

Prefabricated Concrete Walls with Recycled Concrete Elements

PREUSE – PREcast reUSEd concrete
Full-scale test of shear wall element

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DTU Structural Lab



The Person Speaking

- **Jesper Harrild Sørensen**
Researcher in Experimental Mechanics and Concrete Structures
- Head of **DTU Structural Lab**
- Background in Civil Engineering, Structural behavior of Reinforced Concrete Structures and Concrete Plasticity (Limit Analysis)
- Primarily research on:
 - Precast shear walls
 - Size effect in 3D concrete structures (Pile Caps)
 - 3D printed fiber reinforced concrete
 - Geopolymer Concrete
 - And a few other projects:



A bit of history:

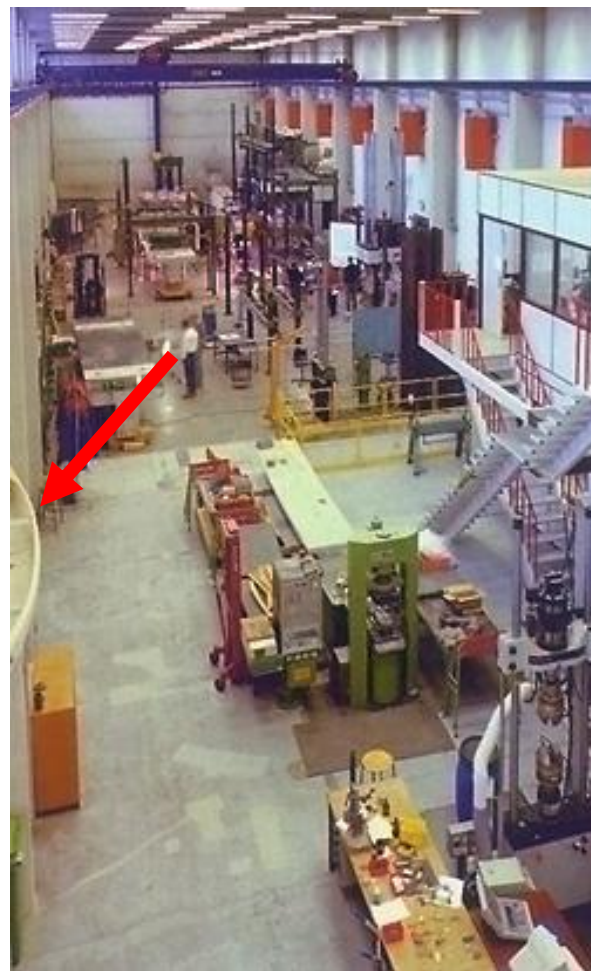
Main lab facilities was built in the 1960s during the establishment of Technical University of Denmark, Lyngby premises.

Structural Lab aims at mechanical testing at full-scale, sub-structural or component testing.

Since 2000 a collaboration between the departments of **Mechanical** Engineering and **Civil** Engineering.

2015 – **CASMaT** established, and facilities dramatically expanded (equipment, strong wall etc.)

2022 – Departments merged, now **DTU Construct**



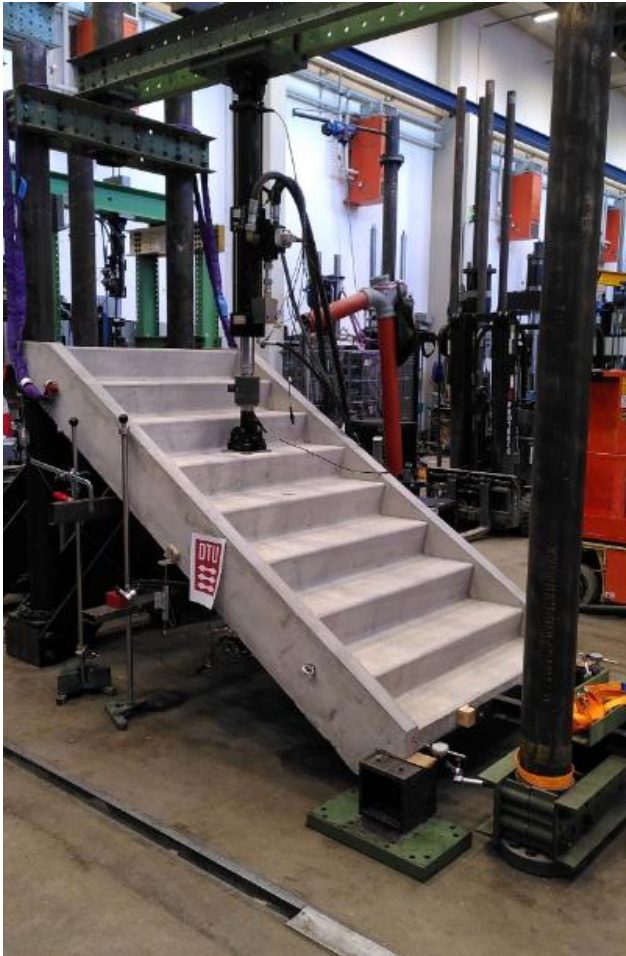
1990's



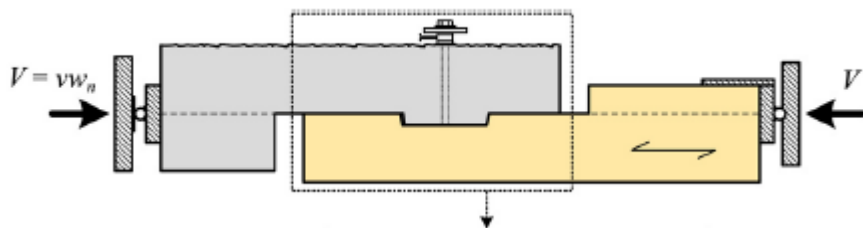
Present



Design Optimized Prefabricated Concrete Staircase



Timber-Concrete Composite Deck structures



Research significance:

- Prefabricated solutions
- Low concrete strengths
- Improved ductility
- Enable reuse at End-of-Life

