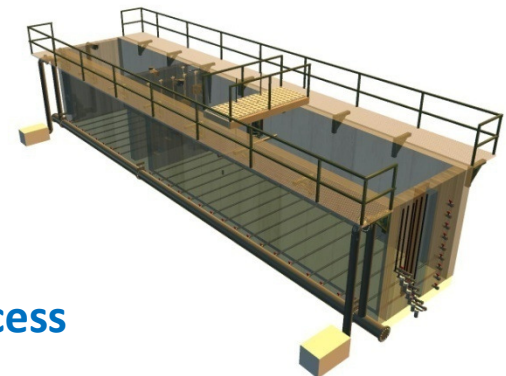


# Silt (Sludge) Test Tank: A platform for nautical bottom rheology research to optimize in-situ measurement tools and reduce dredging activities

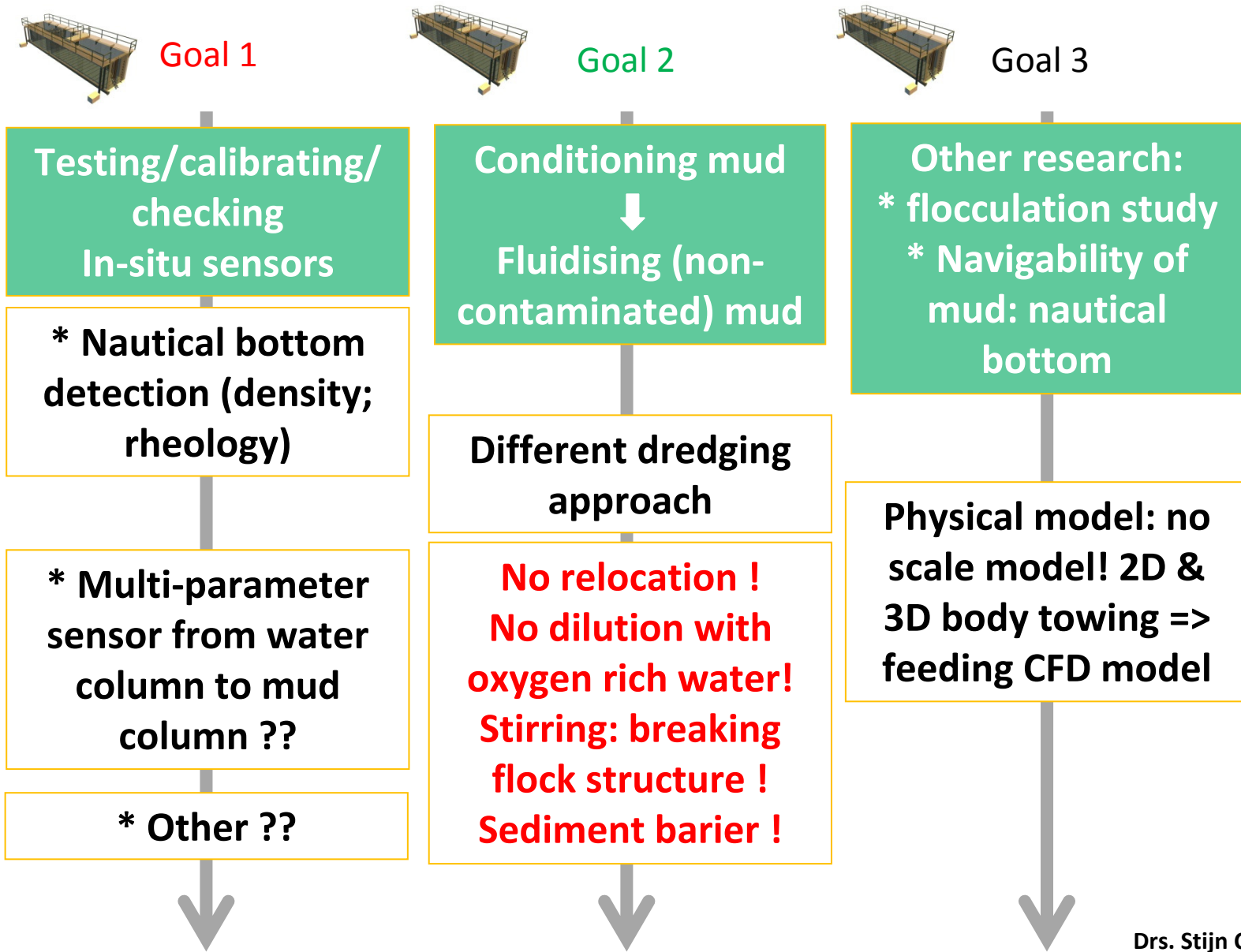
Stijn Claeys, Thomas Van Hoestenbergh, Jan De Schutter, Frank Mostaert



