DEPARTMENT OF MATERIALS, TEXTILES AND CHEMICAL ENGINEERING (MaTCh)
LABORATORY FOR CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY (LCT)

PSYCHE Project

Prof. Dr. Ir. Kevin Van Geem, 13/05/2020

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Université catholique de Louvain

Chimie Lille
ÉCOLE NATIONALE SUPÉRIEURE DE CHIMIE

Interreg
France-Wallonie-Vlaanderen
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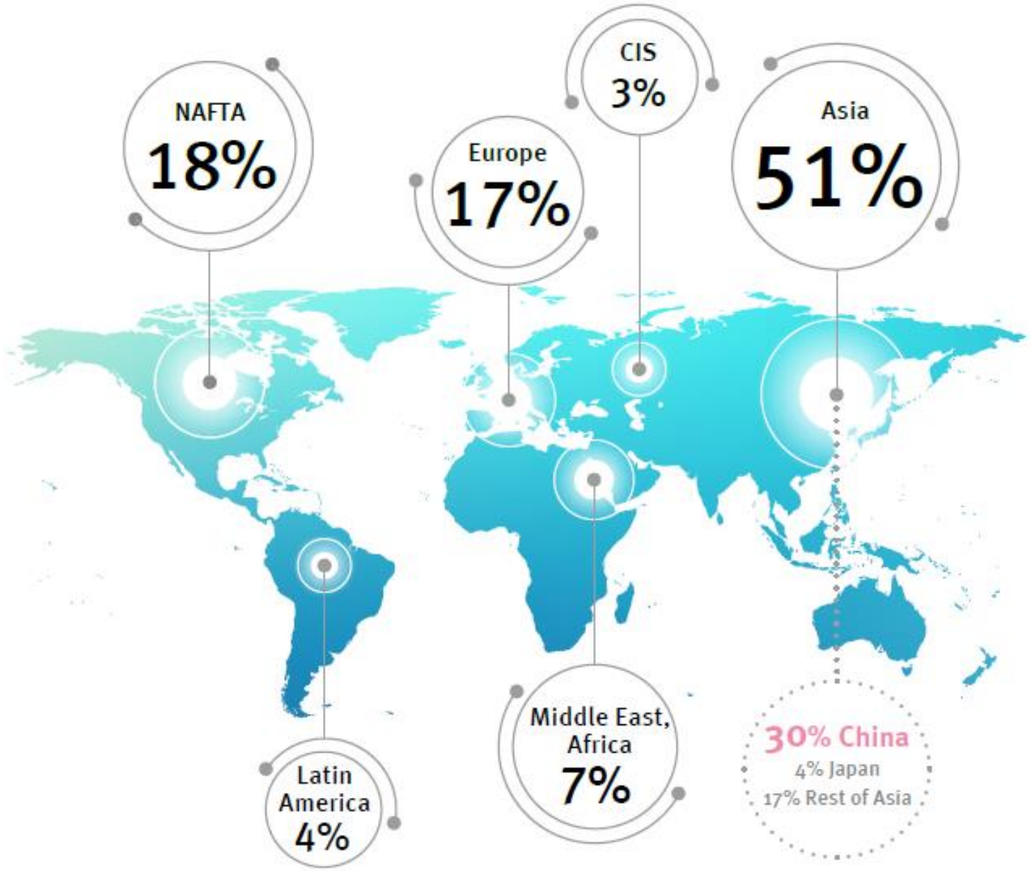
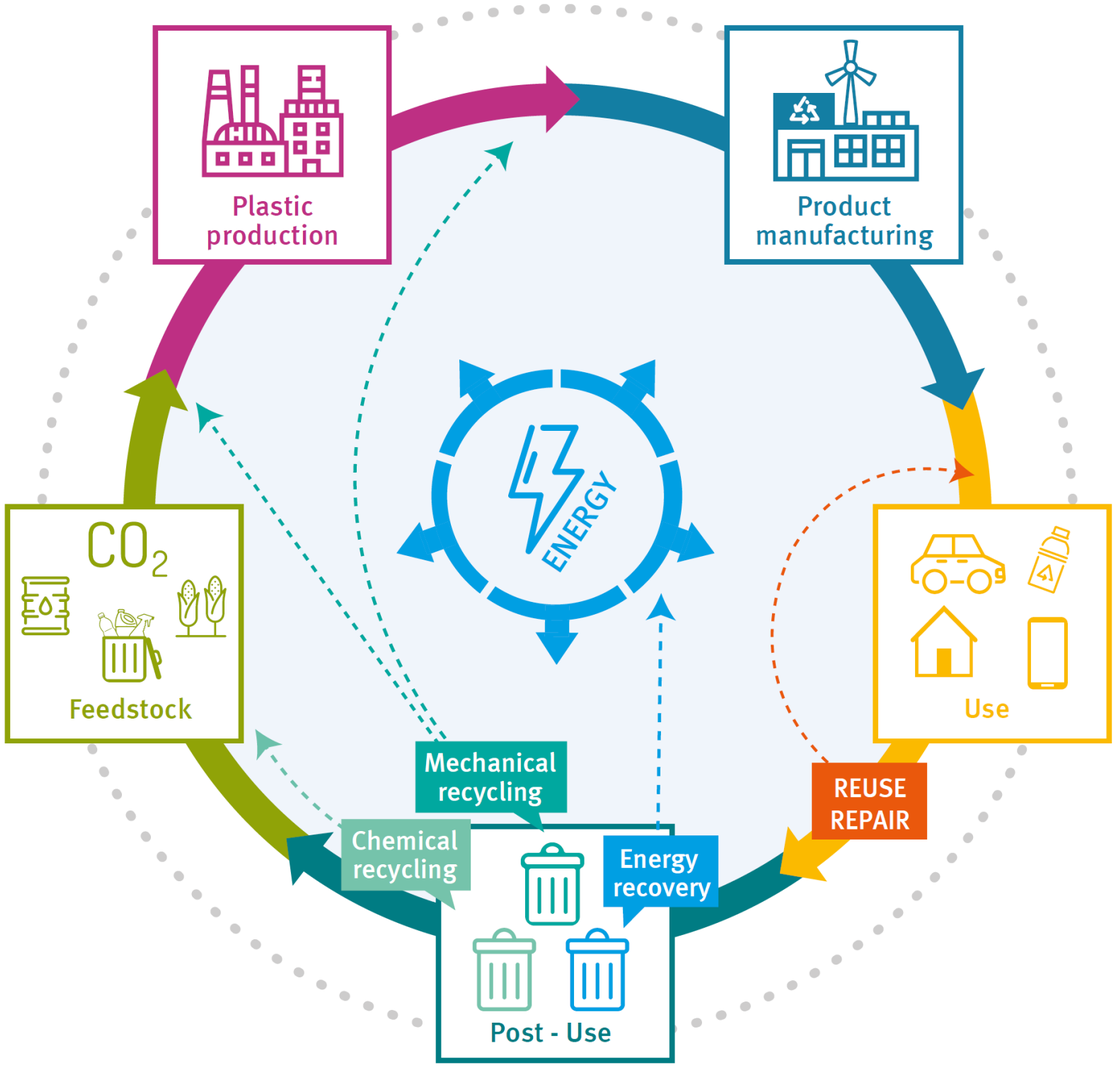
Plastics production

