

Low Cement Concrete Mixes with PET plastic fibres in Reinforced Concrete Beams

11th Undergraduate Research & Innovation Competition, Abu Dhabi University, Khalifa City Campus.

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Concrete

Cheap construction material, Low maintenance cost, Easy to shape, Less skilled labor and Fire and weather durable.

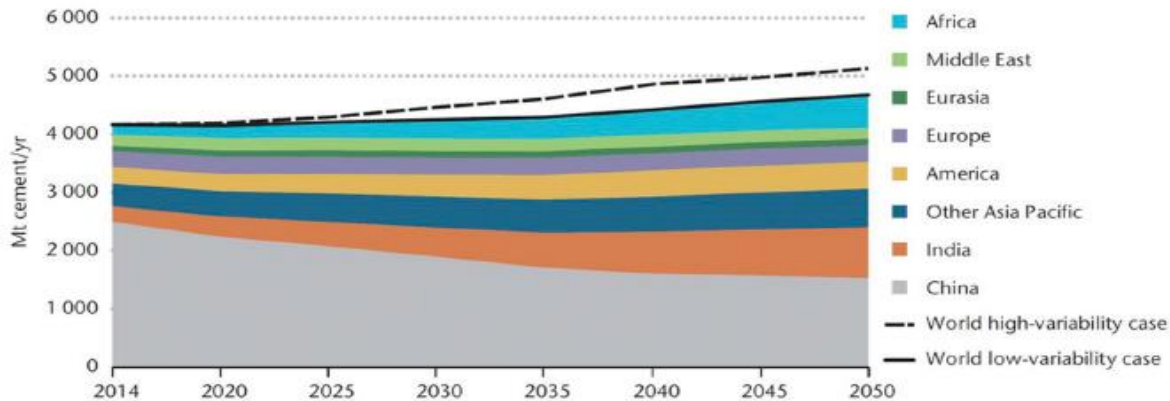
Second consumed material after water (20 billion tons annual production)



Cement Production

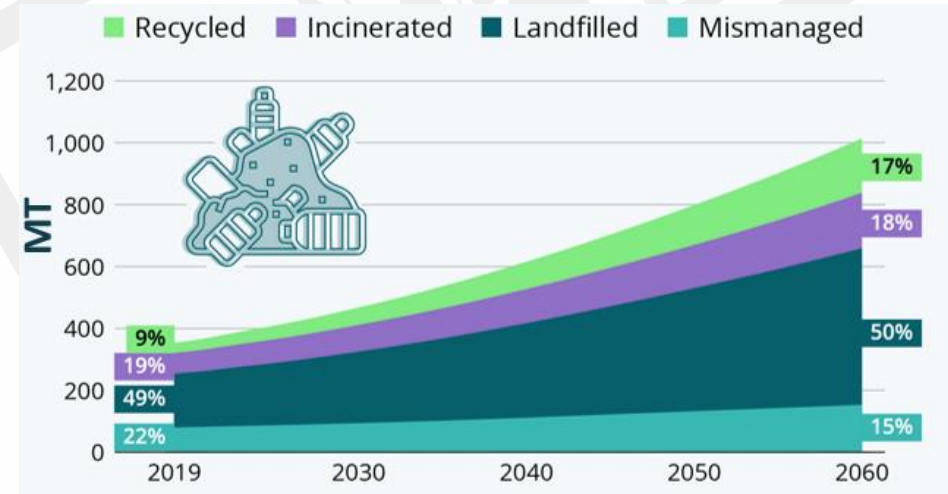
550 to 1000 kgCO₂/ton

7% of the Global CO₂ emissions



Plastic

Low cost; easily shaped; lightweight; resistant to corrosion; transparent; Poor heat and electricity conductor.



