

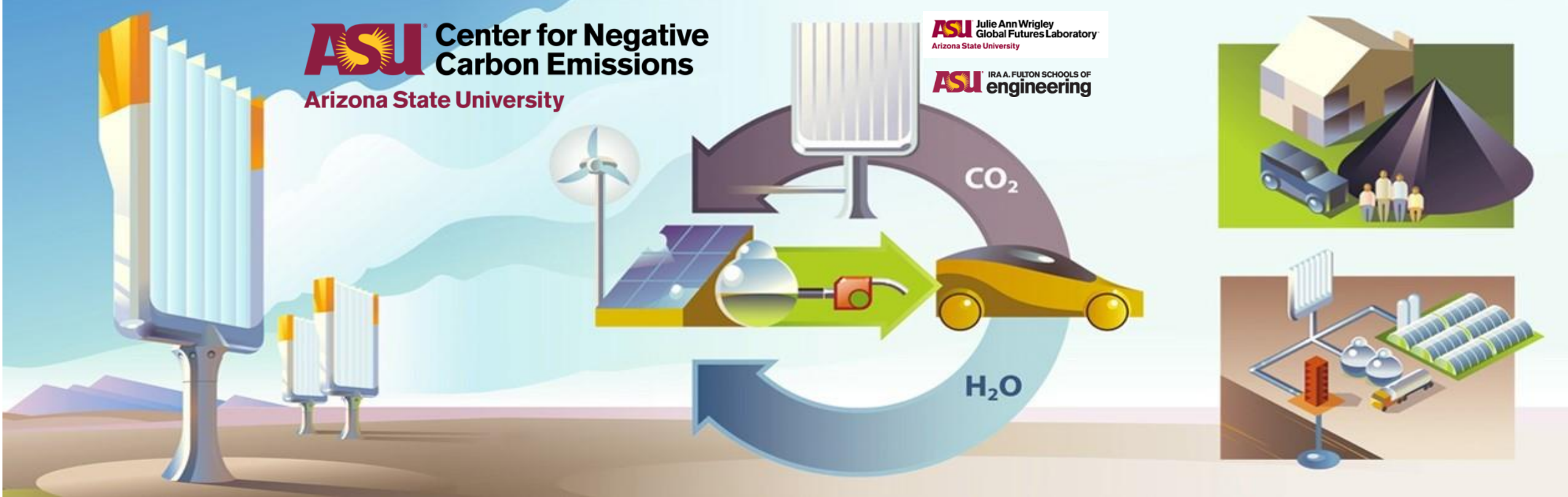
# Center for Negative Carbon Emissions

## **Matt Green**

Associate Professor, Chemical Engineering  
School for Engineering of Matter, Transport & Energy (SEMTE)  
Director, Center for Negative Carbon Emissions

[mdgreen8@asu.edu](mailto:mdgreen8@asu.edu)

WCPH 326



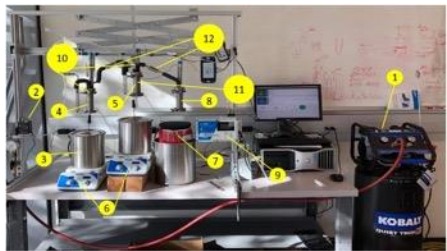
**Mission:**

- (1) Pioneer fundamental and applied research in Negative Emission Technologies
- (2) Grow transdisciplinary research programs that advance our understanding of sorbent design, systems integration and deployment, utilization and sequestration technologies, and political and socioeconomic landscapes
- (3) Invent and innovate at length scales spanning from the molecular level to the pilot plant
- (4) Develop the next generation workforce needed for the new carbon economy





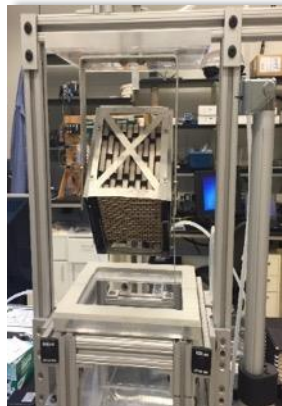
# Sorbent Synthesis and Characterization Process Modeling and CFD System Scale-up



milligram → gram  
characterization



Wind tunnel  
Passive DAC emulation



Automated continuous  
outdoor testing



Sapling Regenerator  
kilogram scale



passive DAC  
MSA pilot plant  
now at London Science Museum



Full Scale  
Demonstration Facility



# CNCE Technology Deployment

**ASU** Arizona State University  
DAC Pilot at ASU  
Low Energy Capture

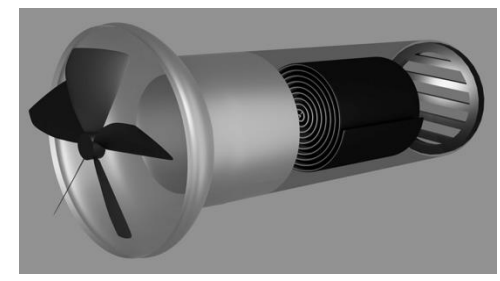
**NREL** NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY  
Carbon-Free H<sub>2</sub> Pilot at NREL  
Novel H<sub>2</sub> Designs

**AIR COMPANY**  
CO<sub>2</sub> to MeOH Pilot at Air Company  
Transformational Catalysts

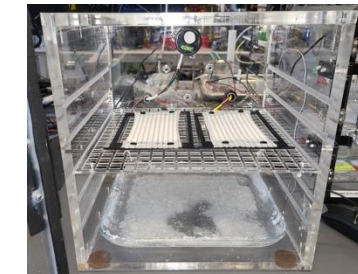
**Southwest Region Direct Air Capture Hub**

**MechanicalTree™**

**Carbon Collect**



**NuAria, TRL 6, 2 kg/d**

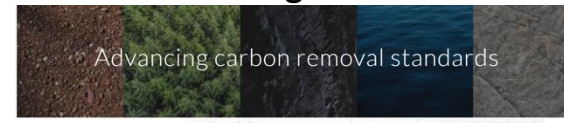


**DACBox**



**CarbonCapture™**

**Standardizing CDR Credits**



## DOE-funded DAC Testbed

**INPUTS**

Worldclass facilities to test bench and pilot scale CDR technologies.

