

# Fresh properties of 3D printable Geopolymer Concrete (3DPGPC)



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Source: [CSIR Website](https://www.csir.org/)



# Project: Advanced Cementitious Composites for 3D Printing

Duration – 5 years (April 2020- March 2025)



Extrusion based 3D concrete printer  
1000 mm x 1000 mm x 500 mm

- **3D Concrete Printing (3DCP)** – a type of Additive Manufacturing which uses 3D printing as a core method to fabricate building or construction components.



Mixing



Material Loading/pumping

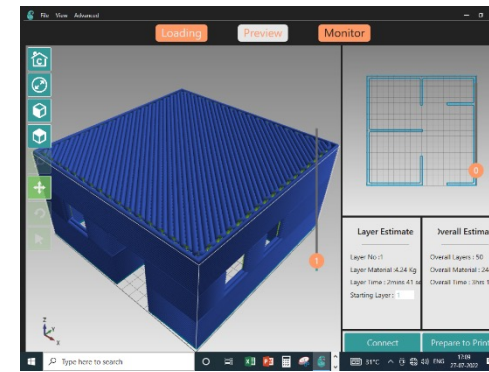
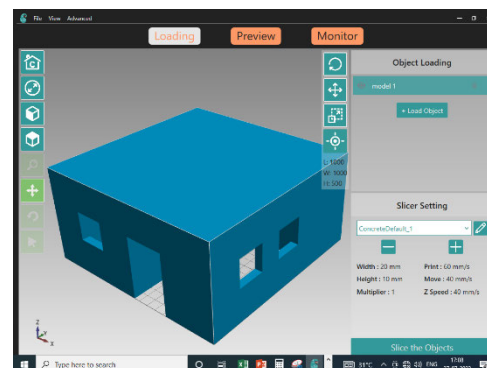


Printing

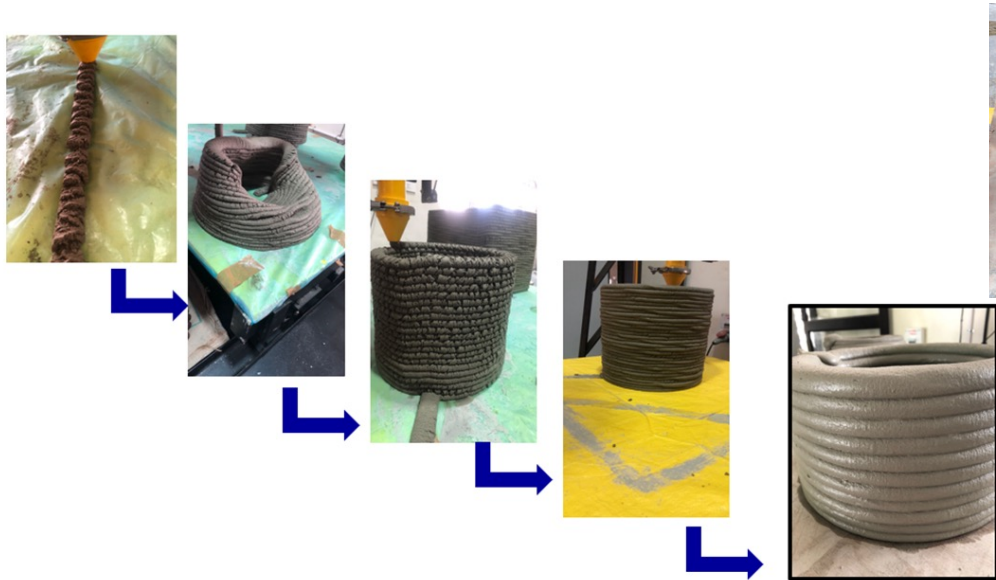


Printed Object

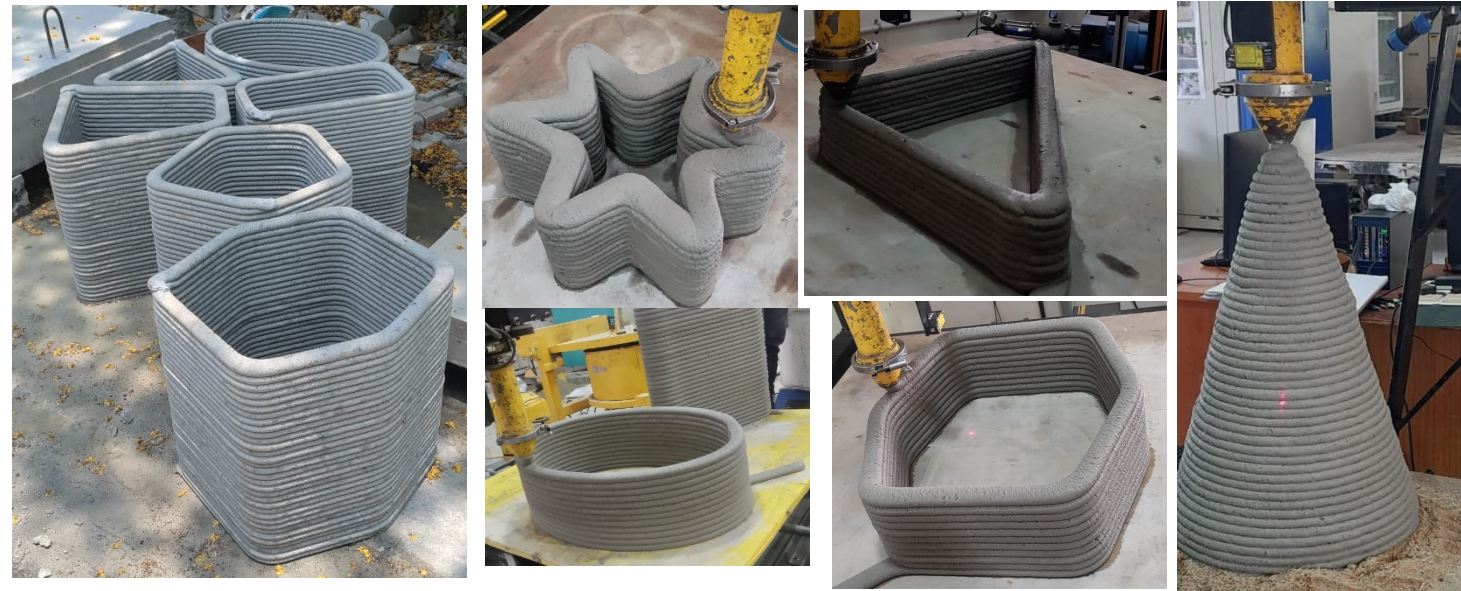
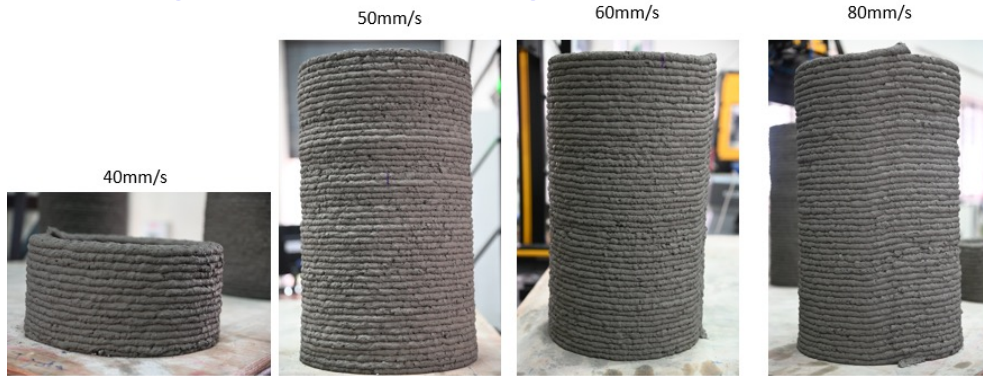
Design and Slicing







**Challenges faced during trial mixes**

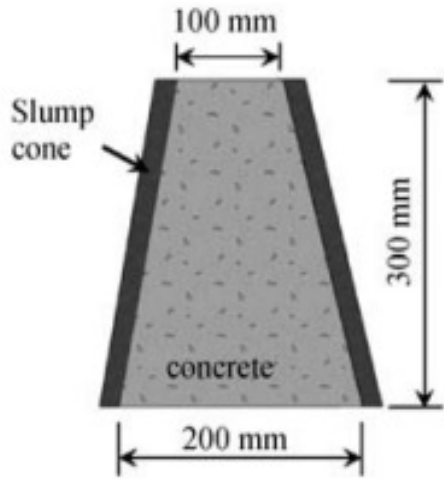


**Typical Prints – Mix with coarse aggregate ( size 6 mm)**

**Typical Prints [1 m x 1m] – Mix with fine aggregate**



## FLOWABILITY



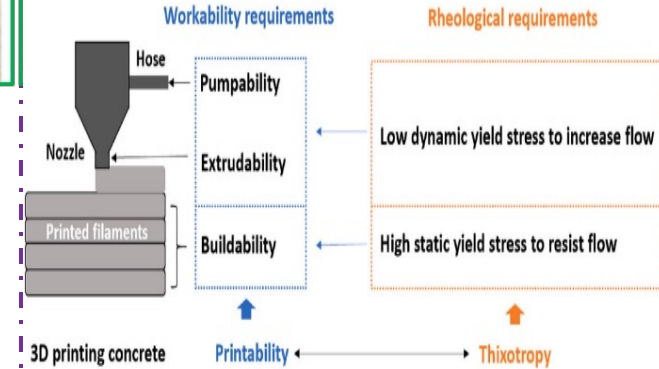
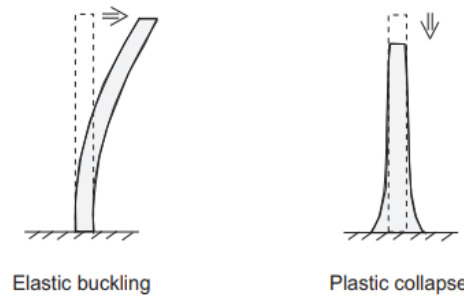
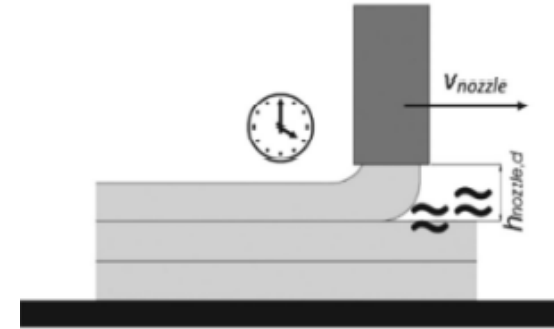
## EXTRUDABILITY



## BUILDABILITY



## OPEN TIME



**SOURCE:** Ma, G., & Wang, L. (2018). A critical review of preparation design and workability measurement of concrete material for largescale 3D printing. *Frontiers of Structural and Civil Engineering*, 12(3), 382-400.

