

**Les “Mardis” de la Chimie Durable**  
Sur le thème des matériaux  
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## **Levers for reducing the environmental impact of cements and cementitious materials**



**By Lê Chiên HOÀNG**

**Expert-Consultant in Green, Sustainable & Bio-inspired Chemistry  
at ITG-MANAGEMENT FRANCE**

***IGE – Innovation for a Green Evolution***

*Mobile phone: + 33 665 085 963*

*Email: lechien.hoang@gmail.com*

# CEMENT – Definition and applications

## CEMENTS

OPC - Ordinary Portland Cement

CAC – Calcium Aluminate Cement

CSAC – Calcium SulfoAluminate Cement

### OPC-Ordinary Portland Cement

. Clinker:  $(\text{CaO})_x(\text{SiO}_2)_y(\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3)_z(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3)_u$

**C3S (Alite) – C2S (Belite) – C3A – C4AF**

. Additives

. CMs: Secondary Cementitious Materials

+

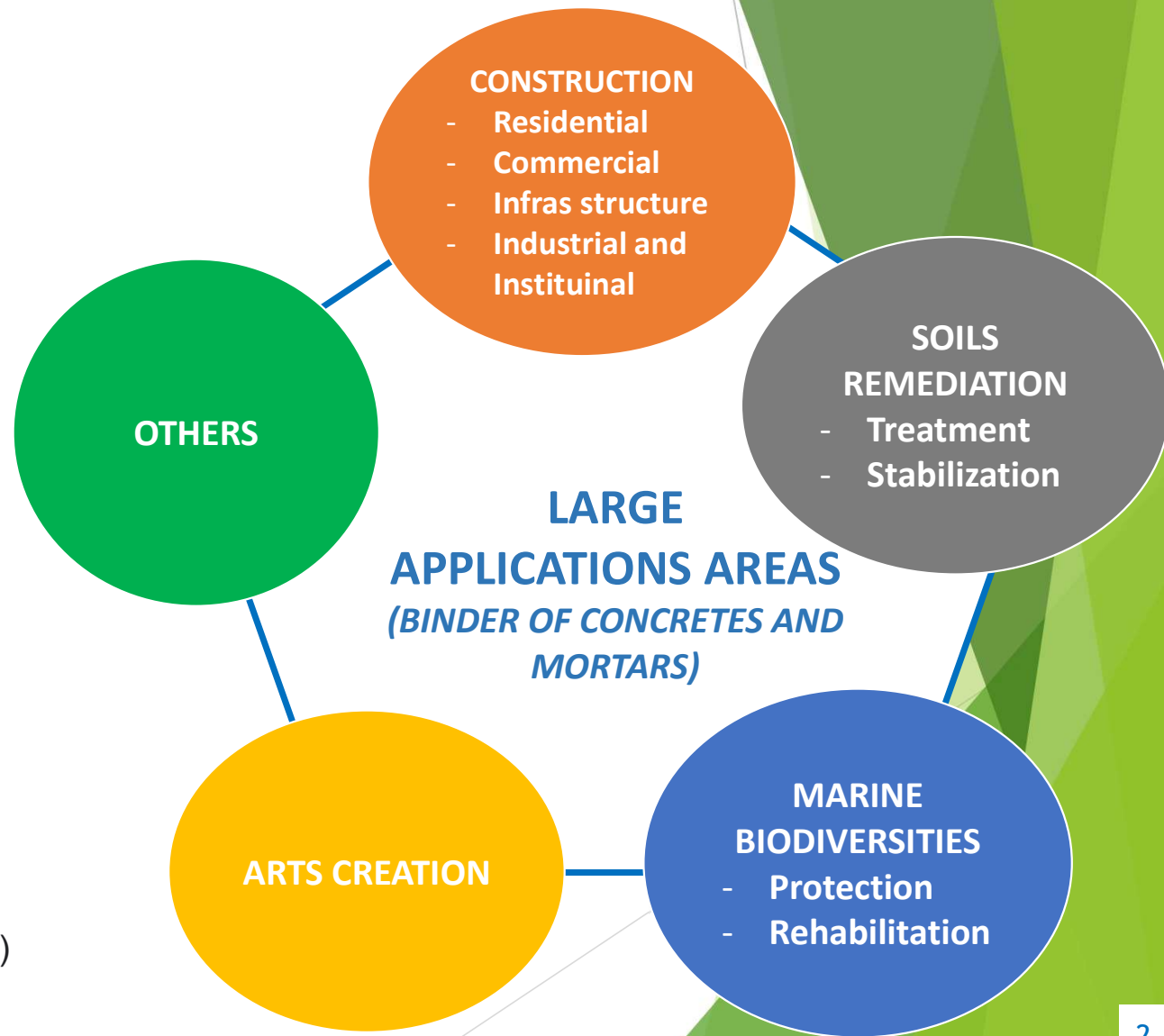
WATER

HYDRATED CEMENT

Hydrated OPC: « C-S-H »

Special **mineral glue** with exceptional properties:

- Insolubility in water
- Very high adhesive properties
- Very high mechanical performance (CS: 150 Mpa)
- Very long durability (50 to 100 years)



# Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC) production

## Clinker substitution with CMs

**RAW MATERIALS (7 Gt/Y)**

- Clay (20%): 1,43 Gt/Y
- Limestone (80%): 5,72 Gt/y

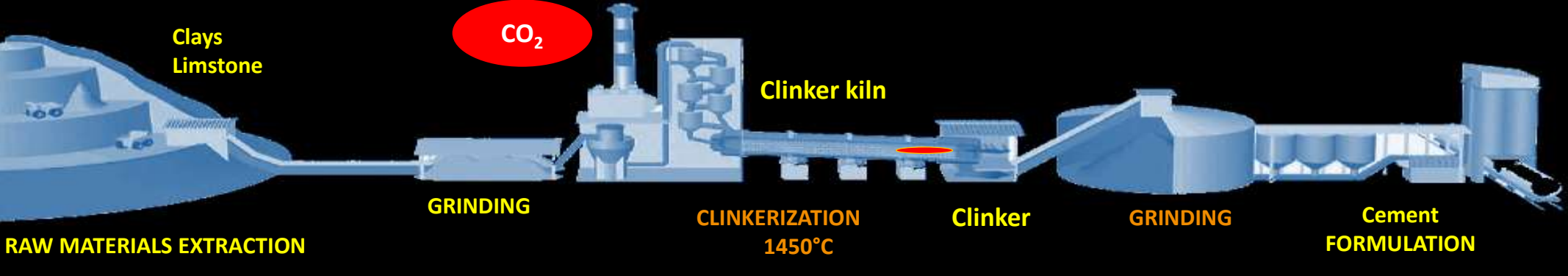
**WATER (1.43 km<sup>3</sup>/Y)**

**ENERGY (22.5 GJ/Y)**

- Fuels (Coke)
- Electricity power

**CMs (Secondary Cementitious Materials)**

- Gypsum
- Coal fly ash, Vegetable ashes
- Granulated blast furnace slag
- Silica fume, Pozzonana



