

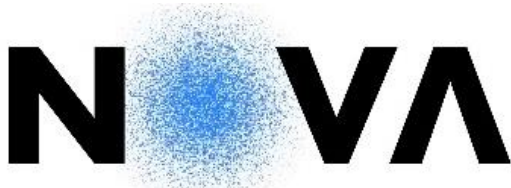
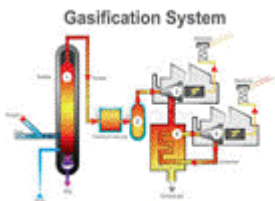
Thermochemical processes
Pyrolysis
Pyrolysis Products

Biochars

Maria Bernardo

Investigadora FCT-NOVA

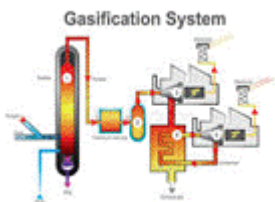
maria.b@fct.unl.pt



NOVA SCHOOL OF
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



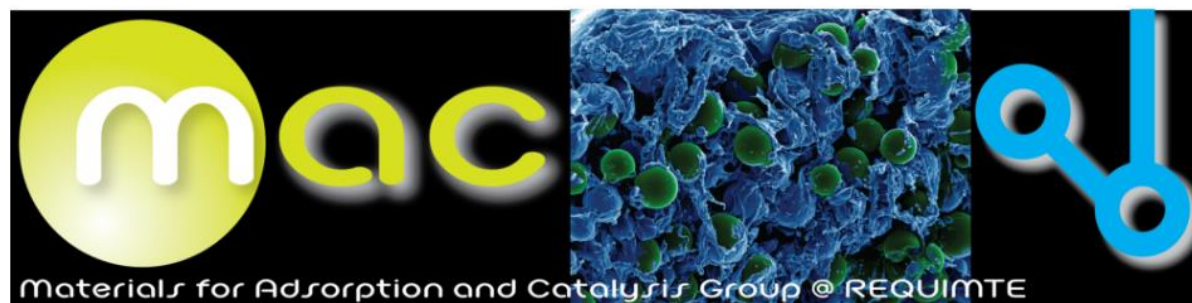
*Departamento de Química
NOVA School of Science and Technology
NOVA University Lisbon*



Associated Laboratory for Green Chemistry (LAQV)

Network of Chemistry and Technology (REQUIMTE)

Portuguese Research Centre for Sustainable Chemistry



Materials for Adsorption and Catalysis Group

<http://sites.fct.unl.pt/mac/>

Materials for Adsorption and Catalysis Group

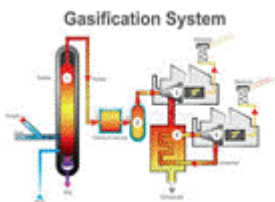
<http://sites.fct.unl.pt/mac/>

Synthesis of Materials

- Carbon materials: Biochars and Porous Carbons
- Mesoporous Silicas
- (Bio)Polymeric Materials
- Oxide Nanoparticles
- Catalysts

Applications

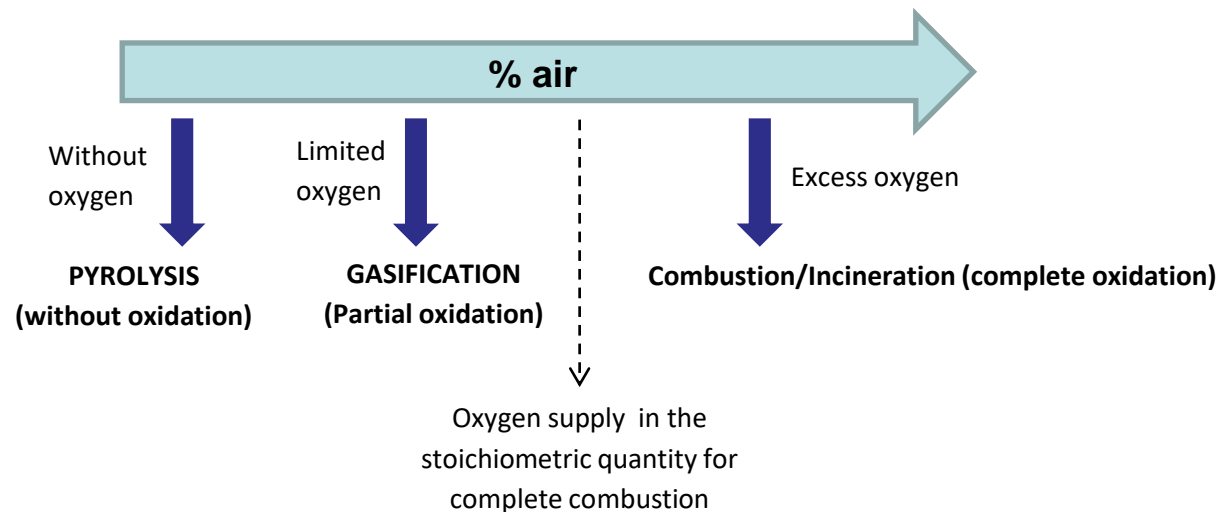
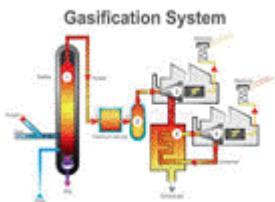
- Biofuels Production
- Waste Valorization
- Water/Gas Treatment
- Heterogeneous Catalysis
- Drug Delivery



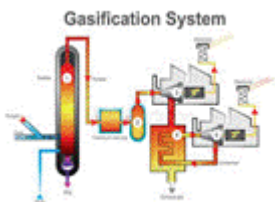
Thermochemical processes

Solid biomass with low moisture content

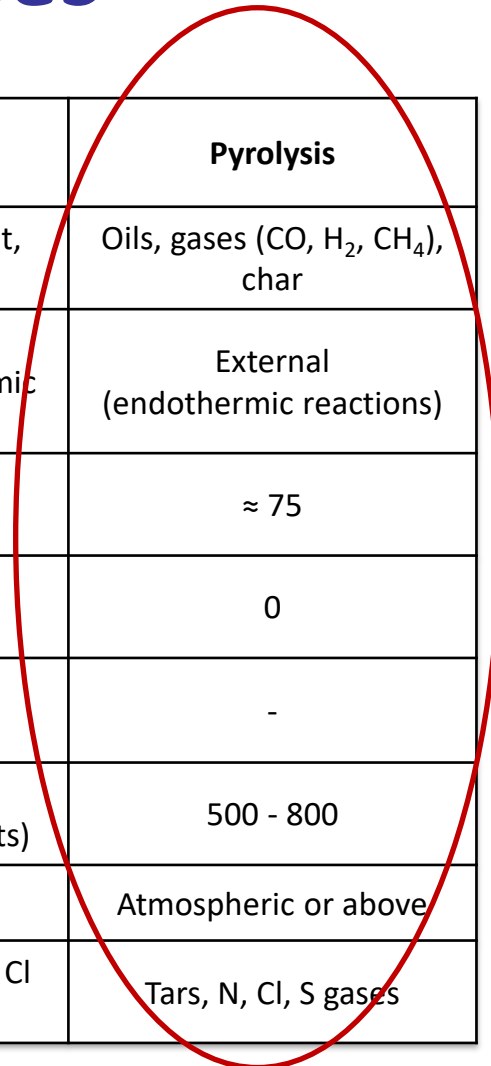
Classification according the involved oxygen