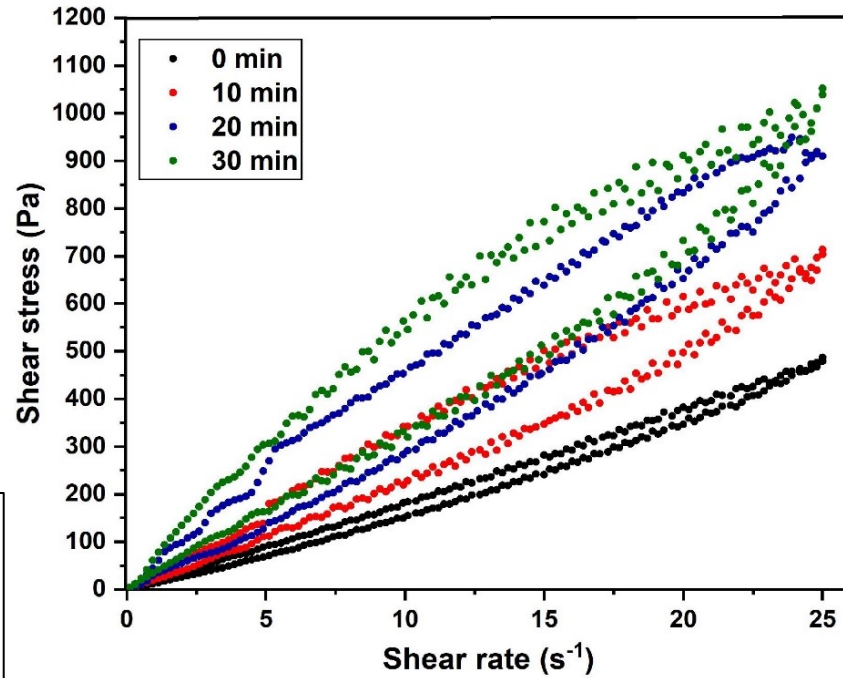
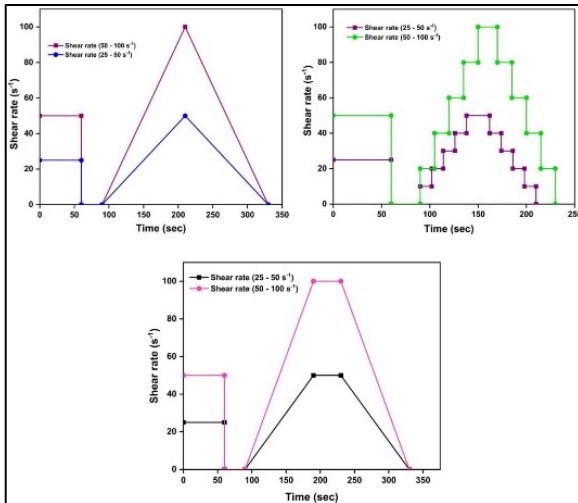


# RHEOLOGY

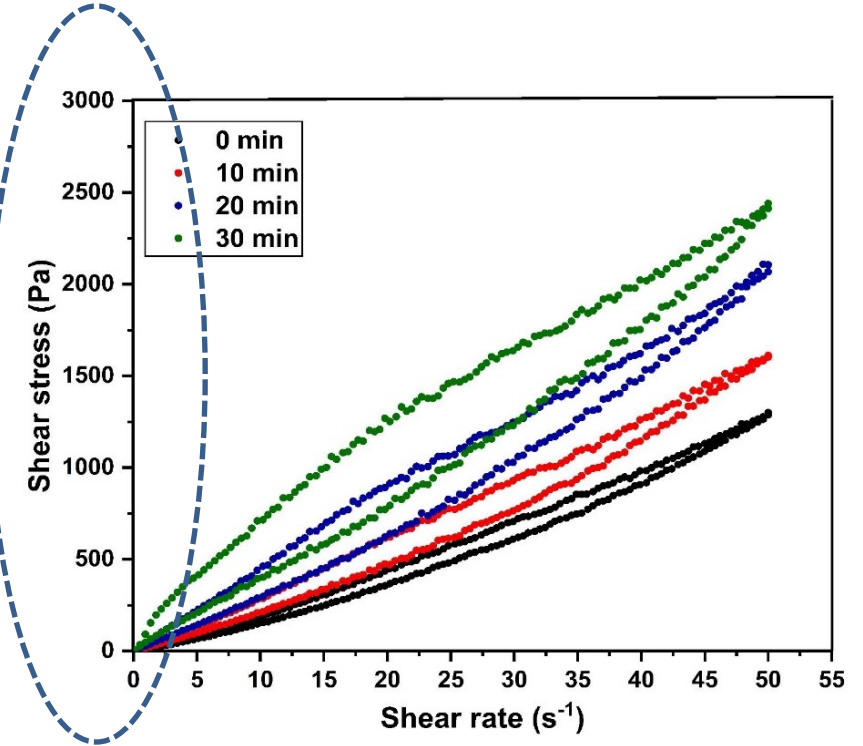


(a) Rheometer set-up

(b) Two-blade vane spindle



(b) P 1

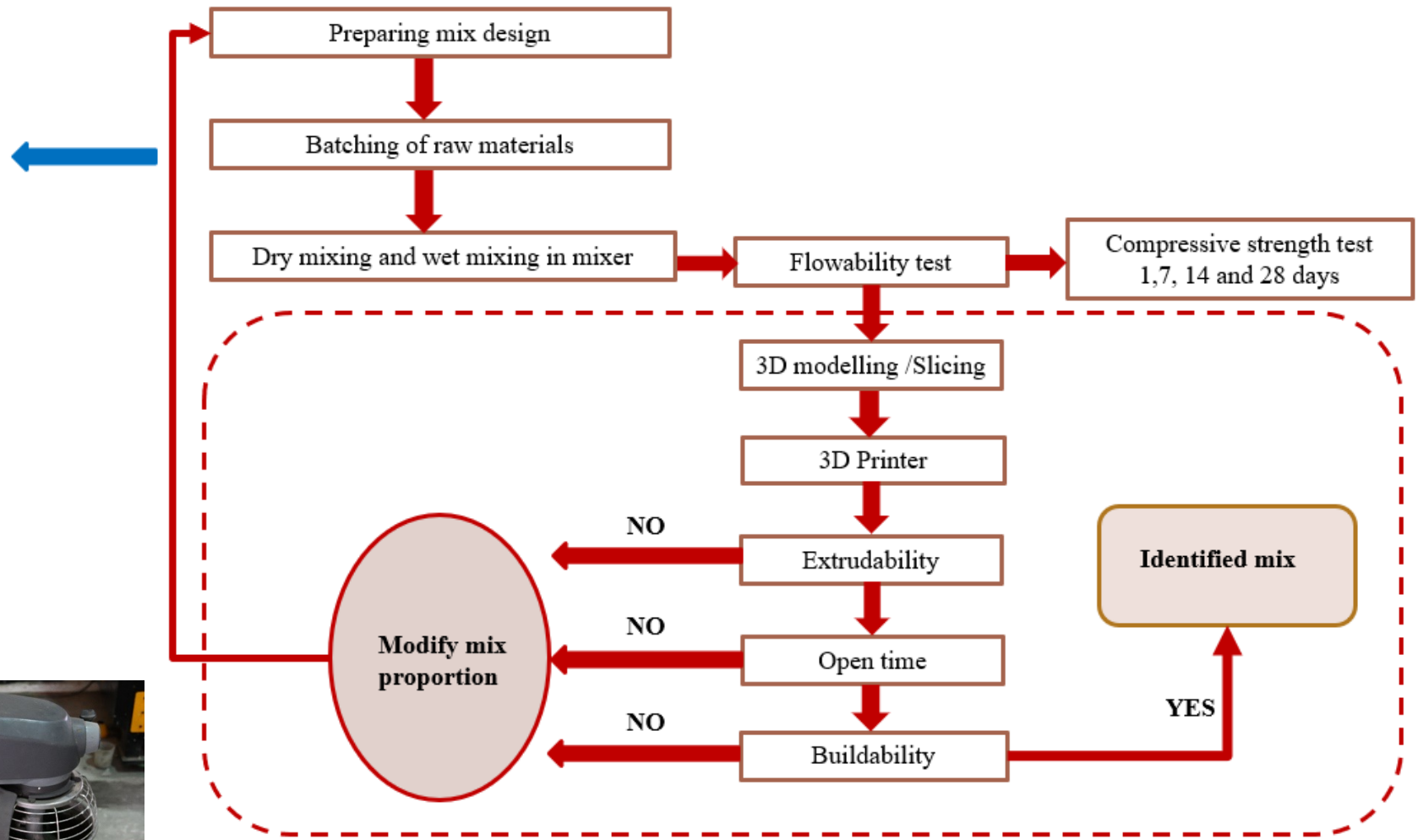
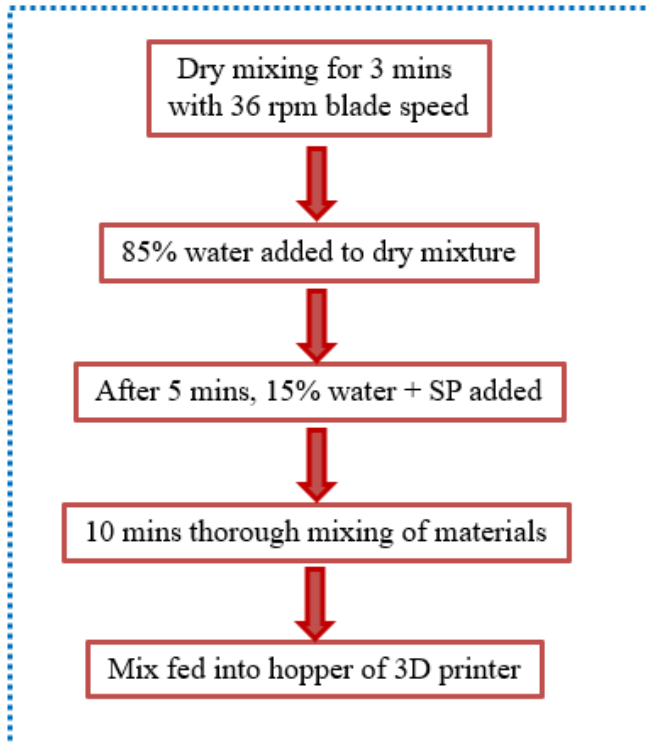


(b) P 2

Fig - Rheological Protocols

# Conventional 3DPC

## Mixing protocol





# Fresh properties of 3D Printable geopolymer concrete

	Cement	MBS	Silica Fume	Fly Ash	GGBS
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	4.0	0.344	0.159	26.610	16.240
SiO <sub>2</sub>	20.49	94.820	94.650	58.440	36.610
CaO	64.7	0.706	0.240	2.896	34.480
CuO	0.013	0.008	0.006	0.015	
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	4.769	0.199	0.032	6.707	0.584
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.673	1.667	2.790	1.281	0.462
MgO	0.732	0.462	0.805	1.100	6.792
MnO	0.071	0.111	0.034	0.089	1.498
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.105	0.081	0.077	0.475	0.235



## Physical Properties of Silica Fume, MBS, GGBS and Fly Ash

Property	Silica Fume	MBS	GGBS	Fly Ash
Fineness, m <sup>2</sup> /kg	20000	43098	438	500
Loss on Ignition, %	1.5	-	2.1	0.76
Bulk Density, kg/m <sup>3</sup>	643	414	1108	700
Specific Gravity, g/cm <sup>3</sup>	2.25	2.19	2.9	2.2
Particle size, D50	13	19	25	25

