

1 ***New developments in low clinker cement paste mineralogy***

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16 ***Abstract***

17 The use of industrial waste as a cement addition often changes the composition
18 and development of the hydrated phases and with them matrix performance
19 and durability, in particular at later ages. The effect of the presence in blended
20 cement of 20% to 50% Kaolinite based activated carbon waste (ACW) on paste
21 hydration has been characterized by means of XRD, SEM/EDX, TG/DTG, NMR
22 and FTIR to identify and monitor the mineralogical phases forming in materials
23 at ages of up to 180 d. The results showed that the main reaction products
24 forming in the first 7 d included C-S-H gels, C_4ACH_{12} and C_4AH_{13} (hydroxy-
25 AFm). Whilst monocarboaluminate (Mc) content declined with rising
26 percentages of ACW, the amount of hexagonal phase hydroxy-AFm rose
27 generally speaking. Then microstructure of the C-S-H gels developing in the
28 OPC and the 50% additioned paste differed. Compact C-S-H gel plates, and

29 phyllosilicate-like laminar spongy microplates with high polymerised C-S-H gel
30 formed in the blended cement paste.

31 Keywords: mineralogy, hydrated phases, activated clay waste, blended cement

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I. Introduction

34 The cement industry's standard reuse of large amounts of industrial waste and
35 by-products as supplementary cementitious materials has a very beneficial
36 effect on its sustainability as well as on socio-economic development. Not only
37 does the end product have a smaller environmental footprint (lower CO₂
38 emissions) and lower energy consumption which translates into lower costs, but
39 also improves upon cement performance (Juenger and Siddique, 2015; Stark,
40 2011; Medina et al. 2017; Mohammed et al., 2016; Wang et al., 2016). In
41 keeping with European legislation on commercial cement manufacture
42 (European Committee for Standardization, 2011) thermally activated pozzolans,
43 whether natural or industrial (such as fly ash, silica fume or blast furnace slag),
44 have traditionally been added to cement at replacement ratios (alone or mixed)
45 of up to 55%, depending on the type of cement. Given that worldwide cement
46 production stands at around 4.2 billion tonnes/year, with demand predicted to
47 rise substantially by 2050, natural pozzolan consumption is expected to be very
48 high. The scientific community is consequently exploring industrial by-products
49 as a possible source of other types of pozzolanic materials.

50 Kaolinite-based waste has been the object of a recent line of research as an
51 alternative to the kaolinite extracted from natural quarries (Chakchouk and
52 Samet, 2012; Rodriguez et al., 2013; Frías et al., 2013; Frías, 2006). The
53 sludge generated by the paper industry, which recycles paper into cellulose, is
54 one such waste (Segui et al., 2012; Monte et al., 2009; Yan et al., 2011). Of the

55 over 14.4 million tonnes produced in Europe yearly, 70% is generated during
56 the manufacture of de-inked recycled paper. Earlier studies (Frías et al. 2015;
57 Vigil et al., 2007; Vegas et al., 2014; Goñi et al., 2013) laid the scientific-
58 technical grounds for converting kaolinite/calcite-based industrial waste to a
59 high pozzolanicity product, identifying the main hydrated phases to be C-S-H
60 gels, metastable hexagonal phases (hydroxy-AFm and C_2ASH_8), C_4ACH_{11} and
61 layered double hydroxide (LDH)-like structures such as carbonate and
62 metakaolinite (MK).

63 Research presently focuses on by-products such as coal mining waste
64 (kaolinite/mica) (Fan et al., 2014; Modarres and Ayar, 2014; Frías et al., 2012),
65 the stockpiling of which in areas around mines poses substantial environmental
66 problems (Haibin and Zhenling, 2010; Dontala et al., 2015). According to the
67 information available (BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2017), worldwide
68 coal output amounted to 19.350 Gt in 2016, and the respective waste to 40% of
69 site production, depending on geology and mine conditions. When thermally
70 activated at 500°C to 900°C for 2 h, such clayey waste can be converted to a
71 metakaolinite-containing pozzolan, activated coal waste (ACW) (García et al.,
72 2015; Vigíl et al., 2017) although the activation conditions must be controlled to
73 prevent the formation of quasi-stable dehydroxylated mica (Vigil et al., 2014).

74 To date, research has focused on the pozzolanicity of ACW/lime system, in
75 which the hydrated phases identified include C-S-H gels, Hydroxy-AFm,
76 C_2ASH_8 and LDH-like phyllosilicate/carbonate structures. The use of coal waste
77 as a component in blended cements is a line of research scantily pursued by the
78 scientific community, with the few papers available all dealing with its technical
79 properties (Modarres et al., 2016; Beltramini et al., 2010; Vegas et al., 2015). In

80 a previous paper, Frias et al.,2016 reported the reaction kinetics of blended
81 cement pastes containing up to 20% ACW. They identified C-S-H gels, ettringite
82 (Et), hydroxy-AFm and C_4ACH_{12} as the phases primarily involved in the
83 synergies between cement hydration and the pozzolanic reaction.

84 Insight into the behaviour of such binary cements, presently unknown, would
85 contribute to a deeper understanding of low cement content and hence low CO_2
86 systems.

87 This study, the first to explore 20% to 50% activated coal waste cement
88 hydration used XRD, SEM-EDX, TG/DTG, FTIR and NMR techniques to
89 identify and monitor the hydrated phases in 1 d, 7 d, 28 d, 90 d and 180 d
90 pastes.

91

92 **II. Experimental**

93 **(1) Materials**

94 Spanish coal mining waste from an open-pit mine (Sociedad Anónima Hullera
95 Vasco-Leonesa, León) was thermally activated at what are generally regarded
96 as optimal conditions (García et al., 2016): 600°C for 2 h in an electric muffle
97 furnace. The product (ACW) was subsequently ground to particle sizes of
98 under 90 μm .

99 Further to the requirements laid down by the European Committee for
100 Standardization (2011) for the manufacture of type II A/B commercial cements,
101 a CEM I 52.5R commercial portland cement was used in this study. The D_{90}
102 (diameter through which 90 % of the product passes) for the cement was
103 35.9 μm and 32.6 μm for the waste. The chemical composition of the starting
104 materials is given in Table I;

105 while the mineralogy by Rietveld of the starting materials is collected in Table II
106 and the datasets for phase identification in Table III, using X^2 as an index of
107 disagreement or goodness of fit to the quotient between R_{wp} and R_{exp} .

108 Table I. Chemical compositions (%) of OPC and ACW

109 Table II. Rietveld analysis of XRD-identified phases

110 Table III: Datasets for phase identification and Rietveld quantification

111

112 The blended cements contained 0%, 20%, 30% or 50% ACW. Prismatic
113 (1x1x6 cm) cement paste specimens were prepared at a water/binder ratio of
114 0.5, to which 40% solid Sikament FF superplasticiser was added to attain the
115 same fluidity as in the reference paste. The mixing water was corrected for the
116 admixture water to maintain a constant water/binder ratio. All the specimens
117 were cured in water for up to 180 days. After each curing period they were
118 immersed in acetone for 24 h and vacuum dried for a further 24 h to stop
119 cement hydration.

120

121 **(2) Methods**

122 The chemical composition of the starting ACW and OPC samples was analysed
123 on a Philips (Eindhoven, Netherlands) PW 1404 X-ray fluorescence analyser
124 fitted with an Sc-Mo X-ray tube and Super-Q Manager analytical software.

125 The mineralogical composition of the bulk samples was determined by random
126 powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) on a Siemens D-5000 (Munich, Germany) X-ray
127 diffractometer fitted with a Cu anode. Their operating conditions were 30 mA
128 and 40 kV and divergence of 2 and 0.6 mm with reception slits, respectively. The
129 samples were scanned in (2θ) 0.041 steps with a 3-scount time. The
130 characterization of bulk samples was carried out using the random power

131 method operating from 3° to 70° 2θ at a rate of $2^\circ/\text{min}$ (Moore and Reynolds,
132 1997). The XRD patterns were analyzed with the Match 3 Rietvel Fullprof
133 software (Match, Fullprof) using the Inorganic Crystal Structure Database
134 (ICSD) (Allmann and Hinek, 2007) and the Crystallography Open Database
135 (COD) (Grazulis et al., 2012). Rietveld quantification (Rietveld, 1967,1969)
136 accuracy is typically presented in terms of constants R and X^2 . While, R only
137 compares peak intensities calculated from the spectra of the material to the
138 intensity of the experimentally line, the X^2 calculation in phase weight as well.
139 Ideally, both constants should be equal to 1. Due to discrepancy between
140 observed and calculated data, however, which are particularly significant for
141 materials comprising more than three phases, X^2 values of 20 to 5 are generally
142 accepted as satisfactory for valid results.

143 In light of the optics of all the data gathering instruments used (including Bragg
144 Brentano geometry, Cu $K\alpha_1$ wavelength, fixed divergence and Soller slits), the
145 pseudo-Voigt function was chosen as the most suitable to describe peak shape
146 in the preliminary fit performed. The information on the structural parameters
147 listed for the phases on their COD or ICSD cards was entered. The parameters
148 were refined in the recommended order (McCusker et al., 1999): first the global
149 parameters, i.e., background functions (the Chebyshev polynomial function,
150 using three variable coefficients), zero shift and scale factors, followed by the
151 unit cell parameters for each phase. The March-Dollase function, normally apt
152 for correcting preferred orientation in flat-plate specimens, was applied (Dollase,
153 1986). The instrumental polarisation factor (0.7998) and optics used in these
154 diffraction trials were applied to modify peak shape and isotropic and
155 anisotropic factors. Two corrections to optimise the fit were introduced during

156 the refinement cycles: for micro-absorption (Brindley, 1951) to minimise the
157 effect of different absorption coefficients for the phases present in the mix and
158 for diffraction peak alternations using the Caglioti equation (Caglioti, 1958).

