

Cyclic Adsorption/Reaction Processes in CO₂ Capture and Utilisation

Alírio E. Rodrigues
Emeritus Professor, University of Porto



Webinar POWER2METHANE

June 5, 2020

Outline

- The old days

 - Searching “high-temperature” adsorbents for CO₂ capture in steam methane reforming for H₂ production

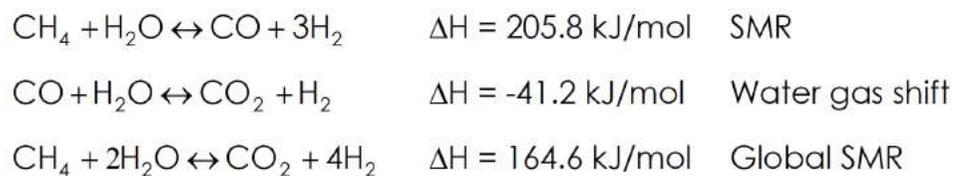
 - CO₂ capture pilot plant in Shanghai – cooperation with ECUST(China) & UFSC(Brazil)

- PSA for CO₂ capture from coal or biomass gasification and produce H₂/CO mixture for MeOH synthesis or Fischer Tropsch
- Cryogenic adsorption CO₂/CH₄ separation (PTSA)
- Electric Swing Adsorption (ESA) for CO₂ capture: shaping and 3D printing of composite monoliths
- Power-to-Gas project: SERP process with CO₂ capture and methanation to produce SNG

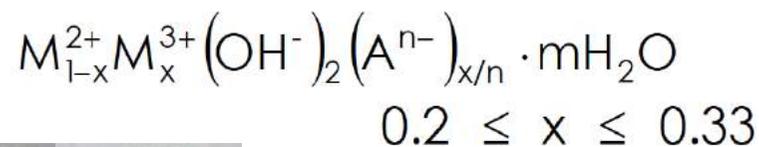
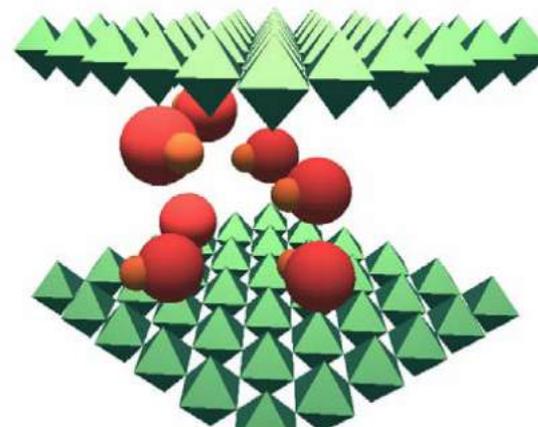
The old days



Methane steam reforming for H₂ production (112,000 Nm³/h)
25-40 bar; 1100 K



CO₂ capture with high temperature adsorbents for Sorption Enhanced Reaction Processes (SERP)

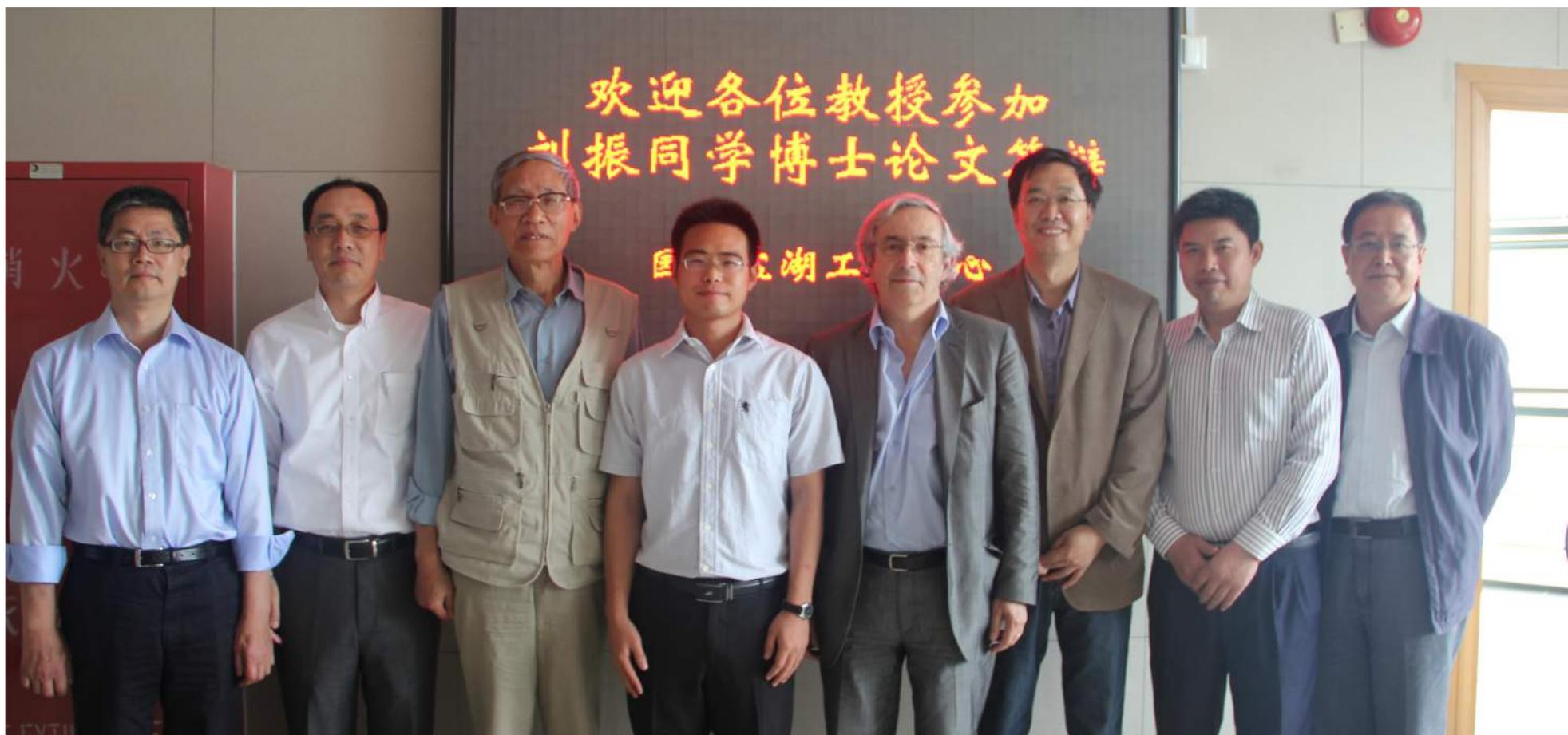


SERP

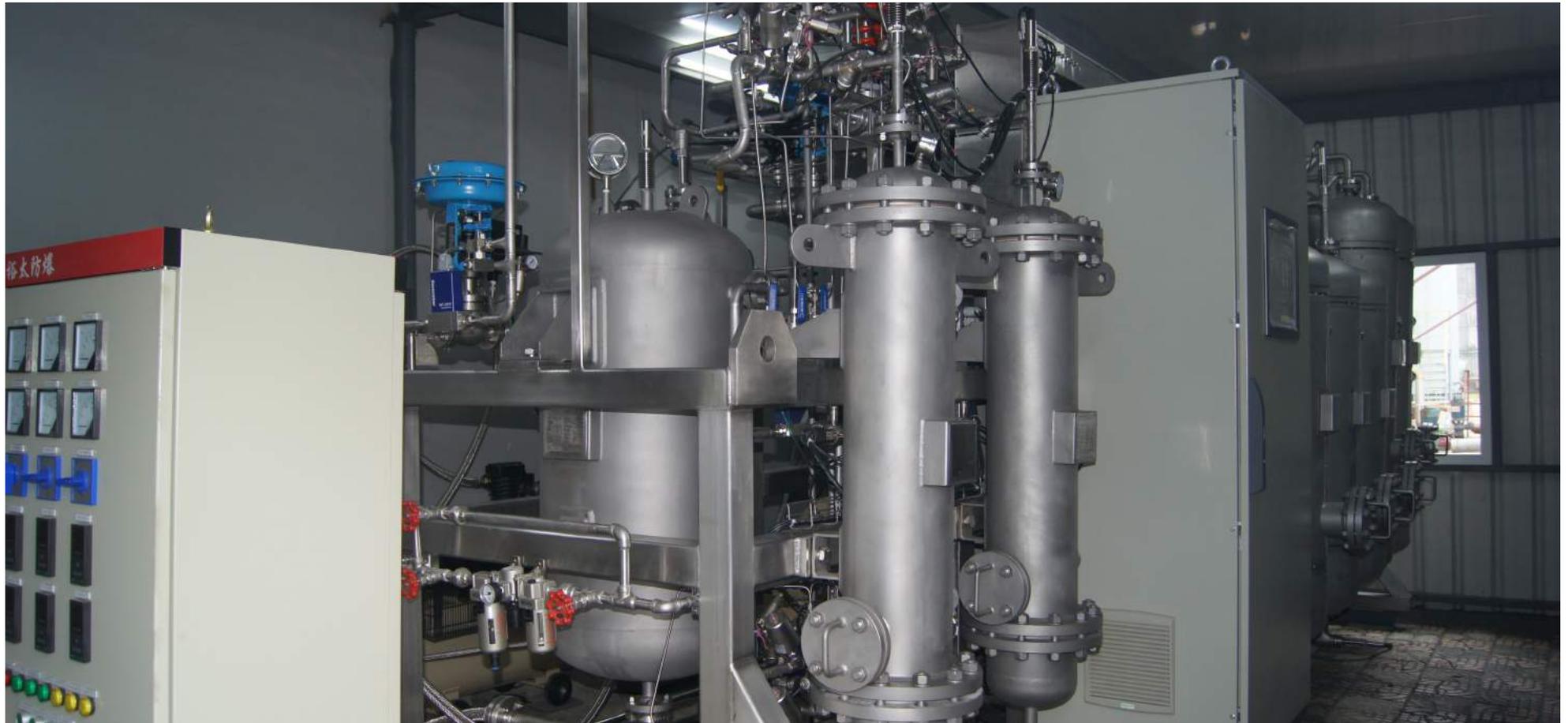
Materials & Sorption Enhanced Reaction Processes (SERP)

- Zou Yong , Vera Mata and A.E.Rodrigues, “Adsorption of carbon dioxide on basic alumina at high temperatures”, *J. Chem and Engineering Data* **45** (6) 1093-1095(2000)
- Zou Yong, Vera Mata and A.E.Rodrigues, “Adsorption of carbon dioxide onto hydrotalcite-like compounds (HTlcs) at high temperatures”, *Ind Eng Chem Res* **40**, 204-209 (2001)
- Zou Yong, Vera Mata and A.E.Rodrigues, “Adsorption of carbon dioxide on chemically modified high surface area carbon-based adsorbents at high temperatures”, *Adsorption* **7**(1) 41-50 (2001).
- Zou Yong and A.E. Rodrigues,”Adsorbent materials for carbon dioxide”, *Adsorption Science and Technology*, **19** (3) 255-266 (2001)
- Zou Yong, Vera Mata and A.E. Rodrigues, “Adsorption of carbon dioxide at high temperature: a review”, *Sep. Pur. Tech*, **26** (2/3) 195-205 (2002)
- G.H. Xiu, P.Li and A.E.Rodrigues, “Sorption enhanced reaction process with reactive regeneration” *Chem Eng Sci* **57**, 3893-3908 (2002)
- G.H.Xiu, J.L.Soares, P.Li and A.E.Rodrigues, “Simulation of a five-step one-bed sorption-enhanced reaction process”, *AIChEJ* **48** (12) 2817-2832 (2002)
- Guo hua Xiu, Ping Li and A.E. Rodrigues, “New generalized strategy for improving sorption-enhanced reaction process”, *Chem Eng Sci* **58**, 3425-3437 (2003)
- Guo hua Xiu, Ping Li and A.E. Rodrigues, “Adsorption-enhanced steam-methane reforming with intraparticle limitations ”, *Chem Eng J* **95**(1-3), 83-93 (2003)
- G.Xiu, P. Li and A.E.Rodrigues, “Subsection controlling strategy for improving sorption-enhanced reaction processes”, *Chem Eng Res Dev*, **82**(A2) 192-202 (2004)
- Yi-Ning Wang and A.E. Rodrigues, “Hydrogen Production from Steam Methane Reforming coupled with in-situ CO₂ capture: conceptual parametric study”, *Fuel* , **84**, 1778-1789 (2005)

PhD thesis of Zhen Liu (ECUST)



CO2 capture pilot plant (VPSA) designed by Zhen Liu



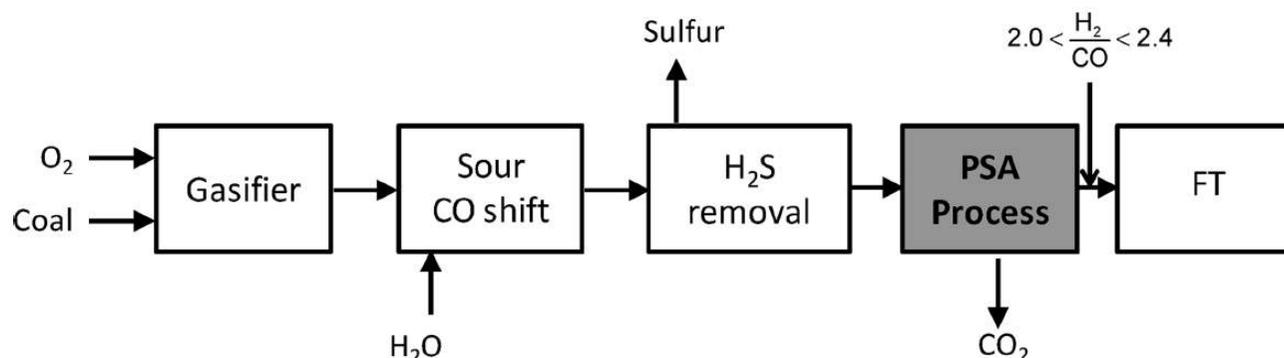
2-bed 6-step	Silica gel	15.0	99.6	99.6	1.81	1.94	Li et al. 2016
2-bed 4-step	13X	15.0	94.8±1	89.7±5.6	1.98±0.099	1.22–2.10±0.132	Krishnamurthy et al. 2014
3-bed 5-step/ 4-bed 7-step	5A-5A	15.0	96.05	91.05	0.33	0.646	Liu et al. 2011
3-bed 5-step/ 2-bed 6-step	13XAPG - 13XAPG	15.0	96.54	93.35	0.53	0.710	Wang et al. 2012
3-bed 8-step/ 2-bed 6-step	13XAPG - 13XAPG	16.0	95.6	90.2	0.74	2.44	Wang et al. 2013
2-bed 6-step/ 2-bed 5-step	13X- MgMOF74	15.0	97.57	90.2	3.09	0.700	Nikolaidis et al. 2017
1-bed 4-step/ 1-bed 4-step	CMS- CMS	15.0	90	89.9	-	0.990	Haghpanah et al. 2014

