

Laboratoire de Génie des Procédés pour  
la Bioraffinerie, les Matériaux Bio-sourcés  
et l'Impression Fonctionnelle

*Laboratory of Process Engineering for  
Biorefinery, Bio-based Materials and  
Functional Printing*

UMR 5518

# YEAR BOOK | lgp2 BOOK | lgp2 2026



[lgp2.grenoble-inp.fr](http://lgp2.grenoble-inp.fr)



All editions of the Yearbook

## FEW WORDS FROM THE HEAD OF THE LAB



**Anne BLAYO,**  
**Head of the LGP2 lab**

**W**e are particularly pleased to present the 2026 edition of the LGP<sup>2</sup> *Yearbook*. This publication features a collection of mini-posters prepared by the laboratory's doctoral and post-doctoral students, summarizing their research topics and the progress of their work.

Rather than serving as a conventional annual activity report, the 2026 *Yearbook* offers a snapshot of all the topics currently being studied within the laboratory.

In line with previous editions, it underscores the strong focus of LGP<sup>2</sup> on biobased materials, the recovery of lignocellulosic resources, and functional printing, with an ever-increasing emphasis on sustainable development, recycling and eco-design.

The 2026 edition is special for several reasons. It will be widely distributed during two major international scientific events hosted by LGP<sup>2</sup>: the Cellulose International Summit in July, followed by the IARIGAI and IC international conferences in September. This presents an excellent opportunity for doctoral and post-doctoral students to showcase their work.

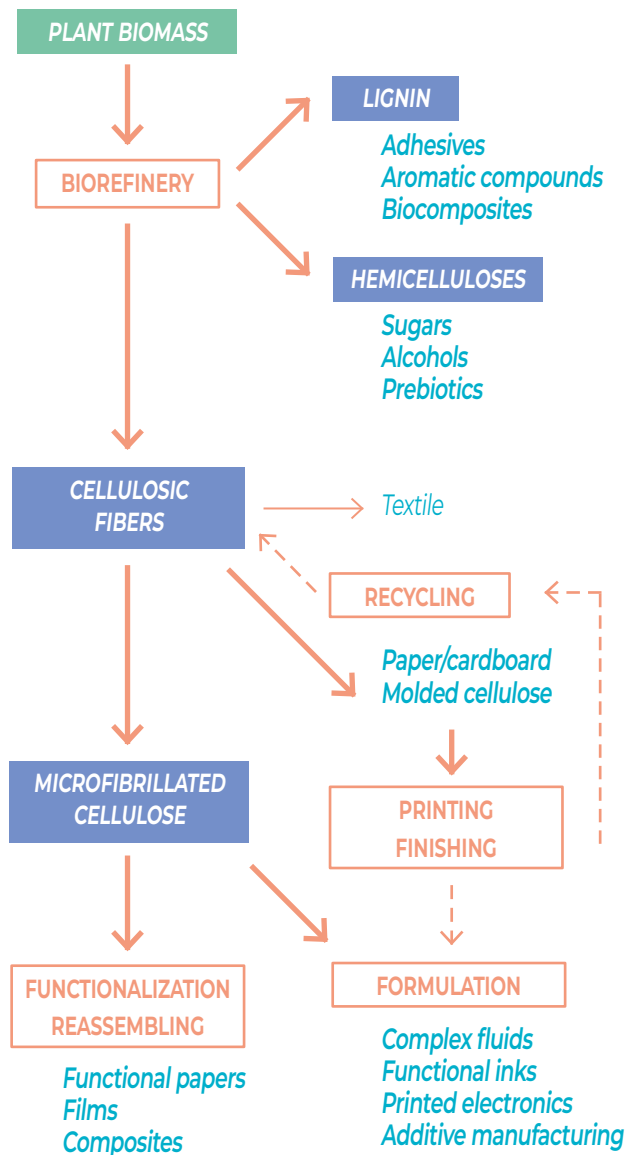
Furthermore, this marks the final edition signed under my directorship at LGP<sup>2</sup>; December 2026 will indeed conclude my mandate.

I am delighted to witness, year after year, the quality and breadth of the research presented in this document. I am equally pleased to note the diversity of collaborations between LGP<sup>2</sup>, other research laboratories and industrial partners, as well as the variety of ways in which projects are funded.

I would like to extend my warmest thanks to all the young researchers who have kindly contributed to the 2026 *Yearbook*, and made the effort to present their work in such a concise format. Many thanks to Dr. Aurore Denneulin, Deputy Director of LGP<sup>2</sup> and head of the Funprint team, who coordinates the collection of the mini-posters from researchers every year, and to Antoine Julien, LGP<sup>2</sup>'s Communication Manager.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue and discovering the research topics currently being pursued at LGP<sup>2</sup> in 2026.

# AN OVERVIEW OF THE LGP2



## At the very heart of sustainable development

LGP2 has built up a reputation in France and abroad for its research in the **valorization of plant biomass**, the development of **biobased materials** (paper, cardboard, composites), recycling processes, **nanocelluloses**, **printing processes for surface functionalization** and printed electronics.

In line with the **principles of eco-design** and the **challenges of sustainable development**, these research projects help to reduce the impact of human activities on the environment.

## High-quality collaborative research

**European projects, ANR**, Idex and numerous direct industrial partnerships.

Member of the **LabEx Tec21**, **Institut Carnot PolyNat** and **Bioeconomy for Change** networks.

Strong synergies with the **Grenoble INP - Pagora, Graduate School of Engineering**.

**Quality, Safety and Environment** certified (ISO 9001, ISO 14 001, BS-OHSAS 18 001).



60 PUBLICATIONS  
EACH YEAR

2/3 PATENTS  
EACH YEAR

2 RESEARCHERS ARE MEMBERS OF THE  
INSTITUT UNIVERSITAIRE DE FRANCE

60 RESEARCHERS  
AND PH.D STUDENTS

10 PH.D THESES  
EACH YEAR

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## ORGANIZATION : 3 RESEARCH GROUPS



### BioChip

#### Biorefinery: chemistry and eco-processes

Dr N. Marlin (HDR)

- Plant biomass fractionation processes
- Valorization of plant biomass fractions



### MatBio

#### Multi-scale bio-based materials

Pr J. Bras

- Building blocks extracted from plant biomass
- Suspensions & blends: material process engineering
- Composites and fiber-based materials for packaging, healthcare and transport



### FunPrint

#### Surface functionalization by printing processes

Dr A. Denneulin (HDR)

- Formulation and characterization of complex fluids
- Design and characterization of structured functional systems and components

# Young Researchers' research projects description

Ph.D. students



**Audrey DRIEUX**

Ph.D. thesis (2025-2028)  
LGP2 (N. Belgacem; C. Sillard;  
B. Michel)

## Chemical and physical modifications of lignocellulosic fibres for superabsorbency in biodegradable menstrual napkins

Modifications chimiques et physiques de fibres lignocellulosiques pour une application de super-absorption dans les serviettes menstruelles biodégradables

BioChip  
MatBio

### Context

#### Napkins

Around 15 000 menstrual protections used per menstruated person<sup>[1]</sup>

Petrosourced composition

Harmful for the environment

Menstrual precarity



Biobased biopolymers

Biodegradable

Affordable

Local resources from parts of the world with limited access to disposable health care products

[1] Bae J. et al. Safety Evaluation of Absorbent Hygiene Pads A Review on Assessment Framework and Test Methods 2018

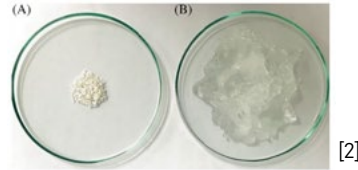
Funded by:



### Objectives

#### Superabsorption

Water absorption capacity of 1000g/g  
High swelling capacity  
Create a highly hydrophilic network



[2]

#### Antibacterial properties

From materials of the top sheet or the foam  
Brought by modification of the core



#### Biodegradability

Implementation of tests in water and in soil

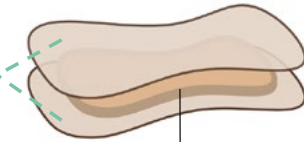


[2] Arredondo R. et al. Performance of a novel, eco-friendly, cellulose-based superabsorbent polymer (Cellulo-SAP): Absorbency, stability, reusability, and biodegradability 2022

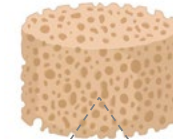
### Methods

#### Superabsorption

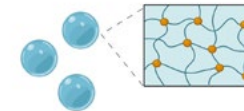
L. Caban



Absorbent core

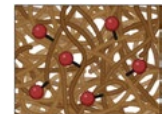


V. Gemin



Superabsorbent polymers (SAPs)

OR



Fiber chemical modifications



## Abdullah JAVED

Ph.D. thesis (2025-2028)  
LGP2 (N. Reverdy-Bruas;  
M. Robert De Saint Vincent;  
C. Martin); LRP (F. Pignon)

# Microstructuration of complex fluids for screen printing

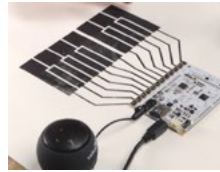
Microstructuration de fluides complexes pour l'impression sérigraphique

FunPrint

*Thèse confidentielle*

## Context

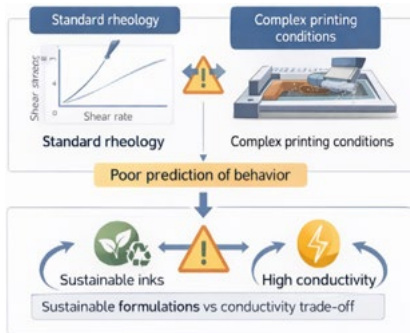
Printed electronics enable low-cost, flexible devices via additive manufacturing approaches.



Screen printing enables scalable deposition of functional layers.



Conductive inks (particles, binders, solvents, additives) govern flow and performance.



Funded by:

## Objectives

### High-performance conductive inks

High conductivity + High precision + Low cost

Understand ink behavior during screen printing

**Formulation**  
(composition)

**Rheology**  
(flow)

**Printability**  
(deposition)

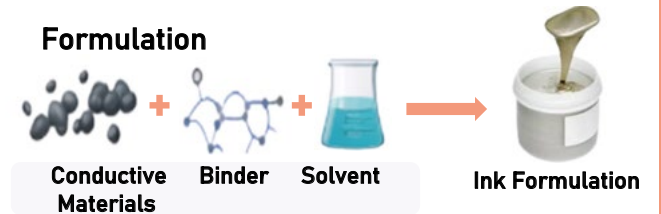
**Microstructure** formation during drying

**Functional performance**  
(Conductivity)



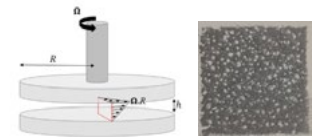
## Methods

### Formulation



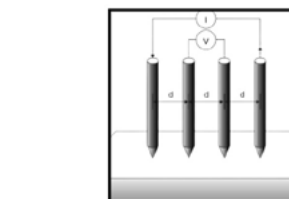
### Rheology & Printing

Viscosity, Flow and Thixotropic Tests  
Deposition behaviour  
Substrate interaction

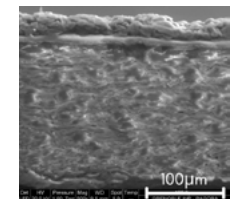


### Characterization & Performance

Optical microscopy / SEM  
Conductivity measurement  
Morphology-property relation



4-point probe test



SEM Micrograph



**Juliette LACROIX**  
 Ph.D. thesis (2026-2029)  
 LGP2 (J. Bras, Q. Charlier,  
 A. Dufresne)  
 Arkema (J. Flat, Q. Jean)

## Optimization of the interface and of the distribution of natural fibers and nanofibers in a bio-based composite matrix.

Optimisation de l'interface et de la distribution de fibres et nanofibres naturelles dans un composite à matrice biosourcée.

MatBio

*Thèse confidentielle*

### Context

**Polyamide 11** is a 100% bio-based polymer produced from castor oil. Reinforcement with **glass fibers** enables to reach high mechanical performance, for sports and leisure applications.



However, glass fibers have a high carbon footprint and are not bio-based. The goal is to **substitute glass fibers** to develop a 100% bio-based material.

→ **natural fibers** and **cellulose** are good candidates !



But, there is a **poor interfacial adhesion** between PA-11 and natural fibers.

→ This leads to a **strong decrease of the ductility**, the material becomes **fragile**.

Funded by:



### Objectives

#### Development of a ductile material 100% bio-based, using PA-11 matrix

1. Overgo the poor interfacial adhesion of the material via processing and functionalization.

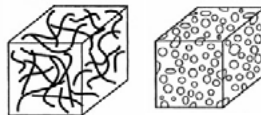


→ To enhance the fillers dispersion



→ To enhance the interface quality fillers / matrix

2. Study of the influence of the multi-scale

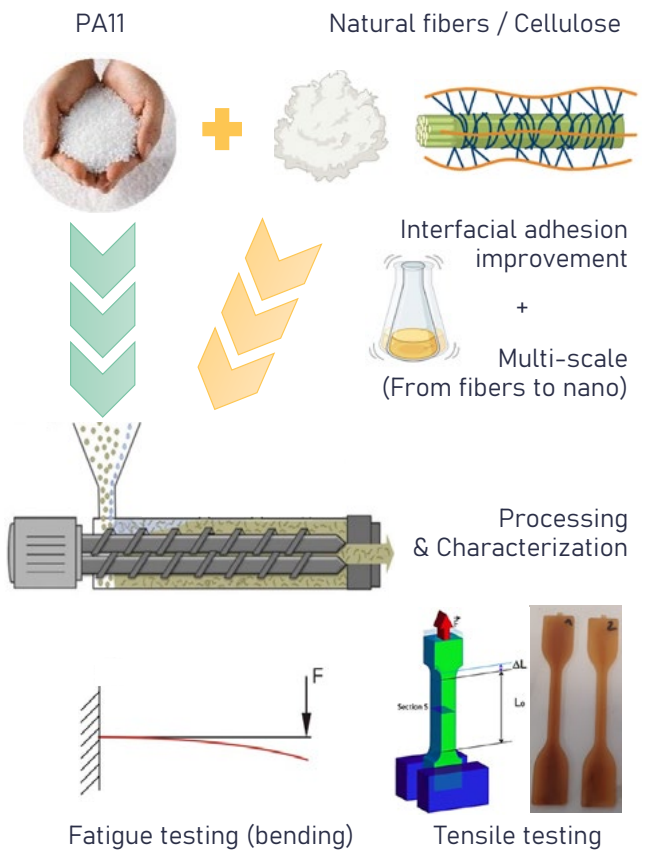


→ Short-fibers or particle reinforced composite

3. Characterization of the composite

→ Mechanical & Thermal analysis,...

### Methods





## Alexis SUCHET

Ph.D. thesis (2026-2029)  
LGP2 (J. Bras; J. Vigi  ; C. Rey)  
Cellulose Valley

# Towards Sustainable Packaging: Processing Strategies for Lightweight and Functional Cellulosic Materials

Vers des emballages durables : strat gies de transformation pour des mat riaux cellulosiques l gers et fonctionnels

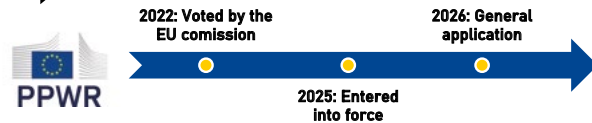
MatBio

*Th se confidentielle*

## Context

In the EU, the production of **plastic packaging waste** is estimated at 15.8 Mt in 2023<sup>1</sup>, while its **recycling rate** is estimated at only **42.1%**. The rest is either incinerated, landfilled or leaked in nature. In comparison, the production of **paper and cardboard packaging waste** is estimated at 32.3 Mt in 2023, and its **recycling rate** is estimated at **79.3%**.

