Age estimation of the cod from eastern English Channel and southern North Sea

Cod is found in North Atlantic, from Greenland to the Bay of Biscay, where its attendance is unusual.

This benthic-dwelling fish lives from the coast to depth of 600 metres and is especially abundant between 150 and 200 m.

Cod acquires its sexual maturity between 2 and 4 years old and its longevity is estimated at 25 years.

Preparation and observation technique:
Otolith is embedded in resin, then cutted along its dorso-ventral axis in thin section which is observed under a microscope to estimate the age.

Thickness: 0.4 mm

Age estimation:
If the otolith margin displays a translucent increment during the first half of the year, this one is counted.
During the second half of the year, the translucent increment at the margin is not counted.

All exhibited otoliths have been sampled during the second half of the year.

All observations are realized under transmitted light.