

# Evaluation of Adhesion of Cement Based Protective Mortars Overlayed on Corroded Concrete Host

**Jay Ye Jun In<sup>1</sup>, Cherdphong Seedao<sup>1</sup>, James Gardner<sup>2</sup> and Marjorie Valix<sup>1</sup>**

1. The University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW, Australia
2. Water Services Association of Australia, Melbourne, VIC, Australia



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SYDNEY**

# Outline

- Background
- Aim
- Lining System
- Approach
- Corrosion Classification of Sewer Environment
- Materials and Methods
- Results
- Summary

## Background

- Mortar linings such as calcium aluminate cement (CAC) and geopolymers have potential to protect assets from microbially induced concrete corrosion (MICC).
- Use of such linings are limited by lack of performance data.
- Practical guidelines to promote adhesion of the mortars are limited.

# Aim

Establish surface preparation requirement to promote mortar adhesion on corroded assets

Assess adhesion of lining mortars over time in live sewers with varying corrosivity

# Lining System



Types of Lining:

- CAC (100% CAC/Siliceous aggregates)
- Geopolymer

Surface Repair Mortar

Corroded Host



# Field Application Approach

## Steps for Rehabilitation



1. Condition Assessment



2. Surface Preparation



3. Qualifying Clean Asset



4. Shotcrete Application of Mortar



5. Finishing



6. Monitoring

## Test Beds and Conditions

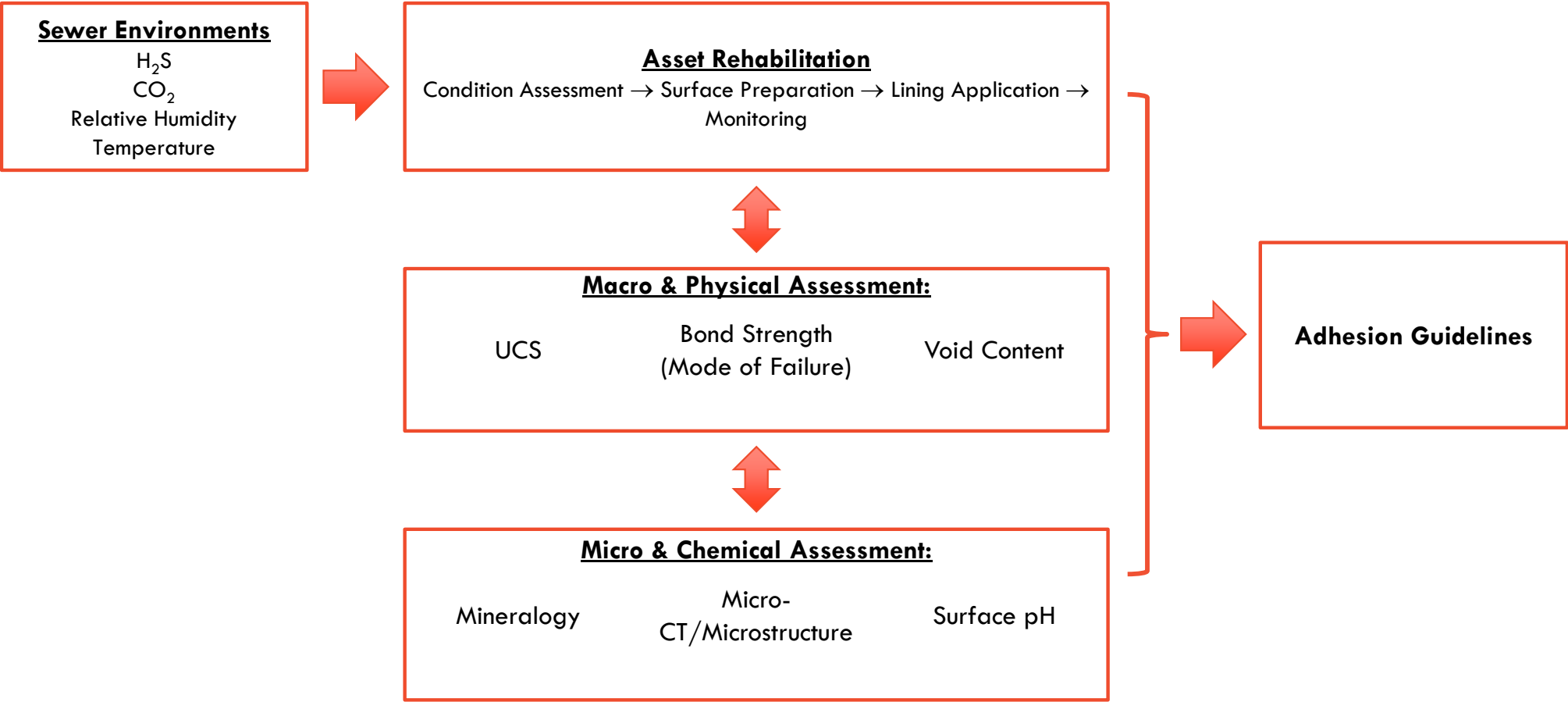
Location	Asset	Asset Age (years)	H <sub>2</sub> S (ppm)	CO <sub>2</sub>	Temperature (°C)	Relative Humidity (%)
Adelaide Brisbane Melbourne Perth Sydney	Manholes (x14) Pipes (x2)	18-81	1.6-170	2520-13925	15-30	95-99

# Corrosion Classification of Sewer Environment

Corrosion Classification	Corrosion Impact	Environmental Conditions			
		H <sub>2</sub> S (ppm)	CO <sub>2</sub> (ppm)	T <sub>g</sub> (°C)	RH (%)
Category 5	Very High	>155	<2500	15-28	95-99
Category 4	High	135-155	2500-4000	15-28	95-99
Category 3	Medium	70-135	4000-9300	15-28	95-99
Category 2	Low	15-70	9300-9400	15-28	95-99
Category 1	Very Low	<15	9400-9500	15-28	95-99

(WSA 201-2021)

