



European
Commission

Horizon 2020
European Union funding
for Research & Innovation



**Rethinking coastal defence and Green-energy Service infrastructures
through enhanced-durability high-performance cement-based materials**

**Predicting the long term performance of structures
made with advanced cement based materials in
extremely aggressive environments: current state of
practice and research needs. The approach of the
H2020 project ReSHEALience**

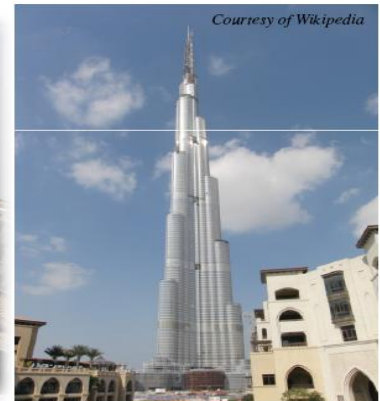
CONCRETE!

«it is simply a remarkably good building material»

$\cong 10$ bln ton/year ($\cong 4$ bln m³)

More than twice the total of all other building materials (e.g. steel $\cong 1.7$ bln t/y)

The second largest used material after water



Courtesy of Wikipedia



Durability and Sustainability of concrete structures



Testing the durability of concrete structures !?

Durability and Sustainability of r/c structures



year cost of CORROSION (direct+indirect):
1 trln USD (3.1% US GDP)

Source www.nace.org



Durability and Sustainability of r/c structures

CON-REP-NET project, showed that 50% of the repaired concrete structures failed once again, 25% of which in the first 5 years, 75% within 10 years and 95% within 25 years. This is just an example of the **urgent need of a profound rethinking** of the concept and design processes for new and repaired R/C structures in aggressive environments in view of cost-effectiveness demands.

Matthews S. (2007) CONREPNET: Performance-based approach to the remediation of reinforced concrete structures: Achieving durable repaired concrete structures. Journal of Building Appraisal 3(1): 6-20.

Durability and Sustainability of r/c structures

*Mankind has become a «geological force»!
Our collective choices continuously shape the scenario!*



Museu do Amanhã – Rio de Janeiro

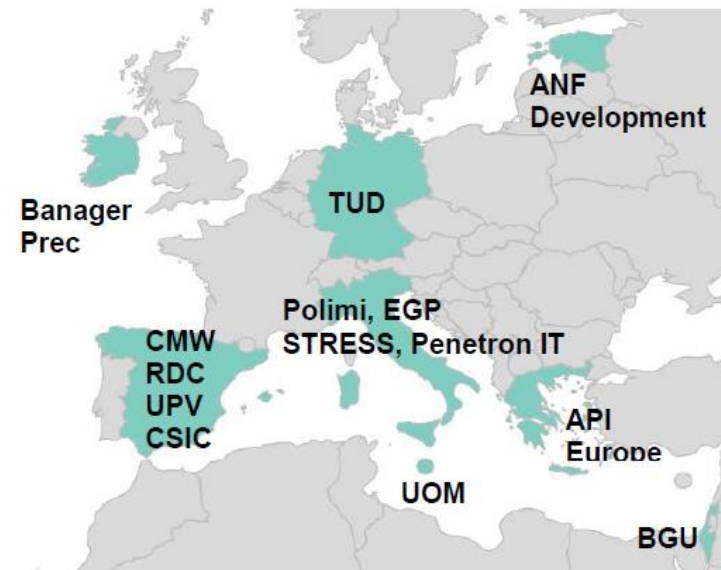
We need a «scenario based» durability modelling framework!

The ReSHEALience project

ReSHEALience (H2020 – GA 760824) – PoliMi coordinator (2018-2021)

www.uhdc.eu

Rethinking coastal defence and green Energy Service infrastructures through enhanced ability high-performance fibre reinforced cement based materials

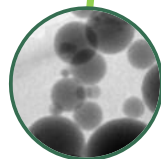
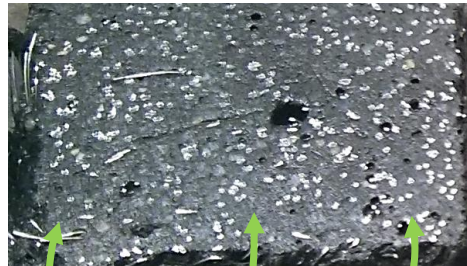


The ReSHEALience project

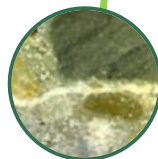
Ultra High Durable Concrete (UHDC):

“strain-hardening (fibre reinforced) cementitious material with functionalizing micro- and nano-scale constituents (alumina nanofibers, cellulose nanofibers/crystals, crystalline admixtures) especially added to obtain a high durability in the cracked state”.

