

Urban Albedo: Digital tools for urban
resilience and growth



Environmental and resilience benefits of high Albedo Concrete

Guy Thompson

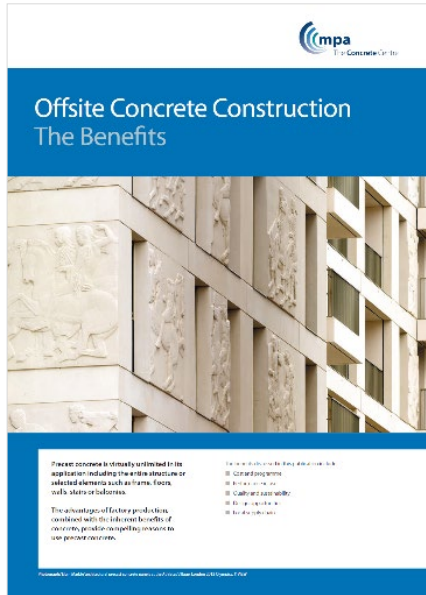
BA. B' Arch. RIBA

Head of Architecture, Housing and Sustainability
The Concrete Centre

Who are we?



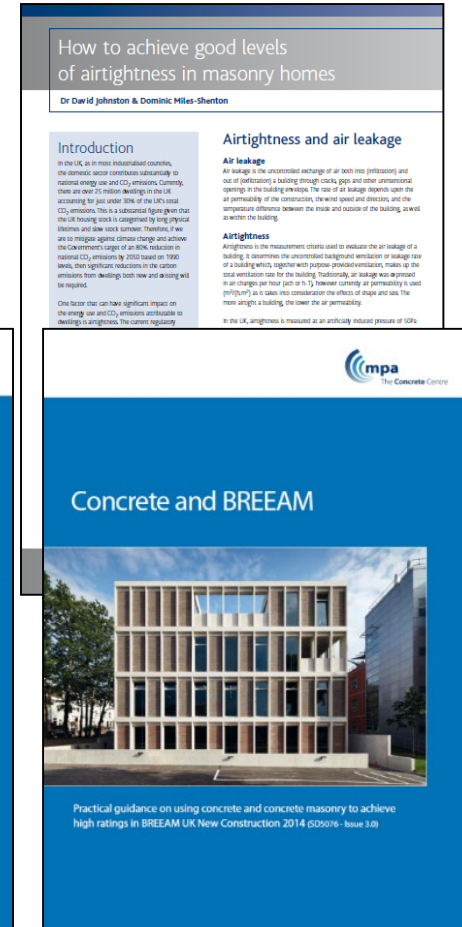
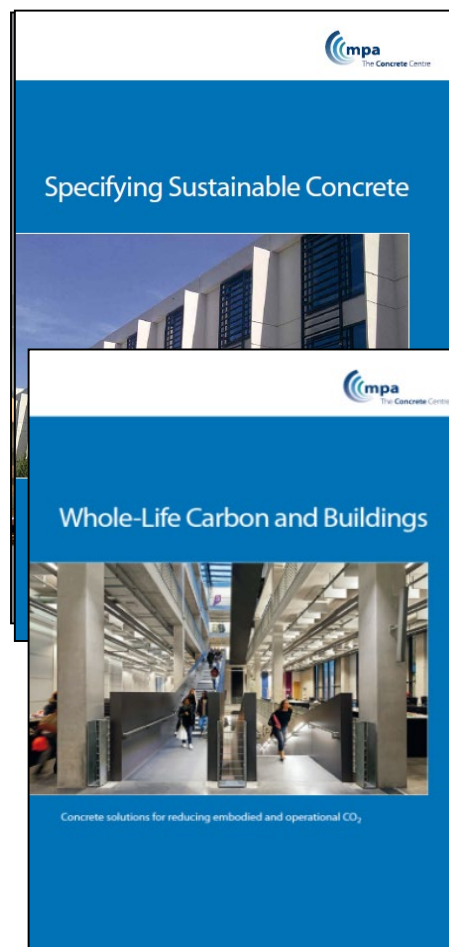
The Concrete Centre:



www.concretecentre.com
www.sustainableconcrete.org.uk

- Free resource for specifiers
- Concrete Quarterly
- Publications: general and technical
- Practice workshops
- Seminars and conferences
- Training courses
- Webinars
- Concrete Elegance Lectures

