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# Formulation of cold recycled asphalt mixtures: a microscopic scale study of bitumen emulsion wetting on virgin aggregates and reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP)



# 1 - CONTEXT

The cold mix asphalt technique is considered to be less energy-consuming and more environmentally friendly. Combined with **recycling** of Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement (RAP), it saves non-renewable resources. With a view to guaranteeing constructability, the coupling of both techniques requires the determination of the **formulation** conditions on the basis of knowledge of the interface phenomena between the different constituents of the cold recycled mixture : virgin aggregate and RAP.

**Scientific issues concerning cold recycled mixture**

**Aged bituminous binder on surface**

**RAP**

**BITUMEN**

**Surfactants**

**Aqueous phase**

**Bitumen emulsion**

**VIRGIN AGGREGATE**

**mineralogical composition giving polarity on surface**

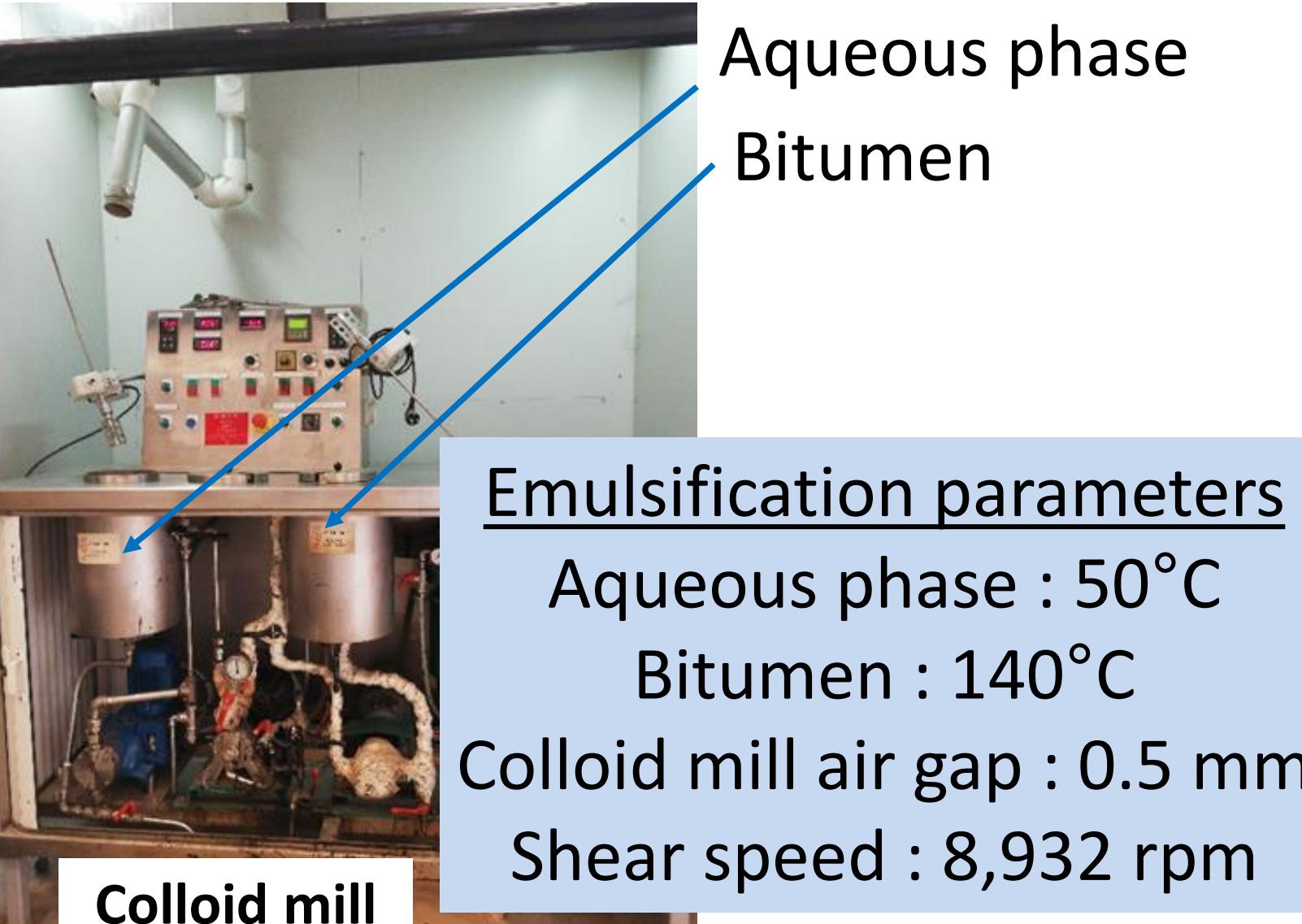
## 2 - RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

