

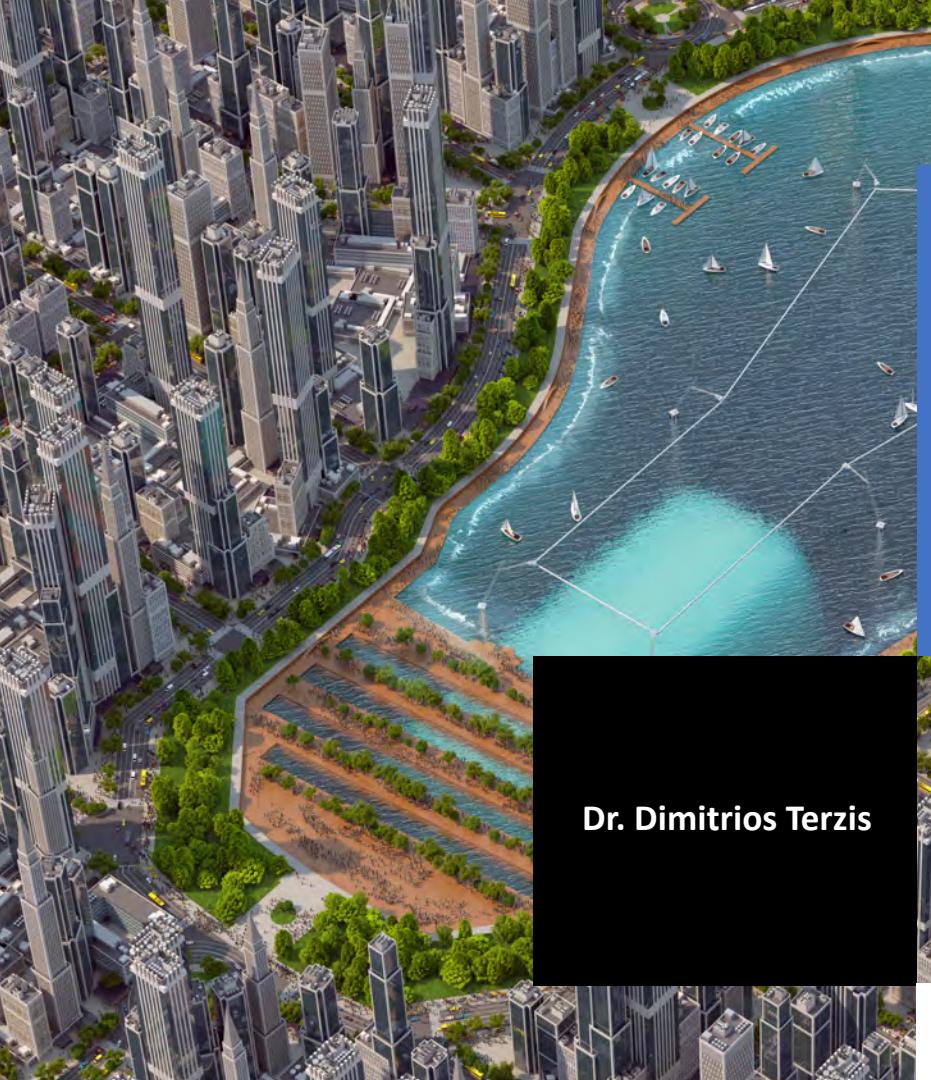
The class will  
start at 16h15

Also part of:



Schweizerischer Ingenieur- und Architektenverein  
Société suisse des ingénieurs et des architectes  
Società svizzera degli ingegneri e degli architetti  
Swiss society of engineers and architects

■ Dimitrios Terzis



Dr. Dimitrios Terzis

Innovation for  
construction  
& the  
environment

26/11/2024

# The program of the semester

## Innovation for construction and the Environment class Fall 2022

Mondays 08:15-10 am Lectures

Mondays 10:15 - 11 pm Project discussions and continuous reporting

Office hours: Tuesdays morning (upon email request and confirmation)

Room GCD0386

### Title

Week 1	25.Sep 45 mins	Introduction to the course Disruptive, Incremental Innovation and Research, Projects from last year and takeaways
Week 2	02.Oct 08h15 09h15	Cement-free concrete Cement-free concrete
Week 3	09.Oct 08h15 09h15	Circular economy, Impact and Life Cycle Assessment Sustainalytics
Week 4	16.Oct 08h15 09h15	Traffic Operations, Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) and Data Science for smart mobility Traffic Operations, Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) and Data Science for smart mobility
Week 5	23.Oct 08h15 09h15	Data-driven structural health monitoring and damage detection for smart infrastructure and buildings Data-driven structural health monitoring and damage detection for smart infrastructure and buildings
Week 6	30.Oct 08h15 09h15	Project preparation / Paper reading Project preparation / Paper reading
Week 7	06.Nov 08h15 09h15	Parametric design Robotic construction
Week 8	13.Nov 08h15 09h15	Sustainalytics
Week 9	20.Nov 08h15 09h15	Industrial innovation from the perspective of a construction giant Industrial innovation from the perspective of a construction giant
Week 11	27.Nov 08h15 09h15	Harnessing renewables for buildings Harnessing geo-energy for buildings
Week 12	04.Dec 08h15 09h15	Monitoring and surveillance GIS and BIM for construction and risk management
Week 13	11.Dec 45 mins 45 mins	Project presentations - schedule to be announced Project presentations - schedule to be announced
Week 14	18.Dec 45 mins 45 mins	Synthesis of Innovation project and takeaways Synthesis of Innovation project and takeaways

Next week

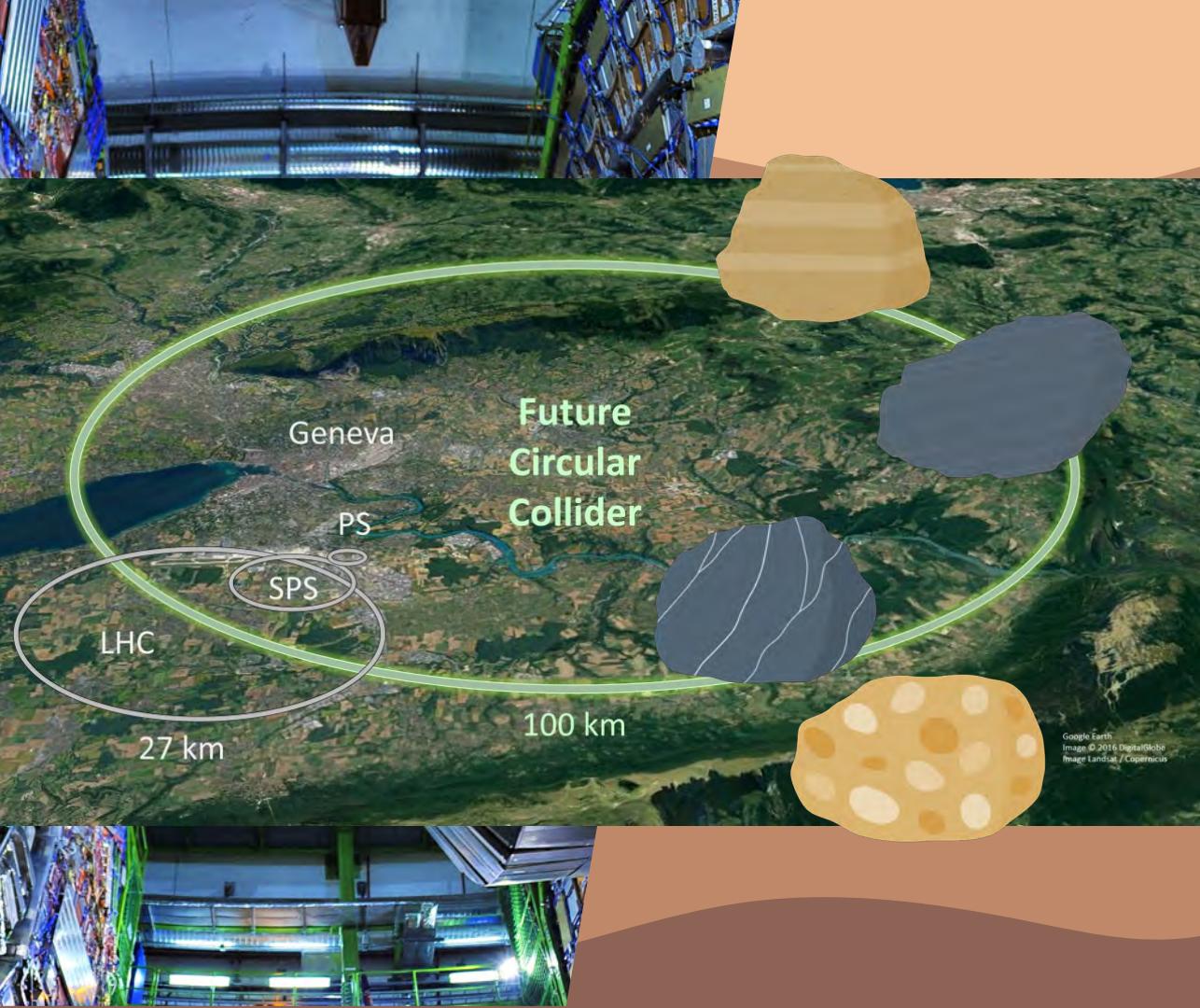


# Today's class

- 1) A recent case study that showcases the need for innovation (CERN FCC 2022)**
- 2) Biocementation: a hands-on example of creating a new material**

# Today's class

- 1) A recent case study that showcases the need for innovation (CERN FCC 2022)**
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## FCCIS – Future Circular Collider Innovation Study

(EU – Horizon 2020)



**bilger+partner**

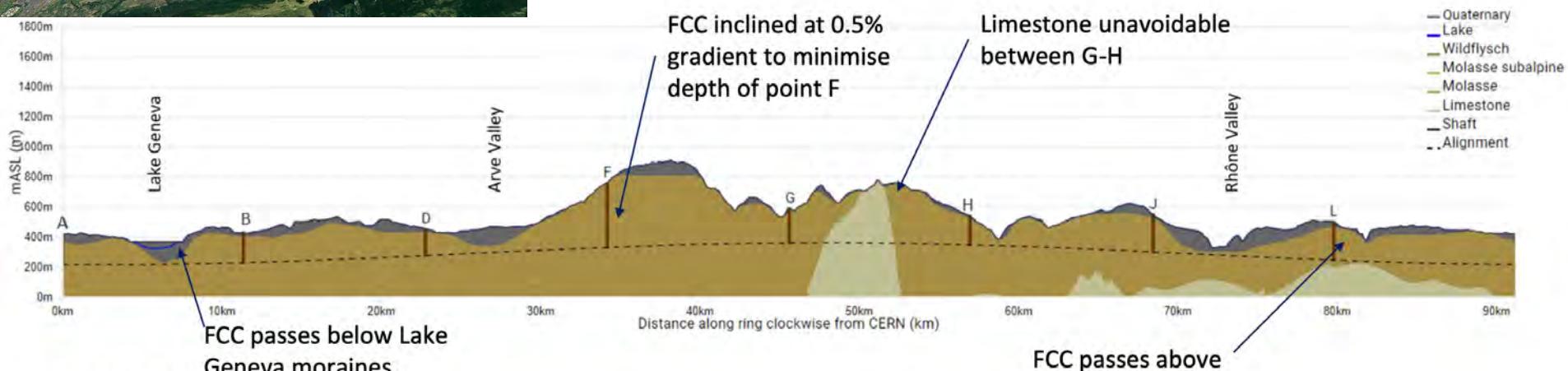
**V-S-H**  
Versuchsbetrieb Högerloch

**AMBERG**  
ENGINEERING

**pagni lanfranchi**  
PL  
ingegneri consulenti

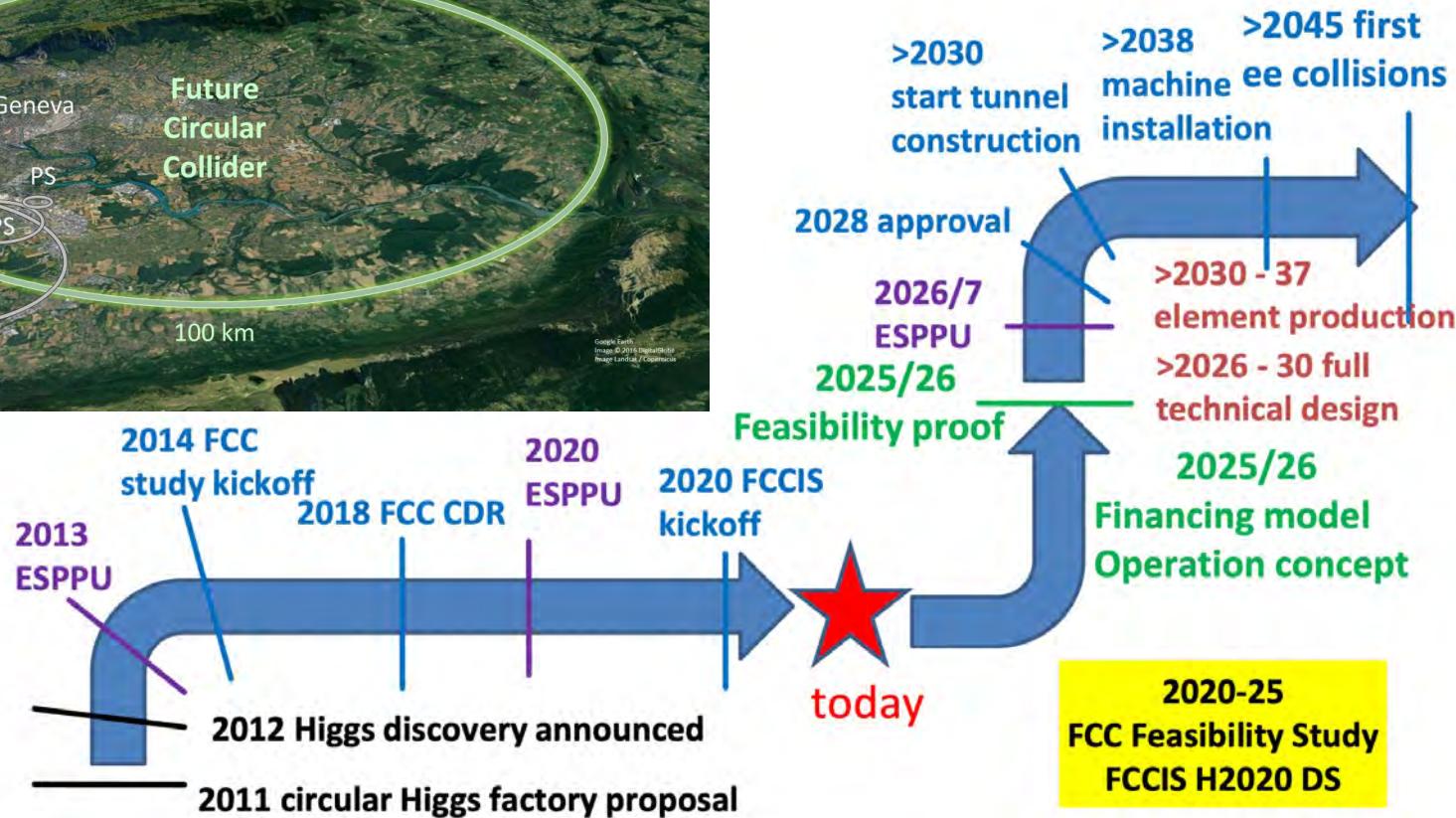
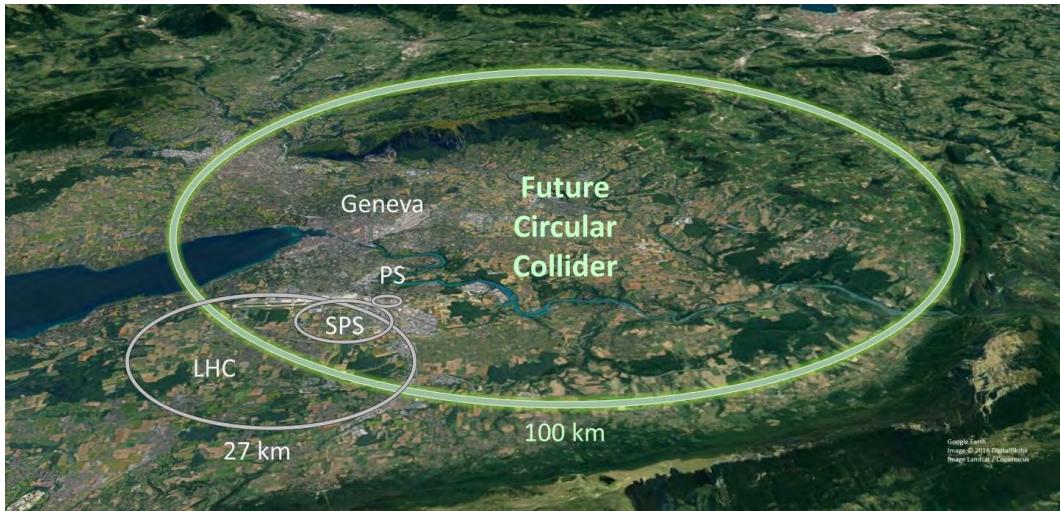