**Worldclass facilities to test bench and pilot scale CDR technologies.**

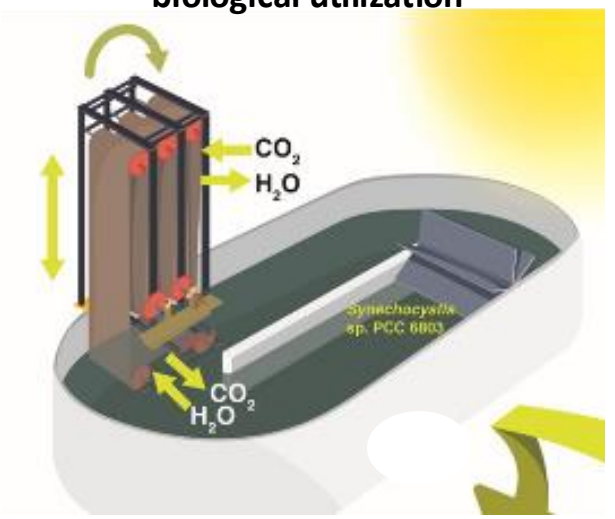
**ACTIVITIES**

Transparent, standardized processes for bench and pilot scale CDR testing, analyzing community, environmental and economic impacts, and carbon durability (MRV).

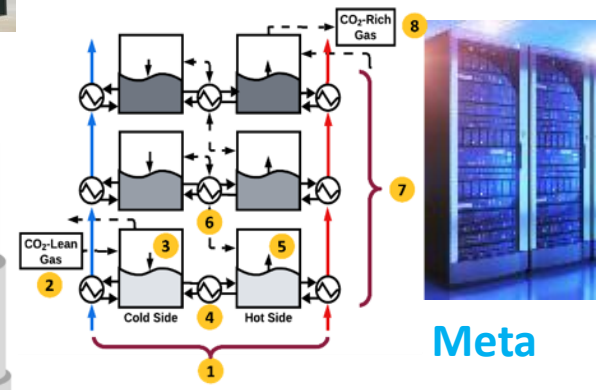
**OUTCOMES**

Pathways to commercialization & scale up that benefit communities, environment and economy; publicly available data that compares tradeoffs between CDR pathways.

## AUDACity, Integrated biological utilization



## DAC in Data centers



**New Passive DAC IP: "Telescope"**

**DACLab**



**New partners for DAC Hub**

**28Cearth**

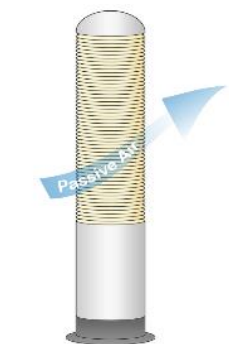
**Carbon Utility**

**Clairity TECH**

# Mobile Air to Methanol (Air2Fuel)



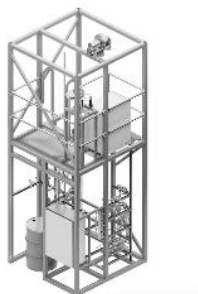
The Air2Fuel system integrates three technologies:



DAC Pilot at ASU  
Low Energy Capture  
Arizona State University



Carbon-Free H<sub>2</sub> Pilot at NREL  
Novel H<sub>2</sub> Designs  
NREL  
NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY

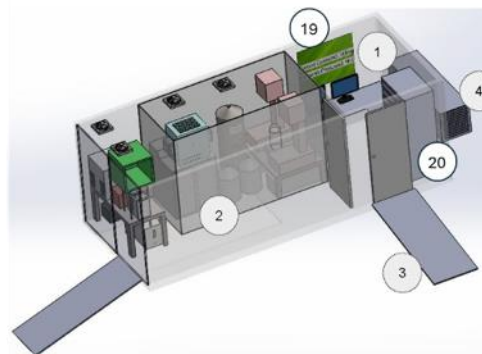


CO<sub>2</sub> to MeOH Pilot at  
Air Company  
Transformational Catalysts  
AIR COMPANY

## Phase I Project Summary (12/23-12/24)

Conceptual designs for a 770k tonne methanol (MeOH) per year facility & 1 L MeOH per day mobile system

Workshop with +30 stakeholders evaluated community risks and benefits of producing chemicals/fuels and energy storage with Air2Fuel



Phase II Proposal Submitted

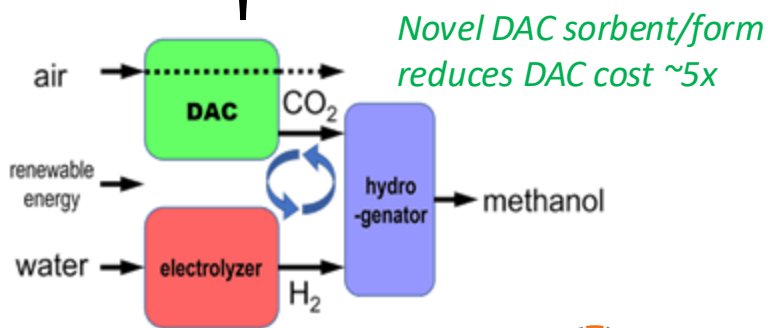


Methanol car & generator demo



H<sub>2</sub> production provides heat needed for DAC, but requires \$0.02/kWh electricity to be economical

Water can be sourced from Air and 85% recycled



And community benefits planning experts:



1. Jeremy Babendure (SciTech & ASU): Workforce
2. Lauren Keeler, Joni Adamson: Environmental Justice and Community Engagement
3. Jennifer Chandler: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



