



Universiteit  
Utrecht

# ClipsMicro

Climate proof soils by  
steering soil and residue  
microbiomes



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<sup>1</sup>  
10.03.2025

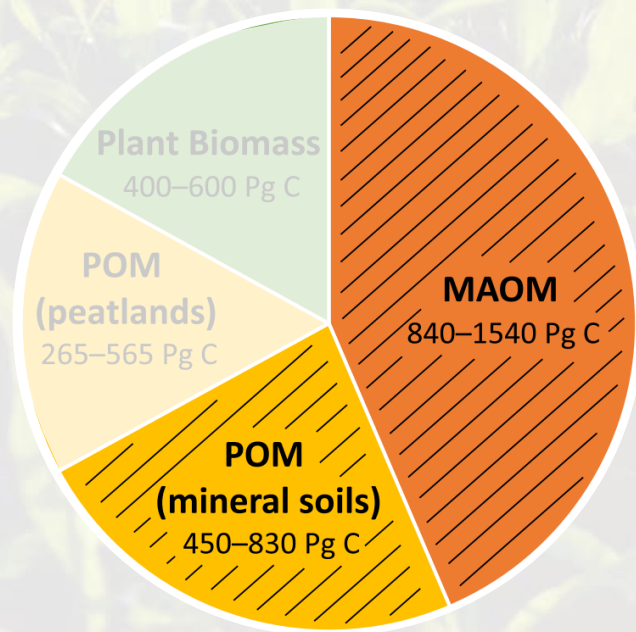


## WP 2

### Carbon sequestration



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1830 Pg C  $\approx$  840 ppm CO<sub>2</sub>

Erosion  
Protection

Soil  
Biodiversity

Primary  
Production

Climate  
Regulation

Water  
Quality

## Compost



## Clay

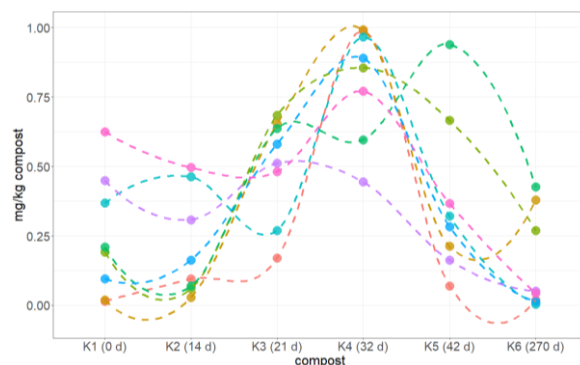
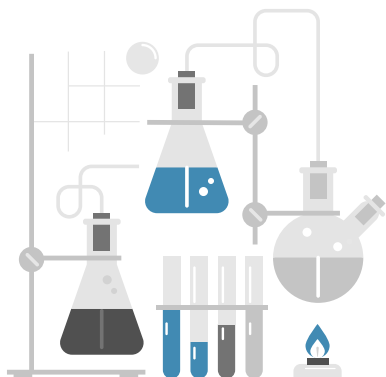


