

# Apprehend the variability and its impact on the yield stress calculation through the use of the YODEL

**Presentation****Author(s):**

Ardant, Daria; [Brumaud, Coralie](#) ; Perrot, Arnaud; [Habert, Guillaume](#) 

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## Apprehend the variability and its impact on the yield stress calculation through the use of the YODEL

Daria Ardant<sup>1</sup>, Coralie Brumaud<sup>1</sup>, Arnaud Perrot<sup>2</sup>, Guillaume Habert<sup>1</sup>

*1. Institute of Construction and Infrastructure Management, Chair of Sustainable Construction, ETH, Zürich, Switzerland*

*2. ENSIBS, Université de Bretagne Sud, Lorient, France*

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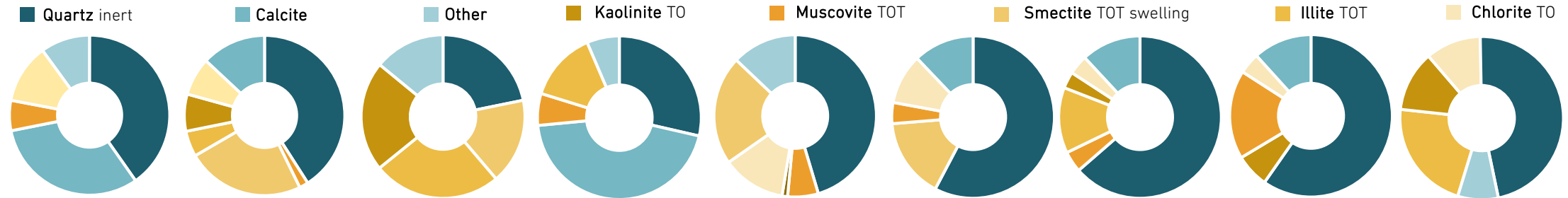
# Context – *Earth is a non standard resource with diverse composition....*



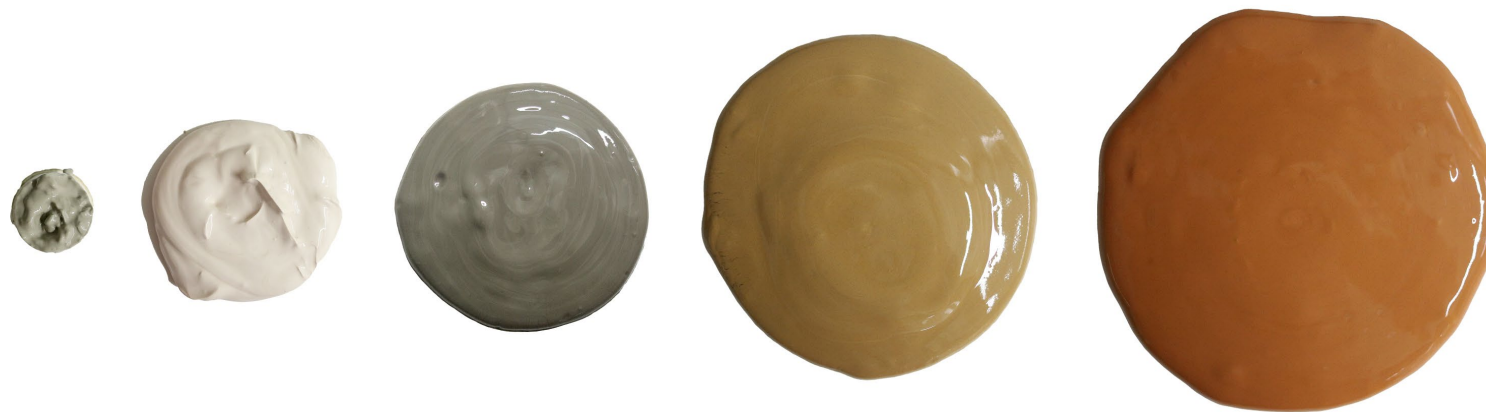
*Excavated earth from Paris underground. amàco for Cycle Terre project. 2019*

