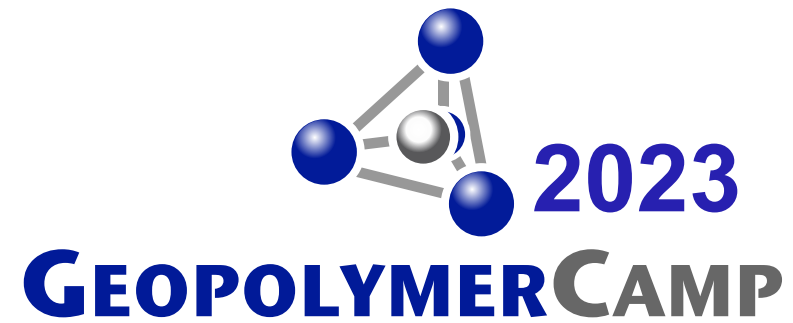


*15th GP-Camp*



**Saint-Quentin (France)**

**July 10-12, 2023**



*Joseph Davidovits*

**State of the  
Geopolymer  
R&D  
2023**

# Geopolymer research 1988

1st Geopolymer conference

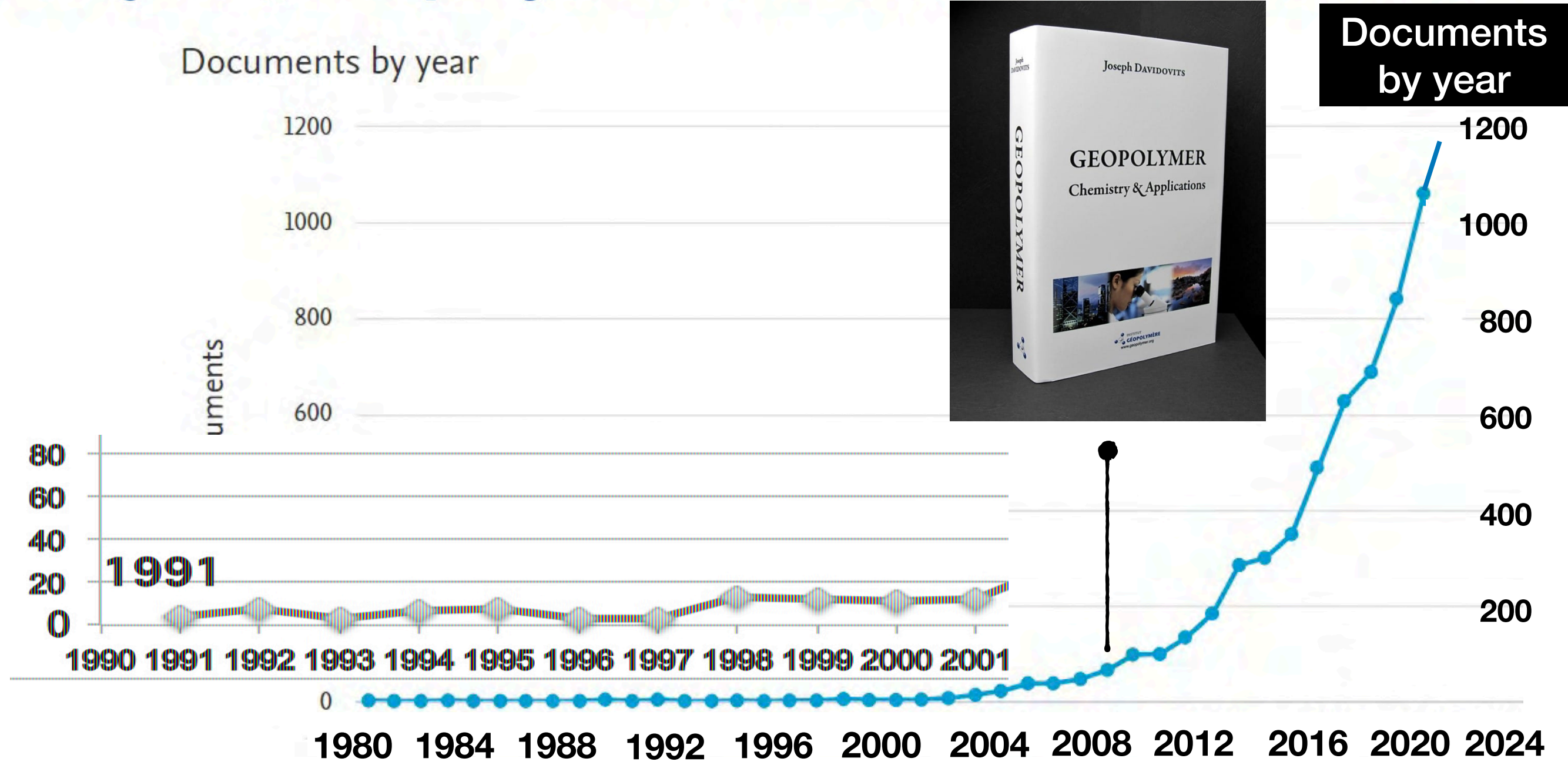




# Geopolymer research 2018



# Subject „Geopolymer“ in Scientific Publications



Literature Search: Statistical data of SCOPUS database <sup>F</sup>

# State of the Geopolymer R&D 2023

- 1) **Geopolymer science.**
- 2) **Global warming: management of water resources; floodings and infrastructures (roads, pavements repair).**
- 3) **Additive manufacturing / 3D printing.**

# State of the Geopolymer R&D 2023

## I) Geopolymer science.

# ***16 research topics***

**#1 Polymeric character of geopolymers**

#2 Poly(siloxonate), soluble silicate (water-glass)

**#3 Metakaolin MK-750 geopolymer**

#4 Calcium-based geopolymer

#5 Rock-based geopolymer

#6 Silica-based geopolymer

#7 Fly ash-based geopolymer

#8 Phosphate-based geopolymer



# ***16 research topics***

#9 Organic-mineral geopolymer.

#10 Long-term durability (archaeology).

#11 Geopolymer-fiber composites.

#12 Geopolymer in ceramic processing.

#13 The manufacture of geopolymer cements: No fly ash !

#14 Geopolymer concrete.

#15 Material for Radioactive waste, Particules and gaz pollution.

***# 16 3D printing; additive manufacturing.***

# #1 *Polymeric character of geopolymers*

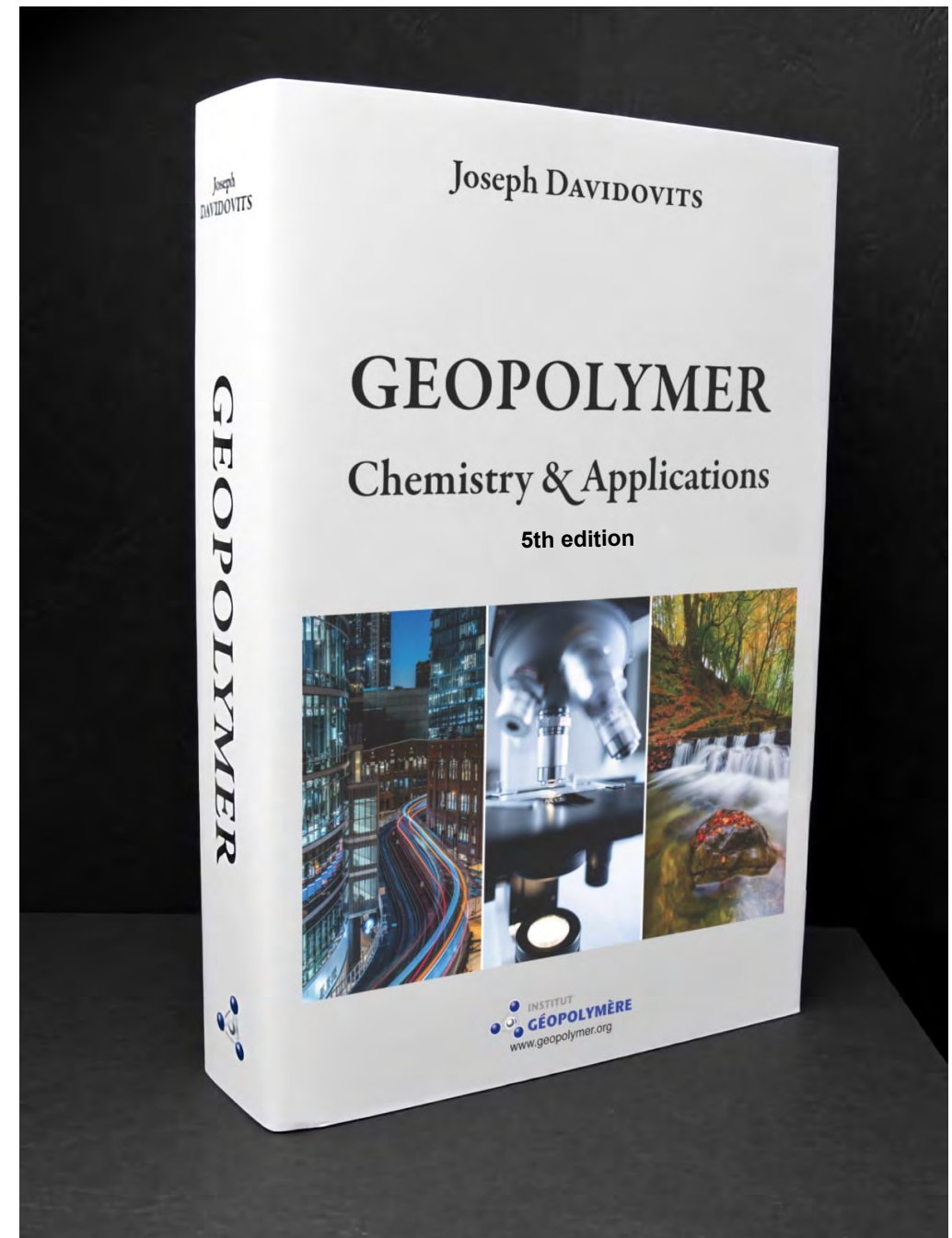
*1975-1976: mineral polymer*

*1978-1979: geopolymer*

2 systems:

- alkali-based GP

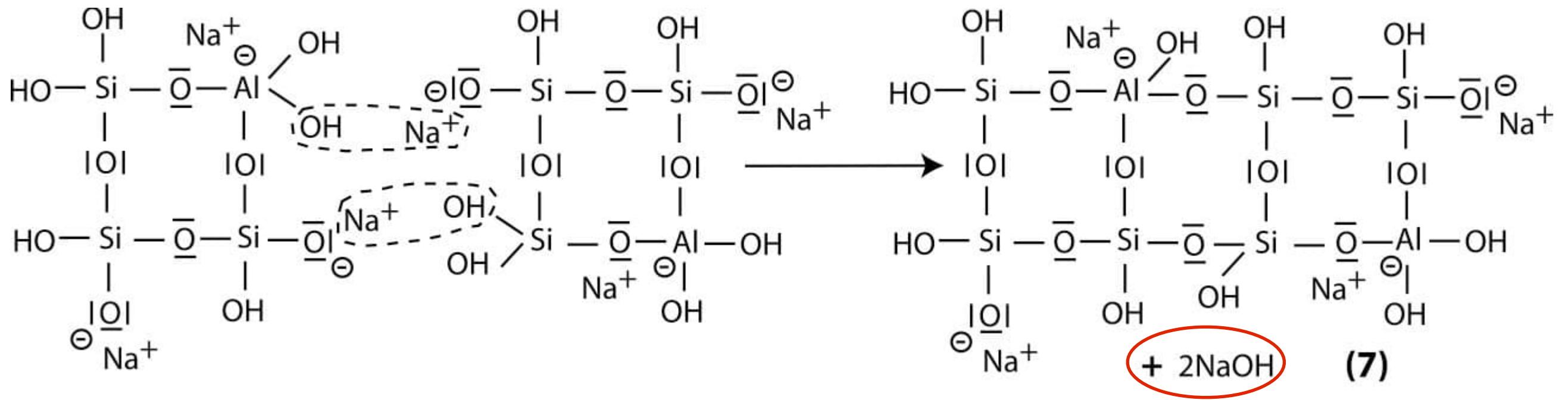
- phosphoric acid-based GP



# *Alkali-based Geopolymerization*

1. Alkalinization ~~*alkali-activation*~~
2. Depolymerization of silicates
3. Gel formation of oligo-sialates
4. Polycondensation
5. Reticulation, networking
6. Geopolymer solidification

