



# Variation de la microstructure des argiles remaniées sous chargement triaxial en relation avec le phénomène de la dilatance

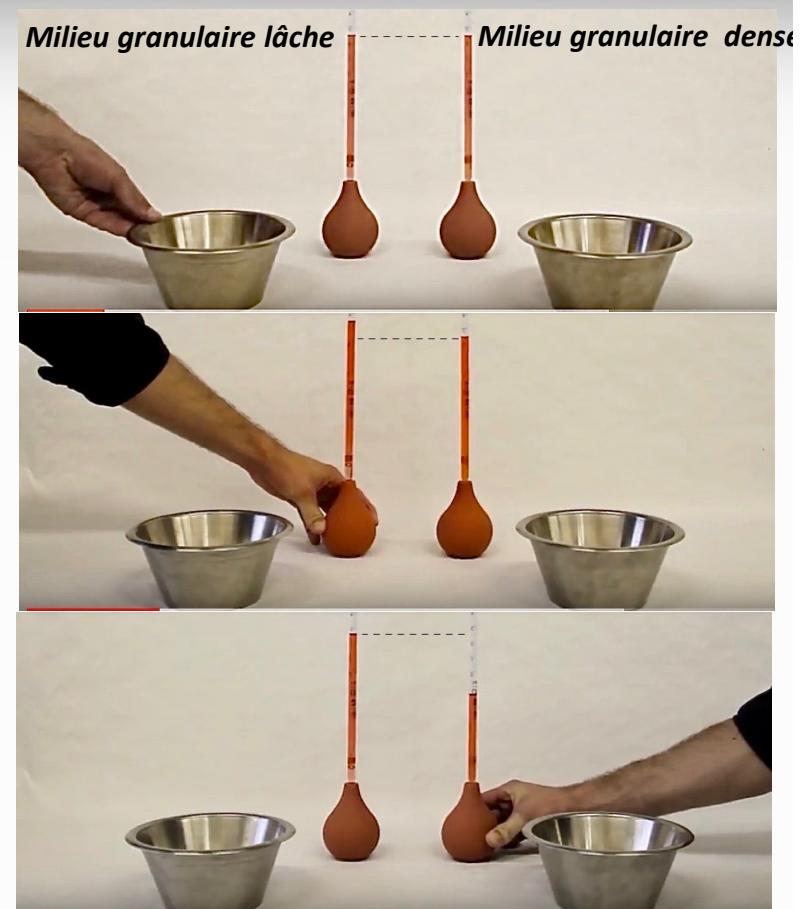
**Qianfeng GAO (LEM3-UL), Mahdia HATTAB (LEM3-UL), Jean-Marie Fleureau (MSSMat-CentraleSupélec),  
Pierre-Yves HICHER (GeM-EC Nantes )**

# *Partie 1 – Etude expérimentale*

# *Partie 2 – Modélisation Micromécanique*

- 1      Introduction**
- 2      Comportement mécanique – Chemins triaxiaux**
- 3      Comportement dilatant et état microstructurelle**
- 4      Conclusions**

## Phénomène de Dilatance- Dilatance de Reynolds



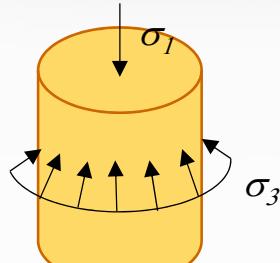
## Phénomène de Liquéfaction



Effondrement par Liquéfaction.  
Séisme de Niigata (1964) – (USGS)

Faculty of Civil Engineering RWTH  
Aachen University

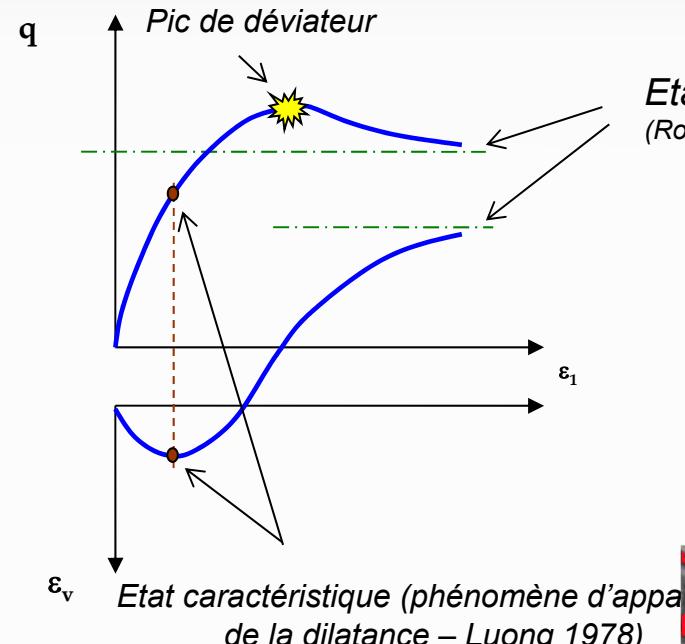
## Objectifs



$$p' = \frac{\sigma'_1 + 2\sigma'_3}{3}$$

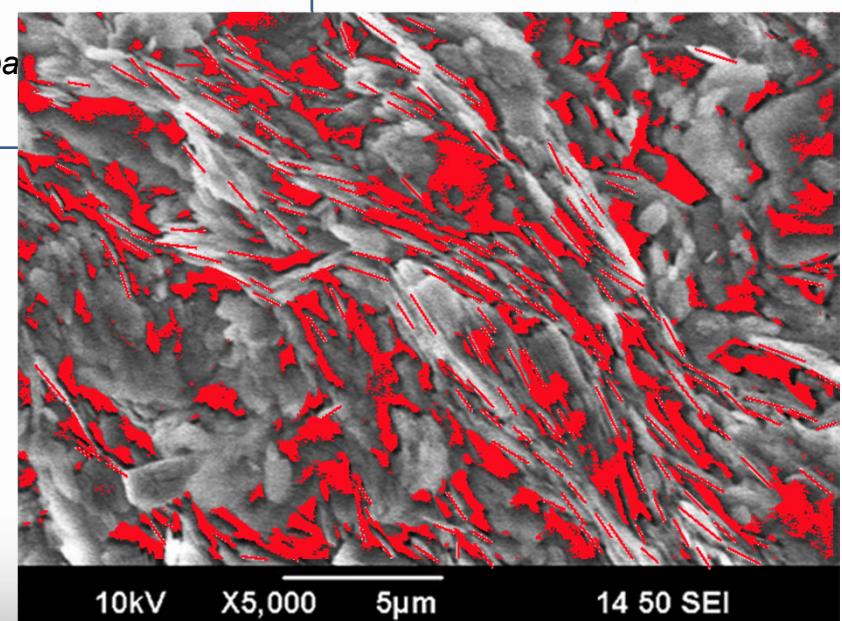
$$q = \sigma'_1 - \sigma'_3$$

Cas de  $OCR > 2$



Comportement typique des argiles saturées remaniées surconsolidées sur chemin triaxial classique

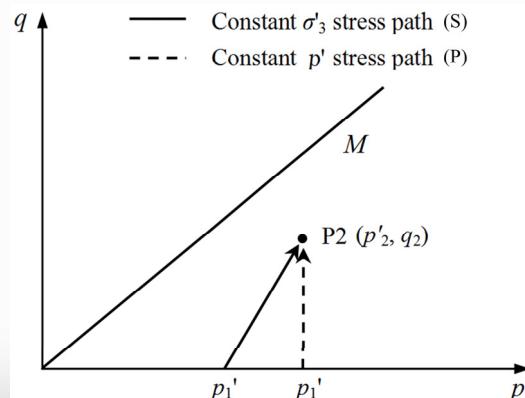
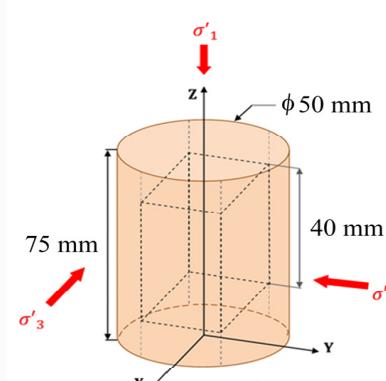
Identifier les mécanismes qui s'activent au niveau local pour les relier au comportement macroscopique



## Approche expérimentale pour une investigation Micro-Macro

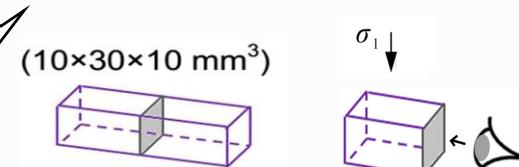
### Essais Mécaniques

#### Essais triaxiaux drainés

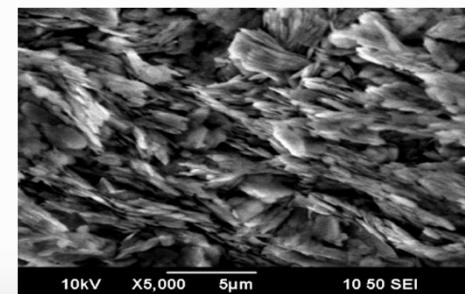


### Observations Microscopiques

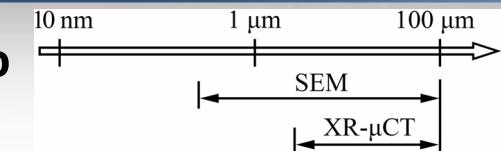
#### Microscopie Electronique à Balayage Observations au MEB



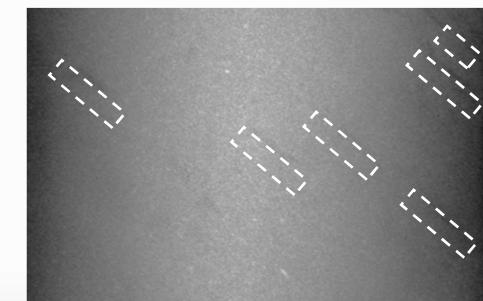
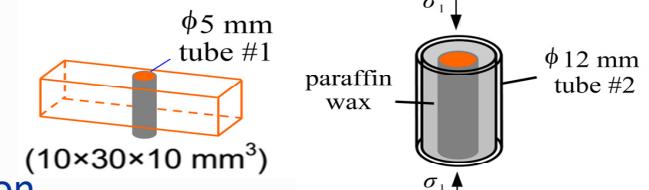
Lyophilisation, Fracture, Métallisation



Images MEB



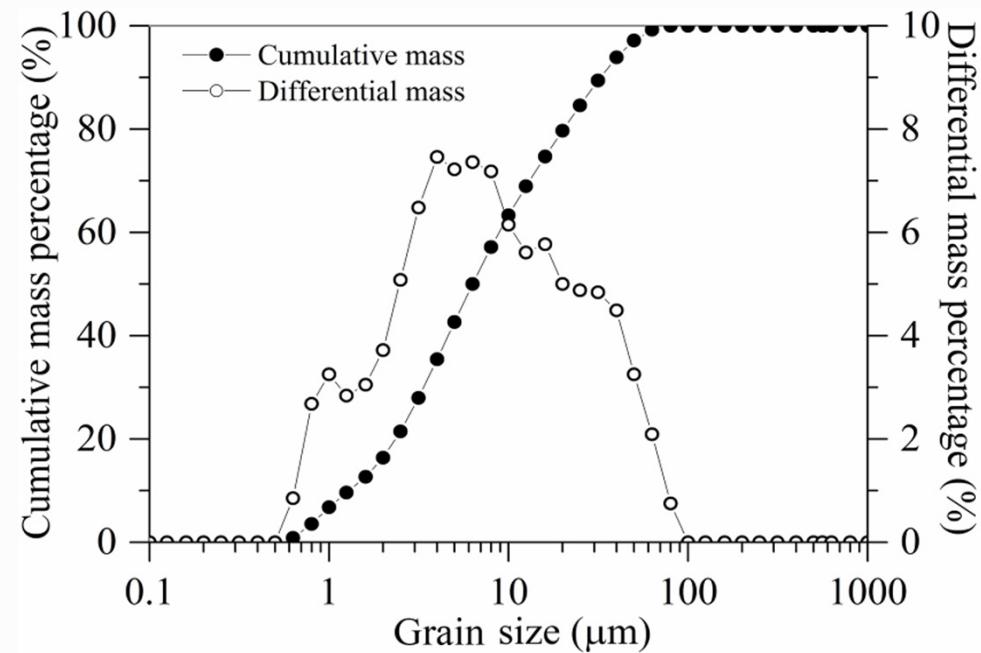
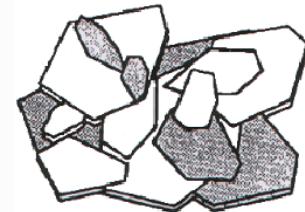
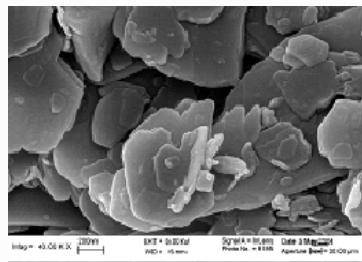
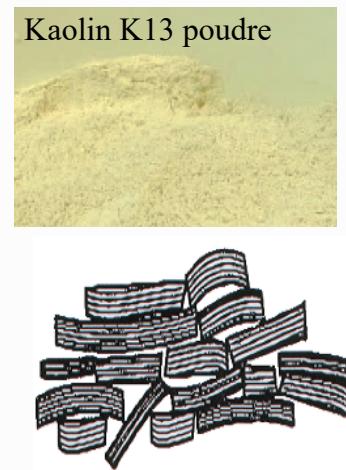
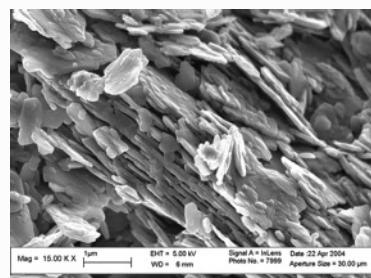
#### X-ray Microtomography (XR-µCT) scans