Earth is a non standard material with composition linked to its geological history

# Context – ....and at the micro scale this diversity is highly visible



Mineral composition of the fine fraction (fraction below 63 microns) . Measurements done through XRD analysis and Rietveld method for quantitative analysis



Fresh behavior of rich clay fines mixed with same water to fine ratio

# Topic question



*How to apprehend this diversity and its impact on the paste fresh properties?*

-> follow the fact that „Earth is a clay concrete“<sup>1</sup> and explore advance done in cement and concrete field

[1] Henri Van Damme, *La terre un béton d'argile*, Pour la Science, 2012

# Materials



**Montmorillonite Rouge**  
Argile du bassin Méditerranéen



**Montmorillonite LTO**  
Argile du bassin Méditerranéen



**Montmorillonite Green**  
Argile du bassin Méditerranéen



**Kaolinite A**  
Argile du bassin Méditerranéen



**Kaolinite F**  
Dorfner - FP80



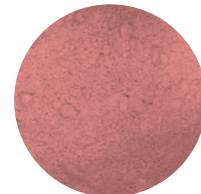
**Kaolinite M**  
Manske- cream kao



**Illite Green**  
Manske



**Illite Orange**  
Manske

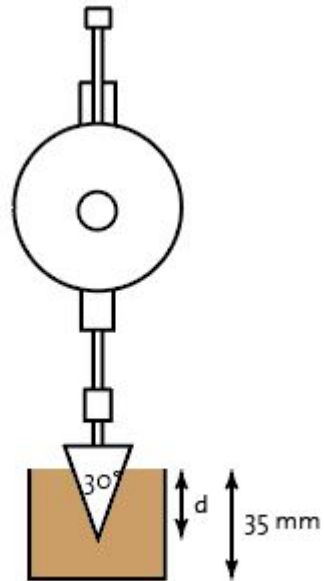


**Illite Red**  
Manske

Name	Relative density	Methylen blue value	Liquidity Limit
MG	2.422	32	126
ML	2.358	21	108
MR	2.464	22	93.95
KA	2.596	2.33	57.71
KF	2.54	1.66	62.3
KM	2.62	1.33	49.44
IG	2.43	11.66	83.5
IO	2.708	3.66	41.5
IR	2.718	3.33	40.47

# Methods

Fall cone: tool used to define the Atterberg limit and the yield stress<sup>1</sup>



$d20\text{mm}$  (Liquidity limit):  $\tau_0 = 2275 \text{ Pa}$

$d2\text{mm}$  (Plasticity limit):  $\tau_0 = 227\,500 \text{ Pa}$

Suggested in literature:

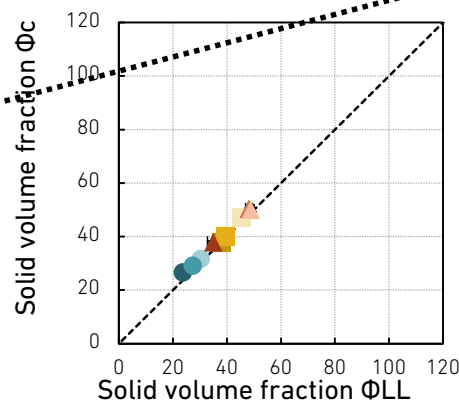
- dense packing correspond to the packing at  $PL^2$

Observed here:

- packing corresponding to when the particle are fully hydrated and start to be in suspension ( $\phi_c$ ) -> packing at LL

From [1] 
$$\tau_0 = \frac{mg \sin \alpha/2}{\pi (d \tan \alpha/2)^2}$$

From [3] 
$$\phi_c = \frac{1}{1 + \rho_s W}$$



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Rheometer (stress growth measurement) : can give direct reading of the paste yield stress value