Thermochemical processes



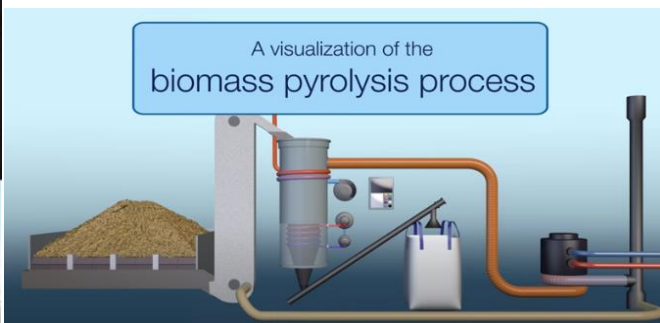
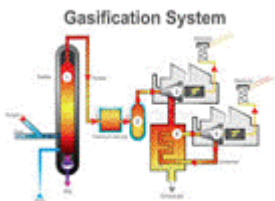
	Combustion	Gasification	Pyrolysis
Main products	Heat, flue gas (CO ₂ , H ₂ O)	Flue gas (CO, H ₂ , CH ₄), heat, ashes	Oils, gases (CO, H ₂ , CH ₄), char
Source of heat	External (exothermic reactions)	External and internal (endothermic and exothermic reactions)	External (endothermic reactions)
Carbon conversion (%)	>99	80 - 95	≈ 75
Oxygen stoichiometry	> 1	0.2 – 0.4	0
Oxidants	air	Air, O ₂ , steam	-
Temperatures	850 - 1200	550 – 900 (with air) 1000 – 1600 (other oxidants)	500 - 800
Pressure	atmospheric	atmospheric	Atmospheric or above
By-products/ Pollutants	Particles, NO _x , SO ₂ , Ashes, Dioxins, Furans	“Black ashes”, tars, CO ₂ , N, Cl and S gases	Tars, N, Cl, S gases



Pyrolysis

Thermochemical conversion of organic substances (biomass and biowastes) into liquids, gases and solids, in the absence of oxygen with heating

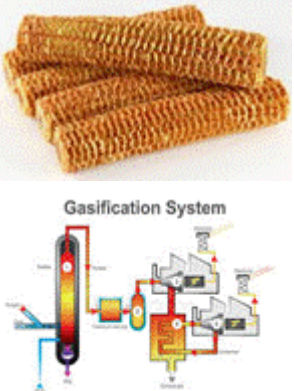
Endothermic degradation or thermolysis (chemical bonds are broken) of organic substances in the total absence of oxygen, to obtain oils, gases and chars



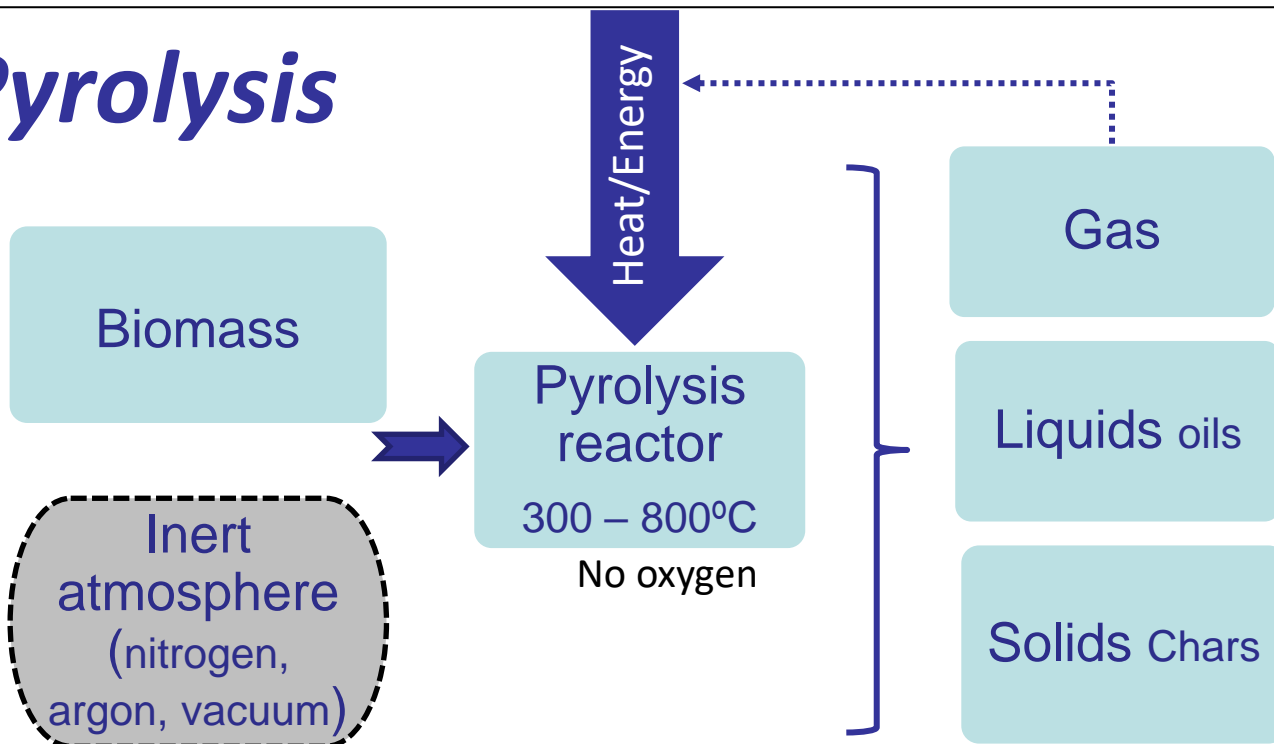
<https://youtu.be/3K1zWAYDvMA>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mKTOdv0Yk4s>



Pyrolysis



Endothermic Process

Chemical bonds cleavage and volatilization

External source of heat to maintain the pyrolytic reactor at the desired temperature

Source of heat might be the gas fraction

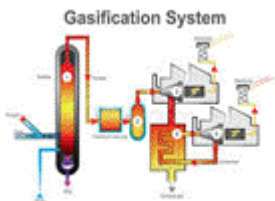
Pyrolysis - Products

Liquid fraction – oils or bio-oils, tars (heavy oil)

Complex mixture of hydrocarbons (aromatics, oxygenated, olefins, aliphatic alkanes, cyclic alkanes, S, N - compounds) - “Crude oil”

Applications:

- Energy/heat production
- Fuels
- Fine Chemicals
- Feedstock for refining/reforming



Pyrolysis - Products

Gaseous fraction – Pyrolytic gas (\approx Syngas)

