

«Plastic» from Étienne Krähenbühl

UMR CNRS n°5223

Laboratory of Polymers Materials Engineering

IMP Lab



UNIVERSITÉ
JEAN MONNET
SAINT-ÉTIENNE



Presentation of IMP



<http://www.imp-umr5223.fr>

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3 Locations



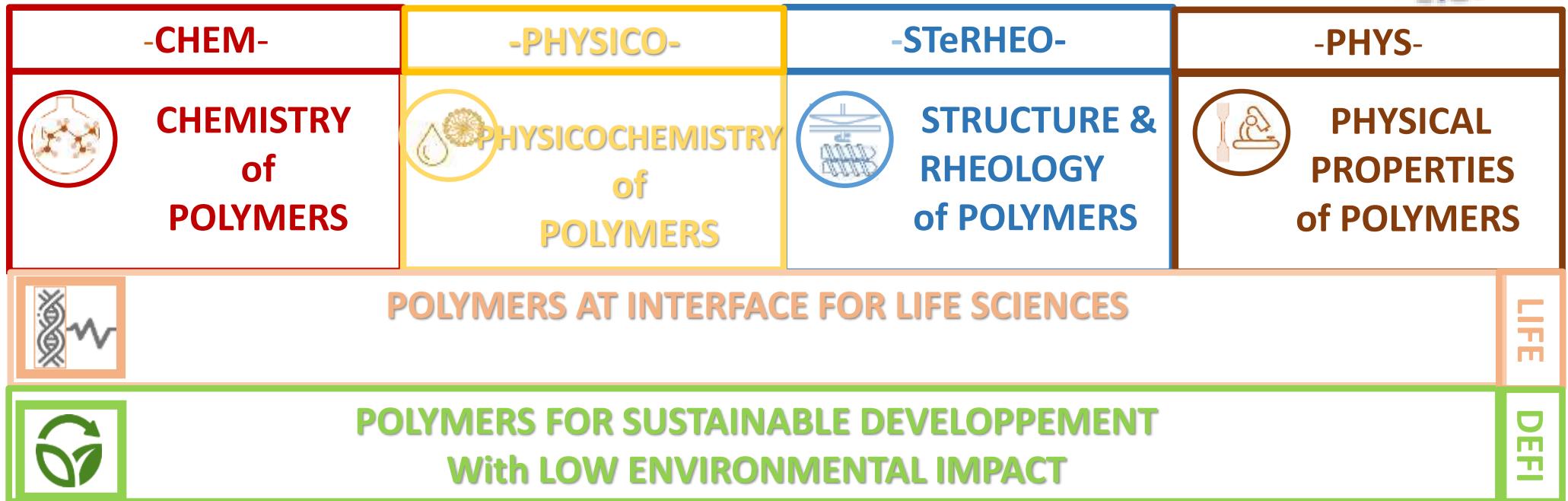
200 persons

87 permanent staff (44 Pr and Assistant Pr, 11CNRS Scientists, 28 technical staff)

113 non-permanent staff (85 Phd, 16 post-Phd, 10 contract workers)



ORGANIZATION OF IMP





How polymers could contribute to Circular Economy ?

