

Hydro-mechanical modeling of CO₂ sequestration in deep saline aquifers

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CCS• Geomechanical issues• Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• H model• M model	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1D H model• 1D HM model• 2D H model	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remarks• Perspectives

Introduction

➤ Global warming → Technologies to reduce **CO₂ emissions**

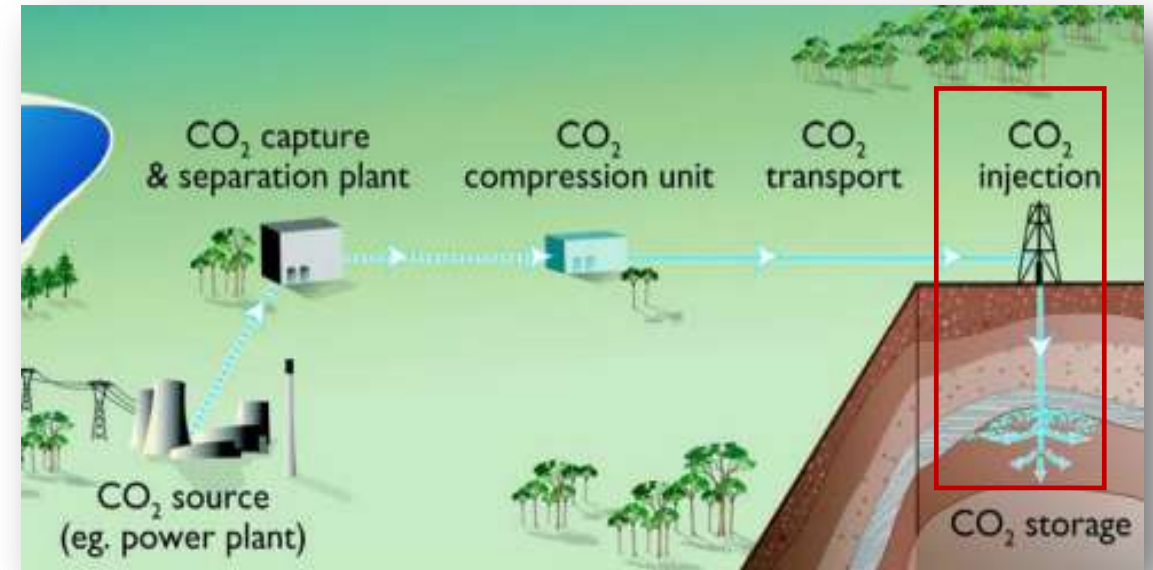
➤ **Carbon Capture & Sequestration (CCS)**

➤ **Deep geological reservoirs:**

1) large porosity → good storage capacity

2) large permeability → good injectivity

E.g. deep saline aquifer (in sandstone)



(CO₂CRC)

Introduction

➤ CO₂ condition

Reservoir depth ↑ (z>800m)



P&T ↑



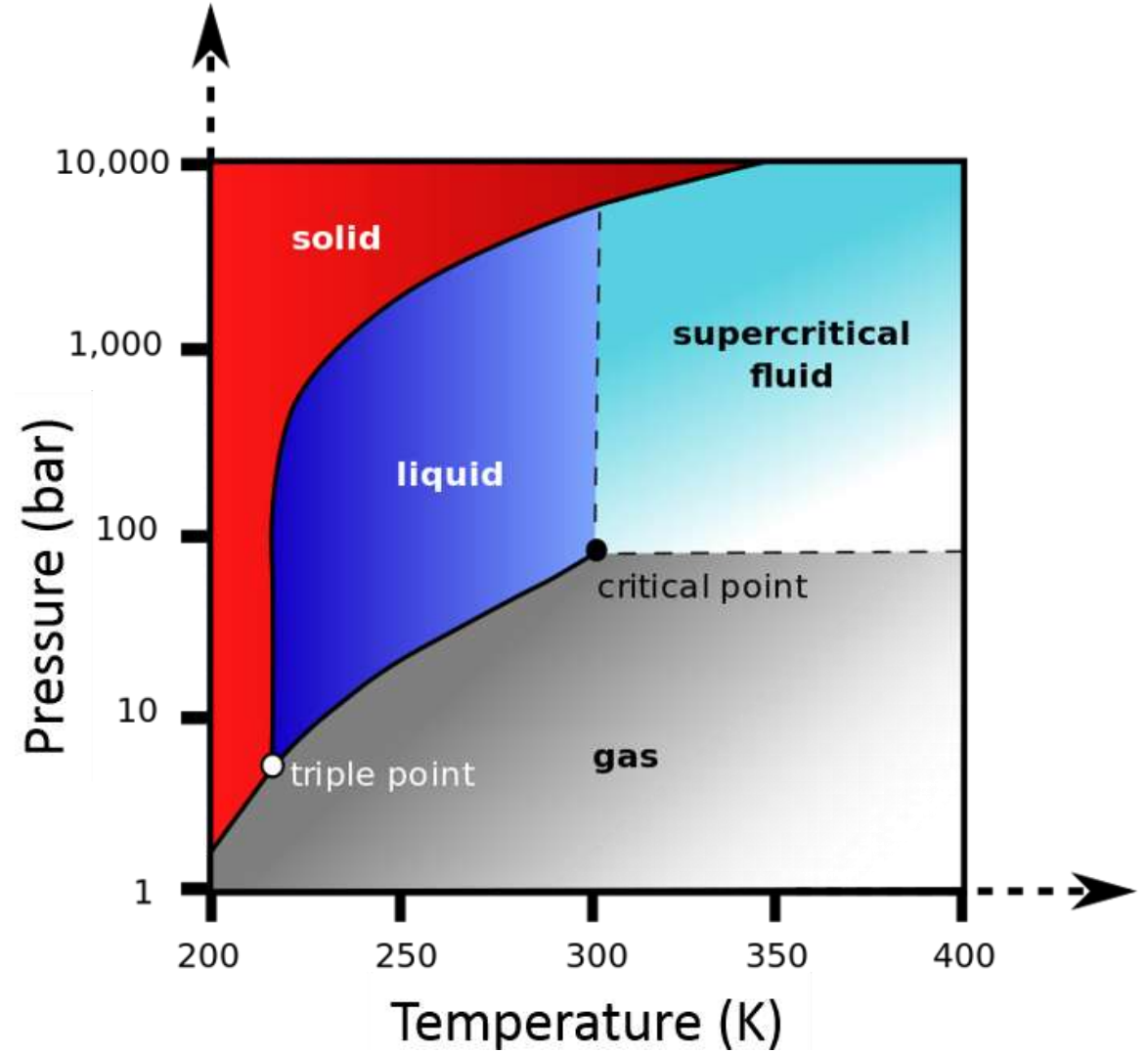
supercritical CO₂



ρ_{CO_2} ↑



storage efficiency ↑



(en.wikipedia.org)

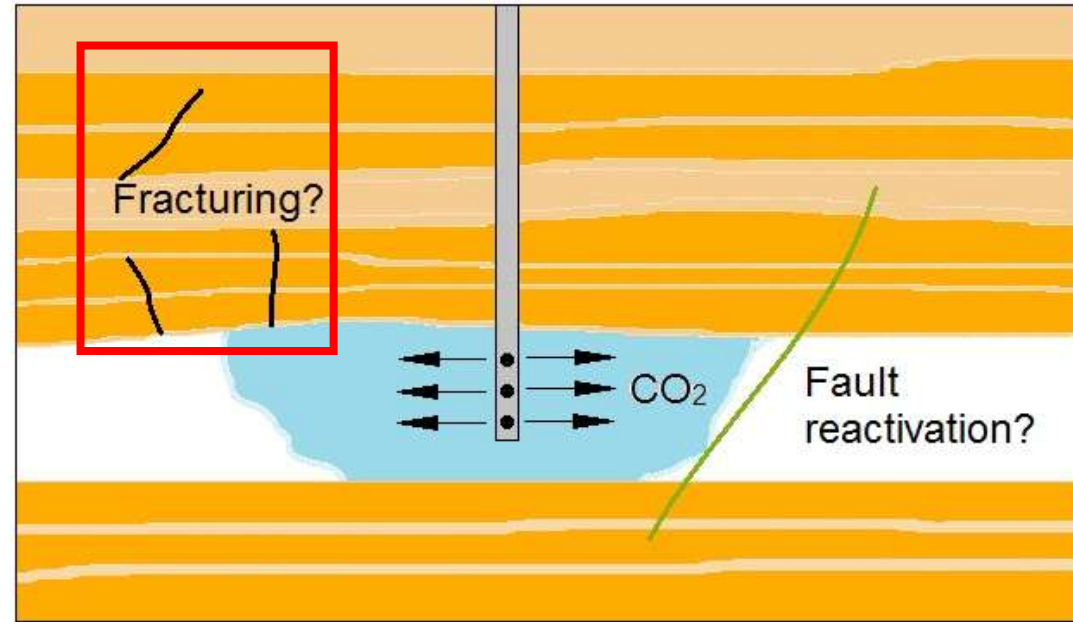
Introduction

➤ Geomechanical issues

Hydro-mechanical coupling:

CO₂ injection → ΔP_{fluid} → $\Delta \sigma'$ → ϵ

failure of reservoir?



(Rutqvist, 2012)

➤ Objectives

- Numerical modeling of Hydro-mechanical effects during CO₂ sequestration in simplified deep saline aquifer
- Impacts on reservoir mechanical stability & CO₂ injection efficiency

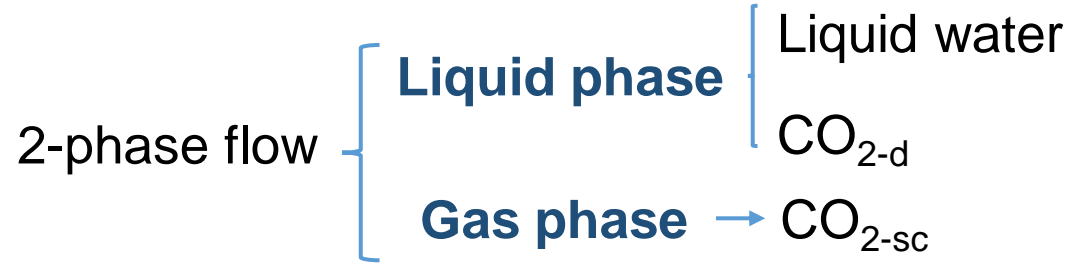
(Modeling tool: Finite element code **LAGAMINE**)

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Hydro-mechanical model

- Isothermal conditions (T=320 K)
- Hydraulic model :



- **Mass Flux balance**

$$\underline{f}_w = \rho_w \underline{q}_l$$

$$\underline{f}_{CO_2-sc} = \rho_{CO_2-sc} \underline{q}_g$$

$$\underline{f}_{CO_2-d} = \rho_{CO_2-d} \underline{q}_l + \underline{i}_{CO_2-d}$$

Flows of advection
(Darcy's law)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \underline{q}_g = -\frac{kk_{r,g}}{\mu_{CO_2-sc}} (\nabla P_g + \rho_{CO_2-sc} g \nabla z) \\ \underline{q}_l = -\frac{kk_{r,w}}{\mu_w} (\nabla P_w + \rho_w g \nabla z) \end{array} \right.$$

Flows of diffusion
(Fick's law)

$$\underline{i}_{CO_2-d} = D\tau\phi \nabla C_{CO_2-d}$$

- We need to define **parameters** in the model: S_r, k, ρ, μ, etc.

