

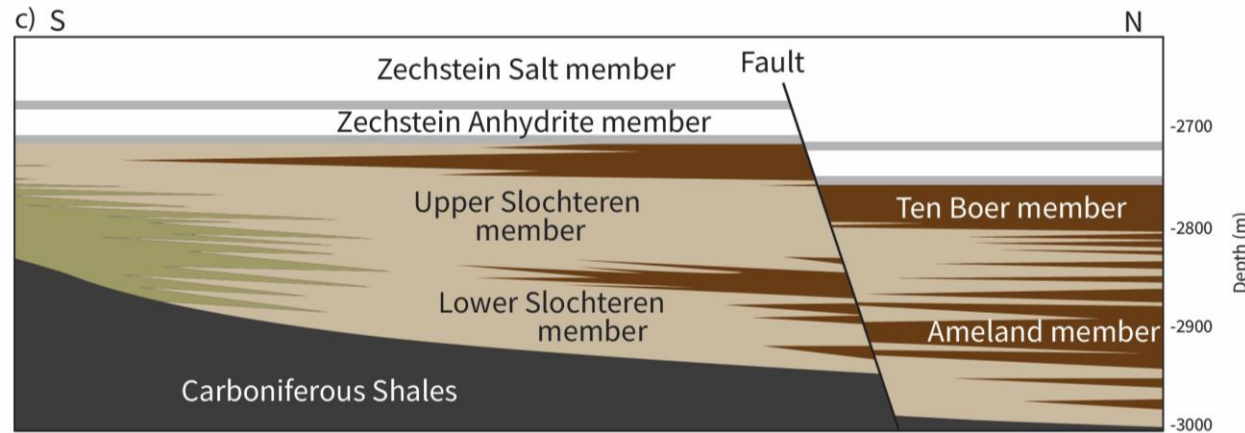
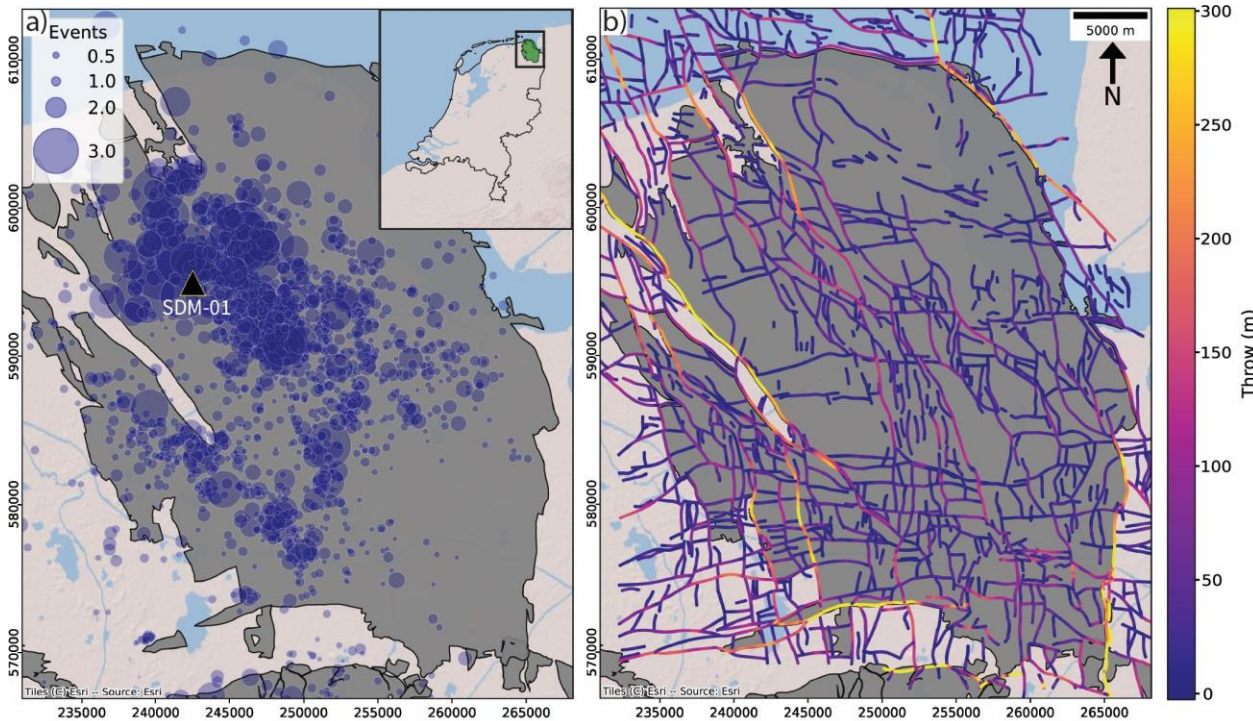


*What material properties will govern the fault mechanical behaviour?*



- A) The weakest lithology
- B) The strongest lithology
- C) A homogeneous mixture
- D) None of the above

# *Geological and societal context*



Quartz (%)

67

48

Feldspar (%)

19

7

Phyllosilicates

3

39

Other (%)

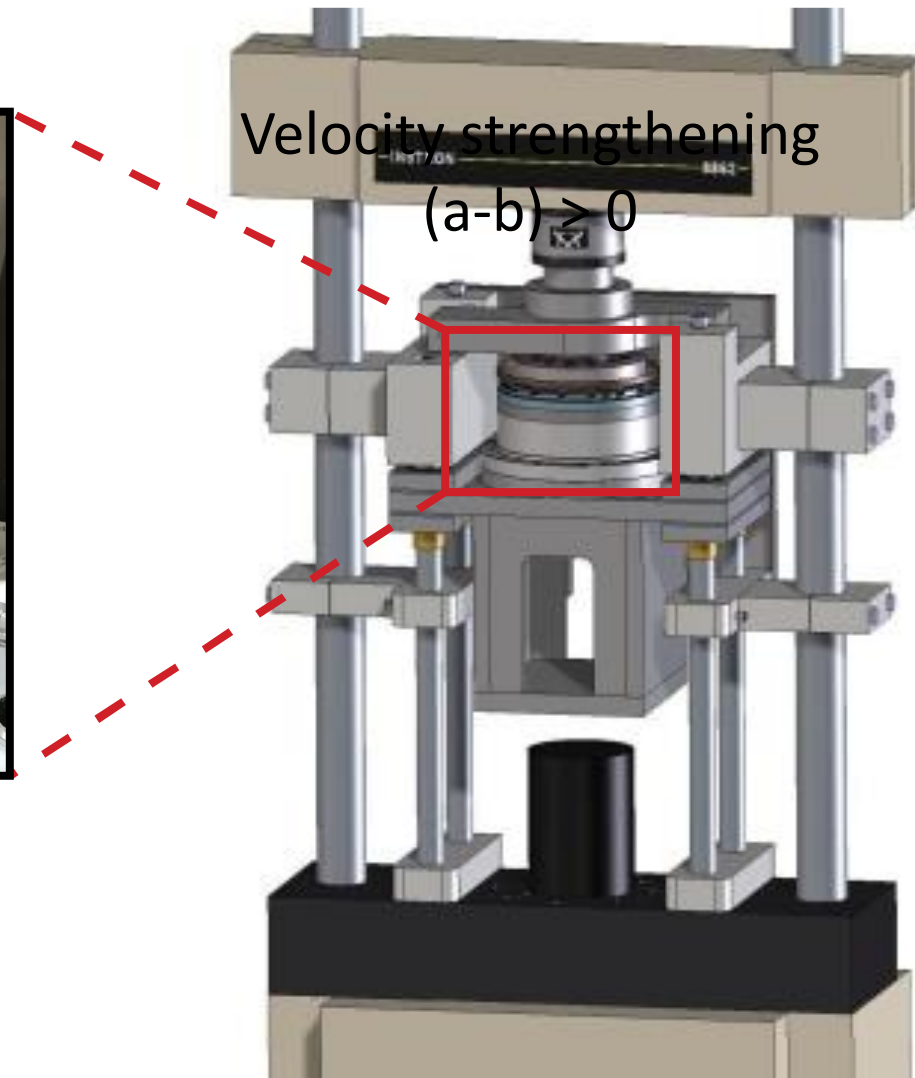
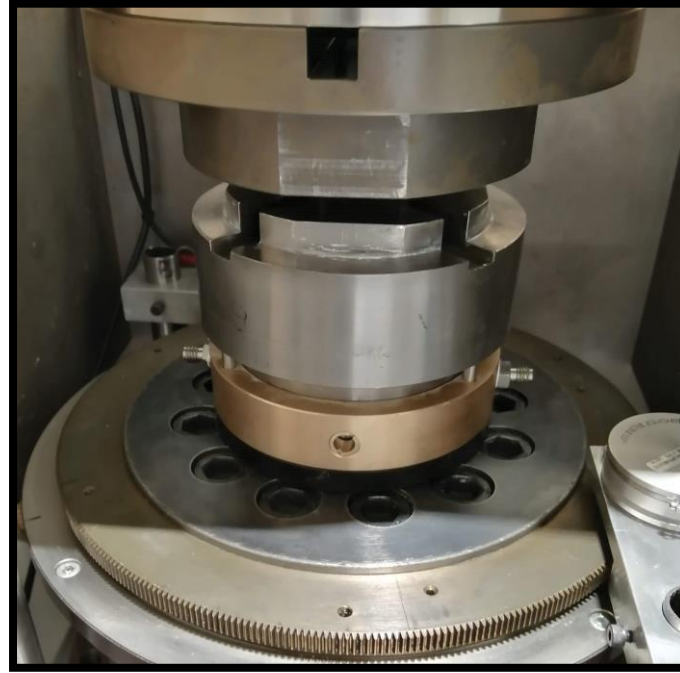
11