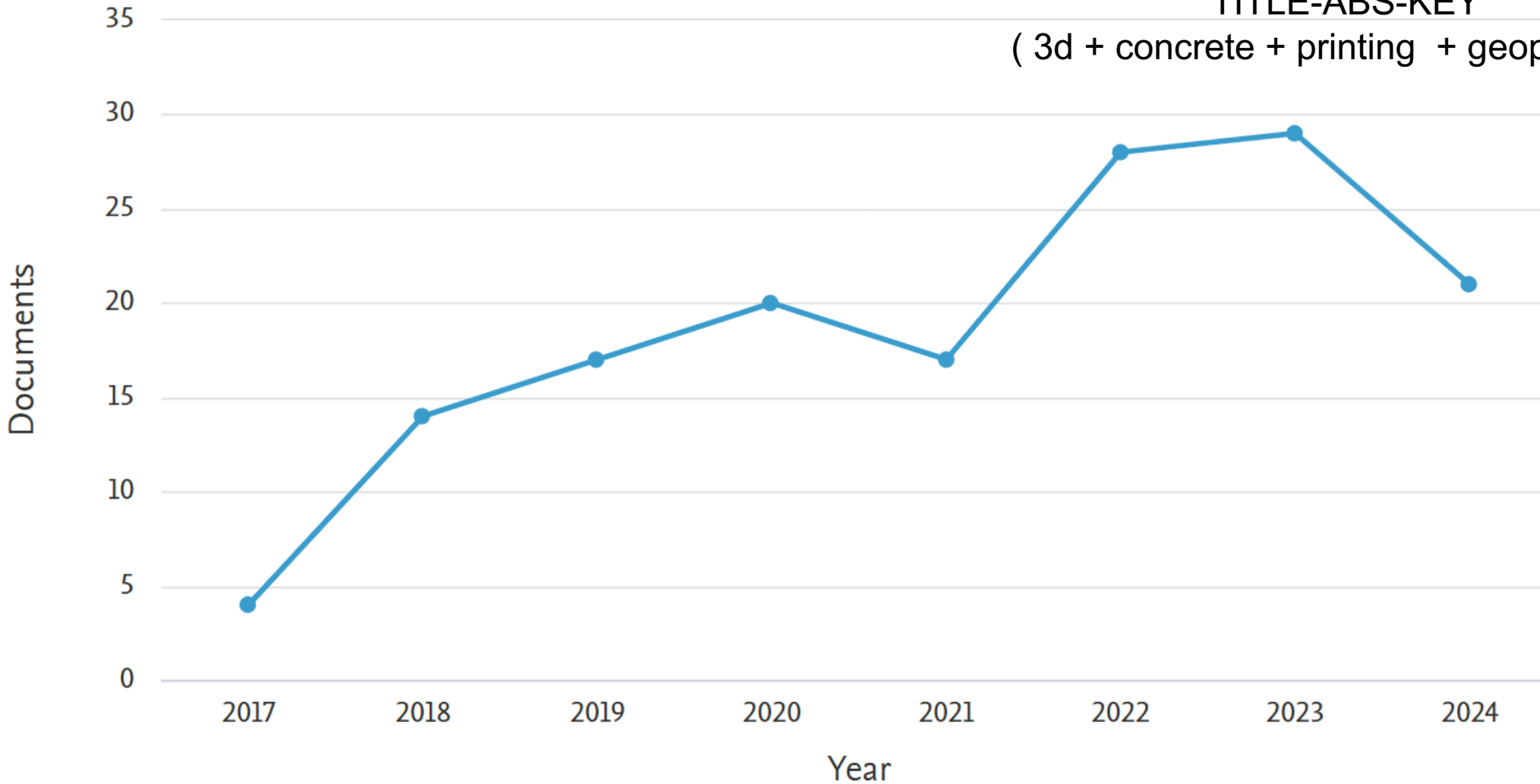
# Typical properties of silicates used

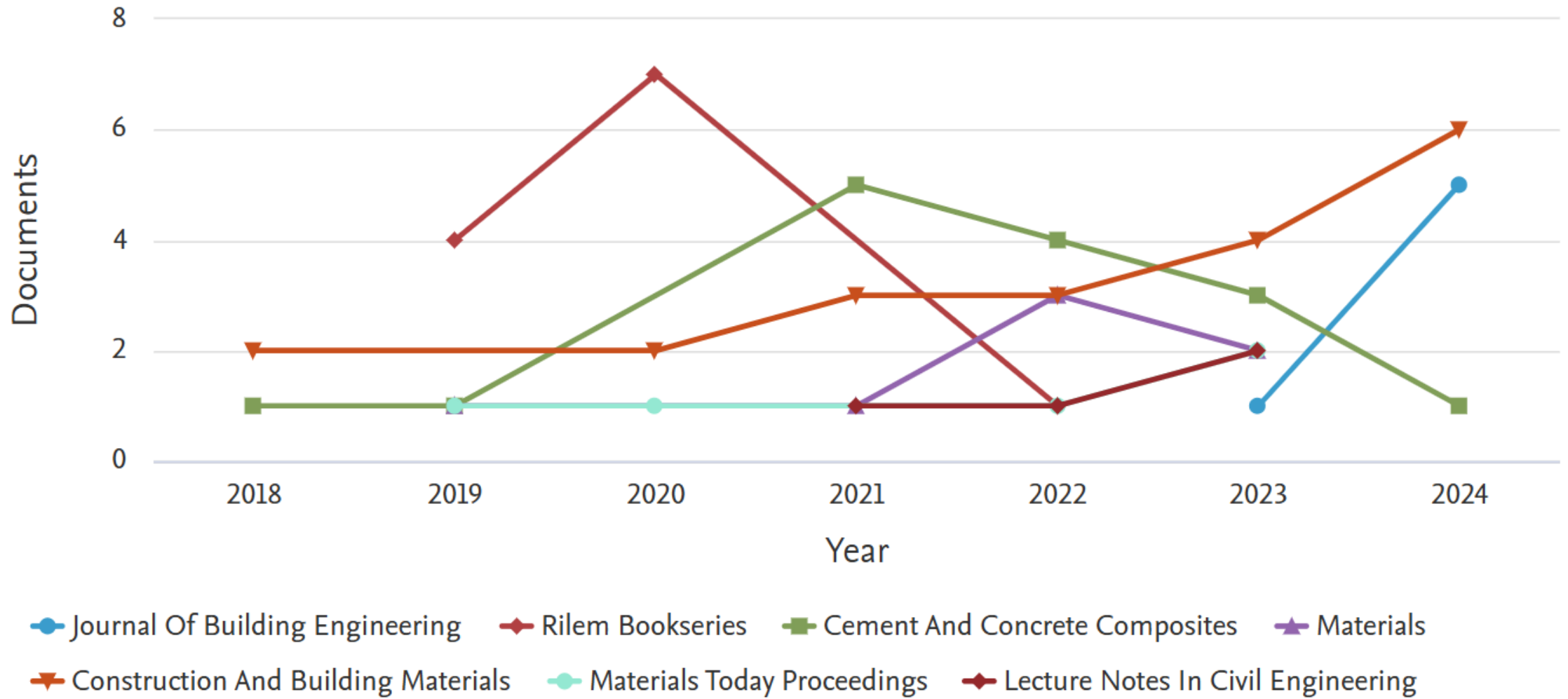
Property	Potassium silicate	Sodium silicate
Specific gravity	1.38	1.50
%K <sub>2</sub> O	12.50	-
%Na <sub>2</sub> O	-	14.20
%SiO <sub>2</sub>	26.30	31.26
%Total solids	38.8	45.46
Baume °	40	50
Viscosity	440 cp	900 cp



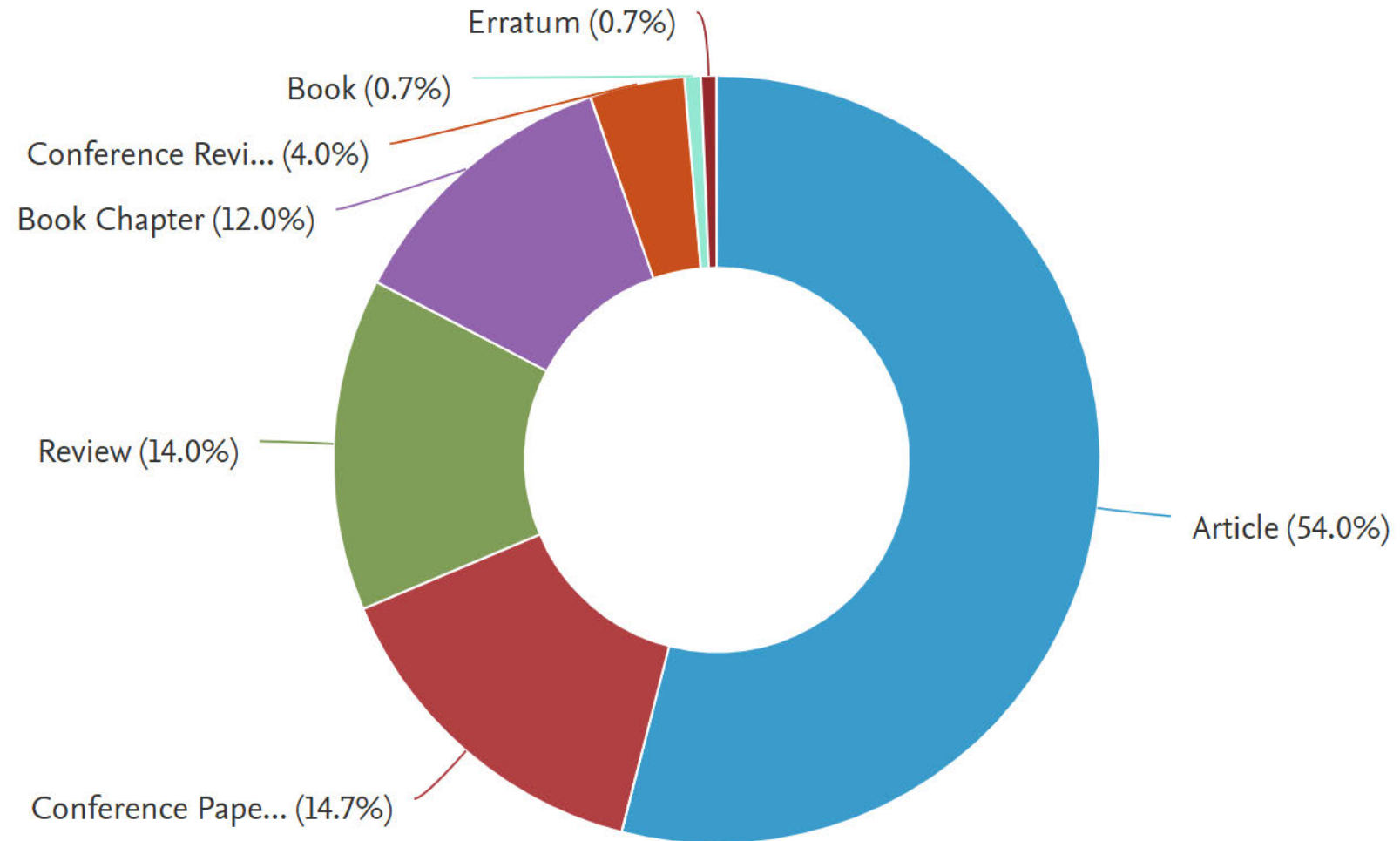
# A scientometric analysis

Keywords used for the search  
TITLE-ABS-KEY  
( 3d + concrete + printing + geopolimer )