Hydro-mechanical model

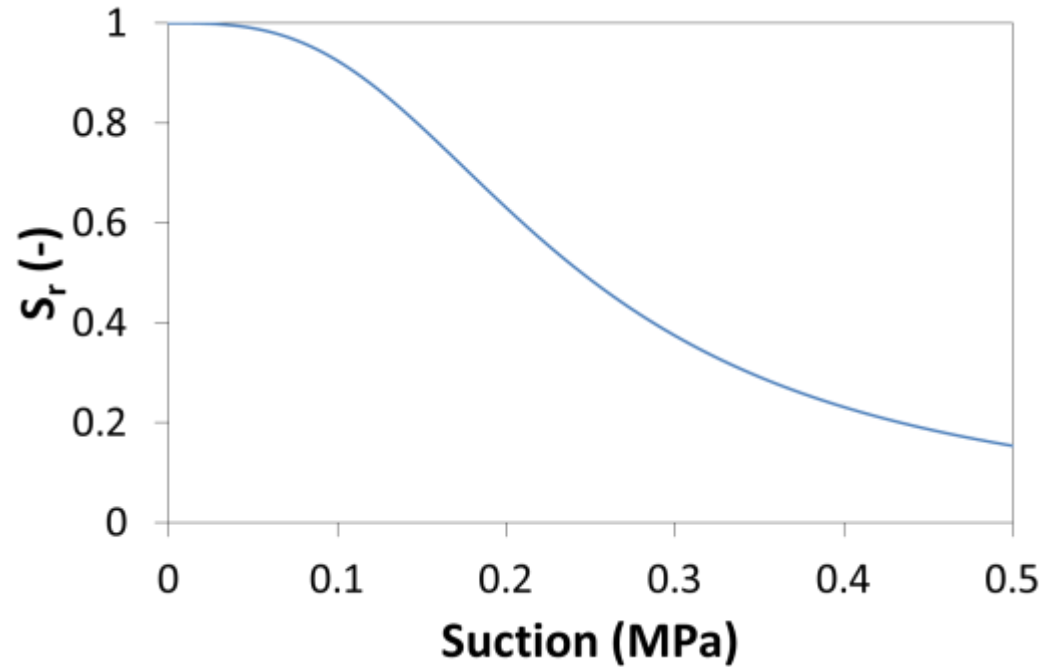
➤ Hydraulic properties

- Retention curve

van Genuchten law:

$$S_r = \left(1 + \left(\frac{P_c}{P_r} \right)^n \right)^{\frac{1}{n}-1}$$

Retention curve



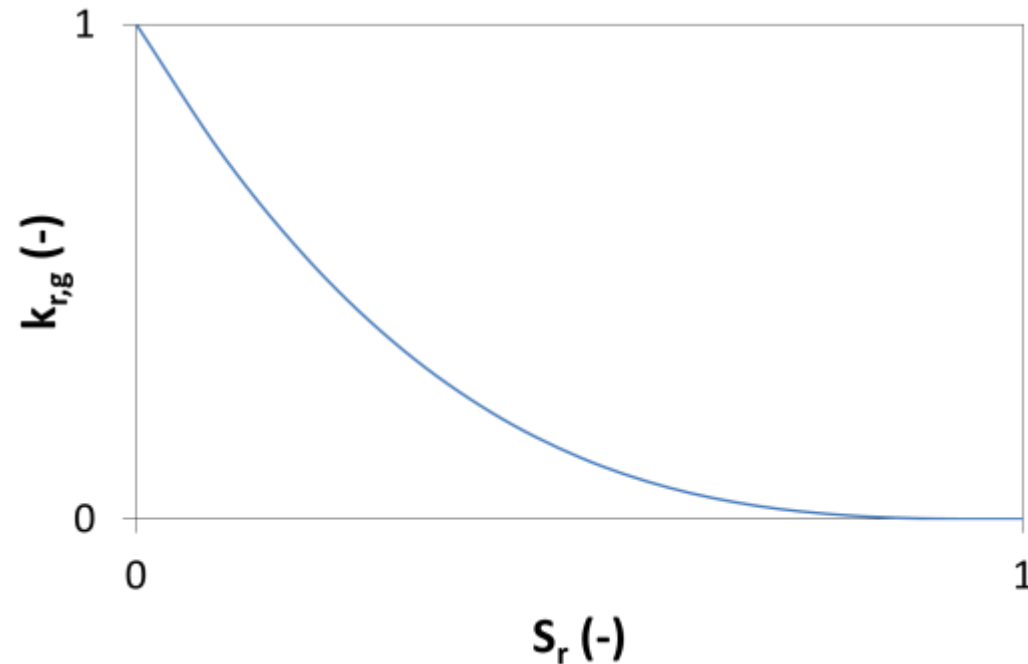
- Relative permeability

Cubic law:

$$k_{r,w} = S_r^3$$

$$k_{r,g} = (1 - S_r)^3$$

$k_{r,g} - S_r$

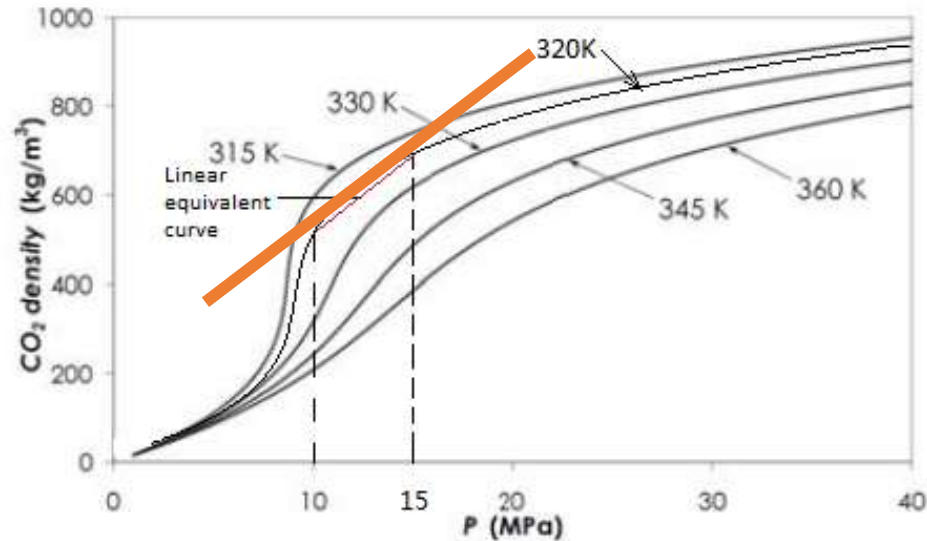


Hydro-mechanical model

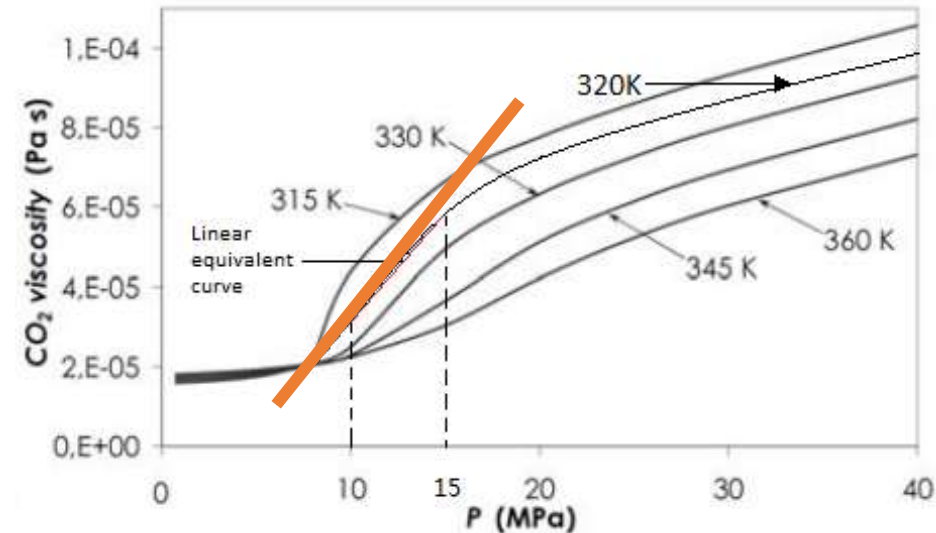
➤ Hydraulic properties

- ρ_{CO_2} & μ_{CO_2}

$$\rho_{CO_2} = f(P)$$



$$\mu_{CO_2} = f(P)$$



$$\rho_{CO_2} = f(P, T), \mu_{CO_2} = f(P, T) \xrightarrow{T=320K} \rho_{CO_2} = f(P), \mu_{CO_2} = f(P)$$

Aquifer depth: 1.0km-1.5km → **Pressure:** 10MPa-15MPa

Linearization:

$$\rho_{CO_2} = \rho_{CO_2,0} + \beta_1(P_g - P_{g,0}) \quad \& \quad \mu_{CO_2} = \mu_{CO_2,0} + \beta_2(P_g - P_{g,0})$$

Hydro-mechanical model

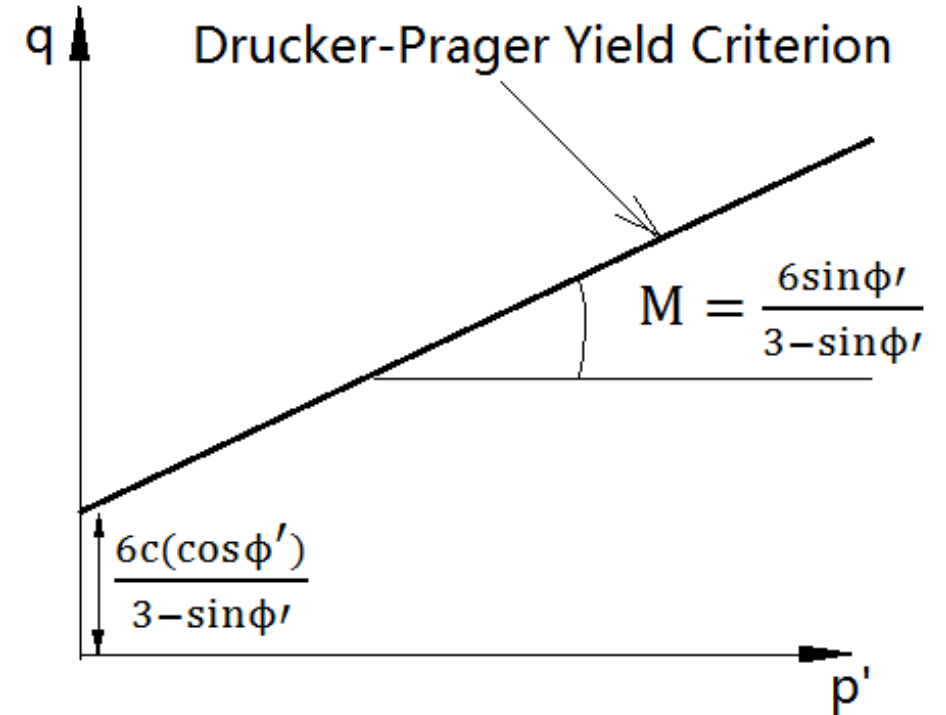
➤ Elastoplastic model

- **Drucker-Prager** yield function

$$F \equiv q - Mp' - c\beta = 0$$

where

- c is the **cohesion**
- ϕ' is the **internal friction angle**



- **Bishop effective stress**

$$\sigma' = \sigma - \left(S_r P_w + (1 - S_r) P_g \right)$$

↓
Bishop pore pressure P_{pore}

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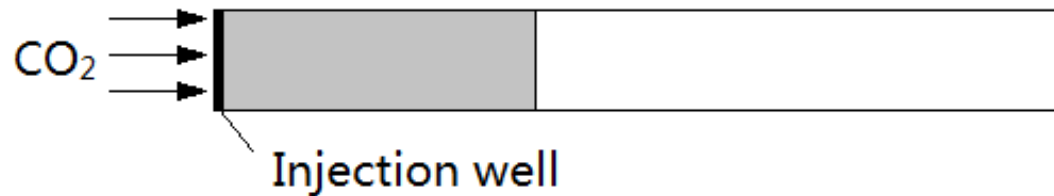
Numerical models

