

Polymer Sorbents Fibers for Direct Air Capture

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Research Scientist



*2023 NETL Carbon Manegment Meeting
Aug. 29, 2023*

Disclaimer



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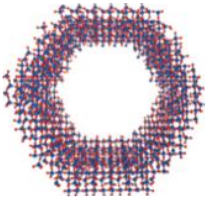
^a*U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, 626 Cochran Mill Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15236*

^b*U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, 3610 Collins Ferry Road, Morgantown, WV 26505, USA*

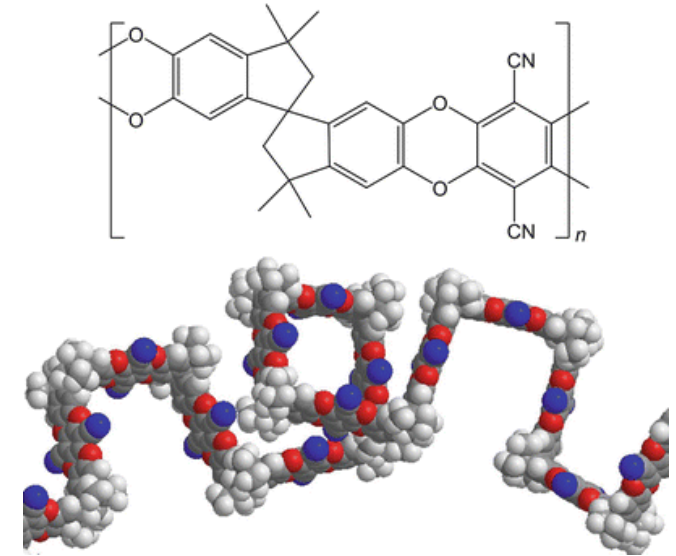
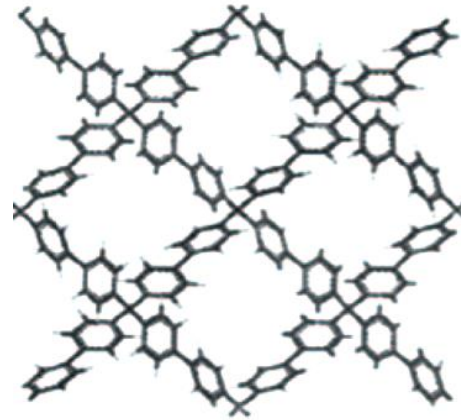
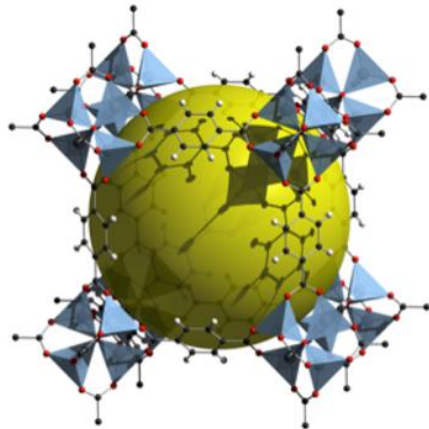
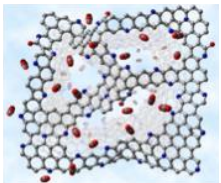
^c*NETL Support Contractor, 626 Cochran Mill Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15236*

Adsorbent Portfolio

Zeolites



Silicates



Porous Carbon

MOFs

Porous Polymers

Polymers of Intrinsic Microporosity
(PIM)

1990

2000

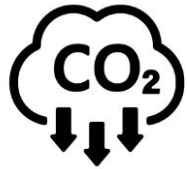
2010

Timeline

Chem. Rev. **2017**, 117, 1515–1563

N. B. McKeown and P. M. Budd,
Chem. Soc. Rev., **2006**, 35, 675–683

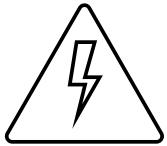
DAC Sorbents



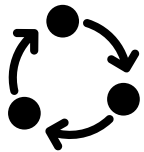
high CO₂ uptake



fast kinetics



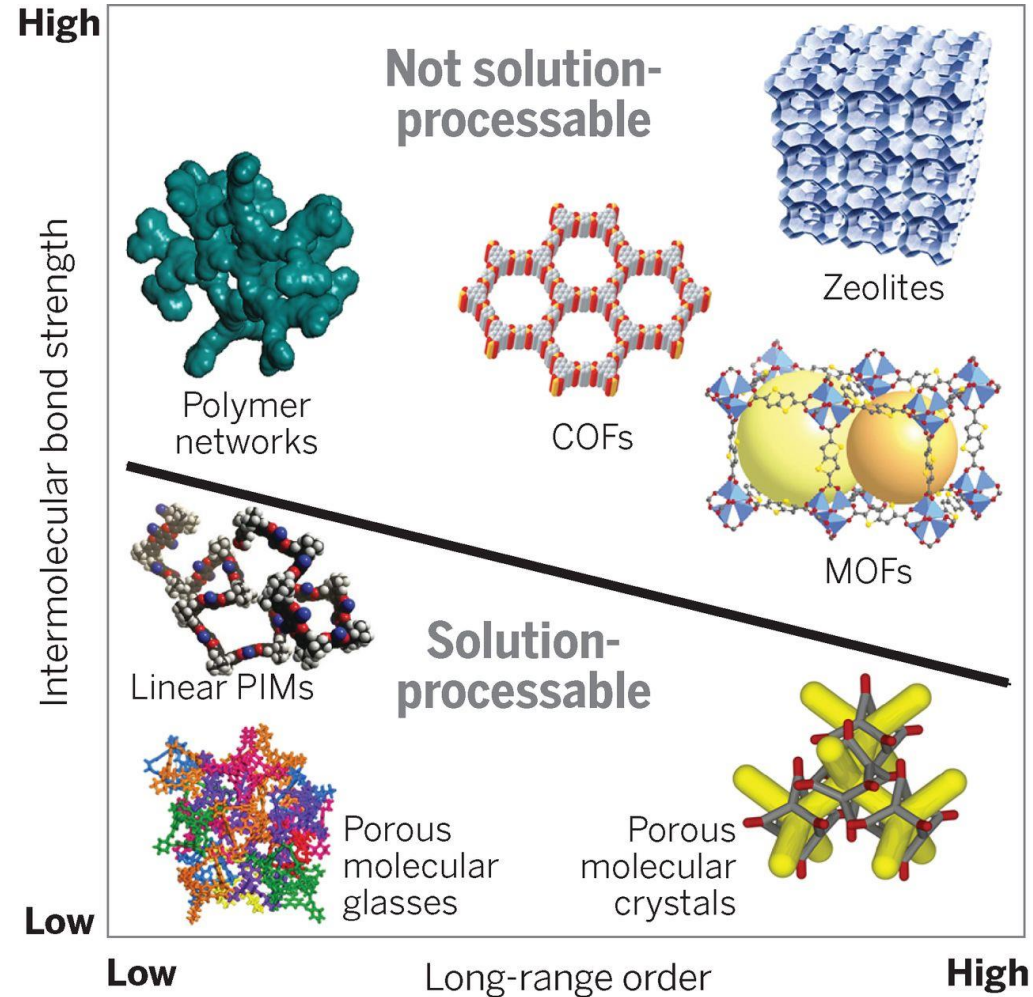
low-energy regeneration



cyclability



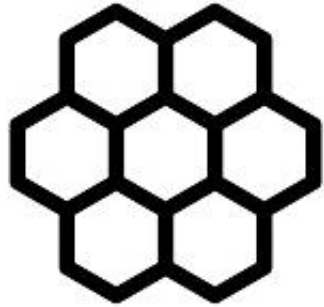
processibility



Cooper et al. *Science* **2015**, 348, 6238

“Targeted geometries can have 10-20 times less pressure drop compared to packed reactors”

Technology Background: Aminated Sorbents

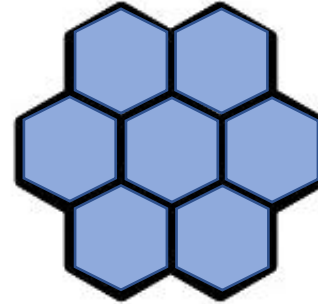


macro porous particle
(SA= 100-200 m²/g)

amine impregnation



polyamines

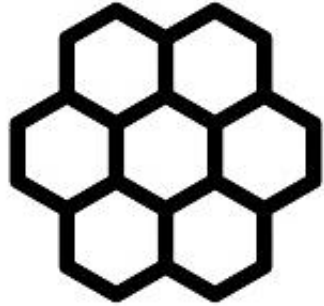


amine impregnated
sorbent

- high CO₂ uptake
- high polyamine loading (50%)
- slow CO₂ diffusion
- regeneration (>100 °C)
- less amine leaching
- oxidation problem

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

Technology Background: Aminated Sorbents

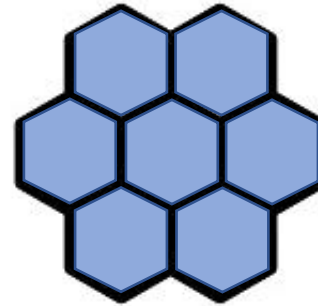


macro porous particle
(SA= 100-200 m²/g)

amine impregnation



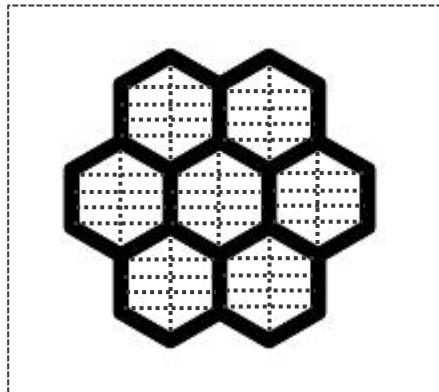
polyamines



amine impregnated
sorbent

- high CO₂ uptake
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- slow CO₂ diffusion
- regeneration (>100 °C)
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Energy Environ. Sci., **2022**, 15, 1360-1405

