

PERFORMANCE OF CONCRETE
CONTAINING MICROWAVED SEWAGE
SLUDGE ASH AS ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

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SUPERVISOR'S DECLARATION

I hereby declare that I have checked this thesis and in my opinion, this thesis is adequate in terms of scope and quality for the award of the degree of Master of Science.

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STUDENT'S DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work in this thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at Universiti Malaysia Pahang or any other institutions.

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Thesis submitted in fulfillment of the requirements
for the award of the degree of
Master of Science

College of Engineering
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG

SEPTEMBER 2021

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost, I'd like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) for the good facilities and equipment in the laboratory to finish my research. I am grateful UMP can provide us a comfortable working environment and refined equipment.

I'd like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Doh Shu Ing, my beloved research supervisor, for his unwavering support during my studies. Without his guidance, motivation, support and enthusiasm, I would be unable to complete my research with successful results. His courage enables me to strive better in this research. I really appreciate and will remember his good deeds to me emotionally, mentally and financially for my better future, forever.

A special thanks to my father, Azed Bin Hj Mohd Sidek, my mother, Julia Bt Bahari and all of my siblings for their love and encouragement all the way to complete my master studies in UMP. Thank you for never giving up on me.

Finally, I am also grateful as Allah sent me many supportive, loving friends and family during my ups and downs journey, for all the happiness and tears we had. Especially, Suhaily Suhaimi, Mohd Mukhris Awang; Encik Mohamad Najib Mohd Nor, Encik Wan Nazrul Helmy, Encik Nasrul Salim Pakheri and family, Muhammad Asyraf Abdullah, Muhammad Nur Arif Asri, Mohamad Fathin Mohd Zakiyuddin, my lab mates, all InSmartive and my Residential College 4 and Residential College 5 families. Their friendships enlighten my life. Last but not least thank you also to all of those people who have been involved in bring cheerful and happiness to me during my studies wherever you are. I love you guys so much.

ABSTRAK

Jumlah penduduk bandar di Malaysia merupakan 72.8% daripada jumlah keseluruhan penduduknya, dan angka ini dijangka bertambah setiap tahun. Malaysia sendiri menghasilkan 3.2 juta m³ enap cemar kumbahan setiap tahun. Kebiasaannya, semua sisa buangan ini dibuang melalui kaedah kambus tanah. Ini merupakan ancaman serius bagi alam sekitar kerana kandungan toksik yang tinggi pada enap cemar kumbahan jika dibuang tanpa kawalan yang ketat. Selain itu, proses konvensional pengeluaran simen di industri dan penghasilan abu enap cemar kumbahan sebelum ini menggunakan banyak tenaga dengan menggunakan proses insinerasi dengan suhu yang sangat tinggi. Oleh itu, kaedah pemanasan gelombang mikro adalah alternatif yang digunakan dalam penyelidikan ini untuk mengurangkan penggunaan tenaga dan masa yang digunakan untuk memanaskan abu kumbahan dalam penghasilan bahan tambah pada konkrit. Penyelidikan ini dilakukan untuk mengkaji prestasi suhu optimum membakar bahan enap cemar kumbahan menggunakan kaedah gelombang mikro dalam menghasilkan Abu Kumbahan Gelombang Mikro (MSSA), seterusnya mengkaji kesan penggunaan peratusan MSSA yang berbeza (0%, 5%, 10%, 15% dan 20%) melalui kaedah pengawetan yang berbeza (pengawetan udara dan pengawetan air) serta menguji sifat mekanikal dan juga sifat ketahanannya terhadap keadaan persekitaran yang agresif. Ciri Abu Kumbahan Gelombang Mikro (MSSA) ini diuji dengan ujian Pendarflour Sinar-X (XRF), Belauan Sinar-X (XRD) dan Mikroskop Elektron Pengimbas (SEM). Sifat mekanikal konkrit MSSA diperiksa dengan ujian kekuatan mampatan, kekuatan lenturan dan modulus keanjalan setelah 180 hari pengawetan. Sementara itu, sifat ketahanan konkrit MSSA terhadap keadaan persekitaran agresif dikenal pasti dengan menggunakan ujian serangan asid dan rintangan sulfat. Ujian penyerapan air juga dilakukan untuk menentukan prestasi rendaman konkrit MSSA. Berdasarkan hasil ujian, kaedah pembakaran dengan Mod Suhu Tinggi menunjukkan perkembangan yang baik berbanding Mod Suhu Sederhana dan Sederhana Tinggi. Ini adalah disebabkan oleh kehadiran Silikon Dioksida yang tinggi sebagai elemen penting dalam penghasilan reaksi pozolona pada perkembangan kekuatan konkrit. Sampel yang diuji dengan pengawetan air dan mengandungi 5% MSSA (W5) mempunyai hasil yang terbaik dibandingkan dengan spesimen lain dari sudut sifat mekanikal dan prestasinya terhadap persekitaran agresif. Sifat mekanik kandungan MSSA 5% (W5) dalam konkrit menunjukkan sampel yang paling optimum kerana kepadatan tindak balas pozzolanik dan kesan pengisinya. Prestasi mekanikal terendah adalah MSSA 20% pada kedua-dua jenis pengawetan. Kesan pengawetan dengan hasil yang lebih baik adalah pengawetan air, kerana mendapat nilai kekuatan tertinggi dalam uji mampatan, ujian lenturan dan ujian modulus keanjalan. Pengawetan air dengan MSSA 5% (W5) juga menunjukkan ketahanan daya tahan terbaik terhadap serangan sulfat dan asid. Sebagai kesimpulan, berdasarkan hasilnya, MSSA menunjukkan kesan positif terhadap penggunaannya sebagai bahan tambahan pada campuran simen untuk meningkatkan kualiti konkrit. Oleh itu, ini akan mengurangkan pembuangan sisa kumbahan di tempat pembuangan sampah dan meningkatkan prestasi kualiti konkrit.

