Multiscale Model for Creep of Shotcrete - From Logarithmic-Type Viscous Behavior of CSH at the μm-Scale to Macroscopic Tunnel Analysis

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Abstract

A previously published multiscale model for early-age cement-based materials [Pichler et al. 2007. “A multiscale micromechanics model for the autogenous-shrinkage deformation of early-age cement-based materials.” Engineering Fracture Mechanics, 74, 34-58] is extended towards upscaling of viscoelastic properties. The obtained model links macroscopic behavior, i.e., creep compliance of concrete samples, to the composition of concrete at finer scales and the (supposedly) intrinsic material properties of distinct phases at these scales. Whereas finer-scale composition (and its history) is accessible through recently developed hydration models for the main clinker phases in ordinary Portland cement (OPC), viscous properties of the creep active constituent at finer scales, i.e., calcium-silicate-hydrates (CSH) are identified from macroscopic creep tests using the proposed multiscale model. The proposed multiscale model is assessed by different concrete creep tests reported in the open literature. Moreover, the model prediction is compared to empirical creep models, such as the so-called B3 model. Finally, the developed multiscale model is incorporated in the macroscopic analysis of shotcrete tunnel linings. Hereby, the early-age properties of shotcrete are specified by the presented multiscale model, taking mix design, cement characteristics, and on-site conditions into account.

1. Origin of creep of cement-based materials

Modeling of creep of cement-based materials and the identification of the underlying physical processes in the calcium-silicate-hydrates (CSH)¹ at finer observation scales remain intensively discussed topics within the scientific community. Bažant and coworkers (see, e.g., Bažant et al. (1997)) have developed the, to date, most widely used model for creep of early-age cement-based materials. According to Bažant et al. (1997), the source of creep is the relaxation of microprestress, which is generated as a reaction to the disjoining pressure in micropores (intra-hydrate pores). Increased stresses at these so-called creep sites increase the ease of bond breakage and, hence, increase the creep rate. Hereby, recently formed hydration products contain a high density of creep sites, whereas continuous microprestress relaxation reduces the creep potential of CSH.

Recently, Jennings pointed out that “... there are fundamental chemical and thermodynamic arguments against the idea that large internal stresses are formed during hydration. CSH forms under near-equilibrium conditions with respect to the aqueous phase, making it unlikely that high internal stresses that could act as creep sites would develop ...” (Thomas and Jennings 2006). Jennings and coworkers have developed a structural model for CSH at the nanometer-scale accounting for the colloidal nature of CSH. Hereby, CSH is described as an aggregation of precipitated, colloid-sized particles (Jennings 2000, 2004) with the “basic building blocks” (radius of 1.1 nm) aggregating into “spherical globules” (radius of 2.8 nm). The latter aggregate further into (i) low-density CSH (CSH-LD) or (ii) high-density CSH (CSH-HD), depending on w/c-ratio, age, and environmental conditions (Jennings 2000, 2004). According to Jennings (2004), the origin of viscous deformations is explained by the re-arrangement (dislocation) of globules under shear stress (or drying).

In both microscopic (Pichler and Lackner 2007) and macroscopic creep tests, a logarithmic-type behavior is encountered, i.e., the creep compliance is proportional to \( \ln(1 + t/\tau') \), where \( \tau' \) denotes the characteristic time of the creep process. According to Nabarro (2001), the two mechanisms leading to logarithmic creep in crystalline solids are either

- **work hardening**: dislocations move forward under the applied stress by overcoming potential barriers, while successively raising the height of the potential barriers or
- **exhaustion**: while neglecting work hardening, the barriers to dislocation motion do not have equal activation energies; those with relatively small activation energies are overcome faster than those with...
relatively large activation energies; if each barrier which is overcome contributes an equal increment of strain, the total strain increases linearly with the increasing activation energy, where the latter is a logarithmic function of time.

The mentioned dislocation-based mechanism is consistent with the creep mechanism proposed in Jennings (2004).

In this paper, the logarithmic-type creep behavior encountered during nanoindentation tests is transferred to the macroscale by developing a multiscale model for basic creep of early-age cement-based materials. With the multiscale model at hand, viscous properties of the creep-active constituent at finer scales, i.e., CSH, can be assessed by means of results from macroscopic creep tests. The focus of this paper is on the experimental identification of CSH creep properties suitable for multiscale modeling, avoiding speculative arguments on the physical/chemical processes associated with creep. Microstructural changes associated with creep such as, e.g., bond breakage take place at a far finer scale as investigated by nanoindentation. Thus, the employed constitutive law for CSH (μ-scale) represent these processes in a homogenized manner.

The paper is structured as follows: In Sections 2 and 3 the previously developed multiscale model (Pichler et al. 2007) and upscaling of elastic properties are reviewed. Section 4 deals with upscaling of the viscoelastic compliance. The presented upscaling scheme is used in Section 5 for determination of creep parameters of CSH through a top-down application of the multiscale model starting from macroscopic creep tests. Finally, the multiscale model is employed for determination of early-age properties of shotcrete in the context of a hybrid analysis of shotcrete tunnel linings (Section 6).

2. Proposed multiscale model

The multiscale model proposed in Pichler et al. (2007) for upscaling of viscoelastic properties and autogeneous-shrinkage of early-age cement-based materials comprises four length scales, which are identified as (see Fig. 1)[a]:

- Scale I comprises the four clinker phases, high-density CSH (CSH-HD) and low-density CSH (CSH-LD), and the water and air phase. The four clinker phases, which do not exhibit time-dependent behavior, are condensed into one material phase (Scale Ia). The constituents showing time-dependent behavior, on the other hand, are combined at Scale Ib-1, where CSH-HD is located in the space confined by the previously formed CSH-LD. At the porous CSH scale (Scale Ib-2), water and air are considered as inclusions in a matrix constituted by the homogenized material of Scale Ib-1.
- At Scale II (cement-paste scale), anhydrous cement (homogenized material of Scale Ia), gypsum CSHH, portlandite CH, and reaction products from C3A and C3AF hydration form inclusions in a matrix constituted by the homogenized material of Scale Ib-2.
- At Scale III (mortar or concrete scale), aggregates are represented as inclusions in the cement paste (homogenized material of Scale II). In addition to aggregates and cement paste, the interface transition zone (ITZ) may be introduced at Scale II. Since the ITZ mainly influences strength and transport properties of concrete rather than viscous deformations, it is not considered in the present model.
- Finally, at Scale IV (macroscale), concrete is treated as a continuum.

In order to determine the volume fractions of the different phases in the respective RVEs, the following set of stoichiometric reactions is employed for the four main clinker phases of ordinary Portland cement (OPC) (Tennis and Jennings 2000):

\[ \text{Eqs. (4) to (6) describe the formation of calcium alumin-} \]

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[a] Morphological investigations at lower scales of observation can be found in, e.g., Bentz (1997) [anhydrous cement], Diamond (2004) [cement paste], and Neubauer and Jennings (2000) [CSH].

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Fig. 1 Scales of observation for upscaling of properties of cement-based materials [ℓ = size of representative volume element (RVE)].
nate hydrates from C₃A in the presence of gypsum, which is added to prevent rapid setting of C₃A.

The hydration extent is described by the degree of hydration of the clinker phases, χₜ, with x ∈ {C₃S, C₂S, C₄AF}. A recently developed (Bernard et al. 2003) and refined (Pichler 2007) kinetics model is used to determine the hydration history χₜ(t). Input parameters for the kinetics model comprise the Blaine (grinding) fineness ø of the employed Portland cement, the medium initial radius of the clinker grains R, the mass fractions of the clinker phases, and the water/cement-ratio w/c. Based on the stoichiometric reactions given in Eqs. (1) to (6), and the molar masses M and densities ρ of the different material phases (see, e.g., Tennis and Jennings (2000)), the volume fractions of the different phases at the cement-paste scale can be determined as a function of the hydration degrees ξᵢ and the mass fractions of the clinker phases mᵢ. This is shown exemplarily for the volume fraction of C₃S₃₂H₈ appearing in Eqs. (1) and (2):

\[
f_{C₃S₃₂H₈}(t) = \left[ \xi_{C₃S₃₂H₈}(t) \frac{m_{C₃S₃₂H₈}}{M_{C₃S₃₂H₈}} \frac{0.5M_{C₃S₃₂H₈}}{ρ_{C₃S₃₂H₈}} \right] \bar{ρ}
\]

with

\[
\bar{ρ} = \frac{1}{\sum_i \frac{m_i}{ρ_i} \sum_s w/c}
\]

The overall degree of hydration, χ, is computed as

\[
\chi = \frac{\sum_i m_i \xi_i}{\sum_i m_i}
\]

where x ∈ {C₃S, C₂S, C₃A, C₄AF, CSH₂} and mᵢ representing the mass fractions of the four clinker phases and gypsum. Hereby, ξᵢ[SH₂] is linearly coupled to ξᵢ[A] [see Eq. (4)]. Figure 2 shows the evolution of the volume fractions at the cement-paste scale as a function of χ for shotcrete with a w/c of 0.48 (see Appendix 2(a)).