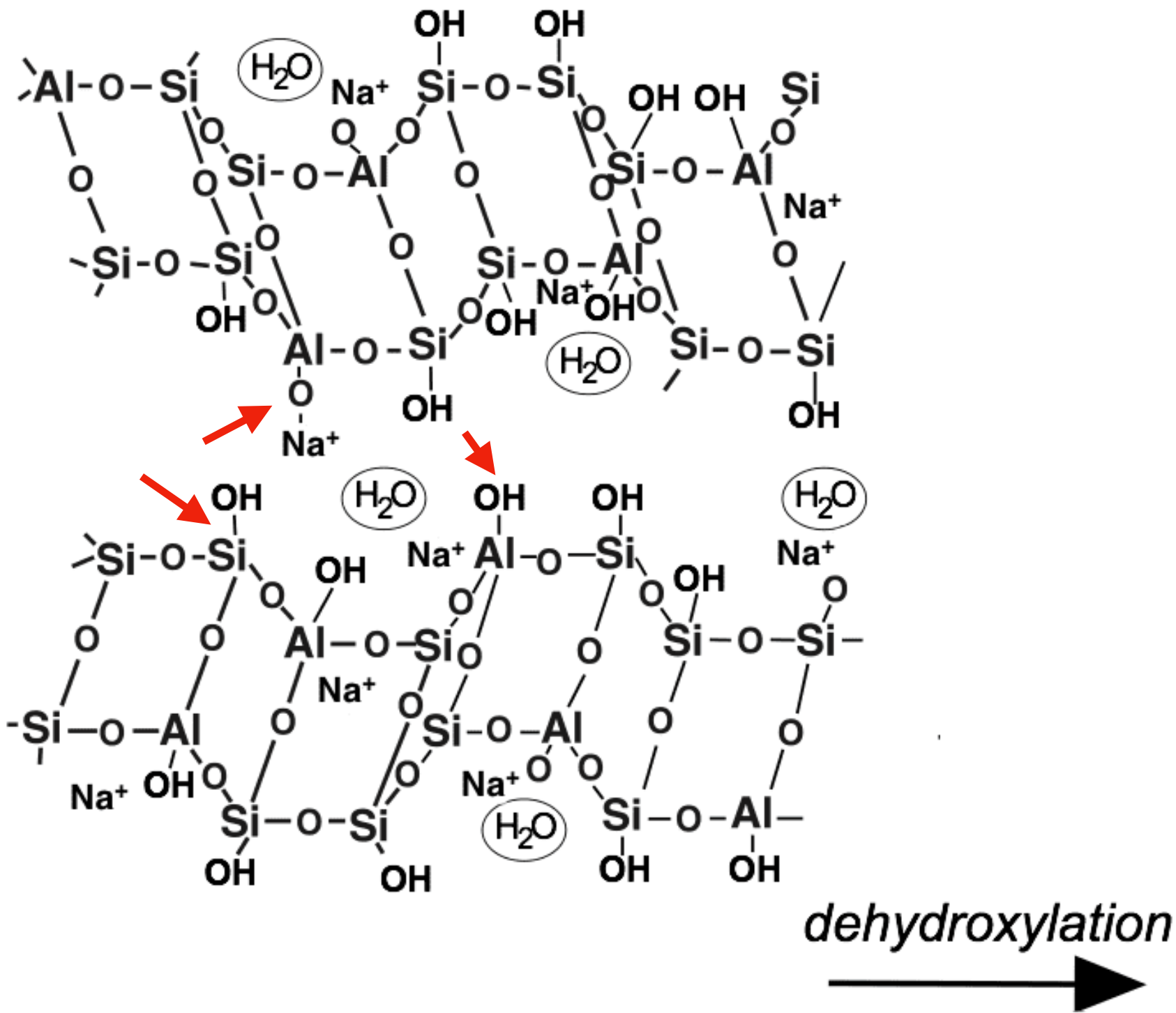
## Step 4: polycondensation



Na<sup>+</sup> or K<sup>+</sup>

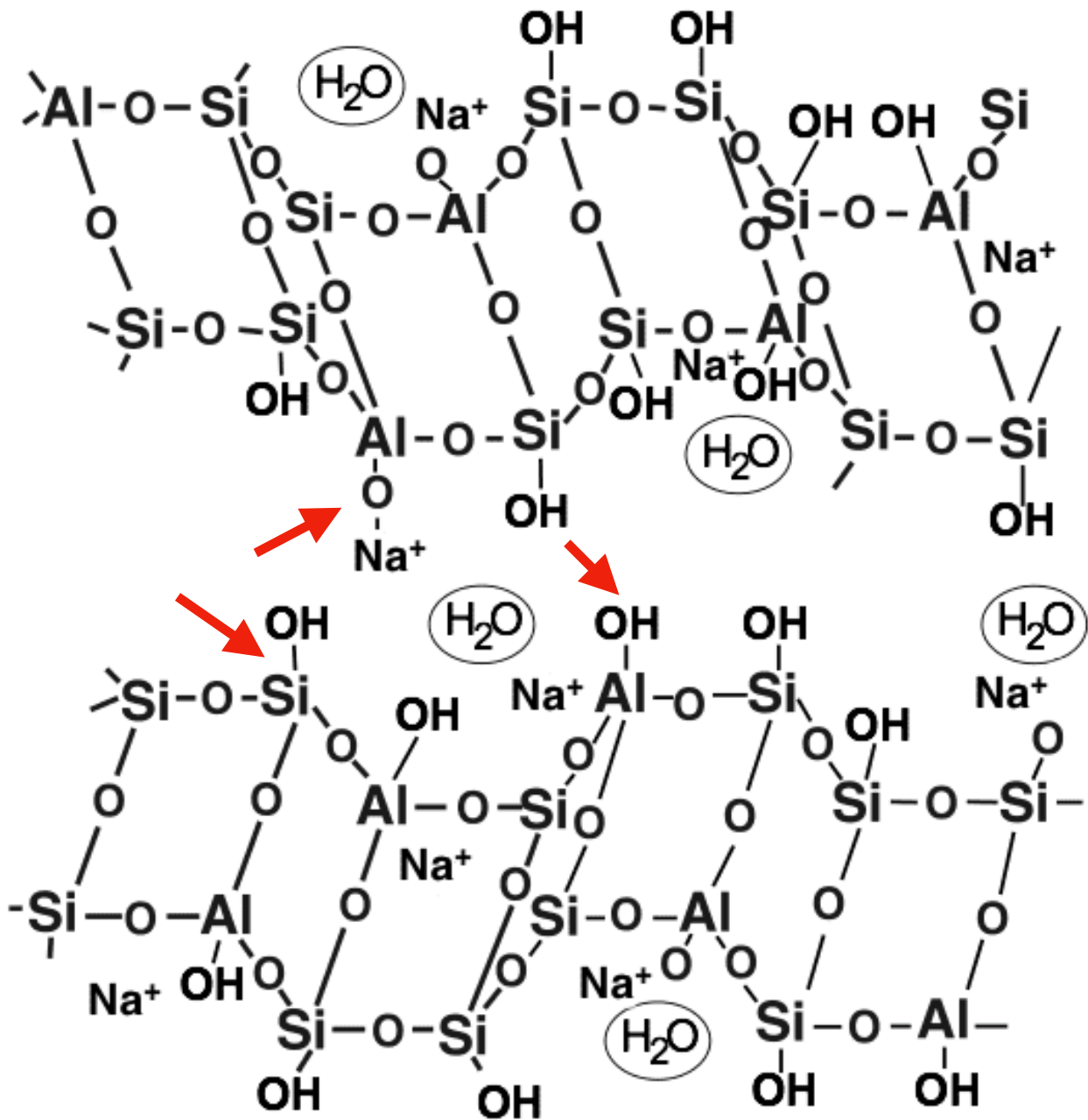
or KOH

# Step 5: reticulation, networking

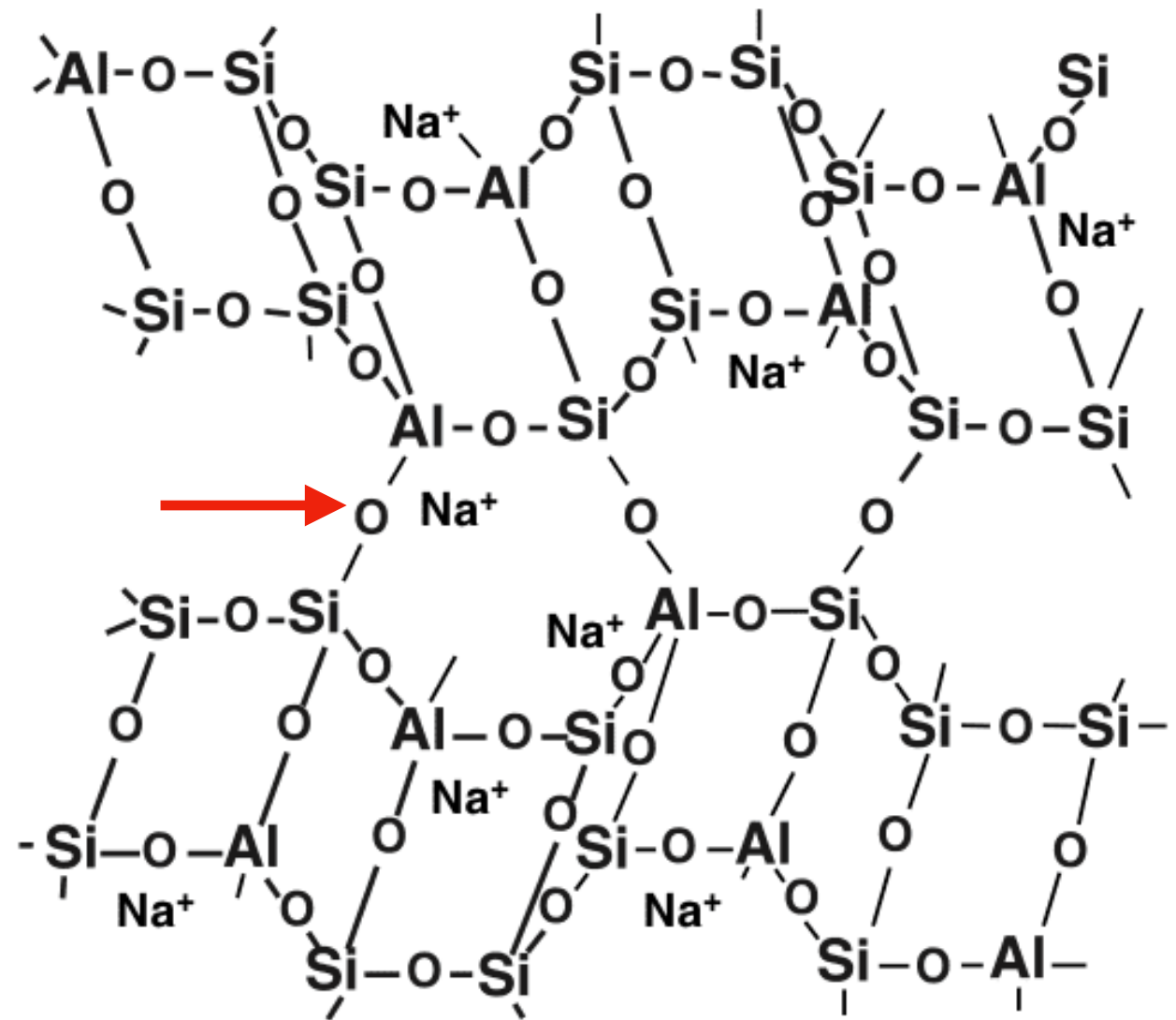




## Step 5: reticulation, networking



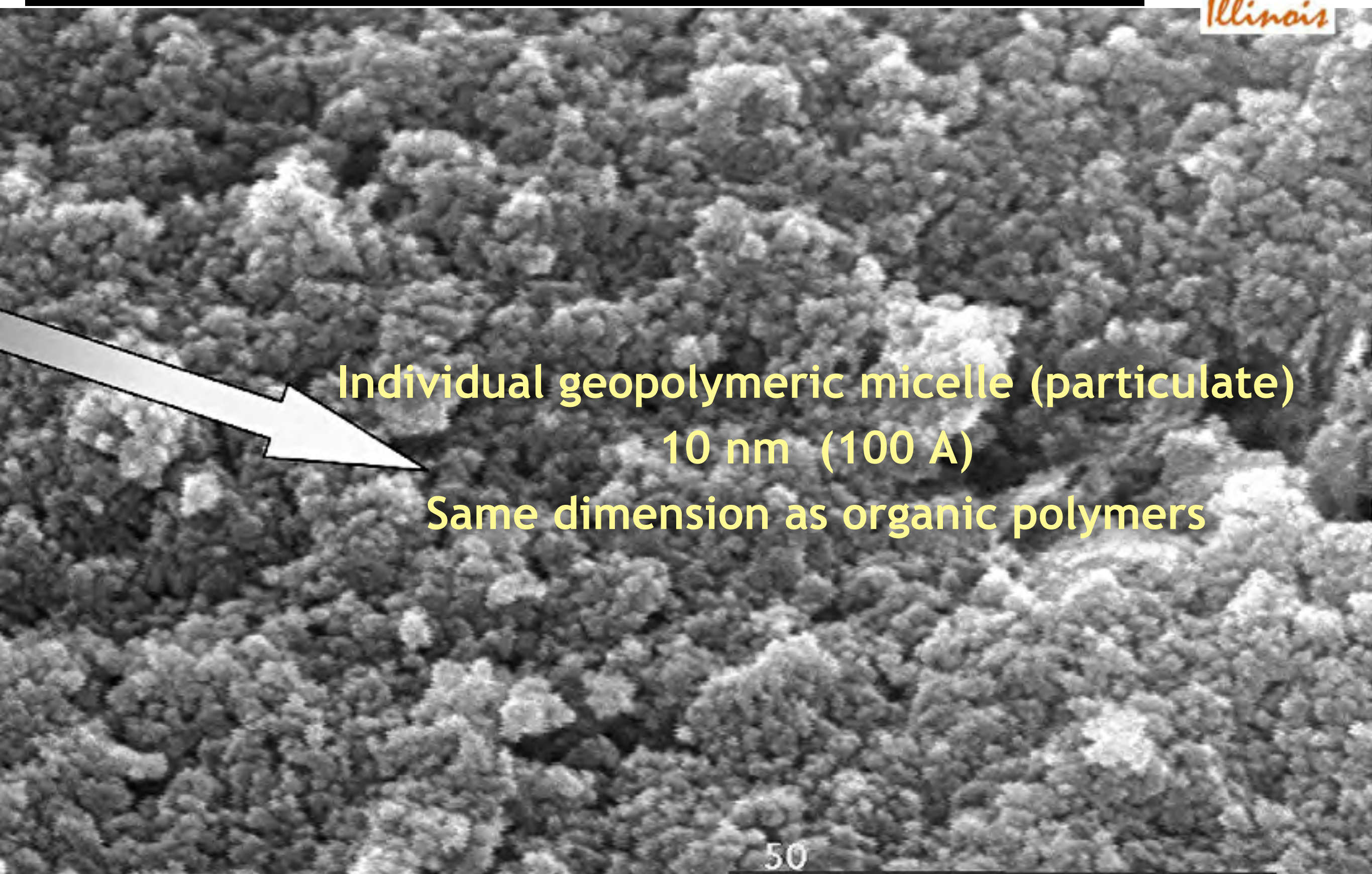
## Step 6: geopolymer solidification



*dehydroxylation*







Individual geopolymeric micelle (particulate)

