

# Toward EU-Japan Collaboration for Development of Advanced Materials in Construction

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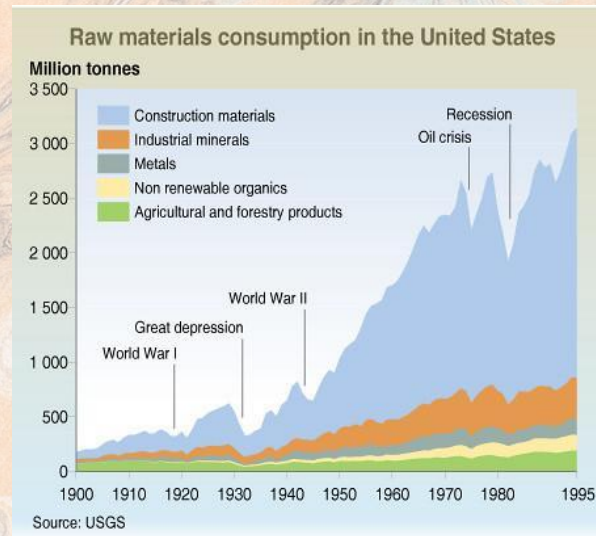


# Features of the Construction

## Huge resource consumption

- Much more than  
50% of the total

## Huge waste generation



## Large amount CO<sub>2</sub> emission

- Almost 50% of the  
total
- ✓ Operational 2/3
- ✓ Embodied 1/3



## Long service life

- Longer than 100  
years

Thousands of years

Airplane: 20-25 years  
Car: 10-15 years  
TV: 10 years  
Smart phone:  
3-4 years





# Development Objectives and Items to be Developed

- **Eternal circulation of building materials**
  - Versatile material performing a variety of functions
  - Strong bonding and easy debonding
- **Carbon neutrality in building construction**
  - Carbon mineralization with material balance
  - Control of crystal morphology of calcium carbonate
- **Longevity of buildings**
  - Modelling for material deterioration into performance degradation
  - Conservation and preservation materials for modern heritage buildings
- **Digital transformation in building construction and maintenance**
  - Additive manufacturing materials
  - Sensing & monitoring and NDT

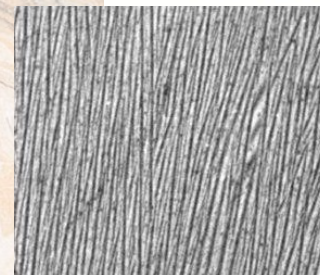
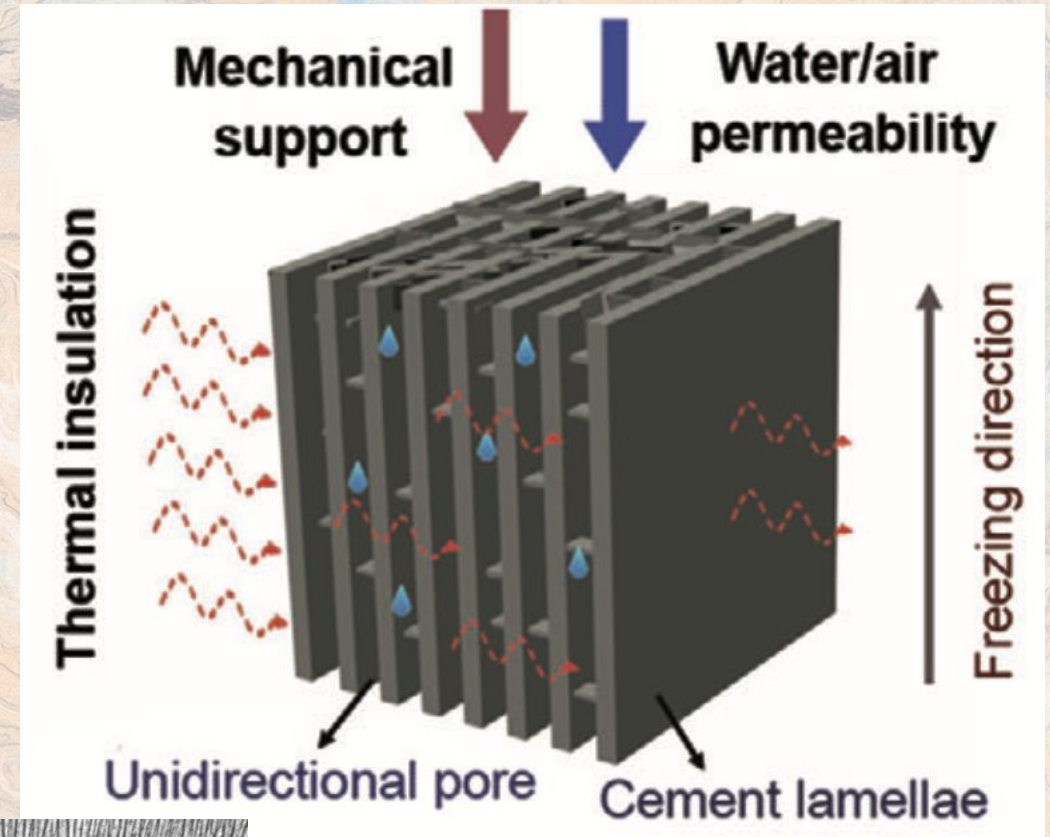


