

# MODELLING STUDY OF CO<sub>2</sub> SEQUESTRATION BY MINERAL WASTE CARBONATION

*Natalia Vidal de la Peña*

*PhD student from University of Liège*

*Promoters: Grégoire Léonard*

*Dominique Toye*

# INDEX



Introduction



CO<sub>2</sub> capture by mineral carbonation by using  
construction waste



Coupling between chemical reactions and transfer  
phenomena



Simulation and experimental results



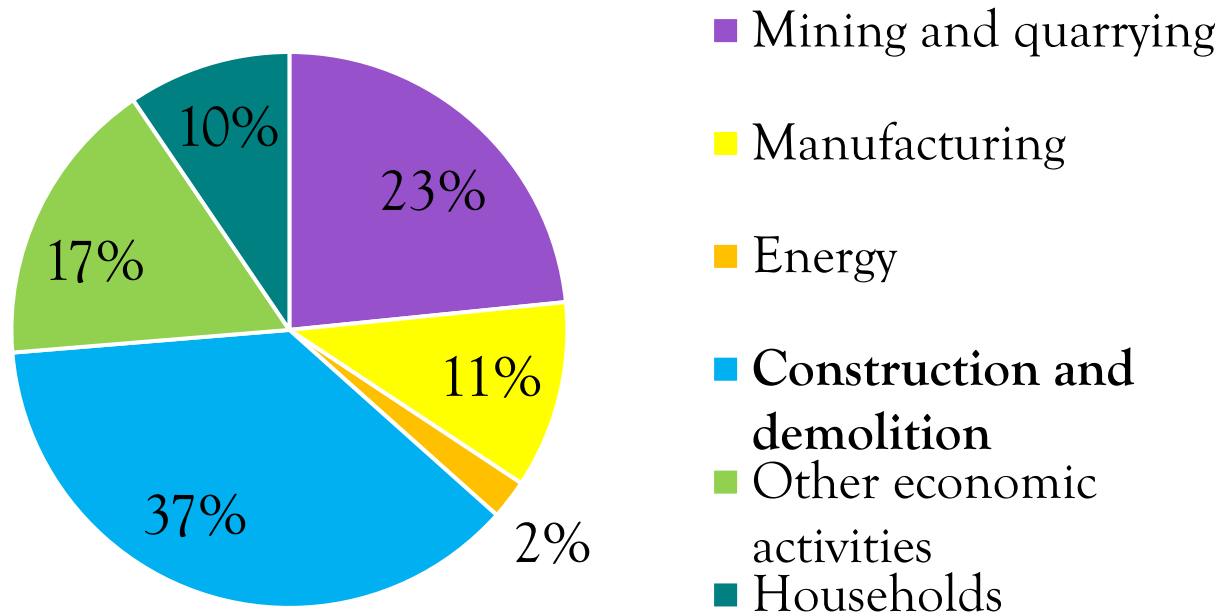
Model validation



Conclusions

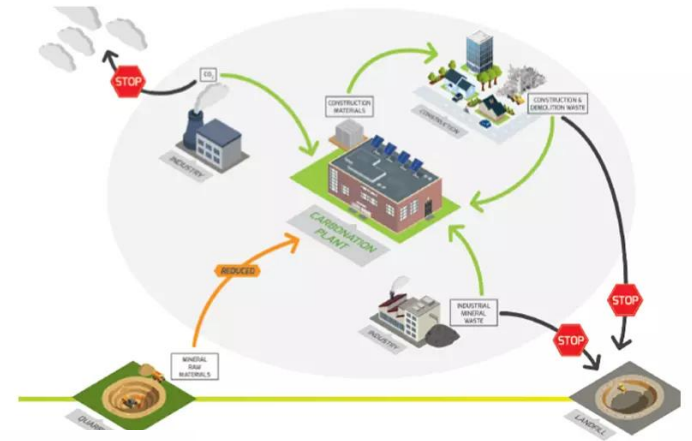
# INTRODUCTION

Waste generation by economic activities and households in Europe 2020