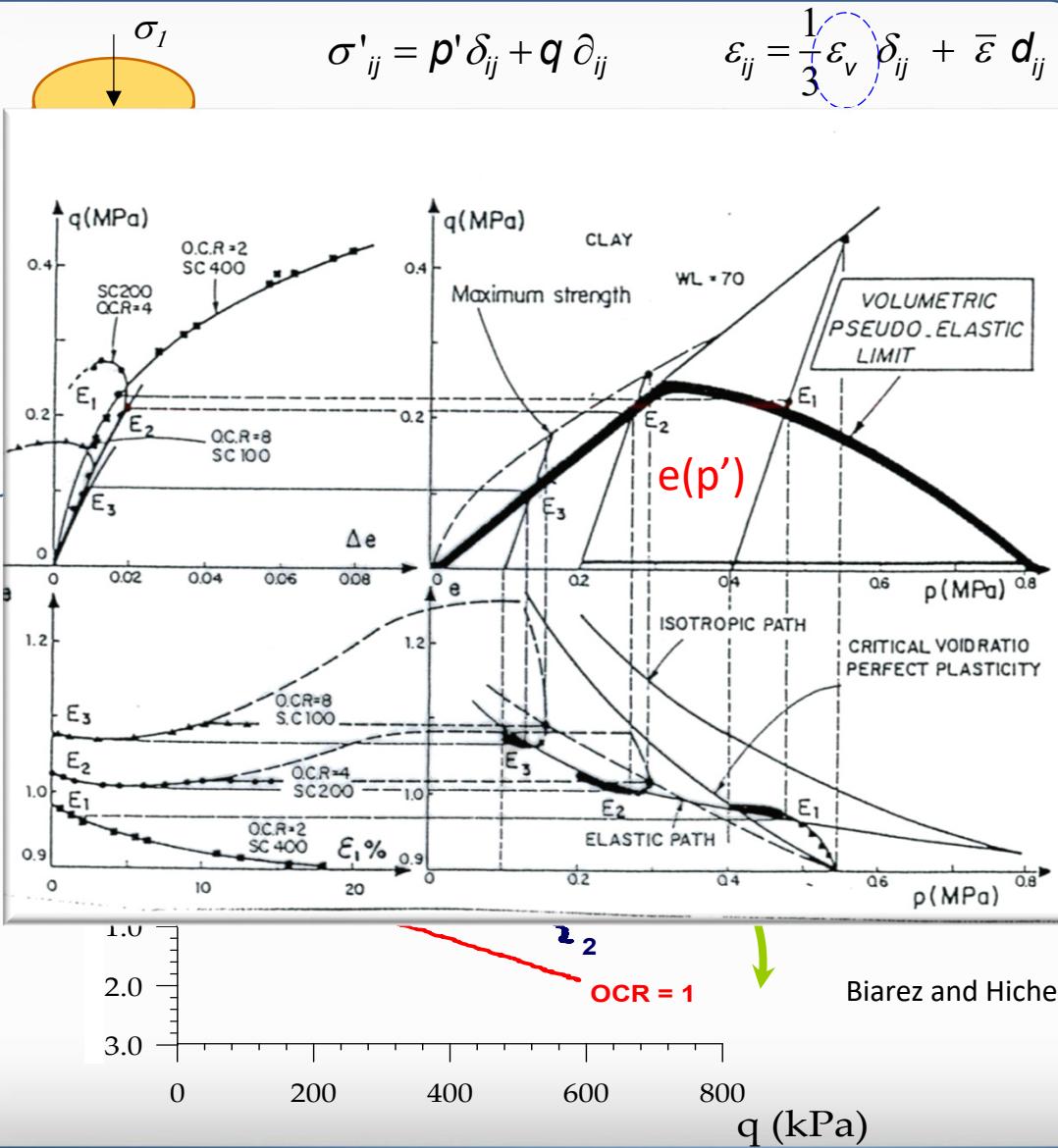
CT projection

## Propriétés du matériau modèle

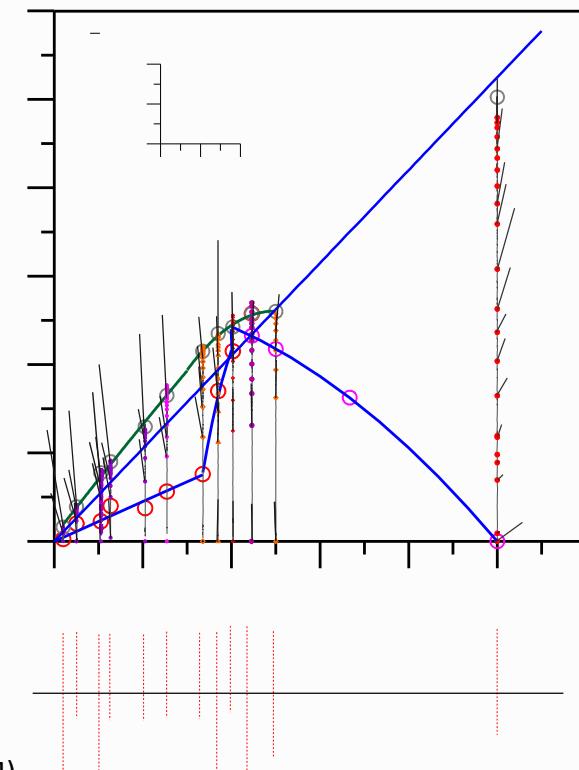
Matériau	Limite de liquidité $w_L$ (%)	Limite de plasticité $w_P$ (%)	Indice de plasticité $I_p$ (%)	Densité des grains solides $\rho_s/\rho_w$	Indice de compression $Cc$	Indice de gonflement $t_{Cs}$
<b>Kaolin K13</b>	42	21	21	2.63	0.28	0.09



## Cadre formel de l'élastoplasticité

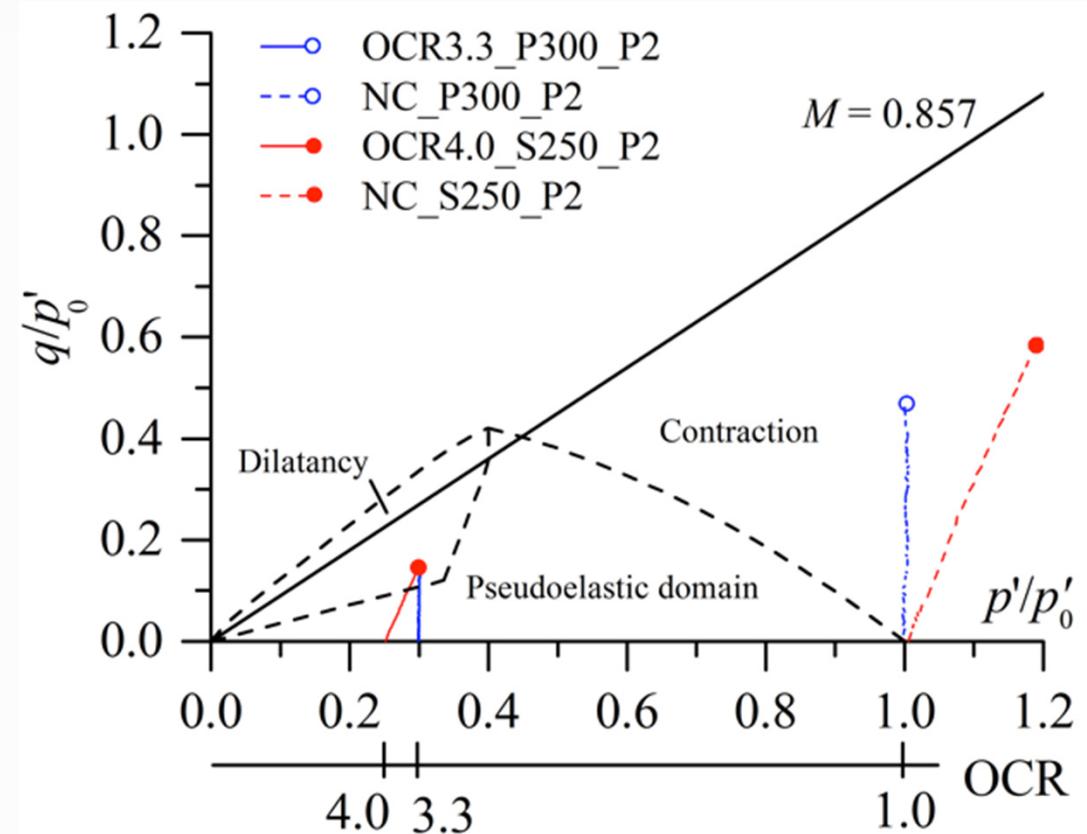
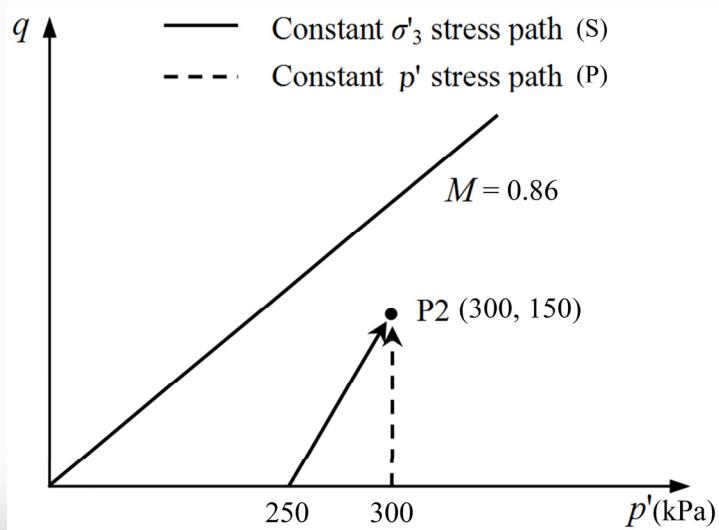
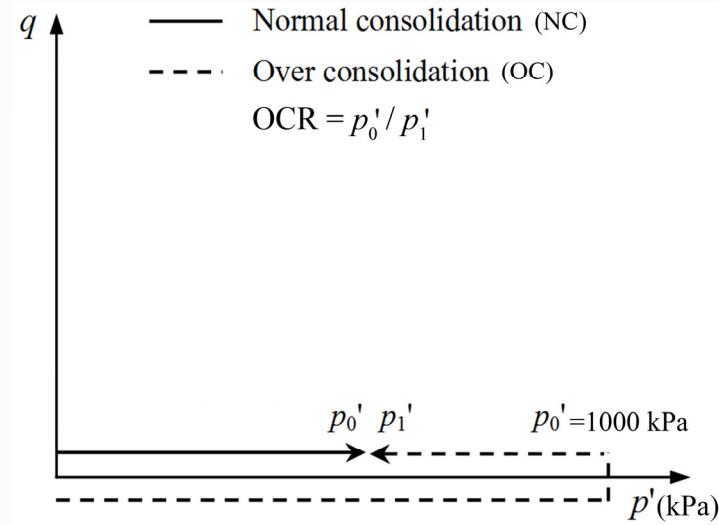


Hattab M, Hicher P-Y (2004)

