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Plastic Shrinkage Cracking Prediction in Cement-Based Materials Using Factorial Design

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1 **PLASTIC SHRINKAGE CRACKING PREDICTION IN CEMENT-BASED**
2 **MATERIALS USING FACTORIAL DESIGN**

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16
17
18 **Abstract**

19 Shrinkage cracking is a major issue that affects the durability of concrete structures.
20 Plastic shrinkage of cementitious materials can lead to cracking within 24hrs of casting
21 and sets the stage for premature deterioration. Even though test techniques exist that can
22 be used to evaluate the plastic shrinkage cracking potential of cement-based materials,
23 mathematical models that predict the influence of various parameters such as w/c,
24 aggregate to cement ratio and effect of fibers on cracking are not available. This paper
25 presents a model that can be used to predict plastic shrinkage cracking in cement-based
26 materials. The model is developed using factorial design and utilizes representative data
27 generated using a technique developed by the authors. The effectiveness and limitations
28 of the model in predicting crack areas and width are discussed. Effect of variables such as
29 w/c, sand/cement ratio, fiber dosage and the interaction between these variables is also
30 presented in this paper.

31

32 **Keywords:** Restrained plastic shrinkage cracking, factorial design, cement-based
33 materials, fiber reinforcement

34

35 **Introduction**

36 Concrete experiences various types of volumetric changes including shrinkage at early
37 ages and also over long-term. In addition to standardized test methods to quantify drying
38 shrinkage of concrete, methods are now also available to measure plastic shrinkage.
39 However, as far as prediction of shrinkage is concerned, numerous proposed models only
40 focus on predicting the drying shrinkage of cementitious materials. Goel et al. (2007)
41 summarize and compare various existing models: ACI-209R-82 model, the B3 model, the
42 CEB-FIP model code 1990, and the GL2000 (Gardner and Lockman 2001), and Muller
43 model (Muller et al. 1999). Expressions for some of these important models to predict
44 creep and shrinkage as described by Goel et al. (2007) are presented below.

45 **ACI 209 Code Provisions**

46 ACI-209R-82 (2005) recommends the following expression for shrinkage:

$$47 \quad \varepsilon_{sh}(t, t_c) = \frac{(t - t_c)}{T_c + (t - t_c)} \varepsilon_{shu} \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

48 where, $t_c = 7$ days for moist cured concrete, and 1-3 days for steam cured concrete, $\varepsilon_{shu} =$
49 ultimate shrinkage strain, 780 for standard conditions, t is age of concrete in days, $T_c =$
50 35 days for moist cured concrete and 55 days for steam cured concrete,

51 **CEB-FIP Model Code 1990**

52 According to this model, total shrinkage/swelling is calculated based on the following
53 equation:

54
$$\varepsilon_{sh}(t, t_c) = [160 + 10\beta_{sc}(9 - 0.1f_{cm})] \times 10^{-6} \beta_{RH} \sqrt{\frac{\{t - t_c\}}{\{350(\frac{2A_c}{100\mu})^2 + (t - t_c)\}}} \text{ Equation 2}$$

55 β_{sc} is constant, depends on type of cement, f_{cm} is the concrete mean compressive strength
 56 at 28 days in MPa, β_{RH} is a constant that depends on relative humidity, μ perimeter of
 57 the member in contact with atmosphere (mm), A_c cross-sectional area (mm²), and other
 58 variables as defined before.

59 **B3 Model**

60 Mean shrinkage strain in the cross section is given by:

61
$$\varepsilon_{sh}(t, t_c) = -\varepsilon_{shu} k_h S(t) \text{ Equation 3}$$

62 where, k_h is the humidity dependence, $S(t)$ is the time curve, and other variables as
 63 defined before.

64 The ultimate shrinkage strain is given by:

65
$$\varepsilon_{shu} = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 (0.091w^{2.1} (f_{cm})^{-0.28} + 270) \frac{E_c (7 + 600)}{E_c (t_c + \tau_{sh})} \text{ Equation 4}$$

66 where, w is the water content in kg/m³, α_1 and α_2 are constants related to the cement
 67 type and curing condition, E_c is the modulus of elasticity of concrete at the age of 28
 68 days (MPa), τ_{sh} is the shrinkage half-time (days), and other variables as defined before.

