

INFLUENCE OF WASTE GLASS AND EFFECTIVE MICROORGANISM ON
THE MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF CONCRETE

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to the memory of my parents, Late Alhaji Muhammad Mallum and Late Hajiya Fadimatu Muhammad Mallum (Hajja Barkindo), whose prayers have brought me this far. In addition, I'd like to thank my brother, Engineer Umar Muhammad Mallum, for inspiring me to seek a doctorate, which has enabled me to reach this level.

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ABSTRACT

The high demand for concrete in construction leads to the depletion of natural resources such as natural aggregates and clay. The use of waste material in concrete could assist in reducing natural resource depletion and carbon footprints. The use of waste glass in concrete as fine aggregate replacement affects the Interfacial transition zone (ITZ) of glass aggregate concrete and using glass powder as a cement substitute results in low early strength. The purpose of this research was to investigate the properties of concrete with windscreen waste glass as cement and fine aggregates replacement together with effective microorganism (EM) and to establish the appropriate mix proportion that will contribute to enhancing the properties of windscreen glass fine aggregate concrete. Concrete ingredients were altered to contain glass powder (GP) from windscreen glass waste as partial cement replacement (20%) and glass fine aggregate (GFA) as fine aggregate replacement in a proportion of 0-100% (in 20% increments) with EM as water substitute (10%). The laboratory work involves the characterization of waste glass materials and formulation of the size particle of glass aggregate to be used in concrete as fine aggregate replacement. The characterization includes sieve analysis, strength activity index, X-ray Fluorescence (XRF), X-ray diffraction (XRD) and Thermo-gravimetric analysis (TGA). The fresh and hardened properties of glass fine aggregate effective micro-organism concrete (GFAEMC) were investigated. The properties assessed include the workability, compressive strength, splitting tensile strength, flexural strength, modulus of elasticity, and water absorption. Further studies were carried out on the microstructural properties of concrete using scanning electron microscopy (SEM), Energy dispersive x-ray analysis (EDX), X-ray diffraction (XRD), and Thermo-gravimetric analysis (TGA) to ascertain the filling mechanism and bonding effect at the micro-scale level. In addition, three reinforced concrete beams containing waste glass with two containing EM and one without EM, as well as a control concrete beam, were cast and tested to assess the behaviour of reinforced concrete beams under flexure. Based on the findings, the use of waste glass as fine aggregate and cement replacement in concrete improved concrete properties. Adding waste glass with EM in concrete mix improved the compressive strength, flexural strength, splitting tensile strength, and modulus of elasticity (MOE) by 3.37%, 3%, 6%, and 1%, respectively compared to the control, after 28 days. Also, the water absorption of GFAEMC with a 100% GFA as fine aggregate substitute is slightly lower by 2% than that of the control concrete. The microscale analysis showed that GFAEMC samples had a denser microstructure with more CSH gel when compared to the control. In addition, the ultrasonic pulse velocity (UPV) of GFAEMC samples also indicates a denser microstructure. In addition, the ultimate loads of beams glass fine aggregate effective microorganism (BGFAEM), glass powder (BGP20), glass fine aggregate – glass powder effective microorganism (BGFAGPEM) were all higher than BC (control beam). Beam BGFAEM recorded higher stiffness value than beam BC by 18%. The flexural behaviour of reinforced concrete beams with windscreen glass waste and EM is comparable with the control beam. Based on the findings of this study, it can be concluded that incorporating windscreen waste glass as cement and fine aggregates replacement with EM show positive effects and enhanced concrete properties.

