



# Overview of carbonation behaviour of concrete with SCM incorporation according to TfNSW QA specification 3211 requirements

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# Assessment of slag use in concrete for use in base mixes in rigid road pavements



Abstract



Project Scopes,  
research objectives



Experimental program  
and methods



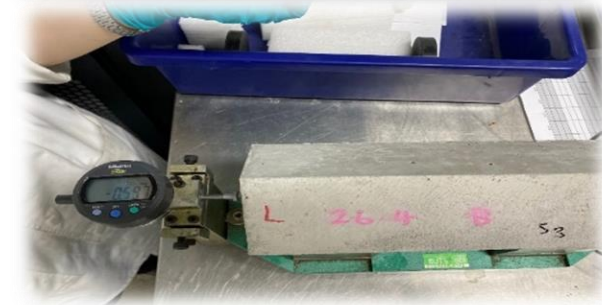
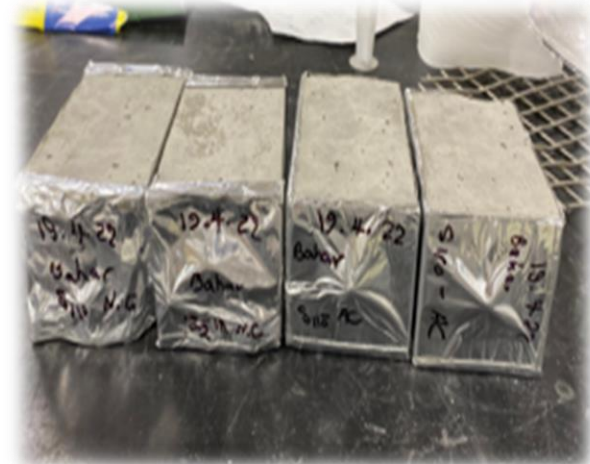
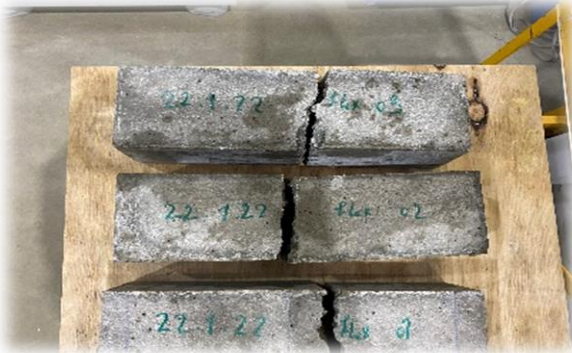
results

Compressive and  
Flexural strength  
Drying shrinkage

Accelerated  
carbonation



Accelerated Carbonation modelling





## Abstract

- The carbonation of concrete in structures causes deterioration and service life reduction. When carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ) from the surrounding atmosphere reacts with cement hydration products in concrete and imposes an environmental load, calcium carbonate forms, and the carbonation process begins.
- Validating the minimum SL cement content required for the carbonation resistance formulae in the TfNSW 3211 specification is important parts of this study.
- In this research, the carbonation behaviour of concrete mixes utilising 250, 300, and 350  $\text{kg/m}^3$  binder content, a fixed water-to-binder ratio of 0.45, and cement replacement levels of 40-70% GGBFS and 15-20% fly ash, will be investigated.
- Compressive strength, flexural strength, drying shrinkage and accelerated carbonation depth results will be reported. The relationship between carbonation depth and carbonation rate using GGBFS and fly ash will also be evaluated.

### For carbonation resistance

The minimum proportion of cement,  $SL_{\min}$ , is determined as follows:

$$SL_{\min} \geq 100 - 0.55 [FA + 0.5 \times GGBFS]$$

where:

$SL_{\min}$  = Minimum Type SL cement (% by mass)

$FA$  = Mass of fly ash ( $\text{kg/m}^3$ )

$GGBFS$  = Mass of GGBFS ( $\text{kg/m}^3$ )



The overall objectives of this research study are highlighted as follows:

First

Assess **carbonation behaviour, workability, strength** development, and **drying shrinkage limits** for **350 kg/m<sup>3</sup>** (cement replacement levels by **15-20%** fly ash and **40-70%** GGBFS).