➤ Modeling works in thesis

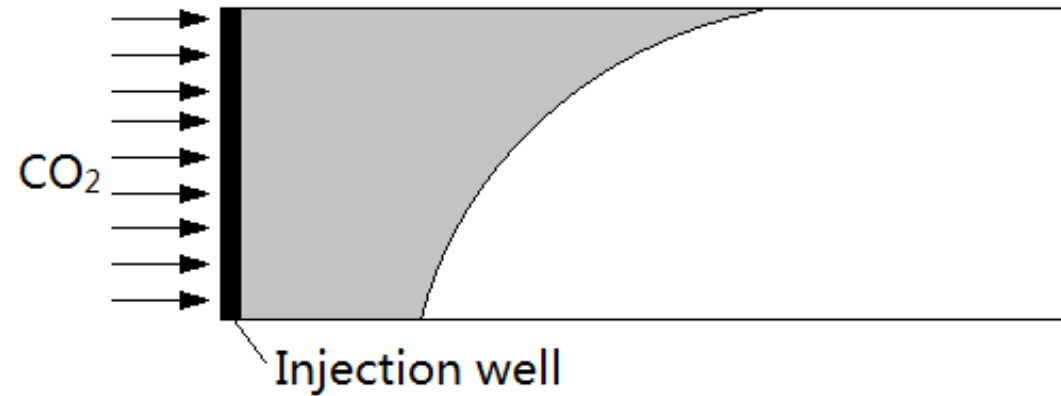
Numerical simulations

- 1D model
(No gravity)
- 2D model
(Gravity)

- Hydraulic model (**H Model**)
CO₂ lateral migration
- Hydro-mechanical model (**HM Model**)
HM coupling effects
- Hydraulic model (**H Model**)
CO₂ buoyancy effects ($\rho_{CO_2} < \rho_w$)



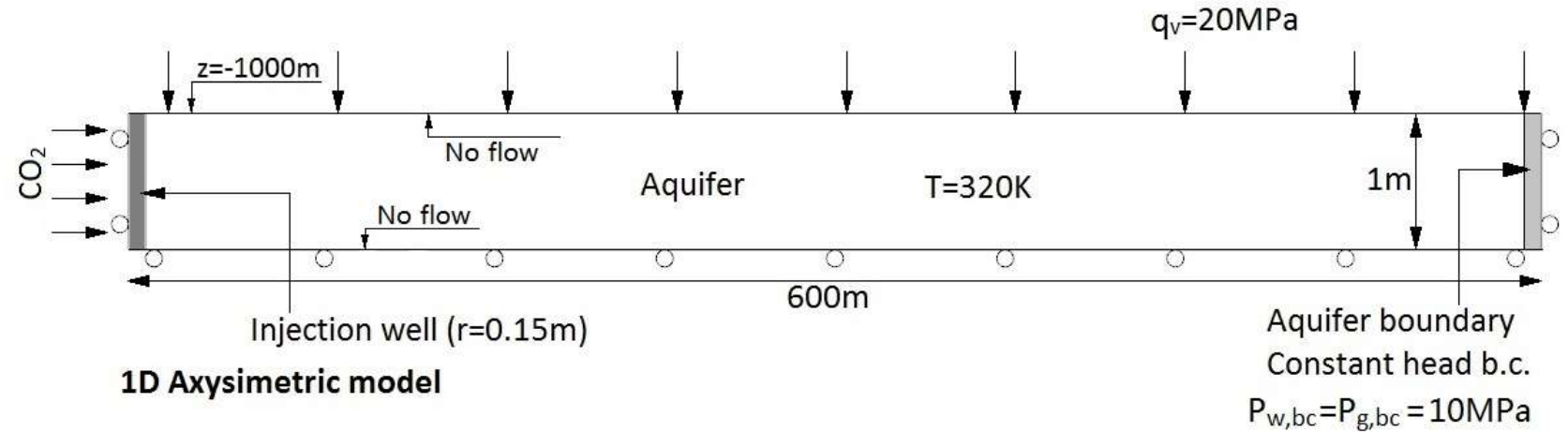
1D model



2D model

Numerical models (1D)

➤ Geometry



➤ Boundary condition

• Hydraulic BC

- $F_{CO_2}=2\text{kg/s}$ (*average rate of world famous projects*)
- Outer boundary: $P_{g,bc} = P_{w,bc} = 10\text{MPa}$
- Top&Bottom: No flow.

• Mechanical BC

- Well wall & outer boundary: $u_x=0$
- Bottom: $u_y=0$
- Top: $q_v=20\text{MPa}$

➤ Initial condition

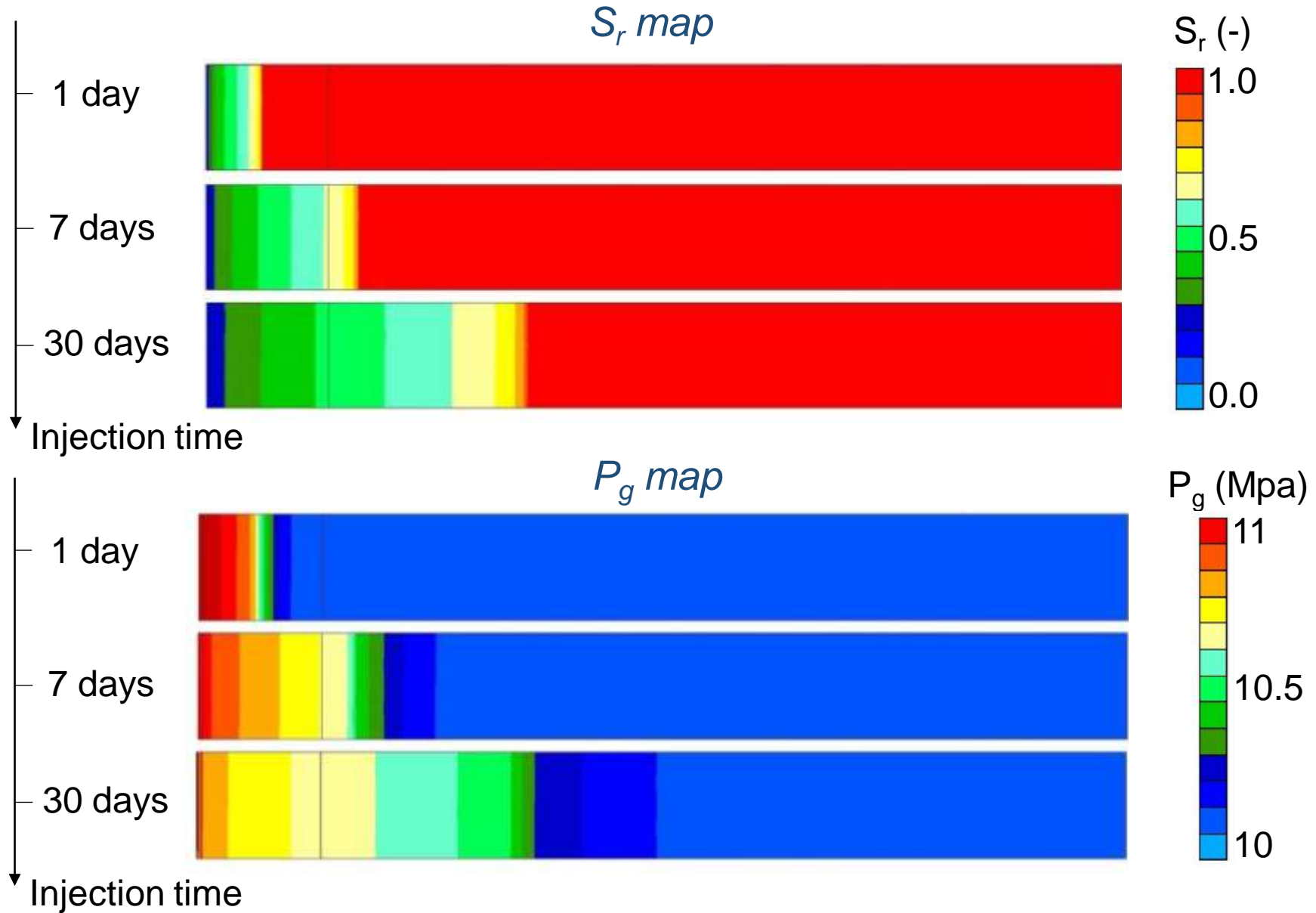
- $P_{g,0} = P_{w,0} = 10\text{MPa}$ & $T_0 = 320\text{K}$ (47°C)

➤ Aquifer properties

- $K_0=0.65$, **Region compression**
- k_{int} , c' , ϕ , etc. Similar with **sandstone**

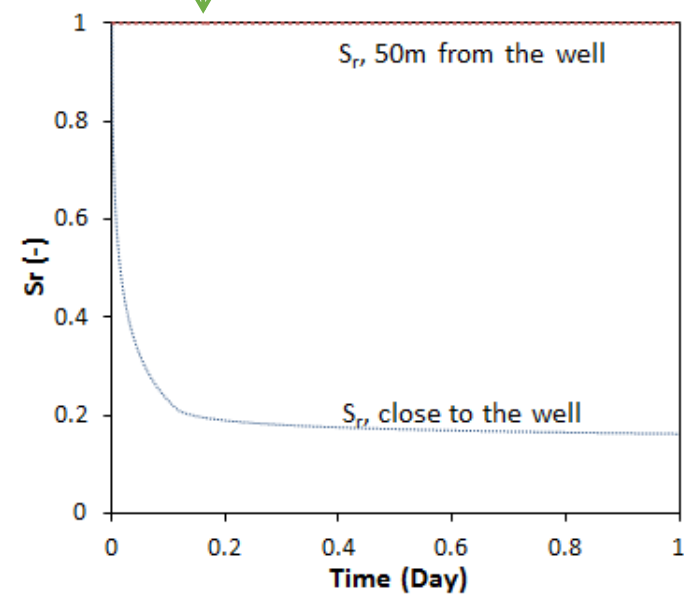
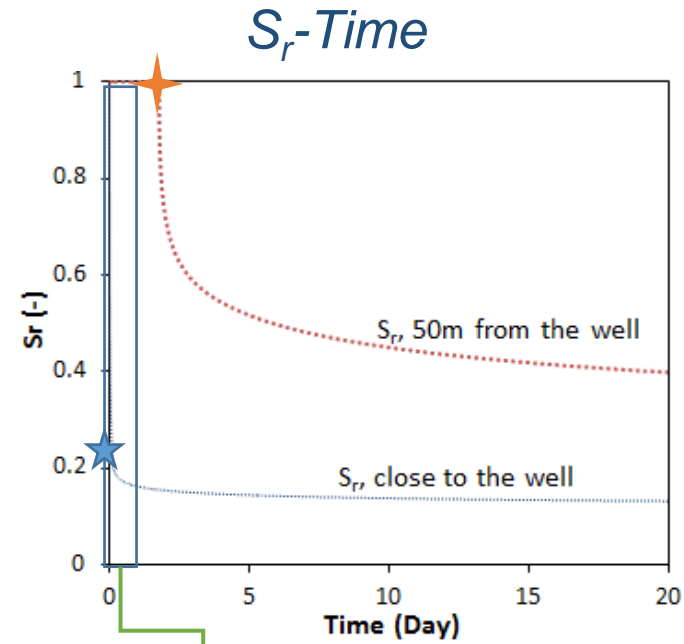
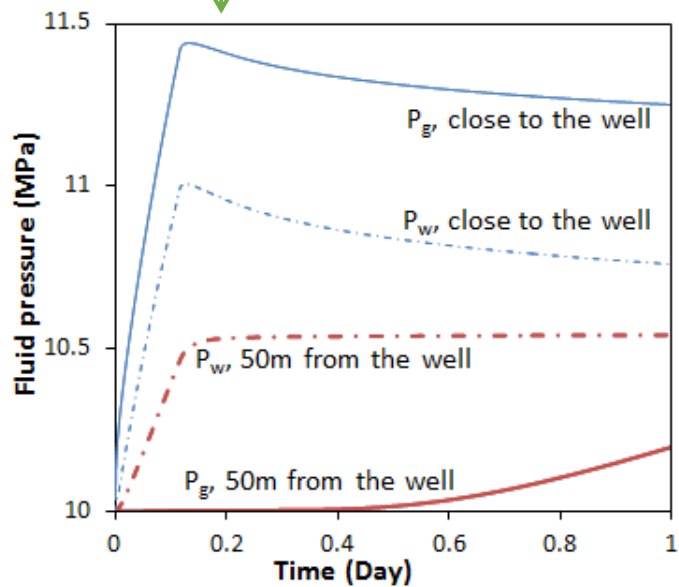
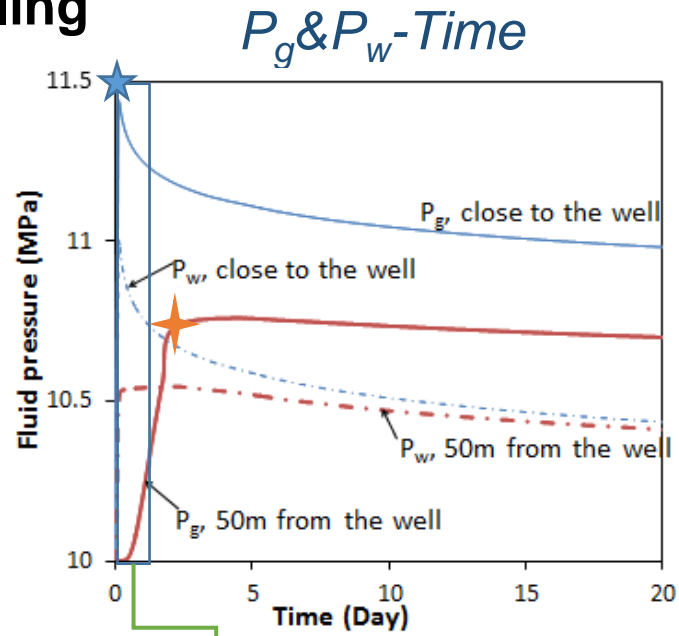
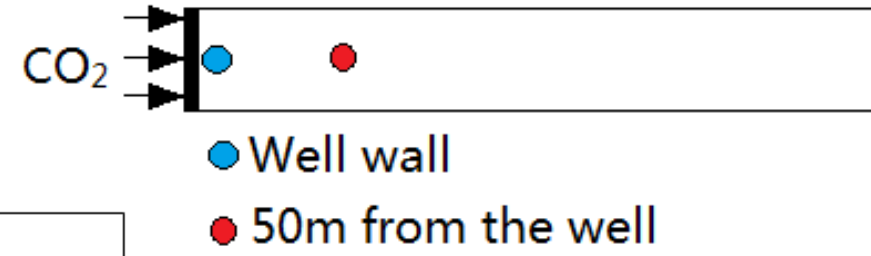
Numerical models (1D)