ABSTRAK

Permintaan yang tinggi terhadap konkrit dalam pembinaan menyebabkan pengurangan sumber asli seperti agregat dan tanah liat. Penggunaan bahan buangan dalam konkrit boleh membantu mengurangkan masalah ini dan jejak karbon. Penggunaan kaca buangan sebagai pengganti agregat halus dalam konkrit memberi kesan kepada zon peralihan antara muka konkrit agregat kaca dan penggunaan debu kaca sebagai pengganti simen menghasilkan kekuatan awal yang perlahan. Tujuan kajian ini adalah untuk menilai sifat-sifat konkrit yang mengandungi bahan buangan daripada kaca cermin depan sebagai pengganti sebahagian daripada simen dan agregat halus berserta mikroorganisma efektif (EM) dan menentukan kadar campuran yang akan menyumbang kepada peningkatan sifat konkrit menggunakan agregat halus kaca. Ramuan konkrit diubah menggunakan debu kaca (GP) dari bahan buangan kaca cermin depan sebagai pengganti simen (20%) dan agregat halus kaca (GFA) sebagai pengganti agregat halus dengan kadar 0 – 100% (peningkatan penambahan 20%) dengan mikroorganisma efektif sebagai pengganti air (10%). Ujikaji makmal yang dijalankan termasuk mengenalpasti ciri bahan kaca buangan dan rumusan saiz zarah agregat kaca yang akan digunakan sebagai agregat halus. Kajian pengenalanpastian yang dijalankan termasuk analisis ayak, indek aktiviti kekuatan, *X-ray Fluorescence* (XRF), *X-ray diffraction* (XRD) dan Analisa Thermogravimetri (TGA). Sifat segar dan mengeras konkrit yang mengandungi agregat halus kaca dan mikroorganisma efektif (GFAEMC) telah dikaji. Sifat yang dikaji termasuk keboleherjaan, kekuatan mampatan, kekuatan pemisahan tegangan, kekuatan lenturan, modulus elastik, pengecutan pengeringan, dan penyerapan air. Kajian selanjutnya dijalankan terhadap sifat mikrostruktur konkrit menggunakan *scanning electron microscopy* (SEM), analisa *Energy dispersive x-ray* (EDX), *X-ray diffraction* (XRD), dan analisa Thermogravimetrik (TGA) untuk melihat mekanisma pengisian dan kesan lekatan pada skala mikro. Sebagai tambahan, tiga rasuk konkrit bertetulang mengandungi kaca buangan dengan dua rasuk mengandungi EM dan tiada EM serta rasuk kawalan telah dibuat dan diuji bagi menentukan kelakunan lenturan rasuk. Berdasarkan kepada dapatan kajian, penggunaan kaca buangan dalam konkrit sebagai agregat halus dan pengganti simen dapat meningkatkan sifat konkrit. Penambahan kaca buangan dan EM dalam bancuhan konkrit meningkatkan kekuatan mampatan, kekuatan lenturan, kekuatan pemisahan tegangan dan modulus elastik (MOE) masing-masing sebanyak 3.37%, 3%, 6% dan 1% berbanding kawalan selepas 28 hari. Disamping itu penyerapan air bagi GFAEMC dengan 100% GFA sebagai pengganti agregat halus adalah rendah sebanyak 2% berbanding konkrit kawalan. Analisis skala mikro menunjukkan sampel GFAEMC mempunyai mikrostruktur yang lebih padat dengan gel kalsium silikat terhidrat (CSH) yang lebih berbanding kawalan. Disamping itu halaju denyutan ultrasonik (UPV) bagi sampel GFAEMC adalah lebih tinggi berbanding konkrit kawalan menunjukkan mikrostruktur yang lebih padat. Beban muktamad bagi rasuk konkrit bertetulang BGFAEM, BGP20, dan BGFAGPEM adaah lebih tinggi berbanding BC (rasuk kawalan). Rasuk BGFAEM merekodkan nilai kekukuhan yang lebih tinggi daripada rasuk BC sebanyak 18%. Kelakunan lenturan rasuk konkrit bertetulang yang mengandungi kaca buangan cermin depan dan EM adalah setanding dengan rasuk kawalan. Berdasarkan kepada penemuan kajian boleh dinyatakan bahawa mengabungkan kaca buangan cermin depan sebagai pengantian sebahagian daripada simen dan agregat halus serta EM menunjukkan kesan yang positif dan meningkatkan sifat-sifat konkrit.