Cooperation with ECUST and UFSC on CO2 capture

- **Liu, Z.**, C. Grande, **Li Ping**, **Yu Jianguo**, A-E.Rodrigues, “Multi-bed Vacuum Pressure Swing Adsorption for CO2 capture from flue gas”, *Sep Pur Tech*, 81(3) 307-317 (2011)
- Z. Liu, Lu Wang, X. Kong, Ping Li, Jianguo Yu and A.E. Rodrigues, On site CO2 capture from flue gas by adsorption process in coal-fired power plant”, *Ind Eng Chem Res* **51**, 7355-7363 (2012)
- **Lu Wang**, Z. Liu, X. Kong, Ping Li, Jianguo Yu and A.E. Rodrigues, Experimental and modeling investigation on post-combustion CO2 capture in zeolite 13 APG by hybrid VTSA process”, *Chem Eng J* **197**, 151-161 (2012)
- Lu Wang; **Ying Yang**; W. Shen; X. Kong; Ping Li; Yu Jianguo; A. E. Rodrigues, “CO2 capture from flue gas in an existing coal-fired power plant by pilot-scale two successive VPSA units”, *Ind Eng Chem Res* **52** (23) 7947-7955 (2013)
- Lu Wang, Ying Yang, W. Shen, X. Kong, Ping Li, Jianguo, Yu and A.E. Rodrigues, “Experimental Evaluation of Adsorption Technology for CO2 Capture from Flue Gas in an Existing Coal-fired Power Plant”, *Chem Eng Sci* **101**, 615-619 (2013)
- J.L. Soares, **R. Moreira**, H.J. José, C. Grande and A.E. Rodrigues, “Hydrotalcite materials for carbon dioxide adsorption at high temperature: characterization and diffusivity measurements”, *Separation Science and Technology* **39** (9), 1989-2010 (2004)
- J.L. Soares, G. Casarin, H.J. José, **R. Moreira** and A.E. Rodrigues “Experimental and theoretical analysis for the CO2 adsorption on hydrotalcite”, *Adsorption* 11:237-241 (2005)
- **R. Moreira**, J. Soares, G. Casarin and A. E. Rodrigues, “Adsorption of CO2 on Hydrotalcite-like Compounds in a Fixed Bed”, *Sep Sci Tech*, **41** (2), 341-357 (2006)

PSA for CO₂ capture from coal or biomass gasification and to produce H₂/CO mixture for MeOH synthesis or Fischer Tropsch

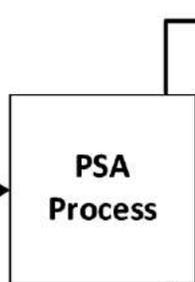
Coal to FT process



Feed composition:

47.07% H₂
30.11% CO₂
0.03% CH₄
22.26% CO
0.53% N₂

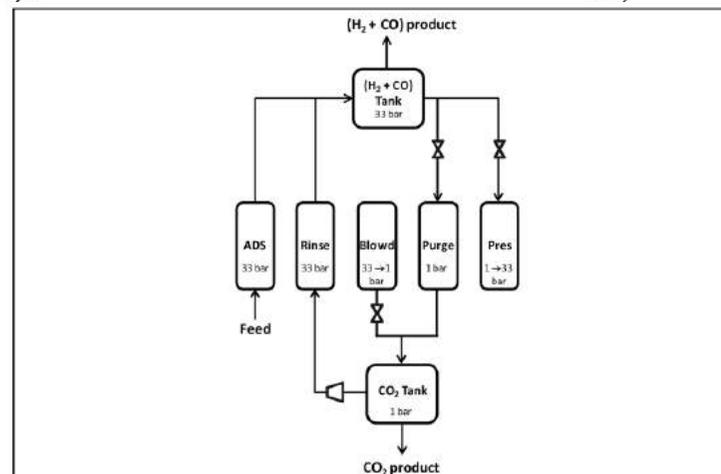
1208 kNm³/h
53935 kmol/h
33 bar
50°C



H₂+CO
 $2.0 < \frac{H_2}{CO} < 2.4$
Inerts < 5%
P > 26 bar

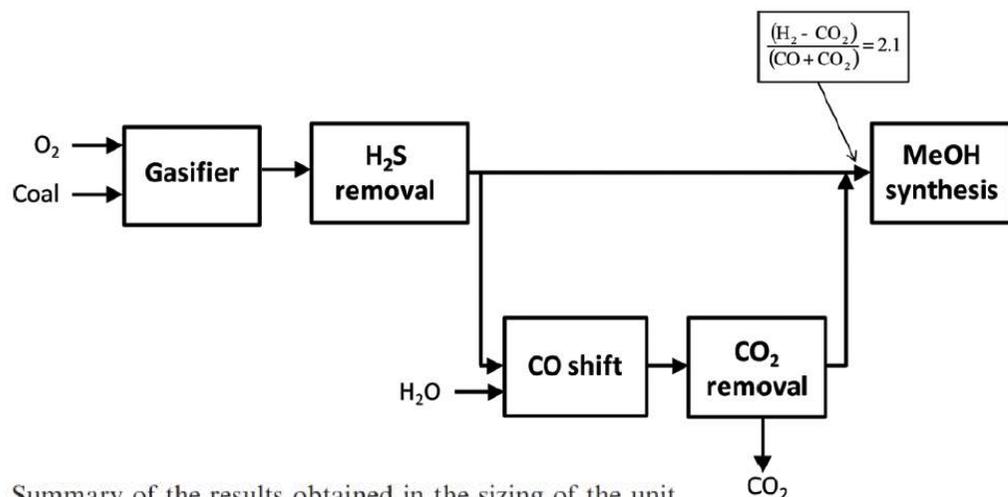
Purity > 95%

Recovery > 90%



C1	Adsorption	Rinse	Blowdown	Pg	Pressurization
C2	Pg	Pressurization	Adsorption	Rinse	Blowdown
C3	Blowdown	Pg	Pressurization	Adsorption	Rinse
C4	Rinse	Blowdown	Pg	Pressurization	Adsorption

Coal to MeOH



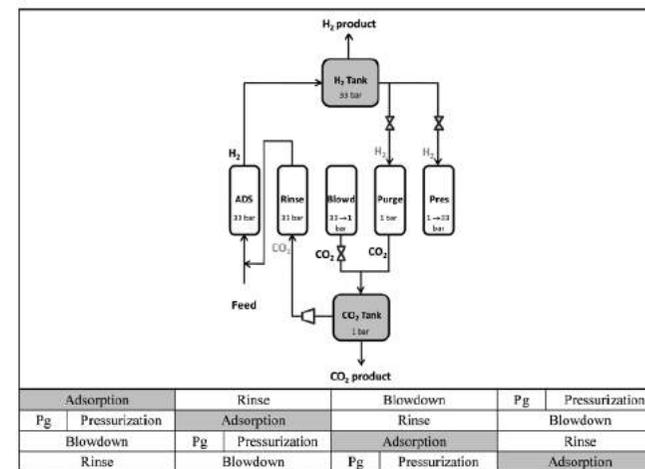
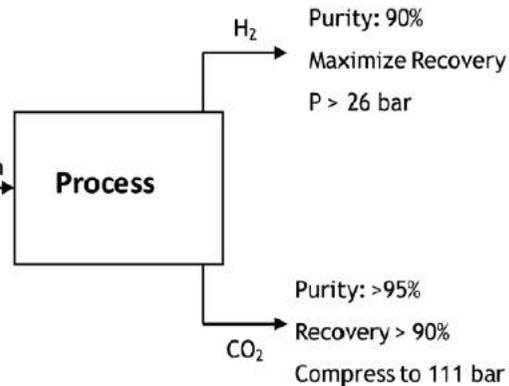
Summary of the results obtained in the sizing of the unit

Adsorbent	Activated carbon Norit R2030
Adsorbent apparent density (kg/m ³)	874
Bed porosity	0.38
Adsorbent working capacity (mol/kg)	4.17
Duration of the adsorption step	640 s
Number of units required	8
Column diameter (m)	5
Column length (m)	9
Superficial feed velocity (m/s)	0.04

Feed composition:

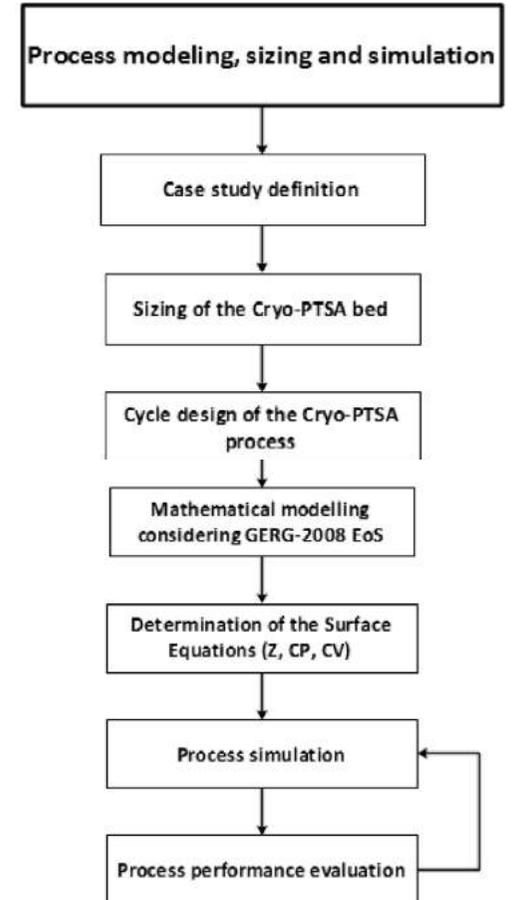
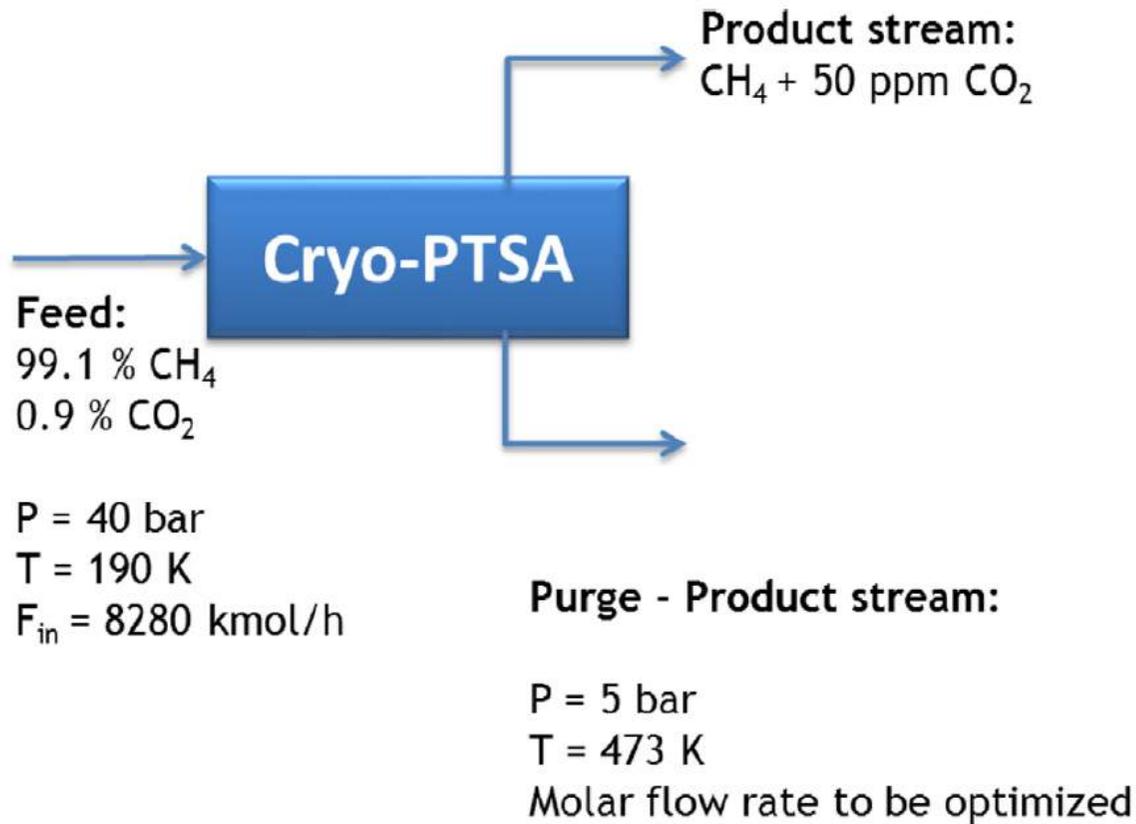
55%_v H₂
39%_v CO₂
3%_v CO
2.2%_v CH₄
0.8%_v N₂