69 The time function is given by:

70
$$S(t) = \tanh \sqrt{\frac{t - t_c}{\tau_{sh}}} \text{ Equation 5}$$

71 where, t and t_c are the age of concrete and the age drying commenced, end of moist
 72 curing in days, respectively, τ_{sh} is the shrinkage half-time as given in Equation 6, h is the

73 relative humidity of the environment at ambient temperature (in decimal), and other
74 variables as defined before.

$$75 \quad \tau_{sh} = 0.085 t_c^{-0.08} (f_{cm})^{-0.25} (k_s 2\{V/S\})^2 \quad \text{Equation 6}$$

76 where, k_s is the cross-section shape correction factor, and V/S is the volume-surface ratio
77 in mm.

78 **GL2000 Model**

79 This model proposes the following equation:

$$80 \quad \varepsilon_{sh}(t, t_c) = \varepsilon_{shu} (1 - 1.18h^4) \sqrt{\left[\frac{t - t_c}{t - t_c + 0.15(V/S)^2} \right]} \quad \text{Equation 7}$$

81 where, variables as described before.

$$82 \quad \varepsilon_{shu} = 1000K \sqrt{\frac{30}{f_{cm}}} \times 10^{-6} \quad \text{Equation 8}$$

83 where, K is a shrinkage constant that depends on the cement type and other variables as
84 described before.

85 Above-mentioned models were used for predicting creep and shrinkage of various grades
86 of concrete by Goel et al. (2007). They found that the predictions from the GL2000
87 model were the closest to the experimental results. Shrinkage estimated using the fib
88 2000 model has been found to be about 75% of the measured shrinkage (Charron et al.
89 2003). ACI 209 (2005) reports predictions from the four models described above were
90 compared to that of the results in the RILEM data bank. GL2000 and B3 models provided
91 the best fit for shrinkage strain and the CEB model underestimated the strain. Coefficient
92 of variation was calculated to compare model predictions with test data. The variation
93 was 35% and 36% for GL2000 and B3 respectively. Variation for CEB was 37% and

94 finally ACI model resulted in a variation of 45%. It was also noted that the use of more
95 input data (test results) in the models improved the predictions of all models except for
96 the ACI model.

97 Many other microstructural models have been proposed to predict behavior and shrinkage
98 of cement-based materials. These models are based on the cement hydration process and
99 are described by Charron J. –P., Marchand J., Bissonnette B., and Pigeon M. in the report
100 edited by Bentur A (Charron et al. 2003). The model “CEMHYD3D” was developed at
101 the National Institute of Standards and Technology in the US. This model has been
102 modified over the past few years and one version of this model is described by Bentz
103 D.P. (Bentz 2006a,b,c). “HYMOSTRUC” (Hydration Morphology and Structural
104 Development) model was developed at Delft University of Technology in the
105 Netherlands. The details and application of this model to study formation of
106 microstructure of cement and concrete is reported by Ye G. et al. (2003) and Princigallo
107 A. et al. (2003). Some other models such as “DuCON” (Ishida et al. 1998) developed at
108 the Tokyo University and “ENPC” (Hua et al. 1995; Hua et al. 1997) that was developed
109 in France, have been used to predict shrinkage of cement based materials. These models
110 are based on the assumption that capillary effects such as the formation of capillary
111 depression due to tension in the liquid phase are responsible for autogenous shrinkage.
112 Hua et al. (1995) reports good agreement between predicted values with measured values
113 for a w/c ratio of 0.42. At the age of two days, 60 μm was measured when compared to a
114 strain of 57.6 μm from the model.

115 There exist some other empirical models that were developed to predict behavior of
116 concrete at early ages including the effect of basic creep and autogenous shrinkage of

117 concrete. Description of models such as “CESAR’s model,” “LeRoy’s model,”
118 “Granger’s model,” “Bazant-Baweja’s model,” and “DeShutter and Taerwe’s model” and
119 a comparison of their predicted results is reported by Charron, J.-P., et al. (2001a,b).
120 Charron J. -P., Marchand J., Bissonnette B., Pigeon M, and Gerard B have commented
121 on the effectiveness of the above-mentioned empirical models in chapter 5.3 of the report
122 edited by Bentur A (Charron et al. 2003). According to this report, for the mixes
123 investigated during their study, except for the CESAR’s model, all other models did not
124 result in very reliable predictions.

