

# **Application of calorimetry for hydration study of belite-ferrite-ye'elmitic cements**

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# ■ Outline

- Background
- Hydration of BYF
- Hydration of Ye'elimit
- Parameters influencing  
hydration of Ye'elimit
- Retarders
- Conclusions



# Background

- HeidelbergCement considers introduction of the alternative hydraulic binders like belite – ye'elite – ferrite binder (BYF) to the market
- The advantages of such systems include
  - BYF provides a low-CO<sub>2</sub> alternative to Portland cement
  - Production is matured
  - Raw materials are available
  - Similar characteristics and performance evolution to PC based binders



# ■ Background

## Application examples

**RMX monolithic road construction (5\*60 m) with and without reinforcement**



# ■ Background



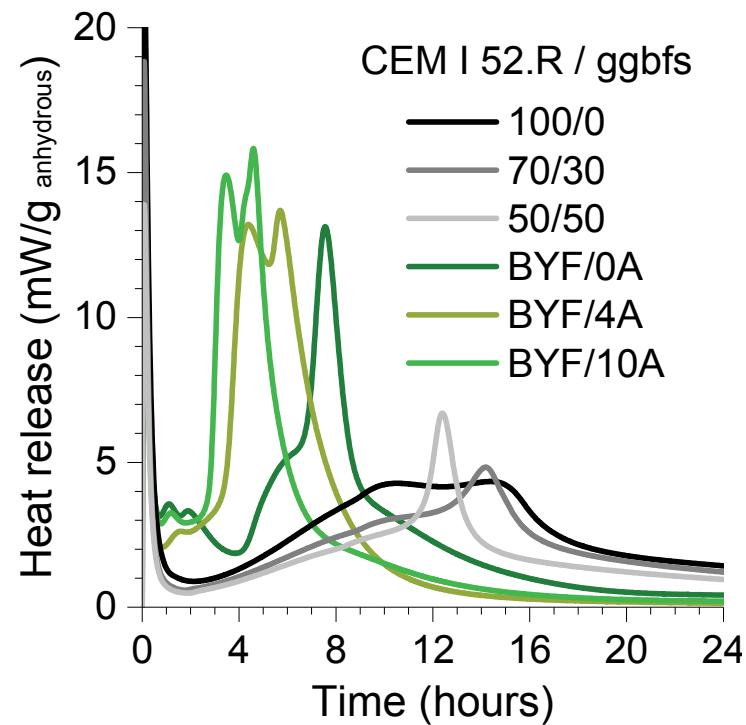
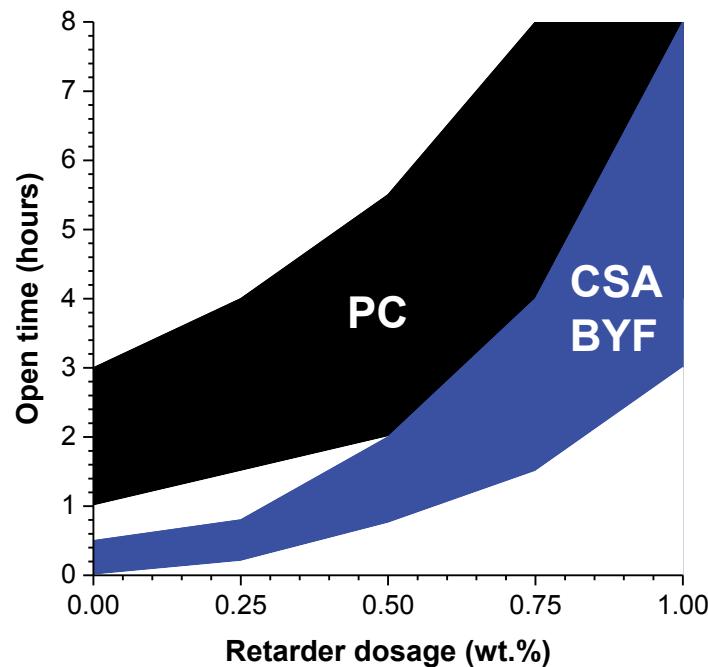
"This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 637138."

## Application examples Production of reinforced panels



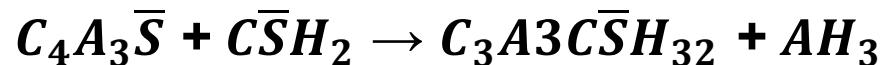
## ■ Background

- Hydration mechanisms are well investigated
- There are still several phenomena lacking a sound understanding

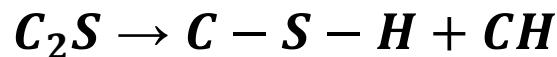
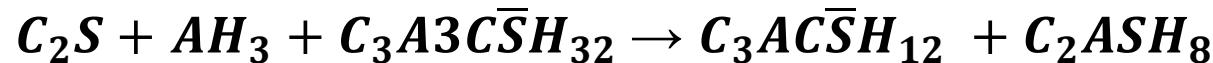


