



# THE SORBENT AND THE PROCESS

## CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O Sorption Enhancement in Chemical Reactors

CHEMREACTOR-23, 5-9 November 2018, Ghent Belgium | Jurriaan Boon



ECN

TNO

innovation  
for life

TU/e

EINDHOVEN  
UNIVERSITY OF  
TECHNOLOGY

# ECN PART OF TNO ROADMAP INDUSTRY



Towards a  
CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral  
**INDUSTRY**

## GOALS 2050

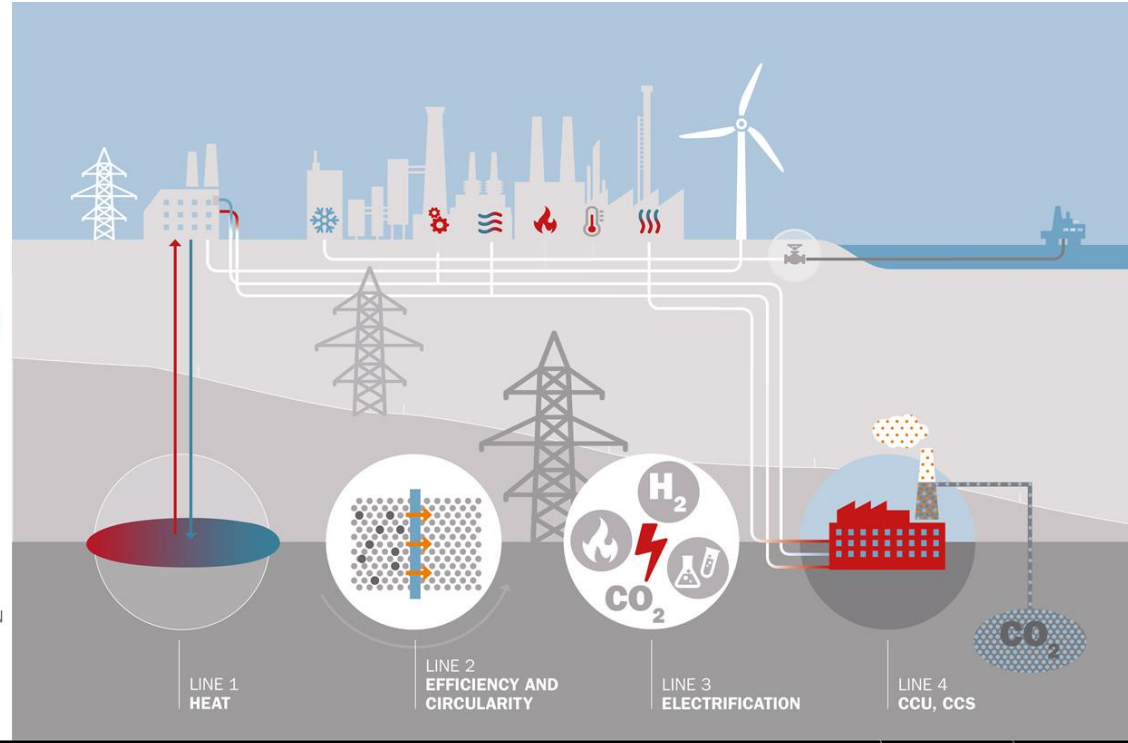
ALL INDUSTRY HAS A  
**ZERO NET  
CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSION**

SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY AND  
(RE-)USE OF INDUSTRIAL  
HEAT

**> 40%**  
PROCESS EFFICIENCY  
IMPROVEMENT

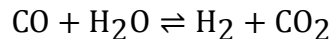
COMPLETE ELECTRIFICATION

CO<sub>2</sub> CAPTURE  
CONVERSION  
AND STORAGE

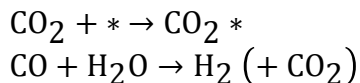


# SORPTION-ENHANCED REACTIONS FOR CCS AND CCU

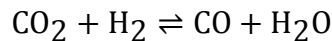
- › Water-gas shift



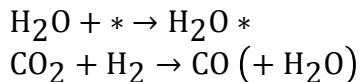
- › Sorption-enhanced water-gas shift (SEWGS)