UHPC + functionalities = UHDC



Nanocellulose
densification of
matrix and ITZ



Self-healing
sealing
of cracks



Nanofibers
crack initiation
and growth

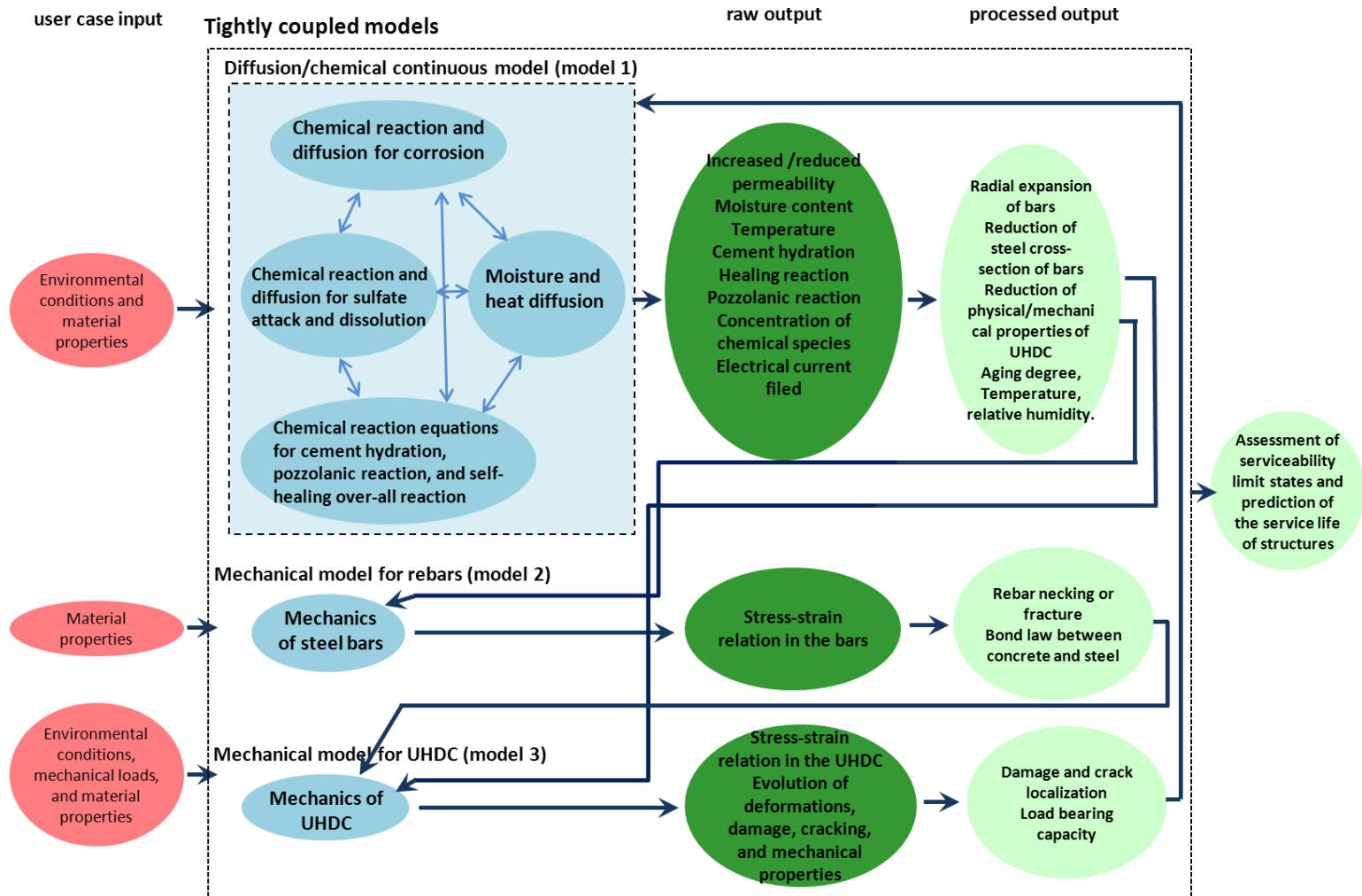


**A) DURABILITY
PROBLEMS IN XS / XA**

**B) IMPROVED CONCRETE
AND DESIGNS**

**C) INCREASE OF
SERVICE LIFE**

The ReSHEALience project modelling approach



The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

Physics of the model

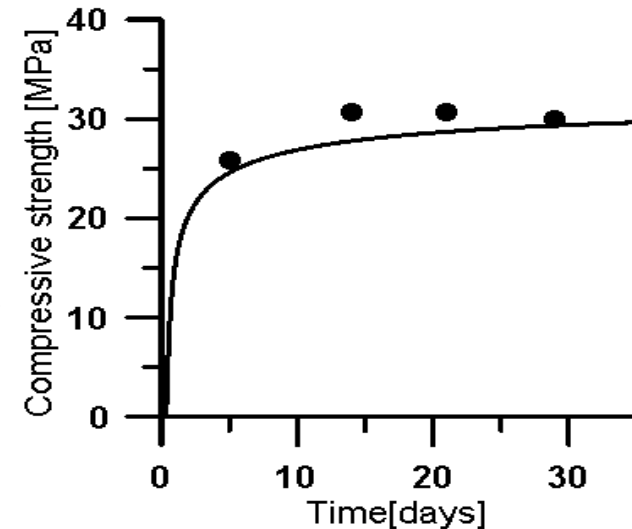
combines the chemical processes of binder hydration and self-healing with heat, water, oxygen and ions transport processes and corrosion

Cement (and cement substitute) hydration

$$\frac{\partial \alpha_c}{\partial t} = A_c(\alpha_c, h) e^{-E_{ac}/RT}$$

$$\frac{\partial \alpha_s}{\partial t} = A_s(\alpha_s, h) e^{-E_{as}/RT}$$

E_{ac} hydration activation energy
 α_c degree of hydration
 h relative humidity



$$A_c(\alpha_c, h) = A_{c1} \left(\frac{A_{c2}}{\alpha_c^\infty} + \alpha_c \right) (\alpha_c^\infty - \alpha_c) e^{-\eta_c \alpha_c / \alpha_c^\infty} [1 + (a - ah)^b]^{-1}$$

$A_{c1}, A_{c2}, a, b, \eta_c$
parameters to be calibrated

asymptotic degree of hydration

The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

Physics of the model

combines the chemical processes of binder hydration and self-healing with heat, water, oxygen and ions transport processes and corrosion

Heat transfer $\rho c_t \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{q} + \dot{Q}_c + \dot{Q}_s$

heat of hydration for cement and cement substitutes

Water diffusion $-\frac{\partial w(h, \alpha_c, \alpha_s)}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}_w$

water flux linked through water permeability coefficient to humidity gradient

$$\mathbf{J}_w = -D_h(h, T, d) \nabla h$$

Oxygen diffusion $-\frac{\partial C_o}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}_o - \mathbf{J}_w \nabla C_o + \dot{O}$

source/sink term due to chemical reactions
concentration gradient

The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

Physics of the model

combines the chemical processes of binder hydration and self-healing with heat, water, oxygen and ions transport processes and corrosion

Chloride ions diffusion $-\frac{\partial C_c}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot J_c - J_w \nabla C_c + \frac{\partial C_{cb}}{\partial t}$

bound chlorides concentration (points to C_{cb})

free chlorides concentration (points to C_c)

Carbon dioxide diffusion $-\frac{\partial C_{CO_2}}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot J_{CO_2} + \dot{C}_{CO_2}$

Sulphate ions diffusion $-\frac{\partial C_s}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot J_s - J_w \nabla C_s + \dot{C}_s$

Calcium ions diffusion $-\frac{\partial C_{Ca}}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot J_{Ca} - J_w \nabla C_{Ca} + \dot{C}_{Ca}$

source/sink terms due to chemical reactions (points to \dot{C}_{CO_2} , \dot{C}_s , and \dot{C}_{Ca})

The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

Physics of the model

combines the chemical processes of binder hydration and self-healing with heat, water, oxygen and ions transport processes and corrosion

Self-healing modelling

PROGRESS REPORT

Self-Healing Materials

**ADVANCED
MATERIALS
INTERFACES**
www.advmatinterfaces.de

Research Progress on Numerical Models for Self-Healing Cementitious Materials

Tony Jefferson, Etelvina Javierre, Brubeck Freeman, Ali Zaoui, Eddie Koenders,
and Liberato Ferrara*

Adv. Mater. Interfaces **2018**, 1701378

The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

Physics of the model

combines the chemical processes of binder hydration and self-healing with heat, water, oxygen and ions transport processes and corrosion

Self-healing modelling



Numerical modeling of mechanical regain due to self-healing in cement based composites

Giovanni Di Luzio^{a,*}, Liberato Ferrara^a, Visar Krelani^{a,b}

^a Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Politecnico di Milano, Piazza Leonardo da Vinci 32, 20133 Milan, Italy
^b University for Business and Technology, Kallabria, 10000, Prishtinë, Kosovo



$$f_h(h) = \frac{1}{1 + (a_h - a_h h)^{b_h}}$$

$$f_w(w) = \{1 - [a_w - a_w(1 - w)]^{b_w}\}^{-1}$$

$$\frac{\partial \lambda_{sh}}{\partial t} = A_{sh}(\lambda_{sh}) e^{-E_{ash}/RT}$$

$$A_{sh} = \tilde{A}_{sh}(1 - \lambda_{sh})$$

Autogenous healing analogous to cement hydration

λ_{sh} = self healing degree

A_{sh} = self healing affinity

$$\tilde{A}_{sh} = \tilde{A}_{sho} f_h(h) f_w(w)$$

$$\tilde{A}_{sho} = \tilde{A}_{sh1} (1 - \alpha_c^{sh0})c + \tilde{A}_{sh2} sh_{st-adm}$$

autogenous and stimulated healing

dependence on relative humidity h and crack width w

The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

Physics of the model

combines the chemical processes of binder hydration and self-healing with heat, water, oxygen and ions transport processes and corrosion

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The model so far does not consider:

- the water pressure: a liquid flowing faster through the crack would wash out the deposited healing products, preventing the self-healing from occurring;
- the leaching or dissolution, since an aggressive fluid that leads to a leaching or dissolution reaction can affect the healed crack;
- the stability of the crack over time, as affected by sustained through-crack stress

The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

Model output

Coupled with a smeared crack mechanical modelling approach (microplane M5)

Galerkin space discretization of partial differential equations rewritten in weak form.