© Future Circular Colliders  
 Michael Benedikt  
 27/09/2022, Mining the Future, CERN



**Tunnelling mainly in molasse layer (soft rock), well suited for fast, low-risk TBM construction.**

**Site investigations campaign planned for 2024 – 2025: ~40-50 drillings, 100 km of seismic lines**



# From Higgs boson to neutrinos

From the God  
Particle to the  
Ghost particle



Ice Top

50 m



IceCube Laboratory  
Data is collected here and  
sent by satellite to the data  
warehouse at UW-Madison

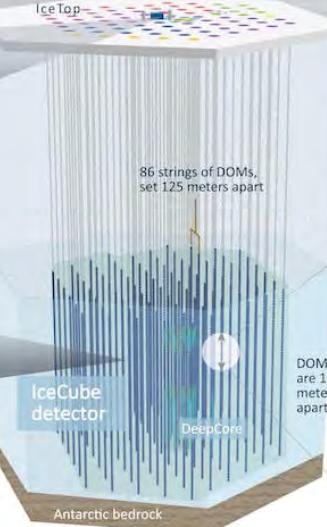


Digital Optical  
Module (DOM)  
5,160 DOMs  
deployed in the ice

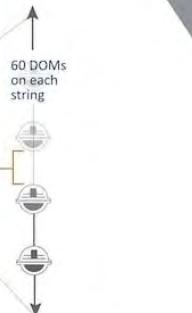
1450 m

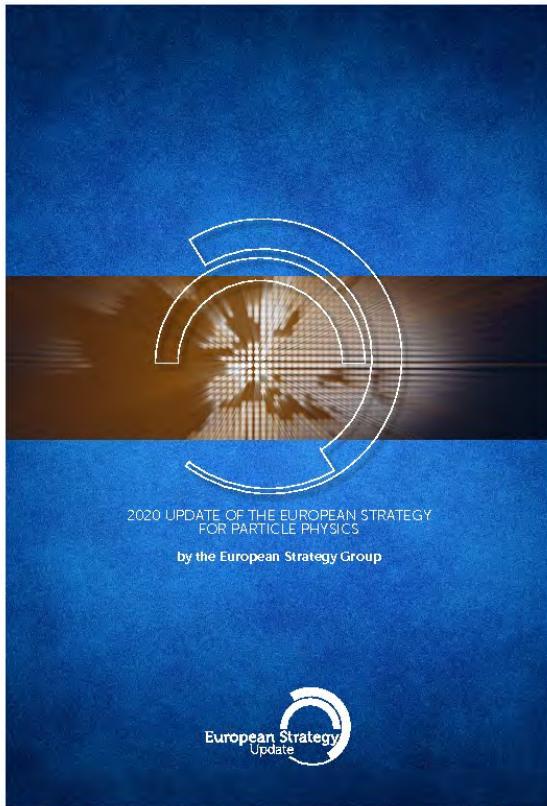
2450 m

Antarctic bedrock



Amundsen-Scott South  
Pole Station, Antarctica  
A National Science Foundation-  
managed research facility





Today **80%** of the mass of the universe is unknown.  
What is the rest of the universe made of?

Why is the universe composed only of **matter**? Where has the **anti-matter** gone that was produced simultaneously in the **Big Bang**?

# Proof of concept



## Preliminary investigations

### i. Material composition and properties

Laboratory sieving, Point load tests & Petrography



### ii. Workability of the aggregates

Sorted Material used as an aggregate for concrete tests



### iii. Aggregate handling and Sorting method for industrial Scale

Plant design for required quantities and quality

Figure 2. Sample of washed molasse from Gubrist Tunnel and iron residues

# Proof of concept

## Preliminary investigations – Results

### iii. Plant design for required quantities and quality

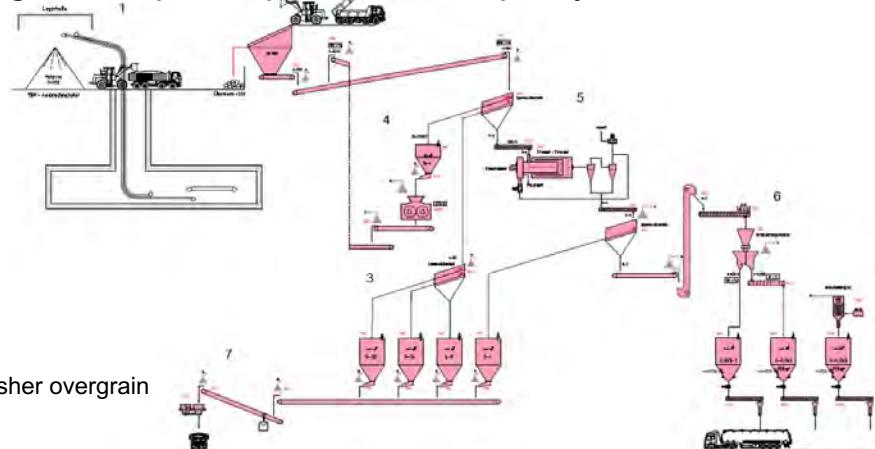


Figure 5. Overview of the overall sorting process

1. Material input
2. Pre-sorting
3. Final sorting
4. Secondary crusher overgrain
5. Material drying
6. Air classification
7. Loading
8. Dedusting



Figure 6. Crossbelt elemental analyser

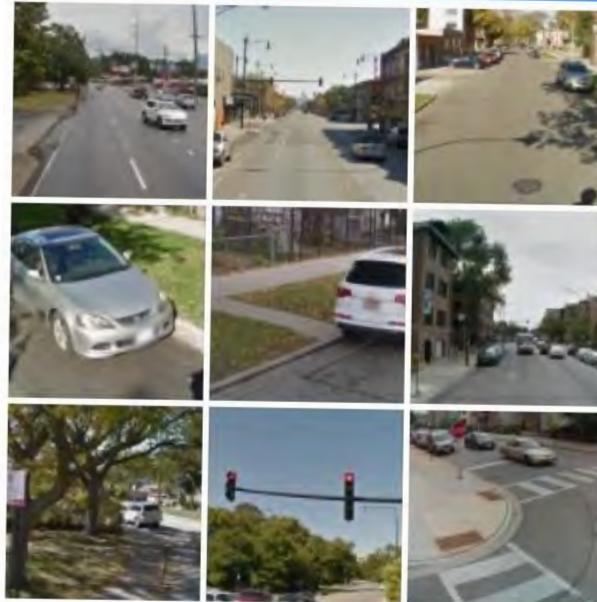
- Assessing and classifying material on the basis of geochemical composition
- Minute by minute composition analyses

Select all images with  
**traffic lights**



VERIFY

Select all images with  
**crosswalks**  
Click verify once there are none left.



VERIFY

Save

Try

Edit in Create

Share

Download



# Proof of concept

## Preliminary investigations - Results



### i. Laboratory sieving, Point load tests & Petrography

Grain sizes	Zurich Molasse	Geneva Molasse
< 2 mm	63.70%	77.00%
2 - 8 mm	4.10%	4.60%
> 8 mm	32.20%	18.40%

Zurich Molasse	Geneva Molasse
6.3 N/mm <sup>2</sup>	2.6 N/mm <sup>2</sup>

Zurich Molasse
81% Quartz and Feldspar
18% Agglomerates
1% Schist silicates



Figure 3. Sample of washed molasse (left) and wet molasse material (right) from Gubrist Tunnel

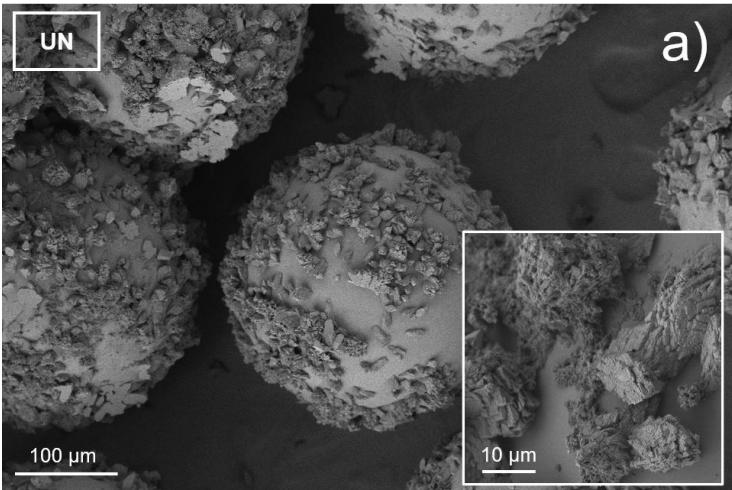
### ii. Concrete tests

Cube	Name	Aggregates	Cement	Compressive Strength (7 days) in N/mm <sup>2</sup>
Mix 1	Reference	100% of 0/8 mm from gravel pit Holcim in Aigle	330 kg/m <sup>3</sup> Optimo 4 (Holcim)	26.7 (100 %)
Mix 2	Molasse 100	100% of raw molasse from the Gubrist construction site		7.0 (26 %)
Mix 3	Molasse 55	55% of 4/8 mm washed molasse (mainly sandstone) 45% of 0/4 mm from gravel pit Holcim in Aigle		14.8 (55 %)

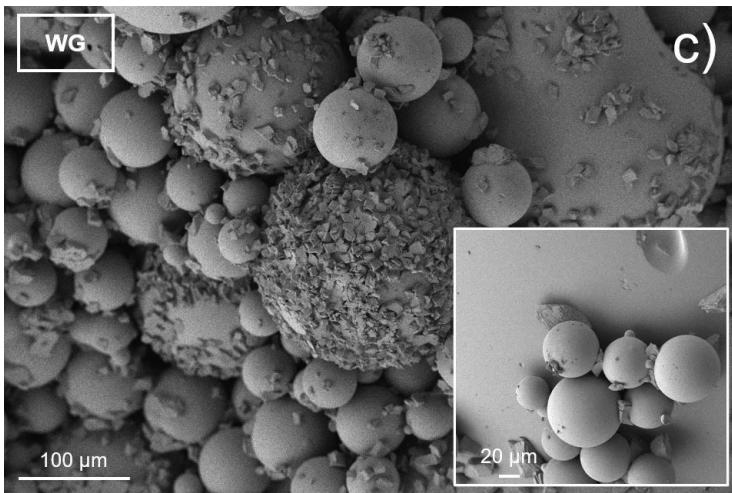


Figure 4. Sample of washed molasse (left) and wet molasse material (right) from Geneva Basin (Cern)

UN

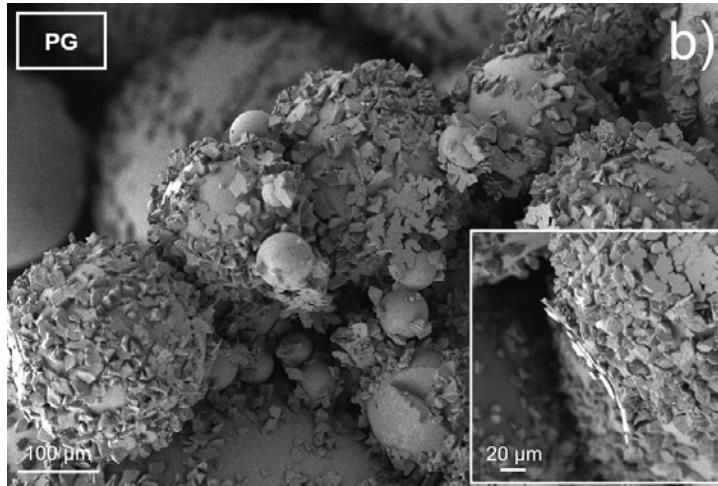


WG



a)

# Proof of concept



b)

c)

	UN	PG	WG
$D_{10}$ [mm]	0.22	0.23	0.11
$D_{90}$ [mm]	0.29	0.57	1.10
$C_u$ [-]	1.27	1.78	7.50
$C_c$ [-]	0.94	0.95	2.24
$n$ [-]	0.36	0.31	0.22



HOLCIM

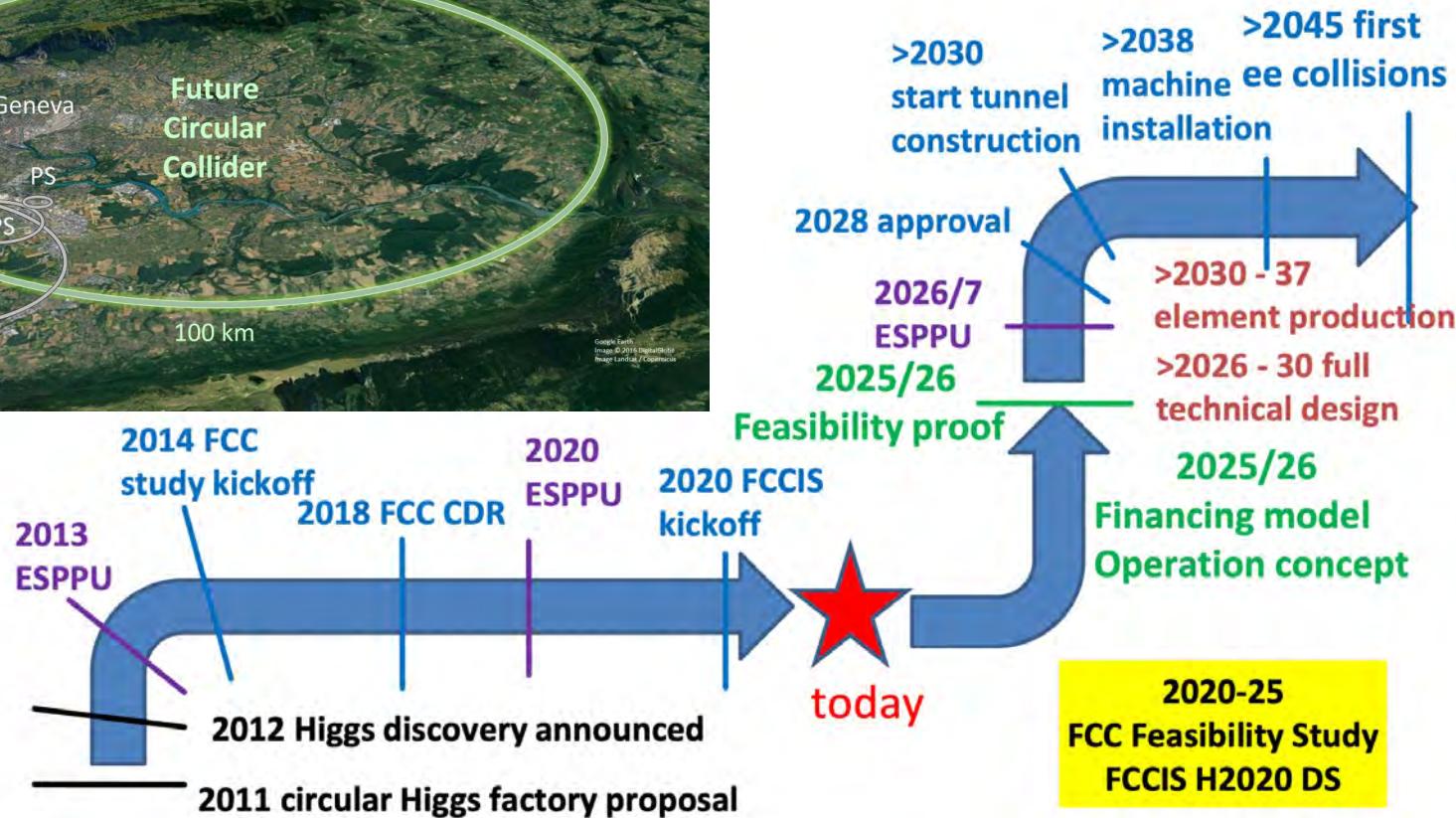
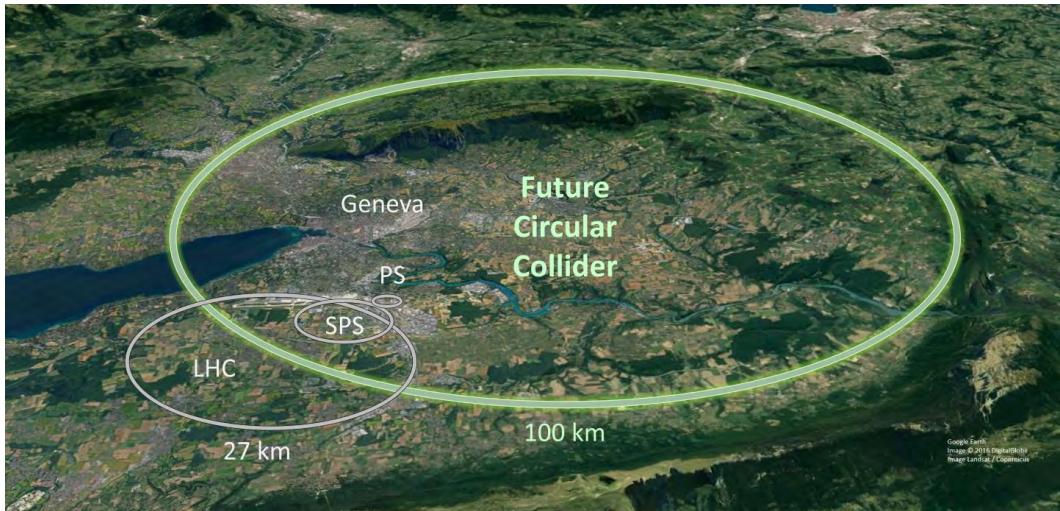