159 Sample morphology and microanalysis were determined with SEM/EDX on an
160 Inspect FEI electron microscope (Hillsboro, OR, USA), fitted with a W source,
161 DX4i energy dispersive X-ray analyser and a Si (Li) detector. Freshly cut
162 samples were observed using a backscattered electron (BSE) detector,
163 whereas the gold-sputtered field samples were examined with a high-vacuum
164 imaging secondary electron detector (resolution: 3.0 nm at 30 kV [ETD], 10 nm
165 at 3 kV [ETD], and 4.0 nm at 30 kV [BSE]). The accelerating voltage was 26-30
166 kV and the working distance 10 mm. Sample microanalysis was conducted on
167 an Oxford Instruments INCA Energy 200 energy dispersive X-ray spectrometer,
168 running at 20 kV. SEM-EDS precalibration tests were conducted with internal
169 standards to improve ZAF correction. The chemical composition, found as the
170 mean of 10 scans per sample, is shown in Table IV together with the standard
171 deviation. These semi-quantitative analyses were performed on clean surfaces
172 to prevent contamination as far as possible. The findings are expressed in wt%
173 of oxides.

174 Sample particle size distribution was determined with a Malvern Mastersizer
175 3000 laser granulometer (Great Malvern, UK), with air as the dispersing medium
176 (Frías and Sánchez de Rojas, 1997).

177 Thermogravimetric studies (TG/DTG) were conducted with an SDT Q600 V20.9
178 Build 20 analyser on 45 mg to 50 mg powder samples, heated at a rate of
179 10 °C/min in an N₂ (100 mL/min) atmosphere.

180 Pellets in which 1.2 mg of hydrated paste sample were mixed with 10 mg of
181 potassium bromide were analysed on a Bruker Alpha infrared spectrometer.
182 The spectra were recorded in the 4000 cm^{-1} to 400 cm^{-1} region at a resolution of
183 4 cm^{-1} .

184 The 180 d pastes were analysed on a Bruker Avance III 400 MHz nuclear
185 magnetic resonance (NMR) mass spectrometer fitted with a 9.4 T magnet. ^{29}Si
186 spectra were recorded at the following settings: resonance frequency,
187 79.49 MHz; spin rate, 10 kHz; single $5\text{ }\mu\text{s}$ pulse; recycle delay, 10 s; external
188 standard, tetramethylsilane (TMS). ^{27}Al spectra were recorded at the following
189 settings: resonance frequency, 104.3 MHz; spin rate, 10 kHz; single $2\text{ }\mu\text{s}$ pulse;
190 recycle delay, 5 s; external standard, $\text{Al}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6^{3+}$.

191

192 **III. Results and Discussion**

193

194 Figure 1 shows the 180 d diffractograms with the mineralogical phases
195 identified.

196 Rietveld quantification of the crystalline mineralogical phases in the four
197 cements are given by age in Table II.

198 **Table II. Rietveld analysis of XRD-identified phases**

199 The anhydrous OPC consisted primarily in tricalcium silicate (alite), dicalcium
200 silicate (bredigite), tricalcium aluminate, bassanite and a ferritic phase. The 1 d
201 materials contained the most prominent crystalline phases, portlandite and
202 ettringite, and exhibited a significant decline in anhydrous phases C_3S and C_3A
203 compared to the anhydrous cement. The hydrated phase content, greater in the
204 7 d pastes, included tetracalcium aluminate monocarbonate hydrate ($\text{C}_4\text{ACH}_{12}$),

205 a line with an intensity that continued to rise up to 90 d of hydration. After 28 d
206 of hydration the metastable hexagonal phase, tetracalcium aluminate hydrate
207 (hydroxyl-AFm), was formed (4-7%). C_4ACH_{12} , product of a solid state
208 mechanism-governed reaction between C_3A and $CaCO_3$, stabilised ettringite
209 formation (Bonavetti et al., 2001; Feldman et al., 1965; Zajac et al., 2014).

210 The 1 d diffractograms for the mixed pastes contained the same lines as the
211 anhydrous cement, along with reflections indicating the presence of the quartz
212 and mica present in the ACW. This waste originally contained calcite and an
213 amorphous phase in addition to quartz and a phengite-like mica.

214 As no product derived from the reaction between pozzolan and cement was
215 observed at that age, it was assumed that the addition would act as a filler,
216 accelerating the hydration of cement particles. That in turn induced a substantial
217 (around 75%) decline in the alite and bredigite contents and a 20% rise in the
218 portlandite content relative to the reference cement.

219

220 At later hydration ages the presence of ACW favoured C_4AH_{13} formation but not
221 the monocarboaluminate generation observed in OPC. The appearance of an
222 aluminium-high phase was attributed to the uptake of the reactive alumina
223 present in the pozzolan (metakaolinite) (Frías et al., 2016; Wu and Young,
224 1984; Atkins et al., 1991).

225

226 Up to 28 d, the materials containing the pozzolan, particularly the 30 % and
227 50 % blended cements, had a higher proportion of amorphous phase than the
228 control (Table III). Its presence began to decline after 90 d, in inverse proportion
229 to the cement replacement ratio. That turning point in the amount of amorphous

230 material might be related to the excess pozzolan relative to the amount of
231 portlandite generated by the portland cement.

232

233 The SEM/EDX scans of the OPC exhibited laminar hydrated portlandite and
234 prismatic ettringite phases, in addition to short C-S-H gel fibres. Intertwined with
235 the ettringite prisms, the gels occupied the voids surrounded by layers of
236 portlandite and alite, which grew thicker with curing time. Adding 20% ACW to
237 the OPC paste induced the formation of more compact laminar portlandite
238 structures, along with ettringite and C-S-H gel fibres (Frías et al., 2016). The
239 180 d morphologies of the four cements analysed are shown in Figures 2-4.
240 The pastes containing 0% and 20% ACW had dense, compact morphologies
241 (Figure 2). The 30% and 50% blended pastes, in contrast, were characterised
242 by spongy, scanty compact morphologies, differences that widened with rising
243 ACW content and curing time (Fig. 3).

244

245 A detailed study of cement morphologies revealed two types of plates. a)
246 Compact plates comprised C-S-H gel, in which a higher ACW content favoured
247 a decline in calcium and a rise in silicon and aluminium contents. b) Less
248 compact plates consisted in a mix of laminar and fibrous structures (Figure 4,
249 left; Table IV). The laminar phyllosilicate microplates characterising the
250 50%ACW paste (Figure 4, right; Table IV) induced the aforementioned spongy,
251 scanty compact morphology. The EDX analysis for the major mineralogical
252 phases is shown in Figure 5.

253

254

255 Table IV. EDX chemical analysis of 180 d blended cements (%)

256

257 The SEM micrographs clearly attested to differences in paste morphology with
258 the percentage of ACW added. At replacement ratios of over 20%, the matrices
259 were neither uniform nor porous, a finding compatible with the evolution of the
260 amorphous stage in these pozzolan-high cement pastes.

261

262 The high frequency region (4000 cm^{-1} to 3000 cm^{-1}) on the FTIR spectrum
263 (Fig.6) contained a signal at 3645 cm^{-1} attributed to the OH stretching vibrations
264 in portlandite. That band was more intense in the OPC sample and declined in
265 intensity as the ACW content rose. OH stretching vibrations generated by water
266 molecules were also detected, with peaks at around 3430 cm^{-1} and 3626 cm^{-1} ,
267 due to C-S-H gel. This wide band exhibited shoulders at 3673 cm^{-1} , 3667 cm^{-1} ,
268 3642 cm^{-1} , 3625 cm^{-1} and 3522 cm^{-1} due to OH vibrations that grew in intensity
269 with ACW content and curing age, most prominently in the 50% replacement
270 samples. Inasmuch as C_4AH_{13} , ettringite and monocarboaluminate all have a
271 band at those frequencies, these shoulders could be attributed to any or several
272 of them. A signal appearing at 3529 cm^{-1} might denote the presence of
273 aluminium hydroxides resulting from the formation or carbonation of calcium
274 aluminates. As these hydroxides are amorphous, they would not be detected by
275 XRD (Qoku et al; 2017).

276

277 In the FTIR study of the C-S-H gel formed, at lower frequencies, the OPC paste
278 spectrum exhibited bands at around 1118 cm^{-1} and 973 cm^{-1} . Earlier authors
279 (Yu et al.,1999) reported that the band at 973 cm^{-1} can be attributed to the
280 stretching vibrations generated by the Si-O bonds in Q^2 tetrahedra present in C-
281 S-H gel. This band clearly shifted toward higher wavenumbers in the presence

282 of ACW: 995 cm⁻¹ with 20%, 1002 cm⁻¹ with 30% and 1015 cm⁻¹ with 50%
283 additions (Fig. 7). A band that appeared at 1085 cm⁻¹ possibly denoted a more
284 polymerised structure. According to Sáez del Bosque et al. (2014), structures
285 with a high Ca/Si ratio generate bands at 902 cm⁻¹, 964 cm⁻¹, 984 cm⁻¹ and
286 1081 cm⁻¹, associated with the Q² stretching vibrations in Dreierkette-arranged
287 silicates, whereas in structures with a low Ca/Si ratio the same units generate
288 bands at around 1120 cm⁻¹ and 969 cm⁻¹. In the spectra shown here, however,
289 the signals at 798 cm⁻¹, 780 cm⁻¹, 696 cm⁻¹, 558 cm⁻¹ and 480 cm⁻¹ were
290 attributed to ACW, which also generated Si-O bands at 1040 cm⁻¹ and 1082
291 cm⁻¹.

292 ²⁷Al and ²⁹Si NMR scans were recorded of the 180 d materials to determine
293 whether those shifts were due to the existence of a different gel or to the effect
294 of unreacted phases in the ACW.

295
296 The 180 d ²⁹Si NMR (Fig. 8) for all the pastes contained signals for Q⁰ units at
297 -71.5 ppm and -73.6 ppm, the intensity of which declined with rising
298 percentages of pozzolan, for at lower percentages of cement its anhydrous
299 phases C₂S and C₃S logically generated less intense signals. The most intense
300 signal, positioned at -71.5 ppm, was attributed to β-C₂S, as C₂S hydration is
301 slower than that of C₃S the intensity of the peak associated with the presence of
302 C₂S is higher than that of C₃S. Other researchers (Kunter et al.,2016)
303 calculating the percentage of alite and bredigite in white cement samples with a
304 5% to 30% metakaolin content, observed that as the percentage of MK rose,
305 the amount of bredigite reacting declined substantially, whereas the effect on

306 alite was less accentuated. That would explain the intense bredigite signals on
307 the ^{29}Si NMR spectrum.