# Low cost, benign, scalable sorbent and system for direct air capture of CO<sub>2</sub>



Work now being commercialized by NuAria



AC felt sheet

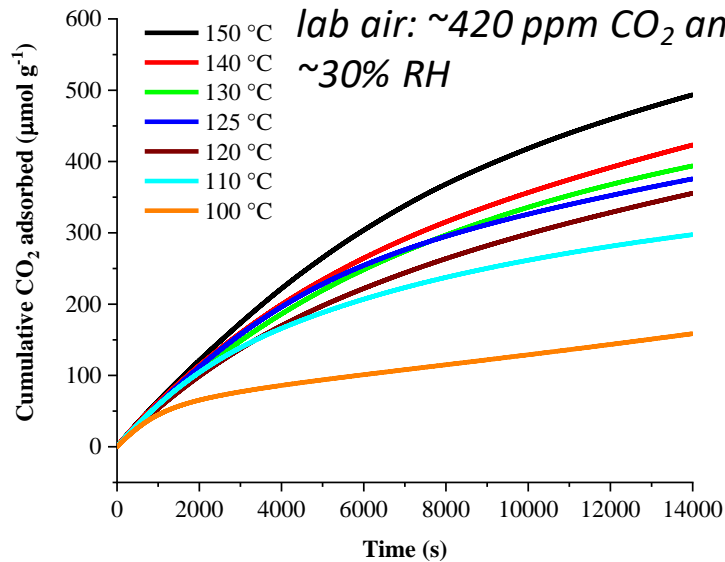


Saturated K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution

Soak under vacuum

## Sorbent preparation

CO<sub>2</sub> captured from ambient lab air: ~420 ppm CO<sub>2</sub> and ~30% RH



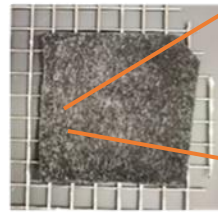
CO<sub>2</sub> desorption increases with temperature; so do energy costs

Sorbent performance

Wet AC felt



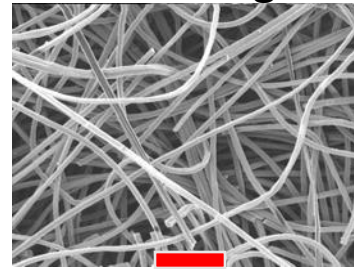
drying



Dry AC felt

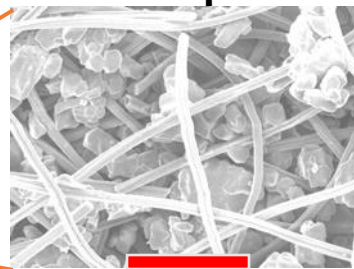
## SEM images

Before loading

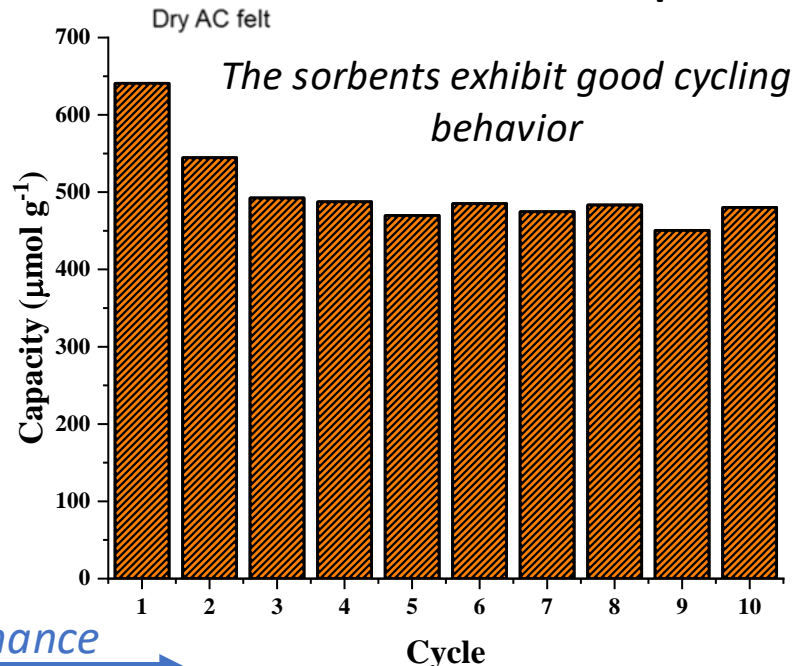


100 μm

After loading

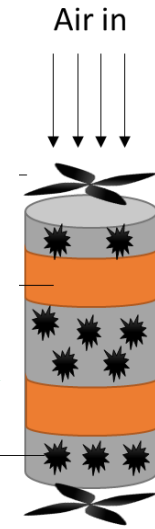


100 μm



Next phase: prototyping, optimization, and sorbent life cycle enhancements

AC Felt



\*\*Sorbent engineering and process optimization could further improve this number

## Key challenges:

- Current sorbents face significant life cycle issues (petroleum-derived materials, landfilled at end-of-life, etc.)
  - Long term stability and estimated end-of-life unknown for polymeric sorbents
- Biomass-derived sorbents could be a drop-in replacement for the sorbents we are studying

