

## MODULATION OF $\alpha$ COEFFICIENT BY ADDITION OF GROUND BLAST FURNACE GRANULATED SLAG

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### INTRODUCTION

**Granulated Blast Furnace Slags (GBFS) can be used as binder in road construction**

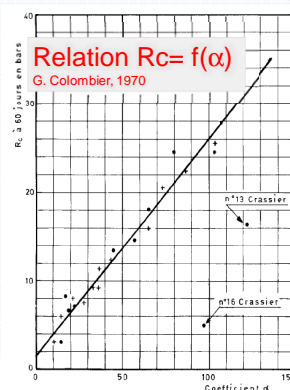
Their reactivity is governed by the  $\alpha$  coefficient (EN 13286-44)

$$\alpha = SS \times F$$

SS : specific surface of elements < 80  $\mu\text{m}$

F : sand friability

Higher is  $\alpha$ , better is the reactivity of the slag



Goal: study the **variation of the  $\alpha$  coefficient on 28 GBFS** coming from a same production unit (2 blast furnaces) and **modulation of its value by addition of Ground Granulated Blast Furnace Slags (GGBFS)**

### CHARACTERIZATION OF GBFS

	Blast furnace	CaO %	SiO <sub>2</sub> %	Fe %	S %	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> %	MgO %	SS (<80 $\mu\text{m}$ ) cm <sup>2</sup> /g	F	$\alpha$ Coeff.	w %
Max	BF1+ BF2	43.84	38.14	0.45	1.21	12.43	7.39	2535	12.5	26	10.3
Min	BF1+ BF2	39.89	35.59	0.01	0.56	10.40	5.78	1457	8	13	5.1
Max	BF1	43.60	38.14	0.34	1.21	12.43	7.16	2002	12.1	22	10.0
Min	BF1	39.89	35.98	0.01	0.56	10.78	5.78	1457	8	13	5.4
Max	BF2	43.84	38.11	0.45	1.03	11.69	7.39	2535	12.5	26	10.3
Min	BF2	40.07	35.59	0.06	0.56	10.40	6.23	1489	9	14	5.1
Average	BF1+BF2	42.02	37.15	0.25	0.89	11.25	6.77	1775	10.5	18.6	7.2
	BF1	42.07	37.16	0.22	0.90	11.38	6.64	1633	10.4	17.1	7.5
	BF2	41.96	37.15	0.27	0.88	11.13	6.89	1916	10.5	20.2	6.9
Standard deviation	BF1+BF2	0.82	0.49	0.08	0.10	0.36	0.29	227	0.7	3.0	1.1
	BF1	0.79	0.42	0.06	0.11	0.41	0.32	116	0.5	1.3	1.2
	BF2	0.73	0.55	0.10	0.09	0.33	0.26	245	0.9	3.5	0.8

- Chemical composition and friability (F) : regular
- Specific Surface (SS) of the fines particles : variable
- Granularity of all GBFS (fines content ~0.8%) : similar
- Correlation between SS and fines granularity : good

The **variation of the  $\alpha$  coefficient depends on the specific surface of the fines (granulation process)**

### HYDRAULICALLY BOUND MIXTURES



Preparation : NF EN 13286-2 standard

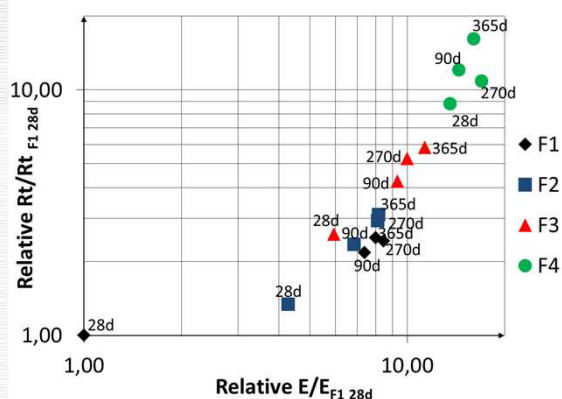
Formulation of hydraulically bound mixtures				
	Formula 1	Formula 2	Formula 3	Formula 4
CBFS 0/22.4	80	80	80	80
GBFS	20	19	17.5	15
GGBFS	0	1	2.5	5

Determination of tensile strength  $R_{tb}$  (MPa) and elastic modulus  $E$  (MPa) : relative values

- Highest increase of  $R_{tb}$  and  $E$  at 28 days
- High increase of  $R_{tb}$  and  $E$  for formula 3 (x 2) and for formula 4 (x 10 at short term)

**Addition of 2.5% and 5% of GGBFS improve the hydraulic activity of hydraulically bound mixture**

$R_{tb}=f(E)$  (relative values)



### CONCLUSION

- Reactivity of the GBFS governed by  $\alpha$  coefficient, whose variation is due to the specific surface of the fines
- Increase of the mechanical performances by addition of GGBFS to hydraulically bound mixtures
- The  $\alpha$  coefficient is not relevant enough to evaluate the reactivity of hydraulically bound mixtures: quantity of fines in the mixture is not taken into account.