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# Effect of variations in Composition and Sintering Temperature on Mechanical Properties Ceramic Membrane with Bentonite, Sinabung Volcanic Ash and Carbon Active

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## 1. Introduction

Ceramic material is a non-metallic material which is formed by a heating process. Now ceramics are widely used as electronic components, kitchen utensils, building materials and as a means of filtering water, for example ceramic membranes [3].

Membrane ceramic is a material that is categorized as an inorganic membrane. Ceramic membrane has an advantage over other membranes because they are resistant to heat, acids and alkalis. The raw materials for making ceramics are bentonite, silica, clay, quartz and alumina, while the pore-forming materials other than inorganic materials such as carbon and calcium carbonate, are also organic materials such as rice flour, activated carbon, potatoes and corn [6].

Kaolin, clay, feldspar and quartz and bentonite. Natural bentonite is a hydrated silicate alumina with the main element consisting of alkaline and alkaline earth cations from the compounds it contains. Bentonite means clay which contains hydrate compounds of aluminosilicates with the main elements of alkaline soil and has ion exchange properties and high absorption ability [2]. In addition, one of the materials that can be used is the volcanic ash of Mount Sinabung. Volcanic ash is magma



fragments and consists of minerals, volcanic glass and also contains materials high in silica and aluminum [7]. The content of volcanic ash was taken from Mt. The eruption of Mount Sinabung from the Berastepu Kec Village area. Simpang Empat Kab. All type volcanic eruptions are capable of causing dangerous and destructive phenomena [8]. However, volcanic ash in Karo and is used as a raw material in the manufacture of paving block [10] or ceramic membranes because volcanic ash compounds contain SiO<sub>2</sub> (78.3%), Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (2.91%), Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (4.56%), MgO (1.07) compounds. %, CaO (4.84%), Na<sub>2</sub>O (0.46%) [4].

Research that has been done using volcanic ash material, namely porous ceramics for motor vehicle exhaust gas filters and catalytic converters. This research tries to utilize the volcanic ash material of Mount Sinabung for ceramic membranes with carbon active [9] [11].

## 2. Methods

In this study, the manufacture of ceramic membranes using bentonite, Sinabung volcanic ash and activated carbon using conventional techniques with variations in the composition of bentonite, Sinabung volcanic ash and activated carbon are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1. Comparison of Porous Ceramic Material Composition**

| Bentonite (%wt) | Volcanic Ash (%wt) | Carbon Active (%wt) |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 80              | 0                  | 20                  |
| 75              | 5                  | 20                  |
| 70              | 10                 | 20                  |
| 65              | 15                 | 20                  |
| 60              | 20                 | 20                  |

The three ingredients are mixed evenly and then printed using a pellet mold. After the ceramic membrane samples were printed in the form of pellets, then each sample was burned with a temperature treatment of 800°C, 900°C and 1000°C and for 3 hours.

After the ceramic membrane sample in the form of a pellet was sintered, then each sample was characterized for its mechanical properties, namely the compressive test and hardness test using the UTM and Hardness Testing equipment available at the PTKI Medan Material Test Laboratory.

## 3. Results and Discussion

### 3.1 Compressive strength

The compressive strength value of ceramic membrane shows that there is an effect of sintering temperature on the compressive strength of ceramic membranes made of bentonite, volcanic ash and activated carbon as shown in Table 2.

