

1 **Chloride-binding capacity of hydrotalcite in cement pastes**
2 **containing dolomite and metakaolin**

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16 **ABSTRACT**

17 In this study, we investigated well-hydrated cement pastes containing dolomite and metakaolin
18 cured at 38 °C or 60 °C, which were exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂ solutions of various concentrations.
19 We determined the chloride-binding capacity, the phase assemblage and the composition of
20 hydration phases formed. The dolomite reaction led to the formation of hydrotalcite, which
21 contributed considerably to the chloride binding of the pastes. When the samples were exposed
22 to CaCl₂, significantly more chlorides were bound in the hydrotalcite than when the samples were
23 exposed to NaCl. It was shown that hydrotalcite contained a similar amount of chloride per mol
24 compared to Friedel's salt when exposed to CaCl₂. By mass balance calculations, it was shown that
25 the hydrotalcite formed in the samples containing dolomite can contribute to the chloride binding
26 of the cement pastes to a similar extent as the Friedel's salt formed in the samples containing
27 limestone.

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29
30 **Keywords:**

31 **EDX (B), Thermal Analysis (B), X-Ray Diffraction (B), Durability (C), Blended Cement (D)**

33 1 INTRODUCTION

34 One of the main deterioration mechanisms for reinforced concrete structures is steel
35 reinforcement corrosion. Reinforcement steel in sound concrete is passivated, i.e. does not
36 corrode, due to the high pH of the concrete pore solution. However, in the presence of a sufficient
37 level of chlorides, the steel is de-passivated and corrosion can occur. During the exposure to e.g.
38 sea water or de-icing salts, chlorides ingress through the concrete cover towards the steel. Some
39 chlorides will be free in the pore solution and some will interact with the hydrates in cement paste.
40 In order to estimate the service life of reinforced concrete structures exposed to chlorides, we
41 need to understand the interaction between concrete and chlorides.

42
43 Due to the increasing demand for cements and the need to reduce CO₂ emissions during
44 production, new composite cements containing supplementary cementitious materials (SCMs)
45 are being developed. In order to use these cements in reinforced concrete structures exposed to
46 harsh environments such as marine exposure, there is a need to understand how these new
47 binders interact with chlorides. In this study, we used dolomite and a combination of dolomite
48 and metakaolin as SCMs to replace 40%wt of a Portland cement. We investigated the chloride-
49 binding capacity of the hydrate phase assemblage for these new cements.

50
51 In an ordinary Portland cement, chloride ions have been reported to be physically adsorbed on
52 the C-S-H phase or chemically bound by the formation of chloride-containing AFm phases, e.g.
53 Friedel's salt (3CaO·Al₂O₃·CaCl₂·10H₂O). The use of SCMs can change the phase assemblage of the
54 hydrated cement paste and thereby its chloride-binding capacity [1].

55
56 The addition of metakaolin has been shown to improve the chloride-binding capacity of cement
57 paste. This has been explained with reference to the additional alumina provided by the reaction
58 of metakaolin, which results in the formation of additional Friedel's salt [2,3]. Similar results have
59 been reported for other alumina-delivering SCMs, such as fly ash or ground granulated blast-
60 furnace slags (GGBFS) [1,4–7]. Moreover, the reaction of metakaolin results in the formation of
61 additional C-S-H, which may adsorb additional chlorides [8].

62
63 The addition of dolomite has been shown, depending on curing temperature, curing time, and
64 metakaolin content, to result in the formation of significant amounts of a hydrotalcite-like phase
65 (in the following referred to simply as hydrotalcite) [9,10]. Hydrotalcite is a mineral in the group
66 of layered double hydroxides (LDHs) containing magnesium and aluminium, with the general
67 formula $[\text{Me}^{2+}_{1-x}\text{Me}^{3+}_x(\text{OH})_2]^{x+} [\text{A}^{m-}]_{x/m} \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$. Its crystal structure can be derived from that of
68 brucite. The main layer consists of metals (here abbreviated with Me), specifically magnesium

69 (Me²⁺) and aluminium (Me³⁺) hydroxide octahedra. The substitution of aluminium for magnesium
70 in the main layer charges this layer positively. To maintain electrical neutrality, the interlayer
71 incorporates monovalent or divalent anions (here abbreviated with A) , such as OH⁻, Cl⁻, CO₃²⁻ or
72 SO₄²⁻.

73

74 Several authors observed considerable chloride binding of hydrotalcite, either synthesized as a
75 pure phase [11–13] or formed in GGBFS cement pastes [14,15]. We will investigate chloride
76 binding of hydrotalcite originating from dolomite reaction in composite cements. In this system,
77 the composition of the hydrotalcite differs from the before named studies both by the presence of
78 carbonates or by the Mg/Al ratio of the hydrotalcite. Both factors influence the chloride-binding
79 capacity of hydrotalcite.

80

81 Divalent ions, like CO₃²⁻ are more easily incorporated than monovalent ions, like Cl⁻ [11,12], so
82 CO₃²⁻ ions are seldom exchanged with chloride ions in synthesized hydrotalcite-like phases, and
83 the presence of carbonate ions consequently reduces the chloride-binding capacity [12,13].

84

85 A higher degree of aluminium substitution in the main layer, leading to a lower Mg/Al ratio of the
86 hydrotalcite, increases the positive charge of the main layer. Because the interlayer seeks
87 electrical neutrality, more anions, e.g. chlorides, are incorporated in the interlayer of hydrotalcite
88 with a lower Mg/Al ratio [16]. The reduction of the Mg/Al ratio of the hydrotalcite can be caused
89 by the presence of an aluminium-delivering SCM [10,17,18].

90

91 Moreover, it was reported that chlorides are also physically adsorbed on the surface of
92 hydrotalcite adsorption [13,15].

93

94 The chloride-binding capacity of cements depends strongly on the cation associated with the
95 chloride anion. Several authors have reported significantly greater chloride binding when
96 samples were exposed to solutions of CaCl₂ or MgCl₂ rather than NaCl [1,3,19–23]. This difference
97 has been largely attributed to the difference in the adsorption of chlorides onto the C-S-H and
98 larger amount Friedel's salt. We will investigate whether the cation also influences the binding
99 capacity of the hydrotalcite.

100 This study focuses on the impact of the hydrotalcite formed by the reaction of dolomite fines in
101 the cement paste on the chloride binding of composite cement pastes. For this, cement paste
102 samples in which 40%wt of the Portland cement was replaced by dolomite or by a combination
103 of dolomite and metakaolin were investigated. Cement paste samples containing limestone
104 instead of dolomite and a pure Portland cement sample were used as references. In order to be

105 able to study the effect of hydrotalcite, we needed samples containing sufficient amounts of
106 hydrotalcite. Therefore, we investigate binder compositions containing dolomite and little or no
107 metakaolin and cured at elevated temperatures, which according to an earlier study yielded
108 considerable hydrotalcite formation [10]. Chloride-binding isotherms were experimentally
109 obtained and related to the phase assemblage and phase composition of the solids obtained with
110 XRD, TGA, and SEM-EDS. Additionally, the contribution of hydrotalcite, Friedel's salt, and C-S-H to
111 the chloride binding of the cement pastes was evaluated using a mass balance approach.

112

113 **2 EXPERIMENTAL**

114

115 **2.1 MATERIALS & SAMPLE PREPARATION**

116 The materials used in this study were Portland cement (C) supplied by Norcem, to which gypsum
117 but no limestone was added during grinding, natural dolomite (D), and natural limestone (L)
118 supplied by Miljøkalk AS, and laboratory-grade metakaolin (M) supplied by Imerys
119 (Metastar501). Table 1 shows the chemical composition, determined by X-ray fluorescence (XRF),
120 of the materials used and their Blaine specific surface area. The particle size distributions of the
121 materials used, determined by laser diffraction (Malvern Mastersizer 2000E), are shown in Figure
122 1. Table 2 gives an overview of the various sample compositions prepared. We replaced 40%wt
123 of the Portland cement with either dolomite (60C40D) or a combination of 35%wt dolomite and
124 5%wt metakaolin (60C35D5M). The equivalent samples containing limestone (60C40L and
125 60C35L5M) and the Portland cement sample (100C) were used as references. Cement pastes were
126 prepared with a w/b ratio of 0.5 for all binder compositions in a high-shear mixer (Braun
127 MR5550CA). The mixing procedure was mixing for 30 s, resting for 5 min and mixing again for
128 60 s. The resting time of 5 min was chosen to check for false set of the paste. The resulting pastes
129 were cast in 125 mL polyethylene screw-lid bottles, which were sealed with parafilm and stored,
130 immersed up to their bottleneck, in water at 38 °C or 60 °C. After three months of curing, the
131 hydrated cement pastes were removed from the bottles, crushed in a jaw-crusher and then ground
132 in a rotating disc mill to a particle size <1 mm. The crushed cement paste was poured into 1 L
133 screw-lid polypropylene bottles and 30%wt of deionized water relative to the crushed cement
134 paste weight was added. The bottles were sealed with parafilm and cured for another four months
135 at the respective temperatures. After a total of seven months of curing, the bottles were stored at
136 20 °C for two weeks before starting exposure at 20 °C. This sample preparation led to moist-sand
137 like cement pastes. We chose this way of preparing the samples to maximize the degree of
138 hydration of the binder before exposure and thus minimize any continued hydration during
139 exposure.

140

141 2.2 CHLORIDE EXPOSURE

142 For the exposure, 30 g of the moist-sand-like cement paste was poured into 45 mL centrifuge
143 tubes, to which 15 mL of exposure solution was added using a volumetric pipette. The exposure
144 solutions were solutions of NaCl or CaCl₂ with chloride concentrations ranging from 0.25 to
145 3 mol/L, prepared with deionized water and laboratory-grade salts of NaCl or CaCl₂·2H₂O
146 (supplied by Merck). The reference samples of all mixes were exposed to 15 mL of deionized
147 water. The closed centrifuge tubes were shaken weekly and stored at 20 °C for at least one month
148 to reach equilibrium prior to the investigation.

149

150 2.3 METHODS

151 2.3.1 Investigation of the supernatant

152 The chloride concentration in the supernatant was determined by potentiometric titration. The
153 samples were centrifuged at 4000 rpm for 2.5 min. A known volume (0.2–0.8 mL, depending on
154 the chloride concentration of the exposure solution) of the supernatant was pipetted into a
155 measurement beaker, to which 1 mL of HNO₃ (65% supplied by Merck, and diluted 1:10), 2.5 mL
156 of 0.2% polyvinyl alcohol (supplied by Merck, 2 g was dissolved in 1 L deionized water), and
157 approx. 20 mL of deionized water were added. The chloride content was measured with a
158 Titrand 905 titrator from Metrohm against a 0.1 mol/L AgNO₃ solution (Titrisol, supplied by
159 Merck).

160

161 During the exposure of the cement paste, chlorides from the solution are taken up by the hydrates
162 of the cement paste. The chloride concentration in the solution will therefore decrease. The
163 amount of bound chlorides ($N_{Cl,bound}$) can be calculated as g/g cement paste using Eq. (1) [21].

164

$$N_{Cl,bound} = \frac{(C_{Cl,free} - C_{Cl,eq}) \cdot (V_{H_2O} + V_{Cl,added}) / 1000 \cdot M_{Cl}}{m_{sample} - m_{H_2O}} \quad (1)$$

165

166 where $C_{Cl,free}$ is the actual concentration of free chlorides present at the beginning of the exposure,
167 which can be calculated using Eq. (2); $C_{Cl,eq}$ is the chloride concentration of the supernatant
168 measured at equilibrium; V_{H_2O} is the volume of free water in 30 g of the moist-sand-like hydrated
169 cement paste before exposure; $V_{Cl,added}$ is the volume of exposure solution added (15 mL); M_{Cl} is
170 the molar mass of chlorine (35.453 g/mol); m_{sample} is the mass of the sample added to the
171 centrifuge tube (30 g); and m_{H_2O} is the mass of free water in this 30 g of hydrated cement paste.

172

$$C_{Cl,free} = \frac{C_{Cl,added} \cdot V_{Cl,added}}{V_{H_2O} + V_{Cl,added}} \quad (2)$$

173

174 where $C_{Cl,added}$ is the concentration of chlorides in the exposure solution, which was measured with
 175 potentiometric titration prior to exposure. V_{H_2O} was assumed to be equal to m_{H_2O} and was
 176 determined by the weight loss of the moist-sand-like hydrated cement pastes after drying at 40 °C
 177 in a TGA until constant weight (Table 3).

178 A selection of samples was analysed in triplets. The average standard deviation obtained for the
 179 titrations of samples exposed to NaCl was approx. 10%. For samples exposed to CaCl₂, the average
 180 standard deviation of the titration experiments was approx. 5%. The standard deviations are
 181 indicated with by the error bars in the respective figures.

182 The experimental data obtained from the titration experiments with chloride concentrations from
 183 0–3 mol/L were fitted with a Langmuir isotherm as shown in Eq. (3) [24].

$$N_{Cl,bound} = \frac{\alpha \cdot C_{Cl,free}}{(1 + \beta \cdot C_{Cl,free})} \quad (3)$$

184

185 where $N_{Cl,bound}$ are the amount of bound chlorides, $C_{Cl,free}$ the concentration of free chlorides before
 186 exposure, as described above, and α and β are fitting parameters, which depend on the binder
 187 composition [24].

188 After centrifuging, the pH of the supernatant was measured as well. This was done using a
 189 6.0255.100 Profitrode from Metrohm. The measurements of the pH were performed in the
 190 laboratory at 20 °C. The electrode was calibrated on every measurement day with buffer solutions
 191 of pH 7, 10 and 13.

192

193 **2.3.2 Investigation of the solids**

194 The solid fraction was investigated on all samples exposed to a chloride concentration of 2 mol/L
 195 for NaCl and CaCl₂. The reference samples exposed to deionized water were also investigated.
 196 Approx. 6 g of the 30 g of each hydrated cement paste sample was taken out of the centrifuge tube
 197 after all the investigations of the liquids had been performed. To stop the hydration and remove
 198 the water or chloride solution, the wet hydrated cement paste was immersed in 100 mL
 199 isopropanol, shaken for 30 s, and left to rest for 5 min before the isopropanol was decanted. The
 200 isopropanol treatment was then repeated. After that, the sample was immersed in 20 mL
 201 petroleum ether, stirred for 30 sec, and left to rest again for 5 min. The petroleum ether was

202 filtrated off using a vacuum filtration unit, and the samples were dried in a desiccator overnight
203 under a slight vacuum (-0.2 bar) applied using a water pump. The dried samples were ground to
204 a particle size <63 μm and then analysed with TGA or XRD.

205 For the thermogravimetric analysis (TGA), approx. 150 mg of each ground sample was poured
206 into a 600 μl corundum crucible. The weight loss was measured from 40–900 °C, with a heating
207 rate of 10 °C/min in a Mettler Toledo TGA/DSC3+ device. During the experiments, the
208 measurement cell was purged with 50 mL/min N₂ gas. TGA was used to identify changes in the
209 phase assemblage and to quantify the amount of bound water and portlandite in each of the mixes
210 investigated.