Model developed to link the yield stress to paste components<sup>4</sup>  
 -> application should be confirmed on different clay nature  
 -> can highlight if the composition of the fine have an influence on the yield stress calculation

$$\tau_0 = m_1 \frac{\phi^2(\phi - \phi_p)}{\phi_m(\phi_m - \phi)}$$

For the all spectrum

$$\tau_0 = m_1 \frac{\phi^3}{\phi_m(\phi_m - \phi)}$$

For dense paste with  $\Phi$  much higher than  $\Phi_p$

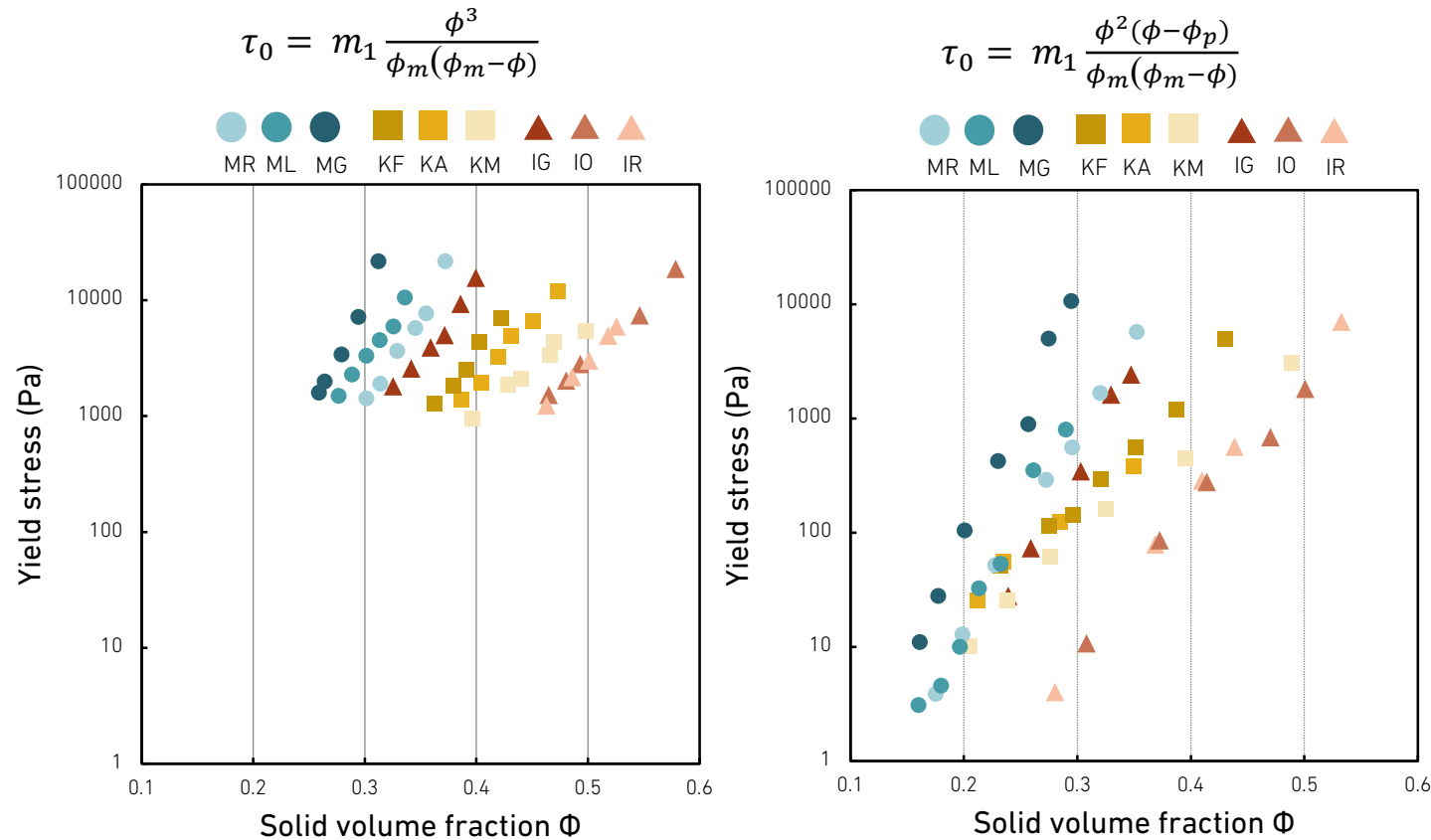
[1] A. Perrot, D. Rangeard, T. Lecompte, Field-oriented tests to evaluate the workability of cob and adobe, Mater. Struct. Constr. 51 (2018)

