

Special challenges for concrete containing recycled aggregates from unknown origin





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Crushed concrete

Preparation of the aggregates by the recycler:

- Sorting and elimination of metals, wood, etc.
- Washing to remove fines
- Remove sand (fraction 0/2 mm)
- Sieving into three fractions:
 - ➢ 2/6 mm
 - ➢ 6/14 mm
 - ➢ 14/22 mm



Mixed aggregates

Recycled aggregates consisting of **different materials**, such as crushed concrete, bricks, ceramics, asphalt and others, with **different mechanical and physical/chemical** properties and great variations concerning the composition



Challenges







Differences in composition and raw material properties influence the resulting properties of concrete

Fresh concrete:

 Workability (Higher water absorption of aggregates)

Hardened concrete:

- Strength
 (compressive strength and tensile splitting strength)
- Deformation behavior (modulus of elasticity, shrinkage, creep)
- Durability (alcali silica reaction (ASR), chloride-migration, carbonation, freezethaw-resistance, abrasion resistance)



Aims





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Characterization of crushed concrete aggregates

- W₂₄ ≈ 4 to 5 %
- $\rho_{a} = 2.7 \text{ Mg/m}^{3}$ $\rho_{rd} = 2.3 \text{ Mg/m}^{3}$ $\rho_{ssd} = 2.5 \text{ Mg/m}^{3}$

Interreg

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North-West Europe

Characterization of mixed recycled aggregates

Туре В	Ammount [wt%]	
$R_c + R_u$	≥ 70	Category according
R _c	≥ 50	10 LN 200.
R _b	≤ 30	
R _a	< 5	Туре в
$X + R_g$	≤ 2	
FI	≤ 2	

- W₂₄ ≈ 6 to 9 %
- $\rho_{a} = 2.5 \text{ Mg/m}^{3}$ $\rho_{rd} = 2.2 \text{ Mg/m}^{3}$ $\rho_{ssd} = 2.3 \text{ Mg/m}^{3}$

Development of the concrete mix for structural elements

Materials:

- CEM I 42,5
- Natural sand 0/2 mm
- Aggregates: crushed concrete and mixed aggregates

Requirements: (in relation to the planned elements)

- C30/37; C35/45
- Cement + k x addition > 385 kg/m³
- w/b \leq 0.45; w/b \leq 0.5
- Consistency F3

Test matrix: Changing of properties depending on the w/b ratio

Parameter	Variation levels	
w/b ratio	2	0.45; 0.50
aggregates	3	Natural aggregates; Crushed concrete; mixed aggregates
Ratio of recycled aggregates	4	100%, 75%, (50%, 25%)

All tests have to be retried with further charges of recycled aggregates

Compressive strength crushed

Development of the concrete mix for structural elements

Results:

Compressive strength mixed

Development of the concrete mix for structural elements

Results:

Tensile Splitting strength

specimen: cube 150 mm x 150 mm + 150 mm 28 d, storage under water

Requirements:

EN 1338

physical and mechanical properties

- resistance against athmospheric conditions (freeze-thaw-resistance or water absorption)
- splitting tensile strength
- durability and strength
- abrasive resistance
- slip resistance
- thermal conductivity

additional requirements concerning form and dimension of products

production process

batching and mixing

- most important factor = moisture content of aggregates!
- differences in water content lead to differences in quality

moulding and compacting

- compacting by vibration and an additional compressive force
- amount of mixture compacted up to predetermined height or compacting a gauched quantity for a set period
- multilayer machines or single layer machines

curing

- in curing chambers by moisture retention (most spread)
- steam curing or thermal curing (less important)

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production process

types of products:

concrete pavers with or without topping layer concretes:

no-slump concretes with low water/cement ratios (< 0.40) optimum content of cement and water, well graded aggregates, if necessary admixtures and colour pigments

mixing proportions depend on

- materials (cement, aggregates, admixtures ...)
- manufacturing equipment and production process
- required quality (strength, durability, texture, form ...)

not practicable to look for optimum in proportioning under laboratory conditions!

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Requirements:

- Slump 0
- Minimum content of cement
- Splitting tensile strength ≥ 3.6 MPa
- High abrasion resistance and high freeze-thaw resistance
 - → likely it will be needed to develop a two-layered paving block (core concrete containing recycled aggregates and facing concrete containing natural aggregates)

Test setup according to EN 1338:

- 1. Load spreading strips
- 2. Paving stone
- 3. Stiff load application

Content of cement	250 kg/m³			275 kg/m³		
	P/I	Т	S	P/I	Т	S
	[N/mm]	[MPa]	[MPa]	[N/mm]	[MPa]	[MPa]
natural gravel	484.9	3.9	0.82	389.9	4.7	1.31
crushed material	405.9	3.3	0.77	589.6	4.8	0.57
ecycled aggregates (crushed concrete)	369.4	3.0	0.37	471.9	3.9	0.23
mixed aggregates	241.2	2.0	0.20	373.6	3.0	0.42

requirements			
T _m	≥ 3.6 MPa		
T _i	≥ 2.9 MPa		
P/I	≥ 250 N/mm		

P/I = ultimate load/break line – ratio [N/mm]

- T = tensile splitting strength [MPa]
- s = standard deviation [MPa]

specimen l/b/h = 150 mm/150 mm/75 mm

compaction by vibration on vibro-table under additional load (steel-plate) storage: 1 d in mould, 27 d exposure to air

Next steps:

- Testing the durability of the developed mixtures
- Testing the performance of the new concrete mixes, when the ordinary cement (OPC) is exchanged by the new cements developed in the other part of the project

Thank you for your attention!