

# Current research in urban hydrogeology: urban underground development confronted by the challenges of groundwater flow, quality and temperature

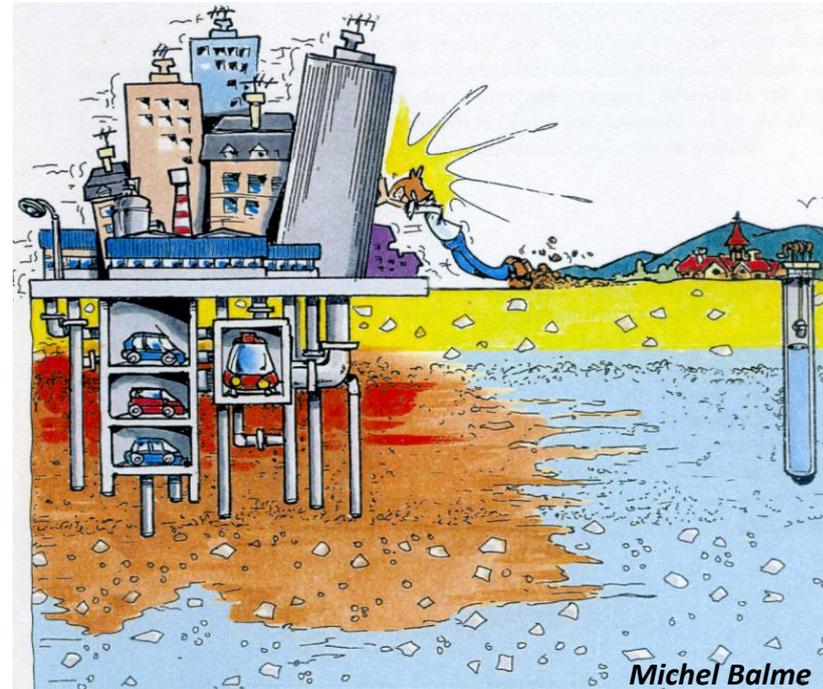
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1. Cerema, Isle d'Abeau, France
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3. Univ. Grenoble Alpes, LTHE, Grenoble, France



# Urban groundwater versus underground development

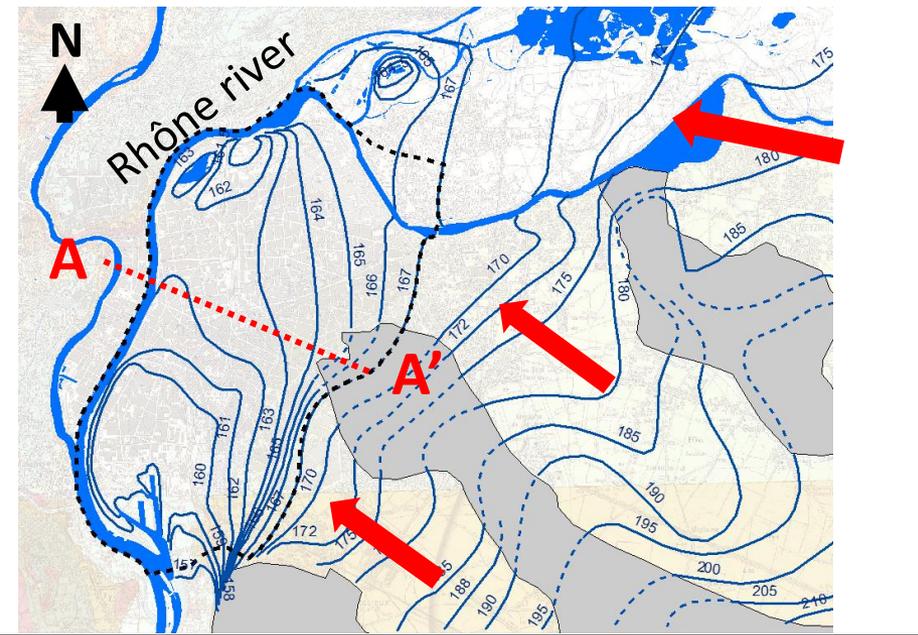
- **Urban groundwater:**
  - 40 % of the **water supply** in Europe (*Eiswirth et al. 2004*).
  - **Geothermal heat** is a strategic resource (*European Commission, 2009*).
- **Interaction between groundwater and underground structures** can generate risks and disturbances:
  - Rise to **compactions** and **floodings** (*Yoo et al. 2012*).
  - Impact on groundwater **quality** (*Chae et al. 2008*).
  - Impact on groundwater **temperature** (*Epting et al. 2013*).