Study of physico-chemical phenomena between bitumen emulsion/virgin aggregate and bitumen emulsion/RAP interfaces to apprehend **wetting** process of emulsion on surfaces of both aggregates types. Determination of cold recycled asphalt mixes **formulation** in order to ensure **durability**.

# 3 - METHODOLOGY AND APPROACH

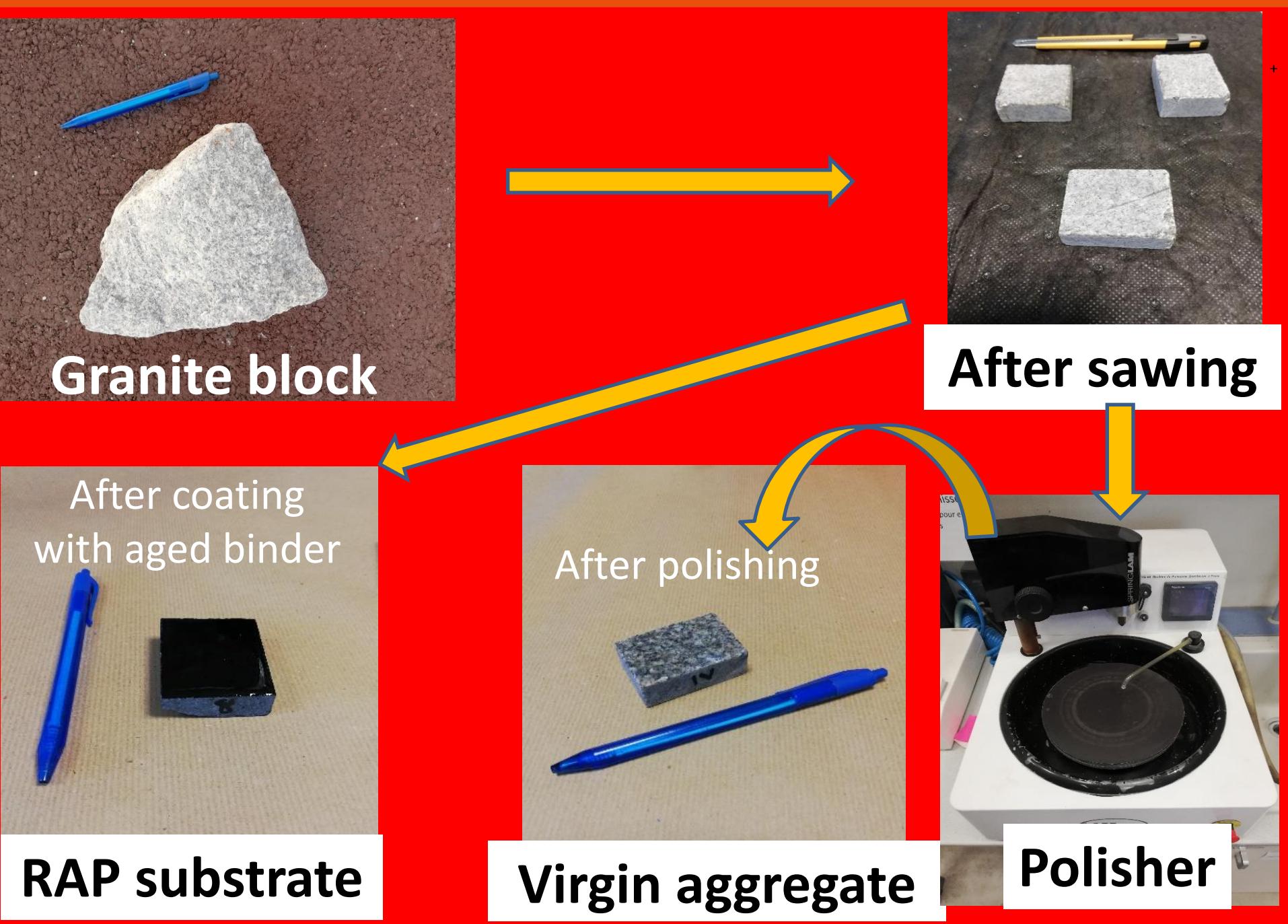
# Emulsions formulation by varying surfactant nature and content (70/100 penetration grade bitumen )