### ➔ Packaging and packaging waste regulation



To answer this problem, the **Cellulose Valley** was created in 2022:

An Excellence Chair working to:



- Upgrade cellulosic materials
- Propose new innovative and high performance solutions



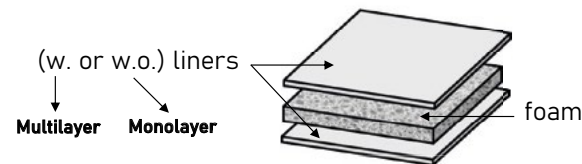
<sup>1</sup>According to Eurostat, ec.europa.eu/eurostat

## Objectives

PPWR 2025/40 Chapter 1, article 10:

« By 1 January 2030, the manufacturer or importer shall ensure that the packaging placed on the market is designed so that **its weight and volume is reduced to the minimum necessary** to ensure its functionality, taking account of the shape and material from which the packaging is made. »

### ➔ To create a lightweight cellulosic material with high mechanical properties



- Main objectives**
- Low density / High porosity
  - High mechanical properties
  - Biodegradable & recyclable

- New properties exploration**
- Low thermal conductivity
  - Sound absorption
  - Cushioning

## Methods

### FOAM MANUFACTURING

#### Formulations:

➤ Paper pulp  
(w. or w.o. MFC)

➤ Bio-based additives



#### Foaming processes

**Drying step**  
(in-line or out-line)

**Cellulosic foam**



## Loïc VOISIN

Ph.D. Thesis (2026-2029)  
LGP2 (A. Denneulin; J. Bras)  
LEGI (F. Ayela)

# CAVITOSE: Use of Cavitation to produce cellulose nanofibrils and simultaneously its functional suspension

Utilisation de la cavitation pour produire des nanofibrilles de cellulose et simultanément sa suspension fonctionnelle

FunPrint  
MatBio

## Context

Growing demand for scalable, **low-energy**, eco-friendly alternatives to petro-plastics

→ **CNF**: promising bio-based material but high production energy

Current processes: multi-step, energy-intensive homogenizers

→ **Hydrodynamic cavitation (HC) "on-chip"**: scalable, low-energy method enabling cellulose fiber fibrillation for CNF production



### CNF



### Microfluidic HC

- High barrier properties
- Strong entanglement
- High mechanical strength
- High specific surface area
- Complex rheological behavior
- Low energy consumption
- High shear rates + shock
- Minimal material damage
- Scalability potential
- Direct optical flow observation capability

→ **CAVITOSE**: An innovative way to produce CNF and functional suspensions

Funded by:

In collaboration with

## Objectives

### Develop low-energy hydrodynamic cavitation for CNF production and surfactant-free functional suspensions for inks/coatings.

- Lignocellulosic materials selection and **pretreatment strategies**
- Optimize **HC on-chip** for low-energy CNF from viscous suspensions (properties characterized).
- Demonstrate in-situ **co-exfoliation** CNF + functional nanoparticles (surfactant-free).
- Validate **functional suspensions** for inks and coatings for **scale-up** pathways.
- Deposition processes for **high material performances**

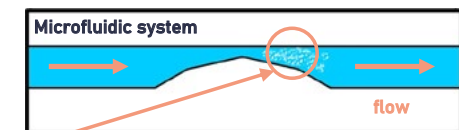


### Energetic evaluation of a new process

## Methods

### New low-energy method

**Cavitation exfoliation in microfluidic systems** (low  $\Delta p$ )  
Localized shear, high compression, efficient de-agglomeration, liquid-phase dispersion



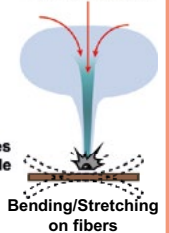
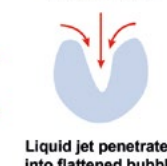
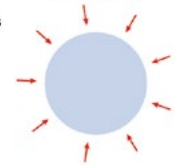
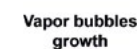
### Cavitation

Vapor bubbles growth

Static pressure increasing

Deformation of vapor bubble surface

Liquid microjet with high energy

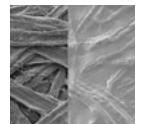


Liquid jet penetrates into flattened bubble

Bending/Stretching on fibers

### CNF characterisation

Morphology, surface properties, rheological behavior, multiscale microscopy, particle network imaging



### Fluid formulation and material assessment

Functional performance, coating/printing processes, conductivity, barrier efficiency, mechanical strength, colloidal stability





**Iqra ZAHID**

Ph.D. thesis (2025-2028)  
LGP2 (C. Chirat; C. Quesada Salas)  
Institut Pascal (G. Christophe)

## Valorization of Hemicelluloses as Oligo and Polysaccharides in an Integrated Biorefinery

Valorisation des hémicelluloses sous formes d'oligo et de polysaccharides dans une bioraffinerie intégrée

Biochip

*Thèse confidentielle*

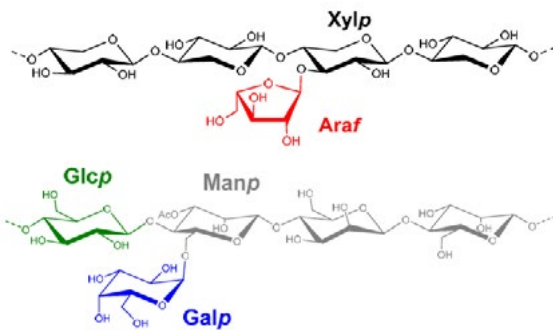
### Context

#### Hemicelluloses:

They are the second component in wood and annual plants (20 to 30% in mass), composed of five different sugars: Xylose, Arabinose, Galactose, Mannose, Glucose.

They are today not valorised other than for energy production

**Structure:** Commonly exist as Arabinoxylan and Galactoglucomannans.



Funded by :

**BIORAF**  
(ANR-24-CMAS-0004)



**anr**



### Objectives

#### Extraction of hemicelluloses from pulp by a combination of chemical and biochemical processes

Fully bleached pulps contain from 15 to 30% of hemicelluloses depending on the wood species and the pulping process used.

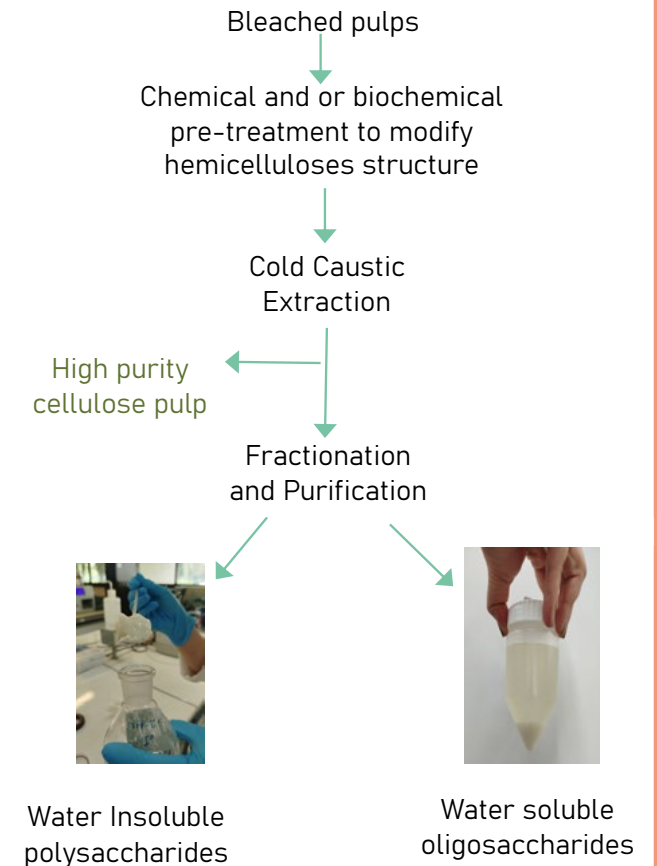
Combination of sustainable chemical and biochemical processes, will be applied on pulps to collect different fractions of hemicelluloses.

Reasons for the recalcitrance of some hemicelluloses fractions to be extracted will be looked for.

#### Advanced characterisation of the extracted hemicelluloses

- High Performance Anion Exchange Chromatography for composition
- Mass Spectrometry for side groups and structure of oligosaccharides
- Size Exclusion Chromatography for Molecular Weight Distribution
- NMR spectroscopy

### Methods





## Nassim AFIOUNI

Ph.D. thesis (2024–2027)  
LGP2 (B. Michel; G. Mortha;  
C. Quesada Salas)

# Processes for the Oxidation of Lignin kraft for the Integration of Antibacterial Nanoparticles in the Papermaking Process

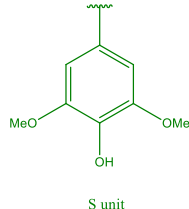
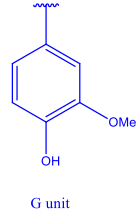
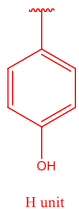
Procédés d'oxydation de la lignine Kraft pour l'intégration de nanoparticules antibactériennes dans un process papetier

BioChip

## Context

### What is Lignin?

- **Origin:** One of the three main components of wood
- Currently mainly valorized for energy production by combustion
- **Structure:** Highly heterogeneous polymer, constituted of monolignols with phenolic nature:



### Lignin Nanoparticles (LNPs)

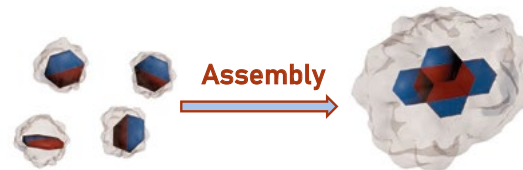
- **Benefits:** increased surface area, homogeneity and reactivity.

Funded by:



## Objectives

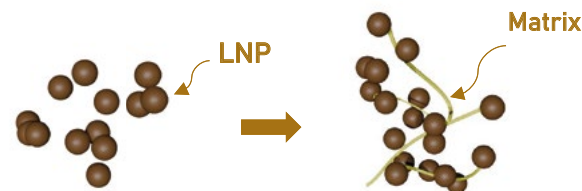
- **Transform** raw kraft lignin into uniform nanoparticles (LNPs)
- **Synthesize** LNPs with controlled size, morphology, and surface properties.



☐ Soluble functions

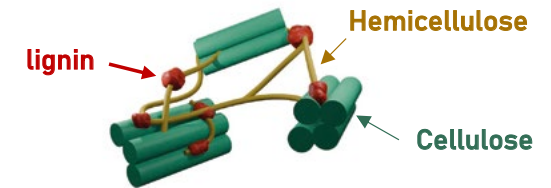
☐ Non-soluble functions

- **Investigate and modify** to bring specific antibacterial properties by chemical modifications
- **Integration** of LNPs on a ligno-cellulosic matrix



## Methods

### Lignin extraction from Kraft black liquor



- **Characterisation:**
  - Phenolic, carboxylic, methoxy content
  - Molecular weight and sugar content
  - Antibacterial properties

### Lignin nanoparticle formulation by self assembly using an antisolvent with and without chemical modification

- **Characterisation:**
  - Shape, size and morphology via DLS, AFM and TEM
  - Antibacterial properties



**Elsa BIHEL**

Ph.D. thesis (2024-2027)  
LGP2 (A.Denneulin; A. Blayo)  
ICCF (D. Boyer)

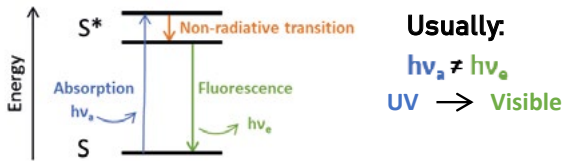
# LUMNI – Luminescent nanoparticles design for the development of high-performance luminescent functional inks.

Synthèse de nanoparticules luminescentes pour le développement d'encre fonctionnelles luminescentes hautes performances.

FunPrint

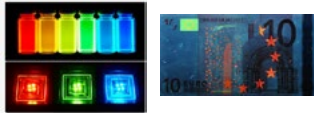
## Context / Objectives

**Fluorescence: unique property of emission of a lower energy photon after absorption**



**Growing demands for numerous applications:**

- Anti-counterfeiting
- LED display
- LDS in PV



**Need for simplified deposit:** additive processes

**Need for more sustainability:** non-toxic components and processes

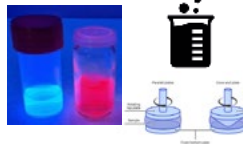
Funded by:



In collaboration with ICCF:



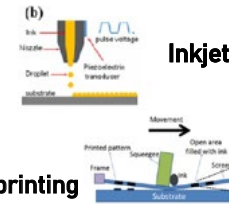
## Methods



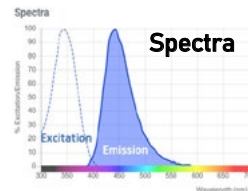
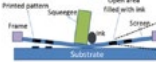
**Fluid formulation:**  
Formulation and mixing  
Rheology and physico-chemistry properties

### Processability:

Deposition processes  
Surface and interface properties



### Screen printing

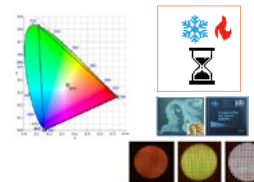


### Optical characterization:

Excitation-Emission spectra /  
Quantum Yield / Stability

### Post-printing properties:

Time stability  
Color management  
Applications

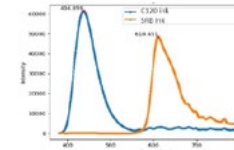


## Results



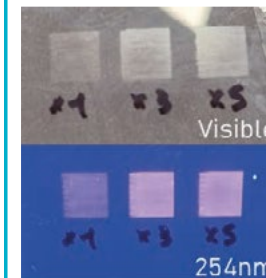
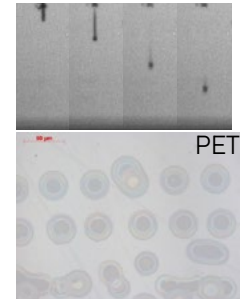
### Ink formulation:

Ink formulated with Sulforhodamine B, obtaining the physicochemical properties of inkjet ejectability and the highest fluorescence.



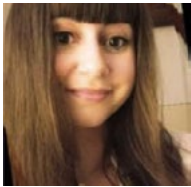
### Inkjet printing:

Influence of the inkjet parameters on the drop ejection. Observation of single drops on PET.



### Deposit analysis:

Printing on different substrates (PET, paper and tracing paper).  
Impact of the layer thickness on the fluorescence intensity.



