



**Buffer - Backfill  
THM  
+  
Other processes**

1. Background,  
Scope & Limitations

2. Basic  
Behavior

**Buffer - THM  
+  
Other  
processes**

3. External Scenarios.

4. Internal Scenarios

**6. The Real World  
(Building the  
repository)**

5. Other Processes  
- Piping and Erosion

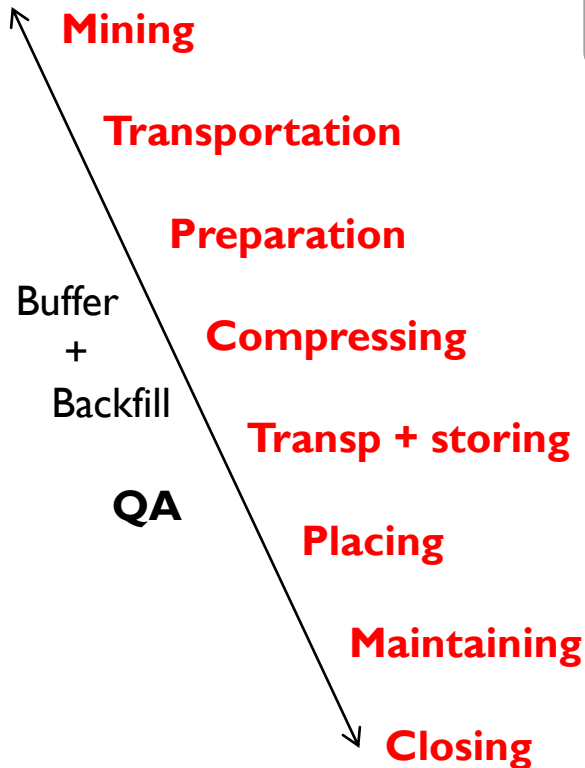
# I. Background, Scope & Limitations

# 2. Basic Behavior

- a. Theoretical development
- b. Laboratory testing
- c. Full scale tests
- d. **Unanswered questions**

**THM**  
+ other processes

# 6. The Real World



# 3. External Scenarios.

- a. Earthquakes – **Shear**
- b. Earthquakes – Liquefaction
- c. Freezing

# 4. Internal Scenarios

- a. Uplift
- b. Settlement
- c. **Homogenisation and saturation**

# 5. Other Processes - **Piping and Erosion**

**THM**

+ other  
processes

## 2. Basic Behavior

Task: *Understand and predict the **basic behavior** of Bentonite*

1. Define properties: Retention, Deformation, Strength, Hydraulic, Thermal
2. Postulate: a number of Constitutive Models/ Global Model
3. Determine model parameters
4. *Verify the models by element testing !*

**THM**

+ other  
processes

## 2. Basic Behavior

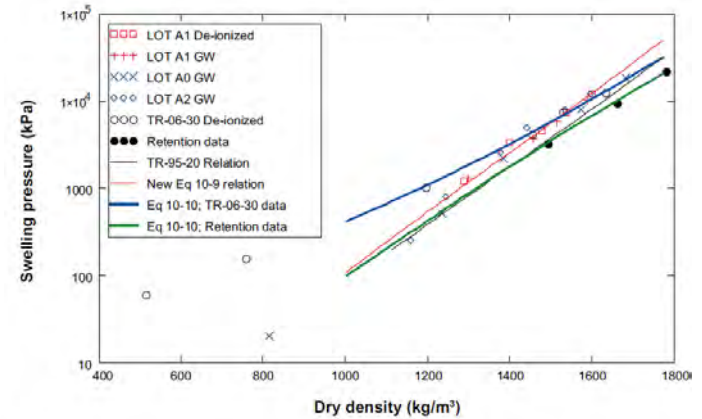
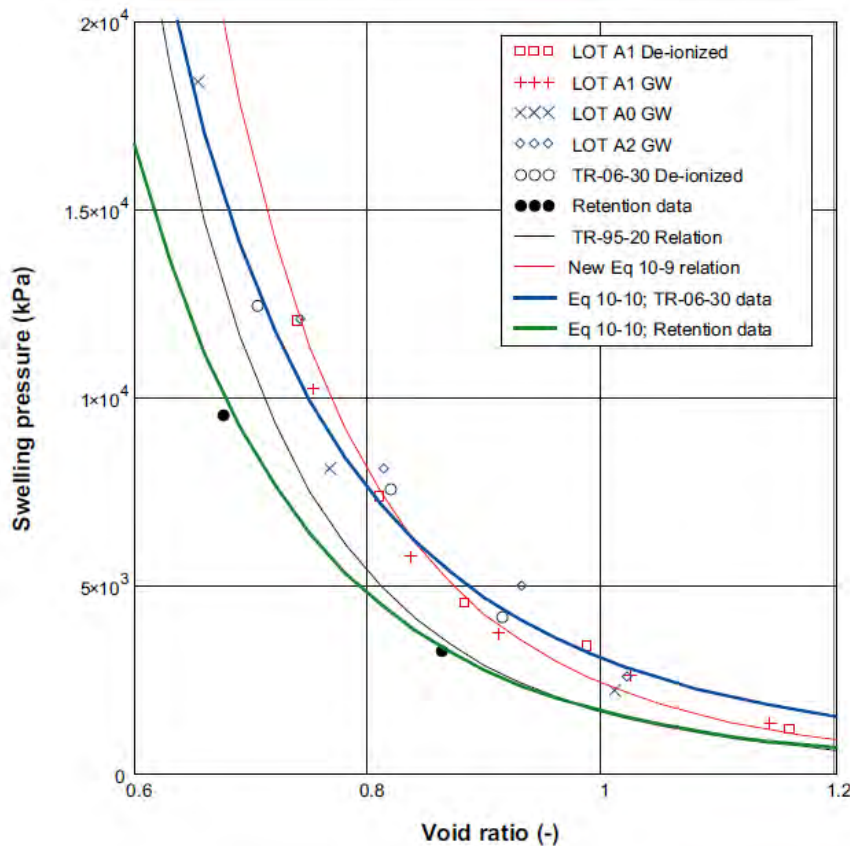
Task: *Understand and predict the **basic behavior** of Bentonite*

1. Define properties: Retention, Deformation, Strength, Hydraulic, Thermal
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***Understand, Model and predict*** material behavior

