

Working towards safer solutions for internal insulation in cold climate – overview of the ongoing research

Endrik Arumägi, Paul Klõšeiko

**INTERREG IV - Baltic Sea Region** 

CO<sub>2</sub>OL Bricks

Climate Change, Cultural Heritage & Energy Efficient Monuments



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#### Internal thermal insulation

Energy performance requirements

**New buildings & Major renovation** 

Milieu valuable buildings

**Protected buildings** 

Heritage protection

no energy requirements







#### Internal thermal insulation

# Energy performance requirements

New buildings & Major renovation

Milieu valuable buildings

**Protected buildings** 

Heritage protection

no energy requirements

#### Milieu valuable buildings:

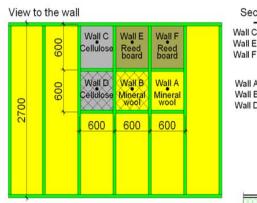
- need to lower the living costs for inhabitants
- need to preserv the cultural heritage
- more strict design demands
  - outlook of the building can not be changed (milieu valuable areas)
  - pressure to use internal thermal insulation
- risky solution in cold climate



## Previous study

- Studied wooden apartment building
  - built in the beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> century
  - original external wall: 140 mm log
- Studied test walls
  - 3 different insulation mat.
    - mineral wool
    - cellulose
    - reed board
  - 6 different wall solutions: with and without air/vapour barrier (bitumenpaper)
  - finishing
    - gypsum board
    - render







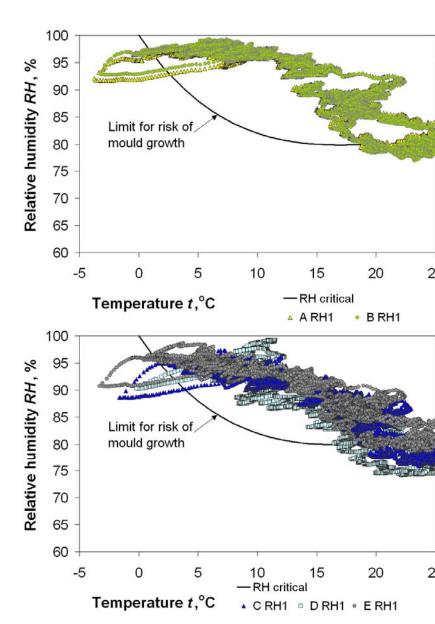


## Previous study

Risk of mould growth:

in all the cases the T and RH level inside the wall exceeded the t and RH conditions favouring initiation of mould growth

- mineral wool 88% of the time
- cellulose 84% of the time
- reed board 93% of the time





# Current study: historic school building

- **Built:** 1938-1939 (brick building)
- Monument since 1998
- •Current use:
  - Centre for work exercise
  - Hostel
  - Gymnasium







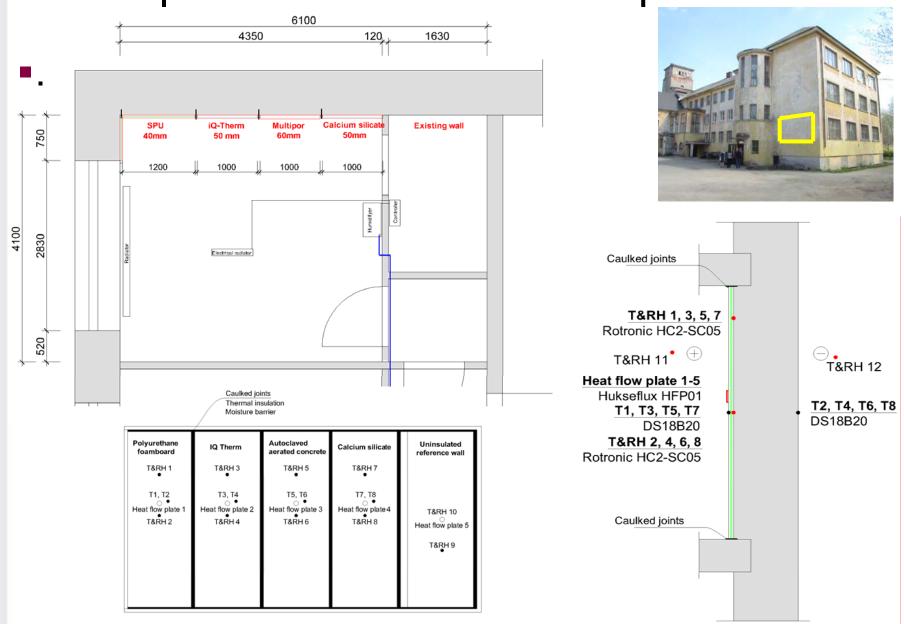
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## Objectives of this study