## Maize in sandy soil

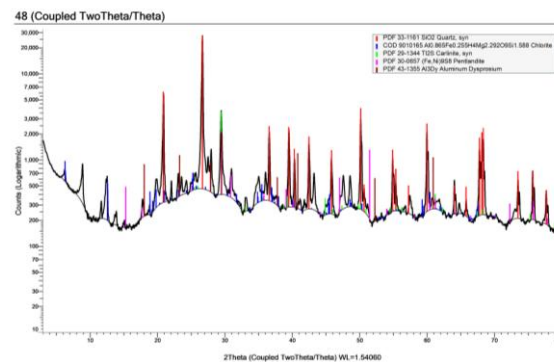


## Developing methods

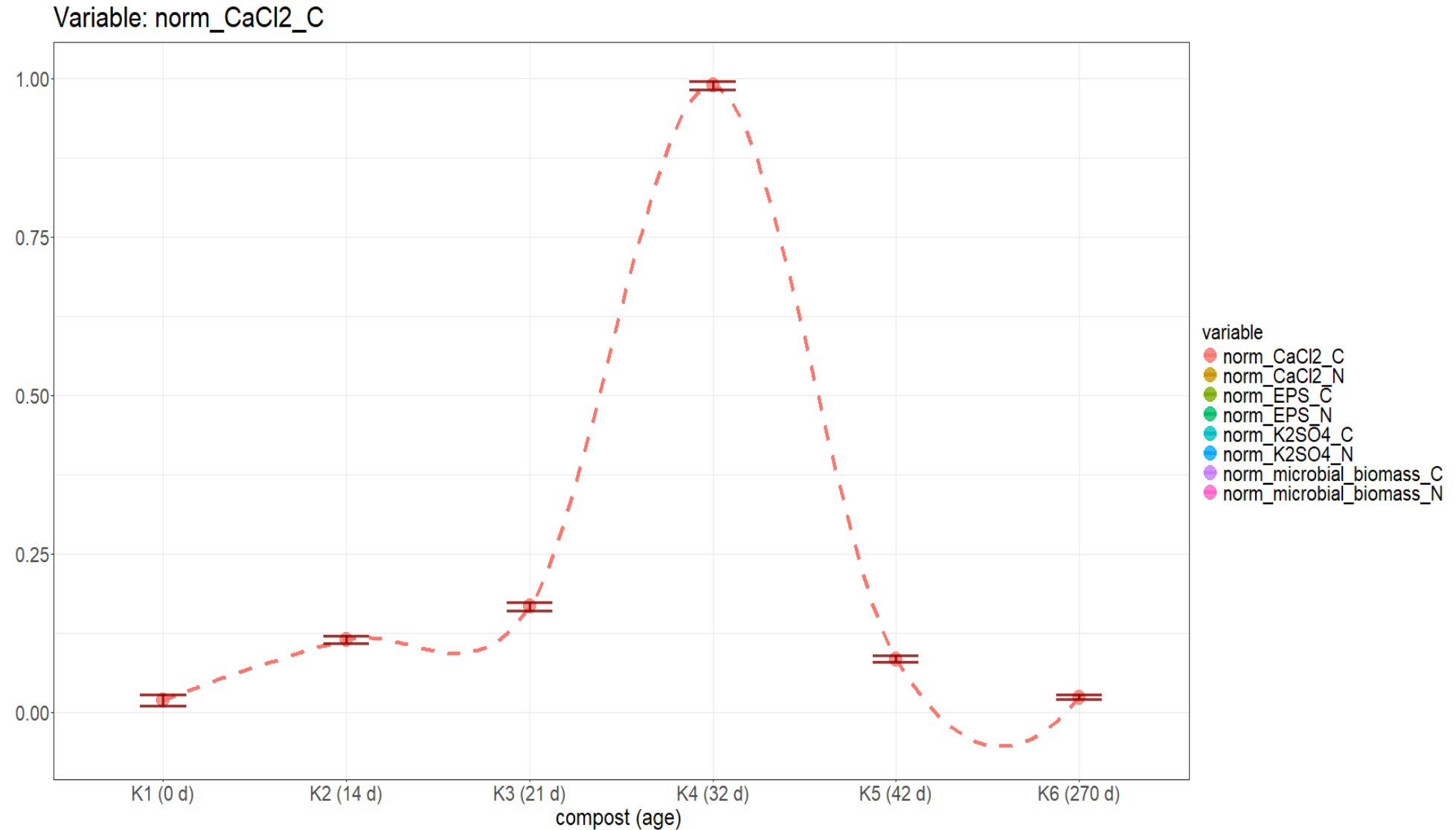
## Quantifying labile C & N pools in compost



