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Research paper



Reduce the Influence of Horizontal and Vertical Cold Joints on the Behavior of High Strength Concrete Beam Casting in Hot Weather by Using Sugar Molasses

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Abstract

The current research studies the effect of cold joints on the behavior shear and flexure of High Strength Concrete (HSC) beams caused by delayed casting sequence during the hot weather in summer of Iraq.

Fresh concrete should be kept alive during the various casting batches for concrete element by re-vibration. However, the over vibration caused loss in homogeneity and it is difficult to keep the workability of concrete during hot weather due to the effect of setting time.

To deal with this problem of improper casting sequence, which eventually leads to the formation of cold joints, it will be used sugar waste (named as Sugar Molasses (SM)) is a by-product resulted from refining process of sugar as a delayed agent to increase the setting time in order to prevent early set of concrete due to adverse effects in construction joint of hot weather.

In the current study, the first objective aims to investigate some of fresh and hardened mechanical properties of HSC (with high cement content) using SM at percentages of (0, 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3) % from the weight of cement under the concept of sustainable development. The second objective aims to investigate the location and surface texture effect of horizontal and vertical cold joints on the flexural and shear behavior of beam with/without SM. This objective includes testing of twenty four plain concrete beam of $(110 \times 110 \times 650 \text{ mm})$ under two point load; half of them casting without roughing (smooth) the old layer and the other casted after roughed it.

SM content of 0.2% of cement weight can improve compressive strength by about 11.2% at 28 days and delay initial setting time by about 4.617 hours (277 minutes). No adverse effect on concrete have been observed at this dosage of SM concentration for the ages of concrete cylinders studied. Delays in the setting of concrete at this dosage of SM content help in reducing the early setting of concrete and therefore reduced the impact of the cold joints formation in concrete beams under Iraqi hot weather condition. The failure load for the beams with SM of smooth and rough vertical joints is in the range between (1.95 - 2.12) and (1.46-1.37); respectively times that of the case of beam without SM.

Keywords: beam, cold/construction joint, flexure, HSC, mechanical properties, PH-Value, setting time, shear, slump test, Sugar Molasses (SM), unusually casting sequence.

1. Introduction

The process of pouring the entire structure once and monolithically is difficult especially when the size of the concrete elements are large; it is accompanied by several restrictions on the availability of the fresh concrete supply that is depends on the mixer size, staff size, and the available time. Therefore, it is poured the concrete into the structural elements in two or more batches.

The delay in the concrete placement process due to many causes in addition to the inappropriate casting sequence can lead to cold joints formation commonly called (construction joint).

There are many guidelines available on the performance and location of joints in the case of normal concrete in order to avoid the discontinuity or weakness plane formed but, the requirements for high strength concrete (HSC) in hot weather have not been found when the casting is delayed for limited hours, when the first part of the cast is nearly reached to initial setting; especially in the hot summer days in Iraq and when the concrete mixture is HSC with high content of cement. In order to avoid cold joints, the concrete pouring should be resumed significantly before the concrete reach to initial setting time. For unusually long delays during concrete placement, the concrete must survive by periodically revibrating it. However, the concrete should not be vibrated continuously to causing the segregation. Moreover, if the concrete reached to the time of initial setting, vibration should be stopped and concrete should be allowed to harden. Therefore, a cold joint will be formed, and the suitable surface must be prepared to it.

Depended on the plane of joint construction, there are four types; vertical, horizontal, transverse and longitudinal joints. Horizontal and vertical joints types used in beam, while the horizontal joints used in massive concrete structures and in columns. The transverse and longitudinal joints are most suitable to use in each of bridge decks, slabs, tunnels and pavements. [1] The effects of temperature on the concrete strength has been presented by many researchers. These researches show that high temperature effects on the magnitude evaporation from the surface of fresh concrete, as more water is needed to keep a certain slump. [2]



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Retarding agents means the admixture that delay the cement hydration i.e. increases the time of setting. Many chemical admixtures alter the cement paste hydration through generally incomprehensible mechanisms. Sugar has long been known to retard set and hydration. A phenomenon discovered by chance when it was observed that cement stored in old sugar bags failed to properly setting. [3] Other problems were historically encountered when the water was contaminated with the presence of sugar traces as in the concrete floor placed in the candy factory. [4] There are many types of starches and sugars retard the hydration of cement and set, including some water-reducing agents containing lignosulfonates. While other types of sugars are retarders, some are more effective than others. [5]

Sugar Molasses (SM) is a by-product of viscous refining processes of sugar cane in sugar factories. The molasses composition is variable and depends on the specificity of raw materials and conditions of manufacturing.