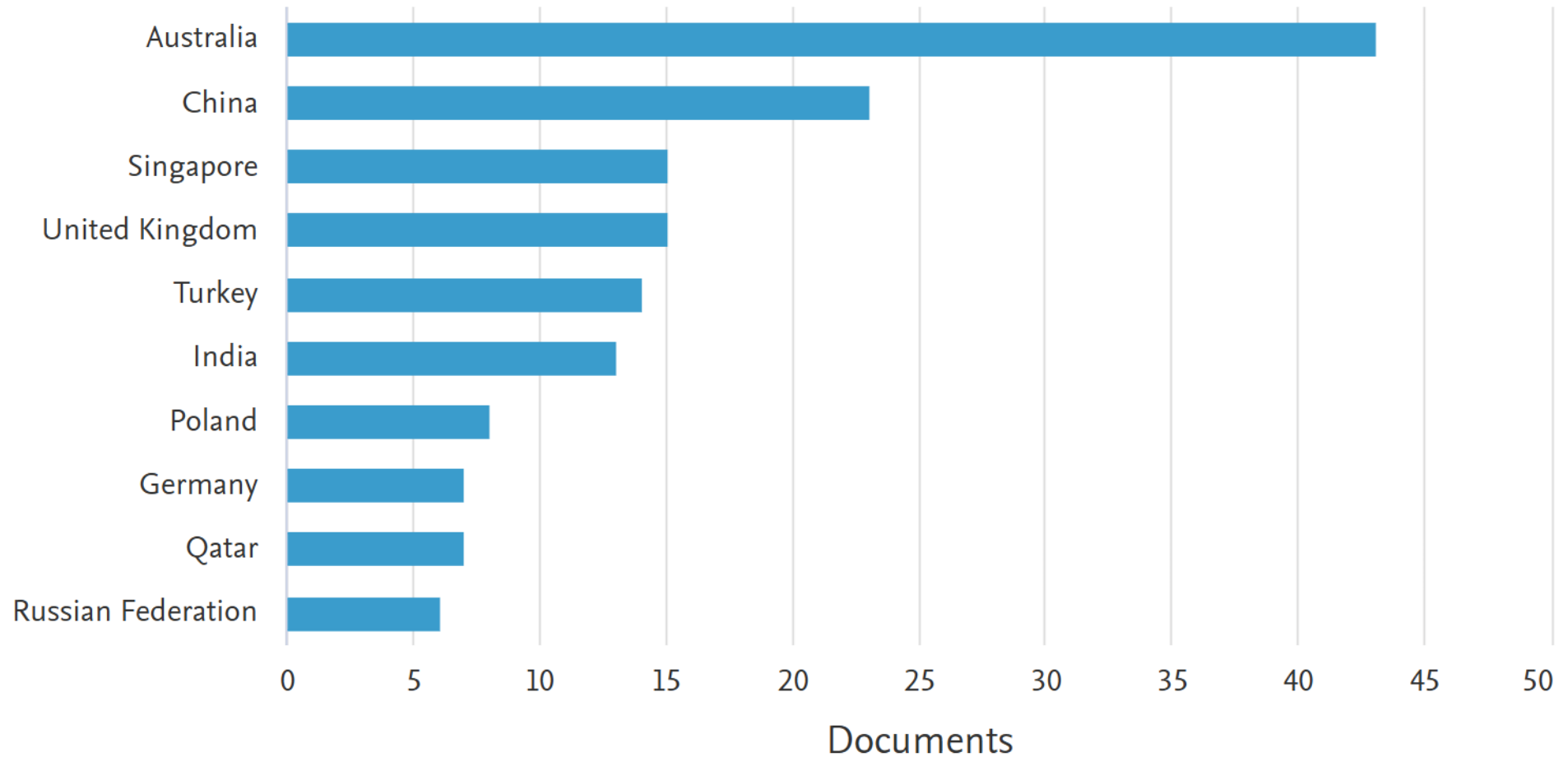
## Documents by type





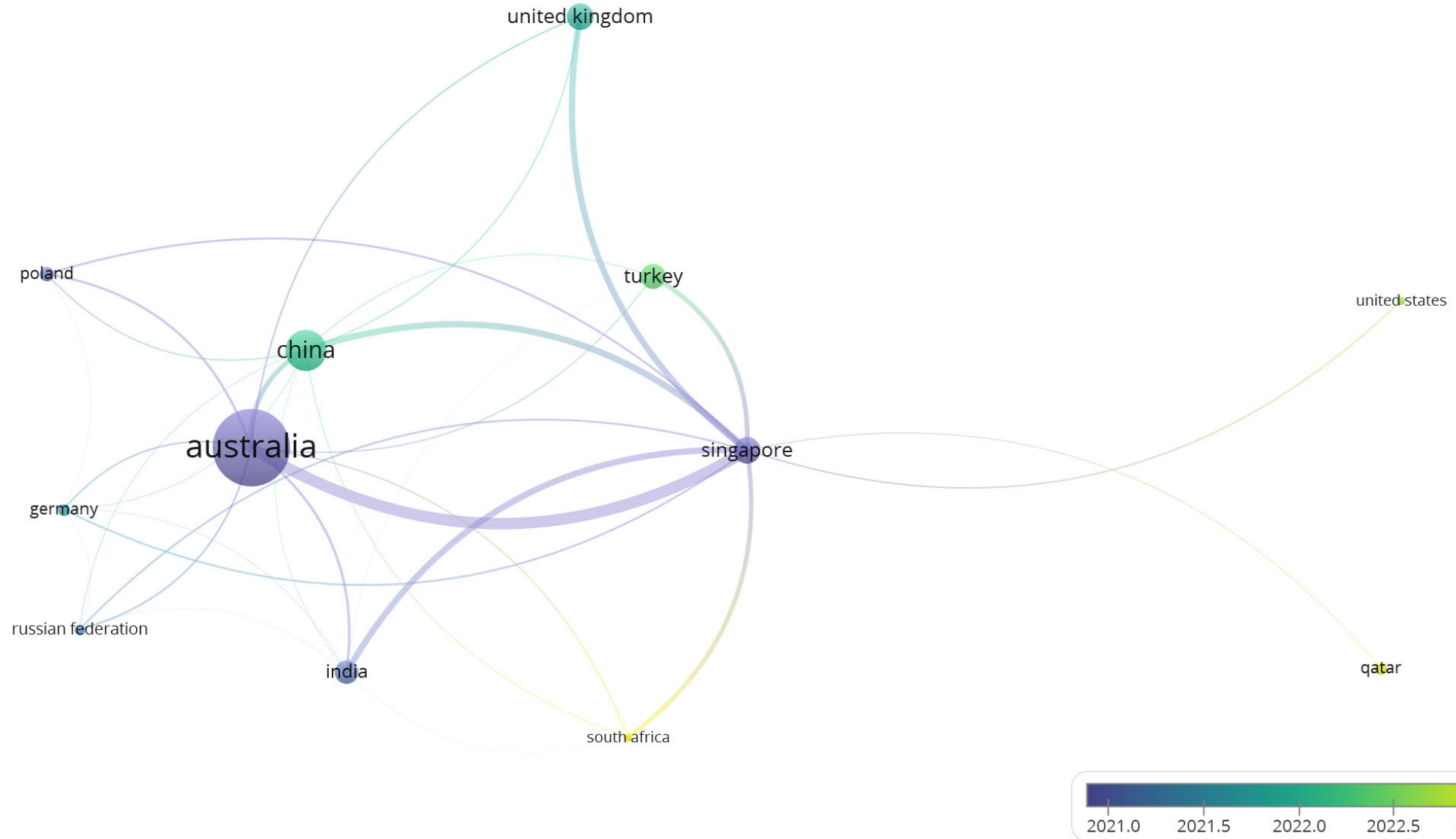
## Documents by country or territory

Compare the document counts for up to 15 countries/territories.



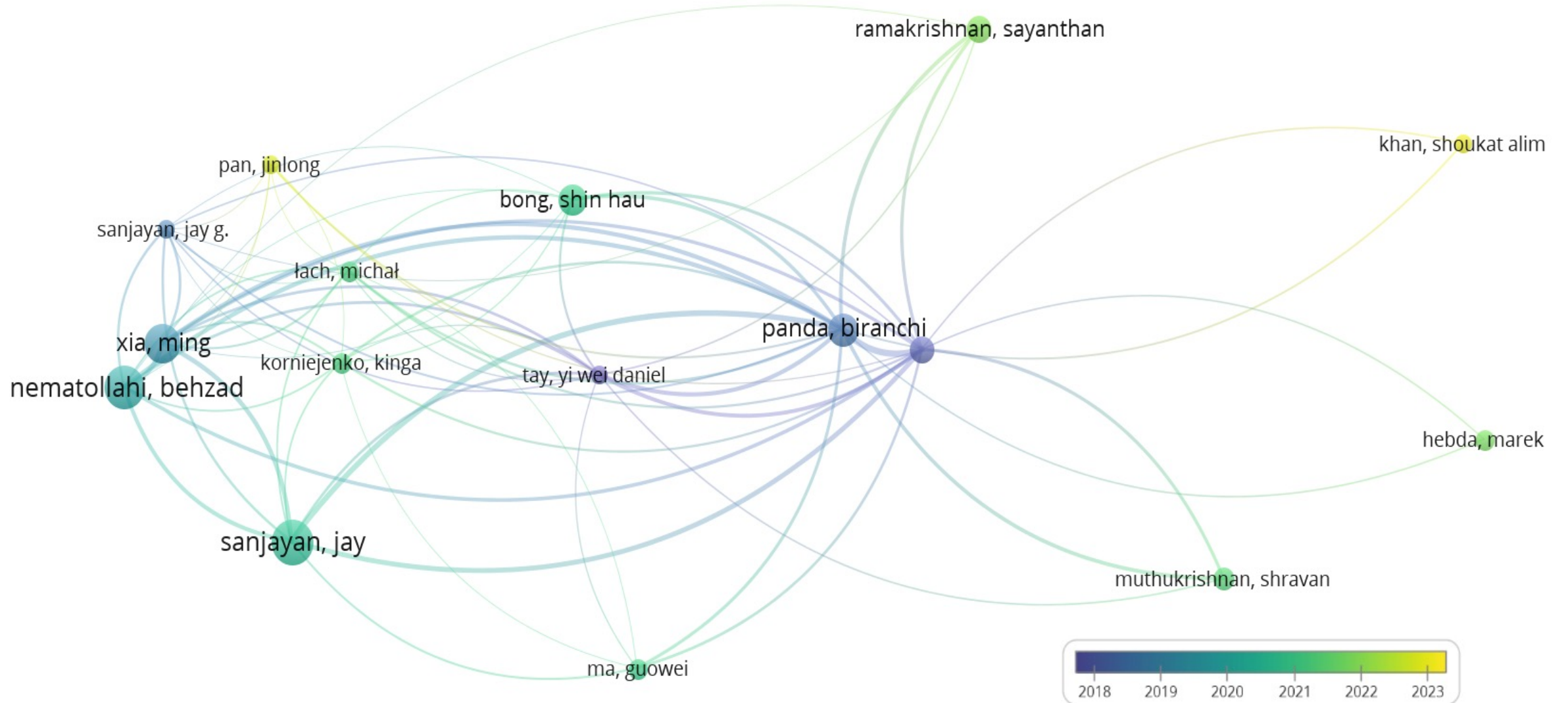














# Country occurrence in time zone





# Author occurrence in the time zone



<p><b>3DGPC- M1</b>                  Molarity (M)-                  0.87</p> <p>Alkaline                  Soln/Binder                  (a/b)-0.38</p>	<p>(High volume fly                  ash mix)</p> <p>The mix is full flow                  (More than 1 hour)</p>		<p><b>3DGPC- M5</b>                  M-0.56</p> <p>a/b-0.35</p>	<p>Reduced molarity                  to increase the                  setting time                  The mix was                  initially overflowed                  but stiffened about                  23 min</p>		<p><b>3DGPC- M9</b>                  M- 0.56</p> <p>a/b-0.35</p>	<p>. Lower                  molarity                  (0.02b                  Additional                  water)</p>	
<p><b>3DGPC- M2</b></p> <p>M-0.87                  a/b-0.38</p>	<p>GGBS increased                  by 10% by reducing                  fly ash                  Buildability was not                  achieving</p>		<p><b>3DGPC- M6</b></p> <p>M-0.87                  a/b-0.35</p>	<p>GGBS increased to                  10%                  The mix was stiffed                  in 15 min. (0.07                  addl water)</p>		<p><b>3DGPC- M10</b></p> <p>M-0.56                  a/b-0.35</p>	<p>. Lower                  molarity                  (0.02b                  Additional                  water)</p>	
<p><b>3DGPC- M3</b>                  M-0.87                  a/b-0.33</p>	<p>Decreased the                  Alkaline-binder                  ratio</p> <p>The mix was stiffed                  within 8min</p>		<p><b>3DGPC- M7</b>                  M-0.87                  a/b-0.35</p>	<p>The mix was stiffed                  in 15 min</p>		<p><b>3DGPC- M11</b>                  M-0.56                  a/b-0.37                  (Higher Fly                  ash)</p>	<p>Maintain the                  slump (40-45                  mm )and                  flow value                  (200-220                  mm) from                  15-105 min</p>	 <p>1d@ 6.5 MPa                  3d@ 23.8                  MPa</p>
<p><b>3DGPC- M4</b>                  M-0.87                  a/b-0.35</p>	<p>Increased the a/b                  ratio                  The mix was                  initially overflowed                  but stiffed in the                  range of 20-30 min</p>		<p><b>3DGPC- M8</b>                  M-0.87                  a/b-0.37</p>	<p>Increases the                  Alkaline-binder                  ratio                  Buildability was not                  obtained</p>		<p><b>3DGPC- M12</b>                  M-0.56                  a/b-0.37                  (10% lesser                  Fly ash)</p>	<p>Maintain the                  slump (40-45                  mm )and                  flow value                  (200-220                  mm) from                  15-105 min</p>	 <p>1d@ 3.7 MPa                  3d@ 10.5                  MPa</p>



<p><b>3DGPC- M12</b>                  M-0.56                  a/b-0.37                  (10% lesser Fly ash)</p>	<p>Buildability was not obtained</p>		<p><b>3DGPC- M16</b>                  M-0.87                  a/b-0.367</p>	<p>Buildability was not obtained</p>	
<p><b>3DGPC- M13</b>                  (10% lesser Fly ash)                  M-0.87                  a/b-0.36</p>	<p>Maintain the slump (40-45 mm )and flow value (170-185 mm) from 15-60 min</p>		<p><b>3DGPC- M17</b>                  M-0.87                  a/b-0.33</p>	<p>Buildability was not obtained</p>	
<p><b>3DGPC- M14</b>                  M-0.87                  a/b-0.365</p>	<p>Extrudability was no obtained</p>		<p><b>3DGPC- M18</b>                  M-0.87                  a/b-0.36</p>	<p>Initially 15-23 min, Buildability was obtained. But after 30 minutes Buildability was not obtained.</p>	
<p><b>3DGPC- M15</b>                  (Higher Fly ash)                  M-0.87                  a/b-0.365</p>	<p>Buildability was not obtained</p>		<p><b>3DGPC- M19</b>                  M-0.87                  a/b-0.355</p>	<p>Buildability was obtained. A totally 50 layers were printed</p>	