211 The derivate curves of the TG signal, the DTG curves, were used to detect phase changes. The DTG
212 curves can be divided into several temperature intervals, in which the decomposition of specific
213 phases can be detected as a weight loss. These temperature intervals were used to identify various
214 hydration phases as suggested by Lothenbach et al. [25]. The first weight loss peak at around
215 100 °C is related to the ettringite (Et) decomposition and the beginning of the dehydroxylation of
216 the C-S-H phase. C-S-H decomposes gradually between 40 °C and 600 °C and appears as a
217 polynomial baseline under the other peaks. Hydrotalcite (Ht) shows two mass loss events, the first
218 at approx. 220 °C and the second at around 400 °C. The subsequent sharp peak between approx.
219 400 °C and 550 °C is related to the decomposition of portlandite (CH). Above 550 °C, carbonates
220 decompose by emitting CO₂. To make it possible to quantify the amount of bound water ($H_{dry\ binder\ weight}$)
221 using Eq. (4) [26], the weight loss between 50 °C and approx. 550 °C was determined with a
222 horizontal step. The weight loss related to the amount of portlandite was measured by integrating
223 the DTG curve between approx. 400 °C and 550 °C with a linear baseline. This method is assumed
224 to give similar results as using a tangential step and excludes the weight loss from the C-S-H
225 decomposition still ongoing in this temperature region [25]. The portlandite content ($CH_{dry\ binder\ weight}$)
226 can be calculated using Eq. (5) [26], where $M(Ca(OH)_2)=74\text{ g/mol}$ and $M(H_2O)=18\text{ g/mol}$.
227 Both quantifications in Eq. (4) and Eq. (5) are normalized to the dry binder weight, which is the
228 sample weight at 550 °C and assumed to remain constant during hydration [26].

$$H_{dry\ binder\ weight} = \frac{w_{50} - w_{550}}{w_{550}} \quad (4)$$

$$CH_{dry\ binder\ weight} = \frac{w_{400} - w_{550}}{w_{550}} \cdot \frac{M(Ca(OH)_2)}{M(H_2O)} \quad (5)$$

229
230 The error for the $H_{dry\ binder\ weight}$ and $CH_{dry\ binder\ weight}$ is estimated to be 1% wt. The errors are indicated
231 with the error bars in the respective figures.

232 To identify the gasses leaving the samples at a certain temperature interval, another TGA device
233 (STA 449 C Jupiter from Netzsch) coupled with a quadrupole mass spectrometer unit (QMS 403 C
234 Aëolos from Netzsch) was used. For these measurements, approx. 20 mg of selected samples were
235 poured into corundum crucibles. The samples were analysed from 40–900 °C with a heating rate
236 of 10 °C/min. During the measurement, the measurement cell was purged with 30 mL/min N₂ gas.

237 The X-ray diffraction (XRD) analyses were carried out using a D8 Focus from Bruker built with a
238 Bragg-Brentano θ - 2θ geometry, a LynxEye detector, and a goniometer radius of 200.5 mm. The
239 samples were measured between 5 ° 2θ and 55 ° 2θ using Cu-K α radiation with a wavelength of
240 approx. 1.54 Å as X-ray source, a step size of 0.01 ° 2θ , and a sampling time per step of 0.5 s. The
241 ground samples were front-loaded into the sample holders and queued in a sample changer until
242 measurement (max. 4.5 h). The XRD plots were qualitatively evaluated using DIFFRAC.EVA V4.0
243 software from Bruker.

244 For the investigation of the hydrate phase assemblage with scanning electron microscopy (SEM),
245 some of the hydration-stopped and dried but not ground samples were cast in epoxy, polished
246 and carbon-coated. The investigated samples included all samples containing dolomite (60C40D
247 and 60C35D5M) and the samples 60C35L5M exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂. Elemental mapping and
248 point analyses were carried out using a Hitachi S-3400N electron microscope equipped with an
249 energy dispersive spectrometer (EDS) from Oxford Instruments. The SEM was operated at an
250 accelerating voltage of 15 keV, a working distance of 5 mm for taking the BSE images, and a
251 working distance of 10 mm for operating the EDS. As reference samples, the results from a
252 previous study [10] were used. In that study, the samples had similar binder compositions and
253 were cured sealed at 100% RH for 360 days at 60 °C or 38 °C and prepared for SEM-EDS analysis
254 in a similar way.

255

256 **2.3.3 Thermodynamic modelling**

257 The Gibbs free energy minimization program GEMS [27,28] was used to model the activity of CO₃²⁻
258 ions in the pore solution of a model system with increasing additions of NaCl or CaCl₂. The model
259 system used consisted of 100 H₂O and 20 g CaCO₃. Because 0.03 g NaOH and 0.06 g KOH were
260 included in the model, the pH at the starting point of the modelling was high (pH 13.9), which is
261 similar to the pH in cementitious systems.

262

263 **2.3.4 Mass balance calculations**

264 The contribution of the various hydration phases to the chloride binding of the cement pastes was
265 estimated with mass balance calculations for the samples 60C40D (60 °C) and 60C40L (38 °C)
266 exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂. We used mass balance calculations instead of the thermodynamic

267 modelling software GEMS for this due to a lack of thermodynamic data for the chloride-containing
268 hydrotalcite or the chloride uptake of the C-S-H. In a first step, the amount or volume of the various
269 phases present in the system was calculated based on the following assumptions:

270

271 • For the cement, the QXRD results of a similar cement clinker and gypsum [10] were used
272 as input for the calculations. The reaction degree of belite was set to 90% and the ferrite
273 and periclase were assumed to not have reacted. All other components of the cement
274 clinker and the gypsum were assumed to have reacted fully. For the dolomite
275 ($\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$) a reaction degree of 30% was assumed when cured at 60 °C, and for the
276 limestone (CaCO_3) a reaction degree of 5% was assumed when cured at 38 °C. The ideal
277 stoichiometric compositions of dolomite and limestone were used as input for the
278 calculations.

279 • The amount of calcium, aluminium, and sulphur in the C-S-H phase was calculated from
280 the SEM-EDS point analysis results (Table 5), assuming 1 mol of C-S-H contains 1 mol of
281 silicon.

282 • All the magnesium from the reaction of dolomite is bound in hydrotalcite. The hydrotalcite
283 formula used for the calculations ($\text{Mg}_6\text{Al}_2(\text{OH})_{18}\cdot 3(\text{H}_2\text{O})$) was taken from [29], because
284 thermodynamic modelling of the reaction of dolomite in cement paste predicted the
285 formation of a hydrotalcite, which does not contain carbonates [30], and the Mg/Al ratio
286 of the hydrotalcite formed in the sample 60C40D was shown to be approx. 3 (Table 6).

287 • The amount of ettringite formed was calculated by subtracting the amount of sulphate in
288 the C-S-H phase from the total amount of sulphates available in the system.

289 • The amount of AFm phases was calculated by subtracting the amount of aluminium
290 incorporated in the C-S-H, ettringite, and hydrotalcite from the total amount of aluminium
291 available in the system. The AFm phases taken into account for the calculations were
292 monocarbonate and Friedel's salt. Several mass balance calculations were performed, in
293 which the aluminium available for the formation of AFm phases was distributed in varying
294 ratios to these two AFm phases (from 100% to 0% Friedel's salt and consequently 0% to
295 100% monocarbonate).

296 • The amount of secondary calcite, formed by the reaction of dolomite, was calculated by
297 subtracting the amount of carbonates included in the monocarbonate from the total
298 amount of carbonates available in the system.

299 • The amount of portlandite was calculated by the amount of calcium left in the system after
300 subtracting the calcium incorporated in the C-S-H phase, secondary calcite, ettringite,
301 monocarbonate, and Friedel's salt from the total amount of calcium available in the
302 system.

303

304 Subsequently, the amount of chloride bound in the hydrotalcite, Friedel's salt, and C-S-H were
305 calculated with the following steps:

306

307 • The amount of chloride in hydrotalcite¹ was calculated by the Mg/Al and Cl/Al ratio of the
308 hydrotalcite determined with SEM-EDS (see Table 6).

309 • The amount of chloride in the Friedel's salt was calculated with its stoichiometric formula
310 (3CaO·Al₂O₃·CaCl₂·10H₂O), by taking into account the various amounts of Friedel's salt
311 calculated, as described above.

312 • The amount of chloride in the C-S-H was determined by subtracting the amount of bound
313 chlorides in hydrotalcite and Friedel's salt from the total amount of bound chlorides, as
314 determined by potentiometric titration for the samples exposed to a 2 mol/L chloride
315 solution (NaCl or CaCl₂) (see Figure 1). With this, the Cl/Si ratio of the C-S-H was calculated
316 and compared to the Cl/Si ratio measured experimentally with SEM-EDS.

317

318 **3 RESULTS**

319 **3.1 Chloride-binding isotherms**

320 The results for the chloride-binding isotherms were plotted as the data points obtained
321 experimentally by chloride titration and their corresponding fitted chloride-binding isotherms.

322

323 **3.1.1 Chloride-binding isotherms of samples containing dolomite or limestone**

324 Figure 2 shows the chloride-binding isotherms for samples 60C40D and 60C40L cured at 38 °C or
325 60 °C and exposed to NaCl. When cured at 38 °C, the sample containing limestone shows a similar
326 chloride binding as the sample containing dolomite. However, when cured at 60 °C, the chloride
327 binding of sample 60C40L drops slightly while sample 60C40D shows an increase.

328

329 **3.1.2 Chloride-binding isotherms of samples containing a combination of dolomite 330 or limestone with metakaolin**

331 Figure 3 shows the chloride-binding isotherms for the samples cured at a) 38 °C and b) 60 °C
332 exposed to NaCl. All samples cured at 38 °C and containing metakaolin, whether in combination
333 with dolomite or limestone, showed a higher chloride binding than the 100C reference sample.
334 Samples containing no metakaolin (60C40D and 60C40L) showed a lower chloride binding than
335 the 100C reference. Moreover, the samples containing a combination of metakaolin and carbonate

¹Due to the lack of an exact chemical formula for the chloride-containing hydrotalcite, we calculated its molar mass from the formula: Mg₆Al₂(OH)₁₈·3H₂O.

336 (dolomite or limestone) did not seem to reach a plateau when they were exposed to chloride
337 solutions with high concentrations, whereas the reference 100C and the samples 60C40D and
338 60C40L did.

339

340 When cured at 60 °C, the chloride binding of sample 60C40D was higher compared to 38 °C.
341 Whereas for all other samples the chloride binding was lower at 60 °C compared to 38 °C. Sample
342 60C40D showed the highest chloride binding of the samples cured at 60 °C. Sample 60C35D5M
343 showed a significantly lower chloride binding than sample 60C40D when cured at 60 °C.

344

345 **3.1.3 Chloride-binding isotherms of samples exposed to CaCl₂**

346 Figure 4 shows the chloride-binding isotherms for the samples exposed to various concentrations
347 of CaCl₂ solution. The chloride-binding capacities were considerably higher for all samples
348 exposed to CaCl₂ than for those exposed to NaCl (by a factor of 5–10).

349

350 Samples cured at 38 °C (Figure 4a) showed trends similar to those of the samples exposed to NaCl.
351 Samples containing a combination of metakaolin and either dolomite or limestone showed a
352 higher chloride binding than the 100C reference and gave the overall highest chloride binding of
353 all samples investigated. Samples 60C40D and 60C40L showed a similar and low chloride binding.

354

355 For the samples cured at 60 °C (Figure 4b), however, the trends observed for the CaCl₂ exposure
356 were different from those for NaCl. With CaCl₂ exposure, the samples containing dolomite, with or
357 without metakaolin, showed very similar and the highest chloride binding of all samples cured at
358 60 °C. The reference sample 100C showed, as for NaCl exposure, a lower chloride binding than
359 when cured at 38 °C. The samples containing limestone (60C40L, 60C35L5M) cured at 60 °C
360 showed similar chloride binding and the lowest chloride binding of all the samples exposed to
361 CaCl₂.

362

363 **3.2 pH measurements**

364 Figure 5 shows the results of the pH measurements of the supernatant of the various binder
365 compositions cured at 38 °C and 60 °C and exposed to NaCl (Figure 5 a and b) and to CaCl₂ (Figure
366 5 c and d). The results of the pH measurements of the reference samples exposed to deionized
367 water are plotted as the points for 0 mol/L added chloride concentration in all graphs.

368

369 All the samples containing SCMs that were exposed to NaCl showed a lower pH than the Portland
370 cement sample 100C. This effect of SCMs on the pH of the pore solution has been described
371 previously [31]. All samples containing SCMs and cured at 38 °C showed a very similar pH at all

372 concentrations of added chloride solution. The pH seemed to decrease only slightly with
373 increasing chloride concentrations. The samples containing dolomite (60C40D and 60C35D5M)
374 and cured at 60 °C, showed a lower pH than the samples containing limestone. This might be
375 explained by the enhanced dolomite reaction at 60 °C, which has been shown to reduce the pH in
376 a model system [32].

377

378 For CaCl₂ exposure, the 100C sample again showed a higher pH for all added chloride
379 concentrations added than for the samples, in which 40%wt of the Portland cement was replaced
380 with SCMs. The drop in the pH with increasing chloride concentrations was much greater than in
381 the samples exposed to NaCl. This is attributed partly to the adsorption of calcium on silanol
382 groups, which releases H⁺-ions in the pore solution, and the common ion effect of portlandite
383 (calcium hydroxide), as reported in the literature [3,20,22,23,33]. The decrease in the pH upon
384 CaCl₂ addition results in a partial dissolution of the portlandite as experimentally observed in
385 Figure 9.

386

387 There were no differences in the pH between the samples containing dolomite or limestone at
388 either curing temperature when exposed to CaCl₂. This indicates that in the case of CaCl₂ exposure,
389 the Ca²⁺ ions dominate the pH in contrast to the NaCl exposure, where the reaction of dolomite
390 dominates the pH.

391

392 **3.3 Thermodynamic modelling**

393 Figure 6 shows the development of the activity of CO₃²⁻ ions in the solution and the amount of
394 CaCO₃ present in the system with increasing additions of NaCl and CaCl₂ to the model system H₂O-
395 CaCO₃ at a high pH. It can be seen that the activity of the carbonate ions is decreasing with
396 increasing amounts of CaCl₂ added. First, the activity drops very rapidly and at free chloride
397 concentrations higher than approx. 1.2 mol/L, the activity decreases with a smaller slope. The
398 decrease in the carbonate ion activity is due to higher calcium concentration in the solution and
399 the common ion effect, which is visible by the precipitation of small amounts of CaCO₃ in Figure 6.
400 In the model system exposed to NaCl, however, there is no drop in the activity of carbonate ions
401 within the range of the free chloride concentration modelled.

402

403 **3.4 Hydrate phase assemblage of exposed samples determined with TGA and XRD**

404 Table 4 gives a qualitative comparison of the phase assemblages observed with TGA or XRD in the
405 various binder compositions cured at 38 °C or 60 °C and exposed to H₂O, NaCl or CaCl₂. In general,
406 the results for TGA and XRD correlate well. In samples where we could only identify a phase with
407 TGA but not with XRD, we assumed the phases to be poorly crystallized or amorphous. A detailed

408 description of the phase assemblages of the various samples and their associated TGA and XRD
409 plots are given in the Appendix.

410

411 In the reference samples exposed to water, hydrotalcite formed in samples containing dolomite
412 as detected with TGA and XRD. The weight loss peak of hydrotalcite increased with the curing
413 temperature from 38 °C to 60 °C, for the samples containing dolomite. The samples containing
414 limestone also showed a small weight loss in the temperature region of hydrotalcite. This weight
415 loss in the samples could be associated with the decomposition of a siliceous hydrogarnet, because
416 small peaks of this phase were observed with XRD in all the samples cured at 60 °C (not shown
417 here). Monocarbonate was observed in all samples cured at 38 °C except 60C40D.