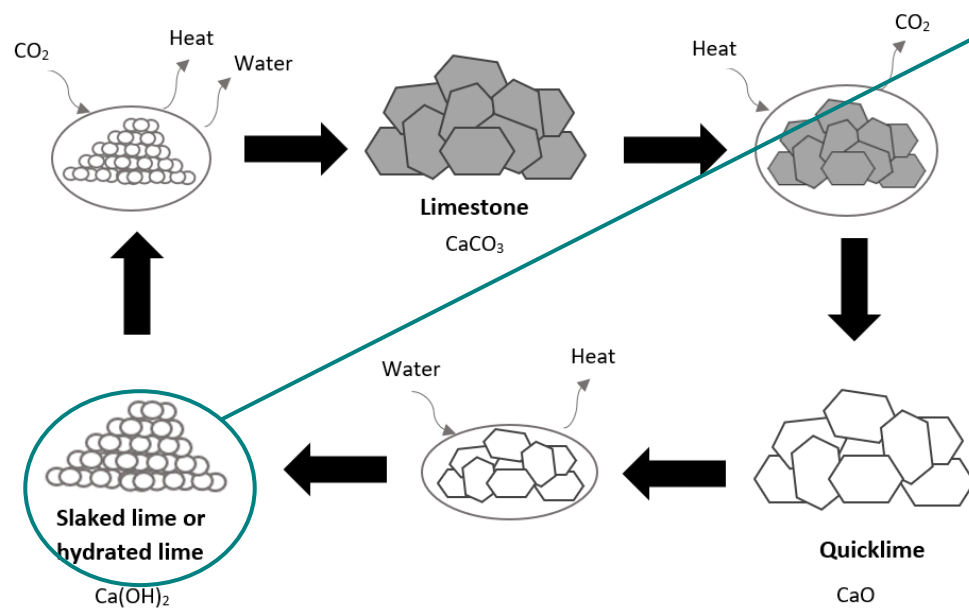
## Mineral Loop Project

- Transformation of mineral wastes-by-products into higher value-added products
- Circular economy of construction wastes



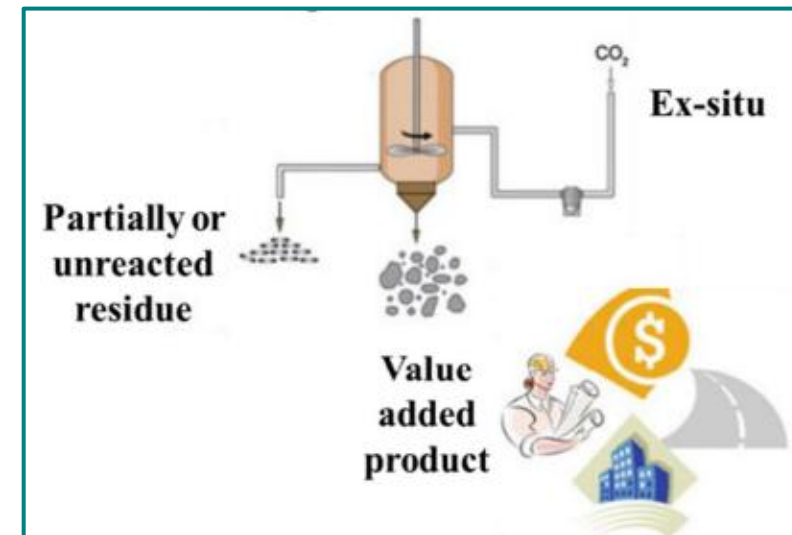
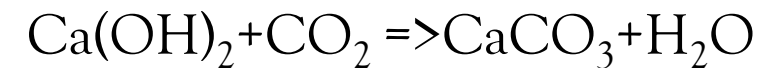
# CO<sub>2</sub> CAPTURE BY MINERAL CARBONATION BY USING CONSTRUCTION WASTE

## Lime production cycle



## Direct carbonation

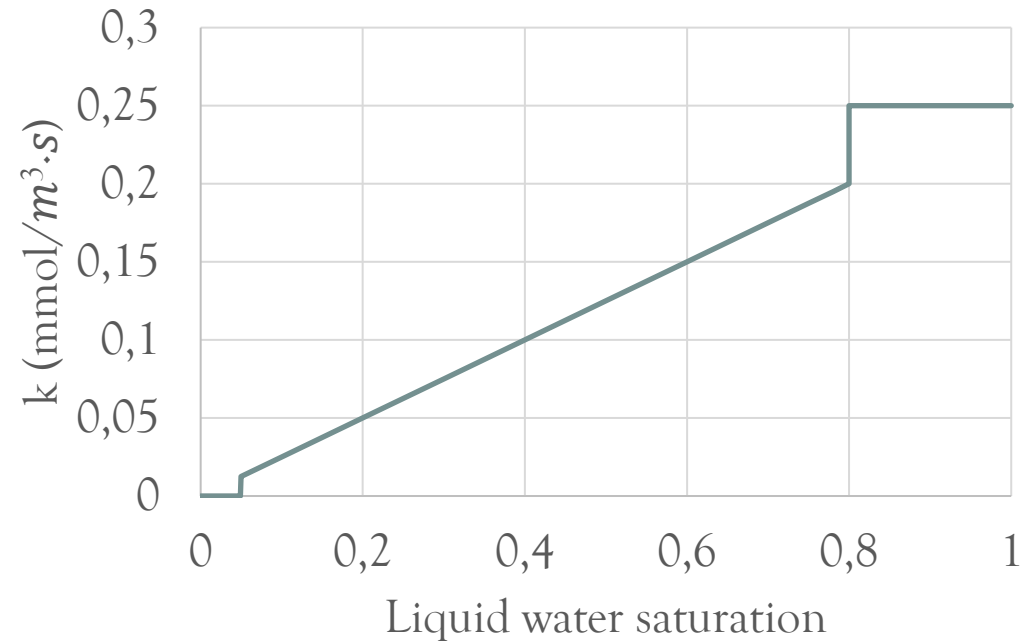
Gas-solid carbonation of hydrated lime



# COUPLING BETWEEN CHEMICAL REACTIONS AND TRANSFER PHENOMENA

- **Chemical reaction:**  $\text{Ca(OH)}_2$  carbonation =  $f(\text{liquid water saturation})$

