

Wolfgang Kunther\* – DTU Sustain: Materials and Durability

# Use of concrete in artificial reefs and NID infrastructure

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# Reef types and materials

- Origin of reefs
  - Geogenic: cliffs, rocks, sandbanks
  - Biogenic: mussel banks, coral reefs
  - Artificial: man-made

#### Themes:

Reviews and theory

Fisheries ecology and management

General ecology

Design and monitoring

Habitat protection and mitigation

Sport diving

Waste disposal

Coastal protection and development

Types of material used for artificial reef construction

Material	Number of citations
Concrete	79
Rock, stone, boulders, gravel, etc.	29
FADs	17
Offshore platforms	16
Tyres	15
Stabilised ash waste, harbour mud	14
Plastic, PVC, etc.	12
Vessels, barges, shipwrecks	11
Wood, trees, etc.	11
Breakwaters, coastal structures	12
Steel, metal	10
Rope, netting	9
Automobiles, train cars	6
Unspecified mix of materials	6
Review of wide range of materials	13
Other materials	18
Unspecified	31
Total	309

Artificial reefs: a review of their design, application, management and performance

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### Where do we find concrete?

Urbanisation



Waste and sewage

Transportation infrastructure







Low price

- High availability
- Formability
- High durability

Energy





Digitalisation and communication



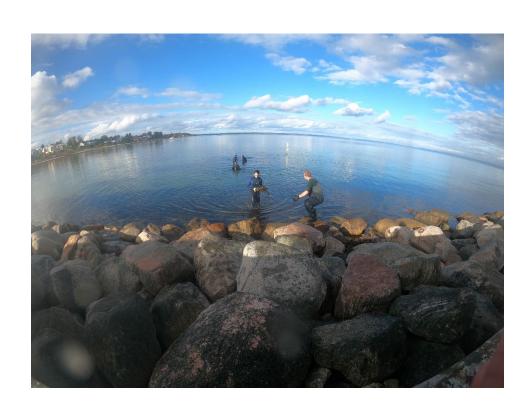


### Disclaimer: Who am I?

- Civil Engineer, Material Scientist
- Cement chemistry and concrete durability
- No "commercial" intent
- Passion for water sports
- Why not design infrastructure with positive impact on habitats?

Chosen boundary conditions for "our" reefs:

- Permanently submerged
- No reinforcement steel
  - o Extra CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Corrosion risk





# Disclaimer: I am not a biologist!

- Interdisciplinary research
  - Key environmental parameters
  - Succession or biofouling
  - Reproductive cycles and seasons
- Biodiversity, biomass, and ecosystems ....
- Climate change shifting baselines?

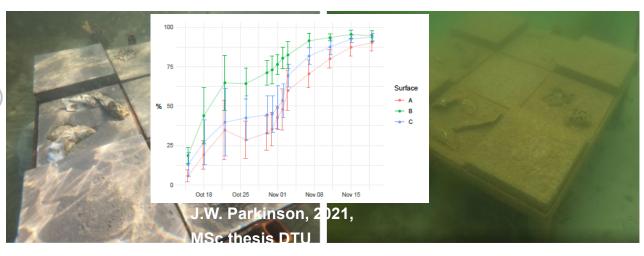




# Succession (or biofouling)

#### Minutes – weeks biofilm:

Particles of organized matter Primary colonizers (microbial) Secondary colonizers



### Weeks - months:

Biofilm +

Community of macroscopic Individuals

algae and invertebrates

#### **Additional months:**

Biofilm +

Community of macroscopic Individuals

Early adopters / invasive?





### years:

Biofilm +

Community of macroscopic Individuals

Seasonal changes etc.



# After two growth periods:







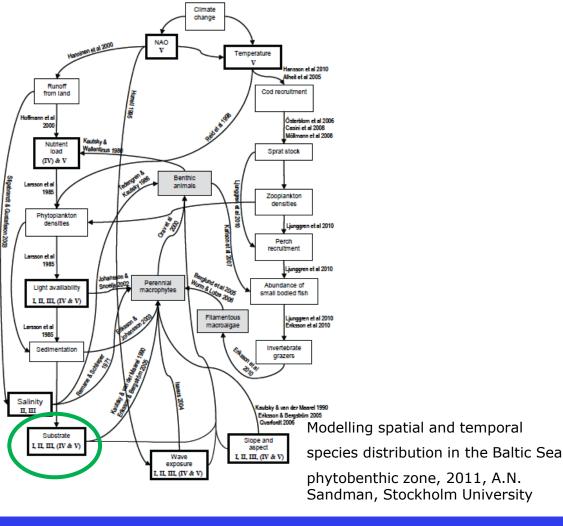




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# Biological and material factors?





Contents lists available at Science Direct

#### **Ecological Engineering**

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ecoleng



Getting into the groove: Opportunities to enhance the ecological value of hard coastal infrastructure using fine-scale surface textures



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Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

#### **Ecological Engineering**

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ecoleng



Material type weakly affects algal colonisation but not macrofaunal community in an artificial intertidal habitat



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# Hard substrates for bio-colonization in industrial harbours...

