

**OCTOBER 29, 2023**



# **LONG-TERM LABORATORY TEST METHODS AND FIELD EXPOSURE BLOCKS FOR DELAYED ETTRINGITE FORMATION (DEF)**

---

**THANO DRIMALAS, PHD**

Research Associate, The University of Texas at Austin

**KEVIN FOLLIARD, PHD**

Professor, The University of Texas at Austin

Laboratory Testing

Materials

Temperature

Test Methods

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

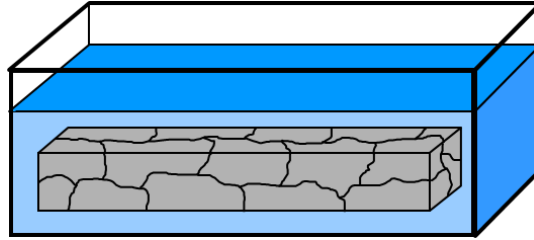
Admixture

Prevention

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study



# Presentation Outline



# ASTM C150 Cements

Laboratory Testing

Materials

Temperature

Test Methods

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

(%)	PC - AI	PC - AIII	PC - BI	PC - BIII	PC - CI	PC - V
<b>SiO<sub>2</sub></b>	21.50	20.62	20.10	20.10	19.80	21.80
<b>Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub></b>	4.10	4.89	5.30	5.10	5.50	4.10
<b>Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub></b>	3.50	2.39	3.40	3.40	2.00	3.90
<b>CaO</b>	--	64.27	65.50	64.90	61.60	63.80
<b>MgO</b>	2.50	1.77	0.60	1.00	2.60	2.10
<b>SO<sub>3</sub></b>	2.78	3.83	3.30	3.70	4.20	1.90
<b>C<sub>3</sub>A</b>	4.90	8.93	8.00	8.00	11.10	4.00
<b>Alkali</b>	0.56	0.62	0.67	0.50	0.95	0.59
<b>Wagner (m<sup>2</sup>/Kg)</b>	218	--	200	244	--	203
<b>Blaine (m<sup>2</sup>/Kg)</b>	--	526	367	537	399	323

# Supplementary Cementitious Materials

Laboratory Testing

Materials

Temperature

Test Methods

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

(%)	FA (F)	FA (C)	SL	SF	MK	UFFA
<b>SiO<sub>2</sub></b>	50.79	35.80	35.91	93.17	51.00	50.65
<b>Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub></b>	24.25	21.40	11.98	--	40.00	26.64
<b>Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub></b>	4.18	5.60	0.94	2.10	1.00	4.66
<b>CaO</b>	14.76	24.30	44.10	0.80	2.00	10.85
<b>MgO</b>	2.31	4.80	8.90	0.30	0.20	2.23
<b>SO<sub>3</sub></b>	0.57	1.20	1.63	0.20	--	1
<b>Alkali</b>	0.20	1.40	0.58	0.48	0.50	.41

Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

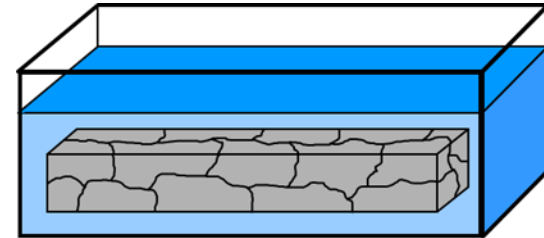
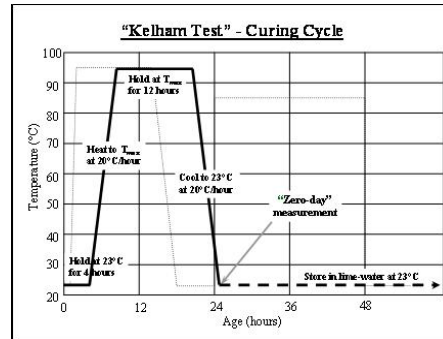
Prevention