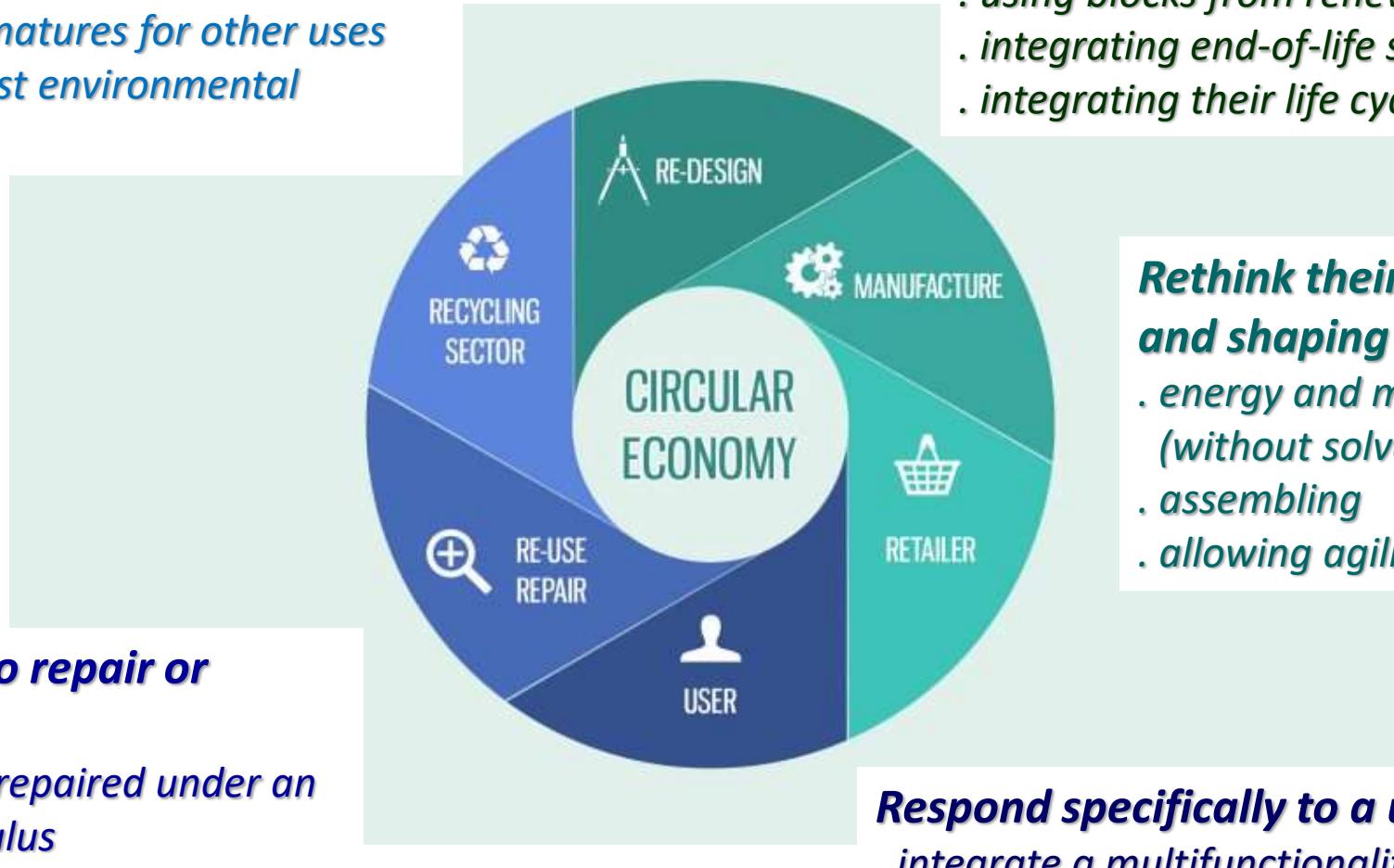
Be re-usable

- . in initial nature
- . under other natures for other uses
(with the lowest environmental footprint)



Being able to repair or self-repair

- . ability to be repaired under an external stimulus
- . knowing by itself to self-repair



Re-designing polymers

- . using blocks from renewable resources
- . integrating end-of-life stages
- . integrating their life cycle analysis

Rethink their formulation and and shaping processes

- . energy and material saving (without solvents)
- . assembling
- . allowing agility/customization

