

OPTIMIZATION OF PERCENTAGES OF STEEL AND GLASS FIBER REINFORCED CONCRETE

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Abstract

Cementitious matrices are the fragile materials that possess a low tensile strength. The addition of fibers randomly distributed in these matrices improves their resistance to cracking, substantially. However, the incorporation of fibers into a plain concrete disrupts the granular skeleton and quickly causes problems of mixing as a result of the loss of mixture workability that will be translated into a difficult concrete casting in site. This study was concerned on the one hand with optimizing the fibers reinforced concrete mixes in the fresh state, and on the other hand with assessing the mechanical behaviour of this mixture in the hardened state, in order to establish a compromise between the two states. In this paper optimization of fibers by using different percentages in steel and glass fiber reinforced concrete of grade M 70 have been studied. It optimizes 1.5% for steel Fiber content and 1% for glass fiber content by the volume of cement is used in concrete.

Keywords: fibers, fragile materials, cracking, substantially

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1. INTRODUCTION

Fibre reinforced concrete (FRC) is Portland cement concrete reinforced with more or less randomly distributed fibres. In FRC, thousands of small fibres are dispersed and distributed randomly in the concrete during mixing, and thus improve concrete properties in all directions. FRC is cement- based composite material that has been developed in recent years. It has been successfully used in construction with its excellent flexural-tensile strength, resistance to spitting, impact resistance and excellent permeability and frost resistance. It is an effective way to increase toughness, shock resistance and resistance to plastic shrinkage cracking of the mortar. Fibre is a small piece of reinforcing material possessing certain characteristics properties. They can be circular, triangular or flat in cross-section. The fibre is often described by a convenient parameter called —aspect ratio. The aspect ratio of the fibre is the ratio of its length to its diameter. The principle reason for incorporating fibres into a cement matrix is to increase the toughness and tensile strength and improve the cracking deformation characteristics of the resultant composite. For FRC to be a viable construction material, it must be able to compete economically with existing reinforcing system. FRC composite properties, such as crack resistance, reinforcement and increase in toughness are dependent on the mechanical properties of the fibre, bonding properties of the fibre and matrix, as well as the quantity and distribution within the matrix of the fibres

2 TYPES OF FIBERS

2.1 Steel Fiber Reinforced Concrete

Steel fibre reinforced concrete is a composite material which is made up from cement concrete mix and steel fibres as a reinforcing. The steel fibres, which are uniformly distributed in the cementations mix. This mix, have various volume fractions, geometries, orientations and material properties. It has been shown in the research that fibres with low volume fractions (<1%), in fibre reinforced concrete, have an insignificant effect on both the compressive and tensile strength. Generally SFRC is very ductile and particularly well suited for structures which are required to exhibit:-

- High fatigue strength resistance to impact, blast and shock loads
- Shrinkage control of concrete
- Tensile strength, very high flexural, shear
- Erosion and abrasion resistance to splitting
- Temperature resistance, high thermal
- Earth quake resistance

The degree of improvement gained in any specific property exhibited by SFRC is dependent on a number of factors that include:-

- Concrete mix and its age
- Steel fiber content, volume fraction
- Fiber geometry, its aspect ratio (length to diameter ratio) and bond characteristics volume fraction

2.2 Glass Fiber Reinforced Concrete

Glass fibre-reinforced concrete is (GFRC) basically a concrete composition which is composed of material like cement, sand, water, and admixtures, in which short length

discrete glass fibers are dispersed. Inclusion of these fibres in these composite results in improved tensile strength and impact strength of the material. GFRC has been used for a period of 30 years in several construction elements but at that time it was not so popular, mainly in non-structural ones, like facing panels (about 80% of the GRC production), used in piping for sanitation network systems, decorative non-recoverable formwork, and other products. At the beginning age of the GFRC development, one of the most considerable problems was the durability of the glass fiber, which becomes more brittle with time, due to the alkalinity of the cement mortar. After some research, significant improvement have been made, and presently, the problem is practically solved with the new types of alkali-resistant (AR resistance) glass fibers and with mortar additives that prevent the processes that lead to the embrittlement of GFRC.

3. MIX RATIO

Mix design using 12.5 mm size graded aggregates:
 Characteristic strength = 70 MPa.
 Target mean strength = $70 + 1.65 \times 6 = 80$ Mpa.
 Maximum size of graded aggregate = 12.5 mm
 Bulk density of loose coarse aggregate = 1494 kg/m³
 Bulk density of loose fine aggregate = 1460 kg/m³
 Volume of fine/coarse aggregate ratio = 52/48
 Volume ratio of fine aggregates to total aggregates (s/a) = 52/100

Determination of Coarse aggregate:
 Assume P.F = 1.12

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Amount of coarse aggregate, } W_g &= P.F \times W_{gL} (1-s/a) \\ &= 1.12 \times 1494 \times (1-0.52) \\ &= 803.17 \text{ kg/m}^3 \end{aligned}$$

Determination of fine aggregate:
 Amount of fine aggregates, $W_s = P.F \times W_{sL} (s/a)$
 $= 1.12 \times 1460 \times (0.52)$
 $= 850.3 \text{ kg/m}^3$