# Assessment Approach





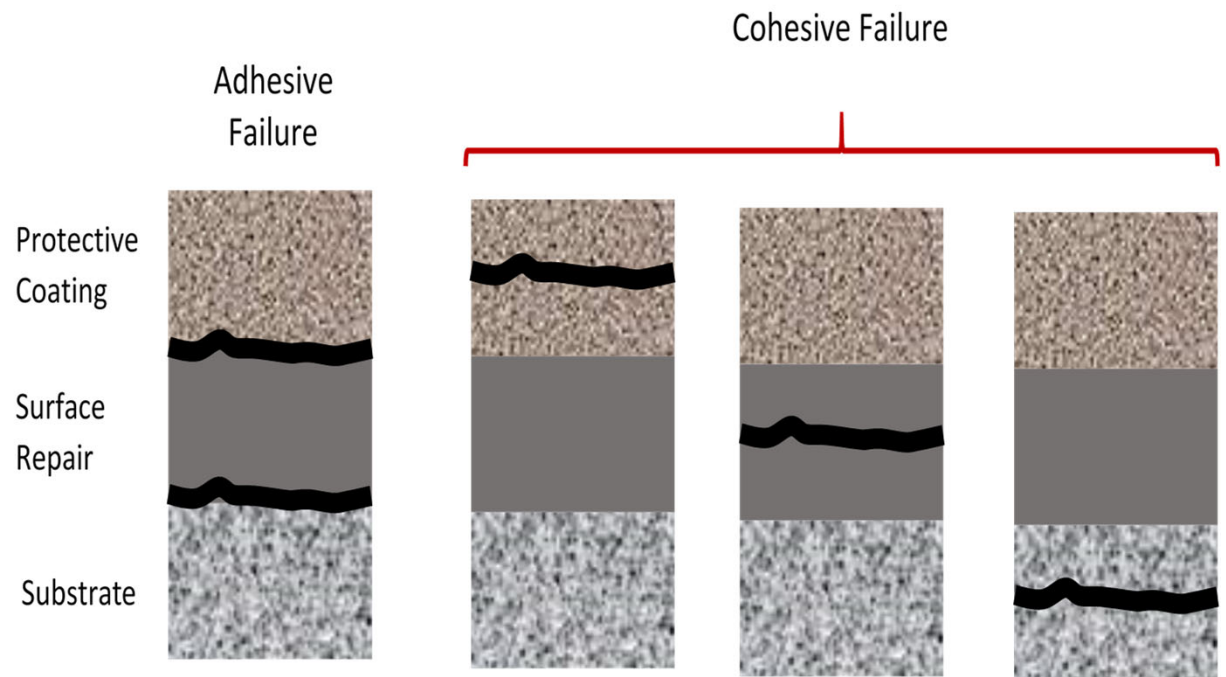
# Materials and Methods

## Bond Strength Test



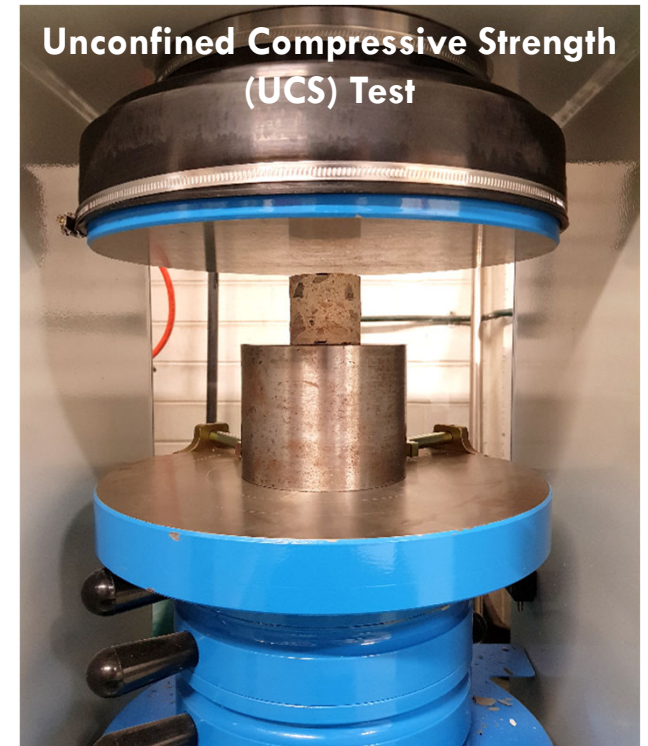
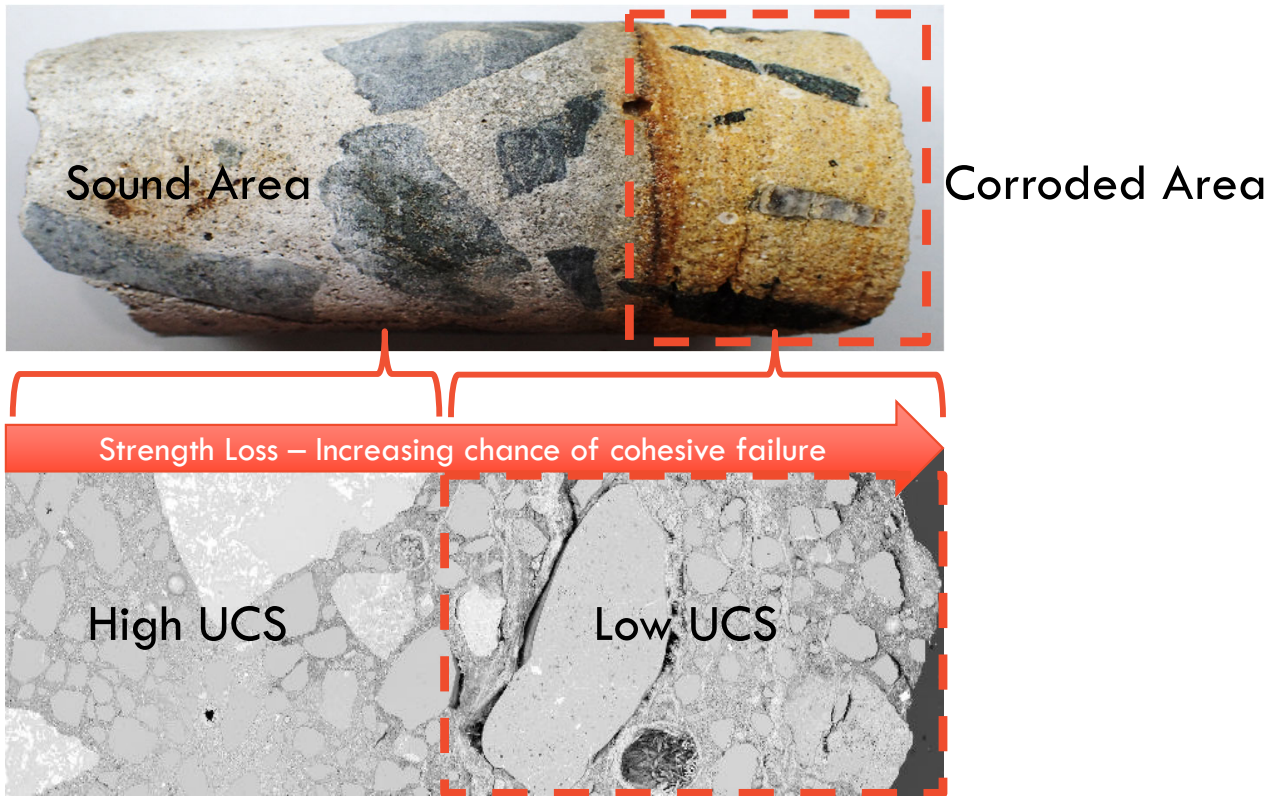
ASTM C1583