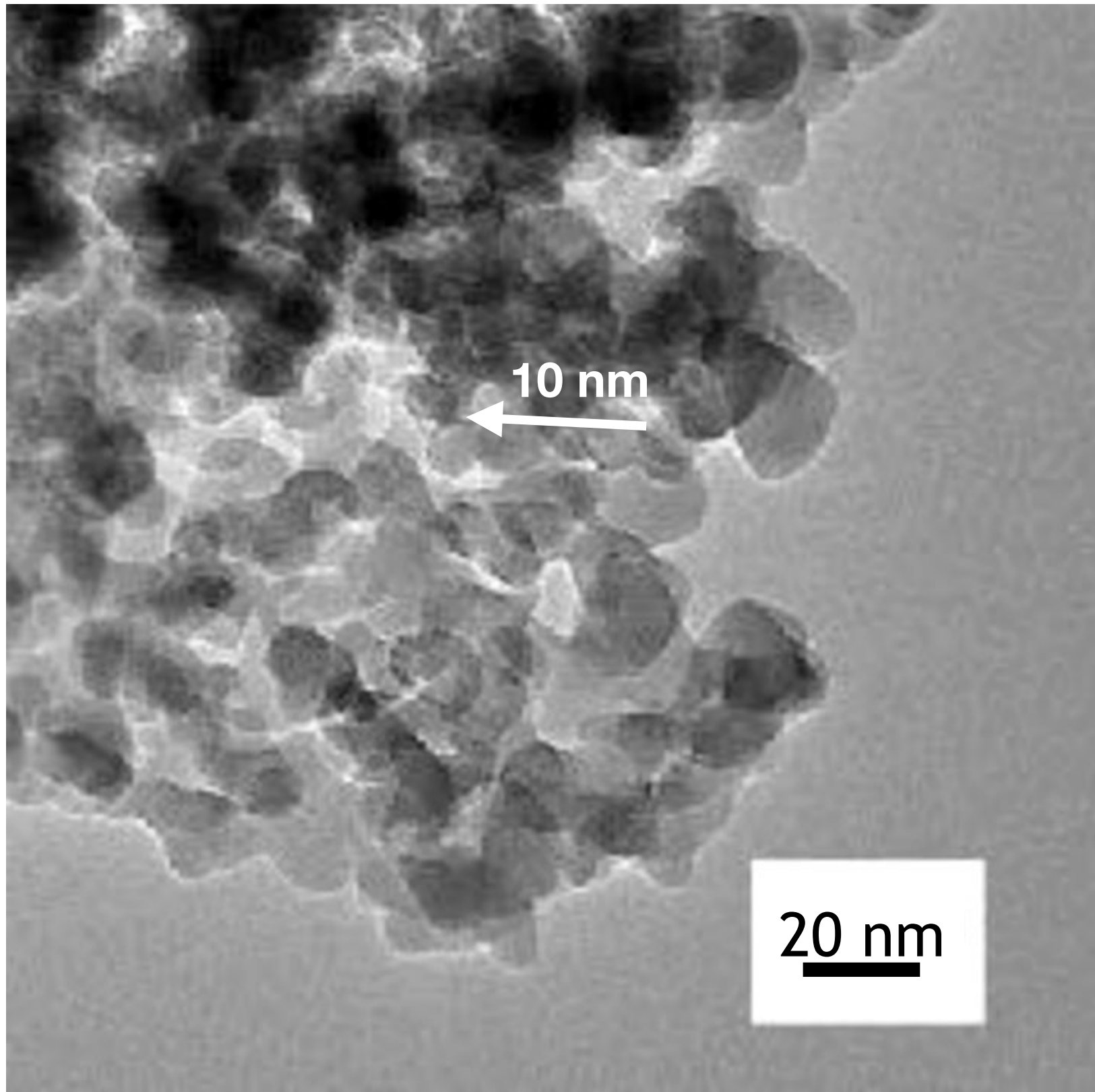
10 nm (100 Å)

Same dimension as organic polymers

50

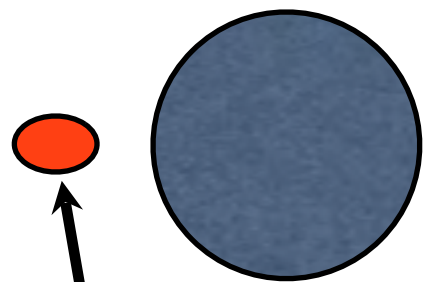


**Step 5**  
reticulation



2012 Prof. Dong-Kyun (Don) Seo's team  
School of Molecular Sciences, Arizona State University, Tempe, USA

Colloidal  
silica  
30-40 nm



GP-micelle  
10 nm

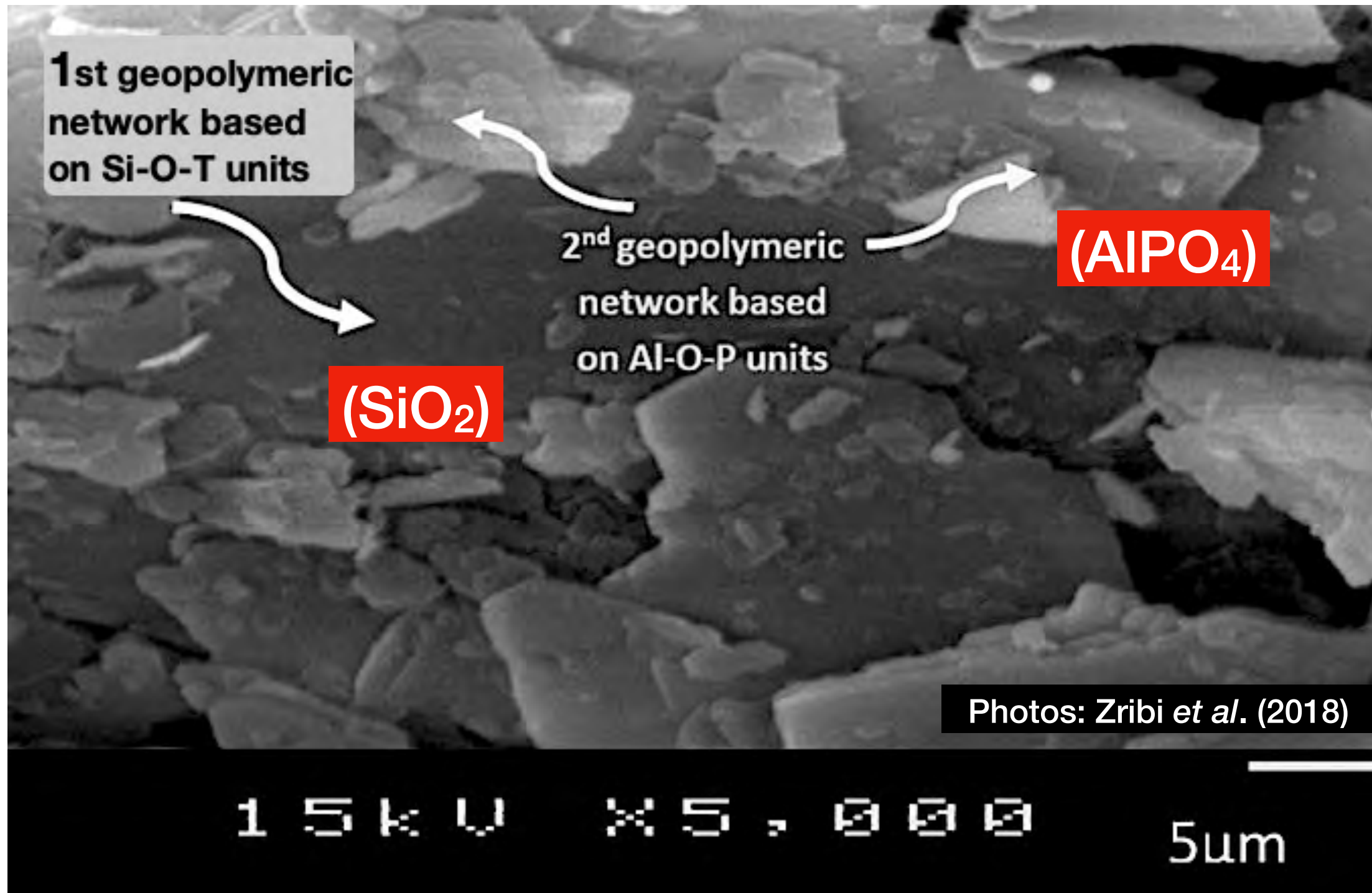
Silica Fume  
200-300 nm

Fly ash  
3-15  $\mu$

Geopolymer = nano material not  
unknown « Gel »