➤ H Modeling



Numerical models (1D)

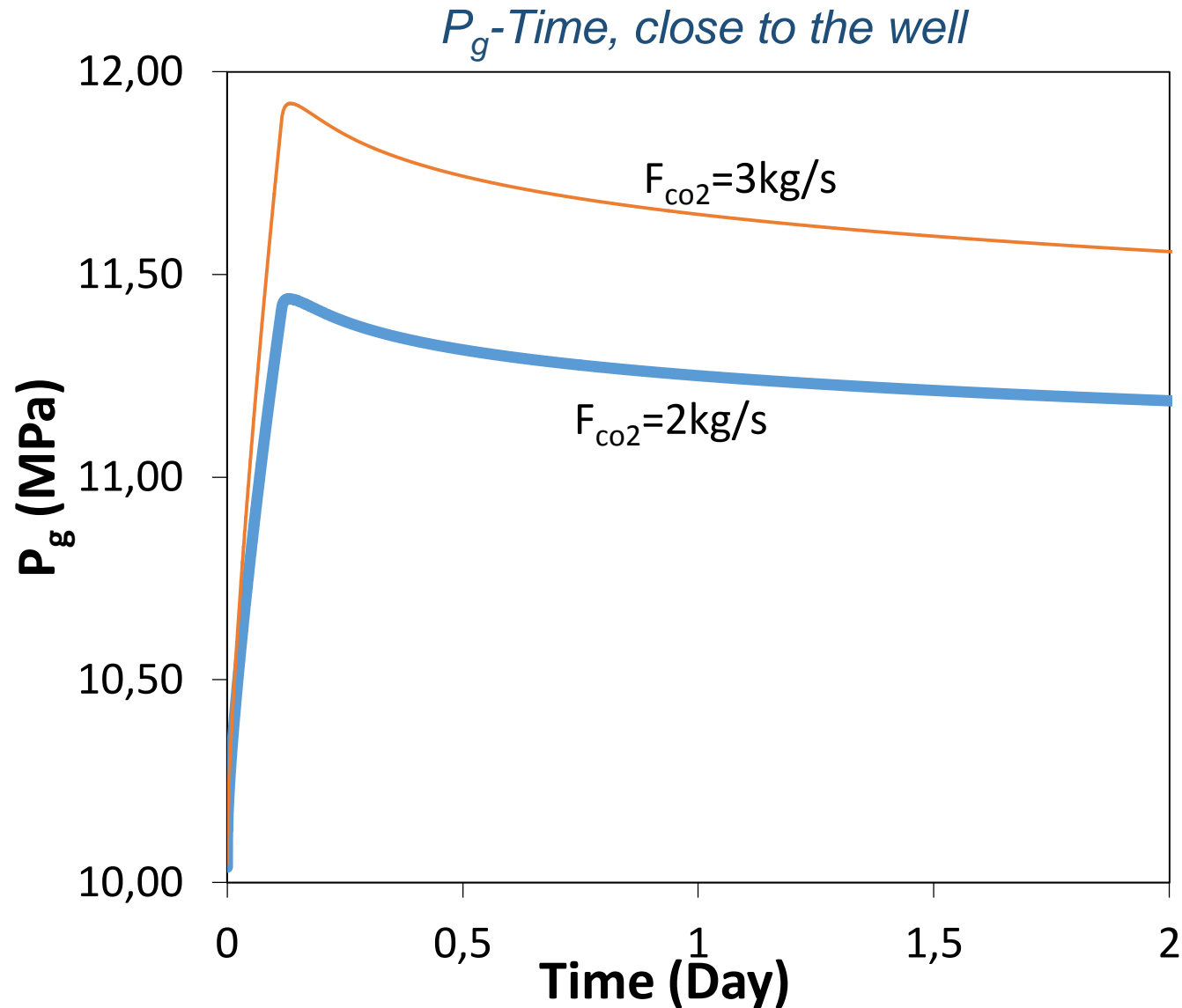
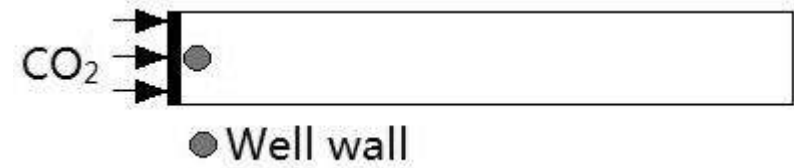
➤ H Modeling



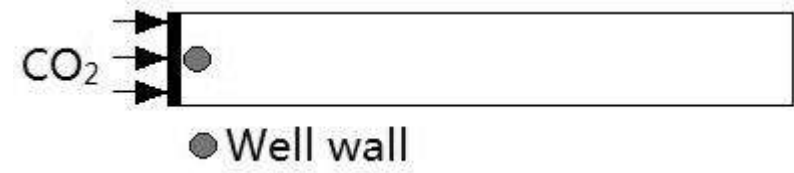
Numerical models (1D)

➤ H Modeling

- Sensitivity study – **Injection rate**



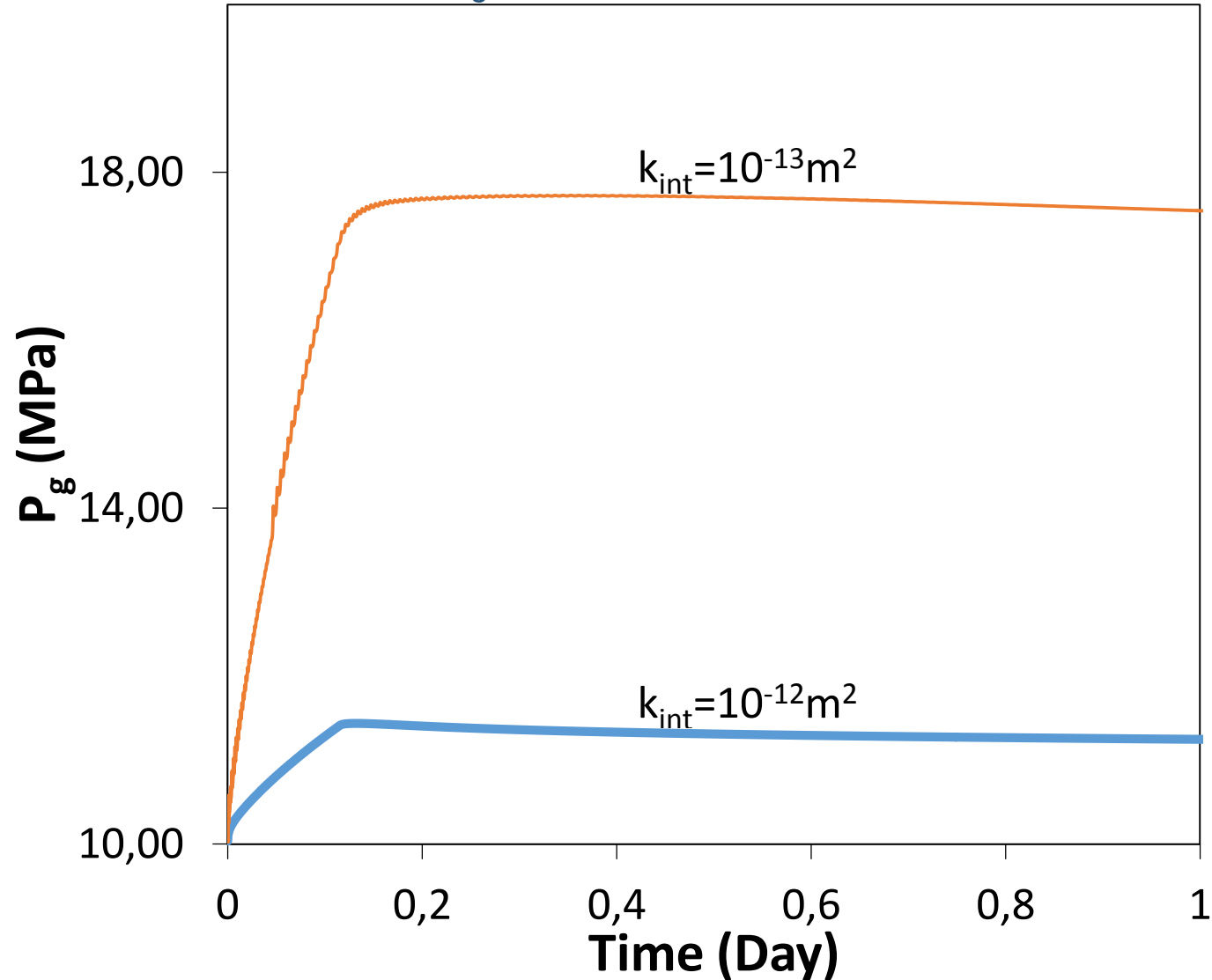
Numerical models (1D)



➤ H Modeling

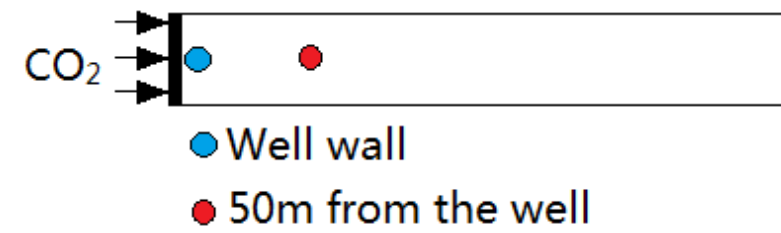
- Sensitivity study – **Intrinsic permeability**

