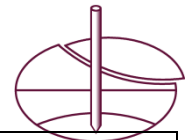




**ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

Your Name: Meysam Mousavi	Your Organization: University of Melbourne	Date of report: 02/10/2023
Conference Title: IS-Porto 2023	Location of Conference: FEUP, Porto, Portugal	Dates of Conference: 3 rd to 6 th of September 2023
What you learned: The IS-Porto 2023 conference in Porto, Portugal was an incredible learning experience. It featured a variety of lectures and hands-on workshops led by experts in the field. These sessions covered topics like studying how the deformation of the material and using computer simulations, giving us a well-rounded understanding. There were lots of presentations regarding imaging techniques which was really inspiring and helped me see the associated challenges with a new perspective. The conference also gave me the chance to meet and learn from experienced and up-and-coming researchers. This expanded my knowledge and introduced me to potential career paths. Moreover, presenting at this respected event improved my presentation skills and made me more confident in sharing my research. It was an unforgettable journey that not only increased my knowledge but also expanded my professional network.		
People you met: The highlight of this conference, in my view, revolved around the opportunity to talk with researchers who made substantial contributions and provided valuable insights that greatly enriched the conference and helped to navigate my research, among many of them I could mention: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1- Dr. Mathew Richard Coop from University College London, UK2- Dr. Stephen Hall from Lund University, Sweden3- Dr. Giulia Viggiani from University of Cambridge, UK4- Dr. Anand Puppala from Texas A&M University, USA5- Dr. Reiko Kuwano from University of Tokyo, Japan6- Dr. Satoshi Nishimura from Hokkaido university, Japan7- Dr. Yukio Nakata from Yamaguchi University, Japan8- Dr. António Viana da Fonseca from University of Porto, Portugal9- Dr. Cristiana Ferreira from University of Porto, Portugal10- Dr. Santiago Quinteros from Oslo Metropolitan University, Norway		
Main features of conference: The conference hosted by the University of Porto was a standout event characterized by several noteworthy features. The hospitality provided by the University of Porto was		



exceptional, offering a delightful range of food and beverages that kept attendees energized and refreshed throughout the conference.

The conference program was rich and diverse, featuring numerous keynote and theme lectures by leading experts in the field. One of the highlights was the 7th Bishop lecture, delivered by Dr. Mathew Coop, which added significant depth to the event.

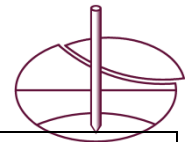
The conference kicked off with informative workshops that provided valuable hands-on experiences. Moreover, it featured a wide range of lectures, covering both experimental aspects of deformation in geomaterials and numerical simulations.

In summary, the University of Porto's hospitality, the wealth of lectures, the practical workshops, and the broad spectrum of topics covered in the conference all contributed to a highly enriching and memorable experience.

Your comments on the conference:

The IS-PORTO 2023 conference provided a unique opportunity for me to engage with leading researchers in my field while also connecting with early-career researchers. This diverse mix of participants allowed me to showcase my work and receive valuable feedback, enriching my research journey.

Attending the conference was not only informative but also inspirational. I found myself immersed in discussions that sparked numerous ideas, which I believe will significantly contribute to the advancement of my research in the future. Overall, the conference was a transformative experience that has positively impacted my academic and professional growth.



Please attach short report (maximum 400 words) suitable for publication in the ISSMGE Bulletin:

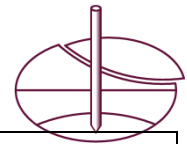
The 8th International Symposium on Deformation and Characteristics of Geomaterials (IS-Porto 2023), which took place in the beautiful city of Porto, Portugal, from September 3rd to 6th, proved to be an immensely enriching experience. This symposium served as a global convergence point, bringing together researchers, academics, and industry experts from across the world, resulting in a truly invaluable gathering.

Kicking off with a captivating opening ceremony accompanied by the enchanting melodies of Portuguese music, the conference immediately established a harmonious tone for the event.

The symposium featured a series of inspiring lectures and presentations focusing on experimental studies of geomaterial deformations. Among them, Dr. Giulia Viggiani's lecture on "Recent Developments in the Experimental Characterization of Freezing and Thawing Ground" left a lasting impression on me and sparked fresh perspectives and novel ideas for my ongoing research.

