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Prediction of Compressive Strengths of Concrete with Partial Fine Aggregate of Plastic Using Artificial Neural Network and Revisions

Predicción de las Resistencias a la Compresión del Concreto con Agregado Fino Parcial de Plástico Utilizando Redes Neuronales Artificiales y Revisiones

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Abstract

In recent past years, plastic waste has been an environmental menace. Utilization of plastic waste as fine aggregate substitution could reduce the demand and negative impacts of sand mining while addressing waste plastic challenges.

This study aims at evaluating compressive strengths prediction models for concrete with plastic -mainly recycled plastic- as partial replacement or addition of fine aggregates, by use of artificial neural networks (ANNs), developed in OCTAVE 5.2.0 and datasets from reviews. 44 datasets from 8 different sources were used, that included four input variables, namely water: binder ratio, control compressive strength (MPa), percentage of plastic replacement or additive by weight and plastic type and the output variable was the compressive strength of concrete with partial plastic aggregates.

Various models were run and the selected model, with 14 nodes in hidden layer and 320,000 iterations, indicated overall root mean square error (RMSE), absolute factor of variance (R^2), mean absolute error (MAE) and mean absolute percentage error (MAPE) values of 1.786 MPa, 0.997, 1.329 MPa and 4.44%. Both experimental and predicted values showed a generally increasing percentage reduction of compressive strengths with increasing percentage of plastic fine aggregate.

The model showed reasonably low errors, reasonable accuracy and good generalization. ANN model could be used extensively in modeling of green concrete, with partial waste plastic fine aggregate. The study recommends ANNs models application as possible alternative for green concrete trial mix design. Sustainable techniques such as low-cost superplasticizers from recycled material and cost-effective technologies to adequately sizing and shaping plastic for fine aggregate application should be encouraged, so as to enhance strength of concrete with partial plastic aggregates.

Keywords: Plastic, fine aggregates, compressive strength, artificial neural network

Resumen

En los últimos años, los desechos plásticos han sido una amenaza para el medio ambiente. La utilización de desechos plásticos como sustitución de agregados finos podría reducir la demanda y los impactos negativos de la extracción de arena al tiempo que aborda los desafíos de los desechos plásticos.

Este estudio tiene como objetivo evaluar modelos de predicción de resistencias a la compresión para concreto con plástico, principalmente plástico reciclado, como reemplazo parcial o adición de agregados finos, mediante el uso de redes neuronales artificiales (ANN), desarrollado en OCTAVE 5.2.0 y conjuntos de datos de revisiones. Se utilizaron 44 conjuntos de datos de 8 fuentes diferentes, que incluían cuatro variables de entrada, a saber: relación agua: aglutinante; controlar la resistencia a la compresión (MPa); porcentaje de reemplazo o aditivo de plástico por peso y tipo de plástico y la variable de salida fue la resistencia a la compresión del hormigón con agregados plásticos parciales.

Se ejecutaron varios modelos y el modelo seleccionado, con 14 nodos en la capa oculta y 320.000 iteraciones, indicó el error cuadrático medio general (RMSE), el factor de varianza absoluto (R^2), el error absoluto medio (MAE) y el error porcentual absoluto medio (MAPE) en valores de 1,786 MPa, 0,997, 1,329 MPa y 4,44%. Tanto los valores experimentales como los

predichos mostraron un porcentaje de reducción generalmente creciente de las resistencias a la compresión con el aumento del porcentaje de agregado fino de plástico.

El modelo mostró errores razonablemente bajos, precisión razonable y buena generalización. El modelo ANN podría utilizarse ampliamente en el modelado de hormigón verde, con áridos finos de plástico de desecho parcial. El estudio recomienda la aplicación de modelos ANNs como posible alternativa para el diseño de mezclas de prueba de concreto verde. Deben fomentarse las técnicas sostenibles, como los superplastificantes de bajo costo a partir de material reciclado y las tecnologías rentables para dimensionar y dar forma adecuada al plástico para la aplicación de agregados finos, a fin de mejorar la resistencia del hormigón con agregados plásticos parciales.

Palabras clave: Plástico, agregados finos, resistencia a la compresión, red neuronal artificial

1 Introduction

According to European Environmental Agency [1], plastic—particularly plastic waste—has a significant impact on climate and environment; plastic waste in most cases was not handled in a sustainable way. In recent past years, plastic waste has been a problem environmentally, in land and water bodies. Negative impact of plastic has resulted in bans or restrictions on usage of one or more types of plastic in various countries/regions.

