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Title of Thesis : **Durability of concrete exposed to sea water attack**

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Summary :

Large numbers of concrete structures are in contact with marine environment, hence exposed to both physical and chemical detrimental effects during their service life. The aim of the thesis is to study the main factors affecting the behavior of concrete in marine environments such as the effect of cement content, cement type, using of silica fume as a mineral additive, exposure condition and salinity level of seawater on the behavior of concrete exposed to seawater attack. Fifteen concrete mixes were cast with three types of cements; ordinary Portland cement (OPC), sulfate resistant cement (SRC) and slag cement (SC), and three cement contents (i.e., 350, 400 and 450 kg/m³) were used. Ten percentage of silica fume was used as a mineral additive in some concrete mixes with cement content 400 and 450 kg/m³. After 28-days of water curing, the specimens were exposed to three exposure conditions (i.e., wet and dry, immersion and splash condition) in artificial Red and Dead Sea for 12 months and their properties were determined and compared with those of specimens immersed in tap water. It was found that as expected Dead Sea is more aggressive than Red Sea due to its higher salinity level. The highest reduction in the compressive strength was found in concrete mixes exposed to splash zone. Slag cement concrete mixes showed the lowest reduction in compressive strength after exposure to sea water attack, while ordinary Portland cement concrete mixes showed the highest reduction. Furthermore, the reduction in the compressive strength of concrete increased by the addition of silica fume to concrete.

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Table of Contents

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....	I
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	II
LIST OF TABLES.....	III
LIST OF FIGURES.....	IV
ABSTRACT.....	V
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1. General	1
1.2. Objective	2
1.3. Thesis Outline.....	2
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW.....	3
2.1. General.....	4
2.2. Sea Water Attack.....	4
2.2.1. Mechanism of Sea Water Attack	8
2.3. Factors Governing Sea Water Attack.....	9
2.3.1. Cement type	9
2.3.2. Mineral Admixtures	12
2.3.2.1 Ground granulated blast-furnace slag cement (GGBS).....	13
2.3.2.2. Silica fume (SF).....	22
2.3.2.3. Water cement ratio.....	32
CHAPTER 3: EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM.....	38
3.1. Introduction	38
3.2. Program of Research Work.....	38
3.3. Characteristic of the used materials.....	42
3.3.1. Cement.....	42

3.3.2. Fine Aggregate	44
3.3.3. Coarse Aggregate.....	45
3.3.4. Silica fume (SF)	47
3.3.5. Water	47
3.3.6. Chemical admixtures.....	48
3.4 Concrete Mixes.....	49
3.4.1. Design of concrete mixes.....	49
3.4.2. Mixing, casting and curing	37
3.5. Test Specimens	51
3.6. Sea water attack.....	53
3.6.1. The set up of splash technique in Red Sea.....	58
3.7. Concrete Testing.....	60
3.7.1. Slump test.....	60
3.7.2. Compression test	60
3.7.3. Water absorption test.....	62
3.7.4. Core test.....	62
3.7.5. Scanning electronic microscope test (SEM).....	64
3.7.5.1. The steps of the test were	66
CHAPTER 4: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.....	68
4.1. Introduction.....	68
4.2. Behavior of concrete immersed in tap water	68
4.2.1. Compressive strength.....	68
4.2.2. Water absorption	74
4.3. Behavior of concrete exposed to sea water attack.....	75
4.3.1. Compressive strength.....	76
4.3.1.1. Effect of salinity level.....	76

4.3.1.2. Effect of exposure condition.....	94
4.3.1.2.1 Immersion and wet and dry	94
4.3.1.2.2. Comparison between immersion, wet and dry and splash exposure conditions	111
4.3.1.3 Effect of cement content.....	114
4.3.1.4 Effect of cement type.....	120
4.3.1.5 Effect of silica fume.....	127
4.3.2. Water absorption.....	136
CHAPTER5: SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPE.....	154
5.1. General.....	154
5.2. Theoretical program.....	154
5.2.1. Comparison between the theoretical and experimental work value of the compressive strength (in case of immersion condition).....	157
5.2.2. Comparison between the theoretical and experimental value of the compressive strength (in case of wet and dry condition).....	162
5.2.3. Comparison between the theoretical and experimental value of the compressive strength (in case of splash condition).....	167
5.3. Scanning electron microscope results.....	175
5.3.1 Inspection of concrete samples exposed to immersion	176
5.3.2 Inspection of concrete samples exposed to cyclic of wetting and	
drying.....	186
5.3.3. Behavior of OPC concrete.....	198
5.3.4. Effect of exposure condition.....	199
5.3.5. Effect of cement type.....	199
5.3.6. Effect of silica fume.....	199

CHAPTER 6: THEORETICAL PROGRAM	201
6.1. General.....	181
6.2. Theoretical program.....	181
6.3. Prediction of concrete age to become normal concrete.....	197
CHAPTER 7: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION	201
7.1: Conclusion.....	201
7.2: Recommendations.....	201
7.3 Recommendations and areas for future research.....	204
REFERENCES.....	205
ARABIC SUMMERY.....	215

