

# Geophysical Characterization

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## Mechanical Waves



## Electromagnetic Waves



## Thermal Phenomena



## Processing

description

estimation

lab & field

examples  
(process monitoring)

concepts  
&  
caveats



## Mechanical Waves

$\rho$   
 $D$   
 $v_p$   
 $v_s$



## Electromagnetic Waves



## Thermal Phenomena



## Processing

# Wave Equation

Equilibrium

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial \sigma_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yx}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{zx}}{\partial z}$$

Constitutive

$$\varepsilon_z = \frac{1}{E} [\sigma_z - v(\sigma_x + \sigma_y)] \quad \gamma_{xy} = \frac{\tau_{xy}}{G}$$

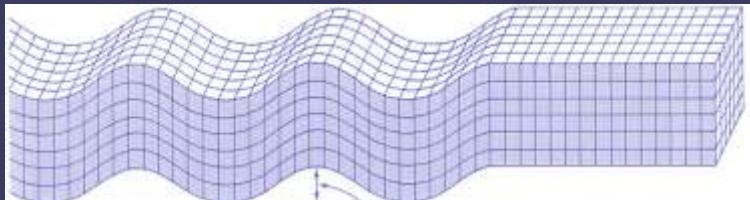
Compatibility

$$\varepsilon_x = \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial x} \quad \gamma_{xy} = \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial x}$$

## Wave Equation

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial t^2} = (M - G) \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_y}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial x \partial z} \right) + G \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

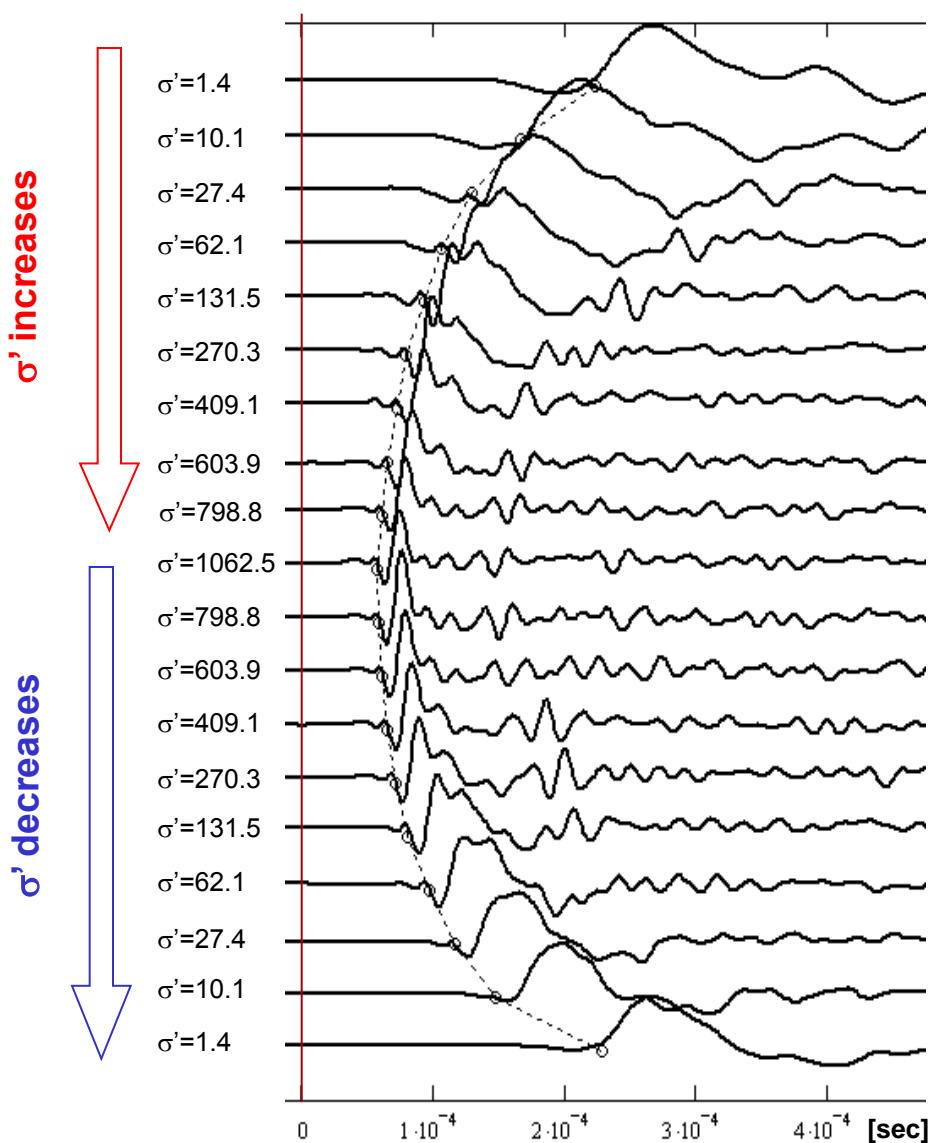
$$V_s = \sqrt{\frac{G}{\rho}}$$



## Mechanical Waves

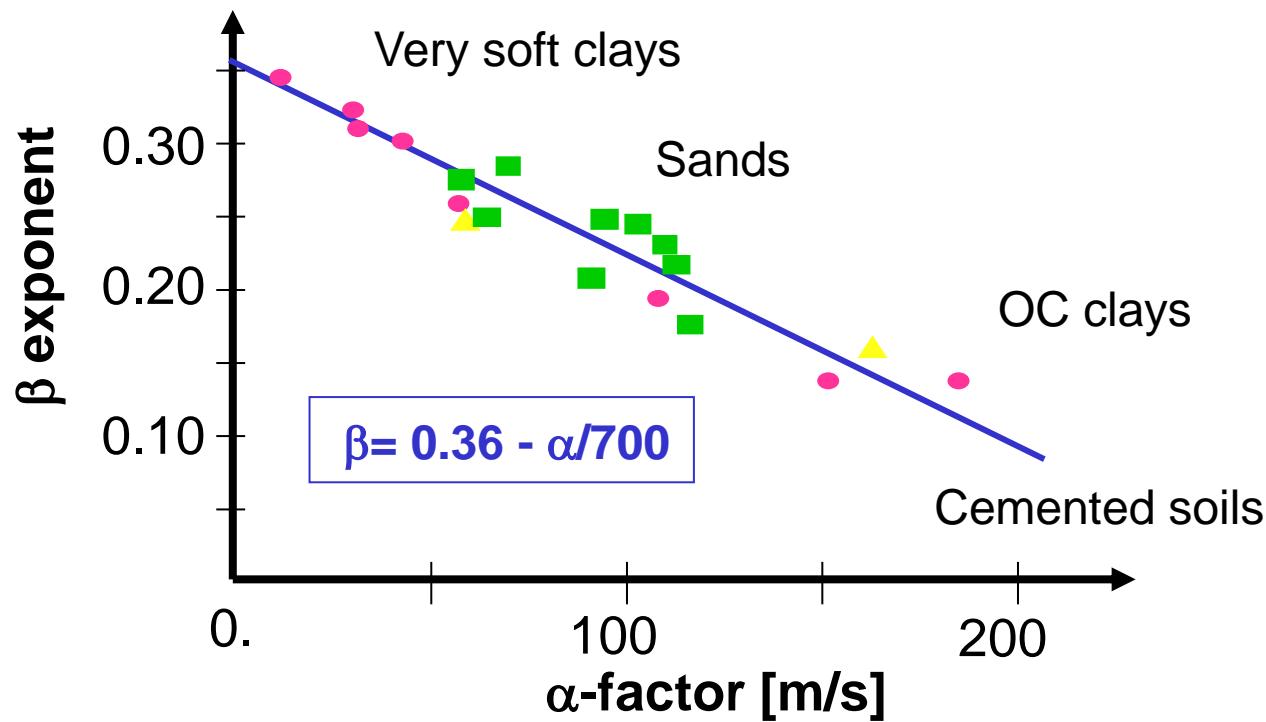
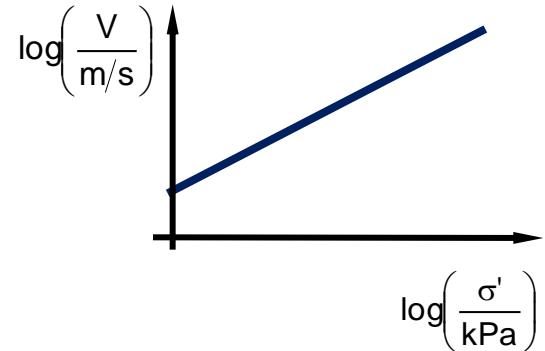
*attenuation*  
→ **S-waves**  
**P-waves**

# 1: Effective Stress

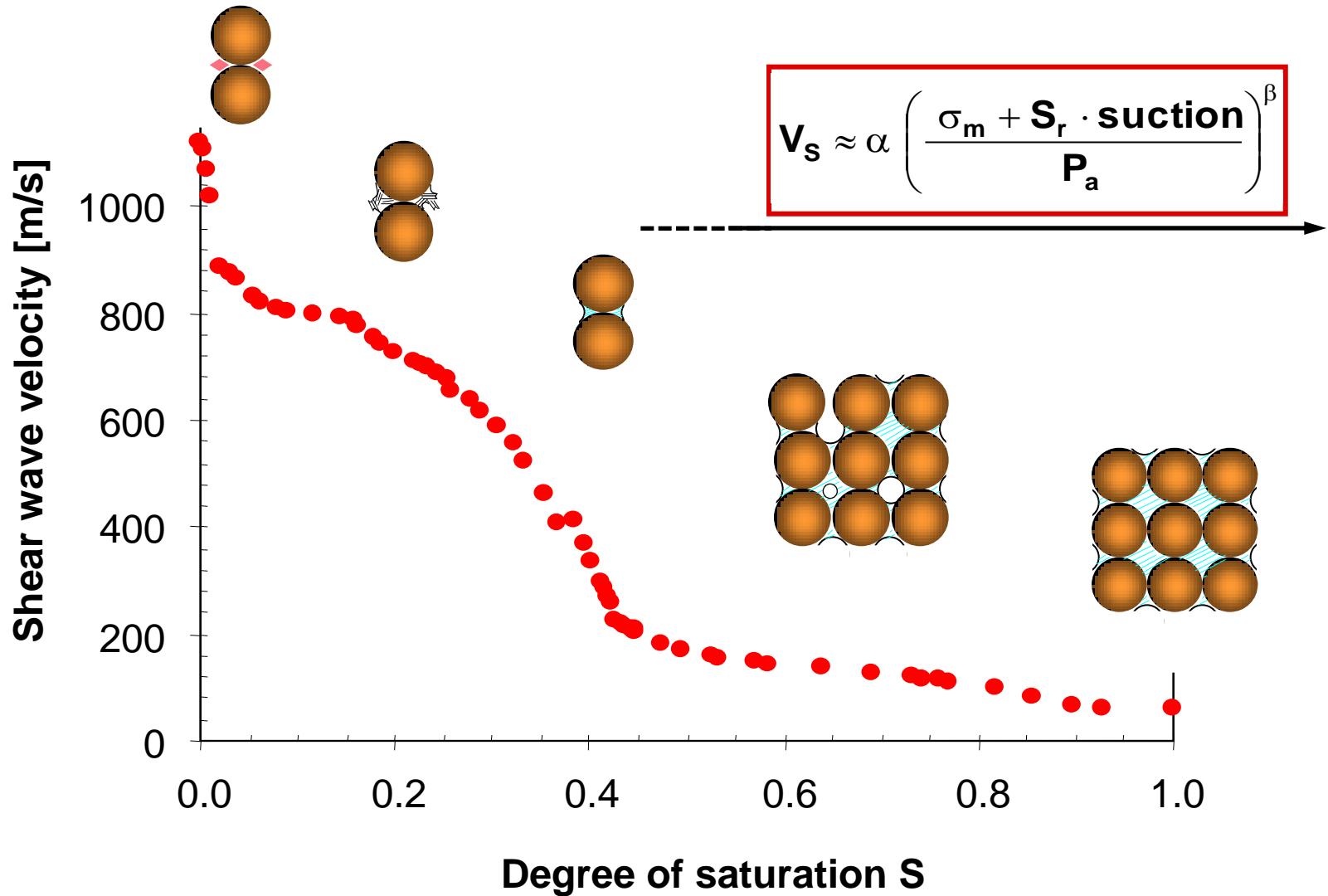


# 1: Effective Stress

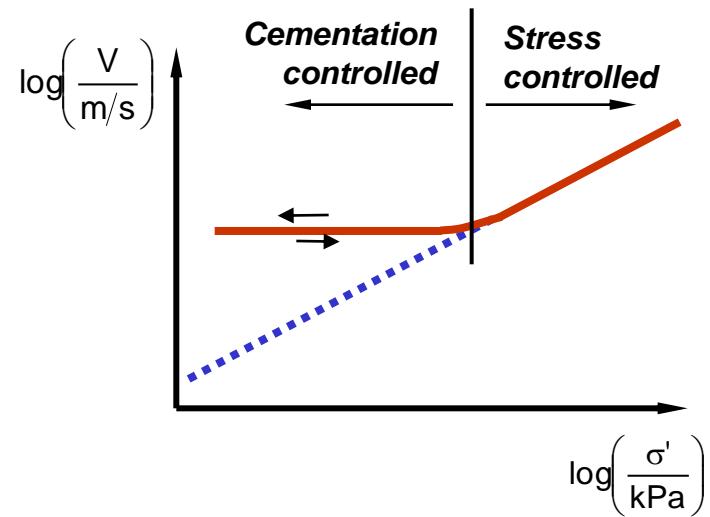
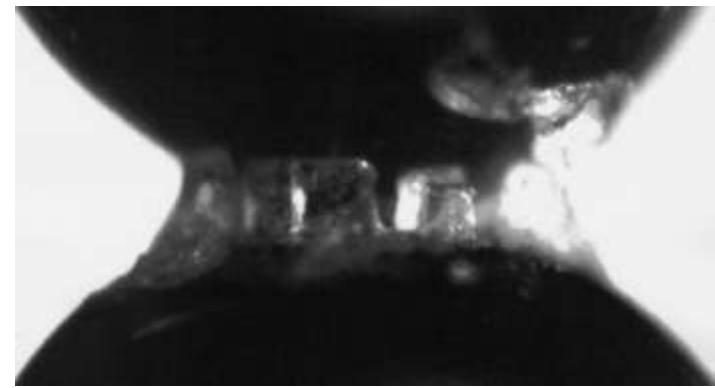
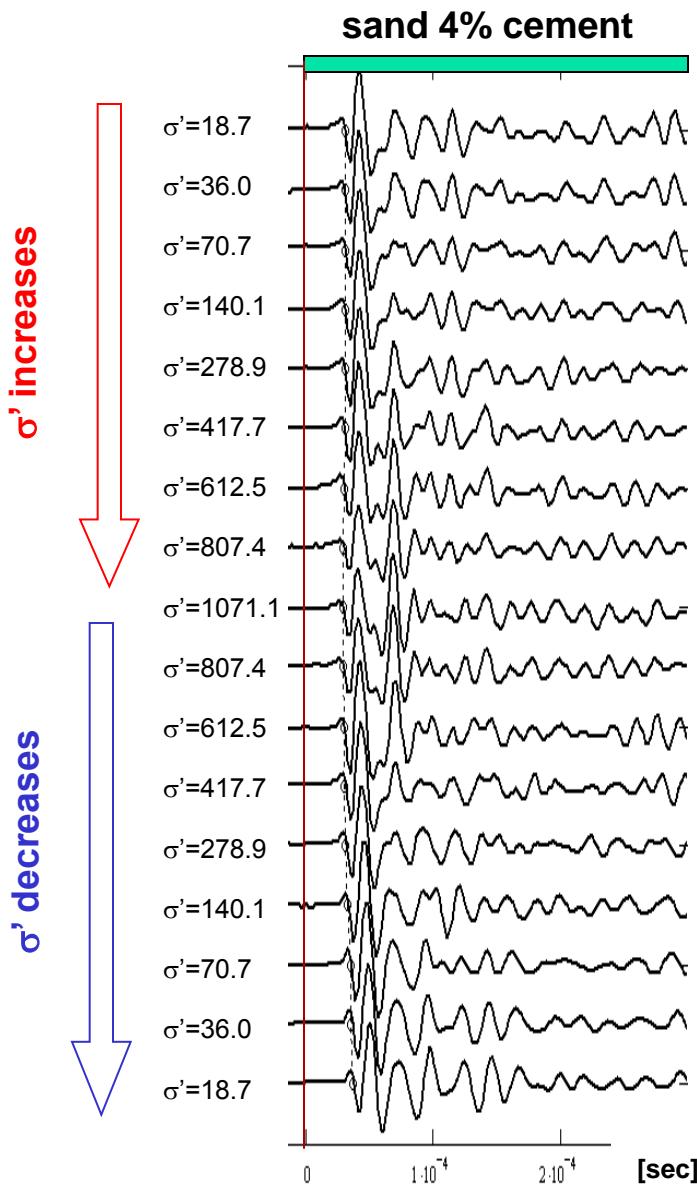
$$V_s = \alpha \left( \frac{\sigma'_x + \sigma'_y}{2 P_a} \right)^\beta$$



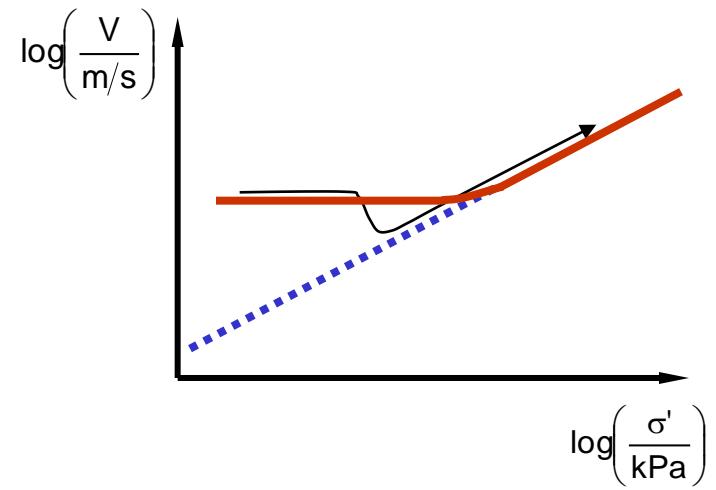
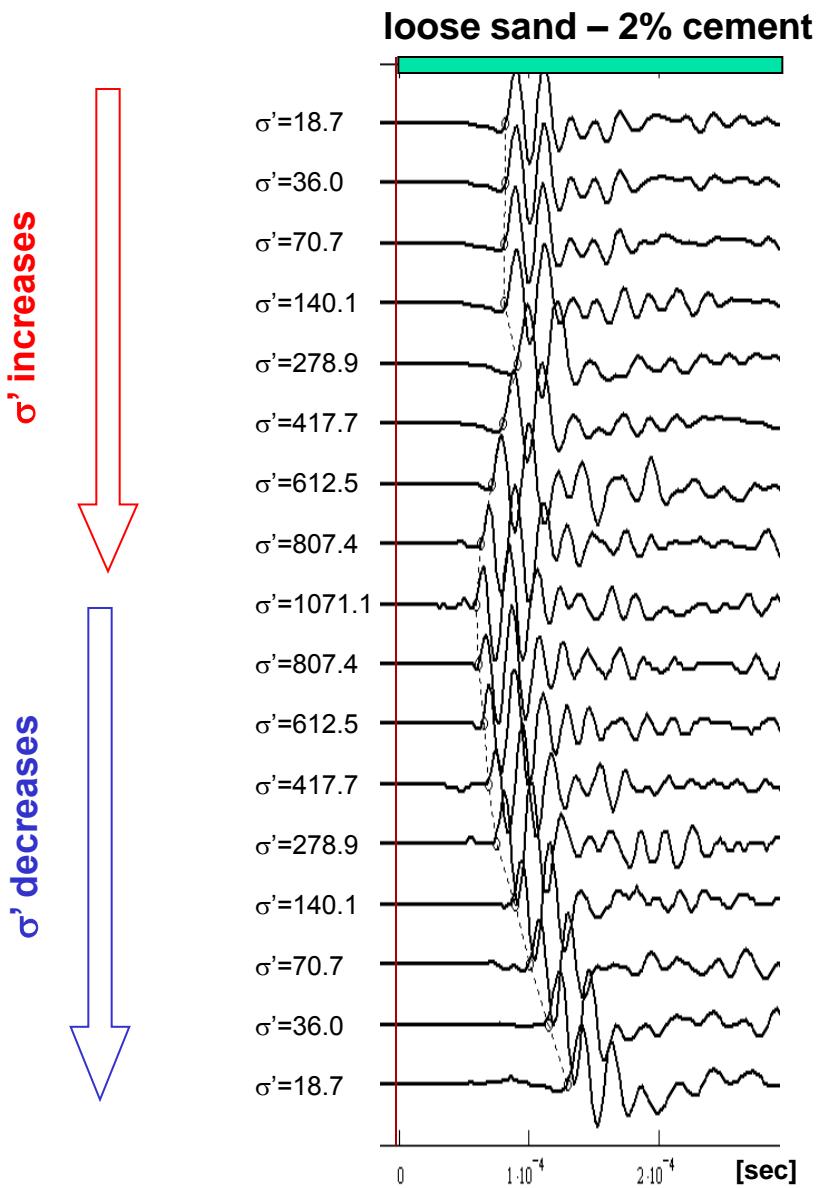
## 2: Suction - Unsaturated Soils



