

Strength Characteristics of Hybrid Fibre Reinforced Concrete using Nano Silica

Hybrid Fibre Reinforced Concrete

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Abstract—Hybrid Fiber Reinforced Concrete (HFRC) is formed from a combination of different types of fibres, which differ in material properties, remain bonded together when added in concrete and retain their identities and properties. The combining of fibers, often called hybridization, is investigated for a M60 grade concrete at a volume fraction of 4% Nano Silica, Steel fiber (1, 1.25, 1.5%) and polypropylene fiber (0.03, 0.06, 0.09%) in this project. Control and four hybrid fiber composites were cast using different fiber proportions of steel and polypropylene. Compressive strength, split tensile strength and flexural strength tests were performed and results were analyzed to associate with above fiber combinations. Based on experimental studies, the project identifies fiber combinations that demonstrate maximum compressive, split tensile and flexural strength of concrete. In addition to the above, SEM images are presented.

Keywords—Fibre, Concrete, Hybrid Fibre, Nano Silica

INTRODUCTION

A composite can be termed a hybrid, if two or more types of fibres are rationally combined in a common matrix to produce a composite that drives benefits from each of the individual's fibres and exhibits a synergistic response. Addition of short discontinuous fibres plays an important role in the improvement of mechanical properties of Concrete. It increases elastic modulus; decreases brittleness controls cracks initiation and its subsequent growth and propagation. De-bonding and pull out of the fibre require more energy absorption, resulting in a substantial increase in the toughness and fracture resistance of the material to the cyclic and dynamic loads.

A. History of HFRC

The concept of using fibres as reinforcement is not new. Fibres have been used as reinforcements since ancient times. Historically, horse hair was used in mortar and straw in mud bricks. In the early 1900s, asbestos fibres were used in concrete, there was a need to find a replacement for the asbestos used in the concrete and other building materials once the health risks associated with the substance were discovered.

By the 1960s, steel, glass, and synthetic fibres such as polypropylene fibres were used in concrete, and research into new fibre reinforced concretes continues today.

B. Advantages of Hybrid Fibre Reinforced Concrete

1) To provide a system in which one type of fibre, this is stronger and stiffer, improves the first cracks stress and ultimate strength, and the second type of fibre, which is more flexible, and ductile lead to improved toughness and stain in the past cracking zone.

2) To provide hybrid reinforcement in which one type of fibre is smaller, so that it bridges the microcracks of which growth can be controlled. This leads to a high tensile strength of the composite. The second type of fibre is larger, so that it arrests the propagating microcracks and can substantially improve the toughness of the composite.

3) To provide a hybrid reinforcement, in which the durability of fibre type is different. The presence of the durable fibre can increase the strength and toughness relation after age while the other type is to guarantee the short term performance during transportation and installation of the composite elements.

C. Application of Hybrid Fibre Reinforced Concrete

HFRC can be used in any kind of construction because of its unique Properties and also as it is very easy to obtain a high range of strength values. Some of the pioneering applications areas follows

- Bridges.
- Tunnel linings.
- Building components like column.
- Sandwich structure like steel concrete structure.

The benefit of hybrid fibres in enhancing various properties of the HFRC in addition to Nano silica has not been investigated in the past and hence the effect of hybrid fibres comprising of steel, PP fibres and Nano silica in the HFRC on the mechanical properties and flexural toughness of HFRC is being explored in this research. Thus, the main objective of

this study is to investigate the effect of steel-PP hybrid fibres and Nanosilica in enhancing the mechanical properties, flexural strength of Hybrid Fibre Reinforced Concrete (HFRC).

MATERIAL PROPERTIES

A. Sieve analysis test for Fine aggregate

Sieve Size	Weight Retained (gms)	Cumulative weight retained	Cumulative % weight retained	% Finer
4.75mm	26	26	2.6	97.4
2.36mm	64	90	9.0	91
1.18mm	177	267	26.7	73.3
600 μ	260	527	52.7	47.3
300 μ	385	912	91.2	8.8
150 μ	50	962	96.2	3.8
Pan	38	1000	100	0