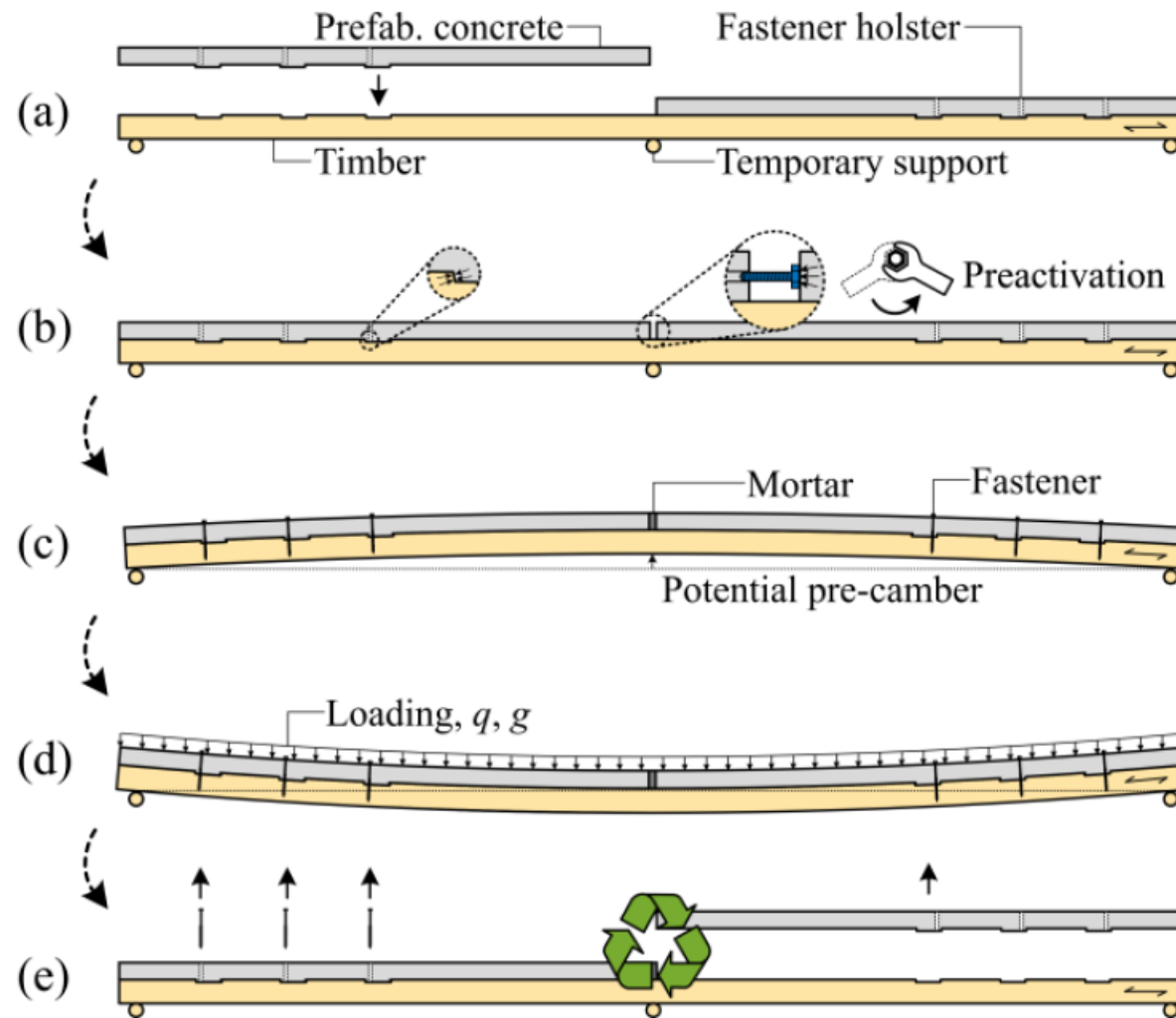
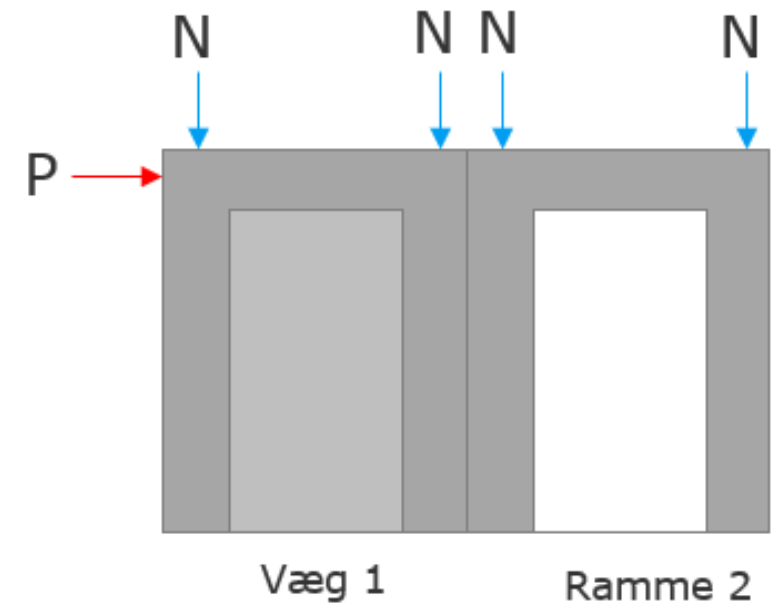


Figure 1 – Principle of construction of deck element.

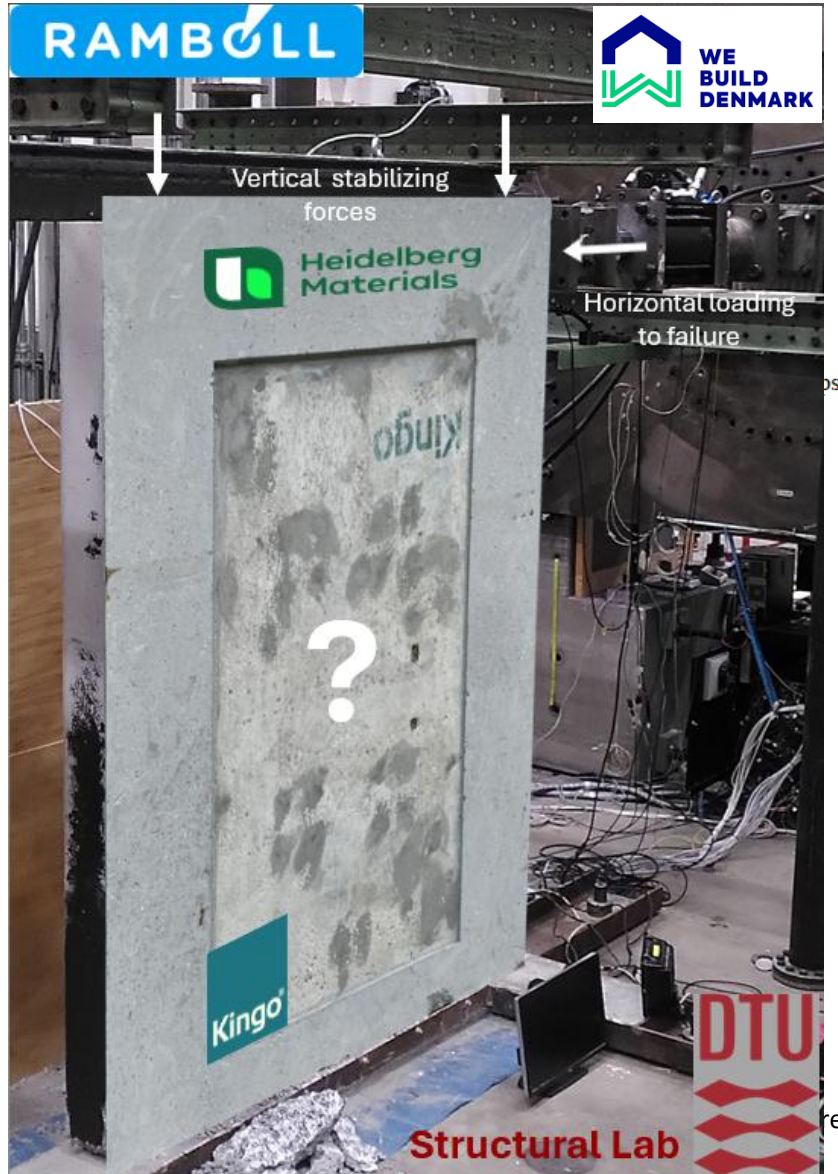
Precast wall elements with flexible zones



Industrial PhD project by Sara Vestergaard with Rambøll



Precast wall elements with flexible zones



Flexible Zones:

- Low strength concrete
- Low amount of reinforcement
- Ductility ensured by conventionally reinforced frame

Challenges:

- Sound insulation – after cracking?
- Structural capacity? Frame or disk?

