxides) to bring about reaction only at the surfaces of particles to act as glue. This approach allows the use of measured amounts of chemicals to tailor the product to specification, rather than using an amount of very high-energy material required for OPC, regardless of whether the material is used to build strength (such as the inside of particles). This approach results in a very large energy saving in the production of geo polymer cement. The properties of geo polymer cement, when used to make concrete, have been repeatedly and independently shown to be equivalent to other cements in terms of the structural qualities of the resulting concrete. Indeed, the fire resistance of has been tested to be well in excess of double that of traditional concrete. This is a highly significant

technical benefit and will drive wide scale adoption in high-rise construction in the near term, including in some government department buildings.

II. MATERIALS AND THEIR PROPERTIES

Raw materials required for the concrete use in the present work are :

- Cement
- Fine Aggregate
- Water
- Admixture
- Mortar Mix
- Reinforcing mesh
- Skeletal Steel

Cement :

| S. No | Property | Test results |
|-------|----------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Normal consistency | 28% |
| 2 | Specific gravity | 3.10 |
| 3 | Initial setting time | 92 minutes |
| 4 | Final setting time | 195 minutes |

Table 2.1 Cement properties

Fine Aggregate :

| S. No | Property | Value |
|-------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Specific gravity | 3.08 |
| 2 | Fineness modulus | 2.28 |
| 3 | Bulk density: | |
| | Loose | 14kN/m ³ |
| | Compacted | 15kN/m ³ |
| 4 | Grading | Zone-II |

Table 2.2 Fine aggregate properties

Sieve analysis

| Sieve size | Retained | % retained | Cumulative % retained | %passed |
|------------|----------|------------|-----------------------|---------|
| 4.75 | ----- | ----- | ----- | 100 |
| 2.36 | 6.5 | 0.65 | 0.65 | 99.3 |
| 1.18 | 80.5 | 8.05 | 8.7 | 91.3 |
| 600 | 149 | 14.9 | 23.6 | 76.4 |
| 300 | 733 | 73.3 | 96.9 | 3.1 |
| 150 | 15 | 1.5 | 98.4 | 1.6 |
| Pan | 16 | 1.6 | 100 | 0 |

Fineness Modulus =2.2

Table 2.3 Sieve analysis

Steel mesh:

For the experiment we use steel mesh with the measurements of diameter 0.15 cm and spacing of 1.5cm with yield strength of 40600 N/cm² and tensile strength of 51200 N/cm² as reinforcement.

| Percentage of steel | Specific Surface area (mm ²) | Weight of required steel (gm) | Size of steel mesh (mm X mm) |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 0.5 | 1.32 | 209 | 280 X 384 |
| 1 | 2.68 | 414 | 280 X 765 |
| 1.5 | 4.05 | 625 | 280 X 1150 |
| 2 | 5.32 | 833 | 280 X 1530 |

Table 2.4 percentage of steel

III. PREPARATION OF SPECIMENS

Mixing :

The fly ash is mixed with sand which is graded by using sieve analysis in a bowl .The bowl is taken with the capacity of 6 kg. Mix the content until the homogeneous mix was obtained in the bowl by using trowel as shown in the figure above. Take a steel plate and spread the dry mix in thick layer. The prepared solution is added to the mix and thoroughly mixed. It was viscous, dark in color and cohesive. The behavior of fresh mortar is depends on the amount of water in the mixture. This homogeneous mix was checked for workability by flow table apparatus.

Casting :

Take 48 samples of cylinders are casted and the dimensions of the moulds are 150x300mm. The sample is casted in 3 layers with 0.50 %,1.0%,1.50% and 2.0% steel mesh. Another 12 samples of cylinders are casted without steel mesh. Depends on the volume fraction percentage, steel mesh is placed in cylindrical form in the mould.



Figure 3.1 Steel reinforcement

IV. TEST RESULTS

Compressive strength:

The compressive strength of a material is that value of uni-axial compressive stress reached when the material fails completely. The compressive strengths of concrete has been evaluated by testing cubes of size 15cm*15cm*15cm. The compressive strength is determined by the ratio of failure load to the cross sectional area of the specimen..

Surface of Reinforcement :

The specific surface of reinforcement is defined as the ratio of total surface areas of reinforcement and the volume of composite.

| S.No | Percentage of steel | Ferro Cement Mortar | |
|------|---------------------|---|---|
| | | Average compressive strength (N/cm ²) | Average split tensile strength (N/cm ²) |
| 1 | 0 | 2172 | 154 |
| 2 | 0.5 | 2342 | 183 |
| 3 | 1.0 | 2648 | 281 |
| 4 | 1.5 | 2759 | 309 |
| 5 | 2.0 | 2781 | 327 |

Table 4.1 Strengths for Ferro Cement Mortar

| S.No | Percentage of steel | Geo polymer Mortar | |
|------|---------------------|---|---|
| | | Average compressive strength (N/cm ²) | Average split tensile strength (N/cm ²) |
| 1 | 0 | 2459 | 254 |
| 2 | 0.5 | 2893 | 297 |
| 3 | 1.0 | 3342 | 473 |
| 4 | 1.5 | 3631 | 540 |
| 5 | 2.0 | 3912 | 559 |