6

Sandstone

Claystone

# Experimental setup and procedure



- Rotary shear configuration
- Normal stress  $\sigma_n = 5$  MPa
- Velocity stepping sequence:  
10-30-100-300-1000-300-100-30-10  $\mu\text{m/s}$

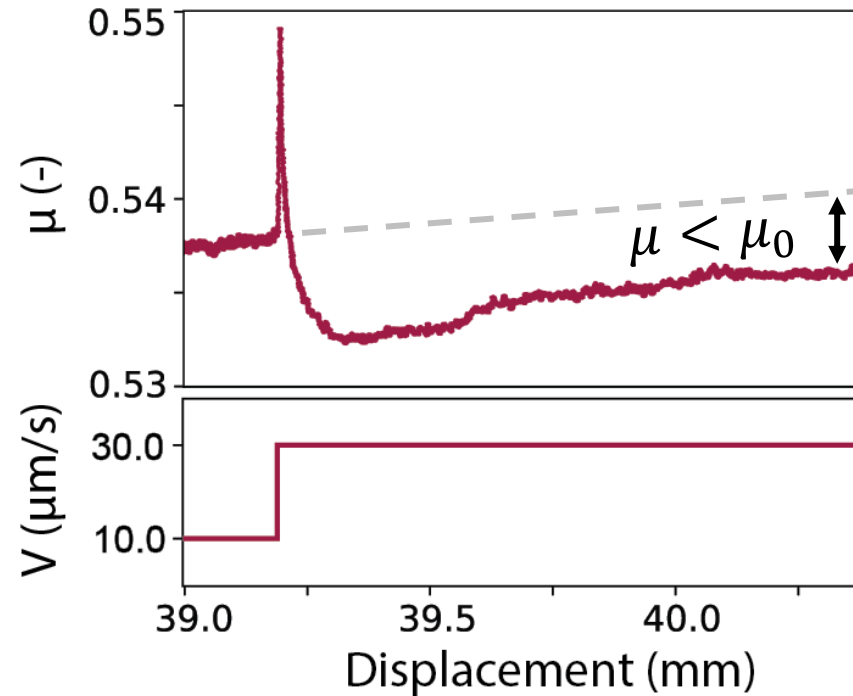
# Experimental setup and procedure



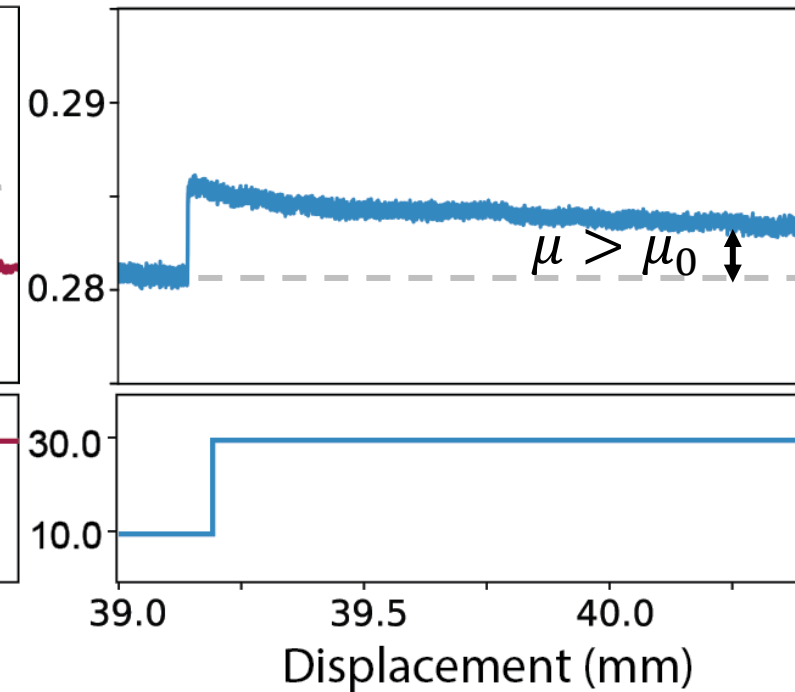
- Rotary shear configuration
- Normal stress  $\sigma_n = 5$  MPa
- Velocity stepping sequence:

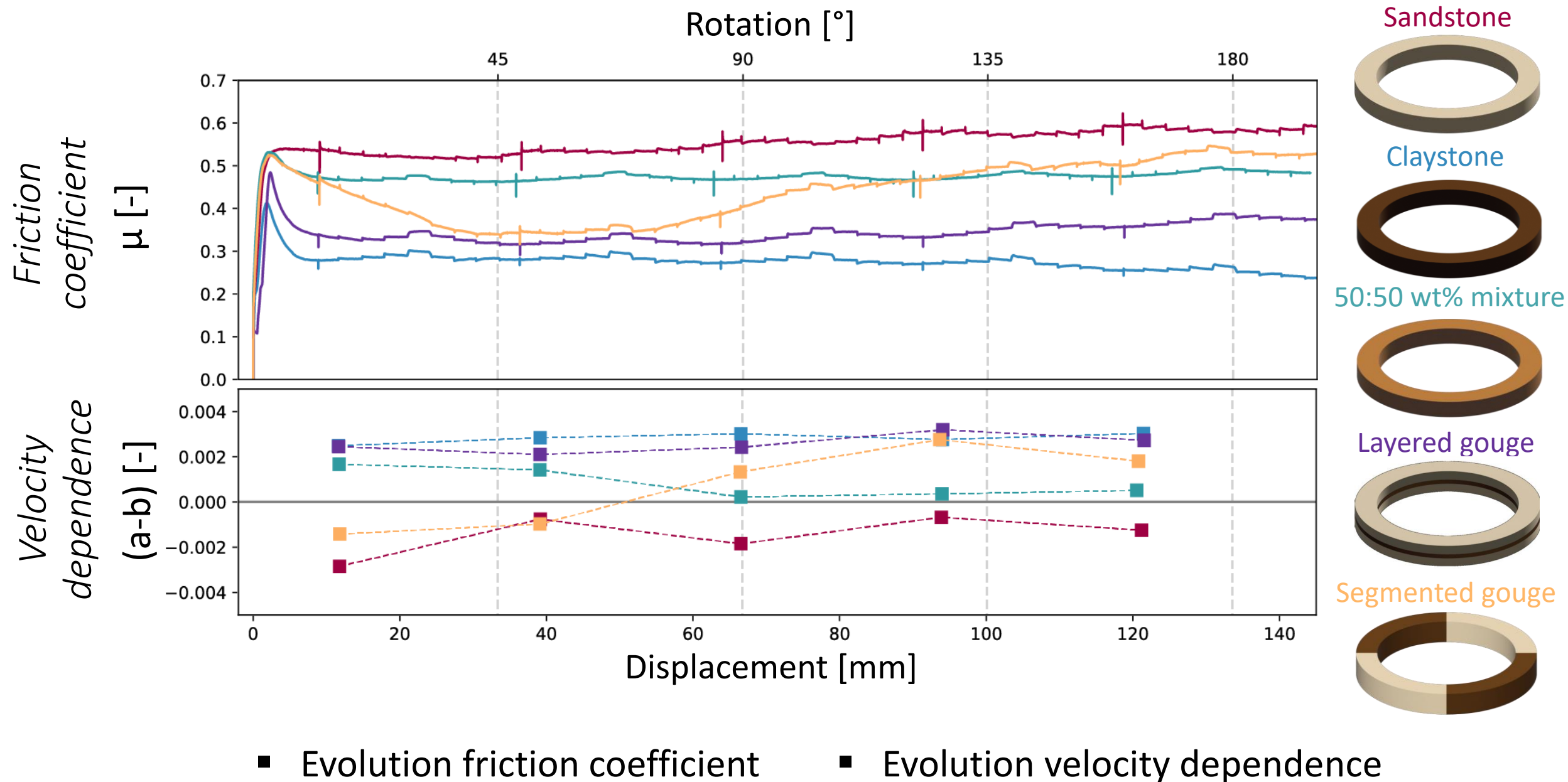
10-30-100-300-1000-300-100-30-10  $\mu\text{m/s}$