Reuse of existing concrete?

- Available
- Low environmental footprint

PREUSE

What is PREUSE?

What is PREUSE?

A 'Sandbox' collaboration that gathers relevant partners to **try innovative things out** –
Is there a way forward?

Why are we doing this particular project?

- There is a huge potential to reuse existing precast concrete structures in new applications
- This project demonstrates a one-to-one reuse of existing concrete – a high level in the Waste Hierarchy

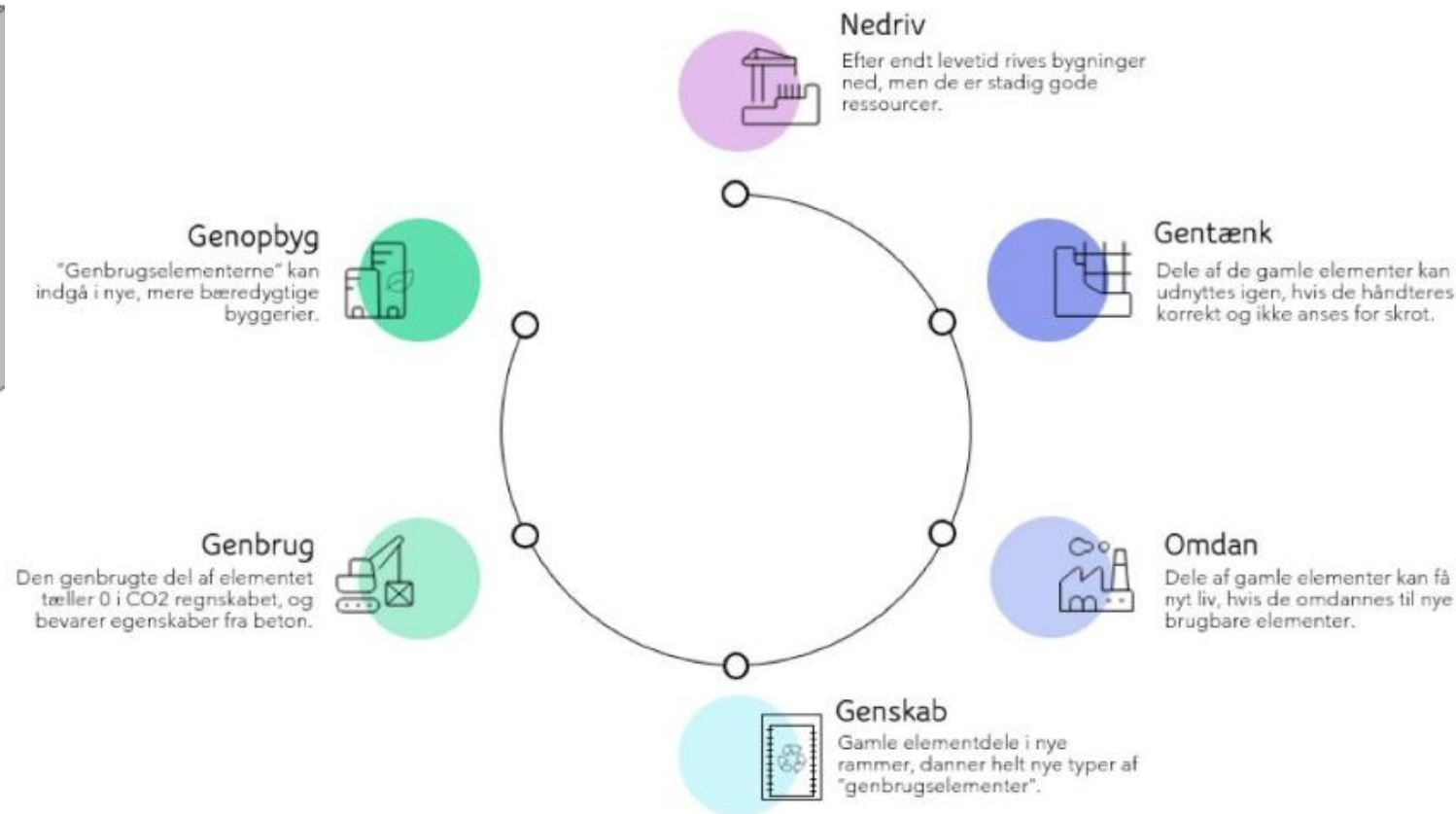
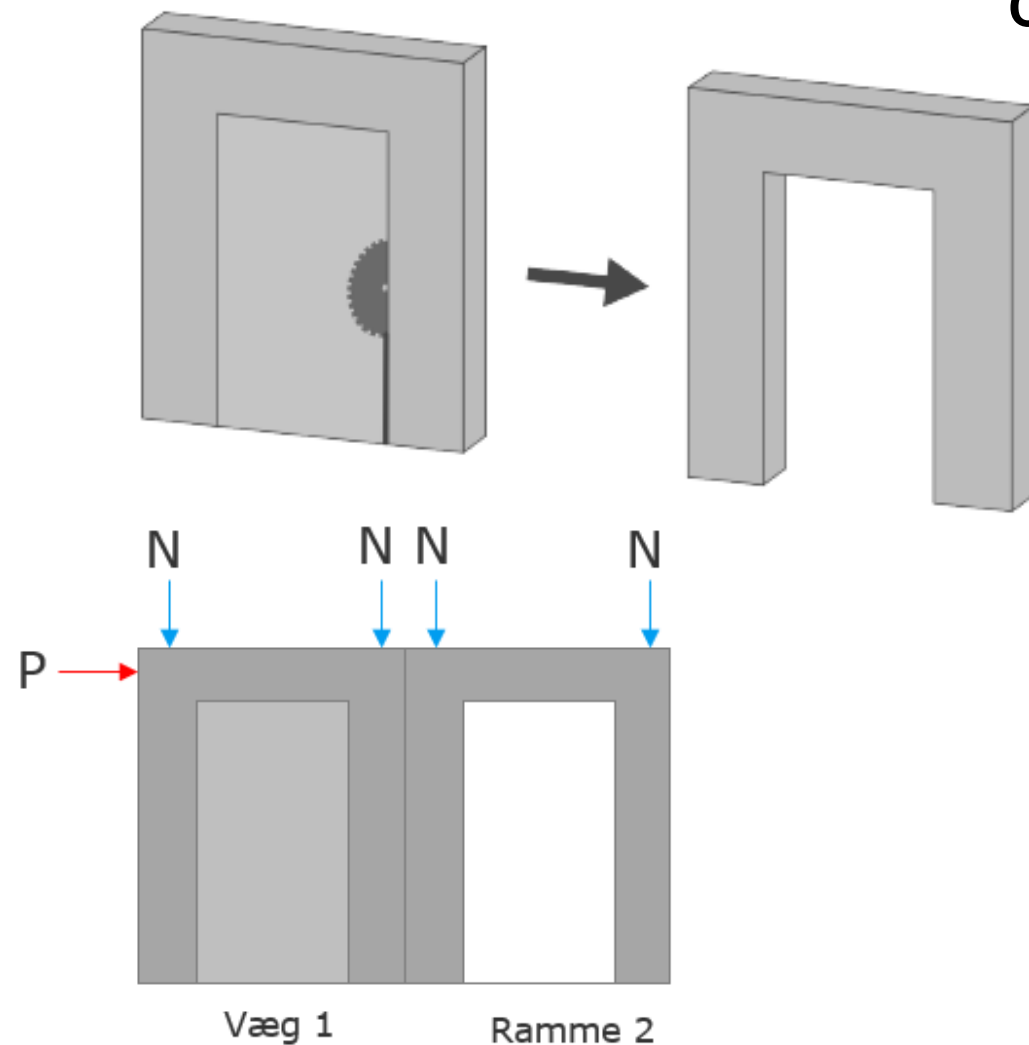
Central questions:

- Can it be produced?
- How is the structural behaviour?
- Do we maintain the benefits of the concrete with a much smaller CO₂ footprint?

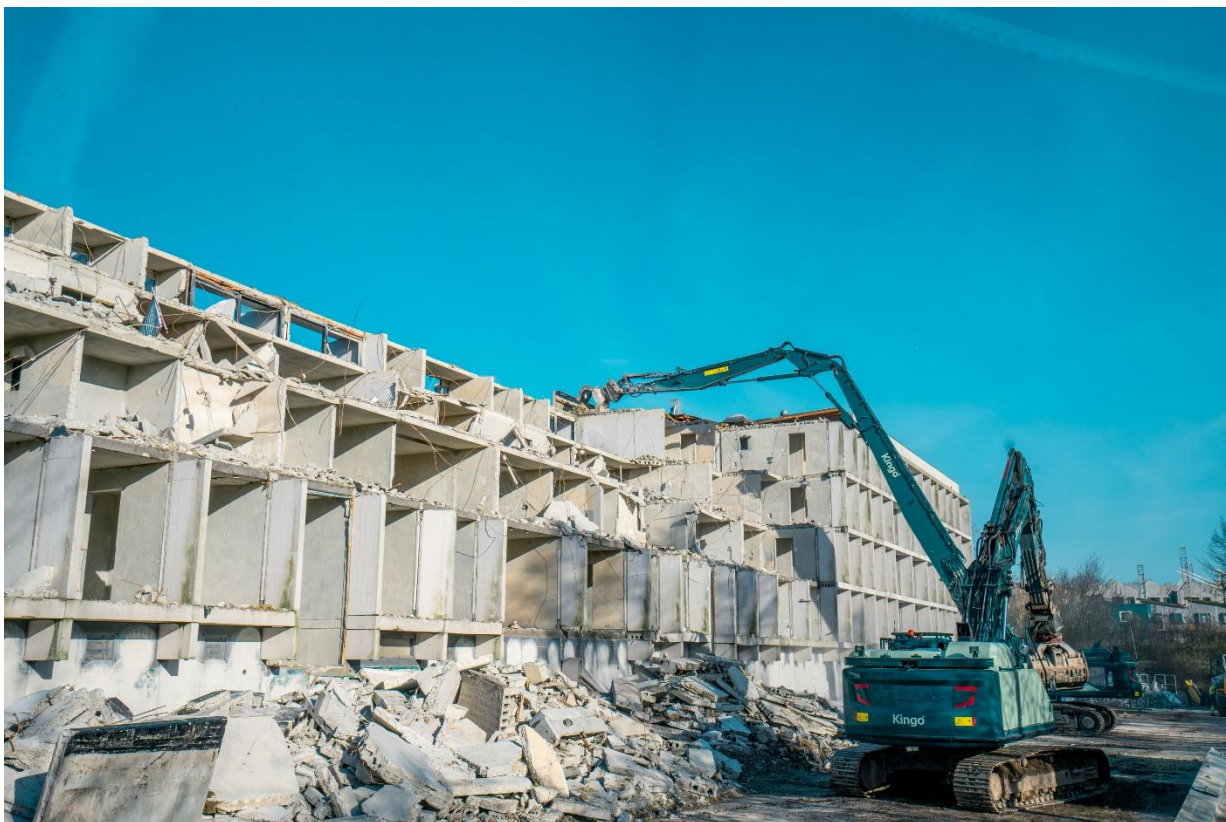


Phase 0: Design concept

Circular and adaptive design



Phase 1: Demolition/Preparation for new life



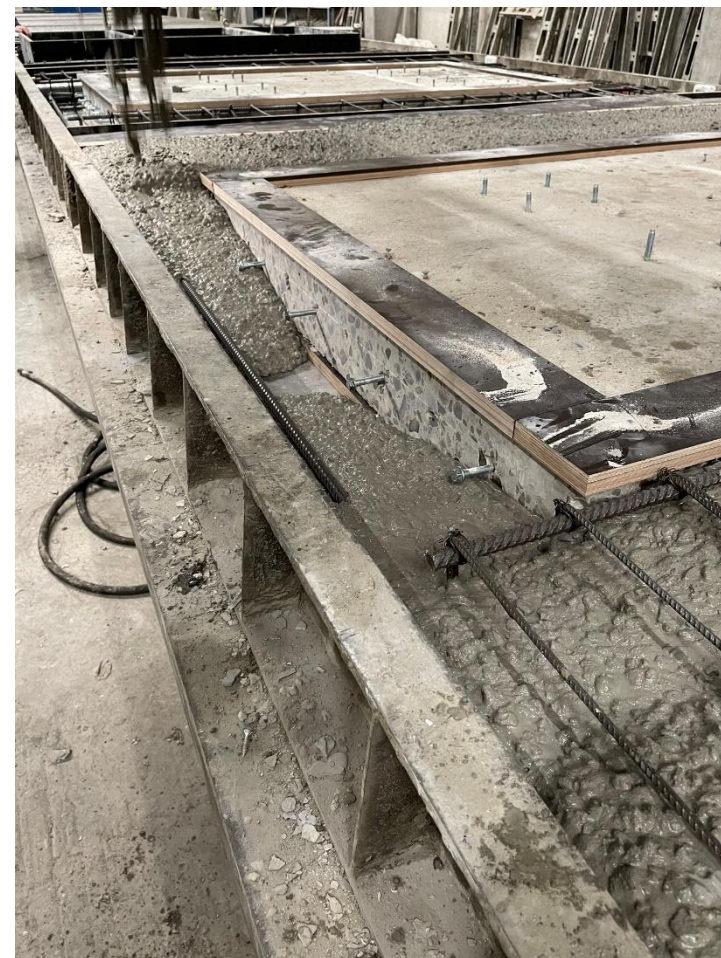
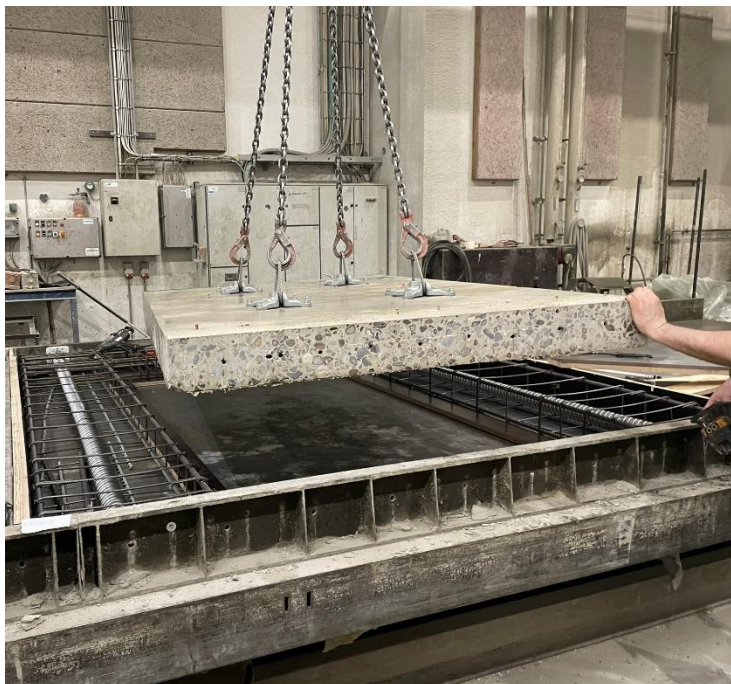
Recent progress in demolition



Søren Malund Thomsen
Forretningsudvikler, Kingo

- https://www.linkedin.com/posts/soerenmalundthomsen_shoppetur-efter-genbrugte-betonelementer-activity-7328637095076319232-Llvc?