Composed by por H_2 , CH_4 , CO , CO_2 , C_nH_m

Applications

- Energy/heat production ($10\text{-}40 \text{ MJ/m}^3$)
- Chemical synthesis

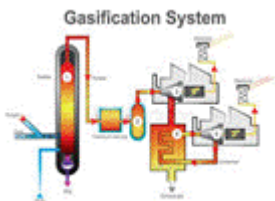


Solid fraction – Chars or biochars

Carbon material + mineral matter

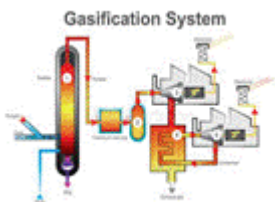
Applications:

- Energy production ($20\text{-}40 \text{ MJ/kg}$)
- Source of carbon/minerals for soils
- Activated carbon production



Pyrolysis types

Type	Slow	Intermediate	Fast	Flash	Vacum	
Temperature (°C)	300-700	500-650	500-1000	900-1200	400-600	
Heating rate (°C/s)	0,1-2	1-10	10-200	> 1000	0,1-1	
Residence time	min - hours	10-20 s	< 2 s	< 0,1 s	< 1 s	
Pressure (MPa)	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,01-0,02	
Particle size (mm)	5-50	1-5	<0.1	<0.1	< 1	
Products (m/m %)	Liquids	30	50	75	> 75	60
	Gases	35	30	13	< 13	20
	Chars	35	20	12	<12	20

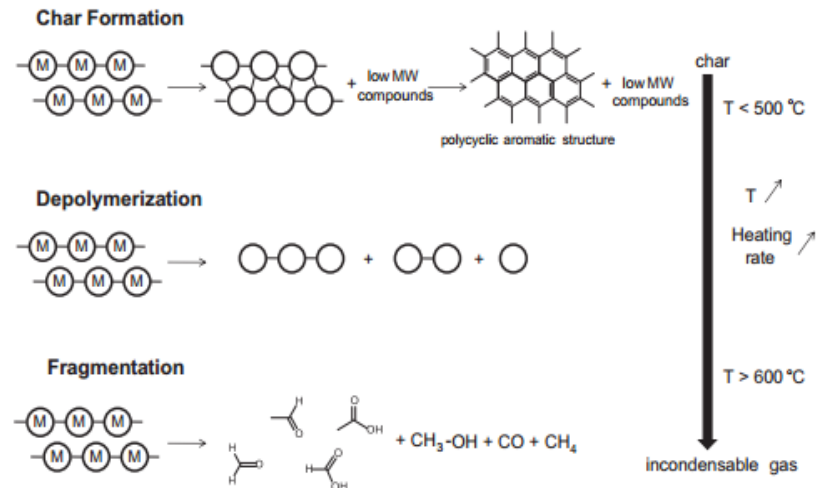
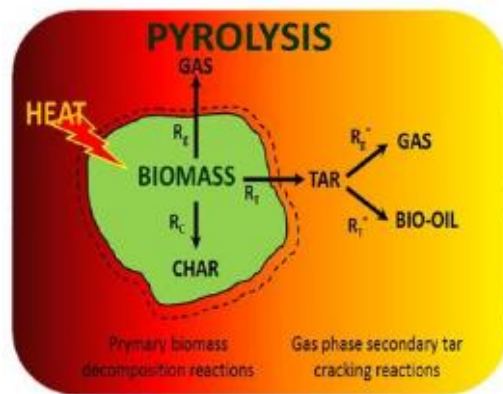
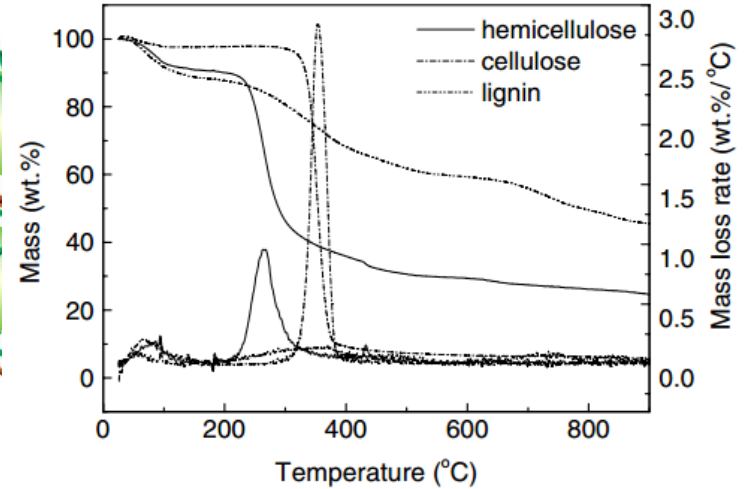
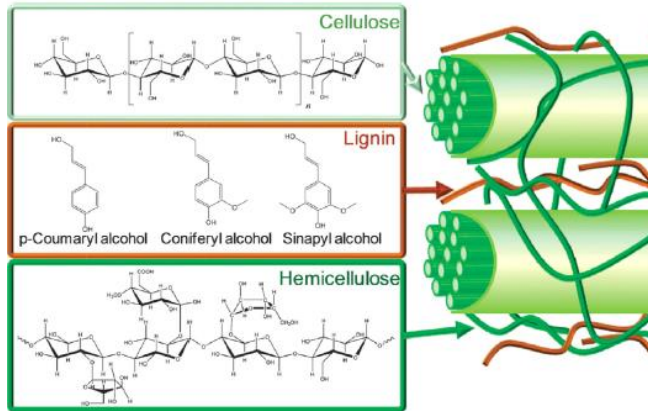
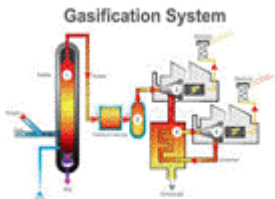


Low temperatures and long residence times – solids production (**carbonization**)