Influence of the liquid water saturation into the kinetic constant



# COUPLING BETWEEN CHEMICAL REACTIONS AND TRANSFER PHENOMENA

- **Physical interactions:** CO<sub>2</sub> diffusion between the particles and inside the particles = f(porosity, liquid water saturation)

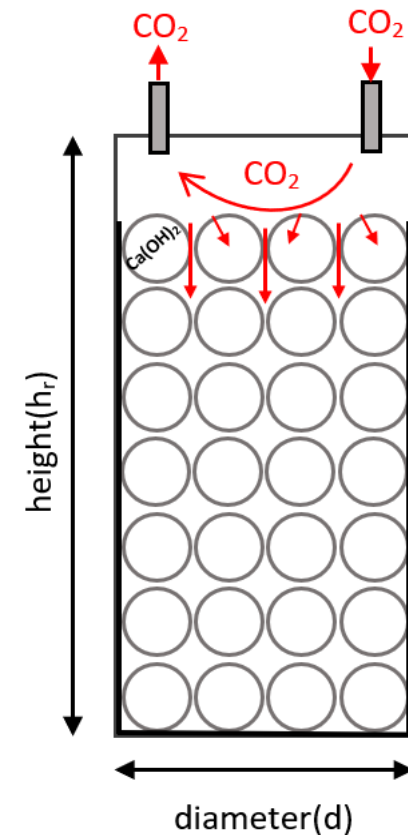
- Diffusion between the particles

$$D = D_{CO_2,0} \cdot \varepsilon_{bed}^{4/3} \cdot (1 - sl_{bed})^{10/3}$$

- Diffusion inside the particles

$$D_{eff} = D_{CO_2,0} \cdot \varepsilon_{pellet}^{2,7} \cdot (1 - sl_{pellet})^{4,2}$$

Where:  $D_{CO_2,0}$  is the specific diffusion coefficient of CO<sub>2</sub> (1.6E-5m<sup>2</sup>/s)



# COUPLING BETWEEN CHEMICAL REACTIONS AND TRANSFER PHENOMENA

- **Physical interactions:** CO<sub>2</sub> diffusion

between the particles and inside the

particles = f(porosity, liquid water saturation)



Porosity



Diffusion

- Diffusion between the particles

$$D = D_{CO_2,0} \cdot \varepsilon_{bed}^{4/3} \cdot (1 - sl_{bed})^{10/3}$$

- Diffusion inside the particles

$$D_{eff} = D_{CO_2,0} \cdot \varepsilon_{pellet}^{2,7} \cdot (1 - sl_{pellet})^{4,2}$$



Liquid water  
saturation



Diffusion

Where:  $D_{CO_2,0}$  is the specific diffusion coefficient of CO<sub>2</sub> (1.6E-5m<sup>2</sup>/s)

# COUPLING BETWEEN CHEMICAL REACTIONS AND TRANSFER PHENOMENA

- Variation of the liquid water saturation during the carbonation process



- Variation of pellet porosity during the carbonation process = f(carbonation rate, volume change)

$$\varepsilon_{\text{pellet}}(t) = \varepsilon_0 \cdot \left( (1 - \eta) + \frac{\eta \cdot \frac{\rho_{\text{CaCO}_3} \cdot M_{\text{Ca(OH)}_2}}{\rho_{\text{Ca(OH)}_2} \cdot M_{\text{CaCO}_3}} \right) \rightarrow \text{Volume change}$$

$$\text{Carbonation rate } (\eta) = \frac{[\text{CaCO}_3]}{[\text{Ca(OH)}_2]_{t0}}$$

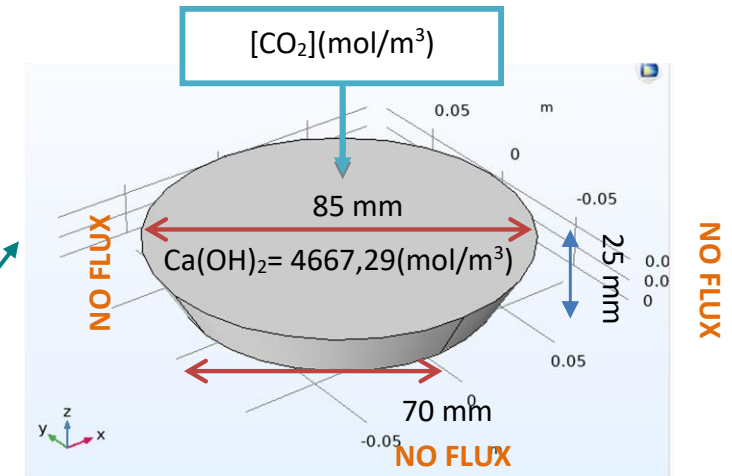
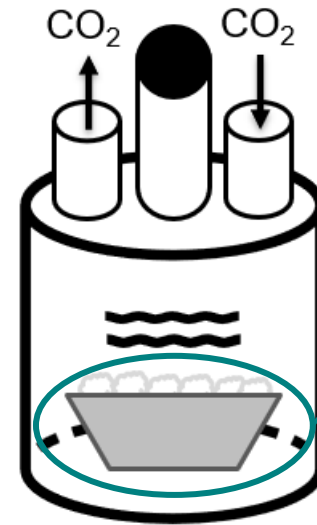