bilger+partner



pagani  
lanfranchi

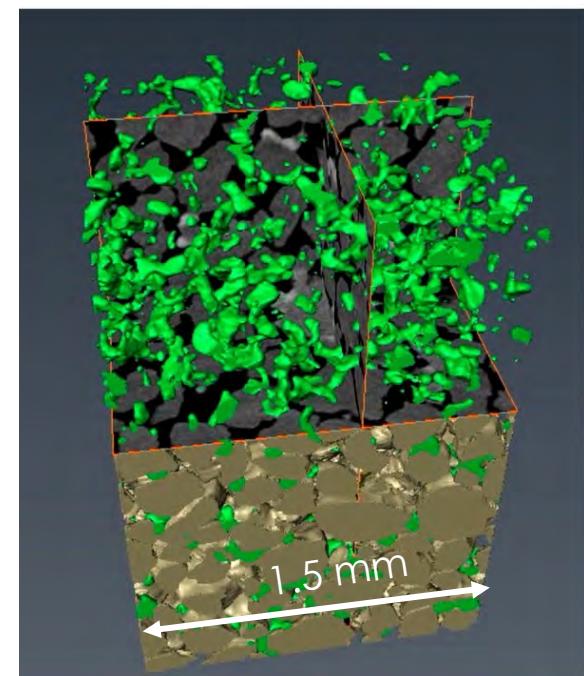
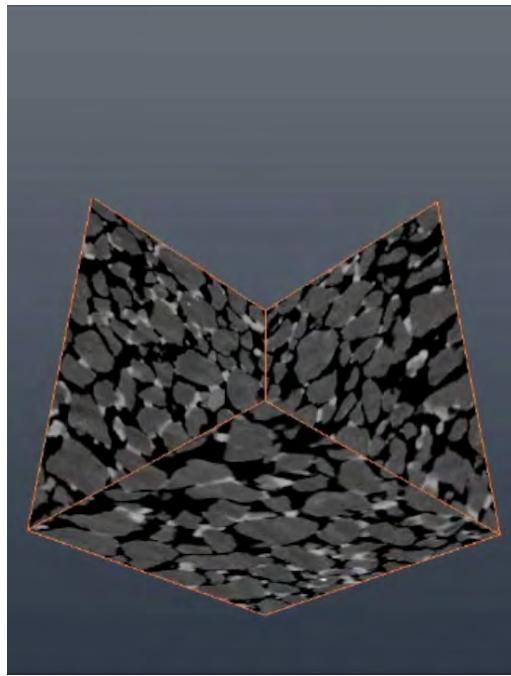
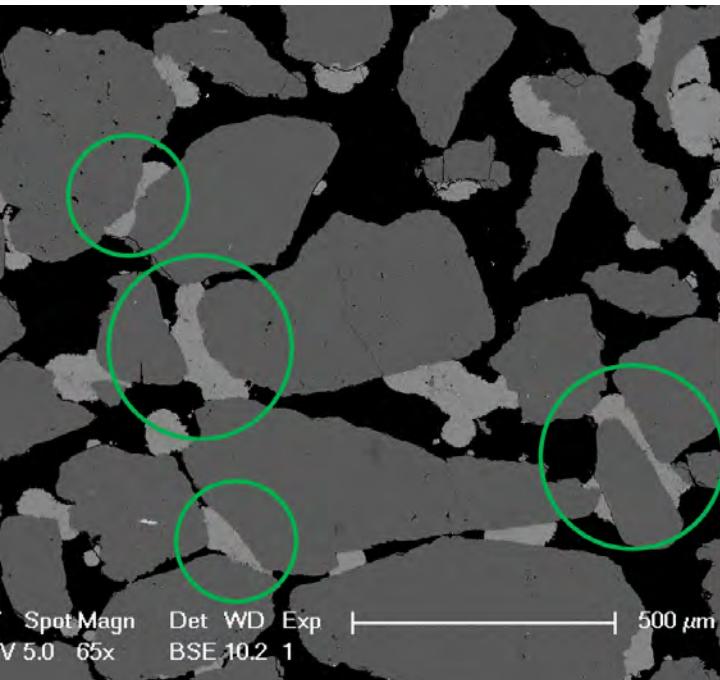




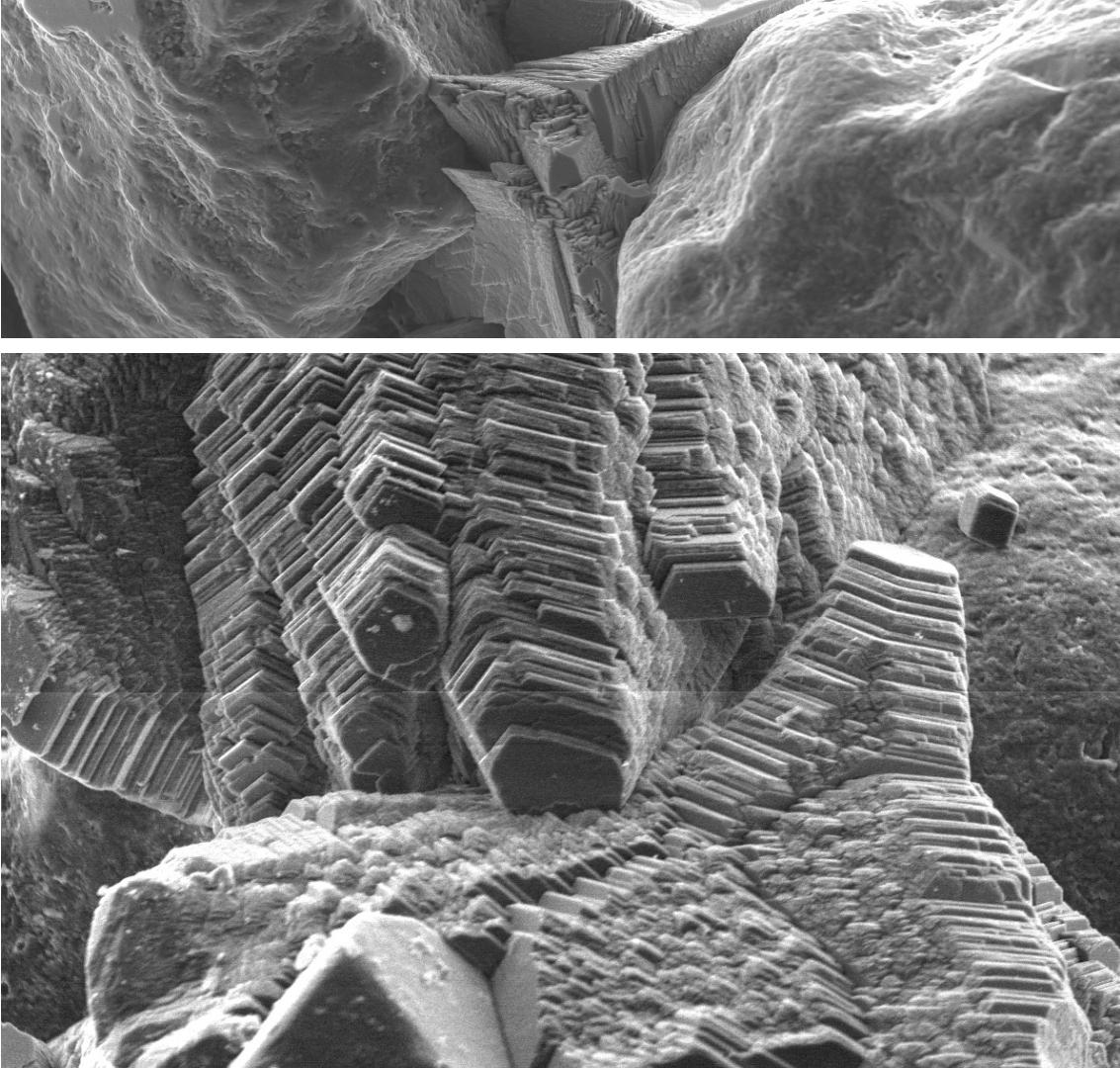
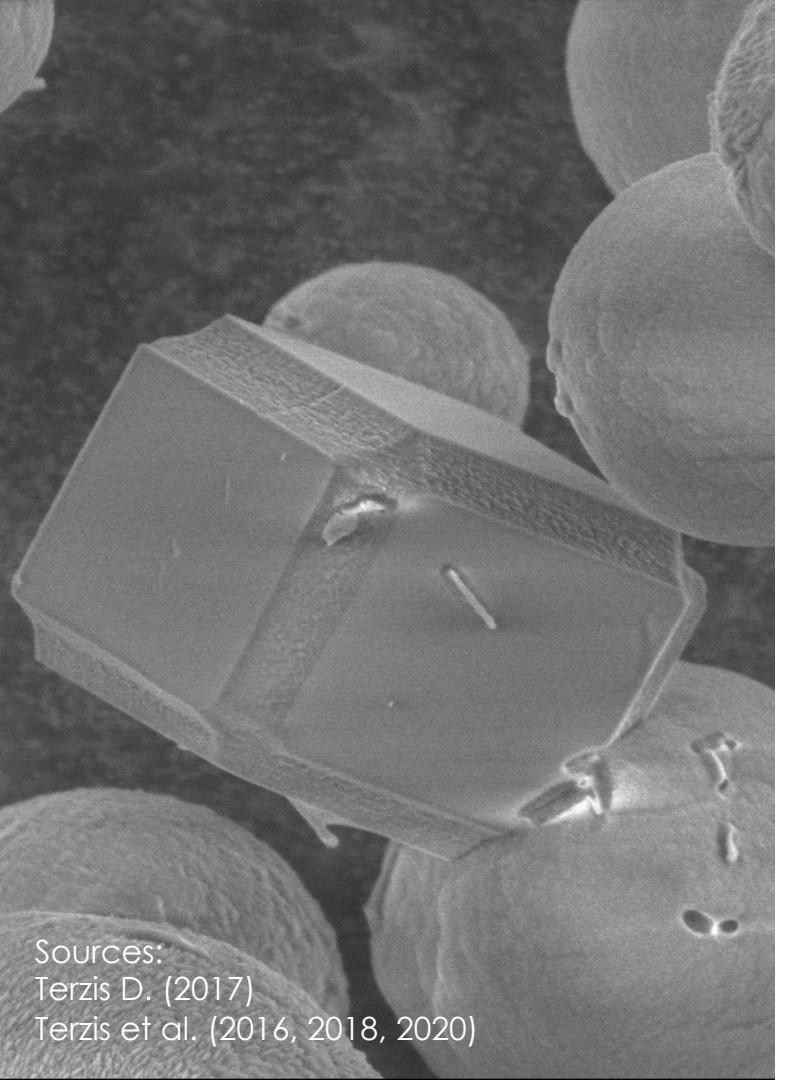
# Today's class

- 1) A recent case study that showcases the need for innovation (CERN FCC 2022)**
- 2) Biocementation: a hands-on example of creating a new material**

# Bio-cementation: Mineralizing calcite binders

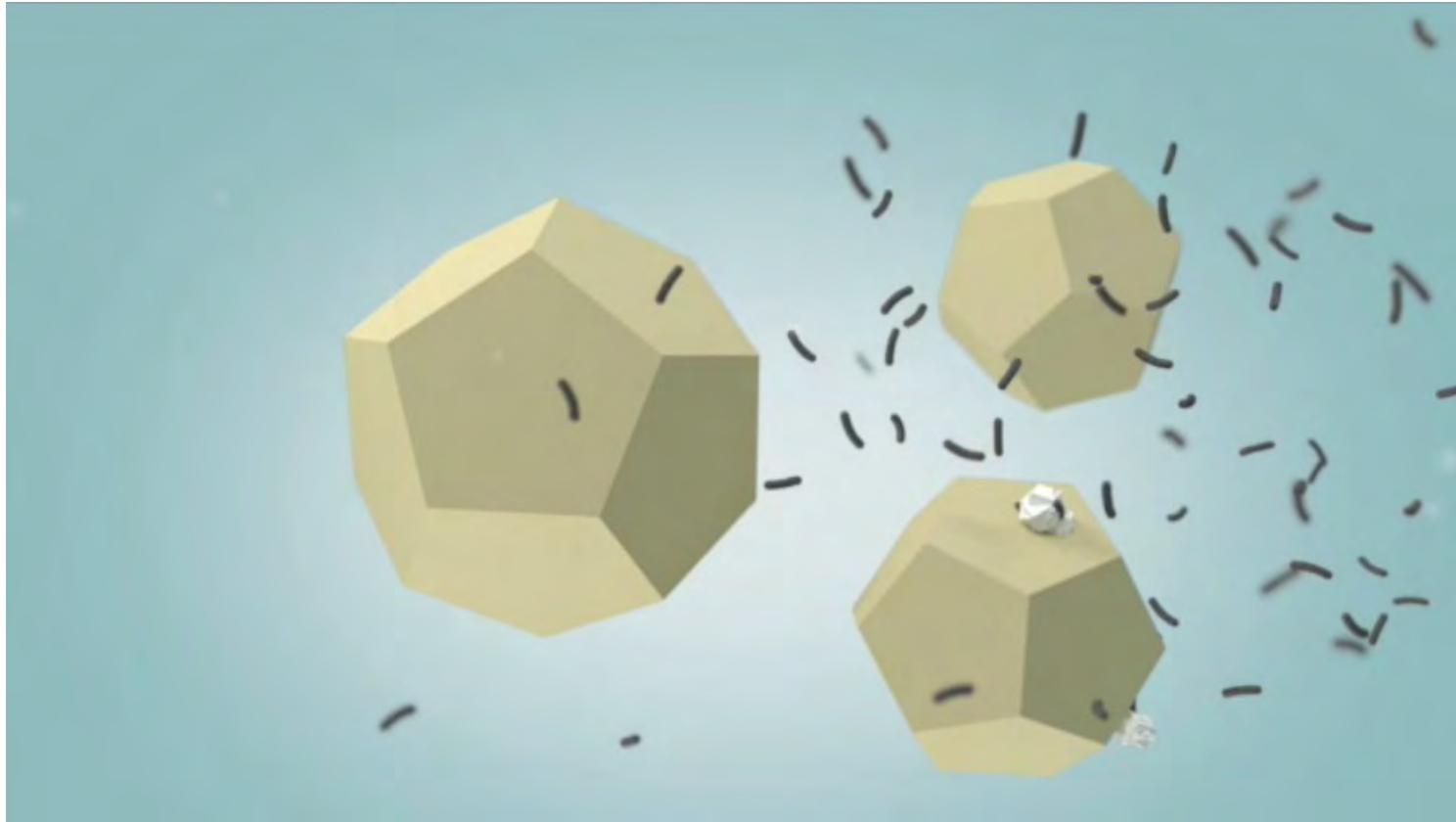






Sources:  
Terzis D. (2017)  
Terzis et al. (2016, 2018, 2020)

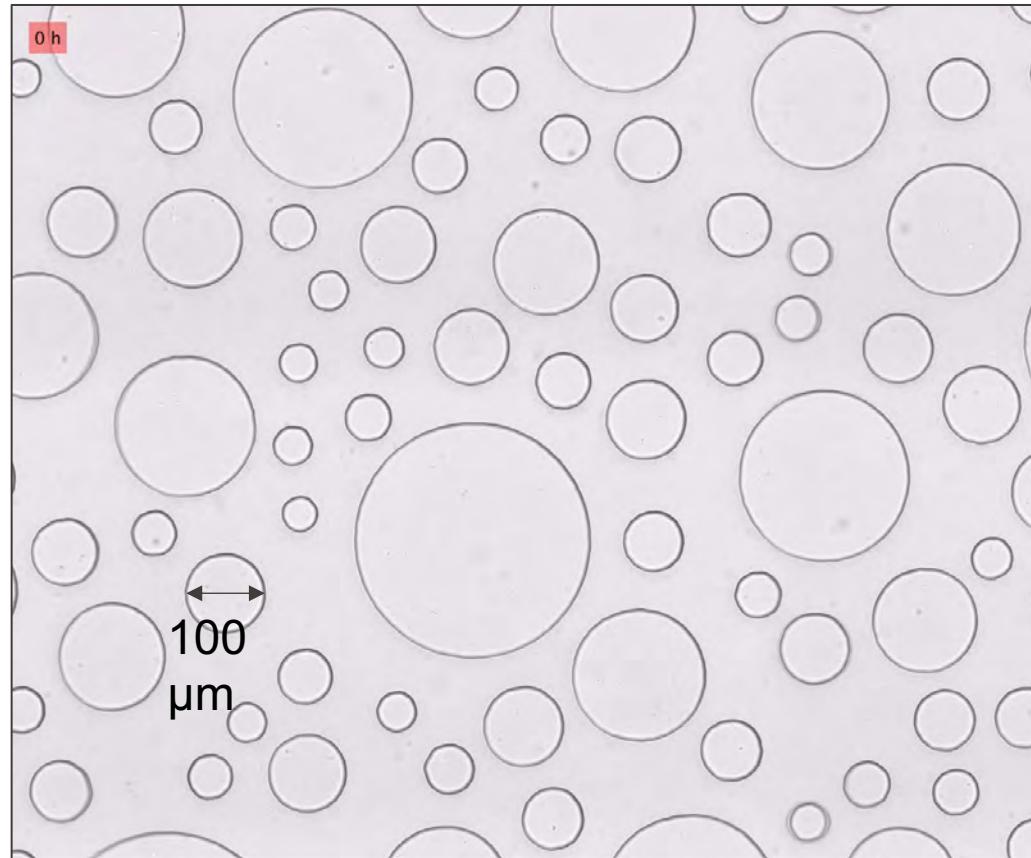
# Bio-cementation: Mineralizing calcite binders



Terzis, D. and Laloui, L., 2019. A decade of progress and turning points in the understanding of bio-improved soils: A review. *Geomechanics for Energy and the Environment*, 19, p.100116.

