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Research Highlights

Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC) The Geotechnical Engineering and Geomechanics group

Introduction

The Geotechnical Engineering and Geomechanics group of UPC is in charge of teaching at undergraduate and graduate levels of the Civil and Geological Engineering degrees. No less than 35 Doctorate students and a similar number of Master students develop their activity under the guidance of thirteen full time staff members. The group is active in four aspects of research: the contribution to fundamental understanding and modelling of soil and rock behaviour, the development of advanced computational tools and testing techniques and the participation in applied engineering projects. Achieving a proper balance among these aspects has been a permanent objective of the group over the years. In the computational field the Program "Code_Bright", which is continuously being updated, is a reference for the analysis of coupled thermal, hydraulic, mechanical and chemical processes in porous media. The laboratory has specialized in multi-physical testing. It is well known for the in-house design and development of special prototypes, instrumentation and medium-scale cells which are in operation in Universities and research centres around the world. Cooperation with Industry and Public Institutions has been very active in underground nuclear waste storage, large civil engineering projects and geological risk.