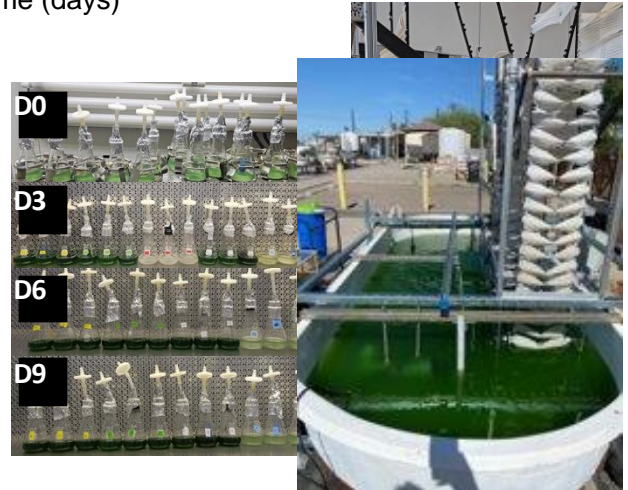
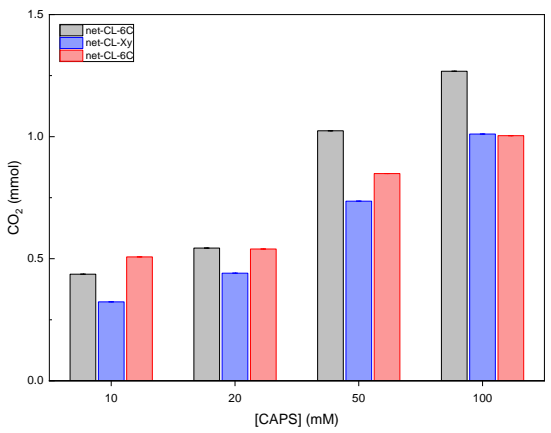
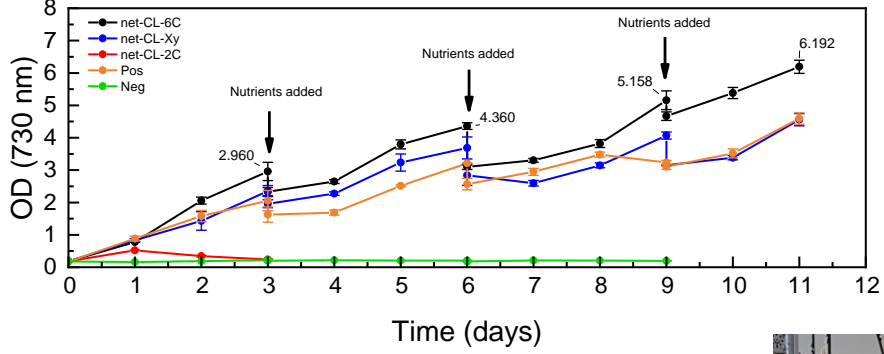
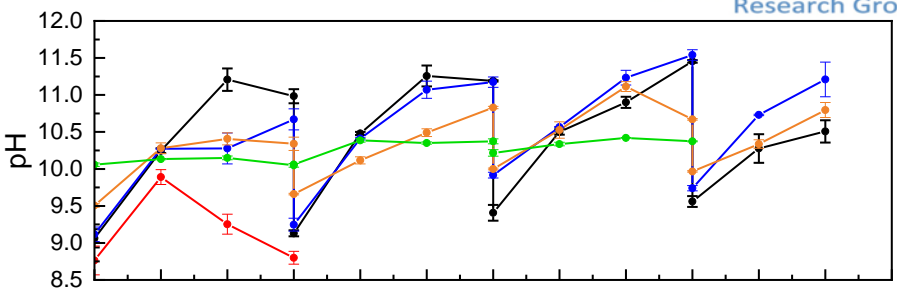
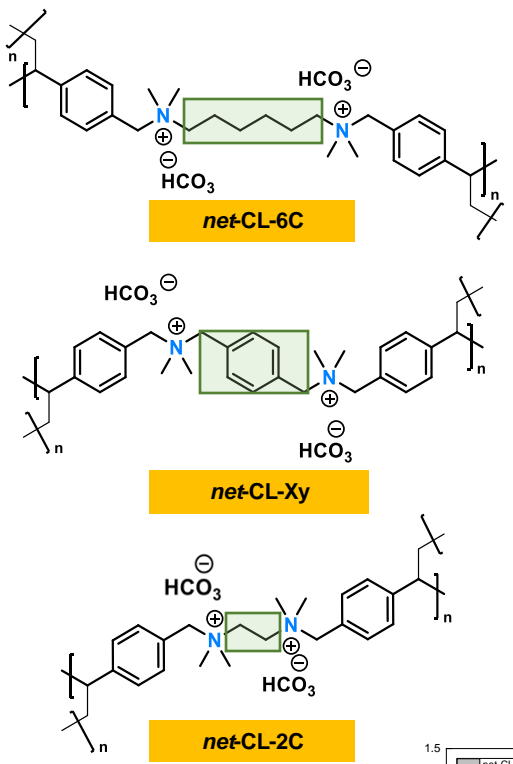
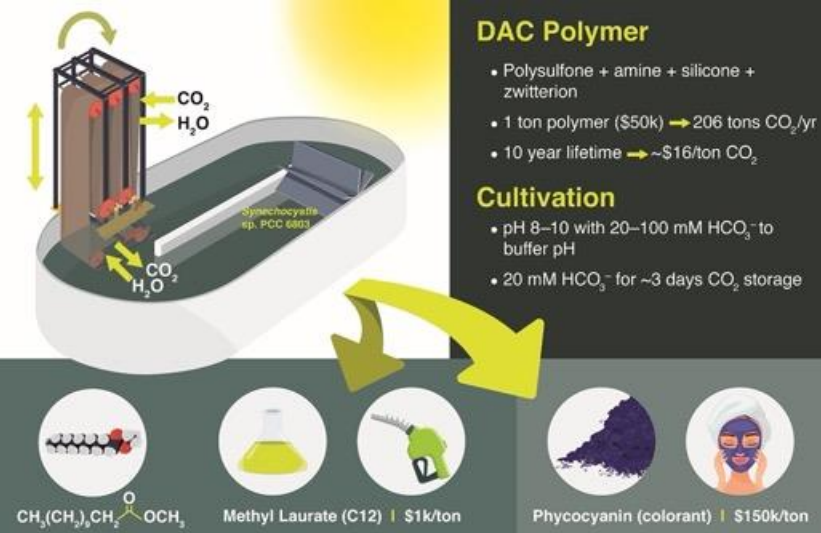
Patent Apps PCT/US2022/015647 and 63/550,426

# Polymers for CO<sub>2</sub> capture and cyanobacteria productivity



## Questions?

Can we capture CO<sub>2</sub> from air and release in cyanobacterial culture?  
 Can we prepare a polymer with Q.A. groups without bactericidal effect?