Varied resilience guidance literature

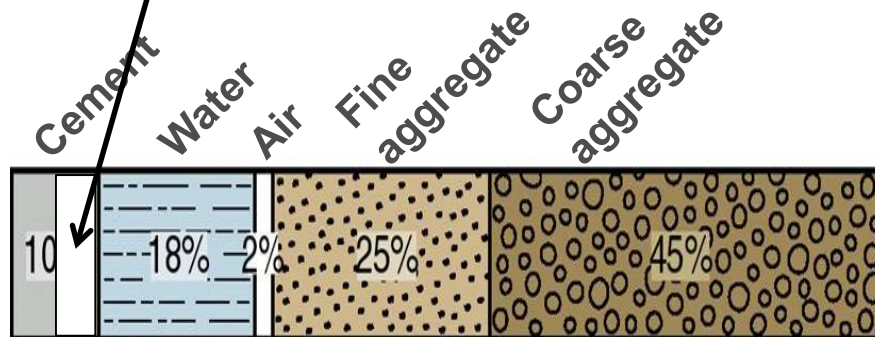


**Some typical values; the albedo
(ratio of reflected to incoming shortwave radiation)
the darker the greater the increase and rate of
thermal absorption and expansion.**

Material surface	Solar Reflectance
Black acrylic paint	0.05
New asphalt	0.05
Aged asphalt	0.1
“White” asphalt shingle	0.2
Aged concrete	0.2 to 0.3
New concrete (traditional)	0.4 to 0.5
New concrete with white portland cement	0.7 to 0.8
White acrylic paint	0.8

- Source: Construction Technology Laboratories
(www.CTLgroup.com)

Use of low carbon cements



Approx gen mix by volume

- Use of cementitious replacements through specification can reduce ECO_2
 - Ground granulated blast furnace slag (GGBS)
 - Fly ash (FA)
 - Limestone
- High Albedo
- White cement
 - GGBS

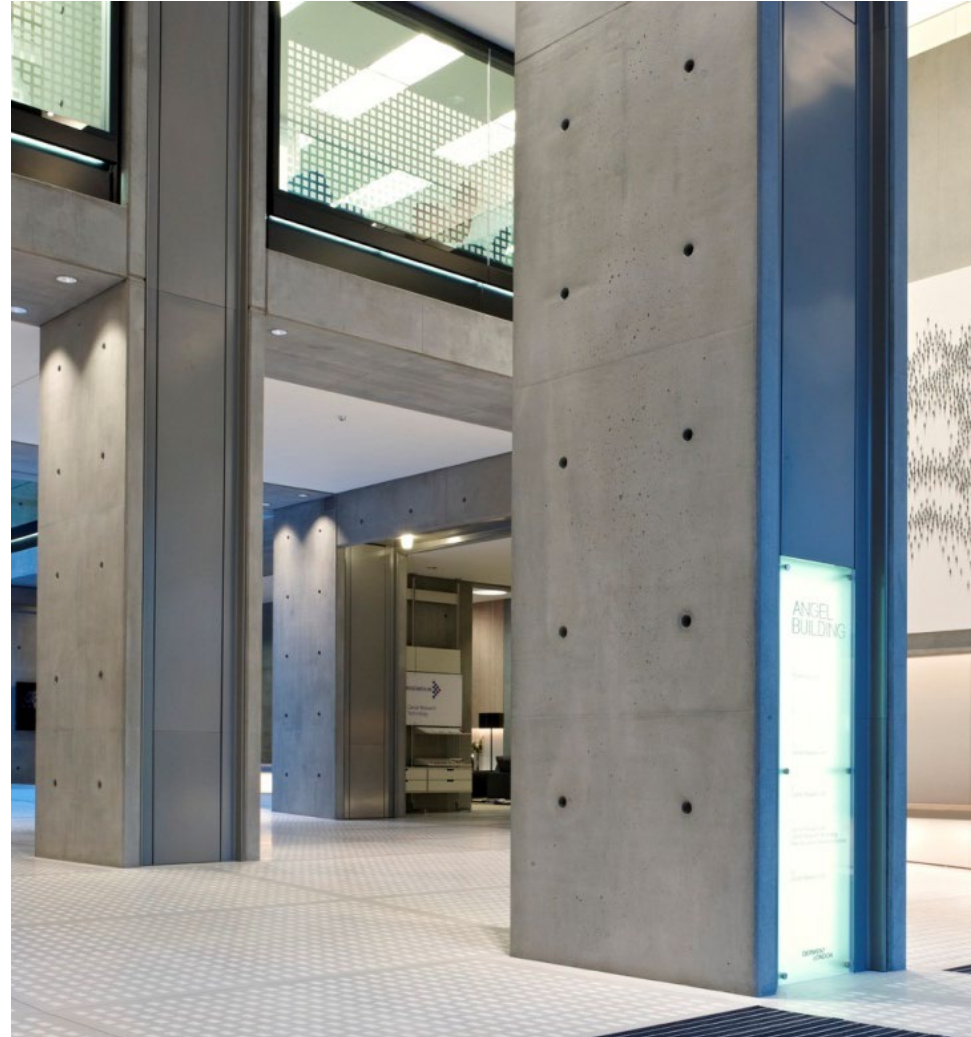
High albedo, blue or green roofs and walls ?



