Microplastic contamination in Auckland beach sediments

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What are microplastics?
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Microplastics are pieces of plastic 5 millimetres or smaller.

Common microplastics:

- **Fragments**: Small pieces of a larger plastic object.
- **Fibres**: The most common type of microplastic. Plastic strands from clothing.
- **Foam**: Pieces of food containers and coffee cups.
- **Nurdles**: Plastic pellets usually used in manufacturing.
Sources of microplastic pollution
Sources of microplastic pollution
Effects of microplastic pollution
Our study
Sampling beach sediments
Measure microplastic levels and type
Microplastic contamination levels

![Box plot showing microplastic contamination levels (particles/m²).](image)
Comparison to international studies
Sources of variability
Sources of variability
Particle shape
What do these findings tell us?
What next?
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