

CO₂QUEST

IOLICAP Project Results

Novel IOnic LIquid and supported ionic liquid solvents for reversible CAPture of CO₂- *IOLICAP*



George Romanos

Institute for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology
National Center for Scientific Research "Demokritos"

4 major lines of Research

Line 1

Molecular Simulation

Line 2

Synthesis & Characterisation
Thermophysical Properties-Corrosion-Toxicity

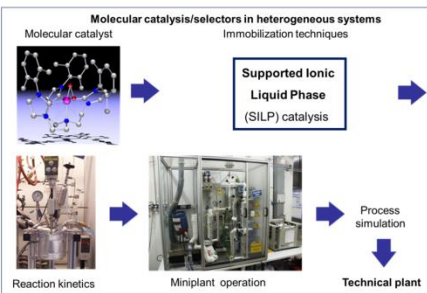
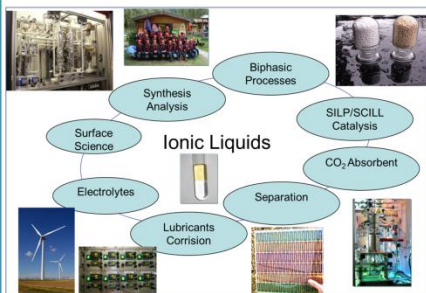
Line 3

Development of Supported IL
Absorbents and Membranes

Line 4

Application of ILs in the
Scrubbing/Stripping process

Synthesis of Ionic Liquids



Prof. Peter Schulz



Prof. Peter Wasserscheid

- **NMR-Self diffusivity**
- **Ion Chromatography**
- **Supported Ionic Liquids-Inverse SILPs**
- **Conductivity**
- **CO₂ solubility in bubble column reactors and high pressure volumetric cells**

"They achieved a yield 24 times that using a conventional batch reactor."

RSC Publishing
Publishing
Chemical Technology
A magazine reporting on the latest scientific and technological aspects of research across the chemical industry.
Ionic Liquids on Tap
10 Aug 2007
Researchers in Germany have developed an iterative process for preparing ionic liquids using a continuously operating flow reactor system. Previously, their production in large scale had been limited by the use of batch processes.
In the first of three steps, the researchers prepared 100 different ionic liquids, including members of our existing group, have already demonstrated the advantages of an iterative process over batch processes.
The next step was to combine our experience in iterative processing with the knowledge of the researchers in the field of ionic liquids and to develop a process for the continuous production of ionic liquids. The researchers achieved this by using a continuously operating flow reactor system. They achieved a yield 24 times that using a conventional batch reactor."
Another advantage of the process is that the addition of solvent to the reaction mixture is unnecessary, as the high specific surface area of the reaction system allows any heat generated during the process.
A further benefit of the continuous process is that the researchers can produce a large number of different ionic liquids in a single reactor.
[Link to journal article](#)
Keywords: ionic liquids, continuous production, iterative process, flow reactor, ionic liquids, continuous production, iterative process, flow reactor, ionic liquids, continuous production, iterative process, flow reactor.
DOI: 10.1039/b710000a

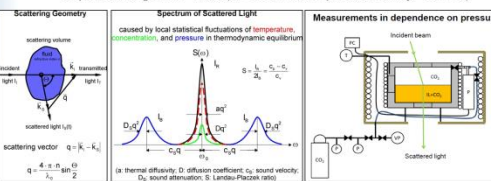
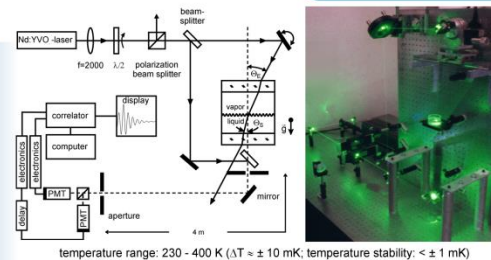


Dr. Thomas Schubert
Dr. Boyan Iliev
Dr. G. Adamova



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Thermophysical/Physicochemical characterisation



Prof. Andreas Paul Fröba



Prof. M. H. Rausch

- **Mutual Diffusivity with Dynamic Light Scattering**
- **Viscosity and Surface Tension by Surface Light Scattering**
- **CO₂ solubility by bubble point pressures and gravimetric analysis**
- **Kinetics of sorption-gravimetric**

CO₂ Solubility Equilibria / kinetics gravimetric measurements



Suspension Balance

CO₂ Solubility Equilibria: bubble point pressures



Callister tube



Windowed autoclave equipment

Vapor/Liq. Equilibria



VLL Ebulliometer



Technische Universiteit Eindhoven University of Technology



Chair: Prof. dr. ir. Maaik C. Kroon
Prof. dr. ir. Cor J. Peters

Corrosion

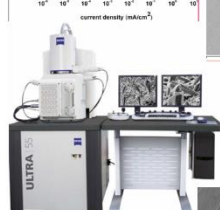
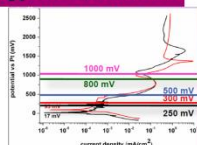
MANCHESTER
1824

Advanced methods for evaluating the corrosion properties of ILs / corrosion inhibition.

Materials Mild steel (MS), stainless steel of types 304 and 316

- Immersion tests for several days
- Potentiodynamic and potentiostatic tests

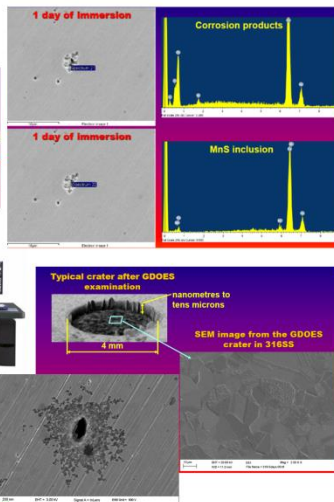
JEOL TEM 200FX II transmission electron microscope with electron diffraction facilities



Zeiss Ultra 55 scanning electron microscope with EDX and BSD facilities-Study of corrosion products.



Prof George Thompson



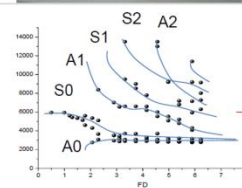
•Advanced microscopy techniques for examining corrosion of materials

•Potentiodynamic and potentiostatic tests

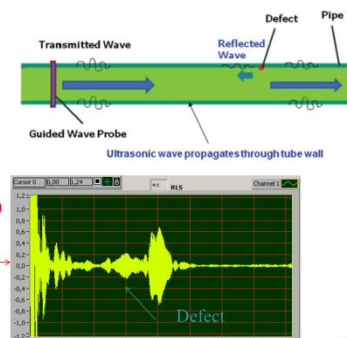
•Guided surface waves for on-line monitoring corrosion in vessels

ENDITECH S.a.
DESIGN & APPLICATIONS

Dr. G. Diamantopoulos
Ms. V. Zatta



1. Structural radar
2. Monitoring
3. Faster
4. Applicable to inaccessible areas



Molecular Design

- Development and validation of accurate force fields
- Study of the molecular mechanisms and calculation of macroscopic properties
- GCMC simulations of gas absorption in graphitic materials
- Develop a suitable EoS model for the phase behaviour of ILs/gas systems

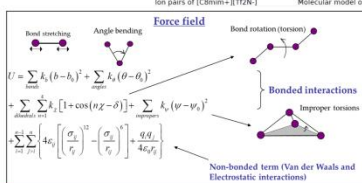
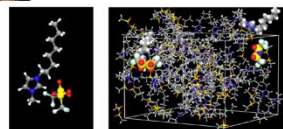


Dr. Ioannis Economou



Dr. X. Krokidis

Dr. J-R. Hill



Development of SILPs and SILMs

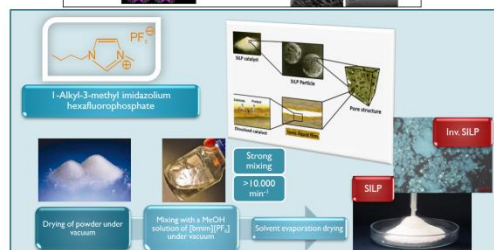


Dr. G. Romanos

Rubetherm (0-300 bar)



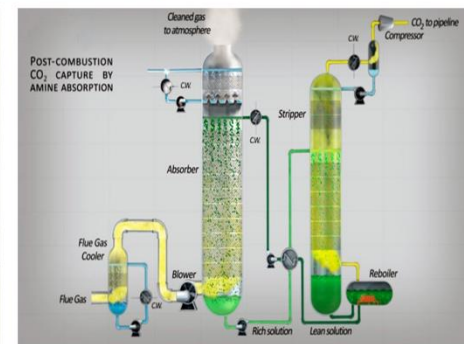
IGA (0-20 bar)



Process Development and Engineering

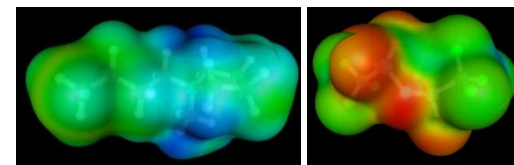


N & K Gkonopoulos
ΑΝΘΡΩΠΙΝΗ ΤΕΧΝΗΚΗ ΕΠΙΧΕΙΡΗΣΗ



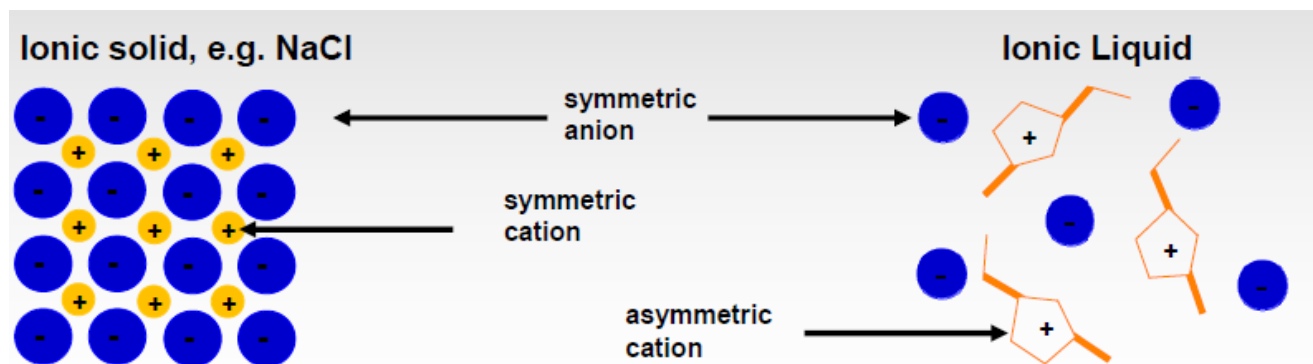


What are Ionic Liquids?



“Ionic Liquids is the generic term for a class of materials, consisting entirely of ions and being liquid below 100°C.”

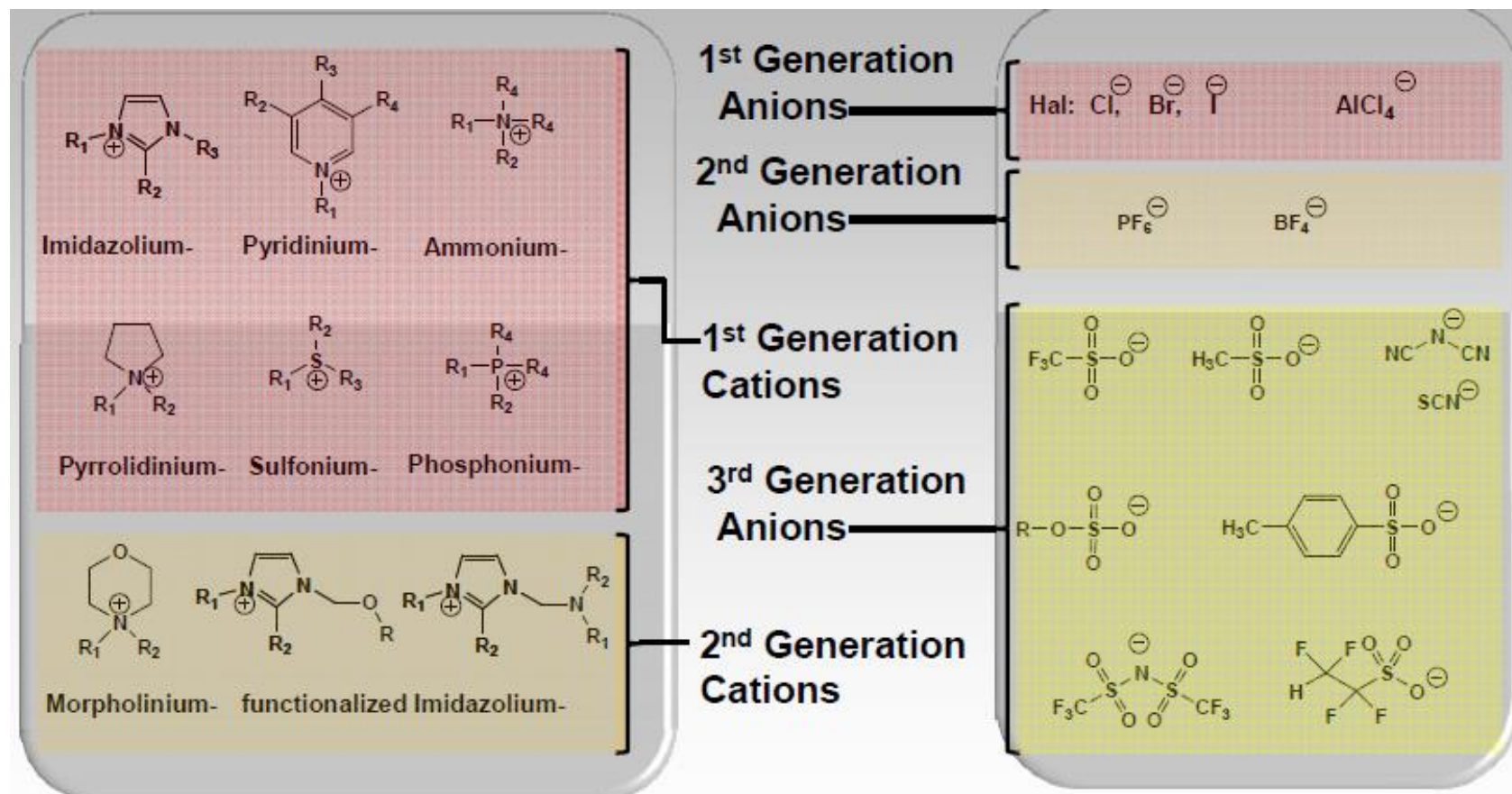
“If they are liquid at room temperature, we call them (RTILs).”



- Weak coordinating tendency of the ion pair.
- Low intermolecular interaction.
- Breaking the symmetry of its chemical structure.

Generations of cations and anions

ILs are now about 100 years old, when ethylammonium nitrate was found to be liquid under ambient conditions.



- Very good solvents properties for a wide variety of organic, inorganic and organometallic compounds
 - High thermal and chemical stability
 - High electrical conductivity
 - Low vapor pressure
 - Large electrochemical window
- Fine-tuning the structure, these properties can be tailor-designed
 - High solubility of gases especially CO₂

Applications

STATUS:

- R&D
- Pilot
- Commercialized

IONIC LIQUIDS PROPERTIES

- Liquid over a Wide T-Range
- Thermal Stability
- Electrochemical Stability
- Low Vapor Pressure
- Non Volatility
- Non Inflammability
- Electric Conducting
- Tunable Miscibility



PROCESS TECHNOLOGY

- Biomass Conversion
- Gas-Separation
- Metal-Extraction
- Liquid-Liquid-Extraction



FUNCTIONAL FLUIDS & ADDITIVES

- Hydraulic Oils
- Additives
- Lubricants
- Surfactants



SYNTHESIS & CATALYSIS

- Enzymatic Reactions
- Immobilization of Catalysts (SILP)
- Nanoparticle-Synthesis
- Organic Synthesis



HEAT TRANSPORT & CONVERSION

- Thermal Fluids
- Phase Changing Materials (PCM)
- Sorption Cooling Media



ANALYTICS

- Electrophoresis
- Solvents for GC-Headspace
- Matrix-Materials for MALDI-TOF-MS
- Karl-Fischer Titration
- Protein-Crystallization
- GC-Materials



ELECTROCHEMISTRY

- Fuel Cells
- Metal Deposition & Electropolishing
- Batteries
- DSSCs
- Electrochromic Windows
- Sensors
- Supercaps





They can be used as solvents for
CO₂ capture?