# Eternal circulation of building materials

## Versatile material performing a variety of functions

- **Single material**, e.g. cement, lime, etc.
  - **Multi functions**, e.g. structure, thermal insulation, fire prevention, etc.
- **Easy demolition and recycling**

## Freeze casting of cement materials



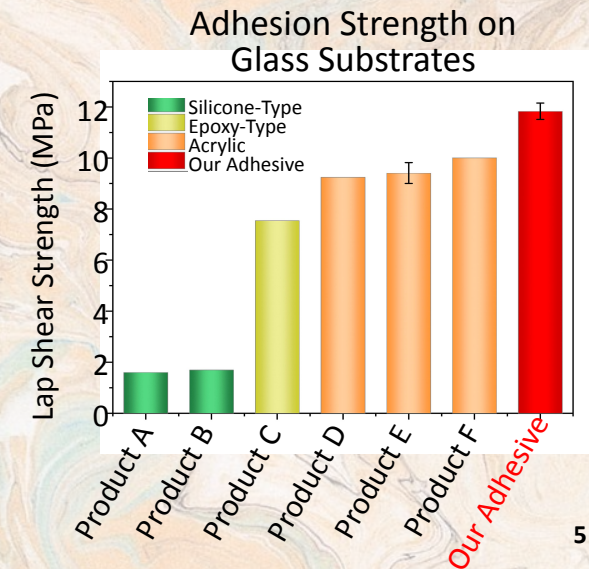
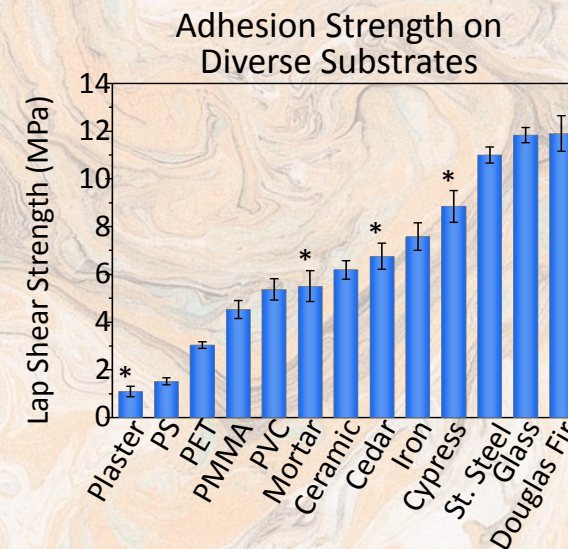
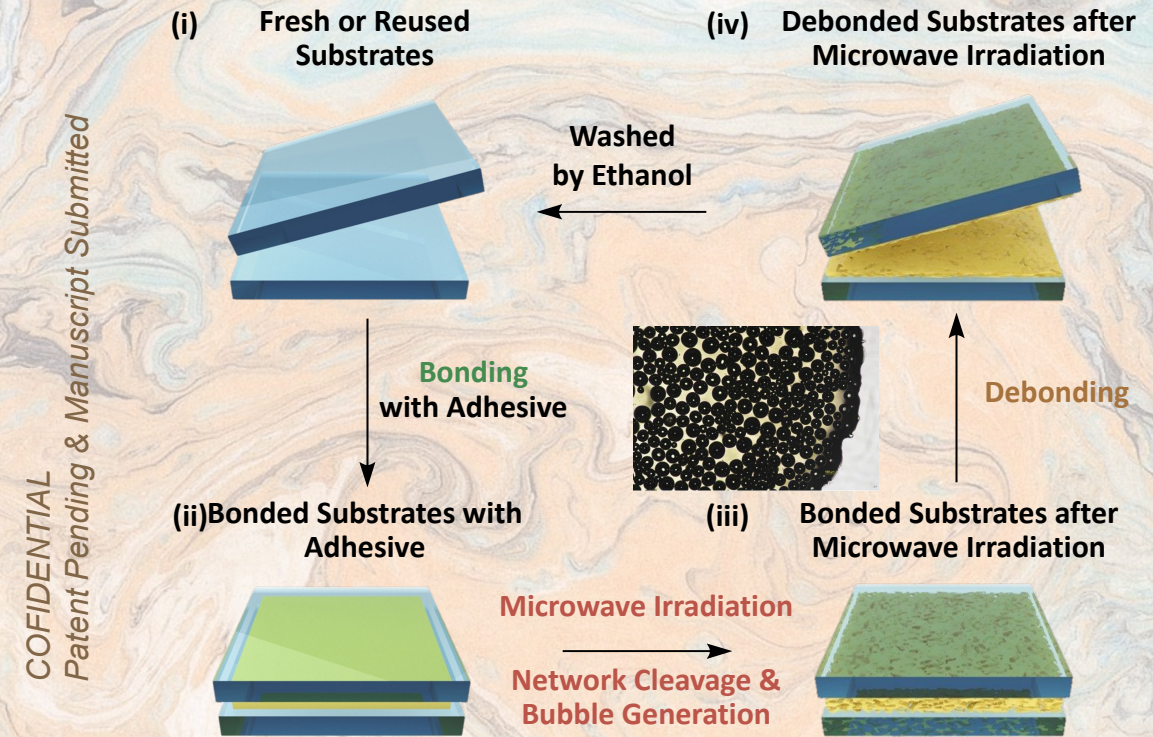


