

Evaluating the variability of the modulus of elasticity of concrete through the use of different types and batches of aggregate

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ABSTRACT

The modulus of elasticity of concrete is often calculated as a function of the compressive strength, and as a deterministic value. However, variations in the aggregates properties may result in module values different than those estimated, which may lead to excessive deformation and eventual instability of the structure. In this work, the influence of the coarse aggregate batch variation on the variability of the modulus of elasticity of the concrete was investigated. Three different aggregate sources (one of granite origin and two of gneiss origin), three water/cement ratios (w/c) and five different batches of each aggregate were investigated. The compressive strength and static modulus of elasticity of the concretes were determined at 28 days. The analysis of variance (ANOVA) showed that the variable "batch" had a significant influence on the modulus of elasticity of the concrete, indicating that this property is a probabilistic variable indeed. The normality of the distribution of its values was attested, and values of characteristic modulus of elasticity were proposed, which were from 6 to 10% lower than the mean values. In addition, the use of gneissic aggregates led to modulus of elasticity values 30% higher than those of the concretes with granitic aggregates and equivalent compressive strengths, while the reduction of the w/c ratio from 0.71 to 0.46 increased the modulus of elasticity in about 5%.

Keywords: Aggregate; Concrete; Modulus of elasticity; Variability.

1. INTRODUCTION

The construction of tall buildings in reinforced concrete has become a common practice in South America, eventually exceeding 250 meters in height [1]. In addition to the obstacles encountered in the execution of these buildings, a challenge for structural projects is the rigidity required by these structures, since they are often slender buildings. This demand leads to the need for concretes with high elasticity modules.

The importance of such a property is demonstrated by the existence of numerous researches related to the theme. PARRA *et al.* [2] evaluated the difference in the elasticity module of conventional and self-compacting concretes, with the same compressive strengths. The authors found that the modulus of elasticity of the pastes that make up the self-compacting concretes tends to be higher, due to the presence of mineral additions which promote greater compactness of the cementitious matrix. However, the presence of higher volumes of paste in this type of concrete led to slightly lower modulus of elasticity. ABED *et al.* [3] investigated the residual mechanical properties of self-compacting concrete incorporated with unprocessed waste fly ash after expose to the elevated temperature. The authors found that the modulus of elasticity is more sensitive to high temperature exposure than other mechanical strength (e.g. compressive and flexural strength), and replacing cement with up to 15% waste fly ash improved the residual modulus of elasticity of concrete. ALSAMAN *et al.* [4] evaluated the elasticity modulus of ultra-high performance concrete, made

with a w/c ratio equal to 0.20 and only natural small aggregates, with a maximum diameter of 1.0 mm. For strengths of 130 to 160 MPa, elastic modulus of 38 to 46 GPa were obtained. SILVA *et al.* [5] evaluated the modulus of elasticity of concretes containing recycled aggregates, observing values lower than those obtained for concretes with conventional aggregates. According to the authors, this occurred due to the lower modulus of elasticity of the recycled aggregates and the characteristics of the paste / aggregate transition zone. Piesta *et al.* evaluated the correlation between the modulus of elasticity of conventional and high-performance concretes, and of the rocks that originated the aggregates (basalt, granite, dolomite and quartz). The modulus of elasticity of basaltic rock was 100.8 GPa, while of granite it was 28.0 GPa. This resulted in modulus of elasticity 25 to 45% higher for concretes containing aggregates of basalt compared to those containing granite, for same w/c ratios. The same behavior was observed by JUROWSKI and GRZESZCZYK [6], who investigated the elasticity module of self-compacting and high-performance concretes produced with natural and basalt aggregates. SCHANKOSKI *et al.* [7] found that the mineral origin of the filler used in self-compacting concrete significantly affects the modulus of elasticity of the composite, observing values up to 16% higher for concretes produced with granite and diabase fillers, compared to those produced with fillers. limestone. In addition to the various correlations proposed in the literature, models for predicting codes and standards are available, such as Model Code [8], ACI 318 [9], and Brazilian [10], British [11], Spanish [12], New Zealand [13], and Canadian [14] standards.

A fact neglected both by the models and correlations presented in the literature and in structural projects is the possible variability in the value of the concrete's modulus of elasticity. In contrast to the compressive strength, for which a characteristic value is adopted due to the dispersion of its values, the modulus of elasticity is approached as a deterministic variable. Thus, the occurrence of values lower than the one adopted may result in calculation errors and lead to excessive deformations, or even to instability of the structure. In this context, to the authors' best knowledge, reports of the variability of the modulus of elasticity of concretes produced with aggregate from the same source over time are non-existent.