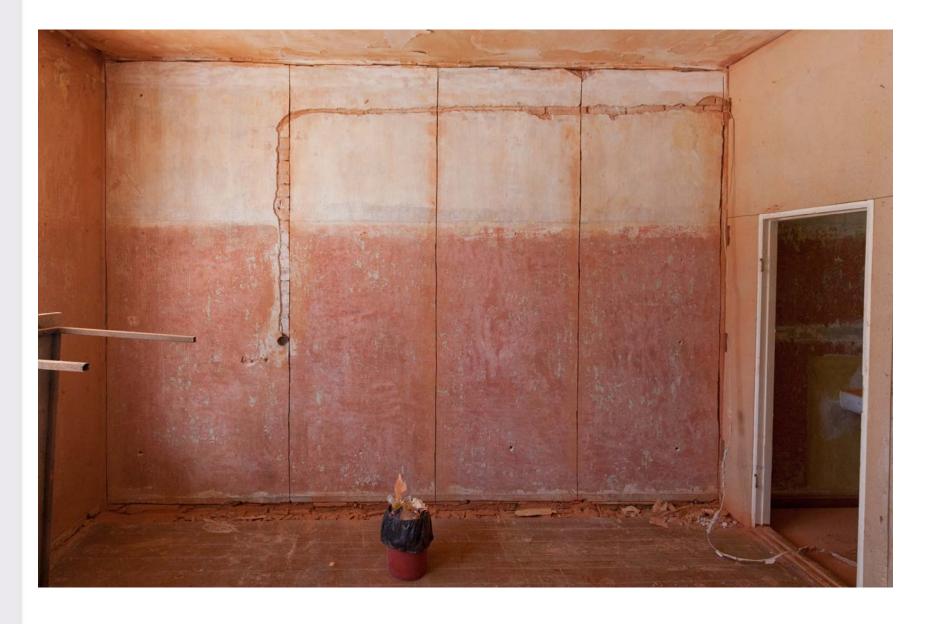
- Analysis of the hygrothermal performance of an internally insulated exterior wall
- Comparison of four different insulation materials in terms of hygrothermal performance:
  - Calcium Silicate (i.e. Calsitherm Klimaplatte)
  - Autoclaved aerated concrete (i.e. Ytong Multipor)
  - Polyurethane foam board with gypsum board (i.e. SPU Anselmi)
  - Polyurethane foam board with capillary active channels (i.e. Remmers iQ-Therm)
- Computational analysis of the hygrothermal performance of the insulated exterior walls to clarify the suitability of various solutions to different climatic loads.
- Finding suitable solutions for interior insulation which are safer (indicators can be: condensation of water vapour, mold growth, frost resistance of brick, etc.) and easier to implement than current solutions in Estonian climate.





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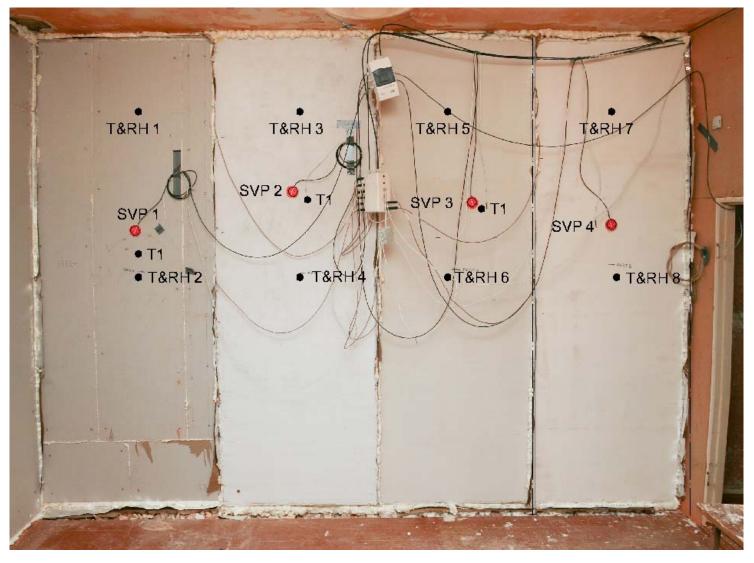


PUR with gypsum board 40 mm U = 0.36 W/m²K PUR with capillary active channels 50 mm U = 0.3 W/m²K Autoclaved aerated concrete 60 mm U = 0.33 W/m²K

 $U = 0.41 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$ 

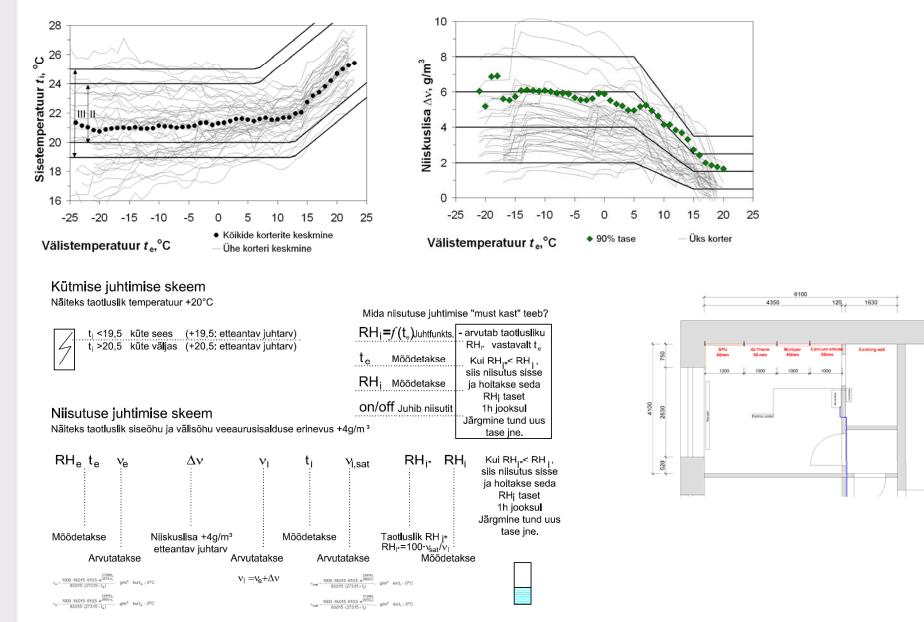
Calcium silicate

50 mm



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## Next steps

- Analysis of the measured data
- Calibration of the computational model
- Analysis of 2D and 3D joints/details
- Analysis of the impact of different climatic loads
  Assessment of possible risks caused by changes to material properties, climate etc
- Analysis of energy performance of different solutions