# Mechanical properties

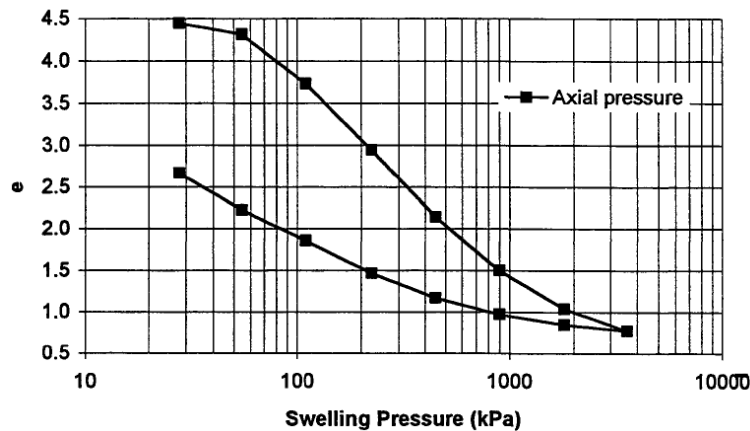
## Deformation properties - swelling pressure



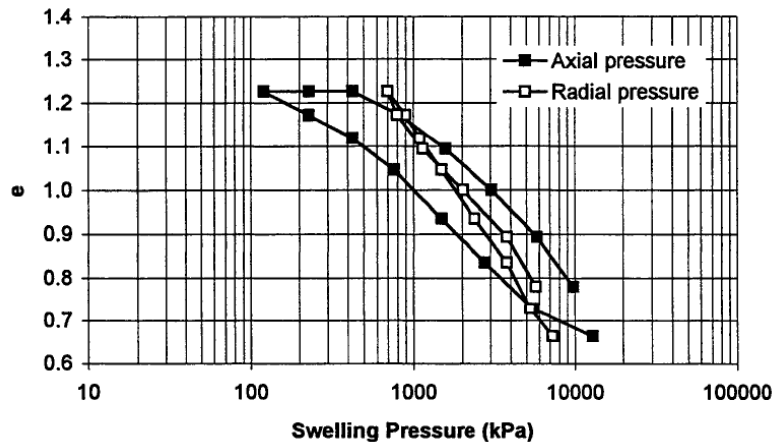
Unique values, but depends on  
- retention data  
- measured at full saturation

# Mechanical properties

Deformation properties  
- modulus (loading and unloading)

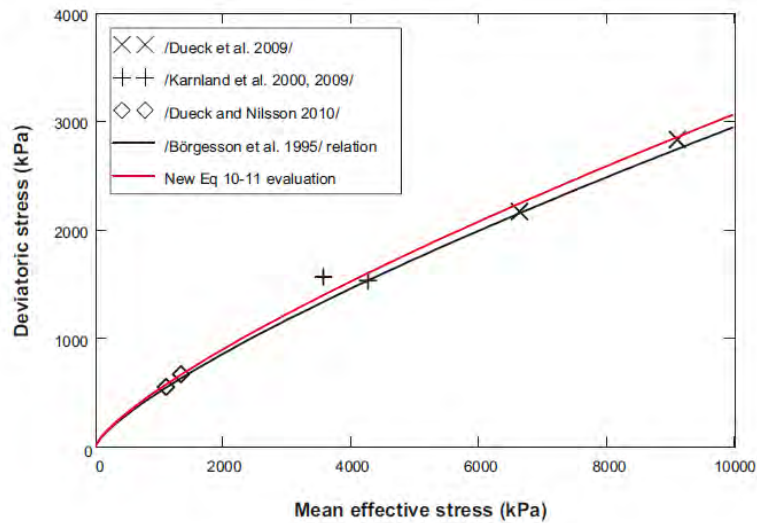


Well understood for oedometer testing  
(fixed ring)

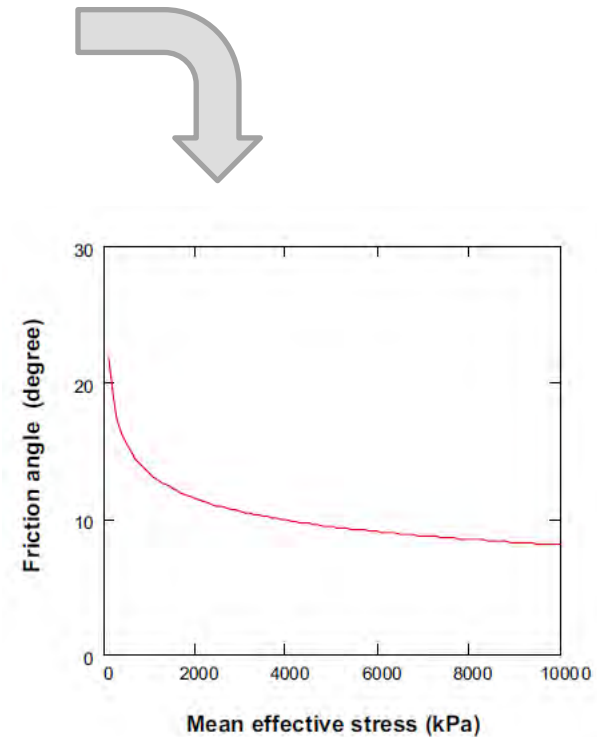


# Mechanical properties

## Strength properties

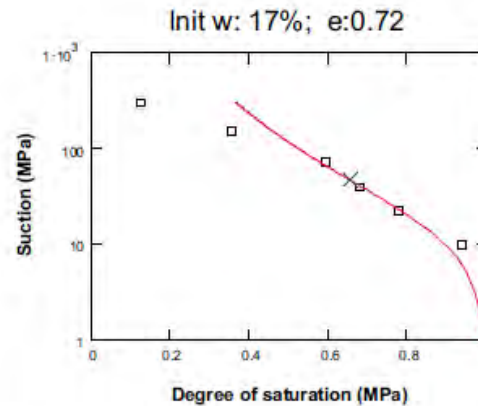
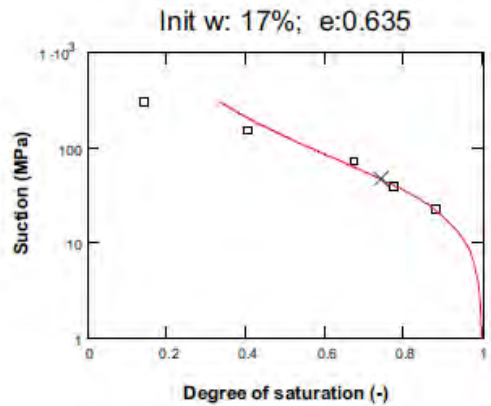