# MODEL DESCRIPTION

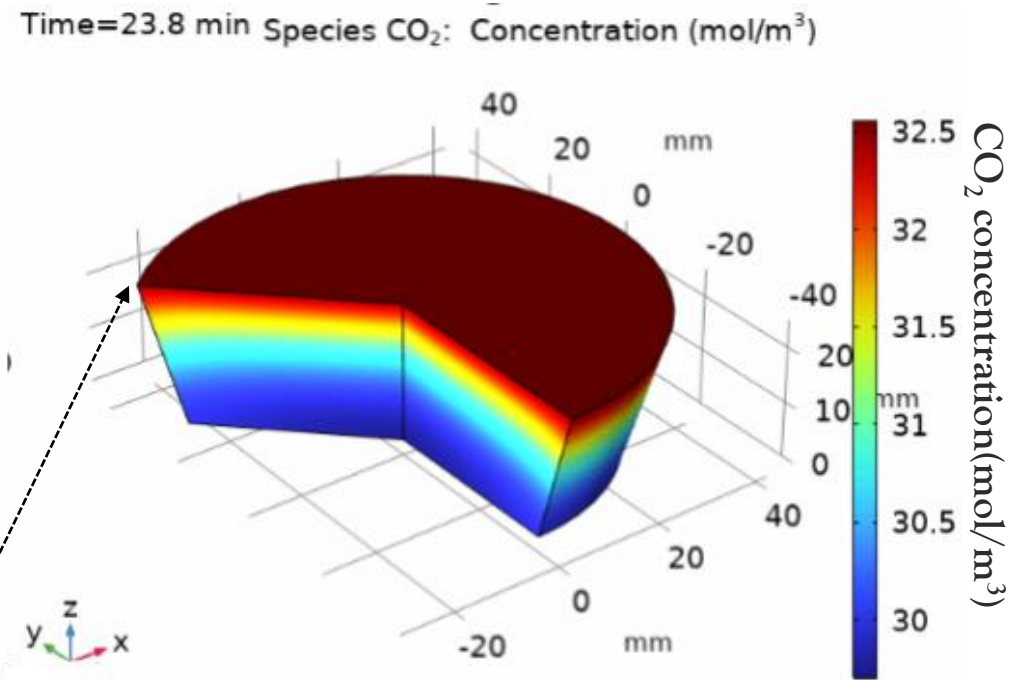


## Assumptions

- Bed porosity= 0.69
- Pellet porosity= 0.12
- Temporal evolution of the  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration in the enclosure
- $\text{CO}_2$  flow rate= 200 (ml/min)
- Particle radius= 1 mm
- Initial water-to-solid ratio( $w_{\text{CH}}$ )= 0.2