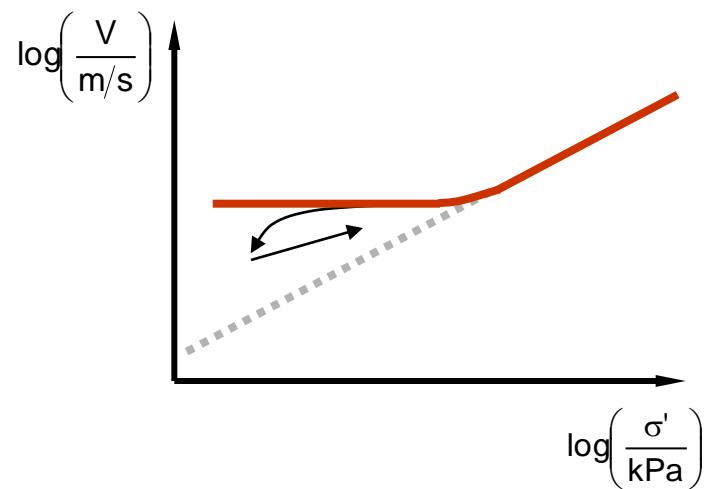
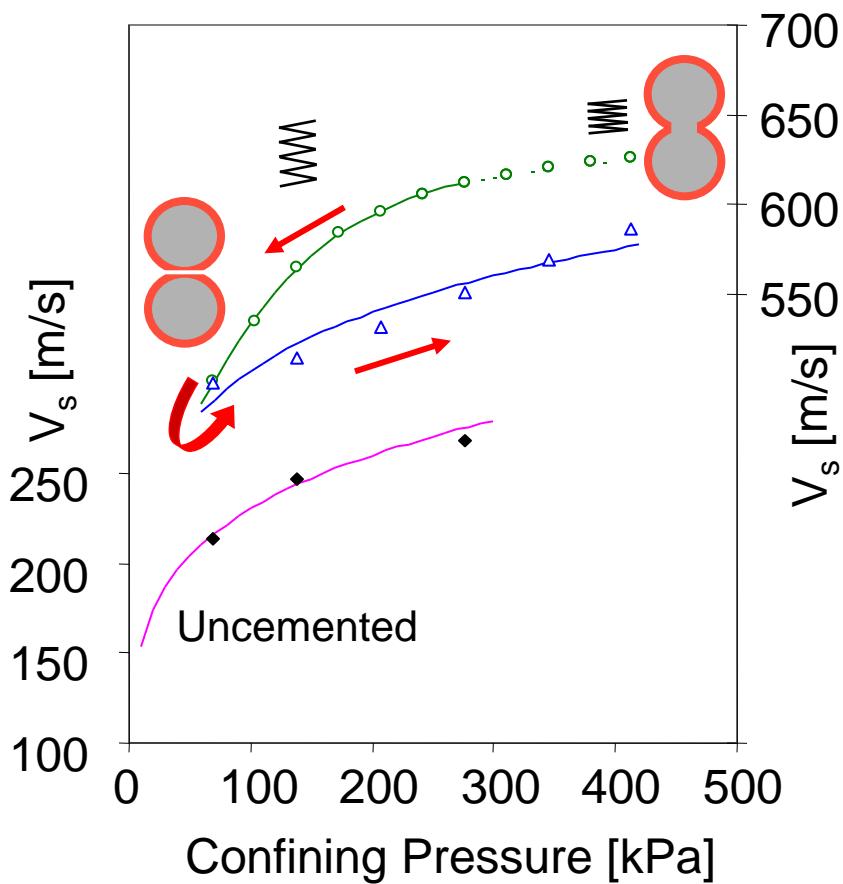
# 3: Cementation



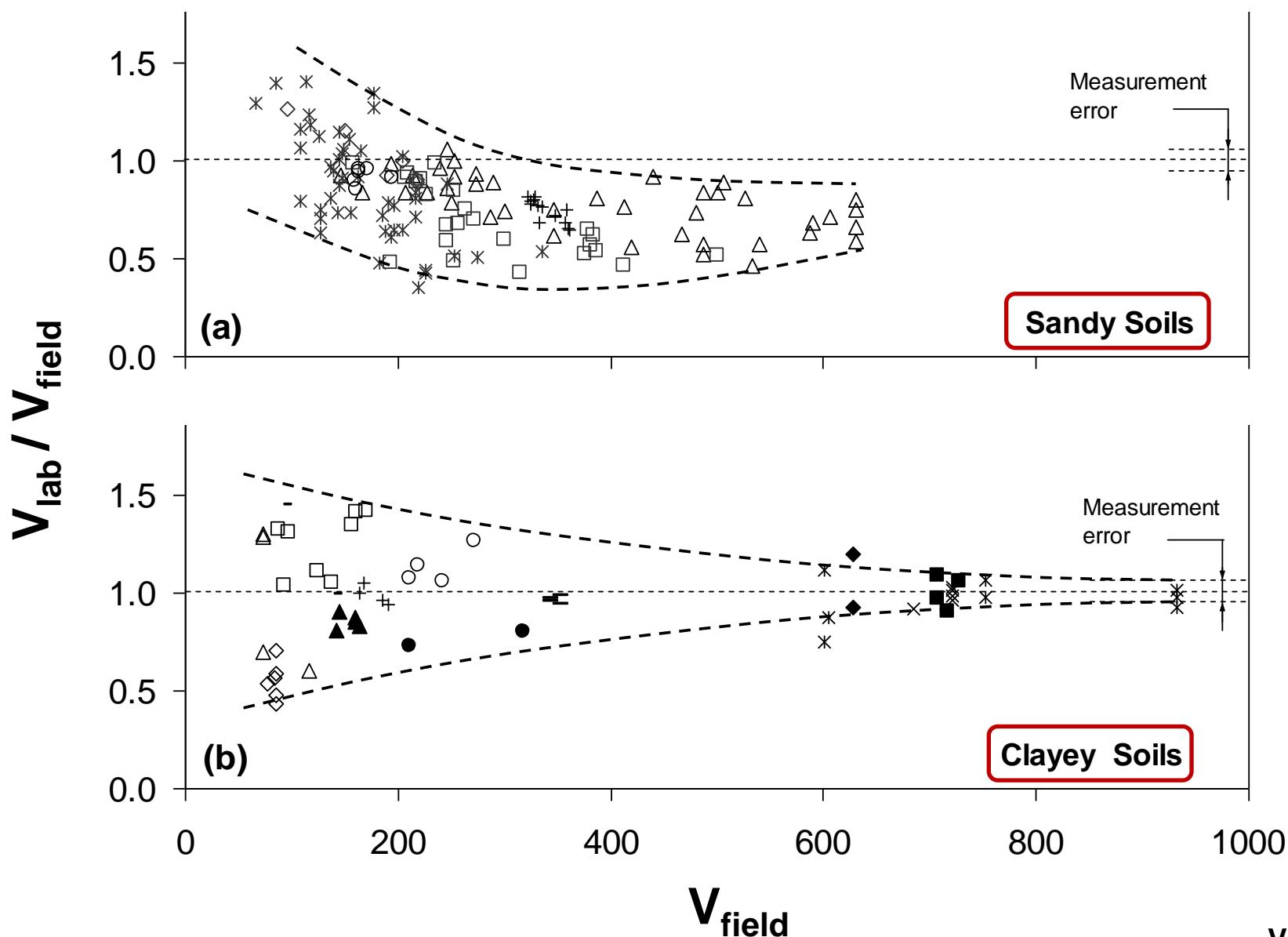
# 3: Cementation - Loading



### 3: Cementation - Unloading



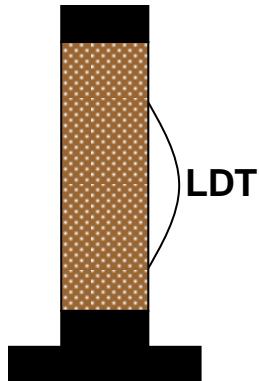
### 3: → Sampling effects



# Laboratory Testing



E or G  
hyteresis



E or G  
D



Wave propagation

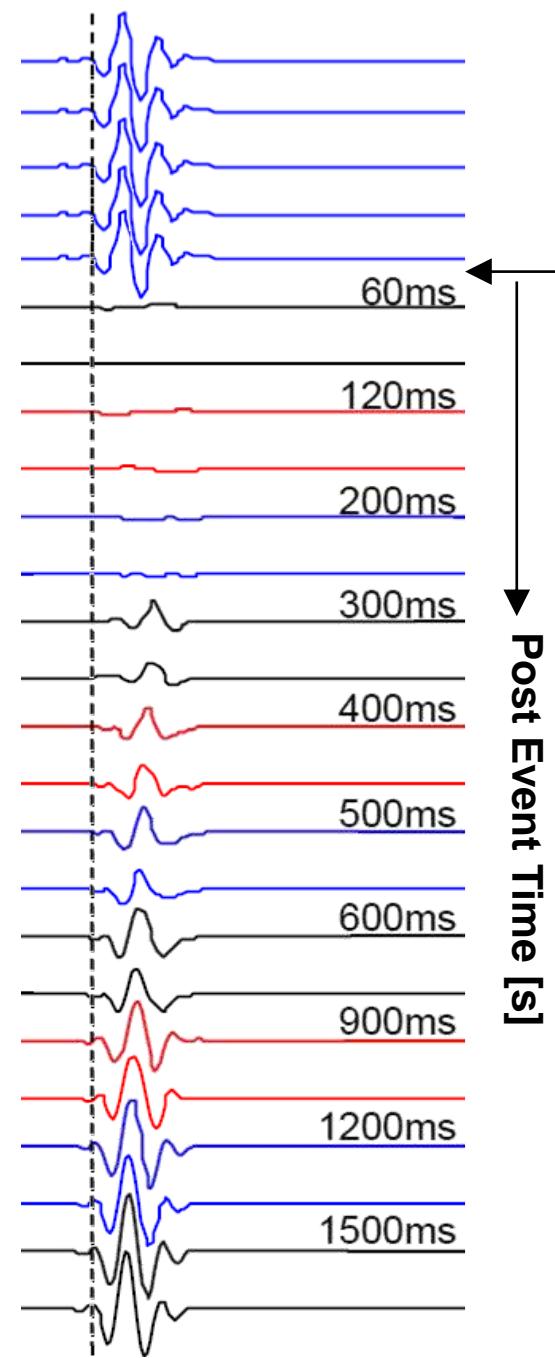
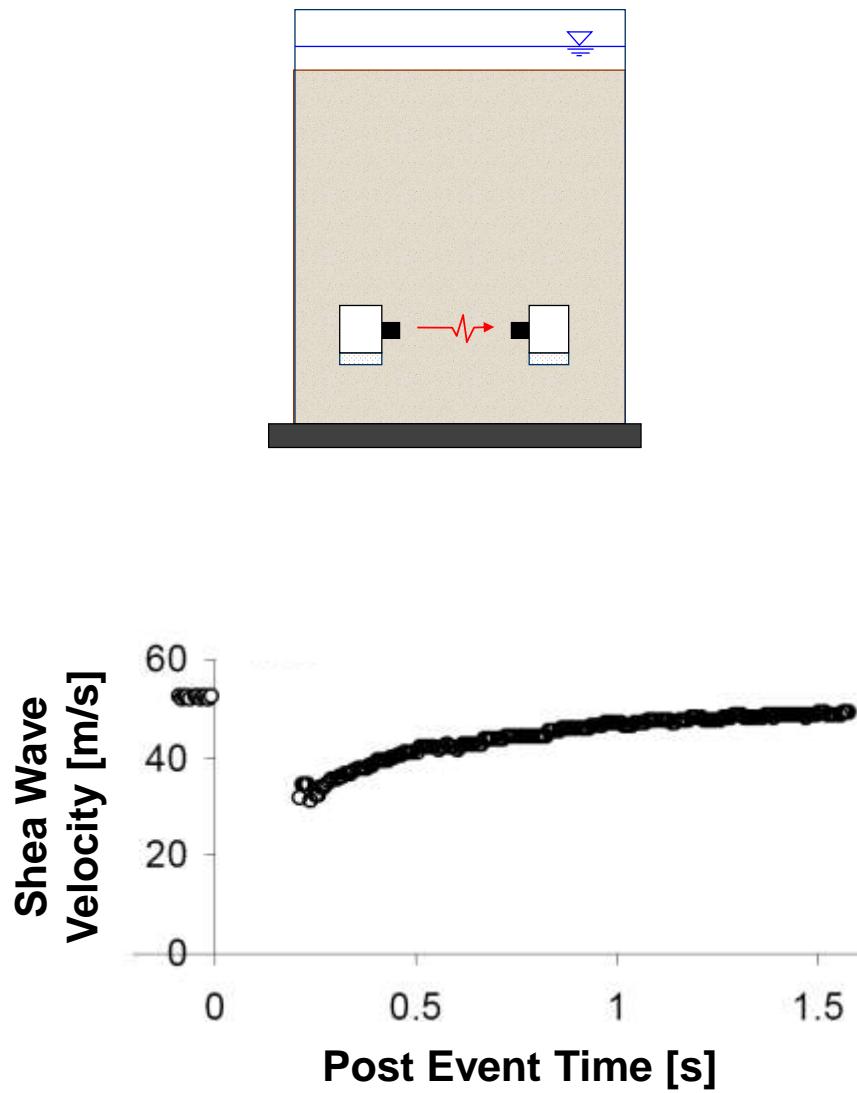
$\lambda \ll \text{cell}$

$f$

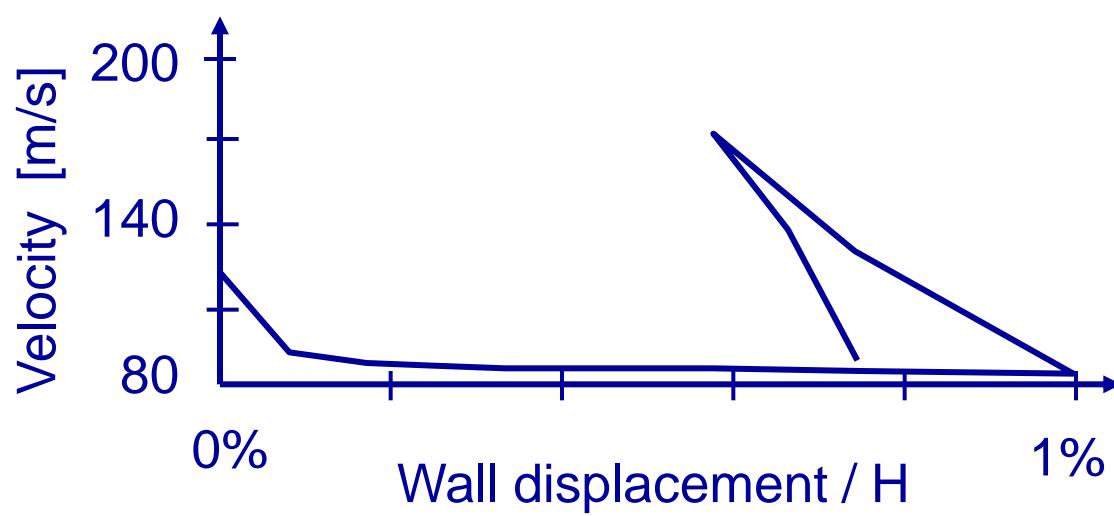
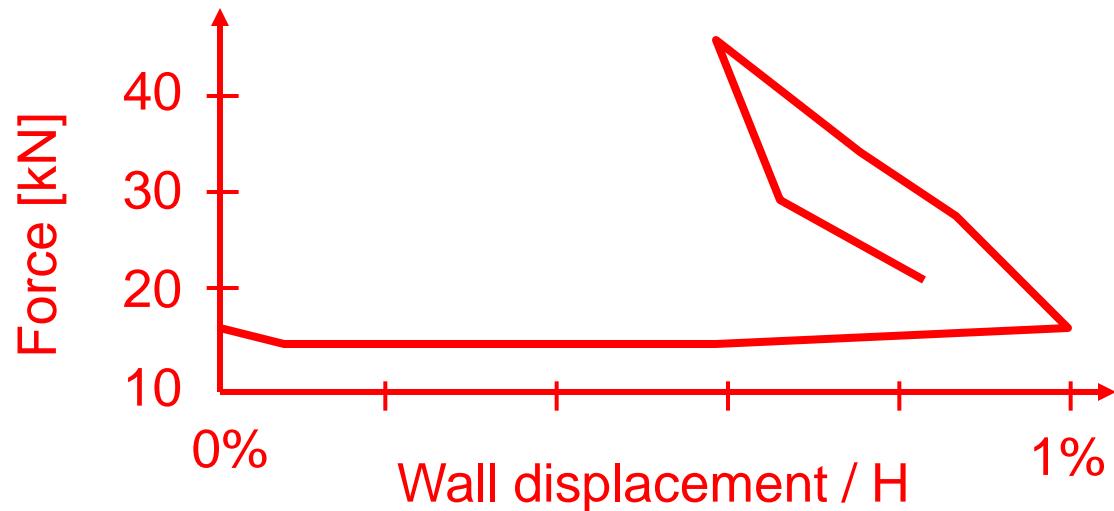
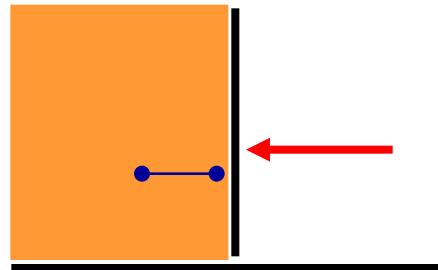
$V_P$  or  $V_S$   
 $\alpha$



# S-monitoring: Liquefaction



# S-monitoring: Excavation & Retaining Walls

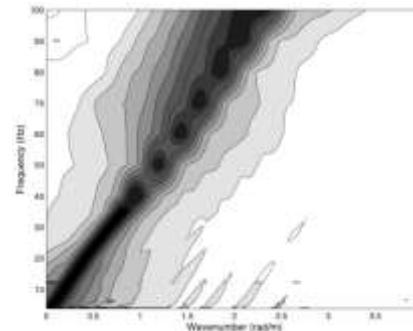


# Field: Surface Waves (*non-invasive*)

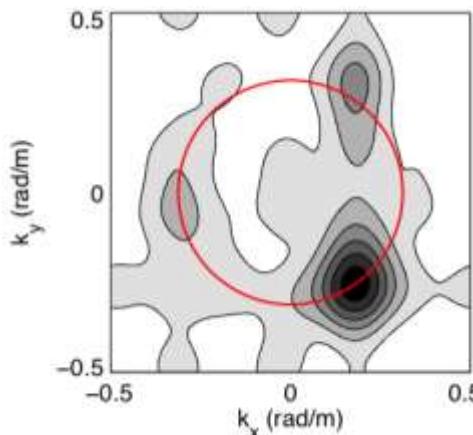
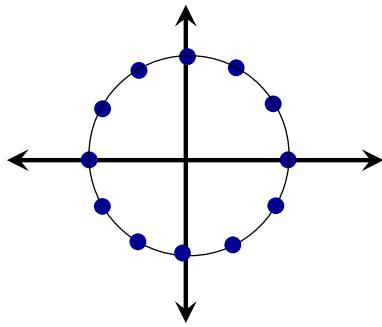


## Sensor Arrays

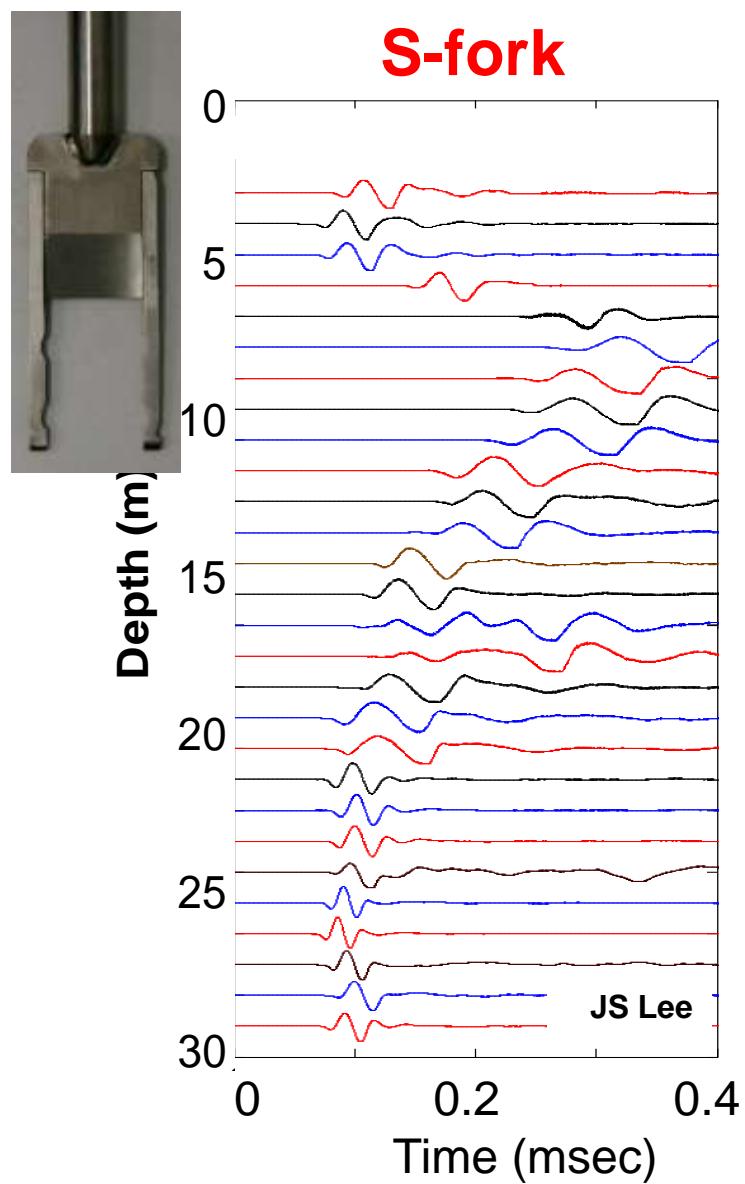
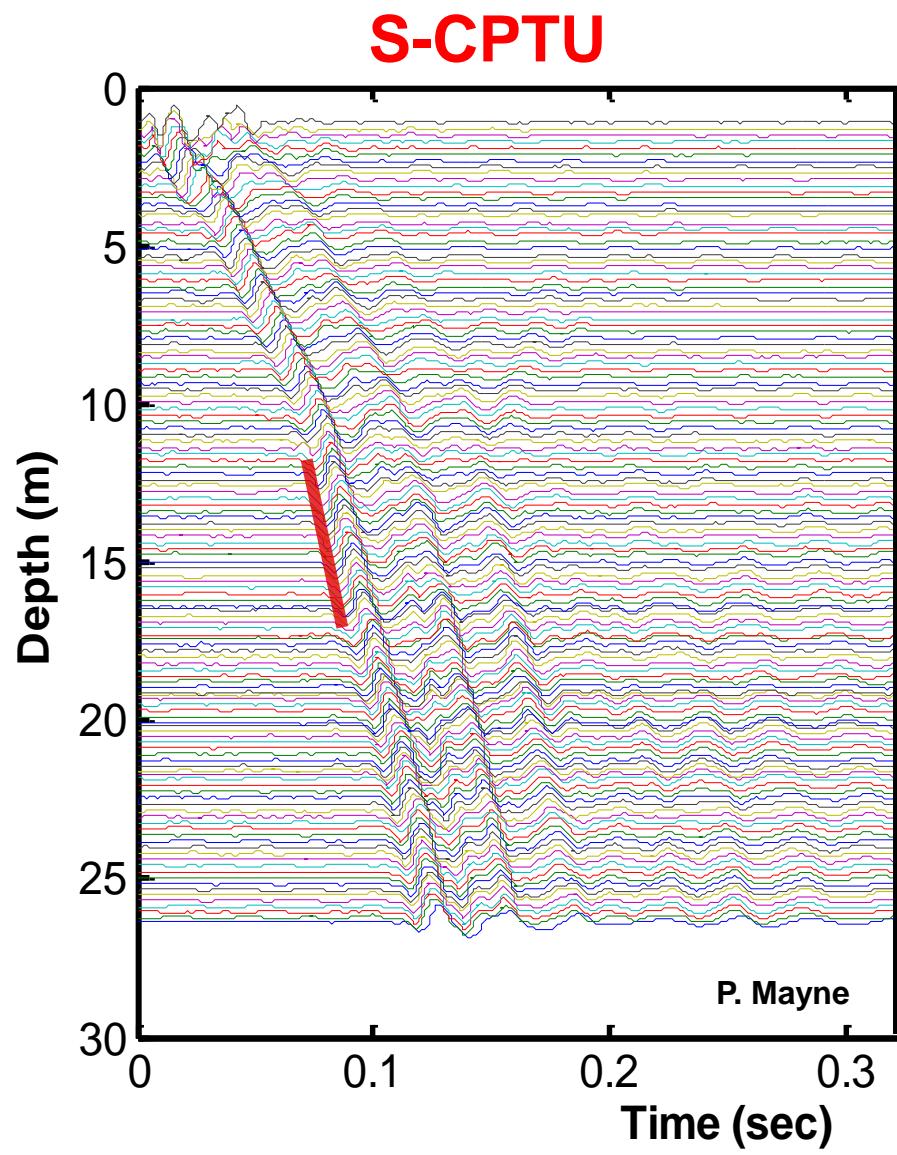
**Active**



