



University  
of Dundee

Sourcing of fly ash and its effect on  
durability of concrete

Szállópernyeforrásai és hatása a beton  
tartósságára

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# Overview / Áttekintés

- Changing Situation with Coal Combustion/Fly Ash  
Új helyzet a szénerőművek / pernye terén
- Wet Storage Effects on Fly Ash Properties  
Szabadtéri (nedves) tárolás hatása a pernye tulajdonságaira
- Wet Stored Fly Ash Concrete  
Nedvesen tárolt pernyéből készült beton
- Processing and Use of Wet Stored Fly Ash  
Nedvesen tárolt pernye feldolgozása és alkalmazása
  - Laboratory Scale / Laboratóriumi kísérletek
  - Benchtop/Pilot Scale / Félüzemi kísérletek
- Summary / Összefoglalás



# Changing Situation with Coal Combustion/FlyAsh

## Új helyzet a szénerőművek / pernye terén

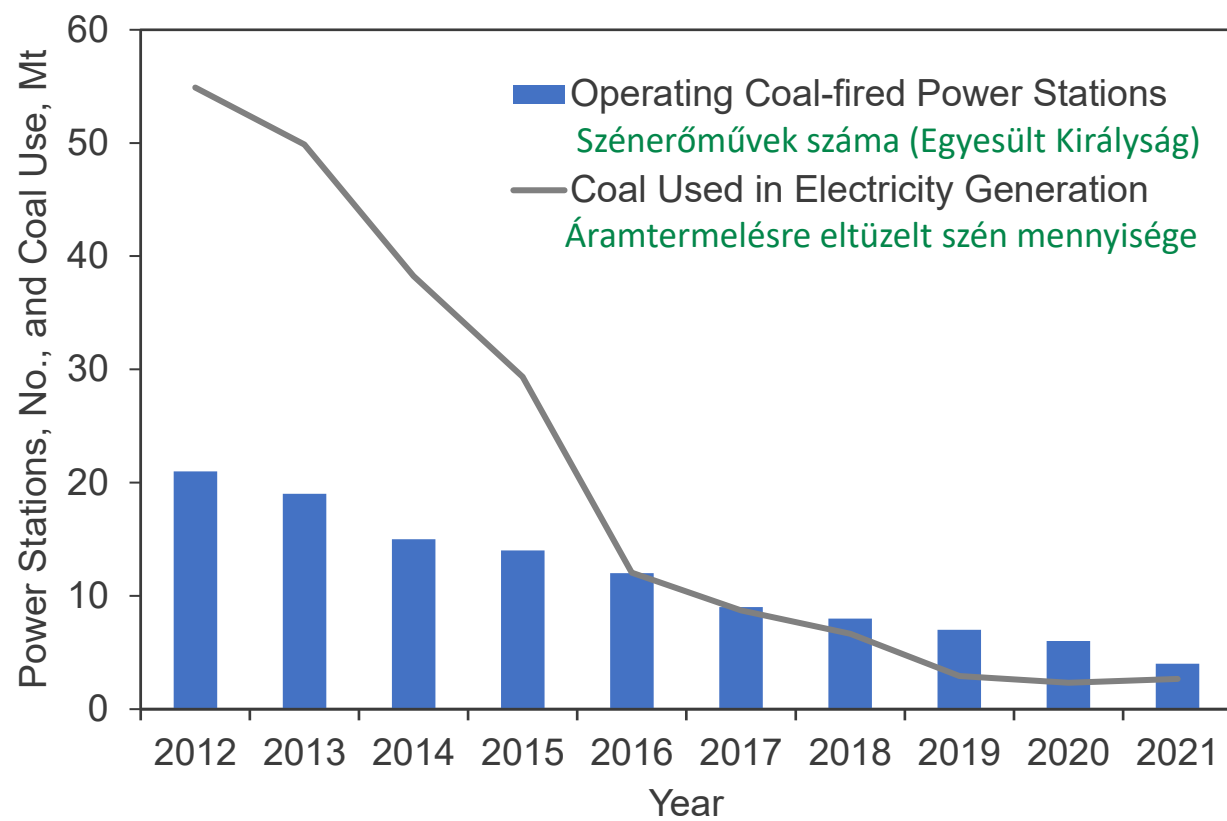
- Decarbonization roadmaps with energy-intensive sectors developed (published in 2015). *CO<sub>2</sub> kivezetési tervek az energiaigényes iparokból*
- In the cement industry this referred to the substitution of clinker with alternative materials, including fly ash. *A cementiparban a klinker kiváltását célozzák pl. pernye hozzáadásával*
- In November 2015, plans were announced to close all coal-fired power stations by 2025. *Hamarosan minden szénerőmű leáll a UK-ban (Skóciában már 2016 óta nincs)*
- This process is on-going with implications for fly ash supply.  
*A zajló folyamatok kihatnak a pernye beszerzési lehetőségeire, forrásaira*

Sources: Departments for Energy and Climate Change/Business, Innovation and Skills (2015) and Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (2017)

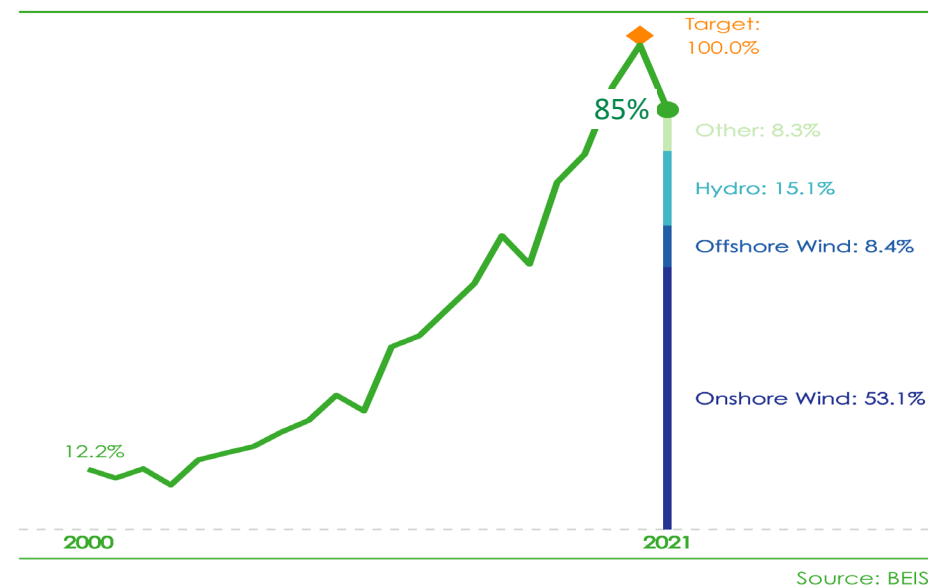


# Coal Use and Electricity Generation / Szén az energiatermelésben

Typical coal levels used from 2000 to 2011 were around 50 Mt per annum



Share of renewable electricity in gross electricity consumption  
Scotland, 2000 - 2021



Sources:

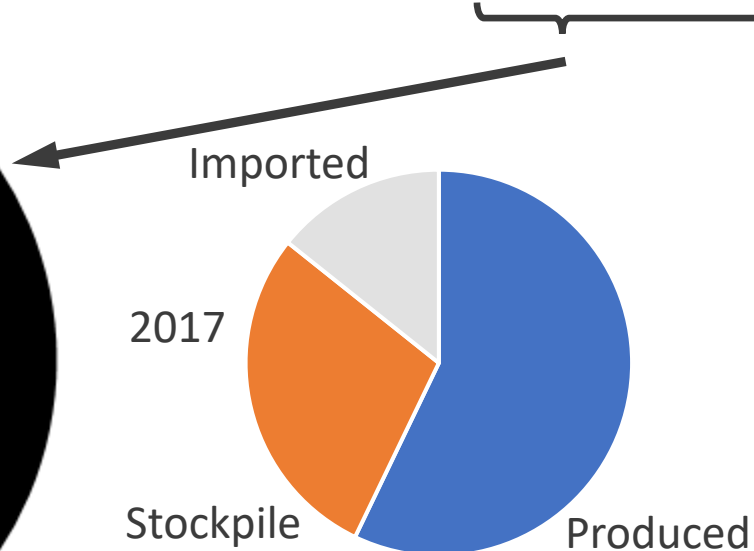
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero and Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (2022)

Power Stations of the UK:

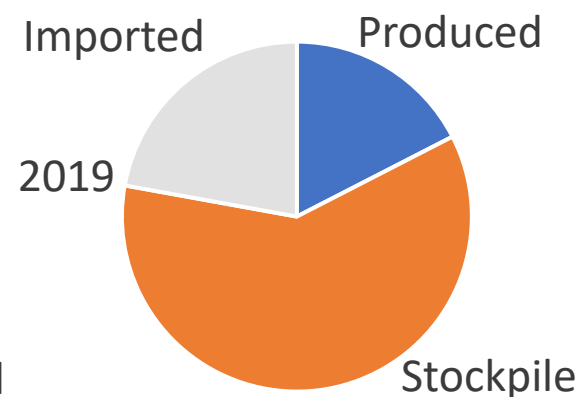
<https://www.powerstations.uk/coal-countdown/>  
(accessed 10 May 2023)

# Changing Sources of FlyAsh / Pernye származási megoszlása

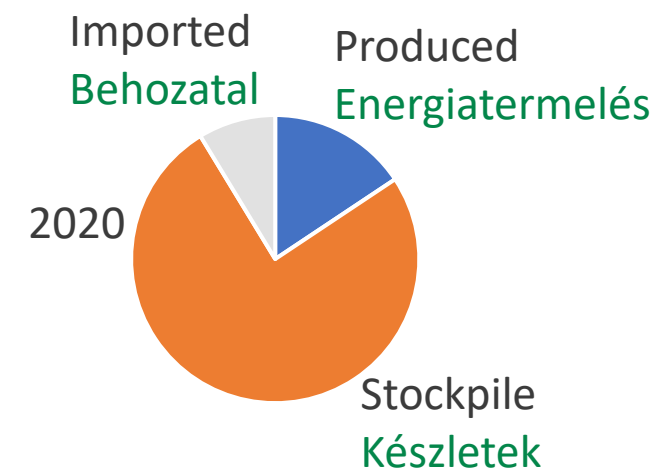
2012: 6 Mt Produced: 3 Mt Consumed; 3 Mt Stockpiled



Total Used: 1.75 Mt



Total Used: 1.48 Mt



Total Used: 1.11 Mt  
Felhasználás mindhárom  
forrásból összesen

Source: Cooke, UKQAA (2023)

# Fly Ash Uses in Construction / Pernyefelhasználás

- Cement and Concrete / Cement és beton

Well established use offering several benefits to concrete.

Jól ismert anyagrendszer, számos előnyös tulajdonsággal

- Autoclaved Aerated Blocks / Gázbeton

Lightweight precast concrete units, with fly ash used as a siliceous component.

Könnyű előregyártott elemek, melyekben a pernye a szilikátos adalék

- Cementitious Grouts / Önterülő habarcatok

Applications include ground stabilization, filling of old mine shafts. Used with Portland cement at relatively high levels. Nagy pernyetartalmú térkitöltő és stabilizáló keverékek

- Cement Kiln Feed / Cementgyártási nyersanyag

Used as raw kiln feed in Portland cement manufacture.

Klinkergyártás során szilikátos komponensként adagolva a kemencébe

# Options for Sourcing FlyAsh/ Pernyeforrások

- Importing fly ash could serve as an alternative to dry material. Quantities are currently low. **Import pernye (pl. lengyel, indiai), egyelőre kis mennyiség**
- Change engineering specifications so PC/fly ash blends / concretes are used to meet technical performance requirements. **Megfelelőségi kritériumok átgondolása, ahol az anyag még így is kielégítő betont eredményez**
- Use of fly ash from wet storage areas. The UK Quality Ash Association estimate that there are 100 Mt of fly ash accessible for recovery. **Pernye kitermelése szabadtéri nedves tárolókból; az Egyesült Királyság Pernyeszövetsége 100 Mt készletet tart számon.**

Sources: Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (2017) and Cooke, UKQAA (2023)





# Characteristics of Wet Stored Fly Ash (Physical/Chemical)

## Kültéri tárolású pernye tulajdonságai

Property <sup>1</sup>	Wet Stored Fly Ash / Szabadtéri (nedves) tárolású pernye	
	Stockpile – Range of 45 Samples (Mean)	Lagoon – Range of 34 Samples (Mean)
<b>Physical and Loss-on-ignition (LOI)</b>		
Fineness <sup>2</sup>	31.1 – 42.4 (36.7)	12.0 – 61.9 (39.8)
$d_{50}^3$ , $\mu\text{m}$	27.4 – 43.6 (34.8)	13.4 – 100.5 (43.7)
LOI / Ízz. veszt.	11.2 – 25.4 (15.3)	3.8 – 20.2 (8.2)
<b>Chemical Composition</b>		
CaO	1.2 – 3.5 (2.2)	2.0 – 4.3 (2.7)
SiO <sub>2</sub>	35.8 – 45.8 (40.4)	40.0 – 52.5 (47.4)
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	19.5 – 23.6 (21.5)	24.3 – 31.4 (28.5)
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	5.3 – 8.5 (6.7)	3.3 – 6.8 (4.9)
K <sub>2</sub> O	1.7 – 3.1 (2.6)	0.7 – 1.6 (1.1)
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.3 – 2.0 (0.6)	0.3 – 3.8 (1.1)
SO <sub>3</sub>	0.2 – 1.8 (0.7)	0.2 – 1.2 (0.6)
Cl <sup>-</sup>	0.0 – 3.0 (0.3)	0.4 – 6.4 (1.8)



<sup>1</sup> Percent unless indicated otherwise

<sup>2</sup> Percent retained on a 45  $\mu\text{m}$  sieve / 45  $\mu\text{m}$  vizes szitálás maradéka

<sup>3</sup> Median particle size

Source: McCarthy et al. (2013)