Velocity weakening  
(a-b) < 0

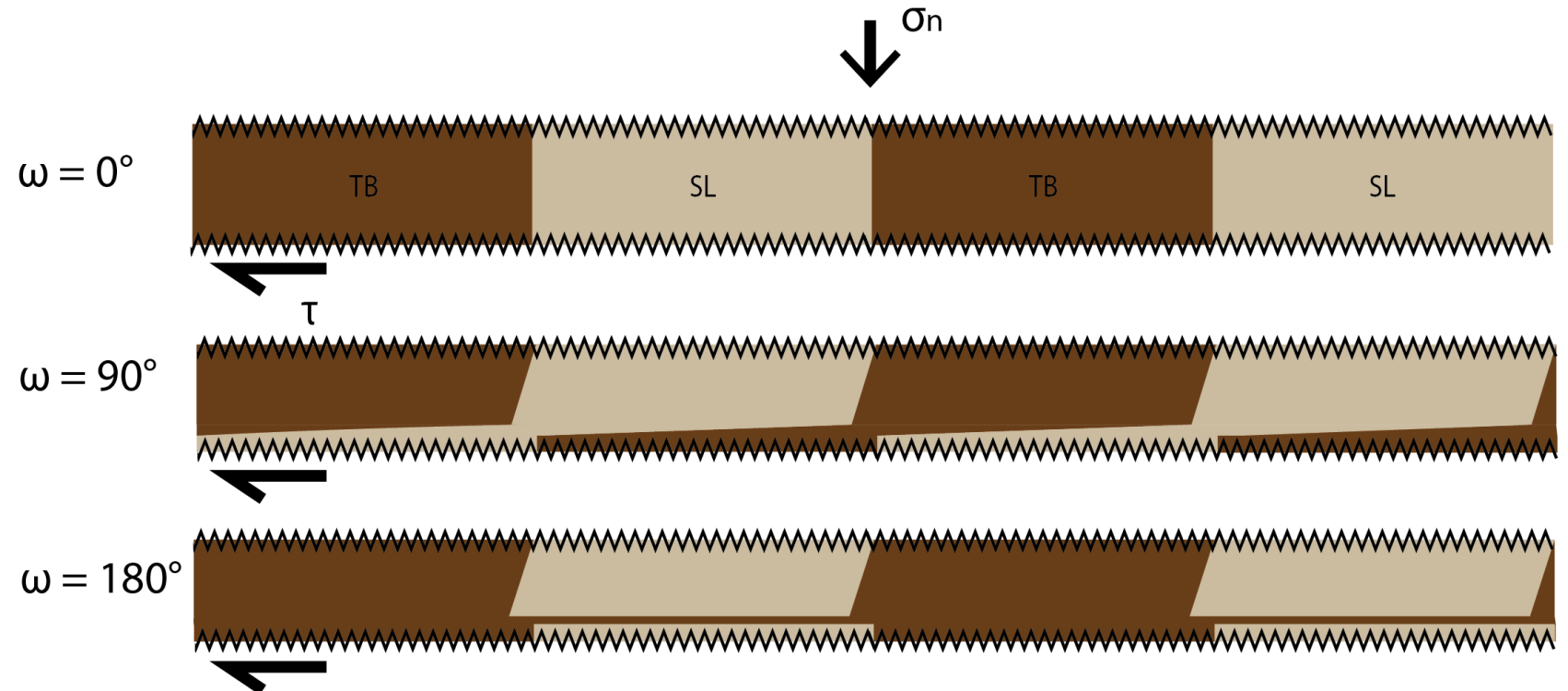
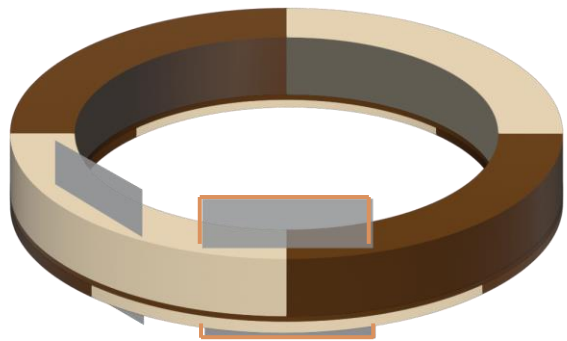
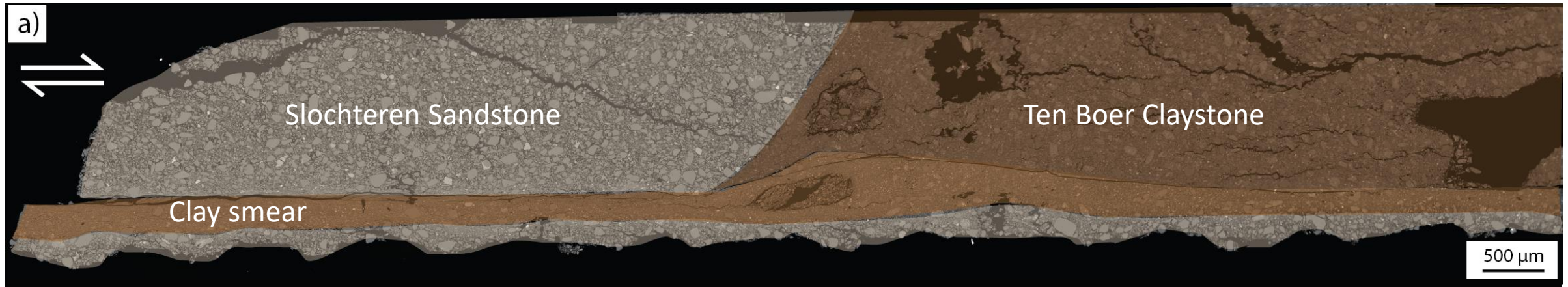


Velocity strengthening  
(a-b) > 0



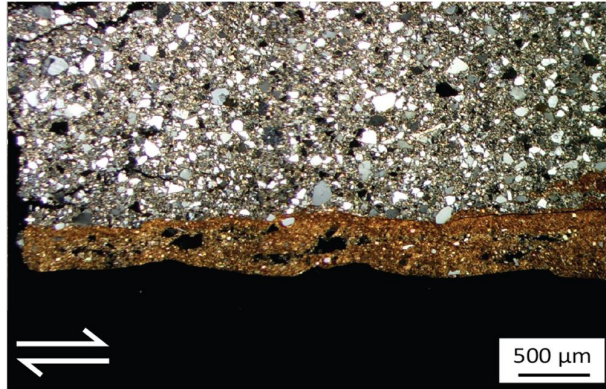


# Microstructural evolution



# *Microstructural evolution*

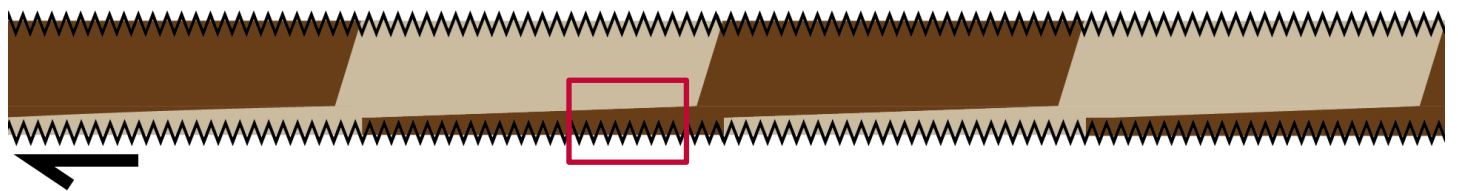
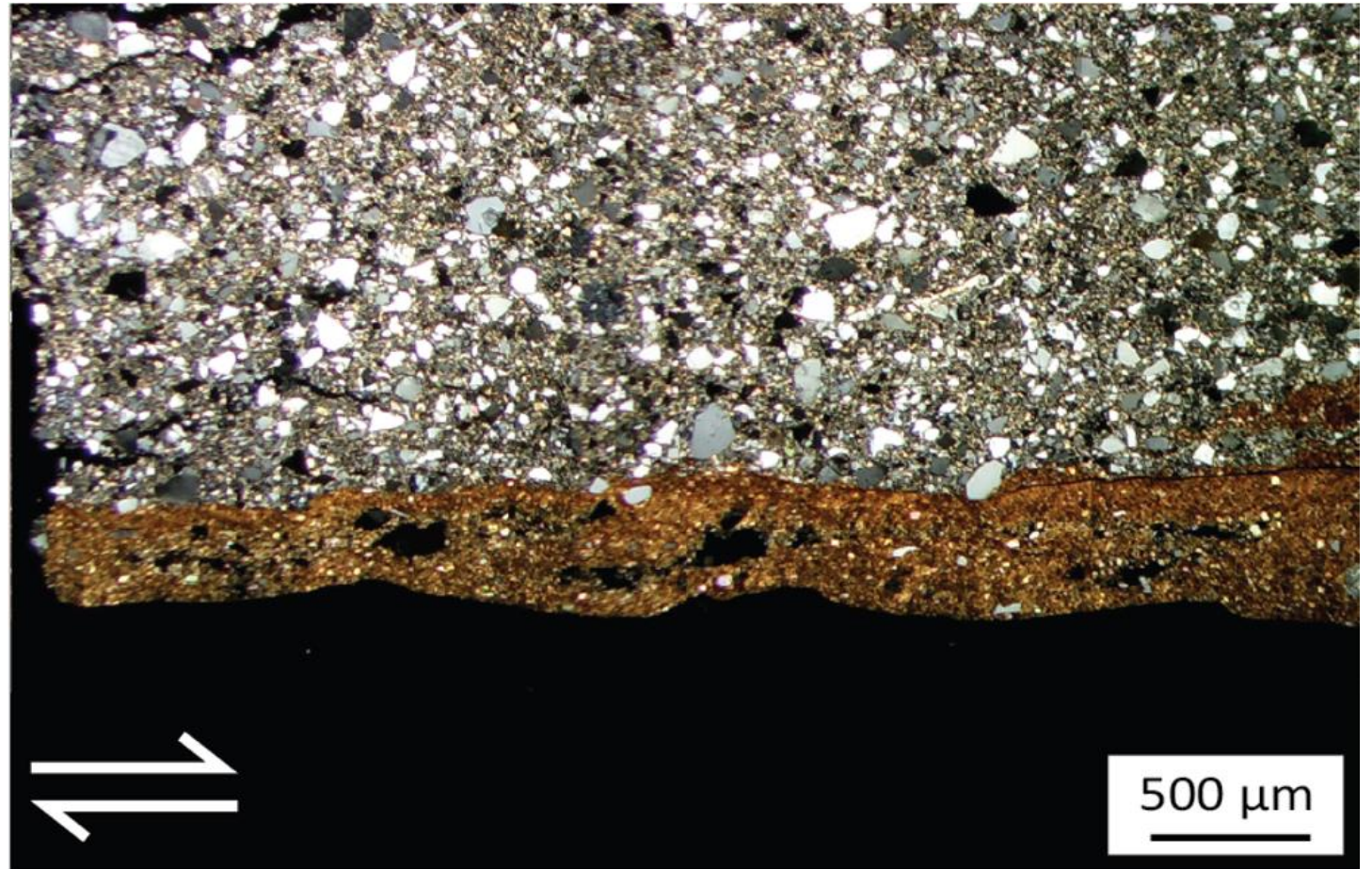
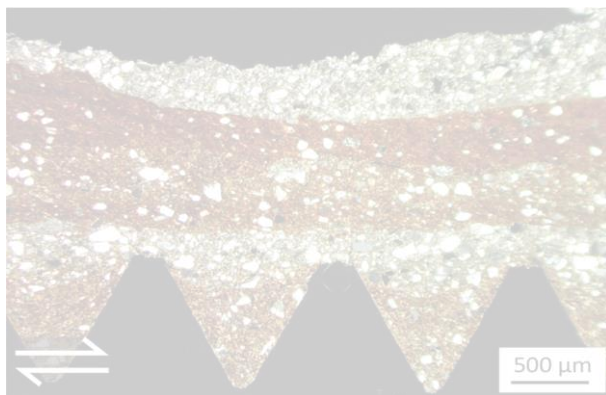
$\omega = 90^\circ$