308

309 The decline in intensity with rising replacement ratios in the signals for the Q^1
310 units present in the hydrated phases denoted greater polymerisation of the C-S-
311 H gels, corroborating the FTIR and SEM findings. In the presence of the waste,
312 a Q^3 unit signal generated by the clayey minerals, primarily micas, present in
313 the ACW, appeared between -89 ppm and -97 ppm, growing in intensity with
314 the pozzolan content in the cement paste.

315 Q^2_{B} and Q^2_{P} signals were observed in the pastes in proportions that varied with
316 the replacement ratio, with the former declining as the ratio rose. The Q^2 (1Al)
317 units likewise detected denoted the presence of greater amounts of aluminium
318 from the ACW and the replacement of bridging silicon with aluminium atoms.

319 The 180 d ^{27}Al NMR spectra for the cement pastes containing 0%, 20%, 30%
320 and 50% ACW reproduced in Figure 9 contain two areas of signals attributable
321 to Al(IV) and Al(VI). The latter confirmed ettringite and monocarboaluminate
322 formation in all the samples, albeit in different proportions, as observed with
323 XRD. Raising cement replacement ratios raised the percentage of Mc and
324 lowered the amount of Et.

325 The intensity of the wide signal observed in the area of the spectrum attributed
326 to tetrahedral aluminium rose with the amount of waste added. That signal,
327 peaking at 68.6 ppm and shifting to lower values with higher replacement ratios,
328 was indicative of the presence of Al uptake in the C-S-H gel. Moreover, the
329 shoulder with a well-defined peak appearing at 61.5 ppm in this area of the

330 spectrum for the paste containing 50% ACW might be related to the SEM-
331 identified laminar phyllosilicate microplates in that material.

332 The OPC and 50% ACW DTG curves up to 180d are shown in Figure 10, by
333 way of example of all the blended cements analysed (0%, 20%, 30% and 50%
334 ACW), exhibit three distinct areas with significant weight loss.

335 1. The wide band at 70°C to 300°C was generated by dehydroxylation of
336 the main hydrated phases during both cement hydration and the pozzolanic
337 reaction. Bearing these two reactions in mind, the most prominent band (outside
338 of the one at 61°C to 65°C attributed to the loss of moisture in the samples),
339 located at 70°C to 135°C and peaking at 102°C to 106°C, would be associated
340 with ettringite and especially C-S-H gel dehydroxylation. A less intense band in
341 the 130°C to 210°C interval was attributed to several hydrated phases with
342 overlapping signals: hydroxy-AFm (180°C), C_4ASH_{12} (170°C) in the 90 d and
343 180 d blended cements with 50% ACW and carboaluminate hydrate (C_4ACH_{12})
344 (190°C to 210°C) (Martínez and Frías, 2011). Those findings corroborated the
345 presence of the hydrated phases observed with XRD, FTIR, SEM and NMR.

346 2. As the thermogravimetric interval ranging from 400°C to 470°C, peaking
347 at 430°C to 445°C, was generated by the dehydroxylation of portlandite present
348 in the cements, band intensity was greater at lower ACW percentages (OPC
349 >20%ACW >30%ACW >50%ACW), as observed in the FTIR analyses.

350 3. The area between 550°C and 740°C, with a peak at around 700°C to
351 705°C, was associated with calcite decarbonation in the blended cements.

352

353 Weight loss due to hydrated phase dehydroxylation at 70°C to 300°C is graphed
354 against portlandite content (in percent of $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$) and cement age in
355 Figure 11. The graph clearly shows that the $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$ content declined as the
356 percentage of coal waste rose due to the pozzolanic reaction between the MK
357 present in the ACW and the portlandite generated in cement hydration. The
358 portlandite content in OPC was 13% to 16%; in 20%ACW, 11% to 12.5%; in
359 30%ACW, 9 to 9.5%; and in 50%ACW from 5% to 6.5%.

360
361 The greatest bound water loss (hydrated phase dehydroxylation in the 70°C to
362 300°C range) was observed at 28 d in OPC and 20%ACW and at 90 d in
363 30%ACW and 50%ACW. A slight decline in bound water content was detected
364 at longer reaction times, perhaps associated with the presence of majority
365 hydrated phases such as hydroxy-AFm, with a lower water molecule content in
366 their structure than found in early age-forming ettringite ($\text{C}_6\text{AS}_3\text{H}_{32}$).

367

368 **IV. Conclusions**

369

370 The instrumental techniques applied in this study to appraise the hydration of
371 binary cements with a low clinker content showed that the partial replacement of
372 cement with 20 wt% to 50 wt% ACW favoured the formation of hydroxy-AFm, a
373 metastable crystalline phase, over monocarboaluminate ($\text{C}_4\text{ACH}_{12}$) (4% to
374 12 %). The former may account for up to 20% of all the crystalline phases,
375 peaking in 28 d 20%ACW cement paste and subsequently declining with rising
376 pozzolan content. In the OPC paste, monocarboaluminate prevailed over
377 hydroxy-AFm (4% to 7%), peaking at 17% of the total in the 90 d and declining
378 slightly in the 180 d paste.

379 Two types of plates were distinguished with the addition of pozzolan: compact
380 C-S-H gel plates, and phyllosilicate-like laminar spongy microplates, the
381 presence of which grew with pozzolan content, most visibly in the 50%ACW
382 paste.

383 Silicon is partially replaced by aluminium during C-S-H gel polymerisation, as
384 attested to by the band shift to higher frequencies ($950 \rightarrow 1015 \text{ cm}^{-1}$) and FTIR
385 (Si-O Q^2 stretching vibrations) and NMR (Q^2 (1Al)) findings. Further research
386 would be required to confirm whether those developments have a beneficial
387 effect on the performance of ACW blended cements, and its possible benefits
388 with respect to other cement matrices.

389

390

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543 **Figure Captions:**

544

545 Fig. 1. XRD patterns for 180 d pastes

546

547 Fig. 2. 180 d paste morphologies: left: OPC; right, 20%ACW

548

549 Fig. 3. 180 d paste morphologies: left, 30%ACW; right, 50%ACW

550

551 Fig. 4. 180 d paste morphologies: left, 20%ACW; right, 50%ACW

552

553 Fig. 5. EDX analysis of mineralogical phases

554

555 Fig. 6. FTIR spectra for 180d cement pastes

556

557 Fig. 7. Variation in the position of the Q² band in C-S-H gel with increasing
558 waste content

559

560 Fig. 8. ²⁹Si spectra for 180 d cement pastes.

561

562 Fig. 9. ²⁷Al NMR spectra for 180 d cement pastes

563

564 Fig. 10. Evolution of DTG diffractograms for OPC and 50% OPC pastes with
565 hydration time

566

567 Fig. 11. Bound water and portlandite contents in cement pastes versus OPC
568 replacement ratio and hydration time

Highlights

The present paper shows new knowledges in low clinker cement manufacture

This paper studies the influence of high contents of clay waste in the mineralogy of cement pastes cured up to 180d.

ACW favoured the formation of C_4AH_{13} over $C_4A\dot{C}H_{12}$

ACW favoured the compact C-S-H gel plates, and phyllosilicate-like laminar spongy microplates.

Table I. Chemical compositions (%) of OPC and ACW

| Materials | SiO ₂ | Al ₂ O ₃ | Fe ₂ O ₃ | CaO | MgO | K ₂ O | Na ₂ O | SO ₃ | TiO ₂ | P ₂ O ₅ | LOI |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------|
| OPC | 20.80 | 5.70 | 2.89 | 58.99 | 1.89 | 1.36 | 0.93 | 4.11 | 0.15 | 0.26 | 2.79 |
| ACW | 52.63 | 25.29 | 4.64 | 4.20 | 0.77 | 3.09 | 0.17 | 0.27 | 1.17 | 0.14 | 3.09 |

Table II. Rietveld analysis of XRD-identified phases

| Phases (%) | CF | Bs | C3 | Al | Br | Ca | Q | M | K | Et | P | Am | Cc | C4A | X ² |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----------------|
| OPC | 8 | 7 | 15 | 35 | 25 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 15.4 |
| CW | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 29 | 25 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 5.7 |
| ACW | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 35 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 35 | 0 | 0 | 6.9 |
| 1d | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OPC | 2 | 1 | 7 | 12 | 20 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 32 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 14.7 |
| 20% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 11 | 18 | 7 | 4 | 0 | 9 | 37 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 9.7 |
| 30% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 7 | 10 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 15 | 47 | 0 | 0 | 6.8 |
| 50% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 22 | 10 | 0 | 5 | 10 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 6.7 |
| 7d | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OPC | 1 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 18 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 29 | 13 | 3 | 0 | 8.6 |
| 20% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 27 | 10 | 4 | 15 | 9.7 |
| 30% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 8 | 13 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 25 | 15 | 7 | 10 | 8.7 |
| 50% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 19 | 9 | 0 | 6 | 16 | 25 | 6 | 9 | 7.0 |
| 28d | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OPC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 17 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 25 | 10 | 14 | 7 | 7.6 |
| 20% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 9 | 9 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 23 | 9 | 11 | 20 | 4.5 |
| 30% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 5 | 0 | 7 | 14 | 19 | 10 | 20 | 5.4 |
| 50% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 19 | 8 | 0 | 5 | 9 | 27 | 5 | 18 | 9.4 |
| 90d | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OPC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 24 | 30 | 17 | 7 | 10.2 |
| 20% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 15 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 22 | 11 | 12 | 18 | 12.3 |
| 30% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 19 | 6 | 0 | 7 | 19 | 18 | 9 | 14 | 6.0 |
| 50% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 23 | 8 | 0 | 5 | 16 | 25 | 7 | 12 | 8.3 |
| 180d | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OPC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 22 | 40 | 15 | 4 | 8.6 |
| 20% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 12 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 20 | 21 | 10 | 13 | 9.7 |
| 30% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 17 | 8 | 0 | 5 | 15 | 23 | 9 | 10 | 8.7 |
| 50% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 22 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 31 | 8 | 9 | 7.0 |

CF=C4AF; Bs = bassanite; C3 = C3A; Al =C3S; Br = C2S; Ca = calcite; Q = Quartz; M=mica;. K= kaolinite; Et = ettringite; P = portlandite; Cc=C4AC H12; C4A=C4H13; Am. Mat = Amorfous.