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAY0GbMB4DFuZQQ54CaxdjAzYecUBHCKbAA

Phase 2: Production



Phase 3: Structural test

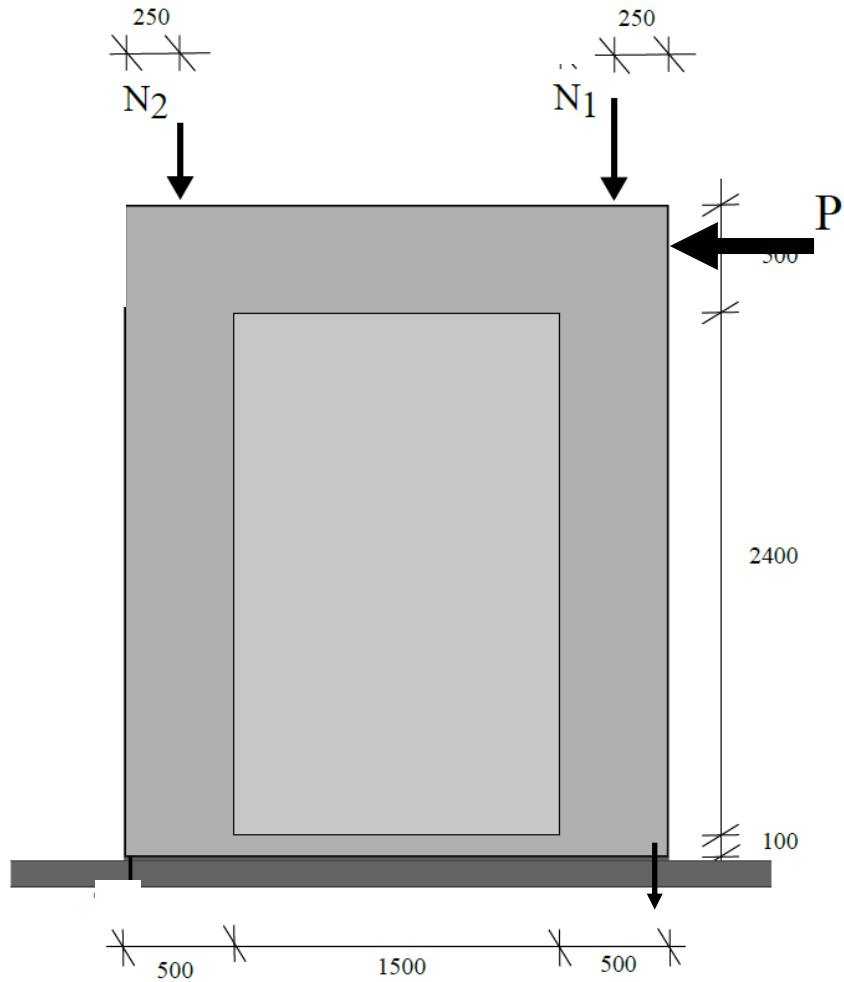
- ✓ Demolition phase
- ✓ Production phase
- ☐ Structural performance?
- ☐ Serviceability limit state?
 - ☐ Does the concrete crack at service load?
- ☐ Ultimate limit state?
 - ☐ What is the load carrying capacity compared to the Precast Frame alone?

Key point of interest:

- ☐ Does the interface between the two zones crack?
- ☐ What is the failure mode?
- ☐ What does a lack of reinforcement mean?