- World Plastics Production (MT) in 2017➔2018: 348➔359
- EU Plastics Production (MT) in 2017➔2018: 64.4➔61.8



PlasticsEurope, 2019. Plastics – the Facts 2019: An analysis of European plastics production, demand and waste data, PlasticsEurope Brussels, Belgium.

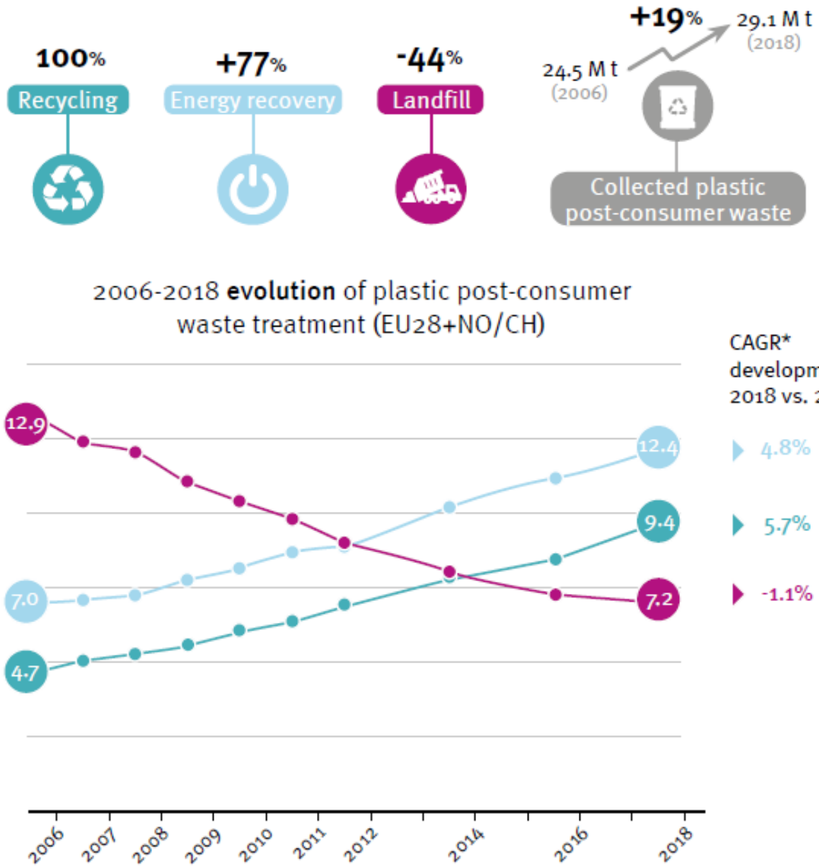
Circular Economy



PlasticsEurope, 2018. Plastics – the Facts 2018: An analysis of European plastics production, demand and waste data, PlasticsEurope Brussels, Belgium.

Increased plastic waste recycling

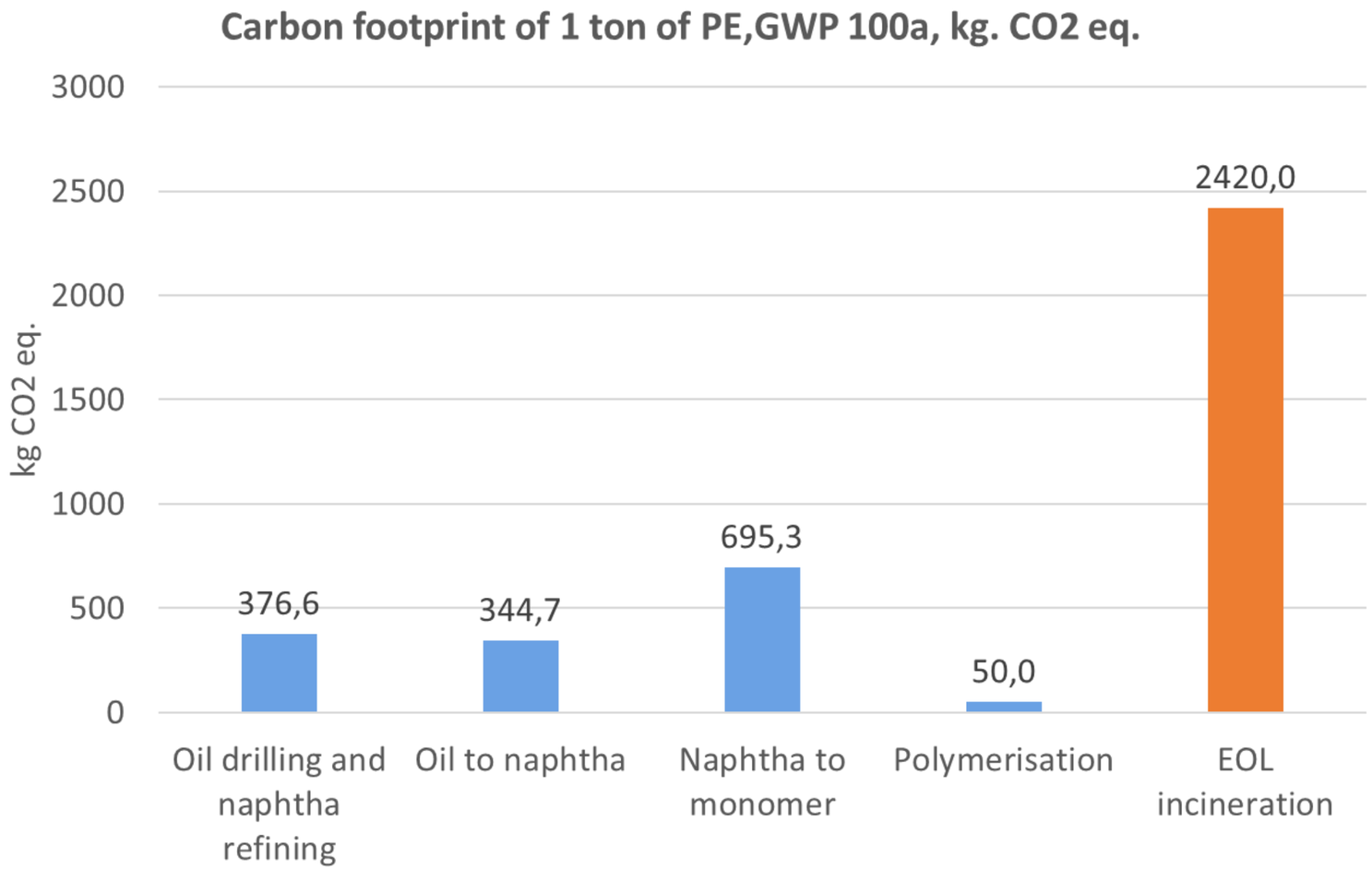
- EU plastic waste treatment from 2006 to 2016
- In 2016, landfill became lower than recycling