**Pasive**



# Field: Penetration-based (*invasive*)



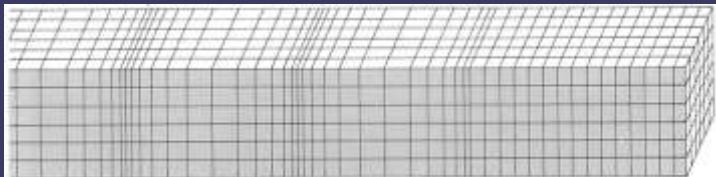
# Mechanical Waves

*attenuation*

**S-waves**

**P-waves**

$$V_p = \sqrt{\frac{M}{\rho}} = \sqrt{\frac{B + \frac{4}{3}G}{\rho}}$$



# Bulk Stiffness

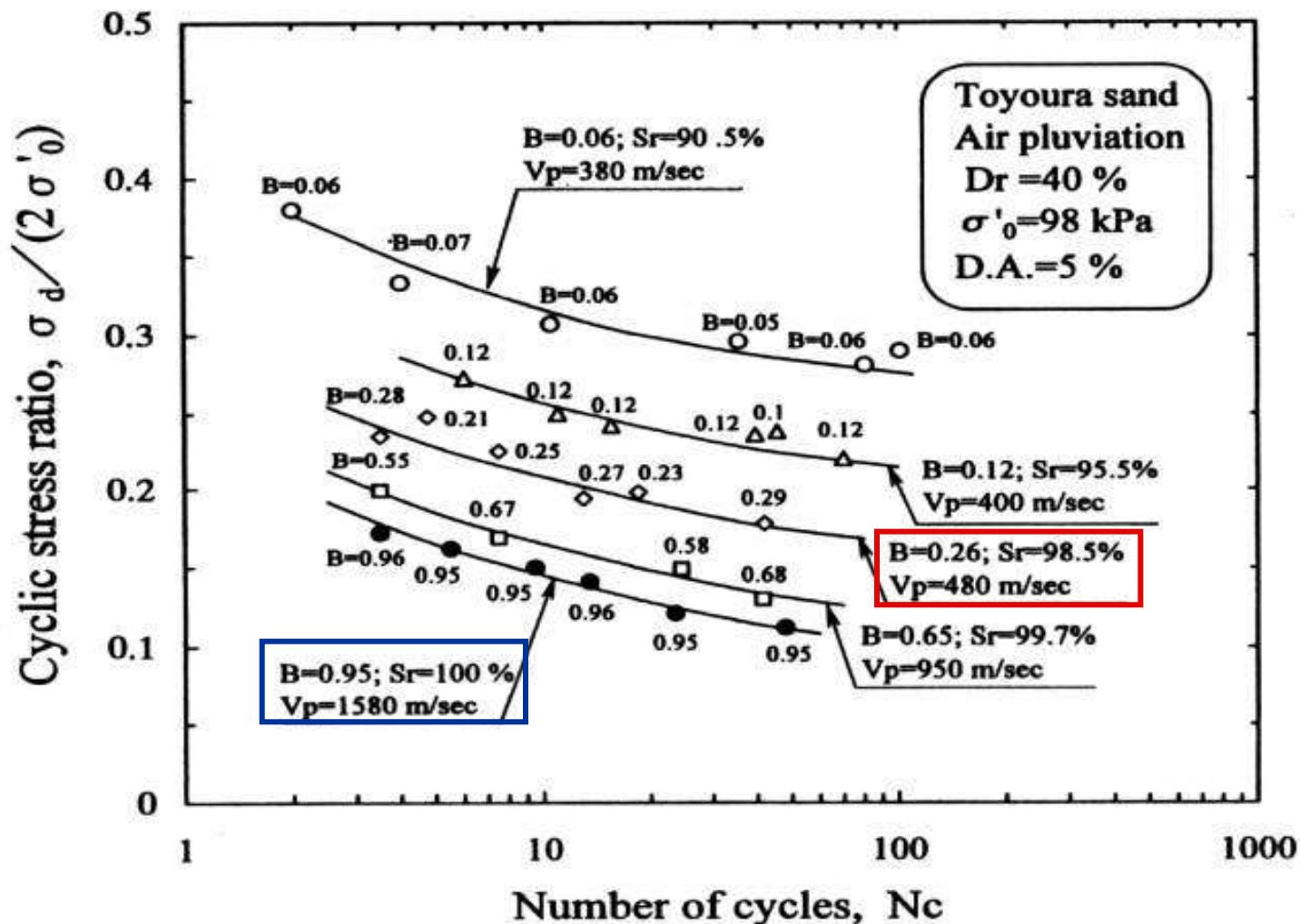
$$V_p = \sqrt{\frac{M}{\rho}} = \sqrt{\frac{B + \frac{4}{3}G}{\rho}}$$

|                                    |  |   |
|------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Fluid Mixture</b>               | $B_{fl} = \left( \frac{S_r}{B_w} + \frac{1-S_r}{B_a} \right)^{-1}$ | $\rho_{fl} = (1-S_r)\rho_a + S_r\rho_w$               |
| <b>Suspension</b>                  | $B_{sus} = \left( \frac{1-n}{B_g} + \frac{n}{B_{fl}} \right)^{-1}$ | $\rho_{sus} = (1-n)\rho_g + n\rho_{fl}$               |
| <b>Soil<br/>(fluid + skeleton)</b> | $B_{soil} = B_{sus} + B_{sk}$                                      | $\rho_{soil} = \rho_{sus} = (1-n)\rho_g + n\rho_{fl}$ |

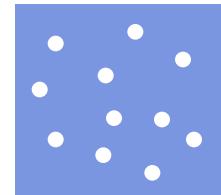
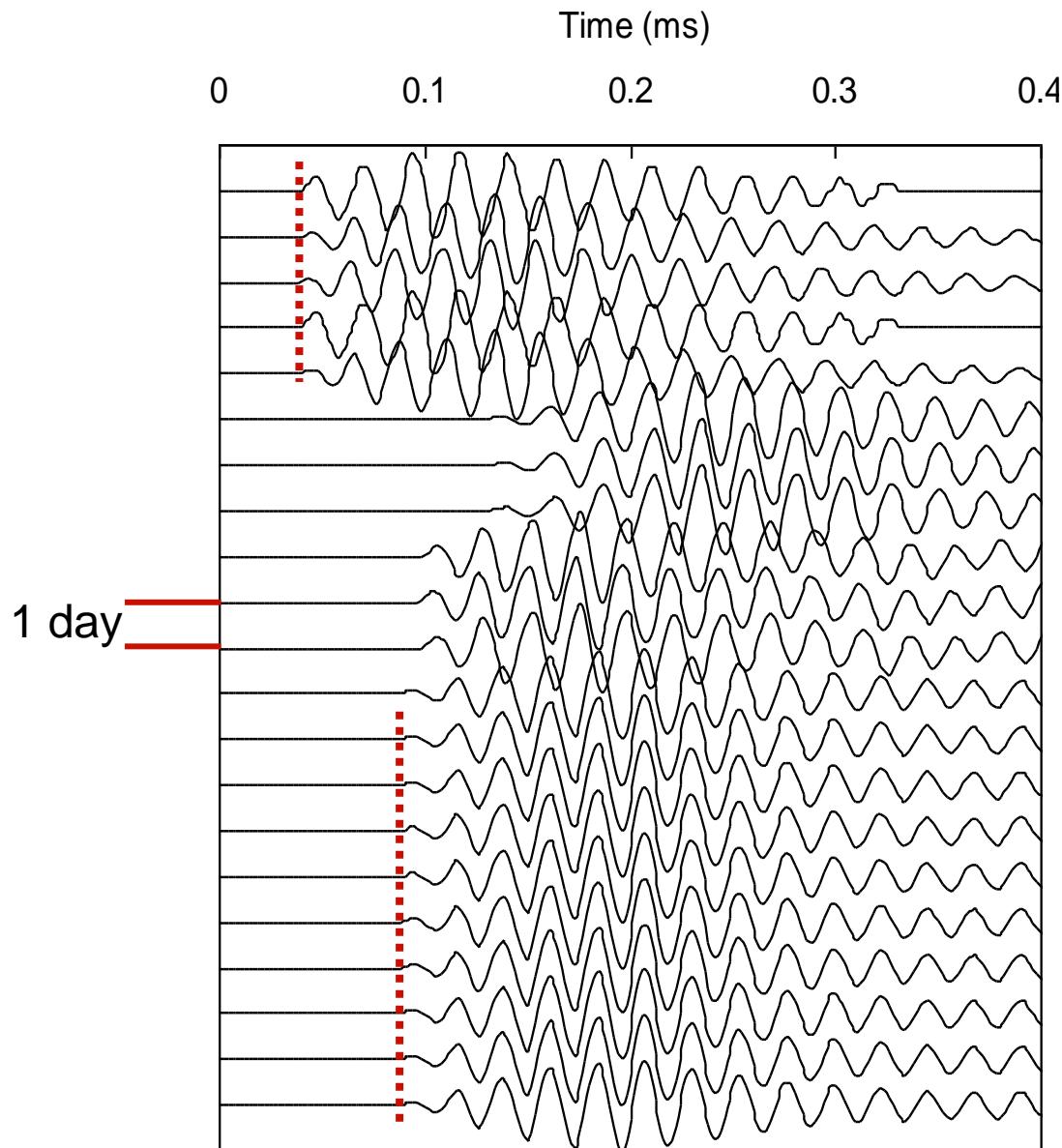
from  $G = V_s^2 \rho$

# Saturation

$$V_p = \sqrt{\frac{\left( B_{sk} + \frac{4}{3} G_{sk} \right) + \left[ n \left( \frac{S}{B_w} + \frac{1-S}{B_a} \right) + \frac{1-n}{B_g} \right]^{-1}}{(1-n)\rho_g + nS\rho_w}}$$



# P-monitoring: Bio-gas



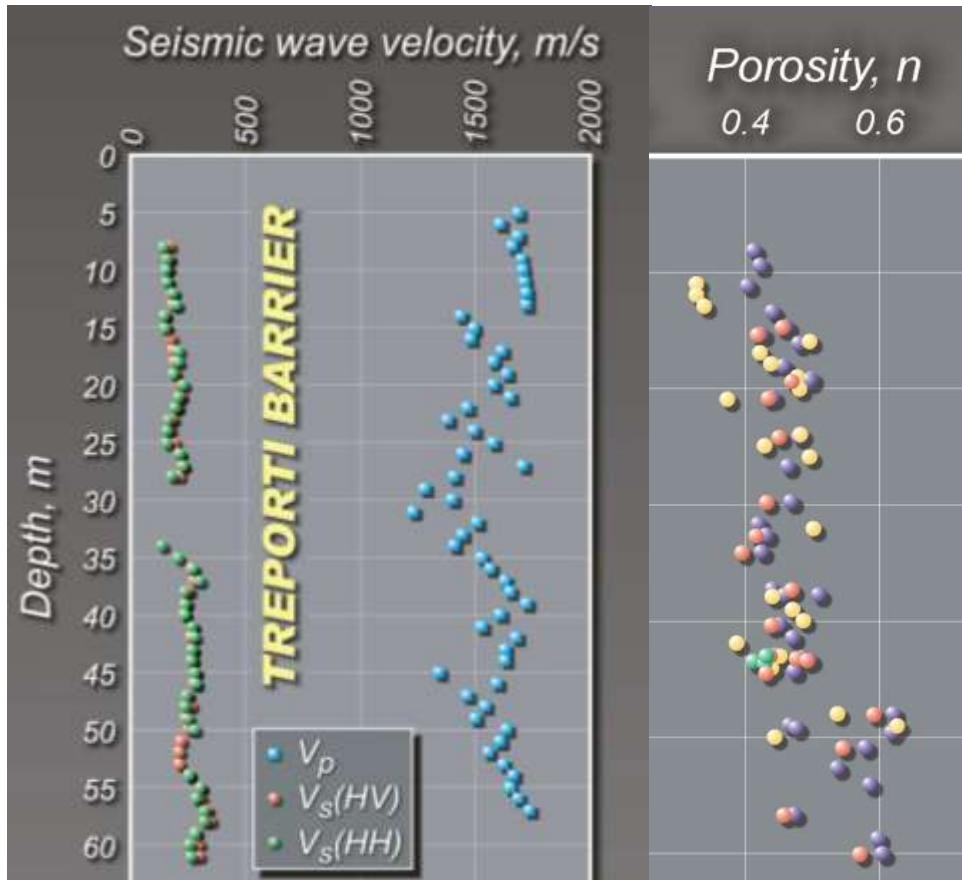
*Paracoccus denitrificans*  
Nitrate broth  
F110 + 3%Kaolin

# $V_P$ and $V_S$

## Poisson's ratio (~dry)

$$\nu = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{V_P}{V_S} \right)^2 - 1}{\left( \frac{V_P}{V_S} \right)^2 - 1}$$

## Porosity ( $S=100\%$ )

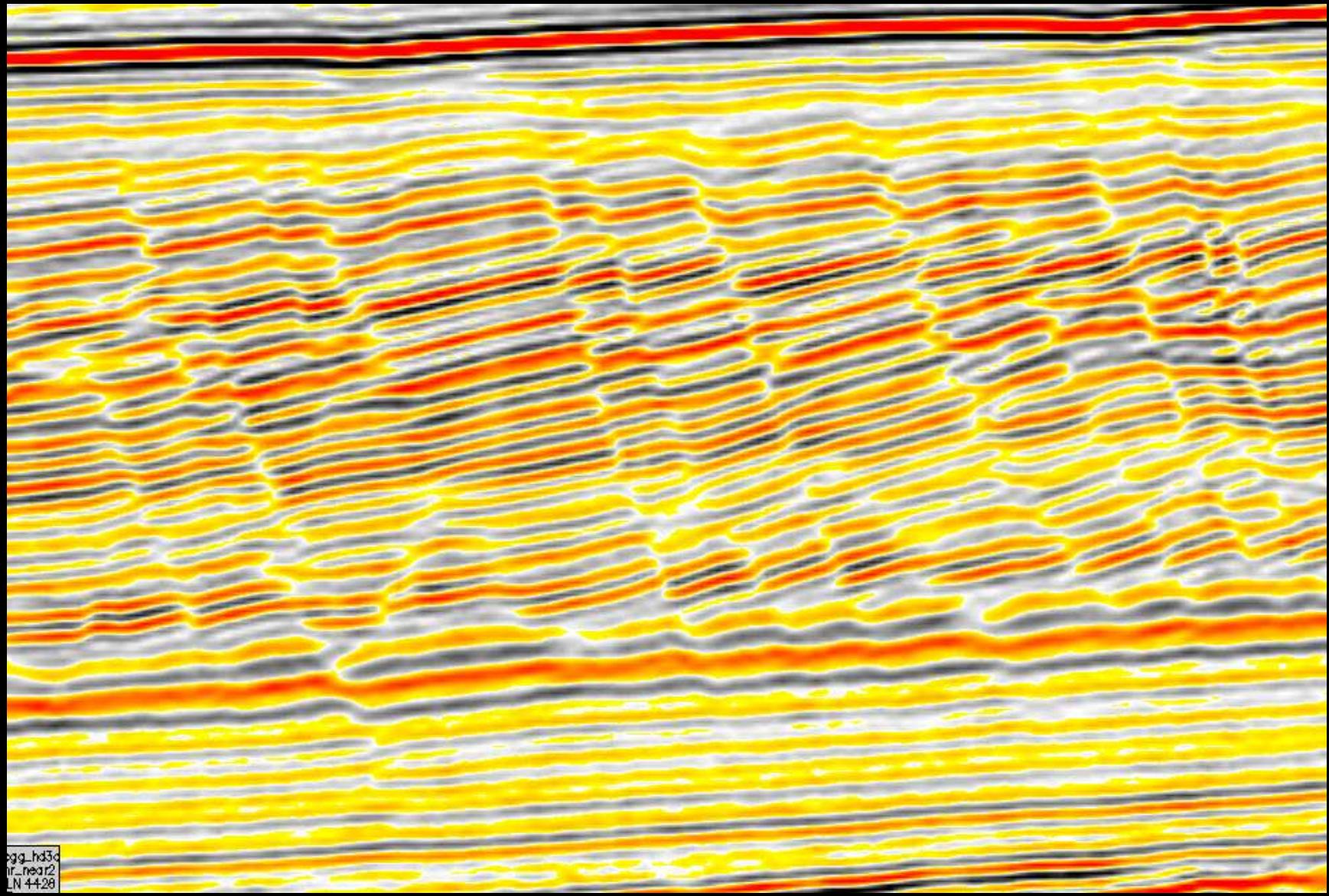


$$n = \frac{\rho_g - \sqrt{\rho_g^2 - \frac{4(\rho_g - \rho_{fl})B_{fl}}{V_P^2 - 2\left(\frac{1-\nu_{sk}}{1-2\nu_{sk}}\right)V_S^2}}}{2(\rho_g - \rho_{fl})}$$

see Foti & Lancelotta

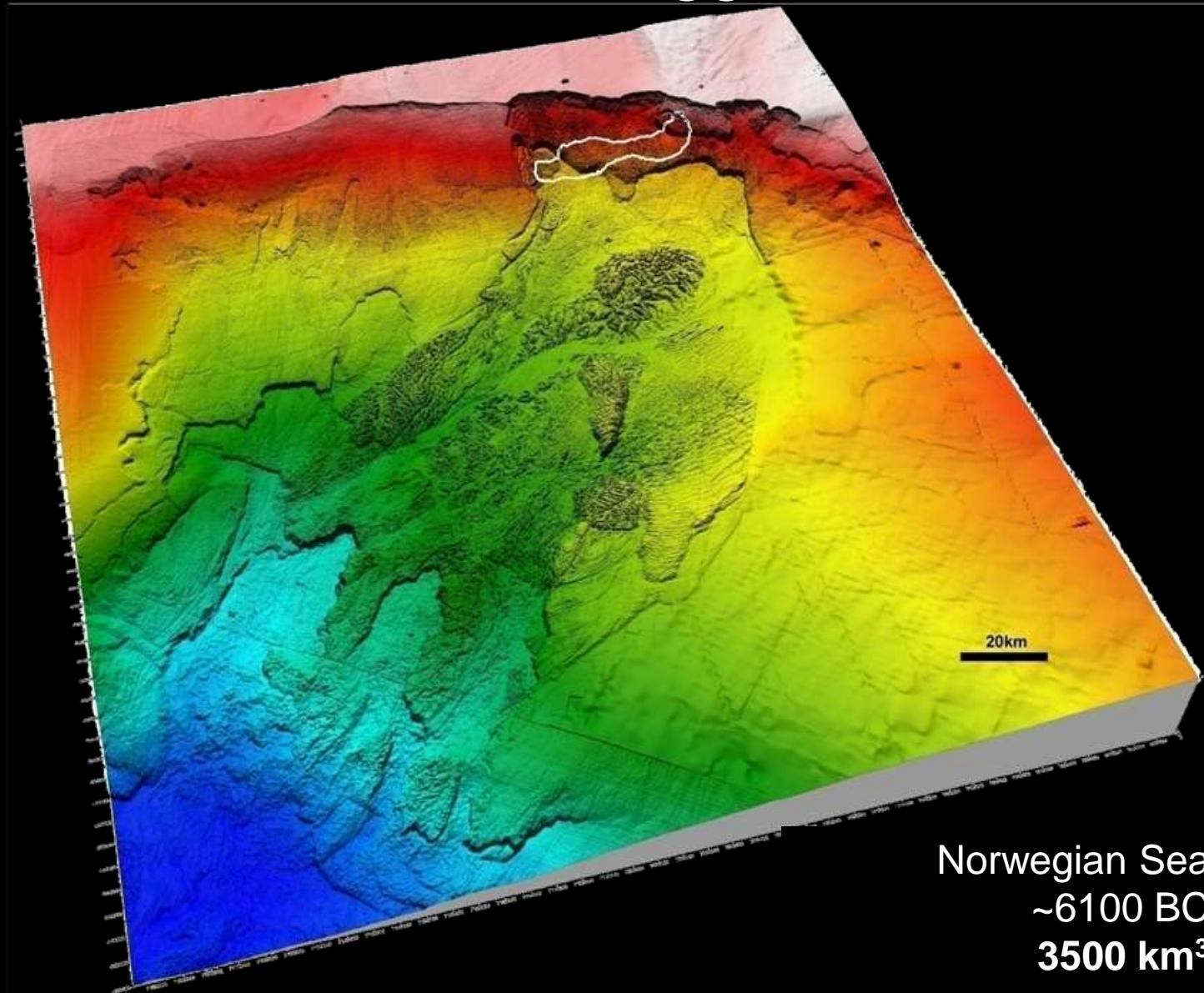
Venice (M. Jamiolkowski)

# New Phenomena: Polygonal Faults



500m

# Massive Landslide - Storegga



# Summary: P- and S-waves

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Waves           | <b>Small-strain phenomena</b><br><b>May be used to monitor large-strain processes</b>  |
| $V_s$           | <b>Skeletal stiffness: G → Geo-mechanical design</b><br><b>Effective stress, suction, cementation</b><br><b>Sampling: pronounced effect → measure in situ !</b><br><b>Simple lab &amp; field devices and methods</b> |
| $V_p$           | <b>Fluid &amp; skeletal stiffness: B &amp; G</b><br><b>Proximity to full saturation</b>  |
| $V_p$ & $V_s$ : | <b>Dry → skeletal Poisson's ratio</b><br><b>Saturated → porosity</b><br><b>Spatial variability</b>   |



## Mechanical Waves



## Electromagnetic Waves



## Thermal Phenomena



## Processing

$\mu$   
 $\epsilon$   
 $\sigma_{el}$

# Maxwell's Equations

and God said:

|                       |  |  |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| <b>Gauss - E</b>      | $\frac{q}{\epsilon_0} = \oint_S \bar{E} \cdot d\bar{s}$                                  | $\nabla \cdot \bar{E} = \frac{\rho_v}{\epsilon_0}$   |
| <b>Gauss - B</b>      | $\oint_S \bar{B} \cdot d\bar{s} = 0$   | $\nabla \cdot \bar{B} = 0$   |
| <b>Faraday</b>        | $\oint_{\ell} \bar{E} \cdot d\bar{\ell} = - \frac{d\phi_B}{dt}$                          | $\nabla \times \bar{E} = - \frac{dB}{dt}$  |
| <b>Ampere-Maxwell</b> | $\oint_{\ell} \bar{B} \cdot d\bar{\ell} = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{d\phi_E}{dt} + \mu_0 i$ | $\nabla \times \bar{H} = \mu_0 \left( \epsilon_0 \frac{d\bar{E}}{dt} + \sigma \bar{E} \right)$ |

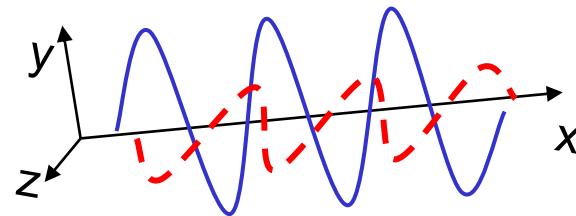
and there was light...