This research evaluates the compressive strength prediction for plastic as partial replacement of fine aggregate in concrete using artificial neural networks (ANNs) and based on data from previous experimental researches. The application of accurate prediction models for green concrete could promote usage and quality control of sustainable building materials. Research by Chandwani *et al.* [2] on modeling slump of ready-mix concrete showed that usage of ANN methodology -developed in MATLAB 2011b and trained using Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm- was superior to regression models for problems due to having various independent variables. Comparative analysis of genetic programming and artificial neural networks (ANNs) techniques -trained using Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm- applied for compressive strength prediction with and without fly ash, indicated that ANN model was most reliable according to Chopra *et al.* [3]. Al-Swaidani and Khwies [4] research, using ANNs established in MATLAB and trained by Levenberg-Marquardt backpropagation on concrete containing volcanic-scoria as cement replacement, 0 % (control) to 35 %, indicated that ANN models were not only practical for compressive strength prediction but also highly efficient for water permeability prediction and porosity, the model performing better than multi-linear regression. Revathy *et al.* [5] carried out a study, where mean absolute percentage error (MAPE) represented the model performance and root mean square error (RMSE) represented the error between experimental and predicted results, for neural network models generated to predict compressive strength and fresh properties of flowable concrete, using MATLAB; they used 34 data set for training, 8 for validation and 8 for testing, using BFGS quasi-newton back propagation training algorithm for neural network. Sathyan *et al.* [6] used random kitchen sink algorithm and regularized least square algorithm; the two applications come together in the grand unified regularized least square (GURLS) tool bar in MATLAB; the training data had 32 datasets and to measure model accuracy 8 test dataset were used; hardened stages of self-compacting concrete were used for modeling. Algorithms of HIV/AIDS model were developed under free GNU octave (5.1.0 version); results indicated the usefulness of computing systems like GNU octave as indicated by Campos *et al.* [34]. A study by Żurek *et al.* [35] on analysis of reliability of technical means of transport was effective for determining expected fitness time, dependent on the reliability function adopted. According to Baumbach [33], hyperbolic tangent or Tanh activation function can overcome disadvantage on non-zero centric function that can affect Sigmoid function, gradient is smooth and values of outputs are in the range of 0 to 1, hence each neuron output is normalized. As indicated by GeeksforGeeks [31], Tanh function is mostly better compared to Sigmoid function, has ranges of -1 to +1, it is not linear and a hidden layer result to 0 or around 0; hence it aids in data centering and making the next layer learning easier.

According to Chunchu and Putta [7], recycled high impact polystyrene could replace up to 30 per cent of natural river sand (by volume) for production of eco-friendly durable and flowable concrete. According to Soboji and Owamah [8], low density polyethylene (LDPE) plastic waste

recycling in concrete is environmentally friendly and it should be encouraged. The concept of plastic waste mixing in concrete could be a very environmentally-friendly method of solid waste disposal in landfills as indicated by Dharmaraj and Iyappan [9]. Waste utilization from rice processing/production for construction could provide alternative sustainable materials, while reducing the burden of solid waste according to Ngandu [10], the same goes for re-used/recycled plastic waste for construction.

The development of accurate models for prediction of concrete incorporated with recycled plastic aggregates could provide a cost-effective tool for specifications, codes of practices, quality control and/or policy guideline. Accurate machine learning tools for modeling concrete with alternative sustainable materials could be less time-consuming and more environmentally friendly as compared to experimental trials/mix designs.

Development of predictive model using data from different experimental research dataset could result in a versatile and generalized model with reasonable accuracy of concrete. This study aims at evaluating prediction of compressive strengths for concrete with plastic -mainly waste/recycled plastic- as partial replacement or addition of fine aggregates. The four (4) input variables included water-binder ratio, control compressive strength (MPa), percentage of plastic replacement or additive by weight and plastic type. Plastic types were classified and allocated numerical values. The output variable was the compressive strength for concrete having plastic aggregate as partial replacement or addition of fine aggregate.