418

419 In samples exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂, chloride-containing phases were observed instead of
420 monocarbonate or normal hydrotalcite. In samples containing dolomite, chloride-containing
421 hydrotalcite, and in samples containing limestone, Friedel's salt was common. The chloride-
422 containing hydrotalcite can be identified with XRD, as reported by Ke et al., by its the shift in the
423 peak position to lower angles, as shown in Figure 7 [13]. Moreover, the signal in TGA also changed.
424 The first peak of hydrotalcite (approx. 220 °C) decreased or completely disappeared and the
425 second peak (approx. 400 °C) shifted to lower temperatures (approx. 370 °C) (Figure A1). The
426 chloride-containing hydrotalcite was observed in chloride-exposed samples containing dolomite
427 cured at both curing temperatures. A possible intermixing with Friedel's salt cannot be excluded,
428 as the peaks of the chloride-containing hydrotalcite show a slightly asymmetric peak, which could
429 indicate the presence of small amounts of Friedel's salt. Clear peaks of Friedel's salt were only
430 visible in samples cured at 38 °C in the XRD and TGA graphs, though there was a small peak of
431 Friedel's salt in sample 60C35L5M cured at 60 °C. In all samples exposed to CaCl₂, except sample
432 60C40D cured at 60 °C, a small hump of what was probably monosulphate-14H was observed. We
433 could not identify this phase with TGA, probably due to its very small amounts and the overlapping
434 of AFm decomposition peaks in the DTH curve. This indicates that the presence of calcium ions is
435 also influencing the balance between monosulphate and ettringite, and not only the SO₃²⁻/Al₂O₃
436 ratio of the pore solution. Sample 60C40D cured at 60 °C showed a monocarbonate peak instead
437 of the monosulphate peak when exposed to CaCl₂.

438

439 It is important to note that, even though the TGA and XRD results correlate qualitatively very well,
440 the ettringite peak in XRD seemed to be higher for the samples cured at 60 °C than for the samples
441 cured at 38 °C. This increase was not observed with TGA. The reason for this is not clear, but it
442 could be due to the sample preparation, in which the ettringite might have been severely

443 decomposed during the curing at 60 °C and re-crystallized later at 20 °C, potentially resulting in a
444 higher degree of crystallinity.

445

446 There were several peaks observed in the carbonate weight loss region of samples exposed to
447 either NaCl or CaCl₂. TGA-MS investigations of the sample 60C35D5M cured at 38 °C and exposed
448 to CaCl₂, showed that these peaks are related to the release of CO₂ (Figure 8). We expect the degree
449 of carbonation due to sample preparation to be similar in all samples, because they were all
450 prepared in the same way. The evaporation of chlorine, as reported for chloride-containing
451 hydrotalcite [13], is indicated by the increasing ion current for the chlorine (H-³⁵Cl, H-³⁷Cl, ³⁵Cl) at
452 temperatures >800 °C.

453

454 **3.5 Portlandite and bound water content**

455

456 Figure 9 shows the portlandite content normalized to the dry binder weight of the various mixes
457 investigated. The portlandite content was lower in samples containing a combination of
458 metakaolin and carbonate (whether dolomite or limestone) than in samples containing only
459 carbonates as SCMs. Moreover, all samples containing dolomite and/or metakaolin showed a
460 lower portlandite content when cured at 60 °C than when cured at 38 °C. This can be explained by
461 the pozzolanic reaction of metakaolin to form additional C-S-H, and the reaction of dolomite to
462 form hydrotalcite and calcite, which both consume portlandite and are accelerated at elevated
463 curing temperatures. Only sample 60C40L exposed to CaCl₂ showed a higher portlandite content
464 when cured at 60 °C than when cured at 38 °C.

465

466 All samples exposed to chloride solutions showed a lower portlandite content than their reference
467 samples exposed to deionized water. This difference was greater for the exposure to CaCl₂ than to
468 NaCl. This was also experimentally observed in [22].

469

470 Figure 10 shows the amount of bound water in the various mixes investigated. The samples
471 containing dolomite or limestone show very similar results. The samples containing metakaolin
472 had a higher or similar bound water content compared to the 100C reference for both curing
473 temperatures. This indicates that the pozzolanic reaction of metakaolin, which forms additional
474 C-S-H and AFm phases, is able to compensate for the smaller amount of Portland cement in these
475 samples. The samples cured at 60 °C showed a lower bound water content than the samples cured
476 at 38 °C, even though, the clinker hydration and the pozzolanic reaction of metakaolin are
477 accelerated at elevated curing temperatures, and should thus lead to an increase in the bound
478 water content. The lower bound water content in samples cured at 60 °C compared to samples

479 cured at 38 °C might, however, be explained by the densification of the C-S-H at such high
480 temperatures, which is associated with a loss of its structural water [34,35].

481

482 The bound water content changes for the various exposures. Samples exposed to NaCl showed a
483 lower bound water content than their reference samples exposed to deionized water. Samples
484 exposed to CaCl₂ showed a higher bound water content than samples exposed to NaCl, and in some
485 cases a higher bound water content than samples exposed to deionized water.

486

487 Samples exposed to CaCl₂ show a lower portlandite and higher bound water content, than samples
488 with the same composition exposed to NaCl. We, therefore, assume that the CaCl₂ reacted with the
489 cementitious system to form additional phases. One possible reaction is the formation of calcium
490 oxychloride phases from the reaction of CaCl₂ with water and portlandite [36–42]. However, we
491 did not observe peaks of calcium oxychloride with XRD. This might be explained by the complexity
492 of these salts, which were reported to decompose or carbonate easily during sample preparation
493 [37,43].

494

495 **3.6 Composition of the C-S-H and hydrotalcite in exposed samples measured with** 496 **SEM-EDS**

497 **3.6.1 BSE imaging and elemental mapping**

498 As an example of back-scattered electron (BSE) imaging, Figure 11 shows the BSE image and
499 elemental maps of magnesium, aluminium, calcium, silicon and chlorine for sample 60C40D cured
500 at 60 °C and exposed to NaCl. We chose this composition, because it showed the highest degree of
501 dolomite reaction in a previous study [10]. The samples exposed to CaCl₂, as well as the samples
502 60C35D5M showed similar results. The up to 60 µm large uniformly grey particles are the
503 unreacted parts of the dolomite particles. This is confirmed by the elemental maps, which show
504 that these particles contain only magnesium and calcium. Around these particles, the original
505 grain boundaries of the dolomite particles are still visible due to a thin layer of C-S-H that probably
506 precipitated at early ages and persisted after the dolomite started to react. Between the original
507 grain boundaries of dolomite and the boundary of the still unreacted dolomite particles, dark
508 reaction rims are visible (highlighted with small arrows). These rims are rich in magnesium and
509 aluminium but poor in calcium and silicon. Moreover, the rims seem to show a slightly higher
510 chloride content than the matrix. The matrix shows a generally homogeneous chloride content.
511 The small points of very high chlorine content in the last map are most probably crystals of NaCl
512 that precipitated during drying in the samples. Point analyses of the samples exposed to NaCl or
513 CaCl₂ were taken in the matrix of the samples and inside the reaction rims around the dolomite
514 particles.

515

516 **3.6.2 Effect of curing temperature, metakaolin addition and exposure solution on** 517 **the composition of the C-S-H**

518 Table 5 shows the results for the SEM-EDS point analyses of the matrix of selected samples
519 exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂. The results given in Table 5 were determined by plotting the atomic
520 ratios (e.g. Al/Ca over Si/Ca), in 2D diagrams. Tangents framing the C-S-H data cloud were used
521 to discriminate the intermixed phases and determine the atomic ratios of the C-S-H phase.

522

523 The results for samples 60C40D exposed to NaCl show that the Si/Ca ratio and the Al/Si ratio of
524 the C-S-H were lower in samples cured at 60 °C than in samples cured at 38 °C. This might be
525 explained by the enhanced reaction of clinker and dolomite at 60 °C. Zajac et al. reported a lower
526 aluminium content of the C-S-H in samples where dolomite reacted to hydrotalcite, which
527 incorporates the aluminium instead [9].

528

529 In most of the samples containing metakaolin (60C35D5M and 60C35L5M) that were exposed to
530 NaCl, the Al/Si and the Si/Ca ratio of the C-S-H is higher than in the samples containing no
531 metakaolin (60C40D). This effect of the addition of metakaolin on the Si/Ca ratio of the C-S-H is
532 qualitatively in agreement with literature [44,45]. However, it should be noted that the Si/Ca ratio
533 of 0.9 for the sample 60C35L5M cured at 38 °C and exposed to NaCl is much higher than reported
534 for the addition of 5%wt metakaolin [45]. The Si/Ca ratios of the other samples containing
535 limestone and metakaolin are relatively similar. The reason for the high values for the sample
536 60C35L5M 38 °C NaCl are unclear. In samples exposed to CaCl₂, the Si/Ca ratio of the C-S-H was
537 lower than in the samples exposed to NaCl for all samples except the sample 60C40D 38 °C.

538

539 To illustrate the chloride uptake of the C-S-H in these samples, Table 5 also shows the Cl/Si ratio
540 of the point analyses of the matrix. For most of the samples, the Cl/Si ratio of the C-S-H is higher
541 at 60 °C than at 38 °C. Exposure to CaCl₂ also increased the chloride content in the C-S-H compared
542 to NaCl.

543

544 Table 5 also shows the S/Si ratio of the C-S-H in the various samples investigated. It can be seen
545 that contradictive to the commonly observed higher sulphate content of C-S-H at higher curing
546 temperatures, the S/Si ratio of the C-S-H in the samples cured at 60 °C was similar or lower than
547 in the samples cured at 38 °C. This can be explained by the sample preparation, where the samples
548 were cured at 60 °C or 38 °C, but exposed at 20 °C. This indicates that the C-S-H in the samples
549 cured at 60 °C released a considerable amount of sulphate during the exposure at 20 °C, and can

550 explain the formation of ettringite or monosulphate in samples cured at 60 °C, as observed in with
551 XRD.

552

553 **3.6.3 Effect of metakaolin addition and exposure solution on the composition of** 554 **hydrotalcite**

555 The results for the point analyses taken in the reaction rims inside the original dolomite grains
556 are shown in Figure 12 as the Mg/Ca ratio over the Al/Ca ratio. The results follow two linear lines,
557 one for the hydrotalcite formed in samples containing dolomite (60C40D), and the other for the
558 hydrotalcite formed in samples containing a combination of dolomite and metakaolin
559 (60C35D5M). This indicates that no other aluminium-containing hydration products, such as
560 Friedel's salt, were present in the reaction rims, as they would cause a spread of the result towards
561 lower Mg/Al ratios. The different slopes of these lines indicate a decrease in the Mg/Al ratio of the
562 hydrotalcite formed from approx. 3.2 in sample 60C40D to approx. 2.4 in sample 60C35D5M. The
563 Mg/Al ratio does not seem to be affected by the exposure solution, but only by the presence of
564 metakaolin.

565

566 Figure 13 shows the Cl/Ca over the Al/Ca ratio of the point analysis results in rims around the
567 dolomite grains, which are filled with hydrotalcite. The slope of the lines indicated in Figure 13,
568 presents the Cl/Al ratio of the hydrotalcite in the various samples, which is summarized for the
569 various samples in Table 6. Hydrotalcite is reported to contain a constant amount of aluminium,
570 but varying amounts of magnesium [46]. In this study we assumed hydrotalcite to always contain
571 2 mol of aluminium. Therefore, the results of the calculation of the amount of chloride ions in
572 1 mol of hydrotalcite show a lower chloride content in the hydrotalcite formed in samples
573 containing metakaolin (Table 6).

574

575 **3.7 Mass balance calculations**

576 The amount of chloride bound in the C-S-H phase, Friedel's salt, and hydrotalcite per gram of
577 cement paste in the samples 60C40D (60 °C) and 60C40L (38 °C) was calculated by a mass balance
578 approach for exposure to either NaCl or CaCl₂. It is reported that with increasing concentrations
579 of chlorides in the pore solution, monocarbonate transforms gradually to Friedel's salt [47]. With
580 TGA and XRD it is not possible to distinguish Friedel's salt, hydrotalcite and monocarbonate
581 completely. Especially, if little amounts of one of them are present in the samples. Due to the
582 asymmetric peak of the chloride-containing hydrotalcite, the presence of Friedel's salt in samples
583 containing dolomite cannot be excluded. Therefore, the aluminium available for the formation of
584 AFm phases from the mass balance calculation was distributed in various ratios between
585 monocarbonate and Friedel's salt (from 100% to 0% Friedel's salt and consequently 0% to 100%

586 monocarbonate). Figure 14 shows the amount of chloride bound in the various hydrates
587 calculated by mass balance for the various combinations of monocarbonate and Friedel's salt.

588

589 For the high amounts of Friedel's salt assumed to be present, the calculated chloride content in
590 the C-S-H phase shows negative values in case of exposure to NaCl. This is because the Cl/Si ratio
591 of the C-S-H was calculated by subtracting the calculated amount of chloride bound in Friedel's
592 salt and hydrotalcite from the total amount of chloride bound in the system measured. At high
593 amounts of Friedel's salt present, more chlorides are calculated to be bound in the Friedel's salt
594 than measured for the samples exposed to NaCl. We, therefore, assume these high Friedel's salt
595 amounts to be an overestimation and concentrate in the following on the calculations where the
596 aluminium available for the formation of AFm phases was distributed max. 30% to Friedel's salt
597 (as indicated by the dashed rectangles). Because the hydrotalcite formed contains aluminium, less
598 aluminium is available for the formation of AFm phases in the samples containing dolomite than
599 in the sample containing limestone. This results in a smaller variation in the amount of chloride
600 bound in the C-S-H or in the Friedel's salt in the sample 60C40D than in the sample 60C40L.

601

602 For the sample 60C40D, it was calculated that approx. 0.003 g of chlorides/g hydrated binder for
603 NaCl exposure and approx. 0.006 g chlorides/g hydrated binder for CaCl₂ exposure were bound
604 in hydrotalcite. For the sample 60C40L, where no hydrotalcite was formed, the maximum amount
605 of chloride bound by Friedel's salt were approx. 0.003 g chlorides/g hydrated binder for NaCl
606 exposure and approx. 0.002 g chlorides/g hydrated binder for CaCl₂ exposure.

607

608 We also used mass balance to calculate the Cl/Si ratio of the C-S-H, as described in 2.3.4. The
609 highest Cl/Si ratios calculated for the C-S-H phase in sample 60C40D for NaCl or CaCl₂ exposure
610 were approx. 0.03 and 0.15 respectively, which is considerably lower than the measured Cl/Si
611 ratios of 0.1 and 0.24 for sample 60C40D cured at 60 °C (Table 5). This difference between
612 measured and calculated Cl/Si ratios might be explained by the inability of the used solvents
613 (isopropanol and petroleum ether) to penetrate the gel porosity of the C-S-H phase during the
614 solvent exchange and replace the pore solution between the C-S-H sheets. This was explained by
615 the big molecular size of alcohols compared to water, which inhibits the replacement of the water
616 in very small pores [48]. Similarly, Plusquellec et al. showed that even methanol, which has a
617 smaller molecular size than isopropanol, is unable to replace all the pore solution in ground
618 concrete samples, leading to a lower amount of alkalis extracted from these samples [49]. In the
619 present study, consequently, some of the chloride-rich solution would be trapped in the gel
620 porosity and create an artificially high Cl/Si ratio in the point measurements with SEM-EDS.

621

622 Another possible explanation might be that the solubility of e.g. NaCl is much smaller in solvents
623 than in water. Therefore, chloride salts, which might have precipitated in the sample during the
624 solvent exchange, cannot be dissolved by the solvents.