Wave equation

$$\nabla^2 \bar{E} = \mu \sigma \frac{\partial \bar{E}}{\partial t} + \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \bar{E}}{\partial t^2}$$

# Maxwell's Equations – Wave Propagation

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} = \mu\sigma \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} + \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2}$$



**Conductivity**

$$\sigma_{\text{el}}$$

*all forms of losses*

**Permittivity**

$$\kappa = \epsilon/\epsilon_0$$

**Permeability**

$$\mu$$

*non-ferromagnetic  $\mu=1$*

# Electromagnetic Wave Propagation

**Velocity**

$$V_{ph} = \frac{\omega}{\text{Im}\left(\sqrt{j\omega\sigma\mu^* - \omega^2\varepsilon^*\mu^*}\right)}$$

**Skin Depth**

$$S_d = \frac{1}{\text{Re}\left(\sqrt{j\omega\sigma\mu^* - \omega^2\varepsilon^*\mu^*}\right)}$$

# Electromagnetic Wave Propagation

**Velocity**

$$V = c_0 \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \left[ \sqrt{\kappa^2 + \left( \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0 \omega} \right)^2} + \kappa \right]}}$$

**Skin Depth**

$$S_d = \frac{c_0}{\omega} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \left[ \sqrt{\kappa^2 + \left( \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0 \omega} \right)^2} - \kappa \right]}}$$

## Electromagnetic Properties

→ *permeability*  
*conductivity*  
*permittivity*

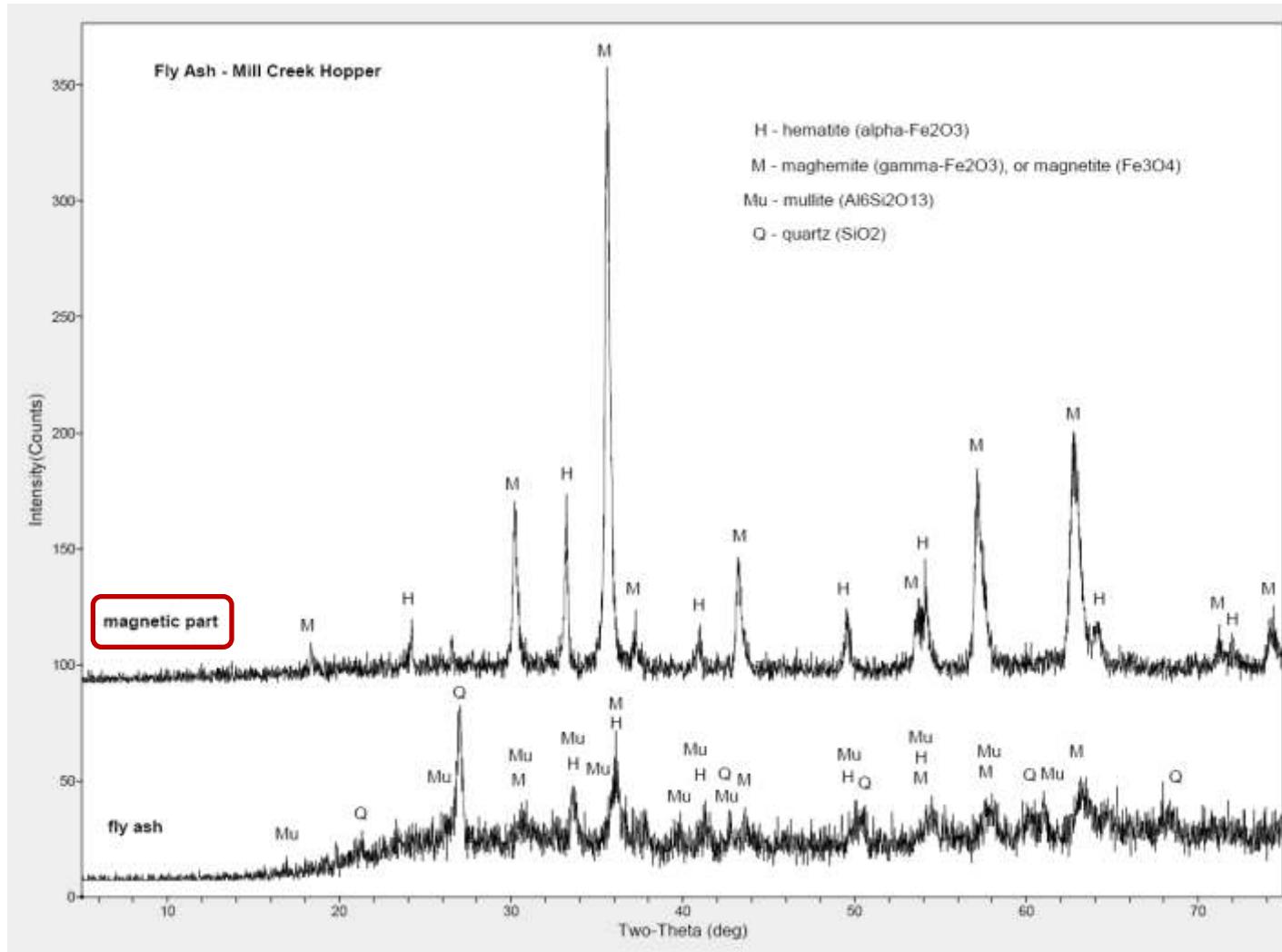
# Kingston Fossil Plant (12/22/2008)



[Photo: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency]



# XRD: Mill Creek Hopper



**Magnetically separated fraction:**

**hematite  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  (weakly magnetic), magnetite  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$  and maghemite  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  (both strongly magnetic).**

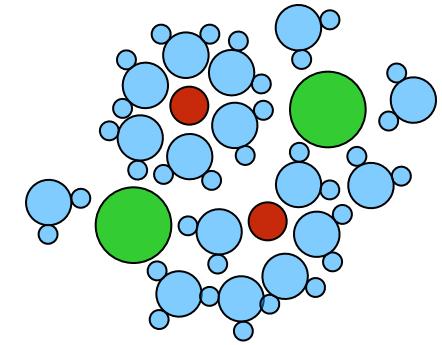
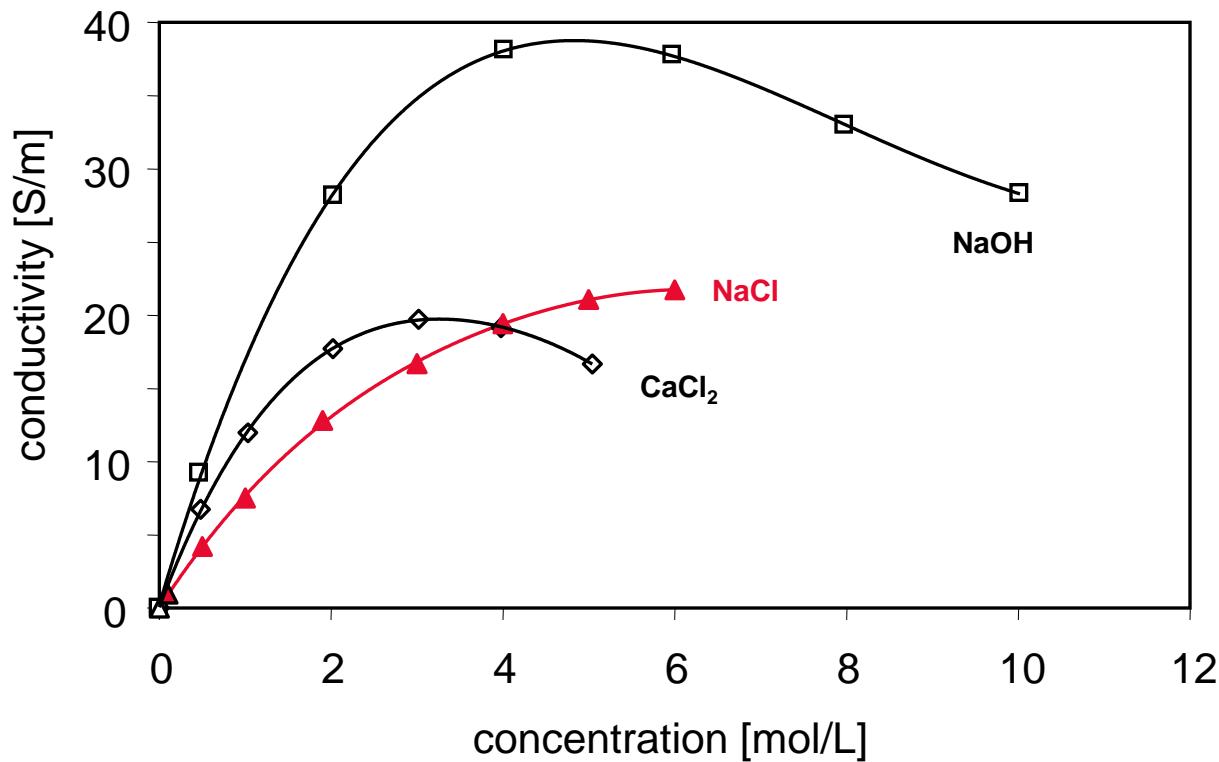
# Electromagnetic Properties

*permeability*

→ *conductivity*

*permittivity*

# Electrical Conductivity of the Pore Fluid

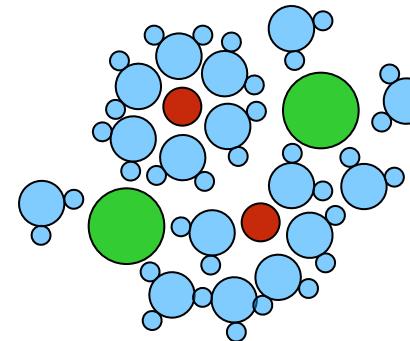


At low concentration (P. Annan):

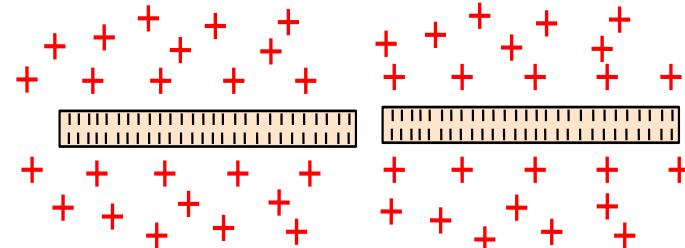
$$\sigma_{fl} [\text{mS/m}] = 0.15 \cdot \text{TDS} [\text{mg/L}]$$

# Electrical Conductivity of Soils

Pore fluid (pores)



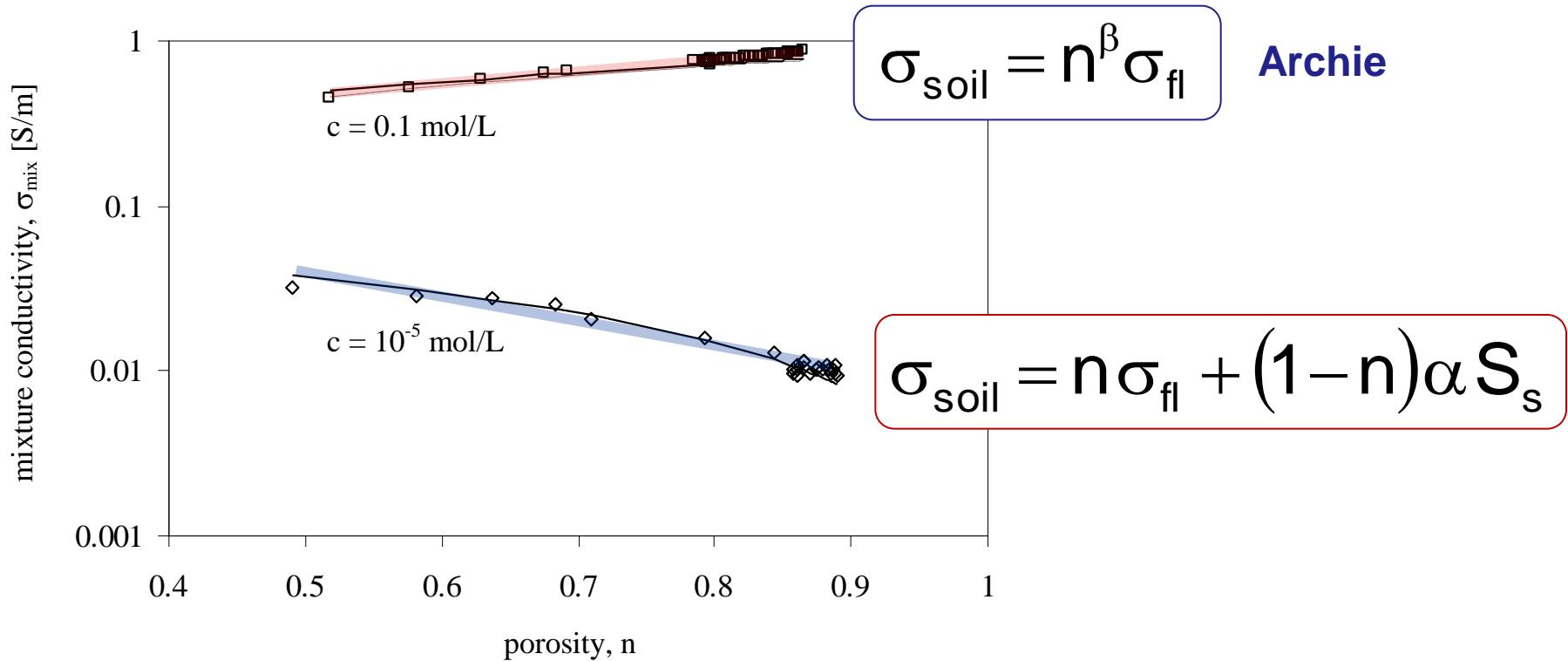
Surface conduction



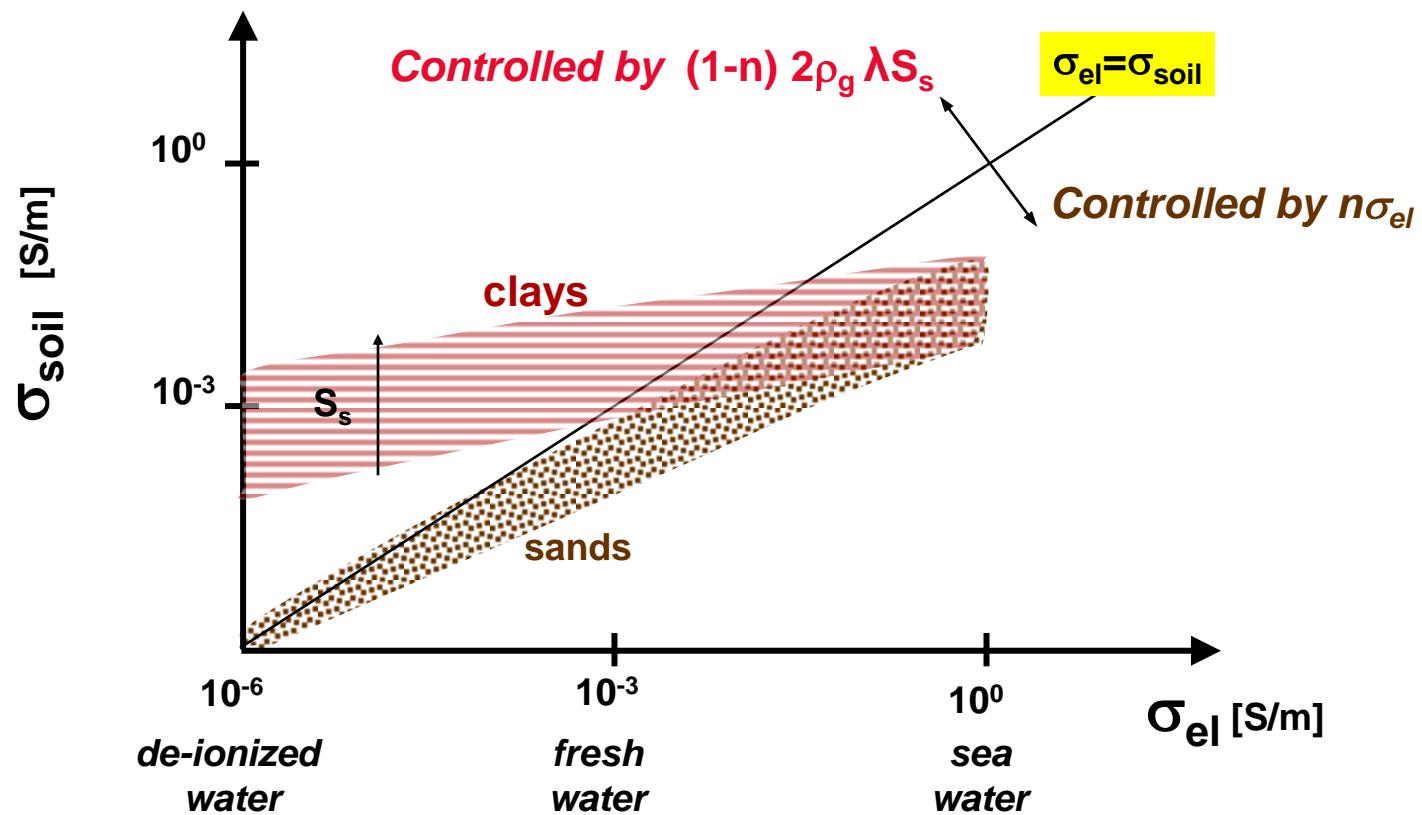
Wet Soil

$$\sigma_{\text{soil}} = n \sigma_{\text{fl}}$$

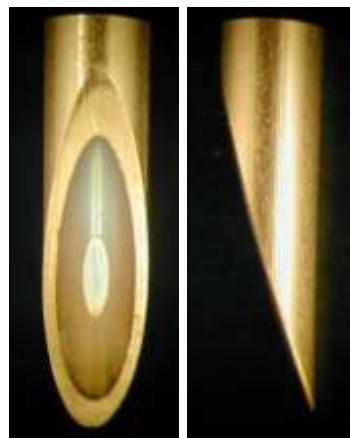
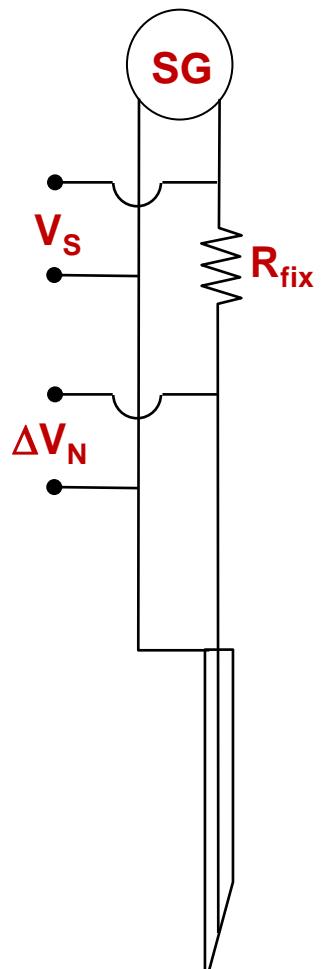
# Electrical Conductivity of Soils



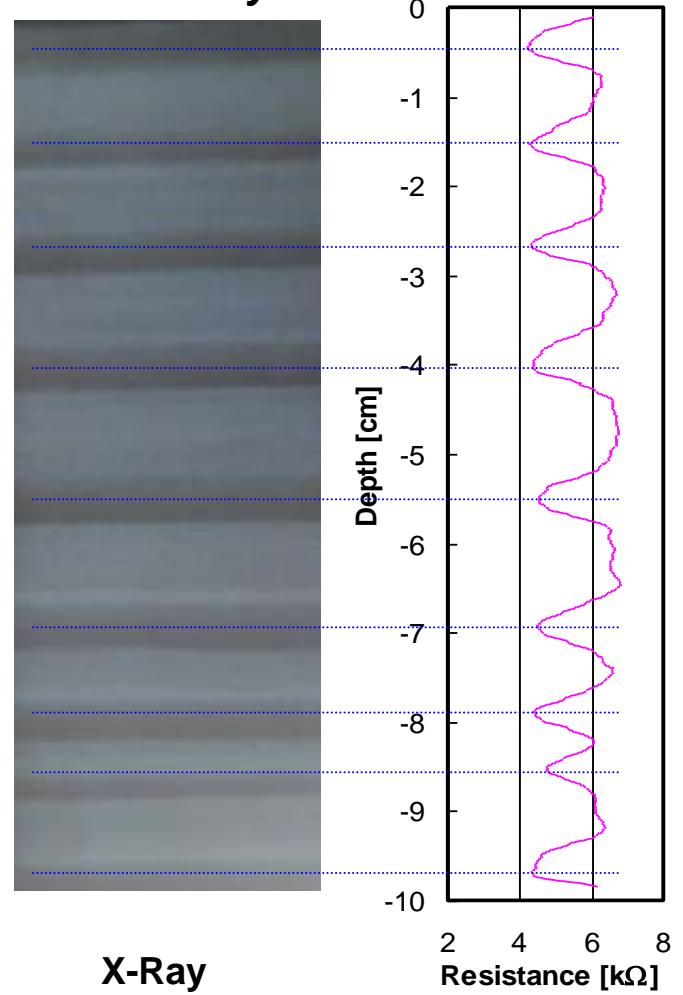
# Summary: Electrical Conductivity



# Laboratory: Electrical Needle



Varved Clay



# Electromagnetic Properties

*permeability*

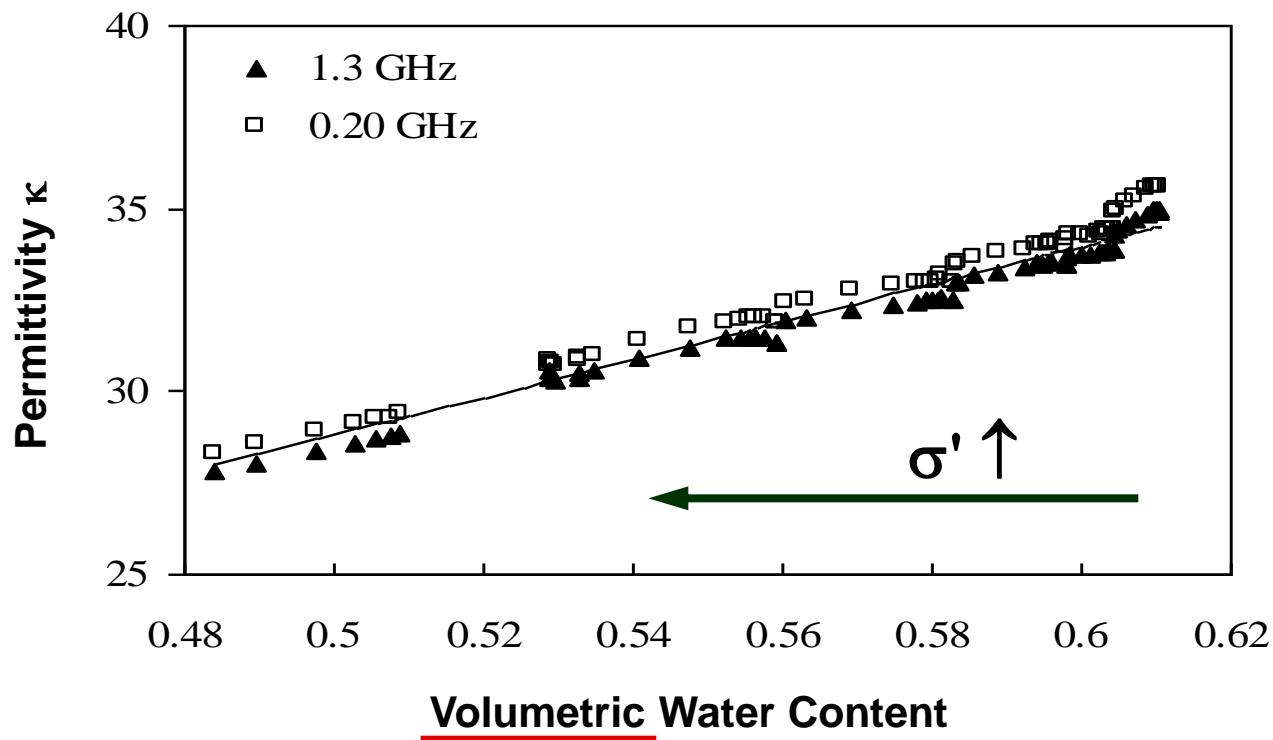
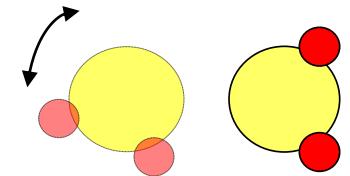
*conductivity*



