

*Departamento de Ingeniería del
Terreno, Cartográfica y Geofísica*
**UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE
CATALUNYA**



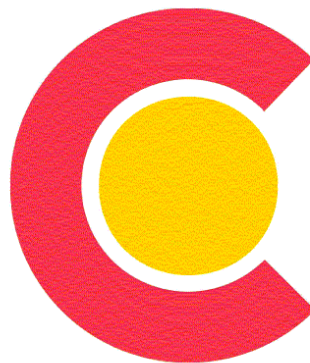
*Instituto de Investigaciones
Antisísmicas "Ing Aldo Bruschi"*
**UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE
SAN JUAN**



Laboratorio de Geotecnia
**UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE
CÓRDOBA**

Geotecnia e Ingeniería Sísmica aplicadas a la Minería

San Juan, Argentina, 16 de Octubre de 2007



AGENCIA
ESPAÑOLA DE
COOPERACIÓN
INTERNACIONAL





Departament d'Enginyeria
del Terreny, Cartogràfica i Geofísica

UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA

Residuos mineros: Interacción con la atmósfera

Enrique Romero

Director del Laboratorio de Geotecnia
Enrique.romero-morales@upc.edu

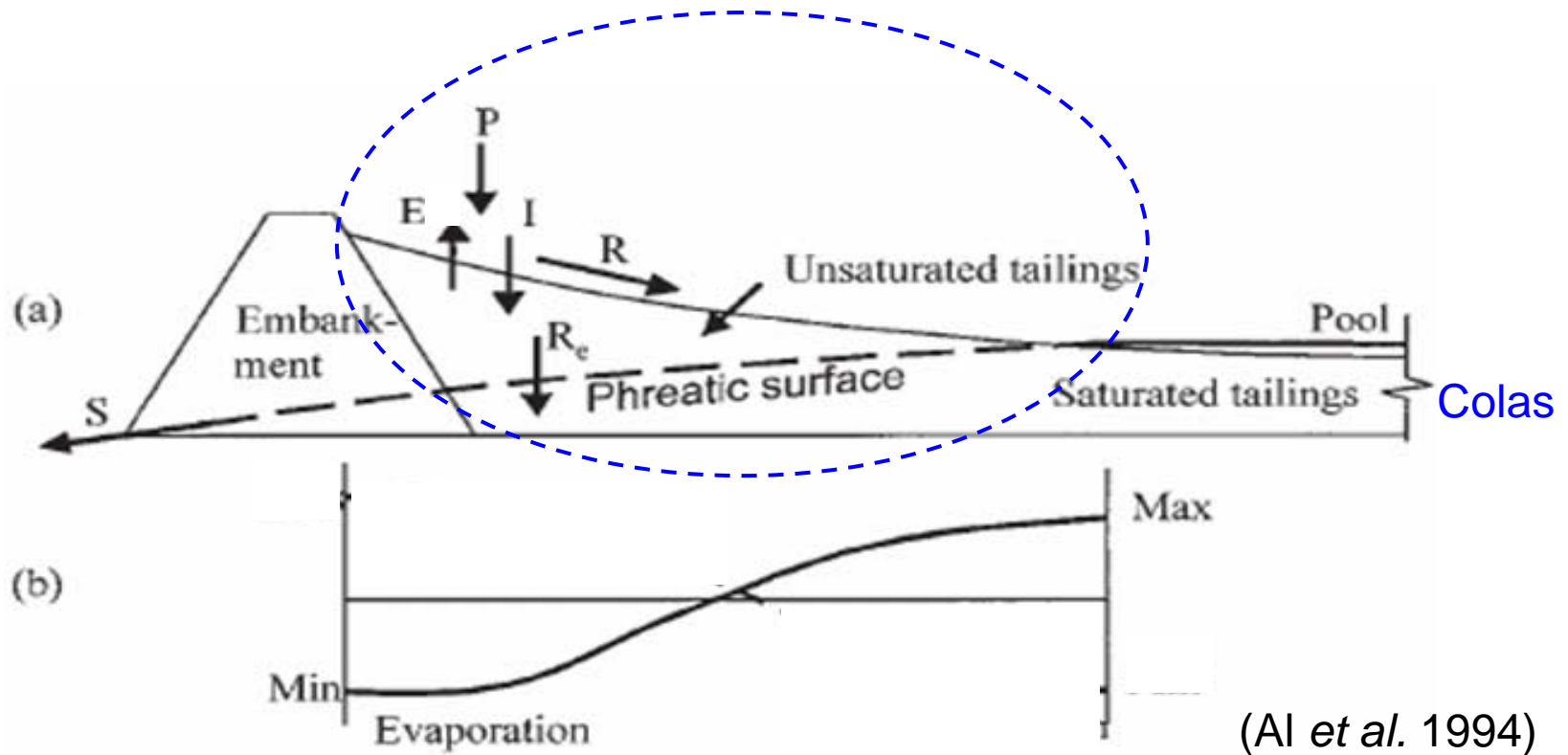
Jornada “Geotecnia e Ingeniería Sísmica aplicada a la Minería”
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Índice de la presentación

- Consecuencias de la **evaporación** en las balsas de decantación (**retracción** y **agrietamiento**)
- **Fenómenos de retracción** (aspectos generales, irreversibilidad, acumulación con ciclo de secado / humedecimiento)
- **Grietas de retracción** (resistencia a la tracción, iniciación, efectos de tamaño, consecuencias sobre la permeabilidad al agua)
- **Montajes experimentales en laboratorio e *in situ*** para analizar la interacción con la atmósfera

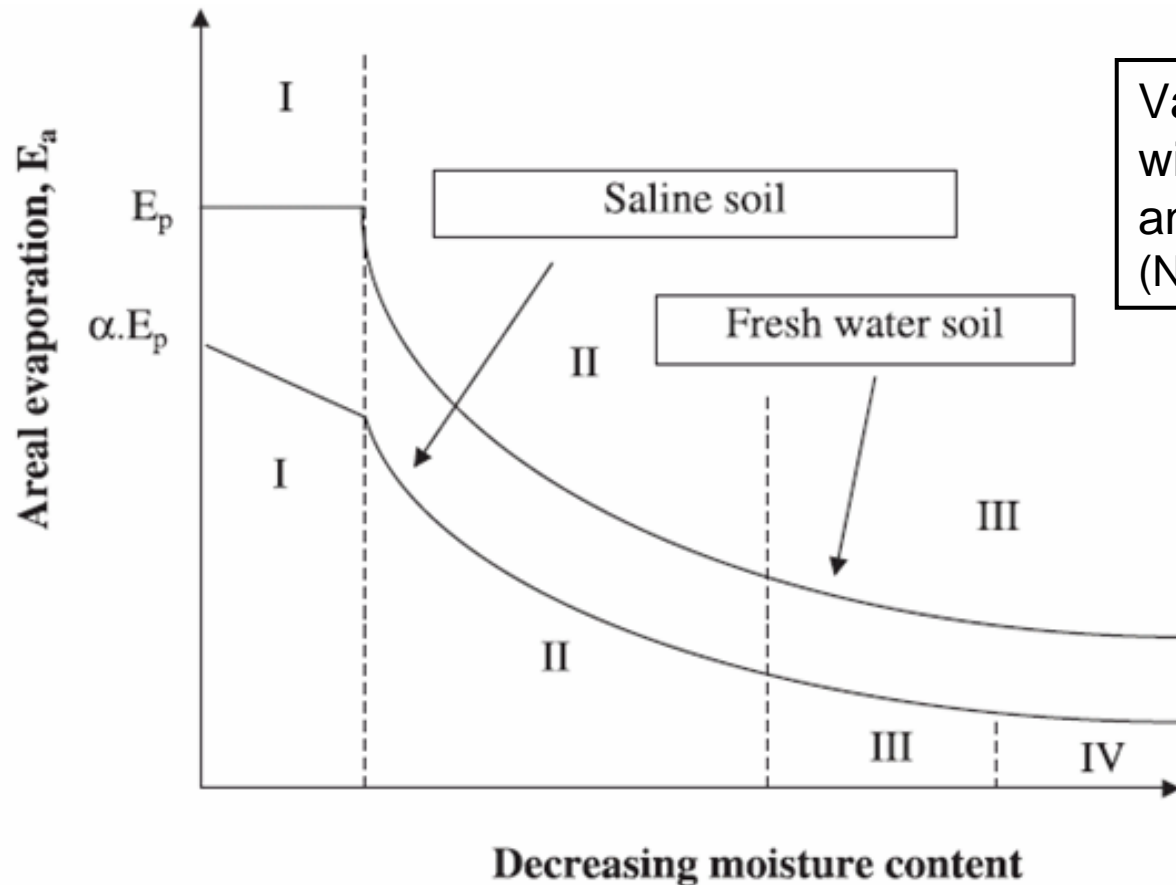
Evaporación



a) Water mass balance:
Precipitation (P), infiltration (I), evaporation (E), runoff (R), effective recharge (R_e), seepage (S)

b) Spatial distribution of surface fluxes of infiltration and evaporation

Contenido de humedad. Efecto de la salinidad y de las costras superficiales



Variations in relative evaporation with moisture content for saline and freshwater materials (Newson & Fahey 2003)

I: Effect of increasing saline concentration (saline soil)

Reduction in vapour pressure as solutes increase their concentrations

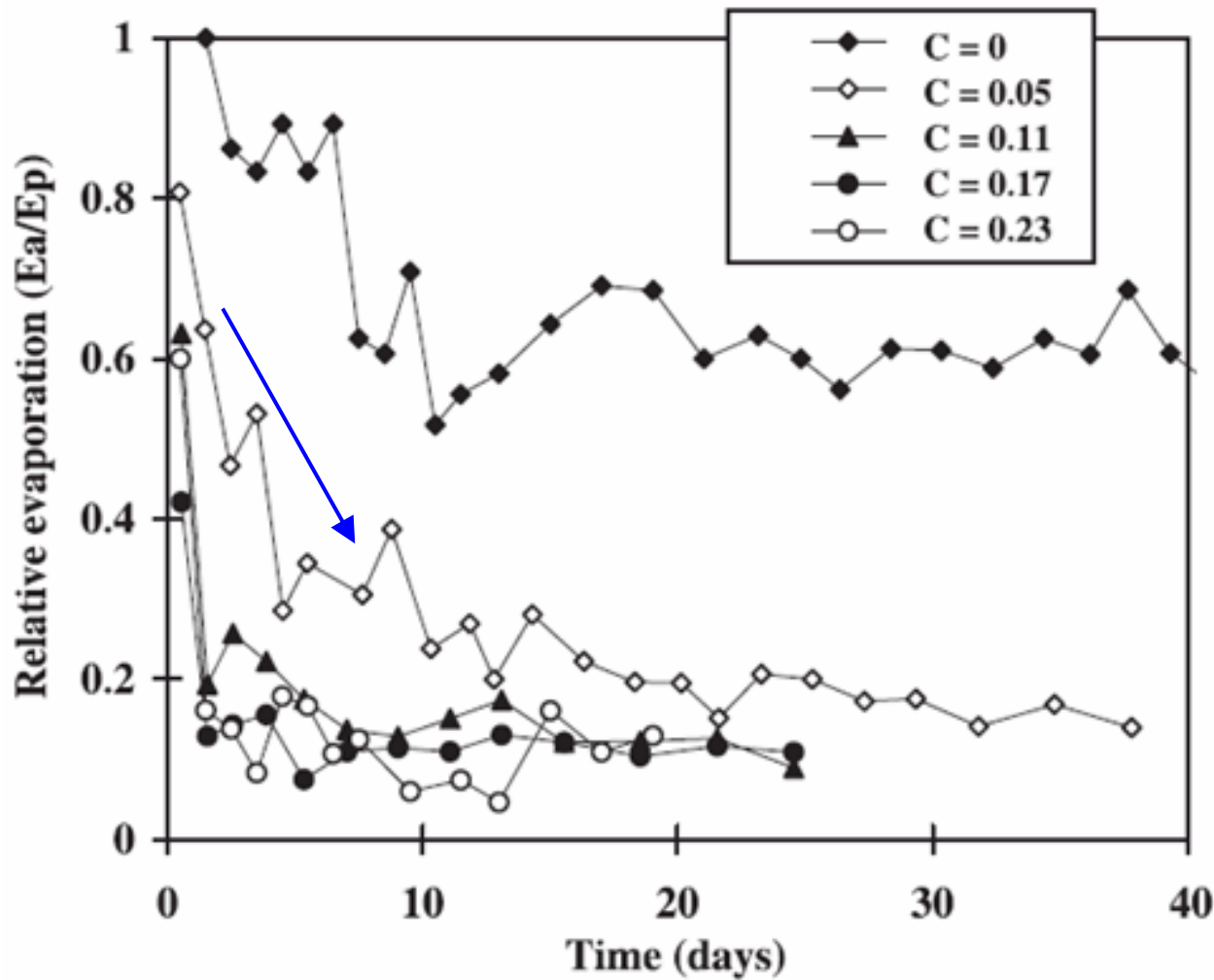
II: Superficial crust formation (saturated material)

1) albedo, 2) moisture transfer resistance, 3) reduction in vapour pressure

III: Superficial crust (desaturation of crust)

IV: Water availability within the soil decreases. Residual moisture content (evaporation will tend to vanish)

Efecto de la salinidad



Evaporation from saline tailings surfaces. 'c' represents the initial water solute concentration –mass basis-

(Fahey & Fujiyasu 1994)

Efecto de la salinidad

Dalton-type surface boundary condition for evaporation:

E_v : evaporative volumetric flux

f_v : exchange function which depends on the mixing characteristics of the air above the evaporating surface

u_v : vapour pressure of the evaporating soil surface

u_v^a : vapour pressure in the air above the evaporating surface

For the same temperature for air and soil (u_{vo} is the common saturation vapour pressure):

$$E_v = f_v(u_v - u_v^a); \quad E_v = f_v u_{vo} \left[\exp\left(-\frac{(s + \pi) v_w M_w}{RT}\right) - h_{ra} \right]$$

Psychrometric law:

$$\psi = s + \pi = -\frac{RT}{v_w M_w} \ln h_r = -\frac{RT}{v_w M_w} \ln \frac{u_v}{u_{vo}}$$

M_w : molecular mass of water

R : molar gas constant

T : absolute temperature

v_w : specific water volume ($=1/\rho_w$)

ψ : total suction

s : matric suction, $s = (u_a - u_w)$

π : osmotic suction

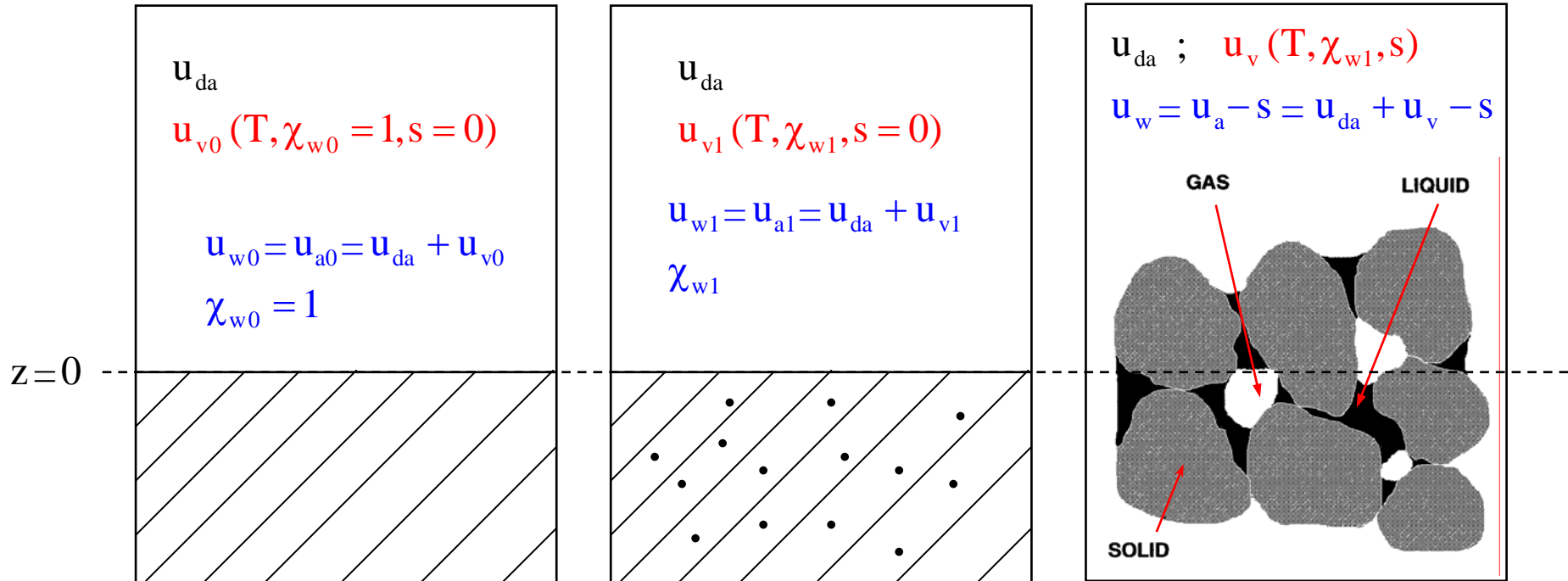
$$u_{da} = \text{const.} ; T = \text{const.}$$

Pure water

Soil water

Soil + soil water

$$S = u_a - u_w$$



REFERENCE (0)
STATE

OSMOTIC (A)

$$h_\pi = \frac{u_{v1}}{u_{v0}}$$

MATRIC (B)

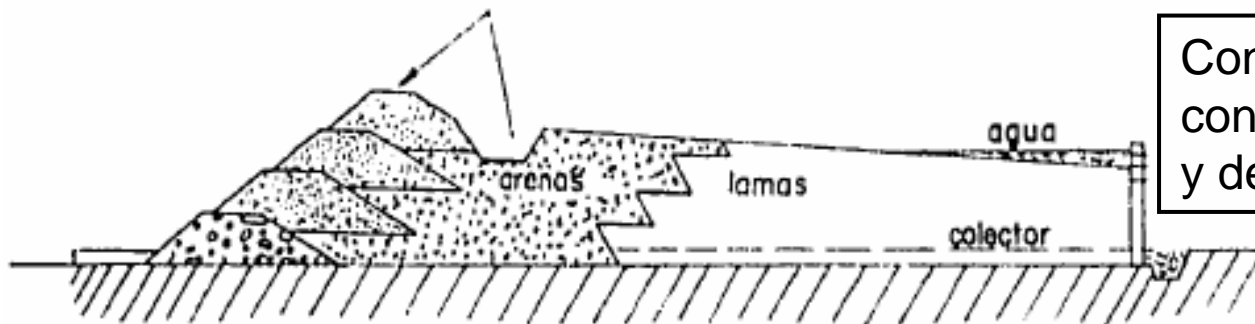
capillary menisci +
surface adsorption

$$h_m = \frac{u_v}{u_{v1}}$$

$$\psi = s + \pi = -\frac{RT}{v_w M_w} \ln h_r = -\frac{RT}{v_w M_w} \ln \frac{u_v}{u_{v0}}$$

Consecuencias asociadas con la evaporación

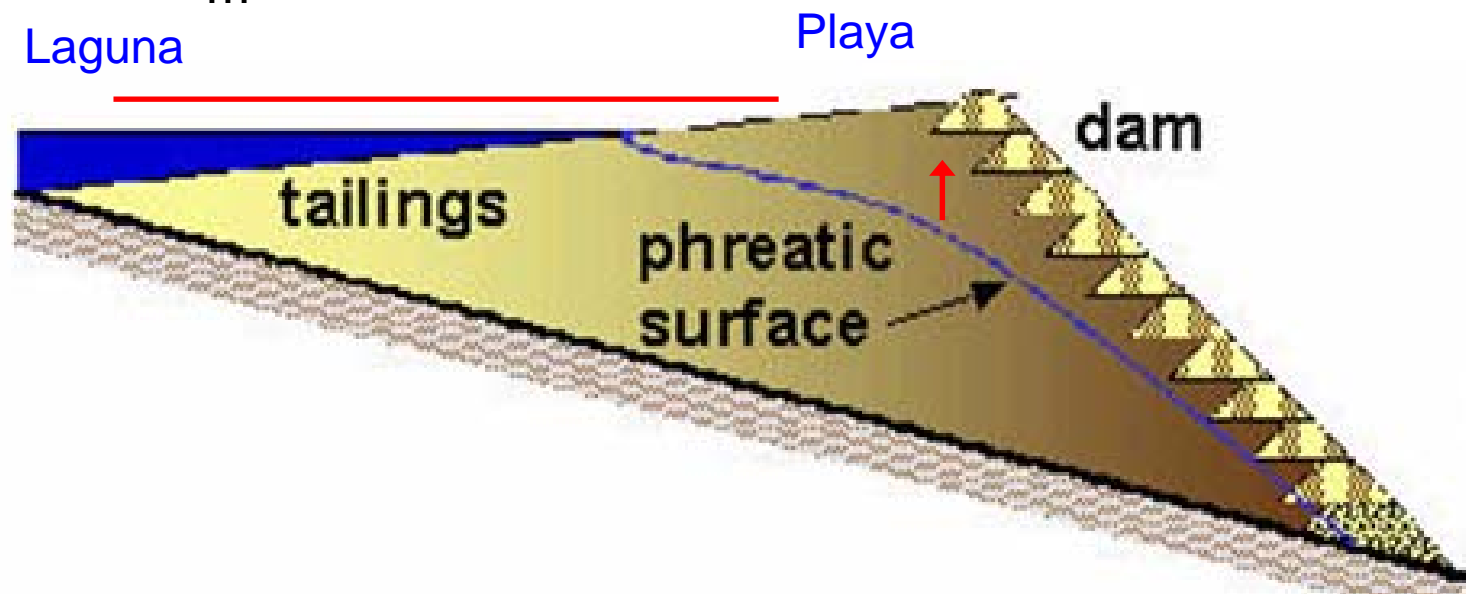
- Disminución del nivel del embalse
- Cambios en la superficie freática, que se aleja de la cara del talud
- **Aumento de la estabilidad frente a deslizamiento de los taludes**
- **Retracción**
 - a) disminución volumen, endurecimiento, influencia sobre la capilaridad
 - b) acumulación en ciclos sucesivos de humedecimiento / secado
- **Grietas de retracción**
 - a) afectan el flujo y el transporte de solutos (flujos preferentes, afectación de acuíferos)
 - b) afectan la erosión interna (tubificación)
 - c) afectan la resistencia del material
 - d) incrementan la accesibilidad de oxígeno (oxidación, perturbaciones químicas)
- **Estratificación** (costras desecadas sobreconsolidadas, 'pancakes')
- **Aumento de la concentración de especies químicas por pérdida de solvente** (desarrollo de costras salinas, 'salt crusts')
- Impacto ambiental sobre la atmósfera
- ...



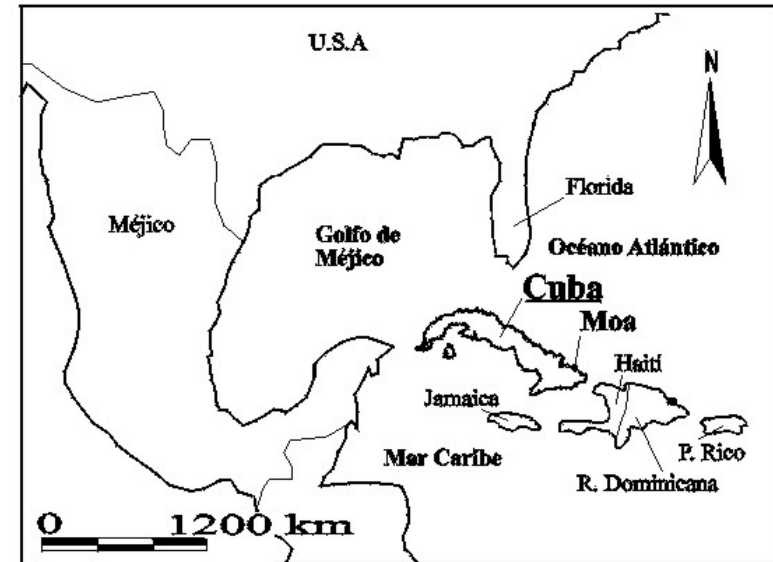
Construcción aguas arriba con material escarificado y desecado

Consecuencias asociadas con la infiltración

- Aumento del nivel del embalse
- Aumento del grado de saturación
 - a) agua almacenada en la zona parcialmente saturada
 - b) aumento de la permeabilidad al agua
 - c) disminución de la resistencia al corte
- Cambios (ascensos) en la superficie freática, que se acerca a la cara del talud
- Disminución de la estabilidad frente a deslizamiento de los taludes
- Dilución de especies químicas (aporte de solventes)
- Reblandecimiento de costras
- Impacto ambiental sobre suelos y acuíferos
- ...



Deseccación de los residuos mineros (grietas y costras superficiales)



Depósito de la industria cubana del níquel
(Rodríguez 2002)

Punto de vertido de colas

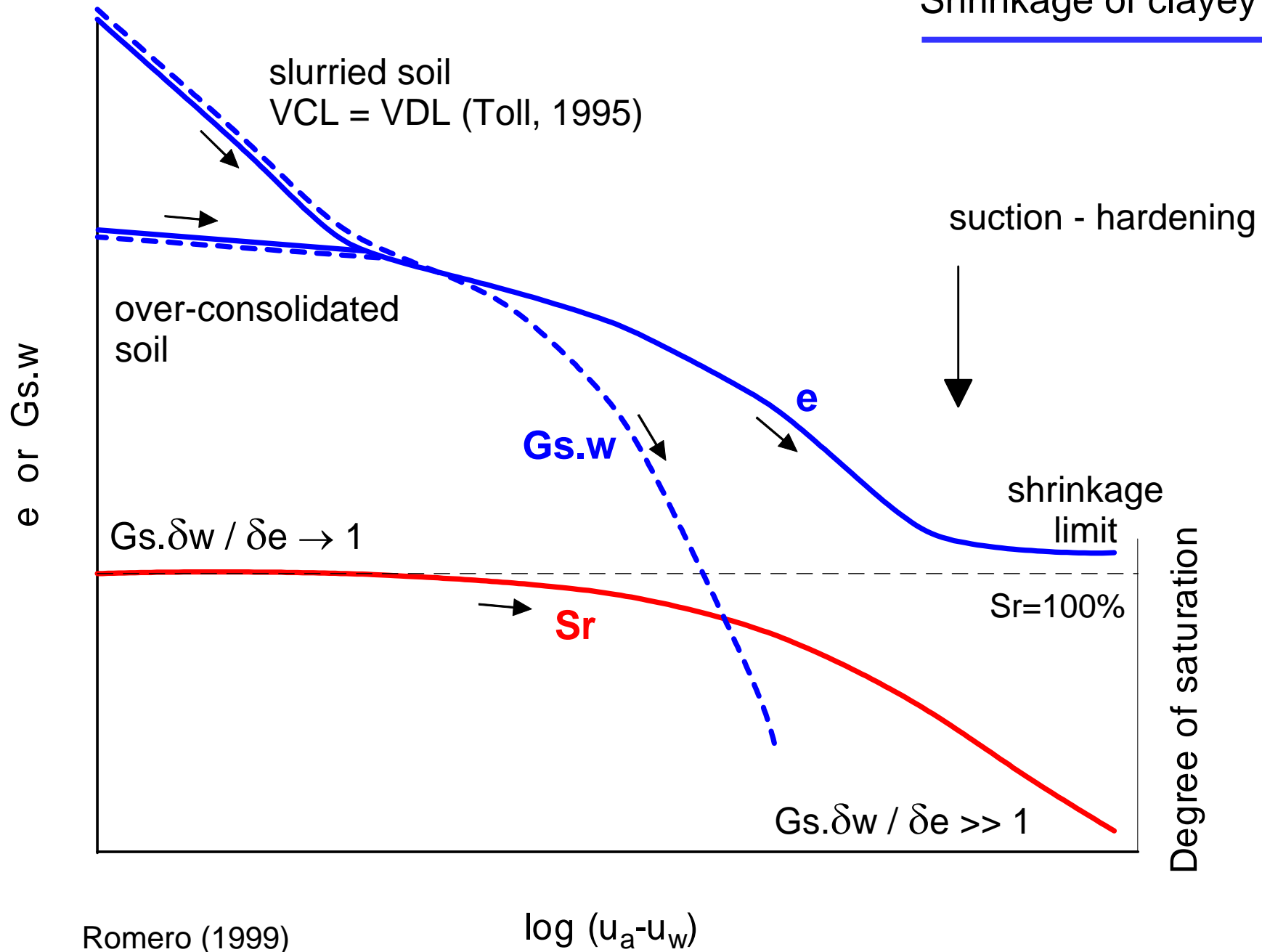
Deseccación y estratificación de los residuos mineros



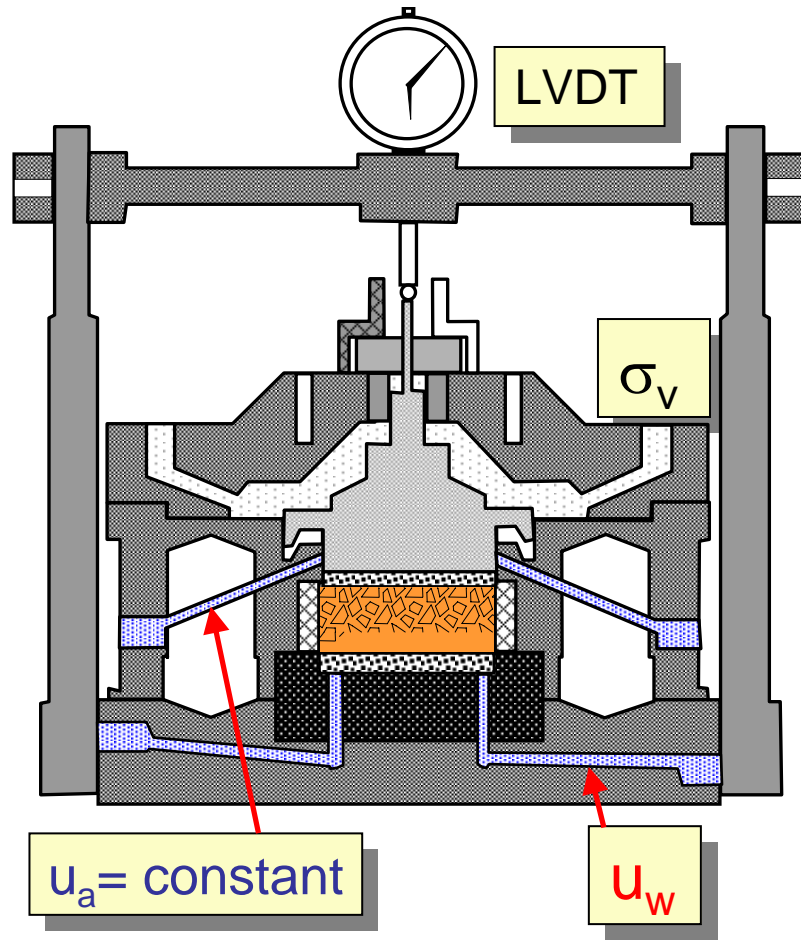
Depósito de la industria cubana del níquel