List of figures

		Page
Figure 2.1	Deterioration of concrete structure in marine environment.....	6
Figure 2.2	Relation between water penetration depth and OPC replacement.....	15
	...	
Figure 2.3	Compressive strength of cement pastes as function of curing time.....	17
Figure 2.4	Effect of exposure time on compressive strength for slag cement mortars exposed to sea water of different concentration (w/b=0.42).....	19
Figure 2.5	Effect of exposure time on compressive strength for slag cement mortars exposed to sea water of different concentration (w/b=0.46).....	20
Figure 2.6	Effect of exposure time on compressive strength for slag cement mortars exposed to sea water of different concentration (W/b=0.5).....	20
Figure 2.7	Chloride migration in concrete subjected to 40% f_c	21
Figure 2.8	Chloride migration in concrete subjected to 80% f_c	22
Figure 2.9	Variation of mortar workability with silica fume content.....	24
Figure 2.10	Variation of 28 days cube and cylinder compressive strength for different percentage of SF replacing cement.....	26

	Page
Figure 2.11 Effect of silica fume percentage on concrete compressive strength.....	27
Figure 2.12 Effect of SF on water permeability of concrete.....	30
Figure 2.13 Changes in chloride ion permeability of concrete with amount of silica fume replacement.....	31
Figure 2.14 Relation between water to cement ratio and compressive strength of concrete.....	34
Figure 2.15 Relation between water to cement ratio and concrete sorptivity.....	35
Figure 2.16 The relation between water to cement ratio and compressive strength of concrete.....	36
Figure 2.17 Residual strength ratio after sea water effect.....	37
Figure 3.1 The out line of research work.....	40
Figure 3.2 The applied tests.....	41
Figure 3.3 Grading curve for fine aggregate.....	45
Figure 3.4 Grading curve for coarse aggregate.....	46
Figure 3.5 Tilting- drum mixer.....	51
Figure 3.6 Concrete cubes during casting.....	52
Figure 3.7 Finishing of concrete surface.....	52
Figure 3.8 Concrete cubes in water tank.....	53

	Page
Figure 3.9 Concrete specimens immersed in sea water (a): Red Sea and (b): Dead Sea.....	57
Figure 3.10 Concrete specimens exposed to wetting and drying condition.....	57
Figure 3.11 Unreinforced concrete slabs exposed to splash condition.....	58
Figure 3.12 Spraying of water in the center of slab.....	59
Figure 3.13 The slump test.....	60
Figure 3.14 The compression test.....	61
Figure 3.15 Core test.....	62
Figure 3.16 Concrete slab after taking core specimen.....	64
Figure 3.17 Scanning electron microscope apparatus.....	65
Figure 3.18 The specimen's preparation.....	66
Figure 4.1 Compressive strength development of ordinary Portland cement concrete.....	70
Figure 4.2 Compressive strength development of slag cement concrete.....	70
Figure 4.3 Compressive strength development of sulfate resistant concrete.....	71
Figure 4.4 Effect of cement type on the 7-days compressive strength of concrete.....	72

	Page
Figure 4.5 Effect of cement type on the 28-days compressive strength of concrete.....	73
Figure 4.6 Effect of cement type on the 390-days compressive strength of concrete.....	73
Figure 4.7 Effect of cement type and content on concrete water absorption.....	75
Figure 4.8 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 350 kg/m ³ ordinary Portland cement	79
Figure 4.9 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 400 kg/m ³ ordinary Portland cement	80
Figure 4.10 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 450 kg/m ³ ordinary Portland cement.....	81
Figure 4.11 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 400 kg/m ³ ordinary Portland cement and 10% silica fume.....	82
Figure 4.12 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 450 kg/m ³ ordinary Portland cement and 10% silica fume.....	83
Figure 4.13 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 350 kg/m ³ Sulfate resistant cement..	84

	Page
Figure 4.14 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 400 kg/m ³ Sulfate resistant cement.....	85
Figure 4.15 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 450 kg/m ³ Sulfate resistant cement.....	86
Figure 4.16 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 400 kg/m ³ Sulfate resistant cement and 10% silica fume.....	87
Figure 4.17 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 450 kg/m ³ Sulfate resistant cement and 10% silica fume.....	88
Figure 4.18 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 350 kg/m ³ Slag cement.....	89
Figure 4.19 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 400 kg/m ³ Slag cement.....	90
Figure 4.20 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 450 kg/m ³ Slag cement.....	91
Figure 4.21 Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 400 kg/m ³ Slag cement and 10% silica fume.....	92

Figure 4.22	Effect of salinity level on the compressive strength of concrete containing 450 kg/m ³ Slag cement and 10% silica fume.....	93
Figure 4.23	Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 350kg/m ³ ordinary Portland cement.....	96
Figure 4.24	Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 400kg/m ³ ordinary Portland cement.....	97
Figure 4.25	Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 450kg/m ³ ordinary Portland cement.....	98
Figure 4.26	Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 400kg/m ³ ordinary Portland cement plus 10% silica fume	99
Figure 4.27	Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 450kg/m ³ ordinary Portland cement plus 10% silica fume.....	100
Figure 4.28	Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 350kg/m ³ sulfate resistant cement.....	101
Figure 4.29	Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 400kg/m ³ sulfate resistant cement.....	102

	Page
Figure 4.30 Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 450kg/m ³ sulfate resistant cement.....	103
Figure 4.31 Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 400kg/m ³ sulfate resistant cement plus 10% silica fume.....	104
Figure 4.32 Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 450kg/m ³ sulfate resistant cement plus 10% silica fume.....	105
Figure 4.33 Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 350kg/m ³ slag cement...	106
Figure 4.34 Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 400kg/m ³ slag cement.....	107
Figure 4.35 Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 450kg/m ³ Slag cement.....	108
Figure 4.36 Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 400kg/m ³ slag cement plus 10% silica fume.....	109
Figure 4.37 Effect of exposure condition on the compressive strength of concrete containing 450kg/m ³ slag cement plus 10% silica fume.....	110