

Making Carbon Capture Feasible:

Development of a Circulating Fluidised Bed
with Microwave Regeneration

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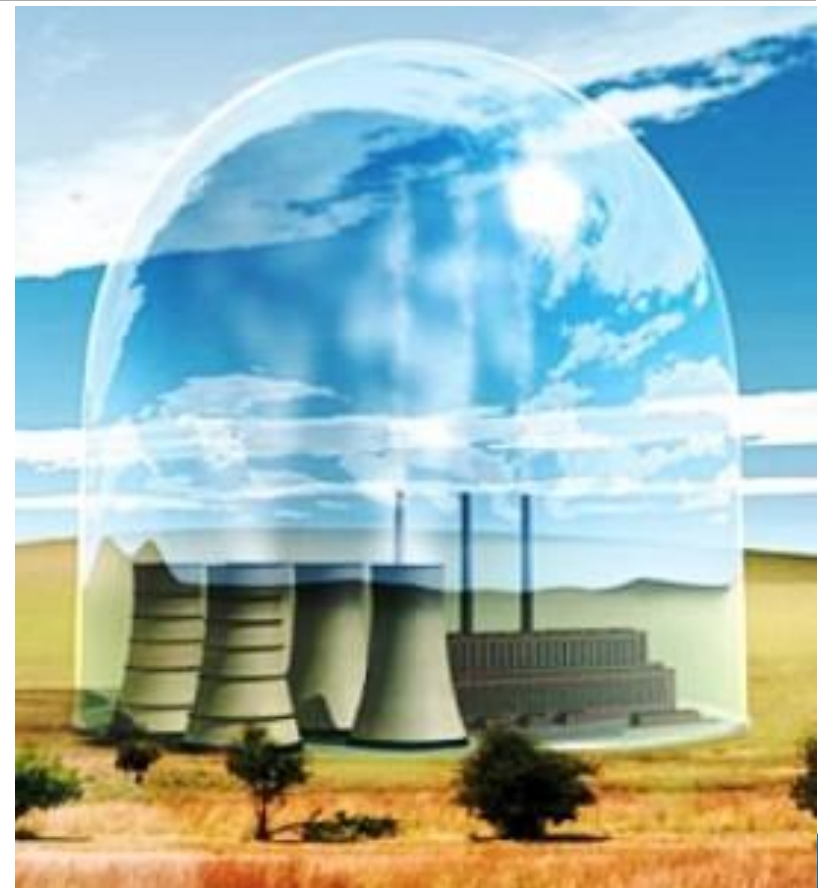
Prof. Raffaella Ocone

Prof. David Reay

PIN Meeting – Newcastle 2013

Overview

- ❑ Introduction
 - ❑ Is CCS competitive?
 - ❑ Costs & Energy penalties in IGCC
 - ❑ Areas for improvement
- ❑ Project description
 - ❑ IGCC power plant
 - ❑ Process Intensification Hypothesis
 - ❑ Project model
 - ❑ Previous evidence
 - ❑ Current work