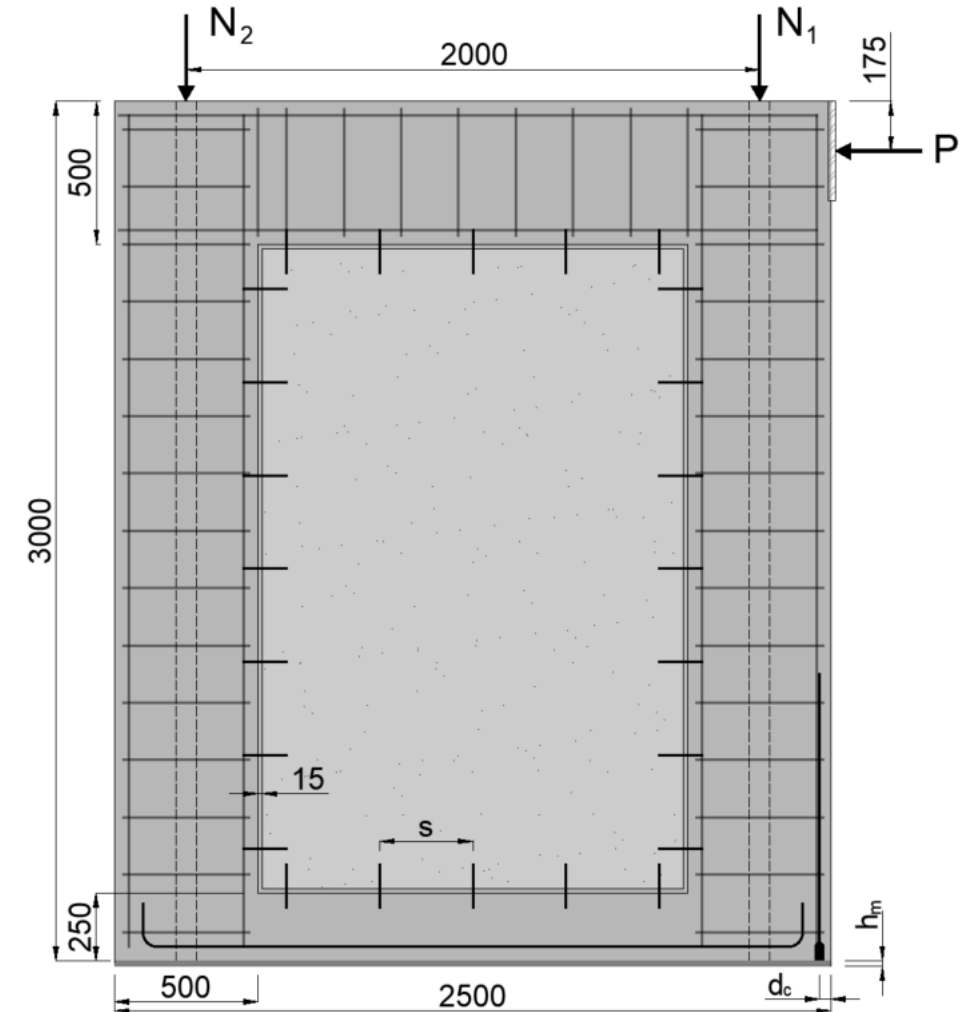
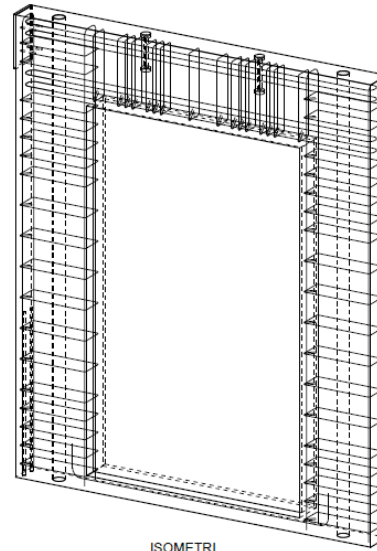


Loading conditions and Design



Concrete strengths:
 Precast frame 32 MPa
 PREUSED concrete:
 ~30 MPa

Reinforcement:
 Ø6 513 MPa
 Ø16 544 MPa



Live streaming of Experimental test



DTU Structural Lab

890 followers

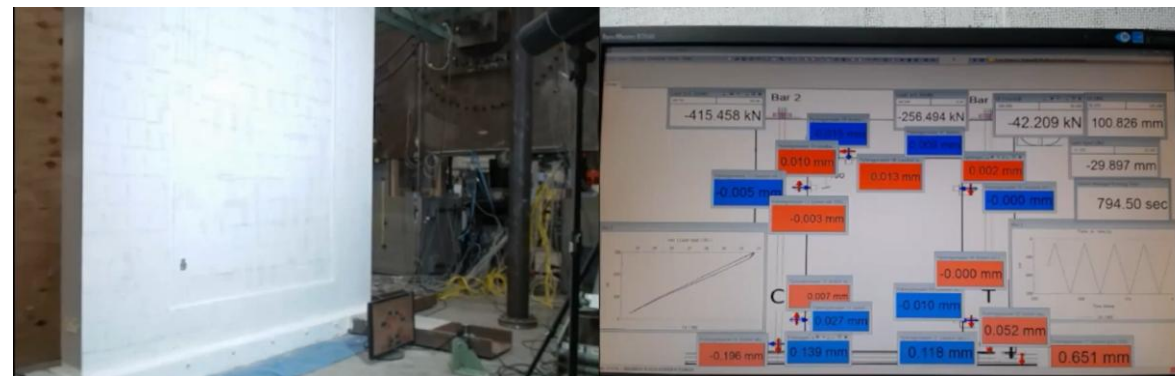
8mo • Edited •

Maybe you remember the concrete shear wall element with a reused piece of old concrete cast inside? Before the summer break, we promised to share more insight with you once we progressed: <https://lnkd.in/eN6yrjQY> ...more

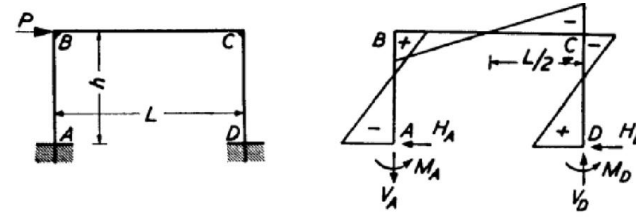


PREUSE - Live broadcast of shear wall test with PREcast reUSED concrete

LinkedIn Live



Load protocol



$$\begin{aligned} M_A &= -\frac{Ph}{2} \cdot \frac{3k+1}{N_2} \\ M_D &= +\frac{Ph}{2} \cdot \frac{3k+1}{N_2} \\ H_A &= -H_D = -\frac{P}{2} \\ M_B &= +\frac{Ph}{2} \cdot \frac{3k}{N_2} \\ M_C &= -\frac{Ph}{2} \cdot \frac{3k}{N_2} \\ V_A &= -V_D = -\frac{2M_B}{L} \end{aligned}$$

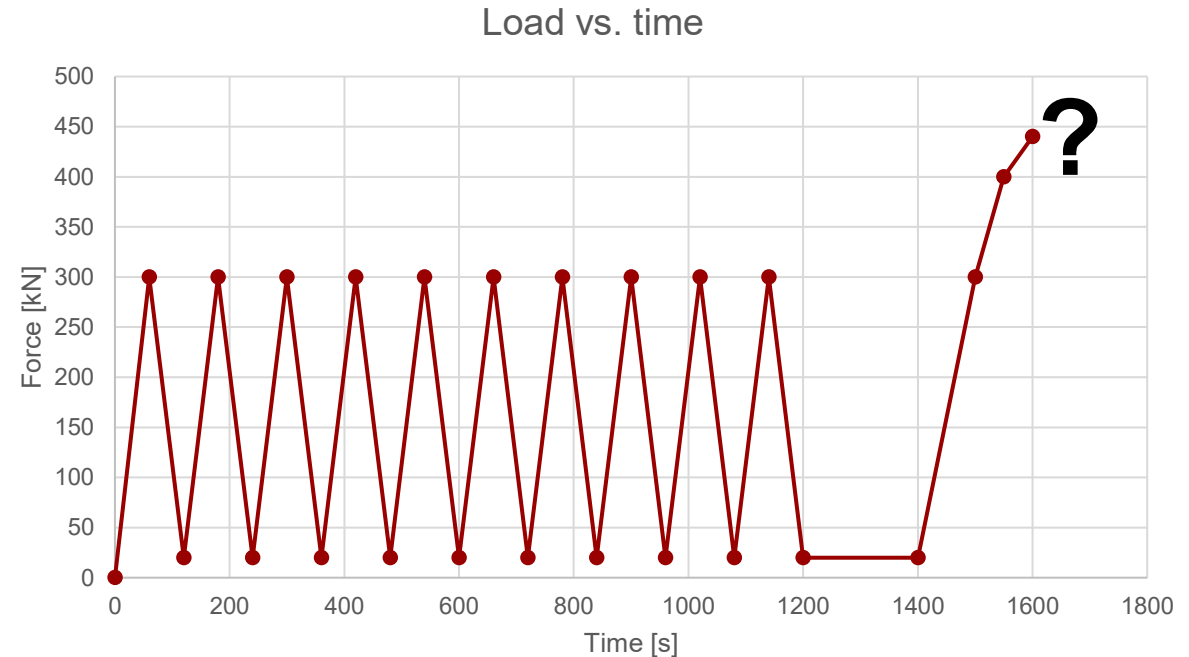
Figure 1 – Portal Frame Reactions Forces and Moments