620 k Nm³/h
27678 kmol/h
P = 33 bar
50°C

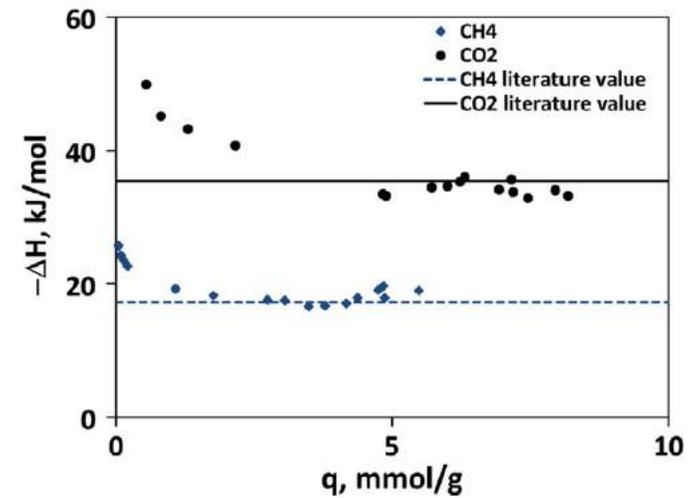
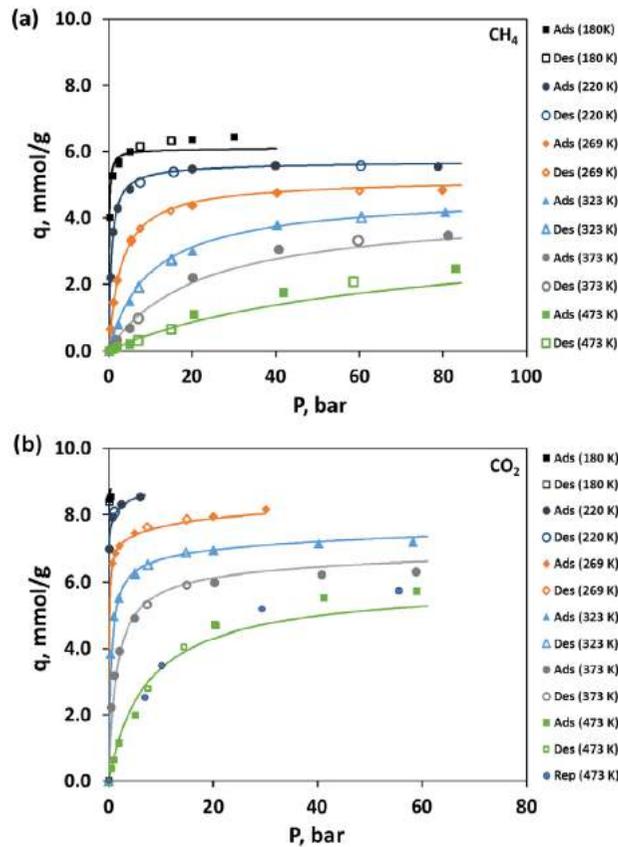


Pg - purge

Cryogenic adsorption for CO₂/CH₄ separation (PTSA)

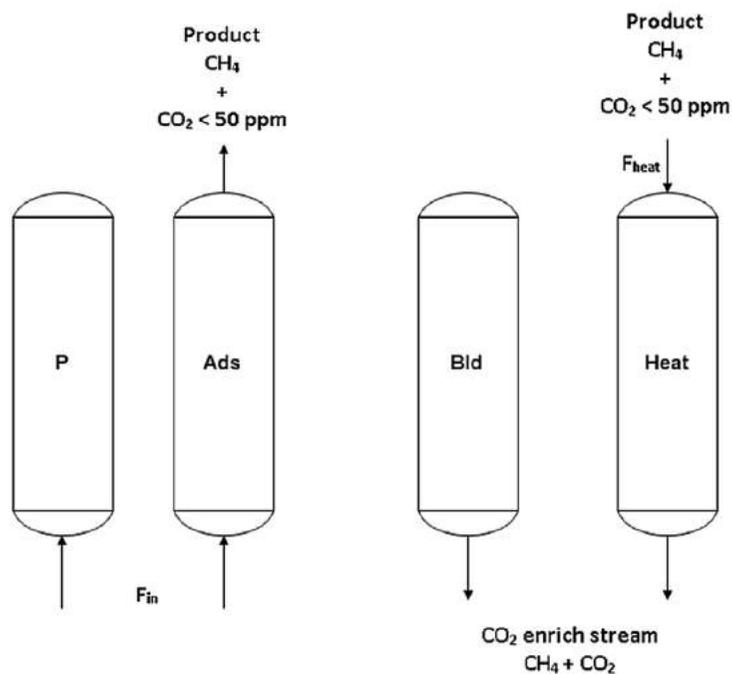


Binderless 13X zeolite – adsorption equilibrium isotherms



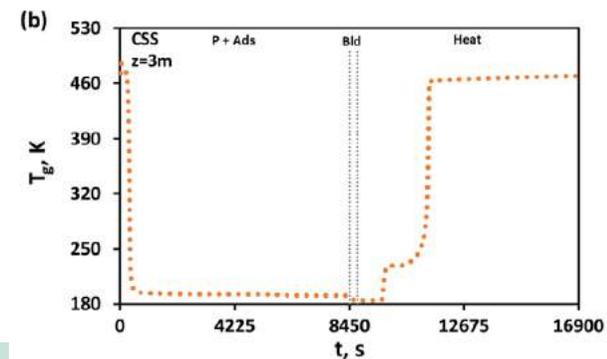
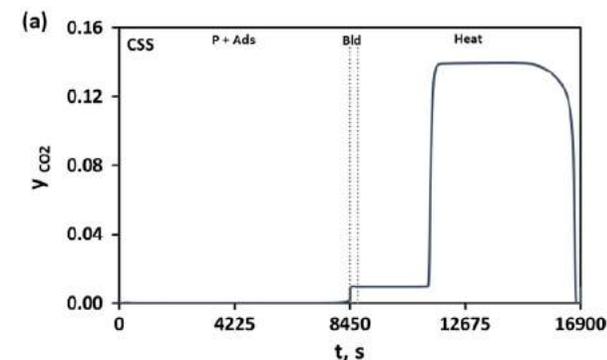
The mathematical model described previously involves a system of partial differential and algebraic equations (PDAEs), which can be solved using modelling software. The modelling software chosen was gPROMS[®] ModelBuilder (PSE) [82], which is a reliable simulation tool. gPROMS[®] provides a general interface that can incorporate other external property and thermodynamic tools. In this way, REFPROP was integrated in the gPROMS[®] simulation tool by the use of REFPROP CAPE-OPEN (Computer Aided Process Engineering) physical properties socket [83].

PTSA cycle and process performance



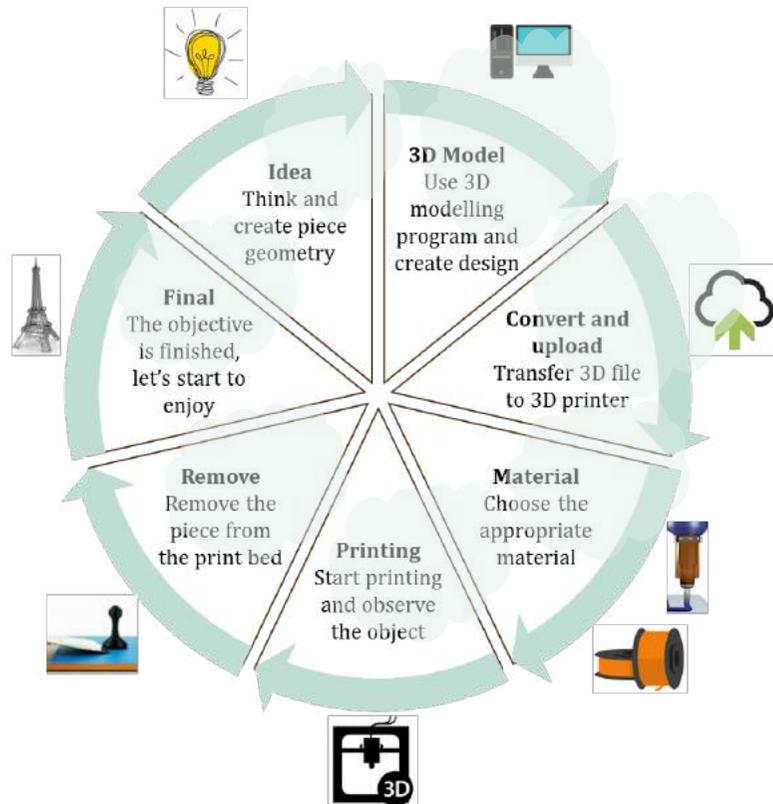
	P + Ads	Bld	Heat
Bld	Heat	P + Ads	

Recovery of $\text{CH}_4 = 90.7\%$
 Product stream with 41.8 ppm in CH_4
 CH_4 productivity 100.1 mol/Kg ads/h
 Power consumption 2.2 MW (compared with 22.3 MW in cryogenic distillation)



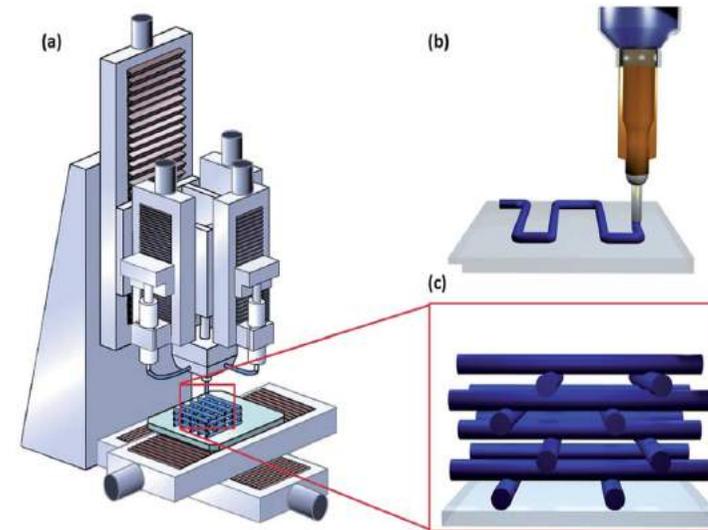
ELECTRICAL CONDUCTIVE 3D-PRINTED MONOLITH ADSORBENT FOR CO₂ CAPTURE

ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING - 3D



Direct Ink Writing method

Print structures with solid free-form fabrication from an ink with high viscosity;
Printing occurs with a pressure delivery of an ink through one or multiple capillaries or syringes



Farahani, R. D., Chizari, K., and Theriault, D. Three-dimensional printing of freeform helical microstructures: a review. *Nanoscale* 2014, 6, 10470-10485.

3D-PRINTING IN GAS SEPARATION

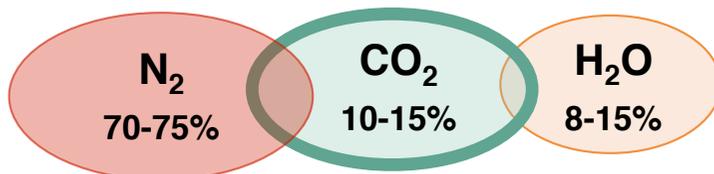
Recently, additive manufacturing gained worldwide attention in the development of adsorbents for **gas separation processes** applications

Advantages:

- controlled properties: shape and size, wall thickness, density

Can be used as alternative or a complement to the extrusion process

Flue gases from Post-Combustion process



Cyclic Adsorption Processes

ELECTRIC SWING ADSORPTION

heat generated by electric current (Joule effect) in the adsorbent

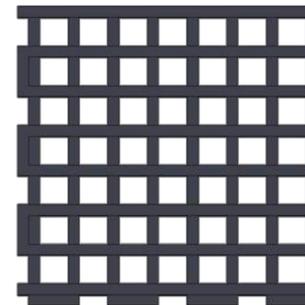
3D-PRINTING: MONOLITH DESIGN

Monolith design - Why?

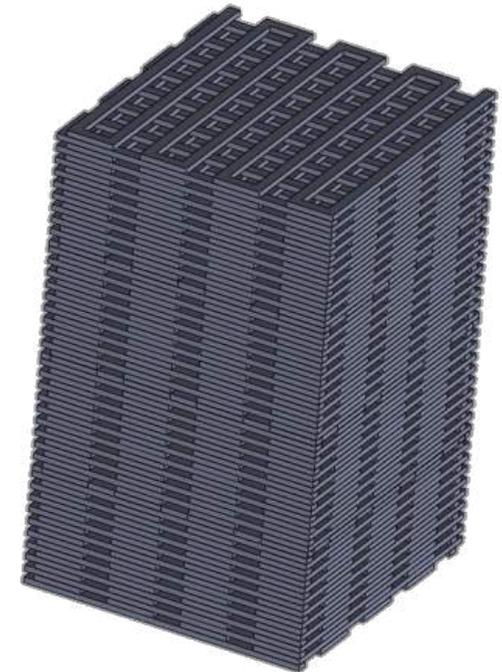
- High mechanical stability
- High resistance toward abrasion/attrition
- Higher surface area to volume ratio
- Homogeneous power distribution
- Lower pressure drop

Monolith properties – Which?