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Figure 7.6 Position of neutral axis measured from top to bottom of the beam depth

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	-	Australia Bureau of Statistics
ACI	-	American Concrete Institute
ASR	-	Alkali silica reaction
ASTM	-	American Society for Testing and Materials
BSEN	-	British Standard European union
Ca	-	Calcium
Ca(OH) ₂	-	Calcium hydroxide
CaCO ₃	-	Calcium carbonate
CaO	-	Calcium oxide
CH	-	Calcium hydroxide
CO ₂	-	Carbon dioxide
CRT	-	Cathode Ray Tube
C-S-H	-	Calcium silicate hydrate
DTA	-	Differential Thermal Analysis
E	-	Differential Thermal Analysis
EDX	-	Energy Dispersive X-ray Analysis
EM	-	Effective micro-organism
EVA	-	Ethylene-vinyl acetate
FA	-	Fly ash
Fe ₂ O ₃	-	Ferric oxide
GA	-	Glass aggregate
GAIN	-	Global aggregate information network
GFA	-	Glass fine aggregate
GFAEMC	-	Glass fine aggregate effective micro-organism concrete
GGBS	-	Ground Granulated blast furnace slag
GP	-	Glass powder
GPa	-	GigaPascal
GPC	-	Glass powder concrete
GPEMC	-	Glass powder effective micro-organism concrete
H ₂ O	-	Water

HVFA	-	High Volume Fly ash
K ₂ O	-	Potassium oxide
LVDT	-	Linear Variable Differential Transformer
MgO	-	Magnesium oxide
MOE	-	Modulus of Elasticity
MSW	-	Municipal solid waste
Na ₂ O	-	Sodium Oxide
NaOH	-	Sodium Hydroxide
OPC	-	Ordinary Portland cement
PVB	-	Polyvinyl butyral
Q	-	Quartz
RFA	-	Recycled fine aggregate
SAI	-	Strength activity index
SCM	-	Supplementary cementitious material
SEM	-	Scanning Electron Microscope
SF	-	Silica fume
SiO ₂	-	Silica
TGA	-	Thermo Gravimetric Analysis
TiO ₂	-	Titanium oxide
TPU	-	Thermoplastic Polyurethane
UNEP	-	United Nations environment programme
UPV	-	Ultrasonic Pulse Velocity
USEPA	-	United State Environmental Protection Agency
USGS	-	United State geological survey
WG	-	Waste glass
XRD	-	X-Ray Diffraction
XRF	-	X-Ray Fluorescence Spectrometer

LIST OF SYMBOLS

d_1 and d_2	-	Lateral dimension of specimen
ϵ_L	-	Longitudinal strain
ϵ_T	-	Transverse strain
E_c	-	Modulus of elasticity
F_{cf}	-	Flexural Strength
F	-	Maximum Load
L	-	Distance between the lower roller
ΔL_x	-	length Change of specimen at any age
S	-	Stress
μ	-	Poisson ratio
W_a	-	Percentage of water absorption
W_w	-	Weight of wet specimen
W_d	-	Weight of dry specimen
W_L	-	Percentage weight loss between 400°C and 600°C
M_{CH}	-	Molecular weight of water
M_w	-	The molecular weight of CH

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Concrete is an indispensable material that is made from cement, aggregates, and water and is used in infrastructure development. Construction industries are the largest consumers of construction materials in developing countries, and the majority of construction projects require massive amount of concrete due to urbanization which has increased the demand for concrete. It has been reported that over 30 billion tonnes of concrete are used annually (Monteiro et al., 2017), such volumes require vast amounts of natural resources such as aggregate and cement for concrete production. Attempts to improve concrete's sustainability are critical if the commodity's environmental impact is to be reduced. However, using waste as aggregate and cement replacement materials, on the other hand, can make cost-effective and sustainable concrete. The use of waste material in concrete lowers the cost of production while also affecting the concrete's qualities (Suliman et al., 2019).

Nowadays, construction industries are becoming increasingly aware and interested in using recycled or waste materials to promote sustainable and green concrete (Al-Mansour et al., 2019). However, the impact of the recycled or waste materials on mechanical properties and durability, such as porosity and water absorption are the most affected factors, which must be taken into account (Collivignarelli et al., 2020). Similarly, various types of industrial by – products were employed in making concrete as a partial or complete fine aggregate replacement material, and their qualities were compared to control concrete (Dash et al., 2016). As a result, for long-term sustainability, materials and ingredients capable of making effective and high-quality concrete should be used. Therefore, green materials, such as industrial wastes, are widely available, inexpensive and they

might be used to relieve the burden on natural resources, thereby promoting sustainability (Saran and Singh, 2021).