## Characterization of clay

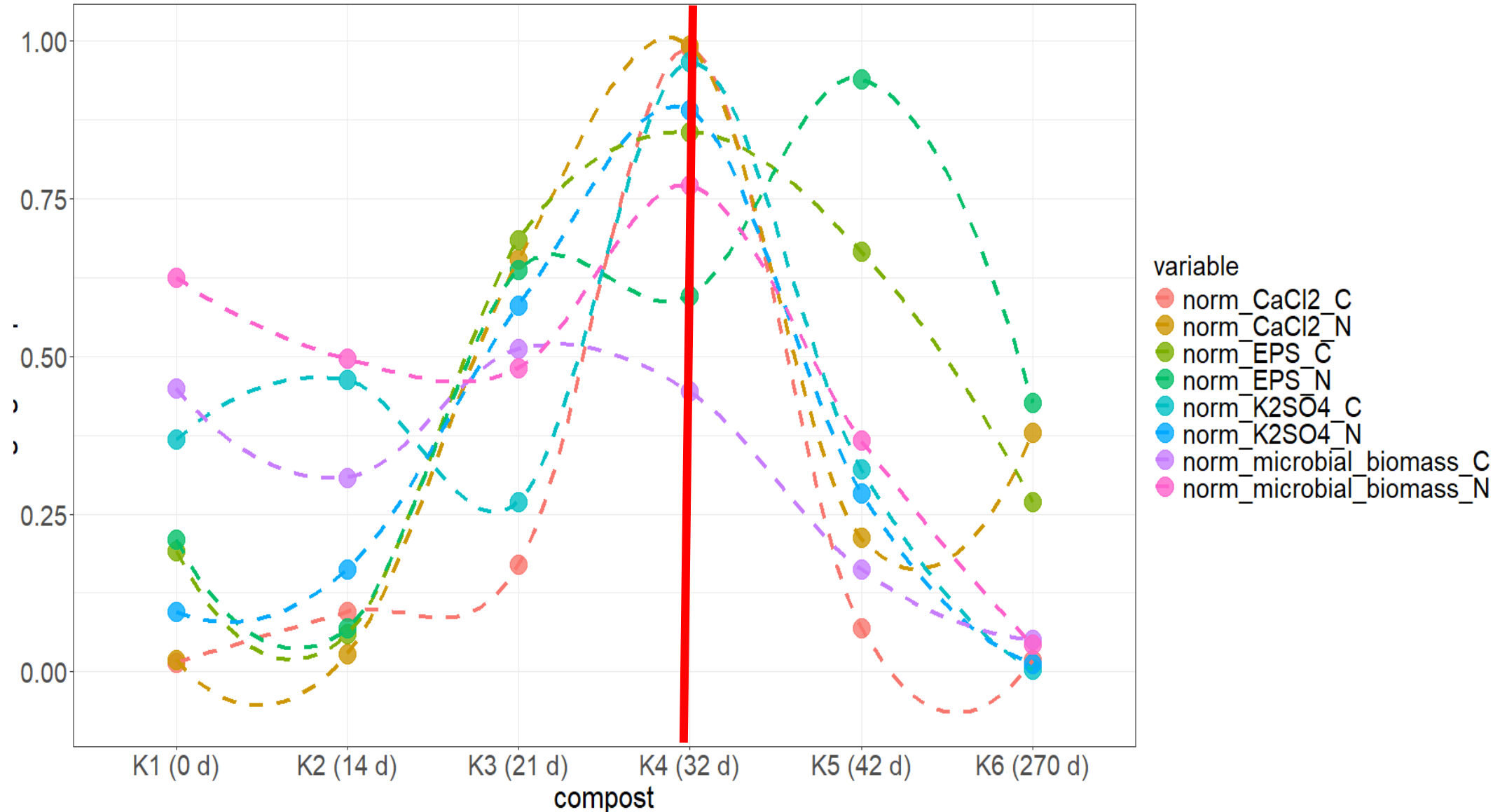


# Labile Carbon and Nitrogen pools in GFT compost



# Labile Carbon and Nitrogen pools in GFT compost

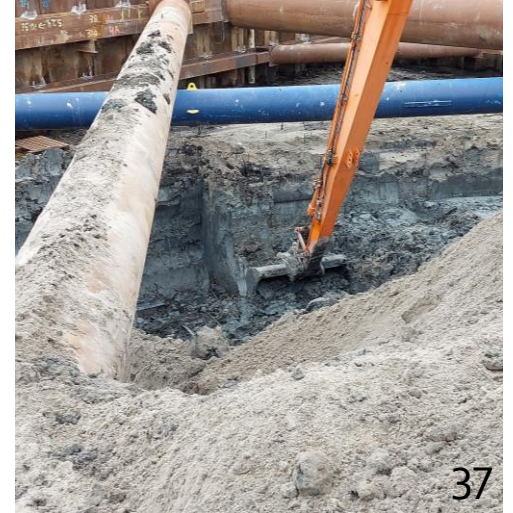
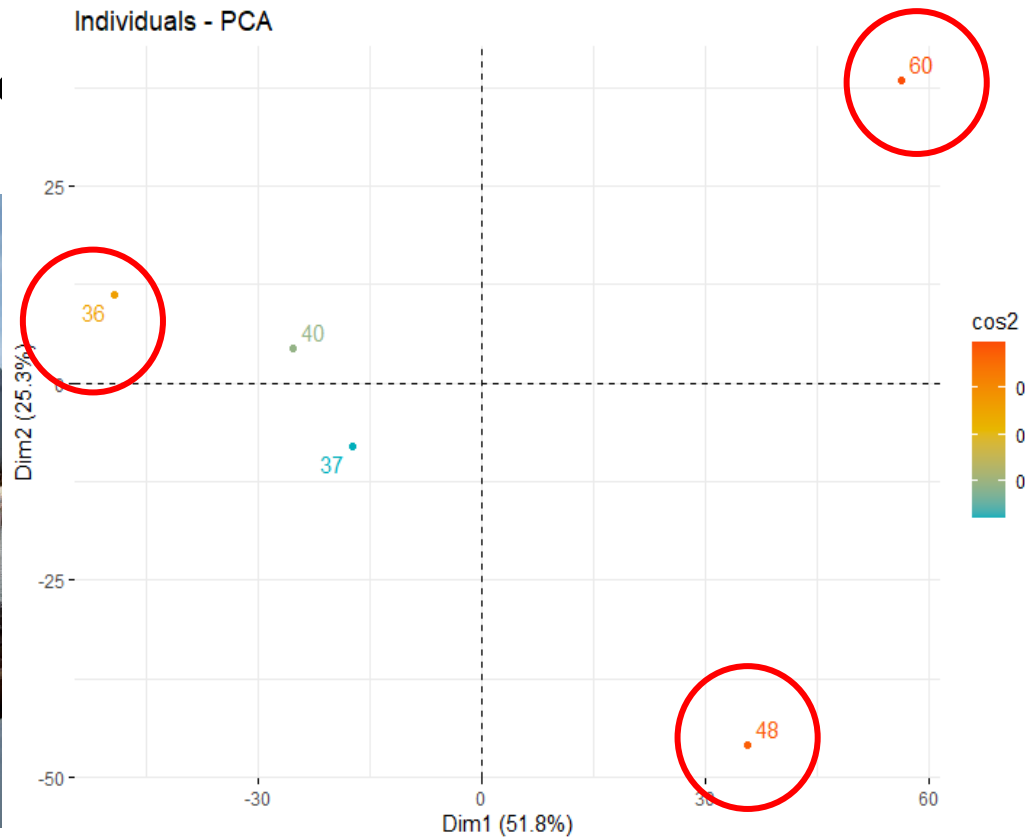
Normalized values of variables in mg per kg dry compost





# Clay characterization

- Clay mineralogy
- Particle size distribution
- Cation exchange capacity
- Specific surface area