## Modes of Failure



# Materials and Methods

## UCS

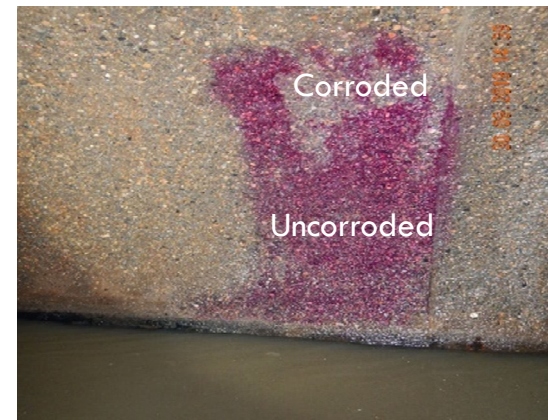
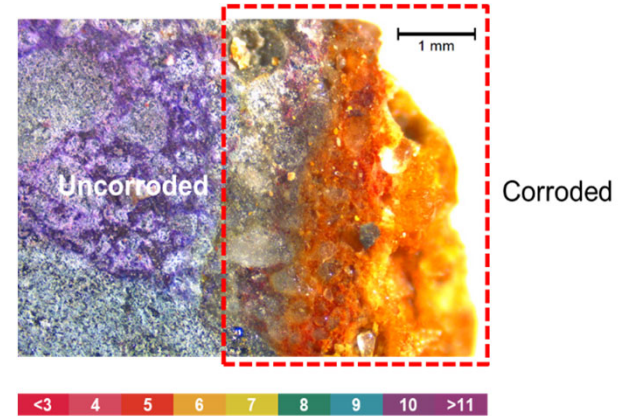
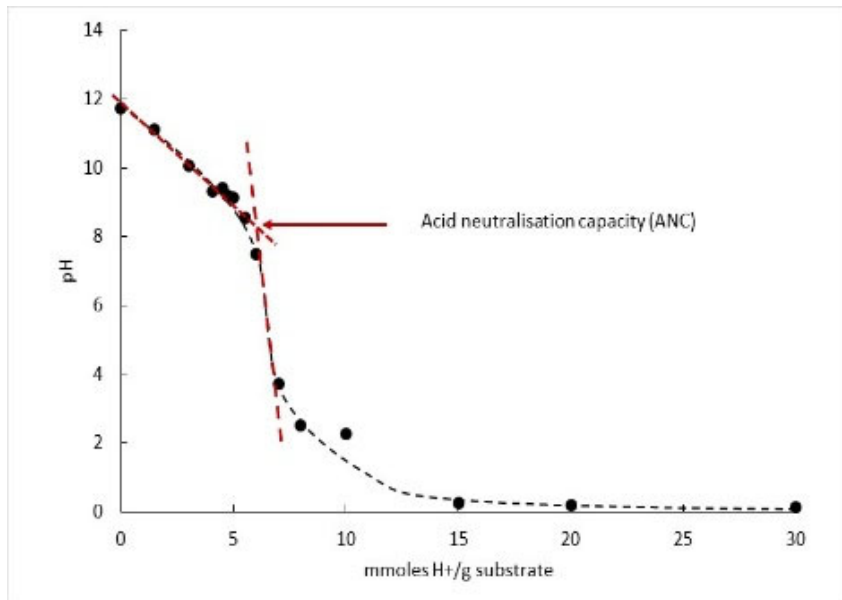


ASTM C39

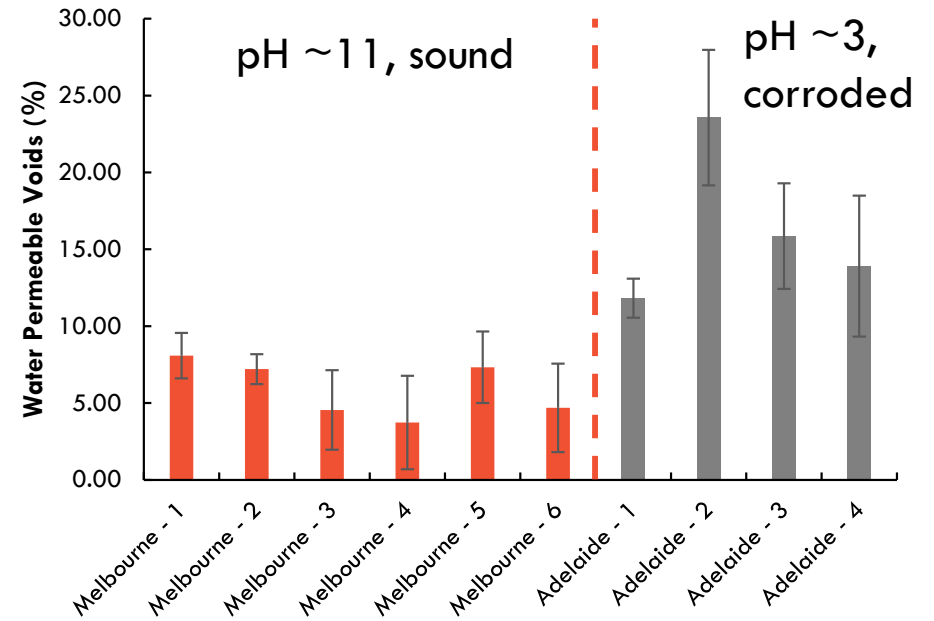
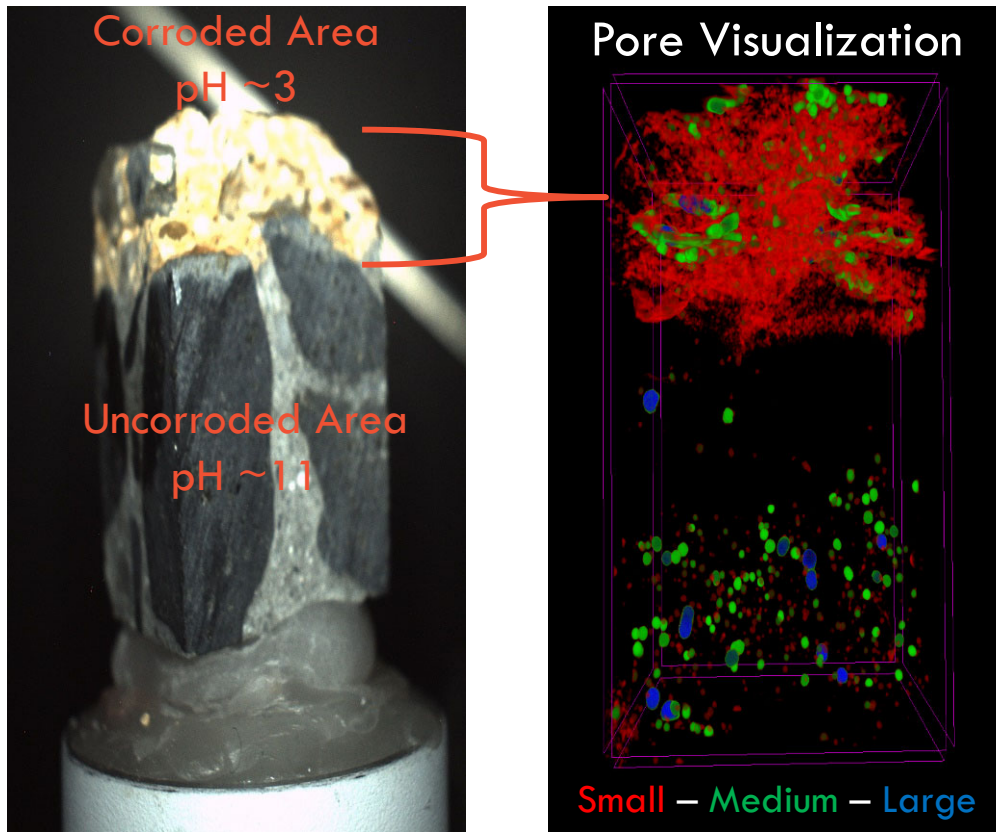
# Results