However, what made the conference even more valuable was the chance to connect with both renowned and early career researchers. These interactions gave me fresh insights into granular materials and potential career opportunities in this field of study. Furthermore, presenting at this prestigious conference provided me with a unique opportunity to improve my presentation skills and gain confidence in conveying my research findings.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the ISSMGE foundation for their generous support, enabling my participation in this symposium. The experience has significantly expanded my knowledge, broadened my professional network, and strengthened my passion for advancing the study of geomaterial deformations.



Photographs from Conference:



Figure 1. Opening ceremony talk by Dr. António Viana da Fonseca.

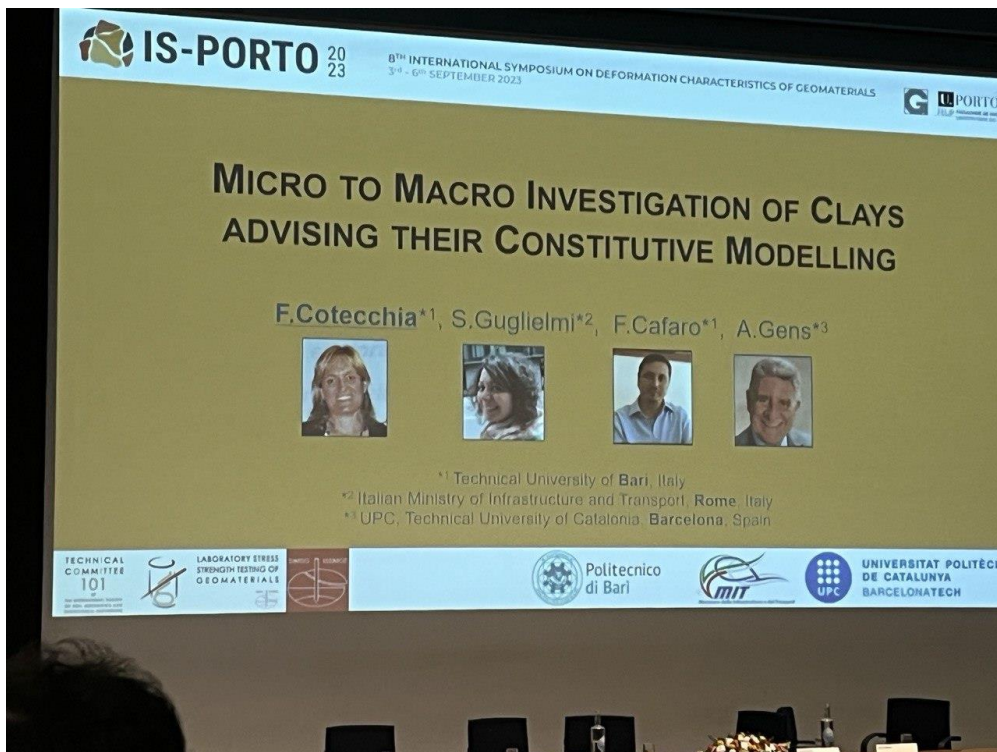


Figure 2. The keynote lecture delivered by Dr. Cotecchia related to the “Micro to Macro Investigation of Clays Advising Their Constitutive Modelling”.

