

**2º Seminário de  
ECONOMIA  
CIRCULAR**



**PROYECTO BIOVALVO:  
Valorización de conchas de bivalvos  
gallegas en el sector de la construcción.**

**Carolina Martínez García**

Estudiante de Doutoramento

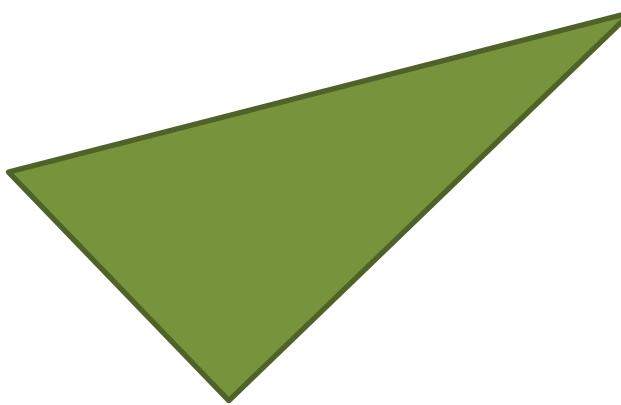
Escola de Camiños Canais e Portos – grupo de investigación Gcons

Universidade de A Coruña

ESPAÑA



# TABLE OF CONTENTS



- 1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES
- 2. MATERIALS
- 3. MORTARS
- 4. CONCRETES
- 5. GRAVEL AS INSULATING MATERIAL
- 6. MATERIALS FOR ROAD LAYERS: GRAVEL FOR BASE COURSE AND BITUMINOUS LAYERS
- 7. EXPERIMENTAL MODULE

REALIZAÇÃO



PATROCÍNIO



APOIO





# INTRODUCTION AND OBJETIVES

- Aquaculture and cannery industry are really important economic sectors in Galicia. They generate big profits and create thousands of employment. However, they also produce loads of waste, in which bivalve shells are remarkable because of their high volume. Galicia generates around 25,000t of mussel shell residue every year that usually are disposed in dump sites producing a great environmental impact.
- This project studies the possibility of reusing shells in construction sector.



Centro para el Desarrollo  
Tecnológico Industrial



Unión Europea

Fondo Europeo de  
Desarrollo Regional

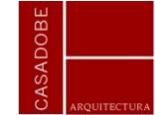
"Una manera de hacer Europa"



serumano



Grupo de Ingeniería y Dirección de  
Proyecto Project Engineering and  
Management Group





# INTRODUCTION AND OBJETIVES

- Residue used is heat treated at 135°C for 32min (gravel) and crushed (sand)
- Two groups of applications are studied : with binders and in bulk:
  - With binders: mortars (cement, lime and clay), concrete (structural and non structural) and bitumen layers.
  - In bulk: thermal and acoustic insulation as filling material.
- Products (different scales):
  - Basic tests: preselection.
  - Prototypes.
  - In situ
- In situ application (viability)
  - An experimental modulus was built in the University of A Coruña gardens.
- Finally, a life cycle analysis of all the products was made.

**MATERIALS**

Whole Shell	Mussel shell gravel (MG)	Coarse mussel shell sand (CMS))	Fine mussel shell sand (FMS)

**WITH BINDERS**

PLAIN CONCRETE	CEMENT, LIME and CLAY MORTARS

**IN BULK**

ROAD BASE	THERMAL and ACOUSTIC INSULATION

**BASICS**

**PROTOTYPES**

FOUNDATION CONCRETE	GRAVEL

**IN SITU**

COATING MORTAR	WALL

**EXPERIMENTAL BUILDING**

**TESTING ROAD**

**COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF LEVEL OF SUSTAINABILITY – all products**



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES
- 2. MATERIALS
- 3. MORTARS
- 4. CONCRETES
- 5. GRAVEL AS INSULATING MATERIAL
- 6. MATERIALS FOR ROAD LAYERS: GRAVEL FOR BASE COURSE AND BITUMINOUS LAYERS
- 7. EXPERIMENTAL MODULE

REALIZAÇÃO



PREFEITURA DE  
**MACEIÓ**  
Juntos Construímos  
UM NOVO TEMPO

PATROCÍNIO



Serviço de Apoio às Micro e  
Pequenas Empresas em Alagoas

APOIO



Centro de  
Innovación en  
Tecnología para el  
Desarrollo Humano



# MATERIALS



- **Aggregate:**

- Three different fractions of mussel shell aggregate, obtained from mussel shell waste were used: a mussel shell gravel (MG) and two mussel shell sands, one coarse sand obtained by crushing (CMS) and one fine sand obtained by grinding (FMS).
- The most important properties of these are shown in the table.