Clay	Type	Volume in m <sup>3</sup> per year
G0036	commercial clay pit	900.000
G0037	Construction side	100.000
G0042	Construction side	5.000
G0048	Rotterdam harbor sediment	200.000
G0050	Swedish Bara clay	500.000
G0053	Young marine clay	200.000
G0055	Bentonite drilling mud	50.000
G0060	North Sea sediment	300.000
G0081	Maas deposit	20.000



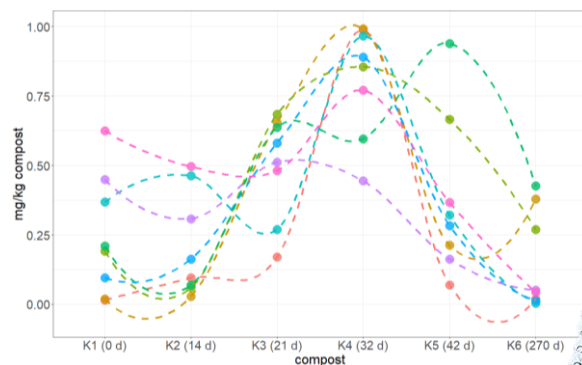
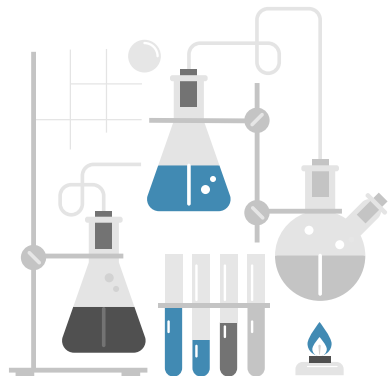
Developing  
methods