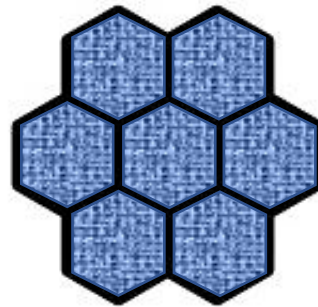


nano porous particle
(SA= 500-2000 m²/g)

amine impregnation



molecular amines

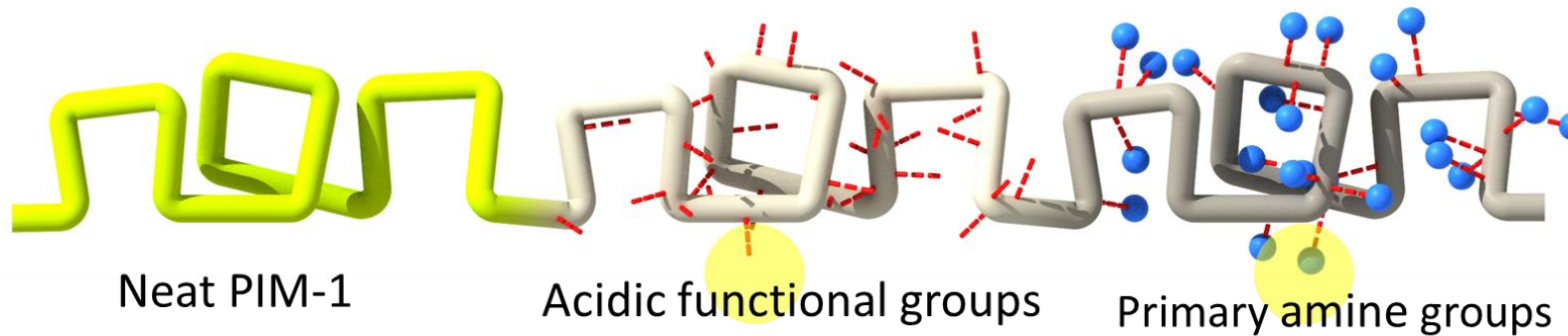
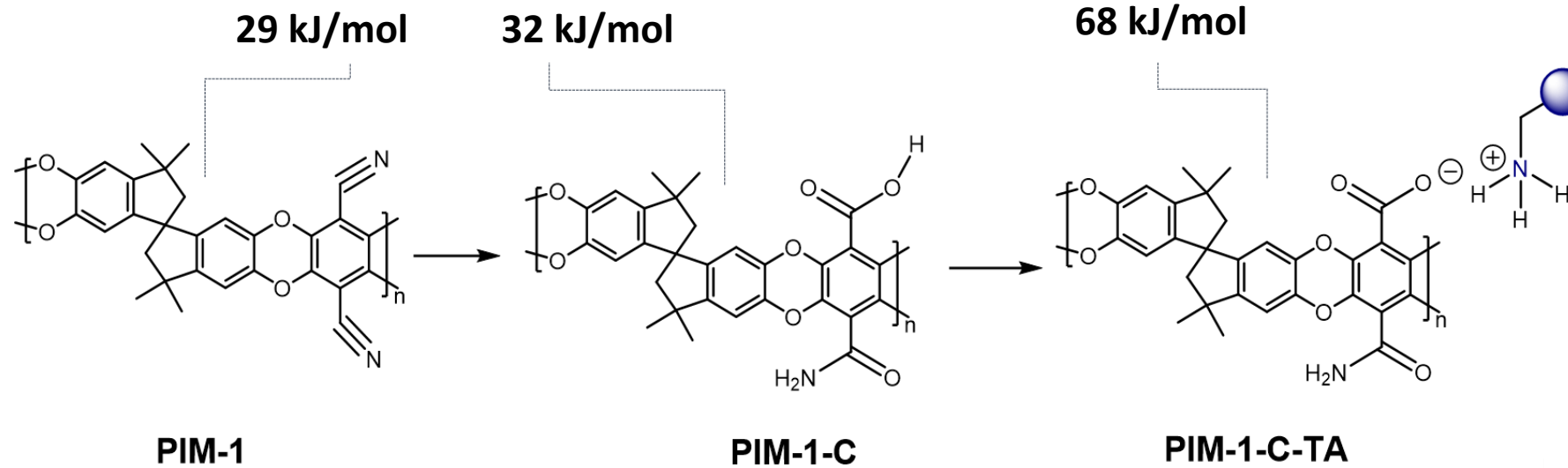


amine impregnated
sorbent

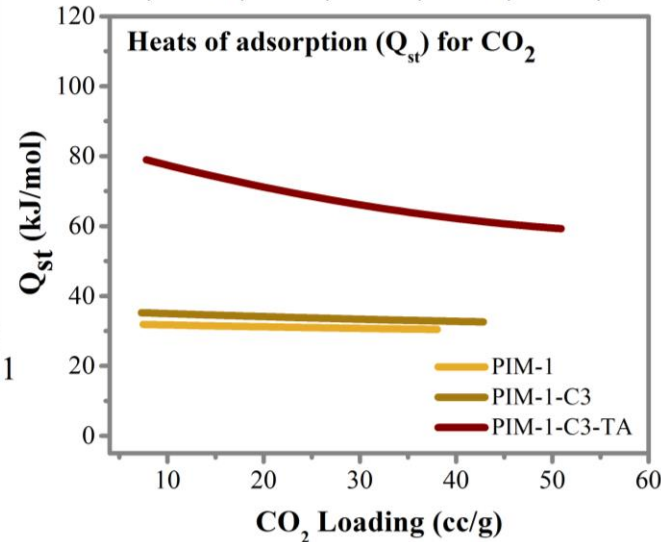
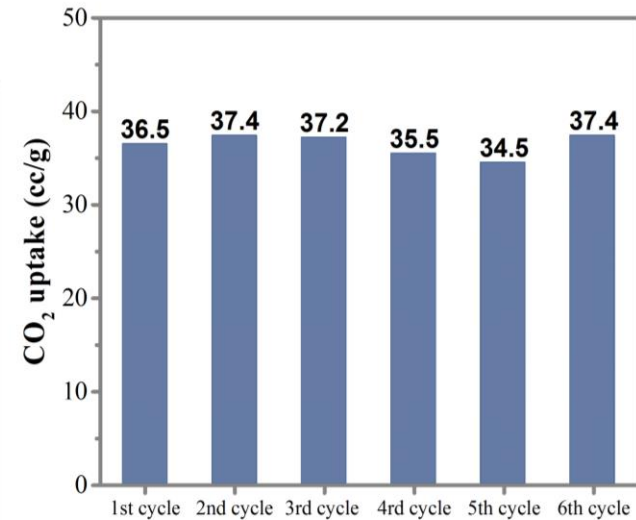
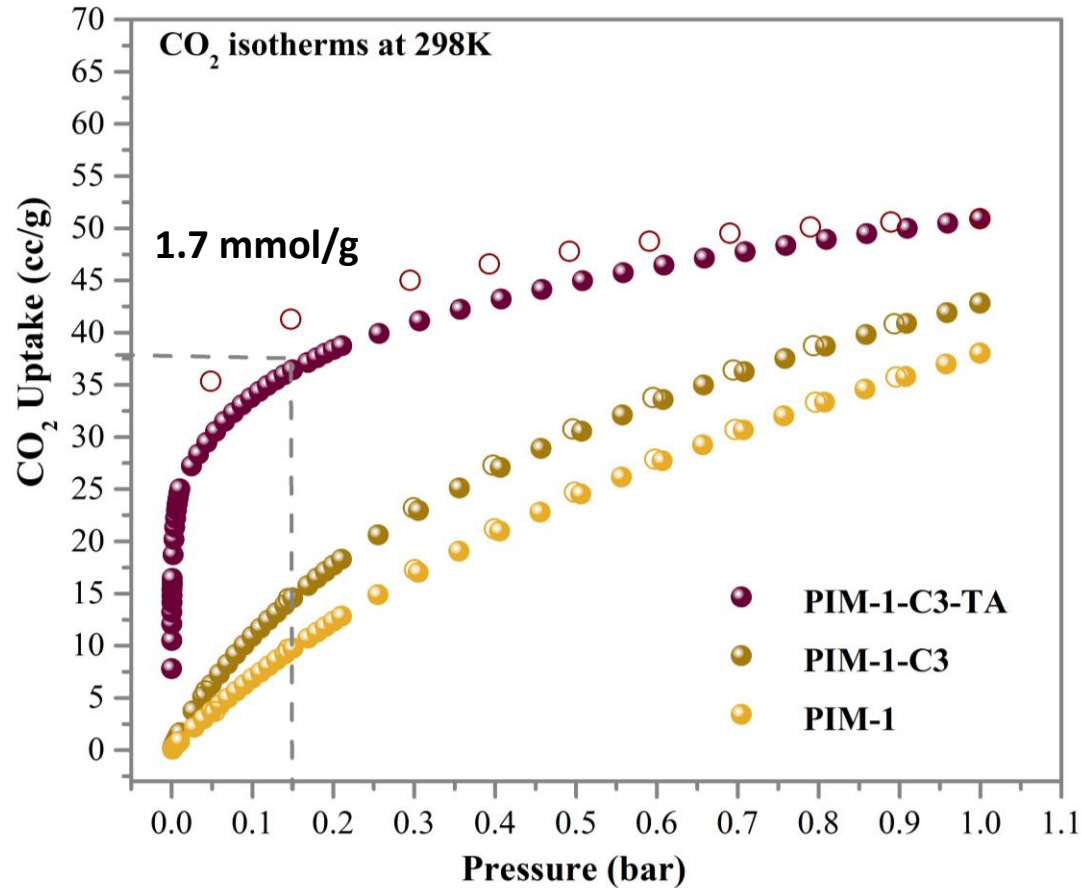
- High CO₂ uptake
- molecular amine (<30%)
- faster CO₂ diffusion
- Regeneration (<100 °C)
- amine leaching
- limited oxidation