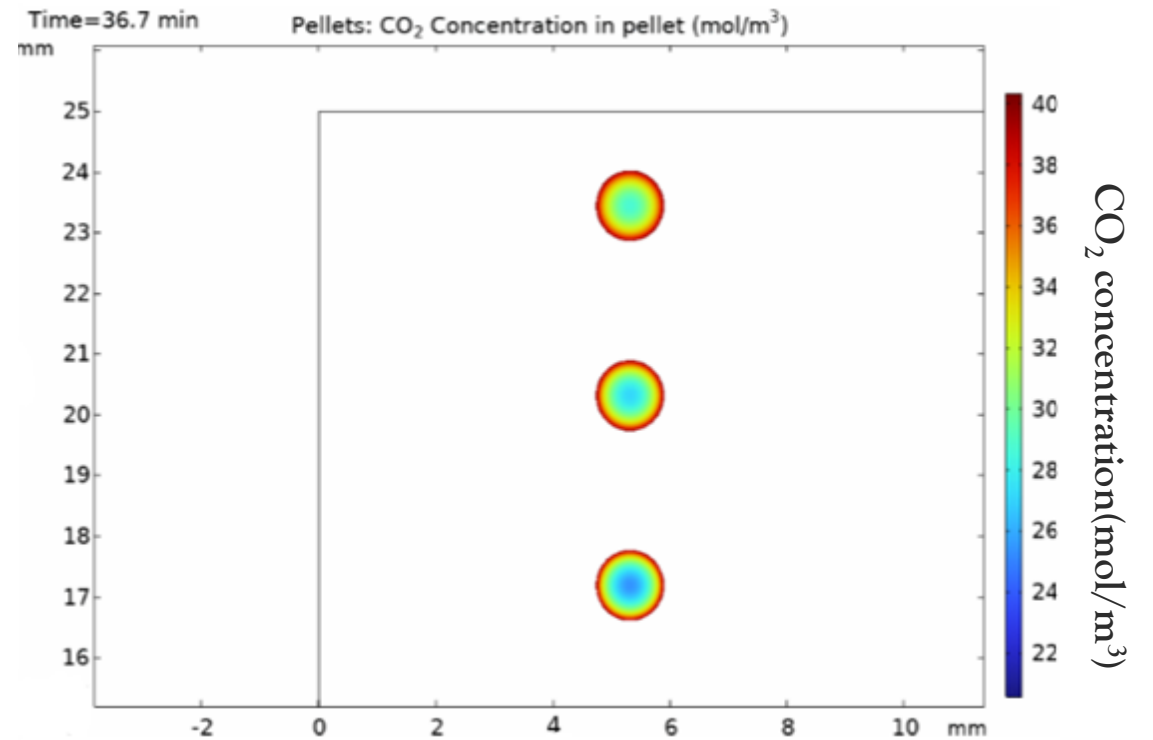
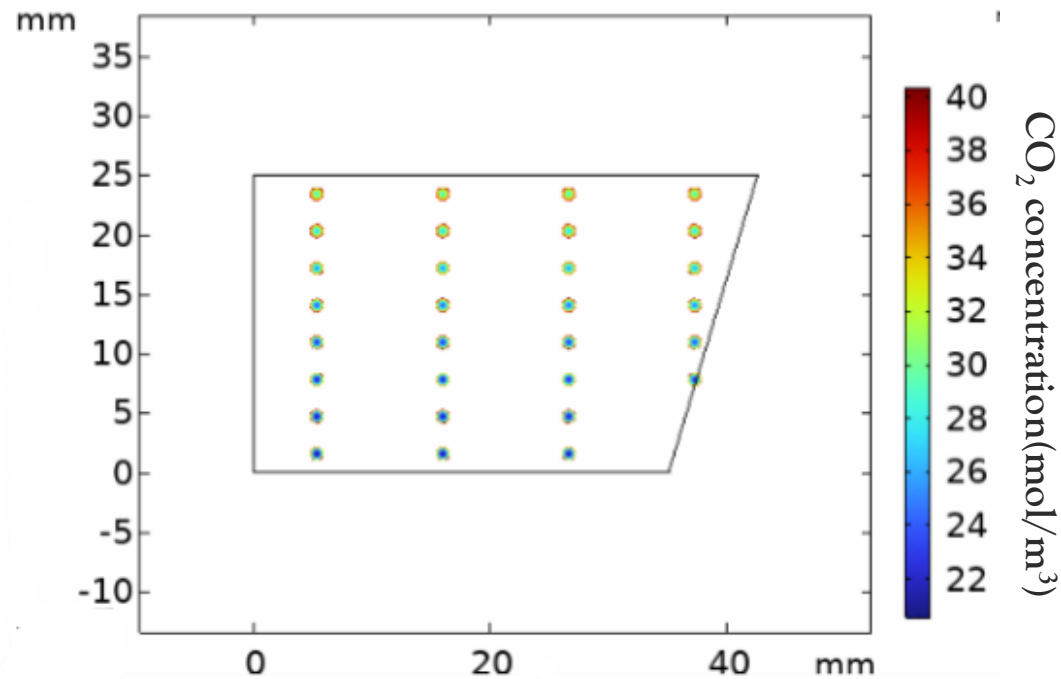
## CO<sub>2</sub> concentration profile-Granular bed