	IEC <sub>theo</sub> [mmol g <sup>-1</sup> ]	IEC <sub>exp</sub> [mmol g <sup>-1</sup> ]	CO <sub>2</sub> release <sub>exp</sub> [mmol g <sup>-1</sup> ] D0	CO <sub>2</sub> release <sub>exp</sub> [mmol g <sup>-1</sup> ] D12	Remaining capacity (%)
net-CL-6C	4.0	3.1	2.3	1.5	65
net-CL-Xy	4.2	3.6	2.7	0.7	27



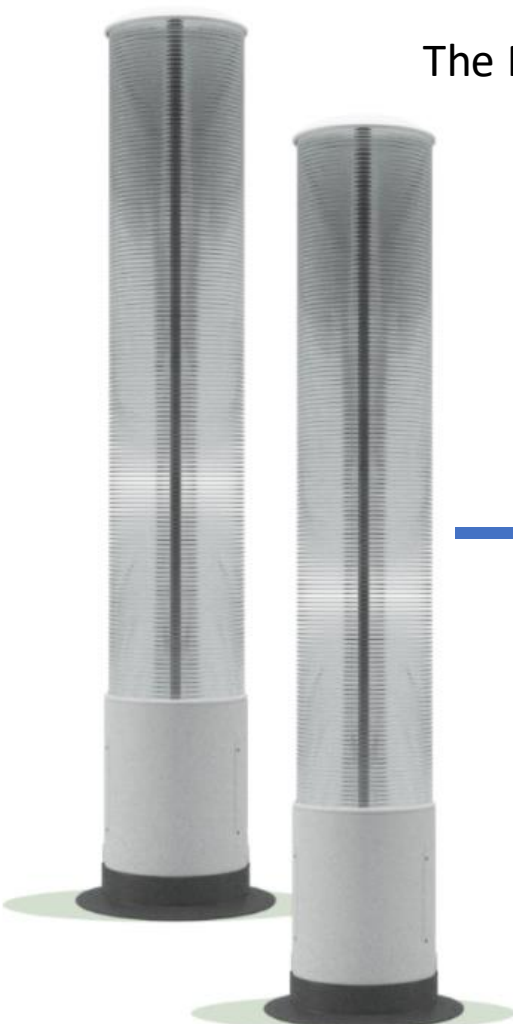
Velazco Medel, *In preparation*





# Scaling up to make a difference in the global CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations

The Mechanical Tree™



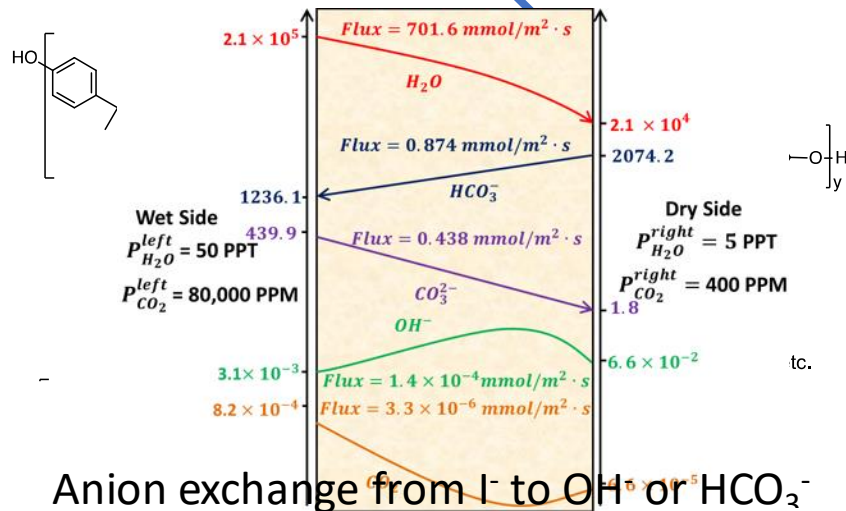
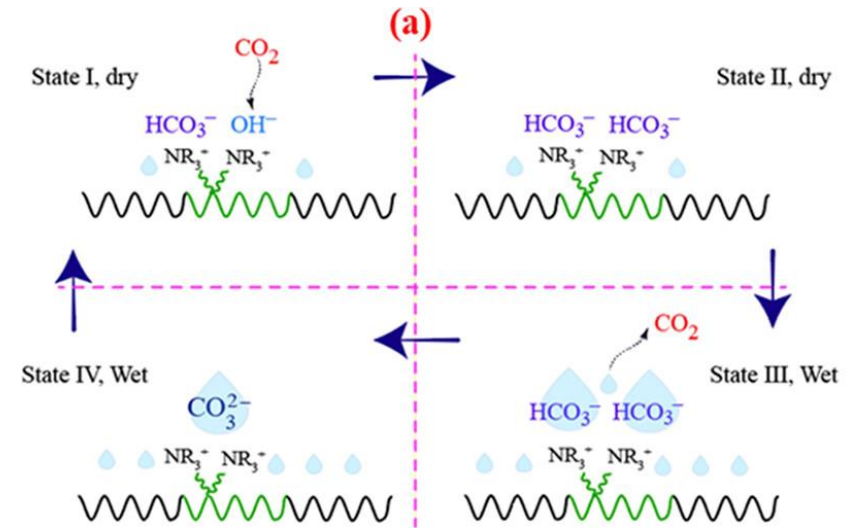
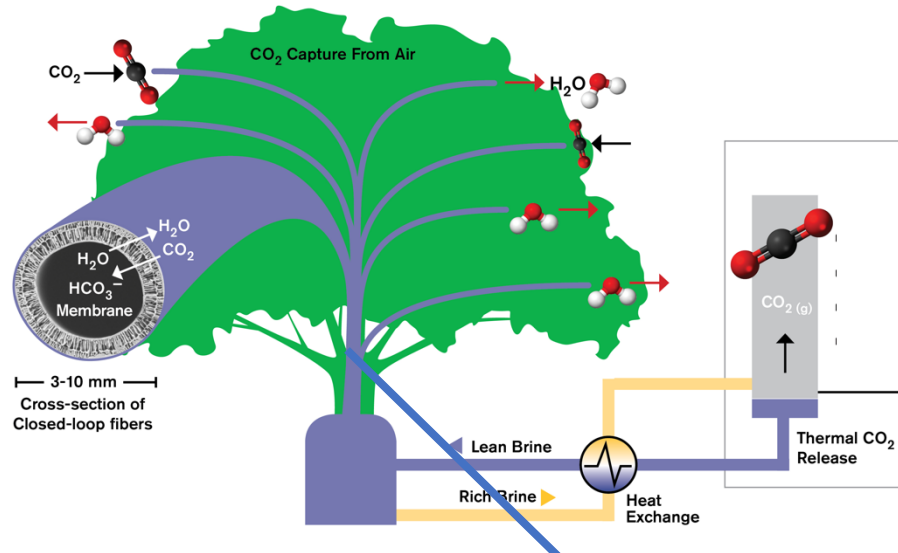
~100 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/day/tree