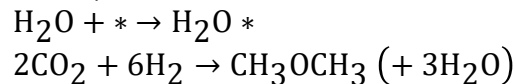
- › Reverse water-gas shift



- › Sorption-enhanced reverse water-gas shift



- › Sorption-enhanced DME synthesis (SEDMES)

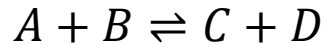


Carbon  
Capture &  
Storage

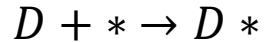
Carbon  
Capture &  
Utilisation

# SORPTION-ENHANCED REACTIONS ADSORPTION AND REGENERATION

Reaction



Adsorption



SEWGS: 400 °C, 25 bar

SEDMES: 275 °C, 30 bar

400 °C, 25 bar

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400 °C, 3 bar

400 °C, 3 bar

$A + B$

$C$

Rinse

$C$

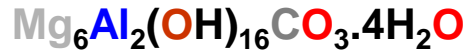
Purge

$D$

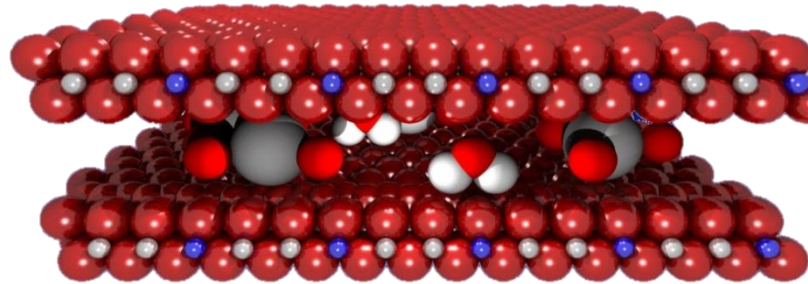
# › PRECOMBUSTION CO<sub>2</sub> CAPTURE: SORPTION-ENHANCED WATER-GAS SHIFT – SEWGS

# SEWGS: HYDROTALCITE PARTICLE

- › Hydrotalcite, a layered double hydroxide mineral

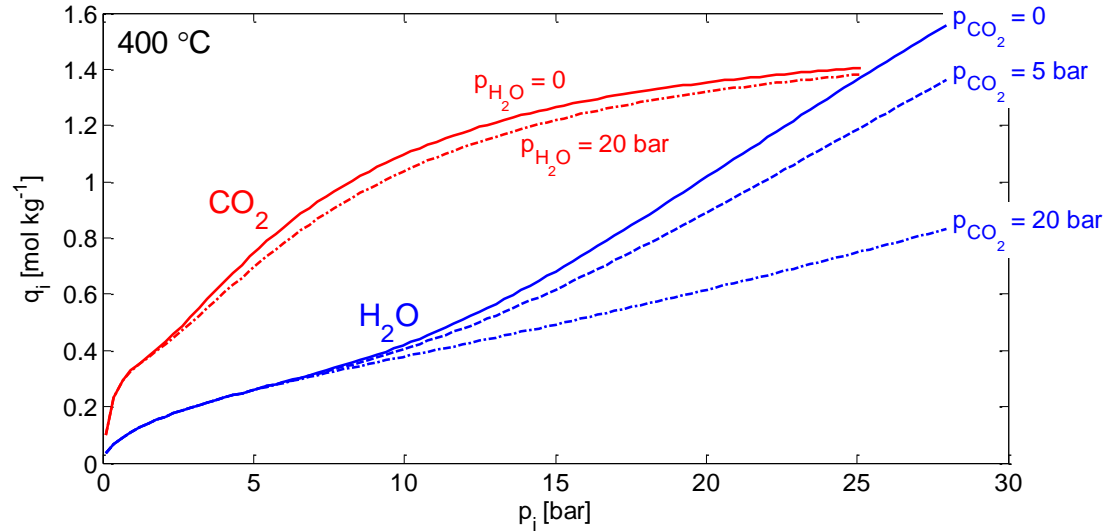


(varying Mg:Al ratio)