Respond specifically to a use

- . integrate a multifunctionality
- . respond to external stimuli

CIRCULAR ECONOMY & POLYMERS



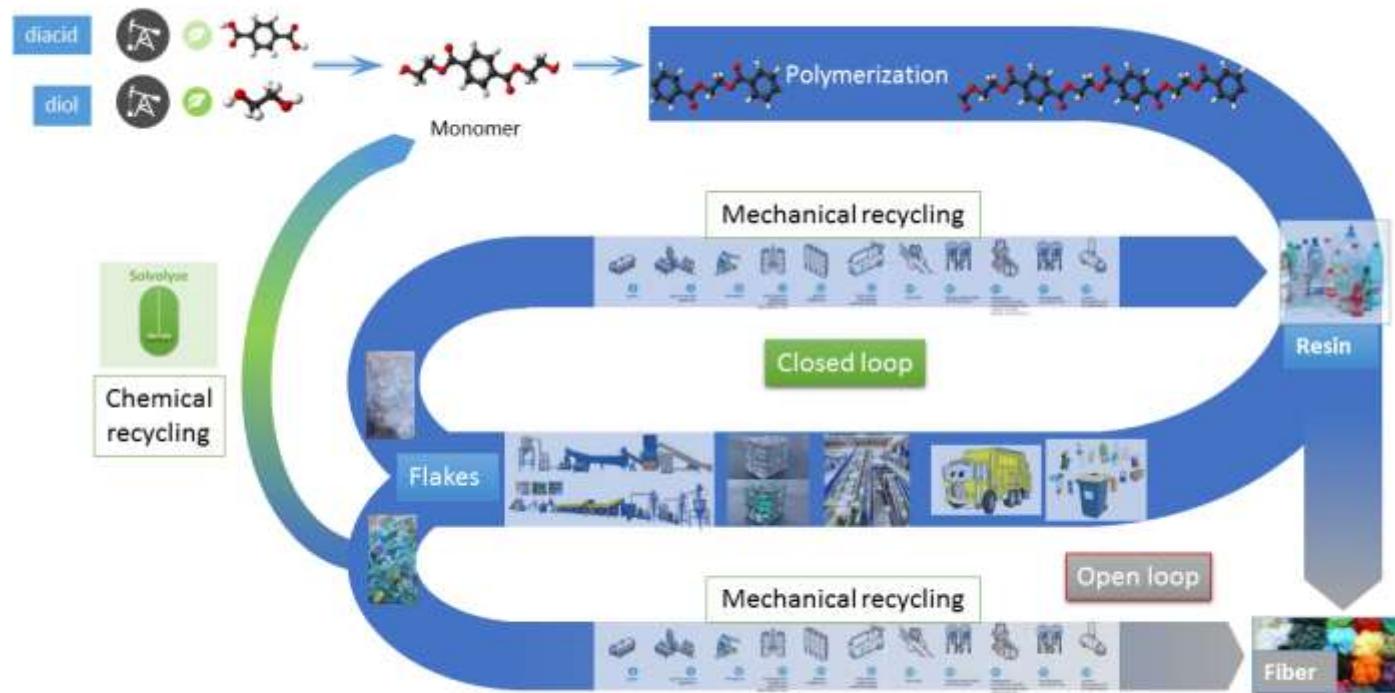
Be re-usable

- . in initial nature
- . under other natures for other uses (with the lowest environmental footprint)



PET-related examples:

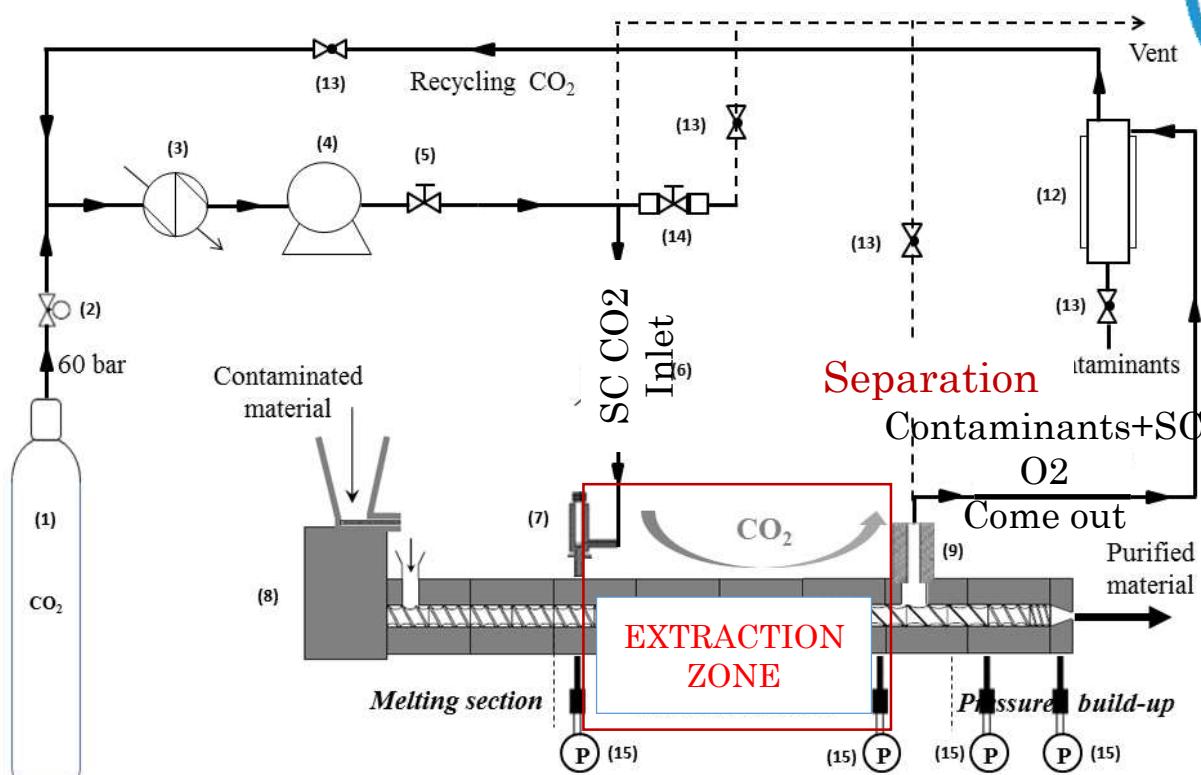
- **Mechanical recycling of PET** : Reactive (or not) extrusion
Solid State Polymerization
- **Chemical recycling of PET** : Catalyzed depolymerization (low temperature) of polluted PET
Preparation of high value monomers from depolymerization