1.1. Plastic/ plastic waste properties, applicability and effect

Research by Jabłońska *et al.* [11] on Polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottle washing waste indicated bulk density of 602.3 ± 63.2 kg/m³, specific density of 1.27 ± 0.14 kg/dm³ and CaO—16 % weight, SiO₂—10.32 % weight, Al₂O₃—4.49 % weight and loss of ignition—61.2 % weight. A study by Saikia and Brito [12] recycled PET aggregates including coarse flakes (PETpc), fine fraction (PETpf) and plastic pellets (PETpp); they reported to have 24 hours water absorption of 0.18 %, 0.25 % and 0.1 % respectively, bulk densities of 351 kg/m³ (PETpc), 555 kg/m³ (PETpf) and 827 kg/m³ (PETpp), with fine aggregate indicating 0.2 % of 24 hours water absorption and 1441 kg/m³ bulk density. Dharmaraj and Iyappan [9] used low density polyethylene (LDPE), for partial replacement of fine aggregate that was grinded (or) shredded (or) pulverized, with specific gravity reported at 0.89, while that of fine aggregate was indicated at 2.7. Soboji and Owamah [8] indicated specific gravity of 0.92 for LDPE. According to Adejumo and Jibrin [13], waste plastics obtained from old/discarded waste plastic tanks in Maitumbi, Nigeria, indicated specific gravity of 2.22, while sand was reported at 2.63.

Concrete with granulated plastic as partial replacement of sand indicated lower compressive strength after 28 days of curing in comparison to the control specimen as indicated by Adejumo and Jibrin [13]. According to Thorneycroft *et al.* [14], generally, plastics substitution in concrete mix cause reduced compressive and tensile strength due to reduced bond strength between the cement matrix and plastic and also failure due to plastic itself and performance could be improved through chemical treatment of plastic aggregated, the study indicated that the most efficient plastic aggregate should be rough, irregular, sufficiently small but with similar grade as the sand it replaces. According to Saikia and Brito [12] PET-aggregate incorporated concrete specimen had significantly lower resultant compressive strengths and the tensile strength to compressive strength ratio observed for all specimen having PET-aggregate were higher compared to conventional concrete, therefore the incorporation of PET-aggregate increases toughness behavior. According to Bolat and Erkus [15] the tendency of decreasing compressive strength by increase of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) ratio as aggregate replacement was attributed to decrease in adhesive strength between PVC surface and cement paste and the hydrophobic nature of PVC, that may resist water necessary for cement hydration from entering the concrete specimen structure during curing. According to Gopi *et al.* [16], compressive strength decreased with increase in percentage of PET as fine aggregate partial replacement was attributed to increase in porosity of concrete and concrete proper bonding not taking place and the PET incorporated concrete indicated better performance for compressive strength up to 10 % of fine aggregate replacement, compared to those partially replaced with polypropylene (PP), attributed to the PET size being near sand gradation. As indicated by Gopi

et al. [16], compressive strength decrease for PP as partial replacement of river sand was attributed to size and shape of PP flakes.

Utilization of waste such as plastic waste as fine aggregate substitution could reduce the demand and negative impacts of sand mining while reducing the quantity of solid waste, while adding value to plastic waste. Reduced slump values of concrete mixes with waste plastic, partial replacement of sand indicated that it can be applied for situations requiring low-degree workability i.e., pre-cast bricks, partition wall panels and so forth, however there was increased workability when superplasticizer was added to plastic-waste-incorporated concrete according to Rai *et al.* [17]. Employment of PET-discarded plastic bottles in concrete is an efficient promising approach of getting rid of such waste as indicated by Shubbar and Al-Shadeedi [18].

2. Materials and methods

2.1. Review and Dataset

Reviewed dataset from previous experimental studies for plastic partial replacement or additive of fine aggregate in concrete was used for this study, with 44 datasets from 8 sources used. Table I shows the data from the review, used for the predictive model and the modifications made on the source data. The percentage of plastic replacement or added was based on weight.

TABLE I: DATASET FROM REVIEWS FOR PLASTIC-INCORPORATED CONCRETE, AND MODIFICATIONS INDICATED

*WB ratio	**Control Strength (MPa)	*§ % of plastic Weight	## Plastic Type values	Compressive Strength / (Averages) (MPa)	Reference
0.44;	#42.5;	§1.93; §3.98; §6.21;	1	#40; #39.5; #39;	Rai <i>et al.</i> [17]
	#44;	§1.93; §3.98; §6.21;	1	#41.5; #40.5; #40;	
0.5	36.97	§0.86; §1.72; §3.45; §6.90;	2	37.56; 41.84; 32.16; 27.51;	Shubbar and Al-Shadeedi [18]
0.29	74.17	§1.21; §2.46; §3.74;	2	66.8; 62.1; 61.23;	∞Al-Hadithi and Alani [19]
0.4	52.7	2.5; 5; 7.5; 10; 12.5;	3	42.5; 39; 32.6; 25.2; 21.2;	Hamid <i>et al.</i> [20]
0.53	#30.25	§§11.5; §§26.1;	3	#27.25; #21.60;	Bolat and Erkus [15]
		§§45.2; §§11.5; §§26.1; §§45.2;		#18.13; #28.00; #25.10; #22.13;	
0.39	#37.25	§§11.5; §§26.1;	3	#32.13; #27.75;	
		§§45.2; §§11.5; §§26.1; §§45.2;		#23.80; #32.50; #30.50; #24.25;	
0.45	33.41	§6.6; §15.7;	3	31.26; 25.67;	Mohammed <i>et al.</i> [21]
0.45	32.19	§5.9; §8.1; §10.6;	4	25.8; 23.9; 23.1;	Burman <i>et al.</i> [22]
		5; 10; 15; 20;		39.99; 38.25; 24.225; 19.55;	
0.45	37.8	25;	2	14.02;	Gopi <i>et al.</i> [16]
		5; 10; 15; 20;		34; 28.05; 21.25; 17;	