**GHG EMISSION (3.57 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>-eq/Y)**

**PORTLAND CEMENT (4.6 Gt/Y)**

- CEM I : 95% of Portland clinker
- CEM II/A or B : 65% of Portland clinker
- CEM III/A, B or C : 36 to 80% of furnace slag
- CEM IV : Pozzonana Cement
- CEM V : Composite Cement
- CEM VI : Composite Cement\_NF EN 197-5 (50% less clinker, Le Teil)

→ Clinker substitution with secondary materials (CMs) can reduce annual global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by up to 1.3 gigatons (Sabbie A. Miller et al. 2022)

## Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC) production

### *Alternative fuels*

- Target: 30 to 70% of alternative fuels

Coffee Husk



Palm Kernel Shell



Rice Husk



Obsolete Seeds



Municipal wastes



Water Treatment Plant Sludge



End-of-life products



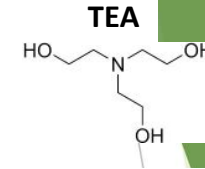
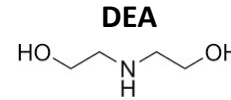
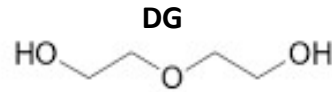
- **Precaution and recommendations**

- *Networks organization for wastes collecting and pre-treating*
- *Control of mineral composition (Heavy metal and Phosphorous content)*
- *Appropriate treatment of combustion gas*

# Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC) production

## Grinding Aid Agents

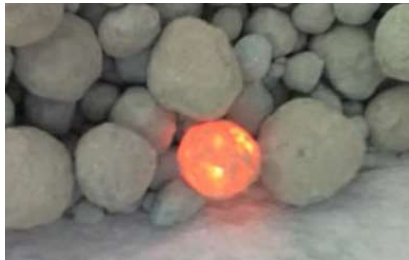
- Synthesis Grinding Aid Agents (Small & polar molecules)



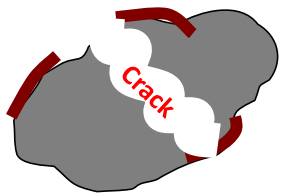
Amine acetate

250 to 400g of GAA/T of cement or > 1,5 Mt/Y

Limestones  
CMs  
Clinker ( C3S-C2S-C4A-C4AF)



Cements, CMs  
Blaine: 2800 – 5000 cm<sup>2</sup>/g  
Particles size: 10 – 80 μm



- Surface adsorption & improving breakage
- Reducing electrostatic energy
- Cleaning balls mill

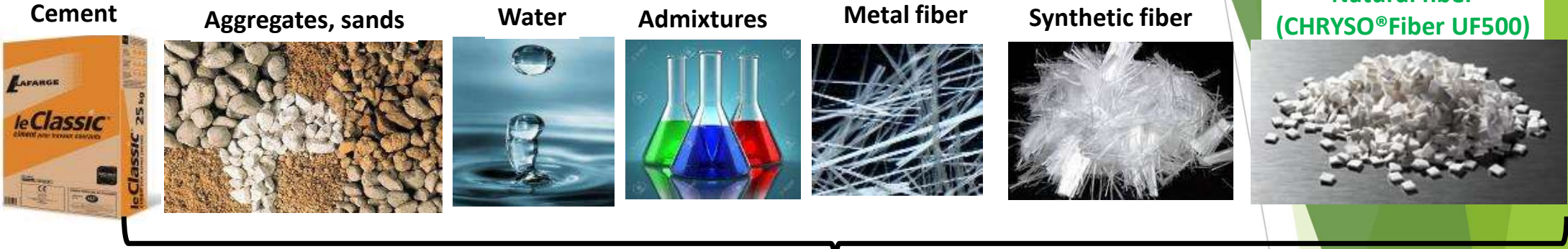


- Improving the separation of fine particles
- Reduce energy consumption
- Increase production capacity
- Improve 28-day compressive strength by +3.7 MPa

### Biobased Grinding Aid Agents

- Crude Glycerol & Derivatives of Glycerol from biodiesel & oleochemical industries
- Aminoacids, hydroxyacids and by-products from food industries
- ...