Crank–Nicolson method (a central difference method) time discretization.

When solving the aforementioned equations for diffusion and chemical processes at macroscale it is assumed that damage is constant, i.e. physical and chemical properties are controlled by mechanical properties (damage) from the previous time step as obtained in input from the mechanical model.

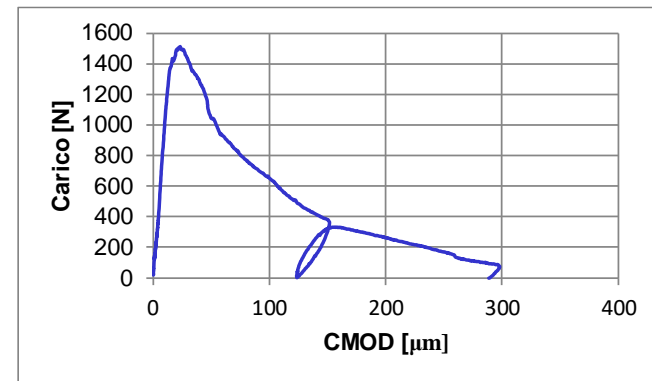
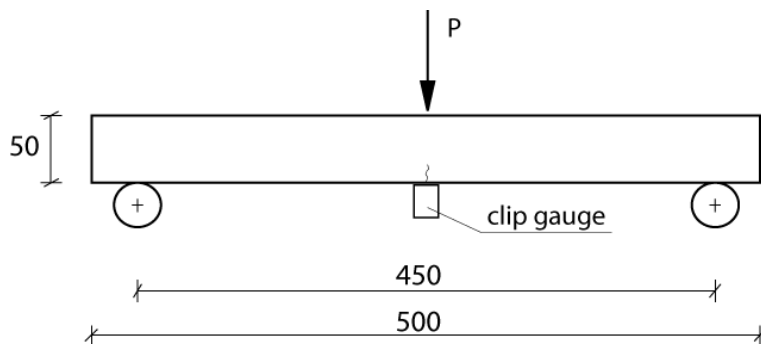
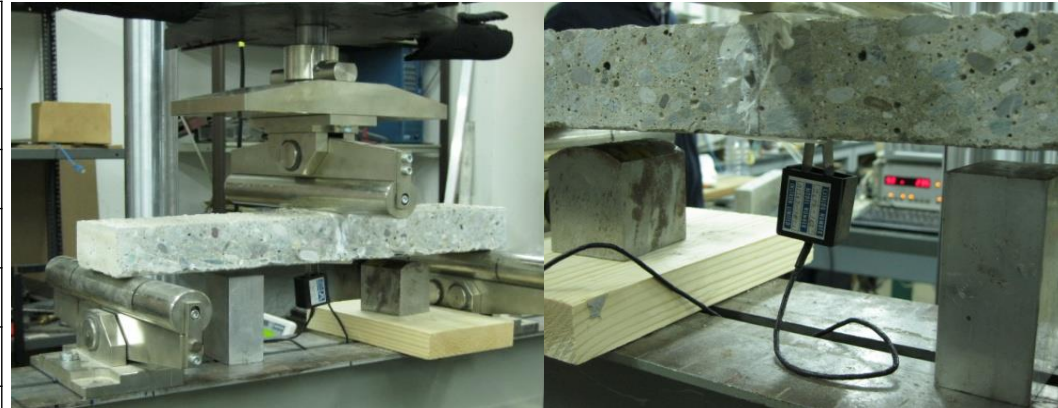
The output of the model is interpolated for the material description of the mechanical model, calculating the values on each element, to provide

- all the chemical quantities that characterized the hydration and self-healing;
- moisture and temperature field;
- volume expansion and reduction of physical/mechanical properties.

The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

Validation of the self-healing modelling

| | | WITHOUT ADMIXTURE | WITH ADMIXTURE |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Cement | [kg/m ³] | 300 | 300 |
| Water | [kg/m ³] | 165 | 165 |
| Sand 0-8 mm | [kg/m ³] | 975 | 975 |
| Gravel 8-20 mm | [kg/m ³] | 975 | 975 |
| Superplasticizer | [lt/m ³] | 3 | 3 |
| Crystalline admixture | [kg/m ³] | - | 3 |

