# Innovative methods to determine efficiency of remediation by sediment capping

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## Outline

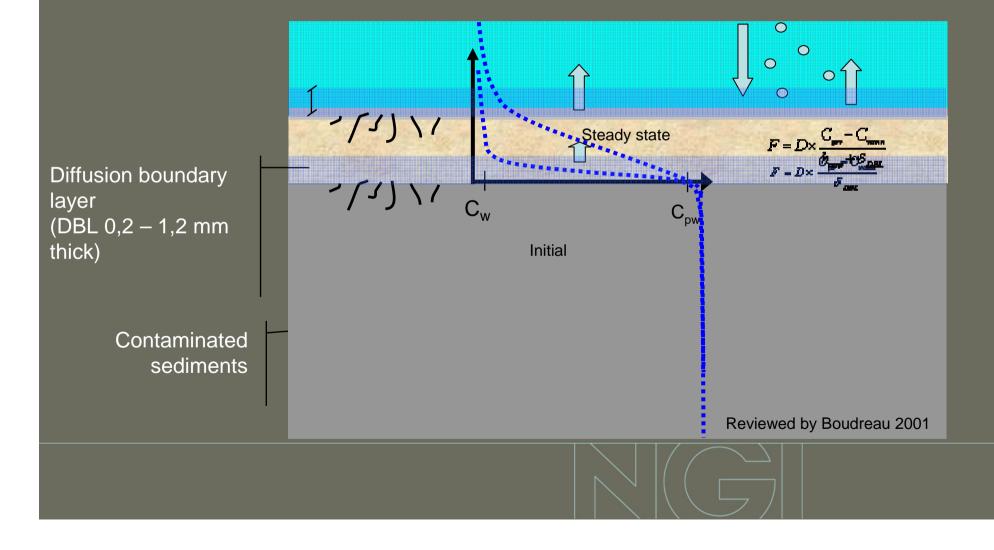
- What determines capping efficiency
- Mechanisms of contaminant transport from capped sediment
- Methods to determine contaminant transport and capping efficiency
- Case: Capping with clay in Oslo Harbour



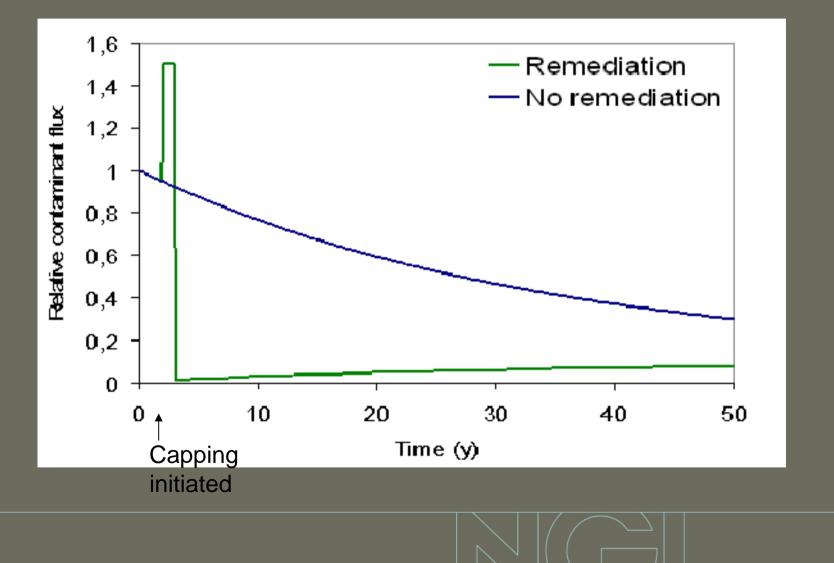
# What determines Capping Efficiency

- Capping Efficiency= Flux reduction
- Flux before capping
  - Diffusion through the Diffusive boundary layer (DBL)
  - Bioturbation
  - Wave or current induced advection
- Flux after capping
  - Diffusion through stagnant part of the cap
  - More rapid transport through upper part of cap influenced by:
    - Bioturbation
    - Wave or current induced advection

# What determines capping efficiency

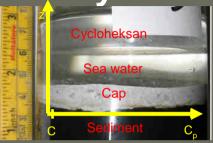


## **Methods to determine Capping Efficiency**



# Methods to determine Capping Efficiency (or flux before and flux after)

- Infinite sink microcosm
- Infinite sink in-situ flux chamber
- In-situ equilibrium passive samplers

