

Amine-Appended Metal-Organic Frameworks as Switch-Like Adsorbents for Energy-Efficient Carbon Capture

FWP-FP00006194

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Project Overview

Funding

- Total project funding
 - DoE share: \$7.4M
 - Cost share: \$755k

Overall Project Performance Dates

- Project start date: 8/1/2017
- Industrial partners start date: 8/1/2018
- Project end date: 7/31/2021

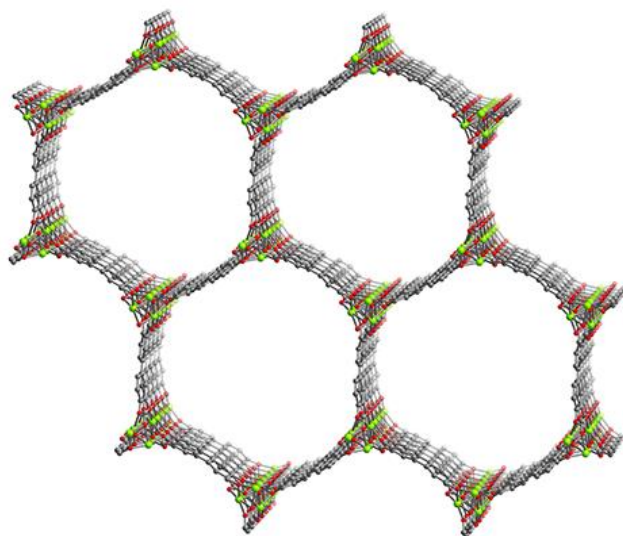
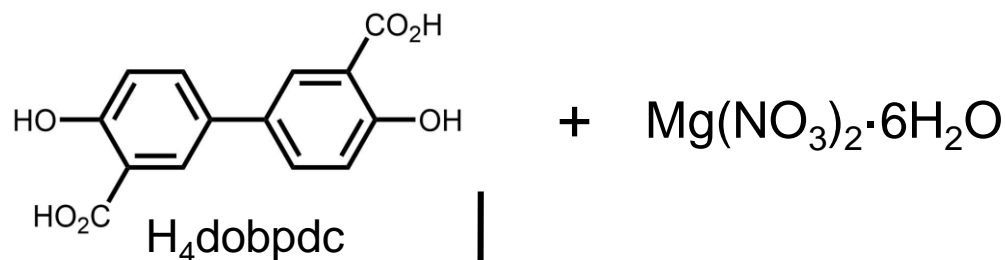
Project Participants

- PI: Jeffrey Neaton (LBNL)
- Co-PI: Jeffrey Long (LBNL)
- Mosaic Materials (MOF production)
- Svante (System development)
- Electricore (System development)
- CCSI² (Process modeling – unfunded)

Overall Project Objectives

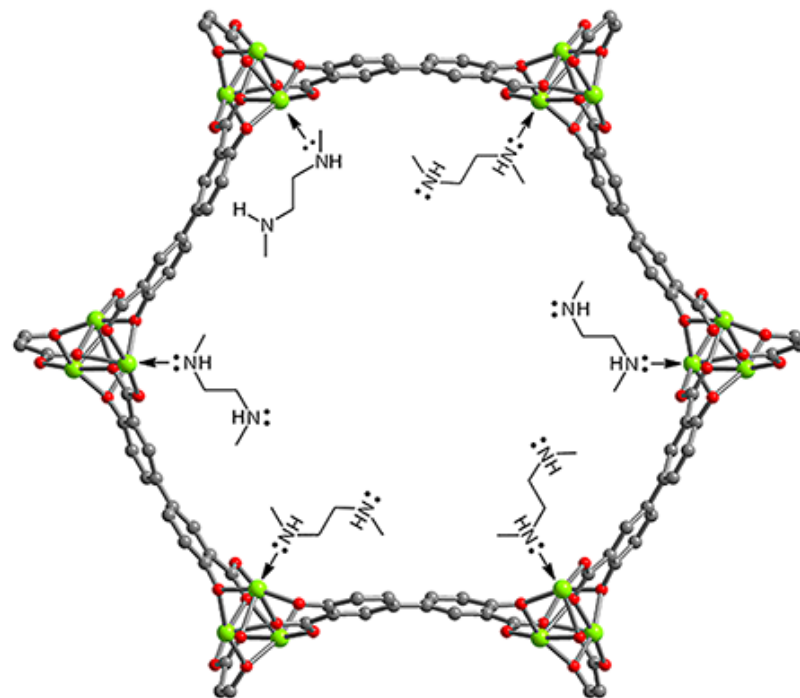
Development of a transformational technology based upon a diamine-appended MOF for post-combustion CO₂ capture at a power plant

Technology Background: MOFs for CO₂ Capture



Mg₂(dobpdc)

mmen

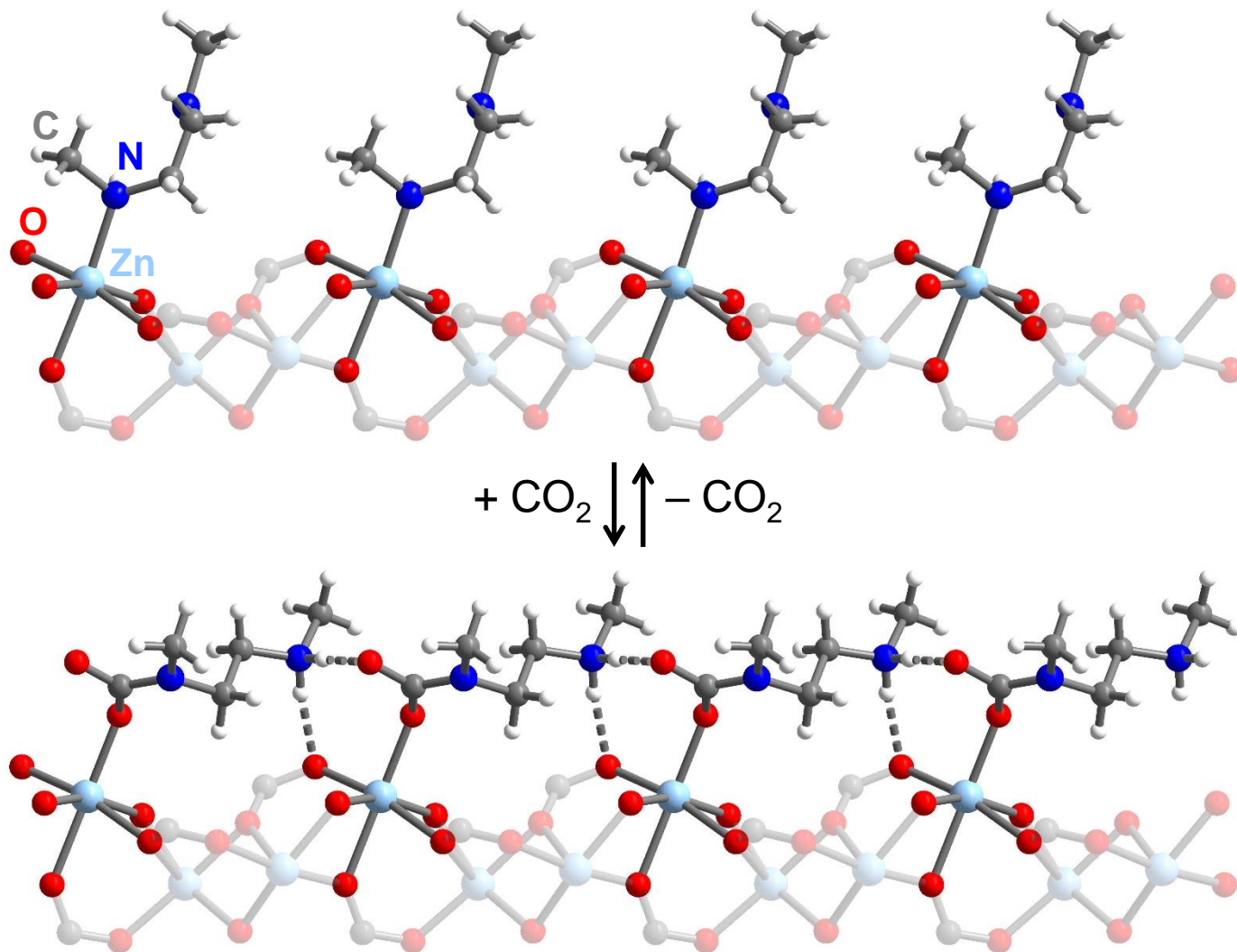


mmen-Mg₂(dobpdc)

- MOF channels have a diameter of 18 Å and are lined with open Mg²⁺ sites
- Dangling amines coat periphery of the channel leaving space for rapid CO₂ diffusion

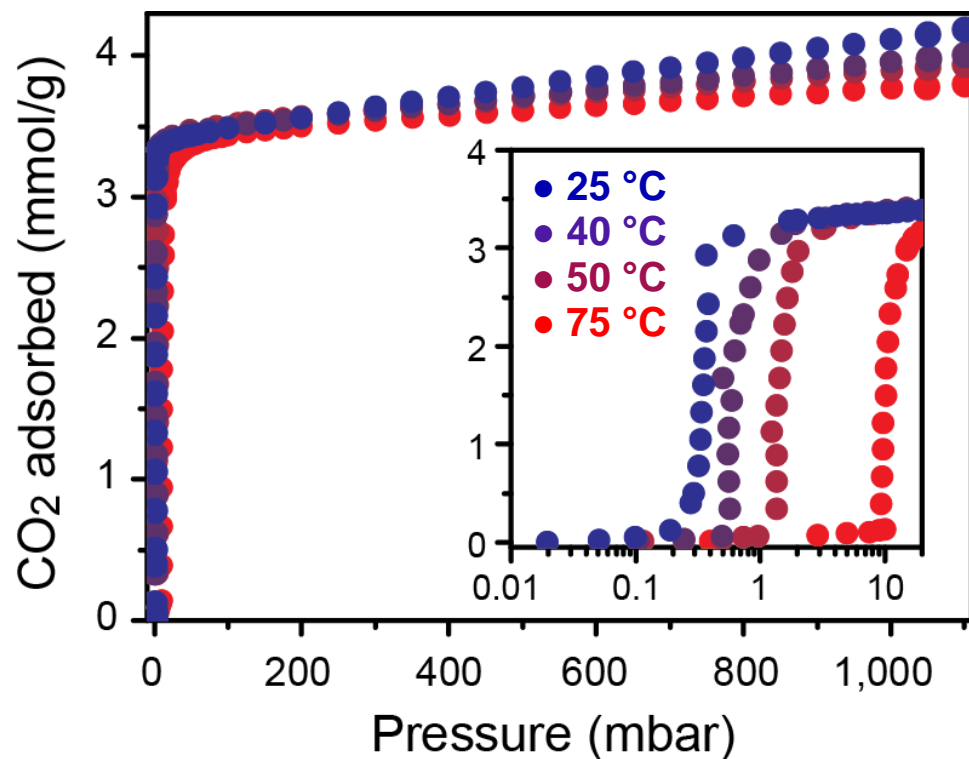
McDonald, Lee, Mason, Wiers, Hong, Long *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, 134, 7056