## Lilou BOUTARIN

PhD. thesis (2025-2028)  
LGP2 (A. Denneulin; J.Bras)  
LMGP (D.Bellet)

# Eco-design of optically active multi-layered systems by full printed approach: materials-process correlations

Eco-conception de systèmes multicouches optiquement actifs par approche totalement imprimée : corrélations matériaux-procédés

FunPrint  
MatBio

## Context / Objectives

### Electrochromic devices

Device that can change its color when a electrical potential is applied (reversible action)

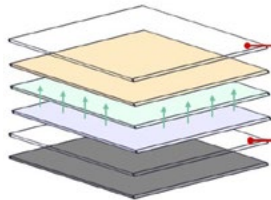
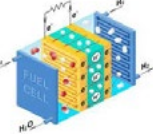
**Smart windows**  
Planes, cars, buildings



**Flexible displays**  
Solar cells, captors



**Other technologies**  
Fuel cells, printed battery



- Good optical properties
- Durability after cycles of use
- Electrical and thermal stability
- Low switching time

### Printing technologies advantages

- Low production's cost
- Compatible with eco-friendly components
- Large deposition surfaces
- Flexible surfaces

Funded by / in collaboration with:



## Methods

### Stacking of different printed layers using 3 inks:

- Electrochromic ink
- Electrolyte ink
- Transparent conductive ink

### Complex aqueous-based fluids formulation

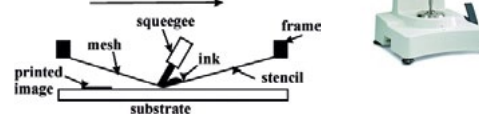
Water-based ink

Planetary mixer

Nanocellulose and cellulose derivatives as binder and viscosity modifier

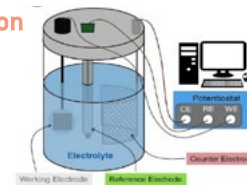
### Printing with screen-printing process

- Rheological properties
- Characterization of unique layers



### Physico-chemical characterization

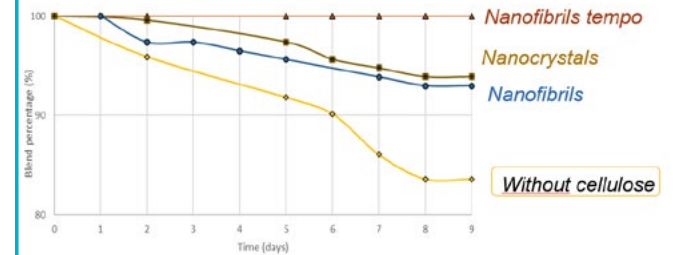
- Three-electrode system for electrochemical analysis



## Results

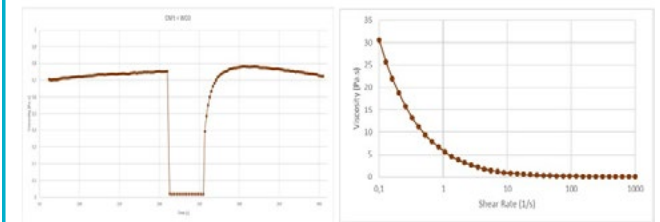
### Colloidal stability of inks

Colloidal stability thanks to the addition of nanocellulose



Only one grade of cellulose allows high colloidal stability

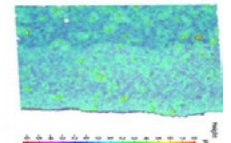
### Assessment of flow properties



Thixotropic ink Meeting of screen printing requirements High shear-thinning behavior

### Printed layer

Thickness : 4µm  
Homogeneity of the printed layer





# Léa CABAN

Ph.D. thesis (2025-2028)  
LGP2 (Q.Charlier)  
3SR (R. Peyroux)

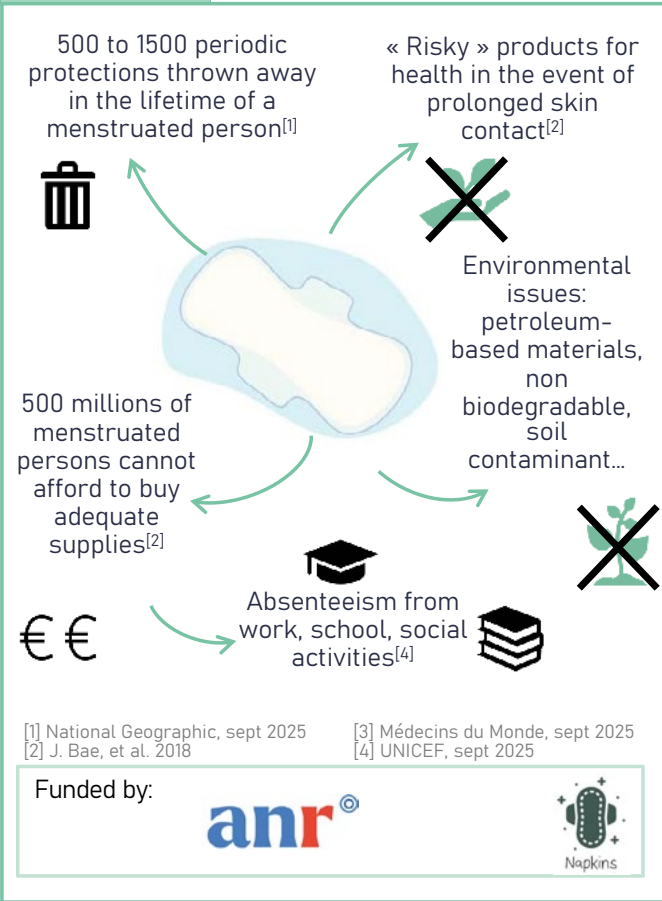
## Development of absorbent and waterproof veils made from lignocellulosic fibres to manufacture 100% bio-based and biodegradable menstrual pads

Développement de voiles absorbants et imperméables élaborés à partir de fibres lignocellulosiques pour la fabrication de serviettes menstruelles 100% biosourcées et biodégradables

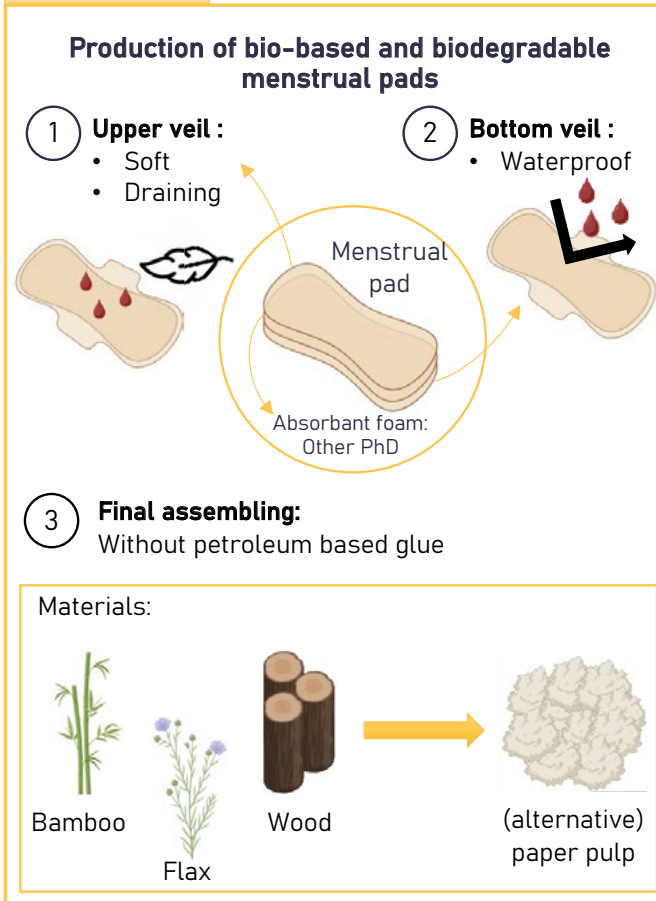
MatBio



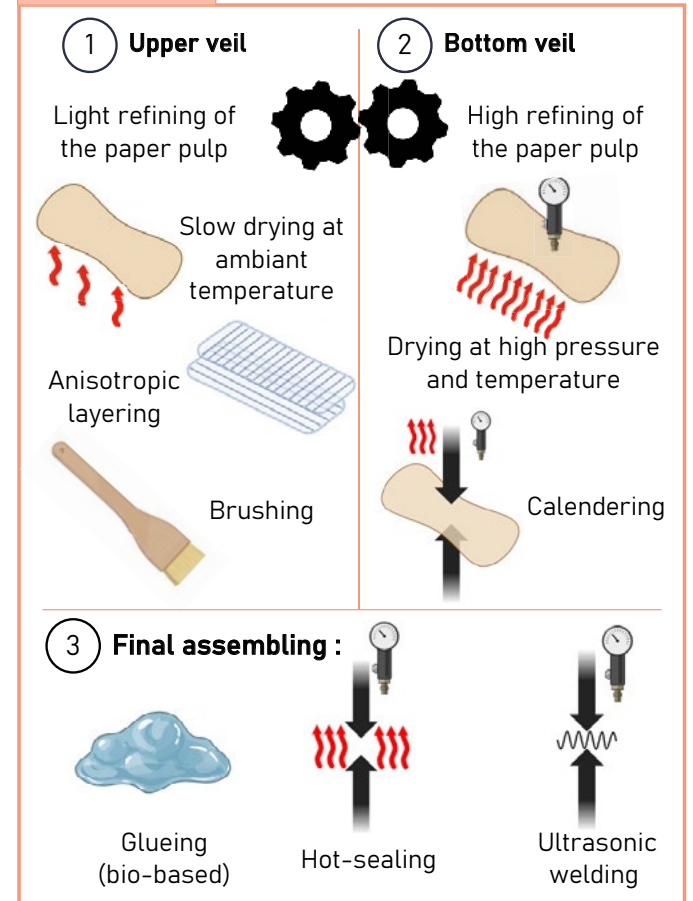
### Context



### Objectives



### Methods





## Julien CLAUZON

Ph.D. thesis (2024-2027)  
LGP2 (R. Passas; Q. Charlier)  
3SR (S. Rolland du Roscoat)

# Multiscale Characterization of the Hygro-Mechanics of Papers

Caractérisations multi-échelle de l'hygro-mécanique des matelas fibreux

BioChip  
MatBio

## Context / Objectives

### Paper

It is an **alternative to plastics** but is strongly limited by its **weak ductility**.

To face the growing demand while limiting its environmental impact, **the paper industry must reduce its consumption of energy, water and raw materials.**

### Goal of this project

Using a multiscale approach to better understand the influence of fiber bonds properties depending on the fiber type and refining methods.

### Study paper at different scale

- **Macro scale:** paper sheet



- **Micro scale:** fibers and fiber bonds



Funded by:

ANR-23-CE43-0014

anr

FiberBond  
ANR 2024-2028



## Methods

### Sample preparation

- 6 g/m<sup>2</sup> and 75 g/m<sup>2</sup> handsheets

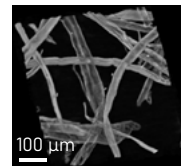
### Macroscopic Hygro-mechanical Properties

- Varimass, Varidim, tensile testing at 20-80% RH
- Using different pulp: BEKP, NBSKP
- Different refining methods

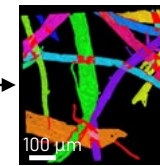
### Microstructural Characterization by X-ray microtomography

Fiber and contacts Identification

Quantification of surface contact area

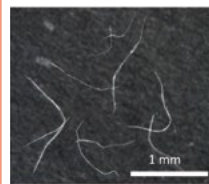


Gray level 3D image

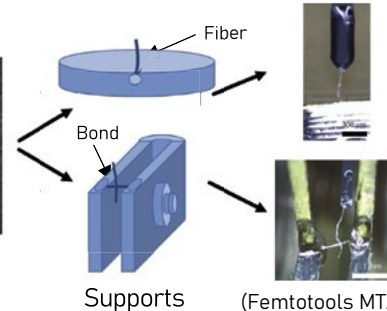


Segmented 3D image

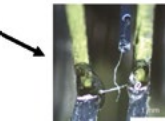
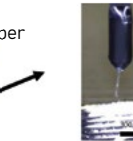
### Mechanical properties of single and single fiber-fiber bond



Fibers & bonds



Supports

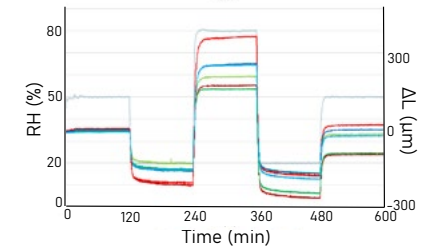


(Femtotools MTA03)

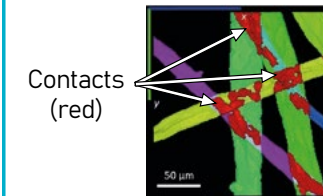
## Results

### Macroscopic Hygro-expansion

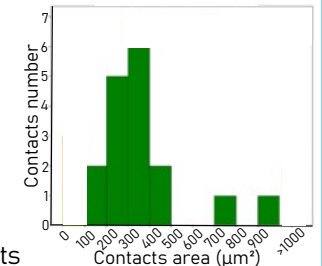
Varidim results showing the effect of pulp type and drying methods



### 3D images segmentation



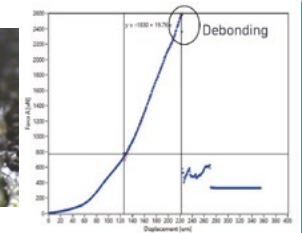
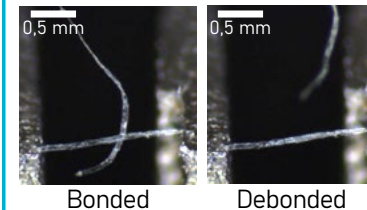
Contacts (red)



>75% of well identified contacts

### Tensile behavior of single fiber-fiber bond

Single bond tensile test





## Valentin GEMIN

Ph.D. thesis (2024-2027)  
LGP2 (N. Belgacem; C. Sillard;  
J. Vigié)

# NAPKINS, Structure-properties relationships of wet and dry fiber foams for absorbent and retentive menstrual pads

NAPKINS, étude propriétés-structures des mousses fibreuses liquides et solides pour la fabrication de mousses absorbantes et rétentives

MatBio

*Thèse open-source*

## Context / Objectives

Evaluate a fiber foaming process to produce 100% bio-based & biodegradable absorbent core to replace superabsorbent particles in menstrual pads.



Study the effects of surfactant concentration and fiber type on the foaming process along with the structural evolution of foams from wet state to dry state.

Understand the interplay between mechanical properties, intrinsic fiber absorption and capillary properties on absorption and retention performances of the dry foams.

Funded by:

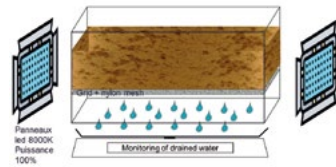


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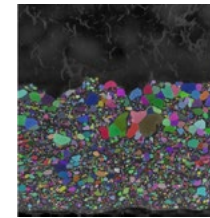
## Methods

**Characterization of the fibers/surfactant system:** Morfi, Capillary rheometer, Pendant & oscillating bubble tensiometry, Zeta potential

**Liquid foams:** Air uptake during foaming, bubble size and air fraction evolution during drainage and drying

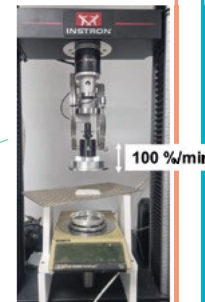
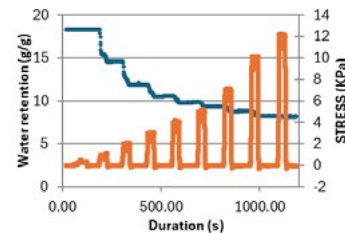


Monitoring of foam



Bubble segmentation

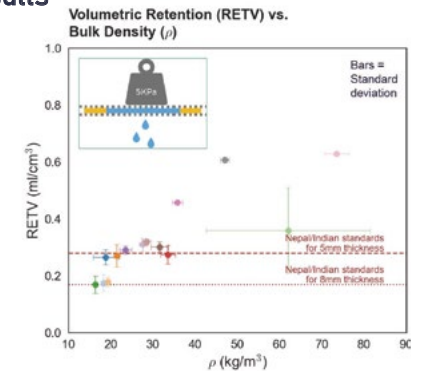
**Solid foam:** Dry and humid mechanical properties, tomography, capillary wicking, Dripping absorption performance, Cyclic retention performances



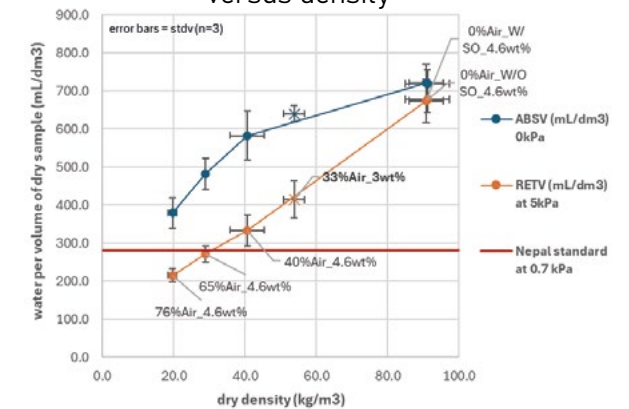
## Results

### Preliminary results

Performance benchmark for different types of fiber-foams



Volumetric performances of RMP fiber-foams versus density





## Sarp KÖLGESİZ

Ph.D. thesis (2025-2028)  
LGP2 (N.Belgacem; D.Beneventi)  
Polito (R.Bongiovanni)

# Use of natural wood and biobased polymers as base materials for the elaboration of fuel cells components by additive manufacturing

Utilisation du bois naturel et des polymères biosourcés comme matériaux de base pour l'élaboration de composants de piles à combustible par fabrication additive.

MatBio  
FunPrint

*Thèse confidentielle*

### Context / Objectives

Sustainable energy materials play a critical role in enabling the widespread adoption of green energy systems.