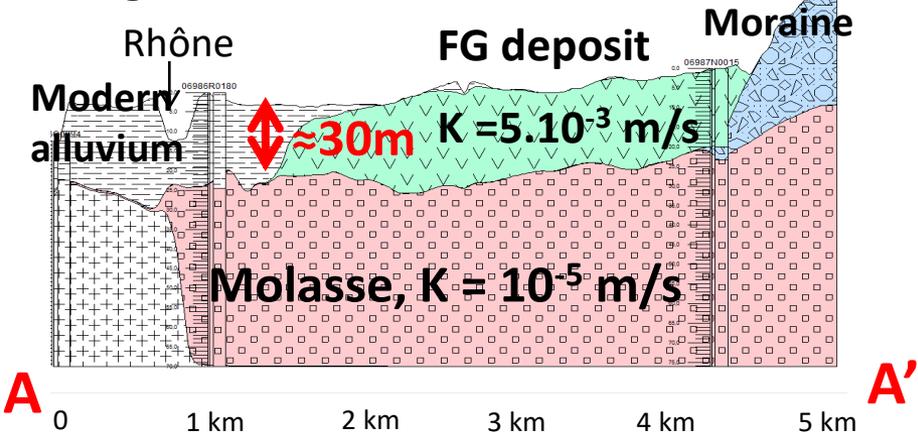
- **Aims:**
  - Improve the understanding of **the role played by underground structures** at a decision making scale.
  - Provide **guidelines** dedicated to urban planners and project owners.

# 3D modeling (FEFLOW ©) to assess the impact of underground structures on groundwater flow (Lyon, France)

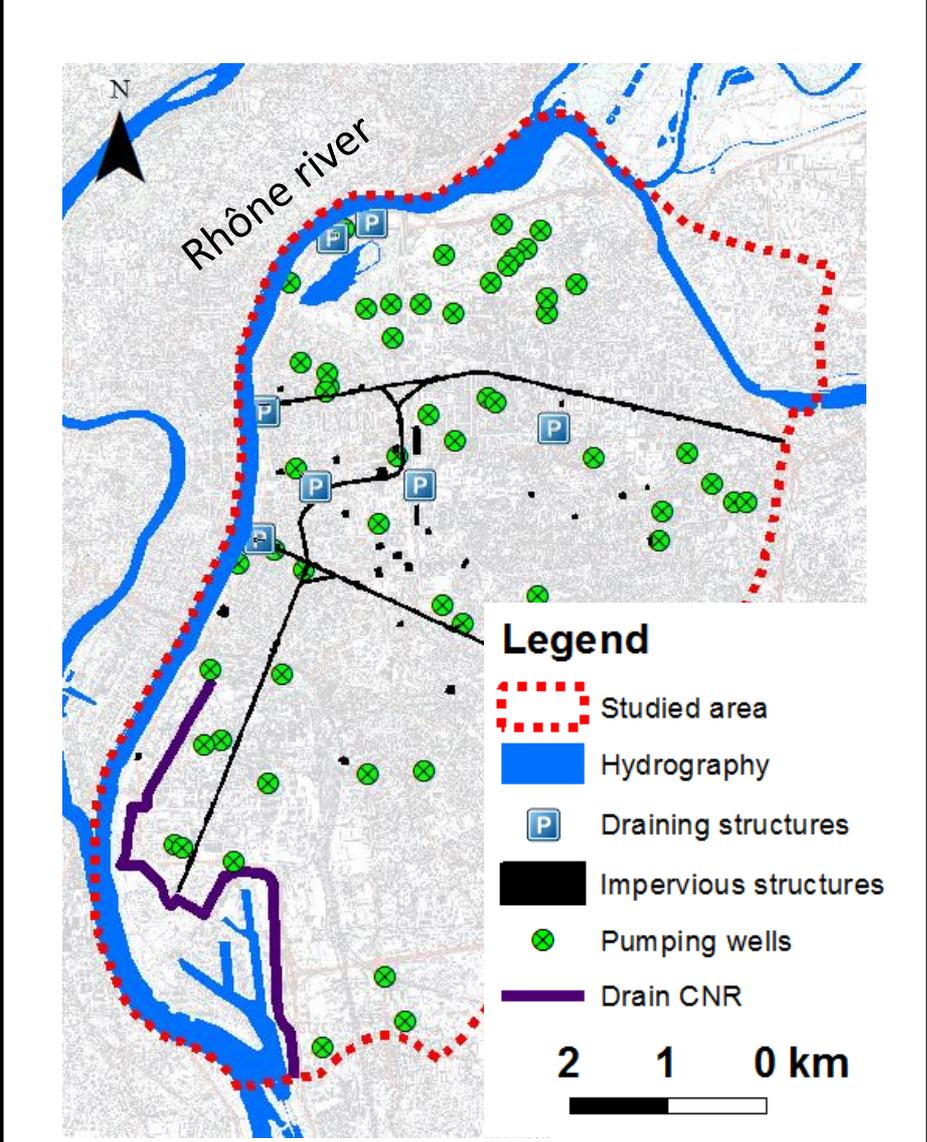
**Piezometric map of Lyon area (Gudefin 1974)**