1.2 Background of the study

The global requirement to conserve natural resources and reduce CO₂ emissions to ensure the long-term sustainability of concrete structures has fuelled the search for alternative materials. Research showed that many waste materials such as tin slag, crushed glass, construction debris, plastic waste, and ceramic waste are used as partial fine aggregate replacement in concrete and has been found to improve the properties of concrete (Sandanyake et al., 2020). Therefore, emphasis has been placed on using waste material to replace fine aggregate. Also, the use of fly ash, GGBS, silica fume, glass powder, palm oil fuel ash, rice husk ash as cement replacement has been shown to improve the strength of concrete (Mark et al., 2019). Thus, the use of alternative materials for cement and fine aggregate replacement will assist in saving the available natural resources.

In relation to that, waste glass could provide an equal alternative to conventional aggregate in concrete, and using waste glass as fine aggregate in concrete not only benefits the environment but also decreases the demand for natural raw materials extraction. Although much of the waste glass is reused to create new glass products, a significant part is still discarded in landfills. Glass is an important yet non-biodegradable material that takes up considerable landfill space. New reuse methods should be researched to effectively manage the waste glass that is being disposed of in order to improve the sustainability of the construction industries (Harrison et al., 2020). The use of waste glass in cementitious materials is a low-cost way to reduce waste while also improving the qualities of cementitious composites.

Tamanna *et al.*, (2020) investigated the performance of mixed bottle waste glass as fine aggregate replacement in concrete in a ratio of 20% to 60% recycled glass sand (RGS) with particle size between 2.36 mm to 150 µm. The result indicated that fine glass can be replaced up to 20% using RGS which shows about 7% higher

strength compared to control after 28 days. However, it was recorded that 40% RGS and 60% RGS also achieved 86% and 96% of the control concrete strength, respectively, after 28 days. Similarly, the study conducted by Ibrahim, (2017) shows improvement on the properties of concrete up to 40% fine aggregate replacement with waste glass, which is about 5% increment in compressive strength after 28 days compared to control concrete. Furthermore, Olofinnade *et al.*, (2018) studies proved that window and container waste glass could also be used as a fine aggregate replacement for up to 50%. The results showed that concrete mixes with 25% and 50% glass content as a fine aggregate replacement recorded 20% increase in compressive strength after 28 days, compared to the control. After 90 days of curing, the compressive strength of 25% and 50% glass aggregate improved by 10% and 4%, respectively. While 75% fine aggregate replacement had the lowest compressive strength of 6% and 3% lower than the control concrete at 28 and 90 days, respectively. It was also reported that the compressive strength for 100% waste glass as fine aggregate replacement decreases by 32% and 13% at 28-day and 90-day when compared to the control concrete, respectively. The decline in the compressive strength is most likely attributed to the poor interfacial transition zone of glass aggregate.

Previous studies have also reported that waste glass in finely powdered form has been used as a partial substitute for Portland cement in concrete up to 20% (Yassen *et al.*, 2019; Patel *et al.*, 2020). Other studies also found that concrete with 20% mixed coloured glass powder with 20 μm particle size as a cement replacement material performed better than the control concrete after 90 days of curing (Nassar *et al.*, 2021). The test result shows that at 90 days of concrete age, concrete containing glass powder had a 43% increase in compressive strength between 28 days and 90 days and a 28% increase in flexural strength when compared to control concrete. The improvement of the strengths is due to the development of calcium silicate hydrate gel at later ages. It is therefore evident from the literature that glass powder potentially could be used as cement replacement materials in concrete.