## 3DGPC-M19 mixes and Flowability

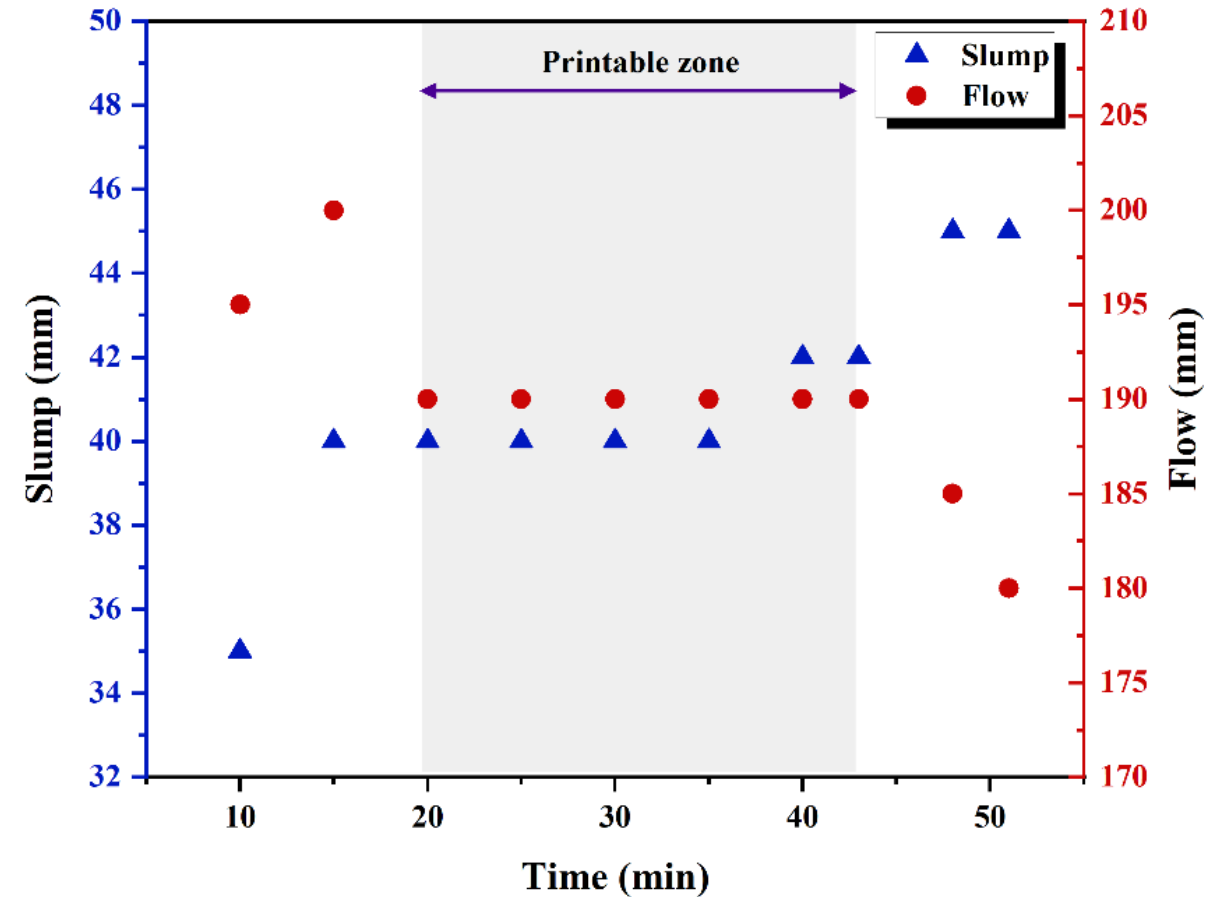
- However, only the mixture M19 could satisfy the requirements for buildability, extrudability, open time, slump, and flow.
- The slump values are maintained at 40-42 mm between 20 - 45 min
- The flow values are maintained at 190 mm between 20 – 45 min
- So, The Printable zone of the 3DGPC-M19 mix was 20-45 min