- **Recycling: 32.4%**
- **Energy recovery: 42.7%**
- **Landfill: 24.8%**

PlasticsEurope, 2019. Plastics – the Facts 2019: An analysis of European plastics production, demand and waste data, PlasticsEurope Brussels, Belgium.

Polyethylene LCA: end of life emissions



- GWP 100a – global warming potential of emissions calculated over a time horizon of 100 years
- Significant fraction of emissions occur at ethylene plant itself.
- Most of the emissions come from combustion if we go for energy recovery

PSYCHE Project

– Conversion of plastic waste to base chemicals via gasification and subsequent Fischer-Tropsch synthesis

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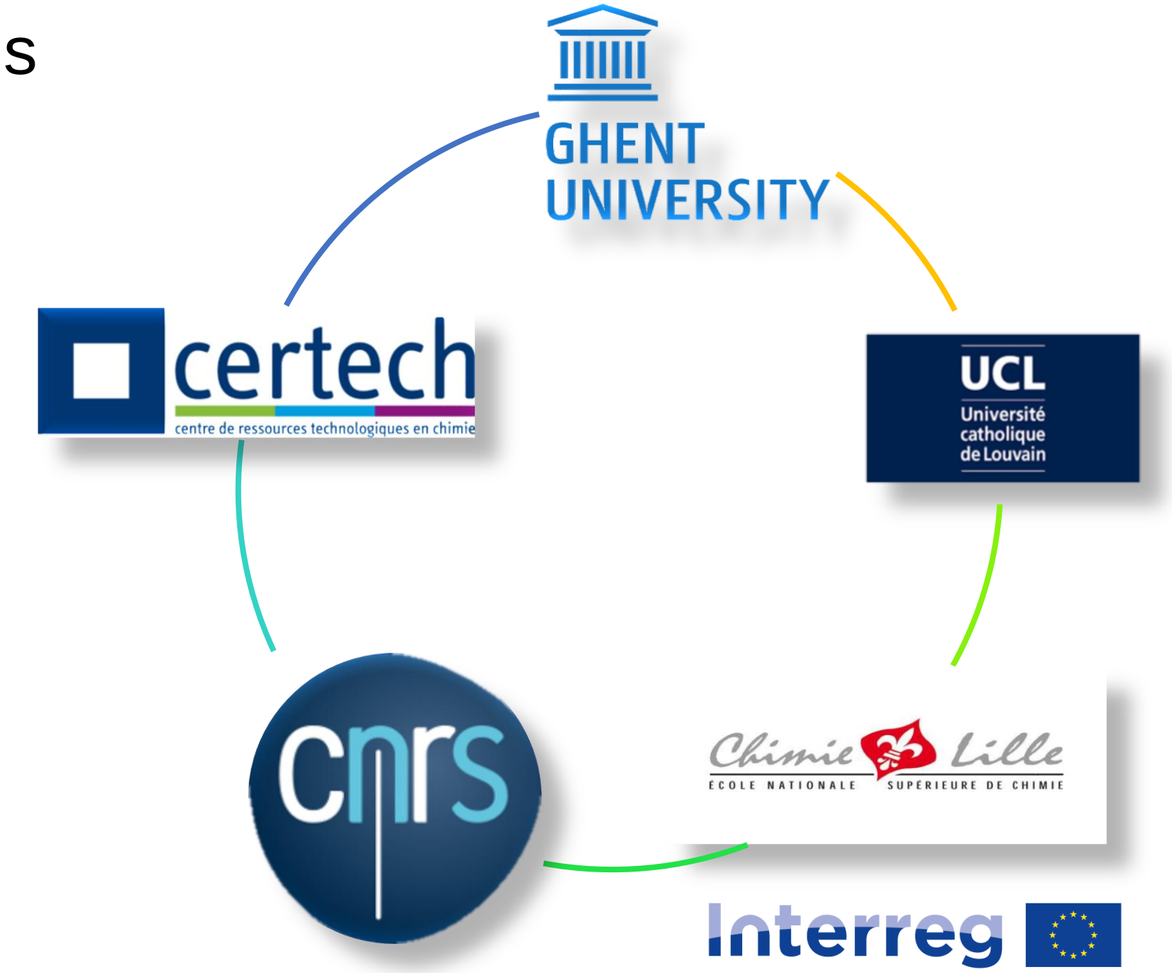
€ 2.6 Million



