

Index

ABSTRACT	I
RESUM	III
RESUMEN	V
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	VII
INDEX	IX
LIST OF TABLES	XIII
LIST OF FIGURES	XV
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTATION	XXII
CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background.....	3
1.2 Objectives.....	5
1.3 Structure of the document	6
CHAPTER 2. AN OVERVIEW OF SELF-HEALING CONCRETE ..	9
2.1 Introduction.....	11
2.1.1 Definition of self-healing	12
2.2 Autogenous healing	13
2.2.1 Continuing hydration effect on autogenous healing.....	14
2.2.2 Carbonation effect on autogenous healing	15
2.2.3 Other chemical processes that may influence autogenous healing	16

2.2.4	Influence of various parameters on autogenous healing	17
2.3	Autonomous healing	29
2.3.1	Cement as healing agent	32
2.3.2	Chemical powder or solution as healing agent	35
2.3.3	Bacteria as healing agent.....	43
2.4	Experimental tests to evaluate self-healing in concrete.....	46
2.4.1	Crack closure	46
2.4.2	Transport properties	50
2.4.3	Mechanical properties	55
2.4.4	Non-destructive testing	60
2.5	Discussion.....	61
CHAPTER 3. SELECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE EXPERIMENTAL METHODS		67
3.1	Introduction	69
3.1.1	Developments derived from this thesis.....	69
3.1.2	General considerations for the experimental work	70
3.1.3	Base concrete mixture proportions	71
3.1.4	List of CA and oxide composition.....	72
3.1.5	Exposure simulation.....	73
3.2	Crack closing test	75
3.2.1	Types of evaluation.....	76
3.2.2	Crack closing as secondary method	77
3.3	Water permeability test	78
3.3.1	Precracking	78
3.3.2	Preparation of the specimens	79
3.3.3	Water permeability test on cracked concrete	79
3.4	Mechanical properties	81
3.4.1	Healed specimens compared with themselves before healing	85
3.4.2	Healed specimens compared with accompanying specimens.....	88

3.5 Sorptivity test	89
3.5.1 Prestressing	89
3.5.2 Sorptivity test.....	90
3.6 Characterization of concrete and mortars	93
3.6.1 Workability and compressive strength of concrete	93
3.6.2 Workability and compressive strength of mortars.....	95
3.6.3 Effect of CA on the hydration of mortars.....	98
CHAPTER 4. VALIDATION OF THE METHODOLOGIES FOR THE EVALUATION OF SELF-HEALING.....	105
4.1 Introduction.....	107
4.2 Crack closing	107
4.2.1 Orientation of the crack during healing	108
4.2.2 Prestressing age effect in mortars	114
4.2.3 Estimation of the healing speed and healable crack width in concrete	115
4.3 Water permeability.....	119
4.3.1 Repeatability of the water permeability test proposed	120
4.3.2 Effect of intermediate water permeability tests in concrete	122
4.3.3 Prestressing age effect in concrete.....	124
4.3.4 Internal permeability	125
4.4 Relation between crack closing and permeability tests.....	128
4.5 Mechanical properties	134
4.5.1 Reference specimen and expression to evaluate the recovery.....	134
4.5.2 Effect of fiber content.....	141
4.5.3 Additional considerations	144
4.6 Sorptivity evaluation.....	146
4.6.1 Initial sorptivity values, comparability of the different groups	146
4.6.2 Effect of healing conditions and preconditioning on sorptivity measurement..	147
4.7 Summary of conclusions about the methods for the self-healing evaluation	150

CHAPTER 5. EFFICIENCY OF AUTOGENOUS HEALING AND AUTONOMOUS HEALING WITH CRYSTALLINE ADMIXTURES ...	155
5.1 Introduction	157
5.2 Influence of several parameters on self-healing by means of crack closing and water permeability	157
5.2.1 Effect of the healing exposure	160
5.2.2 Effect of water/cement ratio and cement content.....	169
5.2.3 Comparison between parameters	172
5.3 Mechanical recovery.....	173
5.3.1 Effect of CA in optimal conditions	174
5.4 Sorptivity	177
5.4.1 Sorptivity and crack sorptivity.....	177
5.4.2 Initial Rate of Suction	179
5.5 Further insights about the healing reactions	181
5.5.1 Composition of the healing byproducts	181
5.5.2 Verification of the internal carbonation	182
5.6 Discussion and conclusions about the effectiveness of autogenous healing and crystalline admixtures	184
CHAPTER 6. CONCLUSIONS	187
6.1 Conclusions	189
6.1.1 Conclusions on the methodologies to characterize self-healing	189
6.1.2 Conclusions on the self-healing efficiency using crystalline admixtures	191
6.2 Future lines.....	193
6.3 Publications derived from this thesis	194
REFERENCES	197