

# Technical Basis for Cementitious Barriers Partnership Models

Sohini Sarkar<sup>1</sup>, David S. Kosson<sup>1</sup>, Hans van der Sloot<sup>2</sup>,  
Hans Meeussen<sup>3</sup>, Kevin G. Brown<sup>1</sup>, Greg Flach<sup>4</sup>,  
Sankaran Mahadevan<sup>1</sup>, Paul Seignette<sup>5</sup>, Andrew C. Garrabrants<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, USA

<sup>2</sup> Hans van der Sloot Consultancy, The Netherlands

<sup>3</sup> Nuclear Research Group, The Netherlands

<sup>4</sup> Savannah River National Laboratory, Aiken, South Carolina, USA

<sup>5</sup> Energy Research Center of The Netherlands, The Netherlands

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**CBP**  
Cementitious Barriers Partnership



## LeachXS/ORCHESTRA

- LeachXS
  - Database expert/decision support system that includes leaching test results for 600+ materials, scenarios and regulations
  - Platform for assessing short- and long-term release of constituents of potential concern
  - Assists in source term evaluation through reactive transport and damage progression modeling
- ORCHESTRA
  - Numerical reactive transport simulation framework embedded in LeachXS
  - Models geochemical speciation and mass transport
  - Flexible and allows users to add/modify existing equations
  - Automatic usage of multiple processors/parallelization

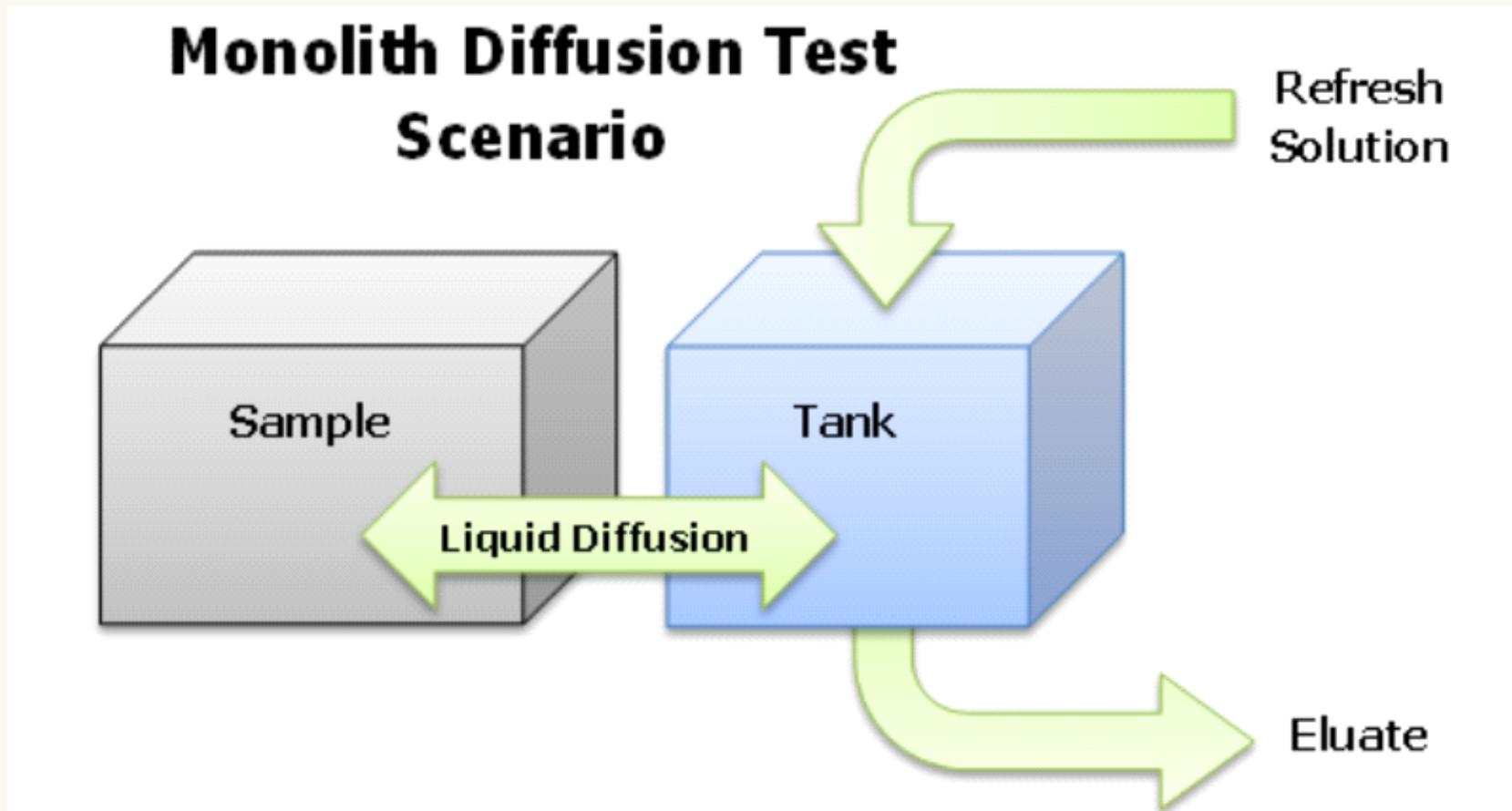
# Cementitious Barriers Modeling Scenarios

- Currently available:
  - pH dependent equilibrium
    - Test (M1313) and prediction cases
  - Monolith leaching scenario
    - Test (M1315) and prediction cases
  - Monolith leaching with carbonation and oxidation scenario
    - Prediction cases
  - Leaching with sulfate attack scenario
    - Prediction cases
- In progress:
  - Percolation scenario
    - Test (M1314) and prediction cases (local equilibrium & multiple mixed regime models)

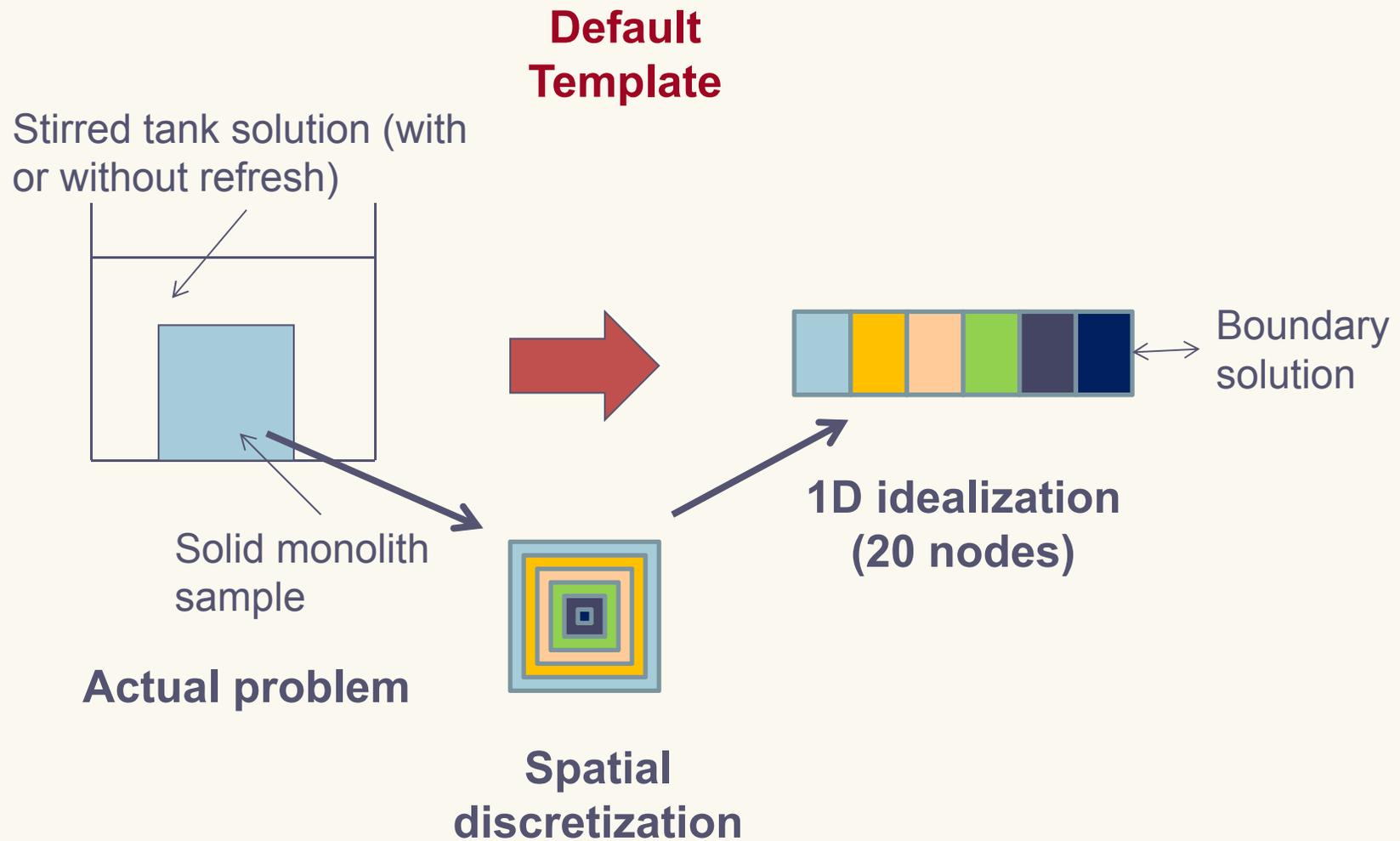
# Applications of Cementitious Barriers Models

Models	Applications
pH Dependence	Assessment of waste, waste form, grout and concrete leaching chemistry
Monolith leaching	Waste form leaching; grout and concrete durability
Leaching with oxidation and carbonation	Waste form leaching; grout and concrete durability; HLW tank integrity
Leaching with sulfate attack	Concrete durability and interfacial processes
Column percolation Homogeneous Dual porosity Percolation w/orthogonal diffusion	Leaching from contaminated soils; leaching and pH evolution from tank grouting (cracking scenarios)

# Monolith Diffusion Test Scenario



# Monolith Diffusion Test Scenario



# Monolith Diffusion Test Scenario

## Tailoring to specific test scenarios:

### Solution Phase (initial and at refresh intervals)

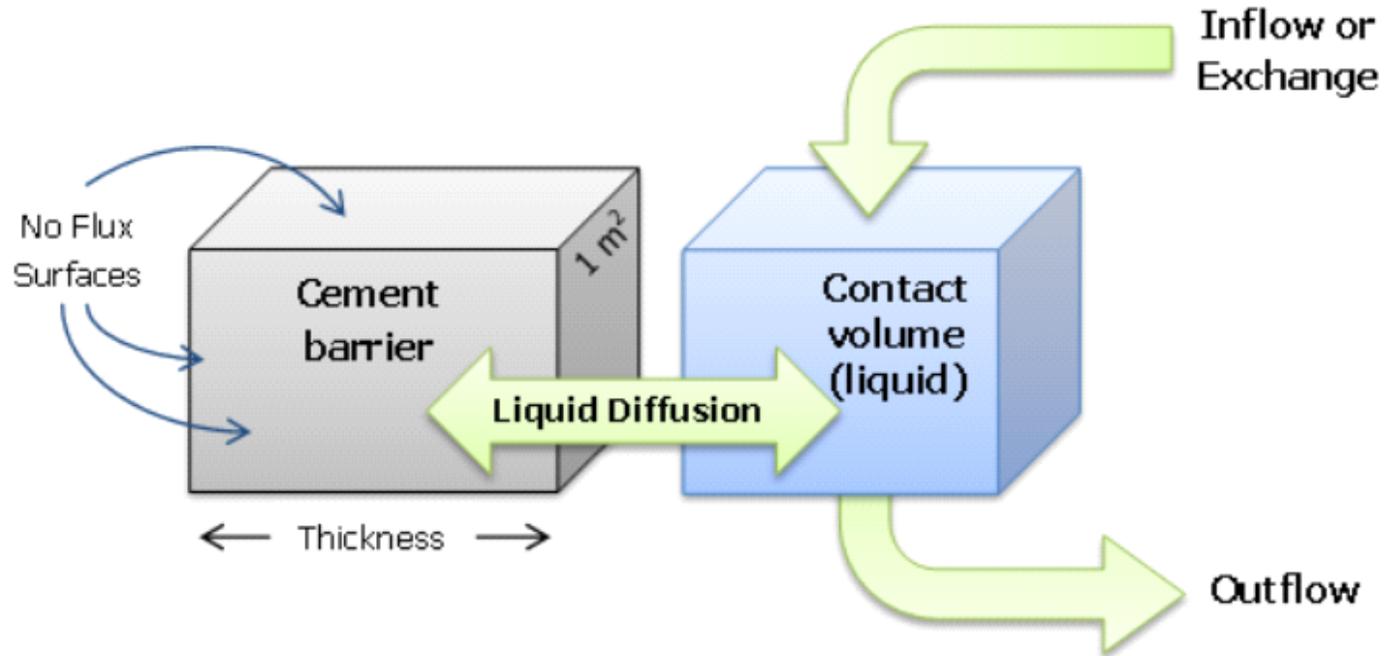
- Liquid to surface area ratio
- Refresh scheme
  - Intermittent wetting
  - Continuous flow
  - Refresh at predefined rate
- Solution chemistry (preset or user defined)

### Solid Phase (homogeneous or layers by node)

- Sample dimensions
- Number of nodes
- Saturation
- Chemical composition
- Mineralogical composition
- Physical properties (porosity, tortuosity)

# Prediction Scenario – Monolith Leaching

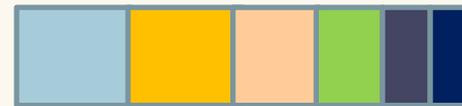
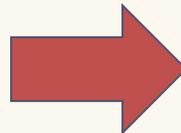
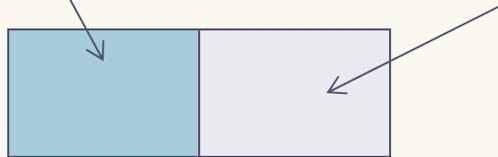
## Monolith Leaching (1 Layer, saturated or unsaturated, no gas interaction)



# Prediction Scenario – Monolith Leaching

## Default Template

Solid monolith sample    Saturated or unsaturated media

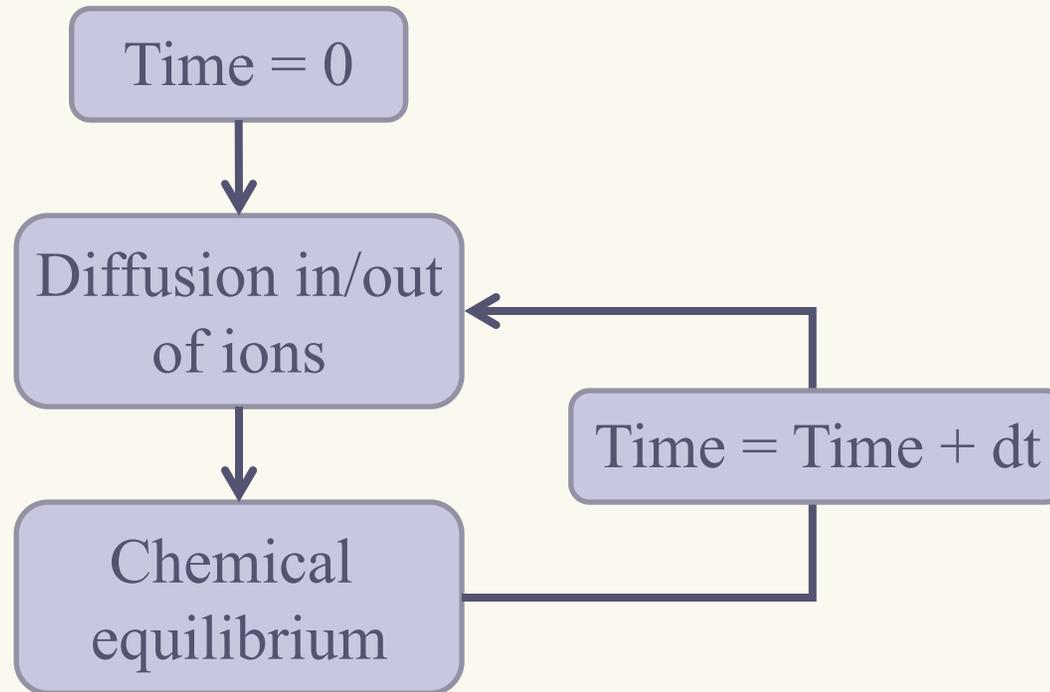


Boundary solution

**Actual problem**

**1D idealization**  
(1 m divided into 140 nodes using polynomial meshing scheme)

# Monolith Diffusion Tank Model Framework



# Diffusion of Ions

- Governing Equation for Diffusion**

(saturated porous material under isothermal condition)

$$\frac{\partial(\phi c)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{D_0 \phi}{\tau} \left( \underbrace{\frac{\partial c}{\partial x}}_{\text{concentration gradient}} + \underbrace{c \frac{\partial \ln \gamma}{\partial x}}_{\text{chemical activity gradient}} \right) \right)$$

← Being implemented currently

$c$  – concentrations of species (moles/L)

$\phi$  – porosity (for saturated materials) (L/L)

$D_0$  – free solution diffusivity ( $\text{m}^2 / \text{s}$ )

$\tau$  – tortuosity (m/m)

$\gamma$  – chemical activity coefficient (-)

$x$  – spatial dimensions (m)

$t$  – time (s)

Solved using a finite difference scheme.