# SIMULATION RESULTS

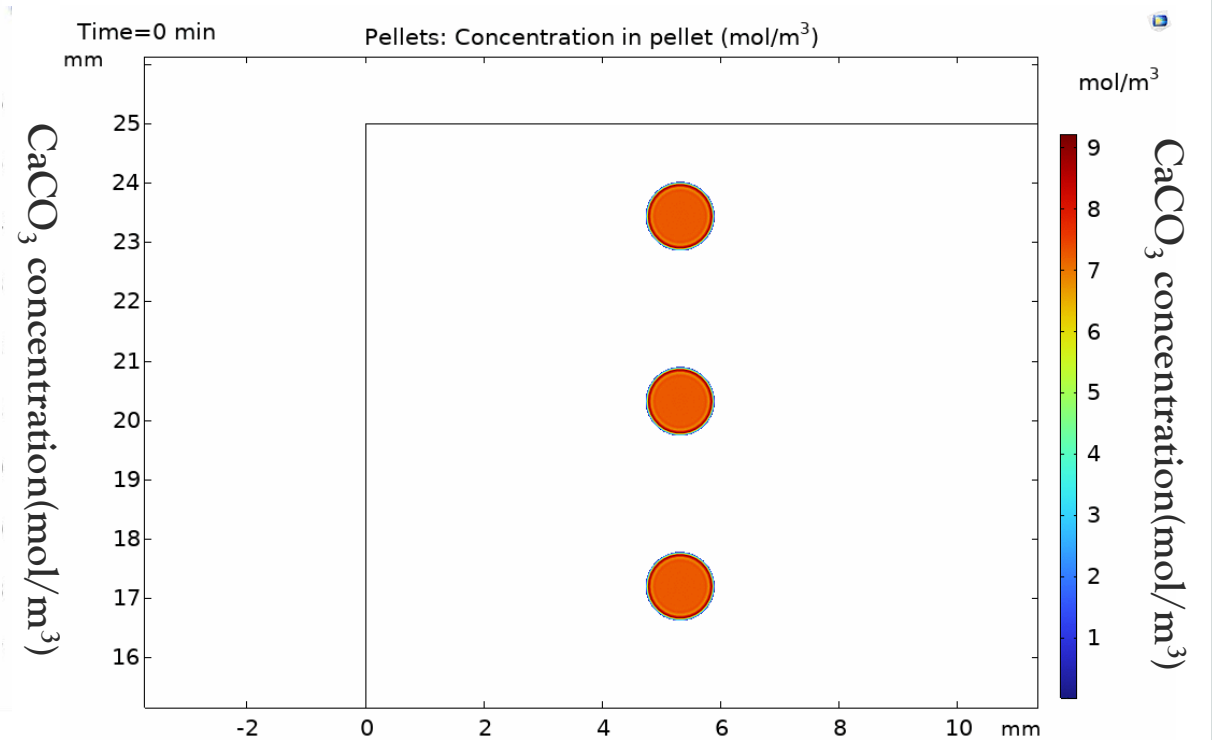
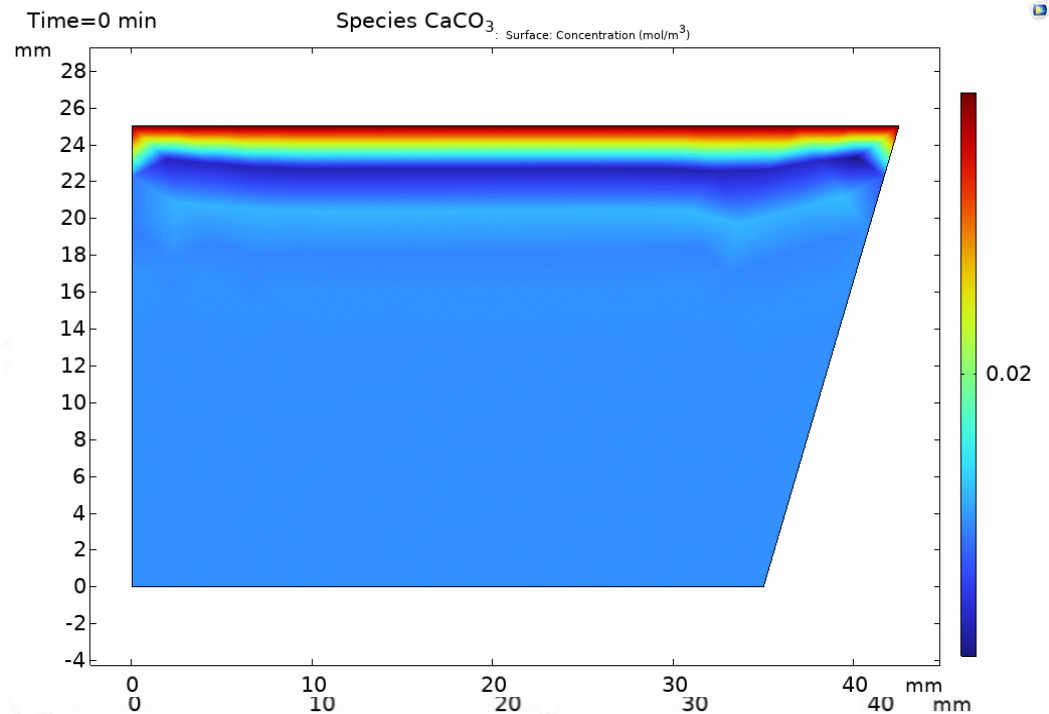
## CO<sub>2</sub> concentration profile-Pellets

Time=36.7 min Pellets: CO<sub>2</sub> Concentration in pellet (mol/m<sup>3</sup>)



# SIMULATION RESULTS

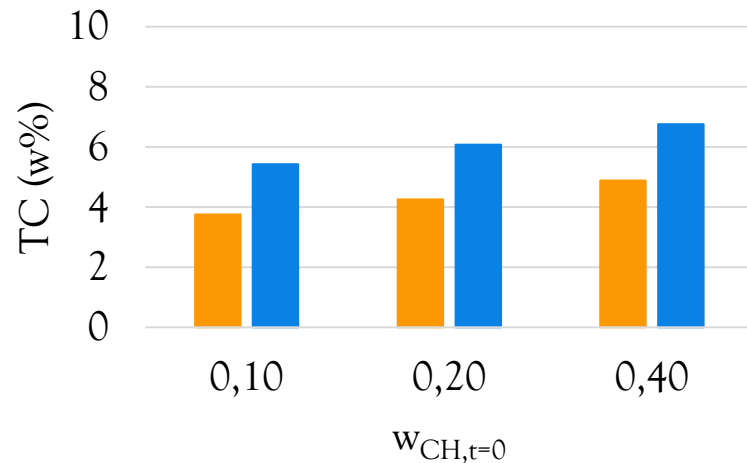
## CaCO<sub>3</sub> concentration profiles