P_g -Time, close to the well

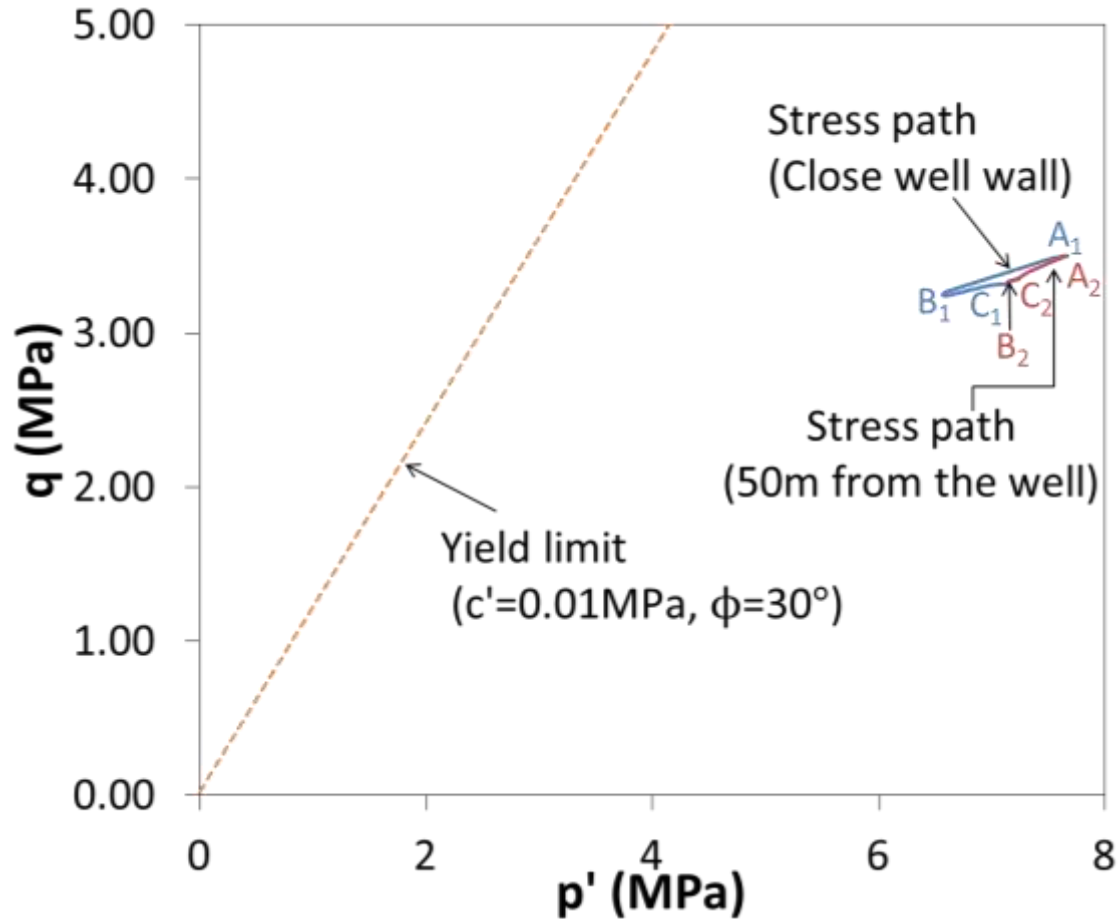


Numerical models (1D)

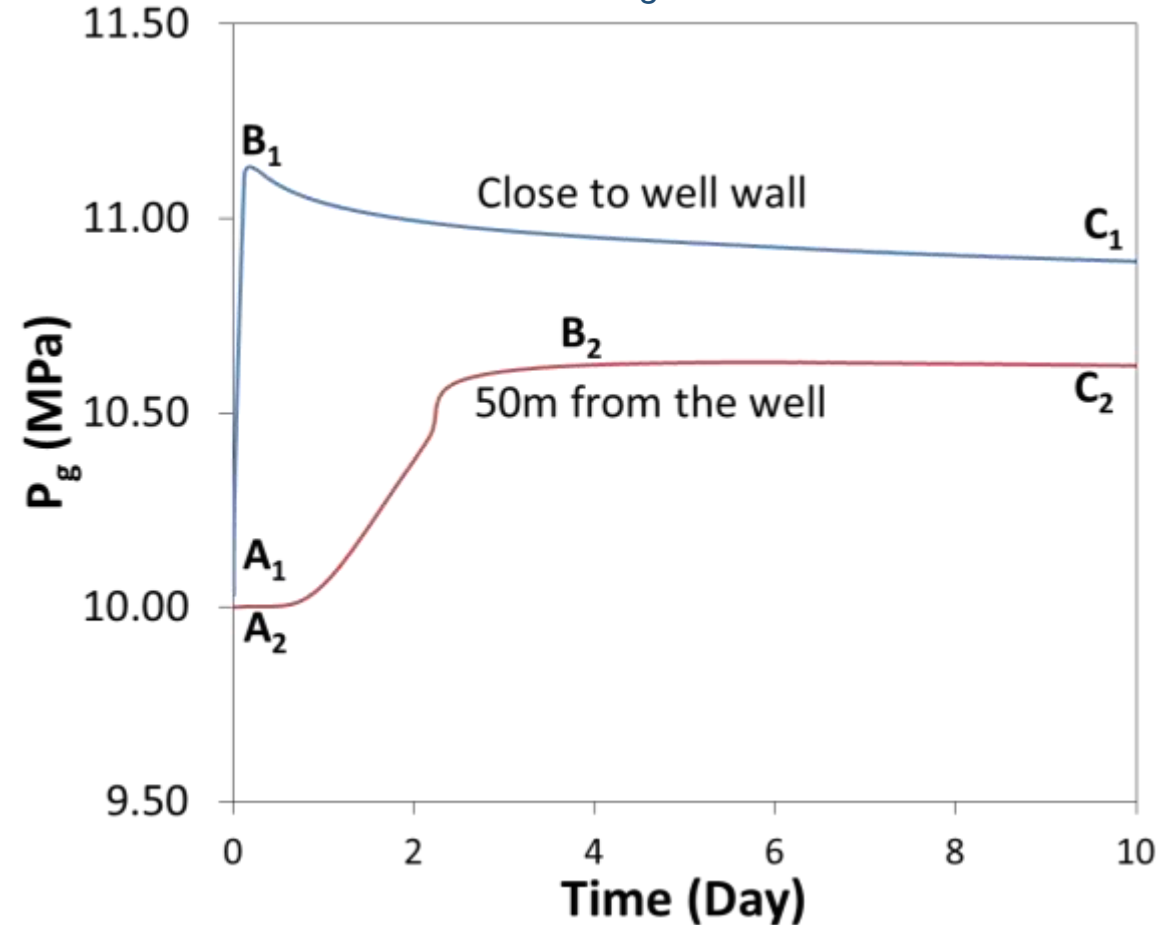
➤ HM Modeling



Stress paths (p' , q) for 1 year



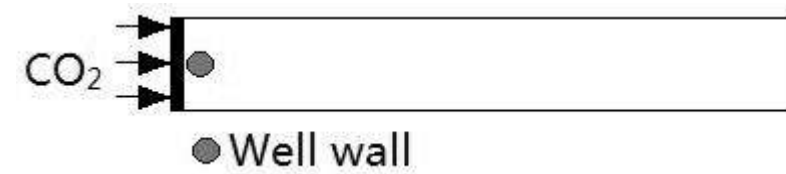
P_g -Time



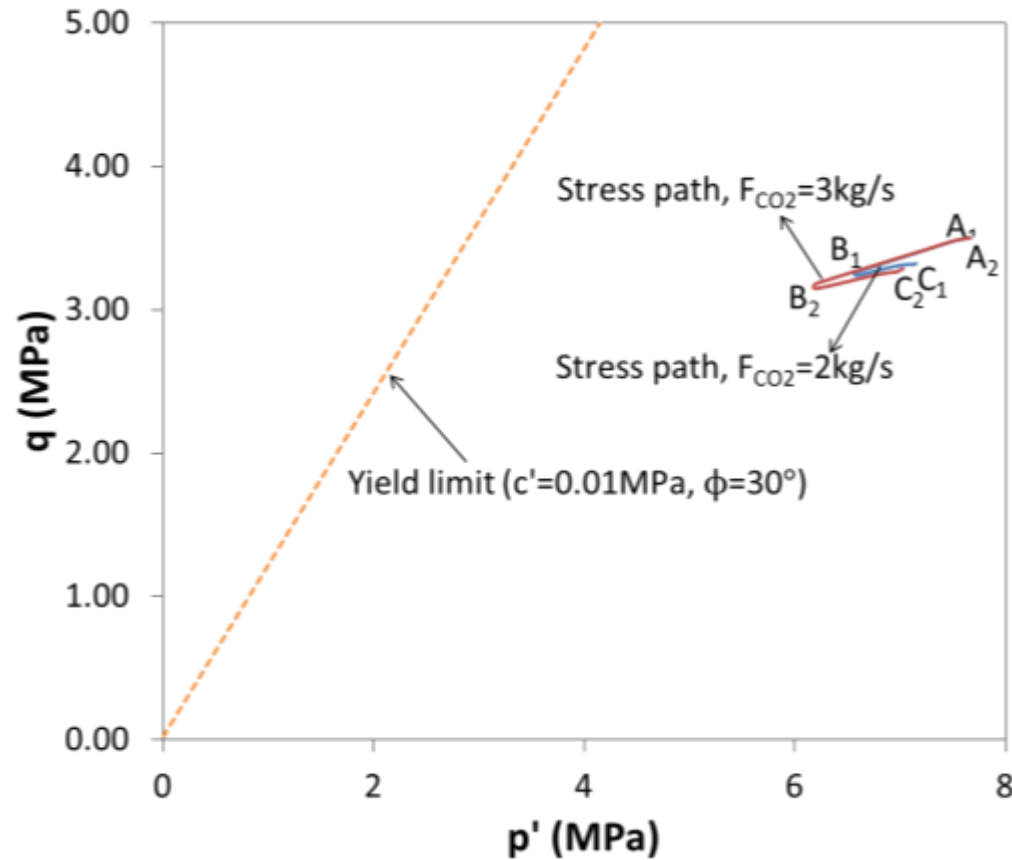
Numerical models (1D)

➤ HM Modeling

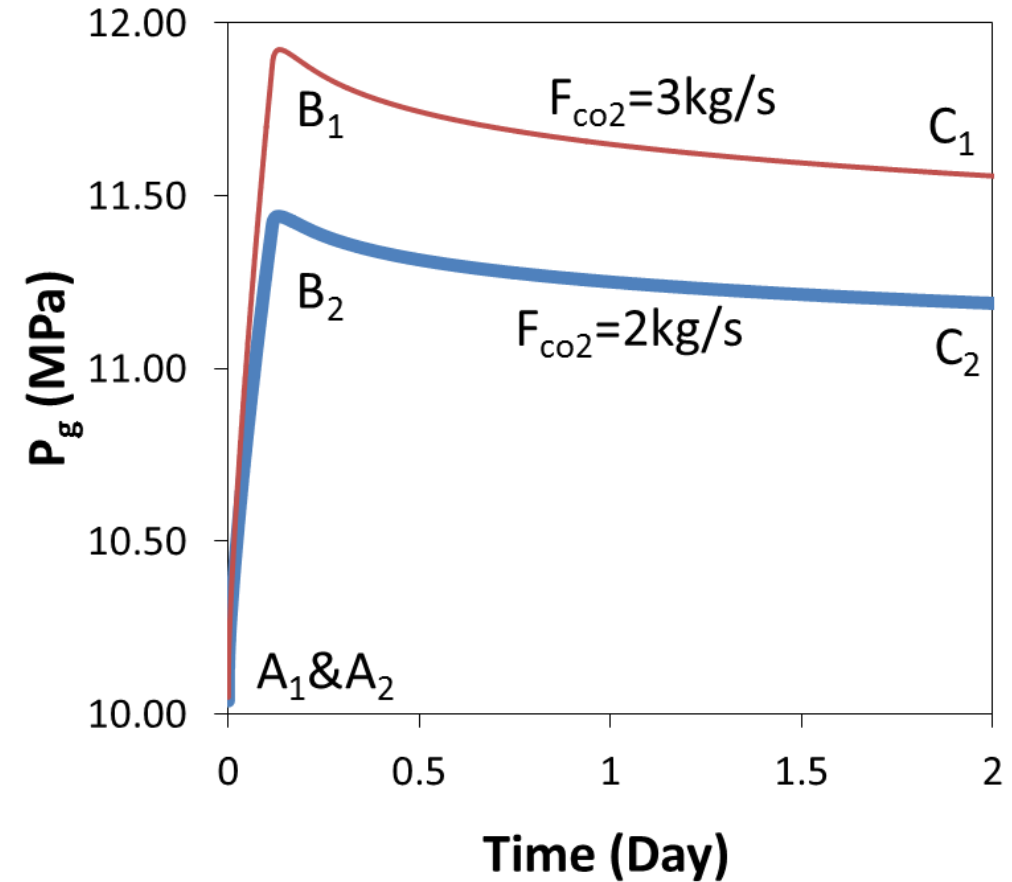
- Sensitivity study- **Injection rate**



Stress paths (p' , q)