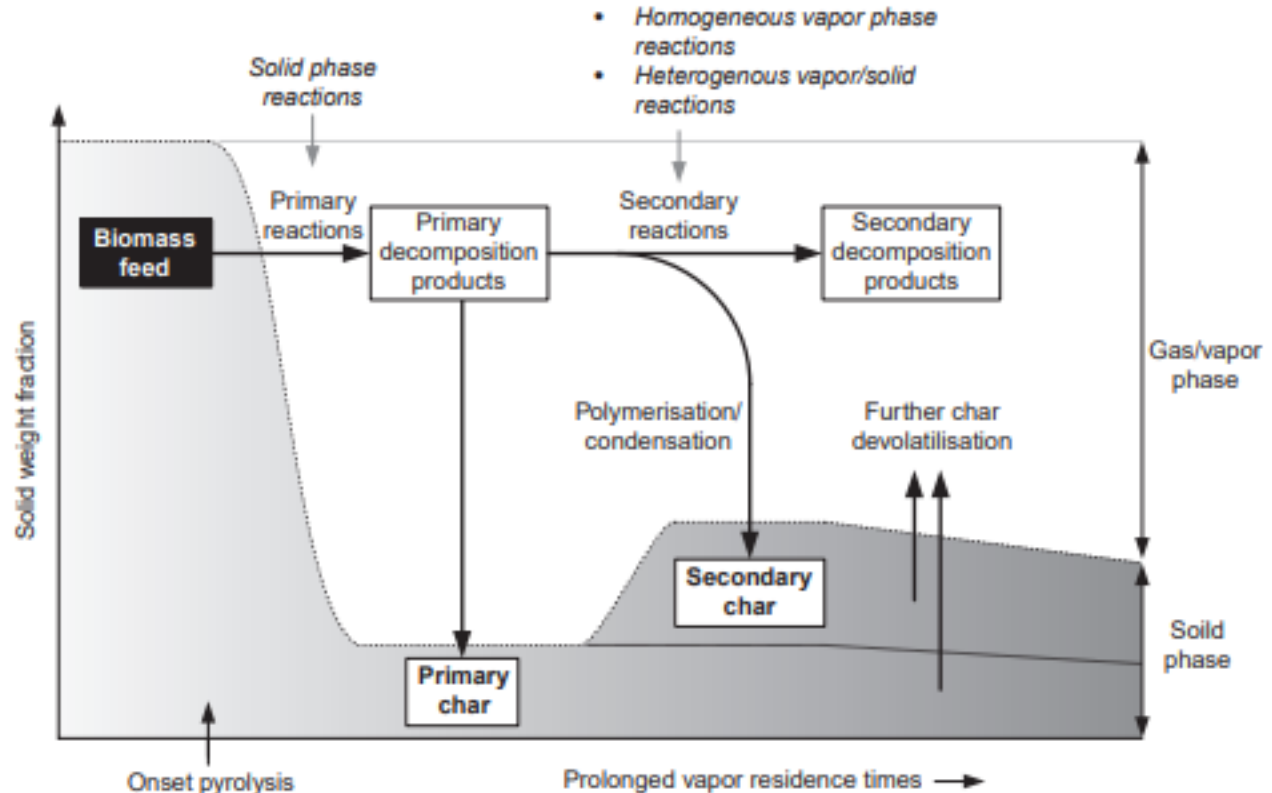
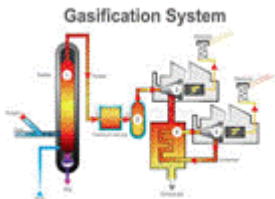
High temperatures and long residence times – gases production

Moderate temperatures and short residence times – liquids production

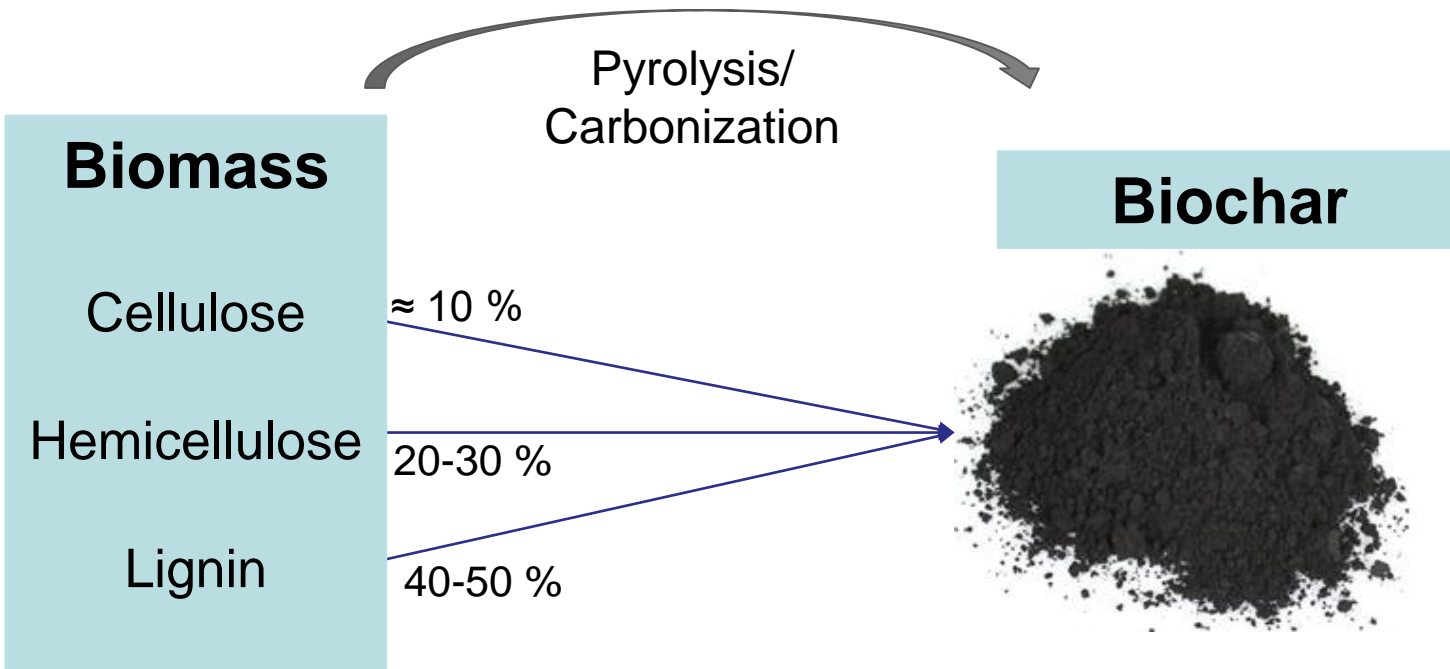
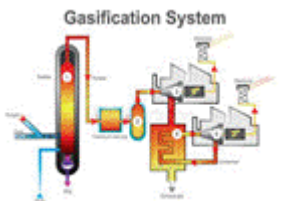
Pyrolysis – steps and reactions



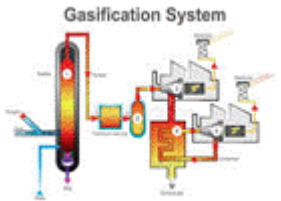
Pyrolysis - Products



“Biochar Production”, in *Biochar - A Regional Supply Chain Approach in View of Climate Change Mitigation*, Cambridge University Press, 2016. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781316337974.011>



Charcoal/Biochar - source



Fossil/Coal

Biomass

**Non-renewable, mining,
high-cost**

Renewable, low cost, abundant

Peat, lignite, bituminous, anthracite, graphite

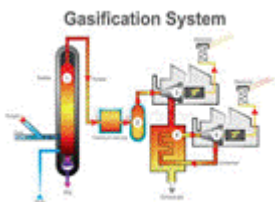
Wood, Agro-forestry and food
wastes,...