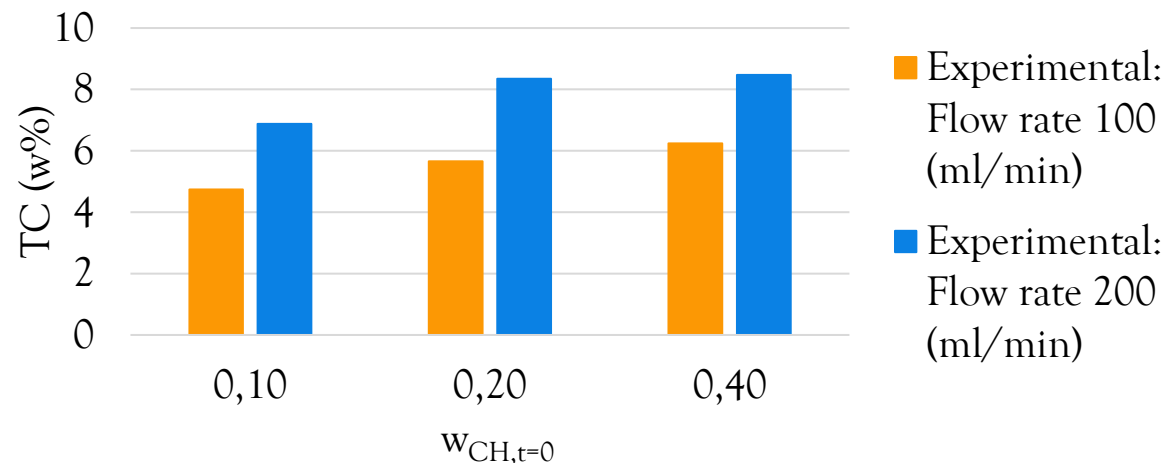
# EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

- Pellet porosity of 10% with a particle diameter of 35.5  $\mu\text{m}$
- Bed porosity equal to 68%  $\rightarrow$  Reaction mostly between the particles
- Parameter evaluated: total carbon (TC)

Total carbon results after 30 minutes of carbonation



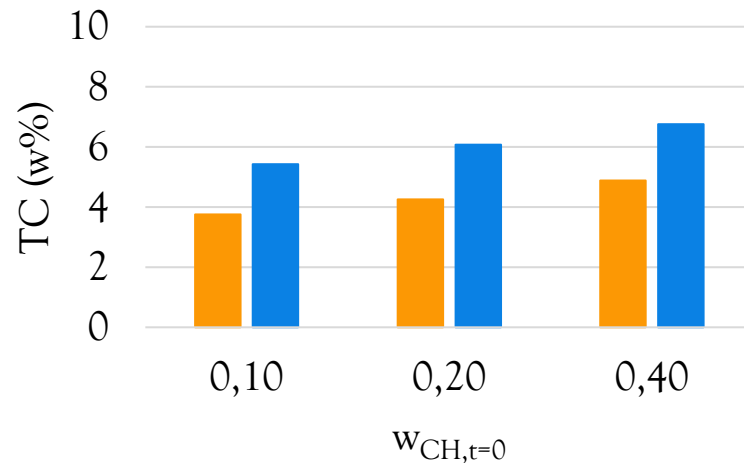
Total carbon results after 45 minutes of carbonation



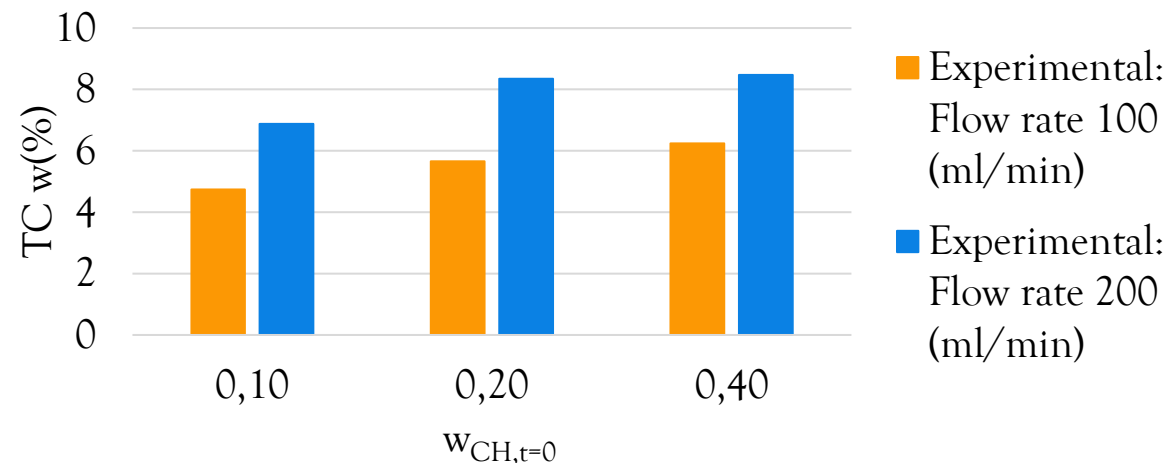
# EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

- Influence of Flow rate: ↑ Flow rate ↑ Total carbon
- Influence of initial water-to-solid ratio: ↑  $w_{CH,t=0}$  ↑ Total carbon → Optimal value between 0,2 and 0,4