P_g -Time

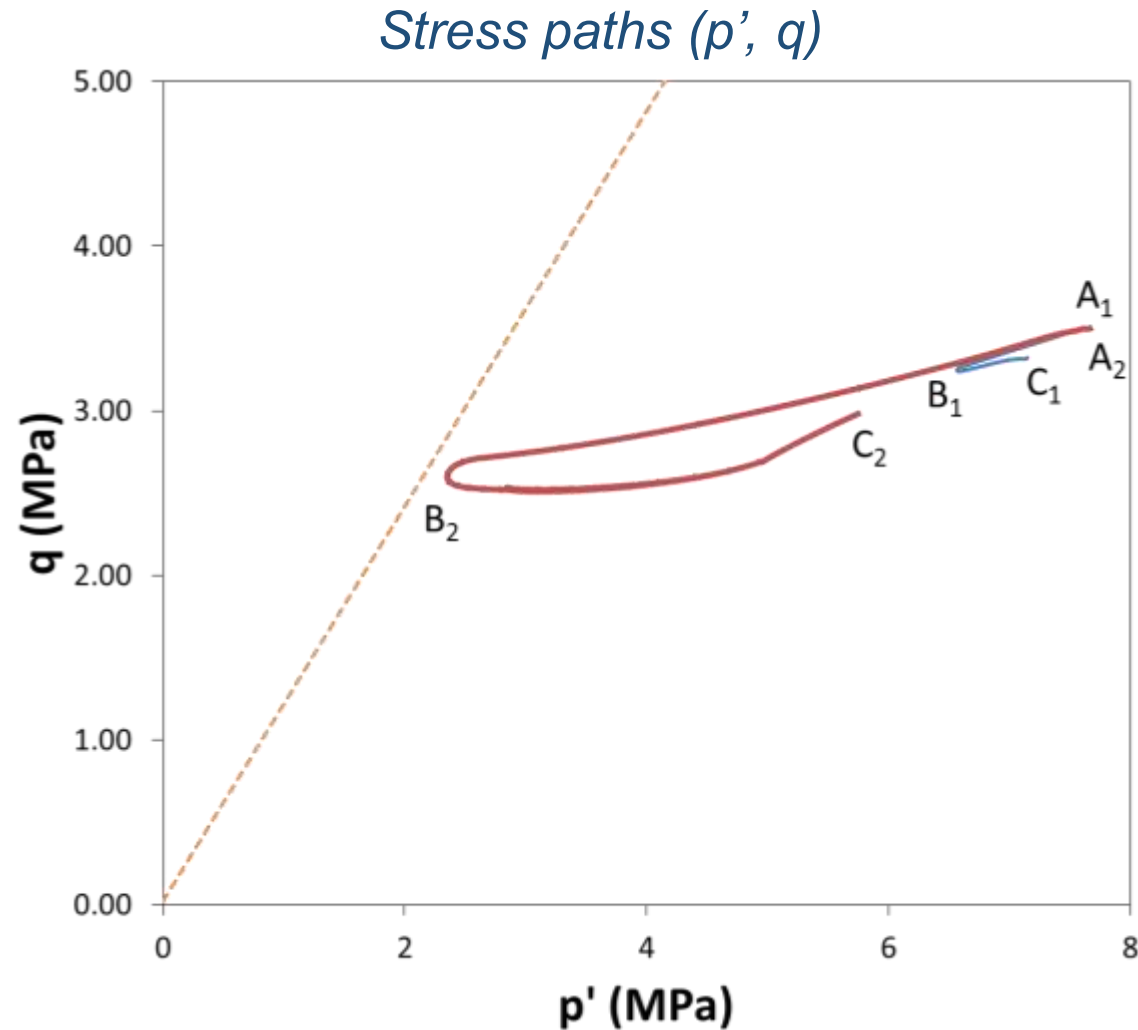
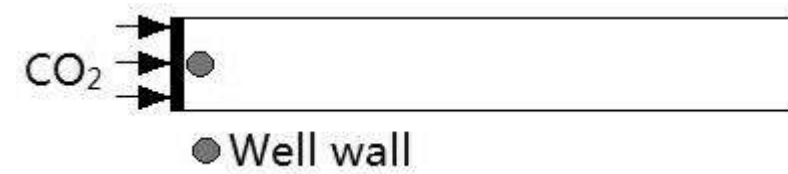


➔ 2kg/s → 3kg/s, closer to yield limit.

Numerical models (1D)

➤ HM Modeling

- Sensitivity study- **Injection rate**

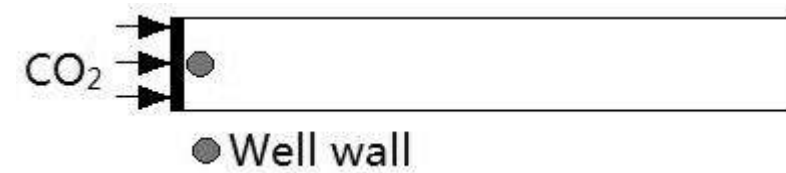


➔ 2kg/s → 17kg/s, Reach the yield limit.

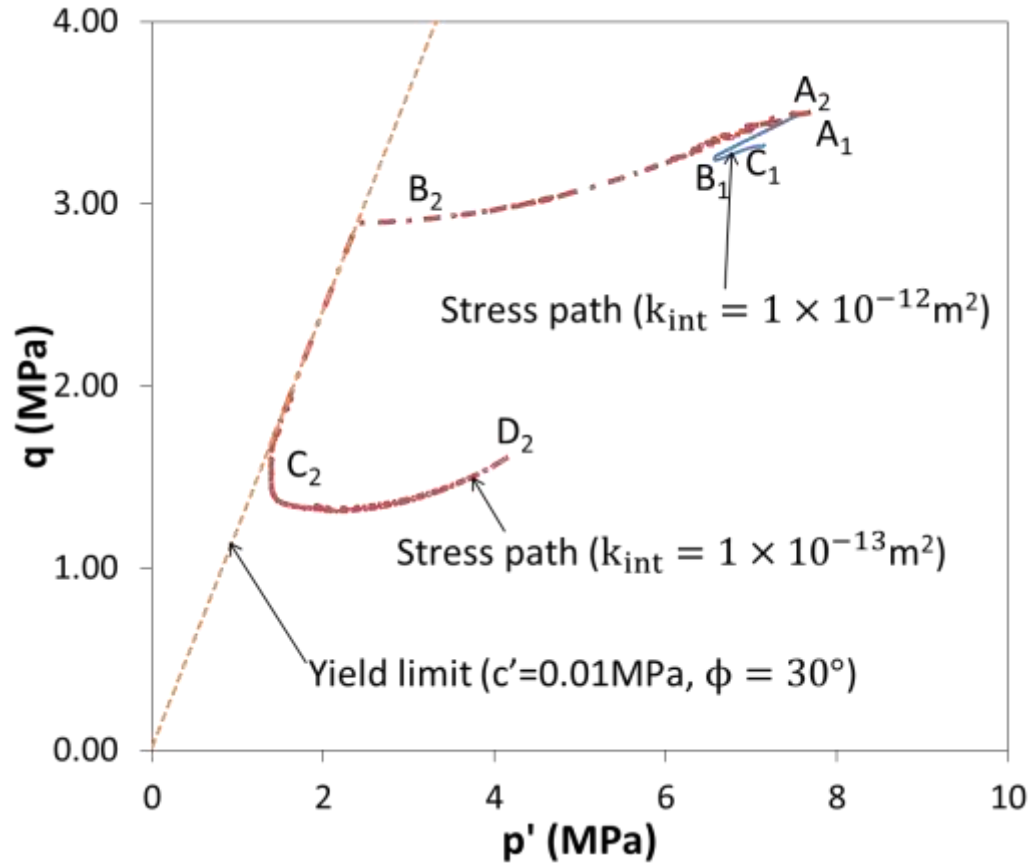
Numerical models (1D)

➤ HM Modeling

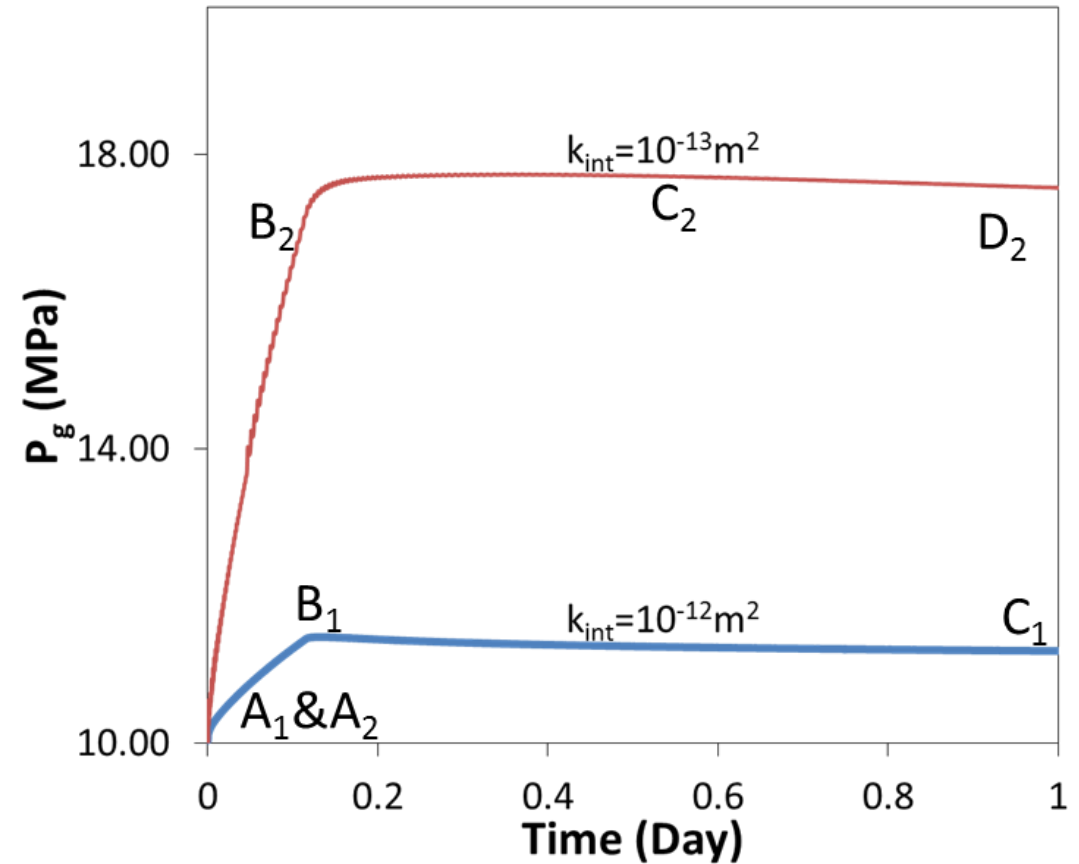
- Sensitivity study- **Intrinsic permeability**



Stress paths (p' , q)



P_g -Time



➔ Stress path ($k_{\text{int}} = 1 \times 10^{-13} \text{ m}^2$), failure of reservoir.

