Title (A novel method of crushing glass aggregates to reduce the alkali-silica reaction)

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Abstract (150 words)

This study proposed a novel method of crushing glass aggregates to reduce the alkali-silica

reaction (ASR). Glass aggregates were crushed while immersed in different calcium bearing

solutions. ASR measurement and compressive strength tests of mortars incorporating the glass

aggregate were performed to investigate the feasibility of the crushing method. The results

indicate that the crushing method was effective in both ASR mitigation and compressive strength

improvement. Calcium nitrite solution was found to be more effective than calcium chloride

solution for mitigating ASR damage. The ASR expansion after 14 days, measured in accordance

with ASTM C1260, was 0.228% when the glass aggregates were conventionally crushed in air,

which is potentially unsafe. This value decreased to 0.082% when the aggregates were crushed in

calcium nitrite solution, a value which is considered innocuous. The compressive strength of the

mortar was enhanced by approximately 12% compared to that of a mortar with conventionally

crushed glass aggregate by incorporating glass aggregates crushed in calcium nitrite solution.

Keywords: Aggregates; alkali-silica reaction; glass aggregate; recycling; crushing

1. Introduction

2	Although more than 80% of waste glass is reused in the glass industry, it still causes a significant
3	environmental problem because an enormous amount of glass is consumed in urban areas (Rahim
4	et al. 2015). The construction industry has made efforts to recycle waste glass as a building
5	material for decades. Numerous researchers have found that waste glass can be used as a cement
6	and/or aggregate replacement. The effects of glass particle size are also reported (Cota et al. 2015;
7	Du and Tan 2013; Xie et al. 2003; Rajabipour et al. 2010; Lee et al. 2011; Idir et al. 2010a;
8	Yamada and Ishiyama 2005; Bažant et al. 2000; Shi et al. 2005; Kim et al. 2014, 2015; You et al.
9	2016; Zheng 2016; You et al. 2019; Kalakada et al. 2020). Incorporating glass particles as
10	aggregates causes the alkali-silica reaction (ASR) to occur (Cota et al. 2015; Du and Tan 2013;
11	Xie et al. 2003; Rajabipour et al. 2010; Lee et al. 2011; Idir et al. 2010a; Yamada and Ishiyama
12	2005), while fine glass powder is helps to mitigate ASR (Bažant et al. 2000; Shi et al. 2005; Kim
13	et al. 2014, 2015; You et al. 2016; Zheng 2016; You et al. 2019; Kalakada et al. 2020) and
14	increases resistance to chloride penetration (Kalakada et al. 2020; Chen et al. 2006; Shayan and
15	Xu 2006; Tan and Du 2013; Guo et al. 2015; Kou and Poon 2009; Lee et al. 2018; Zidol et al.
16	2017; Wang et al. 2009; Jain et al. 2020). Most of the recent research is focused on the use of
17	glass powder as a partial substitute for cement binder for various purposes (Jain et al. 2020;
18	Kalakada et al. 2020; Duan et al. 2020; Mohammadyan-Yasouj and Ghaderi 2020; Shoaei et al.
19	2020; Rodier et al. 2020; Kadik et al. 2020; Adesina and Das 2020; Bostanci 2020). Although the
20	use of glass in a powdered form is beneficial from the mechanical point of view, powdering the
21	glass consumes a significant amount of energy, which increases the cost.

Recent studies found that a highly expansive ASR gel with a low Ca/Si ratio is formed in the residual cracks of a glass aggregate (Rajabipour et al. 2010). Clearly, such a gel would fracture the glass aggregate. Gholizadeh-Vayghan et al. (Gholizadeh-Vayghan and Rajabipour 2017b,a)

found that the expansibility of the ASR gel decreases with increasing Ca/Si ratio. ASR gels with a Ca/Si ratio exceeding 0.5 did not cause any detrimental expansion.

Other experimental works found that the Ca/Si ratio of the ASR gel in the glass cracks is much lower than that at the glass paste interface (Rajabipour et al. 2010; Shim 2019; Liaudat et al. 2019). This is because of calcium ions originating from the paste neighboring the glass particles. The chemical compositions of the ASR gel in the cracks and at the interface are consistent with the availability of calcium ions in each region. A high Ca/Si ratio would help to decrease expansibility of the gel between the crack surfaces, but any diffusive migration of calcium ions may not be sufficient to increase the Ca/Si ratio.