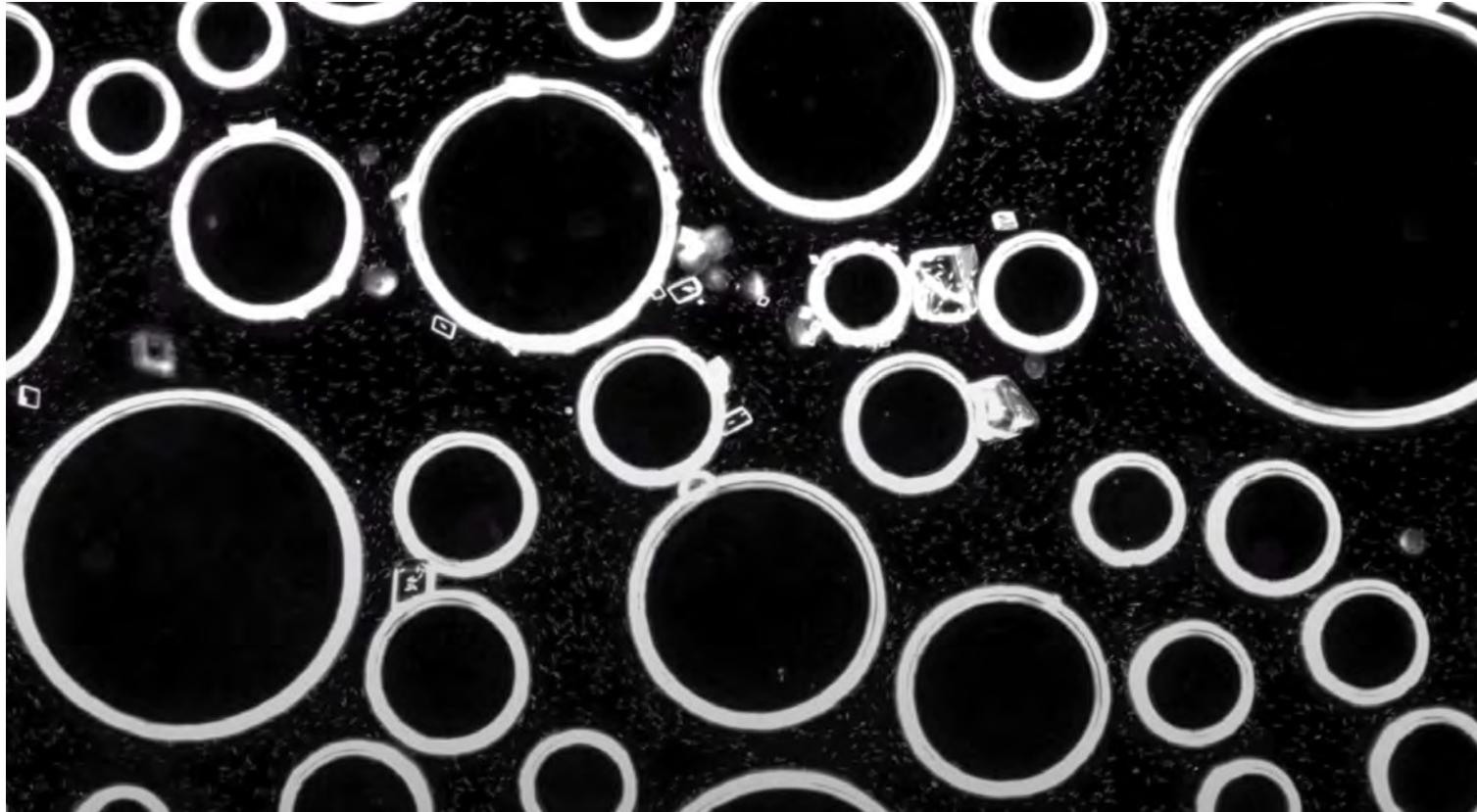
# Bio-cementation: Mineralizing calcite binders

- Real-Time Monitoring
- 1 meter-long propagation
- Spatio-temporal and hydro-chemical process understanding



More info: Elmaloglou, A., Terzis, D., De Anna, P., Laloui, L., Mahé, S. and Miele, F., 2020, February. Microfluidic-Based Study on the Activation and Evolution of Calcite Bio-Mineralization for Geotechnical Applications. In *Geo-Congress 2020: Biogeotechnics* (pp. 74-82). Reston, VA: American Society of Civil Engineers.

# Bio-cementation: Mineralizing calcite binders



More info: Elmaloglou, A., Terzis, D., De Anna, P., Laloui, L., Mahé, S. and Miele, F., 2020, February. Microfluidic-Based Study on the Activation and Evolution of Calcite Bio-Mineralization for Geotechnical Applications. In *Geo-Congress 2020: Biogeotechnics* (pp. 74-82). Reston, VA: American Society of Civil Engineers.

# What's the magic? Stimulating an organic reaction in 4 steps



*Freshwater calcite microbialites at Pavilion Lake, British Columbia, Canada*

## Step 1:

Carbamide  
(carbon source)

## Step 2:

Groundwater/soil  
microorganisms  
(enzymatic catalysts)

## Step 3:

High carbonate  
production of known

## Step 4:

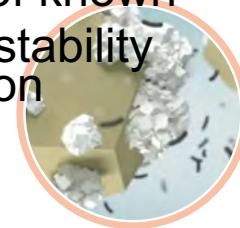
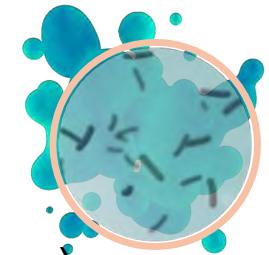
quality and stability  
Mineralization



+

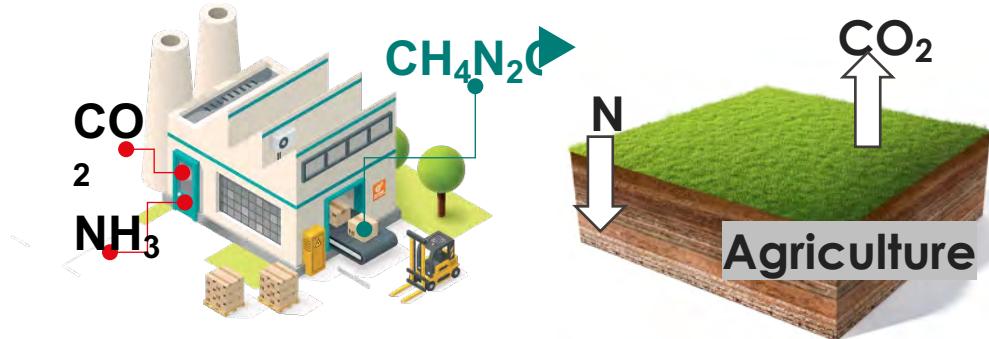


*Mineral calcite precipitation*

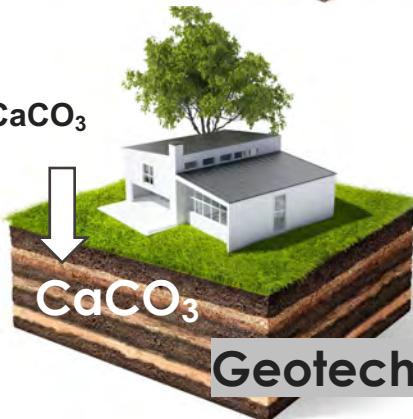


# Steps 1,2 : From carbamide (carbon source) to $\text{CaCO}_3$

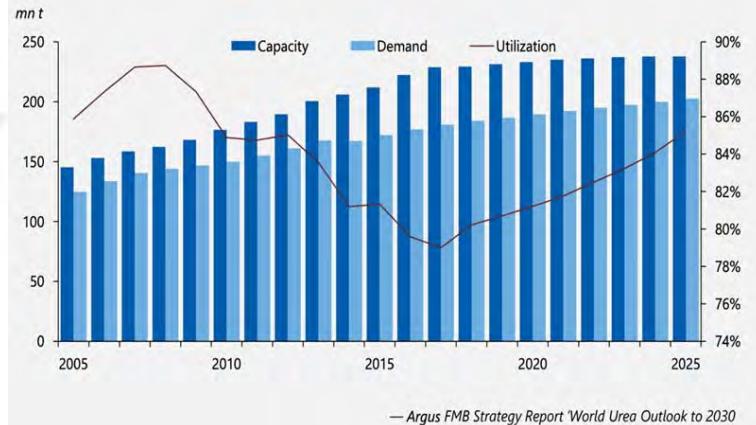
1) Carbamide is an organic soil fertilizer:



2) Carbamide is used in biocementation to mineralize  $\text{CaCO}_3$



Carbamide supply vs. demand rate



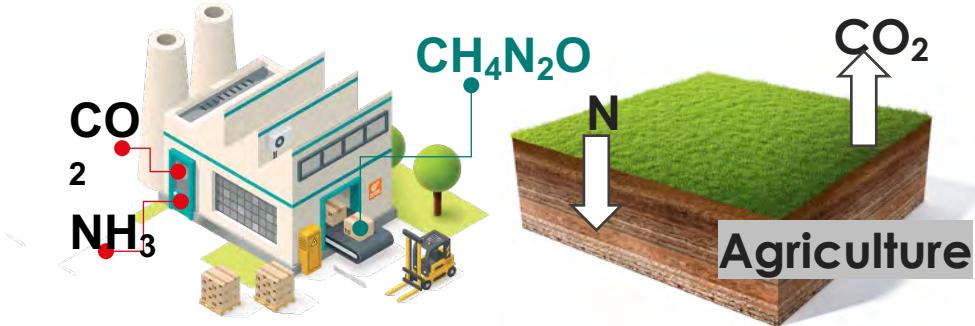
# Nitrogen is shaking up the construction industry



A Dutch high court decision in May 2019 suspended permits for construction projects that pollute the atmosphere with nitrogen compounds and harm nature reserves. [...] Also blocked are plans for new homes, roads, and airport runways, because construction machinery emits nitrogen oxides. All told, the shutdown puts some €14 billion worth of projects in jeopardy, according to ABN AMRO Bank. "It has really paralyzed the country," says Jeroen Candel, a political scientist at Wageningen University & Research.

# Steps 1,2 : From carbamide (carbon source) to $\text{CaCO}_3$

## 1) Carbamide is an organic soil fertilizer:



## 2) Carbamide is used in biocementation to mineralize $\text{CaCO}_3$



## What about Nitrogen/Ammonium?

- source: FR1250397A · 2012-01-16

«...Consolidating soil in situ comprising the following steps: a) injecting a solution of calcifying bacteria, prepared from powdered bacteria, into the volume of soil to be treated; b) injection of a calcifying solution; c) **washing the volume of treated soil with water; d) measuring the concentration of ammonium ions in the washing water and in the treated soil; e) recycling the wash water to the process.**»

- source: Lee et al. (2019) *Investigating Ammonium By-product Removal for Ureolytic Bio-cementation Using Meter-scale experiments.*

This **dilution** approach requires at least 10 times the pore volume of soil in fresh water to dilute Nitrogen which remains still in the surrounding soil or groundwater

- PCT/IB2019/054532 - SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR GROUND CONSOLIDATION

# Results

Improves parameters, e.g.:

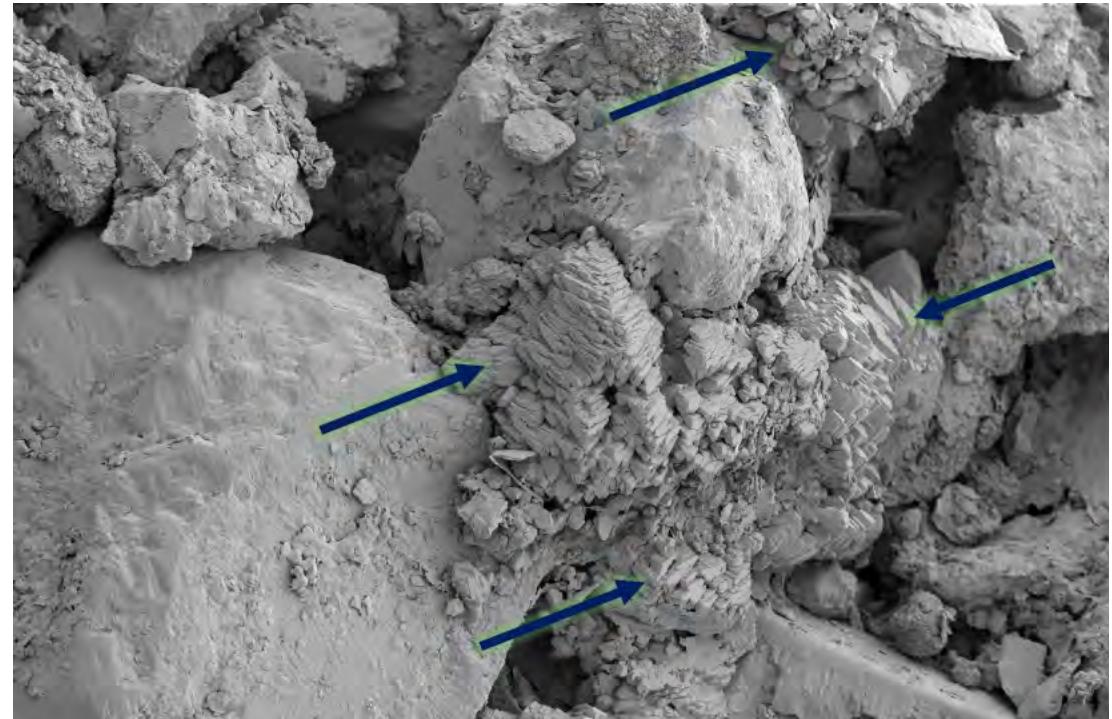
- Cohesion,  $c \rightarrow 400 \text{ kPa}$
- Friction angle,  $\varphi \rightarrow 42^\circ$
- S-wave velocity  $\rightarrow 2'000 \text{ m/s}$