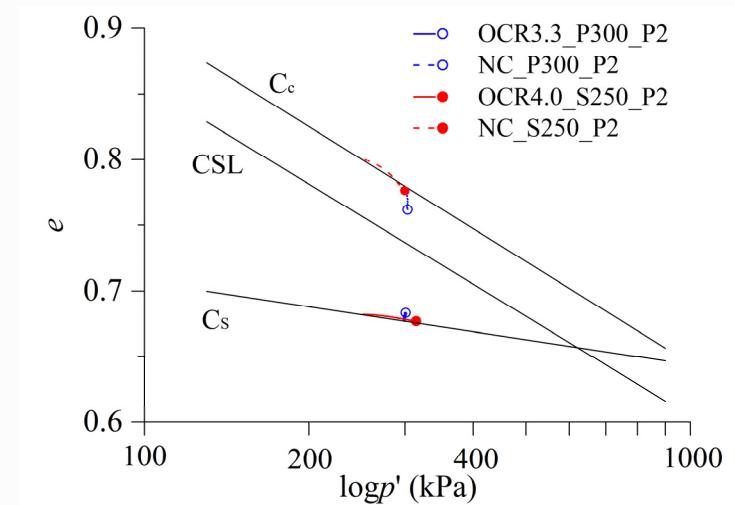
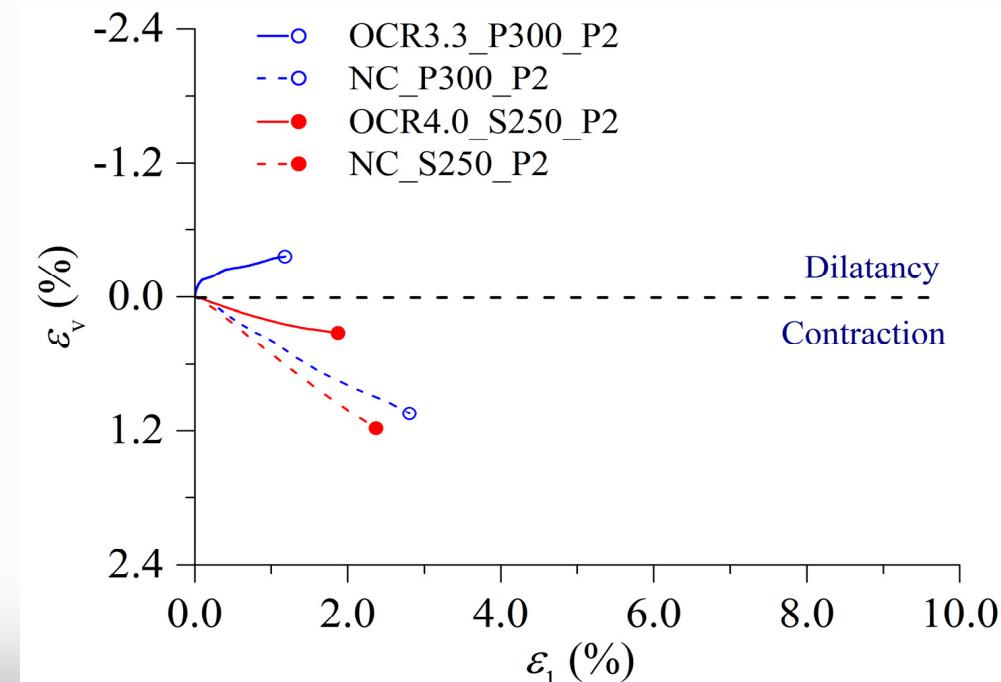
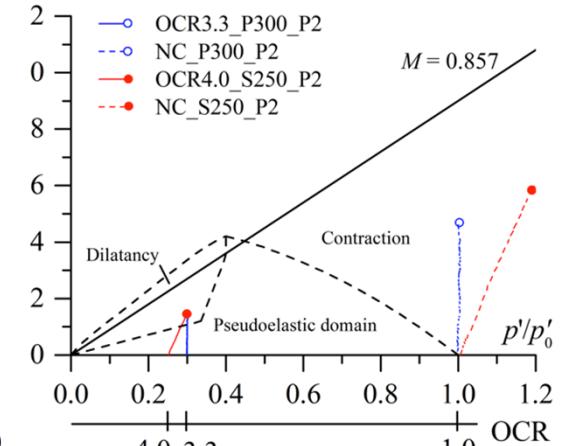
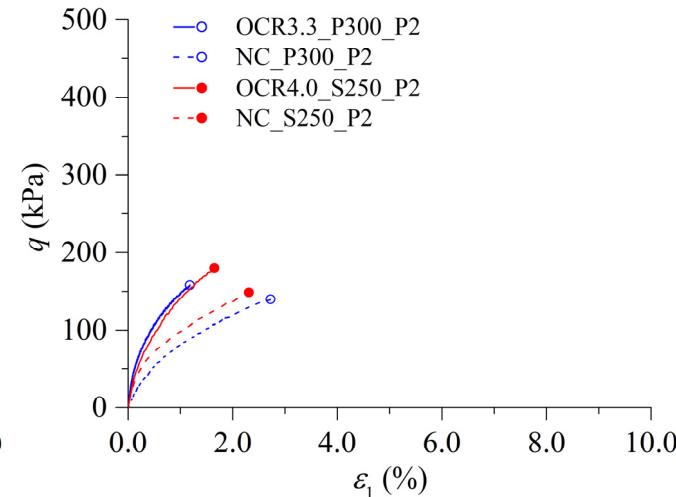
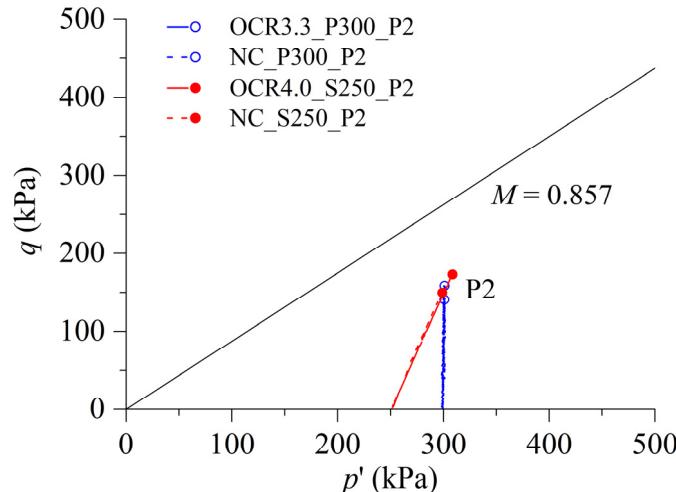


Biarez and Hicher (1994)

## Cadre de l'étude

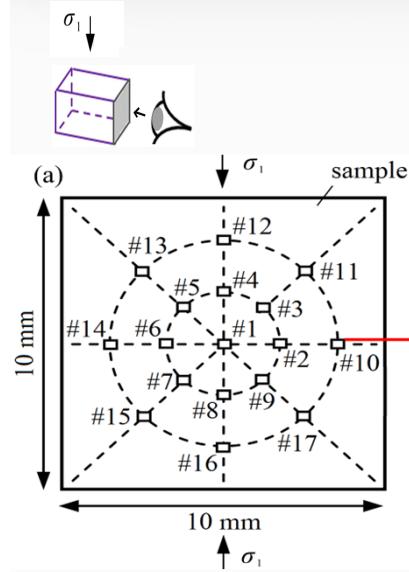


## Comportement mécanique - Influence du chemin des contraintes

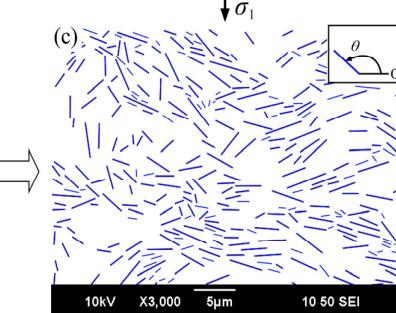
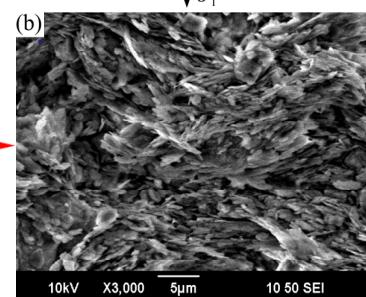


Ighil Ameur L., Gao Q. (2016)

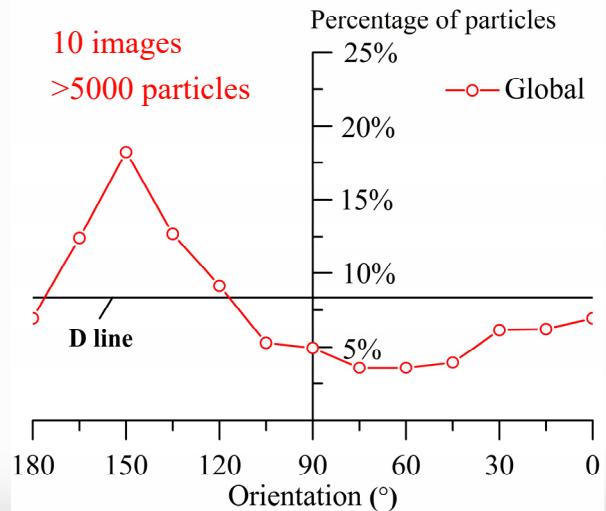
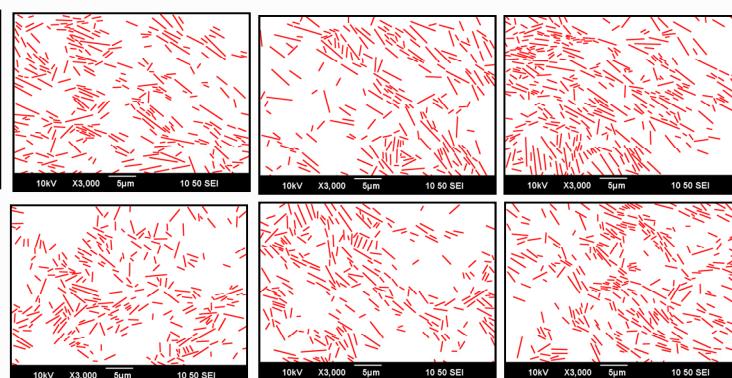
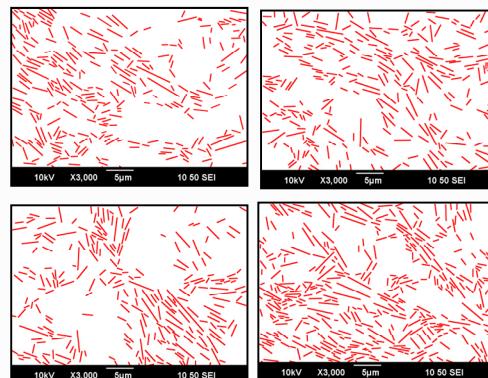
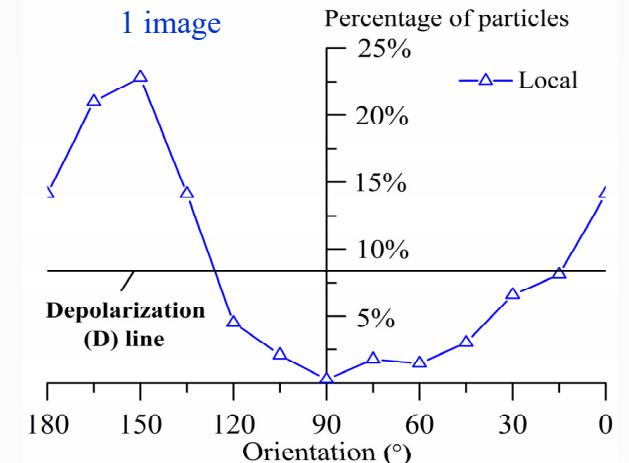
## Caractérisation de la Microstructure – Orientation des particules (MEB)



(Hattab and Fleureau, 2010)

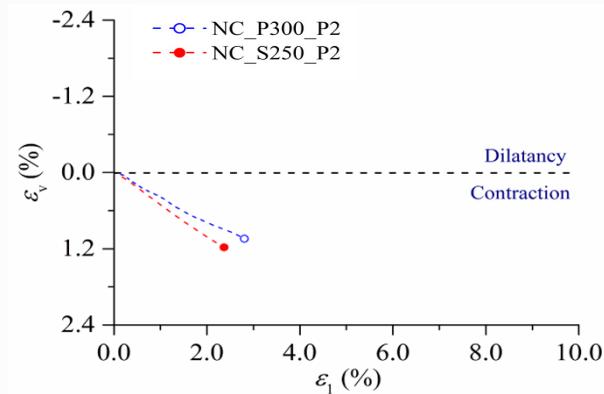


(Q. Gao, 2018)

