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A Reply to the Discussion by S.K. Bandopadhyay and S.N. Ghosh of the Paper "INFLUENCE OF THE MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION, SPECIFIC SURFACE AREA AND STRAINS - CRYSTALLITE SIZE OF ALITE ON THE COMPRESSIVE MECHANICAL STRENGTH OF PORTLAND MORTARS. I. CLINKERS OF LOW TRICALCIUM ALUMINATE CONTENTS"*

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Your observations are very important.

a) In fact, for getting good statistical correlation, the specific variables are better than the more general ones. One can even try to consider not only the particle size distribution but also the particle shape.

b) Perhaps not, because the equation is very specific. It would only be applied to the specific group of samples for which the weights and especially the intercept have been obtained .

c) We are not expecting communality values of unity. This would be an "ideal" case. We gave some reasons for which it is not so, but there are surely others ....

d) Maybe. In any case, we are obliged, for the moment, to interpret correctly any kind of statistical parameters.

e) Correct, especially if your data have a very narrow variability range.

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*CCR 24(4), 776 (1994).