Maintains

- permeability  $\rightarrow$  drainage capacity

Permits

- re-injections



Mag = 500 X

10  $\mu\text{m}$

EHT = 3.00 kV

WD = 13.1 mm  
Image Pixel Size = 111.6 nm

Signal A = SE2

Aperture Size = 30.00  $\mu\text{m}$   
Stage at T = 0.0 °

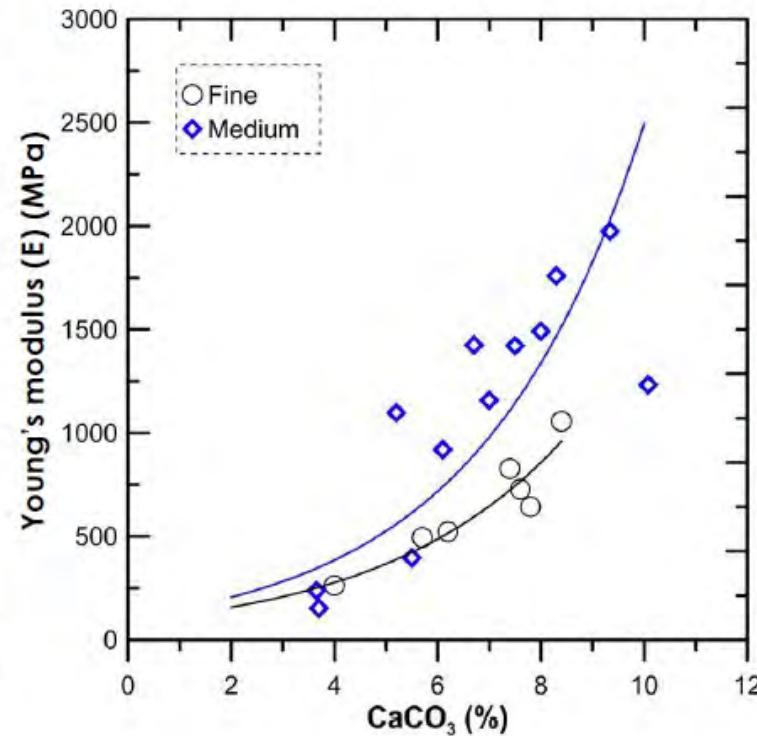
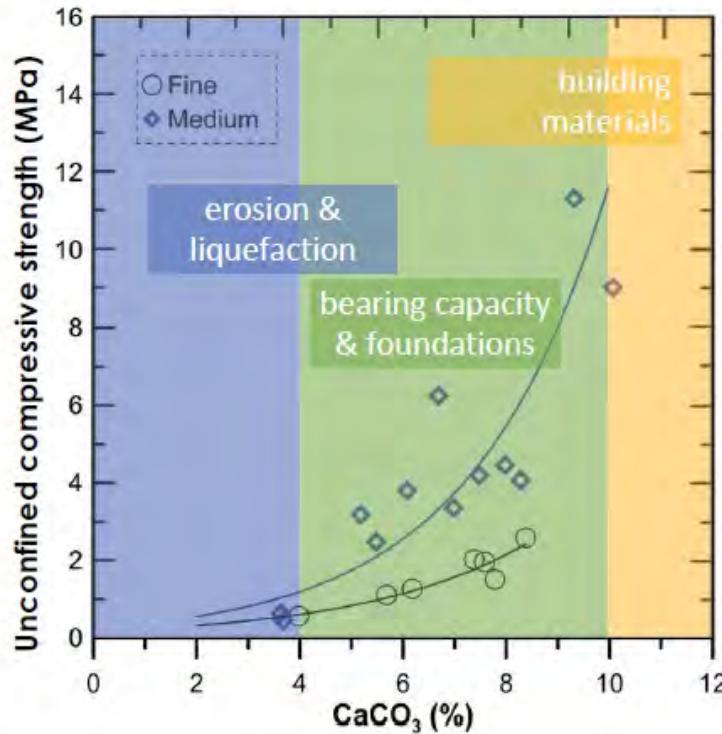
Chamber Status = at HV

Chamber = 0.00e+00 Pa  
Date :30 Jul 2019



# Results

## Strength and stiffness in relation to the mineral content



→ Design of a **fit to purpose** solution ←

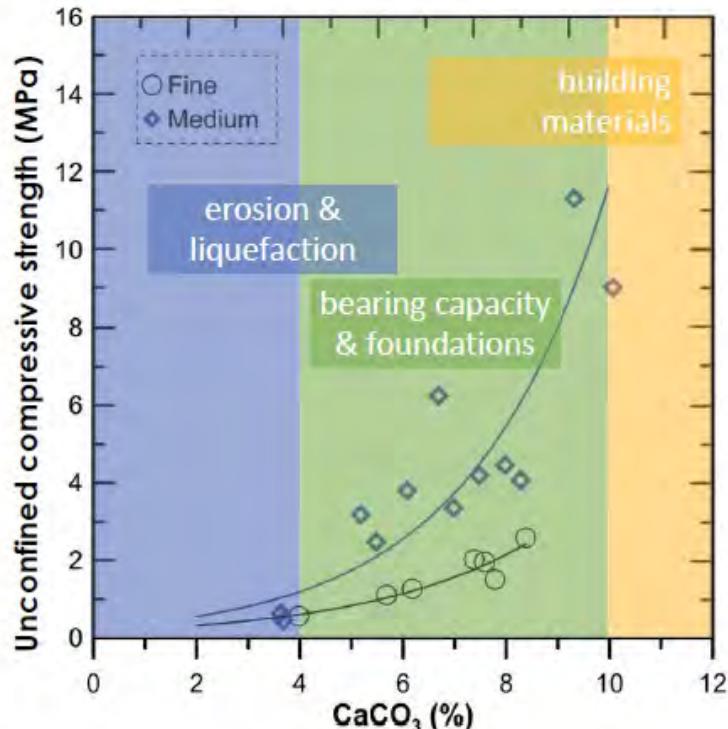
$D_{50}=190 \mu\text{m}$   
 $e_{\min}=0.56$   
 $e_{\max}=0.71$



$D_{50}=390 \mu\text{m}$   
 $e_{\min}=0.69$   
 $e_{\max}=0.89$

# Results

## Strength and stiffness in relation to the mineral content

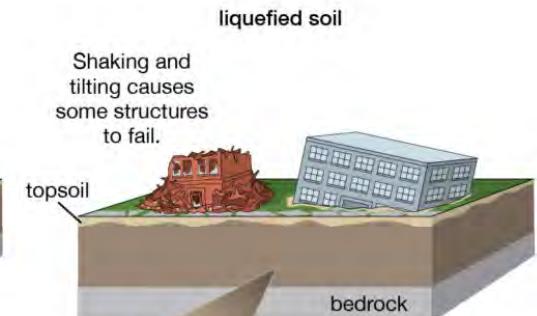


### Soil liquefaction



Loosely packed grains of soil are held together by friction. Pore spaces are filled with water.

© 2012 Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.



Shaking and tilting causes some structures to fail.

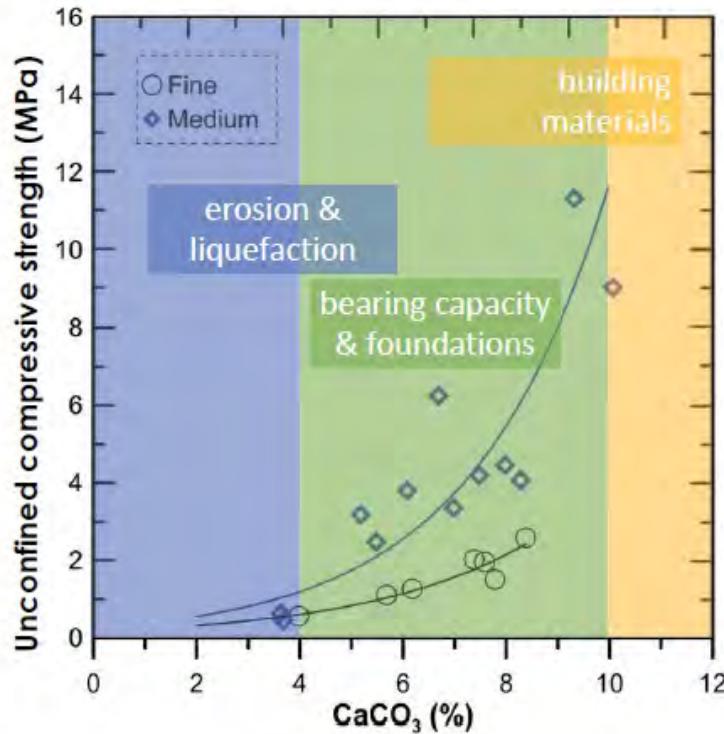
Building tilts and sinks as soil stability declines.

Shaking destabilizes the soil by increasing the space between grains. With its structure lost, the soil flows like a liquid.

→ Design of a **fit to purpose** solution ←

# Results

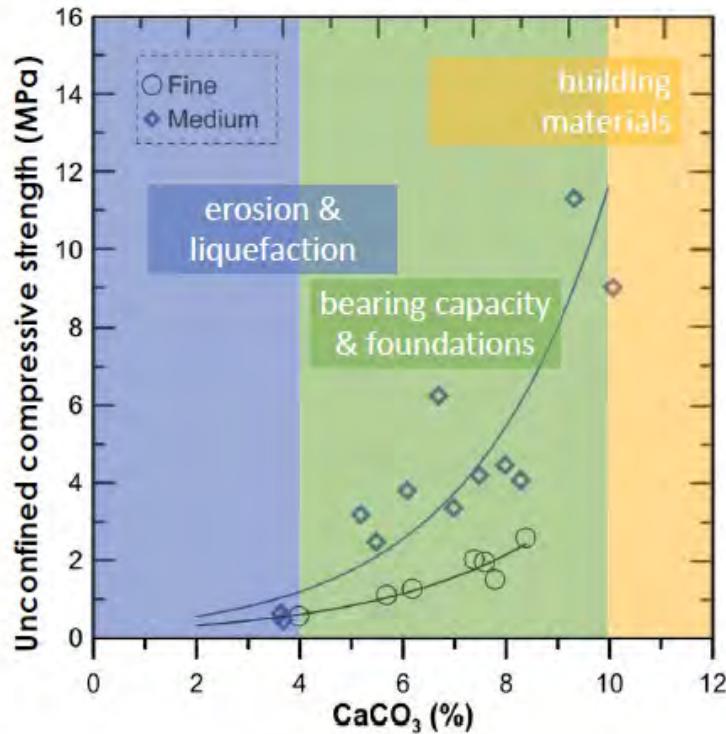
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→ Design of a **fit to purpose** solution ←

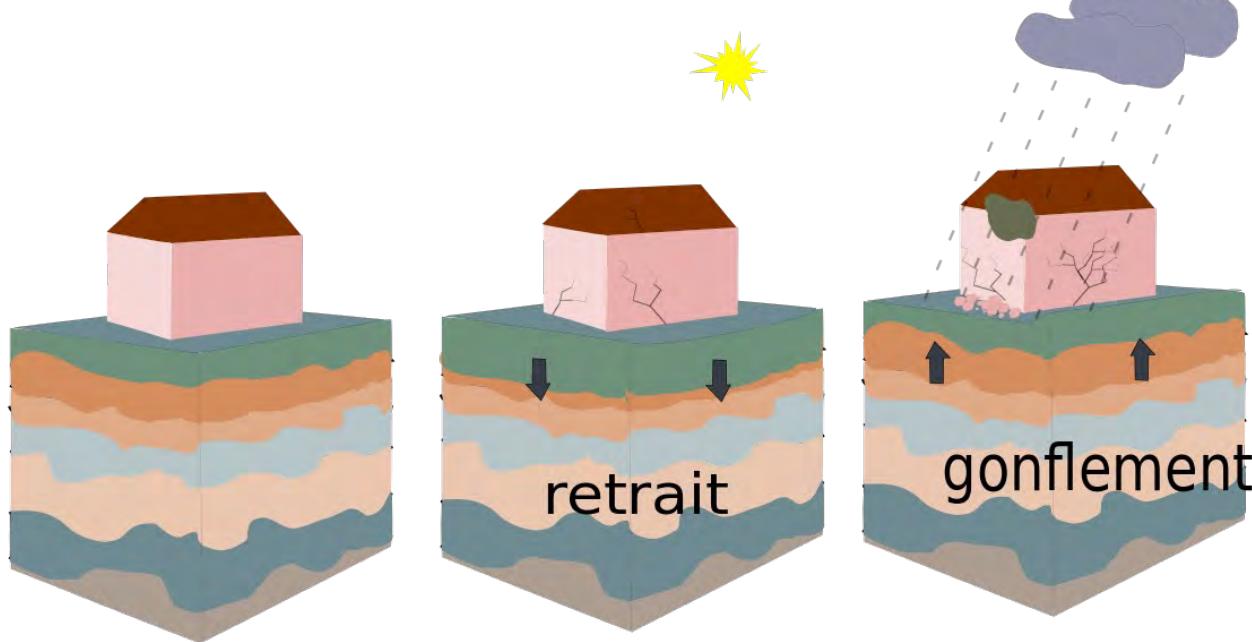
# Results

## Strength and stiffness in relation to the mineral content

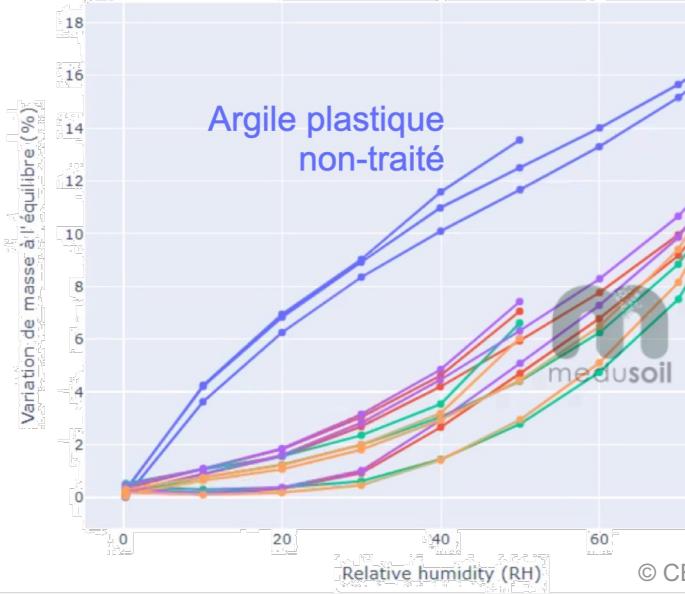
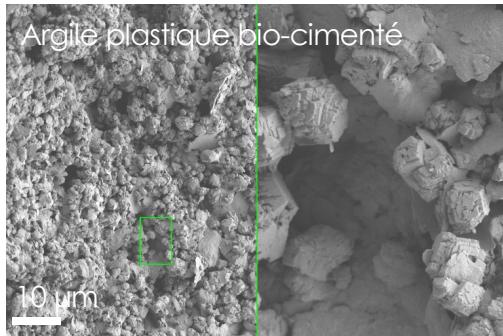