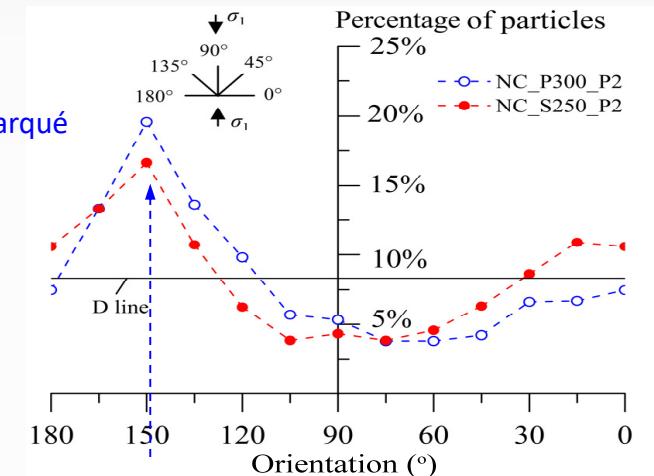


## Caractérisation de la Microstructure – Orientation des particules (MEB)

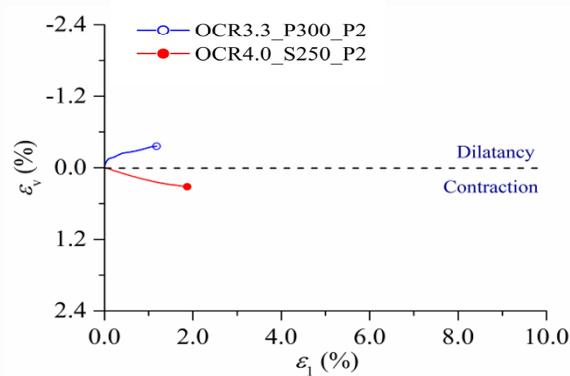
Cas normalement consolidé



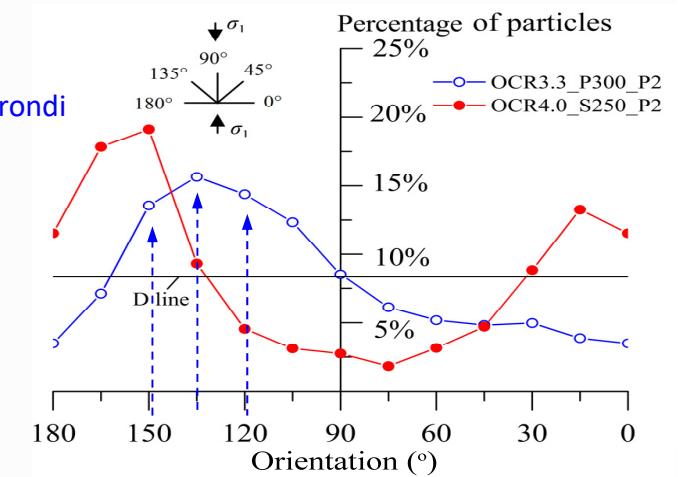
Pic marqué



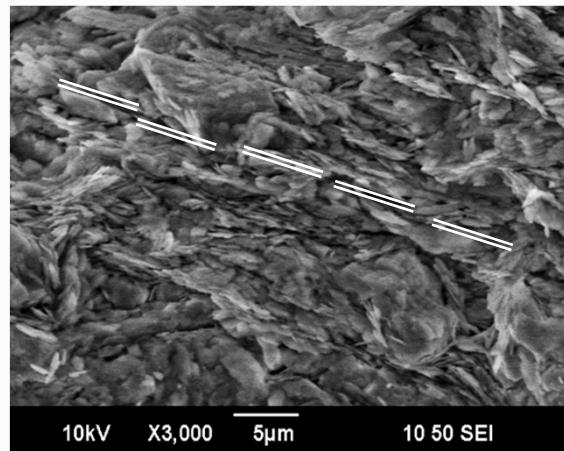
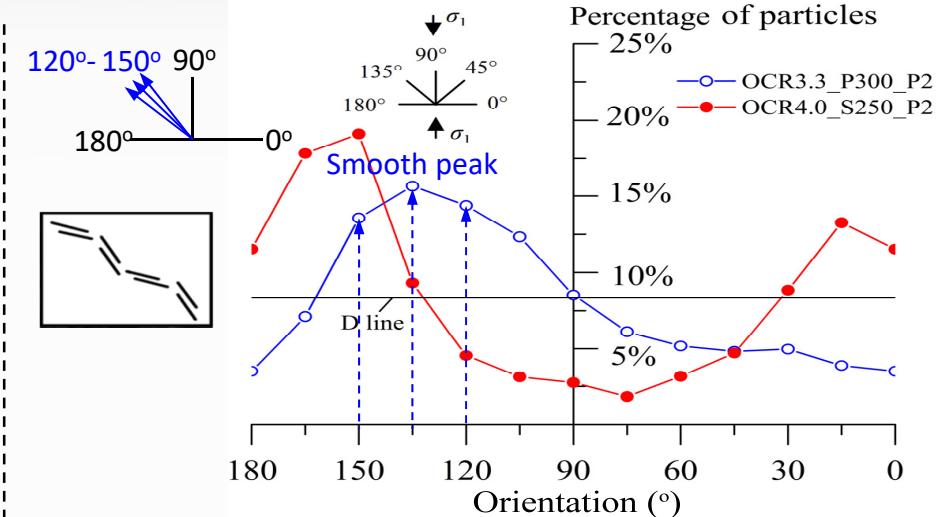
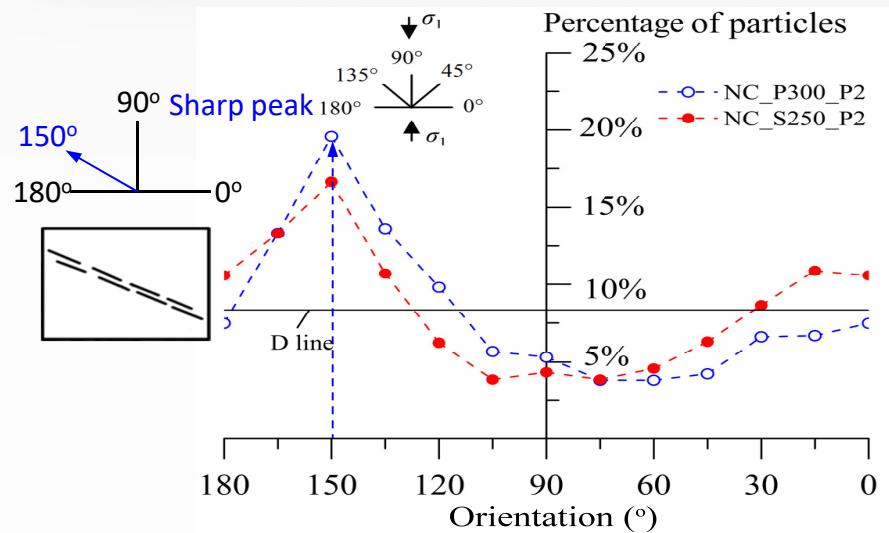
Cas surconsolidé



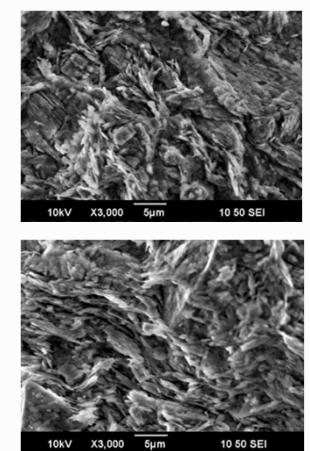
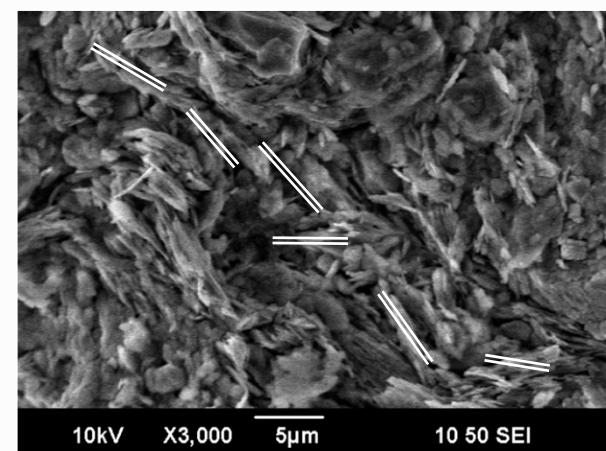
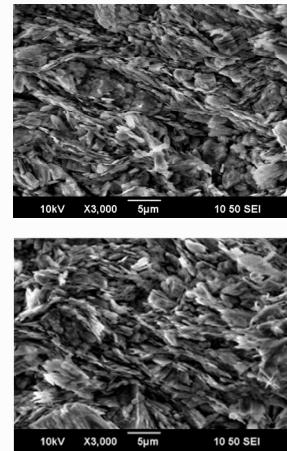
Pic arrondi



## Caractérisation de la Microstructure – Orientation des particules (MEB)



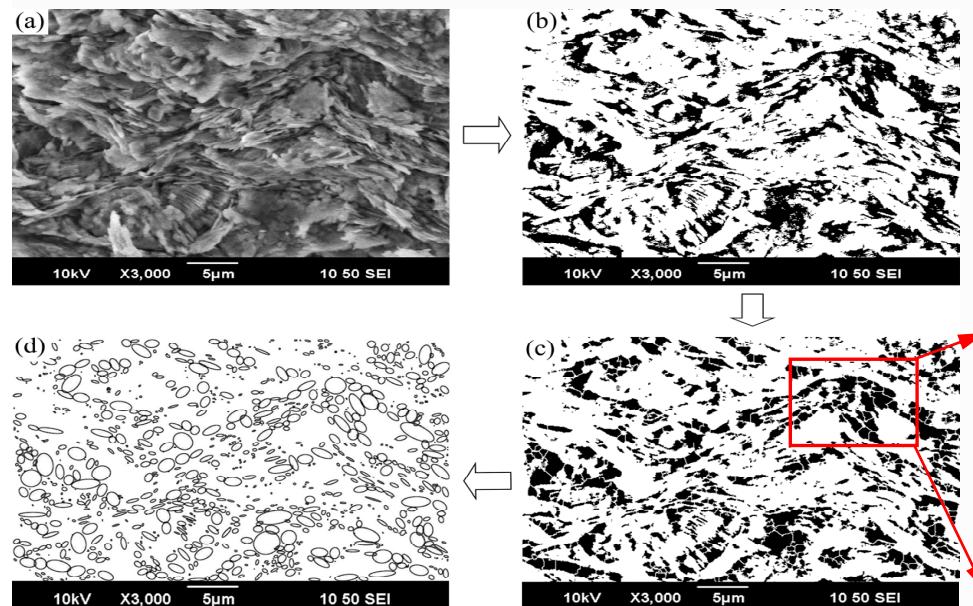
NC\_P300\_P2



OCR3.3\_P300\_P2

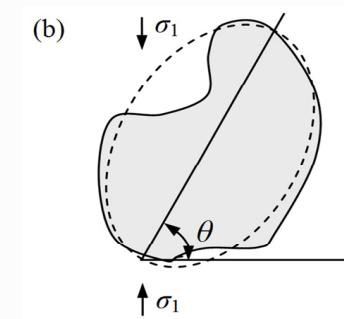
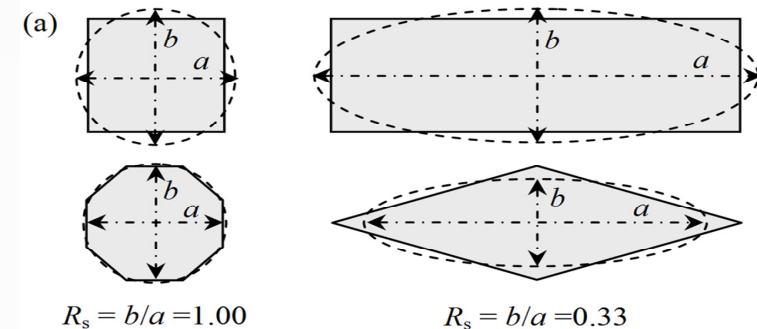
## Caractérisation de la microstructure – Forme et Orientation des pores (MEB)

(Q. Gao, 2018)



(a) Grayscale image; (b) Threshold; (c) Separation; (d) Ellipses fitting

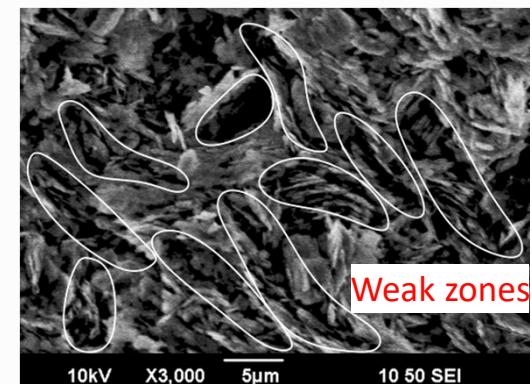
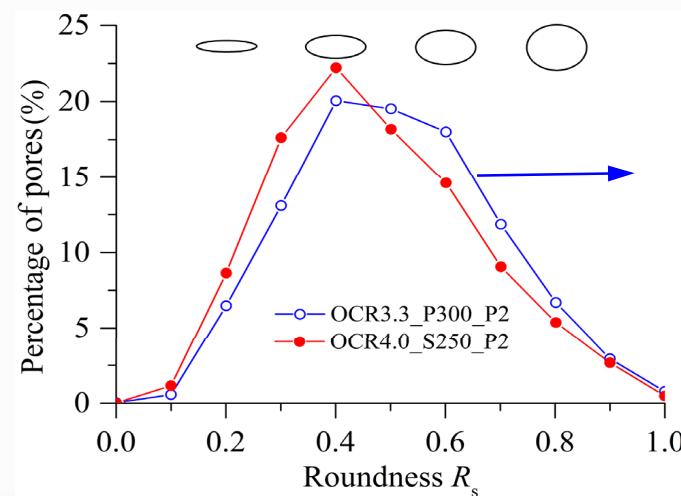
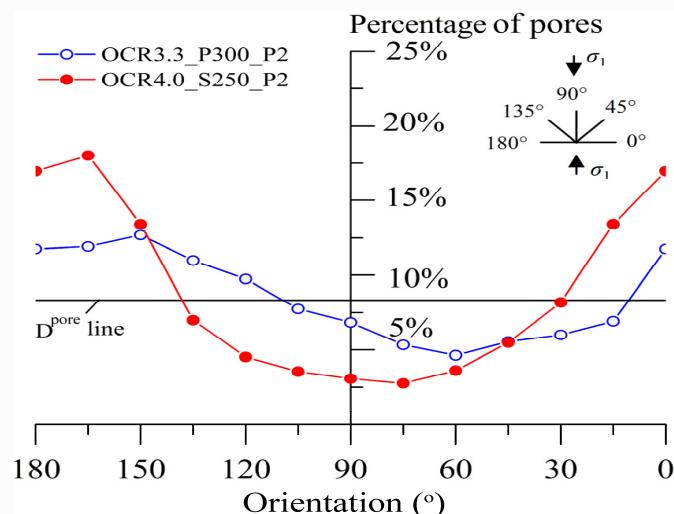
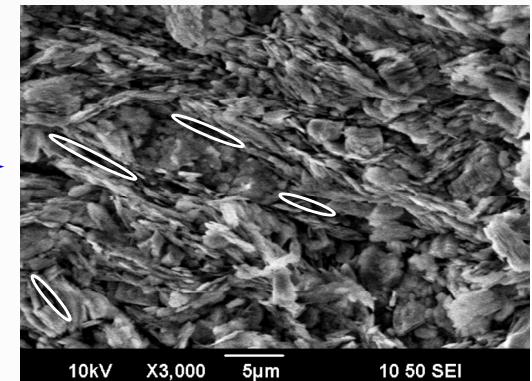
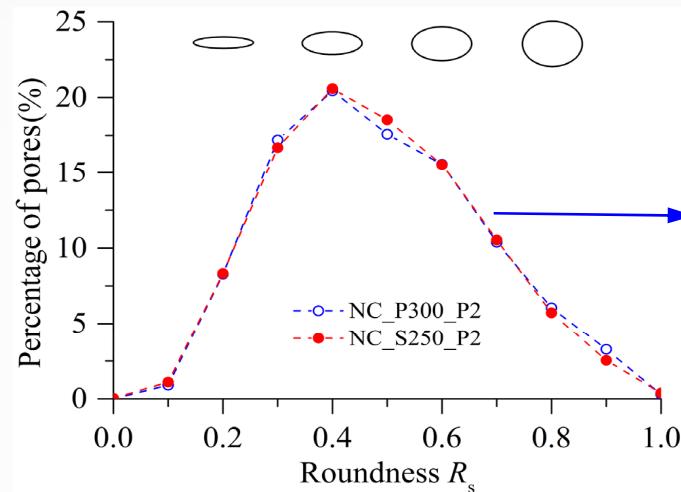
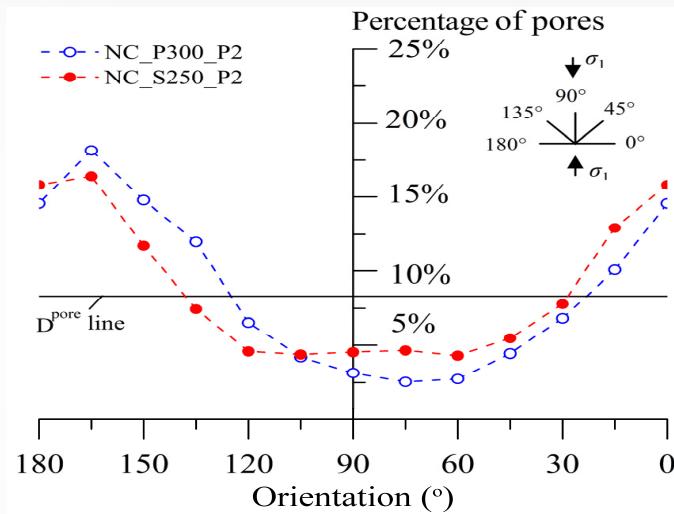
Adjustable watershed algorithm