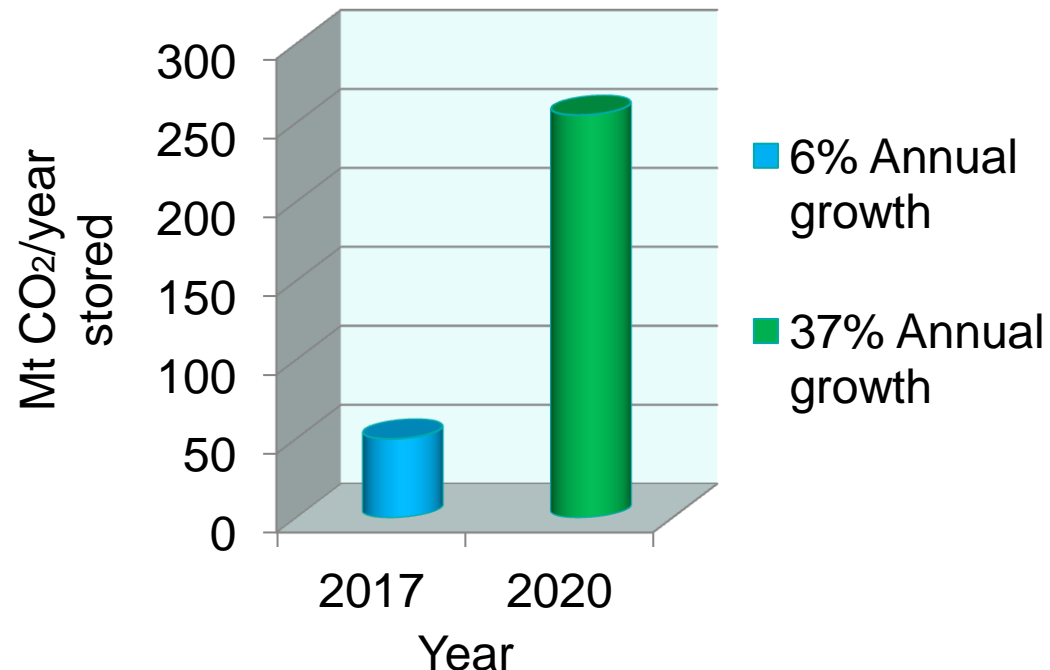
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Is CCS Competitive?

Abatement costs

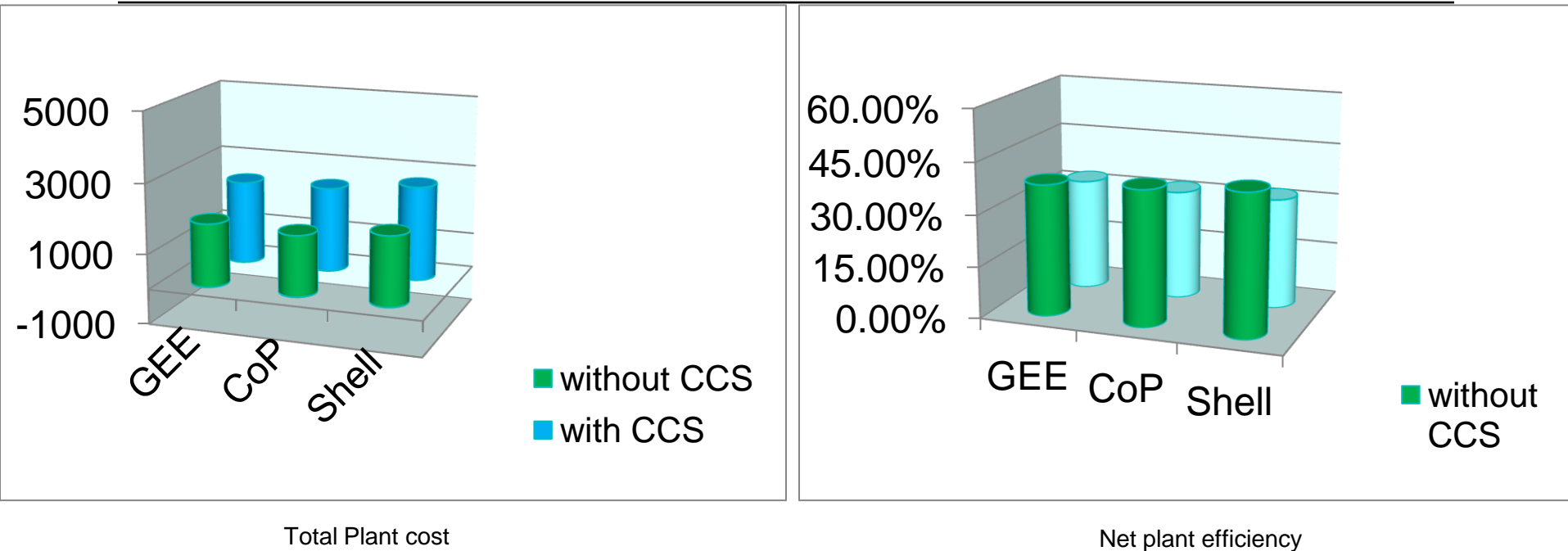
- ❑ Coal fired electricity with CCS:
 - ❑ \$54 - \$92/t CO₂
- ❑ Replace coal with:
 - ❑ solar plants: \$105 - \$239/t CO₂;
 - ❑ Wind farms: \$90 - \$176/t CO₂

