

# Practical Applications for Nanoremediation

## Session 1

RemTech, Ferrara Exhibition Center, Ferrara, Italy

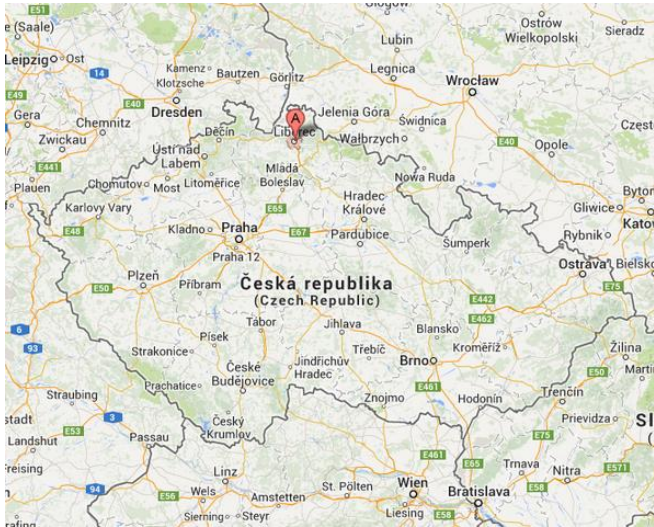
21 September 2016



# Agenda for Session 1

Time (Hrs)	Title	Presenter
0930 - 1030	A Primer on Nanoremediation – History, Applications, and Issues	D.W. Elliott
1030 - 1045	Break	
1045 - 1145	Nanoremediation in the EU - Impacts of NanoRem and Technology Combinations	M. Cernik
1145 - 1200	Break	
1200 - 1300	Key Field Applications of Nanoremediation – Lessons Learned and Future Directions	P. Kvapil

# Technical university of Liberec



**1100 employees**  
**9000 students**  
**6 faculties**  
**+ 2 institutes**

⊙ Institute for Nanomaterials,  
Advanced Technologies and  
Innovation



# Nanoremediation in EU

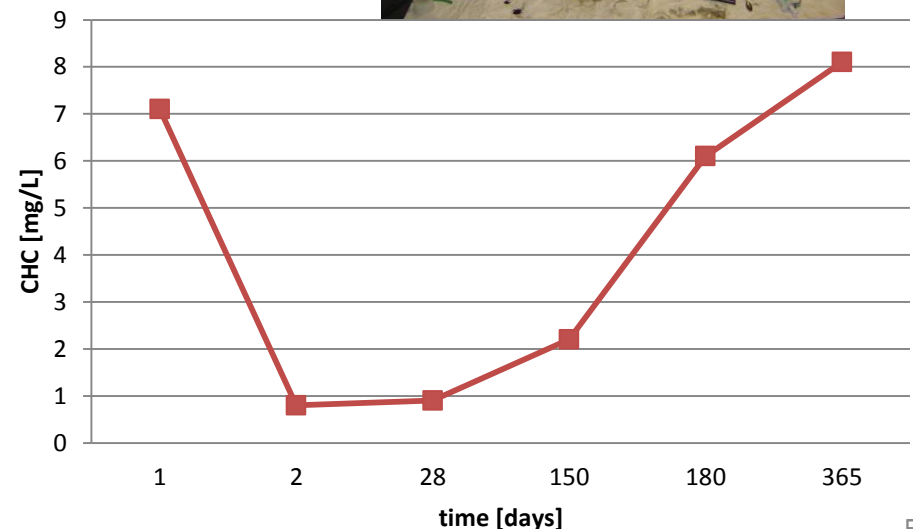
- History
  - 2004: 1<sup>st</sup> application outside of USA
  - 2005: pilot test at Kurovody
  - Overview of Czech sites
- Characterization of the nanoparticles
  - Different techniques for nZVI characterization
  - Slurry, Dry particles, Milled particles
  - Reactivity with samples of contaminated water
- Novel deployment approaches
  - Combination of nZVI and bioremediation (ARD)
  - Electrokinetics (EK) and nZVI



# History of nZVI in Europe

## 1st application in the Czech Republic

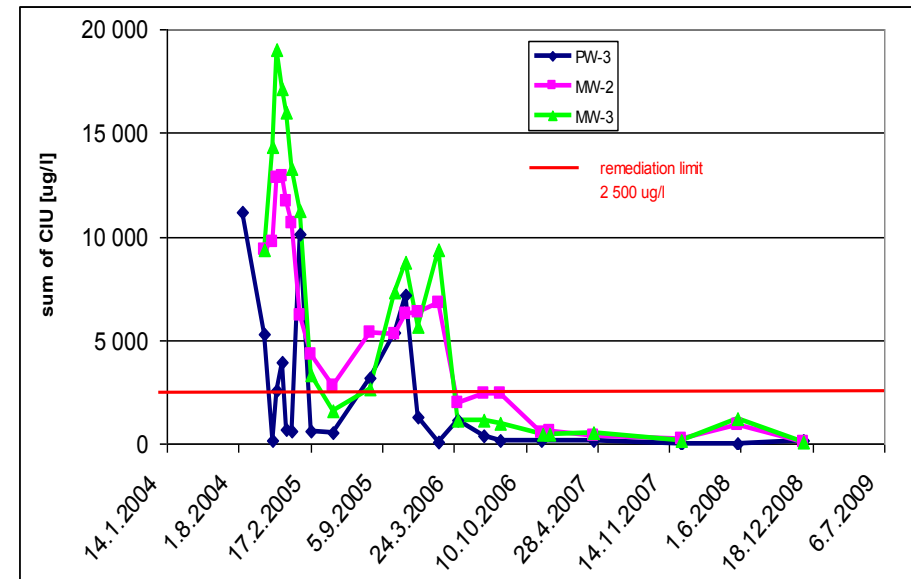
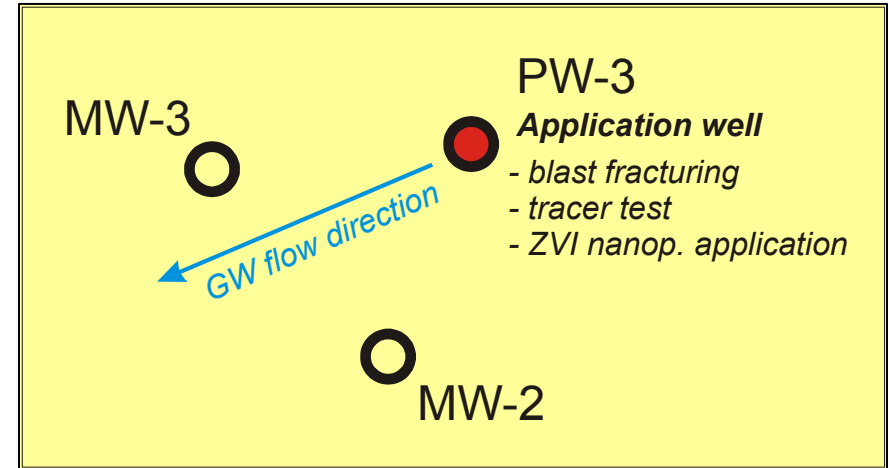
- 2004 – 1st pilot test (Spolchemie, with Golder) based on information from M. Pupeza
- Results:
  - ORP decrease (from +100 to -500 mV)
  - pH increase (from 6.5 to 8.5)
  - CHC decrease for 6 months



# Czech nZVI experience

## 2nd nZVI application

- 2005 – fractured bedrock (Kurivody, CZ)
- Tracer test
- Pilot test
- No rebound effect



# Czech nZVI experience

Site	Cont.	Lab (L)/Pilot(P)/ Remediation (R)	nZVI
Spolchemie 2004	Cl-Ethenes	L,P – 20 kg	ZHANG,
Kuřivody 2005, 2006	Cl-Ethenes	L,P – 50 kg	ZHANG, RNIP
Piešťany 2005	Cl-Ethenes	L,P – 20 kg	ZHANG
Permon 2006	Cr6+	L,P – 7 kg	RNIP
Rožmitál 2007-9	PCB	L,P – 150 kg	RNIP, NANOFER
Hluk 2007, 2008 (PRB)	Cl-Ethenes	L,P – 150 kg	RNIP, NANOFER
<b>Hořice 2008, 2009-2013</b>	<b>Cl-Ethenes</b>	<b>L,P,R – 600 kg</b>	<b>RNIP, NANOFER, DC, BIO</b>
Uherský Brod 2008	Cl-Ethenes	P – 50 kg	NANOFER
<b>Písečná 2008-2011, 2014-17</b>	<b>Cl-E, Cl-A</b>	<b>L,P,R – 250 kg</b>	<b>RNIP, NANOFER</b>
Uzin 2009	Cl-E	L,P – 150 kg	NANOFER
<b>Spolchemie 2009-2017</b>	<b>Cl-E</b>	<b>L,P,R – 1000 kg</b>	<b>NANOFER, DC</b>
<b>MARS 2012-2015</b>	<b>Cl-E</b>	<b>L,P,R – 1000 kg</b>	<b>NANOFER, DC, BIO</b>

# History of Czech nZVI scientific actions

## Why just in the Czech Republic?

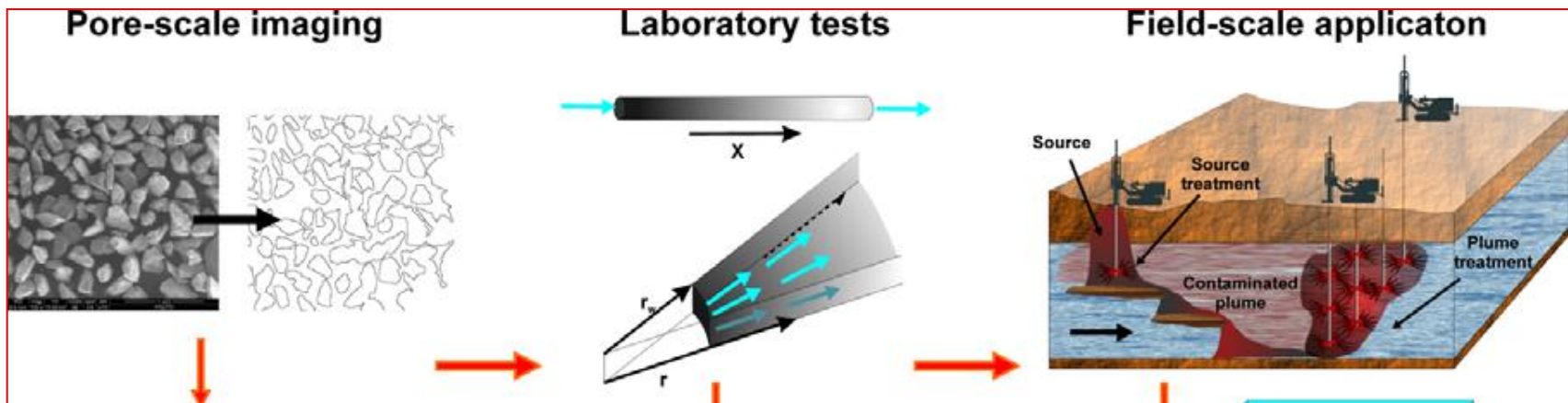
- No eco-friendly production → changes of political system → privatization → commitment of remediation
- Pump & treat, venting – not effective enough
- Authorities support innovative technologies
- Czech project (2006-8): *“Development of nZVI production and application for treatment of contaminated groundwater”*
- Cooperation of TUL+ UPOL + AQUATEST consultancy → NANOIRON establishment
- Pilot and full scale applications, new products development
- Observatory Nano EU project → EU project NANOREM





## Taking Nanotechnological Remediation Processes from Lab Scale to End User Applications for the Restoration of a Clean Environment

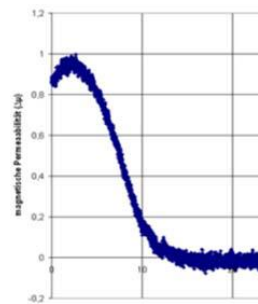
- EU project NANOREM
- 29 EU institutions from 15 Countries
- PAG: D. Elliott, G. Lowry, M. Wiesner
- Budget €12 million (\$16.8 million); duration 48 months
- Aim: Identification of the most appropriate nano-remediation technological approaches to achieve a step change in practical remediation performance



# List of activities (WPs) & their objectives



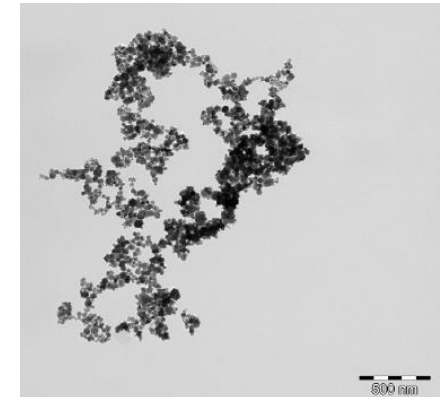
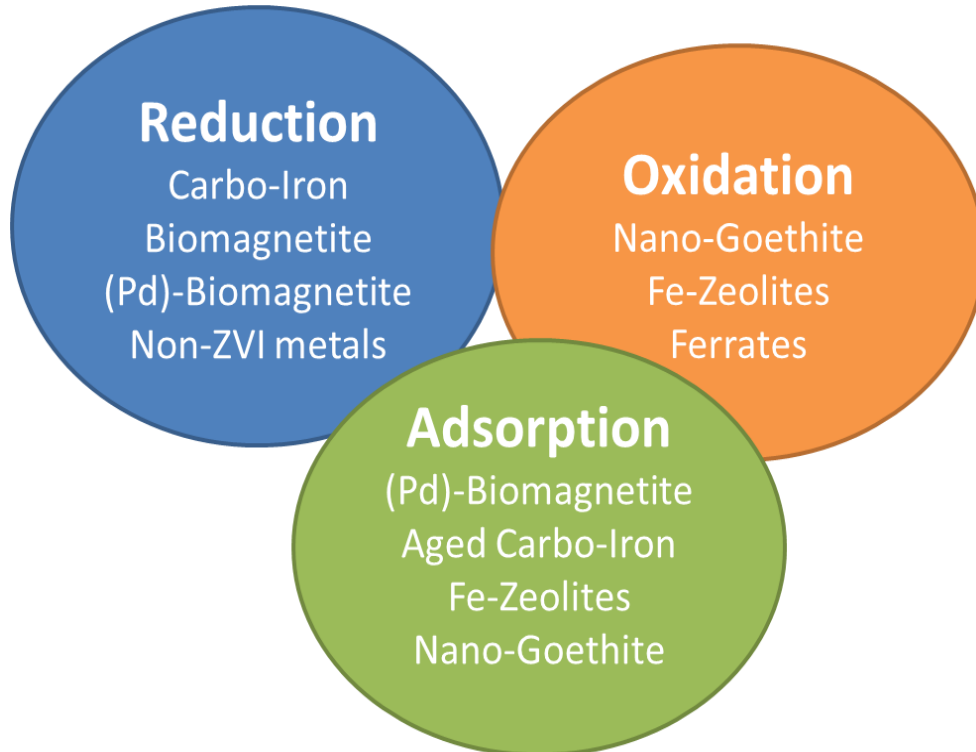
- Design, Improvement and Optimized Production of:
  - Zero-Valent Iron Nanoparticles (WP2)
  - Non-ZVI and Composite Nanoparticles (WP3)
- Mobility and Fate of Nanoparticles (WP4)
- Environmental Impact of Reactive Nanoparticles (WP5)
- Analytical Methods for In-situ Determination of Nanoparticles Fate (WP6)
- Upscaling, Risk and Sustainability (WP8)
- Pilot Site Applications and Field Demonstrations (WP10)



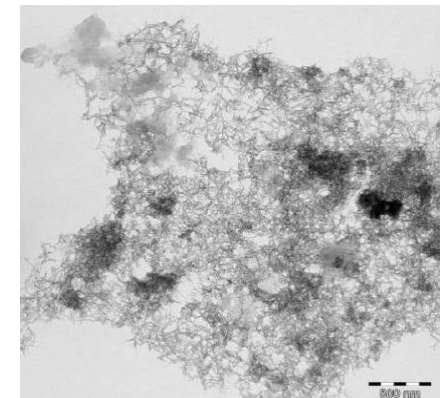


# Taking Nanotechnological Remediation Processes from Lab Scale to End User Applications for the Restoration of a Clean Environment