Dr. Gokhan Demirci

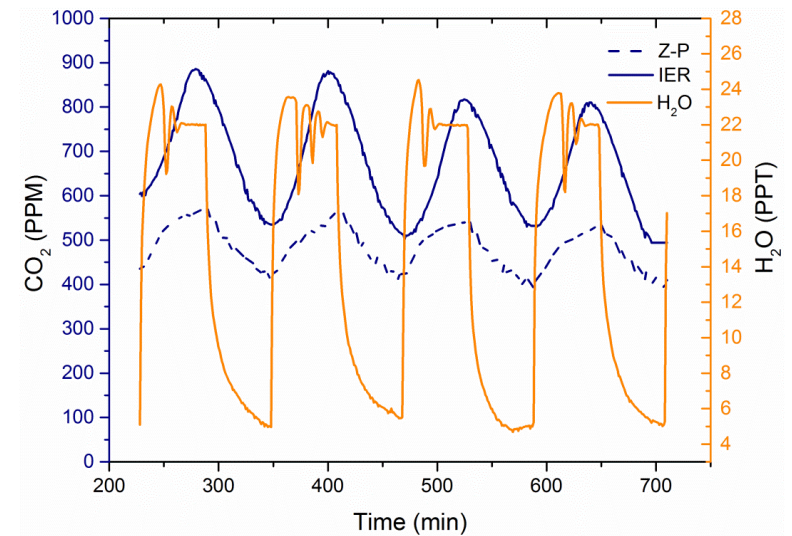
the center for negative carbon emissions



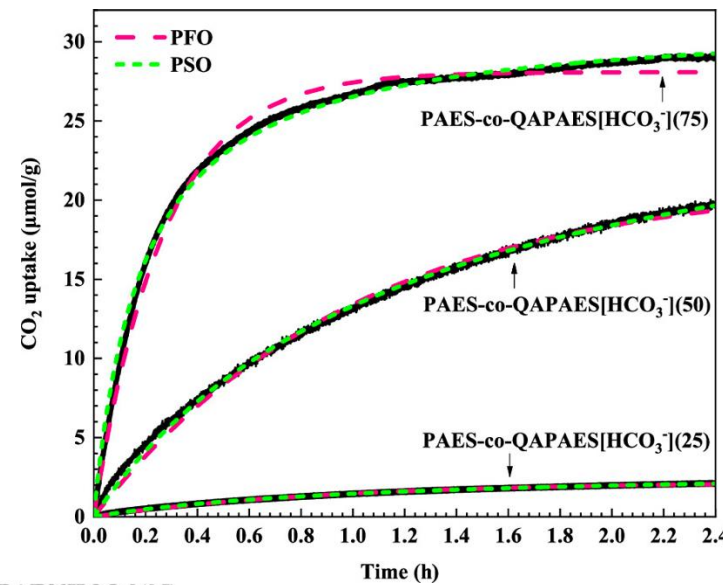
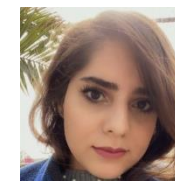
# Continuous moisture-driven CO<sub>2</sub> capture



Anion exchange from I<sup>-</sup> to OH<sup>-</sup> or HCO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> by precipitation and/or dialysis