→ Design of a **fit to purpose** solution ←

# More emerging challenges

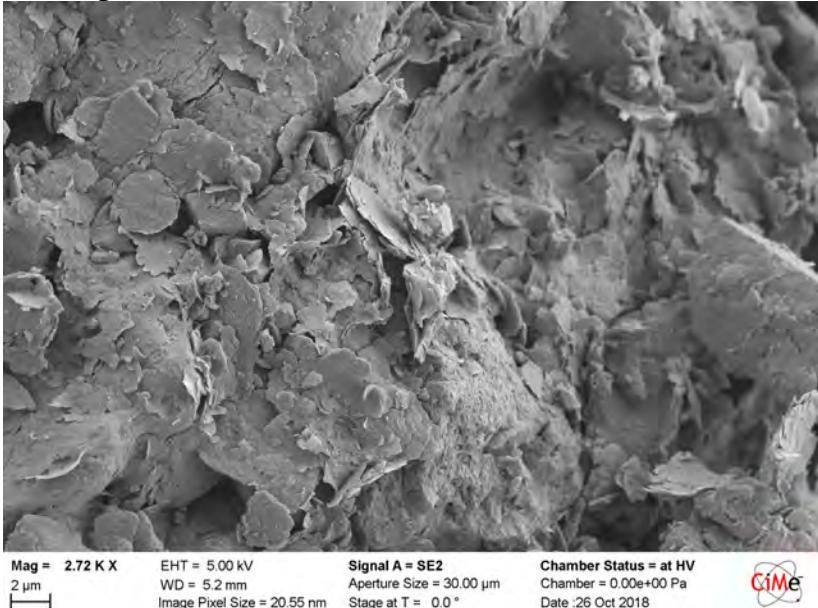


# More emerging challenges

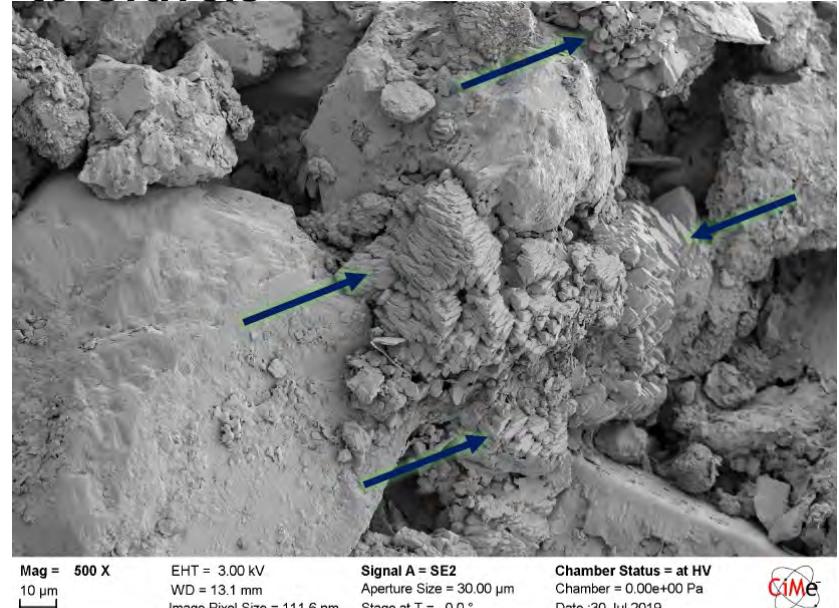


# Injectability and Applicability limitations

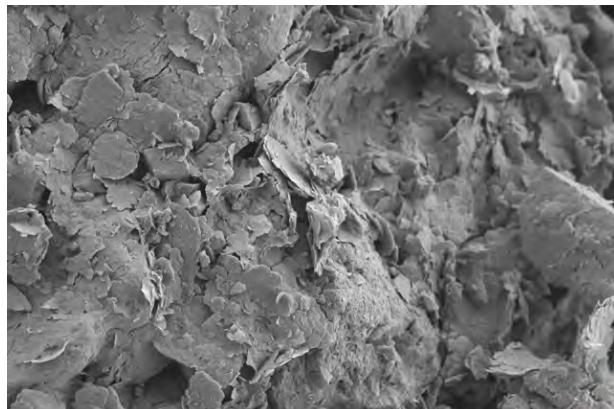
## Clays



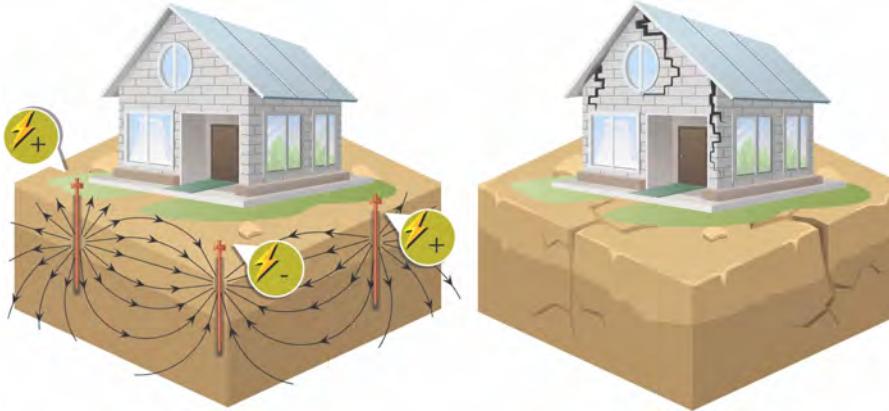
## to Gravels



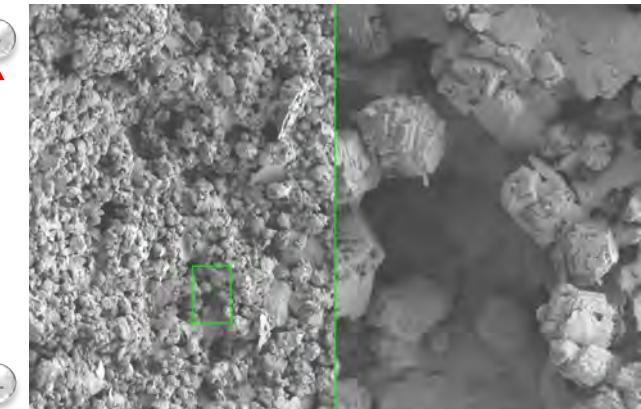
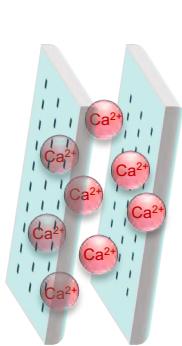
# Direct current assisted bio-cementation



Mag = 2.72 K X      EHT = 5.00 kV      Signal A = SE2  
2  $\mu$ m      WD = 5.2 mm      Aperture Size = 30.00  $\mu$ m  
Image Pixel Size = 20.55 nm      Chamber Status = at HV  
Stage at T = 0.0°  
CIME



Source: <https://actu.epfl.ch/news/using-electric-current-to-stabilize-low-permeability-soil/>

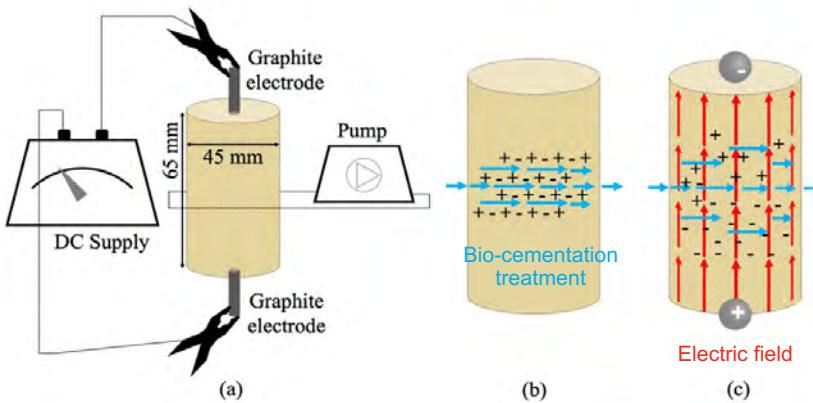


Mag = 2.73 K X      EHT = 1.00 kV      Signal A = SE2  
10  $\mu$ m      WD = 5.8 mm      Aperture Size = 30.00  $\mu$ m  
Image Pixel Size = 50.35 nm      Chamber Status = at HV  
Stage at T = 0.0°  
CIME

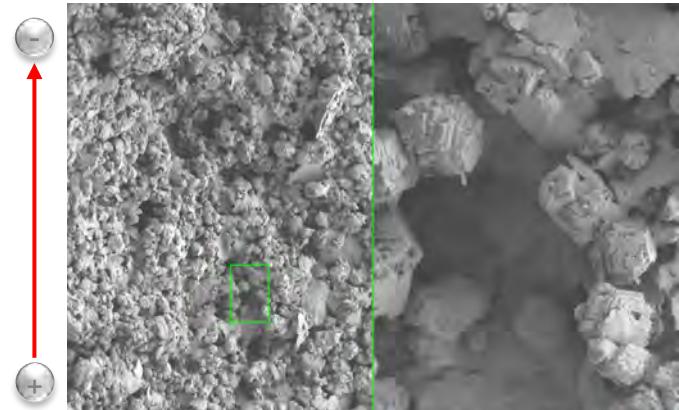
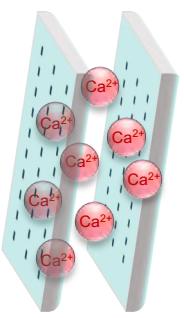
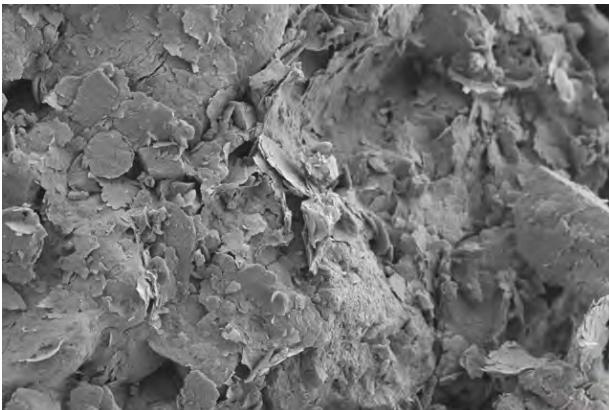
# Direct current assisted bio-cementation

37

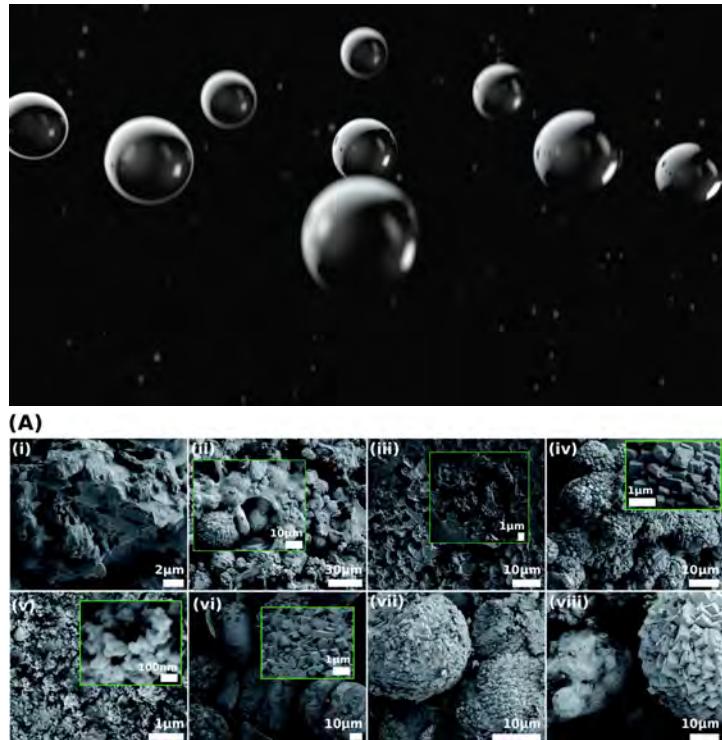
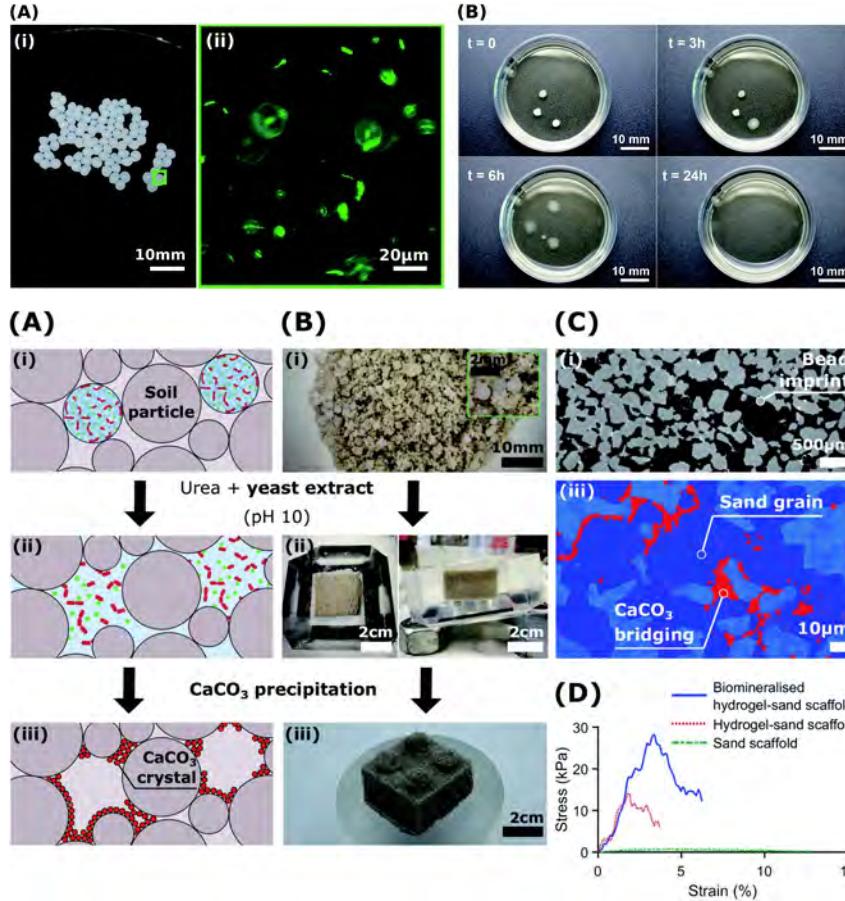
Dr. Dimitrios Terzis



NAME EVENT / NAME PRESENTATION



# Microencapsulation assisted bio-cementation



Saracho, A.C., Lucherini, L., Hirsch, M., Peter, H.M., Terzis, D., Amstad, E. and Laloui, L., 2021. Controlling the calcium carbonate microstructure of engineered living building materials. *Journal of Materials Chemistry A*.

# “Nature is our laboratory”

LABIOTECH.eu

NEWS

LONG READS

MULTIMEDIA

REFRESH

EVENTS

JOBS

BIOTECH MAP

Q

## This Biotech Makes Self-Healing Concrete Using Bacteria



JONATHAN SMITH - 03/05/2019 3 MINS - BIOTECH OF THE WEEK



Imagine walls and buildings that heal themselves just like your skin does. The Dutch biotech Green Basilisk is making this idea a reality by embedding special limestone-producing bacteria into concrete.



# “Nature is our laboratory”

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## This Biotech Makes Self-Healing Concrete Using Bacteria

**Basilisk** self healing concrete

JONATHAN SMITH

**TU Delft**



1 mm (a) (b)

0.29 0.17 0.14

0.13 0.24 0.40

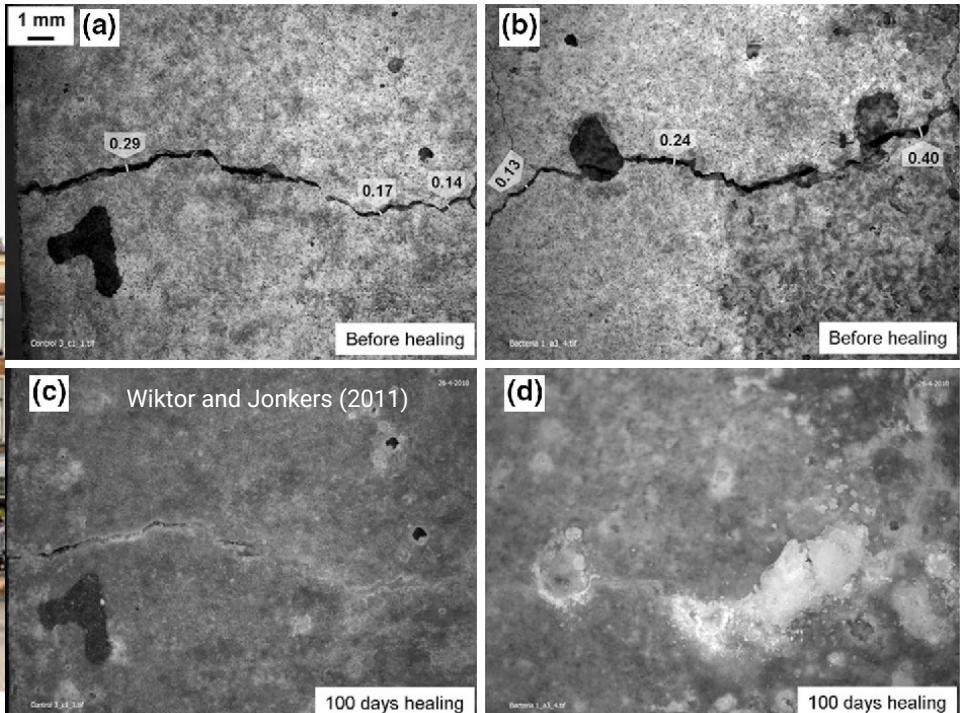
Control 3\_c1\_1.tif Before healing

Bacteria 1\_a3\_4.tif Before healing

(c) Wiktor and Jonkers (2011) 26-4-2010

Control 1\_d\_3.tif 100 days healing

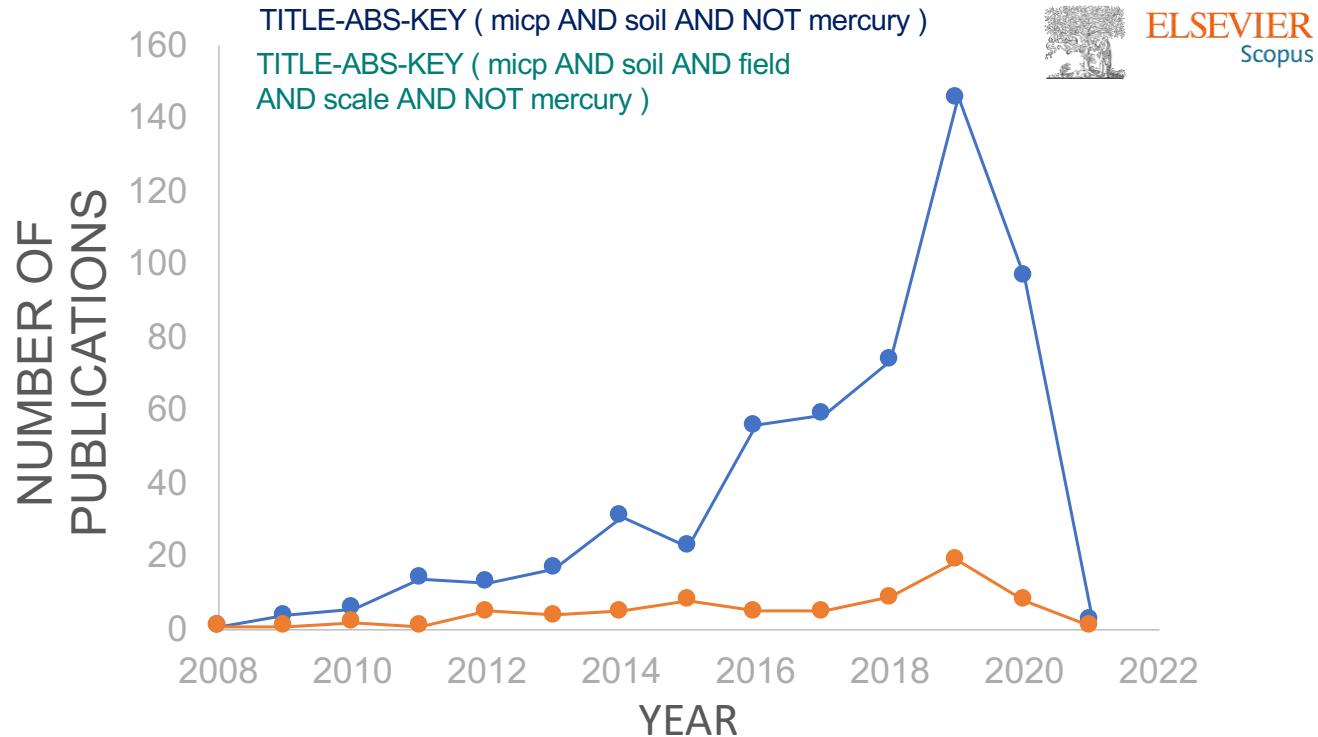
Bacteria 1\_a3\_4.tif 26-4-2010 100 days healing