# Concretes & mortars



## Concrete Ready Mix Plant & Transport



ENERGY



FORMULATION



WASTES

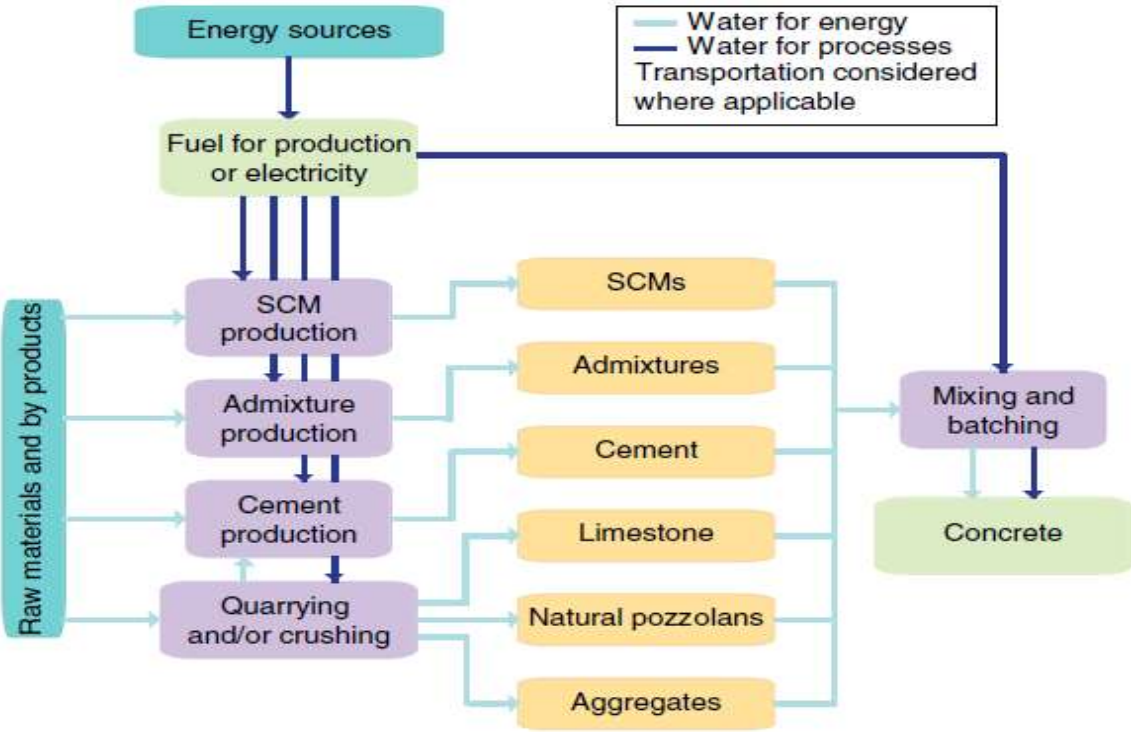
Return concretes  
Washwater



Concretes, Mortars, Coatings



# Concretes & Mortars\_Economical and environmental impact

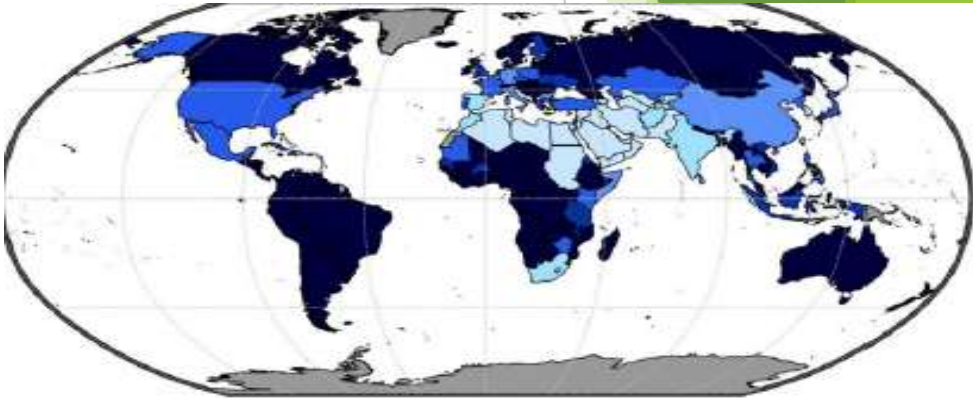


**Concrete flow diagram**  
*Sabbie A. Miller 2018 (California Univ.)*

**Keys words:**

**Concretes production:** 6 Gm<sup>3</sup>/Y or 6 km<sup>3</sup>/Y  
**Aggregates:** > 25 Gt/Y  
**Water withdrawal:** 65.7 km<sup>3</sup> of water  
**Water consumption:** 16.6 km<sup>3</sup> of water  
**Embodied energy:** 14.7 GJ  
**GHG:** 2.73 Gt CO<sub>2</sub> -eq.

**→ Treatment & recycling of wastewater is imperative!**



<5%	20-30%
5-10%	30-40%
10-20%	>40%
Data not available	

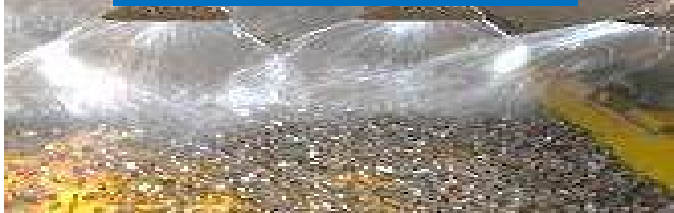
**Global water stress by country**

# Reduction of fresh water withdrawal for aggregates making

Aggregates production: 25 Gt/Y (World); 400 Mt/Y (French)



**CRUSHING - SCREENING**  
**WASHING**



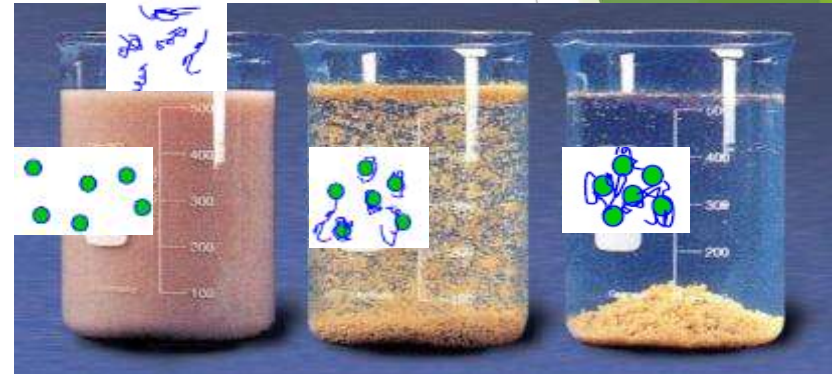
150 to 200 kg of dry sludge/t of aggregates



## AGGREGATES WASHING:

- Use from 1 to 2m<sup>3</sup> of water/T of aggregate
- Used water contains a lot of small particles
- ➔ Needing to use the flocculent agent to treat used water

## FLOCULATING OF SLUDGE



**Floculent agent (polymers):** Polymelamineformol, PolyAcrylamide...

- **Weaknesses of the current floculent agents:**
  - Environmental impact <= 1000 mg/L of treated water
  - Price of synthesis molecules

☑ **Good prospects for the biodegradable and biobased molecules (Chitosan, Starches, cellulose derivative)**



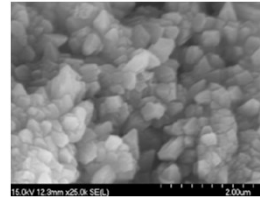
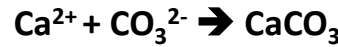
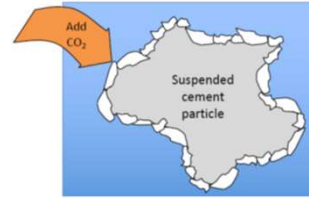
# Reduction of fresh water withdrawal for concrete making