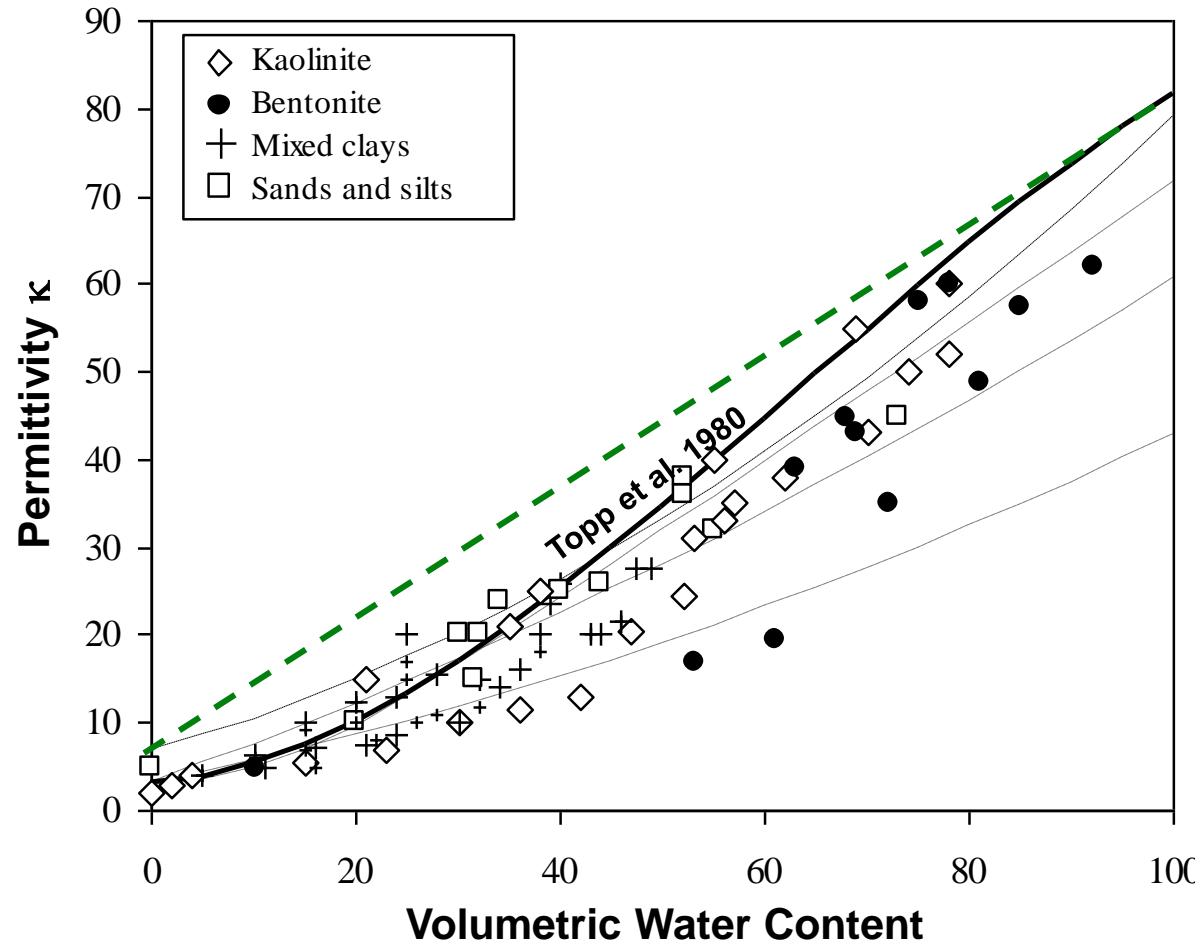
*permittivity*

# Free Water - Consolidation

Orientational Pol.



# Permittivity of Wet Soils



# Summary: Relative Permittivity

| water               |     | 78          |
|---------------------|-----|-------------|
| ice                 | ~3  | air, gasses |
| most organic fluids | 2-6 | minerals    |

$$\kappa_{soil}^{\prime} < (1-n) \kappa_m^{\prime} + n(1-S) + nS \kappa_w^{\prime}$$

Linear mixture

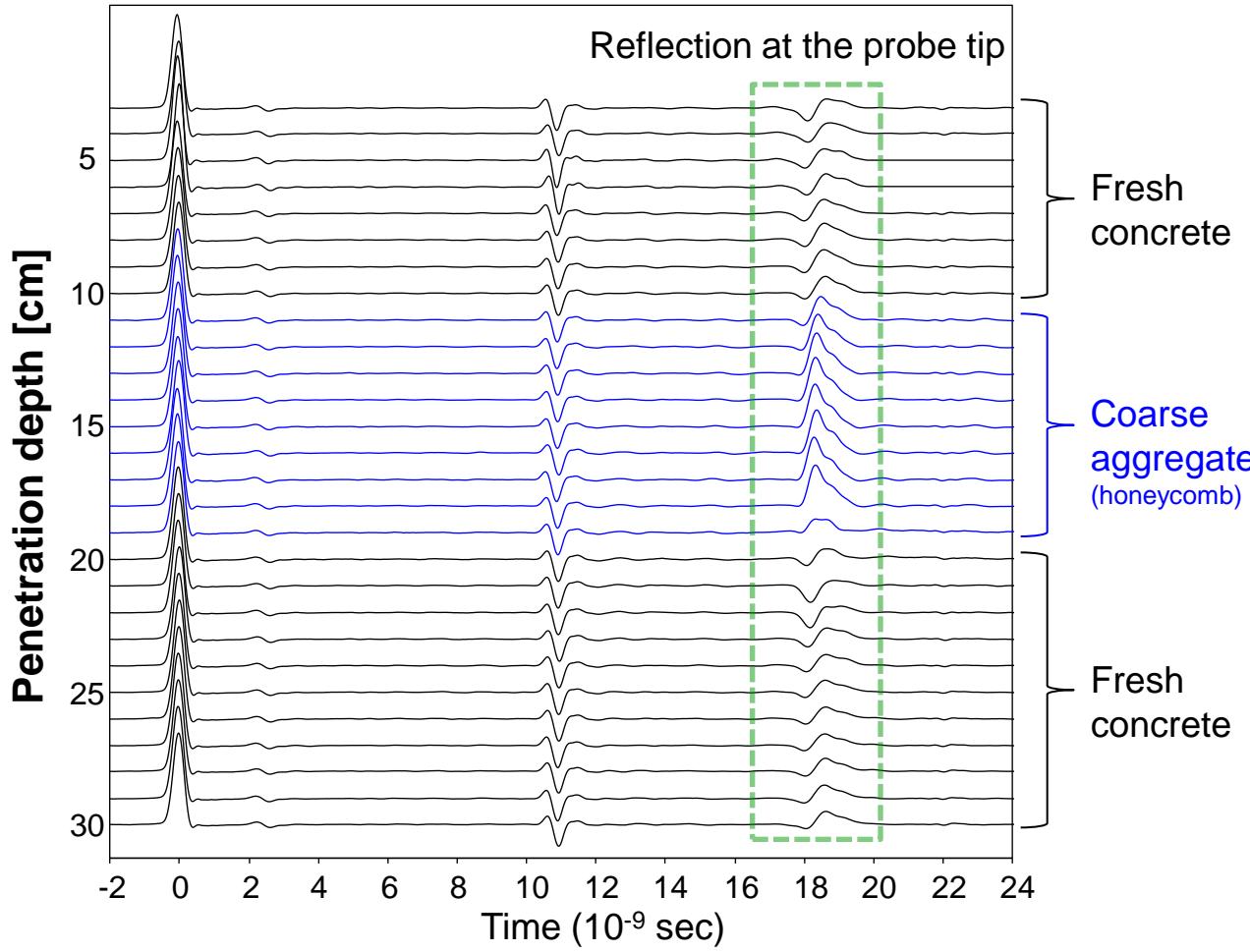
$$\kappa_{soil}^{\prime} = \left[ (1-n) \sqrt{\kappa_m^{\prime}} + n(1-S) + nS \sqrt{\kappa_w^{\prime}} \right]^2$$

CRIM

$$\kappa_{soil}^{\prime} = 3.03 + 9.3\theta_v + 146.0\theta_v^2 - 76.7\theta_v^3$$

Topp et al. 1980

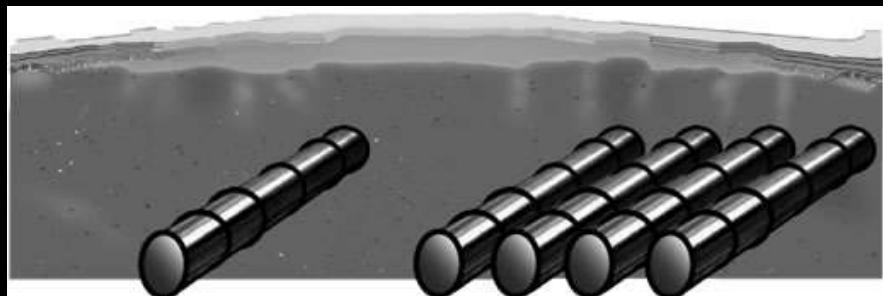
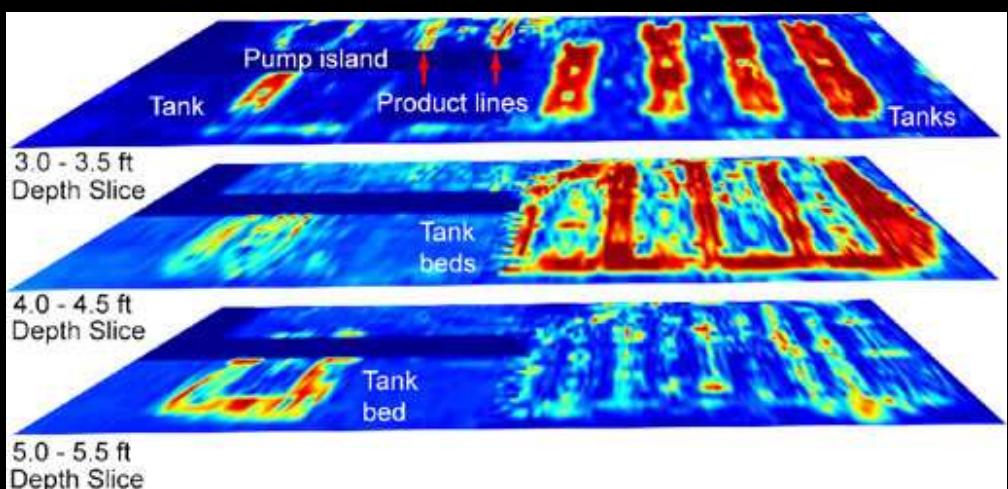
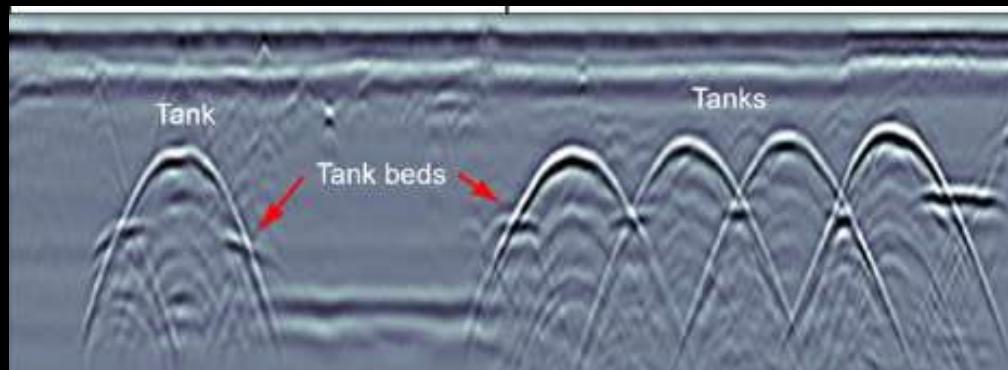
# TDR Probe – Honeycombs



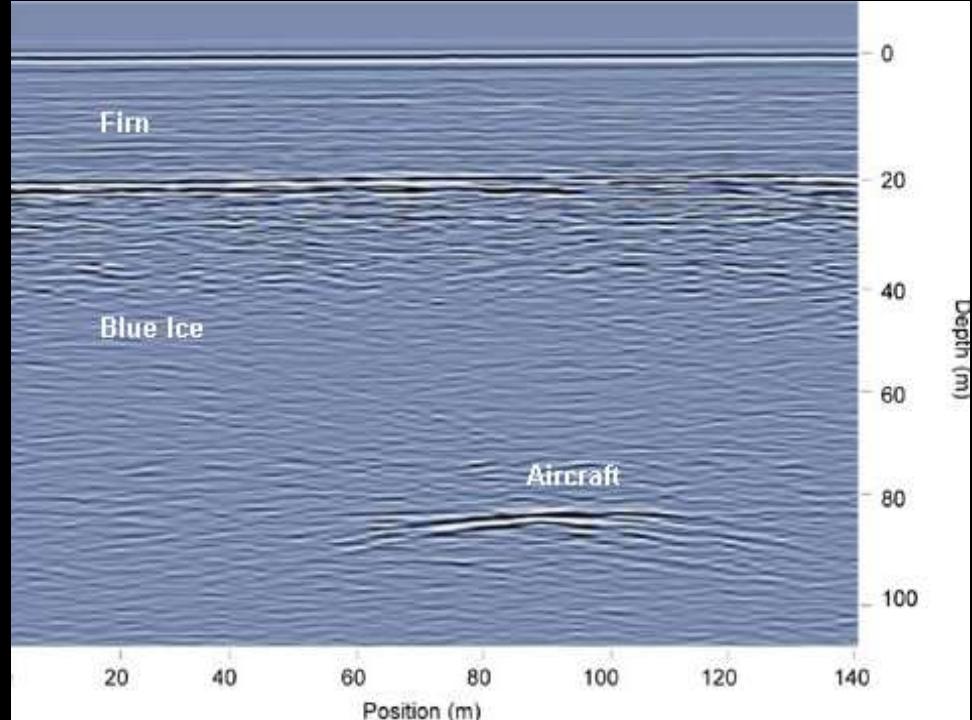
Cone in TDR-mode

MS Cha

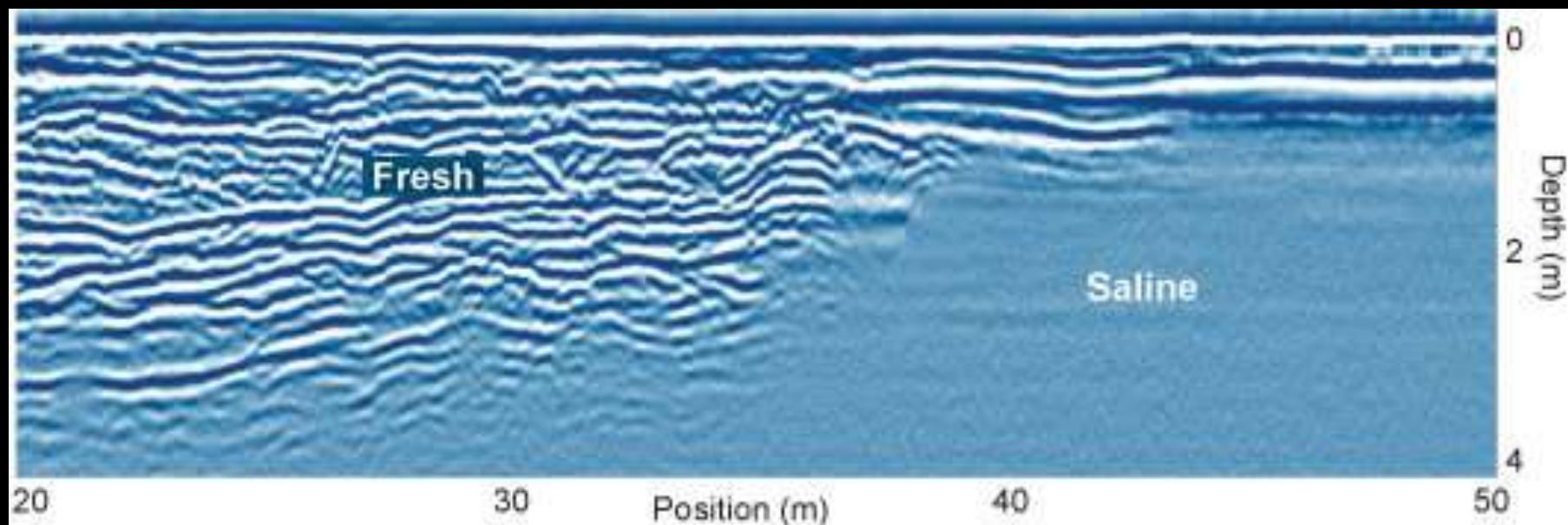
# GPR - 2D & 3D



# GPR on Ice



# GPR: Saltwater Intrusion



# Summary: EM-waves

$\mu$  typically non-ferromagnetic  
caution otherwise (e.g., some mine waste, fly ash)

$\sigma$  ionic concentration ... and mobility  
fresh water: clay surface conduction  
**Simple measurement:** ERT, Needle Probe (*invasive*)

$\kappa$  free water orientation (microwave frequency)  
GPR TDR probe (*invasive*)

$V$   $V \downarrow$  when  $\sigma_{el} \uparrow$  and  $\kappa \uparrow$

$S_d$   $S_d \downarrow$  when  $\sigma_{el} \uparrow$

**Use** **volumetric** water content  
advect./diffus. fluid fronts  
freezing fronts  
spatial variability

consolidation  
salt water intrusion  
hydrates  
buried anomalies



## Mechanical Waves



## Electromagnetic Waves



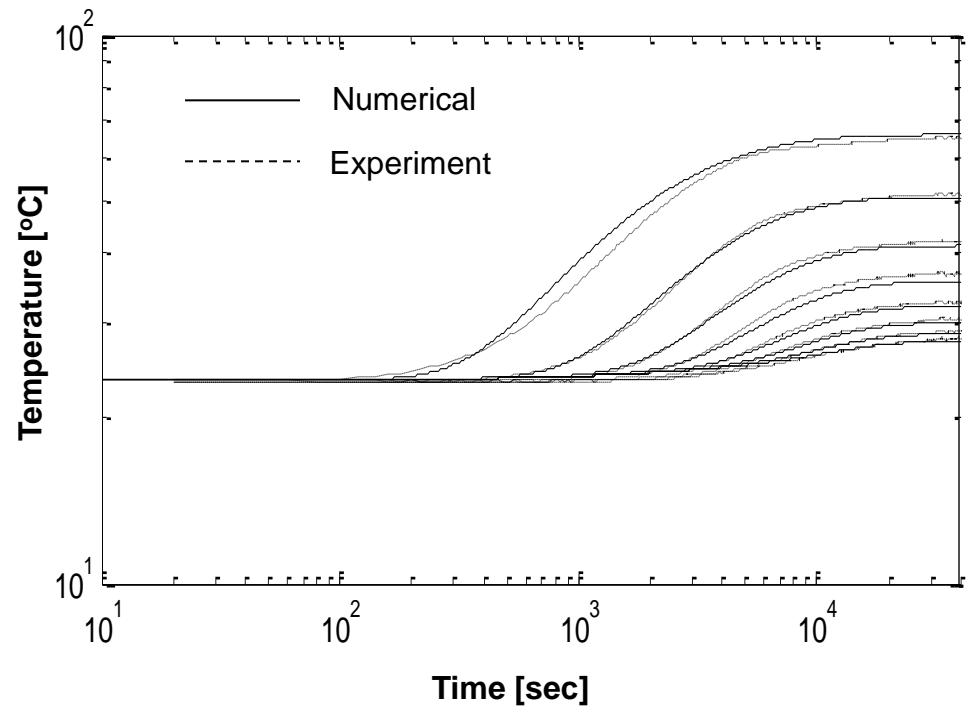
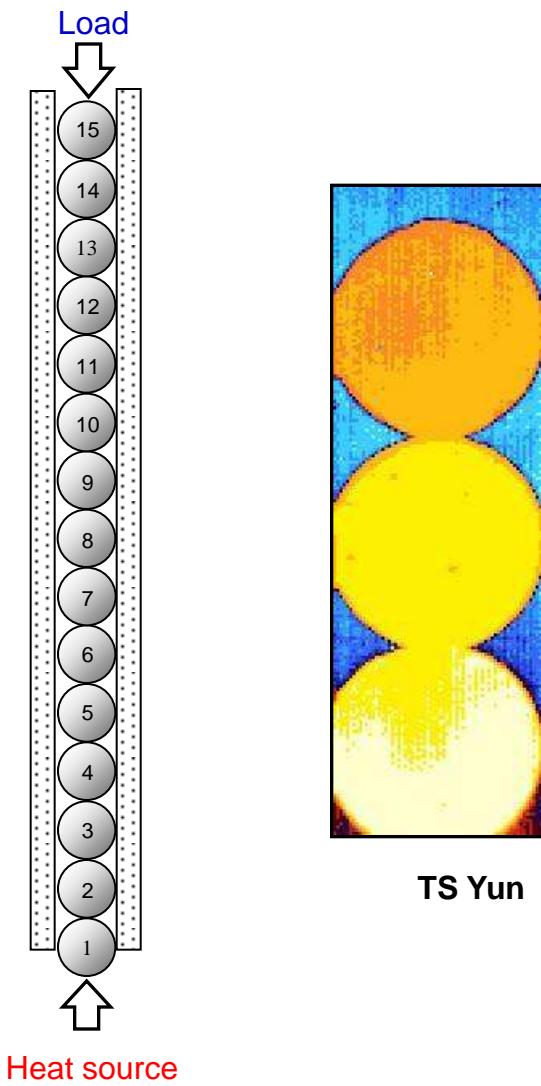
## Thermal Phenomena



