



9th INDES 2020
LIMITLESS MIND:
EMPOWERING INNOVATION THROUGH VISUALIZATION



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The 9th International Innovation, Invention
& Design Competition
INDES2020

17th May – 10th October 2020

SUSTAINABLE CONCRETE WITH ADDITIONS OF NANO-MATERIALS AND NANO-BAMBOO CHARCOAL

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ABSTRACT

Nanomaterial concrete is new generation of concrete formed of materials in nanoscale. This research aims to investigate the strength of concrete with addition of nanomaterials. The material used in this research were Nano-Bamboo Charcoal (NBC) of size 10-140 nm, Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC), fine sand size of 50-650 μm , and coarse aggregate in 5-10 mm. The portion of NBC are 3% and 10% based on the portion of cement weight. The addition of natural NBC could be a way to improve concrete durability and also sustainable construction. The focus of this research is utilizing the NBC in concrete. Furthermore, it is encourage using the renewable resources as building materials for continuing availability of building materials. This research aims to investigate the compressive strength of concrete by various portion addition of NBC based on cement weight. The results shows that concrete blocks with 3% NBC content showed better strength than those 10% NBC content. However, results of the control concrete of Grade 20 (0% replacement of NBC) show that lowest compressive strength compares to concrete which used NBC. Furthermore, a maximum strength of 38 N/mm^2 was achieved when the NBC content was 3% together with 0.40 moisture content as compare with normal concrete which is only 20 N/mm^2 only.

Keywords: sustainable concrete, concrete, bamboo charcoal, nano-technology, renewable resources

1. INTRODUCTION

Currently, the use of nanomaterials in construction is reduced, mainly for the following reasons: the lack of knowledge concerning the suitable nanomaterials for construction and their behaviour; the lack of specific standards for design and execution of the construction elements using nanomaterials; lack of detailed information regarding the nanoproducts content; high costs and also the unknown of health risks associated with nanomaterials [4]. Nanotechnology requires advanced imaging techniques for studying and improving the material behaviour and for designing and producing very fine powders, liquids or solids of materials with particle size between 1 and 100 nm, known as nanoparticles [2]. Nanotechnology can generate products with many unique characteristics that can increase the current construction materials as it lighter and stronger structural composites, low maintenance for coatings, better cementitious materials, lower thermal transfer rate of fire retardant and insulation, better sound absorption of acoustic absorbers and better reflectivity of glass [4]. The addition of small amounts (1%) of nanomaterials can improve the mechanical properties of mixture samples of portland cement and water [2,4]. Also, [10] studied different mineral admixtures are often added in concrete to improve the durability and mechanical properties of hardened concrete. For this research, bamboo charcoal is made from bamboo by pyrolysis (carbonizing) under high temperatures, typically being processed in a high-performance clay furnace oven heated to about 1000°C, which produces NBC of the highest quality. The addition of NBC has pozzolanic behaviour which influences the concrete strength. The nano-particles used with fly ash concrete provide more environment

friendly cleaner concrete with early high strength of concrete than normal fly ash concrete [2]. It is also encouraged to use the renewable resources as building materials for continuing availability of building resources. The focus of this research is utilizing the NBC in concrete. The research is about improving the concrete performance by using nano materials and renewable resources [1].

2. EXPERIMENTAL WORK

The purpose of this research is to investigate the compressive strength and resistance of nanomaterial concrete by partial replacement of cement with nano-bamboo charcoal (NBC). NBC used in this study has the size of 10-140 nm with a mixed composition of 50% of the cement weight.

2.1. Concrete mix design

The concrete mix consists of NBC as a cement partial substitution material. For the experiments, NBC was added into the concrete mix as cement partial substitution of amount 50% of the weight of cement. Recapitulation of the concrete mix is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Concrete Mix Design

Description	Water-cement ratio		
	0.25	0.45	0.75
Portland Cement (kg)	34	18.9	11.35
Nano-Bamboo Charcoal (NBC) (50% replacement) kg	34	18.9	11.35
Water (kg)	17	17	17
Total Aggregate (m ³)	0.0594	0.0690	0.0738
8–12 mm (kg)	24	19.9	21.3
Sand (kg)	32.6	57.6	61.6
Super plasticizer (kg)	0.41	0.13	0

2.2. Compressive strength testing

The tool used for testing the compressive strength is UTM (Universal testing Machine) of 2000 kN capacity. Specimens used were cylinders with a diameter of 100 mm and a height of 200 mm, with testing ages of 3, 7, 14, 21 and 28 days.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The results show in Figure 1 that the maximum compressive strength obtained in this series was 38 N/mm² and 34 N/mm² for the NBC composition were 3% and 10% of sand by applying vibration respectively compare to normal concrete only 30 N/mm²

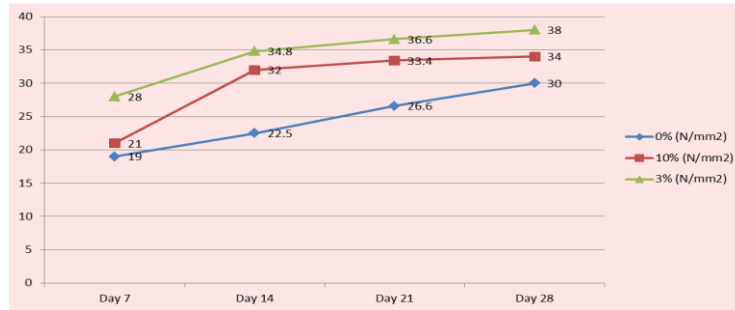


Figure 1. Compression Strength Result

4. CONCLUSION

Nanotechnology requires advanced imaging techniques for studying and improving the material behaviour and for designing and producing very fine powders, liquids or solids of materials with particle size between 1 and 100 nm, known as nanoparticles [2]. The addition of small amounts (1%) of carbon nanotubes can improve the mechanical properties of mixture samples of portland cement and water [2]. Also, different mineral admixtures are often added in concrete to improve the durability and mechanical properties of hardened concrete [7]. The addition of nano-bamboo charcoal (NBC) has pozzolanic behaviour which influences the concrete strength. The nano-particles used with fly ash concrete provides more environment friendly cleaner concrete with early high strength of concrete than normal fly ash concrete, which is also economical [2]. This research encouraged to use the renewable resources as building materials for continuing availability of building resources. The focus of this research is utilizing the nano materials and nano-bamboo charcoal in lightweight concrete. This research aims to investigate the durability of light weight concrete by various portion addition of NBC based on cement weight.

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