Second

Assess **carbonation behaviour, workability, strength** development, and **drying shrinkage limits** for **250-300 kg/m<sup>3</sup>** (cement replacement levels by **15-20%** fly ash and **40-70%** GGBFS).

Third

Compare **natural field samples** and **accelerated** carbonation behaviour of **slag-based** to establish a correlation between **natural** and **accelerated** test conditions, according to **carbonation depth**.

Fourth

Develop predictive **carbonation models** to determine the impact and ranking of **carbonation factors** on **carbonation depth** in rigid pavement.

Fifth

Introduce and correlate **permeability results** to carbonation results for **250, 300 and 350 kg/m<sup>3</sup>** binder contents (cement replacement levels **40-70%** GGBFS).



## Experimental Program and methods

### Materials:



Cement and  
Supplementary  
cementitious materials  
  
shrinkage limited  
(SL) cement,  
GGBFS, FA



Aggregates  
  
Peppertree aggregate  
20mm , Peppertree  
aggregate 10mm,  
Peppertree blended  
man sand,  
  
Mackas fine sand



Admixture  
  
Plastisement10  
(water-reducing )  
Sika product



Australian  
Standards



ISO 1920-12  
BS EN 14630  
RILEM CPC-18



TfNSW QA  
specification

Description	Compressive Strength	Flexural Strength <sup>(1)</sup>
Non-SCM Mixes <sup>(2)</sup>	In the Trial Mix 45.0 MPa (F <sub>28dm</sub> )	5.0 MPa (F <sub>28dm</sub> )
	In the Works 40.0 MPa (f <sub>cdm</sub> )	4.8 MPa (f <sub>bdm</sub> ) <sup>(3)</sup>
SCM Mixes <sup>(2)</sup>	In the Trial Mix 40.0 MPa (F <sub>28dm</sub> )	4.8 MPa (F <sub>28dm</sub> )
	In the Works 35.0 MPa (f <sub>cdm</sub> )	4.5 MPa (f <sub>bdm</sub> ) <sup>(3)</sup>
Test specimen size	cylinder 100 mm diameter	beam 100 × 100 × 350 mm
Test methods	AS 1012.8 except: TfNSW T304 for moulding; AS 1012.9 for testing	AS 1012.8 except: TfNSW T304 for moulding; AS 1012.11 for testing

slump test for slipform paving  
is between 15 –50 ± 5 mm

### (60% GGBFS and 40% SL Cement)

Trial mix design 40%SL, 60%GGBFS	24/08/2021
Target Slump( +/- 5mm)	50
Ambient temperature (° C)	23 +/-2
Aire content (%)	3.1
Actual Slump (mm)	45
Batch Volume m3	0.03
Actual Slump (mm)	45

Water (L)	
Water Start	4.5
Water added	0.5 + 0.2
Water contain(aggregate)	0.11
water in admixture	0.017
Total Water	5.327

Unit Weight	
Container Kg	4.55
Concrete + container Kg	24.65
Concrete Kg	20.1
Vol Container m3	0.008
Unit Weight (Kg/m3)	2577

Admixture Name	SG	solid content	Water content	Target of solid content	Target of water
Plastisement10	1.07-1.10	21.0-25.0%	79.0-75.0%	0.23	0.77
Admixture			Volume (ml)	Weight (g)	Water (ml)
Sika Plastiment 10 Specific	200ml/100kg	21	22.89	17.63	