625

626 The differences between the measured and calculated Cl/Si ratios of the C-S-H indicate that the
627 solvent exchange treatment applied in this study is not a reliable method for sample preparation
628 for SEM-EDS when the chloride content of the C-S-H needs to be measured. This is also indicated
629 by the small points of very high chlorine content in the elemental map of chlorine (Figure 11),
630 which are most probably crystals of NaCl that precipitated during the sample preparation.

631

632 The sample 60C40L was not investigated with SEM-EDS, and we can therefore not discuss on
633 possible differences between the measured and calculated Cl/Si ratios in this samples.

634

635 We also calculated the portlandite content normalized to the dry binder weight of the samples
636 60C40D (60C40D-NaCl: 12 %wt, 60C40D-CaCl₂: 10 %wt) and 60C40L (60C40L-NaCl: 14 %wt,
637 60C40L-CaCl₂: 9 %wt) with the mass balance approach. We compared these values with the
638 portlandite content normalized to the dry binder weight obtained experimentally with TGA (see
639 Figure 9). Except for the sample 60C40L-CaCl₂, the portlandite content calculated with mass
640 balance is larger than calculated with TGA. This indicates the formation of a calcium-containing
641 phase in the samples exposed to the chloride solutions, which we did not account for in mass
642 balance.

643

644 **4 DISCUSSION**

645 **4.1 Chloride-binding isotherms for the samples containing limestone and** 646 **metakaolin**

647 The chloride binding of the samples containing limestone (60C40L and 60C35L5M) and the
648 reference sample 100C was lower for the samples cured at 60 °C than of those cured at 38 °C
649 (Figure 3 & Figure 4). This confirms the observations of other authors [50,51]. The increase in
650 curing temperature from 38 °C to 60 °C changed the stability of some phases. This is visible in the
651 XRD and TGA plots (results summarized in Table 4), where no or only small amounts of Friedel's
652 salt can be observed with XRD and TGA in the samples cured at 60 °C. We, therefore, conclude that
653 the lower chloride binding of samples containing limestone cured at 60 °C is due to the lower
654 amount of chloride-containing hydrates in these samples.

655

656 When cured at 38 °C, where phases like Friedel's salt are observed with XRD and TGA, samples
657 containing metakaolin show a higher chloride binding than samples without metakaolin (Figure
658 3a & Figure 4a). This effect has been explained by the additional aluminium delivered by the
659 metakaolin [2,3]. The addition of aluminium enables the formation of more Friedel's salt and
660 thereby increases the chloride-binding capacity of cement pastes. This is confirmed by our results,
661 because we also observe an increase in the Friedel's salt with TGA in samples containing
662 metakaolin (e.g. Figure A3).

663

664 **4.2 Effect of hydrotalcite on the chloride binding in samples containing dolomite** 665 **without metakaolin addition**

666 Figure 2 shows the chloride-binding isotherms for the samples 60C40D and 60C40L cured at
667 38 °C, and 60 °C exposed to NaCl solutions. The sample 60C40D cured at 60 °C showed
668 considerably greater chloride binding compared to the other samples. Assuming that the chloride
669 content of the C-S-H is similar for the sample 60C40D and 60C40L, the increased chloride binding
670 of the sample 60C40D cured at 60 °C will be due to the chloride binding in other hydrates than C-
671 S-H. When cured at 60 °C, the dolomite in the samples has been shown to react significantly more
672 than when cured at 38 °C and to form more hydrotalcite [9,10].

673

674 In the samples containing dolomite exposed to deionized water hydrotalcite formed, and in the
675 samples exposed to a chloride solution a chloride-containing hydrotalcite was observed. This can
676 be seen by the shift in the peak position of the hydrotalcite in XRD between the samples exposed
677 to deionized water and those exposed to NaCl (Figure 7). A similar shift was observed previously
678 by Ke et al. [13]. The peak position in XRD strongly depends on the c-parameter of the crystal
679 lattice [52]. With the incorporation of chloride ions in the interlayer of the hydrotalcite the
680 interlayer spacing is increased, because chloride ions have a larger ionic radius than hydroxide
681 ions [11,13,16,53]. An increase in the c-parameter results in a lower angle for the diffraction peak
682 of the phases. Moreover, the signal in TGA also changed, because the first peak of hydrotalcite
683 (approx. 220 °C) decreased or completely disappeared and the second peak (approx. 400 °C)
684 shifted to lower temperatures (approx. 370 °C) (Figure A1). Similar changes in the TGA signal
685 upon the formation of a chloride-containing hydrotalcite were reported by Ke et al. [13]. However,
686 the temperatures of these peaks in the present study vary from the temperatures reported by Ke
687 et al. [13], probably because the hydrotalcite in this study was formed in a cementitious system
688 rather than synthesised as a pure phase. The SEM-EDS point analyses (Figure 13) also showed a
689 chloride uptake of the hydrotalcite in the samples exposed to NaCl. It should be noted that the
690 amount of chloride in the hydrotalcite will be discussed in the following. Moreover, we do not
691 observe clear peaks of Friedel's salt in sample 60C40D exposed to NaCl (Table 4). We, therefore,

692 conclude that the samples containing dolomite cured at 60 °C showed an increased chloride
693 binding due to the formation of hydrotalcite, which is able to bind significant amounts of chloride.
694 To which extent these chlorides are bound in the interlayer of the hydrotalcite or adsorbed on its
695 surface could not be evaluated in with the experimental set-up in this study.

696

697 It should be noted that amongst the samples cured at 38 °C and exposed to NaCl, the reference
698 sample 100C shows the highest chloride binding in the concentration range of a classic ponding
699 test (0.5 mol/L). However, when cured at 60 °C, the sample 60C40D shows the highest chloride
700 binding, also in this concentration range. As the curing at 60 °C was applied to accelerate the
701 dolomite reaction, we assume the chloride binding of the sample 60C40D cured at 38 °C to
702 increase with the increasing reaction degree of dolomite over time.

703

704 **4.3 Effect of additional metakaolin on the composition and chloride-binding** 705 **capacity of hydrotalcite**

706 The Mg/Al ratio of hydrotalcite is known to be dependent on the availability of aluminium [17,18],
707 and therefore on the addition of metakaolin [10]. The samples containing metakaolin cured at
708 60 °C showed a lower Mg/Al ratio of the hydrotalcite than in samples without metakaolin (Figure
709 12). The change in the Mg/Al ratio is also indirectly visible with XRD, where the hydrotalcite
710 formed showed a peak at slightly higher angles in sample 60C35D5M than the sample 60C40D
711 (Figure 7). This can be explained by the lower Mg/Al ratio of the hydrotalcite in the sample
712 60C35D5M, which increases the positive charge of the main layer [16]. Therefore, more anions
713 are needed in the interlayer to compensate for the higher charge in the main layer, which reduced
714 the c-parameter because of a shortening in the hydrogen bonds [54].

715

716 The calculations of the amount of chloride in 1 mol of hydrotalcite based on the SEM-EDS show a
717 lower chloride content of the hydrotalcite in the samples 60C35D5M than in the samples 60C40D
718 (Table 6). This is not in agreement with the literature, where it was reported that a lower Mg/Al
719 ratio results in an increased uptake of chloride ions in the interlayer of hydrotalcite [16]. This was
720 explained by the increased positive charge of the main layer due to aluminium having a higher
721 charge than magnesium. Because the interlayer seeks electrical neutrality, more anions, in this
722 case chlorides, should be taken up by the interlayer in the case of a decreased Mg/Al ratio [16].
723 The reason for the contradictive results in the present study are unknown.

724

725 The chloride-binding isotherms showed a lower chloride binding for the sample 60C35D5M cured
726 at 60 °C and exposed to NaCl than for the sample 60C40D (Figure 3). Assuming that the apparent
727 lower chloride-content of the hydrotalcite in the samples containing metakaolin is an artefact, one

728 possible explanation for this could be the lower amount of hydrotalcite in the sample 60C35D5M
729 compared to 60C40D. In a previous study, we showed that the amount of hydrotalcite formed
730 strongly depends on the availability of portlandite in the system, which decreased with the
731 amount of metakaolin added [10].

732

733 **4.4 Effect of the exposure solution on the chloride binding of the cement paste**

734 **4.4.1 Effect of the exposure solution on the chloride-binding capacity of C-S-H**

735 Samples exposed to CaCl_2 show a greater chloride binding than samples exposed to NaCl (Figure
736 3 and Figure 4). Several authors have described increased chloride binding when samples are
737 exposed to CaCl_2 rather than NaCl [1,3,19–23]. The difference might be due to the ability of
738 samples to accumulate chloride ions in the diffuse layer of the C-S-H in the case of CaCl_2 exposure
739 (Table 5). This has previously been explained by the overcompensation of the originally negative
740 surface charge of the C-S-H by the adsorption of divalent calcium ions in the Stern layer of the C-
741 S-H [55]. This overcompensation reverses the surface charge and turns it positive [55], which
742 means negatively charged chloride ions can accumulate in the diffuse layer of the C-S-H [8,23].
743 This is qualitatively in accordance with our results, as a higher Cl/Si ratio of the C-S-H phase was
744 measured in samples exposed to CaCl_2 compared to NaCl (see Table 5).

745

746 **4.4.2 Effect of the exposure solution on the chloride-binding capacity of 747 hydrotalcite**

748 A higher chloride uptake in hydrotalcite was observed in the case of CaCl_2 exposure compared to
749 NaCl (Table 6). This could be explained using thermodynamic modelling, which showed that the
750 activity of the carbonate ions in the pore solution of a model system is decreased for CaCl_2
751 exposure, while it was not affected by NaCl exposure (Figure 6). Generally, divalent ions, such as
752 CO_3^{2-} , are more preferably incorporated in the interlayer of hydrotalcite than monovalent ions,
753 e.g. Cl⁻. Due to the decrease of the activity of carbonate ions when exposed to CaCl_2 , less carbonate
754 and more chloride ions might be accommodated in the interlayer of hydrotalcite in the case of
755 CaCl_2 exposure than in the case of NaCl exposure. The Mg/Al ratio of the hydrotalcite did not seem
756 to be affected by the exposure solution (Figure 12).

757

758 An additional explanation for the increased chloride uptake of hydrotalcite upon exposure to CaCl_2
759 compared to NaCl, is the decrease in the pH of the pore solution for CaCl_2 exposure, as shown in
760 Figure 5. Ke et al. highlighted the importance of the $[\text{Cl}^-]/[\text{OH}^-]$ ratio in the pore solution, which
761 can have a significant effect on the adsorption of chlorides on hydrotalcite. At a lower pH, the
762 concentration of OH^- ions is decreased, which might lead to the adsorption of chlorides rather than

763 hydroxides on the hydrotalcite [13]. In this study, we did however not differentiate between
764 surface adsorption and incorporation of chlorides in the interlayer of hydrotalcite.

765

766 **4.5 Comparison of the contribution of hydrotalcite and Friedel's salt to the** 767 **chloride binding of the cement pastes**

768 The amount of chloride bound in the C-S-H phase, Friedel's salt, and hydrotalcite per gram of
769 cement paste in the samples 60C40D (60 °C) and 60C40L (38 °C) exposed to either NaCl or CaCl₂
770 was calculated by a mass balance approach. The two different temperatures for the samples were
771 chosen, because considerable amounts of hydrotalcite were detected only in the samples
772 containing dolomite cured at 60 °C, whereas clear peaks of Friedel's salt were detected only in the
773 samples containing limestone cured at 38 °C.

774

775 The contribution of hydrotalcite, Friedel's salt and the C-S-H to the chloride binding of the cement
776 pastes exposed to a 2 mol/L chloride solution was estimated from the results of the mass balance
777 calculations shown in Figure 14. For the calculations where more than 30% of the aluminium
778 available for the formation of AFm phases is distributed to Friedel's salt, the Cl/Si ratio of the C-S-
779 H, and therefore its contribution to the chloride binding, is negative for the samples 60C40D and
780 60C40L exposed to NaCl, as described in 3.7. Negative values for the Cl/Si ratios are impossible,
781 and these calculations were not considered further. For the comparison between the contribution
782 of the chloride-containing hydrotalcite and the Friedel's salt to the chloride binding of the cement
783 paste, we chose the calculations where 25% of the aluminium is distributed to the formation of
784 Friedel's salt, as shown in Figure 15. This was done because the calculated Cl/Si ratio of the C-S-H
785 was similar between samples 60C40D and 60C40L in these calculations. The amount of chloride
786 bound in the hydrotalcite is unaffected by the combination of monocarbonate and Friedel's salt,
787 because the amount of hydrotalcite formed was assumed to depend solely on the reaction degree
788 of the dolomite.

789

790 The results of the mass balance calculations shown in Figure 15 indicate that the contribution of
791 hydrotalcite to the chloride binding of the sample 60C40D (60 °C) is in the range of Friedel's salt
792 in the sample 60C40L (38 °C) for both exposures.

793

794 However, the results of the mass balance calculations in this study are dependent on the amount
795 of hydrotalcite present, and therefore on the reaction degree of dolomite, which in this case is
796 assumed. Therefore, we also calculated the amount of chloride (N_{Cl}) in 1 mol of hydrotalcite (Table
797 6). We assumed hydrotalcite to contain always 2 mol of aluminium and varying amounts of
798 magnesium in the main layer. The Mg/Al and Cl/Al ratio of the hydrotalcite in sample 60C40D

799 were determined with SEM-EDS point analyses (Table 6). In case of NaCl exposure, 1 mol of the
800 hydrotalcite formed contained approx. 0.8 moles of chlorides and in case of CaCl₂ exposure,
801 approx. 1.8 mol of chlorides. For Friedel's salt, this value equals 2 according to its stoichiometric
802 formula (3CaO·Al₂O₃·CaCl₂·10H₂O). This indicates that the hydrotalcite formed due to the reaction
803 of dolomite is able to bind similar amounts of chlorides compared to Friedel's salt when exposed
804 to CaCl₂, and can, depending on the amount of hydrotalcite formed, contribute considerably to the
805 chloride binding of the cement paste.

806

807 **5 CONCLUSIONS**

808 We investigated well-hydrated cement pastes in which 40%wt of the Portland cement was
809 replaced with dolomite or a combination of dolomite and metakaolin cured at 38 °C or 60 °C. The
810 pastes were exposed to NaCl, CaCl₂ or deionized water and the chloride binding, pH, phase
811 assemblage and phase composition were determined. From the results the following conclusions
812 can be drawn:

813

- 814 • The hydrotalcite that formed in samples containing dolomite contributed considerably to
815 the chloride binding of these samples. This is especially visible in the samples containing
816 dolomite cured at 60 °C, because higher curing temperatures resulted in an acceleration
817 of the dolomite and reaction.
- 818 • In samples exposed to CaCl₂, hydrotalcite showed a higher chloride binding capacity than
819 in samples exposed to NaCl. This can probably be explained by the decrease in the
820 carbonate ion activity when the samples are exposed to CaCl₂, which might increase the
821 uptake of chlorides instead of carbonates in the interlayer of hydrotalcite.
- 822 • With mass balance calculations, it was shown that the hydrotalcite in samples containing
823 dolomite can contribute to the chloride binding of the cement pastes to a similar extent
824 as the Friedel's salt formed in samples containing limestone.

825

826

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832 the sample preparation and the chloride titration experiments.

833

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- 973
- 974

975 **Tables**

976

977 Table 1: Chemical composition of the Portland cement, dolomite, limestone and metakaolin used, as determined by XRF
 978 [%wt] and their Blaine surface areas [m²/kg].