(Rodríguez 2002)

Shrinkage of clayey soils



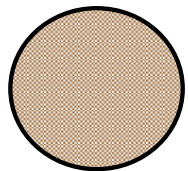
UPC controlled-suction oedometer cell



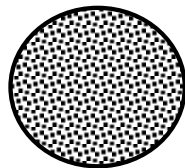
$$S = u_a - u_w$$

Bottom discs

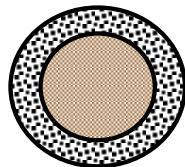
coarse (u_a)



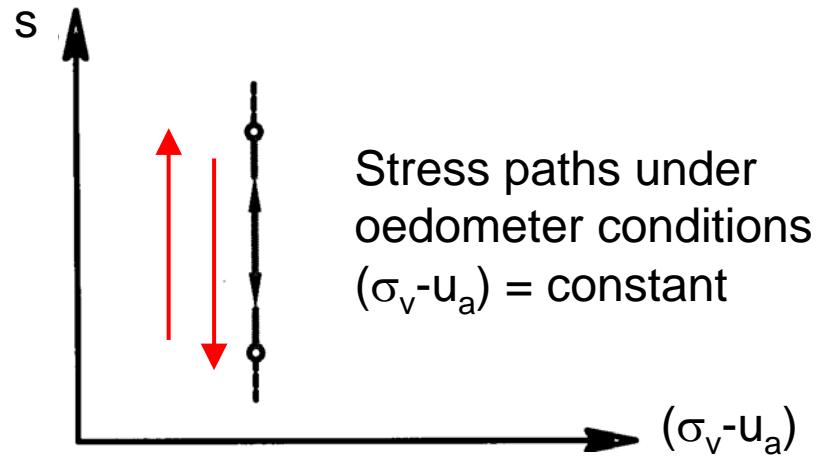
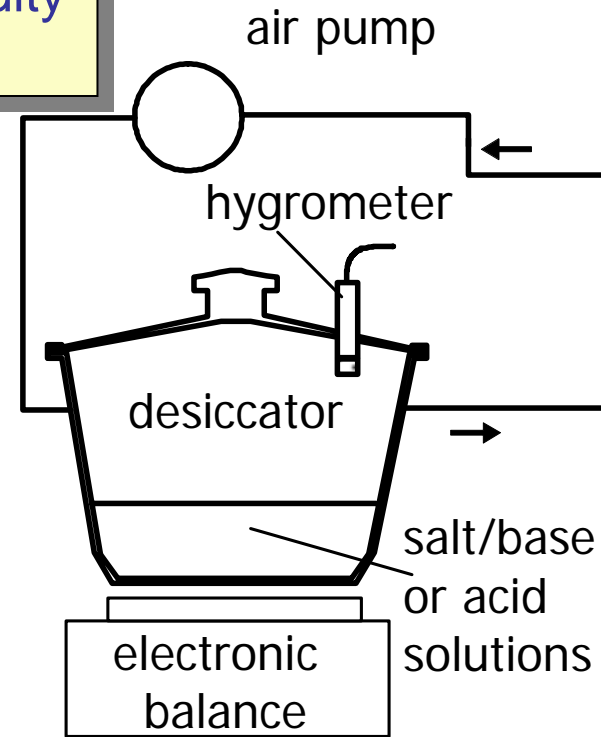
HAEV (u_w)



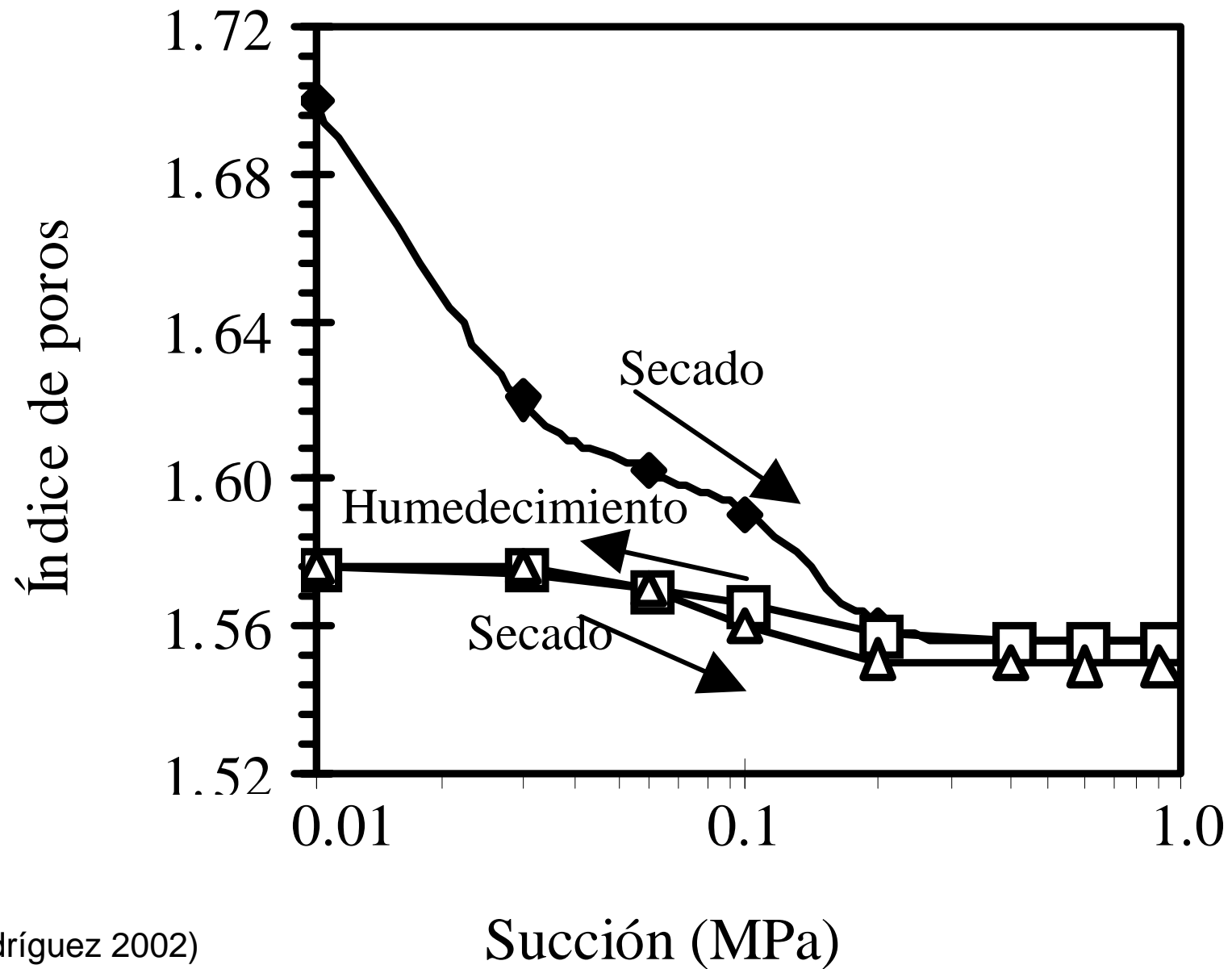
mixed (u_w, u_a)



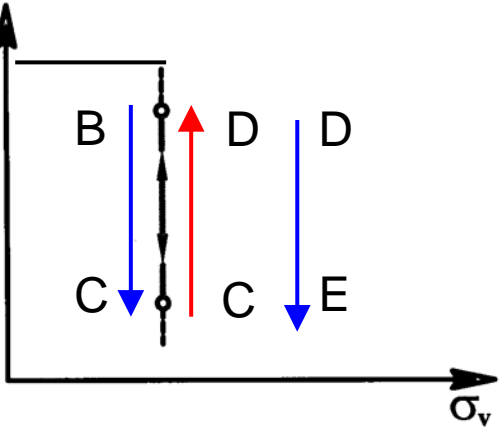
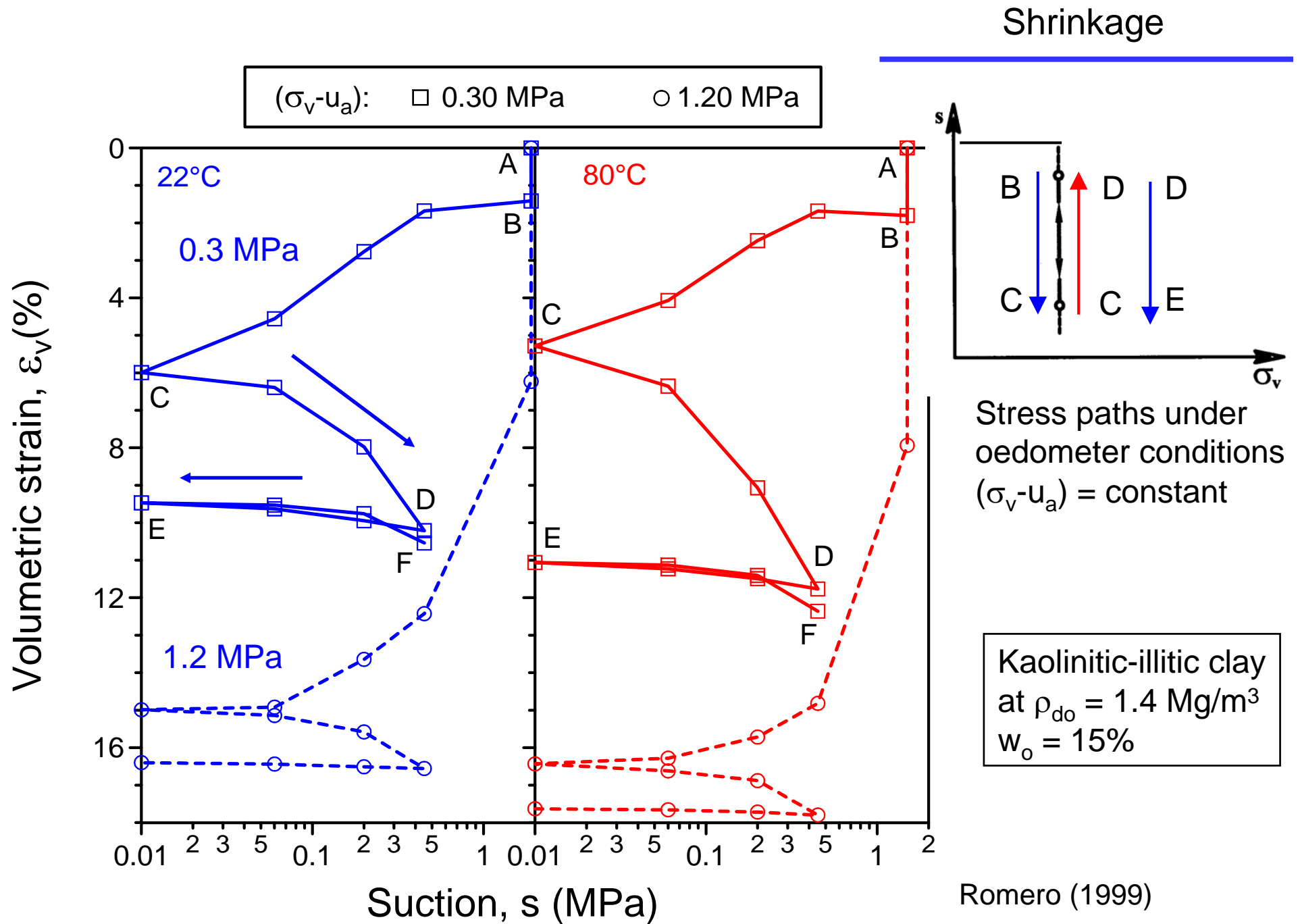
Relative humidity control



Retracción de residuos mineros (industria del níquel)



(Rodríguez 2002)



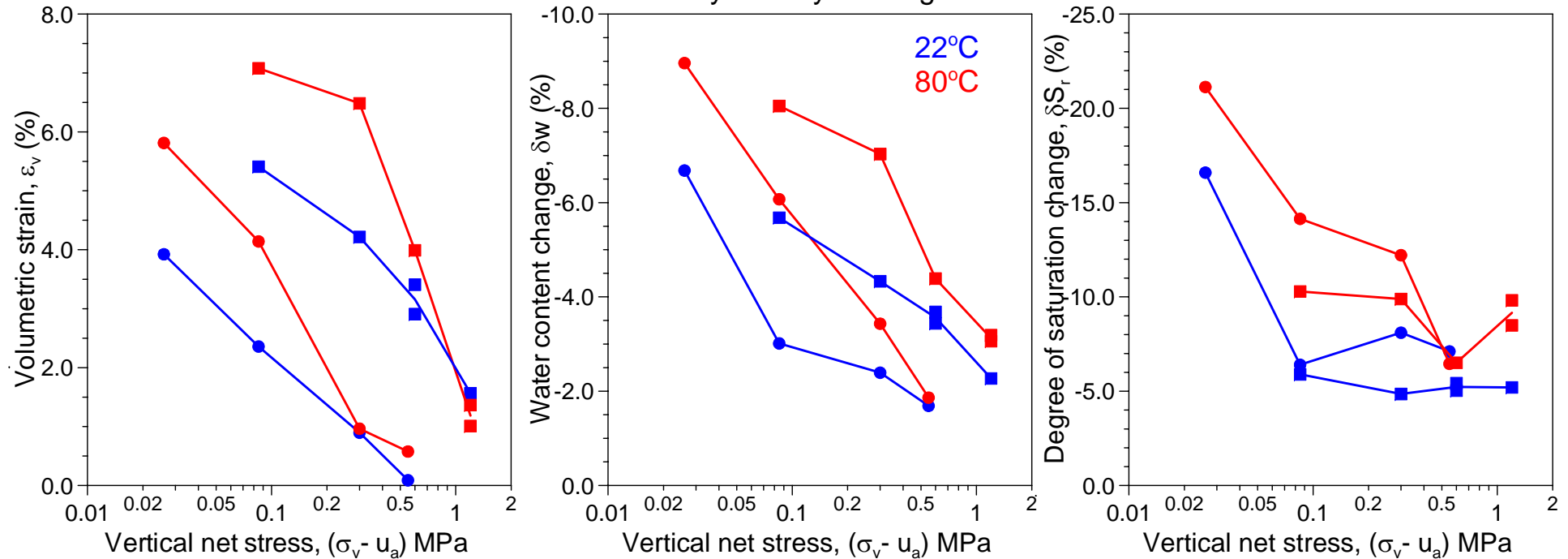
Stress paths under oedometer conditions
 $(\sigma_v - u_a) = \text{constant}$

Shrinkage (dry density and temperature effects)

Kaolinitic-illitic clay
at $\rho_{do} = 1.4 \text{ Mg/m}^3$
 $w_o = 15\%$

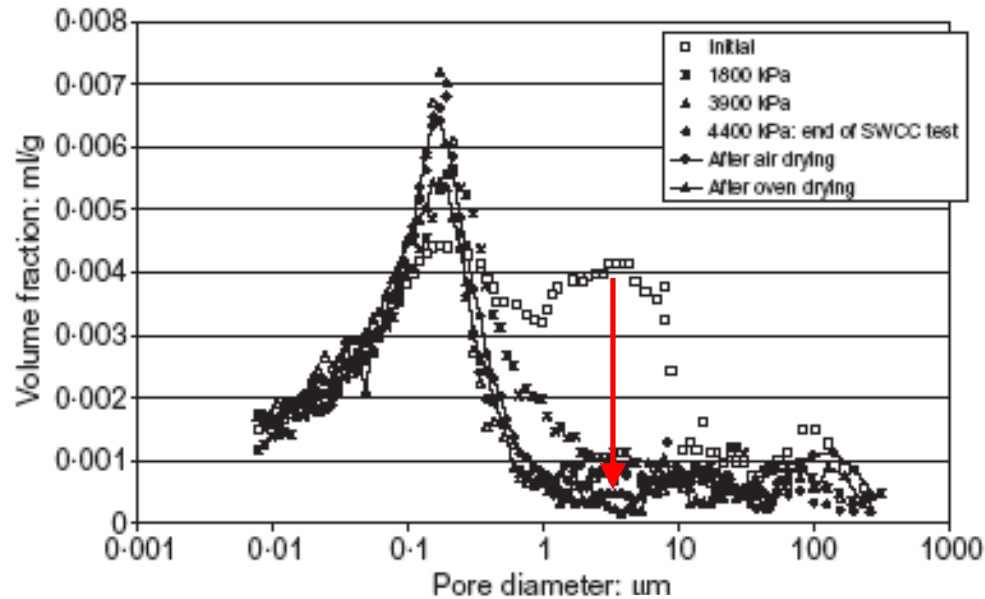
$s_o = 10 \text{ kPa}$ to $s_f = 450 \text{ kPa}$ (shrinkage)

- dry density: 1.4 Mg/m^3
- dry density: 1.7 Mg/m^3



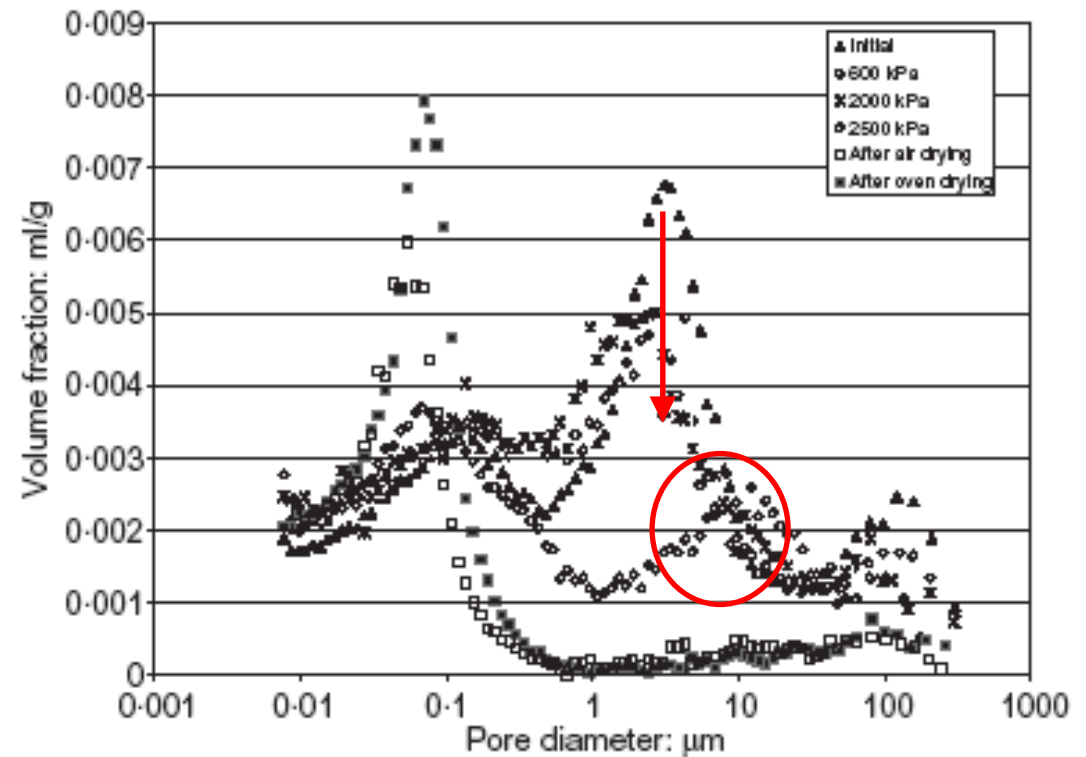
Romero (1999)

Evolution of PSDs during drying (Simms & Yanful 2002)



Halton Till at $w_o=19\%$
suction increase leads to
total destruction of
macroporosity

Regina Clay at $w_o=29\%$
certain class of pores of the
macroporosity are
not affected by shrinkage
during suction increase



Modification of sample
microstructure when
suction is increased

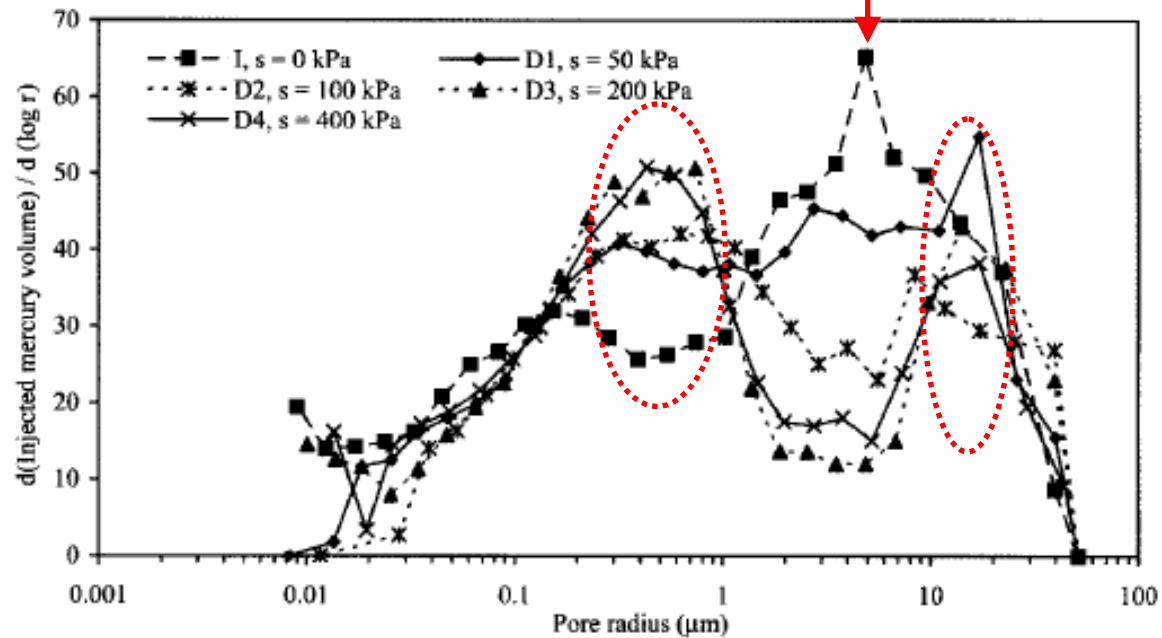


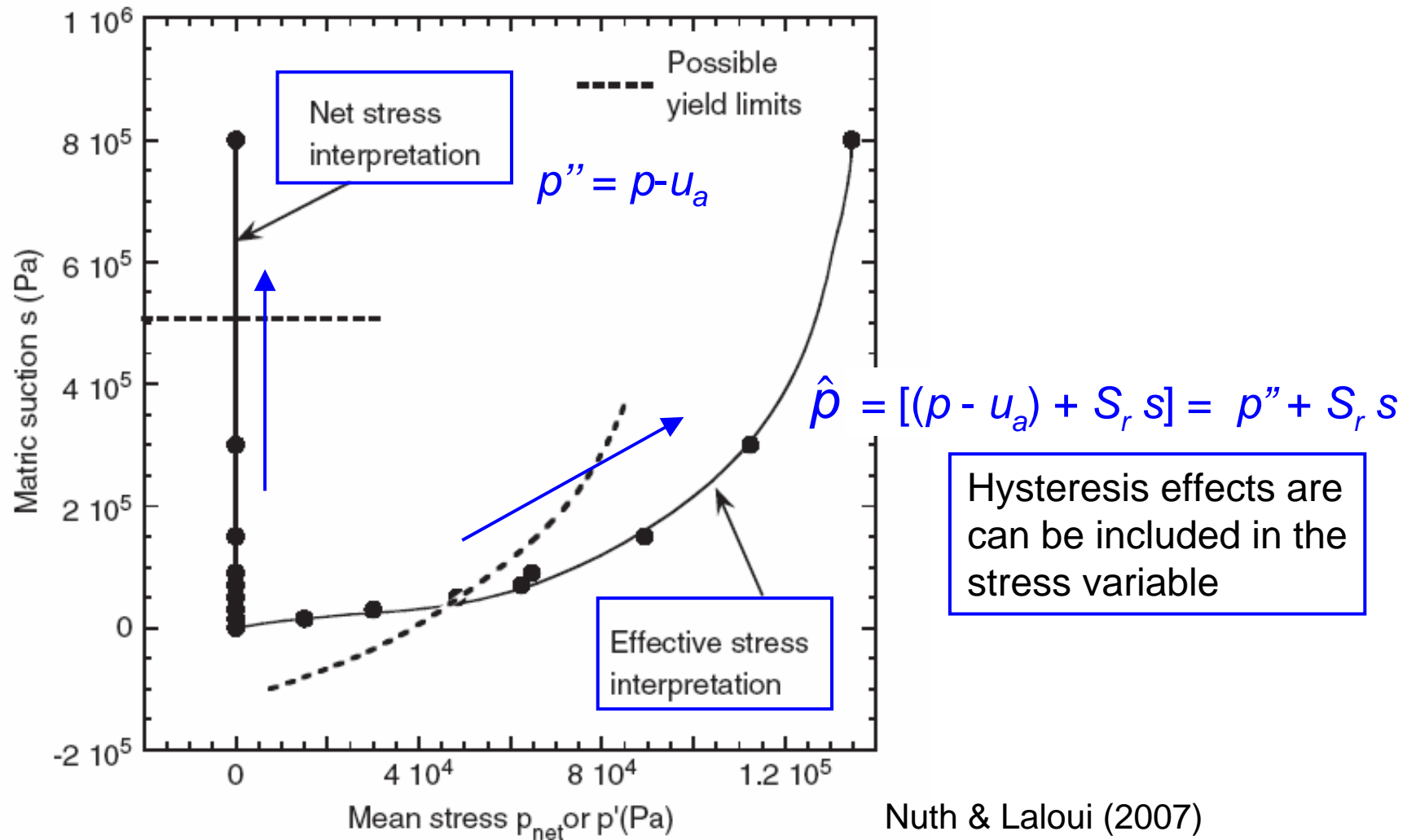
Figure 7. Modification of samples fabric when suction is increased from 0 up to 400 kPa (tests I and D1 to D4).

Sandy loam (morainic soil,
PI=12%, LL=30%)
(Cuisinier & Laloui 2004)

Shrinkage (irreversible aspects)

Hydraulic 'loading' associated with:

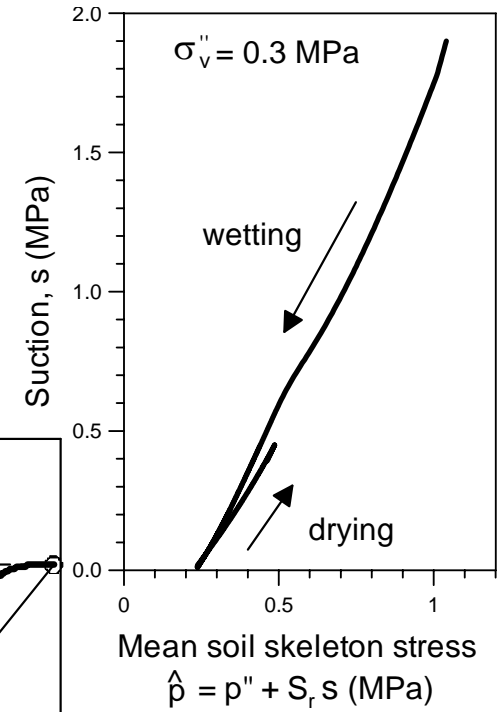
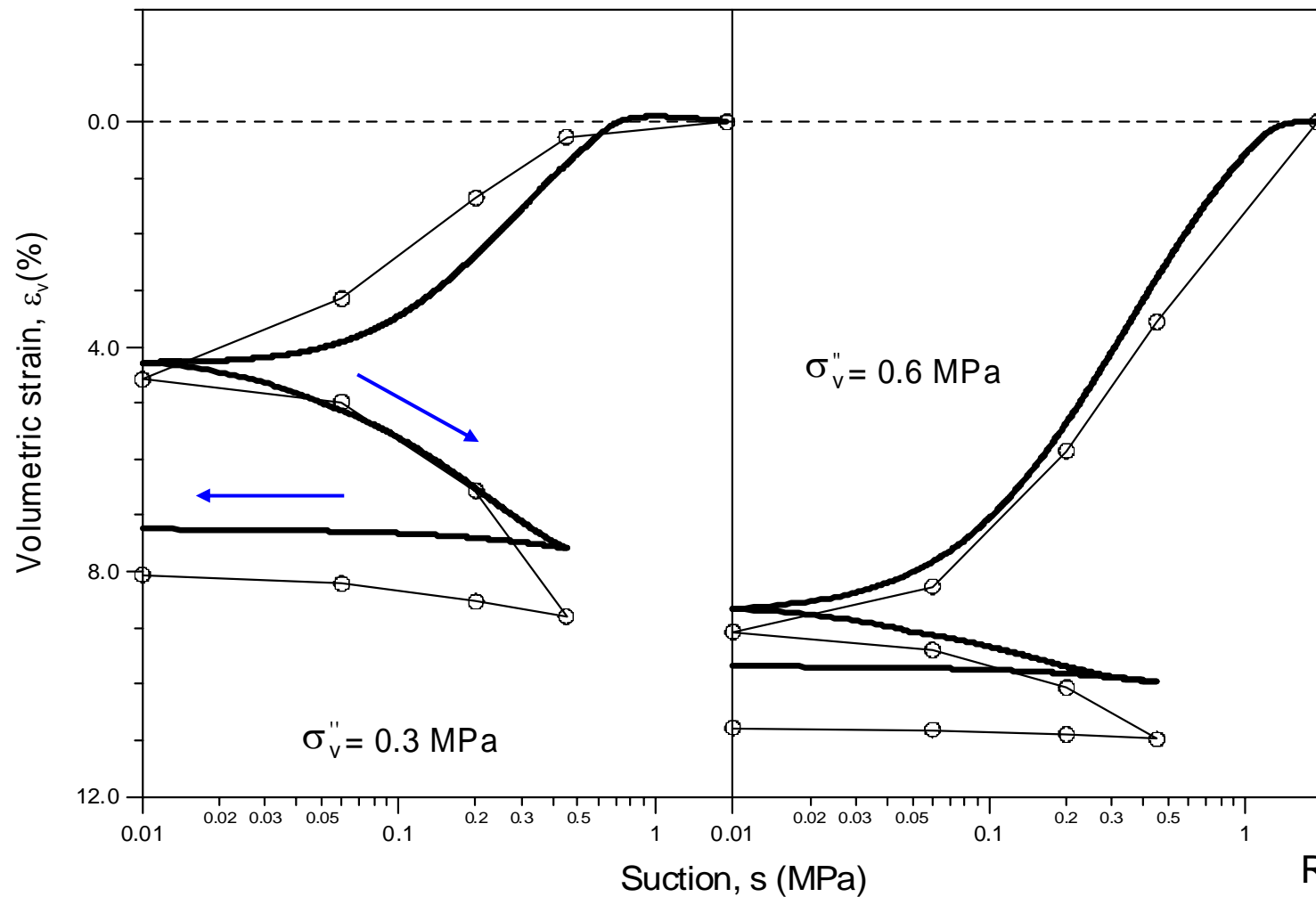
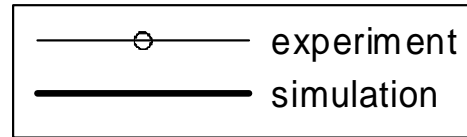
- shrinkage of soil aggregations
- increase with mean stress acting on soil skeleton