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

- Heating Regimes
  - Kelham
  - Fu
  - Ferraro
  - Modified ASTM C227



Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

What is the critical temperature for DEF to occur? 70 ° C

- Kelham and Fu
- 3 Types of Cement
- 65 to 95 ° C at 5 degree increments

**Laboratory Testing**

Materials

Test Methods

**Temperature**

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

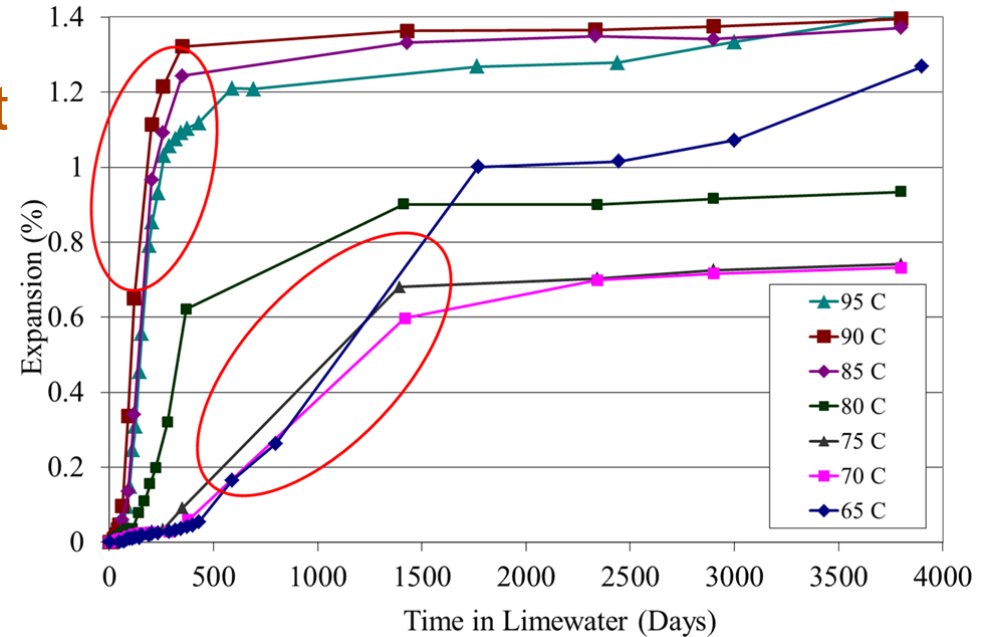
**DEF in Structures**

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

# What is the critical temperature for DEF to occur?

- Kelham
- A-III Cement



Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

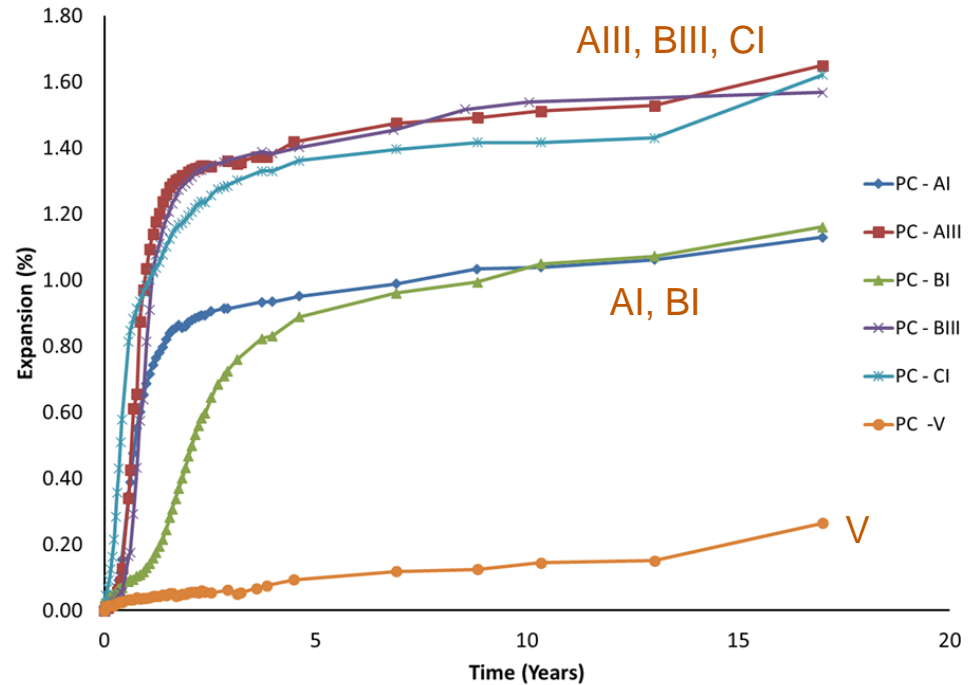
DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

# Cement Prevention?

- Kelham
- 95 ° C





Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

**Cements**

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

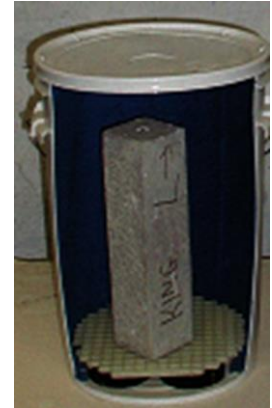
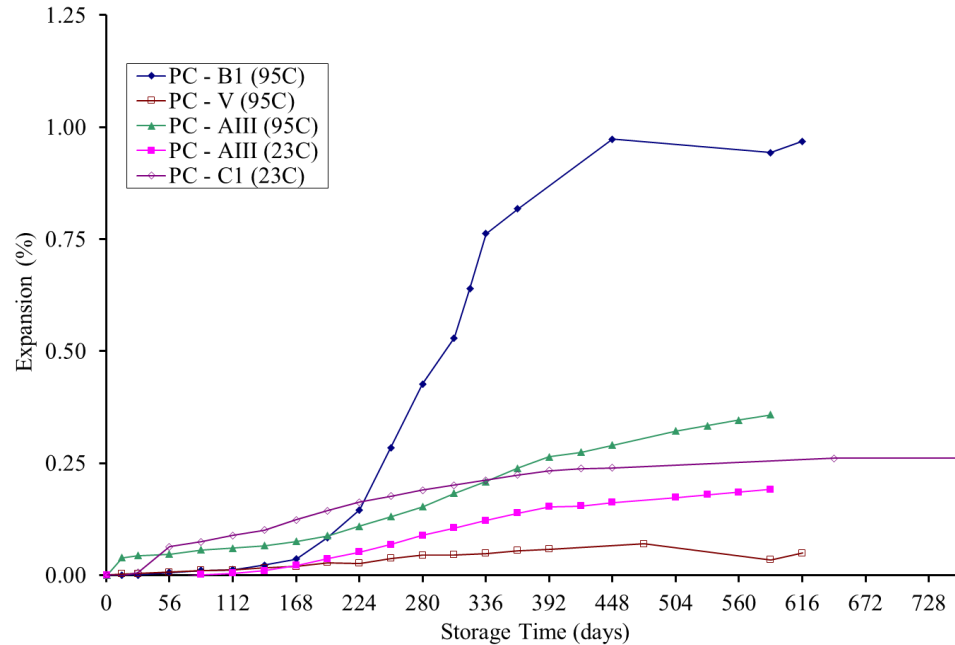
Prevention