3. Upscaling of elastic properties

The four length scales introduced in the previous section obey the separability of scale condition, i.e., they are separated one from each other by at least one order of magnitude. With volume fractions of the different phases at the respective observation scales at hand, continuum micromechanics is employed to estimate effective elastic properties. For homogenization at Scale 1a, the self-consistent (SC) scheme, suitable for a polycrystalline microstructure, is used (Kroener 1958; Hershey 1954). During homogenization at Scales 1b to III, the matrix-inclusion type morphology is taken into account by the Mori-Tanaka scheme (MT) (Mori and Tanaka 1973). Homogenization schemes based on continuum micromechanics consider a representative volume element (RVE) subjected to a homogeneous strain E at its boundary. These schemes depart from the definition of the so-called strain-localization tensor A linking the effective strain tensor E with the local strain tensor ε at the location x:

\[
ε(x) = A(x) : E
\]

The effective strain tensor E represents the volume average of the local strain tensor ε:

\[
E = \langle ε(x) \rangle = \frac{1}{V} \int_V ε(x) dV
\]

Inserting Eq. (10) into Eq. (11), one gets E = \langle A(x) \rangle : E and, thus, \langle A(x) \rangle = I. Considering an ellipsoid-soidal inclusion i embedded in a reference medium characterized by the material tensor \(c_i\), the strain-localization tensor A within the domain i is constant and given by (Eshelby 1957)

\[
A_i = \left[ \sum_i f_i \left( I + S_i : \left( c_0^{-1} - c_i - I \right) \right)^{-1} \right]^{-1}
\]

with \(c_i\) as the material tensor of the inclusion i and \(c_0\) as the material tensor of the reference medium. \(S_i\) denotes the Eshelby tensor, conditioned by the geometric properties of the inclusion and the elastic properties of the reference medium.

The volume average of the local stress tensor \(σ(x)\) determines the effective stress tensor \(Σ\):

\[
Σ = \langle σ(x) \rangle = \frac{1}{V} \int_V σ(x) dV
\]
Considering a linear-elastic constitutive law for the \( r \)-th material phase, linking the local strain tensor with the local stress tensor,

\[
\sigma_i(x) = c_{r,s} : \varepsilon_i(x) \tag{14}
\]

and Eq. (10) in Eq. (13) one gets

\[
\Sigma = \{c(x) : \mathbf{A}(x)\}_v : \mathbf{E} \tag{15}
\]

Comparison with \( \Sigma = C_{eff} : \mathbf{E} \) gives access to the effective material tensor \( C_{eff} : \)

\[
C_{eff} = \{c(x) : \mathbf{A}(x)\}_v \tag{16}
\]

Considering the morphology of the composite material, the unknown strain localization tensor \( \mathbf{A} \), which so far is available for a single inclusion [Eq. (12)], can be estimated based on the choice of \( c_0 \): 

- In case the microstructure is characterized by a distinct matrix/inclusion-type morphology, \( c_0 \) is set equal to the material tensor of the matrix material \( c_m \). This estimation leads to the Mori-Tanaka (MT) scheme (Mori and Tanaka 1973).
- For a polycrystalline microstructure, i.e., the material phases are equally dispersed, and none of them forms a matrix, \( c_0 \) is replaced by the effective material tensor \( C_{eff} \). The obtained implicit method is referred to as self-consistent (SC) scheme (Hershey 1954; Kroener 1958).

Using

\[
\langle \mathbf{A}(x) \rangle_v = \frac{V}{V_0} \left[ \frac{\mathbf{A}(x)}{c_i} \right]_v + \frac{V_0}{V} \left[ \frac{\mathbf{A}(x)}{c_i} \right] = I + f_0 \mathbf{A}_i \tag{17}
\]

where \( \left[ \mathbf{A}(x) \right]_v = \mathbf{A}_i = \text{const.} \) was used and \( f_i \) and \( f_0 \) denote the volume fractions of the inclusion and reference medium, respectively, and Eq. (12), one gets the volume average of the localization tensor over the reference medium as \(^A3^3\)

\[^{A3}\text{Levin’s theorem states that the effective state equation is of the same form as the local state equation (Zaoui 1997).}\]

\[
f_0 \left[ \mathbf{A}(x) \right]_v = \{I - f_i [\mathbf{c}]^{-1} \} \cdot \{\bullet\}^{-1}
= \{\bullet\}^{-1} \cdot \{I - f_i [\mathbf{c}]^{-1}\}^{-1} \cdot \{\bullet\}^{-1}
= \{\bullet\}^{-1} \cdot \{I - f_i [\mathbf{c}]^{-1}\}^{-1} \cdot \{\bullet\}^{-1}
= \{f_0 [I + \mathbf{S}_r : (c_0^{-1} : c_i - I)]^{-1}
+ f_i [\mathbf{c}]^{-1} - f_i [\mathbf{c}]^{-1} \} \cdot \{\bullet\}^{-1}
= f_0 \{\bullet\}^{-1}
\]

with the abbreviations

\[
\{\bullet\} = \left\{ \sum_{i \neq 0} \int dS, \left[ (c_0^{-1} : c_i - I) \right]^{-1} \right\}
\]

and

\[
[\mathbf{c}] = \left[ I + \mathbf{S}_r : (c_0^{-1} : c_i - I) \right]^{-1}
\]

\[
\langle \mathbf{A}(x) \rangle_v = \left\{ \sum_{i \neq 0} \int dS, \left[ (c_0^{-1} : c_i - I) \right]^{-1} \right\}^{-1} \tag{19}
\]

Considering Eqs. (19) and (12) in Eq. (16) one gets access to the effective material tensor

\[
C_{eff} = f_0 c_0 : \{A(x)\}_v + f_i c_i : \mathbf{A}_i
= \left\{ \sum_{r \in \{\text{matrix material} = \text{reference medium} 0, \text{inclusion } 1, \text{inclusion } 2, \ldots \} }\right. r_{eff} \left[ I + \mathbf{S}_r : (c_0^{-1} : c_i - I) \right]^{-1}
\tag{20}
\]

Eq. (20) can be extended to multiple types of inclusions, reading

\[
\begin{align*}
C_{eff} &= \left\{ \sum_{r} f_r c_r : \left[ I + \mathbf{S}_r : (c_0^{-1} : c_i - I) \right]^{-1} \right\}:
\left\{ \sum_{r} f_r \left[ I + \mathbf{S}_r : (c_0^{-1} : c_i - I) \right]^{-1} \right\}^{-1}
\end{align*}
\tag{21}
\]

with \( r \in \{\text{matrix material} = \text{reference medium 0, inclusion 1, inclusion 2, ...} \} \) for the case of the MT scheme and \( r \in \{\text{material phases} \} \) in case of the SC scheme with the material tensor of the reference medium \( c_0 \) set equal to the effective material tensor \( C_{eff} \). In the following, Eq. (21) is specialized for the application to cement-based materials, characterized by isotropic material behavior. Thus, Eq. (21) can be reduced to the specification of the effective shear and bulk modulus, \( \mu_{eff} \) and \( k_{eff} \), respectively:

- For the SC scheme,

\[
\mu_{eff} = \frac{\sum r f_r \left[ 1 + \alpha \left( \frac{k_r}{k_{eff}} - 1 \right) \right]^{-1}}{\sum r f_r \left[ 1 + \alpha \right]^{-1}}
\tag{22}
\]

and

\[
k_{eff} = \frac{\sum r f_r \left[ 1 + \alpha \left( \frac{k_r}{k_{eff}} - 1 \right) \right]^{-1}}{\sum r f_r \left[ 1 + \alpha \right]^{-1}}
\]

where \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \) represent the volumetric and deviatoric part of the Eshelby tensor \( \mathbf{S} \) specialized for spherical inclusions, reading

\[
\alpha = \frac{3k_{eff}}{3k_{eff} + 4\mu_{eff}} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta = \frac{6(k_{eff} + 2\mu_{eff})}{5(3k_{eff} + 4\mu_{eff})}
\tag{23}
\]
For the MT scheme,
\[
\mu_{eff} = \sum_r f_r \mu_r \left[1 + \beta \left(\frac{\mu_r}{\mu_m} - 1\right)\right]^{-1}
\]
and
\[
k_{eff} = \sum_r f_r k_r \left[1 + \alpha \left(\frac{k_r}{k_m} - 1\right)\right]^{-1}
\]
with
\[
\alpha = \frac{3k_m}{3k_m + 4\mu_m} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta = \frac{6(k_m + 2\mu_m)}{5(3k_m + 4\mu_m)}
\]

Applying the SC scheme to Scale Ia, the different material phases are given by \( r \in \{ \text{clinker phases } C_3S, C_2S, C_3A, C_4AF \} \). The MT scheme is applied at Scales Ib.1, Ib.2, II, and III with the material phases given by \( r \in \{ \text{matrix material } m \text{ and multiple inclusions, such as, e.g., } \text{water and air at Scale Ib.2} \} \). In Eqs. (24) and (25), the material matrix \( m \) is represented by low-density CSH at Scale Ib.1, the homogenized material determined at Scale Ib.1 at Scale Ib.2, the homogenized material determined at Scale Ib.2 at Scale II, and the homogenized material determined at Scale II at Scale III. Figure 3 shows a comparison of the elastic properties predicted by the multiscale model and test results for shotcrete, using the finer-scale input listed in Appendix 2(a)). Hereby, the effective Poisson’s ratio, \( \nu_{eff} \), is continuously decreasing in case the bulk modulus of water is set to \( k_w = 2.3 \text{ GPa} \), starting from an initial value of 0.5. For \( k_w = 0 \), on the other hand, \( \nu_{eff} \) is continuously increasing (see Fig. 4).

4. Upscaling of creep properties

Viscous material response is characterized by (i) an increase of deformation during constant loading (creep) and (ii) a decrease of stress for constraint deformation (relaxation). The viscous response is commonly described by the creep compliance \( J [\text{Pa}^{-1}] \) and the relaxation modulus \( R [\text{Pa}] \), both dependent on time. The creep compliance associated with uniaxial loading is determined as
\[
J(t) = \frac{\varepsilon(t)}{\sigma_0}
\]
with \( \varepsilon(t) \) denoting the measured strain, and \( \sigma_0 \) representing the applied constant stress. The relaxation modulus, on the other hand, is determined from the measured stress decrease \( \sigma(t) \) in consequence of a constant strain \( \varepsilon_0 \) as
\[
R(t) = \frac{\sigma(t)}{\varepsilon_0}
\]

Introducing the Boltzmann convolution integral, Eqs. (26) and (27) can be expanded towards variable (non-constant) stress or strain histories, respectively:
\[
\varepsilon(t) = \int_0^t J(t - \tau) \frac{\partial \sigma(\tau)}{\partial \tau} d\tau \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma(t) = \int_0^t R(t - \tau) \frac{\partial \varepsilon(\tau)}{\partial \tau} d\tau
\]
where \( \tau \) denotes the time instant of loading. Applying the Laplace transform\(^{\ast 5}\) to Eqs. (28) gives
\[
\hat{\varepsilon}(p) = p \hat{J}(p) \hat{\sigma}(p) \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\sigma}(p) = p \hat{R}(p) \hat{\varepsilon}(p),
\]
with \( p \hat{J}(p) = \frac{1}{p \hat{R}(p)} \)
considering that the Laplace transform of the convolution integral becomes a multiplication and $\frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t}$ turns into $p \hat{\varepsilon}$. Considering the definition of the Laplace-Carson transformation as $f^* = p \hat{f}$ in Eqs. (32) yields

$$\varepsilon^* (p) = J^* (p) \sigma^* (p) \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma^* (p) = R^* (p) \varepsilon^* (p),$$

with $J^* (p) = \frac{1}{R^* (p)}$ (33)

The analogous form of $\sigma^* = R^* \varepsilon$ in Eq. (33) and the elastic constitutive law $\sigma = E \varepsilon$ is the basis for the “correspondence principle” (Lee 1955; Mandel 1966; Laws and McLaughlin 1978). According to this principle, viscoelastic problems are solved using the respective solution of the elastic problem in the Laplace-Carson domain.

The Laplace-Carson transform method (Lee 1955) for the solution of linear viscoelastic boundary value problems (BVPs) is characterized by the elimination of the time dependence by applying the Laplace-Carson transform to the field equation (which contains the time dependent moduli) as well as the boundary conditions, and solving the “corresponding” elastic problem in the Laplace-Carson domain. The application of the Laplace-Carson transform method is restricted to BVPs with the location of the boundary conditions in tractions and displacements fixed in time. Hence, the method can be adopted for derivation of viscoelastic homogenization schemes, which are based on an inclusion embedded in an (infinite) matrix with homogeneous boundary conditions as it is the case in the framework of continuum micromechanics. Applying this method, the elastic material parameters, e.g., the shear compliance $J^\text{dev} = 1/\mu$, where $\mu$ is the shear modulus, are replaced by the Laplace-Carson transform of the respective viscoelastic material parameters, e.g., the Laplace-Carson transform of the creep compliance associated with deviatoric creep $J^\text{dev}$. The solution of the viscoelastic problem in the time domain is obtained by inverse Laplace-Carson transformation. E.g., application of the correspondence principle to the MT scheme introduced for upscaling of elastic properties in Section 3 gives access to the effective creep compliance of matrix-inclusion type composites (see, e.g., Beurthey and Zaoui (2000) for an application of the correspondence principle to the self-consistent scheme).

As outlined in the Section 1, viscoelastic behavior of cement-based materials originates from dislocation-like processes within CSH. Hence, as for homogenization at Scale Ib-2, viscoelastic material behavior is assigned to the matrix material (CSH), while the inclusions (water, air) exhibit elastic deformations only. Motivated by the macroscopic observation that, after a period of rapid decrease, the compliance rate of cement-based materials follows $J \sim 1/t$ (Ulm et al. 1999) (see, e.g., experimental results in Acker and Ulm (2001)), a logarithmic-type deviatoric creep law is employed to describe creep of CSH:

$$J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} (t - \tau) = \frac{1}{\mu_{\text{CSH}}} + J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \exp \left[ \frac{p \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}}}{c} \right] \Gamma \left[ \frac{t - \tau}{\tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}}} \right] (34)$$

Volumetric creep of CSH, on the other hand, is omitted. In addition to observations at the macroscale, this type of creep law was also found at the $\mu$m-scale of observation by means of nanoindentation tests (Pichler and Lackner 2007).

The Laplace-Carson transform of the deviatoric creep compliance of CSH given in Eq. (34) reads

$$J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} = \mathcal{L}[J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} (t - \tau)] = \frac{1}{\mu_{\text{CSH}}} + J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \exp \left[ \frac{p \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}}}{c} \right] \Gamma \left[ \frac{t - \tau}{\tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}}} \right] (35)$$

with $\Gamma$ denoting the incomplete gamma-function. Applying the correspondence principle to the effective creep compliance obtained by the MT scheme (Eq. (24.1)), the Laplace-Carson transform of the effective deviatoric creep compliance at Scale Ib.2 is obtained as

$$J^\text{dev}_{\text{eff}} = \sum f_r \left[ 1 + \beta \left( \frac{J^\text{dev}_{\text{m}}}{J^\text{dev}_{\text{m}}} - 1 \right) \right]^{-1} (37)$$

with $r \in \{ m = \text{CSH, air, water} \}$. In Eqs. (37),

$$\Gamma [a, z] = \int_z^{\infty} t^{a-1} e^{-t} dt (36)$$

55 Whereas the Laplace transformation of $f(t)$ is defined as

$$\mathcal{L}[f(t)] = \hat{f}(p) = \int_0^\infty f(t) e^{-pt} dt \quad (29)$$

with $p$ as the complex variable, the Laplace-Carson transformation of $f(t)$ is given as

$$\mathcal{L}[f(t)] = f^* (p) = p \int_0^\infty f(t) e^{-pt} dt \quad (30)$$

Hence, $f^* (p) = p \hat{f} (p)$. The inverse Laplace-Carson transformation is defined in the complex plane as

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}[f^* (p)] = f(t) = \left[ 2i\pi \int_\Omega f^* (p) e^{pt} dp \right]$$

where $\Omega$ is a parallel to the imaginary axis having all poles of $f^* (p)$ to the left.