# Characteristics of Wet Stored Fly Ash (Physical/Chemical)

## Laboratóriumi száraz és nedvesen tárolt pernye tulajdonságai

Property <sup>2</sup>	Dry & Laboratory Wet Stored Fly Ash <sup>1</sup> / Száraz és laborpernye <sup>1</sup>						Stockpile Fly Ash SFA1 – SFA8 Range
	DFA1	DFA1 730 d	DFA3	DFA3 730 d	DFA5	DFA5 730 d	
Physical and LOI							
Fineness <sup>3</sup>	33.9	59.2	5.7	45.6	18.4	36.4	41.1 – 63.2
d <sub>50</sub> <sup>4</sup> , μm	39.4	45.1	4.3	32.0	23.9	29.7	28.3 – 43.9
LOI	8.3	9.3	5.6	5.9	13.6	13.4	3.5 – 15.9
Chemical Composition							
CaO	4.5	5.4	3.1	3.4	2.2	2.1	2.1 – 4.4
SiO <sub>2</sub>	47.9	46.3	50.1	49.2	41.3	40.1	41.2 – 51.2
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	20.3	20.1	22.4	22.9	23.4	22.2	19.5 – 25.2
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	7.4	7.7	7.6	7.2	6.7	5.8	5.8 – 9.4
K <sub>2</sub> O	2.2	2.1	2.5	2.8	2.3	1.6	1.7 – 2.8
Na <sub>2</sub> O	1.5	1.1	1.7	1.3	0.7	0.6	0.7 – 1.1
SO <sub>3</sub>	1.8	1.7	1.2	1.3	2.0	2.2	0.8 – 2.3

<sup>1</sup> 10% moisture, 730 d sealed storage in the laboratory at 20°C / Egyes minták 2 évig tárolva a laborban 10% nedvességet hozzáadva 20°C-on

<sup>2</sup> Percent unless indicated otherwise

<sup>3</sup> Percent retained on a 45 μm sieve (Dry fly ash tested to EN 450-1 (EN 451-2), wet stored fly ash - mean of 6 tests)

<sup>4</sup> Median particle size



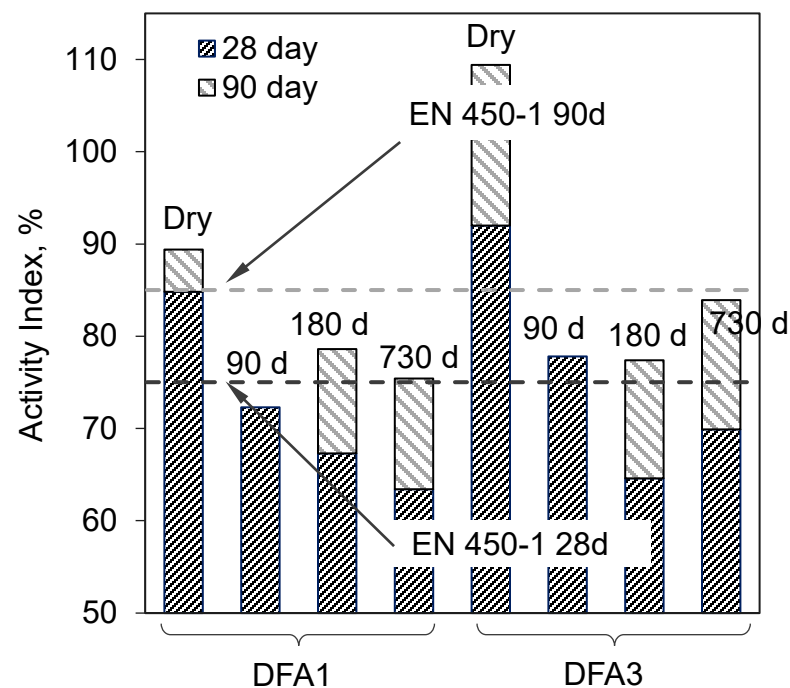
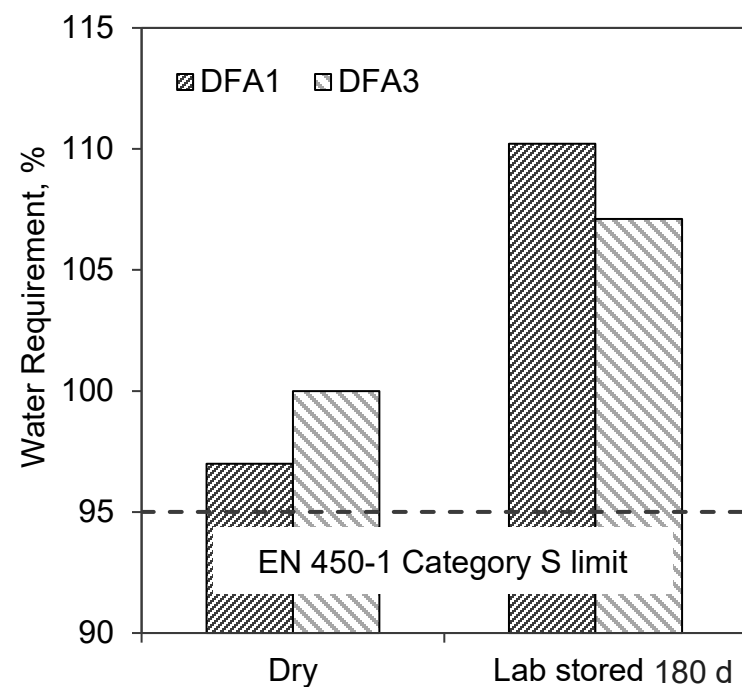
Dry



180 d Lab. Stored

Source: McCarthy et al. (2023a)