Therefore, this work evaluated the influence of the variation of the batch of the coarse aggregate in the variability of the elasticity module of the concrete. For this, concretes were made with coarse aggregates from three different sources, three different water/cement ratios, and five different batches from each source of aggregate. The compressive strength and static elastic modulus of the concretes were determined at 28 days. Based on the results obtained, a probabilistic approach is proposed for the modulus of elasticity, determining a characteristic value for this property.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Materials

Portland cement available in Brazil as CP IV-32 [15] was used, equivalent to CEM II/A-V [16]. The chemical and physical characteristics of the cement are presented in Table 1. As fine aggregate, a combination of two sands was used: quarzitic natural sand with fineness modulus of 1.04 and density of 2.65 g/cm³, and limestone manufactured sand with fineness modulus of 3.03 and density of 2.80 g/cm³. The combination of 60% natural sand + 40% manufactures sand was used since it was previously defined as the optimum proportion [17], resulting in a composition with fineness modulus of 1.84 and density of 2.71g/cm³. The particle size distribution of the fine aggregate used is presented in Figure 1.

Table 1: Chemical and physical characteristics of the Portland cement used.

Chemical composition										
SiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃	CaO	K ₂ O	Na ₂ O	MgO	SO ₃	LOI	IR	Free CaO
28.99	9.79	4.07	45.45	*1.18		2.41	2.59	3.24	26.10	0.67
Physical properties										
Density (g/cm ³)				Blaine fineness (cm ² /g)		28-day nominal strength (MPa)				
2.86				4380		43.3				

* Na₂O equivalent; LOI = loss on ignition; IR = insoluble residue.

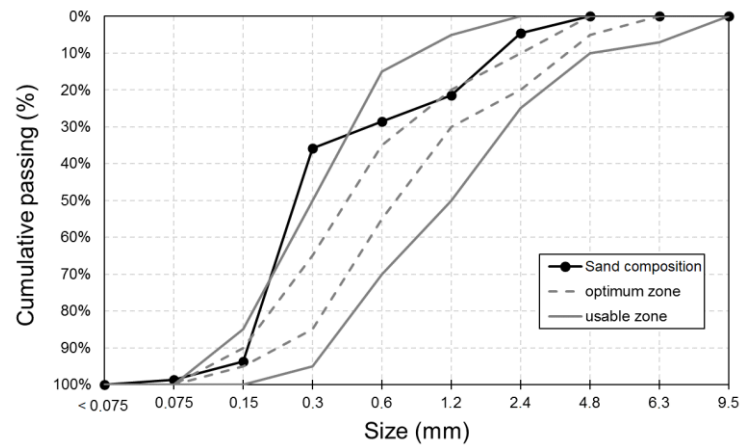


Figure 1: Particle size distribution of the fine aggregate used.

Three gravels were used as coarse aggregate: one granitic, produced in Tijucas, SC, Brazil (referred to as “Granite”), and two gneissic, one of which was produced in Blumenau, SC, Brazil (referred to as “Gneiss 1”) and the other in Gaspar, SC, Brazil (referred to as “Gneiss 2”). For each gravel, 5 samples were collected on different dates, collected in two size fractions: 4.75-12.5 mm and 9.5-25.0. For concrete production, the two size fractions were used in equal proportions. The particle size distribution of the coarse aggregates of different types and batches are shown in Figure 2, their physical characteristics are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Physical characteristics of the coarse aggregates from different types and batches.

Material / size fraction	Property	Batch 1	Batch 2	Batch 3	Batch 4	Batch 5	Average	
Granite	4.75-12.5 mm	Density (g/cm ³)	2.60	2.60	2.62	2.62	2.62	2.61
	4.75-12.5 mm	Fineness modulus	6.42	6.44	6.46	6.45	6.42	6.44
	9.5-25.0 mm	Density (g/cm ³)	2.61	2.60	2.63	2.62	2.62	2.62
	9.5-25.0 mm	Fineness modulus	6.98	7.09	7.10	7.06	7.03	7.05
Gneiss 1	4.75-12.5 mm	Density (g/cm ³)	2.75	2.78	2.76	2.78	2.80	2.77
	4.75-12.5 mm	Fineness modulus	6.35	6.24	6.21	5.89	6.02	6.14
	9.5-25.0 mm	Density (g/cm ³)	2.78	2.78	2.76	2.77	2.80	2.78
	9.5-25.0 mm	Fineness modulus	6.97	6.94	6.92	7.02	7.03	6.98
Gneiss 2	4.75-12.5 mm	Density (g/cm ³)	2.85	2.85	2.81	2.84	2.80	2.83
	4.75-12.5 mm	Fineness modulus	6.02	6.09	4.98	6.12	5.68	5.78
	9.5-25.0 mm	Density (g/cm ³)	2.85	2.85	2.81	2.84	2.78	2.83
	9.5-25.0 mm	Fineness modulus	6.98	6.94	6.97	2.05	7.01	5.99