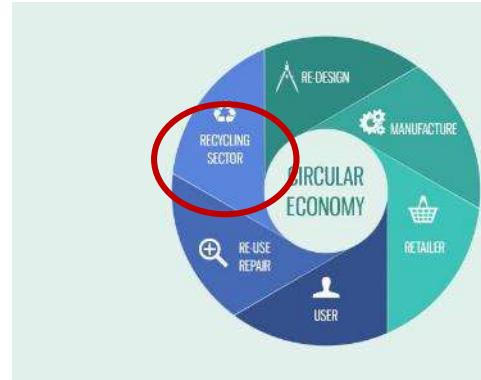
CIRCULAR ECONOMY & POLYMERS



Continuous decontamination by coupling the extraction during extrusion



Twin screw extrusion



Benefits

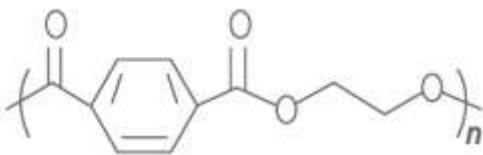
- ✓ Continuous process offering one-step extraction and granulation
- ✓ Extraction of molecules up to 400 g/mol
- ✓ More efficient than thermal desorption or steam distillation processes,

CIRCULAR ECONOMY & POLYMERS



Redesigning polymers

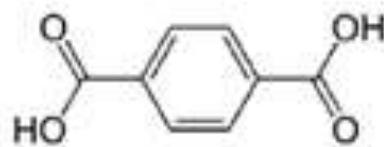
- . using blocks from renewable resources
- . integrating end-of-life stages
- . integrating their life cycle analysis



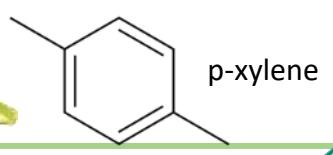
Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)



Monomer: terephthalic acid



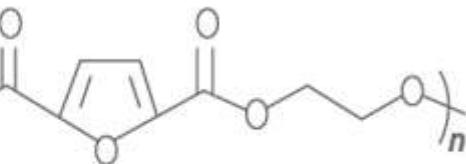
Monomer: terephthalic acid



p-xylene

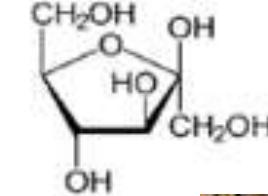
PET-related example:

- **Substitution by PEF**
Polymerization of FDA
- **Use of biosourced monomers**
Isosorbide, furanic acid, etc
- **Design of PET-like biosourced materials**
Physical properties
Processing as films, fibers



Polyethylene Furanoate

Fructose



Monomer:
furandicarboxylic acid



CIRCULAR ECONOMY & POLYMERS



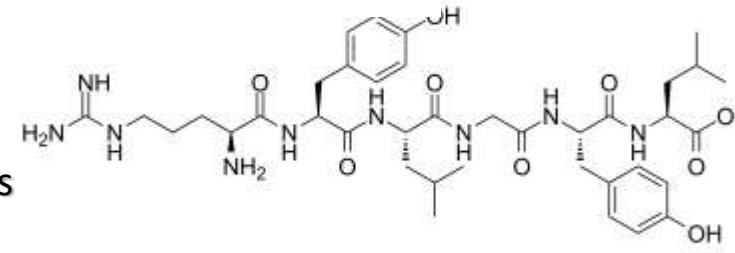
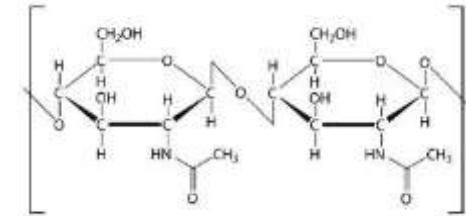
Redesigning polymers

- . using blocks from renewable resources
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Natural polymers based materials (biopolymers)

- Polysaccharide-based materials :
Cellulose, guar gum, etc
Chitine/chitosane
- Use of proteins as bases for materials series
Casein: Extrusion of films, injection of parts
Artificial leather from food wastes



Additives substitutions using biosourced components

Essential oils, natural insect repellants, natural antioxydants from biomass



Design, formulation, and processing of environmentally friendly polymers (Safe and Sustainable by Design)

- Non-isocyanate polyurethanes including bio-based NIPUs
- Bio-based (and biosourced) polyesters (saturated and unsaturated)
- Bio-based epoxies for substitution of bisphenol-A based ones: isosorbide, vanilin, tannins, etc
- Bio-based phenolics for adhesives, structural composites