## Processing

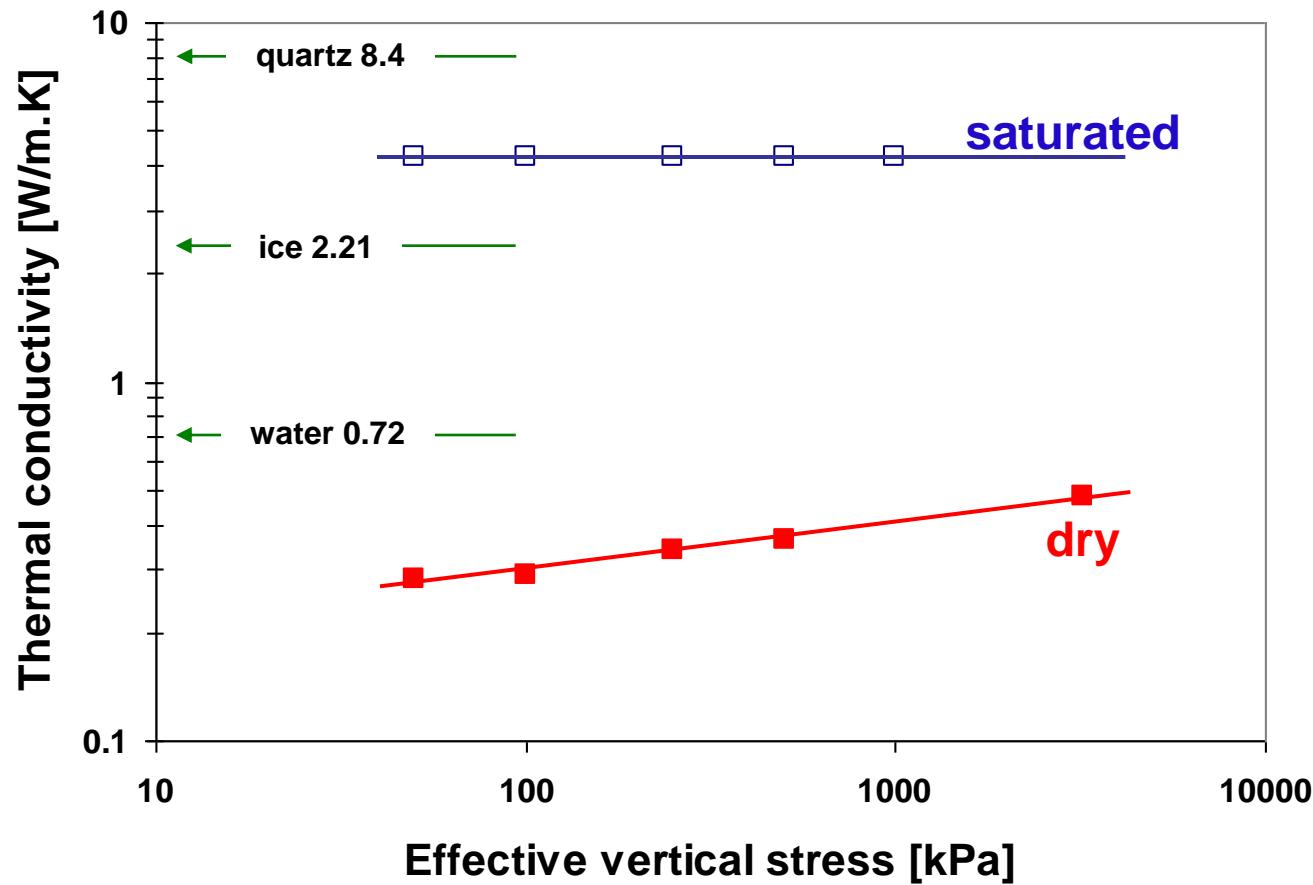
L  
 $c_p$   
 $k_T$

# Particle-level Experiments



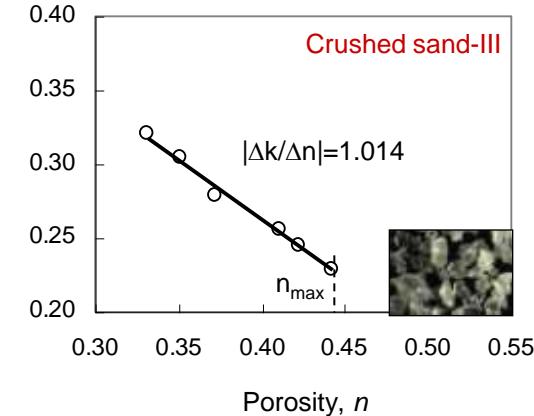
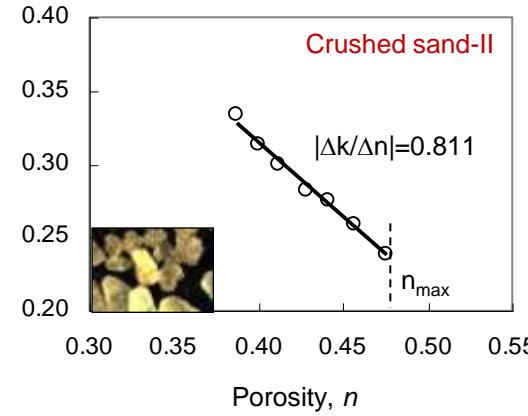
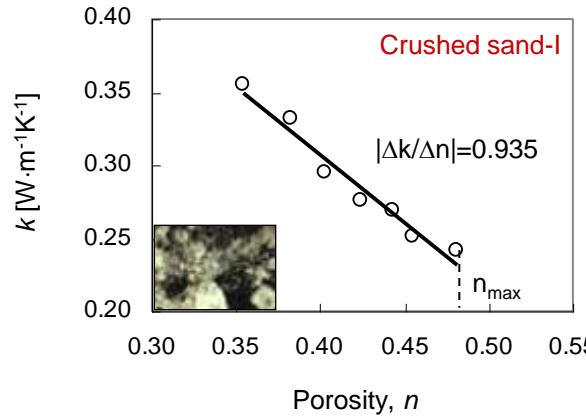
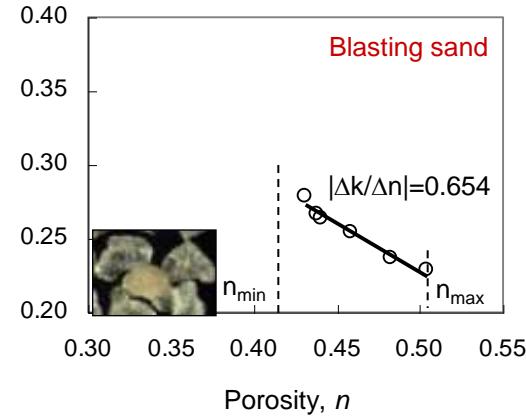
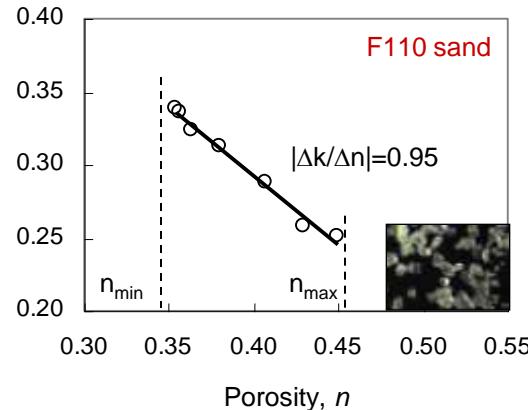
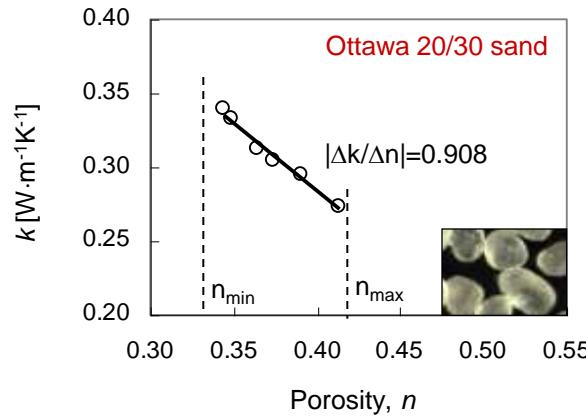
$k = f(\text{contact quality})$

# Thermal Conductivity: Dry vs. Wet Soils



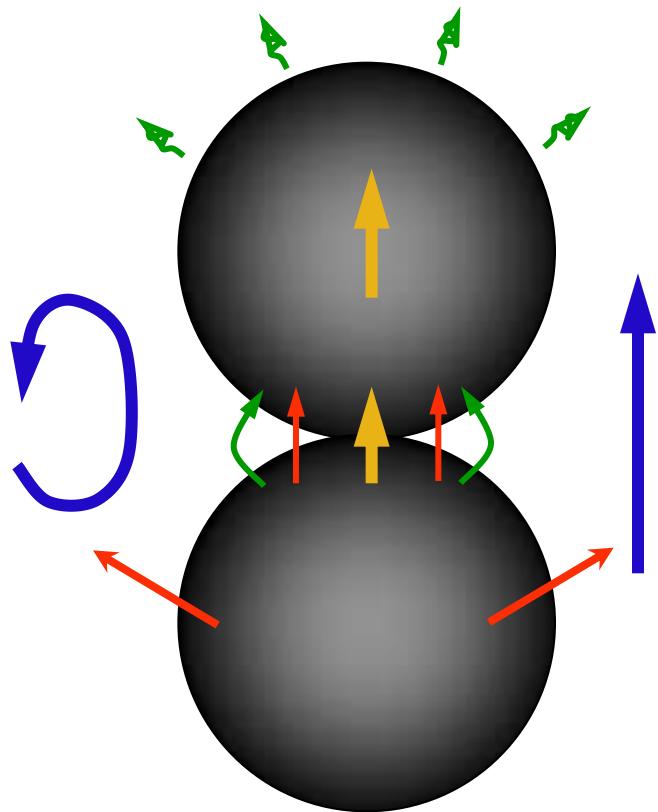
$$k = f(w, \sigma')$$

# Thermal Conductivity: Dry Soils



$$k = f(n)$$

# Thermal Conductivity in Soils



particle conduction  
contact conduction

mineral  
c#, n,  $\sigma'$

radiation  
particle-particle radiation

particle-fluid conduction  
particle-fluid-part. cond.

pore fluid conduction  
pore fluid convection

fluid, S%  
 $D_{10}$

# Thermal Conductivity: Values

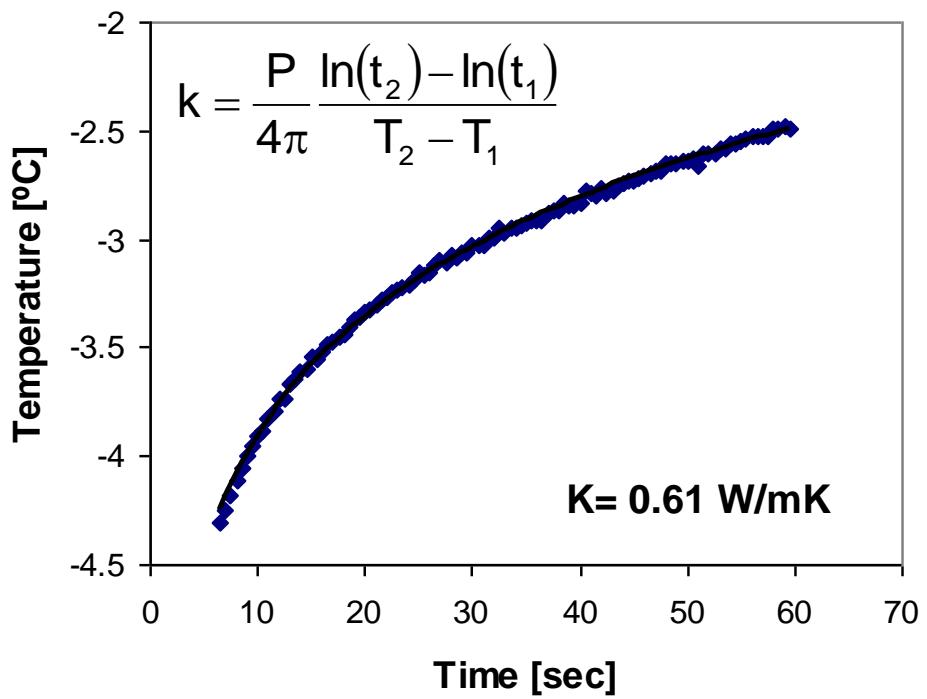
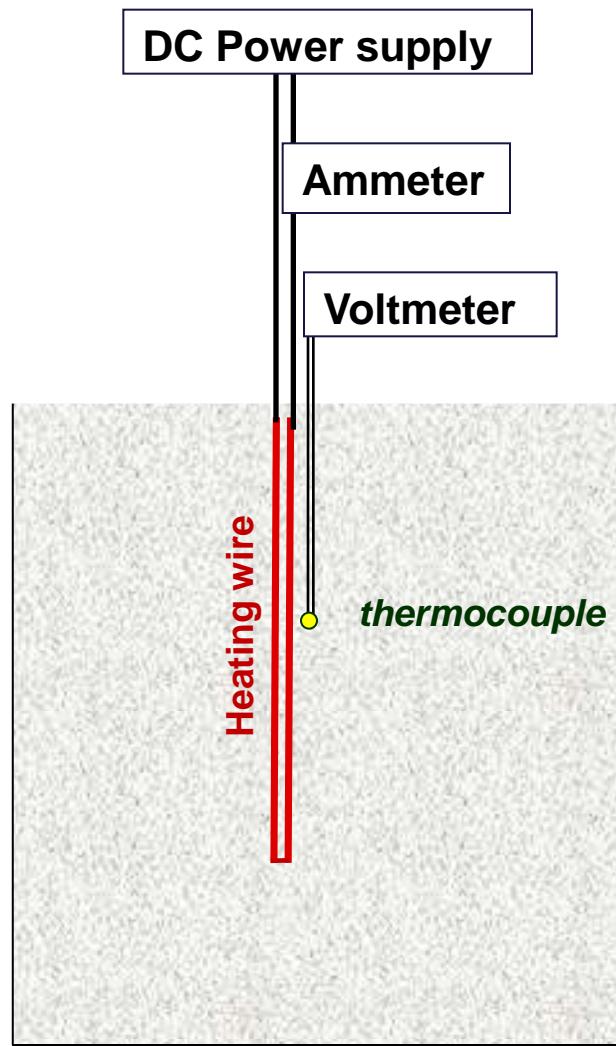
| Material                         | $k_T$ (W/mK) |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Air                              | 0.02         |
| Water at 21 °C                   | 0.72         |
| Ice at 0 °C                      | 2.2          |
| Sand, dry                        | 1.1          |
| Sand, $\omega = 18\%$ (unfrozen) | 3.1          |
| Sand, $\omega = 18\%$ (frozen)   | 3.8          |
| Clay, dry                        | 0.9          |
| Clay, $\omega = 25\%$ (unfrozen) | 1.2          |
| Clay, $\omega = 25\%$ (frozen)   | 1.5          |
| Quartz                           | 8.4          |
| Stainless Steel                  | ~20          |
| Copper                           | 400          |

$$k_{\text{gas}} < k_{\text{water}} < k_{\text{ice}}$$

$$k_{\text{dry}} < k_{\text{wet}} < k_{\text{frozen}}$$

***general  
trends***    
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} k_{\text{gas}} < k_{\text{dry}} < k_{\text{wet}} < k_{\text{frozen}} < k_{\text{min}} \\ k_{\text{clay}} < k_{\text{sand}} \end{array} \right.$$

# Lab & Field: Needle Probe



# Application: GeoThermal

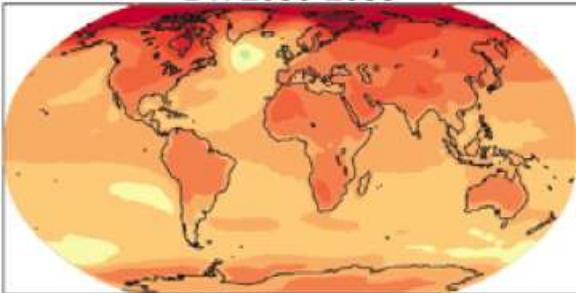


# Application: Cities = Thermal Islands

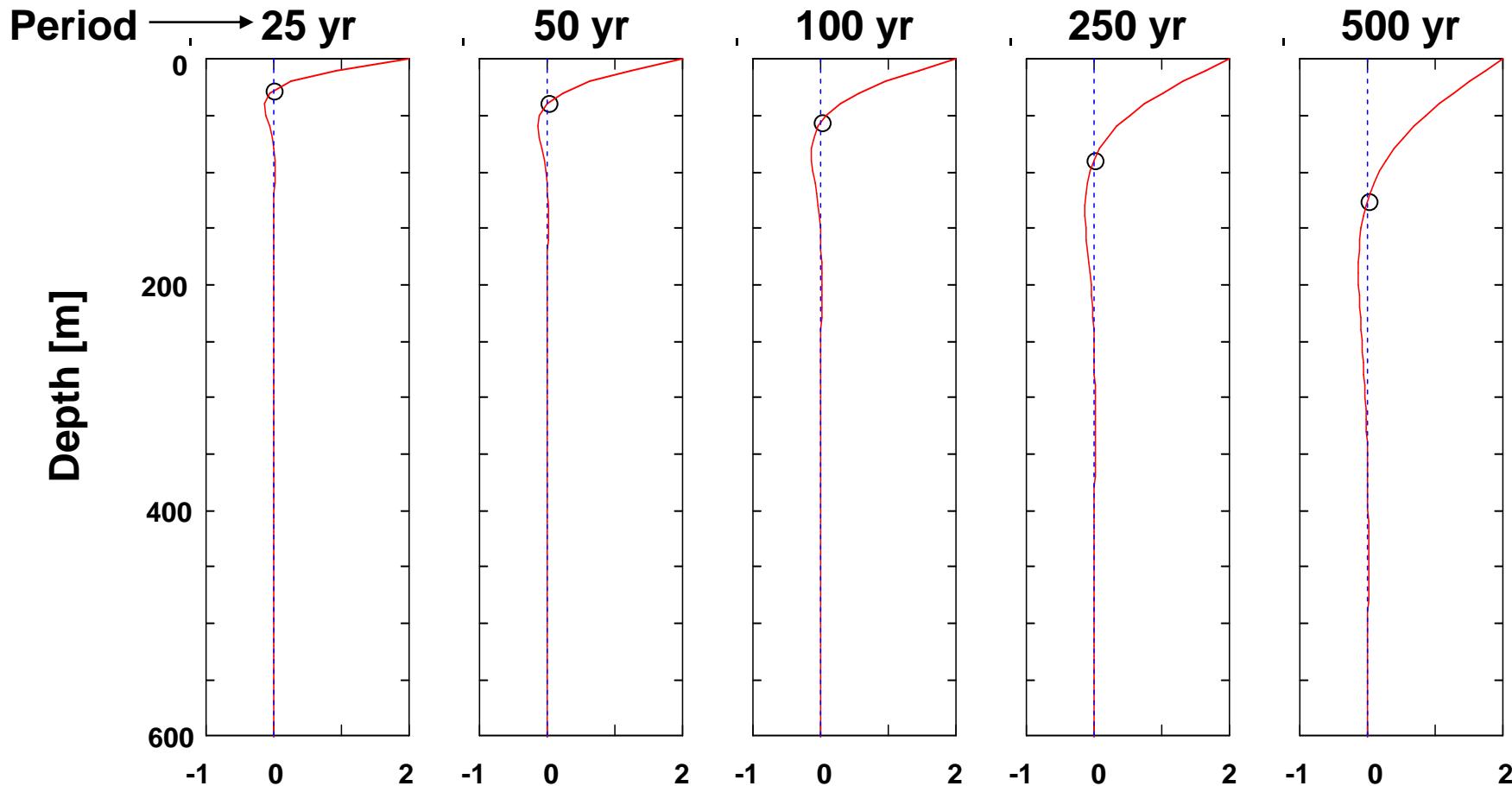
Sacramento, California



# Application: Climate Change



$T_{atm} = \text{Sinusoidal } (2^\circ\text{C})$



# Summary: Thermal Properties

**Conductivity  $k \uparrow$  Porosity  $n \downarrow$**

**Effective stress  $\uparrow$  (heat transfer at contacts  $\uparrow$ )**

**Water content**

**Quartz content  $\uparrow$**

**Frozen**

**Coarser grains**

**Implications**

**Energy: Geothermal, Nuclear (foundations & waste), ...**

**Climate change**

**Urban settings**



## Mechanical Waves



## Electromagnetic Waves



## Thermal Phenomena



## Processing

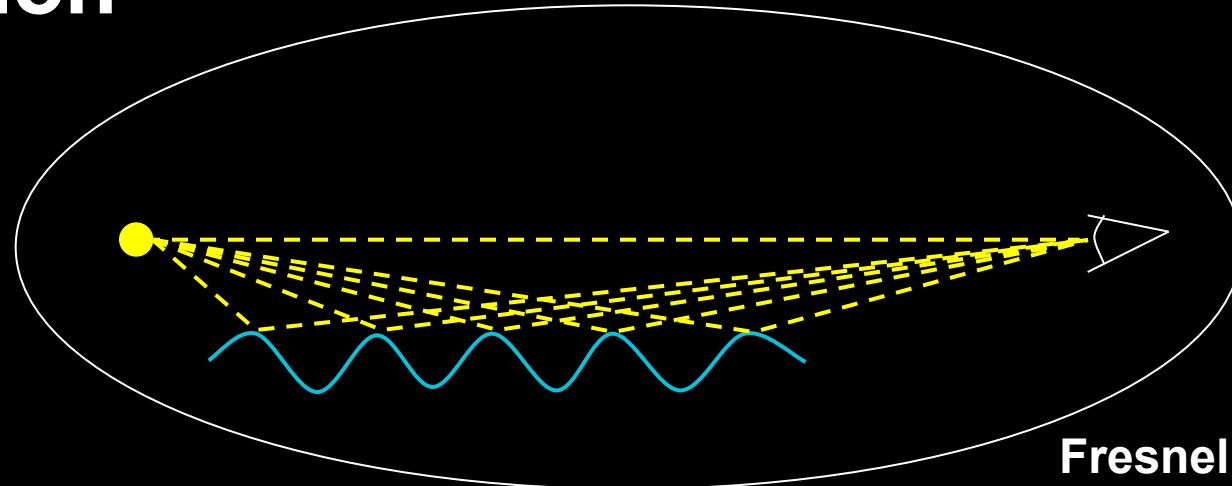
Wave phenomena  
Signal processing  
Inversion