Hysteresis effects are
can be included in the
stress variable

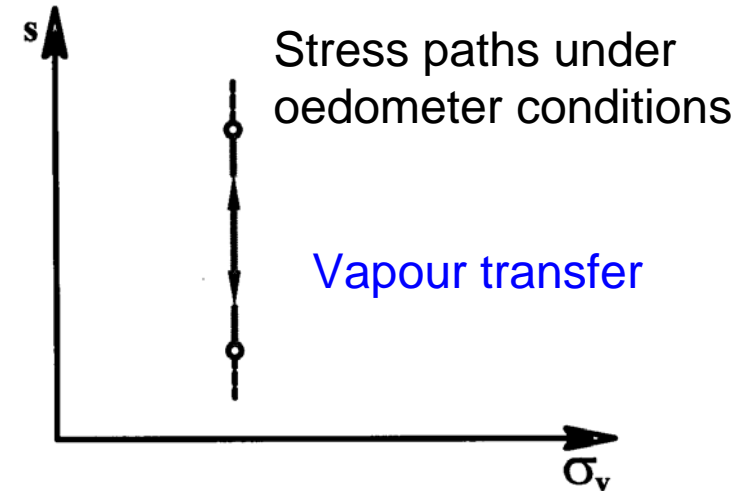
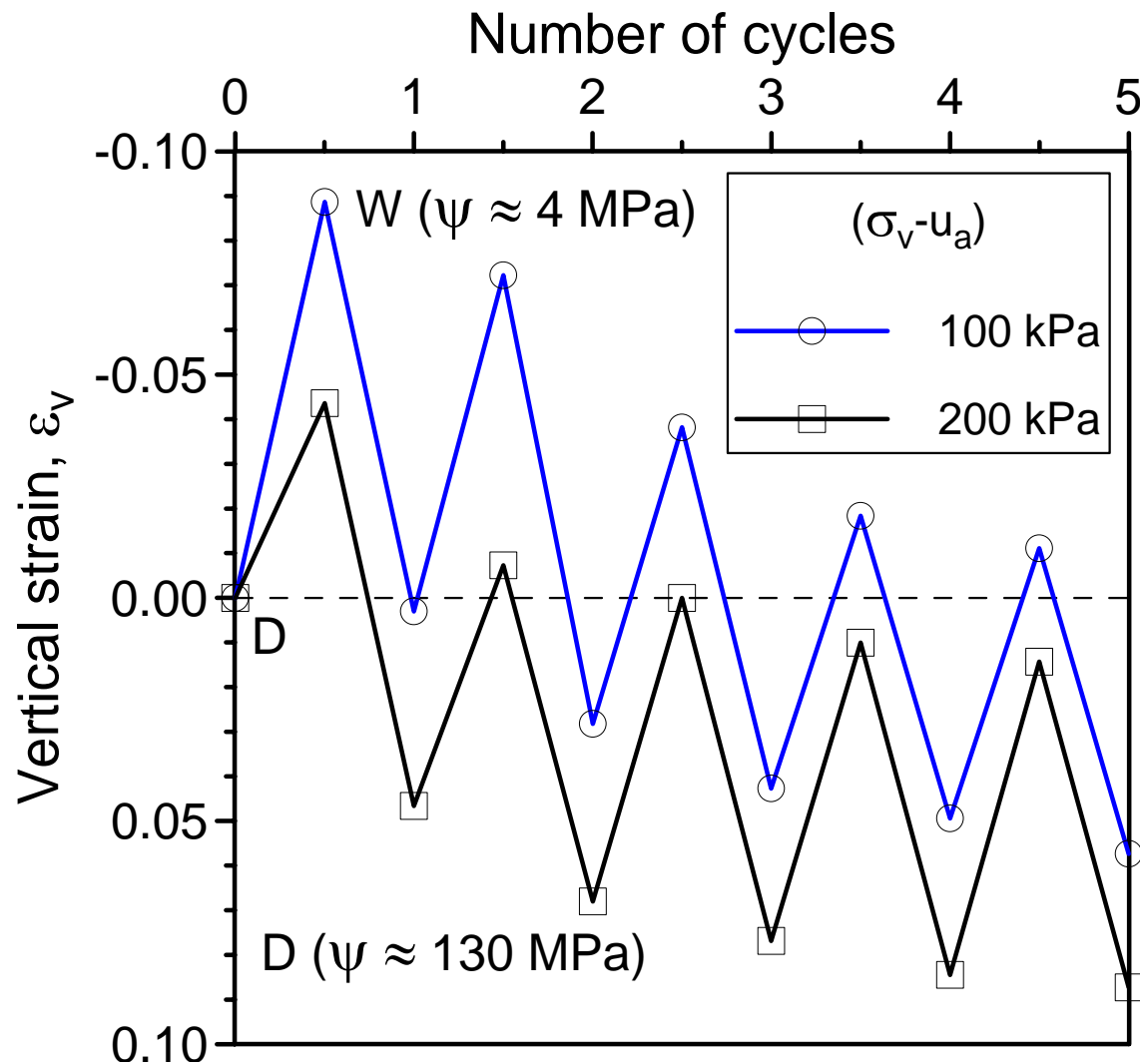
Shrinkage (irreversible aspects)

$$\hat{p} = [(p - u_a) + S_r s] = p'' + S_r s$$



Shrinkage accumulation (suction cycling)

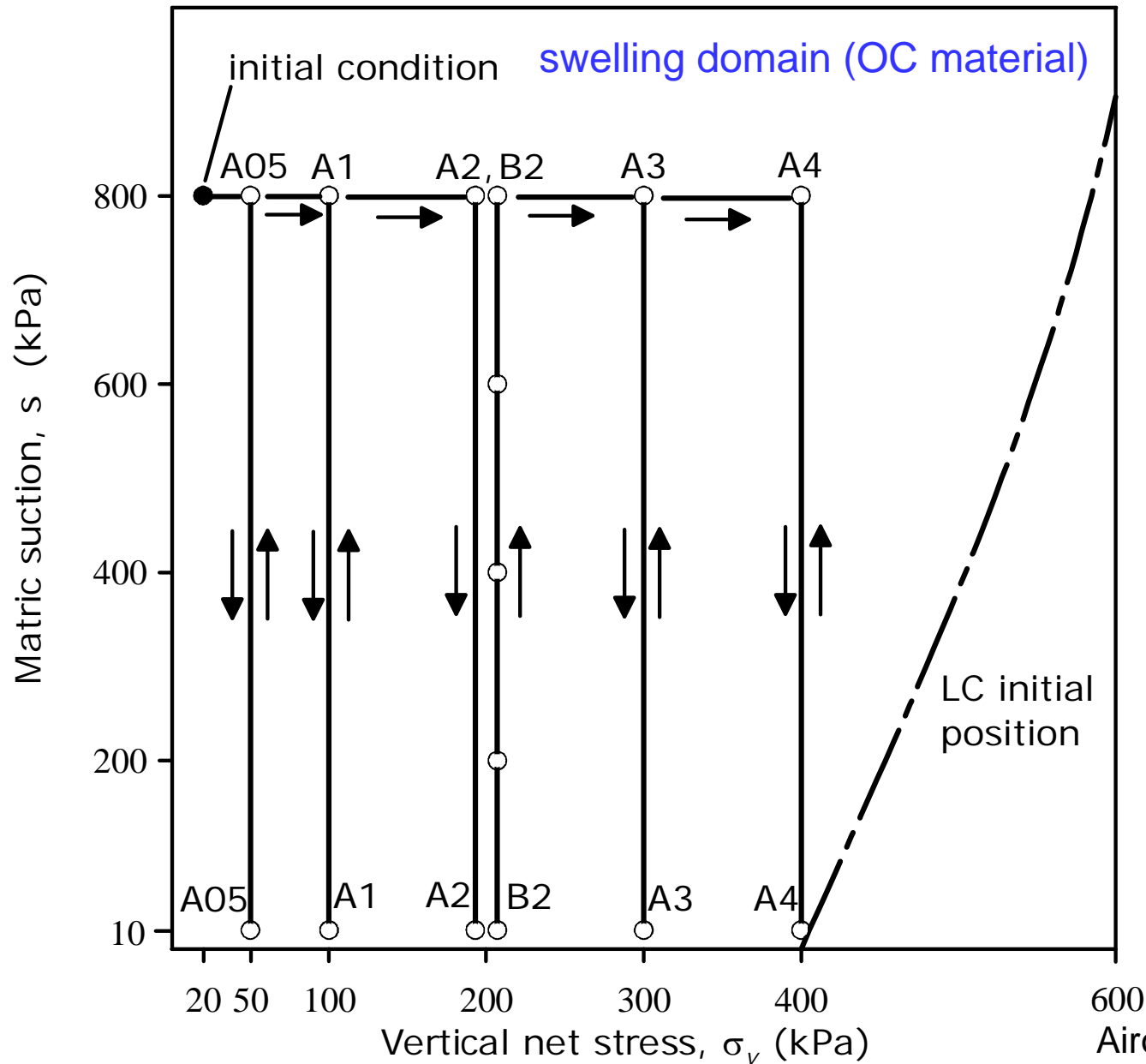
Bentonite/sand 80/20, $e_o = 0.80$, $w_o = 13\%$



Shrinkage accumulation ('fatigue' of swelling) that increases at higher vertical stresses

Alonso et al. (2005)
Romero et al. (2006)

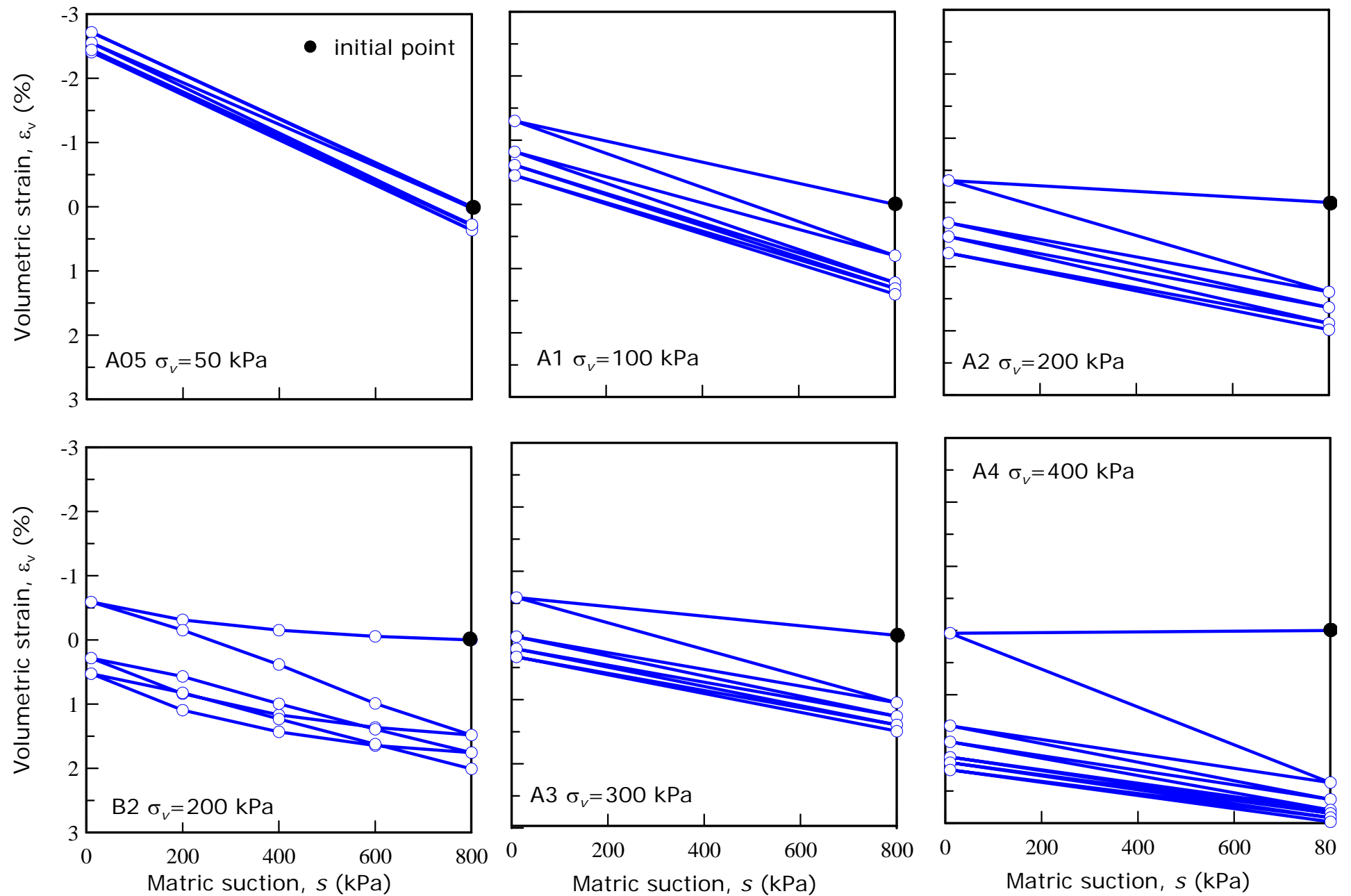
Stress paths followed (oedometer conditions)



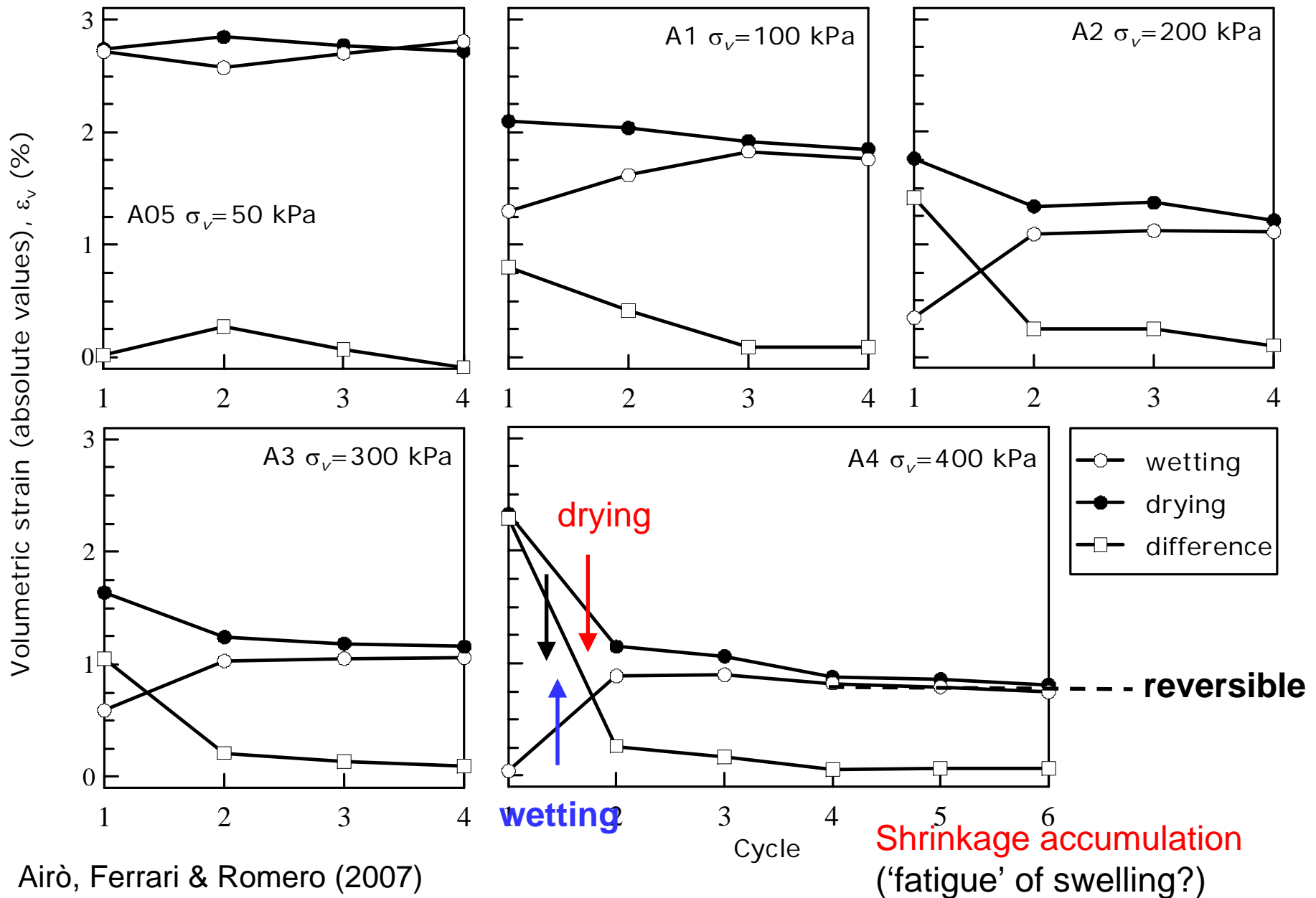
Kaolinitic-illitic clay:
 $w_o = 15.2\%$,
 $\gamma_d = 17.8 \text{ kN/m}^3$

4 to 6 W/D cycles

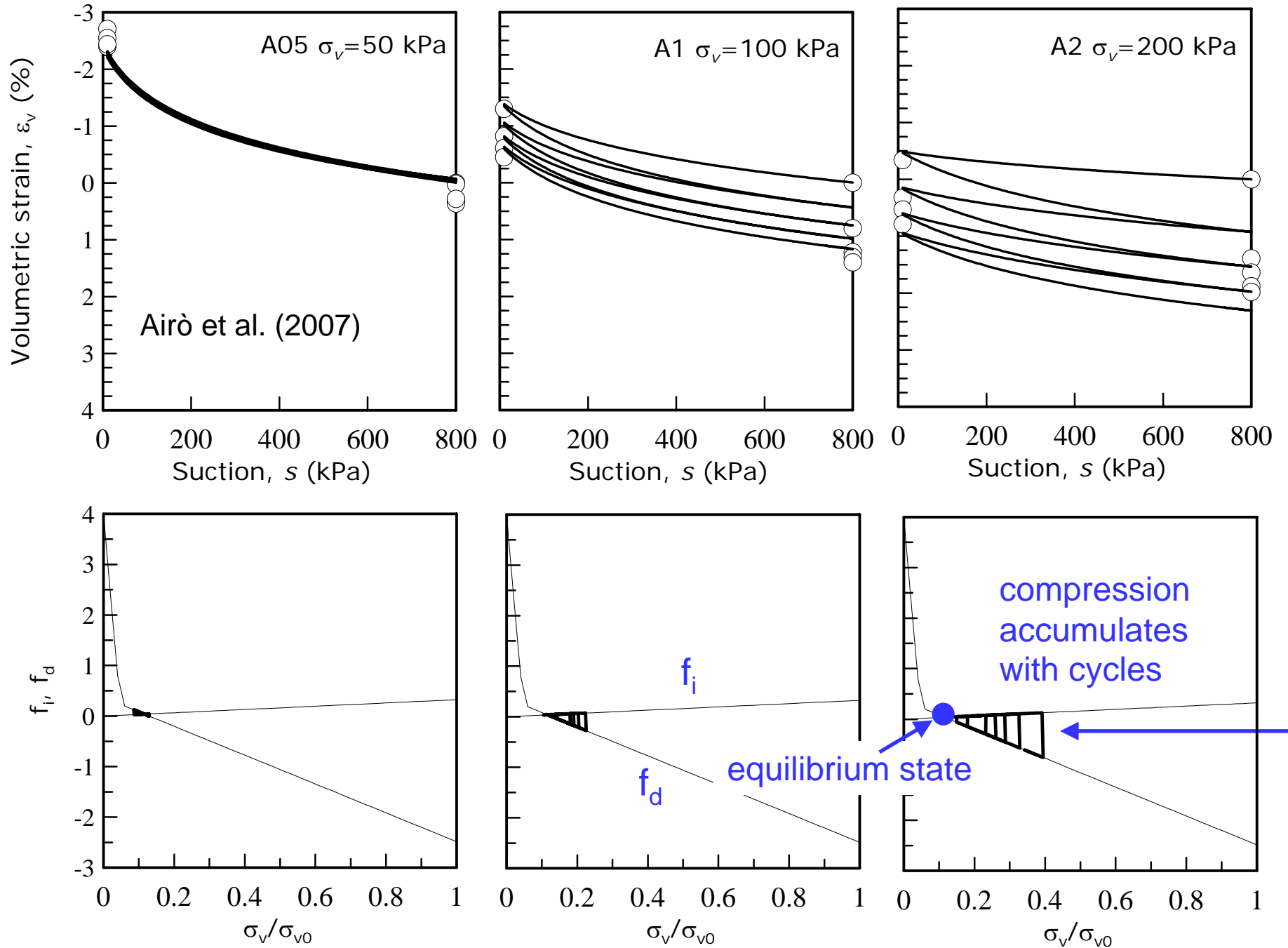
Volumetric strain evolution with suction cycling (10-800 kPa)



Evolution of volume change response on suction cycling



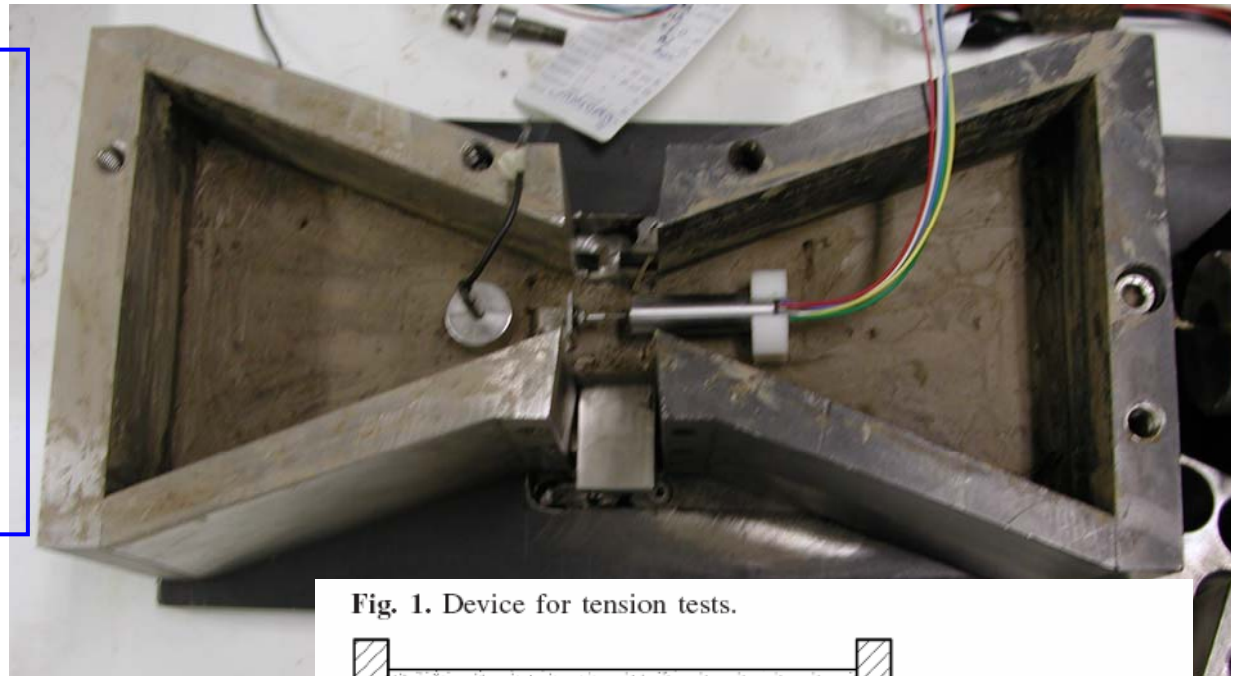
Simulation of experimental results and evolution of coupling functions



Grietas de retracción. Evaluación de la resistencia a la tracción

Objetivo:

Estimar el tiempo en el que aparecen las primeras grietas de retracción (se alcanza durante el secado una tensión horizontal equivalente a la **resistencia de tracción**)



Imperial College high-range tensiometer

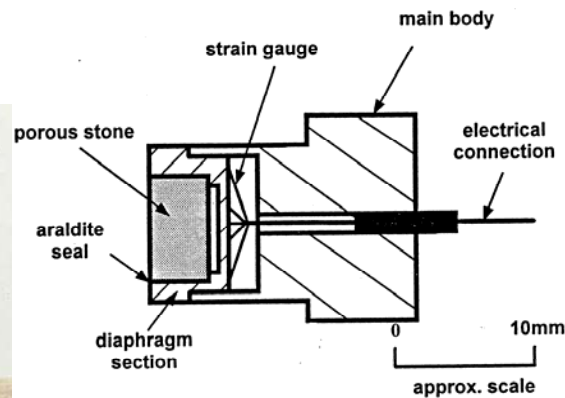
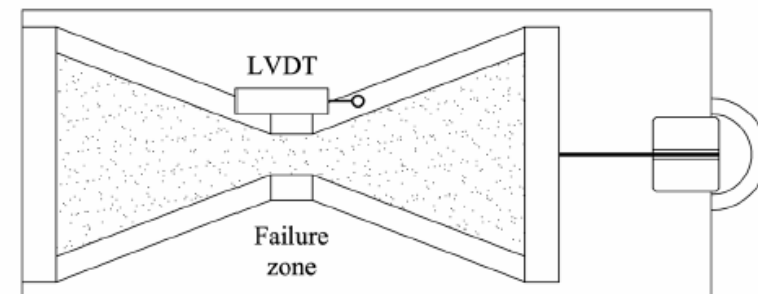
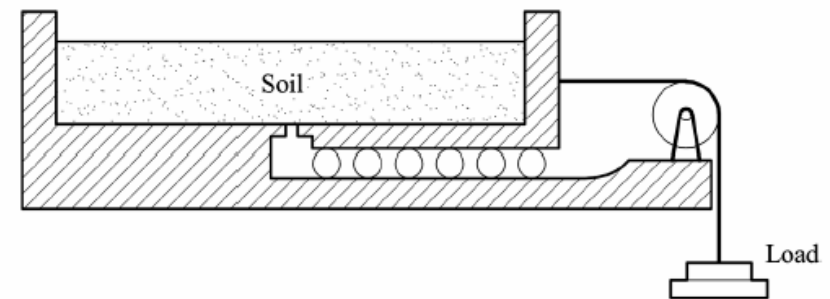


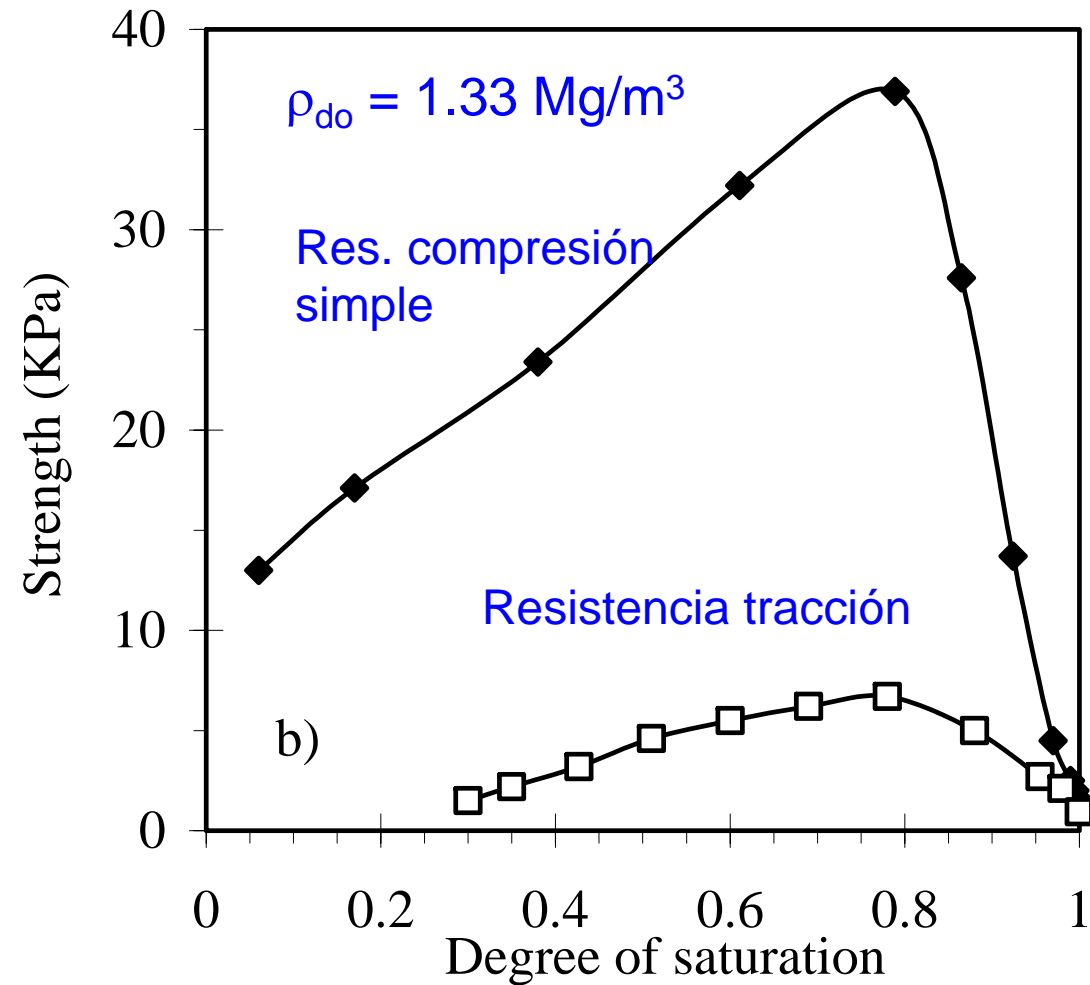
Fig. 1. Device for tension tests.