56 Hence, this method is restricted to BVPs with boundary conditions admitting such an operation.
\[ \beta^* = \frac{6(1/J_m^{vol} + 2/J_m^{dev})}{5(3/J_m^{vol} + 4/J_m^{dev})} \]  

represents the deviatoric part of the (Laplace-Carson transformed) Eshelby tensor specialized for spherical inclusions. In Eqs. (37) and (38), \( J_m^{vol} = 1/\mu \) and \( J_m^{dev} = 1/k_m \) for the case of elastic material response. Inserting Eq. (35) into Eq. (37) and performing the inverse Laplace-Carson transformation gives access to the effective deviatoric creep compliance, \( J_{dev}^{vol}(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[J_{dev}^{vol} \tau_0] \). Hereby, the inverse transformation was performed in a pointwise manner (for discrete values of \( t > 0 \)) by applying the Gaver-Stehfest algorithm (Stehfest 1970). Imposing an affine form of the creep compliance of CSH, \( J_{CSH}^{dev} \) [see Eq. (34)], and the effective creep compliance, \( J_{eff}^{dev}(t) \), respectively, the discrete points from inverse transformation are approximated by

\[ J_{eff}^{dev}(t) = \frac{1}{\mu_{eff}} \xi(\tau) + J_{dev}^{vol}[\xi(\tau)]\ln\left[1 + \frac{t - \tau}{\tau_{dev}^{eff}[\xi(\tau)]}\right] \tag{39} \]

giving access to the effective creep parameters \( J_{dev}^{vol}[\xi(\tau)] \) and \( \tau_{dev}^{eff}[\xi(\tau)] \) [see Fig. 5(a)]. In Eq. (39), \( \mu_{eff}[\xi(\tau)] \) is the effective shear modulus determined according to Eq. (24.1). Examining the volumetric part of the Eshelby tensor specialized for spherical inclusions, with

\[ \alpha^* = \frac{3/J_m^{vol} + 4/J_m^{dev}}{J_m^{vol} + 2/J_m^{dev}} \tag{40} \]

deviatoric creep in the matrix material (CSH) triggers (effective) volumetric creep deformations at Scale Ib2. The Laplace-Carson transform of the effective volumetric creep compliance is obtained as

\[ J_{eff}^{vol} = \frac{\sum_r f_r \left[1 + \alpha^* \left(J_{vol}^{rat\tau} - 1\right)\right]^{-1}}{\sum_r f_r J_{vol}^{rat\tau} \left[1 + \alpha^* \left(J_{vol}^{rat\tau} - 1\right)\right]^{-1}} \tag{41} \]

with \( r \in \{m, air, water\} \),

where \( J_m^{vol} = 1/k_m \) for the case of elastic material response. After applying the inverse Laplace-Carson transformation (Stehfest 1970) to Eq. (41), the discrete points were approximated by

\[ J_{eff}^{vol}(t) = \frac{1}{k_{eff} \xi(\tau)} + J_{vol}^{rat\tau}[\xi(\tau)]\ln\left[1 + \frac{t - \tau}{\tau_{vol}^{eff}[\xi(\tau)]}\right] \tag{42} \]

[see Fig. 5(b)]. Hereby, \( k_{eff}[\xi(\tau)] \) is the effective bulk modulus determined according to Eq. (24.2). The effective creep parameters \( J_{eff}^{vol}[\xi(\tau)] \), \( J_{eff}^{rat\tau}[\xi(\tau)] \), \( J_{vol}^{dev}[\xi(\tau)] \), and \( \tau_{vol}^{eff}[\xi(\tau)] \) [see Eqs. (39) and (42)] define the matrix behavior at the next higher scale of observation (Scale II). At this scale, the homogenization procedure described above [Eqs. (37) to (42)] is applied accordingly, with the material phases \( r \in \{matrix \ m \} \) as the effective material determined at Scale Ib2; inclusions: anhydrous cement, gypsum, monosulfate, ettringite, portlandite, C(A,F)Hx. The effective creep parameters determined at Scale II serve as input for material matrix at Scale III, where the material phases \( r \in \{matrix \ m \} \) and aggregates and the homogenization procedure is applied once more. Hereby, inverse Laplace-Carson transformation is performed, equally to Scale Ib2, in a point-wise manner, with subsequent approximation according to Eqs. (39) and (42) (see Fig. 6). Figure 7 illustrates the described upscaling procedure for the shotcrete already considered in Fig. 4 (see in Appendix 2(a)), giving access to the effective creep parameters \( J_{eff}^{dev}(\xi) \), \( J_{eff}^{vol}(\xi) \), \( \tau_{dev}^{eff}(\xi) \), and \( \tau_{vol}^{eff}(\xi) \).

Early-age cement-based materials are characterized by a continuously changing microstructure, i.e., the volume fractions of the material phases at the respective scale of observation change with the hydration extent. At Scale Ib2, e.g., the volume fraction of creep-active CSH increases, while the water fraction is continuously decreasing. The dependence of the creep parameters on the
In Eq. (44), giving the viscous part of the strain tensor in the form Eq. (28) in terms of the creep-compliance rate according to 
hydration extent and, thus, on the time is considered by the
reformulation of the Boltzmann convolution integral Eq. (28) in terms of the creep-compliance rate $\dot{\gamma}$, giving the viscous part of the strain tensor in the form
$$\dot{\mathbf{e}}^v(t) = \int_0^t \int_{\tau}^{\tau + \epsilon^v(t)} \hat{\dot{\mathbf{e}}}^v \left( \hat{\mathbf{e}}^v(t) \right) \mathbf{d} \tau \mathbf{d} \epsilon$$
where $\hat{\dot{\mathbf{e}}}^v$ denotes the aging creep-compliance rate, with
$$\hat{\dot{\mathbf{e}}}^v \left( \hat{\mathbf{e}}^v(t) \right) = \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{I} \left[ \mathbf{J}_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{dev}} \right] \left[ \hat{\mathbf{e}}^v(t) \right] = \mathbf{I} \left( \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{J}_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{vol}} \left[ \hat{\mathbf{e}}^v(t) \right] \right)$$
and
$$\mathbf{I} \left( \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{J}_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{dev}} \left[ \hat{\mathbf{e}}^v(t) \right] \right) = \mathbf{I} \left( \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{J}_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{vol}} \left[ \hat{\mathbf{e}}^v(t) \right] \right)$$
In Eq. (44), $\mathbf{I}^{\text{vol}}$ and $\mathbf{I}^{\text{dev}}$ are defined as
$$\mathbf{I}^{\text{vol}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
and
$$\mathbf{I}^{\text{dev}} = \begin{bmatrix} 2/3 & -1/3 & -1/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1/3 & 2/3 & -1/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1/3 & -1/3 & 2/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Figure 8 compares the non-aging creep-compliance rate $\mathbf{I}^{\text{vol}}$ with the aging creep-compliance rate according to Eq. (44) for uniaxial loading and different time instants of loading $\tau$, corresponding to $\xi(\tau) = 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, \text{ and } 0.8$.