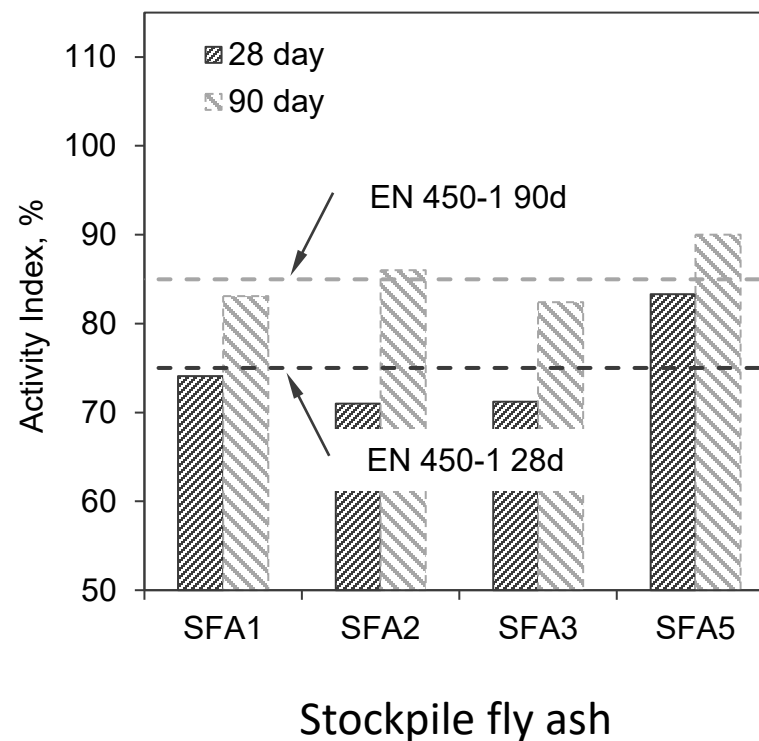
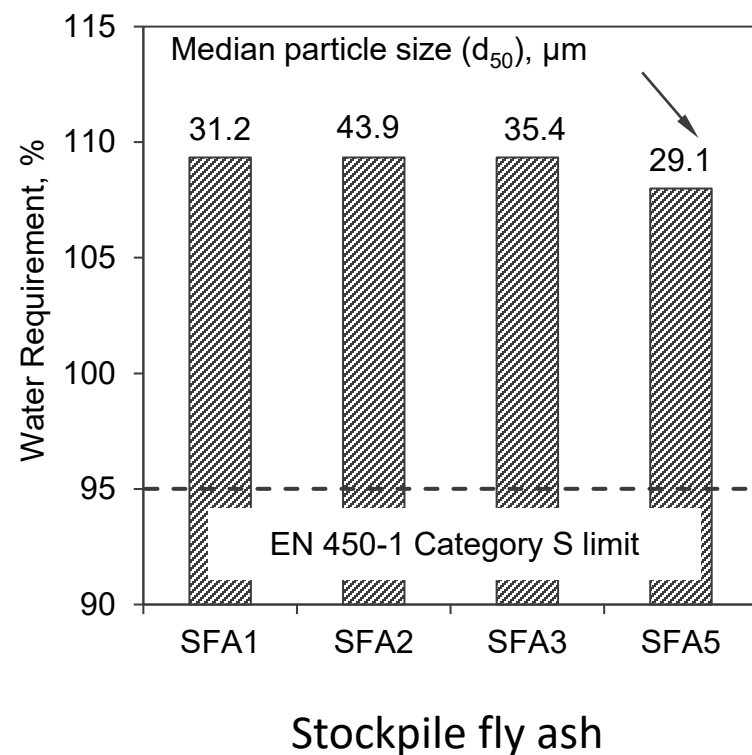
# Characteristics of Laboratory Wet Stored FlyAsh/ Laborpernye (Water Requirement/Reactivity) / Vízigény és aktivitás



Laboratory storage conditions: 10% moisture/sealed at 20°C

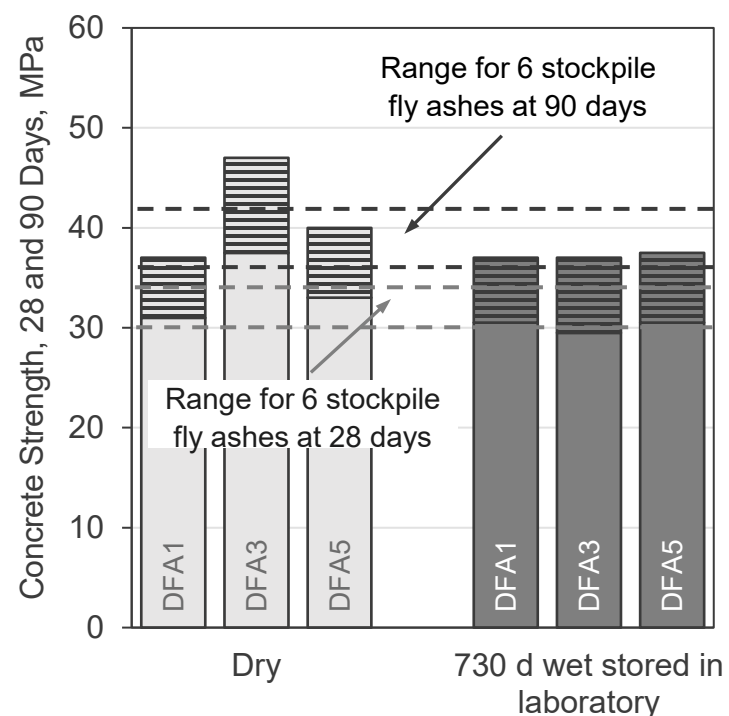
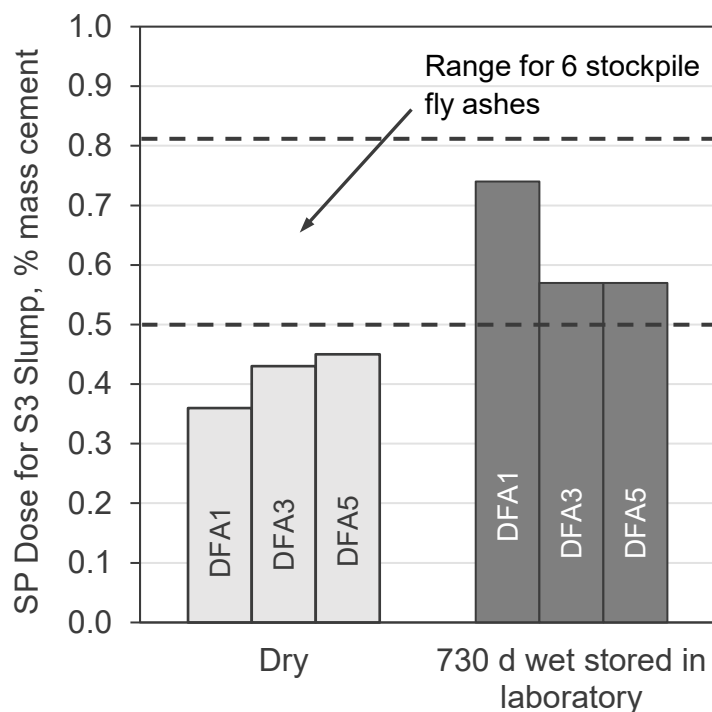
Laboratóriumi szimulált nedves tárolási körülmények: 10% vízzel, zárt zsákban 20°C-on

# Characteristics of Stockpile Stored FlyAsh / Kültéri pernye (Water Requirement/Reactivity) / Vízigény és aktivitás



Stockpile Fly Ashes

# Laboratory Wet Stored Fly Ash Concrete / Laborpernye beton (Fresh Properties/Strength) / Roskadás, nyomószilárdság



## Concrete Mix (w/c = 0.53)

Portland cement – 350 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

Water – 184 l/m<sup>3</sup>

10/20 – 790 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

4/10 – 395 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

0/4 – 640 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

(Gravel 20 mm max. size/  
local sand aggregate)

Fly Ash in Cement – 30%

30% pernye a kötőanyagban

Target slump – S3

Célzott roskadási osztály – S3

Laboratory storage conditions: 10% moisture/sealed at 20°C

## Processing of Stockpile Fly Ash in the Laboratory

### Kültéri tárolású pernye laboratóriumi feldolgozási módjai

- Screened (sieved at 600 and 63  $\mu\text{m}$ ). Szitálás 600 és 63  $\mu\text{m}$  szitán
- Ball milled with different loads/for various periods of time. Golyósmalom
- Thermally (heat) treated in a furnace at 500°C for 1 hour. Hőkezelés

In some cases, screening at 600  $\mu\text{m}$  was used before applying the other methods. Egyes esetekben a 600  $\mu\text{m}$ -en szitált anyagot őrlöttük / hőkezeltük





# Processing of Stockpile Fly Ash in the Laboratory / Kültéri pernye (Physical/Chemical Properties) / Feldolgozás utáni tulajdonságok