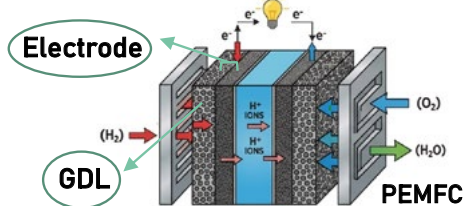
**Utilization of Bio-sourced precursors**  
(such as waste wood and bio-based polymers)



are commonly used as structural and functional materials in conventional devices like **capacitors, batteries, and sensors**.

**In this thesis:**

**Gas Diffusion Layer (GDL)** and **electrodes** will be elaborated from bio-sourced materials for PEMFC.

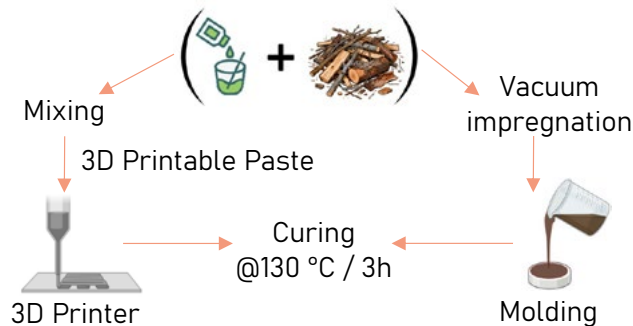


Funded by:  
MSCA Unite!Energy/EU



### Methods

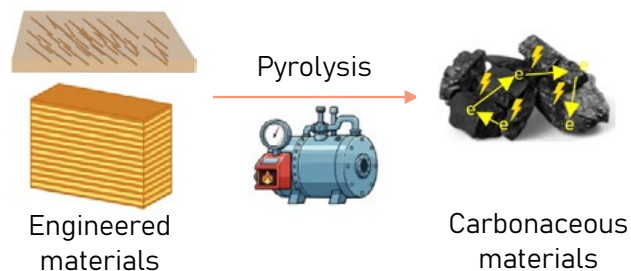
#### Bio-sourced Composite Material Preparation:



#### Pyrolysis:

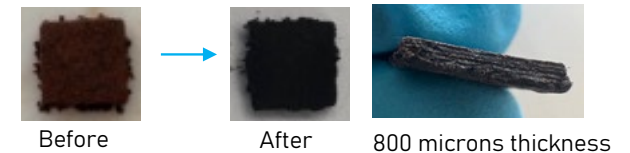
After pyrolysis at 950 °C of engineered bio-sourced materials;

**High electrical conductive and tunable porous carbonaceous materials**

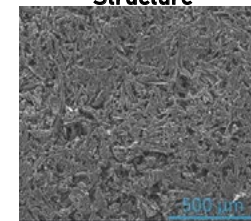


### Results

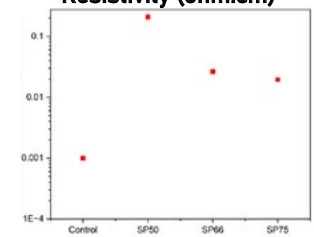
#### Engineered carbon materials after pyrolysis



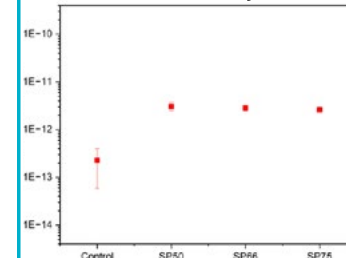
#### SEM Image of Porous Structure



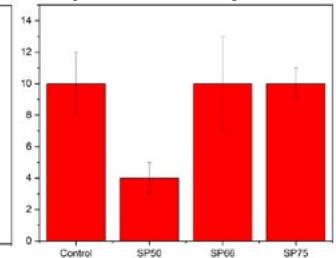
#### In-plane Electrical Resistivity (ohm.cm)



#### Gas Permeability (m<sup>2</sup>)



#### Compression Strength (MPa)



**Conclusion:** Porous high electrical conductive and durable self standing ordered/order biocarbon materials were produced.



## Suzy RUANO

Ph.D. thesis (2024-2027)  
LGP2 (J. Bras ; N. Belgacem)  
Gascogne Paper (J. Desmaisons;  
A. Pinsolle)

# Development of new biobased barrier solutions for flexible packaging

Développement de nouvelles solutions barrières biosourcées pour emballages flexibles

MatBio

*Thèse confidentielle*

## Context / Objectives

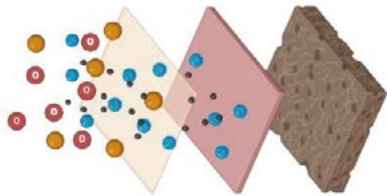
### Regulations

*SUP directive – AGEC law – PFAS regulation*

- Imminent need to find **plastic and PFAS – free** solutions
- Solutions such as petro-based coatings or laminated papers are emerging, but at **detriment of the packaging's end-of-life.**

### Challenges

- Formulation of 100% biobased solution
- Optimize and adapt coating processes
- Improve and adapt barrier characterization methods



Funded by:



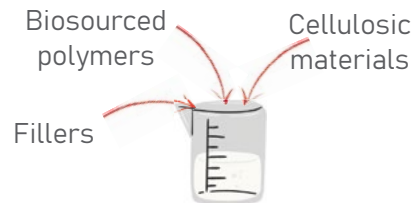
Gascogne



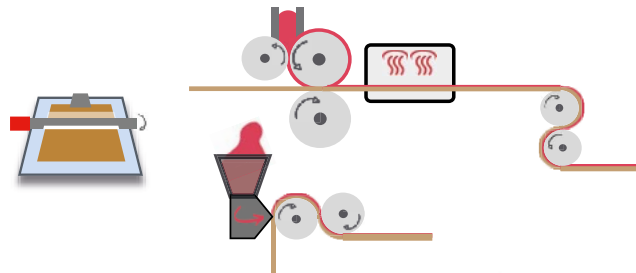
ANRT  
ASSOCIATION NATIONALE  
RECHERCHE TECHNOLOGIE

## Methods

### Formulation



**Coating processes** : from lab to pilot and industrial scale devices

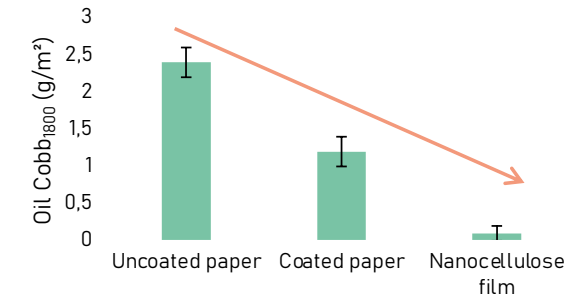


### Barrier characterization



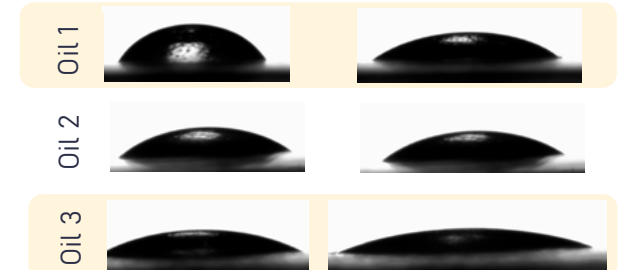
## Results

### Oil Cobb measurements



### Liquid oil behavior onto paper substrate

- Depending on the oil used, the substrate doesn't react the same way
- Each oil has its own characteristics: viscosity, surface tension, density





## Océane AVERTY

Ph.D. thesis (2023-2026)  
LGP2 (C. Martin; J. Bras;  
Q. Charlier)

# Cellulose substrate functionalisation for barrier & sealing solutions in beauty packaging

Fonctionnalisation de substrat cellulosique pour des emballages barrières et scellables dans le domaine cosmétique

MatBio

*Thèse confidentielle*

## Context / Objectives

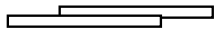
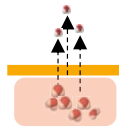
### World Plastic pollution:

- Regulations in Europe: SUPD (2019) & PPWR (2024)
- Society expectations to have less plastic packaging



➔ **Replace flexible plastic packaging by water vapour barrier paper packaging with bio-based coating**

Reach the **barrier performance** required for high moisture products



Be **sealable**

Be **recyclable and 100% biobased**



In collaboration with:



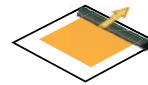
## Methods

### 1. From bio-based material to barrier paper



Suspensions formulation

Paper selection and coating and drying parameters monitoring



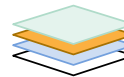
Barrier performance against water vapour

### 2. From barrier paper to packaging



Sealability (Heat, Ultrasound, Mechanical)

A multilayer strategy to reach all the targets



### 3. Characterisations of the packaging

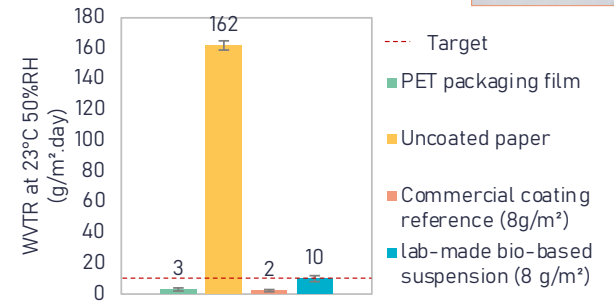
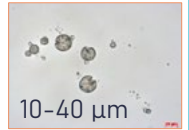
Recyclability



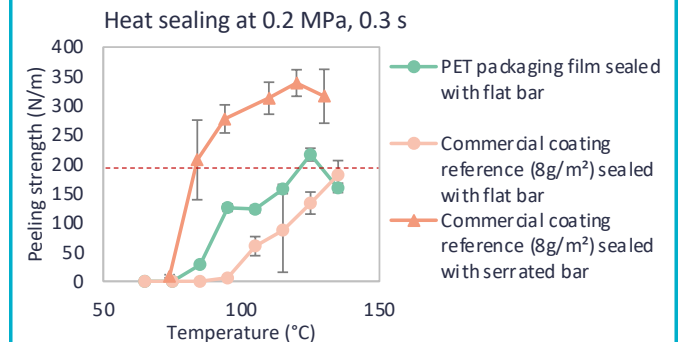
Converting resilience

## Results

Stable bio-based suspension with nanocellulose achieved with an industrialisable technology



Serrated geometry provides better peeling strength than flat bar for a paper coated with a sealant, especially at low temperature (90-100°C)





## Eliott BONNET MARTIN

Ph.D. thesis (2024-2027)  
LGP2 (D. Beneventi, A. Denneulin)  
FCBA (M. Lecourt)

# Set-up of an innovative wood-based biocomposite for processing by 3D LDM printing and wood panel adhesion

Elaboration d'un biocomposite innovant à base de bois et développement de sa mise en forme par procédés d'impression 3D LDM et thermopressage

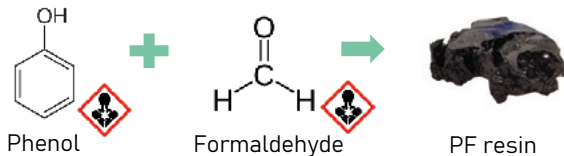
FunPrint

*Thèse confidentielle*

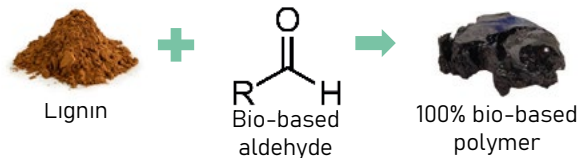
## Context / Objectives

### Substitution for phenol formaldehyde (PF) resin

Around 500 kT of phenol formaldehyde is produced per year for **wood panel adhesion**.



**Bio-based** and **non toxic** substitutes for phenol and formaldehyde are needed.



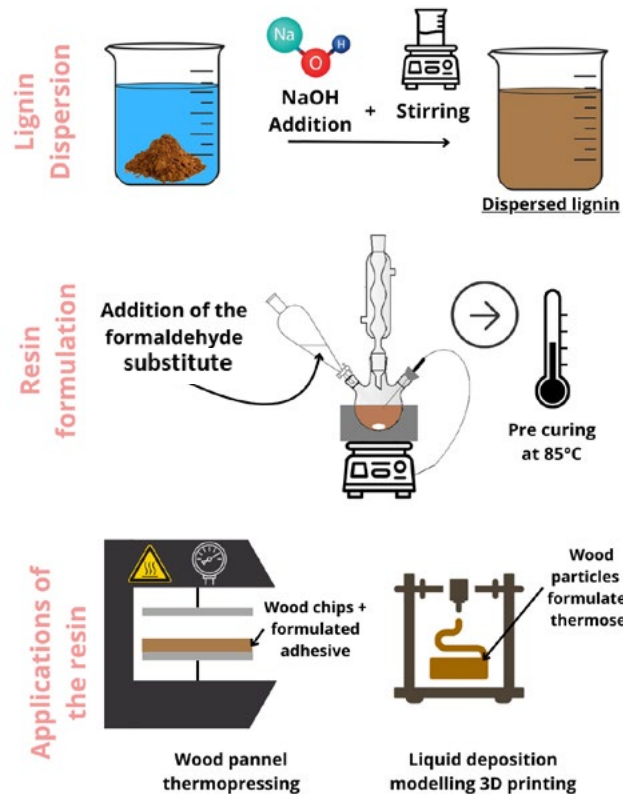
### Lignin as a phenol substitute

- Abundant, cheap and bio-based chemical with phenolic structure.
- Potential to enhance performances of adhesive (UV resistance, thermal stability...)

Funded by:



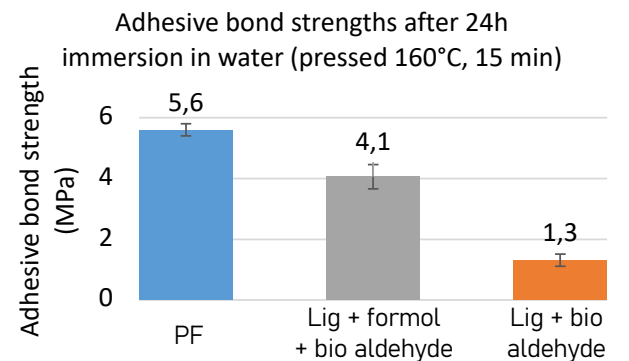
## Methods



## Results

### Process optimization

- Substitution of phenol by lignin 70 % ↗ to 100 %.
- Substitution of 100 % of formaldehyde with bio-based non toxic aldehydes achieved.



- After 24h immersion in water adhesive bond strength >1MPa => water resistant

### Limitations after 2 years

- Cure temperature higher than PF adhesives (around 160°C).
- Weaker adhesive bond strength.



## Laura BERNARD

Ph.D. thesis (2023-2026)  
LGP2 (A.Denneulin; N. Reverdy)  
CEA-Leti DTIS (P. Mailley;  
P. Marcoux)

# Printed electronics for early detection of bloodstream infections

Electronique imprimée pour le dépistage rapide des infections sanguines

FunPrint

## Context / Objectives

### Bloodstream infections

- Every 2.8 seconds, someone dies from a bloodstream infection in the world.
- After 6h, the survival rates decrease by 7.6% each hour
- Increase in antibiotic resistance, leading to the leading cause of death by 2050.

### Handmade to a standardized product

Previous work have been made by manual deposit of ink. This PhD study various parameters to standardized the process of manufacture.

Requirements :

- Autoclave-proof (130°C/18 min/2 bar)
- Rigid, resistant to breakage during septum perforation
- Biocompatible
- Electrically insulating
- Electrochemical sensor

Funded by:

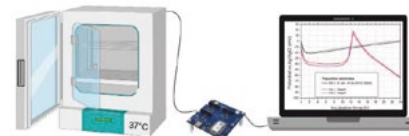


In collaboration with LGP2

## Methods

### Electrochemistry-based

- Hypothesis of ink reduction by bacteria measured by a potentiostat (OCP method)



Experimental setup

### Printing processes of sensor

Print on PCB sensor with 2 techniques :

- Screen-printing of viscous ink
- Manual deposit of liquid inks

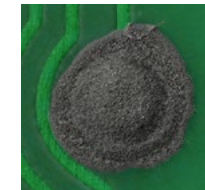
### Characterisation:

- Rheology
- Microscopy
- pH sensitivity and bacterial detection (OCP electrochemistry)

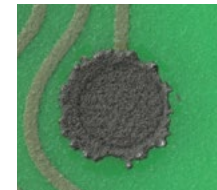
## Results

### Screen-printing impact :

Improved reproducibility, controlled thickness and shape



Manual ink deposition



Screen-printing

Average (µm)	54,4	19,4
S.D (µm)	25,6	5,9

Keyence Optical Shadow Effect Mode of depositions & corresponding thickness of ink measured with Keyence

### Towards a plug-and-play device

Optimising sensor design using 3D-printed prototypes and developing an integration guide



Optimized shape of sensor and integration assistance guide

Thickness: 1.7 mm  
Rounded edges: 3 mm  
Spike angle: 10°  
Chamfer: Width: 0.5 mm & Height: 1.5 mm



## Mathilde BERNARD-CATINAT

Ph.D. thesis (2023-2024)  
LGP2 (E. Mauret; J. Bras)  
Cellulose Valley

## Development of innovative process for 3D cellulosic packaging.

Développement de procédés innovants pour l'obtention de matériaux cellulosiques tridimensionnels.

