### Shapeable Microporous Polymer Supercontactor/Sorbent for CO<sub>2</sub> Capture from Air



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### **Research Objective**



#### Adsorbent Portfolio









#### "Targeted geometries can have 10-20 times less pressure drop compared to packed reactors"

Chem. Mater. 2020, 32, 17, 7081-7104



### Technology Background: Aminated Sorbents





• oxidation problem

Energy Environ. Sci., 2022, 15, 1360-1405



## **Technology Background: Aminated Sorbents**









ACS Appl. Mater. Inter. 2019, 11, 30987-30991



### **Processible Sorbent Concept**





- Can be scaled up with cost efficient synthesis
- Soluble in common solvent and can be processed
- Tunable chemical structure
- High surface area and pore volume
- Library of different sorbents can be prepared

US Patent **2022**0032268A1



### **Amidoxime Functionality**



• Amidoxime functionality for amine tethering



Energy Environ. Sci., 2011, 4, 4528–4531



*Chem. Commun.*, **2012**, *48*, 9989-9991 by Yavuz group



### **Sorbent Preparation**





Amines considered:

- Diethylenetriamine (DETA)
- Tris(2 aminoethyl)amine (TAEA)
- Tetraethylenepentamine (TEPA)



### **Sorbent Characterization**



• Control study with neat PIM-1



FT-IR spectrum of neat PIM-1 and PIM-1 -DETA (control sample)



#### CO<sub>2</sub> uptake Performance of PIM-1-AO-DETA (powder)









#### 1. Electrospinning fibers



#### 2. Porous Solid fibers



#### 3. Hollow fibers



### PIM-1-AO based fiber sorbent



#### PF-15-TAEA-fiber sorbent



- Fibers proceed only from the sorbent formulation, no additives need2ed
- Cost efficient synthesis and large scale processibility
- High surface area substrate polymer
- Molecular amine use enabled by amidoxime functionality
- Amine loading is <25% in the sorbent

Sekizkardes, A.; Kusuma, V.; Culp, J.; Muldoon, P.; Hoffman, J.; Hopkinson, D. Single Polymer Sorbent Fibers for High Performance and Rapid Direct Air Capture. *ChemRxiv* **2022**. DOI <u>10.26434/chemrxiv-2022-jgpqv</u>





Equilibrium CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption test (solid fibers)





### Mixed-gas CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption rate and cyclability



**Figures:**  $CO_2$  uptake in PF-15-TAEA. (A) measured in flowing gas at a total pressure of 100mbar, 25°C. The switch from pure N<sub>2</sub> to  $10\%CO_2/90\%N_2$  occurs at 2 min. (B) adsorption / desorption cycles in flowing gas at a total pressure of 1bar. Conditions: (1) pure N<sub>2</sub>, 25°C; (2)  $10\%CO_2/90\%N_2$ ; (3) temperature ramp in pure N<sub>2</sub> at 3°C/min to 70-75°C (black) or 75-80°C (red).



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## Mixed-gas CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption rate and cyclability



#### NATIONAL ENERGY TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY

#### **PF-15-TAEA fiber sorbent**

7 min of CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption cycle

• 1.7 mmol.g<sup>-1</sup>

CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption rate

• 0.45 mmol.g<sup>-1</sup>.min<sup>-1</sup>

Regeneration temp

• 70-75 °C

Processibility

- yes/no need for binder
- Pressure drop
- less likely compared to powder

**Figures:**  $CO_2$  uptake in PF-15-TAEA. (A) measured in flowing gas at a total pressure of 100mbar, 25°C. The switch from pure N<sub>2</sub> to  $10\%CO_2/90\%N_2$  occurs at 2 min. (B) adsorption / desorption cycles in flowing gas at a total pressure of 1bar. Conditions: (1) pure N<sub>2</sub>, 25°C; (2)  $10\%CO_2/90\%N_2$ ; (3) temperature ramp in pure N<sub>2</sub> at 3°C/min to 70-75°C (black) or 75-80°C (red).







**The testing sequence:** The sections are labeled according to the percentage of humidified  $N_2$  used in each cycle. A cycle consists of starting in dry  $N_2$  at 25°C, then (A) switching to humidified N<sub>2</sub> for 30 minutes, (**B**) switching back to dry N<sub>2</sub> for 30 minutes, then (C) switching back to humidified  $N_2$  for 30 minutes, then (**D**) adding in 10% dry CO<sub>2</sub> to the humidified N<sub>2</sub> stream for 30 minutes, then (E) switching back to dry  $N_2$  for 30 minutes, then (F) ramping temperature to 75°C to complete regeneration, then (G) cooling back to 25°C, then (H) repeating the cycle using a new percentage of wet  $N_2$  (see section labels above the chart for % humid  $N_2$ ). For the final cycle from t = 900min, (I) switching from 100% dry N<sub>2</sub> to dry 10% CO<sub>2</sub> / 90% dry  $N_2$  then (J) switching back to 100% dry  $N_2$  and heat to regenerate the sorbent.



#### Fiber sorbent processing







#### **Parameters**

- Solubility, viscosity
- Solvent mixture
- Polymer dope concentration
- Porosity adjustment
- Coagulation bath temperature and solution



## Computational Design of Alkylamine-Functionalized Polymer Sorbents



Screening of amines (A final three amines exhibit more favorable CO2 reaction free energy and enthalpy than the

existing TAEA amine)

Please see poster by Dr. Surya Tiwari for more details

Molecular dynamics (MD) simulations are used for screening and to understand the adsorption mechanism

0.2

0.4

0.6

r (nm)

0.8



- Development the polymer material to reach the milestone
- Explore different sorbent formulation with the help of computational team. See the presentation of Surya Tiwari
- Monolith fiber scale up
- Electrospun fiber production
- Testing the sorbents under simulated DAC conditions
- Exploring the filler candidates to be used in the polymer



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