# Predefined Orchestra-LeachXS Solid-Aqueous (Gas) models

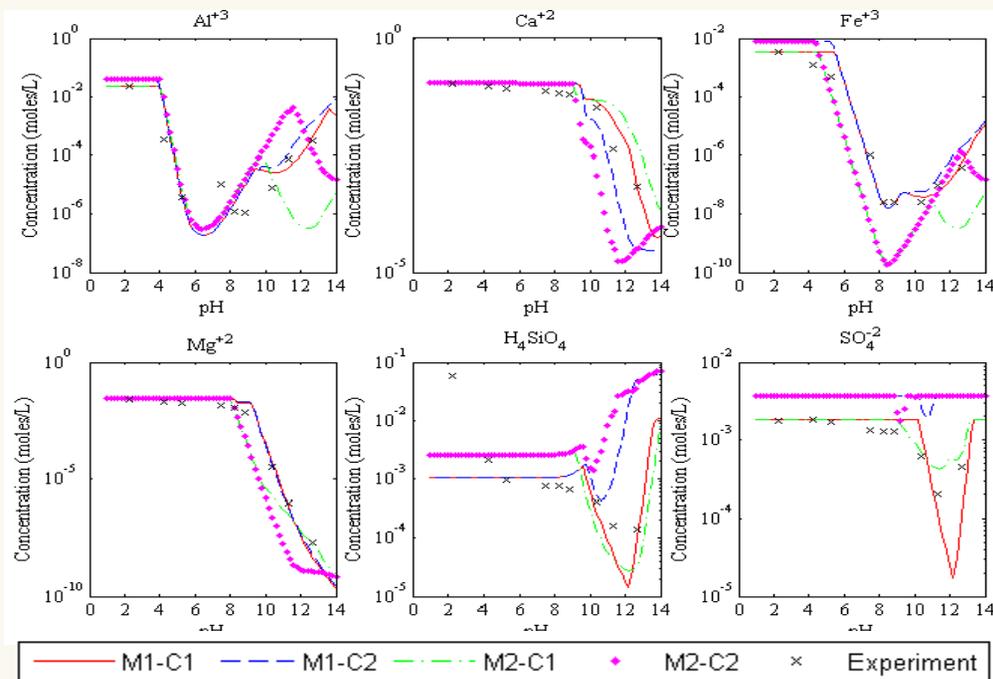
Using multi-component chemical interaction model

Including:

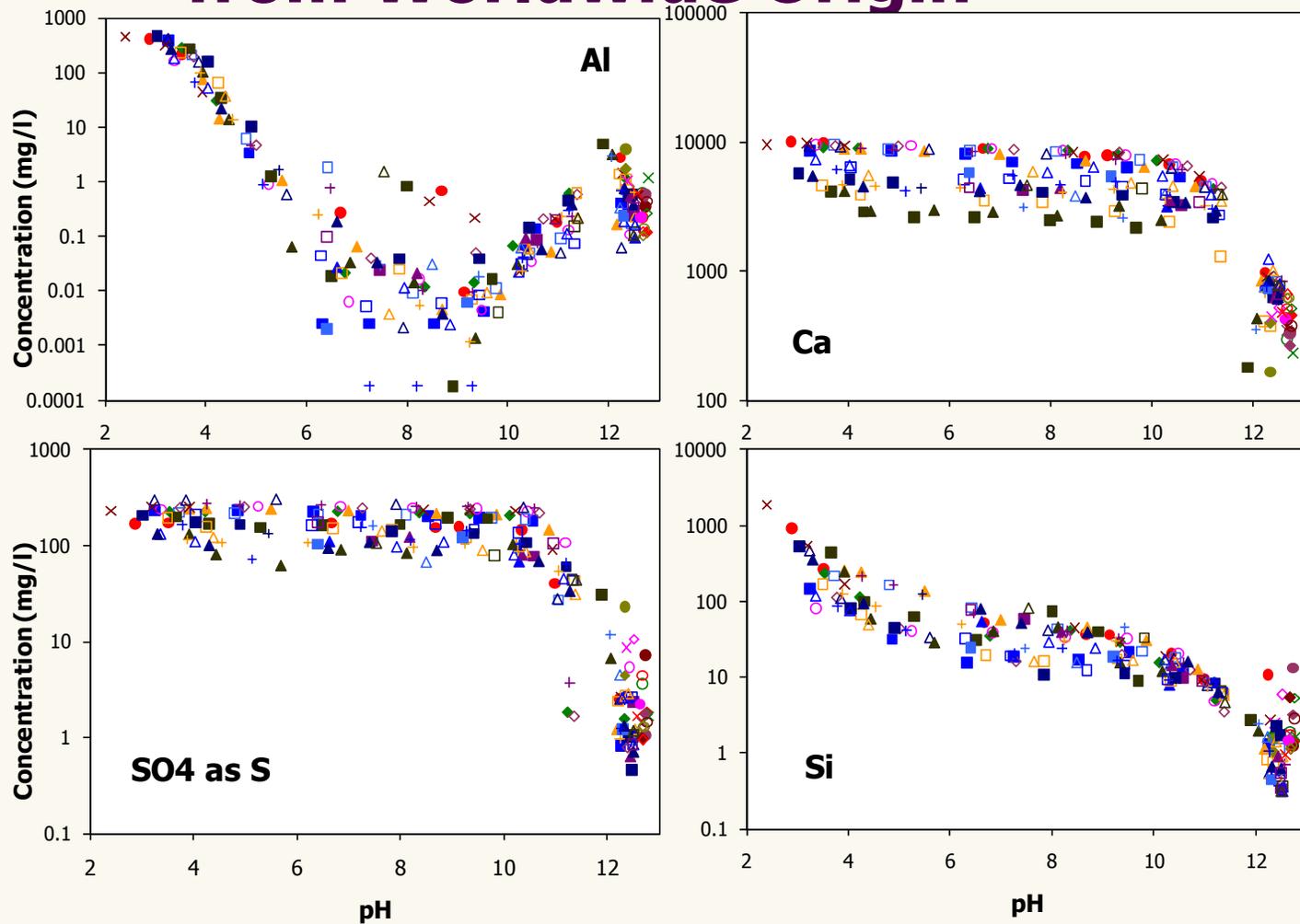
- 45 Elements / Master species including radionuclides
- Literature aqueous chemical complexation reactions (NIST/MINTEQV4)
- Literature adsorption models (Fe Al oxides: Dzombak & Morel 1990; Organic Matter Nica–Donnan: Kinniburgh et al 1996, Clay Ion exchange)
- Solid solution (ideal) for Ettringite + oxyanions, C-S-H
- Activity models: Davies, modified Davies, Pitzer (Samson *et al.*, 1999)

# Chemical Reactions

- Available databases: MINTEQA, CEMDATA (Lothenbach *et al.*, 2007 and 2008), NEA patch
- Identify primary ions, complex ions automatically selected
- Potential solid phases: Identified by comparing results of pH-dependent leaching tests (M1313) and simulations with different solid phase mineral sets

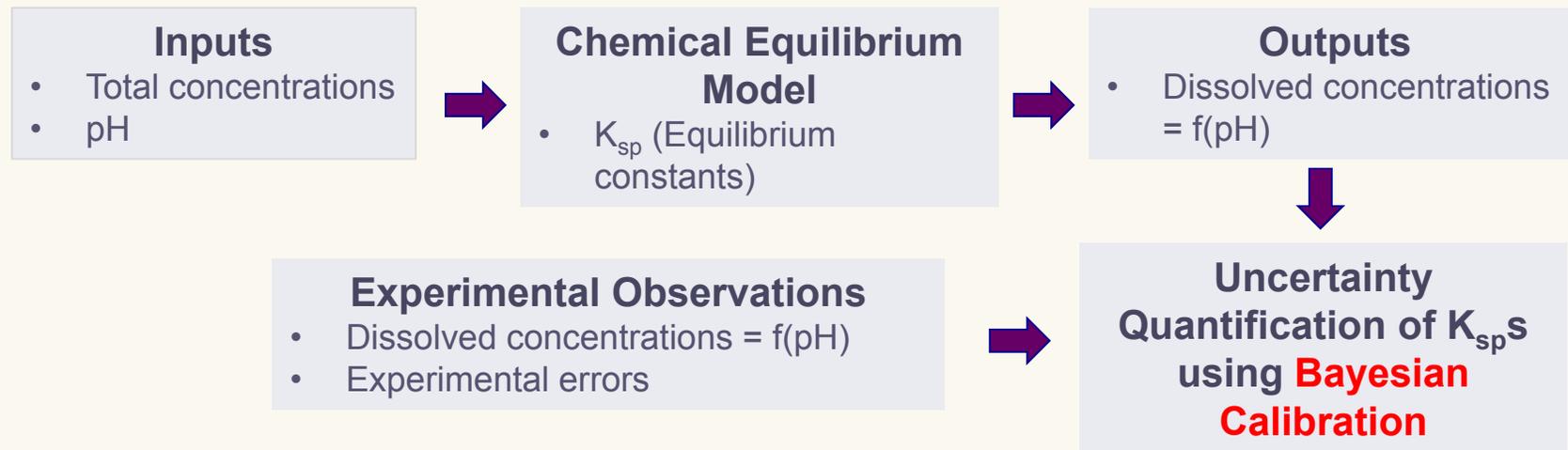


# pH Dependent Release from Cement Mortars from Worldwide Origin



Leaching behavior of substances from cementitious products  
(Hans van der Sloot, David S. Kosson, Rob Comans and Ole Hjelm)

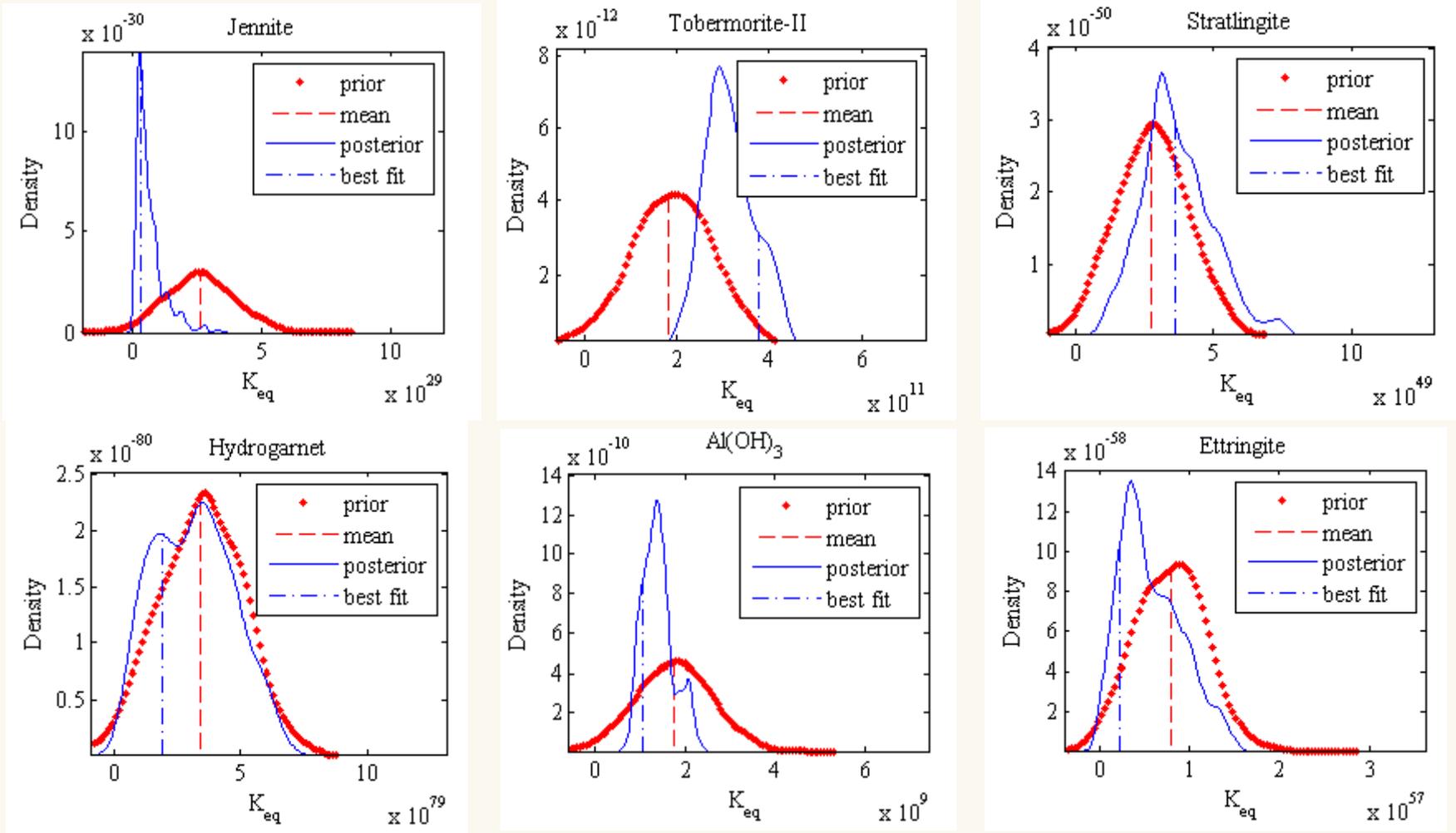
# Uncertainty Quantification of Chemical Equilibrium Model



## Problem Description (for the purpose of illustration)

- Experimental observations: pH dependence test data of 6 major species (Al, Ca, Fe, Mg, Si, S) for a concrete sample
- Calibration parameters: Equilibrium constants of 17 mineral phases
- Stochastic parameters: total leachable concentrations, measurement errors (pH, leached concentrations)

# Uncertainty in Chemical Equilibrium Constants



Sarkar *et al.*, Bayesian calibration of thermodynamic parameters for geochemical speciation modeling of cementitious materials, *Cement and Concrete Research*, 42(7), 889-902, 2012

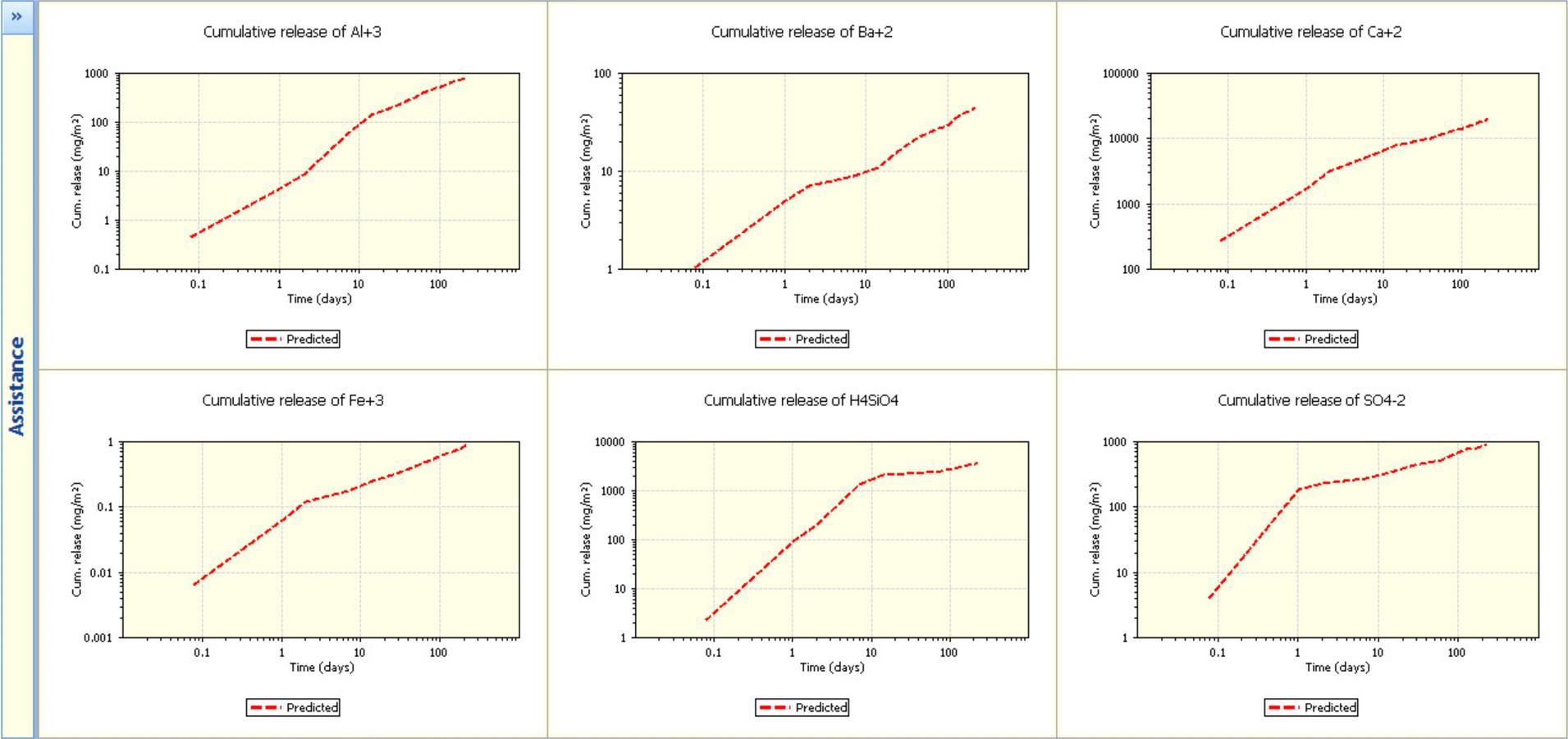
## Available Outputs

- As a **function of time** at a certain depth in solid or external solution
- As a **function of depth** at a certain time
  - Distribution and percentage profiles
    - All phases
    - Solid phases
    - Dissolved phases
  - Concentrations
    - Total
  - Other variables
    - pH, pe, dissolved humic acid etc.