Mater. Adv., **2021**, 2, 5843-5880

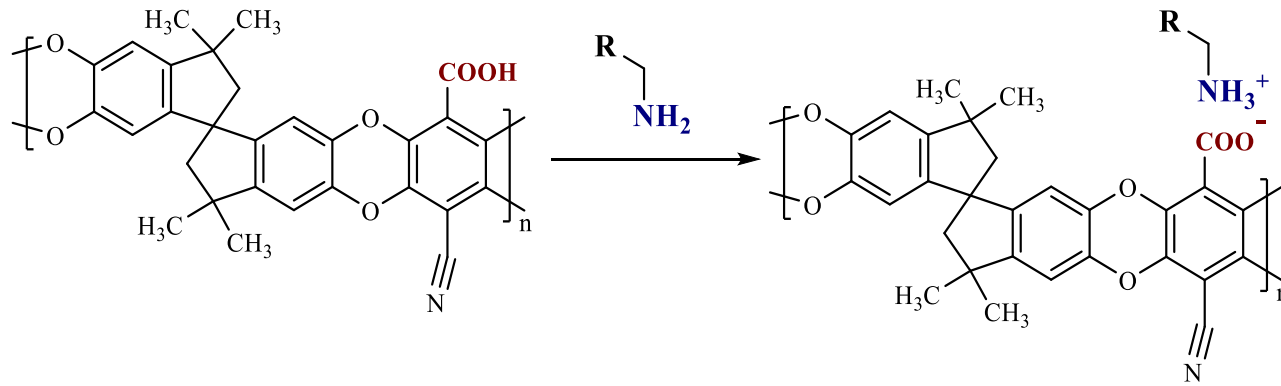
Processible Polymeric Sorbent Concept



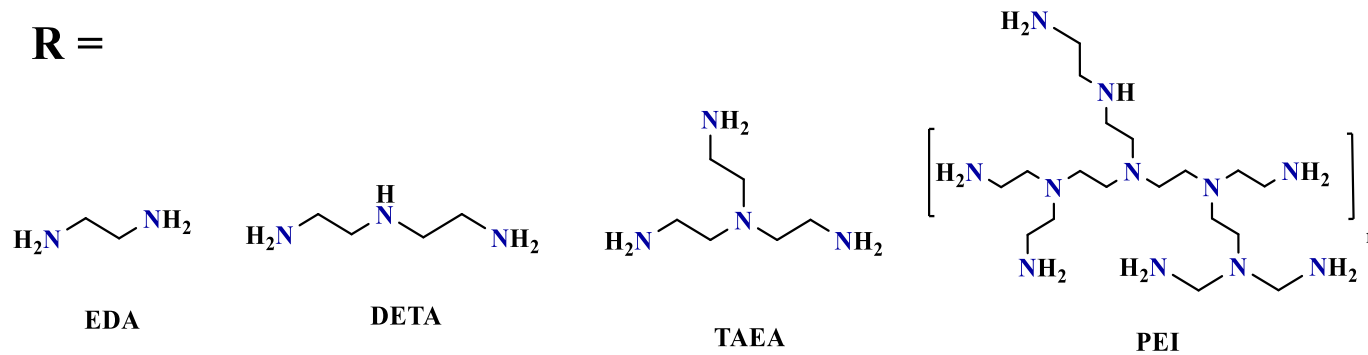
Processible Sorbent Concept



Processible Sorbent Concept



R =

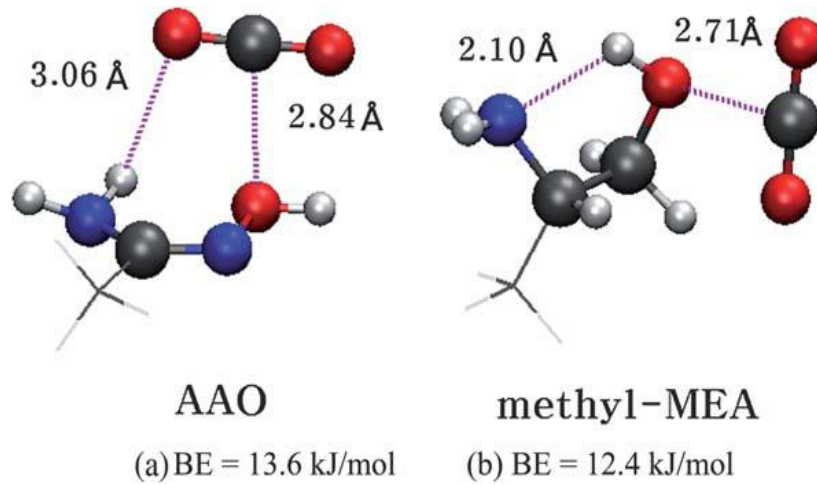


Heats of Adsorption for CO₂

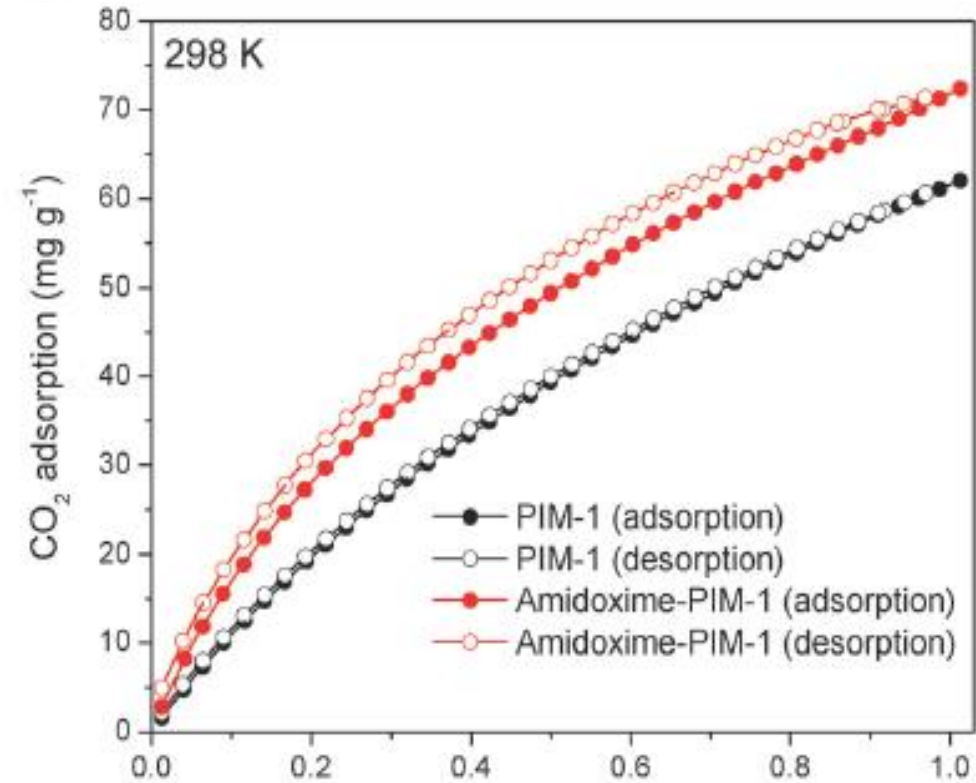
- Can be scaled up with cost-efficient synthesis
- Soluble in common solvent and can be processed
- Tunable chemical structure
- High surface area and pore volume
- Library of different sorbents can be prepared

Amidoxime Functionality

- Amidoxime functionality for amine tethering

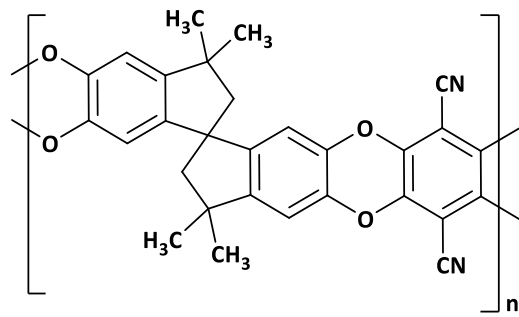


Energy Environ. Sci., **2011**, *4*, 4528–4531

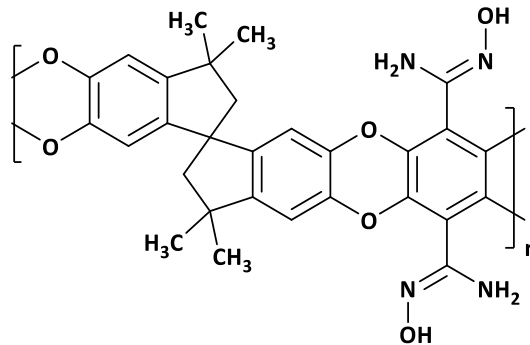
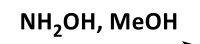


Chem. Commun., **2012**, *48*, 9989–9991
by Cafer Yavuz group

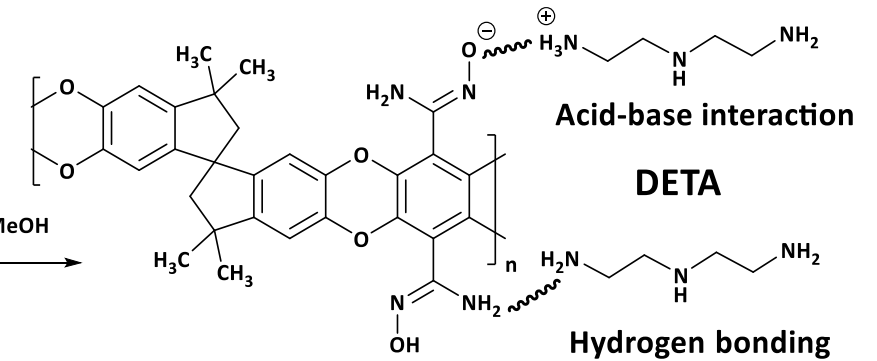
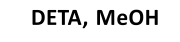
Amidoxime Functionalized PIM-1



PIM -1



PIM -1-AO

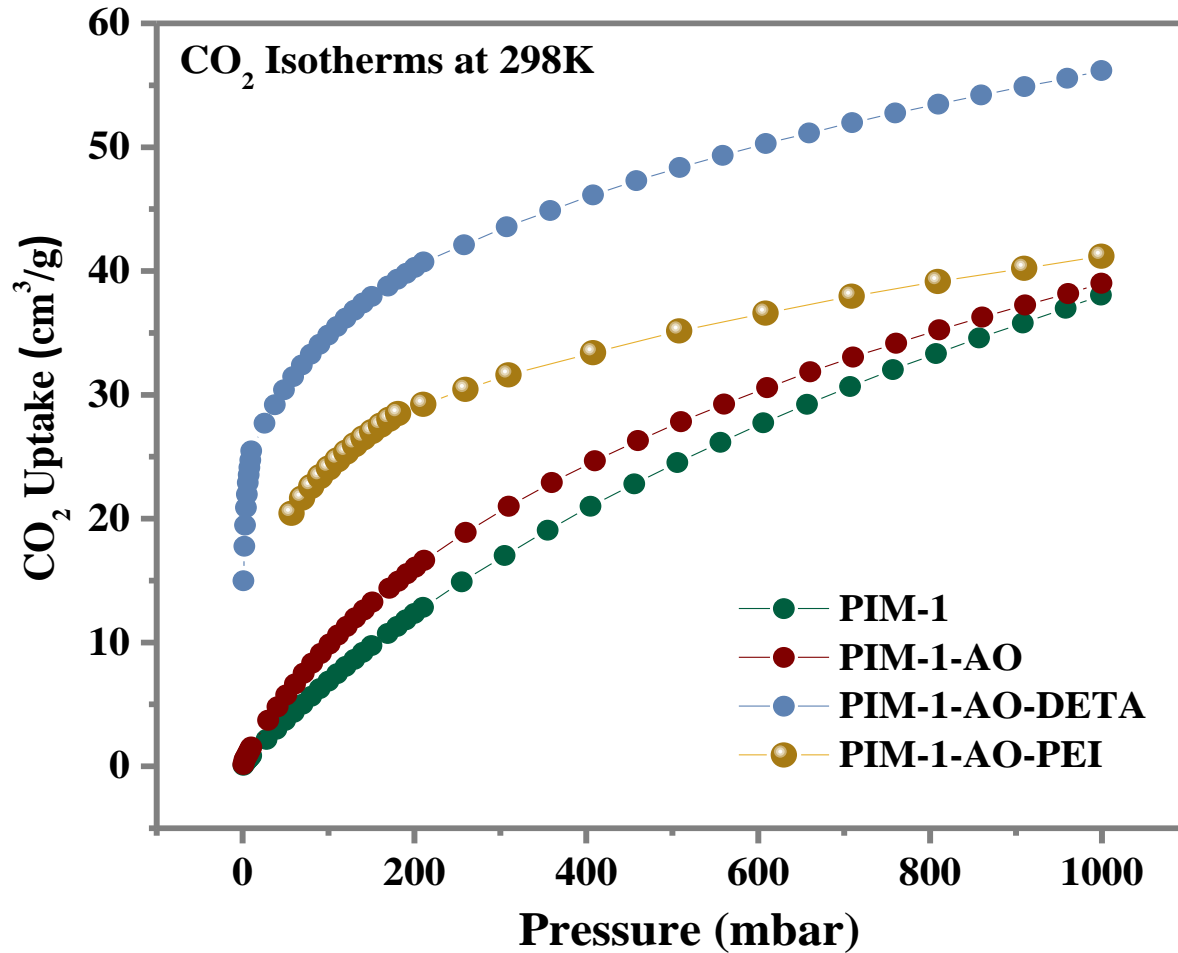


PIM -1-AO-DETA

Amines considered:

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

Amidoxime Functionalized PIM-1

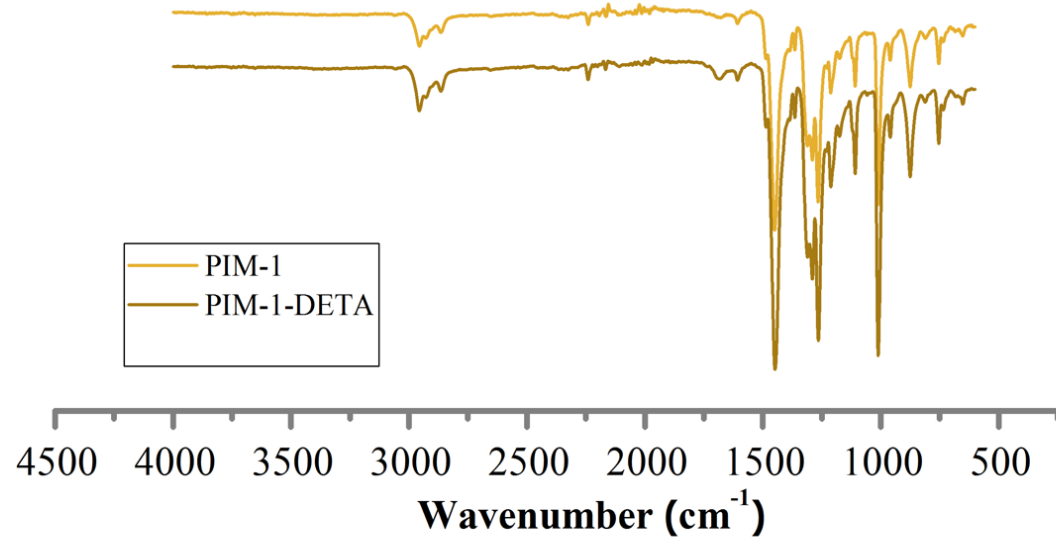


PIM-1

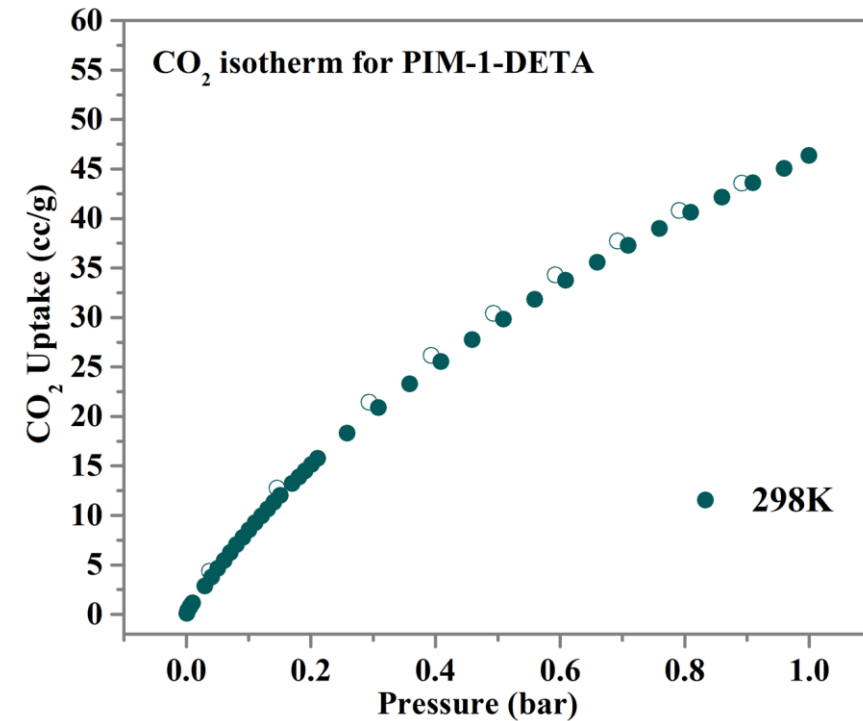
PIM-AO

Amine stability

- Control study with neat PIM-1

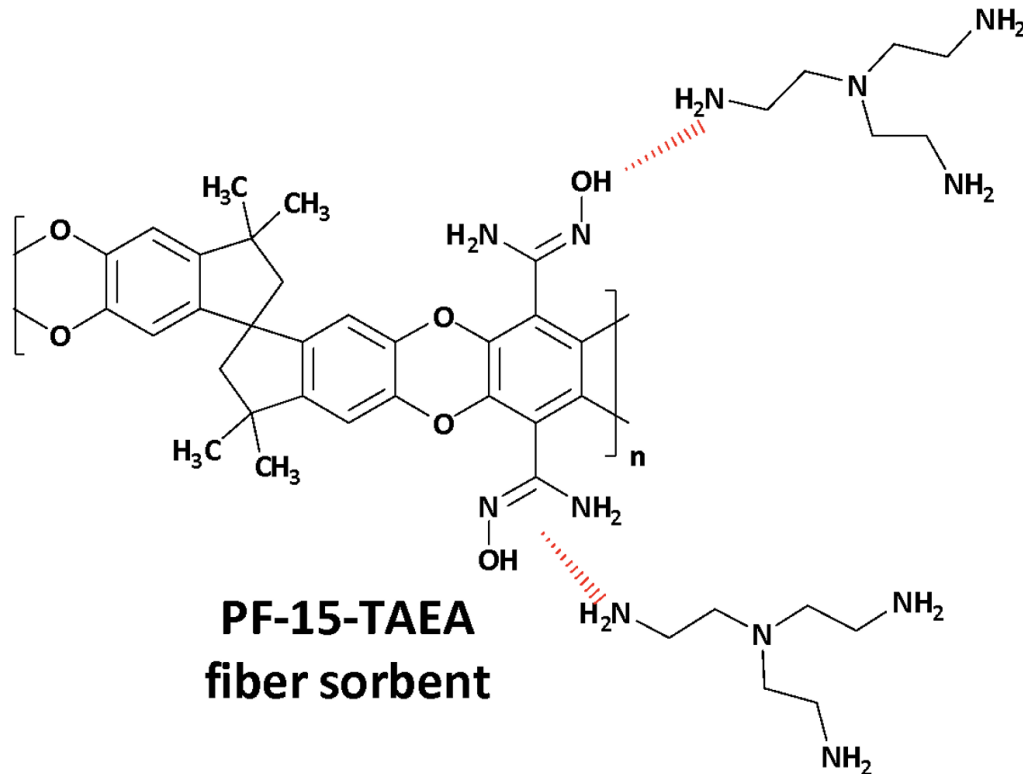


FT-IR spectrum of neat PIM-1 and PIM-1 -DETA (control sample)



PIM-1-AO Based Fiber Sorbent

PF-15-TAEA-fiber sorbent

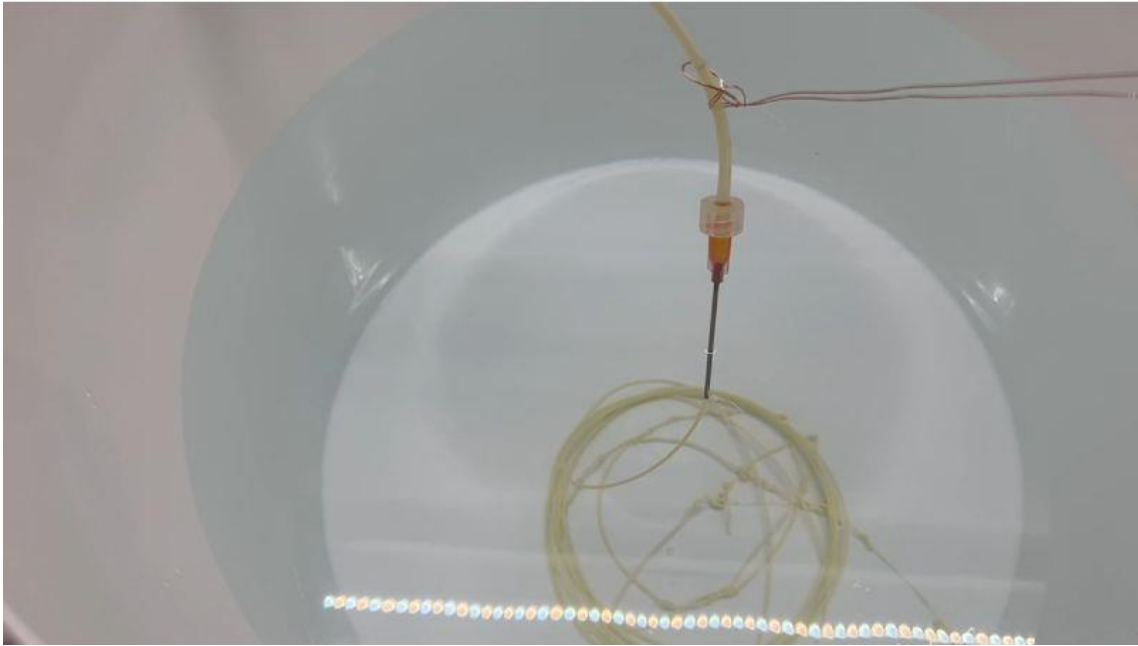


- Fibers proceed only from the sorbent formulation, no additives needed
- Cost-efficient synthesis and large-scale processibility
- High surface area substrate polymer
- Molecular amine use enabled by amidoxime functionality
- Amine loading is <25% in the sorbent