Carbon content (C) →



**Precursors with high fixed
carbon content**

Biochars



Biomass
Operational
conditions



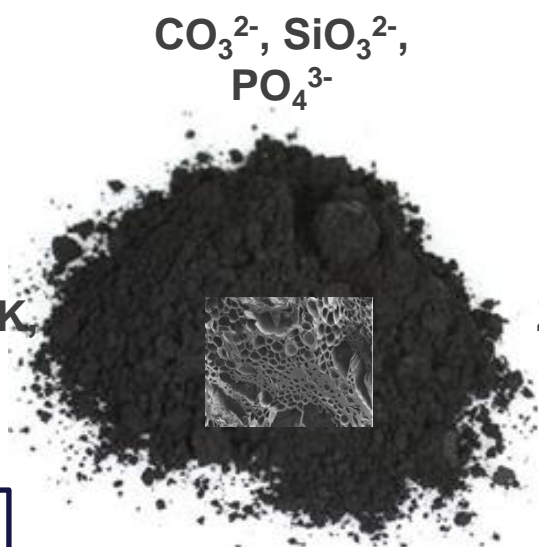
Incipient porosity
(Surface area: 5 – 300 m²/g)

Tars

Metals

Minerals

Na, Ca, K,
Mg,...

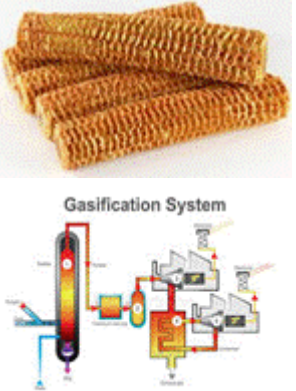


CO₃²⁻, SiO₃²⁻,
PO₄³⁻

Zn, Pb, Ni,
Cr,...

Potential release of PAH
and Heavy Metals...

Biochars - *Applications*

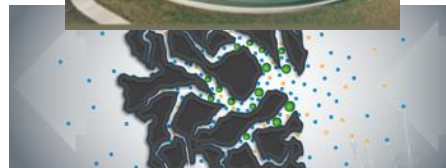


Fuel

Barbecue
(PCS: 15-32 MJ/kg)

Soil amendment

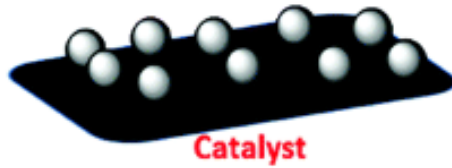
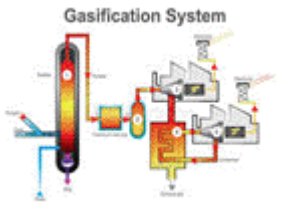
Water retention
Source of carbon/Carbon sequestration
Source of nutrients



Adsorbent

Water treatment (Pollutants removal)
Flue gas treatment (CO_x, NO_x, SO_x removal)

Biochars - *Applications*



Catalyst

Tar cracking at gasification
Fuels production
NOx conversion

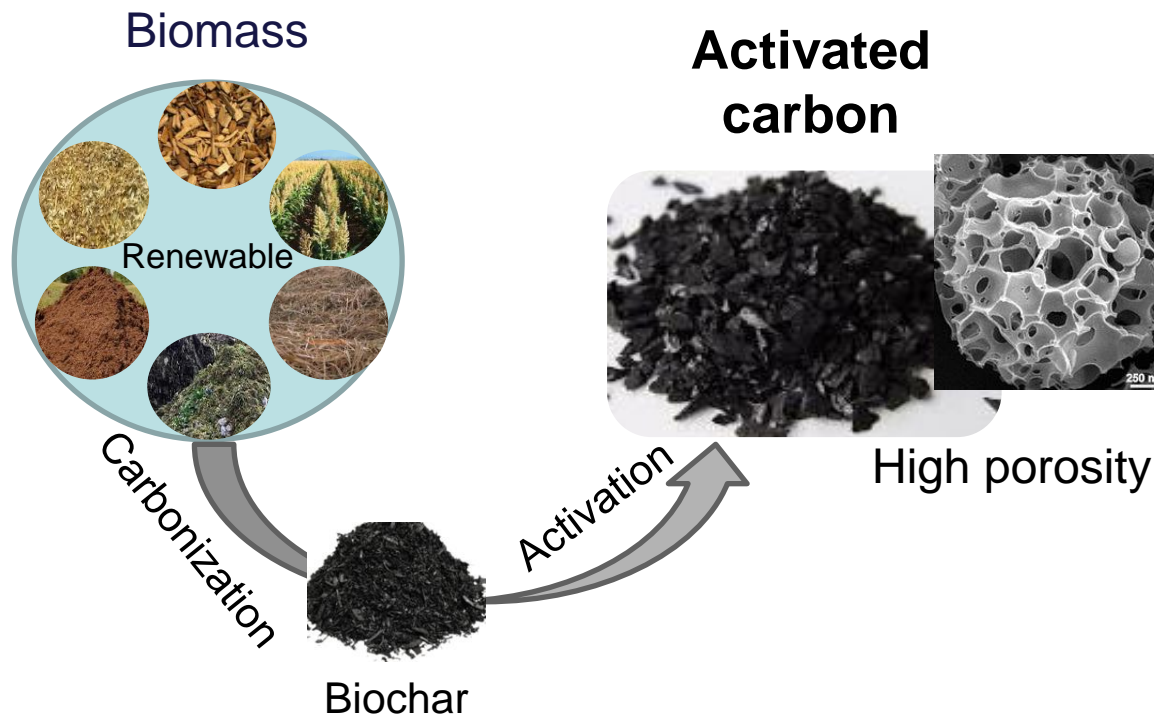
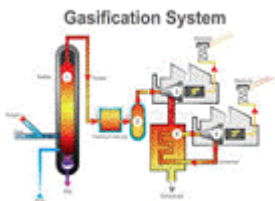


Energy Storage

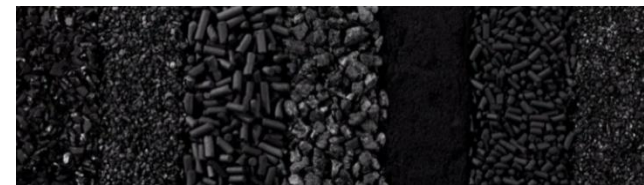
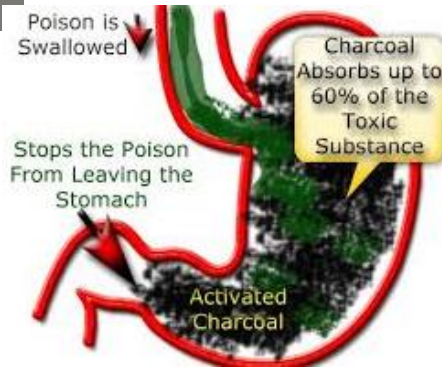
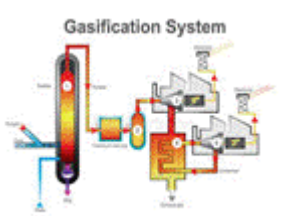
Supercapacitor (Electrode)
Batteries (anode)