# Eternal circulation of building materials

## Strong bonding and easy debonding

- **Stronger bonding** than conventional adhesives between any kind of materials
- **Heating** by electromagnetic induction

→ **Easy separation to promote reuse and recycling of building materials**

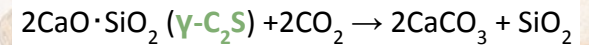
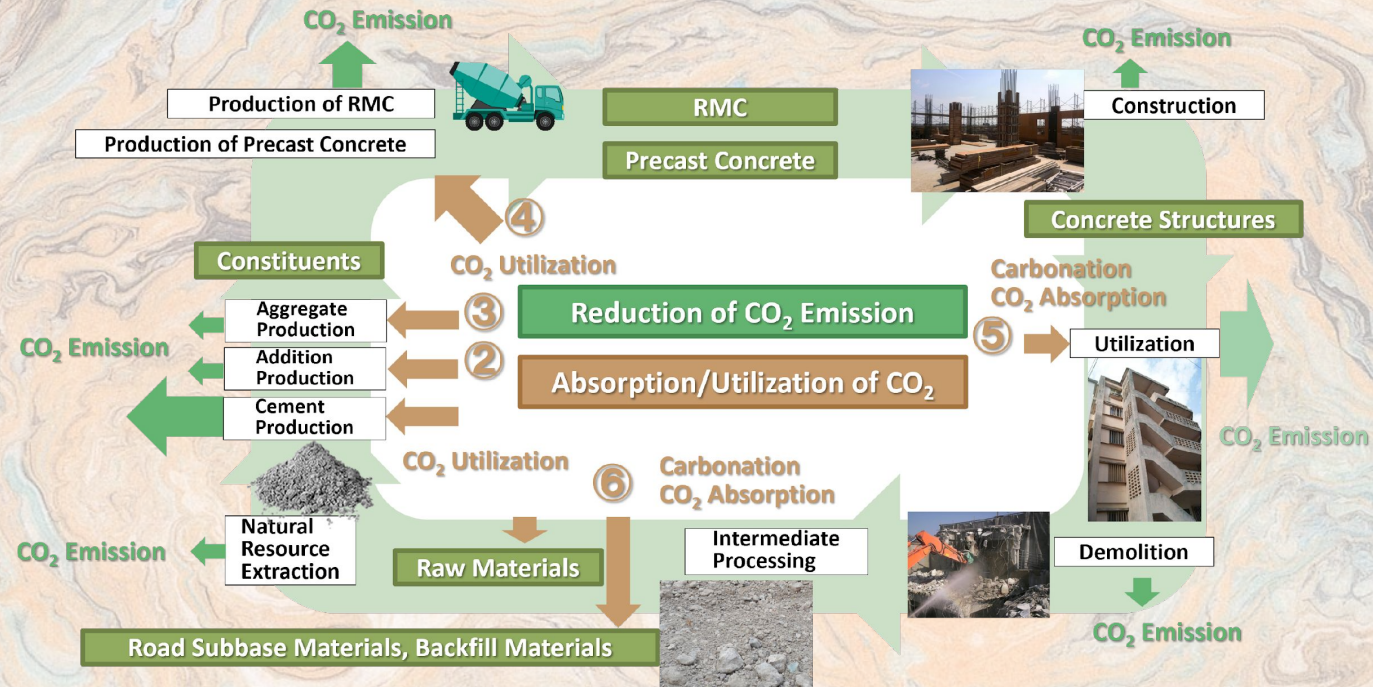