Concrete type	Total content (kg/m3)	SL Cement (kg/m3)	Eraring-Fly ash (kg/m3)	Slag-GGBFS (kg/m3)	Water (kg/m3)	Water/binder (%)	Mackas fine sand (Kg/m3)	Peppertree 20mm aggregate (Kg/m3)	Peppertree 10mm aggregate (Kg/m3)	Peppertree blended man sand (Kg/m3)	Total
Design wight (kg/m3)	350	140	0	210	157.5	0.45	275	807	298	476	2400
Lab Batch Weight (KG)	11.65	4.66	0	6.99	4.5	0.45	9.16	26.9	9.93	15.86	78
Moisture content (%)							0	0.6	0.8	0	
Water contained(KG)							-0.08	0.21	0.12	-0.14	0.11
Total Lab Batch (KG)	11.7	4.7	0	7	5.32	0.45	9.08	27.11	10.05	15.72	78.98
Corrected weights (kg/m3)	351	141	0	210	159.60	0.45	302.67	903.67	335.00	524.00	2575.9



### EX: Mix designs

Type	Total Binder (kg/m3)	SL Cement %	GGBFS %	Eraring-Fly ash %	Coarse and fine aggregates	W/C	Sika Plastiment (mL)
CO	250	100%	0	0	~ 2000	0.45	10 ±5
		60-30%		0			
		85-20%	40-70%	15%			
		80-10%		20%			
		85%		15%			
		80%	0	20%			
		60%		40%			
Mixes	300	20%		40%	~ 2000	0.45	10 ±5
		20%	40%	40%			
		20%		40%			
		20%		40%			

# Assessment of slag use in concrete for use in base mixes in rigid road pavements



## Results

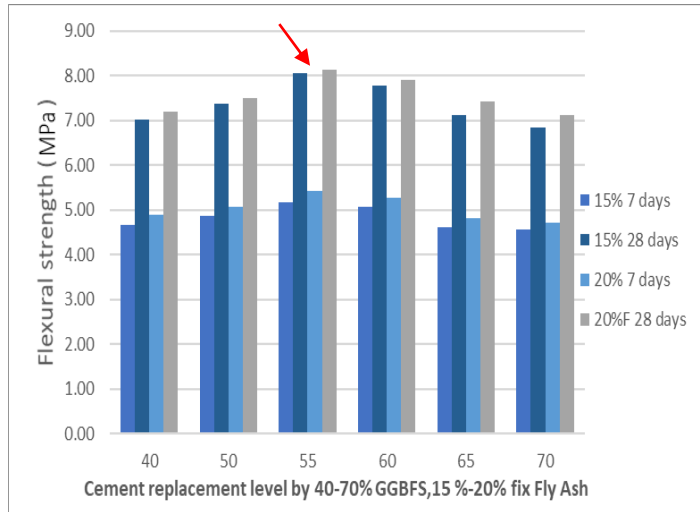
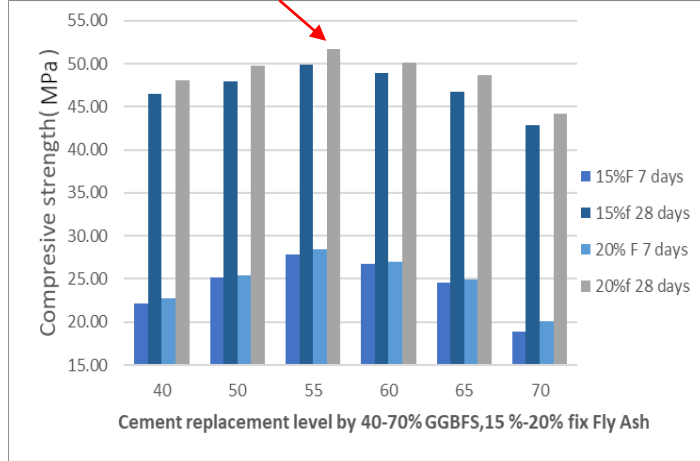


Figure 1. Compressive and flexural strength results for 40-70% GGBFS and 15% - 20% fly ash mixes