Biochar – Applications

Precursor of Activated Carbon

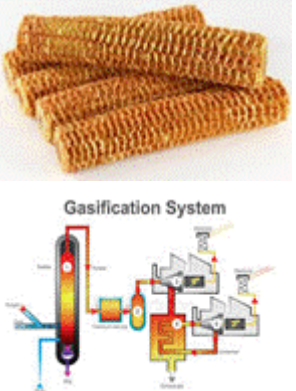


Activated carbon – Commercial applications

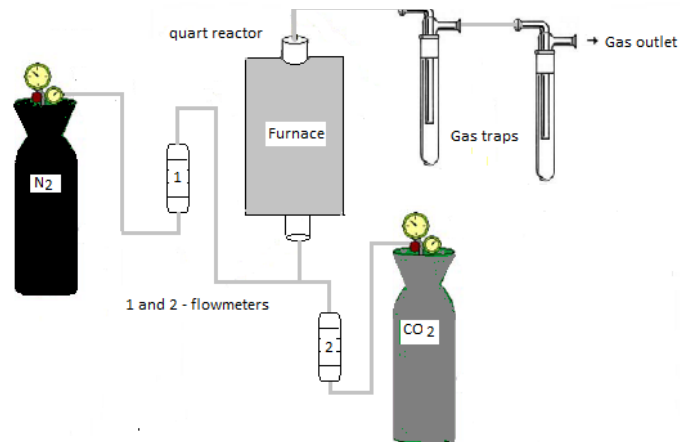
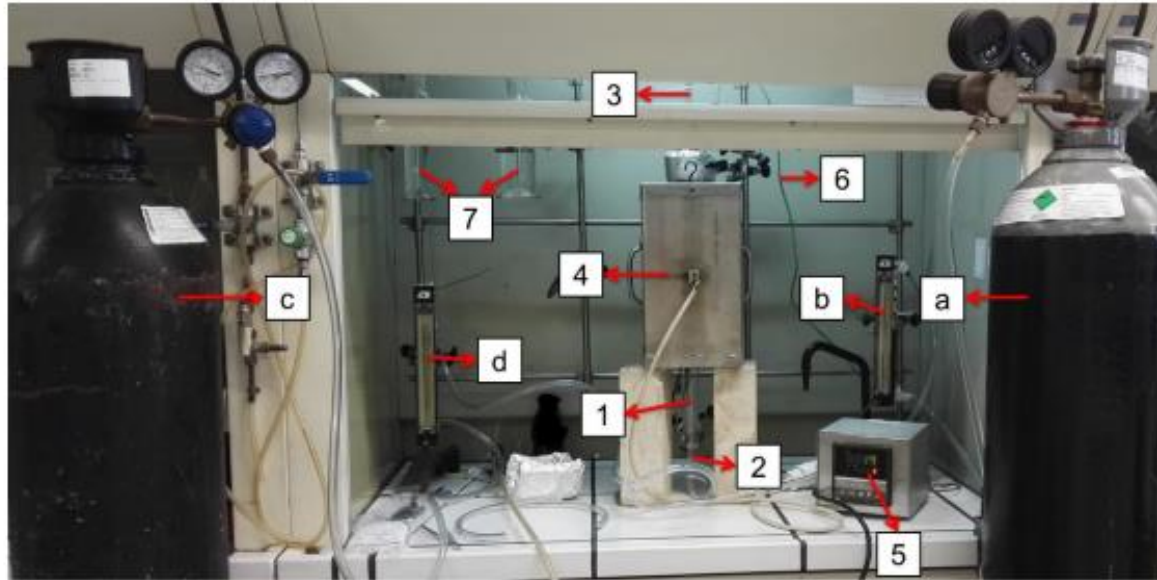
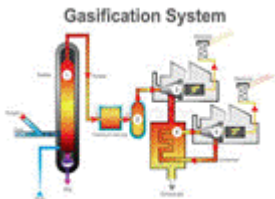


Activated carbon – Industrial applications

- Adsorption; Energy storage; Chemical industry (catalysis)



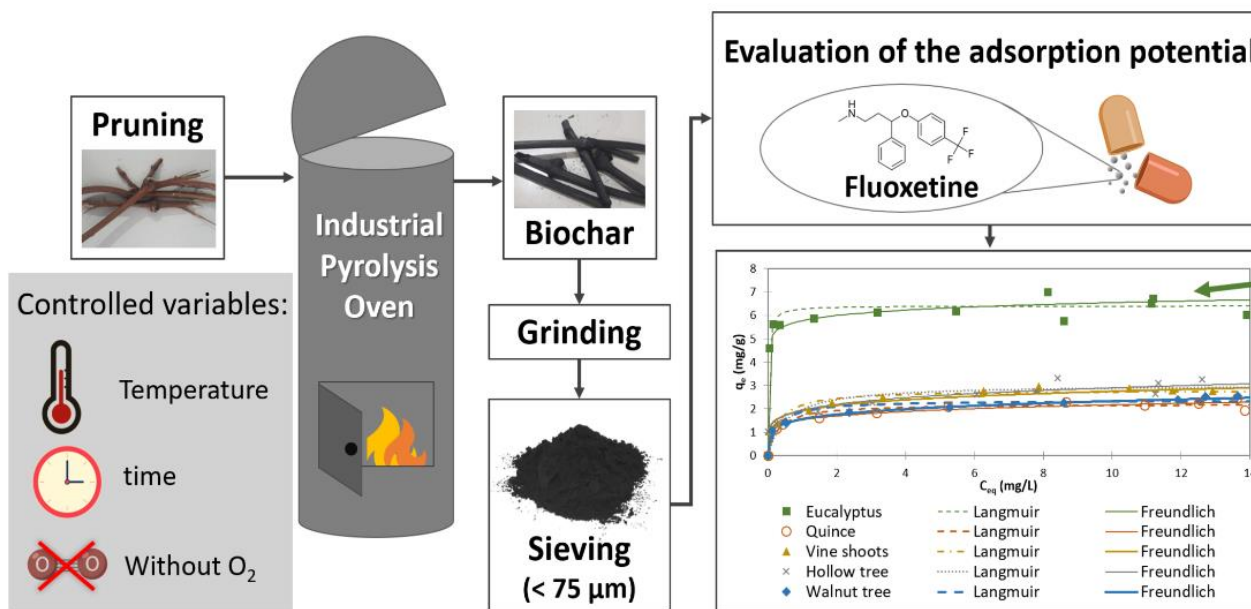
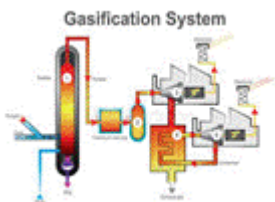
Experimental set-up - example



Biochars – applications

Evaluation of the adsorption potential of biochars prepared from forest and agri-food wastes for the removal of fluoxetine

Maria João Fernandes^{a,b}, Manuela M. Moreira^{a,*}, Paula Paíga^a, Diogo Dias^c, Maria Bernardo^c,
Manuela Carvalho^a, Nuno Lapa^c, Isabel Fonseca^c, Simone Morais^a, Sónia Figueiredo^a,
Cristina Delerue-Matos^a



Eucalyptus Biochar

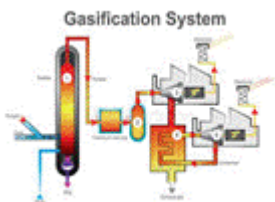
Maximum adsorption capacity

6.41 mg/g

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biortech.2019.121973>

Recovery of Cr(III) by using chars from the co-gasification of agriculture and forestry wastes

