

Computational Materials Science and Engineering of Concrete: Computational rheology and pumping of concrete

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Warm-up Questions

What is the most consumed substance in the world?

What is the second most consumed substance in the world?

What is the most consumed man-made material in the world?

Warm-up Questions



Hoover Dam (Since 1936)



Three Gorges Dam (Since 2003)

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Hoover-Dam#/media/1/271416/213566>

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Three-Gorges-Dam#/media/1/593760/113950> (Access Date: November 10, 2022)

Warm-up Questions

What is the most consumed substance in the world?

Water

What is the second most consumed substance in the world?

Concrete

What is the most consumed man-made material in the world?

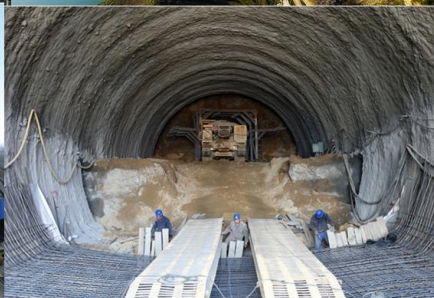
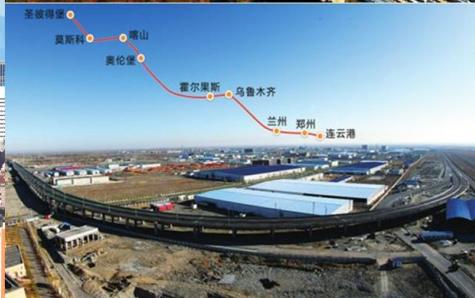
Concrete

Worldwide, over ten billion tons of concrete are being produced each year.

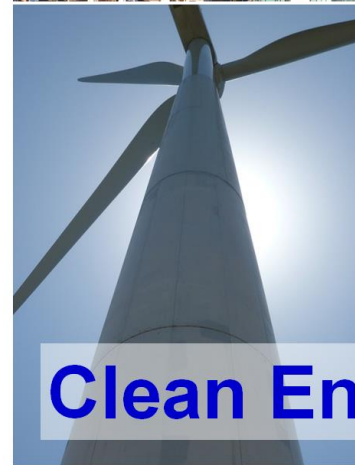
Urbanization



Transportation



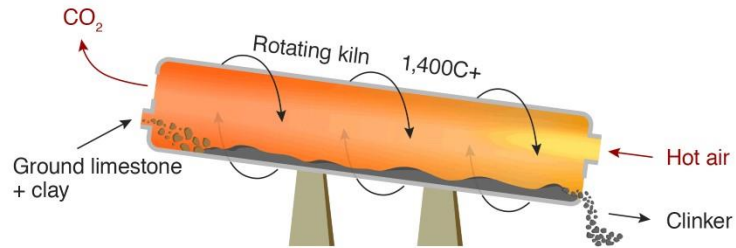
Clean Energy



Environment

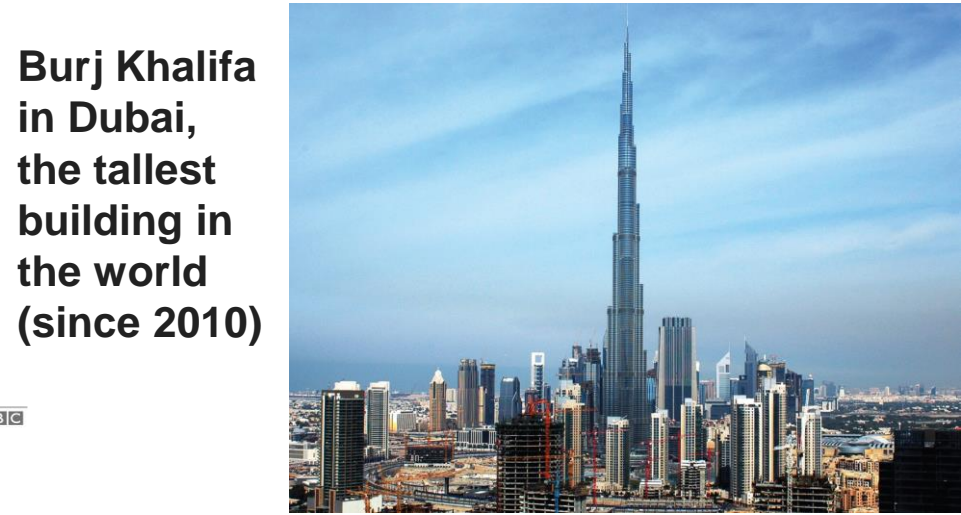
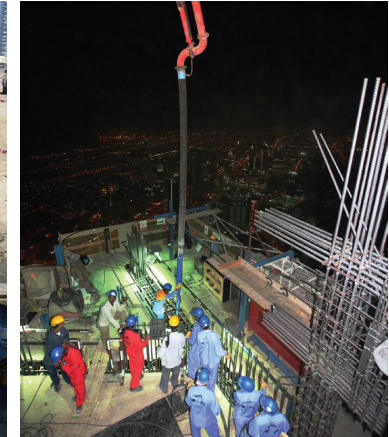
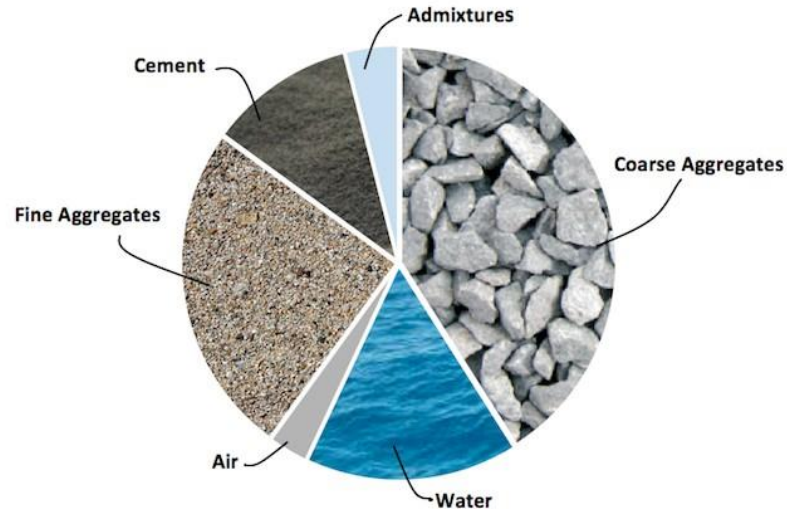


How cement is made

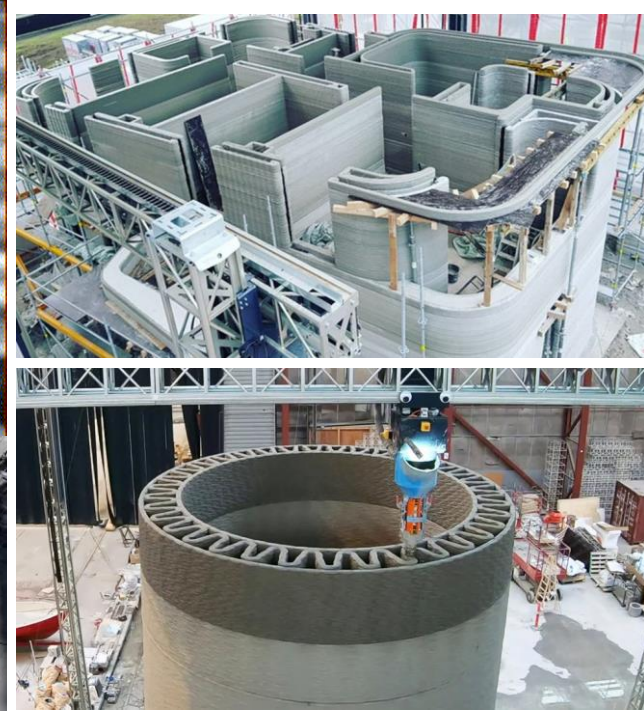


Source: Carbon Brief, Chatham House

BBC



**Burj Khalifa
in Dubai,
the tallest
building in
the world
(since 2010)**



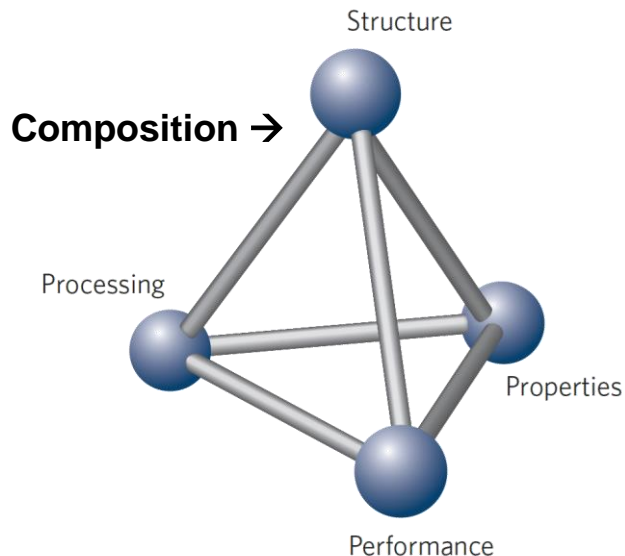
Pumping of Concrete 3D Concrete Pumping

Burj Khalifa set new standards for reinforced-concrete construction, but there is no room for complacency in future projects.

Aldred, J. (2010, May). Burj Khalifa—a new high for high-performance concrete. In Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers-Civil Engineering (Vol. 163, No. 2, pp. 66-73). Thomas Telford Ltd.

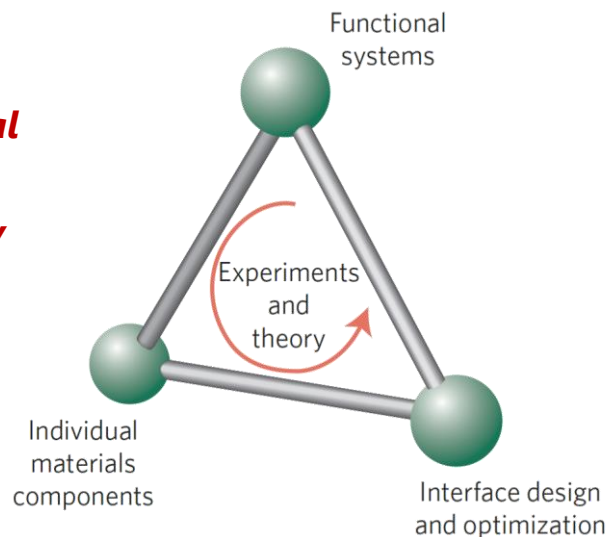
Materials Science and Engineering of Concrete

The traditional materials science tetrahedron



The emerging systems materials engineering triangle

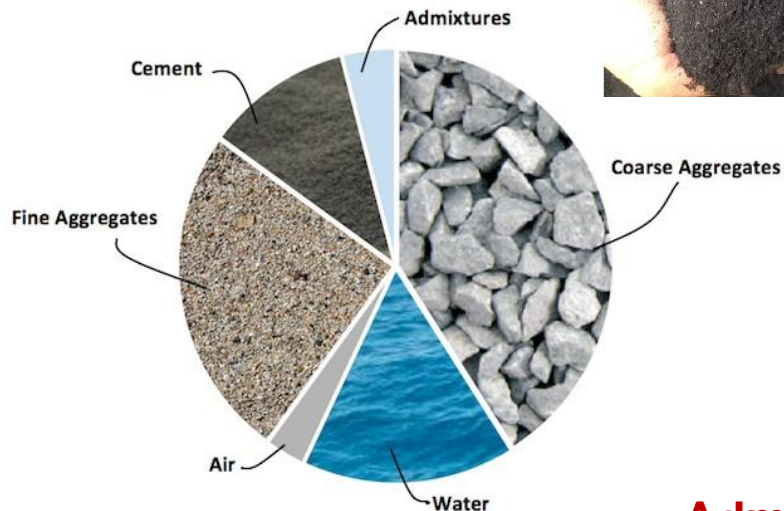
"System-level planning of theoretical and experimental efforts is increasingly important for the development of modern materials science."