NOTES:

*W/B ratio: Water to Binder ratio or Water to Cement ratio;

**Control Strength (MPa): strength/(Averages) at 0% plastic waste or target strength;

#Compressive strength (MPa)/(Averages) estimated from graphs;

§ % plastic by weight calculated from given values in source publication;

##Allocated numerical values for Plastic Type: 1. Waste Plastic from virgin plastic, 2. Polyethylene terephthalate (PET), 3. Polyvinyl chloride (PVC), 4. High density polyethylene (HDPE), 5. polypropylene (PP);

∞Used silica fume 10% cement replacement;

§§ % plastic by weight calculated from given volumes based on specific gravity. Fine aggregate take as 0–4 mm aggregates. The specific gravity of crushed limestone sizes 4.75 mm to 0.075 mm were 2.830 g/cm³ according to Morova and Terzi [23], this value was used to convert volumetric to weight aggregate replacement for up to 4 mm aggregate replacement as indicated by Bolat and Erkus [15], assuming the fine aggregate is the up to 4 mm aggregates and any base value, materials, methods and other factors used for both studies were similar;

*§ % plastic weight replacement as indicated in source/calculated/converted

Table I indicates the compressive strengths used for this study from reviews ranged between 66.8 MPa (adopted from Al-Hadithi, and Alani [19]) and 14.02 MPa (adopted from Gopi *et al.* [16]) for the concrete having partial replacement of fine aggregate with plastic and the percentage of plastic replacement or addition were between 0.86% (adopted/modified from Shubbar and Al-Shadeedi [18]) to 45.19% (adopted/modified from Bolat and Erkus [15]) by weight of fine aggregate. Hasanzade-Inallu *et al.* [24] used ANNs using MATLAB R2019a, to have different input and output variable to ranges that were similar; each variable was normalized by subtraction of its minimum, then divided by its range and the output must be de-normalized by the reverse process. According to Henigal *et al.* [28], we get a better comparison and avoidance of influence of greater value parameters and data are normalized, with data normalization scaled within the range (0,1). Equation (1) is used for normalization; the output is de-normalized to actual values according to Equation (2).

$$ScaledValue = \left[\frac{(OriginalValue - MinimumValue)}{(Max.Value - Min.Value)} \right] \dots \text{Equation (1)}$$

$$OriginalValue = [ScaledValue(Max.Value - Min.Value)] + Min.Value \dots \text{Equation (2)}$$

Ngandu [10] used 51 (70.83%) training dataset, 10 (13.89%) validation/checking dataset and 11 (15.28%) testing dataset. In this study, the overall dataset of 44 was divided into three, including: 31 No. (70.45%) datasets are used for training, 6 No. (13.64%) for validation or checking and 7 No. (15.91%) for testing.

The Dataset were multi-randomized, while the average values of variables for overall and the three categories of dataset were checked to ensure that no extremely biased dataset occur.

The four (4) input variables included water: binder ratio; control compressive strength (MPa); percentage of plastic replacement or additive as fine aggregate by weight and plastic type. Plastic types were classified and allocated numerical values. The output variable was the compressive strength of concrete having plastic aggregate as partial replacement or addition of fine aggregate.

2.2. Artificial Neural Network (ANN)

The study used an artificial neural network with four input variables, one output variable and one hidden layer. Various trials were conducted for varying number of nodes in a hidden layer, between 1 to 21 and/or varying iterations.