Total carbon results after 30 minutes of carbonation



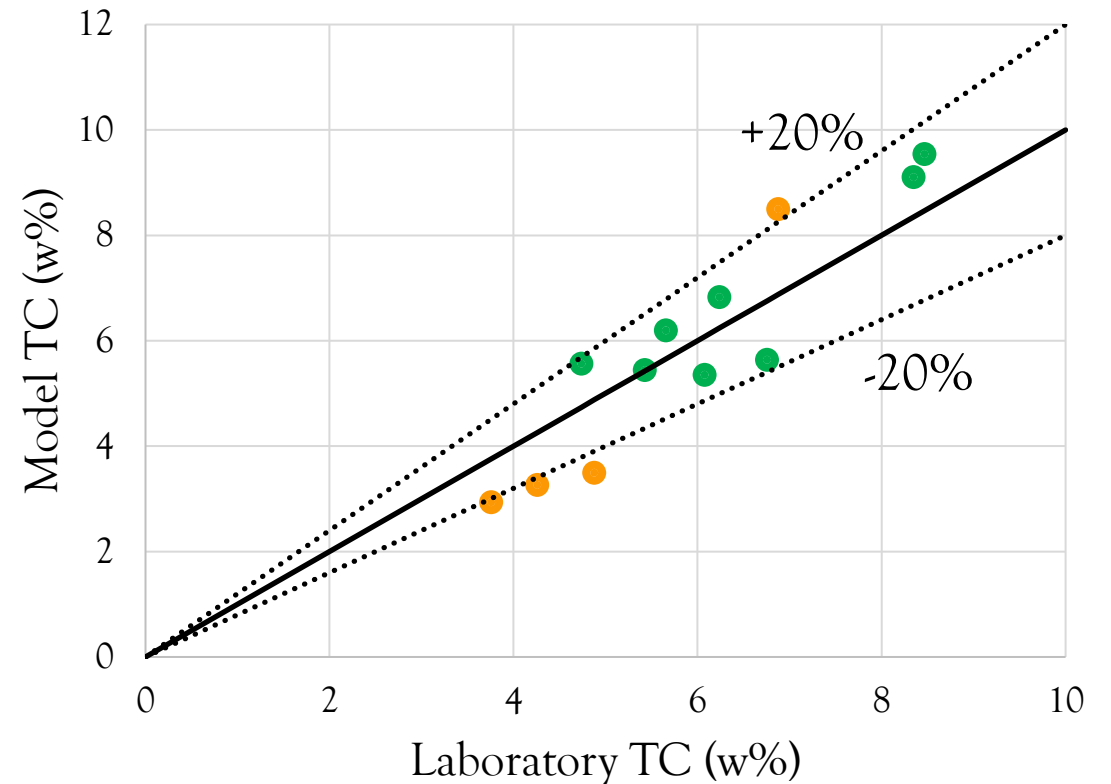
Total carbon results after 45 minutes of carbonation



# MODEL VALIDATION

- Pellet porosity of 10%
- Particle diameter of 35.5  $\mu\text{m}$
- Bed porosity of 68%

=>Successful validation

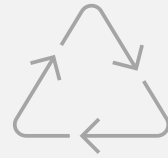


# CONCLUSIONS

- Physical parameters influence the system and evolve with time
  - Porosity → Enhances the diffusion of the gas
  - Liquid water saturation → Enhances the reaction but slows the diffusion of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Process parameters influence the carbonation
  - Carbon dioxide flow rate → The higher the CO<sub>2</sub> flow rate, the more carbonation
  - Initial water-to-solid ratio → Optimal value between 0.2 and 0.4
- COMSOL Multiphysics dual-scale model able to represent the carbonation process of hydrated lime



## PERSPECTIVES



Contribution to the circular economy of the construction sector



Application of the model to predict the behavior of more complex materials, such as recycled concrete aggregates



Optimization of operational conditions on a larger scale

THANK YOU SO MUCH

# COUPLING BETWEEN CHEMICAL REACTIONS AND TRANSFER PHENOMENA

- Variation of the liquid water saturation during the carbonation process

$$sl_{bed,pellet} = \frac{[H_2O] \left( \frac{mol}{m^3} \right) \cdot MM_{H_2O} \left( \frac{g}{mol} \right)}{\rho_{H_2O} \cdot \varepsilon_{bed,pellet}}$$

- Variation of pellet porosity during the carbonation process

$$\varepsilon_{pellet}(t) = \varepsilon_0 \cdot \left( (1 - \eta) + \frac{\eta \cdot \rho_{CaCO_3} \cdot Mm_{Ca(OH)_2}}{\rho_{Ca(OH)_2} \cdot Mm_{CaCO_3}} \right)$$

$$Carbonation\ rate\ (\eta) = \frac{[CaCO_3]}{[Ca(OH)_2]_{t0}}$$

# COUPLING BETWEEN CHEMICAL REACTIONS AND TRANSFER PHENOMENA

- Variation of bed porosity during the carbonation process

$$\varepsilon_{bed}(t) = \varepsilon_0 + 4 \cdot 10^{-6} (m^3/mol) * ([Ca(OH)_2]_{t,0} - [Ca(OH)_2](t))$$