Wet spinning of PF-15

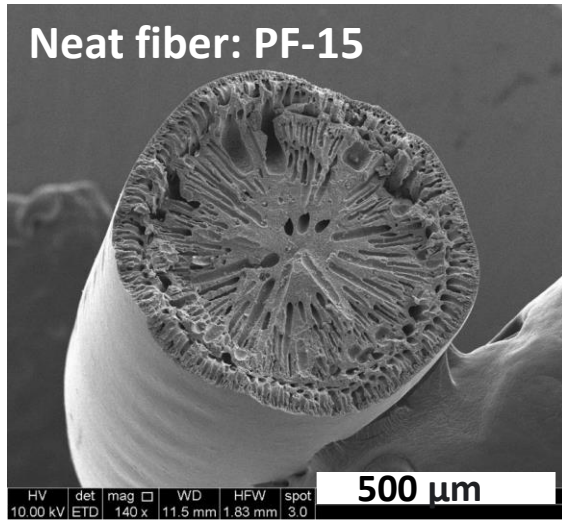


Wet spinning of PF-15

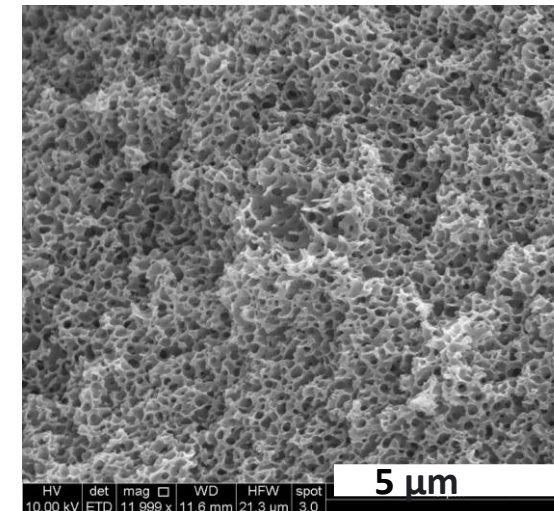
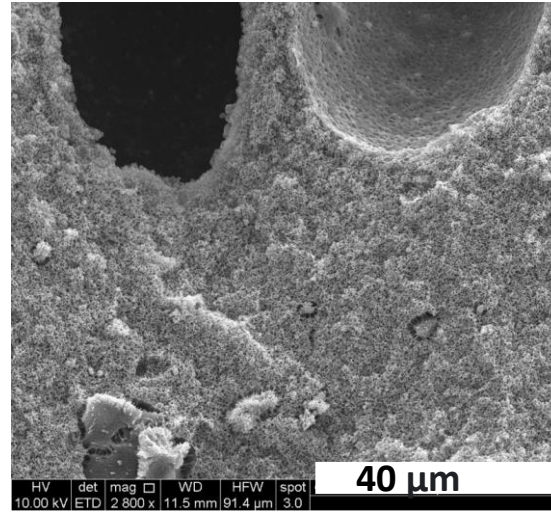


PF-15 fibers SEM

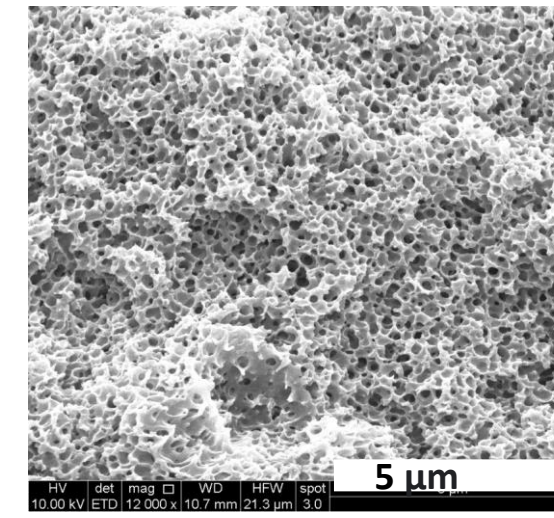
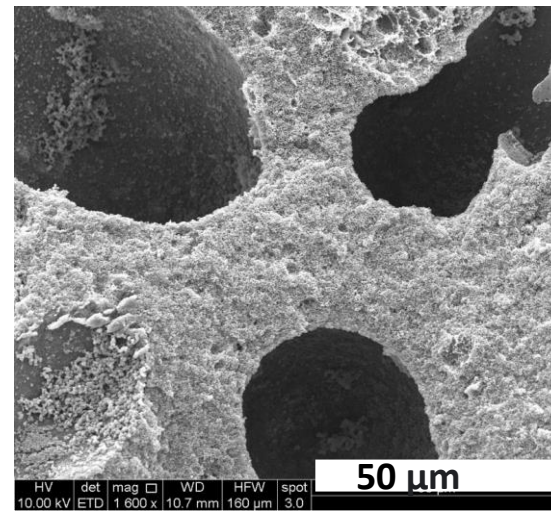
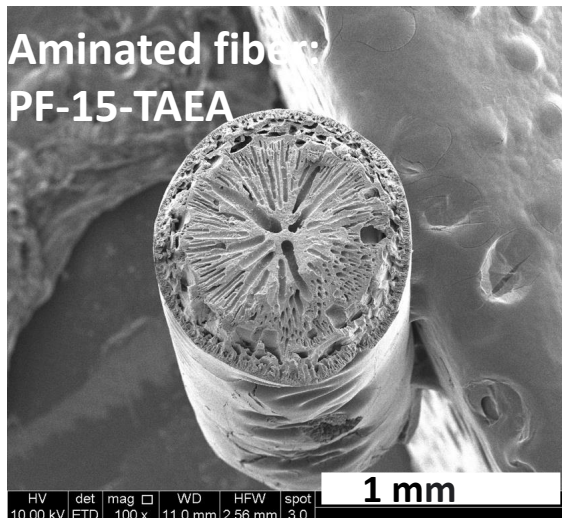
Internal surface (Cross-section)



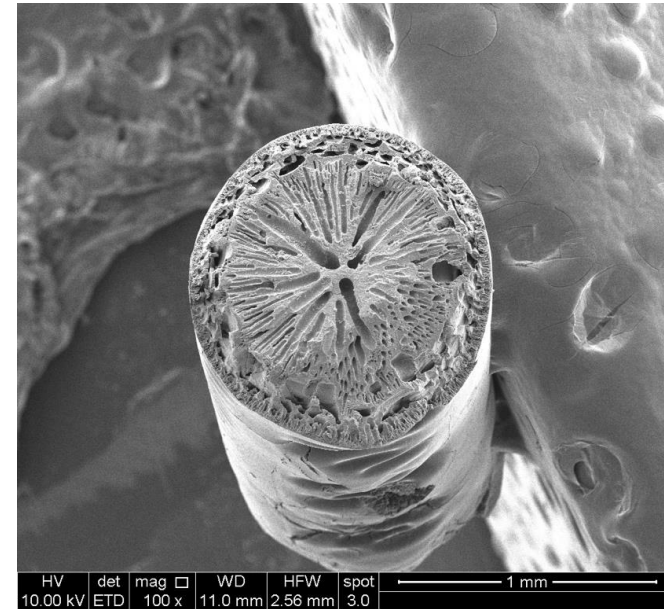
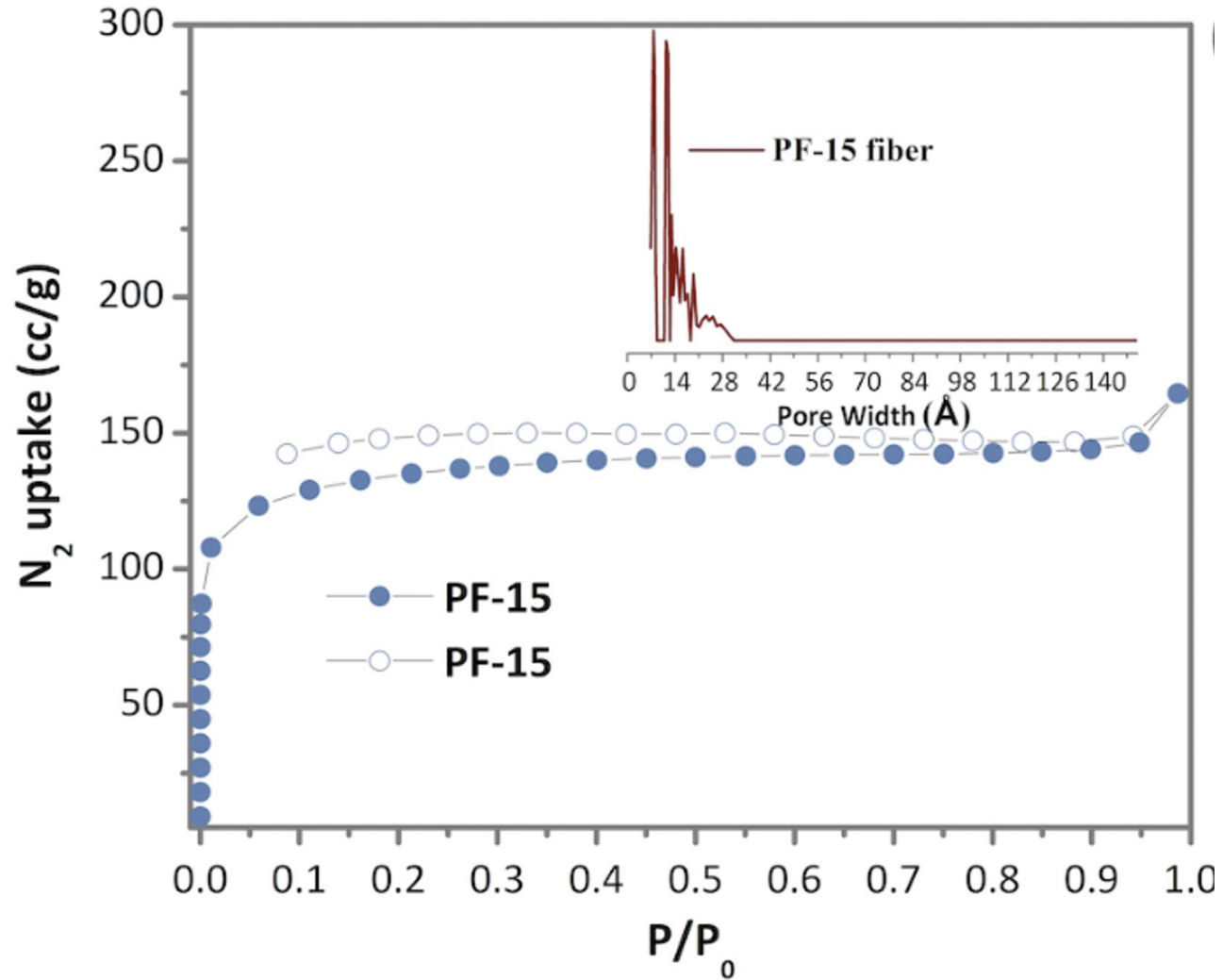
Internal surface (cross-section) magnified