## What is Sound Concrete?

Sound concrete is defined as concrete with pH above 8.0 and has been set to qualify surface preparation.

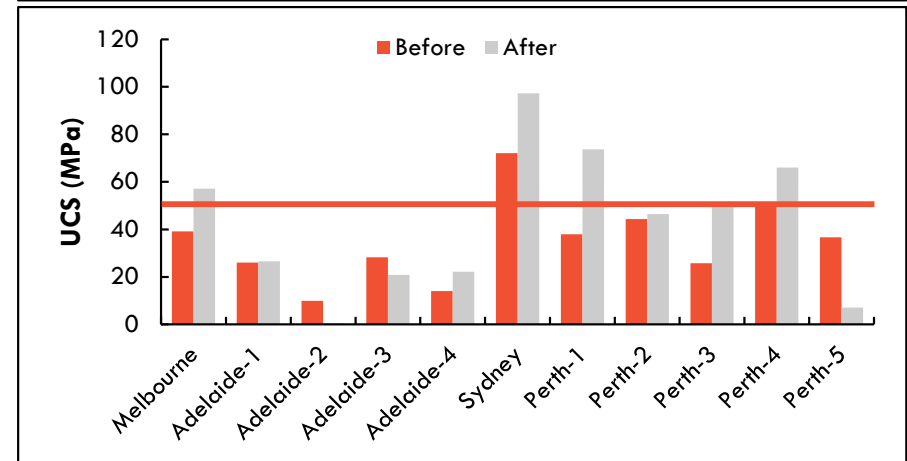
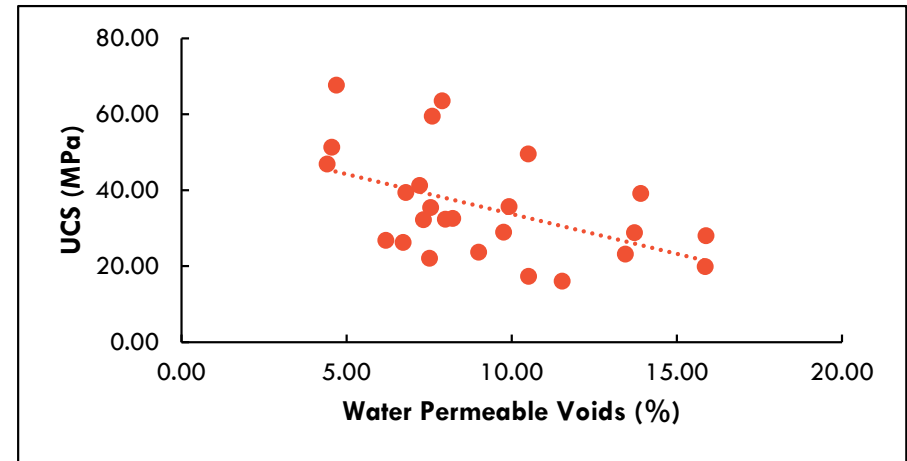