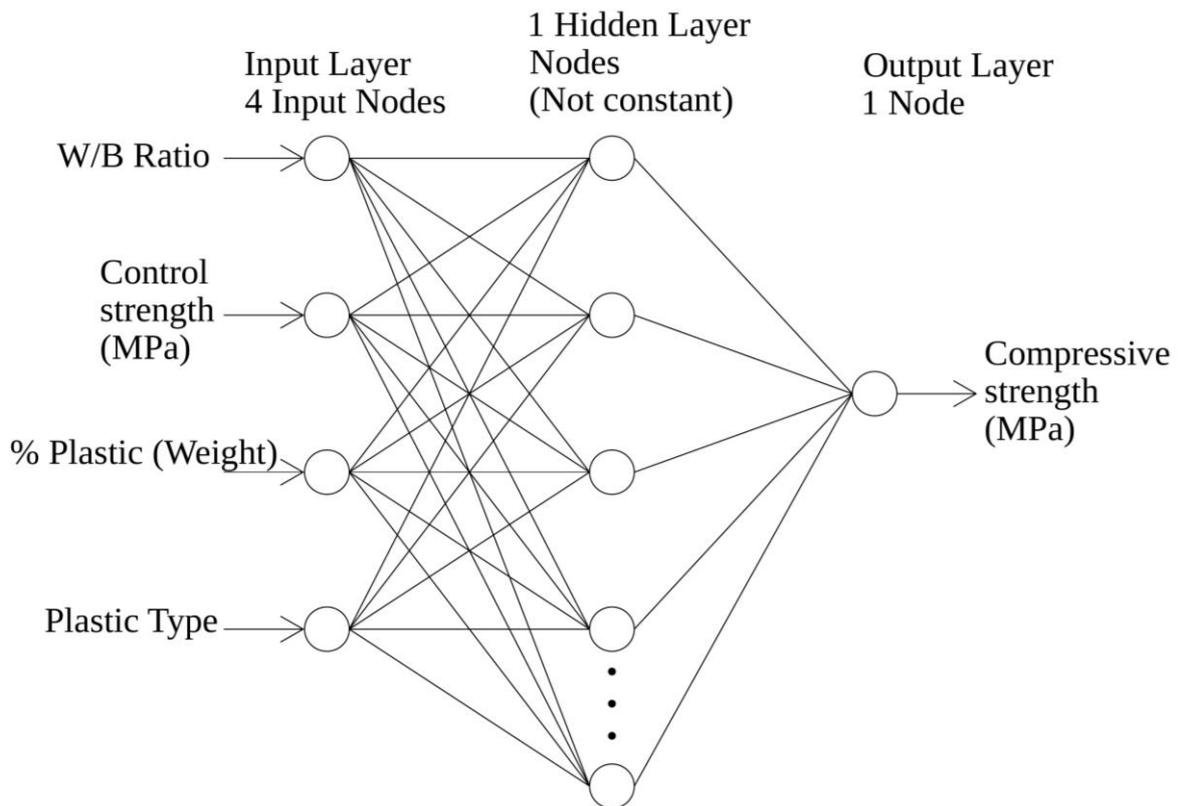
The networks were developed in OCTAVE 5.2.0, a free software according to Eaton *et al.* [29]. An illustration by Oman [30] on developing a neural network on OCTAVE was used in the development of the networks utilized in this study, that adopted the backpropagation algorithm, to train network with a goal of minimizing cost. A tangent activation function was used for both

the hidden and the output layer and the learning rate was kept constant at 0.06. Activation function formulas were in accordance to GeeksforGeeks [31] and Gupta [32] (<https://www.analyticsvidhya.com>).

The RMSE was the main indicator used to evaluate or check the performance of the artificial neural networks' trials. Also, the absolute factor of variance (R^2) was calculated for the ANN models. After training the networks, validation/check dataset was used to indicate how well the particular models had trained, as indicated by normalized RMSEs hence majorly used in determining models to proceed to the test dataset.

The architecture of the network is as shown in fig. 1, with 3 layers: input layer with 4 nodes, 1 hidden layer and output layer with 1 node.

FIG. 1: ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORK STRUCTURE WITH THREE LAYERS



2.3. Evaluation of Network(s)

RMSE and R^2 were calculated by OCTAVE and, the RMSE used to evaluate/check the performance of models, for normalized data. The RMSE, R^2 were also calculated by LibreOffice calc spreadsheet. Zhang *et al.* [25] examined the deviation between predicted and experimental values using RMSE, mean absolute percentage error (MAPE) and absolute factor of variance (R^2), the equations (3) and (4). Chandwani *et al.* [26] used six different statistical performance for evaluation that included mean absolute error (MAE) and mean absolute percentage error (MAPE) as shown in equations (5) and (6). Ngandu [10] used the RMSE, R^2 , MAPE and MAE for evaluation of model.