Work Packages

WP1 Project management

WP2 Communication

Experimental

WP3 Pretreatment and gasification of plastic waste

WP4 Syngas purification and Fischer Tropsch production of olefins

WP5 Education

PSYCHE Objective

Plastic waste

Base Chemicals

Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis

Plastic Gasification

Syngas Purification

Purified Syngas

Plastic Waste Pre-treatment

Plastic

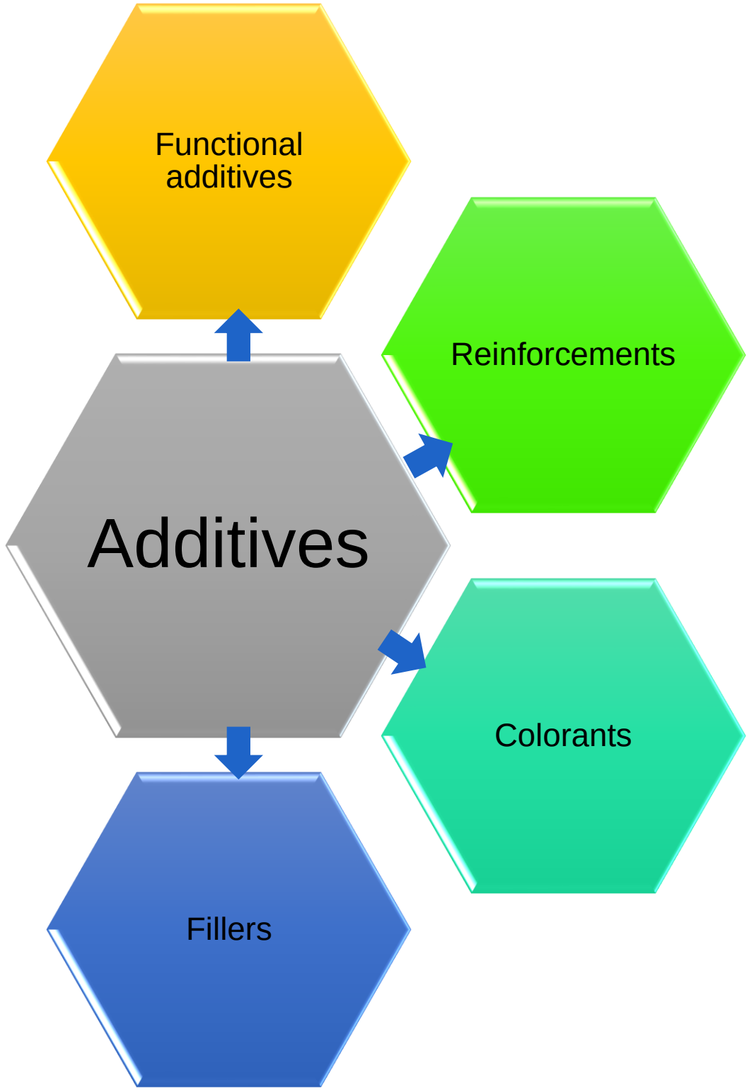
ngas purification + scher Tropsch synthesis

Synthesis of usefull base chemicals (olefins) for the chemical industry

Pre-treatment

Challenge in plastic processing: Additives

Additives improve physicochemical properties of plastics

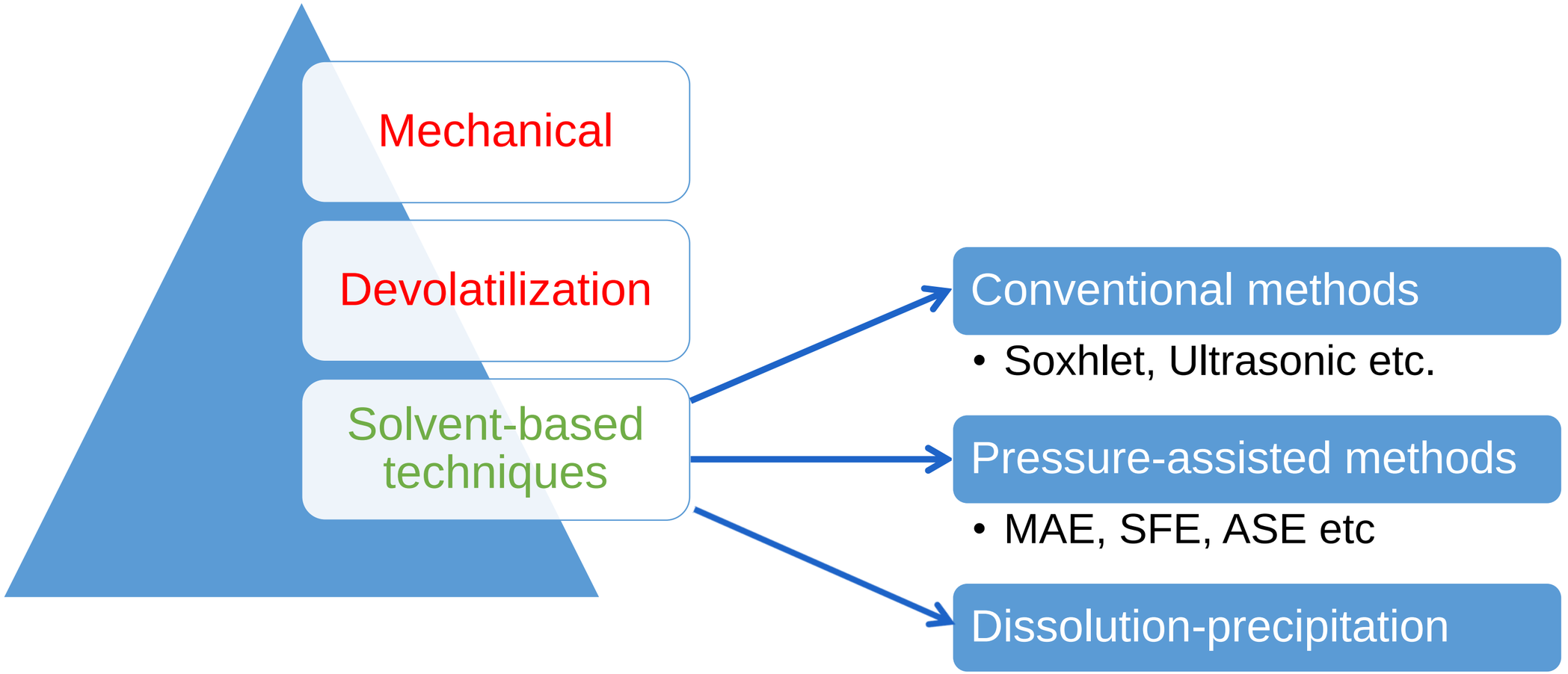


HOWEVER

During processing they cause:

- Migration
- Emissions
- Leaching
- Degradation
- Release

Techniques for pre-treatment



✓ Start with a review of scientific literature based on extraction of various additives via solvent-based extraction techniques