Table III: Datasets for phase identification and Rietveld quantification

| Phases | COD* | ICSD** |
|---------------------------------|---------|-------------|
| Alite | 9016125 | |
| Calcite | 9007689 | |
| Quartz | 9012600 | |
| C ₄ AH ₁₂ | 2007668 | |
| Ettringite | 9011103 | |
| Mica (Fengite) | 9005496 | |
| Portlandite | 1008781 | |
| Rutile | 9007433 | |
| C ₄ AH ₁₃ | - | 00-042-0558 |
| Bredigite | 9000483 | |
| C4AF | 1008124 | |
| Bassanite | 9005521 | |
| C3A | 1000039 | |

*COD: Crystallography Open Database, **ICSD: Inorganic Crystal Structure Database

Table IV: Chemical analysis by EDX of blended cements at 180days

| oxides | 20 % C-S-H gel | 30% C-S-H gel | 30% plate | 50% C-S-H gel | 50% plate |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| MgO | 0.6±0.46 | 1.1±0.63 | 0.6±0.15 | 1.4±0.48 | 1.4±0.42 |
| Al ₂ O ₃ | 6.7±0.94 | 6.2±0.89 | 20.2±0.96 | 9.2±0.62 | 21.1±0.77 |
| SiO ₂ | 31.5±2.59 | 36.3±2.85 | 38.8±1.46 | 37.1±2.59 | 45.3±2.38 |
| SO ₃ | 2.8±0.43 | 1.9±0.53 | 2.4±0.62 | - | 3.6±0.71 |
| CaO | 56.7±1.85 | 53.2±2.21 | 36.7±2.25 | 50.6±1.97 | 27.4±1.62 |
| Fe ₂ O ₃ | 1.8±0.32 | 1.2±0.19 | 1.4±0.24 | 1.6±0.74 | 1.2±0.18 |

Figure 1
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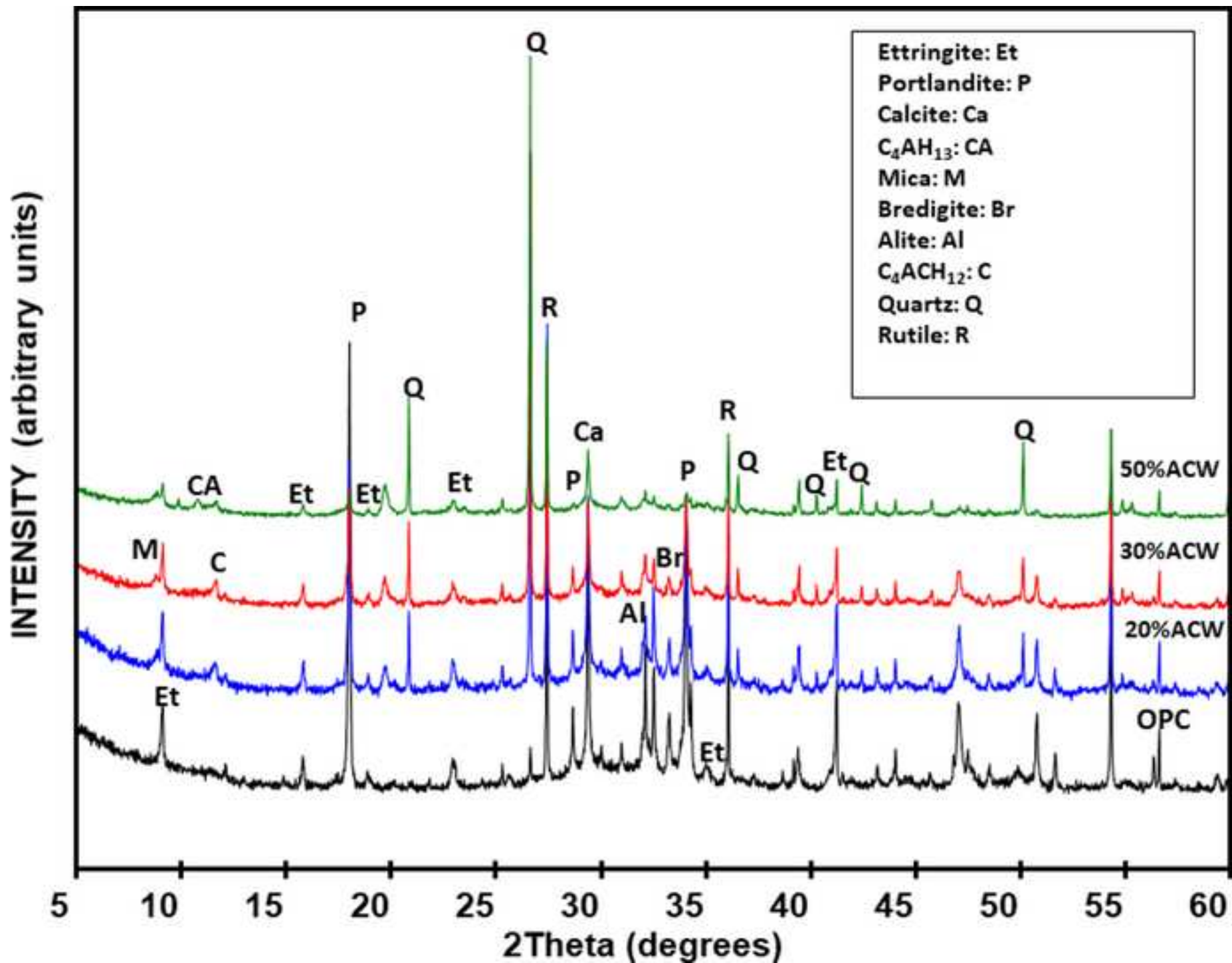


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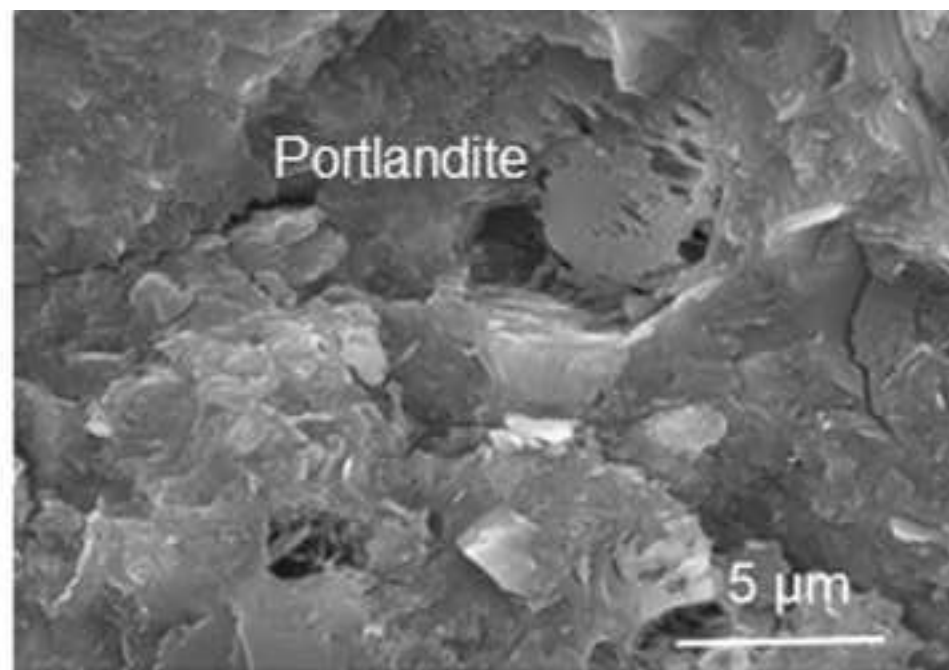
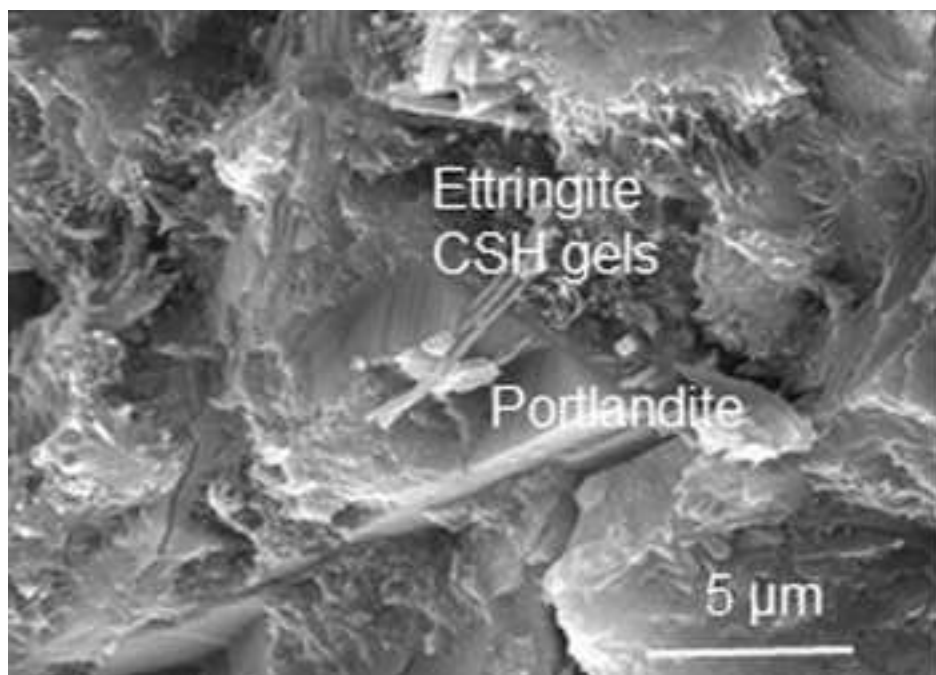