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{m} * \sum_j |t_j - o_j|^2} \dots \text{Equation (3)}$$

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{\sum_j (t_j - o_j)^2}{\sum_j o_j^2} \dots \text{Equation (4)}$$

$$MAE = \frac{1}{m} * \sum_j |o_j - t_j| \dots \text{Equation (5)}$$

$$MAPE = \frac{1}{m} * \sum_j \frac{|o_j - t_j|}{o_j} * 100 \dots \text{Equation (6)}$$

Where o: Experimental Value; t: Predicted value; m: Total no. in the group

Selection of model was based on the RMSE value. RMSE, R², MAE & MAPE were determined for the de-normalized dataset of the selected model.

The percentage differences between the compressive strengths for both experimental and predicted values and control/reference or target strengths (control strength) were calculated based on equation (7). The dataset was clustered based on percentage of plastic replacement or addition as fine aggregates and percentage averages differences were calculated.

$$\%Difference = \frac{(Experimental/predictedstrength(MPa) - Controlstrength(MPa))}{Controlstrength(MPa)} * 100 \dots \text{Equation (7)}$$

3. Results

Table II shows the structure for the selected ANN model, based on the relatively low RMSE exhibited for the three datasets, selected from various networks trials, ranging between 1 to 21 nodes for the hidden layer.

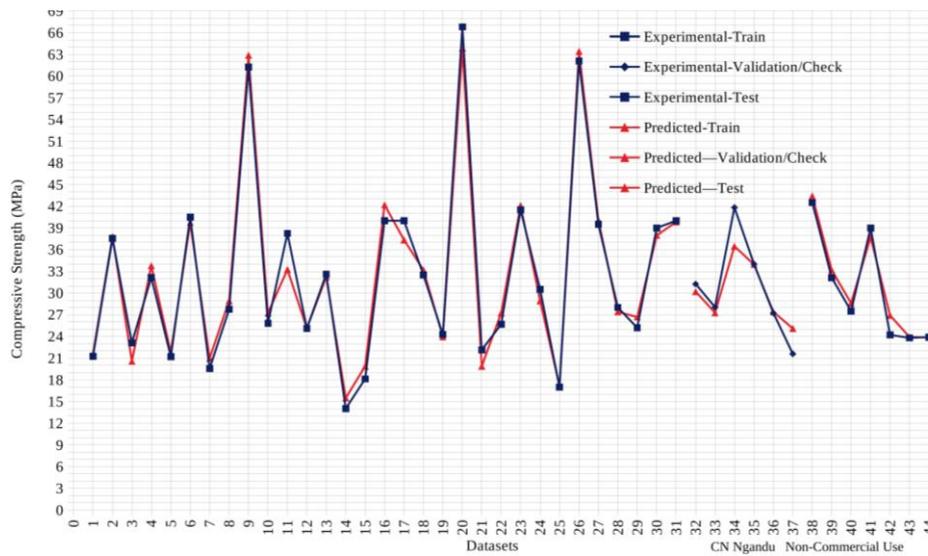
Activation function	Tangent-Tangent
Learning rate	0.06
Hidden layer	1 Layer, 14 Nodes
Iterations	320,000

The RMS, R² MAE and MAPE % values for the selected model is as shown in table III.

	RMSE (MPa)	R ²	MAE (MPa)	MAPE
Overall	1.786	0.997	1.329	4.44
Training	1.661	0.998	1.302	4.35
Validation/Checking	2.671	0.993	1.814	5.97
Testing	1.311	0.998	1.033	3.51

Fig. 2 illustrates the graph for the 44 experimental datasets and the predicted values of compressive strengths.

FIG. 2: GRAPH FOR EXPERIMENTAL AND PREDICTED COMPRESSIVE STRENGTHS



The average percentage differences for compressive strengths of experimental and predicted data, based on the control strength values and clusters of percentage of plastic by weight are shown in table IV.