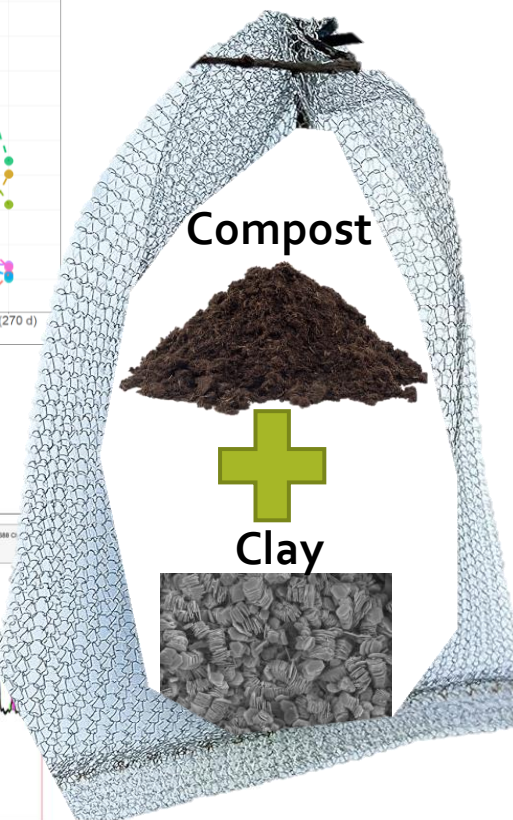
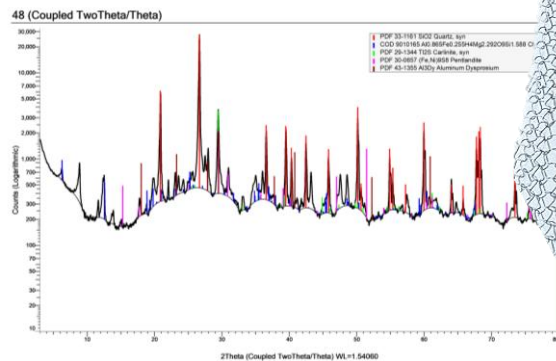
Quantifying labile C & N  
pools in compost



Compost  
Engineering



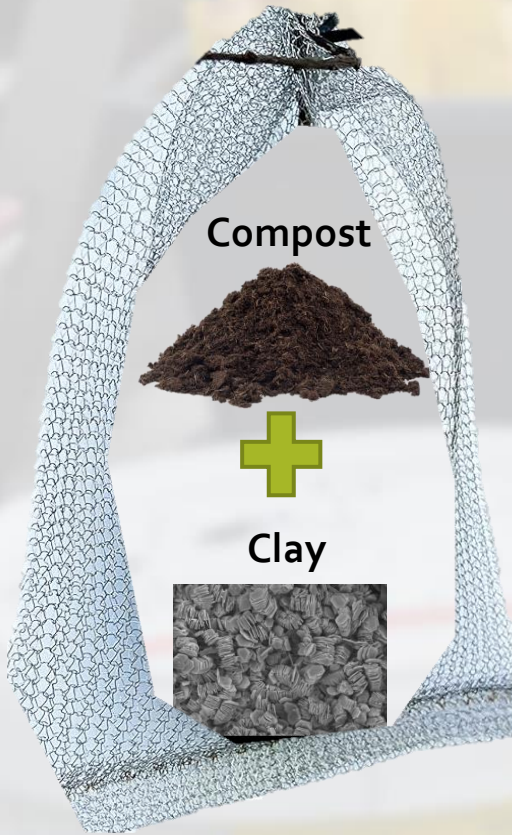
Characterization  
of clay



# Compost-clay incubation 25.02.25 – 13.03.25

## Experimental design:

- 10 treatments
  - 5 clays
  - 2 concentrations
- 6 replicates



## What is the “best combination”?

- Does clay amendment stabilize C and N during composting?
- Are stabilized products plant or microbial derived?
- How strong is the binding to the clay?
- What clay and compost properties are favorable?
- How much clay is optimal?





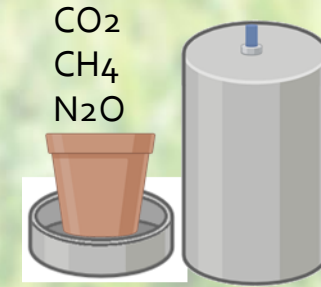


# Follow up experiment



Sandy soil

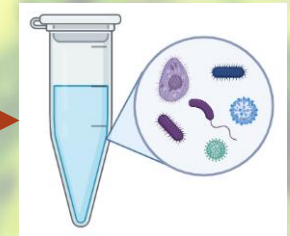
Pot experiment for 120 days



GHG sampling



Soil samples



Microbial community  
and functional genes



Jing Wang



# Field Experiment





A photograph of a cornfield with young green plants. The sun is shining from the upper right, creating a bright lens flare and casting long shadows. The plants are densely packed in rows.

# Questions?