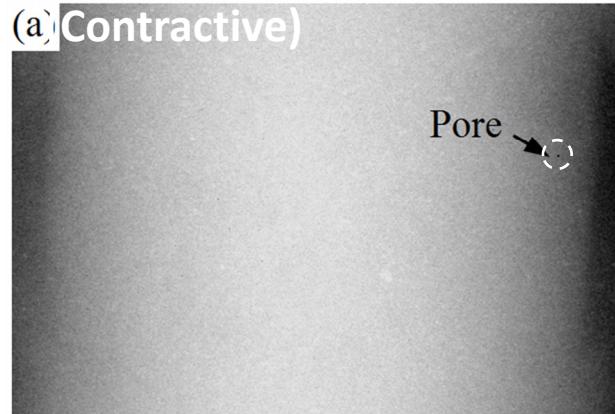
Identification de la géométrie des pores

Définition des propriétés des pores  
forme et orientation

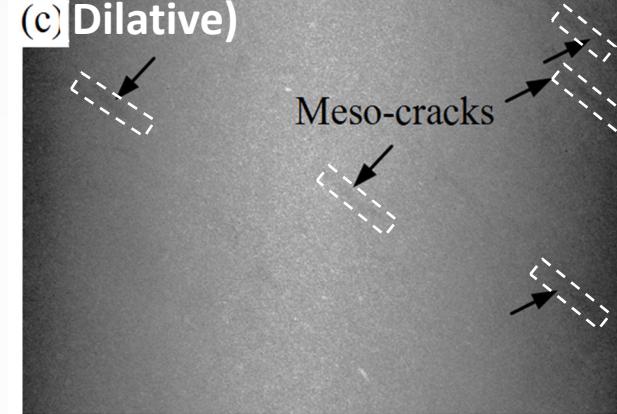
## Caractérisation de la microstructure – Forme et Orientation des pores (MEB)



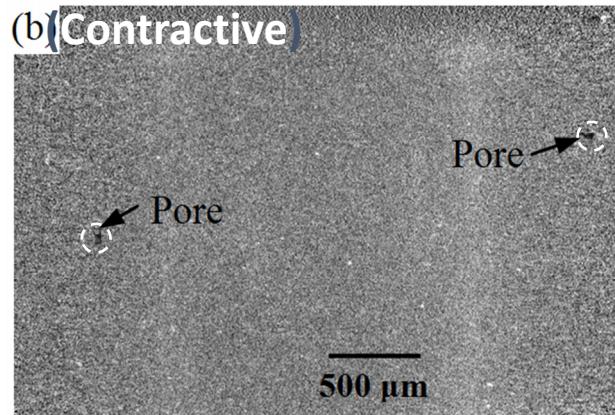
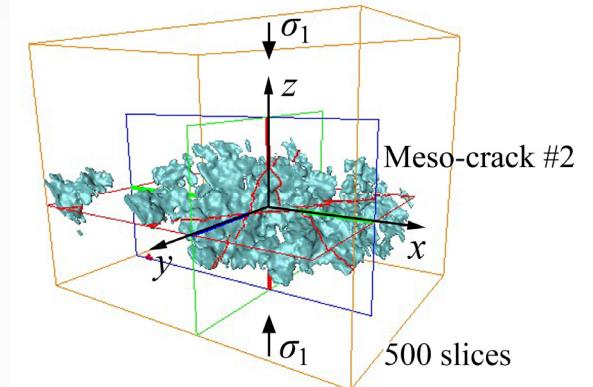
## Caractérisation de la microstructure – Microfissuration (Microtomographie)



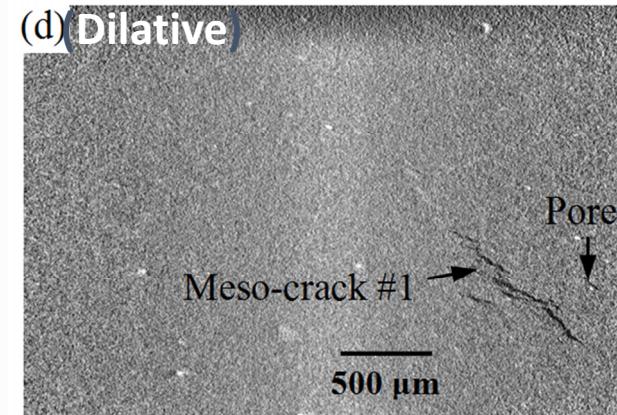
Projection de NC\_P300\_P2



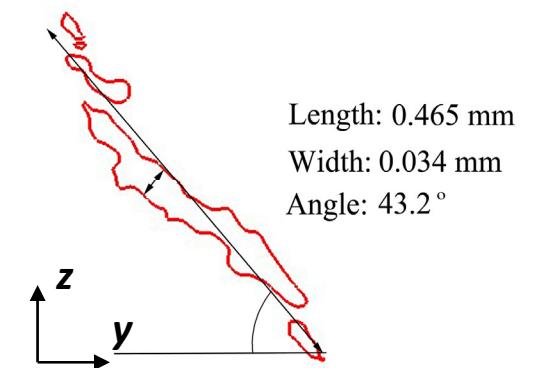
Projection de OCR3.3\_P300\_P2



Coupe de NC\_P300\_P2

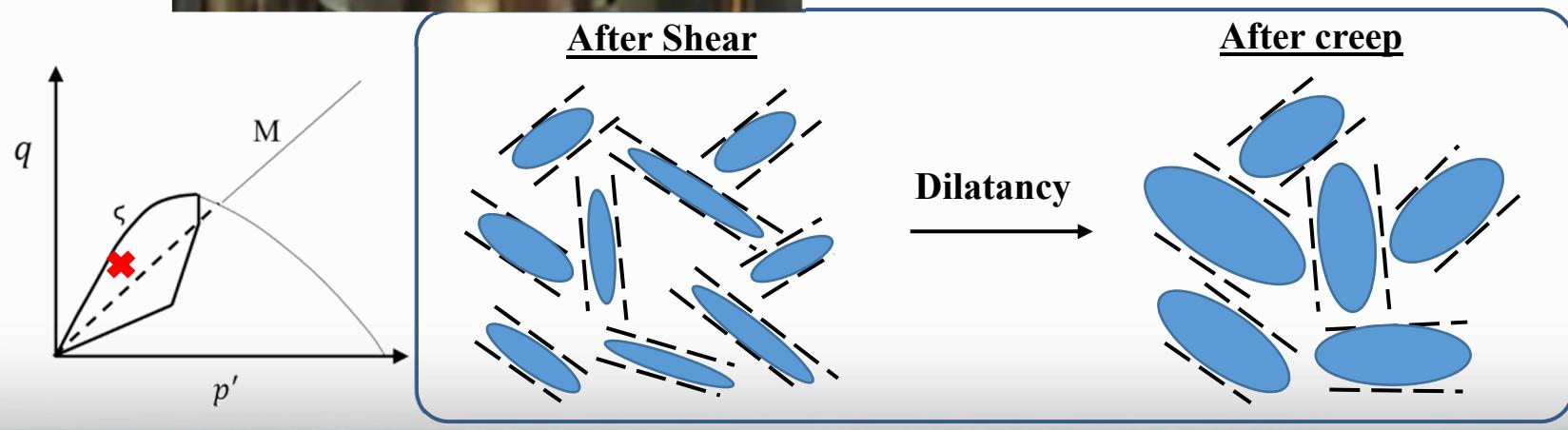
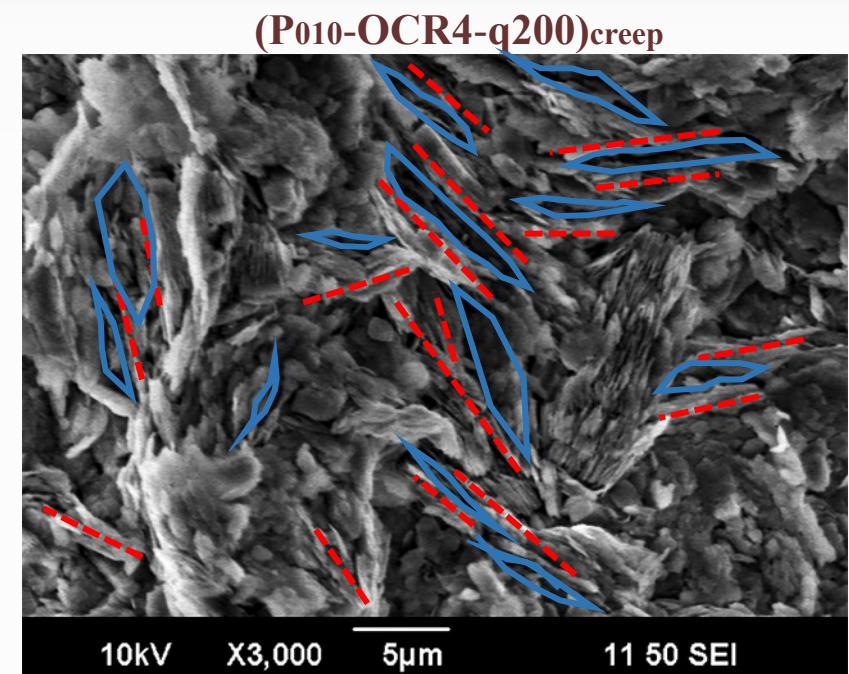
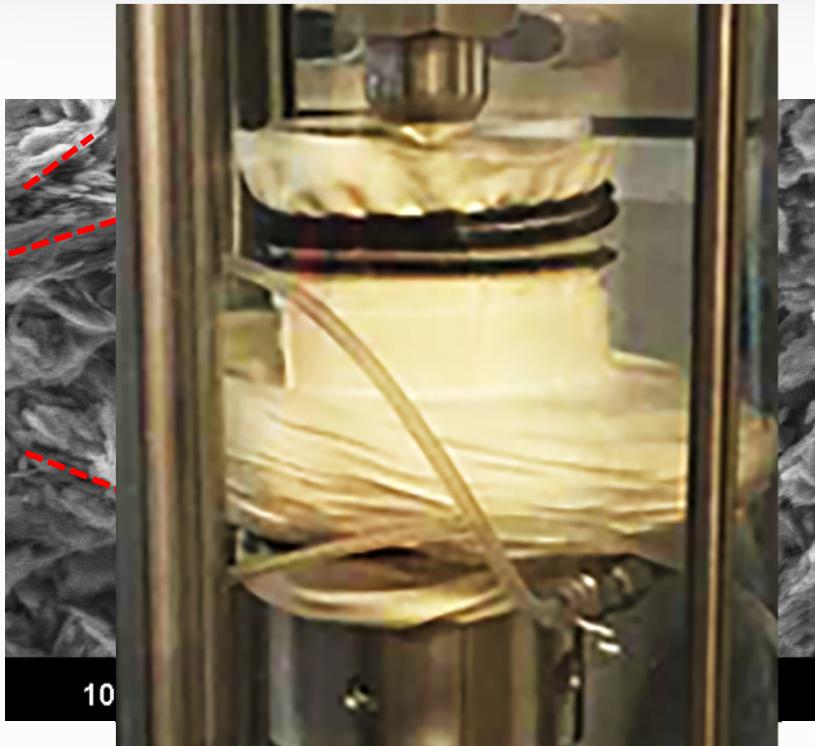