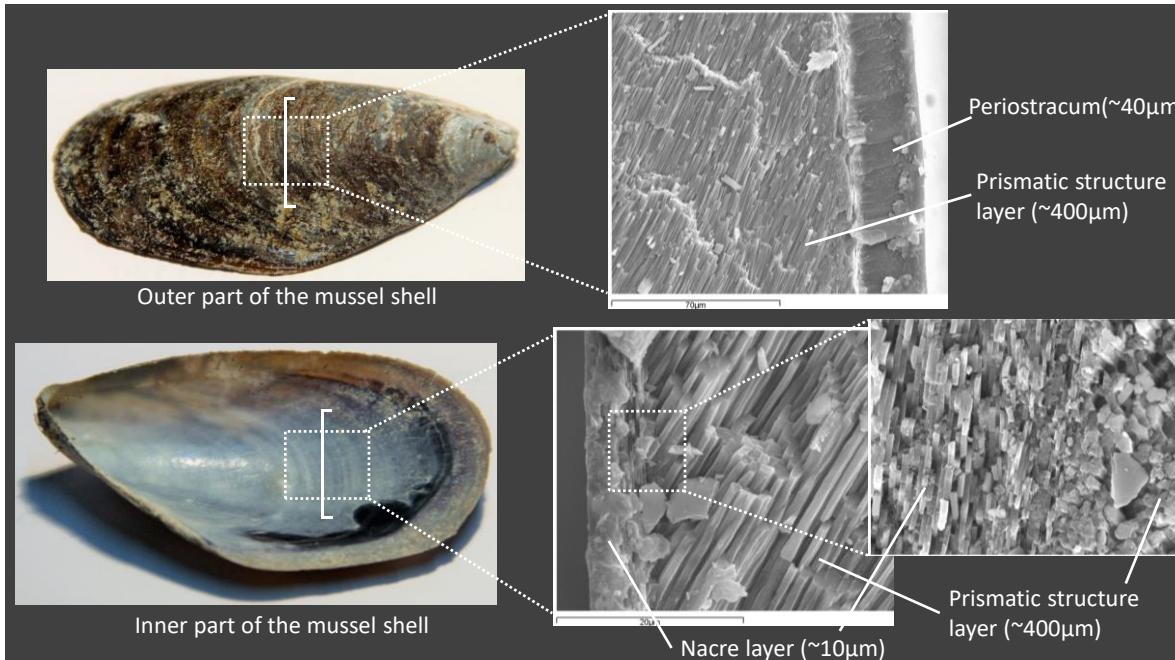
	(S)	(MG)	(CMS)	(FMS)
Heat treatment	No	30min - 135°C	30min - 135°C	30min - 135°C
Crushing process	No	No	Crushed	Ground
Fineness modulus	-	5.38	1,9	4,64
Particle density (kg/l)	-	2.62	2.65	2.73
Water absorption (%)	-	2.17	2.56	4.12
Sand equivalent (%) UNE-EN 933-8	-	-	99.3	68.2
Flakiness index (%) UNE-EN 933-3	-	99.24	-	-
Los Angeles Coefficient (%) UNE-EN 1097-2	-	20	-	-
Chlorides (1%) UNE-EN 1744-1	-	0.46	0.28	0.51
Soluble sulphates (%) UNE-EN 1744-1	-	0.4	0.63	0.59
Total sulphates (%) UNE-EN 1744-1	-	1.5	1.6	1.3
Organic matter (visual) UNE-EN 1744-1	-	Darker	Darker	Darker
Light particles (%) UNE-EN 1744-1	-	0	0.1	
Organic matter (%) UNE 103204:93	-	<b>0.27</b>	<b>1.49</b>	<b>2.15</b>

- Materials conclusions:

- The mussel shells have a composition of **calcite**  $\text{CaCO}_3$  with a lower quantity of aragonite, traces of vaterite, **and different matrix proteins** and chitin, which **embed in three different layers**. The outer layer is the periostracum, which is mainly composed of a protein called chitin. The middle layer is composed of parallel calcite prisms, and the inner layer, known as nacre, is composed of laminar aragonite with a brick-and-mortar like structure. Furthermore, mussel shell nacre is also high in chitin.