# Micro Porosity in Sound and Unsound Concrete



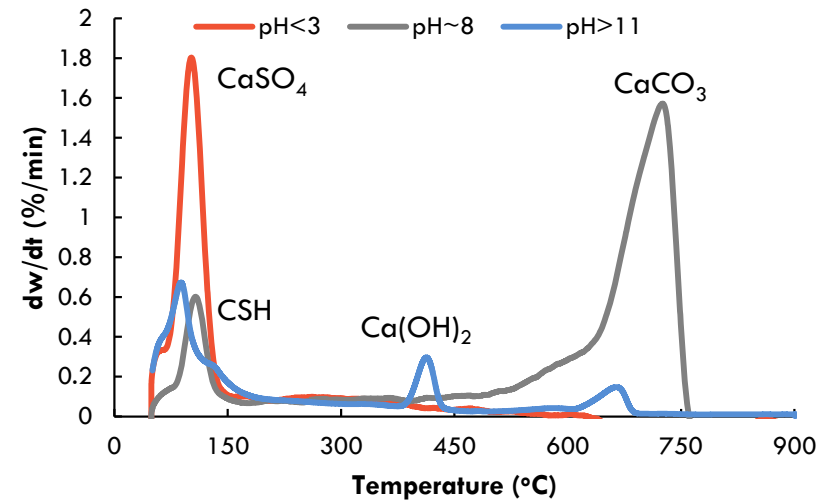
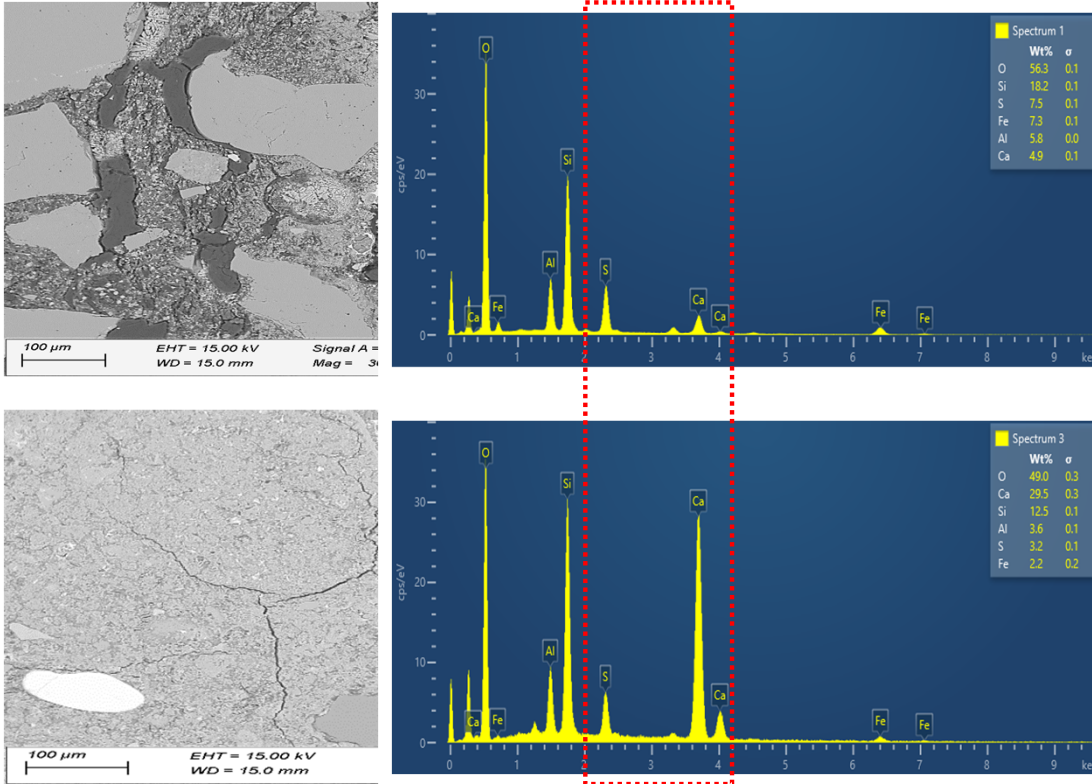
# Impact of Porosity in Overall UCS

Use of pressurised water to remove laitance material and restore overall part of the overall compressive strength.



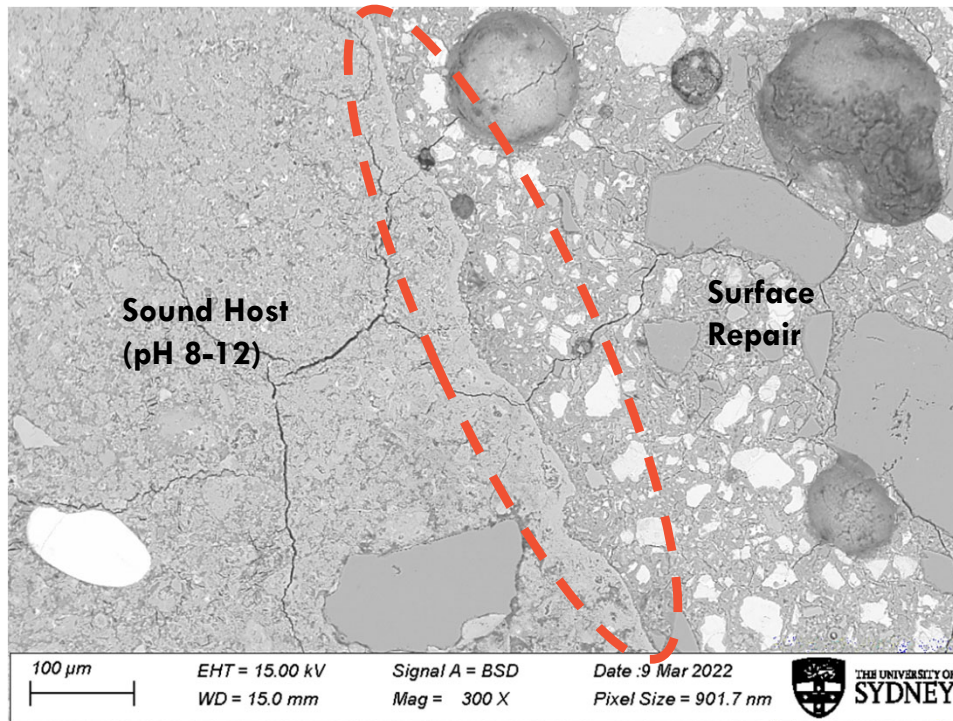
Surface Preparation Method		
Mist/vapour blasting 110-150 psi (with garnet)	Water jetting 2000 – 2500 psi (low pressure water cleaning)	Water jetting 6800 psi (high pressure water cleaning)

# Microstructure



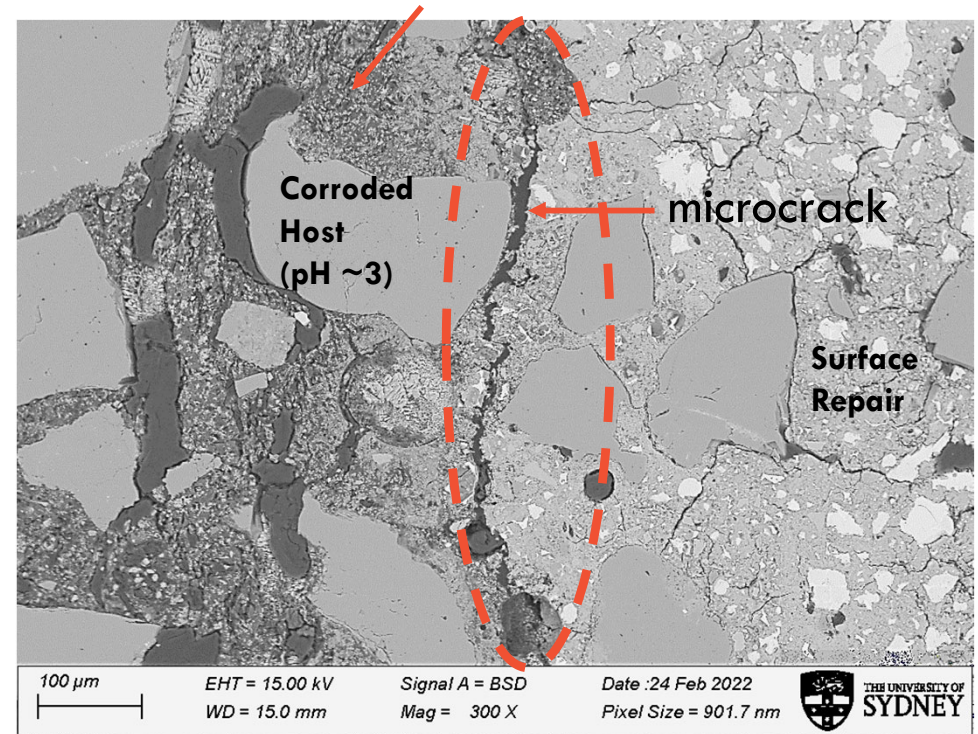
	CSH, CaSO <sub>4</sub> (wt%)	Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub> (wt%)	CaCO <sub>3</sub> (wt%)	Bond Strength (MPa)
pH ~ 3 corroded	5.52 <i>(Mostly CaSO<sub>4</sub>)</i>	0.31	~0	<b>0</b>
pH ~ 8 interface	2.37	0.60	8.15	<b>~1</b>
pH ~ 11 uncorroded	3.09 <i>(Mostly CSH)</i>	1.00	1.05	<b>1.5</b>