- High CO₂ adsorption capacity
- High electric conductivity



View from the top



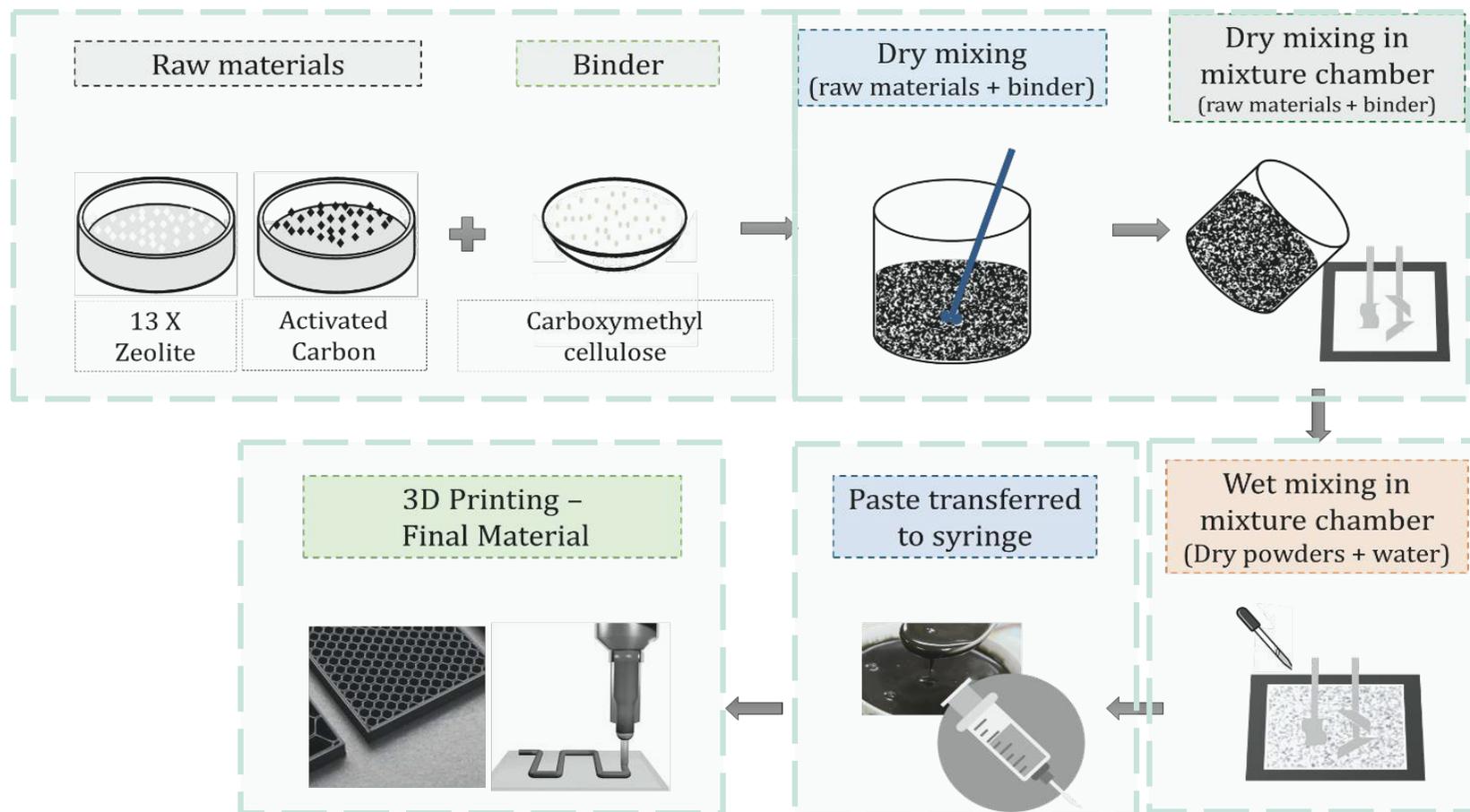
Design of STL file:

SolidWorks 2017®

G-code generation file:

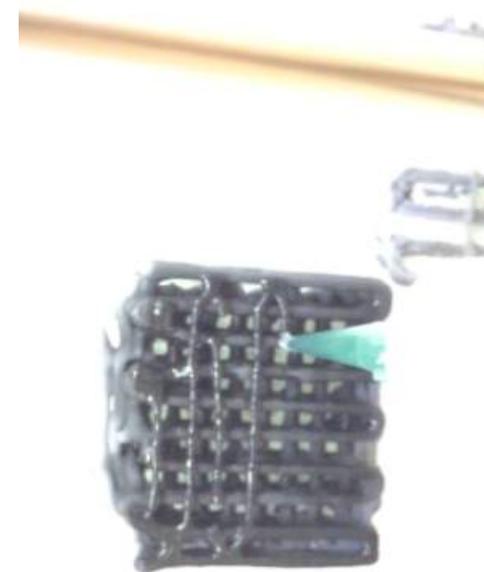
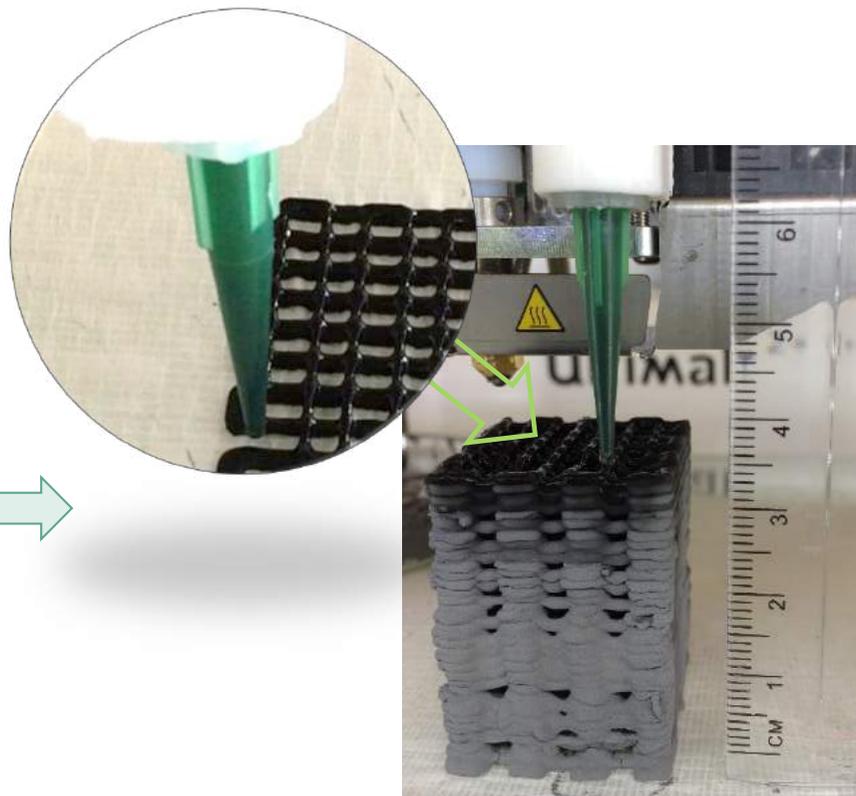
Ultimaker Cura 3.1.0

3D-PRINTING: INK PREPARATION



3D-PRINTING: MONOLITH PRINTING

From Design (.STL) to...

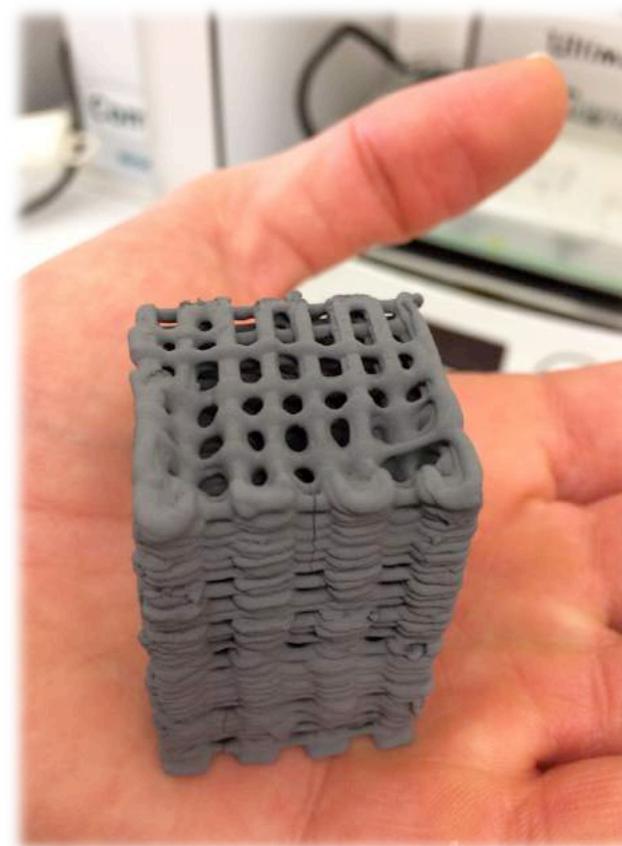
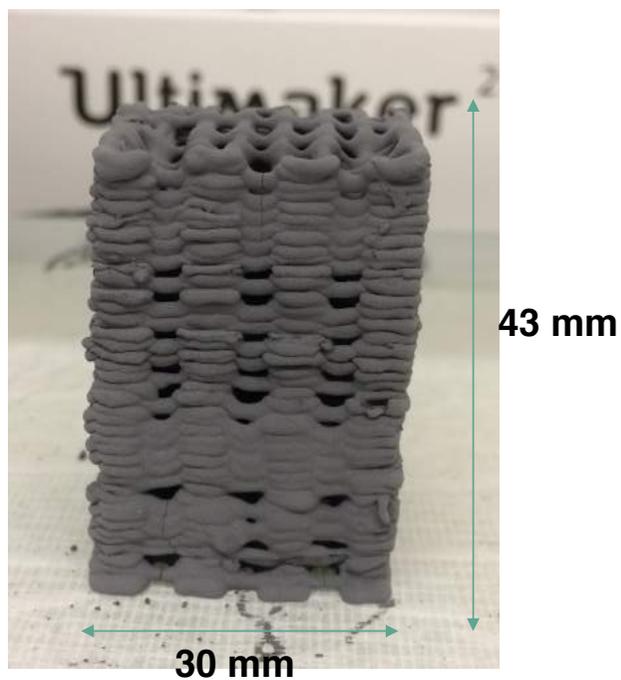


...construction (3D)!

3D-PRINTED MONOLITH

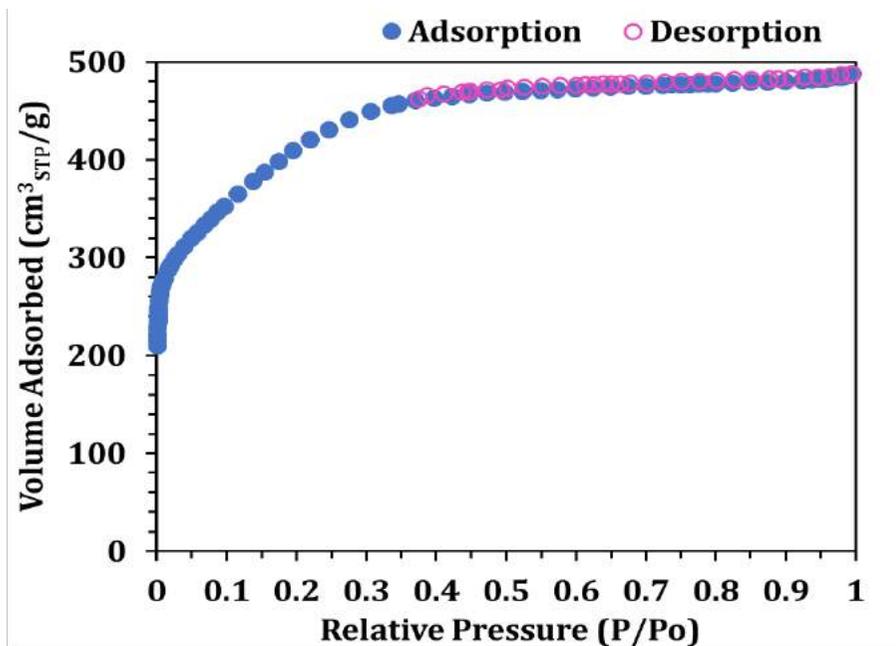
Final monolith material: **30 × 30 × 43 mm**