Projected and hypothetical CO₂ stored



Data: SBC Energy Institute, 2013, published in CCJ Jan – Feb 2013

Costs & Energy penalties in IGCC Power Plants



IGCC without CCS: \$78/MWh (at 80% capacity factor)

IGCC with CCS : \$106/MWh

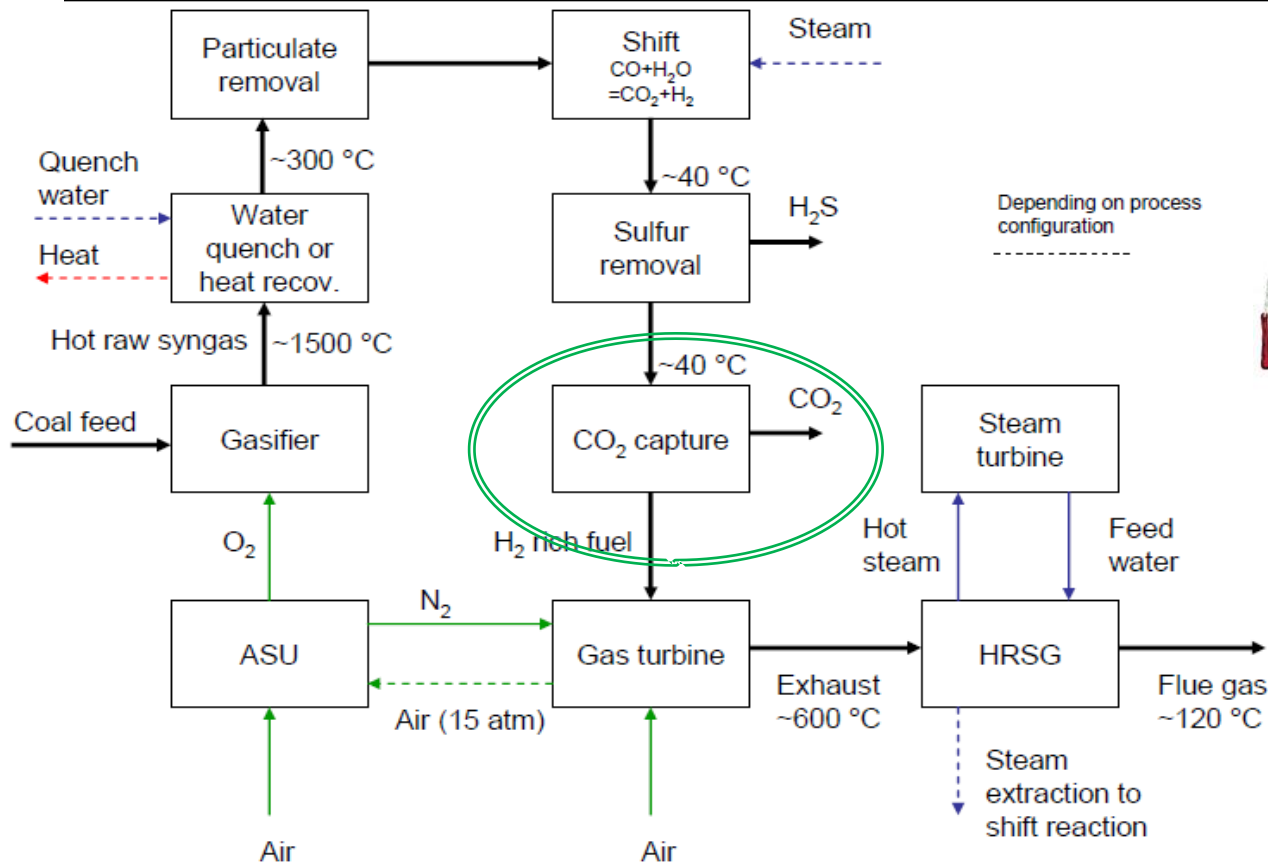
Areas for Improvement