**DEF in Structures**

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

# Storage Type



Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

**Kelham**  
**95 ° C**  
**CI – High**  
**Alkali Cement**

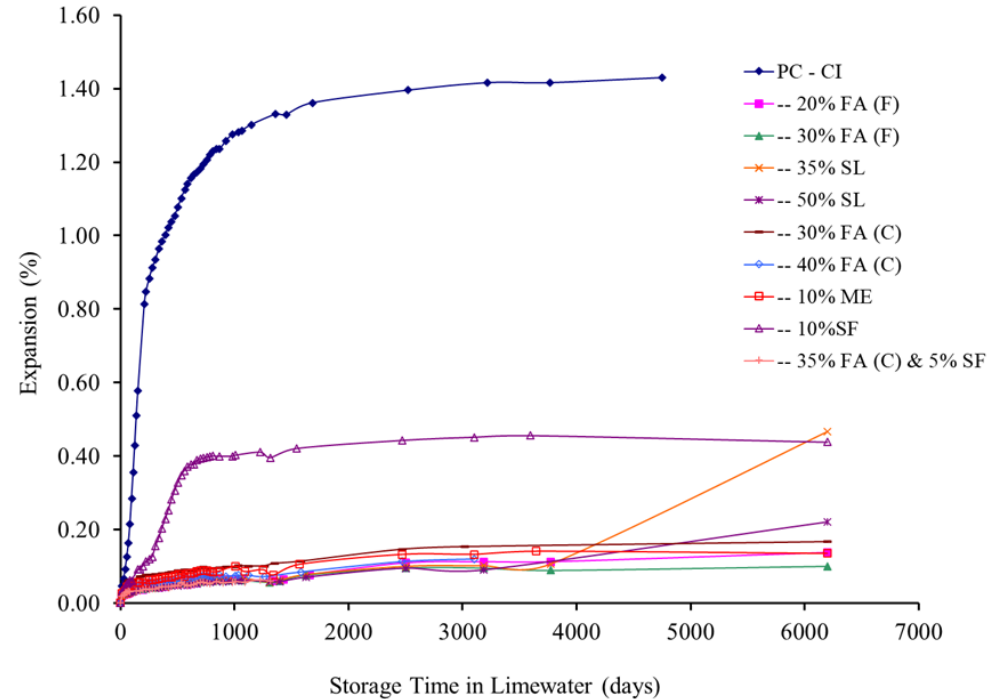
Admixture

Prevention

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study







Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

**Aggregates**

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

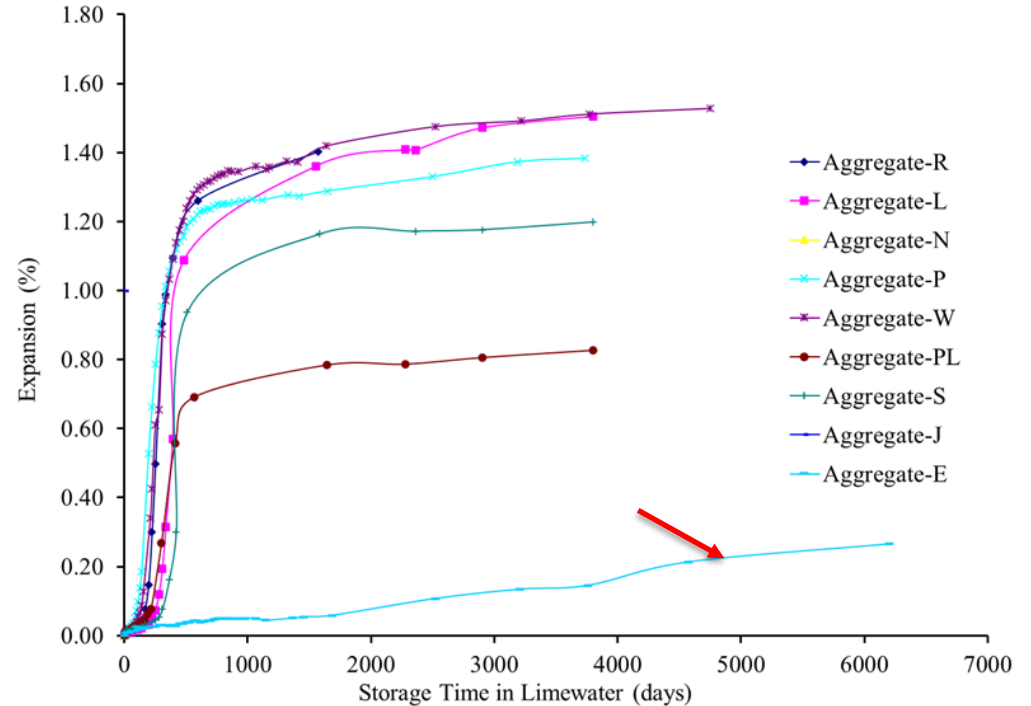
DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