## ■ Hydration of BYF system

- Ye'elite is rapidly hydrating phase

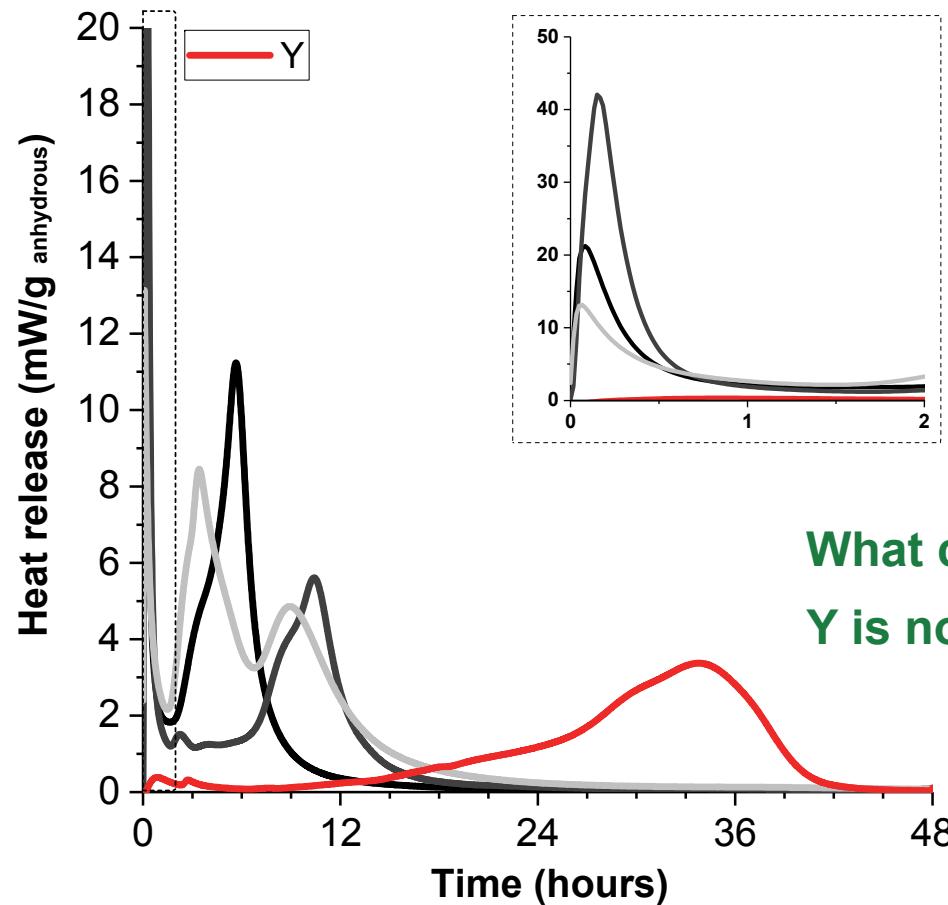


- Belite and ferrite phase react slower



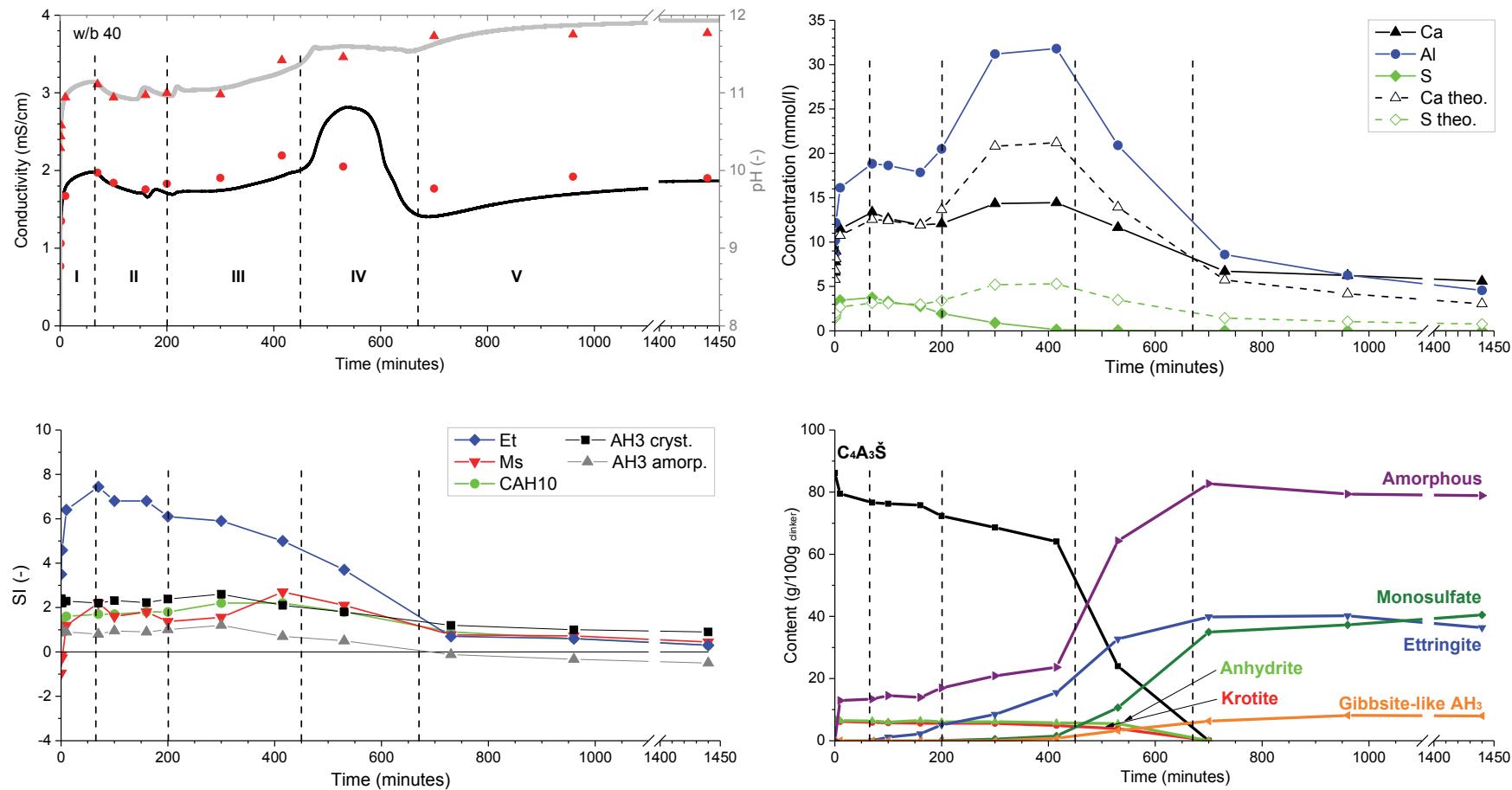
## ■ Hydration of BYF system

- BYF clinker from one industrial trial (45-48% B; 28-30% Y; 3-5% F)
- Isothermal conduction calorimetry



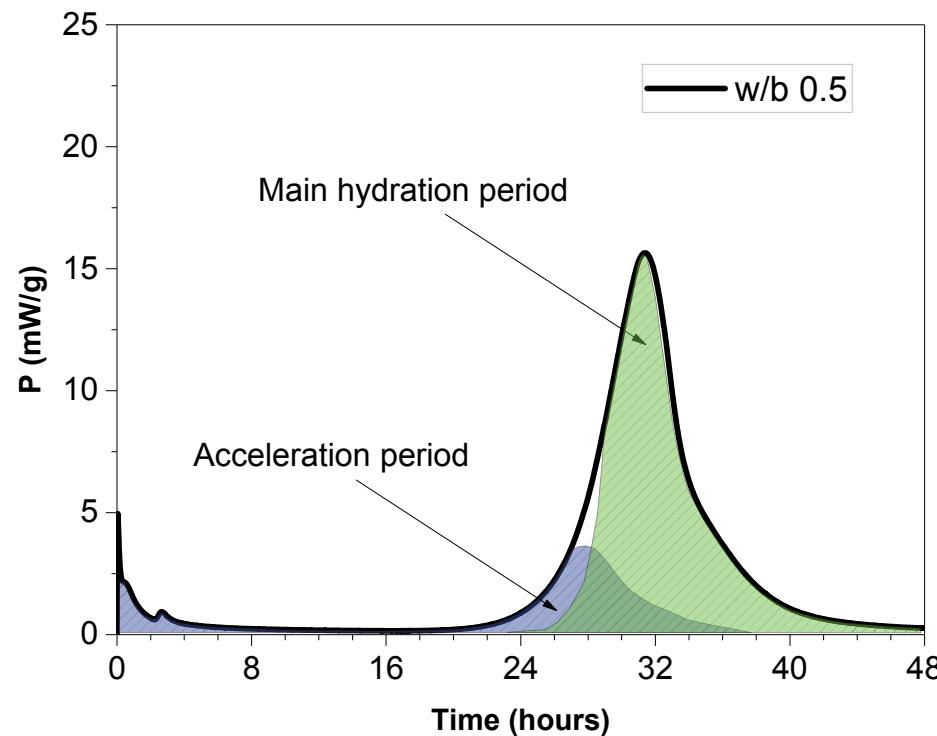
What causes the differences in BYF?  
Y is not representative for BYF?