Materials Science and Engineering of Concrete

Admixtures

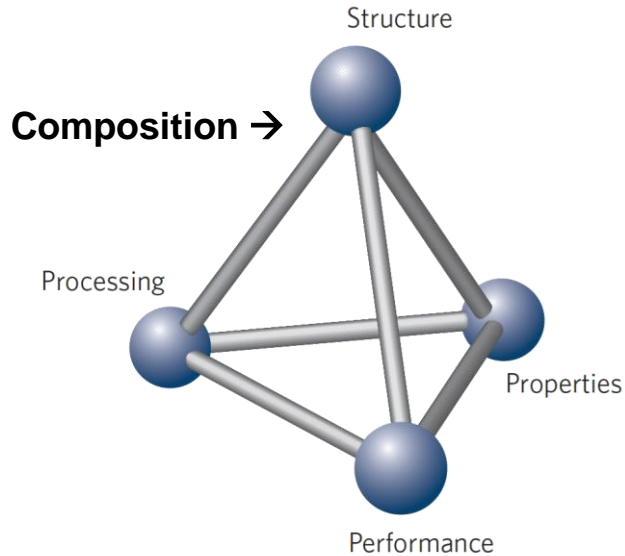
- Mineral admixtures
- Chemical admixtures



Admixtures in concrete are like spices in food.

Computational Materials Science and Engineering of Concrete

The traditional materials science tetrahedron

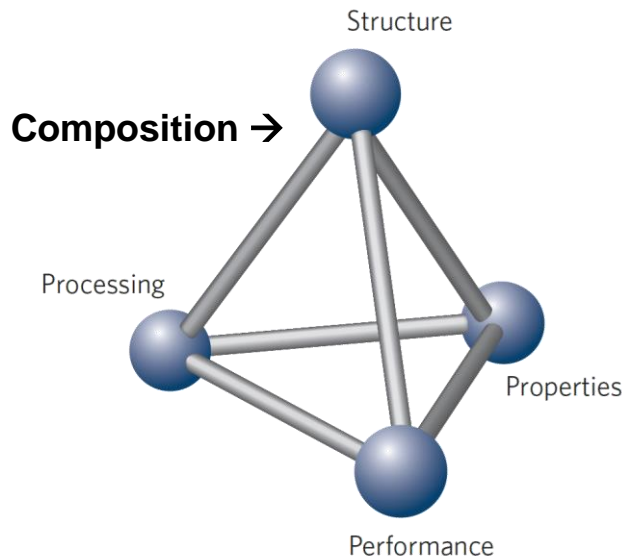


Selected Topics for Computational Studies

- Design of chemical admixtures
- Mix design
- Composition → Processing → Structure → Properties → Performance (PSPP) relationships
- Influences of temperature, humidity, and other environmental factors
- Improvement of concrete processability (workability)
- Improvement of concrete durability
- Life Cycle Assessments (LCA)
- Service life prediction

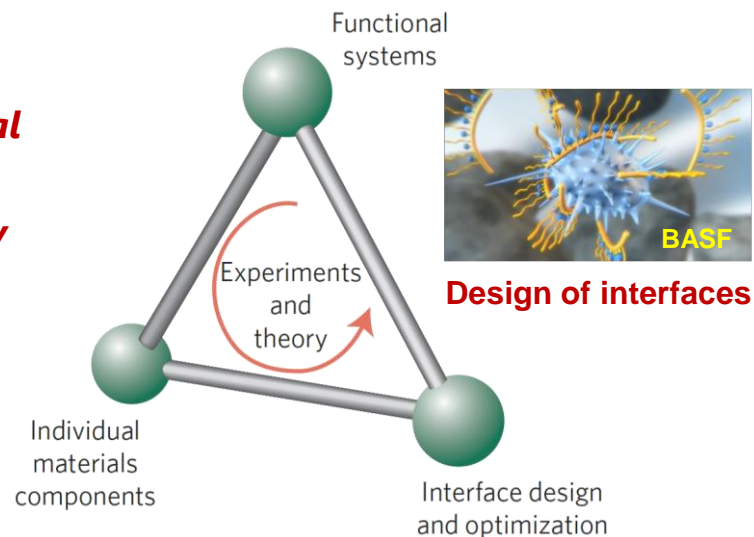
Computational Materials Science and Engineering of Concrete

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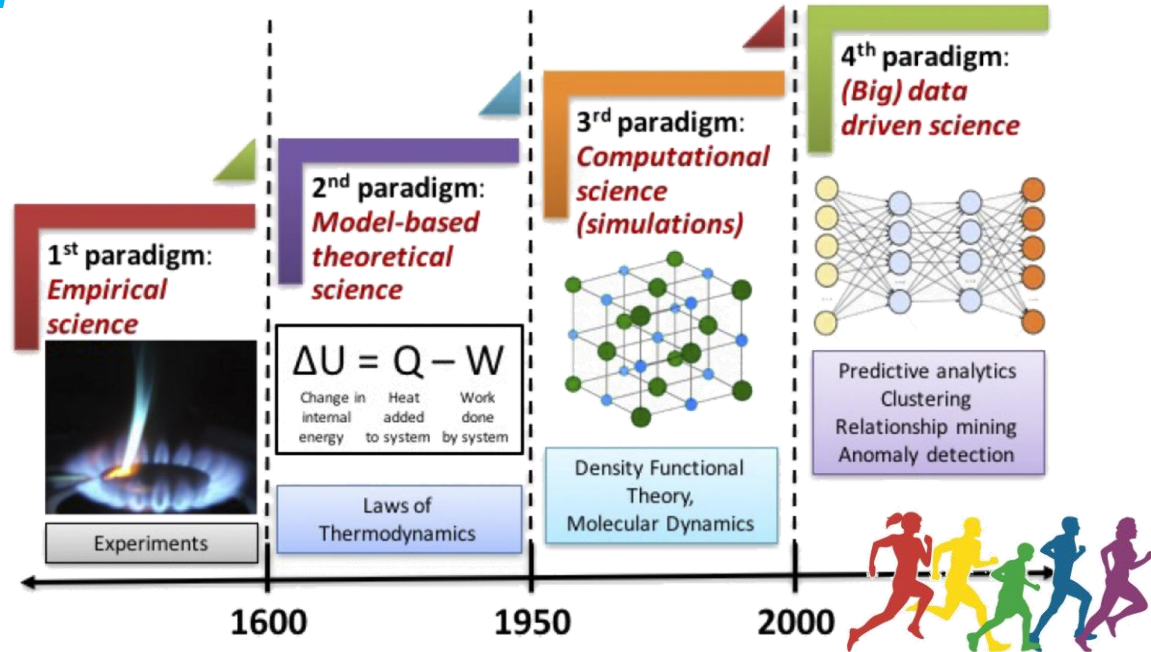


Computational Materials Science and Engineering of Concrete

The four paradigms of science: empirical, theoretical, computational, and data-driven

Agrawal, A., & Choudhary, A. (2016). Perspective: Materials informatics and big data: Realization of the “fourth paradigm” of science in materials science. *Apl Materials*, 4(5), 053208.

<https://doi.org/10.1063/1.4946894>

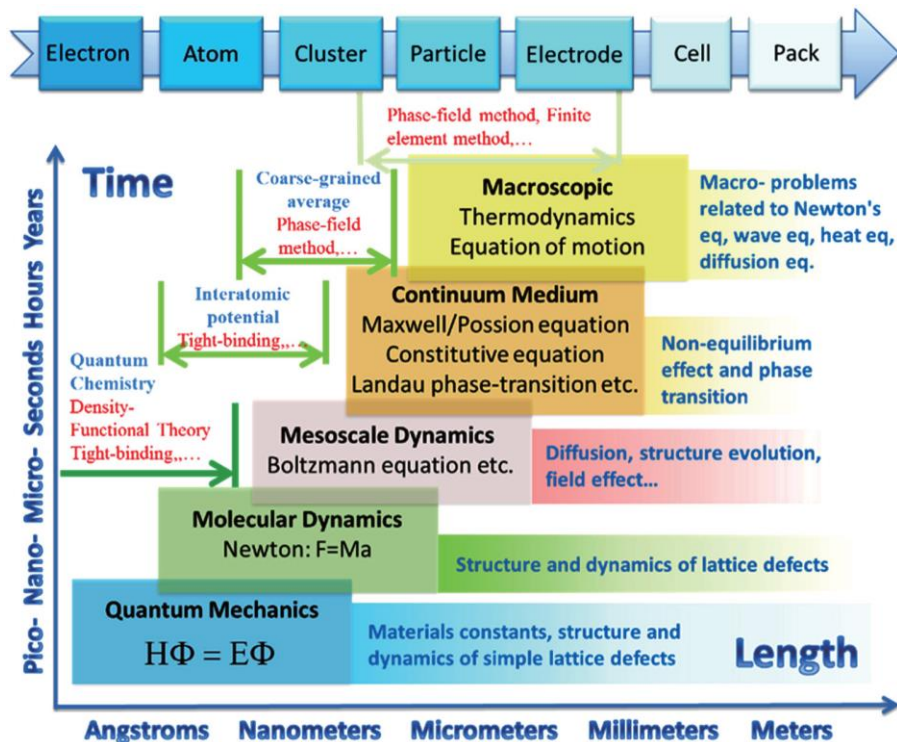


Computational Materials Science and Engineering of Concrete

Multi-scale & Multi-physics-based Modelling

Shi et al. (2015). Multi-scale computation methods: Their applications in lithium-ion battery research and development. Chinese Physics B, 25(1), 018212.

<https://doi.org/10.1088/1674-1056/25/1/018212>



Computational Rheology of Concrete



NAZARBAYEV
UNIVERSITY

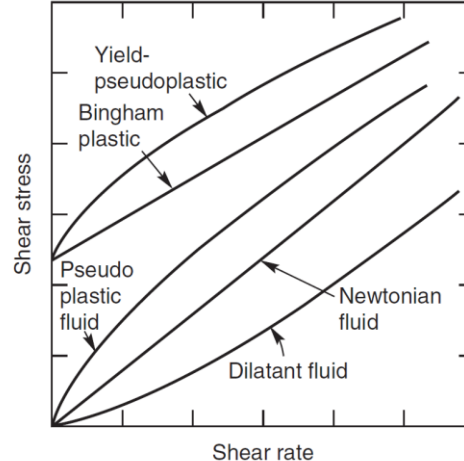
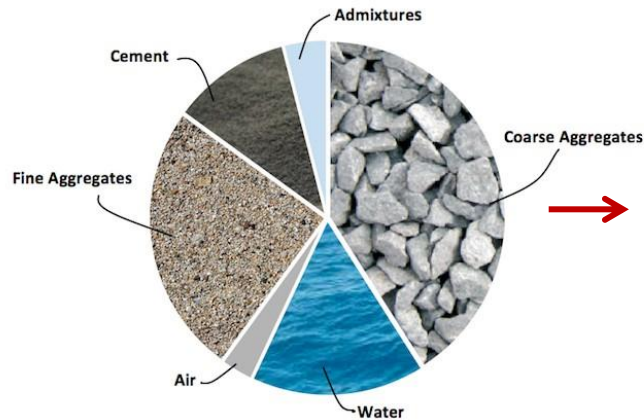
Rheology

rheo: 'flow'; -logy: 'study of'

Wikipedia:

- Rheology is the study of the flow of matter
- Rheology deals with the deformation and flow of materials

Given composition, can we **compute** the rheological properties of concrete?