12 billion tons of plastic waste will be landfilled by 2050



This Research Solution

~~Cement + Natural Aggregates + Water = Non-Eco-Friendly Concrete~~

50% GGBS

+

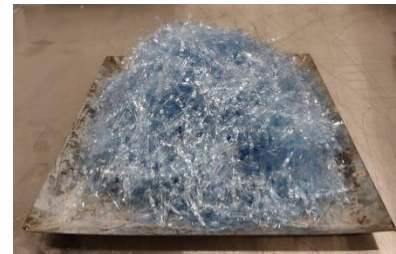
10% SF

+

10% CWP



+



25mm PET fibre length =
1% volume fraction

Eco-Friendly Concrete



The aims and objectives of the project

- ✓ Reduction of plastic waste in landfills
- ✓ Providing a cost-effective solution
- ✓ Reduction of CO₂ emissions

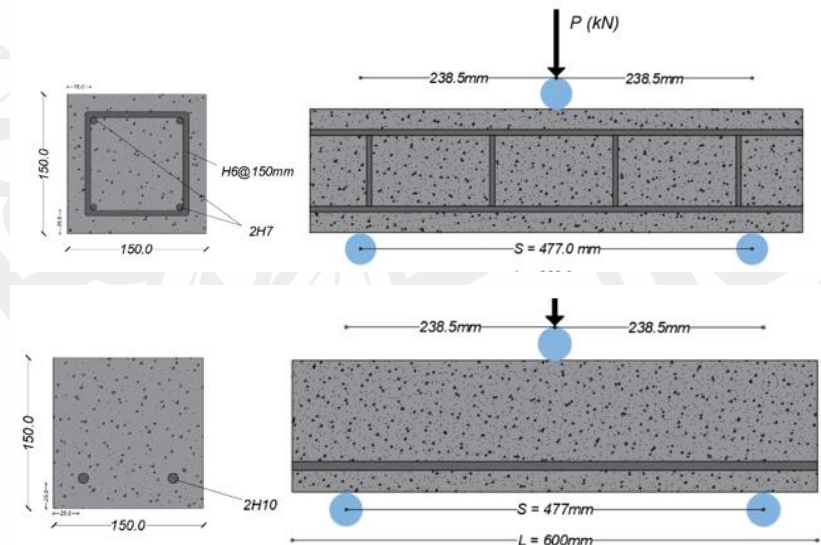
Experimental Procedure and Tests

C40 Mix grade
W/C=0.42

Mix-code	Mix description
M0	100% Cement-N.F.A.-N.C.A.-Water-Plasticizer
MGS	40% Cement-50% GGBS-10%SF-N.F.A.-N.C.A.-Water-Plasticizer
MGSCW10	30% Cement-50% GGBS-10%SF-10% CWP-N.F.A.-N.C.A.-Water-Plasticizer
M0-P	100% Cement-N.F.A.-N.C.A.-Water-Plasticizer-1%PET fibres
MGS-P	30% Cement-50% GGBS-10%SF-N.F.A.-N.C.A.-Water-Plasticizer-1%PET fibres
MGSCW10-P	30% Cement-50% GGBS-10%SF-10% CWP-N.F.A.-N.C.A.-Water-Plasticizer-1%PET fibres



Total of 60 Concrete Samples
+
12 Reinforced Concrete beams



Experimental Procedure and Tests-Continued

Slump Test



Compressive Test



Shrinkage Test



RC beam-No Stirrups

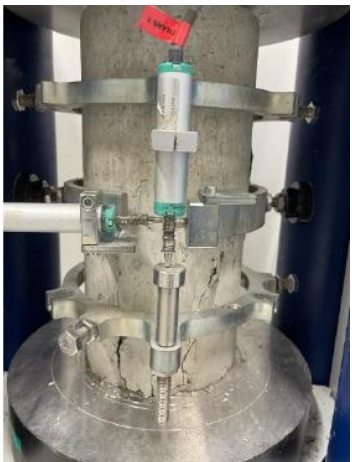


RC beam-With Stirrups



Cubes: 7, 28 and 60 days
Cylinders, prisms and RC beams: 60 days
Shrinkage: weekly reading