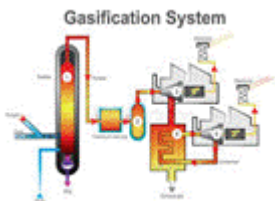
Delfina Godinho¹ • Miguel Nogueira² • Maria Bernardo² • Diogo Dias¹ • Nuno Lapa¹ • Isabel Fonseca² • Filomena Pinto³



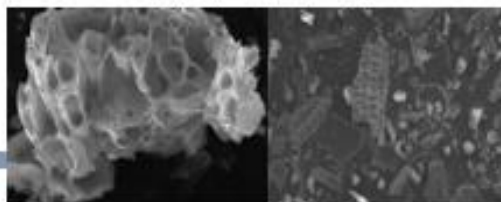
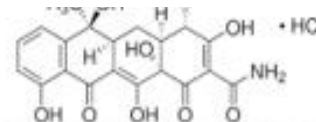
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-019-05609-w>

Study of the removal mechanism of aquatic emergent pollutants by new bio-based chars

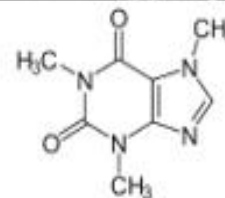
Maria Manuel Serrano Bernardo¹ · Catarina Alexandra Catanas Madeira¹ ·
Nuno Carlos Lapa dos Santos Nunes² · Diogo André Costa Messias Dias² ·
Delfina Maria Barbosa Godinho¹ · Maria Filomena de Jesus Pinto³ ·
Inês Alexandra Morgado do Nascimento Matos¹ · Ana Paula Batista Carvalho⁴ ·
Isabel Maria de Figueiredo Ligeiro Fonseca¹



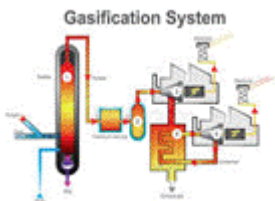
Removal of caffeine and tetracycline



Chars by-products

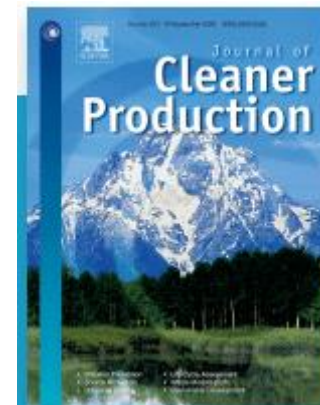


<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-017-9938-9>

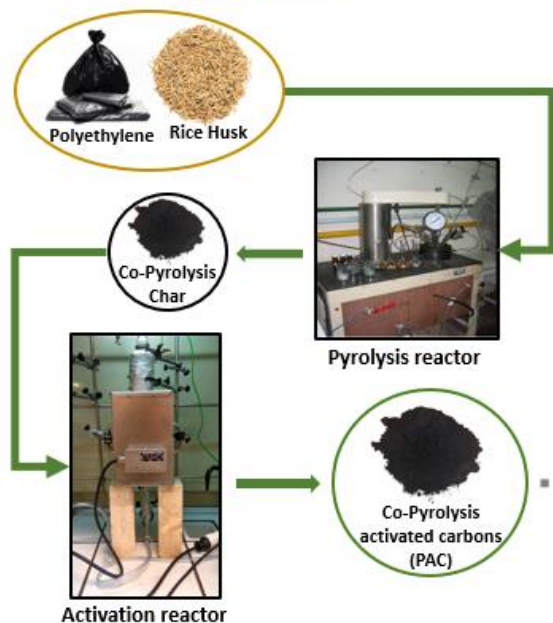


Activation of co-pyrolysis chars from rice wastes to improve the removal of Cr³⁺ from simulated and real industrial wastewaters

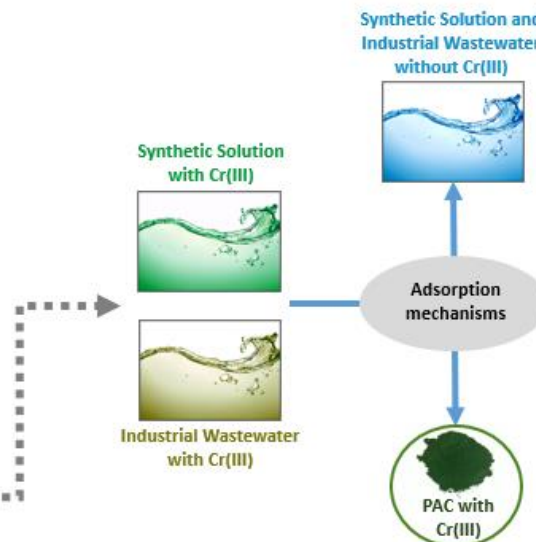
Diogo Dias ^a, Maria Bernardo ^b, Inês Matos ^b, Isabel Fonseca ^b, Filomena Pinto ^c, Nuno Lapa ^{a,*}



Preparation and activation of co-pyrolysis char



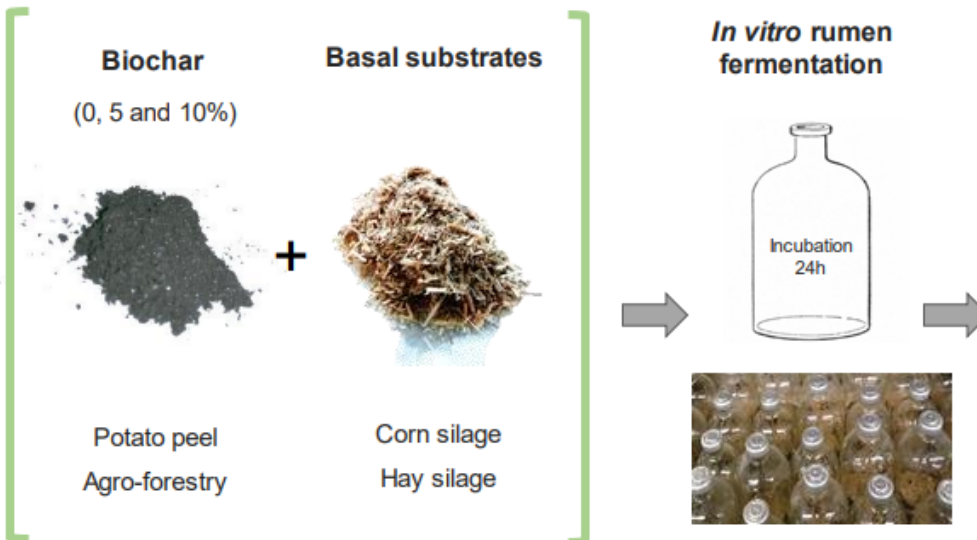
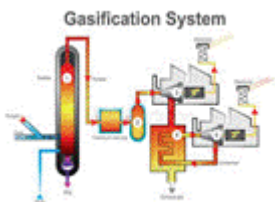
Cr(III) removal assays