## WP3: Non-Fe and combined particles



Biomagnetite

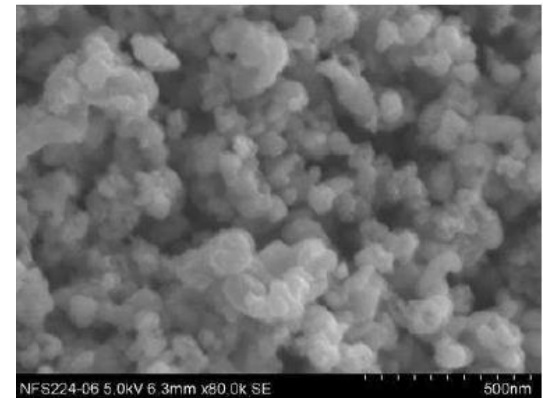
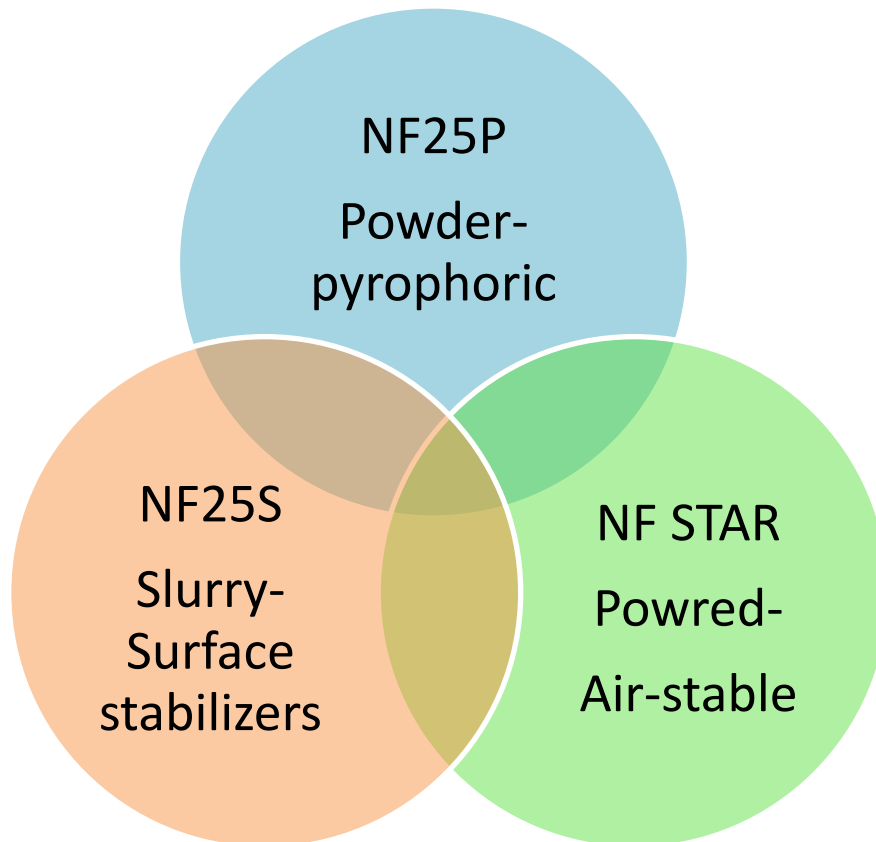


Feox NP

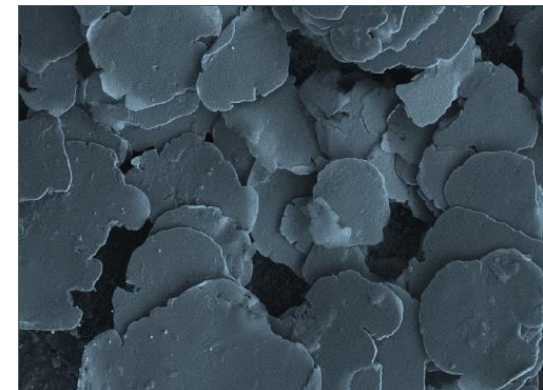


# Taking Nanotechnological Remediation Processes from Lab Scale to End User Applications for the Restoration of a Clean Environment

## WP2: nZVI particles



NF STAR

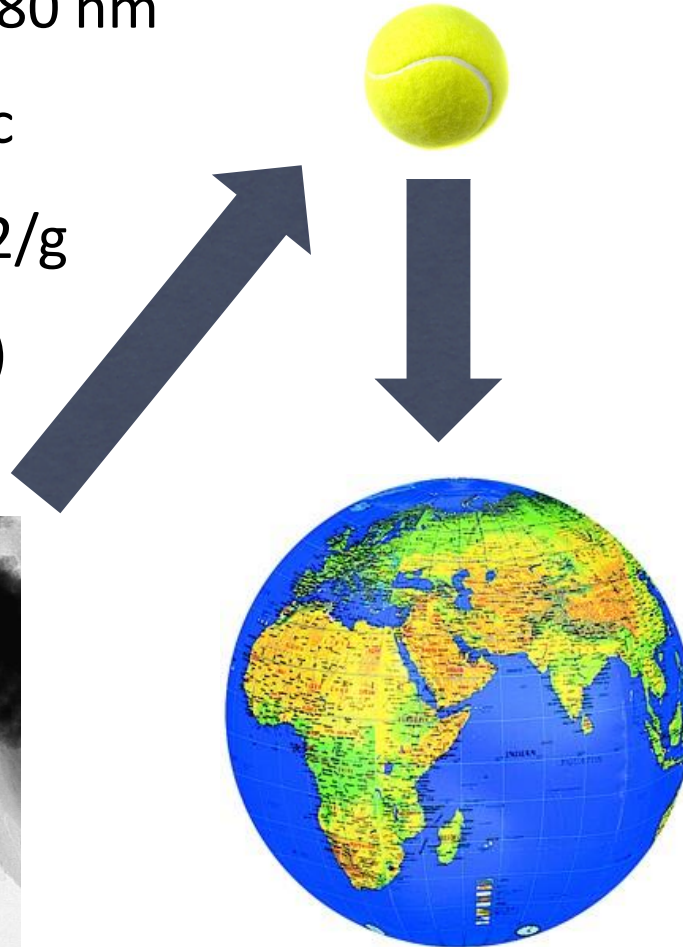
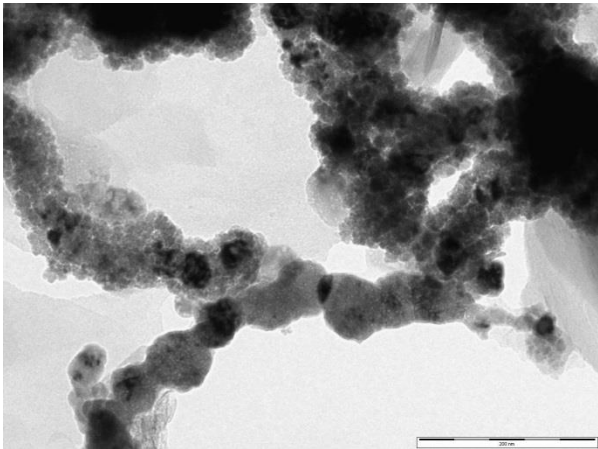


milled NP



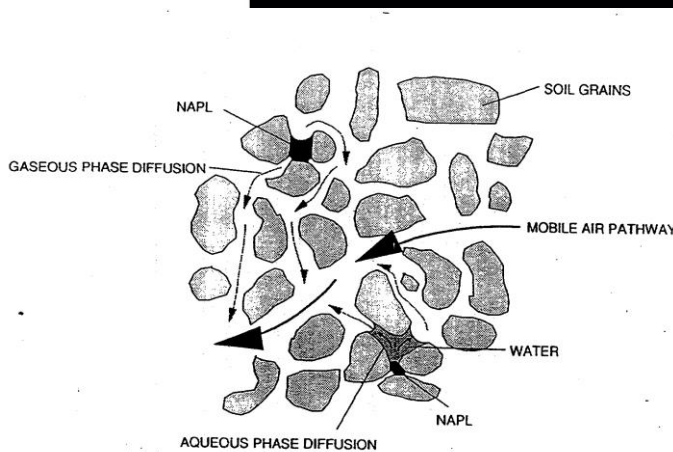
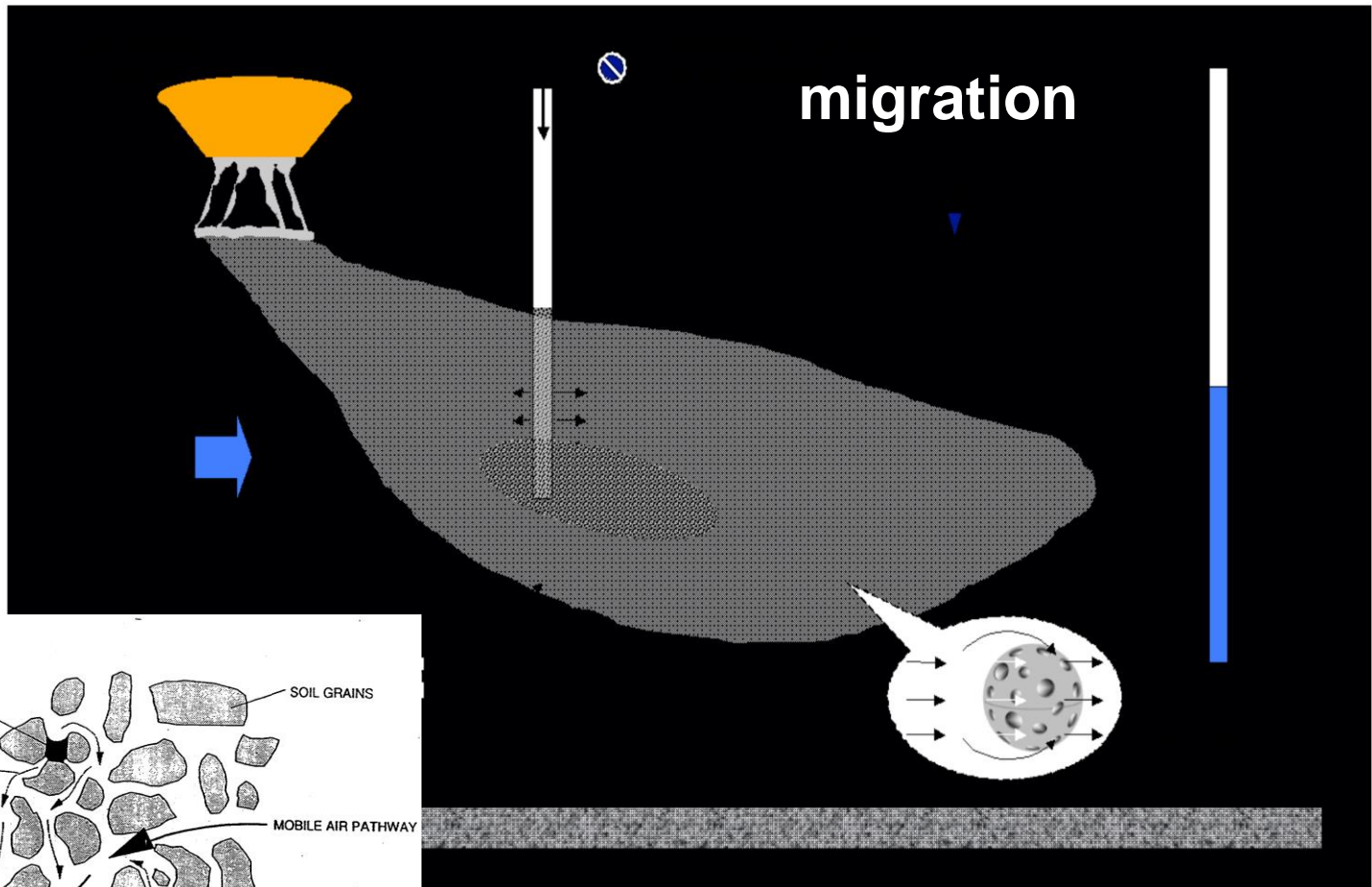
# Basic nZVI characteristics

- Nanoscale particles  $\sim 80$  nm
- Reactivity - pyrophoric
- Surface area 20-30 m<sup>2</sup>/g
- Majority of Fe<sup>0</sup> (>90%)



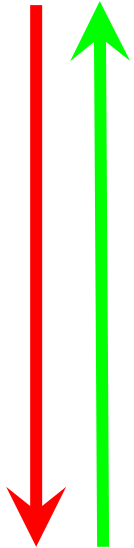


# Basic of nanoremediation



zdroj: Zhang

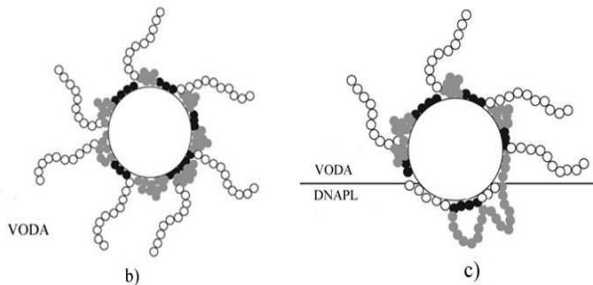
# Optimal properties



- reactivity with contam.
- mobility in the aquifer
- stability before appl.
- 
- NO (minimum) of negative environ. effects
- price, availability

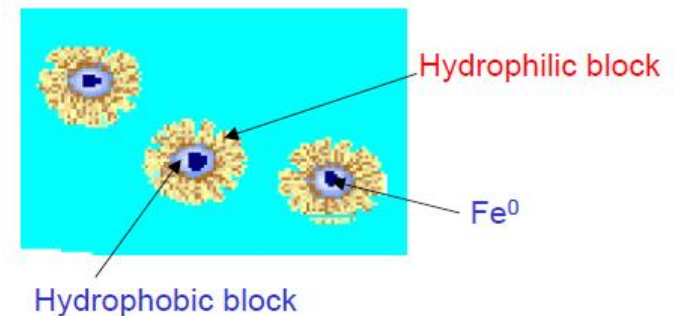
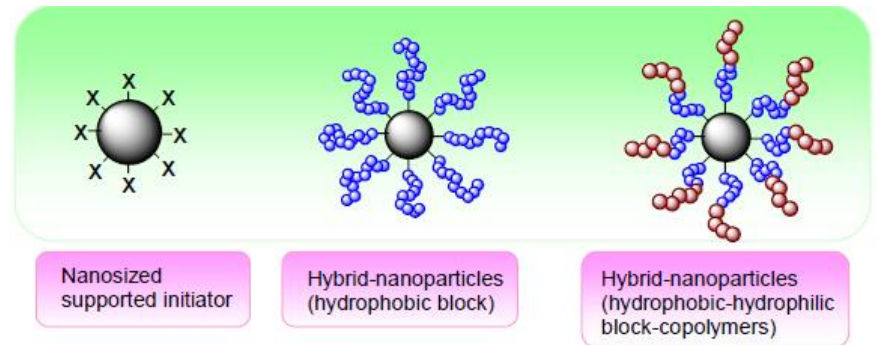
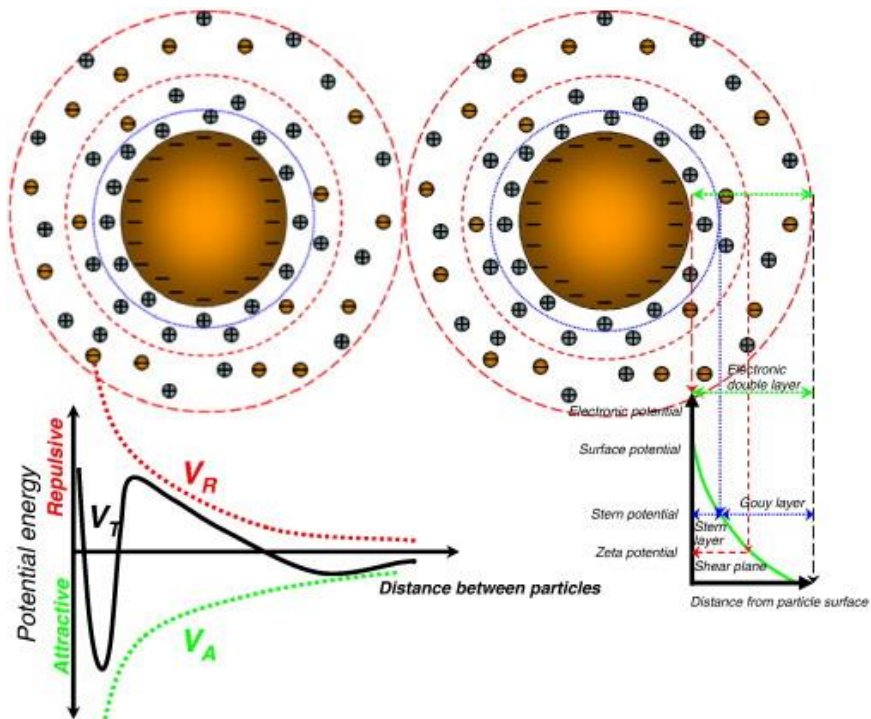
## Surface modification

Inhacor-T  
Starch  
Carboxymethyle cellulose  
Polyacrylic acid  
Cellulose  
Tween 60



# Princip of stabilization

- Electrostatic: increase of surface charge  $\rightarrow$  repulsion
- Sterical  $\rightarrow$  increase of nZVI distance