Mikulitsch & Gudehus (1995), Rodríguez (2002)

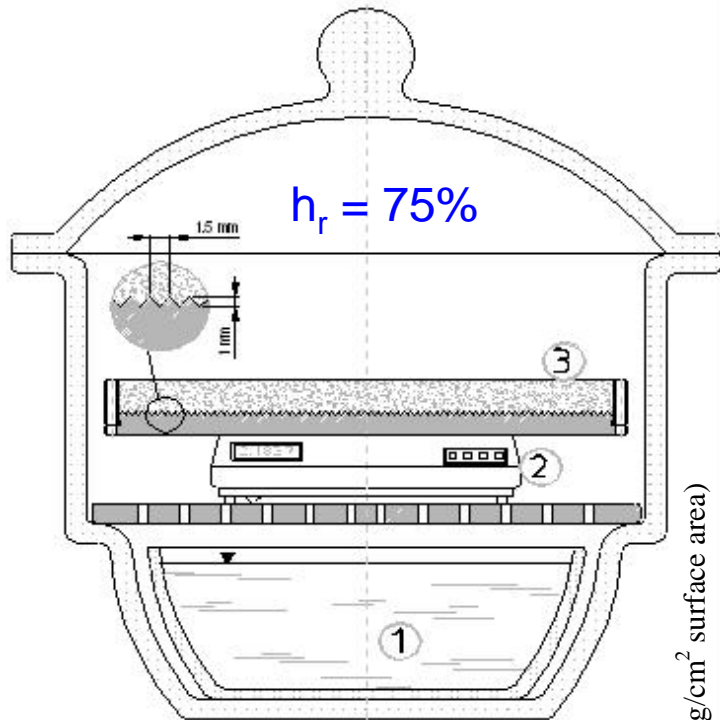
Resistencia a la tracción de residuos de la industria del níquel. Influencia de la saturación

Percent < 80 μm	Percent < 2 μm	C_U	w_L	w_p	PI	ρ_s (Mg/m^3)
92	10	11	43.9	39.9	4	3.97



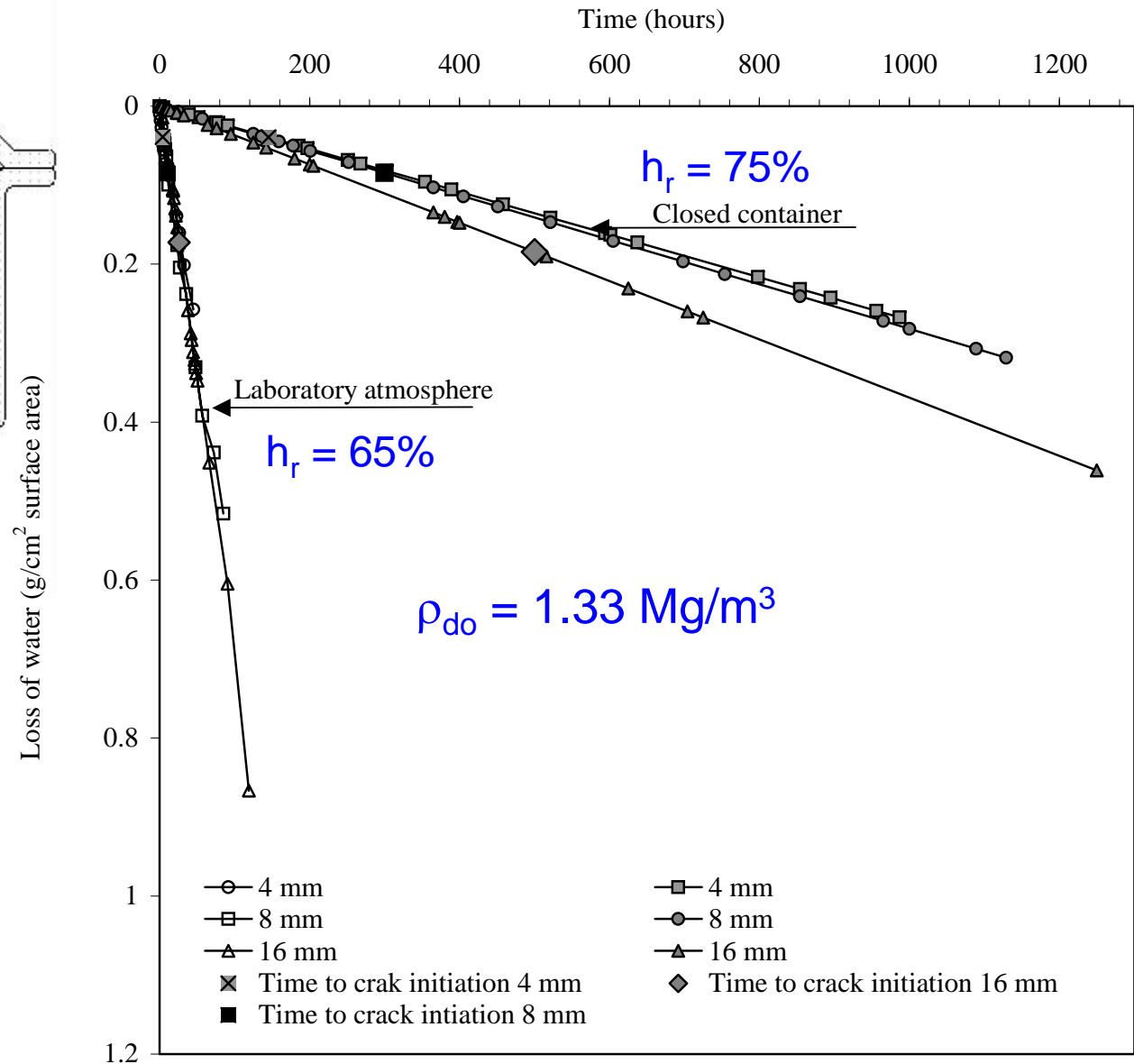
Rodríguez (2002)

Evaporación con control de humedad relativa (residuo de la industria del níquel)



Closed container:
 1) saline solution
 2) precision balance
 3) waste plate

Rodríguez et al. (2007)

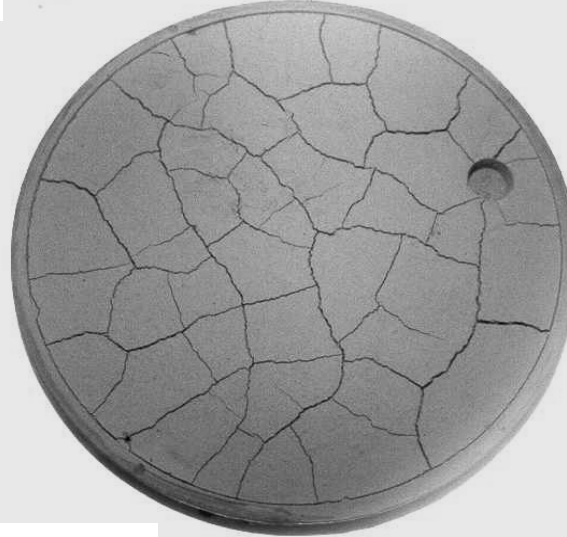
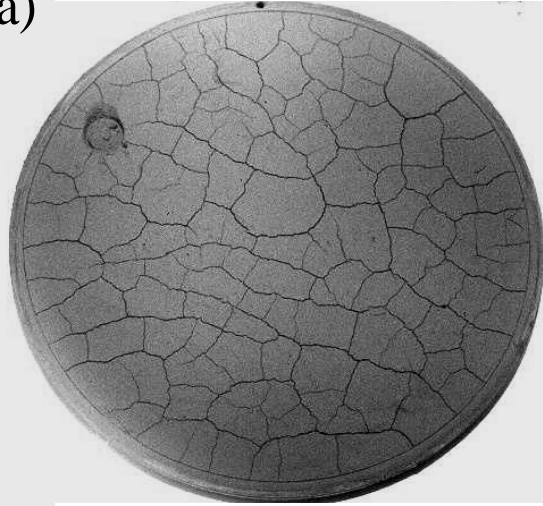


Pictures of crack patterns for different waste thicknesses

Rodríguez et al. (2007)

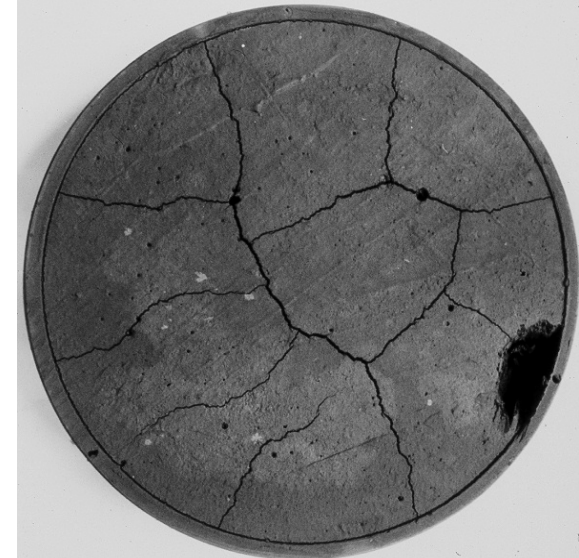
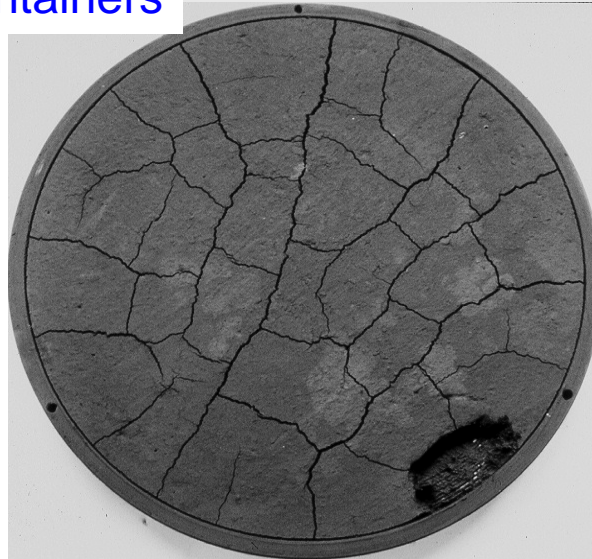
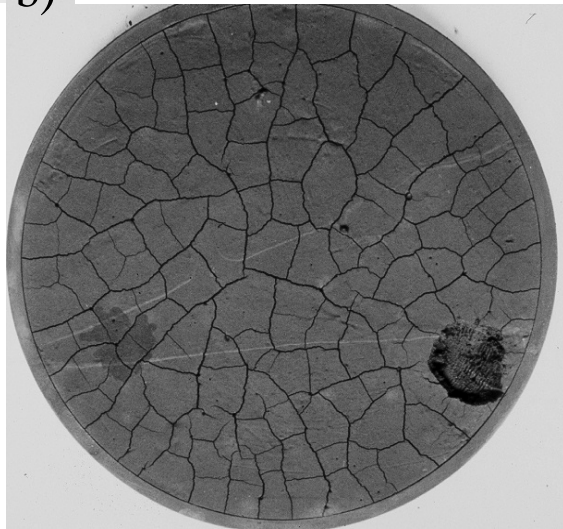
Laboratory atmosphere

a)



Hermetically closed containers

b)



4 mm

8 mm

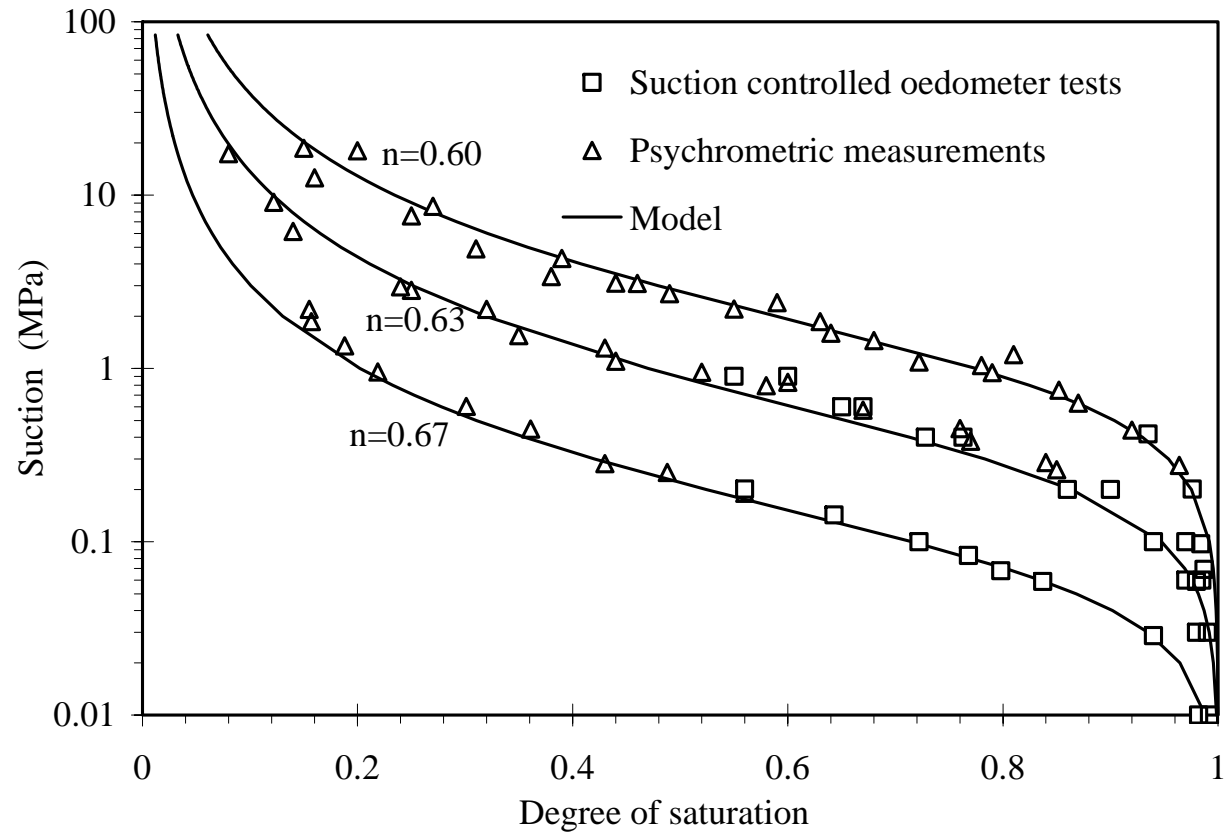
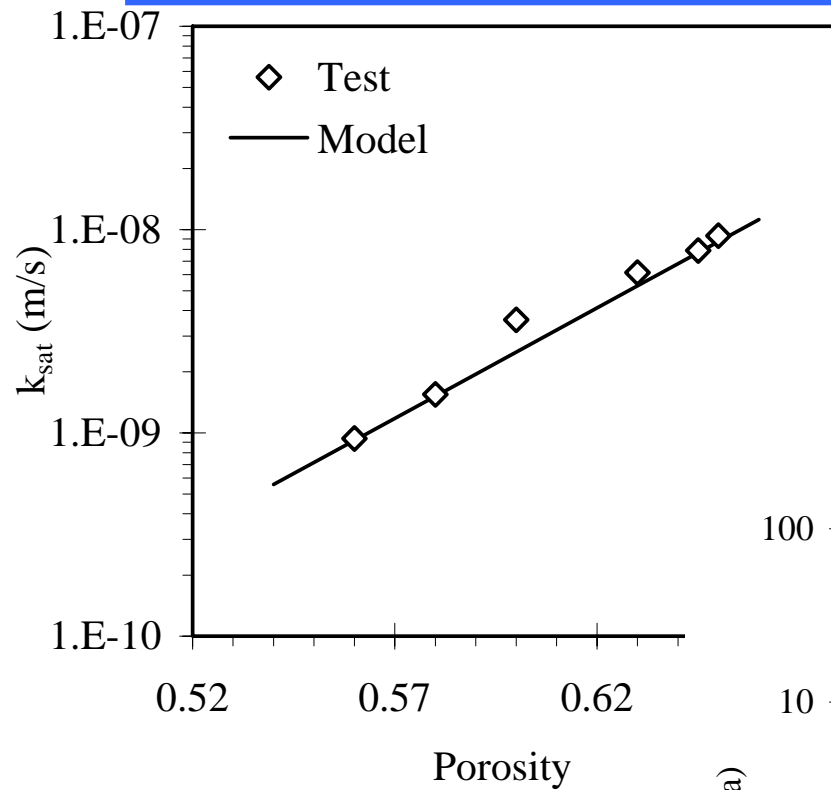
16 mm

Main equations and unknowns adopted in the HM formulation

Balance equations	Main variables (unknowns)
Mass balance of solid	Porosity, n
Mass balance of water	Liquid pressure, P_l
Momentum balance	Displacements, \mathbf{u}
Constitutive equations	Dependent variables
Mechanical model	Stress tensor, σ
Darcy's law	Liquid and gas advective flux, $\mathbf{q}_l, \mathbf{q}_g$
Retention curve	Liquid degree of saturation, S_l
Fick's law	Vapour and air nonadvective fluxes, $\mathbf{i}_g^w, \mathbf{i}_l^a$
Phase density*	Liquid density, ρ_l
Phase viscosity*	Liquid viscosity, ν
Gases law	Gas density, ρ_g
Equilibrium restriction	
Psychrometric law	Vapour concentration in the gas phase, ω_g^w

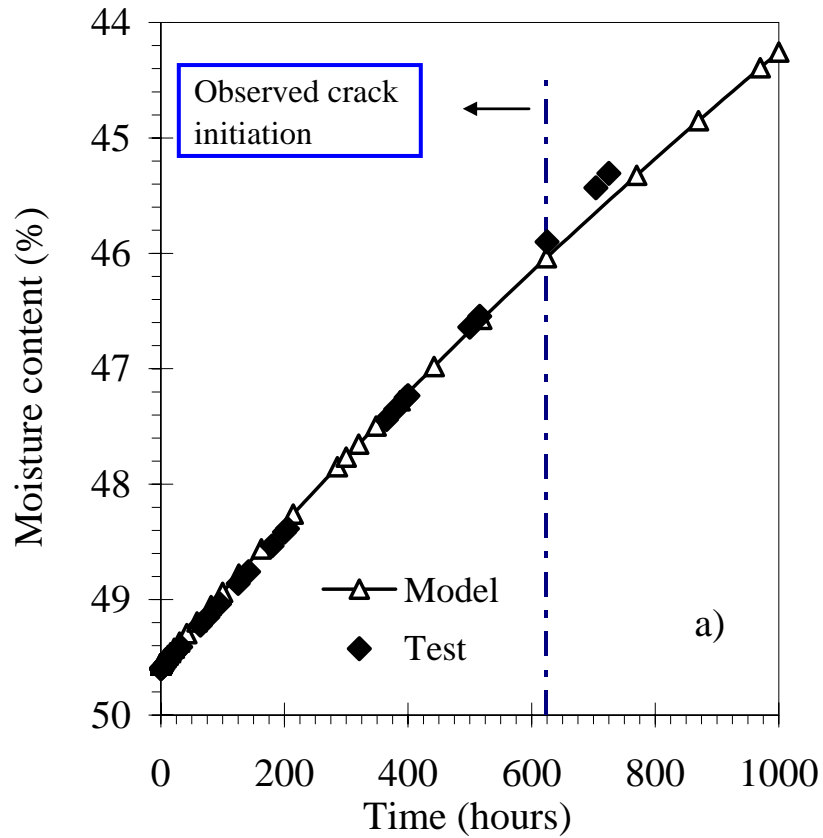
*Not included in this work.

Water permeability and water retention properties (metallurgical Ni waste)



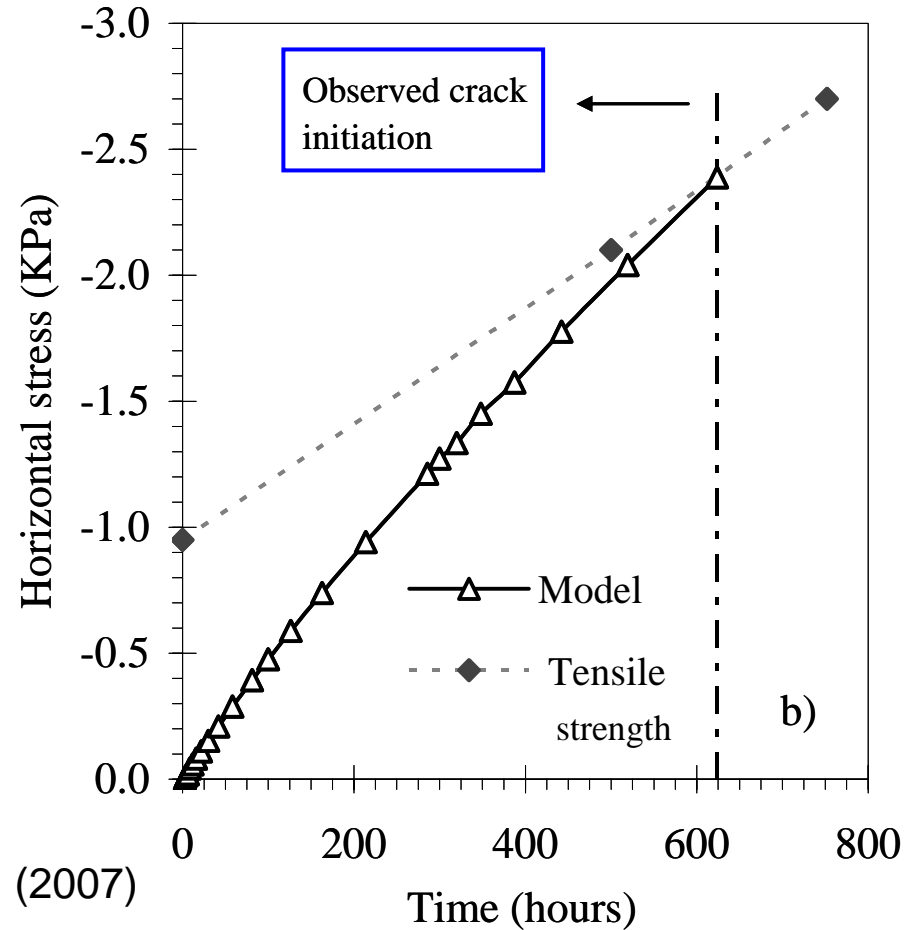
Rodríguez (2002)

Drying in closed container ($h_r = 75\%$)

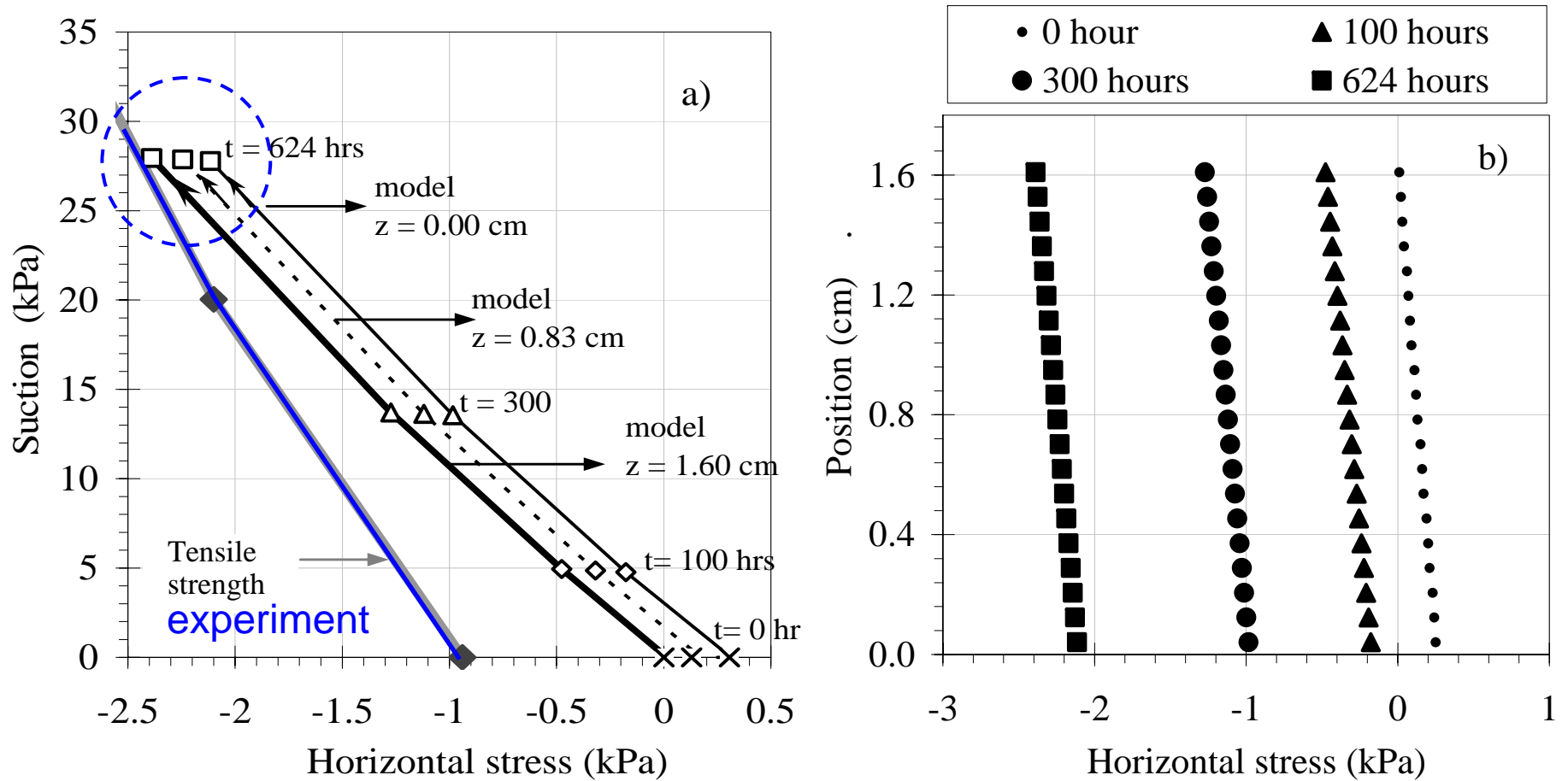


Computed and measured evolution of water content (crack initiation)

Evolution of computed horizontal stress and tensile strength

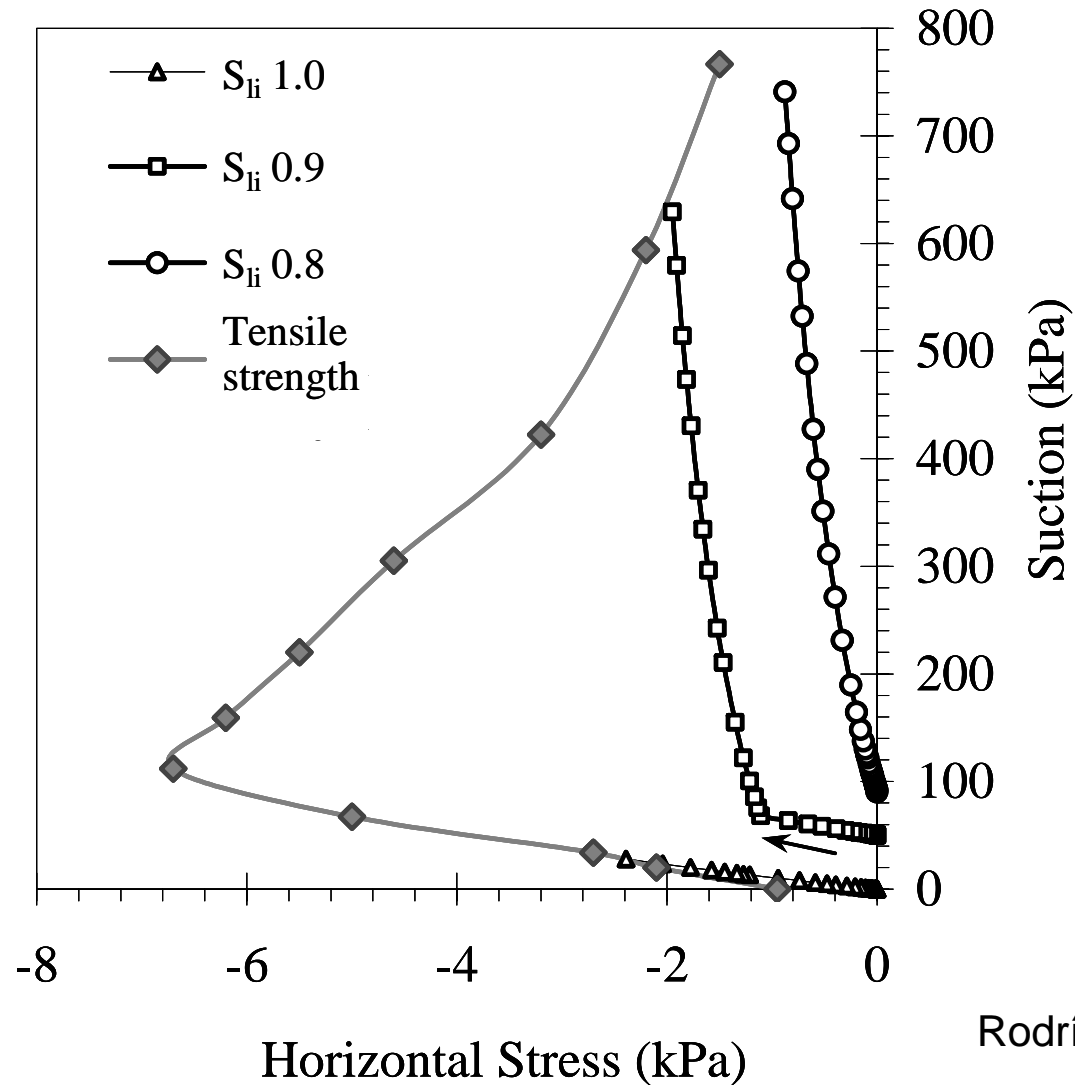


Evolution of horizontal stress at different depths and times (drying at $h_r = 75\%$)



Rodríguez et al. (2007)

Tensile strength and drying process for samples with different initial degrees of saturation



La formación de las grietas ocurre a un grado de saturación muy alto (usualmente mayor del 80%) → Retracción importante

Size effect in the cracking of drying (crack development and propagation)

Clayey silt: 60% passing No.200 sieve, $w_L = 32\%$, $PI = 16\%$, $w_o = 24.5\%$

Trays with different surfaces:
A: smooth, B: circular grooves, C: grid

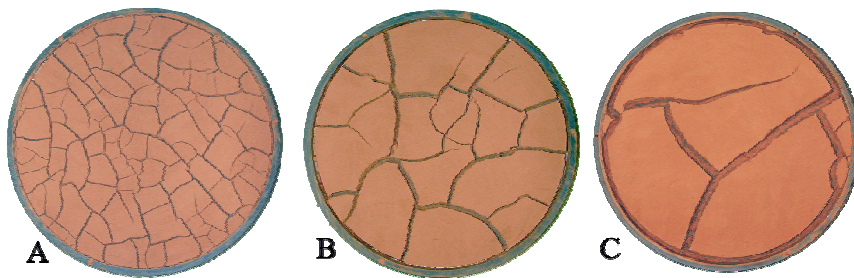


Figure 1. Cracking pattern for different sample thickness (circular groove) A: 4 mm; B: 8 mm; C: 16 mm