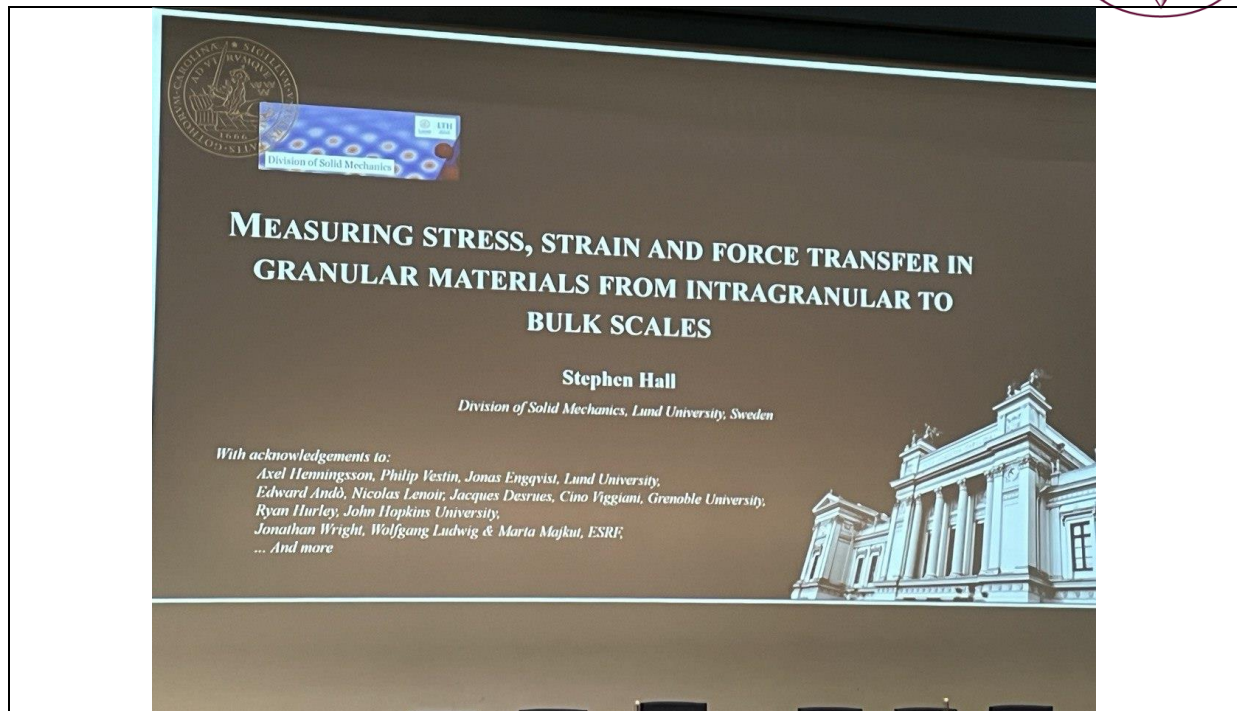
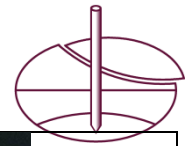


Figure 3. The keynote lecture delivered by Dr. Hall related to “Measuring Stress, Strain and Force Transfer in Granular Materials from Intragranular to Bulk Scales”.

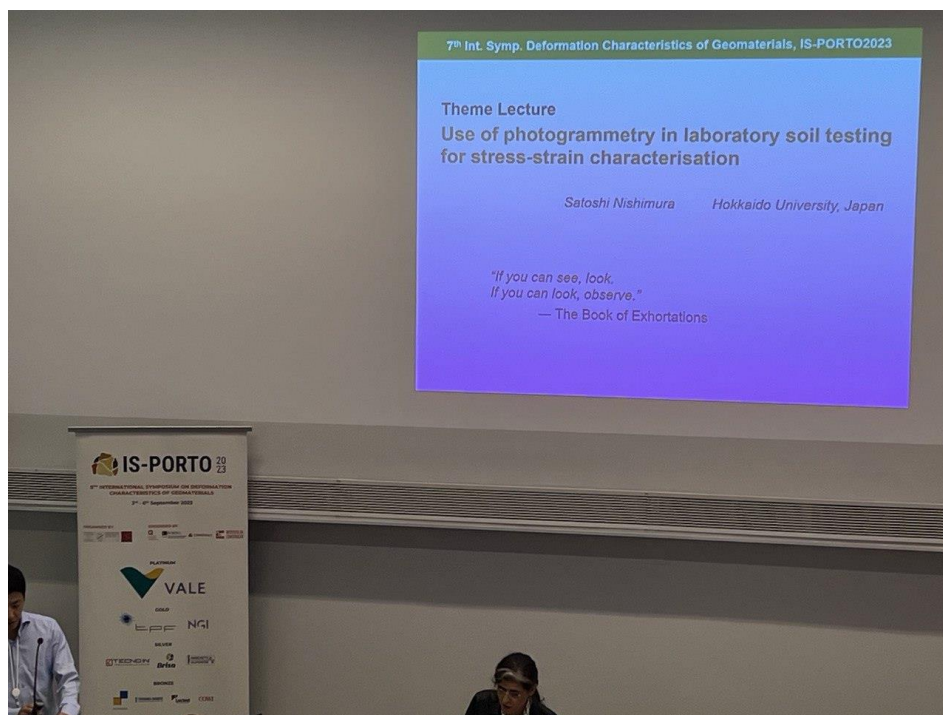


Figure 4. The theme lecture delivered by Dr. Nishimura related to “Use of Photogrammetry in Laboratory Soil Testing for Stress-Strain Characterisation”.