Coupe de OCR3.3\_P300\_P2



## Dilatance et Fluage

(D. Zhao, 2017)



# *Partie 1 – Conclusions*

- 1 À un niveau de contrainte donné, sur le plan des contraintes, l'argile normalement consolidée présente toujours une contractance; alors que la déformation volumique de l'argile surconsolidée dépend du chemin de contraintes : elle peut être en contractance (chemin classique) ou en dilatance (chemin purement déviatoire).
- 2 **Au niveau microstructurelle**, le comportement dilatant sur chemin purement déviatorique est associé à une orientation des particules argileuses organisées par groupe, associées face-face le long d'une ligne brisée.
- 3 Les propriétés des pores sont tout à fait cohérents avec l'orientation des particules, ils sont en forme elliptiques, plutôt ouverts, formant des micro-zones où peut s'activer le mécanisme de glissement. A un niveau de contrainte proche de la rupture, le fluage provoque un effondrement brutal de l'éprouvette.
- 4 **Le phénomène de dilatance dans les argiles remaniées saturées est gouverné par le développement d'une microfissuration plus ou moins orientée plus ou moins ouverte, et qui peut se propager jusqu'à l'échelle mésoscopique.**

# Partie 2 –Modélisation Micromécanique

➡ Approche par le modèle de Chang-Hicher (2005)

Comportement sur chemin  
isotrope



## Approche micromécanique

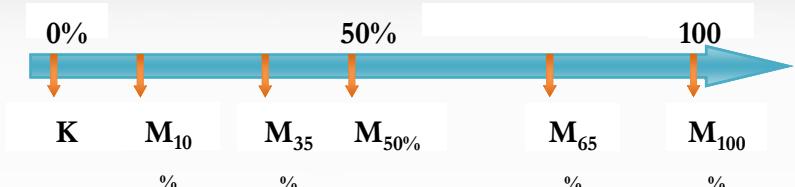
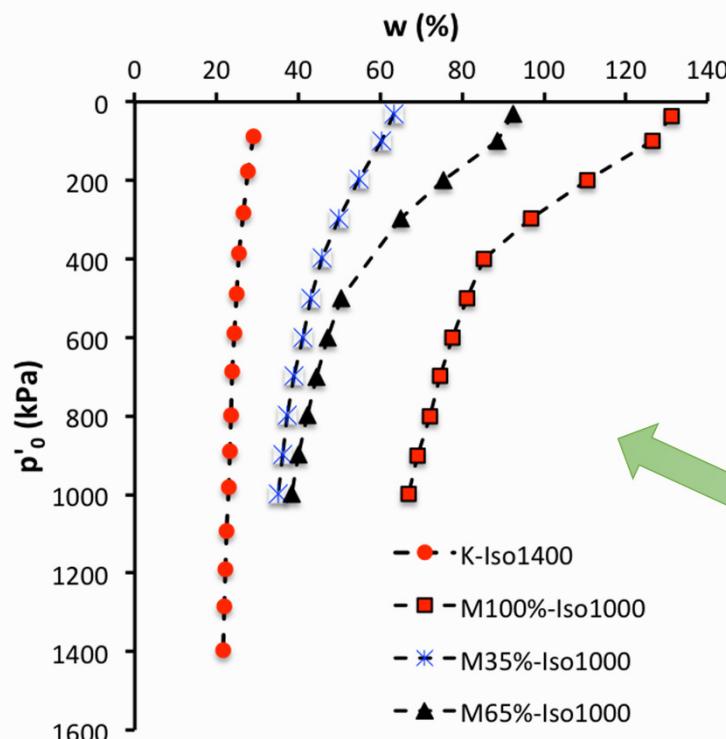
- ✓ Mécanismes locaux : introduire les propriétés physicochimiques à travers des forces répulsives and attractives agissant entre clusters
- ✓ Nécessite une validation sur un matériau dont la minéralogie est variable : V2M mélange de Montmorillonite et de Kaolinite

Ching-Shung CHANG  
[cchang@engin.umass.edu](mailto:cchang@engin.umass.edu)

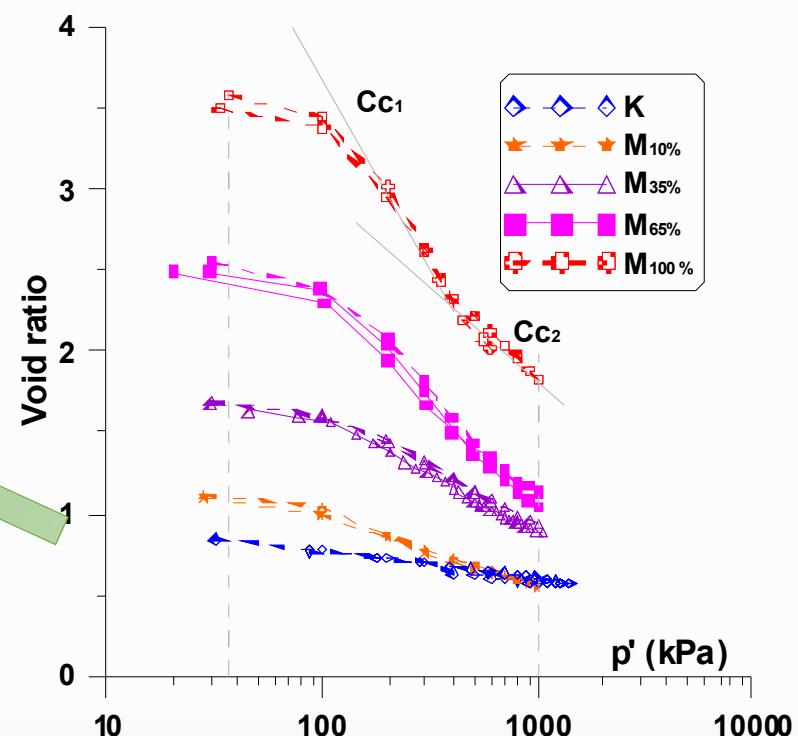


Hattab M, Chang C-S. (2015) « Inter-aggregate forces and energy potential effect on clay deformation »

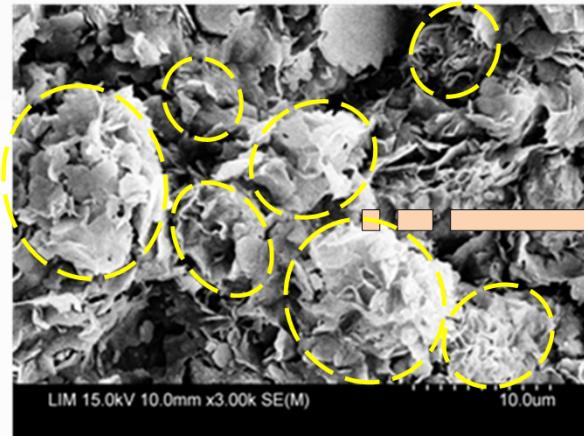
# Isotropic paths and Mineralogy variation



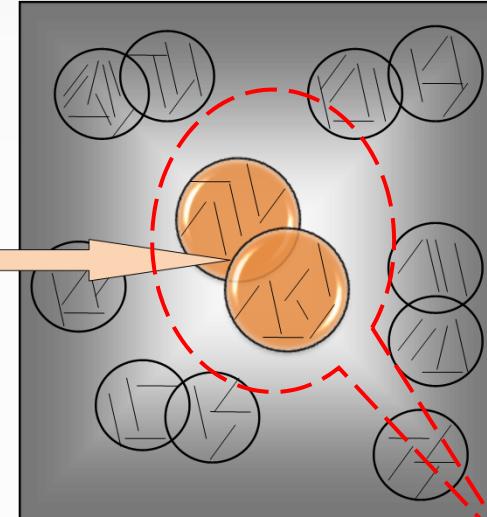
V2M : Kaolin/Montmorillonite mixture  
(saturated and reconsolidated)



# Local properties and Hypothesis



$M_{65\%}$  microstructure (Hammad et al., 2013)



Structure en agrégats des argiles :

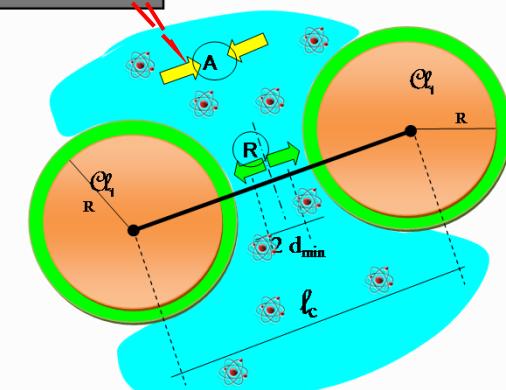
Delage and Lefebvre, 1984,

Hammad et al., 2013,

Hattab et al., 2013

## Hypothesis for intercluster interactions:

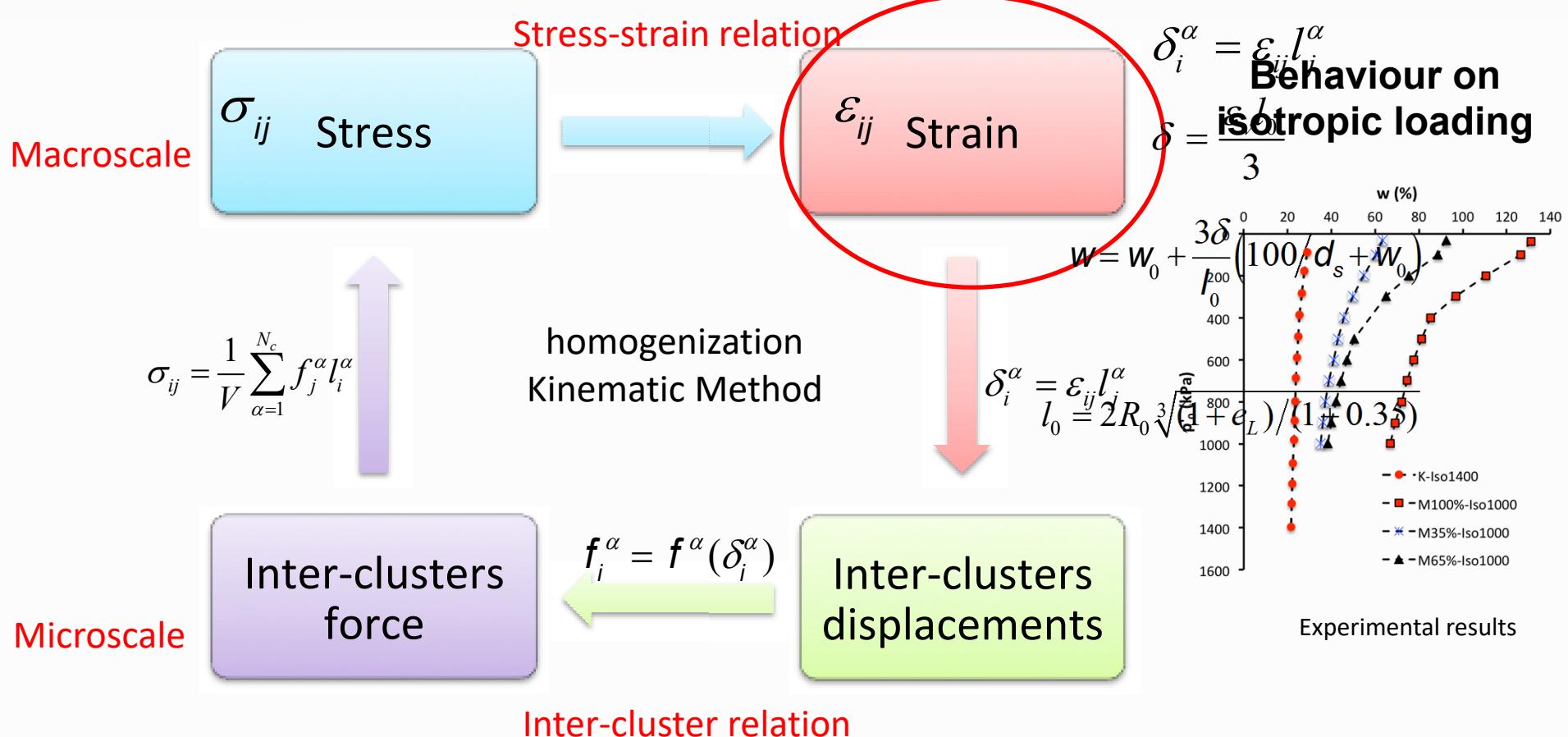
- 1- Deformation of the assembly is primarily caused by the change of inter-cluster pores. Clusters are considered as no deformable bodies.
- 2- Interacting forces exist between two neighboring clusters and between water and the charged surface of clusters.
- 3-Two types of interacting forces: electrical repulsive and attractive similar to the van der Waals forces. Both contribute to the interclusters normal force.