# Carbon neutrality in building construction

## Carbon mineralization with material balance

- **Sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub>** from the atmosphere and exhausted gases in building materials, especially concrete
  - **Carbonate utilization** as a concrete constituent and hardening by carbonation
- **Promotion of “white carbon”**



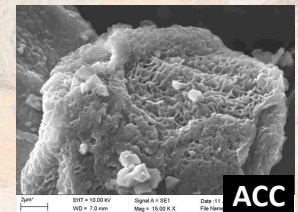
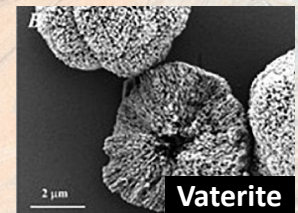
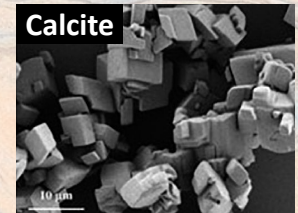
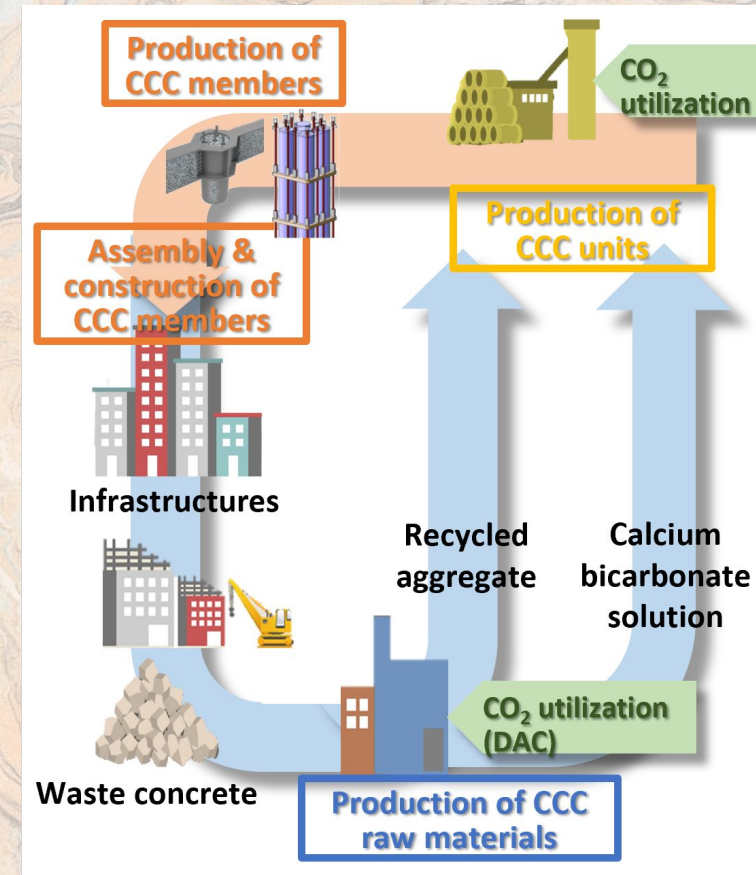


# Carbon neutrality in building construction

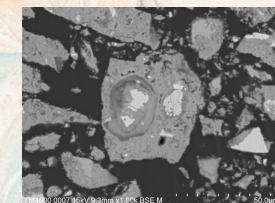
## *Control of crystal morphology of calcium carbonate*