## Why Aggregates?

- Kelham
- 95 ° C
- A-III Cement



Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

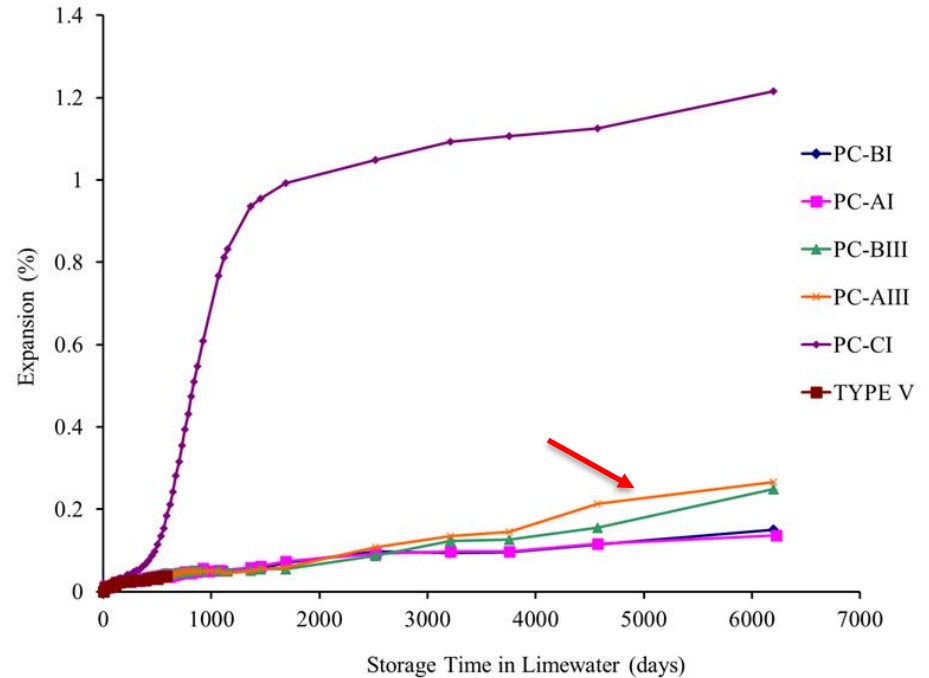
DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

## Why Aggregates?

- Manufactured Sand
- Kelham
- 95 ° C



**Laboratory Testing**

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

## Laboratory Test Method Summary

- Specifications for 70 ° C max temperature are in line. All cements do show expansion
- ASTM C150 Type V cement show slight expansion in long-term expansion
- Specifications for Prevention are in line with ACI documents. Slag possible expansion after 15 years.

Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

**Exposure Blocks**

History

Cement Type

Admixture

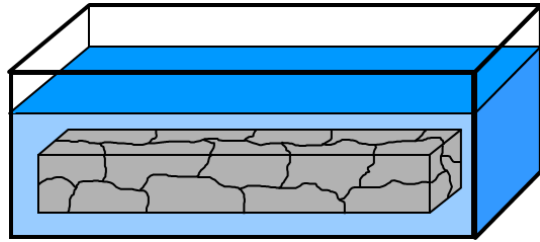
Prevention

**DEF in Structures**

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

# Benchmarking Laboratory Tests to Field Exposure Blocks





Laboratory Testing

# TxDOT Exposure Site

Materials



Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

**Exposure Blocks**

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

**DEF in Structures**

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

## TxDOT Exposure Site

- Over 1200 blocks
  - 2022 – Site demolished
- 125 DEF Blocks
  - Over 20 types of cements
  - Several types of SCMs
  - Lithium Admixture





# Research underway to understand cement constituents



Type: Cement D Type III (700 lb)  
Max Temp: 178



Type: Cement E Type I/II (700 lb)  
Max Temp: 194



Type: Cement F I/II (700 lb)  
Max Temp: 184



# Research underway to determine if SCMs are able to Prevent DEF



Type: Cement M – Type White (700)  
25% Class F Fly Ash  
Max Temp: 194



Cement D – Type III (525)  
25% Class F Fly Ash



Type: Cement C – Type III (525lb)  
25% Class F Fly Ash  
Max Temp: 185

# Research underway to determine if Lithium Nitrate can Prevent DEF



Cement D – Type III  
700 lbs cement  
200% Lithium  
Max Temp 198F



Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

**Exposure Blocks**

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

## TxDOT Exposure Site Summary

- Evaluate cements and how they performed
- Evaluate SCMs and how they have performed
- Continue monitoring



Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type



Admixture

Prevention

**DEF in Structures**



Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

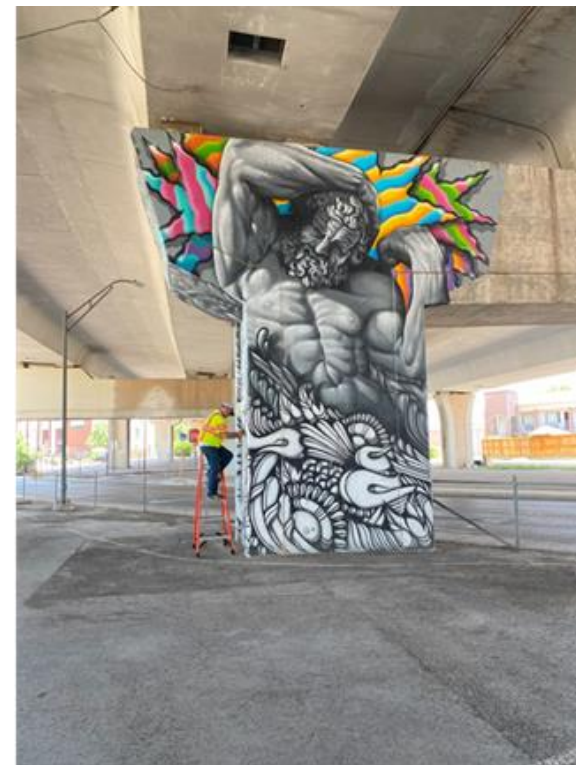
Admixture

Prevention

**DEF in Structures**

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study





Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

## Very Common Question

- My internal concrete temperature was above 70 ° C will the structure have DEF?

## Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

## Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

## Validating Residual Expansion from Concrete Cores

- Initial testing on 6 X 12” cylinders
- Two Mixtures
  - Non-reactive aggregates
  - Highly reactive aggregate
- Two curing temperatures
  - Room Temperature 23 ° C
  - Heat Cured to 95 ° C following Kelham Regime
- 2 inch cores from each cylinder
  - Pinned and placed in limewater for residual expansion

Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

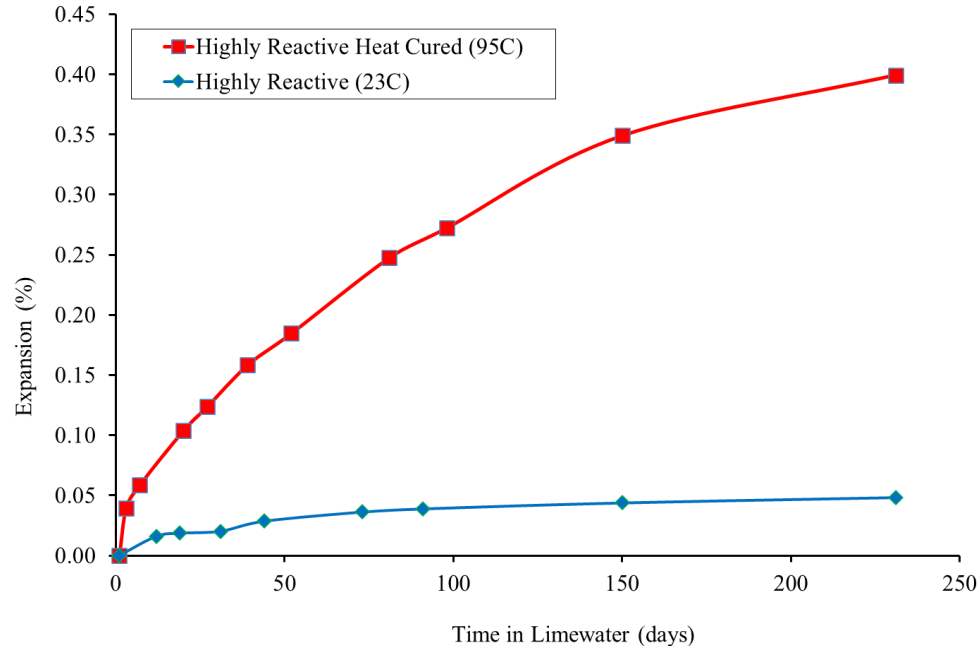
Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

# Validating Residual Expansion from Concrete Cores

- Residual Expansion of Highly Reactive Aggregate



**DEF in Structures**

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

Admixture

Prevention

Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

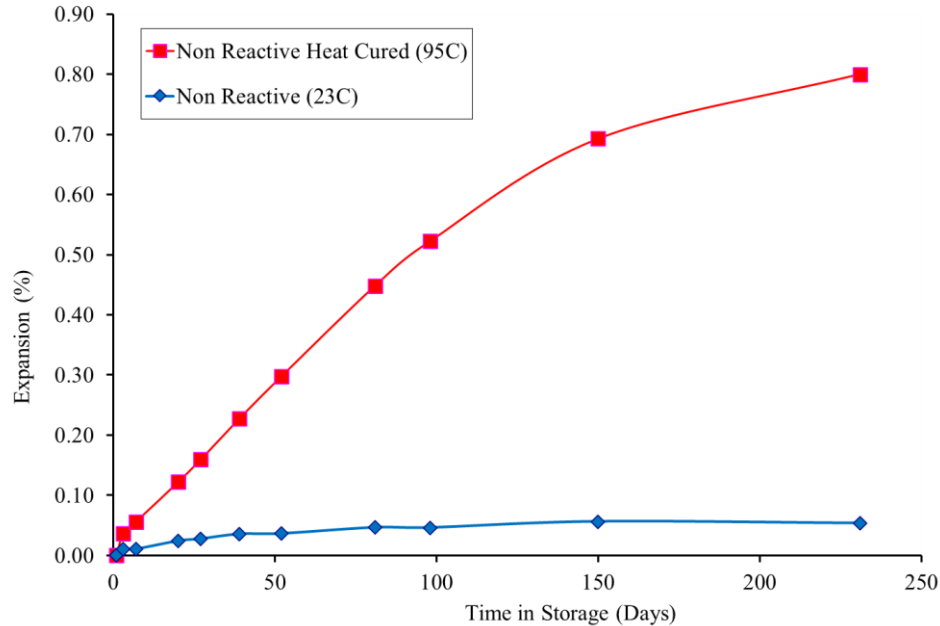
Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