- Recycling of Return concrete (1 – 1,5%) & Concrete washwater (more than 100L/m<sup>3</sup>) beneficiation using CO<sub>2</sub>



- Washing of trucks produces up to **800 L** of wash water per load.
- About **270 kg** of solids are typically washed from a truck.
- Investigated CO<sub>2</sub> mineralization in washwater solids to allow increased use as mix water

→ CO<sub>2</sub> capture potential: 0.5 to 0.7 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>/Y



- Reuse treated wastewater for concrete making



**TREATMENT**

- . Aerobical
- . Anaerobical
- . Oxydation (O<sub>3</sub>)
- . Ultrafiltration



→ Treated water is very good quality for concrete making, even as drinking water. But we need the permission of states

# Functionnal admixtures for concrete making

No concrete without organic admixtures (EN 934-2)

Concrete production: 6 Gm<sup>3</sup>/Y (World); 215 Mm<sup>3</sup>/Y (Europe)  
Global Admixtures market: 13.5 Billions USD/Y

## Why to admix a material ?

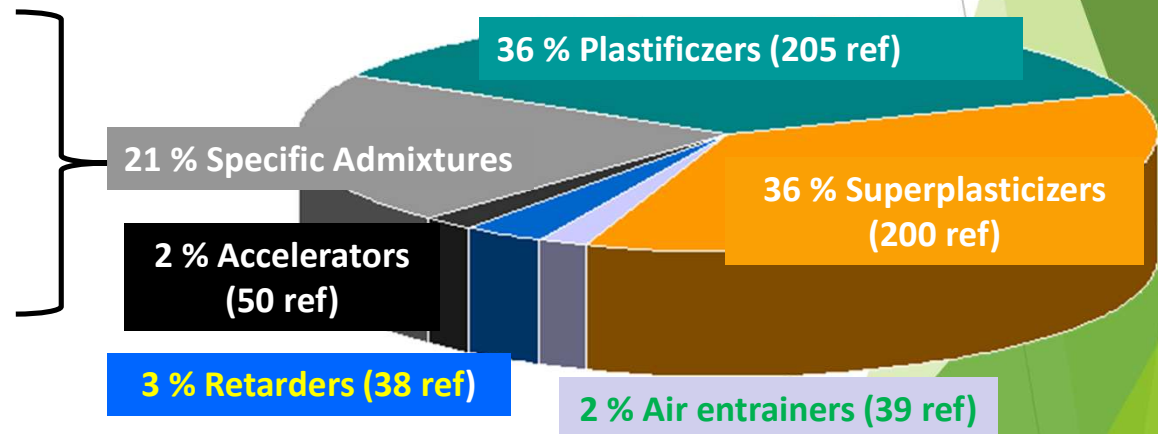
- To adapt to local raw materials (polluted sand, Specific cement...)
- To adapt /optimize production processes (Acceleration, retardation, workability...)
- To provide specific properties (freeze/thaw resistance, shrinkage/cracking, insulating...)



European production of Admixtures : 850 000 t/Y

## Specific Admixtures

- Water retaining agents
- Viscosity modifiers
- Anti-Shrinkage agents
- Foaming agents
- Demolding Agent
- Curing agent...



# Right materials for right application thank to fonctionnal admixtrures

Airium<sup>®</sup>, an insulating cement foam



Ultralight cement foam  
Density < 100kg/m<sup>3</sup>



Viaduc of Millau  
France  
Current concretes

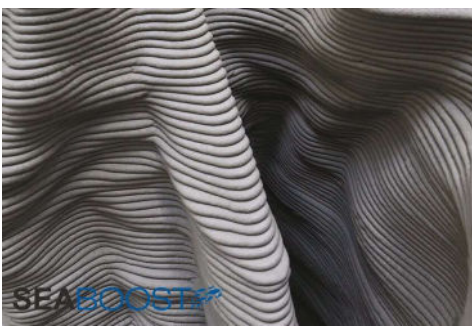


LAFARGE  
UHPC\_Bridge of Peace made of Ductal<sup>®</sup> in Seoul

## Bio-inspired concrete thank to 3D PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES to the rescue of marine biodiversity \_ Calanques Marseille



XTREEE



SEA BOOST



➔ Specific admixtures & additives are essential for theses applications

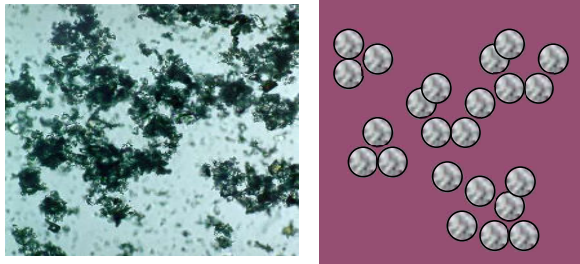
# Functional admixtures for concretes & mortars

## (Super)plasticizers

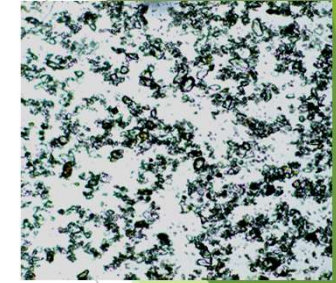
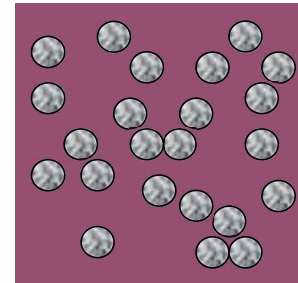
Without dispersing agents, cement particles agglomerate (flocculation)  
→ Lose of fluidity of concrete

A dispersing agent breaks down these flocs by repulsive forces between cement particles  
→ Increasing fluidity

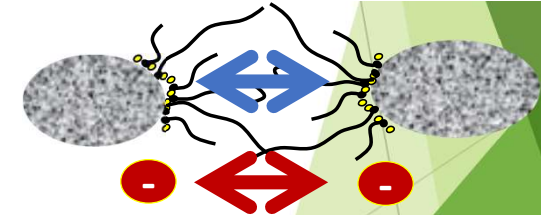
Flocculated state



Dispersed state



Steric or electrostatic dispersing of cement particles



### A good dispersing agent allows:

- to obtain a self-compacting and self-leveling concrete
- easy to use, aesthetic and ergonomic, delivering high quality results.