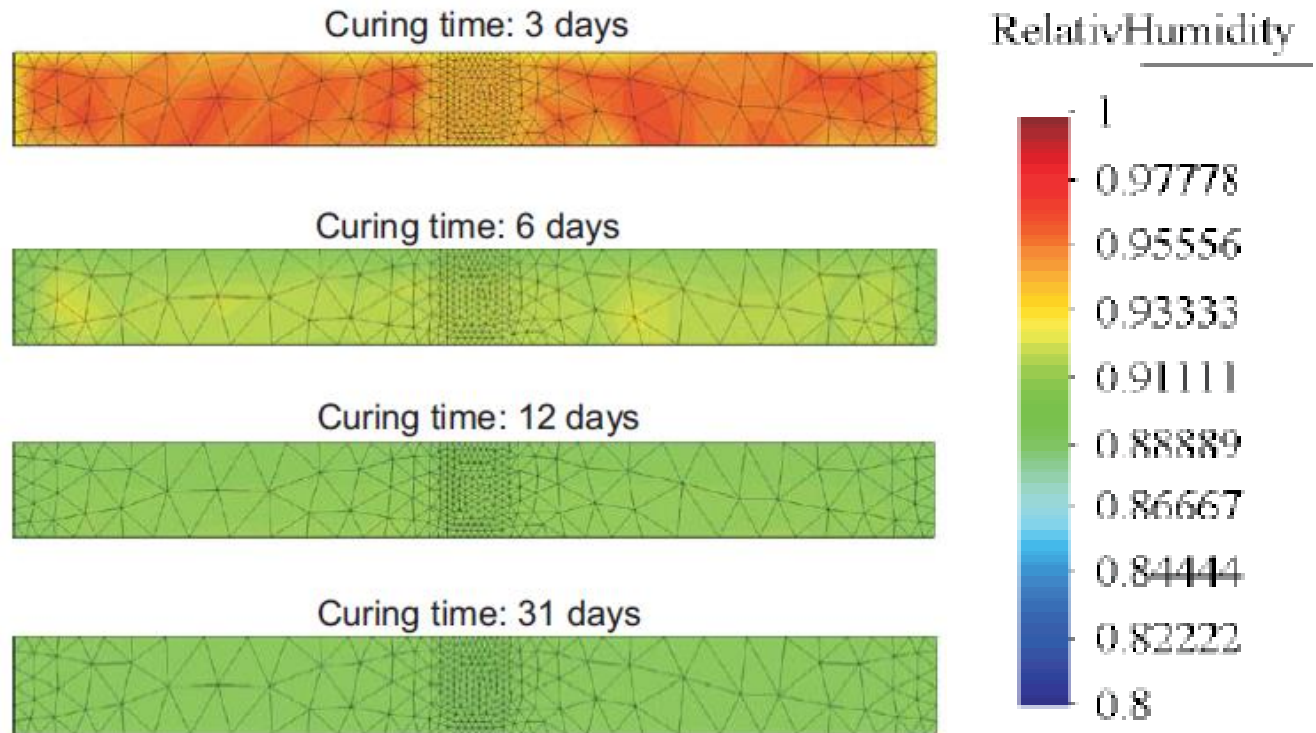


... immersion in water and exposure to air for up to 12 months

The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

Validation of the self-healing modelling

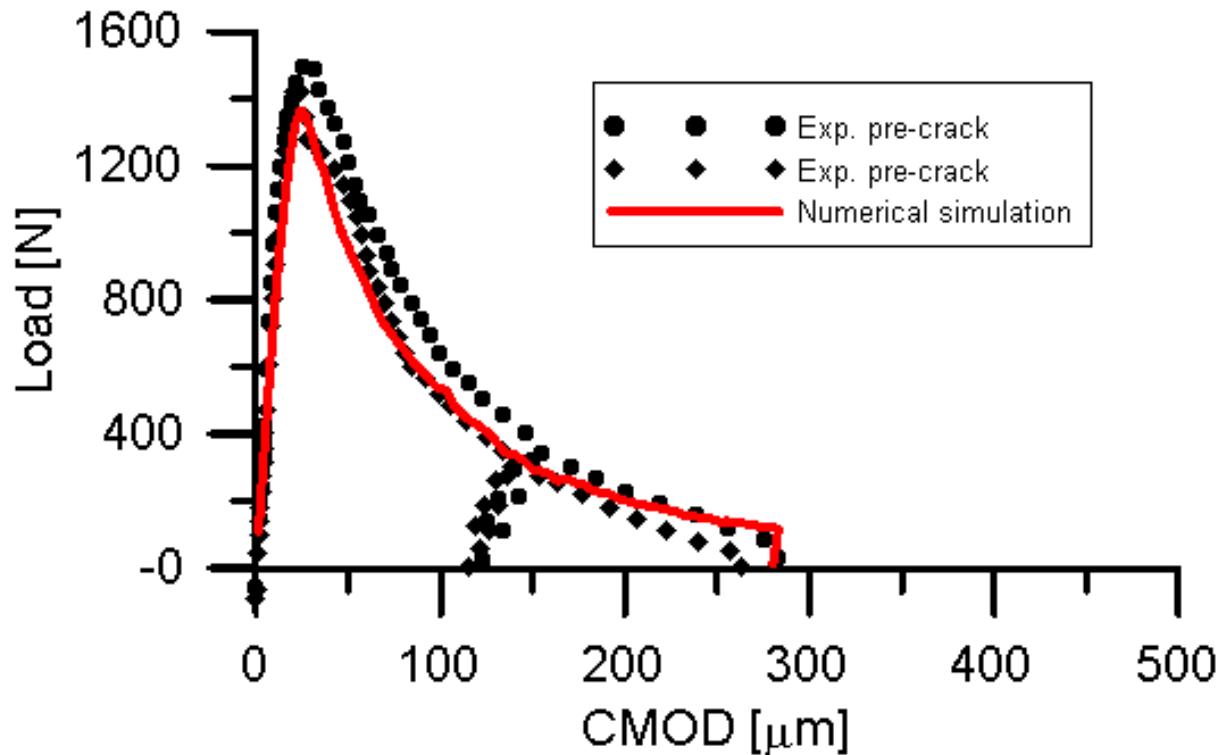
Curing - model output: relative humidity inside the specimen



The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

Validation of the self-healing modelling

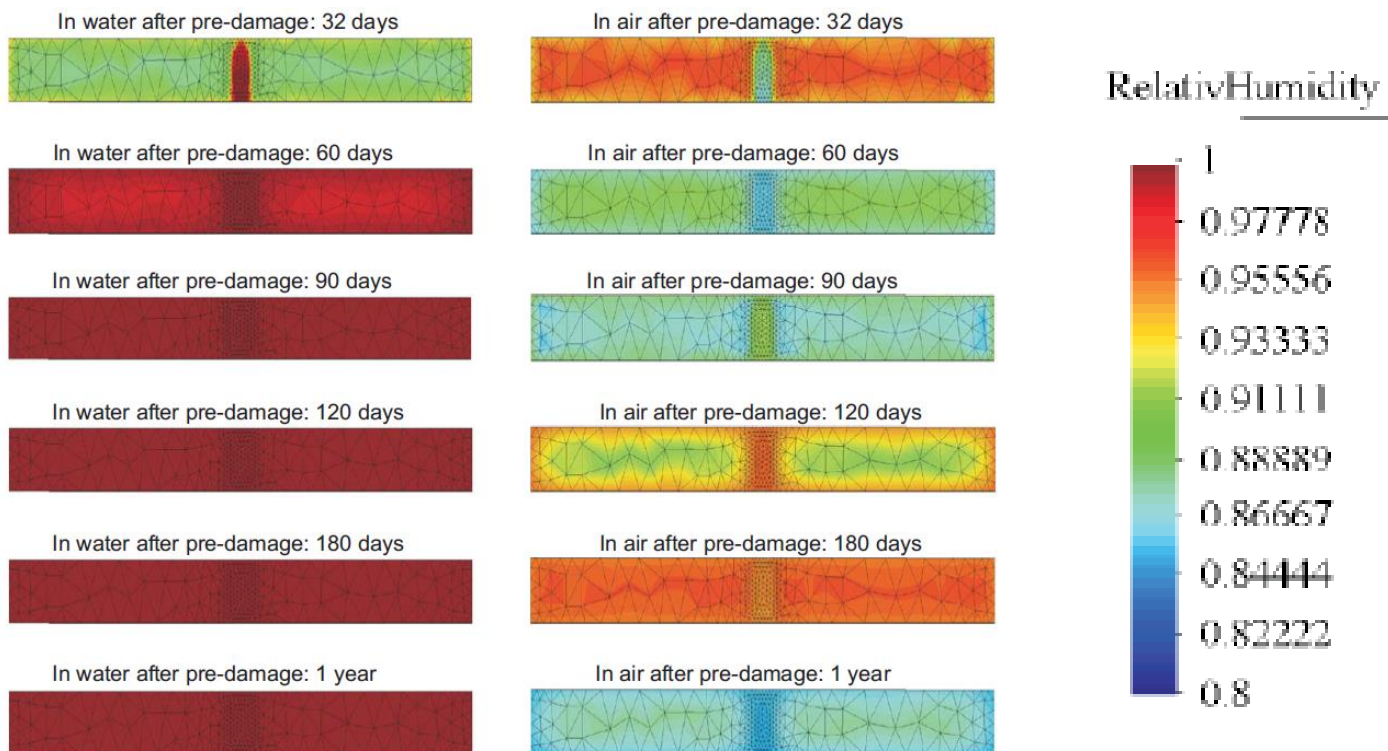
Precracking – model output: load vs. crack opening curve