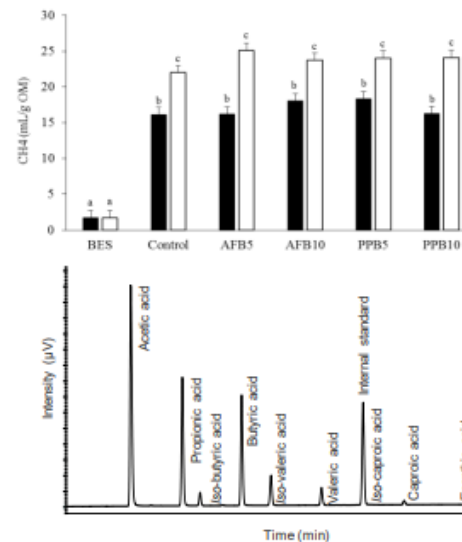
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2020.121993>

Assessment of potato peel and agro-forestry biochars supplementation on *in vitro* ruminal fermentation

Ana R.F. Rodrigues¹, Margarida R.G. Maia¹, Ana R.J. Cabrita¹, Hugo M. Oliveira², Maria Bernardo³, Nuno Lapa³, Isabel Fonseca³, Henrique Trindade⁴, José L. Pereira^{4,5} and António J.M. Fonseca¹



Fermentation parameters

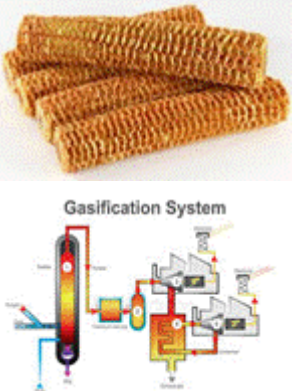


<http://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.9488>

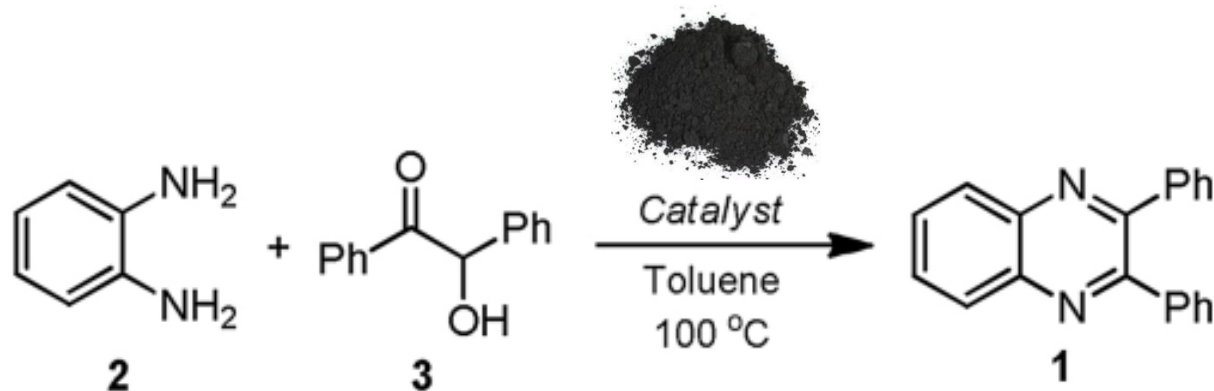


Porous carbons-derived from vegetal biomass in the synthesis of quinoxalines. Mechanistic insights

M. Godino-Ojer^{a,b}, R. Blazquez-García^a, I. Matos^{c,*}, M. Bernardo^c, I.M. Fonseca^c, E. Pérez Mayoral^{a,*}



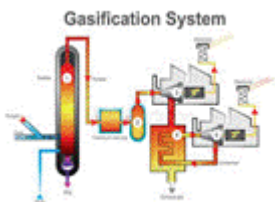
hedychium gardnerianum - Conteira



<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cattod.2019.06.043>

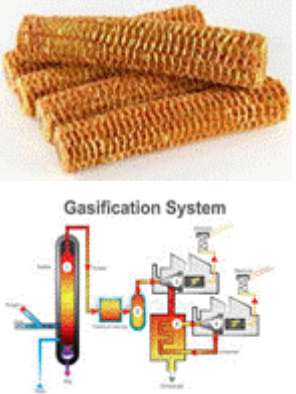
Effect of biochar addition in the anaerobic digestion of OFMSW

Biochar from forestry wastes

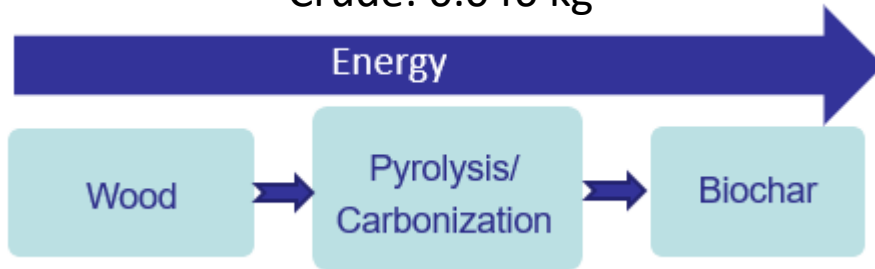


- Lower lag-phase (22%)
- Higher biogas production (31.3%)
- Higher daily rate production of CH₄ (5%)
- Higher substrate biodegradability

Biochar LCA



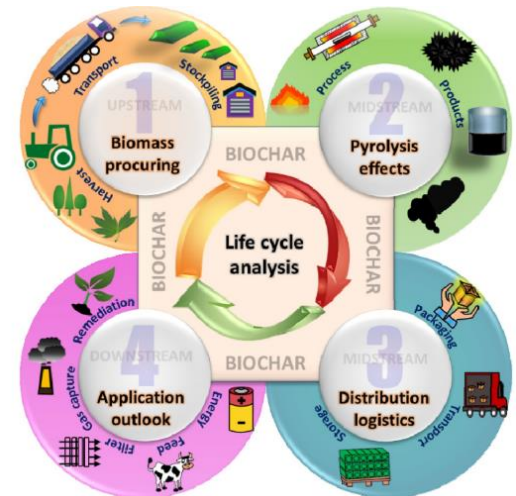
Energy needs
 Coal – 0.069 kg
 Natural gas – 0.0084 m³;
 Crude: 0.046 kg



Inputs
 0.0044m³ wood
 density = 560 kg/m³
 50% m/m C


Outputs
 1 kg biochar
 31 MJ/kg
 80% m/m C

Carbon footprint
 CO₂eq?



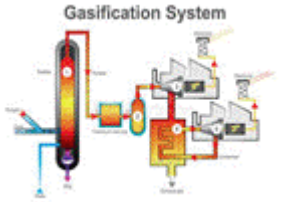
Ecoinvent Life Cycle Inventory (LCI) database

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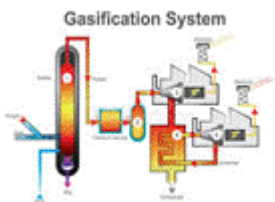
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Brainstorming...

Discussion...

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