CIRCULAR ECONOMY & POLYMERS

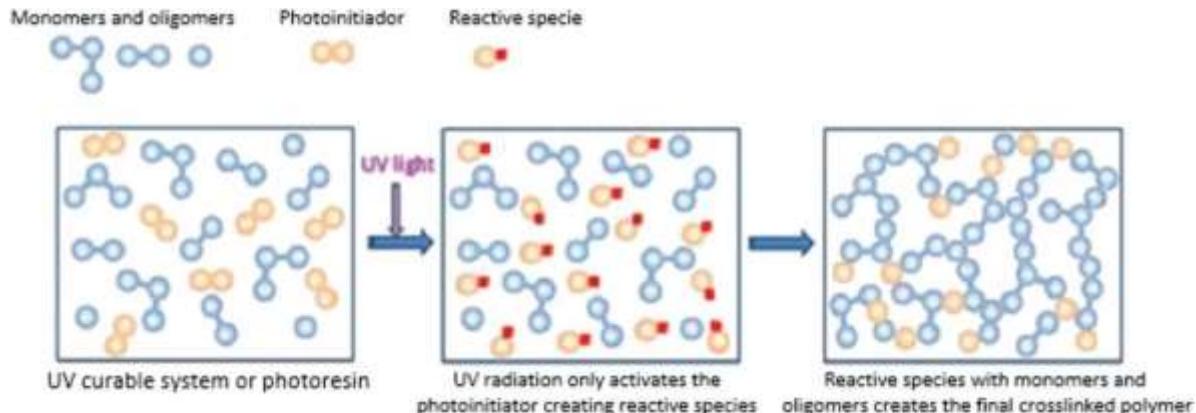


Rethink their formulation and shaping processes

- . energy and material saving (without solvents)
- . assembling
- . allowing agility/customization

Examples

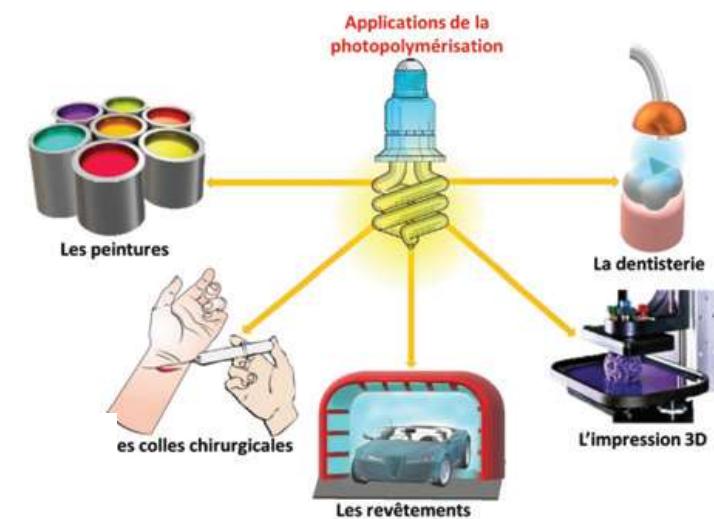
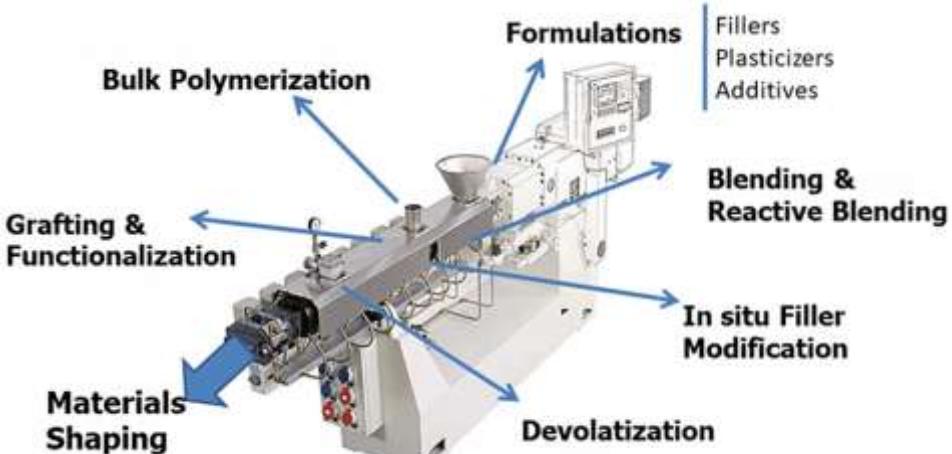
- **Photopolymerization: low energy consumption, short time reaction, 3D printing**



Reactive extrusion:

No solvent use
Short time of reaction

- . Synthesis of various polymers: PLA, PCL, PU, etc



CIRCULAR ECONOMY & POLYMERS



Being able to repair or self-repair

- . ability to be repaired under an external stimulus
- . knowing by itself to self-repair