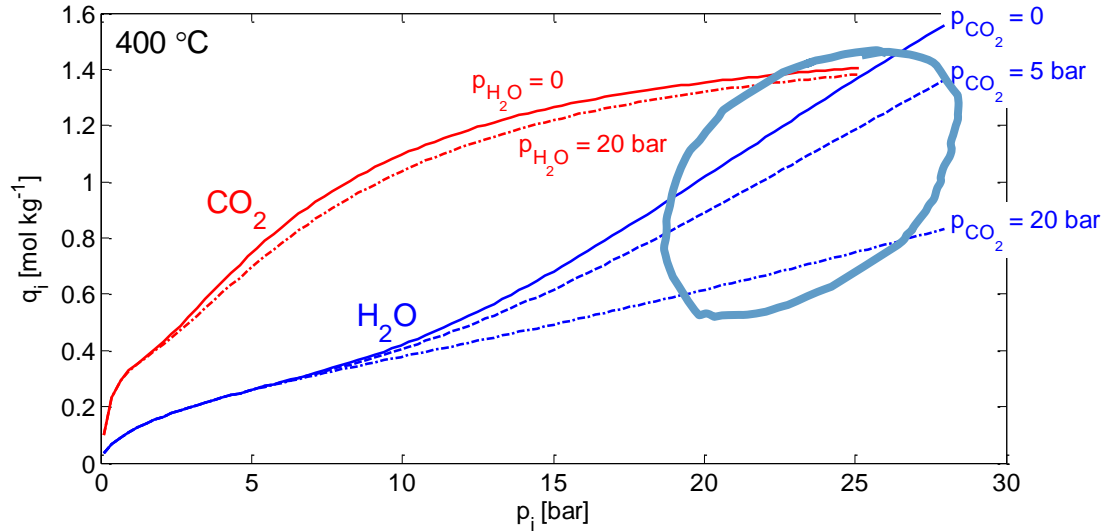
- › Under reaction conditions: disordered mixed metal oxide
  - › Adsorbs and releases  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ; catalytically active for WGS
  - › Capacities around 1 mol/kg, for  $\text{CO}_2$  **and**  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$
  - › Stable under high temperatures, high  $p(\text{H}_2\text{O})$

# SEWGS: ISOTHERM



Boon et al. Chem Eng J 248 (2014) 406-414  
 Boon et al. Chem Eng Sci 122 (2015) 219-231  
 Boon et al. Adv Chem Eng 51 (2017) 207-260