# ■ Hydration of ye'elimite: PhD of Frank Bullerjahn

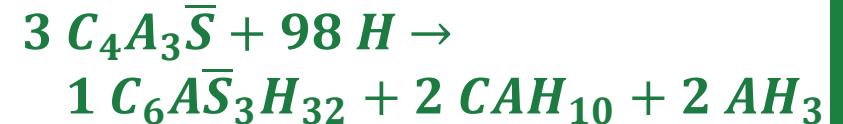


## ■ Hydration of ye'elimit: PhD of Frank Bullerjahn

- The main hydration peak is associated with the reaction of ye'elimit
  - Acceleration period: formation of ettringite
  - Main hydration peak; formation of monosulphate

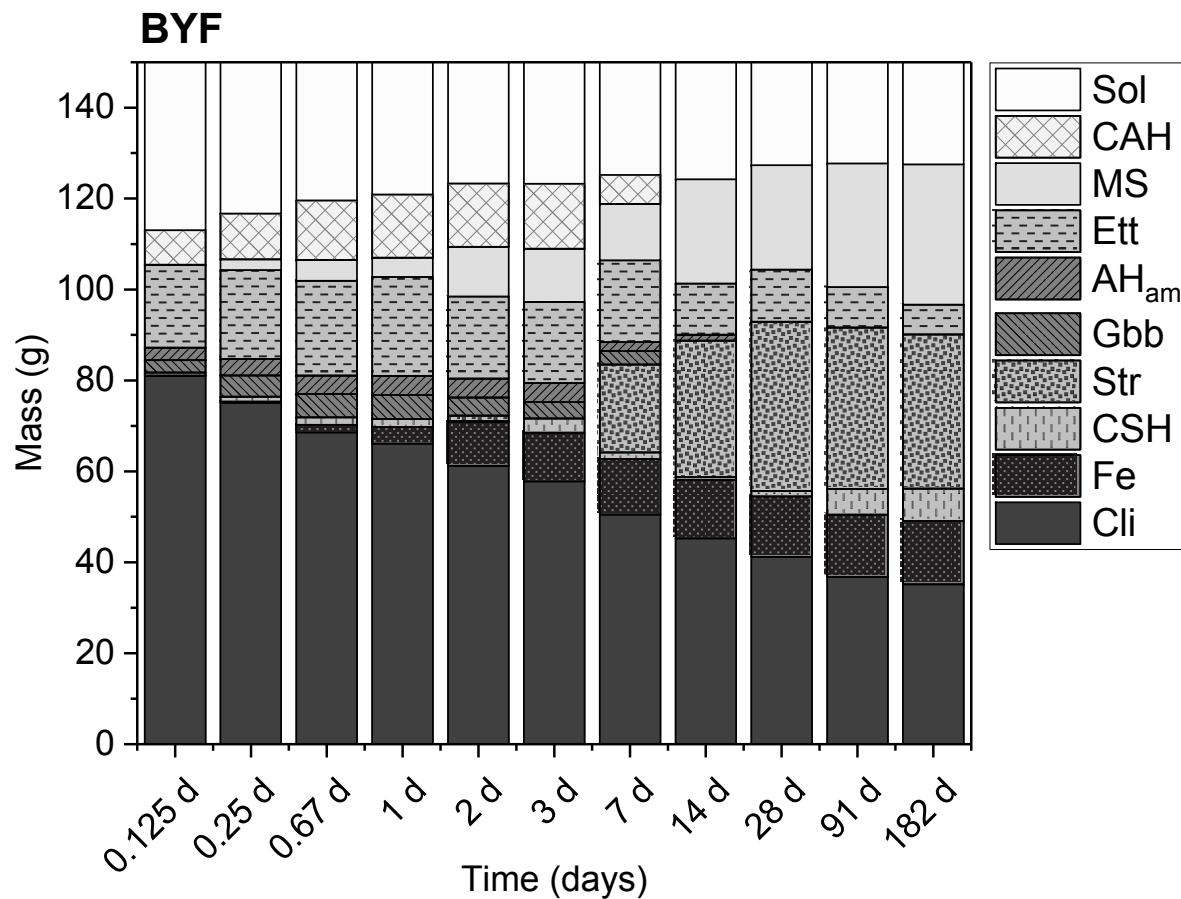


Two main reactions



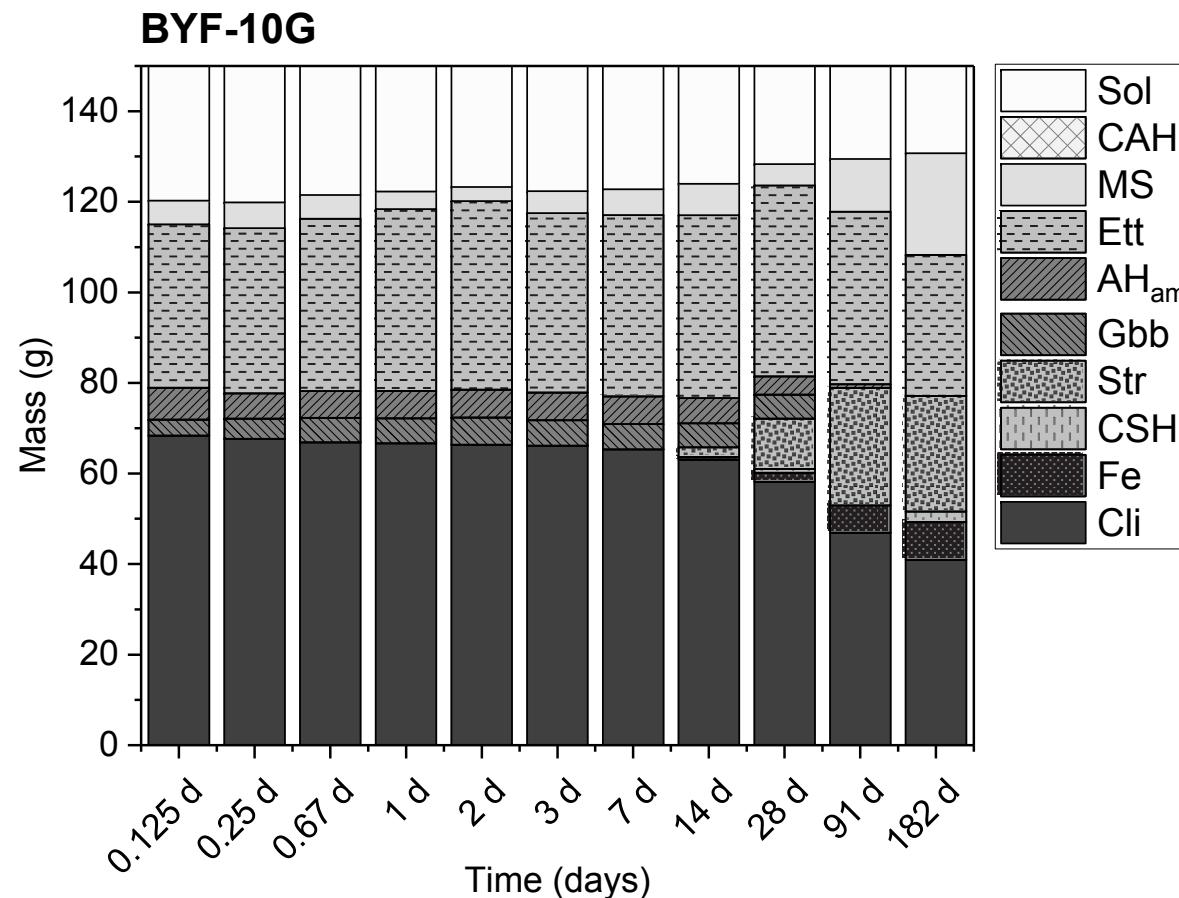
## ■ Hydration of BYF clinker (no sulfate addition)

