

## Thickness Effect on Concrete Fracture Toughness K1c

**Authors :** Benzerara Mohammed, Redjel Bachir, Kebaili Bachir

**Abstract :** The cracking of the concrete is a more crucial problem with the development of the complex structures related to technological progress. The projections in the knowledge of the breaking process make it possible today for better prevention of the risk of the fracture. The breaking strength brutal of a quasi-fragile material like the concrete called Toughness, is measured by a breaking value of the factor of intensity of the constraints K1C for which the crack is propagated, it is an intrinsic property of material. Many studies reported in the literature treating of the concrete were carried out on specimens which are in fact inadequate compared to the intrinsic characteristic to identify. We started from this established fact, in order to compare the evolution of the parameter of toughness K1C measured by calling upon ordinary concrete specimens of three prismatic geometries different  $(10*10*84) \text{ cm}^3$  and  $(5*20*120) \text{ cm}^3$  &  $(12*20*120) \text{ cm}^3$  containing from the side notches various depths simulating of the cracks was set up. The notches are carried out using triangular pyramidal plates into manufactured out of sheet coated placed at the centre of the specimens at the time of the casting, then withdrawn to leave the trace of a crack. The tests are carried out in 3 points bending test in mode 1 of fracture, by using the techniques of mechanical fracture. The evolution of the parameter of toughness K1C measured with the three geometries specimens gives almost the same results. They are acceptable and return in the beach of the results determined by various researchers (toughness of the ordinary concrete turns to the turn of the  $1 \text{ MPa } \sqrt{\text{m}}$ ). These results inform us about the presence of an economy on the level of the geometrie specimen  $(5*20*120) \text{ cm}^3$ , therefore to use plates specimens later if one wants to master the toughness of this material complexes, astonishing but always essential that is the concrete.

**Keywords :** elementary representative volume, concrete, fissure, toughness

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