$\phi'$  decreases with increasing stress  
 $c'$  increases, but neglected



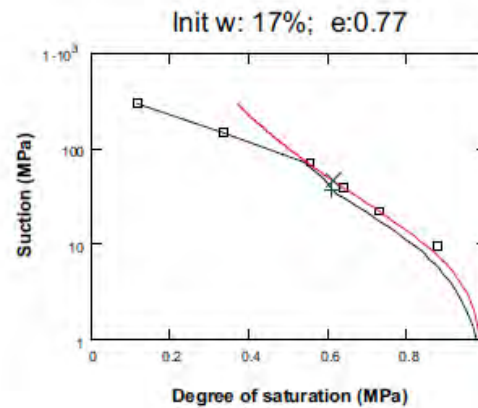
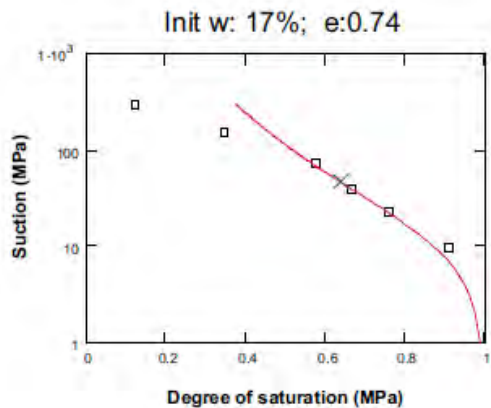
# Hydraulic properties

## Retention properties



Van Genuchten, modified

Observe! Suction in MPa

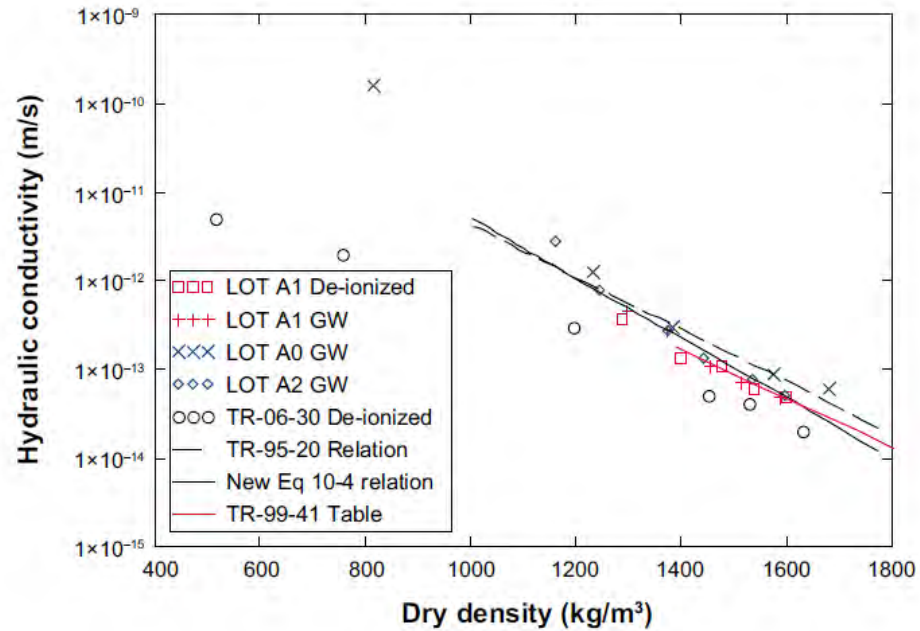


Red: Code Bright  
Black: Claytech  
Symbols: measured

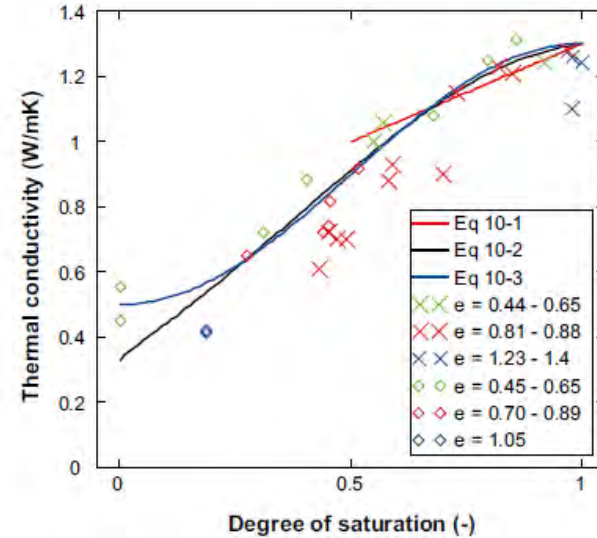
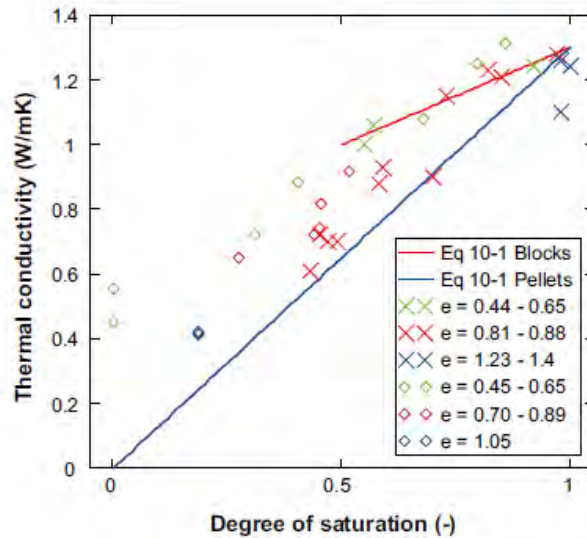
Init w: 17%; e:0.91