# Overlaying Lining on Sound and Unsound Concrete



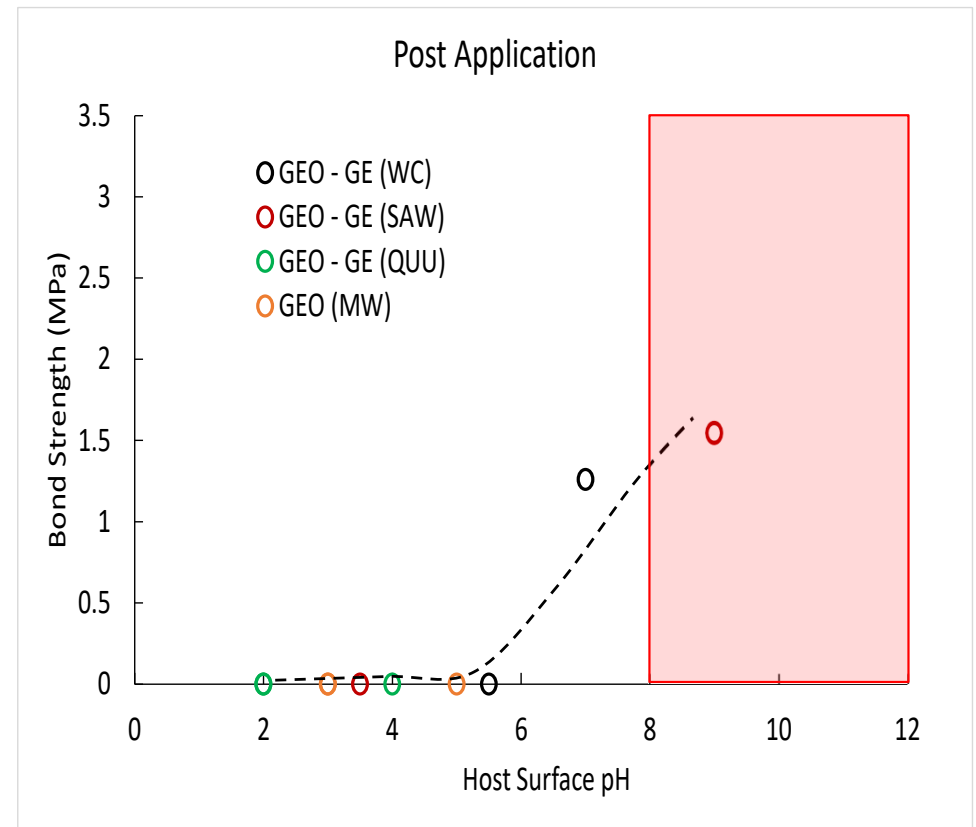
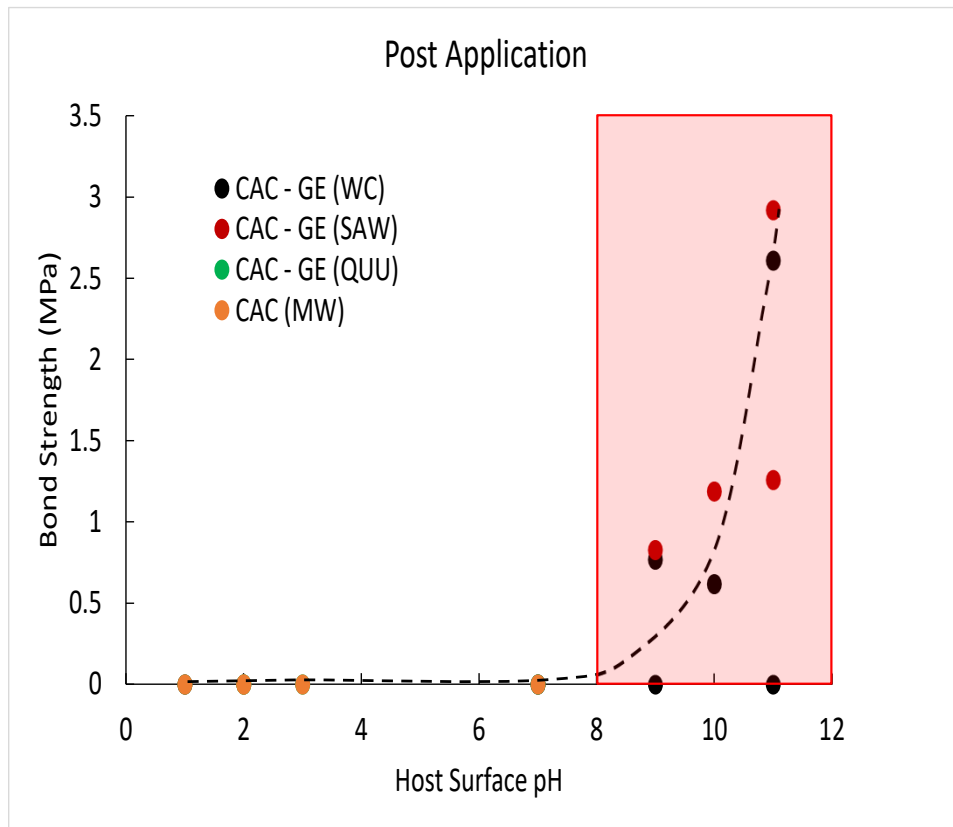
Bond Strength: 1.0 MPa