*Elementary system definition:  
cluster/water/cluster*

# Micromechanical approach

*Micromechanical modeling by Chang (1988),  
Chang and Liao (1994) – Chang and Hicher (2005)*



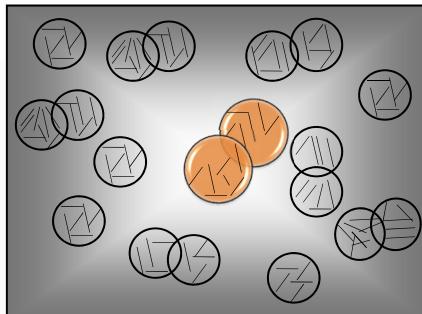
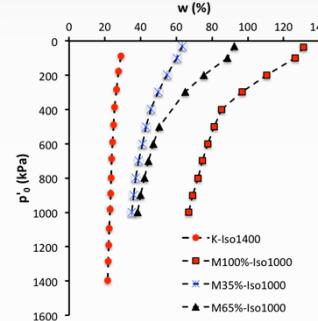
# Micromechanical approach

Under isotropic loading conditions

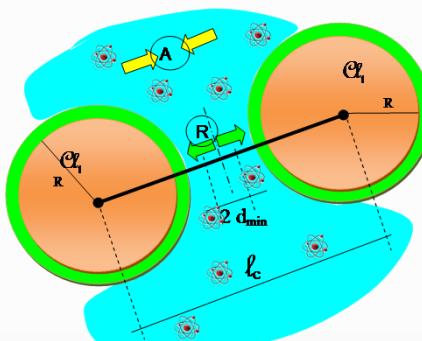


Strain

$$\delta_i^\alpha = \varepsilon_{ij} l_j^\alpha$$



Inter-clusters displacements



Macrostrain-local displacement

$$\delta_i^\alpha = \varepsilon_{ij} l_j^\alpha$$

$$\delta = \frac{\varepsilon_v l_0}{3}$$

$$W = W_0 + \frac{3\delta}{l_0} \left( 100/d_s + w_0 \right)$$

$$l_0 = 2R_0 \sqrt[3]{(1+e_L)/(1+0.35)}$$

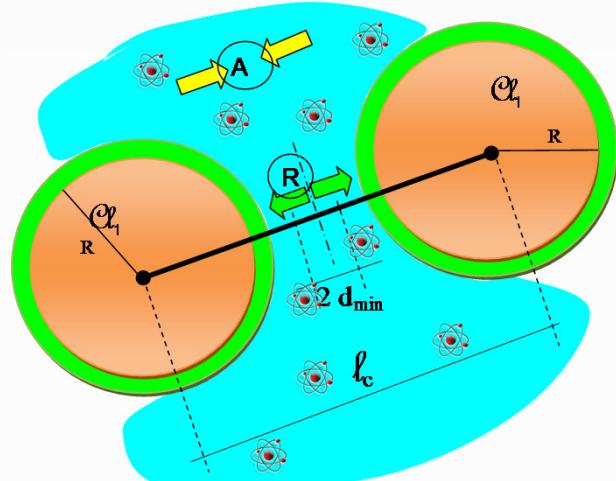
2 Parameters:

$l_0$ :  $l_c$  at liquid limit

$R_0$ : mean radius of the clusters (SEM photoanalyses)

# Micromechanical approach

Under isotropic loading conditions



$\tilde{B}$ ,  $\tilde{A}$  and  $d_{\min}$   
Identify from macro experimental data

Inter-clusters force

$$f_i^\alpha = f^\alpha(\delta_i^\alpha)$$

Inter-clusters displacements

## Microrelation and local parameters

$$f_i^\alpha = f^\alpha(\delta_i^\alpha)$$

Van der Waals (1873), Gouy (1910), Chapman (1913)  
Hamaker (1937), Verwey and Overbeek (1948)

### Potential expressions

Total potential in cluster/water/cluster

$$W = W_R + W_A$$

$$\begin{cases} w_R = \tilde{B} R e^{-d_{\min}^{-1}(l_c - 2R)} \\ w_A = -\tilde{A}_w \left[ \frac{2R^2}{l_c^2 - 4R^2} + \frac{2R^2}{l_c^2} + \ln\left(\frac{l_c^2 - 4R^2}{l_c^2}\right) \right] \end{cases}$$

### Forces deduced by derivation of $W$

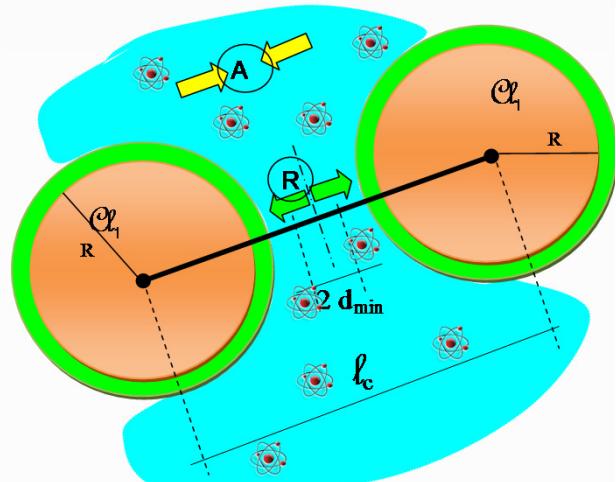
$$f = -\tilde{B} R d_{\min}^{-1} e^{-d_{\min}^{-1}(l_c - 2R)} + \tilde{A} R^2 \left[ \frac{l_c}{(l_c^2 - 4R^2)^2} + \frac{1}{l_c^3} - \frac{2}{l_c(l_c^2 - 4R^2)} \right]$$

Repulsive part

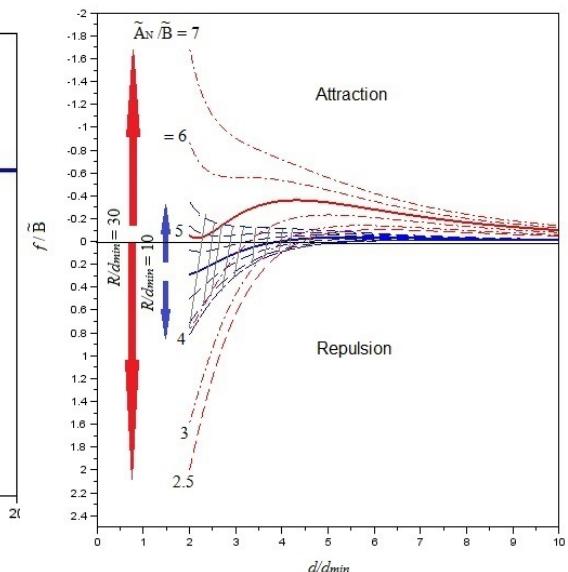
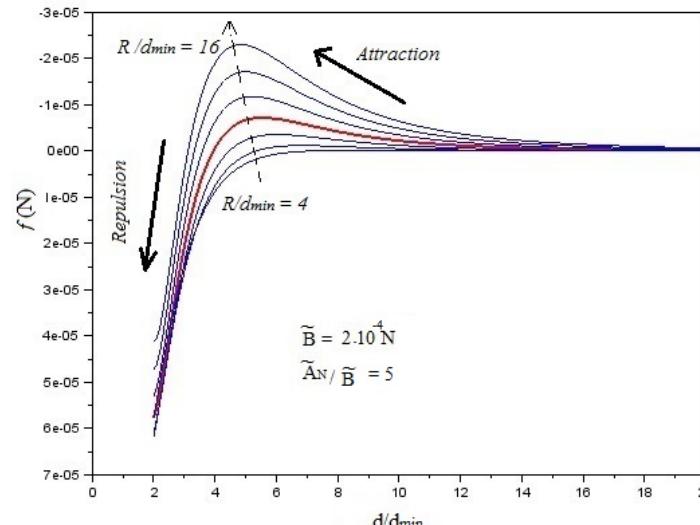
Attractive part

# Micromechanical approach

Under isotropic loading conditions



$\tilde{B}$ ,  $\tilde{A}$  and  $d_{\min}$   
Identify from macro experimental data



$$f = -\tilde{B}R \frac{d}{d_{\min}}^{-1} e^{-d_{\min}^{-1}(l_c - 2R)} + \tilde{A}R^2 \left| \frac{l_c}{(l_c^2 - 4R^2)^2} + \frac{1}{l_c^3} - \frac{2}{l_c(l_c^2 - 4R^2)} \right|$$

Inter-clusters force

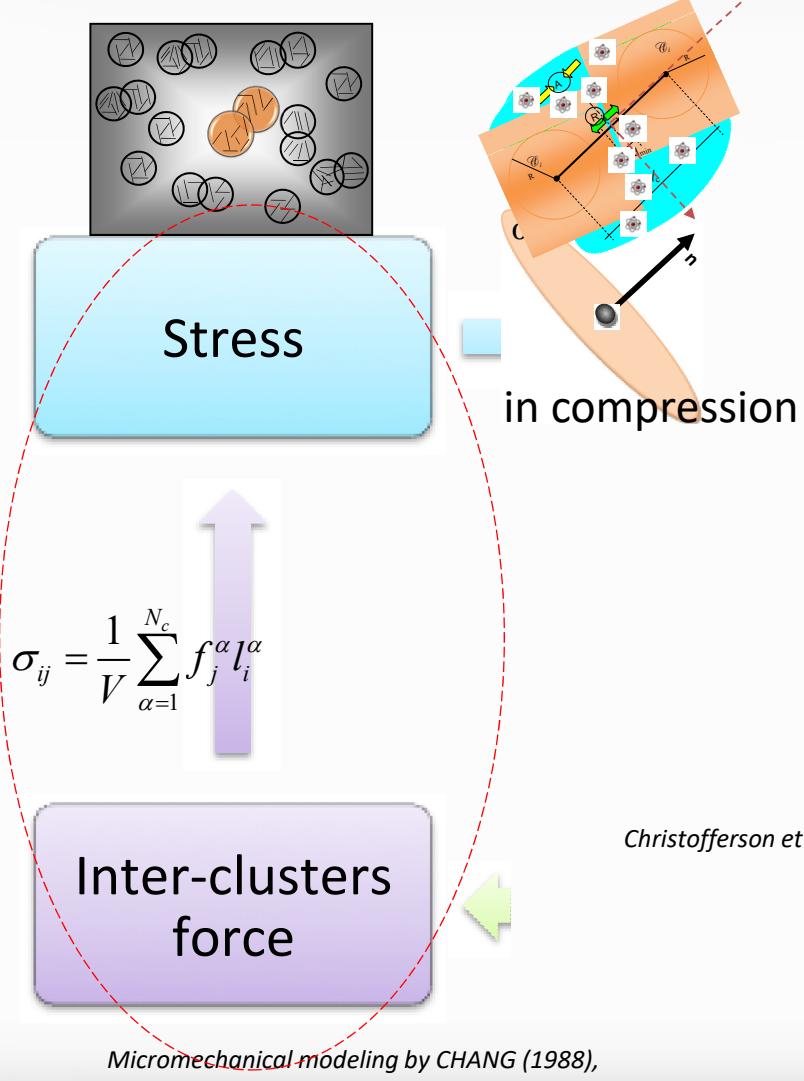
$$f_i^\alpha = f^\alpha(\delta_i^\alpha)$$

Inter-clusters displacements

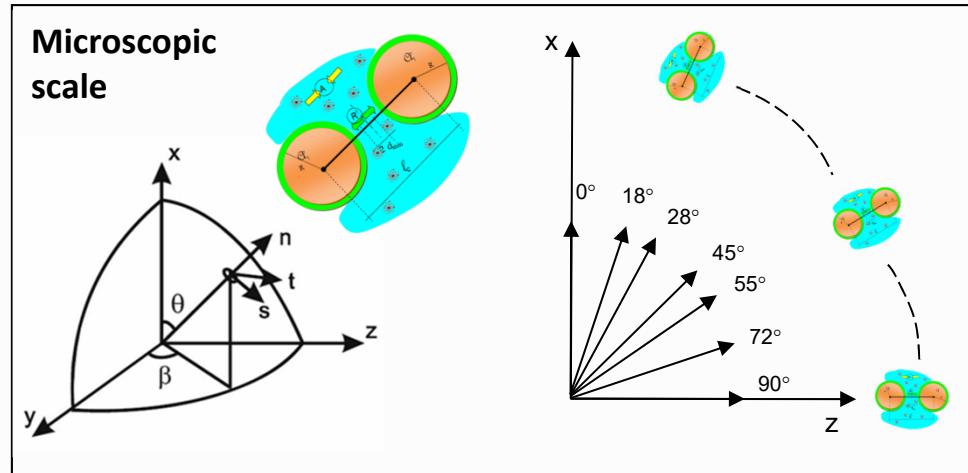
Repulsive part

Attractive part

# Micromechanical approach



## Micro-Macro Transition



$$\sigma_{ij} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_c} f_j^\alpha l_i^\alpha$$