# nZVI Slurry Manufacturing

Dispersing process: preparation of fresh nZVI slurry

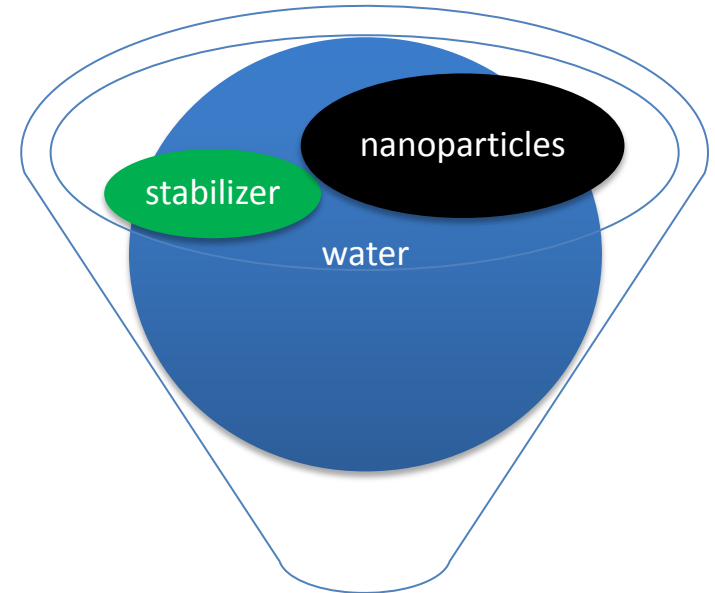
*the technology  
minimizes  
spontaneous  
release of dry  
nanoparticles to the  
environment*

NANO FER 25P

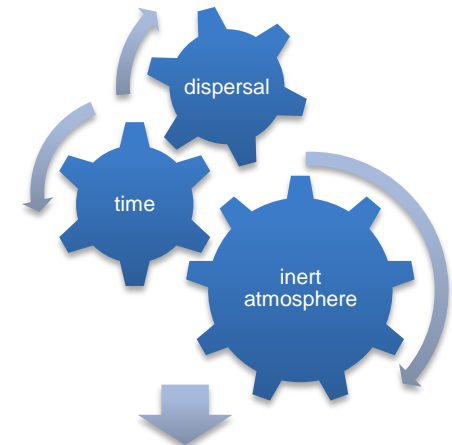
water + stabilizer

NANO FER 25S

Industrial Dispersing unit



Schematic principle



Water slurry

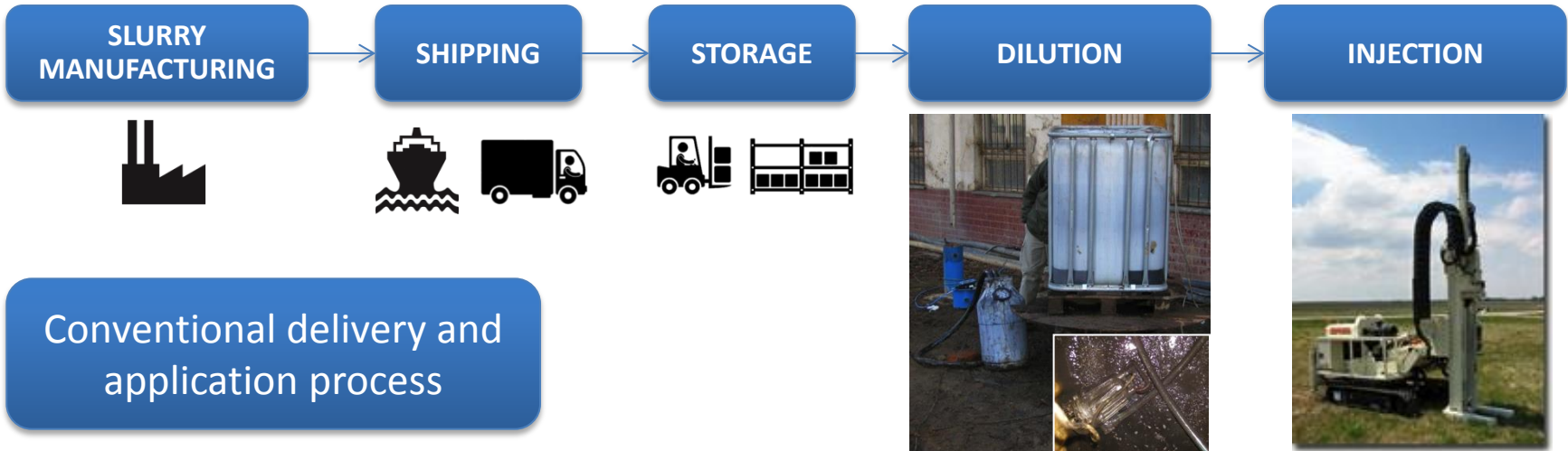
# NANOFER STAR

Dry air-stable powder



# Innovative nZVI Manufacturing

## Field deployment approaches



# NANOFER STAR- dry nZVI

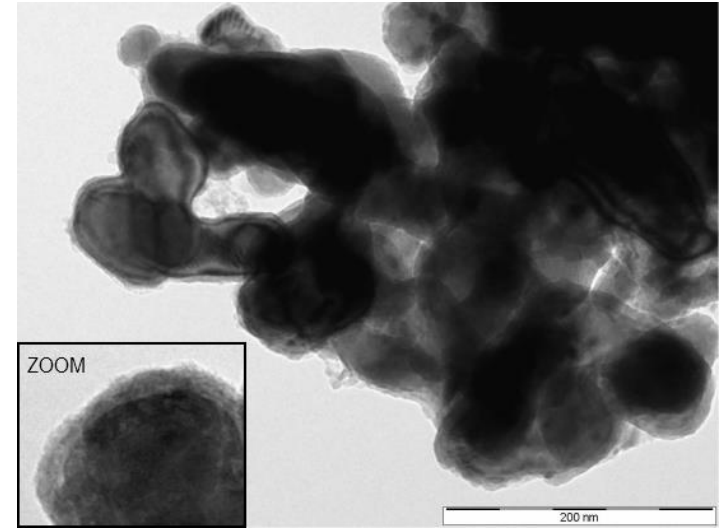
- Dry powder transported to the site
- On site surface activation, stabilization
- Dillution to a final concentration
- advantage → high reactivity, >95% Fe<sup>0</sup>



# Innovative nZVI Manufacturing

## NANOFER STAR: air-stable powder

- Composition (wt%):
  - Min 80% of nZVI
  - Max 20% of iron oxides
- Primary stabilization technique



- STAR means:
  - Surface stabilized
  - Transportable
  - Air-stable
  - Reactive



No degradation  
(unlimited storage time)

High reactivity  
(comparable to NANOFER 25P)

Even cheaper shipping  
(comparing to NANOFER 25P)

Air stability

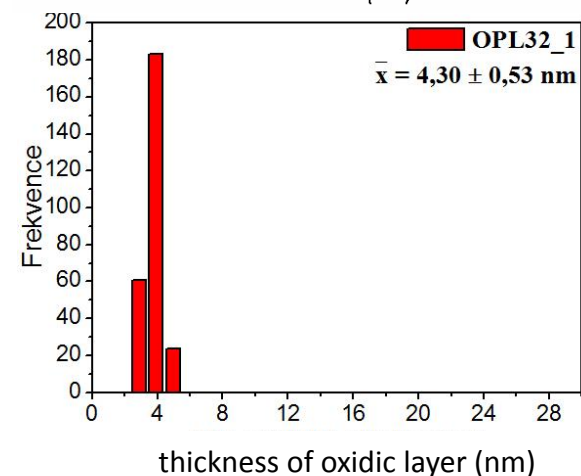
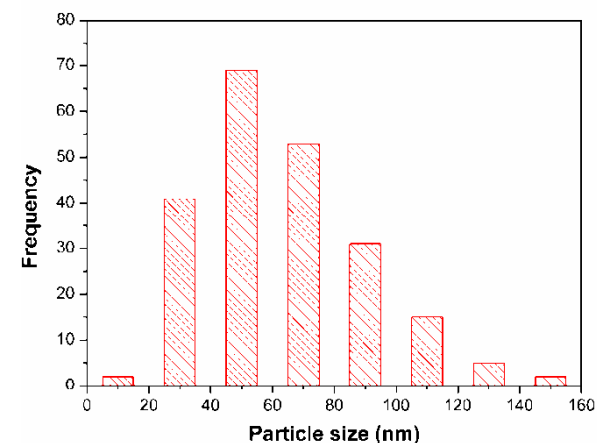
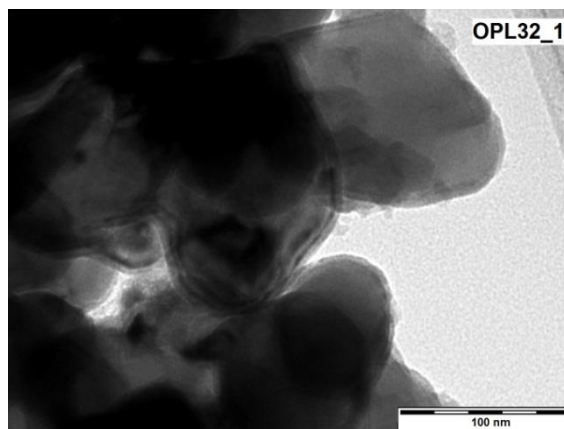
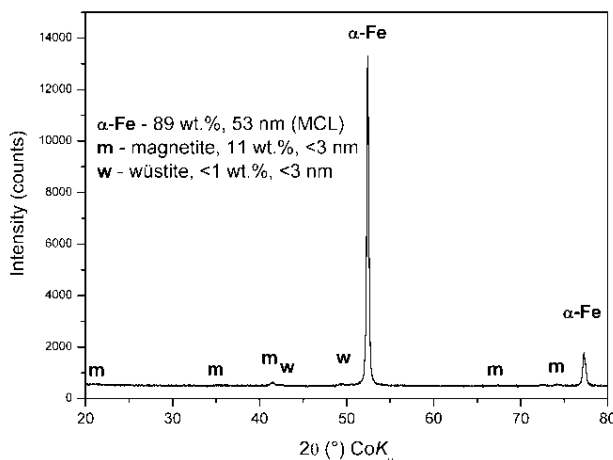
Dangerous classified  
(UN 3089 - flammable)

Lower amount of nZVI  
(comparing to NANOFER 25P)

# Challenging nZVI materials

## Dry NP powder

- NANOFER STAR – dry NP powder produced by solid-state thermal reduction of Fe-oxide
- Tiny oxidic layer for NP protection
- Good stability, transpotability
- Sufficient reactivity (activation)
- Mobility (surface modifications)





# Milling process

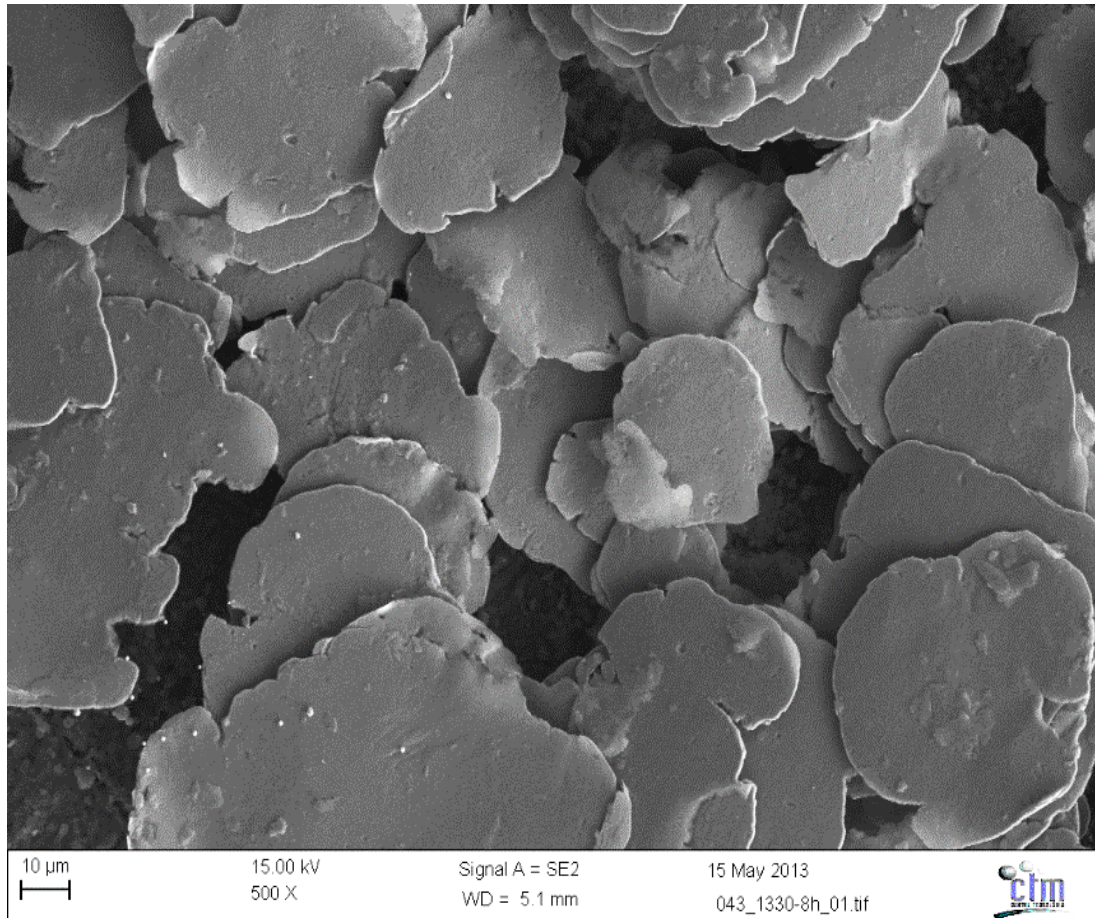
Alternative nZVI preparation





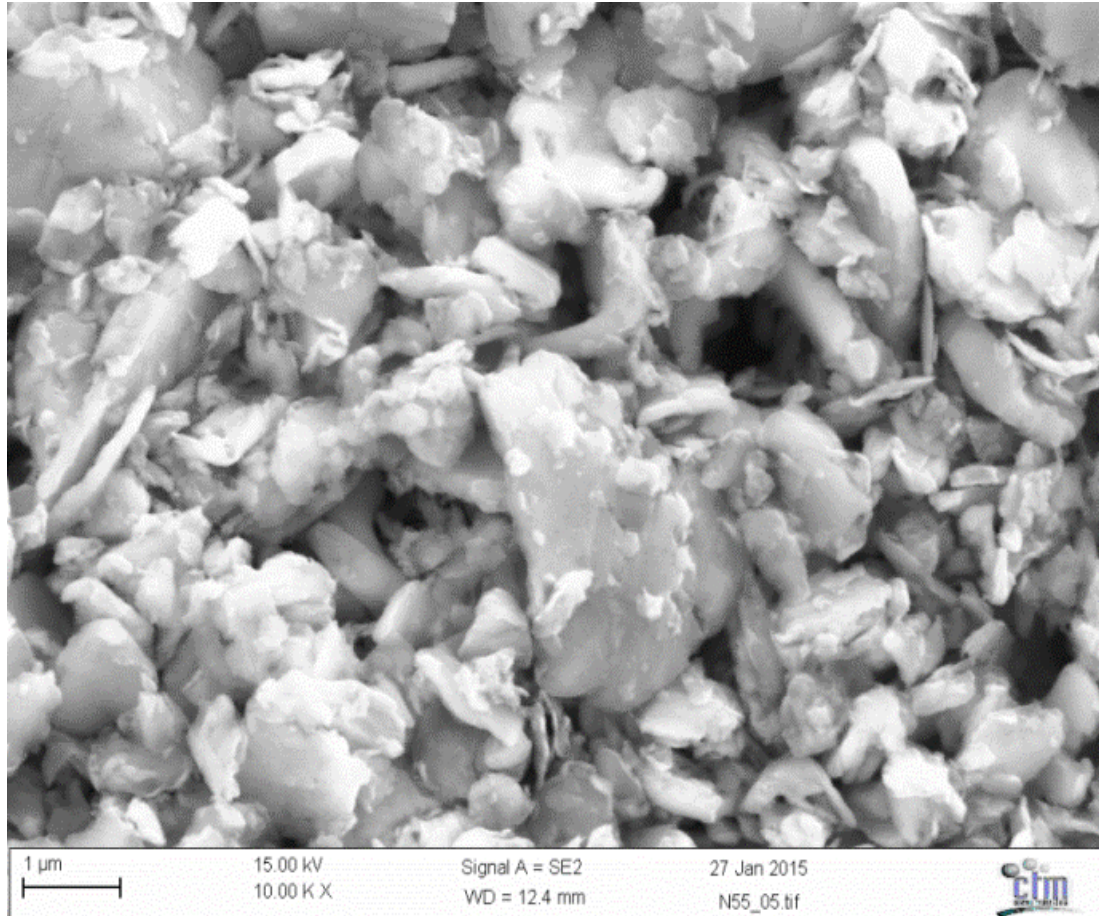
# ZVI milling from micro scale

- Preparation of “nano” ZVI particles
- Water or ethanol → flakes (< 100 nm thickness)



