

# MIX COMPOSITIONS AND THE RHEOLOGICAL PROPERTIES OF UHPC

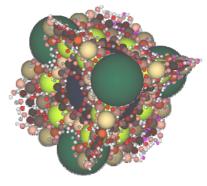
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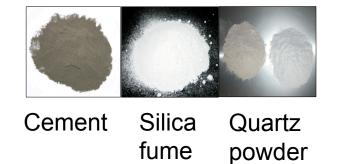


DFG priority programme No. 1182 "Sustainable Building with Ultra High Performance Concrete"

**Binder Optimization** 

## **Motivation:**

High contents of energy and cost-intensive components

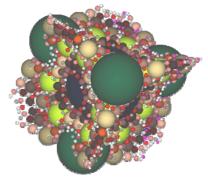




Replacement by fly ash in parts or complete







DFG priority programme No. 1182 "Sustainable Building with Ultra High Performance Concrete"

**Binder Optimization** 

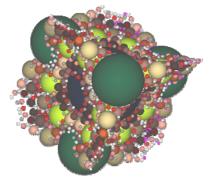
# Motivation:

- High contents of energy and cost-intensive components
- It is not possible to predict workability only with the slump flow test









DFG priority programme No. 1182 "Sustainable Building with Ultra High Performance Concrete"

**Binder Optimization** 

# Aim:

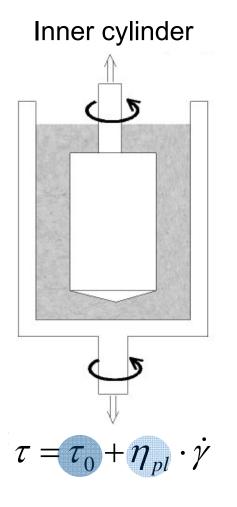
- Rheological measurements with Viskomat NT for characterization of workability
- Identify a range of workability from rheological parameters



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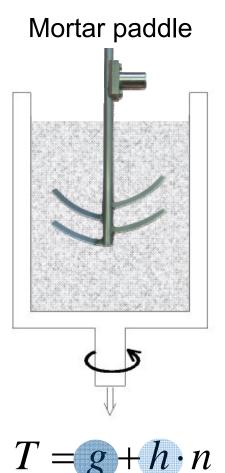


#### Methods for measurement



**Difference:** 

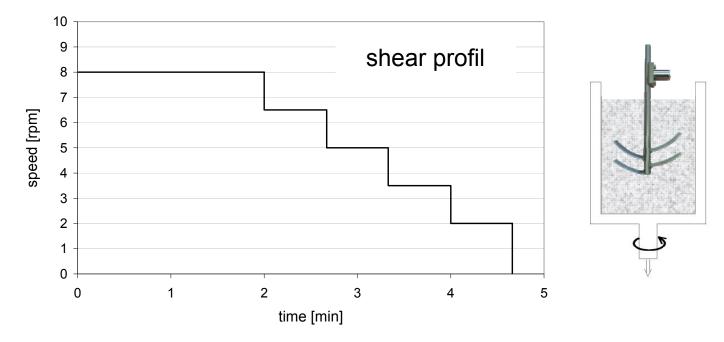
- Geometry of measurement system
- Surface of load transmission
- Measurement gap







## Approach and methodology



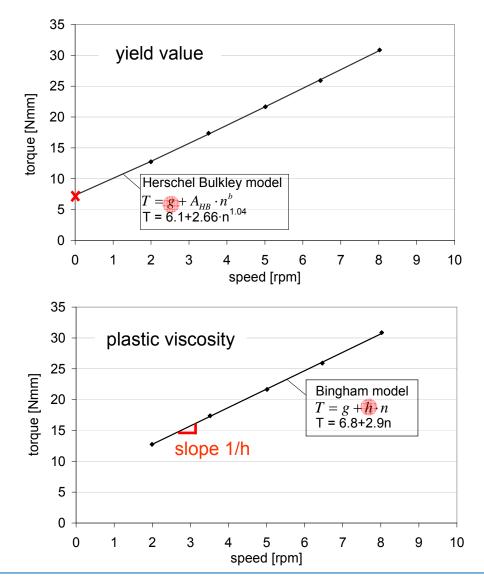
- Start measurement 15 minutes after addition of water
- 2 minutes constant pre-shear to cause structural breakdown
- Low rotational speed due to
  - high viscosity of concrete
  - speed similar to slump flow measurement



#### Analysis

Component		Reference
Cement	kg/m³	876
Silica fume	kg/m³	142
Quartz powder	kg/m³	218
Quartz sand	kg/m³	985
Superplasticizer	kg/m³	16.7
Water	kg/m³	187