TABLE IV: AVERAGE PERCENTAGE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CONTROL/TARGET COMPRESSIVE STRENGTHS AND EXPERIMENTAL/PREDICTED STRENGTH VALUES

% Plastic fine aggregate (Weight)	% Averages Experimental	% Averages Predicted
< 2.5 %	-6.05	-7.15
>2.5 %–5 %	-10.82	-10.28
>5 %–10 %	-20.99	-22.80
>10 %–<20 %	-26.08	-25.08
20 % & above	-35.76	-34.27

4. Discussion

The ANN selected model, with 1 layer, 14 nodes and 320,000 iterations, had RMSE values of 1.786 MPa, 1.661 MPa, 2.671 MPa and 1.311 MPa for the overall, training, validation/checking and testing datasets respectively. R^2 values were 0.997, 0.998, 0.993 and 0.998 for the overall, training, validation/checking and testing datasets respectively. MAE values were 1.329 MPa, 1.302 MPa, 1.814 MPa and 1.033 MPa for the overall, training, validation/checking and testing datasets respectively. MAPE values were 4.44%, 4.35%, 5.97% and 3.51% for the overall, training, validation/checking and testing datasets respectively. Revathy *et al.* [5] reported MAPE values of less than 10% for compressive strength, slump flow, v-funnel and L-box flow, an indication of very good performance. According to Tuntisukrarom and Cheerarot [27] a high accuracy prediction ANN model, developed in MATLAB software, had acceptable error and reported RMSEs of 3.339 for training and 3.4569 for testing, among other model performance evaluations, for prediction of compressive strength behavior of ground bottom ash concrete. In this study, for the 3 dataset categories and the overall, MAPE values were below 6%, MAE were below 2 MPa, RMSE were less than 3 MPa and R^2 were above 0.99. Also, the visual impression of fig. 2, illustrates a good matching similarity between the experimental and predicted compressive strengths. Hence, the selected model showed good performance and accuracy in predicting compressive strength of partial replacement or addition of plastic as fine aggregate. Compressive strength ranges from reviewed data used in this study ranged between 66.8 MPa (adopted from Al-Hadithi and Alani [19]) and 14.02 MPa (adopted from Gopi *et al.* [16]) for the concrete with partial replacement of fine aggregate with plastic, a range of

52.78MPa. With consideration to range of compressive strengths inputs and evaluation values, the ANN model showed versatility and good generalization. Most datasets utilized recycled or waste plastic.

The percentage average differences for experimental values were -6.05%, -10.82%, -20.99%, -26.08% and -35.76% for percentage of plastic replacements or additives of < 2.5%> 2.5%–5%>5% –10%> 10%–<20% and >20% respectively, from the control strengths, indicating increasing percentage strength reduction with increasing plastic proportion. For the predicted values, average differences were -7.15%, -10.28%, -22.8%, -25.08% and -34.27% for plastic replacements or additives of <2.5%, >2.5%–5%, >5%–10%, >10%–<20% and >20% respectively, from control values, indicating increasing percentage strength reduction with increasing plastic proportion. Both experimental and predicted strength percentage differences from control generally showed that percentage strength reduction with increasing percentage of plastic fine aggregate. According to Rai *et al.* [17], compressive strengths decreased with waste plastic ratio increase and strength increased by around 5% after addition of superplasticizer. According to Gopi *et al.* [16], compressive strength decreased with increase in the percentage of PET as fine aggregate partial replacement was attributed to increase in porosity of concrete and concrete proper bonding not taking place and the PET incorporated concrete indicated better performance for compressive strength up to 10% fine aggregate replacement, compared to those partially replaced with PP, attributed to the PET size being near sand gradation.

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

Majority data sources adopted for the study applied recycled or waste plastics as partial replacement or additive of fine aggregate in concrete. The selected model showed good performance and accuracy in prediction of plastic fine-aggregate-incorporated concrete with overall RMSE, R², MAE and MAPE values of 1.786 MPa, 0.997, 1.329 MPa and 4.44%. The errors were reasonably low despite the fact that dataset was gotten from different sources where physical, environmental and technological conditions and techniques are expected to vary, also the largest compressive strength value was more than 4 times the smallest from the review. The ANN model showed versatility and good generalization, with consideration to the range of compressive strength input range. Also, the study indicate that the 4-input variable namely: water-binder ratio; control compressive strength (MPa); percentage of plastic replacement or additive as fine aggregate by weight and plastic type could have significant impact on strength of concrete with partial replacement/addition of plastic as fine aggregates.

Analysis of previous data in this study indicates that as the proportion of plastic increased, there was an increasing percentage of compressive strength reduction from the control. A similar trend occurred for the selected predictive model.

The study recommends:

Consideration on application of artificial neural networks (ANNs) models in prediction of green concrete, with partial waste plastic fine aggregate, that could be used extensively for quality control, policy guidelines, code of practice development and also as possible alternative for trial mix design.

Sustainable techniques such as development of low-cost, sustainable superplasticizers from recycled material and cost-effective technologies to adequately size and shape plastic for fine aggregate application should be sort, in an effort to improve compressive strengths of concrete with partial replacement of fine aggregate with plastic.