- ❑ Innovative process concepts discovery;
- ❑ Design, synthesis and assembly of novel low-cost material architectures;

✓ Outcome:

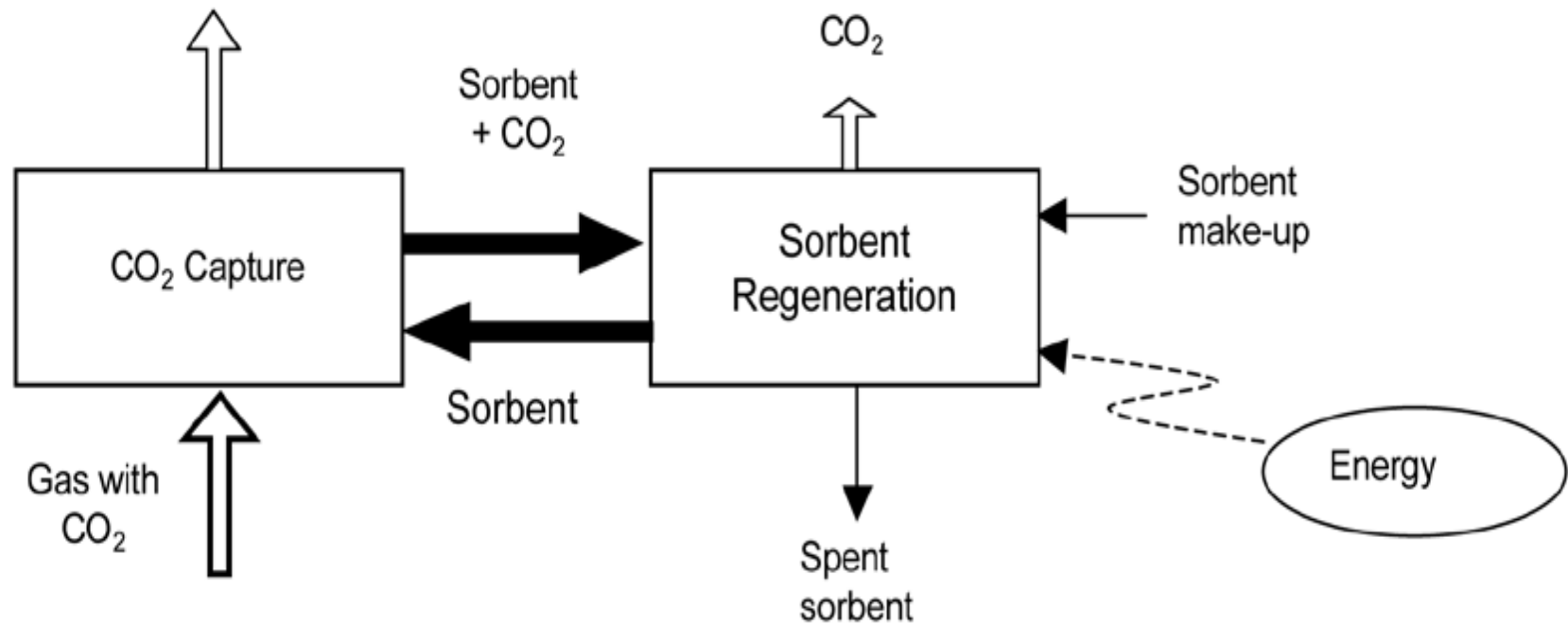
- Higher mass transfer rates;
- Improve overall kinetics;
- Lower costs;
- Improve CO₂ adsorption capacity;
- Lower energy penalty