# Validating Residual Expansion from Concrete Cores

- Residual Expansion of Non-Reactive Aggregate



DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

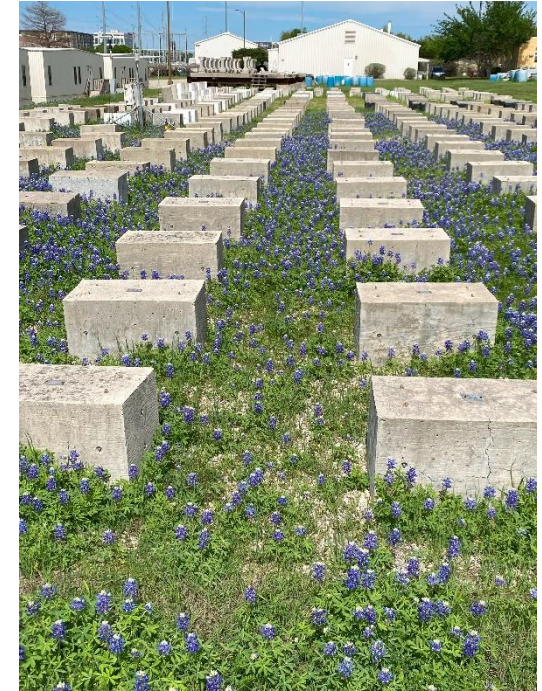
**DEF in Structures**

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

# Validating Residual Expansion from Concrete Cores

- Outdoor Exposure Blocks
- Heat Treated vs. Non-Heat Treated
- Influence of ASR on DEF
- Six Mixtures
  - Non-Reactive (NR)
  - Non-Reactive + Heat-Treatment (NR+DEF)
  - Moderate-Reactive (MR)
  - Moderate-Reactive + Heat-Treatment (MR+DEF)
  - Highly Reactive (HR)
  - Highly Reactive (HR+DEF)



Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

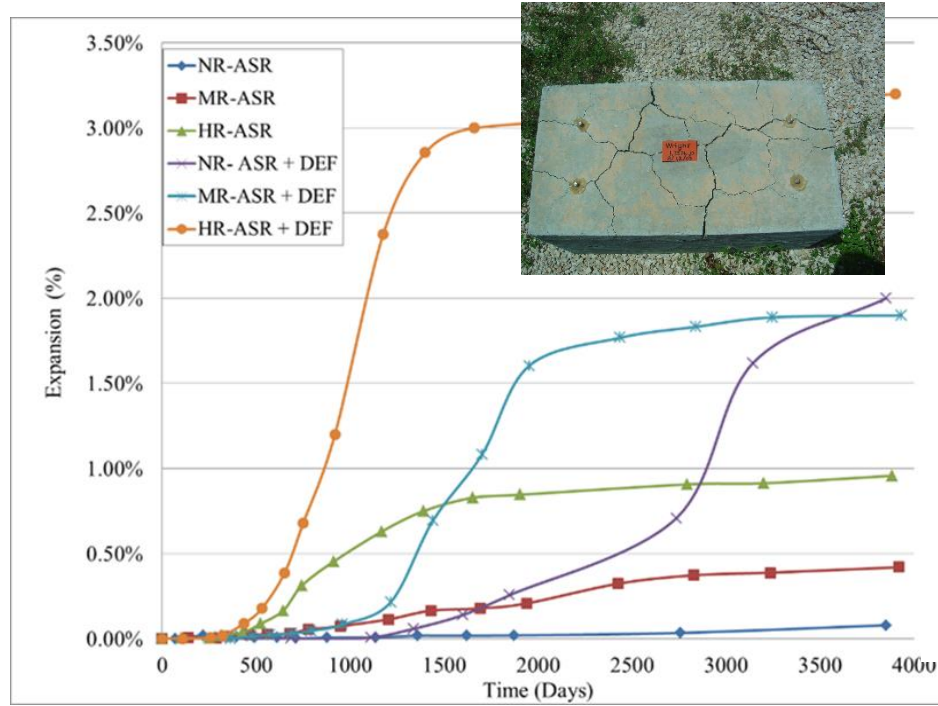
Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

# Validating Residual Expansion from Concrete Cores



Highly Reactive Aggregate - DEF

Non-Reactive Aggregate - DEF  
Mod Reactive Aggregate - DEF

Highly Reactive Aggregate - ASR

Mod Reactive Aggregate - ASR

Non-Reactive Aggregate - ASR

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

Admixture

Prevention

Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

**DEF in Structures**

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

# Validating Residual Expansion from Concrete Cores





Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

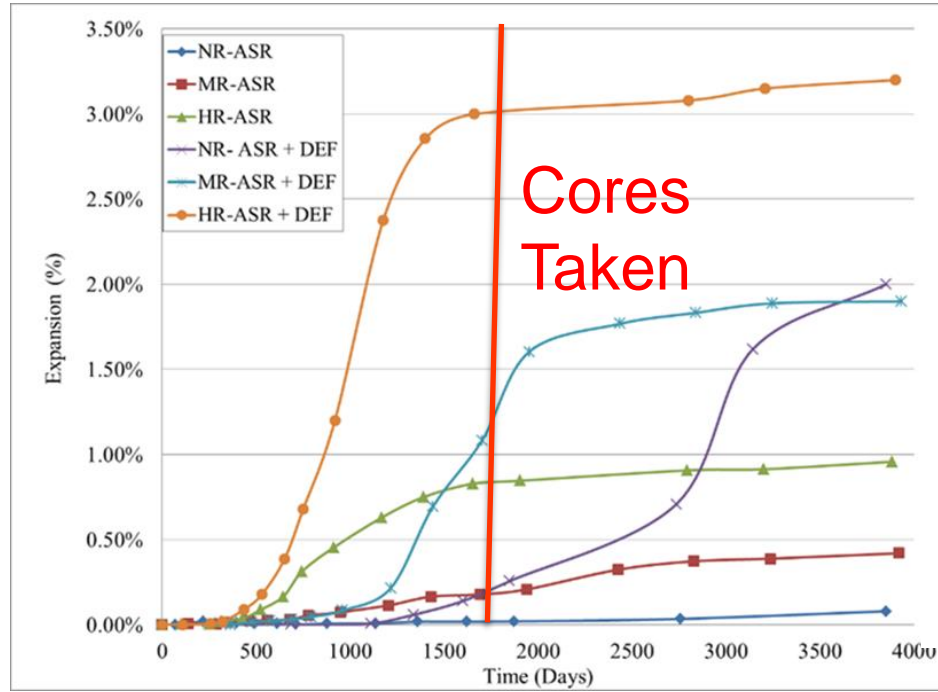
Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