The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

Validation of the self-healing modelling

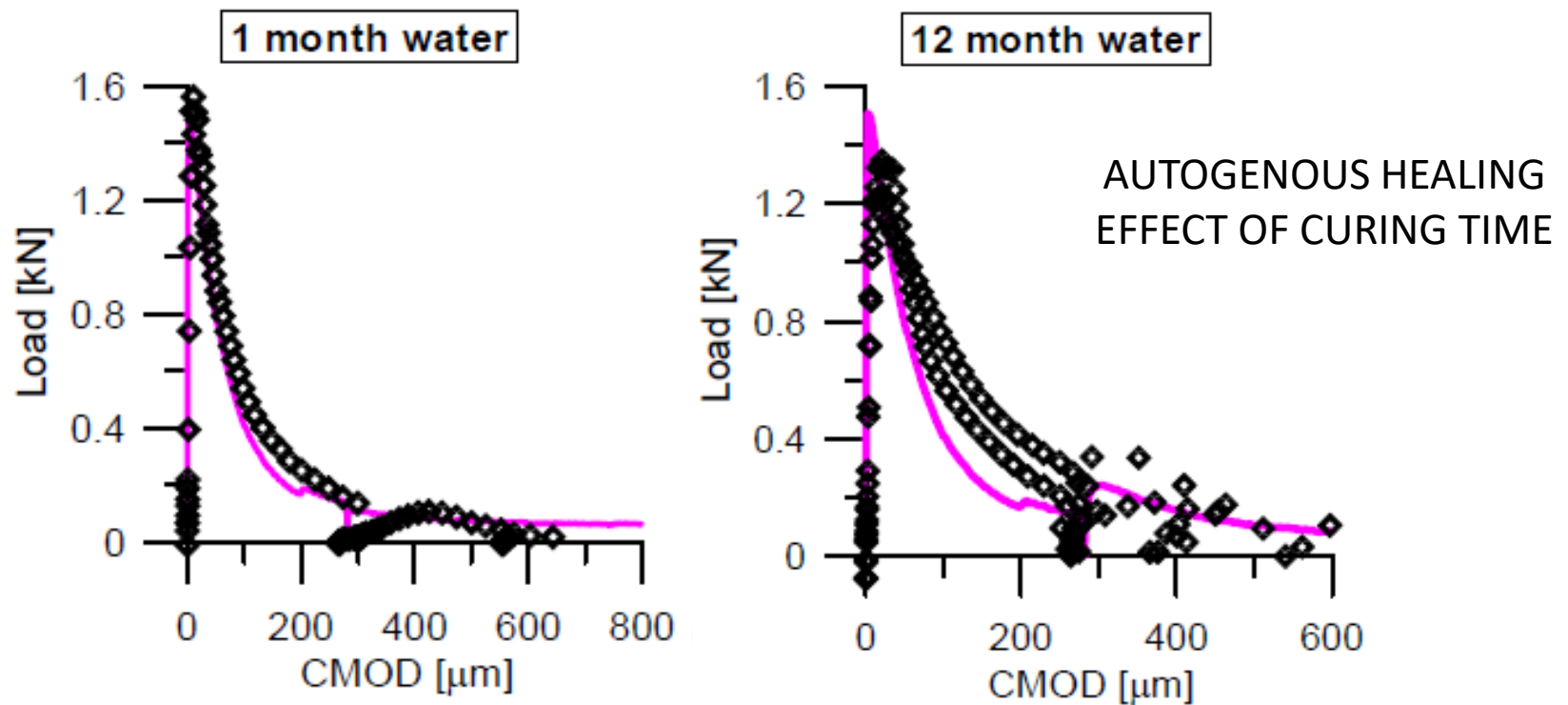
Post-cracking curing – model output: relative humidity inside the specimen



The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

Validation of the self-healing modelling

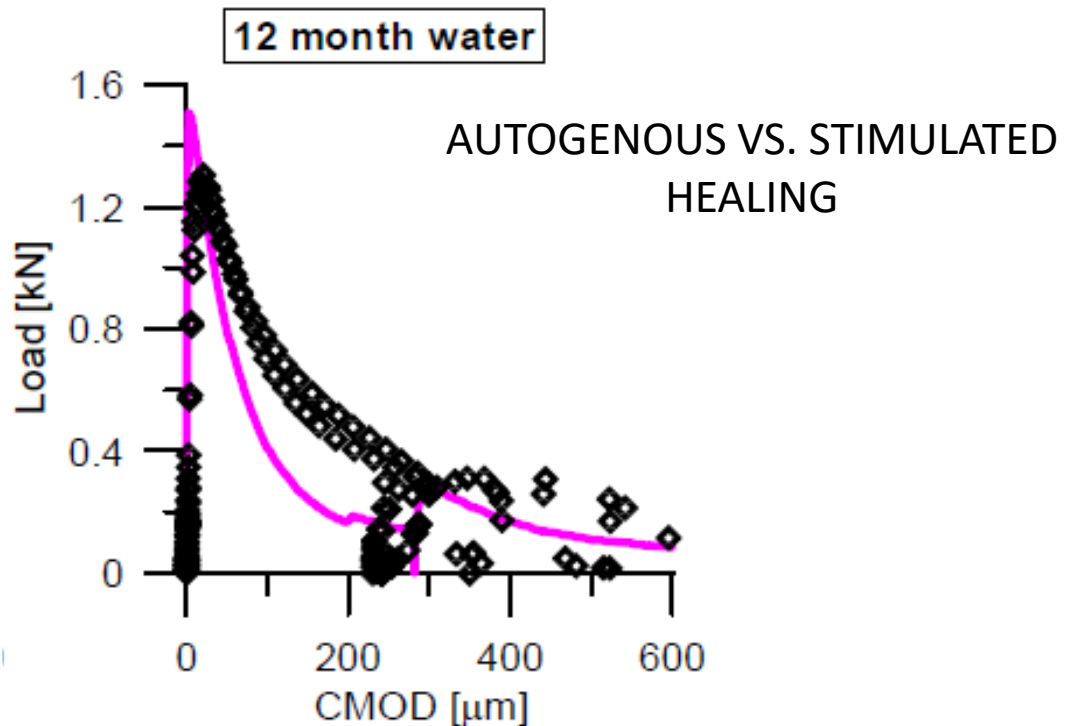
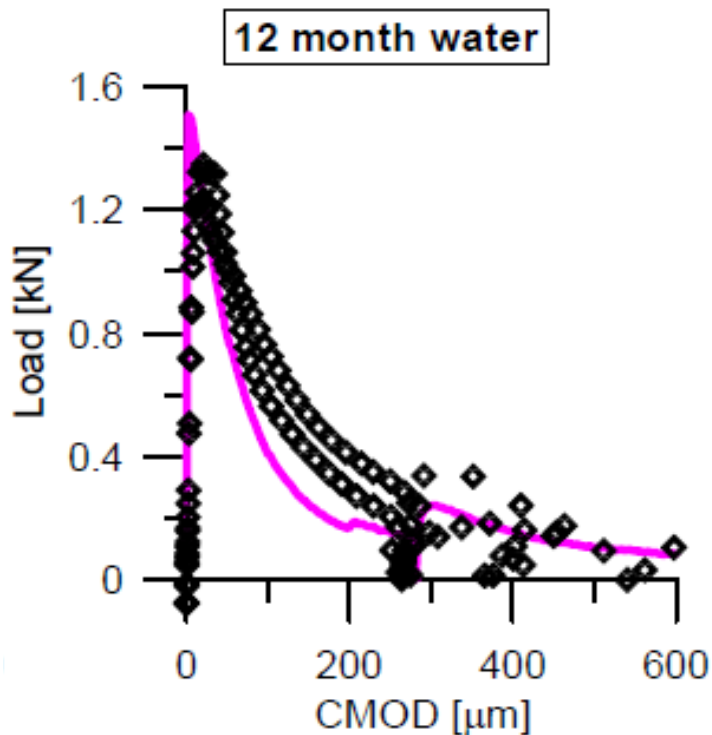
Testing to failure after healing – model output: load vs. crack opening curves