Supramolecular chemistry for polymers

- Introduction of supramolecular units to introduce reversible bonds (physical bonds: H, chelation) versatile processing
 - . thermoplastics (ionomers)
 - . crosslinked polymers:

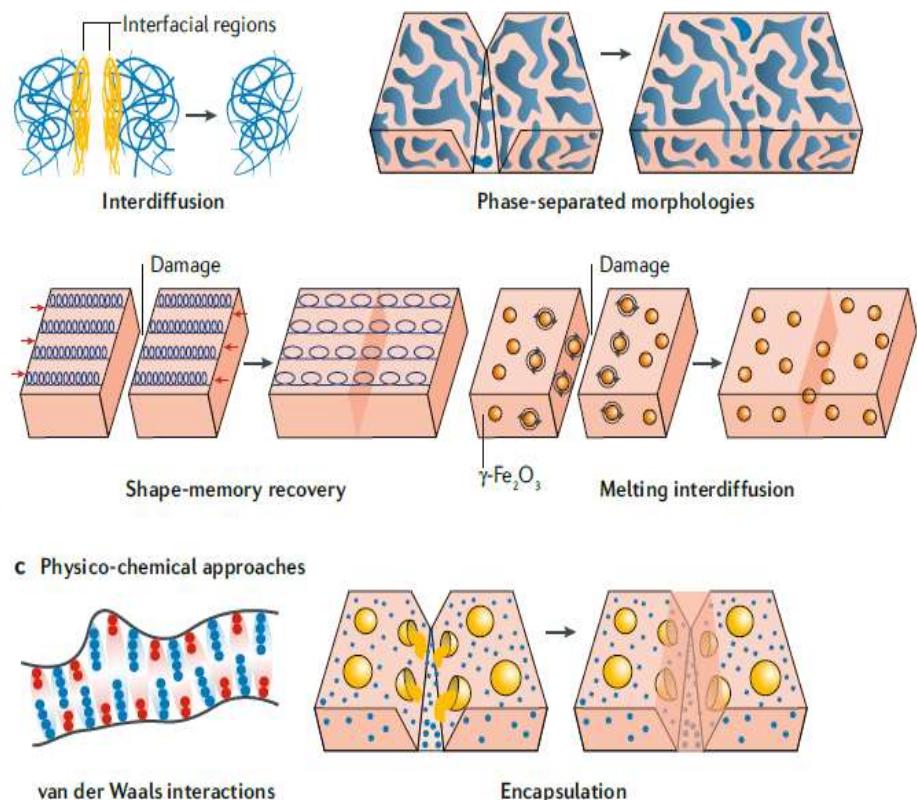
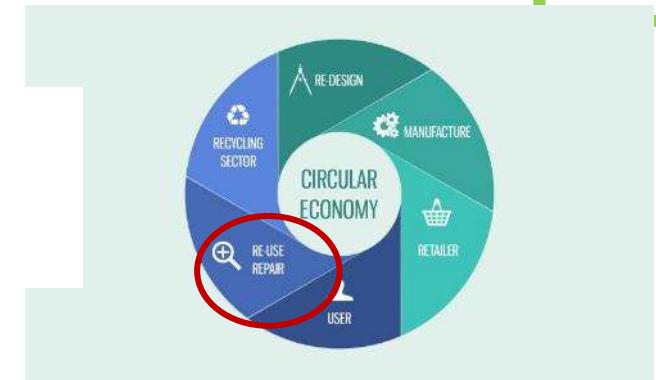
Vitrimers = Thermosets processable as thermoplastics



Recycling and re-use ↗

Healing of polymer damages (repair/re-use – durability)

- Introduction of mandable bonds (at moderate temperature)
Diels-Alder chemistry for matrices and interfaces
- Modification of polymers for self-healing ability
Polymer blends
Breakable microcapsules containing healing agent



adapted from S. Wang et al. Nature Rev. Mater., 2020

CIRCULAR ECONOMY & POLYMERS

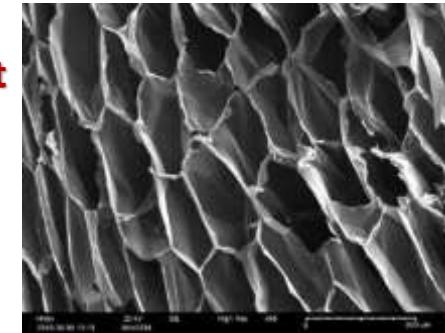


Respond specifically to a use

- . integrate a multifunctionality
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Allowing to reduce the use step environmental footprint

- Lightweight polymer materials using solvent-free methods such as supercritical CO₂, biofoams (PUR)
- Aerogels for thermal insulation
- Design of thermoplastic matrix-based composite materials: recovering of both TP matrix and fibers (improved recycling of structural composite materials)