- Size
- Structure
- Texture
- Chemistry
  - pH
  - other







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# Select the best concrete for habitat creation in Køge Bay:

- Mechanical properties
- Biological factors (biodiversity, types of species, biomass ...)
- Environmental factors (salt content, nutrients, shelter, predation...)
- CO<sub>2</sub> footprint and other environmental impacts
- Toxicity and leaching?
- Hydrodynamics?
- Sediment transport?

Literature study & analysis

biological industrial + OTHER

ecological physical

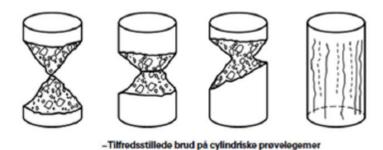
Nestor Rodriguez Padro William Brandt Feldthus

Funding: VELUX FONDEN for the project "Køge Bugt Marine Park"



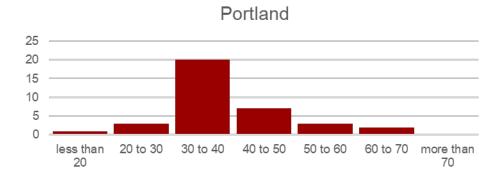
# Physical properties

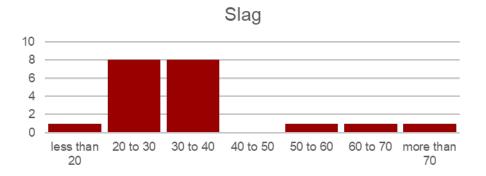
- Compressive strength
- Other mechanical properties
- Cement type
- Porosity
- Density
- Curing times



DS/EN 12390-3+AC:2012

### Compressive strength (28 days)





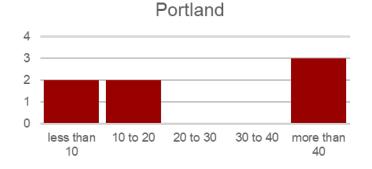


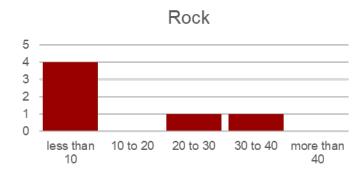


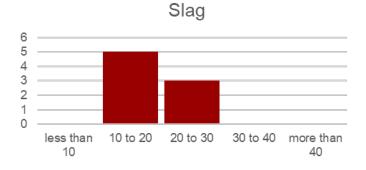
# **Biology**

- coverage
- # of species/taxa
- Biomass
- Light adsorption ...
- Time of
  - Deployment
  - Measurement
  - Of "stable" habitat
- Period of exposure
- Drift in baselines

### Species diversity by cement type (last reported date)







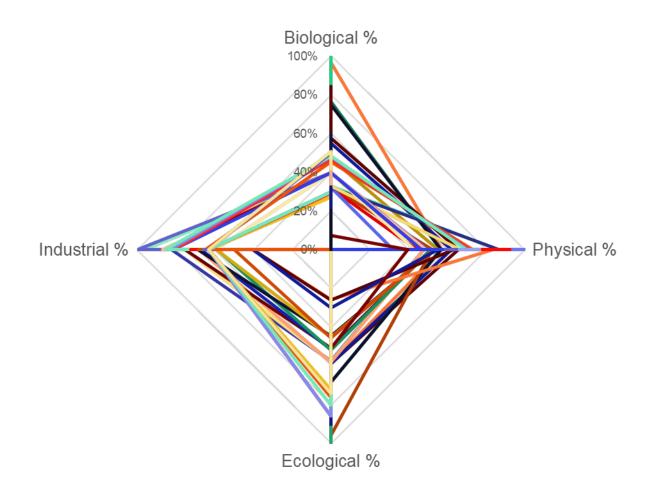


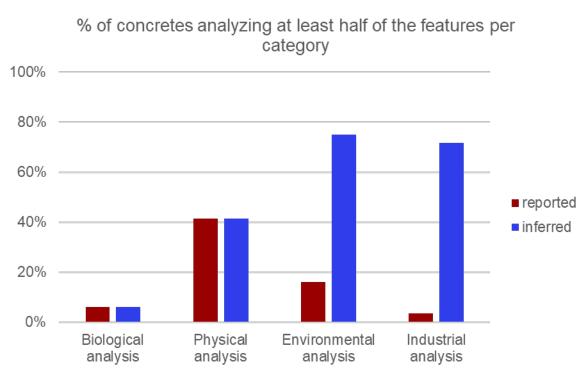


12



# Integrated data? And estimates...







# **Example**

### **Biological:**

The performance of the concrete/reef in terms of biocompatibility and attractiveness to the marine species. (# taxa, coverage, ...)