Emulsion designation	Emulsifier nature	Emulsifier content	Bitumen content
0.9 % A	A	0.9 %	65 %
1.2 % A	A	1,2 %	65 %
1.5 % A	A	1.5 %	65 %
0.9 % B	B	0.9 %	65 %
1.2 % B	B	1.2 %	65 %
1.5 % B	B	1.5 %	65 %

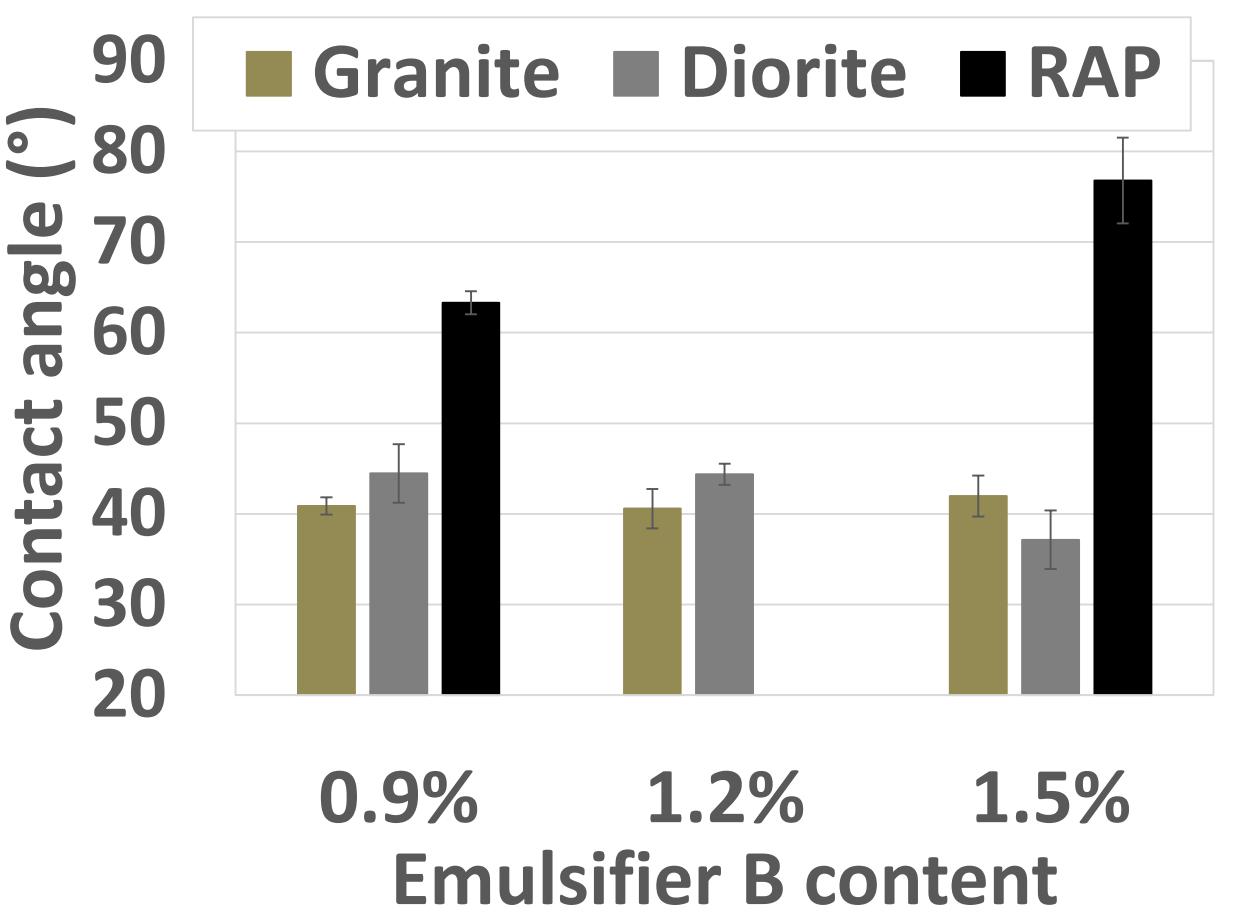
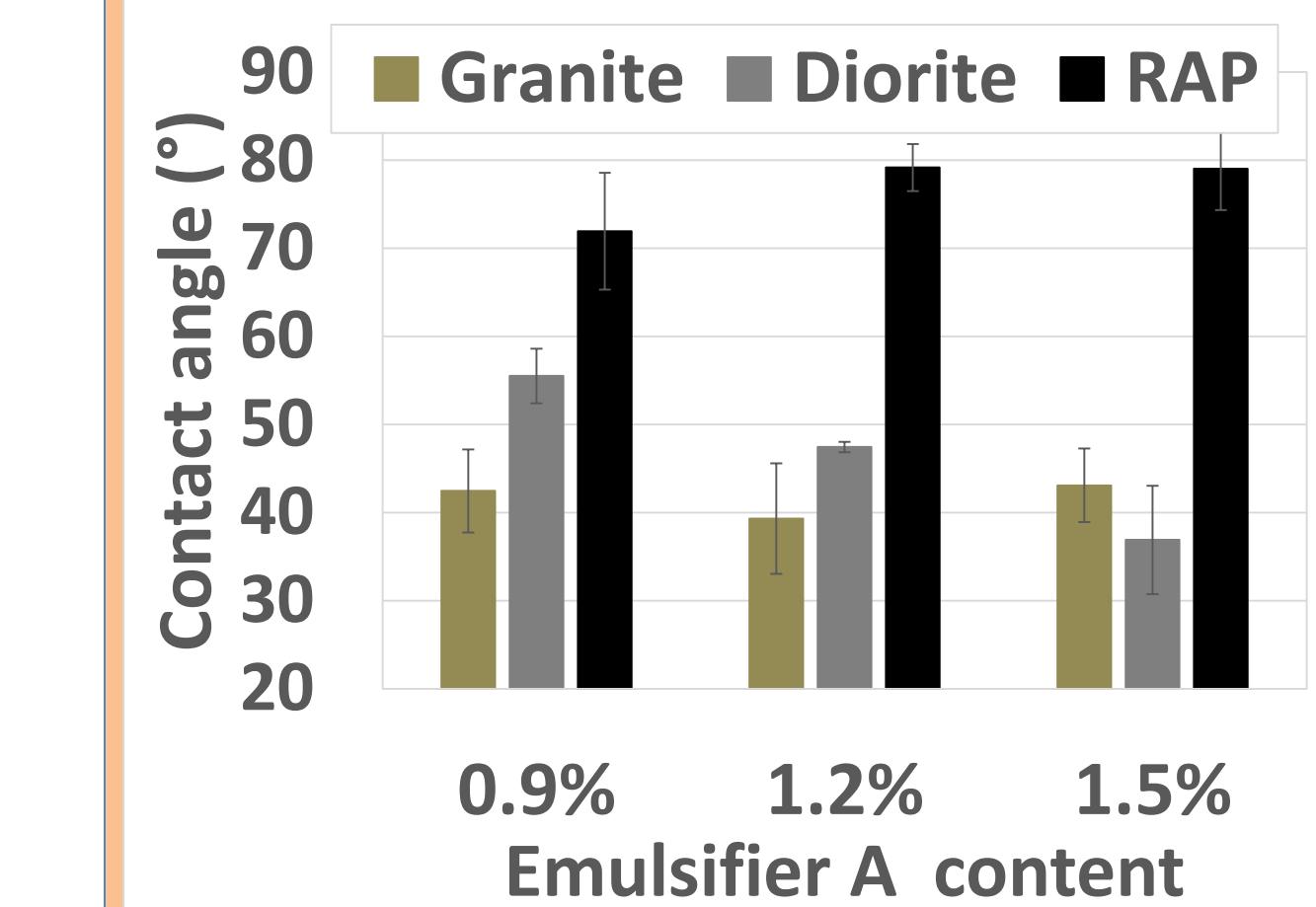
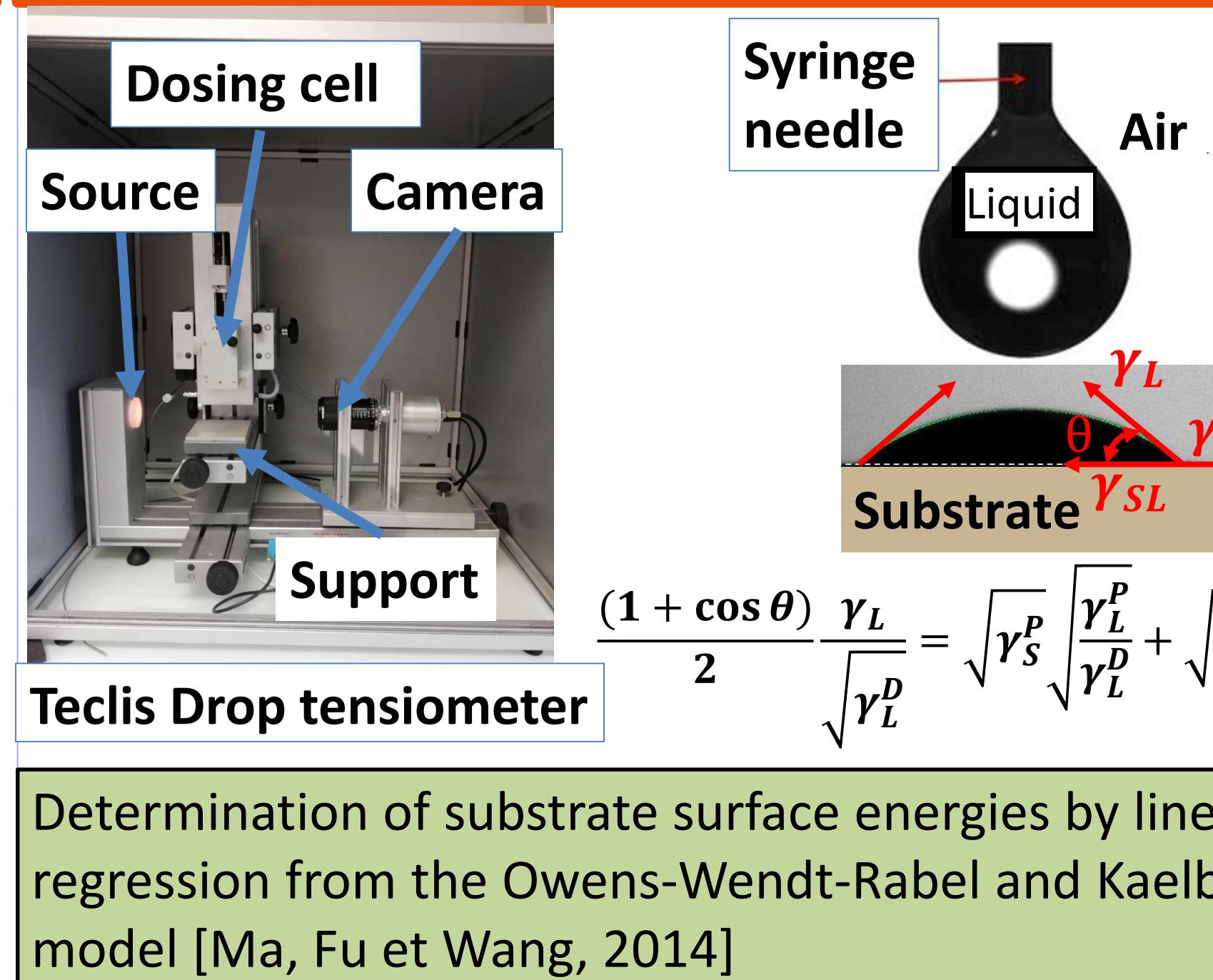


Polyamine surfactants : CMC (A) : 0.6 g/l - CMC (B) : 0.2 g/l

# Manufacture of substrate model of virgin aggregate and RAP



# Measurement of surface tensions and contact angles with drop tensiometer



# Average contact angle of emulsions with substrates after stabilization

# 5 - CONCLUSIONS

- Switching of a part of free surfactants from the water-air interface to the water-bitumen interface with the addition of bitumen in the aqueous phase.
  - Decrease in contact angles with increasing emulsifier content for diorite, because of the high reactivity of this substrate
  - Contact angles of emulsions with the RAP higher than those of virgin aggregates, whatever the emulsifier nature and content :
    - Adsorption of free surfactants on aged binder of RAP by their lipophilic part.
    - Lower emulsion-RAP contact angles when the emulsifier content decreases because of reduction of free surfactants in the medium.