# SEWGS: ISOTHERM



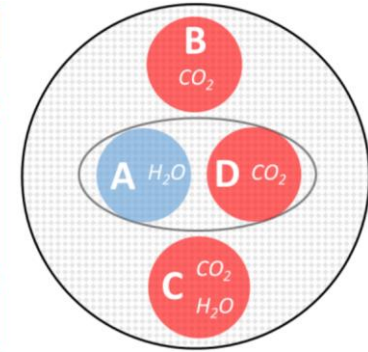
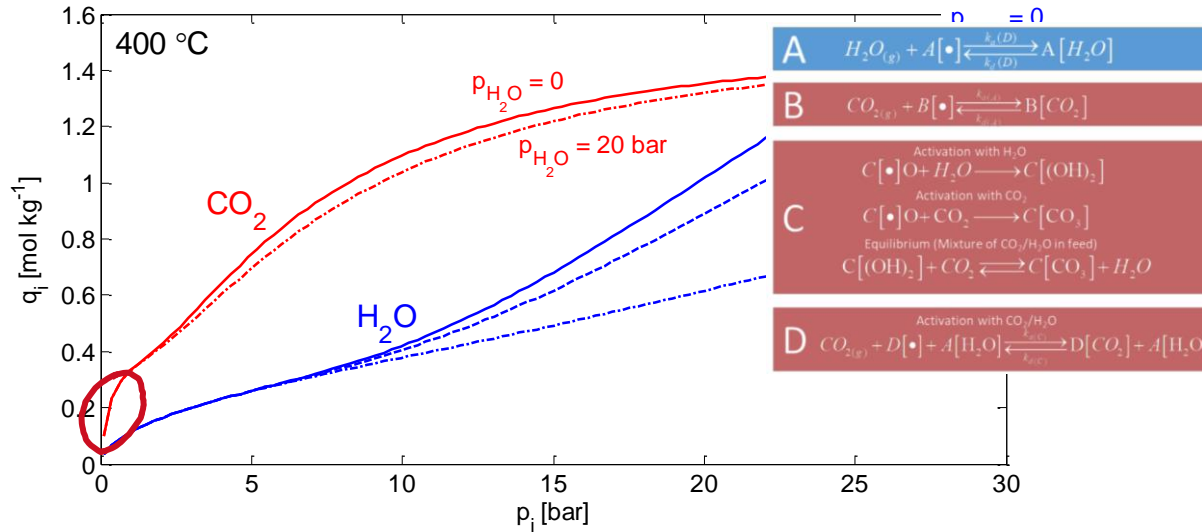
Adsorptive rinse  
(high partial pressure steam)

→ enhanced efficiency

Boon et al. Chem Eng J 248 (2014) 406-414  
 Boon et al. Chem Eng Sci 122 (2015) 219-231  
 Boon et al. Adv Chem Eng 51 (2017) 207-260



# SEWGS: ISOTHERM



Coenen et al. Chem Eng J 293 (2016) 9-23  
 Coenen et al. Chem Eng J 314 (2017) 554-569  
 Boon et al. Adv Chem Eng 51 (2017) 207-260