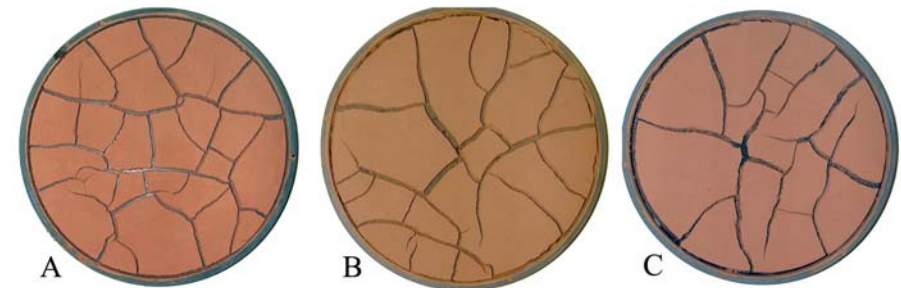
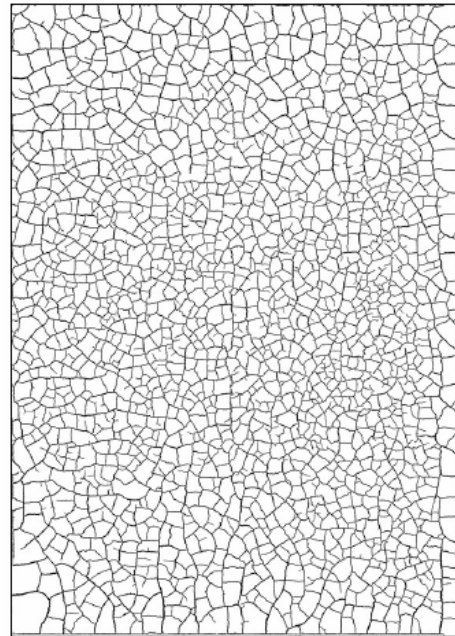


Figure 2. Cracking pattern for different contact surfaces (8 mm thick sample) A: Smooth; B: Circular grooves; C: Square grid

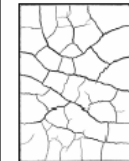
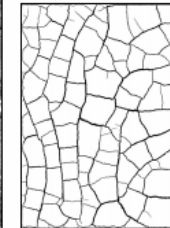
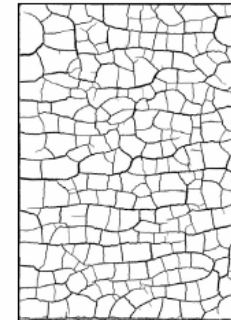
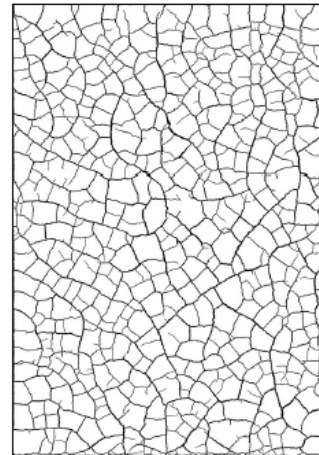
Lakshmikantha et al. (2006)

Size effect in the cracking of drying soil

Aspect ratio: $2^{1/2}$
Area:
1, 0.5, 0.25, 0.125
and 0.0625 m²



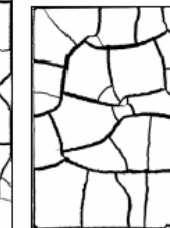
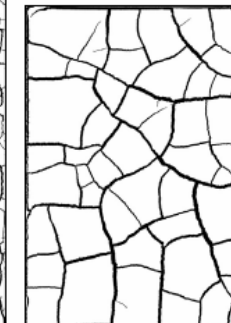
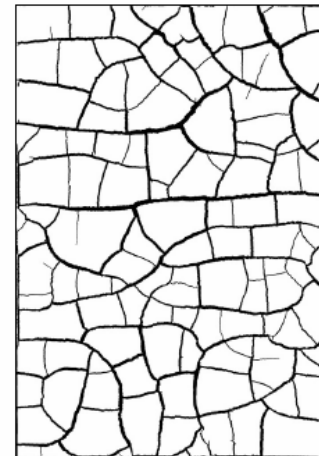
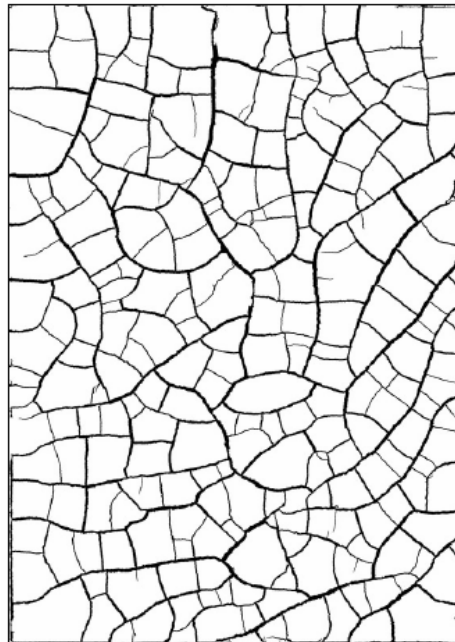
specimens with 10 mm thickness



Appear to be energy-driven phenomena (depend on the size)

$w_o = 24.5\%$

specimens with 20 mm thickness



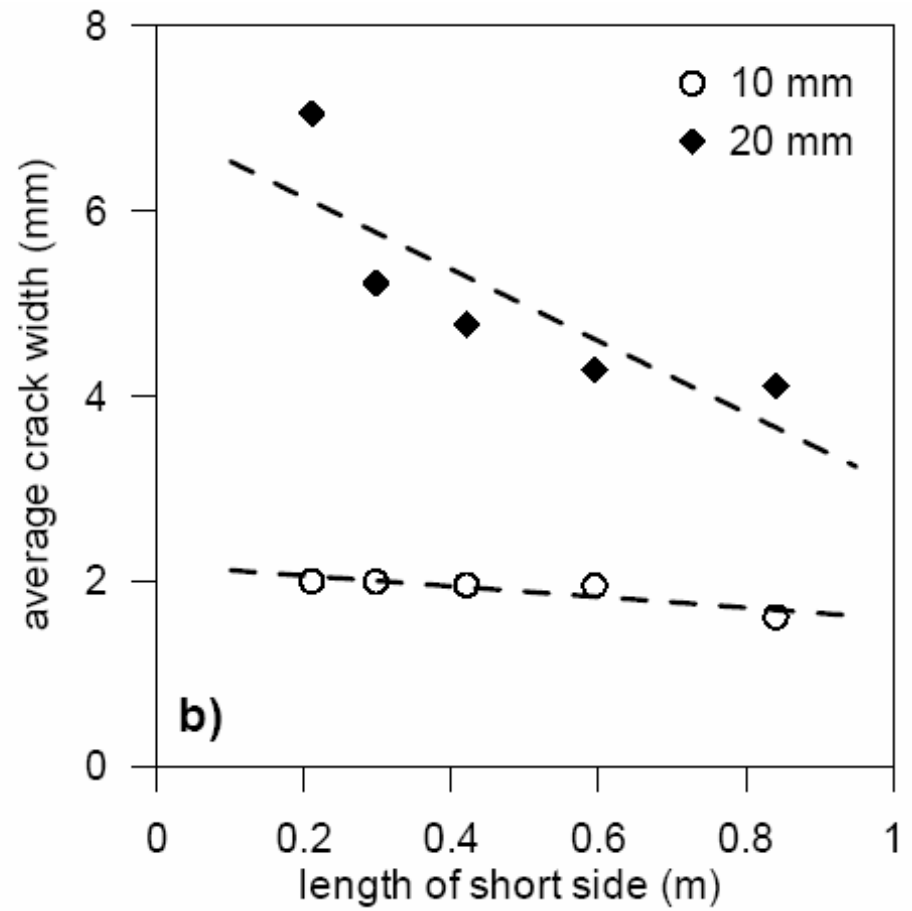
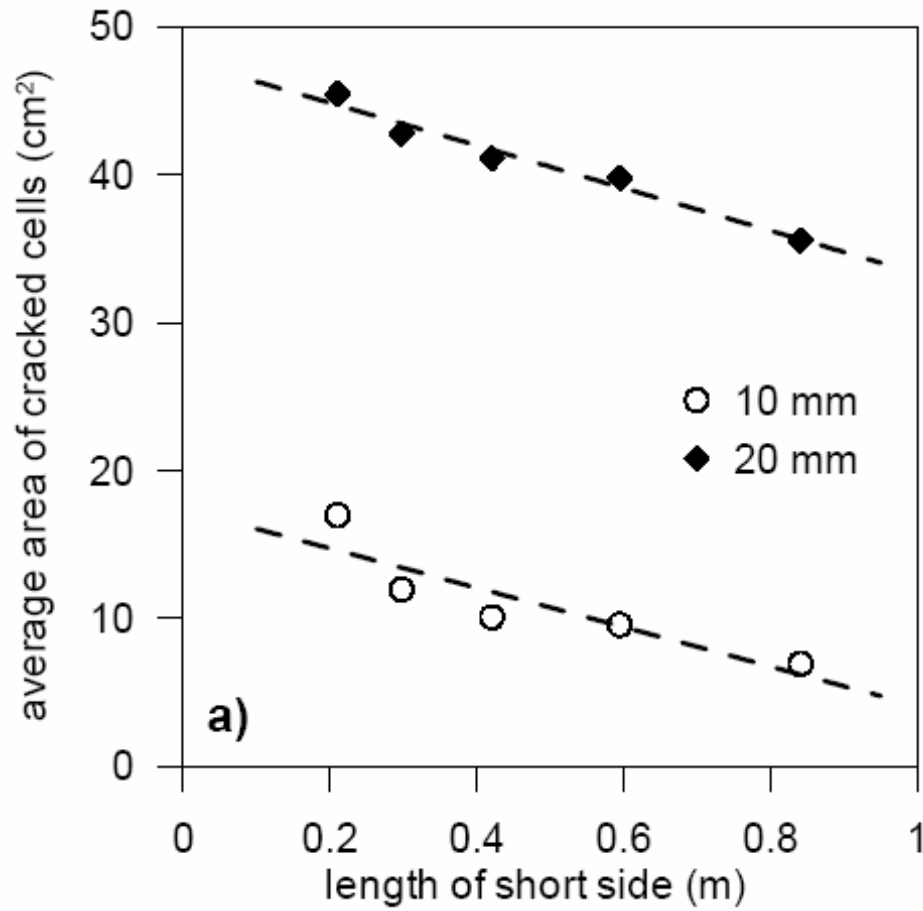
Specimen geometry and results from image analysis

Test #	nominal area of specimen (m ²)	thick-ness (mm)	area of uncracked material (cm ²)	surface shrinkage (CDF) (%)	total crack area (cm ²)	average area of cells (cm ²)	total length of cracks (cm)	average width of cracks (mm)	length of cracks per unit area (cm ⁻¹)
A0-10	1.0000	10	8828.69	11.71	1171.31	6.94	7280.76	1.61	0.73
A1-10	0.5000	10	4460.48	10.79	539.52	9.57	2746.49	1.95	0.55
A2-10	0.2500	10	2208.29	11.67	291.71	10.08	1460.33	1.96	0.58
A3-10	0.1250	10	1135.96	9.12	114.04	11.96	560.26	1.99	0.45
A4-10	0.0625	10	577.22	7.64	47.78	16.98	232.92	2.00	0.37
A0-20	1.0000	20	8850.88	11.49	1149.12	35.55	2793.85	4.11	0.28
A1-20	0.5000	20	4333.98	13.32	666.02	39.76	1545.88	4.28	0.31
A2-20	0.2500	20	2176.31	12.95	323.69	41.06	668.24	4.77	0.27
A3-20	0.1250	20	1068.88	14.49	181.12	42.76	342.08	5.22	0.27
A4-20	0.0625	20	545.50	12.72	79.50	45.46	110.91	7.05	0.18

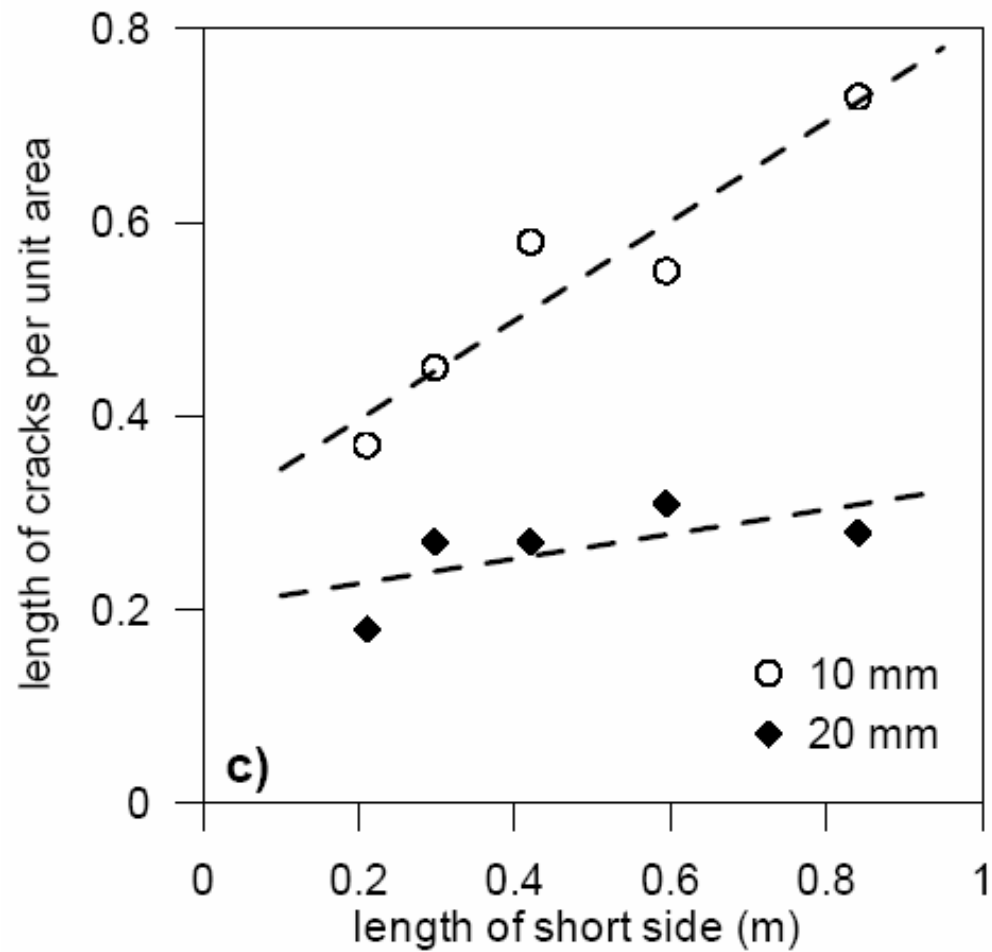
Crack network pattern was studied using an image processing software (ImageJ)

Prat, Ledesma & Lakshmikantha (2007)

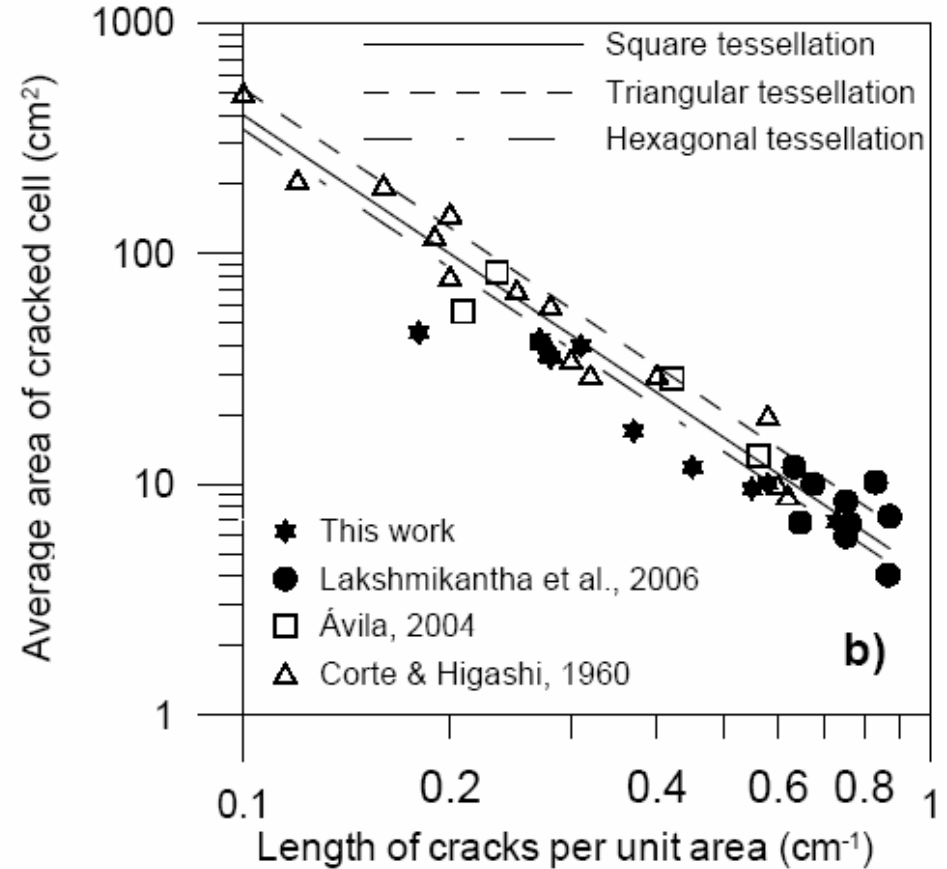
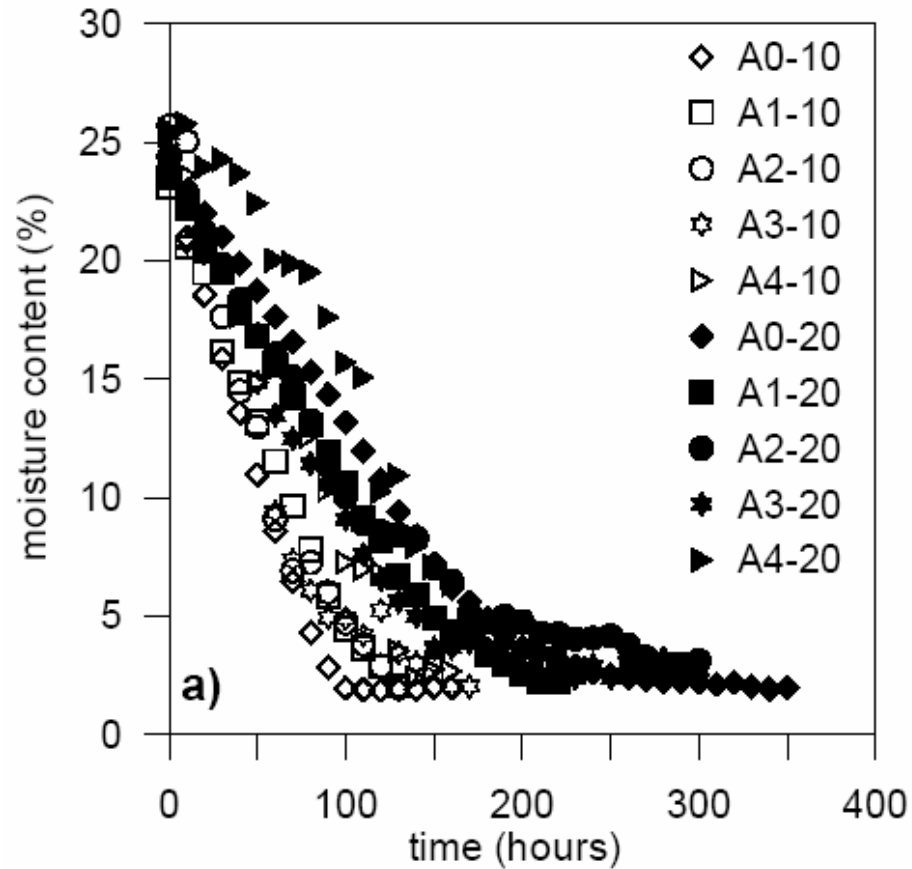
Effect of specimen size on several measurements



Effect of specimen size on several measurements

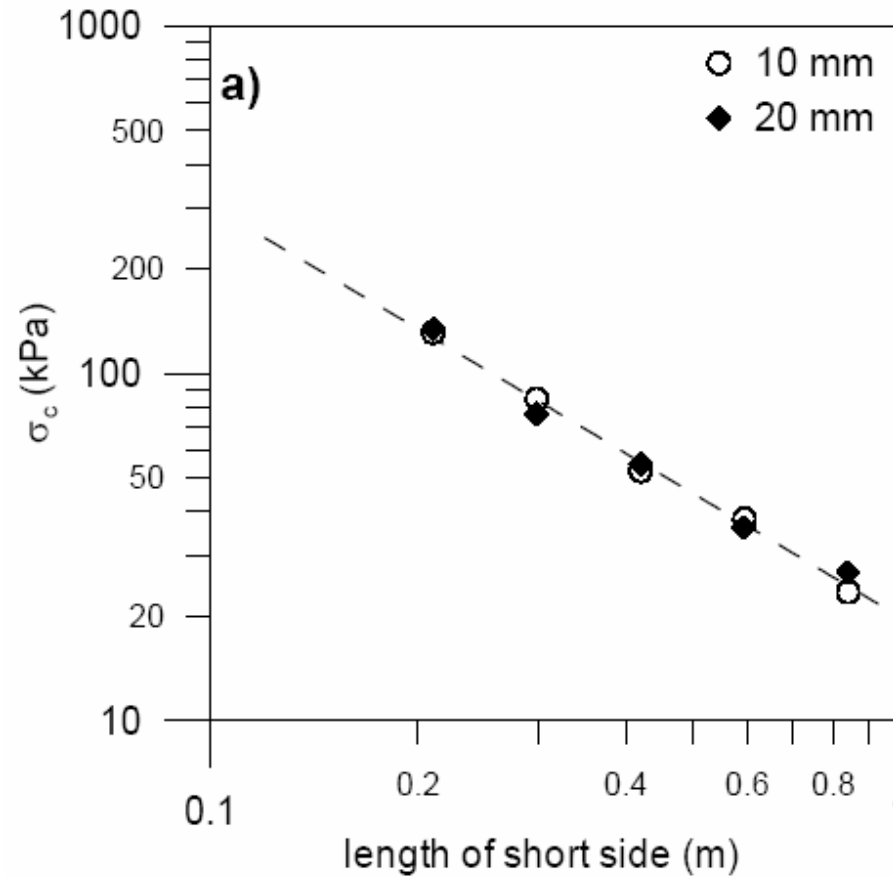


Effect of specimen size on several measurements



Fracture mechanics (size effects of 'cracking stress')

Prat, Ledesma & LakshmiKantha (2007)



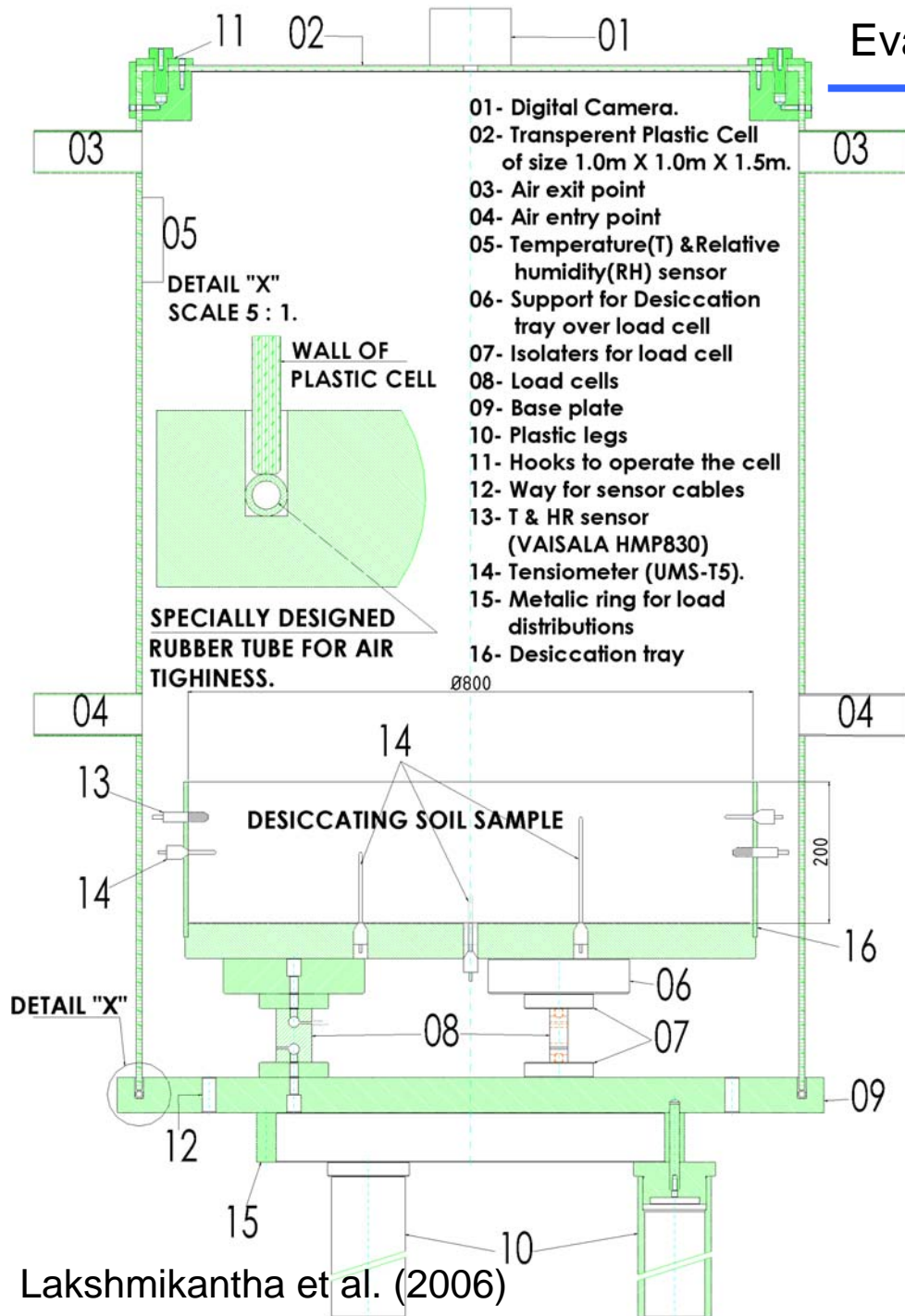
Average 'cracking stress' can be estimated using LEFM relation:

$$\sigma_c = \sqrt{\frac{G_{IC} E}{\pi a}}$$

G_{IC} : fracture energy (5 N/m),
 assumed a material property
 E : Young's modulus (250 MPa)
 a : total length of cracks

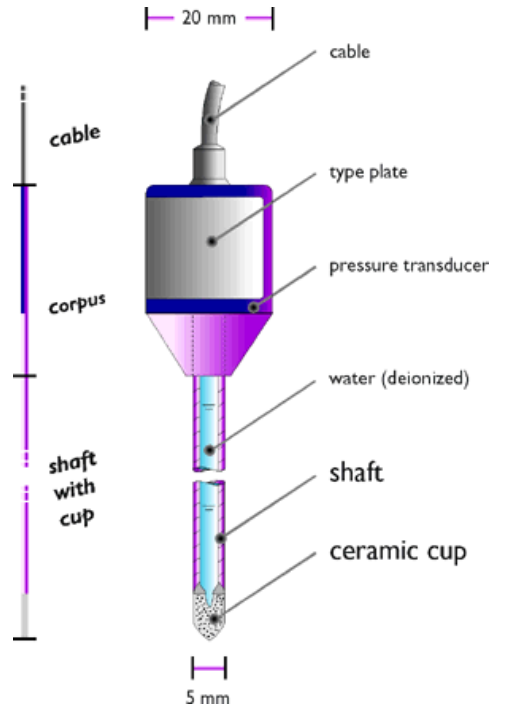
$$\sigma_c = \sqrt{\frac{5 \frac{N}{m} \cdot 250 \times 10^6 \frac{N}{m^2}}{\pi \cdot a}} = \frac{20000 N \times m^{-3/2}}{\sqrt{a} m^{1/2}} = \frac{20}{\sqrt{a}} \text{ kPa}$$

Evaporative column for desiccation monitoring

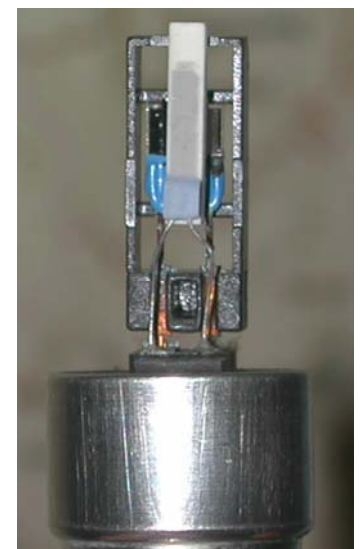


Lakshmikantha et al. (2006)

Low-range tensiometers



Capacitive hygrometer (relative humidity)

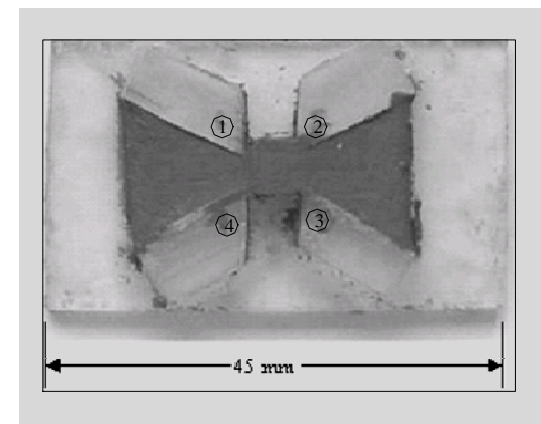
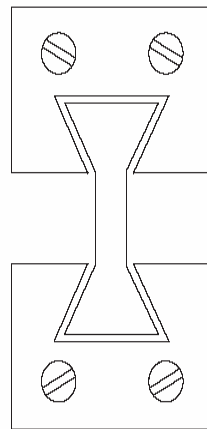


Evolution of μ -cracking of clay induced by desiccation using ESEM (Ávila 2005)