# ZVI milling

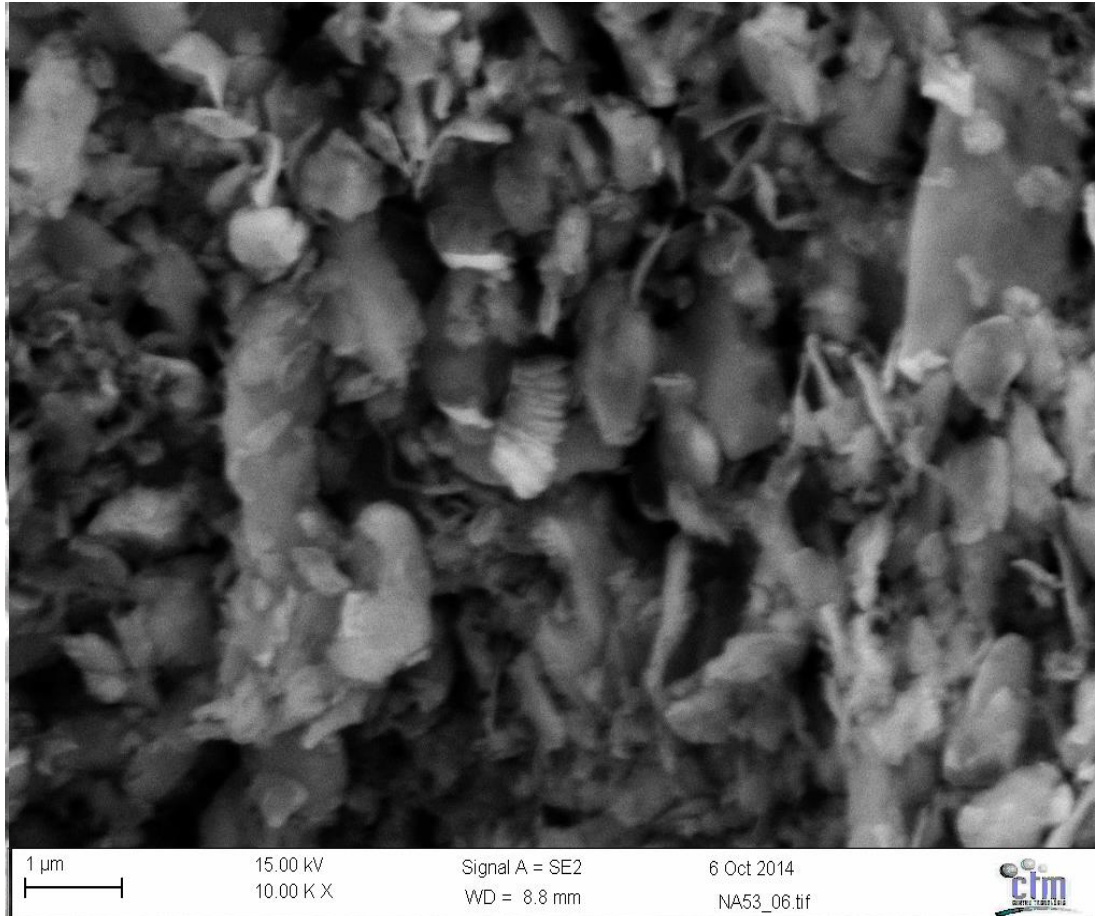
- Preparation of “nano” ZVI particles
- MEG solution



original

# ZVI milling

- Preparation of “nano” ZVI particles
- MEG solution

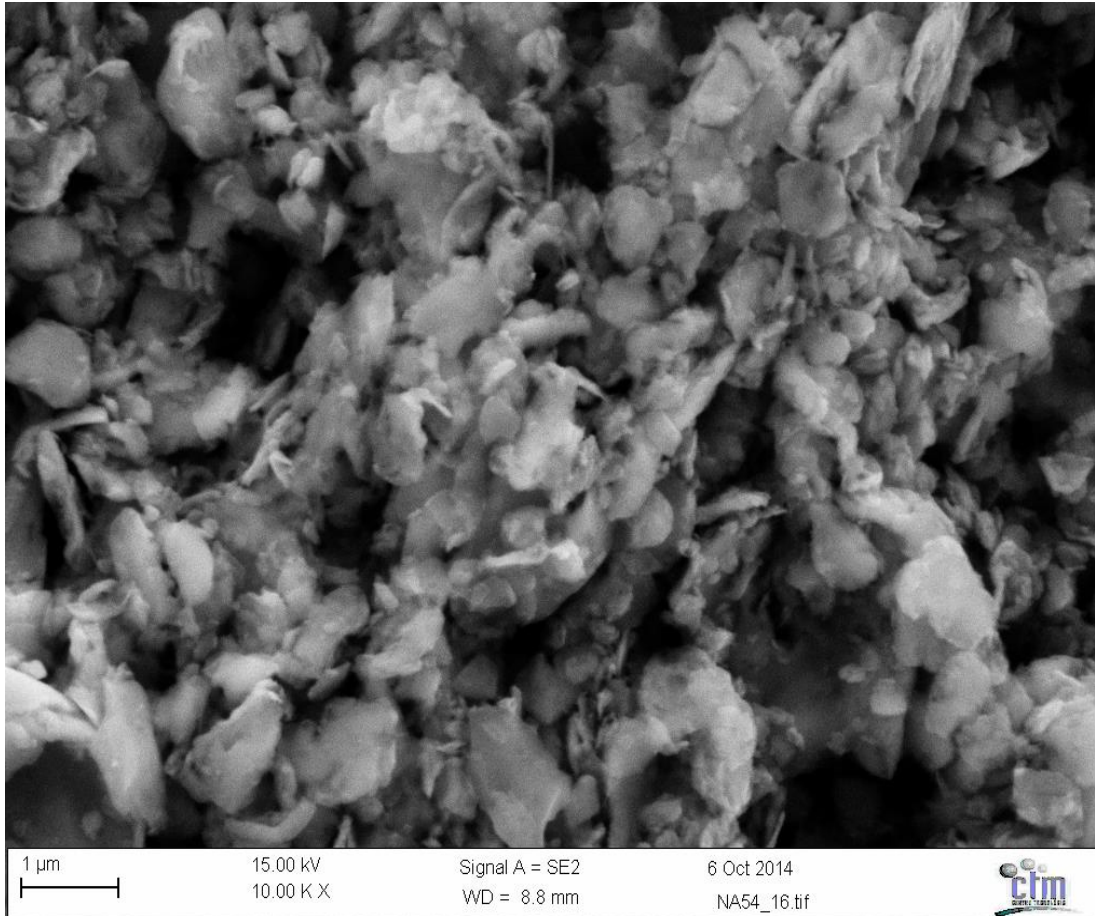


1 g alumina



# ZVI milling

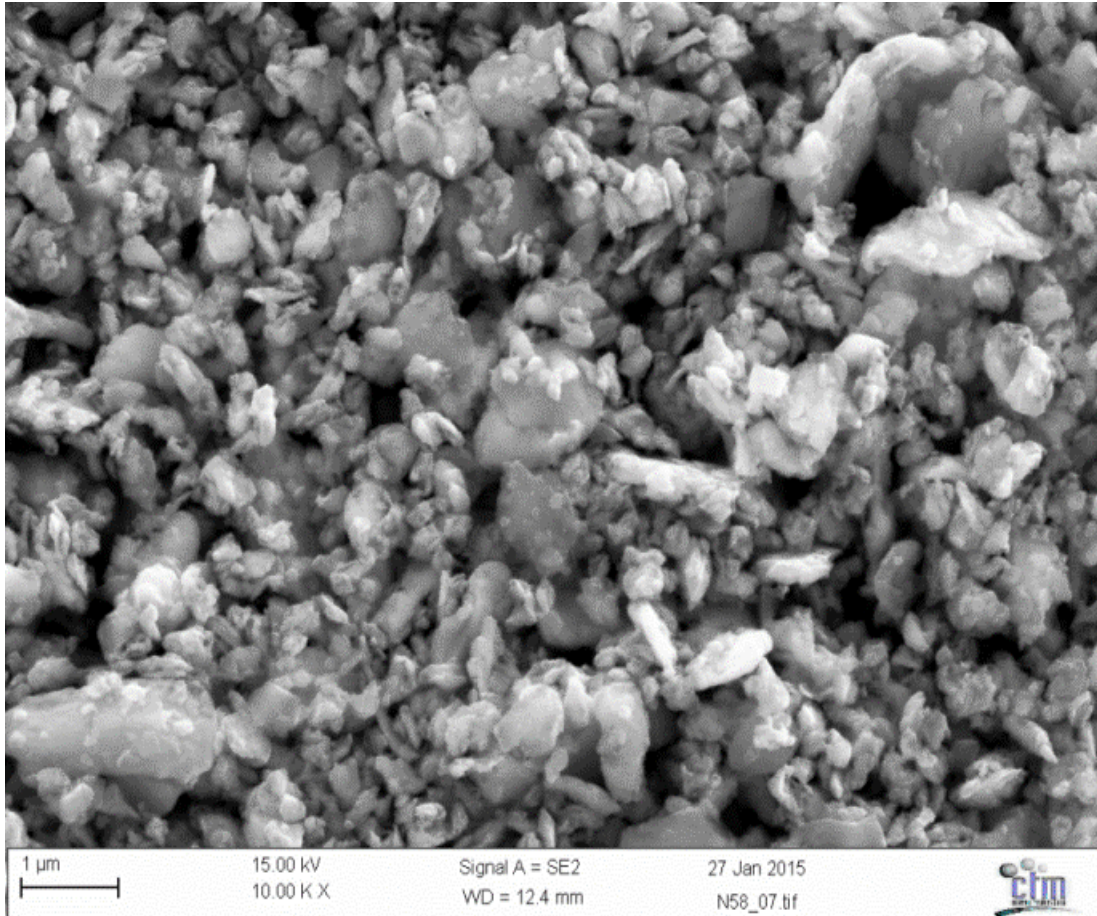
- Preparation of “nano” ZVI particles
- MEG solution



3 g alumina

# ZVI milling

- Preparation of “nano” ZVI particles
- MEG solution



10 g alumina

400 nm (med)  
Size < 1 μm  
(70% volume)

Spherical NP



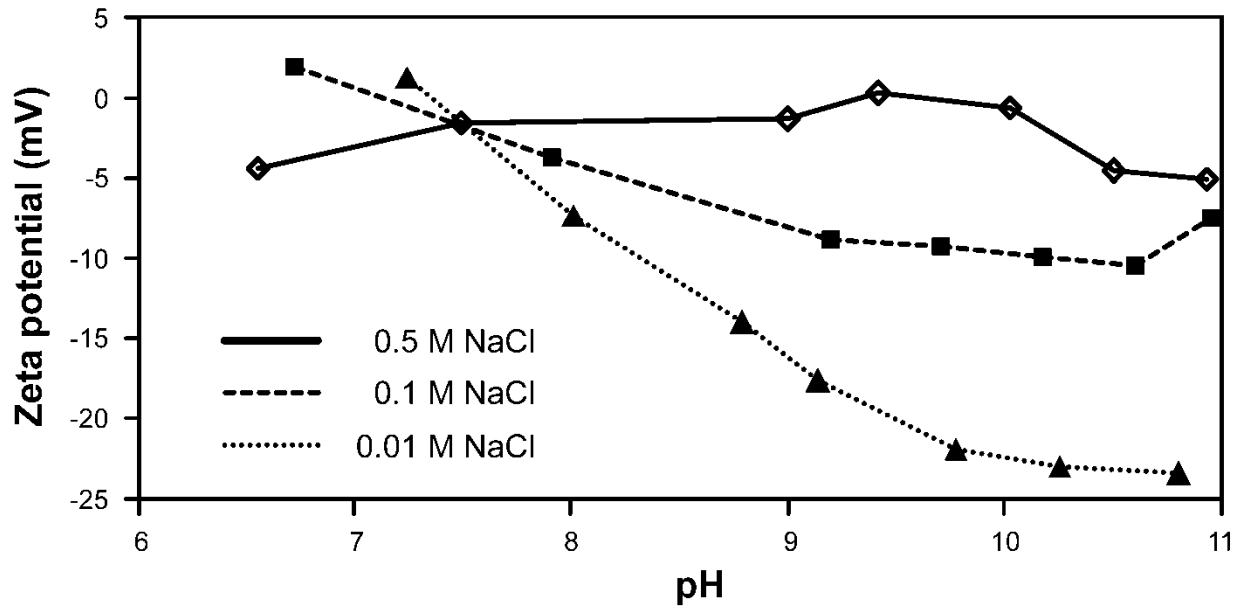
# nZVI characterization

## 3 types of tests

- Structural characteristics:
  - zeta-potential,
  - BET,
  - TEM & SEM, XRD & Mössbauer,
  - Size distribution: DLS & DSC,...
- Reactivity tests:
  - Water (production of  $H_2$  and  $OH^-$ )
  - Selected contaminants (spiked in water)
  - Contaminated water
- Mobility tests
  - 1-D simple tests for comparison
  - Complex 1-D tests
  - 2-D and 3-D tests