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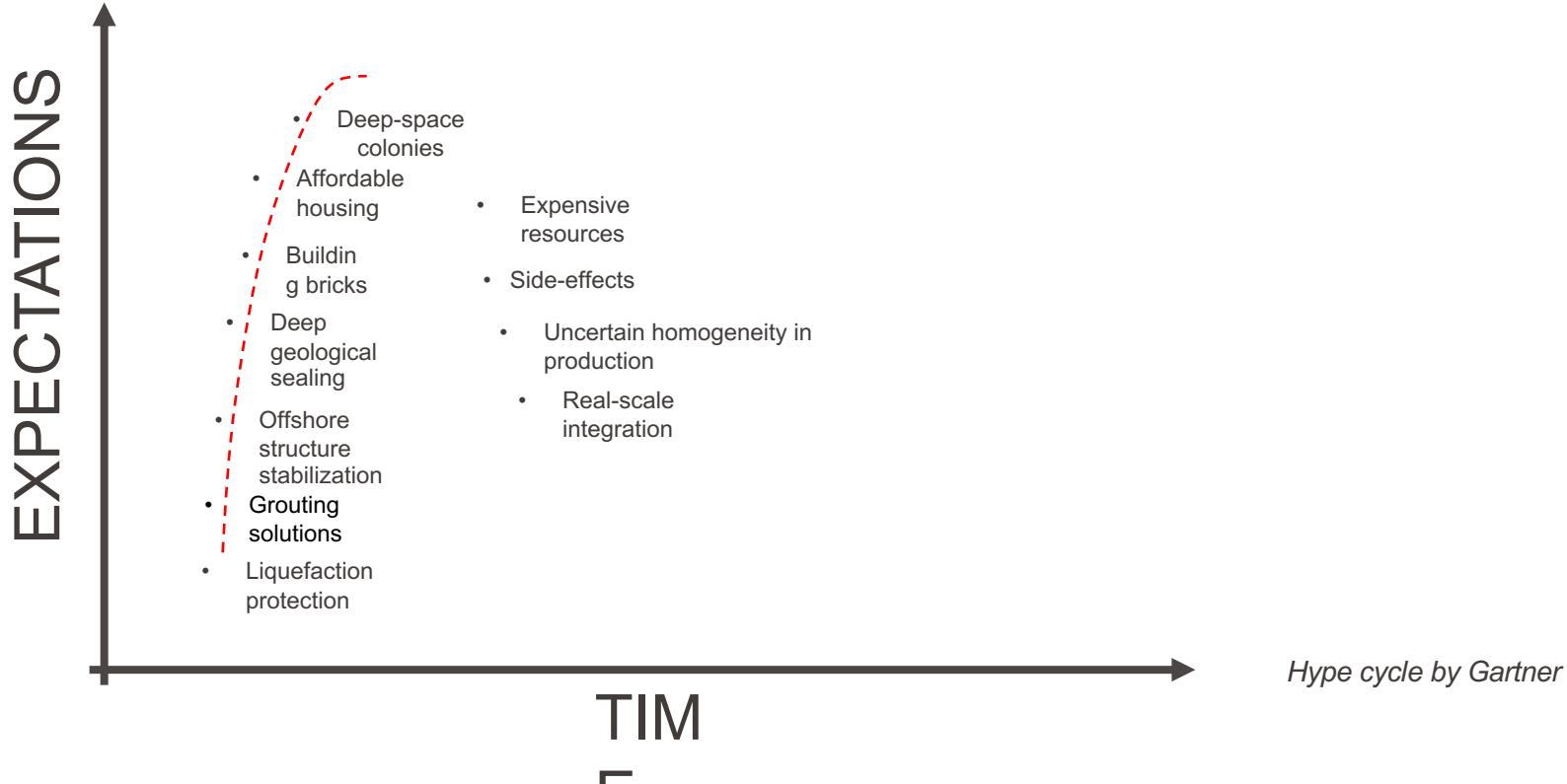
f   in   

# The hype cycle / expectations theory

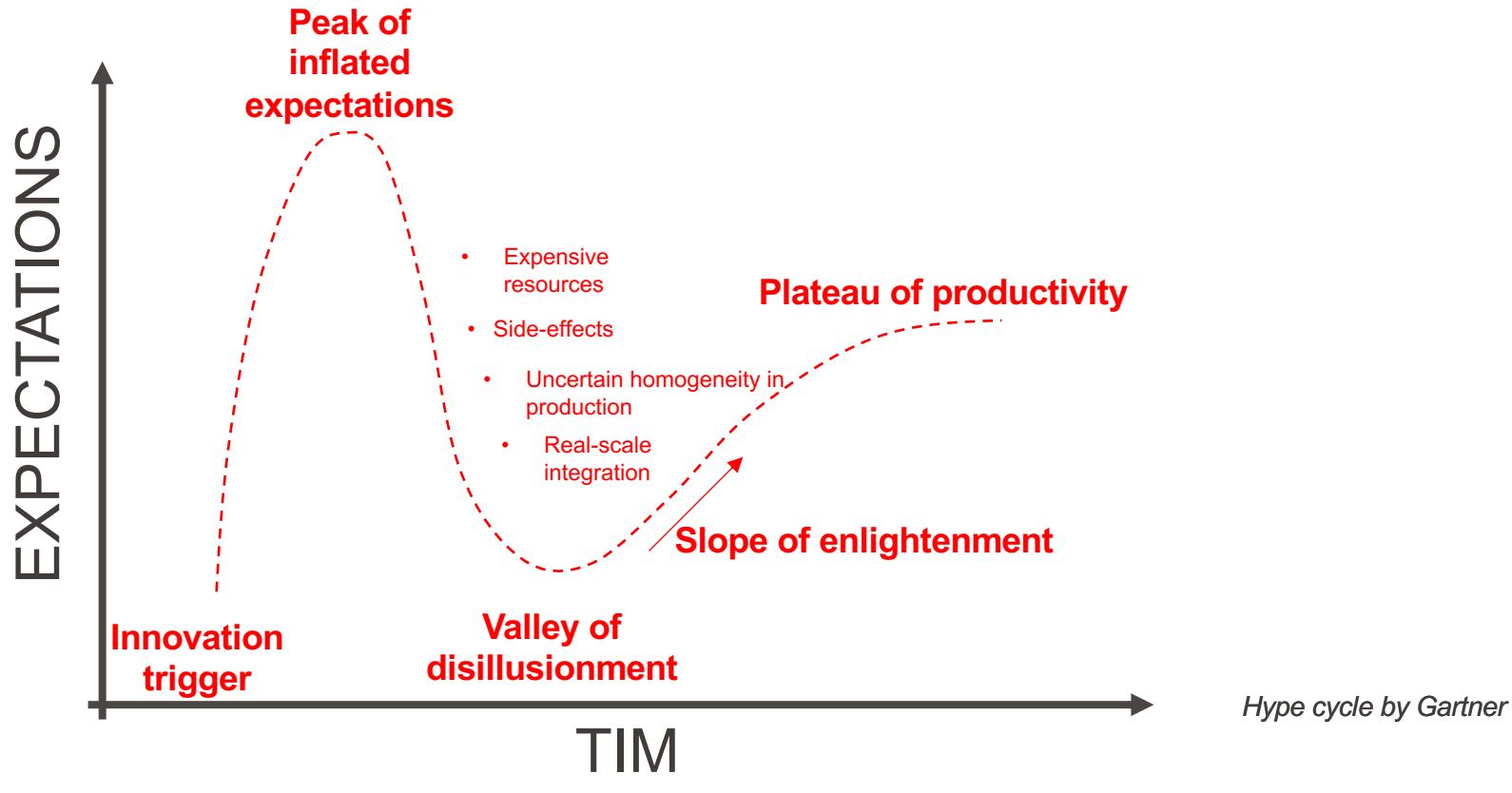


Terzis, D. and Laloui, L., 2019. A decade of progress and turning points in the understanding of bio-improved soils: A review. *Geomechanics for Energy and the Environment*, 19, p.100116.

# The hype cycle / expectations theory



# The hype cycle / expectations theory



# Technology Readiness Level

Technology readiness levels (TRLs) estimate the **maturity** of technologies. The European Commission advised EU-funded research and innovation projects to adopt the scale in 2010.

PoC

- TRL **1** – basic principles observed
- TRL **2** – technology **Proof of Concept** formulated
- TRL **3** – experimental proof of concept
- TRL **4** – technology validated in lab
- TRL **5** – technology validated in **relevant environment**
- TRL **6** – technology demonstrated in **relevant environment**
- TRL **7** – system prototype demonstration in operational environment
- TRL **8** – system **complete and qualified**
- TRL **9** – actual system proven in operational environment (**competitive manufacturing**)

Make or  
break

Likely failure in  
integration

# Technology Readiness Level

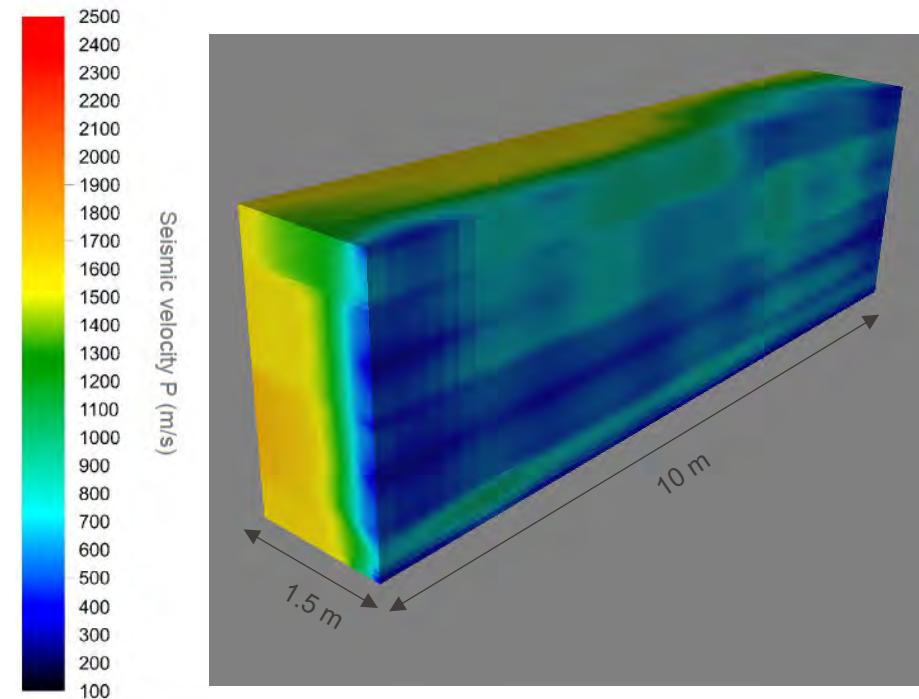
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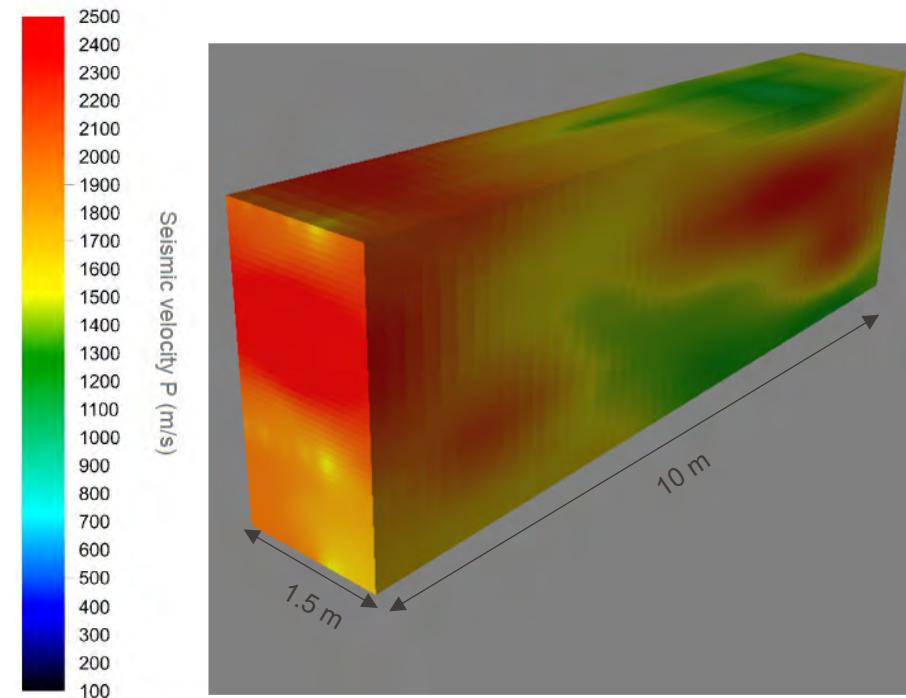
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- TRL 3 – experimental proof of concept
- **TRL 4 – technology validated in lab**
- **TRL 5 – technology validated in relevant environment**
- TRL 6 – technology demonstrated in **relevant environment**
- TRL 7 – system prototype demonstration in operational environment
- **TRL 8 – system complete and qualified**
- TRL 9 – actual system proven in operational environment (**competitive manufacturing**)



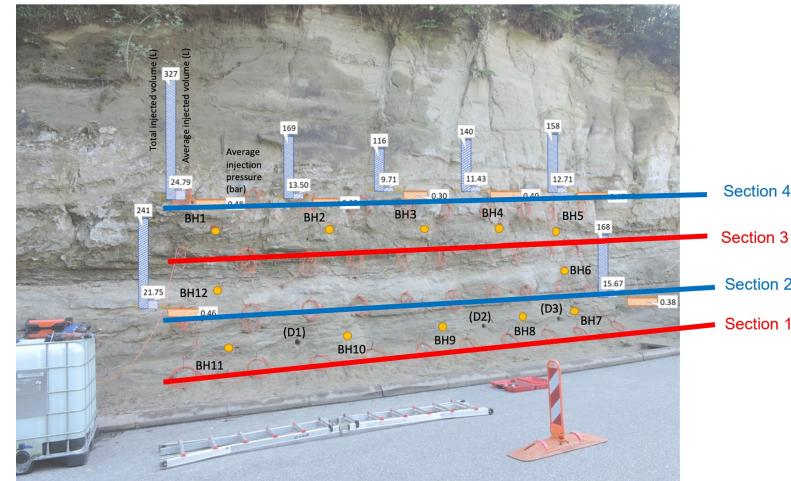
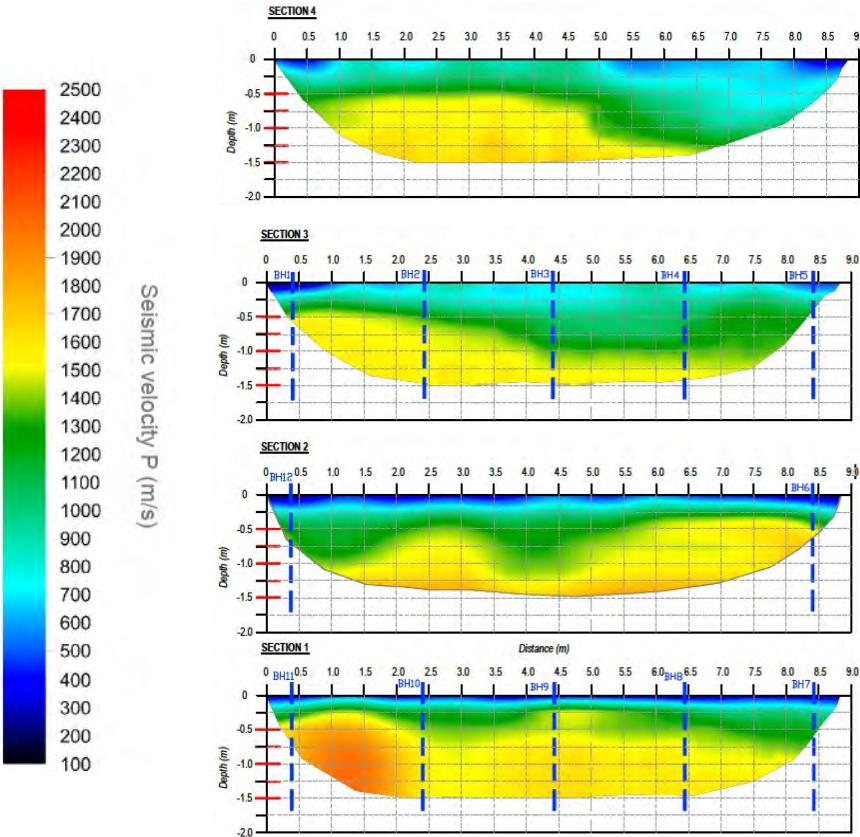
# Sandstone cliff bio-stabilization