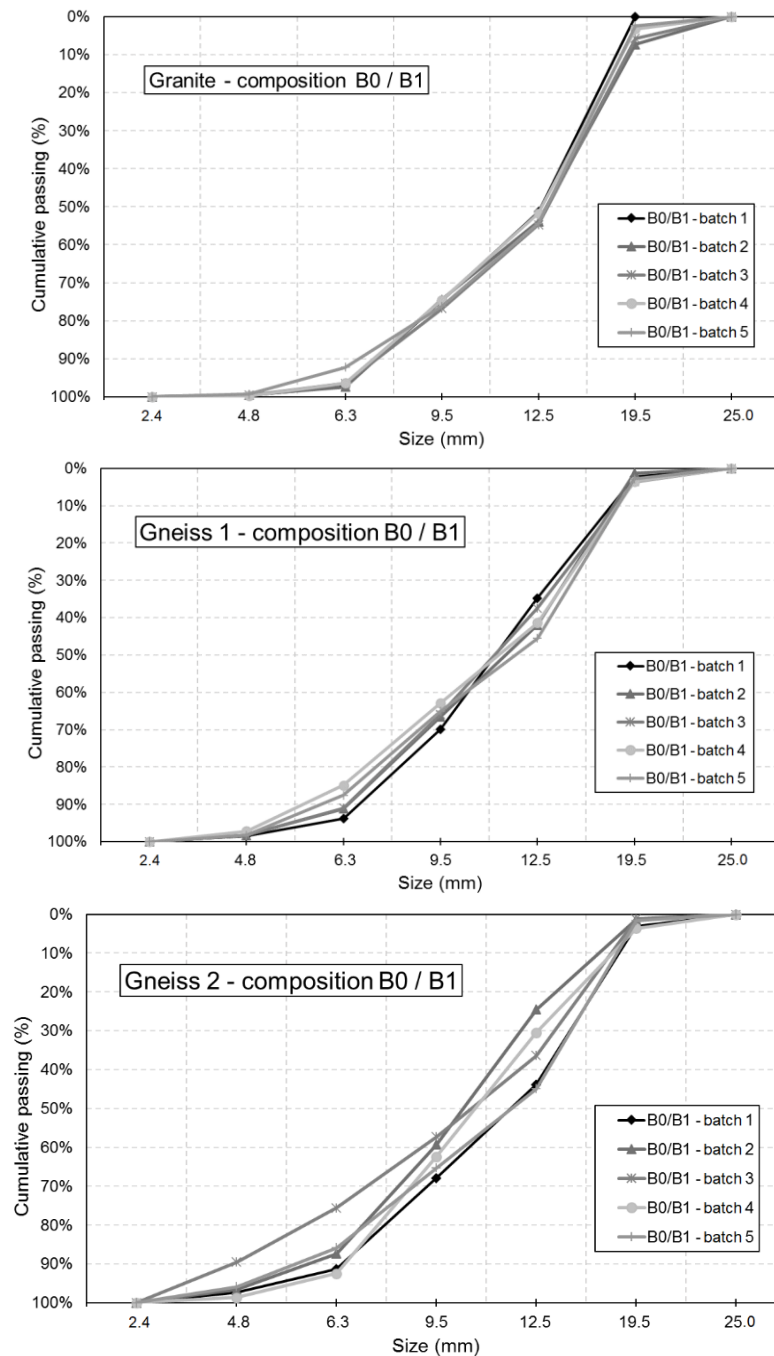


Figure 2 Particle size distribution of the different types and batches of coarse aggregate.

2.2 Mix proportioning

Firstly, a water content of 174 liters/m³ and a volumetric mortar content of 59% were fixed for all the mixes, which were previously verified as adequate for producing concretes with the materials commercially available in the region [18]. Then, the cement content was varied to reach compressive strengths compatible with those used in practice (i.e. from 25 to 40 MPa), therefore establishing three water/cement (w/c) ratios by mass: 0.46, 0.57 and 0.71. The volumetric content of coarse aggregate was fixed (in about 41%) in order to verify only the effects of the aggregate type and batch – and not of its content – on the mechanical properties of concrete. Finally, the fine aggregate content was defined as the volume necessary to complete 1 m³ of concrete. Figure 3 illustrates the detailed composition of the concretes investigated, in volumetric basis. Considering three types of coarse aggregate, five batches of each aggregate, and three w/c ratios, a total of 45 concretes were produced.