Cooperative CO₂ Adsorption Mechanism

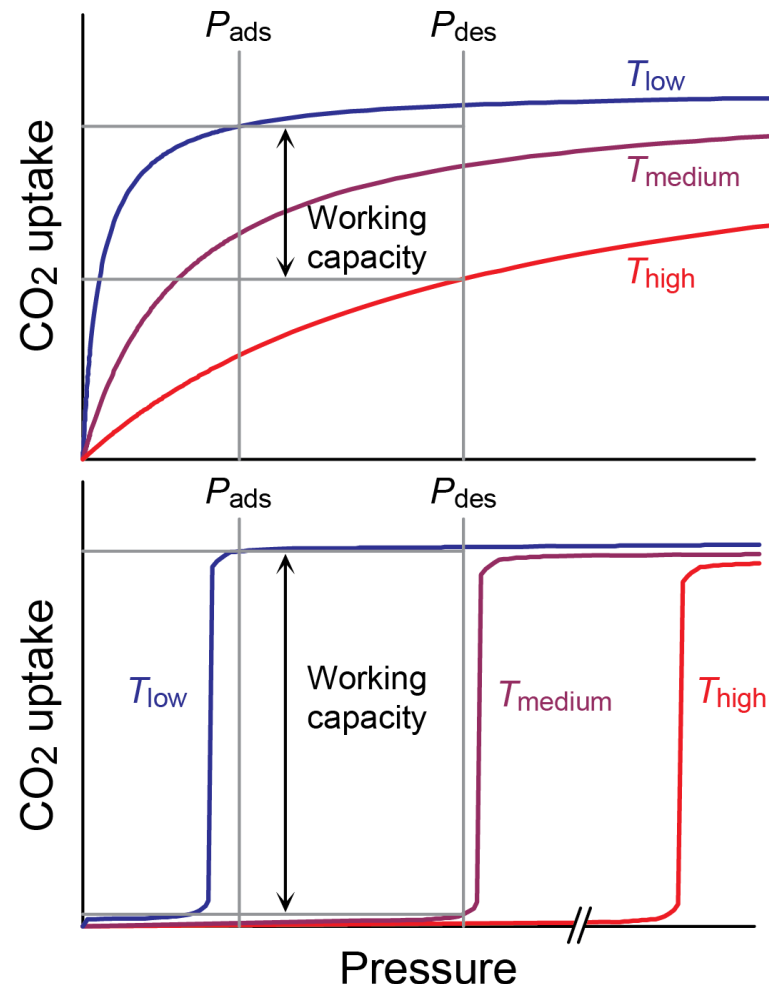


Siegelman, McDonald, Gonzalez, Martell, Milner, Mason, Berger, Bhowan, Long *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, 139, 10526

Step-Shaped Isotherms via Cooperative CO₂ Binding

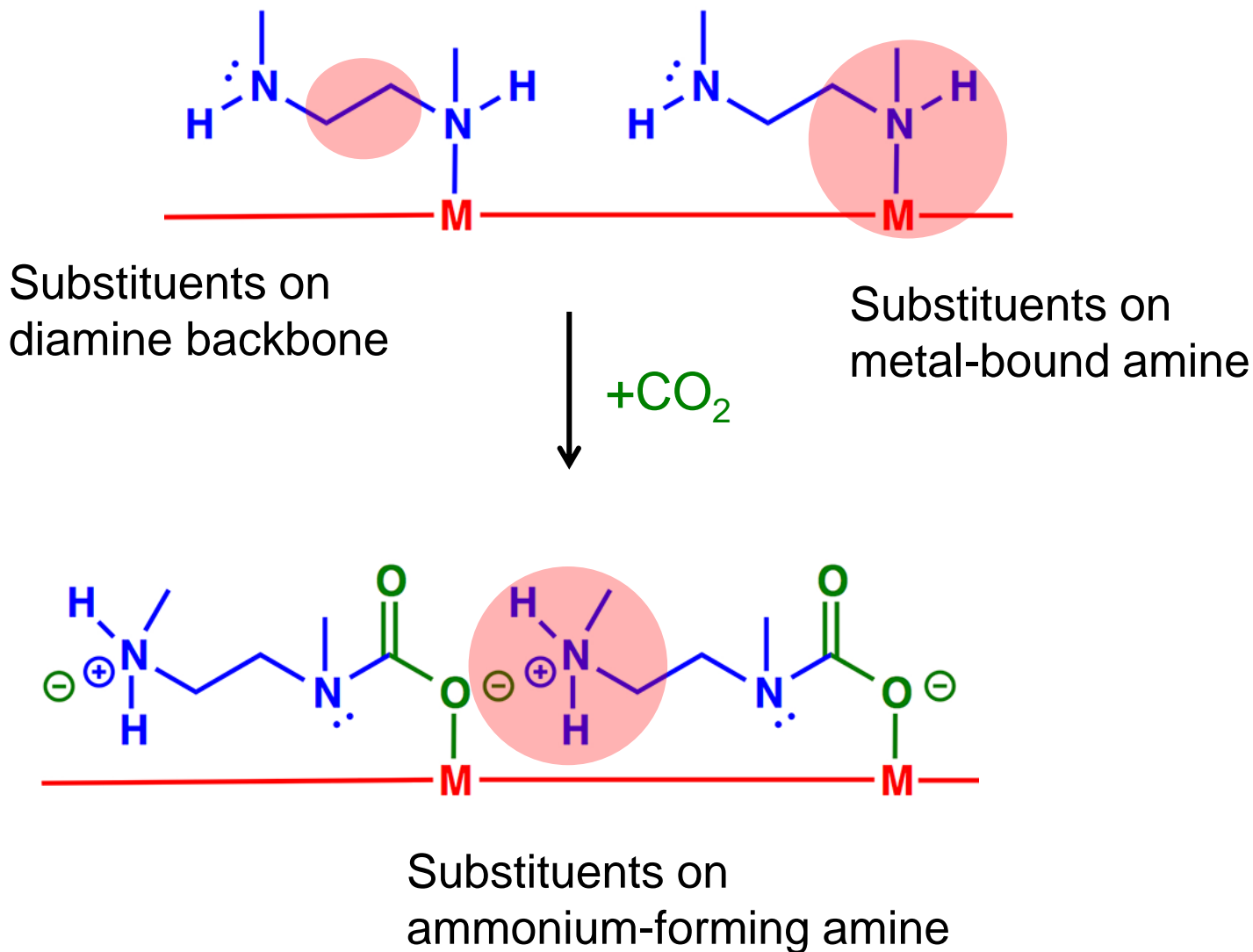


- Very little hysteresis upon desorption of CO₂
- Step shifts rapidly to higher pressure with increasing temperature



McDonald, Mason, Kong, Bloch, Gygi, Dani, Crocellà, Giordano, Odoh, Drisdell, Vlaisavljevich, Dzubak, Poloni, Schnell, Planas, Lee, Pascal, Prendergast, Neaton, Smit, Kortright, Gagliardi, Bordiga, Reimer, Long *Nature* **2015**, 519, 303

Manipulating the Adsorption Step Position



Technical and Economic Advantages/Challenges

Advantages

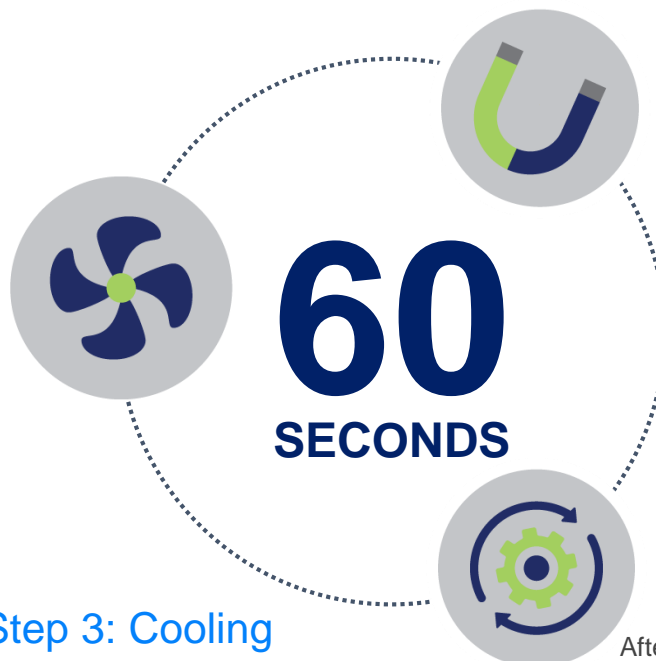
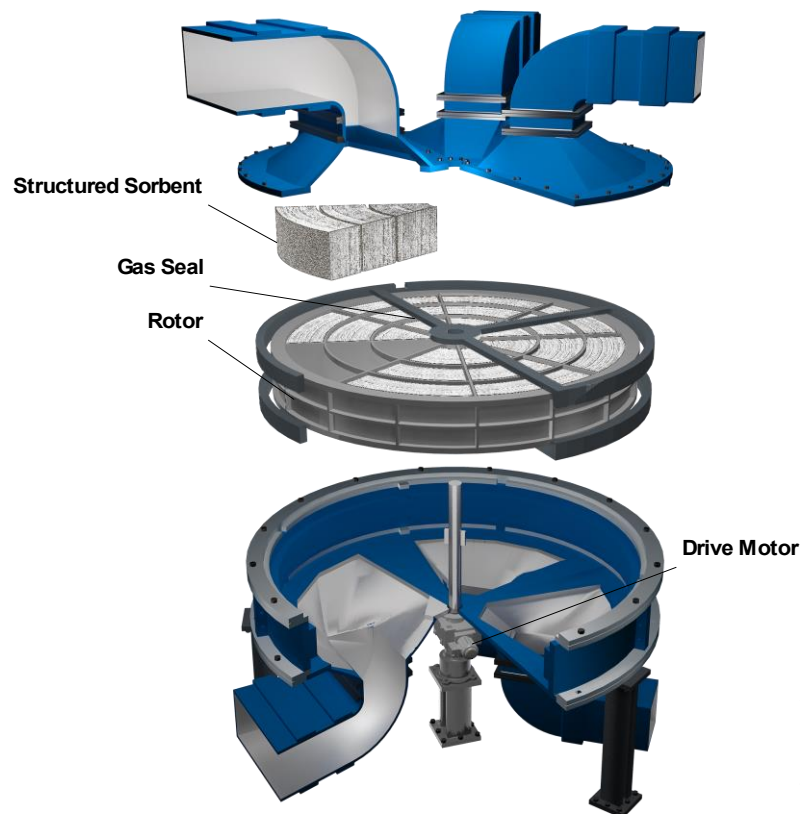
- High tunability of amine-appended framework materials
- Large working capacity due to stepped CO₂ adsorption
- High CO₂ selectivity over N₂, O₂, and H₂O
- Molecular level characterization and modeling is possible

Challenges

- Large scale and economical production of materials
- Integration within an appropriate separation platform
- Long-term durability real cycling conditions are unknown
- Determination of optimal process conditions

Objective: Implement Adsorbents in RC-TSA Process

Three simple steps:



Step 1: Adsorption

As flue gas passes through the VeloxoTherm™ Adsorbent Structure, CO₂ clings to the adsorbent while the other gases pass through.