**Slump**

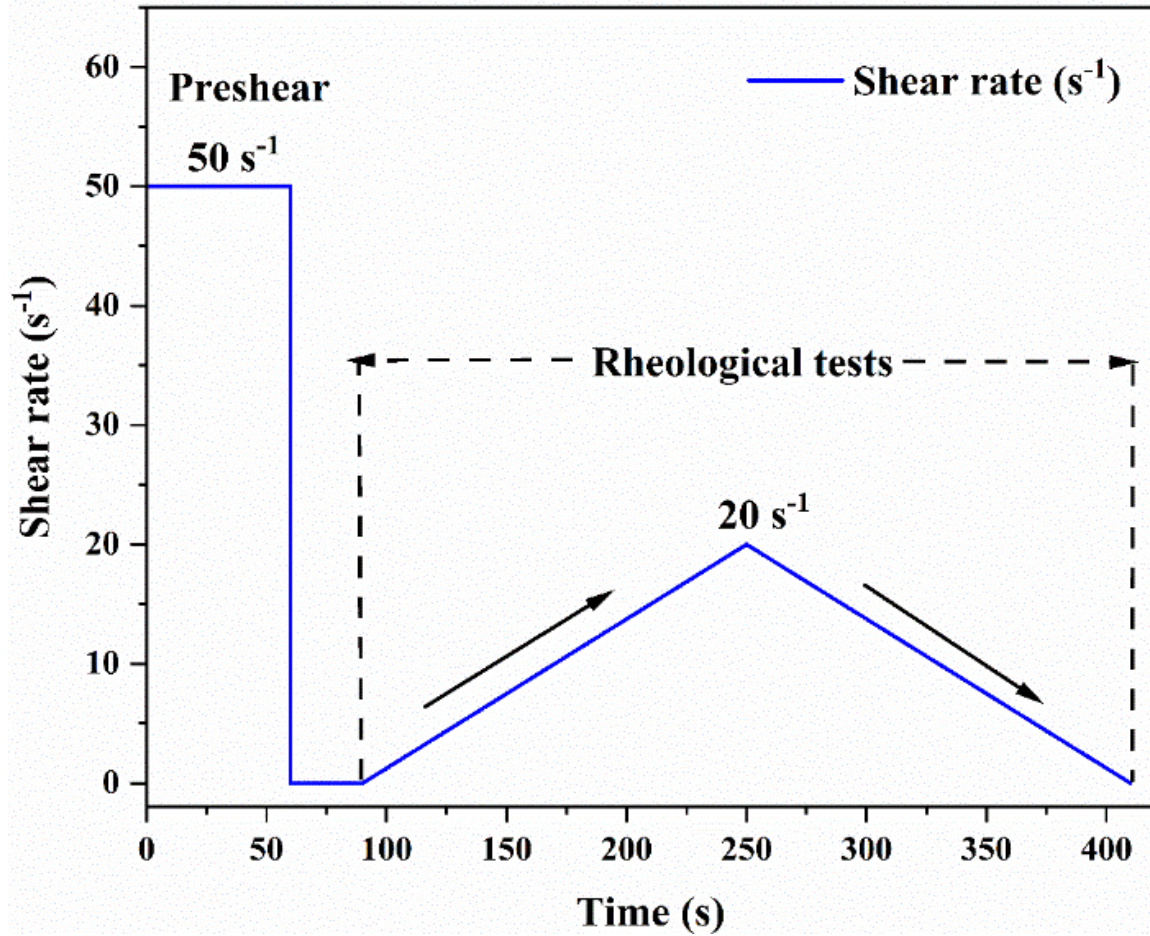


**Flow**

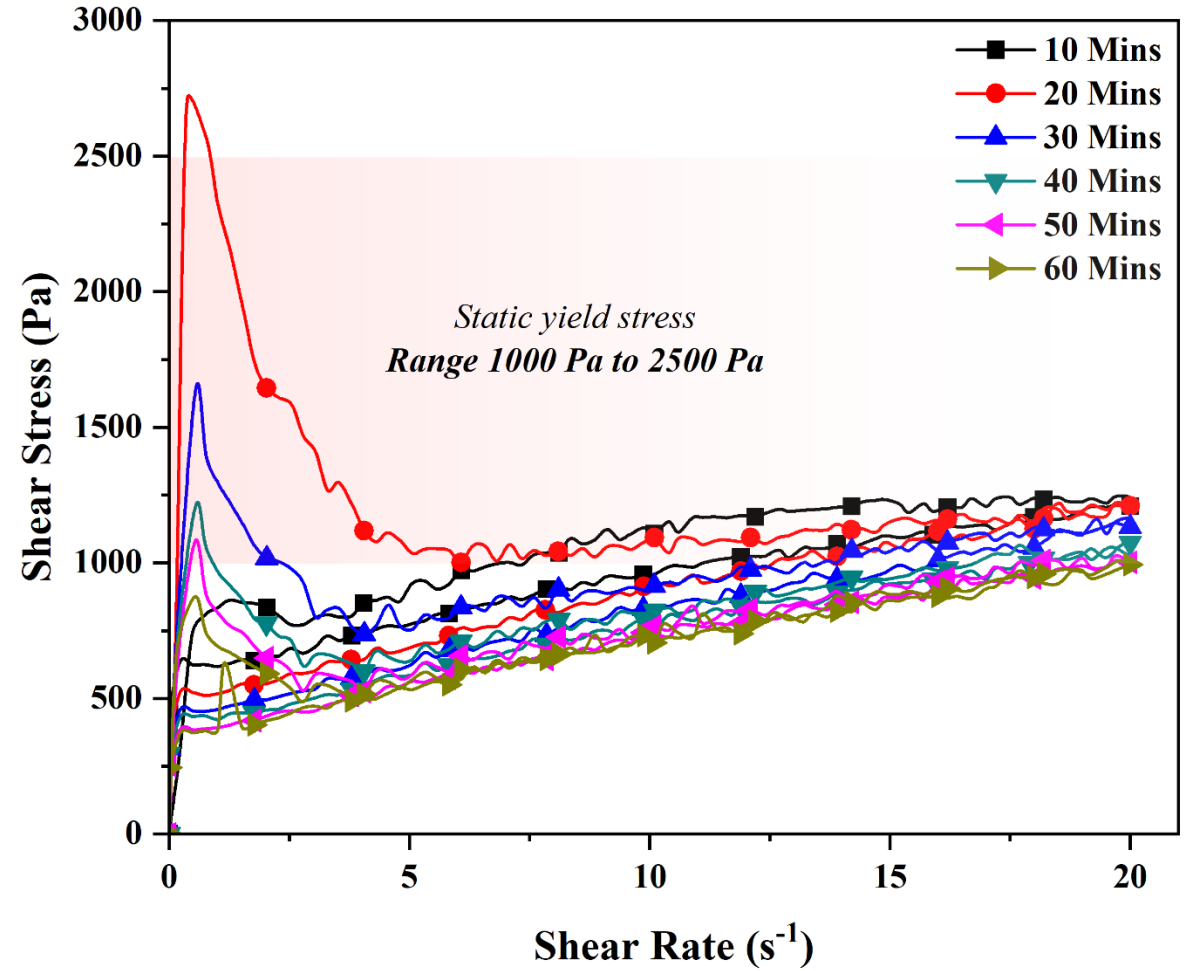


**Slump, Flow Vs Time**

# Rheological Characterization

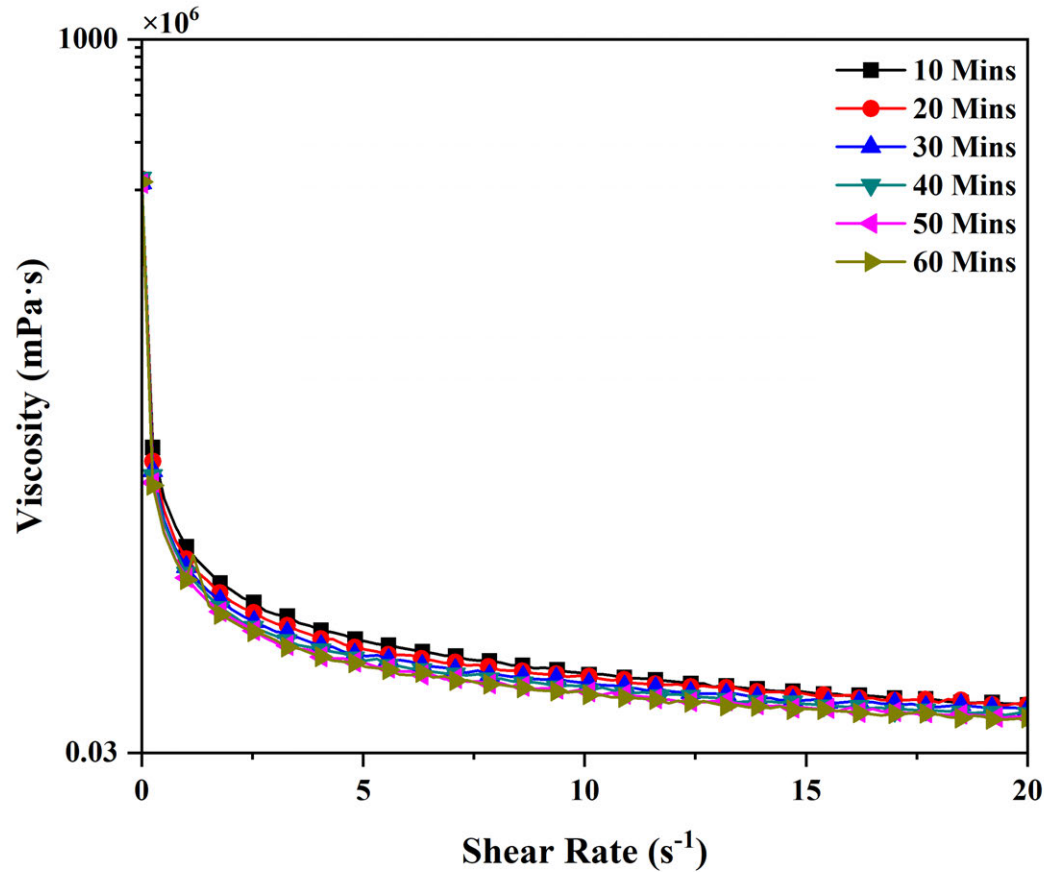


**Flow curve protocol**

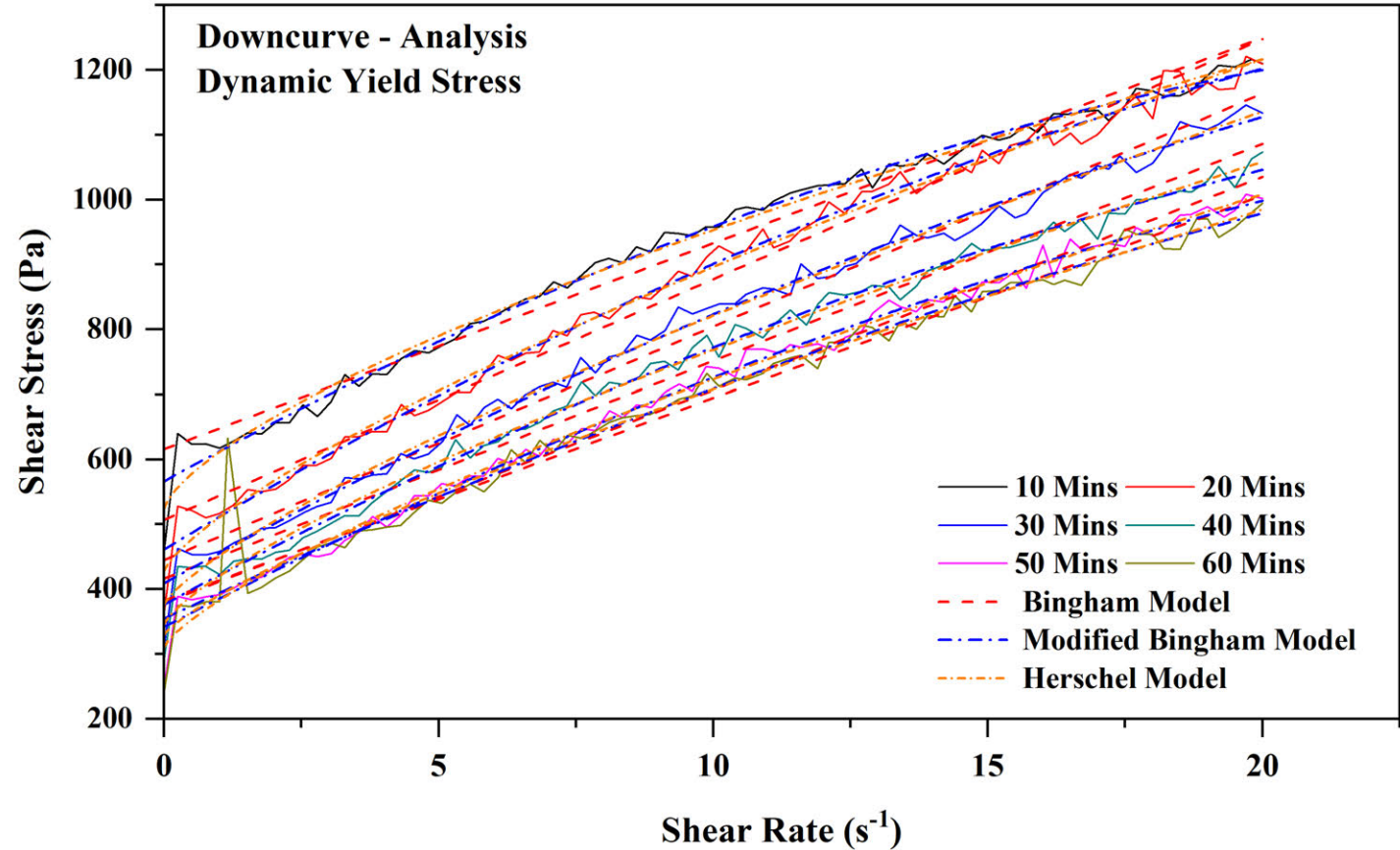


**Static yield stress plot**

# Rheological Characterization



Viscosity vs Shear rate plot



Dynamic Yield Stress - Plot



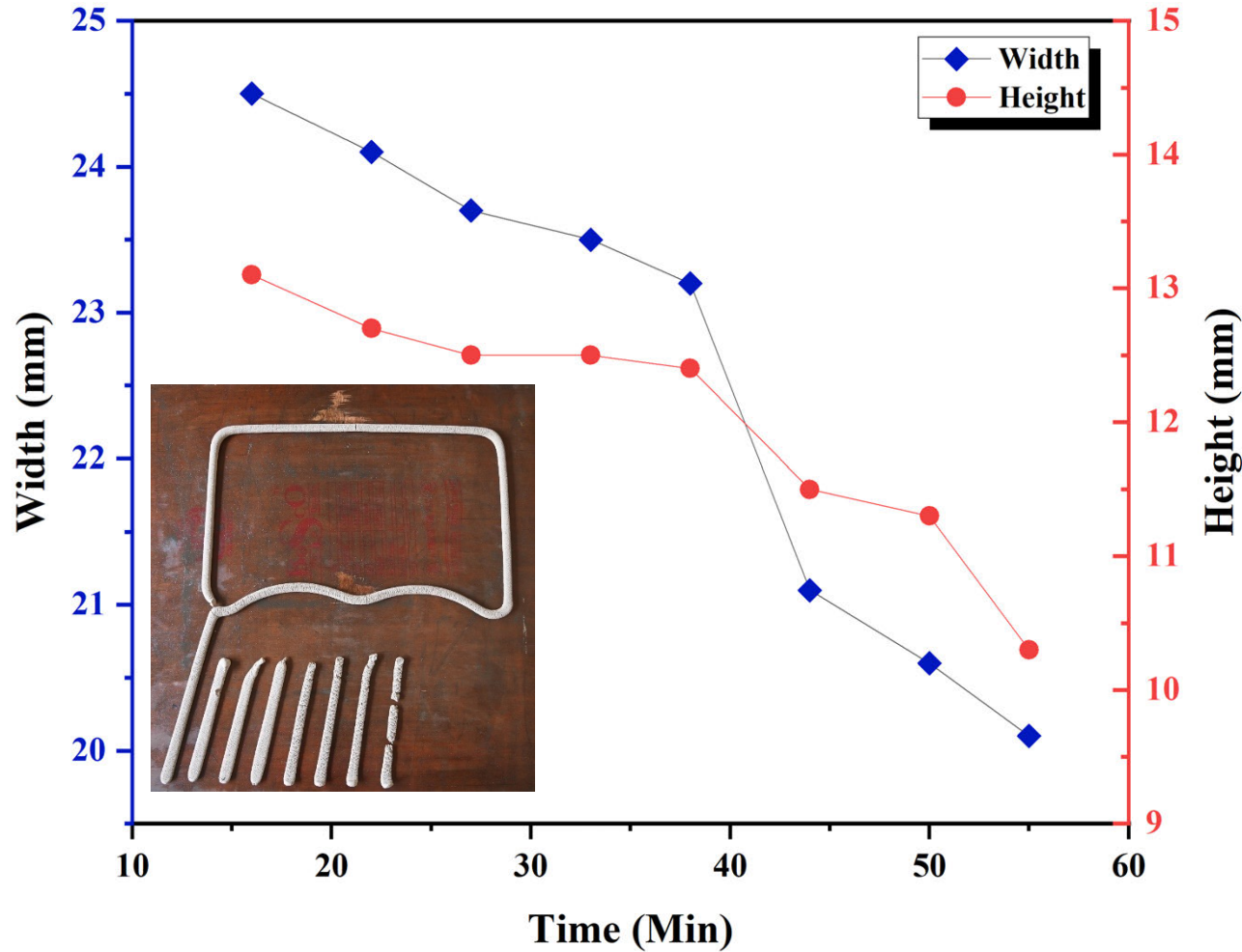
# Model fitting results with R Square values with time dependent

Time (Mins)	Bingham Model			Modified Bingham Model				Herschel – Buckley Model			
	$y = y_0 + \mu_p \cdot x$			$y = y_0 + \mu_p \cdot x + c \cdot x^2$				$y = y_0 + K \cdot x^n$			
	$y_0$	$\mu_p$	$R^2$	$y_0$	$\mu_p$	$c$	$R^2$	$y_0$	$K$	$n$	$R^2$
10	616.01 ± 6.51	31.67 ± 0.56	0.9759	<b>566.24 ± 5.86</b>	46.79 ± 1.35	-0.75 ± 0.06	0.9911	<b>522.55 ± 10.92</b>	88.41 ± 7.24	0.68 ± 0.02	0.9909
20	506.85 ± 6.37	37.03 ± 0.55	0.983	<b>461.42 ± 6.34</b>	50.84 ± 1.46	-0.69 ± 0.07	0.9924	<b>427.20 ± 11.00</b>	83.08 ± 6.70	0.75 ± 0.02	0.992
30	445.097 ± 5.60	35.92 ± 0.48	0.986	<b>408.97 ± 6.17</b>	46.89 ± 1.42	-0.54 ± 0.06	0.9923	<b>375.72 ± 9.55</b>	75.45 ± 5.65	0.77 ± 0.02	0.9932
40	416.49 ± 5.67	33.48 ± 0.48	0.9836	<b>376.34 ± 5.67</b>	45.69 ± 1.31	-0.61 ± 0.06	0.9925	<b>345.04 ± 9.64</b>	74.77 ± 5.86	0.75 ± 0.02	0.9924
50	378.69 ± 5.26	32.81 ± 0.45	0.9852	<b>341.79 ± 5.35</b>	44.02 ± 1.23	-0.56 ± 0.06	0.9931	<b>309.94 ± 8.67</b>	72.44 ± 5.24	0.75 ± 0.02	0.9936
60	382.40 ± 7.66	31.20 ± 0.66	0.9661	<b>354.75 ± 10.54</b>	39.61 ± 2.43	-0.42 ± 0.11	0.9709	<b>328.97 ± 16.75</b>	61.24 ± 9.64	0.79 ± 0.04	0.9717