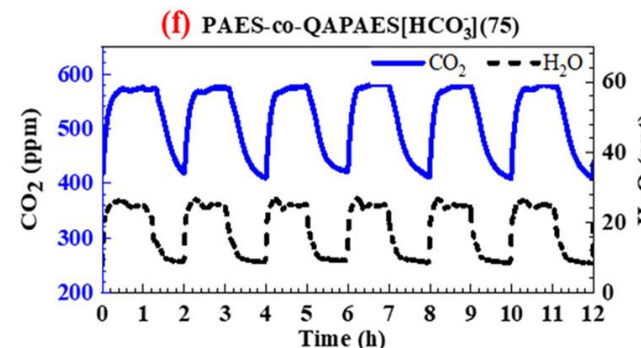
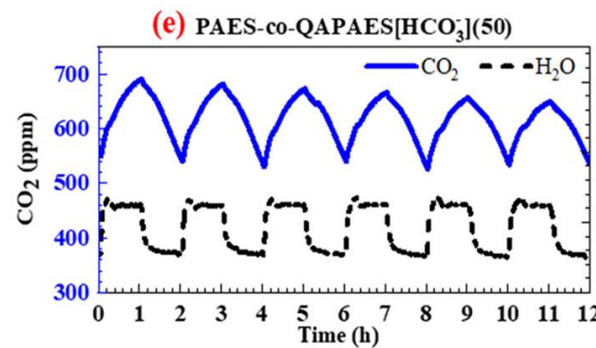
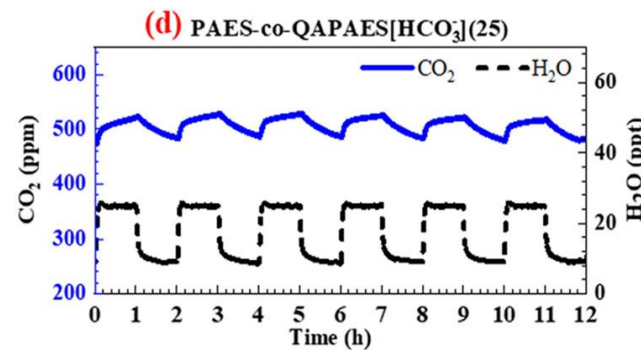
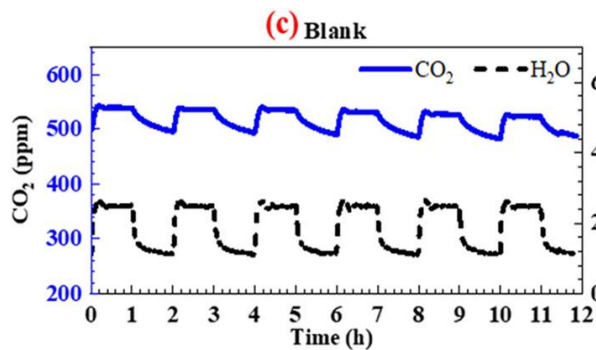
# QPAES copolymer analysis



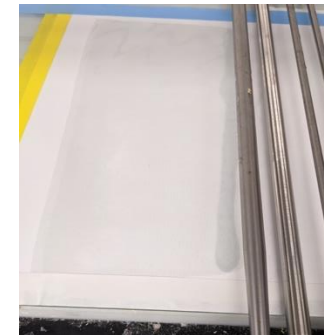
<3% of active sites utilized

41% of sites utilized in moisture swing

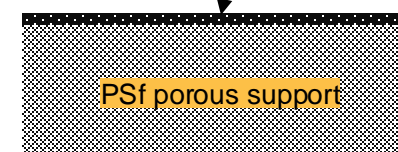
	$M_n$ (kDa)	$M_w$ (kDa)	$\bar{D}$
16 KDa Udel® PSU	23.7	42.7	1.80
22 KDa Udel® PSU	49.3	79.8	1.60
(PAES)(75)-co-(APAES)(25)	21.7	43.1	1.99
(PAES)(50)-co-(APAES)(50)	73.5	146.2	1.99
(PAES)(25)-co-(APAES)(75)	83.1	246.6	2.98



Drawn down machine



Thin active layer



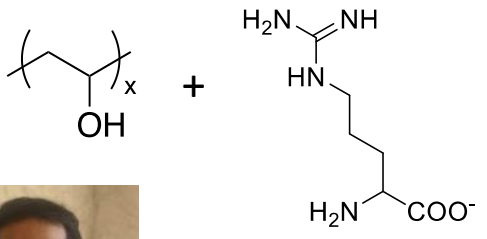
~3.5 m<sup>2</sup> membrane (~1 ft x 38 ft)

Continuing this effort w/  
Prof. Tom Miller (UCL)

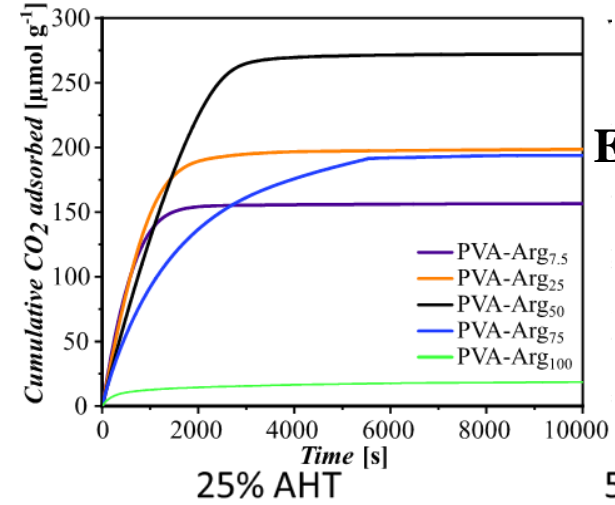




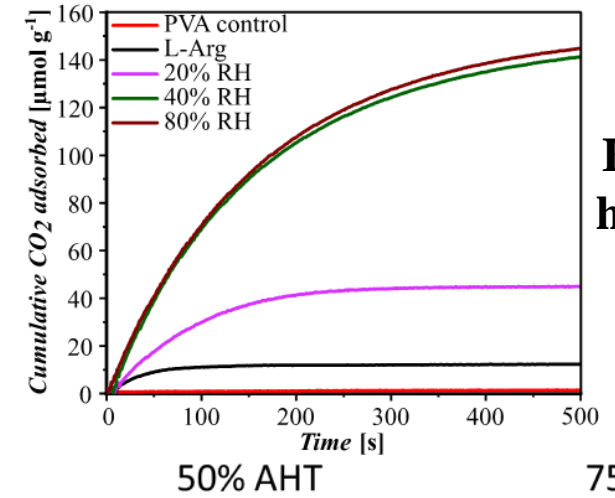
# PVA-arginine nanofiber composites



High voltage DC power supply



Effect of Arg conc.