Init w: 17%; e:1.780

# Hydraulic properties

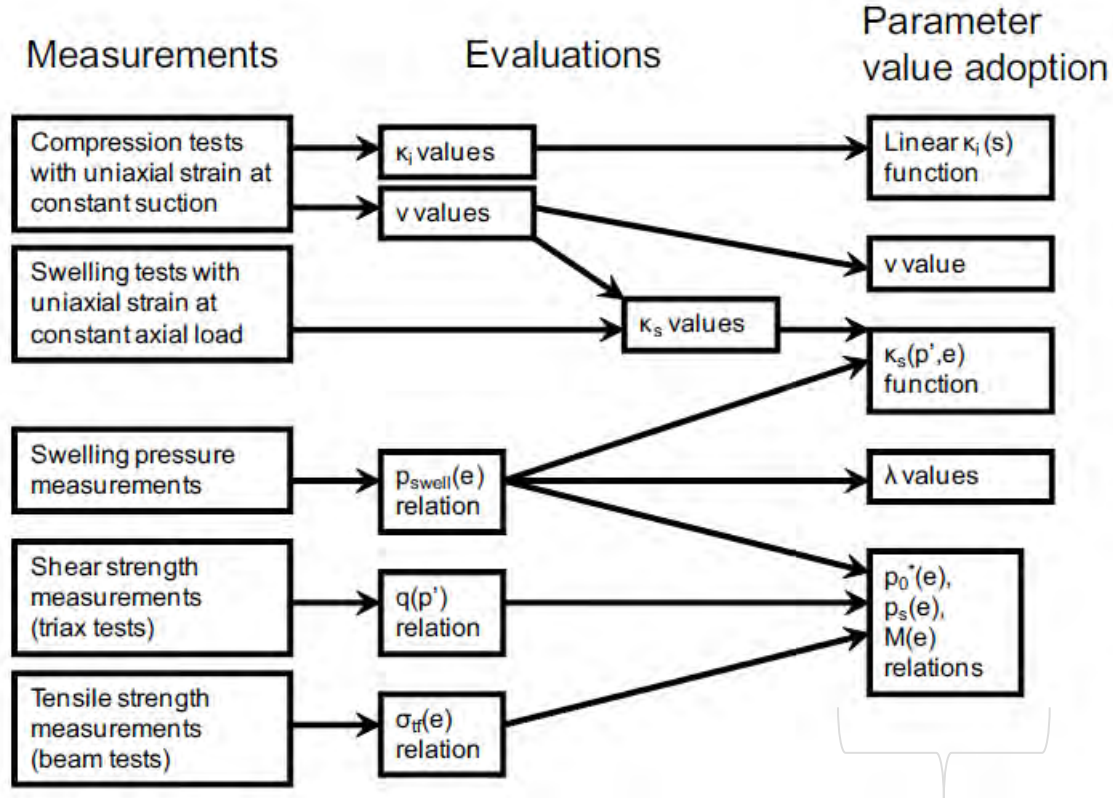


# Thermal properties



1.  $\lambda(S_r) = \lambda_{dry} (1 - S_r) + \lambda_{sat} \cdot S_r$
2.  $\lambda(S_r) = \lambda_{sat} S_r^n \lambda_{dry}^{(1-S_r)^{\frac{1}{n}}}$
3.  $\lambda(S_r) = \lambda_{dry} \cos^2(\pi S_r / 2) + \lambda_{sat} \sin^2(\pi S_r / 2)$

## Measurements - Evaluations - Parameter value adoption

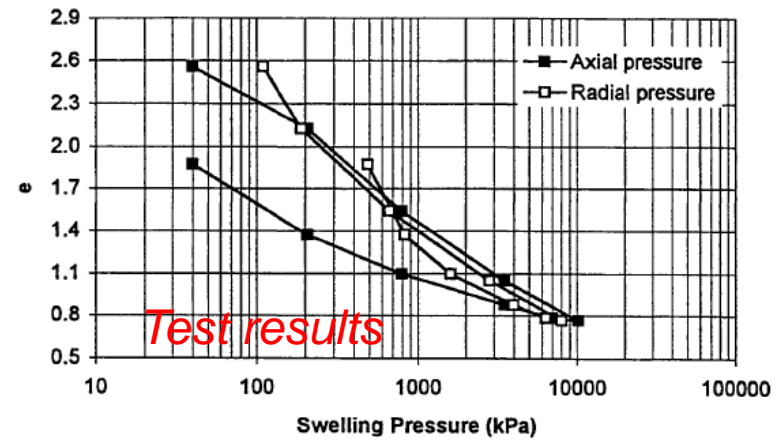
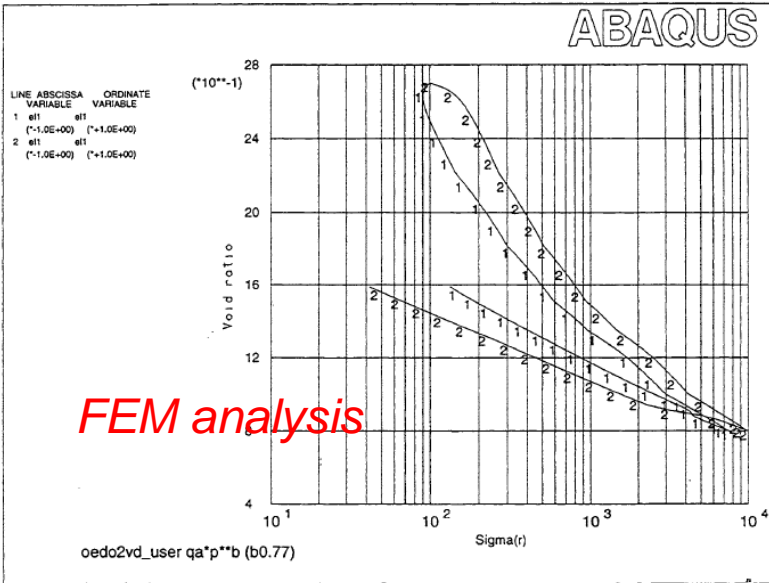


Parameters for advanced constitutive model – **Code\_Bright**

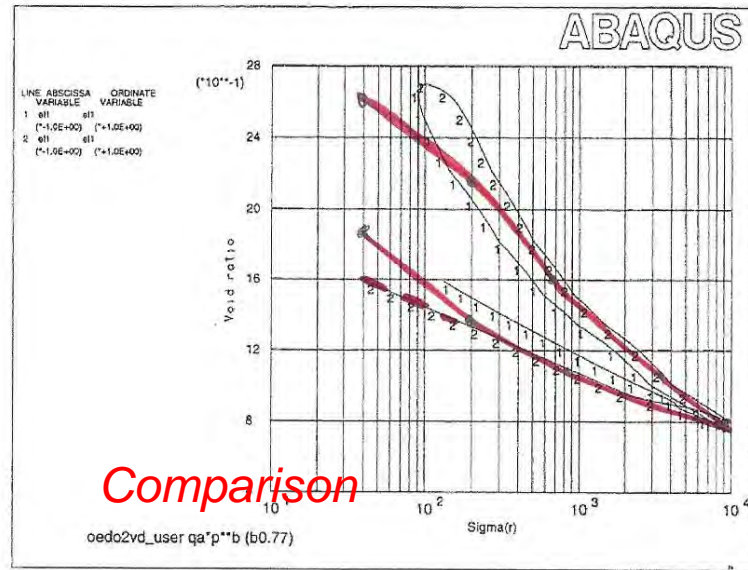
**Strategy** for adoption of mechanical parameters (= compromise)