*6-9 April 7th International SedNet event*



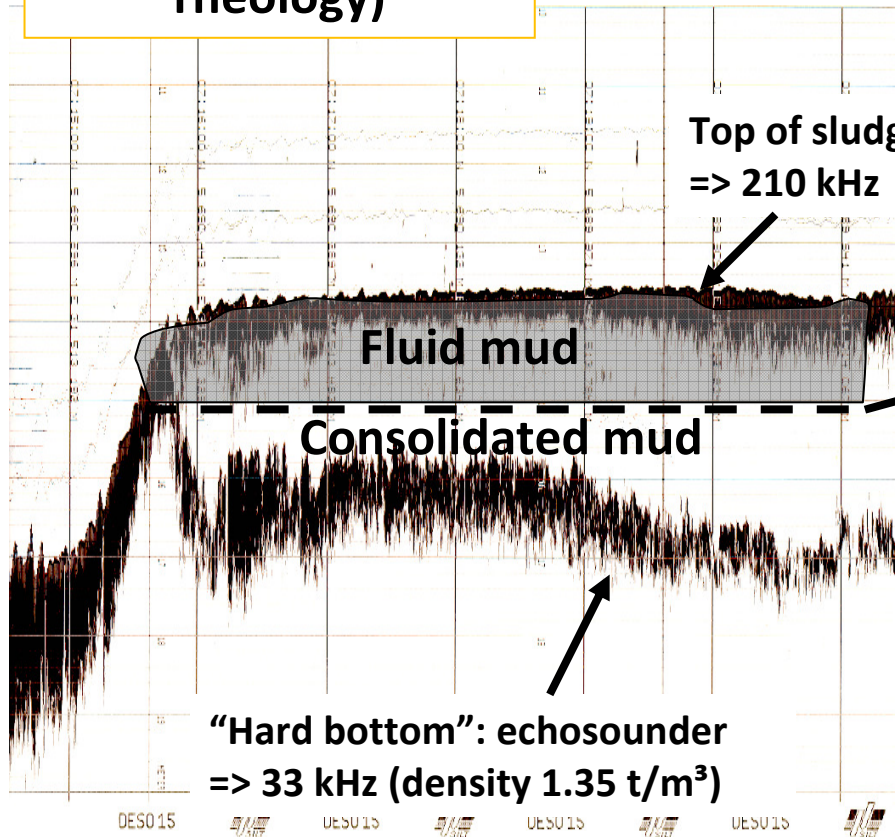
In -situ ??: (almost) not possible (depth reference; wave; current,...)



Testing/calibrating/  
checking  
In-situ sensors

\* Nautical bottom detection (density; rheology)

\* Multi-parameter sensor from water column to mud column: feasible?



**Nautical bottom level**

- (1) Density: (e.g.)  $1.2 \text{ t/m}^3 \leftrightarrow$  Rheology (Thixotrophy)
- Sometimes a local relation

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“Yoghurt” before/after stirring

- \* A vessel feels the resistance: “rheology” => CFD



## Goal 1

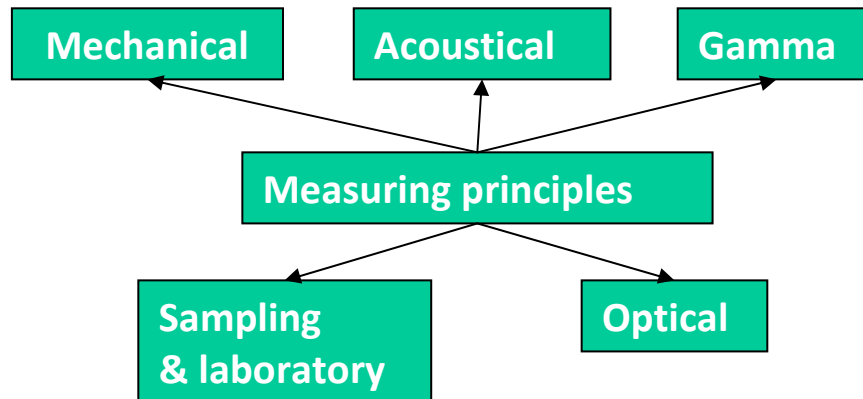
Testing/calibrating/  
checking  
In-situ sensors



\* Nautical bottom  
detection

### Instruments:

- Densitune/Rheotune
- Mechanical In-situ Rheometer (MIR)
- Navitracker (I,"2011")
- DART
- Rheocable / Acceleroprobe
- DRDP/Admodus USP
- ...