MatBio

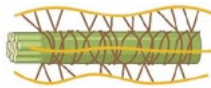
### Context / Objectives

**Climate change and single use plastics:** modern issues leading to various legislations push towards bio-based materials.



#### → Cellulose

- Bio-based and biodegradable.
- Easily available.
- Recyclable.



#### → Rigid 3D Cellulose-base packaging challenges:

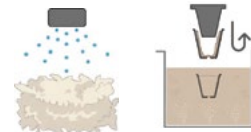
- Innovative 3D Shaping processes
- Waterless surface functionalization
- Combination of both steps

Funded by:

### Methods

#### 3D shaping processes:

- Wet molded fiber.
- Dry molded fiber.



#### Surface functionalization:

- Innovative coating process.
- Multilayered barrier structure.



#### Characterization

- Mechanical characterization (Traction, Bending).
- Surface characterization (Roughness).
- Barrier properties (Cobb, WVTR, Air permeability, Contamination monitoring after filling).

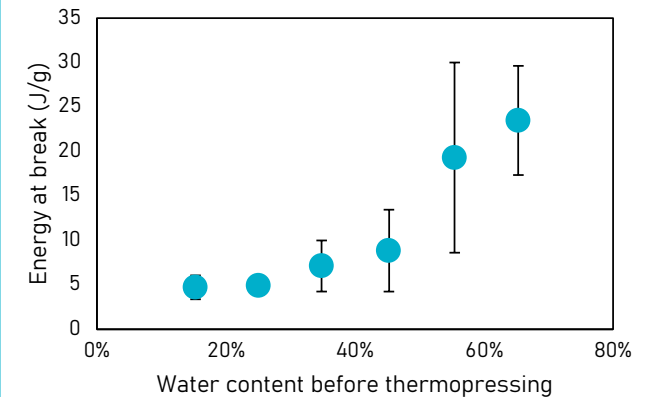
#### LCA

- Alternative fiber sources.
- Processes.



### Results

**Mechanical resistance of dry formed substrates increases with water content.**



**Barrier solution protecting tray during food storing.**





**Susie GUEHENNEUX**

Ph.D. thesis (2024–2027)  
LGP2 (G. Mortha)  
IMP (F.Dalmas; F.Mechin)

## Formulation of high-performance bituminous binder, mostly biobased, with a low environmental footprint

Formulation de liants « de type bitumineux » hautes performances, majoritairement biosourcés et à faible empreinte environnementale

BioChip

*Thèse confidentielle*

### Context / Objectives

**Global challenge:** Reducing fossil fuel reliance (ex: **bitumen**) by 2050, following IRENA recommendations.



**Solutions:** Substitution of bitumen by **bioresources** – in road (85%) and roofing (15%) applications



100 Mt = 53 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>eq/yr

Global bitumen production/yr

### Development of a new biobased blend:



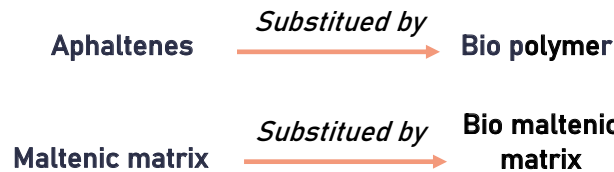
- With the same **rheological properties**
- using **sustainable bioresources** available on a large scale

Funded by:



### Methods

#### Materials:



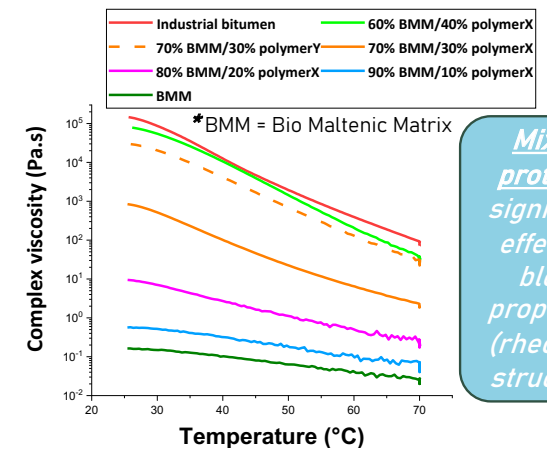
#### Methods:

- **Selection & Screening** of bio polymer and bio Maltenic matrix
- **Preparation of colloidal dispersions**  
*Optimization of the mixing protocol (polymer type and content, temperature and mixing time) to match the properties of commercial bitumen.*
- **Dispersions characterisations**
  - Rheology
  - Microscopy
- **Understanding physico-chemical interactions**
  - NMR, SEC, SAXS



### Results

#### Rheological properties: Polymer type and content



- **Impact of polymer type:** Depending on the type of polymer, the rheological properties of the blends are different
  - **Impact of polymer content:** A blend with 40% of polymer X can mimic the rheological properties of industrial bitumen (*with a specific protocol*)
- Outlook:** Are the blends stable? More sustainable? Suitable for applications?



**Annabelle JULIEN**

Ph.D. thesis (2024-2027)  
LGP2 (J. Bras; Q. Charlier)

# Dry processing methods to manufacture low environmental-footprint bio-based materials

Fabrication en voie sèche de matériaux biosourcés à empreinte environnementale diminuée

MatBio

## Context / Objectives

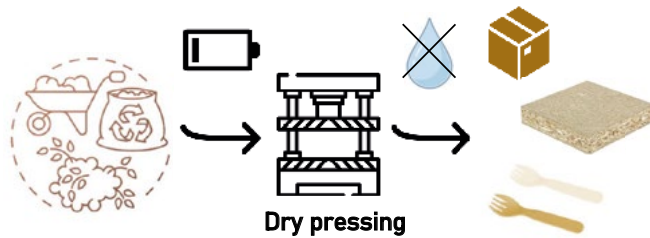
### 1 Environmental issues Plastic industry

- CO2 emission
- Not biodegradable so a lot of wastes finds itself in landfill or ocean (6900 Mt<sup>1</sup>)

### 2 Disadvantage of current biobased solutions

- High energy and water consumption
- The use of petroleum-based adhesives
- Low biodegradability or recyclability for bioplastics

**Goal : Substitute plastic by producing material from biomasses with more sustainable dry processes that uses less energy, less water, no petroleum based adhesives and that can leads to biodegradable solutions !**



Understanding adhesion phenomena is key

<sup>1</sup>Tony R. Walker et al. Trends in Analytical Chemistry 2023

Funded by:  
Drybiomat - ANR-23-CE43-0002  
<https://anr.fr/Projet-ANR-23-CE43-00>



## Methods

### Lignocellulosic material



- Wood industry by-products  
→ For circular economy
- "Model raw material"  
→ To control and understand



→ Different type of material shaping (powder, fiber, particle)

### Functionalisation and modification



- Biobased polymers
- Green chemistry
- Delignified wood  
→ To tune the mechanical properties

### Dry process

- Thermocompression
- Ultrasonic compression molding



→ Design of experiment (Central Composite Design)

→ Adjust input parameters to tailor final properties

Iterative work

### Multi-criteria analysis Creation of a global performance index

#### Performance

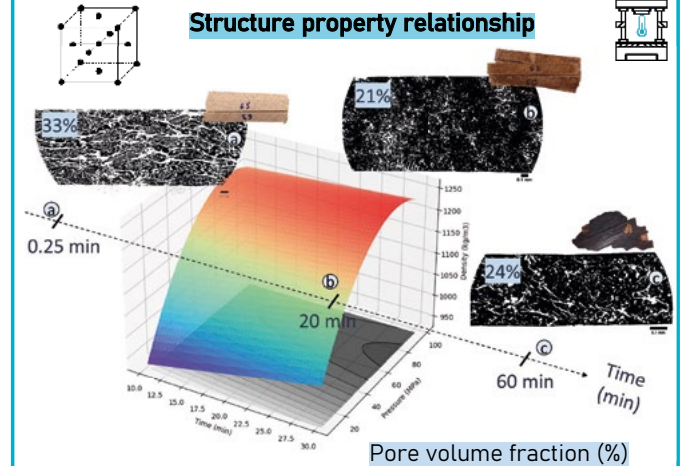
- Mechanical properties
- Surface roughness
- Internal structure
- Water resistance

#### Environment

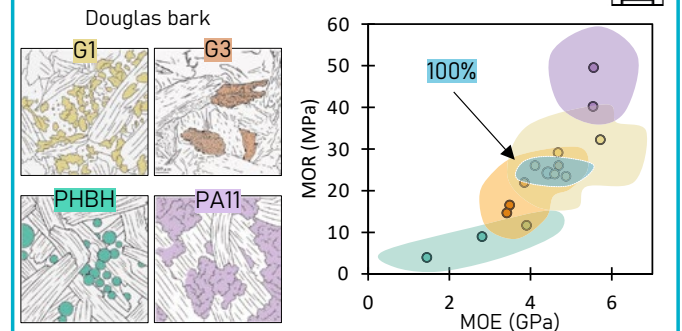
- Energy consumption
- Biodegradability
- Fragmentability
- Dry recyclability

## Results

### Structure property relationship



### Biopolymers blends with soft wood particles





## Amélie LEFEVRE

Ph.D. thesis (2023-2026)  
LGP2 (N. Marlin; G. Mortha)  
CERMAV (L. Heux)

# Sustainable chemical treatments to improve recycled fibers bonding ability

Amélioration de la capacité de liaisons des fibres recyclées par procédés chimiques durables

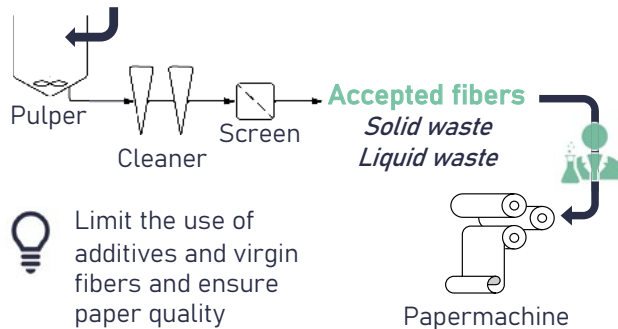
BioChip

## Context / Objectives

PEPR PAC3R « Recycling, Recyclability, Re-use of Paper and cardboards »

- Add more value to paper and board recycling products
- Recycle all types of paper and board
- Valorize recycling waste

### Recycled papers and boards



Limit the use of additives and virgin fibers and ensure paper quality

To develop new sustainable chemical process to upcycle recycled fibers for packaging applications

Funded by:



## Methods

### Raw materials



**Test Liner**  
Recycled fibers  
Contaminants  
Fillers



**Refined UKP**  
Softwood kraft fibers, high kappa  
Contaminant-free

### Evaluate the impact of recycling



### Assessing paper properties

### Restore the fibers' bonding ability

**Ozone treatment - oxidative process**  
CHO or COOH groups creation mainly on lignin

**Grafting process**  
Interaction between added molecules and lignocellulosic fibers

**Refining - mechanical process**  
Low-intensity to avoid excessive degradation

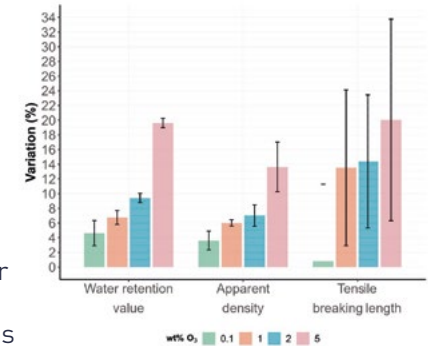
### Characterizations

Traction, Burst, Water retention value, Contact angle, Air permeability, Kappa Number, COOH content, DP<sub>v</sub>

## Results

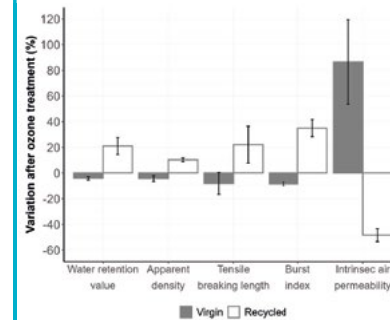
**Test Liner Improvement**  
5% - 20% of mechanical properties

**Presence of contaminants**  
⇒ difficulties for chemical characterizations



### Refined UKP

**Recover** 20 to 45% of mechanical properties lost through 3 successive recycling operations while **preserving lignin and cellulose**



**Destruction effect**

**Reconsolidation effect**



## Maxime LEGAY

Ph.D. thesis (2023-2026)  
LGP2 (D. Beneventi;  
I. Desloges; J. Viguié)

# Printing stiffeners on the surface of folding or corrugated boards: a bio-inspired approach to lighten packaging and optimize resource consumption

Impression de renforts à la surface d'emballages cartons: une approche bio-inspirée pour alléger les emballages et optimiser la consommation des ressources.

MatBio  
FunPrint

## Context / Objectives

### Paper industry consumption

- 15-25 m<sup>3</sup> of water / ton of paper
- 2.9 kWh / ton of paper
- 2-3 ton of wood / ton of paper

Two approaches to reduce the use of resources :

1. Lighten packaging
  2. Increase the use of recycled pulps in packaging
- **But how to keep good mechanical performances?**

### 3D printing polymer ribs on cardboard packaging boxes

**Ribbed structures** = high bending stiffness to weight ratio  
→ Printing polymer ribs on cardboard is a promising idea to increase packaging strength adding a reduced weight



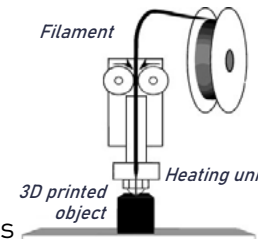
- **Finding a suitable deposited material**
- **Characterizing** the behavior of printed cardboard
- **Optimizing** the geometries of the ribs patterns to maximize the strength to weight ratio

Funded by: UGA COLLEGE DOCTORAL ED I-MEP<sup>2</sup>

## Methods

### 3D Printing

- **PLA** used as a demonstrator, Fused Deposition printing from
- Ongoing work on **cellulosic paste** cold extrusion

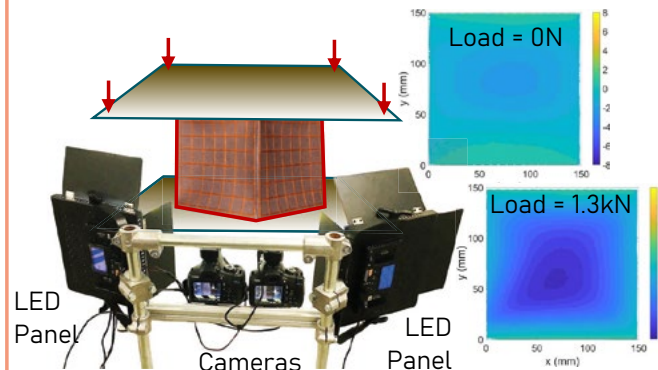


### Mechanical characterizations

Comparison of printed and unprinted cardboard by  
→ **4 points bending** of plates  
→ **Compression tests** of boxes