### **Physical:**

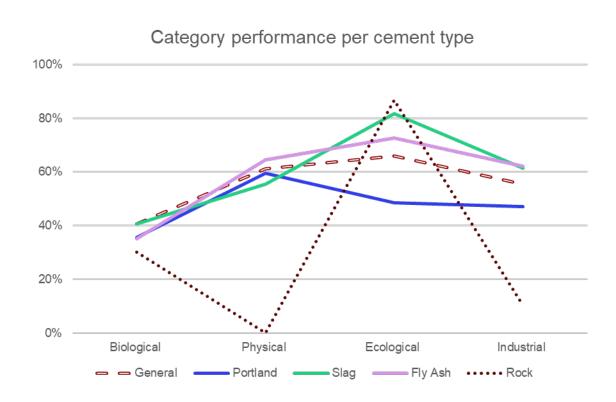
Mechanical properties and durability of the concrete/reef. (Compressive strength, chloride resistance)

### **Ecological:**

Assessment of the environmental impact of the concrete both when produced and when implemented in the surrounding environments – "Global more hidden impacts" (pH, CO<sub>2</sub>)

### **Industrial:**

The efficiency of the concrete production lines, both economically and in resources. "Tangible impacts/cost to manufacturer" (cost, water consumption, energy consumption)



> 250 concrete types



### Reef data for use infrastructures in DK?

- Most beneficial concretes from published, peer reviewed articles:
  - Slag-based concrete
  - Biogenic aggregates
  - And lower strength

Best integration in habitats after literature analysis

Tabel DK NA-F.1 - Krævede grænseværdier for betonsammensætning og betonegenskaber for normal og tung beton

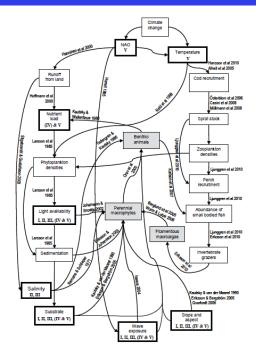
	Ingen risiko for kor- rosion eller fugt- påvirk- ning	Risiko for korrosion forårsaget af karbonatisering			Risiko for korro- sion forårsaget af chlorider fra andet end havvand			Risiko for kor- rosion forårsaget af chlorider fra havvand			Risiko for frost/tø- påvirkning				Risiko for kemisk påvirkning			
Eksponeringsklasse	X0	XC1	XC2	XC3	XC4	XD1	XD2	XD3	XS1	XS2	XS3	XF1	XF2	XF3	XF4	XA1	XA2	XA3
Maksimum vand/ cement-forhold <sup>c)</sup>			0,55	0,55	0,55	0,45	0,40	0,40	0,45	0,45	0,40	0,55	0,45	0,45	0,40	0,55	0,45	0,40
Minimum klasse for trykstyrke <sup>g)</sup>	C12/15	C12/15	C30/37	C30/37	C30/37	C35/45	C40/50	C40/50	C35/45	C35/45	C40/50	C30/37	C35/45	C35/45	C40/50	C30/37	C35/45	C40/50
Dokumenteret egnede cementtyper	II/B-V II/A-L II/A-LL II/A-M (Q.L) II/A-M (Q.LL) II/B-M	II/B-V II/A-L II/A-IL II/A-M (Q.L) II/A-M (Q.LL) II/B-M	II/B-V II/A-L II/A-L II/A-M (Q.L) II/A-M (Q.LL) II/B-M (Q.L) II/B-M	II/B-V II/A-L II/A-LL II/A-M (QL) II/A-M (QLL) II/B- M(QLL)	II/B-V II/A-L II/A-LL II/A-M (Q.L) II/A-M (Q.LL) II/B-M (Q.L) II/B-M	II/A-L II/A-LL II/A-M (Q,L) II/A-M (Q,LL) II/B-M (Q,L) II/B-M	II/A-L <sup>()</sup> II/A-	II/A-L II/A-LL II/A-M (Q,L) II/A-M (Q,LL) II/B-M (Q,L) II/R-M	II/A-L II/A-LL II/A-M (Q.L) II/A-M (Q.LL) II/B-M (Q.L) II/B-M		I II/A-V	II/B-V II/A-L II/A-IL II/A-M (Q.L) II/A-M (Q.LL) II/B-M (Q.L)	II/A-L II/A-LL II/A-M (Q,L) II/A-M (Q,LL)	II/A-L II/A-LL II/A-M (Q,L) II/A-M (Q,LL) II/B-M (Q,L) II/B-M	II/A-L II/A-LL II/A-M (Q.L) II/A-M (Q.LL) II/B-M (Q.L) II/B-M	II/B-V II/A-L II/A-LL II/A-M (Q.L) II/A-M (Q.LL) II/B-M (Q.L)	II/A-M (Q.LL) II/B-M (Q.L) II/B-M	,
Minimum styrkeklasse for cement	32,5	32,5	42,5	42,5	42,5	42,5	42,5	42,5	42,5	42,5	42,5	42,5	42,5	42,5	42,5	42,5	42,5	42,5

DS/EN206 DK NA:2020



# Take home messages

- Multidisciplinary work and data:
  - Many angles and interests across all topics we touched
  - we need integrated data: reporting requirements
- From an engineering view:
  - active approaches on how to facilitate habitats would be desirable
- Adaptation to NID infrastructures:
  - Missing Danish experience with "exotic" cement and aggregate types in standards (in comparison to neighbouring countries)





# Questions?

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