- **Recombination** of separated Ca and CO<sub>2</sub>
  - **Transformation** of unstable calcium carbonate into stable calcium carbonate as a binder
- **Calcium carbonate circulation in construction**

### Moonshot Project



Ana M. Ferreira, Anna S. Vikulina, Dmitry Volodkin:  
Journal of Controlled Release, Vol.328, pp.470-489, 2020



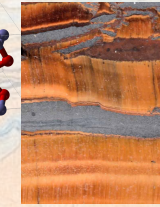
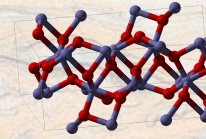


# Longevity of buildings

## Modelling for material deterioration into performance degradation

- ❑ **Scientific exploration** of phenomena (microscale to macroscale)
  - ❑ **Accelerated test** methods faithfully reproducing the natural environment
- **Accurate prediction of building service life**

### Chemical, biological, and electromagnetic actions



### Chemical degradation phenomena

Changes in chemical composition and leaching of building materials

### Mechanical action

Repeated freezing and expansion of internal moisture and frictional forces caused by walking and vehicle traffic

### Physical degradation phenomena

Surface abrasion and internal micro-damage of building materials

### Geometric degradation phenomena

Deformation and loss of building materials

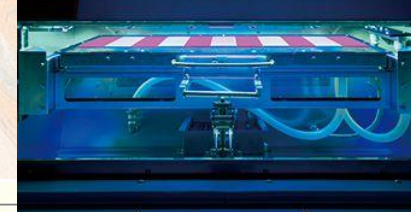
### Changes in physical properties

Decrease in strength and modulus of elasticity and increase in air and water permeability

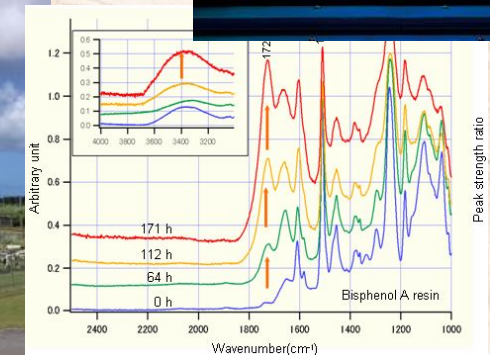
### Degradation of performance of building components

### Degradation of building performance → Limit state

### Accelerated test



### Natural environment





# Longevity of buildings

## *Conservation and preservation materials for modern heritage buildings*

- ❑ **Authenticity-conscious reversible** repair materials for reinforced concrete heritage buildings
  - ❑ Materials and technology maintaining **a sense of ruin**, i.e. stopping rebar corrosion as it is
- **Permanent preservation of reinforced concrete buildings**