Proposal for further feasibility studies based on economic and environmental factors, including high proportion partial replacement of natural fine aggregate with plastic aggregate for application in low levels of structural requirements.

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Tables and List of Figures

TABLE I: DATASET FROM REVIEWS FOR PLASTIC-INCORPORATED CONCRETE AND MODIFICATIONS INDICATED

*W/B ratio	**Control Strength (MPa)	% plastic Weight	## Plastic Type values	Compressive Strength (MPa)	Reference
0.44;	#42.5; #42.5; #42.5;	§1.93; §3.98; §6.21;	1	#40; #39.5; #39;	Rai <i>et al.</i> [17]
	#44; #44; #44;	§1.93; §3.98; §6.21;	1	#41.5; #40.5; #40;	
0.5	36.97	§0.86; §1.72; §3.45; §6.90;	2	37.56; 41.84; 32.16; 27.51;	Shubbar and Al-Shadeedi [18]
0.29	74.17	§1.21; §2.46; §3.74;	2	66.8; 62.1; 61.23;	∞Al-Hadithi and Alani [19]
0.4	52.7	2.5; 5; 7.5; 10; 12.5;	3	42.5; 39; 32.6; 25.2; 21.2;	Hamid <i>et al.</i> [20]
0.53	#30.25	§§11.5; §§26.1;	3	#27.25; #21.60;	Bolat and Erkus [15]
		§§45.2; §§11.5; §§26.1; §§45.2;		#18.13; #28.00; #25.10; #22.13;	
0.39	#37.25	§§11.5; §§26.1; §§45.2; §§11.5; §§26.1; §§45.2;	3	#32.13; #27.75; #23.80; #32.50; #30.50; #24.25;	
0.45	33.41	§6.6; §15.7;	3	31.26; 25.67;	Mohammed <i>et al.</i> [21]
0.45	32.19	§5.9; §8.1; §10.6;	4	25.8; 23.9; 23.1;	Burman <i>et al.</i> [22]
0.45	37.8	5; 10;	2	39.99; 38.25;	Gopi <i>et al.</i> [16]
		15; 20;		24.225; 19.55;	
		25;	14.02;		
		5; 10;	5	34; 28.05;	
		15; 20;		21.25; 17;	

NOTES:

*W/B ratio: Water to Binder ratio or Water to Cement ratio;

**Control Strength (MPa): strength at 0% plastic waste or target strength;

#Compressive strength (MPa) estimated from graphs;

§ % plastic by weight calculated from given values in source publication;

##Allocated numerical values for Plastic Type: 1. Waste Plastic from virgin plastic, 2. Polyethylene terephthalate (PET), 3. Polyvinyl chloride (PVC), 4. High density polyethylene (HDPE), 5. polypropylene (PP);

∞Used silica fume 10% cement replacement;

§§ % plastic by weight calculated from given volumes based on specific gravity. Fine aggregate take as 0–4 mm aggregates. The specific gravity of crushed limestone sizes 4.75 mm to 0.075 mm were 2.830 g/cm³ according to Morova and Terzi [23], this value was used to convert volumetric to weight aggregate replacement for up to 4 mm aggregate replacement as indicated by Bolat and Erkus [15], assuming the fine aggregate are the up to 4 mm aggregates and any base value, materials, methods and other factors used for both studies were similar;

TABLE II: STRUCTURE FOR SELECTED ANN MODEL

Activation function	Tangent-Tangent
Learning rate	0.06
Hidden layer	1 Layer, 14 Nodes
Iterations	320,000

TABLE III: ERRORS AND R² FOR SELECTED MODEL

	RMSE (MPa)	R ²	MAE (MPa)	MAPE
Overall	1.786	0.997	1.329	4.44
Training	1.661	0.998	1.302	4.35
Validation/Checking	2.671	0.993	1.814	5.97
Testing	1.311	0.998	1.033	3.51

TABLE IV: AVERAGE PERCENTAGE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CONTROL/TARGET COMPRESSIVE STRENGTHS AND EXPERIMENTAL/PREDICTED STRENGTH VALUES

% Plastic fine aggregate (Weight)	% Averages Experimental	% Averages Predicted
< 2.5 %	-6.05	-7.15
>2.5 %-5 %	-10.82	-10.28
>5 %-10 %	-20.99	-22.80
>10 %-<20 %	-26.08	-25.08
20 % & above	-35.76	-34.27

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FIG. 1: ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORK STRUCTURE WITH THREE LAYERS

FIG. 2: GRAPH FOR EXPERIMENTAL AND PREDICTED COMPRESSIVE STRENGTHS