Disposal of waste materials has a negative impact on the environment. Thus, there was a sophisticated pattern of waste use for multiple purposes. Therefore, SM were used as an alternative to replacement of admixture in concrete because it plays a role as sugar.

The effect of sugar on some fresh and hardened properties of mortar and concrete have been studied by many authors; Ashworth [6], Thomas and. Birchall [7], Luke and Luke [8], Juenger and Jennings [9], Abalaka [10] &[11], and Mazumder [12]. However, these studies have been often focused on conventional mortar and less of them on normal strength concrete in normal weather condition. There is no study yet on the effect of using SM that resulted from the Iraqi sugar factories in HSC (with high cement content) in hot summer in Iraq. Therefore, in current research we will resolve the behavior of fresh and hardened HSC properties by adding (mixing) SM as admixtures and using it to casting beam in order to study the effect of it on the delay concreting process on horizontal and vertical construction joints.

Extensive experimental and many theoretical studies have been performed to investigate the effect of construction joint on the behavior of structural element as examples; Husain and Hamza [13], Metwally and Issa [14], Abdul-Majeed [15], Abdul-Majeed et al. [16], Abass [17] and Ali and. Mahdi [18]; but those researchers focused on the cases when the first part of the casting concrete reaches to the final setting time (after one days or more). The main purpose of conducting this paper is to study the effect of SM on construction joint in hot weather in cases get it later batches of pouring concrete; after several hours when the initial time setting is very close.

2. Objectives and Experimental Program

The first objective of current research includes several goals that related to investigating the effect of using sugar waste (SM) results from Iraqi factories on HSC and cement paste at percentages of adding (0, 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3) % from the weight of cement as retarder agent in Iraqi hot summer under the sustainable environment attention as follows:

- the effect of SM on workability of HSC (with high content of cement) (slump test at 0, 30, 60, 90 and 120) min.

- the effect of SM on the cylinder compressive strength of HSC at three ages which are 7, 14 and 28 days for all mixes.

- the effect of SM on the standard consistency, initial and final setting times on the cement paste for all percentages.

- investigation the PH value of concrete for all mixes.

The second objective aims to investigate the location effect of horizontal and vertical construction joints related to improper casting sequence of fresh concrete (after 120 minutes) on the flexural and shear behavior of beam with/without SM (0.2% weight of cement/according to the results getting from the first objective) in the hot weather condition. This objective includes testing of twenty four plain concrete beam of $(110 \times 110 \times 650 \text{ mm})$ under two point load; half of them casting without roughing (smooth) surface of the old layer and the other casted after roughed it. The type and location of construction joints shown in "Tab. 1".

The flexure and shear reinforcement of concrete beam was eliminated in order to understanding pure behavior of beam under the effect of different locations and types of cold joint with/without SM in hot weather conditions.

Series No.	Beam symbol	Type and Location of Joint			
a Mi	B1	Without Construction Joint			
0.1 an u S	B2	Horizontal cold joint, 25% depth filled			
N Nor	B3	Horizontal cold joint, 50% depth filled			
ries oth viti	B4	Horizontal cold joint, 75% depth filled			
Ser Ser	B5	Vertical cold joint, 33% length filled			
S S HIS	B6	Vertical cold joint, 50% length filled			
<i>e</i>	B7	Without Construction Joint			
o.2 SA	B8	Horizontal cold joint, 25% depth filled			
N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	B9	Horizontal cold joint, 50% depth filled			
ites w	B10	Horizontal cold joint, 75% depth filled			
Ser Ser ISC	B11	Vertical cold joint, 33% length filled			
S H	B12	Vertical cold joint, 50% length filled			
e M	B13 = B1	Without Construction Joint			
t S	B14	Horizontal cold joint, 25% depth filled			
ies Nc hed p withou	B15	Horizontal cold joint, 50% depth filled			
	B16	Horizontal cold joint, 75% depth filled			
Ser Ser	B17	Vertical cold joint, 33% length filled			
n M	B18	Vertical cold joint, 50% length filled			
e	B19 = B7	Without Construction Joint			
s.4 SA	B20	Horizontal cold joint, 25% depth filled			
N Nd p üth	B21	Horizontal cold joint, 50% depth filled			
hec w	B22	Horizontal cold joint, 75% depth filled			
Ser Bug	B23	Vertical cold joint, 33% length filled			
24	B24	Vertical cold joint, 50% length filled			