This argument suggests artificially increasing the concentration of calcium ions in the residual cracks of glass aggregates in advance of use as a partial aggregate substitute. After the crushing procedure to produce glass aggregates, numerous residual cracks form on the surface of aggregate. A high concentration of calcium ions may decrease the expansibility of the ASR gel in the residual cracks. The higher the Ca/Si ratio is, the less expansive the ASR gel is. Furthermore, a gel with a high Ca/Si ratio would seal residual cracks preventing the migration of harmful ions into residual cracks.

In this paper, a novel method is proposed to reduce the ASR of glass aggregates. Instead of the conventional procedure, i.e., crushing waste glass in air, the waste glass was crushed in a calcium solution, and we refer to this process as the immersion-crushing (IC) process. Different types and concentrations of calcium solutions were tested to investigate their effects on the mitigation of the ASR. A control group was set up to compare the mitigation effect of the IC process on ASR. In the control group, the waste glass was crushed in air before being immersed in the solution.

We refer to this process as the immersion-after-crushing (IAC) process. Finally, the effect of the IC process on the compressive strength development was investigated.

There are several advantages of incorporating waste glass in construction materials by using the immersion-crushing process proposed in this study. Normally, waste glass must be ground to a fine powder to mitigate ASR, which consumes a significant amount of energy. The proposed process makes it possible to recycle waste glass in concrete as aggregates, contributing not only to the mitigation of the ASR, but also to improvement of the compressive strength, saving time and resources.

2. Experimental procedure

2.1 Materials

Type-I Portland cement (PC) was used as the binder. The glass aggregates were produced by crushing waste soda-lime glass (SG) bottles. The waste glass was obtained from a company which collects domestic waste glass in Korea (Sungin 2019). Their chemical compositions are given in Table 1.

Table 1: Chemical compositions of cement and glass aggregates.

Content (%)	Ca0	Al_2O_3	SiO ₂	Fe_2O_3	MgO	SO_3	Na ₂ O	K ₂ O	LOI
PC	61.94	4.73	20.72	3.72	3.07	2.31	0.01	1.00	2.56
SG	9.49	2.82	67.13	0.01	1.83	0.01	14.01	0.8	0.30

It requires calcium compounds with high solubility to prepare high concentration calcium ionic solutions. Calcium chloride, a widely used deicing salt, was used as a source of calcium. However, it will bring chloride ions into concrete results in the corrosion of rebar. Alternatively, calcium

nitrite, an extensively used corrosion inhibitor (Al-Amoudi et al. 2003; Ann et al. 2006; Loulizi et al. 2000; Song et al. 2019; Dong et al. 2018), was used as another source of calcium to investigate the effect of calcium sources on the mitigation of ASR. 0.5 and 1.0 M calcium solutions were prepared for each calcium compound, respectively, to study the effect of the calcium concentration.

2.2 Preparation of glass aggregates

Two different processes were adopted to crush the waste glass into glass aggregates. The first was crushing the solution-immersed glass, i.e., the immersion-crushing (IC) process. The second one was crushing the glass in air and then immersing the aggregates in the solutions, i.e., the immersion-after-crushing (IAC) process. A reference group was prepared by crushing waste glass in air without immersion in or exposure to any solutions. A detailed description of the crushing process is as follows.

2.2.1 Immersion-crushing process

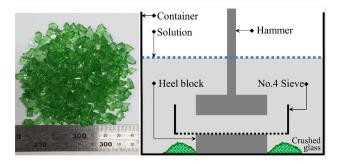


Figure 1: Glass sample and crushing process of the waste glass.

After being washed and dried, the prepared glass bottles were crushed while immersed in each of the respective calcium solutions. A schematic of the IC process is shown in Fig. 1. Only glass particles that passed through a 4.75 mm square hole wire mesh sieve were collected.

The 0.5 and 1.0 M calcium nitrite and calcium chloride solution immersion-crushed glass particles were denoted as IC-0.5CN, IC-1.0CN, IC-0.5CC, and IC-1.0CC, respectively.