Registered as a World Cultural Heritage in 2015

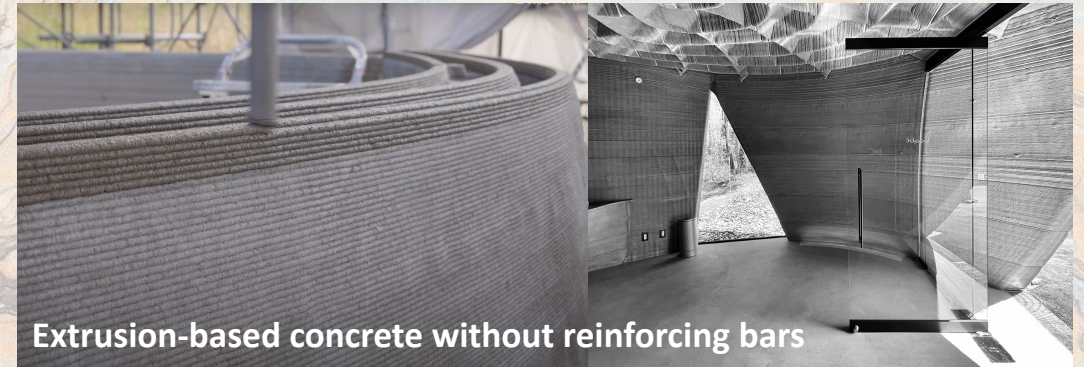




# Digital transformation in building construction and maintenance

## *Additive manufacturing materials*

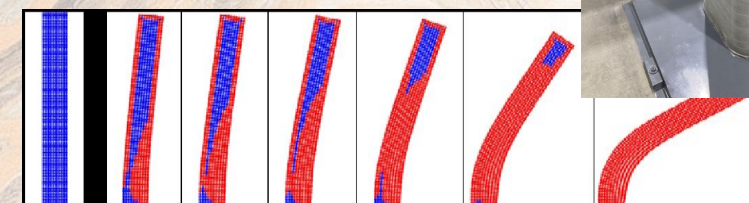
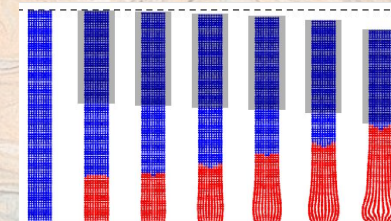
- ❑ Materials ensuring **buildability** without plastic collapse or buckling
  - ❑ **Computer simulation** on buildability
- **Breakaway from labor-intensive industries through automated construction and optimally shaped buildings**



[https://www.obayashi.co.jp/news/detail/news20230425\\_1.html#](https://www.obayashi.co.jp/news/detail/news20230425_1.html#)



<https://www.shimz.co.jp/company/about/news-release/2024/2023061.html>





# Digital transformation in building construction and maintenance

## Sensing & monitoring and NDT

- Materials responses to loads, forces and actions, e.g. stress, deformation, carbonation, etc.
- Micro-climate conditions, e.g. temperature, moisture, pH, etc.
- Materials properties, e.g. ultrasonic propagation speed, etc.

→ **Breakaway from labor-intensive industries and highly reliable construction & maintenance**

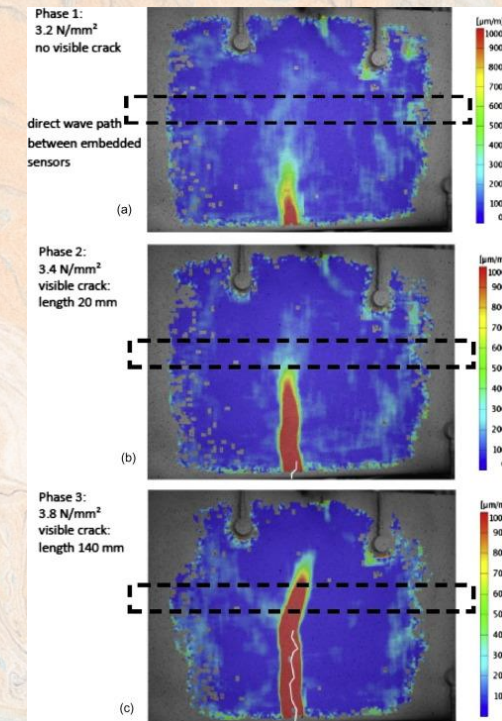
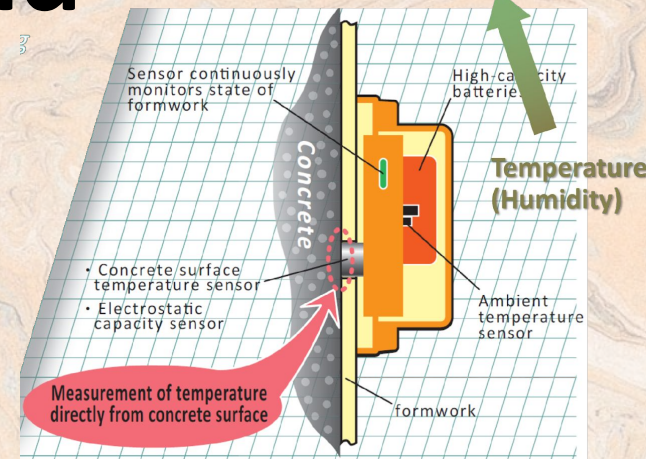


Equivalent age

$$t_e = \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta t_i \exp \left[ \frac{13.65}{273 + T(\Delta t_i) / T_0} \right]$$

Strength estimation

$$f_c(t_e) = \exp \left\{ s \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{28}{(t_e - s_f) / t_0} \right)^{1.2} \right] \right\} f_{c28}$$



<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0013794415004348>



# Other areas of interest

- *Biomimetics, biomimicry, bio-inspired and biophilic building materials*
- *Autonomous (self-healing, self-cleaning) building materials*
- *Material structure simulation by molecular dynamics*
- *Scientific approach for traditional vernacular building materials*