Numerical models (2D)

➤ Geometry

➤ Boundary Condition

• Hydraulic BC

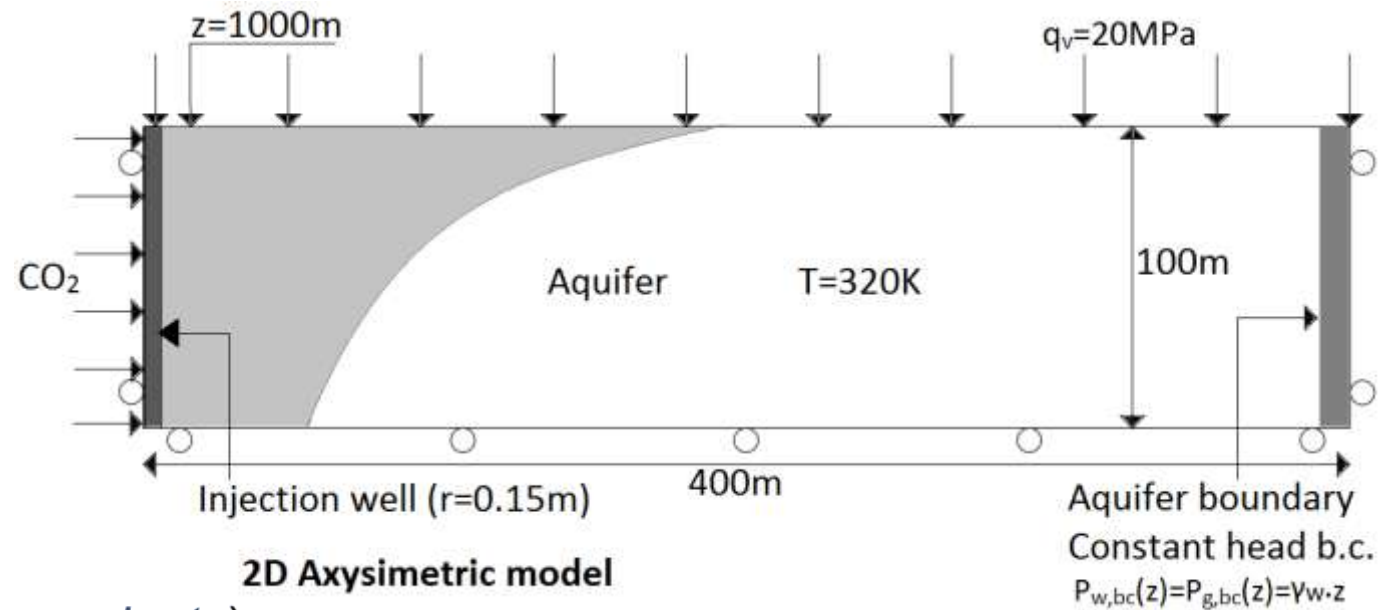
- $F_{\text{CO}_2} = 2\text{kg/s}$ (*average rate of world famous projects*)
- Outer boundary: $P_{g,bc} = P_{w,bc} = \gamma_w z$
- Top&Bottom: No flow.

➤ Initial condition

- $P_{g,0} = P_{w,0} = \gamma_w z$ & $T_0 = 320\text{K}$ (47°C)

➤ Aquifer properties

- $K_0 = 0.65$, Region in **compression**
- E , c' , ϕ , etc. Similar with **sandstone**

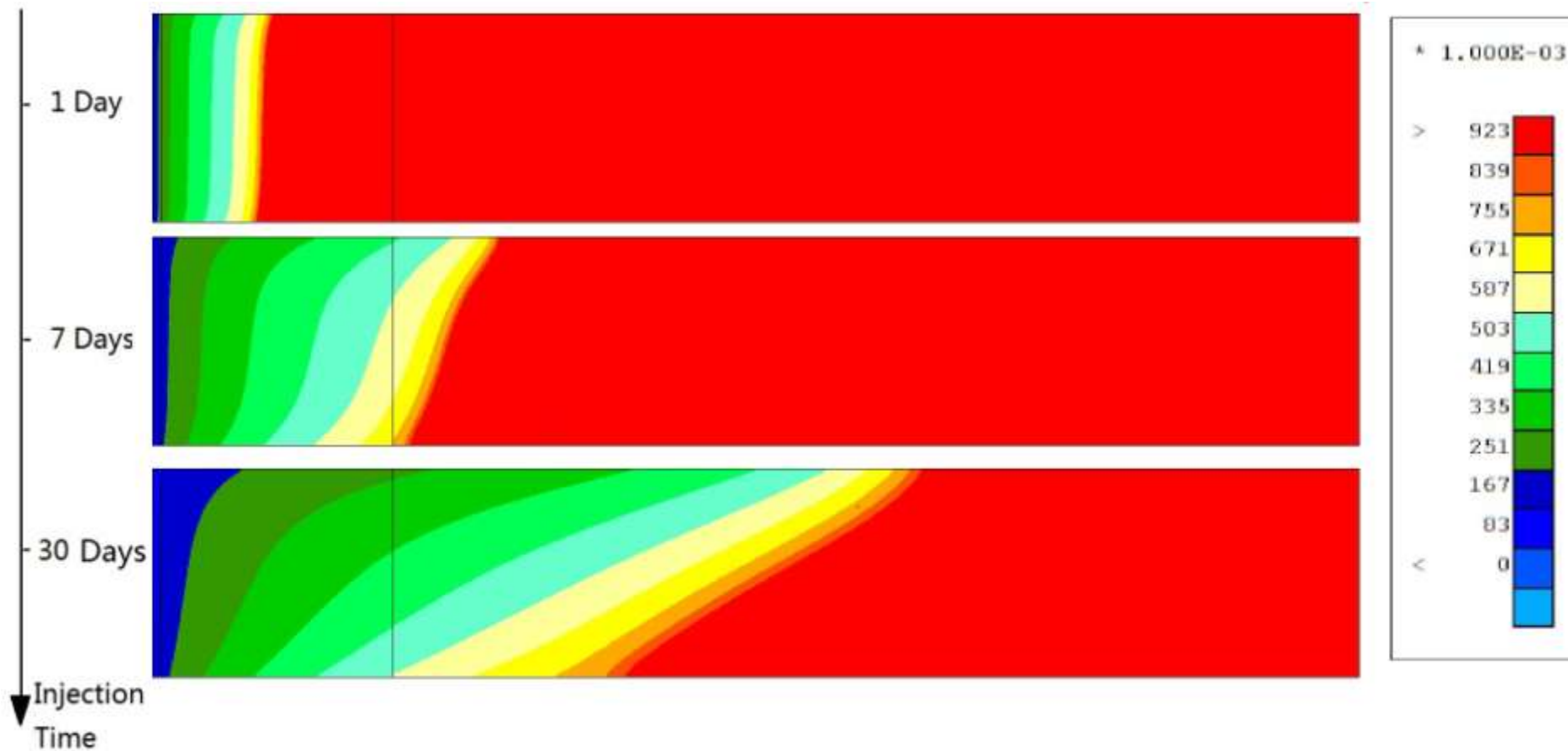


2D Axysimetric model

Aquifer boundary
Constant head b.c.
 $P_{w,bc}(z) = P_{g,bc}(z) = \gamma_w z$

Numerical models (2D)

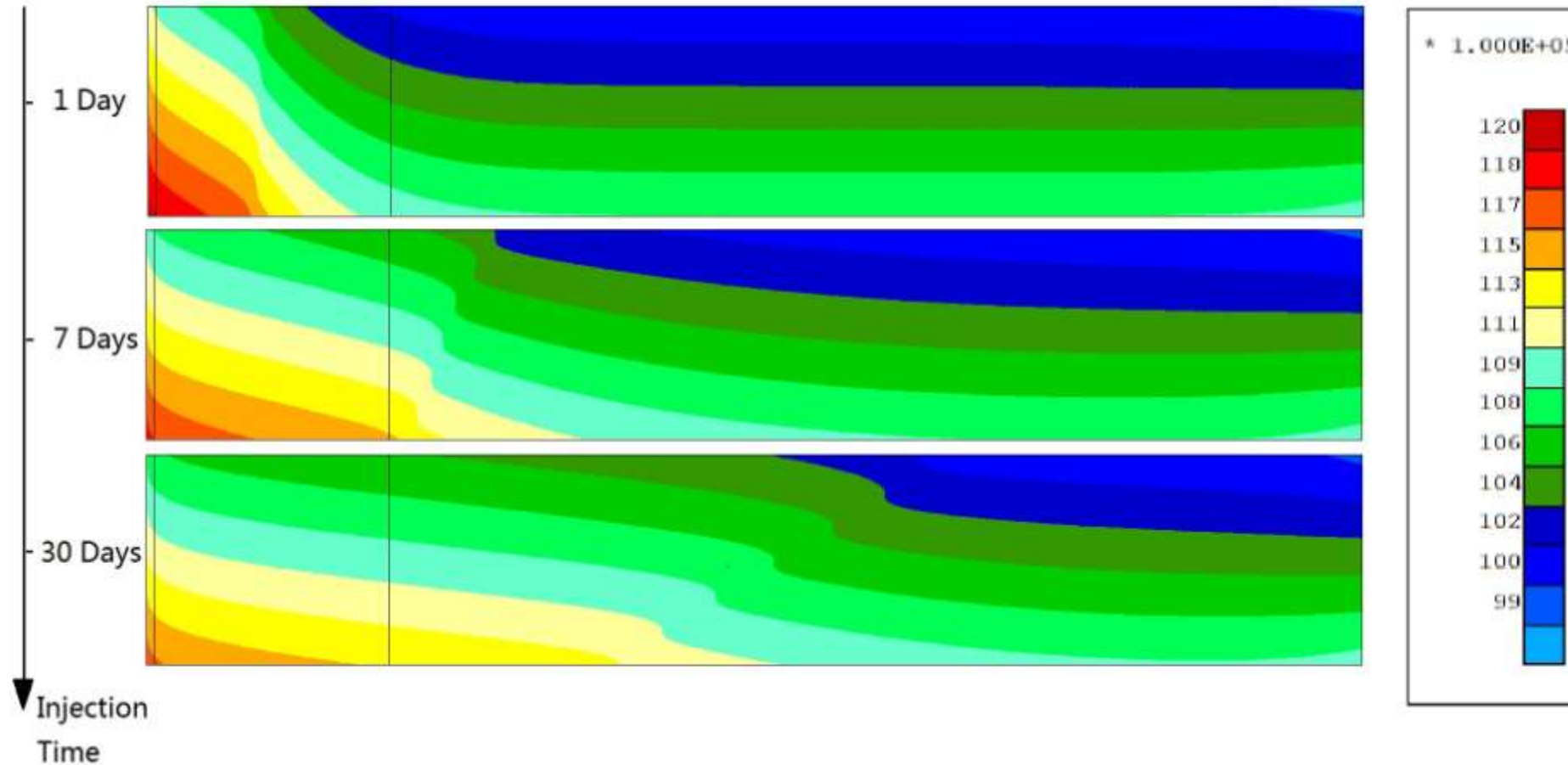
S_r map



- **Irregular** water-CO₂ interface
- **Non-uniform** S_r on vertical section

Numerical models (2D)