**Table 2. Compressive Strength Ceramic Membran**

| Bentonite: Volcanic Ash: Carbon Active | Compressive strength (MPa) |        |         |
|--|----------------------------|--------|---------|
|  | 800° C                     | 900° C | 1000° C |
| 80:00:20                               | 2.6                        | 2.96   | 3.02    |
| 75:5:20                                | 2.8                        | 3.03   | 3.25    |
| 70:10:20                               | 3.2                        | 4.5    | 5.41    |
| 65:15:20                               | 4.3                        | 4.7    | 6.66    |
| 60:20:20                               | 4.5                        | 4.75   | 5.19    |

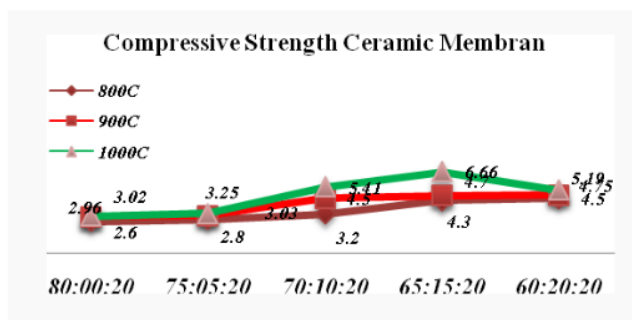


Figure 1. Graph of Compressive Strength with composition of Bentonite, Volcanic Ash and Carbon Active

7 The results showed that the optimum composition of bentonite, Sinabung volcanic ash and activated carbon at the composition of 65: 15: 20 with a temperature treatment of 1000°C had the highest compressive strength value of 6.6 MPa. Almost all variations mix, there is a relationship directly proportional to the sintering temperature and the compressive strength of the ceramic. The greater the sintering temperature, the more large compressive strength of the ceramic membrane generated.

### 3.2 Hardness

4 The hardness value of ceramic membrane shows that there is an effect of sintering temperature on the hardness of ceramic membranes made of bentonite, volcanic ash and activated carbon as shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Hardness Ceramic Membran

| Bentonite: Volcanic Ash: Carbon Active | Hardness (MPa) |         |         |
|--|----------------|---------|---------|
|  | 800° C         | 900° C  | 1000° C |
| 80:00:20                               | 93.320         | 108.220 | 117.112 |
| 75:5:20                                | 106.540        | 117.340 | 149.859 |
| 70:10:20                               | 118.430        | 130.671 | 153.428 |
| 65:15:20                               | 175.121        | 182.422 | 187.639 |
| 60:20:20                               | 132.826        | 102.212 | 142.826 |

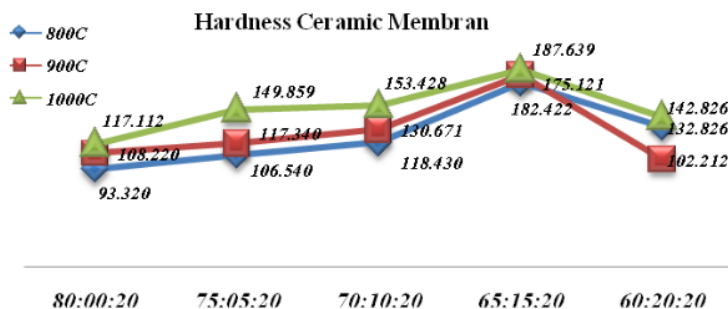


Figure 2. Graph of Hardness with composition of Bentonite, Volcanic Ash and Carbon Active

7 The results showed that the optimum composition of bentonite, Sinabung volcanic ash and activated carbon at the composition of 65: 15: 20 with a temperature treatment of 1000°C had the

highest hardness of 187.639MPa. This shows that the greater the addition of volcanic ash to the composition of the ceramic membrane, the higher hardness values of the ceramic membrane. Likewise with the sintering temperature, the more the value of the ceramic membrane combustion temperature, the higher the value of mechanical strength, namely compressive strength and hardness [1].

#### 4. Conclusions

This research presents the effect of variations in the composition of bentonite, volcanic ash from Mount Sinabung and activated carbon on the mechanical properties of membranes. This study also affects the effect of ceramic membrane sintering temperature on the mechanical properties of ceramic membranes. Based on the results of the research, the increase in compressive strength and hardness values was caused by the addition of volcanic ash to the composition (60:15:20) and an increase in temperature at sintering 1000°C had an optimum compressive strength value of 6.6 MPa and hardness of 187.639MPa.

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