Property <sup>4</sup>	Sieving <sup>1</sup> / Szitálás <sup>1</sup>			Grinding <sup>2</sup> / Őrlés <sup>2</sup>		Heat Treated <sup>3</sup> / Hőkezelés <sup>3</sup>	
	SFA1	SFA1 < 600 µm	SFA1 < 63 µm	SFA2 < 600 µm	SFA2 < 600 µm 120 mins BM	SFA4 < 600 µm	SFA4 < 600 µm 500°C 60 mins
Physical and LOI / Szemcseméret és ízzítási maradék							
Fineness <sup>5</sup>	53.8	52.7	8.5	36.0	0.8	40.5	31.9
d <sub>50</sub> <sup>6</sup> , µm	31.2	31.5	25.3	37.3	5.0	30.0	25.4
LOI	9.7	9.8	8.9	9.2	9.7	16.3	11.8
Chemical Composition / Oxidos összetétel							
CaO	4.4	5.1	5.0	2.5	2.6	2.0	1.9
SiO <sub>2</sub>	44.3	42.7	46.4	47.0	49.4	42.9	44.9
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	21.8	20.9	23.0	25.0	24.8	23.3	24.4
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	9.0	8.8	9.3	8.6	9.4	7.6	8.0
K <sub>2</sub> O	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.1	2.1
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.7
SO <sub>3</sub>	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.0	1.3	1.0	0.9

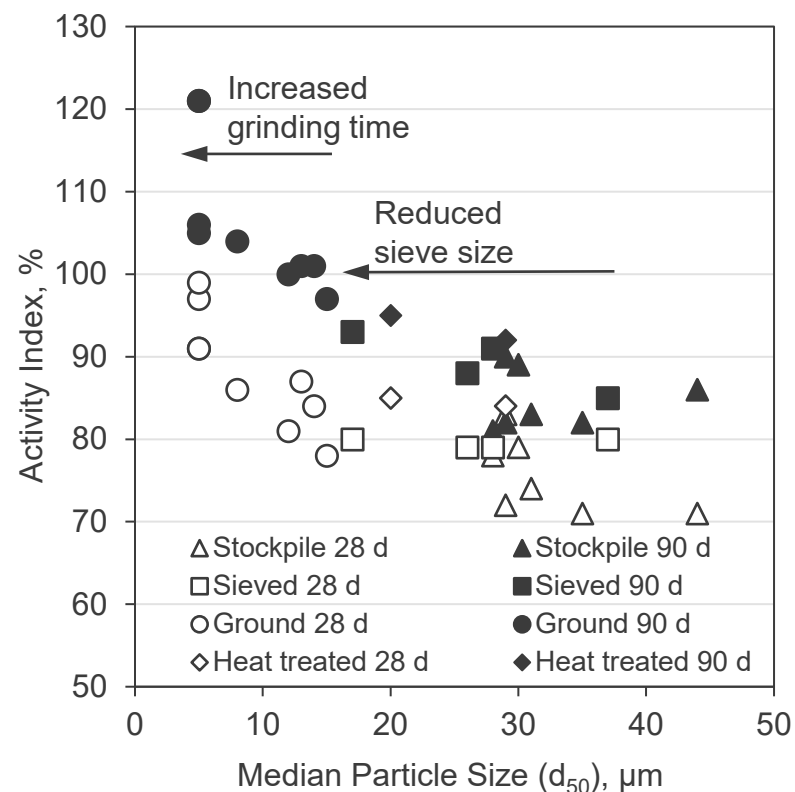
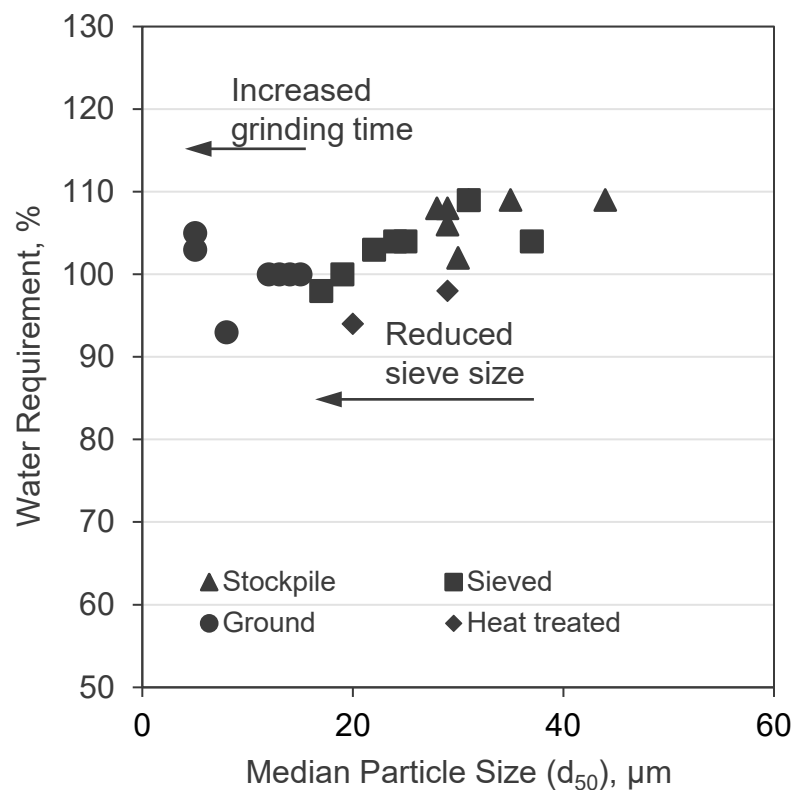
<sup>1</sup>< 600 µm, < 63 µm passed through sieve size indicated (finer fraction tested), <sup>2</sup>Passed through sieve size indicated and finer fraction ball milled (BM) for 120 minutes,

<sup>3</sup>Passed through sieve size indicated and finer fraction heat treated for 60 minutes at 500°C, <sup>4</sup>Percent unless noted otherwise,

<sup>5</sup>Percent retained on a 45 µm sieve (Processed fly ash tested to EN 450-1 (EN 451-2), stockpile fly ash - mean of 6 tests), <sup>6</sup>Median particle size



# Processing of Stockpile Fly Ash in the Laboratory / Kültéri pernye (Water Requirement/Activity Index) / Vízigény, aktivitási index