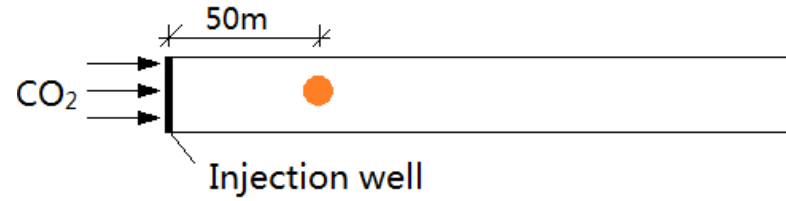
P_g map



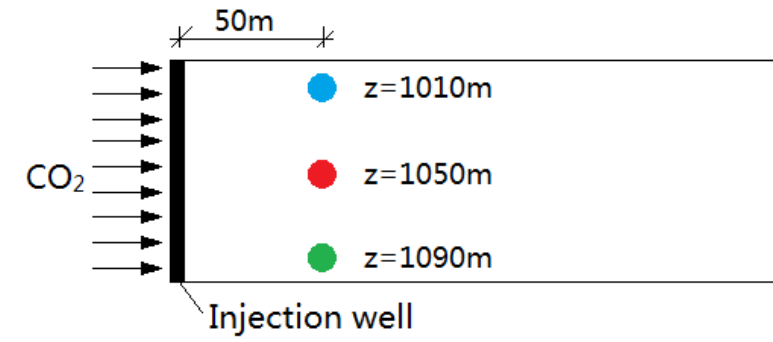
- P_g gradient in vertical direction
- 2D P_g distribution

Numerical models (2D)

➤ H Modeling

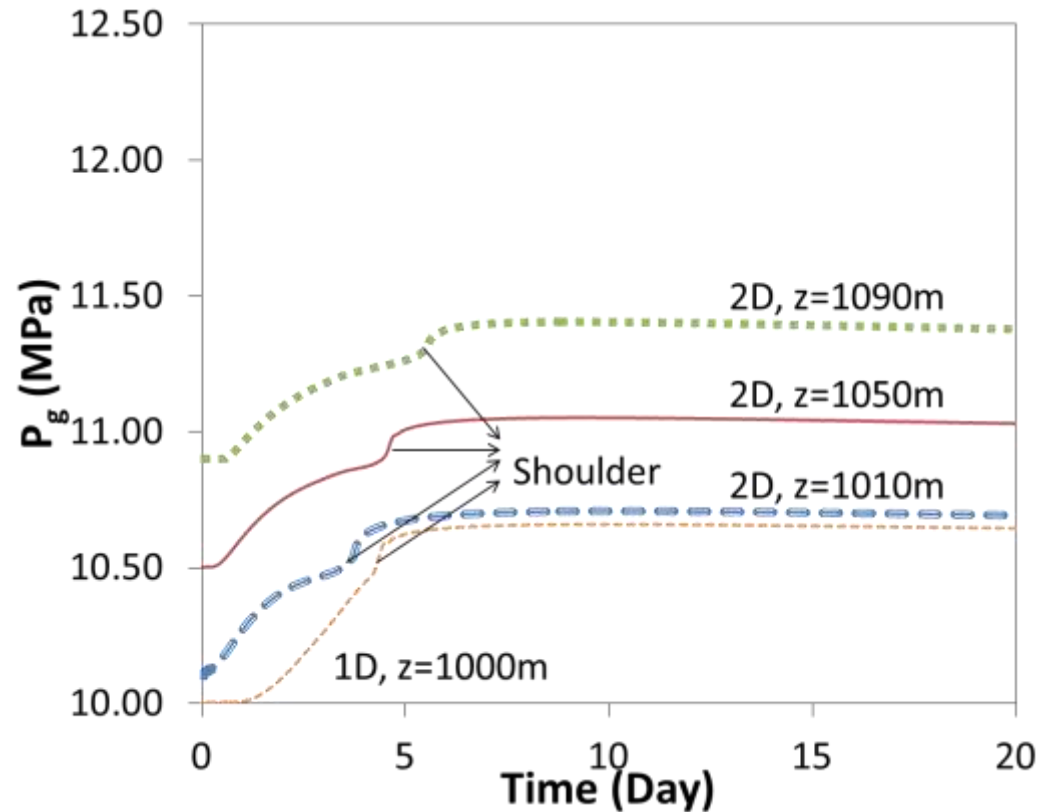


1D model



2D model

P_g -Time, 50m from the well



S_r -Time, 50m from to the well

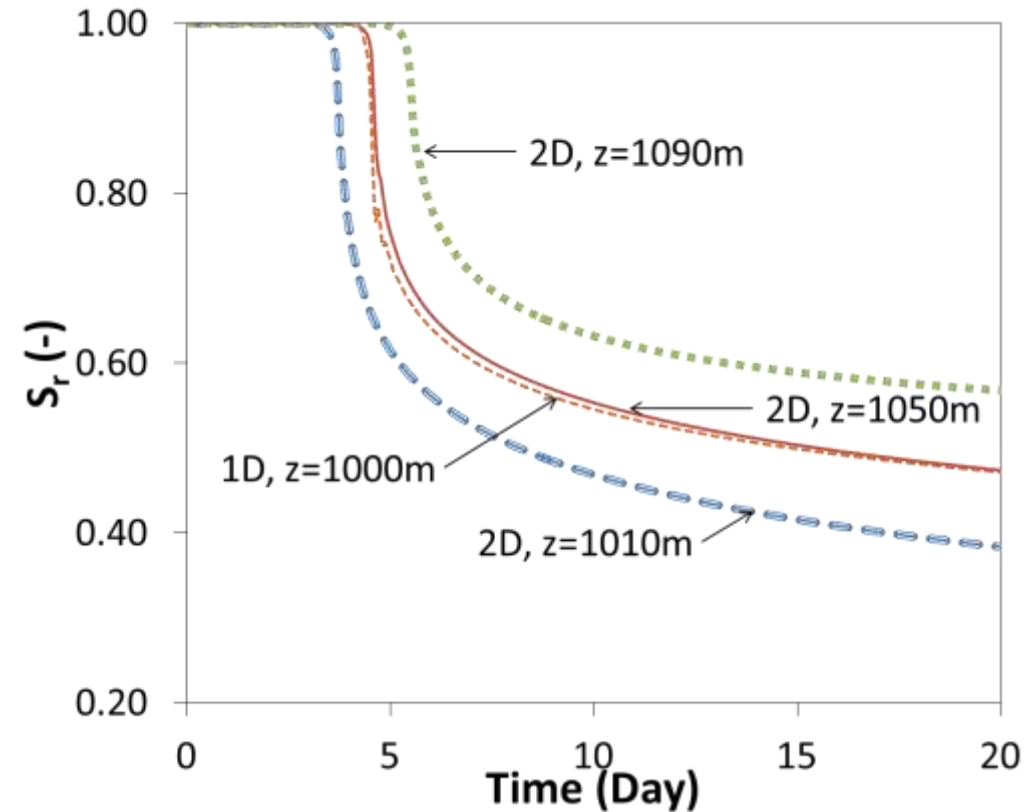


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Conclusion

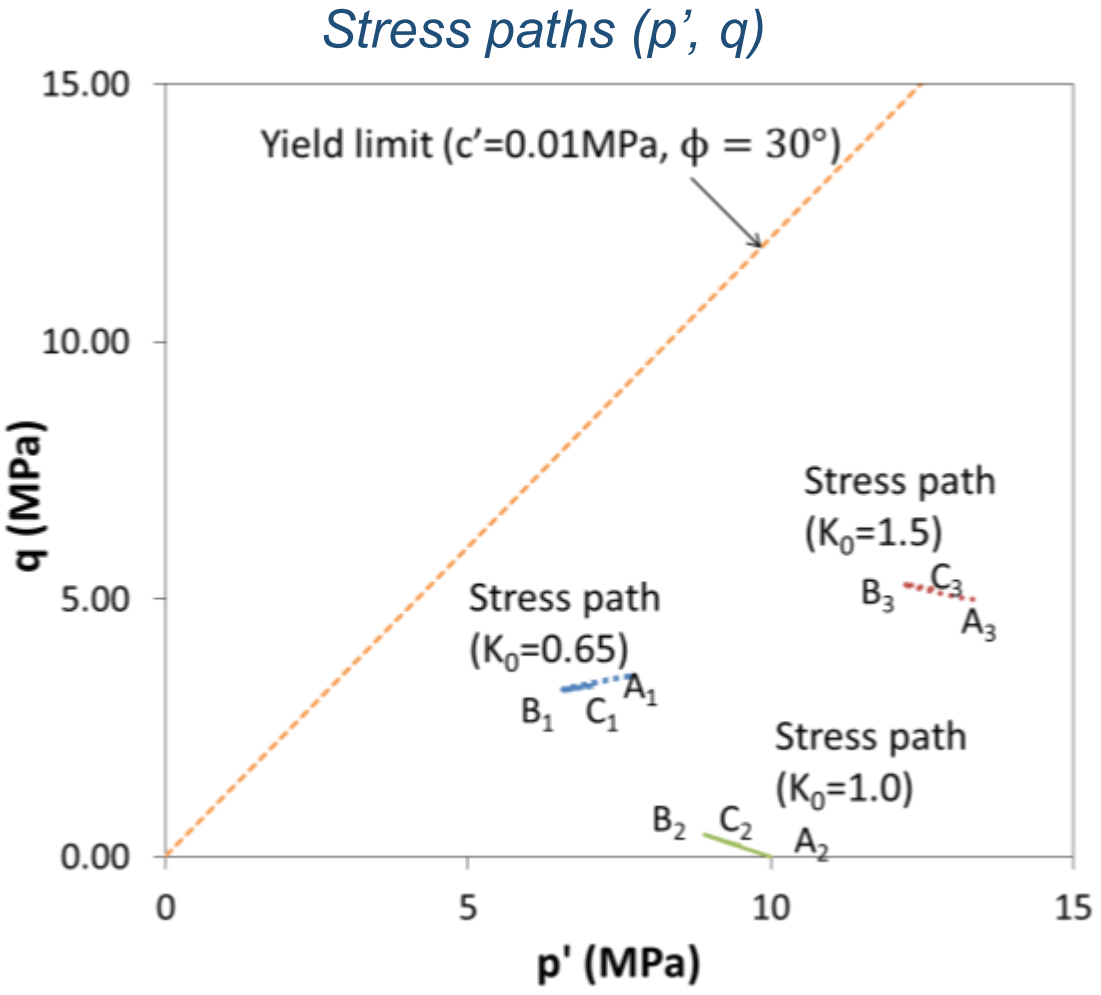
- $\Delta P_g, \Delta P_w, \Delta S_r \rightarrow \Delta P_{\text{pore}} \rightarrow \Delta \sigma'$.
 - **Injection & reservoir conditions** effects injection.
 - Critical region: **close to the well**.
 - Critical time: beginning of injection.
 - **CO₂ buoyancy**
- *Numerical modeling is available to investigate the **CO₂ sequestration efficiency & reservoir stability**.*

Perspectives

- Simulation of **aquifer-caprock system**
- **2D HM** modeling

Thanks for your attention!

Lateral earth pressure coefficient



Initial stress states

	$K_0 = 0.65$	$K_0 = 1.0$	$K_0 = 1.5$
σ'_{x0} (MPa)	6.5	10.0	15.0
σ'_{y0} (MPa)	10.0	10.0	10.0
σ'_{z0} (MPa)	6.5	10.0	15.0
p'_0 (MPa)	7.7	10.0	13.3
q_0 (MPa)	3.5	0	5.00

- Different initial stress states.
- p' evolves in **same ways**.

Parameters of aquifer media

- The properties of aquifer media is similar with **sandstone media**

Property	Aquifer
Young's modulus, E (MPa)	1×10^4
Poisson's ratio, ν	0.3
Porosity, ϕ	0.1
Tortuosity, τ	0.25
Cohesion, c' (MPa)	0.01
Internal friction angle, ϕ' ($^\circ$)	30
Intrinsic permeability, $k_{int,g}$ (m^2)	1×10^{-12}
Minimal relative permeability, $k_{r,min}$ (-)	1×10^{-4}
Gas entry pressure, P_r (MPa)	0.2
Van Genuchten parameter, n	3
Lateral earth pressure coefficient, K_0	0.65