Any solution remaining on the surface of the glass particles after the IC process may contribute to the ASR mitigation. To check this contribution, the glass particles crushed in calcium nitrite were washed using deionized water and denoted as IC-0.5CN-W and IC-1.0CN-W, respectively. Glass particles crushed in deionized water were denoted as IC-H.

2.2.2 Immersion-after-crushing process

Water may quickly migrate into the residual cracks due to capillary action. Thus, the residual cracks may also be filled with calcium solutions because of immersing the glass particles in the solutions for a certain period after crushing in air, i.e., the IAC process. This leads to an expect action that the IAC process may result in the same degree of ASR mitigation as that of the IC process.

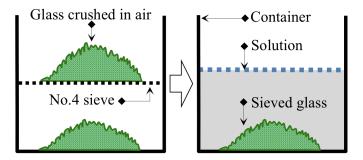


Figure 2: Glass sample and crushing process of the waste glass.

A schematic of the immersion after crushing procedure is shown in Fig. 2. The waste glass bottles were crushed in air, and only the particles passing through the 4.75 mm sieve were collected and

112	immersed in the prepared solutions for 30 minutes. The same solutions as mentioned in Section
113	2.2.1 were used, for comparative study.
114	
115	The glass particles immersed in different concentrations of calcium nitrite and calcium chloride
116	solutions were denoted as IAC-0.5CN, IAC-1.0CN, IAC-0.5CC and IAC-1.0CC, respectively.
117	The particles immersed in the calcium solutions and then washed in deionized water were denoted
118	as IAC-0.5CN-W and IAC-1.0CN-W, respectively. The control group immersed in deionized
119	water was denoted as IAC-H.
120	
121	2.2.3 Grouping of test glass samples
122	The glass particles were weighed after being collected from the solutions. The particles were then
123	moved to an oven preheated to 100.0 ° C and dried for 24 hours. The amount of solution on the
124	particle surface was measured by comparing the weights before and after drying.
125	
126	The larger the glass particles are, the greater the ASR expansion (Idir et al. 2010a; Lee et al. 2011;
127	Du and Tan 2013; Rashad 2014). Glass particles in the range of 2.36 to 4.75 mm were chosen as
128	the aggregates of the test specimens.
129	
130	The identification of the test samples follows that of the glass particles as presented in Table 2.
131	
132	Table 2: Grouping and notation of the test samples.
	Solutions Immersion-crushing (IAC) (IC) Immersion-after-crushing (IAC)

Deionized water	IC-H	IAC-H
0.5 N CaCl ₂	IC-0.5CC	IAC-0.5CC
1.0 N CaCl ₂	IC-1.0CC	IAC-1.0CC
0.5 N Ca(NO ₂) ₂	IC-0.5CN	IAC-0.5CN
$1.0 \text{ N Ca}(\text{NO}_2)_2$	IC-1.0CN	IAC-1.0CN
0.5 N Ca(NO ₂) ₂ *	IC-0.5CN-W	IAC-0.5CN-W
1.0 N Ca(NO ₂) ₂ *	IC-1.0CN-W	IAC-1.0CN-W
Crushed in the air		None
All sand aggregates		Sand

^{*}Washed after immersion-crushing in the corresponding solution.

2.3 Specimen preparation and test methods

Mortar bars were prepared using the glass aggregates in accordance with ASTM C1260, as shown in Fig. 3. Coarse aggregates were not included in this study. The mix proportion of water, cement and sand was 0.47:1:2.25, where 20% by weight of the sand was replaced by glass aggregate. A reference group was prepared only using sand that was denoted as "Sand". An accelerated ASR test was performed in accordance with ASTM C1260. The average value of the results obtained from three mortar samples was reported as the measure of the ASR expansion.

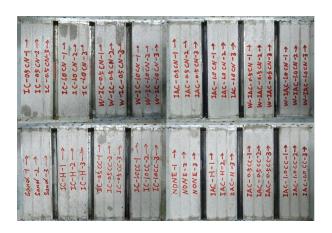


Figure 3: Mortar bars before demoulding for the ASR test.