Challenges and opportunities of solvent-based additive extraction methods for plastic recycling
By: Ugduler, Sibel; Van Geem, Kevin M.; Roosen, Martijn; et al.
WASTE MANAGEMENT Volume: 104 Pages: 148-182 Published: MAR 1 2020

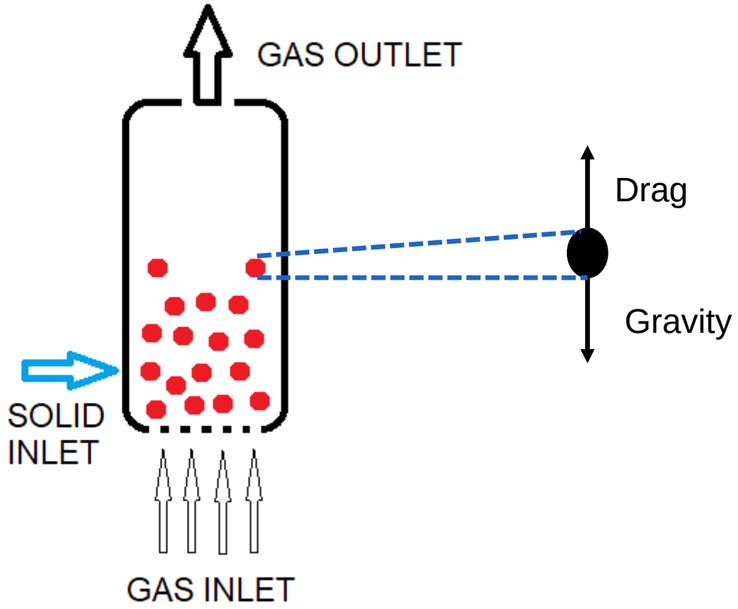
Objectives

- Physicochemical pre-treatment of plastic waste via various **extraction methods**
- Assessment of various extraction methods on the removal of different **type of additives** from plastic waste
- **Optimization** of pre-treatment conditions for a broad range of plastics

Gasification in vortex reactor

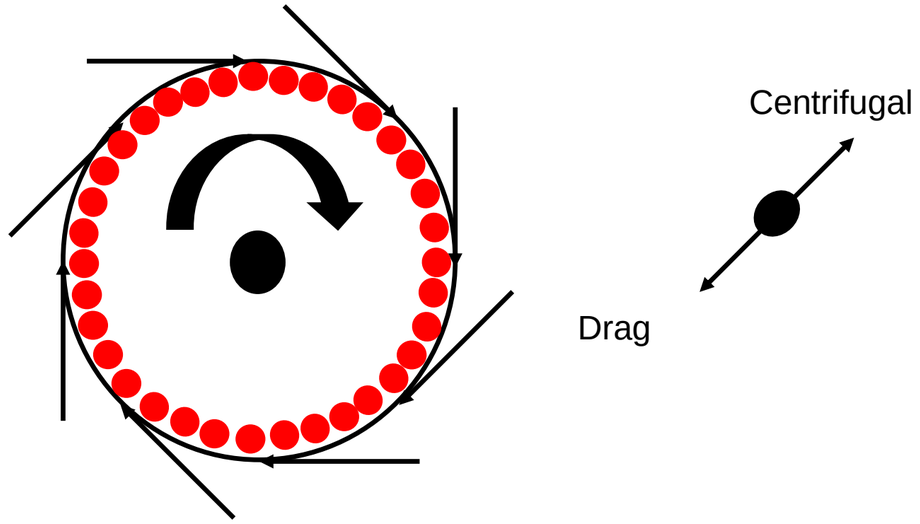
Gas-Solid reactors

Fluidized bed reactor



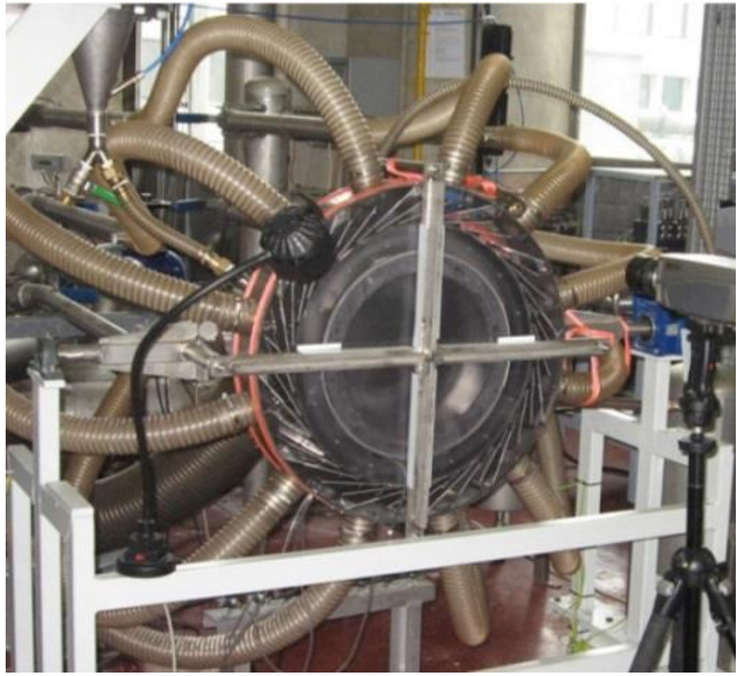
- Gas velocity limitation.
- Diluted bed.