# Acid-based Geopolymerization

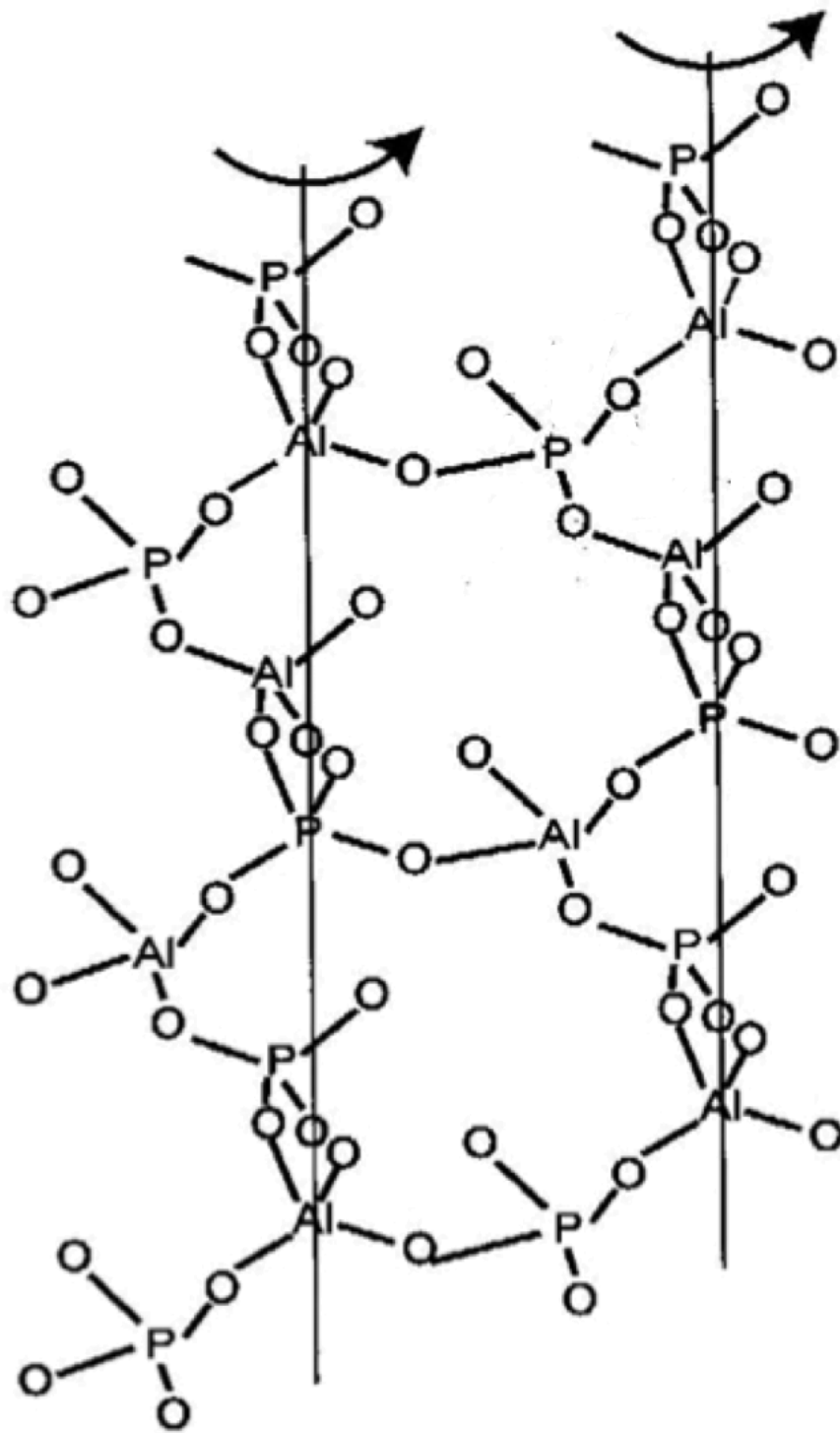
## Phosphoric acid + MK-750



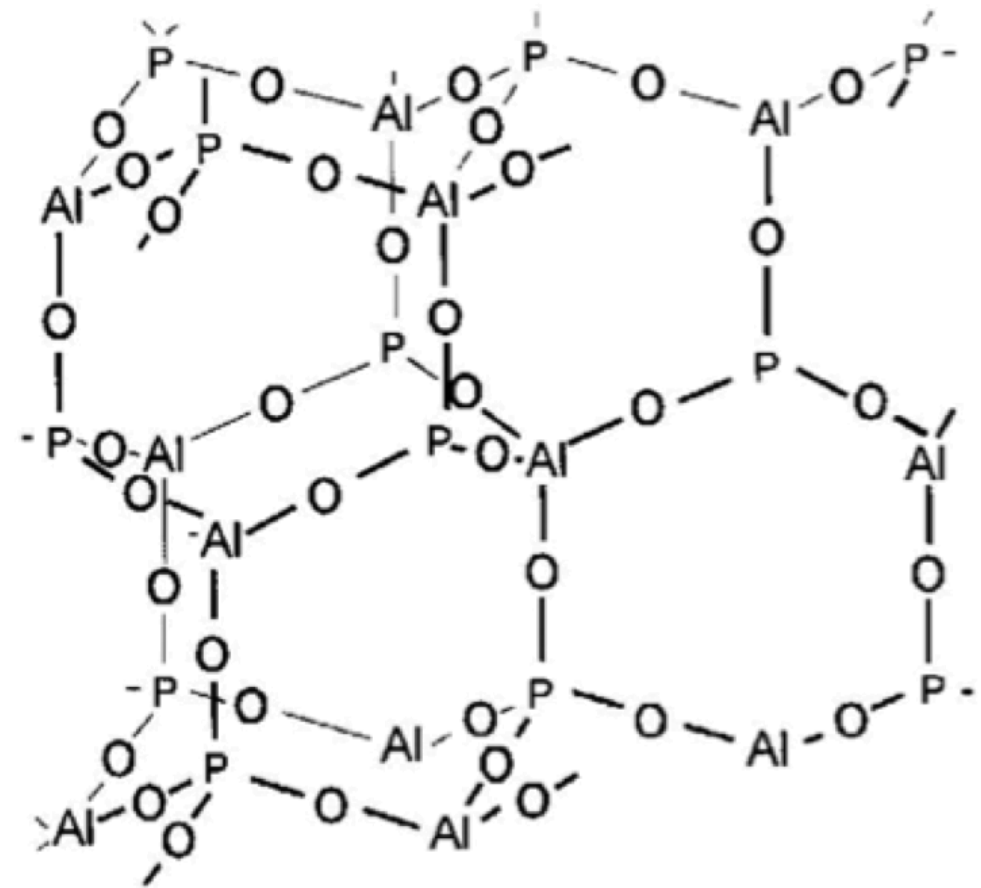


# Polymeric structures of $\text{AlPO}_4$ -Geopolymers

⇒ Cross-linked  $(\text{P-O-Al-O})_n$   
poly(alumino-phospho) chains



$\text{AlPO}_4$ -berlinite (isostructural to quartz)