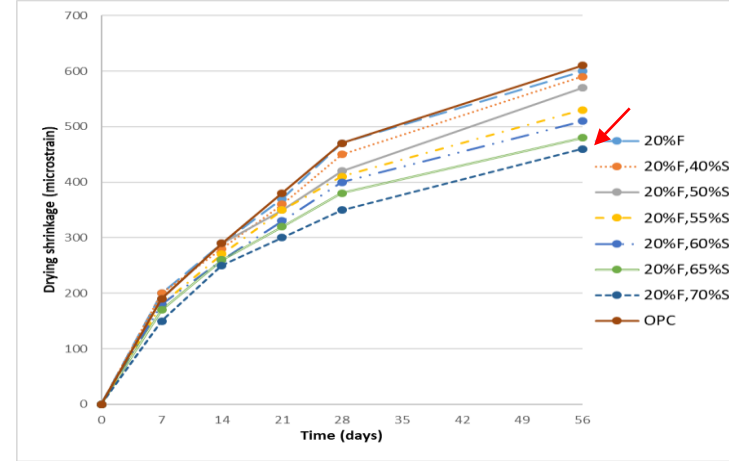


Figure 2. Shrinkage results with cement replacement level by 40-70% of GGBFS(%) – 15 and 20 % Fly Ash

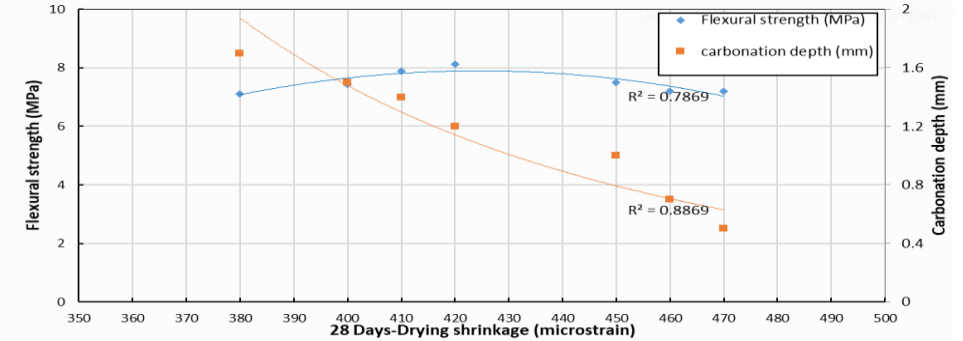
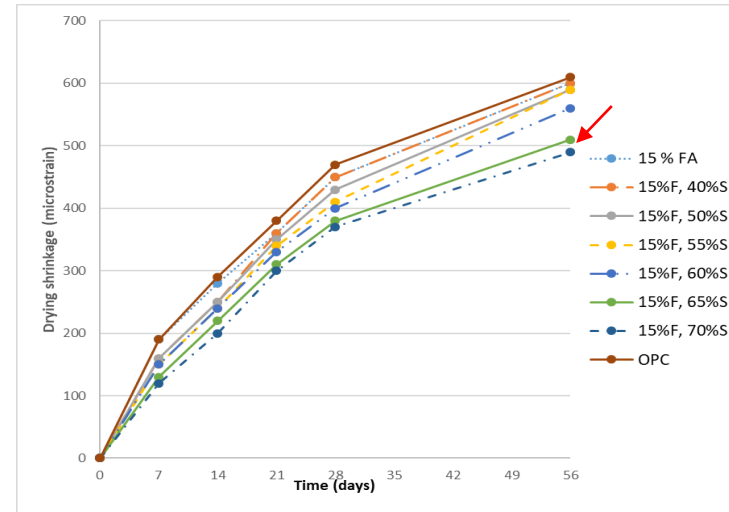


Fig 3. The relationship of drying shrinkage with flexural strength and carbonation depth for the cement replacement level by 40-70% of GGBFS (%)– 20% FA