## Reference Mortar Mix

Portland cement – 450 g

Water – 225 g

Standard sand – 1350 g

## Fly Ash Mortar Mixes

As above except

Water Requirement –  
30% fly ash in cement and  
variable water for equal flow

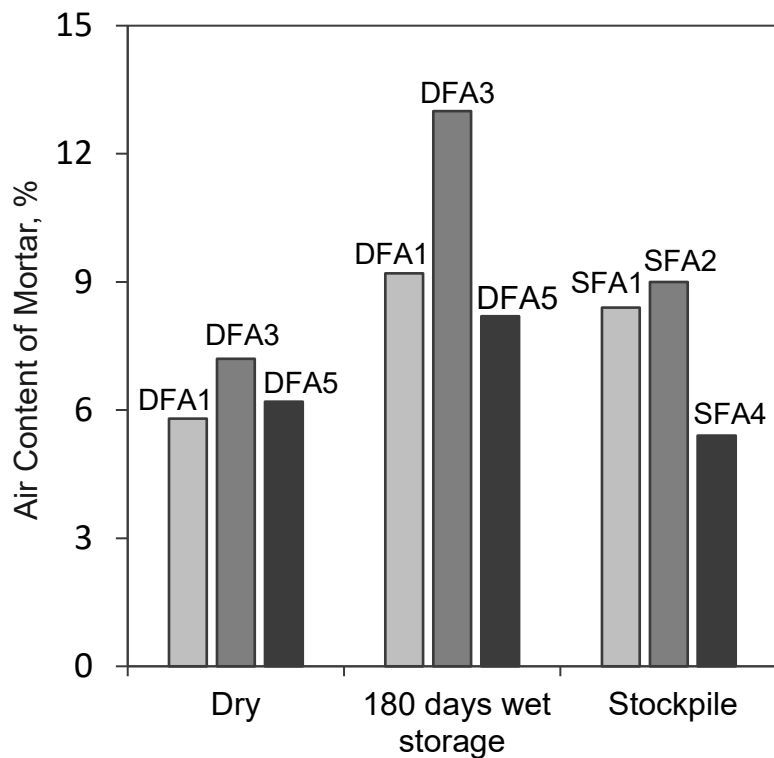
30% pernye és változó mennyiségű víz azonos folyóssághoz

Activity Index – 25% fly ash in  
cement / Aktivitási indexhez  
25% pernyével a kötőanyagban

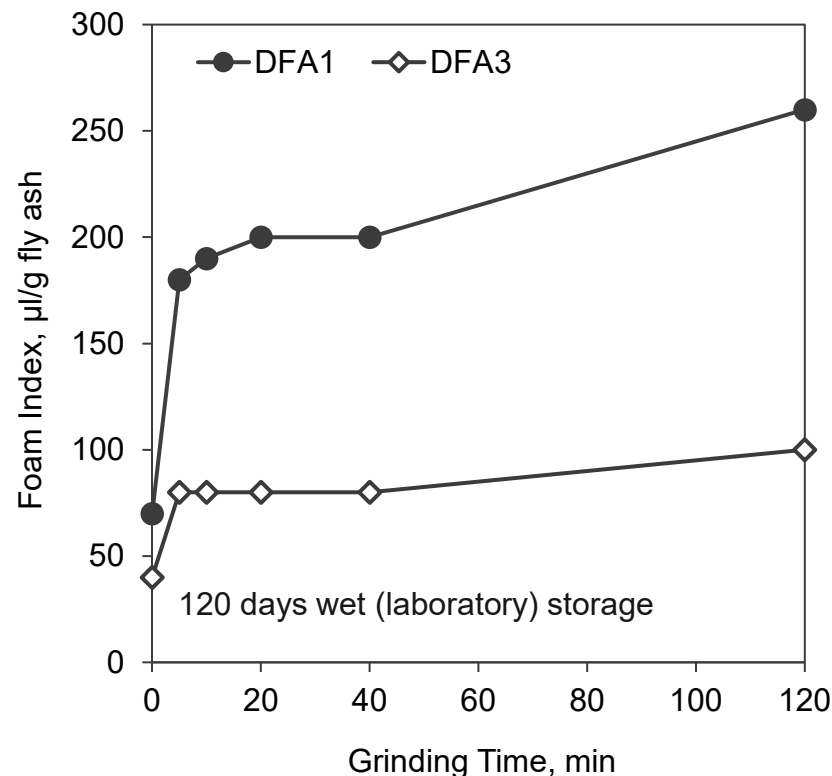


# Characteristics of Laboratory/Stockpile Fly Ash (Airentainment)

## Pernyés habarcsook légpórustartalma és a pernyék adszorpciója



Reagent: Sodium dodecyl benzene sulfonate (SDBS),  
1 g in Standard mortar – (20% fly ash in cement)



Reagent: SDBS, 0.01 mol/l  
Variation in foam index with grinding



Air content - mortar



Foam index test

Laboratory storage conditions: 10% moisture/sealed at 20°C Source: McCarthy et al. (2023b)

# Laboratory Processed Stockpile Fly Ash Concrete / Kültéren tárolt, de laboratóriumban feldolgozott pernyés beton (Fresh Properties/Strength) / Friss tulajdonságok, szilárdság

Fly Ash/Processing	Median Particle Size (d50), $\mu\text{m}$ Szemcseméret	SP Admixture Dose for S3 Slump, % mass cement Folyósítószer S3-hoz	Cube Strength, MPa Nyomószilárdság kockán	
			28d	90d
SFA2	43.9	0.56	31.5	39.5
SFA2 < 600 $\mu\text{m}$	37.3	0.58	32.5	41.5
SFA2 < 600 $\mu\text{m}$ /BM 40	8.9	0.41	37.5	45.0
SFA2 < 600 $\mu\text{m}$ /BM 80	6.3	0.43	40.0	47.0
SFA2 < 600 $\mu\text{m}$ /BM 120	5.0	0.37	40.0	50.5
SFA6	28.6	0.68	33.0	40.5
SFA6 < 600 $\mu\text{m}$	28.0	0.71	33.5	43.5
SFA6 < 600 $\mu\text{m}$ /BM 120	4.9	0.36	41.0	48.5

<600  $\mu\text{m}$  – fly ash passed through 600  $\mu\text{m}$  sieve before testing/ball milling, BMXX – Fly ash ball milled for XX mins

<600  $\mu\text{m}$  – szitált pernye, 600  $\mu\text{m}$ -on áthullott hányad, BMXX – golyósmalommal őrlve XX percig

## Concrete Mix (w/c = 0.53)

Portland Cement – 350 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

Water – 184 l/m<sup>3</sup>

0/4 – 640 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

4/10 – 395 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

10/20 – 790 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

(Gravel 20 mm max size/  
local sand aggregate)