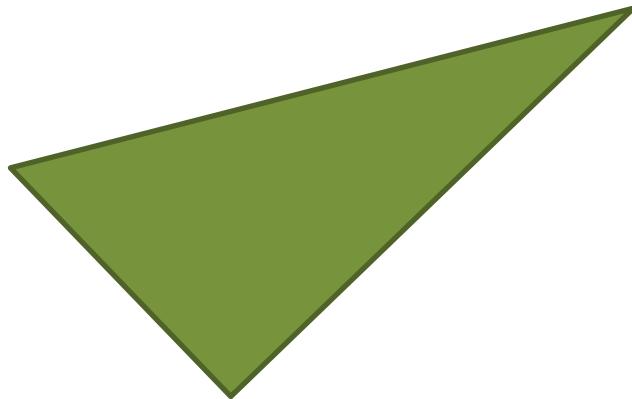
- Final conclusion:

- The main mussel shell characteristics that can affect concrete and mortar properties, when they are used as aggregates, are their **flat and flaky shape** and especially the presence of **organic matter** (matrix proteins).





# TABLE OF CONTENTS



- 1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES
- 2. MATERIALS
- 3. MORTARS
- 4. CONCRETES
- 5. GRAVEL AS INSULATING MATERIAL
- 6. MATERIALS FOR ROAD LAYERS: GRAVEL FOR BASE COURSE AND BITUMINOUS LAYERS
- 7. EXPERIMENTAL MODULE

REALIZAÇÃO



PATROCÍNIO



APOIO





# MORTARS

- Mixes:

- For every binder (cement, clay and lime), three substitution rates of natural sand with mussel shell sand by volume were used: **25%, 50%, 75% and 100%**.



CeM	LM	CM
Cement:sand bulk volume rate = <b>1:4</b>	Lime:sand bulk volume rate = <b>1:2</b>	Mass of clay over whole solid matter = <b>2%</b>
Water/cement mass rate = 1	Water/(dry lime paste) mass rate = 1.7	Water/binder (2µm smaller particles) mass rate = 10

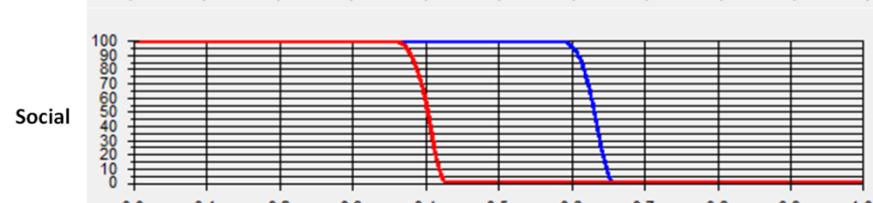
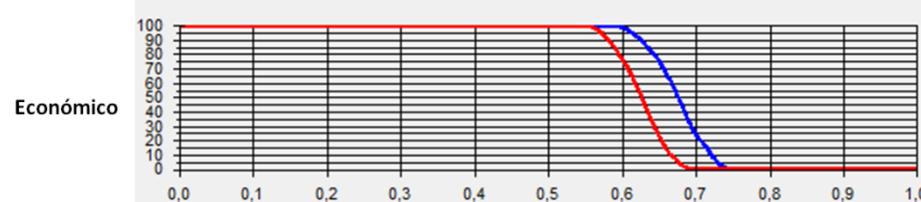
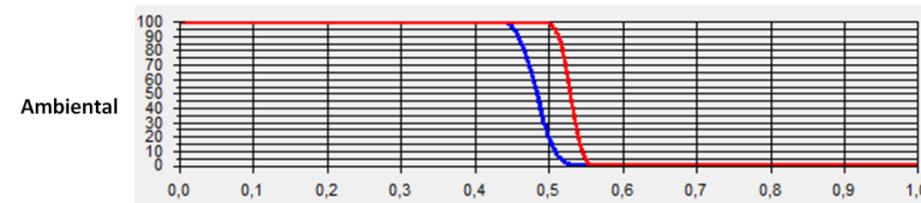
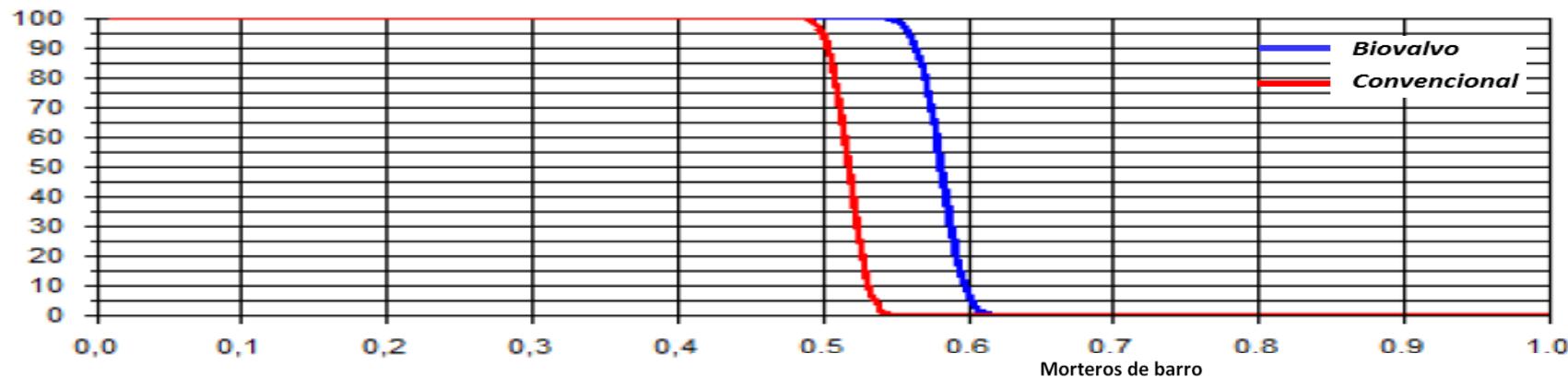