Modulus of Elasticity Test Tensile strength and crack opening



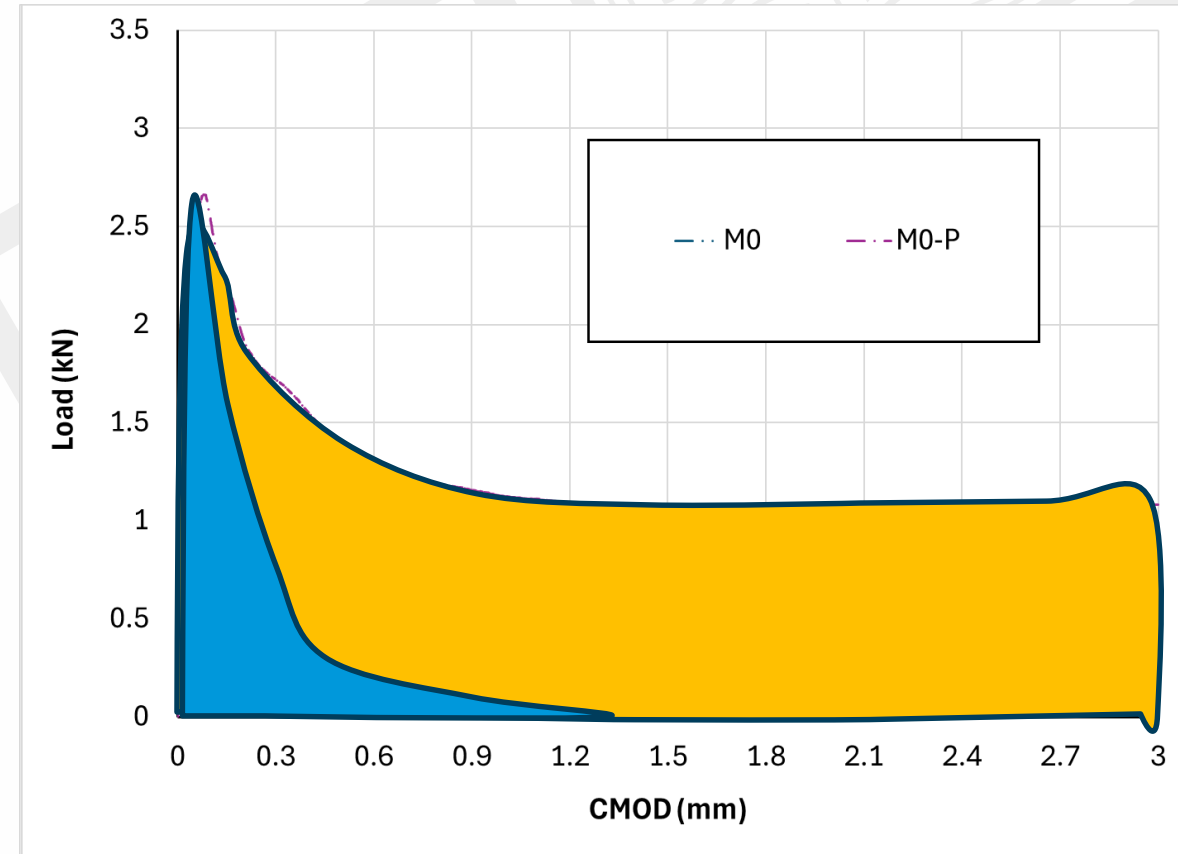
Results-Mechanical Properties

Mix-Code	Slump (mm)	Density (kg/m ³)	$f_{cu,60}$ (MPa)	E_{60} (GPa)	$f_{ct,60}$ (MPa)	Total post-crack energy (N.mm)	Cost (AED)	CO ₂ Emissions (KgCO ₂ /m ³)
M0	270	2351	47	25	3.2	546	196	438
MGS	240	2385	53	26	3.45	624	210	287
MGSCW10	245	2210	46	24	3.2	281	200	259
M0-P	100	2287	43	25	3	3248	196	438
MGS-P	130	2233	42	25	4.1	2955	210	287
MGSCW10-P	120	2202	41	26	3.35	2820	200	259