Corrosion products have no hydraulic property



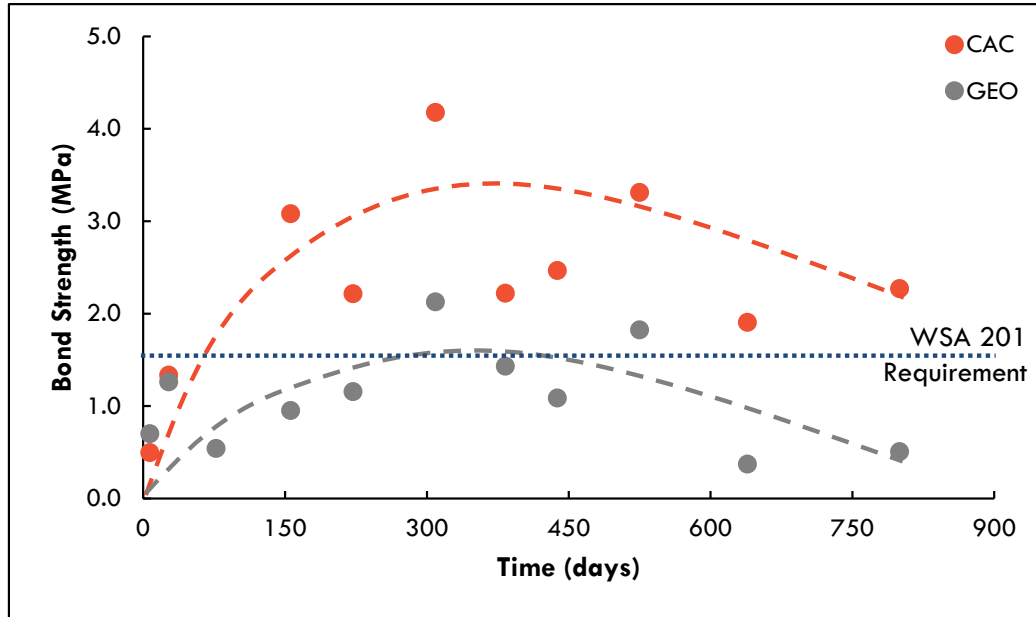
Bond Strength: 0.0 MPa

# Bond Strength as a Function of Surface pH at Post Application



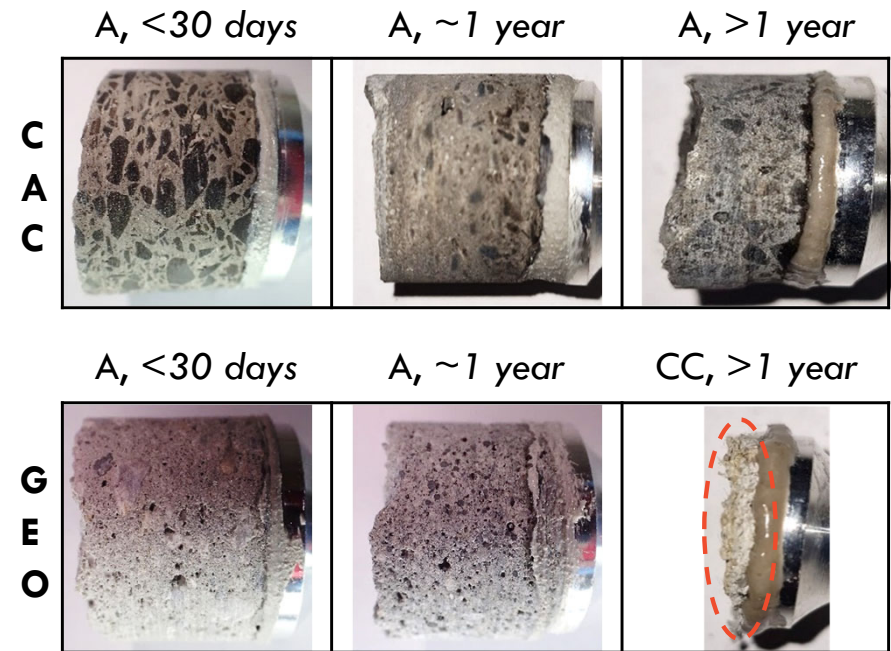


# Effect of Time on Lining Bond Strength



- Bond strength increases and declines over time, with adhesive failure as the primary mode.
- With time, mode of failure becomes cohesive failure of coating (notable in GEOs tested).

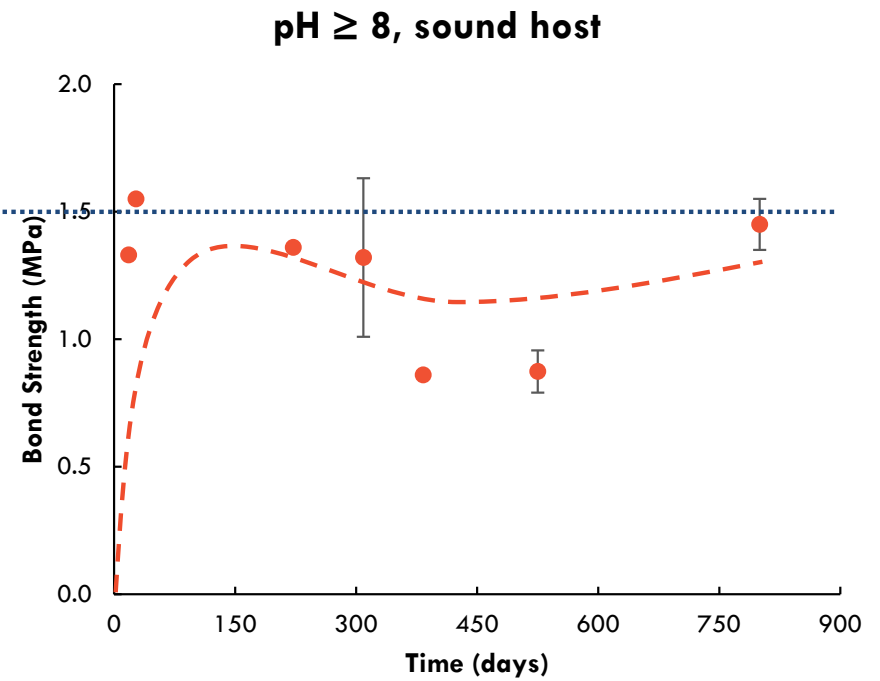
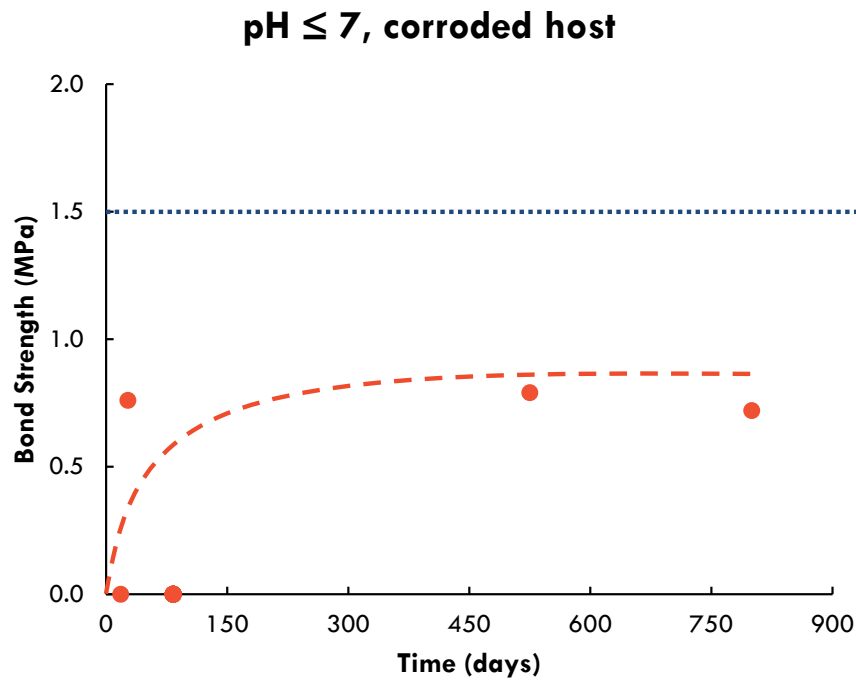
## Primary Mode of Failure