[2] A. Perrot, D. Rangeard, A. Leveigneur, Linking rheological and geotechnical properties of kaolinite materials for earthen construction, Mater. Struct. Constr. (2016)

[3] A. Lecomte, J.-Mechling, Compacite des melanges et proprietes des grains, Bull. Des Lab. Des Ponts Chaussées. (1999).

[4] R.J. Flatt, P. Bowen, Yodel: A Yield Stress Model for Suspensions, J. Am. Ceram. Soc. 89 (2006) 1244-1256

# Results – Yield stress evolution and change in solid volume fraction



*Yield stress evolution in relation with the solid volume fraction of the paste. The yield stress have been calculated based on the depth of the Fall cone following the equation presented in Method.*

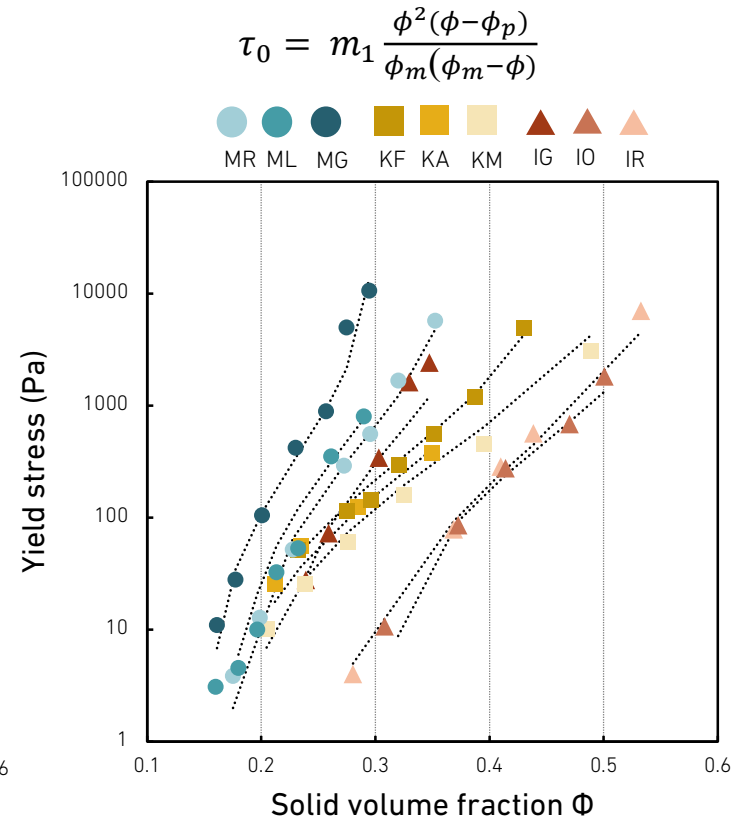
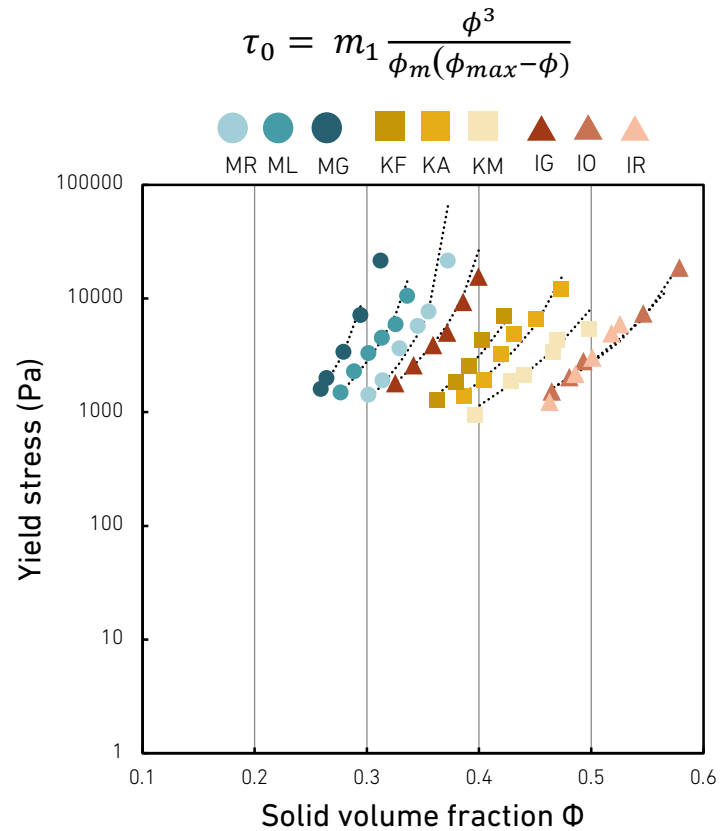
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*Yield stress evolution in relation with the solid volume fraction of the paste. The yield stress have been measured directly with a stress growth measurement*