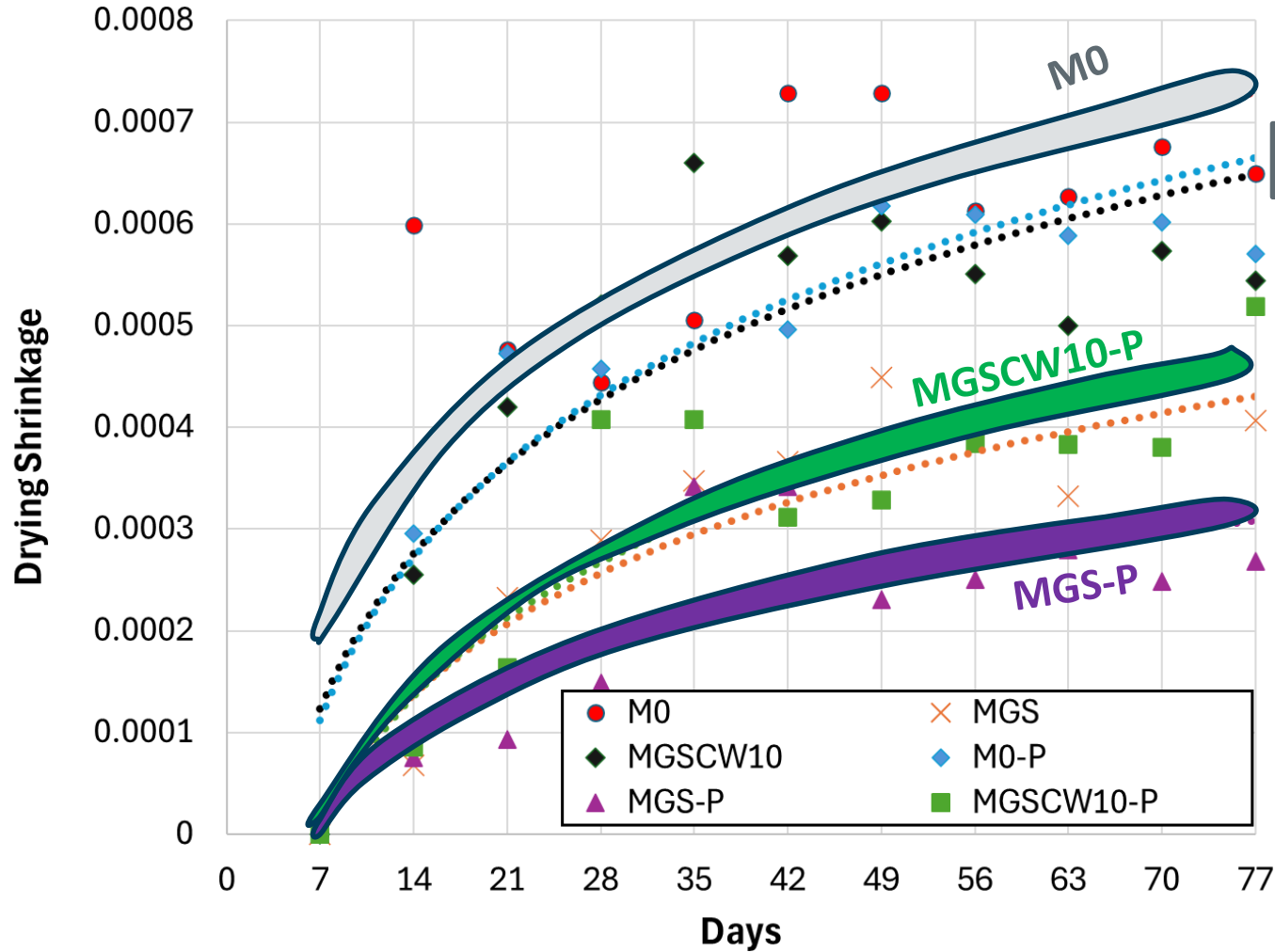
Material	OPC	GGBS	SF	CWP	NCA 20mm	NCA 10mm	Black sand	Dune sand	Water	Plasticizer
Unit price in AED/kg or AED/liter	0.265	0.25	0.7	0.0018	0.037	0.038	0.033	0.018	0.007	6

With transportation

Material	OPC	GGBS	SF	CWP	NCA 20mm	NCA 10mm	Black sand	Dune sand	Water	Plasticizer
KgCO ₂ /Kg	0.745	0.121	0.096	0.04	0.082	0.082	0.05	0.05	0.036	2