Use of low carbon cements

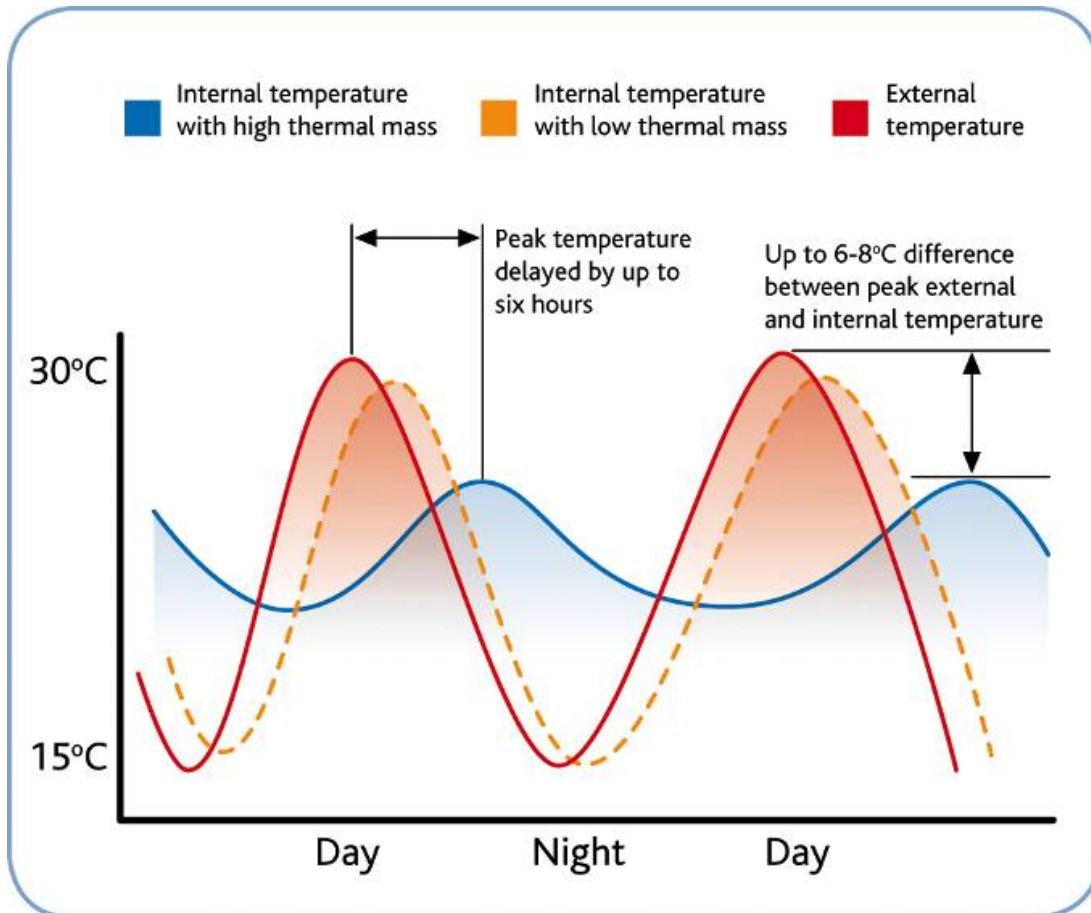


Aquatics Centre, Diving boards
Zaha Hadid Architects
30% GGBS



Angel Building, London AHMM/AKT
34% fly ash

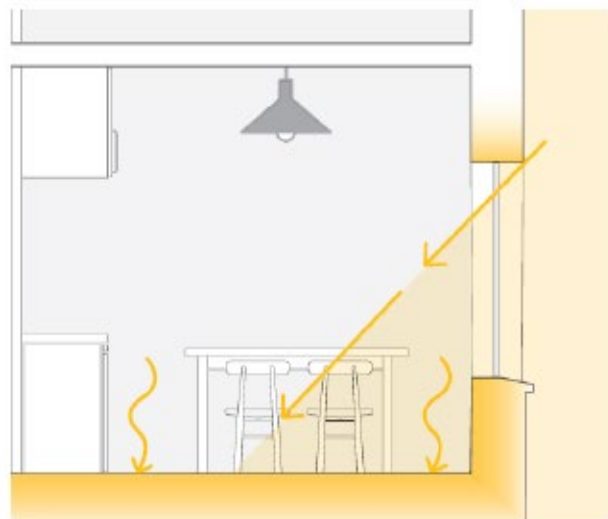
Thermal mass ;night cooling



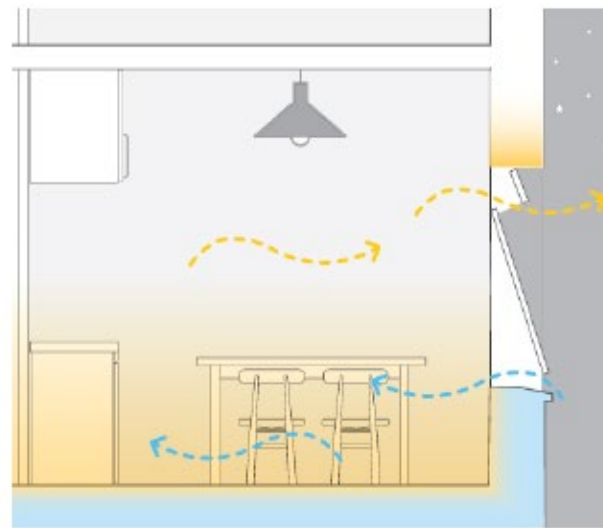
Thermal mass potential for passive cooling in housing ...night cooling

“Thermal mass can be used to control overheating when used with adequate ventilation”

NHBC Foundation publication ‘*Understanding overheating- where to start*’