125 Most models described above have been developed to predict creep and shrinkage in
126 concrete in terms of the strain development. Limited work has been done to predict
127 early-age behavior (plastic shrinkage) of concrete, especially in terms of evaluating the
128 shrinkage cracking of fiber-reinforced cement-based composites containing
129 polypropylene fibers. In this paper, the authors present a factorial design based model to
130 predict early-age plastic shrinkage cracking. This model is based on a test technique
131 developed by the authors.

132

133 **Factorial Design**

134 Several models exist that predict early age characteristics of cement composites subjected
135 to shrinkage (Mabrouk et al. 2004; van Zijl et al. 2001; Sanjuan and Moragues 1994;
136 Toledo Filho an Sanjuan 1999; Radocea 1994). Mabrouk et al. (2004) have proposed a
137 model to predict early age shrinkage and creep of concrete composite using a
138 solidification model that uses microphysical information such as temperature, hydration
139 ratio, porosity, saturation, etc. According to the authors the behavior of young age

140 concrete composite can be predicted. Similarly, another model of plastic shrinkage is
141 based on linking the change in capillary pressure in a saturated mixture, exposed to
142 drying, to geometry of the spaces between the solid particles. However, both models
143 (Mabrouk et al. 2004; Radocea 1994) only predict shrinkage strains or deformation and
144 are not focussed at predicting cracking. Another numerical model focusses on predicting
145 crack initiation and growth in cementitious materials (van Zijl et al. 2001). However, the
146 focus of this model is to predict crack widths in structures made using cement-based
147 materials as opposed to using the model to study the influence of mix design or addition
148 of fibers on shrinkage cracking. In a study by Sanjuan and Moragues (1994), the authors
149 study the influence of mix proportion and synthetic fibers on early-age plastic shrinkage.
150 However, this technique too only involves measurement of shrinkage strain and not
151 shrinkage cracking. Another study involved investigating influence of mix design
152 including various fiber types on both free and restrained plastic shrinkage, however the
153 factorial design based model only focussed on predicting free shrinkage strains (Toledo
154 Filho and Sanjuan 1999).

155 To fill the knowledge gaps identified in the models above, a study was initiated by the
156 authors, which is described here. Scientific experiments in the past are usually modeled
157 by keeping all parameters constant and varying one variable at a time. This traditional
158 method is very time consuming and does not incorporate the correlation between
159 variables. In this paper, a statistical prediction model based on factorial design is used
160 and is first introduced here. In this study, the limit for plastic shrinkage is assumed to be
161 24 hours. This is a structured method that provides an efficient way of studying

162 properties of a material that depends on several factors (Sanjuan and Moragues 1994;
163 Toledo Filho and Sanjuan 1999) as in the case of cement composites.
164 Properties such as w/c, s/c (sand-cement ratio), fiber content, etc. are considered as
165 variables and their effect on restrained shrinkage cracking is investigated. Factorial
166 design enables establishing correlation between different variables. In this investigation,
167 multiple linear regression analysis was used to develop a mathematical model that
168 predicts restrained shrinkage cracking of a representative mix. This study was aimed at
169 understanding the effect of different factors/parameters on cracking of cement composites
170 under restrained shrinking conditions. A factorial design analysis was conducted to
171 determine the relative importance of different parameters and their interaction on the
172 cracking area and the average crack width.

173 **Definition of Factorial Design**

174 Factorial design is a form of mathematical analysis which enables one to study the
175 influence of several parameters with only a few tests. Contrary to “one factor at a time”
176 approach, in which factors are varied one at a time, in the factorial design approach,
177 much fewer tests need to be carried out to determine the effect of parameters studied, and
178 to determine the interaction between them. The interaction between parameters cannot
179 be evaluated using “one factor at a time” approach because we assume that the factors act
180 additively, which is not always the case. In this study, three factors mentioned earlier are
181 investigated with an upper “+” and lower level “-” for each factor. This method is
182 described in detail by Box et al. (2005) and can be further explained using the following
183 example.