Rheology of Concrete

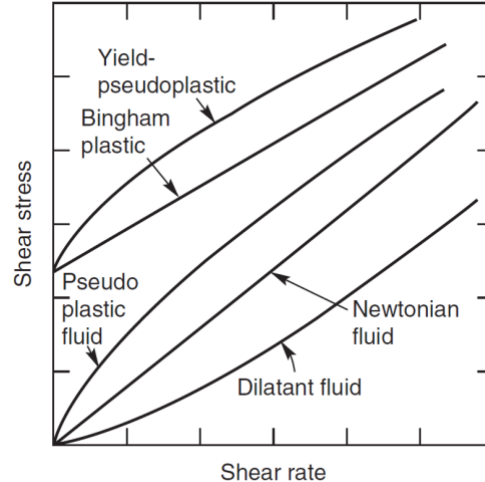
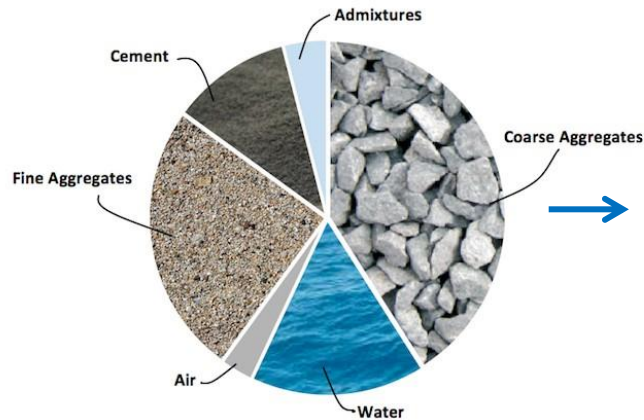
Rheology

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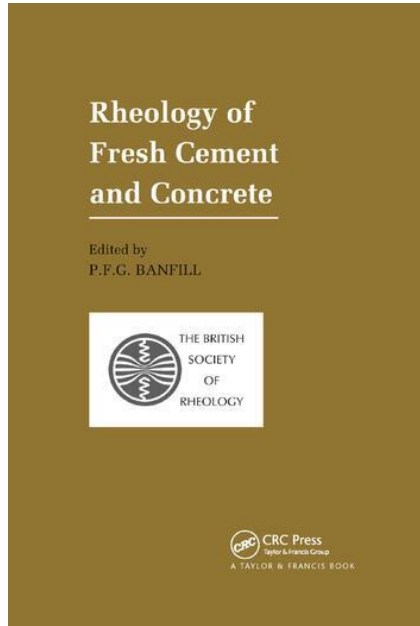
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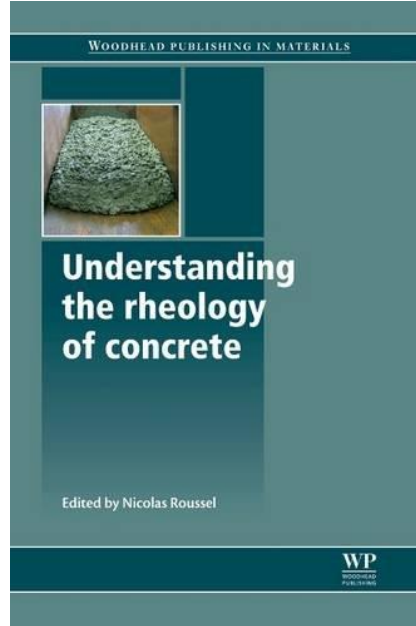
Given composition, can we **measure** the rheological properties of concrete?



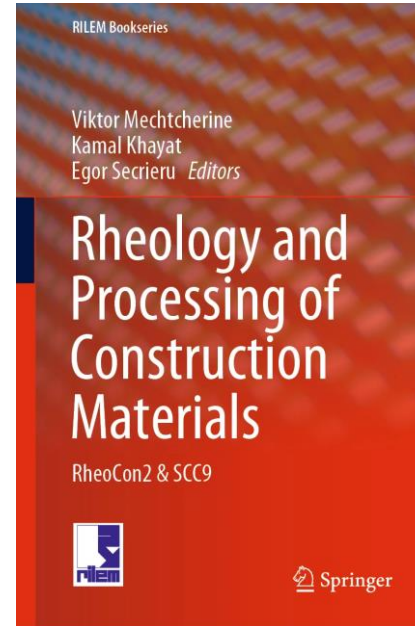
Rheology of Concrete



Rheology of Fresh Cement and Concrete,
Edited By P.F.G. Banfill, 1990



Understanding the Rheology of Concrete,
Edited by Nicolas Roussel, 2016



Rheology and Processing of Construction Materials,
RheoCon2 & SCC9, Edited by Viktor Mechtcherine, Kamal Khayat, Egor Secieru, 2020



Rheology of Fresh Cement-Based Materials Fundamentals, Measurements, and Applications.

By Qiang Yuan, Caijun Shi, Dengwu Jiao. 2023

Rheology of Concrete

Cement and Concrete Research 41 (2011) 1279–1288



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Cement and Concrete Research

journal homepage: <http://ees.elsevier.com/CEMCON/default.asp>



Rheology as a tool in concrete science: The use of rheographs and workability boxes

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^a ICI Rheocenter, Reykjavik University, Innovation Center Iceland, Keldnaholti, IS-112 Reykjavik, Iceland

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Fresh concrete (A)
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ABSTRACT

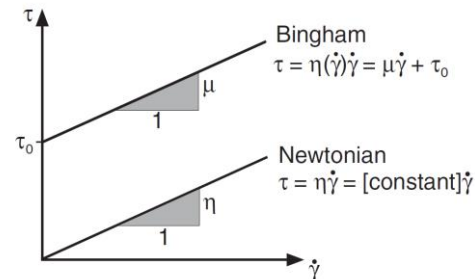
Rheology can supply valuable and practical information regarding the properties of fresh concrete, how to reach an optimization of the product and how to attain it by the use of rheograph. Otherwise, the optimization is largely based on feeling. The rheograph reveals in a systematical way the effects of diverse changes on the rheological behavior of the cement based suspension and thus is a convenient and essential tool to compare different concrete types and examine the behavior relative to changed quantities of constituents. Effects of many admixtures as well as the basic constituents of fresh concrete have been revealed in rheographs. In principle the effect of two or more constituents can be added in a rheograph to estimate the combined effect, which constitutes a so-called vectorized-rheograph approach.

Different applications and types of concrete like slipform, underwater, and high strength, are described by workability boxes. New rheograph with boxes for various types of self compacting concrete is proposed.

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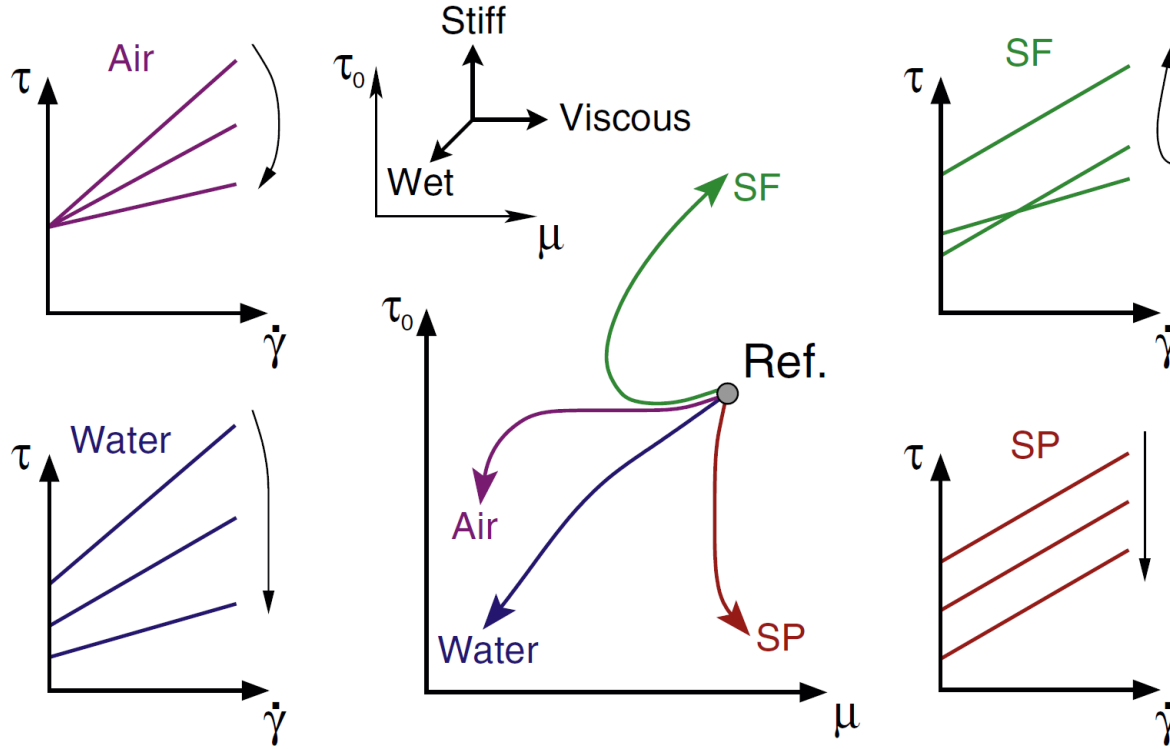
Bingham Model

