

CENTRE NATIONA DE LA RECHERCH SCIENTIFIQUE 2<sup>nd</sup> Mechanisms and modelling of waste/cement interactions international Workshop



# Speciation and role of iron phases in cement to fix heavy metals

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# Fixation of heavy metals (HM) in cement (OPC)

- Many OPC mineral phases can fix HM:
- C-S-H : Pb, Zn, Eu...
- AFm : Cr (III, VI),
  - Ettringite : almost all !!!
- Other minor phases.... (LDH...)

### Leaching of Portland cement (as an example)



### Leaching of Portland cement (as an example (30 days...at 35°C in water)

What about long term evolution (no ettringite...)



## Leaching of Portland cement (as an example)

What about long term evolution (no ettringite...)
 Iron 2 Iron (III) is highly incoluble.



# Iron (oxyhydr-)oxide in natural systems



#### Natural system: (in oxic zones, near neutral pH)



## Iron (oxy-hydr-)oxides for waste treatment

- Highly reactive minerals
- Many metals and metalloïds can be adsorbed or incorporated
- They are used as adsorbants (water treatment, physico-chemical processes)



## Iron phases in cement?? µ-XRF profiles



After long term leaching : one of the only remaining phase?

#### **Iron in Portland cement**



#### Hydration of C4AF what do we know?



#### Iron in other cements: slag,...



#### Aim of the work

- To determine the speciation of iron on synthetic system (C4AF...)
- To determine the speciation of iron on OPC... (still ongoing research)
- To determine the interaction with heavy metals on synthetic system

To determine the speciation on leached OPC...?

### Molecular scale approach: determination of the iron speciation in cement phases



#### Structure at the local scale : X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy

Element	K1S	L <sub>1</sub> 2S	$L_2 2p_{1/2}$		
Н	13.6 (eV)				
••••					
Ar	3205.9	326.3	250.6		
Κ	3608.4	378.6	297.3		
Ca	4038.5	438.4	349.7		
Ti	4966	560.9	460.2		
V	5465	626.7	519.8		
Cr	5989	696	583.8		
Mn	6539	769.1	649.9		
Fe	7112	844.6	719.9		





XANES = X-ray Absorption Near-Edge Spectroscopy : REDOX STATE EXAFS = Extended X-ray Absorption Fine-Structure : ATOMIC ENVIRONMENT





### XANES = fingerprint EXAFS = fingerprint



### XANES = fingerprint EXAFS = fingerprint

- Reference spectra :
- Redox state
- Nature, number
  And distance of
  neighboring atoms

From 0 to ... 4-5 Å (single scattering : low mean free path)



#### **EXAFS**

#### In a sample : Fe is in C4AF (40%) and Ettringite (60%) Ettringite 0.6 Sample = 0.6 Ettringite + 0.4 C4AF 0 $k_{\chi}(k)$ C4AF -0.6 The same with XANES -1.2 6 10 4 8 12 K(Å <sup>-1</sup> )

#### Local scale study

#### Procedure :

- PCA, then linear combination... (XANES and EXAFS)
- EXAFS modelling (XANES : still difficult on heterogeneous sample)
- With XAS : the fit does not indicate that the mineral exist: it reflects a similar atomic structure
- XAS does not require long range order.

### RESULTS : Hydration of C4AF in LW (without sulfate)

Hydration liquid/solid ratio of 0.5, <u>10</u>, 60.



# Hydration of C4AF in LW (without sulfate)

Hydration liquid/solid ratio of 10



 Comparison with FeOOH, Fe-oxides; carbonates, AFm, Ettringite, C4AF, C2F

AFm and Ettringite from Moschner et al GCA, 2008





EXAFS modelling





Fe - Fe distance : how can we go further?

#### **Structural approach**



#### **Structural approach**



### Hydration of C4AF (in LW)



#### **Iron in hydrated Portland cement**



#### **Iron in hydrated Portland cement**



#### **Iron in hydrated Portland cement**



#### In OPC at the micro scale



#### Summary

- Hydration of C4AF (-SO<sub>4</sub>) : FeOO + Fe in hydrogarnet (No Fe and AFm??)
- In presence of SO4 (CaSO4) : ettringite (Mochner et al, 2008)
- In OPC : remaining C4AF (local scale) + FeOOH + AFm (??). More amorphous Fe at the surface.

## What is the role of iron phases in heavy metal fixation

- Stage 1: C4AF + Heavy metal interactions...
- Stage 2 : on 'real' system...

#### C4AF hydrated in presence of metals

 Fe and lead : isotherms: (L/S ratio (0.5 to 60); with LW, [Pb]<sub>initial</sub> from 10<sup>-3</sup> to 8.10<sup>-3</sup> mol/l)



### Reactivity between iron phases and metals (pure system)

#### C4AF hydrated in presence of metals

Fe and lead : isotherms: (L/S ratio (0.5 to 60); with LW, [Pb]<sub>initial</sub> from 10<sup>-3</sup> to 8.10<sup>-3</sup> mol/l)



#### **EXAFS** at the Pb L edge

#### Pb radial distribution function

EXAFS at the Pb<sup>E</sup> LIII edge (Pb+FeOOH)





#### C4AF hydrated in presence of metals

#### Fe in presence of Cr



#### **EXAFS** at the Cr K edge

Atomic pair	R( )	σ( )	Ν	Residue
CrCr/Fe	3.29	0.080	2.0	0.0375
CrCa	3.48	0.080	3.6	
CrCr/Fe	3.55	0.102	3.5	



### C4AF in presence of Cr(VI)



#### C4AF in presence of Cr(VI)



#### And in leached Portland cement?



#### Lead and C-S-H



### First EXAFS results (noisy)

First fits with Fe in the second coordination sphere



Fe in second coordination sphere

#### **EXAFS** results



### Conclusion

- Existence of FeOOH amorphous phase after cement hydration
- Iron phases formed after C4AF hydration strongly "incorporate" metals (Cr, Pb...)
- Metal and iron in cement: needs further investigation (µ-XRF at the micron scale in leached zones...)
- Implications: iron(III) phases may play a positive role for the long term fixation of metals and metalloids... but under oxic conditions (reductive dissolution of iron).

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#### **Reactivity of Iron oxide**



#### **Reactivity of iron oxide**



#### **Structural approach**







#### Nucleation and growth of FeOOH (in water) = Ferrihydrite??



#### Modeling

#### Calculation: Translation into a chemical-transport model code (CHESS-HYTEC)

Translation of experimental data into thermodynamic data

For Pb retention sites (Nonat C-S-H model (Nonat et al, 01, Pointeau ,01)SiOH + Ca<sup>2+</sup> + Pb<sup>2+</sup> + 3H<sub>2</sub>O - 4H<sup>+</sup> <==>SiOCaPb(OH)<sub>3</sub>log K(25°C) = -33.4SiOH + SiOH + SiO<sub>2(a0)</sub> + Ca<sup>2+</sup> + Pb<sup>2+</sup> - H<sub>2</sub>O - 4H<sup>+</sup> <==>SiOH-CaSiOPb-SiOHlog K(25°C) = -23.3