184 Example: In order to describe this method, let's consider the effect of three factors: A, B
 185 and C on given variable "y". Let's also assume that each factor has two levels : - and +.
 186 The levels signify a selected lower and an upper bound value. If using factorial design,
 187 we need $2 \times 2 \times 2 = 2^3 = 8$ tests. On the contrary, based on "one factor at a time"
 188 approach, 8 tests for each factor would be required, resulting in a total of 24 tests.
 189 According to factorial design, the 8 tests are the different arrangements of the 3 factors,
 190 which are shown in Table 1.

191

192 **Calculation of "Effect" and "Interaction"**

193 Calculation of Main Effect: "Effect of a factor" in factorial design refers to the change
 194 in "y" as that factor changes from "-" to "+"." The "-" and "+" refer to the two levels of
 195 each parameter "A", "B", and "C".

196 Calculation of the Main Effect of Variable B: The main effect of variable B is also
 197 known as "B main effect." In this example there are two tests for each arrangement of A
 198 and C: one with the lower level of B and one with the upper. Since the two tests differ
 199 only in the B factor, the B effect will be the difference between the + and the - level.
 200 Then, the B total effect is the average of the four pairs of tests.

201

202 Hence, B's main effect can be calculated as:

203
$$B_{Effect} = \frac{y_3 + y_4 + y_7 + y_8}{4} - \frac{y_1 + y_2 + y_5 + y_6}{4} \quad \text{Equation 9}$$

204 As seen from Equation 9, the main effect of B is basically the difference between two
 205 averages: the average response for the + level and the average response for the - level.

206
$$B_{Effect} = \bar{y}_+ - \bar{y}_- \quad \text{Equation 10}$$

207 Calculation of $B \times C$ Interaction

208 This interaction is calculated by the difference between the average B effect at C's upper
209 level and the average B effect at C's lower level (and vice versa). Half of the difference
210 is termed as B x C interaction.

211 From Table 2,

$$212 \quad B \times C = \frac{y1 + y2 + y7 + y8}{4} - \frac{y3 + y4 + y5 + y6}{4} \quad \text{Equation 11}$$

213 Calculation of $A \times B \times C$ Interaction

214 Two values of the $B \times C$ interaction can be calculated for the experiment, one for each
215 level of A. Half the difference between these two values is defined as the three factor
216 interaction ($A \times B \times C$ interaction) and given by Equation 12.

$$217 \quad A \times B \times C = \frac{y2 + y3 + y5 + y8}{4} - \frac{y1 + y4 + y6 + y7}{4} \quad \text{Equation 12}$$

218

219 **Geometric Representation**

220 The 2^3 factorial design can be represented as a cube in which each corner is a test.
221 The three factors A, B and C form the axes of the space (Figure 1). As an example, these
222 three factors (A, B and C) mentioned in Equations 9-12 and Figures 1 and 2 could
223 correspond to physical test variables in the restrained plastic shrinkage test such as w/c,
224 s/c, and fiber dosage V_f . The corners of the cubes would then correspond to the result
225 (crack area or crack width) of a unique combination of A, B and C. Also, as an example
226 the effect of B alone can be studied by comparing the change from one face of the cube to
227 another as shown in Figure 2(a).

228

229 Previously described effects and interactions are graphically shown in Figure 2. Main
230 effects may be viewed as a contrast between observations on parallel faces of the cube;
231 the interaction is a contrast between results on two diagonal planes and the three factor
232 interaction is a contrast between the two tetrahedrals.

233

234 **Calculation of Standard Error**

235 Standard error is calculated as described by Box et al. (2005). First of all, the variance is
236 calculated for all tests using the following equation:

$$237 \quad \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2 \quad \text{Equation 13}$$

238 Where, σ_i^2 is the variance for one test and is defined by Equation 14

$$239 \quad \sigma_i^2 = \frac{1}{m-1} \sum_i^m (y_i - \bar{y})^2 \quad \text{Equation 14}$$

240 where, m is the number of runs for one test

241 Standard error is then calculated using Equation 15

$$242 \quad e = \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}} \sigma \quad \text{Equation 15}$$

243 where n is the total number of runs

244 According to the technique, three runs (m=3) are made for each test, hence in this case

245 for the 8 tests, n = 24.