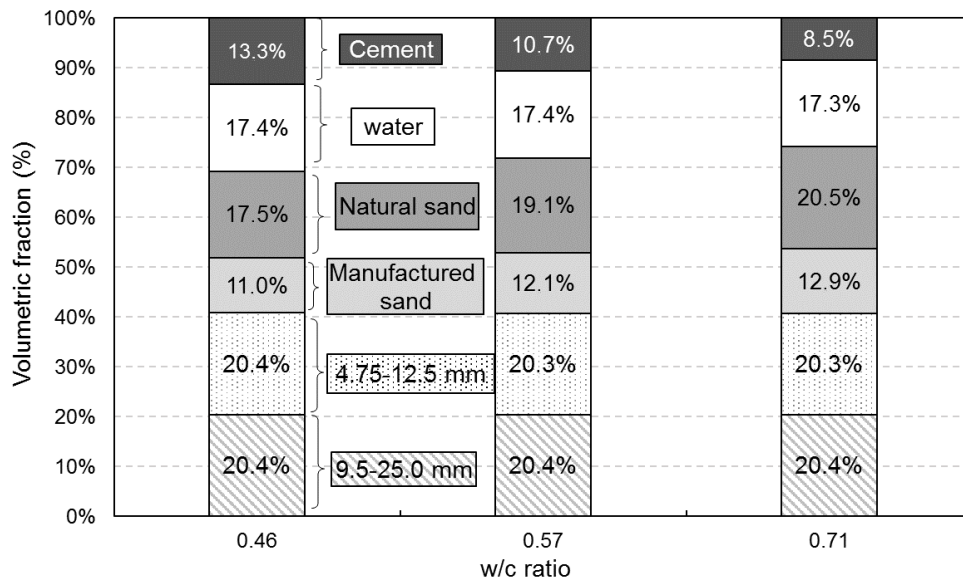


Figure 3: Volumetric proportioning of the concrete mixes investigated.

2.3 Sample preparation

Concretes were prepared in a vertical axis mixer with capacity of 35 liters and 60 rpm. For each composition, batches of 15 liters were prepared, mixed according to the following steps: (i) addition of cement and sand to the mixer container and homogenizing for 1 min; (ii) addition of water gradually over 1 min; (iii) after a total of 4 min mixing, adding the gravel; (iv) after a total of 5 min mixing, gradually adding the plasticizer until reaching the desired consistency; (v) mix up to a total of 10 min. The aggregates were previously dried, and the materials were stored in the laboratory for 24 hours before using for temperature stabilization.

Immediately after the concrete preparation, the slump test was conducted according to ASTM C143 [19] to check if the workability reached the desired target of 150 ± 30 mm, in addition to determining the entrained air content by the gravimetric method according to ASTM C185 [20]. Then, six cylindrical specimens of 100 in diameter and 200 mm in height were cast according to ASTM C39 [21]. Immediately after casting, the specimens were placed in room wt 23.0 ± 2.0 °C for 24 h. Then, they were demolded and immersed in a water tank saturated with lime, where they were kept until 28 days.

2.4 Testing methods

The compressive strength tests were conducted according to ASTM C39 [21], and the modulus of elasticity of concrete was determined according to ASTM C469 [22]. Both tests were performed at 28 days using a UH-2000 (Shimadzu) hydraulic press, with constant loading rate of 0.45 ± 0.10 MPa/s.

2.5 Statistical analysis

Analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used to verify the influence of the parameters “w/c ratio”, “type of aggregate”, “batch of aggregate”, and the combination between them in the compressive strength values and modulus of elasticity of concrete. The analysis was performed using the software Statistica (version 13.2), for 95% reliability.

The normality of the results was verified by the Kolmogorov-Smirnov Normality Test. This method consists of comparing the cumulative frequencies of the values obtained experimentally with those of the theoretical normal distribution. To accept the normality of the data, the maximum absolute difference between the observed and theoretical distributions must be less than a critical value, which depends on the significance and size of the sample [23]. This comparison is conducted using Equation 1, where D_n is the observed difference, $F(x)$ is the assumed cumulative distribution function (in this case, the normal function), and $F_n(x)$ is the cumulative distribution obtained experimentally (i.e. empirical distribution).

$$D_n = \sup_x |F(x) - F_n(x)| \quad (1)$$

The empirical distribution function $F_n(x)$ is defined by Equation 2, for n independent X_i observations,

where $I_{[-\infty, x]}(X_i)$ is the indicator function (equal to 1 if $X_i \leq x$, and equal to 0 if $X_i > x$).

$$F_n(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n I_{[-\infty, x]}(X_i) \quad (2)$$

The observed difference (Dn) is then compared with the critical value $D(\alpha, n)$, which depends on the level of probability (α) and the sample size (n). If Dn is lower or equal to $D(\alpha, n)$, the hypothesis of normality is accepted.