### Cooperation / nautical bottom research:

- Ports: Deurganckdock (BE); Zeebrugge (BE); Rotterdam (NL); Delfzijl (NL); Harlinger (NL); Emden (DE); Deurganckdock (BE); Zeebrugge (BE)
- Organisations: Flemish Government (Maritime Access; MDK) (BE); Port of Rotterdam (NL); RWS (NL); Grieser & Partner (DE); A. Wurpts (DE); Wiertsema & Partners (NL) ...



Conditioning mud =>  
Fluidising ('non-contaminated') mud

Different dredging  
approach

Reducing dredging  
costs

Environmentally safe?

**No relocation !**



No transport cost/spill !

**No dilution with  
oxygen rich water!**



No oxygen depletion in water column  
/ contaminant mobility?

**Sediment barrier !**



Reducing siltation  
/ keeping sediment in river

**Stirring: breaking  
flock structure !**



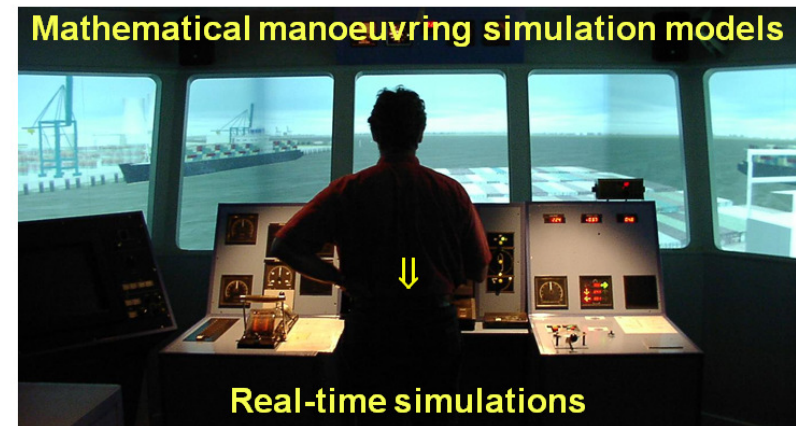
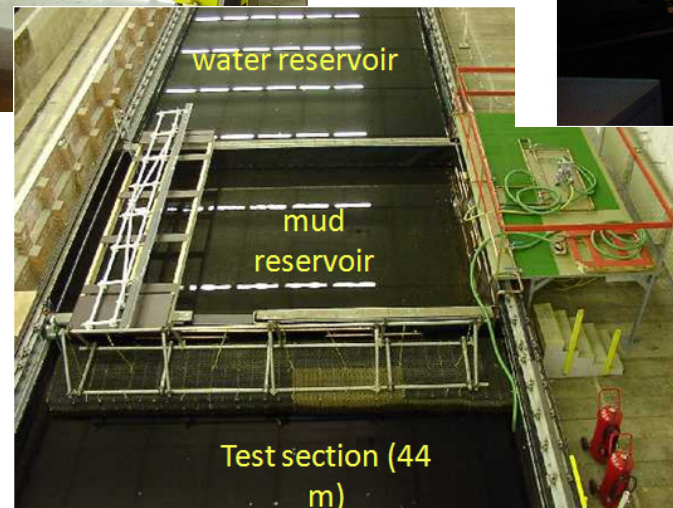
Other dredging technique  
⇒ 1 x month ! = f(consolidation time)  
⇒ Cost reduction of 80%

CASE Study/Reality => Emden harbour => feasibility ?????