Table 1: Details of cold joints beam specimens

3. Material Properties and Mix Proportion

The cement used is ordinary Portland cement Known as (Kar). The chemical analysis for this cement is meeting with the limits of the Iraqi Specification IQS No.5-1984 [19] and the physical properties listed in *"Tab. 2"*. Al-Akaidur natural sand within the zone 2 were used in this research; this sand satisfied the requirements of the limits of the Iraqi Specification No.45/1984 [20]. Crushed coarse

aggregate from Al-Nebai quarry of maximum aggregate size 14 mm were used. The limits of physical and chemical properties compliance to the IQS No. 45-1984 [20].

In this work use Sugar Molasses (SM); the byproduct liquid material of Sugar Factory in Babylon City of Iraq as a concrete retarder admixture. The chemical composition of it are listed in *"Tab. 3"* and *"Fig. 1"* show this liquid material. Working water was used for all concrete processes.

Fable	2:	Physical	Properties	of	Cemen
Lante		1 my broan	roperties	. 01	Conton

Tuble 21 Hybreat Hoperates of Cement						
Physical Properties		Test Results	Limits of IQS No.5:1984			
Commercial Strongth (MDs)	3days	26.35	\geq_{15}			
Compressive Strength, (MPa)	7days	33.47	\geq_{23}			
Fineness(Blaine) (m2/kg)		348	\geq_{230}			
Setting Time (Initial) (min.)		138	\geq_{45}			
Setting Time(Final) (min.)		237	\leq_{600}			

Table 3: Chemical Analysis of Sugar Molasses

Test	Result
Brix	83
ph	5.37
Ash	9.4
R.S	12.1
TR.S	71.2
Sucros	59.1

After many trial mixes were done according to ACI 363R-92 [21]; and depending on the previous researchers of HSC mix of Mehta and Monteiro (2006) [22] with several changes to satisfy the limit of cylinder compressive strength for HSC.



Fig. 1: Sugar Molasses

To study the effect SM admixture, all mixes have the same mix proportions. The mix by weight was 1 : 1.731 : 1.689 for cement, sand and coarse aggregates; respectively. The water cement ratio was equal to 0.376 and cement content was 516 kg/m³. The SM was used at (0, 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3) % weight of cement; which added to the concrete mixture by mixing with water.

4. Mixing, Casting and Curing of Concrete Specimens

Mixing, casting and curing of concrete cylinder specimens of $(150\times300 \text{ mm})$ and beams were performed depended on ASTM C192, 2005 [23] as shown in "*Fig. 2*".

The cylinder specimens for the prepared fresh concrete is casting totally for all mold; for all mixes at different percentages of SM and for each beam. The beam is poured by the fresh concrete partially for the specified volumes. The remaining filling of the beam is casting with the new freshly mix after 120 min. The waterproof thin paces of plywood is used for the creating the joint surface. The two main types of the cold joints are vertical and horizontal. The roughed surface is producing on the casted face by using strong steel rod by scrabing. All cylinder specimens were tested after 7, 14 and 28 days and beams at 28 days of water curing.



Fig. 2: Casting of Beams

5. Cement Paste and Concrete Tests

In fresh state of concrete, the slump test of HSC is performed in accordance with ASTM C143-05 [24]. In hardened state of concrete, the cylinder compressive strength of concrete (150×300 mm) was tested according to ASTM C39-05 [25] for each mix with different percentages of SM added. For each casting beam; splitting tensile strength (100×200 mm) according to ASTM C496-04 [26] was performed in addition to cylinder compressive strength.

All beams were tested in a universal testing machine with capacity of 150 kN under monotonic two point load up to ultimate load as shown in "*Fig. 3*". The cracks were detected and drawn on the side face of the tested beams in addition to measure the location and load of failure

In order to monitor the chemical processes of SM in in cementitious materials, the pH value test were performed in the solutions of concrete by using pH indicator strips according to standard ASTM F710 [27] and the use of a pH-meter on concrete sample powder after 28 days in dilution.

The standard consistency and Initial and final setting time of a cement paste were performed at all percentages of SM according to the IQS No.5 -1985 [19].