- Yield stress: τ_0
- Plastic viscosity: μ



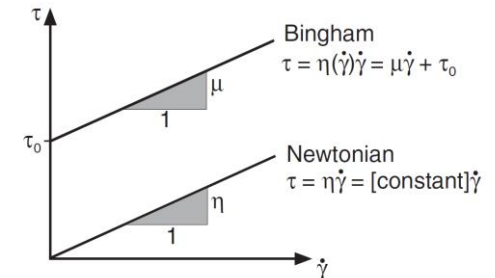
Rheology of Concrete: Rheograph

O.H. Wallevik, J.E. Wallevik / Cement and Concrete Research 41 (2011) 1279–1288

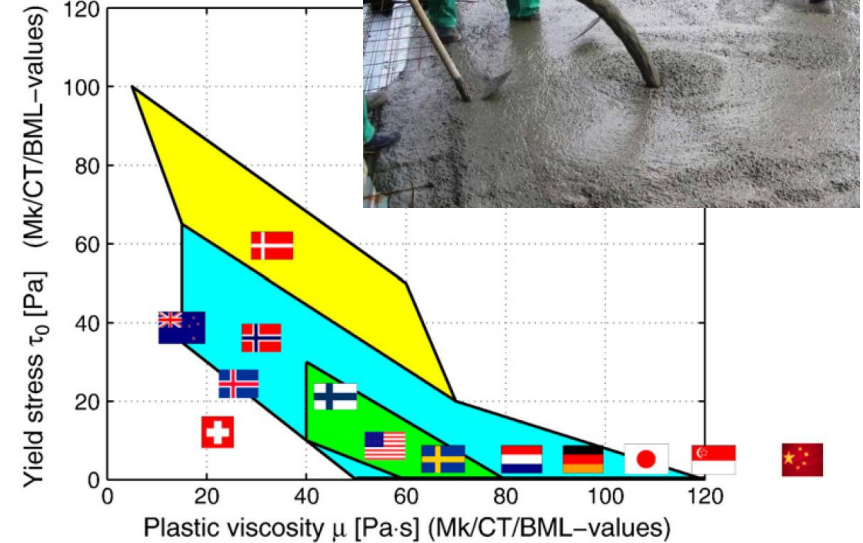
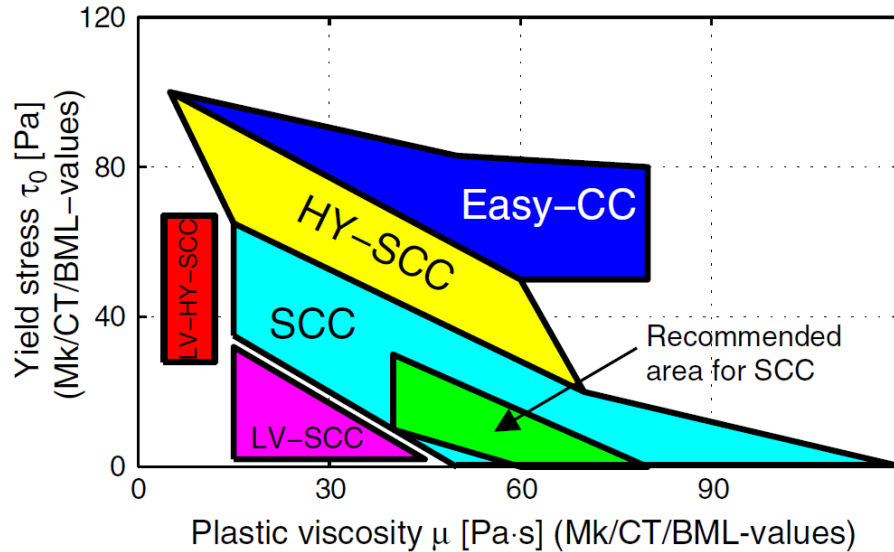


Bingham Model

- **Yield stress:** τ_0
- **Plastic viscosity:** μ



Rheology of Concrete: Rheograph



CVC = Conventional vibrated concrete; SCC = Self-Compacting Concrete (Self-consolidating concrete);
Easy-CC = East compacting concrete; HY-SCC = High yield SCC; LV-SCC = Low-viscous SCC
LV-HY-SCC = Low-viscous high-yield SCC

Rheology of Concrete

Why is fresh self-compacting concrete shear thickening?

[D Feys](#), R Verhoeven, G De Schutter - **Cement and concrete** Research, 2009 - Elsevier

... Results on **cement** pastes prove that the grain inertia theory is not the main ... of **shear thickening** in **self-compacting concrete**. The influence of several parameters on the **shear thickening** ...

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Fresh self compacting concrete, a shear thickening material

[D Feys](#), R Verhoeven, G De Schutter - **Cement and Concrete** Research, 2008 - Elsevier

... of **concrete** have been investigated thoroughly, resulting in a simple description, in steady state, by means of the Bingham model. **Self compacting concrete** ... – or **shear thickening** – in the ...

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... type **self-compacting concrete** in a wide-gap concentric cylinder rheometer:
Part II. Influence of mineral additions and chemical admixtures on the **shear thickening** ...

G Heirman, R Hendrickx, [L Vandewalle](#)... - **Cement and Concrete** ..., 2009 - Elsevier

... the **shear thickening** effect ... **shear thickening**. The limestone, quartzite and fly ash addition used in this research project, respectively increase, unalter and decrease the **shear thickening** ...

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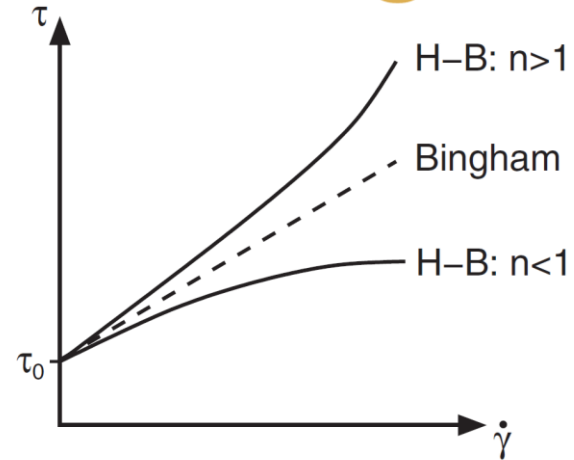
Extension of the Poiseuille formula for shear-thickening materials and application to Self-Compacting Concrete

[D Feys](#), R Verhoeven, G De Schutter - **Applied Rheology**, 2008 - degruyter.com

... derivation of the Poiseuille formula for **shear thickening** liquids with a yield stress, like SCC.

... be verified further in this paper whether they are valid in case of **SelfCompacting Concrete**. ...

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Bingham Model (1917)

$$\begin{cases} \tau = \tau_0 + \mu_p \dot{\gamma} & \text{for } \tau > \tau_0 \\ \dot{\gamma} = 0 & \text{for } \tau \leq \tau_0 \end{cases}$$

Herschel–Bulkley Model (1926)

$$\begin{cases} \tau = \tau_0 + K \dot{\gamma}^n & \text{for } \tau > \tau_0 \\ \dot{\gamma} = 0 & \text{for } \tau \leq \tau_0 \end{cases}$$

Rheology of Concrete

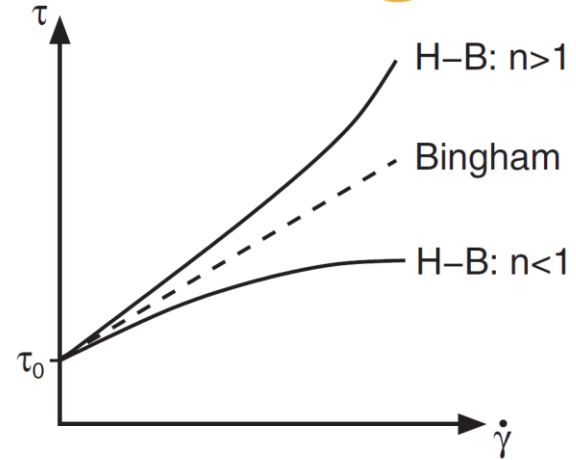
Modified Bingham Model (Yahia2001, Feys2007)

$$\begin{cases} \tau = \tau_0 + \mu_p \dot{\gamma} + A_2 \dot{\gamma}^2 & \text{for } \tau > \tau_0 \\ \dot{\gamma} = 0 & \text{for } \tau \leq \tau_0 \end{cases}$$

“Generalized Bingham” Model: A four-parameter model (Our work; Under review)

$$\begin{cases} \tau = \tau_0 + \mu_p \dot{\gamma} + K \dot{\gamma}^n & \text{for } \tau > \tau_0 \\ \dot{\gamma} = 0 & \text{for } \tau \leq \tau_0 \end{cases}$$

Zhaidarbek, Balnur and Tleubek, Aruzhan and Berdibek, Galymbek and Wang, Yanwei, Analytical Predictions of Concrete Pumping: Extending the Khatib-Khayat Model to Herschel-Bulkley and Modified Bingham Fluids. Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=4188701> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4188701>



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$$\begin{cases} \tau = \tau_0 + K \dot{\gamma}^n & \text{for } \tau > \tau_0 \\ \dot{\gamma} = 0 & \text{for } \tau \leq \tau_0 \end{cases}$$

Table 1. Some special cases of the generalized Bingham model proposed by Zhaidarbek *et al.* [32].

The constitutive equation corresponds to $\tau \geq \tau_0$.

Fluid type	Constitutive model	Rheological parameters			
		τ_0	μ_p	K	n
Newtonian	$\tau = \mu \dot{\gamma}$	0	μ	0	0
Power-law [36,37]	$\tau = K \dot{\gamma}^n$	0	0	K	n
Sisko [38]	$\tau = \mu_p \dot{\gamma} + K \dot{\gamma}^n$	0	μ_p	K	n
Bingham	$\tau = \tau_0 + \mu_p \dot{\gamma}$	τ_0	μ_p	0	0
Casson	$\sqrt{\tau} = \sqrt{\tau_0} + \sqrt{\mu_p \dot{\gamma}}$	τ_0	μ_p	$2\sqrt{\tau_0 \mu_p}$	1/2
Herschel–Bulkley	$\tau = \tau_0 + K \dot{\gamma}^n$	τ_0	0	K	n
modified Bingham	$\tau_0 + \mu_p \dot{\gamma} + A_2 \dot{\gamma}^2$	τ_0	μ_p	A_2	2
Caggioni <i>et al.</i> [33]	$\tau = \tau_0 + \mu_p \dot{\gamma} + K \dot{\gamma}^{1/2}$	τ_0	μ_p	K	1/2

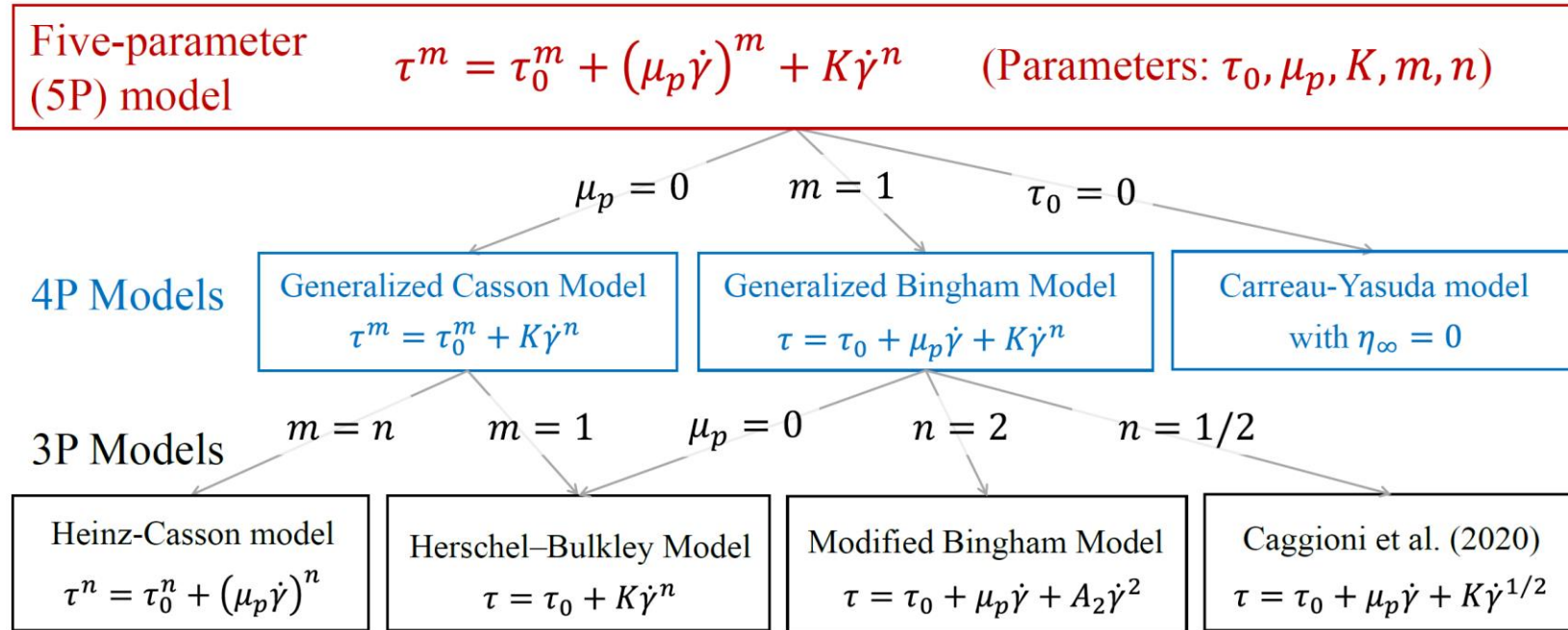


Figure 1. Schematic representation of the relations between the different rheological models investigated in this work.