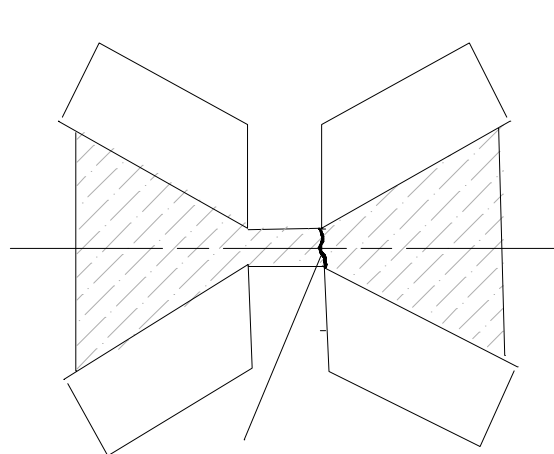
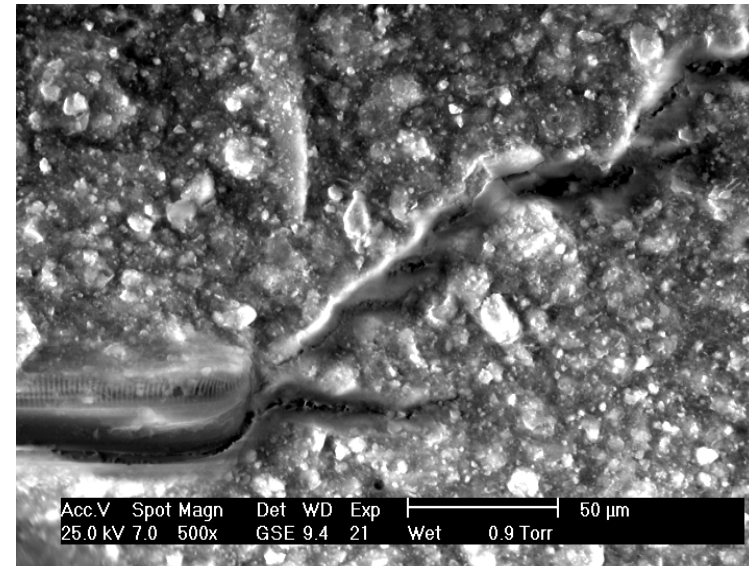
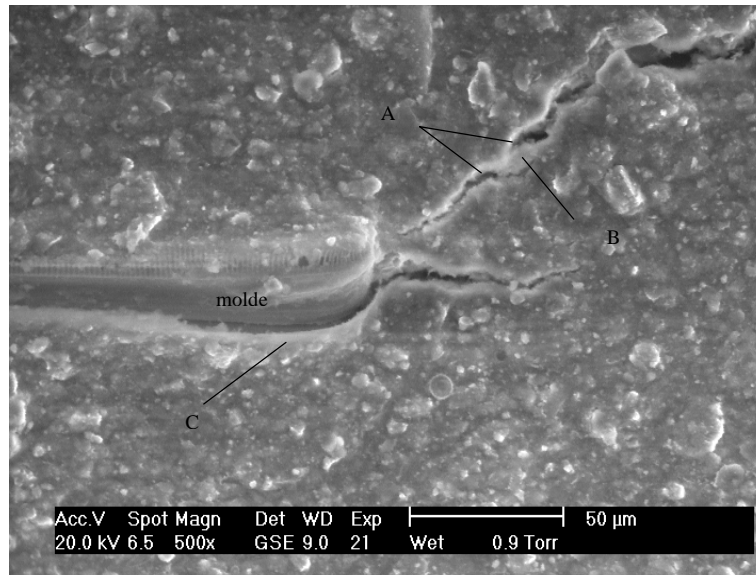


Shrinkage/tensile
test geometry

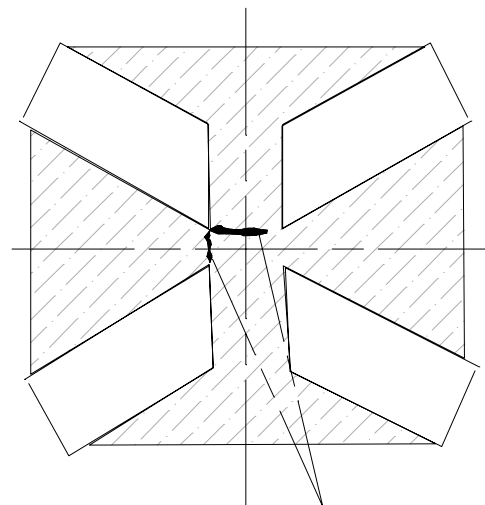
Ends of specimen wedge
into fixed grips



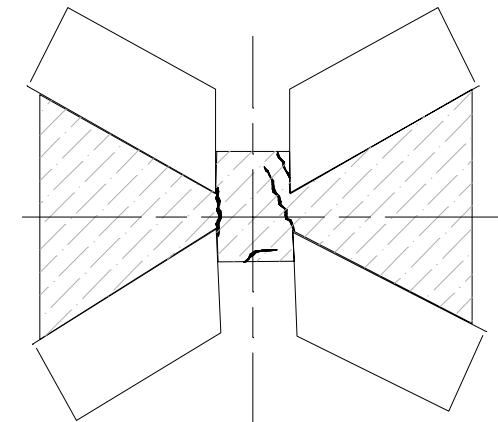
Constrain effects on shrinkage



Una grieta principal perpendicular al eje de tracción



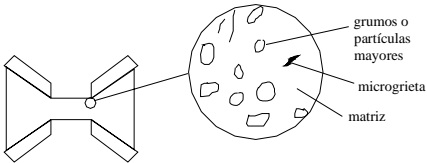
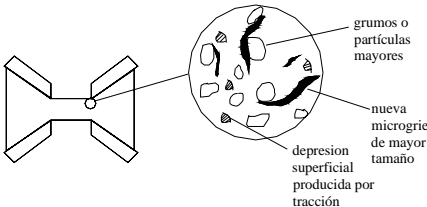
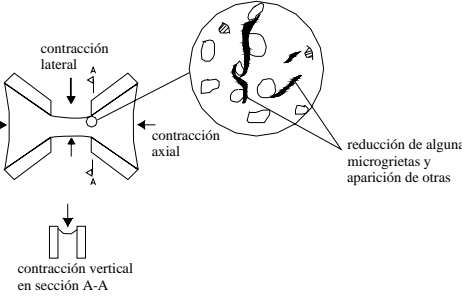
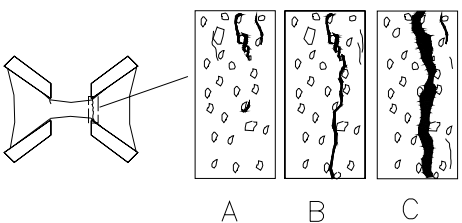
Dos grietas perpendiculares



Múltiples grietas

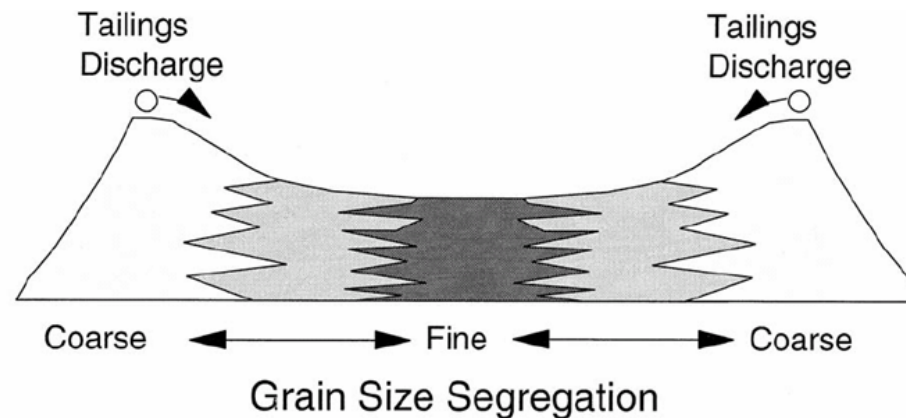
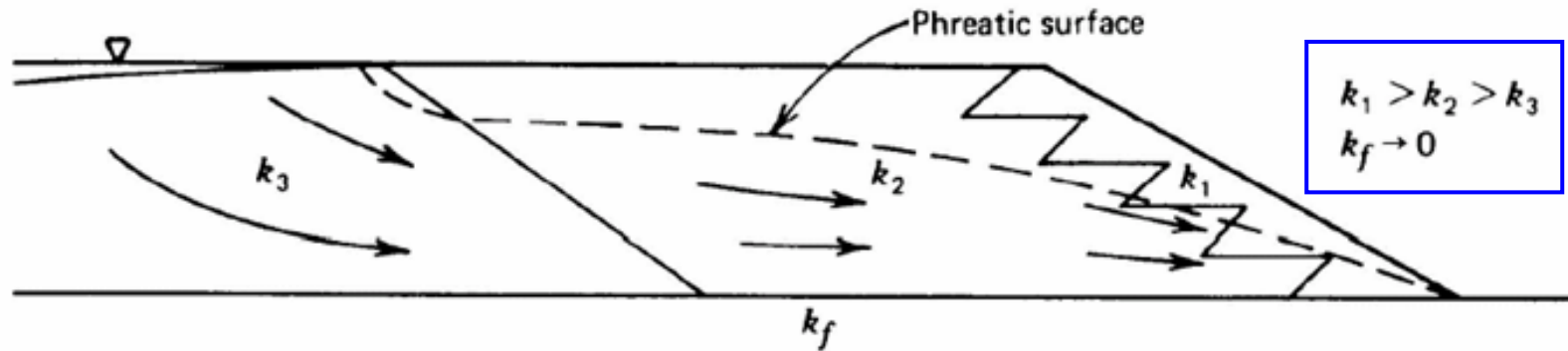
(Ávila 2005)

Evolution of μ -cracking induced by desiccation

Etapa	Intervalo de Humedad (%)	Intervalo de Succión (kPa)	Esquema	Descripción Macroscópica	Descripción Microscópica
① Muestra húmeda	50 40	90 200		Muestra húmeda, recién instalada en el molde. No se observan grietas, material uniforme, textura lisa y color brillante	Rugosidad superficial por presencia de algunos grumos y por moldeado de la muestra. Microgrietas ocasionales muy superficiales y pequeñas, de 1 a 5 micras de abertura y de 10 a 20 micras de longitud.
② Inicio desecación	40 35	200 500		La arcilla pierde brillo superficial y la textura se aprecia menos uniforme. Ligera contracción longitudinal de la muestra	Se notan más resaltados los granos mayores respecto a la matriz (mayor rugosidad). Aparecen nuevas microgrietas con diferentes orientaciones bordeando a las partículas mayores. Las microgrietas predominantes son de 5 a 20 micras de abertura y de 20 a 100 micras de longitud. Se notan depresiones superficiales en la dirección de la tracción.
③ Propagación estable	35 30	500 1100		El color se hace opaco, la textura es similar a la etapa anterior, evidente contracción volumétrica aunque restringida por el molde y separación en algunos sitios de la muestra respecto a las paredes del molde.	Microgrietas en las esquinas internas de la muestra, incremento de tamaño y coalescencia de algunas de ellas y reducción de otras. Clara separación entre la muestra y el molde en algunos tramos. Abertura de microgrietas entre 20 y 30 micras y longitud entre 300 y 500 micras.
④ Propagación inestable	30 27	1100 2000		Propagación rápida del agrietamiento en sentido transversal de la muestra. en general sólo se presenta una grieta principal. La muestra se nota relativamente seca.	Se distinguen tres etapas: A. Se inicia prolongación y coalescencia de microgrietas. B. La grieta principal se prolonga totalmente en sentido transversal en un tiempo muy corto (10 a 20 segundos). Las grietas adyacentes tienden a cerrarse. C. Aumenta la apertura de grieta, después de unos minutos aparecen grietas secundarias y luego se estabiliza el proceso.

(Ávila 2005)

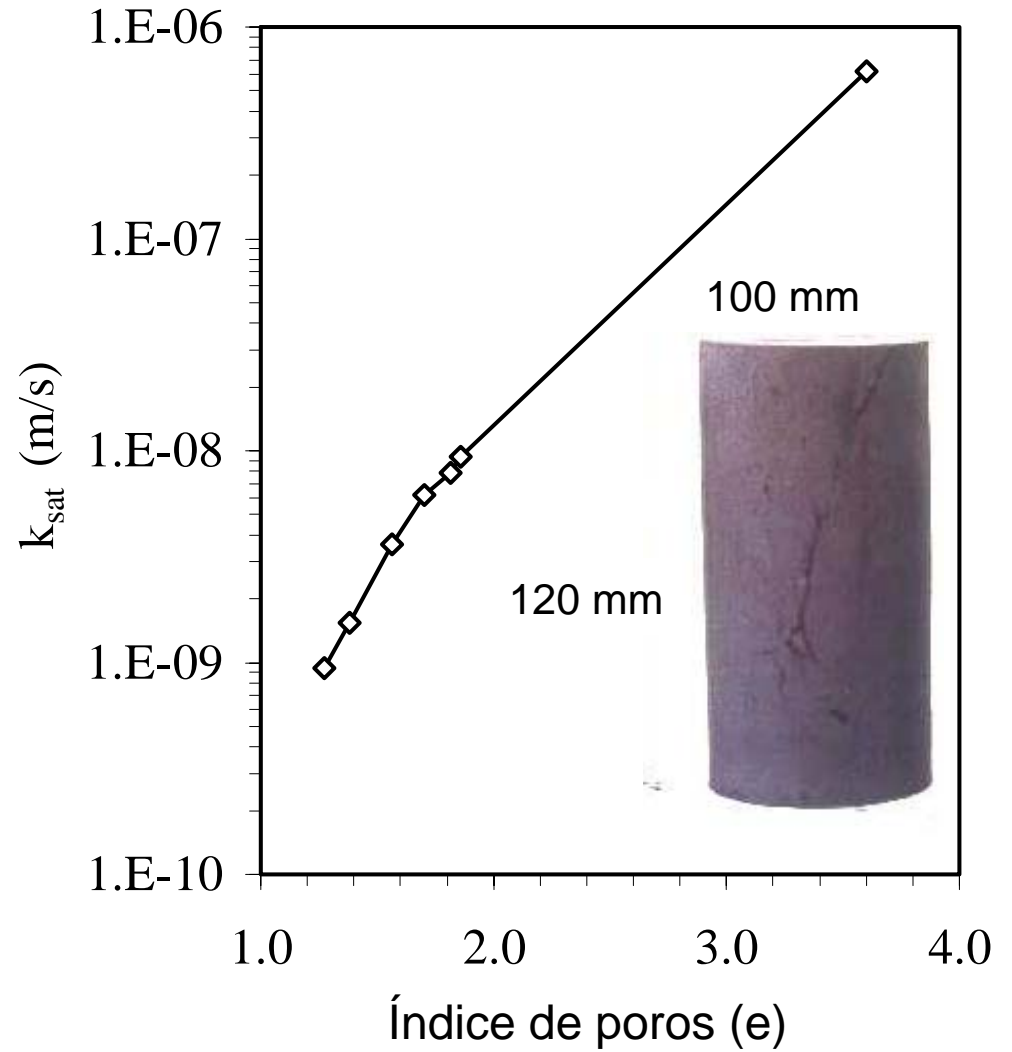
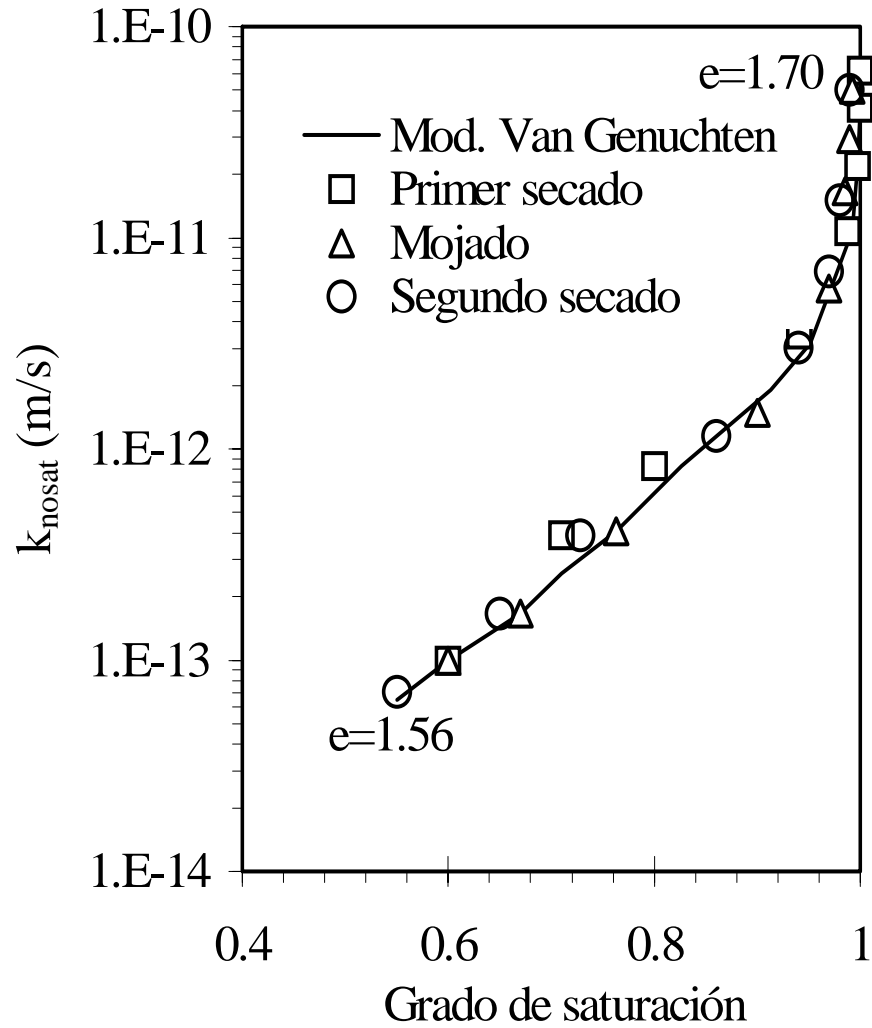
Permeabilidad al agua. Influencia de las grietas de retracción



Al *et al.* (1994)

Grain size sorting effect resultant from discharge of low density tailing slurries (10-20 wt% solids) from perimeter dam

Permeabilidad al agua. Residuos de la industria del níquel



Preparación de muestras simulando vertido y secado *in situ*

- 1- Se preparó una mezcla sólido-líquido en proporción similar a la del vertido
- 2- Se depositó en un recipiente y se dejó secar hasta que se formó la primera grieta. Se estabilizó el peso
- 3- Se depositó una nueva capa y se siguió el mismo proceso
- 4- Se tallaron las muestras para realizar los ensayos de permeabilidad al agua



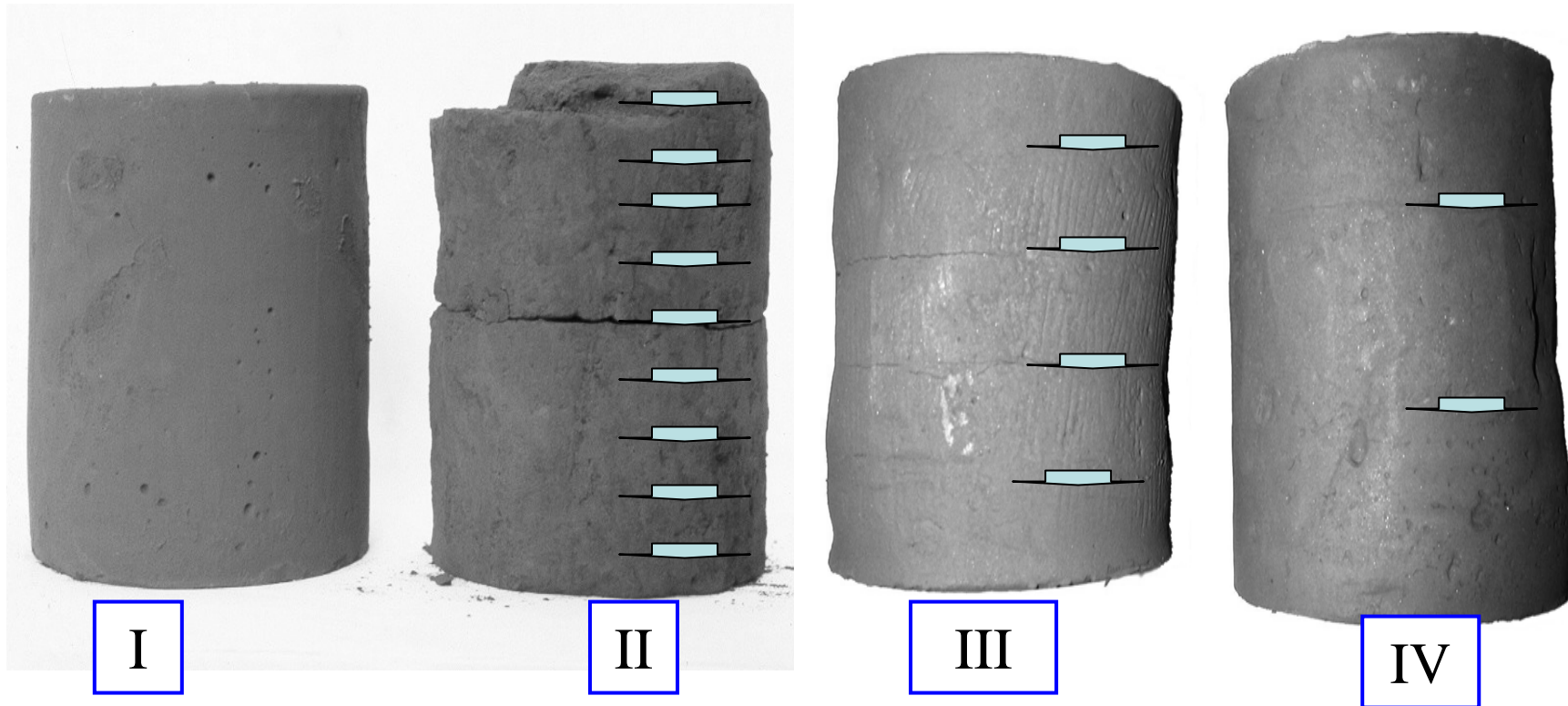
Preparación de probetas

I Muestra continua

II Muestra en capas de $h=10$ mm

III Muestra en capas de $h=20$ mm

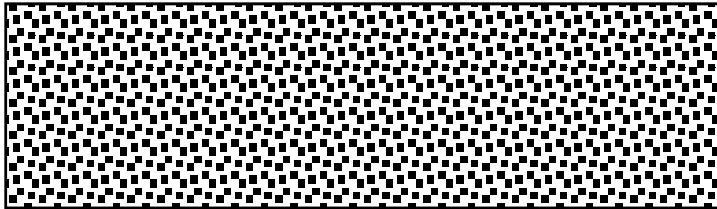
IV Muestra en capas de $h=40$ mm



Rodríguez (2002)

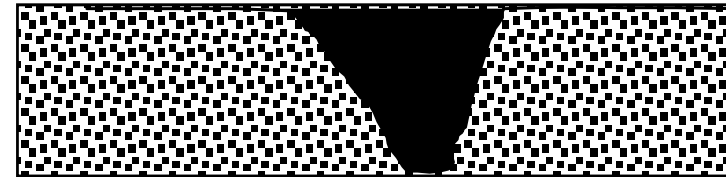
Hipótesis del mecanismo de formación de caminos de flujo preferencial

Vertido inicia primera capa
Muestra saturada

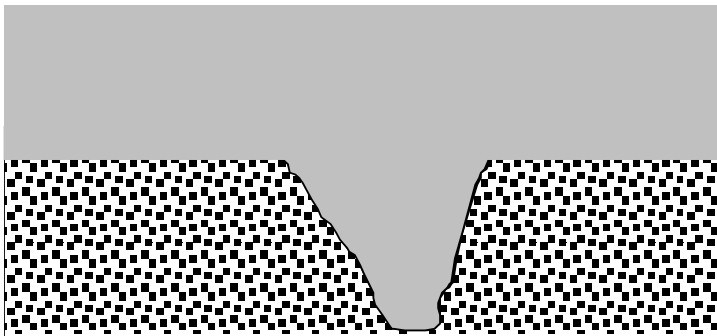


Primer secado capa
Evaporación, retracción y agrietamiento

Grieta

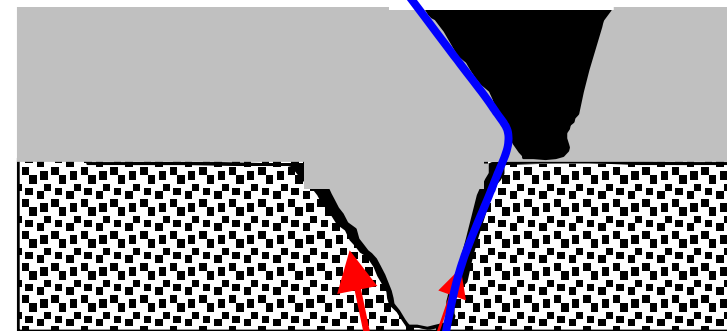


Vertido de la segunda capa
Sellado de la grieta



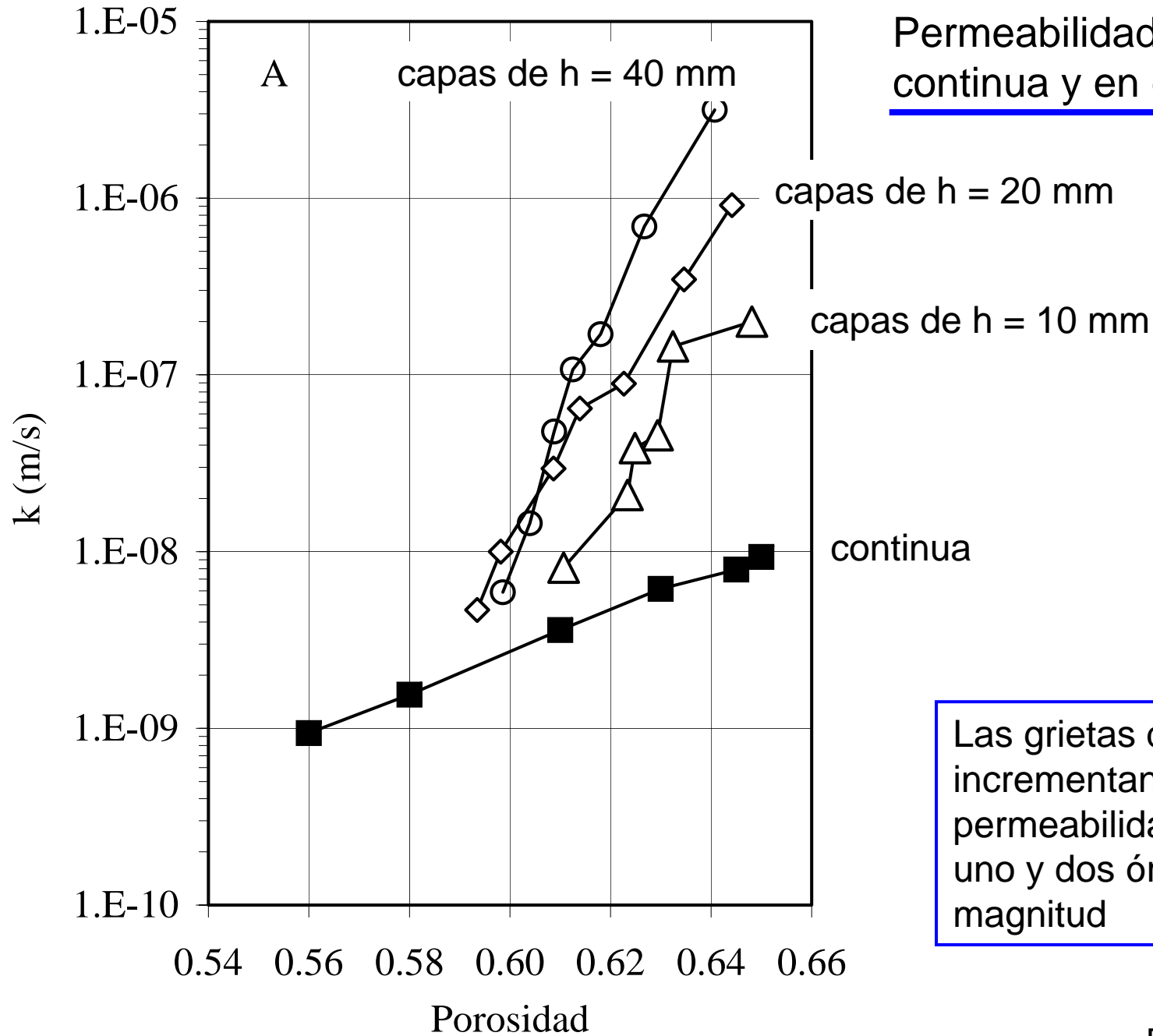
Primer secado capa
Evaporación, retracción y agrietamiento

Grieta



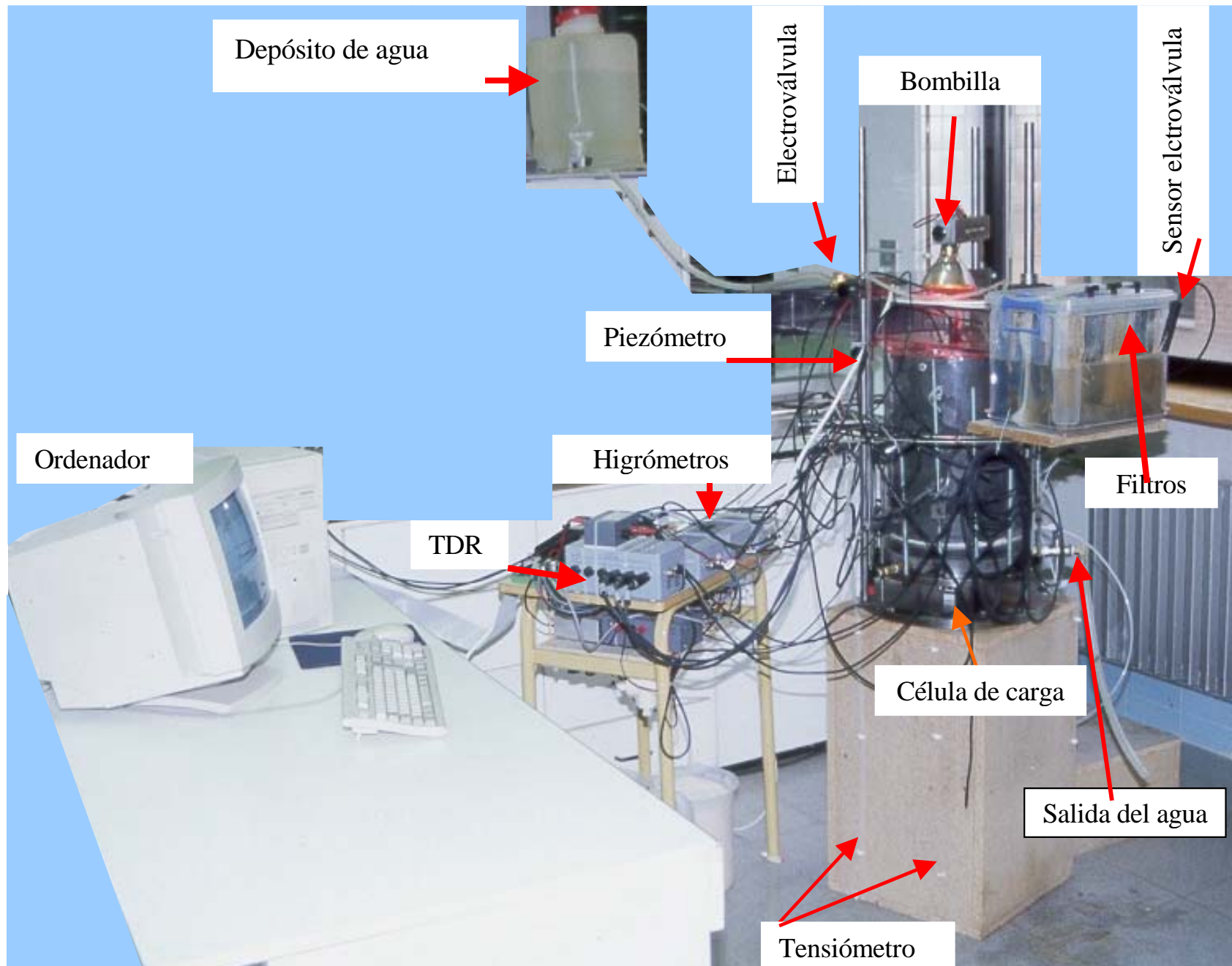
Retracción :

