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Rainer Helmig 院士是德国斯图加特大学荣誉退休教授。1993 年他在汉诺威大学获得博士学位,1997 年在斯图加特大学获得大学任教资格(the Habilitation degree)。1995 年,他的博士论文获得了著名的"德累斯顿地下水研究奖",以表彰其在地下水研究领域取得的卓越成就。1997 年至 2000 年,他在布伦瑞克工业大学担任教授。他是"InterPore"国际多孔介质学会的联合创始人,并于 2009 年至 2011 年担任主席;2007 年至 2015 年,他是国际研究培训小组"NUPUS - 多孔介质中的非线性和尺度放大"的项目负责人,2018 年至 2023年,他是合作研究中心 1313"多孔介质中界面驱动的多场过程:流动、传输和变形"的项目负责人;2007 年至 2018 年,他是斯图加特大学卓越集群模拟技术执行董事会成员,他是海德堡科学与人文学院院士(2010)、德国科学与工程院院士(2017)和欧洲科学院院士(2022)。2020 年,他被授予美国地球物理学会会员;2022 年,他在赫瑞瓦特大学获得工程学荣誉博士学位;2025 年,他被授予金佰利-克拉克杰出讲师奖。

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## FROM THE BRAIN TO WATER UPTAKE OF ROOTS TO FUEL CELLS Porous Media are "almost" everywhere

Porous media are almost everywhere. The understanding of flow, transport and deformation processes in porous media is important for the optimization of fuel cells, energy storage, the prediction of landslides due to heavy rainfall or the spread of tumors in human tissue.

In this lecture, a brief overview of the importance of porous media will be given. Using selected examples, the range from environmental to technical and relevant bio-issues will be covered.

The next step is to present selected modelling approaches and analyses using two concrete application examples:

- 1- to use the knowledge of porous media to make better predictions when multiple sclerosis flares. What happens in the porous medium "brain" when the blood-brain barrier no longer functions properly? How can research in the field of porous media positively influence the treatment of multiple sclerosis?
- 2 to discuss whether it is possible to improve water management in fuel cells as a drive technology with our knowledge of porous media. What role does the understanding of porous media play in the context of alternative forms of mobility such as fuel cells? Are our "classical models" for water transportation helpful?