246

247 **APPLICATION OF FACTORIAL DESIGN TO REPRESENTATIVE TEST**

248 **RESULTS**

249 The factorial design technique described above was applied to some typical test results
250 (Table 3) generated using a technique developed by the authors. The technique developed
251 by the authors involves placing the material being tested as an overlay above a substrate
252 with standard roughness. Figure 3 (a) shows a typical overlay cast over a substrate. The
253 inset shows the protrusions on a typical substrate. The substrate provides realistic
254 restraint to the overlay and this assembly is placed in an environmental chamber. In the
255 environmental chamber a temperature of 50°C is chosen, which results in a relative
256 humidity of less than 5% and this produces an evaporation rate of approximately 1.0
257 kg/m²/h from the specimen surface. After 24hrs, cracking in the overlay (Figure 3(b)) is
258 measured and the average crack width and total crack area is determined using a
259 minimum of three specimens. Further details about this test technique has been
260 previously published by the authors (Banthia and Gupta 2006; Banthia and Gupta 2007;
261 Banthia and Gupta 2009) and is beyond the scope of this paper. In Table 3, eight different
262 mixes are included along with the test data (crack area, average and maximum crack
263 width). The mixes in Table 3 are mixes surrounding a control mix, which is not included
264 in Table 3 to maintain clarity. This control mix had a w/c ratio and s/c ratio both equal to
265 0.5 with no fibers. This mix had a crack area of 305mm², average crack width of 2.17,
266 and maximum crack width of 2.77mm. Along with the test data the standard deviation in
267 percentage calculated using equation 14 is also included in Table 3. It is evident from the
268 test results that w/c, s/c, and addition of fibers have an important effect on cracking.
269 Factorial design was used to quantify this effect and determine the interaction between
270 the factors affecting shrinkage cracking. Commercially available micro polypropylene
271 fiber (PP) with a fiber length of 20 mm was selected for this study and commonly used

272 range of 0 to 0.066% by volume of fibers was considered. A volume of 0.066% of
273 polypropylene would translate into a dosage of 0.6kg/m^3 . The parameters, their levels and
274 the resulting mixes/tests forming the corners of a 2^3 factorial cube are given in Table 4.

275

276 Main and interaction effects were calculated for the parameters and are presented
277 graphically in Figure 4. The figure shows the effect and interaction of parameters on
278 crack area and crack width. In this case, the “effect” of a parameter is defined as the
279 difference in crack area or width for lower and upper values of the given parameter.

280 In Figure 4, the first two bars represent average values of crack width and crack area of
281 the data represented in the 2^3 factorial cube. The last two bars represent the standard
282 error in the test data for crack width and crack area, which indicate the reliability of the
283 presented test results. The other bars in the figure indicate the effect of parameters on
284 crack area and crack width. The influence of the parameters on both crack area and width
285 is similar except in the case of s/c. This means that crack area is generally proportional to
286 the crack width. Keeping the average and standard error in mind, w/c followed by fiber
287 dosage (%PP) are the most important factors that affect cracking; the range of s/c (sand-
288 cement ratio) studied did not affect the results considerably. A low fiber dosage of
289 0.066% reduces crack area by 129 mm^2 . As far as the interactions are concerned, s/c –
290 %PP and w/c – %PP were the only two significant interactions considering the standard
291 error associated with the data; fibers interacted with both w/c and s/c to reduce crack area
292 and width.

293

294 **MATHEMATICAL MODEL**

295 Factorial design method is further used to predict plastic shrinkage cracking in
296 cementitious composites using a multi-exponential regression model (as shown in
297 Equation 16)

$$298 \quad y = b \times m_1^{s/c} \times m_2^{w/c} \times m_3^{\%PP} \quad \text{Equation 16}$$

299 where, y = “Crack Area” or “Crack Width,”

300 b , m_1 , m_2 , and m_3 are all coefficients (typically chosen notations in factorial design) and
301 their values are presented in Table 5,

302 s/c is the sand to cement ratio,

303 w/c is the water to cement ratio, and

304 $\%PP$ is the percentage of the volume fraction of polypropylene fiber

305

306 The coefficients in Equation 16 were evaluated by least-square regression analysis based
307 on the data presented in Table 3 and are presented in Table 5. Note that values have been
308 rounded off to three decimal places.