Step 2: Regeneration

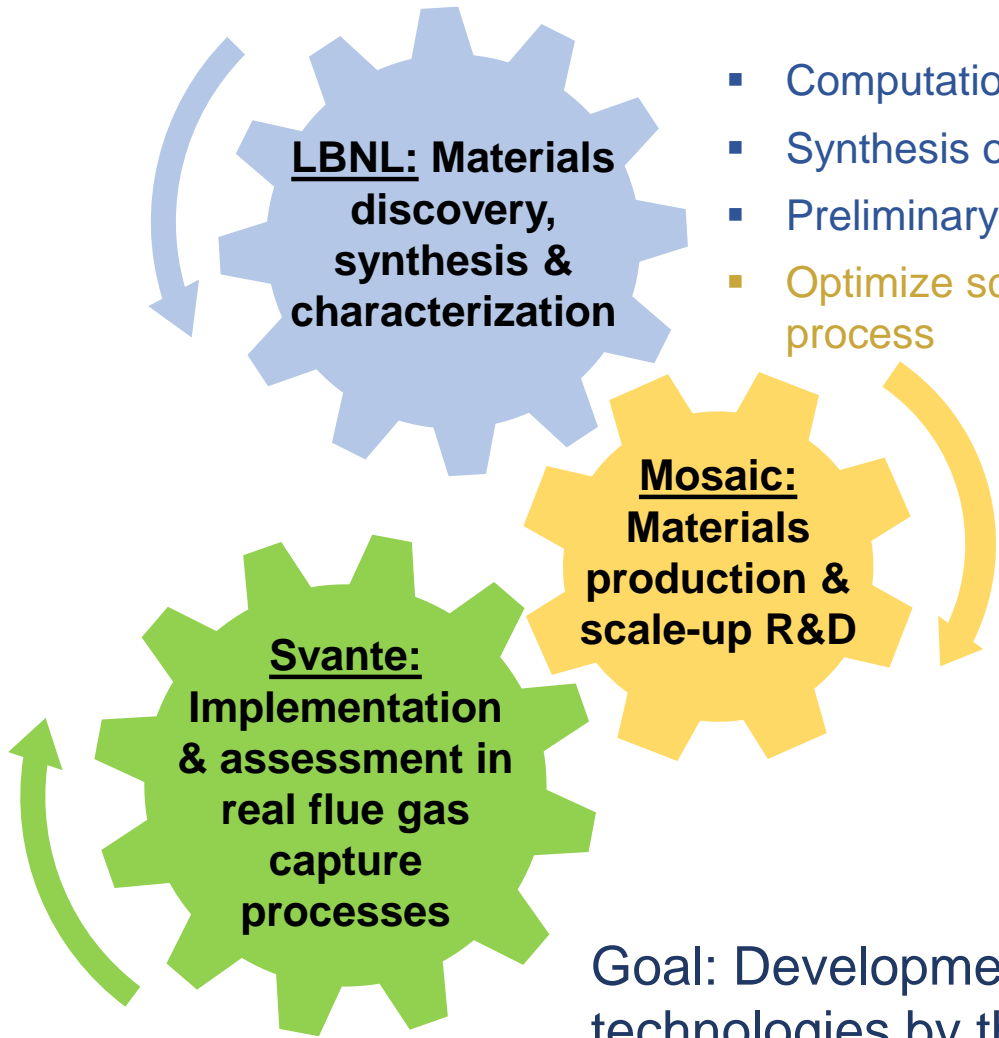
After the structured adsorbent becomes saturated with CO₂, it is regenerated. Low-pressure steam is used to release the CO₂ from the adsorbent.

Step 3: Cooling

After the CO₂ has been released, air is used to cool the structured adsorbent, preparing it for the adsorption step and the process is started over again.

Svante VeloxoTherm™ is used to perform initial validation experiments on promising materials with RC-TSA process on a single bed

Technical Approach and Project Scope



LBNL: Materials discovery, synthesis & characterization

- Computational prediction of materials
- Synthesis of amine-appended MOFs (Gen1–Gen3)
- Preliminary stability testing
- Optimize scalable diamine-appended MOF production process

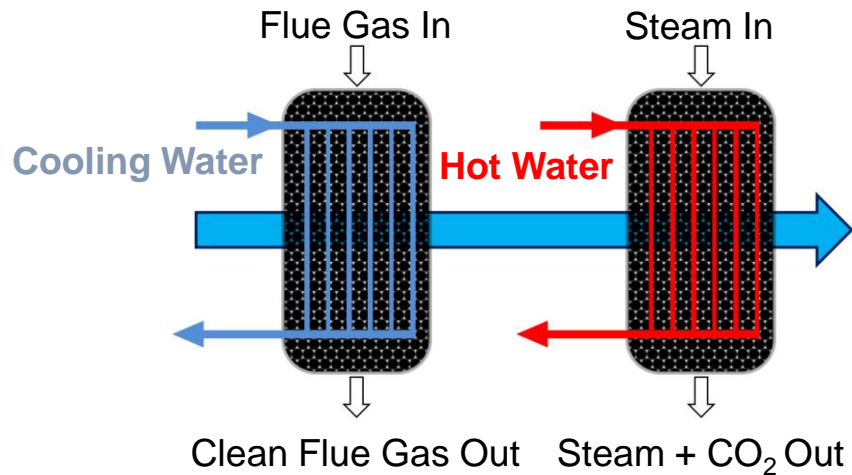
Mosaic: Materials production & scale-up R&D

- Interface between LBNL and Svante for process improvements
- Deliver kg-scale batches of material for preliminary testing and demo at NCCC
- Formation of structured adsorbent beds
- Process development and testing: powders → VTS → PDU → RPV-RAM
- Process modeling and validation

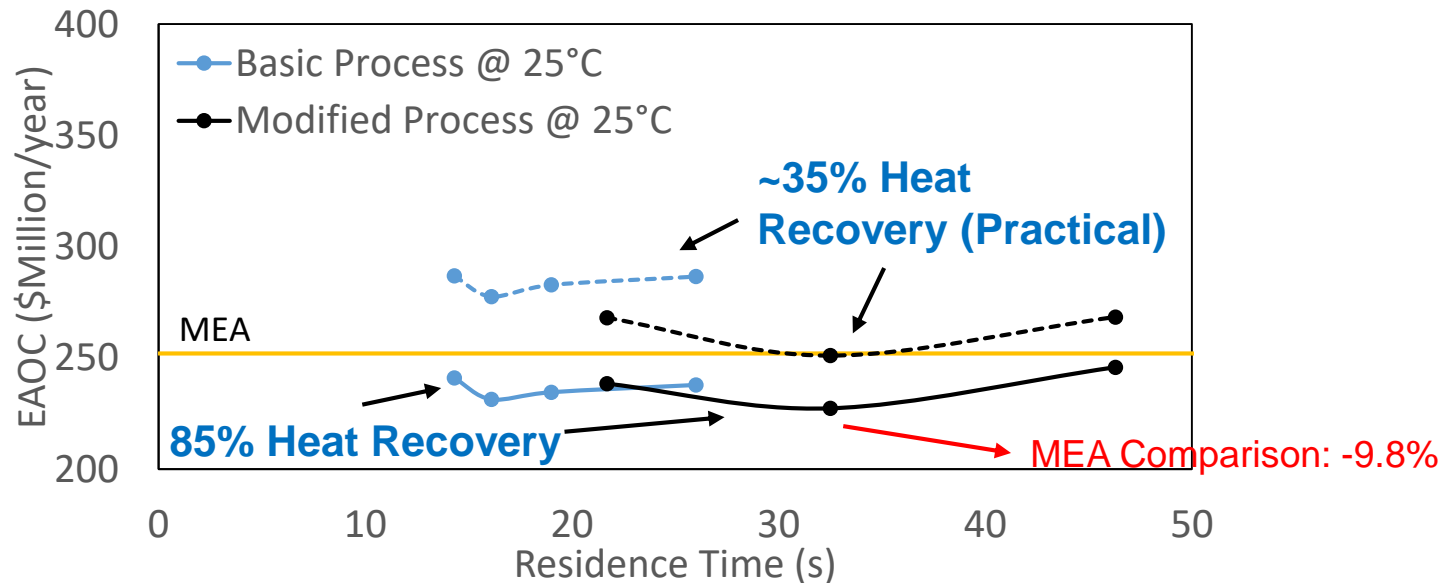
Svante: Implementation & assessment in real flue gas capture processes

Goal: Development of transformative carbon capture technologies by the cooperative insertion of CO₂ in amine-appended frameworks

Collaboration with CCSI²



Support from CCSI² provides computational analysis of step-shaped adsorbents in different CO₂ capture processes to screen various contactor configurations and optimize performance while minimizing cost