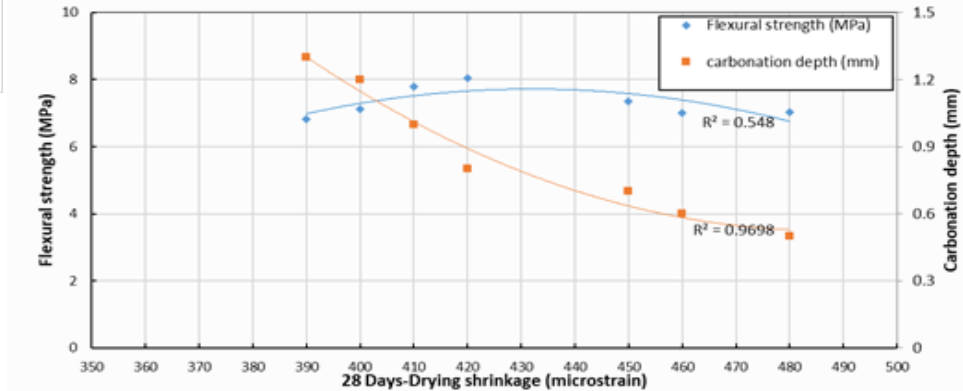


Fig4. The relationship of drying shrinkage with flexural strength and carbonation depth for the cement replacement level by 40-70% of GGBFS (%)– 15% FA

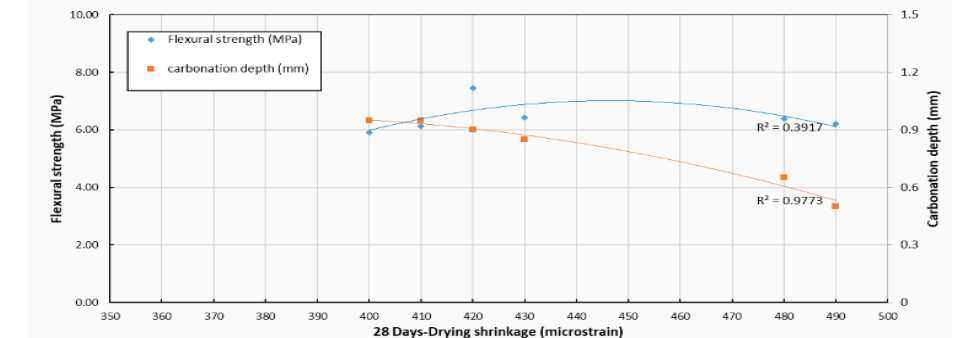


Fig 5. The relationship of drying shrinkage with flexural strength and carbonation depth for the cement replacement level by 40-70% of GGBFS (%)

# Assessment of slag use in concrete for use in base mixes in rigid road pavements

## Accelerated carbonation condition and result

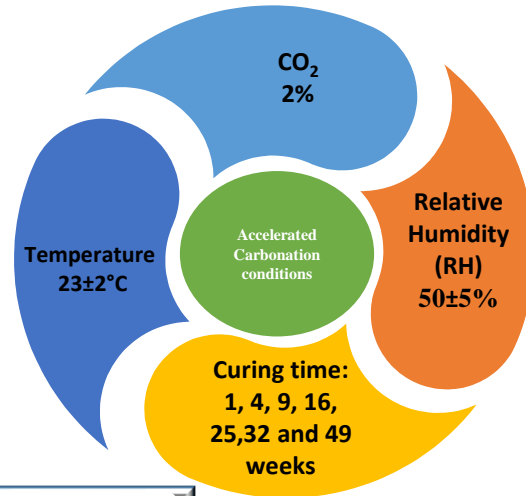
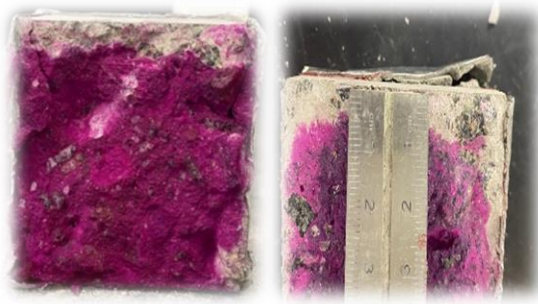
### General carbonation Equation

$$X = K\sqrt{t}$$

X: the carbonation depth (mm)