70% zeolite 13X and 30% AC

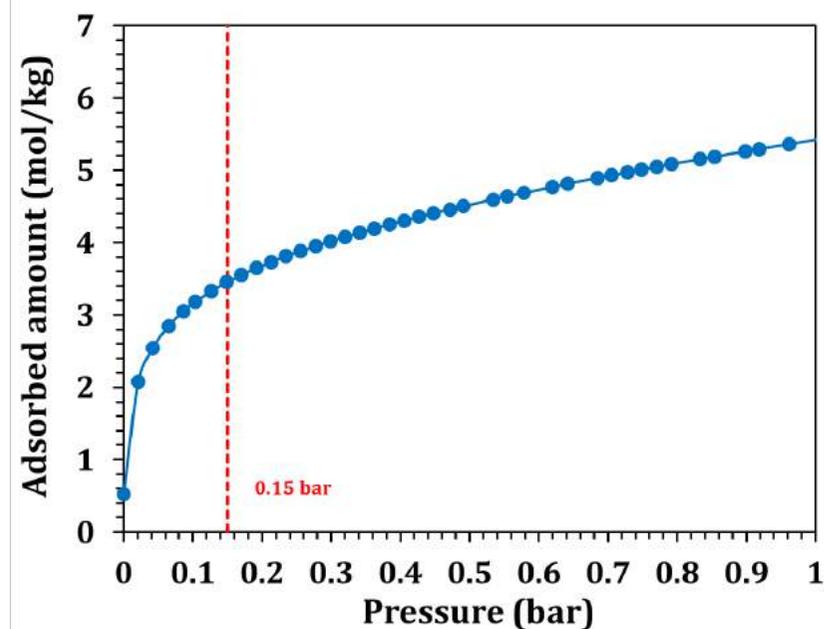


TEXTURAL CHARACTERIZATION

N₂ adsorption at 77 K



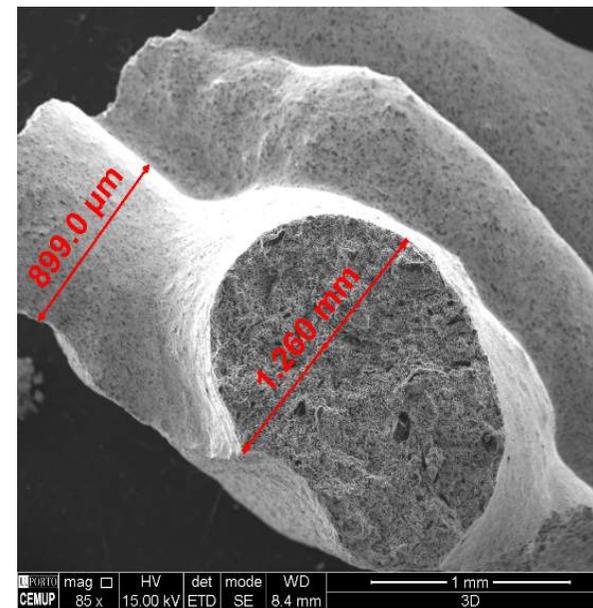
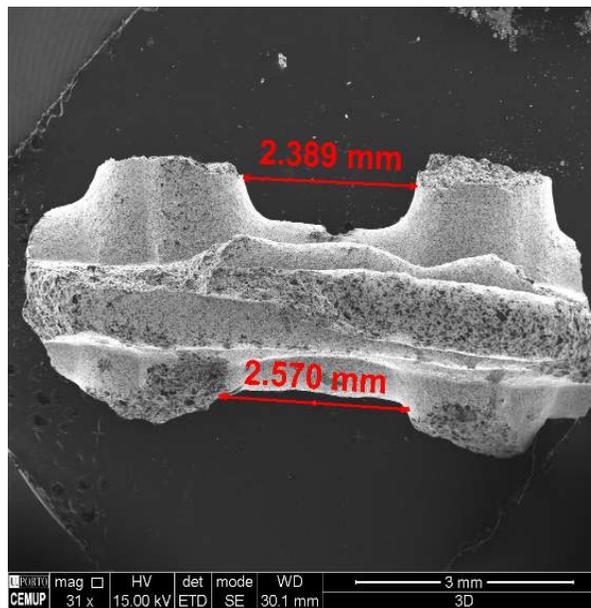
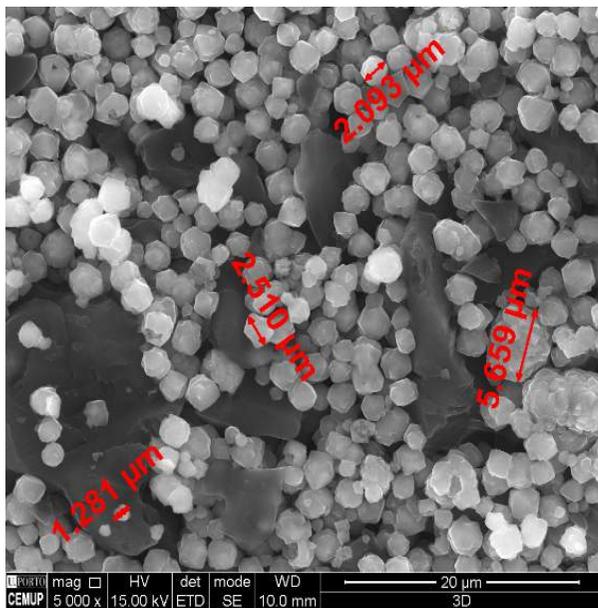
CO₂ adsorption at 273 K



Langmuir surface area: **2028 m²/g**

TEXTURAL CHARACTERIZATION

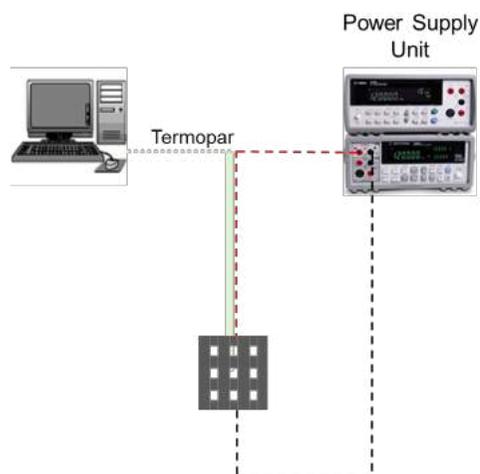
SEM



HEATING TESTS AND MECHANICAL STRENGTH

Heating tests with electric current

- Piece of 10×10×4 mm

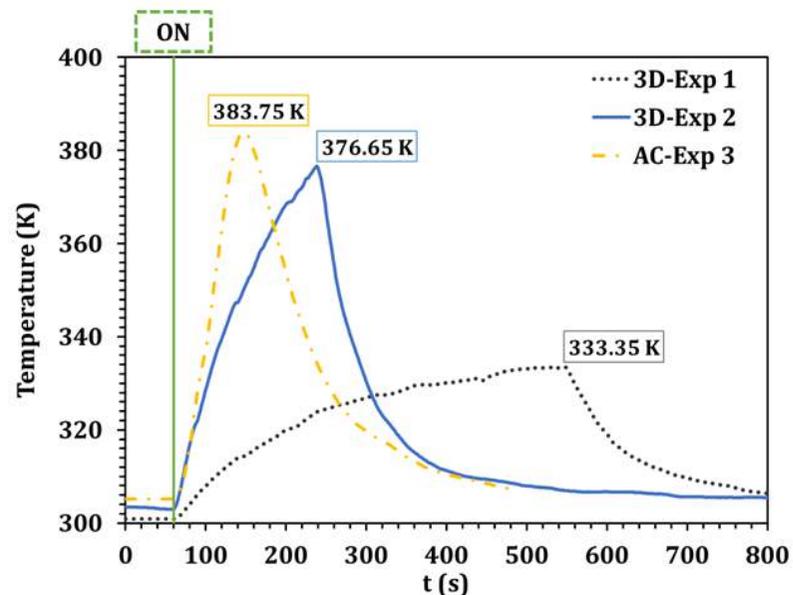


Mechanical strength

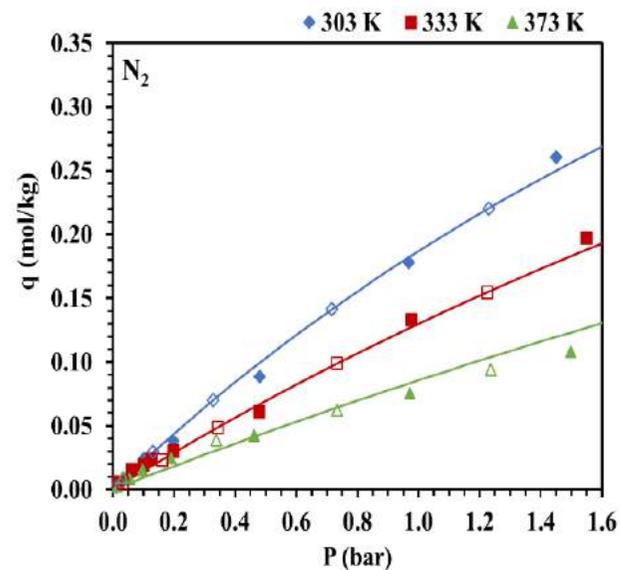
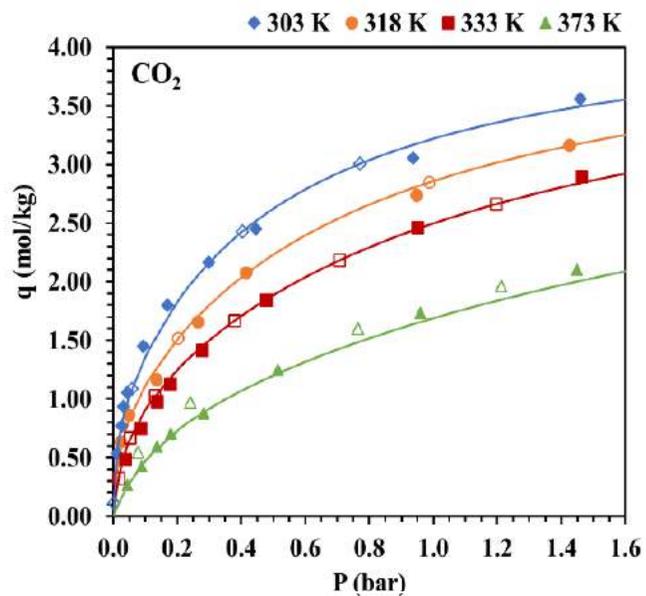
- Piece of 10×10×4 mm: **5 MPa**

Exp	Material	Constant voltage applied (V)	Current measured (A)	Delivered power (W) ^a
1	70% 13X + 30% AC	16	0.05 – 0.06	1
2	70% 13X + 30% AC	25	0.05 – 0.13	3.25
3	100% AC	10	4.00 – 4.14	41.4

^a Considering the maximum value of watts consumed during the experiment



Adsorption equilibrium isotherms





POWER2METHANE PROJECT

POWER2METHANE (NATIONAL PROJECT)

Duration: 2018-2020 | Granted funding: 239 k€



LM Madeira
PI

AER

C. Miguel
Junior posdocl res

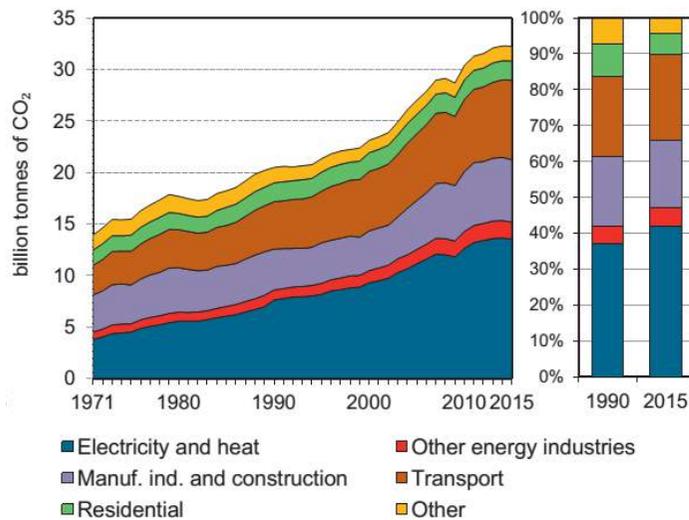
M. Soria
Faria

Catarina
Martins

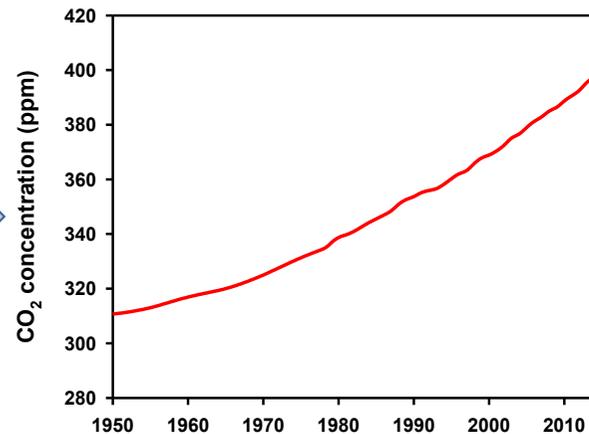


PROBLEM

CO₂ EMISSIONS [1]



CO₂ CONCENTRATION [2]



CLIMATE CHANGE [3]

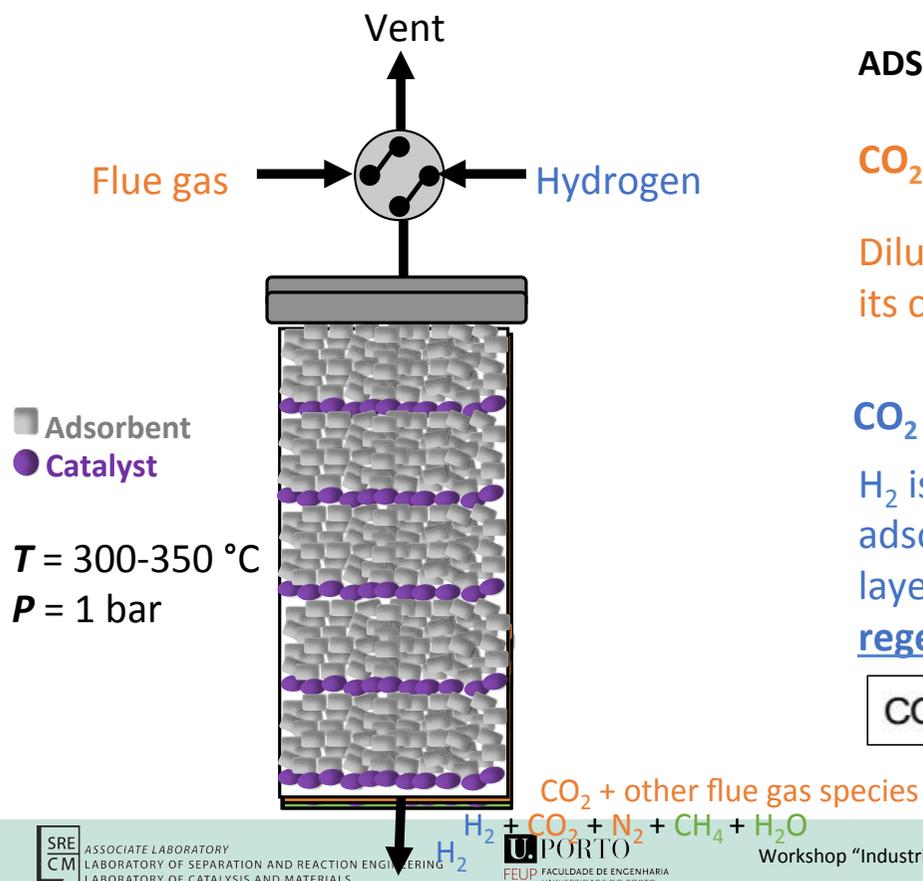
- Increased area affected by **drought**
- Increased frequency of **heavy precipitation** events
- Increased frequency of **heat waves** events
- Average **artic temperatures** increased twice the global average rate in the past 100 years

[1] – International Energy Agency (2017), “CO₂ emissions from fuel combustion 2017 : highlights.

[2] – European Environment Agency (2018): <https://www.eea.europa.eu>

[3] – R.K. Pachauri (2012), The latest essential scientific findings that feed the assessment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, CO₂ Forum, Lyon 2012.