Oxide	Portland cement	Dolomite	Limestone	Metakaolin
SiO ₂	19.91	0.52	0.12	52.18
Al ₂ O ₃	5.15	0.01	0.06	44.92
TiO ₂	0.282	0.00	0.00	1.14
MnO	0.062	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fe ₂ O ₃	3.42	0.04	0.03	0.62
CaO	62.73	31.52	55.12	0.12
MgO	2.34	20.14	0.41	0.04
K ₂ O	1.09	0.00	0.01	0.18
Na ₂ O	0.48	0.00	0.00	0.17
SO ₃	3.16	0.00	0.02	0.14
P ₂ O ₅	0.109	0.01	0.00	0.07
LOI	1.07	46.79	43.57	0.29
Sum (1050 °C)	99.80	99.03	99.34	99.87
Blaine [m²/kg]	416	340	370	987

979

980 Table 2: Matrix for the mixes [%wt]. The sulphate content of the Portland cement was set to 3.2%wt.

Name	C Portland cement	D Dolomite	L Limestone	M Metakaolin
100C	100	-	-	-
60C40D	60	40	-	-
60C35D5M	60	35	-	5
60C40L	60	-	40	-
60C35L5M	60	-	35	5

981

982 Table 3: Overview of the weight losses of the various well-hydrated samples before exposure during drying at 40 °C
 983 until constant weight [%wt]. The accuracy was estimated to 1%wt.

Sample name	Curing temperature [°C]	Weight loss drying at 40 °C [%wt]
100C	38 °C	33
60C40D	38 °C	35
60C35D5M	38 °C	35
60C40L	38 °C	39
60C35L5M	38 °C	37
100C	60 °C	32
60C40D	60 °C	35
60C35D5M	60 °C	35
60C40L	60 °C	37
60C35L5M	60 °C	38

984

985

986 Table 4: Phase assemblage of ettringite (Et), monosulphate-14H (Ms), monocarbonate (Mc), Friedel's salt (Fs), chloride-containing
 987 hydrotalcite (Ht_{Cl}), and hydrotalcite (Ht) observed with TGA or XRD in the various mixes for various curing temperatures (38 °C, 60 °C)
 988 and exposures (H₂O, NaCl, CaCl₂). The text in brackets indicates a low signal of that phase or an overlap with another peak so that its
 989 presence could not be confirmed nor excluded.

Sample	Exposure	Temp.	Et	Ms-14	Mc	Fs	Ht _{Cl}	Ht
60C40D	H ₂ O	38 °C	TGA XRD					TGA XRD
		60 °C						TGA XRD
60C35D5M	H ₂ O	38 °C	TGA XRD		TGA XRD			TGA (XRD)
		60 °C	(TGA) XRD					TGA XRD
60C40L	H ₂ O	38 °C	TGA XRD		TGA XRD			(TGA)
		60 °C	TGA XRD					(TGA)
60C35L5M	H ₂ O	38 °C	TGA XRD		TGA XRD			(TGA)
		60 °C	TGA XRD					(TGA)
60C40D	NaCl	38 °C	TGA			(XRD)	TGA XRD	
		60 °C				(XRD)	TGA XRD	
60C35D5M	NaCl	38 °C	TGA		(TGA)	(TGA) XRD	TGA (XRD)	
		60 °C	(TGA) XRD			(XRD)	TGA XRD	(TGA)
60C40L	NaCl	38 °C	TGA		(TGA)	TGA XRD	(TGA)	
		60 °C	TGA XRD			(TGA)	(TGA)	
60C35L5M	NaCl	38 °C	TGA		TGA	TGA XRD	(TGA)	
		60 °C	(TGA)			(TGA) XRD	(TGA)	
60C40D	CaCl ₂	38 °C	TGA	(XRD)		TGA (XRD)	TGA XRD	
		60 °C			TGA XRD	(XRD)	TGA XRD	
60C35D5M	CaCl ₂	38 °C	TGA	(XRD)		TGA XRD	TGA	
		60 °C	TGA	(XRD)		(XRD)	TGA XRD	
60C40L	CaCl ₂	38 °C	TGA	(XRD)		TGA XRD	(TGA)	
		60 °C	TGA XRD	(XRD)			(TGA)	
60C35L5M	CaCl ₂	38 °C	TGA	(XRD)		TGA XRD	(TGA)	
		60 °C	TGA	(XRD)		TGA XRD	(TGA)	

990

991 Table 5: Overview of the C-S-H composition of the samples 60C40D, 60C35D5M, and 60C35L5M cured at 38 °C or 60 °C
 992 and exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂.

Sample			Si/Ca	Al/Si	Cl/Si	S/Si
60C40D	38 °	NaCl	0.68	0.03	0.05	0.03
		CaCl ₂	0.78	0.04	0.24	0.03
	60 °	NaCl	0.58	0	0.1	0.04
		CaCl ₂	0.55	0	0.24	0.04
60C35D5M	38 °	NaCl	0.78	0.04	0.05	0.04
		CaCl ₂	0.75	0.06	0.19	0.03
	60 °	NaCl	0.73	0.04	0.16	0.02
		CaCl ₂	0.65	0.04	0.24	0.02
60C35L5M	38 °	NaCl	0.9	0.08	0.05	0.04
		CaCl ₂	0.65	0.08	0.2	0.03
	60 °	NaCl	0.65	0.04	0.16	0.008
		CaCl ₂	0.56	0.04	0.24	0.008

993

994 Table 6: Overview of the Mg/Al and Cl/Al ratio of the hydrotalcite in the various samples, and the amount of chloride
 995 calculated [mol] per 1 mol of hydrotalcite (N_{Cl}).

Sample			Mg/Al	Cl/Al	N _{Cl}
Hydrotalcite	60C40D	NaCl	3.2	0.4	0.8
		CaCl ₂	3.2	0.9	1.8
	60C35D5M	NaCl	2.4	0.2	0.4
		CaCl ₂	2.4	0.7	1.4

996 **Figures**

997

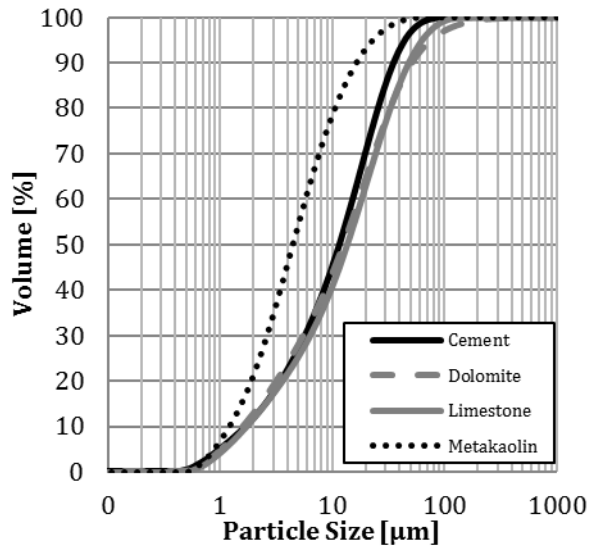


Figure 1: Particle size distribution of the materials used determined by laser diffraction.

998

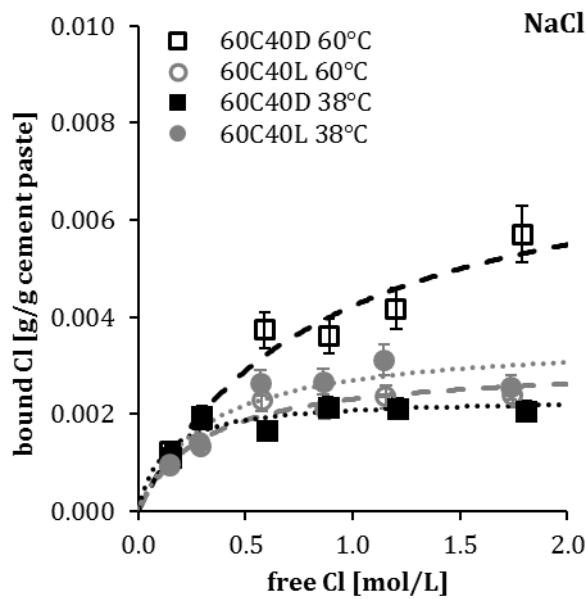


Figure 2: Experimental data and fitted curves of the chloride-binding isotherms for the samples 60C40D (black squares) and 60C40L (grey spheres) cured at 38 °C (filled icons, dotted lines) or 60 °C (hollow icons, dashed lines) and exposed to NaCl.

999

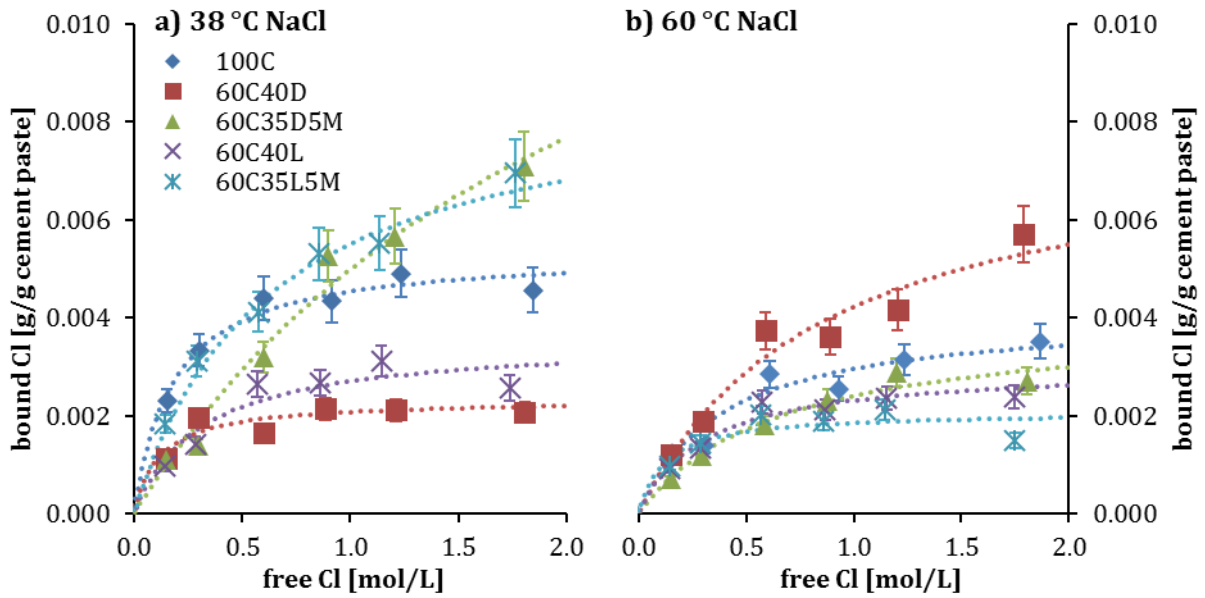


Figure 3: Experimental data and fitted curves of the chloride-binding isotherms for all the mixes investigated that were cured at a) 38 °C or b) 60 °C and exposed to NaCl.

1000

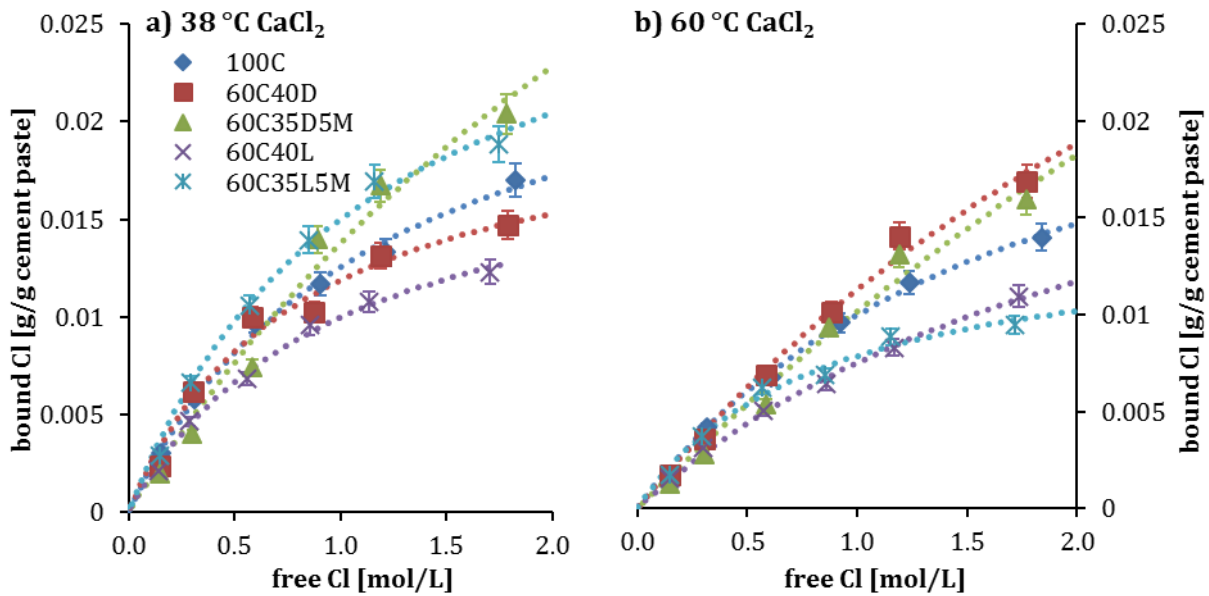


Figure 4: Experimental data and fitted curves of the chloride-binding isotherms for all the mixes investigated that were cured at a) 38 °C or b) 60 °C and exposed to CaCl₂. Note that the scale of the y-axis is different compared to Figure 2 and Figure 3.

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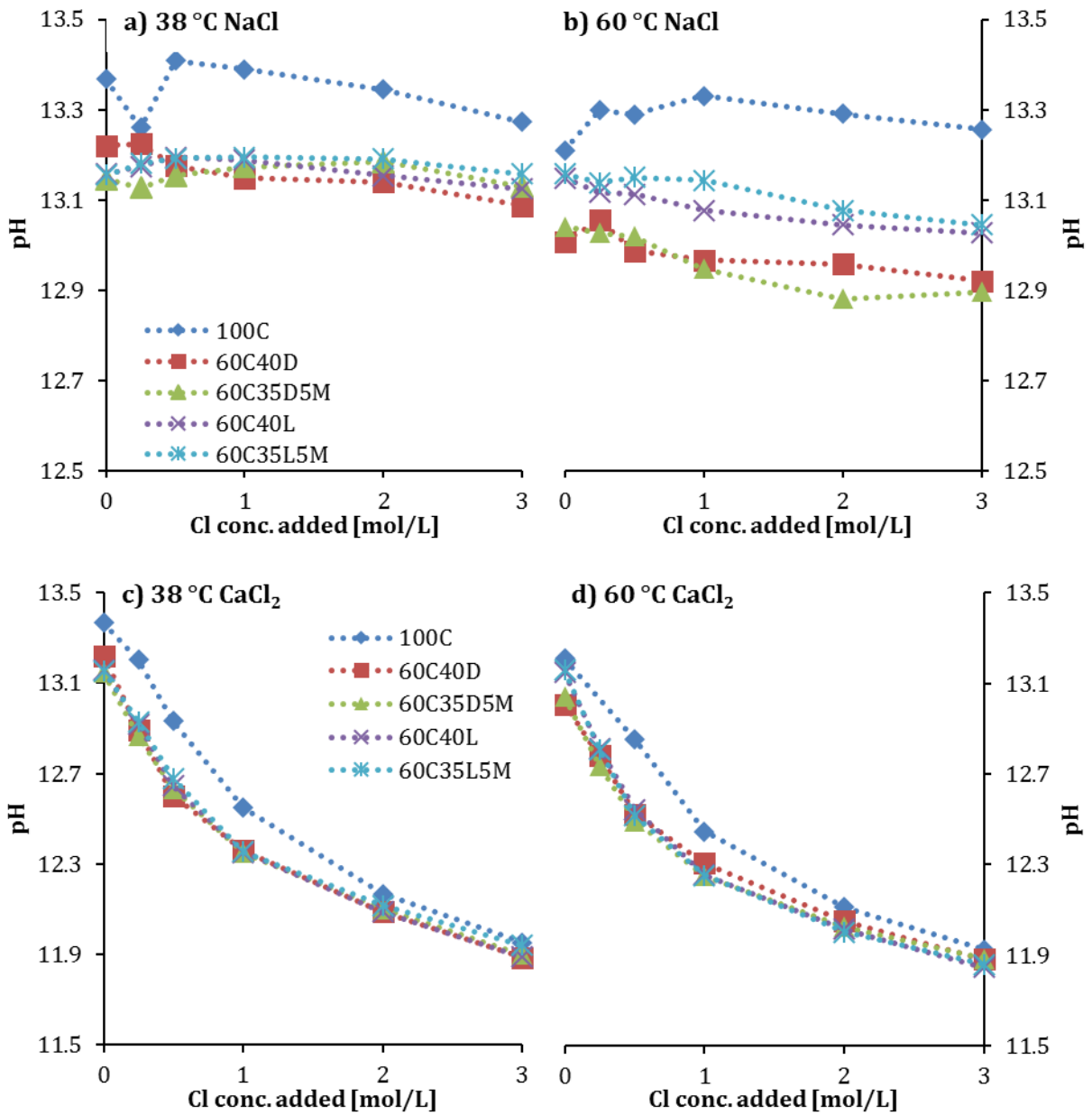


Figure 5: pH measurements of the supernatant of the various binder compositions cured at 38 °C or 60 °C and exposed to various concentrations of NaCl or CaCl₂. The measurements were performed at 20 °C. The points at 0 mol/L refer to the pH measurements of the reference samples exposed to deionized water.