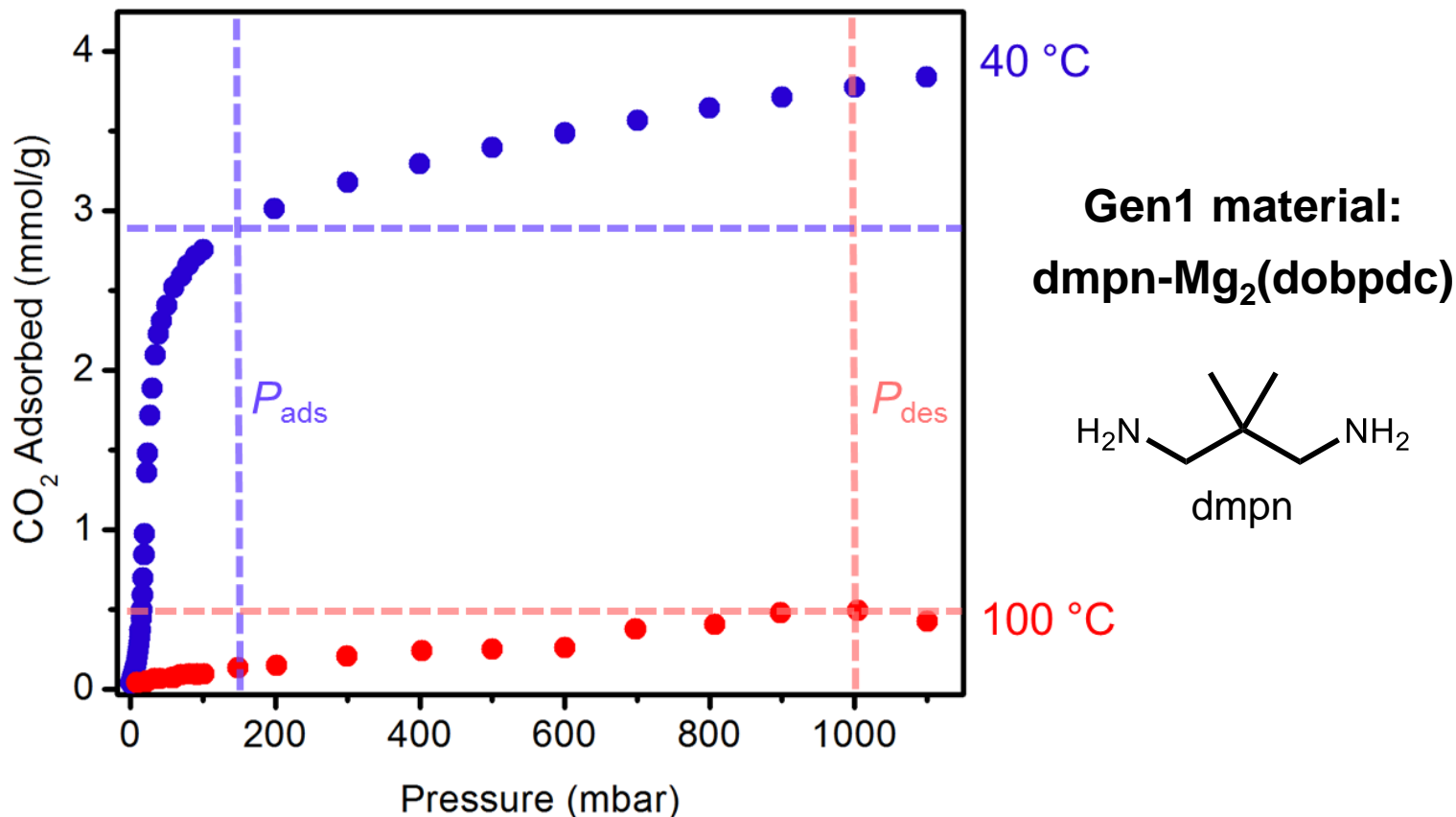


Hughes, Kotamreddy, Ostace, Bhattacharyya, Siegelman, Parker, Didas, Long, Omell, Matuszewski, *manuscript in preparation*

Project Schedule (Year 3)

	Tasks
Materials Synthesis	Synthesis & characterization of new diamine-appended MOFs (Gen2 materials) based on test system integration feedback
	Characterization of the effects of water, O ₂ , SO _x , and NO _x on CO ₂ adsorption properties of Gen1 & Gen2 materials
Computation	Search optimal amine-appended MOFs within databases of reported materials
	Prediction of CO ₂ binding energies, relative isotherm step position and mechanical strength for amine-appended MOFs
System Testing	Gen1 materials production & process cost model development
	Concept development modeling and testing
	Process & cycle design simulations

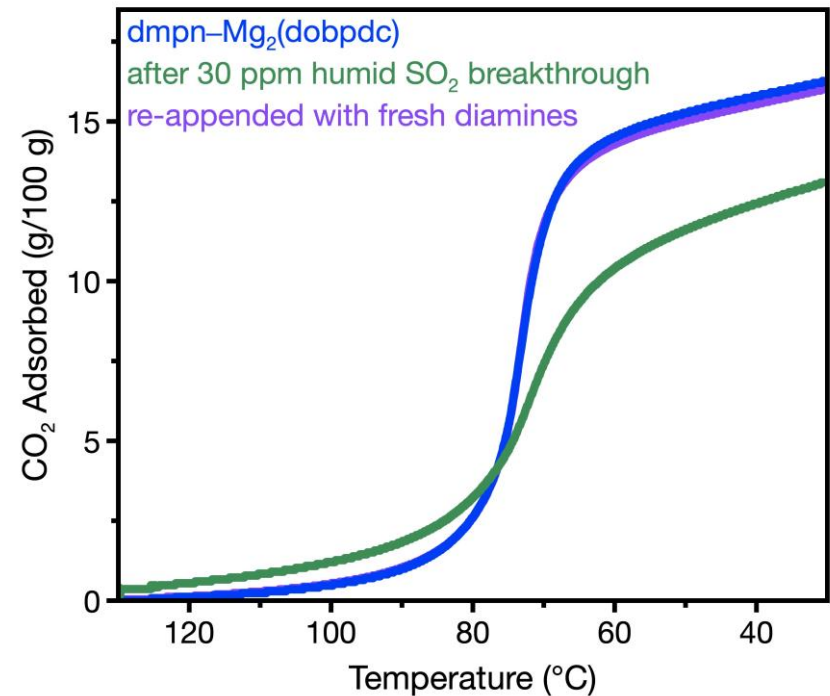
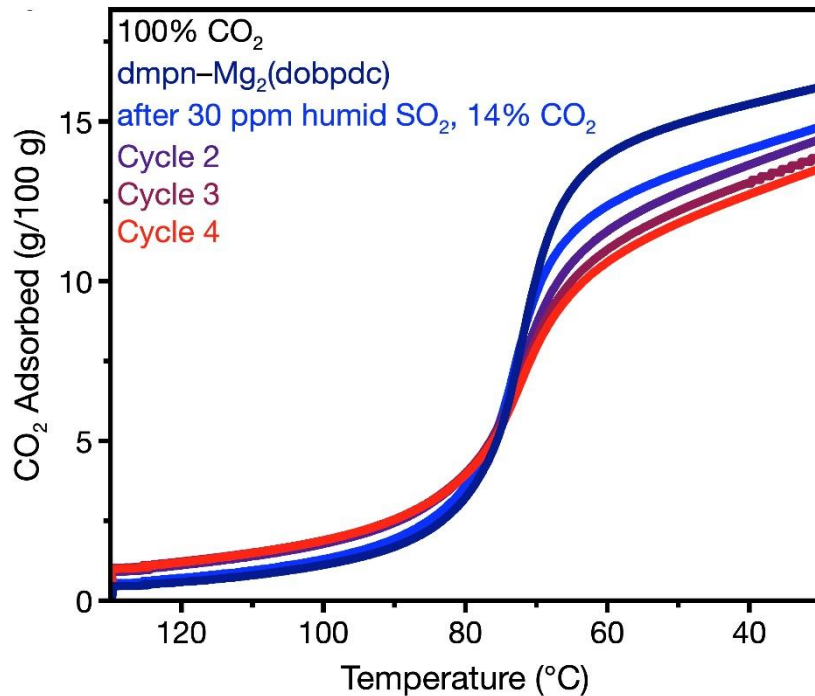
Year 2 Recap: Gen1 Material for Scaling and Integration



- CO₂ adsorption step positioned for 90% capture from coal flue gas at 40 °C
- 2.4 mmol/g (9.1 wt %) working capacity with only a 60 °C temperature swing

Milner, Siegelman, Forse, Gonzalez, Runčevski, Martell, Reimer, Long *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, 139, 13541

Year 3 R&D: SO₂ Stability and Regeneration of Gen1 Material



- Gen1 material retains 90% of its original CO₂ capacity following saturation with simulated coal flue gas
- Subsequent exposures yield smaller changes in performance
- Stripping and replacing amines recovers full CO₂ capacity in the material

Year 3: Large Scale Synthesis of Gen1 Material

Objectives for Mosaic Materials

- Produce MOF at the kg scale for use by Svante
- Identify manufacturing improvements at this scale
- Increase scale 3x to reduce variability, increase production

Scale-up involves four steps:

1. MOF synthesis

Batch reaction of metal salt and organic linker in solvent

2. MOF purification

Raw product washed and dried to remove impurities and excess solvent

3. Amine loading

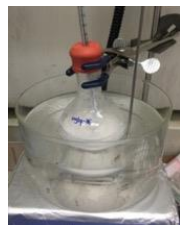
Purified MOF product is impregnated with diamine