XS EACH CBP Tank model Case - <VCT1> from group <tank leaching>: Solubility Major

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XS LEACH

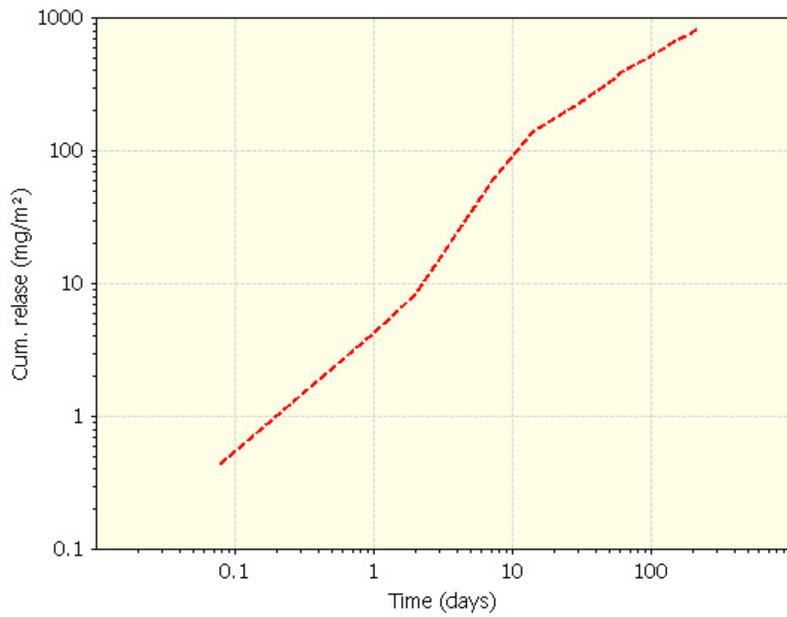
CBP Tank model Case - <VCT1> from group <tank leaching>: Solubility new1

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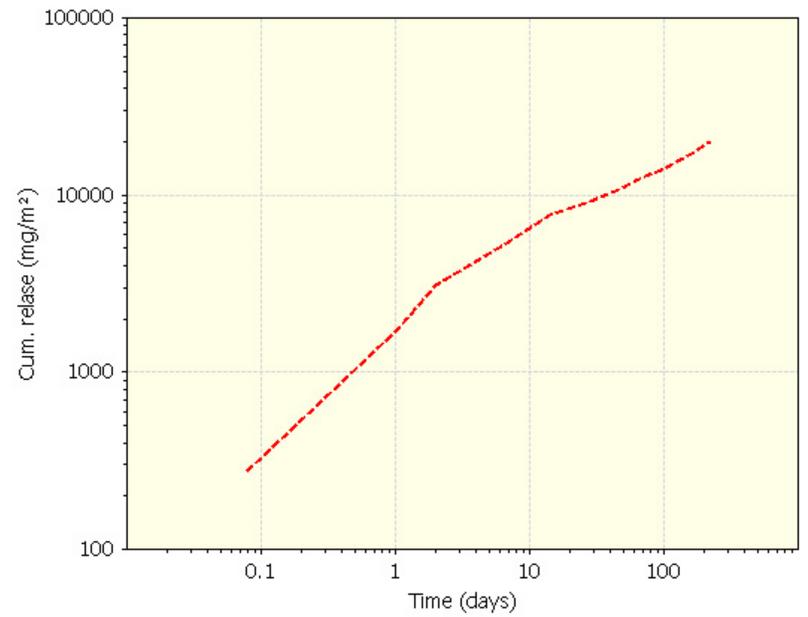
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Cumulative release of Al<sup>3+</sup>



--- Predicted

Cumulative release of Ca<sup>2+</sup>

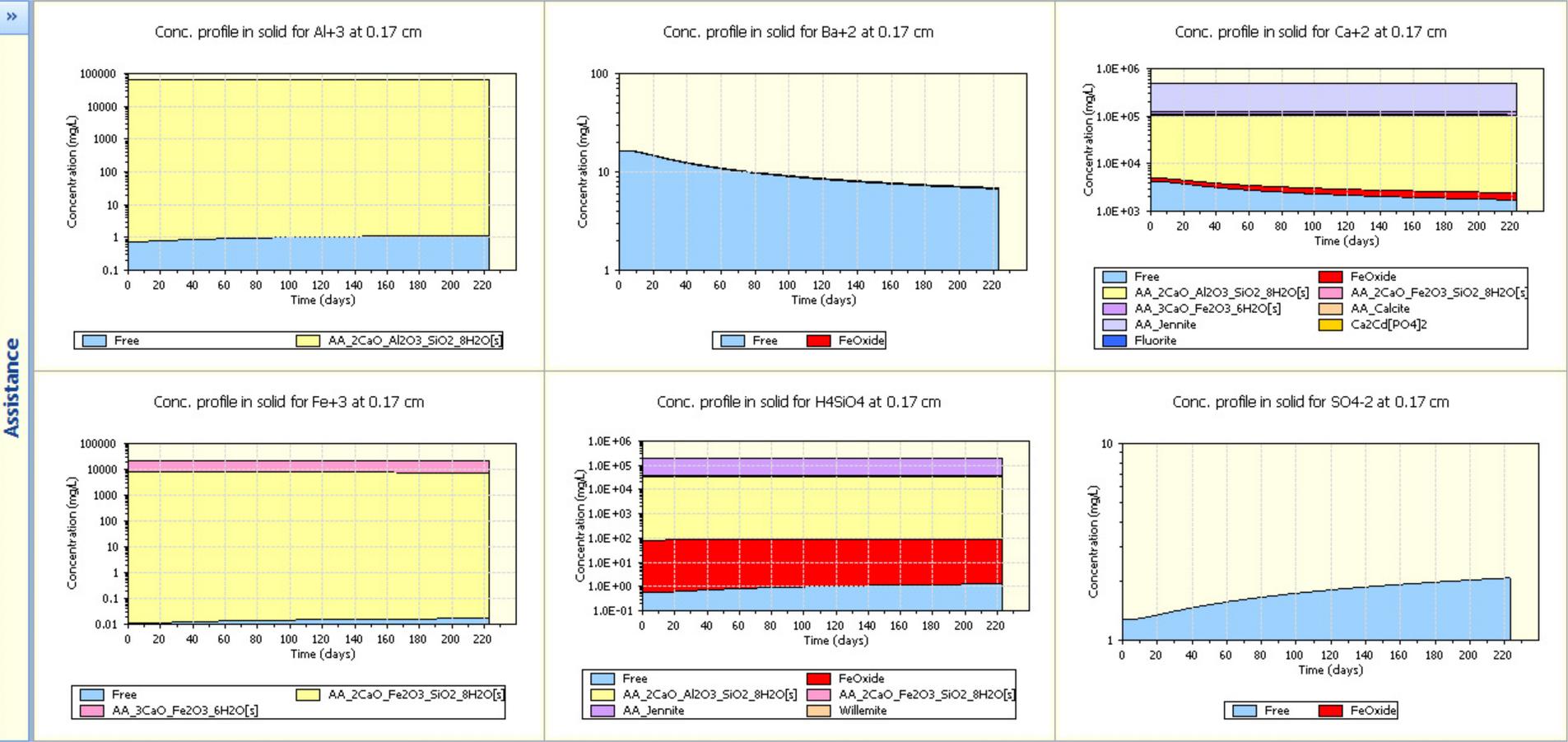


--- Predicted

XS LEACH

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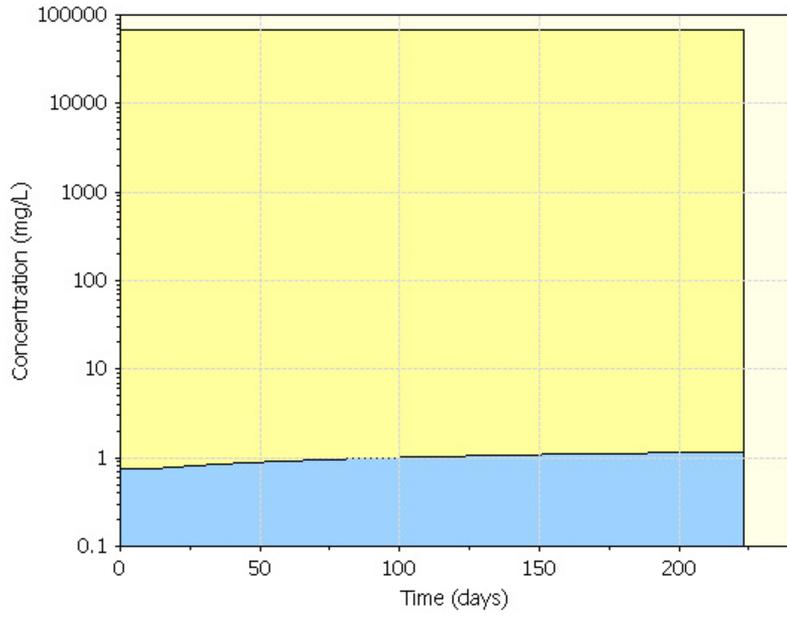


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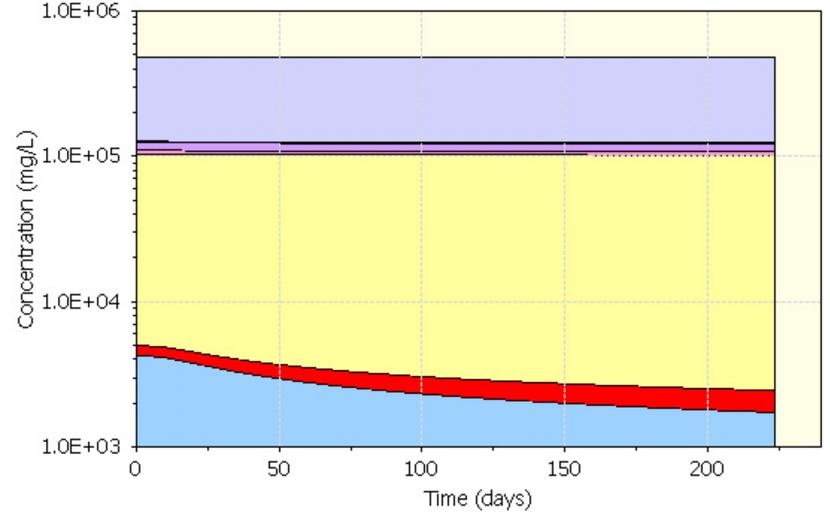
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Conc. profile in solid for Al+3 at 0.17 cm



Free AA\_2CaO\_Al2O3\_SiO2\_BH2O[s]

Conc. profile in solid for Ca+2 at 0.17 cm

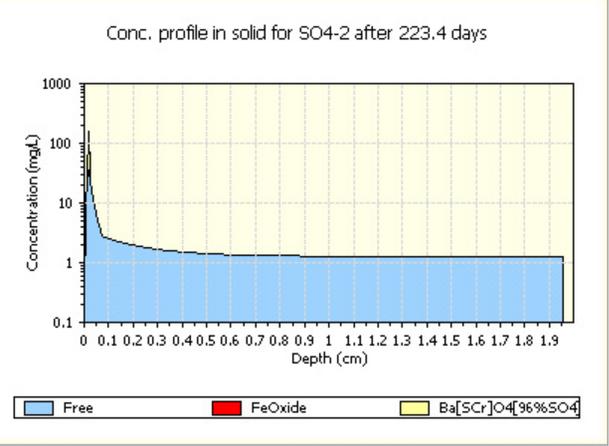
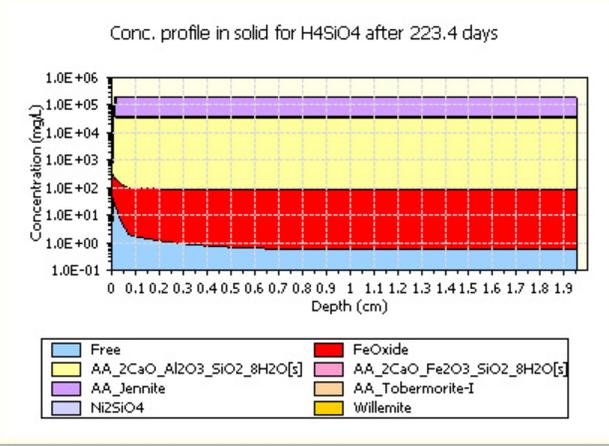
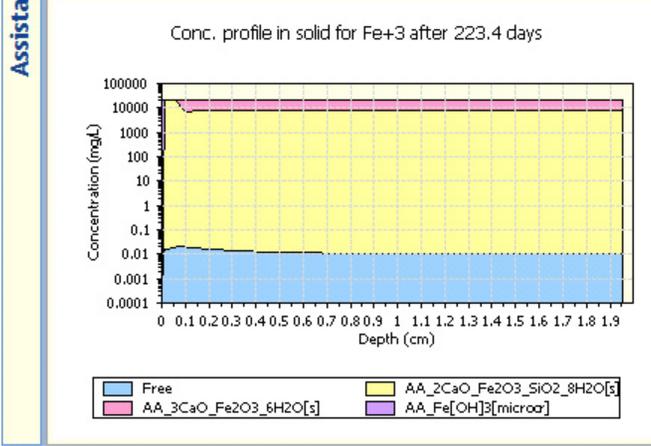
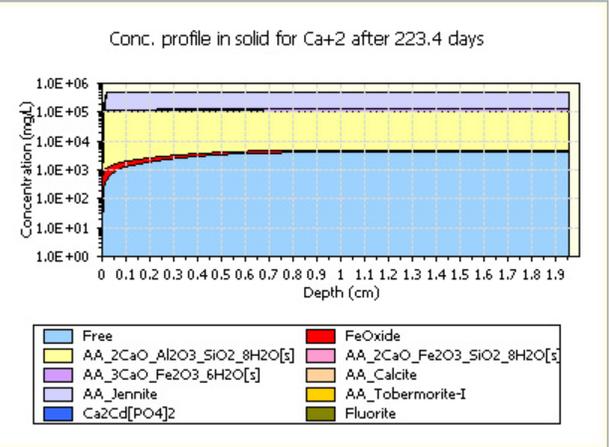
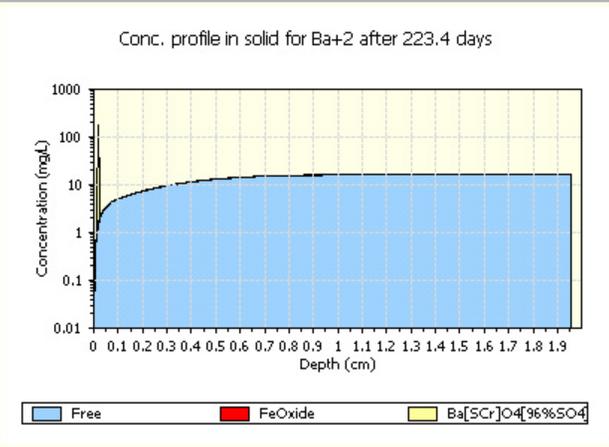
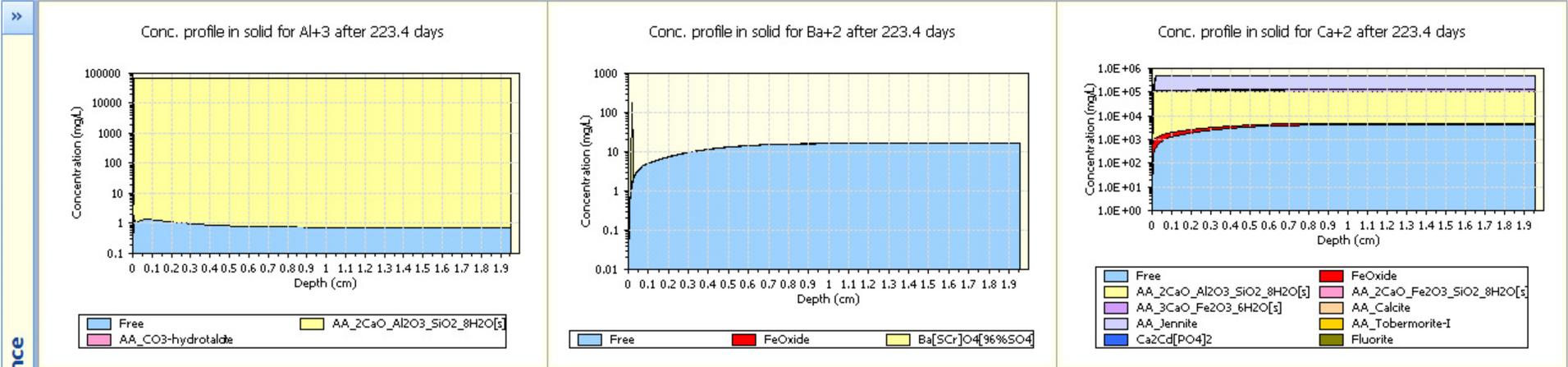


Free FeOxide AA\_2CaO\_Al2O3\_SiO2\_BH2O[s] AA\_3CaO\_Fe2O3\_6H2O[s] AA\_2CaO\_Fe2O3\_SiO2\_BH2O[s] AA\_Jennite AA\_Calcite Ca2Cd[PO4]2 Fluorite