- **Disadvantages compared to amines**

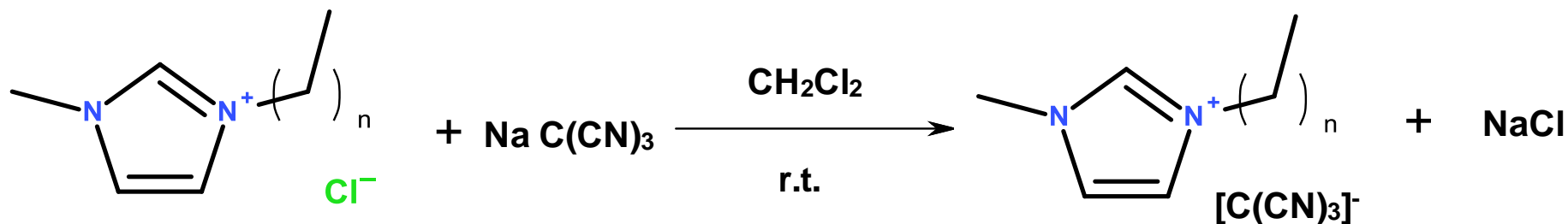
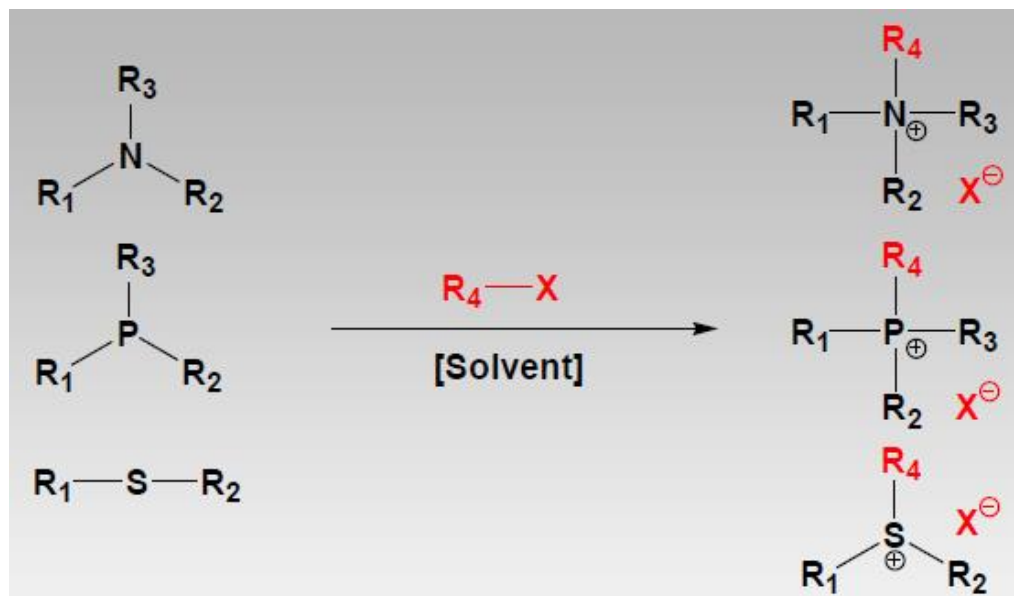
Viscosity @ RT – 15-500cP

Physisorption---CO₂ absorption capacity < 0.05 mol/mol at 1 bar

Binary CO₂/IL diffusivity – 10⁻¹¹ to 10⁻⁹ m²/sec

Cost – 100-200€ at the 100kg level

Alkylation Reaction



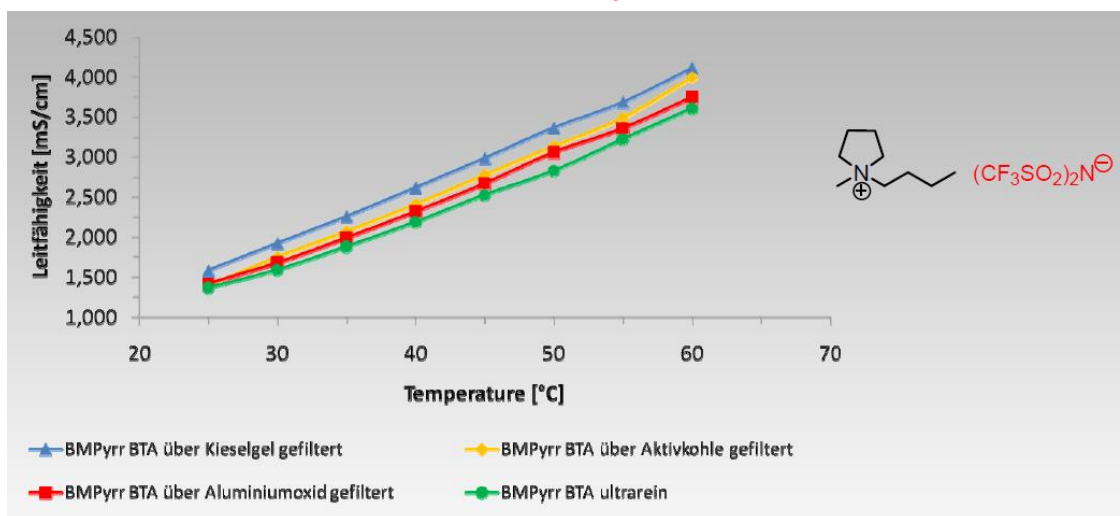
- Very good solvents properties for a wide variety of organic, inorganic and organometallic compounds.

One way to reduce the cost

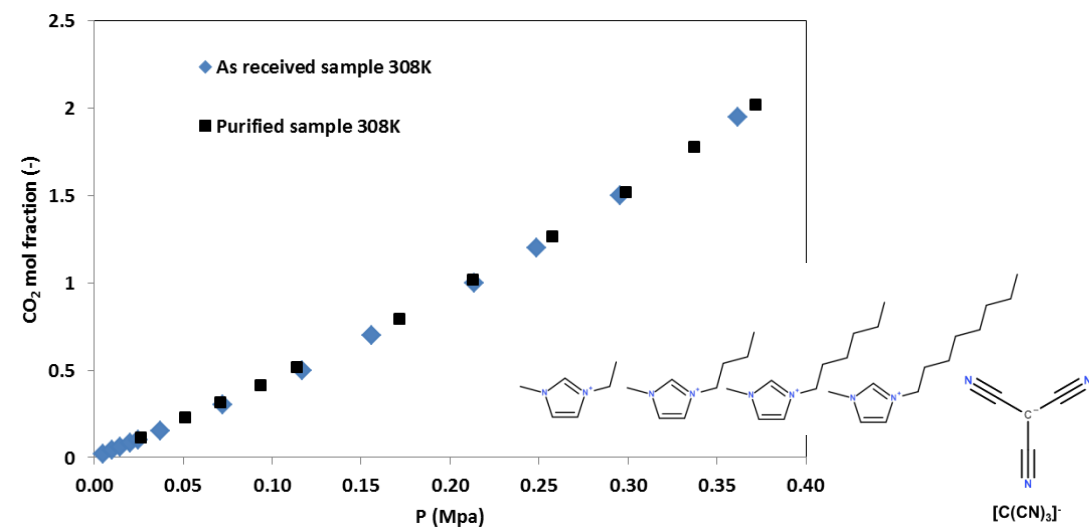
Have the impurities any effect on the properties of interest?

Example

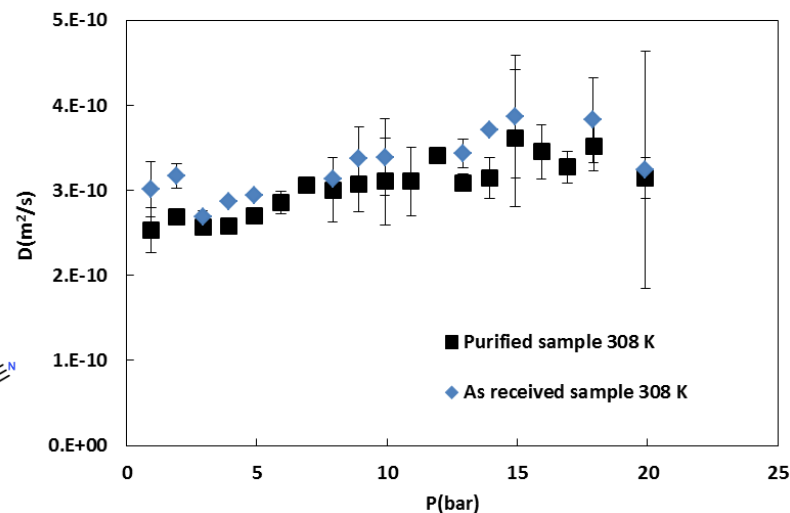
Conductivity? Y



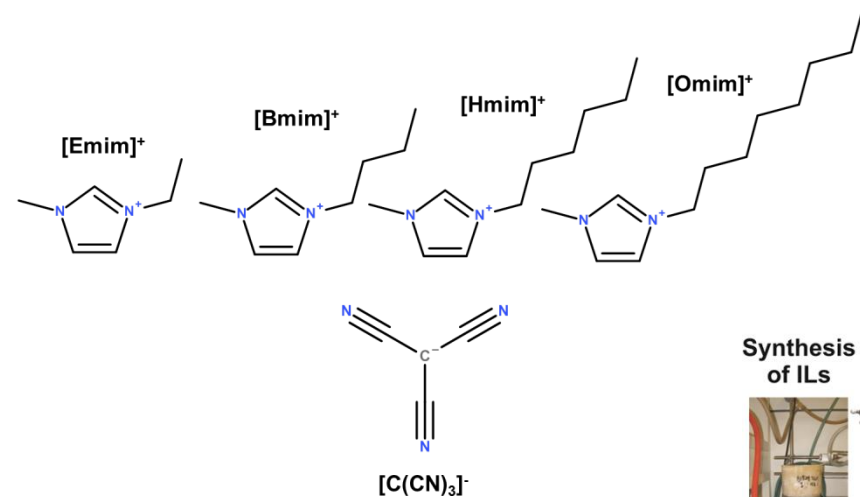
CO₂ Solubility? N



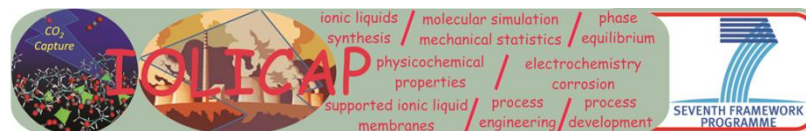
Binary CO₂/IL diffusivity? N



High Scale production at low cost



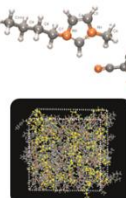
IOLICAP PROJECT



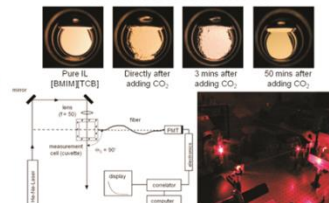
Synthesis of ILs



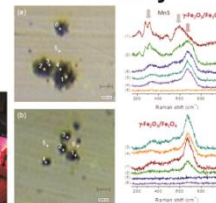
Molecular simulation



Advanced characterisation



Corrosion Toxicity



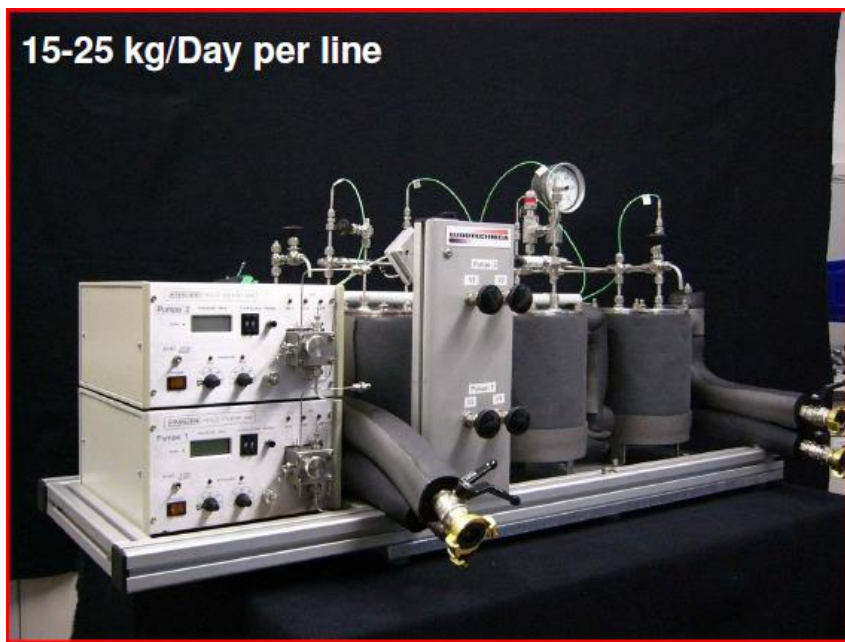
Upscaled Synthesis



Application

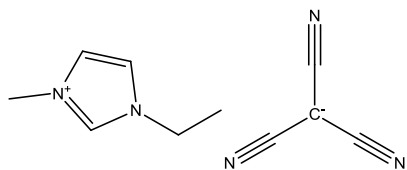


15-25 kg/Day per line

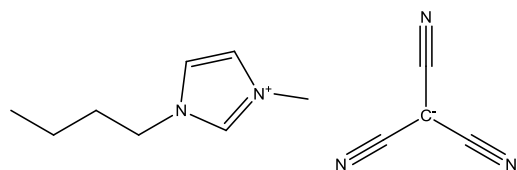


Iolitec Company used a continuous flow microreactor technology to synthesise 200 kg of the most promising ILs for CO₂ capture at a cost of 100 € per kg.

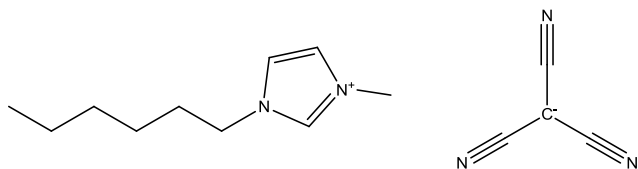
TCM-based ILs



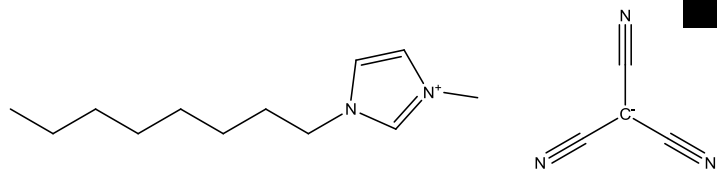
1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium tricyanomethanide



1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium tricyanomethanide

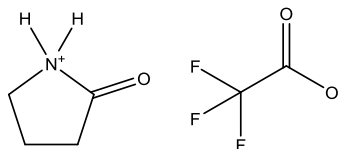


1-hexyl-3-methylimidazolium tricyanomethanide

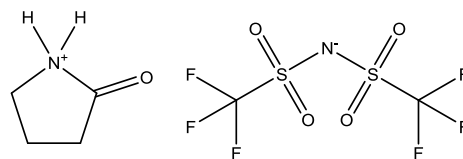


1-octyl-3-methylimidazolium tricyanomethanide

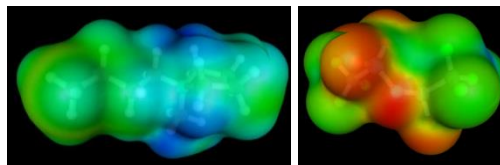
Lactam-based ILs



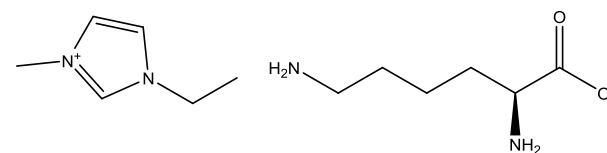
pyrrolidium-2-one trifluoroacetate



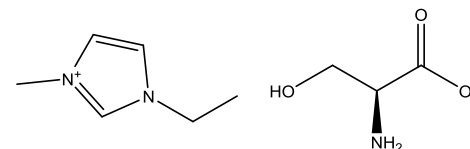
pyrrolidium-2-one bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)imide



