

Call for Participation – GRID Student Contest

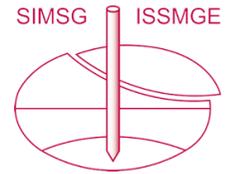
TU Graz, 13–16 October, 2026

We are pleased to announce a **student contest** on Machine Learning (ML) algorithms for soil shear parameters prediction based on curated datasets, co-organized by the [MSCA Staff Exchange project GRID](#) ISSMGE TC304 and TC309, and JTC2.

The prize ceremony will be held at the [ICITG conference](#) in Graz on October 13 – 16, 2026 at TU Graz in Austria.

Participants are invited to submit a brief proposal report in English (maximum of 10 pages), covering the following key elements:

1. Introduction (motivation, objectives, and scope of the proposed machine learning approach for predicting the shear parameters)
2. Literature review (relevant studies and advancements in methods for shear parameters prediction to establish a strong foundation for the proposed work.
3. Data interpretation and outlier detection (methodologies for data interpretation and cleaning, identification of outliers)
4. ML algorithm (present and discuss the algorithm proposed for predicting the shear parameters, its strengths and weaknesses)
5. External input (try to incorporate supplementary data from external sources to improve the robustness and validation of the algorithm)
6. Discuss limitations and suggest potential directions for future research
7. Deployment (outline a plan for deploying the ML model e.g., with a user-friendly interface)
8. Summarize the main findings, their implications and the overall significance of the ML approach



1 Evaluation & Presentation

Top-ranked teams will be invited to prepare a **15-minute presentation (+5 min Q&A)** at the [ICITG26 at TU Graz \(13-16.10.2026\)](#). Their work will be judged on:

1. Forecast performance on test data,
2. Clarity & reproducibility of the pipeline,
3. Soundness of algorithm design,
4. Scientific communication & documentation.

A dedicated committee will evaluate the proposals to select the winner.

2 Important dates:

- Deadline for proposals: **31.01.2026**
- Notification to selected teams: **31.03.2026**
- Submission of presentation slides: **15.09.2026**
- Contest & prize ceremony: **[ICITG26 at TU Graz, 13-16.10.2026](#)**

[ICITG](#) registration from **31.03.2026** (please check dates on website)

3 Registration

To register and receive access to the dataset, please

1. write to: lukas.leibold@students.boku.ac.at
(CC to: enrico.soranzo@boku.ac.at)
2. specify the name of your organization, your supervisor and the names of the student team members (**maximum four members**)

Good luck to all participants!