

# Investigation into delayed ettringite formation.

Queen Mary and Westfield College - Chloride



Description: -

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## Delayed ettringite formation (DEF)

They have been observed in bridges, dams, and most recently in nuclear power plants. DEF-induced damage is not a common phenomenon in concrete. DEF can be prevented by limiting the internal concrete temperature to 70 oC during its very early life.

## Delayed ettringite formation (DEF)

Mineralogical Magazine, 39 304 , 377—389.

## Chloride

The typology of cracking depends of the state of tension in which the element is subjected, as well as, the density and distribution of the reinforcement. Although the columns were not deliberately heat-cured, it is estimated that the peak internal temperature would have exceeded 70 deg.

## Figure 11 from Influence of relative humidity on delayed ettringite formation

However, as previously discussed, even though the amount of water applied during the mixing and mellowing process is far too low to solubilize sulfates, increased moisture content during mellowing does help optimize the formation of nucleation sites that trigger the development of ettringite crystal growth sites, leading to a well-dispersed or homogeneous formation of ettringite crystals, and does probably speed up the formation of ettringite and the utilization of soluble sulfates during this growth process. Concrete cores tested by the method Duggan, which expand 0.

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