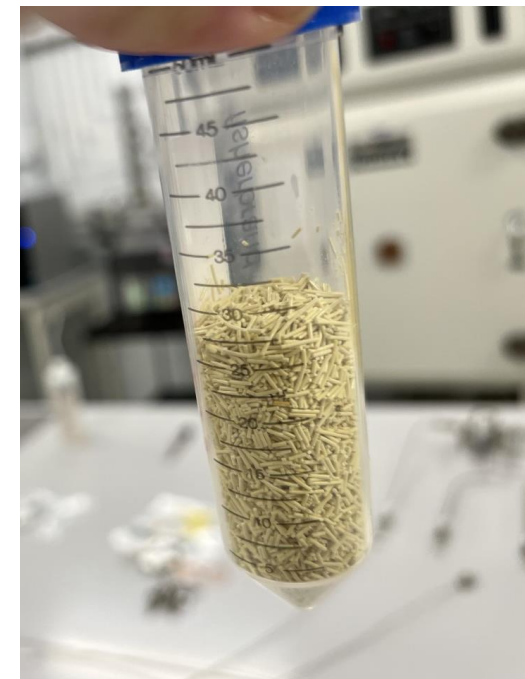
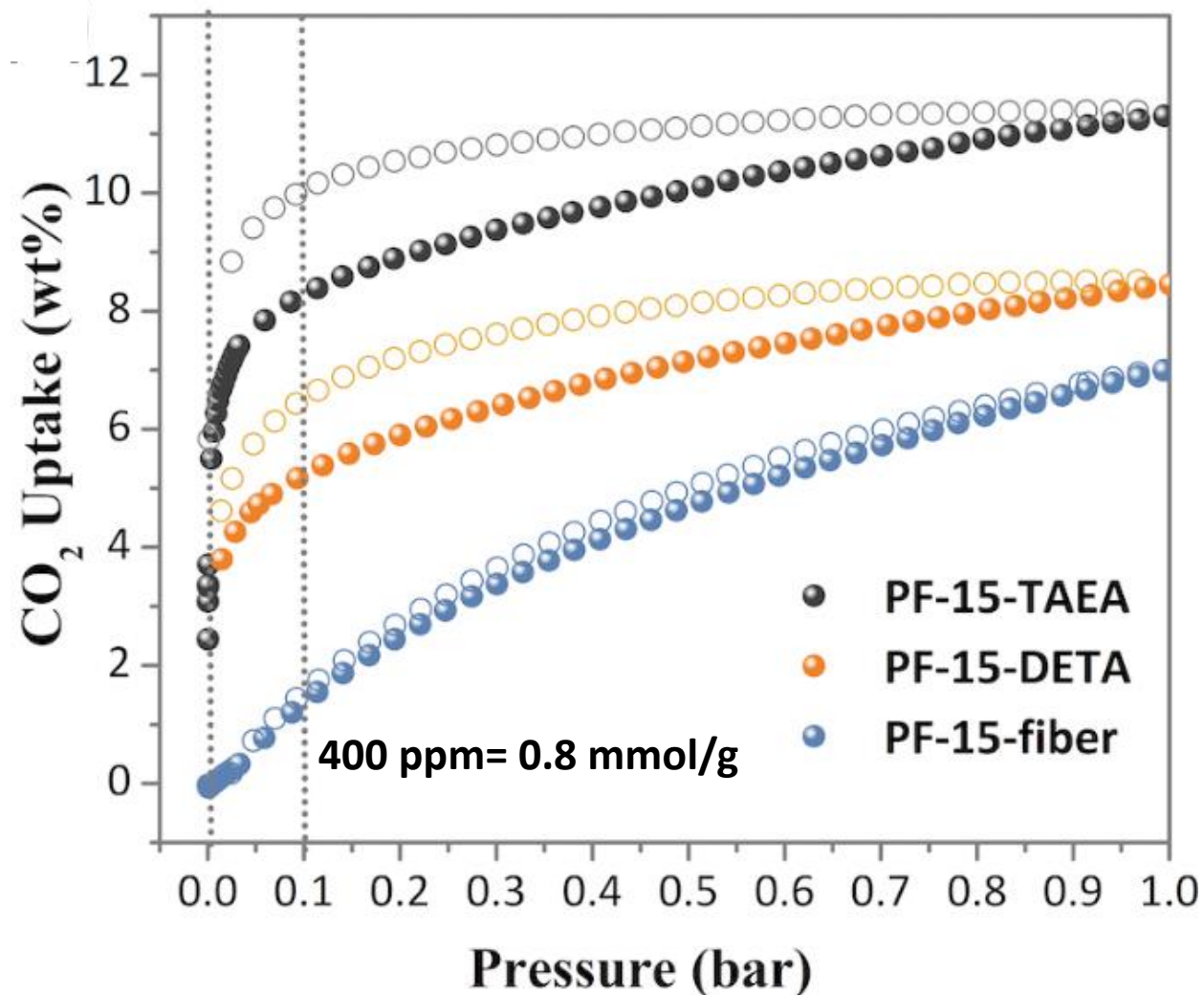
Aminated fiber:
PF-15-TAEA



PF-15 fibers porosity

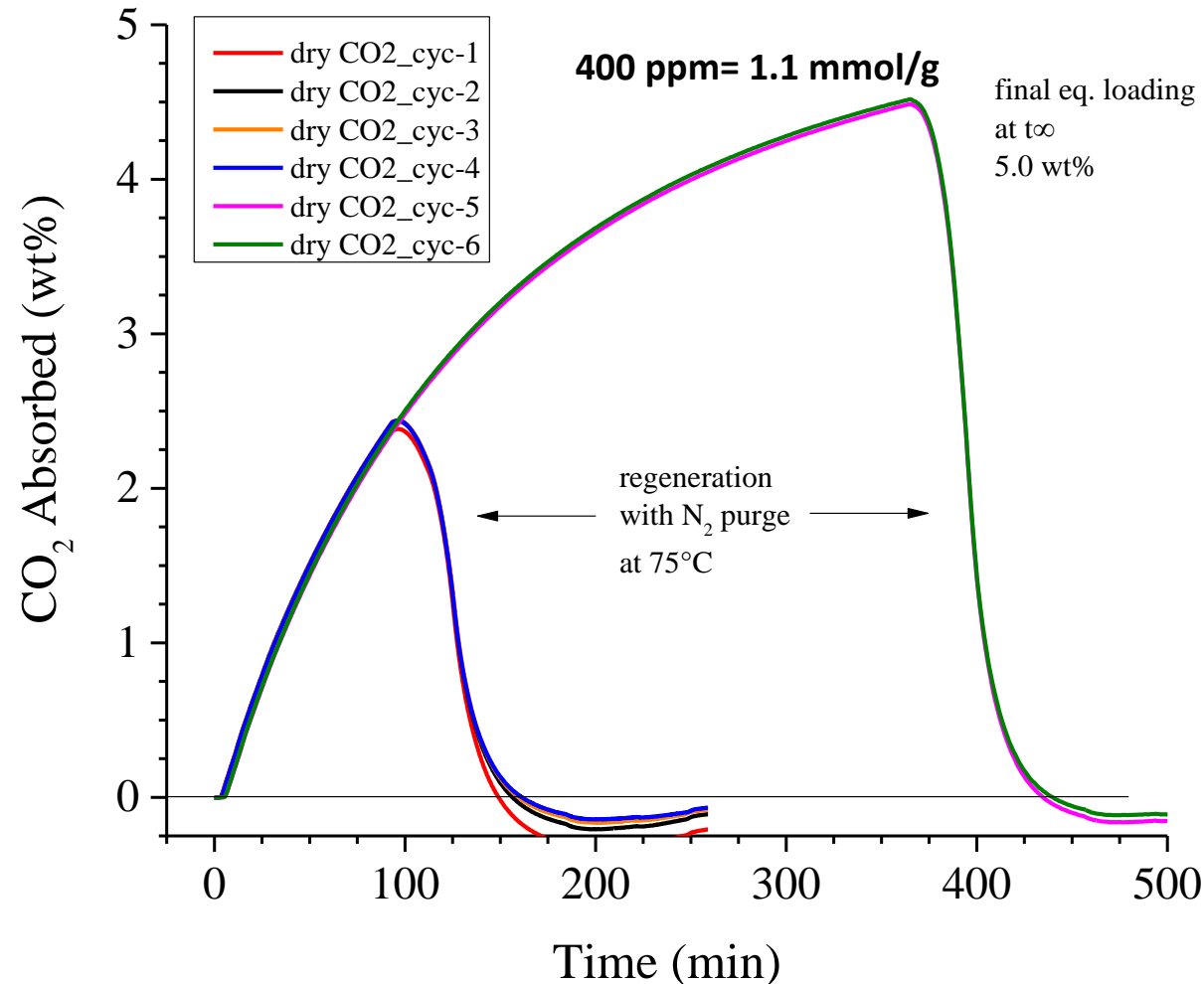


CO₂ Adsorption Test (Single Gas Volumetric)