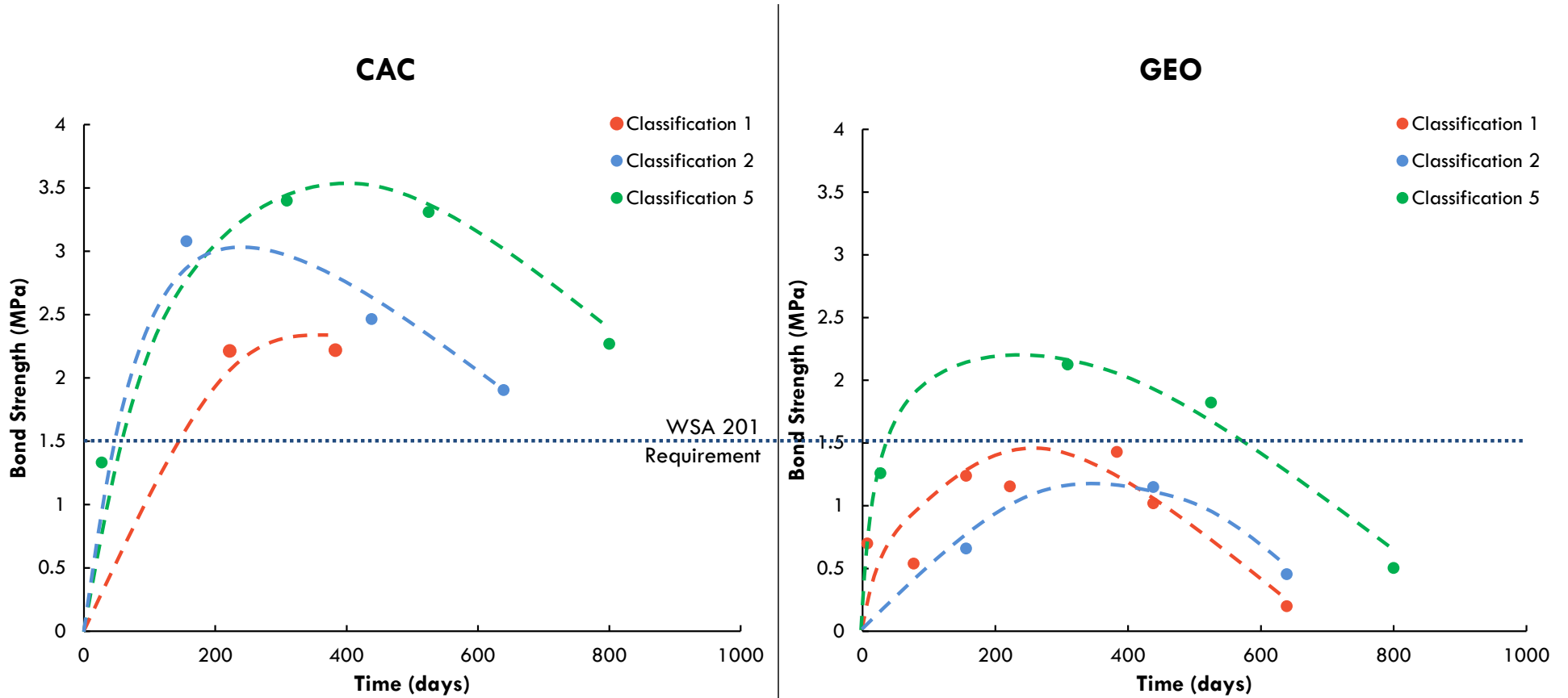
A: Adhesive  
CC: Cohesive, Coating

# Effect of Surface pH and Time

Corroded host surface induces premature failure and limits bond strength.



# Effect of Corrosion Classification on Bond Strength



# Summary

- **Surface Preparation Requirement**
  - Sound concrete is defined as concrete with  $\text{pH} > 8$ .
  - Unsound concrete with  $\text{pH} < 8$  is characterised with non-hydraulic corrosion products, low strength and high porosity.
  - Field test verifies reliability of sound concrete definition.
- **Effect of Sewer Corrosivity and Time on Bond Strength and Modes of Failure**
  - Bond strength increases then declines with time. Early mode of failure is by adhesive failure, with longer term, bond failure is occurring by cohesive failure of coatings.
  - Type of coating impacts bond strength.  $\text{CAC} > \text{GEO}$  for tested products.
  - Impact of corrosion classification suggests  $\text{CO}_2$  may have greater impact than  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  on bond strength.

# Acknowledgements

In addition to the grant provided by the Australian Government through the Cooperative Research Centre, this project was made possible by the following project partners, all of whom contributed expertise, labour, funding, products or trial sites to assist in its delivery.

The authors also acknowledge the technical and scientific assistance of Sydney Microscopy & Microanalysis, the University of Sydney node of Microscopy Australia.

BASF Australia	Icon Water	Sydney Water Corporation
Bisley & Company	Interflow	The Water Research Foundation
Calucem GmbH	Melbourne Water Corporation	UK Water Industry Research Ltd (UKWIR)
GeoTree Solutions	Parchem Construction Supplies	Urban Utilities
Hunter Water Corporation	SA Water Corporation	Water Corporation
Hychem International	South East Water Corporation	Abergeldie Watertech

**Questions?**



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SYDNEY**