# MORTARS

- Sustainability Indexes

- These indexes were analysed. In all cases they were better when mussel sand was used.





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES
- 2. MATERIALS
- 3. MORTARS
- 4. CONCRETES
- 5. GRAVEL AS INSULATING MATERIAL
- 6. MATERIALS FOR ROAD LAYERS: GRAVEL FOR BASE COURSE AND BITUMINOUS LAYERS
- 7. EXPERIMENTAL MODULE

REALIZAÇÃO



PATROCÍNIO



APOIO





# CONCRETES

- Mixes:**

- A non-structural concrete (NSC) with a w/c ratio of 0.75 and with 225 kg of cement was designed as reference.
- A reference structural concrete (SC30) was adjusted to fulfill the requirements for marine environment. It was designed with a w/c ratio of 0.50 and with a cement content of 260 kg.
- Then **three series** of mussel concretes were made: **one series with only sand replacements (NSC MS)**, other series with **only coarse replacements (NSC MG)**, and the last series with **both coarse and fine replacements (NSC MS+MG)**.

Concrete	%NS (natural sand)	%MS (mussel sand)	% (NG/Coarse) – % (NG/Gravel)	% (MG/Coarse) – % (MG/Gravel)
SC 30	SC30 reference	100	0	100-100
	SC30 MS 25%	75	25	100-100
	SC30 MS 50%	50	50	100-100
	SC30 MS 65%	35	65	100-100
	SC30 MG 25%	100	0	75-65.4
	SC30 MG 50%	100	0	50-30.7
	SC30 MG 65%	100	0	35-9.9
	SC30 MS+MG 5%	95	5	95-93.1
	SC30 MS+MG 12.5%	87.5	12.5	87.5-82.7
NSC	NSC reference	100	0	100-100
	NSC MS 25%	75	25	100-100
	NSC MS 50%	50	50	100-100
	NSC MS 75%	25	75	100-100
	NSC MS 100%	0	100	100-100
	NSCMG 25%	100	0	75-62.5
	NSCMG 50%	100	0	50-25.1
	NSCMG 67%	100	0	33.3-0
	NSC MS+MG 5%	95	5	95-92.5
	NSC MS+MG 12.5%	87.5	12.5	87.5-81.3
				12.5-18.7