APPROACH: TURN WASTE (CO₂) TO VALUE (CH₄)



ADSORPTIVE REACTOR

CO₂ CAPTURE

Diluted CO₂ from flue gas is separated from other species and its concentration inside the reactor is increased

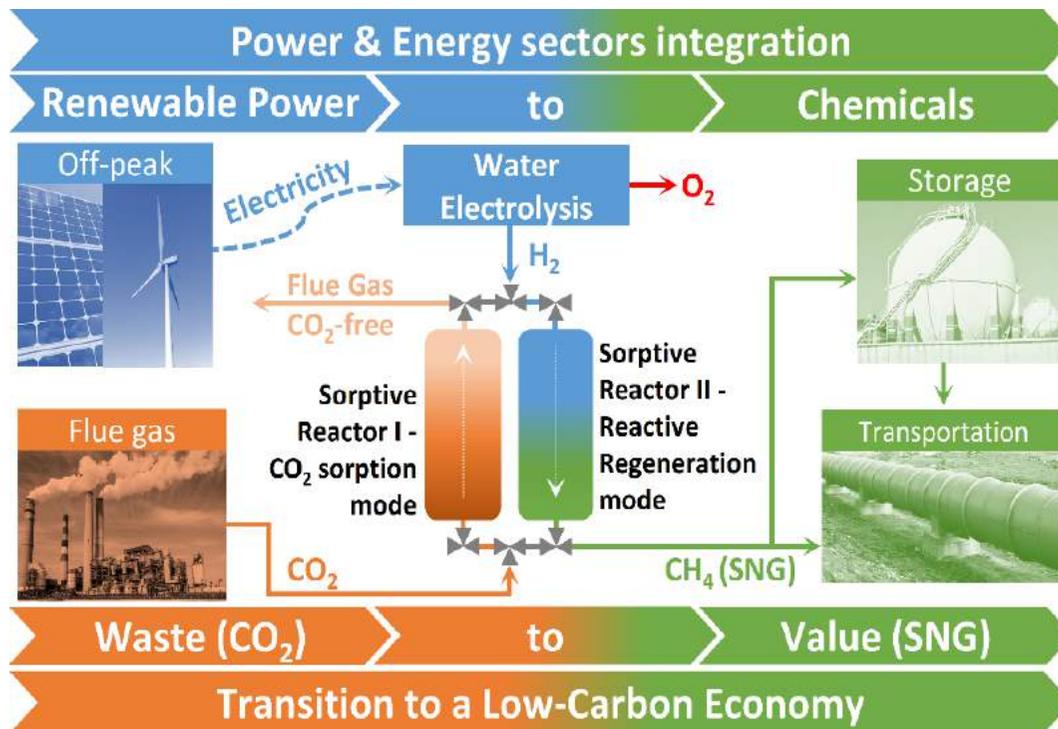
CO₂ CONVERSION

H₂ is fed to the reactor and CO₂ is purged from the adsorbent while becoming available to react in the catalyst layers to produce methane (and water) – reactive regeneration



CCU Technology for Power-to-Gas Applications

CCU TECHNOLOGY FOR POWER-TO-GAS APPLICATIONS



OBJECTIVES

- 1 Storage of renewable energy surpluses
- 2 Minimization of CO₂ emissions
- 3 Natural gas replacement by renewable-based synthetic natural gas



R&D ROADMAP

POWER2METHANE

Funding from FCT was granted to further develop the technology and POWER2METHANE starts in mid-2018

OPTIMIZATION

Adsorbents and catalysts screened for improved performance and reactor model ready for process optimization - TRL 4

DEMONSTRATION

Technology demonstration by identified end-users – TRL5-6



PROOF-OF-CONCEPT

Adsorptive reactor for CO₂ capture and conversion using a synthetic flue gas stream successfully tested at lab-scale - TRL 3

PROTOTYPE

Prototype for testing the concept in cyclic mode (i.e. 2 reactors in parallel) in early 2019 with commercial materials

TECHNO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Reactor model embedded in ASPEN software for process simulation in identified end-users and estimation of technical indicators as well as CAPEX and OPEX.



COLLABORATIVE WORK

	PARTICLE SCALE		REACTOR SCALE
	ADSORBENTS	CATALYSTS	PROCESS
COMPANIES	 		
UNIVERSITIES / LABS			



OUTCOMES AND CHALLENGES

- ✓ Proof-of-concept of the adsorptive reactor for CO₂ capture and conversion application
- ✓ Captured CO₂ could be almost completely converted to methane (90 %)
- ✓ Good compatibility and cyclic stability of tested adsorbent and catalyst

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS @ $T=350\text{ C}$, $P_t=1\text{ bar}$ and $y_{\text{CO}_2}=0.15$

	CO ₂ adsorption capacity (mol/kg _{ads})	CO ₂ conversion (%)	CH ₄ productivity (mol/(kg _{cat} h))	CH ₄ purity (%)
Baseline* (2018)	0.3	90	2.4	36
Target* (2019-2020)	1.0	100	3.0	84

* Carlos V. Miguel, CO₂ capture and conversion to chemicals: methane production, PhD thesis, University of Porto, 2018.

** Within the scope of FCT project POWER2METHANE (www.power2methane.fe.up.pt)

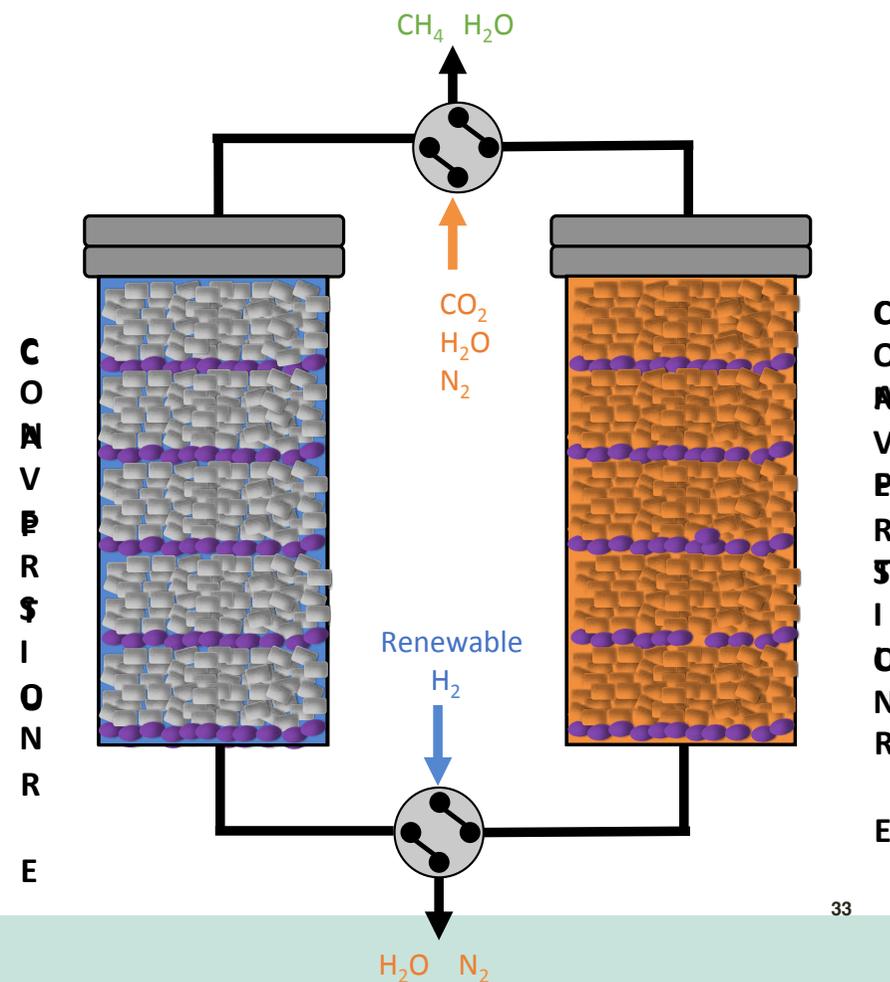
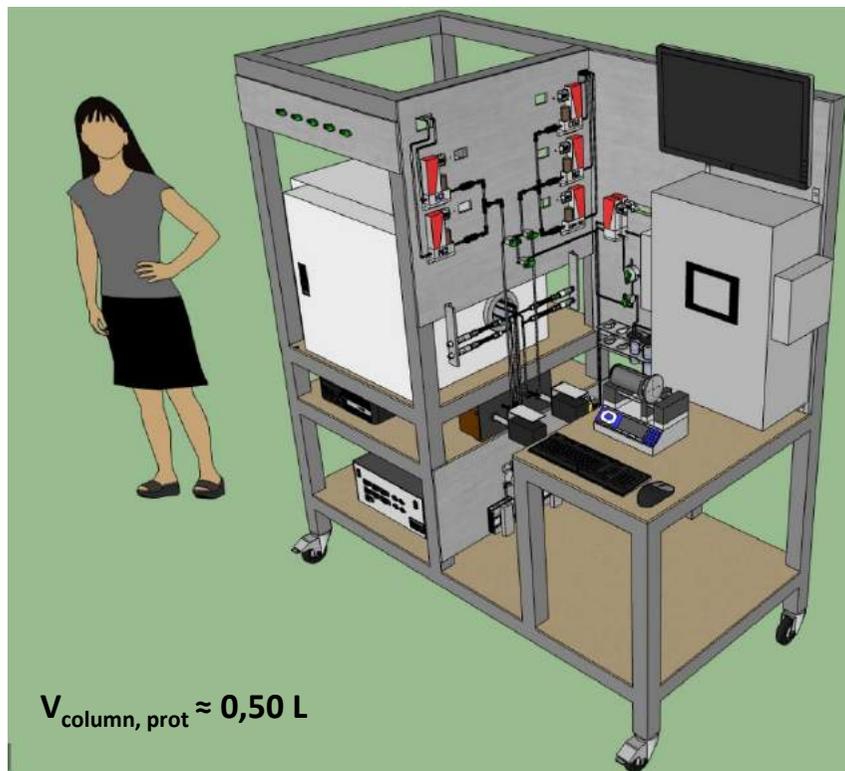


ONGOING R&D WORK

		TASK	GOALS
MATERIALS	ADSORBENTS	Synthesis, characterization and screening of Na-, Cs- and K-promoted hydrotalcites for CO ₂ adsorption at high temperature.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve CO₂ adsorption capacity • Improve adsorption/desorption kinetics
	CATALYSTS	Synthesis, characterization and screening of catalysts for CO ₂ methanation: Ru, Ni, Ru-Ni and Ni catalysts featuring CO ₂ adsorption capacity (i.e. dual-function materials).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve CH₄ productivity • Improve CH₄ purity
PROCESS	REACTOR	Modeling of the cyclic adsorptive reactor unit in gPROMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimization of the reactor performance • Estimation of CAPEX and OPEX



PROTOTYPE FOR CYCLIC OPERATION



Innovation

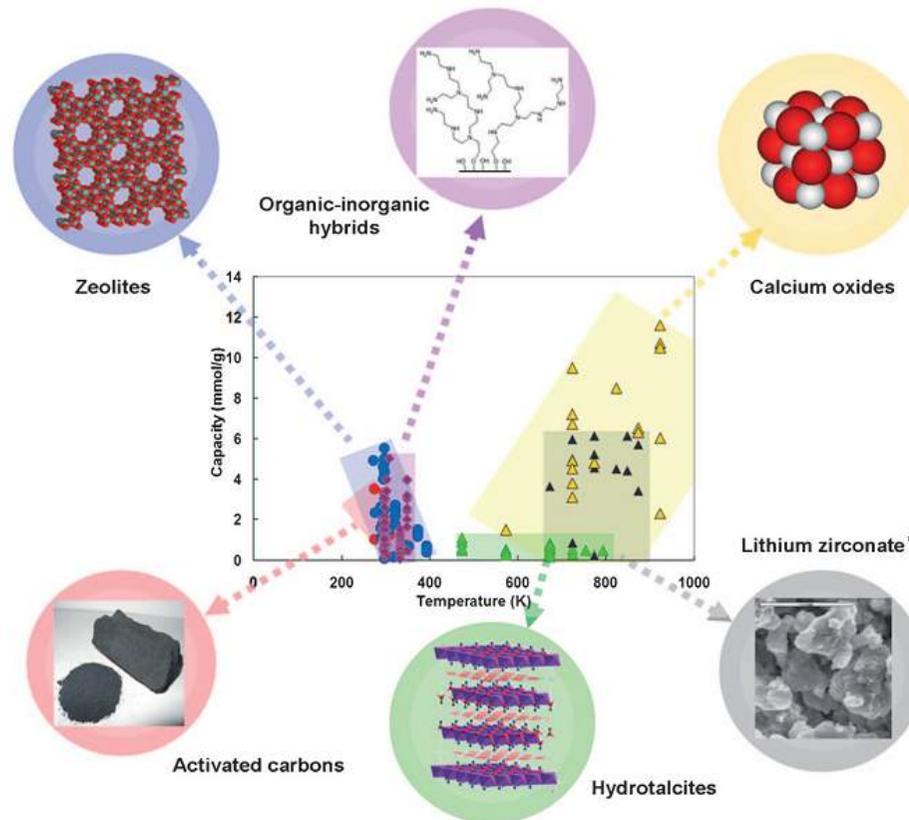
INNOVATION

	LURGI	TREMP (Haldor Topsoe)	VESTAS (Foster Wheeler/ Clariant)	COMFLUX (PSI)	ETOGAS/ ZSW	Agnion	EBI	EBI	FEUP
Type of reactor	Series of adiabatic fixed beds with intermittent and recirculation cooling			Isothermal bubbling fluidized bed reactor	Polytropic fixed bed with several injection points and cooling zones	Polytropic fixed bed with partial cooling	Polytropic fixed bed with conductive catalyst support	Isothermal bubble column reactor	Adsorptive Reactor (cyclic process)
Simplicity	+	+	+	--	--	0	0	--	0
Low nr. of units	--	--	--	+	+	++	+	0	+
High temperature of cooling	+	++	+	--	0	0	--	--	--
Flexibility	0	0	0	++	+	0	+	++	+
Sufficient mass transfer	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	--	+
Good heat transfer	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	++	0	0	+	++	++
Low challenges for catalyst	0	-	0	--	0	--	0	+	0
TRL	9	9	7-8	7,8	8	5	4	4	3

++ very much given; + given; 0 less given; - not given; -- not given at all; n.a. not applicable

High temperature CO₂ capture by adsorption

Materials for CO₂ adsorption



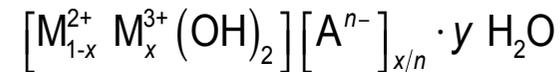
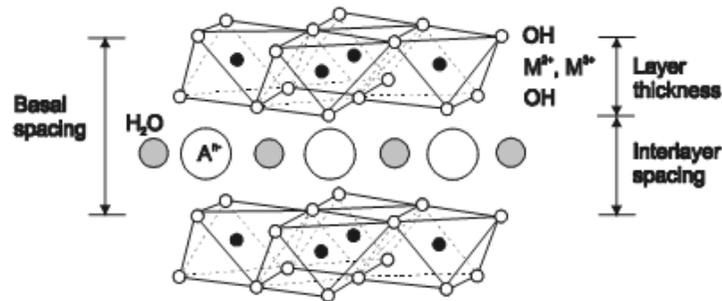
VNIVERSIDAD
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Source: ChemSusChem 2 (2009) 796-854.