# ZVI characteristics

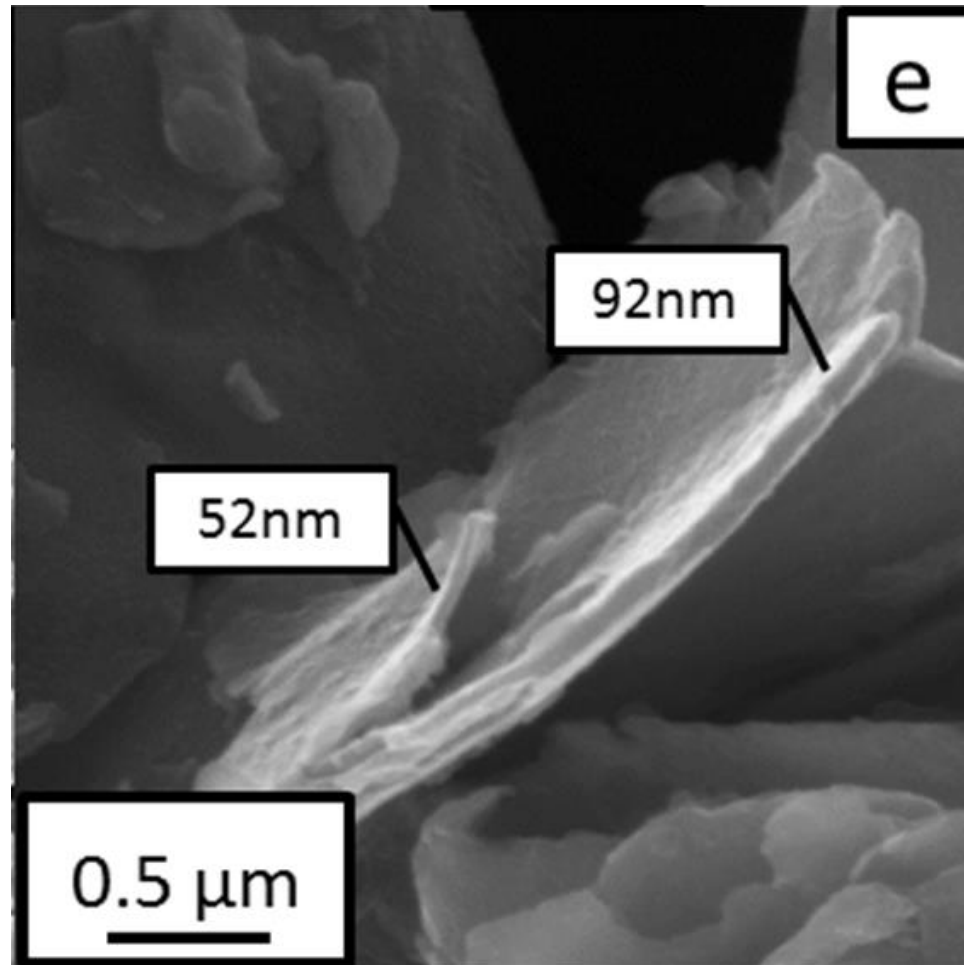
- Zeta-potential



- Addition of NaOH → pH increase
- PZC
- Sign and size at gw pH

# nZVI characteristics

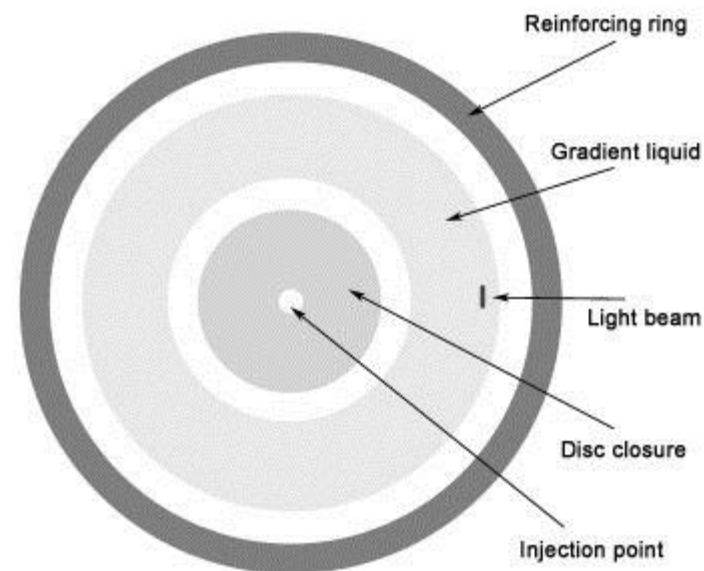
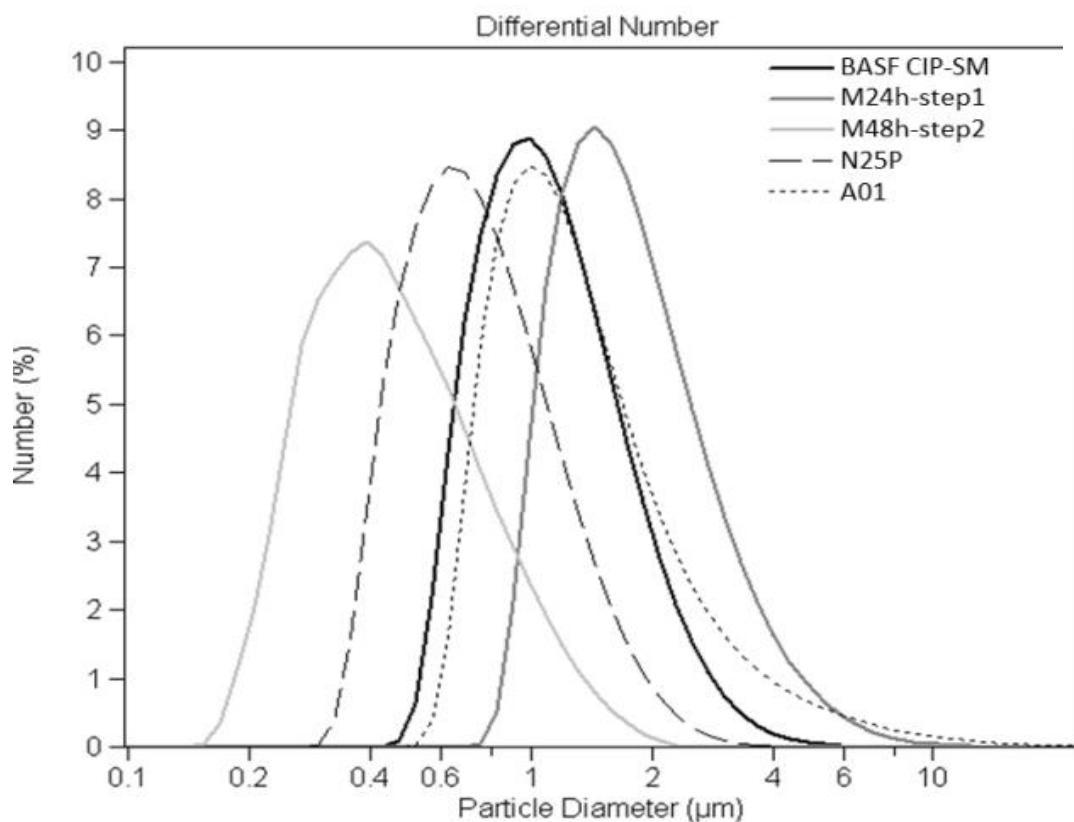
- SEM and TEM pictures



SEM of nZVI after 48h of milling

# ZVI characteristics

- Disc gel centrifuge

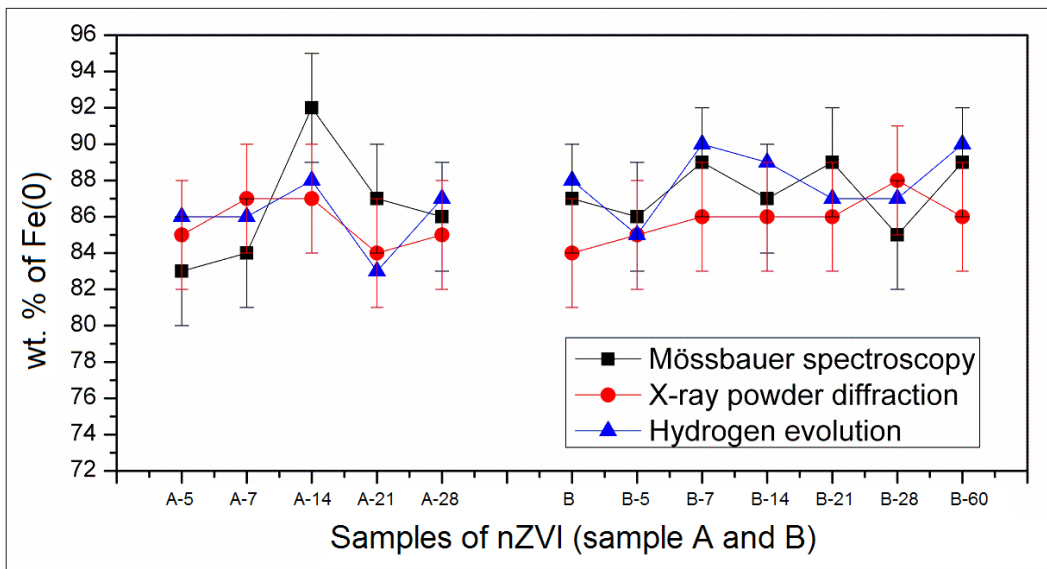




# Simple method for reactivity check

## QA/QC: Hydrogen evolution method

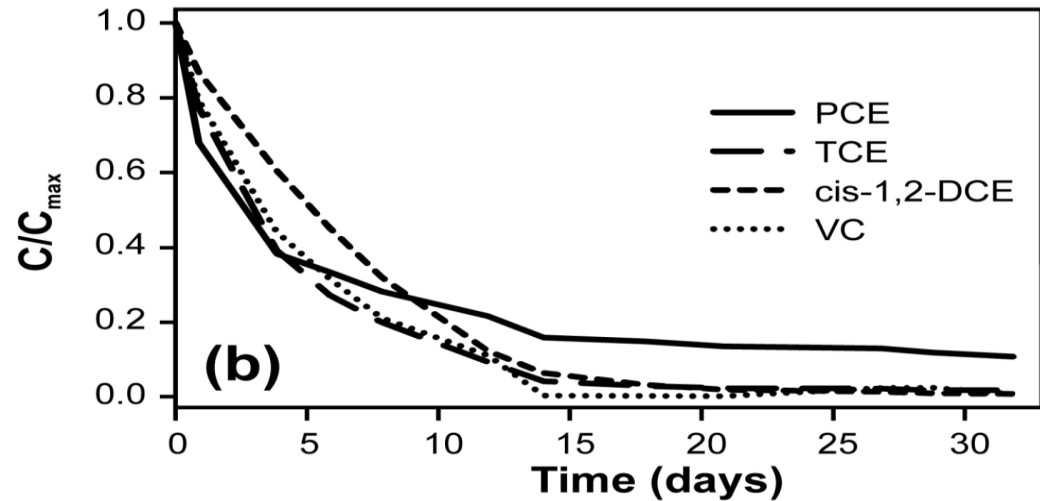
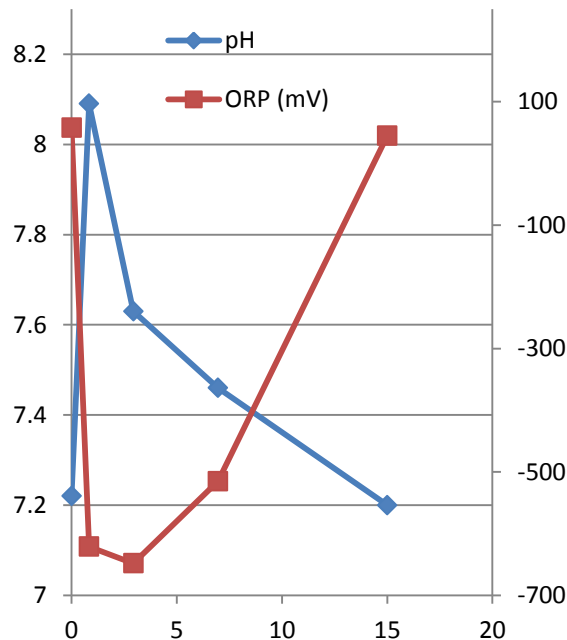
- Simple, cheap and fast measurement of nZVI content.
- Principle: measurement of hydrogen volume, which evolves due to chemical reaction of nZVI and an acid.
- The method has been compared to Mössbauer spectroscopy and X-ray powder diffraction.



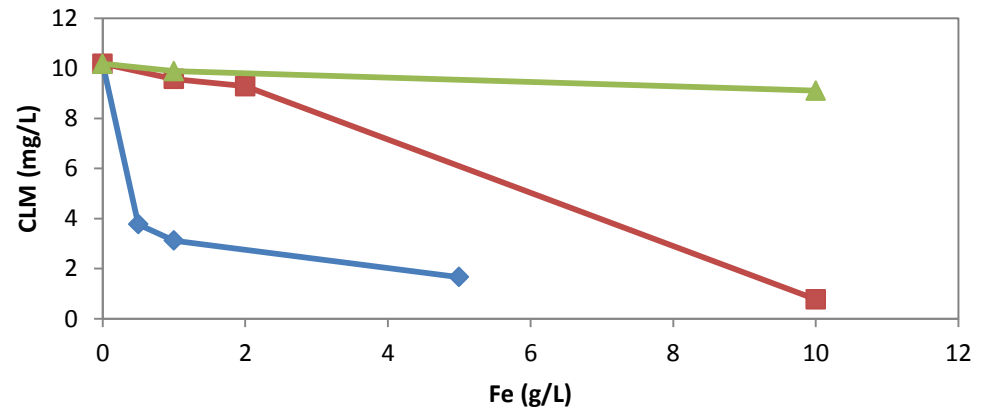
# nZVI reactivity

## Reaction with contaminated water

- pH and ORP
- Removal of CHC
- Kinetic tests
- Concentration tests



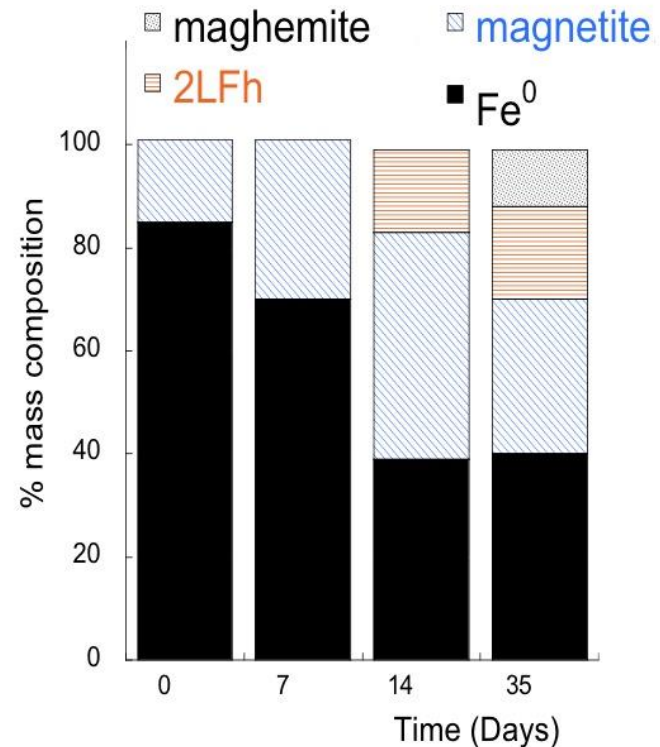
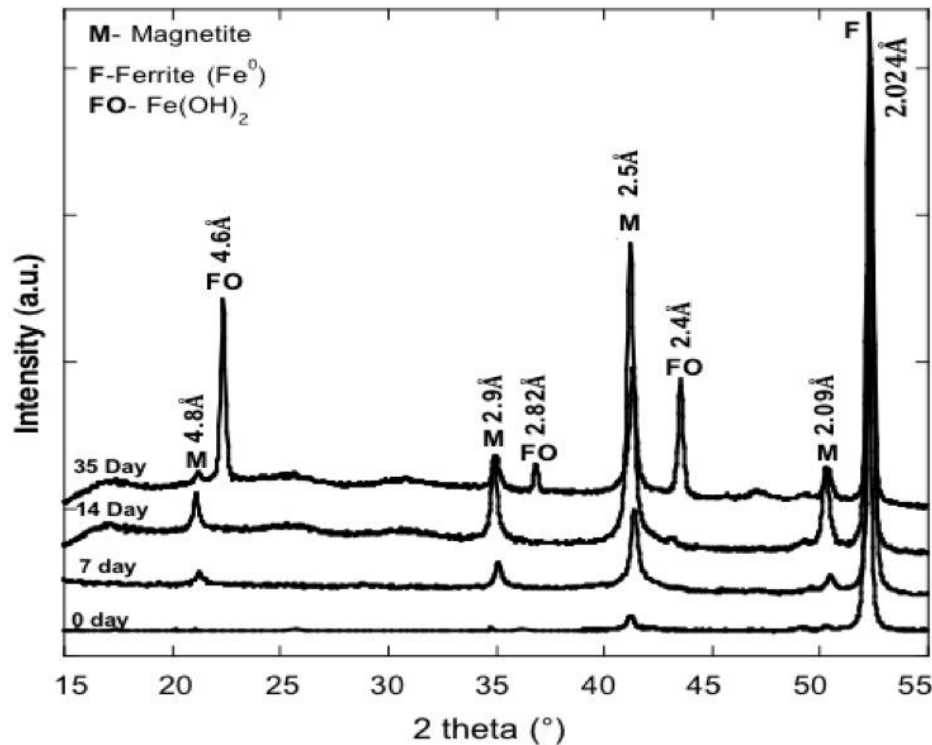
### Total Chlormethanes



# nZVI reactivity

## Reaction with distilled water

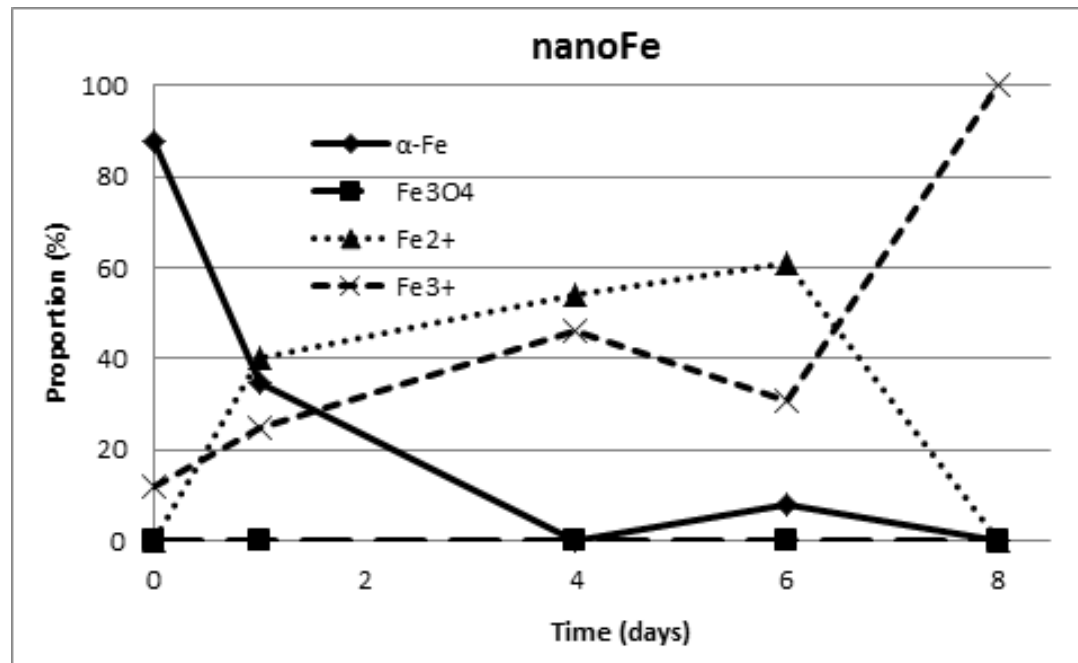
- Reaction in nitrogen atmosphere
- XRD diffractogram → mass composition of nZVI