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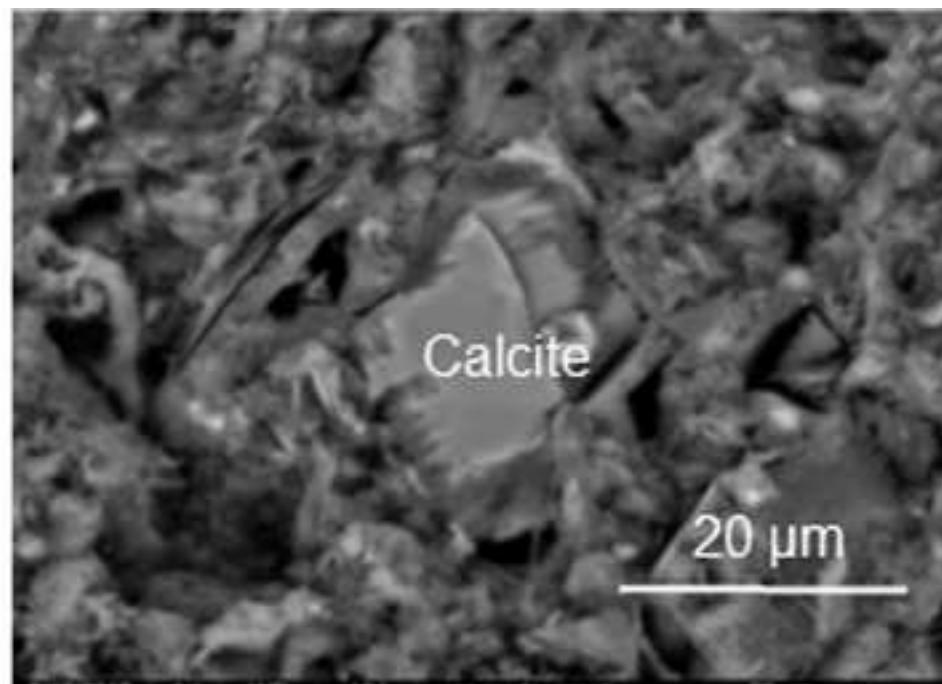
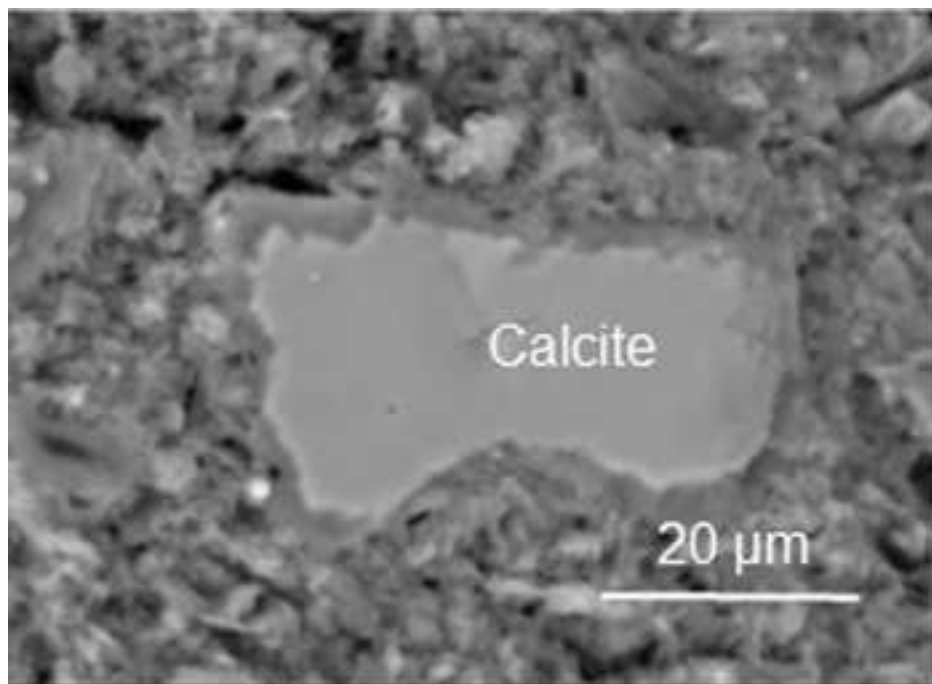


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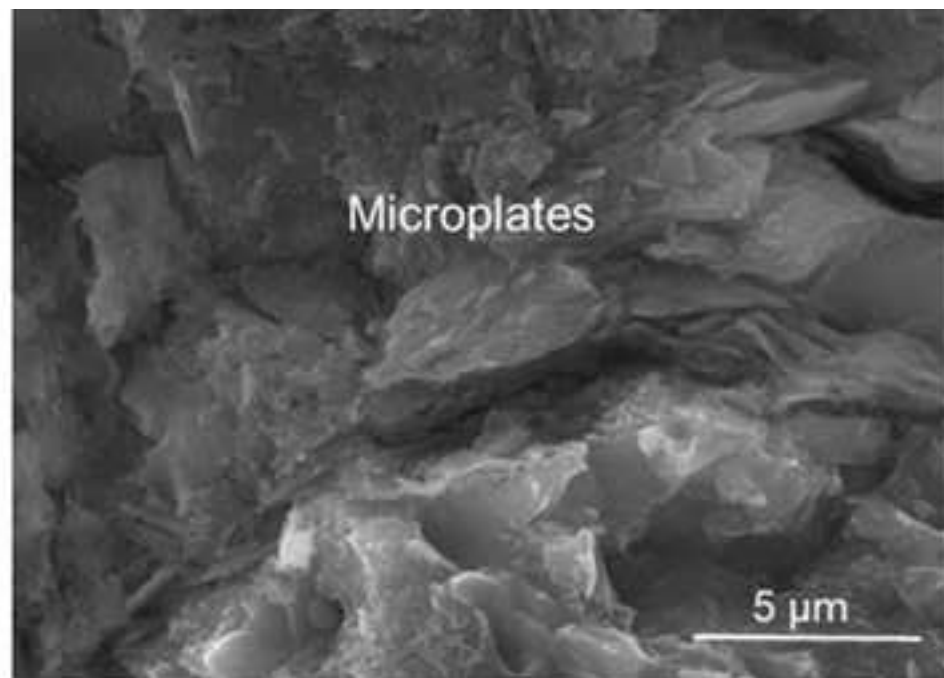
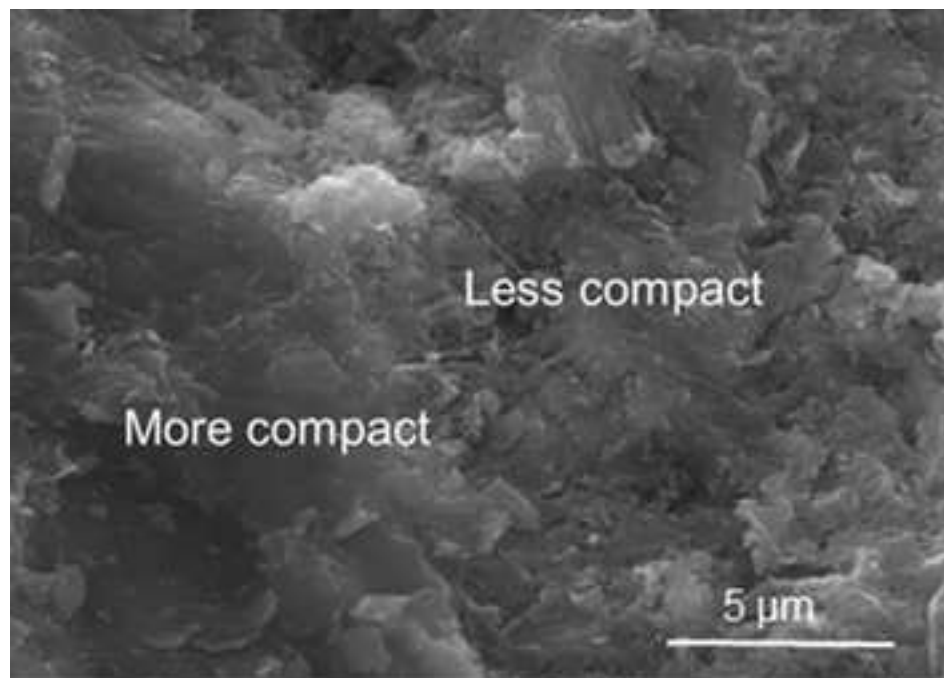