$\omega = 180^\circ$



$\omega = 400^\circ$



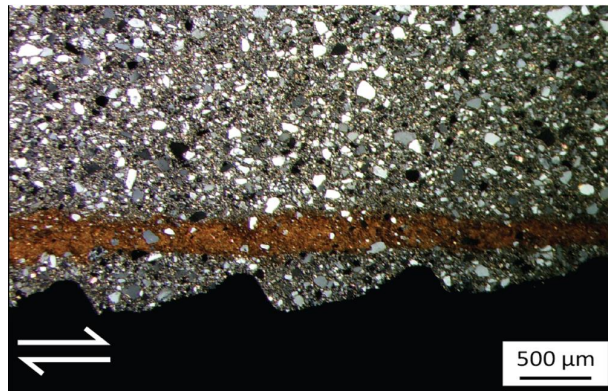


# *Microstructural evolution*

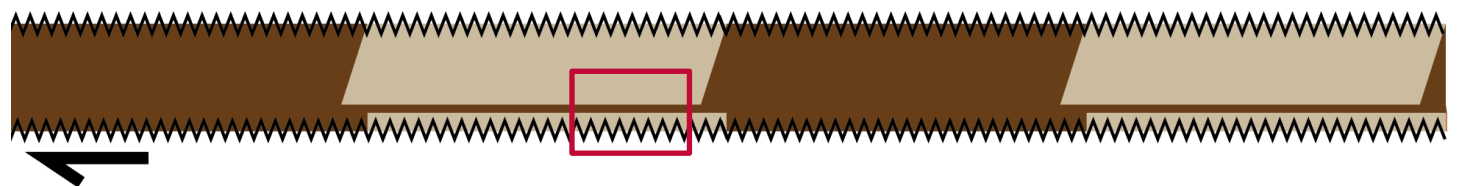
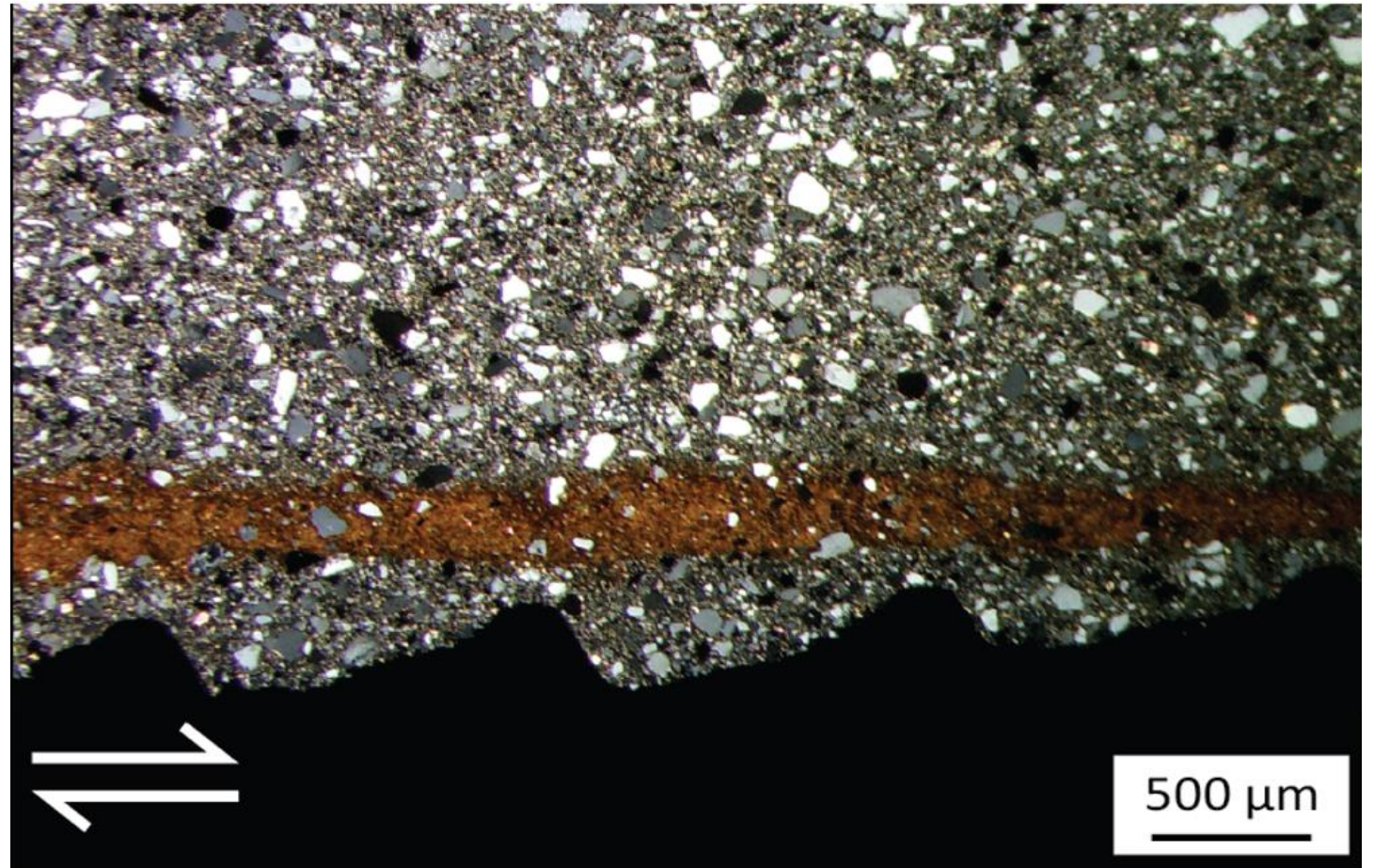
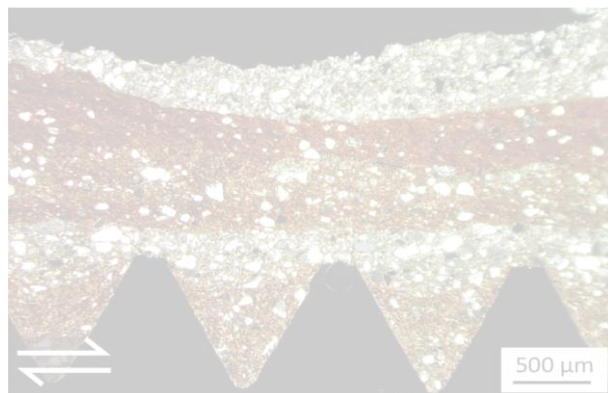
$\omega = 90^\circ$