**Geological cross section view**

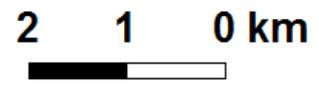


**Underground structures in Lyon area**



**Legend**

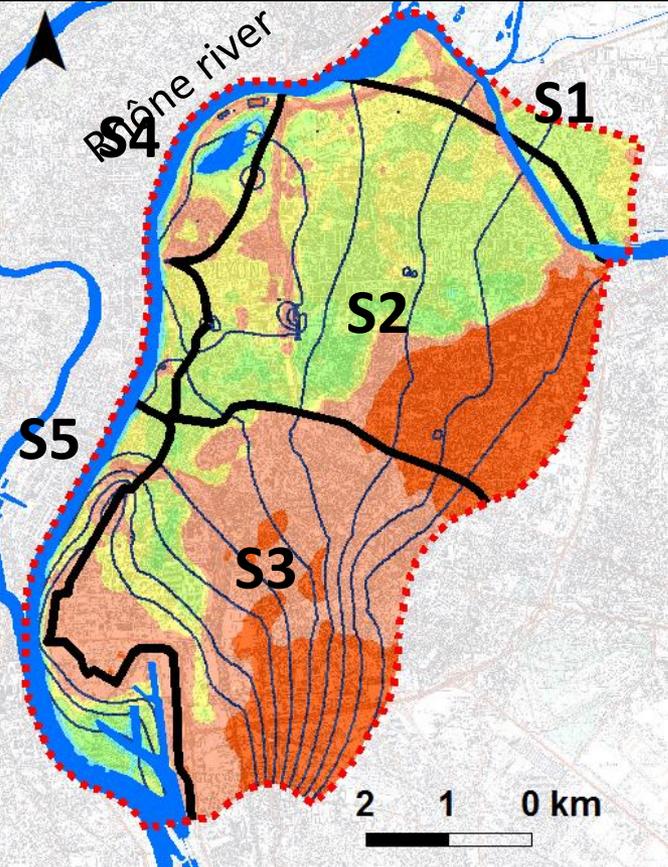
- Studied area
- Hydrography
- P Draining structures
- Impervious structures
- ⊗ Pumping wells
- Drain CNR



# Fragmentation of urban flow systems and drawdown

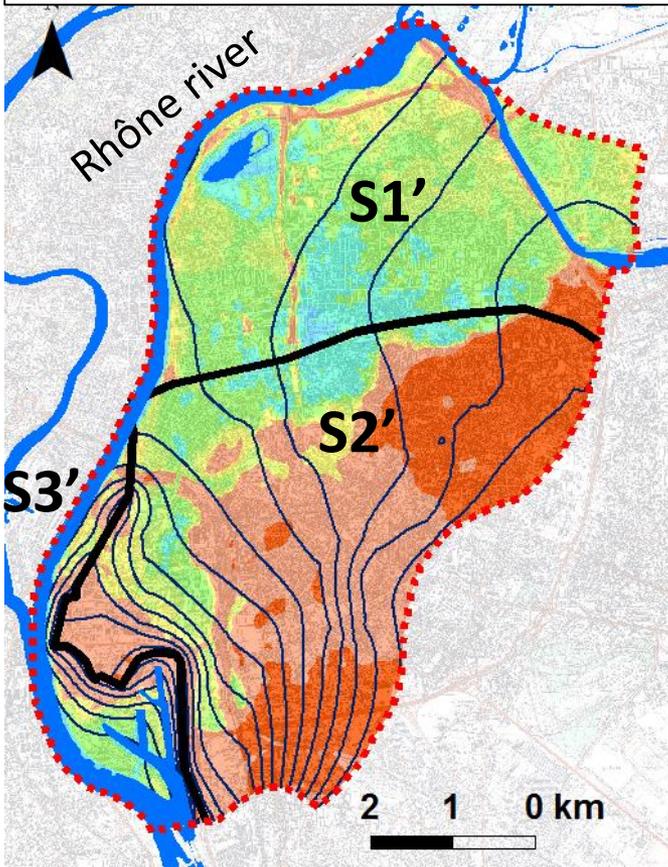
**Current** state of GW flow  
*(with all underground structures)*