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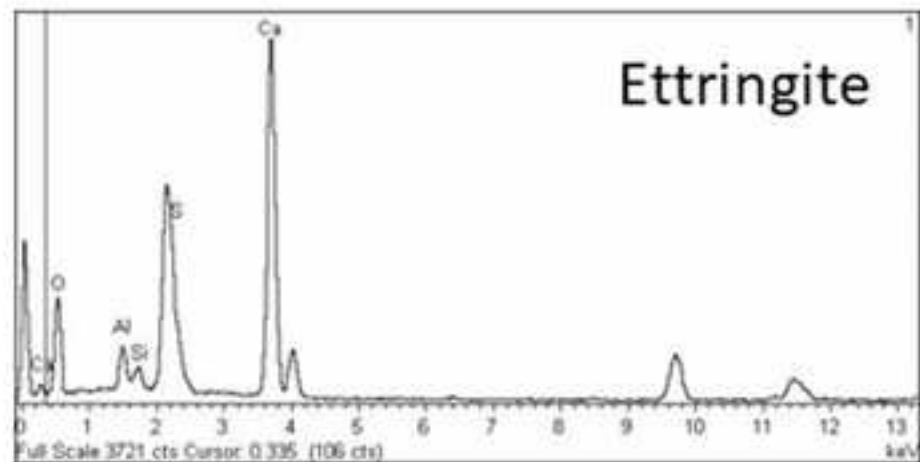
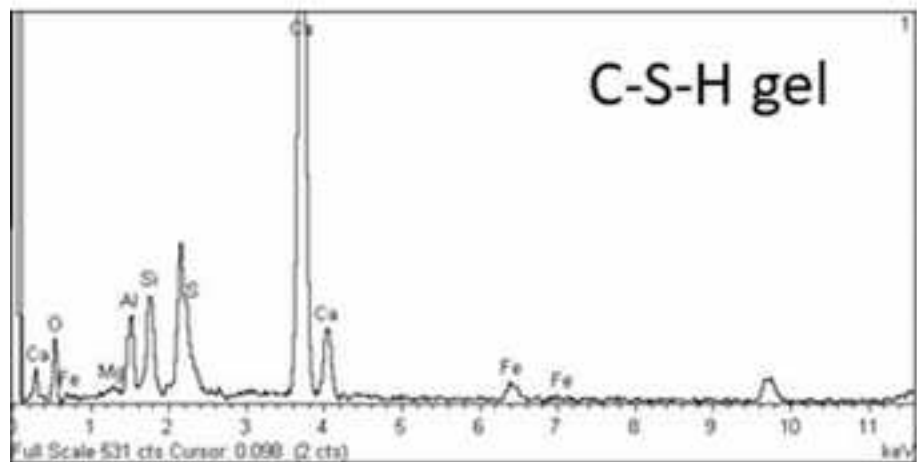
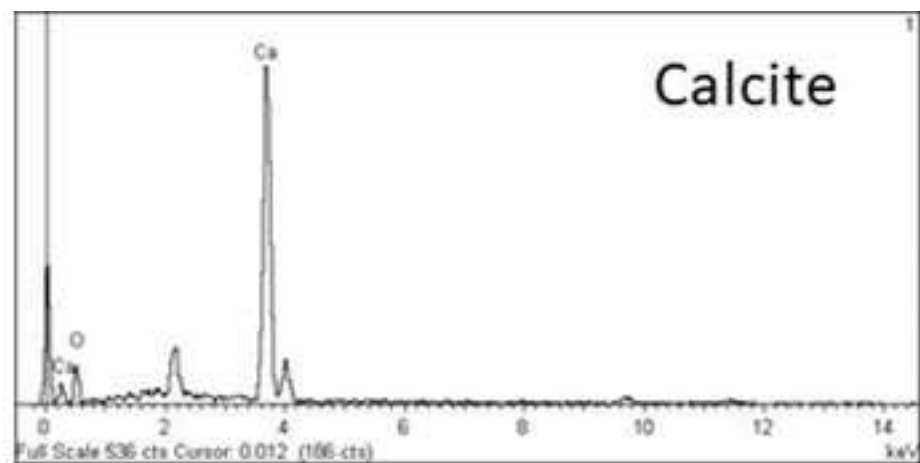
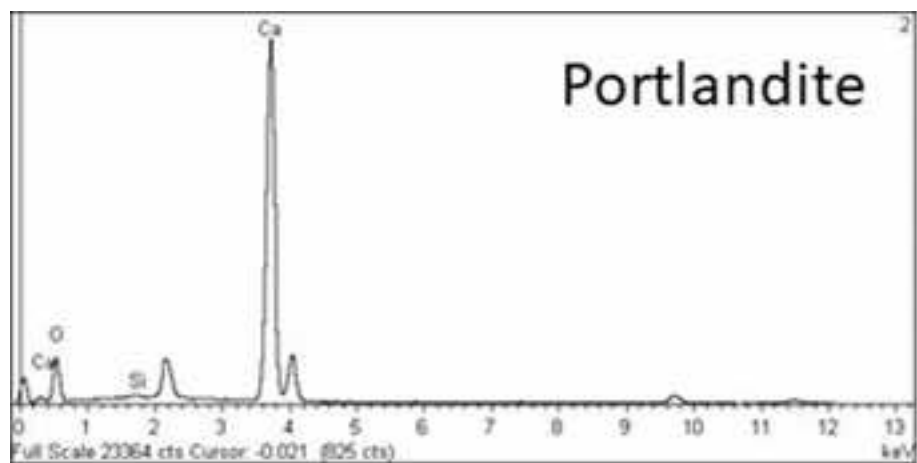


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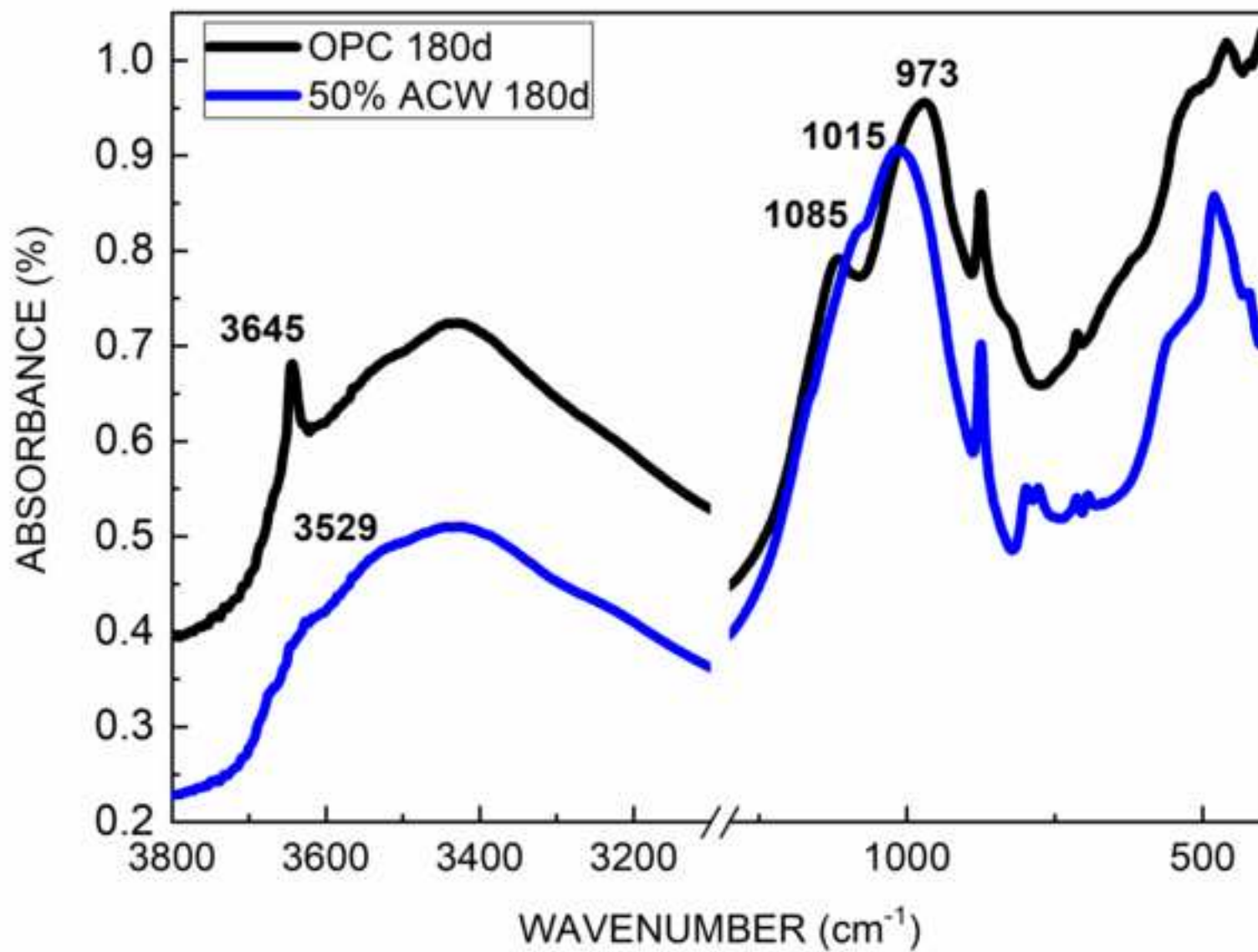


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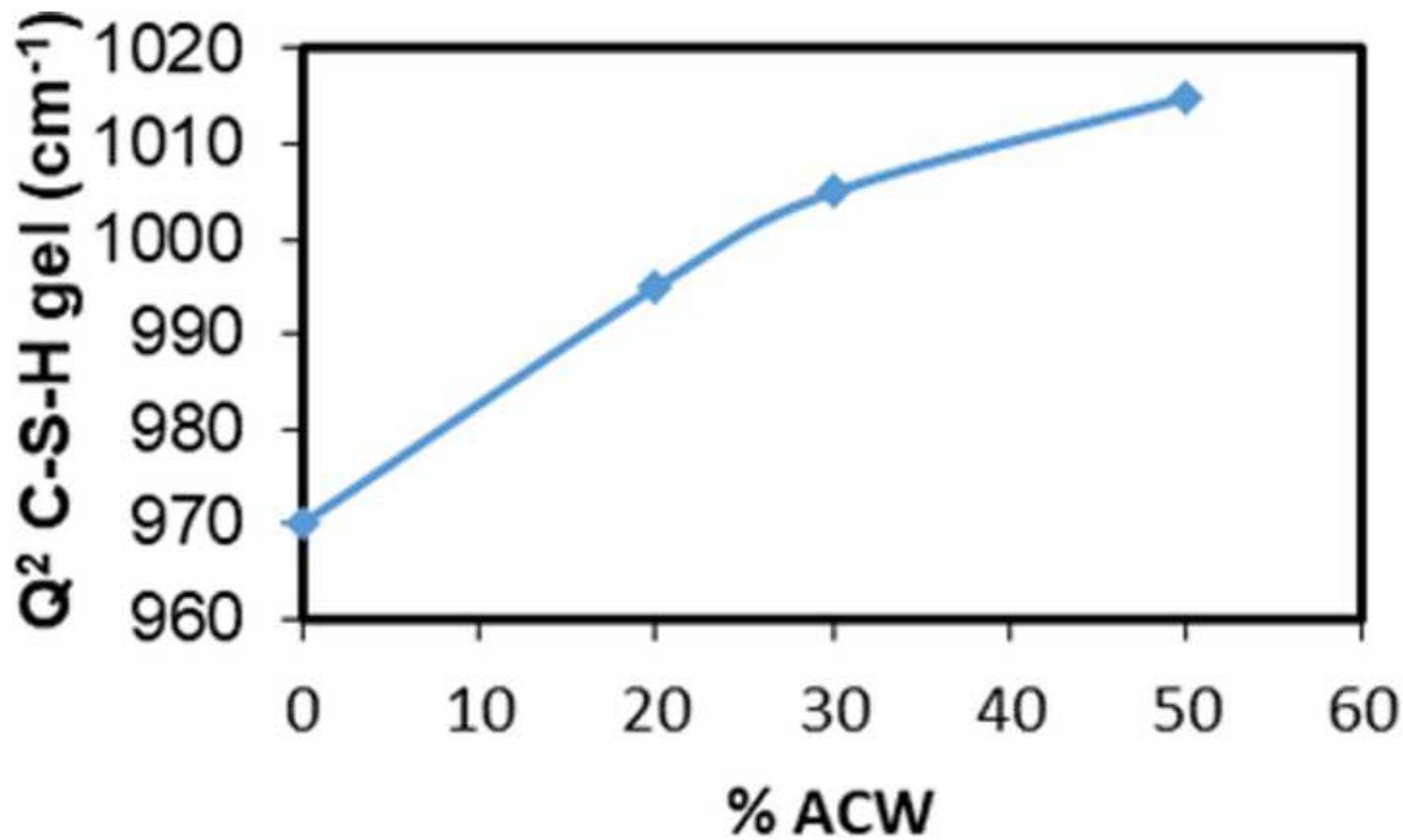