309

310 To assess the effectiveness of the model in predicting crack area and crack width for
311 mixes not used in formulating the equation, test results of additional mixes with other
312 combinations of w/c , s/c , and V_f were used. Some of the mixes reinforced with
313 polypropylene fibers were used, as this proposed model was developed for synthetic fiber
314 only. These mixes are highlighted in grey in Table 6. Test data for these mixes along
315 with results predicted by the model are presented in Figures 5 and 6 and are summarized
316 in Table 6. Standard error was calculated according to Equation 15.

317 Figure 5 and 6 compare the laboratory test results with the predictions from the
318 regression model for crack area and width respectively. Standard error for each test is
319 also included in the plots. The predicted crack area and width values corroborated well
320 with test data for a wide range of mixes both fiber reinforced and unreinforced mixes
321 except for mix 6-4, where the predicted crack area and width exceeded the test results.
322 The calculated percentage error in the predicted values compared to test result error is
323 presented in Table 7.

324

325 The average percentage error in crack area and crack width was 108% and 62%
326 respectively, which indicates good corroboration with test results considering that only a
327 few mixes resulted in high error because the crack area and width values were very low
328 absolute values. Fiber reinforced mixes 4-6-6 and 5-5-10 developed very small crack
329 area and width, hence the percentage error was higher than 200% for both area and width;
330 average percentage error neglecting these values dropped to 46% and 36% respectively
331 for crack area and crack width. The average percentage error further dropped to 34% and
332 26% for crack area and width respectively by considering data for mix 6-4 as an outlier.

333

334 **DISCUSSION OF RESULTS**

335 As was discussed earlier, the main effect of w/c ratio and fibers was dominant on the
336 crack characteristics and hence the effect of these factors on crack area and width
337 evaluated using the proposed model was compared to actual test data. The effect of w/c
338 ratio alone was evaluated by averaging the results of mixes with the same w/c but
339 different s/c (except for w/c = 0.6, where predicted crack area and width for mix 6-4 were

340 very large and were ignored). Similarly, effect of fiber was studied for mixes by fixing
341 the w/c and s/c ratios. These results are presented in Figures 7 and 8. It is clear that the
342 model is quite effective in predicting both the crack area and width for cement-based
343 composites and can be useful in predicting the effect of w/c and fibers on crack
344 characteristics.

345

346 **CONCLUDING REMARKS**

347 Factorial design analysis confirmed that w/c ratio is the most significant factor that
348 affects crack areas and widths. Increase in w/c ratio increased both crack area and crack
349 width. A small range of s/c ratio studied, did not affect the crack characteristics
350 significantly. The effect of polypropylene fibers was studied that indicated that addition
351 of fibers clearly reduced cracking. The proposed model predicts crack area and widths
352 and the results corroborate well with the actual test data. Plastic shrinkage induced
353 cracking is major issue in slabs-on-grade, thin overlays used in new and repair
354 applications. The model proposed in this paper has practical implications as the model
355 shows the influence of w/c and s/c on both crack area and crack widths. Moreover, this
356 model also predicts the influence of low volume of polypropylene fibers that can be
357 useful in developing ‘crack-free’ materials for real applications. Future scope of research
358 in this area needs to focus on studying the applicability of this model to variation in mix
359 design, type of binder/supplementary cementing materials, types and dosage of fibers,
360 and inclusion of coarse aggregates.