Multiple sites  
 including  $CO_2$ - $H_2O$  exchange site

→ regeneration behaviour

# SEWGS: PROCESS SCALE-UP



$3.8 \times 200 \text{ cm}$



$3.8 \times 600 \text{ cm}$

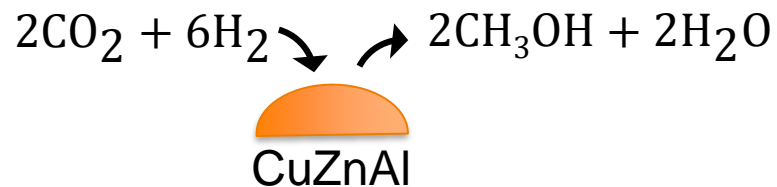


$30 \times 900 \text{ cm}$

# › **TOWARDS CIRCULAR CARBON: SORPTION-ENHANCED DME SYNTHESIS – SEDMES**

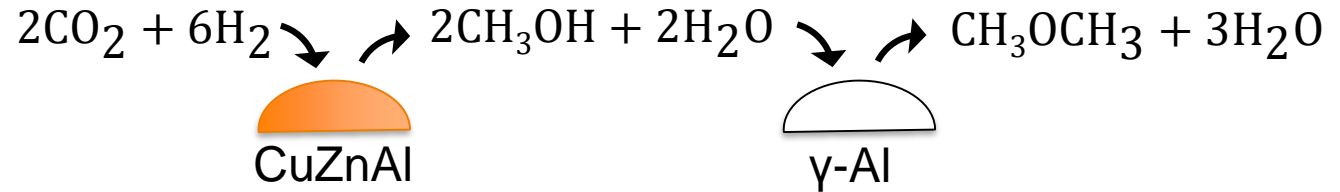
# SEDMES: CATALYST AND ADSORBENT

› Catalyst



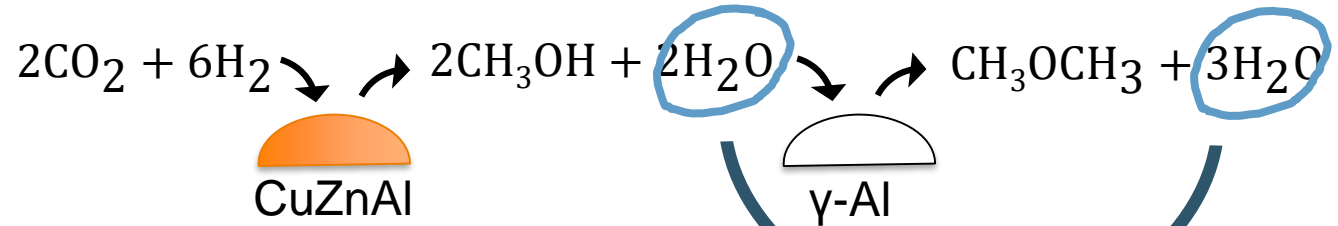
# SEDMES: CATALYST AND ADSORBENT

## › Catalyst



# SEDMES: CATALYST AND ADSORBENT

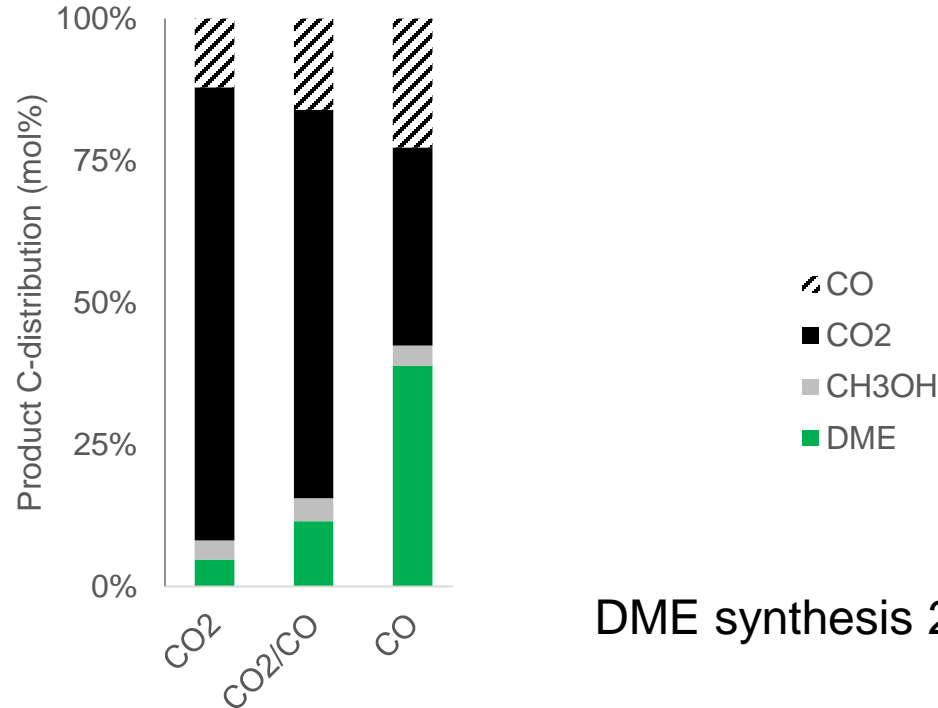