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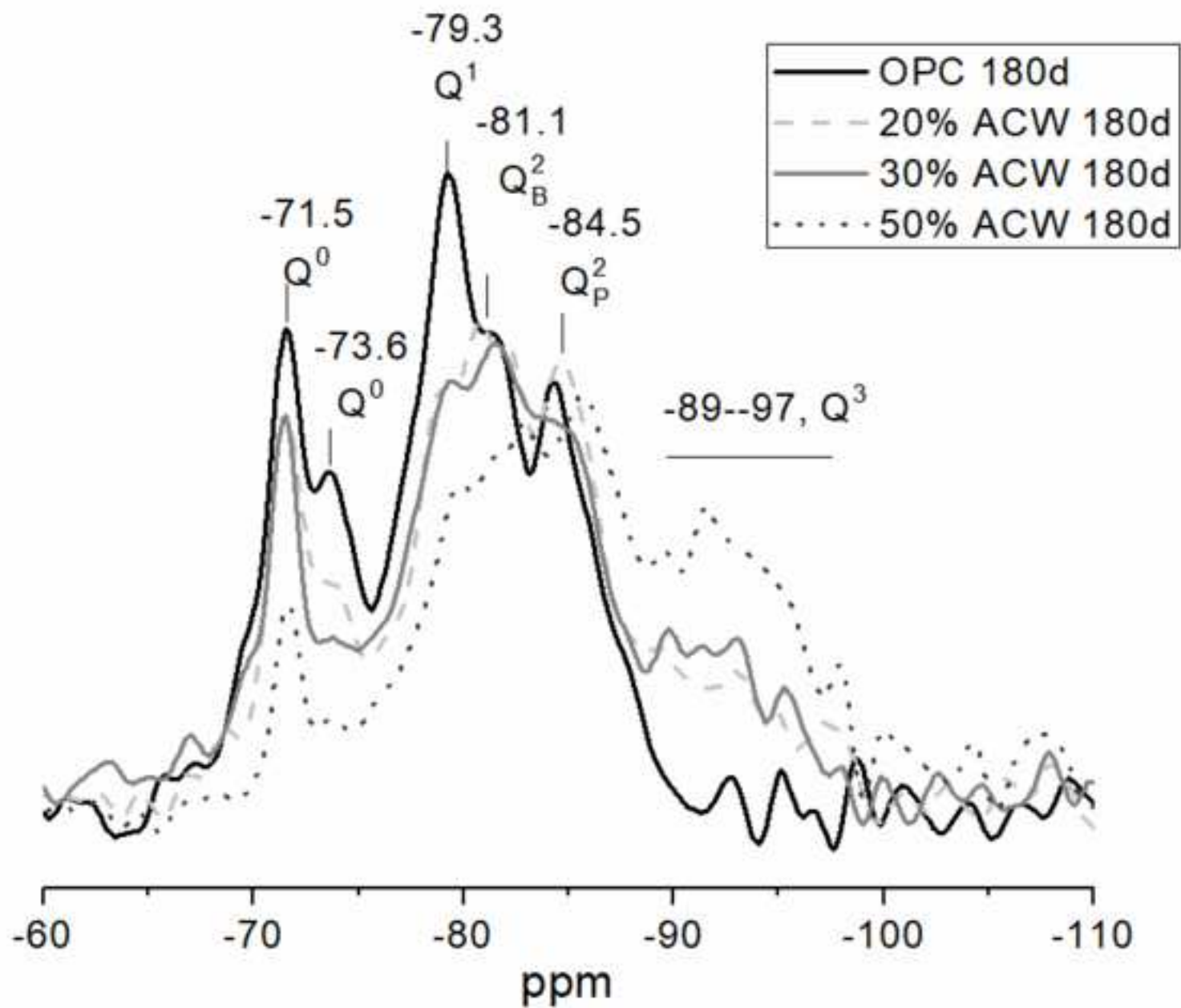


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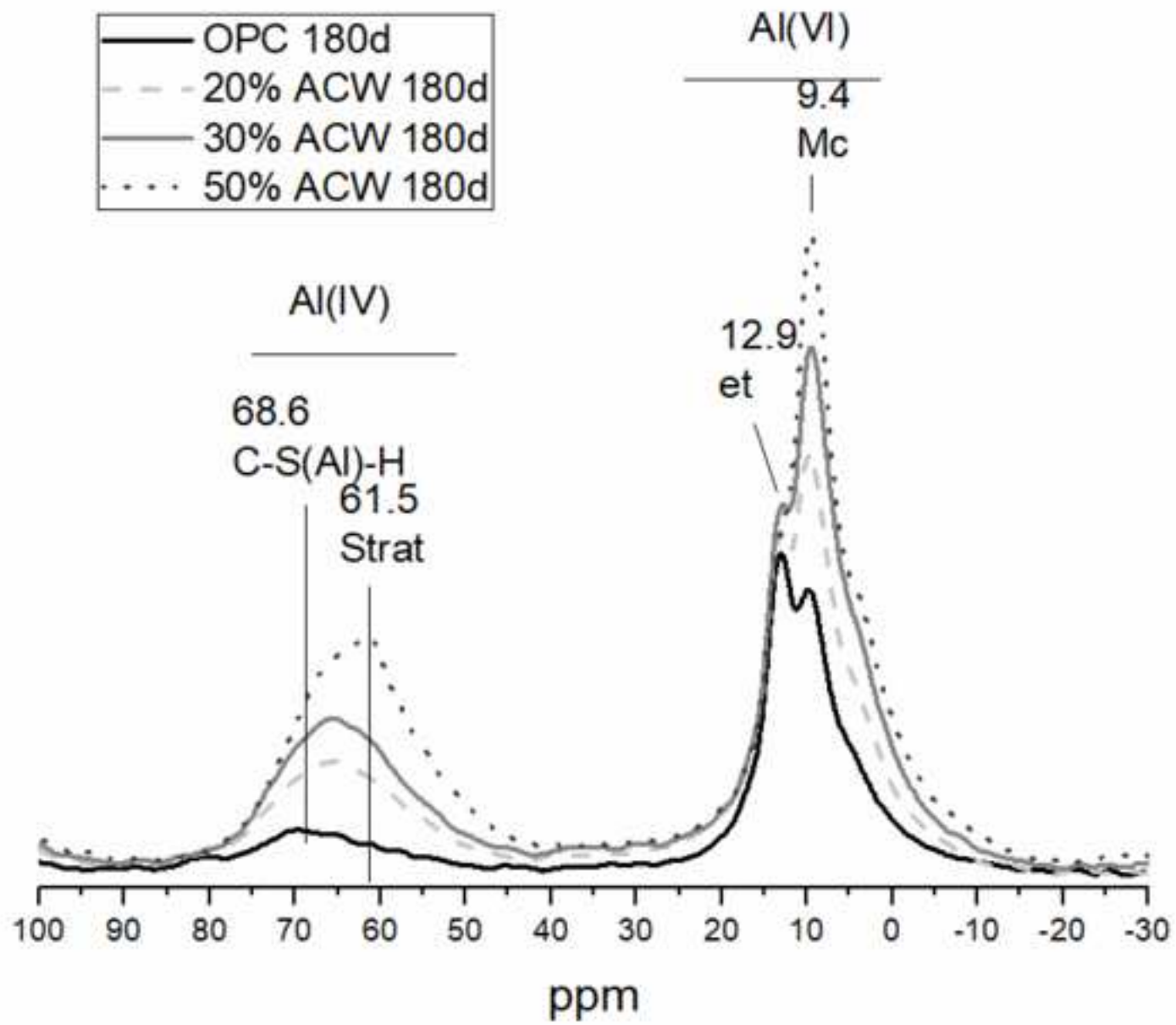