*Christofferson et al. (1981), Rothenburg and Selvadurai (1981)*

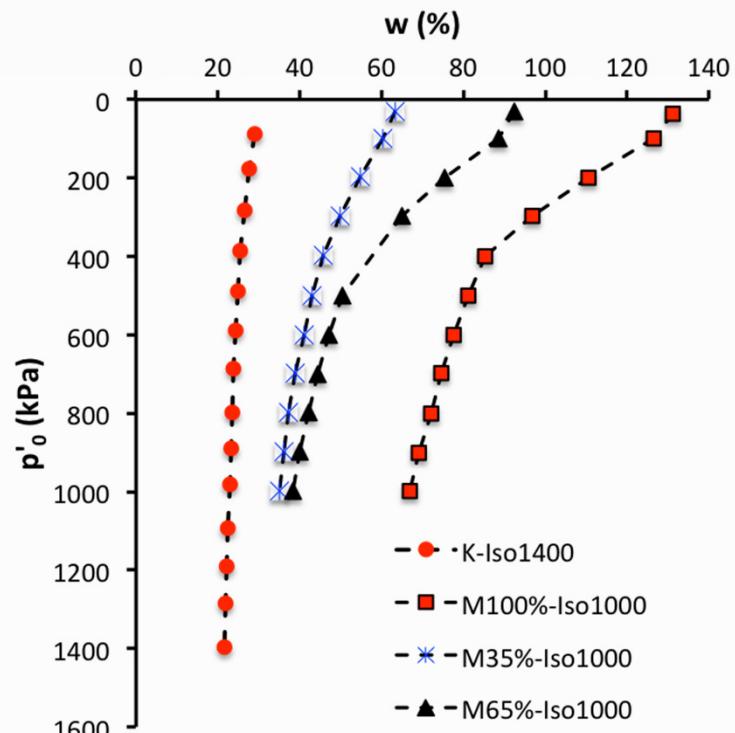
**Under isotropic loading conditions**

$$\sigma_m = \frac{f l_c N_c}{V}$$

$$N_c/V = 12 / ((\pi/3)(2R)^3(1+e))$$

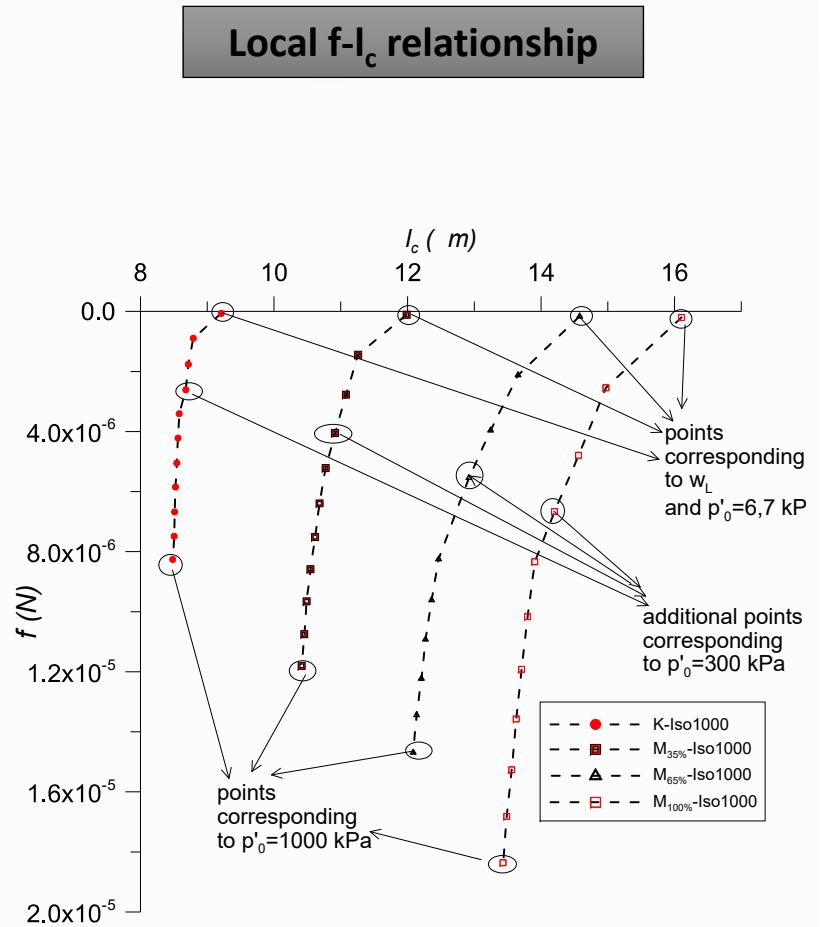
$$l_c = 2R_b \sqrt[3]{(1+e)/(1+0.35)}$$

# Micromechanical approach



$$\sigma_m = \frac{f l_c N_c}{V}$$

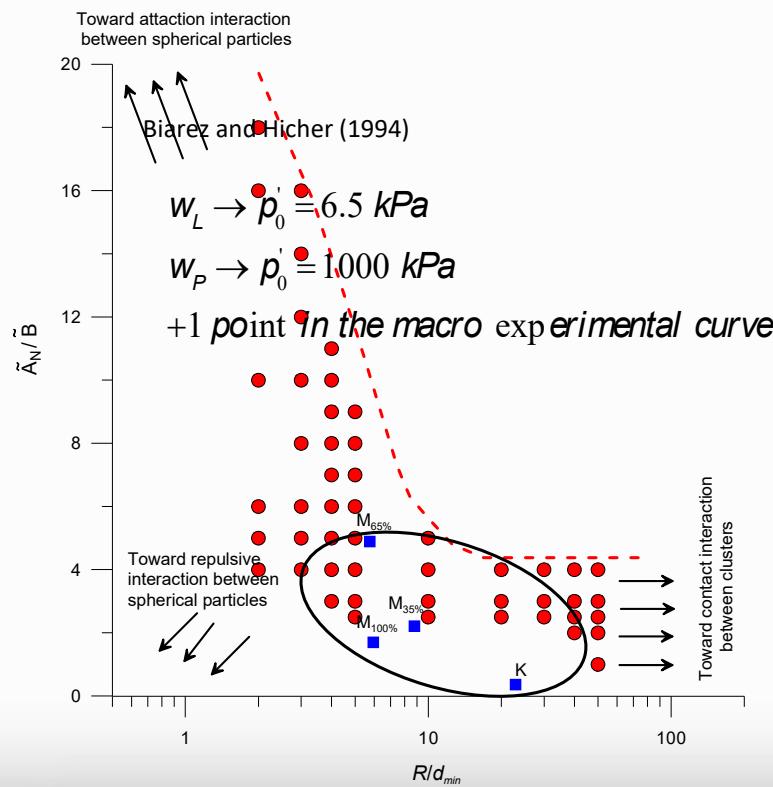
$$l_c = 2R_0 \sqrt[3]{(1+\epsilon)/(1+0.35)}$$



### Local equation resolution for the three particular points

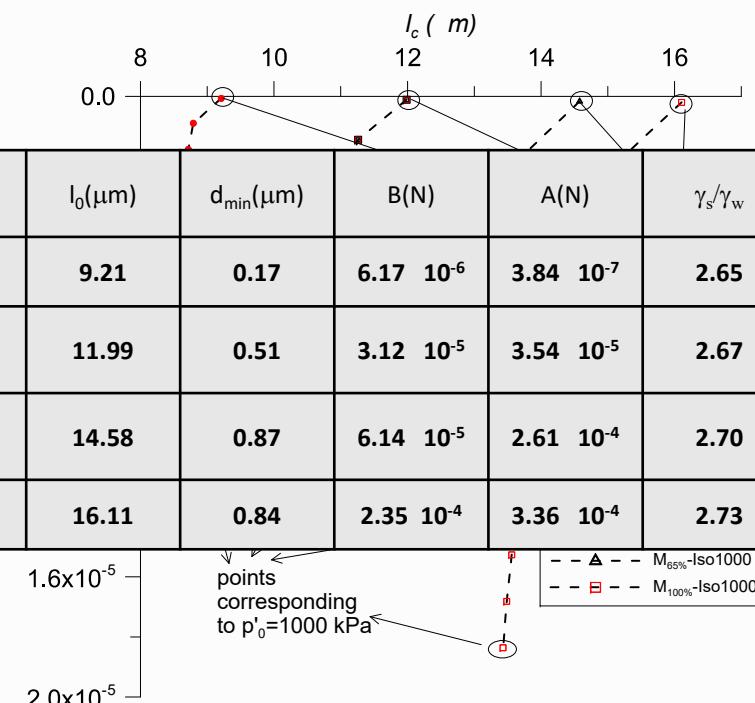
$\tilde{B}$ ,  $\tilde{A}$  and  $d_{\min}$

Identify from macro experimental data

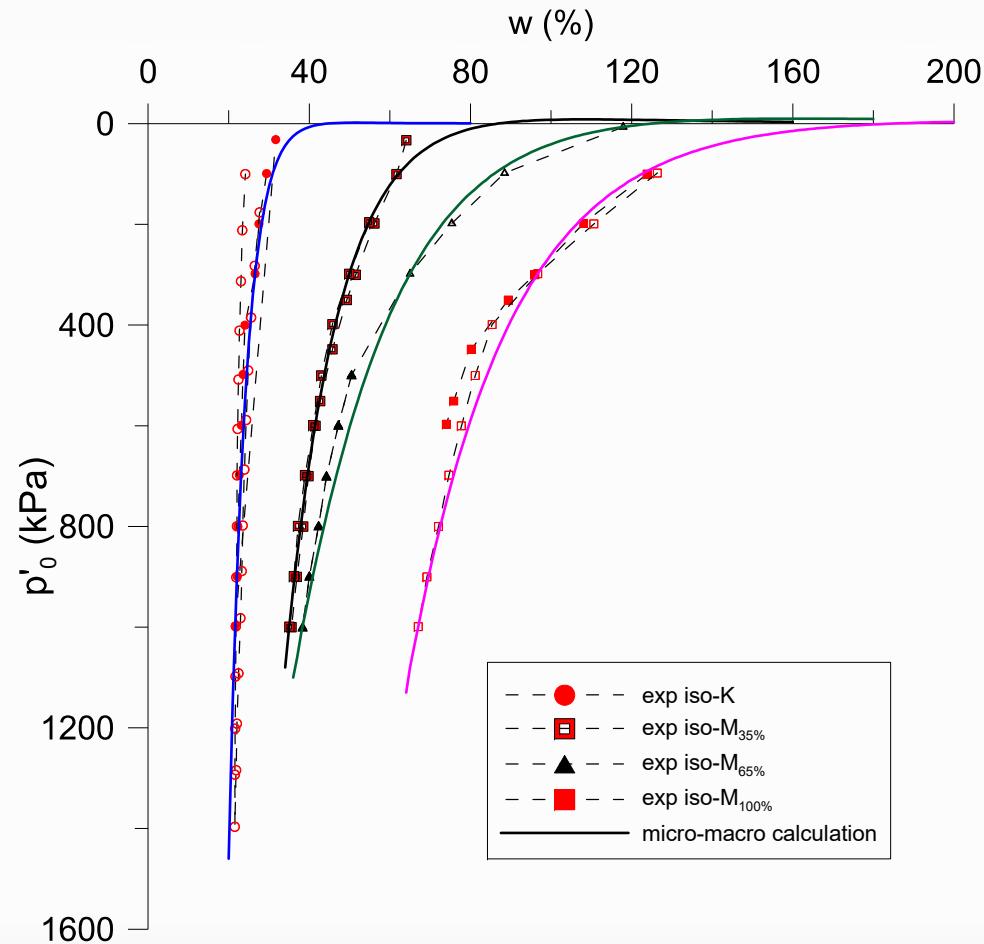


$$f = -\tilde{B}R d_{\min}^{-1} e^{-d_{\min}^{-1}(l_c - 2R)} + \tilde{A}R^2 \left[ \frac{l_c}{(l_c^2 - 4R^2)^2} + \frac{1}{l_c^3} - \frac{2}{l_c(l_c^2 - 4R^2)} \right]$$

Material	$R_0$ ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	$l_0$ ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	$d_{\min}$ ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	$B(N)$	$A(N)$	$\gamma_s/\gamma_w$
K	4	9.21	0.17	$6.17 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$3.84 \cdot 10^{-7}$	2.65
M <sub>35%</sub>	4.5	11.99	0.51	$3.12 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$3.54 \cdot 10^{-5}$	2.67
M <sub>65%</sub>	5	14.58	0.87	$6.14 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$2.61 \cdot 10^{-4}$	2.70
M <sub>100%</sub>	5	16.11	0.84	$2.35 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$3.36 \cdot 10^{-4}$	2.73



## Simulation results and comparison with experimental results



## *Partie 2 –Conclusions*

- 1 Encouraging results are obtained showing good agreement between experimental results and simulations, highlighting clearly the variation of the behavior related to the montmorillonite fraction variation on isotropic path
- 2 Micromechanical Chang modelling appears as quite relevant to consider Physical-Chemical aspects in the clay behavior
- 3 Physical Chemical aspects between clusters are taken into account through repulsive and attractive forces similar to double layers and van deer Waals forces
- 4 Parameters choice for the local law permit to estimate these forces between clusters in the case of a mix kaolinite/montmorillonite clay, whose the variation of mineralogy and physical properties are caused by the percentage variation of montmorillonite fraction.