Gas Solid Vortex Reactor (GSVR)



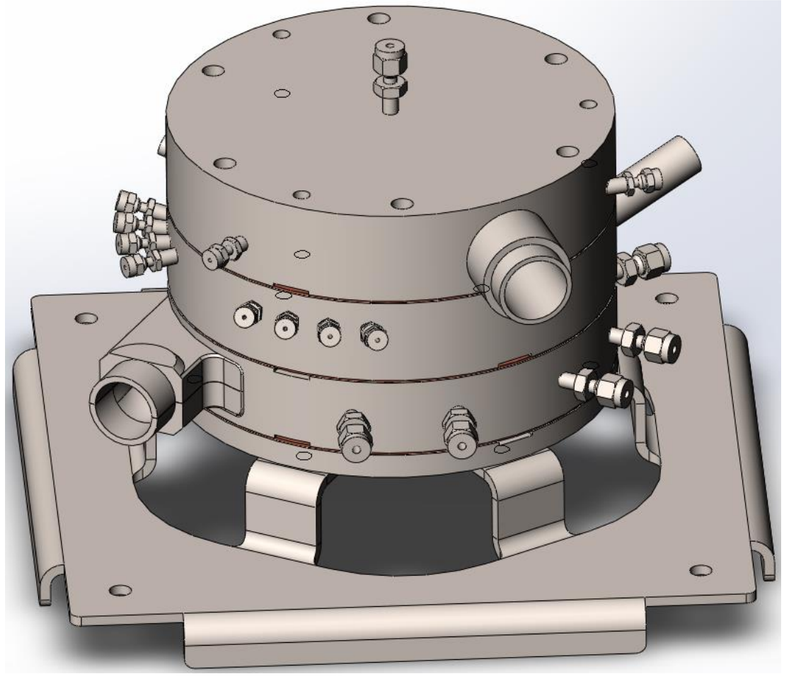
- Extended gas velocity limitations.
- High gas-solid slip velocity.
- Packed bed.
- Short gas space time.

GSVR research at LCT

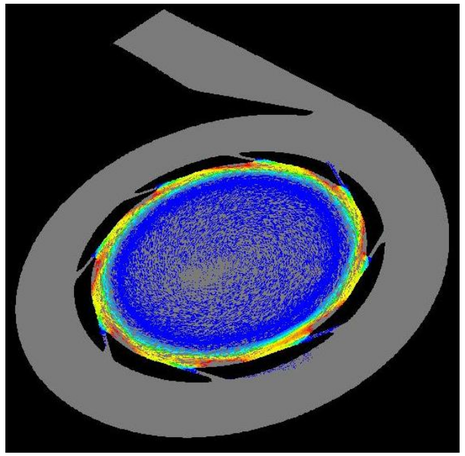


COLD FLOW GSVR

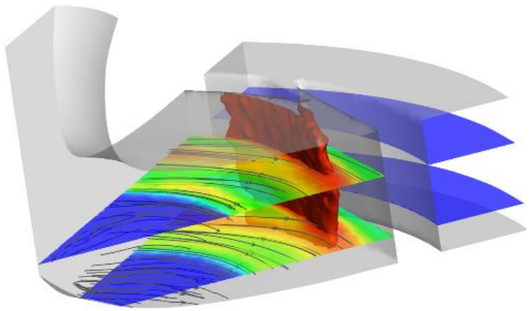
HOT FLOW GSVR



REACTIVE GSVR



CFD



Plastic Gasification Process in GSVR

Solid plastics

Solid

Gas

Reactor environment

Plastic melting

Liquid

Viscous liquid (molten) plastic

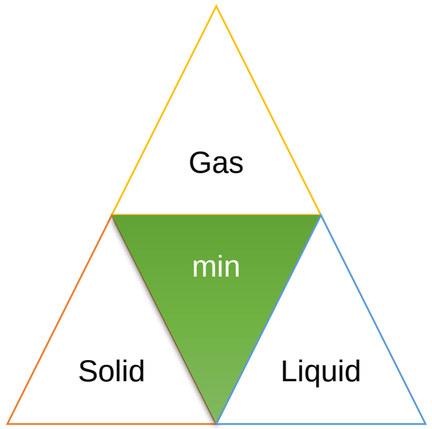
Pyrolysis

Char and vaporized/cracked gaseous products

Gas Solid

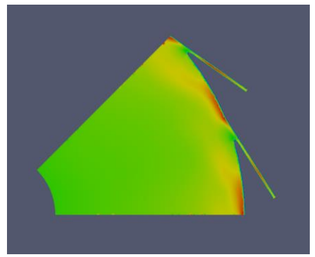
Char and gaseous products

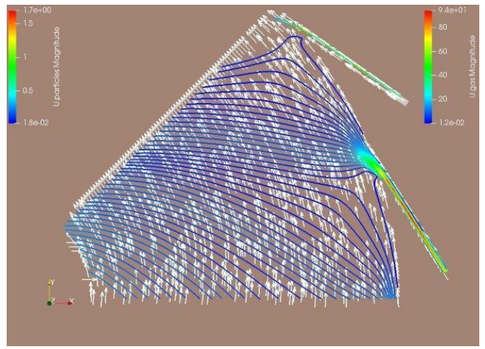
Gas Solid

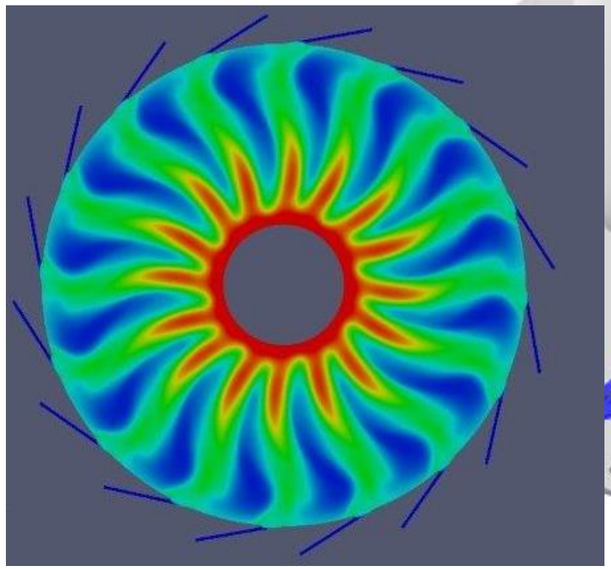


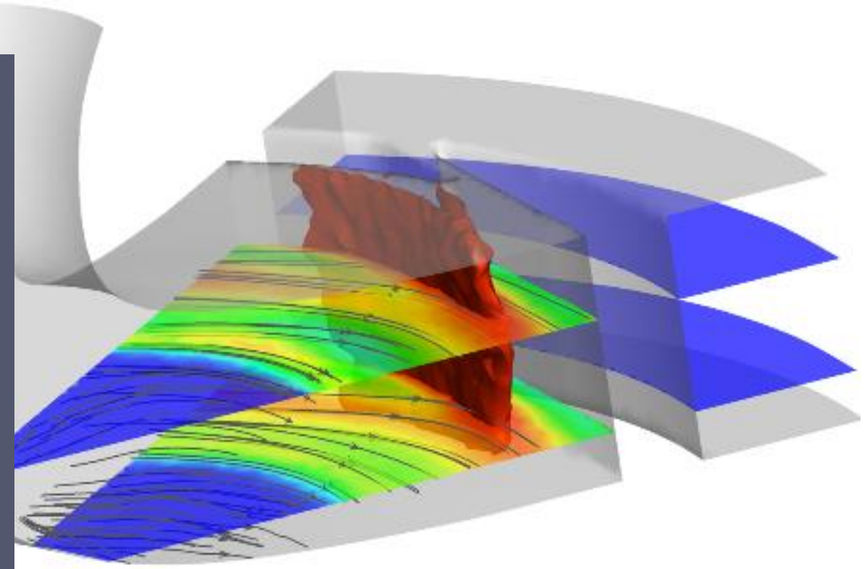
Objectives

- Numerical Investigation of plastic waste gasification process in gas-solid vortex reactor
  - ➢ Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD)
  - ➢ Coupling CFD and Kinetics from simplified to detailed level