Five-parameter
(5P) model

$$\tau^m = \tau_0^m + (\mu_p \dot{\gamma})^m + K \dot{\gamma}^n \quad (\text{Parameters: } \tau_0, \mu_p, K, m, n)$$

Question 1: Can those model parameters be measured in experiments?

Question 2: Can those models be used for anything?

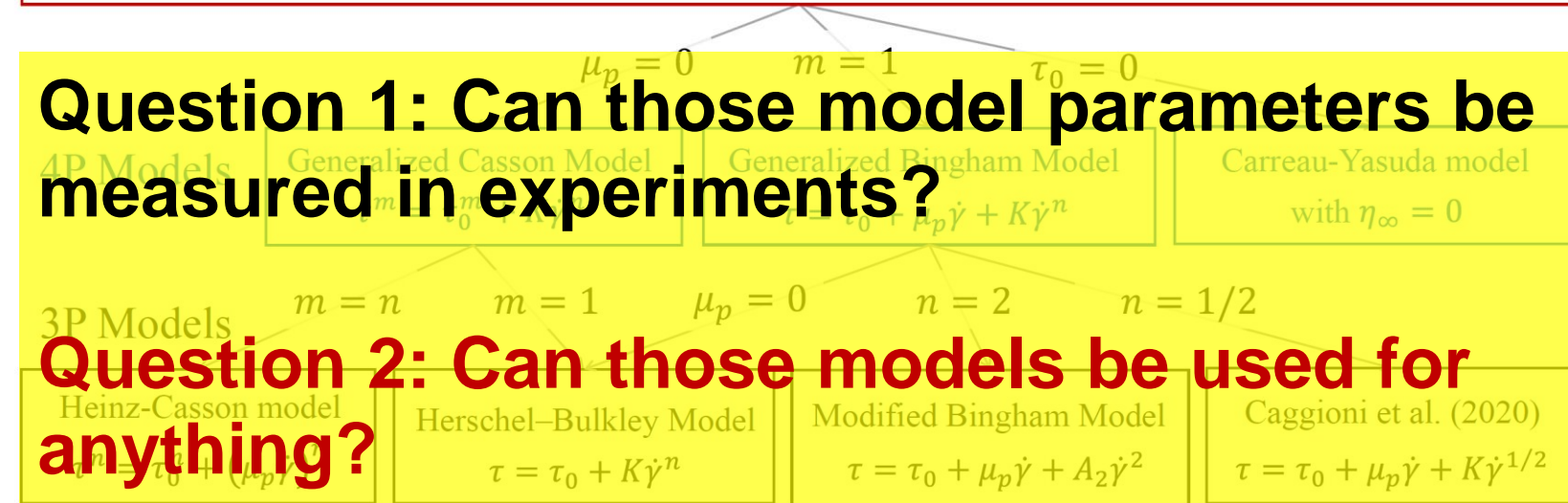
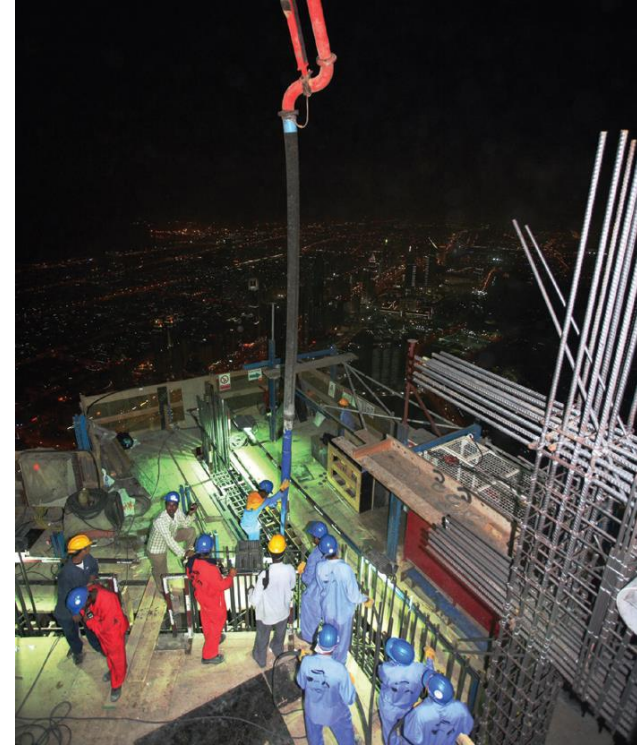


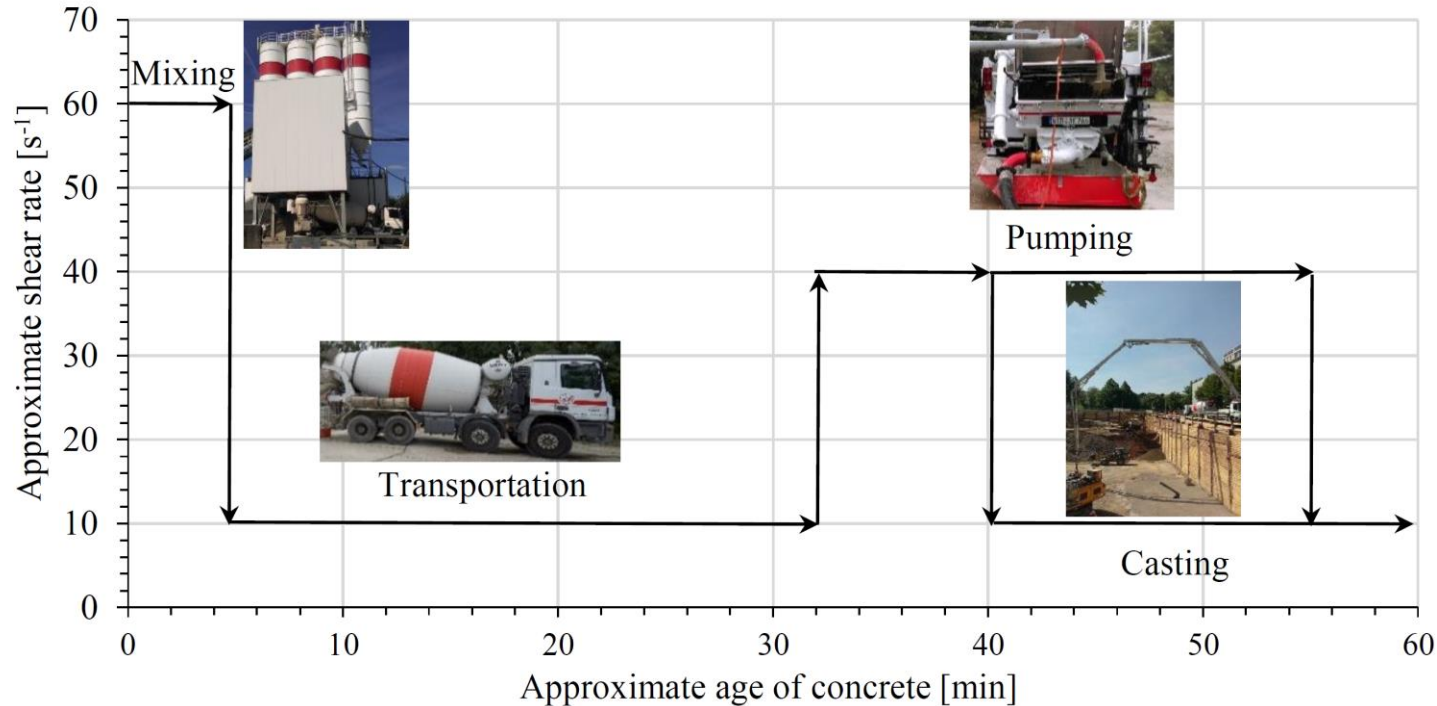
Figure 1. Schematic representation of the relations between the different rheological models investigated in this work.

Pumping of Concrete



Aldred, J. (2010, May). Burj Khalifa—a new high for high-performance concrete. In Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers-Civil Engineering (Vol. 163, No. 2, pp. 66-73). Thomas Telford Ltd.

Pumping of Concrete



Secieru, Egor. (2018). Pumping behaviour of modern concretes—Characterisation and prediction (Doctoral dissertation, Technische Universität Dresden). <http://nbn-resolving.de/urn:nbn:de:bsz:14-qucosa-234912>

Pumping of Concrete

RILEM Technical Letters (2016) 1: 76 – 80
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.21809/rilemtechlett.2016.15>



Prof. Dr. Ir. Geert DE SCHUTTER



Dimitri Feys

Pumping of Fresh Concrete: Insights and Challenges

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^a Magnel Laboratory for Concrete Research, Department of Structural Engineering, Ghent University, Belgium

^b Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering, Missouri University of Science and Technology, MO, United States

Received: 22 September 2016 / Accepted: 10 November 2016 / Published online: 25 November 2016
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Challenges

- (1) **Formation of *lubrication layer*** in high-performance concrete
- (2) **Test methods** for evaluation of pumpability of fresh concrete
- (3) Bends and reducers
- (4) Changes in concrete properties due to pumping
- (5) Active control

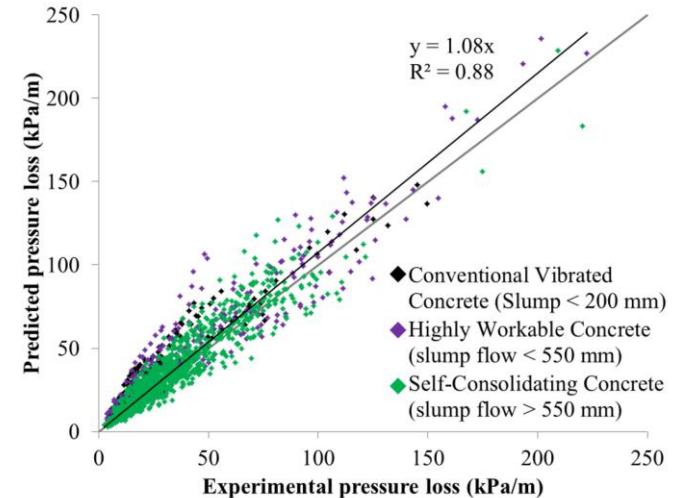


Figure 1. Pumping pressure is well predicted based on Kaplan's model [14], based on tribology and rheology measurements on different types of concrete. Figure modified from [24].