Fig. 3:Beam Test

6. The Effect of Sugar Molasses on Setting Time

The normal consistency of water content was found to be 0.31 for cement paste. "*Tab. 4*" presents the experimental results of setting time.

Sugar added as %	Setting Time (Minutes : Hours)			
weight of cement	Initial	Final		
0	138:2.300	237:3.950		
0.05	147:2.450	301 : 5.017		
0.1	205:3.417	423:7.050		
0.2	415:6.917	675 : 11.250		
0.3	663:11.050	2300 : 38.330		

Table 4: Molasses Concentration, Initial and Final Setting Time

The SM is very active as a retarder admixture; the increases in initial and final setting times are obviously apparent from a SM content of 0.05%, this concentration are delaying final setting time up to 5 hours while control mix has only 4 hours.

The optimum SM concentration for which good amount of retardation was 0.1% for medium projects and between 0.1%-0.2% for big projects under hot weather conditions. For higher concentration of SM (more than 0.2%), acts as very retarder comparing with the control mix (without molasses); it was reached to more than one and half days at concentration of 0.3% and prevented the molds being opened and handled for two days after casting.

Setting times are getting longer with increase of the concentration percentage. *"Fig. 4"* shown the relationship between setting time and molasses percentages for initial and final. From this figure, it can be noted that the effect of increase of molasses percentage showed obviously in final setting more than in initial setting.



Fig. 4: Relationship Between Setting Time and Sugar Molasses%

According to the previous results that mentioned in above, the SM used from Sugar Factory in Babylon can be categorized as a retarder admixture. From the relationship below in *"Fig. 5"*, it can be calculated the extra time needed for the concrete operations such as transporting, placing, vibrating and finishing or other cases that required delays in setting concrete according to the corresponding SM concentration which added to mixture of concrete in order to getting the desired initial setting time.



Fig. 5: Sugar Molasses% VS Extra Initial Setting Time

7. The Effect of Sugar Molasses onWorkability (Slump Concrete)

The fresh concrete workability and its change with time were determined by using the slump test. The average slumps results obtained on all mixes at all interval periods are presented in "*Tab.* 5".

Table 5: Results of Slump Flow of Concrete					
SM 0/	Slump Flow, cm				
SIVI 70	0 min.	30 min.	60 min.	90 min.	120 min
0	5.50	3.80	2.20	1.50	0.00
0.05	6.65	6.20	4.80	3.20	1.40
0.1	8.10	7.73	7.10	6.45	4.80

9.8

13.6

7.6

11.2

6.60

9.60

12.3

18.5

0.2

0.3

17.5

22

Based on the experimental results, as the percentage (%) of SM increased, the slump value also increased. The addition of SM to the concrete greatly influenced on the setting property and clear collapse of slump observed during the slump test at a dosage of 0.3% and the open of molds performed after two days. In all mixes, as the time increase, the slump loss value also increase linearly but by the lower percentage when the percentage of SM added increase, as shown in "*Fig. 6*".

However, the slump values remain within range between 1.4-6.6 cm for SM dosages of 0.05% and 0.2%. Recession results indicate that molasses can be used as an effective mixture at hot weather concrete reached about 50° C temperature.



Fig. 6: Slump Value VS Time

8. The Effect of Sugar Molasses of PH-Value in Concrete

The pH of cement materials provides relevant information on the various chemical processes of cement materials. The pH is an important criterion in the study of concrete properties. Low and high pH creates a problem in concrete in terms of corrosion and spalling. The steel reinforcement bars used in concrete structures are prevented from corrosion by forming a thin layer of adherent passive oxide in a high pH environment of concrete. The high pH (usually 12.5 to 13.5) is performed by the formation of calcium hydroxide during cement hydration. This high basic level is good sufficient to keep the oxide film and protect it for a long enough time [28]. The pH results obtained for all mixes of concrete after 28 days are presented in "*Fig.* 7".

From the "Fig. 7" above, it was found that the results of pH values enable to use SM safely. It is found that the higher the molasses, the lower the pH.