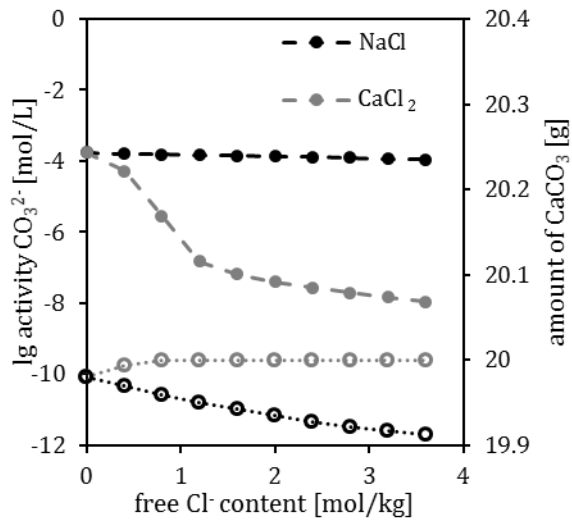


Figure 6: Results of the thermodynamic modelling of the activity of CO_3^{2-} ions (filled icons, dashed lines, plotted as \log_{10}) in the pore solution and the amount of CaCO_3 present in the system (hollow icons, dotted lines) with increasing additions of NaCl or CaCl_2 .

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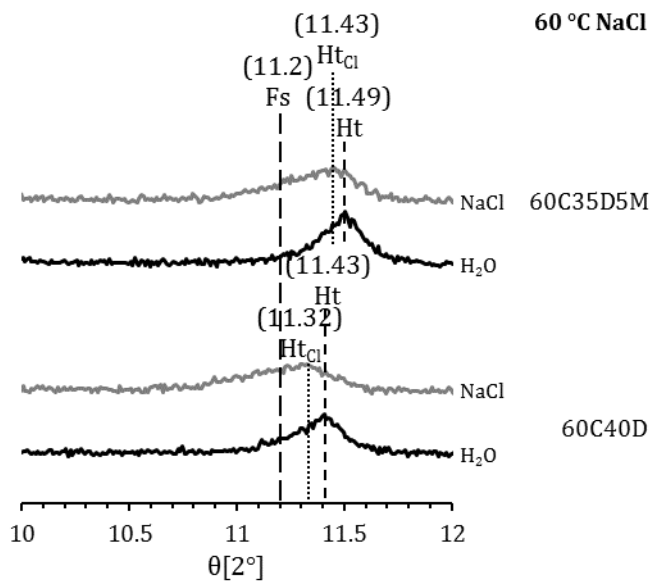


Figure 7: Zoomed in XRD patterns between 10 and 12 $^{\circ}2\theta$ of the samples 60C40D and 60C35D5M cured at 60 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ that were exposed to NaCl compared with their reference samples exposed to deionized water.

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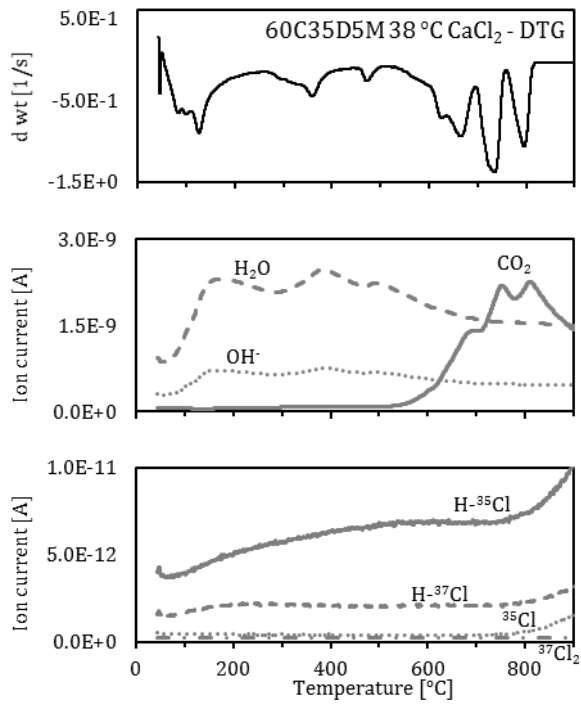


Figure 8: Mass spectra of the various components released during TGA-MS investigations of sample 60C35D5M cured at 38 °C and exposed to CaCl₂. Note the different scaling on the y-axes.

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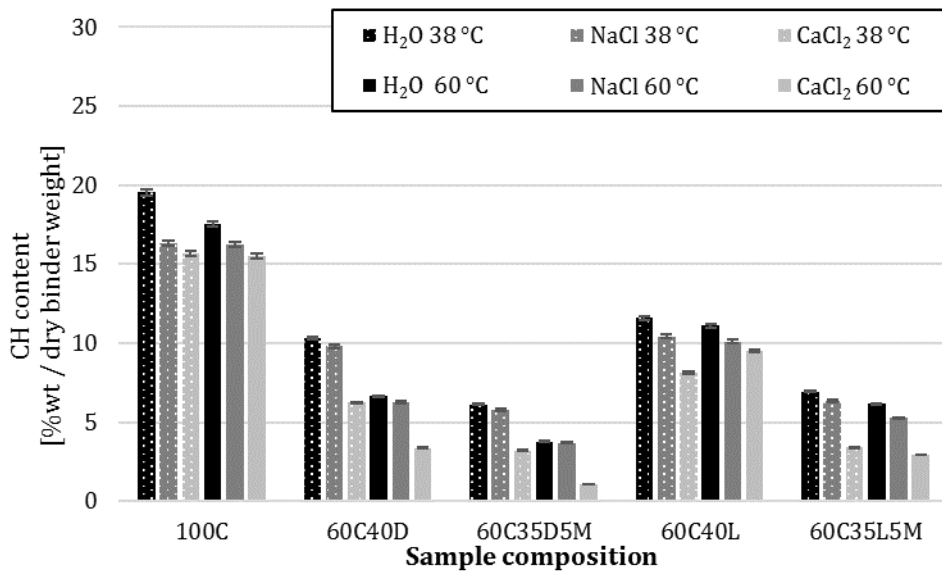


Figure 9: Portlandite content normalized to the dry binder weight for the various samples cured at 38 °C or 60 °C that were exposed to H₂O, NaCl or CaCl₂.

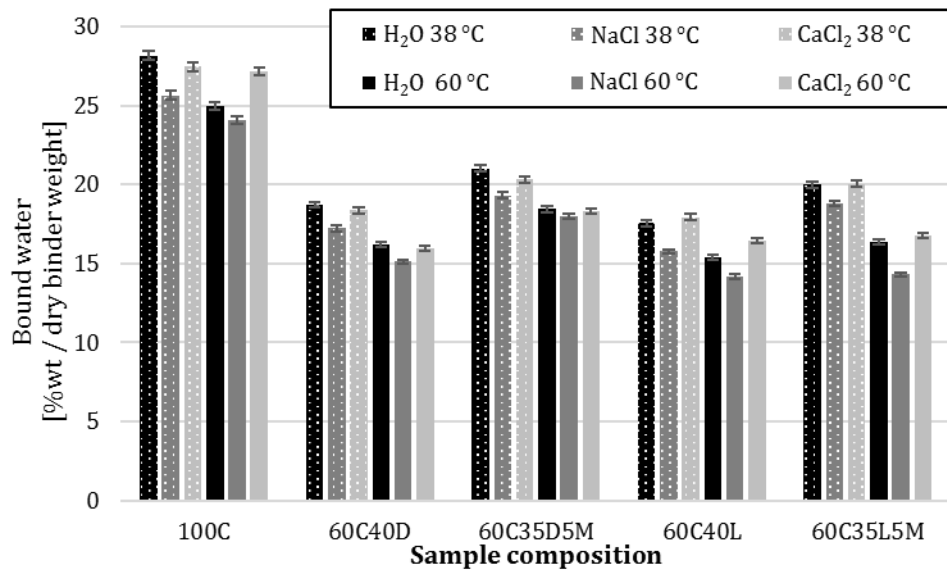


Figure 10: Bound water content normalized to the dry binder weight for the various samples cured at 38 °C or 60 °C that were exposed to H₂O, NaCl or CaCl₂.

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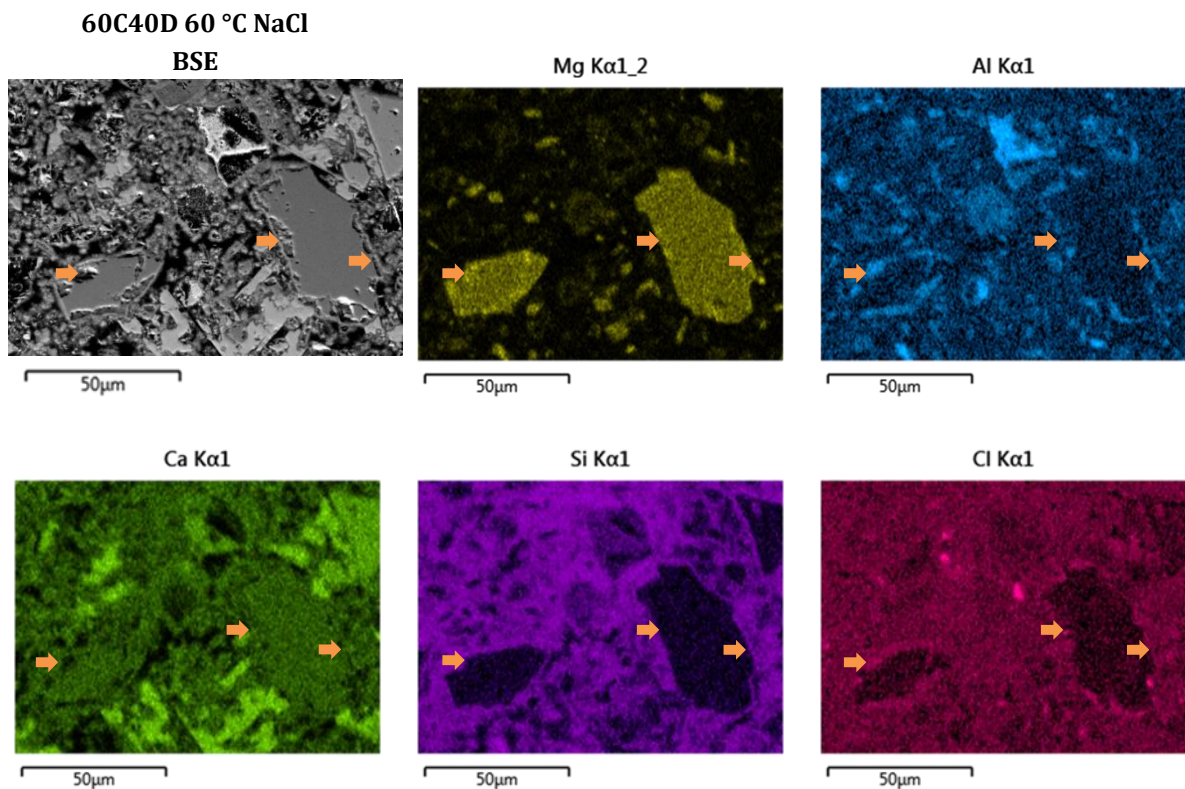


Figure 11: BSE image and elemental maps of magnesium, aluminium, calcium, silicon and chlorine for sample 60C40D cured at 60 °C and exposed to a 2 mol/L NaCl solution.

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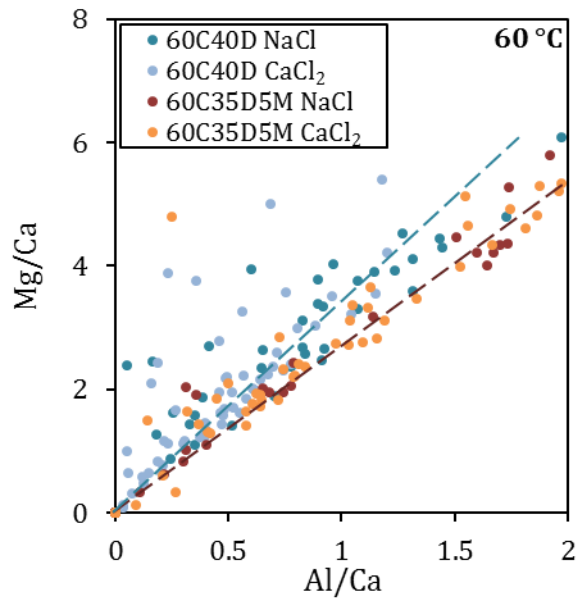


Figure 12: Mg/Ca ratio over the Al/Ca ratio for the point analyses of the reaction rims around the dolomite grains in samples 60C40D and 60C35D5M, which were cured at 60 °C and exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂.

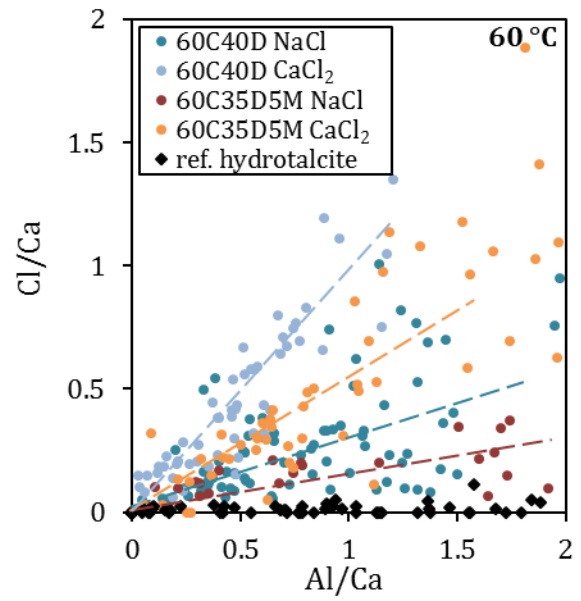


Figure 13: Cl/Ca ratio over the Al/Ca ratio for the point analyses of the reaction rims around the dolomite grains in samples 60C40D and 60C35D5M, which were cured at 60 °C and exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂. In addition, the results for the point analyses in such reaction rims from a previous study [10] are shown as a reference for not-exposed samples.