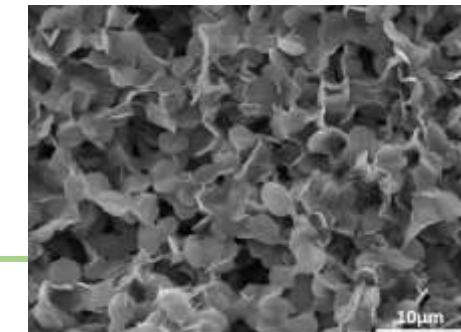
Integration of several functionalities in a single polymer material instead of combining several polymers, i.e. solving the generated problems of recycling (collecting, sorting, cross contaminations, etc)

Packaging films based on a single layer instead of multilayers

gas barrier (CO₂, H₂O, O₂) + mechanical properties + printability + ... (incl. biodegradability)

Eco-design of flexible printed electronics

Superhydrophobic surfaces of conventional plastics without additional surface treatments: recycling issues



CIRCULAR ECONOMY & POLYMERS



CNRS PRIME TEAM 'BIOLOOP'



Dr Olivier Brette

*interdisciplinary team on
bioplastics, recycling,
recyclability, LCA,
economics, politics shared
with two other UMRs
GREDEG & TRIANGLE*



Dr Valérie Massardier



Dr CNRS Nathalie Lazaric

Chair Pr Dr Sylvestre NJAKOU
On Circular Economy



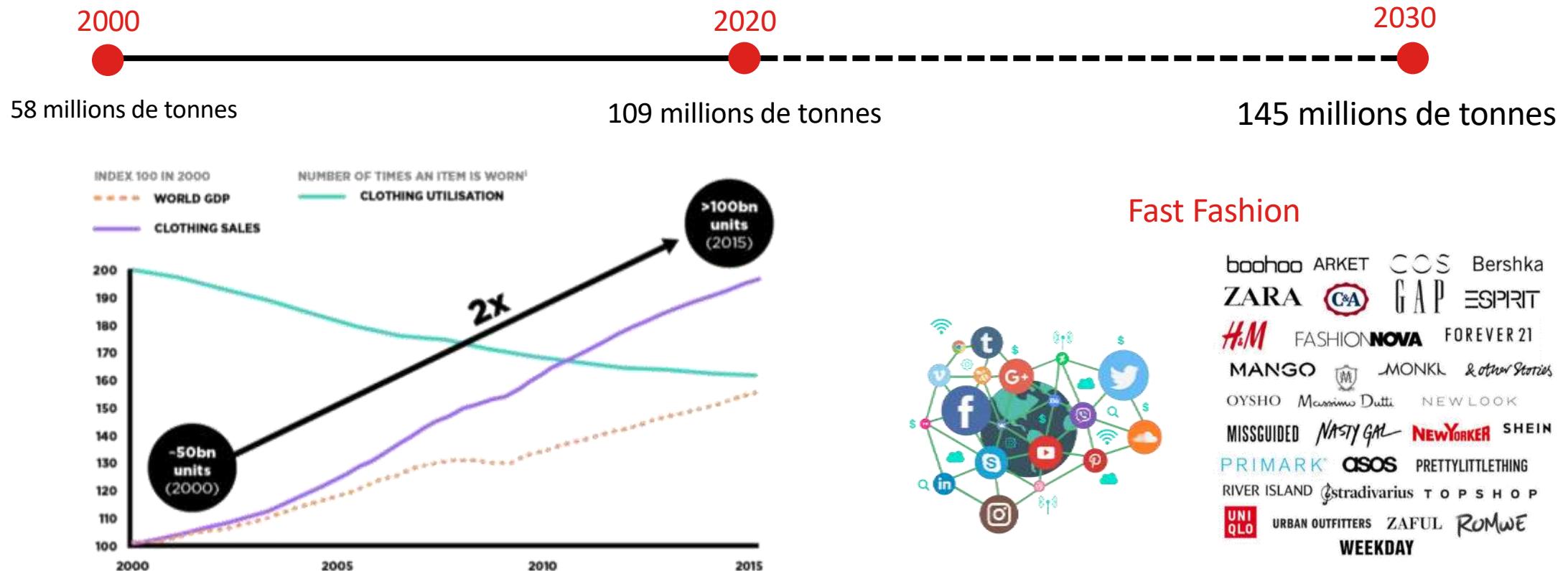
LANCEMENT PROJET PEPR VLAN TEXTILES
18/09/2023 ROUBAIX

Valorisation et Recyclabilité des Déchets Textiles

Duchet-Rumeau, J.; Livi, S.; Nachbar, M.