Amino acid-based ILs

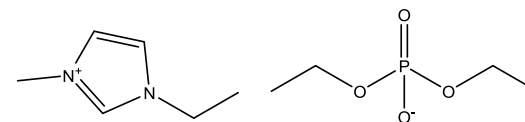


1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium lysinate

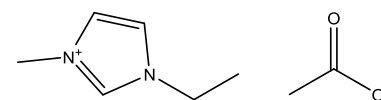


1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium serinate

Acetate and Phosphate anions

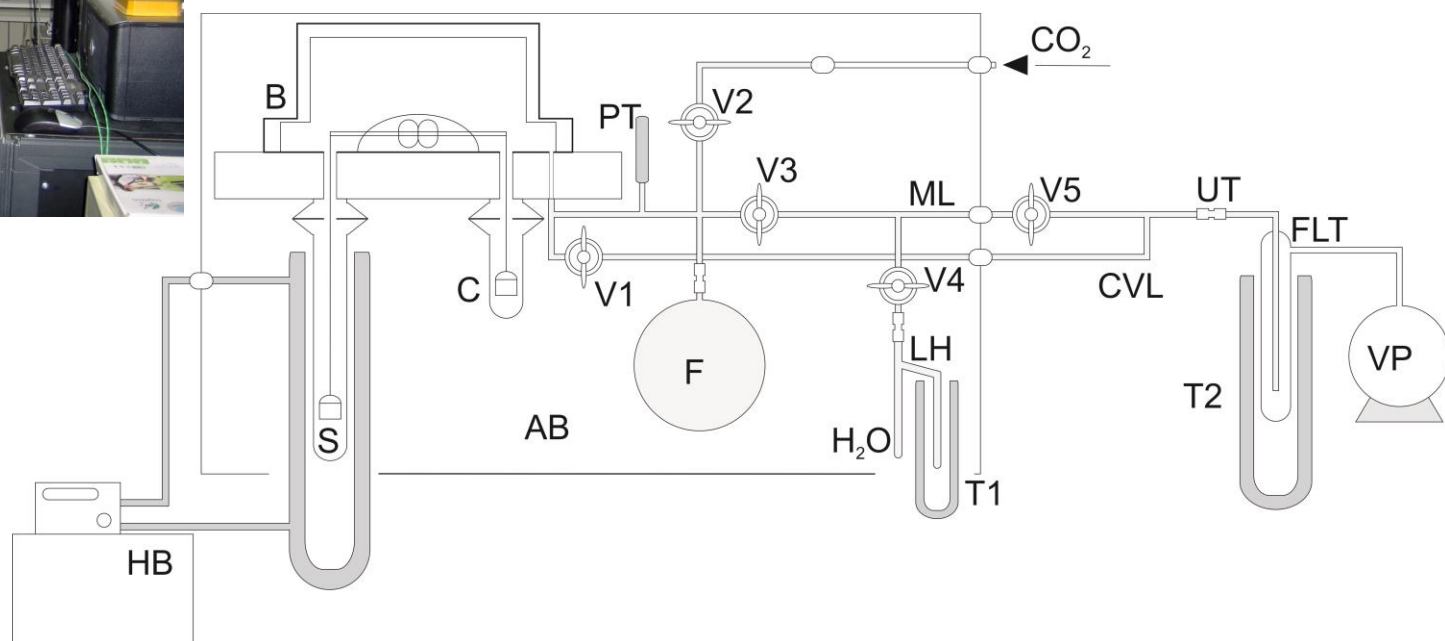


1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium diethylphosphate



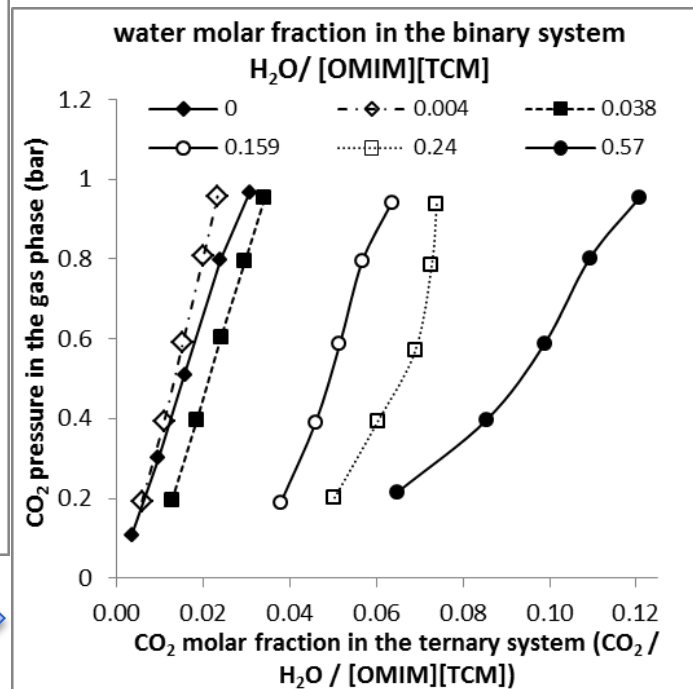
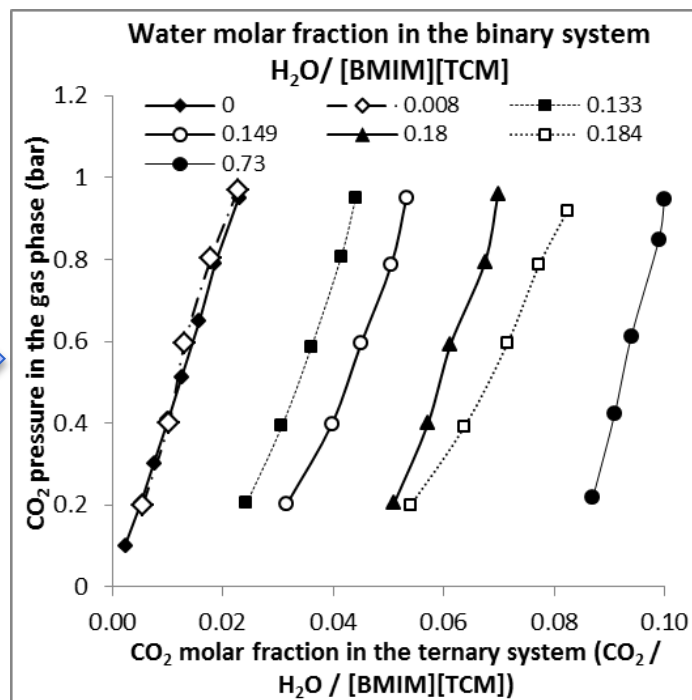
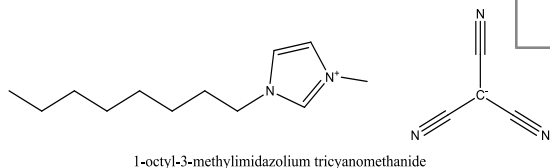
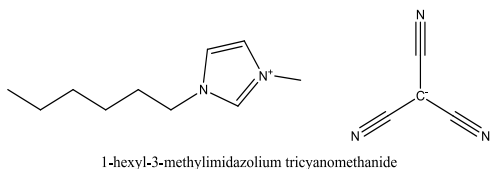
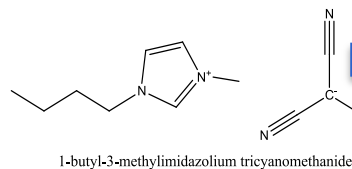
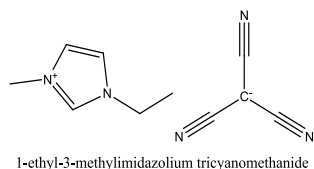
1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium acetate

Effect of water on the CO_2 solubility and diffusivity of ILs with the gravimetric technique

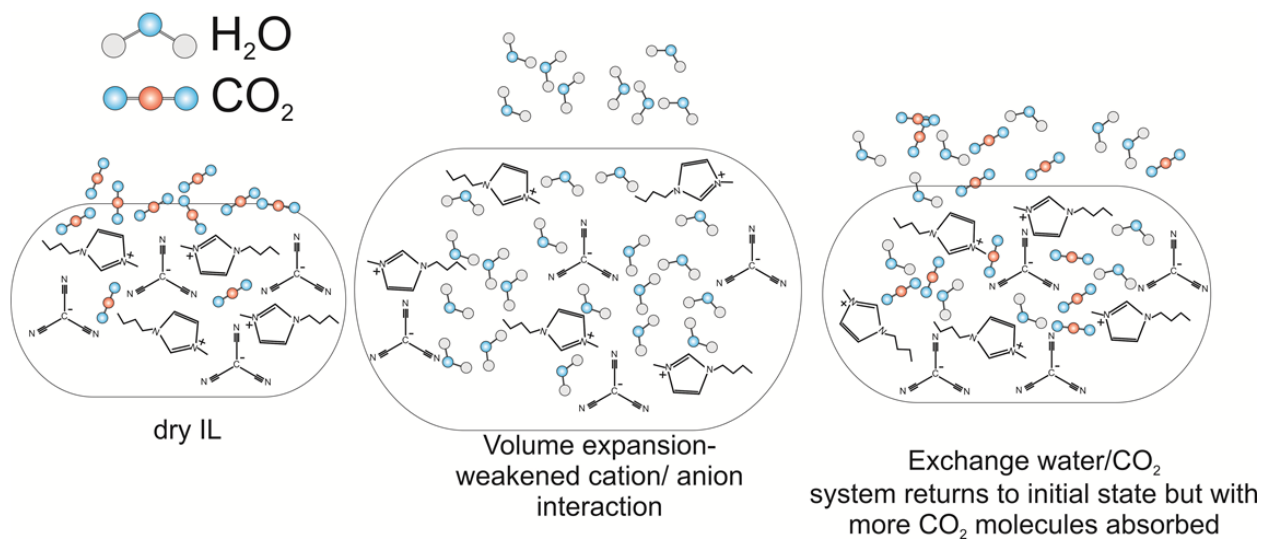
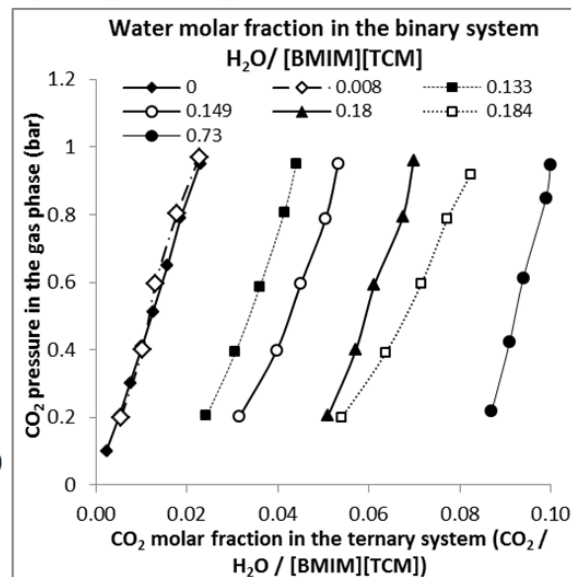
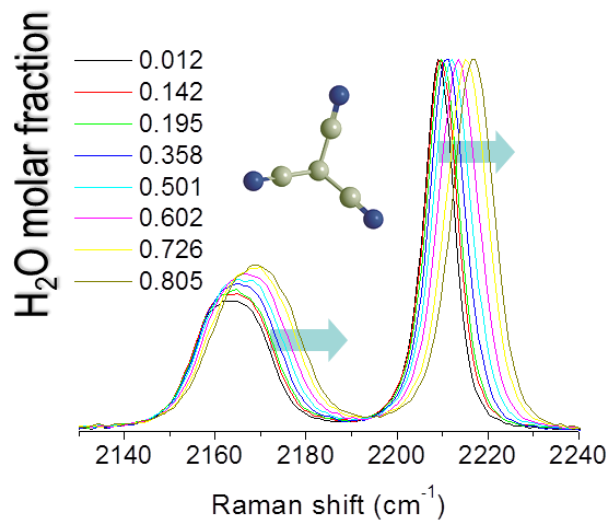


Effect of water on the CO₂ solubility of ILs

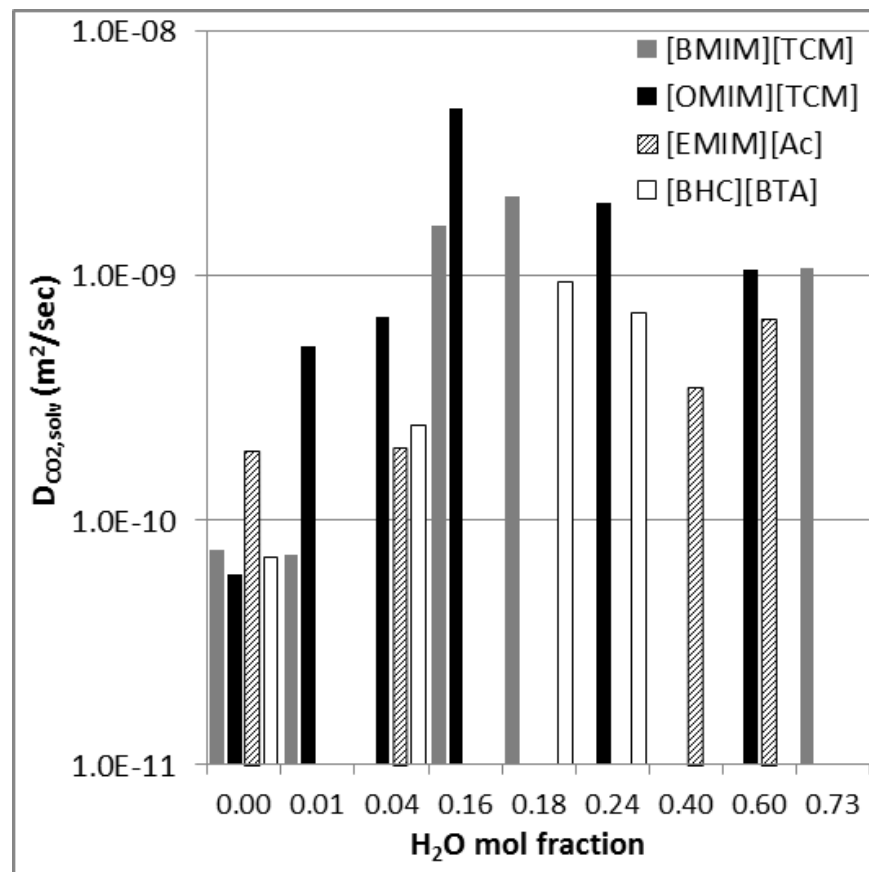
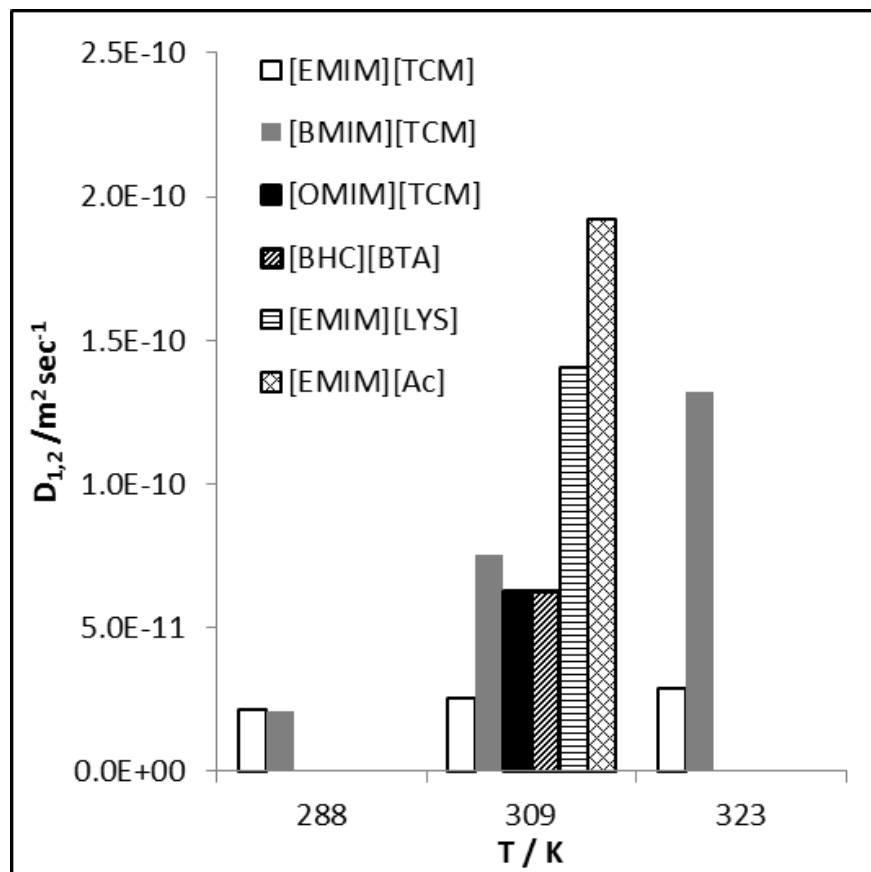
TCM-based ILs



$[C_nC_1im][C(CN)_3]-H_2O-CO_2$

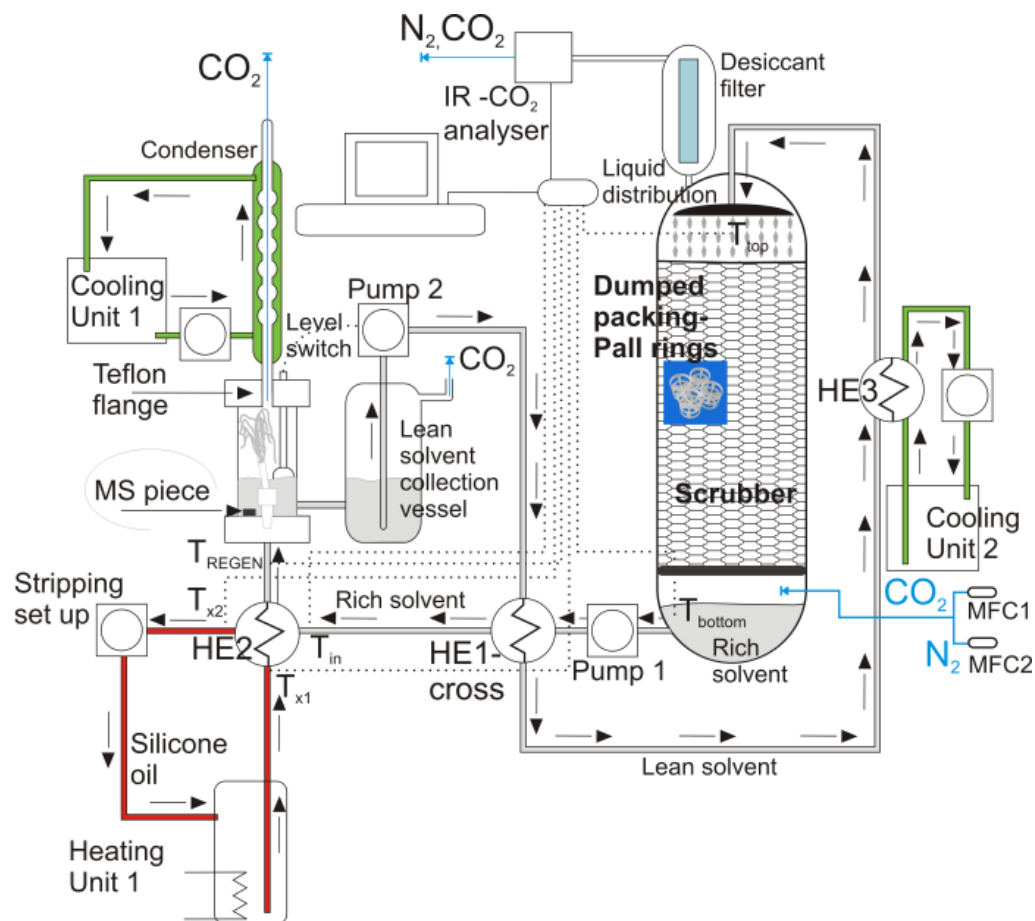
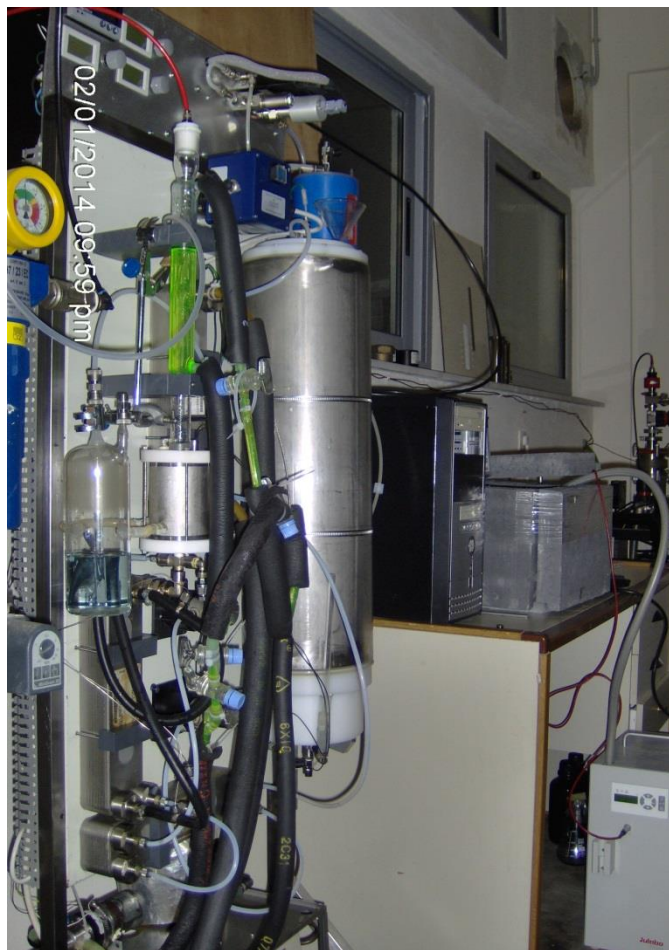