K: the carbonation coefficient (mm/year<sup>0.5</sup>)

t: the exposure time to CO<sub>2</sub> (year)



$$b = b_1 c_1 + b_2 c_2$$

$$b_1 = 0.0019(C_3A)^2 - 0.0056(C_3A) + 0.7538$$

$$K = -4.062 + 2.568(1000/b)$$

C<sub>3</sub>A = 12.8% b<sub>1</sub> = 1

C<sub>3</sub>A = 8.6% b<sub>1</sub> = 0.85

C<sub>3</sub>A = 1.6% b<sub>1</sub> = 0.75

the buffering capacity material component (b<sub>2</sub>)

b<sub>2 slag</sub> ~ 0.55 - 0.6

b<sub>2 fly ash</sub> ~ 0.2

$$K_{relRH} = -0.000508(RH)^2 + 0.0556(RH) - 0.4472$$

$$K_{cure} = 0.679 + 0.705 p^{-0.715}$$

RH: the relative humidity of the environment in percent

P: the period of wet curing in days



K<sub>b</sub>, b  
the carbonation rate of  
Buffering capacity  
(pH)

K (cure),  
the carbonation rate  
at curing time

K (RH)  
the carbonation rate  
of relative humidity

Factors of carbonation rate  
(K value) according to  
concrete society, technical  
report no.61

$$K = K_b + K_{RH} + K_{Cure}$$

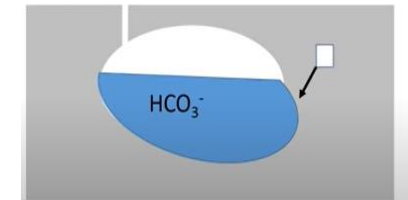
$$X = K\sqrt{t}$$

Other important factors

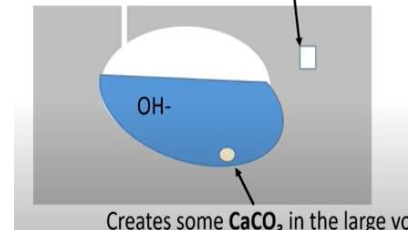
Effect of PSD (particle size distribution)

Ca/Si ratio

calcium hydroxide  
dissolves to the acids,  
forming carbonic acid (H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>)  
This is called **buffering**.

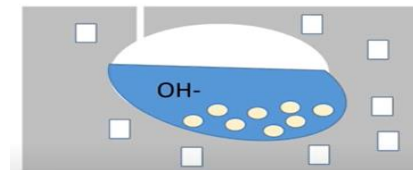


This leaves a void in the paste!

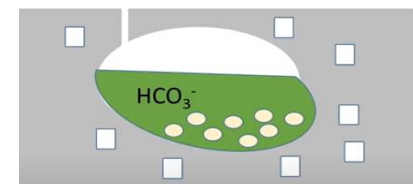


Creates some CaCO<sub>3</sub> in the large void

This continues until  
have consumed the  
calcium hydroxide



Now the pH ↓



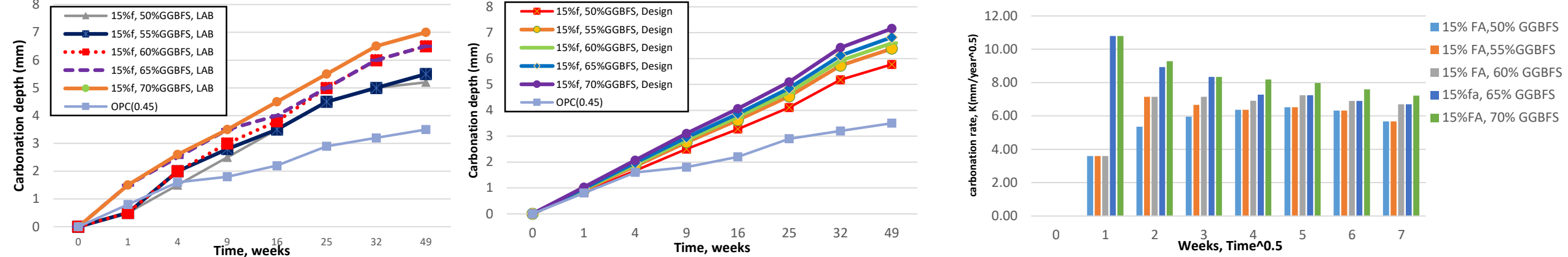


Figure 6. Carbonation depth and Carbonation rate ( $K$  (mm/year<sup>0.5</sup>)) results for 50-70% GGBFS and 15% fly ash mixes