If the normality of the values is confirmed, a characteristic value can be determined from the t-student distribution given by Equation 3, where \bar{x} is the sample mean, μ is the population mean, s is the sample standard deviation and n is the number of values. The characteristic value corresponds to the value that, for the adopted reliability, values below it will not be achieved.

$$t = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu}{s/\sqrt{n}} \quad (3)$$

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The characterization of concrete in the fresh state was limited to determining its slump as an acceptance criterion. All the mixes reached the initially established range of 150 ± 30 mm. In addition, the air content of the concretes varied from 1.2 to 3.1%, therefore not significantly affecting its mechanical properties.

3.1 Compressive strength of concrete

Although the major goal of this work is to check the variability of the module of elasticity of concrete with different batches of aggregate, it is convenient to verify if the compressive strength of the concrete was affected. The compressive strength results at 28 days are shown in Figure 4. The mean strengths were 40.0, 31.1 and 22.2 MPa, respectively for the w/c ratios of 0.46, 0.57 and 0.71. It can be noted that the type of aggregate did not have significant influence on the compressive strength of concrete, and this trend was confirmed by ANOVA presented in Table 3, in line with that reported by [24]. For conventional strength concrete (i.e. with compressive strength up to 60 MPa), the aggregate usually presents strength greater than the cementitious matrix. Thus, the failure of the composite tends to occur in the matrix, while the type of aggregate generally does not significantly influence the strength of concrete as long as they have adequate mechanical characteristics and transition zone with the cementitious matrix [25]. In turn, the w/c ratio had significant influence on the compressive strength of concrete as expected. The reduction of the w/c ratio results in a more compact cementitious matrix, reducing its porosity and consequently increasing the mechanical resistance of the materia [24, 26].

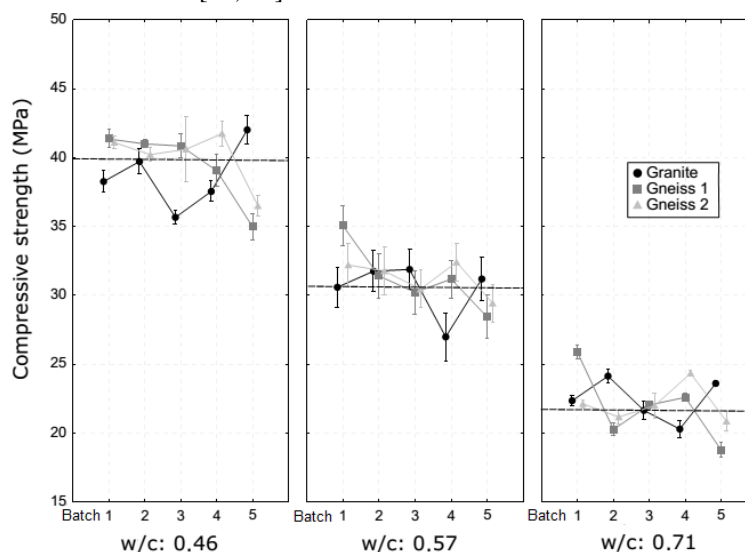


Figure 4: Compressive strength of the concretes at 28 days for the different w/c ratios, type and batch of aggregate.

Table 3: ANOVA: influence of “w/c ratio”, “aggregate type” and “aggregate batch” on the compressive strength of concrete.

Source	SS	DOF	MS	F	p	Significant?
w/c ratio (A)	14884.2	2	7442.08	1908.25	0	Yes
Aggregate type (B)	19.262	2	9.631	2.47	0.087	No
Aggregate batch (C)	217.733	4	54.433	13.957	0	Yes
AB	31.088	4	7.772	1.993	0.096	No
AC	36.995	8	4.624	1.186	0.308	No
BC	585.486	8	73.186	18.766	0	Yes
ABC	197.94	16	12.371	3.172	0	Yes
Error	1013.99	260	3.9			
Total	16986.7	304				

SS: sum of squares; DOF: degrees of freedom; MS: mean square; F: F-statistic; p: probability value.

3.2 Modulus of elasticity of concrete

Figure 5 shows the average values of the modulus of elasticity of the concretes for each ratio w/c, type and batch of aggregate. ANOVA presented in

Table 4 indicated that the three factors had significant influence on the module of elasticity, as well as the interactions between them, for 95% reliability. The influence of each factor will be discussed independently in the following items. However, it is evident in Figure 5 that the values obtained for the granitic aggregate are lower than those obtained for the gneissic aggregates for the same w/c ratio, while the values obtained for the two gneissic aggregates did not have significant differences.