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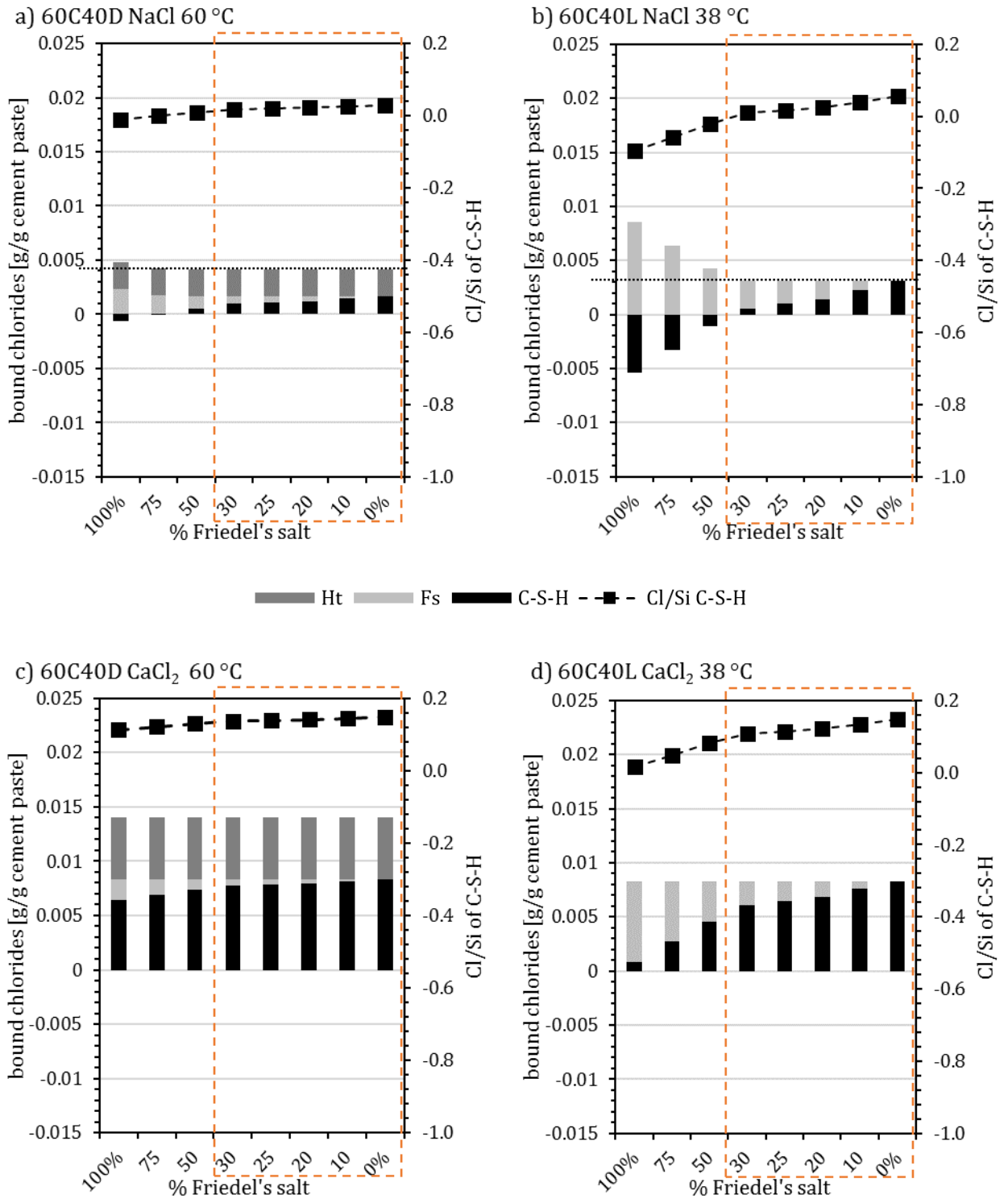


Figure 14: Calculated Cl/Si ratio of the C-S-H and amount of chloride bound in C-S-H, Friedel's salt, and hydrotalcite calculated for the samples 60C40D (60 °C) and 60C40L (38 °C) exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂ depending on the distribution of the aluminium between Friedel's salt and monocarbonate. The dotted lines in a) and b) indicate the amount of bound chlorides determined with potentiometric titration (see Figure 3).

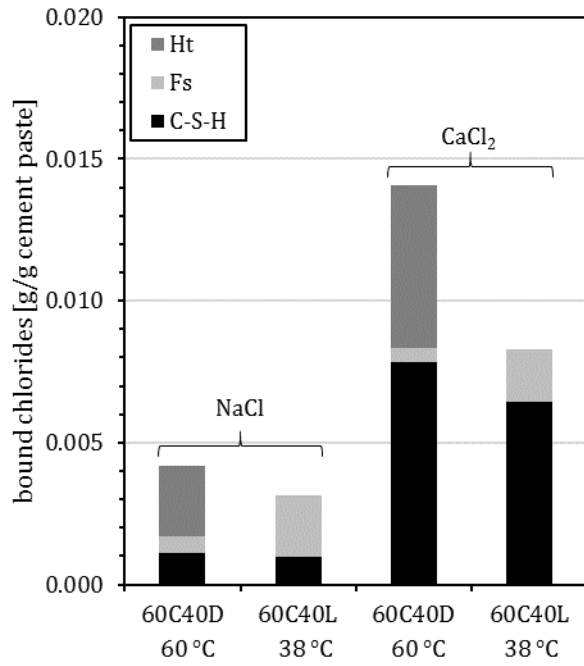


Figure 15: Amount of chloride bound in C-S-H, Friedel's salt, and hydrotalcite calculated for the samples 60C40D (60 °C) and 60C40L (38 °C) exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂, when 25% of the aluminium available for the formation of AFm phases is distributed to Friedel's salt (and 75% to monocarbonate).

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1020 **8 Appendix**

1021 **8.1 Hydrate phase assemblage in the exposed samples**

1022 **8.1.1 XRD**

1023

1024 Figure A1 a), b) and Figure A2 a), b) show the XRD patterns between 8 and 13 °2θ for the samples
1025 containing dolomite exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂ and their reference samples exposed to deionized
1026 water. The peak positions of ettringite (Et – 9.1 °2θ), monosulphate (Ms – 9.9 °2θ), Friedel's salt
1027 (Fs – 11.2 °2θ), monocarbonate (Mc – 11.7 °2θ), hydrotalcite (Ht – approx. 11.4 °2θ) and the
1028 chloride-containing hydrotalcite (Ht_{Cl} – approx. 11.1–11.3 °2θ) are also indicated.

1029

1030 Whether exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂, the samples show very similar qualitative phase assemblages,
1031 so they are described together in the following, with differences highlighted.

1032

1033 Sample 60C40D shows a qualitatively similar phase assemblage whether cured at 38 °C or 60 °C.
1034 In both cases, hydrotalcite was observed in the reference samples exposed to water and, with
1035 chloride exposure, this peak shifted to lower angles. This shift was reported to be due to the
1036 formation of a chloride-containing hydrotalcite-like phase [13]. The peaks of hydrotalcite and
1037 chloride-containing hydrotalcite were both higher in samples cured at 60 °C than in samples cured
1038 at 38 °C. In samples with metakaolin added in combination with dolomite (60C35D5M),
1039 monocarbonate was observed as well as a small peak of hydrotalcite in the reference samples
1040 cured at 38 °C. In the samples exposed to chloride solutions, the monocarbonate transformed to
1041 Friedel's salt. The Friedel's salt and chloride-containing hydrotalcite peaks overlap, so no
1042 conclusion on the presence of small amounts of chloride-containing hydrotalcite can be drawn for
1043 this sample with XRD. Cured at 60 °C, sample 60C35D5M showed no peaks of monocarbonate or
1044 Friedel's salt. As with sample 60C40D only hydrotalcite, in the case of water exposure, or the
1045 chloride-containing hydrotalcite, in the case of chloride exposure, were observed. The ettringite
1046 observed in the reference samples seemed to be reduced by the exposure to chloride solutions or
1047 to disappear completely. The only exception was sample 60C35D5M, which also showed an
1048 increase in the ettringite peak when originally cured at 60 °C as opposed to 38 °C. For the
1049 compositions for which ettringite could be observed when exposed to deionized water, a
1050 monosulphate-14H peak was observed instead of ettringite when exposed to CaCl₂.

1051

1052 Figure A3 a), b) and Figure A4 a), b) show the XRD patterns of the samples containing limestone
1053 exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂ and their reference samples exposed to deionized water. In samples
1054 containing limestone cured at 38 °C, the AFm phase observed in water-exposed samples was
1055 monocarbonate, while in chloride-exposed samples the AFm phase was mainly Friedel's salt. No

1056 monocarbonate peak was observed in any of the samples cured at 60 °C, and only a small hump
1057 of Friedel's salt was detected in sample 60C35L5M (60 °C) exposed to NaCl. As with the samples
1058 containing dolomite, the ettringite peak seemed to be reduced by exposure to chloride solutions
1059 and a monosulphate-14H peak was observed in the samples exposed to CaCl₂. Sample 60C40L
1060 showed an especially high ettringite peak in the samples cured at 60 °C compared to 38 °C.
1061

1062 **8.1.2 TGA**

1063 The TGA results for the samples exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂ were generally quite similar so they are
1064 described together in the following, with differences highlighted.
1065

1066 Figure A1 c), d) and Figure A2 c), d) show the DTG curves of the samples containing dolomite
1067 exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂ and their reference samples, which were exposed to deionized water.
1068 Samples containing dolomite and cured at 38 °C showed a clear ettringite peak in samples exposed
1069 to deionized water, and to a lesser degree in the samples exposed to NaCl or CaCl₂. The samples
1070 containing a combination of metakaolin and dolomite showed a clear peak of monocarbonate
1071 where exposed to water, and of Friedel's salt were exposed to chloride solution. Neither
1072 monocarbonate nor Friedel's salt were observed with TGA in samples containing dolomite that
1073 did not contain metakaolin, indicating that most of the aluminium is bound in the hydrotalcite.
1074 The only exception to this was sample 60C40D exposed to CaCl₂, which showed a small peak of
1075 Friedel's salt. Due to the overlap of the second peak of Friedel's salt (approx. 370 °C) with the
1076 decomposition temperature of chloride-containing hydrotalcite, the appearance of the first peak
1077 (approx. 150 °C) was used to identify Friedel's salt in the sample. This first Friedel's salt peak was
1078 more pronounced in samples exposed to CaCl₂ than in samples exposed to NaCl. This observation
1079 confirms the findings of Shi et al., who reported additional formation of Friedel's salt in samples
1080 exposed to CaCl₂ due to the increased availability of calcium ions [3]. Hydrotalcite also showed
1081 two peaks in TGA, the first of which (approx. 220 °C) was significantly reduced or completely
1082 vanished in the samples exposed to chloride solutions instead of deionized water. The second
1083 peak of hydrotalcite (approx. 400 °C) shifted to lower temperatures (approx. 370 °C) in samples
1084 exposed to chloride solutions. On this peak, the shoulder of a Friedel's salt peak at even lower
1085 temperatures was observed in samples that also showed the first Friedel's salt peak. The
1086 portlandite peak seemed little affected by exposure to NaCl, but it was significantly lower in
1087 samples containing metakaolin or exposed to CaCl₂.
1088

1089 In samples containing dolomite cured at 60 °C, the ettringite peak was significantly lower
1090 compared to 38 °C, especially in samples containing no metakaolin. AFm phases like
1091 monocarbonate or Friedel's salt were no longer observed. Only sample 60C40D cured at 60 °C and

1092 exposed to CaCl_2 showed a peak of monocarbonate. The peaks related to hydrotalcite or chloride-
1093 containing hydrotalcite were higher than in samples cured at 38 °C. In both cases, the chloride-
1094 containing hydrotalcite could be distinguished by the significantly lower or missing first peak and
1095 the shift to lower temperatures of the second peak compared to the normal hydrotalcite. This was
1096 observed in all samples except sample 60C35D5M cured at 60 °C exposed to NaCl, which showed
1097 only a slight decrease in the first peak and no shift for the second peak. In samples cured at 60 °C,
1098 the portlandite content seemed lower in samples with NaCl exposure, metakaolin addition and
1099 especially with CaCl_2 exposure.

1100

1101 The DTG curves for the samples containing limestone exposed to NaCl or CaCl_2 and their reference
1102 samples exposed to deionized water are shown in Figure A3 c), d) and Figure A4 c), d). Like the
1103 samples containing dolomite, the samples containing limestone cured at 38 °C, showed a clear
1104 ettringite peak at low temperatures that seemed to decrease when exposed to NaCl or CaCl_2
1105 compared to the references exposed to water. In the latter case, there was a clear peak of
1106 monocarbonate, which was even greater for samples containing metakaolin. In samples exposed
1107 to CaCl_2 , a clear Friedel's salt peak was observed instead of monocarbonate. This was also the case
1108 in samples exposed to NaCl, but it was less clear and combined with a monocarbonate peak. The
1109 reference samples containing limestone exposed to deionized water also showed very small peaks
1110 in the temperature region of hydrotalcite. This weight loss might be caused by hydrotalcite formed
1111 due to the large amount of magnesium present in the cement (Table 1). In the samples containing
1112 limestone exposed to NaCl or CaCl_2 , a clear peak of Friedel's salt and what was probably a small
1113 peak of chloride-containing hydrotalcite was observed. As with the samples containing dolomite,
1114 the portlandite peak was only affected by the presence of metakaolin or the exposure to CaCl_2 .

1115

1116 In samples containing limestone cured at 60 °C, the ettringite peak was again lower than in those
1117 cured at 38 °C, though the decrease was not as great as in the samples containing dolomite. No
1118 AFm phases were observed with TGA, except for a small peak of Friedel's salt in sample 60C35L5M
1119 exposed to CaCl_2 . As in the samples containing dolomite, the peaks related to hydrotalcite were
1120 higher in samples cured at 60 °C than in samples cured at 38 °C. The Friedel's salt peak in the
1121 chloride-exposed samples showed a clear asymmetry or a double peak, indicating also an increase
1122 in the amount of chloride-containing hydrotalcite. The portlandite peak was reduced by both
1123 chloride exposures, but especially by exposure to CaCl_2 , and in samples with metakaolin.