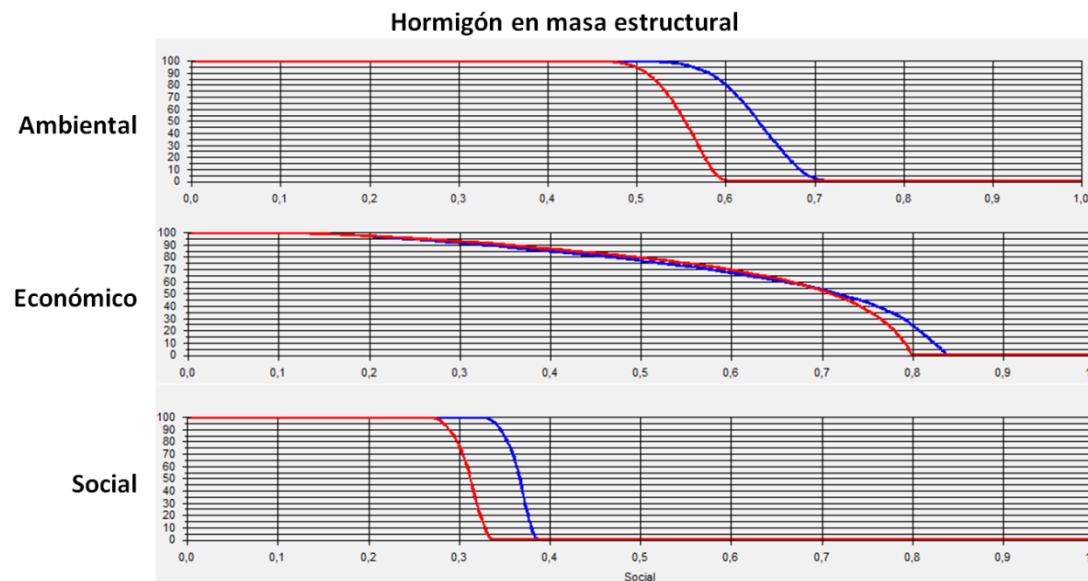
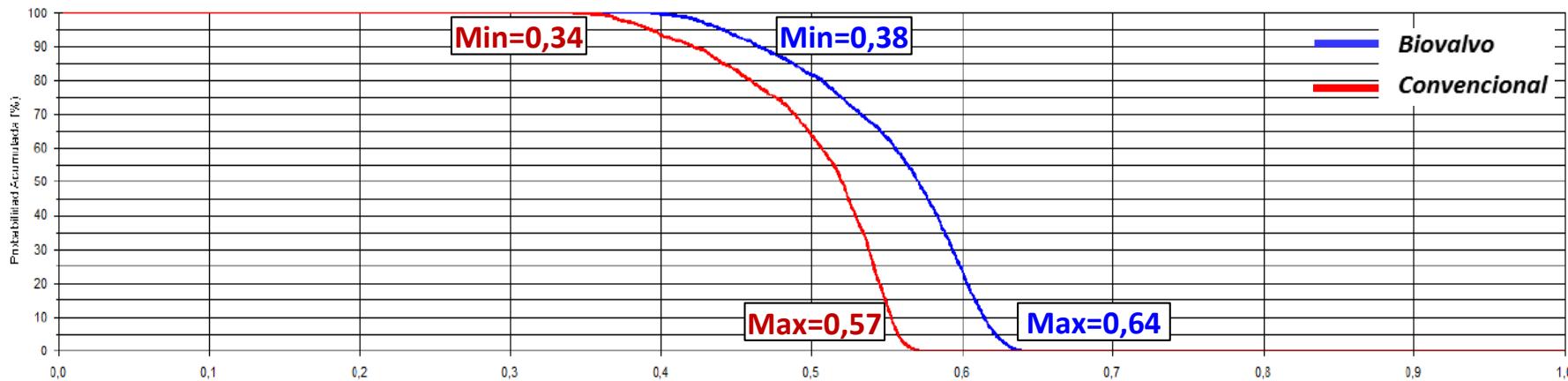
Material	Non-structural concrete		Structural concrete	
	Volume (dm <sup>3</sup> )	Weight (kg)	Volume (dm <sup>3</sup> )	Weight (kg)
Water	168.75	168.75	180.00	180.00
Cement	72.58	225.00	116.13	360.00
NS(0-4)	495.30	1322.46	435.08	1161.66
NG(4-16)	192.45	502.30	216.04	563.86
NG(10-20)	95.92	255.14	77.76	206.83
Total	1025.00	2473.64	1025.00	2472.35



# CONCRETES

## ○ Sustainability Indexes

- These indexes were analysed. In all cases they were better when mussel sand or gravel were used.





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES
- 2. MATERIALS
- 3. MORTARS
- 4. CONCRETES
- 5. GRAVEL AS INSULATING MATERIAL
- 6. MATERIALS FOR ROAD LAYERS: GRAVEL FOR BASE COURSE AND BITUMINOUS LAYERS
- 7. EXPERIMENTAL MODULE

REALIZAÇÃO



PREFEITURA DE  
MACÉIÓ  
JUNTOS CONSTRUÍMOS  
UM NOVO TEMPO

PATROCÍNIO



APOIO



Centro de  
Innovación en  
Tecnología para el  
Desarrollo Humano

- **Results:**

- Thermal conductivity (UNE EN 12667:2002)

- It was selected the coarse size material, gravel and whole shells.
- The thermal conductivity was measured with the material in a wooden box. This reproduces the insulation layer of a wall.
- Results showed that both, the gravel and the whole Shell exhibited good behaviour as insulation material. So, this could be considered a good solution in any building Wall.