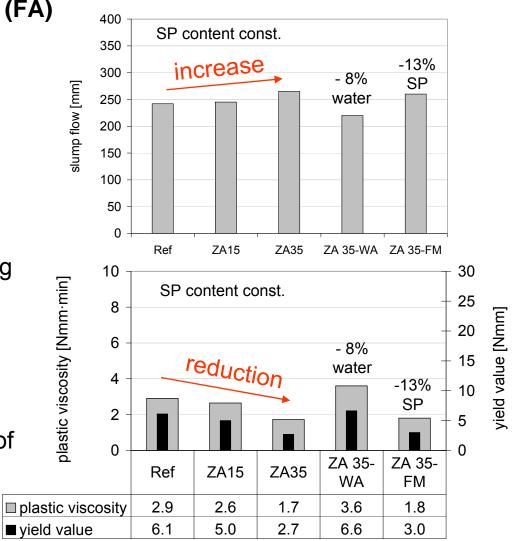
- Yield value is determined by Herschel Bulkley model
- Plastic viscosity is determined by Bingham model





# Replacement of cement by fly ash (FA)

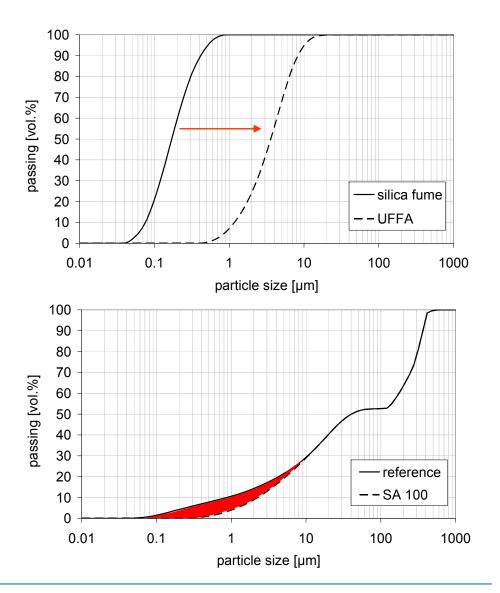
- Replacement of 15 and 35 vol.% cement by FA
- unchanged packing density with 88.4% (calculated)
- Improved workability due to reduced reactivity and ball-bearing effect of FA
- A reduction in water content increases plastic viscosity and yield value
- Similar workability when content of superplasticizer (SP) is reduced





# Replacement of silica fume by ultra-fine fly ash (UFFA)

- Replacement of 50 und 100 vol.% silica fume by UFFA
- Particle size of silica fume: 0.2 μm particle size of UFFA: 3.6 μm
- Particle size distribution of mixture becomes coarser



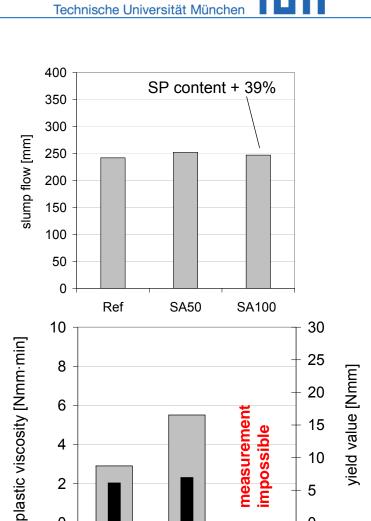
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## replacement of silica fume by ultra-fine fly ash (UFFA)

Reduction in packing density SA50: - 2.8% SA100: - 5.4%

- Increased plastic viscosity at constant ю. yield value ↔ doesn't relate to slump flow test as expected
- Workability seems to be more affected by the reduced packing density than by the lower surface area of mixture
- Replacement of silica fume by UFFA not recommended



**SA50** 

5.5

6.9

0

plastic viscosity

■ yield value

Ref

2.9

6.1

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SA100

0.0

0.0

0



SP content const.

400

350

300

250

200

# Replacement of quartz powder by fly ash (FA) and ultra-fine fly ash (UFFA)

- **©** Replacement of 100 vol.% quartz powder by FA and UFFA
- Packing density changed QMA100: +0.3% QMA100-F: - 0.2%
- Loss of workability when FA is used  $\rightarrow$  probably adsorption of superplasticizer molecules on unburnt carbons in FA<sup>1</sup>  $\rightarrow$  increased yield value
- Similar workability with UFFA

slump flow [mm] 150 100 50 0 QMA100-F Ref QMA100 10 30 SP content const. plastic viscosity [Nmm·min] 25 8 yield value [Nmm] SP demand t 20 6 15 4 10 2 5 0 0 QMA100-F Ref **QMA100** plastic viscositv 2.9 2.8 2.0 ■ yield value 6.1 16.5 11.0