**Success ?**

**Proof is needed !**



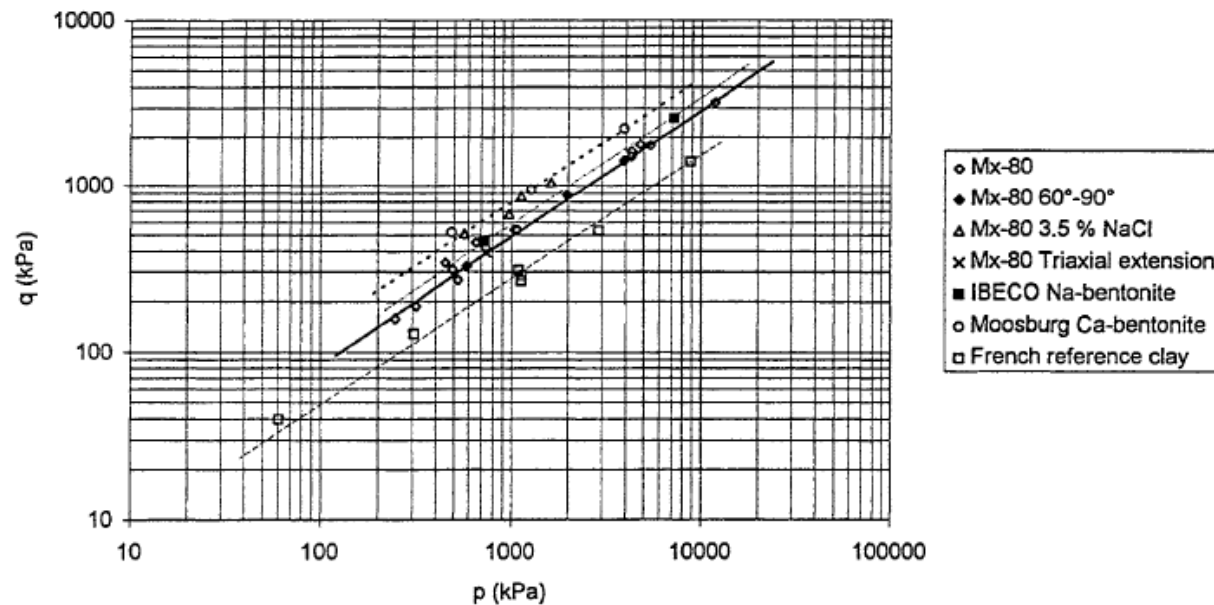
*Figure 5-9. Measured pressures at a compression-swelling test on MX-80 made in the laboratory (KMXAR4).*



# Prediction and Performance

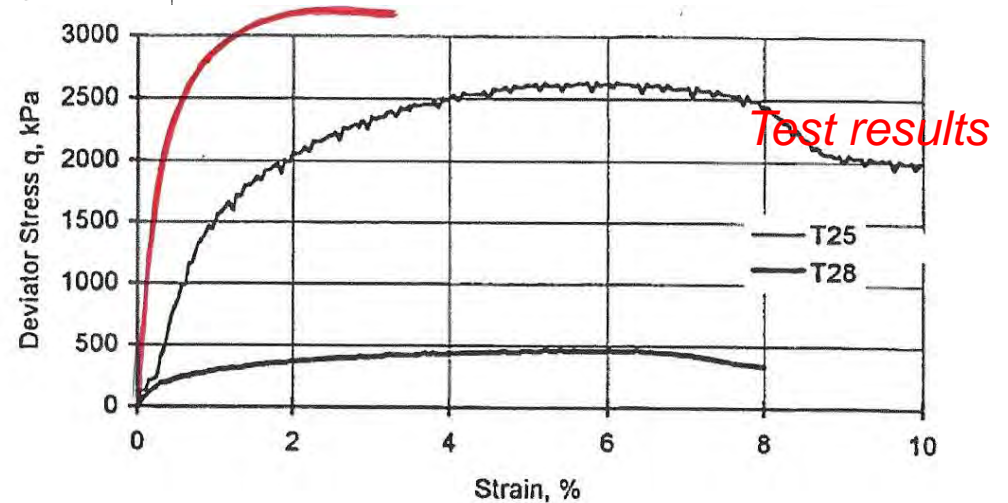
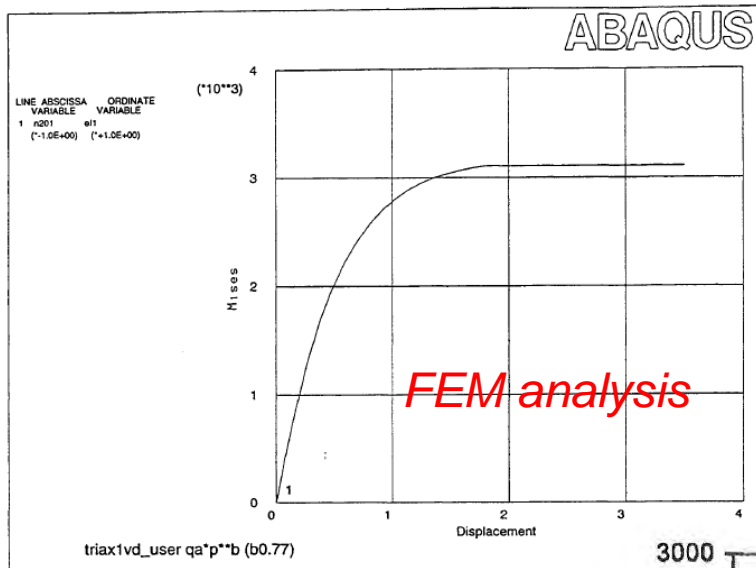


- Failure occurs at the correct Mises stress (according to Fig 3-6).
- The stress-strain curve is non-linear in the same way as in the real test.
- The void ratio decreases from 0.65 to at minimum 0.626 and then starts to increase slowly. The corresponding volume decrease is 1.5%, which is in the same range as achieved in the measurements (1%-3%).