# nZVI reactivity

## Reaction with contaminated water

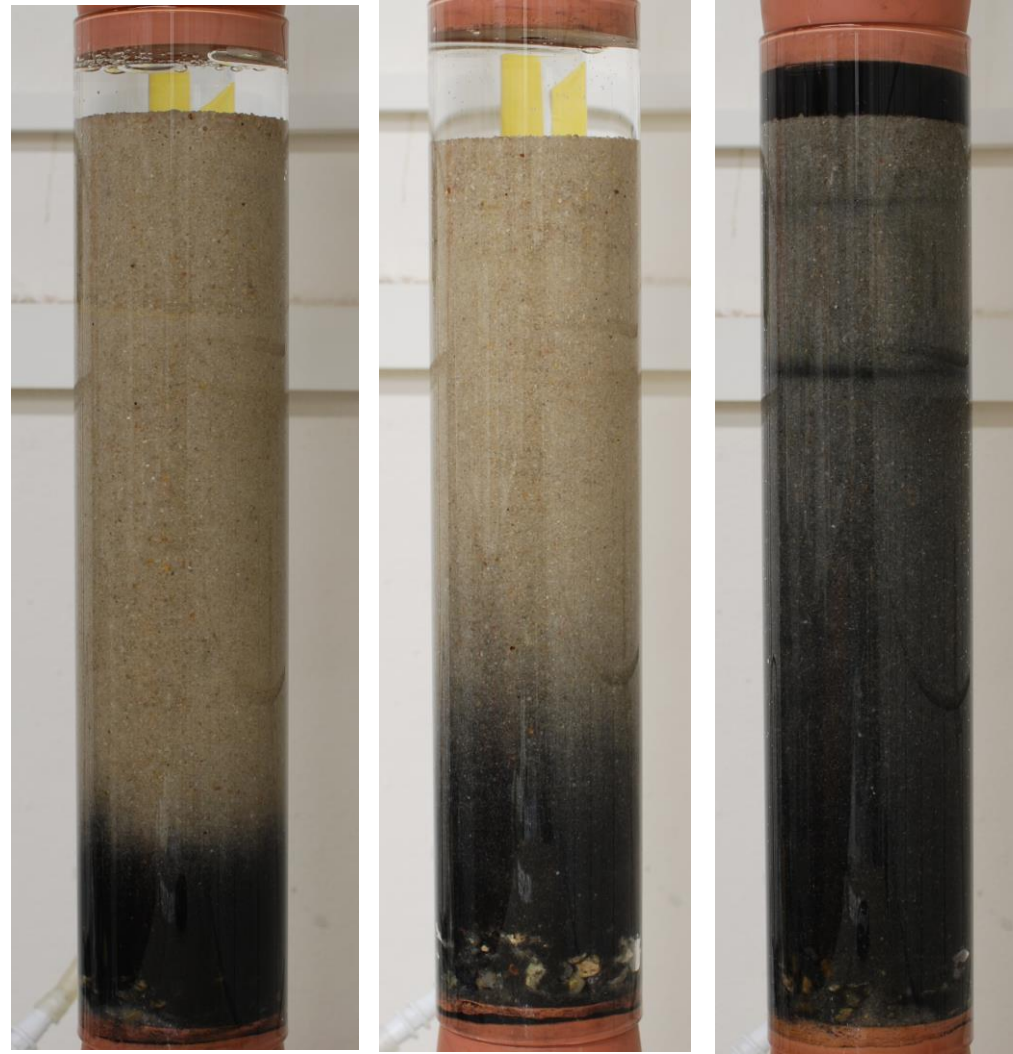
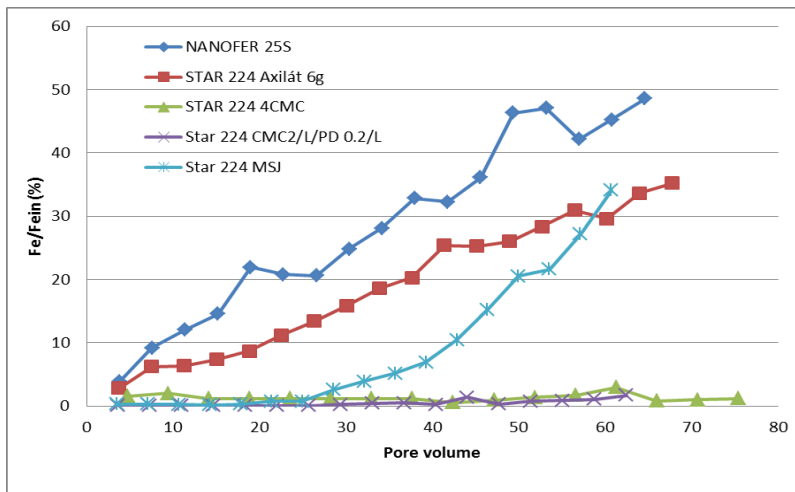
- CHC contaminated water
- Changes in Fe oxidation state composition in time
- Limited nZVI reactivity
- Fe(III)ox final product



# Migration tests

## 1-D laboratory columns

- Migration bottom- up
- Sandy media
- Low nZVI conc. (<1 g/l)
- Comparison of different modifications



non modified NZVI

modifications



# Migration tests

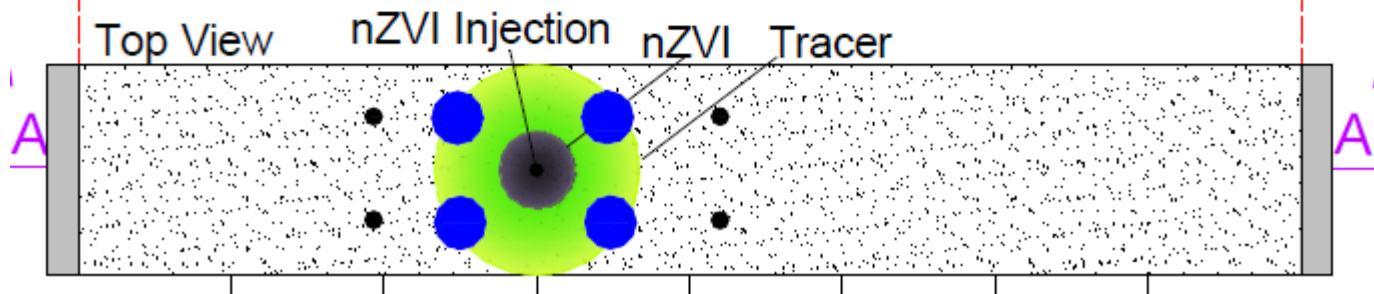
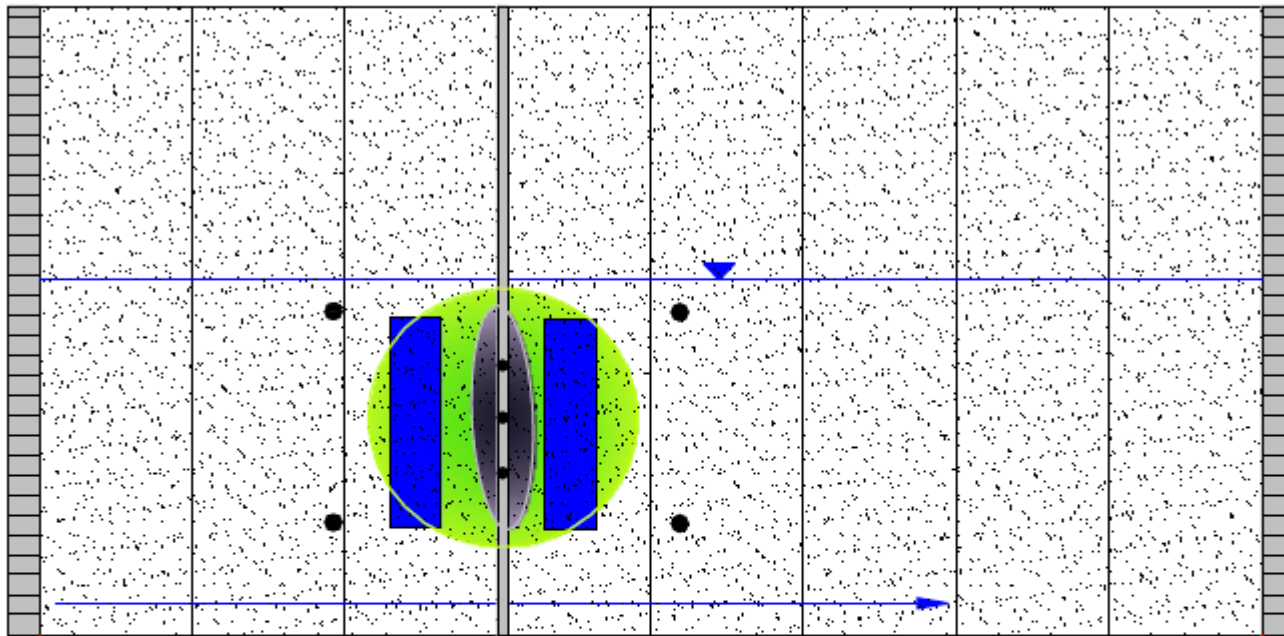
2-D laboratory columns VEGAS Germany (60l, 10g/l, 7 hours)



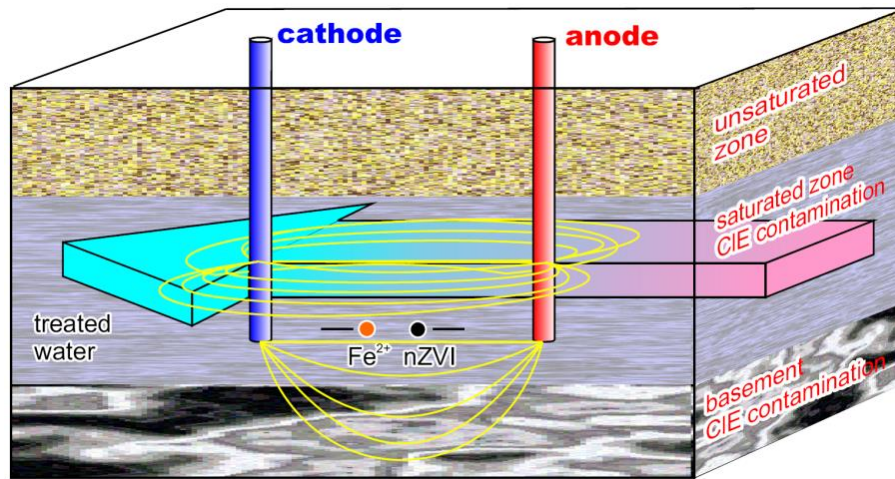
# VEGAS – large flume test

600 x 300 x 100 cm Vessel

Longitudinal Section:A-A



# Combined methods



# Combination of nZVI with other methods

## Remediation “trains”

- Why?
- nZVI has limitations
  - High cost (100 €/kg or \$65/lb)
  - Limited migration
  - Low hydraulic conductivity
- Bioremediation has limitations
  - Accumulation of daughter unless bioaugmented (e.g. c-DCE from TCE)
  - Lower ORP needed for dechlorination
- Combination of nZVI & other methods
  - with anaerobic biostimulation or bioaugmentation
  - with electrokinetics (DC field)





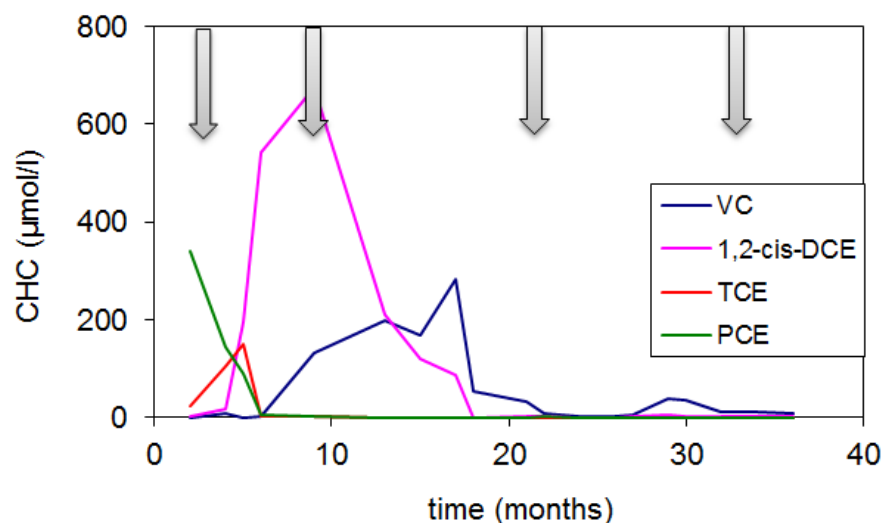
# Combination nZVI with bioremediation

## Lactate (biostimulation)

- Lactate  $\rightarrow$  fermentation ( $\text{CO}_2 + \text{CH}_4$ )  $\rightarrow$  source of electrons for anaerobic biodegradation
- Cheap, good migration, higher ORP  $\rightarrow$  c-DCE
- Elimination of nitrates, sulfate, dissolved oxygen

## Horice site (CZ)

- Application of lactate
- 3x application nZVI
- Reduction by nZVI (48%)
- Combined reduction (76%)