$\omega = 180^\circ$



$\omega = 400^\circ$



# Microstructural evolution

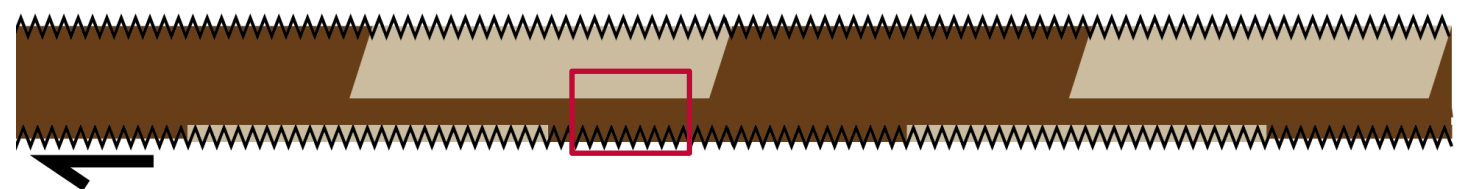
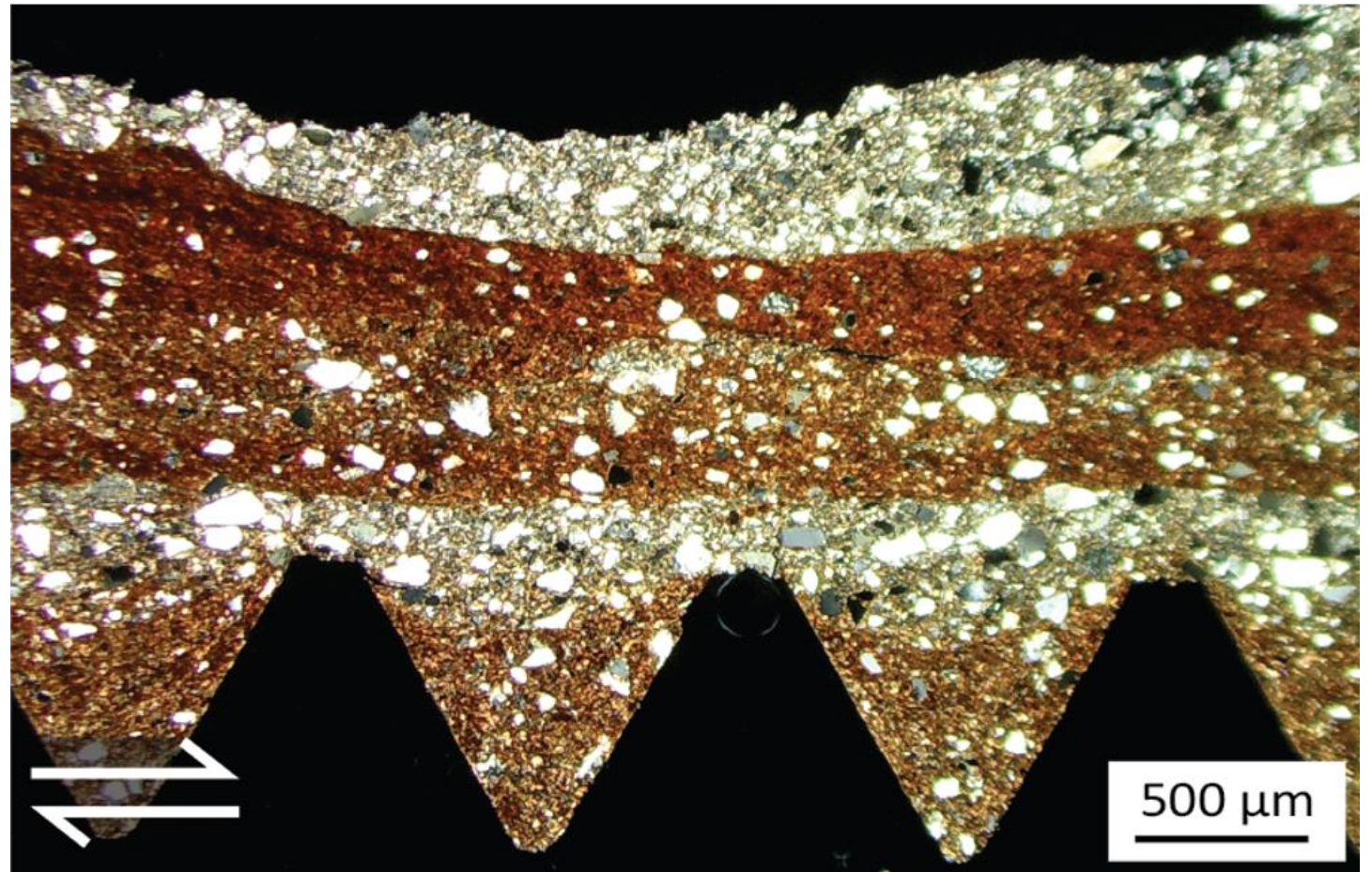
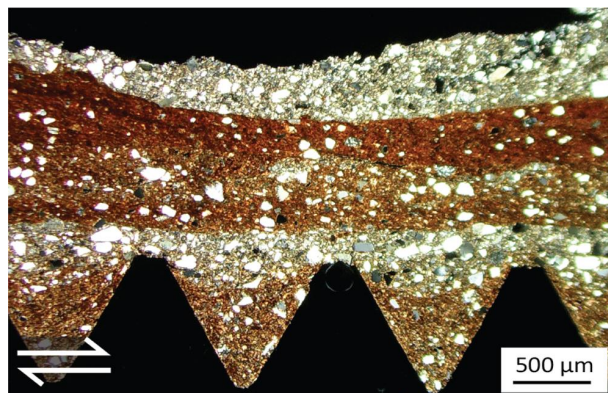
$\omega = 90^\circ$



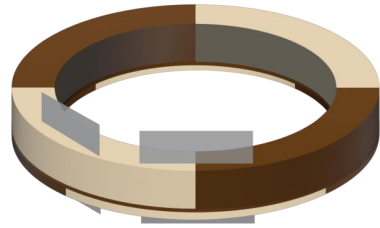
$\omega = 180^\circ$



$\omega = 400^\circ$

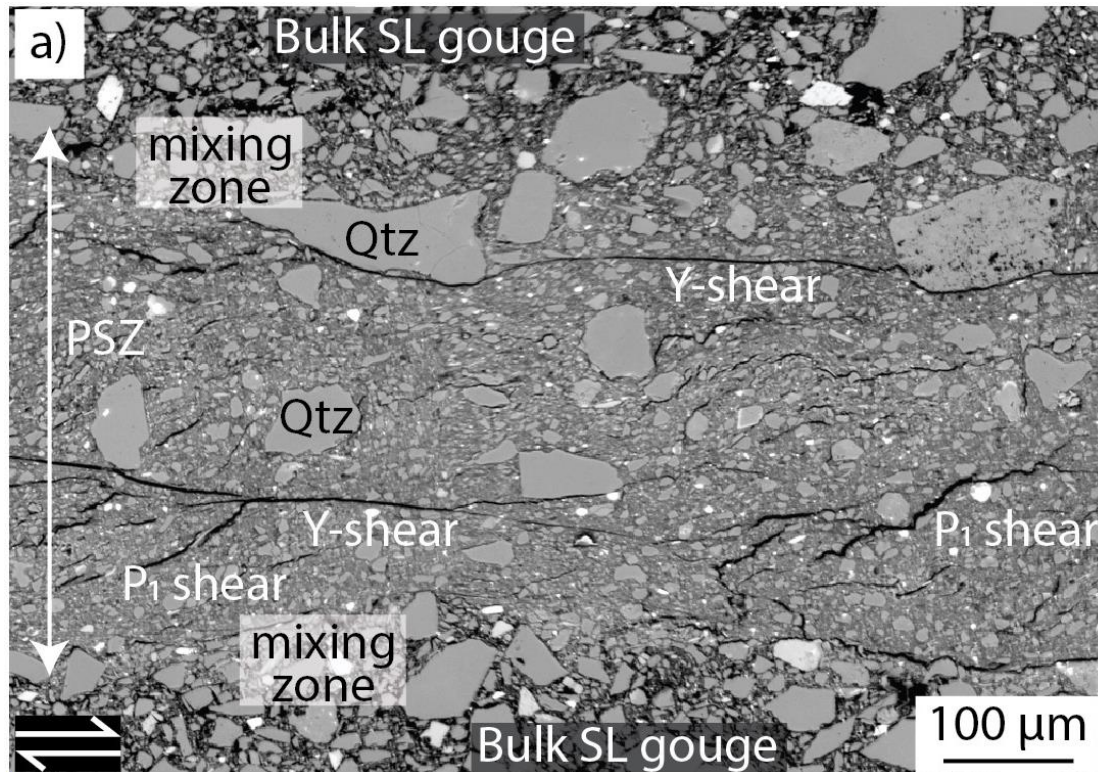
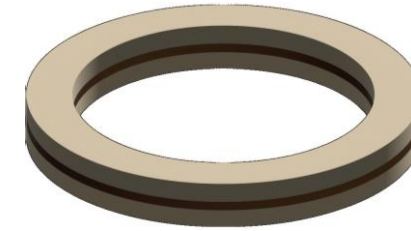


# Segmented gouge

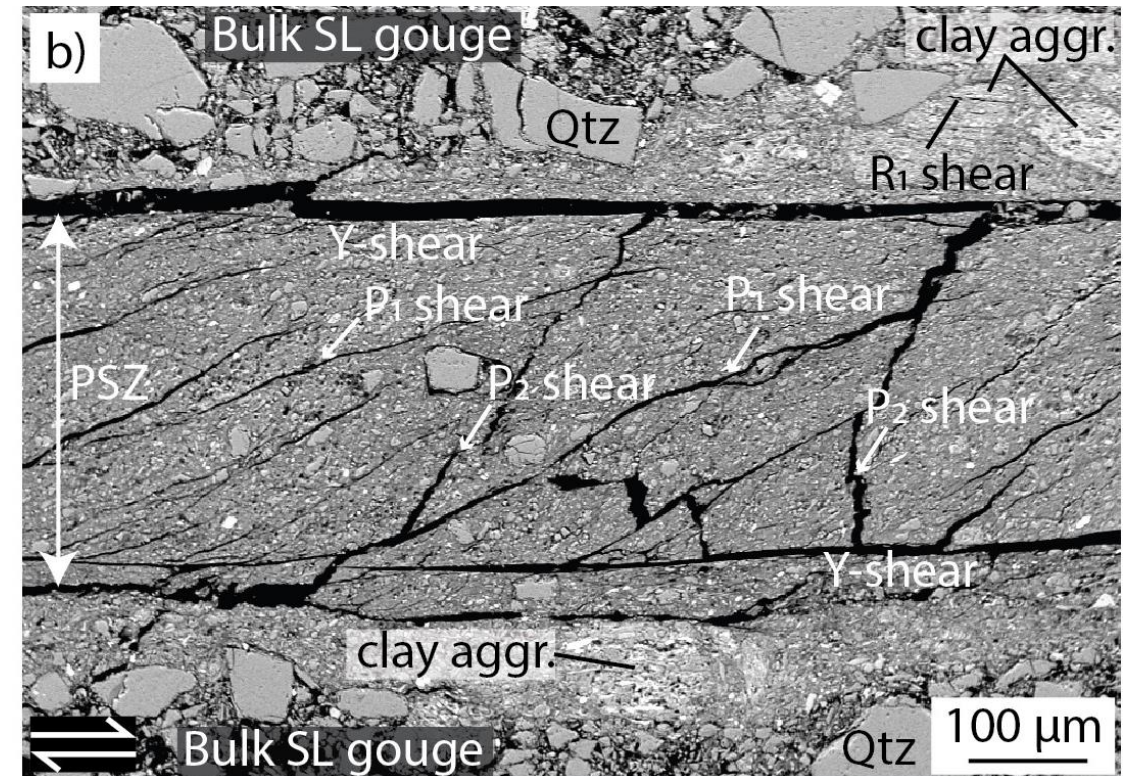


VS

# Layered gouge



- Disrupted Y-shears
- Mixing with bulk SL gouge



- Continuous Y-shears
- No mixing with bulk SL gouge

*What material properties will govern the fault mechanical behaviour?*

- A) The weakest lithology
- B) The strongest lithology
- C) A homogeneous mixture
- D) None of the above