The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

Validation of the self-healing modelling

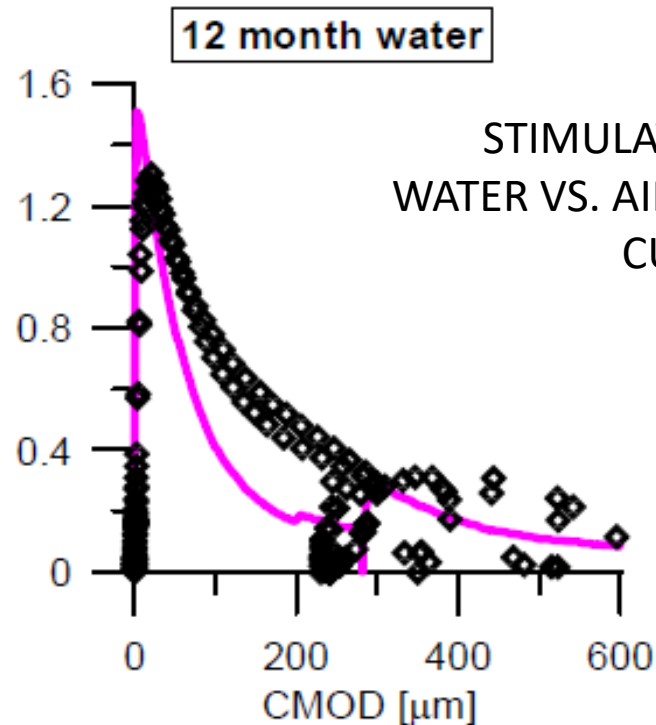
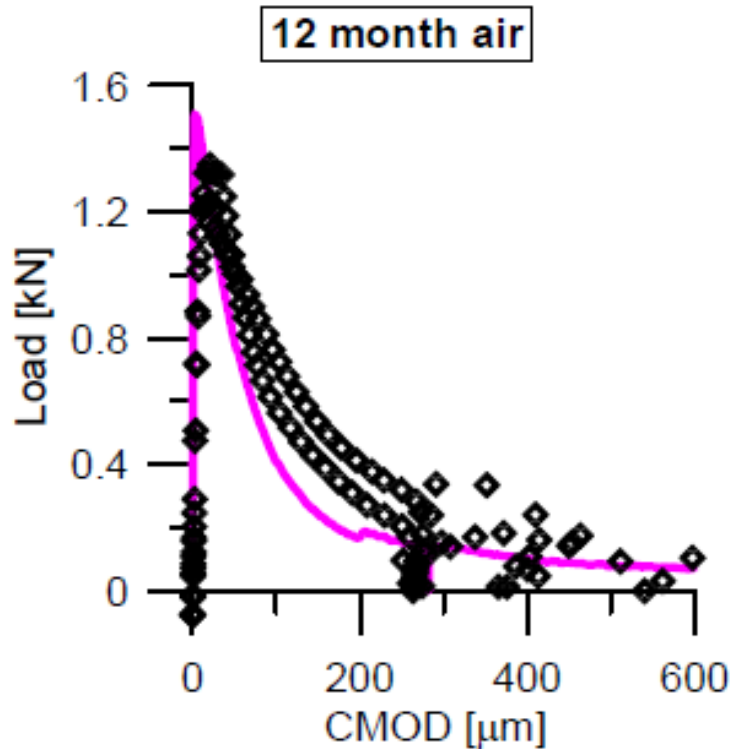
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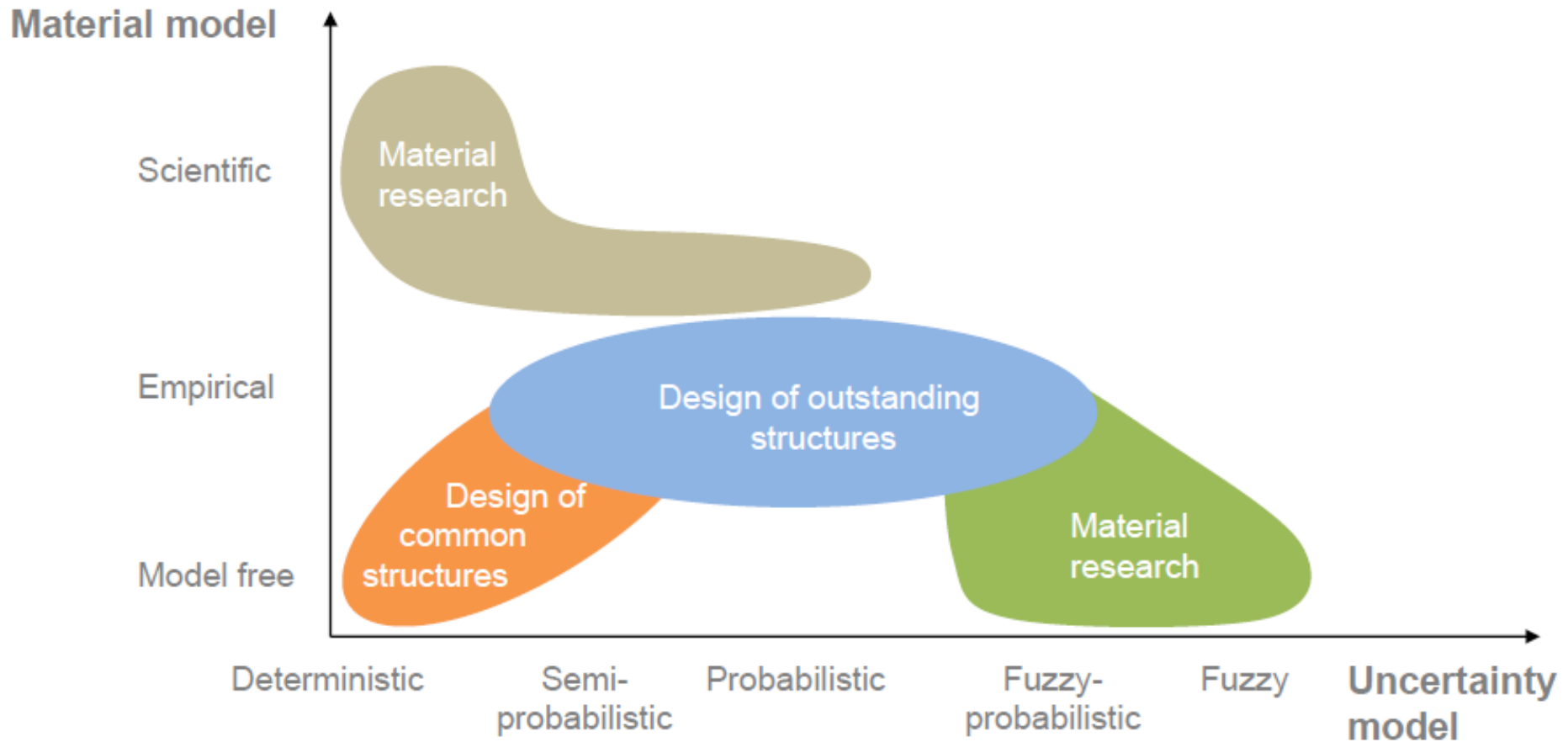
Validation of the self-healing modelling