### Monitoring the boxes' deformation

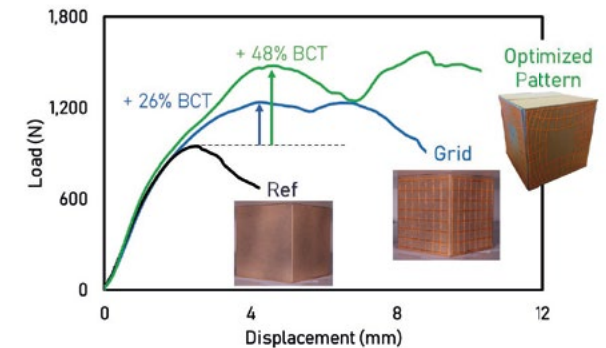
→ **Digital Image Correlation (DIC)** to measure the displacement fields of the boxes' surfaces during compression tests



## Results

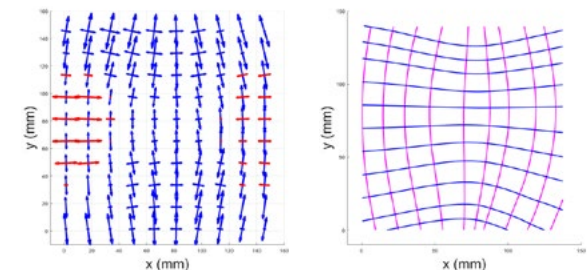
### Improvement of the mechanical performances

Up to **+48% strength for +28% mass** for optimized pattern boxes so far



### DIC analysis

- Fine monitoring of **buckling**
- Currently developing an **optimization tool** calculating the most efficient pattern to print based on the **deformation vectors maps**





**Julie LUNEAU**  
Ph.D. thesis (2023-2026)  
LGP2 (R. Passas; C. Martin)

## Influence of the drying conditions on the surface properties of end-products during Roll to Roll surface functionalisation : comparison between copper and fiber-based strips

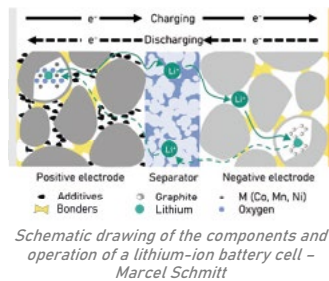
Influence des conditions de séchage sur les propriétés de surface des produits finis lors de la fonctionnalisation de surface Roll to Roll : comparaison entre les bandes à base de cuivre et de fibres

MatBio  
BioChip

### Context / Objectives

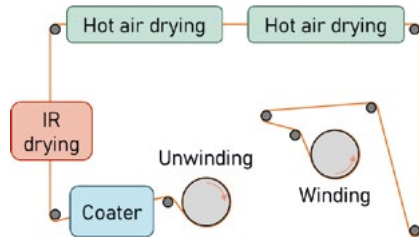
**Context:** Lithium-ion battery

- Need to store energy produced
- production increasing of electrical cars
- Need to improve the manufacturing process



The electrodes are manufactured by coating an active material on the current collector, copper, for the negative one.

**Objectives:** Adaptation of a paper functionalization driver for lithium ion battery negative electrode manufacturing.



Schematic drawing of the functionalization driver

Funded by:  
AMI - CMA, L'école de la batterie, Grenoble-INP UGA



### Methods

**Slurry characterisation:**

- 3 slurries formulations
- Rheological characterisation
- Surface tension measurement

	V-50:50	A-50:50	A-25:75
Graphite %	53,60	52,62	52,62
Carbon black %	0,80	0,79	0,79
CMC %	0,60	1,50	0,75
SBR %	0,60	1,50	2,25
Water %	44,40	43,59	43,59

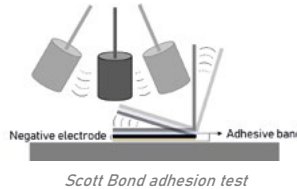
Slurries composition

**Electrode manufacturing:**



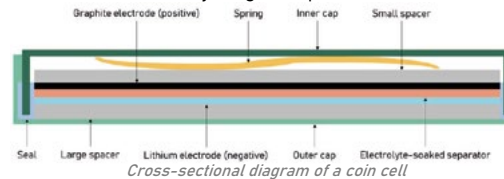
**Electrode characterisation:**

- MEB imaging: cross sectioning and surface
- Electrical characterisation
- Mechanical characterisation
- Adhesion to the substrate



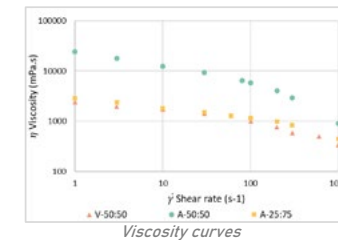
**Coin Cell manufacturing and electrochemical characterisation:**

- "Half cell": Lithium-graphite
- EIS: Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy
- GCPL: Galvanostatic cycling with potential limitation



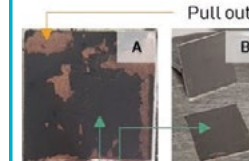
### Results

**Rheological behavior of the slurries**



- Shear-thinning slurry
- CMC acts as a thickening agent

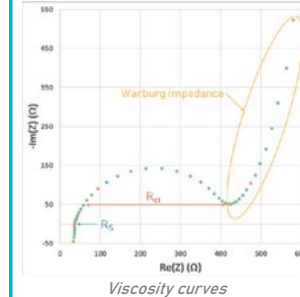
**Scott Bond adhesion test**



	Pull-out	Delamination
Uncalendered	→	→
Calendered	X	→

Delamination  
Electrode delamination after tensile adhesion test on A) uncalendered and B) calendered electrode

**EIS results for V-50:50 electrode, Nyquist plot:**



- RS = 36 Ω : Electrolyte and cell resistance ⇒ should be below 10 Ω
- Rct = 385 Ω : Diameter of the semicircle: resistance to load transfer ⇒ slow kinetics, limited electrochemical reaction
- Warburg impedance : lithium ion diffusion



## Zelda MONTEIL-OCHE

Ph.D. thesis (2023-2026)  
LGP2 (D. Beneventi)  
STPE - CEA Liten (G. Furia ;  
J.F. Blachot ; M. Heitzmann)

# Development of conductive bio-based composites for printed PEMFC

Développement de composites biosourcés conducteurs pour les PEMFC imprimées

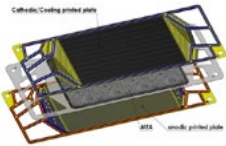
FunPrint

## Context / Objectives

### Printed PEMFC\* developed by CEA

\*Protonic exchange membrane fuel cell

Advantages of printing: lightweight, compact, roll to roll industrialization, flexible in implementation.



### Printed bipolar plates in PEMFC

Printing of fluidic channels to distribute gases and cooling, conduct electrons, water management and mechanical strength of the cell

Carbon composites printed on carbon coated foils  
**But based on harmful fluoropolymer incompatible with potential European legislation**

**Objective : Replacing the fluoropolymer in the composite with a bio-based polymer**

### Composite specifications

Bio-based binder + carbon fillers ;  
Resistant in PEMFC environment (heat, water/moisture and acids) ;  
Areal specific resistance < 0.01  $\Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$  and low deformation under 1 MPa

Funded by:



## Methods

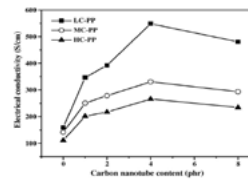
**Biobased polymeric binder** compatible with PEMFC environment, with printing processes, and good resistance to heat:

### Polyfurfurylic alcohol (PFA)



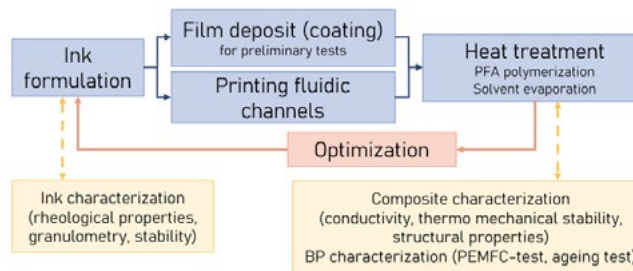
**Carbon fillers** to provide electrical conductivity to composite. Multi-charge composite to increase the number of percolation paths and create a maximum for conductivity:

### Graphite (G) + Carbon Nanotubes (CNT)

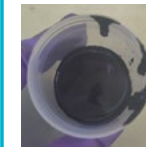


Conductivity for bipolar plate: optimum for 20%wt PP binder, 80%wt G and 4 phr CNT (Liao and al. 2008)

## Process and characterization



## Results



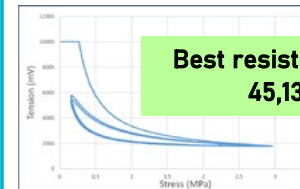
1) Ink formulation

**PFA + G + CNT**

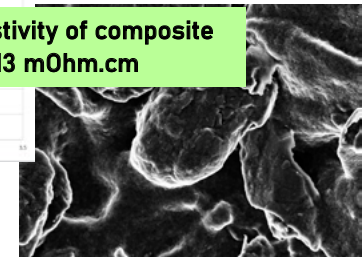
2) Film coating on carbon foil  
+ Cured 90°C - 130°C



3) Composite characterization



**Best resistivity of composite  
45,13 mOhm.cm**



SEM structural observation

## Perspectives

- Printing bipolar plates and characterization
- Understanding interactions between components within the ink and composite
- Identifying percolation phenomena
- Implementing standard conductivity measurements



## Chloé PARISI

Ph.D. thesis (2023-2026)  
LGP2 (J. Bras)  
SIMAP (E. Blanquet)  
CILKOA (E. Giquel)

# Atomic Layer Deposition (ALD) optimization into cellulosic substrate for barrier properties

Optimisation du traitement ALD sur supports cellulosiques

MatBio

*Thèse confidentielle*

## Context / Objectives

### New legislation on plastic packaging

*Reduce Reuse Recycle*

- Single Use Plastics Directive (2019)
- Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (2018)



### Green alternative

#### Cellulosic materials

*Abundant, Recyclable, Biodegradable & Renewable*

*Permeable, Low barrier & Hydrophilic*



### CILKOA

Develop an innovative hydrophobic barrier treatment for cellulose substrates with few nanometers of ceramic



### Objectives

- Study the influence of substrate density, roughness and chemistry on ALD deposition
- Study adhesion of different layers
- Determine converting resilience for specific applications

Funded by:

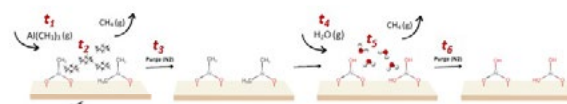


In collaboration:



## Methods

### Atomic Layer Deposition (ALD)



Different reactors  
Different treatments (temperature, precursors, exposure...)

### Cellulose substrates



Different Chemistry / Roughness / Porosity

### Characterizations

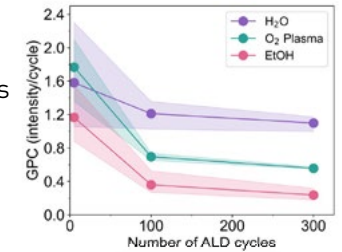
Ellipsometry, X-Ray Fluorescence, ICP-MS, SEM-FEG, AFM, XPS, ToF-SIMS...

Properties: Water Vapor, Water, Oxygen, Fire resistency, Mechanical resistency...

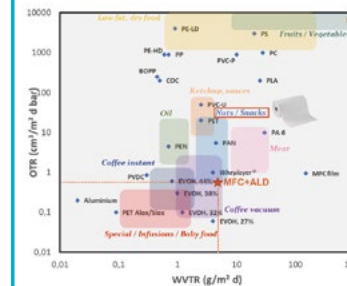
## Results

### ALD deposition

- ✓ Exact composition
- ✓ Influence of parameters
- ✓ Influence of reactors
- ✓ Understanding surface phenomena



### Cellulose substrates

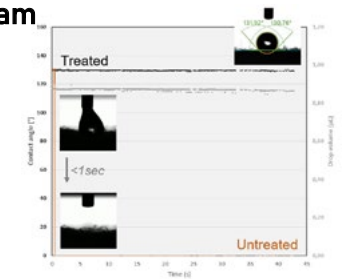


- ✓ Characterization of ALD penetration
- ✓ Influence of chemistry
- ✓ High barrier properties (WVTR, OTR, WCA)

### Example of ALD on foam

for building application

- ✓ Super-hydrophobicity
- ✓ Humidity regulator
- ✓ Fire retardant...





## Juliette SEIGNARD

Ph.D. thesis (2024-2027)  
LGP2 (N. Reverdy-Bruas; D.Curtil)  
Tageos (T. Germann)

## Active and Flexible Hybrid Electronics at an industrial scale

Système électronique actif hybride et flexible à l'échelle industrielle

FunPrint

*Thèse confidentielle*

### Context / Objectives

In today's connected world:

**Battery life cycle = ⓧ**

BECAUSE dangerous and scarce raw materials + less than 48% of batteries are recycled, often done under deplorable conditions, etc.



One solution? → **Printed batteries**

**The challenge** → Successfully design a battery on paper (=bio-based materials)



At industrial scale!

Funded by:



### Methods

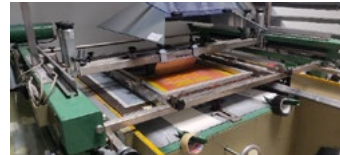
#### Characterization of materials

- > Substrates: paper (permeability, dimensional stability, processability)
- + inks (viscosity, conductivity, etc.)



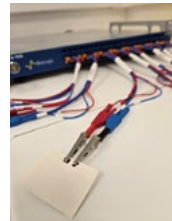
#### Battery printing

- > Deposition process investigation for each layer
- > Sizing process investigation



#### Characterization of batteries produced

- > Electrical performance: capacity, internal resistance, lifetime

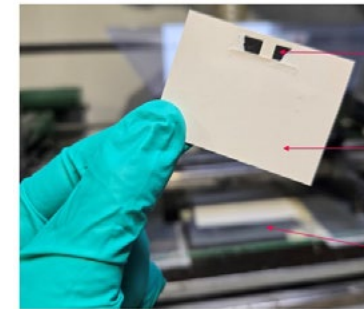


$$\text{Capacity(mAh)} = \text{time(h)} * \text{discharge current (mA)}$$

$$R_{int}(\Omega) = \frac{U1(V) - U2(V)}{I2(A) - I1(A)}$$

### Results

**Successful production** of printed batteries (<2mm of thickness) on paper with electrical performance **corresponding to the targeted applications**



**Chemistry**  
= Zinc

**Substrate**  
= paper

**Process**  
= Screen-printing

**Design adaptation** according to requirements

**Promising industrial trial** results



## Alicia TESTON

Ph.D. thesis (2023-2026)  
LGP2 (C. Chirat; N. Marlin)

# Biorefinery integrated in paper/board recycling : extraction of starch from recycled cellulosic fibers and its valorization into high value-added products

Bioraffinerie intégrée au recyclage des papiers et cartons : extraction de l'amidon des fibres cellulosiques de récupération et sa valorisation sous forme de produits à haute valeur ajoutée

BioChip

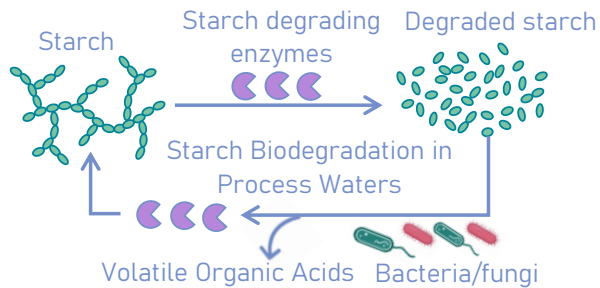
## Context

### Use of Starch in Papermaking

- Versatile additive : dry strength agent, retention aid, coating binder, adhesive for corrugated boards
- The paper industry consumed 1.6 million tons of starch in Europe in 2023, according to CEPI

### Issues Related to Starch

- When recycled papers/boards are used to produce new paper/board grades, part of the starch contained in them ends up in the process waters, leading to microbiological, process and environmental issues



Funded by:

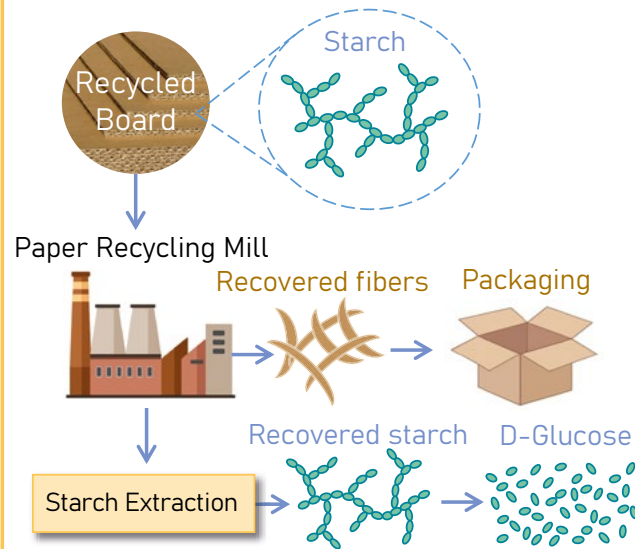


In collaboration with



## Objectives

Development of a Starch Extraction Process at the Beginning of Paper/Board Recycling Operations

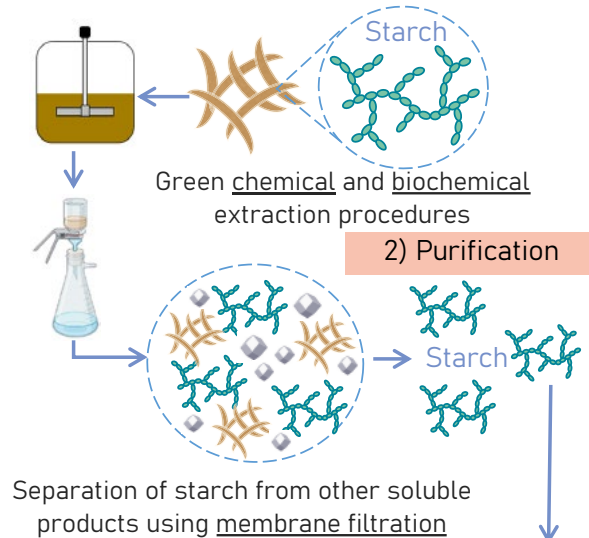


Development of a bioeconomy-compliant approach to :

- ✓ Minimize the amount of starch released in process waters during papermaking operations
- ✓ Valorize starch (considered up to now as a contaminant) into high value-added products

## Methods

1) Extraction of Starch from Recycled Fibers



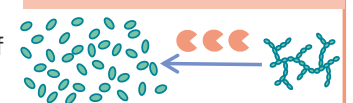
2) Purification

3) Characterization

Determination of the macromolecular features of the recovered starch using AF4-MALS-dRI

4) Depolymerization

Enzymatic hydrolysis of starch into D-Glucose





## Arthur VALENCONY

Ph.D. thesis (2023-2026)  
LGP2 (G. Mortha; N. Marlin)  
Institut Technologique FCBA  
(S. Tapin-Lingua)

# Lignocellulosic biorefinery: Development of a new pulping process to produce high-quality fibers from underexploited resources

Bioraffinerie lignocellulosique : Développement d'un nouveau procédé de mise en pâte pour la production de fibres de haute qualité à partir de ressources sous-exploitées

BioChip

## Context / Objectives

### Underexploited biomass:

*Huge quantities are available*

- Wastes of industrial biomass
- Underexploited sources: hemp, nettle and poplar residues available in local areas

### The Kraft process is a strongly alkaline process

*Large plants with limited flexibility*

- Soft alkaline pulping processes are in the trend
- Total Chlorine Free (TCF) bleaching sequence is a must
- Smaller cooking units for smaller biomass quantities

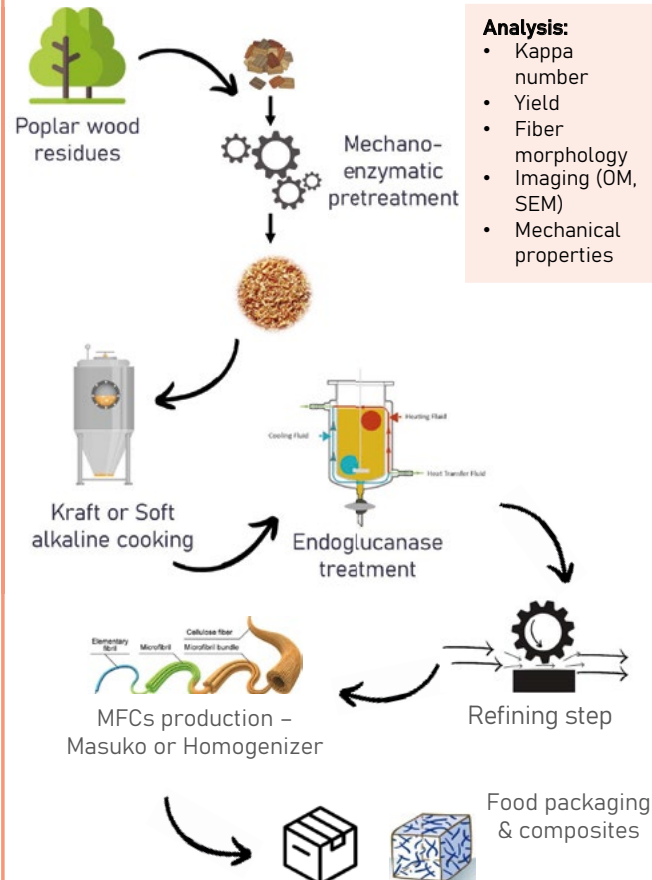
### MicroFibrillated Celluloses (MFC) are in current development for their good properties

- Reinforcement in composites
- Packaging applications for barrier properties
- Textile utilization

Funded by:



## Methods

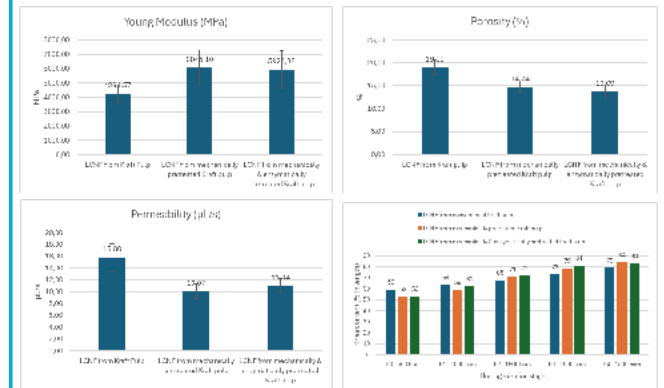


## Results

3 different Lignified nanocellulose (LCNF) produced from:

- Conventional Kraft pulp
- Kraft pulp from wood chips mechanically pretreated
- Kraft pulp from wood chips mechanically & enzymatically pretreated

Nanopapers of 65 gsm produced on 0,65µm nitrocellulose membrane



→ Positive impact of mechanical pretreatment of wood chips on LCNF properties: higher energy absorption during tensile, lower air permeability and more fine elements



## Arnel BRZOVIC

Ph.D. thesis (2023-2026)  
N. Reverdy-Bruas; N. Marlin (LGP2)  
L.Svecova (LEPMI)

# Recycling of multilayered electronic devices printed on cellulosic substrates

Etude de la recyclabilité de modèles complexes d'électronique imprimée sur papier par adaptation de lignes de recyclage papier existantes.

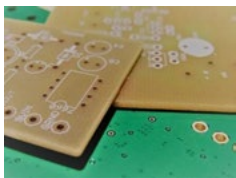
BioChip  
FunPrint

## Context / Objectives

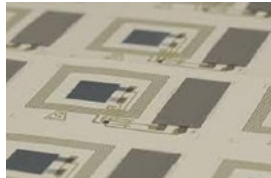
### European Circel-paper project



Only **17.4 %** of the e-waste is documented to be collected and formally recycled worldwide.



FR4 PCB



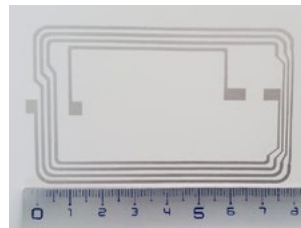
Paper PCB

### Challenges:

- 1) Recover the fiber fraction with minimum contaminants.
- 2) In a second fraction recover functional materials.

## Methods

### 1. Paper printed electronics



- Powercoat XD200
- Silver conductive Ink
  - Coated paper
  - 200 g/m<sup>2</sup>

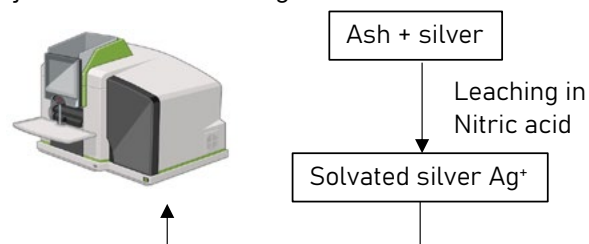
### 2. Conventional paper recycling line



Units are optimized individually and tested sequentially as part of the process.

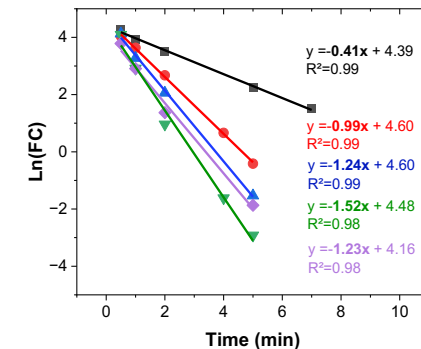
### 3. Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy (AAS)

Objective: silver tracking



## Results

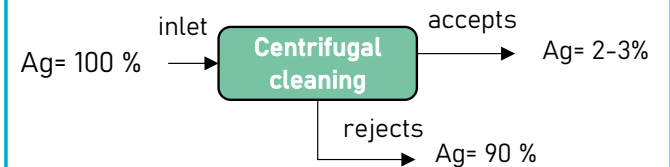
### 1. Pulping optimization



The optimization involves monitoring the flocs content in the pulp which gives the disintegration kinetics.

### 2. Silver Recovery

Centrifugal cleaning emerges as a highly promising unit operation for the separation of silver from fibers.



→90 % of the silver can be recovered from the pulp.



**Mathilde DAVID**  
Ph.D. thesis (2022-2026)  
LGP2 (Q. Charlier, J. Bras)

# Manufacturing of bio-based materials using ultra-sonic compression molding

Élaboration de matériaux biosourcés par compression ultrasonore

MatBio

## Context / Objectives

### Manufacturing of 100% biosourced materials

#### Environmental footprint reduction

Bio-sourced materials can have a significant environmental impact :

- Use of petroleum-based resins (wood panels)
- High energy consumption during production (papers and boards)
- Low recyclability (bio-based composites)

#### New process and material development

1. Use of Bio-waste as raw material in order to get into a *circular economy model*
2. Dry process in order to *reduce water and energy consumption*
3. Manufacturing of molded composites via powder compression using ultrasonic vibrations  
→ 100% Composite materials made derived from cellulosic fibers and natural binder (lignin and others)

Funded by:



## Methods

### Ultrasonic compression

High frequency acoustic vibration under compression  
Compaction of dry powder into bulk Composites materials

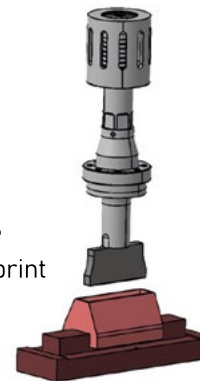


Figure : Ultrasonic Press - Sonimat

### Characterization methods

Analysis :

- Microstructural
- Resistance to water and humidity
- Mechanical properties
- Energy consumption



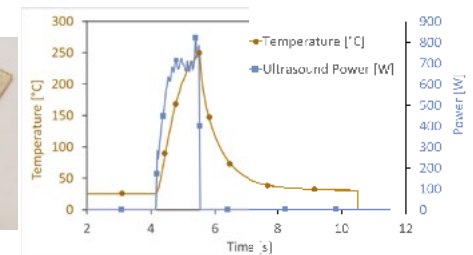
### Impact assessment

- Multicriteria analysis to associate material properties and energy footprint
- Toward scale up (TRL 4+)

## Results

### Key process parameters :

- Power and transmitted energy
- Pressure



### Process development :

- Molds (for dry materials)
- Spring tooling system for US molding
- Temperature monitoring

### In-situ monitoring of material formation



### Key raw material characteristics :

- Influence of chemical composition
- Shape and Size of bio-elements
- Influence of humidity content
- Elements hardness





## Clément TURPIN

PhD thesis (2023-2026)  
LGP2 (N. Reverdy-Bruas,  
J. Vigié)  
3SR Lab (L. Orgéas)

# Architecturing papers and boards with bio-based grid printing: a low-cost approach to lightweight packaging

Papiers et cartons architecturés par impression de renforts bio-sourcés :  
développement d'une approche à bas coût pour alléger les emballages.

MatBio  
FunPrint

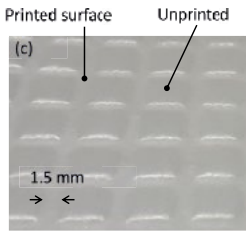
### Context / Objectives

#### Reducing the weight of paper-based packaging

- ➔ Paper production demands substantial resources:
  - ✓ 15-25 m<sup>3</sup>/ton of water,
  - ✓ 2.9 MWh/ton of energy,
  - ✓ 2-3 ton/ton of wood

#### Idea: architecturing papers and cardboards

- ➔ Embossing paper sheets to increase their bending stiffness
- ➔ Low cost biodegradable route:
  - ✓ Printing patterns with starch suspensions
  - ✓ Sheet embossing induced during suspension drying



#### Thesis objectives

- ➔ Optimization of the printing process
- ➔ Multiscale analysis of :
  - ✓ Drying, shrinkage, buckling phenomena
  - ✓ Induced meso and microstructures
  - ✓ Induced hydro-mechanical properties

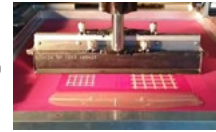
Funded by:



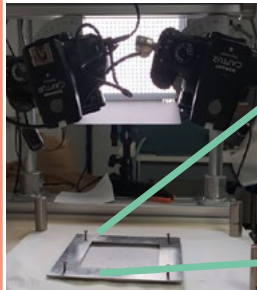
### Methods

#### Materials & Processing route

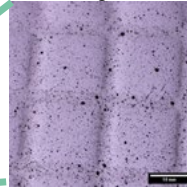
- ➔ Handmade model paper sheets:
  - ✓ Softwood kraft bleached pulp
  - ✓ Rapid Köthen former
  - ✓ Basis weight: 80-120g/m<sup>2</sup>
- ➔ Aqueous suspension with 40 wt% of low molecular weight corn starch
- ➔ Screen printing



#### Monitoring the drying/embossing



Measurement of meso kinematic fields during drying and shrinkage of the starch.



#### Mechanical test:

##### Cantilever strip of paper



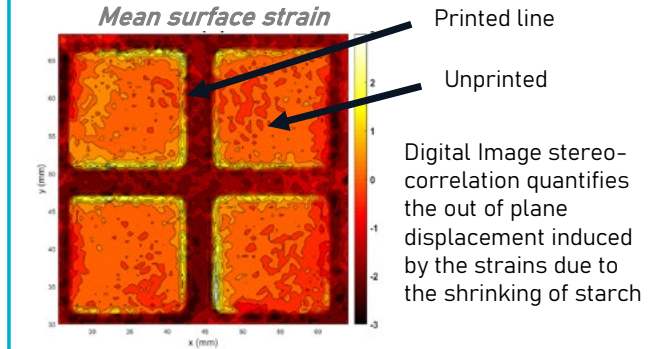
Bending stiffness measurement based on image analysis

#### Microstructure observations :

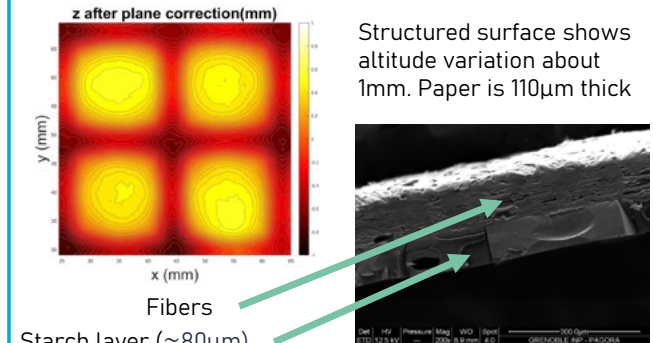
ESEM

### Results

#### Embossing phenomenon



#### Out of plane displacement (mm)



Starch layer ( $\approx 80\mu\text{m}$ )

Printed starch presents good adhesion, homogeneous thickness and many cracks due to its brittleness

Conferences: Turpin, C et. al. (2023). 8<sup>th</sup> EPNOE International Polysaccharide Conference, Graz

Young Researchers'  
research projects  
description

Post-doctorates and  
Research Engineers



## Lorette BRAULT

Post-doc (2024-2027)  
LGP2 (N. Marlin, G. Mortha)  
Cermav (L. Heux,  
S. Molina-Boisseau)

# Valorization of the fibrous rejects from paper and cardboards recycling process

Valorisation des déchets fibreux issus de la filière de recyclage papier-cartons

BioChip

## Context

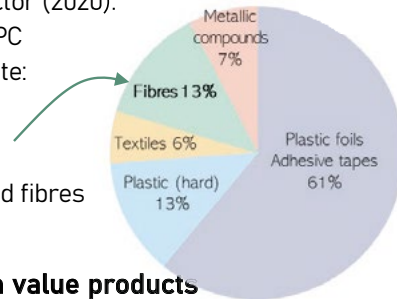
### Paper and cardboards (PC) recycling process<sup>[1]</sup>

- 4.9 Mt of recovered PC in France/year, including 4 Mt for packaging sector (2020).