During hydration of concrete, new hydration products are formed in a state free of microstress (Bazant 1979), and loaded exclusively by stresses applied after formation. This situation is accounted for by an incremental stress-strain law for the elastic part of the strain reading
$$d\mathbf{e}^v(t) = \mathbf{C}^{-1} \left[ \mathbf{I}^{\text{vol}} \right] \left[ \xi(\tau) \right] : d\mathbf{\sigma}(t)$$
$$= \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{I}^{\text{vol}} \left[ \mathbf{J}_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{vol}} \left[ \xi(\tau) \right] \right] : d\mathbf{\sigma}(t)$$
$$+ \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{I}^{\text{dev}} \left[ \mathbf{J}_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{dev}} \left[ \xi(\tau) \right] \right] : d\mathbf{\sigma}(t)$$
giving the total strain tensor as
$$\mathbf{e}(t) = \mathbf{e}^v(t) + \mathbf{e}^\epsilon(t)$$
$$= \int_0^t \left[ \mathbf{C}^{-1} \left[ \xi(\tau) \right] + \int_0^\tau \mathbf{J}_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{vol}} \left[ \xi(\tau) \right] \mathbf{d} \tau \right] : \mathbf{d} \mathbf{\sigma}(t)$$

The non-aging creep-compliance rate is determined (for sake of comparison) as
$$\hat{\dot{\mathbf{e}}}^{\text{non-aging}} \left( \tau - \tau \right) = \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{I}^{\text{vol}} \mathbf{J}_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{vol}} \left( \tau - \tau \right)$$
$$+ \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{I}^{\text{dev}} \mathbf{J}_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{dev}} \left( \tau - \tau \right)$$
where $\tau$ is the time instant of loading.
5. Identification of creep parameters

5.1 Identification of \( J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \) and \( \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \)

In order to determine the intrinsic creep parameters of CSH, \( J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \) and \( \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \), macroscopic creep tests are used in conjunction with the described multiscale model. For this purpose, a top-down application of the presented multiscale model is applied by adapting the finer-scale input parameters aiming at a correct prediction of the macroscopic creep data. Figure 9 shows the time-dependent part of the employed deviatoric creep compliance for CSH, \( J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \ln[1 + (t - \tau) / \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}}] \) [see Eq. (34)] for different time instants of loading \( \tau \) given by \( \tau / \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \). Taking the derivative of Eq. (34), giving

\[
J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} = \frac{J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}}}{1 - \tau / \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}}}
\]

and specializing Eq. (50) for \( (t - \tau) \gg \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \) gives access to the long-term asymptote of the creep-compliance rate as

\[
J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \mid_{(t-\tau)\gg\tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}}} = \frac{J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}}}{1 - \tau / \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}}}
\]

Hence, the long-term creep-compliance rate is solely controlled by \( J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \), while the short-term creep-compliance rate is controlled by both parameters, with

\[
J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \mid_{(t-\tau)=0} = \frac{J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}}}{\tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}}}
\]

Accordingly, \( J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \) may be adapted in order to fit the long-term response of macroscopic test data, while \( \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \) is adjusted to match the creep-compliance rate directly after application of the load. Experimental results given in Hummel et al. (1962) and Athrushi (2003) are employed to identify \( J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \) and \( \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \). Whereas the best agreement between multiscale model and experimental data reported in Hummel et al. (1962) is obtained for \( J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} = 0.175 \text{ GPa}^{-1} \) and \( \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} = 3 \text{ h} \), \( J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} = 0.105 \text{ GPa}^{-1} \) and \( \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} = 3/4 \text{ h} \) give the best agreement when using experimental data from Athrushi (2003) [see Pichler (2007)].

5.2 Discussion

The variation of \( J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \) highlighted in the previous section may be explained by the different environmental conditions present at the creep tests. Whereas both test series were conducted under isothermal conditions (\( T=20^\circ\text{C} \)), the specimens tested in Hummel et al. (1962) were subjected to a relative humidity \( h \) of 100% for the age <7d and \( h = 65\% \) for an age >7 d. The tests reported in Athrushi (2003), on the other hand, are characterized by \( h = 50\% \). Hence, the larger the humidity \( h \), the larger \( J^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \) and, consequently, the larger the macroscopically-observed long-term compliance rate. The variation in the identified values for \( \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \) suggests a dependence of \( \tau^\text{dev}_{\text{CSH}} \) on the degree of hydration. According to Ruetz
(1966); Wittmann (1982); Ulm (1998), the short-term creep behavior is associated with stress-induced microdiffusion of water in the capillary pores. Hereby, the underlying diffusion process may depend on the capillary depression \( p_\text{c} \) and the permeability of the solid skeleton, both of them depending on the hydration extent. Based on the determination of capillary depression in the water phase \( \xi \) (Pichler et al., 2007), a dependence of \( \tau_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{dev}} \) on the hydration extent is proposed as

\[
\tau_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{dev}}(\xi) = \frac{\tau_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{dev}}}{p_\text{c}(h_\text{exp})}
\]

(53)

with \( p_\text{c}(h_\text{exp}) \) as the capillary depression related to the relative humidity \( h_\text{exp} \) of the medium surrounding the sample during the experiment via Kelvin’s equation\(^8\).

The best agreement between the creep compliance predicted by the multiscale model and experimental data (Hummel et al., 1962; Athrusi, 2003) was found when setting \( \tau_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{dev}}=4 \) d in Eq. (53), with \( h_\text{exp}=0.65 \) for the experiments given in Hummel et al. (1962) and \( h_\text{exp}=0.5 \) characterizing the experimental results given in Athrusi (2003).

The uniaxial creep tests given in Laplante (1993) have frequently been used to calibrate macroscopic creep formulations (see, e.g., Sercombe et al., 2000; Cervera et al., 1999). These tests are characterized by \( h_\text{exp}=50\% \), with the input parameters for the multiscale model being summarized in Appendix 2(b). When using parts of the data sets reported in Hummel et al. (1962); Athrusi (2003); Laplante (1993) characterized by a certain w/c-ratio for top-down identification of \( \tau_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{dev}} \), a dependency of \( J_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{dev}} \) on \( h_\text{exp} \) and the w/c-ratio is observed (see Figs. 10 and 11), with higher values of \( J_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{dev}} \) for increasing \( h_\text{exp} \) and decreasing w/c-ratio. Consequently, CSH formed at a lower w/c-ratio has a greater creep compliance, which may be explained by more pronounced “intrinsic” microcracking / damage in CSH formed at lower w/c-ratios, yielding higher compliance under sustained loading\(^9\) (see Fig. 12). Nanoindentation tests on well hydrated cement paste samples (Pichler and Lackner, 2007) reveal a logarithmic-type creep behavior with a mean value for \( J_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{dev}} \) of approximately 0.04 GPa\(^{-1}\) for w/c = 0.4 and \( h_\text{exp}=50\% \). This value is lower than the respective value obtained from top-down identification of \( J_{\text{CSH}}^{\text{dev}} \) as a function of w/c and \( h_\text{exp} \).

---

\(^8\) Kelvin’s equation expresses the liquid-vapor equilibrium under atmospheric conditions:

\[
p_\text{v} = -\frac{p_\text{a}RT}{M_\text{H}} \ln h
\]

(54)

where \( p_\text{a}=998 \text{ kg/m}^3 \) is the density of water, \( R=8.3144 \text{ J/(mol K)} \) is the universal gas constant, \( T \) is the absolute temperature, \( M_\text{H}=0.018 \text{ kg/mol} \) is the molar mass of water, and \( h \) is the relative humidity.

\(^9\) Though not directly related, the study in Neubauer and Jennings (2000) contains a microstructural investigation of shrinking cement paste during drying. Hereby, large local deformation is associated with the collapse of the colloidal network of CSH. The observed damage (fracture) is more pronounced in stiffer samples, i.e., in samples with lower w/c ratio.
Appendix A summarizes the algorithmic treatment of the logarithmic-type creep model for early-age cement-based materials in nonlinear FE analyses employed in Section 6 for the hybrid analysis of shotcrete tunnel linings.

6. Application to tunnel lining analysis

The multiscale model presented in the previous sections is employed in the context of hybrid analyses of shotcrete tunnel linings used as primary support during tunnelling according to the New Austrian Tunneling Method (NATM) (Lackner et al. 2006; Lackner and Mang 2003). This analysis scheme combines in-situ displacement measurements in measurement points (MPs), which are fixed to the tunnel lining and arranged in so-called measurement cross-sections (MCSS), with a thermo-chemomechanical material model for shotcrete. Within this macroscopic material model, stiffness growth, autogenous shrinkage, and creep are specified by means of intrinsic material functions, giving material parameters as a function of the degree of hydration $\xi$, which are provided by the proposed multiscale model.