Testing to failure after healing – model output: load vs. crack opening curves



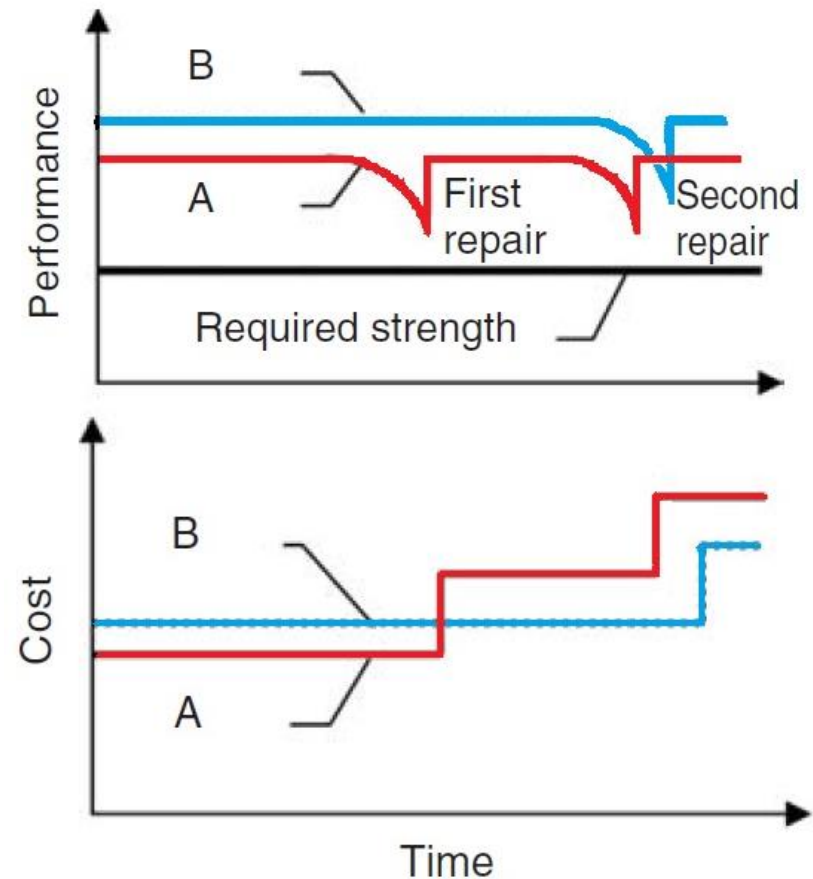
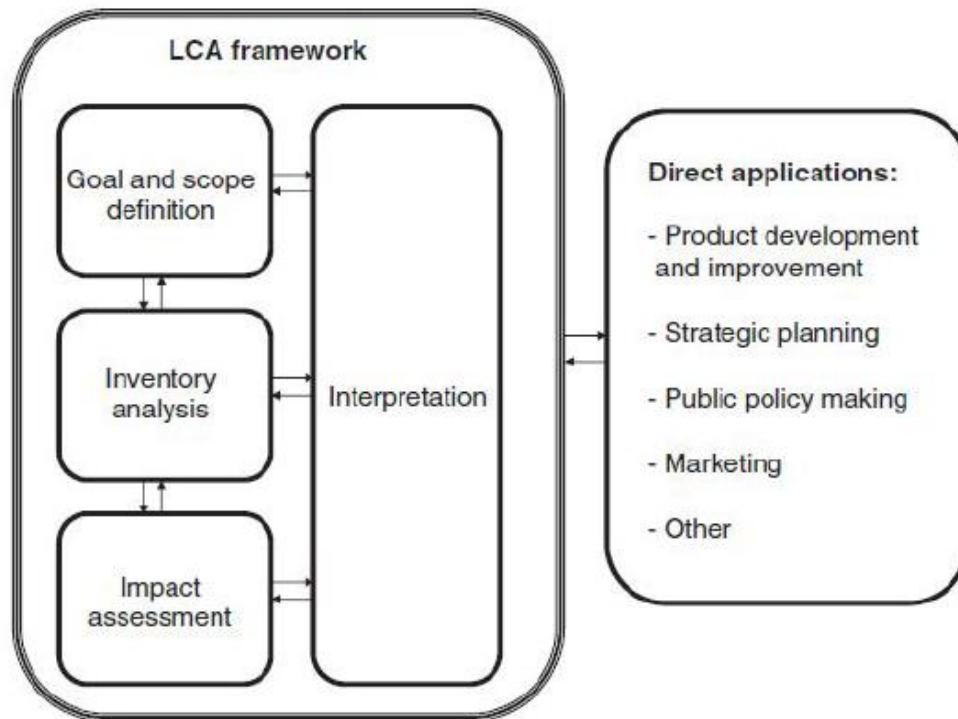
The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

... BUT ...



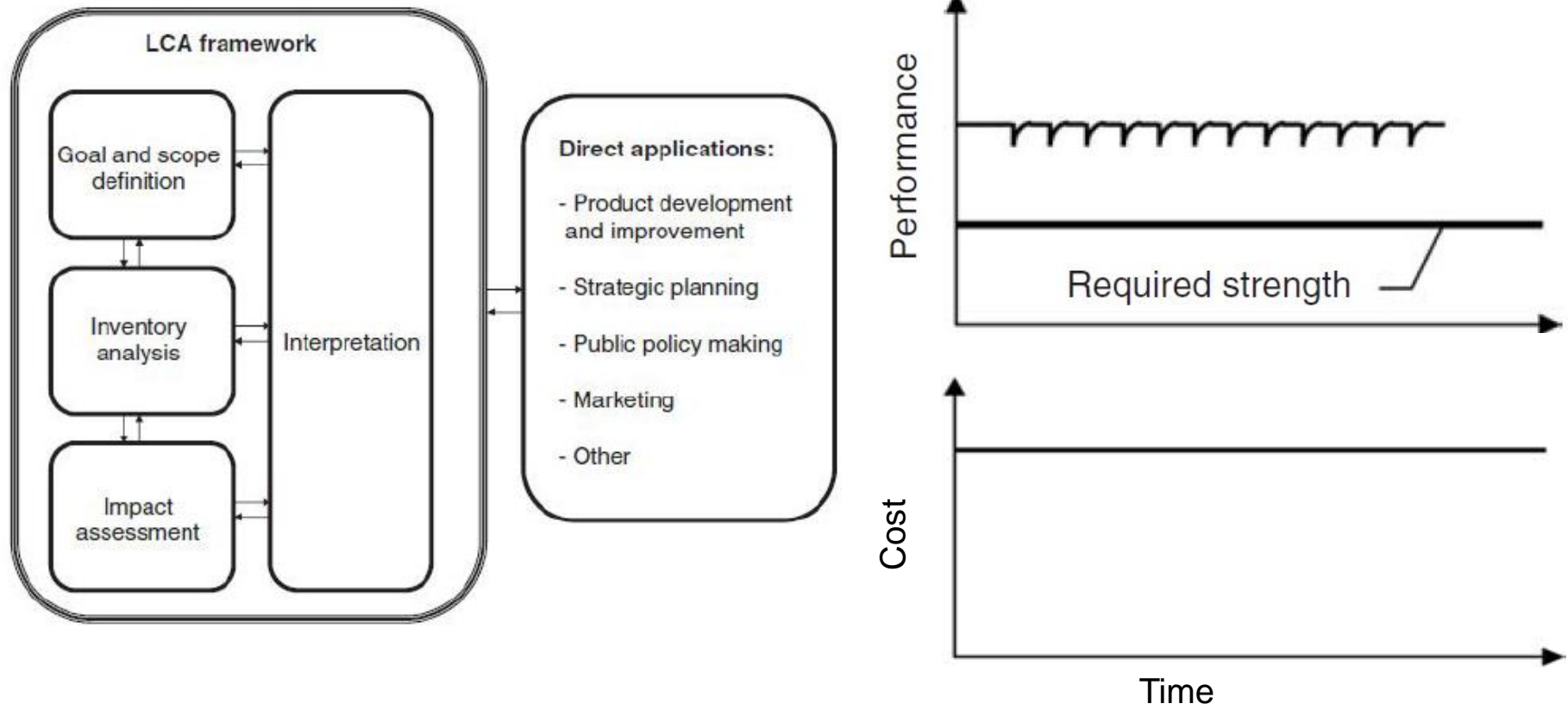
The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

... a Life Cycle Analysis approach is required ...