Determination of cement:
 $C = f_c / 20$
 Given 0.14 Mpa = 20 psi
 Hence $C = 80 / 0.14 = 571.42 \text{ kg/m}^3$

Determination of water:
 Water/cement ratio for 26.6 Mpa = 0.25
 Hence quantity of water required = $571.42 \times 0.25 = 142.85 \text{ kg/m}^3$

Determination of fly ash:
 $V_{pf} + V_{pb} = 1 - W_g / (1000 \times G_g) - W_s / (1000 \times G_f) - C / (1000 \times G_c) - W_{wc} / (1000 \times G_w) - V_a$
 $= 1 - 803.17 / (1000 \times 2.92) - 850.3 / (1000 \times 2.63) - 571.42 / (1000 \times 3.10) - 142.85 / (1000 \times 1) - 0.015$
 $= 0.02 \text{ kg/m}^3$

Total weight of Pozzolanic material (W_{pm}):
 $V_{pf} + V_{pb} = (1 + W/F) \times A\% \times W_{pm} / (1000 \times G_f)$
 $W_{pm} = (V_{pf} + V_{pb}) \times (1000 \times G_f) / ((1 + W/F) \times A\%)$
 $= 0.02 \times (1000 \times 2.19) / (1 + 0.25)$
 $= 35.46 \text{ kg/m}^3$

Determination water required for fly ash (W_{wf}):
 $W_{wf} = W/F \times W_{pm}$
 $= 0.25 \times 35.46 = 8.86 \text{ kg/m}^3$
 Determination of S.P dosage (W_{sp}):
 S.P dosage = 1.8% of $(571.42 + 35.46) = 10.92 \text{ kg/m}^3$
 Water content in S.P = $(1 - 0.4) \times 10.92 = 6.55 \text{ kg/m}^3$
 Total water content = $142.85 + 8.86 - 6.55 = 145.16 \text{ kg/m}^3$
 Water binder ratio (W/B) = $145.16 / (571.42 + 35.46) = 0.239$.

Table 1: mix proportions

	Cement	Fine aggregate	Coarse aggregate	Fly ash	sp	Water w/b
Quantity (kg/m ³)	571.42	850.43	803.17	35.46	10.92	145.16
Proportions	1	1.48	1.40	0.062	0.019	0.239

4. OPTIMIZATION

From a material and structural point of view, there is a delicate balance in optimizing the bond between the fiber and the matrix. If the fibers have a weak bond with the matrix, they can slip out at low loads and do not contribute very much to bridge the cracks. In this situation, the fibers do not increase the toughness of the system. If the bond with the matrix is too strong, many of the fibers may break before they dissipate energy by sliding out. In this case, the fibers behave as non-active inclusions leading to only marginal improvement in the mechanical properties.

4.1 Steel Fiber Optimization

Different percentages of steel fibers are used in concrete of grade m70 like 0.5%, 1%, 1.5%, 2%

Table 2: optimization of steel fibers by using different fibers

Percentage of steel fibers	3 rd compressive strength (N/mm ²)	7 th compressive strength (N/mm ²)	28 th compressive strength (N/mm ²)
0.5	26	44	67
1	27	45	69
1.5	31	48	74
2	25	46	71

4.2 Glass fiber optimization

Different percentages of glass fibers are used in concrete of grade m70 like 0.5%, 1%, 1.5%, 2%

Table 3: Optimization Of Glass Fibers By Using Different Fibers

Percentage of steel fibers	3 rd compressive strength (N/mm ²)	7 th compressive strength (N/mm ²)	28 th compressive strength (N/mm ²)
0.5	25	42.5	68
1	29	47	72
1.5	27	44	69
2	25	43	67