The influence of the IC process on strength development of the mortars was evaluated by the compressive strength test. Cubic mortar specimens were prepared in accordance with JGJ/T 70-2009 using the same mixtures as those of the ASR test, as shown in Fig. 4. Nine sets of mortar blocks were prepared. Each set comprised three samples. The compressive strength was measured after 90 days curing at a temperature of 23 ± 2 °C and a relative humidity of more than 95% with a universal testing machine. The average strength of the three mortar specimens having the same mixture was recorded.

11 sets of mortar bars and mortar blocks were prepared. Each set comprised three samples.

mortar blocks ($70.7 \times 70.7 \times 70.7 \text{ mm}^3$) were prepared using the prepared glass aggregates.



Figure 4: Mortar blocks for the compressive strength test.

3. Results and discussion

3.1 ASR expansion of immersion-crushing process glass aggregates

The ASR expansion of the specimens incorporating glass aggregates obtained by the IC process is shown in Fig. 5. The ASR expansion was slightly reduced when the glass was crushed in water (IC-H). Kokura et al. (Kokura et al. 1989; Tomozawa et al. 1991) found that there were less defects on the surface of glass particles crushed in water by electron spin resonance (ESR). When

the glass was crushed while immersed in calcium solution, the mitigation of ASR expansion was remarkable for all the calcium solutions considered in this study.

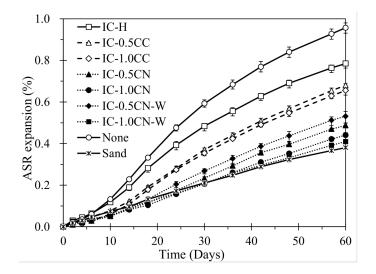


Figure 5: ASR expansion of mortar bars incorporating the glass aggregates produced by

the IC process.

Calcium nitrite solution (IC-0.5CN and IC-1.0CN) mitigated ASR more effectively than calcium chloride solution (IC-0.5CC and IC-1.0CC) as shown in Fig. 5. This improvement may be the consequence of the accelerated hydration of cement by calcium nitrite (Li et al. 2000, 1999). The cement particles in contact with the calcium nitrite in the cracks produce calcium silicate hydrate (C-S-H) gel during the initial hydration stage. This C-S-H gel plugs the residual cracks and decelerates the penetration of external alkali ions into the residual cracks, as schematically shown in Fig. 6. As shown in Fig 6b, a protective layer is formed around the glass aggregate by the hydrated particles, especially near the residual cracks, and consequently ASR expansion is reduced (Idir et al. 2010b; Maraghechi et al. 2017; Shafaatian et al. 2013).

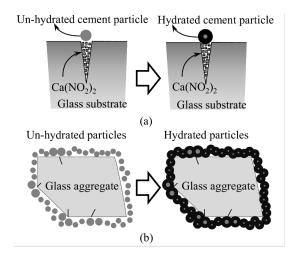


Figure 6: Schematic description to explain the blocking effect of the C-S-H gel: (a) micro-scale,

and (b) macro-scale.

A concentration of 0.5 M is sufficient to form this protective mechanism. The difference in the expansion was marginal when 1.0 M was tested as shown in Fig. 5. Although the optimum concentration was not determined, it can be seen from the sand line in Fig. 5, that the difference between 1.0 M calcium nitrite solution immersion-crushed glass and sand after 60 days is small.

Even after drying, there is residual calcium compound on the glass aggregate surface due to residual solution. This residual calcium compound is dissolved into the concrete matrix during mixing and may contribute to the mitigation of ASR. The content of the residual solution is shown in Fig. 7. The average solution content was approximately 5% by weight for both calcium chloride and calcium nitrite solutions. This is a considerably low value to mitigate ASR expansion (Kawamura and Ichise 1990; Li et al. 1999; Prezzi et al. 1998; Li et al. 2000). Furthermore, for IC-0.5CN-W and IC-1.0CN-W the effects of residual solution were eliminated by washing the aggregates in water after the IC process, as shown in Fig. 5, despite this however, the same trend of ASR mitigation was observed.

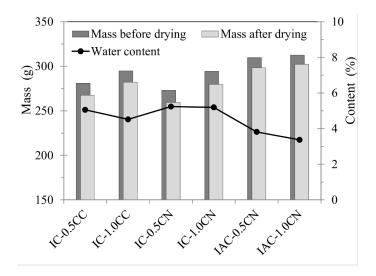


Figure 7: Content of the residual solution on the surface of the glass particles.