XS LEACH

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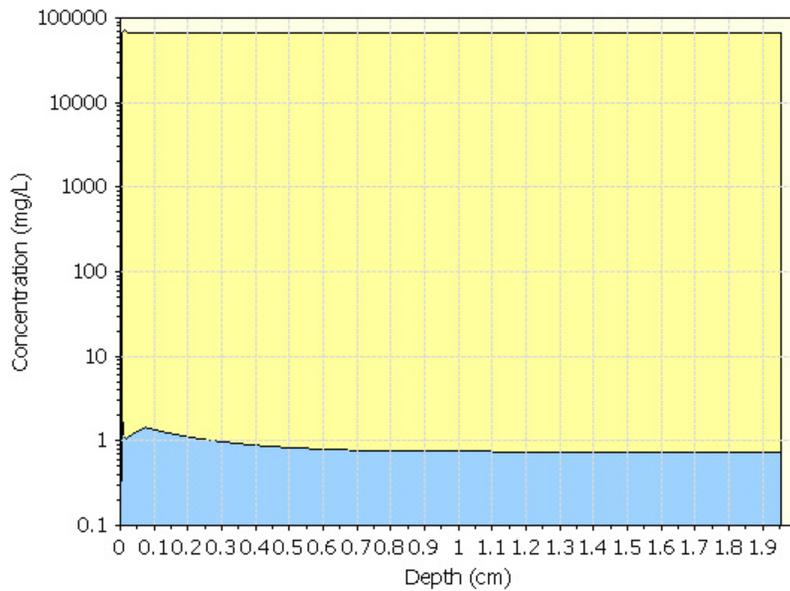
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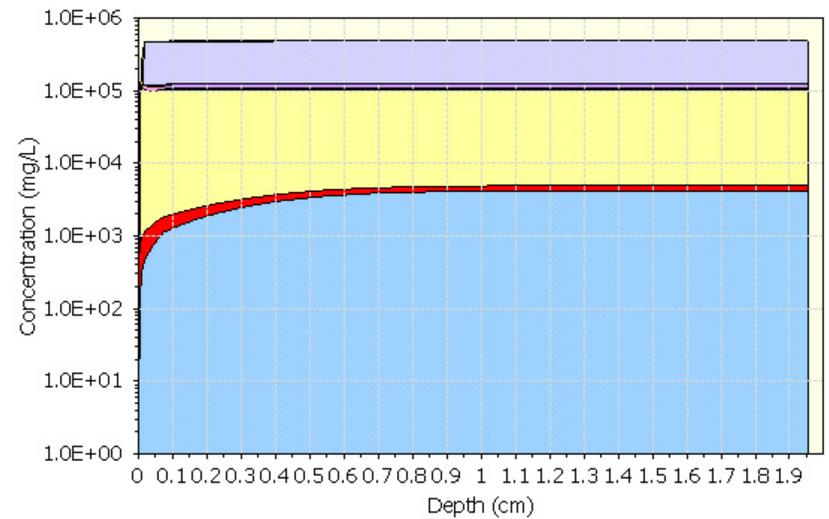
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Conc. profile in solid for Al+3 after 223.4 days



- Free
- AA\_CO3-hydrotalcite
- AA\_2CaO\_Al2O3\_SiO2\_BH2O[s]

Conc. profile in solid for Ca+2 after 223.4 days



- Free
- AA\_2CaO\_Al2O3\_SiO2\_BH2O[s]
- AA\_3CaO\_Fe2O3\_6H2O[s]
- AA\_Jennite
- Ca2Cd[PO4]2
- FeOxide
- AA\_2CaO\_Fe2O3\_SiO2\_BH2O[s]
- AA\_Calcite
- AA\_Tobermorite-I
- Fluorite

XS LEACH

Layout

Export

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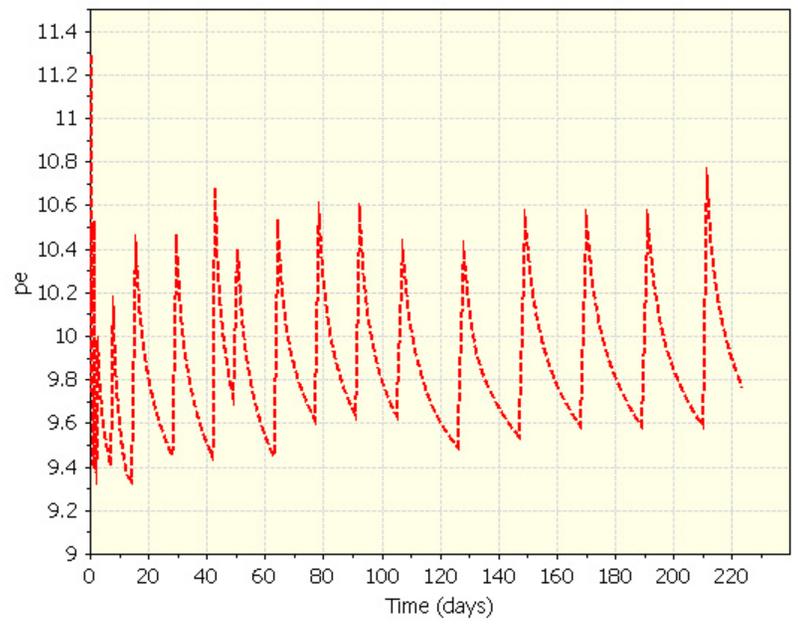
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Export Selection

# Saw-tooth response reflects solution refresh intervals

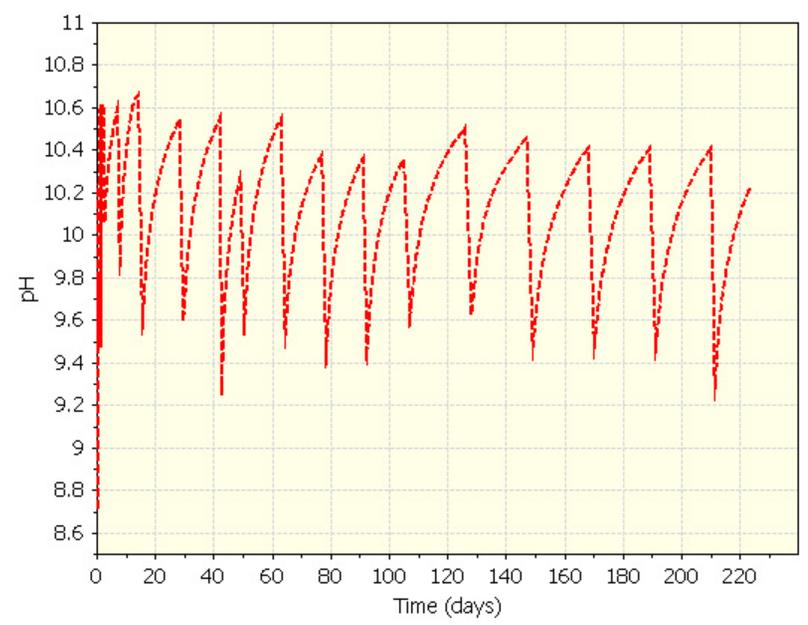
Assistance

pe as function of time



--- Predicted

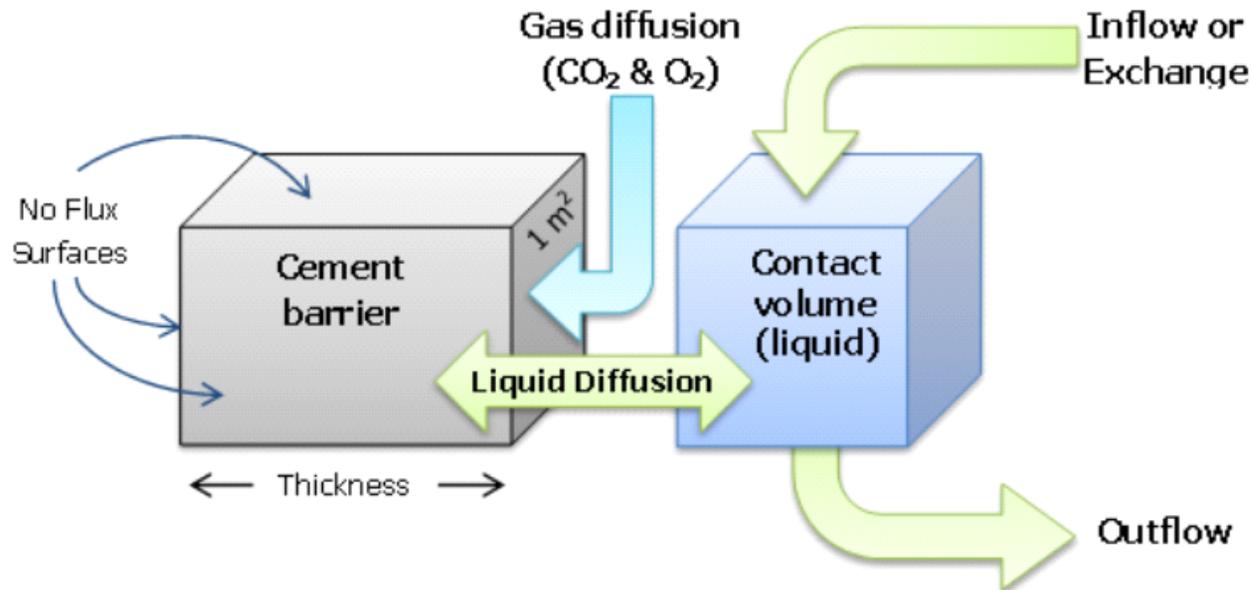
pH as function of time



--- Predicted

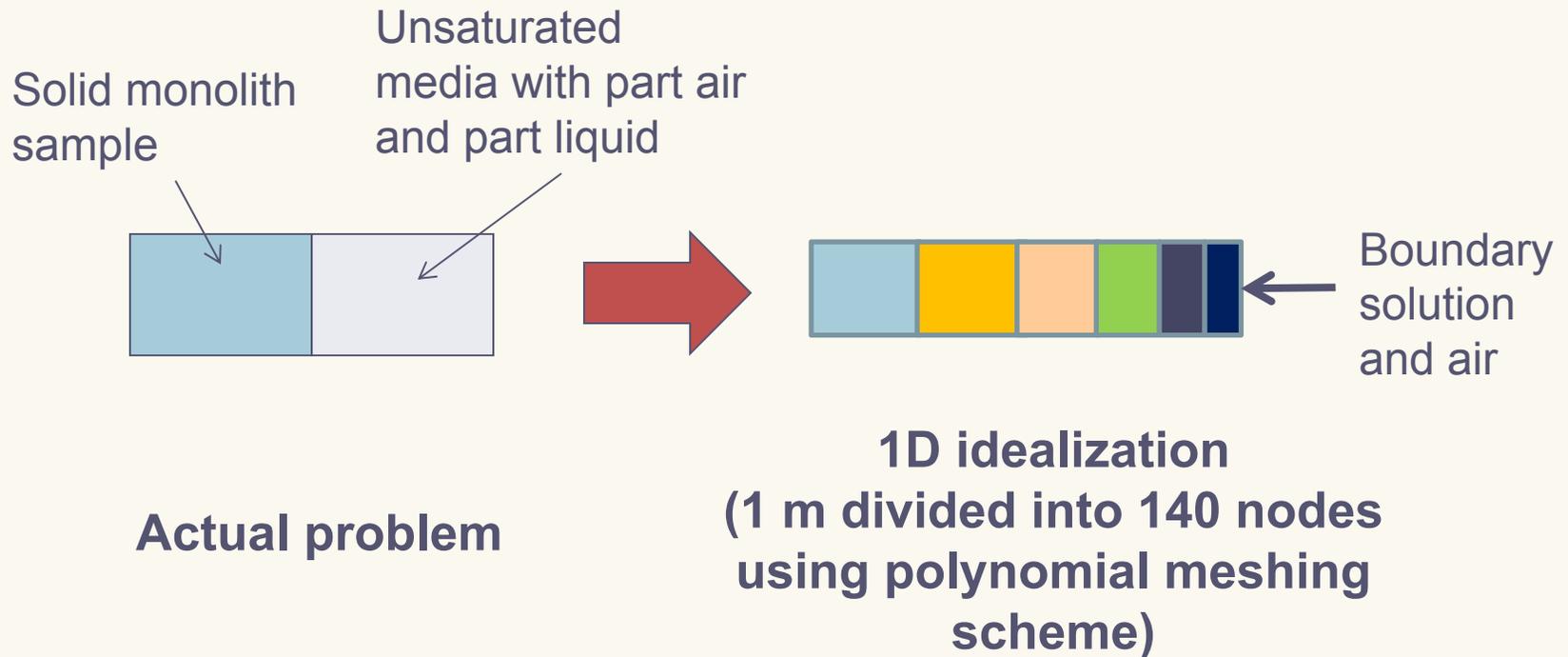
# Prediction Scenario – Leaching with Carbonation and Oxidation

## Leaching with Carbonation and Oxidation (1 Layer, unsaturated)



# Prediction Scenario – Leaching with Carbonation and Oxidation

## Default Template



# Prediction Scenario – Leaching with Carbonation and Oxidation

## Tailoring to specific test scenarios:

### **Solution Phase (initial and at refresh intervals)**

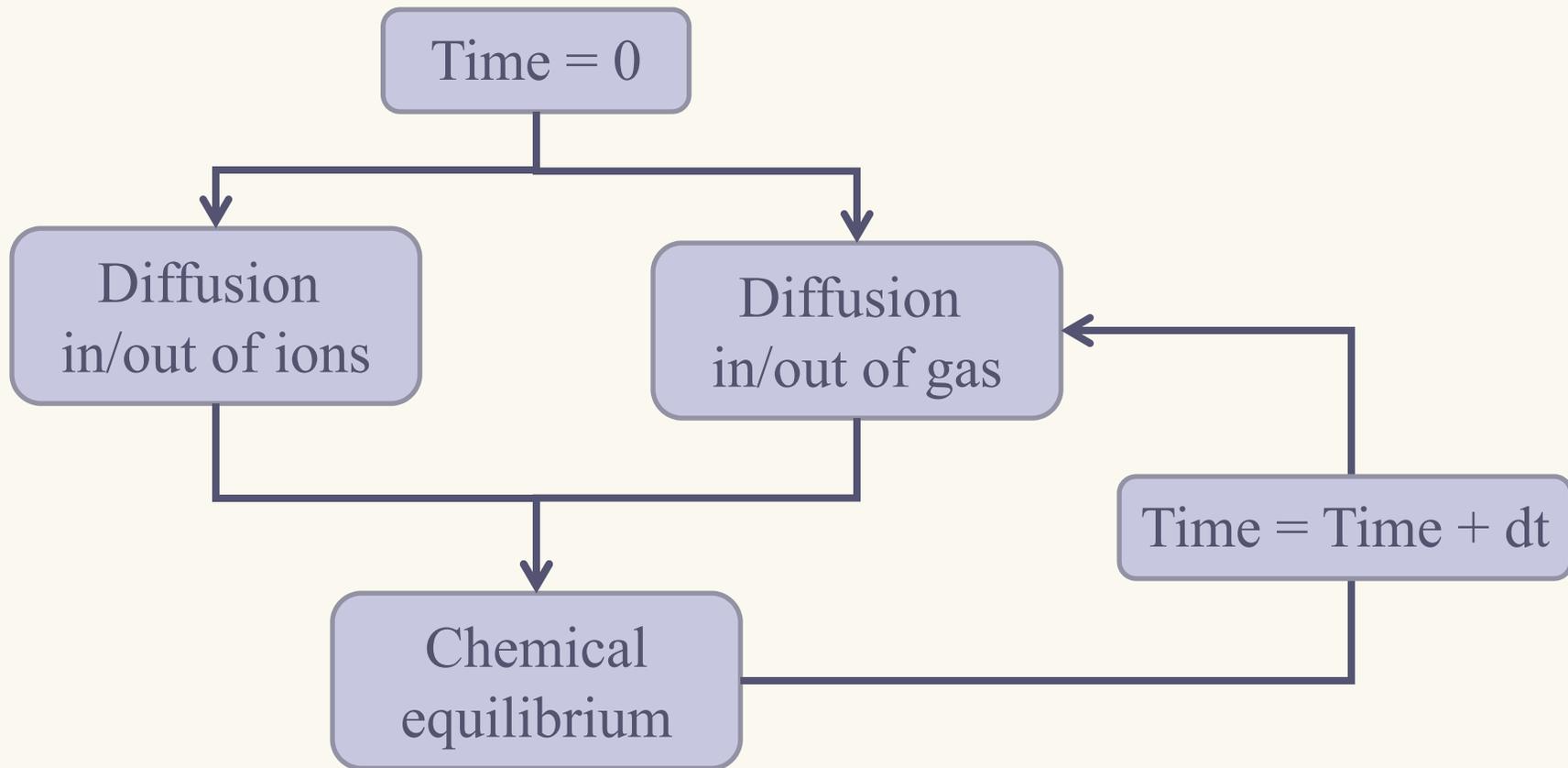
- Liquid to surface area ratio
- Refresh scheme
  - Intermittent wetting
  - Refresh at predefined rate or Continuous flow
- Solution chemistry (preset or user defined)

### **Solid Phase (homogeneous or layers by node)**

- Sample dimensions
- Number of nodes
- Saturation
- Chemical composition
- Mineralogical composition
- Physical properties (porosity, tortuosity)

### **Gas Phase (composition at boundary)**

# Leaching with Carbonation and Oxidation Model Framework



# Diffusion and Chemical Reactions

## • Governing Equation for Dissolved Phase Diffusion

$$\frac{\partial(w_l c)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{D_{0l} w_l}{\tau} \frac{w_l^{7/3}}{\phi^{7/3}} \left( \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} \right) \right)$$

$D_{0l}$  – Free solution diffusivity ( $\text{m}^2 / \text{s}$ )  
 $w_l$  – Liquid filled space ( $\text{m}^3 / \text{m}^3$ )

↖ concentration gradient

Millington and Quirk (1961)

## • Governing Equation for Gas Phase Diffusion

$$\frac{\partial(w_v c)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{D_{0g} w_v}{\tau} \frac{w_v^{7/3}}{\phi^{7/3}} \left( \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} \right) \right)$$