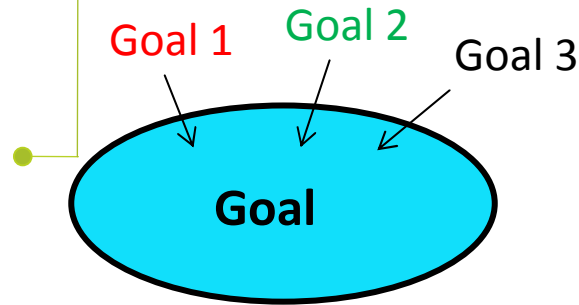
## Goal 3

Other research:  
\* flocculation study  
\* Navigability of  
mud: nautical  
bottom





# Silt (Sludge) Test Tank STT

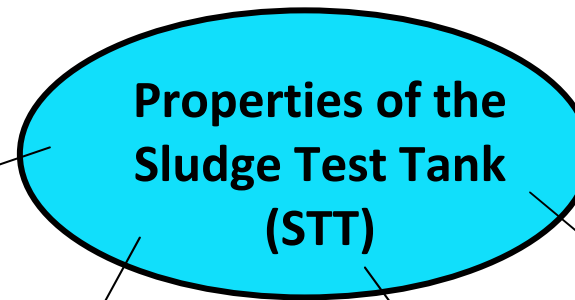


Natural dredged  
mud! => no scale  
model

Flanders Hydraulic Research  
Sedimentological Laboratory

KULeuven  
=>Micro-biology (EPS/slimes)  
=>Phd: Stijn Claeys

Sediment related Nautical Bottom: website !



## Simulation of insitu

### conditions:

- Suspension
- Sedimentation
- Consolidation
- Biology  
(Barnacles 😊)
- Water & mud  
column