Many researchers have conducted numerous experiments on the partial replacement of fine aggregate with different type of waste glass and found that it is feasible. The most common type of glass waste used is Soda-lime glasses such as bottle glass, container glass, and float glasses with a few of lead silica glass. However, with various types of glass waste used in previous literature still the windscreen glass waste is not being explored as fine aggregate or cement replacement in concrete. Due to the variations in their thermal properties, windscreens built of laminated glasses have been found to be stronger than other glass types utilized in the literature. Windscreens are manufactured from two sheets of soda-lime glasses (tempered) that have been found to be four to five times stronger than annealed soda-lime glasses made using the annealing process. When correctly processed, it can thus have the potential to be used as a fine aggregate alternative in concrete.

The only few studies that utilize windscreen glass, are as coarse aggregates in concrete (Arabi et al., 2019; Paiz. et al., 2019). It has been established that only a partial replacement of 10% windshield glass might be used as coarse aggregate replacement in concrete (Paiz et al., 2019). However, Arabi et al., (2019) study showed that the use of windshield glass as coarse aggregate in self-compacting concrete in a ratio of 25, 50, 75, and 100 percent replacement had a decrease in strength in all replacements. This decrease could be attributed to the weak bonding between the aggregate and the cement paste as a result of the smooth surface of the glass.

Although grinding glass aggregate creates a rough fracture surface, it has minimal influence on the qualities of aggregate and bonding to cement matrix. However, further decrease in the size of crushed glass aggregate can increase the rough fracture surface, which improves the compressive strength of concrete (Song et al., 2019). Thus, the aspect of bonding between waste glass aggregate and cement matrix needs further study on how to improve the interfacial transition zone (ITZ) which could be done by reducing the sizes of the glass aggregate to smaller sizes and subsequent addition of effective microorganism (EM) to the concrete. Similarly, past research has shown that using glass powder as a cement substitute results in low

early strength due to low early pozzolanic reactivity (Kalakada et al., 2019). In relation to this, more research on how to increase early strength is also required.

It is normally assumed that decreasing the size of aggregate to smaller sizes improve the surface area accessible for bonding (i.e. increasing roughness) which increases interfacial bond strength; nevertheless, the aggregate must be mechanically strong enough at its bonded surface to sustain this increase in bond strength. This shows that differences in aggregate mechanical strength, and internal structure are the major factors influencing bond strength and failure mode at the interface (Tasong et al., 1998).

Likewise, the need for sustainability has led to the use of environmentally beneficial materials like microorganisms. Previous studies showed that the use of effective microorganism (EM) in cement paste contributes to higher compressive strength and dense internal microstructure with less void compared to control cement paste (Ismail and Mohd Saman, 2014). Similarly, other studies verified that the inclusion of EM improves concrete properties in terms of workability, strength and durability of concrete (Isa et al., 2016; Rizwan et al., 2017; Mohd.Sam et al., 2019). EM has also been shown to improve the early and later ages strength of concrete with supplementary cementitious composite (Huseien et al., 2021).

Based on the shortcomings of previous research, this study proposes to utilize EM to adjust the characteristics of concrete and improve the interfacial transition zone of waste glass aggregate concrete. In addition, this study also looks into on how to mitigate the effect of low early strength of glass powder concrete when used as a cement replacement material that will contribute to sustainable technology and waste reduction. Therefore, further research into the properties of concrete containing glass fine aggregate (GFA) as a fine aggregate replacement and glass powder (GP) as cement replacement with EM can contribute to the wider acceptance of waste glass used in concrete. It may also help to reduce the use of natural aggregate as a fine aggregate in concrete to minimise natural resource depletion. As a result, waste valorisation in concrete may be a viable option for ensuring the long-term

sustainability and cost-effectiveness of concrete. Due to this impact, the qualities of waste glass concrete will be improved.

1.3 Problem Statement

A considerable amount of waste glass is disposed of in landfills or discarded in open spaces. For example, every year, Malaysians throw away over 3,000,000 kg of windscreen glass (Glass Mechanic Sdn Bhd, 2012). Many people assume that glass is recyclable. Almost all windscreens currently on the market are laminated using tempered glass, but the layers of polyvinyl butyral film sandwiched between the glasses make windscreens non-recyclable or, at the very least, uneconomical to recycle. As a result, the only way to dispose of unused windscreens is to bury them or throw them in a landfill.

