ELASTIC AND ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVE MONITORING OF EARLY AGE TRC

NICOLAS OSPITIA PATIÑO

Dr. Ali Pourkazemi Dr. Eleni Tsangouri Prof. Dr. Johan Stiens Prof. Dr. Dimitrios Aggelis





MATERIAL

TEXTILE REINFORCED CEMENTITIOUS COMPOSITE











1. "Heydar Aliyev Center / Zaha Hadid Architects" 14 Nov 2013. ArchDaily. Accessed 26 Aug 2020. https://www.archdaily.com/448774/heydar-aliyev-center-zaha-hadid-architects ISSN 0719-8884



Lightweight









Durable

OBJECTIVE

CURING MONITORING OF EARLY AGE TRC

Monitor the hydration and curing of early age TRC with Ultrasound Pulse Velocity (UPV), Ultrasound Wave Reflection (UWR) and MMW Spectrometry to provide an assessment on the mechanical and physical changes during this period.









Techniques and setup





ULTRASOUND

Pulse Velocity



In order to **monitor the development of stiffness** in fresh mortar and TRC, the **WAVE VELOCITY** is measured experimentally and the Young Modulus is estimated. In order to monitor the hydration of TRC plates, the AMPLITUDE of the reflection of longitudinal waves was continuously monitored.

Wave Reflection









ULTRASOUND PULSE VELOCITY

Pulse Velocity

$$V_{l} = \sqrt{\frac{E * (1 - \nu)}{\rho (1 + \nu)(1 - 2\nu)}}$$

- Micro-II Digital AE System
- R15 sensors
- Agilent 20 MHz
 Waveform Generator











ULTRASOUND WAVE REFLECTION



A = Amplitude of reflected and transmitted waves.

 $\rho = Density of materials$

V = Wave velocity

In order to monitor the hydration of TRC plates, the AMPLITUDE of the reflection of longitudinal waves was continuously monitored.

Wave Reflection







MMW SPECTROMETRY



Electromagnetic technique based on sweeping frequencies in а determined bandwidth (between 30 and 300 GHz) through a sample. With the amplitude of the transmitted and reflected waves and known geometry, the EM properties can be determined.

Water (High permittivity) + Cement (Low permittivity) +

Sand (Low permittivity) + Textiles (Low permittivity) = TRC (Low permittivity)







Results



























1. Hardening of surface of TRC

Minimum point – Theoretically Z1 = Z2.

High sensitivity of the test

2. Low sensitivity of the test.

It is relative to the buffer material.











The Young modulus was calculated.

The amplitude monitored was normalized by dividing it vs air and subtracting the minimum reflection to 0.

















RESULTS

MMW SPECTROMETRY – S21

- 1. The wave passes through the sample of 10 mm.
- 2. It can not pass through thicker samples (22 mm)
- 3. 47.5 GHz
- 4. Dormant period, or period in which the wave cannot pass through the sample
- 5. Reactions and higher EM wave transmission



ASEC





COMPARISON MMW AND UPV 24H



S21 (dB) -30 TRC (10 mm) Mortar 2 (22 mm) -35 Mortar 1 (10 mm) -40 S21 (dB) -45 -50 -55 -60 10 15 20 5 Time (Hours)

Development of strength

Reduction of free water & chemical reactions







Conclusions





GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

- UPV can successfully monitor the development in stiffness of early age TRC, allowing for estimation of the Young's Modulus.
- When both sides of the sample are not accessible, UWR can be used as an alternative monitoring technique from where the stiffness of the surface of the material can be estimated. The BM can be chosen to match an indicative impedance.
- MMW in transmission shows sensitivity to chemical reactions involved in the hydration and curing of TRC and mortar specimens, allowing for monitoring during this stage. The sensitivity of MMW allows for differentiation between TRC and mortar.





The financial support of FWO (Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek-Vlaanderen) through grants **G.0337.19N** and **12J7720N** is gratefully acknowledged. The authors also acknowledge the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) through the SRP-project M3D2, the ETRO-IOF project and the OZR-3251 project, GHz-THz VNA measurement infrastructure, from benchtop to portable instruments.





Thank you

Mail: nicolas.ospitia.patino@vub.be