Fineness modulus of the fine aggregate = $F/100$

$$= 378.4 / 100 = 3.78$$

From IS:383-1970, Table 4 (Pg no:11), Fine Aggregates,

Grading Zone = II

B. Specific Gravity of Fine Aggregate

$$W_1 = 660 \text{ g } W_2$$

$$= 1858 \text{ g } W_3 =$$

$$2090 \text{ g } W_4 =$$

$$1365 \text{ g}$$

$$\text{Hence, Specific Gravity} = 2.43$$

C. Sieve analysis test for Coarse aggregate

IS Sieve Size	Weight retained	% Weight retained	% Weight passing	Cumulative Weight retained
80mm	0	0	100	0
40mm	0	0	100	0
20mm	1.86	37.2	62.8	37.2
10mm	1.62	32.4	67.6	69.6
4.75mm	1.52	30.4	69.6	100
2.36mm	0	0	100	100
1.18mm	0	0	100	100
600 μ	0	0	100	100
300 μ	0	0	100	100
150 μ	0	0	100	100

Fineness modulus of the coarse aggregate = $F/100$

$$= 7.06$$

D. Specific Gravity of coarse aggregate

Empty weight of the container (A) = 3.59 kg

Container + coarse aggregate (B) = 7.09 kg

Container + coarse aggregate + water (C) = 8.38 kg

Container + water (D) = 6.1 kg

$$\text{Specific gravity} = \frac{B-A}{(B-A)-(C-D)}$$

The specific gravity of the coarse aggregate is 2.87

E. Water Absorption Test for Coarse Aggregate

1) Weight of empty basket = 572 gms

2) Weight of basket + gravel = 1472 gms

3) Weight of basket + wet gravel = 1484 gms

4) Weight of basket + dry gravel = 1472 gms

CALCULATION

$$W_w = (w_2 - w_3) = (1484 - 1472) = 12$$

$$W_s = (w_3 - w_1) = (1472 - 572) = 900$$

$$W = (W_w / W_s) = (12 / 900) = 0.013$$

Water absorption = 1.0%

F. Specific Gravity of cement

Empty weight of the flask $W_1 = 0.131 \text{ kg}$

Borosil + water $W_2 = 0.368 \text{ kg}$

Borosil + kerosene $W_3 = 0.318 \text{ kg}$

Borosil + kerosene + cement $W_4 = 0.364 \text{ kg}$

Empty weight of the cement $W_5 = 0.060 \text{ kg}$

$$g = \frac{W_3 - W_1}{W_2 - W_1}$$

$$= 0.789$$

$$G = \frac{W_5}{(W_5 + W_3 - W_4)} \times g = 3.14$$

G. Fineness of Cement

IS Sieve	Weight retained (gms)	% Weight retained	% Finer
90 μ	4	4	96
Pan	96	96	4

% Finer = 4%

H. Consistency of Cement

Water %	Water content	Reading in plunger
24%	81.6	32
26%	88.4	26
28%	95.2	22
30%	102	18
32%	108.8	16
34%	115.6	5

Consistency limit = 34%

I. Steel Fibre

Type: Hooked end steel fibre

Aspect Ratio = $50/1 = 50$



Steel fibre

$$0.67 \times 101 \times 27 = 1826.3 \text{ lb/}$$

$$[1 \text{ lb/yd}^3 = 0.59 ;$$

$$= 1083 \text{ kg/}$$

4) Take Water cement ratio as 0.3

5) Weight of cement

As per ACI 211.1 Clause 6.3.3 pg no. 8 Select approx. mixing water and air requirement is 265 lb/yd³

$$\text{Weight of cement} = \frac{265}{0.3} = 885.33 \text{ lb/yd}^3 = 525 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

6) Volume of coarse aggregate

As per ACI 211.1-91 Table 6.3.6

For 3/4 inch sized aggregate & Fineness modulus of Fine aggregate 3.78 value is 0.64

Coarse aggregate will occupy

$$0.64 \times 27 = 18.26 \text{ ft}^3/\text{yd}^3$$

The OD weight of Coarse aggregate,

$$18.26 \times 100 = 1826.26 \text{ lb/yd}^3$$

7) Proportion basic mixture with cement only

$$\text{Cement} = 4.503$$

$$\text{Coarse Aggregate} = 10.19$$

$$\text{Water} = 4.25$$

$$\text{Air} = 0.02 \times 27 = 0.54$$

$$19.48$$

$$27 - 19.48 = 7.52$$

$$7.52 \times 62.4 \times 2.43 = 1140.27 \text{ lb/}$$

	lb/	kg/
Cement	885.33	525
Fine aggregate	1140.27	676
Coarse aggregate	1826	1083

Hence, the ratio is 1:1.287:1.948

J. Polypropylene Fibre



Polypropylene fibre

K. Properties of Nano silica

Test item	Standard requirements	Test Results
Specific Surface Area (M ² /G)	200 +20	202
pH Value	3.7 – 4.5	4.12
Loss on Drying @ 105 DEG.C (5)	<1.5	0.47
Sieve Residue (5)	<0.04	0.02
Tamped Density g/L	40 – 60	44
Si Content (%)	>99.8	99.88
CARBON CONTENT (%)	<0.15	0.06
Chloride Content (%)	<0.0202	0.009
	<0.03	0.005
Ti	<0.02	0.004
	<0.003	0.001
Particle Size	17 NANO	