Several studies have focused on the use of waste glass in concrete as a partial replacement for natural aggregate only. However, incorporating waste glass powder as cement replacement in the same concrete mixture with the glass aggregate could create sustainable development due to abundant glass waste generated. However, few studies incorporate waste bottle and float glasses as fine aggregate and glass powder as cement replacement (Afshinnia and Rangaraju, 2016; Kiliçoglu and Çoruh, 2017; Shen *et al.*, 2020). It has been established that the use of bottle waste glass and float glass as aggregate and supplementary cementitious material (SCM) in the same mixture could only be used up to 10 to 20% fine aggregate replacement and 5% to 20% cement replacement due to poor bonding between the smooth surface of glass particles and Portland cement paste.

Based on the previous works, weak interfacial transition zone of glass aggregate has been identified by many authors as the primary contributor of low strength at a higher fine aggregate replacement in concrete due to smooth surface of the glass. Therefore, this study intended to overcome these effects (bonding) by providing increase rough fracture surface texture of glass aggregate through the reduction of the particle size of the aggregate, and subsequent application of EM to

improve the performance of the concrete matrix. At present there is no published research employs windscreen waste glass as a fine aggregate and/or cement substitution with effective micro-organisms. The use of EM to improve the bonding effect of waste glass aggregate concrete could result in the maximum use of windscreen waste glass as a fine aggregate (100%) and cement replacement in concrete. This will contribute not only enhancing the properties of concrete but also reducing the load on landfills and saving available natural resources. Thus, this study focuses on the application of windscreen waste glass as a fine aggregate and cement replacement with effective microorganisms (EM-1) in concrete.

1.4 Aim and Objectives

The aim of this study is to evaluate the properties of concrete containing windscreen waste glass as a replacement for fine aggregate and cement with effective micro-organism (EM) in concrete.

1.4.1 Research Objectives

The objectives of the research are as follows:

- i) To characterize the properties of waste glass and establish the appropriate mix proportion that will contribute to enhancing the properties of glass aggregate concrete.
- ii) To evaluate the influence of effective microorganism and glass powder on the interfacial transition zone of waste glass aggregate and its effect on fresh and hardened properties of concrete.
- iii) To examine the properties of glass fine aggregate effective microorganism concrete at microscale level and evaluate the factors affecting the microstructure development of interfacial transition zone of the glass concrete.

- iv) To assess the implication of using windscreen waste glass as a fine aggregate and cement replacement with effective microorganism on the flexural behaviour of reinforced concrete beams.

1.5 Scope of the Research

The research emphasis is on the performance of concrete with windscreen waste glass as fine aggregate and cement replacement and improvement of ITZ of glass aggregate concrete. The waste glass was used in concrete as fine aggregate replacement with a ratio of 20%, 40%, 60%, 80%, and 100% with the aggregate's particle size of 1.18mm -150 μ m and glass powder of less than 45 μ m was used as cement replacement at 20% and EM (10%). The properties of waste glass as fine aggregate and cement replacement was characterized through physical, chemical, and mineralogical properties and the glass aggregate particles were formulated by decreasing the sizes to smaller size before applying it as fine aggregate replacement in concrete in order to improve the properties of concrete. The characterization, include sieve analysis, strength activity index, X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) for determination of the chemical composition of glass powder, and X-ray diffraction (XRD) for phase identification using glass powder sample and further studies of the pozzolanic reactivity of glass powder paste sample were determine through X-ray diffraction and Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA). The fresh and hardened properties of the glass fine aggregate effective micro-organism concrete (GFAEMC) were investigated. The properties include the slump test, compressive strength test, splitting tensile strength test, flexural strength test, modulus of elasticity, drying shrinkage, and water absorption. The study further checked on the microstructural analysis using scanning electron microscopy (SEM), Energy dispersive x-ray analysis (EDX), X- ray diffraction (XRD), and Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) to ascertain the filling mechanism and bonding effect at the micro-scale level. Furthermore, three reinforced concrete beams were used to assess the effect of using waste glass with effective microorganism (EM) in concrete in terms of flexural behaviour and then compared with the control reinforced concrete beam.