↳ 93% recycled into PC  
Among the 7% waste:

13% of fibrous rejects

= 36 kt of non-valorized fibres per year in France.



### Lignocellulosic high value products

- EU directives (Green Deal) on reducing consumption and replacing of petroleum-based products.
  - High demand of cellulose and lignocellulosic compounds for ubiquitous applications.
- = high demand of virgin fibers and pure bio-compounds representing high energy and chemical consumption.

However, for some applications, non-pure and damaged cellulose from paper recycling process could be used.

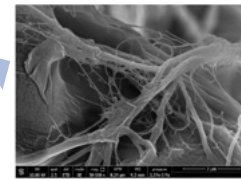
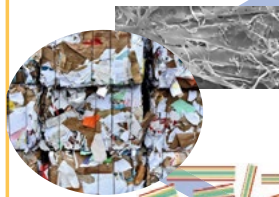
Funded by:



## Objectives

### Development of valorization methods tailored to the fiber quality and contaminant nature

#### Damaged fibres



#### MFC

##### Applications

Mechanical reinforcement (paper coating, composites)  
Rheological additive

#### Resin

##### Applications

Adhesives, sealing, coating, composites,...

Caption:

- Cellulose
- Hemicelluloses
- Lignin

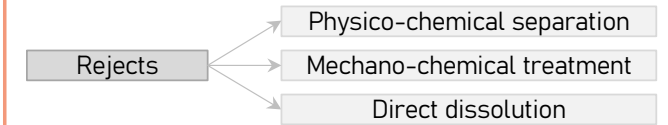
## Methods

### Characterization of rejects

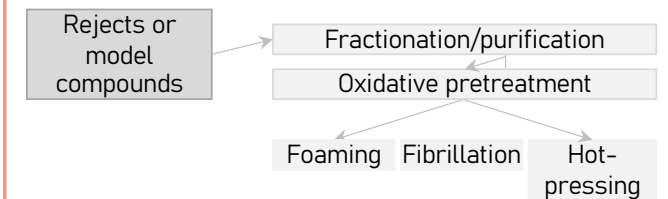
**Chemical:** %cellulose, %hemicelluloses, %lignin, %stickies, ... functional groups analysis (COOH, CHO, phenol, ...)

**Physical:** Fibres morphologies and specific areas.

### Extraction of lignocellulosic fraction



### Processing of fibrous-rich rejects



### Characterization of materials

Mechanical, thermal, chemical and optical characterizations.

[1] K. Guiltau, et al., ADEME 2023. Perspectives d'évolution de la filière papiers-cartons en France. 79 pages



**Emilien FREVILLE**  
**Alice DUTHOIT**  
 Research engineer (2024-2026)



## Injection-molding of cellulose based material for packaging applications

Injection-moulage de matières cellulosiques pour des applications d'emballage

MatBio

### Context / Objectives

#### Alternative solutions to plastic packaging



#### SUPD

Single Use Plastics Directive (2019)

→ Progressive ban of SUP

#### PPWR

Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (2024)

→ All packaging must be recyclable by 2030



→ End of SUP by 2040



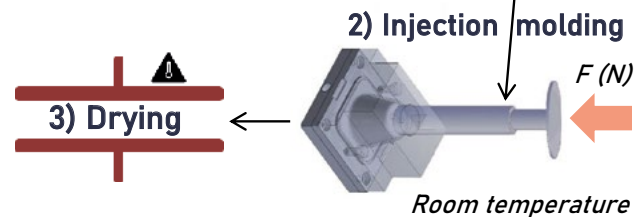
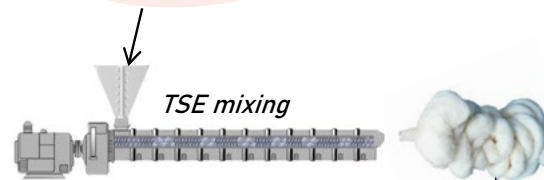
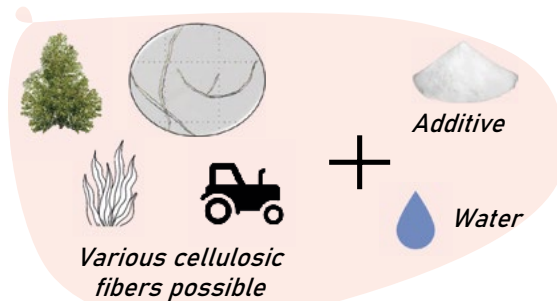
#### AGEC

Loi anti-gaspillage pour une économie circulaire (2020)



### Methods

#### 1) Injectable cellulosic paste production by twin-screw extrusion



#### 3) Drying

### Results

#### Injection-molding of 3D objects containing at least 90% of cellulosic fibers





**Daniella MORGADO**

Post-doc (2025-2026)  
LGP2 (J. Bras; N. Belgacem)

## High yield grafted nanocellulose via use of mechanochemistry and natural deep eutectic solvents (DES)

Production à haut rendement de nanocellulose greffée via mécano-chimie et utilisation de solvants eutectiques profonds naturels (DES)

MatBio

*Thèse confidentielle*

### Context

#### Conventional CNC production

- acid hydrolysis of amorphous cellulose → complex washing and isolation steps, which limit scalability and generate environmental concerns

#### Greener and more energy-efficient process

- goal of extracting CNCs → a few steps, obtaining a high yield and using an energy-efficient process

strong acid  
batch process  
high energy  
large amount of water



new approach from  
cellulose fibers:  
extract nanocellulose  
+ modify it in one-step

Funded by: **Pôle universitaire  
d'innovation**  
Grenoble Alpes



### Objectives

Confirm the promising results obtained at laboratory scale through pilot and semi-industrial trials

Optimize yield and processing parameters for two types of nanocellulose (CNC and CNF)

Demonstrate the technical and economic feasibility of the patented process at larger scale

Develop demonstrators and prototypes to attract industrial and financial partners

Prepare the groundwork for technology transfer and start-up creation in the regional innovation ecosystem

**Lab-scale innovation ⇒ Start up creation**

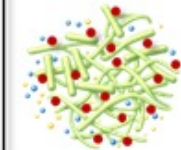
New company creation



### Methods

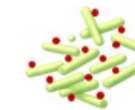
#### NADES-assisted mechanochemical scale-up

Batch milling    Advanced milling    Continuous processing

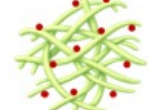


Isolation and purification

**Functionalized  
CNC**



**Functionalized  
CNF**





## Emma PIGNERES

Post-doc (2025-2026)  
LGP2 (J. Bras; N. Belgacem;  
C. Sillard)

# Innovative Packaging and edible coatings to guarantee post-harvest Durability of Mediterranean fruits and vegetables production

Emballages innovants et enrobages comestibles pour garantir la durabilité post-récolte de la production de fruits et légumes méditerranéens

MatBio

## Context / Objectives

- **30-60% of fruits and vegetables are wasted every year**<sup>[1]</sup>.
- European legislation is evolving towards **ban of single-use plastics**<sup>[2]</sup>.
- **Edible coatings** are growing as plastic packaging alternatives to enhance fruits and vegetables quality<sup>[3]</sup>.
- This research is part of PRIMA project **DurInnPack**, regrouping eight partners from the Mediterranean basin.

→ **Objective** : Better understand the adhesion and interface phenomena between polysaccharide-based edible coatings and fruits and vegetables.

### References

[1] FAO (2015). Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction.

[2] Regulation (EU) 2025/40

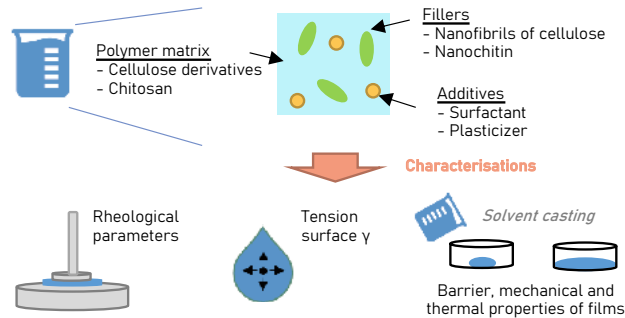
[3] Martins, V. F. R. et al. (2024). Recent Highlights in Sustainable Bio-Based Edible Films and Coatings for Fruit and Vegetable Applications. Foods, 13(2). <https://doi.org/10.3390/foods13020318>

Funded by:

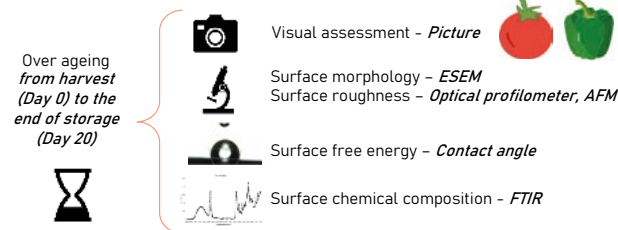


## Methods

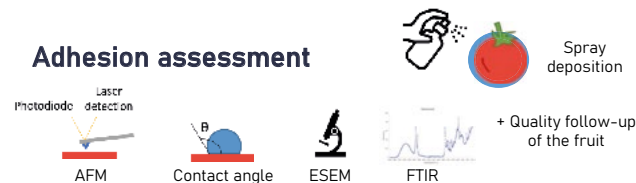
### Coating formulation & characterization



### Fruits surface characterization

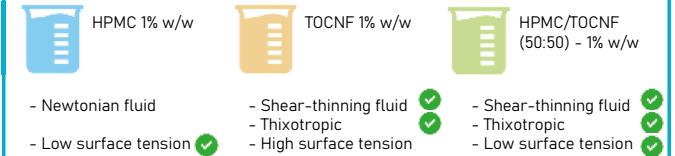


### Adhesion assessment



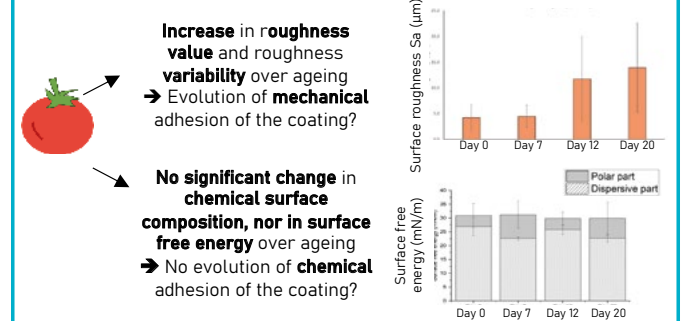
## Results

### Coating formulation & characterization



HPMC: Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose  
TOCNF: TEMPO-oxidized cellulose nanofibrils

### Fruits surface characterization



### Adhesion assessment





## Candice REY

Research Engineer (2023-2030)  
Cellulose Valley Chair  
LGP2

# Cellulose Valley Co-directress: innovation for cellulose-based high performance packaging with sustainable end-of-life

Co-directrice Cellulose Valley : emballages innovants en cellulose, performants et durables.

MatBio

## Context / Objectives

### A story of Single-use plastics regulations to limit global warming:

- 2018: SUP (Single Use Plastics) directive for European countries.
- 2024: PPWR (Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation) for European countries.

### Need for sustainable packaging solutions:

- Cellulose is a 1<sup>st</sup> choice candidate to design bio-based packaging.
- Biodegradable, recyclable in paper/carboard stream, naturally present on earth.
- Need improvement to meet packaging and PPWR requirements**



Cellulose Valley chair: Innovation to serve society expectations for packaging applications.

## Methods

5 years project (2026-2030)

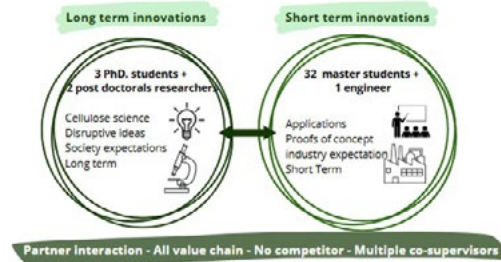
1,8 million euros, industrial sponsorship

### Long-Term innovations team:

- 3-5 PhD students.
- 2 study engineers.

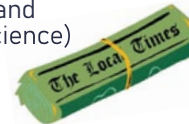
### Short-term innovation team:

- 40 Proofs of concept to design bio-based packaging, resistant, biodegradable and recyclable.**



### Scientific communications:

- Webinaire (CELLIENCE), 500 suscriptions.
- Disseminations in special events and congresses (Tech&Fest, Pint of Science)
- International Conferences



## Results

### Mid-term Chair report:

- Discover and understand all our applications and concerns in our mid-term report.



- Since 2022: 40 innovative bio-based packagings development.





## Erwan TROUSSEL

Post Doctoral (2026)  
LGP2 (Davide Beneventi)  
LS2N (Elodie Paquet)  
Co-de-iT (Andrea Graziano)

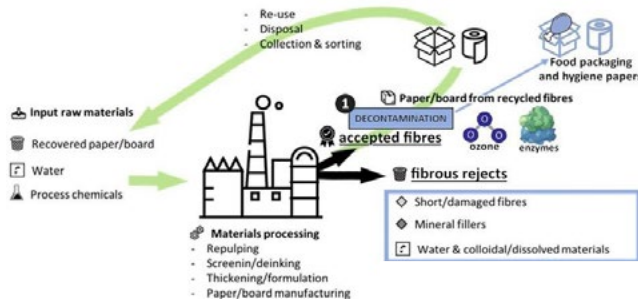
## DEFI2R – Formulation of cellulosic paste composed of rejects from paper mills for LDM printing

Formulation de pâte cellulosique à base de fibres recyclées pour des applications d'impression 3D (LDM)

FunPrint

### Context

Recycling of 5 millions tons of paper and cardboard annually:



7% of the recycle elements are rejected with the presence of short fiber, mineral fillers and various additives.

The objective is to find innovative valorisation routes for underutilised by-products like screening rejects.

Funded by:



### Objectives

Sludges rejects from paper mills valorization:

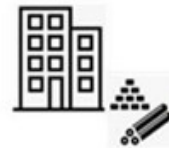
Development of novel 3D-printable materials by cold extrusion (LDM) for structural applications in construction and furniture manufacturing



Structural panels by 3D printing

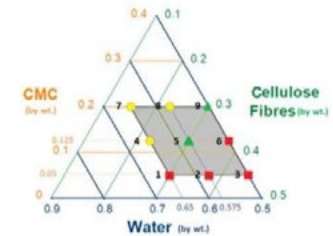


Construction industry



### Methods

Formulation of model formulation with recycled fiber and cellulosic additives



Printing characterization with 6-axis Staübli robot



Process upscaling for board panel manufacturing

[1] C. Thibaut, et al., Carbohydrate polymer, 2019







# lgp<sup>2</sup>

**Laboratoire de Génie des Procédés pour la Bioraffinerie, les  
Matériaux Bio-sourcés et l'Impression Fonctionnelle**

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