# Extrudability, Open Time and Buildability



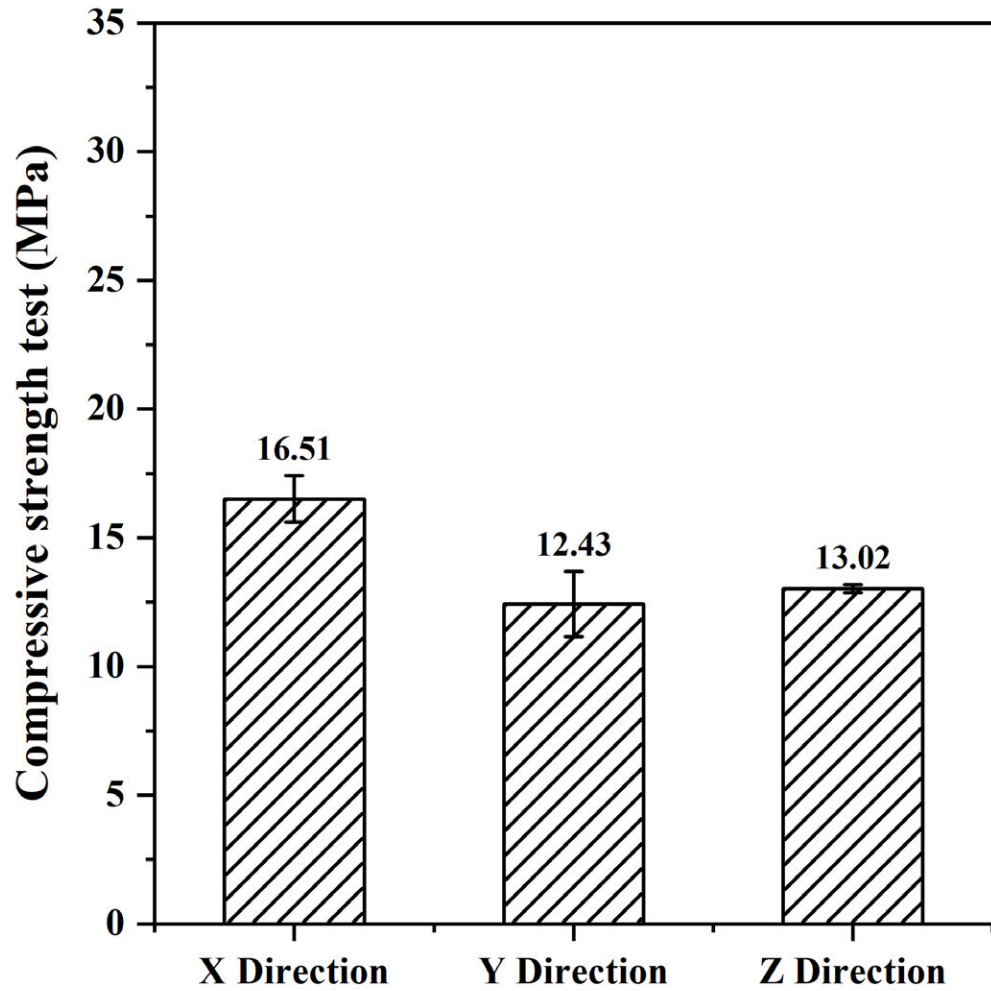
**Extrudability**



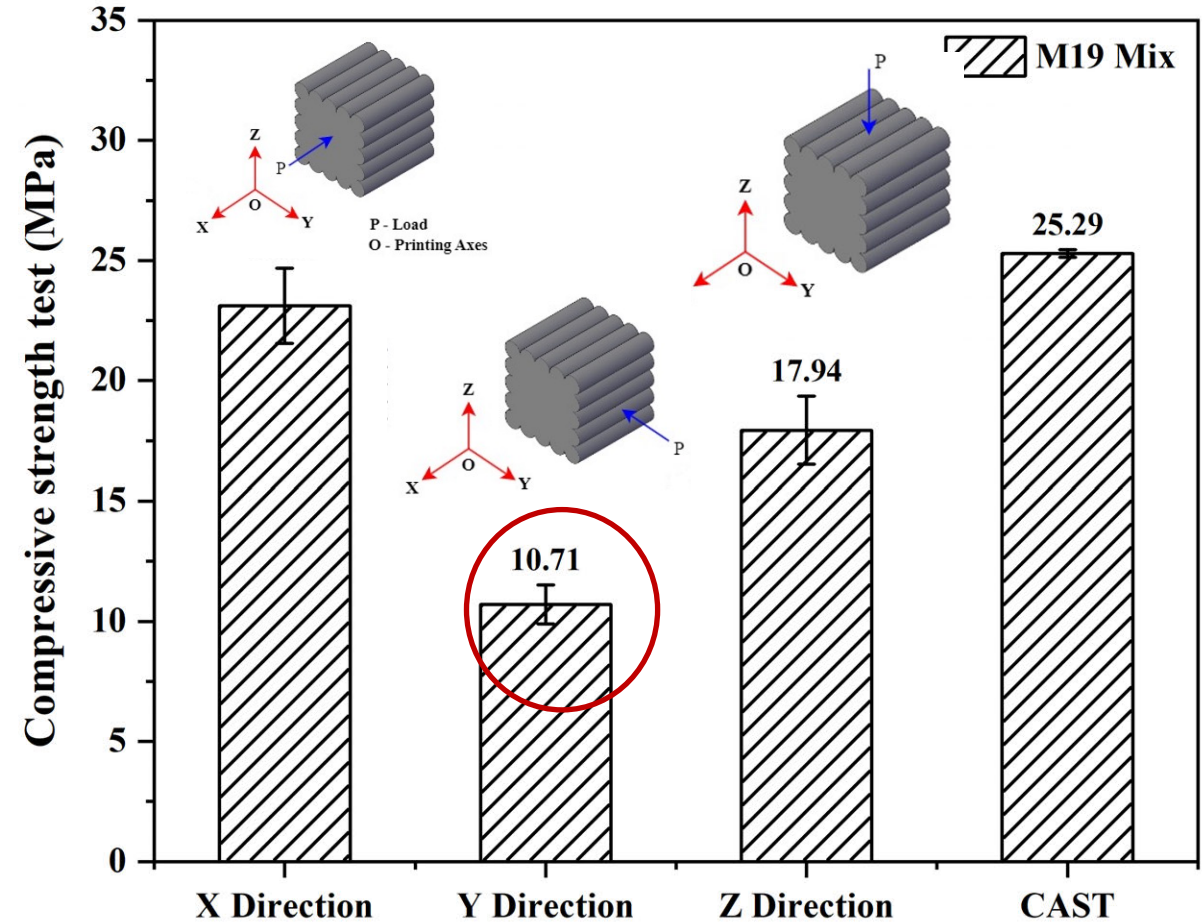
**Open Time**



**Buildability**

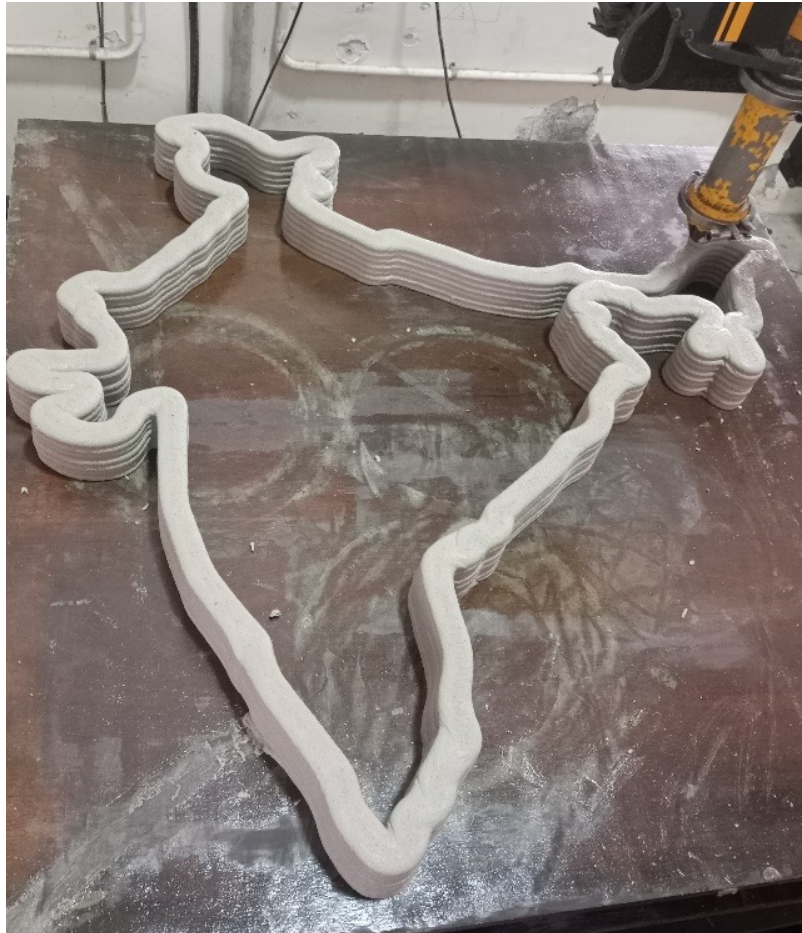


**3DGPC samples**

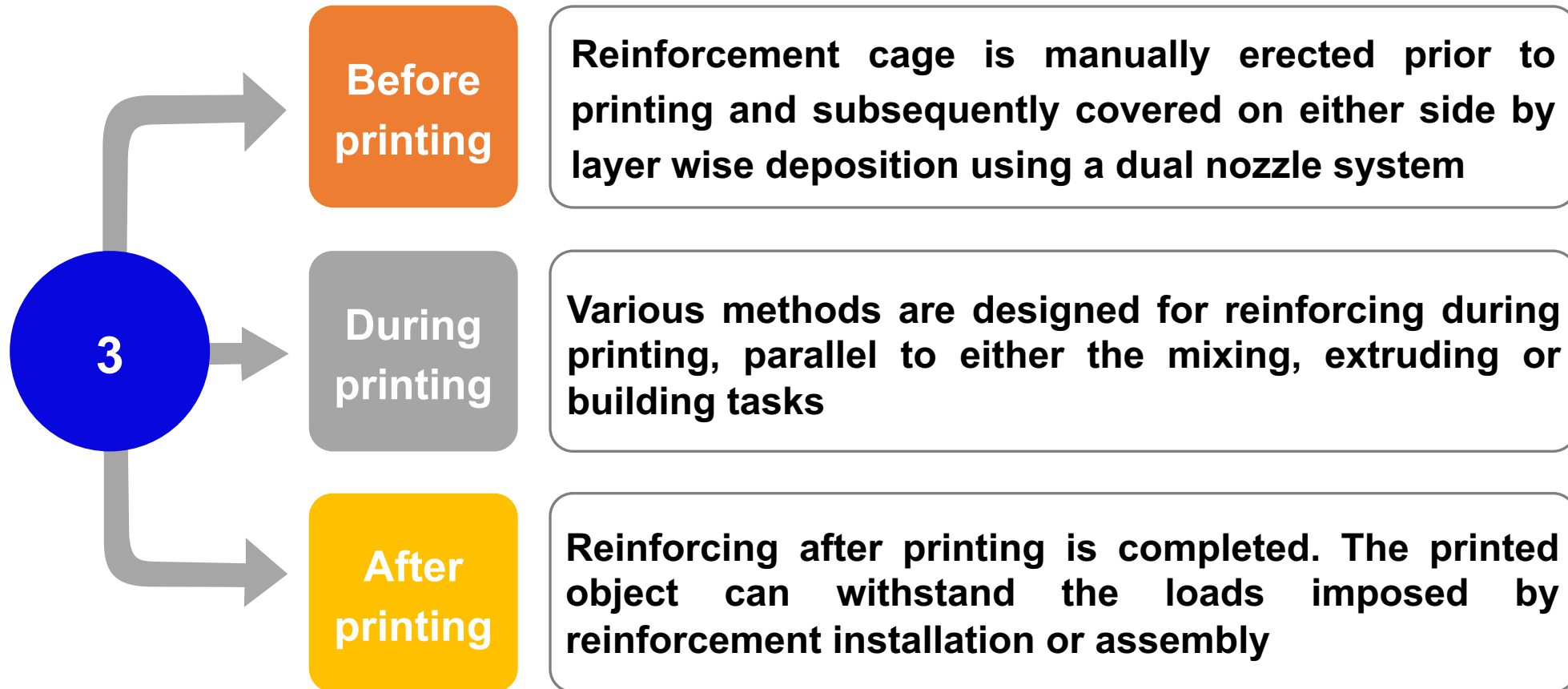


**Compressive strength of 3DPGPC (with defects)**



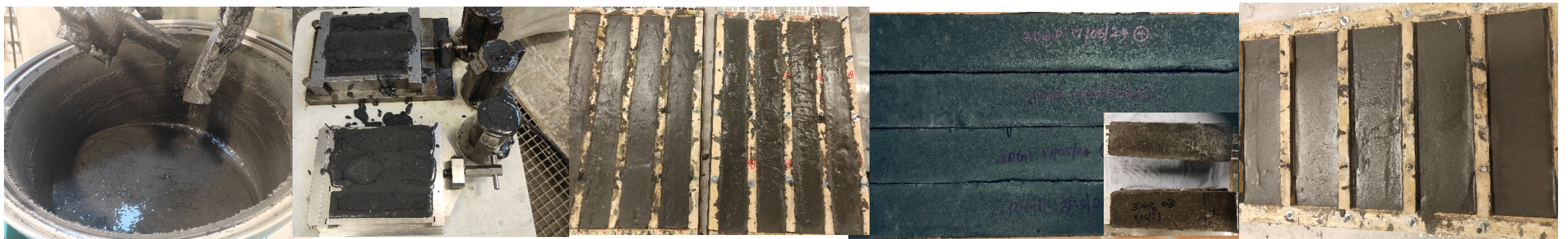
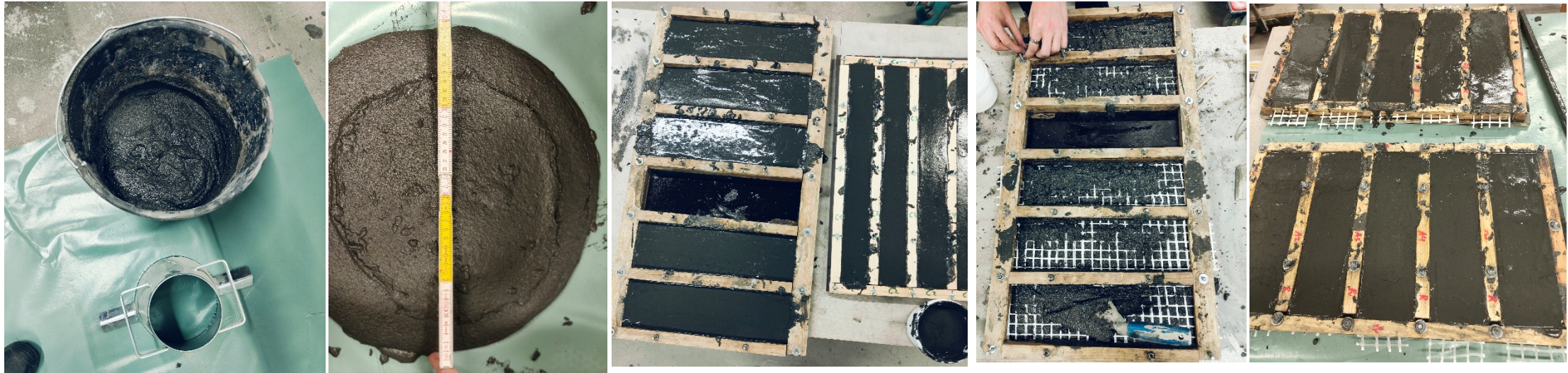