- $\text{CAH}_{10}$  is the main component of amorphous at early times
- At later times the strätlingite and monosulfate dominate



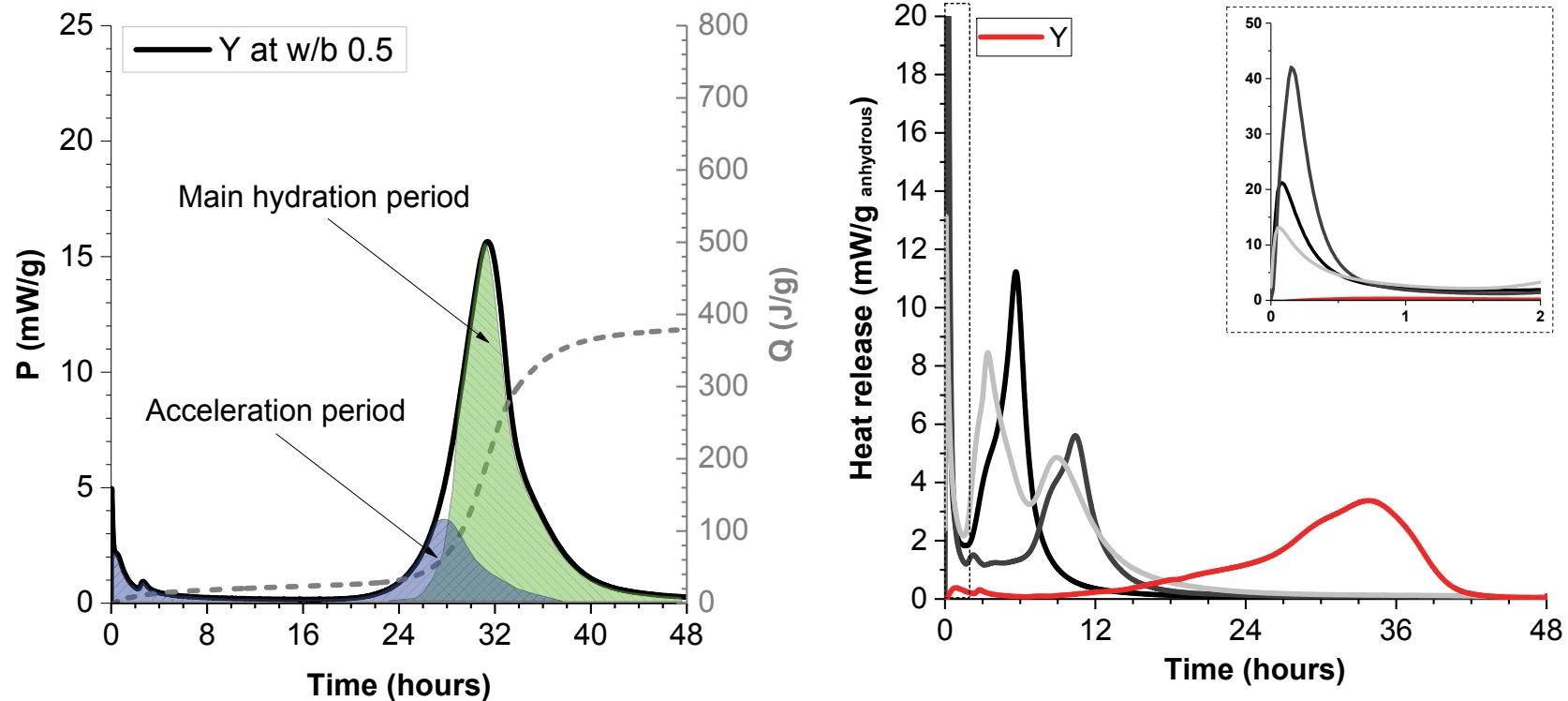
## ■ Hydration of BYF clinker with sulfate addition

- Ettringite is the dominating phase, no  $\text{CAH}_{10}$  present
- Formation of strätlingite and monosulfate delayed