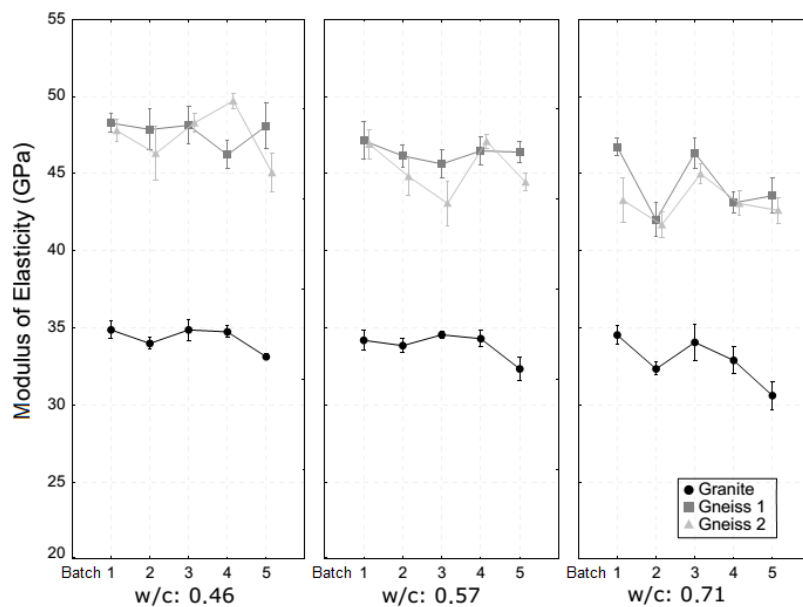


Figure 5: Modulus of elasticity of the concretes at 28 days for the different w/c ratios, type and batch of aggregate.

Table 4: ANOVA: influence of “w/c ratio”, “aggregate type” and “aggregate batch” on the modulus of elasticity of concrete.

Source	SS	DOF	MS	F	p	Significant?
w/c ratio (A)	311.891	2	155.945	39.959	0	Yes
Aggregate type (B)	6309.73	2	3154.865	808.386	0	Yes
Aggregate batch (C)	109.964	4	27.491	7.044	0	Yes
AB	49.06	4	12.265	3.143	0.016	Yes
AC	65.488	8	8.186	2.098	0.039	Yes
BC	66.65	8	8.331	2.135	0.035	Yes
ABC	67.578	16	4.224	1.082	0.376	No
Error	643.94	165	3.903			
Total	7624.302	209				

3.2.1 Effect of “type of aggregate” on the modulus of elasticity of concrete

ANOVA presented in

Table 4 indicated that the factor "aggregate type" had a more significant influence on the modulus of elasticity of concrete than the factor "w/c ratio" since the F index of the former was higher than that of the latter. This behavior was opposite to that observed in the compressive strength, where the type of aggregate did not have significant influence, while the “w/c ratio” played a major role. According to [24], properties such as the modulus of elasticity and density of the constituent phases, their volumetric fraction and the properties of the transition zone are preponderant in the elastic behavior of concrete. Thus, the use of aggregate with higher modulus of elasticity naturally increases the overall modulus of elasticity of concrete. In this context, it was observed that concretes produced with granitic aggregates presented values of modulus of elasticity approximately 30% lower than those obtained for concretes containing gneissic aggregates, regardless of the strength level (i.e. w/c ratio) and aggregate batch. Similar behaviors to those observed in this work are reported by other authors in the literature [27-31].

Furthermore, Duncan post-hoc test was conducted to check if the type of gneiss led to significant differences in the values of modulus of elasticity, and the results are presented in Table 5. For the same w/c ratios, no significant differences between the modulus of elasticity of the concretes produced with the different gneissic aggregates were observed, with 95% reliability. This reinforces the hypothesis that the mineralogical type of aggregate is the predominant parameter in the elastic behavior of concrete, for a fixed content of it.

Table 5: Duncan test for the modulus of elasticity of the concretes with different gneissic aggregates.

Mix	Eci	Std	0.71	0.71	0.57	0.57	0.46	0.46	
w/c	Aggregate	(GPa)	GN1	GN2	GN1	GN2	GN1	GN2	
0.71	GN1	44.3	2.52	-	NS	S	NS	S	S
0.71	GN2	43.0	2.36	NS	-	S	S	S	S
0.57	GN1	46.4	1.93	S	S	-	NS	NS	NS
0.57	GN2	45.4	2.29	NS	S	NS	-	S	S
0.46	GN1	47.6	1.87	S	S	NS	S	-	NS

0.46	GN2	47.4	2.72	S	S	NS	S	NS	-
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Eci = modulus of elasticity; Std = standard deviation; S = significant difference; NS = not significant difference.