# Interference



*Audi*

# Reflection



Fresnel's Ellipse



van Gogh - La Nuit Etoilee

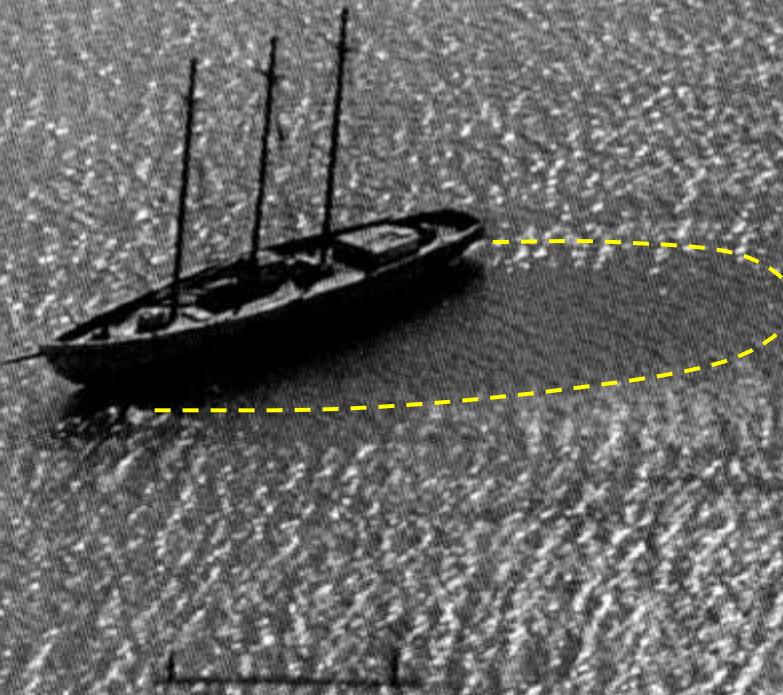
# Scatter



*Microscopy: dark field illumination*

*St. Peter - Rome*

# Diffraction Healing

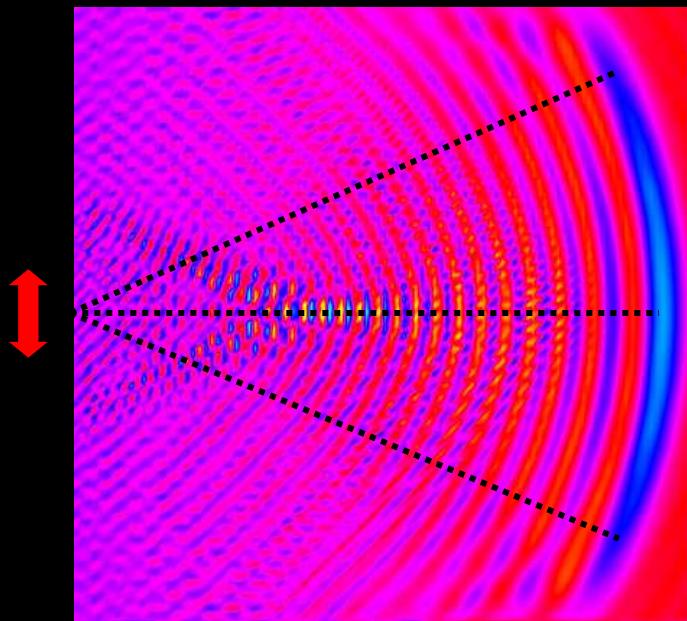


*defects in piles?*

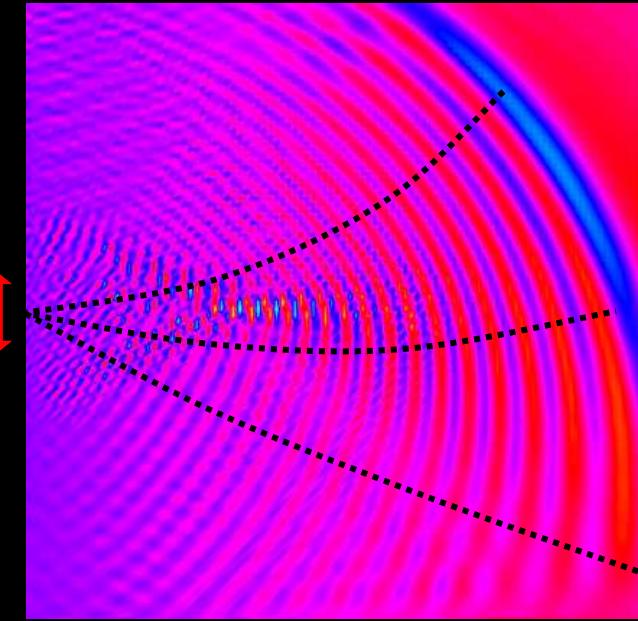
*honeycombs in concrete?*

*tunnels (KMZ, US-Mx, Israel-Palestine)?*

# Vertical Heterogeneity

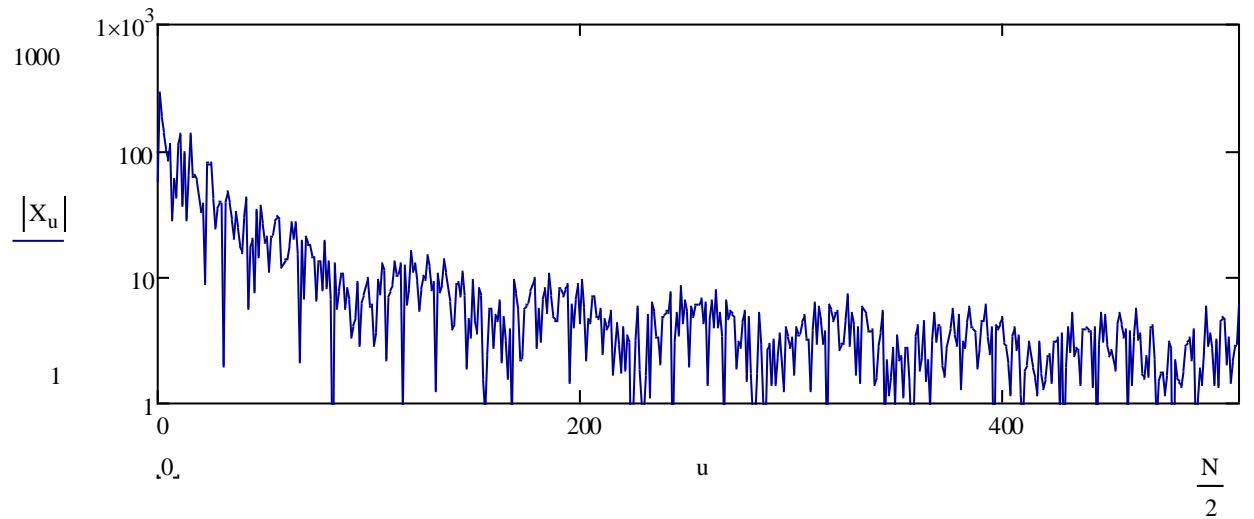
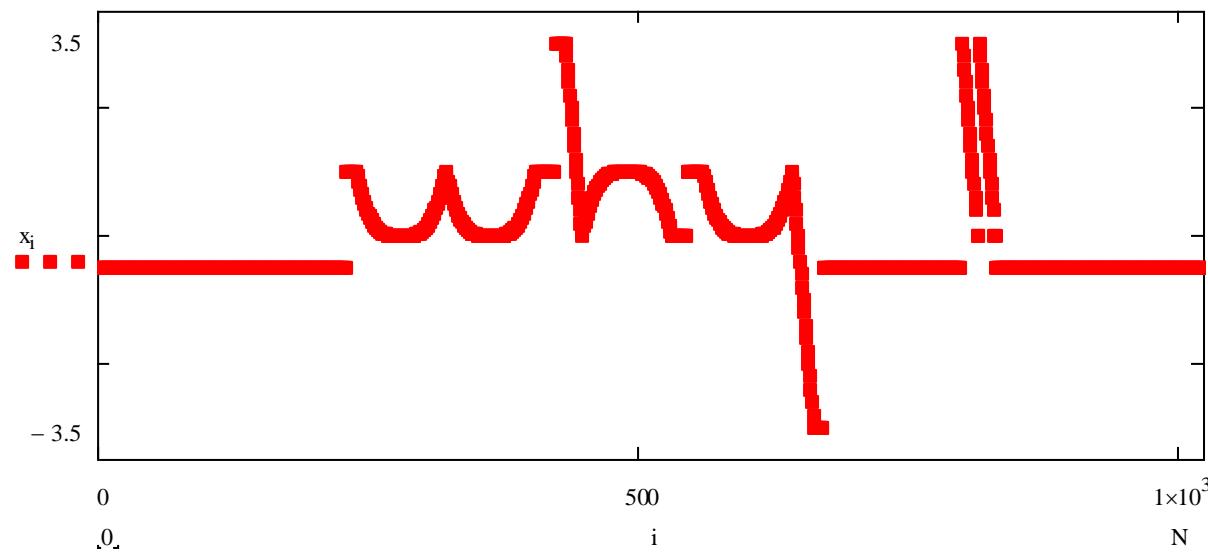


Homogeneous  
Isotropic  
Linear Elastic



Vertically heterogeneous  
Cross-anisotropic  
Linear Elastic

# Signal Processing: FFT



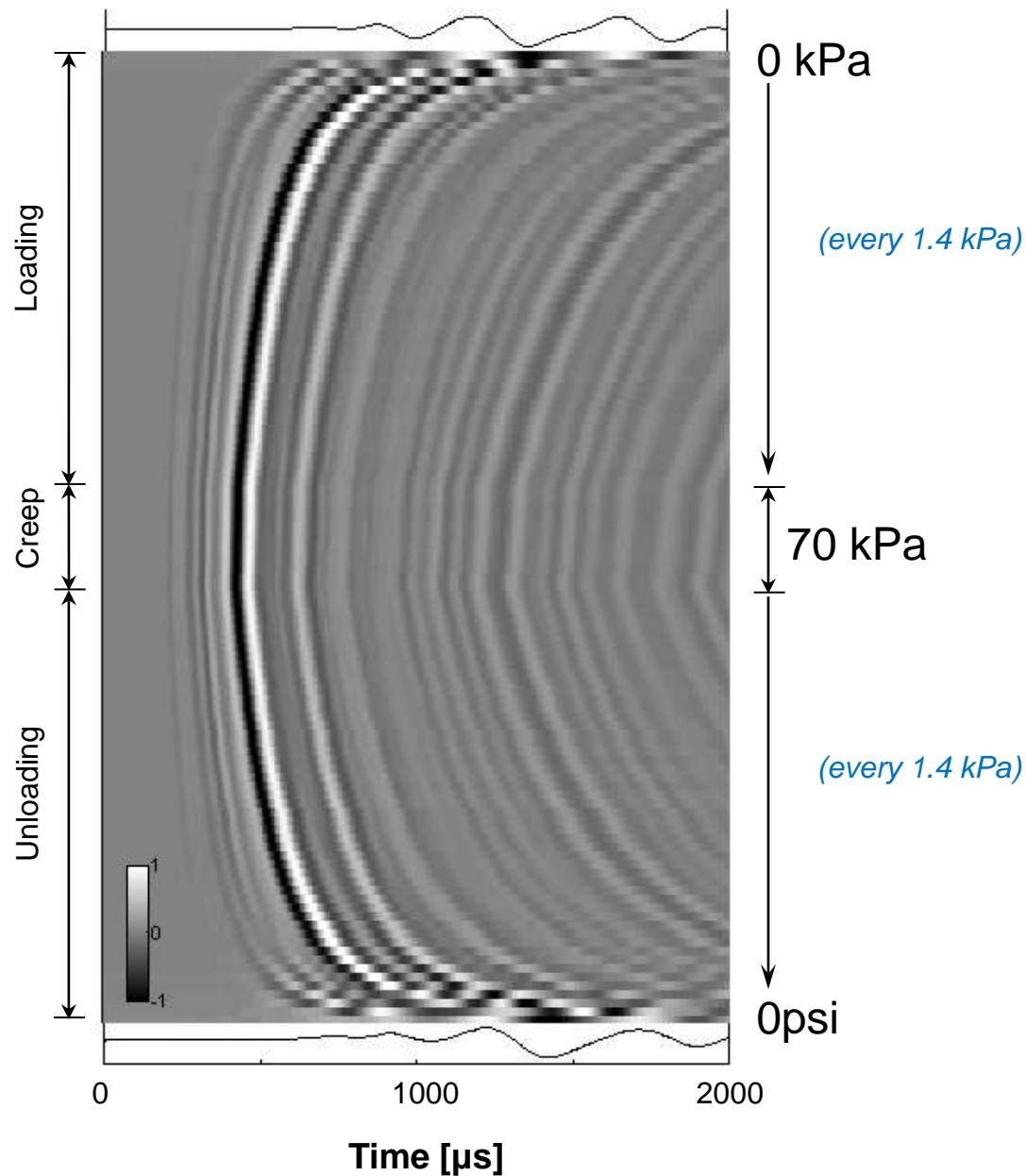
Fourier Transform = curve-fitting the signal using the Fourier Series

(caution with BE !)

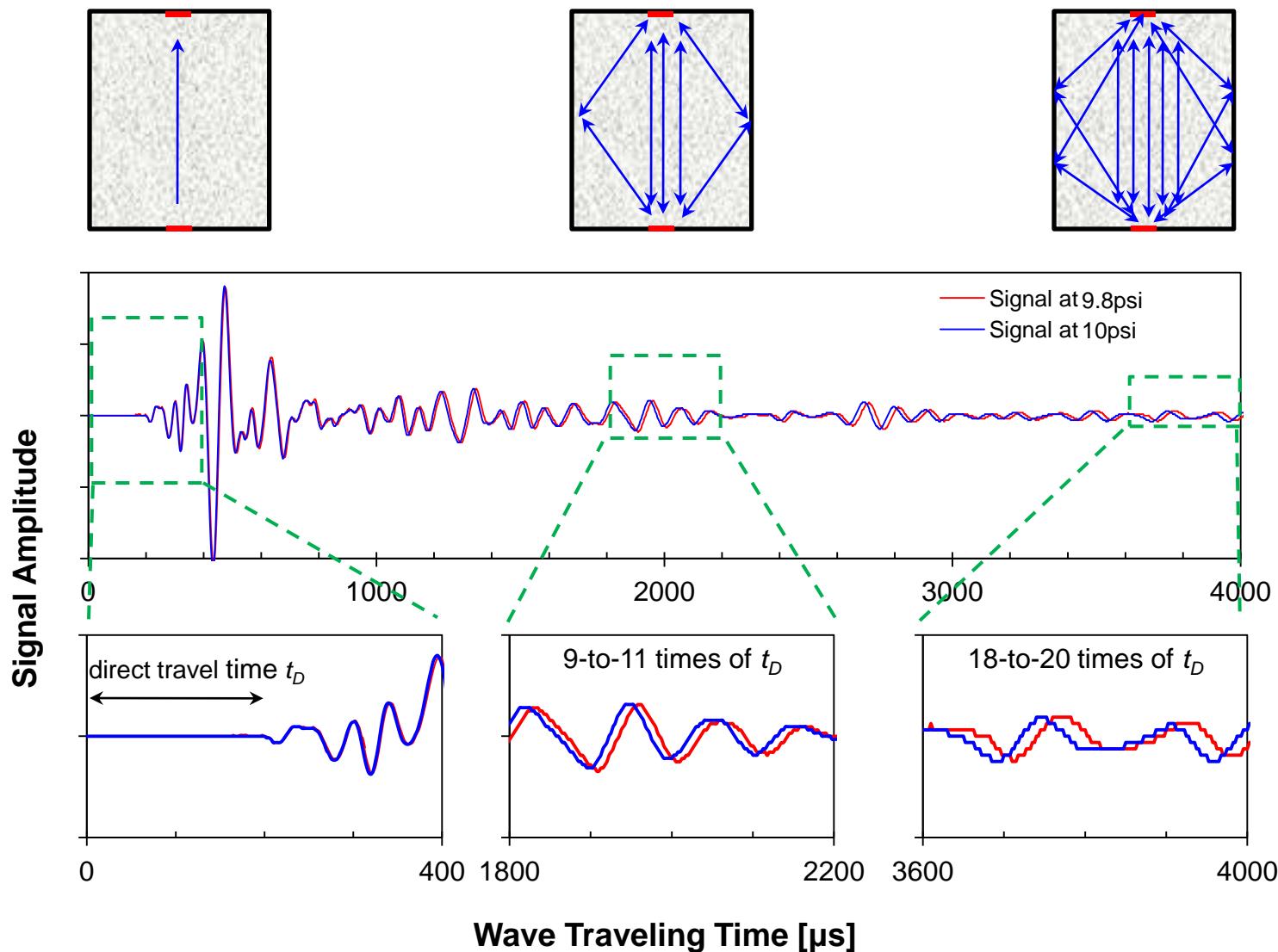
# Signal Processing: Tracking Small Changes