# Validating Residual Expansion from Concrete Cores



Highly Reactive Aggregate - DEF

Non-Reactive Aggregate - DEF  
Mod Reactive Aggregate - DEF

Highly Reactive Aggregate - ASR

Mod Reactive Aggregate - ASR

Non-Reactive Aggregate - ASR

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study



Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

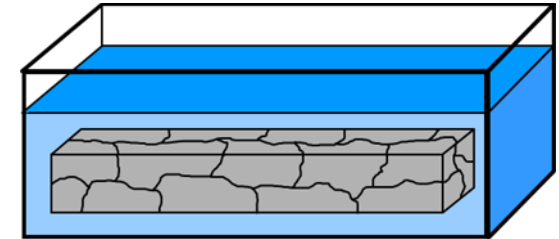
Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

## Validating Residual Expansion from Concrete Cores

- Residual Expansion
- Microscopy



Admixture

Prevention

**DEF in Structures**

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

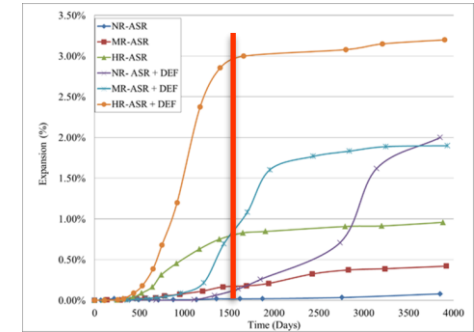
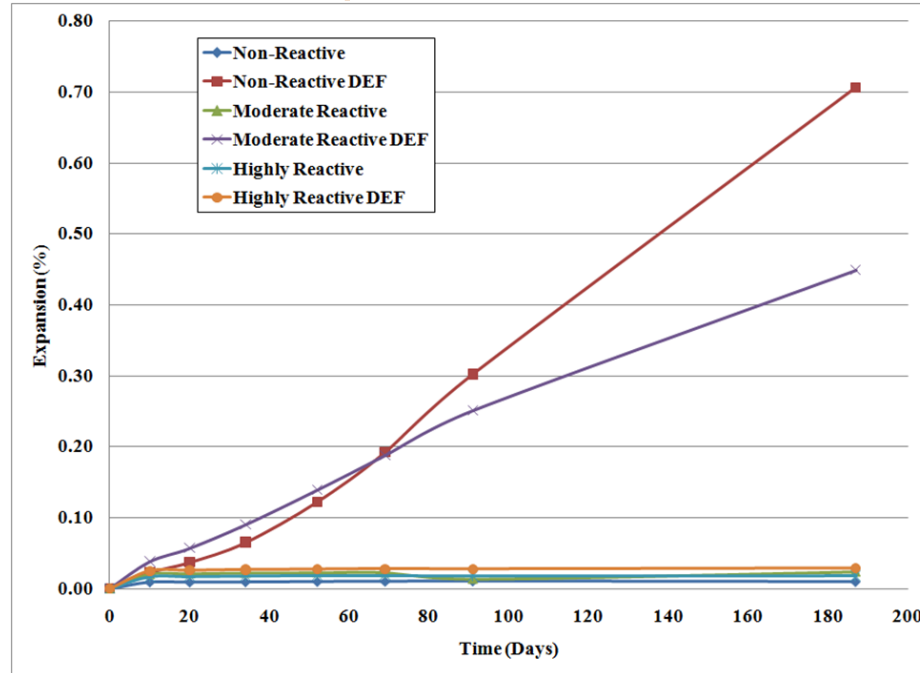
**DEF in Structures**