Day



Night



Innovative recipes and ingredients



Carbon capture aggregate

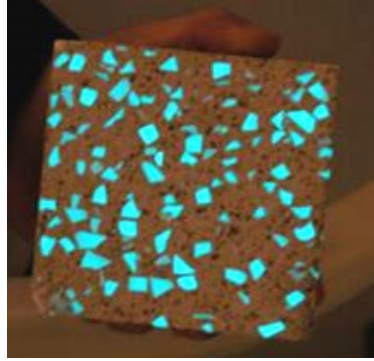


Photo-luminescent aggregate



Self-compacting concrete



Load-bearing light transmitting concrete
LitraCon ®



Insulating aggregate



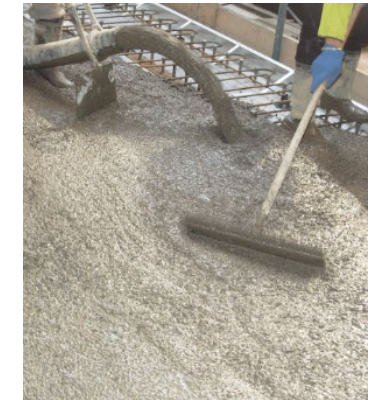
Water permeable concrete



Ultra high performance concrete



Bio-receptive concrete



Lightweight ready mixed & precast structural concrete

Photocatalytic concrete

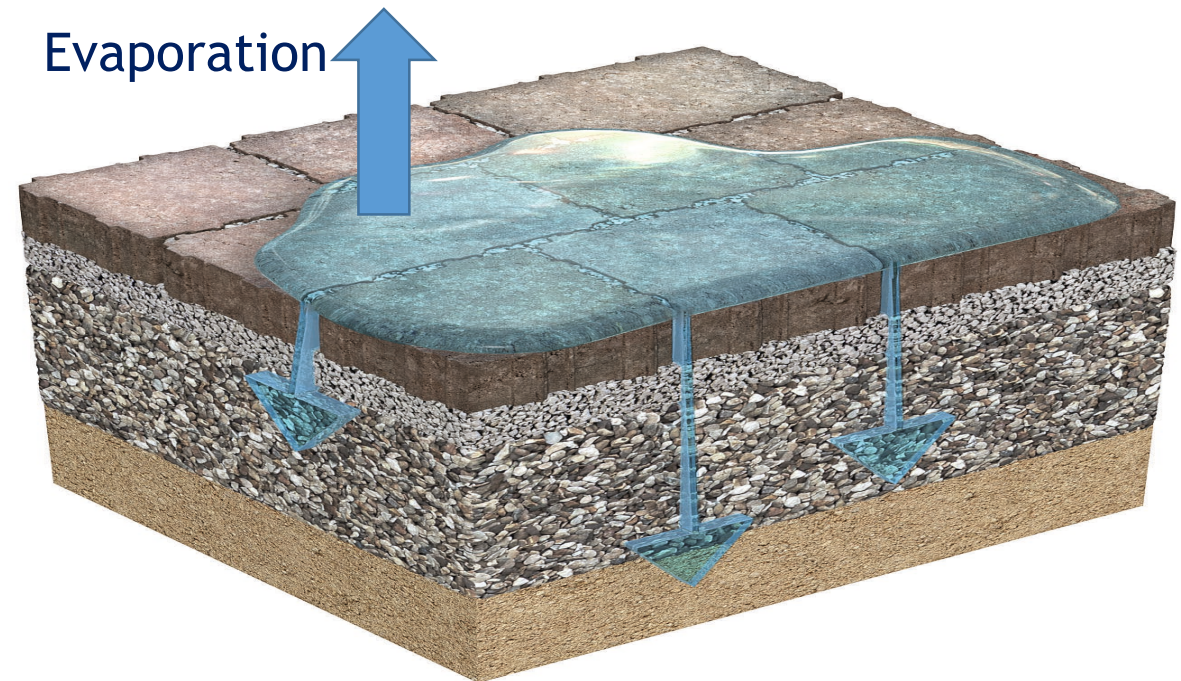


- Smog-eating concrete; NO_x
- Photocatalytic concrete uses titanium dioxide (TiO₂) which, when exposed to natural sunlight, triggers a chemical reaction. This chemical reaction **catalyses*** the decomposition of dirt on the concrete's surface; which makes it self-cleaning.

Cool Pavements: In cities constructed in the United States, pavements and roads comprise about 1/3 of urban surfaces, thus absorbing up to 80-95% of solar radiation and in turn warming surface, air and stormwater temperatures. The implementation of 'cool paving' assists in reflecting solar energy, enhancing water evaporation and maintaining cooler surfaces as compared to conventional pavements.



10% decrease in reflectance = -4 degC



Thermal stabilization method for pavements built on thaw sensitive permafrost based on the use of high albedo surfacing materials.



- Thank you

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