Effect of water on the CO₂ diffusivity of ILs

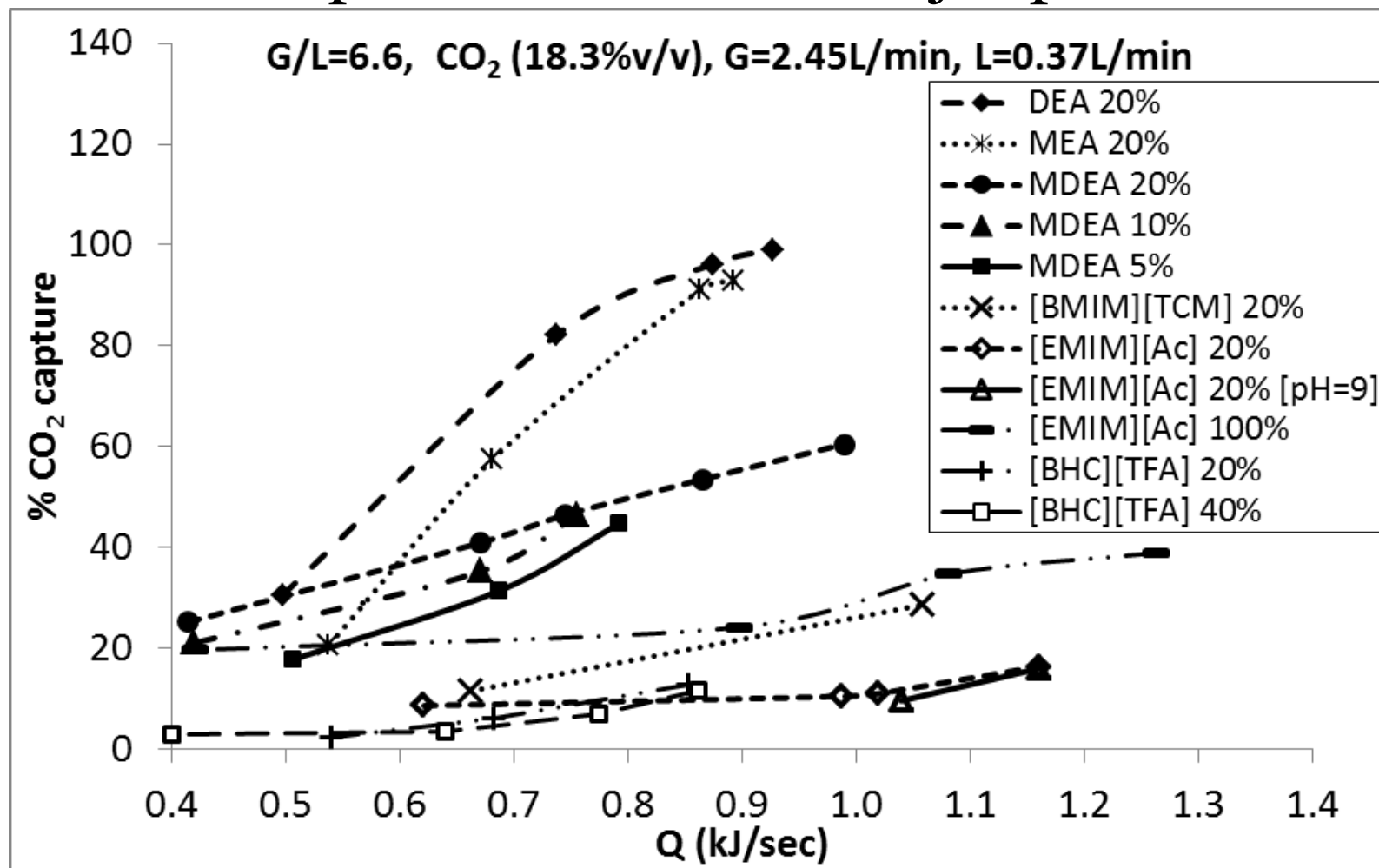


Is this enough?

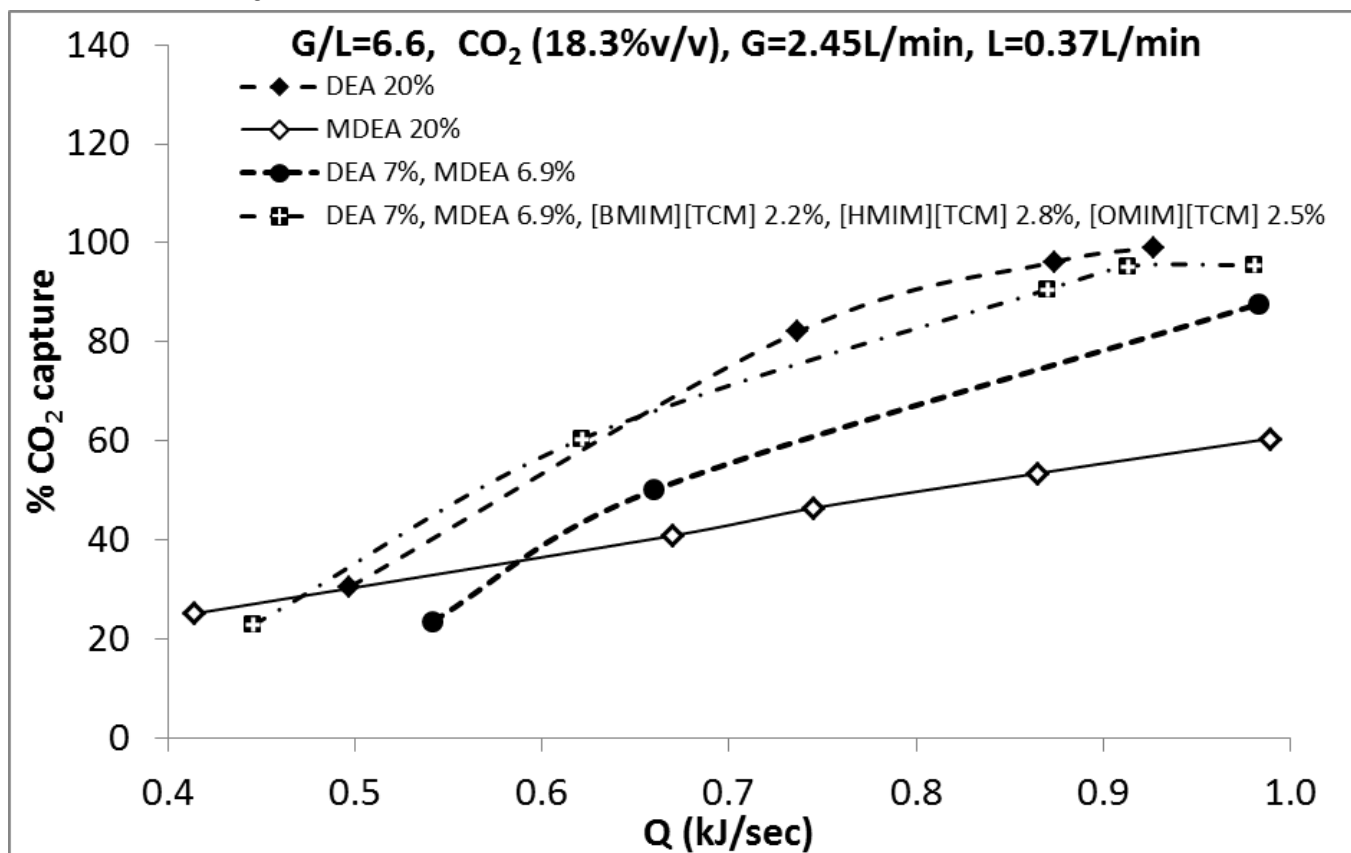
Perform tests in a scrubbing/stripping device



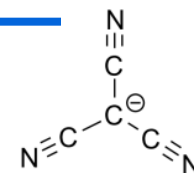
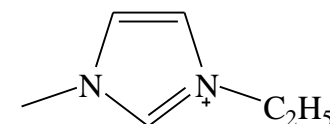
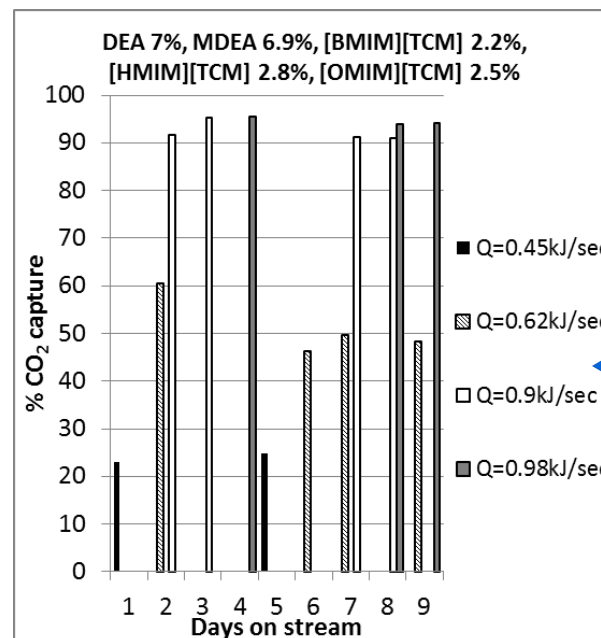
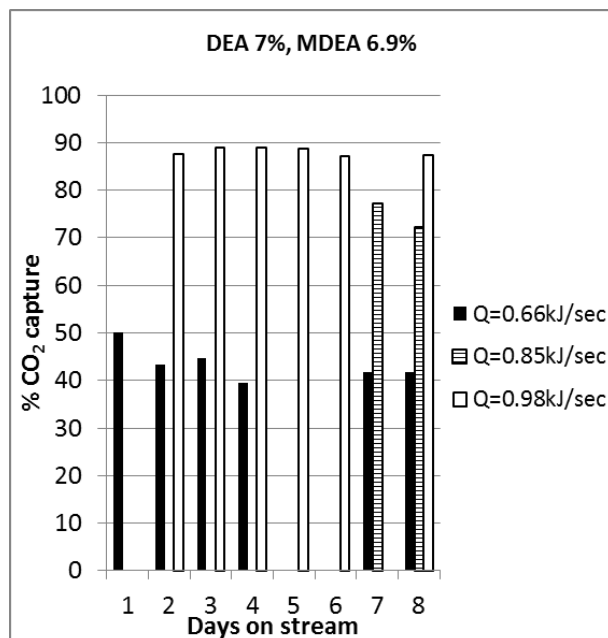
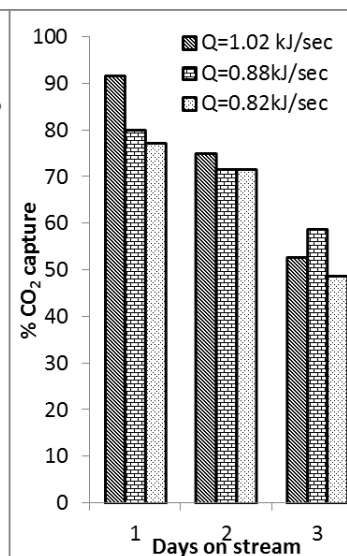
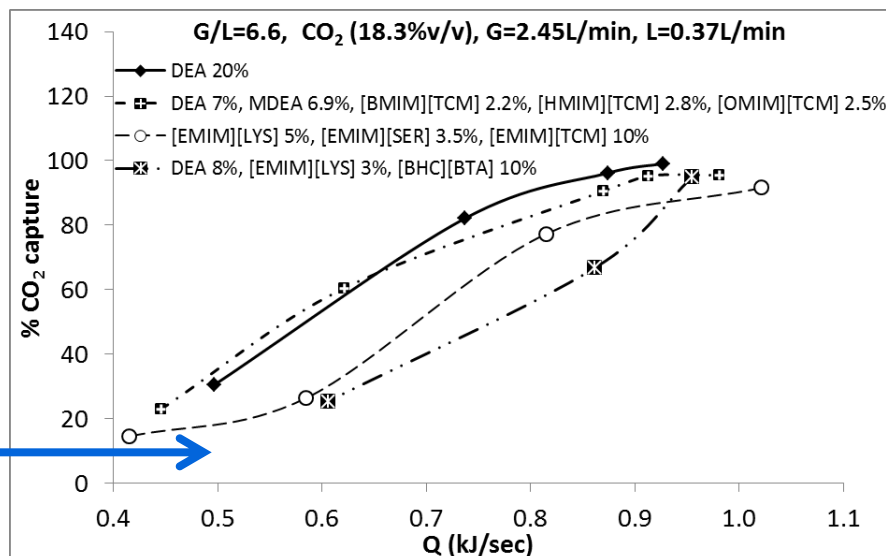
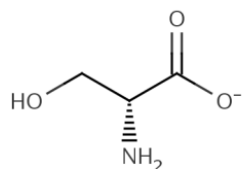
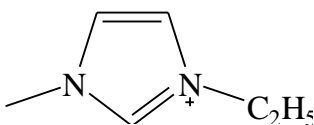
ILs could not compete with amines
Slow capture kinetics the major problem



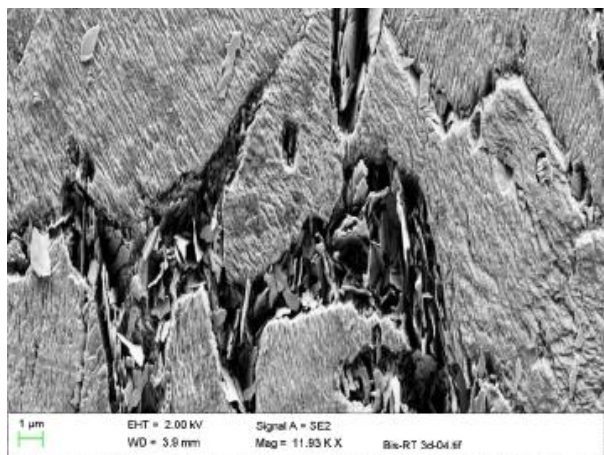
Use them in mixture with amines.
Try to reduce amine content.



A mixture consisting of 7% DEA, 6.9% MDEA and 7% ILs had the same efficiency with the 20% DEA solution

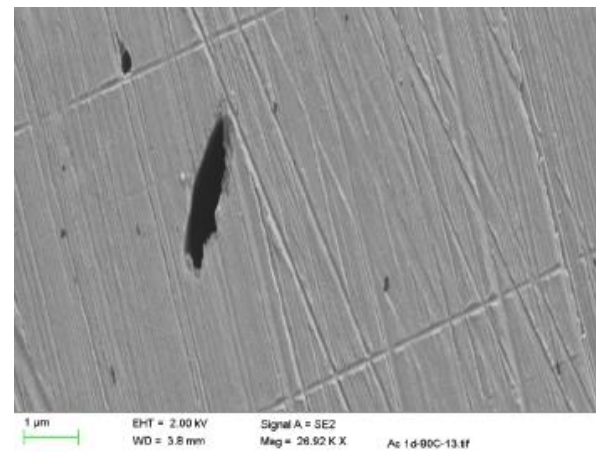


Less Corrosive for Mild Steel



7% DEA, 6.9% MDEA

attack severely the surface of mild steel, leading to dissolution of metal over the entire surface and significant weight loss

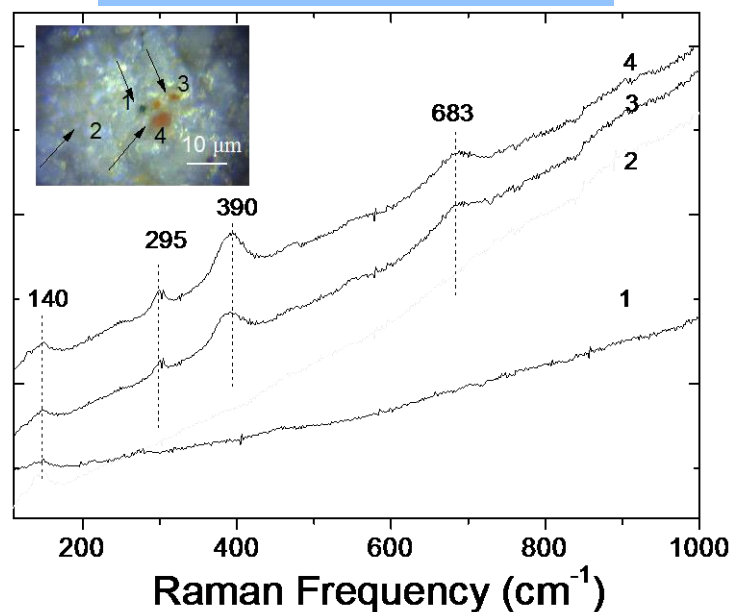


7% DEA, 6.9% MDEA and 7% ILs

corrosion inhibition effect of the ILs through the adsorption on the metal surface and blocking active sites surrounding MnS inclusions

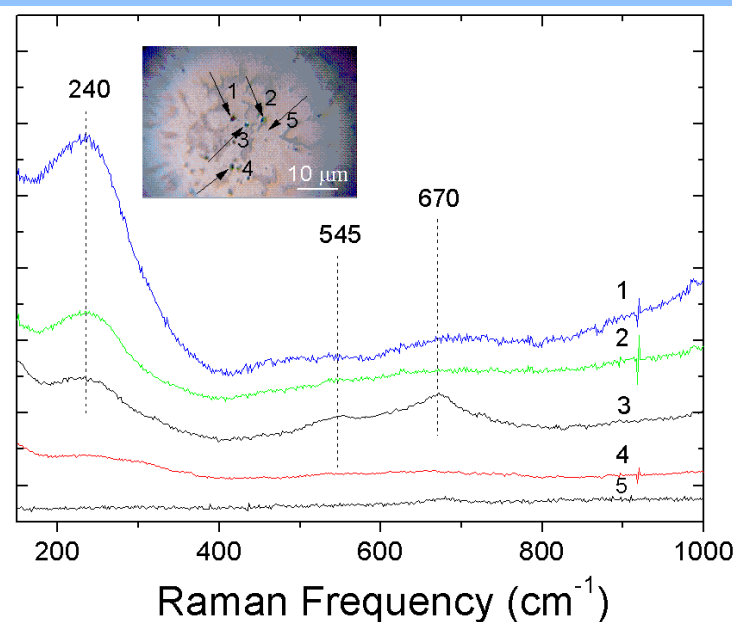
Raman analysis-Detection of corrosion products