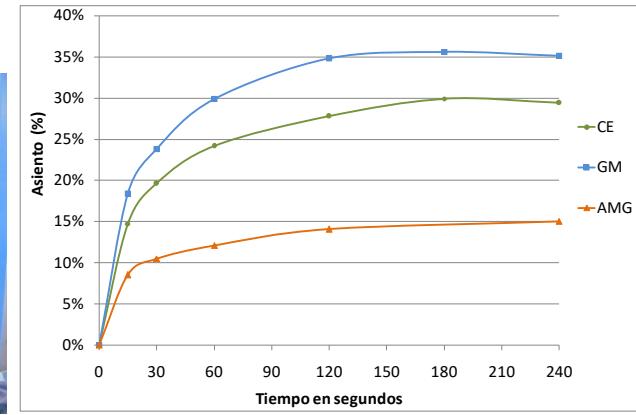
Materiales	Valor $\lambda$ (W/mK)
Panel de corcho	0,045 - 0,038
Lana mineral	0,05 - 0,031
Arcilla expandida	0,148 - 0,095
<b>Concha mejillón (entera, triturada)</b>	<b>0,13 - 0,10</b>
Madera conífera ligera	0,13 - 0,23
Bloque cerámico aligerado	0,28
Ladrillo hueco	0,32
Bloque de hormigón hueco	0,45



Muestra	Densidad media ensayada (Kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	% Aumento densidad	Conductividad térmica (W/m.K)
Concha entera CM	249	-	0,120
Concha triturada GM	492	97%	0,110
Arena gruesa AMG	1070	330%	0,150

- **Prototypes**

- In order to confirm the results obtained with the standard test and to define the best compacting procedure different prototypes were developed.
  - Compacting cylinder
  - Wall section prototype





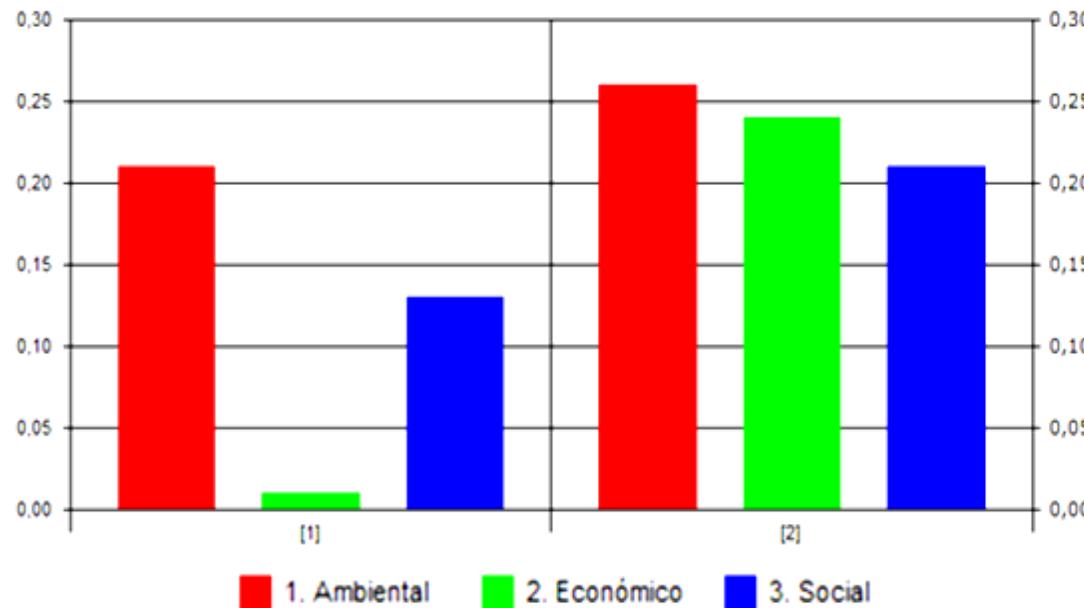
# MUSSEL SHELL AS INSULATING FILLING MATERIAL

- Sustainability

- The global evaluation is always positive for biovlavo products, however, they are not always the best products with partial indexes are examined (environmental, social or economics).