Fig. 7: pH Value For Concrete and Cement Paste

9. The Effect of Sugar Molasses on Compressive Strength of Concrete

The compressive strength results of the HSC with different dosages of SM at all ages are comparatively shown in "Fig. 8". As expected, the presence of SM in the concrete resulted in a reduction in early strength at a decreasing rate. The concrete mixes with SM dosages of 0.05%, 0.1%, 0.2% and 0.3% show a decrease in compressive strength by about 4.3%, 6.3%, 11.5 and 26.7%; respectively at 7 days when compared with the control mixes (without SM). As is known and common, the reduction in compressive strength is mainly due to the tricalcium silicate rate, which is mainly responsible for the early strength development of cement. The addition of SM to the mixture delays the hydration of the tricalcium silicate due to its sugar content.

The compressive strength of the concrete at 14 and 28 days gradually increases with the use of SM up to 0.2% and decreases as the dosage value increases beyond this limit. This can be attributed to the retarding effect which works on the more denser and uniform internal structure. However, the compressive strength values obtained in 28 days of curing are within the acceptable range of HSC for all mixes except 0.3% SM mix. The increase in compressive strength at 28 days was about 2.6%, 6.2% and 11.2% for mixes with SM dosages of 0.05%, 0.1% and 0.2%; respectively; while, the decreasing was about 15.7% for 0.3% SM mix. This result shows that considering compressive strength values, SM can used natural up to 0.2% weight of the cement in concrete production in hot weather condition as a retarder admixture.

The development of compressive strength versus ages at different dosages of SM added to the mixes is shown in "Fig. 9"

Experimental results in "Fig. 9"show that, as the curing time of concrete expanded to about 10 days, the concrete prepared with SM gave better compressive strength than control mix at all percentages of dosage except 0.3% SM mixes. This improvement in strength was more pronounced at 0.2% SM mix. These results can be explained by a mechanism proposed by Juenger and Jennings [9]. According to the their proposal, the addition of SM to the concrete mix increases the initial dissolution of ions and results the formation of a protective layer around the grains of cement to prevent contact with the water. The ions are activated in the pore solution independently rather than linked to the poisonous sites present during the period of retardation. When the effects of SM poisoning are overcome by increasing the ions in the solution, these ions interact with each other to increase the hydration products. These reactions improve the strength of the concrete after early ages of curing.

SM content of 0.2% of cement weight can improve compressive strength by about 11.2% at 28 days and delay initial setting time by about 4.617 hours (277 minutes). No adverse effect on concrete have been observed at this dosage of SM concentration for the ages of concrete cylinders studied. Delays in the setting of concrete at this dosage of SM content can be helpful in reducing the early setting of concrete elements under Iraqi hot weather condition



Fig. 8: Compressive Strength Versus Ages at Different SM%



Fig. 9: Development of Compressive Strength Versus Ages for All Concrete Mixes

10. Influence of Construction Joints on the Concrete Beams Behavior

Based on the experimental results, "*Tab.* 6" shows the compressive strength (f_c) and splitting tensile strength (f_{sp}) for each layer/part of beam versus the failure load in beam.

A. The Effect of Using Sugar Molasses on Construction Joint

From the experimental results, it is observed that, the failure load of monolithic beam with SM increased by about 14.23% as average when compared with monolithic beam without SM. Whereas, in case of horizontal construction joints the failure load for concrete with SM compared with concrete without SM increases by about (19.65-25.60)% and (16.57-24.23)% in smooth and rough planes; respectively. The failure load for the beams with SM of smooth and rough vertical joints is in the range between (1.95 - 2.12) and (1.46-1.37); respectively times that of the case of beam without SM. "Fig. 9" shows the beams with/without SM in smooth planes.



Fig. 10: Beams with/without SM in smooth plane

Table 6: Mechanical Properties and Ultimate load of beam tests						
Beam symbol	Mechanical properties of beam					
	Layer / part Description	f _{c'} MPa	f _{sp} MPa	Failure load (kN)	% Decrease*	
B1	control	42.8	3.96	30.54	-	
B2	1st layer	42.1	4.14	28.20	- 7.66	
	2nd layer	42.6	3.76	28.20		
B3	1 st layer	41.8	3.93	27 48	- 10.02	
	2nd layer	41.7	3.28	27.40		