4. Activation

Solvent is removed

These steps are interdependent, such that changes to one can impact the others

Increasing Scales of Synthesis Equipment



LBNL
Gen1
Process



150 mL
Reaction



9 L Reaction
~350 g batches



27 L Reaction
~1 kg btaches

Scale-Up Research and Optimization

Stage 1: Scale-up MOF from 9 L to 27 L scale → success

- All QC metrics met: PXRD after synthesis, N₂ surface area

Stage 2: Scale MOF purification and washing → success

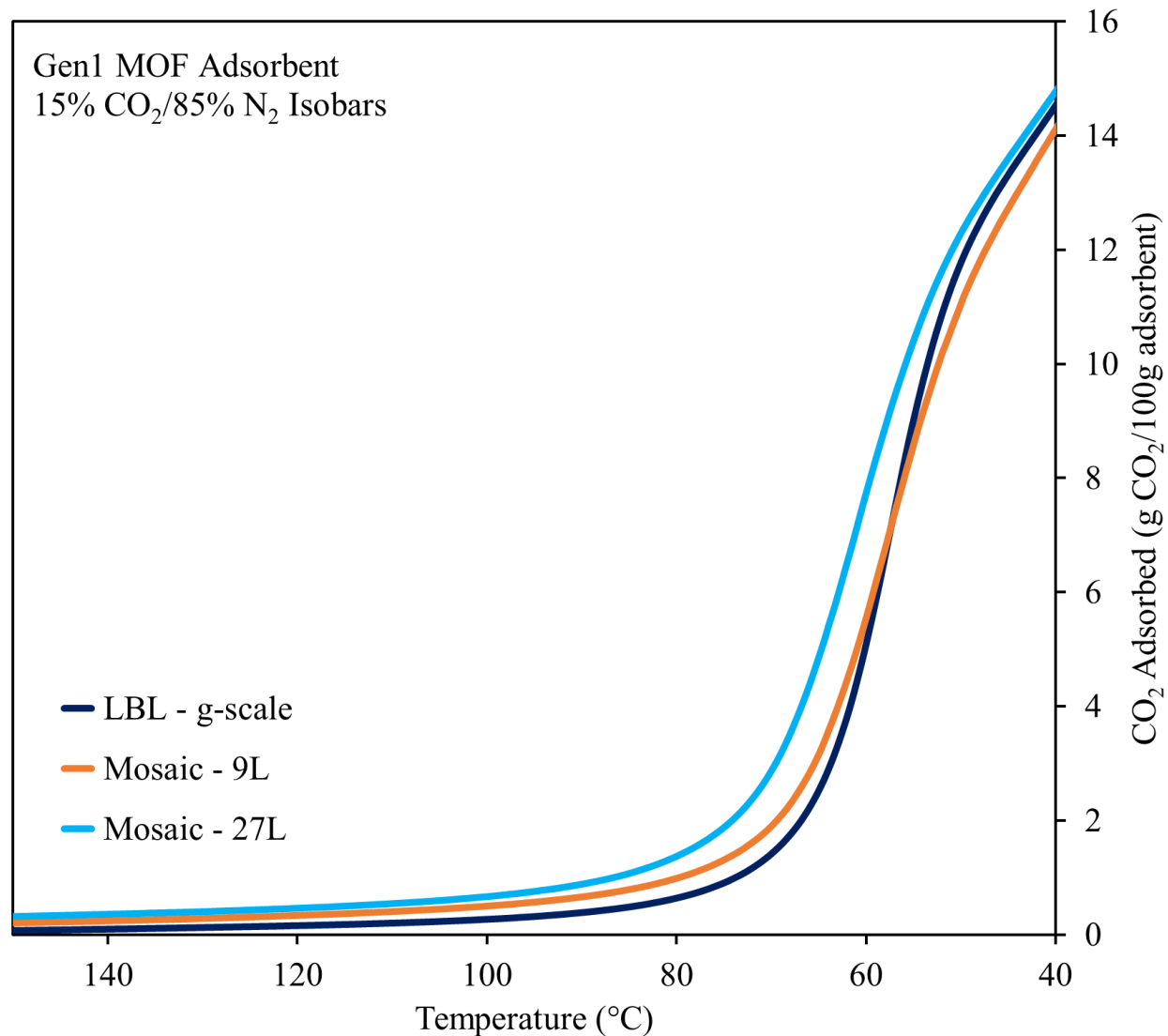
- All QC metric met: N₂ surface area

Stage 3: Scale MOF amination from 5 L to 20 L → success

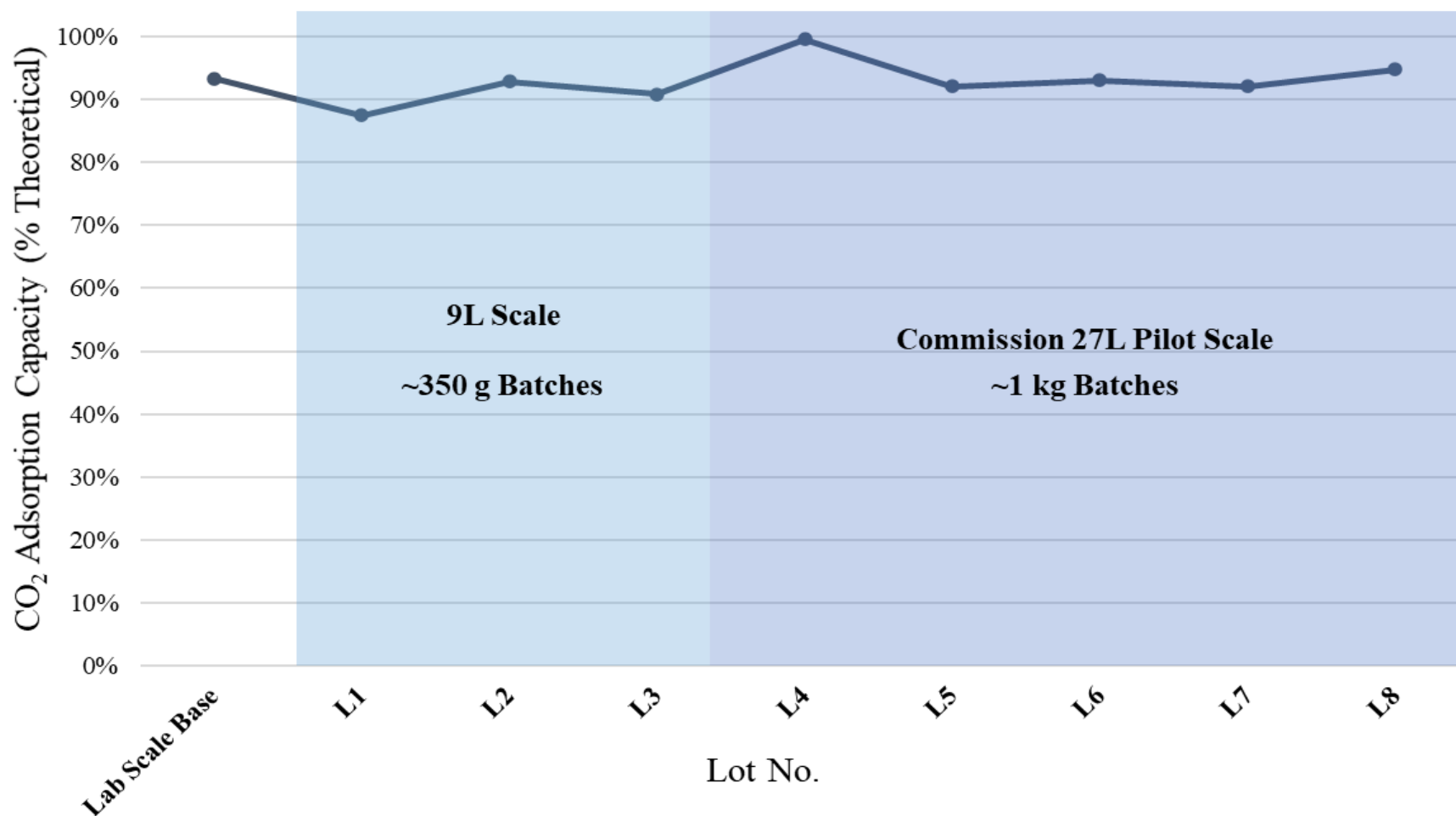
- All QC metrics met: Amine content and CO₂ adsorption capacity via TGA



CO₂ Adsorption Step Retained at Scale



Summary of MOF Manufacturing



- Increased scale: five successful runs with QC metrics met (>80% of g-scale performance), producing >10 kg of Gen1 material to-date

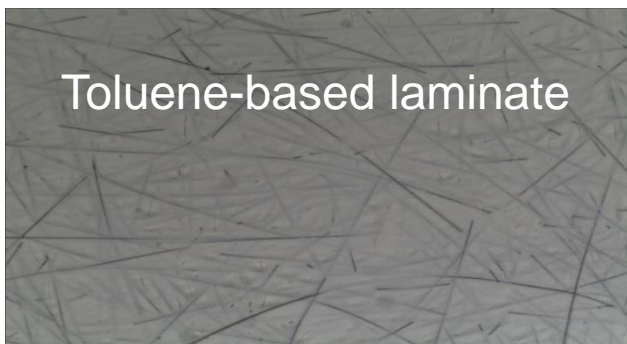
Laminate Coating: Aqueous vs Toluene Slurry

Coating ID	Added diamine	Loading (g/m ²)	CO ₂ capacity (15% CO ₂ , 50 °C) (cc/g)
Water based slurry #1	Yes	22.9	28*
Water based slurry #2	Yes	57.35	42.3*
Toluene based slurry	No	95.6	43.5*
MOF powder	-	-	63.5

*CO₂ capacity per g laminate. Based on weight percent, laminate capacity of 43.5 cc/g_{laminate} corresponds to ~62 cc/g_{MOF}.

- First water-based slurry of Gen1 material resulted in low loading and CO₂ uptake
- Improved loading and capacity with second water-based slurry, but slow kinetics observed (see VTS results), loading density still too low
- Toluene-based slurry able to reach the gravimetric CO₂ capacity of the powder and gave the highest loading without the addition of diamine to slurry

VTS Bed Formulation and Testing



Assembled VTS bed under N₂ using toluene-based laminate:



- Bed built at different stages for epoxy curing. With each step, bed kept in nitrogen environment
- Bed kept under positive pressure with nitrogen to ensure driest environment possible

Testing Plan

Evaluate VTS bed performance in adsorption/desorption cycles using the following desorption conditions:

- High temperature CO₂
- Steam

VTs Performance Summary (Water-Based Beds)

	MOF Bed 1 (water-based slurry with added diamine)			MOF Bed 2 (water-based slurry with added diamine)			Target KPI*
	Process with Hot CO ₂ (dry)	Process with Steam Day 1	Process with Steam Day 2	Process with Hot CO ₂ + 7% moisture	Process with Steam Day 1	Process with Steam Day 2	Process with Steam
Process Baseline Performance							
Cycle Time (s)	633	105.5	105.5	407	100	105	100
Steam Ratio (kg steam/kg CO ₂)	N/A	2.30	2.49	N/A	2.32	2.44	1.40
Productivity (TPD/m ³)	Below Detection Limits	1.04	0.97	Below Detection Limits	2.82	2.73	10.0
Prod. Purity	N/A	45%	43%	N/A	70.9%	70.9%	90%

Target KPIs to achieve \$30/Ton DoE target

Dry feed (16% CO₂), adsorption at 30 °C, desorption using steam in standard process, conditioning with dry N₂

- Hot CO₂ as desorption gas lead to very long cycle time (633 s) due to slow heat transfer between hot gas and adsorbent
- Direct steam desorption enabled significant decrease in cycle time to 100 s

VTs Performance Summary (Toluene-Based Bed)

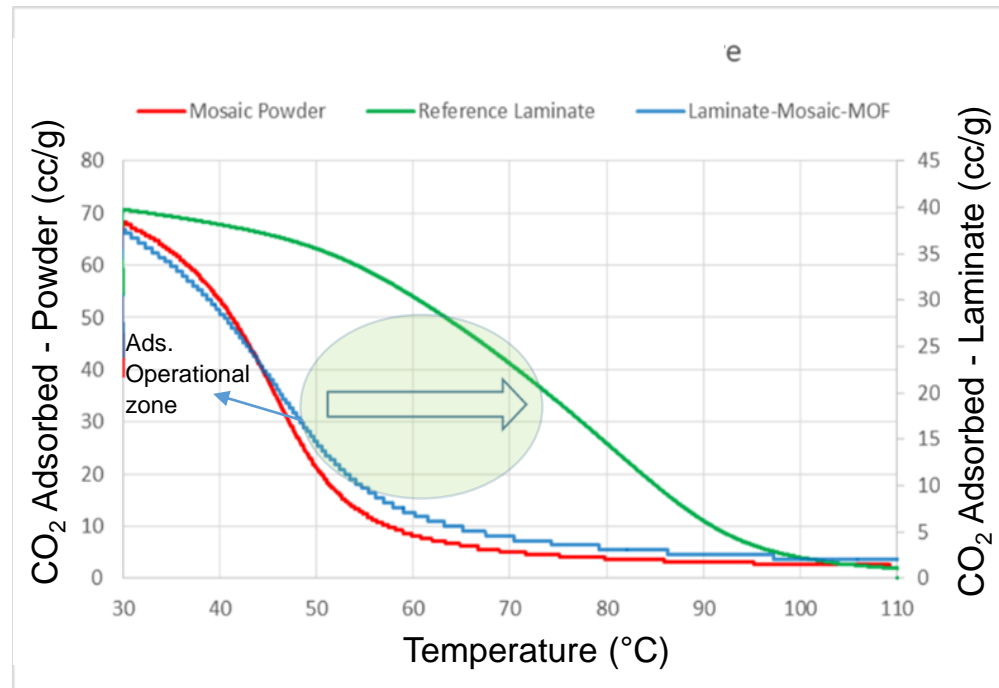
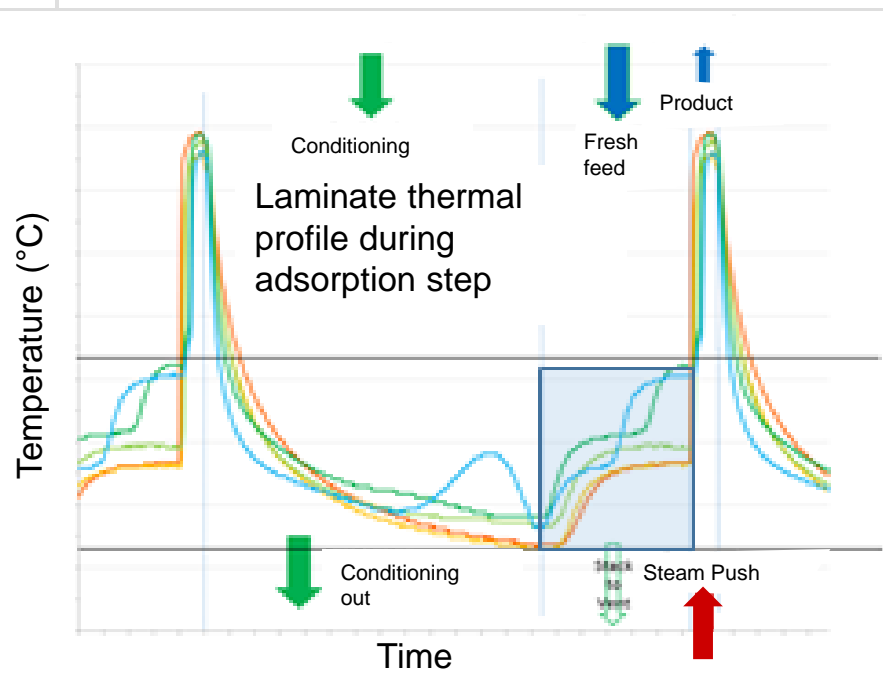
	Dry feed: MOF Bed 3 (toluene-based slurry bed)	Wet feed: MOF Bed 3 (toluene slurry bed)	MOF Bed 2 (water-based slurry bed)	Target KPI
CO ₂ in feed (%)	17.5	17.2	16.7	16
Productivity (TPD/m ³)	4.6	4.2	2.8	10
Product Purity (%)	68.0	66.0	71.0	90