1.6 Significance of the study

The importance of this study is to provide sustainable and greener concrete through the use of waste material (windscreen waste glass) with the potential of enhancing the properties of concrete by improving the ITZ of glass aggregate concrete. Many of the waste materials disposed of have the potential to improve the properties of concrete when used as either fine aggregate or cement replacement as the case may be. The use of waste glass as fine aggregate and cement replacement will assist in saving the available natural resources and also reduce the carbon dioxide footprint through the use of less cement. Finer particles of waste glass when used as cement replacement is proven to improve strength properties as a result of the production of more calcium silica hydrates (C-S-H) gel. The use of waste glass as cement replacement will reduce costs and prolong the service life of the concrete structure.

The research focuses on the use of waste glass as both fine aggregate and cement replacement with effective microorganism in concrete for sustainable practices. The performance of glass fine aggregate effective micro-organism concrete (GFAEMC) was evaluated in terms of strength, microstructure, and structural behaviour of beams. This knowledge will contribute to the development of environmentally friendly and low-cost materials for concrete production in various applications in the construction industry.

1.7 Thesis layout

The thesis was arranged following the UTM thesis manual 2018. The work was spread in eight different chapters as follows:

Chapter 1 The first chapter describes the general background on the number of natural resources consumed by construction industries and the need for using recycled materials to preserve the resources. A brief emphasis was made on the importance of using waste glass as fine aggregate and cement replacement to reduce

the CO₂ footprint and cost. The chapter further presents the background of the problem, aim, and objectives, statement of the problem, the scope of the study, and significance of the research

Chapter 2 The second chapter presents previous literature relating to the use of waste glass as a fine aggregate and cement replacement in concrete and the use of effective microorganism in concrete. This chapter contains a review of the performance of waste glass in concrete and effective microorganism.

Chapter 3 The chapter describes the method and the material used along with the test conducted for the research. The procedures that are followed in conducting the research work.

Chapter 4 In this chapter the analysis of the results on the characterization of waste glass powder and waste glass aggregate were described and the trial mixes of concrete containing waste glass as aggregate and cement were discussed.

Chapter 5 The chapter explains the fresh and hardened properties of concrete with waste glass and effective microorganism (EM) on the slump test, compressive strength, splitting tensile strength, flexural strength, and modulus of elasticity (MOE), drying shrinkage, and water absorption.

Chapter 6 The chapter discusses the microstructural analysis of waste glass and EM concrete under the following test conducted scanning electron microscopy (SEM), Energy Dispersive X-ray analysis (EDX), X-ray diffraction (XRD), and Thermo-Gravimetric Analysis (TGA).

Chapter 7 The chapter presents the results obtained for the flexural test on the reinforced concrete beams containing waste glass and effective microorganism (EM) and the control beam (without waste glass). The beams containing waste glass were compared with the control beam to evaluate the performance and the behaviour of the waste glass effective micro-organism concrete beams.

Chapter 8 In this chapter conclusions were drawn based on the findings from the research work and a recommendation was outlined for future studies for maximum utilization of waste glass as fine aggregate and cement replacement with effective microorganism in construction industries.

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Isa Mallum, Abdul Rahman Mohd. Sam, Nor Hasanah Abdul Shukor Lim and Nathaniel Omolayo, Peter Loo (2021) “Properties of glass fine aggregate effective micro-organism concrete” Construction and Building Materials (under review). Pp 1-25.

Other publications

Nathaniel Olukotun, Abdul Rahman Mohd. Sam, Nor Hassana Abdul Shukur Lim, Muydeen Oladimeji Abdulkareem, **Isa Mallum**, Olukotun Adebisi (2021) “Mechanical Properties of Tin Slag Mortar” Recycling (MDPI) pp. 1-15

Abdulkareem, M., Ganiyu, A., Olukotun Nathaniel, **Isa Mallum**, Dunu, W (2021) “Interval analysis of mode shapes to identify damage in beam structures” Materials science and Engineering Technology. Special Issue: 6th international Conference on mechanical, Manufacturing and Plant Engineering (ICMMPE 2020). 10(52) PP 1064-1072.