Permeabilidad de muestras
continua y en capas



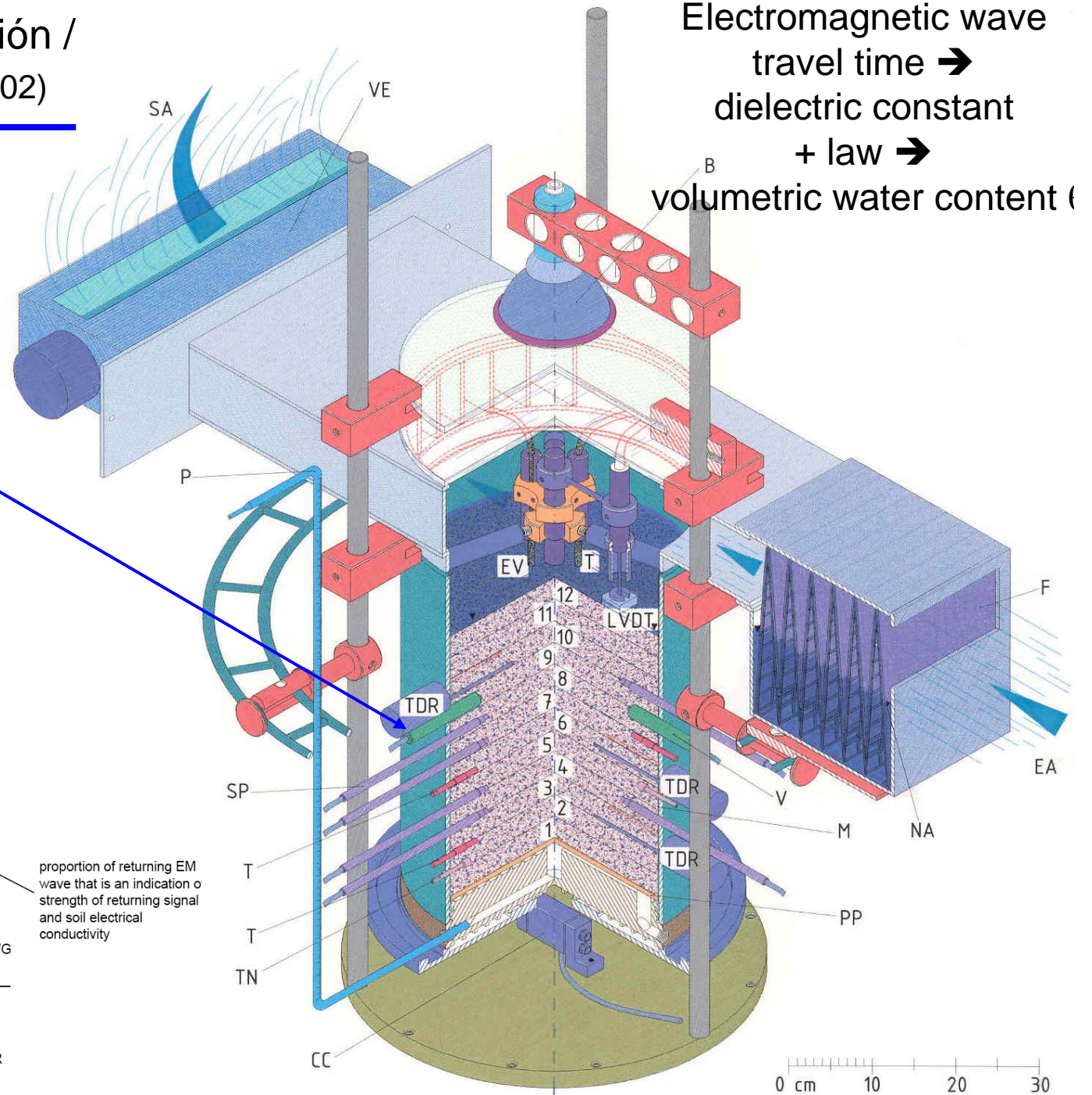
Las grietas de retracción incrementan el valor de la permeabilidad al agua entre uno y dos órdenes de magnitud

Columna de evaporación / infiltración (Rodríguez 2002)

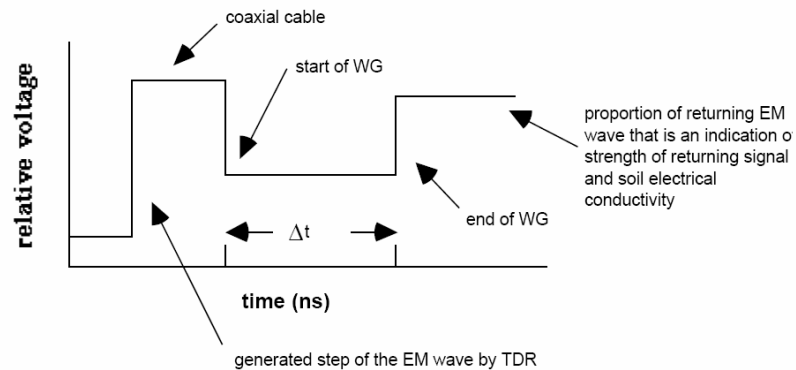


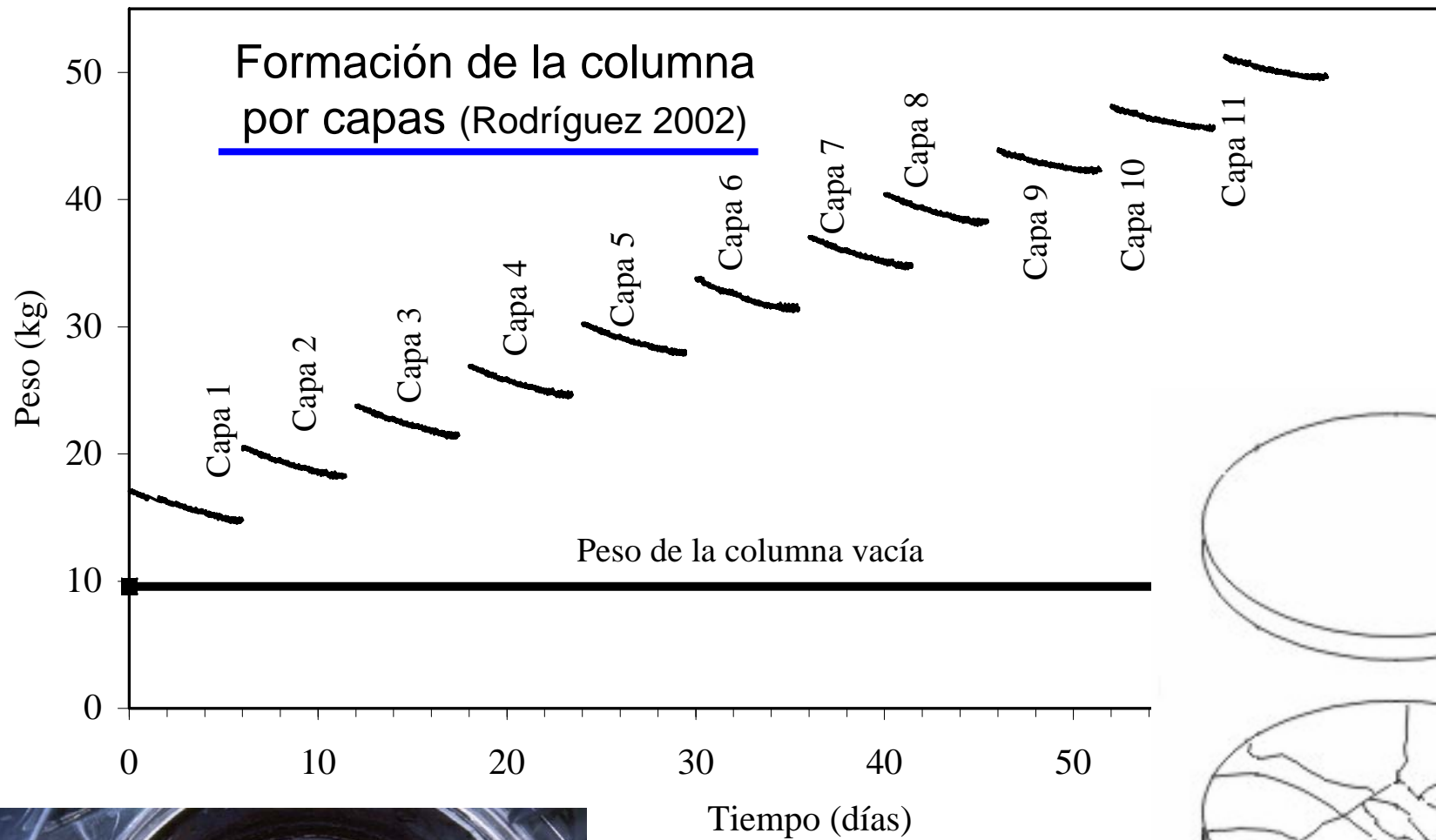
Columna de evaporación / infiltración (Rodríguez 2002)

TDR probes



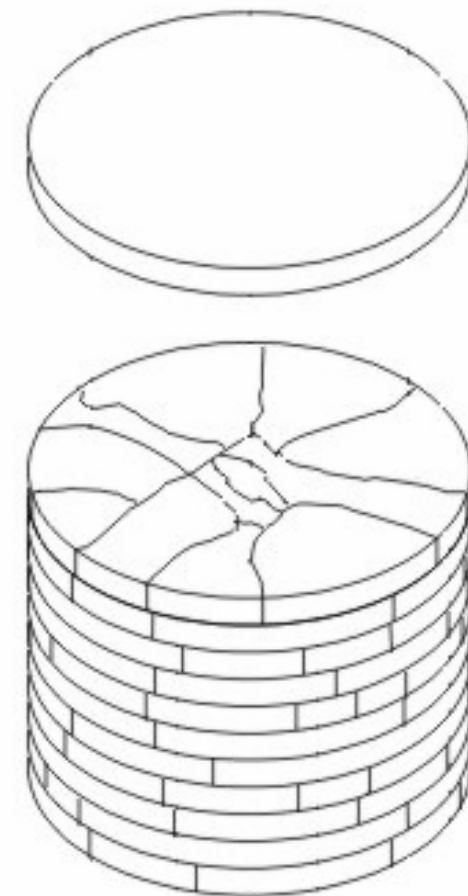
Electromagnetic wave travel time \rightarrow dielectric constant + law \rightarrow volumetric water content (





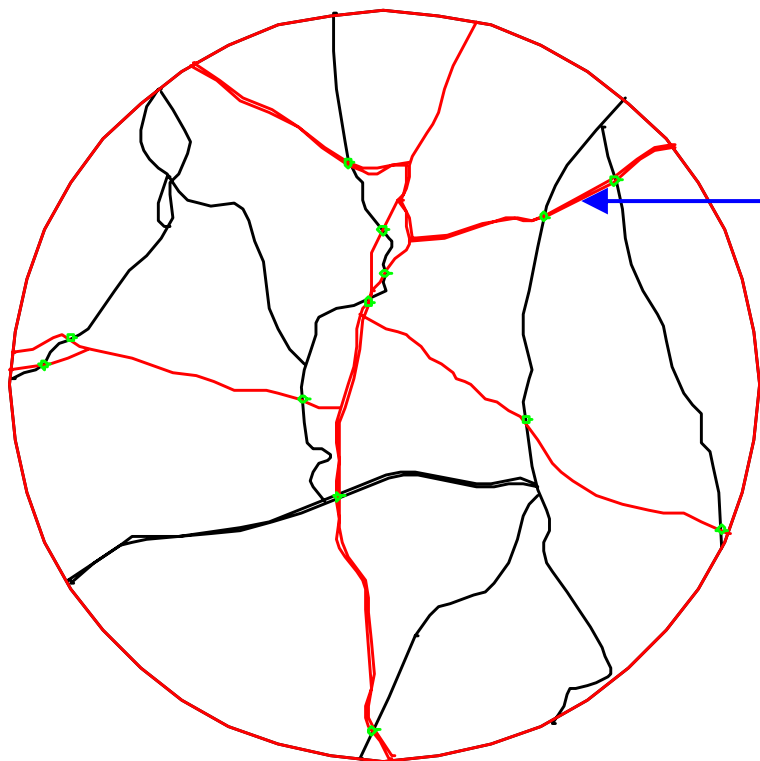
$$A = 638 \text{ cm}^2$$

25 mm por capa

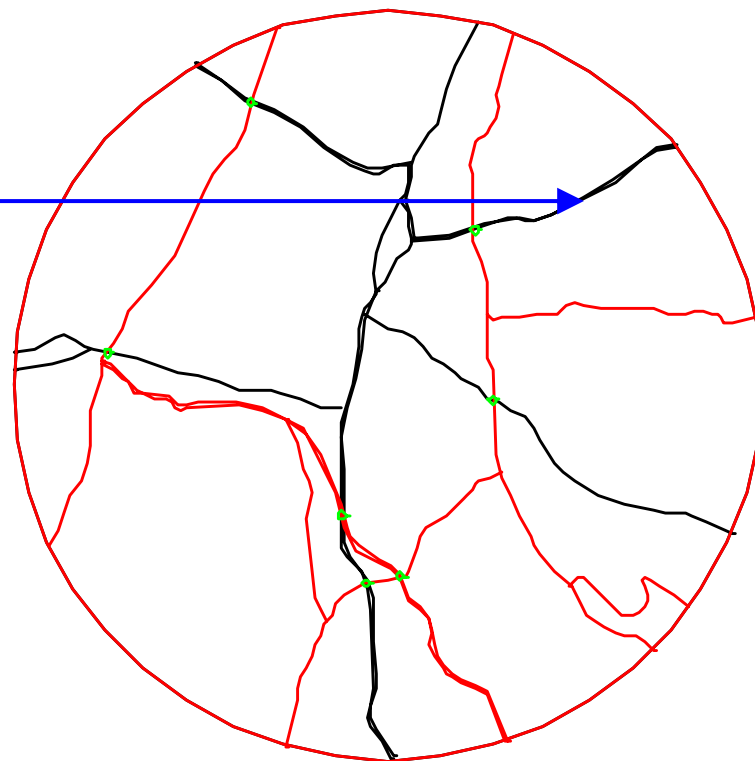


Agrietamiento (capas de residuos)

Rodríguez (2002)

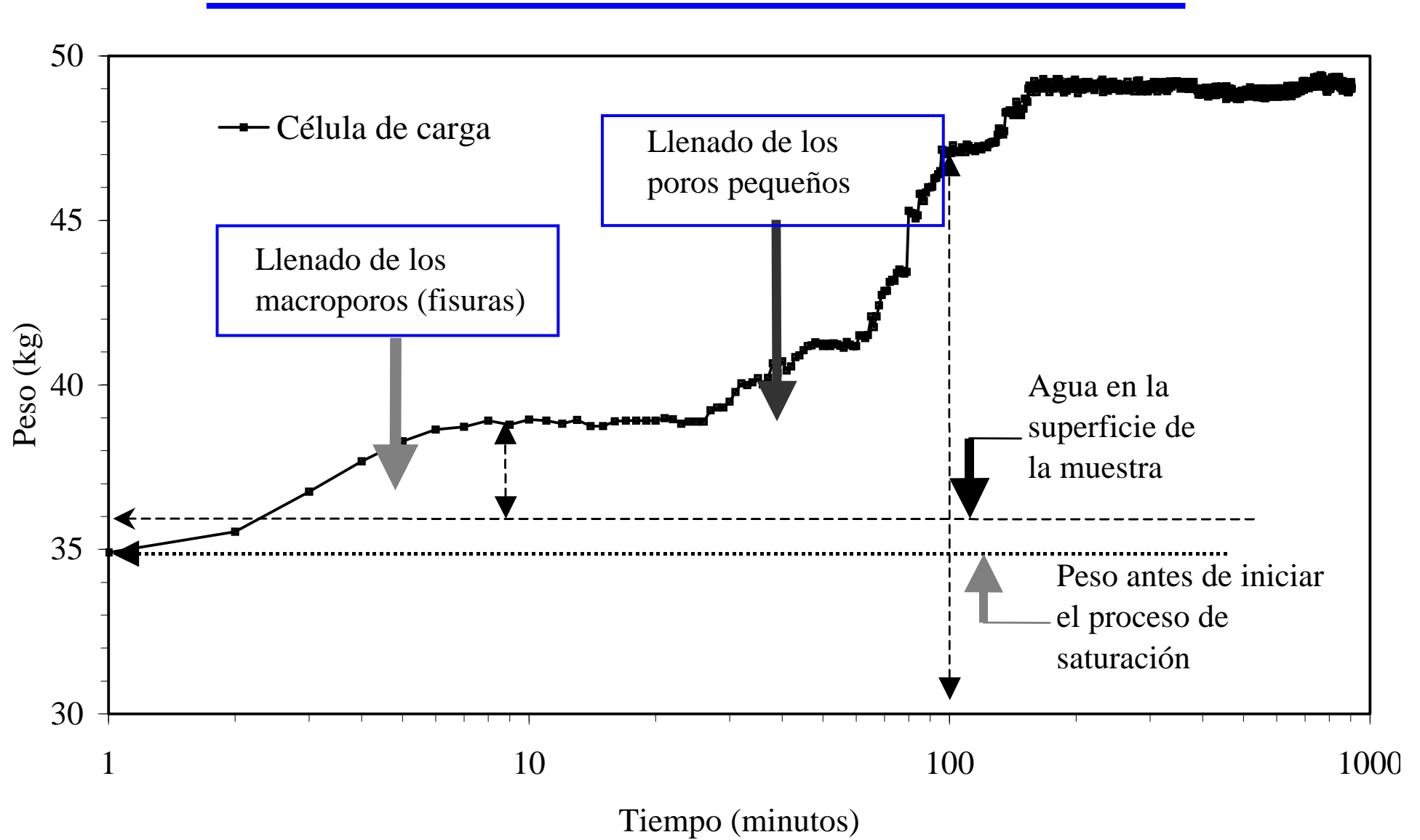


Capas 1-2

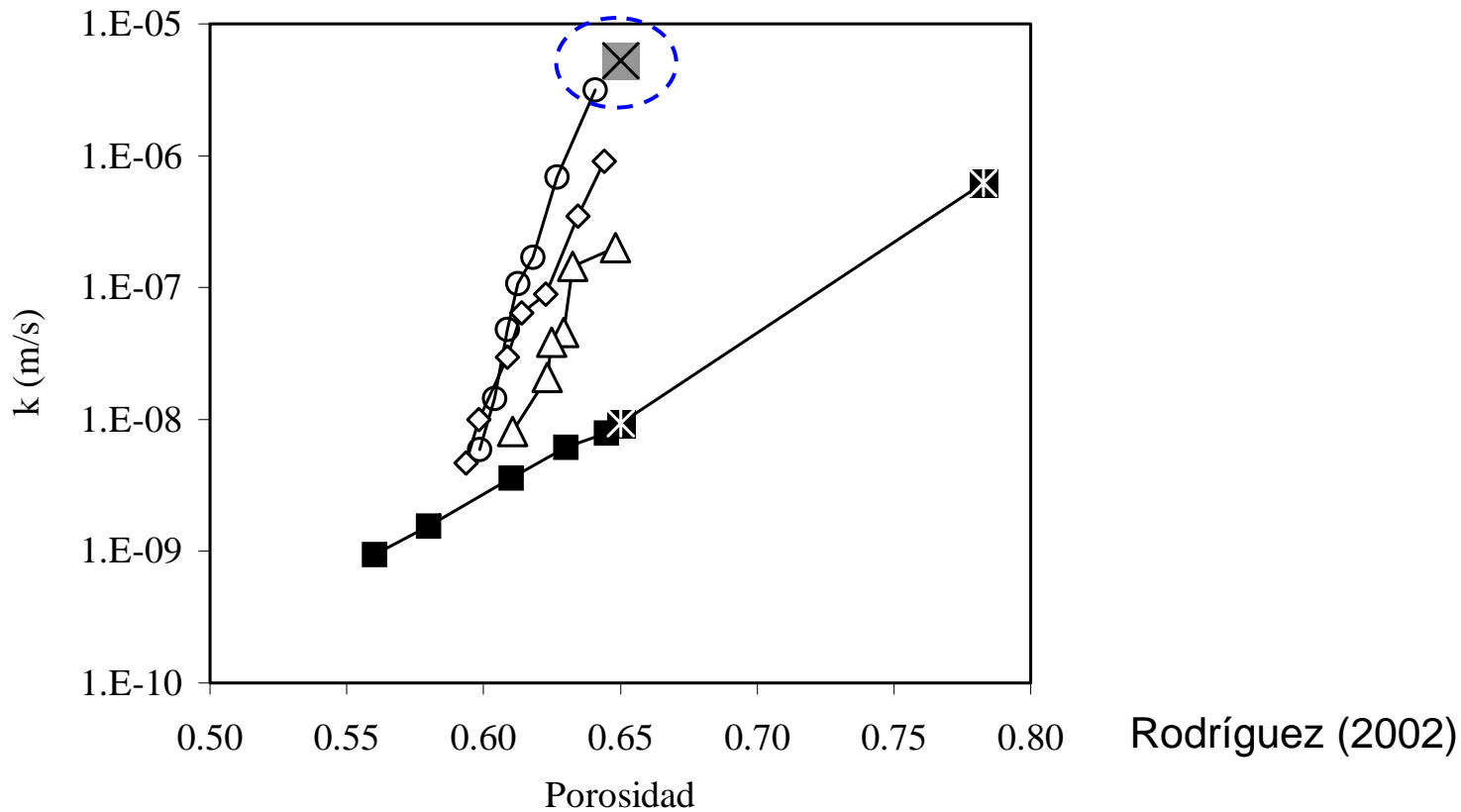


Capas 2-3

Saturación de la columna



Permeabilidad al agua



- Muestra continua ensayo cámara triaxial: altura total 120 mm y diámetro 100 mm
- ⊗ Muestra continua ensayo a carga constante: altura total 50 mm y diámetro 50 mm
- △ Muestra en capas agrietadas h=10 mm ensayada en cámara triaxial: altura total 120 mm y diámetro 100 mm
- ◇ Muestras en capas agrietadas h=20 mm ensayo cámara triaxial: altura total 120 mm y diámetro 100 mm
- Muestra en capas agrietadas h=40 mm ensayada en cámara triaxial: altura total =120 mm y diámetro 100 mm
- ⊗ Columna gran diámetro en capas agrietadas altura media por capa 25 mm: altura total 315 mm y diámetro 285 mm

Ensayo de flujo y transporte con fluoresceína sódica columna agrietada



Rodríguez (2002)

Salty crust formation. Hard layers found in tailing waste (Cueva de la Mora, Huelva, SW Spain)

Evaporation of water from saline tailings induces the accumulation of salts at the surface (thin salt crusts < 5 mm)



Sulphated upper crust in pyritic tailings



Piece of hardpan extracted from oxidized upper tailings

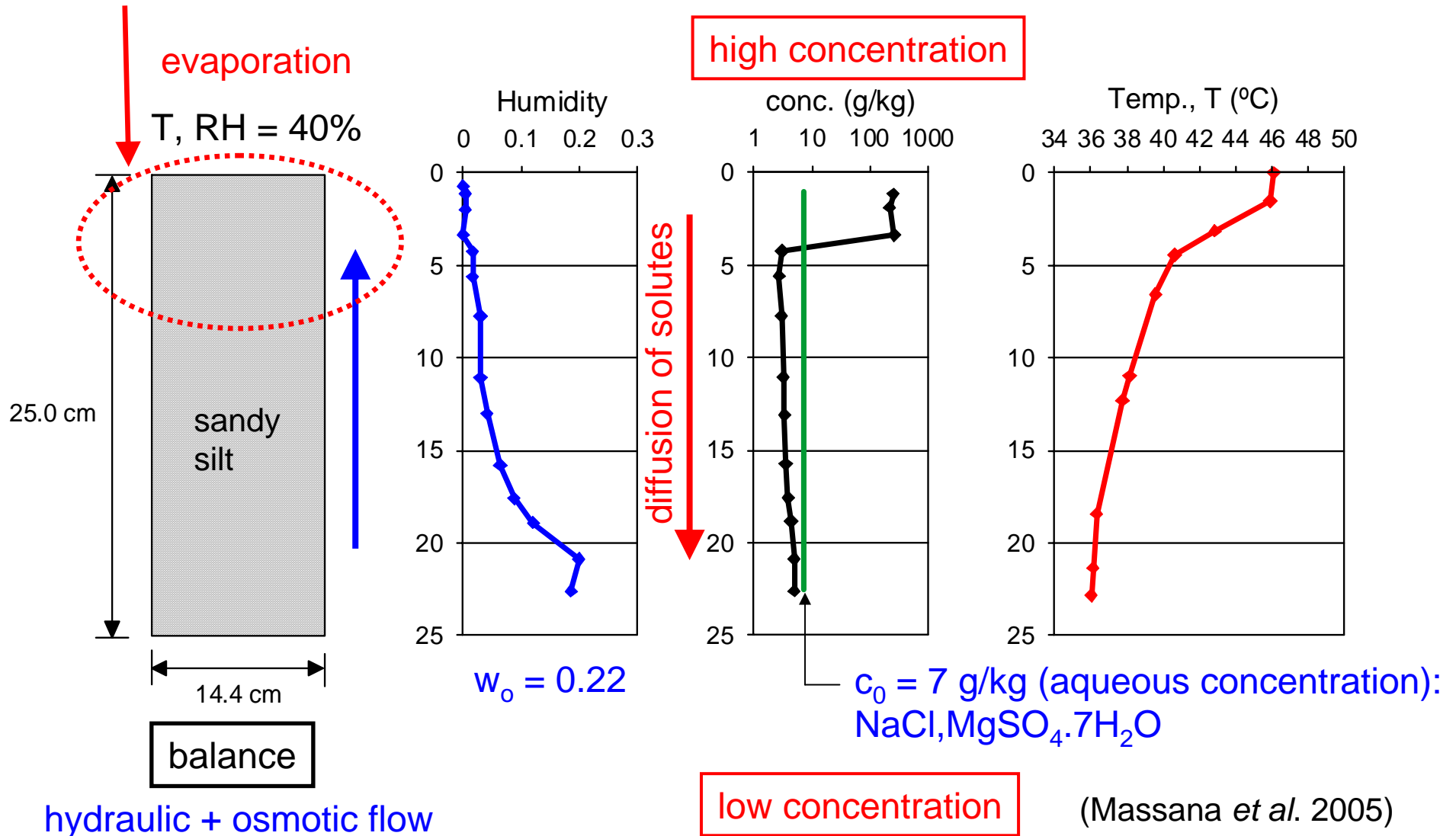
Blanco (2007)

Mock-up test (Evaporation columns). Ground-atmosphere interactions

Changes of geochemical variables due to solvent evaporation

Chemo-mechanical interaction:

Shrinkage and cracking due to water loss and increase in aqueous concentration



Instrumentation layout of a pyritic tailing (Monte Romero tailing-dams, SW Spain)

In situ instrumentation for the study of atmospheric – tailing waste interactions



Blanco (2007)

Sensors for monitoring w/c related variables. 'La Mora' Autonomous Station

Variable measured	Units	Brand	Model	Characteristics
Relative Humidity	2	VAISALA	HMP230	Capacitive hygrometer
	2	CAMPBELL	MP100A	Capacitive hygrometer
Volumetric water content	2	CAMPBELL	CS615	EM. TD Transmission Line Oscillator.
	4	DECAGON	ECH2O	EM. FD
Matric suction	3	SDEC	SMS2500S	Tensiometer with pressure transducer
Water pressure	3	DRUCK	PDCR1830	Pressure transducer
Temperature	2	VAISALA	HMP230	Thermistor PT100
	4	CAMPBELL	108	Thermistor PT100

EM:
electromagnetic
sensor

TD: time domain

FD: frequency
domain

Blanco (2007)

Sensors for monitoring w/c related variables. 'La Mora' Autonomous Station



Relative humidity capacitive hygrometer

TDR and FD (capacitance) volumetric w/c sensors

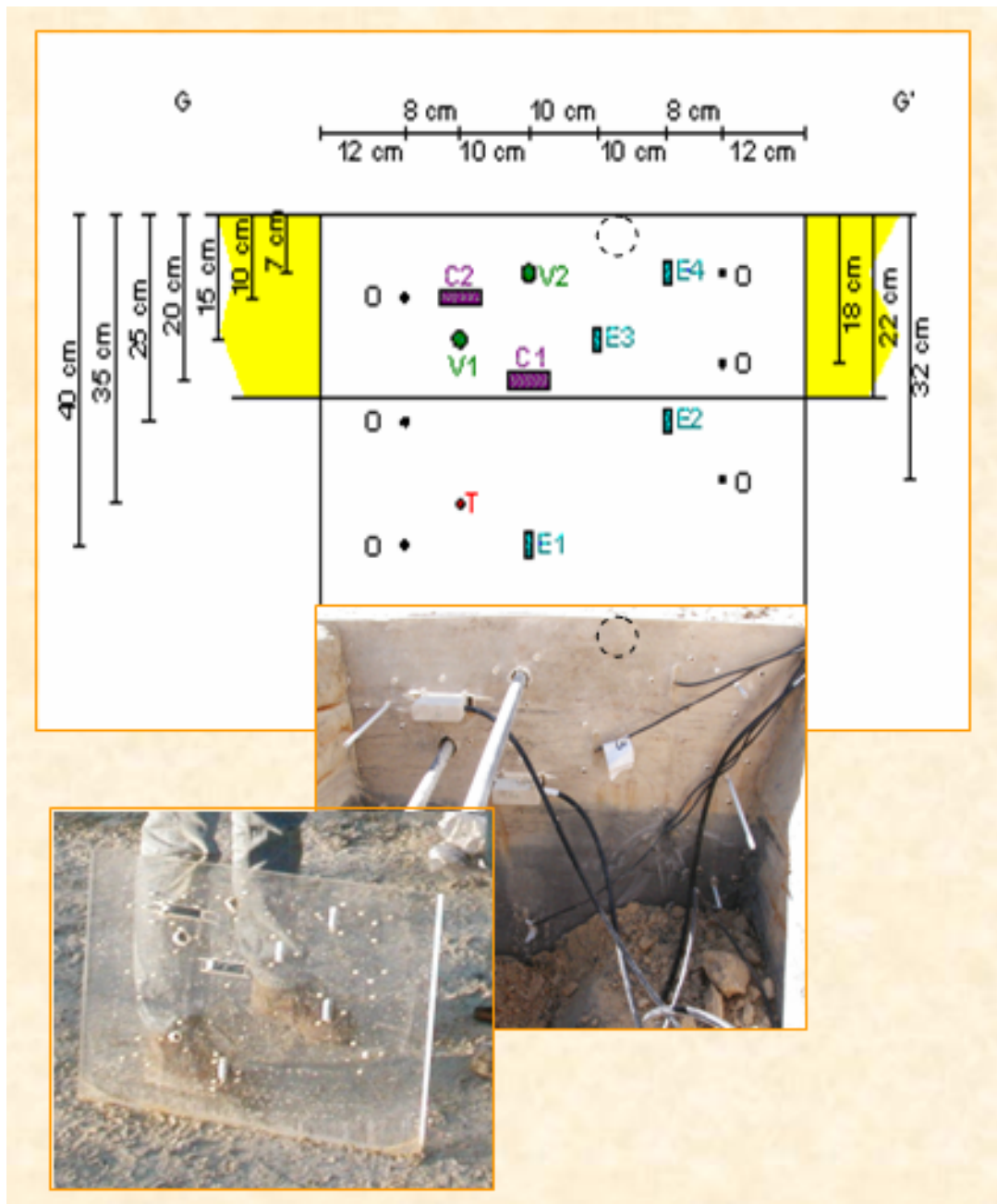


Blanco (2007)