Effect of humidity

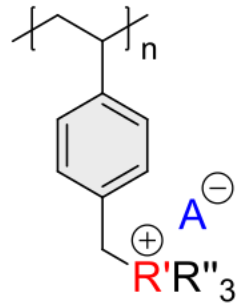
PVA control      25% BHT      25% AHT      50% BHT      50% AHT      75% AHT

Syringe pump      Needle      Jet      Collector      Heat      Taylor cone

PVA, L-Arg, H<sub>2</sub>O      As spun      Physically combined

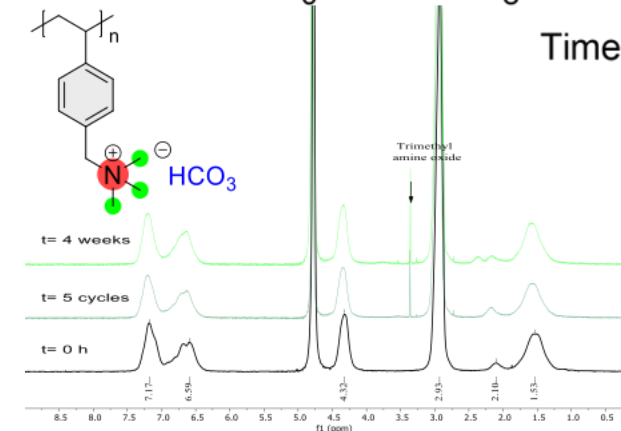
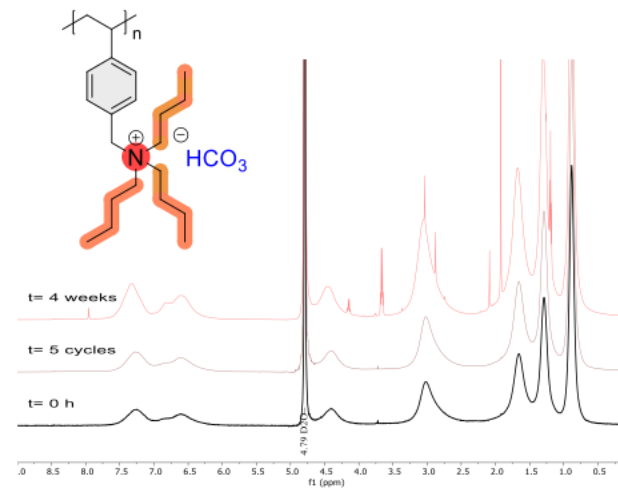
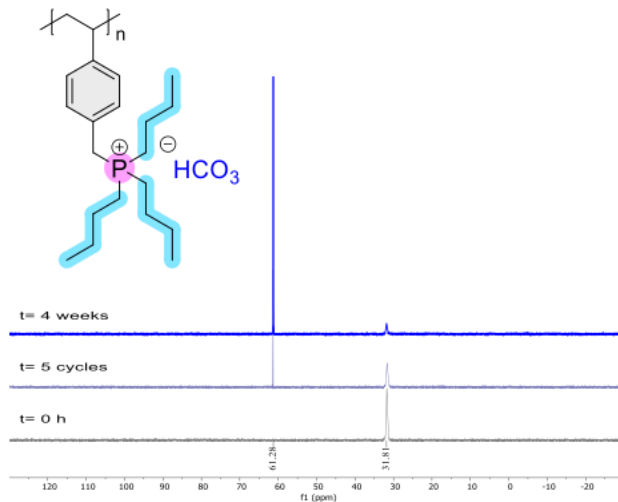
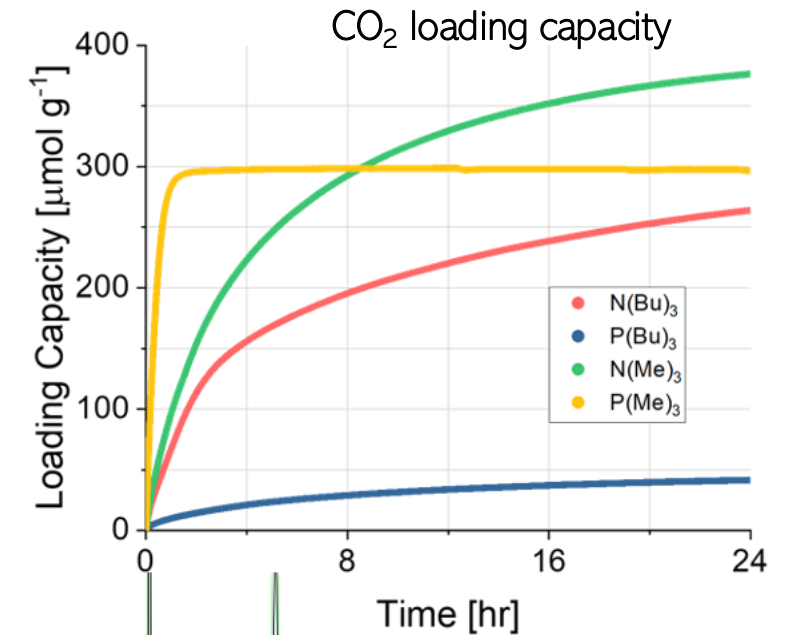
500nm      500nm      500nm      500nm      1μm      500nm

# Exploring phosphonium-containing polymers for CO<sub>2</sub> capture via moisture-swing



R' = P, N  
R'' = Me, Bu  
A = HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>

Polymer	<sup>1</sup> IEC <sub>theo</sub> [mmol g <sup>-1</sup> ]	<sup>2</sup> IEC <sub>exp</sub> [mmol g <sup>-1</sup> ]
[PVBTMeA] <sup>+</sup> [HCO <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>-</sup>	4.2	3.5 ± 0.30
[PVBTBuA] <sup>+</sup> [HCO <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>-</sup>	2.7	2.2 ± 0.23
[PVBTMeP] <sup>+</sup> [HCO <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>-</sup>	3.9	3.9 ± 0.3
[PVBTBuP] <sup>+</sup> [HCO <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>-</sup>	2.6	2.3 ± 0.15



Velazco-Medel *in preparation*



# Summary

- The CNCE is a thought leader in DAC materials, systems, and integration globally
- The expertise of CNCE students, staff, and faculty extends from atomic to pilot scales
- Graduates from the CNCE are equipped to tackle global challenges in sustainability through use-inspired, transdisciplinary training programs and projects
- We are an incubator for IP and early stage ventures
- We want to collaborate!