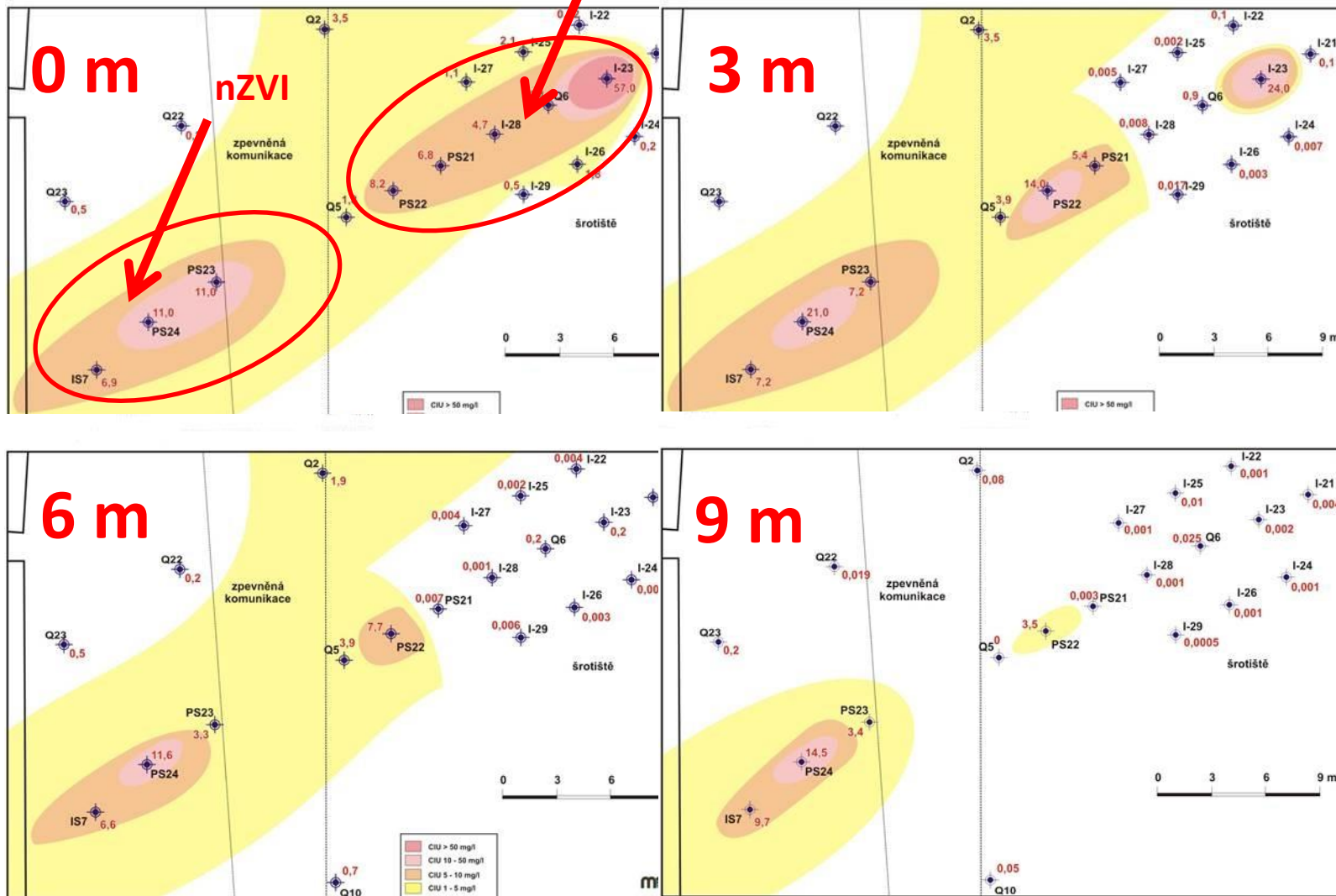


# Combination with bioremediation

lactate biostimulation

lactate, 6m later nZVI

PCE

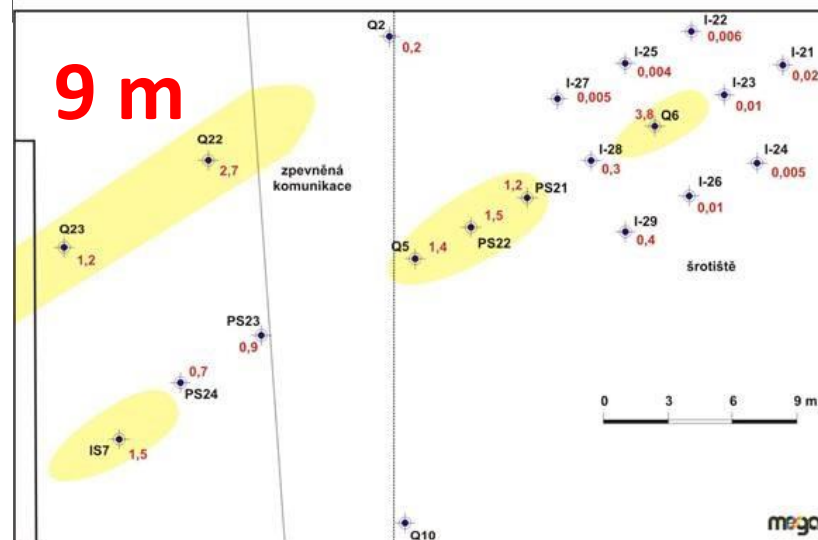
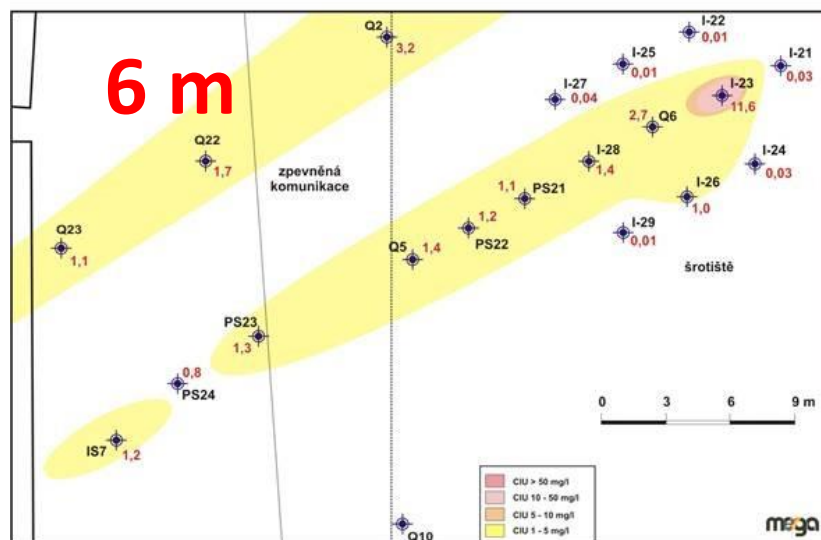
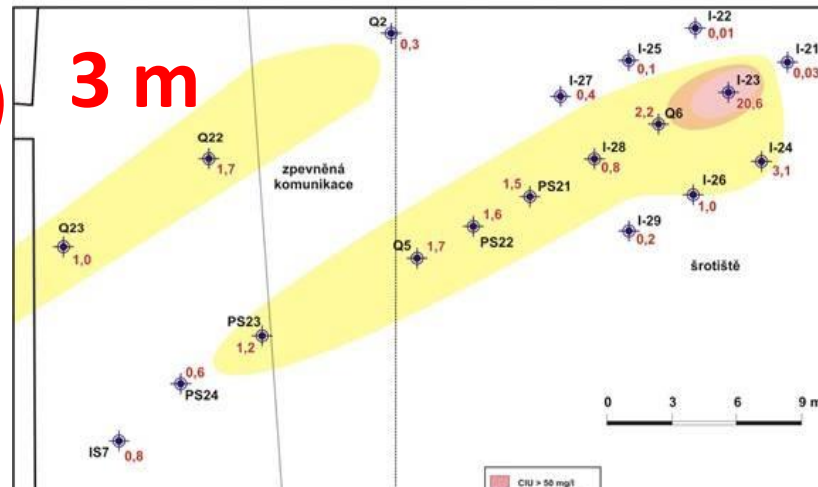
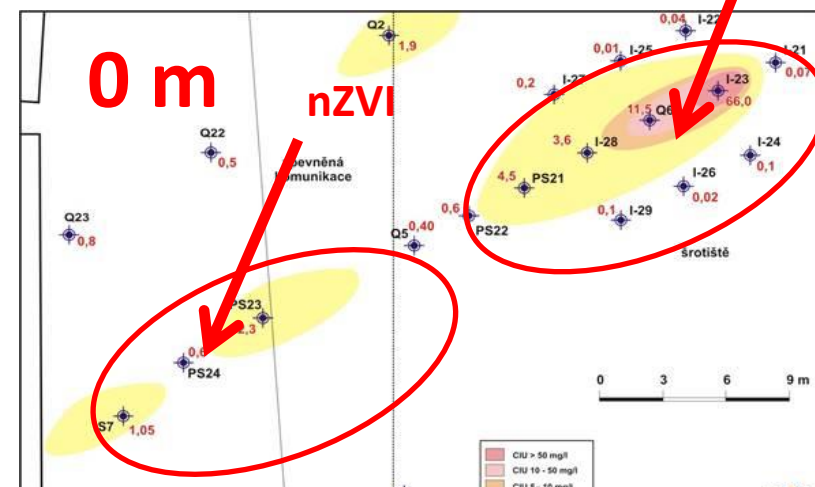


# Combination with bioremediation

lactate biostimulation

lactate, 6m later nZVI

DCE



# Combination with DC (EK-nZVI)

## Principle of reaction

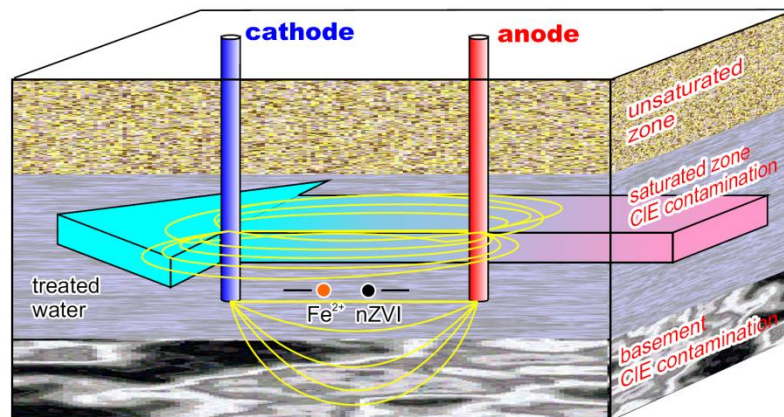
- Chemically supported reductive de-chlorination of CIE
- substitution of chlorine protons, while the electrons



- For the successful running of the reaction it is necessary to create a significant excess of protons and electrons in a geochemical system.
- By  $\text{Fe}^0$  reaction with water.



- Similarly by providing electrons using the DC electric field.





# Combination with DC (EK-nZVI)

## Principle of reaction



### **Cathode (RED)**

Water reduction

pH increase

O<sub>2</sub> reduction

ORP decrease

### **Anode (OX)**

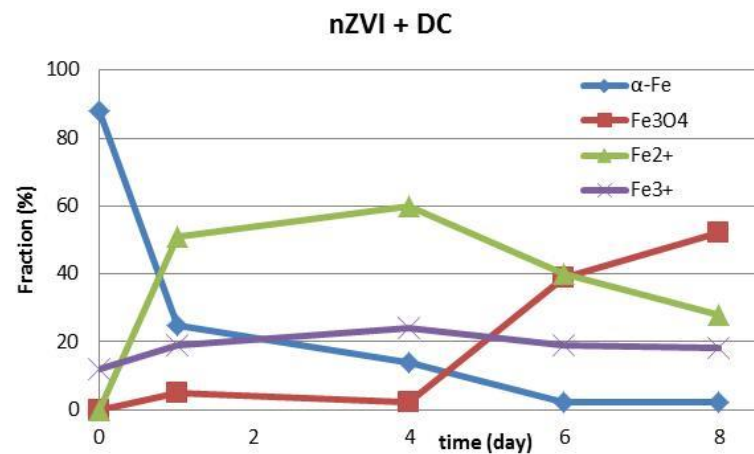
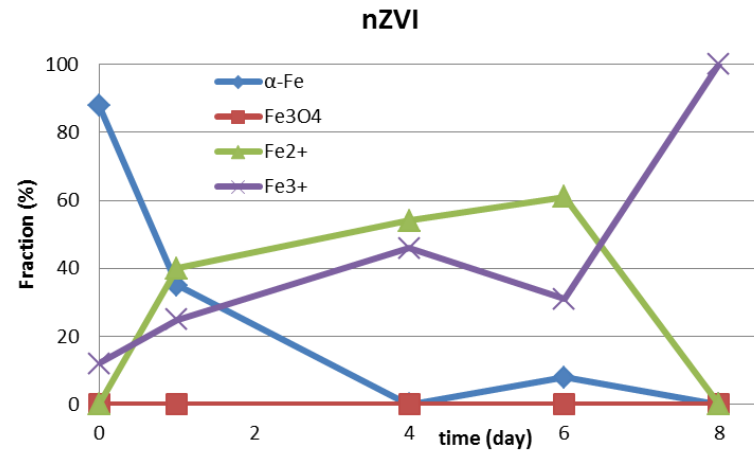
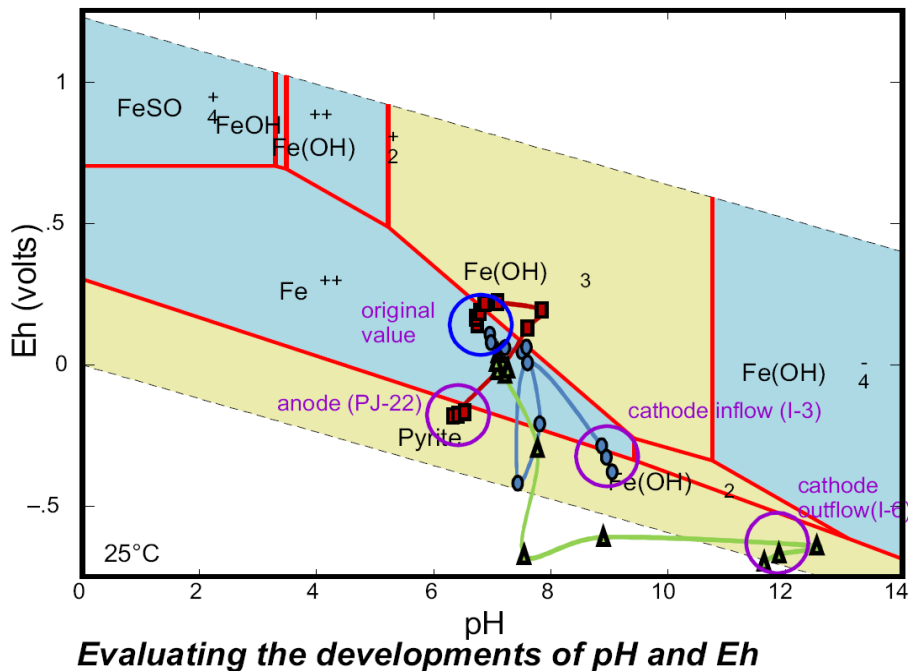
Water oxidation

pH decrease

ORP increase

# Combination with DC (EK-nZVI)

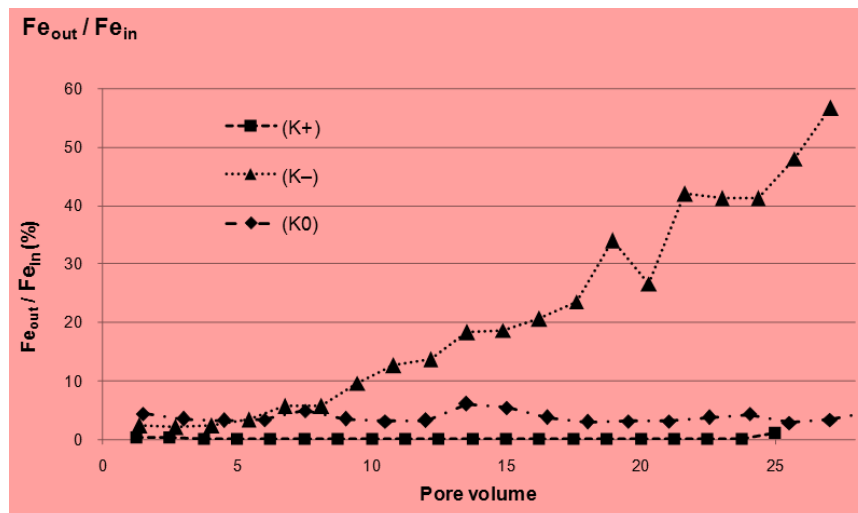
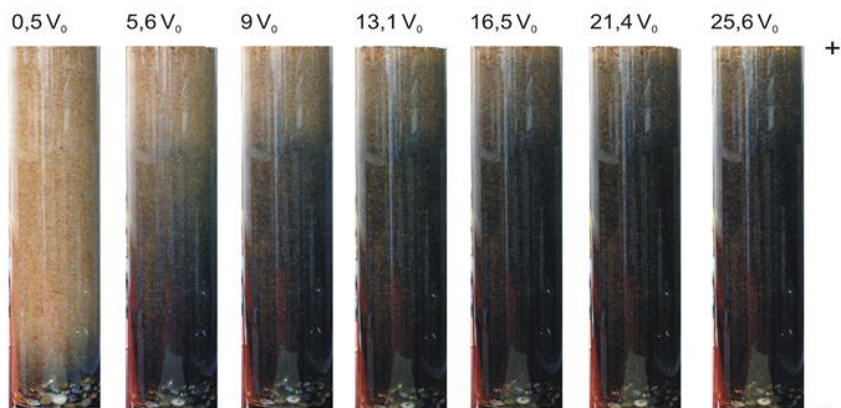
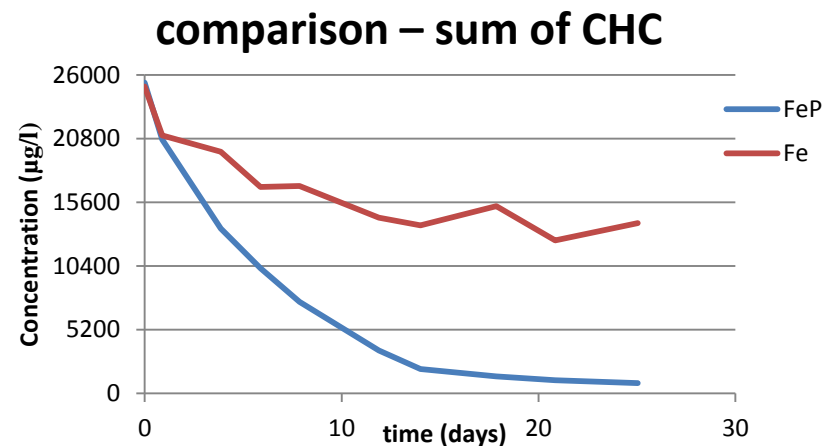
Final products of oxidation  
After 30 days 20% of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$



# Combination with DC field

## Laboratory experiments

- Principle in lab: DC  $\sim 1\text{V/cm}$
- nZVI concentration 0.5 g/l
- Higher  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  conc.
- Lower Eh
- Better migration
- Higher reactivity



# Health and Safety Considerations

## NANOREM project

- Health and Safety is an important issue
  - Exposure to NPs. should be considered for all “nano” products
  - Importance of studying and understanding of product behavior
  - Reduce risk by minimize contact of nanoparticles with persons
- Fate of nanoparticles in environment – NANOREM
  - Possibility of controlled agglomeration by application of  $\text{CaCl}_2$
- Current knowledge and future direction
  - Toxicity of nZVI towards water organisms
  - EU REACH legislation
- Two most recent studies including NANOFER product
  - Erik J. Joner et al. *DDT degradation efficiency and ecotoxicological effects of two types of nanosized zero-valent iron (nZVI) in water and soil*
  - Arturo A. Keller et al. *Toxicity of Nano-Zero Valent Iron to Freshwater and Marine Organisms*



