

### Project 4

## Adsorption Capacity from Breakthrough Measurements on Zeolite 13X

### Objectives

The objectives of this interlaboratory study are:

- To perform an interlaboratory comparison of CO<sub>2</sub>:N<sub>2</sub> breakthrough measurements on zeolite 13X at 25 °C
- To extract consensus data for CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> adsorption capacity for zeolite 13X for the various CO<sub>2</sub>:N<sub>2</sub> mixtures from the breakthrough curves.
- To recommend measurement best practices for CO<sub>2</sub>:N<sub>2</sub> breakthrough measurements.

### Background

Adsorbents are candidate materials for many commercial and industrial applications, including carbon capture, directly from air or from point sources. Carbon capture often involves separating carbon dioxide from other gases and vapors, such as nitrogen and water vapor from air. Breakthrough measurements can provide information such as the selectivity of a material for one gas over another in a gas mixture. Reliable materials property data are needed to characterize, model, and evaluate materials to advance material development.

### Standardization Needs

Currently, no CO<sub>2</sub>:N<sub>2</sub> mixture adsorption

reference standards (materials or data) exist from NIST or other organizations, especially for CO<sub>2</sub> at sorption ranges relevant to direct air capture or point source capture. The current study will analyze a Research-Grade Test Material (RGTM) for CO<sub>2</sub>:N<sub>2</sub> breakthrough measurements to enable instrument validation, interlaboratory comparison of data, and ultimately accelerate the commercialization of materials for gas separation. Work done under this study could feed into the greater carbon standardization framework as well as complement ISO TC24/SC4 standardization efforts on solid sorbent materials.

### Work Programme

The study will measure breakthrough curves for various mixtures of CO<sub>2</sub>:N<sub>2</sub> on zeolite 13X at 25 °C at ≈ ambient pressure and determine the adsorption capacity from each breakthrough curve. The adsorbent will be provided for the study along with study protocol. Each breakthrough measurement may take 1-2 days. A complete set of measurements for the study could take several weeks.

### Deliverables and Dissemination

The resulting data will be made available on the NIST adsorption database and

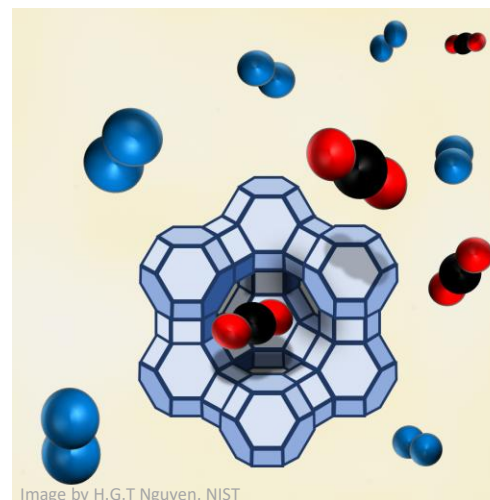


Figure 1: Cartoon representation of Zeolite 13X with N<sub>2</sub> and adsorbing CO<sub>2</sub> molecules.

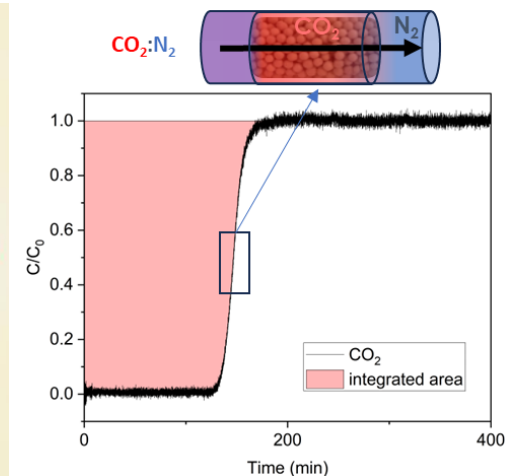


Figure 2: A representative breakthrough curve used to determine CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption capacity.

published in a peer-reviewed journal. The study will feed into reference material production and standardization work.

### Funding

Participants fund their own involvement in the project.

### Status

Samples are expected to be dispatched in late summer/early fall of 2026 to participants. Participants will be expected to report results by February 2027.

**Disclaimer:** VAMAS reserves the right to determine the extent of participant eligibility to comply with applicable national legal and export control requirements.

### For more information:

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