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# Results – Yield stress model (YODEL)



The two equations developed by Flatt and Bowen<sup>1</sup> can be applied with accuracy

For all pastes the prefactor  $m_1$ , describing the global interaction between clay particles, is kept constant at 1,5

The dense packing  $\Phi_m$  of the different clays is not constant, as the clays shape and structure are different, it cannot lead to a similar dense packing value

A relationship between the dense packing and the packing at LL appears ( $\Phi_m = \Phi_{LL}/0,86$ )

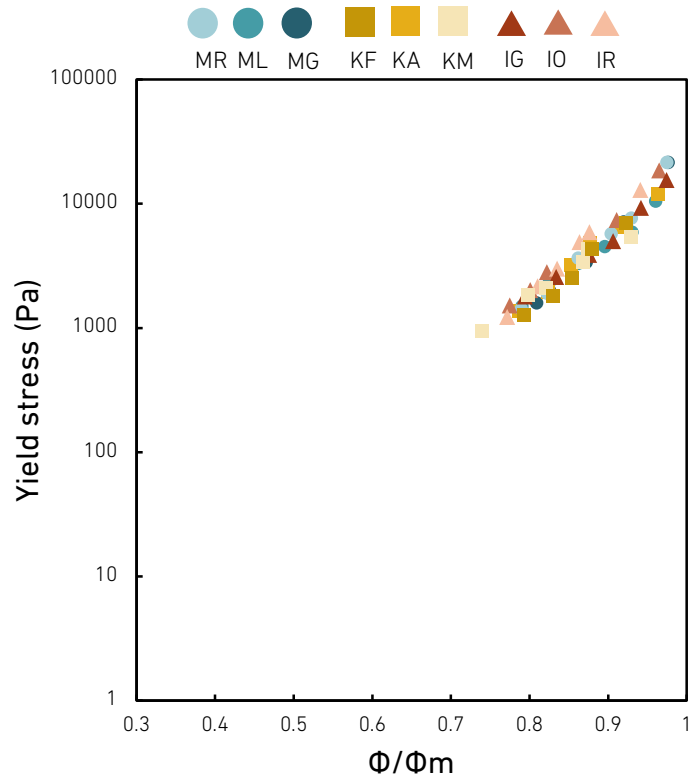
*Yield stress evolution in relation with the solid volume fraction of the paste. The yield stress have been calculated based on the depth of the Fall cone following the equation presented in Method. The YODEL used do not take into account the percolation threshold*