Fly Ash in Cement – 30%

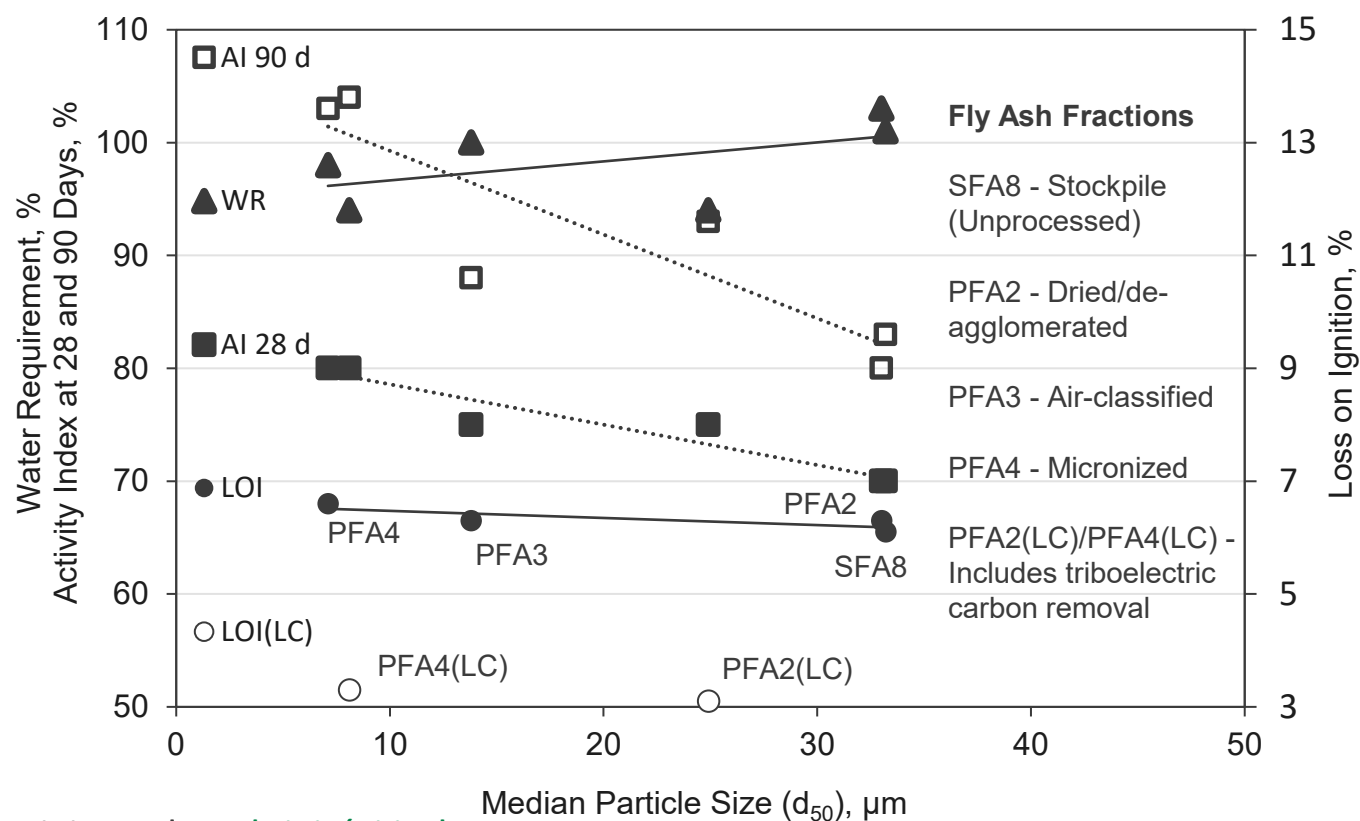
30% pernye a kötőanyagban

Target slump – S3

Célzott roskadási osztály – S3

# Pilot/Benchtop Scale Processing of Stockpile FlyAsh

## Kültéri pernye feldolgozása félüzemi méretekben



AI – Activity Index **Aktivitási index**

WR – Water Requirement **Vízigény**

LOI – Loss on Ignition **Ízzítási veszteség**

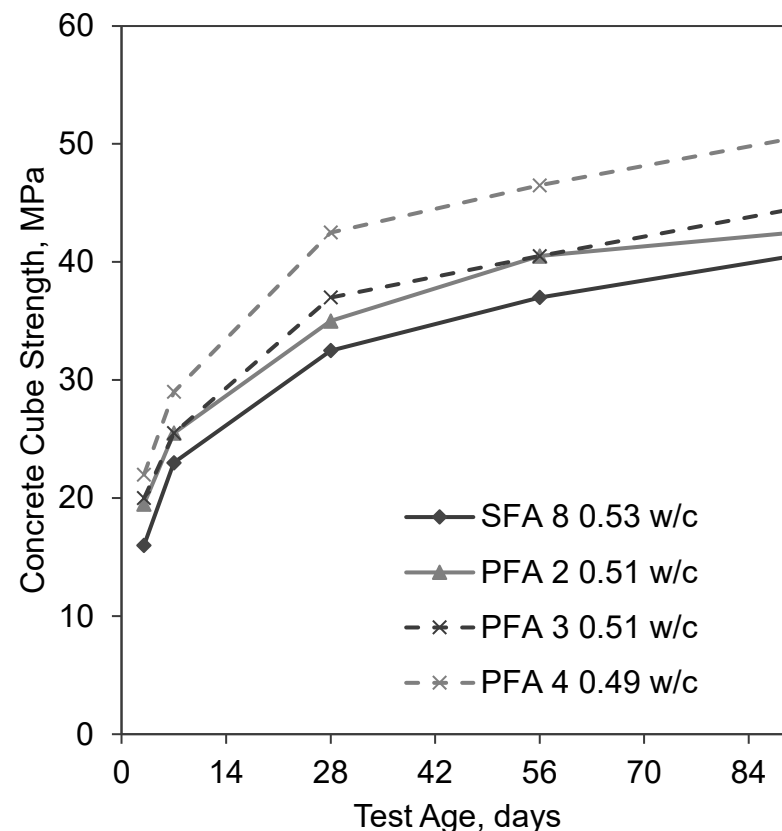
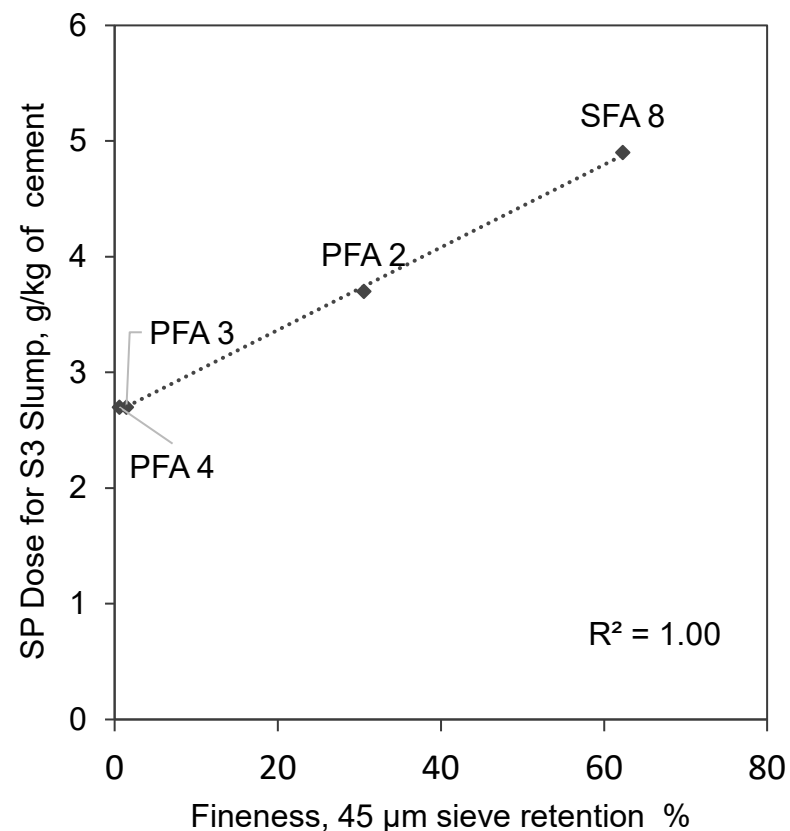
Source: McCarthy et al. (2022) / (2023a)