› Catalyst



› Adsorbent

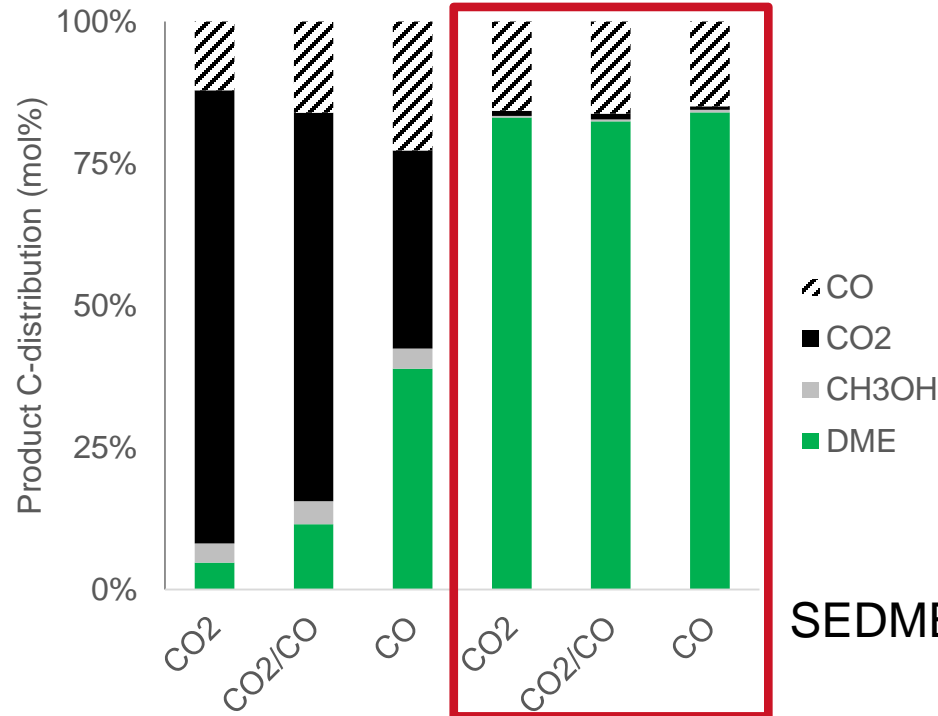
LTA

# SEDMES: DME YIELD IMPROVEMENT



DME synthesis 275 °C & 40 bar(a)

# SEDMES: DME YIELD IMPROVEMENT



SEDMES 275 °C & 40 bar(a)

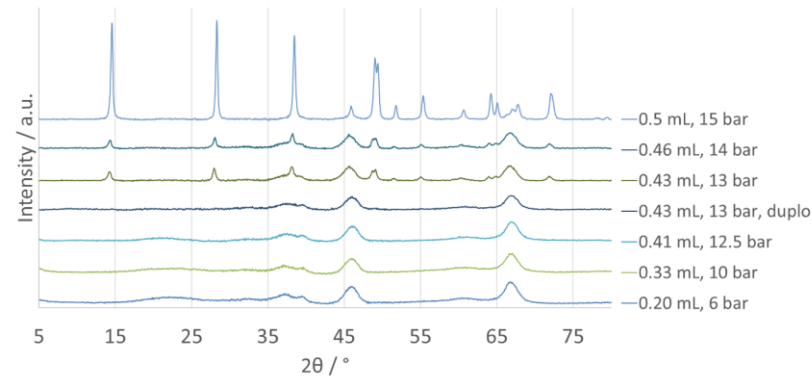


# SEDMES: REGENERATION CONDITIONS

- › TPSA regeneration (heating to 400 °C, depressurisation to 3 bar(a))
  - › Improved water adsorption (lower water slip level)
  - › Improved catalytic activity
- › Separate tests water-induced deactivation of  $\gamma$ -alumina for methanol dehydration