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## Prediction and Performance

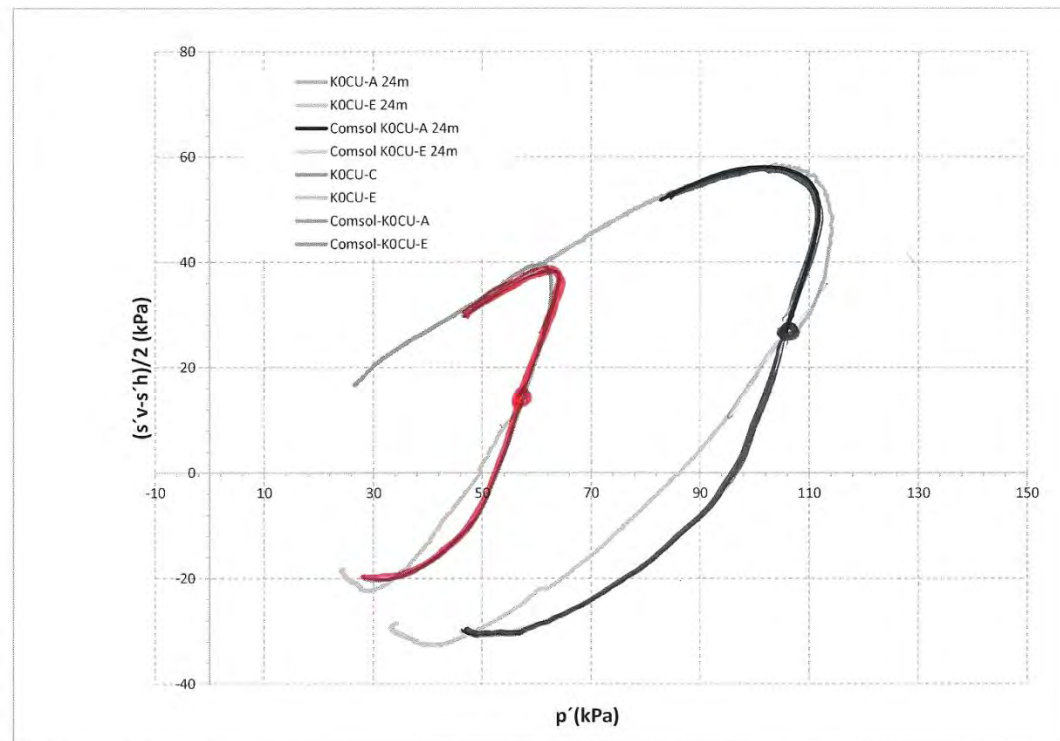


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( Not given in chapter 2 )

A similar scheme for Clay/tech model is not available

An example from the geotechnical field:  
triaxial tests on soft clay





*It is evident that:*

- all data exhibit some or substantial scatter
- several equations are not suited for describing behavior over a wide range of values
- the number of influencing factors is large
- 

*Necessary additional verification/information:*

**Prediction of and comparison with tests with different boundary conditions  
Several of the tests used for evaluating the parameters, should be predicted by the model and again compared with real performance.**

**This should also be done for the tests on which the evaluation was based.**

**Based on the above suggested testing, some kind of optimization of the parameters could probably be made**

**In TR-10-44, Sections 10.8 -10.10 parameters describing the mechanical behavior are given for the Code Bright and Abaqus models. Similar strategies should be illustrated for hydraulic and thermal properties**

**It is desirable with some kind of quantification of to what degree the constitutive model is able to predict basic behavior. Ranges for suitable choice of parameters can probably be given**



*Necessary additional verification/information:*

**I could “design” or suggest a number of tests and test series that could be used as bench mark examples related to:**

- deformation and swelling
- strength
- resaturation
- homogenisation
- homogenisation when a block is missing
- flow characteristics
- 
-

**THM**

+ other  
processes

## **2. Basic Behavior**

*Task: Model and predict behavior for a **complex model***

Test performance

- model scale
- full scale

***Prove the prediction capability***

Not until then can it be used for Predicting outcome of  
Critical Scenarios not possible to model in a physical model  
Compare with requirement



*Important to*

***Model and predict behavior***

*for a*

***Complex model***

*in order to bench mark*

*the capabilities of the model*

CRT - Canister Retrieval Test

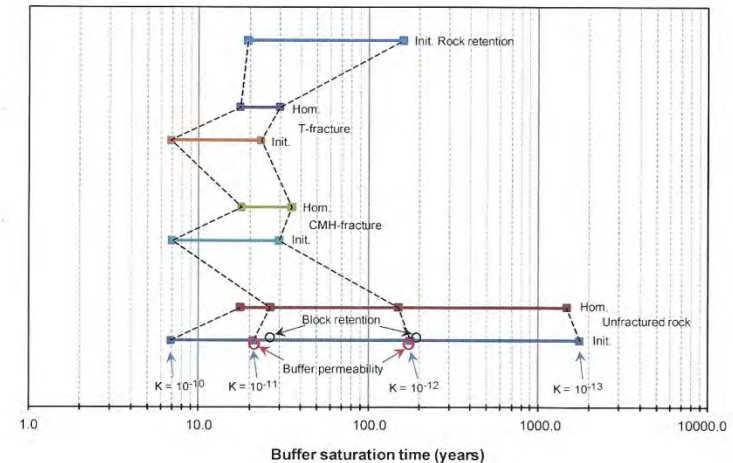
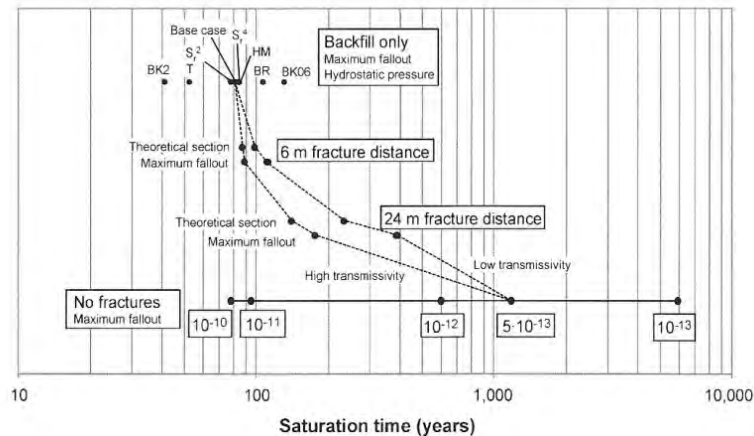
**THM**