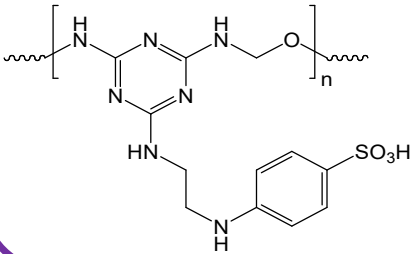


# Main families of plasticizers (dispersing agents) for ready-mix concrete

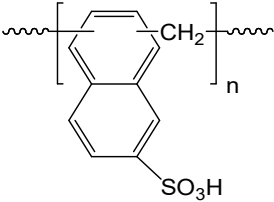
Anionic water-soluble molecules or polymers

## Superplasticizers 1<sup>st</sup> Generation

Melamine-based polycondensates  
**MSF, PMS**

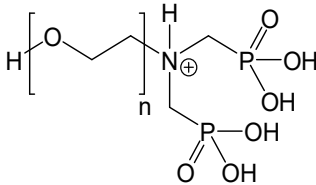


(Naphthalene Sulfonated Formaldehyde) based polycondensates **NSF, PNS**

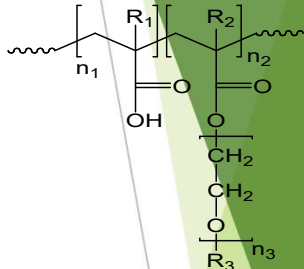


## Superplasticizers 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation

Diphosphonate polyox



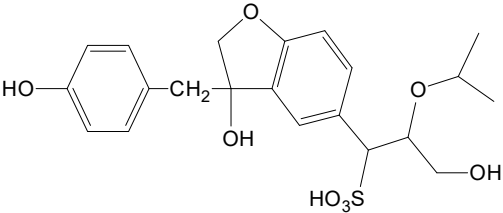
Poly(Carboxylate de Polyéthylène glycol) **PCP or PCE**



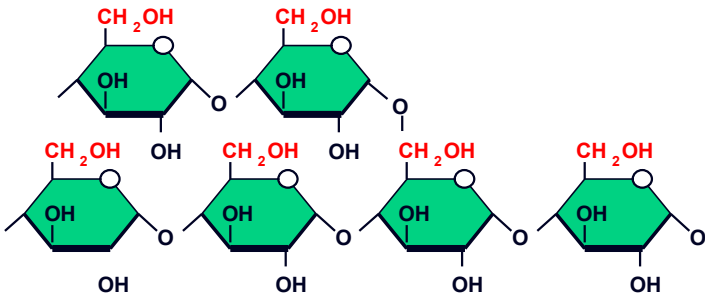
## Bio-based plasticizers

Sulphonated or carboxylated olysaccharides (Cellulose, starches, gums)

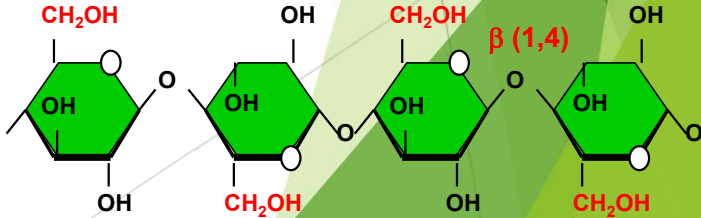
LignoSulfonates, LS



Starches derivatives (*Branched structure*)



Cellulose derivatives (*Linear structure*)

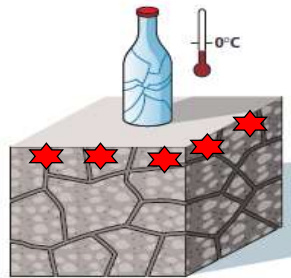


## Aircraft runways deterioration

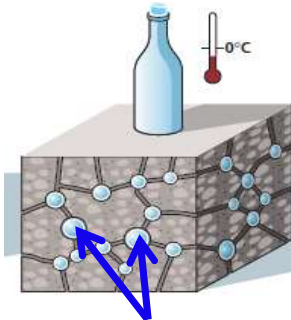


## Concrete Resistance to freeze-thaw attack thank to Air Entraining Agent (AEA)

**USA:** Reparation costs due to freeze-thaw cycles and chloride ingress are estimated to **16 to 24 billions dollars + 400 Millions dollars per year.**



The frozen water volume increases by 9% and cause the cracks of concrete (Powers 1945)



→ Creation a well network micro-bubbles of air increases the frost resistance of certain concretes by decreasing the internal tensions in capillaries

**Air bubbles network**

- **Air Entraining Agent has to create and stabilize the air bubbles network**
- **3 families distinguished by their 'polar' head:**

**AEA = Surfactant**



- Sulfonates and sulfates based (Synthetic compounds)
- Non ionic based (PEO)
- **Bio-Based molecules (Fatty carbocyclic acids...)**

## Cement-based insulating materials

**Contexte:** Global insulation market:  
External wall insulation (new & retrofit):

82 Bn € in 2017  
5.7 Bn m<sup>2</sup>/year

**Airium®** a technology developed and patented by LafargeHolcim R&D center nearly of Lyon France

Airium® is an cement-based insulating foam, so light as a chocolate foam and very fluid.