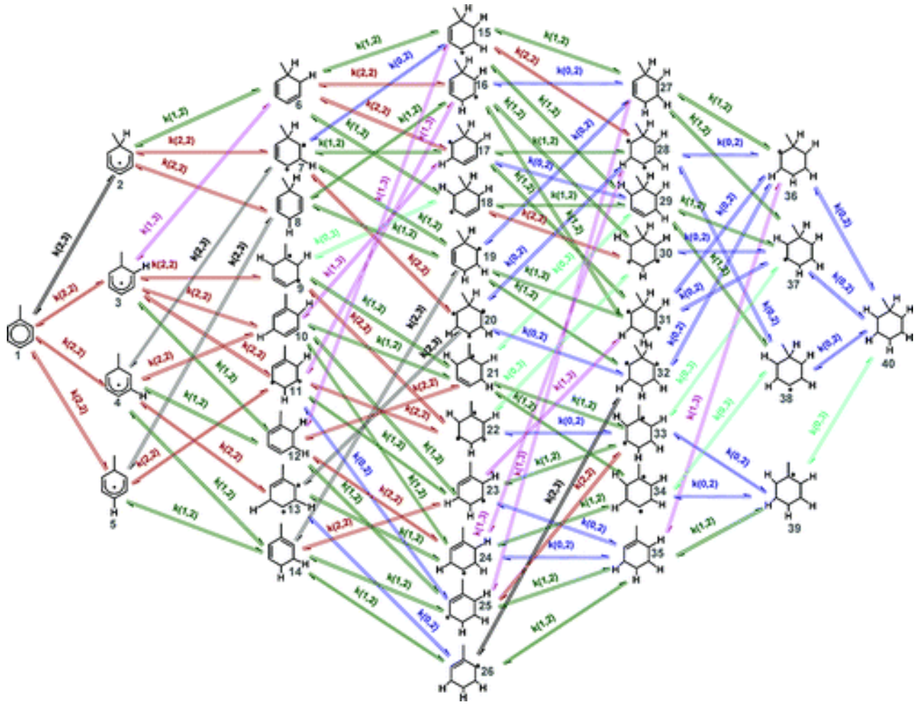




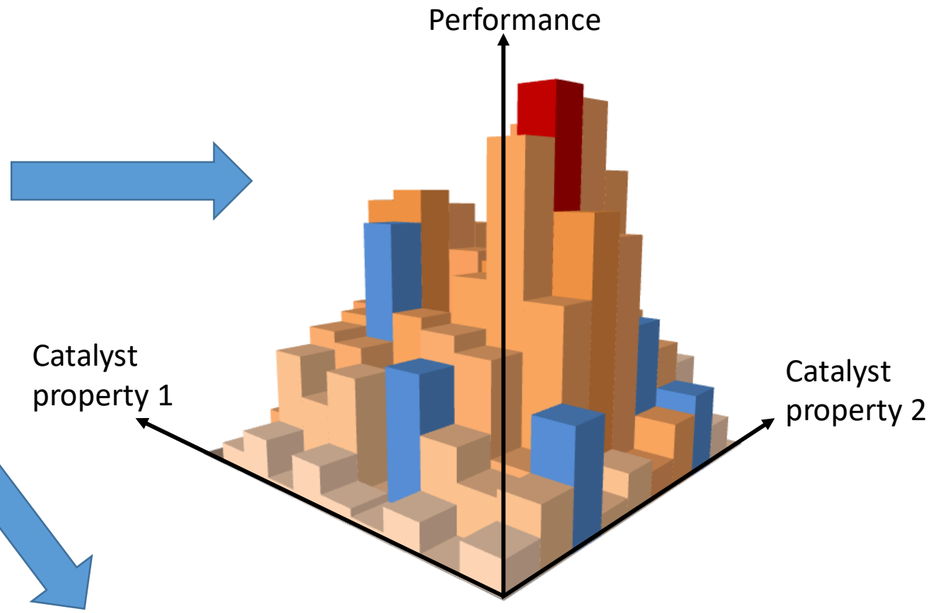
Olefin production from syngas

Model based catalyst design and optimization

Complex reaction phenomena



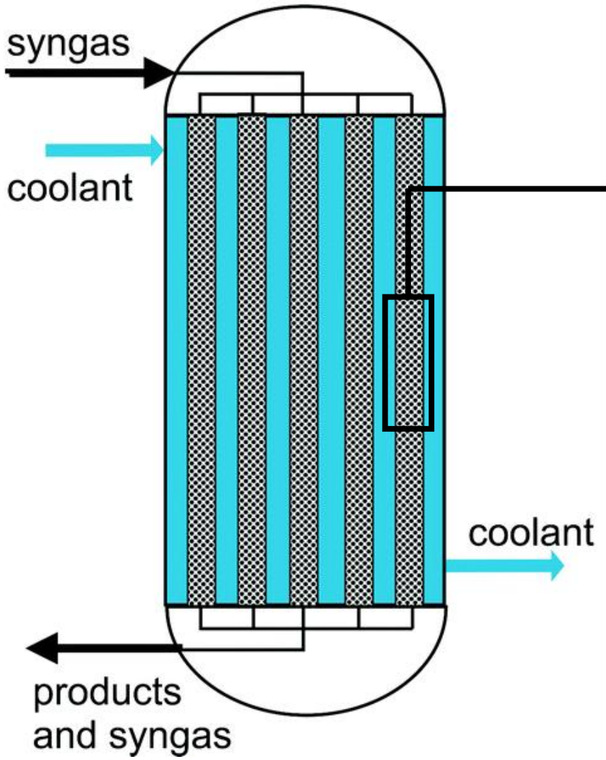
Catalyst optimization

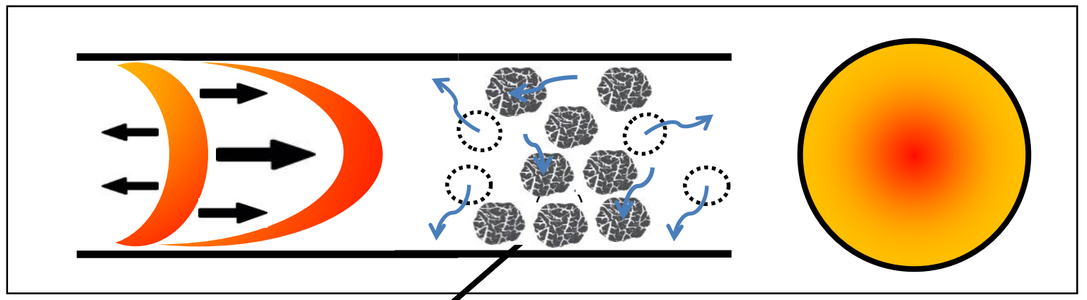


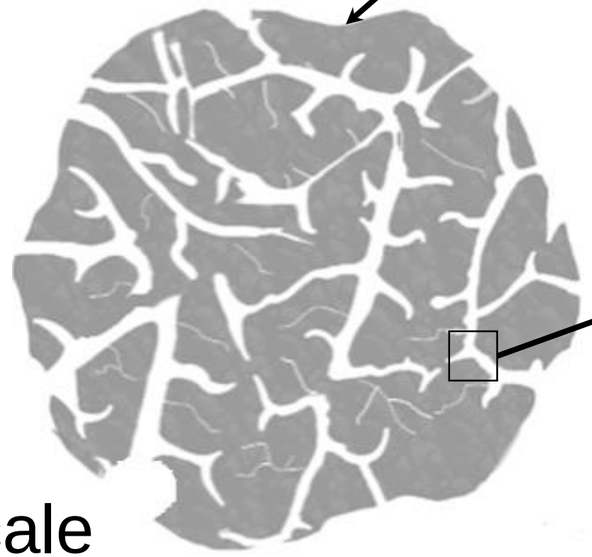
Scale-up studies

Multi-scale modeling for reactor design

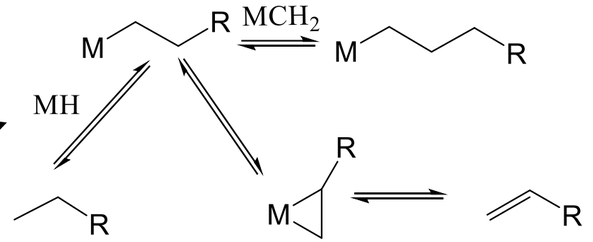
reactor scale







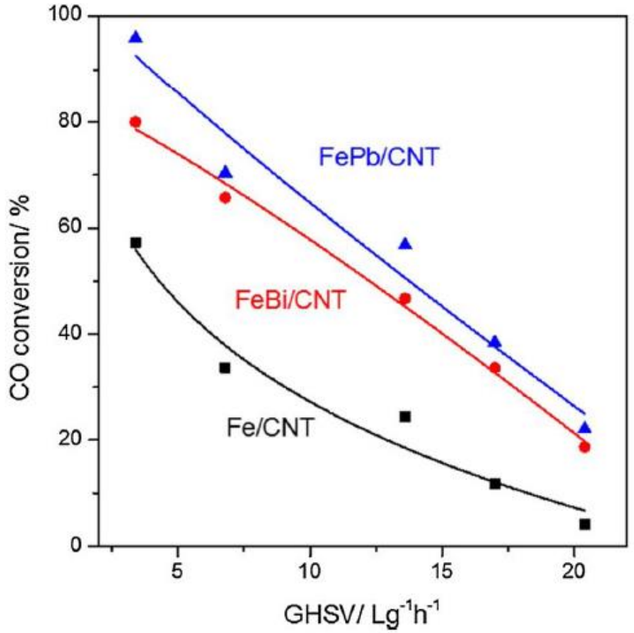
pellet scale