7% DEA, 6.9% MDEA



α -FeOOH (goethite)

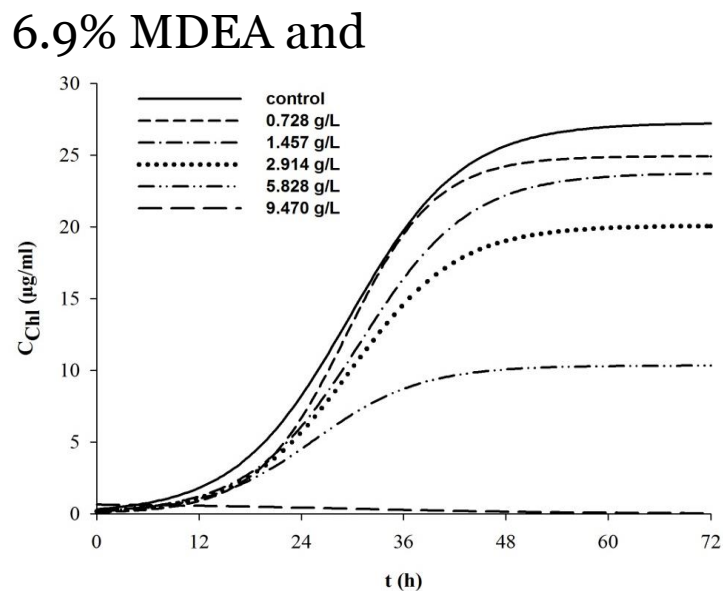
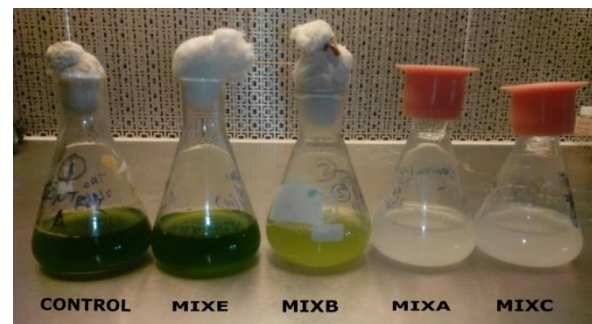
7% DEA, 6.9% MDEA and 7% ILs



Less Toxic

MDC (g/L) MIC (g/L)

DEA	1.577	1.314	← 20% DEA
MDEA	2.234	1.787	
MIXA	2.016	1.008	
MIXB	5.704	4.278	← 7% DEA, 6.9% MDEA and 7% ILs
MIXC	2.809	0.175	
MIXE	9.470	4.371	



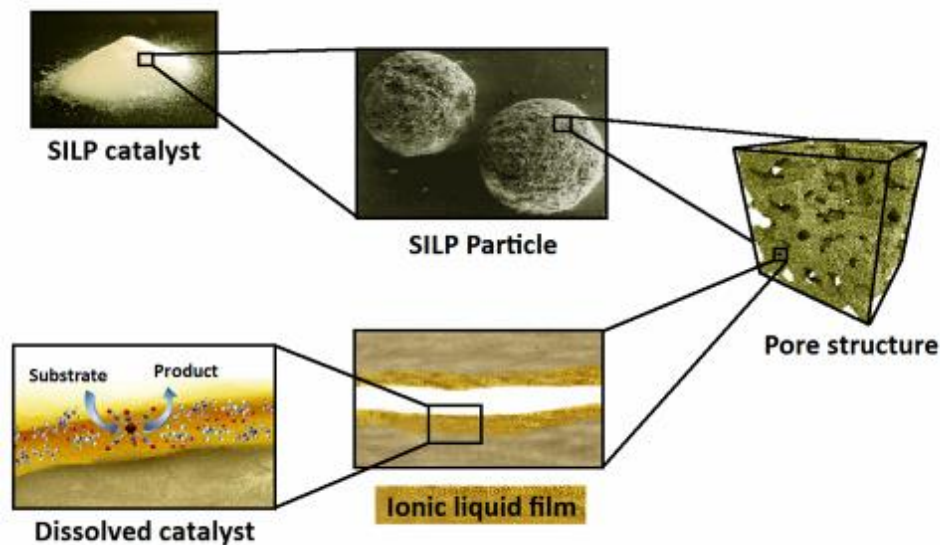
The SILP concept

As a way to confront the problems of

High Viscosity @ RT – 15-500cP \Rightarrow

Binary CO₂/IL diffusivity – 10^{-11} to 10^{-9} m²/sec

Cost – 100-200€ at the 100kg level



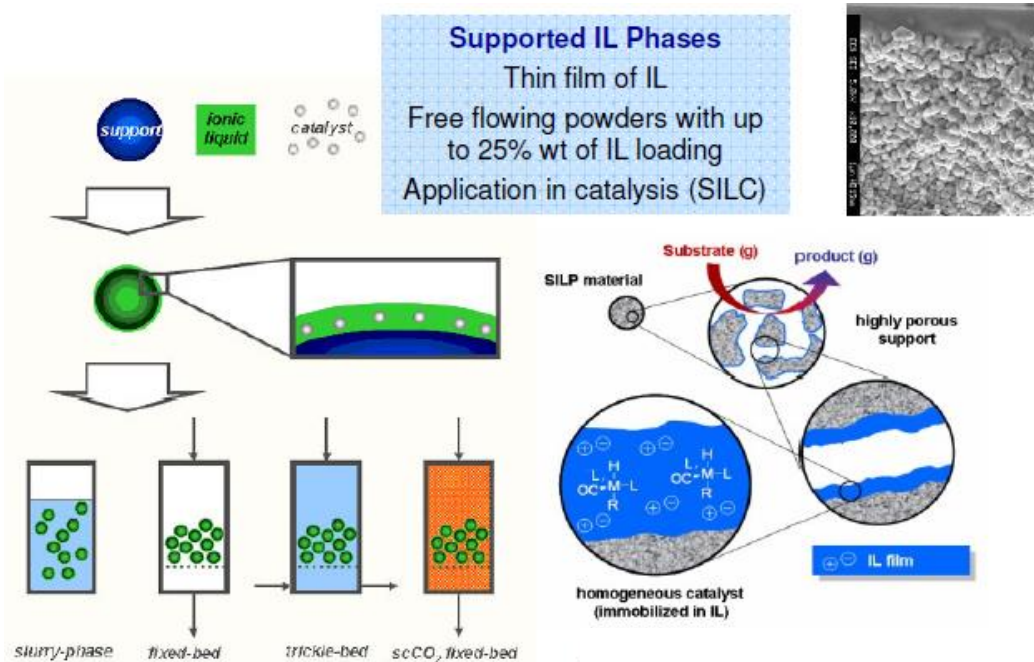
- Confinement **enhances CO₂-capture** performance.
- Overcomes **diffusion** limitations- Very thin film.
- **Cost**- Less quantity of IL



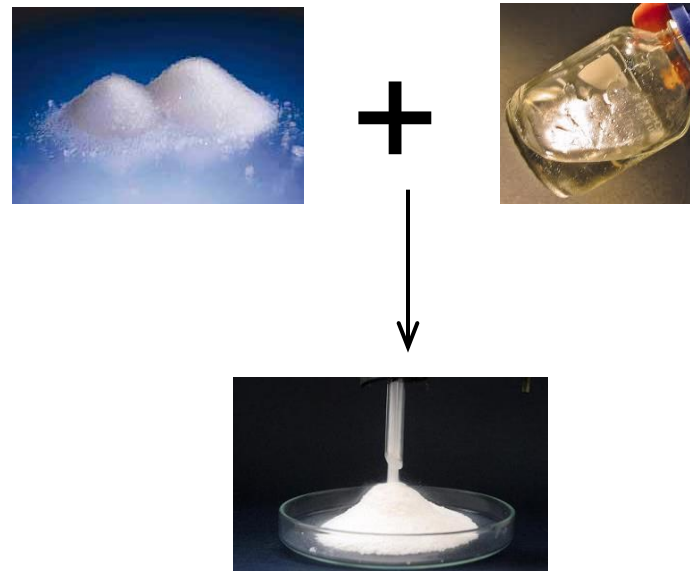
**Membranes = Supported Ionic Liquid Membranes
(SILMs) – (70%)**

**Catalysts = Supported Ionic Liquid Catalysts (SILCs)
– (25%)**

**Adsorbents = Supported Ionic Liquid Phase
Adsorbents (SILPs) – (5%)**



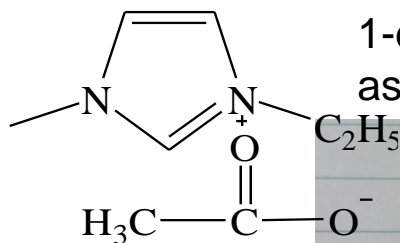
SILPs



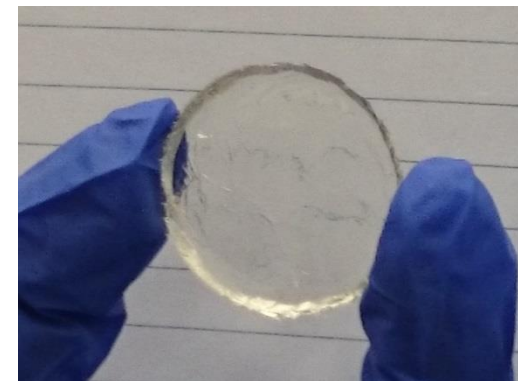
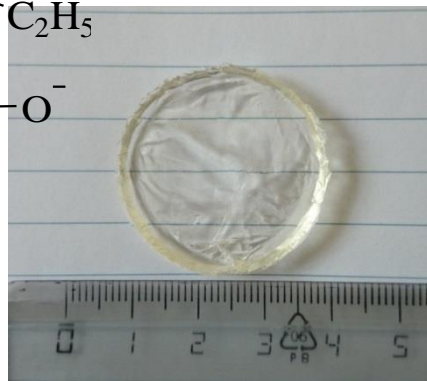
Ionogels Sol-gel.

Ionic liquids act as:

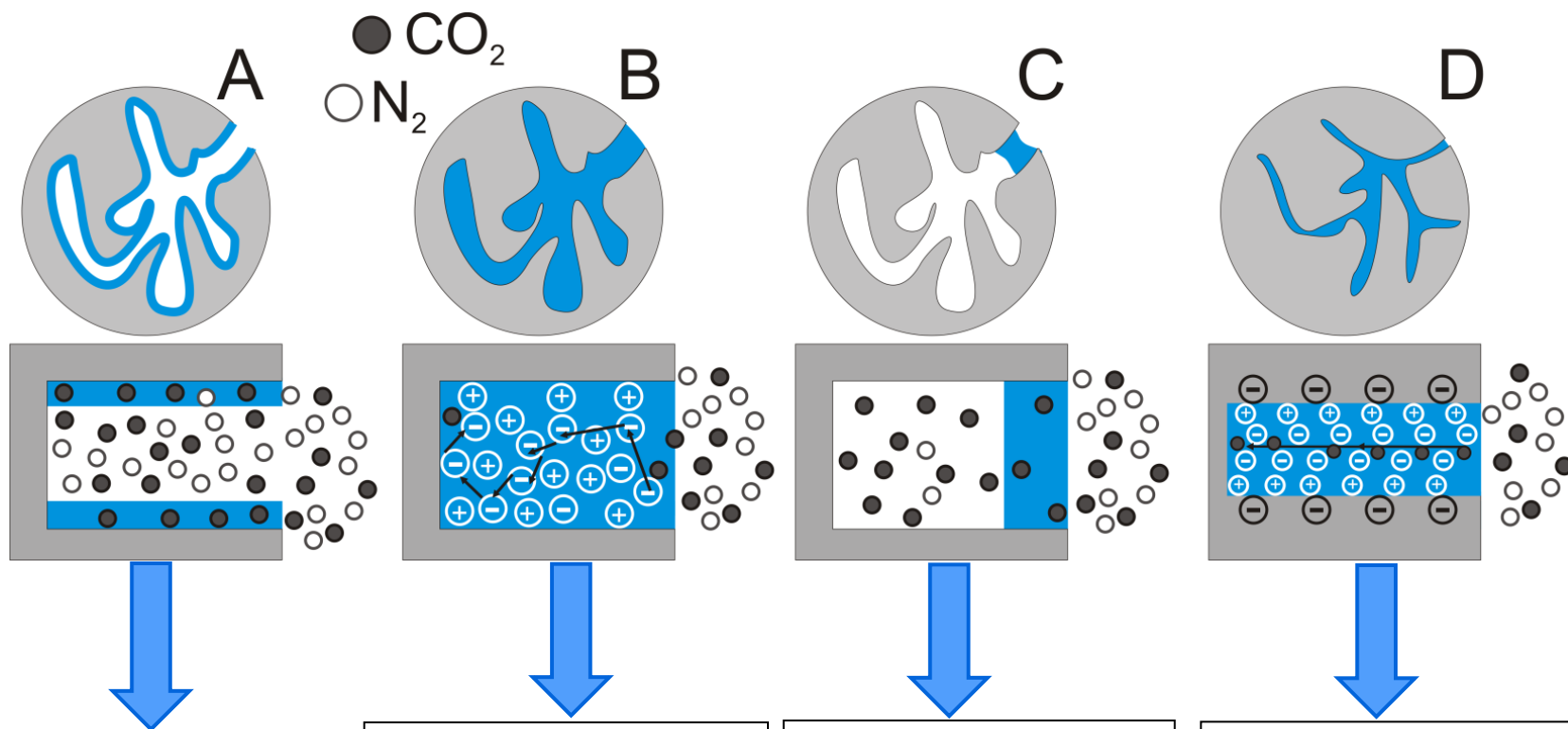
- drying control chemical additives
- catalysts
- structure directing agents
- solvents (or cosolvents)



1-ethyl-3-methyl-imidazolium acetate [EMIM][AC] as structure directing agent



Using porous substrates and membranes



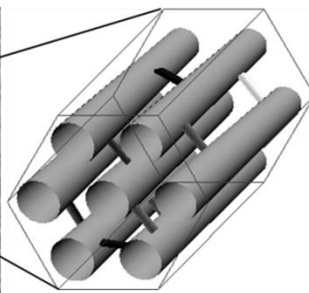
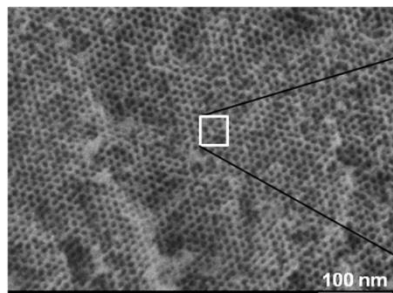
-Perfect for catalysis
-Gas separation? N

-Excellent gas separation
-Absorption capacity?
-Kinetics of absorption? Slow

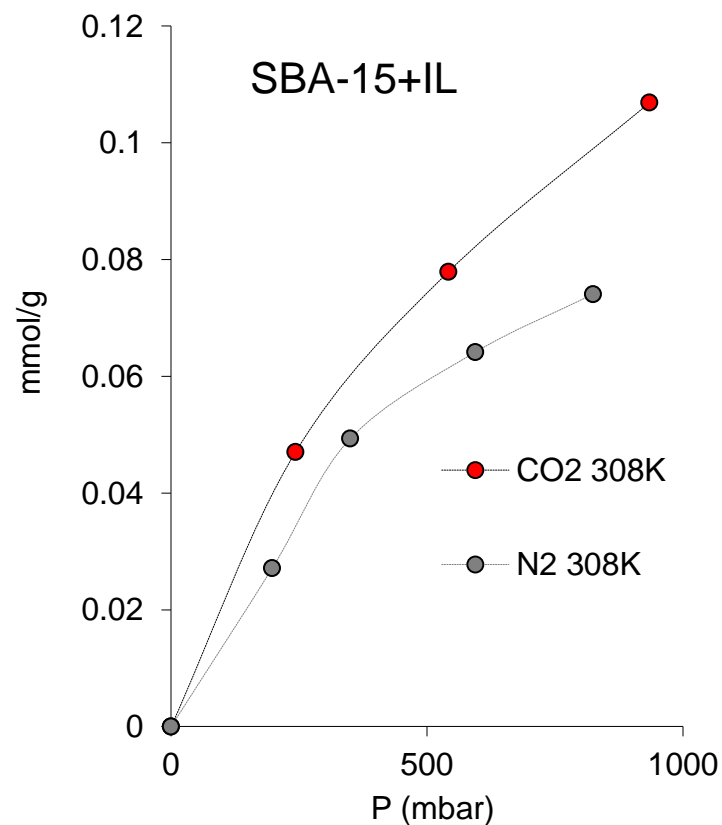
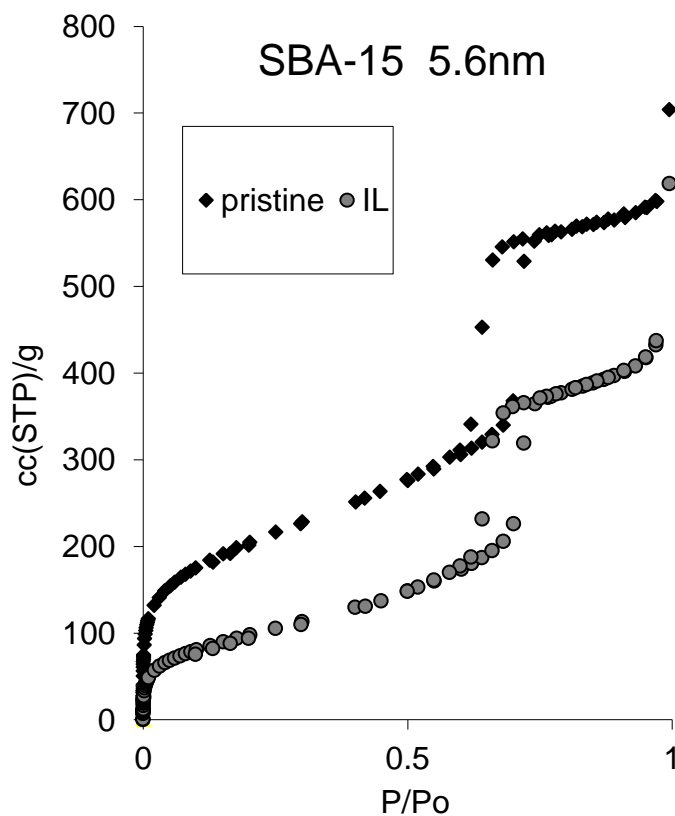
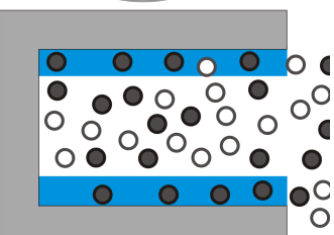
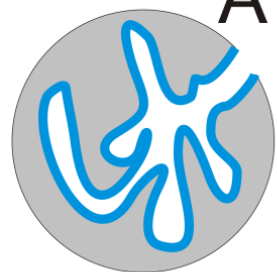
-Excellent gas separation, fast kinetics
-Absorption capacity? High
-Stability and regeneration?