**Conditioning  
(mixing/pumping/  
vibrating/oxidising  
/ of the sludge**

**Re-use; recycle  
the sludge  
Creating different  
mud**

**Towing and  
profiling  
sensors/bodies**



## **Conditioning + research**



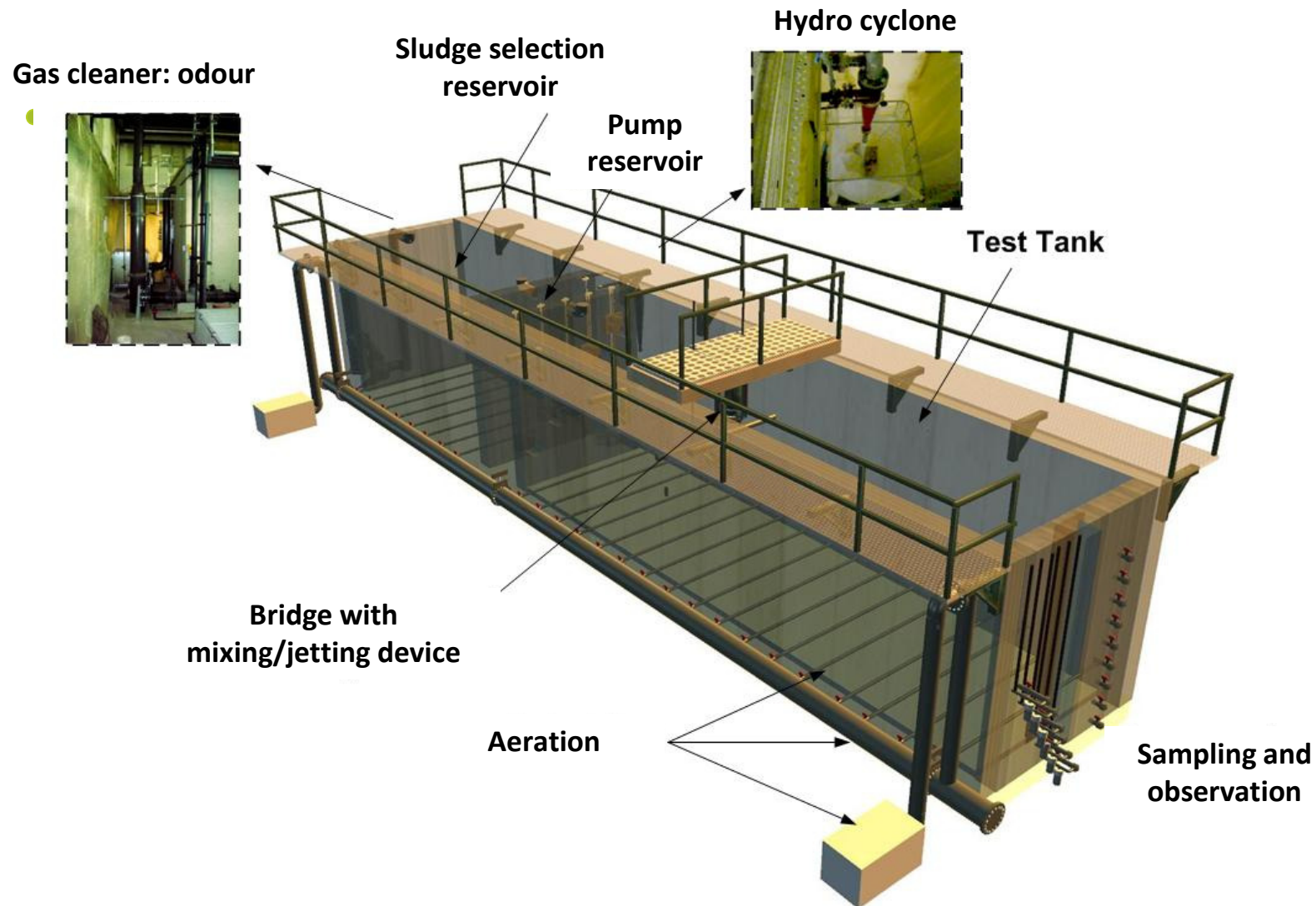
### **-Simulation of**

- Sedimentation**
- Coagulation**
- Flocculation**
- Consolidation**

### **-Conditioning:**

- Biology (reduce/increase activity): anaerobe/ aerobe**
- Reducing evaporation**
- Mineralogy**
  - separation of fractions**
  - distribution of grain sizes**
  - Adding fractions**
- Chemistry (Ph; oxygen; nutrients etc..)**



