## Characterization of geomorphic pore structure of building materials for agent fate

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#### **Presentation Outline**

- Overview/Objectives
- Materials
- Methods and Results
- Conclusions
- Future Work





#### **Overview of Problem**

- Characterize pore structure:
  - Fluorescent microscopy
  - X-ray imaging
- Ultimate goal of rapidly predicting agent transport in field cases



## Materials REDUC

Building materials: •Ohio sandstone •Indiana limestone •Concrete •Brick

Tests: •Fluorescent microscopy •CT scanning









#### **Methods: Fluorescent Microscopy**

- Saturate in fluorescent solution (FITC)
- Images provide:
  - Porosity
  - Detailed pore sizes/shapes (stage micrometer)
  - Micro beads for better visualization of pore network





#### **Results: Fluorescent microscopy**



100 µm

### **Methods: X-Ray Scanning**

- Amherst College, MA
- Resolution: up to 1.5 µm
- Smallest pore 4.5 µm
- Estimate parameters









## **Results: X-Ray Scans**

Addition of fluid

•Transport information per volume of fluid added



12.5 mm



•More scans with fluid in process





#### **Methods: Image Processing**

- 1. Crop original scan
- 2. Contrast enhancement
- 3. Thresholding





#### **Methods: 3D Reconstruction**

- Avizo 6.0
- Import/Stack binary images
- 3D surface
  - Material statistics





#### **Results: Pore Surface Generation**



### Pore surfaces

#### 5,000 psi concrete



D04 concrete



Limestone



Brick



All specimens 100x100x100 µm



#### **Testing Results**

Porosity					
	Lab	СТ	3D		
5,000 psi Concrete	0.12	0.16	0.16		
D04 Concrete	0.10	0.14	0.13		
Indiana Limestone	0.10	0.13	0.15		
Ohio Sandstone	0.16	0.14	0.16		
Brick	0.17	0.20	0.18		

#### **Conclusions and Future Work**

Fluorescent microscopy and X-ray imaging successfully quantified details of pore structure



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#### Advanced X-ray image analysis

## Estimate of transport properties by image analysis (random walk)

- Porosity
- Tortuosity
- Specific surface
- Diffusivity
- Permeability









X-rays – continued

#### Comparison to measurements

	Sandstone	Brick	D04 Concrete	5000psi Concrete
Porosity	0.15 (0.16)	0.19 (0.17)	0.11 (0.10)	0.13 (0.12)
Specific surface [1/m]	7E+5	8.8E+5	1.8E+5	1.8E+5
Tortuosity	4.4	8.9	20	16.0
Permeability [m <sup>2</sup> ]	7E-14 (15E-14)	2.7E-14 (4.2E-14)	16.0E-14 (7.7E-14)	26.0E-14 (7.9E-14)

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Thank You



#### Image → Grid (simulation)



#### **Simulation of Wicking Tests**