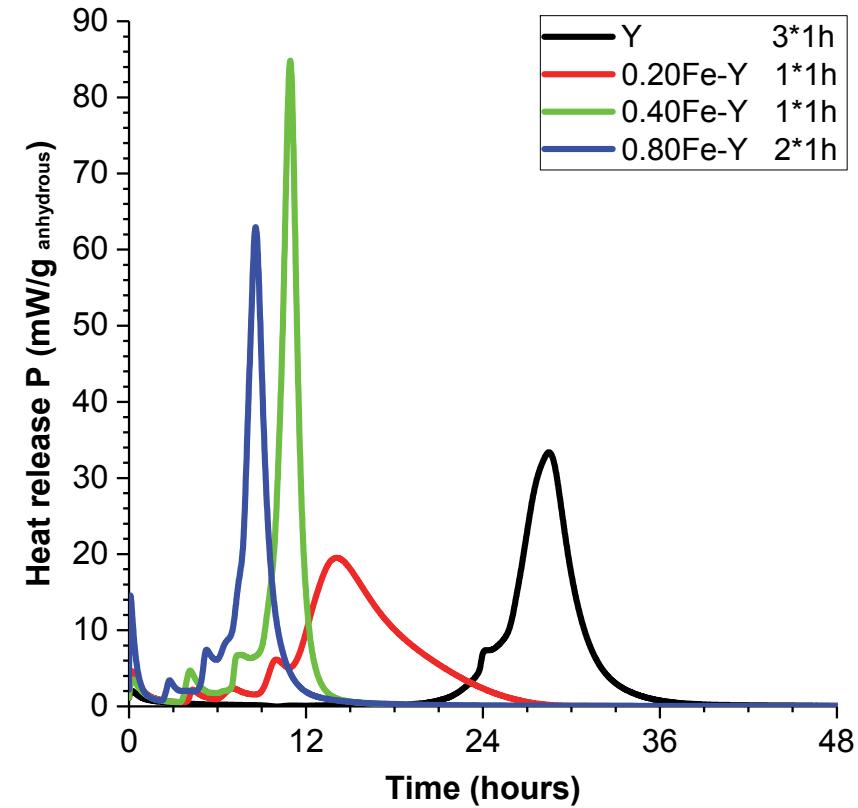
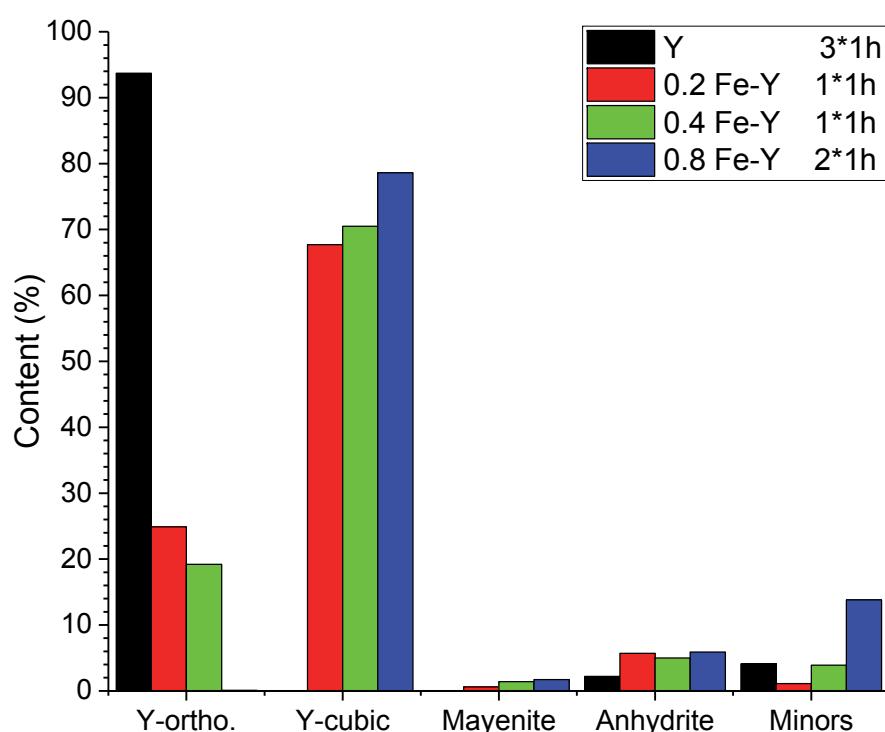
# ■ Hydration of ye'elimite: PhD of Frank Bullerjahn

- Why in cement, the ye'elimite hydration is so rapid?



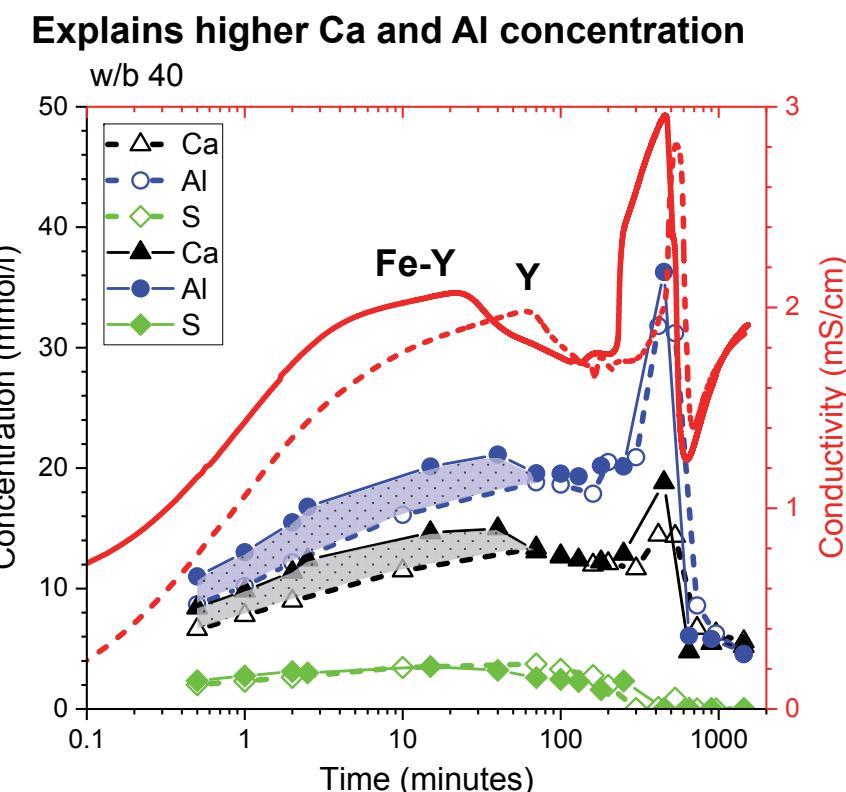
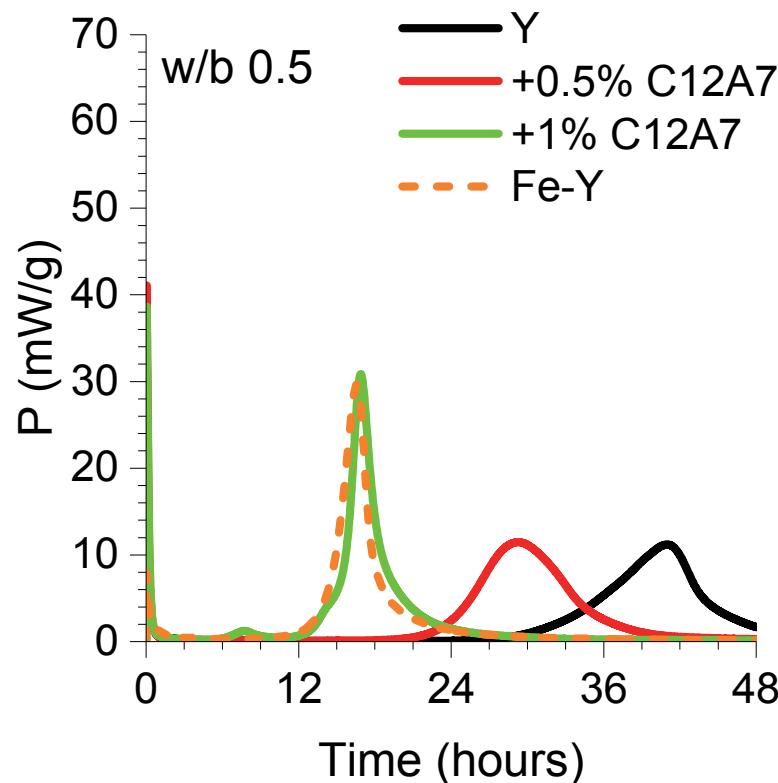
# Parameters influencing hydration of Ye'elimite