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*Yield stress evolution in relation with the solid volume fraction of the paste. The yield stress have been measured directly with a stress growth measurement. The YODEL used take into account the percolation threshold*

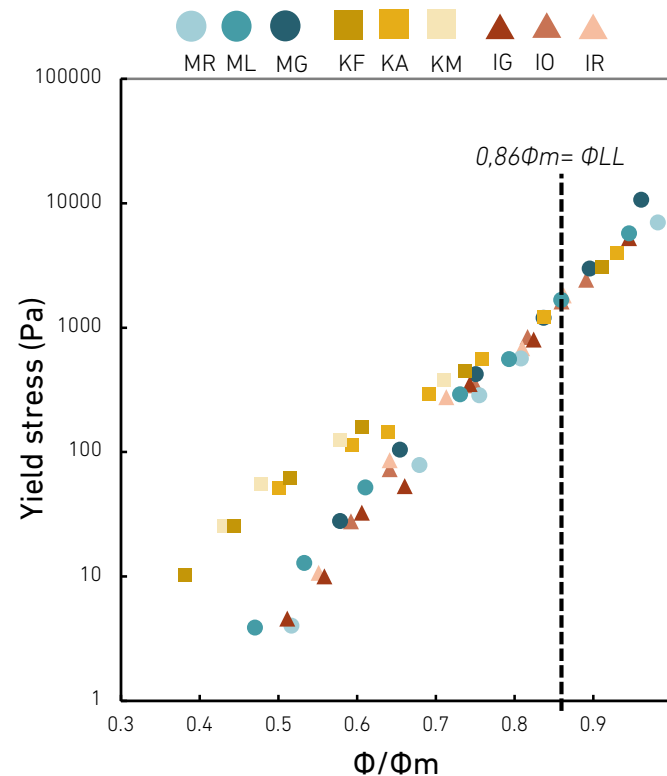
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# Results – The use of the dense packing to better apprehend the yield stress evolution



Yield stress evolution in relation with the normalized packing. All pastes measured with the Fall cone aligned in a common trendline

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Yield stress evolution in relation with the normalized packing. All pastes with a normalized packing higher than 0,86 aligned while the lower packing show a shift between TO and TOT clays

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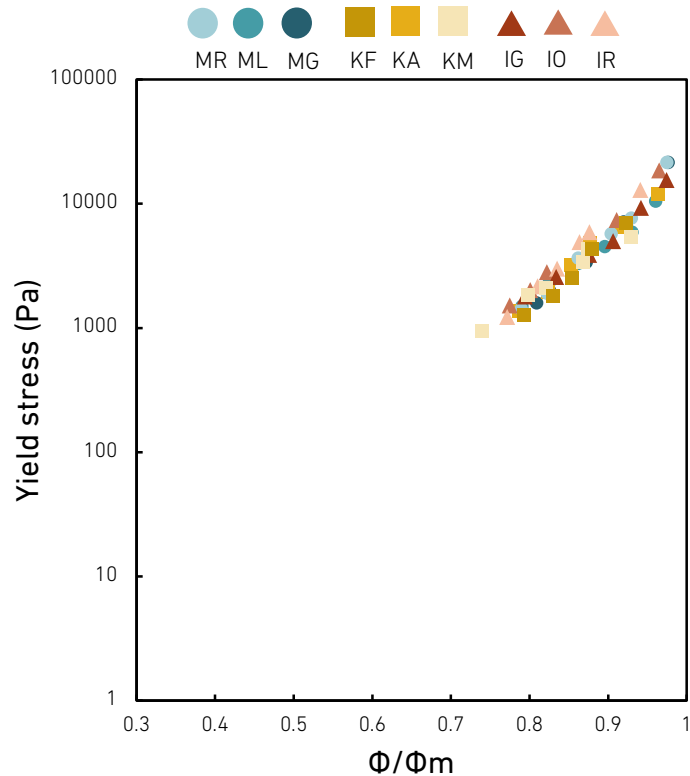
The dense packing  $\Phi_m$  is used to normalized the solid volume fraction value of each paste.