Super water-repellent formwork with a lotus leaf surface pattern



<https://www.shimz.co.jp/en/company/about/sit/topics/topics04/>

Adobe



Lacquer

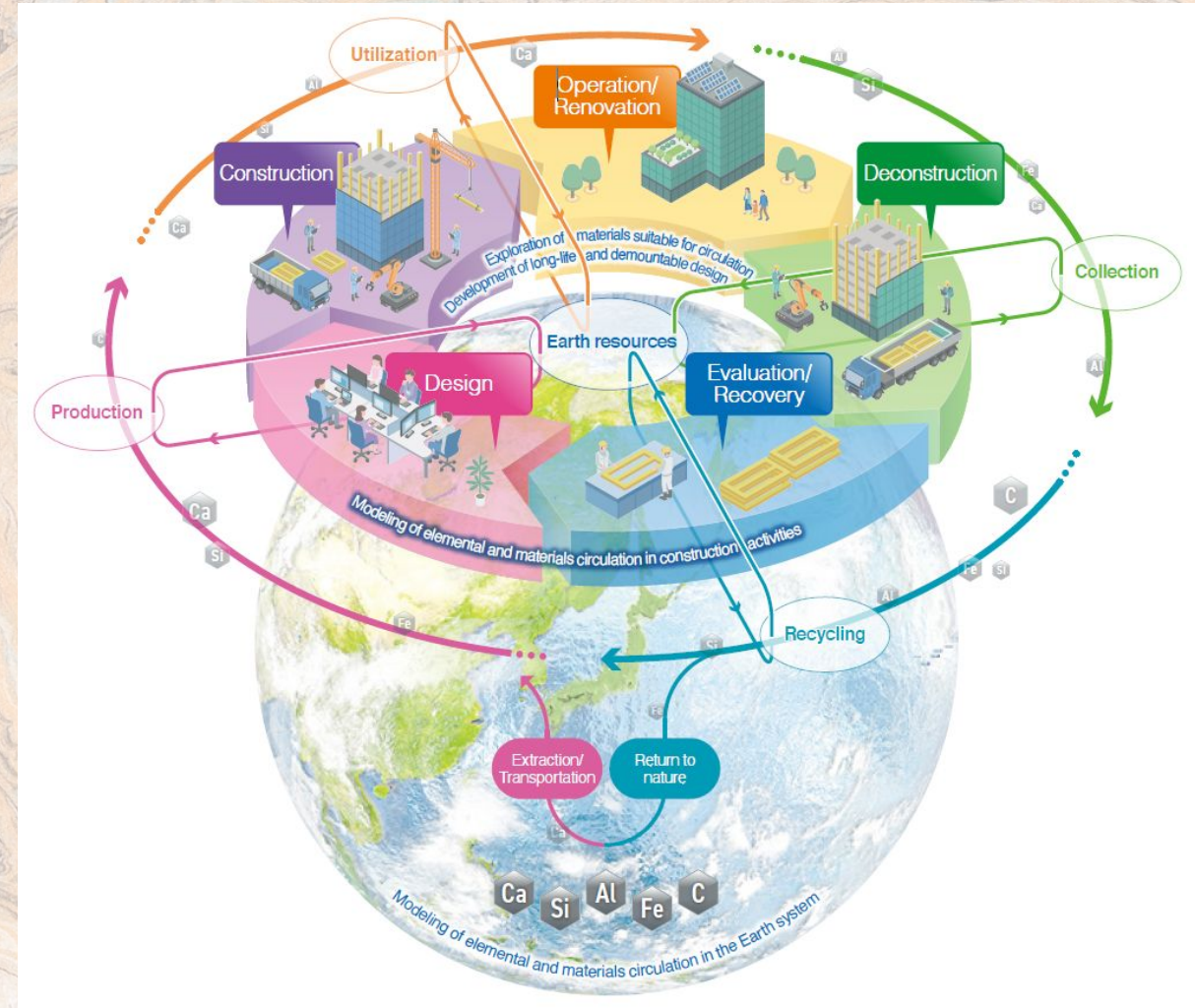




# What the construction field should be

- *Activities to the Earth*
- *Activities with the Earth*
- *Activities for the Earth*

*The circulation of building materials must be in affinity with, or isolated from, the circulation in the earth.*







It is hoped that in the near future, **joint research and development** on advanced materials between EU and Japan in the construction field will actually begin, leading to a **safer**, more **comfortable**, and more **economical** built environment.

*Thank you for your kind attention!*