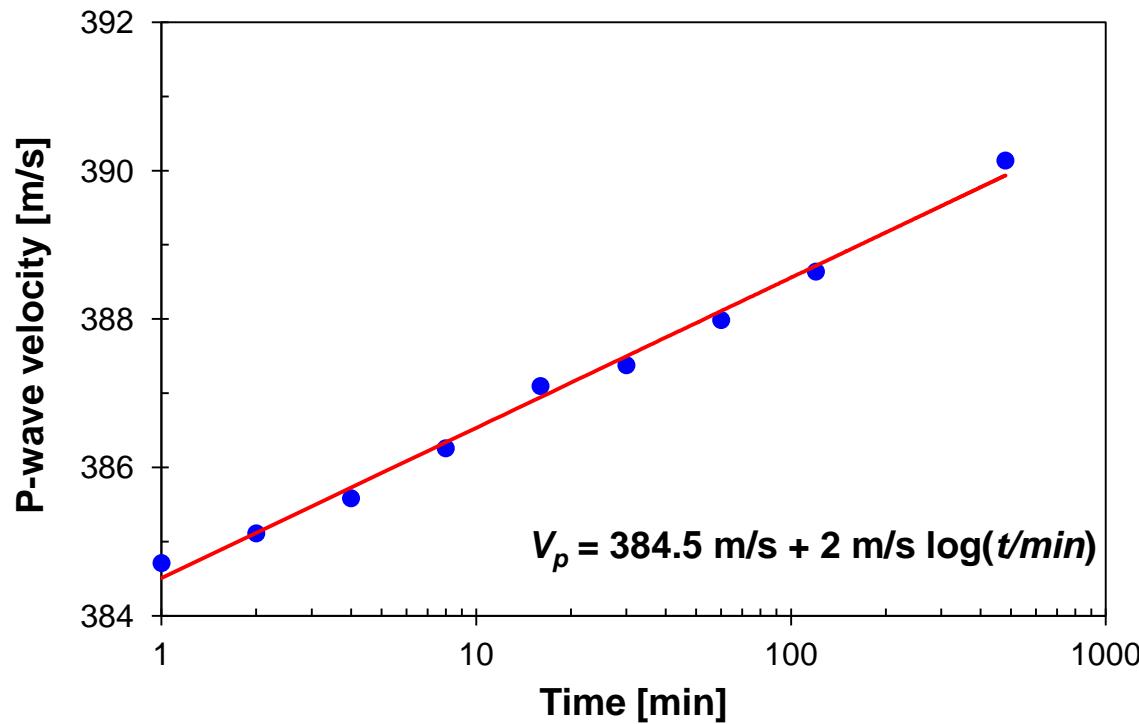
dry Ottawa sand



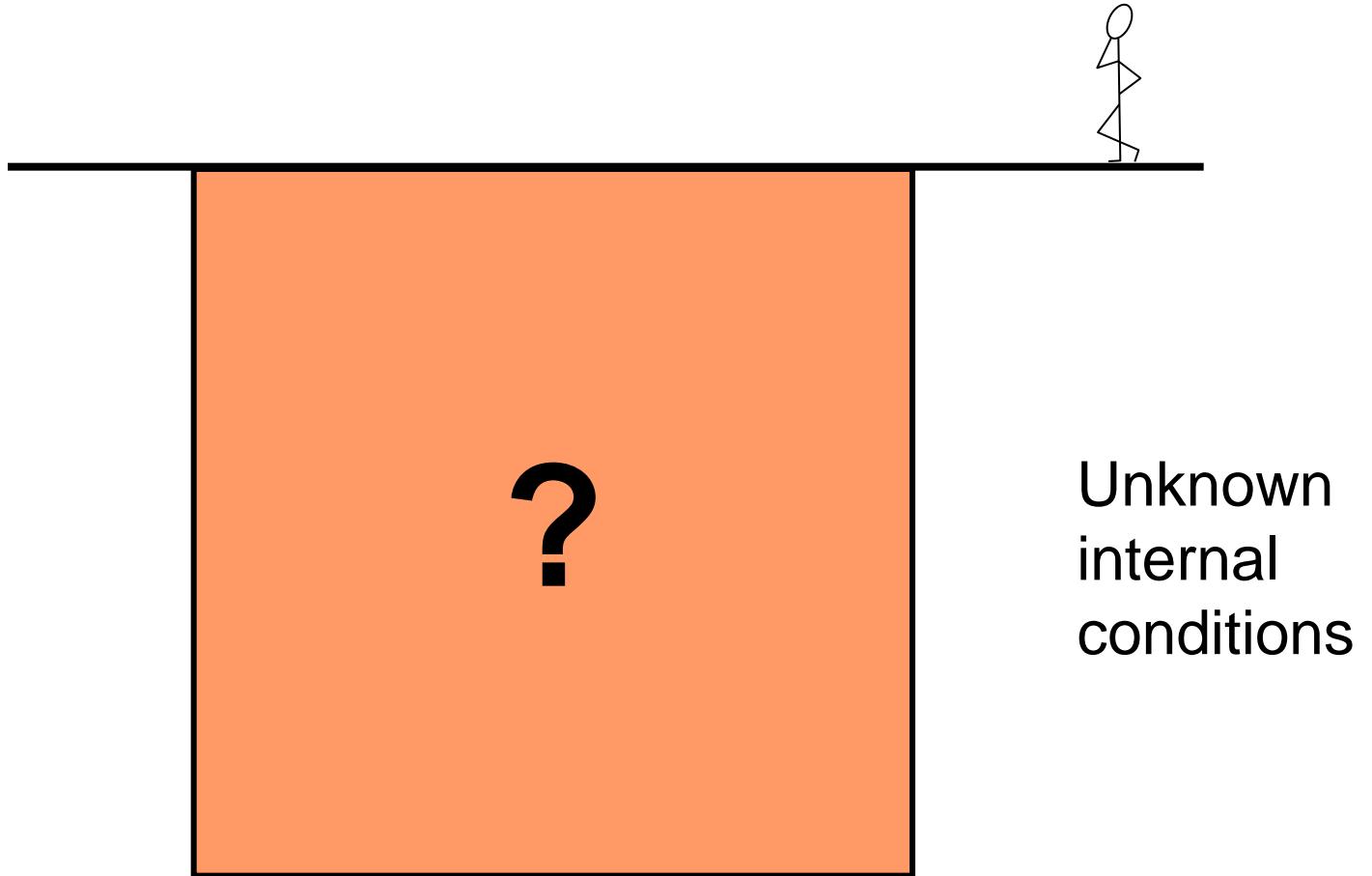
# Coda Wave Analysis: Creep in Dry Sand

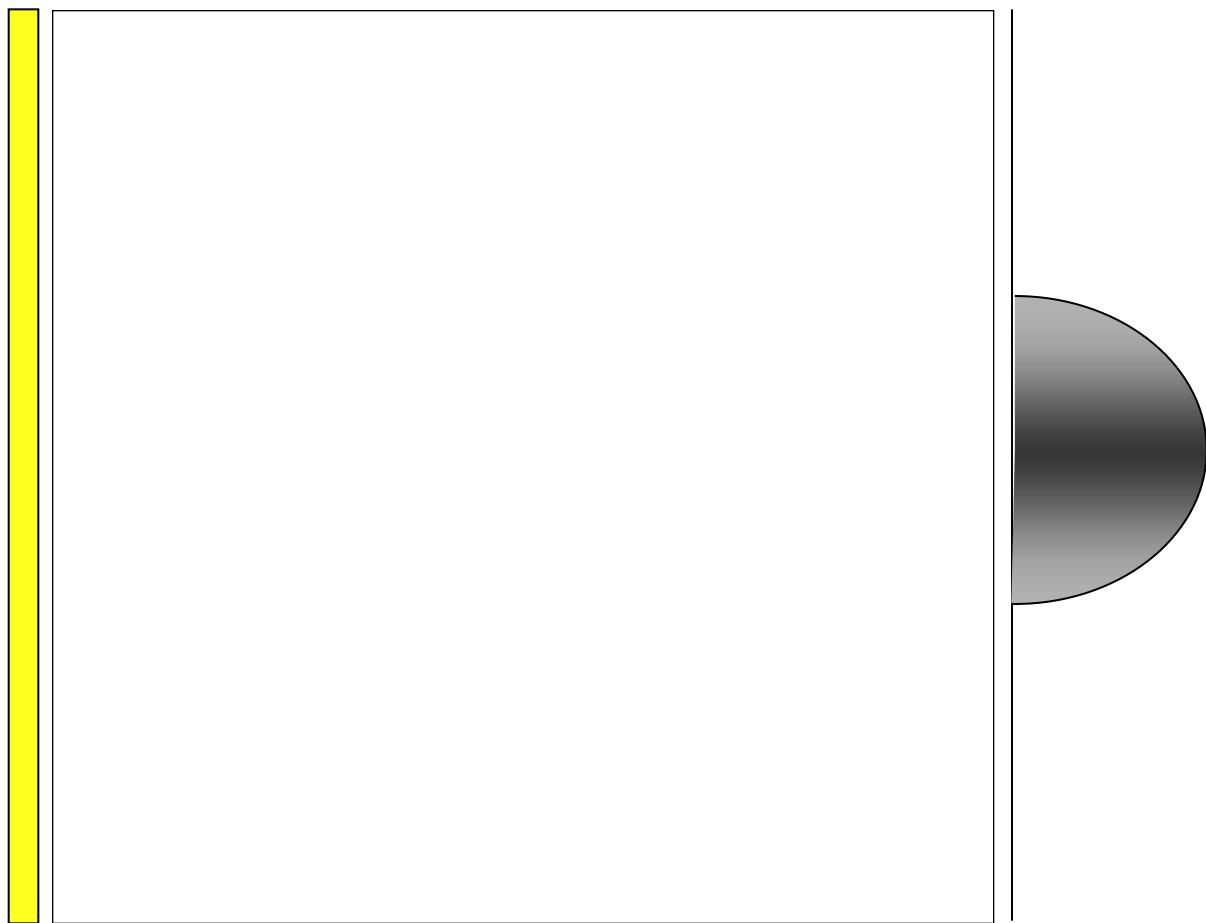


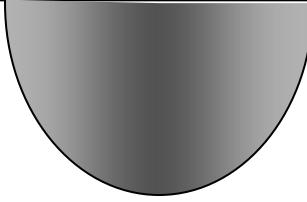
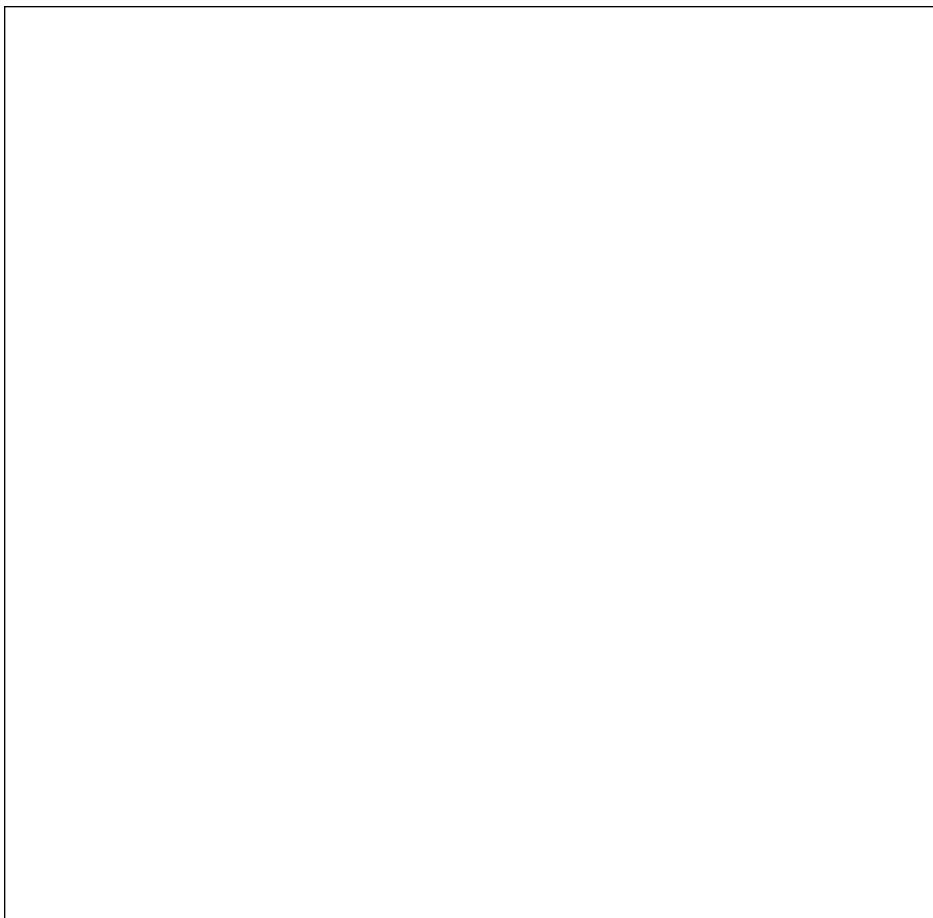
# Coda Wave Analysis: Creep in Dry Sand

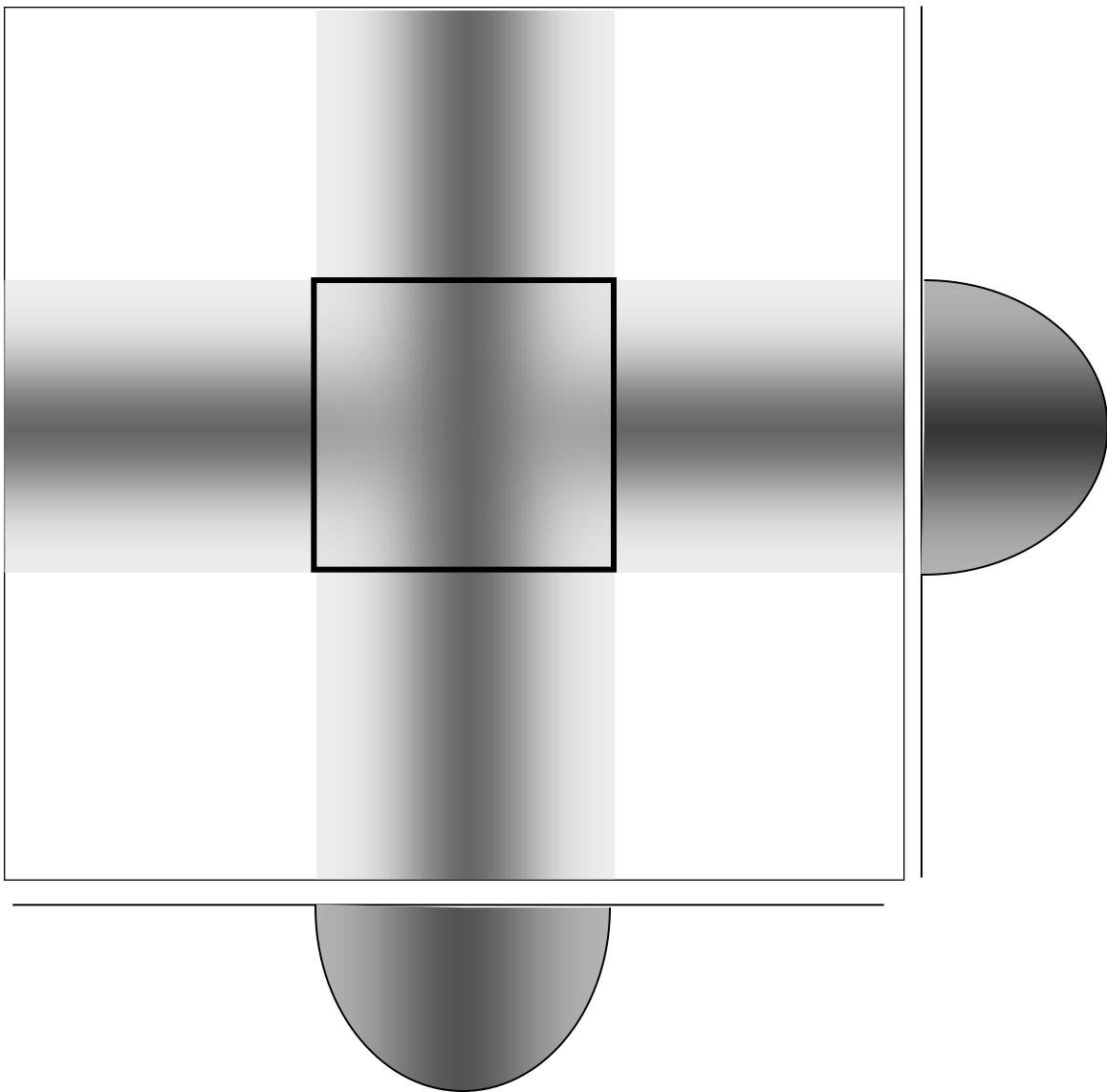


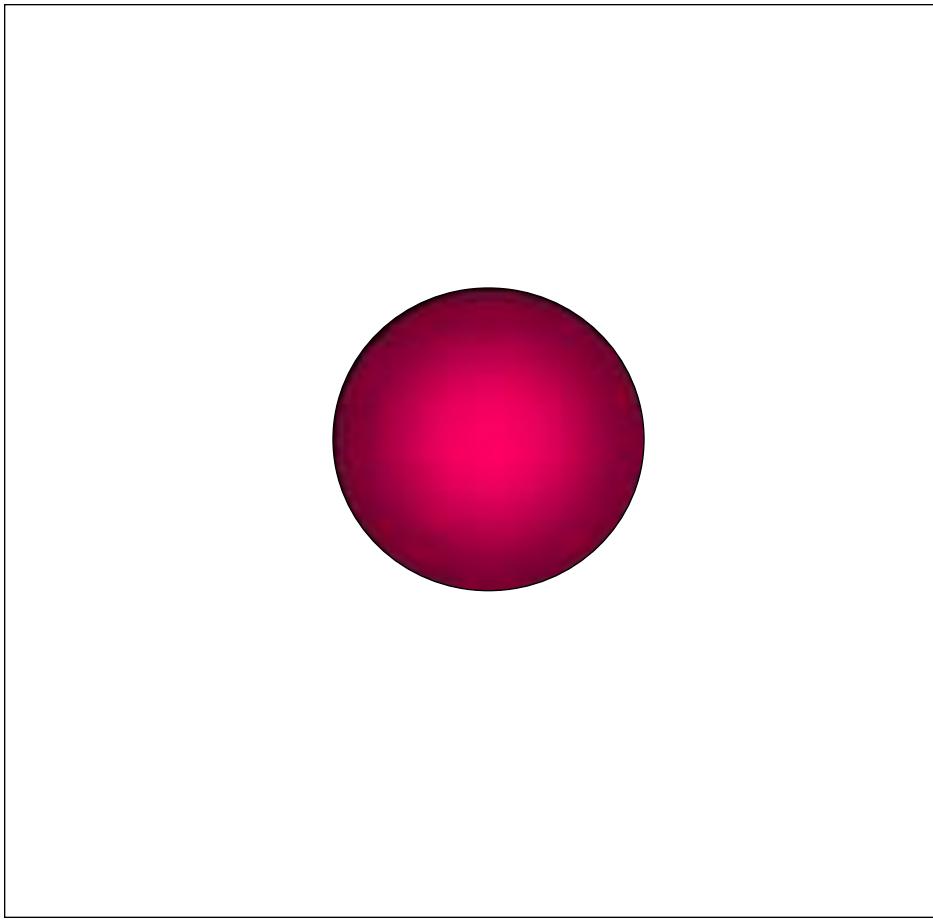
# Inversion: Tomography



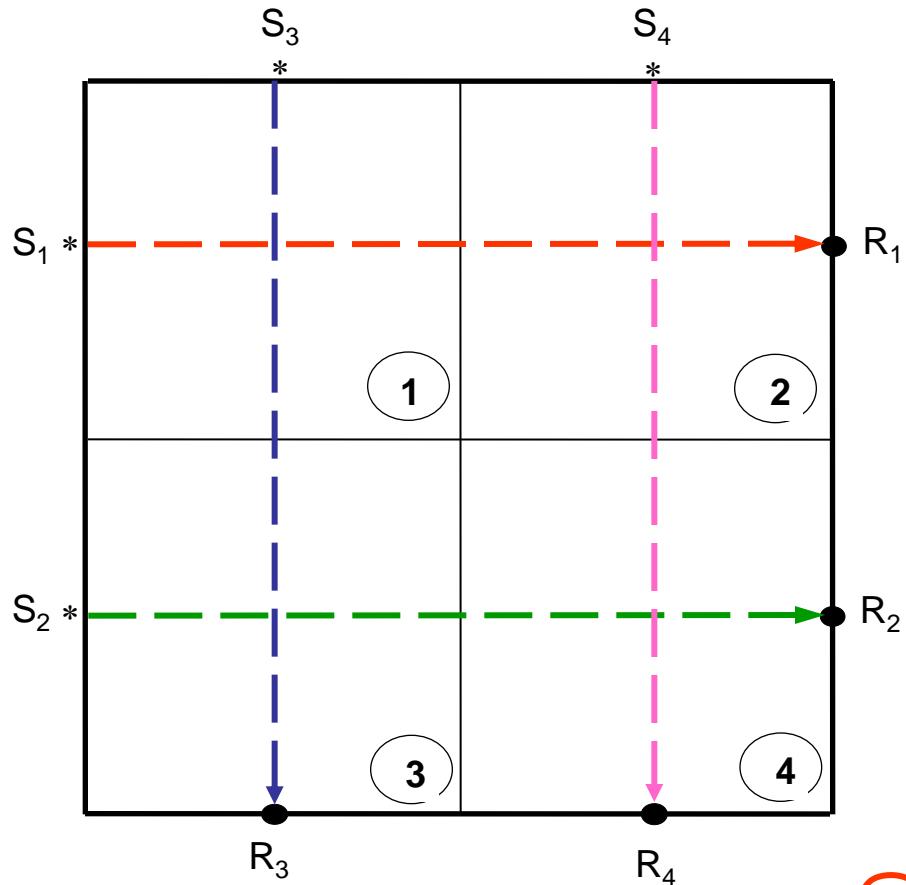








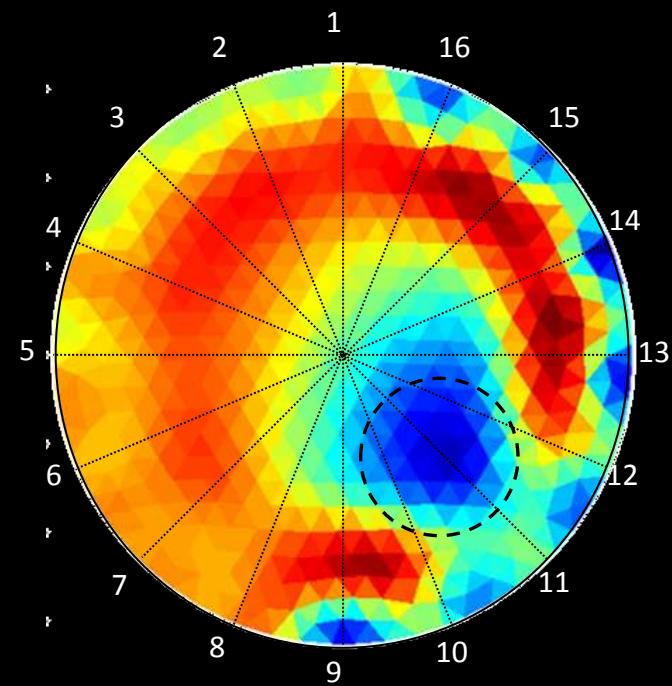
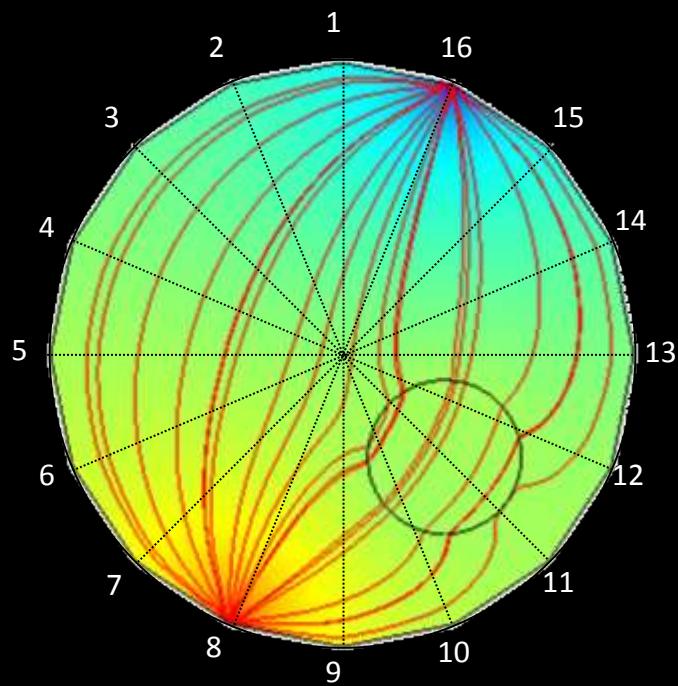
## Mathematically...



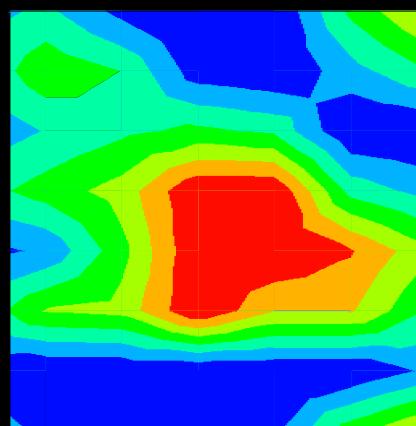
$$\begin{bmatrix} t_1 \\ t_2 \\ t_3 \\ t_4 \end{bmatrix} = \boxed{\begin{bmatrix} \ell_{1,1} & \ell_{1,2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \ell_{2,3} & \ell_{2,4} \\ \ell_{3,1} & 0 & \ell_{3,3} & 0 \\ 0 & \ell_{4,2} & 0 & \ell_{4,4} \end{bmatrix}} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1/V_1 \\ 1/V_2 \\ 1/V_3 \\ 1/V_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Numerical and Experimental Study

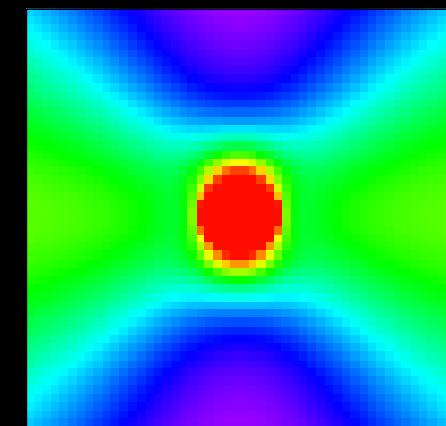
*high conductivity anomaly*



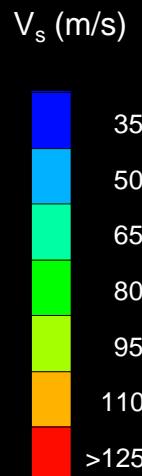
# Around tunnels: velocity tomograms



Pixel



Parametric



# **Summary: Processing**

**Waves:**      **complex phenomena**  
                        **yet... information-rich**

**Signal Processing:**  
                        **needed to extract information**  
                        **may be misleading...**

**Inverse Problems:**  
                        **how much information is in the data?**  
                        **ill-posed ?**

# Closing Thoughts



**Mechanical Waves**



**Electromagnetic Waves**



**Thermal Phenomena**



**Processing**

***Geophysical methods extend our senses...***

## Mechanical waves

$V_s$ : skeletal stiffness ( $\sigma'$ , cement, suction)

$V_p$ : saturation

## Electromagnetic Waves

$\kappa$ : volumetric water content (porosity if  $S=100\%$ )

$\sigma$ : pore fluid conductivity (and... specific surface)

$\mu$ : ferromagnetism

## Thermal:

Effective stress & water content (frozen?)

## Mechanical waves, EM waves and thermal:

*Complementary information*

Physically sound concepts

Parameters critical to geotech design

Low perturbation → process monitoring

Boundary measurements → tomography

Spatial variability and anisotropy

Some complexity... but information rich

*Add sensors to all cells*

***CAUTION: processing ...***

# **Process Monitoring:**

**Sedimentation**

**Ageing**

**Drying – Unsaturation**

**Ionic diffusion**

**Dynamic energy coupling**

**Stochastic resonance**

**Ground modification**

**Freezing**

**Failure**

**Fabric anisotropy**

**Pressure diffusion**

**Thixotropy and Creep**

**Cementation / de-cementation**

**Chemo-osmosis**

**Seismic-electric coupling**

**Liquefaction**

**Mixed fluid-phase**

**Hydrates**

**Stress tomography**

**Spatial variability**

## Acknowledgements

|               |                     |             |                   |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| G.G. Cho      | <i>KAIST</i>        | J.Y. Lee    | <i>KIGAM</i>      |
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