**3DGPC-M19 mix used to print map of India**



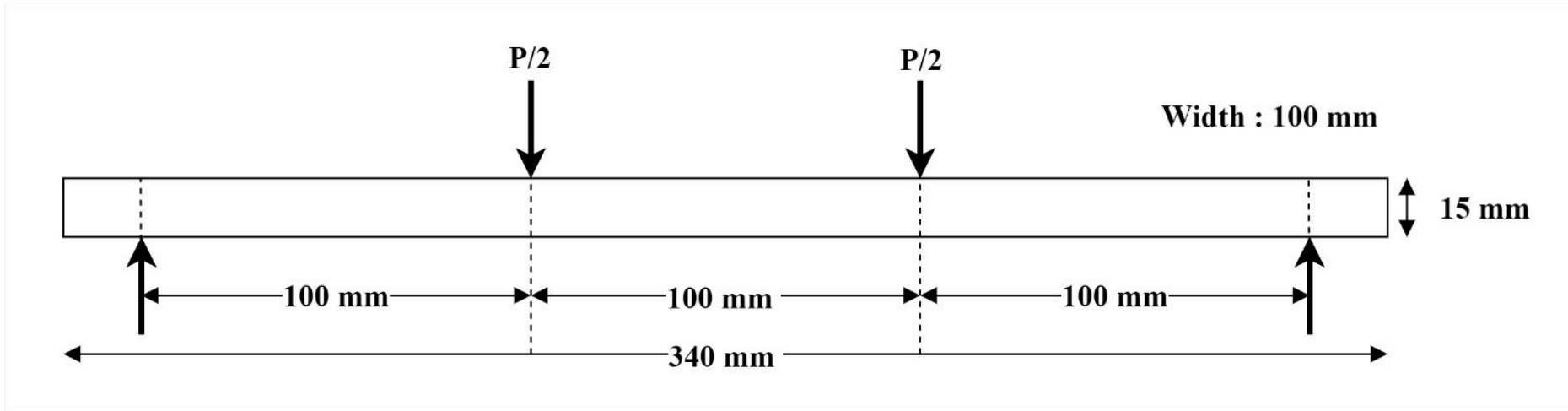


Geopolymer concrete mix casting with (i) without textile (ii) AR Glass coated flexible textile (iii) AR Glass uncoated textile (iv) AR Glass epoxy coated

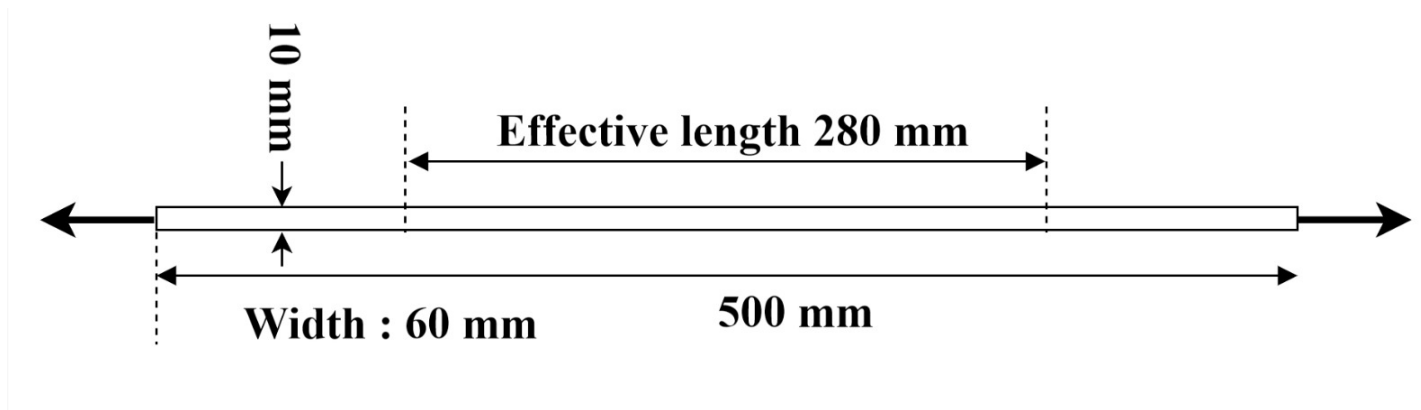




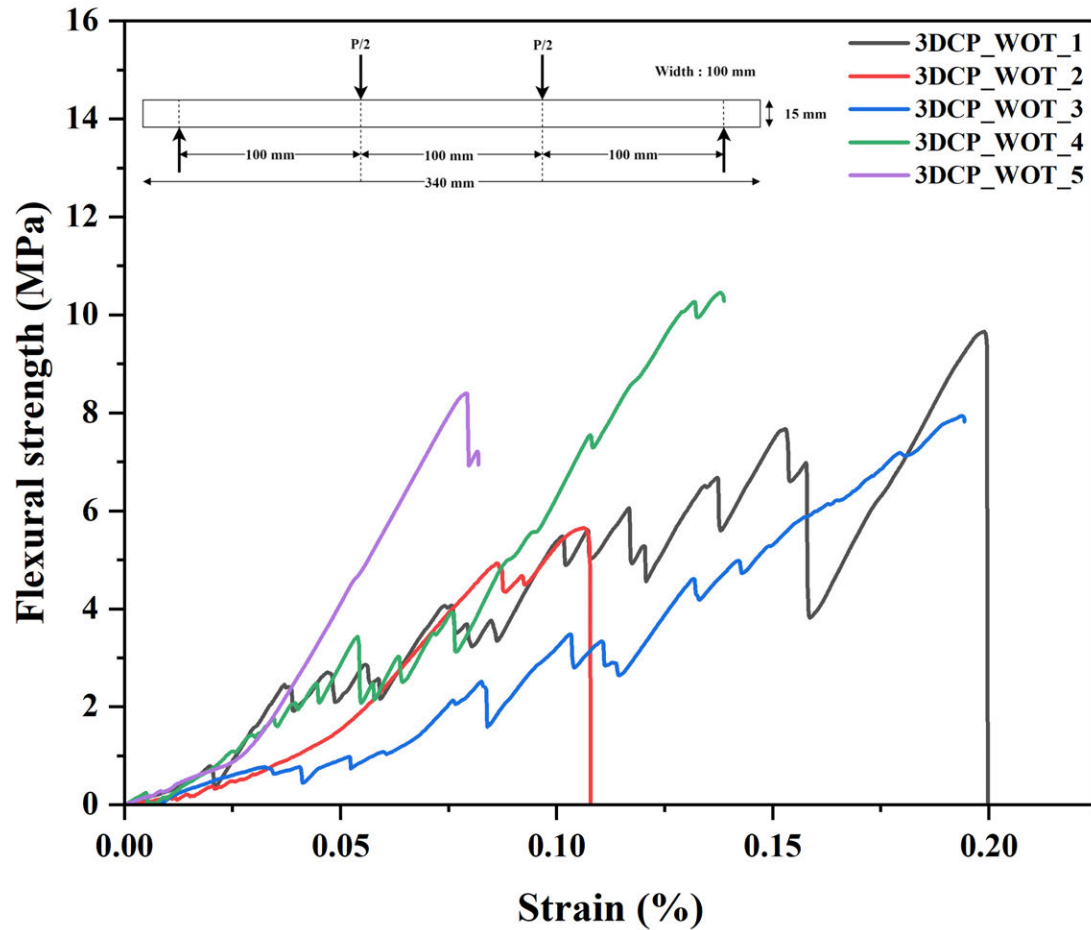
SI No	Mix ID	Specimen details (mm)	Flow (mm)	Fresh Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Property	Remarks
1	3DGP0	i) 340x100x15 -5 no.s ii) 500x60x10 – 4 no.s	400	2296	i) Flexural strength ii) Tensile strength	Geopolymer mortar matrix (Without textile)
2	3DGP1	i) 340x100x15 -5 no.s ii) 500x60x10 – 4 no.s	-	2185	i) Flexural strength ii) Tensile strength	Geopolymer mortar matrix with AR glass coated flexible textile (water 1% of binder increased)
3	3DGP2	i) 340x100x15 -5 no.s ii) 500x60x10 – 4 no.s	380	2275	i) Flexural strength ii) Tensile strength	Geopolymer mortar matrix with AR glass uncoated textile
4	3DGP3	i) 340x100x15 -5 no.s ii) 500x60x10 – 4 no.s	-	2291	i) Flexural strength ii) Tensile strength	Geopolymer mortar matrix with AR glass with coated flexible textile
5	3DGP4	i) 340x100x15 -5 no.s ii) 500x60x10 – 4 no.s	-	2280	i) Flexural strength ii) Tensile strength	Geopolymer mortar matrix with AR glass with epoxy coated textile
6	3DGP5	i) 270x80x20 -5 no.s (1) ii) 270x80x20 -5 no.s (2)	-	2261	i) pull out test	1. Geopolymer mortar matrix with AR glass with coated flexible textile 2. Geopolymer mortar matrix with AR glass with epoxy coated textile



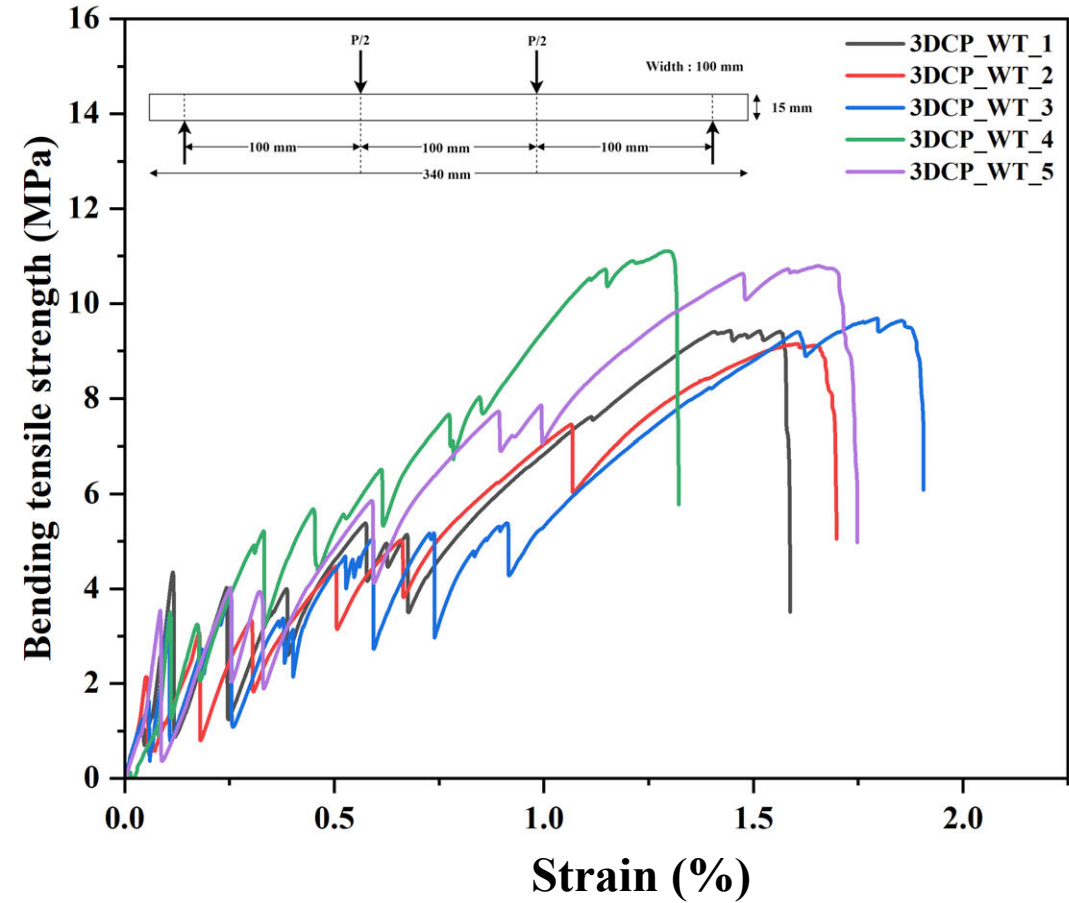
Four point bending test



Direct tension test



Serie	b	h	F <sub>MOR</sub>	σ <sub>MOR</sub>	Δ <sub>MOR</sub>	ε <sub>MOR</sub>
n = 5	mm	mm	N	MPa	mm	%
$\bar{x}$	99,96	18,11	1068,02	9,85	1,32	0,14324



Serie	b	h	F <sub>MOR</sub>	σ <sub>MOR</sub>	Δ <sub>MOR</sub>	ε <sub>MOR</sub>
n = 5	mm	mm	N	MPa	mm	%
$\bar{x}$	100,36	18,97	1363,07	11,34	13,73	1,55921



## 'Think Global Act Local'



Thank you!