3.2.2 Effect of “w/c ratio” on the modulus of elasticity of concrete

Figure 6 shows the values of the modulus of elasticity of the concretes as a function of their compressive strength, for each type of aggregate. There was a slight upward trend in the module of elasticity with the reduction of the w/c ratio (i.e. with the increase in the strength of concrete). This trend was confirmed by ANOVA presented in

Table 4, with 95% reliability. Although the factor “w/c ratio” statistically influenced the modulus of elasticity, this trend was discreet: in the case of concretes containing granitic aggregate, reducing the w/c ratio from 0.71 to 0.46 increased the modulus of elasticity from 33.0 GPa to 34.0 GPa (about 3% increase); in the case of the concretes containing gneissic aggregates, this increase was slightly higher, from 44.3 GPa to 47.6 GPa (about 7% increase). These increases were much lower than the 80%-increase in compressive strength promoted by the reduction of the w/c ratio from 0.71 to 0.46. These results reinforce the hypothesis that an increase in compressive strength does not necessarily lead to significant increases in its modulus of elasticity. In fact, this is verified by [4], which obtained modulus from 38 to 46 GPa for ultra-high performance concretes with compressive strengths of 130-160 MPa, with strengths much higher than those obtained in the present work but similar modules.

As already mentioned, the reduction of the w/c ratio results in a more compact cementitious matrix, with smaller pore volumes. However, in this study, the water consumption of the mixtures was kept fixed for all compositions, with the reduction of the w/c ratio effected by the increase in the cement consumption of the concretes. This led to increases in paste volume of up to 5% when comparing concretes with a w/c ratio of 0.71 and 0.46, since the volume of coarse aggregates and the content of mortar were kept constant for all mixtures. It is known that the modulus of elasticity of aggregates is, in general, much higher than that of cement paste [32]. Thus, the increase in the modulus of elasticity of concrete promoted by the increase in the stiffness of the paste (resulting from the reduction of the w/c ratio) was partially compensated by the increase in the volume of paste (the latter, with a lower modulus of elasticity). These results are compatible with those reported by [2]: according to the authors, the cement paste of self-compacting concrete have a module of elasticity 5-15% higher than the paste of conventional concrete, justified by the increase in compactness promoted by the addition of filler. Despite that, self-compacting concrete showed modulus of elasticity about 5% lower than conventional concrete for the same compressive strength due to the higher volumes of paste of the former.

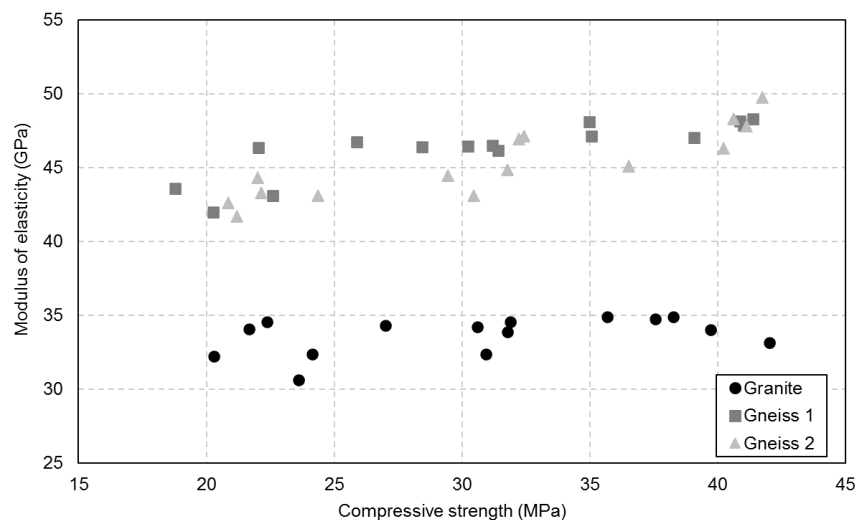


Figure 6: Modulus of elasticity of concrete as a function of its compressive strength.

3.2.3 Effect of “aggregate batch” on the modulus of elasticity of concrete

In order to evaluate the variability of the modulus of elasticity of concretes produced with aggregates from the same source extracted over time, ANOVA was conducted to check the influence of the factor “aggregate batch” on its property for each aggregate source separately. The results are presented in

Table 6. The aggregate batch had significant influence on the module of elasticity of concrete, with 95% reliability, regardless of the aggregate type. This behavior suggests a probabilistic approach for this property, and not deterministic values resulting from specific tests, or simply correlated to compressive strength as often adopted in practice. Such a probabilistic approach is also suggested by other authors [33-35].

Table 6: ANOVA: effect of “aggregate batch” on the modulus of the elasticity of concrete, for each type of aggregate.