Results-Shrinkage

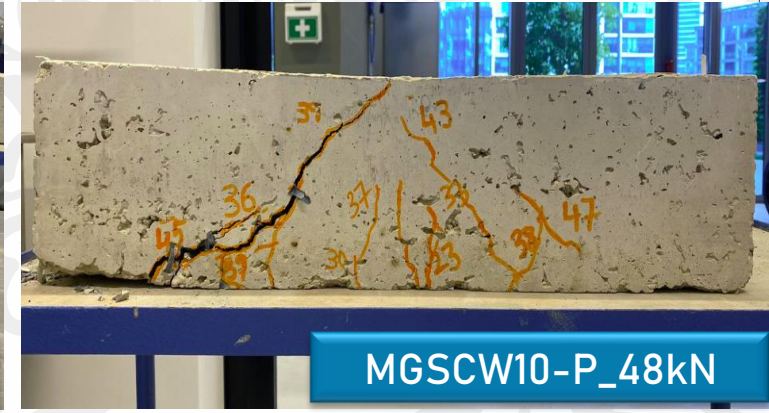
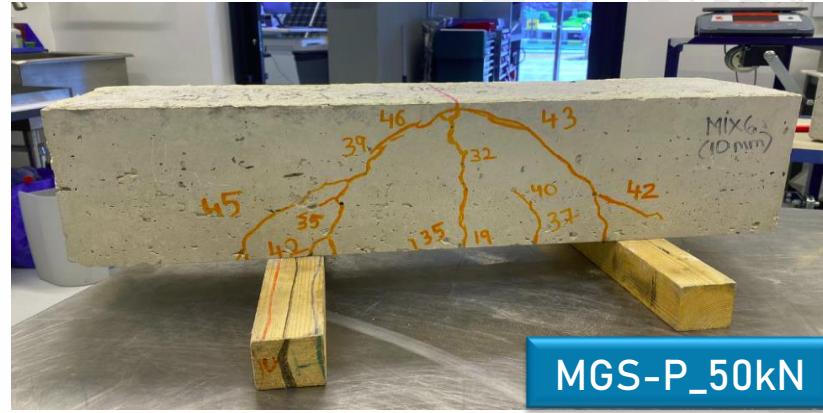
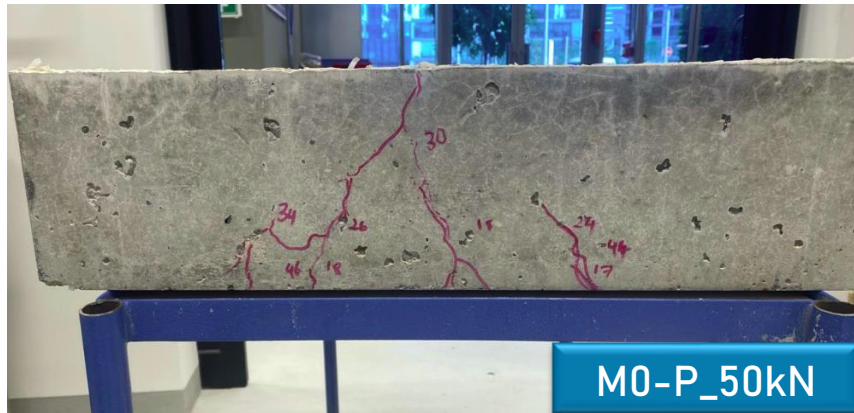
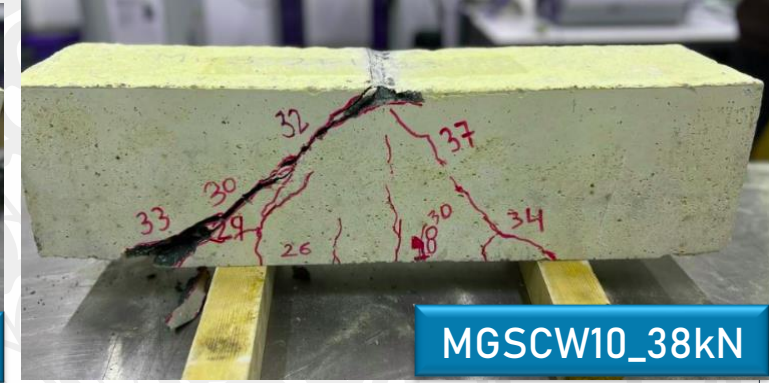
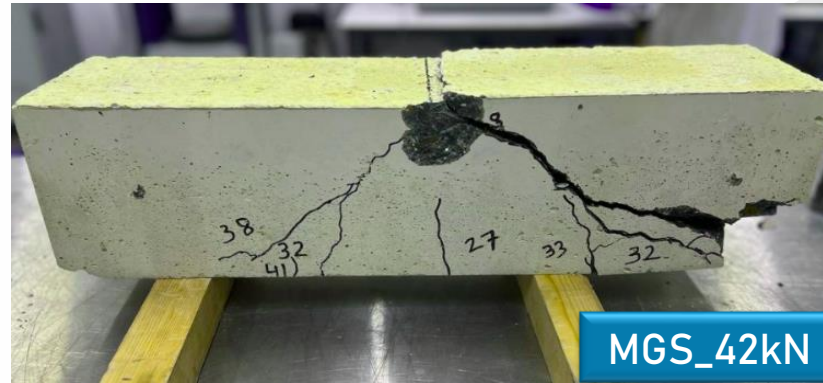