^d Materials and Structural Systems Division, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, United States

Formation of Lubrication Layer

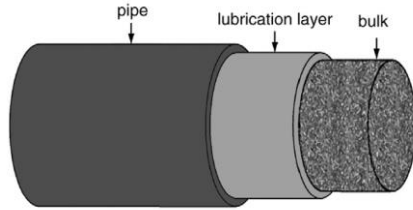
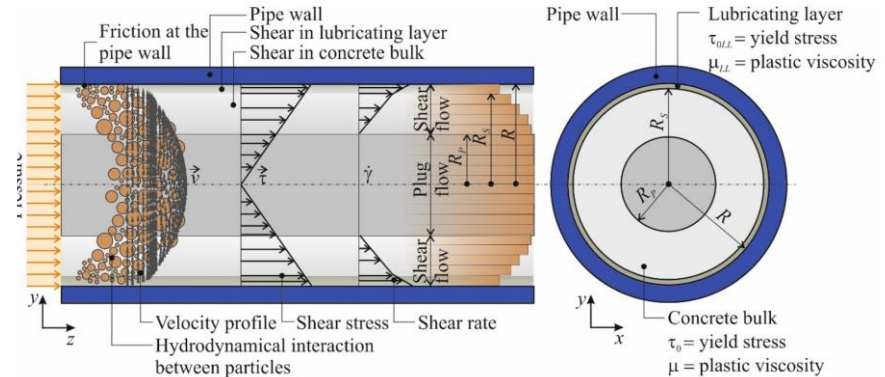
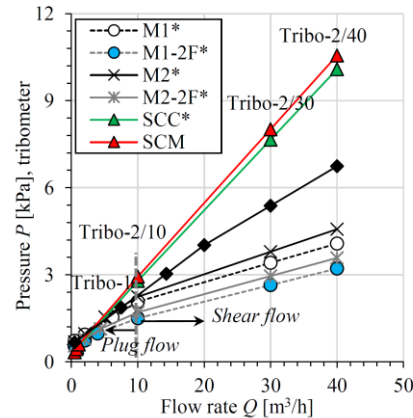
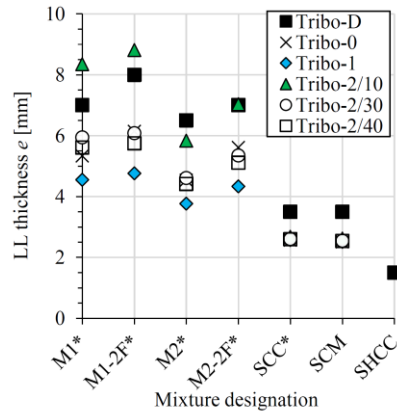
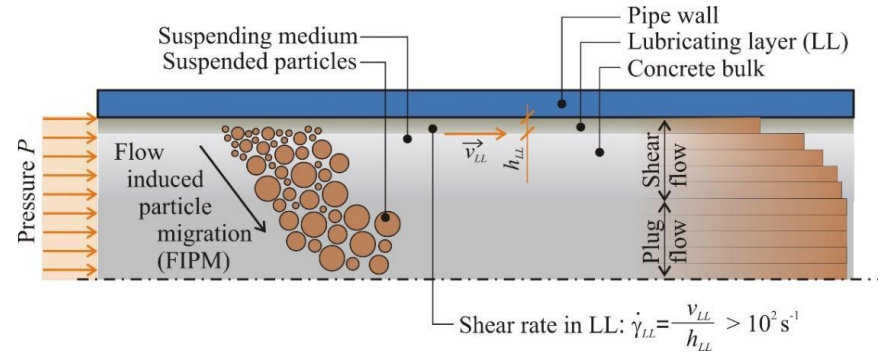


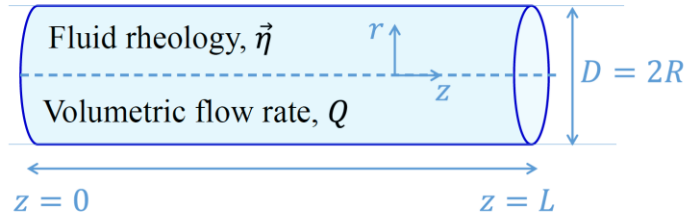
Fig. 1. Schematic pattern of concrete flow in the pipe.



Choi, M., Roussel, N., Kim, Y., & Kim, J. (2013). Lubrication layer properties during concrete pumping. *Cement and Concrete Research*, 45, 69-78; Secieru, Egor. (2018). Pumping behaviour of modern concretes—Characterisation and prediction (Doctoral dissertation, Technische Universität Dresden). <http://nbn-resolving.de/urn:nbn:de:bsz:14-qucosa-234912>

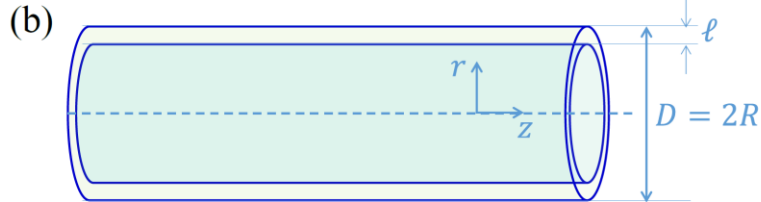
Analytical Predictions of Concrete Pumping

- (a) Pressure drop, $\Delta\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}_0 - \mathcal{P}_L > 0$



Pressure drop per unit length
of the pipe, $G = \Delta\mathcal{P}/L$

$$Q = Q(\vec{\eta}, R, G) = ?$$



Rheological properties of the bulk central fluid, $\vec{\eta}_C$

Rheological properties of the Lubrication layer fluid, $\vec{\eta}_{LL}$

$$\text{Total volumetric flow rate, } Q_{\text{tot}} = Q_{\text{tot}}(\vec{\eta}_C, \vec{\eta}_{LL}, R, \ell, G) = ?$$

- ❑ Solving the Hagen–Poiseuille flow (laminar flow in a pipe) using rheological parameters ($\vec{\eta}$) of bulk concrete will **over-estimate** the needed pressure for a given flow rate.
- ❑ Kaplan *et al.* [ACI Materials Journal 2005] considered the formation of a **lubrication layer (LL)** and introduced a **slip-velocity** between bulk concrete and the pipe wall. The Bingham model is used for bulk concrete. The slip-velocity approach corresponds to an infinitely thin LL ($\ell/R \rightarrow 0$)

Analytical Predictions of Concrete Pumping

D. Feys et al.

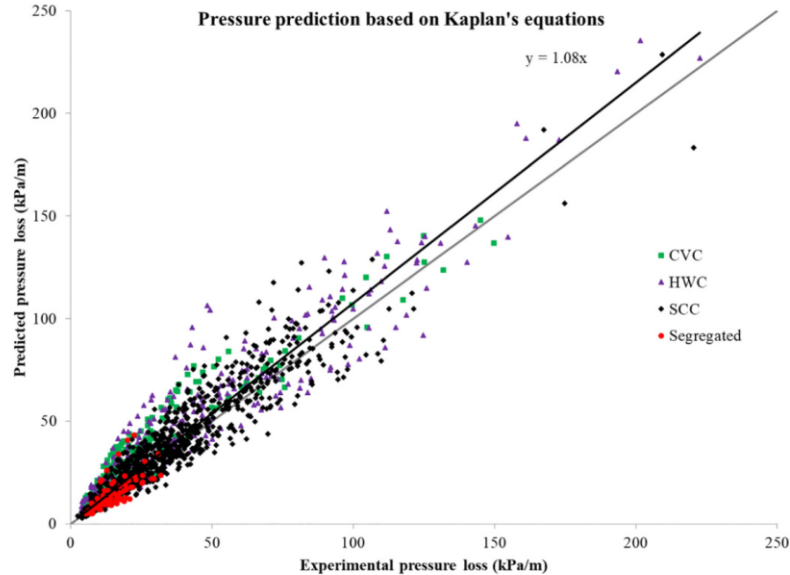
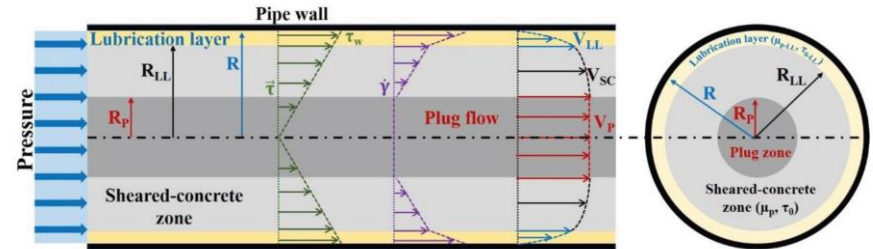


Fig. 6. Validation of Kaplan's equations predicting pumping pressure [26,36], based on interface and bulk concrete rheology, pipe radius and flow rate. Measurements are performed on pumpable concrete mixtures with varying consistencies (CVC = conventional vibrated concrete, SCC = self-consolidating concrete, HWC = highly workable concrete with consistency between CVC and SCC). Figure adapted from [52].

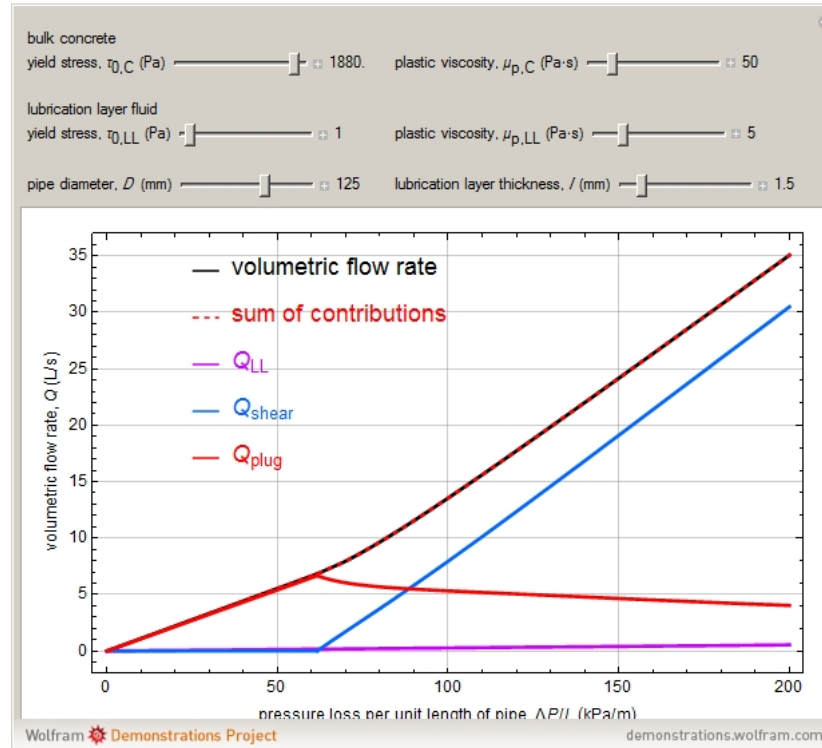
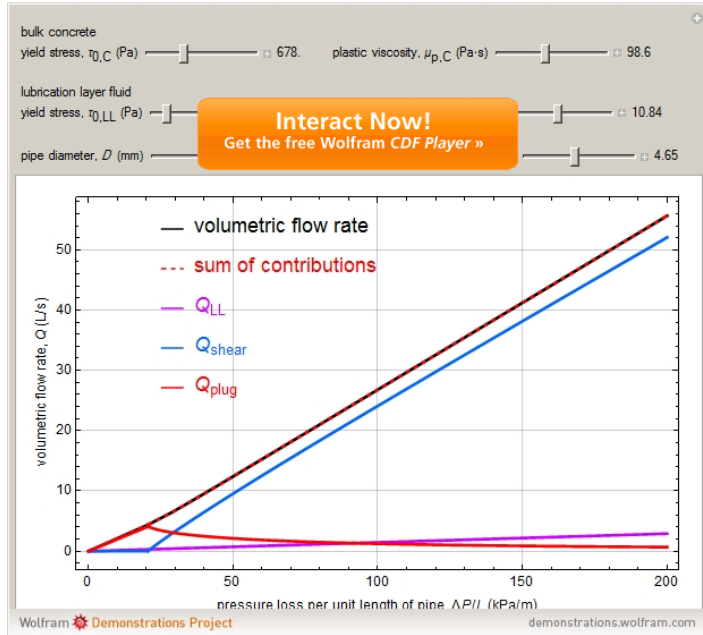
- Rami Khatib and Kamal H. Khayat [ACI Materials Journal 2021] relaxed the assumption of an infinitely thin LL ($\ell/R \rightarrow 0$) and developed a **two-fluid model**, where both the LL fluid and the bulk concrete are described by **the Bingham model**.