- Synthesis of iron solid solution of ye'elimite at 1300 °C
  - With x from 0.00 to 0.80 in  $C_4A_{3-x}F_x\bar{S}$



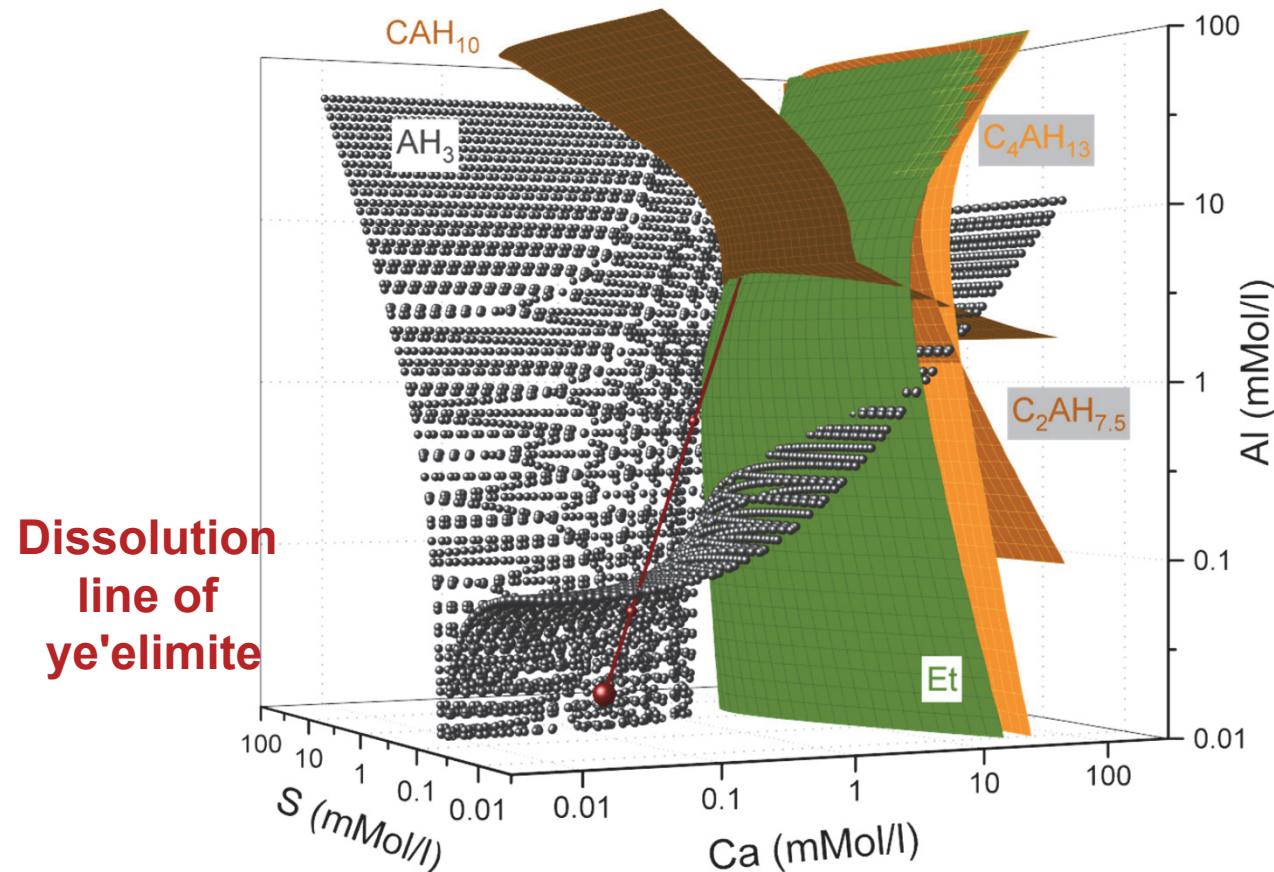
# Parameters influencing hydration of Ye'elimite

## Effect of mayenite



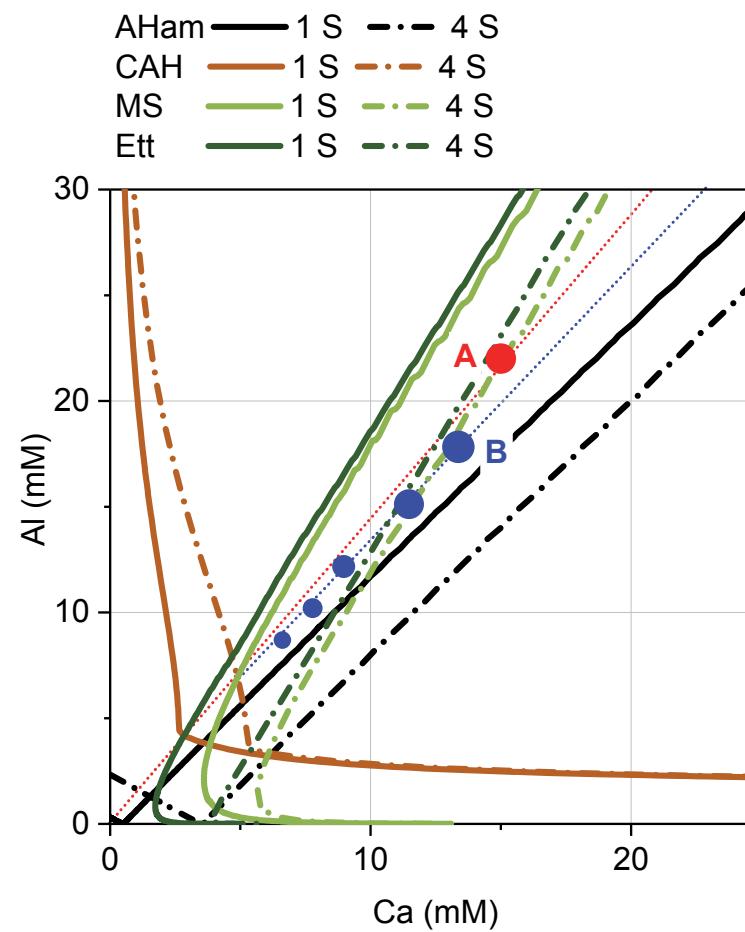
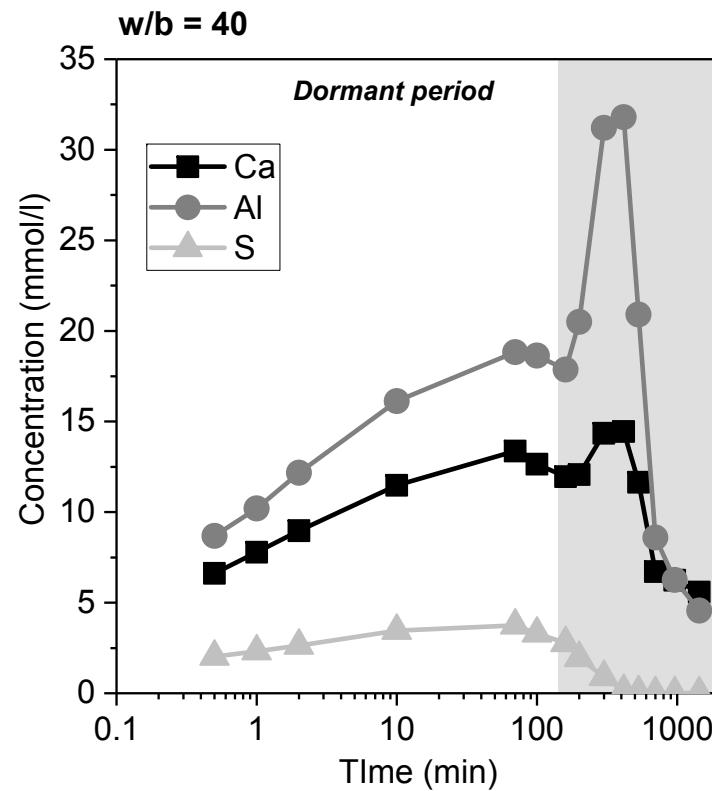
## Parameters influencing hydration of Ye'elimite