+ other processes

## 2. Basic Behavior

Task: Model and predict behavior for a **complex model**

### Prediction of saturation of buffer and backfill



Time to saturation: 10 to approx. 2 000 years

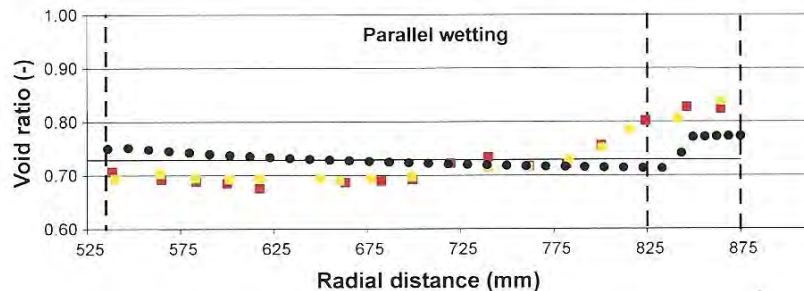
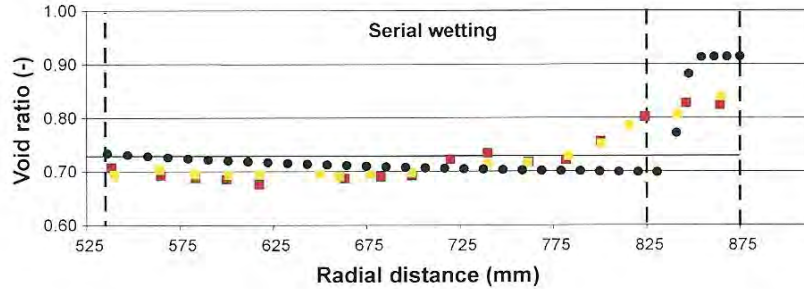
Conclusion: Rock conditions/properties constitute the main influence

**THM**  
+ other  
processes

## 2. Basic Behavior

Task: Model and predict behavior for a **complex model**

### Prediction of saturation of buffer and backfill



-- Interfaces      — Homogenized initial void ratios  
■ Adjusted aver(e) R6    ■ Adjusted aver(e) R7    ● Model

The **uncertainties** are mainly the **material models**, which are very complicated,  
And the **parameter values**

1. Background,  
Scope & Limitations

2. Basic  
Behavior

**THM**  
+ *other processes*

6. The Real  
World

**3. External Scenarios.**

- a. Earthquakes – Shear
- b. Earthquakes – Liquefaction
- c. Freezing

4. Internal Scenarios

5. Other Processes  
- Piping and Erosion

**THM**

+ other  
processes

## 3. External Scenarios

### 3.a Earthquakes - Shear

#### THM assumption

- Base case
- Variations of critical parameters within wide ranges
- Complemented with rate dependent stiffness

- Local yielding will occur in the canister
- Numerous results, but lacking generalizing conclusions

#### ***Uncertainties pointed out by the authors***

- Properties of the cemented buffer (**Na/Ca**)
- Old data on copper properties (yield properties)
- Contact elements no cohesion at tensile stress
- The size of the element mesh might affect the results.
- Scatter in material properties not accounted for
- $c=0$  for wall friction which is low

**THM**

+ other  
processes

### 3. External Scenarios

#### 3.b Earthquakes - Liquefaction

THM assumption

- Base case
- Variations of critical parameters within wide ranges

A major conclusion is hence that there is no risk of liquefaction of the engineered soil barriers in a KBS-3 repository even for very significant earthquakes.

Conclusion: ***Liquefaction under the canister is Not an issue!***

# THM

+ other processes

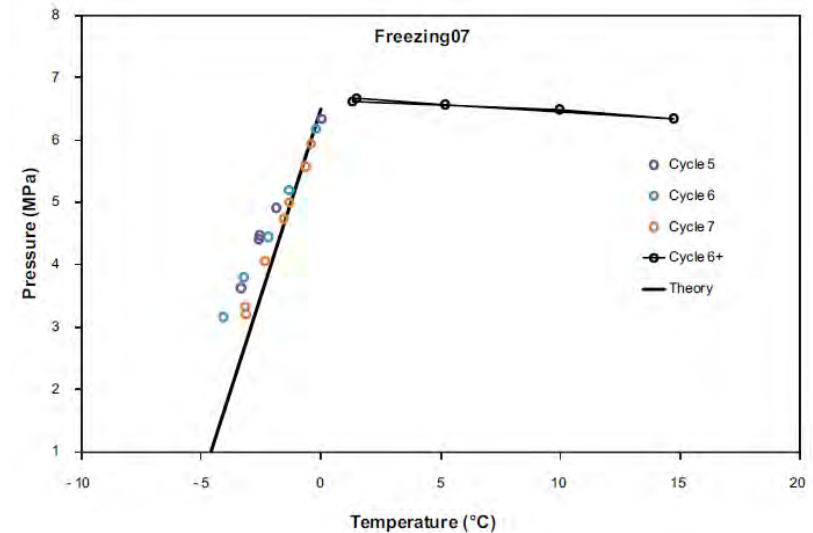
## 3. External Scenarios

### 3.c Freezing

THM assumption

- Base case
- Variations of critical parameters within wide ranges
- Temperature > -2 degrees C

$$P_s(w, \Delta T) = P_s(w, 0^\circ\text{C}) + \frac{\Delta s(w)}{v_{\text{clay}}(w)} \cdot \Delta T$$



Conclusion: **Freezing of the buffer and backfill is Not an issue!**  
(At least not for the temperature scenarios given)

1. Background,  
Scope & Limitations

2. Basic  
Behavior

**THM**  
*+ other processes*

3. External Scenarios.

**4. Internal Scenarios**

- a. Uplift
- b. Settlement
- c. Homogenisation

5. Other Processes  
- Piping and Erosion

6. The Real  
World

# THM

+ other  
processes

## 4. Internal Scenarios

### 4.a Swelling/Uplift

#### THM assumption

- Base case
- Variations of critical parameters within wide ranges

#### Buffer/backfill

- wet/wet
- wet/dry
- (dry/dry)
- (dry/wet)

Advanced Abaqus calculations show that the safety functions will be upheld.