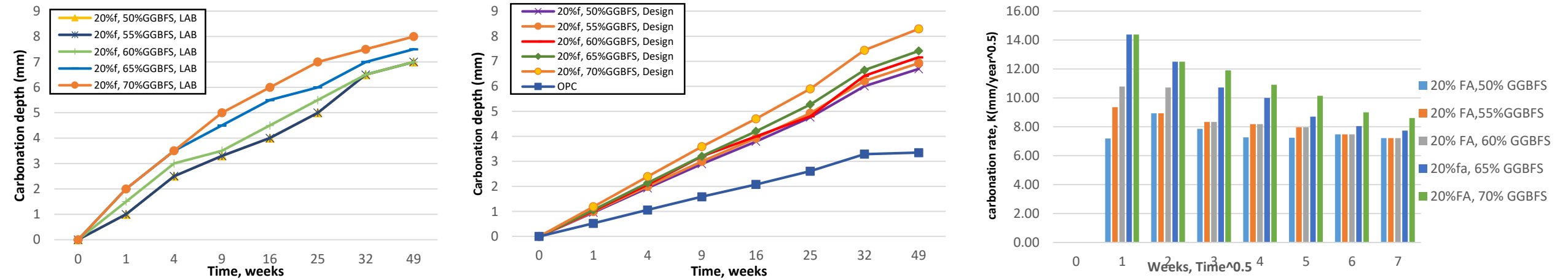


Figure 7. Carbonation depth and Carbonation rate ( $K$  (mm/year<sup>0.5</sup>)) results for 50-70% GGBFS and 20% fly ash mixes

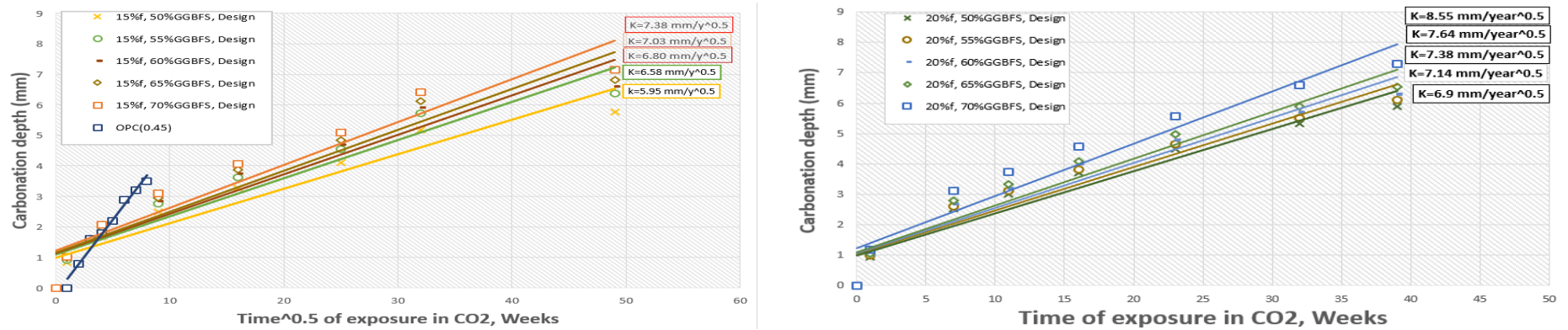


Fig 8. Calculation of carbonation depth(mm) for 40-70% GGBFS and 15-20% fly ash mixes





Thank you For your attention