Adsorption at 30 °C, desorption using steam, conditioning with dry N₂

Highest productivity: 4.6 TPD/m³ with dry CO₂ feed, steam desorption and 60 s cycle time

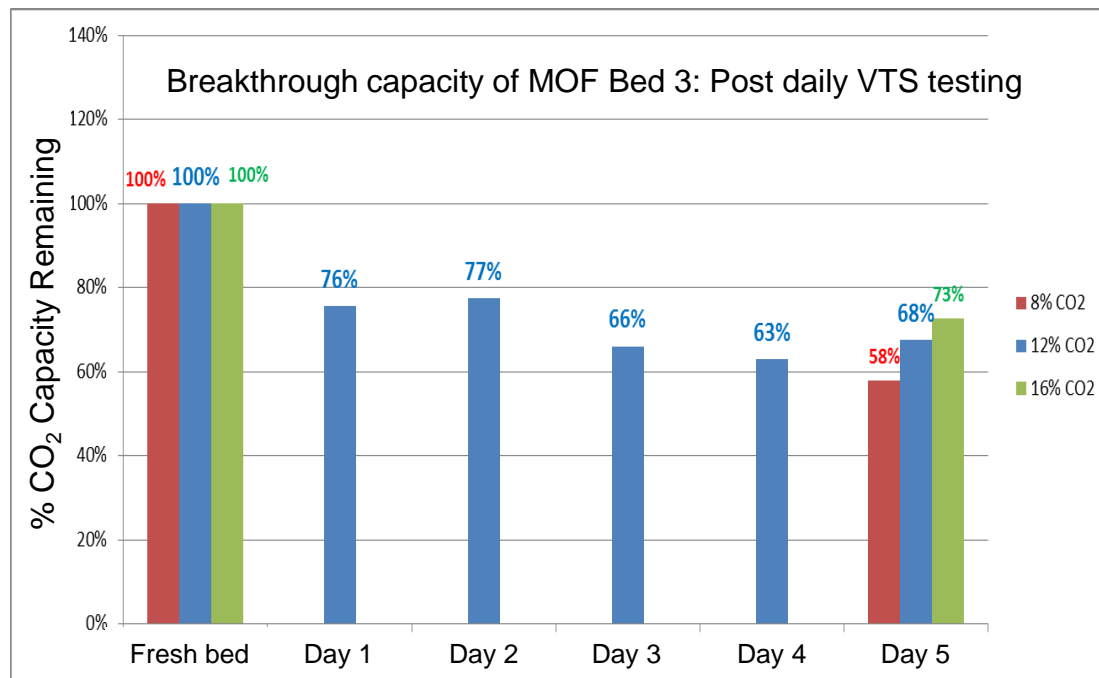
- Sensitivity tests of several process parameters performed to identify optimal process
- VTS bed with higher loading from toluene slurry preparation significantly increased productivity to 4.6 TPD/m³, however still lower than target value of 10 TPD/m³ to reach the \$30/ton

Shifting Step Temperature to Increase Productivity



- Bed temperature increases from 50 to 80 °C during adsorption
- Gen1 material step capacity is outside of operating temperature range
- Shifting material step temperature ~20 °C would result in vastly improved working capacity and productivity

VTS Stability with Steam Process Cycles



- Average reduction in CO₂ uptake is 32% after 5 days testing (12% CO₂)
- Gen1 material subject to degradation when operating with steam

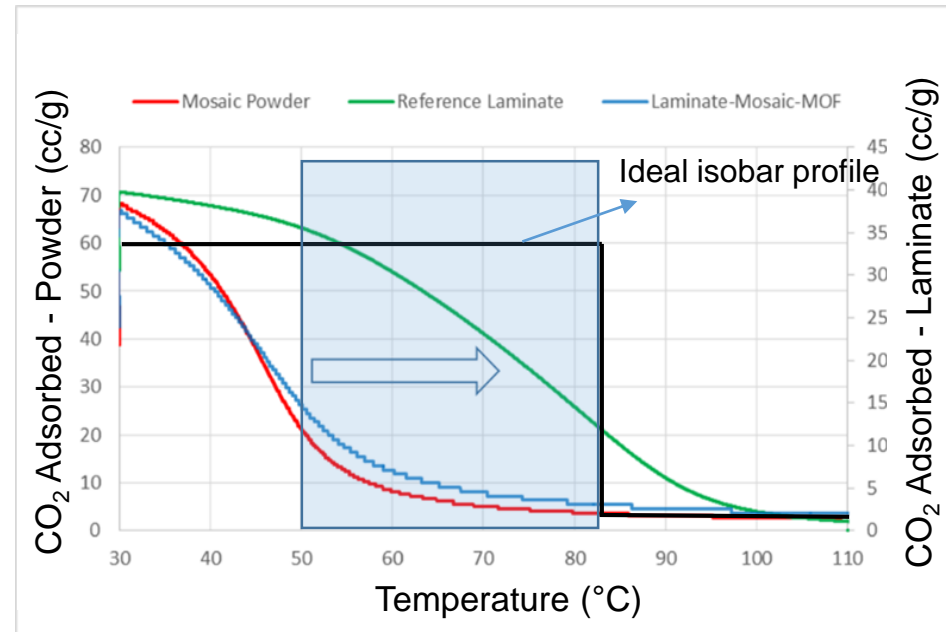
- CO₂ breakthrough used to quantify losses in capacity after each day of testing
- Breakthrough test condition: Adsorption: 8%, 12%, 16% CO₂ in N₂ feed (dry) on fresh bed and after the last process cycle of the day at 40 °C
- Desorption: Dry N₂ gas at 110 °C
- VTS process cycles throughout the day used steam

Adsorbent Development Recommendations

Improve water/steam stability: Gen1 material is not water/steam stable owing to diamine loss

Increase CO₂ step temperature

- Isobar step for 15% CO₂ needs to increase from 45 °C to at least 70-80 °C
- Ideal isobar would possess highest capacity at the maximum temperature reached in the bed during adsorption



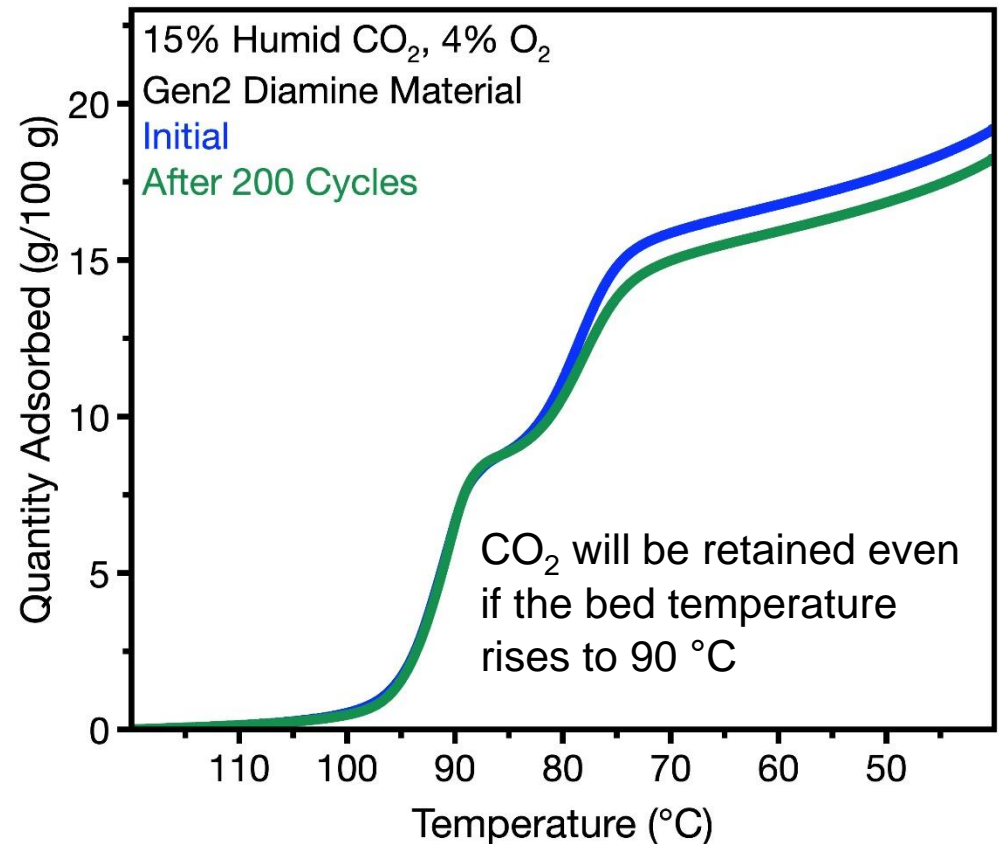
Increase Coating Density: Increasing the adsorbent density would help reach the targeted capacity