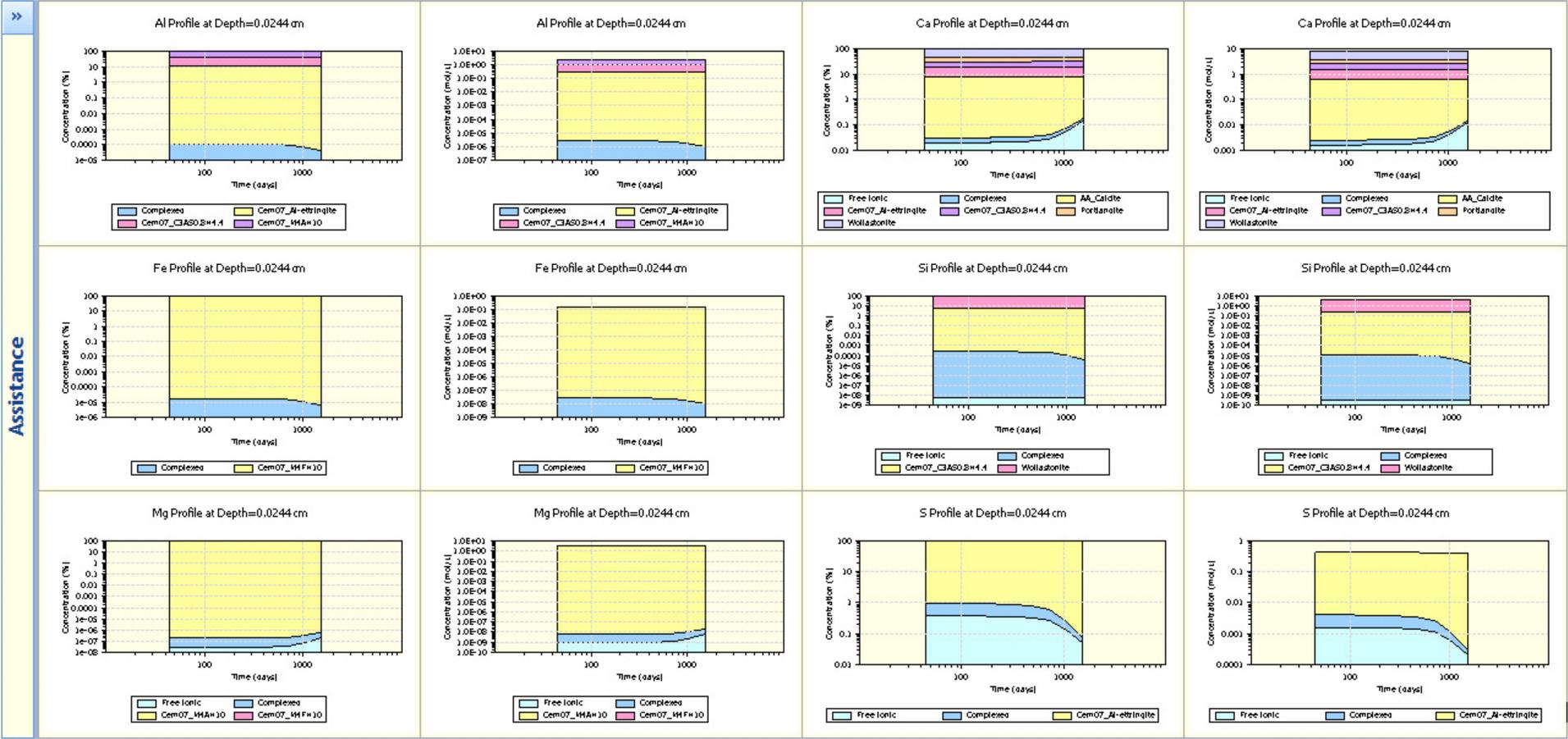
$D_{0g}$  – Gas diffusivity in air ( $\text{m}^2 / \text{s}$ )  
 $w_v$  – Void space ( $\text{m}^3 / \text{m}^3$ )

concentration gradient

## • Chemical Reactions

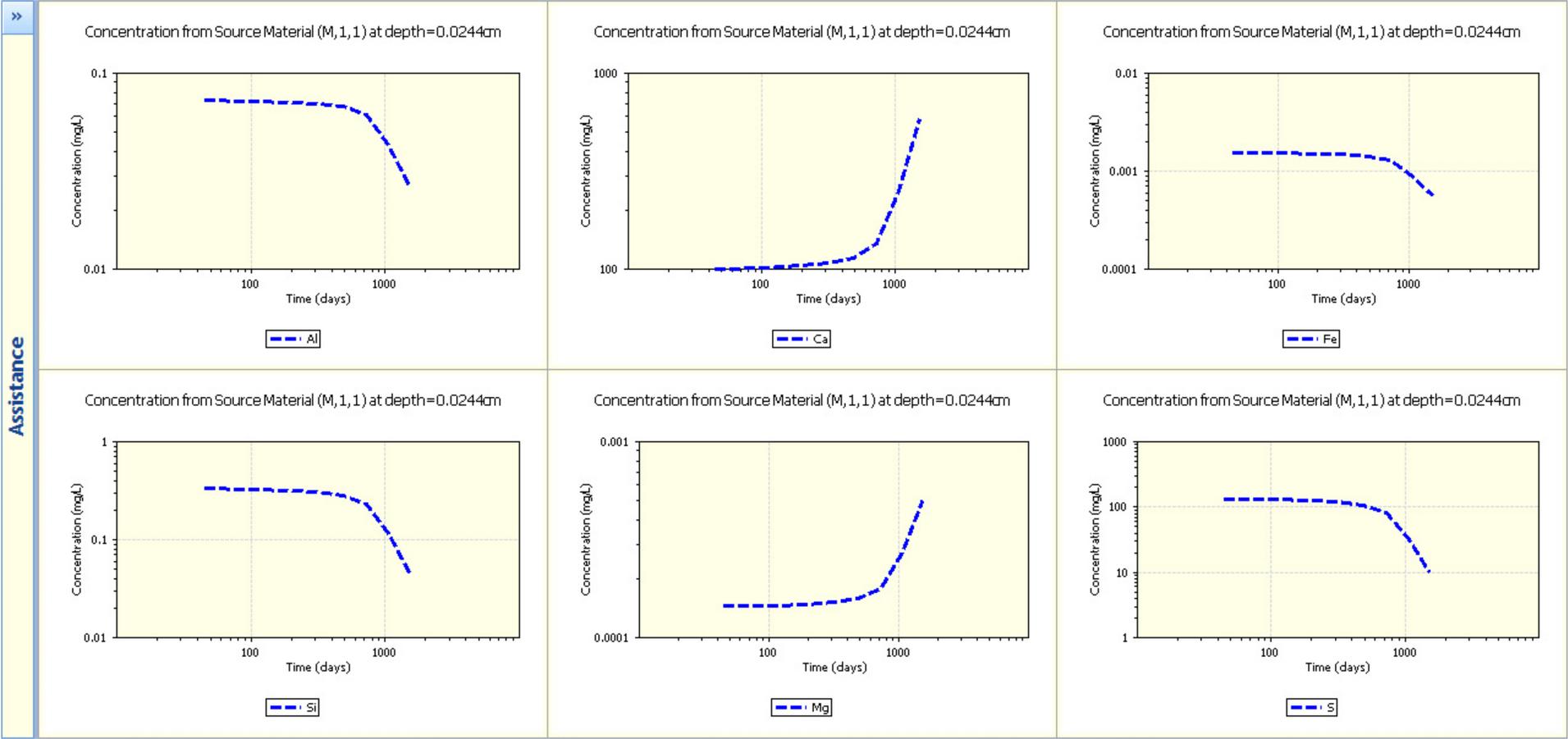
- Potential solid phases: Identified by comparing results of pH-dependent leaching tests and simulations with different solid phase mineral sets using LeachXS/ORCHESTRA (by ECN)

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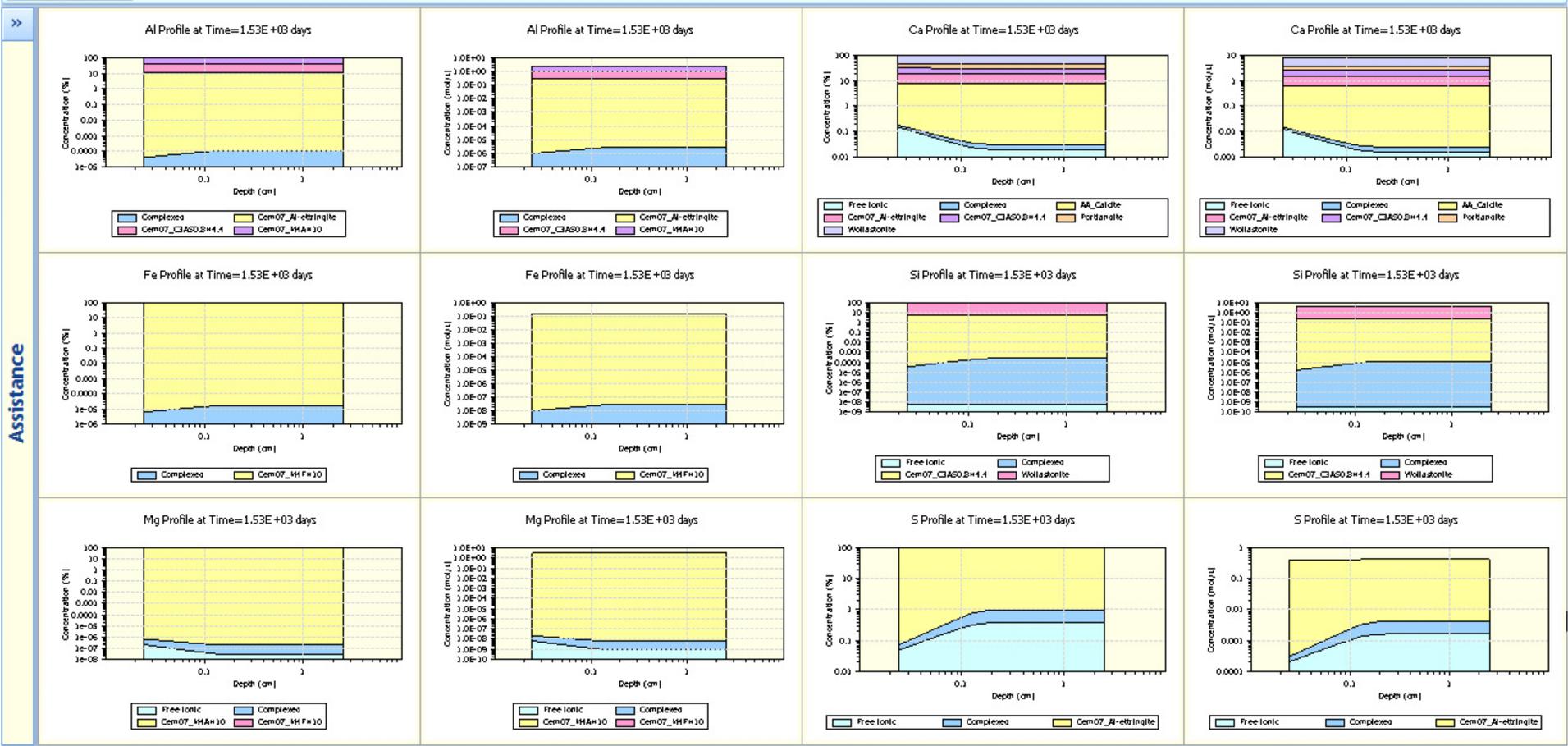


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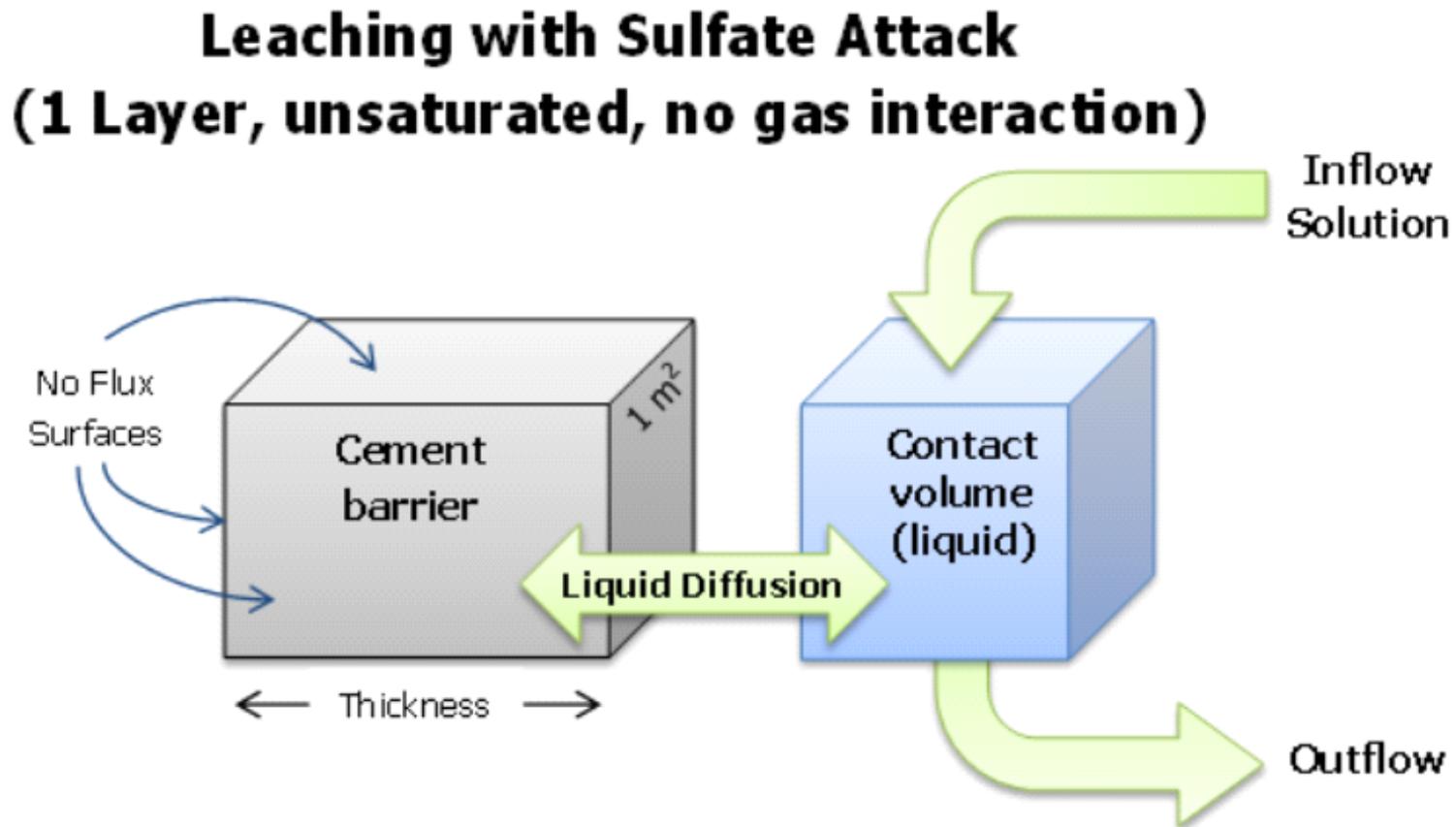


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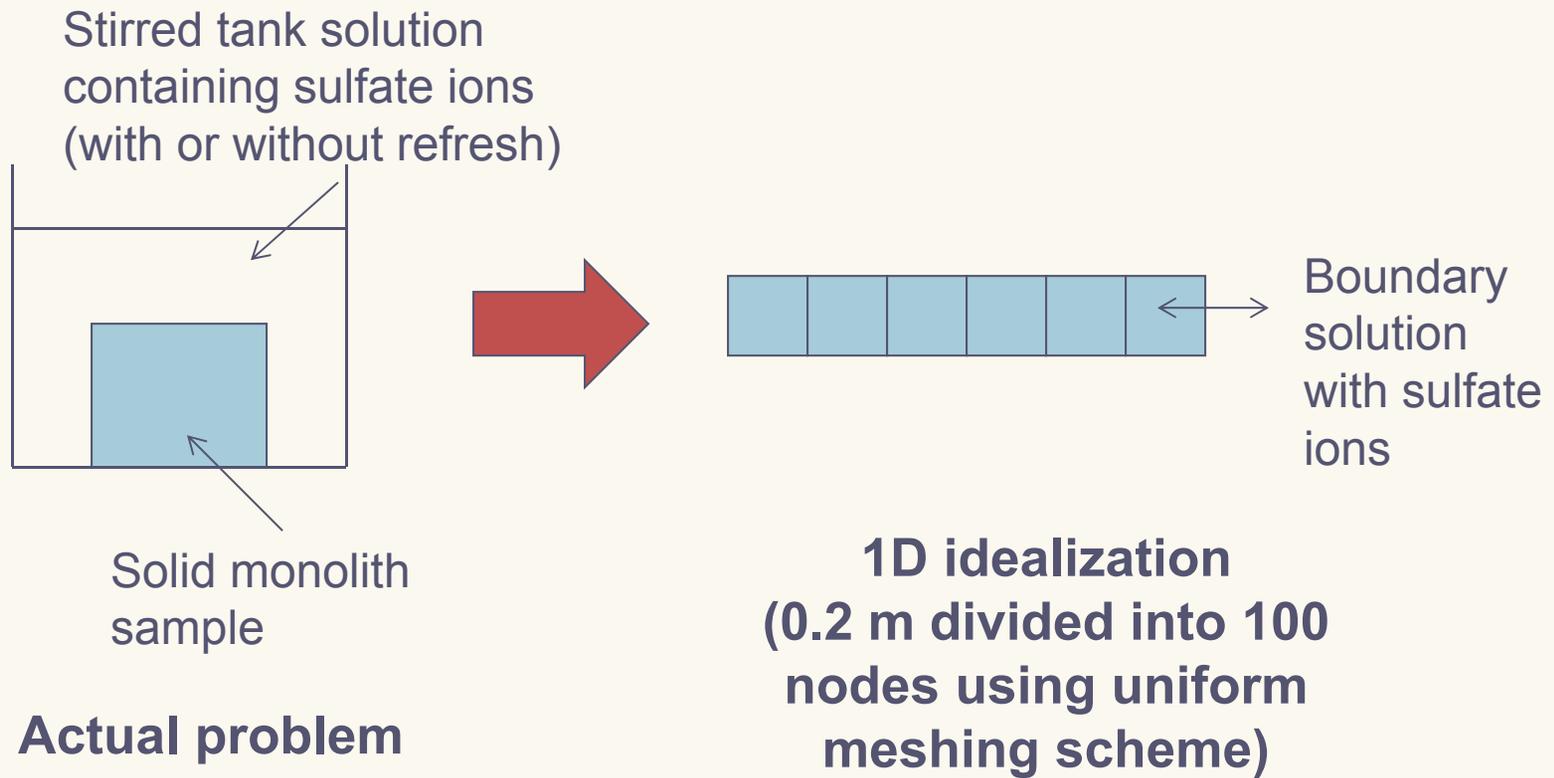
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# Prediction Scenario – Leaching with Sulfate Attack