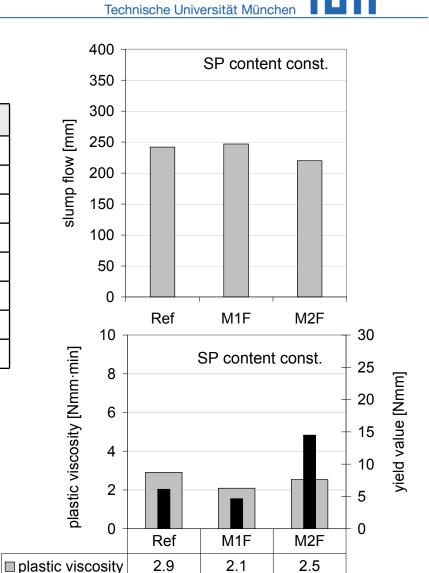
<sup>1</sup>According to Laskar and Talukdar: Rheological behavior of high performance concrete with mineral admixtures and their blending. Construction and Building Materials 22, 2008



#### **Optimized mixtures - rheology**

Component		Reference	M1F	M2F
Cement	kg/m³	876	747	572
Fly ash	kg/m³	-	244	487
Silica fume	kg/m³	142	121	144
Quartz powder	kg/m³	218	-	-
Quartz sand	kg/m³	985	1039	871
Superplasticizer	kg/m³	16.7	16.7	16.7
Water	kg/m³	187	187	187
Surface (BET)	<i>m²/m</i> ³	<b>355</b> •10⁴	312·10 <sup>4</sup>	358·10 <sup>4</sup>

- Combined replacement of cement, quartz powder and silica fume by fly ash at constant packing density
- Improved workability for M1F
- Small loss of workability for M2F



4.7

6.1

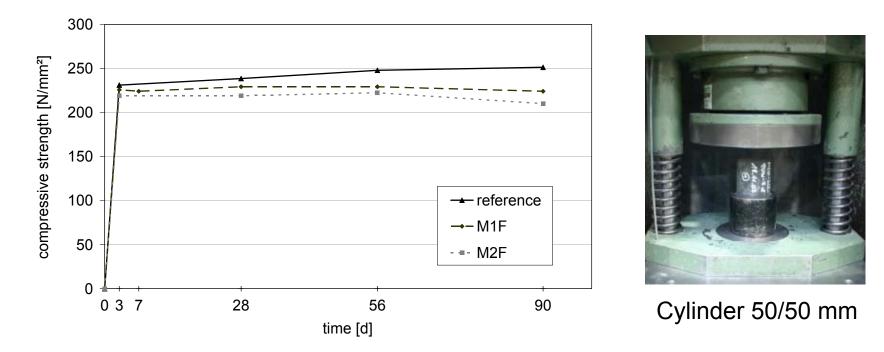
■ yield value

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14.5



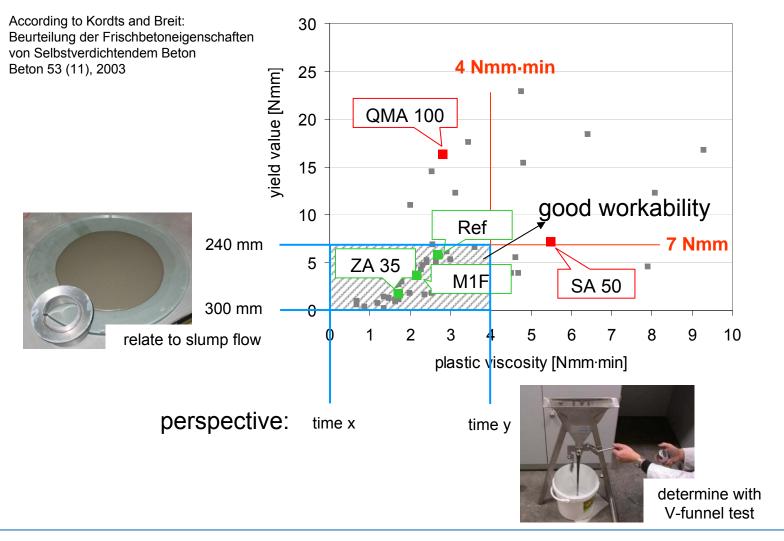
## **Optimized mixtures – compressive strength after heat treatment**



- Reduced compressive strength with increased content of fly ash
- But all compressive strengths higher than 200 N/mm<sup>2</sup>



## Rheological properties of all measured mixtures – range of workability





# Conclusions

It is not possible to predict all aspects of workability with the slump flow test

Knowledge of plastic viscosity and yield value is sufficient to describe workability of UHPC

Improved workability

with increasing replacement of limited portion of cement by fly ash
optimized mixture with combined replacement

Loss of workability

with increasing replacement of silica fume by ultra-fine fly ash
complete replacement of quartz powder by fly ash

Determination of a range of workability for UHPC with good workability properties