# Sandstone cliff bio-stabilization

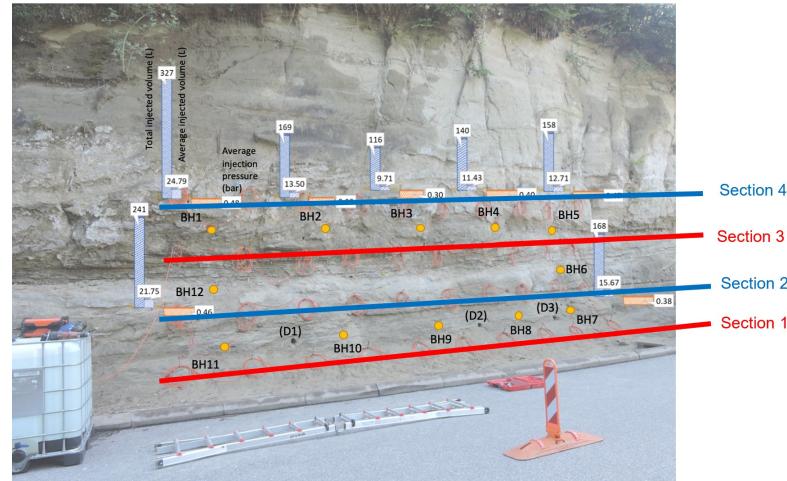
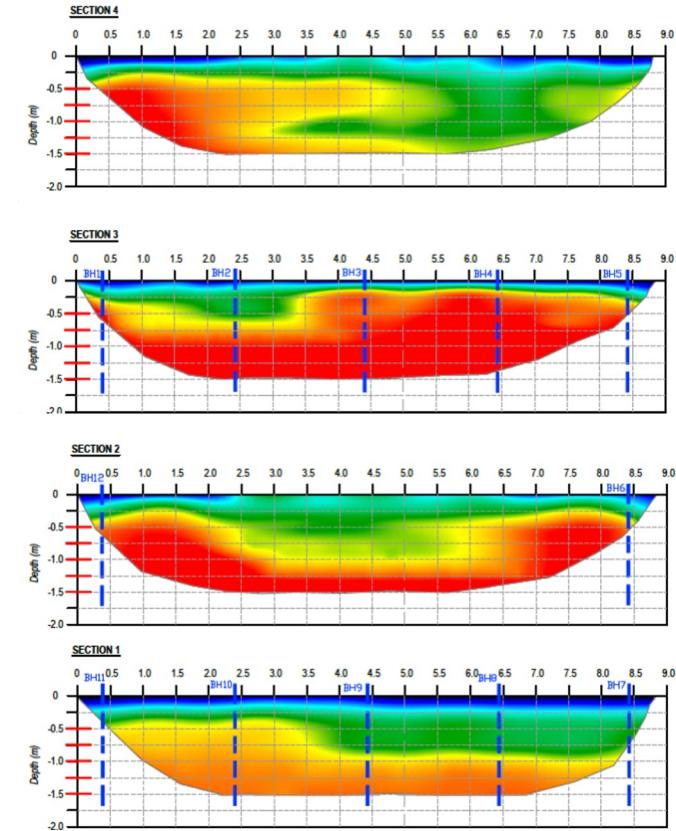


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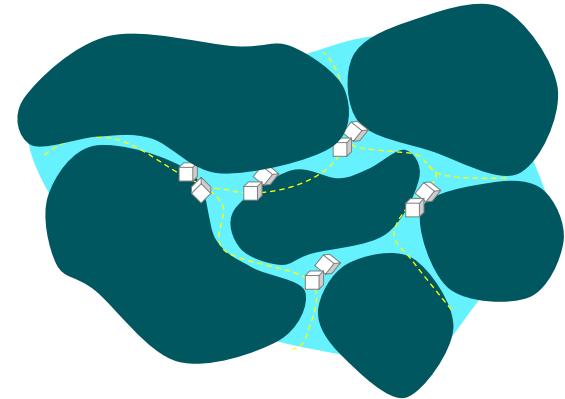
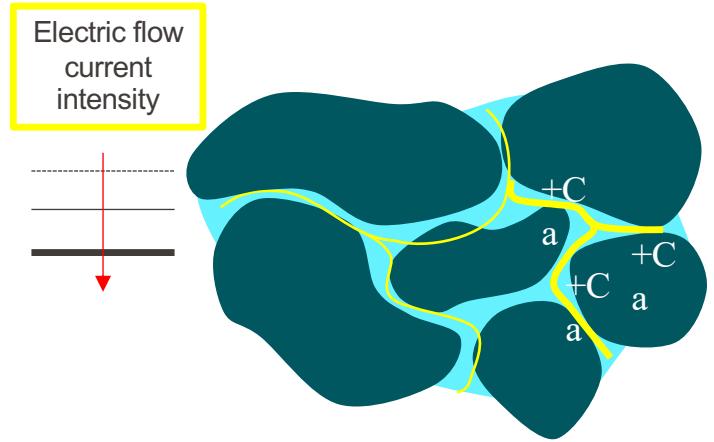
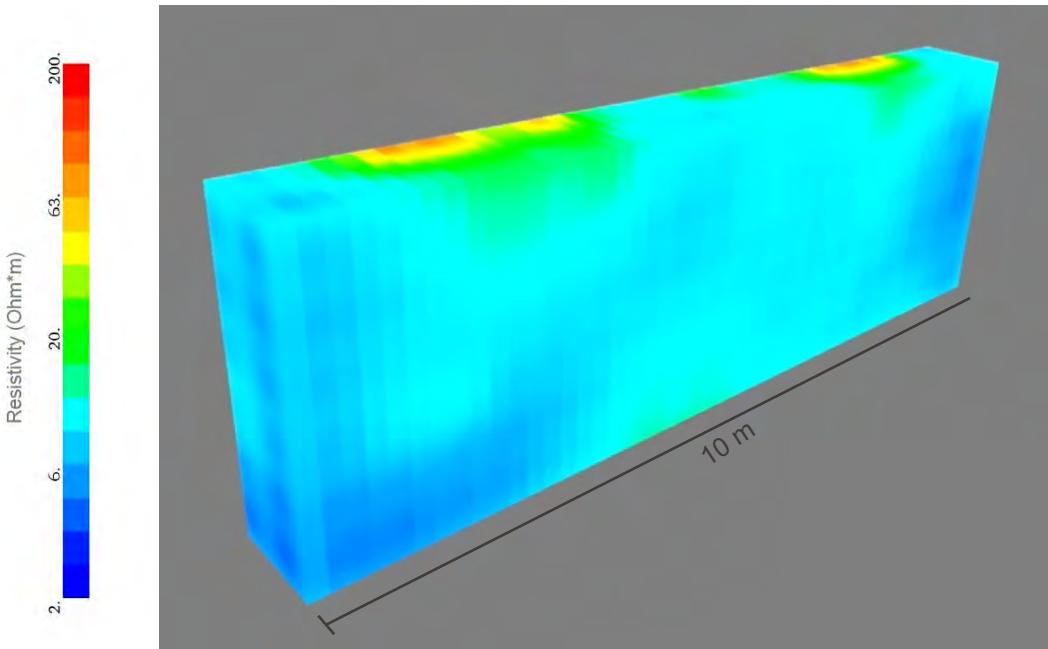
Material	P-wave velocity (m/s)
Air	330
Water	1450
Sands and clays	300-1900
$\text{CaCO}_3$	1700-3000
Strong Limestone	3000-6500

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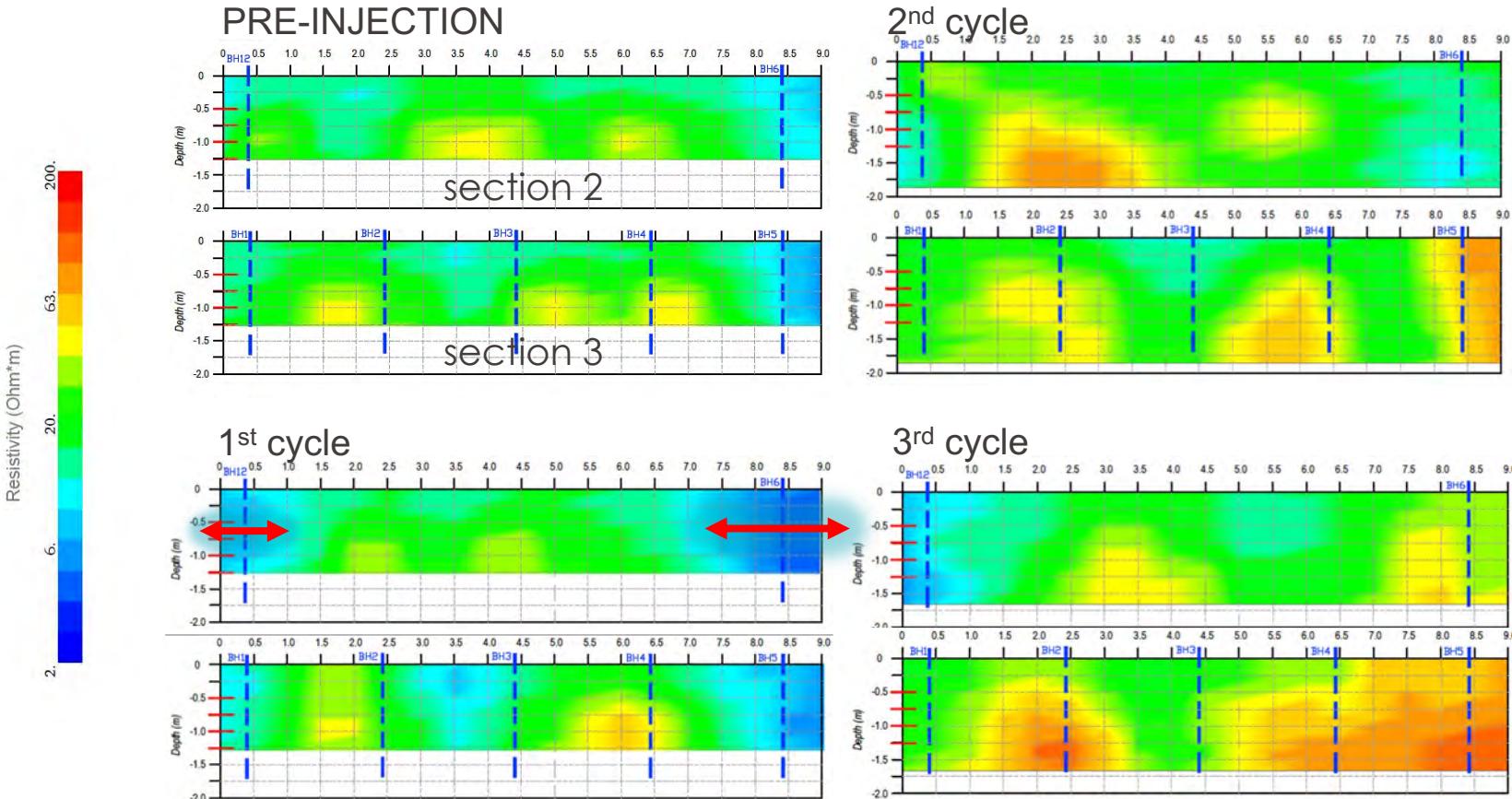


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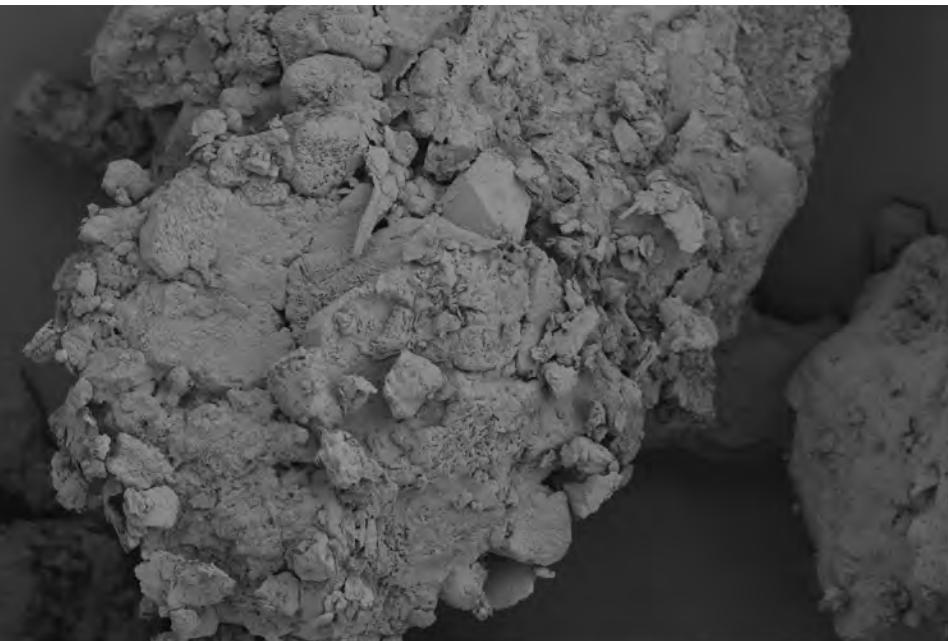
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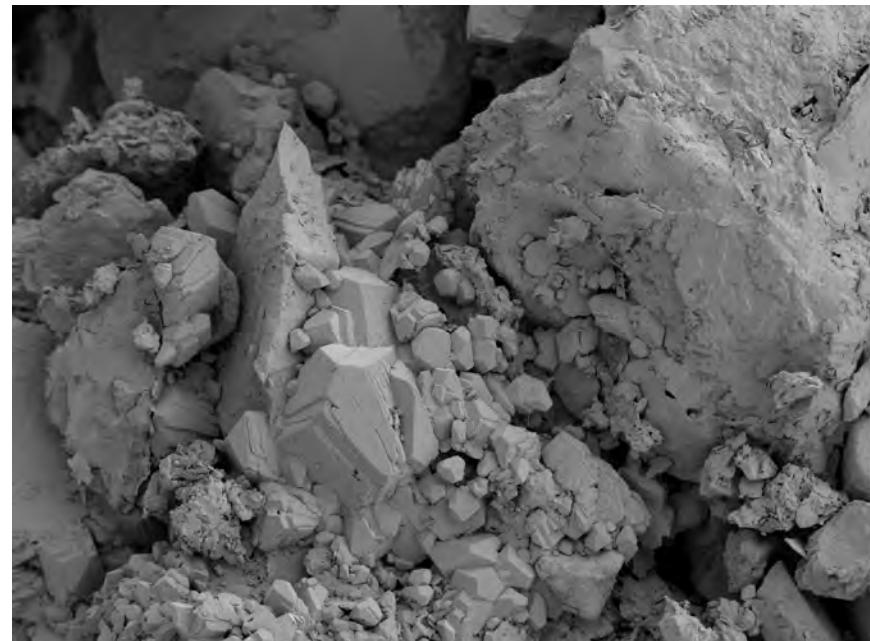
Mag = 500 X  
10  $\mu$ m  
H

EHT = 3.00 kV  
WD = 13.8 mm  
Image Pixel Size = 111.6 nm

Signal A = SE2  
Aperture Size = 30.00  $\mu$ m  
Chamber Status = at HV  
Chamber = 0.00e+00 Pa  
Stage at T = 0.0 °  
Date :30 Jul 2019



PRE-INJECTION



Mag = 500 X  
10  $\mu$ m

EHT = 3.00 kV  
WD = 13.2 mm  
Image Pixel Size = 111.6 nm

Signal A = SE2  
Aperture Size = 30.00  $\mu$ m  
Chamber Status = at HV  
Chamber = 0.00e+00 Pa  
Stage at T = 0.0 °  
Date :30 Jul 2019

POST-INJECTION

Also part of:



**sia**

Schweizerischer Ingenieur- und Architektenverein  
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Swiss society of engineers and architects

■ Dimitrios Terzis



Dr. Dimitrios Terzis



**Innovation for  
construction  
& the  
environment**

26/11/2024