- Frictional strength and velocity dependence evolve with displacement
- The evolution is caused by clay smearing and mixing at the material interface
- Knowledge on scale of layering and fault offset required to predict mechanical behaviour


# *What material properties will govern the fault mechanical behaviour?*

- A) The weakest lithology
- B) The strongest lithology
- C) A homogeneous mixture
- D) None of the above**


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**The frictional strength and stability of spatially heterogeneous fault gouges**

Job P.B. Arts<sup>\*</sup>, André R. Niemeijer, Martyn R. Drury, Ernst Willingshofer, Liviu C. Matenco

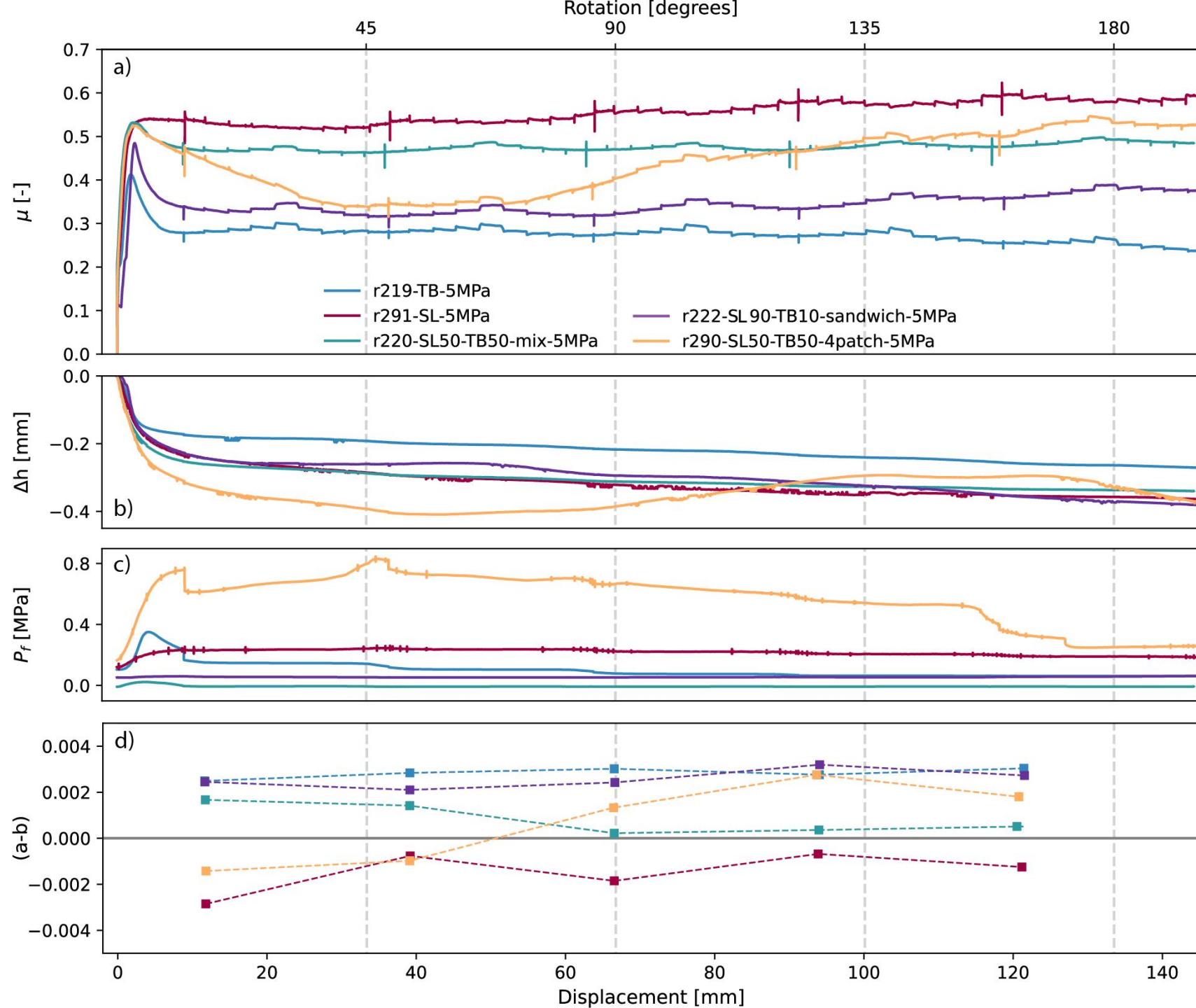
*Department of Earth Sciences, Utrecht University, The Netherlands*

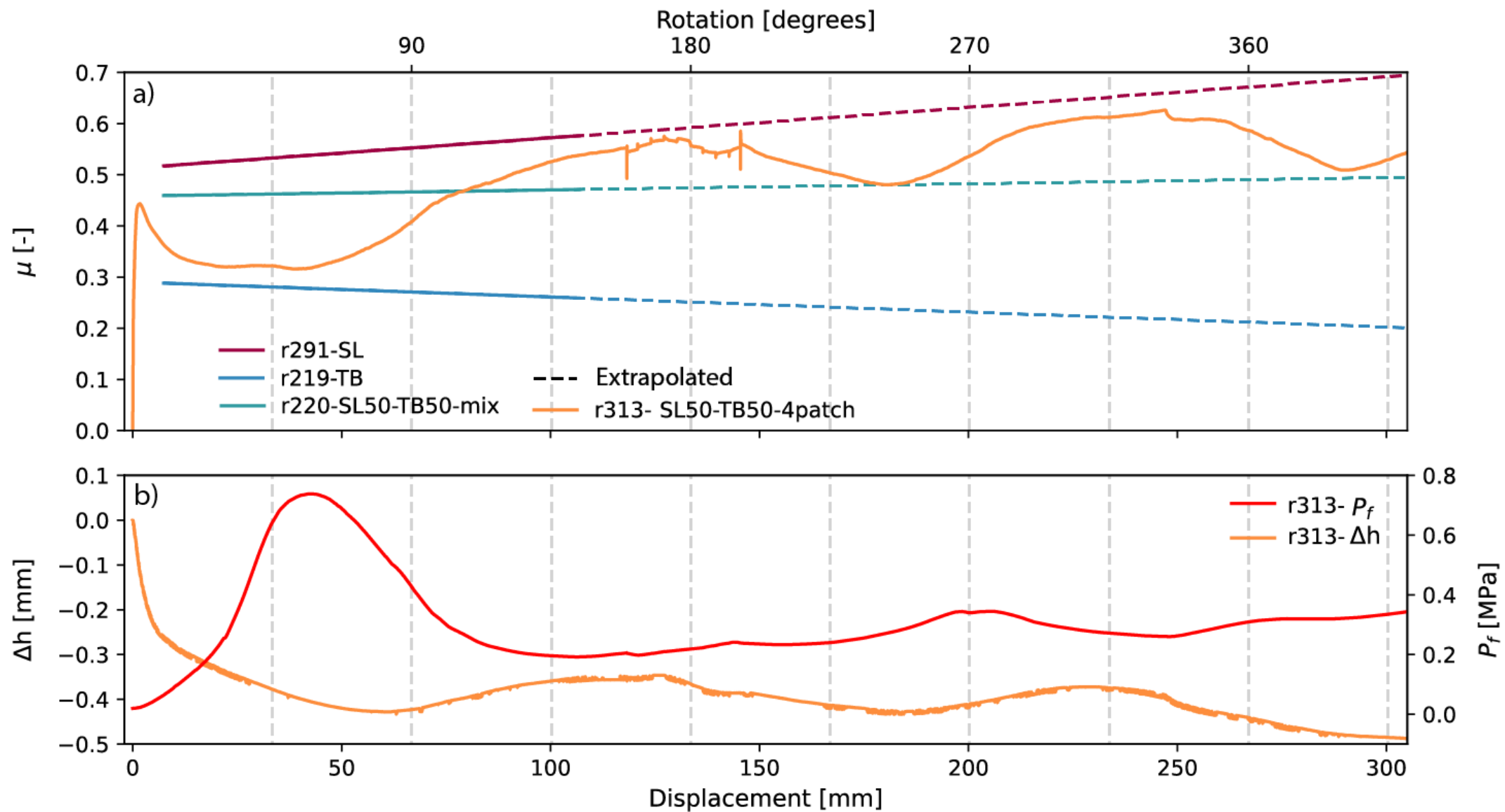


✉ [j.p.b.arts@uu.nl](mailto:j.p.b.arts@uu.nl)