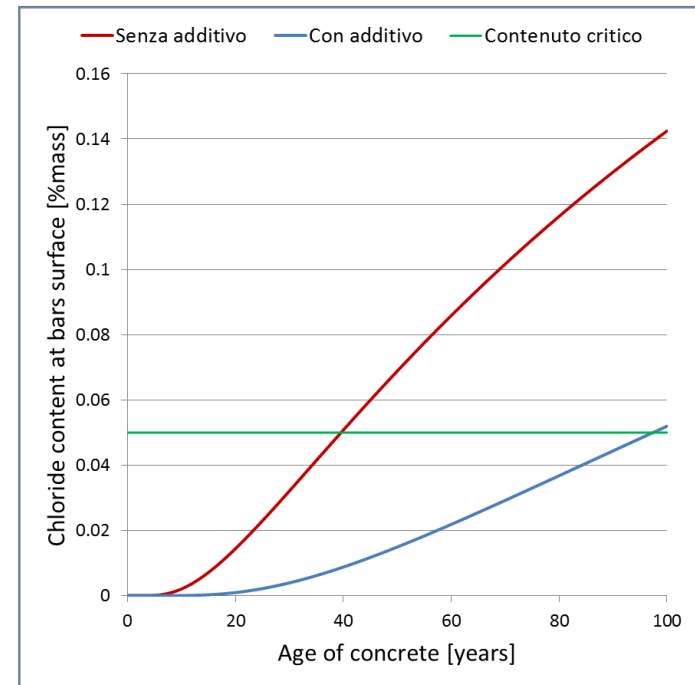
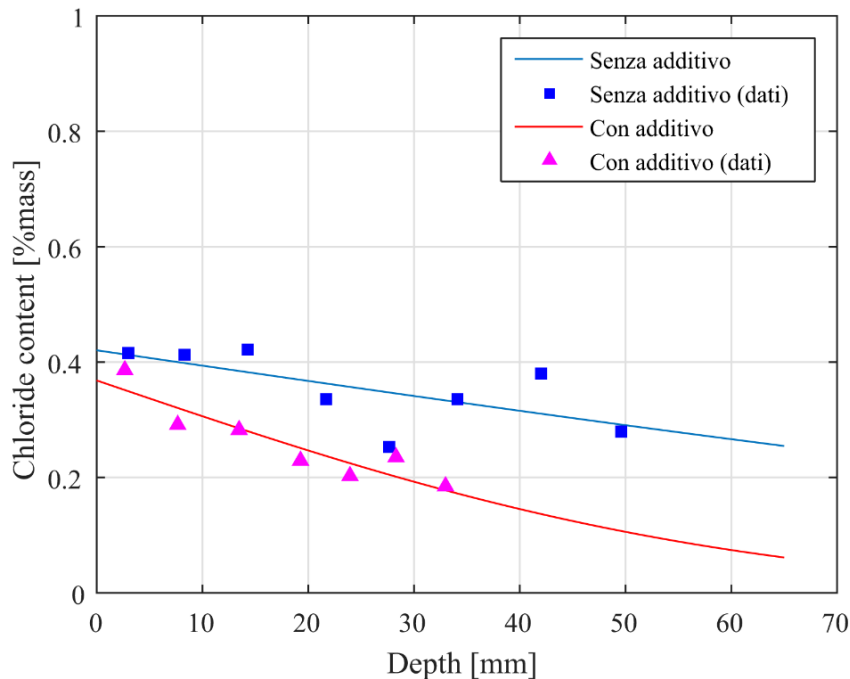
The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

... a Life Cycle Analysis approach is required ...



The ReSHEALience project modelling approach

... a Life Cycle Analysis approach is required ...
... from durability testing to service life prediction ...



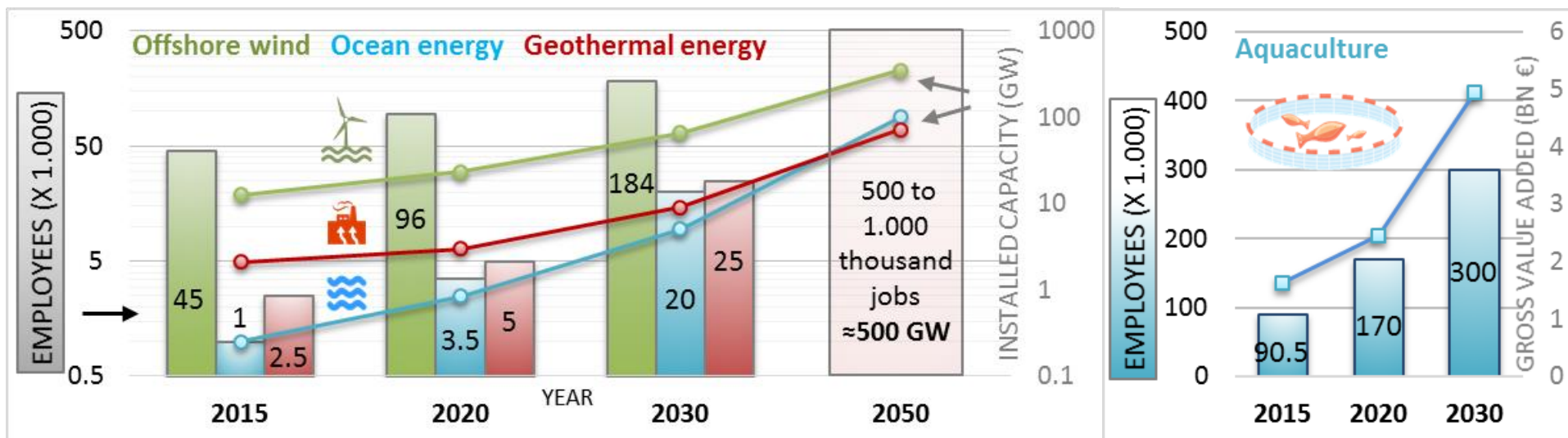
$$C(x = a, t) = C_s \cdot \operatorname{erfc} \left(\frac{x}{2 \cdot \sqrt{D_{app} \cdot t}} \right)$$

$$D_{app}(t) = D_{app}(t_0) \cdot \left(\frac{t_0}{t} \right)^\alpha$$

The ReSHEALience project: what next?

Ultra High Durable Concrete (UHDC):

“strain-hardening (fibre reinforced) cementitious material with functionalizing micro- and nano-scale constituents (alumina nanofibers, cellulose nanofibers/crystals, crystalline admixtures) especially added to obtain a high durability in the cracked state”.



The ReSHEALience project: what next?

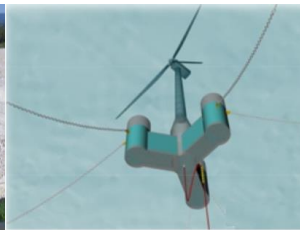
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6 pilots: Green Energy, Blue Growth, Architectural Heritage Conservation



Cooling towers water basins (IT)
Geothermal drilling muds basins (IT)



Floater for offshore wind towers (ES)
Mussel farming rafts (ES)
Breakwater elements (IE)



r/c retrofitting (MT)

www.uhdc.eu

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

