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Application of nanodisperse silica for increasing the strength of cement samples

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Abstract

From natural hydrothermal solutions there have been obtained samples of sols and silica powders by the technological scheme: membrane concentration of silica sols; cryogranulation of sols in liquid nitrogen; vacuum-sublimation drying of cryogranules and accumulation of nanopowders. Experiments on studying powders and sols as additives to cements (system of the type: cement-sand-water) are carried out. Silica sols had the content: SiO₂ from 3-62.5% of weights; the sizes of particles 10-100 nm; nanopowders of silica specific surface area 100-400 m²/g; average diameter of pores - 2.7-10 nm. Sols and powders were introduced into the system cement - sand - water in the amount from 0.00001 to 0.2 wt.% of cement. Nanopowders were introduced into the water phase intended for preparation of cement solution, achieved uniform distribution of the powder of particles in the volume of water and combined water with the mixture of cement and sand. Characteristics of firm samples measured at different ages from 3 to 28 days. Influence of nanoadditives on density, strength acquiring rate, terminal compression strength of cement samples depending on mass percent of nanoadditives is established.