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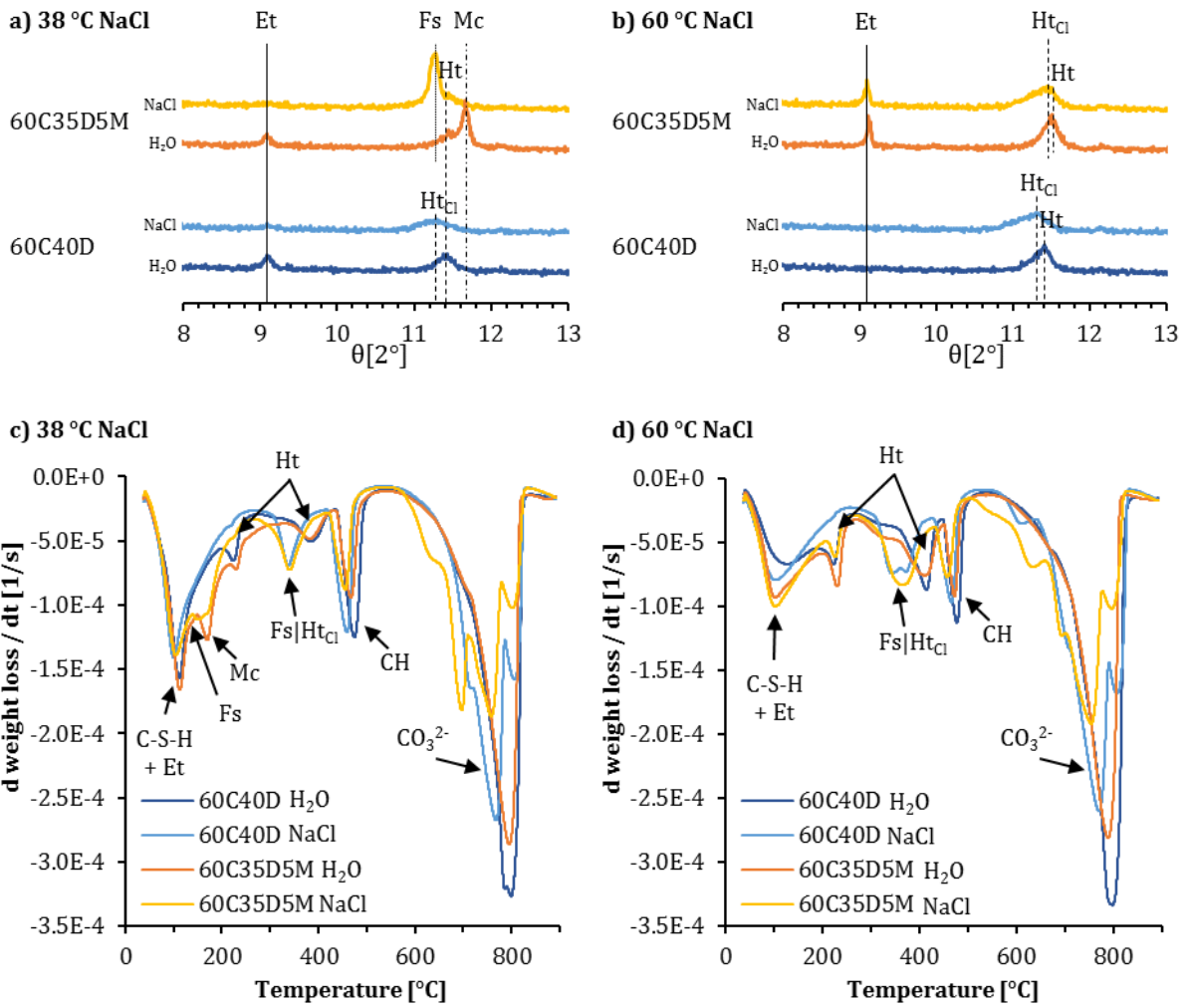


Figure A1: Phase assemblage of the samples containing dolomite cured at 38 °C or 60 °C that were exposed to 2 mol/L NaCl compared with their reference samples exposed to deionized water. a) and b) show the XRD patterns of these samples between 8 and 13 °2 θ , and c) and d) show the DTG curves of these samples from 40–900 °C.

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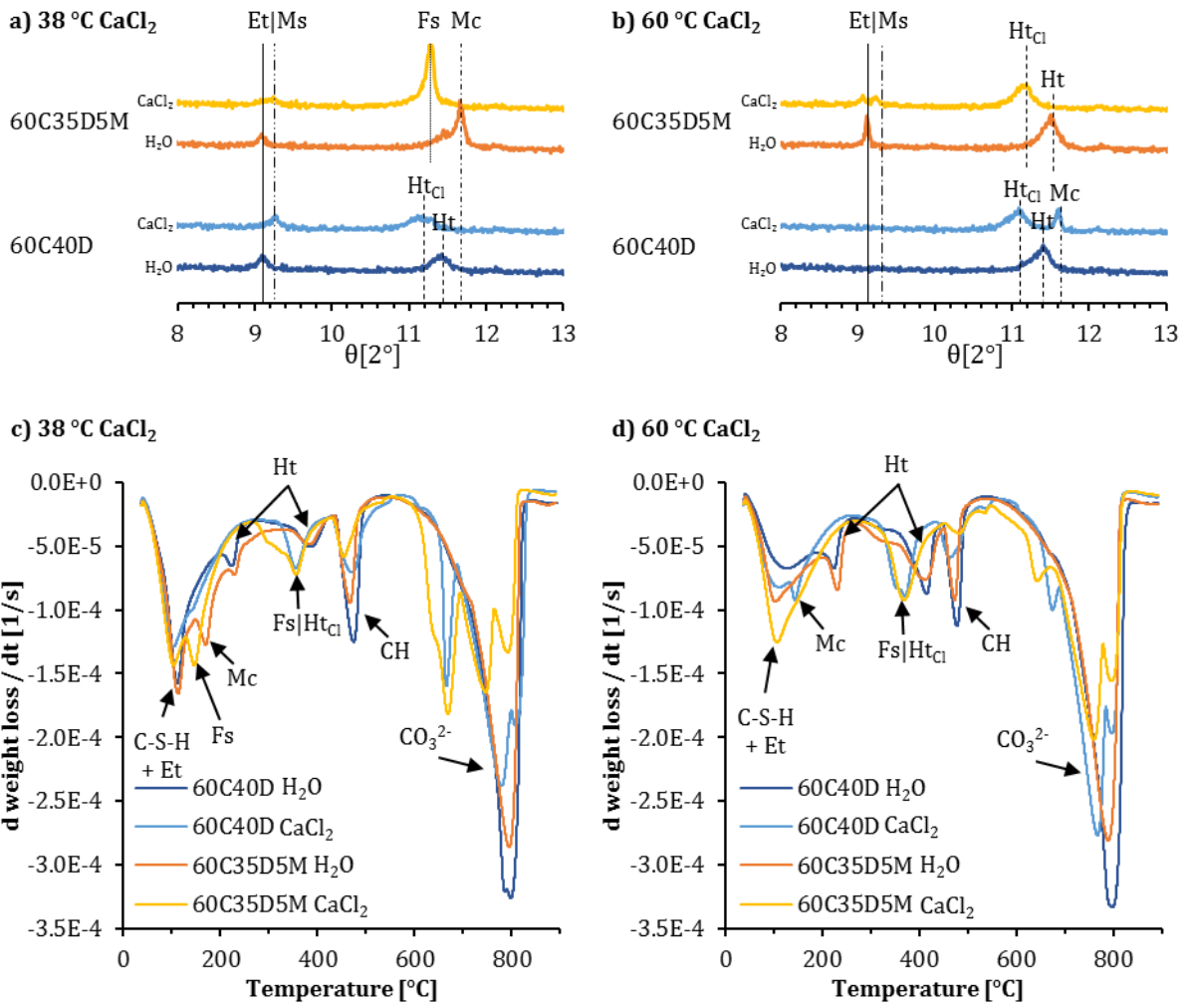


Figure A2: Phase assemblage of the samples containing dolomite cured at 38 °C or 60 °C that were exposed to 2 mol/L CaCl₂ compared with their reference samples exposed to deionized water. a) and b) show the XRD patterns of these samples between 8 and 13 °2 θ , c) and d) show the DTG curves of these samples from 40–900 °C.

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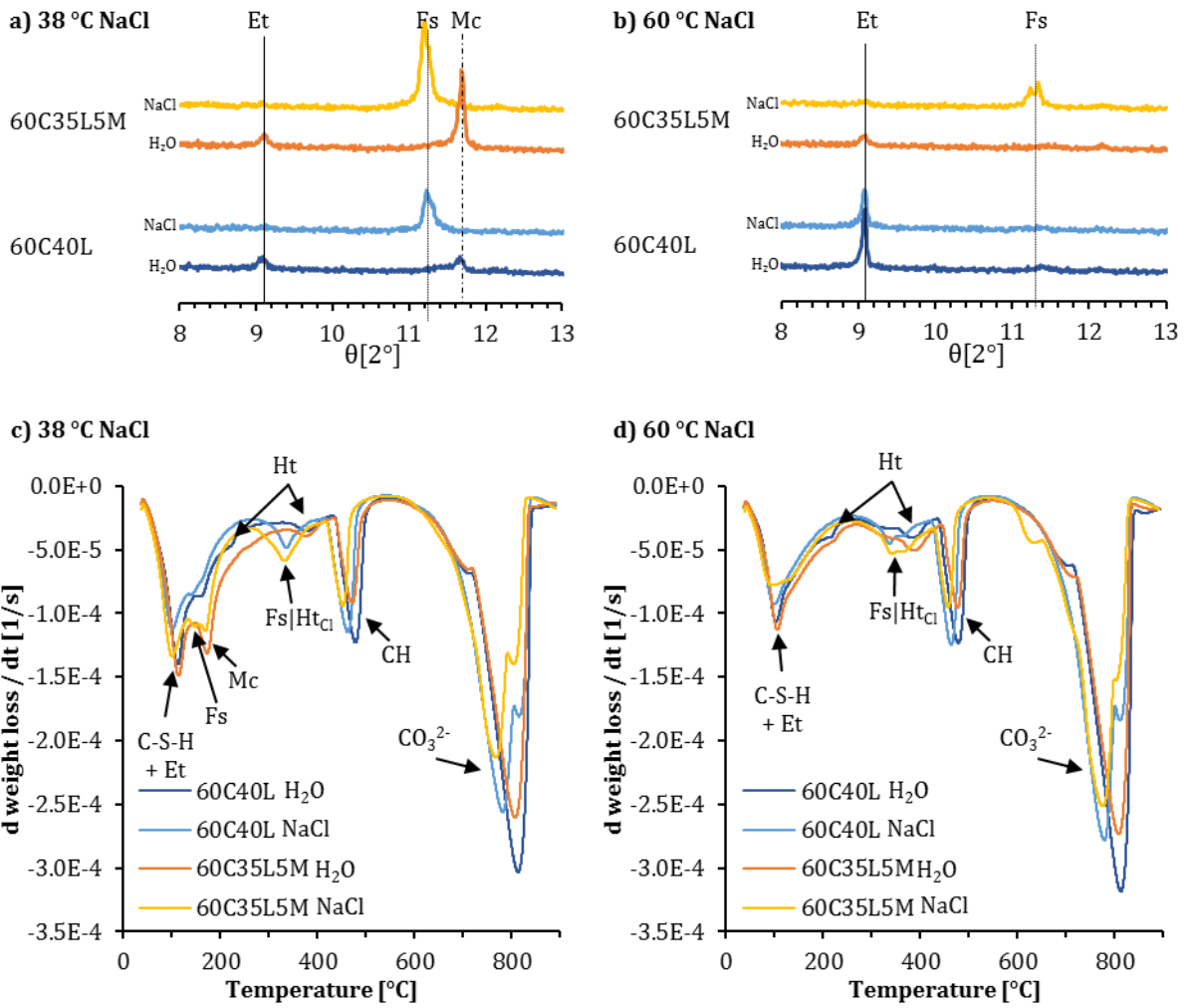


Figure A3: Phase assemblage of the samples containing limestone cured at 38 °C or 60 °C that were exposed to 2 mol/L NaCl compared with their reference samples exposed to deionized water. a) and b) show the XRD patterns of these samples between 8 and 13 °2 θ , c) and d) show the DTG curves of these samples from 40–900 °C.

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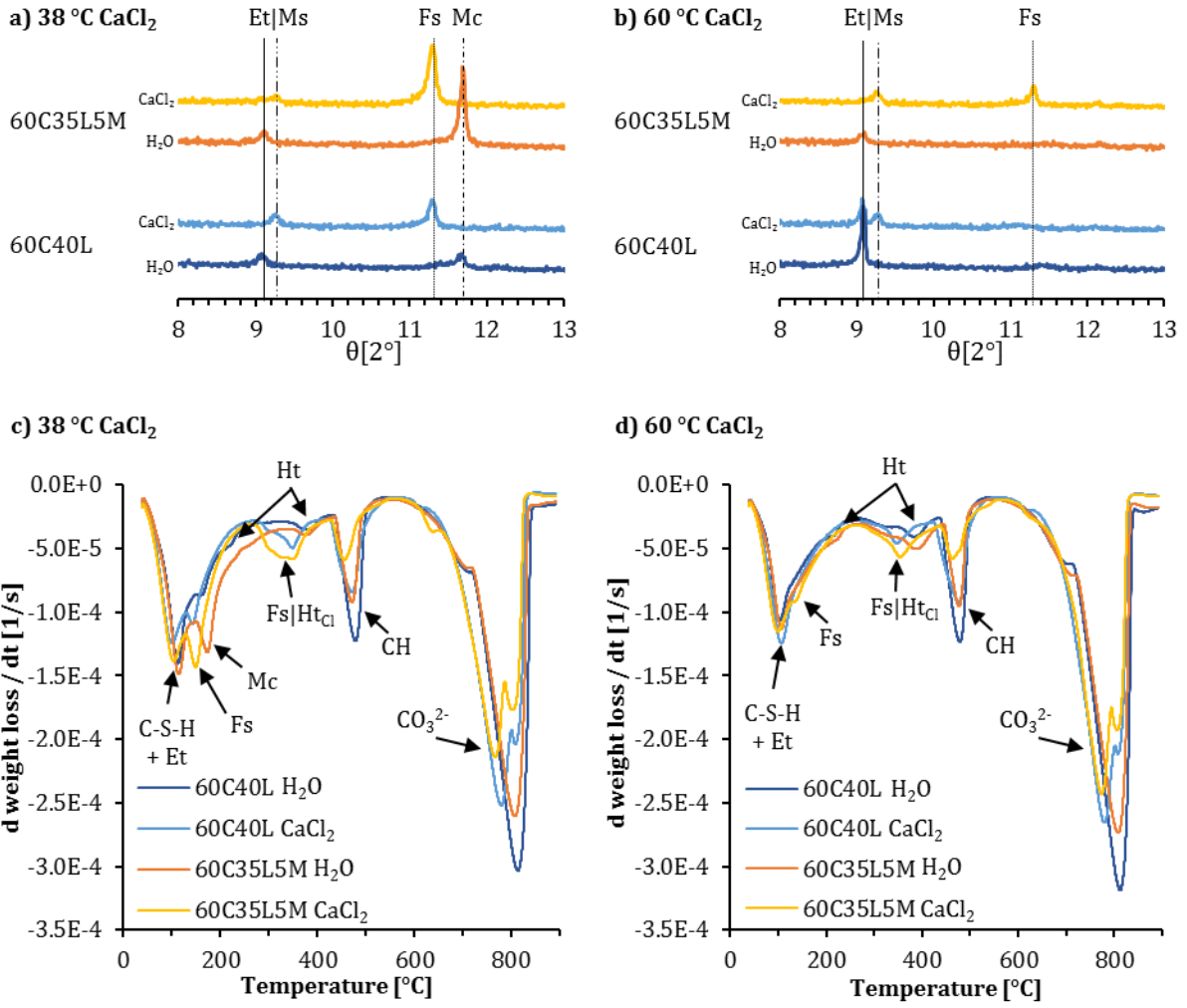


Figure A4: Phase assemblage of the samples containing limestone cured at 38 °C or 60 °C that were exposed to 2 mol/L CaCl₂ compared with their reference samples exposed to deionized water. a) and b) show the XRD patterns of these samples between 8 and 13 °2θ, c) and d) show the DTG curves of these samples from 40–900 °C.