Fig. 8 shows the relative ASR expansion of the mortar bars normalized to the sample group 'None'. The reference samples incorporated only the conventionally crushed glass aggregates. The figure shows that the ASR expansion was reduced by 20%, simply by crushing the glass in water (IC-H). The ASR reductions when the aggregates were crushed in the calcium chloride (IC-0.5CC, IC-1.0CC) and calcium nitrite solutions (IC-0.5CN, IC-1.0CN, IC-0.5CN-W, IC-1.0CN-W) were remarkably approximately 40% and 60%, respectively.

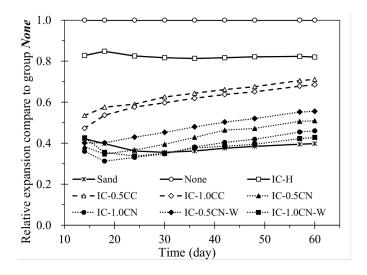


Figure 8: Relative ASR expansions of specimens compared to the control group, None.

The ASR expansion after 14 days is shown in Fig. 9. An expansion greater than 0.2% after 14 days is considered potentially unsafe and an expansion less than 0.1% innocuous, according to ASTM C 1260. Therefore, the conventionally crushed glass ('None') presents an ASR risk. Crushing the glass in calcium chloride solutions (IC-0.5CC, IC-1.0CC) effectively reduced the expansion, but the expansion after 14 days still slightly exceeded 0.1%. The glass aggregates crushed in calcium nitrite solutions (IC-0.5CN, IC-1.0CN, IC-0.5CN-W, IC-1.0CN-W) was innocuous according to the ASTM C1260 criterion, despite some of them being washed after crushing. Remarkably, the ASR expansion of three of the calcium nitrite samples was lower than that of the specimens in which only sand was incorporated as aggregate ('Sand') after 14 days.

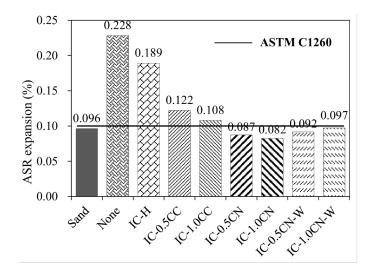


Figure 9: Effects of the crushing methods on the ASR expansion after 14 days.

3.2 ASR expansion of immersion-after-crushing prepared glass aggregates

Fig. 10 shows the ASR expansion of specimens incorporating the glass aggregates prepared by the IAC process. It is interesting to note that the immersion of glass particles in the solutions after they were crushed in the air did not affect the ASR expansion. The expansion after 14 days is about 0.2%, regardless of the solution in which particles were immersed. The difference in ASR expansion according to different conditions was insignificant, and even after 60 days, only ranged from 0.88% to 0.95%.

There are two possible explanations for the marginal effect of the IAC process on ASR expansion. The IAC process did not affect the physical characteristics of the glass particles, such as reducing the surface defects resulting from the IC process. Most of the residual cracks in the glass particles had closed channels at one end with widths of approximately 2-5 µm (Maraghechi et al. 2012). The capillary action of closed-end nano-channels is limited because of the gas pressure inside the capillary (Radiom et al. 2010; Lim et al. 2014, 2019). Thus, it is difficult for calcium ions to ingress into cracks solely by immersion for 30 minutes after the glass aggregates have been crushed in air.

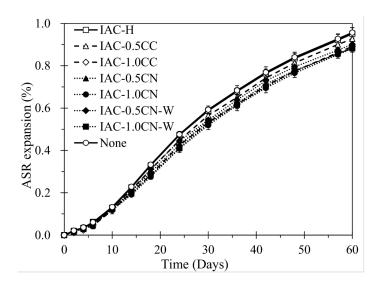


Figure 10: ASR expansion of mortar bars incorporating the glass aggregates produced by the IAC process.