- Analysis of the pore solution allows to understand the effect of mayenite



# Parameters influencing hydration of Ye'elimite

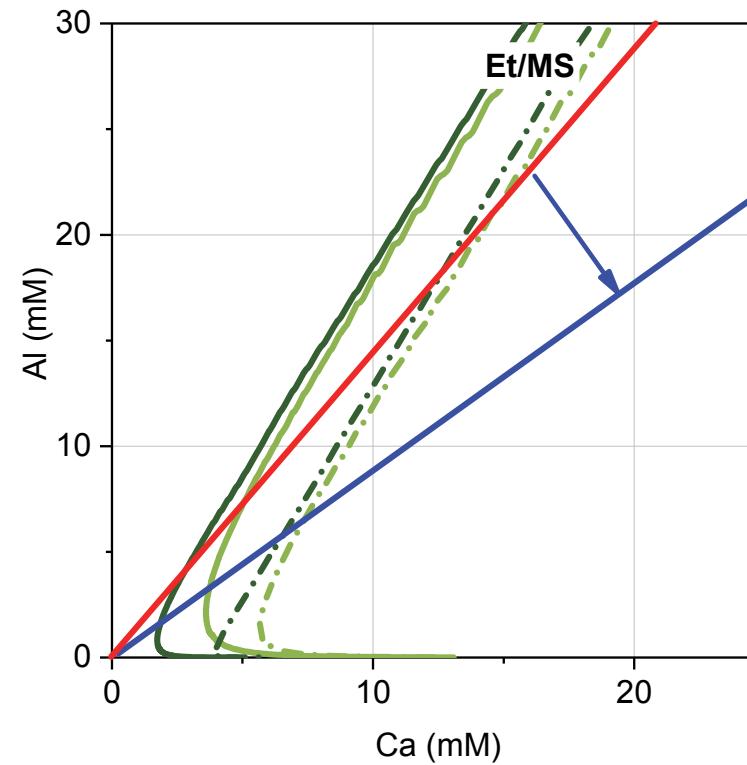
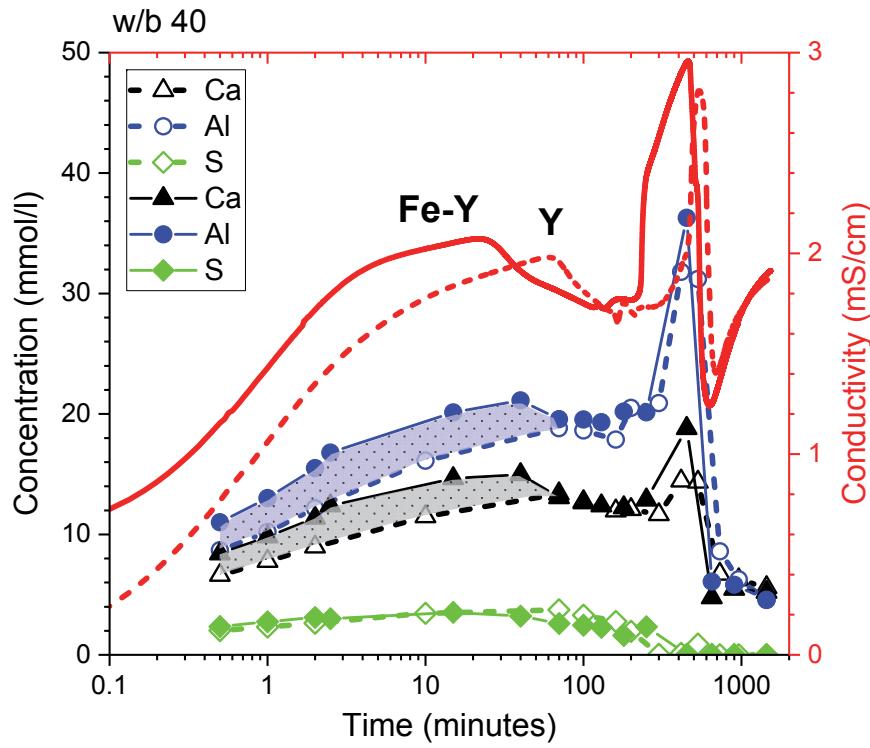
- Analysis of the pore solution allows to understand the effect of mayenite