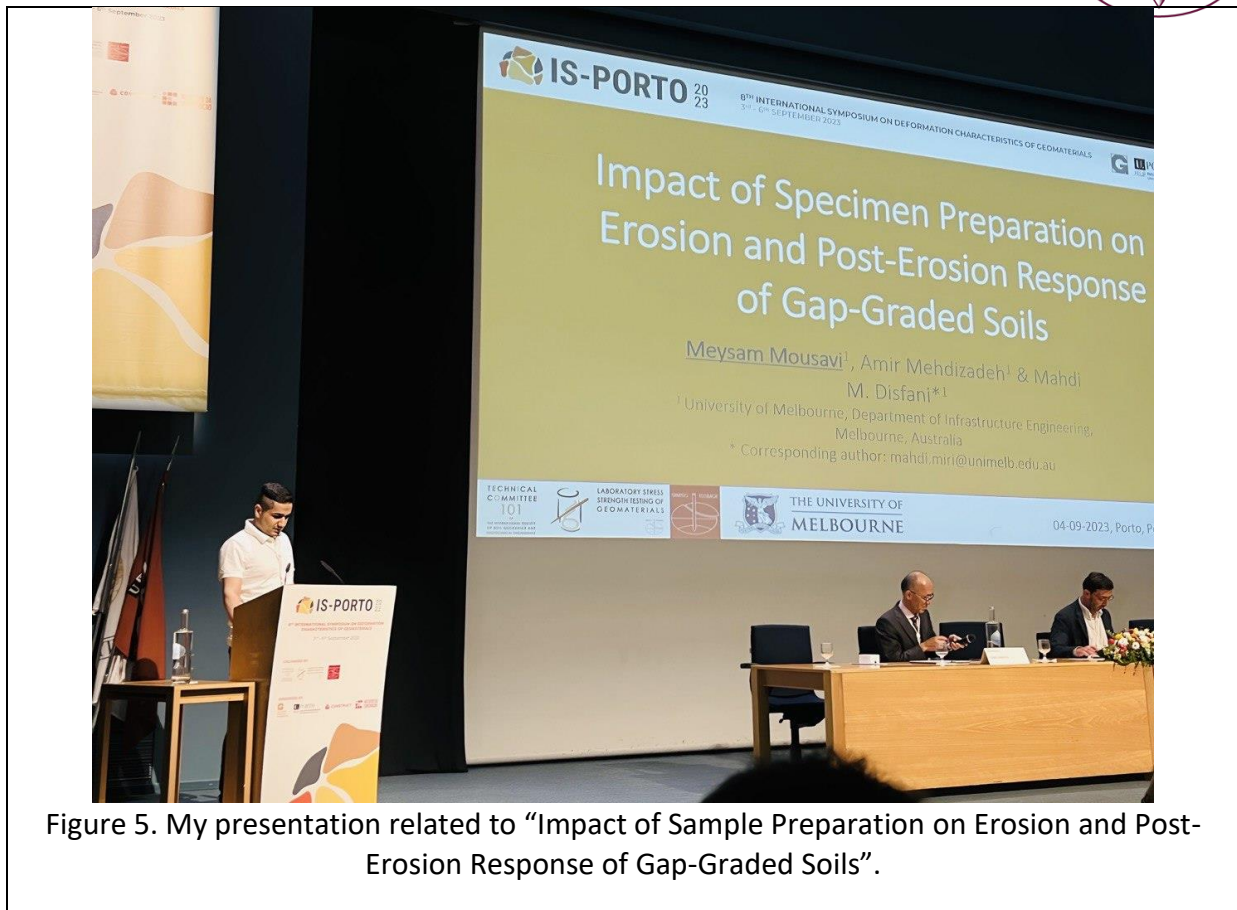


Figure 5. My presentation related to “Impact of Sample Preparation on Erosion and Post-Erosion Response of Gap-Graded Soils”.