-Size of the pore comparable to the size of IL
-Orientation of the IL ions generate straight paths-fast diffusion

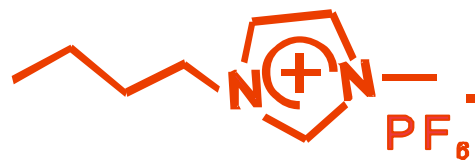
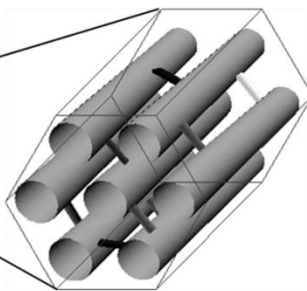
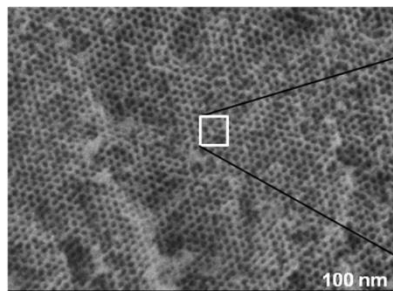
Case A – Thin film on the pore walls



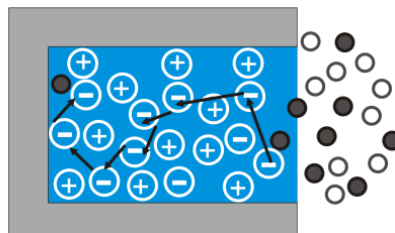
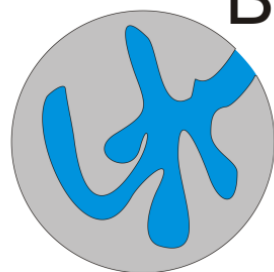
A



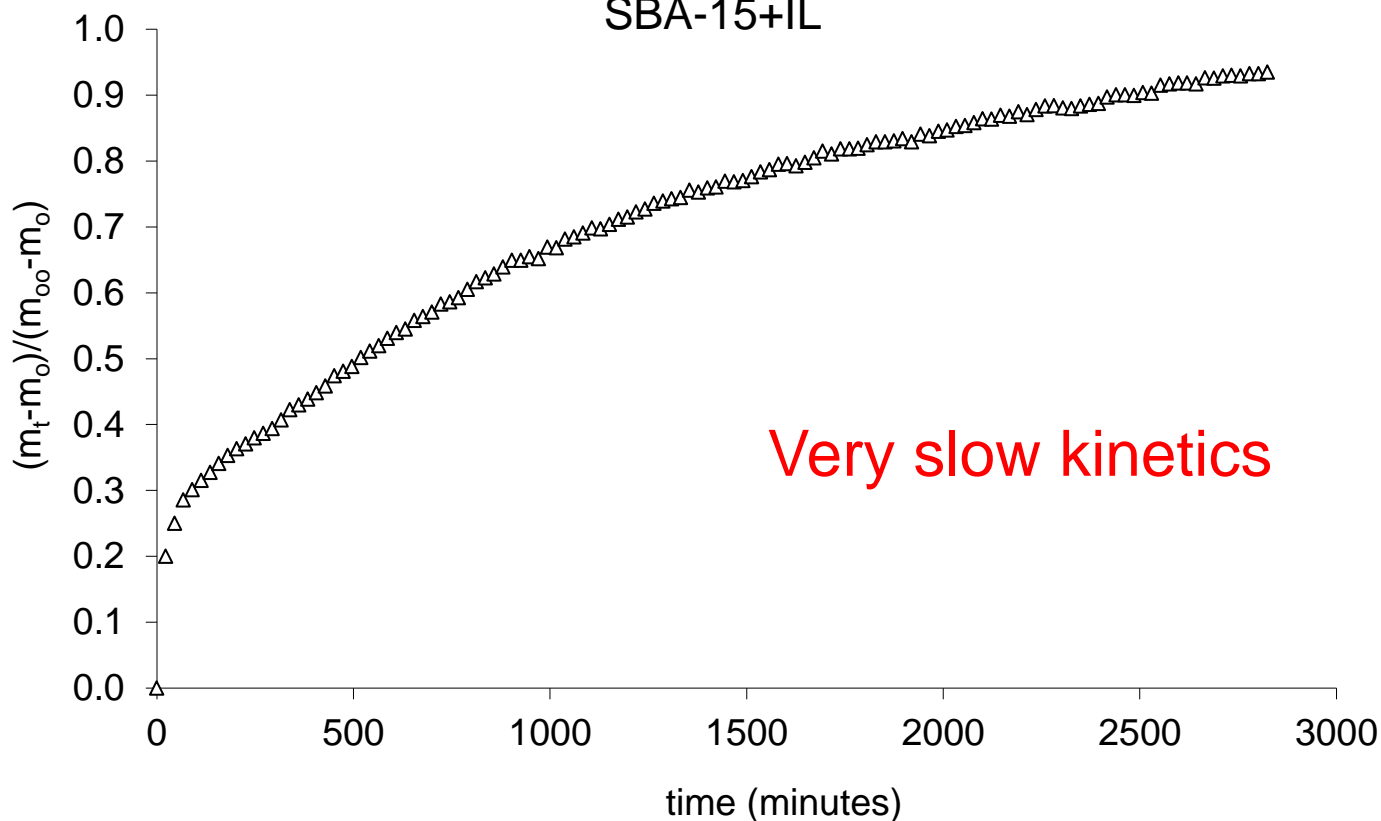
Case B – Complete pore filling



B



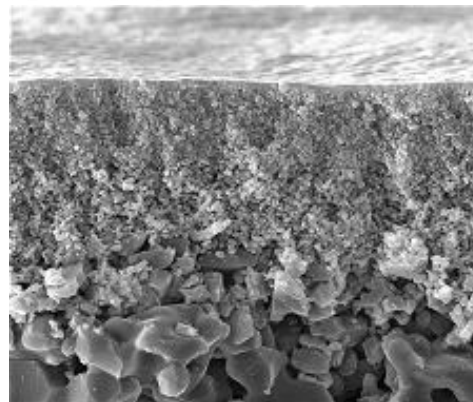
SBA-15+IL



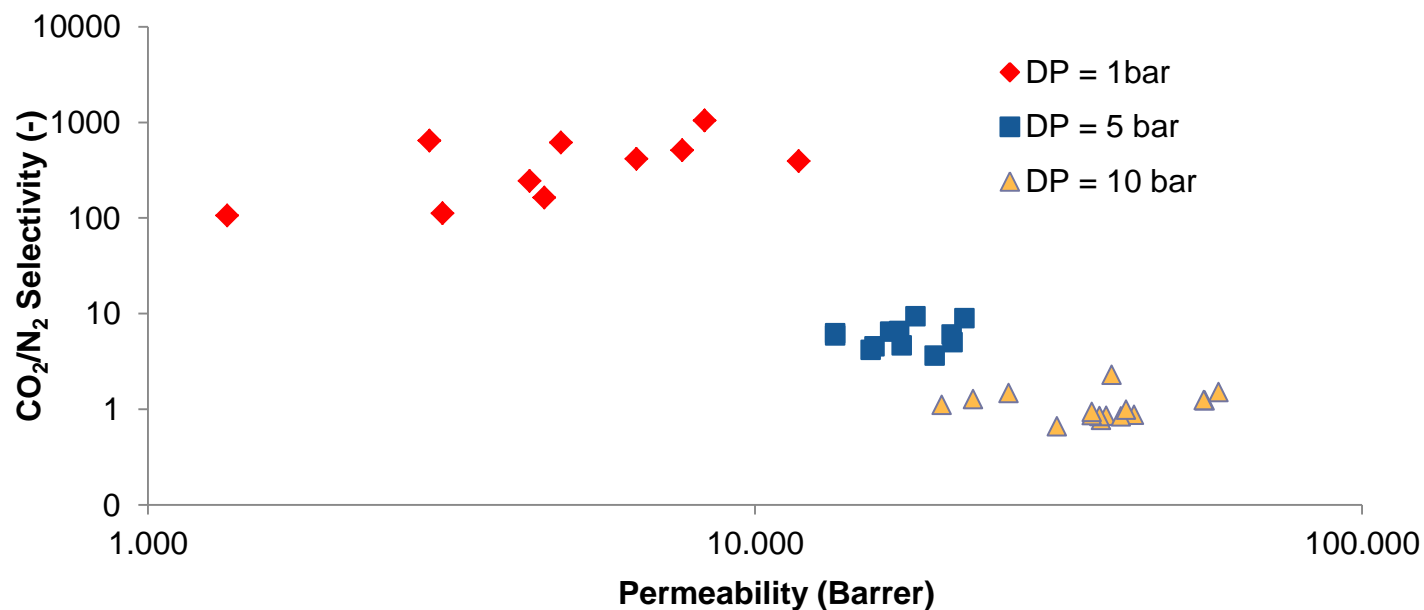
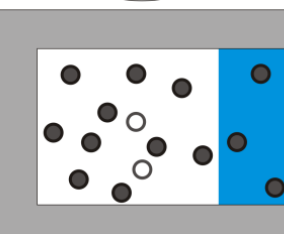
Very slow kinetics

Case C – Thin film on the pore mouth

Ceramic Ultrafiltration and Nanofiltration membranes



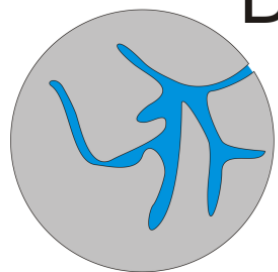
C



Case D – Orientation of the IL ions

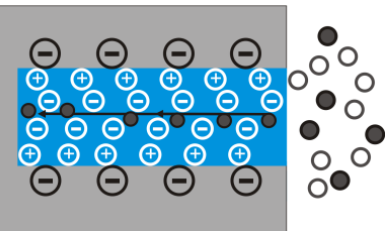
Challenges

D

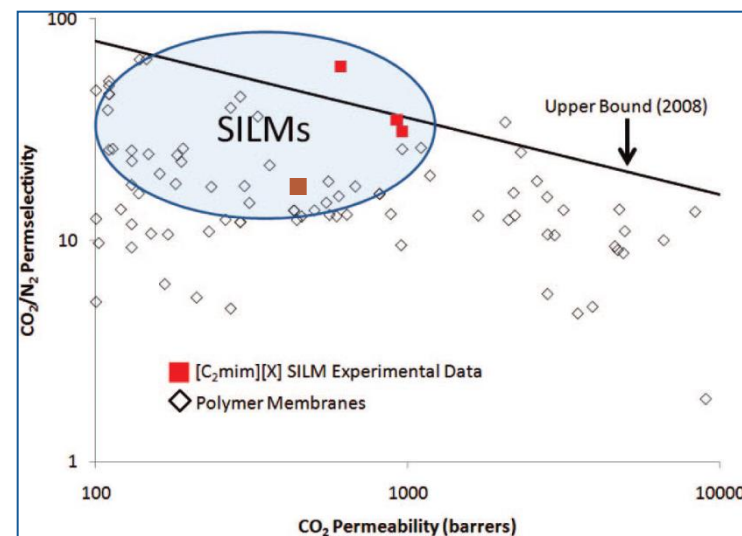
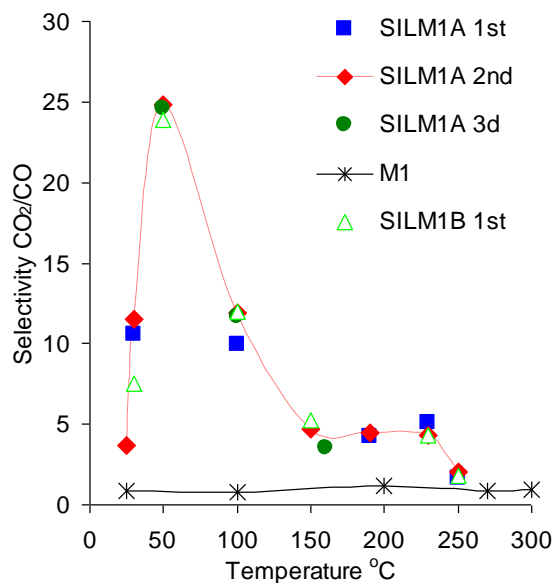
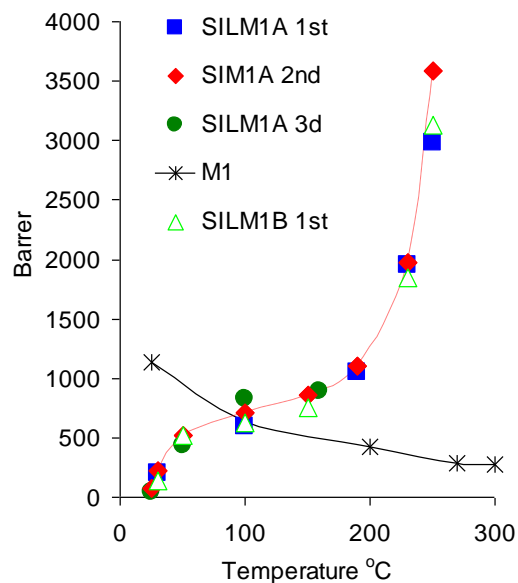
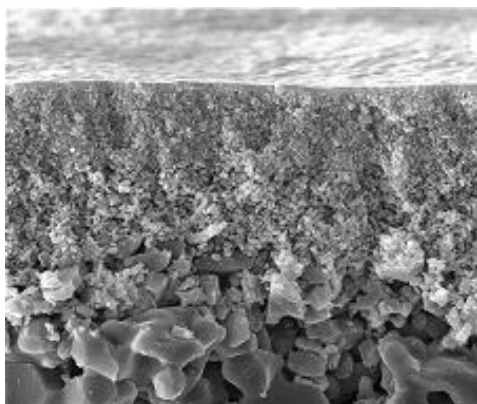
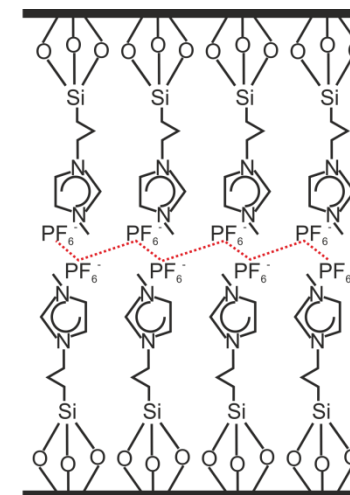
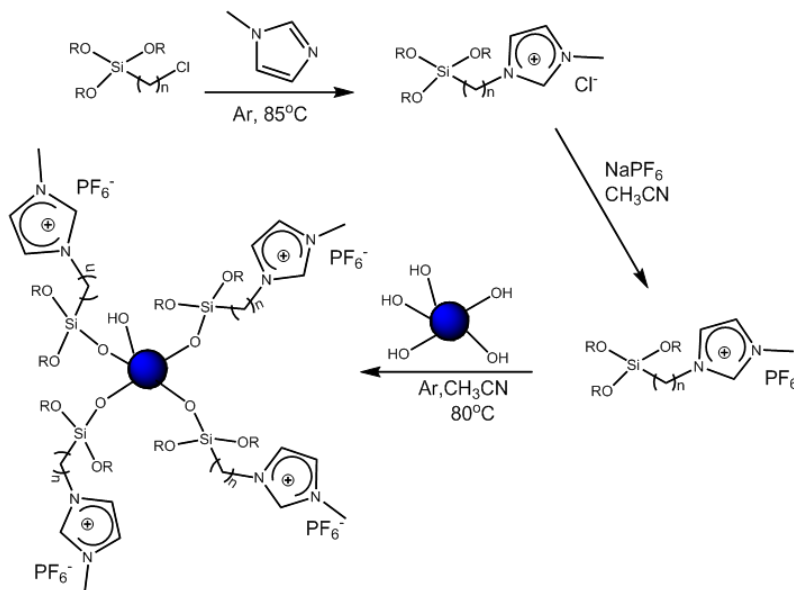
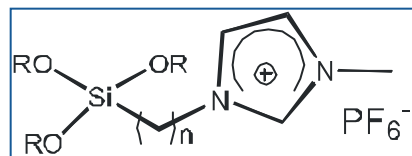