WOW!

-57%

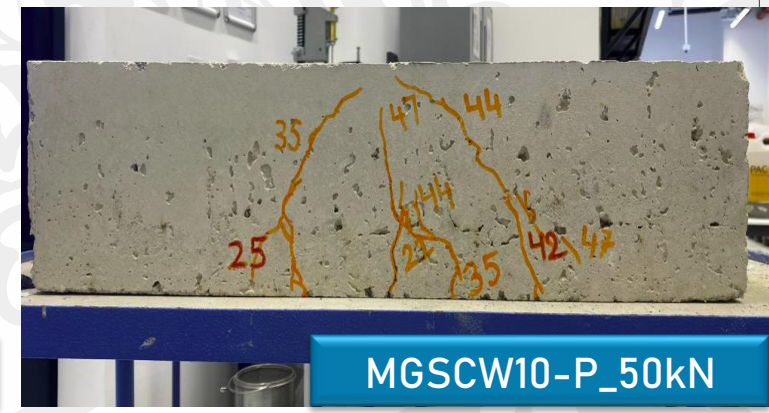
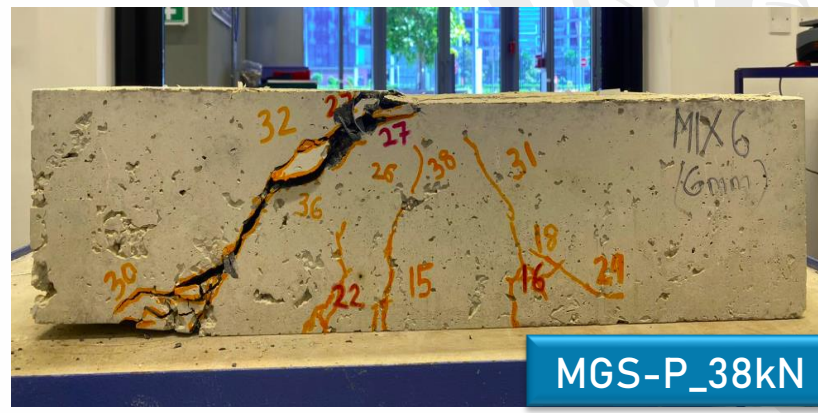
-37%