ACI MIX DESIGN

The most common method used in North America is that established by ACI Recommended Practice 211.1

5.1.2 Calculation

1) Select the slump and required concrete strength

$$f_{cr} = \frac{8702.2 + 1400}{0.9} = 11224.75 \text{ Psi}$$

$$[1 \text{ Mpa} = 145.02 \text{ Psi}] ;$$

$$= 77.4 \text{ Mpa}$$

2) Select the max size of aggregate 3/4 inch (or) 19mm

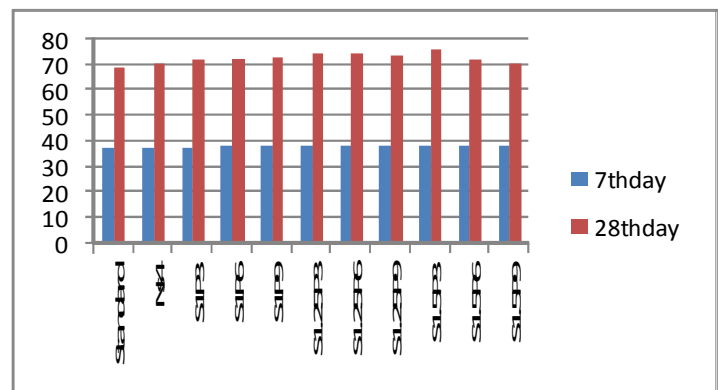
3) Select the optimum coarse aggregate

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH OF CONCRETE**

- The Compressive strength of Conventional concrete on 7th day is 37.86 Mpa and it is increased 54.95% on 28th day.
- In addition to Nanosilica 4% to the Conventional, the compressive strength on 7th day is 37.83 Mpa and it is increased 53.31% on 28th day. As compared to conventional concrete, Compressive Strength increased 3.09% on 28th day.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1% Steel Fibre – 0.015% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the compression strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 37.92 Mpa. It was increased 4.51% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1% Steel Fibre – 0.03% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the compression strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 38.1 Mpa. It was increased 5.37% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1% Steel Fibre – 0.04% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the compression strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 38.07 Mpa. It was increased 6.34% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.25% Steel Fibre – 0.015% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the compression strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 38.6 Mpa. It was increased 7.74% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.25% Steel Fibre – 0.03% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the compression strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 38.54 Mpa. It was increased 8.17% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.25% Steel Fibre – 0.04% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the compression strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 38.57 Mpa. It was

increased 7.09% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.

- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.5% Steel Fibre – 0.015% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the compression strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 38.78 Mpa. It was increased 10.1% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.5% Steel Fibre – 0.03% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the compression strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 38.66 Mpa. It was decreased 3.95% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.5% Steel Fibre – 0.04% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the compression strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 38.78 Mpa. It was decreased 5.93% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.

Fig. Compressive strength of concrete**SPLITTING TENSILE STRENGTH OF CONCRETE**

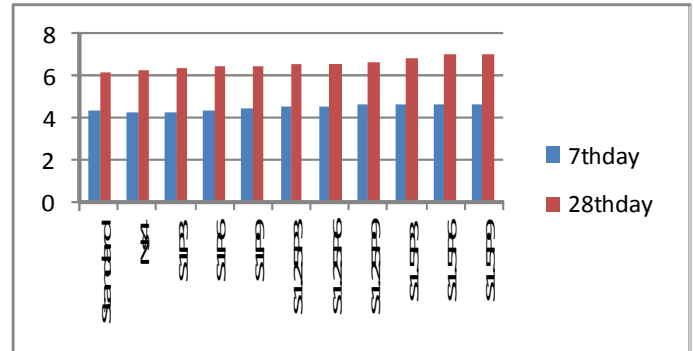
- The Splitting tensile strength of Conventional concrete on 7th day is 4.29 Mpa and it is increased 6.98% on 28th day.
- In addition of Nanosilica 4% to the Conventional, the Splitting tensile strength on 7th day is 4.2 Mpa and it is increased 67.52% on 28th day. As compared to conventional concrete, Splitting tensile Strength increased 1.5% on 28th day.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1% Steel Fibre – 0.015% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nano silica, the splitting tensile strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 4.26 Mpa. It was

increased 4.4% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.

- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1% Steel Fibre – 0.03% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the Splitting tensile strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 4.35 Mpa. It was increased 4.88% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1% Steel Fibre – 0.04% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nano silica, the splitting tensile strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 4.41 Mpa. It was increased 5.37% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.25% Steel Fibre – 0.015% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the splitting tensile strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 4.5 Mpa. It was increased 6.82% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.25% Steel Fibre – 0.03% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the splitting tensile strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 4.56 Mpa. It was increased 7.78% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.25% Steel Fibre – 0.04% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the splitting tensile strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 4.59 Mpa. It was increased 8.27% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.5% Steel Fibre – 0.015% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the splitting tensile strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 4.64 Mpa. It was increased 11.17% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.5% Steel Fibre – 0.03% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the splitting tensile strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 4.65 Mpa. It was increased 14.07% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1% Steel Fibre – 0.04% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to

4% Nanosilica, the splitting tensile strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 4.67 Mpa. It was increased 15.52% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.

Fig. Splitting tensile strength of concrete



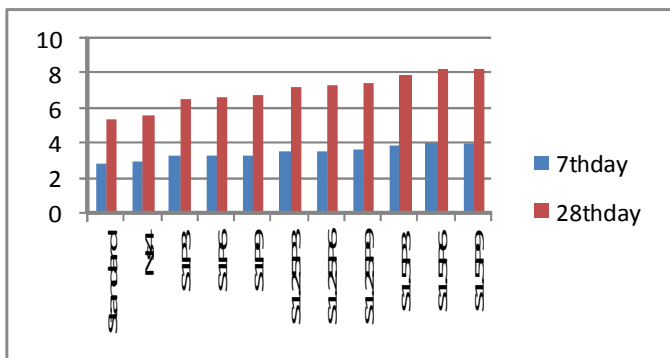
FLEXURAL STRENGTH OF CONCRETE

- The Flexural strength of Conventional concrete on 7th day is 2.75 Mpa and it is increased 51.69% on 28th day.
- In addition of Nanosilica 4% to the Conventional, the Flexural strength on 7th day is 2.875 Mpa and it is increased 51.16% on 28th day. As compared to conventional concrete, Flexural Strength increased 5.63% on 28th day.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1% Steel Fibre – 0.015% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the flexural strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 3.22 Mpa. It was increased 22.06% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1% Steel Fibre – 0.03% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the flexural strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 3.25 Mpa. It was increased 25.35% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1% Steel Fibre – 0.04% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the flexural strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 3.27 Mpa. It was increased 26.76% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.25% Steel Fibre – 0.015% Polypropylene Fibre) in

addition to 4% Nanosilica, the flexural strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 3.45 Mpa. It was increased 35.21% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.

- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.25% Steel Fibre – 0.03% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the flexural strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 3.5 Mpa. It was increased 37.08% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.25% Steel Fibre – 0.04% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the flexural strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 3.55 Mpa. It was increased 39.09% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.5% Steel Fibre – 0.015% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the flexural strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 3.85 Mpa. It was increased 49.29% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.5% Steel Fibre – 0.03% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the flexural strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 3.9 Mpa. It was increased 54.46% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.5% Steel Fibre – 0.04% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the flexural strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 3.92 Mpa. It was increased 55.86% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.

Fig. Flexural strength of concrete



CONCLUSION

COMPRESSIVESTRENGTH

- Compressive strength attains maximum at addition of 4% of Nanosilica, 1.5% Steel Fibres and 0.01% Polypropylene fibre to the M60 grade concrete.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.5% Steel Fibre – 0.015% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the compression strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 38.78 Mpa. It was increased 10.1% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.

SPLITTING TENSILE STRENGTH

- Splitting tensile strength attains maximum at addition of 4% of Nanosilica, 1.5% Steel Fibres and 0.04% Polypropylene fibres to the M60 grade concrete.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1% Steel Fibre–0.04% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nanosilica, the splitting tensile strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 4.67 Mpa. It was increased 15.52% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.

FLEXURALSTRENGTH

- Flexural strength attains maximum at addition of 4% of Nano silica, 1.5% Steel Fibres and 0.04% Polypropylene fibre to the M60 grade concrete.
- The hybrid fibre composition in addition to (1.5% Steel Fibre–0.04% Polypropylene Fibre) in addition to 4% Nano silica, the flexural strength of concrete at the age of 7 days 3.92 Mpa. It was increased 55.86% compared to conventional concrete at the age of 28 days respectively.

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