Expanded clay  
(0,14-0,09W/mK)

Mussell shell granular  
insulation (0,11W/m.K)





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES
- 2. MATERIALS
- 3. MORTARS
- 4. CONCRETES
- 5. GRAVEL AS INSULATING MATERIAL
- 6. MATERIALS FOR ROAD LAYERS: GRAVEL FOR BASE COURSE AND BITUMINOUS LAYERS
- 7. EXPERIMENTAL MODULE

REALIZAÇÃO



PREFEITURA DE  
MACEIÓ  
JUNTOS CONSTRUÍMOS  
UM NOVO TEMPO

PATROCÍNIO



Serviço de Apoio às Micro e  
Pequenas Empresas em Alagoas

APOIO



Centro de  
Innovación en  
Tecnología para el  
Desarrollo Humano



# MATERIALS FOR ROAD LAYERS

- Experimental road section

- Description

- The test section is divided into two subsections of 5 m in length and 3 meters wide and separated by a plastic geotextile sheet. One of the sections is made with conventional materials and other using mussel materials in the maximum amount possible.
- The section corresponds to a section 4221 (low traffic roads and paths) with the following layers:
  - ZA20 conventional graded gravel and gravel including a 20% of gravel mussel
  - 5 cm layer of AC16 SURF 50/70 D with 100% of mussel shell fines as filler

In conclusion, it should be noted that the use of products mussel has not produced significant problems or reductions of productivity , effects on the work equipment or construction defects . Finally , control processes have established that the layers with mussels meet the physical, chemical and mechanical requirements set forth in PG -3 (Road Regulation limits).





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES
- 2. MATERIALS
- 3. MORTARS
- 4. CONCRETES
- 5. GRAVEL AS INSULATING MATERIAL
- 6. MATERIALS FOR ROAD LAYERS: GRAVEL FOR BASE COURSE AND BITUMINOUS LAYERS
- 7. EXPERIMENTAL MODULE