# Parameters influencing hydration of Ye'elimite

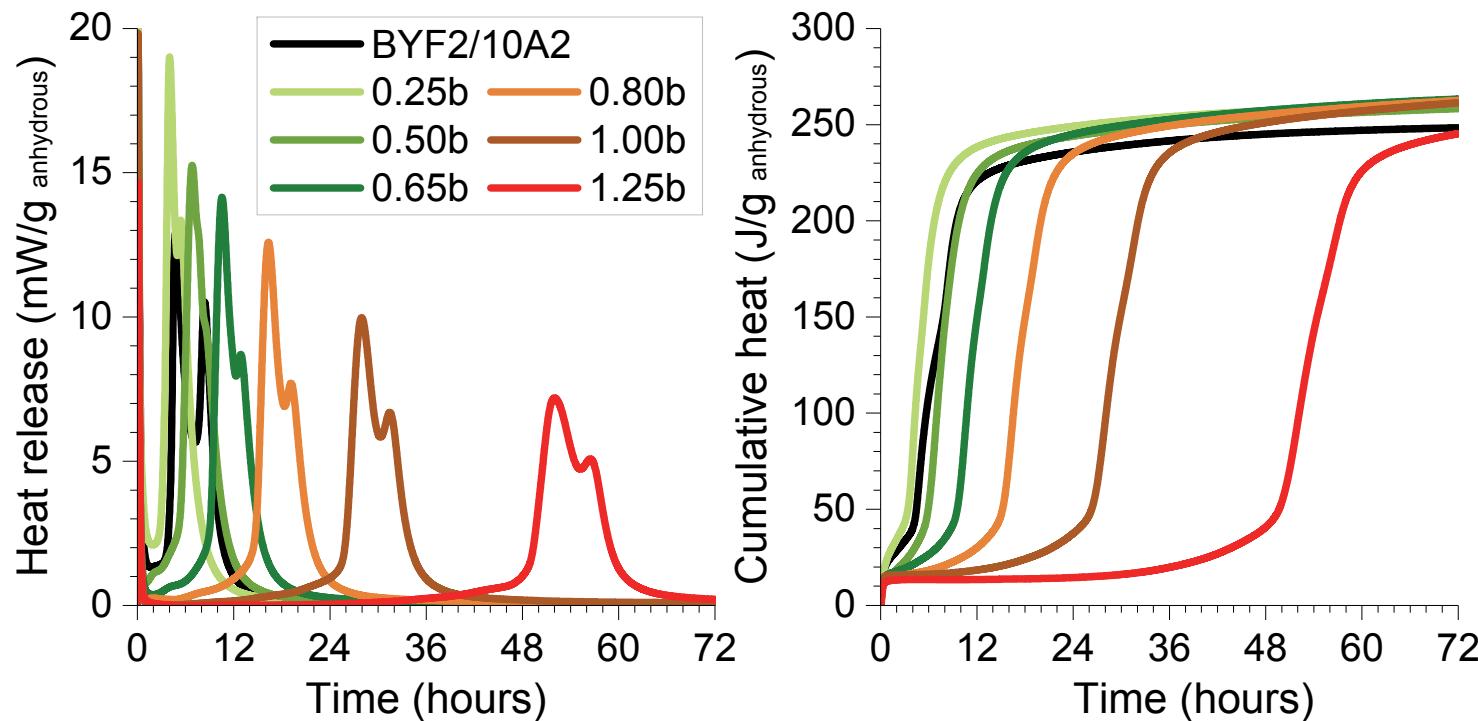
- Mayenite dissolution results in the increase of Ca/Al ratio in the pore solution

Explains higher Ca and Al concentration



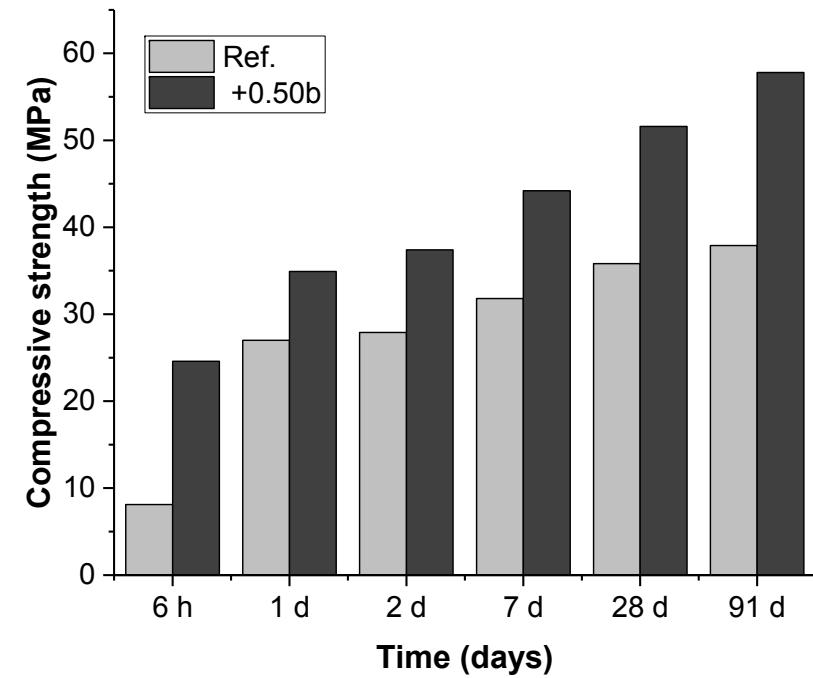
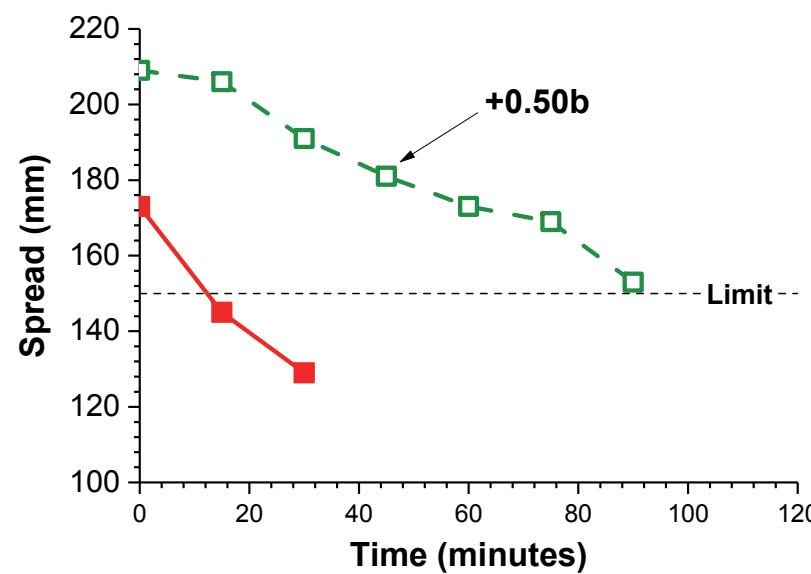
## Effect of retarder

- Borax delays the onset of reaction, but not delays strongly the cement hydration



## Effect of retarder

- Proper retardation has effect on overall cement performance



## Conclusions

### Hydration of ye'elimit

- Hydration of ye'elimit dominates the early hydration of cement
- Two main hydration reactions instead of a single reaction of ye'elimit

### Parameters influencing the hydration of ye'elimit

- The presence of mayenite causes the faster hydration
  - Iron improves the raw mix burnability causing the faster formation of ye'elimit, followed by its decomposition -> Formation of secondary mayenite

### Retarder - borax

- Borax delays the onset of reaction, but not delays strongly the ye'elimit hydration