Table 4.2: Strengths for Geo polymer Mortar

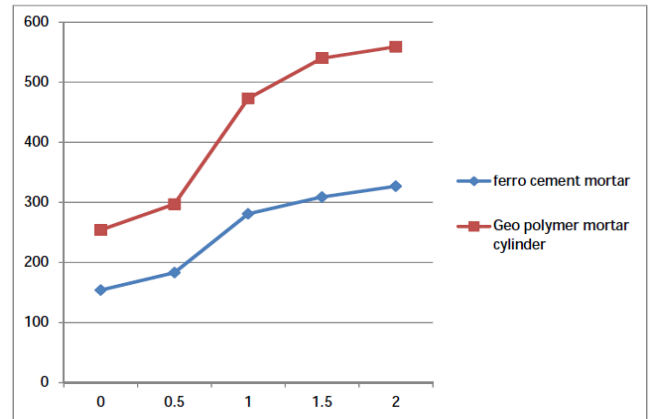


Figure 4.4: Comparison between split tensile strengths

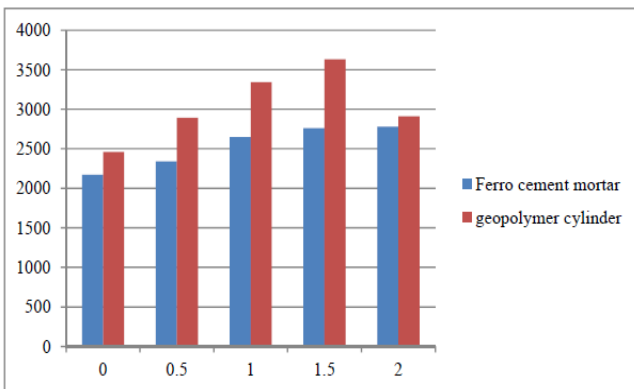


Figure 4.1: Comparison between compressive strengths

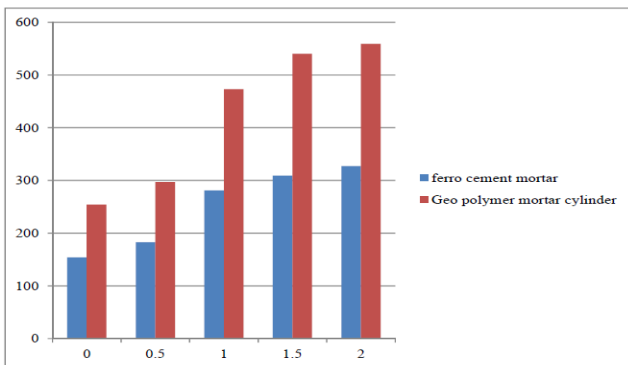


Figure 4.2: Comparison between split tensile strengths

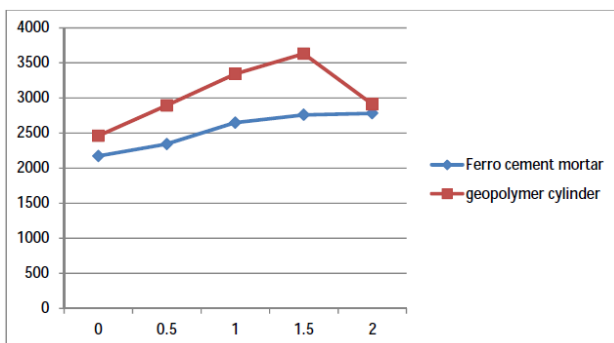


Figure 4.3: Comparison between compressive strengths

V. CONCLUSION

From this thesis experiment, we can consider the following conclusions

With the increase of percentage of volume fraction of steel mesh, the compressive and split tensile strength increases. When we use 0.5% steel mesh, it provides more split tensile strength and compressive strength. When we double the percentage of volume fraction of mesh with same size by 100% of specimen with specific surface and there is an increase of 27% in compressive strength and 200% of increase in specific surface and there is an increase of 33%. Additional increase of 300%, corresponding tensile strength of geo polymer mortar by 42% than Ferro cement mortar.

There is an increase of split tensile strength of 27%, when we doubles the volume fraction of same size of mesh of specimen increased by 100%. Further increase of specific surface up to 200% improves compressive strength by 32%. Additionally increase by 300% i.e. using 2%, corresponding tensile strength of geo polymer mortar by 71% than Ferro cement mortar. Volume of different percentages may also influence the specific surface. Here specific surface is increased by the multiple of percentages of wire mesh. geo polymer mortar produces binder material by using industrial waste in concrete.

So it can be considered as an eco-friendly material and provides high strength more than Ferro cement mortar. There are too many environmental issues linked with the manufacturing of ordinary Portland cement and reason for some of the emission of CO₂ therefore there must be a substitute for ordinary Portland cement. To make a good alternative to ordinary Portland cement, reduce the emission of carbon dioxide from geo polymer mortar.

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