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Discussion

Reply to the discussion by John Provis of the review paper "*A review: The comparison between alkali-activated slag (Si + Ca) and metakaolin (Si + Al) cements*"☆

Chao Li[a,*], Henghu Sun[a,b], Longtu Li[a]

[a] State Key Lab of New Ceramics and Fine Processing, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Tsinghua University, Beijing 100084, China
[b] School of Engineering and Computer Science, University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA 95211, USA

We want to clarify that there are two mistakes in our original paper [1]. The first one is at p. 1343 (Section 2.1). "The molten slag will separate into two phases: a silica rich phase with composition close to SiO_2 and an alumina rich phase with composition close to $Al_6Si_2O_{13}$". This refers to fly ash but not slag. We are sorry about our carelessness. The other one is about Fig. 5. As Professor John Provis has pointed out, it is actually a representation of a glassy fly ash particle containing a polymerised silicate glass network with minor Ca and Na as network modifiers, not the much more depolymerised glassy structure of a high-calcium slag. Moreover, we agree with other points noted by Professor John Provis.

In our opinion, it is very important to know the differences between alkali-activated slag, metakaolin, and fly ash system as well. However, it needs to be further summarized.

Reference

[1] C. Li, H. Sun, L. Li, A review: the comparison between alkali-activated slag (Si + Ca) and metakaolin (Si + Al) cements, Cem. Concr. Res. 40 (2010) 1341–1349.

☆ The authors are very grateful to Professor John Provis for his interesting and thoughtful discussion of our paper. We are in general agreement with the contents of his discussion, and we appreciate his excellent work to help us in improving the quality of this paper.

* Corresponding author. Postal Address: Room 2609, YIFU Science & Technology Building Tsinghua University, Beijing 100084, China. Tel.: +86 10 62794738; fax: +86 10 62794738.
E-mail address: chao-li07@mails.tsinghua.edu.cn (C. Li).

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