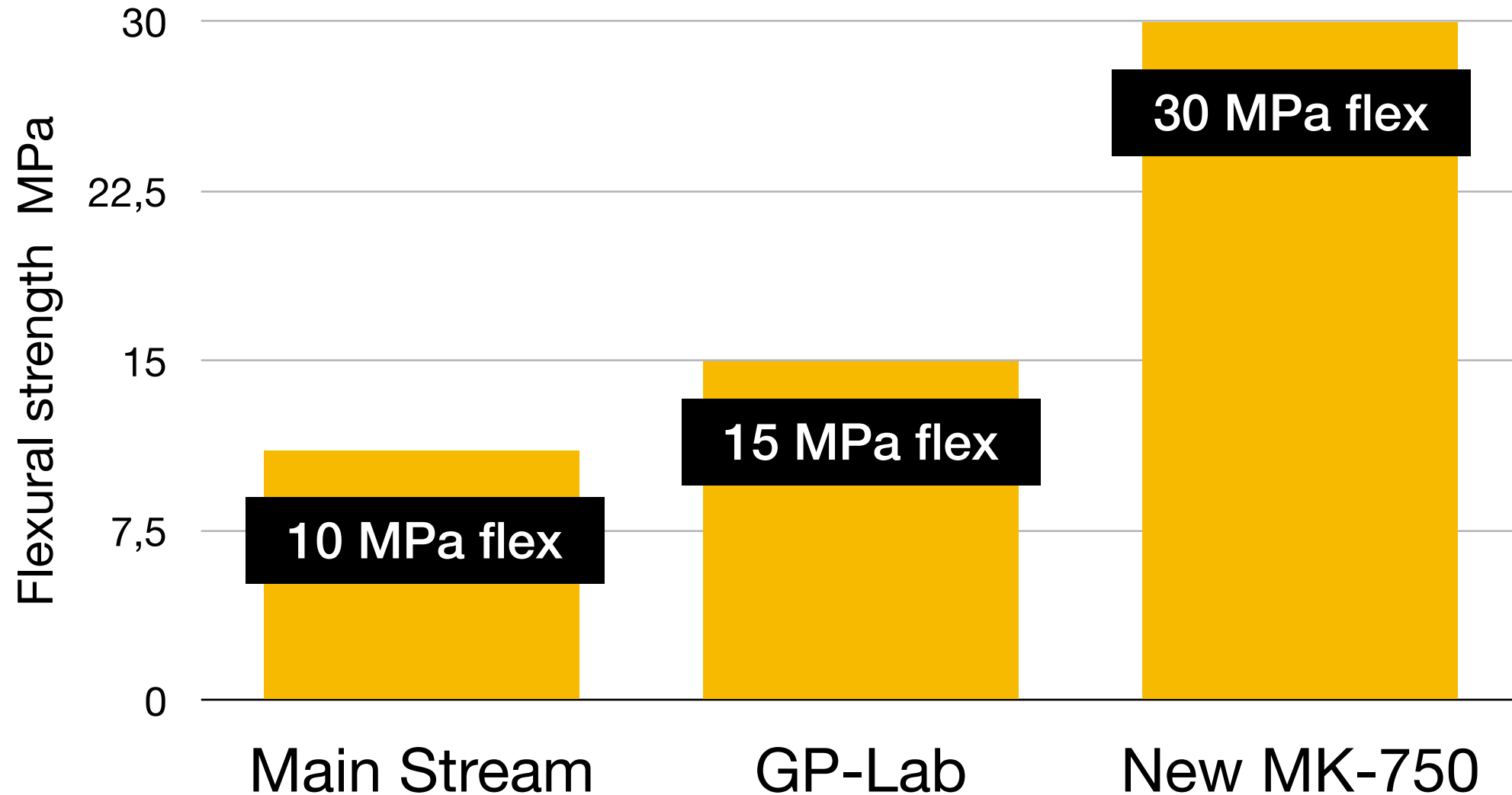


$\text{AlPO}_4$ -tridymite/cristobalite

***#3 Metakaolin MK-750 alkali-based geopolymer***

***High-strength MK***

# High-strength MK



**Flexural strength 30 MPa**  
**Compressive strength 180 MPa**

# State of the Geopolymer R&D 2023

## 2) Global warming:

- Management of water resources;
- Floodings and infrastructures:  
(roads, pavements repair).

**A continent is on fire.**



*Photo credit: AP/Euronews (31/12/2019).*

***A continent is on fire.*** Both Australia and California have never experienced such an inferno. More and more citizens blame the climate change, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions responsible for this, essentially from the burning of coal in the power plants.



1)  
*Management  
of Water  
Resources;*



Photos: [www.photogriffon.com](http://www.photogriffon.com)

The Ganges, the “mother river”, as the Hindus call it, is a lifeline, a source of economic prosperity as much as of religious veneration.

Over the 2,500 kilometers of their course, these waters would be able to heal those who immerse themselves in them and to free them from the cycle of reincarnations.





Photos: [www.photogriffon.com](http://www.photogriffon.com)

The Ganges irrigates 30% of Indian territory, washes and feeds 450 million people, or 40% of the Indians.

But today the Ganges is on the brink, closer than ever to suffocation, contaminated by three billion liters of wastewater per day, representing a pollution rate 3,000 times higher than the recommendations of the World Organization of health.



# **A comprehensive review on sustainable clay geopolymers for wastewater treatment: circular economy and future outlook**

**Ali Maged · Hadeer Abd El-Fattah · Rasha M. Kamel · Sherif Kharbish · Ahmed M. Elgarahy**

**Suez University and Port Said University , Egypt.**

Recently, the awareness of the environmental sustainability for wastewater treatment has increased rapidly in quest of meeting the enormous global water demand coupled with the inherent depletion of water resources and the development of modern society.

Heavy metals, herbicides, dyes, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, and organic (aromatic) compounds are among the contaminants of rivers and lakes. ....

The presence of pharmaceutical substances in water adversely impacts human health and living ecosystems because they may lead to antibiotic tolerant bacteria and genetic resistance factors in the marine ecosystem. ...

Due to the spreading of the COVID-19 pandemic, most antiparasitics, antiprotozoals, antibiotics, glucocorticoids, and antivirals were consumed in large quantities in this virus treatment.

The concentration of antiviral agent drugs increased by more than 70% in urban wastewater during the pandemic compared with their concentration before the pandemic.

The only practical approaches are new sustainable materials and products, green production techniques, and precise life cycle management....

In this regard, *Clays-Based Geopolymers* have emerged as affordable, durable, and eco-benevolent materials for water and wastewater clean-up.





## *2) Flooding and Infrastructures.*

**Roads,  
Pavements  
Repair.**





News Industry Rise Politics Wealth Mutual Funds Tech Careers

## Mumbai roads will be potholed in two yrs, will use Geopolymer technique: Maha CM Shinde

ANI | 24 Jul 2022, 08:46 AM IST



Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde stressed on the problems that the citizens are facing due to potholes on the streets in Mumbai on July 23. The CM further informed that the government will be filling these potholes using the Geopolymer technique.

“Today I held a meeting which was attended by Mumbai Municipal Commissioner and other representatives. It has been discussed that potholes will be filled using the Geopolymer technique. Instructions have been given to fill potholes immediately,” the CM said.

# State of the Geopolymer R&D 2023

- 3) Geopolymer for Additive Manufacturing 3D-Printing**
  - ceramic-type**
  - cement / concrete**

# 3D printing ceramic-type geopolymer



Dipartimento di  
Ingegneria Industriale

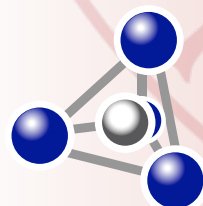
## Direct and indirect 3D printing with geopolymers

**G. Franchin<sup>1</sup>, H. Elsayed<sup>1</sup>, P. Scanferla<sup>1</sup>, A. De Marzi<sup>1</sup>,  
F. Gobbin<sup>1</sup>, L. Zeffiro<sup>1</sup>, A. Conte<sup>1</sup>, A. Italiano<sup>2</sup>, P. Colombo<sup>1,3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Industrial Engineering Dept., University of Padova, Italy

<sup>2</sup> Desamanera, Borsea (RO), Italy

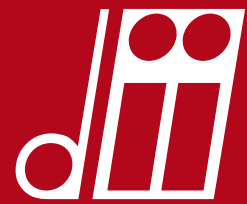
<sup>3</sup> Dept. of Material Science and Engineering, The Pennsylvania State  
University, PA, USA



2016

**GEOPOLYMER**CAMP

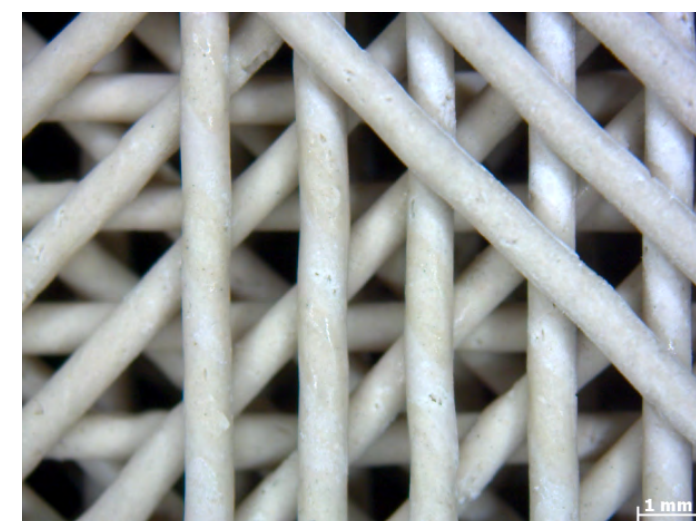
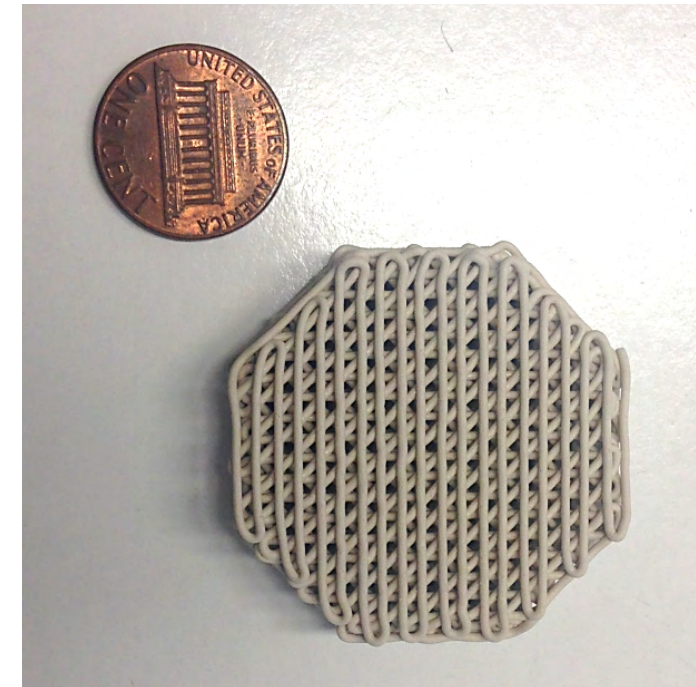




# Results



Increased complexity



Proposed application:  
**filters**



*Additive Manufacturing 46 (2021) 102202*

**Direct ink writing of geopolymer with high spatial resolution and tunable mechanical properties**

*Siqi Ma, Shuai Fu, Shengjian Zhao, Peigang He, Guoru Ma Meirong Wang, Dechang Jia, Yu Zhou, Harbin Institute of Technology, China.*

**ABSTRACT:** Direct ink writing (DIW) of geopolymers with desirable patterns, compositions, and properties holds great promise for sustainable concrete, porous adsorbent, and high-temperature ceramic.