Frame without in-fill:

- Known capacity.
- Test cycles exceeded this capacity

Loading Scheme:

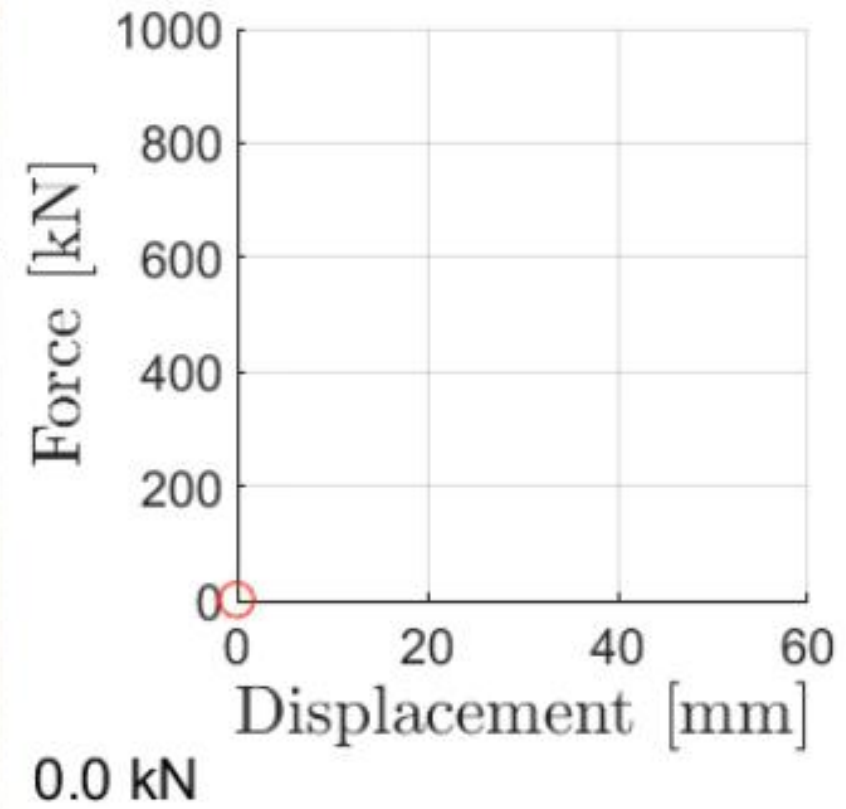
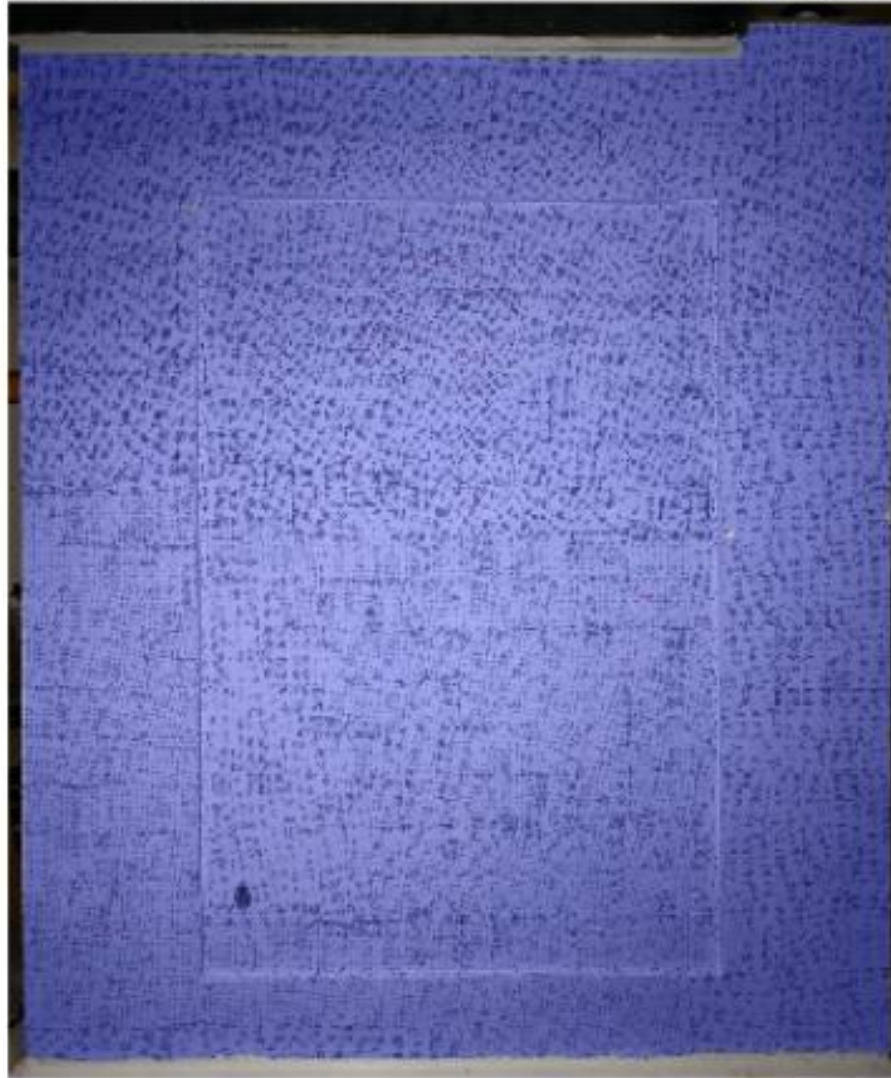
- 10 cycles to 300 kN (Load control)
- Small break for visual inspection
- Displacement control to failure
- Visual inspection
- Synchronized logging of signals
- Automatic triggering of camera (DIC)
 - At local peaks and valleys
 - With specific time interval