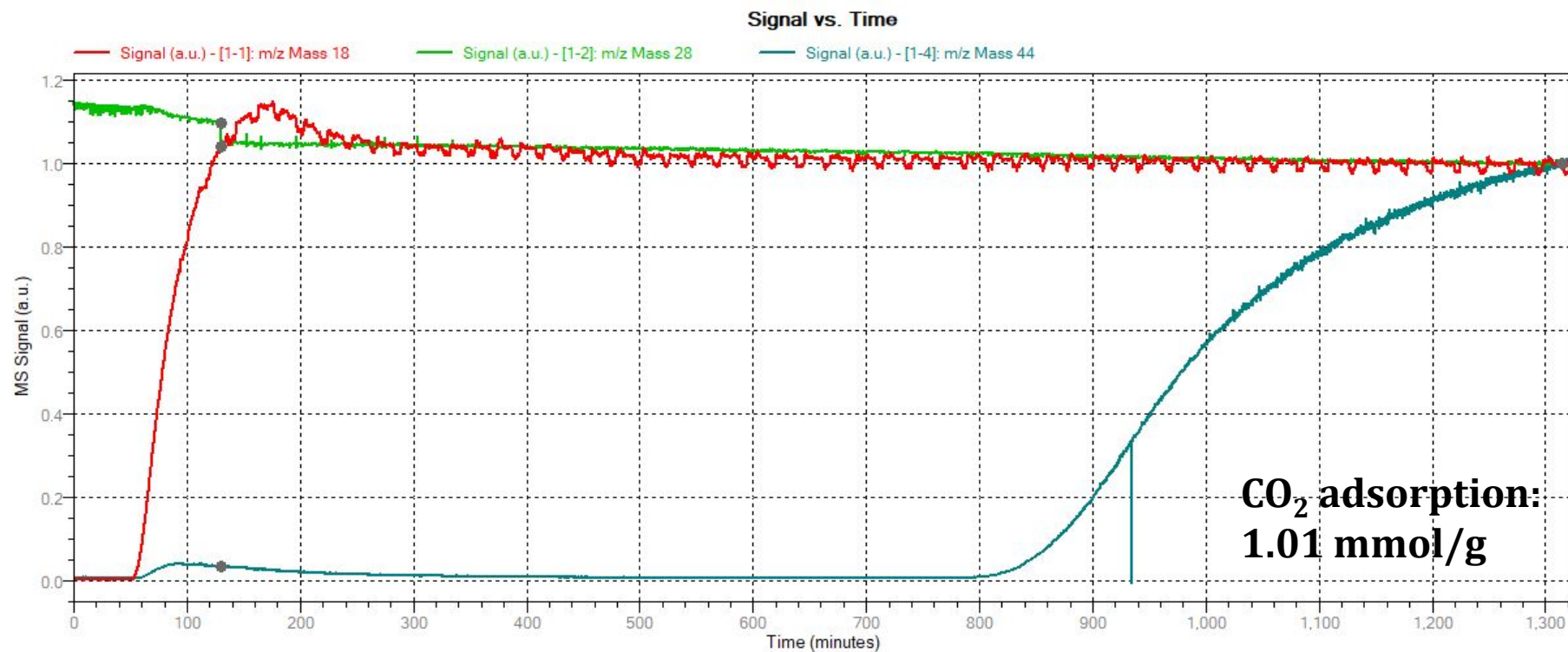


CO₂ Adsorption Test (Simulated Air Gravimetric)

50/50 mix of dry N₂ / dry 800 ppm CO₂ in air at 25°C, 1 bar



Breakthrough analysis (Simulated Air RH 50%)



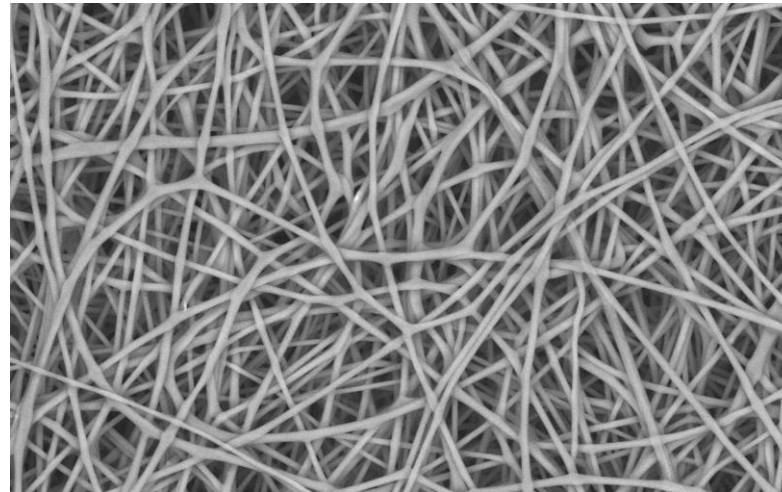
Breakthrough curves of H₂O (red), N₂ (light green) and CO₂(blue) of the sorbent PF-15-TAEA under simulated wet air conditions: 400 ppm CO₂ concentration and 50 % RH at 25 C. The data was collected by Micromeritics Instrument Co.

Other form factors:

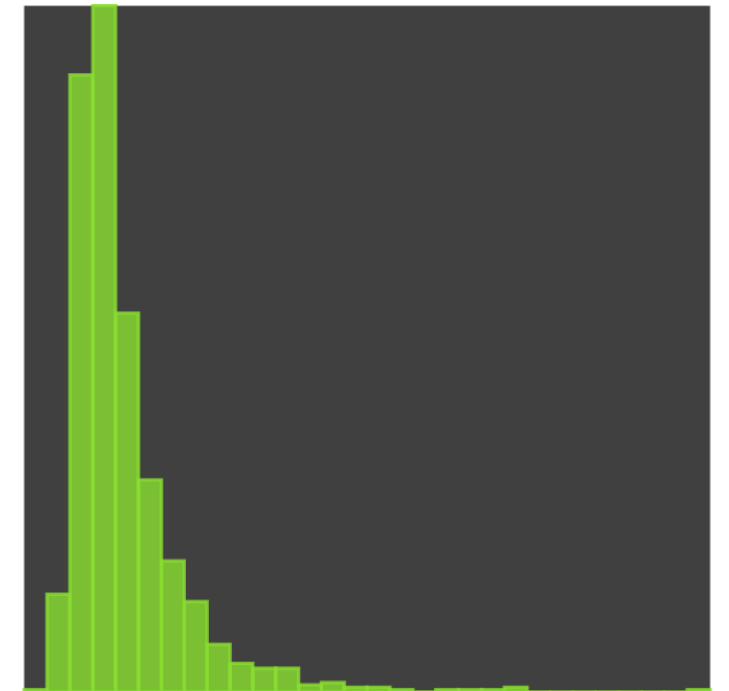
Electrospun fibers



fibers: 30x5cm

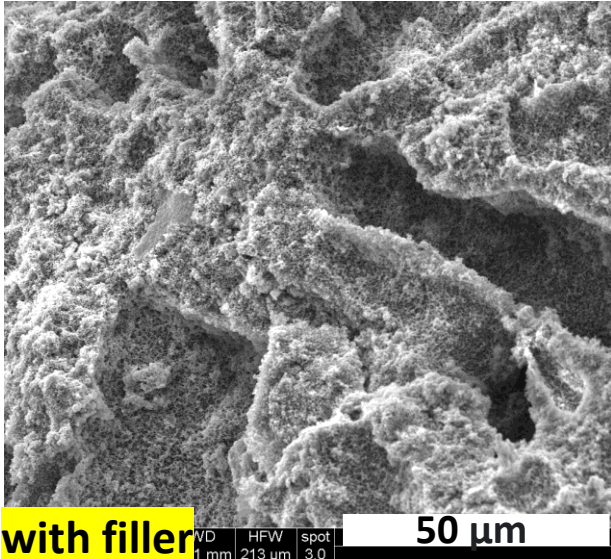
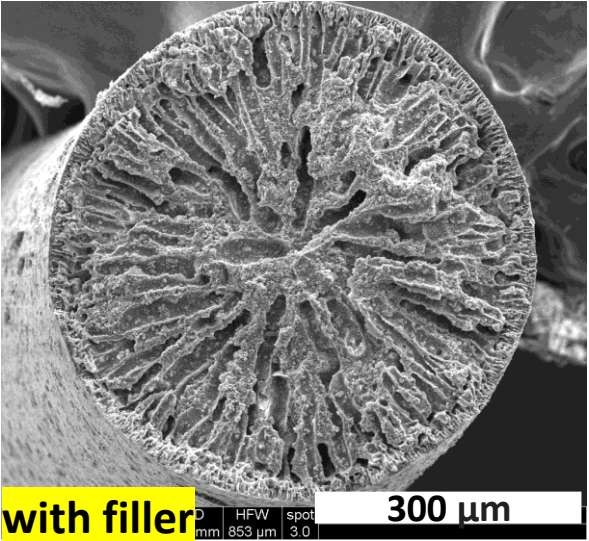
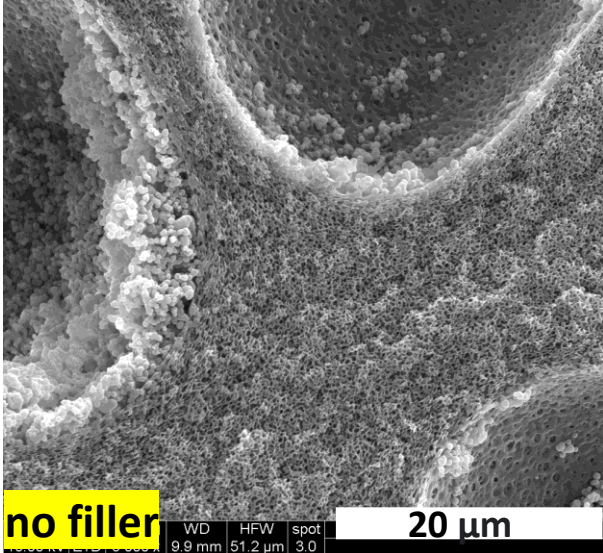
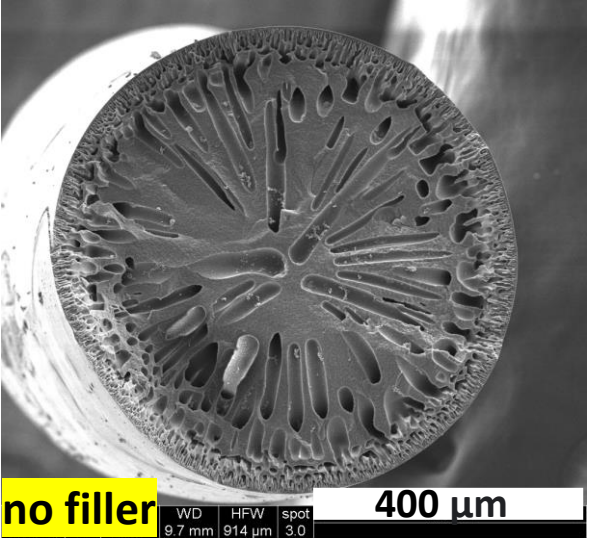