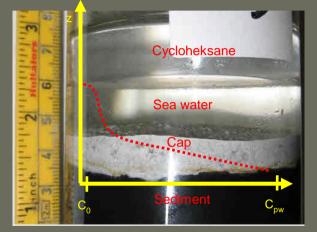


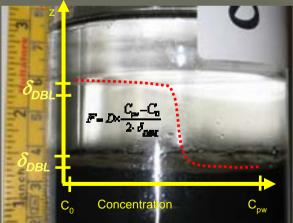




#### **Diffusion transport microcosms**

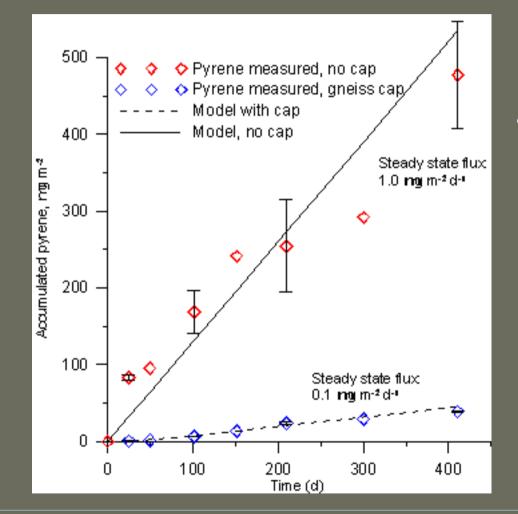
- Diffusion from sediment through water phase into an organic phase
- Native concentrations, no spiking
- Organic contaminants (PAH and PCB) collected in organic phase
- Different capping materials





Eek, E., et al 2008 Chemosphere. 71: 1629 - 1638

#### **Diffusion transport microcosms**

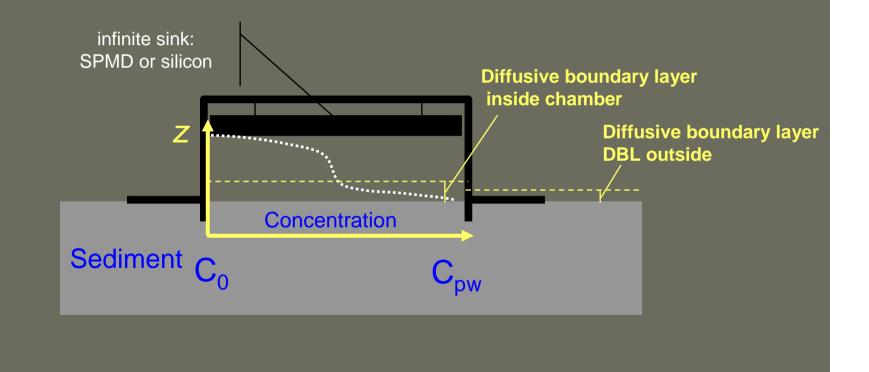


- Microcosm test
  - Diffusive boundary layer 3.7 mm
  - Cap 10 mm

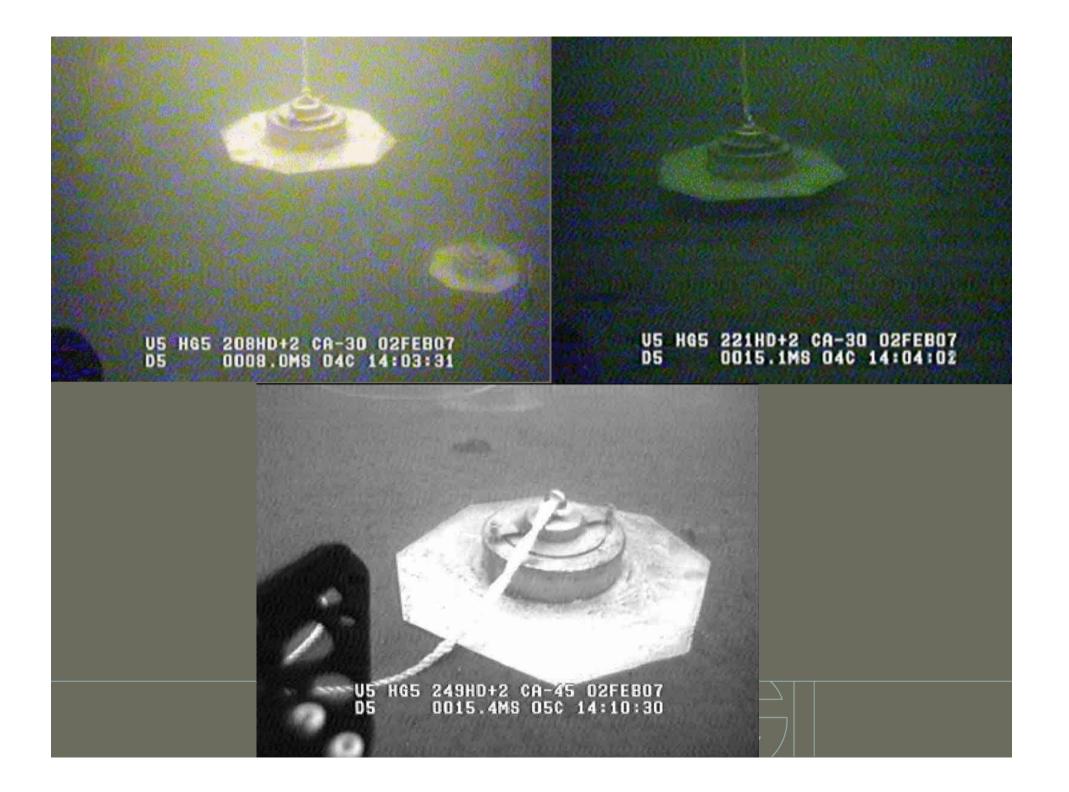
$$- D_{\text{effective}}/D_{\text{molecular}} = 0.33$$