In the present application, one MCS of the Lainzer tunnel near Vienna, which was constructed as part of the high-capacity railway from Vienna to Salzburg, is investigated (MCS at km 8.340 of track 9). The geometric dimensions of this part of the Lainzer tunnel are given in Fig. 13. The necessary input parameters for the multiscale model are summarized in Appendix 2(a), giving access to the intrinsic material functions for Young’s modulus $E(\xi)$, Poisson’s ratio $\nu(\xi)$, creep parameters $J^{\text{dev}}(\xi)$, $J^{\text{vol}}(\xi)$, $\sigma^{\text{dev}}(\xi)$, and $\sigma^{\text{vol}}(\xi)$, and autogenous-shrinkage strain $\epsilon(\xi)$ [see thick solid lines in Figs. 14(a) to (g)]. For determination of creep parameters, $\sigma^{\text{dev}}_{\text{CSH},w/c}$ was set to 4 d, whereas $J^{\text{dev}}_{\text{CSH},w/c}$ was set to 0.075 GPa$^{-1}$. The intrinsic material function for the strength growth, on the other hand, is obtained from macroscopic experiments (Lackner and Mang 2003) [see Fig. 14(h)]. Shotcrete employed at this part of the Lainzer tunnel is characterized by a $w/c$-ratio of 0.48. In order to assess the influence of the $w/c$-ratio on the structural performance, additional hybrid analyses with
intrinsic material functions determined for \( w/c = 0.40 \) and \( w/c = 0.60 \), respectively, were performed. The respective intrinsic material functions are given in Fig. 14.

Figure 15 shows the construction history for track 9 of the Lainzer tunnel. The reference time \( t = 0 \) is defined as the time instant characterizing the begin of construction work at the considered MCS, i.e., the excavation of the top heading I, which took place on January 23, 2001. 370 hours after the erection of top heading I, the excavation was interrupted for almost 69 days.

6.1 Thermochemical analysis

The hydration-kinetic model outlined in (Bernard et al. 2003; Pichler 2007) is used to determine the history of the hydration extents \( \xi_x(t,r) \) and the temperature \( T(t,r) \) in the lining, where \( r \) represents the radial coordinate. Hereby, the different chemical reactions and their heat release are considered in the field equation of the underlying thermal problem, reading

\[
p c \dot{T} - \sum_x l_x \xi_x = -\text{div} \, q
\]

(55)

where \( \rho c \) \([\text{kJ/(K m}^3]\) denotes the volume heat capacity, and \( l_x \) \([\text{kJ/m}^3]\) represents the heat release of the hydration reaction related to the \( x \)-th clinker phase in ordinary Portland cement. \( q \) \([\text{kJ/(m}^2 \text{h}])\) is the heat-flow vector. It is related to the temperature via Fourier’s law of heat conduction:

\[
q = -k \, \text{grad} \, T
\]

(56)

where \( k \) \([\text{kJ/(m} \cdot \text{h}])\) denotes the thermal conductivity. At the inner surface of the lining, a radiation-type boundary condition is considered, with

\[
q \cdot n = \alpha \left( T - T_\infty \right)
\]

(57)

The employed material parameters used in the thermochemical analysis are summarized in Table 1. The output of the thermochemical analysis, i.e., the fields

![Fig. 13 Lainzer tunnel: standard cross section (M: center point; R: radius).](image)

![Fig. 14 Intrinsic material functions employed in hybrid analyses: (a) Young’s modulus, (b) Poisson’s ratio, (c) to (f) creep parameters obtained from multiscale model presented in this paper; (g) intrinsic material function for autogenous-shrinkage strains obtained from multiscale model reported in (Pichler et al. 2007; Pichler 2007), and (h) uniaxial strength obtained from macroscopic experiments.](image)
The temperature field and the fields of the reaction extents serve as input for the subsequent mechanical analysis of the considered MCS. The evolution of the temperature obtained at the center of the shotcrete lining shows a steep increase up to 65°C within the first 12 hours, which agrees well with the temperature measurements performed at the construction site [see Fig. 16(b)]. Thereafter, the temperature approaches the stationary situation, which is reached within the first week after application of the lining. In contrast to previous publications dealing with thermochemical analyses of shotcrete linings (Pichler et al. 2003; Lackner and Mang 2002; Pichler and Lackner 2006), the \( w/c \)-ratio, which enters the hydration model affects the temperature increase in the lining. The higher the \( w/c \)-ratio, the more water is available for the hydration process, which results in an increased hydration rate (Bernard et al. 2003) and, thus, in a higher temperature rise in the lining.

### 6.2 Mechanical analysis

The temperature field and the fields of the reaction extents serve as input for the subsequent mechanical analysis. Hereby, the strain within each point of the lining is accessible via interpolation of displacement histories available at the aforementioned MPs. This strain field together with the actual temperature and reaction extents are considered in a multi-surface chemoplasticity model, accounting for stiffness growth, autogenous-shrinkage deformations, strength growth, micro-cracking, and creep (for details, see Lackner et al. 2002a; Lackner and Mang 2003). For the interpretation of the obtained results, the level of loading \( \mathcal{L} \) is introduced. It amounts to 0% for the unloaded material and to 100% when the stress state reaches the failure surface defined by the (actual) compressive strength. For the underlying Drucker-Prager failure criterion, the level of loading at a point in the shotcrete lining is determined from Lackner and Mang (2003)

\[
\mathcal{L} = \frac{J_2(\sigma_x, \sigma_z) + \alpha_{DP} I_1(\sigma_x, \sigma_z)}{f_c(\xi)/\beta_{DP}} \quad (58)
\]

where \( \sigma_x \) and \( \sigma_z \) are the stress component in the circumferential and longitudinal direction of the tunnel. In Eq. (58), \( I_1(J_2) \) represents the first (second) invariant of the stress tensor (deviator). \( \alpha_{DP} \) and \( \beta_{DP} \) are constant parameters of the Drucker-Prager criterion, with \( \alpha_{DP} = 0.699 \) and \( \beta_{DP} = 1.97 \) (Lackner and Mang 2003). For presentation of the obtained results, the level of loading is averaged over the shell thickness \( h \), with \( \mathcal{L} = \int \mathcal{L} \right d r \). Figure 17 shows results from mechanical analyses with \( w/c = 0.48 \), when successively taking more and more dissipative phenomena into account. While Fig. 17(b) shows the result from an elastoplastic analysis disregarding autogenous shrinkage and creep, Fig. 17(c) is characterized by taking into account autogenous shrinkage. Figure 17(b) and (c) show only marginal differences. Hence autogenous deformations may be disregarded in the present analysis, characterized by \( w/c = 0.48 \). The increase of the level
of loading within the first 12 hours [see ① in Fig. 17(b) and (c)] is caused by thermal dilation associated with the temperature rise in the course of the hydration process [compare to Fig. 17(a), where thermal dilation was not taken into account, see ②], and the pronounced stiffness increase at early ages (see Fig. 14). This is observed for all newly-installed parts of the lining, i.e., top heading I and top heading II on both the left and the right side (see ③). Although the lining cools down after approximately 12 h (see Fig. 16), \( \mathcal{L} \) increases in the central part of top heading I (see ④). This is explained by the continuous excavation of top heading I and II, resulting in an increased loading of the lining by the inward-moving soil. When creep is taken into account [see Fig. 18(d)], the lining “dodges” excessive loading, particularly at early stages of hydration (see ⑤). Based on the measurements, and also reflected by the distribution of the level of loading, the MCS started to move towards the right bench, leading to a continuous, high loading of the right part of the lining (see ⑥). Consideration of creep deformations leads to a reduction of \( \mathcal{L} \) of approximately 36% (compared to the elastoplastic analyses) in this part of the lining. Fig. 18 shows the evolution of \( \mathcal{L} \) over the first 4.5 months. The surface settlements associated with the mentioned movement were the reason to stop the tunnel advance 370 hours after installation of the considered cross-section. During this construction break, the footings of the existing top heading II were improved by installing micropiles of 80 mm diameter.