For pastes with solid volume fraction close to  $\Phi_m$ , the clay interaction synthesized in the prefactor  $m_1$  do not seems to influence the yield stress evolution

For pastes with solid volume fraction far from  $\Phi_m$ , difference in yield stress evolution can be seen between kaolinite and the two other clays nature.

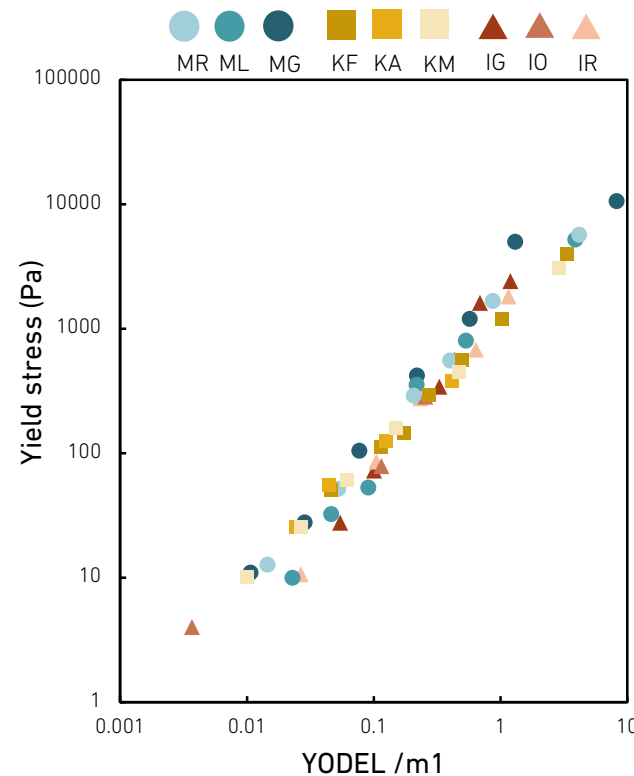
The threshold between this two behavior correspond to the packing to the liquidity limit

# Results – The change in the percolation threshold



Yield stress evolution in relation with the normalized packing. All pastes measured with the Fall cone aligned in a common trendline

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Yield stress measured compared to YODEL obtained for the same solid volume fraction, divided by the m1 prefactor

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This difference seems to be the consequence of the change in the percolation threshold ( $\Phi_p$ ).