diameter of fibers: 2 micron

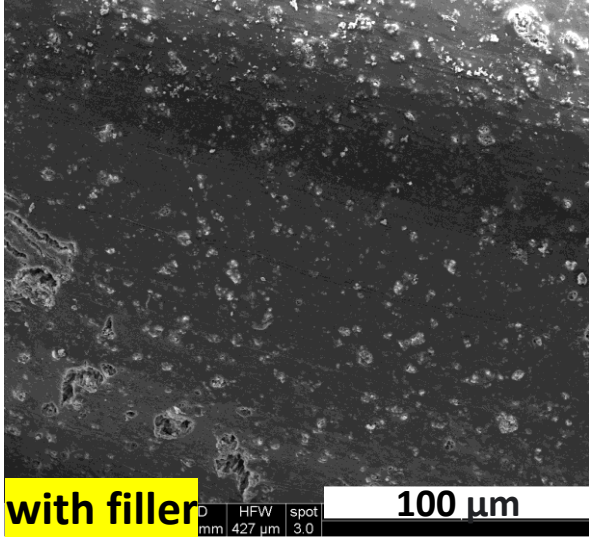
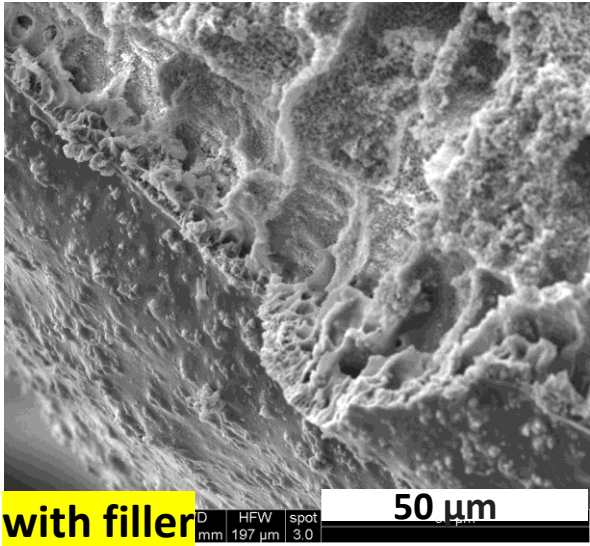
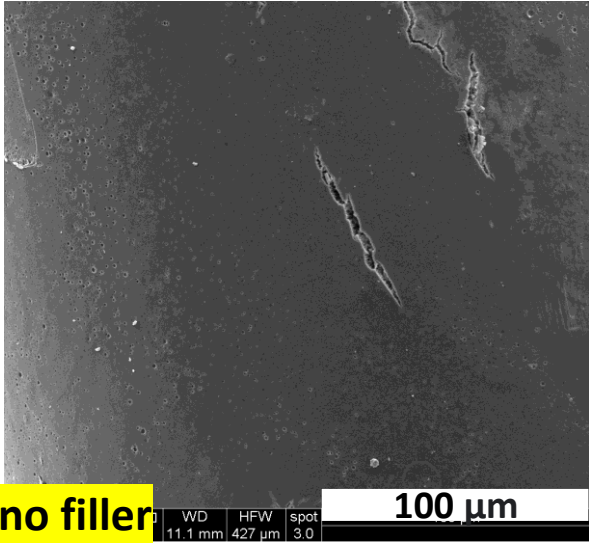
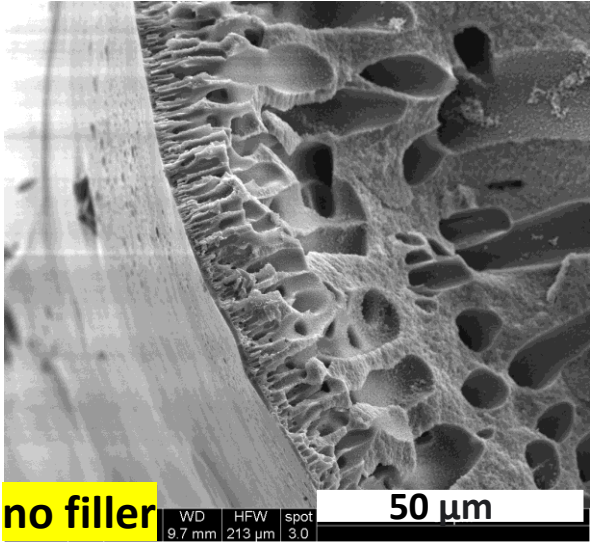


fiber diameter distribution

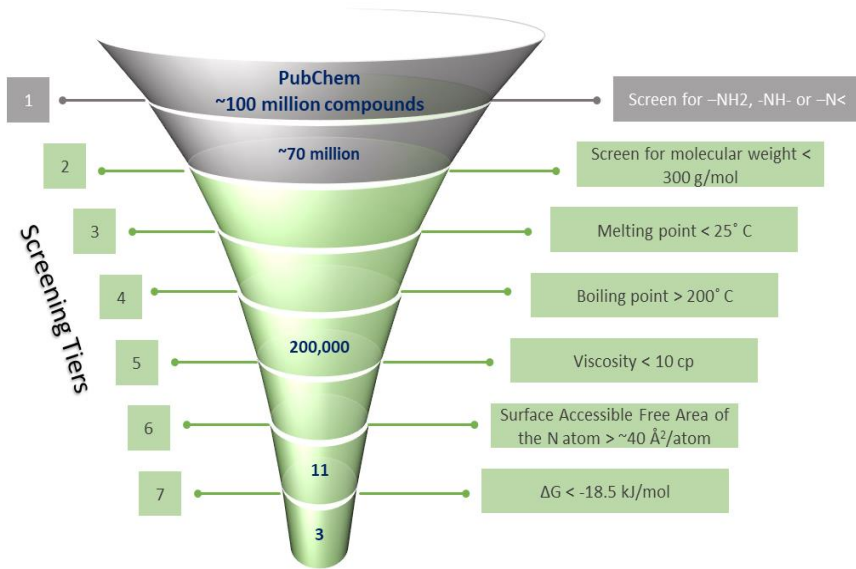
Filler incorporation in PF-15 fibers



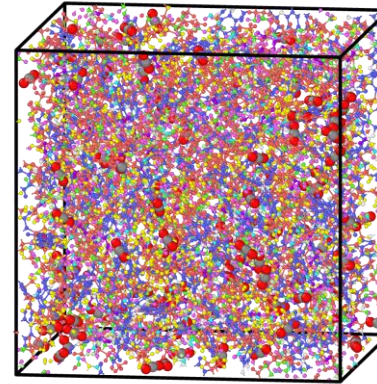
Filler incorporation in PF-15 fibers



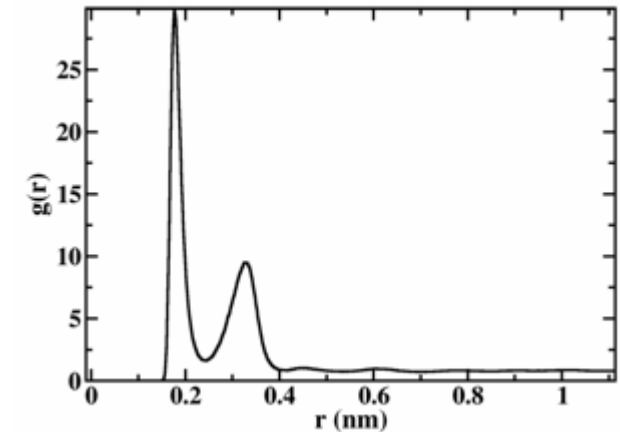
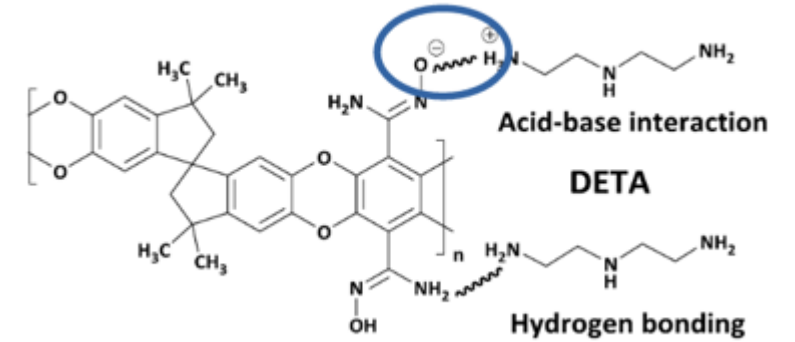
Computational Design of Alkylamine-Functionalized Polymer Sorbents



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



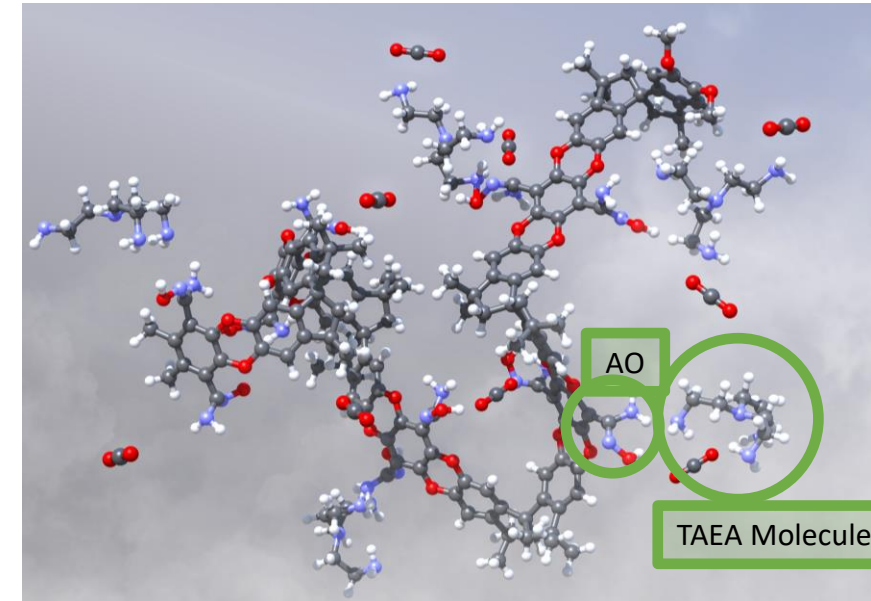
An MD simulation box containing polymer, amine and CO₂



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

Summary and Outlook

- *Explore different sorbent formulation with the help of computational team.*
- *Monolith fiber scale up*
- *Electrospun fiber production*
- *Flat sheet fiber production*
- *Testing the sorbents under simulated DAC conditions*
- *Exploring the filler candidates to be used in the polymer*



PIM-1-AO backbone has:

- Stiff, straight sections that consist of fused rings (ladder polymer)
- Sharp kinks caused by the spiro center

Gray = carbon
Red = oxygen
White = hydrogen
Blue = nitrogen1

Acknowledgement



TPLs:

David Hopkinson
Janice Steckel

LRST Supervisor:

Victor Kusuma

Sorbent Development and Characterization:

Patrick Muldoon
Victor Kusuma
Jeffrey Culp
Surya Tiwari
James Hoffman
Ashley Miles

Acknowledgement:

This work was performed in support of the U.S. Department of Energy's Fossil Energy Carbon Capture Research Program. The Research was executed through the NETL Research and Innovation Center's Transformational Carbon Capture FWP.

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Thank You