In addition the aforementioned analyses, a parameter study was conducted in order to assess the influence of the \( w/c \)-ratio on the loading of the tunnel lining. The previous viscoelastic-plastic analysis characterized by consideration of autogenous shrinkage and \( w/c = 0.48 \) is compared to analyses for shotcrete with \( w/c = 0.40 \) and 0.60, respectively. Hereby, the employed intrinsic material functions, determined by the multiscale model, are given in Fig. 14(a) to (g). The intrinsic material function for strength growth, on the other hand, given for shotcrete with \( w/c = 0.48 \) in Fig. 14(h), remained unchanged in the present analyses. Figure 19 compares the evolution of \( \mathcal{L} \) for the first 3 days. Whereas the increased stiffness for \( w/c = 0.40 \) leads to higher loading of the shotcrete lining, with \( \mathcal{L} = 71 \% \) at top heading II on the right side (t=3d), (i) the higher values for the elastic compliance and (ii) the significantly increased creep compliance for shotcrete characterized by \( w/c = 0.60 \) leads to a significant reduction of the level of loading to \( \mathcal{L} = 9 \% \).

It is noteworthy, that for all analyses the same (measured) displacement histories at the considered MCS were

---

**Fig. 17** History of distribution of \( \mathcal{L} \) in shotcrete lining \((w/c=0.48)\) at considered MCS (top view of unrolled lining) for 3 days after application of top heading I: (a) elastoplastic analysis disregarding thermal dilation, (b) elastoplastic analysis, (c) elastoplastic analysis with autogenous shrinkage taken into account, and (d) viscoelastic-plastic analysis with autogenous shrinkage taken into account.

---

The smaller the \( w/c \) ratios, the larger are autogenous-shrinkage strains and, hence, the influence of the latter on structural performance, at early stages of hydration (Pichler et al. 2007).
used. Obviously, a different mix design of the employed shotcrete would have resulted in different displacements. However, because of the hybrid nature of the analysis, with displacement measurements from the construction site serving as input, the effect of the shotcrete mix on the displacement history cannot be considered.

7. Concluding remarks and future work

In this paper a multiscale model for early-age viscoelastic properties of cement-based materials was proposed and incorporated in the macroscopic analysis of shotcrete tunnel linings. Hereby, the viscous properties of the creep-active constituent at finer scales, i.e., calcium-silicate-hydrates are transferred to the macroscale,
considering the continuously changing finer-scale composition, as well as the compliance-raising effect of pores, and the stiffening effect of inclusion, respectively, at various observation scales.

The presented multiscale model may be improved by considering the influence of the curing temperature (other than \( T_g = 20 \, {}^\circ\text{C} \)) on the creep compliance parameter \( J_{\text{cre}}^{\text{rel}} \), accounting for the thermal activation of the creep process through an Arrhenius term, i.e., \( J_{\text{cre}}^{\text{rel}}(T_g) \exp\left[ E_a / (R \left( 1/T - 1/T_g \right)) \right] \), with \( E_a \) denoting the activation energy of the long-term creep process (in Bažant (1995), the latter was identified as \( E_a / R = 2700 \, \text{K} \)).

Moreover, since magnitude and duration of the creep process was found to depend on the relative humidity \( h \), the latter should also enter the evolution law for the degree of hydration \( \xi \), particularly relevant for larger values of \( \xi \). Both modes of improvement are topics of ongoing research.

Acknowledgment

Fruitful discussions on multiscale representation and modeling of concrete with Franz-Josef Ulm, Georgios Constantinides and Matthieu Vandamme during research stays of the first two authors at the MIT (Cambridge, MA) are gratefully acknowledged. Financial support granted by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) via project P15912-N07 is appreciated.

References


Appendix 1. Algorithmic treatment
For the integration of the convolution integrals determining logarithmic creep in the context of a nonlinear 
FE-analysis, a discretized form of the state equation and the evolution equation for creep (and plasticity) is 
needed. Using a backward Euler scheme\(^{12}\), the discrete form of the evolution equation for the creep-strain 
tensor $\varepsilon^\ast$ [see Eq.(43)] at the end of the $(n+1)$-st time increment, with $t_n \leq t \leq t_{n+1}$, follows from 

$$
\varepsilon^\ast_{n+1} = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \Delta J_{\text{dev}}^{\ast \text{vap}} \left[ t_j - t_k, \varepsilon \left( t_j \right) \right] \Delta \sigma_k \quad (A1)
$$

and

$$
\varepsilon^\ast_n = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \Delta J_{\text{dev}}^{\ast \text{vap}} \left[ t_j - t_k, \varepsilon \left( t_j \right) \right] \Delta \sigma_k \quad (A2)
$$

with\(^{13}\)

$$
\Delta J_{\text{dev}}^{\ast \text{vap}} \left[ t_j - t_k, \varepsilon \left( t_j \right) \right] = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \Delta J_{\text{dev}}^{\ast \text{vap}} \left[ t_j - t_k, \varepsilon \left( t_j \right) \right] \Delta \sigma_k \quad (A3)
$$

Hence, the increment of the creep-strain tensor is given as

$$
\Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1} = \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1} - \varepsilon^\ast_n = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \Delta J_{\text{dev}}^{\ast \text{vap}} \left[ t_j - t_k, \varepsilon \left( t_j \right) \right] \Delta \sigma_k + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \Delta J_{\text{dev}}^{\ast \text{vap}} \left[ t_j - t_k, \varepsilon \left( t_j \right) \right] \Delta \sigma_k = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \Delta J_{\text{dev}}^{\ast \text{vap}} \left[ t_j - t_k, \varepsilon \left( t_j \right) \right] \Delta \sigma_k \quad (A4)
$$

Accounting for the stress-free formation of hydration products (Bažant 1979), a differential form of the state 
equation is employed (Lackner et al. 2002a). Writing the state equation in discretized form one gets

$$
\Delta \sigma_{n+1} = C \left( \xi_{n+1} \right) \cdot \left[ \Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1} - \Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1} - \Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1} \right] \quad (A5)
$$

Reformulating Eq. (A5) in order to obtain the standard plasticity format gives\(^{14}\)

$$
\Delta \sigma_{n+1} = C \left( \xi_{n+1} \right) \cdot \left[ \Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1} - \Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1} - \Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1} \right] \quad (A6)
$$

and

$$
\left[ I + C \left( \xi_{n+1} \right) \cdot \Delta J_{\text{dev}}^{\ast \text{vap}} \left[ t_{n+1} - t_n, \varepsilon \left( t_{n+1} \right) \right] \right] \Delta \sigma_k = \left[ C \left( \xi_{n+1} \right) \cdot \Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1} - \Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1} - \Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1} \right] \Delta \sigma_k = \left[ I + C \left( \xi_{n+1} \right) \cdot \Delta J_{\text{dev}}^{\ast \text{vap}} \left[ t_{n+1} - t_n, \varepsilon \left( t_{n+1} \right) \right] \right] \Delta \sigma_k \quad (A7)
$$

and, finally,

$$
\Delta \sigma_{n+1} = \left[ I + C \left( \xi_{n+1} \right) \cdot \Delta J_{\text{dev}}^{\ast \text{vap}} \left[ t_{n+1} - t_n, \varepsilon \left( t_{n+1} \right) \right] \right] \Delta \sigma_k = \left[ I + C \left( \xi_{n+1} \right) \cdot \Delta J_{\text{dev}}^{\ast \text{vap}} \left[ t_{n+1} - t_n, \varepsilon \left( t_{n+1} \right) \right] \right] \Delta \sigma_k \quad (A8)
$$

where $I$ represents the fourth-order unity tensor. Thus, the standard format of elastoplasticity is obtained, 
where only $\Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1}$ depends on the unknown stress tensor. For the solution of Eq. (A8), return map 
algorithms as outlined in Simo and Hughes (1998) are used.

\(^{12}\)An implicit integration scheme is used in this work, i.e., quantities changing in time are assumed as constant in the 
time interval $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$, taking their value at the end of the time interval.