However, precisely constructing geopolymers by DIW is subject to the low viscosity of geopolymer inks and the limited choice of alkali metal ions.





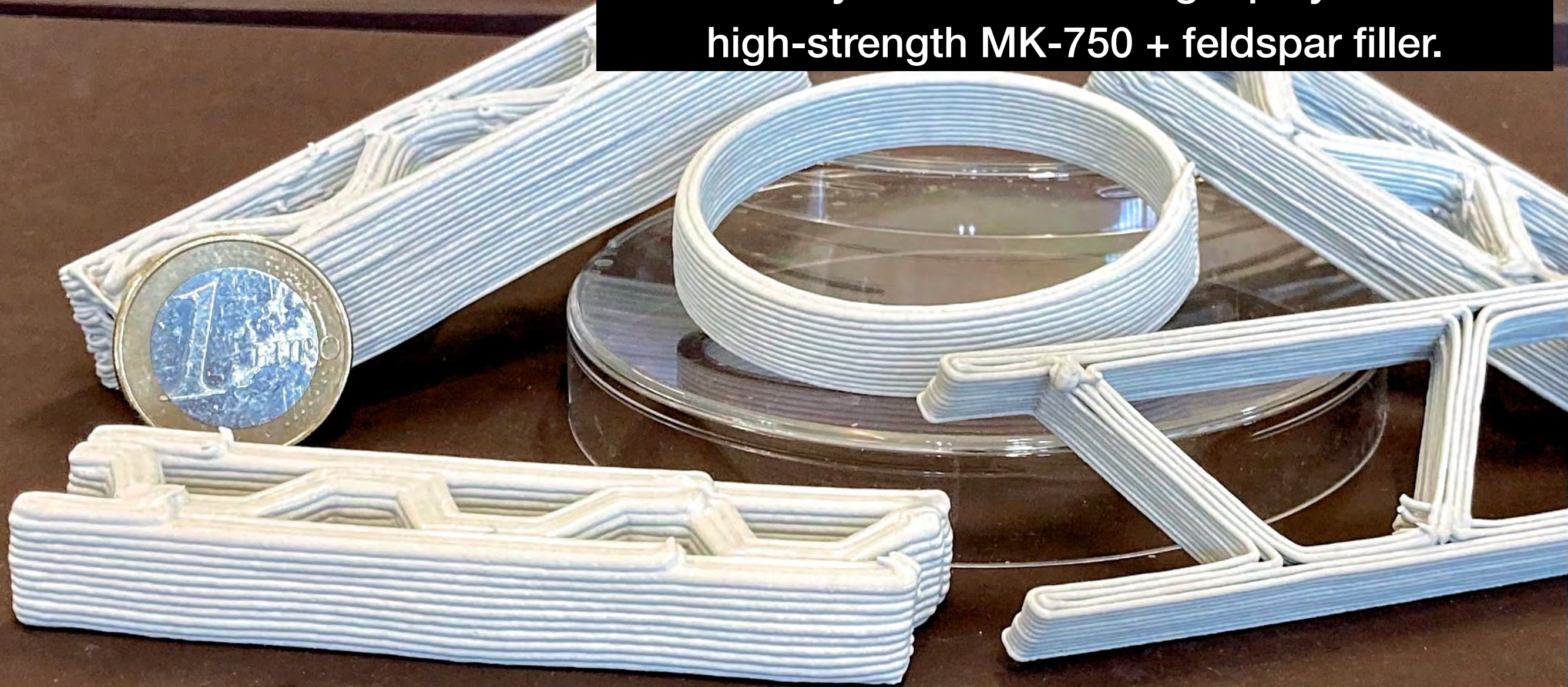


# 3D printing ceramic-type geopolymer

High-Strength 3D-Printed Geopolymer Ceramic

0.7 mm to 1mm thread

Chemically stable K-based geopolymer with high-strength MK-750 + feldspar filler.