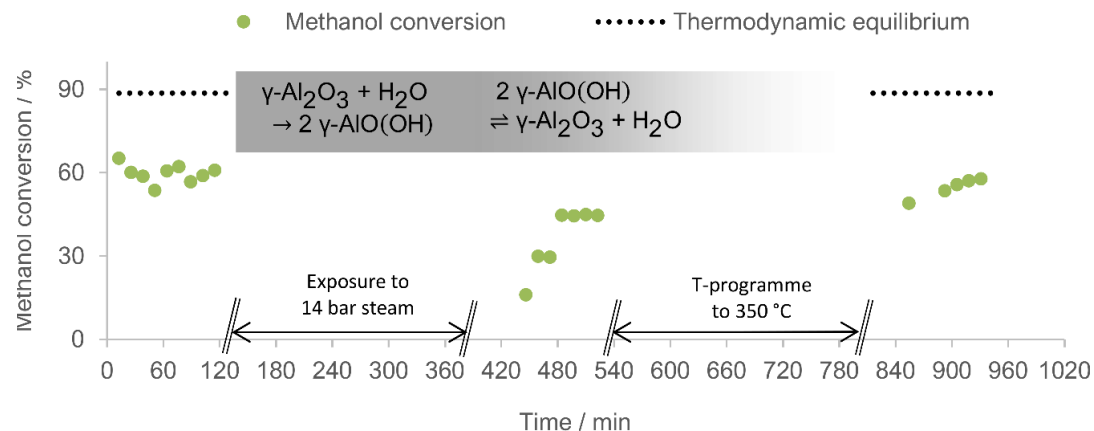
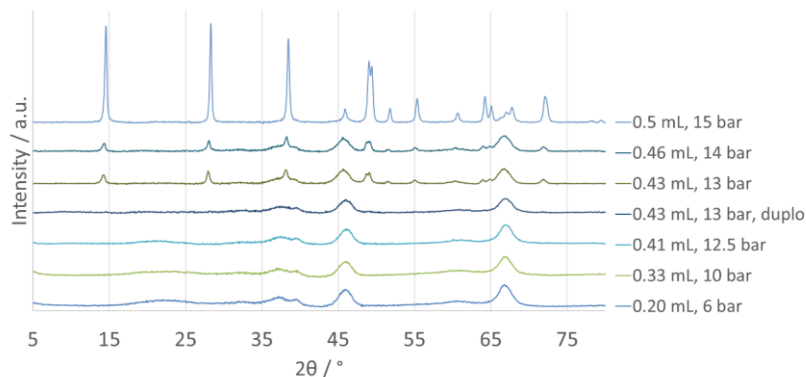
# SEDMES: REGENERATION CONDITIONS

- › Separate tests water-induced deactivation of  $\gamma$ -alumina for methanol dehydration



# SEDMES: REGENERATION CONDITIONS

- › Separate tests water-induced deactivation of  $\gamma$ -alumina for methanol dehydration



- › Reversible deactivation by  $\gamma$ -AlO(OH) formation

# SEDMES: PROCESS SCALE-UP



$0.9 \times 20 \text{ cm}$



$3.8 \times 200 \text{ cm}$



$3.8 \times 600 \text{ cm}$

# THE SORBENT AND THE PROCESS

## CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O Sorption Enhancement

- › Particle-scale phenomena for understanding sorption-enhanced processes
- › SEWGS
  - › Adsorptive rinse
  - › CO<sub>2</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O exchange site
- › SEDMES
  - › Adsorbent response to regeneration conditions
  - › Catalyst response to regeneration conditions (reversible deactivation by H<sub>2</sub>O)

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Department of Chemical Engineering and Chemistry  
Chemical Process Intensification  
Eindhoven, The Netherlands



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<http://www.stepwise.eu>



*This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 727600.*

<http://www.fledged.eu>



A nighttime photograph of a city street featuring a curved pedestrian bridge with a glass railing. The background shows brick buildings and modern glass-fronted structures. Long-exposure light trails in green and yellow are visible, suggesting moving vehicles or lights. The text 'THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION' is overlaid in large white letters.

› **THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**

**TNO.NL/ECNPARTOFTNO**



**ECN** ›

**TNO**

innovation  
for life