CO₂ capture by adsorption

Hydrotalcites

Source: Adsorption 14 (2008) 781-789.



M²⁺: Mg²⁺, Ni²⁺, Zn²⁺ ...

M³⁺: Al³⁺, Ga³⁺, Mn³⁺ ...

Aⁿ⁻: CO₃²⁻, Cl⁻, SO₄²⁻ ...

Synthesized hydrotalcites

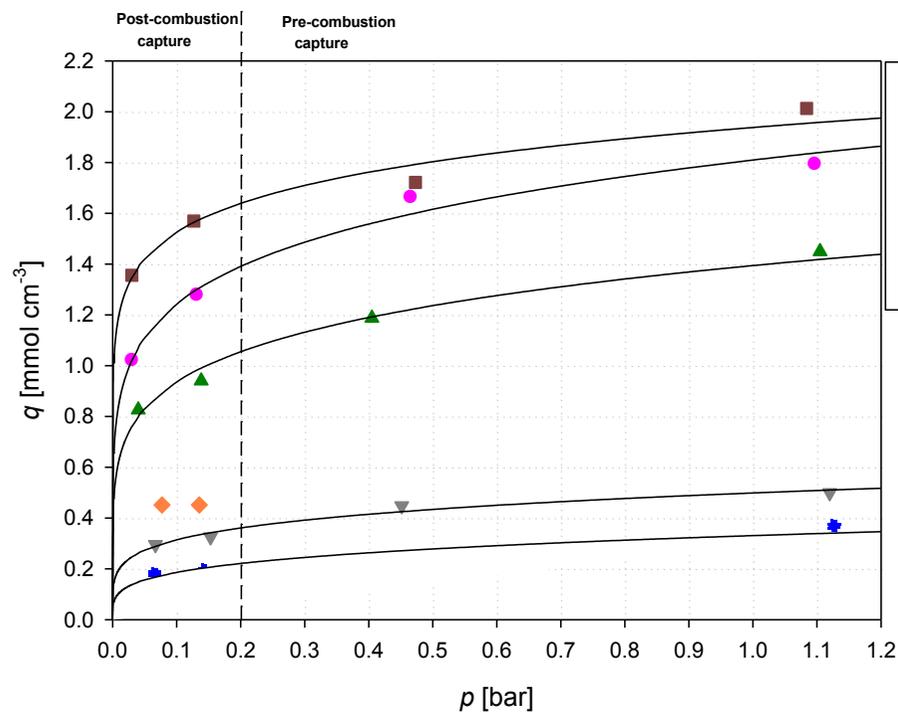
Reference	M ²⁺	M ³⁺	A ⁿ⁻	Promote	Content (wt.%)
				r	
HTC	Mg	Al	-	CO ₃ ²⁻	-
HTC-20K	Mg	Al	-	CO ₃ ²⁻	K 20
HTC-10Ga	Mg	Al	Ga	CO ₃ ²⁻	-
HTC-10Ga-20K	Mg	Al	Ga	CO ₃ ²⁻	K 20
HTC-10Ga-20Cs	Mg	Al	Ga	CO ₃ ²⁻	Cs 20
HTC-10Ga-20Sr	Mg	Al	Ga	CO ₃ ²⁻	Sr 20

Synthesis protocol

- Hydrotalcites were prepared by the co-precipitation method
 - M²⁺/M³⁺ = 2:1 (mol. %)
 - Al : Ga = 90 : 10 (mol. %)
- Modification with K, Cs or Sr performed by wet impregnation
- Calcination at 400 °C during 2 hours

CO₂ capture by adsorption

CO₂ sorption equilibrium at 300 °C Sorbent screening

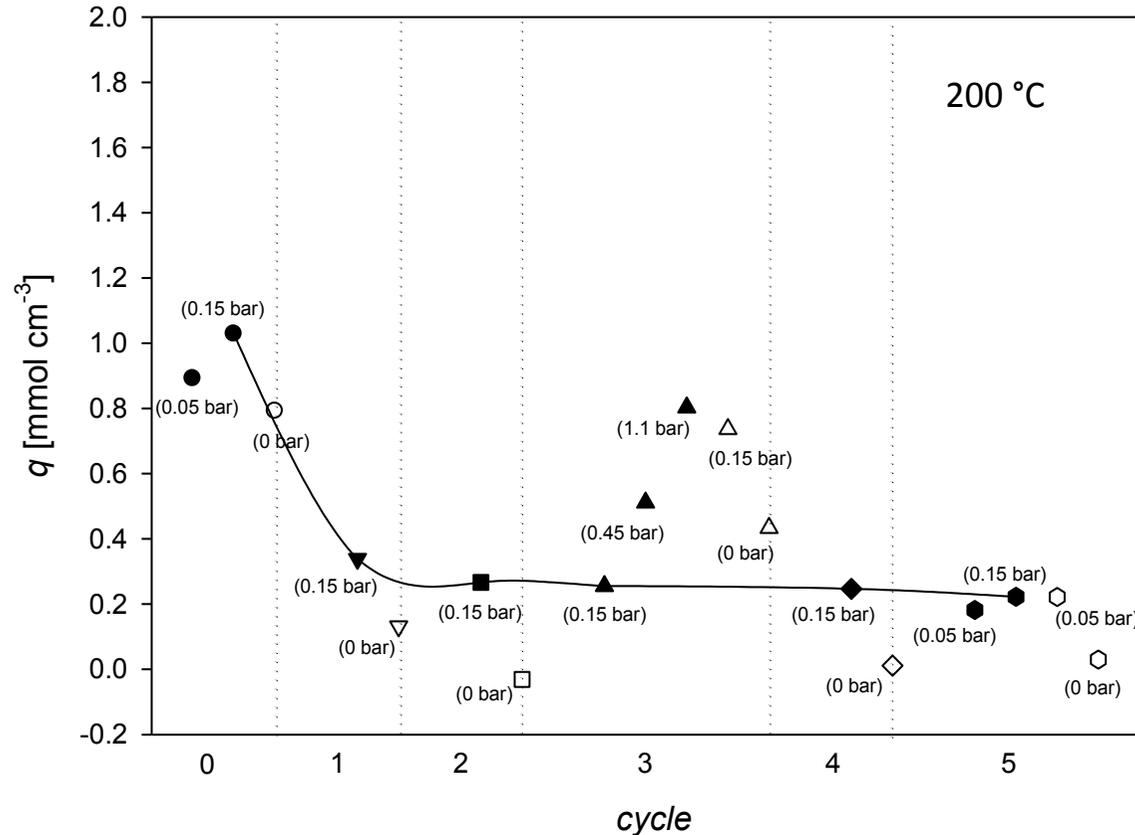


■	HTC-10Ga-20K	($S_{\text{BET}} = 58 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$)
●	HTC-20K	($S_{\text{BET}} = 61 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$)
▲	HTC-10Ga-20Cs	($S_{\text{BET}} = 165 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$)
◆	HTC	($S_{\text{BET}} = 183 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$)
▼	HTC-10Ga	($S_{\text{BET}} = 175 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$)
■	HTC-10Ga-20Sr	($S_{\text{BET}} = 237 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$)

Material	T [K]	p_{CO_2} [bar]	q [mol·kg ⁻¹]	Ref.
HTC-10Ga-20K	573	1.08	1.82	This work
cK-HTCGa MW	573	1.05	1.70	Chem. Eng. J., 325 (2017) 25.
cK-HTC MW	573	1.05	1.35	Chem. Eng. J., 325 (2017) 25.
K-promoted hydrotalcite	673	1	0.79	J. Colloid Interf. Sci., 308 (2007) 30.
Hydrotalcite	573	1	0.52	Sep. Purif. Technol. 26 (2002) 195.
Hydrotalcite	573	1	0.50	Ind. Eng. Chem. Res. 40 (2001) 204.
Hydrotalcite	573	1.1	0.25	Ind. Eng. Chem. Res. 45 (2006) 7504.

CO₂ capture by adsorption

Determination of the working capacity

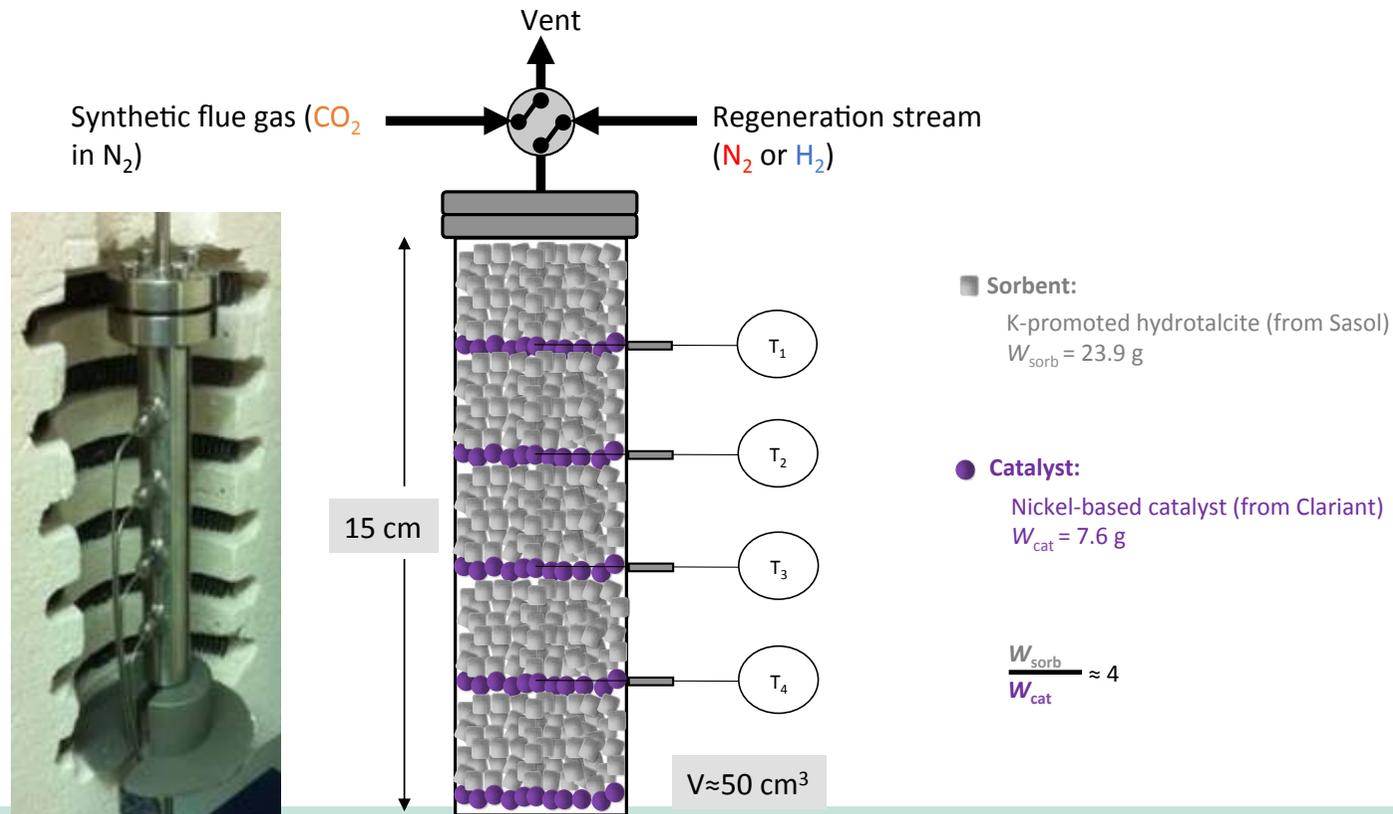


- Ads 0
- Des 0
- ▼ Ads 1
- ▽ Des 1
- Ads 2
- Des 2
- ▲ Ads 3
- △ Des 3
- ◆ Ads 4
- ◇ Des 4
- Ads 5
- Des 5

1. Partial substitution with Ga and modification with K substantially increase the sorption capacity
2. The best sorbent (HTC-10Ga-20K) has a higher sorption capacity compared to others reported in the literature
3. The sorption capacity of hydrotalcite increases with temperature
4. The working capacity is reached after 2-3 sorption/desorption cycles

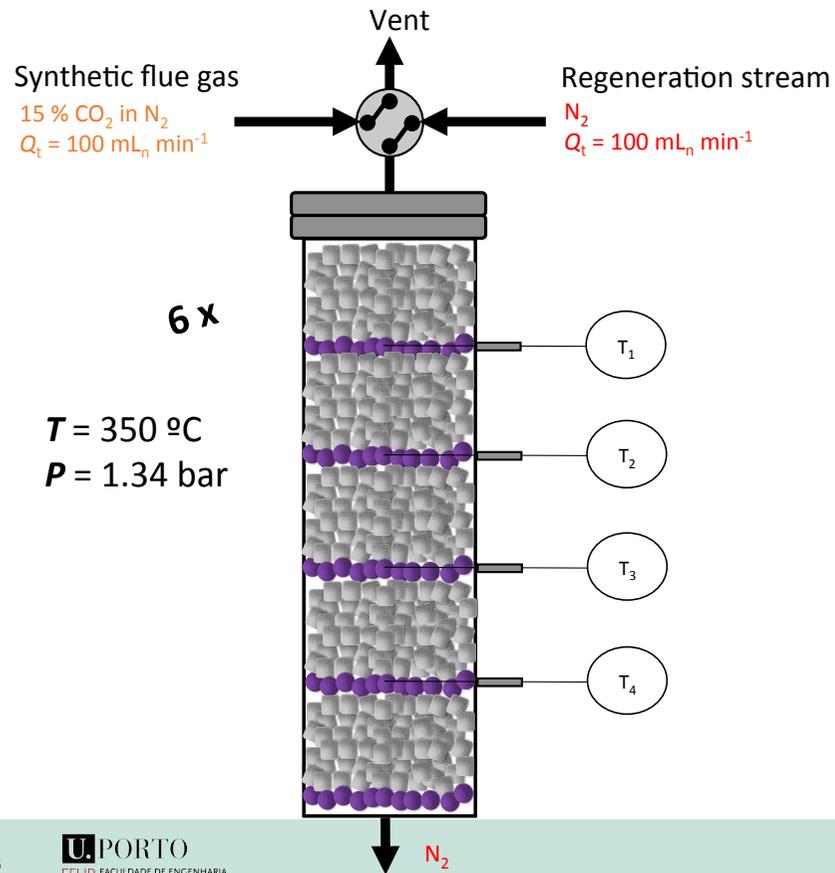
Hybrid process of CO₂ capture and conversion