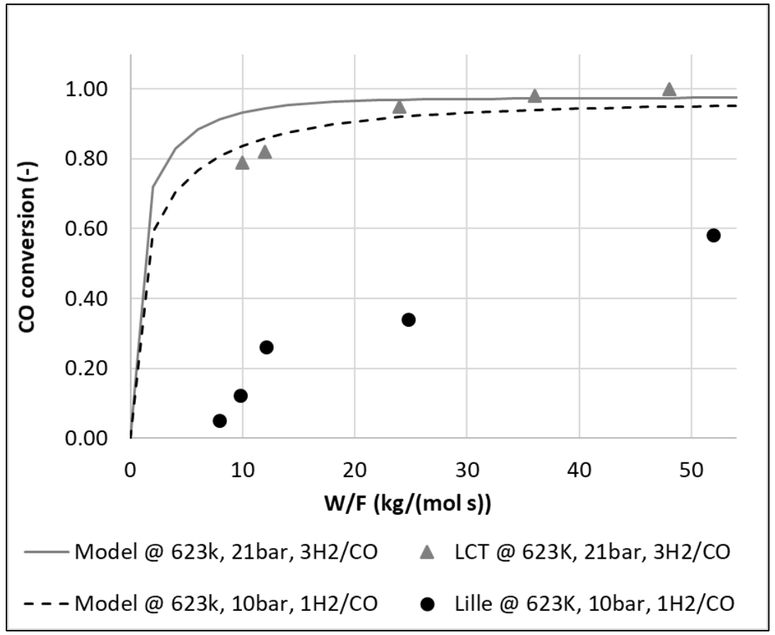


(μ)kinetics

Objectives

- ❑ To incorporate influence of catalyst descriptors, into the model.
- ❑ To allow extension of the model to other catalysts.
- ❑ To transforms the model into a useful tool for catalyst design and development.





SEMK model for Fischer-Tropsch synthesis experimental data obtained on an iron-based catalyst with variation in promoters.

Acknowledgements

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Questions

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