Figure 10

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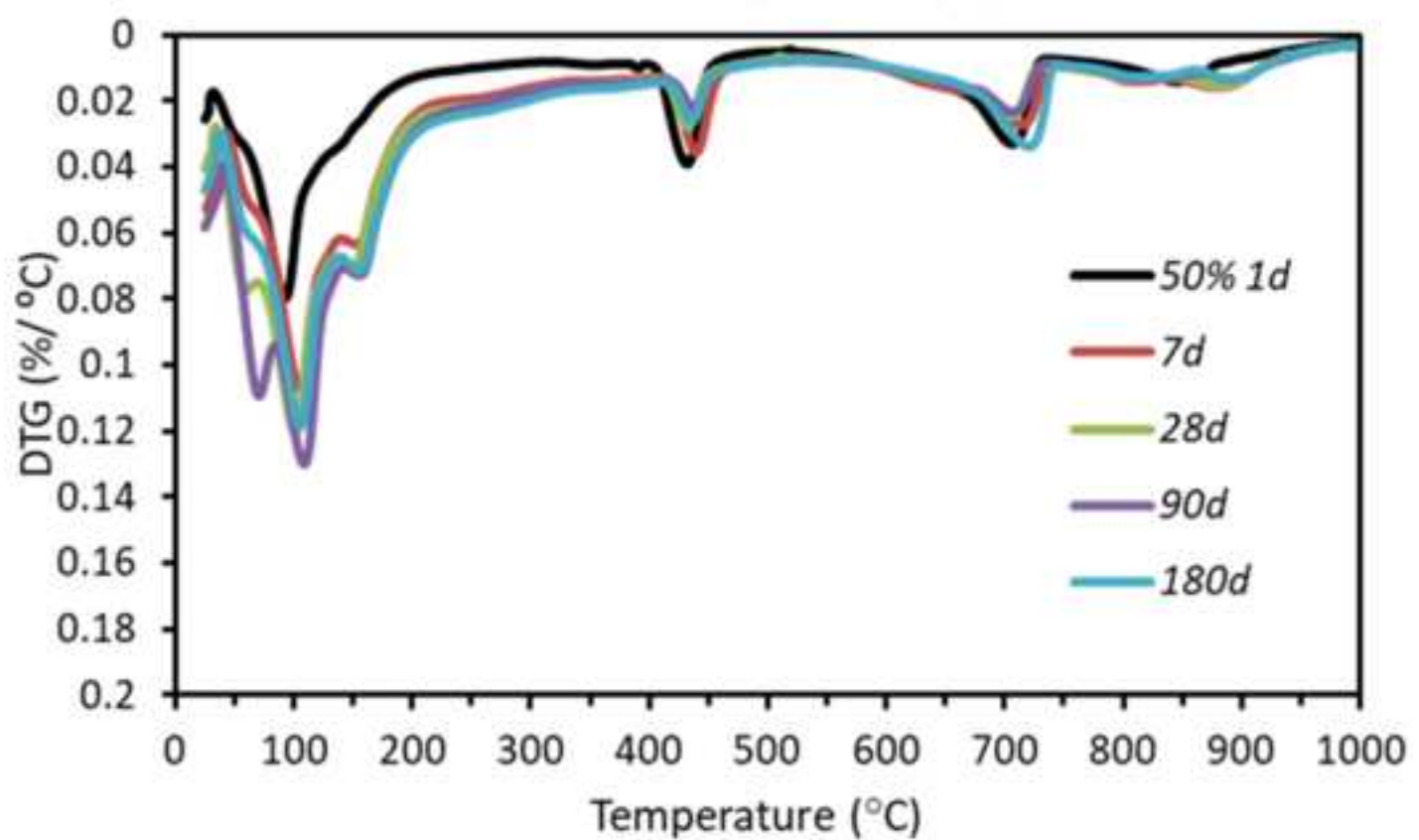
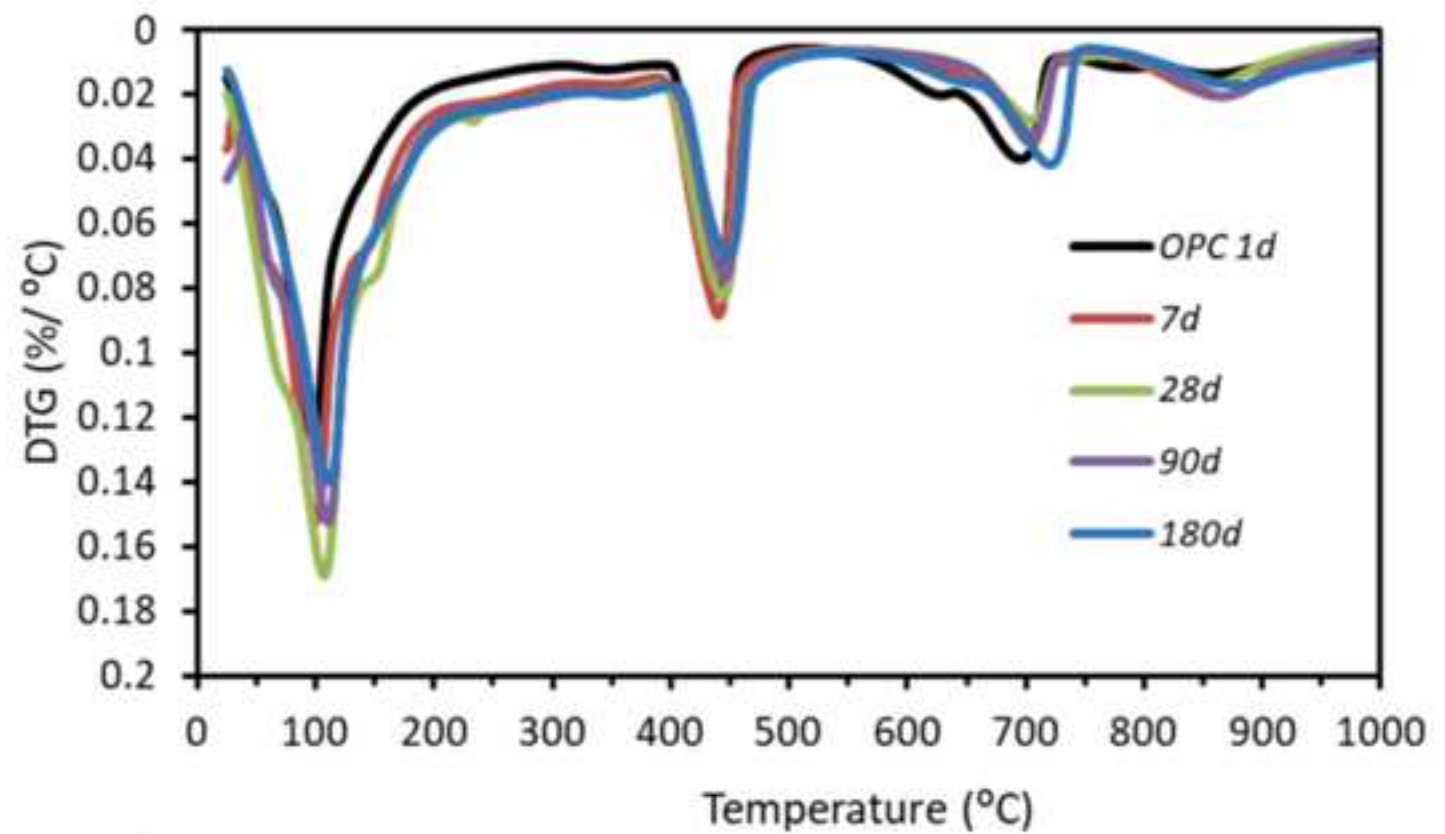
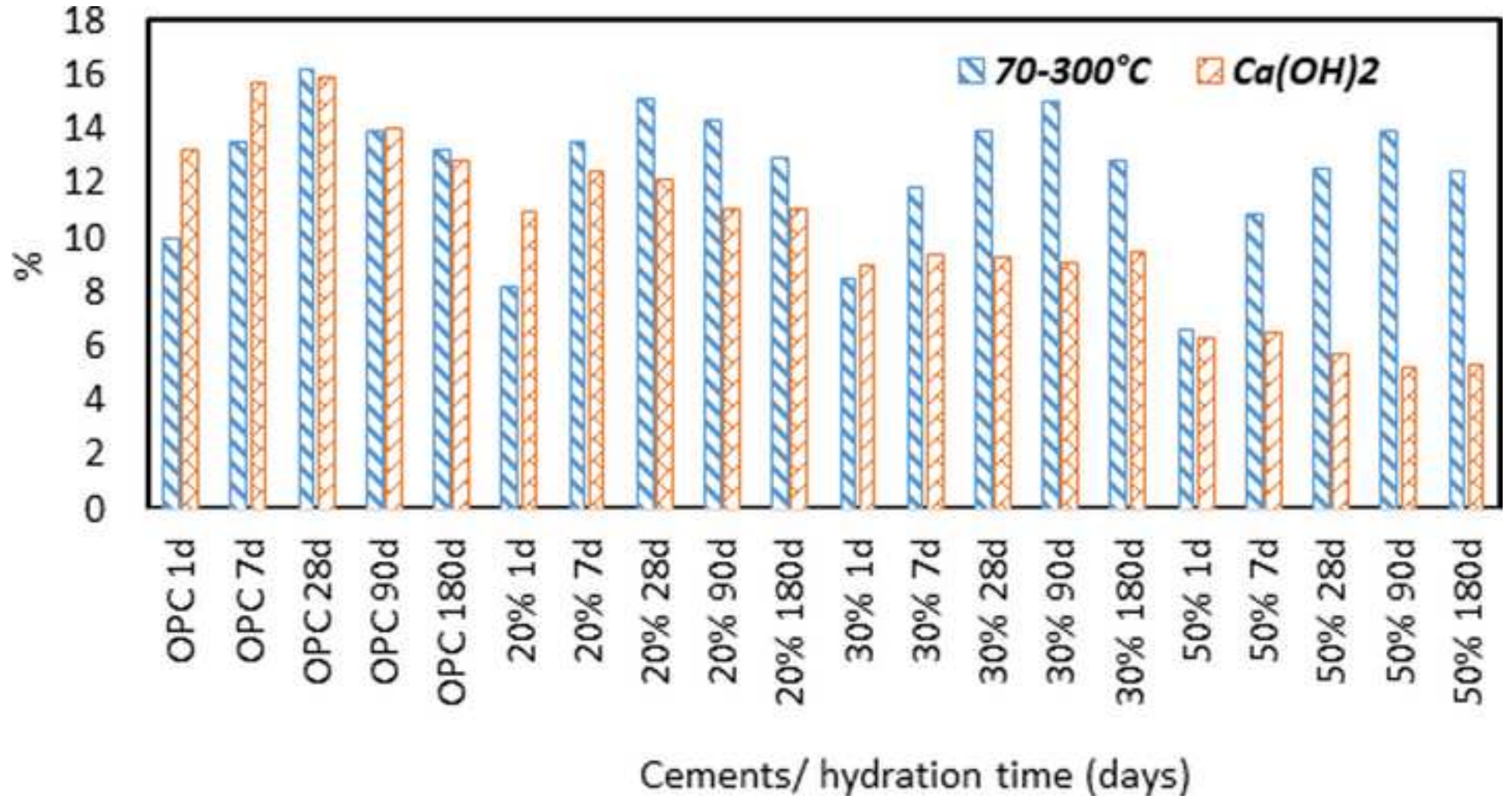


Figure 11
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The use of industrial waste as a cement addition often changes the composition and development of the hydrated phases and with them matrix performance and durability, in particular at later ages. The effect of the presence in blended cement of 20% to 50% Kaolinite based activated carbon waste (ACW) on paste hydration has been characterized by means of XRD, SEM/EDX, TG/DTG, NMR and FTIR to identify and monitor the mineralogical phases forming in materials at ages of up to 180 d. The results showed that the main reaction products forming in the first 7 d included C-S-H gels, C_4ACH_{12} and C_4AH_{13} (hydroxy-AFm). Whilst monocarboaluminate (Mc) content declined with rising percentages of ACW, the amount of hexagonal phase hydroxy-AFm rose generally speaking. Then microstructure of the C-S-H gels developing in the OPC and the 50% added paste differed. Compact C-S-H gel plates, and phyllosilicate-like laminar spongy microplates with high polymerised C-S-H gel formed in the blended cement paste.