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

# Validating Residual Expansion from Concrete Cores

- Residual Expansion



Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Val



S

Ad

y



Mixture A

Mixture D



MR-ASR

MR-ASR+DEF



Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

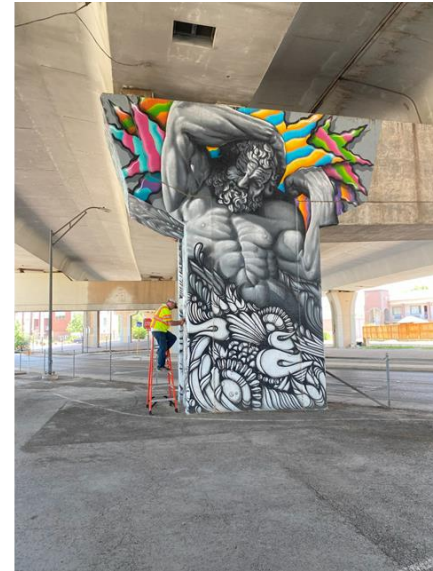
**DEF in Structures**

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

## Case Study

- Structures with severe cracking
- Cores taken in 2006



Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

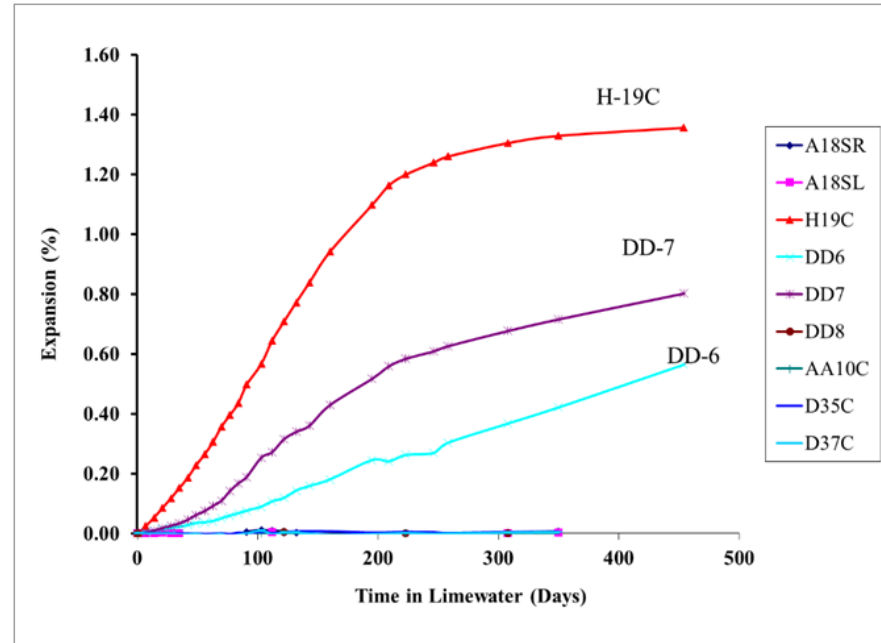
Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

## Case Study

- Residual Expansion



DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

Admixture

Prevention

**DEF in Structures**

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

## Case Study

- Instrument Columns with demec points for expansion



Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

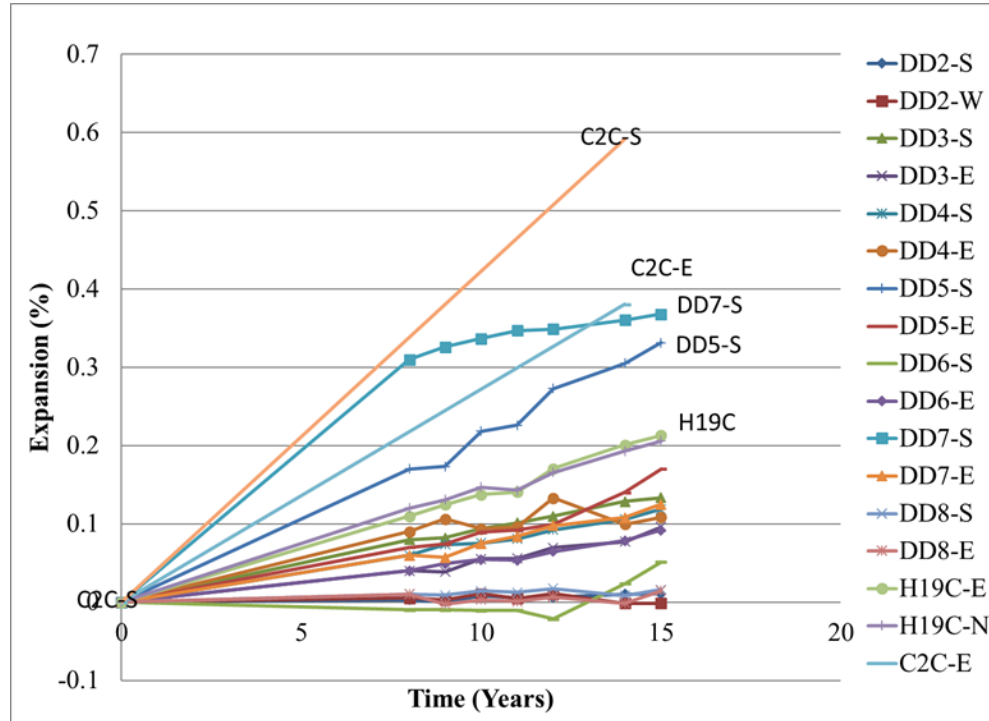
Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

## Case Study – Column Expansions after 15 years



DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study



Laboratory Testing

Materials

Test Methods

Temperature

Cements

Prevention

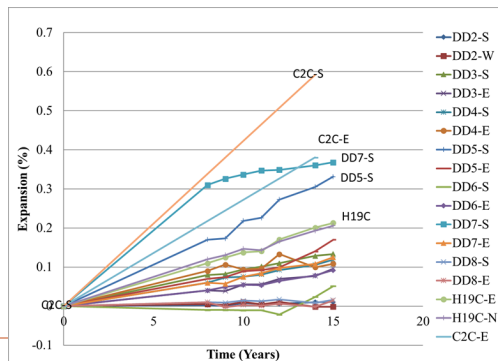
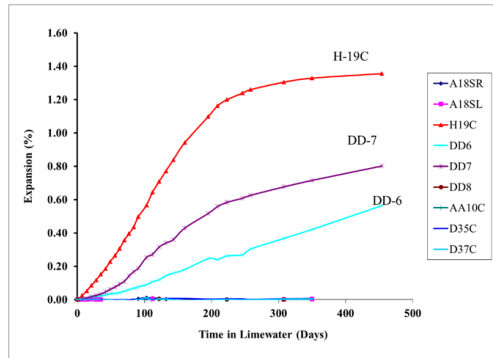
Aggregates

Exposure Blocks

History

Cement Type

## Case Study – Determining the potential expansion remaining in a structure



- For DD7 column, Cores in 2006 showed a potential of 0.80% expansion
- 15 years of monitoring has shown DD7 expanding 0.35%
- 0.45% potential expansion
- New cores in 2024

DEF in Structures

Laboratory Evaluation

Case Study

# Any Questions?