-It is difficult to find porous supports with the required pore size

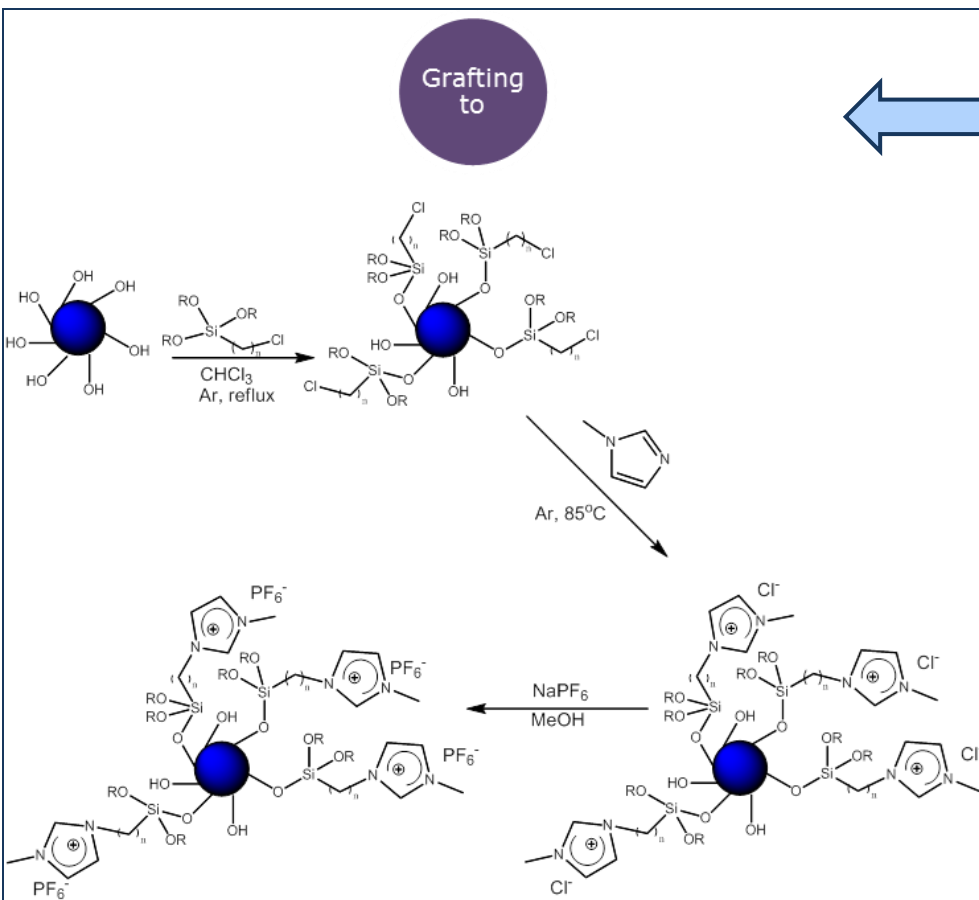
-The surface of the porous solid must be negatively charged



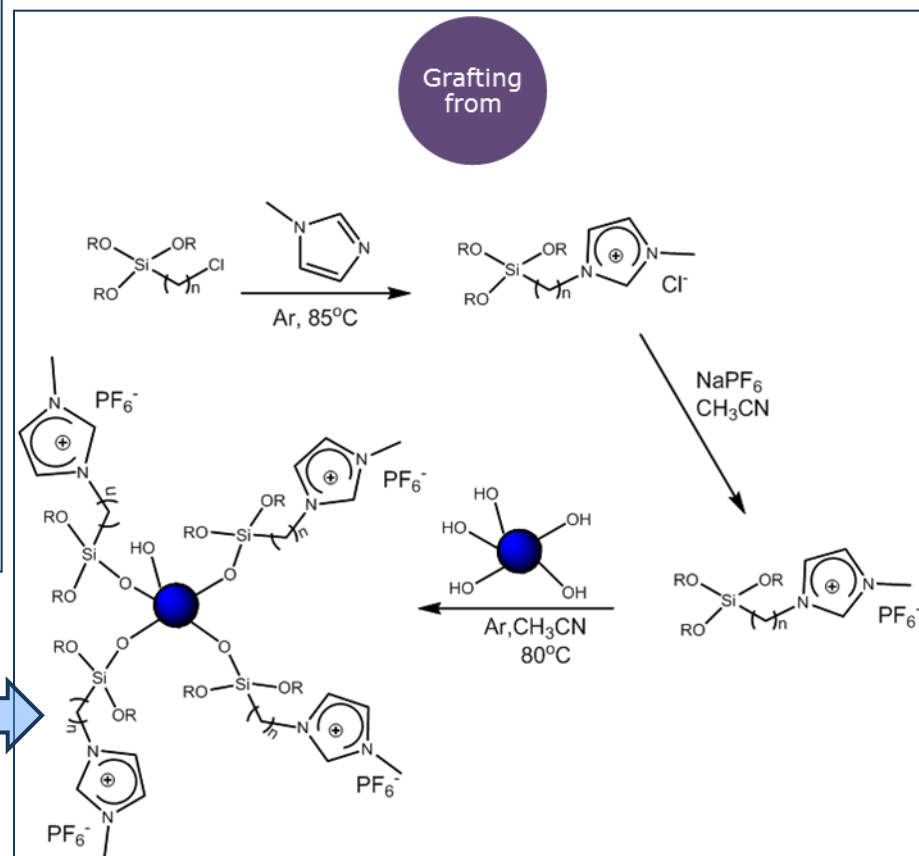
Case D – Alternative method - Grafting



Different approaches for development



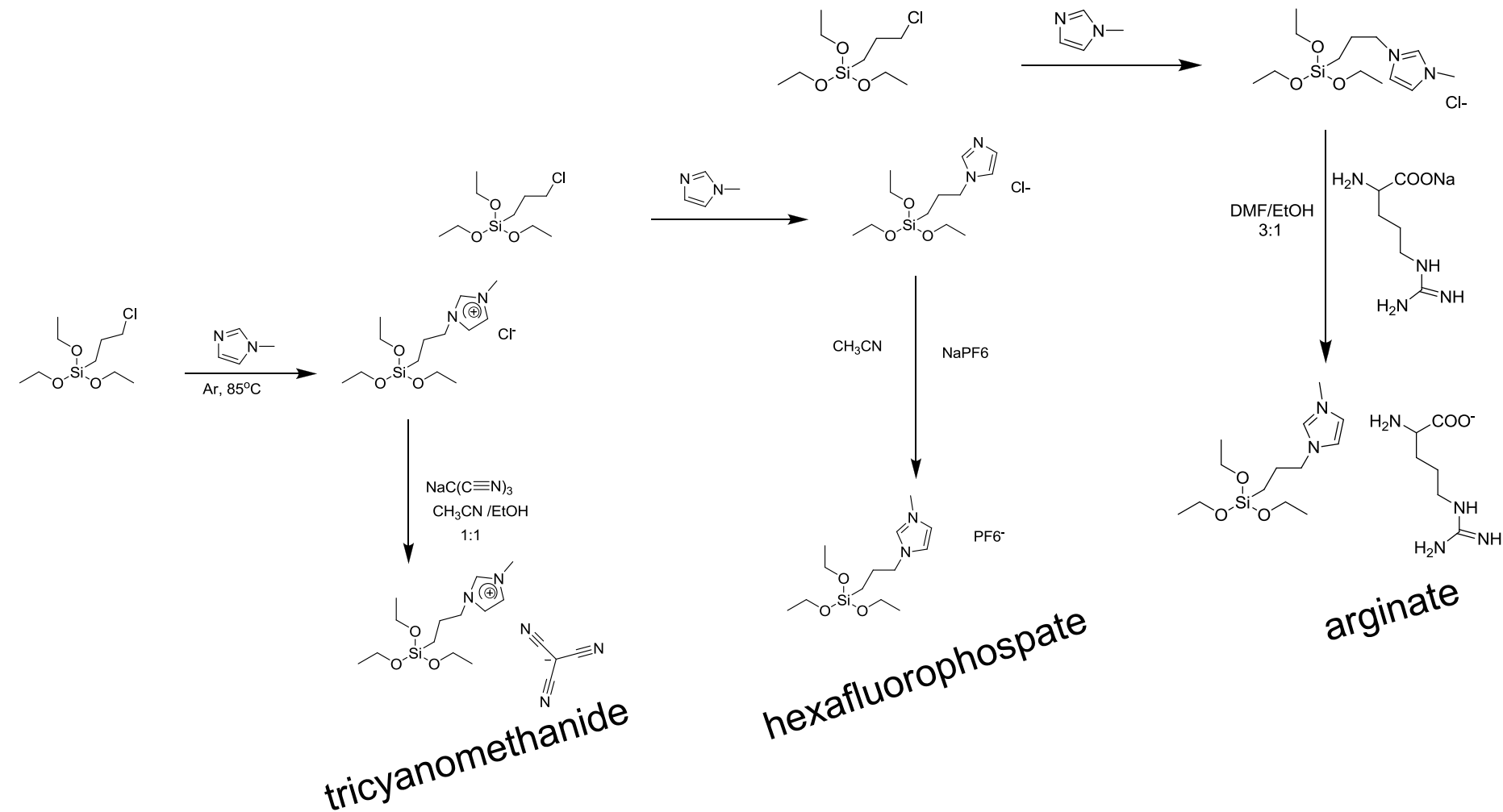
First step to graft the silane



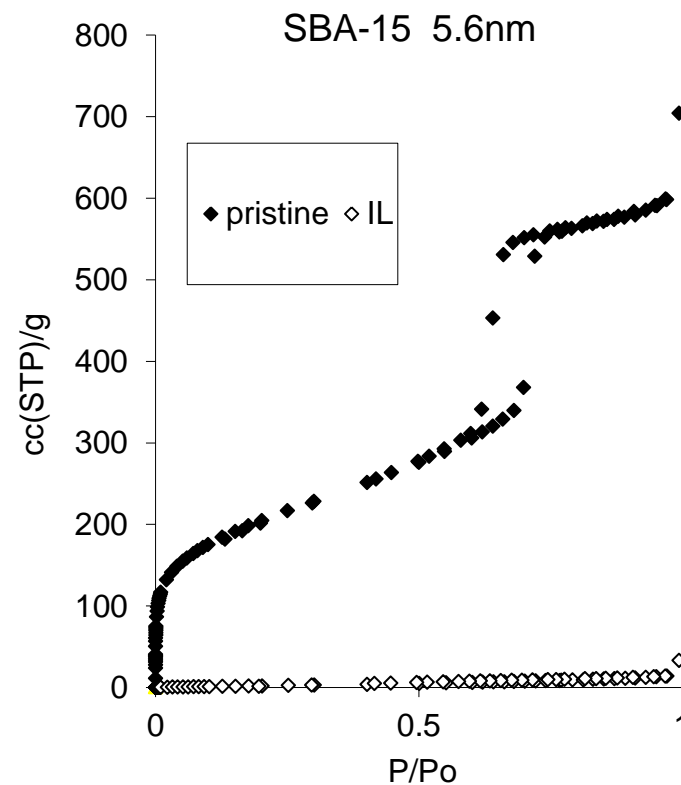
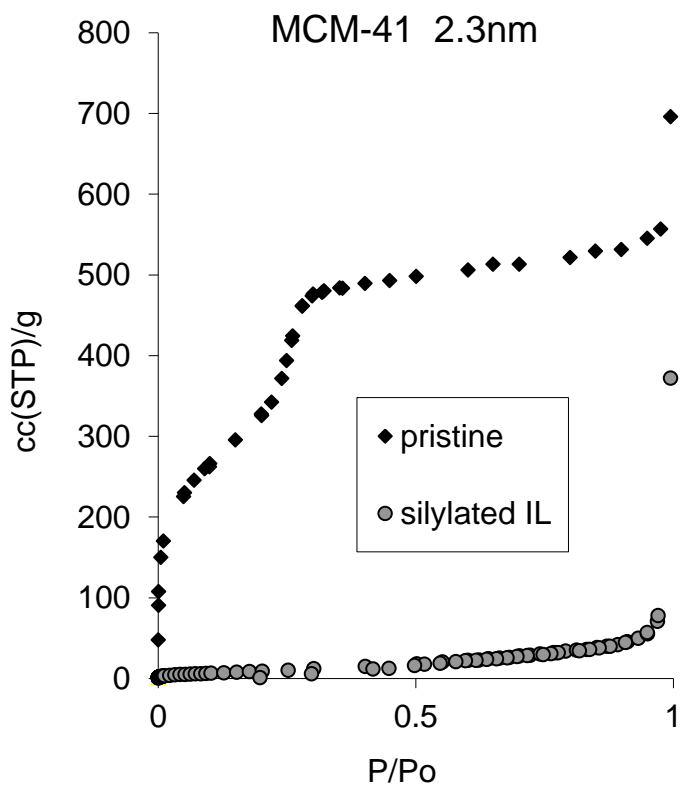
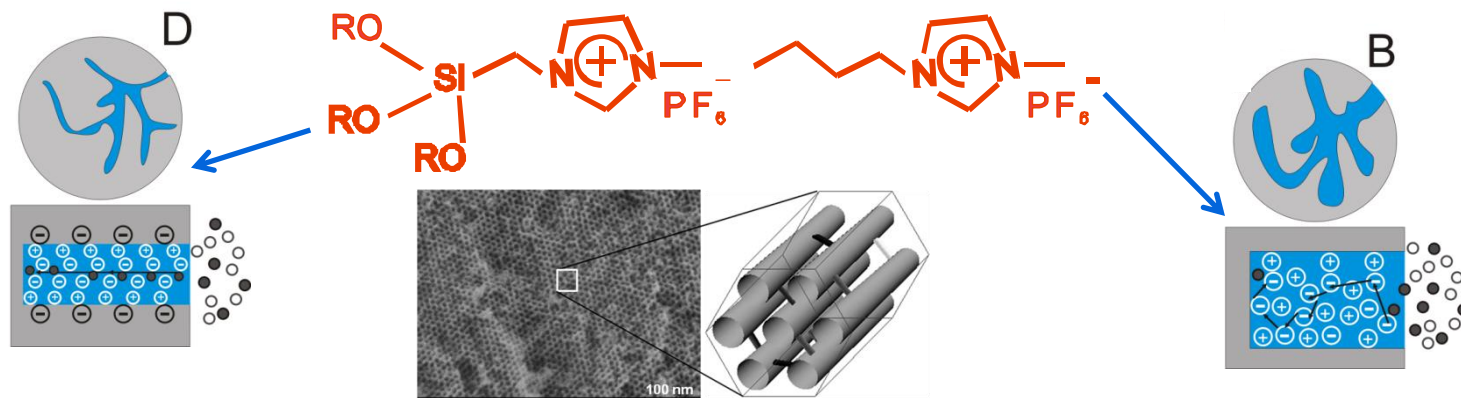


Very versatile technique-Different anions

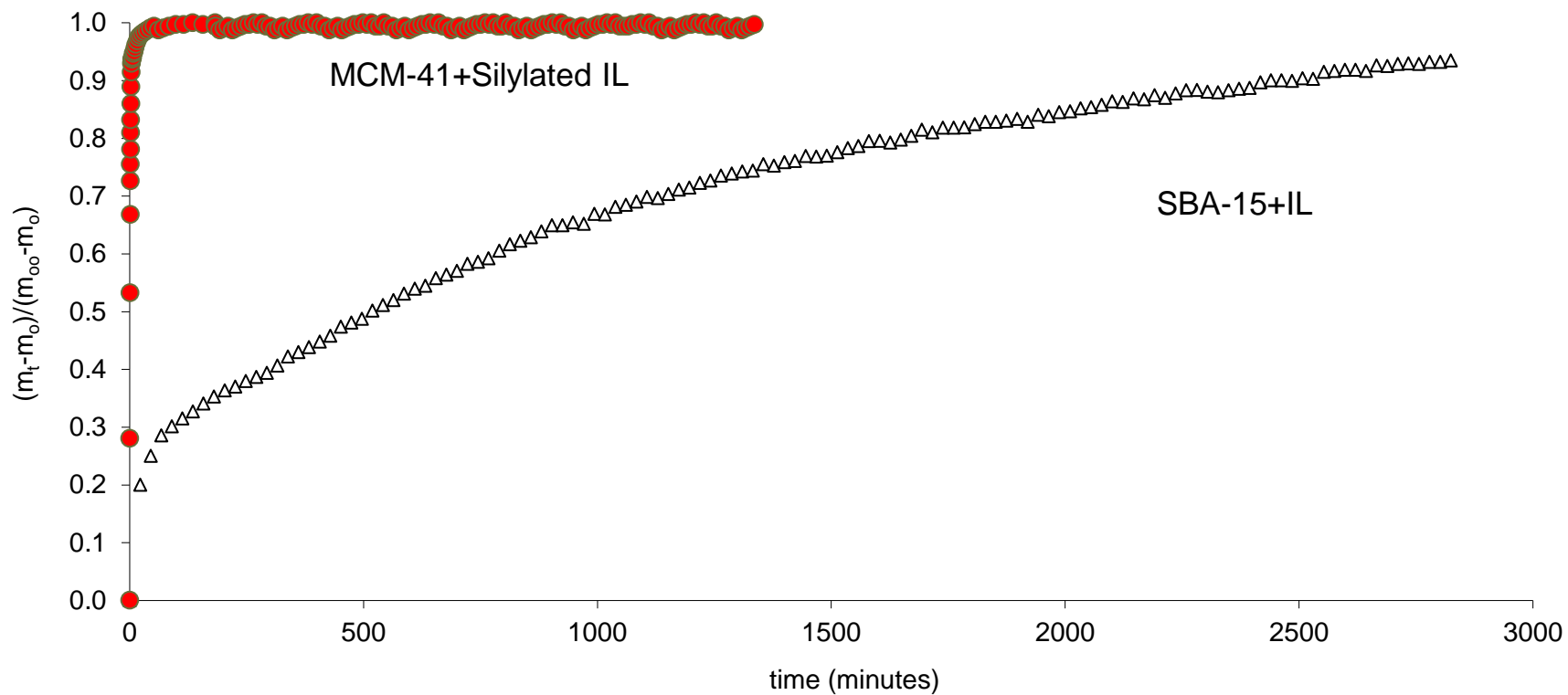
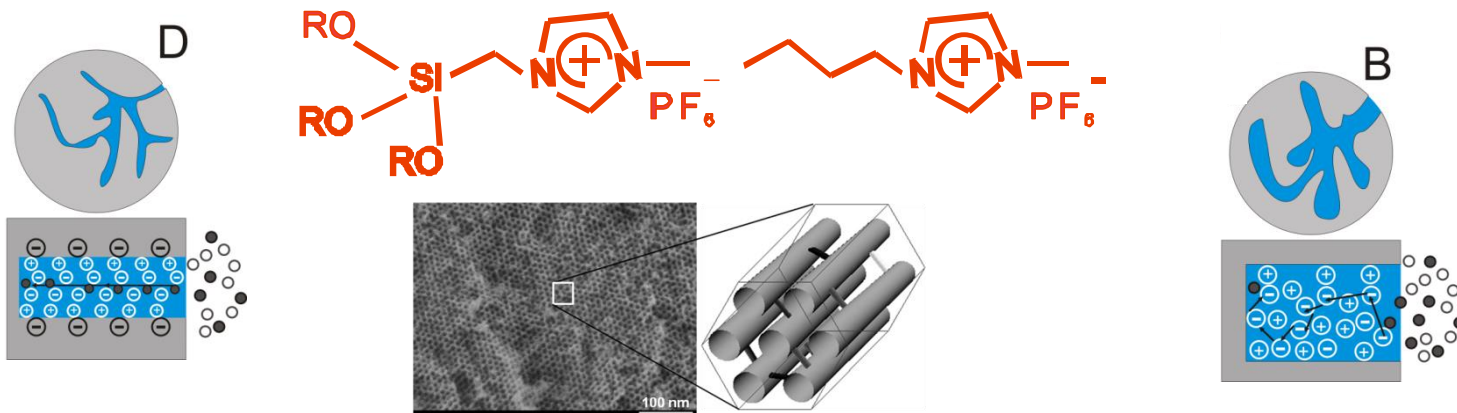
36



