Electronic supplementary information (ESI)

Evaluation of the dispersion of metakaolin-graphene oxide hybrid in water and cement pore solution: Can metakaolin really improve the dispersion of graphene oxide in the calcium-rich environment of hydrating cement matrix?

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Fig. S1. (a) Particle size distribution (b) SEM image and (c) XRD pattern of metakaolin solid particles.



Fig. S2. Characterization of as-received GO (a) SEM micrograph (b) XRD pattern and (c) FTIR spectrum.

Table S1

The mix design of the prepared SCPS.

| Used chemical (g/l) | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|-------|------|--|--|
| CaSO ₄ .2H ₂ O | Ca(OH) ₂ | КОН | NaOH | | |
| 27.55 | Saturated | 22.44 | 8.00 | | |

Table S2

The result of ICP-OES analysis of SCPS.

| Elemental concentration (ppm) | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|-----|------|--|--|
| K | Na | Са | Si | Fe | | |
| 7518.8 | 3943.4 | 780.05 | 1.6 | 0.01 | | |



Fig. S3. Visual investigation of GO and MK-GO suspensions in water.



Fig. S4. Two-phase system of MK-GO suspension due to the centrifuging treatment, prior to the UV-vis characterization.



Fig. S5. Particle size distribution of (a) GO suspension and (b) MK suspension in water.



Fig. S6. Particle size distribution of MK-GO suspensions with different MK/GO weight ratios (a) MK/GO = 100 (b) MK/GO = 600 and (c) MK/GO = 1500 in water.



Fig. S7. Visual investigation of GO and MK-GO suspensions in SCPS.



Fig. S8. Particle size distribution of (a) MK suspension and (b) GO suspension in SCPS.



Fig. S9. Particle size distribution of MK-GO suspensions with different MK/GO weight ratios (a) MK/GO = 100 (b) MK/GO = 600 and (c) MK/GO = 1500 in SCPS.