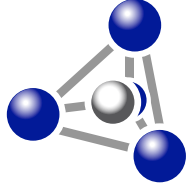




# 3D printing cement / concrete geopolymer





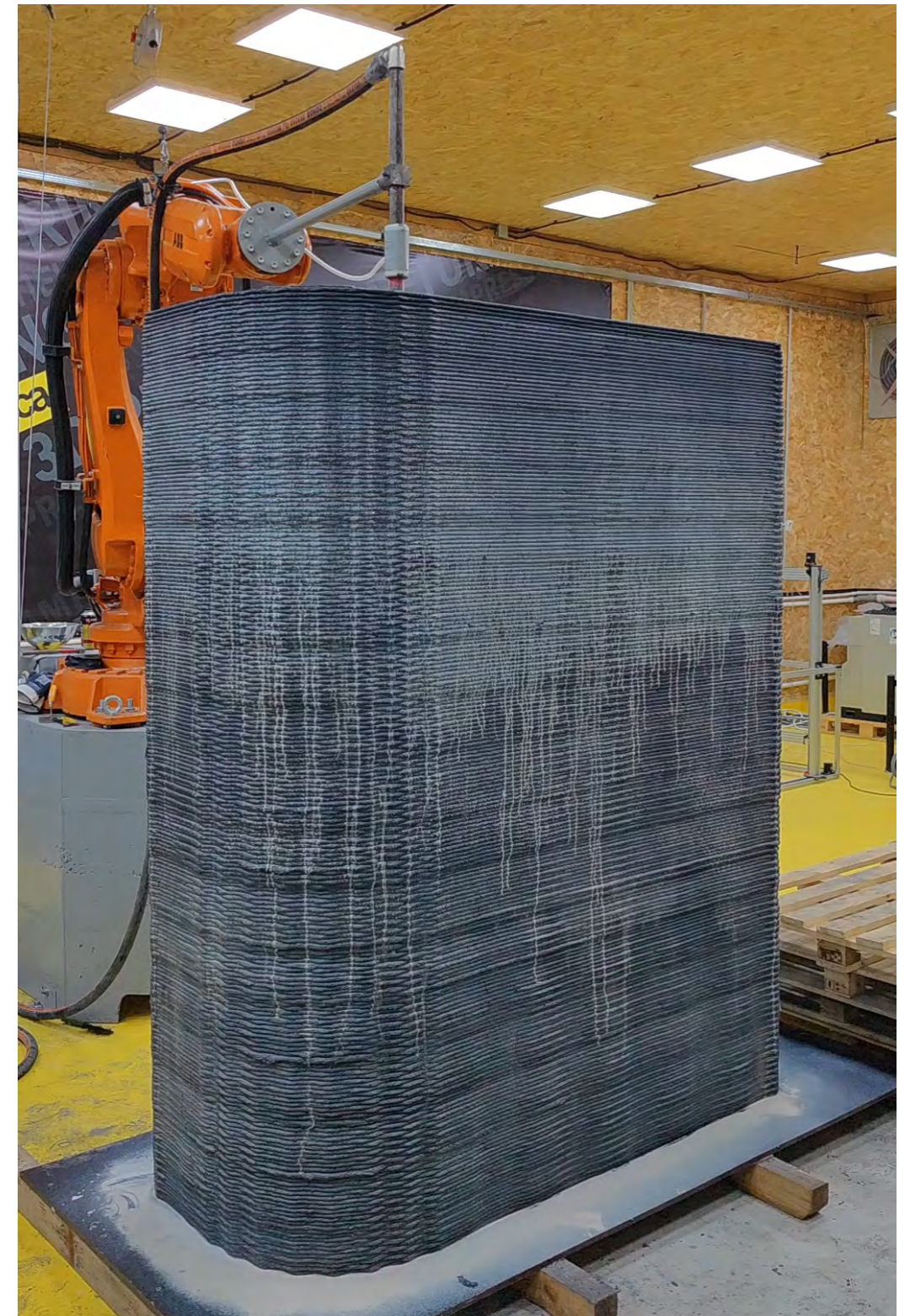
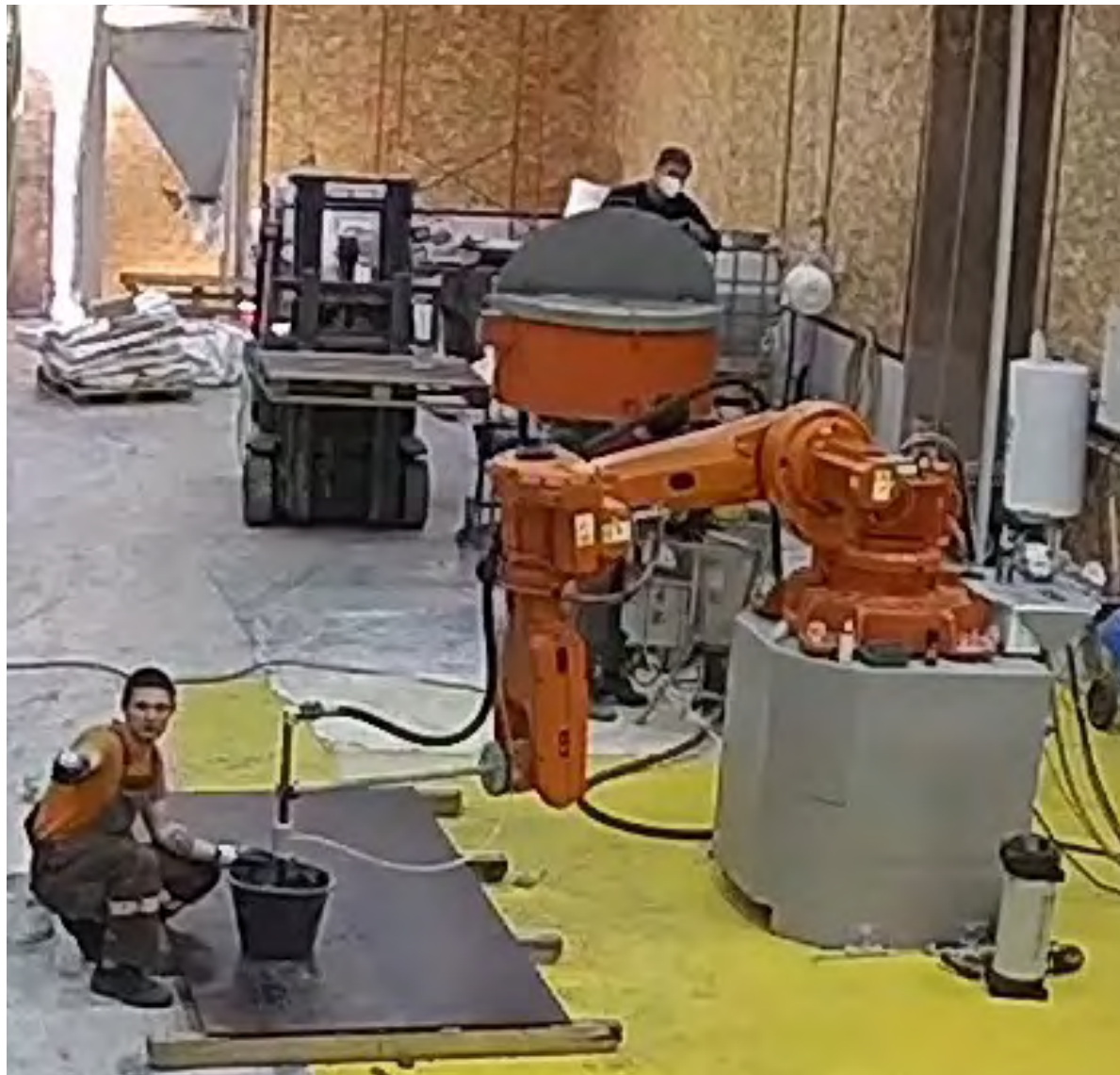
 2016  
**GEOPOLYMER**CAMP





# 3D Printing Process

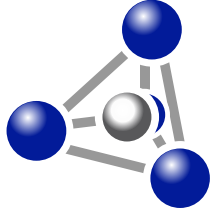
RENCA



**4 hours 50 minutes  
non-stop 3D printing**



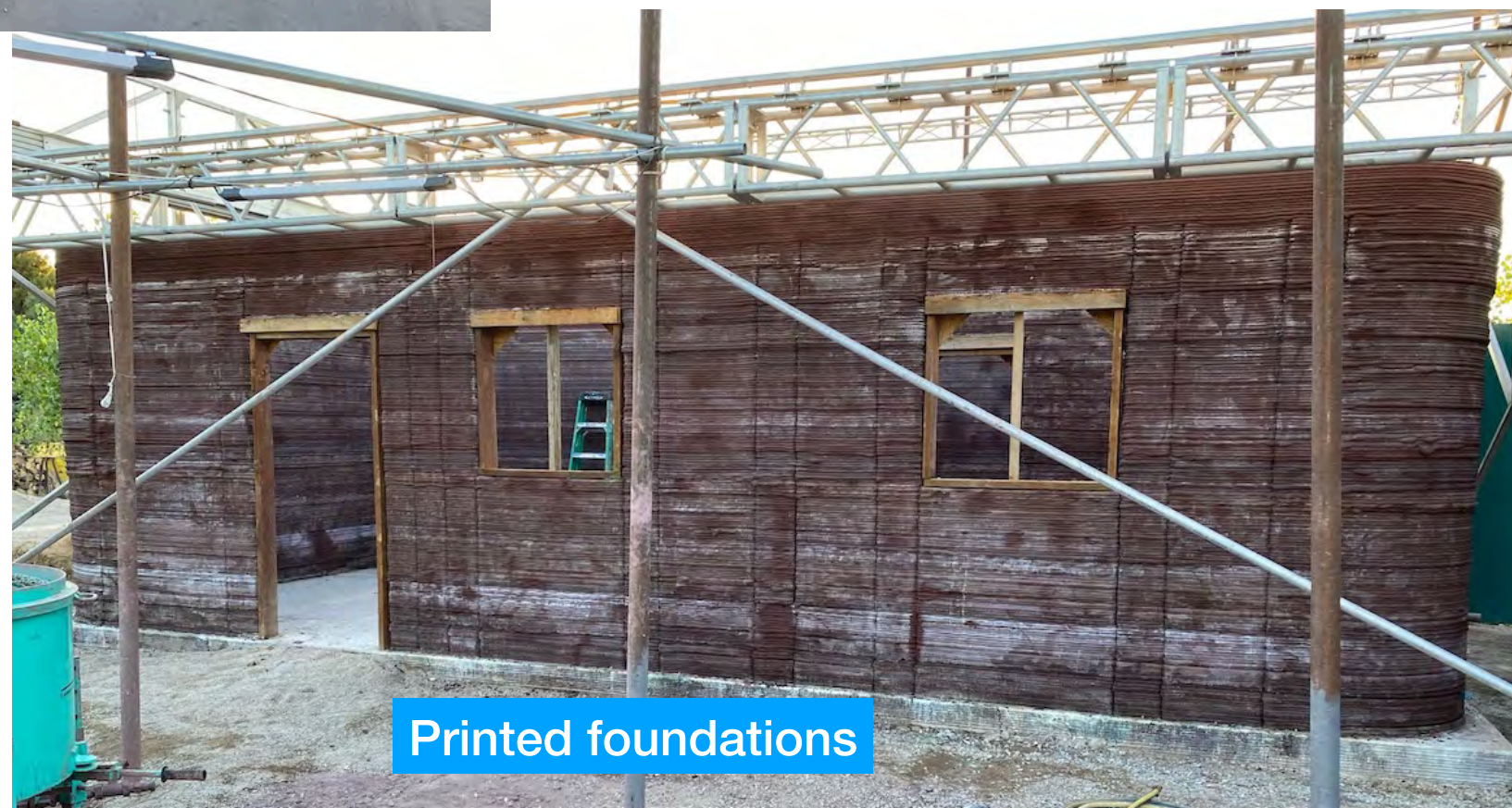


 **2023**  
**GEOPOLYMER**CAMP



**GEOPOLY**  
INTERNATI

**Las Vegas, USA**  
**[www.gpi.earth](http://www.gpi.earth)**



**Printed foundations**





*Review*

# **An Overview for Modern Energy-Efficient Solutions and Martian Habitats Made Based on Geopolymers and 3D Printing Technology**

Kinga Korniejenko, Kinga Pławecka and Barbara Kozub

Faculty of Material Engineering and Physics, Cracow University of Technology, Cracow, Poland

... NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA) announced that they wanted to ensure habitats on the Moon or Mars before 2040. The first manned mission after Apollo 17, Artemis III, is scheduled to take place by 2024 to help implement sustainable lunar exploration.

Human in-space missions (the Moon, Mars, etc.) will require the capability to build structures on site using the local (planet) resources. Nowadays, one of the *most promising materials for that purpose are geopolymer composites...*

The other critical point for in-space application is proper technology. In this case, the *most promising solutions seem to be 3D printing technologies.*