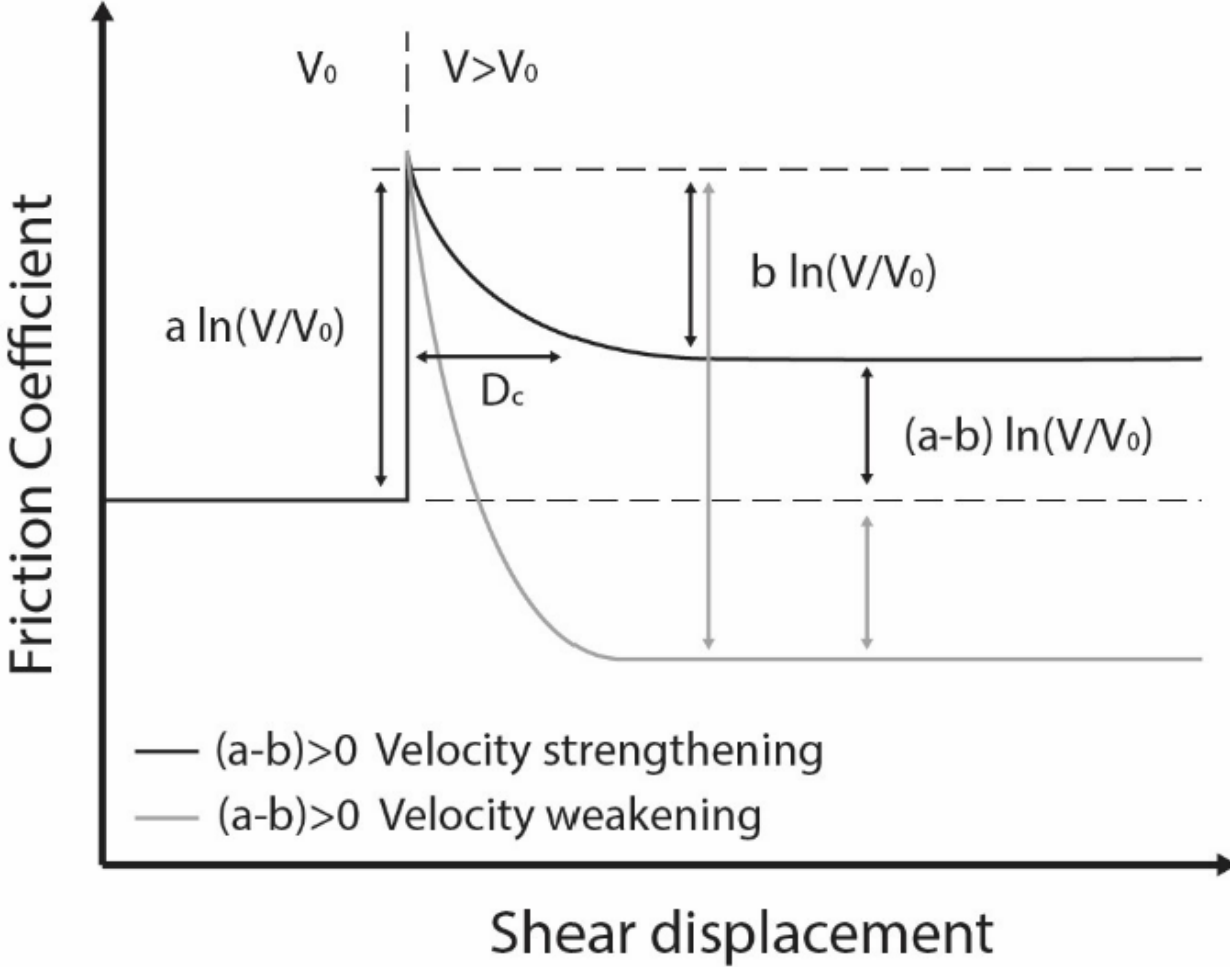
*Additional slides*





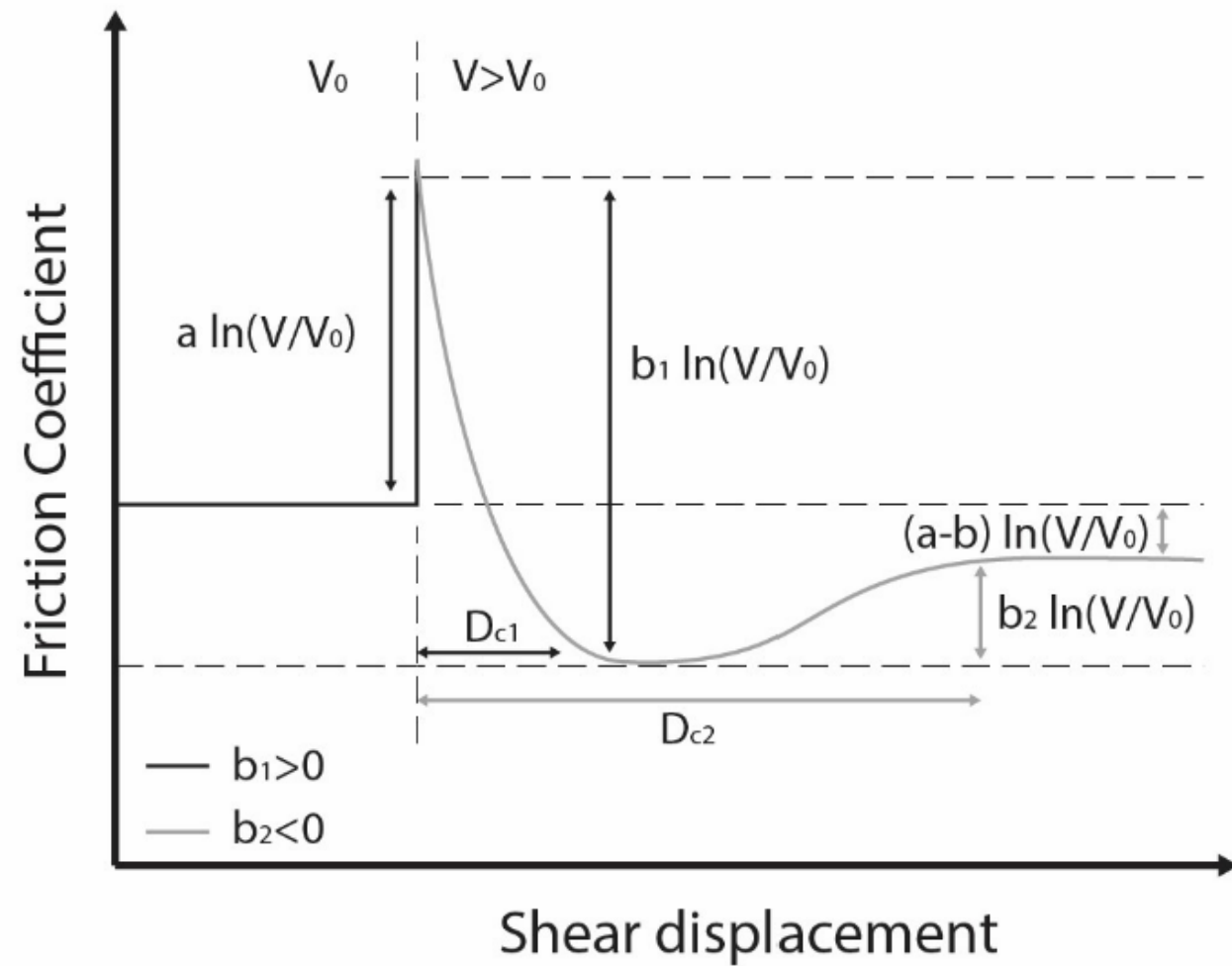


## One state variable



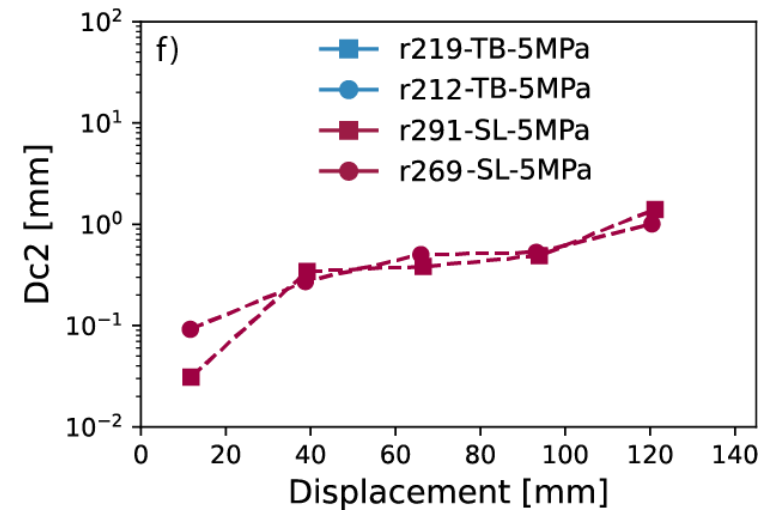
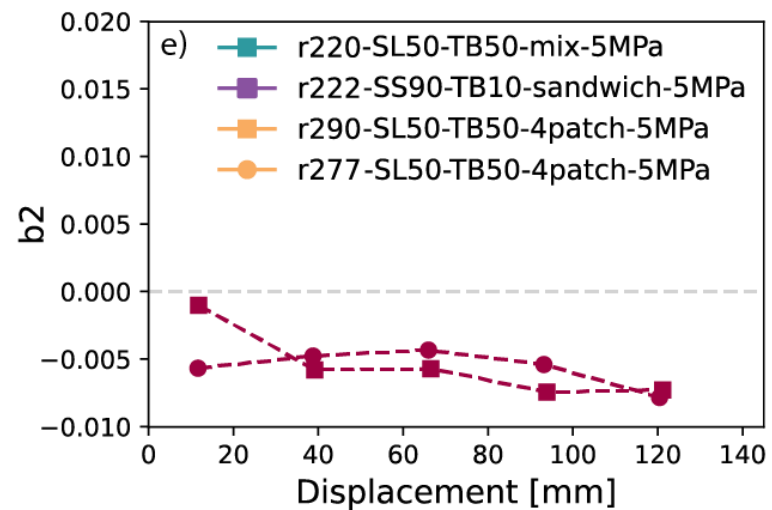
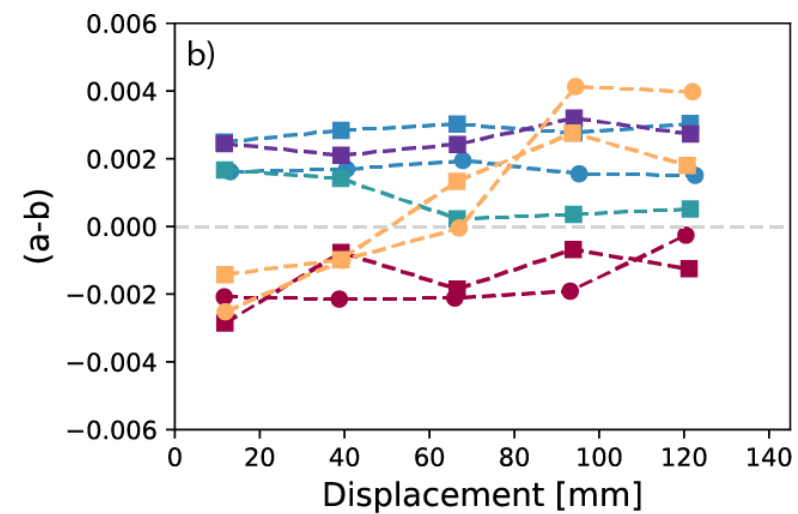
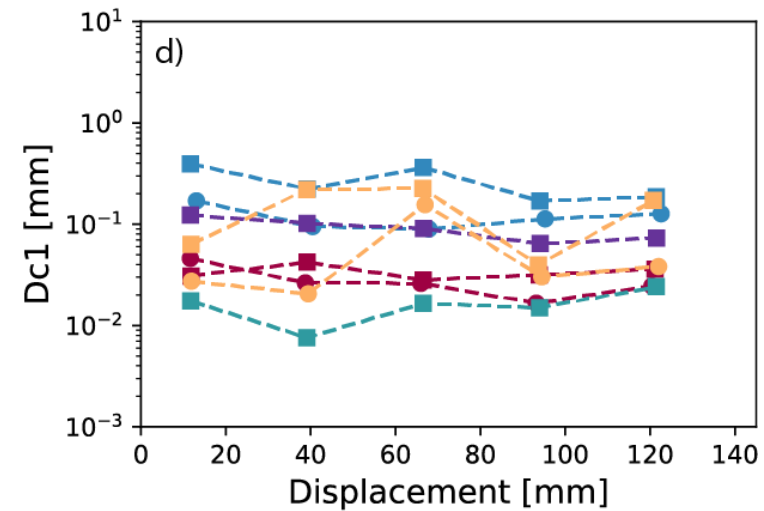
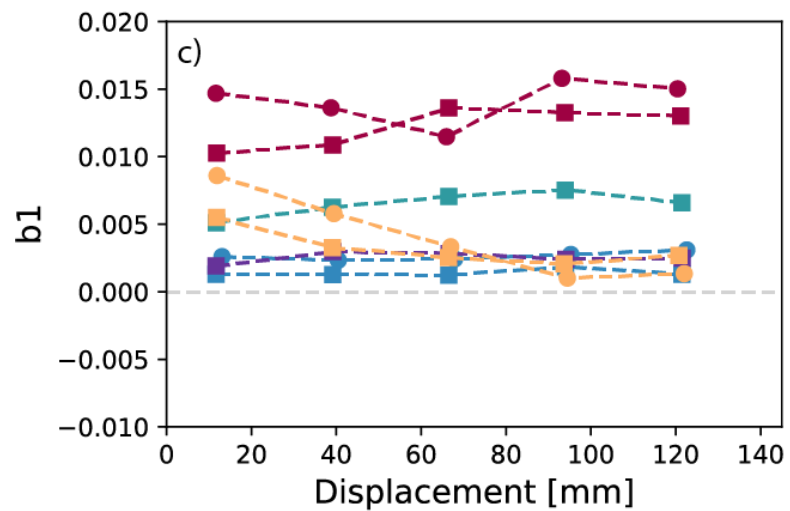
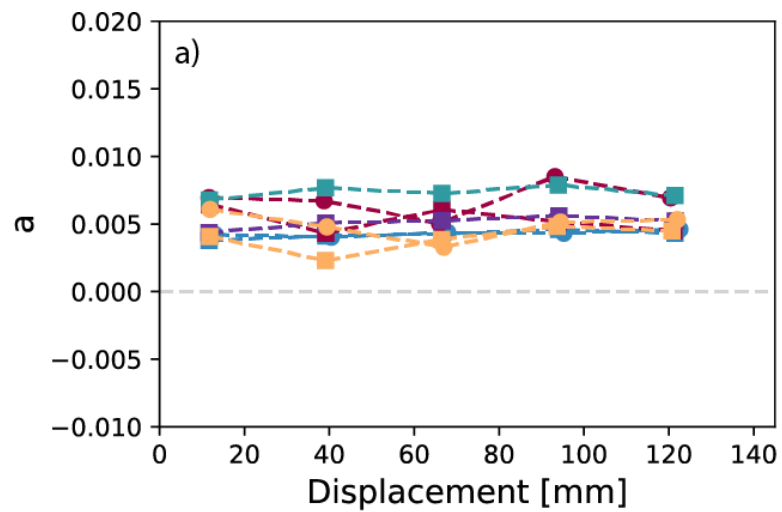