IGCC Power plant



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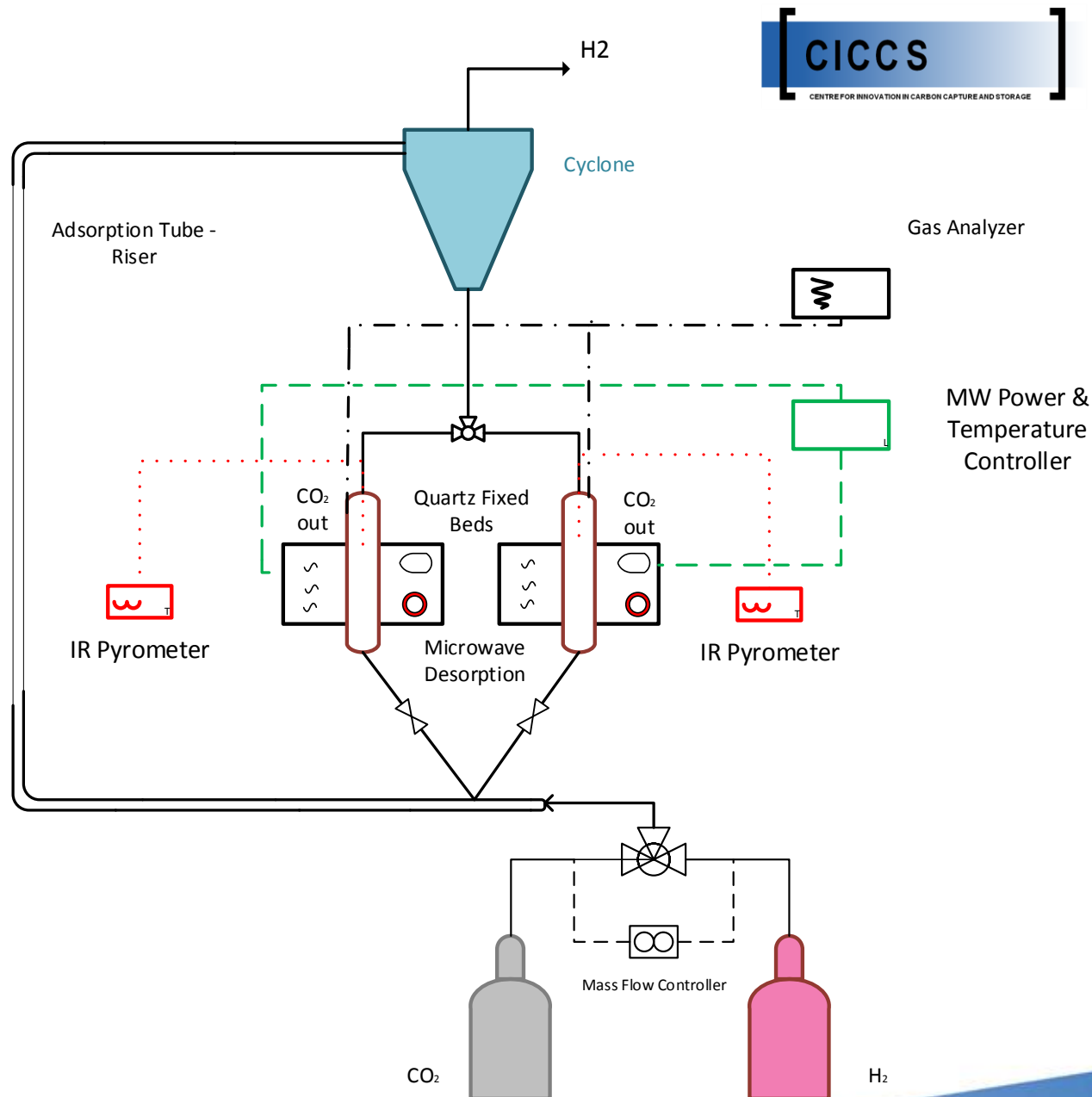
Adsorption/Desorption cycles