**5 systems**

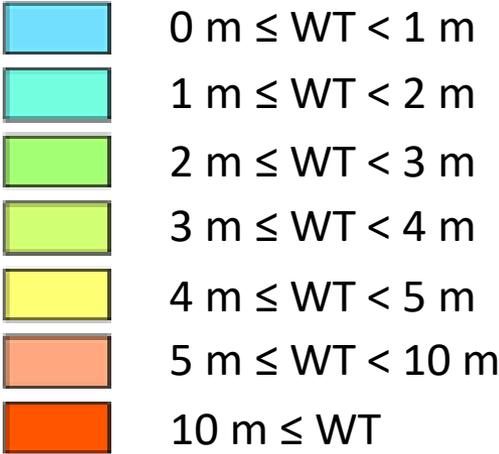


**Potential** state of GW flow  
*(without underground structures)*

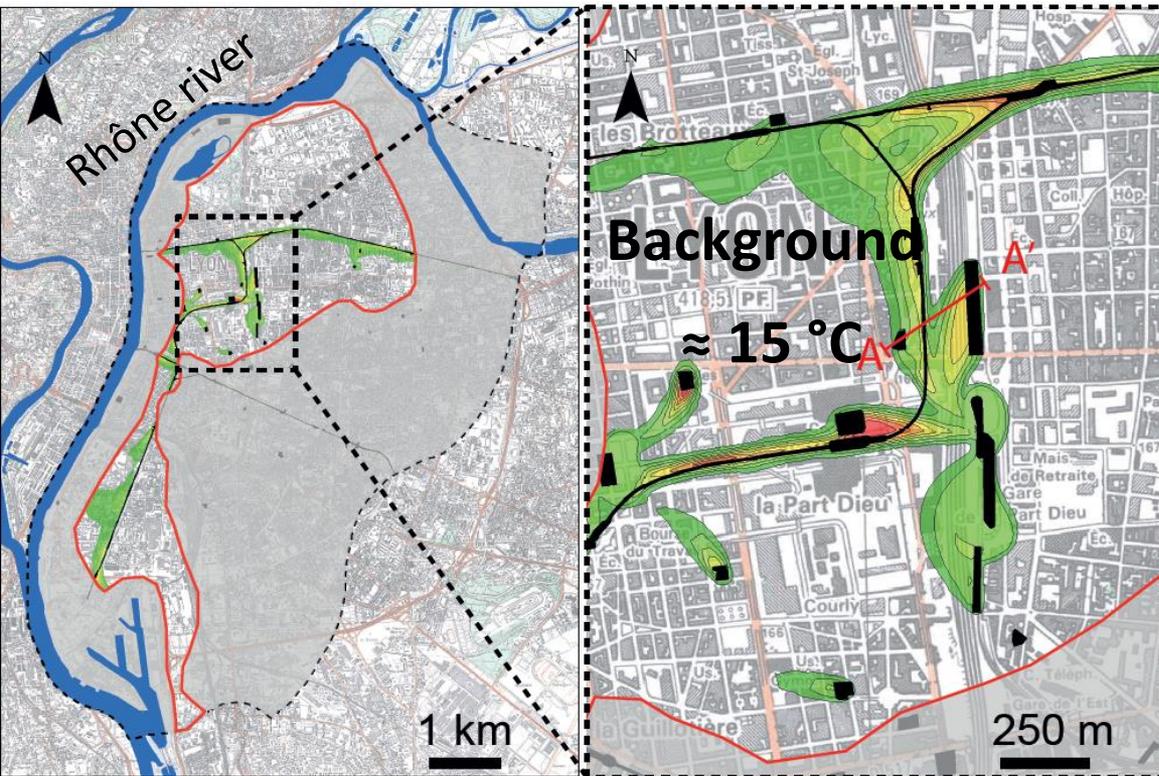
**3 systems**



Water table depth

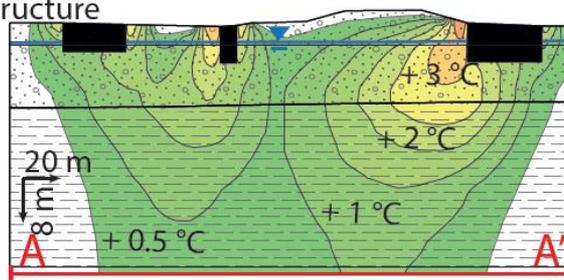
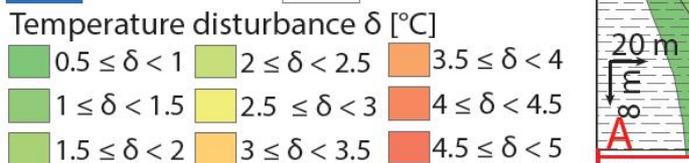