361

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366

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Table 1 - Data from a 2^3 Factorial Design

Test	Factors			Variable
	A	B	C	
1	-	-	-	y1
2	+	-	-	y2
3	-	+	-	y3
4	+	+	-	y4
5	-	-	+	y5
6	+	-	+	y6
7	-	+	+	y7
8	+	+	+	y8

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Table 2 - Effect of Variable B or “B Main Effect”

Difference between + and – levels of B	A	C
y3-y1	-	-
y4-y2	+	-
y7-y5	-	+
y8-y6	+	+

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Table 3 - Crack Analysis Results

Mix Designation	w/c	s/c	V _f (%)	Crack Area (mm ²)	Average Crack Width (mm)	Maximum Crack Width (mm)	Standard Deviation (%)		
							Crack Area	Average Crack Width	Maximum Crack Width
4-4	0.4	0.4	0	285	1.21	1.93	28.9	34.8	21.8
4-6	0.4	0.6	0	260	1.20	2.15	31.1	5.3	14.0
6-4	0.6	0.4	0	499	1.11	2.20	6.5	18.7	3.7
6-6	0.6	0.6	0	732	1.79	4.03	25.4	30.2	23.0
4-4-6	0.4	0.4	0.066	111	0.64	1.07	10.2	28.6	23.1
4-6-6	0.4	0.6	0.066	9	0.09	0.12	173.2	173.2	173.2
6-4-6	0.6	0.4	0.066	619	1.92	3.62	18.3	19.0	20.8
6-6-6	0.6	0.6	0.066	519	1.48	2.75	27.6	36.7	3.4

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Table 4 - Mixes for 2³ Factorial Design

Mix Designation	Parameters			Factorial Levels (w/c, s/c, V _f)
	w/c	s/c	V _f (%)	
4-4	0.4	0.4	0	(-, -, -)
4-6	0.4	0.6	0	(-, +, -)
6-4	0.6	0.4	0	(+, -, -)
6-6	0.6	0.6	0	(+, +, -)
4-4-6	0.4	0.4	0.066	(-, -, +)
4-6-6	0.4	0.6	0.066	(-, +, +)
6-4-6	0.6	0.4	0.066	(+, -, +)
6-6-6	0.6	0.6	0.066	(+, +, +)

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Table 5 - Coefficients from Regression Analysis

Coefficient	b	m ₁	m ₂	m ₃
Crack Area	18.079	0.053	9550.356	5.84x10 ⁻⁸
Crack Width	0.2809	0.117	182.905	2.266x10 ⁻⁵

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Table 6 - Comparison of Predicted Data to Test Results

Mix Designation	w/c	s/c	V _f (%)	Test Results		Prediction Model	
				Crack Area (Standard Error) in mm ²	Average Crack Width (Standard Error) in mm	Crack Area (mm ²)	Crack Width (mm)
4-4	0.4	0.4	0	285 (83)	1.21 (0.42)	218	0.96
4-6	0.4	0.6	0	260 (81)	1.20 (0.06)	121	0.62
6-4	0.6	0.4	0	499 (33)	1.11 (0.21)	1361	2.71
6-6	0.6	0.6	0	732 (186)	1.79 (0.54)	756	1.77
4-4-6	0.4	0.4	0.066	111 (11)	0.64 (0.18)	73	0.47
4-6-6	0.4	0.6	0.066	9 (16)	0.09 (0.16)	40	0.31
6-4-6	0.6	0.4	0.066	619 (113)	1.92 (0.37)	453	1.34
6-6-6	0.6	0.6	0.066	519 (143)	1.48 (0.54)	252	0.87
5-4	0.5	0.4	0	628 (96)	1.64 (0.33)	544	1.61
5-6	0.5	0.6	0	450 (148)	1.62 (0.16)	302	1.05
5-5-6	0.5	0.5	0.066	212 (35)	0.82 (0.06)	135	0.64
5-5-3	0.5	0.5	0.033	157 (74)	1.21 (0.34)	234	0.91
5-5-10	0.5	0.5	0.1	10 (18)	0.14 (0.25)	77	0.45
5-5	0.5	0.5	0	264 (33)	2.18 (0.85)	406	1.30

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Table 7 - Comparison of Predicted Values and Test Results

Mix Designation	Error (%)	
	Crack Area	Crack Width
4-4	24	21
4-6	53	48
6-4	173	145
6-6	3	1
5-4	13	2
5-5	54	40
5-6	33	35
4-4-6	34	26
4-6-6	330	229
6-4-6	27	30
6-6-6	52	41
5-5-3	49	24
5-5-6	36	22
5-5-10	633	209

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