Thermal conductivity = 0,04 to 0,12 W/m.K



Insulating Bloc

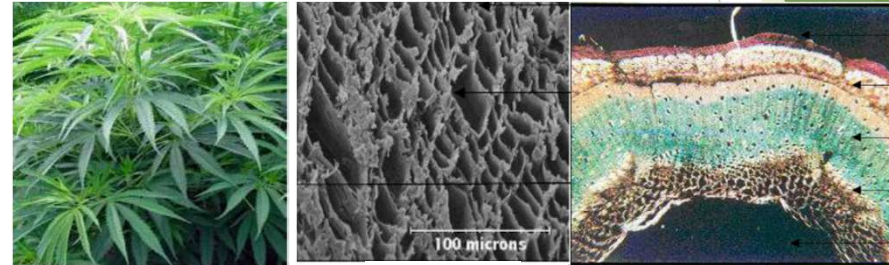


Insulating Screed



## Biobased Insulating Block

Hemp wood



Cement

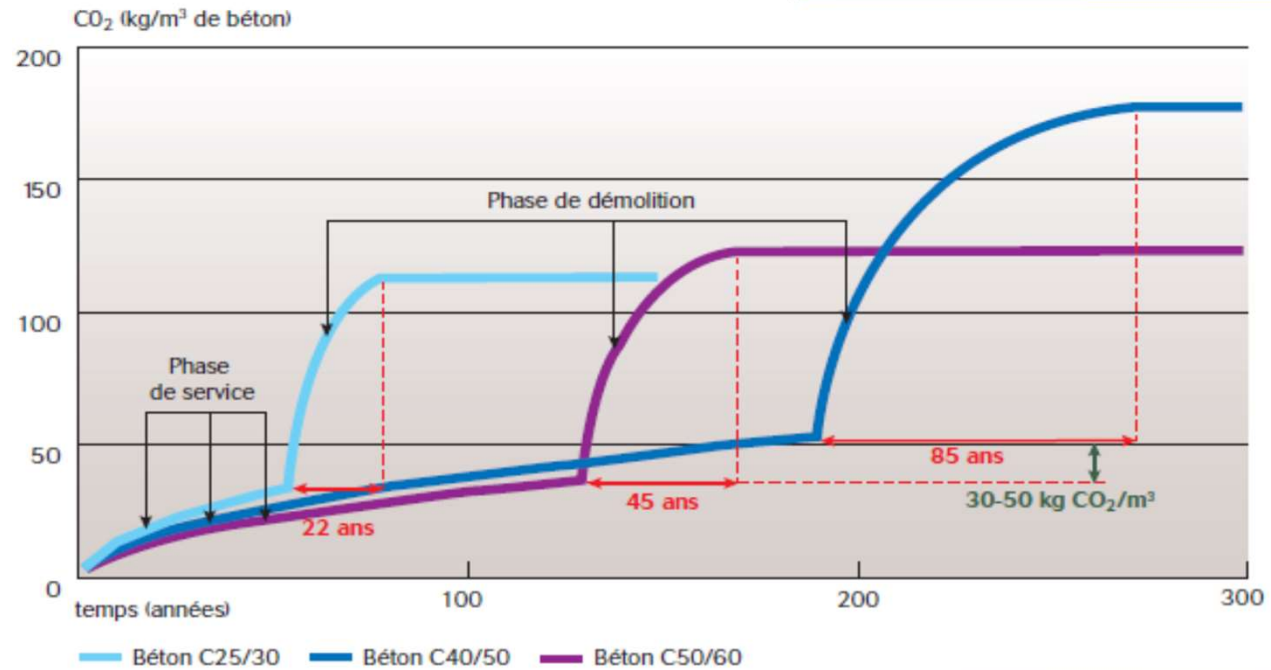
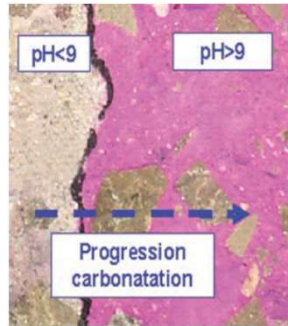
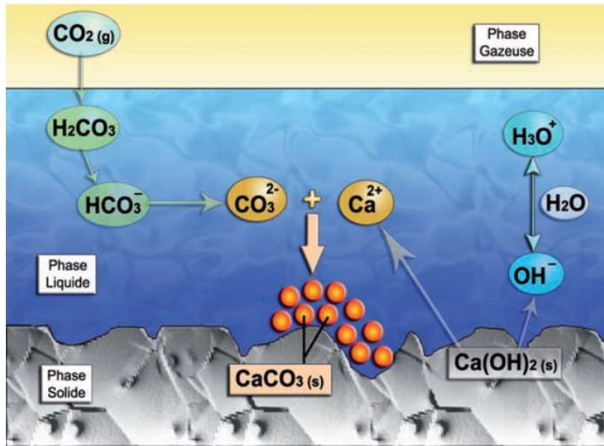
### FORMULATION

With as well as possible control of the interaction « Binder/Biomasse »



Thermal conductivity: 0,05 to 0,1 W/m.K  
Compressive Strength : 0,1 to 3 MPa

# Recarbonation of demolition concretes



Quantité de  $\text{CO}_2$  fixée au cours des phases de service et de démolition-exposition pour les trois classes du béton (la taille des granulats est de 10 mm) (N. ROUSSEL).

## Remarques:

- Capacité de capture du  $\text{CO}_2$  par le béton recyclé : de 120 à 180 kg du  $\text{CO}_2/\text{m}^3$
- La recarbonation du béton est lente en phase de service et s'accélère en phase de démolition
- L'objectif du projet FASTCARB est d'accélérer la recarbonation par un procédé intégré sur site en utilisant le  $\text{CO}_2$  émis par des cimenteries.

Mécanisme de carbonatation au niveau de la solution interstitielle du béton (IFSTTAR).

Stock de bétons de démolition avant traitement.





# Levers for Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC) production *CO<sub>2</sub> capture, carbonation & valorization*