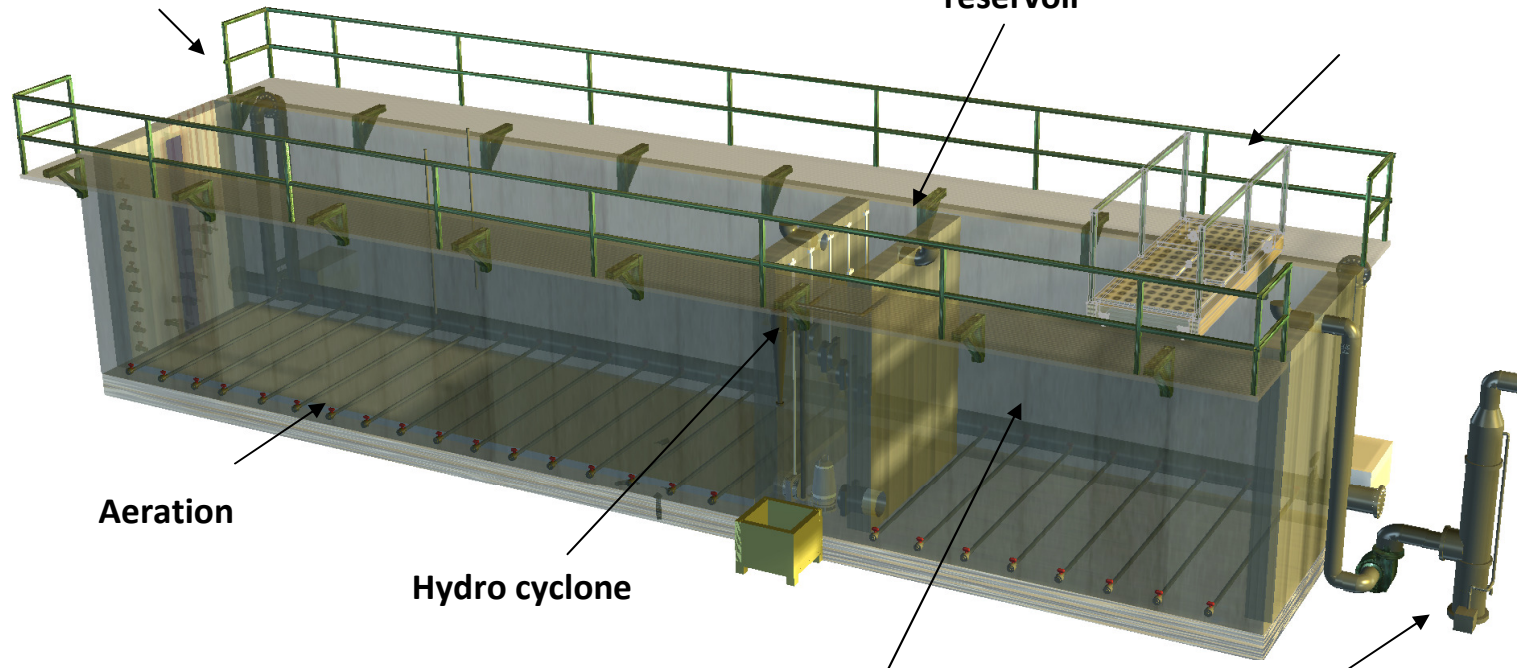




Sampling and observation

Pump reservoir

Bridge



Aeration

Hydro cyclone

Sludge selection reservoir

Gas cleaner: odour





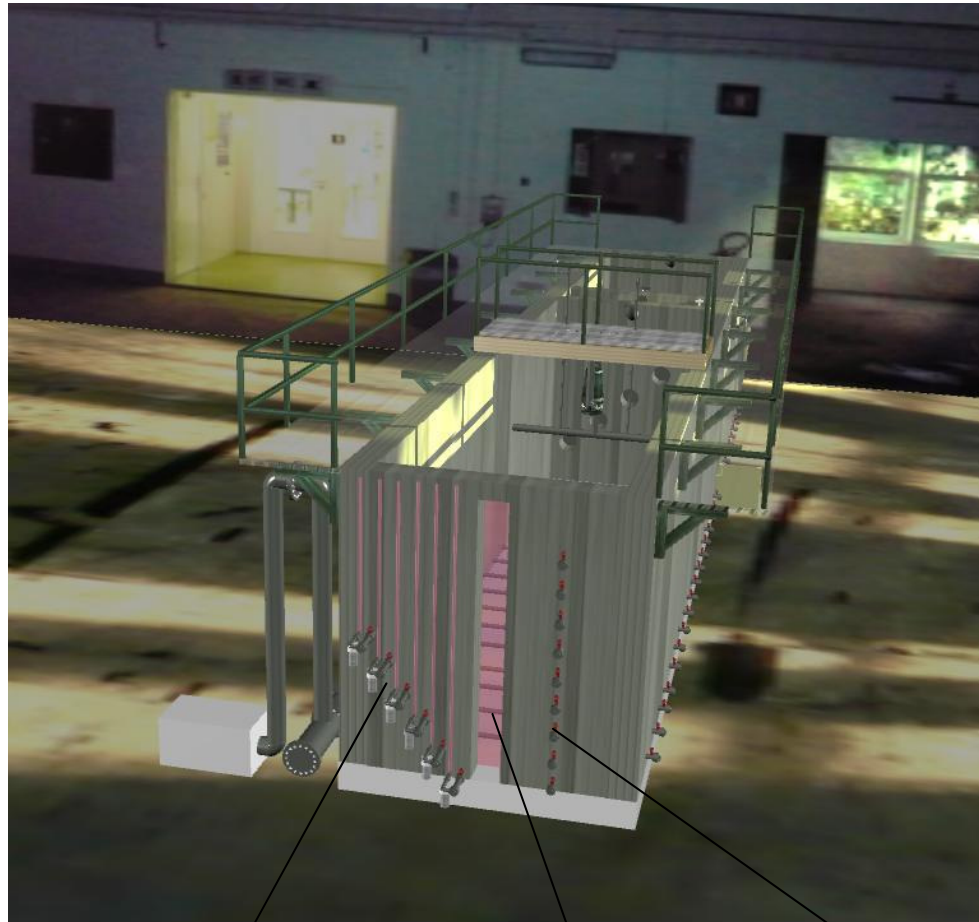
# Sampling and measurements



departement  
*Mobiliteit en  
Openbare Werken*



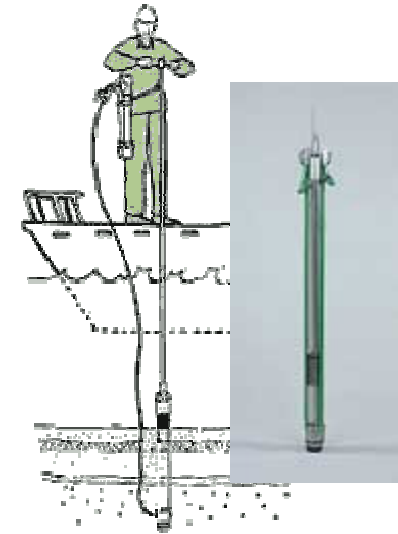