\(^{13}\)In Eq. (A4), the stress increment $\Delta \sigma_k$ is assumed to be applied at the end of the respective time increment. If the 
stress increment is applied at the beginning of the respective time increment, Eq. (A4) reads

$$
\Delta J_{\text{dev}}^{\ast \text{vap}} \left[ t_j - t_k, \varepsilon \left( t_j \right) \right] = \left[ I + C \left( \xi_{n+1} \right) \cdot \Delta J_{\text{dev}}^{\ast \text{vap}} \left[ t_{n+1} - t_n, \varepsilon \left( t_{n+1} \right) \right] \right] \Delta \sigma_k \quad (A9)
$$

with $\alpha = 1$. In case the stress increment is applied in the a 
middle of the time increment, $\alpha = 1/2$.

\(^{14}\)In Eq. (A6) both the plastic strain increment $\Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1}$ and the viscous strain increment $\Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1}$ depend on $\Delta \sigma_{n+1}$. On the 
right-hand-side of the respective law for classical elastoplasticity only $\Delta \varepsilon^\ast_{n+1}$ depends on $\Delta \sigma_{n+1}$. In order to obtain the 
same mode of dependence as in classical elastoplasticity, Eq. (A6) is reformulated.
Appendix 2. Input-parameter sets for multiscale model

This appendix summarizes input-parameter sets, characterizing various cement-based materials used to verify the multiscale model. The input parameters include the basic mix properties (water/cement-ratio \( w/c \) and cement content \( c \)), the elastic properties of the aggregate, as well as parameters characterizing the employed cement (Blaine fineness \( \phi \), medium initial radius of the clinker grains \( R \), and the mass fractions of the clinker phases). Mineralogical analyses of OPC clinker give access to the mass fractions of lime \( \text{CaO} \), silica \( \text{SiO}_2 \), alumina \( \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \), ferrite \( \text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 \), sulphate \( \text{SO}_3 \), ... The mass fractions of the clinker phases are determined by the so-called Bogue calculation (Taylor 1997). For this calculation, the lime content \( m_{\text{CaO}} \) is reduced by the content bound in gypsum \( \text{CaSO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O} \) (written in abbreviated form \( \text{CSH} \)), with 1 mol \( \text{SO}_3 \) combining with 1 mol \( \text{CaO} \) to form gypsum or, equivalently, 80 g \( \text{SO}_3 \) binding 56 g \( \text{CaO} \). Hence, the mass fraction of sulphate \( m_{\text{SCH}} \) combines with \( 56/80 \times m_{\text{SCH}} \) of \( \text{CaO} \). Other parameters, when required for verification of the model, e.g., the compressive strength and the aggregate/cement ratio \( a/c \) for comparison of the modeled creep compliance with the B3 model (Bažant and Baweja 1997) are also listed in the tables.

### Appendix 2(a) Input-parameter set for multiscale model for the shotcrete employed at the Lainzer tunnel.

| Basic mix properties: |  |  |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Water/cement-ratio \( w/c \) | \([-\)] | 0.48 |
| Cement content \( c \) | \([\text{kg/m}^3]\) | 380 |

| Elastic properties of aggregate: |  |  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Young’s modulus of aggregate \( E_a \) | \([\text{GPa}]\) | 50 |
| Poisson’s ratio of aggregate \( \nu_a \) | \([-\)] | 0.3 |

| Cement characteristics: |  |  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Blaine fineness \( \phi \) | \([\text{cm}^2/\text{g}]\) | 4895 |
| Medium initial radius of clinker grains \( R \) | \([\mu\text{m}]\) | 5 |

| Mass fractions of clinker phases |  |  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| \( m_{\text{C}_3\text{S}} \) | \([\%]\) | 48.7 |
| \( m_{\text{C}_2\text{S}} \) | \([\%]\) | 22.8 |
| \( m_{\text{C}_4\text{A}} \) | \([\%]\) | 11.4 |
| \( m_{\text{C}_4\text{AF}} \) | \([\%]\) | 9.4 |
| \( m_{\text{SiO}_2} \) | \([\%]\) | 7.7 |

### Additional parameters for model verification:

| Curing temperature \( T \) (isothermal conditions) | \([\text{°C}]\) | 11 |
| Experiments conducted on specimens of age ... | \([\text{h}]/[\text{d}]\) | 2;4;8;12/1;2;7;28 |
| Aggregate/cement-ratio \( a/c^{[1]} \) | \([-\)] | 5.3 |
| Compressive strength \( f_{c,28}^{[1]} \) | \([\text{MPa}]\) | 40.0 |

\(^{[1]}\) parameters for comparison with B3 model (Bažant and Baweja 1997)

### Appendix 2(b) Input-parameter set for multiscale model (upscaling of creep properties) for concrete investigated in Laplante (1993).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creep experiments published in ...</th>
<th>Laplante (1993)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type of concrete (notation in reference)</td>
<td>BO BTHP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Basic mix properties: |  |  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Water/cement-ratio \( w/c \) | \([-\)] | 0.50 |
| Cement content \( c \) | \([\text{kg/m}^3]\) | 342 398 |

| Elastic properties of aggregate: |  |  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Young’s modulus of aggregate \( E_a \) | \([\text{GPa}]\) | 65 65 |
| Poisson’s ratio of aggregate \( \nu_a \) | \([-\)] | 0.23 0.23 |

| Cement characteristics: |  |  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Blaine fineness \( \phi \) | \([\text{cm}^2/\text{g}]\) | 3466 3466 |
| Medium initial radius of clinker grains \( R \) | \([\mu\text{m}]\) | (8) (8) |

| Mass fractions of clinker phases |  |  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| \( m_{\text{C}_3\text{S}} \) | \([\%]\) | 60.7 60.7 |
| \( m_{\text{C}_2\text{S}} \) | \([\%]\) | 18.7 18.7 |
| \( m_{\text{C}_4\text{A}} \) | \([\%]\) | 2.8 2.8 |
| \( m_{\text{C}_4\text{AF}} \) | \([\%]\) | 12.2 12.2 |
| \( m_{\text{SiO}_2} \) | \([\%]\) | 2.5 2.5 |
| others+inert | \([\%]\) | 3.1 3.1 |

### Additional parameters for model verification:

| Curing temperature \( T \) (isothermal conditions) | \([\text{°C}]\) | 20 20 |
| Loading times \( t_0 \) | \([\text{h}]/[\text{d}]\) | 20; 20; 20; 20 |
| Aggregate/cement-ratio \( a/c^{[1]} \) | \([-\)] | 5.46 4.84 |
| Compressive strength \( f_{c,28}^{[1]} \) | \([\text{MPa}]\) | 40 80 |

\(^{[1]}\) parameters for comparison with B3 model (Bažant and Baweja 1997)
Appendix 2(c) Input-parameter set for multiscale model (upscaled of creep properties) for concrete investigated in Hummel et al. (1962).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PZ 225</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>0.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PZ 225</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>0.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PZ 225</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>0.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PZ 425</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td>0.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Basic mix properties:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>PZ 225</th>
<th>PZ 225</th>
<th>PZ 225</th>
<th>PZ 225</th>
<th>PZ 425</th>
<th>BASE5</th>
<th>Maridal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water/cement-ratio w/c</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>0.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cement content c [kg/m³]</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>368.1</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Elastic properties of aggregate:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young’s modulus of aggregate $E_a$ [GPa]</td>
<td>(40)</td>
<td>(40)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poisson’s ratio of aggregate $\nu_a$</td>
<td>(0.3)</td>
<td>(0.3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cement characteristics:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blaine fineness $\phi$ [cm²/g]</td>
<td>3900</td>
<td>3600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium initial radius of clinker grains $R$ [µm]</td>
<td>(7)</td>
<td>(8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass fractions of clinker phases $m_1$ [%]</td>
<td>49.1</td>
<td>53.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$m_2$ [%]</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>13.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$m_3$ [%]</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>10.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$m_4$ [%]</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$m_5$ [%]</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others+inert [%]</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional parameters for model verification:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Curing temperature (isothermal conditions) [°C]</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loading times $t_0$ [d]</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate/cement-ratio a/c [3]</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compressive strength $f_{28}$ [MPa]</td>
<td>41.4</td>
<td>81.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

1. Rhine gravel,
2. 4% ignition loss was taken into account
3. Parameters for comparison with B3 model (Bažant and Baweja 1997) (cylinder 15/30 cm)
4. Chosen to match macroscopic stiffness evolution ($E_{28}$)
5. Norcem Anleggsement CEM I 52.5 N-LA, data taken from www.norcem.org