Year 3 R&D: Gen2 Material Search

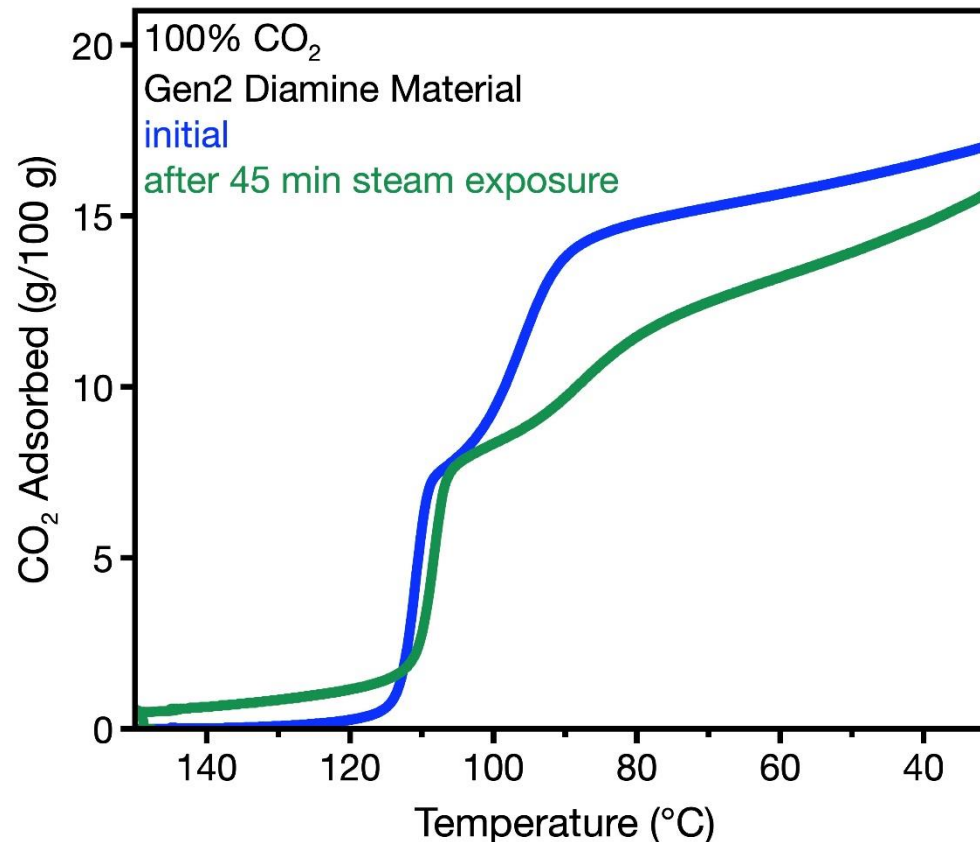
- Heat rise in the bed requires material with higher CO₂ step temperature
- Steam is greatly favored over hot, humid CO₂ as the desorption stream

Increasing Step Temperature:

LBNL identified the best candidate out of 10 diamine-appended MOFs synthesized and screened for cycling stability and CO₂ adsorption temperature



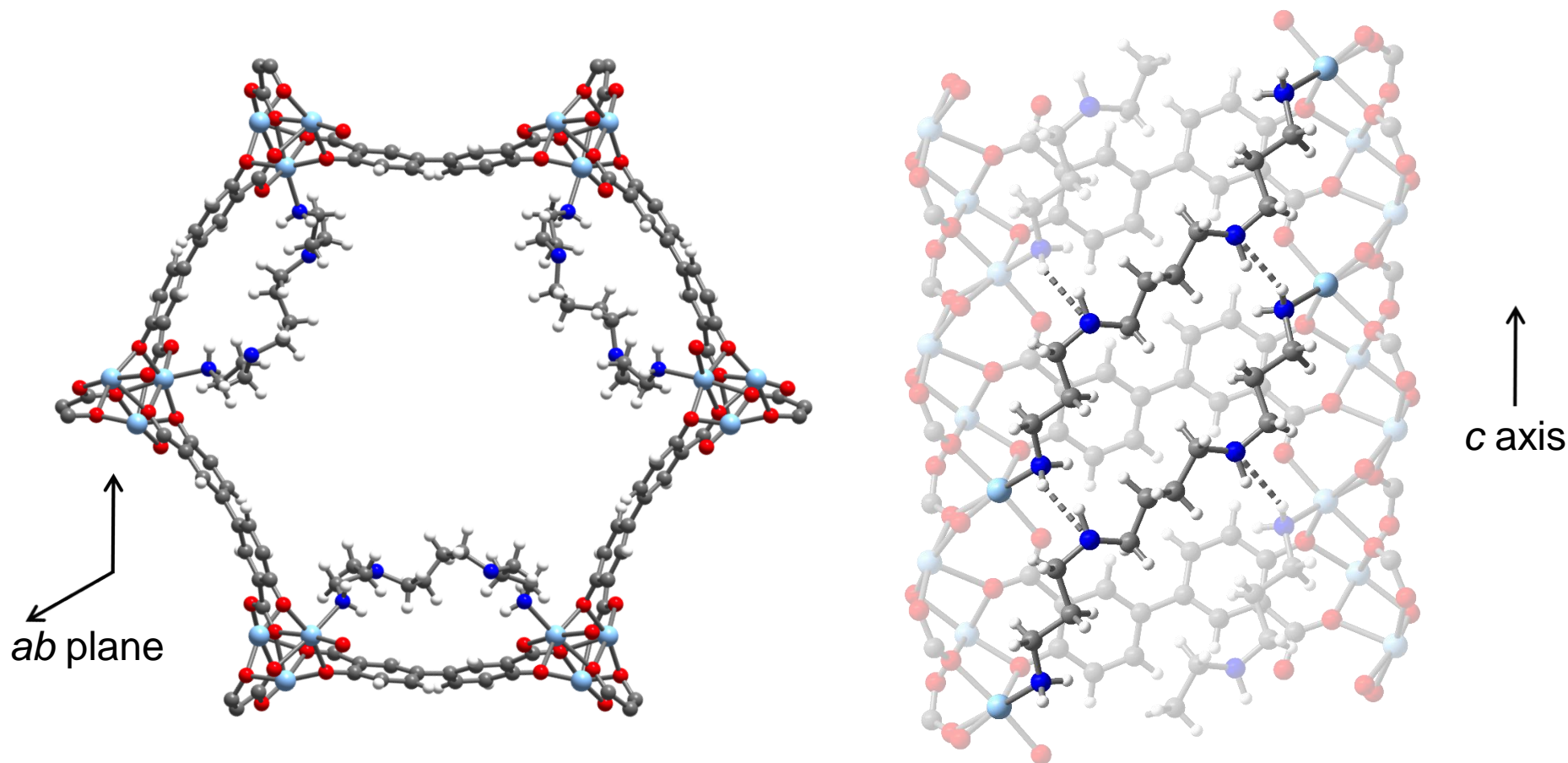
Year 3 R&D: Gen2 Material Search



Steam stability:

- Diamine-functionalized materials are unlikely to exhibit long-term steam stability
- Capacity loss in Gen2 diamine material due to significant diamine volatilization

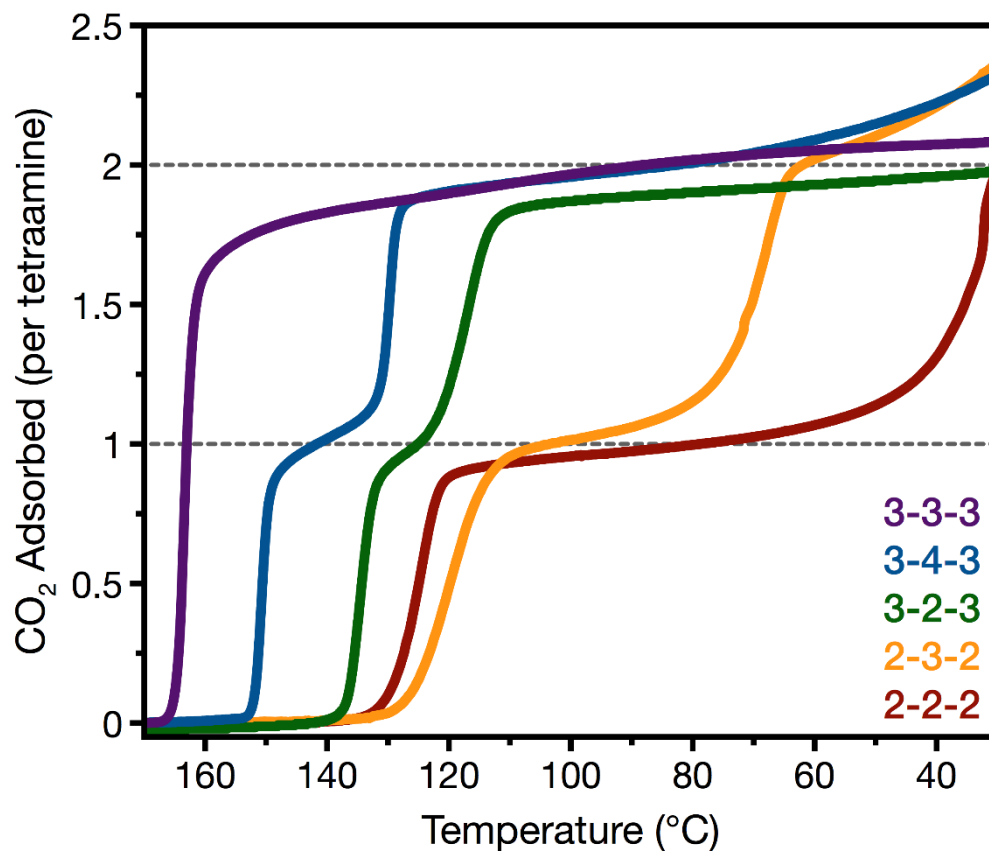
Moving Forward: Tetraamine-Appended $\text{Mg}_2(\text{dobpdc})$



- Binding tetraamines at two metal sites stills allows cooperative CO_2 adsorption
- *Much* greater stability due to reduced volatility and multi-metal coordination

Kim, Siegelman, Jiang, Forse, Lee, Martell, Milner, Falkowski, Neaton, Reimer, Weston, Long *Science* **2020**, 369, 392