Source: 2005, *Carbon Dioxide Capture and Storage*

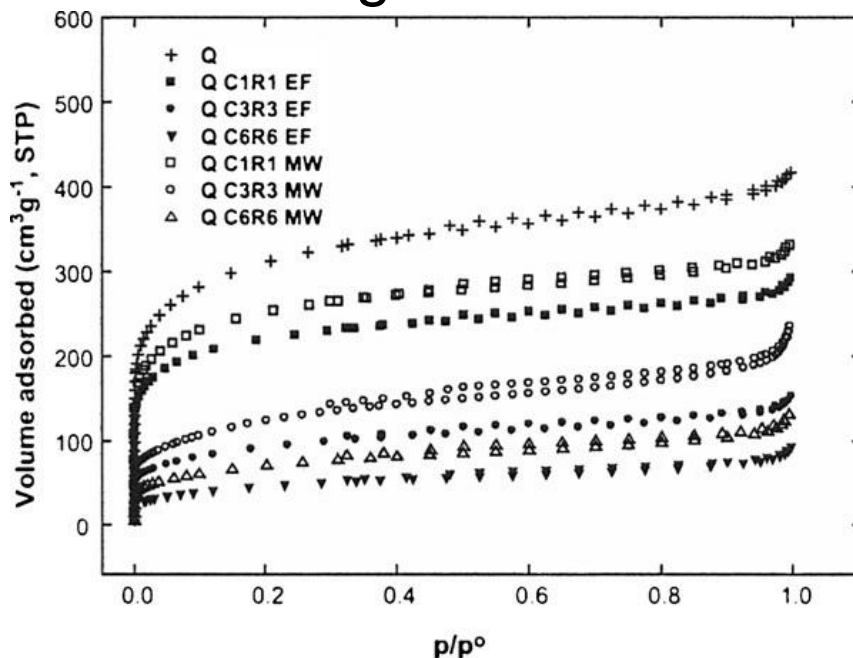
Process Intensification Hypothesis

- ❑ Replace fixed bed with a Circulating Fluidized Bed (CFB):
 - ❑ faster adsorption kinetics;
 - ❑ Increase the mass transfer rate;
 - ❑ Increase the surface area exposed to the gases for separation;
 - ❑ High gas-flow rates with a low pressure drop are possible;
- ❑ Use microwaves for regeneration:
 - ❑ Faster desorption ratio;
 - ❑ Lower energy consumption;
 - ❑ Sorbent preservation —→ More regeneration cycles



Previous Evidence for Microwave Regeneration

- Adsorption capacity after regeneration:



AC N₂ adsorption isotherms after 1,3 and 6 cycles.
Comparison between Electric furnace and MW

- Time parameter:
 - Experimental temperature (850° C):
 - 5-6 min with MW;
 - 13 min with EF;
 - Regeneration:
 - 4-5 min with MW;
 - 37 with EF

Source: Ania et.al, 2005, 'Effect of microwave and conventional regeneration on the microporous and mesoporous network and on the adsorptive capacity of activated carbons'

Current Work

- ❑ Development of low-cost CO₂ sorbents from waste materials:
 - ❑ Microporous AC with 50-500µm particle size;
 - ❑ Impregnation with amines;
 - ❑ Sorbent characterisation;
- ❑ Design of the CFB reactor;
- ❑ Design of the MW desorption system;

Acknowledgements

- ❑ Supervisors:
 - ❑ Prof. Mercedes Maroto-Valer
 - ❑ Prof. Raffaella Ocone
 - ❑ Prof. David Reay
- ❑ Research Associates:
 - ❑ Dr. Yolanda Fernandez Diez



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Thank you!!

Any Questions??



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