# CHARACTERIZATION AND EVALUATION OF ALKALINE ACTIVATED MORTARS SYNTHESIZED FROM BINARY AND TERNARY BLENDS OF PALM OIL FUEL ASH, GROUND GRANULATED BLAST FURNACE SLAG AND FLY ASH

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by

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Thesis submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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# LIST OF SYMBOLS

GHG green house gasses

SCMs supplementary cementitious materials

MDS Maximum Distance Separable

Eq. Equation

ECC Error Correction Capability

CWT Continuous Wavelet Transform

pdf probability density function

QoS Quality of Service

PR Perfect Reconstruction

UEP Unequal Error Protection

MRC Maximum-Ratio Combining

### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ASTM American Society for Testing and Materials

BS EN British European Standards Specification

POFA Palm oil fuel ash

G-POFA ground palm oil fuel ash
t-POFA Treated palm oil fuel ash
f-POFA Fine palm oil fuel ash

u-POFA Ultrafine palm oil fuel ash

FA Fly-ash

GGBFS Ground Granulated blast furnace slag

MK metakaolin

OPC Ordinary Portland cement
AAB alkaline activated binder

AAS alkali activated slag
XRF X-Ray Fluorescence
XRD X-Ray Diffraction

FTIR Fourier transforms infrared spectroscopy

FESEM Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscopy

EDX Energy dispersive X- ray

DTA Differential Thermal Analysis
TGA Thermo-gravimetry Analysis

LOI Loss on Ignition
MPa Mega Pascal

C–S–H Calcium silicate hydrate

N–A–S–H Sodium aluminosilicate hydrates

C–A–S–H Calcium aluminum silicate hydrate

# PENCIRIAN DAN PENILAIAN MORTAR TERAKTIF ALKALI DISINTESIS DARIPADA CAMPURAN BINARI DAN TERNARI ABU SISA KELAPA SAWIT, SANGA RELAU BAGAS DAN ABU TERBANG TERBANGERGRANUL DAN ABU TERBANG

### **ABSTRAK**

Abu bahanapi kelapa sawit (POFA) dengan kehalusan yang berbeza (t-POFA, f-POFA dan u-POFA) memberi kesan kekuatan mampatan dan mikrostruktur mortar yang berasaskan POFA alkali teraktif. Campuran mortar ultrahalus POFA (u-POFA) alkali teraktif menunjukkan kekuatan mampatan yang tertinggi yang diukur antara 7 dan 28 hari. Pelbagai teknik penganalisaan (XRD, FTIR, dan FESEM-EDX) yang dilakukan pada sampel menunjukkan wujudnya pembentukan C-S-H dan N-A-S-H. Perbandingan telah dibuat secara individu untuk POFA, FA dan GGBFS sebagai mortar alkali teraktif menggunakan kaedah Taguchi. Keputusan kajian menunjukkan bahawa kekuatan mampatan tertinggi pada 28 hari rawatan secara individu POFA, FA dan GGBFS sebagai mortar alkali teraktif adalah masing-masing 41.20 MPa, 51.14 MPa dan 93.97 MPa. Kekuatan mampatan yang tinggi ini boleh dikaitkan dengan pembentukan pengikat gel (C-S-H dan N-A-S-H) dalam mortar alkali teraktif, seperti yang dibuktikan oleh analisis XRD, FTIR dan FESM-EDX. Mortar alkali teraktif binari dan ternari daripada tiga bahan (POFA, FA dan GGBFS) menunjukkan peningkatan kekuatan mampatan yang ketara apabila ditambah kepada kira-kira 25% berat u-POFA untuk campuran binari. Walau bagaimanapun, dalam ternari, kekuatan tertinggi diperolehi daripada 40% berat u-POFA, 20% berat FA dan 40% berat GGBFS. Kajian ini mengesahkan bahawa mortar alkali teraktif yang telah dibangunkan dalam kajian ini mempunyai prestasi yang amat baik apabila terdedah kepada pelbagai persekitaran yang agresif dan menunjukkan kestabilan terma yang tinggi apabila terdedah kepada suhu tinggi sehingga 1000 °C.