B4 —	1 st layer	42.3	3.98	25.40	- 16.83
	2nd layer	41.6	3.76	25.40	
В5 —	1st part	42.8	3.06	11.94	61.02
	2nd part	43.0	2.64	11.64	- 01.25
B6 —	1st part	42.5	2.88	12.24	50.02
	2nd part	43.2	2.92	12.24	- 39.92
B7	control	45.6	2.78	35.22	-
DO	1st layer	46.5	3.03	22.02	0 - 60
В8	2nd layer	46.1	3.41	33.92	- 3.69
DO	1 st layer	46.4	3.31	22.99	<i>C.C.</i>
В9	2nd layer	45.8	3.33	32.88	- 6.64
D10	1 st layer	42.9	4.14	21.00	0.42
B10	2nd layer	43.4	3.75	31.90	-9.45
D11	1st part	44.3	3.91	22.06	24.52
DII	2nd part	44.4	3.94	23.06	- 34.33
D12	1st part	45.0	3.94	25.01	- 26.43
B12	2nd part	45.2	3.80	25.91	
B13	control	42.8	3.17	31.00	-
D14	1 st layer	41.8	2.83	20.99	- 3.61
D14	2nd layer	43.1	2.85	29.88	
D15	1 st layer	42.0	2.90	20.05	- 6.29
D13	2nd layer	43.0	2.80	29.05	
D16	1 st layer	41.6	3.31	26.70	- 13.58
B10	2nd layer	41.5	3.61	20.79	
D17	1 st part	41.5	3.37	17.42	- 43.81
D1/	2nd part	41.0	3.35	17.42	
D19	1 st part	41.6	4.22	10.01	- 35.77
D10	2nd part	42.4	3.66	19.91	
B19	control	46.6	3.84	35.07	-
P20	1 st layer	45.8	3.85	24.92	- 0.68
B20	2nd layer	44.5	3.86	54.85	
D21	1 st layer	44.3	3.65	34.70	- 1.06
D21	2nd layer	45.7	3.16	54.70	
B22	1 st layer	46.1	2.55	33.28	- 5.10
	2nd layer	43.8	2.86	55.28	
B23 —	1st part	44.3	2.88	25.42	- 27.49
	2nd part	44.0	2.82	25.45	
B24	1 st part	46.1	3.85	27.25	-22.30
B24	2nd part	46.6	3.87	21.23	-22.50

10.1. The Effect of Plane Texture of Construction Joint

The effect of plane texture of construction joints; its effect is evident in the case of concrete without SM and in vertical joints beams. The experimental results, observed that increasing the coefficient of friction by roughed plane of construction joints causes an increase in the failure load by about 47.13% and 62.62% in concrete beams without SM of vertical joints at 33% and 50% of length; respectively. This is attributed to reducing the slip amount at the joint and increase shear resistance. In concrete beams with SM, the rough plane have slight effect on the behavior; the increase in failure load was about 10.28% and 5.17% in concrete beams with SM of vertical joints at 33% and 50% of length; respectively. The effect of surface plane was very slight in cases of horizontal joints have a slight effect on the decrease in load of failure, there is no apparent effect of roughness of the joint surface

10.2. The Effect of Type and Location of Construction Joint

It is clear that the failure load in general in horizontal construction joints, have slight effect and less than of the failure load by about (0.68 - 16.83)% as compared to the experimental results for monolithic beam. Whereas, in the case of the vertical construction joints; have a great effect, the experimental failure load is less than the monolithic beam by about (22.30 - 61.23)%, with an average of 42% as shown in *"Tab. 6"*. All beams were failed in flexure except beams of vertical cold joint at 33% length were failed in shear. The horizontal construction joint in compression zone of beam have the more effect of decreasing in failure load by about 9.43% and 16.83% in concrete beam with and without SM; respectively and

less than that in the case of rough surface. During the present work, it is found that the vertical construction joint is preferable to be located within the middle third of the beam span. For beams having a vertical construction joint, it is found that the location of the joints has almost same effect on the failure load capacity of the concrete beam without SM in smooth plane. In other cases of vertical construction joint, the location at 33% length the beam have the more effect of decreasing failure load by about 43.53%, 43.81% and 27.49% for concrete with SM, concrete without SM with rough plane and concrete with SM with rough plane; respectively.

11. Conclusion

The optimum dosage of sugar molasses is 0.2% of cement weight which can improve compressive strength by about 11.2% at 28 days and delay initial setting time by about 4.617 hours (277 minutes). Which can be reduced the impact of the cold joints formation in concrete beams under Iraqi hot weather condition. The horizontal construction joints have slight effect while, the vertical type; have a great effect on the ultimate capacity of concrete beam. The vertical construction joint is preferable to be located within the middle third of the beam span and the horizontal type in tension zone of beam. The plane texture of construction joints have more effect in the case of concrete without SM.

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