# Impact of underground structures on groundwater temperature



- Flow: steady
- Heat transport: transient
- Temperature range inside structures: 16 to 27 °C (Dirichlet BC)
- Enclosure thickness: 1 m

Legend



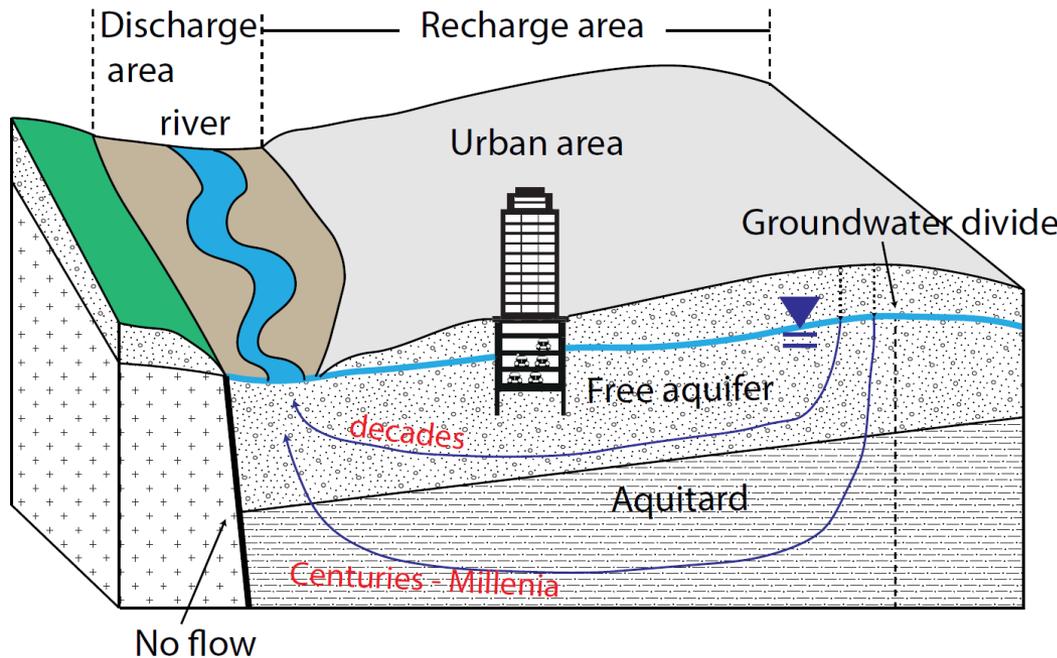
- Heat flow from underground structures:

**4.5 GW.h/year** 5

# Impact of underground structures on groundwater quality

*The role played by underground structures in spreading urban contaminations?*

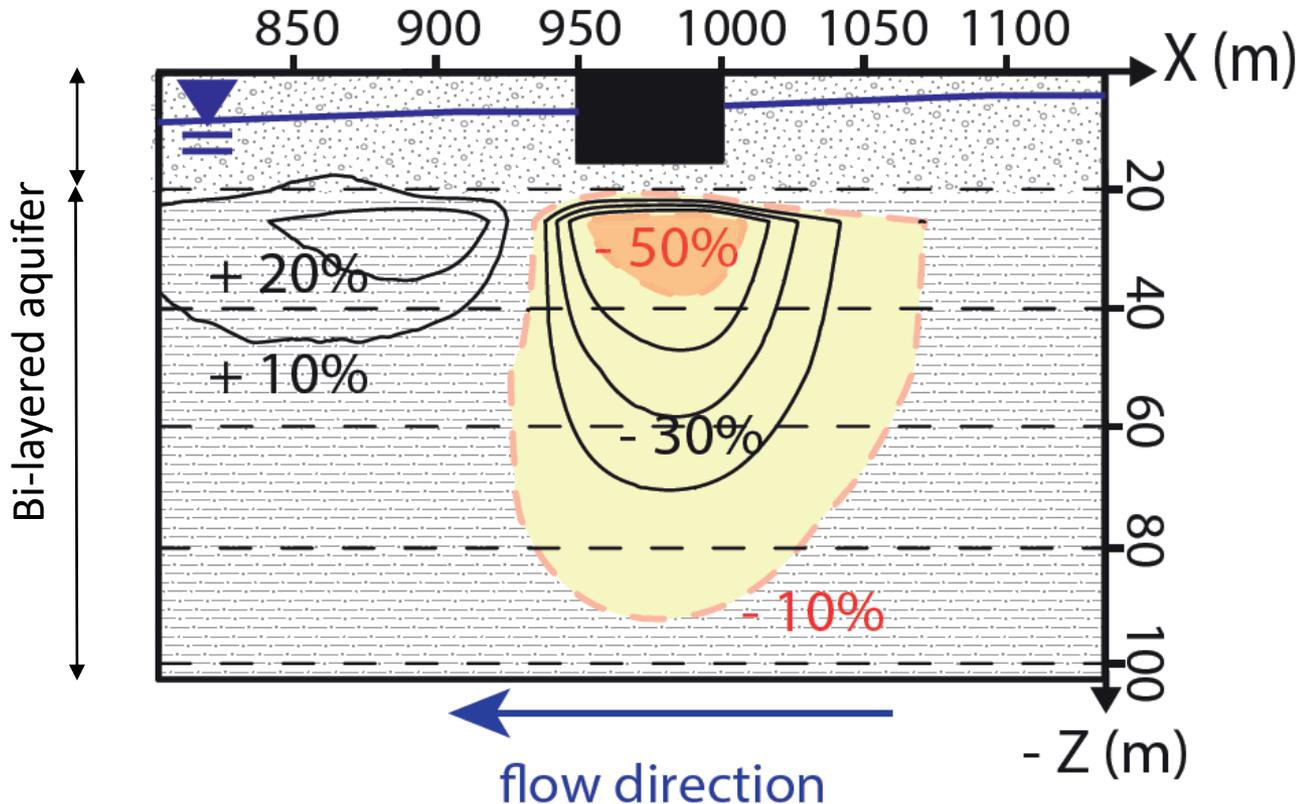
- 3D deterministic modeling approach based on the reservoir theory generalized to hydrodispersive systems (*Cornaton and Perrochet, 2006a,b*)



Bi-layered generic model  
4 km<sup>2</sup>  
150 m depth

# *Dispersive piston effect* under structures

- Relative mean age reduction (cross section view)



# Summary



- Draining structures have a severe impact on the shape of urban flow systems.
- Under unconfined condition, impervious structures have a non-significant impact on the water table elevation.



- Underground structures generate a heat island effect in the urban groundwater body.
- The heat flow from underground structures should be taken into account in the assessment of the geothermal potential of urban aquifers.



- A *dispersive piston effect* occurs under structures resulting in a mix between shallow and deep groundwater.

# Thank you for your attention...

*This talk was based on:*



## **Review: Impact of underground structures on the flow of urban groundwater**

G. Attard, T. Winiarski, Y. Rossier, L. Eisenlohr  
(2016) **Hydrogeology Journal**, 24 (1), 5-19



## **Deterministic modelling of the cumulative impacts of underground structures on urban groundwater flow and the definition of a potential state of urban groundwater flow: example of Lyon, France**

G. Attard, Y. Rossier, T. Winiarski, L. Cuvillier, L. Eisenlohr  
(2016) **Hydrogeology Journal**, 24 (5), 1213-1229



## **Urban groundwater age modeling under unconfined condition—Impact of underground structures on groundwater age: Evidence of a piston effect**

G. Attard, Y. Rossier, L. Eisenlohr  
(2016) **Journal of Hydrology** 535, 652-661



## **Deterministic modeling of the impact of underground structures on urban groundwater temperature**

G. Attard, Y. Rossier, T. Winiarski, L. Eisenlohr  
(in press) **Science of The Total Environment**

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