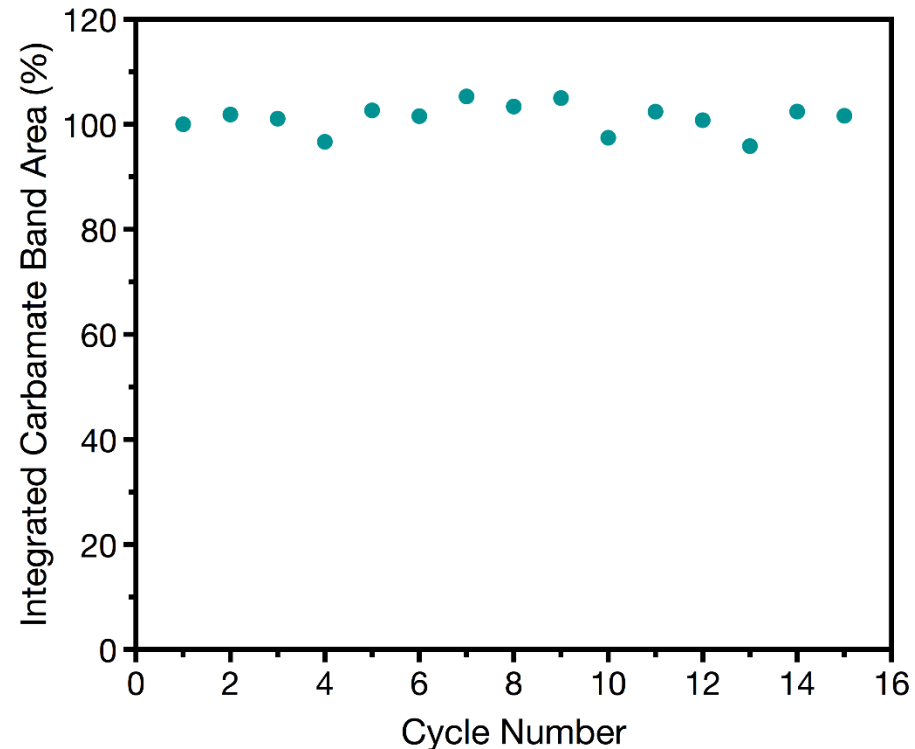
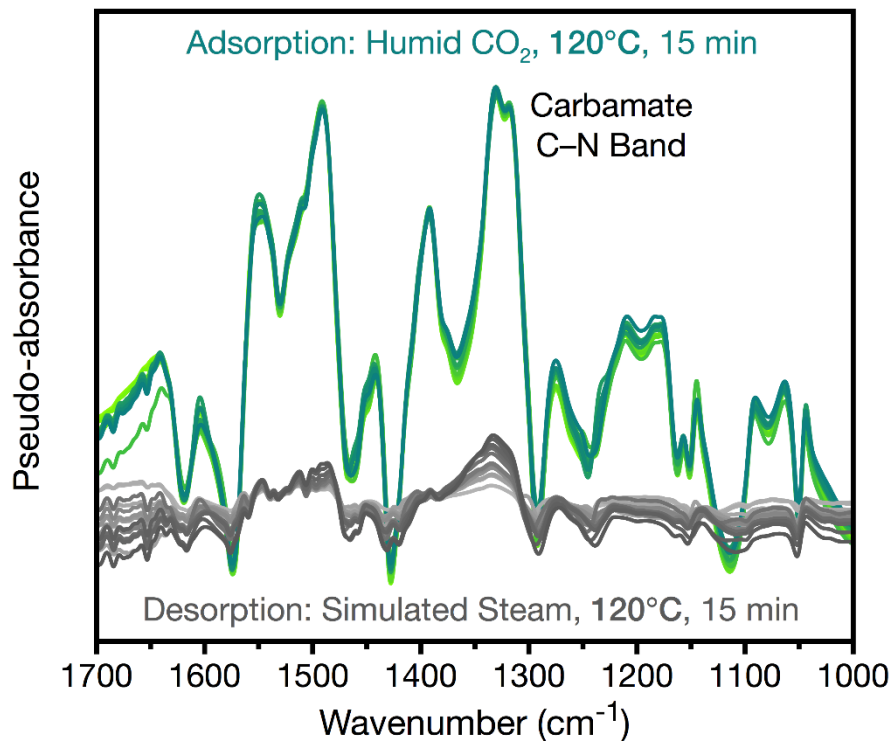
CO₂ Adsorption in Tetraamine–Mg₂(dobpdc)



- Step position can be tuned and capture can be achieved at high temperatures
- Double step due to slight energy difference for forming two types of chains

Kim, Siegelman, Jiang, Forse, Lee, Martell, Milner, Falkowski, Neaton, Reimer, Weston, Long *Science*, **2020**, 369, 392

Stability to Steam Stripping



- Carbamate C-N band indicates cooperative chain formation upon CO₂ uptake
- Exhibits stability to repeated CO₂ stripping via direct steam contact

Kim, Siegelman, Jiang, Forse, Lee, Martell, Milner, Falkowski, Neaton, Reimer, Weston, Long *Science* **2020**, 369, 392

Plans for Future Testing and Development

Gen2 material scale up and validation

- Gen2 manufacture at kg scale
- Preliminary validation that material satisfies Svante process requirements (VTS bed testing) [Go/Go-No decision point]
- RTSA testing with VTS bed: steam and hot CO₂
- In house multi-bed PDU performance testing: optimize cycle parameters

System testing and optimization

- Gen2 manufacture for multi-bed large scale demonstration campaign
- Planning and refinements to process cycles
- Long-term stability and performance demonstration (500 h) of Gen2 material

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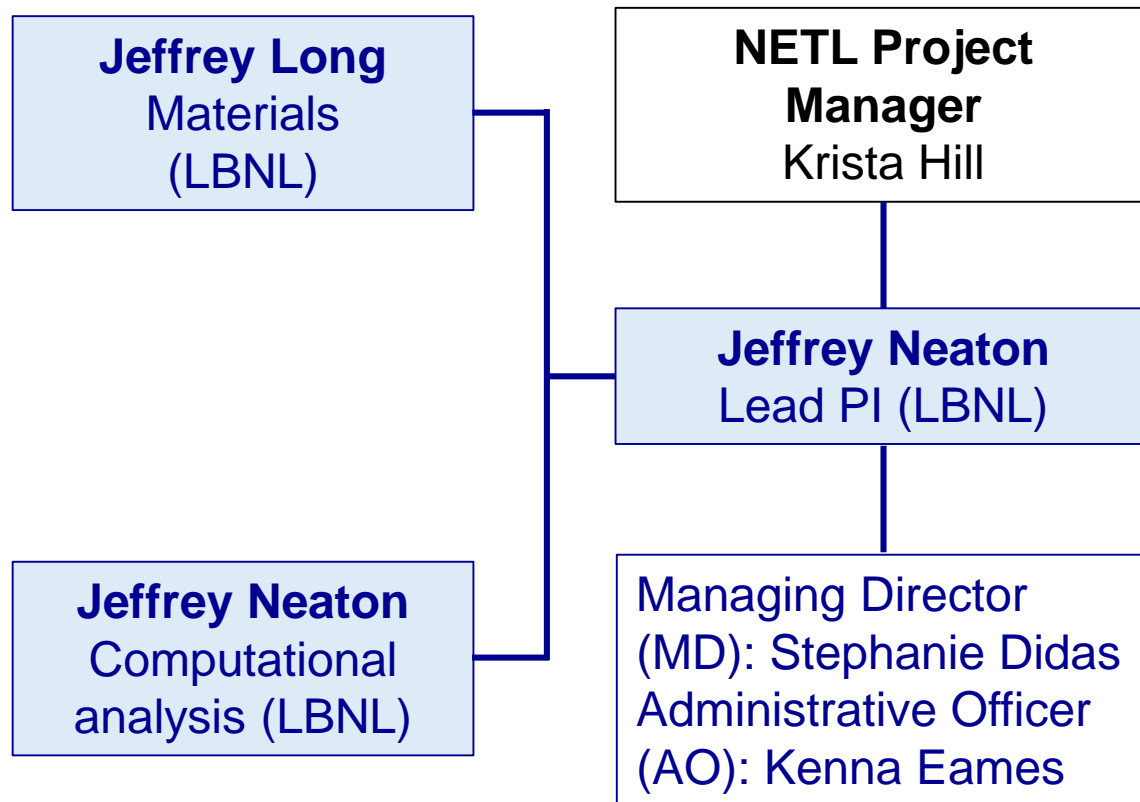
Krista Hill
Andrew Jones (former)
José Figueroa (former)



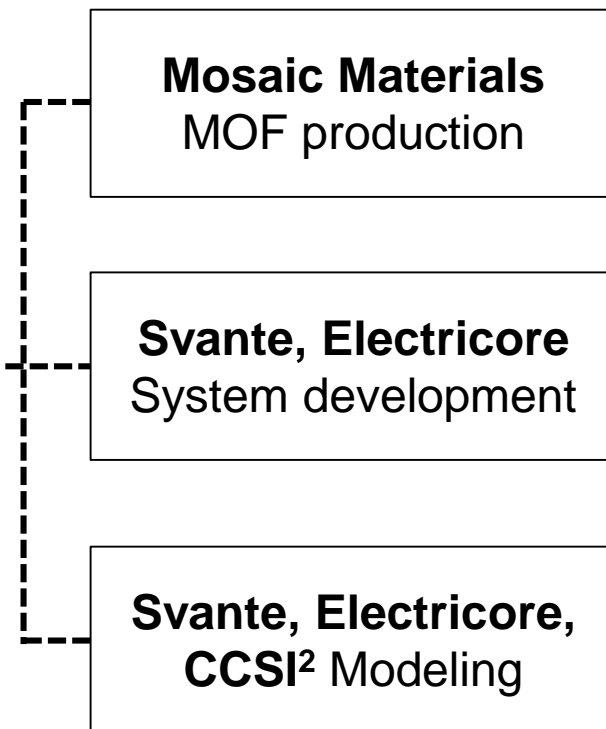
Appendix Items

Organizational Structure and Management

LBNL Research Team



Partners



Subcontracts issued:

- Electricore: 12/18/2019 (previously under Letter subcontract)
- Mosaic Materials: 10/22/2018

Management Team

- NDA-MTA-IP agreement executed: 12/10/2018

Project Timeline

	Task Descriptions	YR 1	YR 2	YR 3	YR 4
Synthesis & characterization	Synthesis of amine-appended MOFs (Gen1 materials)	■	■		
	Characterization of the effect of water, SO _x , and NO _x on CO ₂ adsorption properties of Gen1 materials	■			
	Synthesis of new amine-appended MOFs (Gen2)		■	■	
	Characterization of the effect of water, SO _x , and NO _x on CO ₂ adsorption properties of new adsorbents		■		
	Characterization of materials fabricated by industrial partners			■	
	Synthesis and comprehensive characterization for new (Gen3) materials predicted in Year 3				■
	Characterization of materials tested by partners				■
Computation	Search optimal amine-appended MOFs within databases of reported materials	■	■		
	Prediction of CO ₂ binding energies for amine-appended MOFs	■			
	Search optimal amine-appended MOFs (Gen2 materials) among computationally designed materials		■		
	Prediction of relative CO ₂ isotherm step position		■		
	Extend the material design			■	
	Prediction of mechanical strength for a real process			■	

Project Timeline

	Task Descriptions	YR 1	YR 2	YR 3	YR 4
System Testing	Gen1 materials production for Svante		■	■	
	Concept development, modeling & testing		■	■	
	Process & cycle design simulations		■	■	
	Bench-scale unit design & construction		■	■	
	Gen2 materials production for Svante			■	■
	Comprehensive characterization of all relevant parameters for a real process		■	■	■
	In-house continuous PDU performance testing			■	■
	Bench scale field performance & durability testing			■	■