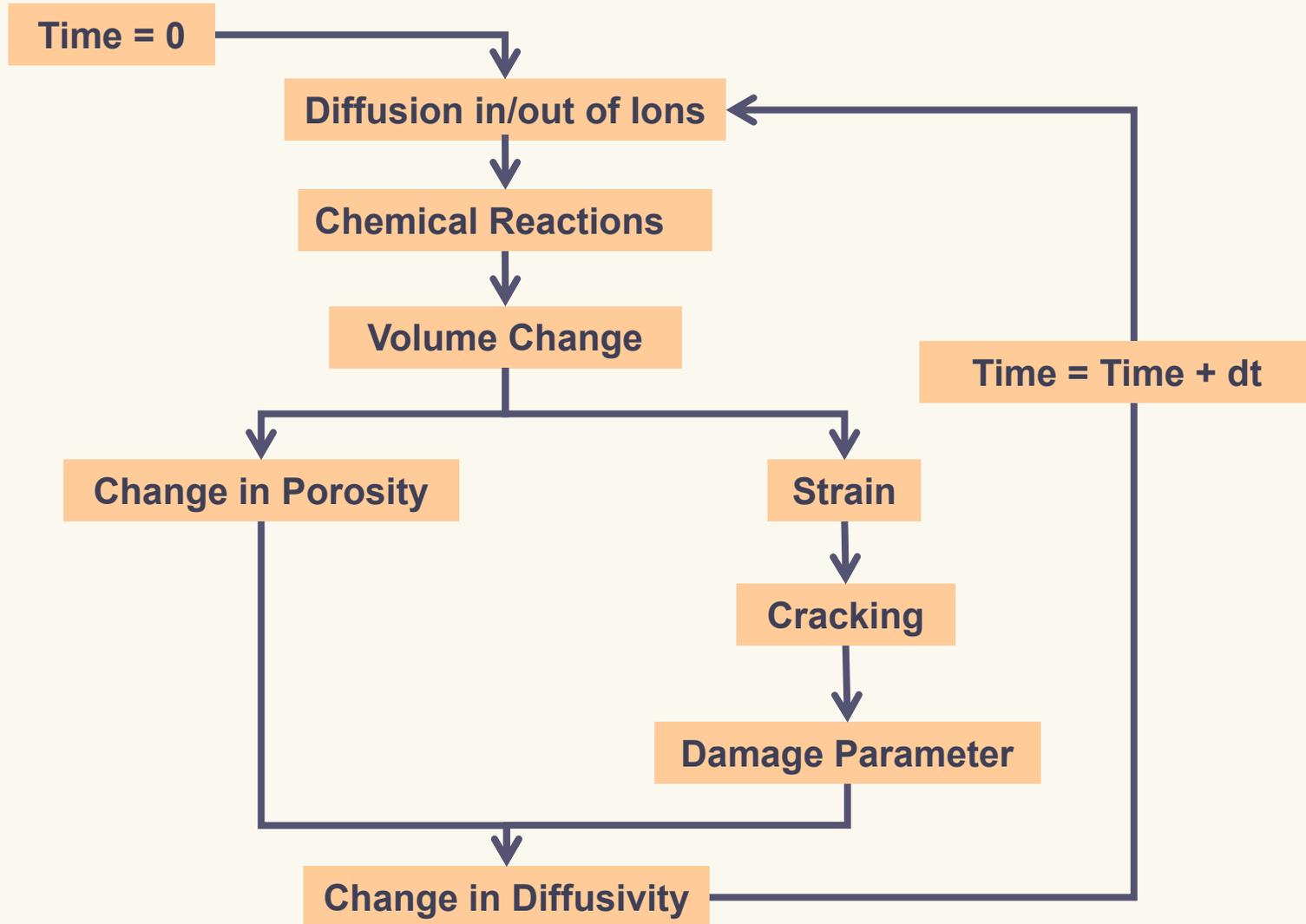


# Sulfate Attack Scenario

## Default Template



# Numerical Model Framework



# Diffusion and Chemical Reactions

## Governing Equation for Diffusion

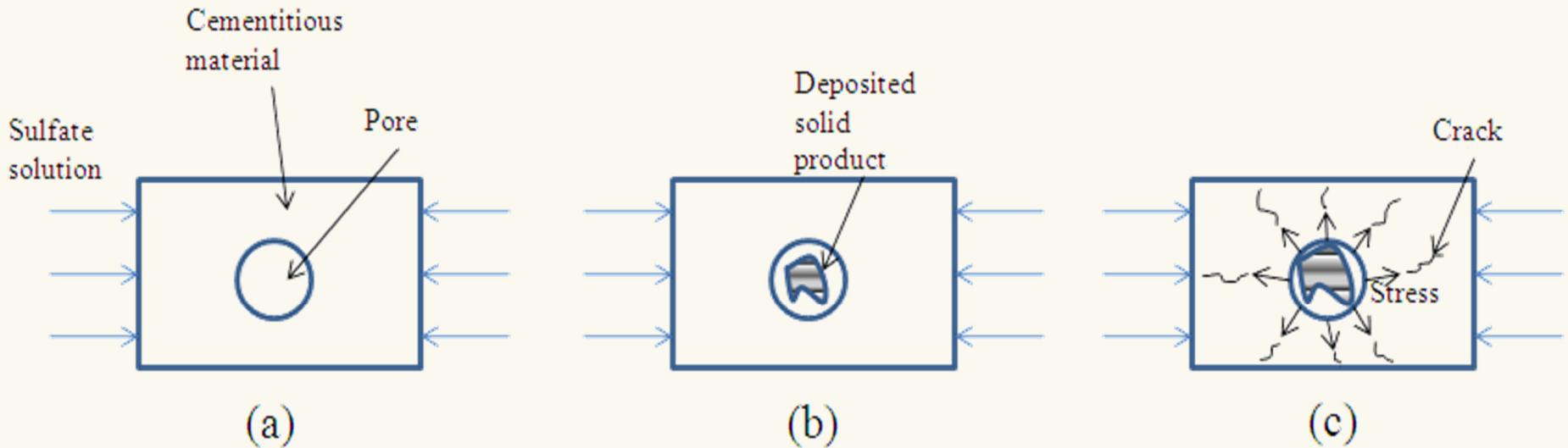
(saturated porous material under isothermal condition)

$$\frac{\partial(\phi c)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{D_0 \phi}{\tau} \left( \underbrace{\frac{\partial c}{\partial x}}_{\text{concentration gradient}} \right) \right)$$

## Chemical Reactions

- Potential solid phases: Identified by comparing results of pH-dependent leaching tests and simulations with different solid phase mineral sets using LeachXS/ORCHESTRA (by ECN)

# Strain Development Mechanism



- **Volume Change:**  $\overline{\Delta V}_s = (V_{\text{products}} - V_{\text{reactants}}) - b\phi$

- **Strain:**  $\varepsilon = \frac{\Delta \overline{V}_s}{3}$   
(homogeneous and isotropic material)

Fraction of porosity available  
(Tixier and Mobasher, 2003)

- **Porosity Change:**  $\phi_{\text{new}} = \phi_{\text{original}} - (V_{\text{products}} - V_{\text{reactants}})$

- **Diffusivity Change:**  $H_D(\phi) = \exp((\phi_{\text{original}} - \phi_{\text{new}}) * 4.3 / \text{paste volume})$   
(Samson and Marchand, 2007)

# Damage Accumulation due to Cracking

- Nonlinear Ascending Region**

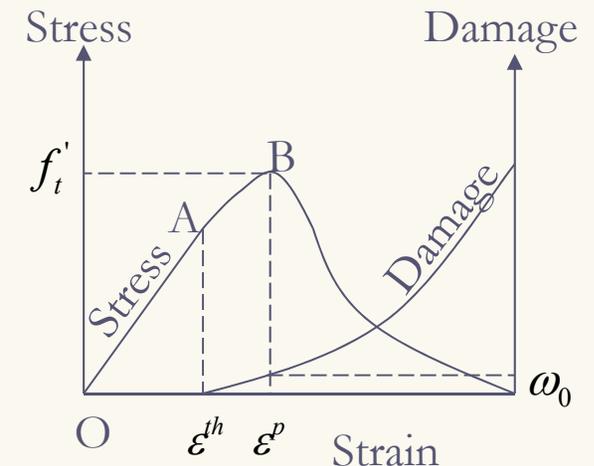
(Karihaloo, 1995, Budiansky and O'Connell, 1976)

Crack density parameter

$$C_d = k \left( 1 - \frac{\varepsilon^{th}}{\varepsilon} \right)^m$$

Damage parameter

$$\omega \approx \frac{16}{9} C_d$$



- Nonlinear Descending Region**

(Nemat-Nasser and Hori, 1993)

Fracture Mechanics

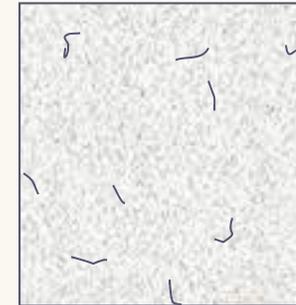
$$\frac{\sigma}{f_t'} = \sqrt{\frac{\tan(\pi\omega_0 / 2)}{\tan(\pi\omega / 2)}} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{w}{w_0} = \frac{\sigma}{f_t'} \left( \frac{\log(\sec(\pi\omega / 2))}{\log(\sec(\pi\omega_0 / 2))} \right) - 1$$

# Change in Diffusivity due to Cracking

- Mean Field Regime**

Assumption: randomly oriented penny-shaped cracks scattered in a homogeneous matrix (Salganik, 1974)

$$D = \frac{D_0}{\tau} \left( 1 + \frac{32}{9} C_d \right)$$

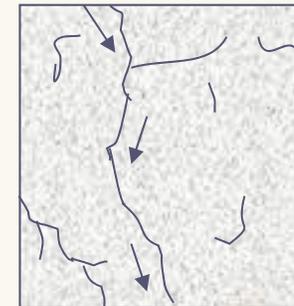


Dilute concentration of cracks

- Percolation Regime**

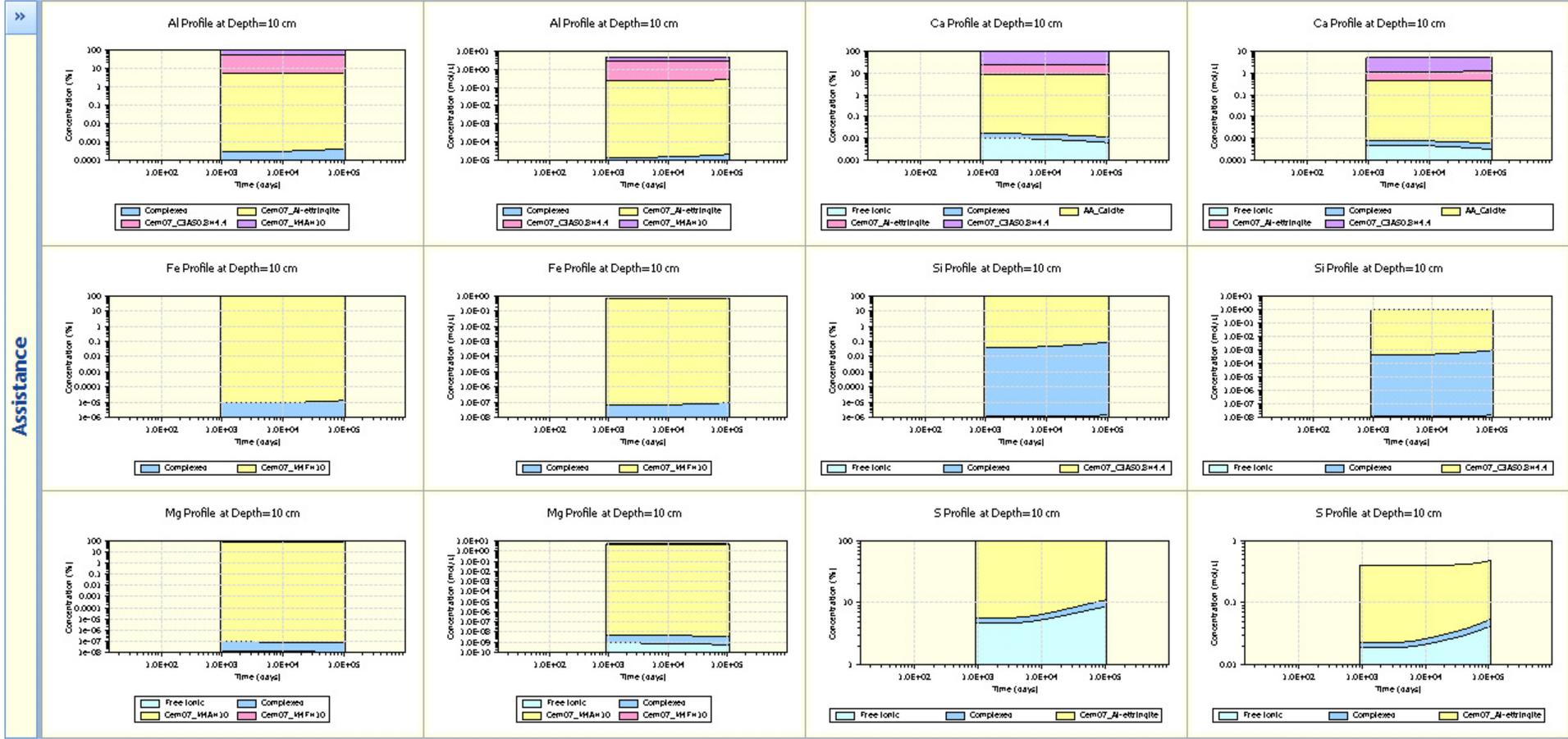
(Stauffer, 1985 and Krajcinovic *et al.*, 1992)

$$D = \frac{D_0}{\tau} \left( 1 + \frac{32}{9} C_d \right) + \frac{D_0}{\tau} \frac{(C_d - C_{dc})^2}{(C_{dec} - C_d)}$$

