

Industrial PhD project



Concrete without Portland cement

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DTU Sustain and COWI





About me



DTU







COWI



Project setup





Project Objectives

For a range of selected alkali activated materials, AAM:

- Study material properties
- Use experimental data for investigation
- Link material properties to structural behavior







What is AAM



Aluminosilicate Powder



Activator



Water

AAM paste





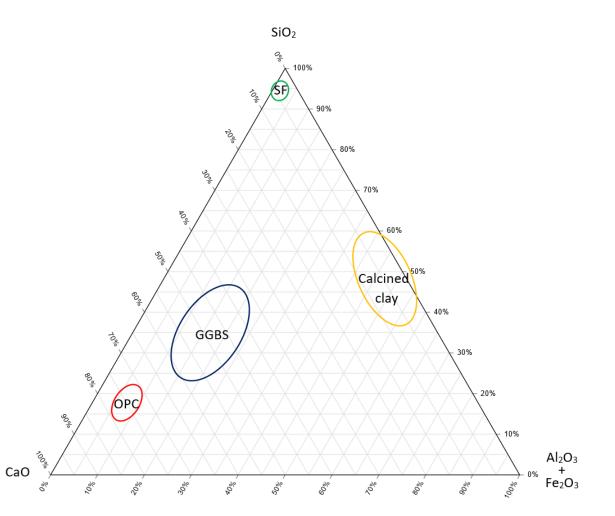
What is AAM

Examples

- Calcined clay
- Slag
- Fly ash

Reaction products

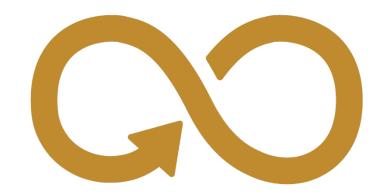
- CSH and/or CASH and/or NASH
- Varying in structure





Why now?

- Less CO₂ emission
- Less energy consumption
- Better performance "sometimes"
- Admixture technology has advanced
- Control of mix conditions has advanced







History of AAM

Germany 1908 patented

- Alkali activated slag
- "fully equal to the best Portland cements"

Britain 1940

- 30 slags
- "enhanced tensile & flexural strength compared to OPC"
- "low heat evolution"





History of AAM

AAM

- Workability issues
- Sensitivity to activation conditions
- Caustic materials

OPC

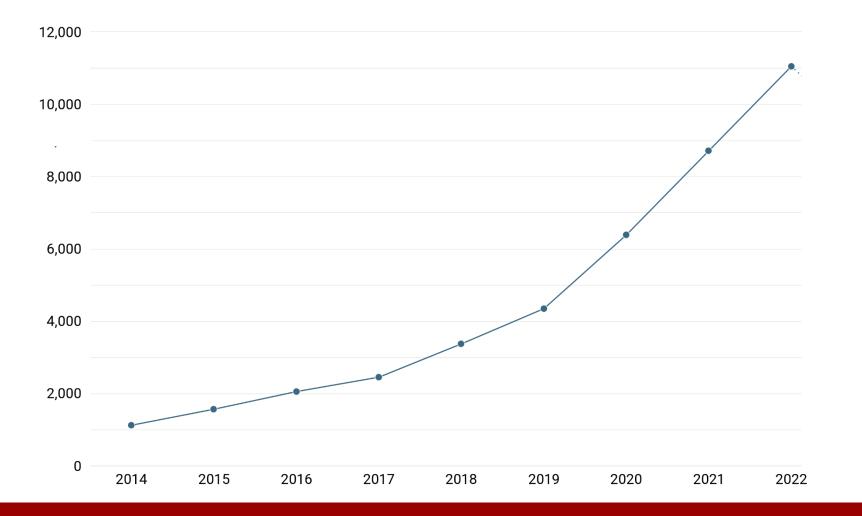
- Less sensitive
- Cheap
- Good performance







Trend "Geopolymer" publications





Why?

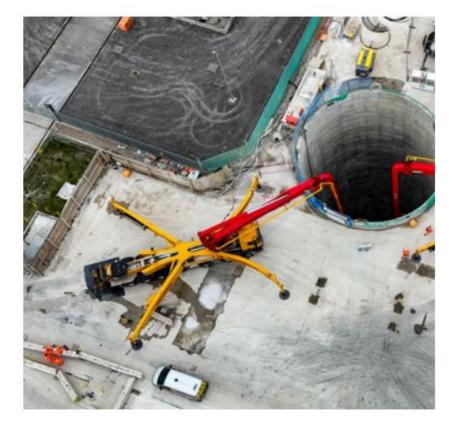
- Green transition
- Missing knowledge not codified
- Claim of better performance
- Use unutilized materials







Cases of use



Energy & environment

May 2023

Record-breaking pour of Earth Friendly Concrete complete at London Power Tunnels project





Cases of use

National Grid and its contractor HOCHTIEF-MURPHY Joint Venture (HMJV) have completed the world's largest ever continuous pour of Earth Friendly Concrete® at London Power Tunnels, a £1bn project to rewire London.