**Van Veen Grab**



**Piëzo meters**

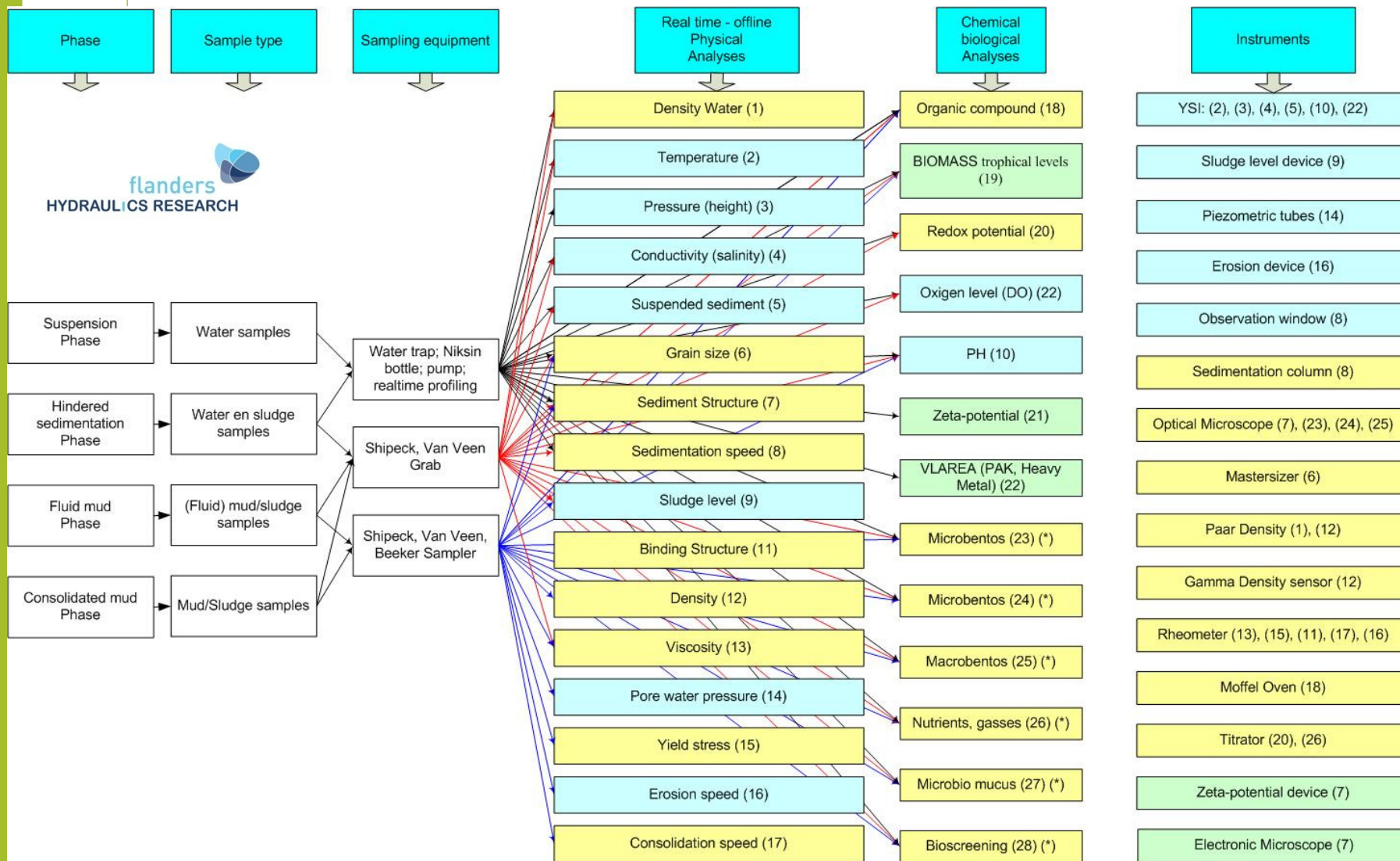
**Observation window**

**Sampling taps**




**Beekersampler**





Legende	Off-line (Lab)
	Real-time (tank)
	Extern
	(*) Know How Extern

MOD 751 Sludge Test Tank	
Sediment & reology: <b>Sampling and analyses matrix.</b>	
	Stijn Claeys
	16/02/2009