Tavangar, T., Hosseini, M., Yahia, A., & Khayat, K. H. (2021). Computational Investigation of Concrete Pipe Flow: Critical Review. ACI Materials Journal, 118(6).

Analytical Predictions of Concrete Pumping

Khatib-Khayat Model for Pumping Flowable Concrete



Rheology of Concrete

Why is fresh self-compacting concrete shear thickening?

[D Feys](#), R Verhoeven, G De Schutter - **Cement and concrete** Research, 2009 - Elsevier

... Results on **cement** pastes prove that the grain inertia theory is not the main ... of **shear thickening** in **self-compacting concrete**. The influence of several parameters on the **shear thickening** ...

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Fresh self compacting concrete, a shear thickening material

[D Feys](#), R Verhoeven, G De Schutter - **Cement and Concrete** Research, 2008 - Elsevier

... of **concrete** have been investigated thoroughly, resulting in a simple description, in steady state, by means of the Bingham model. **Self compacting concrete** ... – or **shear thickening** – in the ...

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... type **self-compacting concrete** in a wide-gap concentric cylinder rheometer:
Part II. Influence of mineral additions and chemical admixtures on the **shear thickening** ...

G Heirman, R Hendrickx, [L Vandewalle](#)... - **Cement and Concrete** ..., 2009 - Elsevier

... the **shear thickening** effect ... **shear thickening**. The limestone, quartzite and fly ash addition used in this research project, respectively increase, unalter and decrease the **shear thickening** ...

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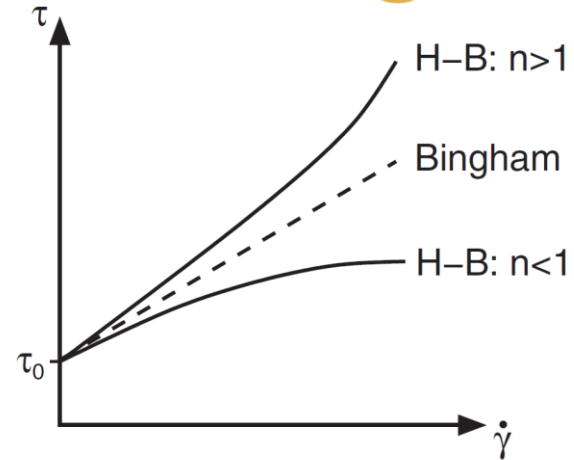
Extension of the Poiseuille formula for shear-thickening materials and application to Self-Compacting Concrete

[D Feys](#), R Verhoeven, G De Schutter - **Applied Rheology**, 2008 - degruyter.com

... derivation of the Poiseuille formula for **shear thickening** liquids with a yield stress, like SCC.

... be verified further in this paper whether they are valid in case of **SelfCompacting Concrete**. ...

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Bingham Model (1917)

$$\begin{cases} \tau = \tau_0 + \mu_p \dot{\gamma} & \text{for } \tau > \tau_0 \\ \dot{\gamma} = 0 & \text{for } \tau \leq \tau_0 \end{cases}$$

Herschel–Bulkley Model (1926)

$$\begin{cases} \tau = \tau_0 + K \dot{\gamma}^n & \text{for } \tau > \tau_0 \\ \dot{\gamma} = 0 & \text{for } \tau \leq \tau_0 \end{cases}$$

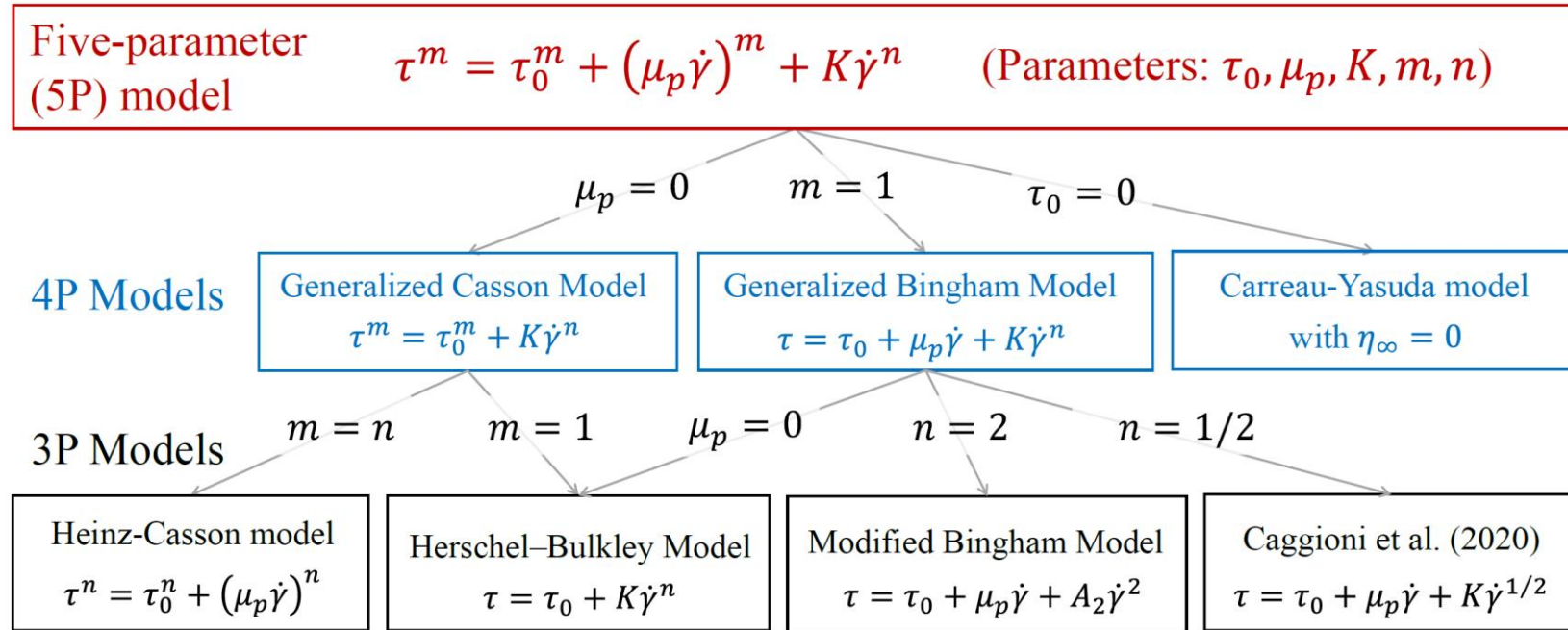
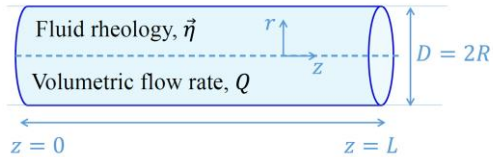


Figure 1. Schematic representation of the relations between the different rheological models investigated in this work.

Analytical Predictions of Concrete Pumping

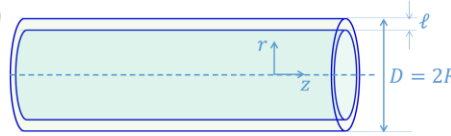
(a) Pressure drop, $\Delta\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}_0 - \mathcal{P}_L > 0$



Pressure drop per unit length
of the pipe, $G = \Delta\mathcal{P}/L$

$$Q = Q(\vec{\eta}, R, G) = ?$$

(b)



Rheological properties of the bulk central fluid, $\vec{\eta}_C$

Rheological properties of the Lubrication layer fluid, $\vec{\eta}_{LL}$

$$\text{Total volumetric flow rate, } Q_{\text{tot}} = Q_{\text{tot}}(\vec{\eta}_C, \vec{\eta}_{LL}, R, \ell, G) = ?$$

Inputs

- Pressure drop per unit length: $G = \Delta\mathcal{P}/L$
- Pipe radius (or diameter, D): $R = D/2$
- Fluid rheology: $\vec{\eta} = \{\tau_0, \mu_p, K, m, n\}$

Nondimensionalization

Base units

- Pipe radius: R
- Wall shear stress: τ_{wall}
- Wall shear rate: $\dot{\gamma}_{\text{wall}}$

Outputs

- Flow rate as a function of the inputs

$$\bar{u}_{\text{avg}} = \frac{1}{3} [1 - A_3(\bar{\tau}_0, \bar{\mu}_p, \bar{K}, m, n)]$$

$$Q = \pi R^3 \dot{\gamma}_{\text{wall}} \bar{u}_{\text{avg}}$$

Inputs in dimensionless form

- Pressure drop per unit length: $\tilde{G} = 2$
- Pipe radius: $R = 1$
- Fluid rheology: $\vec{\eta} = \{\bar{\tau}_0, \bar{\mu}_p, \bar{K}, m, n\}$

Inputs

- Pressure drop per unit length: $G = \Delta\mathcal{P}/L$
- Pipe radius (or diameter, D): $R = D/2$
- Lubrication layer (LL) thickness, ℓ
- Rheological parameters of bulk central fluid: $\vec{\eta}_C$
- Rheological parameters of the LL fluid, $\vec{\eta}_{LL}$

Contributions to the flow rate

$$Q_1 = Q_{\text{HP}}(\vec{\eta}_{LL}, R, G)$$

$$Q_2 = Q_{\text{HP}}(\vec{\eta}_{LL}, R - \ell, G)$$

$$Q_3 = Q_{\text{HP}}(\vec{\eta}_C, R - \ell, G)$$

$$\tau_{\text{plug}} < R - \ell$$

False

CVC

$$Q = Q_1 - Q_2$$

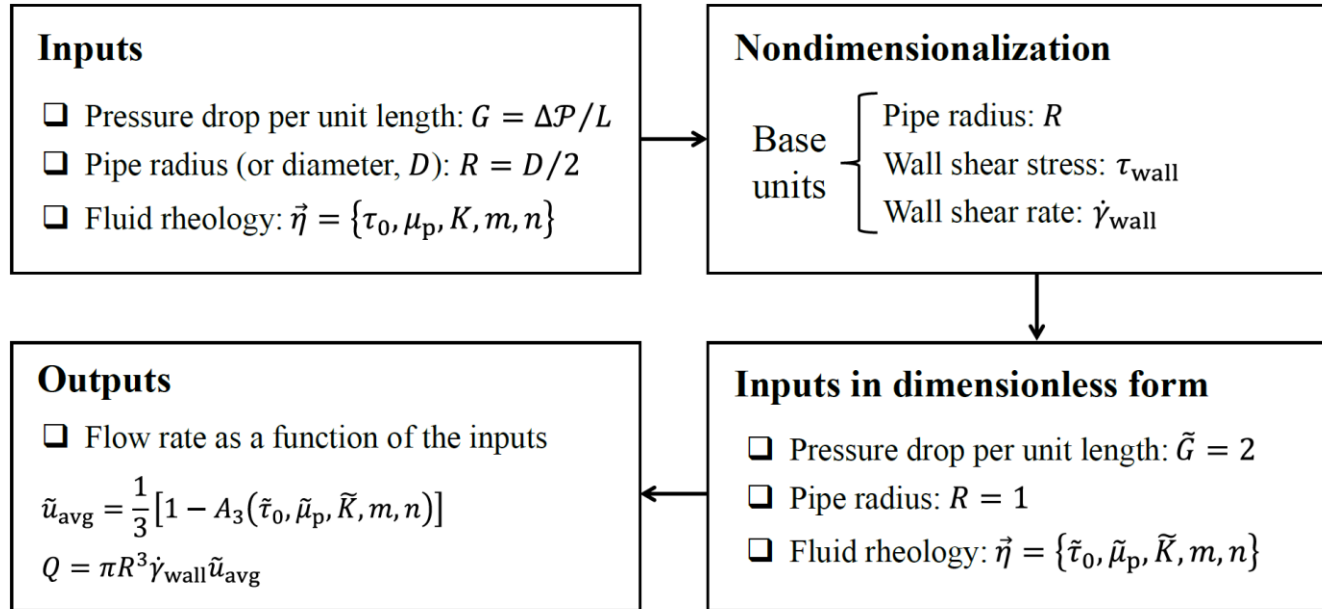
True

SCC

$$Q = Q_1 - Q_2 + Q_3$$

Analytical Predictions of Concrete Pumping

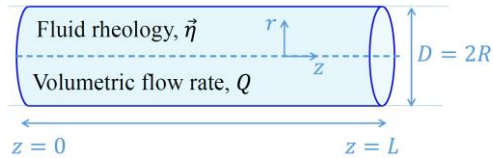
Given a complex generalized Newtonian model, how do we obtain the flow rate – pressure drop relation in Hagen–Poiseuille flow?