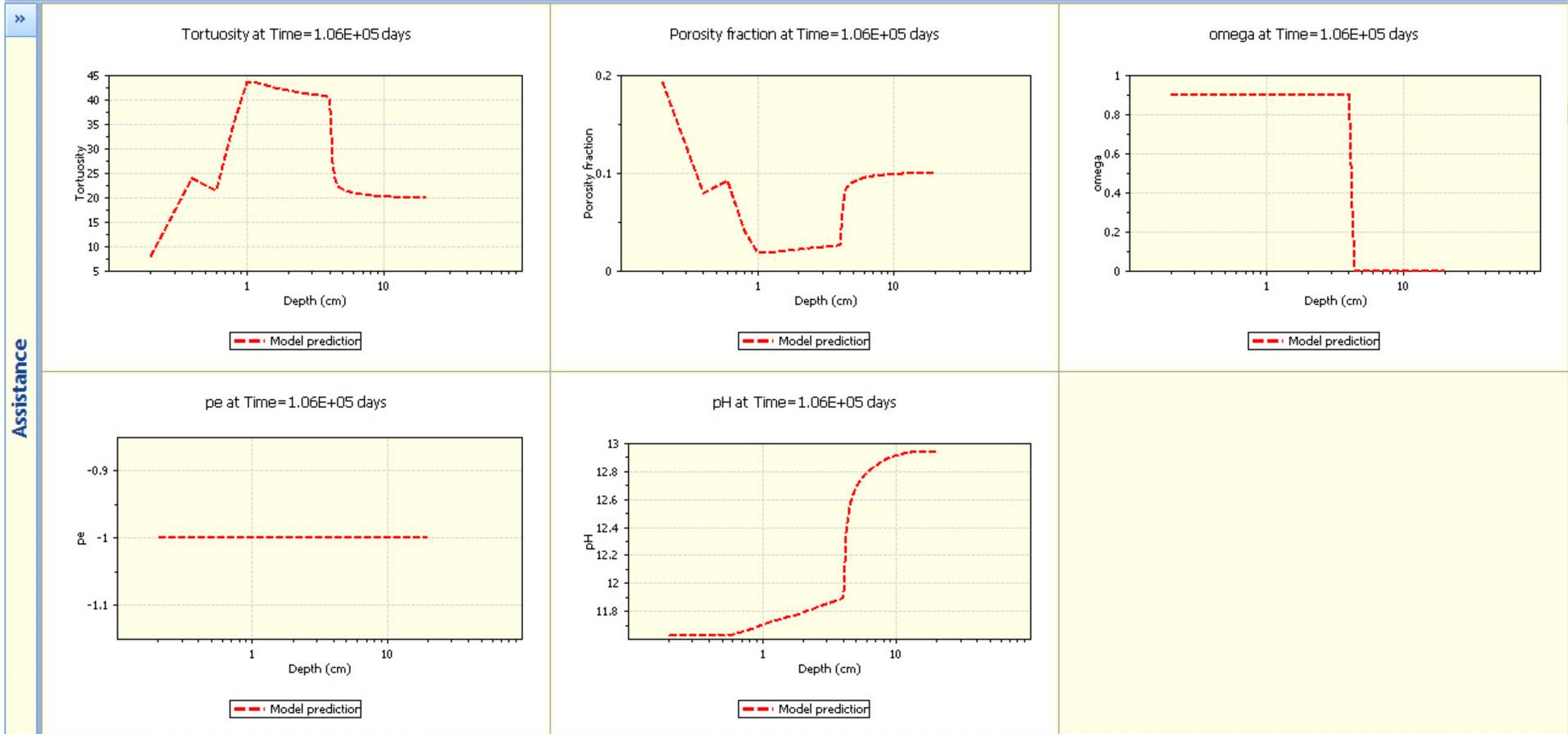


Spanning cluster of cracks and macro-cracks

Export All To Excel



Assistance



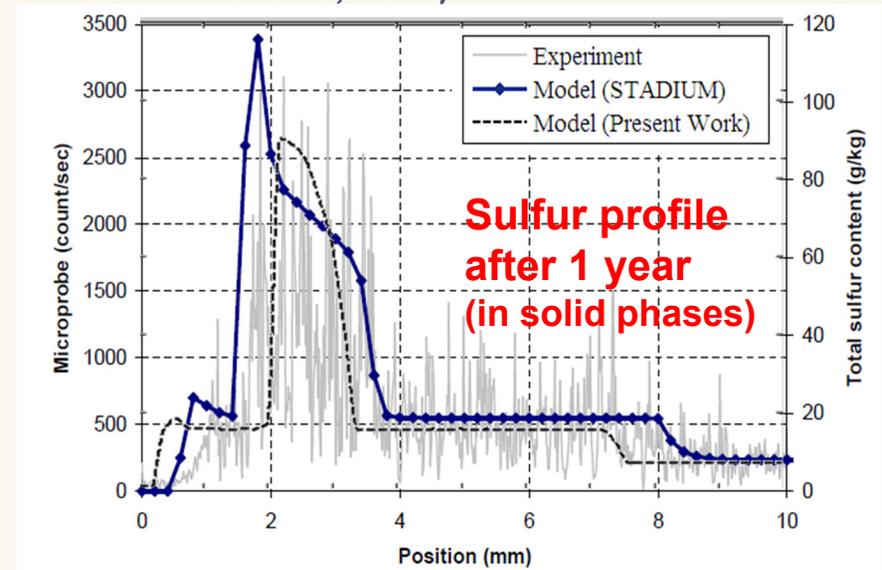
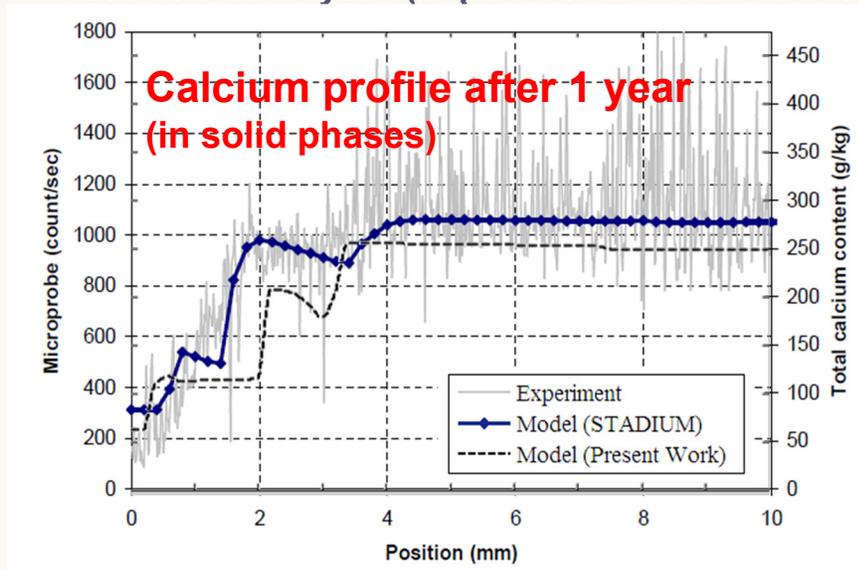
Assistance

# Model Calibration and Validation

- 7 cm x 20 mm CSA type 10 cement paste, porosity = 0.52, one face exposed
- 50 mmol/L of  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  solution at pH 10.3 in 30 L tank renewed every 7 days

- Porosity : 0.52
- Calibration parameter: tortuosity (= 35) and b (= 0.3)

Model calibrated with experimental results after 3 months and validated against experimental results after 1 year (experimental data from Samson and Marchand, 2007)



Consistent with other software which may have different applicabilities

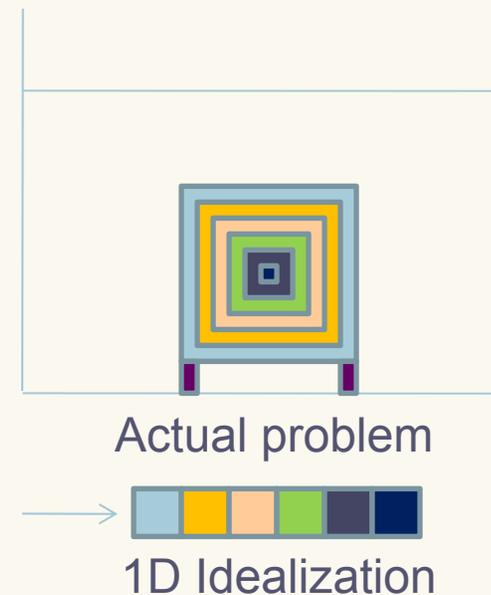
# Examples of Sensitivity Analysis

## Factors Considered

- External solution – concentration of sulfate solution (0.15, 0.25, 0.35, 0.45, 0.55 moles/L)
- Structure – initial porosity (0.15, 0.2, 0.25, 0.3, 0.35, 0.4)
- Types of cement

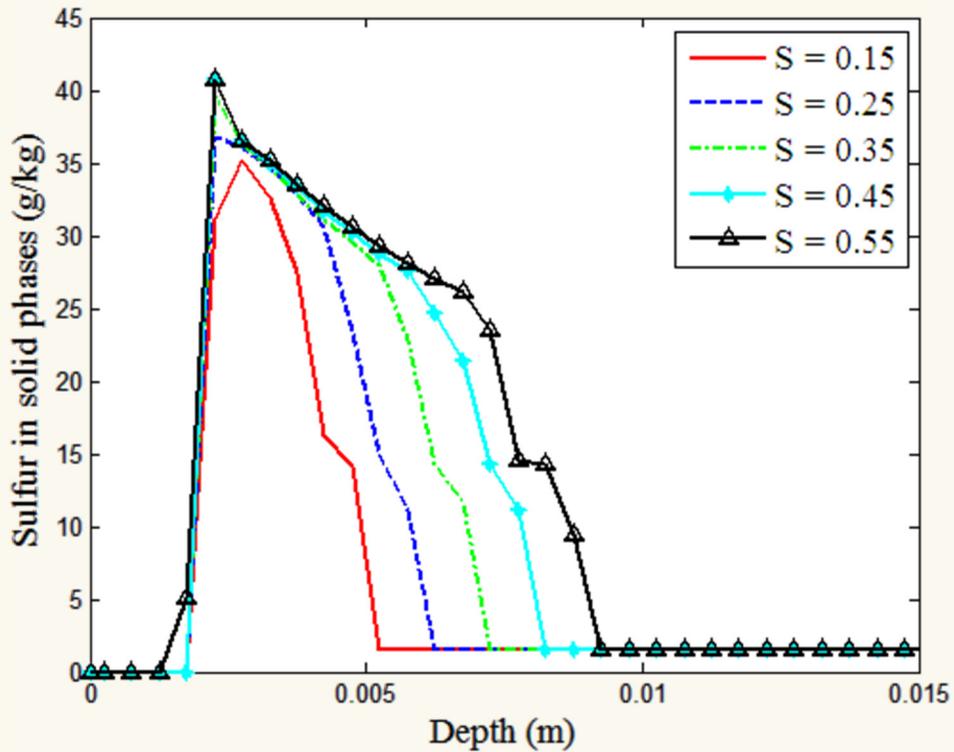
## Simulation Details

- 50 mm x 50 mm x 50 mm US type I sample, all faces exposed
- 350 mmol/L  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  external solution at pH 7
- Porosity : 0.25, tortuosity : 100
- Fraction of available porosity : 0.5
- Mortar - Cement : water : sand (mass ratio) = 1 : 0.5 : 3
- 7 day renewal rate of external solution for 2 years

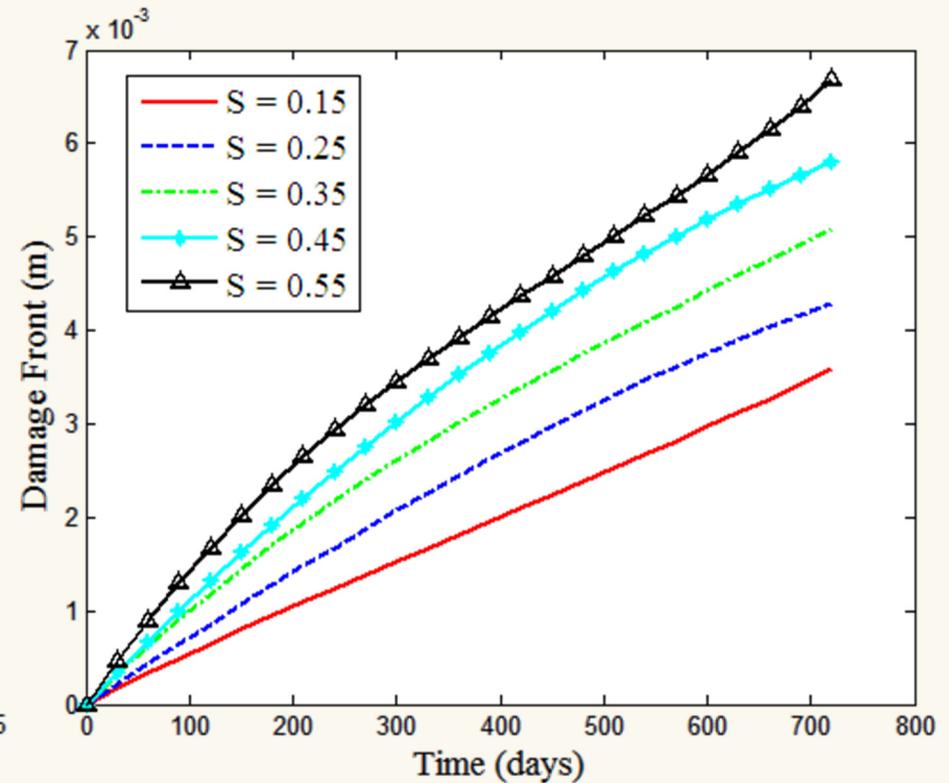


# External Solution Concentration

Sulfur Profile in Solid Phases



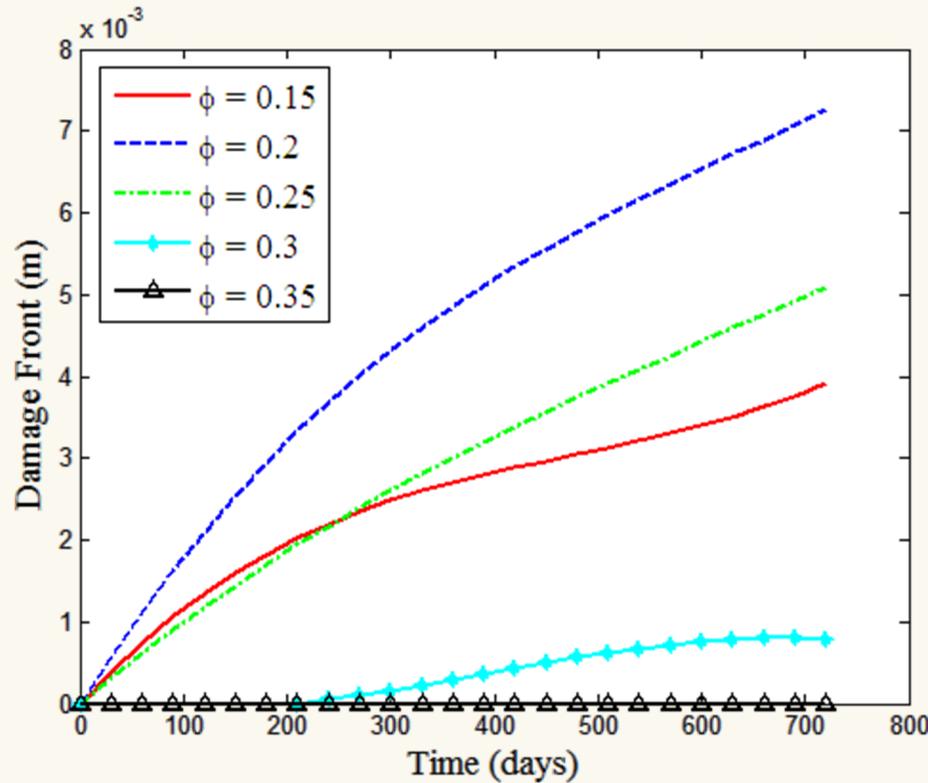
Rate of Damage Progression



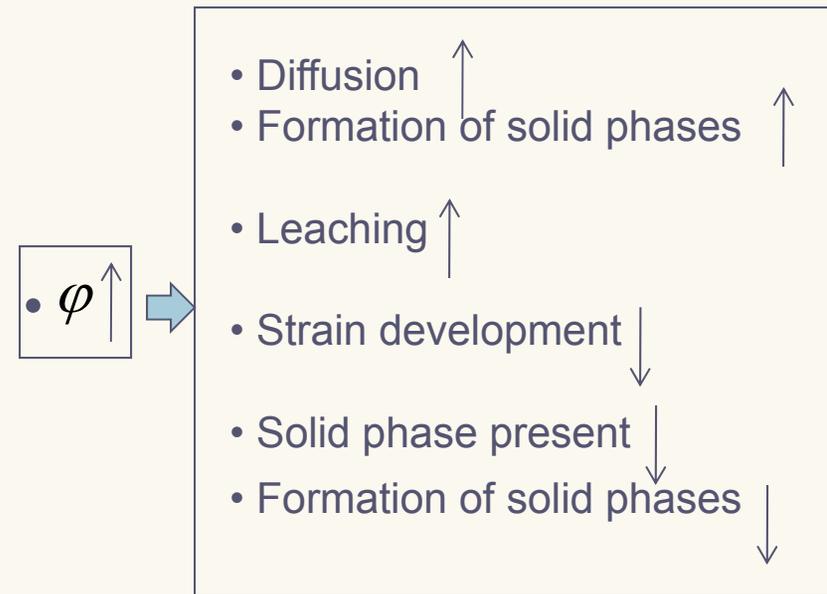
- Rate of damage progression increases with increase in external sulfate solution concentration

# Initial Porosity

Rate of Damage Progression



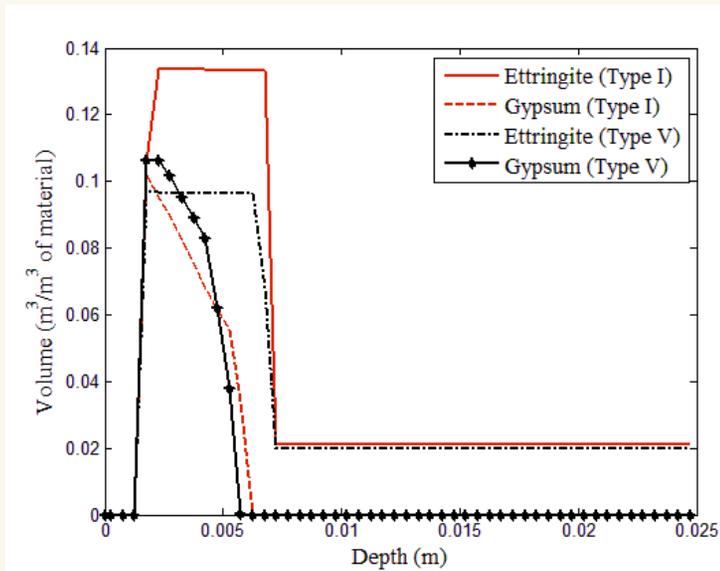
Competing Processes



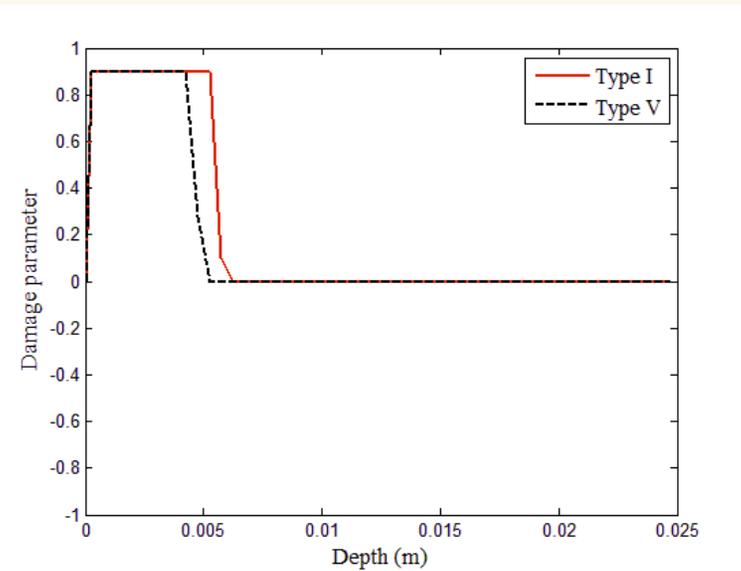
- No direct linear relationship between rate of damage progression and amount of porosity

