Experimental study to investigate porosity, permeability and velocity development in silt-clay mixtures

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## Outline

- Background
- Materials and Methods
- Results & Discussion
- Concluding remarks





## Background

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## Ideal packing model



Marion et al., 1992



## Fractional packing model







#### **Bimodal mixtures**







## Porosity-permeability-clay content







## Porosity-permeability-clay content









#### Porosity, permeability and velocity development in mechanically compected silt-clay mixtures.



Relationship between microfabric and rock properties.





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#### Sample selection



Silt (100%) Silt (75%), Clay (25%) Silt (50%), Clay (50%) Silt (25%), Clay (75%) Clay (100%)



**Synthetic Brine** 





#### Sample selection



✓ Silt (100%)

Silt (92.5%), Clay (7.5%) Silt (85%), Clay (15%) Silt (75%), Clay (25%) Silt (65%), Clay (35%) Silt (52.5%), Clay (42.5%) Silt (50%), Clay (50%) Silt (42.5%), Clay (57.5%) Silt (35%), Clay (65%) Silt (25%), Clay (75%) Silt (15%), Clay (85%) Silt (7.5%), Clay (92.5%) ✓ Clay (100%)



**Synthetic Brine** 





## Specimen detail



Kaolinite ...... 81% Illite/Mica ..... 14% Microcline ..... 5%



Quartz ..... 99%

Lithology	Grain size (mm)	
Sand	2.0-0.063	
Silt	0.063-0.0039	
Clay	< 0.0039	





## Rock mechanical testing











## SEM image analysis



![](_page_14_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### X-ray syncroton image analysis

![](_page_15_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_3.jpeg)

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![](_page_16_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_6.jpeg)

## Stress-porosity

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

**Mondol**, 2009

![](_page_17_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_4.jpeg)

## Stress-porosity

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_5.jpeg)

#### Porosity-clay content

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### Permeability-clay content

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![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Vp-clay content

![](_page_21_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### Microfabric analysis

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

Voltolini et al., 2009

![](_page_22_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_5.jpeg)

#### Orientation of minerals

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

Fawad et al., 2010

![](_page_23_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_4.jpeg)

## Micofabric & RP

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_3.jpeg)

## Micofabric & RP

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_3.jpeg)

## Anisotropy of P-wave velocity

![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### Thomsen parameters

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_3.jpeg)

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![](_page_28_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_6.jpeg)

## **Concluding remarks**

• Experimental compaction shows that porosity, permeability and velocity in silt-clay mixtures vary greatly as functions of framework composition, mineral fractions and textural relations (size & sorting).

![](_page_29_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_3.jpeg)

# **Concluding remarks**

- Experimental compaction shows that porosity, permeability and velocity in silt-clay mixtures vary greatly as functions of framework composition, mineral fractions and textural relations (size & sorting).
- To estimate porosity, velocity and hydraulic properties in siltclay mixtures should not only consider porosity but also must consider grain size, type, amount and distribution of the clays.

![](_page_30_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Picture_4.jpeg)

# **Concluding remarks**

- Experimental compaction shows that porosity, permeability and velocity in silt-clay mixtures vary greatly as functions of framework composition, mineral fractions and textural relations (size & sorting).
- To estimate porosity, velocity and hydraulic properties in siltclay mixtures should not only consider porosity but also must consider grain size, type, amount and distribution of the clays.
- Extrapolation of experimental results to natural must be done with caution since this study is based exclusively on mechanical compaction of silt-clay mixtures and does not consider any sand, OM and other clays (e.g. smectite & chlorite), chemical diagenesis, maturation of organic matter and overpressure.

![](_page_31_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Picture_5.jpeg)

#### Acknowledgements

![](_page_32_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Stiffness tensors

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### Nomenclature

			Lithology	Grain size (mm)
			Very Coarse Sand	2.0-1.0
			Coarse Sand	1.0-0.5
Lithology	Grain size (mm)		Medium Sand	0.5-0.25
Sand	2.0-0.063		Fine Sand	0.25-0.125
Silt	0.063-0.0039	$\backslash$	Very Fine Sand	0.125-0.063
Clay	< 0.0039		Coase Silt	0.063-0.031
			Medium Silt	0.031-0.0156
			Fine Silt	0.0156-0.0078
			Very Fine Silt	0.0078-0.0039
			Clay	< 0.0039

![](_page_35_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Picture_3.jpeg)