REALIZAÇÃO



PREFEITURA DE  
**MACEIÓ**  
Juntos Construímos  
UM NOVO TEMPO

PATROCÍNIO



APOIO

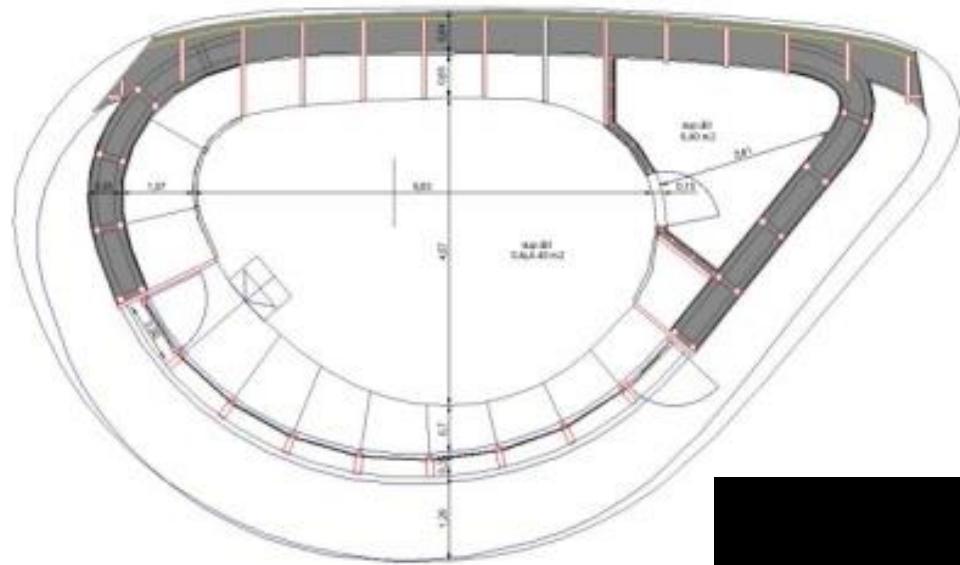


Centro de  
Innovación en  
Tecnología para el  
Desarrollo Humano

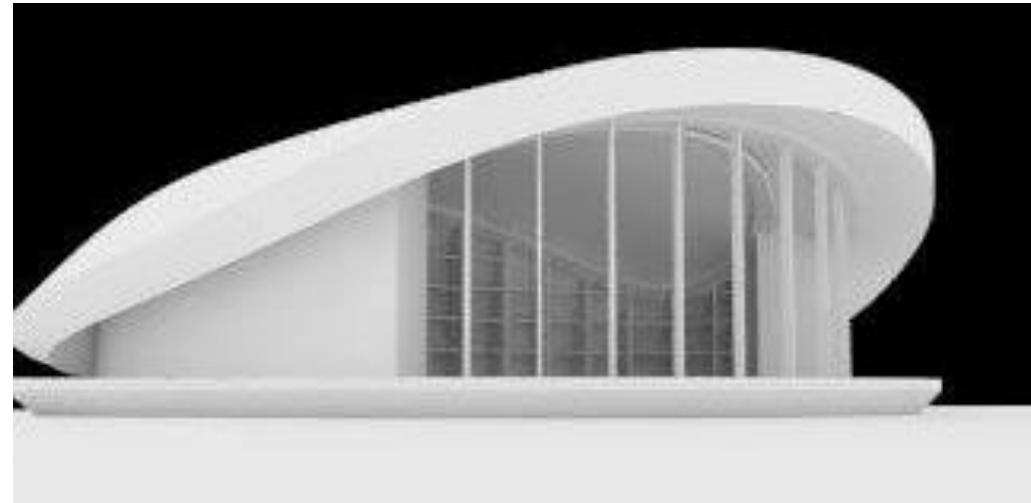
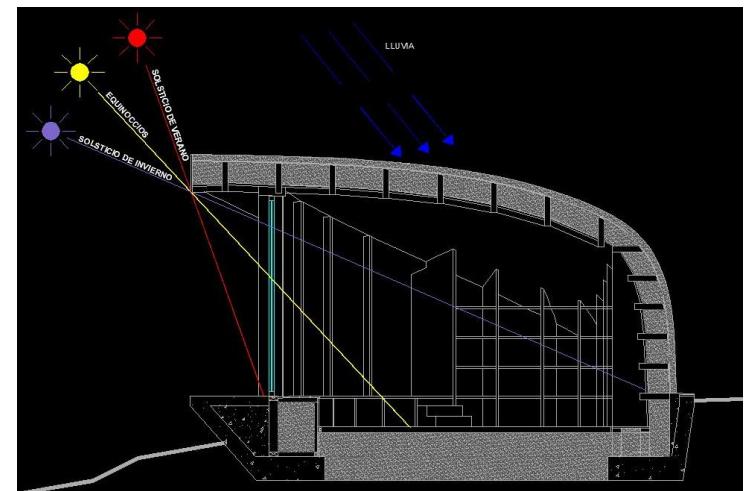


# **EXPERIMENTAL BUILDING (MÓDULO BIOVALVO)**

Experimental building “BIOVALVO”. 40m<sup>2</sup> designed according to **standard Passivhaus** and under **bioconstruction criteria**. In this work we will prove the viability of every mussel shell products.



## Horizontal section



## 3D view



# EXPERIMENTAL BUILDING (MÓDULO BIOVALVO)



ECONOMIA  
CIRCULAR

Maceió  
Inclusiva  
através de economia circular



# EXPERIMENTAL BUILDING (MÓDULO BIOVALVO)





# EXPERIMENTAL BUILDING (MÓDULO BIOVALVO)



**Muros de estructura ligera de madera rellenos con concha de mejillón aislante.**





# EXPERIMENTAL BUILDING (MÓDULO BIOVALVO)



Revestimiento con morteros de arcilla, cal y cemento, con 50% de árido de mejillón.



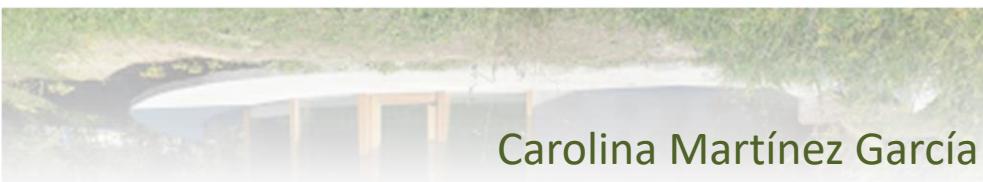


# EXPERIMENTAL BUILDING (MÓDULO BIOVALVO)





# Obrigado pela sua atenção



Carolina Martínez García

[carolina.martinezg@udc.es](mailto:carolina.martinezg@udc.es)

0034-667.47.99.13

Estudiante de Doutorado no Grupo de investigación gCONS  
ESCUELA DE CAMIÑOS, CANAIS E PORTOS- UNIVERSIDADE DE A CORUÑA  
GALICIA - SPAIN



Centro para el Desarrollo  
Tecnológico Industrial



"Una manera de hacer Europa"



**serumano**