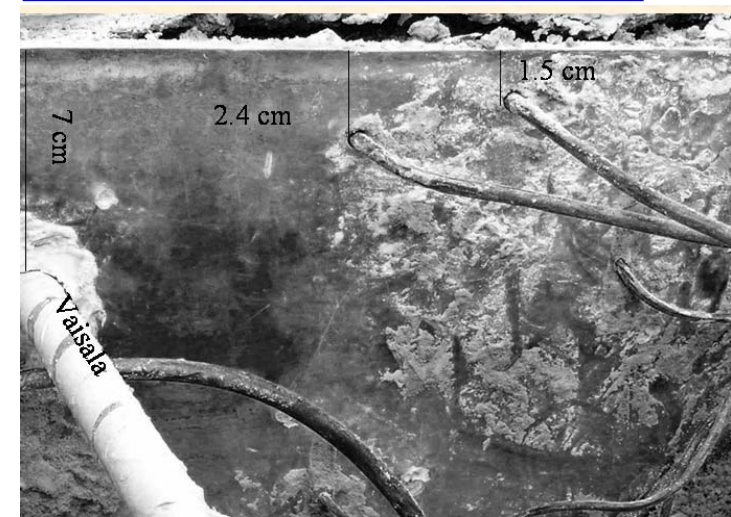
Low-range tensiometers



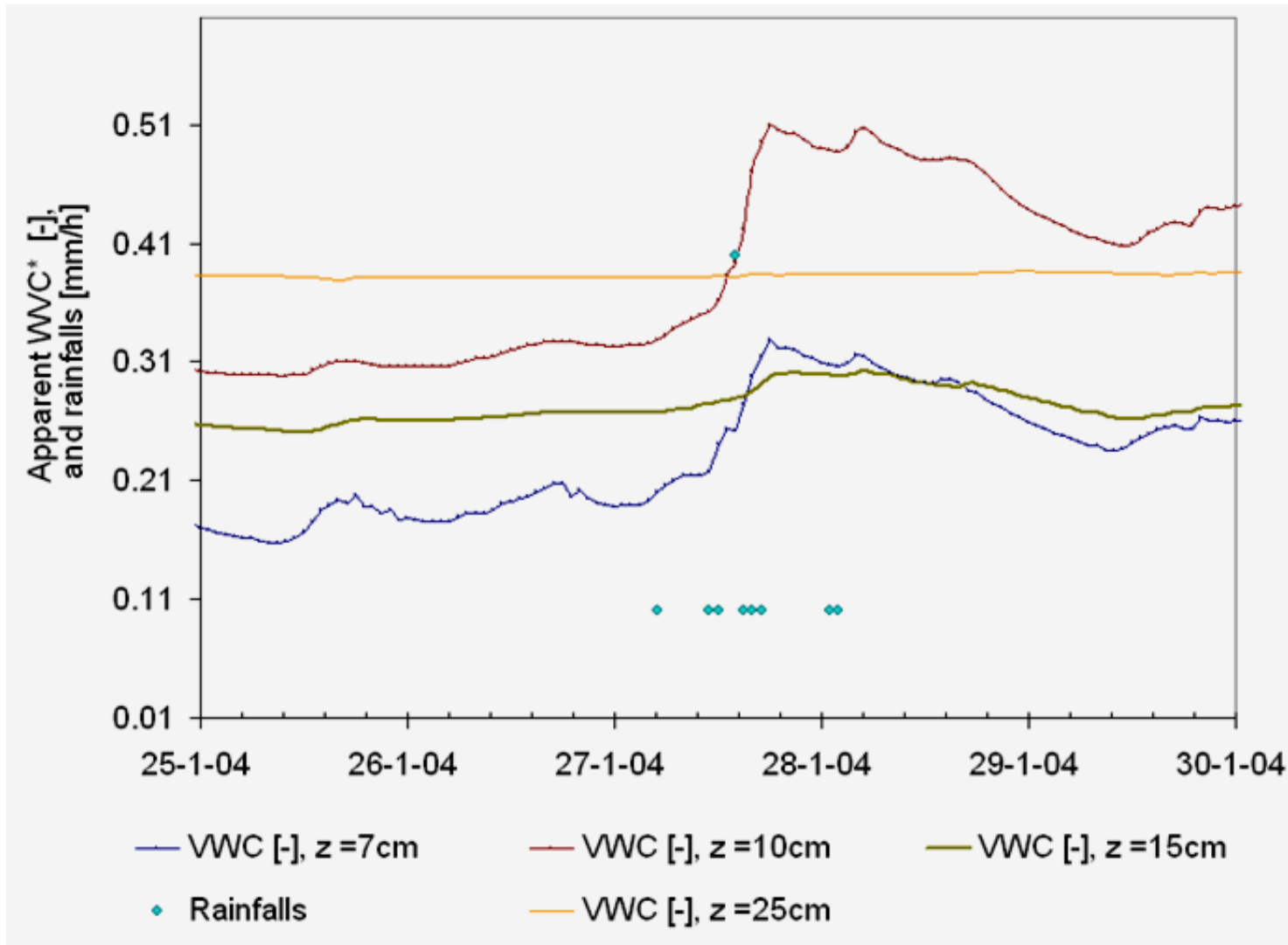
Sensors for monitoring w/c related variables. 'La Mora' Autonomous Station



C: TDR sensor
V: relative humidity sensor
E: FDR sensor
T: thermistor

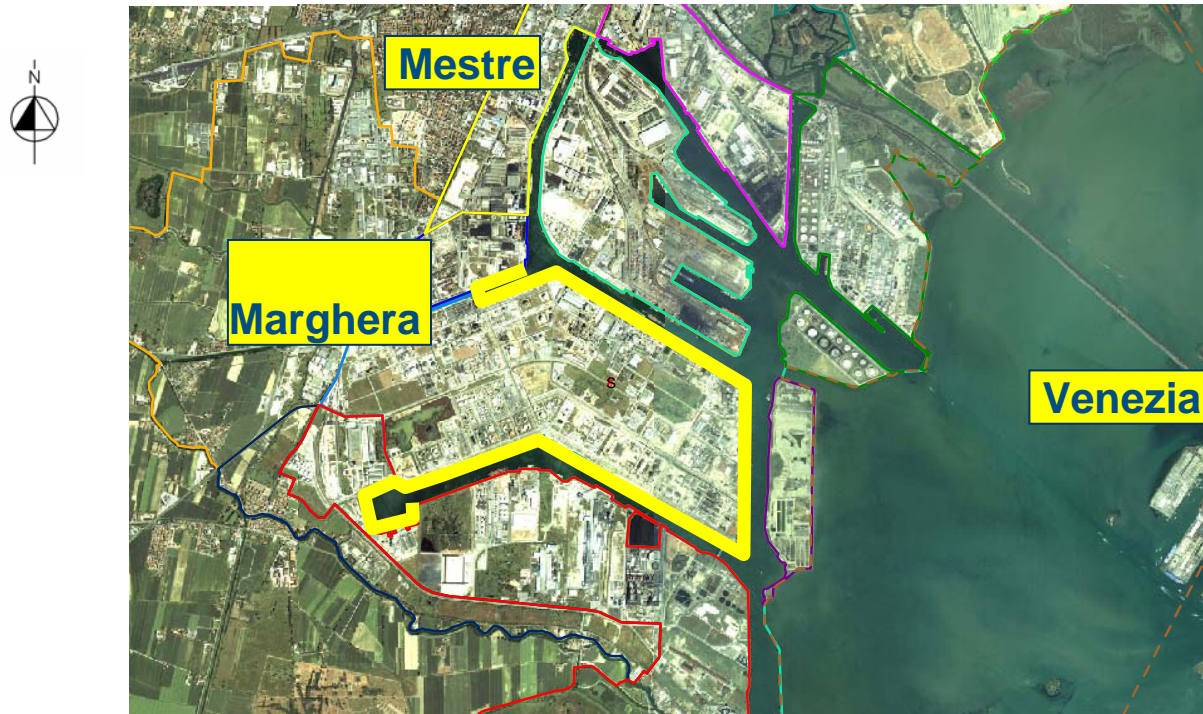


Sensors for monitoring w/c related variables. 'La Mora' Autonomous Station



Event of water infiltration during rainfalls at January 27th-28th 2004
Apparent soil water volumetric content VWC* were deduced applying
standard low electrical conductivity calibrations

Monitoring the hydrologic balance of unsaturated soils in the area of Mestre and Marghera (VE, Italy)



Caruso, Jommi & Venturini (2007)

Sheet piling over a wide area in Marghera and Mestre, presently hydraulically connected to the lagoon, is under construction

In order not to change dramatically the subsurface hydraulic circulation (from NW to SE), pumping wells are being designed to compensate the natural discharge into the lagoon

The local recharge in the superficial unsaturated soils must be evaluated

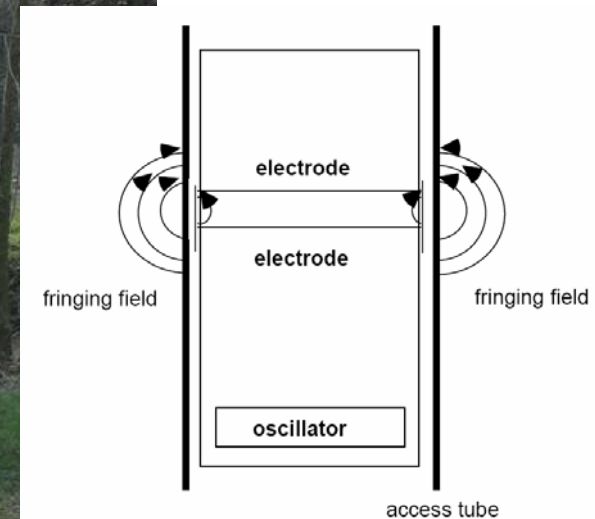
Frequency domain sensor installation

Problems with classical TDR sensors:

- Limited installation depth (-1.5 m)
- High sensitivity of the reading to the chemical composition of water

- Maximum depth: $z = -4.5$ m
- Calibration of the instrument for salinity

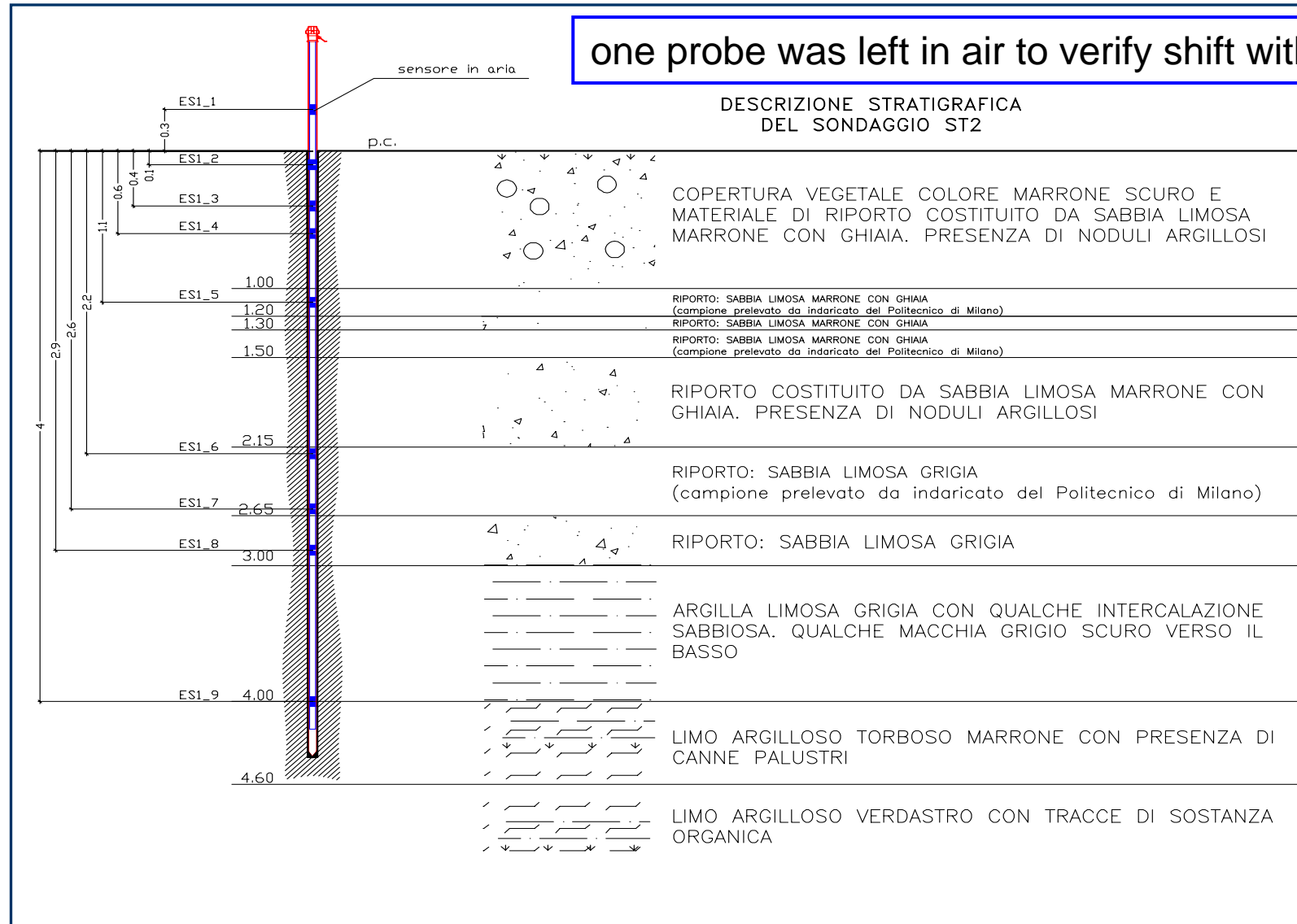
Fixed installation: data logger with remote data transmission via GPRS



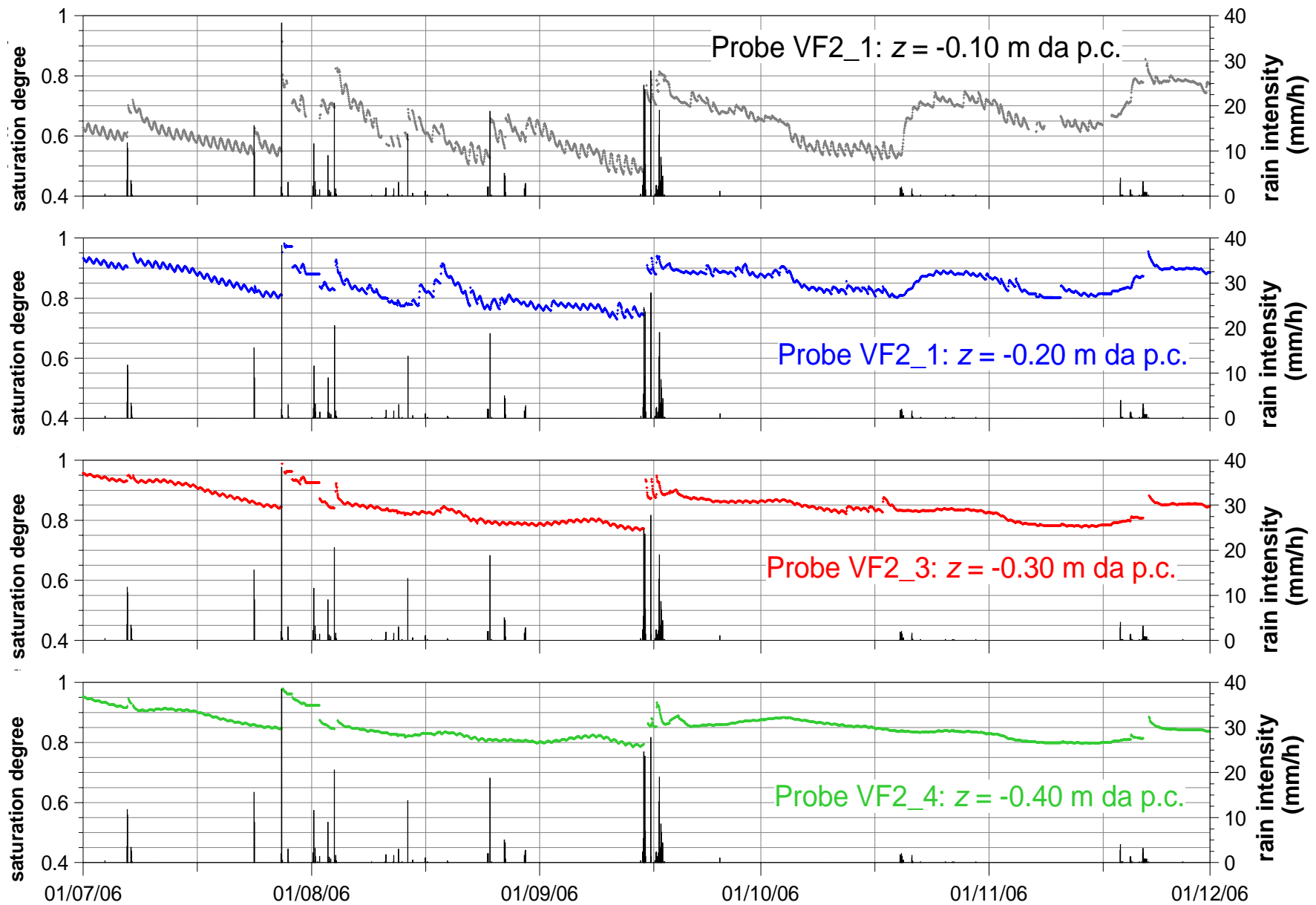
Caruso, Jommi & Venturini (2007)

Frequency domain sensor installation

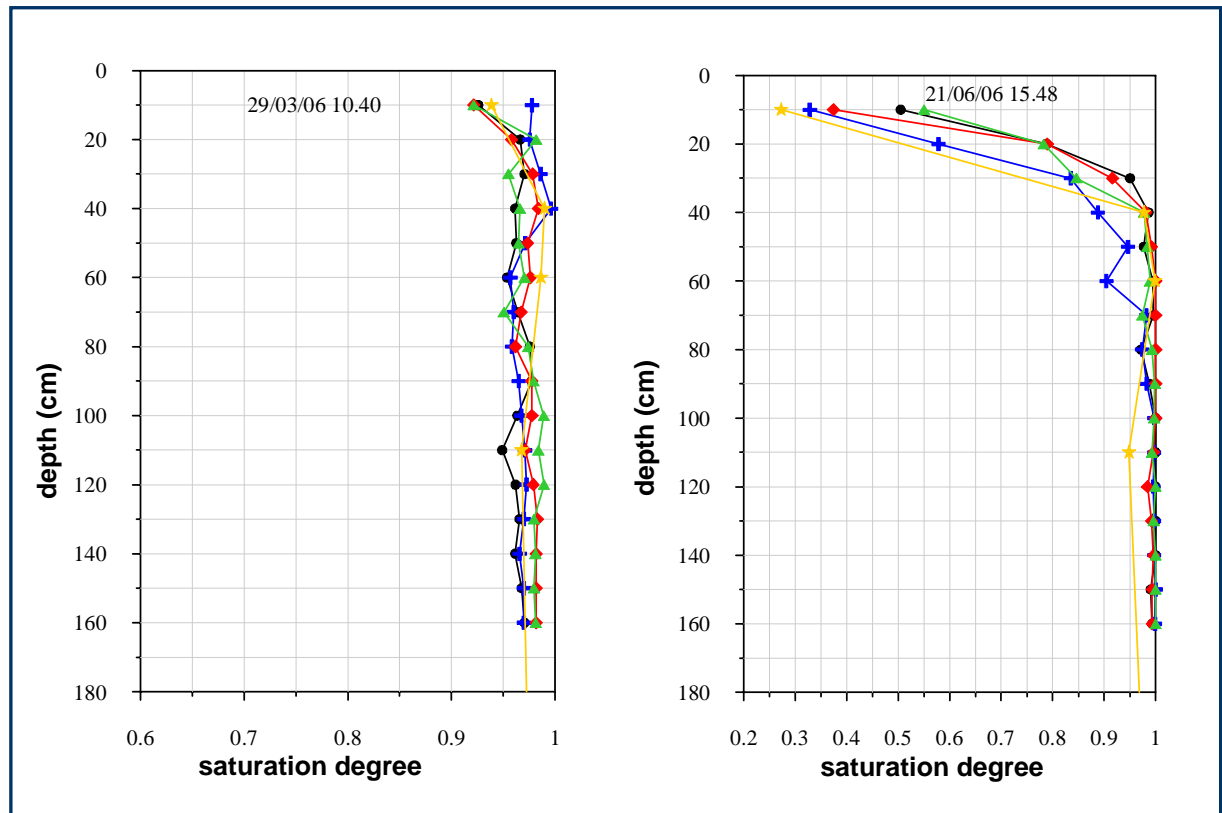
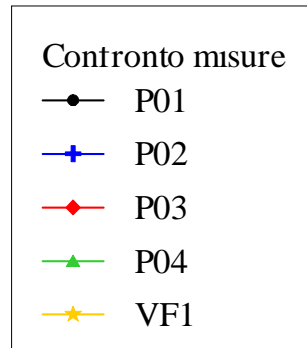
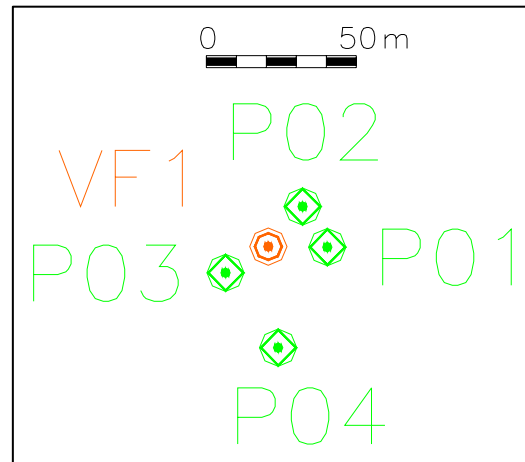
one probe was left in air to verify shift with time



Variation of the degree of saturation with time at fixed depths

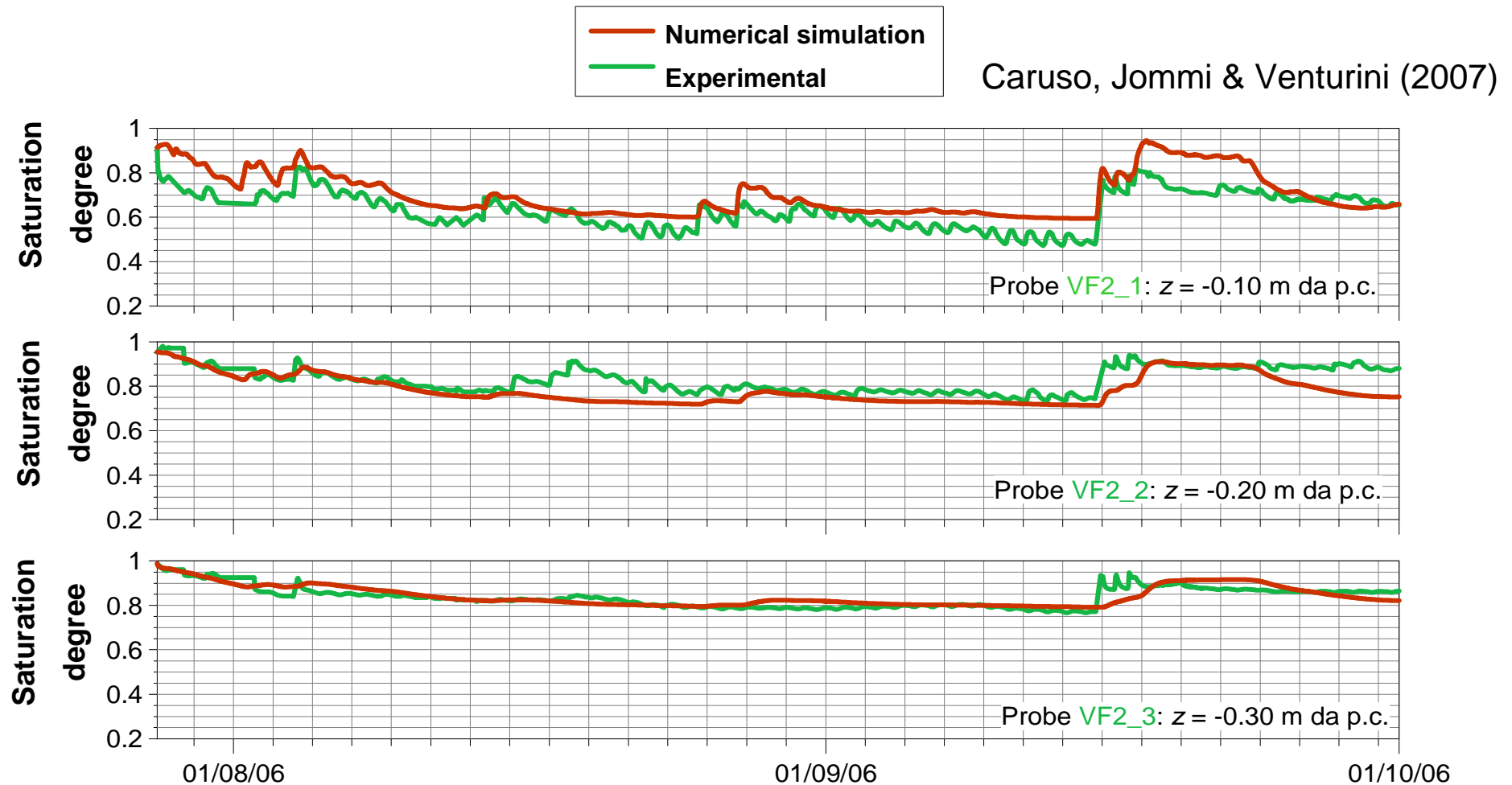


Repeatability of the experimental data

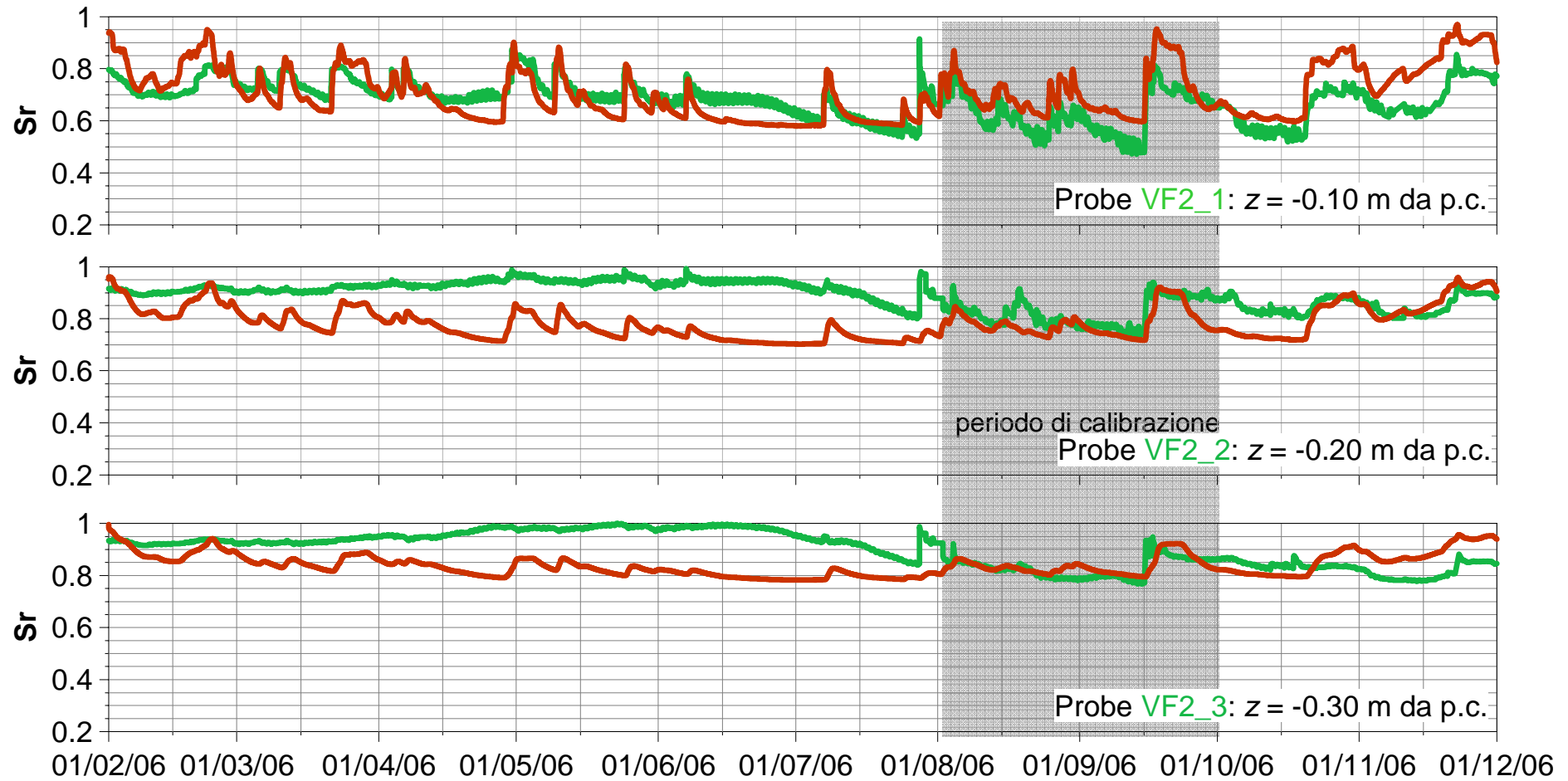


Calibration of the 1-D numerical model: August-September 2006 (most significant rainfall events and highest evaporation rate)

CODE_BRIGHT (Olivella et al., 1995) was used to consider liquid / vapour transfer taking into account relative humidity and temperature variations



Capability of the numerical model



Resumen

- Se han presentado algunas consecuencias de la **evaporación** (retracción, agrietamiento)
- Fenómenos de **retracción** (aspectos generales, irreversibilidad, acumulación con ciclo de secado / humedecimiento)
- **Grietas de retracción** (resistencia a la tracción, iniciación, efectos de tamaño, consecuencias sobre la permeabilidad al agua)
- **Montajes experimentales en laboratorio e *in situ*** para estudiar el efecto de la interacción con la atmósfera