**PROJET FASTCARB ET RECARBONATION )DES GRANULATS DE BETON RECYCLES (GBR)**

**UN CERCLE VERTUEUX ENTRE RECYCLAGE, ECONOMIE CIRCULAIRE ET PRODUCTION BAS CARBONE**

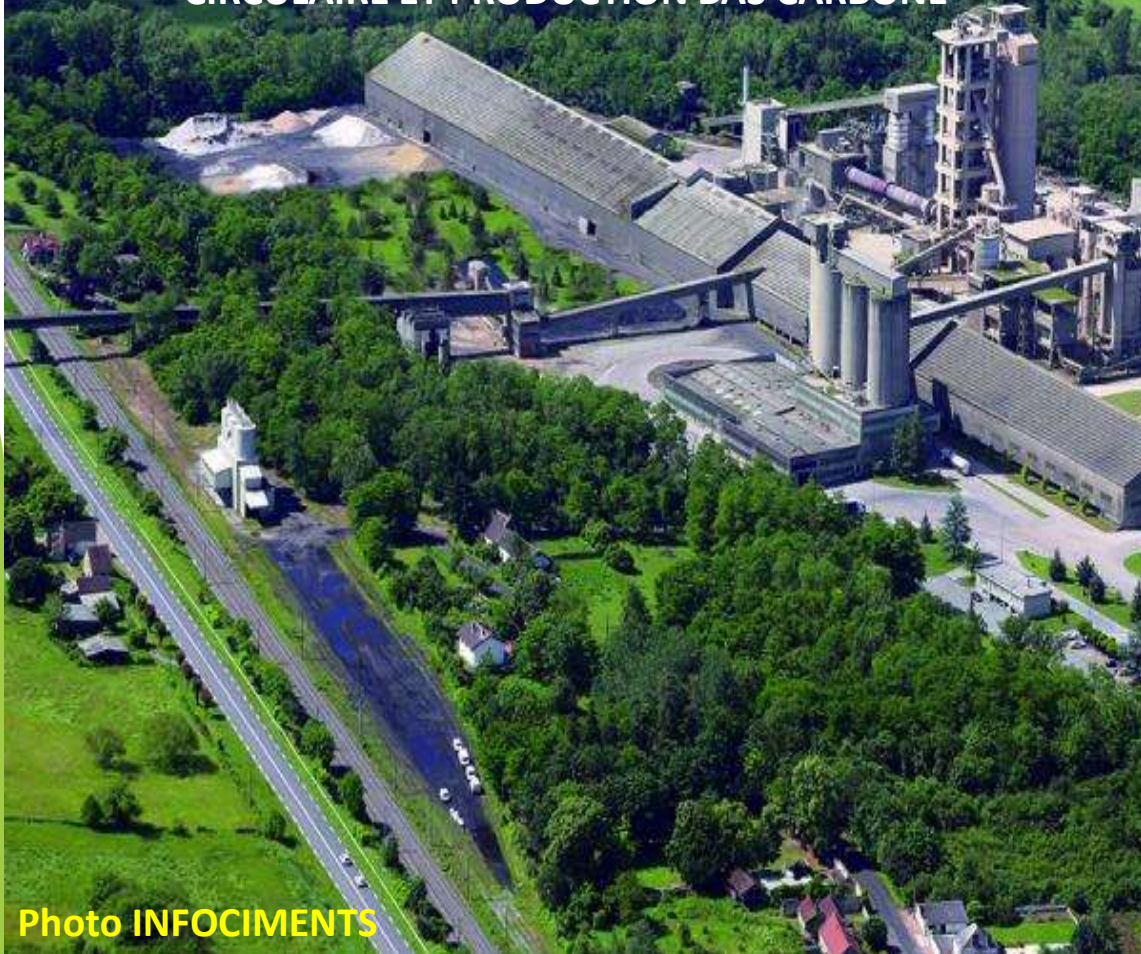
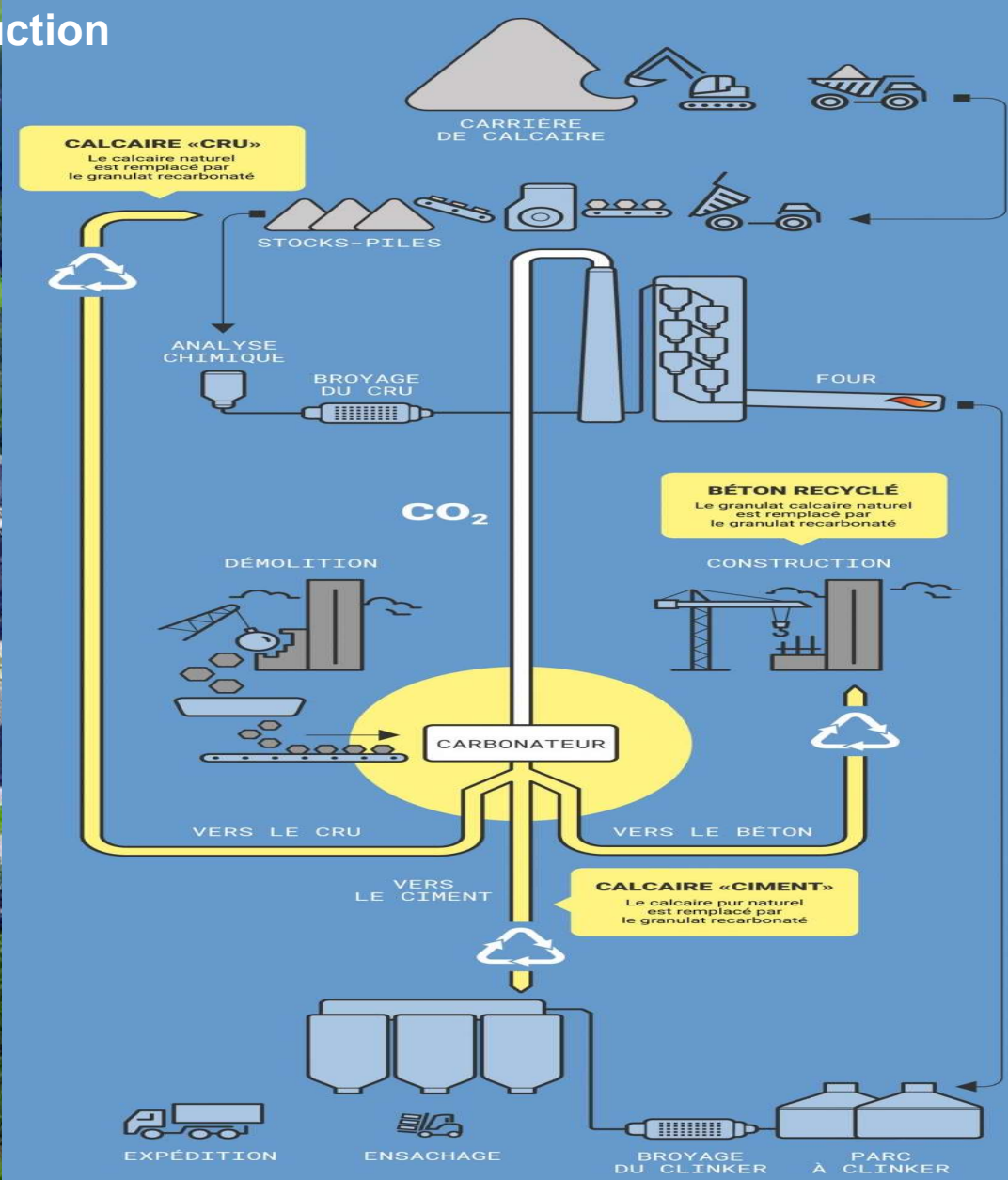
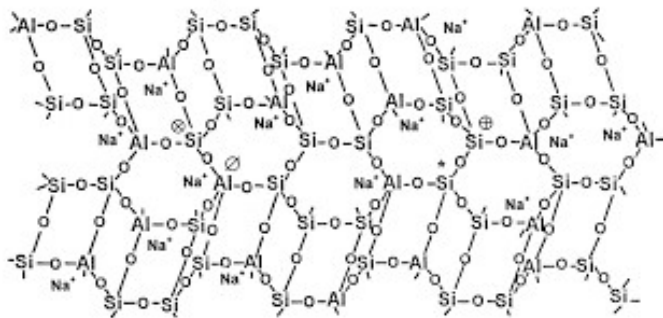