5. RESULTS & DISCUSSIONS

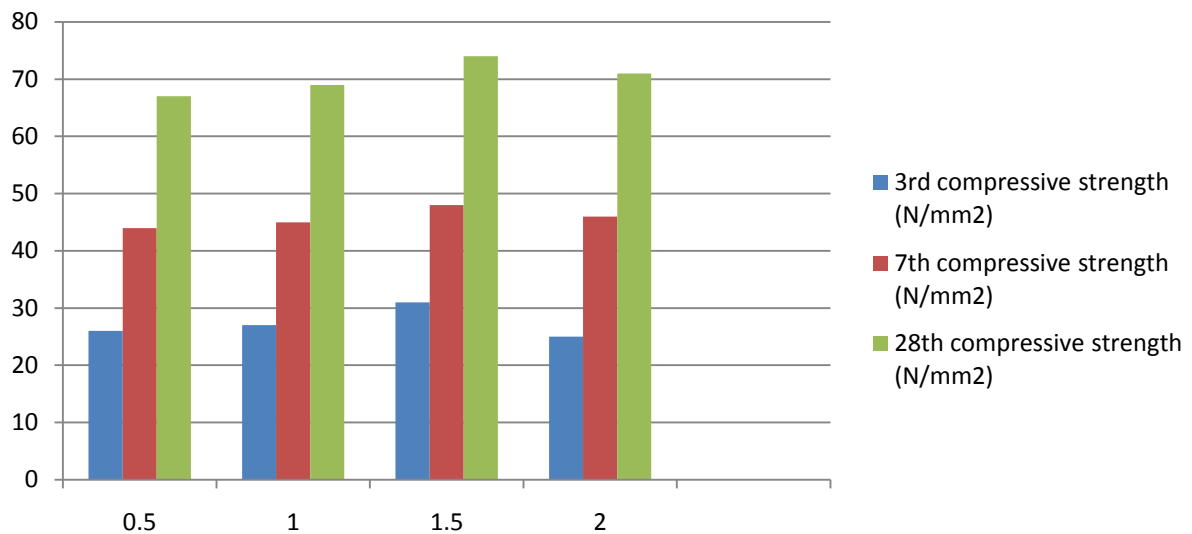


Chart 1: Comparison Of Compressive Strength Different Percentages of Steel Fiber Reinforced Concrete

In the above graph comparison of compressive strength of different percentage of steel fibers added to optimize the grade m70 concrete . The compressive strength of 0.5 % of at 3 days is 26 N/mm2, 7 days is 44 N/mm2 and 28 days is 67 N/mm2 and The compressive strength of 1 % of at 3 days

is 27 N/mm2, 7 days is 45 N/mm2 and 28 days is 69 N/mm2, The compressive strength of 1.5% of at 3 days is 31 N/mm2, 7 days is 48 N/mm2 and 28 days is 74 N/mm2, The compressive strength of 2 % of at 3 days is 25 N/mm2, 7 days is 46 N/mm2 and 28 days is 71 N/mm2.

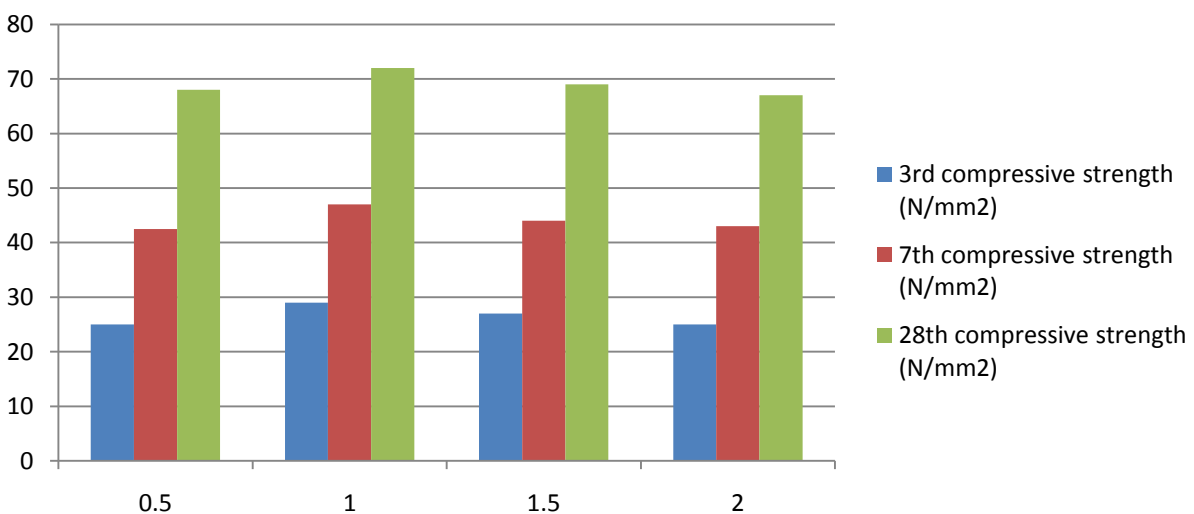


Chart 2: Comparison Of Compressive Strength Different Percentage of Glass Fiber Reinforced Concrete

In the above graph comparison of compressive strength of different percentage of glass fibers added to optimize the grade m70 concrete . The compressive strength of 0.5 % of at 3 days is 25 N/mm², 7 days is 42 N/mm² and 28 days is 68 N/mm² and The compressive strength of 1 % of at 3 days is 29 N/mm², 7 days is 47 N/mm² and 28 days is 72 N/mm², The compressive strength of 1.5% of at 3 days is 27 N/mm², 7 days is 44 N/mm² and 28 days is 69N/mm², The compressive strength of 2 % of at 3 days is 25 N/mm², 7 days is 43 N/mm² and 28 days is 67 N/mm².

RESULTS

From the above results and comparison following point are observed:

- The compressive strength of steel fiber reinforced concrete of grade M70 by using 0.5% at 28 days is 67 N/mm², by using 1% at 28 days is 69 N/mm², by using 1.5% at 28 days is 74N/mm², by using 2% at 28 days is 71N/mm². When compared to all percentages steel fibers optimizes 1.5 %.
- The compressive strength of glass fiber reinforced concrete of grade M70 by using 0.5% at 28 days is 68 N/mm², by using 1% at 28 days is 72 N/mm², by using 1.5% at 28 days is 69N/mm², by using 2% at 28 days is 67N/mm². When compared to all percentages steel fibers optimizes 1%.

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