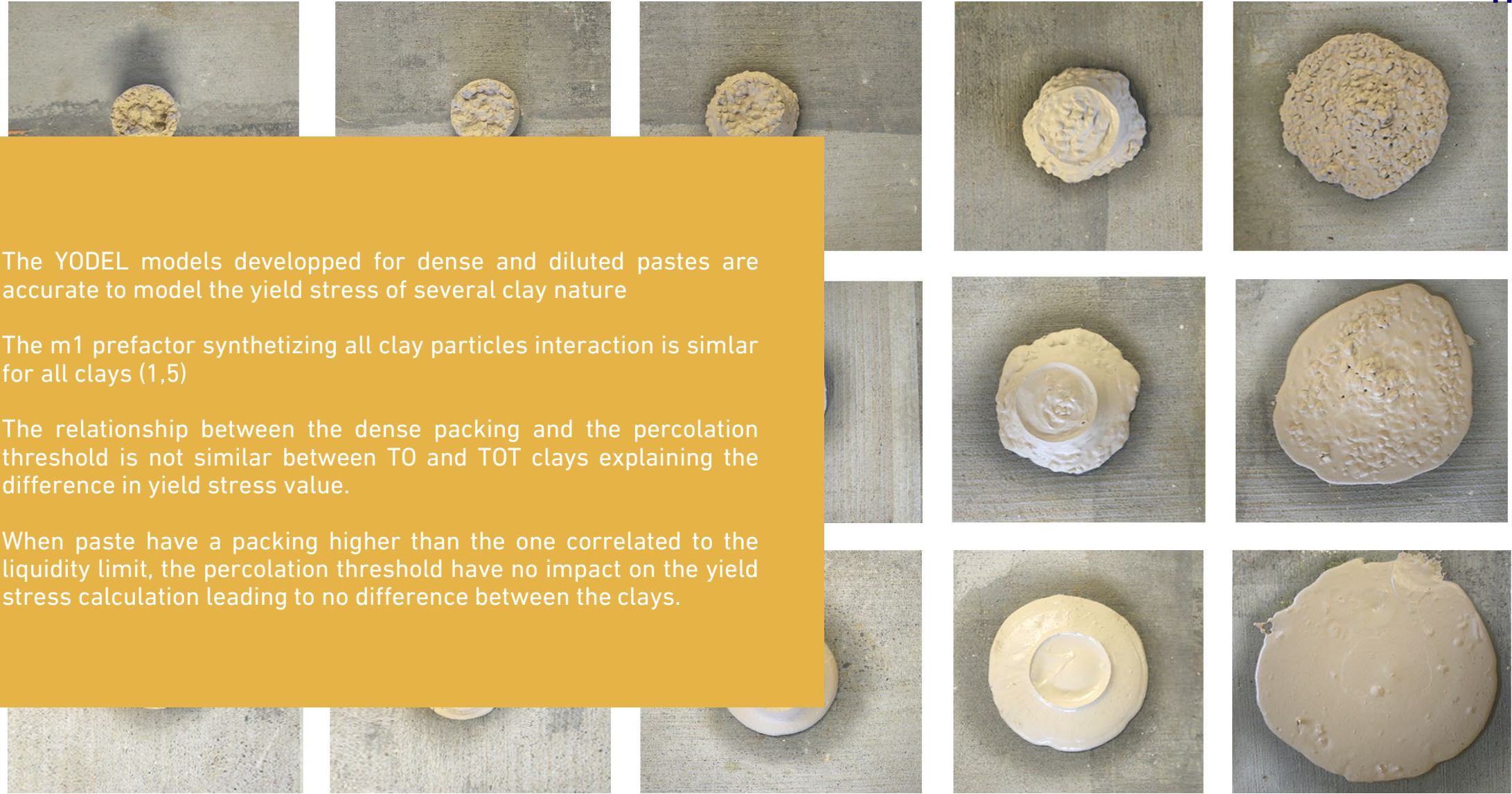
For kaolinites  $\Phi_p = 0,3\Phi_m$

For illites and montmorillonite  $\Phi_p = 0,48\Phi_m$

In the YODEL, the yield stress calculation for dense paste is not affected by the percolation threshold, leading to no differences between clays

For diluted suspension, this percolation threshold is included in the calculation leading to differences between T0 and T0T clays

# Conclusion



The YODEL models developed for dense and diluted pastes are accurate to model the yield stress of several clay nature

The  $m_1$  prefactor synthetizing all clay particles interaction is similar for all clays (1,5)

The relationship between the dense packing and the percolation threshold is not similar between TO and TOT clays explaining the difference in yield stress value.

When paste have a packing higher than the one correlated to the liquidity limit, the percolation threshold have no impact on the yield stress calculation leading to no difference between the clays.

# Thank you for your attention

you can find further information in the paper

D. Ardant, C. Brumaud, A. Perrot, G. Habert, [Robust clay binder for earth-based concrete](#), Cem. Concr. Res. 172 (2023)

Daria Ardant  
PhD student  
Chair of Sustainable Construction  
ETH Zürich

dardant@ethz.ch