3.3 Appearance of the test samples after 60 days

The appearance of the mortar bars after 60 days of accelerated ASR testing is shown in Fig. 11. The results agree well with the ASR expansion results shown in Figs. 5 and 10. A small number of visible cracks were observed in the specimens incorporating the aggregates prepared using the

IC process. Almost no visible cracks were observed on the surface of the specimens incorporating the aggregates crushed in the calcium nitrite solutions (IC-0.5CN and IC-1.0CN). This confirms that crushing the glass aggregates in calcium nitrite solution can effectively mitigate ASR expansion. A number of cracks were

observed in the specimens which contained glass aggregates produced by the IAC process.

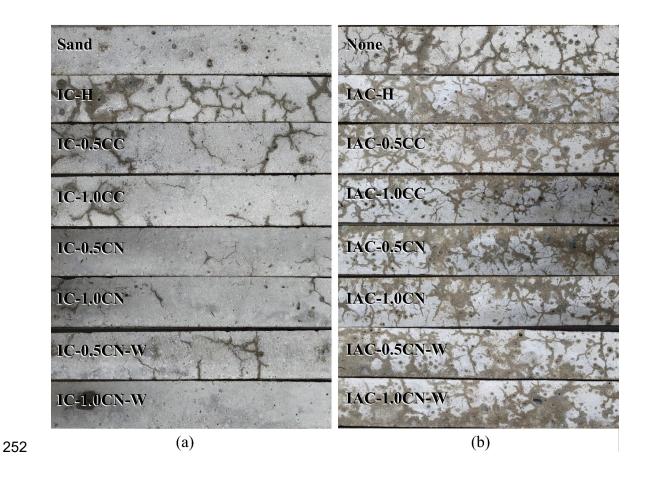


Figure 11: Photos of mortar bars subjected the accelerated ASR test for 60 days: (a) IC,

254 and (b) IAC.

3.4 Effect of the immersion-crushing process on the compressive strength

The compressive strength of specimens incorporating glass aggregates crushed in different solutions is shown in Fig. 12. The compressive strength was reduced by about 6.0% by replacing 20% of the sand with the conventionally crushed glass aggregates ('None'). Crushing the glass in water (IC-H) or calcium chloride solutions (IC-0.5CC, IC-1.0CC) has no measurable effect on the compressive strength. However, crushing the glass in calcium nitrite solution (IC-0.5CN, IC-1.0CN) increased the compressive strength by about 12%. This compressive strength even exceeds that of the 'Sand' group. The compressive strength was slightly decreased by washing the glass aggregates after they were crushed in the calcium nitrite solution (IC-0.5CN-W, IC-1.0CN-W). While, similar to the ASR results, the concentration of the calcium solution had no noticeable effect on the compressive strength.

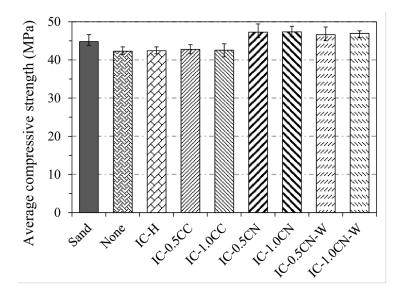


Figure 12: Effect of the immersion-crushing process on the compressive strength after 90 days of curing.

5. Conclusions

275	Glass aggregates were crushed while immersed in different calcium solutions. The effects of this
276	novel crushing process on ASR and compressive strength were investigated experimentally. The
277	conclusions of this research are summarized as follows:
278	
279	(1). ASR of glass aggregates can be dramatically mitigated by crushing them while immersed in
280	calcium solutions. However, the effect is marginal if the crushed glass aggregates are immersed
281	in calcium solutions after being crushed in air.
282	
283	(2). Calcium nitrite solution is more effective than calcium chloride solution for ASR mitigation.
284	ASR expansion mitigation was approximately 40% and 60% for calcium chloride and calcium
285	nitrite solutions, respectively.
286	
287	(3). The mortar bars incorporating glass aggregates crushed in calcium nitrite solution exhibited
288	innocuous ASR behaviour according to ASTM C1260 criterion, i.e., ASR expansion after 14 days
289	is less than 0.1%.
290	
291	(4). The compressive strength of specimens incorporating glass aggregates crushed in calcium
292	nitrite solution was increased. Its value after 90 days of curing was approximately 12% higher
293	than that of specimens incorporating conventionally crushed glass aggregates, and approximately
294	5.3% higher than the specimens with exclusively sand aggregate.
295	
296	
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