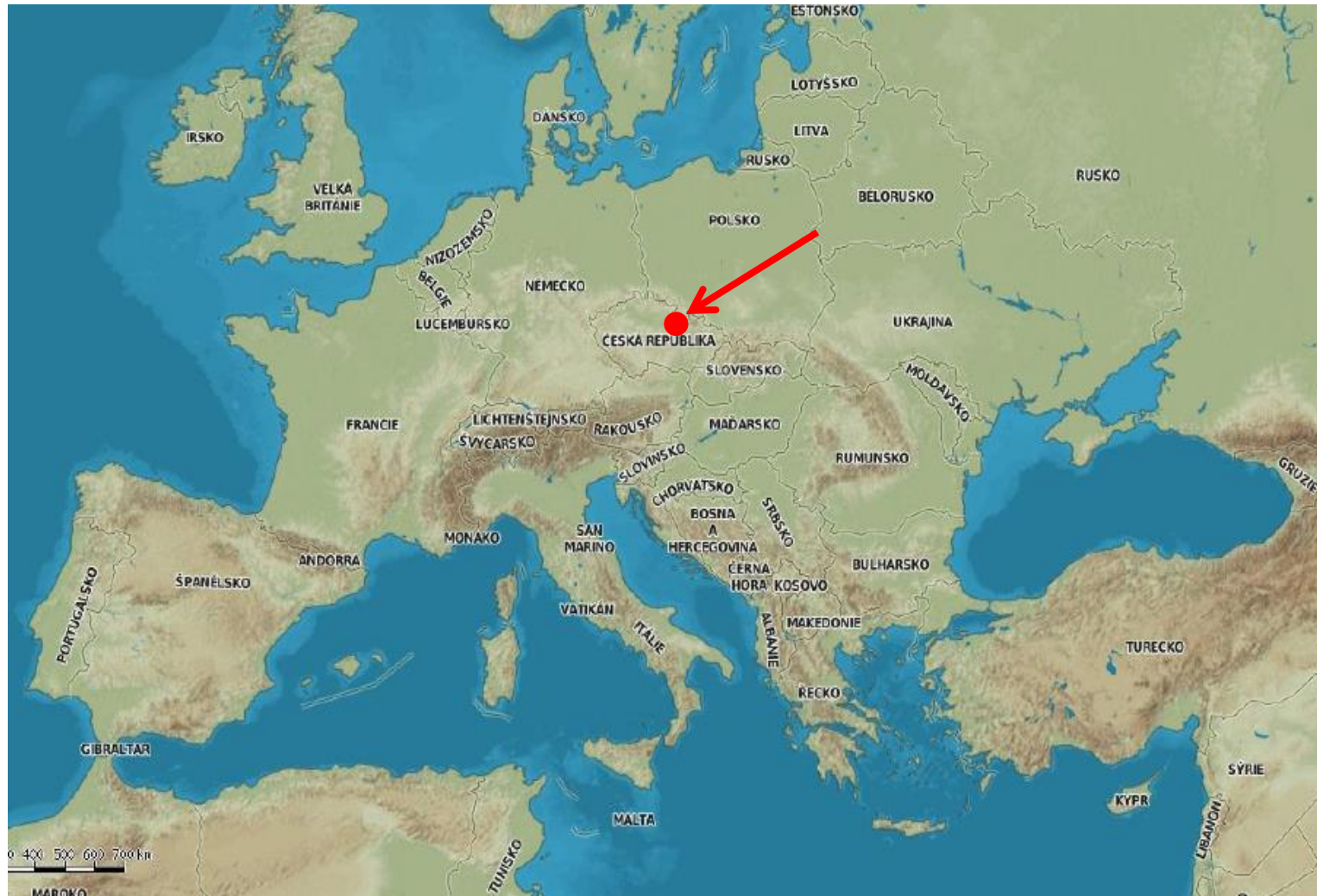
# Innovative nZVI Manufacturing

## Toxicity

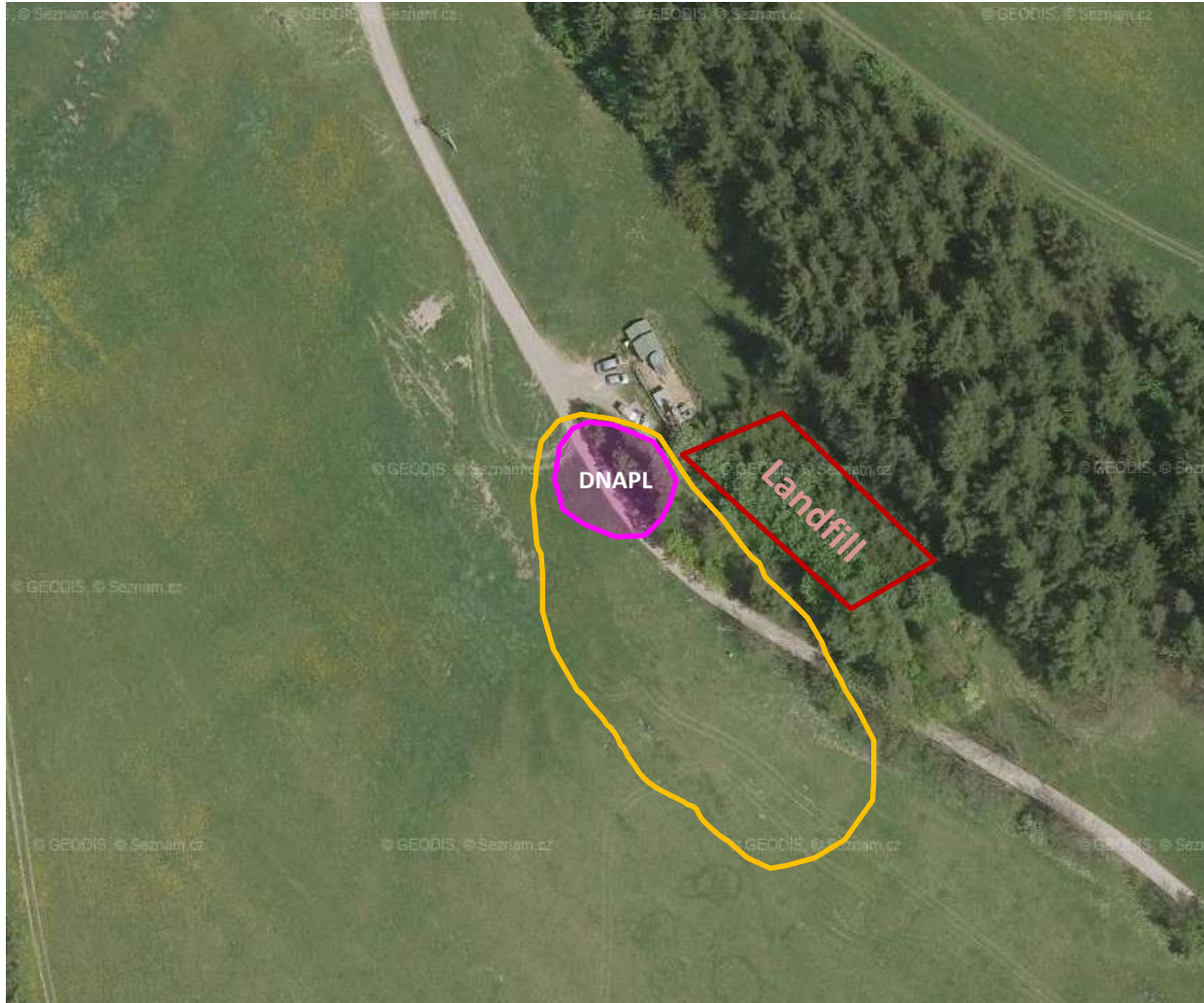
Soil Slurry: ecotoxicological effects and DDT degradation					
Organism	Endpoint	nZVI-B		NANO FER 25S	
		Aqueous p.	Solid p.	Aqueous p.	Solid p.
Earthworms	Mortality	n.a.	+	n.a.	0
	Growth	n.a.	-	n.a.	+
	Reproduction	n.a.	-	n.a.	+
Ostracods	Mortality	-	-	0	0
	Growth	-	-	0	+
Bacteria	Growth	-	n.a.	0	n.a.
Barley	Germination	+	-	0	-
	Root growth	-	-	+	+
Flax	Germination	-	-	0	0
	Root growth	-	-	+	0
DDT reduction in 24h		92.4%		78.3%	

DDT degradation efficiency and ecotoxicological effects of two types of nanosized zero-valent iron (nZVI) in water and soil

# Pisecna – site view



# Pisecna – site view



# Pisecna site

- Former hazardous waste landfill
- Fractured – bedrock area
- Chlorinated ethenes (Cl-E) and chlorinated ethanes (Cl-A) contamination
- Drinking water sources in the neighbourhood
- High reactivity needed for TCA degradation
- No special permits needed from water authority

# Pisecna – Comparative lab-tests

Comparative test for 5 nZVI types:

- borohydride nZVI (Zhang 2003)
- RNIP (Toda)
- NANOFER 25 – without surfactant
- NANOFER 25S – modified by TWEEN
- NANOFER ...– modified by axilate
  - Axilate = Na salt of polyacrylic acid

Tested properties:

- aggregation - DLS
- sedimentation – column tests
- mobility - column tests
- reactivity – kinetic tests, various nZVI concentration
  - 3 real ground water
  - 2 artificially mixed water





# Pisecna – mobility tests

## NanoFer

**Ammonia axilat**

$K_f = 1,1 \text{ e}^{-3} \text{ m/s}$

$N_{ef} = 0,4$

$V = 67 \text{ m/day}$

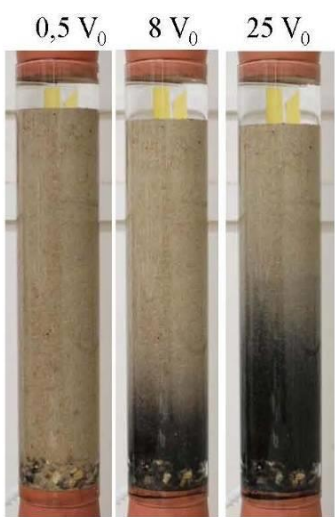
Fe dose cca. 0,5 g/l



## NanoFer 25



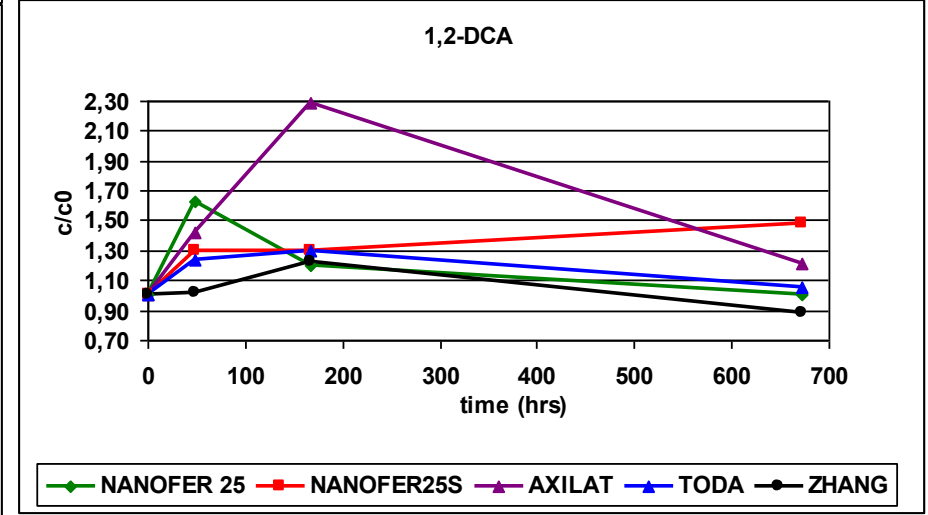
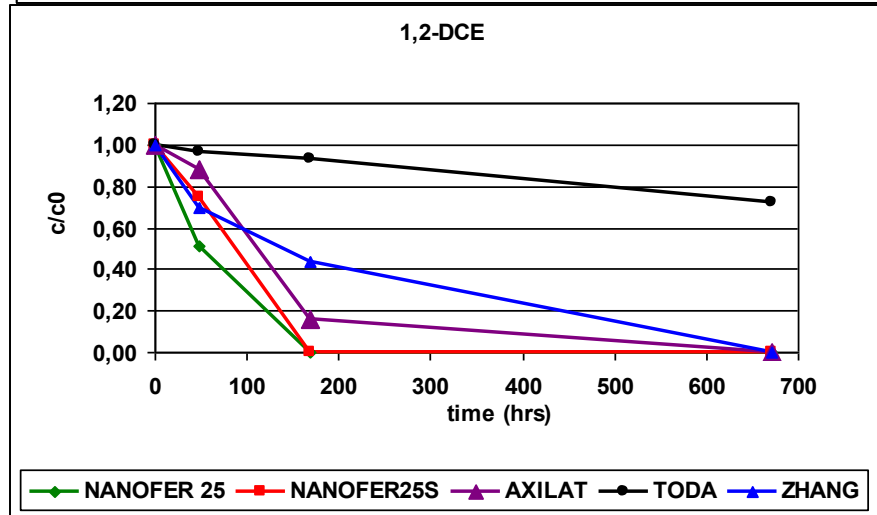
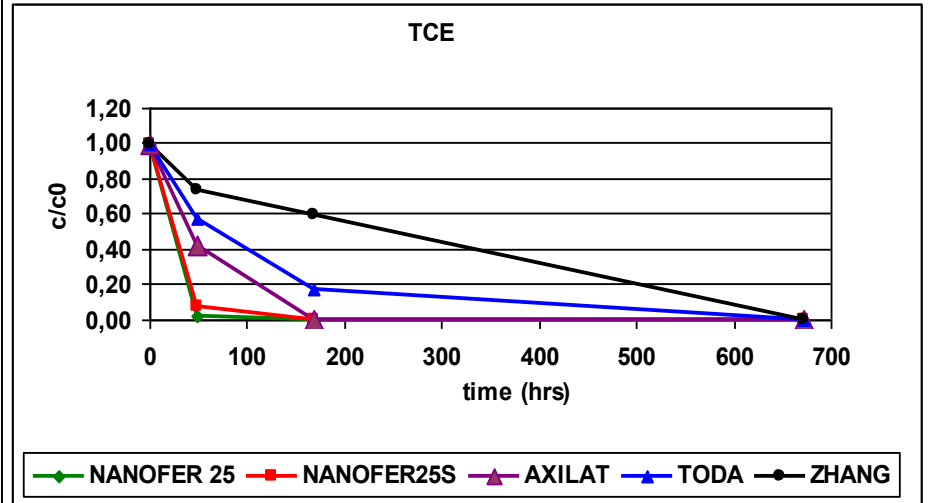
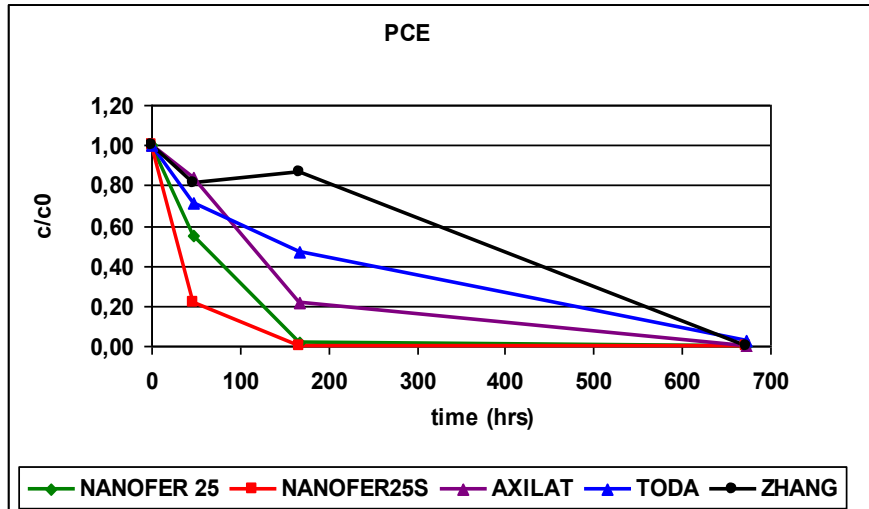
## NanoFer 25S



## Toda 10-APS

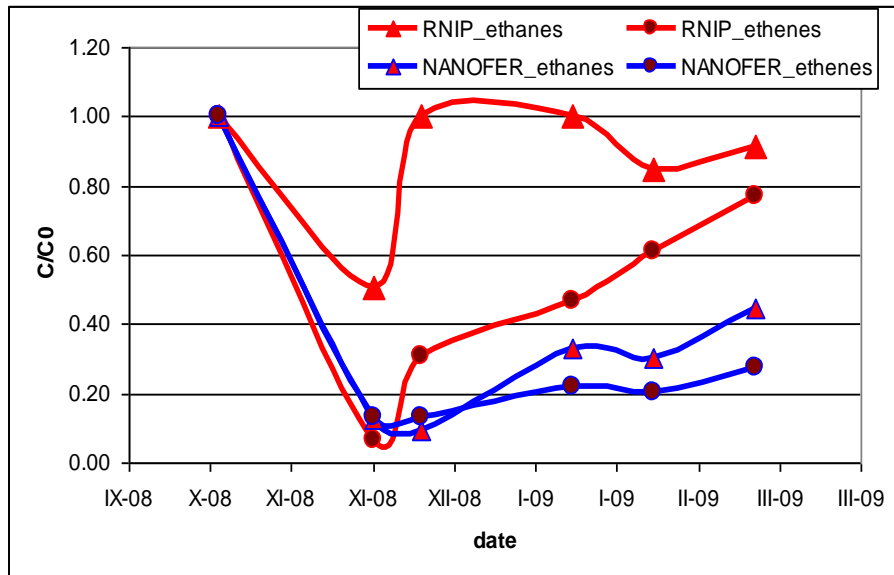


# Pisecna – reactivity tests



# Pisecna – pilot application

- RNIP vs. NANOFR25
- Geological conditions not equal
- CHC concentrations similar
- Cl-Ethenes = both irons performed well
- Cl-Ethanes = TODA iron worse ( $\Delta$ )



# The future of nZVI in Europe

## State of the art and future developments

### State-of-the-Art

- Different nZVI products available (dry, milled, slurry)
- Many lab and field tests accomplished –lectures to learn
- All points of view (reactivity, migration, storativity, transportability, toxicity,...)

### Technical challenges:

- Successful field-scale applications in EU countries (needed for method acceptance/growth)
- Rigorous cost-effectiveness comparisons with other methods

# Caveat



This project received funding from the European Union Seventh Framework Programme (FP7 / 2007-2013) under Grant Agreement No. 309517.

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# Thank you for your attention