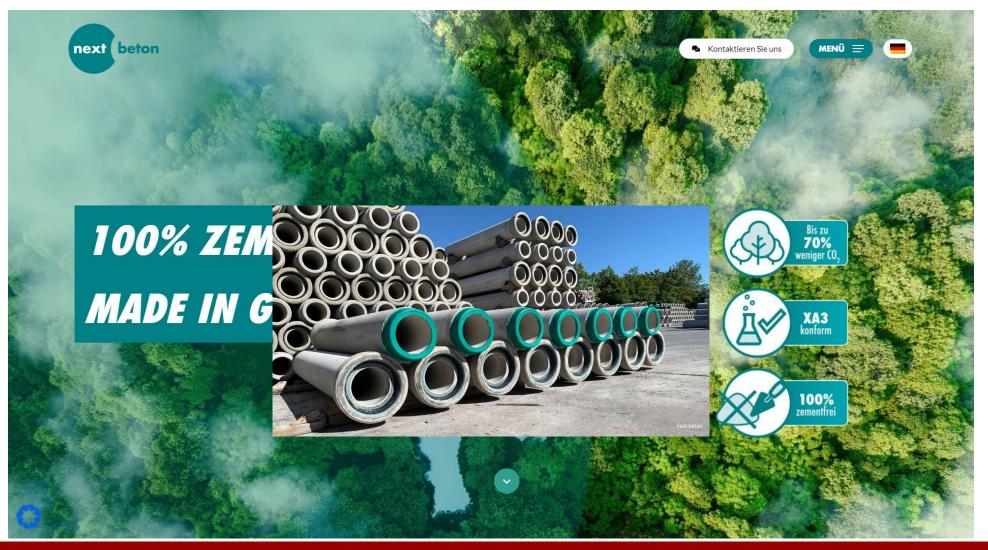
736m3, or 736,000 litres (enough to fill around two 25m swimming pools) of more sustainable, cement-free concrete was poured to fill the base of the 55m deep tunnel drive shaft at National Grid's Hurst Substation in South London. The cement free solution was developed by Wagners and supplied by Capital Concrete and uses a binder of ground granulated blast furnace slag and fly ash geopolymer concrete system chemically activated by the use of industrial waste products instead of cement. The concrete reduces carbon by around 64%, saving an estimated 111kg of CO₂ per cubic metre poured in comparison to concrete that would have traditionally been used.

The use of Earth Friendly Concrete was driven forward by a team of young engineers on the project and supported by HMJV's engineering experts and AECOM, Mott MacDonald and WSP, following several trials at different London Power Tunnels sites.

The record-breaking pour on Earth Day (22 April) at National Grid's Hurst substation site was needed to infill the base of the 55m deep tunnel shaft to its permanent level, following the successful completion of 9.2km of tunnelling over 2 tunnel drives from Hurst to Eltham and Crayford.



Cases of use







Cases of use: DK!

IBF A/S: Geoprime® solution used in sewage pipes in Denmark saves over 50% CO2





Project WP

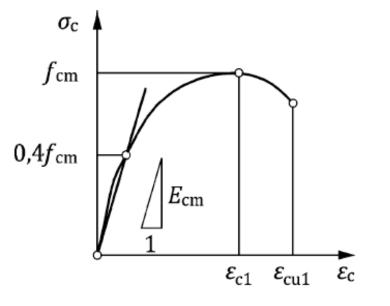
- Literature review
- Micro- and meso level properties
- Macro level structural properties
- Modelling and analysis





Micro- and meso-level properties

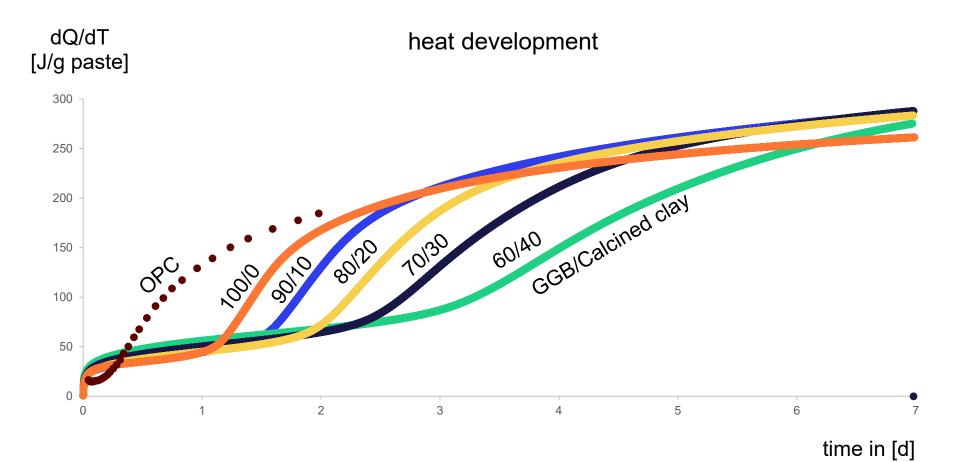
- Reference mix
- AAM concretes
- Properties for model input
- Other relevant properties







Other relevant properties



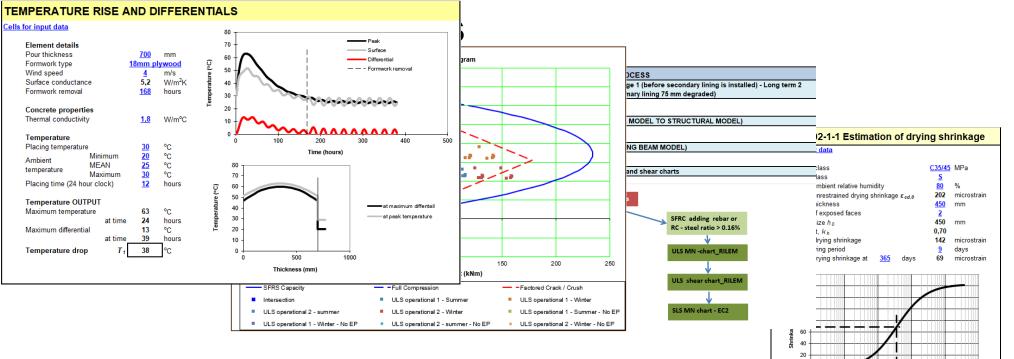


Structural properties

Large scale testing

- Reference
- AAM concretes
- Uncover differences
- Provide data for verification





Time (days) - log scale



Thank you for your attention



Feel free to contact me

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Sources

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