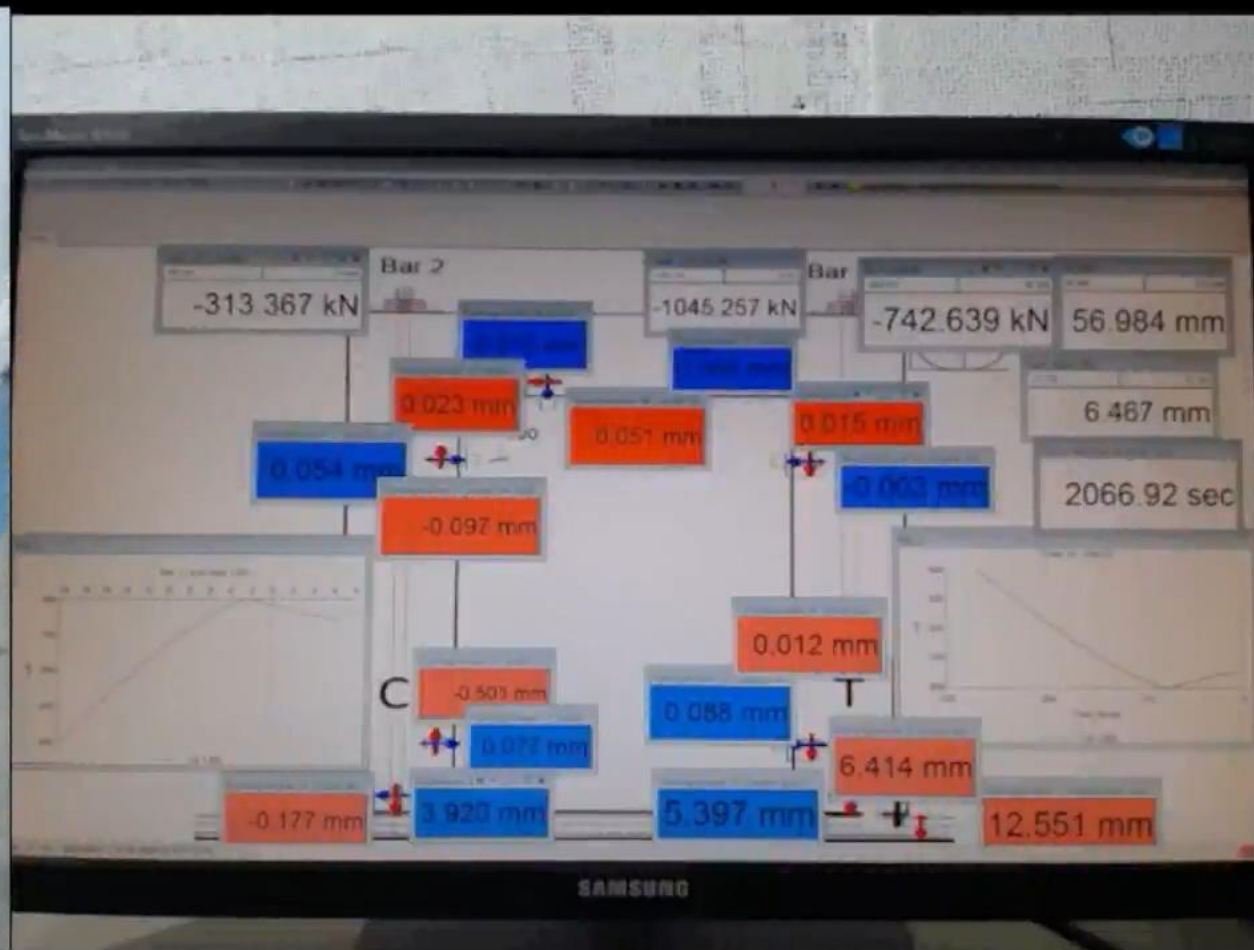


404.5 kN

205.3 kN

1.4 kN

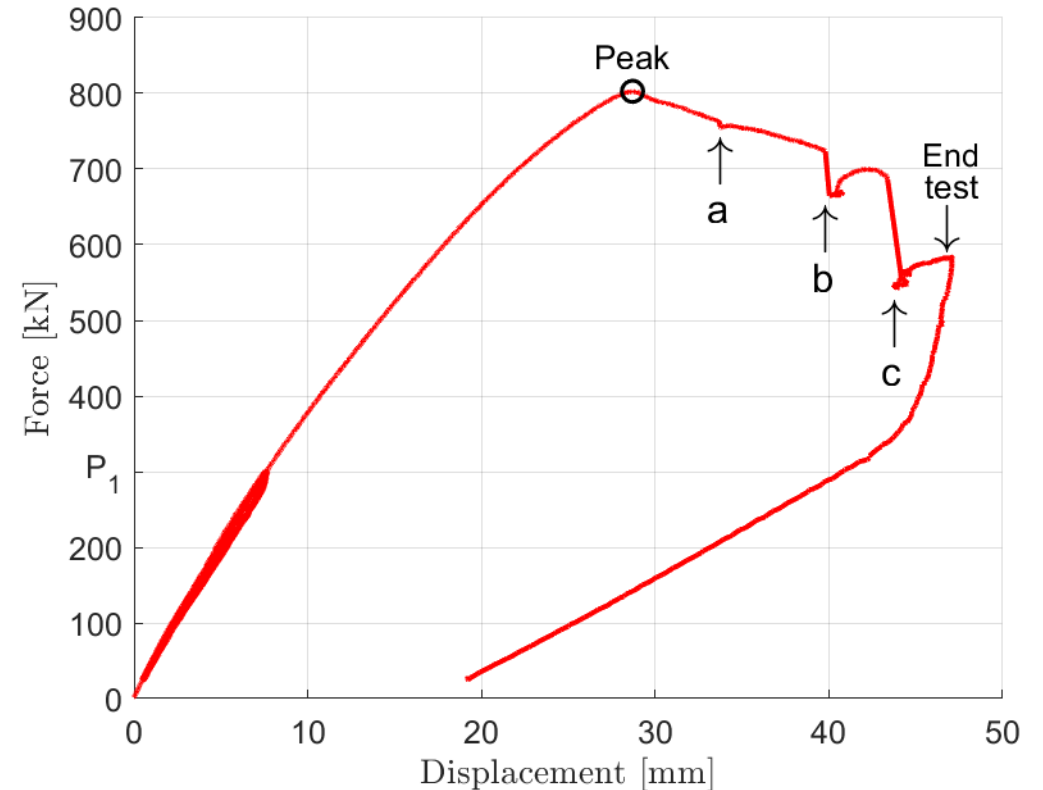




Conclusions

Concerns:

- ✓ Demolition phase
- ✓ Production phase
- ☐ Structural performance
 - ✓ No concrete cracks in Reused Element at service load
 - ✓ No interface failure between the two zones
 - ✓ Load carrying capacity much higher than frame itself
- ☐ Is the solution ready for implementation?
 - ✓ With conservative calculations of structural capacity
 - Using the unreinforced concrete as load carrying element?
 - Reversed loading?
 - What if interface cracks?



Peak: Ductile compression failure

a: Interface slip

b: Diagonal crack

c: Rupture of tie connection