Industrie Textile

Production mondiale des fibres textiles



Impacts environnementaux



73% de déchets textiles sont mis en décharge ou incinérés



10% des émissions de gaz à effet de serre

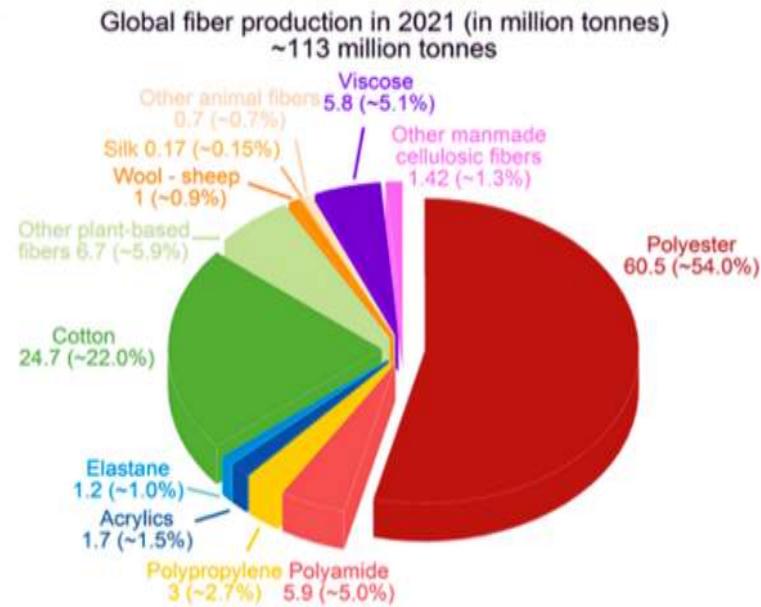
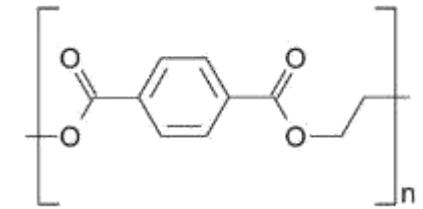


2700 litres d'eau pour 1 t-shirt en coton



0.5 millions de microfibres rejetées dans l'océan

Les Fibres Textiles - Polyester (PET)



L'une des fibres la plus importante

- 60% de la production de PET est destinée au secteur textile
- Bas prix de production
- Bonnes propriétés mécaniques et physico-chimiques



Recyclabilité des Fibres Textiles



- Difficulté de collecte/ tri vêtements
- Fibres multi composants (mélanges PET-Cotton)
- Présence d'additifs (par exemple les pigments des vêtements)
- Qualité de fibres en fin de vie (usure par lavage, longueur des fibres)
- Masse molaire et “melt strength”
- La plupart des technologies se limitent au “downcycling”

RECYCLING & UPCYCLING Fibres PET



Par une approche MATERIAL BY DESIGN

RECYCLAGE DES FIBRES PET

Explorer le recyclage chimique des fibres PET avec des liquides ioniques et les solvants “deep eutectics”.

Eco-DESIGN DU PET

Déclencher le recyclage chimique des fibres PET sous stimulus avec des liquides ioniques et les solvants “deep eutectics” encapsulés.

Eco-DESIGN DU PET

Elaboration de systèmes vitrimères à partir de déchets textiles basés sur la transestérification des composants biosourcés/verts.

Eco-DESIGN DU PLA

Formulation du PLA Pour l'obtention de performances, rhéologiques et mécaniques pour la recyclabilité du polymère

**Valorisation
des
Monomères**

**Prévoir ou
prolonger la fin
de vie du PET**

**Développement
de Vitrimères**

**Développement
de PLA
performants et
recyclables**

RECYCLING & UPCYCLING Fibres PET



Par une approche MATERIAL BY DESIGN

RECYCLAGE DES
FIBRES PET

Valorisation
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Eco-DESIGN DU
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Développement
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Eco-DESIGN DU
PLA

Développement
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APTITUDE AU FILAGE

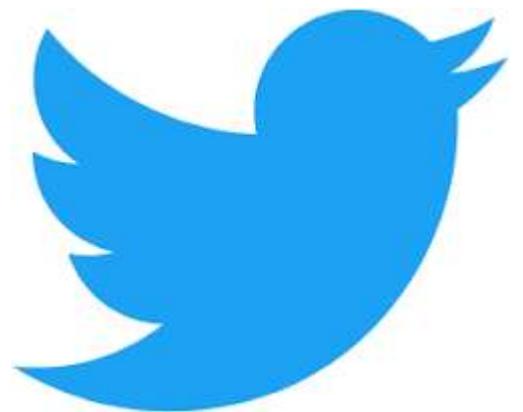
Analyse du Cycle de Vie



Thank you for your attention



And follow *IMP lab* on *X*



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