Aggregate	Source	SS	DOF	MS	F	p	Significant?
GR	w/c ratio (A)	23.495	2	11.747	5.728	0.006	Yes
	Aggregate batch (B)	52.093	4	13.023	6.35	0	Yes
	AB	9.93	8	1.241	0.605	0.769	No
	Error	108.693	53	2.051			
	Total	194.21	67				
GN1	w/c ratio (A)	117.883	2	58.942	15.211	0	Yes
	Aggregate batch (B)	43.087	4	10.772	2.78	0.036	Yes
	AB	45.549	8	5.694	1.469	0.191	No
	Error	201.496	52	3.875			
	Total	408.015	66				
GN2	w/c ratio (A)	219.17	2	109.585	22.864	0	Yes
	Aggregate batch (B)	78.653	4	19.663	4.103	0.005	Yes
	AB	69.774	8	8.722	1.82	0.092	No
	Error	277.991	58	4.793			
	Total	426.419	70				

3.3 Normality and estimation of characteristic value of modulus of elasticity

Since the modulus of elasticity behaves as a probabilistic variable, it can assume different frequency patterns depending on the sample data. When it comes to experimental data, it is known that several phenomena are well described by the normal distribution [36]. Thus, to assume this premise in this work, it was verified whether the data set adheres to normality, by the Kolmogorov-Smirnov Normalty Test described in item 2.6. The results are shown in Table 7. It was found with 95% reliability that the values of modulus of elasticity obtained follow normality, for all types of coarse aggregate and w/c ratio.

Table 7: Kolmogorov-Smirnov Normality Test for the modulus of elasticity of concrete.

Mix		Eci (GPa)	Std (GPa)	n	Dmax	Dα(n)	Normality
0.46	GR	34.4	1.25	21	0.1815	0.188	Normal
0.57		33.9	1.28	22	0.1211	0.186	Normal
0.71		33.0	2.12	25	0.1207	0.180	Normal
0.46	GN1	47.6	1.87	21	0.1176	0.188	Normal
0.57		46.4	1.93	23	0.1776	0.184	Normal
0.71		44.3	2.52	23	0.1041	0.184	Normal
0.46	GN2	47.4	2.72	25	0.1430	0.180	Normal
0.57		45.4	2.29	23	0.1060	0.184	Normal
0.71		43.0	2.36	25	0.1077	0.180	Normal

The normality of the data indicates that there is a probability of obtaining higher and lower values than the value experimentally determined. Thus, to ensure the safety of structural projects, it is proposed to adopt characteristic values for the concrete elasticity module (Eck). For this, the t-student distribution described in item 2.6 was used. The results of this analysis are shown in

Table 8. The Eck values are, in general, 2.0 to 4.5 GPa lower than the average values experimentally obtained (i.e. from 6 to 11% lower). This indicates that the adoption of average values for the structural calculation can result in considerable errors, leading to excessive deformations of the structures.

Table 8: Determination of the characteristic value of the modulus of elasticity (Eck) of concrete.

Mix		Eci (GPa)	Std	n	t	Probability (%)	Eck (GPa)
0.46	GR	34.4	1.25	21	-13.763	100	32.3
0.57		33.9	1.28	22	-21.586	100	31.7
0.71		33.0	2.12	25	-26.717	100	29.4
0.46	GN1	47.6	1.87	21	-41.549	100	44.4
0.57		46.4	1.93	23	-45.622	100	43.1
0.71		44.3	2.52	23	-43.033	100	40.0
0.46	GN2	47.4	2.72	25	-30.836	100	42.8
0.57		45.4	2.29	23	-36.456	100	41.5
0.71		43.0	2.36	25	-45.218	100	39.0

4. CONCLUSIONS

In this work, the influence of the coarse aggregate batch on the variability of the modulus of elasticity of concrete was evaluated. Based on the results obtained, some conclusions can be drawn.

- ANOVA indicated that the aggregate batch had significant influence on the modulus of elasticity of concrete for a 95% reliability. This suggests that such property should be treated as a probabilistic variable, and not a deterministic one as it is currently addressed.

- The normal distribution for the modulus of elasticity was confirmed by the Kolmogorov-Smirnov Normality Test. A characteristic modulus of elasticity (Eck) was proposed, below which no experimental values will be obtained for 95% reliability. The proposed Eck values were 6 to 11% lower than the average values, indicating that the adoption of the average values for structural calculations may result in considerable errors and lead to excessive deformations.

- The type of aggregate had no significant influence on the compressive strength of concrete, despite being the factor that most influenced the modulus of elasticity. Concretes containing granitic aggregate showed modulus of elasticity about 30% lower than those containing gneissic aggregates for the same compressive strengths. The w/c ratio significantly influenced the modulus of elasticity of the concretes, albeit

in a discrete way: a reduction in the w/c ratio from 0.71 to 0.46 increased the modulus by 3%-7%, while increasing compressive strength by about 80%. Thus, it was evident that increasing the compressive strength of concrete is not an effective alternative to increase its modulus of elasticity.

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6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None declared.

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