Photo INFOCUMENTS



# Geopolymers as alternative binders for concrete making

## GEOPOLYMER ALKALIN ACTIVATION (LOW TEMPERATURE)



### Chemical composition of fly ash of power plant

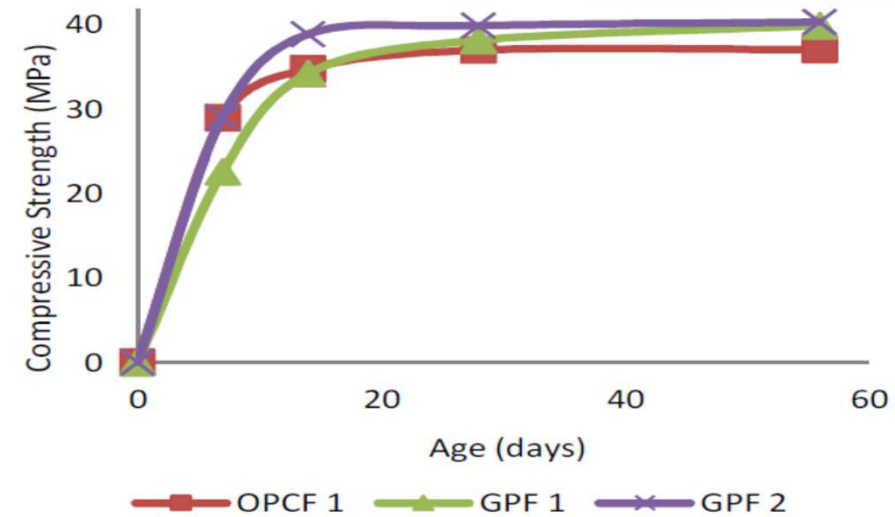
Chemical composition	Percentage (%)
CO <sub>2</sub>	0.10
SiO <sub>2</sub>	55.80
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	24.20
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	9.10
K <sub>2</sub> O	4.41
CaO	2.46
MgO	1.37
TiO <sub>2</sub>	1.34
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.27
BaO	0.25
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.21
MnO	0.18

### Raw materials (CMs) for Geopolymers:

- Fly ash, Vegetable ashes
- Metakaolin
- Blast Furnace Slag
- Red Mud
- Bauxite

Composition of concrete (kg/m<sup>3</sup>)

	OPCF1	GPF1	GPF2
OPC	433		
Coarse aggregate	1063	1123	1123
Fine aggregate	708.8	749	749
Fly ash		372	372
Sodium silicate		111	111
Sodium hydroxide		45 (12M)	45 (16M)



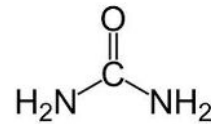
Ambient curing of concrete specimens (Lee Yee Loon 2014)

# BOREAL, Bio-reinforcement of embankments by biocalcification (2019)\_INDURA



STROMATOLITHES CALCIFIES, AUSTRALIE  
 (@BENCOOPER/LAUNCHPHOTOGRAPHY.COM)

## Biocalcification

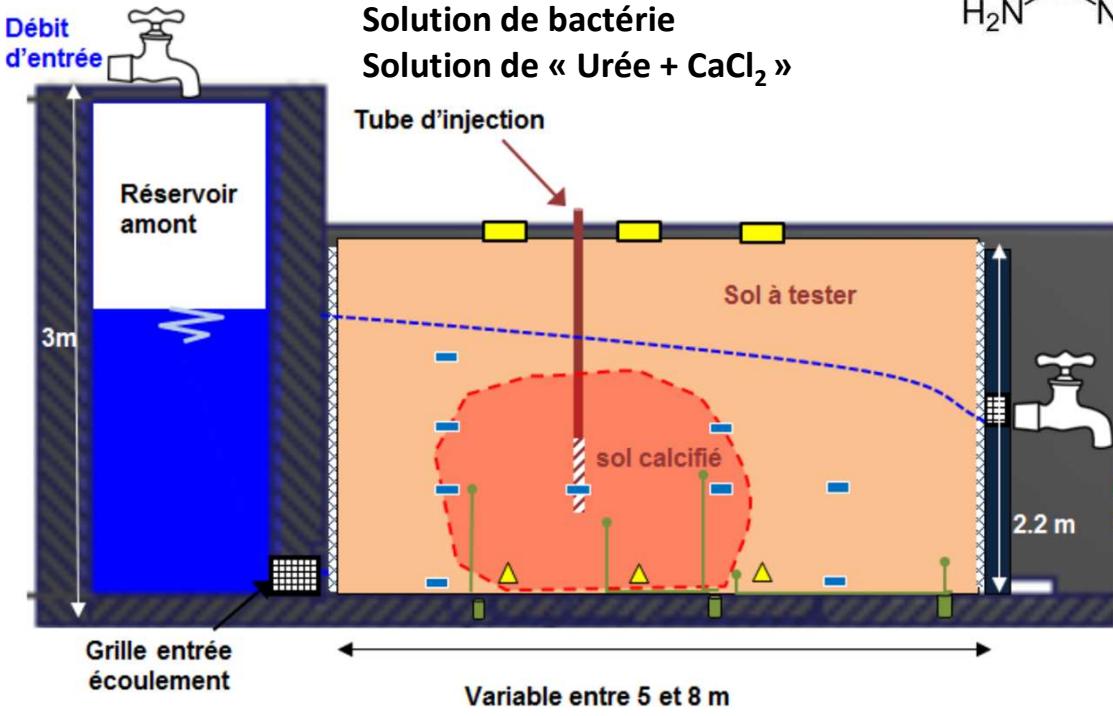


+ CaCl<sub>2</sub> + sable



Bacterie (*Sporosarcina pasteurii*)

Bio-CaCO<sub>3</sub> /Sable



- Sources sismiques
- Géophones
- Enregistreurs de pression
- Piquages pour prises de pression



Résistance en compression:  
 35 MPa max

**We don't lack levers to reduce the environmental impact of cements and cementitious materials !**

**But we need the support of governments, the commitment of industrial actors and public acceptance !**

**Many thanks for your attention and your participation!**