- Uncertainties:
- mobilization of friction at rock surface
  - homogenisation

**THM**

+ other  
processes

## 4. Internal Scenarios

### 4. b Settlement of the canister

THM assumption

- Base case
- Variations of critical parameters within wide ranges

- Creep model  
(Singh and Mitchell)
- Bearing capacity failure only  
if  $\varphi' < 0,5$  degrees  
***no problem***

Result: Settlement < 2 cm for the worst case

Conclusion: ***Settlement of the canister is Not an issue!***

**THM**

+ other  
processes

## 4. Internal Scenarios

### 4. c *Missing blocks* *- homogenisation*

THM assumption

- Base case
- Variations of critical parameters within wide ranges

Ample modeling of several missing blocks

Very little testing under idealized conditions  
And no testing for actual assumed geometry



*It is evident that:*

- all data exhibit some or substantial scatter
- sinking of the canister is not a problem
- liquefaction is not a problem

*Necessary additional testing and verification:*

**Tests of homogenization under ideal conditions (element tests)  
where a void exists**

**Tests of homogenization with relevant geometry (model tests)  
where a block is missing**

***Comparison of model prediction and test performance***

1. Background,  
Scope & Limitations

2. Basic  
Behavior

**THM**  
+ *other processes*

3. External Scenarios.

4. Internal Scenarios

6. The Real  
World

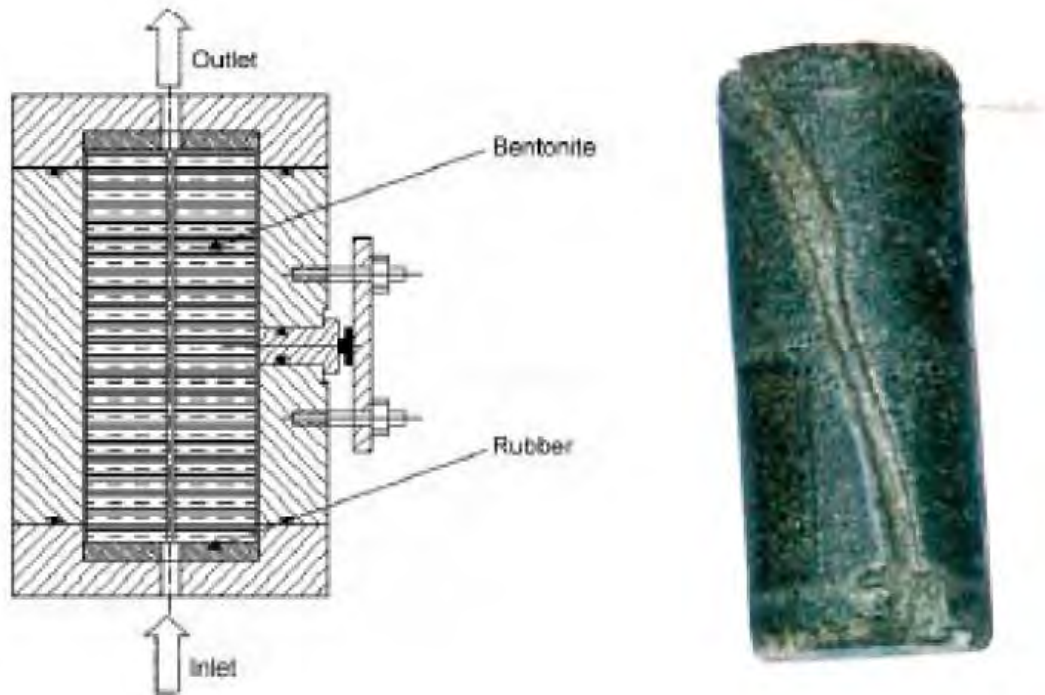
**5. Other Processes  
- Piping and Erosion**

**THM**

+ other  
processes

## 5. Other Processes

### 5.a Erosion/Piping



*Figure 4-1. Design of the basic tests and example of piping channel in tests with an outer slot.*

**THM**

+ other  
processes

## 5. Other Processes

### 5.a Erosion/Piping

Some testing done

R-06-80:

-“Piping, erosion and subsequent sealing is a complicated process ...  
much depending on the hydraulic properties of the rock”

“The uncertainties are considerable ...

“The knowledge of when piping and and erosion occur and  
the consequences are not enough known today”

**THM**

+ other  
processes

## 5. Other Processes

### 5.a Erosion/Piping

Some testing done, but

- More “real world” tests are necessary
- internal piping must be provoked
- testing of the ability of self-healing due to swelling missing
- Pressure or gradient dependent
- 
-

1. Background,  
Scope & Limitations

2. Basic  
Behavior

**THM**  
*+ other processes*

**6. The Real  
World**

3. External Scenarios.

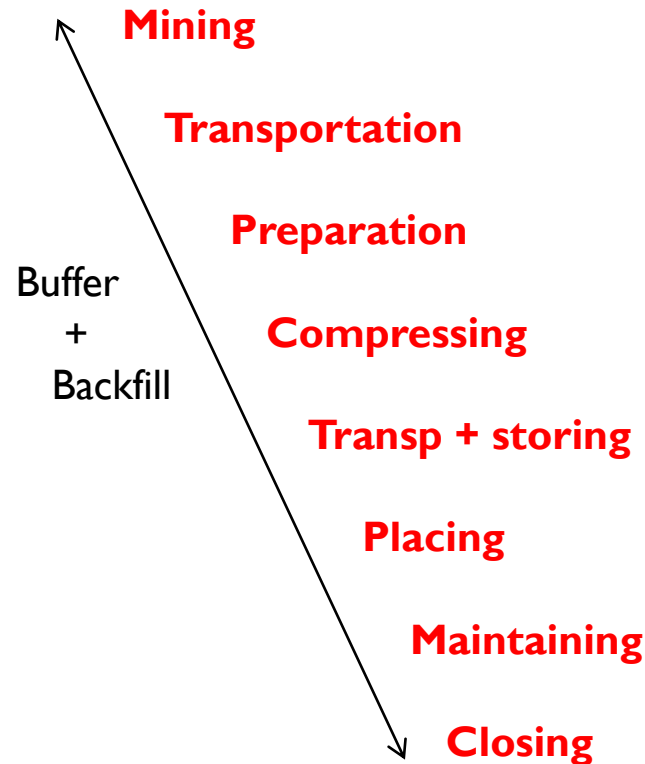
4. Internal Scenarios

5. Other Processes  
- Piping and Erosion

**THM**

+ other processes

## 6. The Real World





**THM**

**6. The Real  
World**

- Premises
- Reference design
- Conformity of reference design to premises
- ***Production***
- Initial state



## ***Production***

- A large number of equipment, methods and procedures still remains to be developed and tested.
- Inspection methods and strategies need to be developed
- Sampling strategies and acceptance criteria for each stage of production needs to be developed
- QA ... .. organization and book-keeping