Atritor Ltd - Processing Equipment

# Pilot/Benchtop Scale Processed Stockpile Fly Ash Concrete

## Félüzemi méretekben feldolgozott kültéri pernyés beton



### Concrete Mix (w/c = 0.53)

Portland Cement – 350 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

Water – 184 l/m<sup>3</sup>

0/4 – 640 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

4/10 – 395 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

10/20 – 790 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

(Gravel 20 mm max size/  
local sand aggregate)

Fly Ash in Cement – 30%

30% pernye a kötőanyagban

Target slump – S3

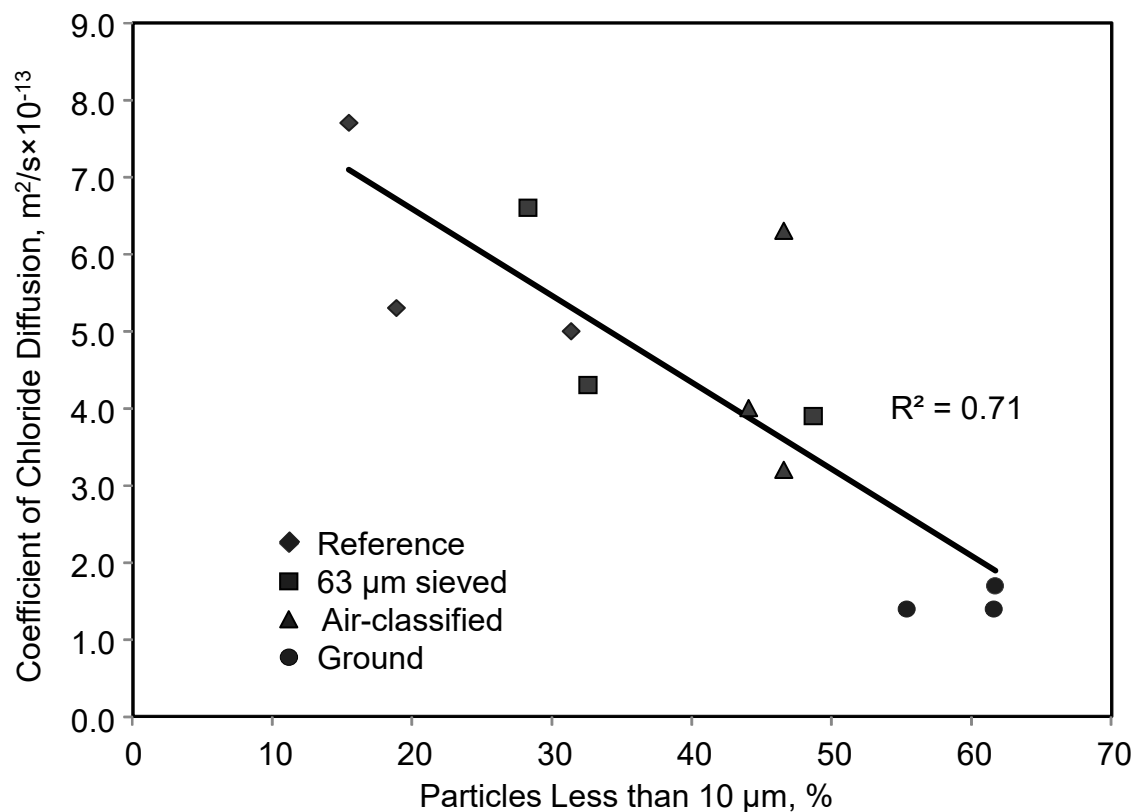
Célzott roskadási osztály – S3

Water Saving Concretes (Fixed SP dose)

Állandó folyósítószer mennyiséggel

# Processed Lagoon/Stockpile Fly Ash Concrete Durability

## Kültéren tárolt pernyés beton tartóssága kloriddifúzióval mérve



Source: McCarthy et al. (2018)

### Concrete Mix (w/c – 0.53)

Cement –  $350 \text{ kg/m}^3$

Water –  $185 \text{ l/m}^3$

Fly Ash – 30% in cement

30% pernye a kötőanyagban

Target slump – 100 mm

Célzott roskadás 100 mm

Chloride diffusion

Two compartment cell/

Fick's First Law Kloriddifúzió

kétkamrás elrendezésben,

Fick első törvénye szerint

1 stockpile and 2 lagoon

fly ashes tested

1 meddőhányós és

2 zagyátrolós pernye alapján



## Summary / Összefoglalás

- With changes in electricity generation, alternative options for sourcing fly ash for use in construction are required.  
A szénérőművek leállása miatt pernyét máshonnan kell beszerezni
- A possible route for this is the reserves of wet stored material from holding areas (stockpiles, landfills). Pl. meddőhányókból, zagy tárolókból
- Material in these areas has often undergone changes with implications for handling and meeting the requirements of Standards. Ezek a pernyék sokszor csak feldolgozás után felelnek meg a szabványoknak (pl. összetapadt szemcsék)
- Consideration of the need for processing to increase fineness, reduce carbon content and enhance reactivity may then be necessary. A szemcseméret finomítása, a széntartalom csökkentése és az aktivitás növelése szükséges



## Summary/ Összefoglalás

- Processed fly ashes could meet the requirements of EN 450-1, including fineness, loss-on-ignition and reactivity. *A megfelelően feldolgozott pernye megfelelhet az EN 450-1 szabványnak (szemcseméret, ízz. vesz., aktivitás)*
- In concrete SP dose generally reduced with fly ash fineness, at least up to a point by processing. Concrete strength generally improved with increased fly ash fineness. *Finomabb pernyéhez általában kevesebb folyósítószer kellett és a beton szilárdsága is javult*
- Larger scale trials gave similar behaviour to that obtained in the laboratory. *A félüzemi kísérletek is alátámasztják a laboratórium eredményeket*
- Initial durability tests (chloride diffusion) described, indicate that processing can give improvements to this aspect of concrete performance. *A pernye feldolgozása segít tömörebb, tartósabb betont készíteni (lásd Cl-diffúzió)*





## Future Work and Acknowledgements / Tervek, köszönet

- Research into durability of recovered/processed fly ash covering key physical and chemical aspects continues. *A feldolgozott pernyés betonok tartóssági javulását további mérésekkel is igazoljuk majd*
- Work has examined energy requirements for processing (Cooke, 2023) and there are plans to take this further. *A feldolgozás energiaigényét is nézzük*
- The use of recovered/processed fly ash in ternary blends for concrete is also being considered. *Többkomponensű betonokat is vizsgálunk majd*

Thanks are given to the EPSRC and the UK Quality Ash Association and its members for supporting the research described. Acknowledgement is given to Drs Robert Carroll and Nigel Cooke for their input during the project. The contributions of Atritor Ltd and STET in processing material is also much appreciated.

*Köszönet illeti a kutatás támogatóit: Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, UK Quality Ash Association; nagyra értékeljük Dr Carroll és Dr Cooke szakmai tanácsait és az Atritor Ltd és STET cégek mintafeldolgozási segítségét*

# References/ Hivatkozások

Cooke N (UKQAA, 2023). Securing stockpile reserves of coal-derived fly ash as a national asset. Concrete, Vol 57, No 3, pp 44 – 47.

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