Comparison Grafted vs Case B

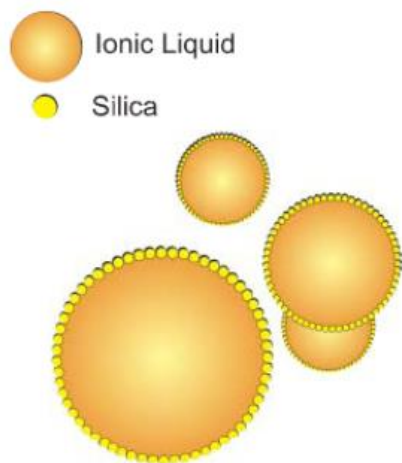


Comparison Grafted vs Case B



Novel SILPs– Inverse SILPs

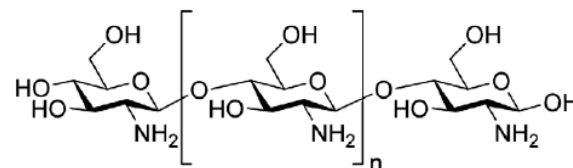
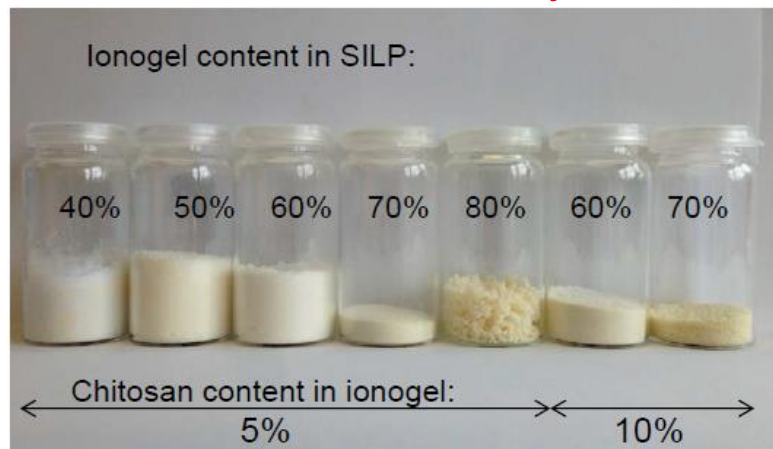
Innovation - Dry liquid. Tiny droplets of IL ($<1\mu\text{m}$) covered by nanoparticles of pyrogenic silica



- ✓ Easily upscalable development
- ✓ Phase inversion from silica nanoparticles suspension in a methanolic solution of the Ionic Liquid.
- ✓ By controllable evaporation of methanol we achieve phase inversion with the hydrophilic nanoparticles covering the droplets of IL.

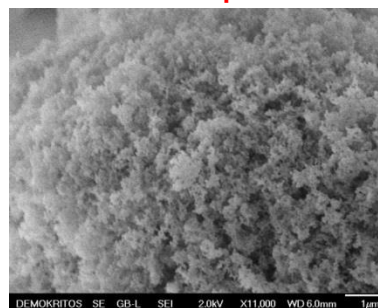
Morphology of Inverse SILPs

Novelty- Use an Ionogel of Chitosan with the IL

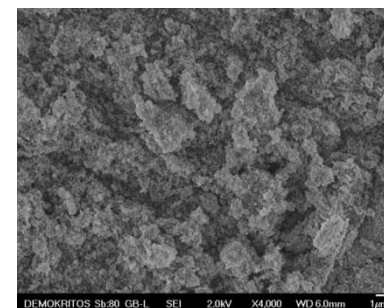


Images from SEM

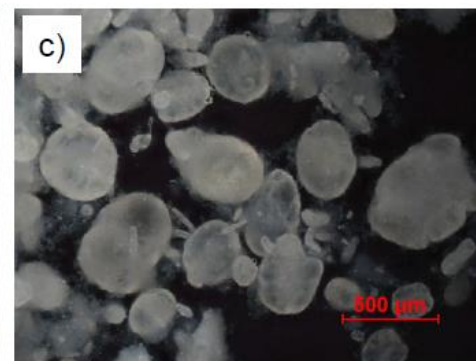
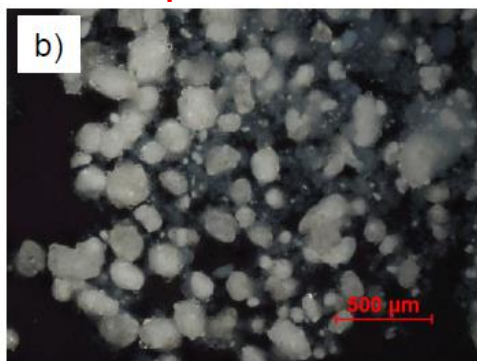
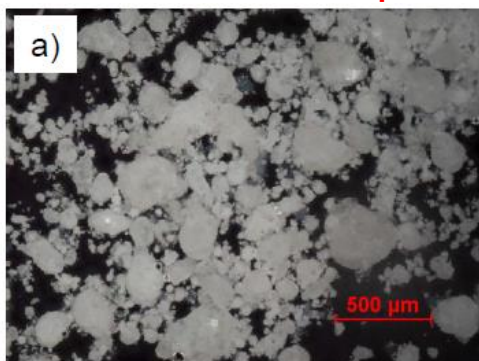
Silica nanoparticles



Inverse SILP

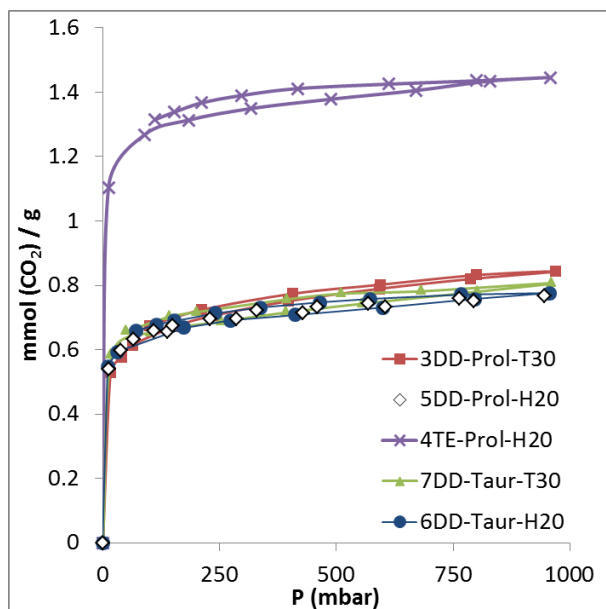


Optic Microscope

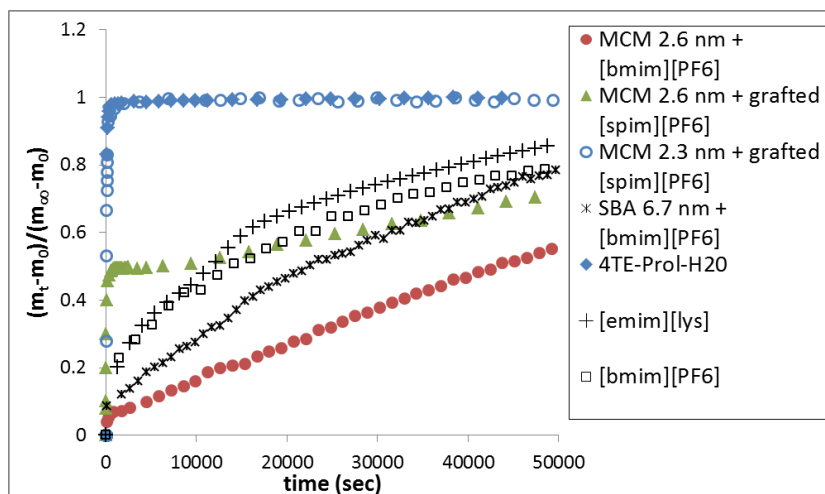
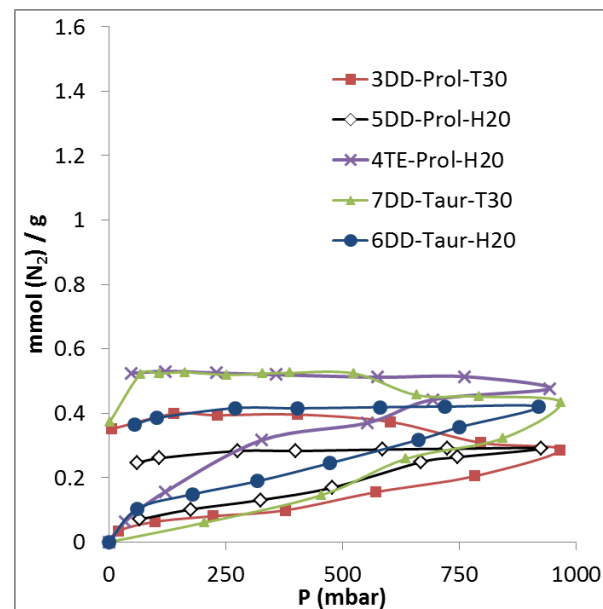


Performance of Inverse SILPs

CO₂



N₂



Very fast kinetics



Characteristic numbers for Ionic Liquids

# of predicted permutations of ions	10^{18}
# of liquid materials	10^{12} (?)
# of materials with interesting properties:	~ 10.000
# produced by companies on lab scale today:	~ 500
# produced on lab scale in future:	~ 1500
# of materials produced on industrial scale today	5-10
# produced on industrial scale in future:	25 (?)
# of materials described in literature today	> 2000
# of materials synthesized in our own labs	> 700
# of sufficiently characterized materials	~ 20



CHEMICAL REVIEWS

Review

pubs.acs.org/CR

Gas Solubility in Ionic Liquids

Zhigang Lei, Chengna Dai, and Biaohua Chen*

State Key Laboratory of Chemical Resource Engineering, Beijing University of Chemical Technology, Box 266, Beijing, 100029, China

[dx.doi.org/10.1021/cr300497a1](https://doi.org/10.1021/cr300497a1) *Chem. Rev.* 2014, 114, 1289

CO₂ - 120 ILs

N₂ -10 ILs

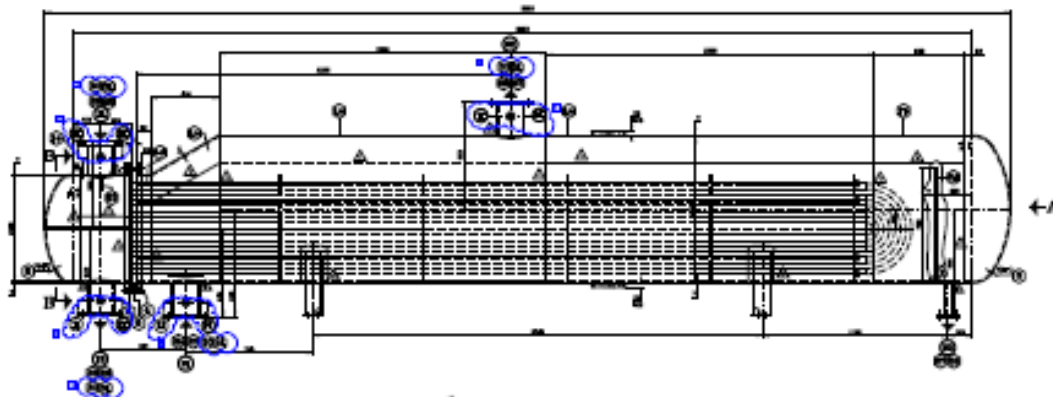
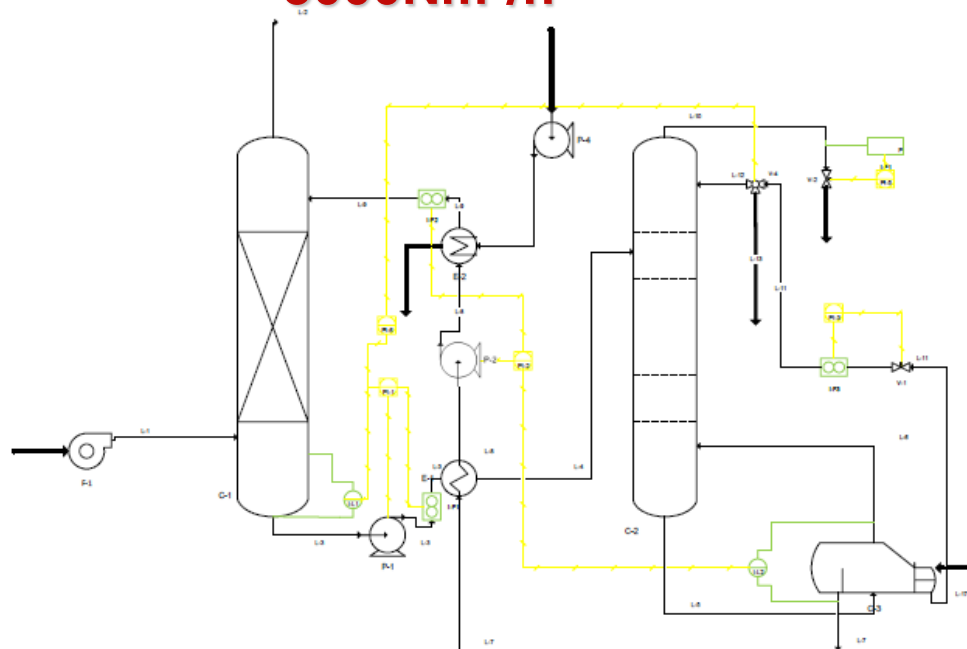
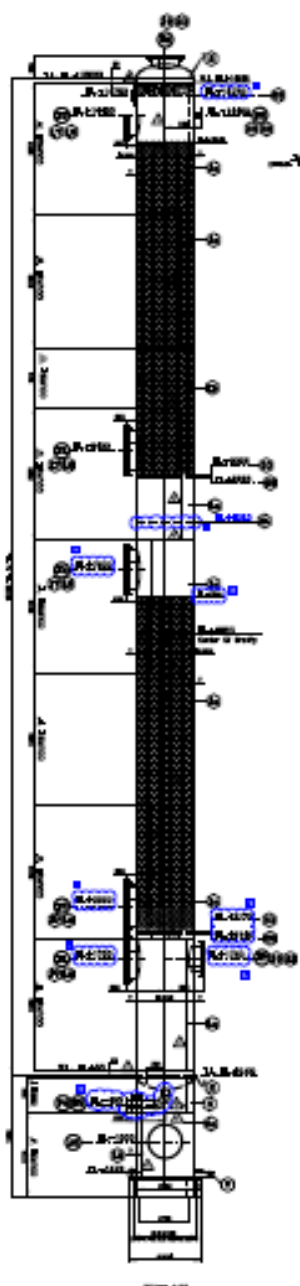
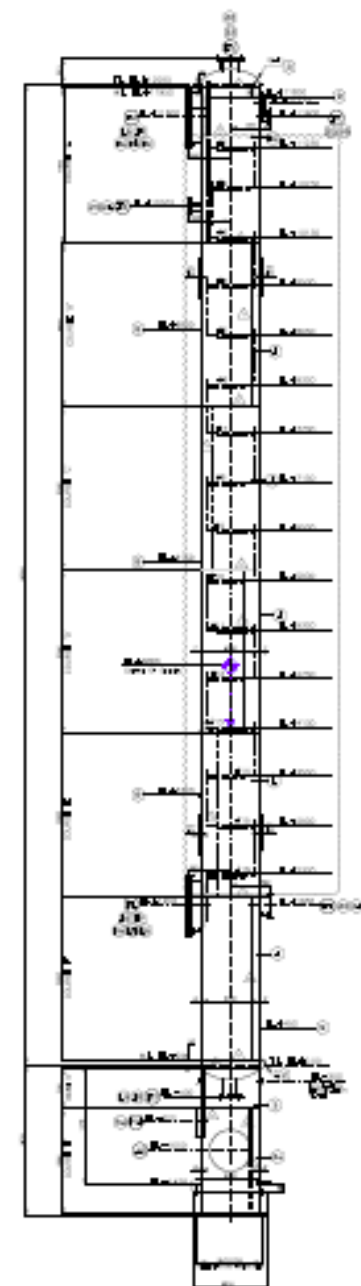
SO₂- 20 ILs

H₂S - 16 ILs

N₂O – 11 ILs

Ionic Liquids in gas separation

**Demonstration: Budget 350k€
5000Nm³/h**



Flue Gas desulfurisation Plant







Thank you for your attention !!!!