Capping Efficiency= 90%

# Flux chamber for *in situ* measurements







# Equilibrium passive samplers







# Calculated vs. field measured PAH fluxes

$$F = D imes rac{C_{pv} - C_{vann}}{oldsymbol{\delta}_{DBL}}$$

Flux =



Concentration difference

Thickness of diffusive boundary layer

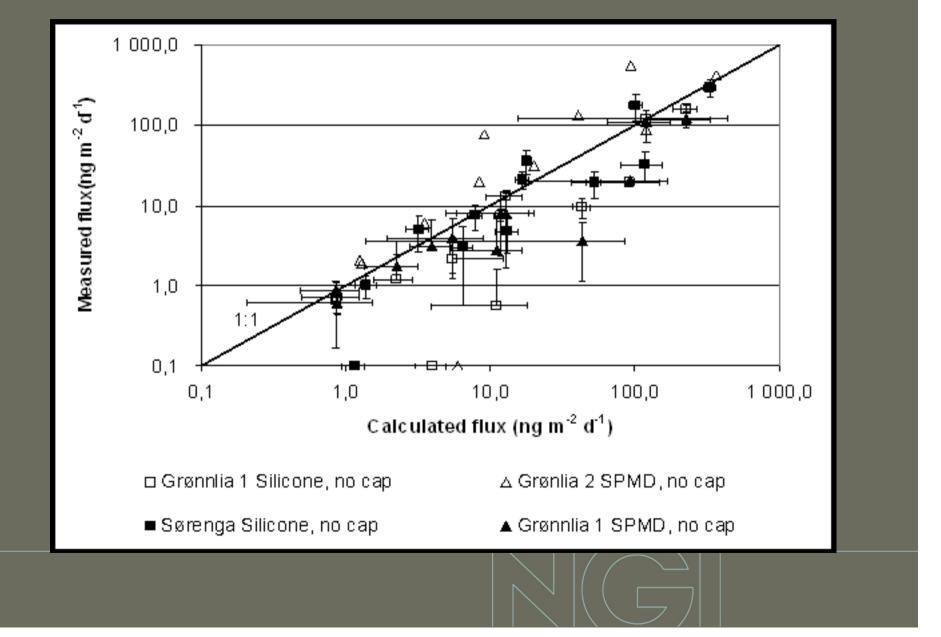
#### Calculated flux:

- Diffusion coefficient: literature
- Concentration difference: passive samplers
- Thickness of the diffusive boundary layer: Gypsum dissolution rate

#### Measured flux:

• Directly measured by in-situ benthic flux chamber

### Measured flux vs. calculated flux



# Capping with clay in Oslo Harbour

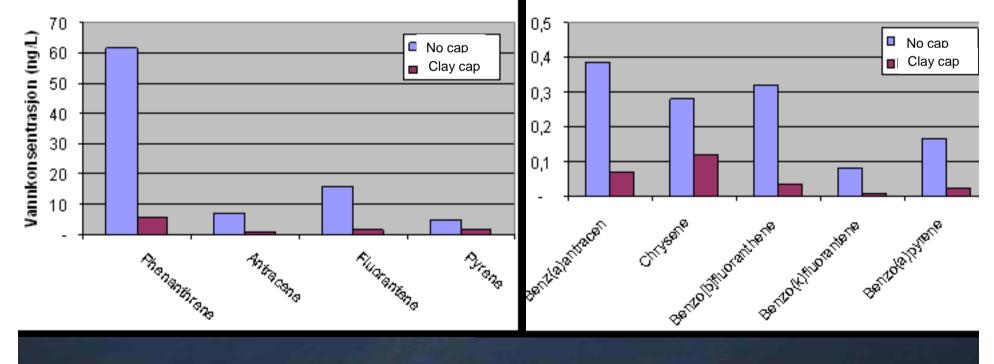


Foto: Viktor Jæger, stopp-giftdumpingen.org

# Summary of Capping efficiency measurements Oslo Harbour

| Method  | Effect measured on          | Capping<br>Efficiency |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Microcosm test in lab,<br>1 cm cap                            | Diffusive flux              | 90%                   |
| Theoretical Capping efficiency,<br>40 cm cap, at steady state | Diffusive flux              | >99.9%                |
| Field measurements  |                             |                       |
| Flux chamber  | Sediment-water flux         | 79 – 97%              |
| Passive samplers in-situ                                      | sea water<br>concentrations | 65 – 98%              |



## Conclusions

- PAH/PCB flux from sea bed sediments before and after capping can be measured both in lab tests and in field tests
- Theoretical Capping Efficiency (CE) of isolation caps (>20 cm thick) typically 99.9%
- Real measured CE: 70 95 %
- Real CE < Theoretical CE
  - Can be explained by new sediment on top of cap
  - This will usually have greater effect on the CE than flux through the cap