$$\mu = \mu_0 + a \cdot \ln\left(\frac{V}{V_0}\right) + b_1 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{V_0 \theta_1}{d_{c,1}}\right) + b_2 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{V_0 \theta_2}{d_{c,2}}\right)$$

## Two state variables

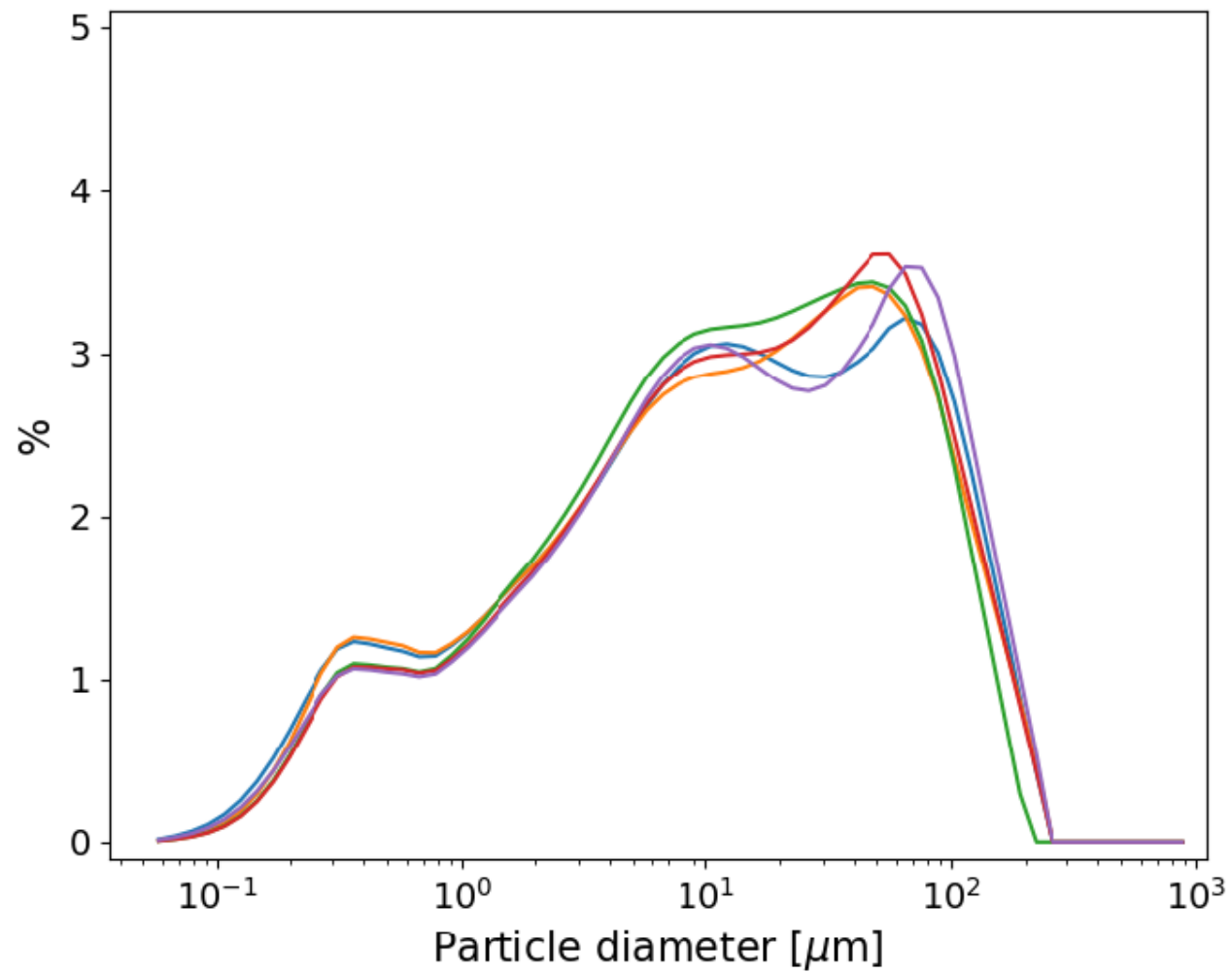


$$\frac{d\theta_i}{dt} = 1 - \frac{V\theta_i}{d_{c,i}}$$

$$\frac{d\mu}{dt} = k(V_{lp} - V)$$



Slochteren gouge



Ten Boer gouge