# Types of Cement

Mineralogical Changes

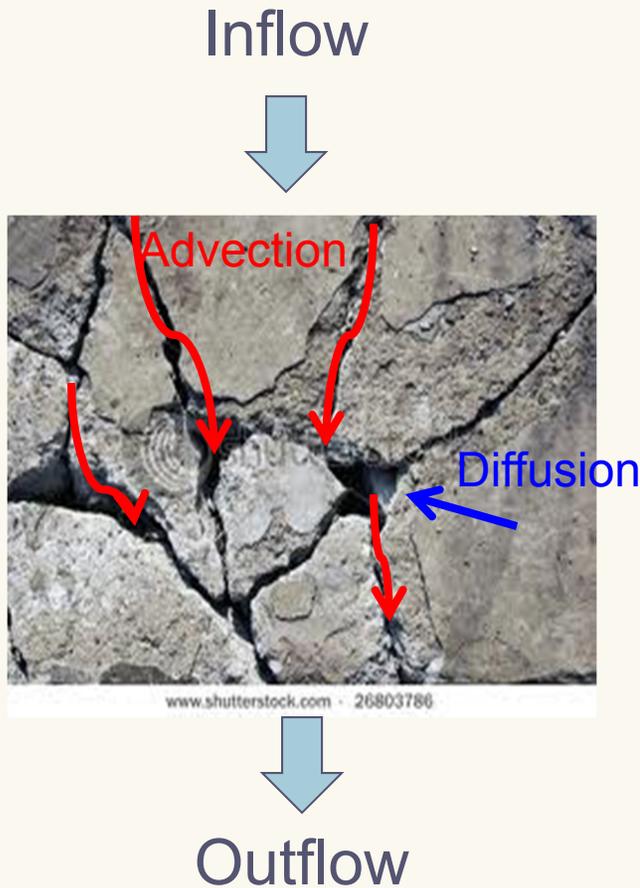


Damage Parameter

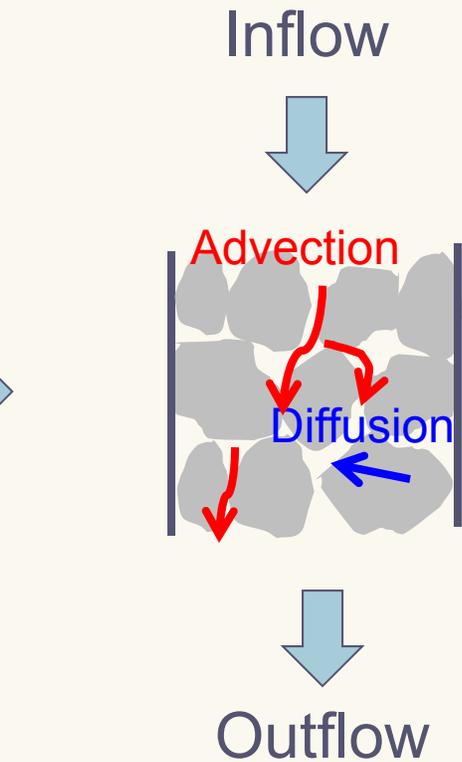
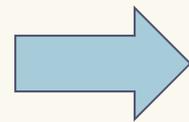


- Damage progression depends on exposure conditions and material properties

# Column Percolation Scenario (M1314)

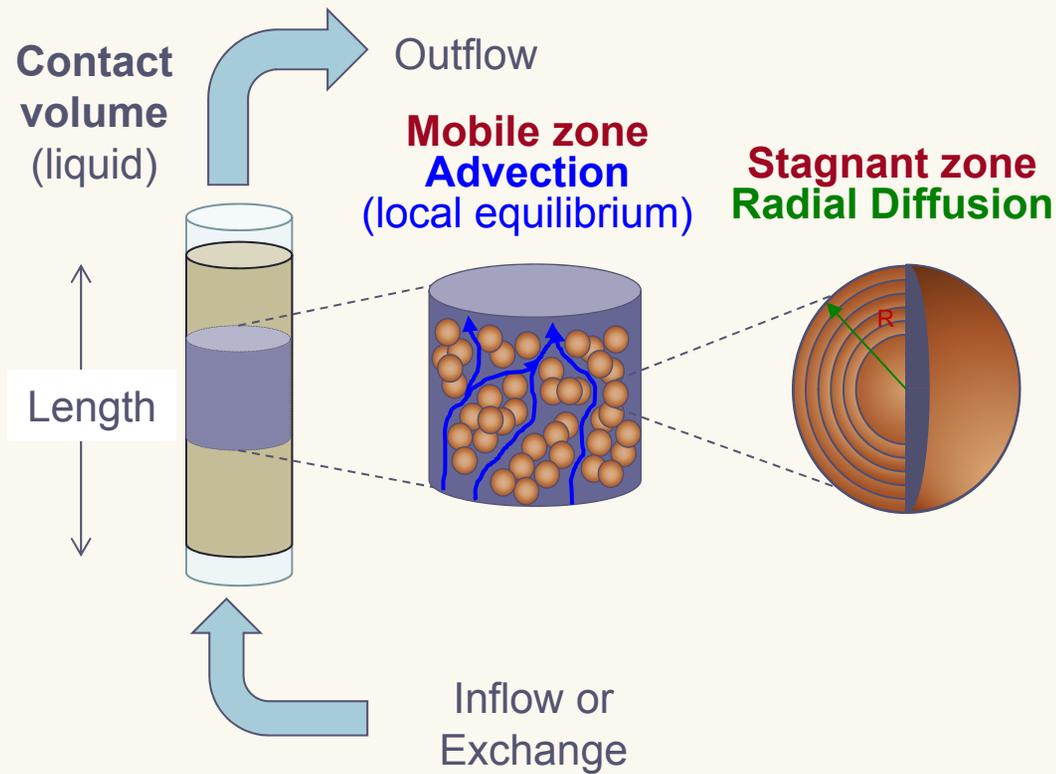


**Actual problem**

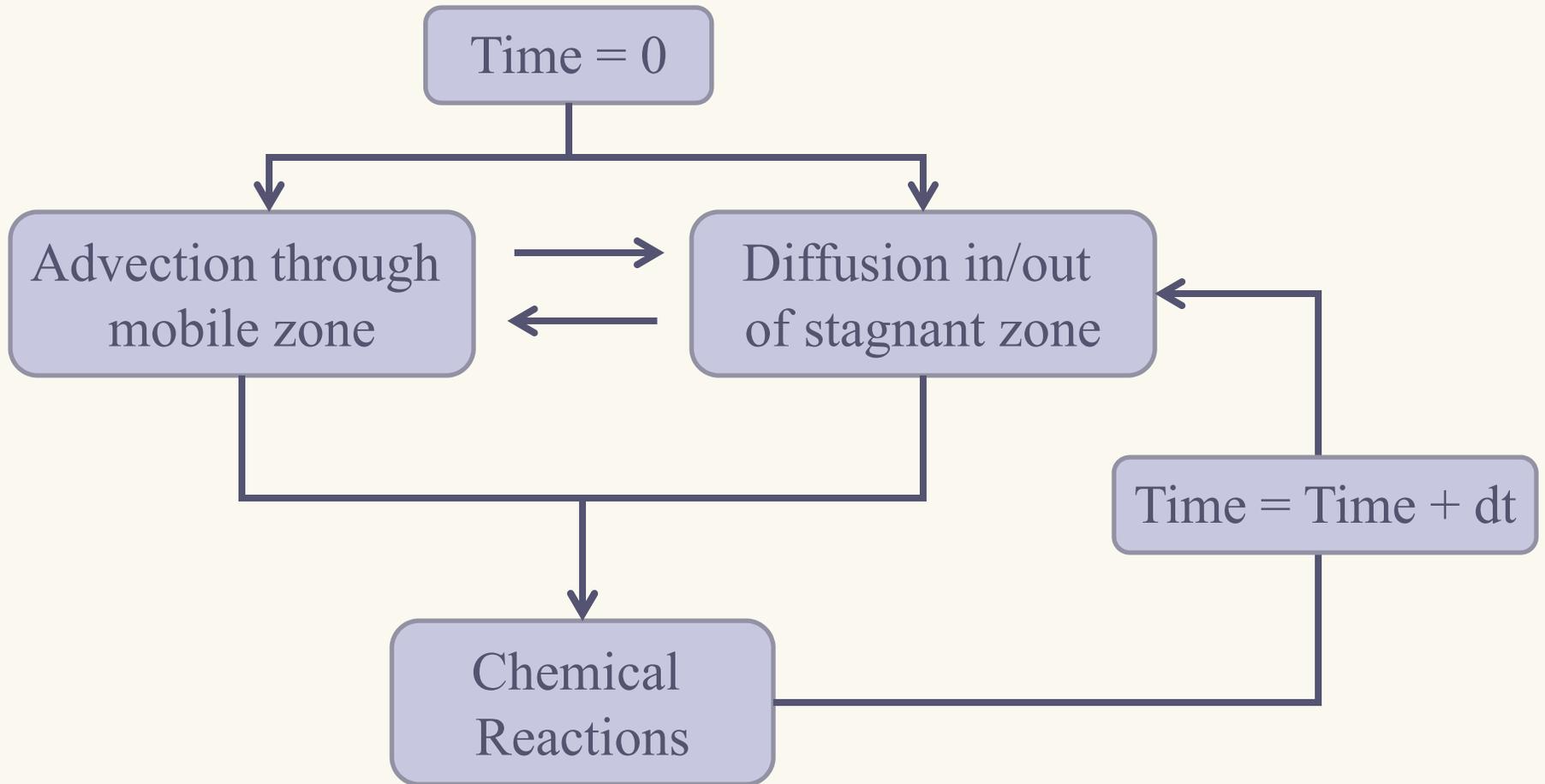


**Packed bed with size reduced/compacted sample**

# Column Percolation Scenario (M1314)



# Column Percolation Model Framework



# Mass Transport Through Dual Regime and Chemical Reactions

## Mass Transport

Diffusion through the spherical particle:

$$\frac{\partial c_m}{\partial t} = \frac{D^m}{r^2} \left( \frac{\partial^2 c_m}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial c_m}{\partial r} \right)$$

Transport through mobile phase:

$$\frac{\partial c_f}{\partial t} = D^f \frac{\partial^2 c_f}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (qc_f) - Q$$

$c_m$  : Concentration in immobile phase

$c_f$  : Concentration in mobile phase

$D^m$  : Effective diffusivity through immobile phase

$D^f$  : Effective diffusivity through mobile phase

$t$  : Time

$q$  : Volumetric water flux density

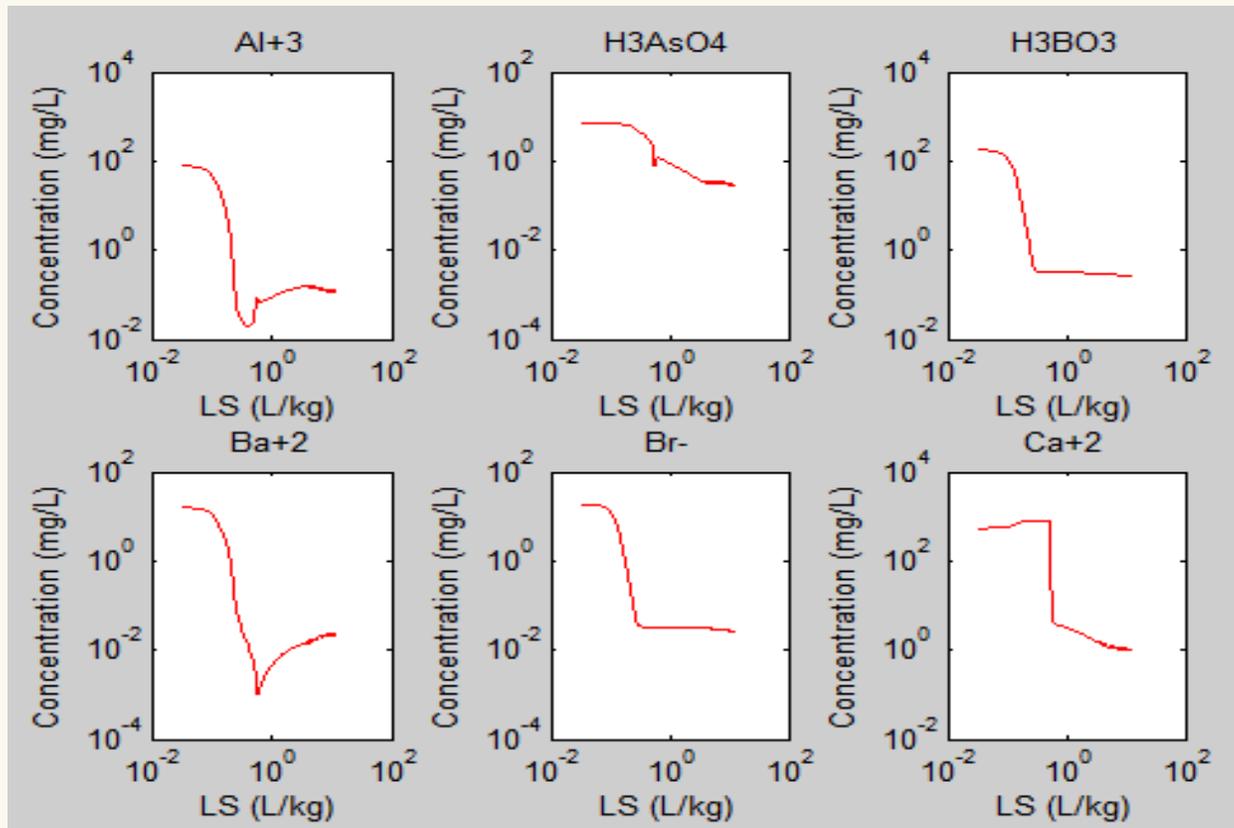
$r$  : Radial direction

$Q$  : Flux density of ions from the spherical particles

## Chemical Reactions

- Potential solid phases: Identified by comparing results of pH-dependent leaching tests and simulations with different solid phase mineral sets using LeachXS/ORCHESTRA (by ECN)

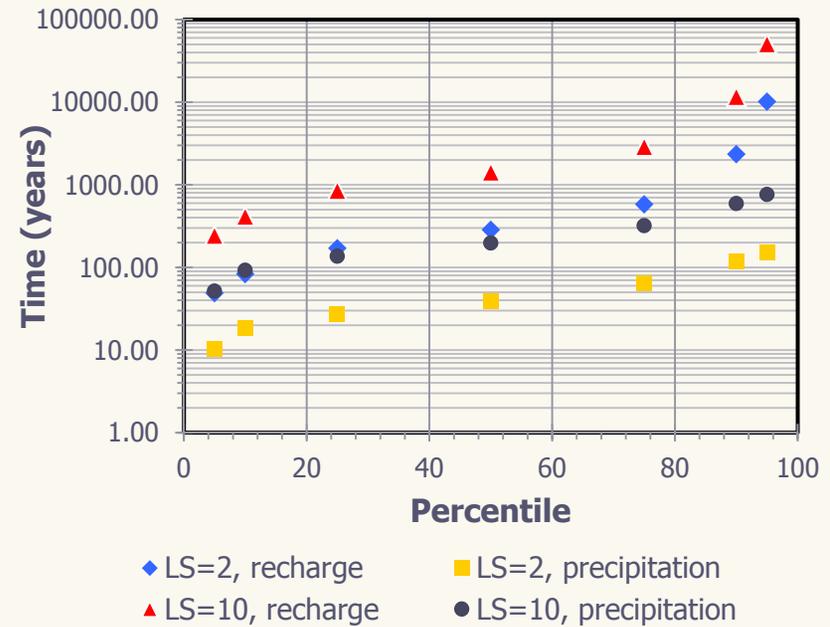
# Column Percolation Scenario (M1314) – Example Outputs



- LS can be converted to equivalent time using site specific information

# National Distribution of Time vs. LS

Percentiles	Time (years) to reach LS = 2		Time (years) to reach LS = 10	
	(Recharge based)	(Precipitation based)	(Recharge based)	(Precipitation based)
5	49	10	244	52
10	83	19	416	92
25	171	27	854	137
50	285	40	1425	198
75	582	64	2910	320
90	2345	119	11710	594
95	10170	153	50870	765



## Information used to generate LS to time

- Site-specific precipitation rates and HELP model generated recharge rates
- Fixed landfill density (U.S. EPA, 2006)
- Site-specific landfill depth

## Summary

- Three main modeling scenarios currently available
  - Monolith leaching (test and prediction cases)
  - Monolith leaching with carbonation and oxidation (prediction case)
  - Leaching with sulfate attack (prediction case)

### Refinements to the current models

- Polynomial meshing scheme implementation for the prediction cases
  - 3-layer (waste-cement barrier-soil) implementation
- New modeling scenarios being implemented
    - Dual regime percolation (test and prediction cases)

## Significance of CBP Modeling Scenarios

- Applicability:
  - Evaluation of waste forms and treatment process effectiveness
  - Concrete vault durability and radionuclide release
  - Source term for contaminated soils/vadose zone and waste disposal scenarios
  - HLW tank integrity analysis and closure
- Flexible framework that can be easily modified to reflect various testing and field conditions
- Can be compared with available test results from the database of a large selection of materials
- Useful framework for designing future structures and maintenance scheduling for existing structures