Results-RC Beams-No Stirrups



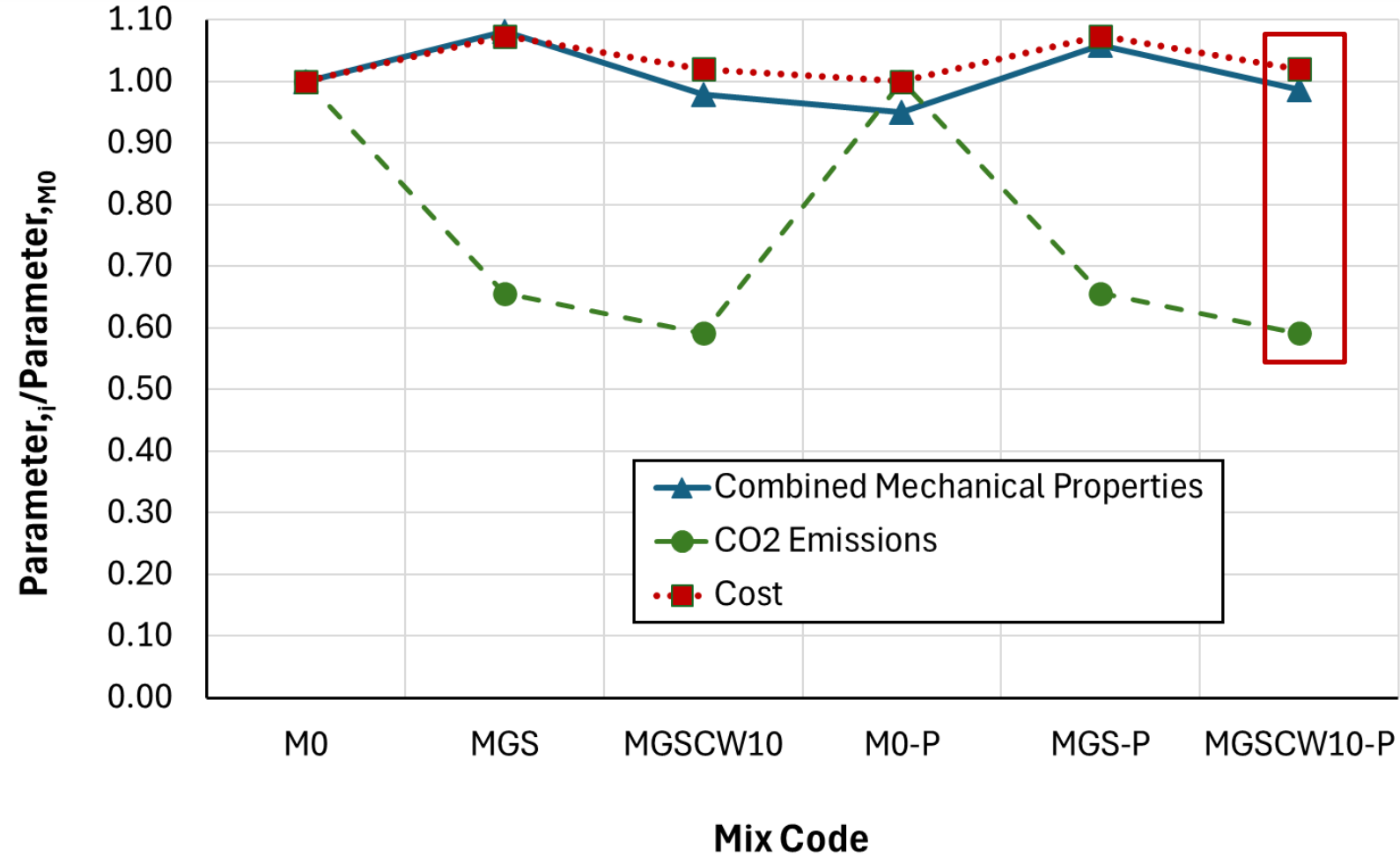
+33% than M0

Results-RC Beams-With Stirrups



Over +14% than M0

Conclusions



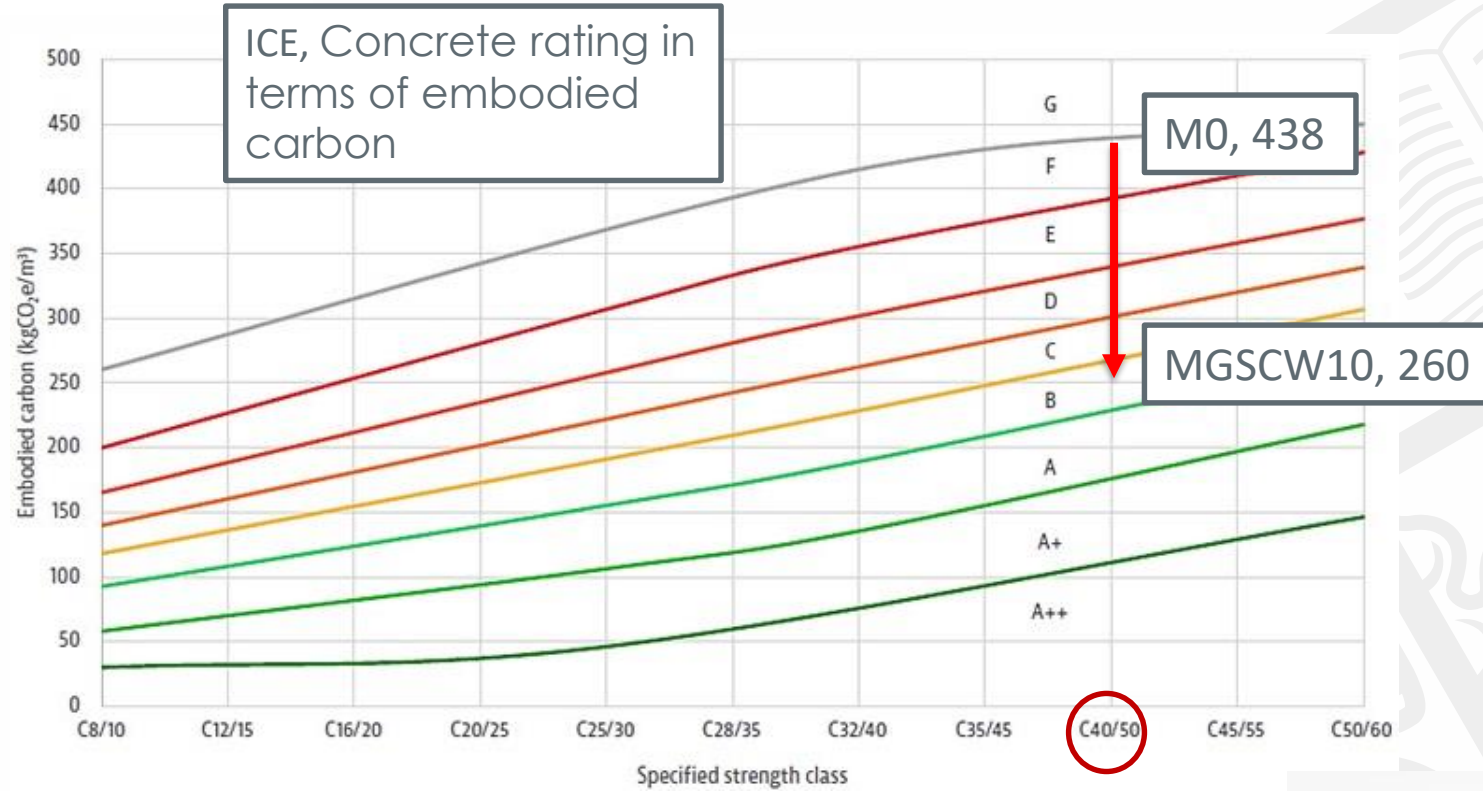
MGSCW10-P

- ☐ 70% cement replacement with waste materials.
- ☐ 37% less **shrinkage** than M0.
- ☐ Over 5 times more **post-crack energy** than M0.
- ☐ 33% higher **shear capacity** than M0.
- ☐ Over 15% **bending capacity** than M0.

Conclusions



500 bottles (1.5L)/m³



bravo



- Reducing steel reinforcement in concrete. Subsequently, this reduces the cost of RC elements (**Lowering the houses' pricing**) and the CO₂ emissions produced by steel manufacturing.

References

1. Mouna Y., Irfan B., Rahman, M.S. and Batikha M. (2024). "**A Statistical-Experimental Study to Investigate the Optimal Parameters of Fibres Made from Waste PET Bottles for Strengthening Concrete**", Construction and Building Materials, 420, 135613. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.conbuildmat.2024.135613>
2. Batikha M., McKenzie W. and Ogwuda O. (2023). "**Materials & Waste Management for Decarbonisation of the Cement Industry in the UAE**", CESC research bulletin, CESC research bulletin, issue No. 7, April 2023, 6p.
3. Mouna Y. and Batikha M. (2022). "**Plastic Fate: Opportunities and Challenges**", CESC research bulletin, CESC research bulletin, issue No. 5, April 2022, 4p.
4. Mouna Y., Batikha M and Suryanto B. (2021). "**Low Carbon Recycled Aggregate Concrete: Roles of Slag and Silica Fume**", ZEMCH International Conference, 26-28 October, Dubai, UAE.
5. Batikha M., Ali S.T.M., Rostami A. and Kurtayev M. (2021). "**Using recycled coarse aggregate and ceramic waste to produce sustainable economic concrete**", International Journal of Sustainable Engineering, 14 (4), 785–799. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19397038.2020.1862353>

THANK YOU!