Analytical Predictions of Concrete Pumping

How to prove our approach for obtaining the flow rate – pressure drop relation in Hagen–Poiseuille flow of two-fluids?

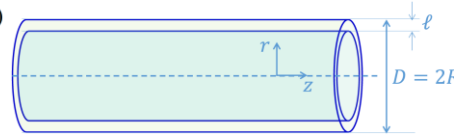
(a) Pressure drop, $\Delta\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}_0 - \mathcal{P}_L > 0$



Pressure drop per unit length of the pipe, $G = \Delta\mathcal{P}/L$

$$Q = Q(\vec{\eta}, R, G) = ?$$

(b)



Rheological properties of the bulk central fluid, $\vec{\eta}_C$

Rheological properties of the Lubrication layer fluid, $\vec{\eta}_{LL}$

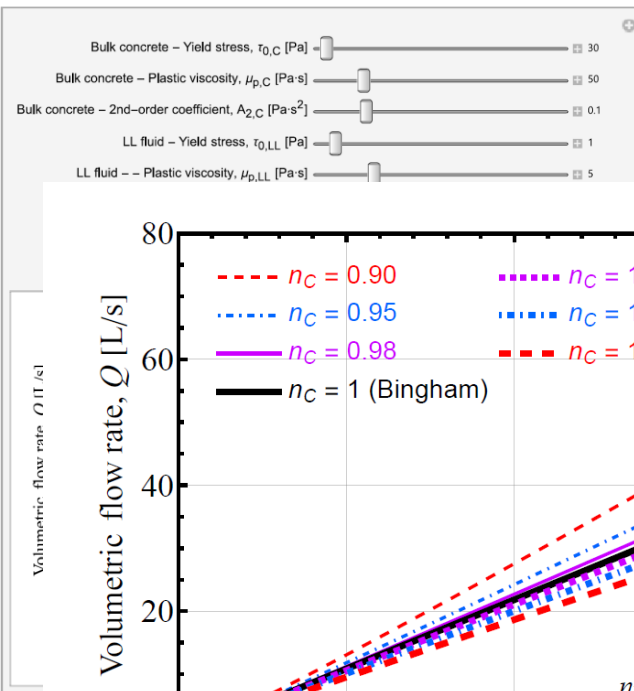
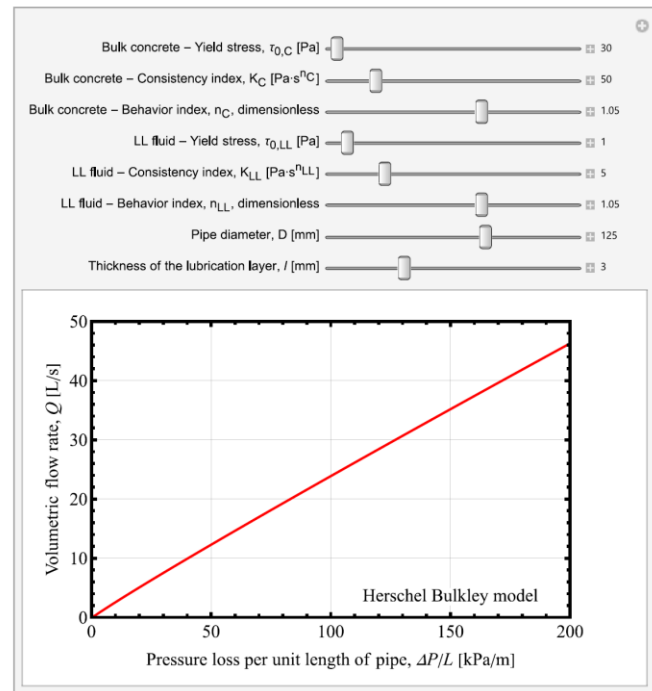
$$\text{Total volumetric flow rate, } Q_{\text{tot}} = Q_{\text{tot}}(\vec{\eta}_C, \vec{\eta}_{LL}, R, \ell, G) = ?$$

$$\text{CVC} \quad Q = Q_{\text{HP}}(\vec{\eta}_{LL}, R, G) - Q_{\text{HP}}(\vec{\eta}_{LL}, R - \ell, G)$$

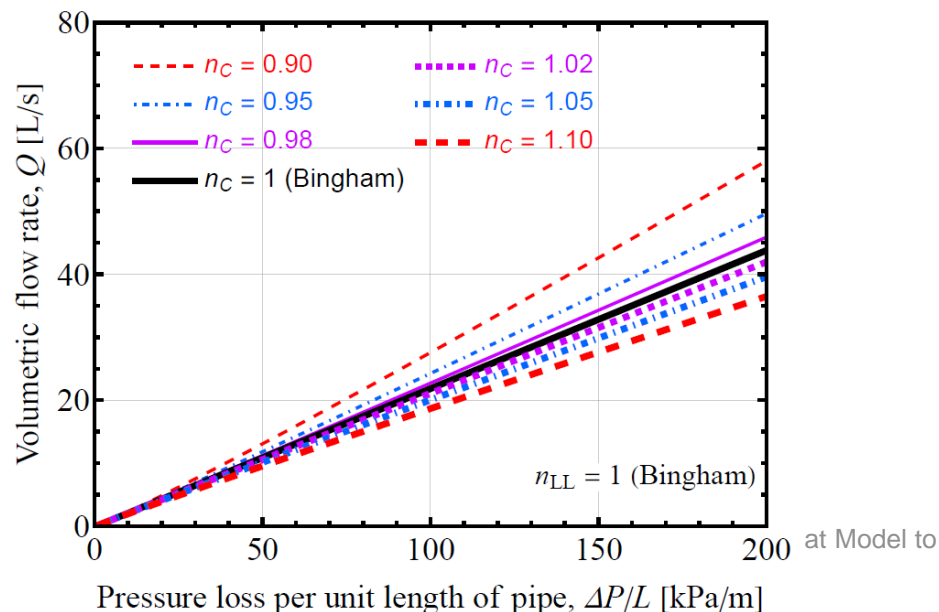
$$\text{SCC} \quad Q = Q_{\text{HP}}(\vec{\eta}_{LL}, R, G) - Q_{\text{HP}}(\vec{\eta}_{LL}, R - \ell, G) + Q_{\text{HP}}(\vec{\eta}_C, R - \ell, G)$$

Analytical Predictions of Concrete Pumping: Extending the Khatib-Khayat Model to Herschel-Bulkley and Modified Bingham Fluids

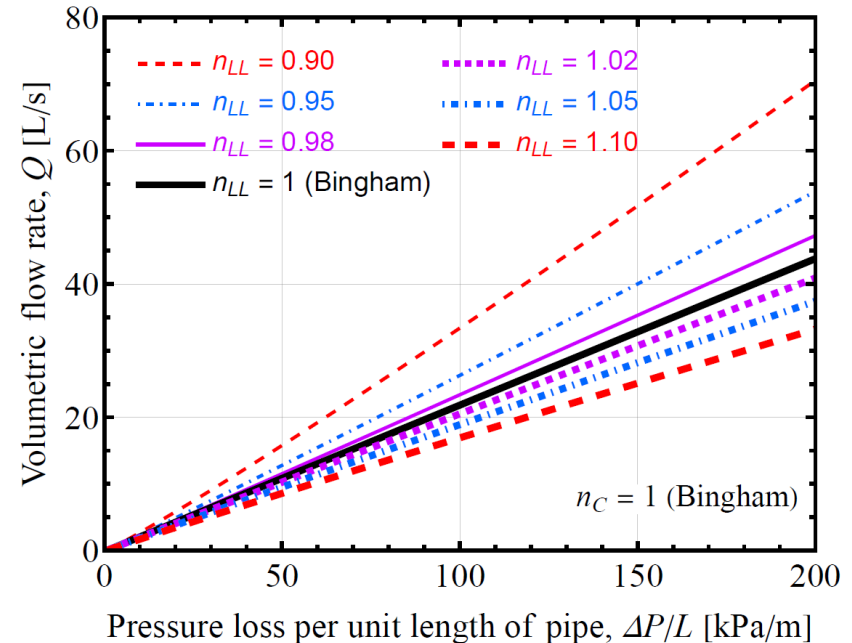
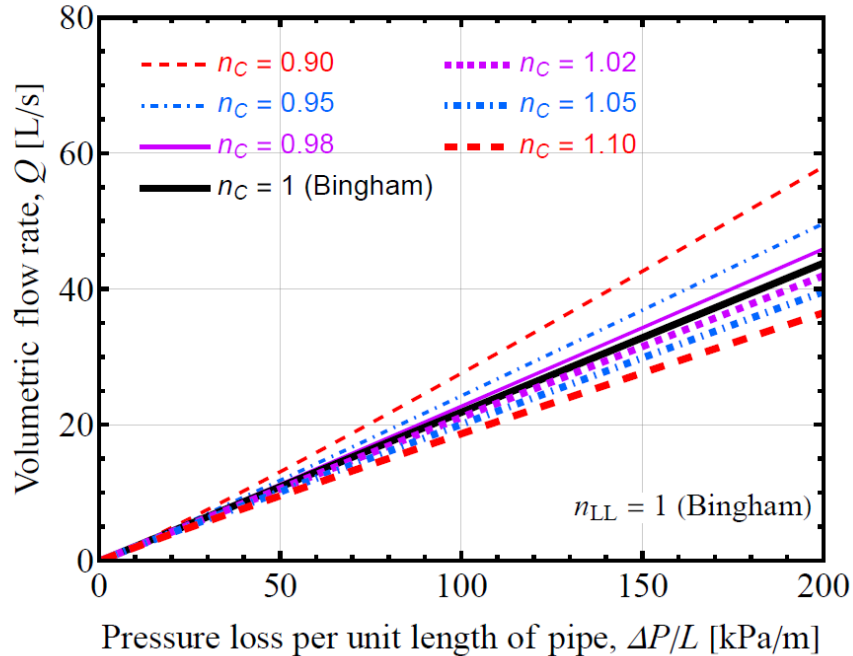
Balnur Zhaidarbek, Aruzhan Tleubek, Galymbek Berdibek, Yanwei Wang



Zhaidarbek, B., Tleubek, A., Berdibek, G., & Wang, Y. (2022). Herschel-Bulkley and Modified Bingham Fluids. Elsevier. <http://>



Analytical Predictions of Concrete Pumping



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- Students involved in this research: Balnur Zhaidarbek, Aruzhan Tleubek, Galymbek Berdibek


Comments and suggestions are very welcome.



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**Thank you for
your attention.**