Sorptive reactor unit description



Hybrid process of CO₂ capture and conversion

Sorption-desorption cycles



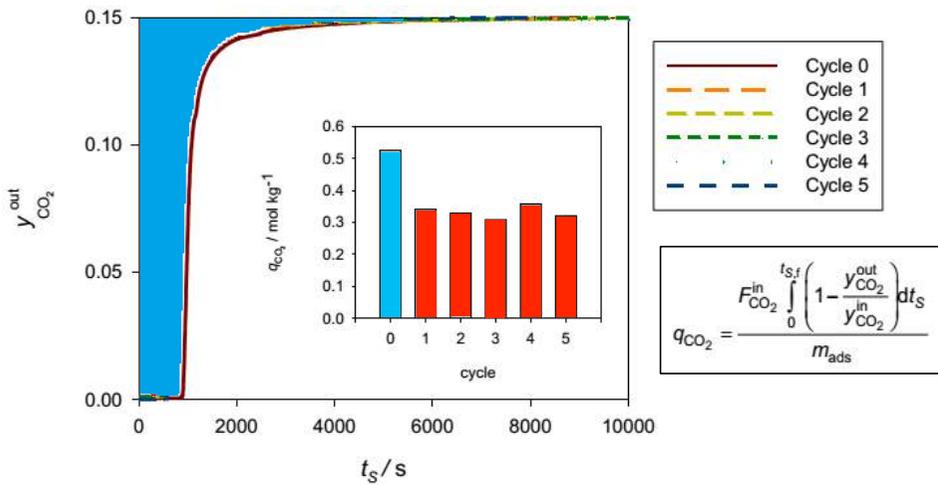
Stage:

1. Purge
2. CO₂ capture (**full bed saturation**)
3. Regeneration

Hybrid process of CO₂ capture and conversion

Sorption-desorption cycles

Sorbent working capacity



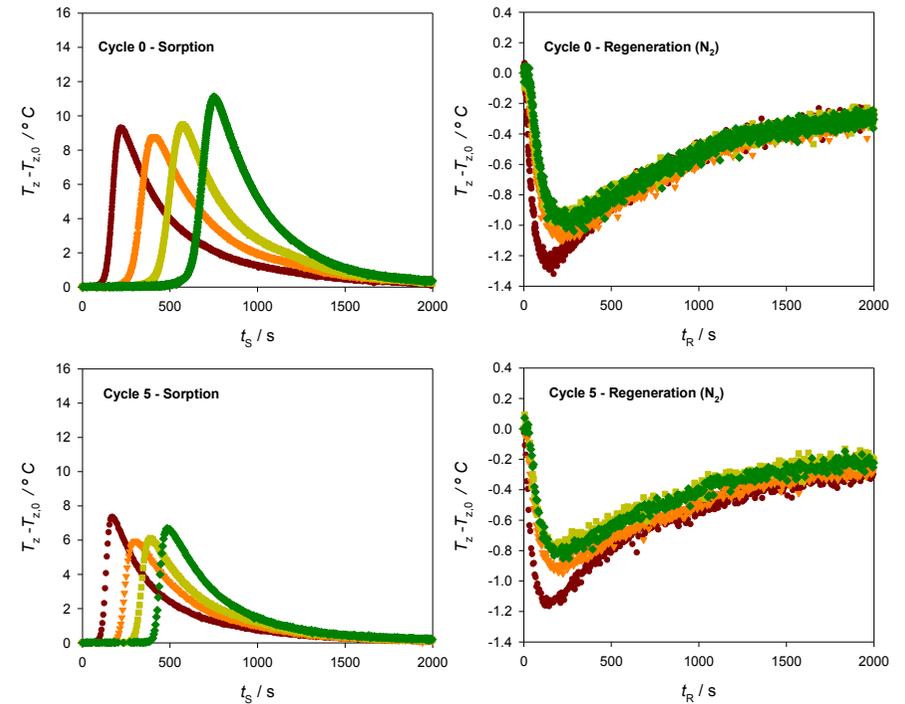
CO₂ sorption capacity

0.52 mol·kg⁻¹

6 cycles

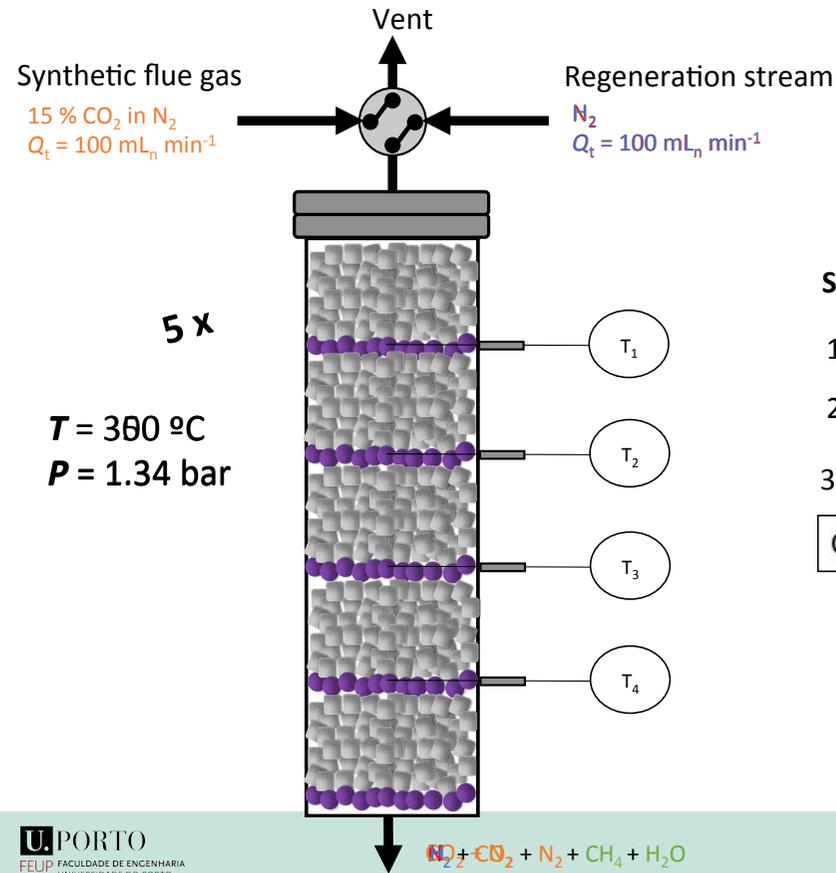
CO₂ working capacity

0.32 mol·kg⁻¹



Hybrid process of CO₂ capture and conversion

Sorption-reaction cycles



Stage:

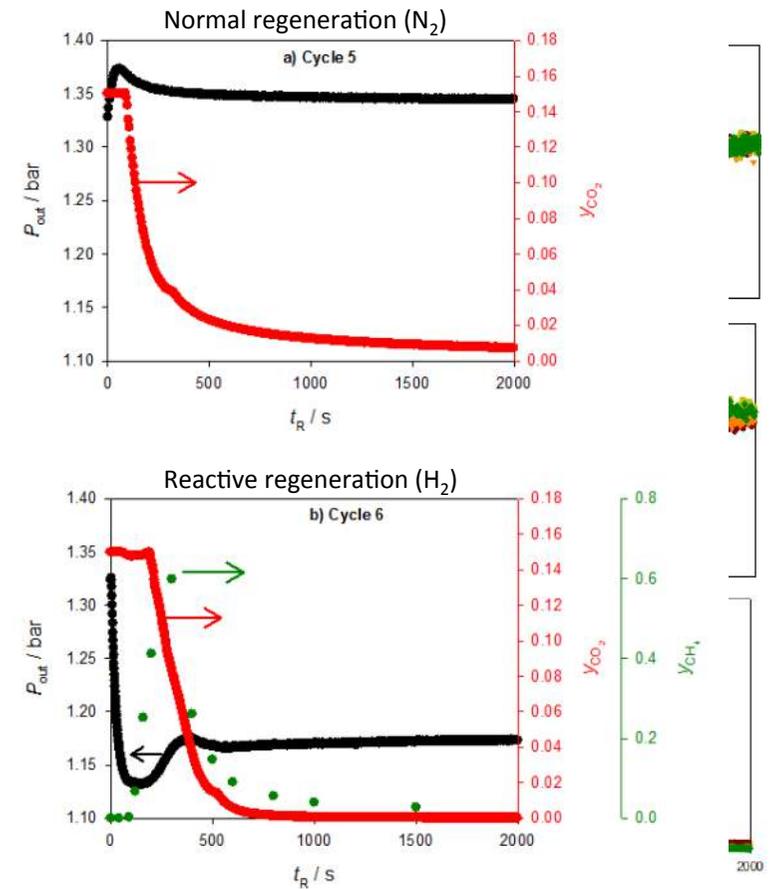
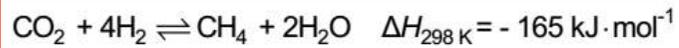
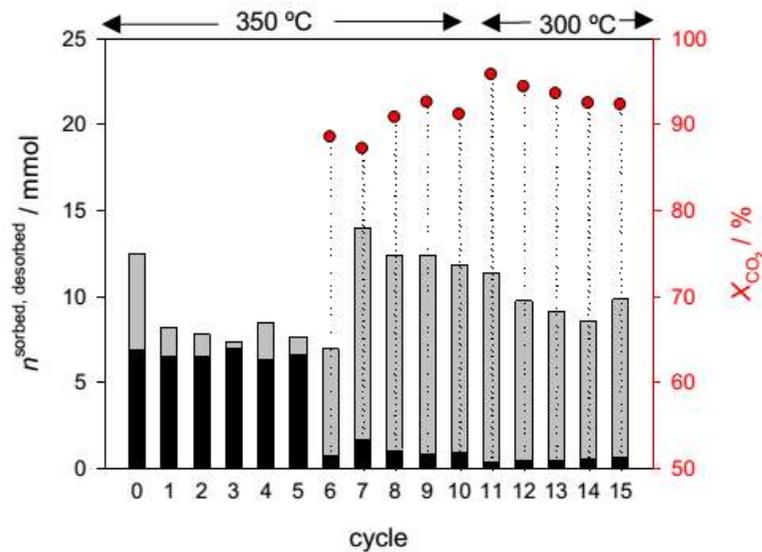
1. Purge
2. CO₂ capture (**full bed saturation**)
3. Reactive regeneration



Hybrid process of CO₂ capture and conversion

Sorption-reaction cycles

Effect of steam

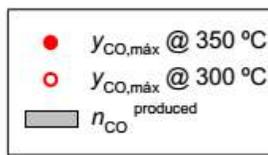
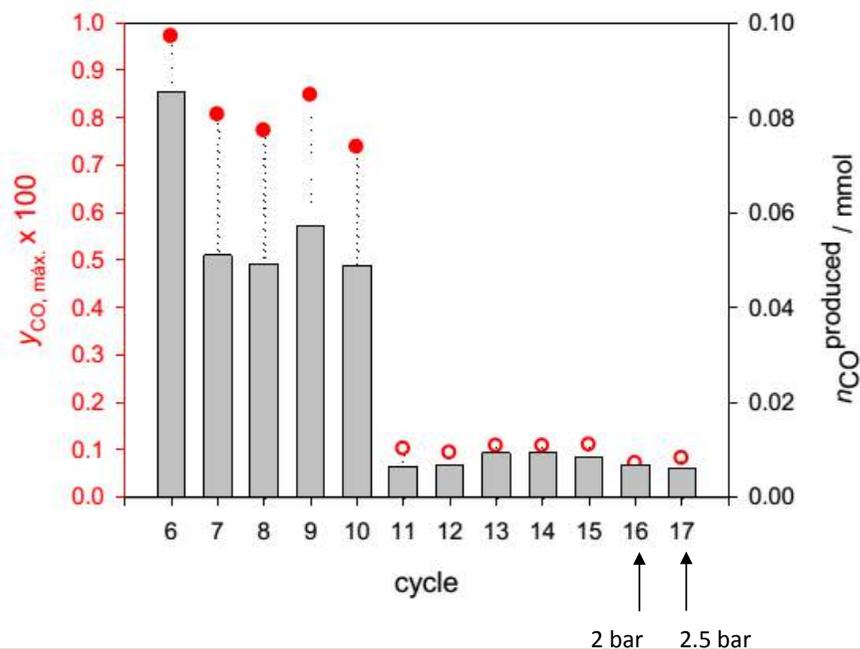


Hybrid process of CO₂ capture and conversion

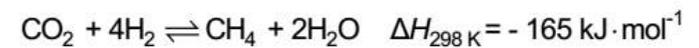
Sorption-reaction cycles

CO formation

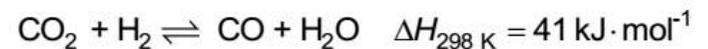
Cycle	n_{CH_4}/n_{CO}
6	161
7	249
8	256
9	237
10	262
11	1523
12	1518
13	1076
14	1076
15	1230
16	1466
17	1630



Main reaction: CO₂ methanation



Secondary reaction: Reverse water gas shift



Hybrid process of CO₂ capture and conversion

Highlights

- 1** The concept of integrating CO₂ capture and its conversion into CH₄ in the same unit is successfully proved
- 2** The conversion of captured CO₂ was high ($X_{\text{CO}_2} \sim 90\%$)
- 3** Reactive regeneration improves sorbent capacity and desorption kinetics
- 4** CO formation can be minimized by decreasing the temperature and/or increasing the pressure
- 5** The commercial materials used were compatible and stable under cyclic operation

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Patent

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Book

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Porto and FEUP