ABSTRACT

Urban population of Malaysia is stated as 72.8% of its total population, and growing every year. Malaysia itself produces 3.2 million m³ of sewage sludge annually. Normally all of this waste is disposed by using landfill method. This is a serious threat to environment due to the high toxic content of sewage sludge if disposed it without strict control. Furthermore, usual production of cement and sewage sludge ash consumes a lot of energy by using incineration process with a very high temperature. Thus microwave heating method seen as an alternatives use in this research to reduce the consumption of energy and time used to heat the sewage sludge ash. The aim of this study was to identify the optimum microwave temperature in producing Microwave Sewage Sludge Ash (MSSA), to determine the performances of varied percentage (0%, 5%, 10%, 15% and 20%) of the MSSA concrete with different curing regime (air and water curing). Furthermore, to analyse its mechanical properties and performance towards aggressive environment. The optimum temperature of burning of MSSA was tested by X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF), X-Ray Diffraction (XRD) and Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) test. The mechanical properties of MSSA concrete was examined by compressive strength test, flexural Strength and modulus of elasticity after 180 days of curing. While, the performances of the MSSA concrete towards aggressive environment were identified by using Acid Attack test and Sulphate Resistance test. Water absorption test were also conducted to determine the percentage of water absorbed by MSSA concrete. Based on the result, High Temperature Mode was found the best in result compared to Medium and Medium High Temperature Mode. This is due to the high availability of Silicon Dioxide as the important pozzolanic element in the concrete strength development. Water curing with 5% of MSSA (W5) shown the best in results compared to other specimens in term of mechanical properties and its performance towards aggressive environment. The mechanical properties of 5% MSSA content in concrete shows the most optimum samples due to the densification of pozzolanic reaction and filler effect of MSSA. The lowest mechanical performance was sample with 20% content of MSSA for both curing method. The curing effect with better result was water curing, as it shown highest value of strength in all mechanical performance test. Water curing with 5% MSSA (W5) also shows best in durability resistance towards sulphate and acid attack. As conclusion, based on the results, it is shown the positive impact on using the MSSA as additional material to the cement mixture as it improves the quality of the concrete. Thus, this initiative can help in reduce the disposal activity of sewage sludge waste on dumping site and improves the quality performances of the concrete.

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