Special Issue

Experimental Works in Geotechnical Engineering: Challenges on Innovation and Reliability

Message from the Guest Editor

Experimental work is often necessary either in the laboratory or in field testing conditions. Both can involve uncertainties. As people generally focus much on innovation and less on reliability, the reproducibility of experimental results published even in some high-caliber journals is usually quite low. In geotechnical engineering, people follow some testing standards or norms to do their tests for obtaining material parameters. The reliability of used norms or standards is seldom questioned. For some, working on existing norms and standards lacks originality and novelty. For others, improvement of existing norms or standards is non-significant because geotechnical engineering is full of empiricism and lacks accuracy. The uncertainty is taken into account by the use of a factor of safety. These points of view are not wrong for a practitioner-engineer, but incomplete for a researcher. Innovation is necessary to push the edge of our knowledge further. Without reliability, however, test results can lead us to false conclusions. Innovation and reliability are both essential in research.

Guest Editor

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As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal *Applied Sciences* has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

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