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# INSIGHTS INTO THE DEVELOPMENT OF GREENER HIERARCHICAL ZEOLITES APPLIED TO THE HYDROCRACKING OF PLASTIC WASTE

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School of Engineering

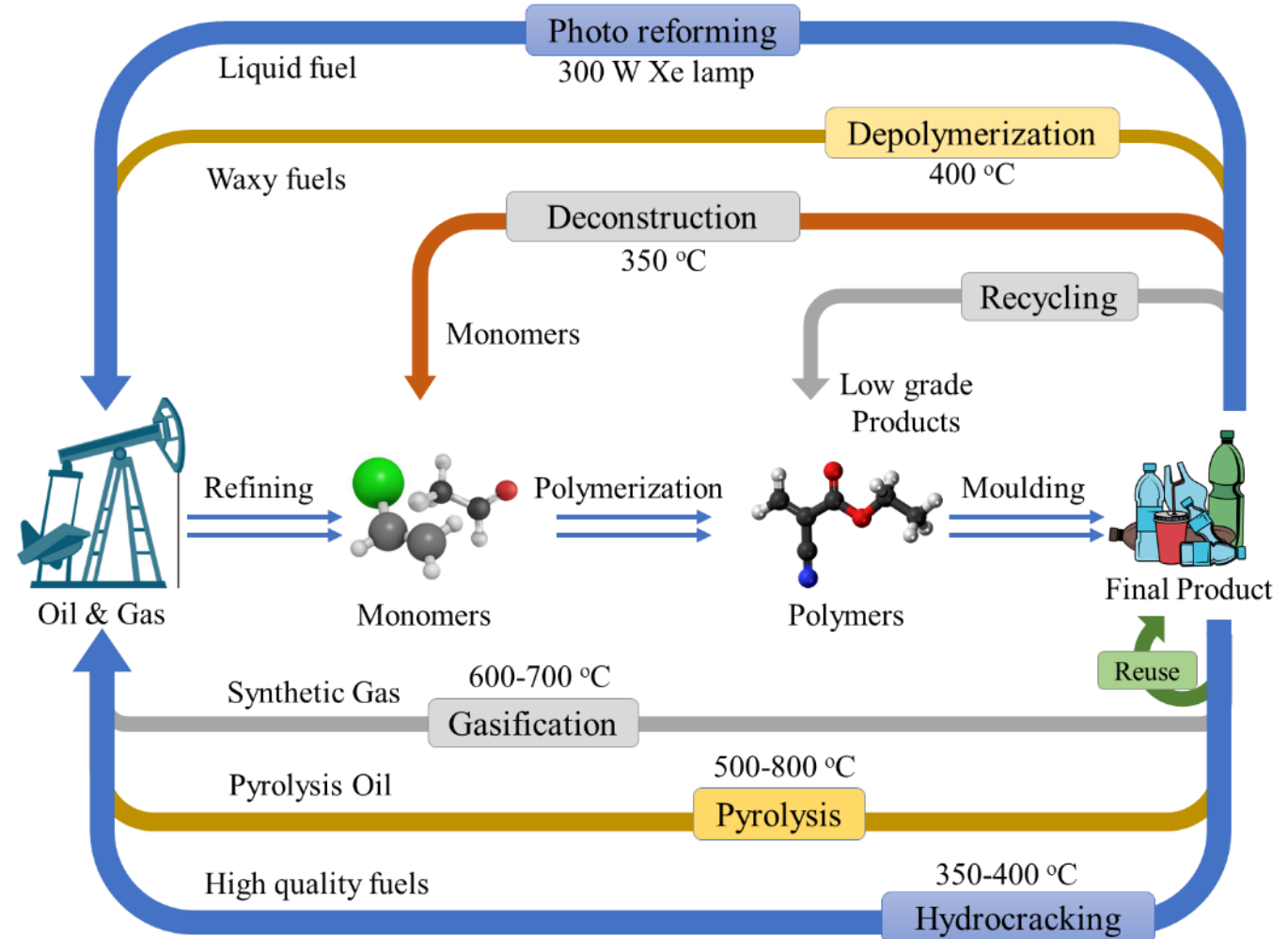
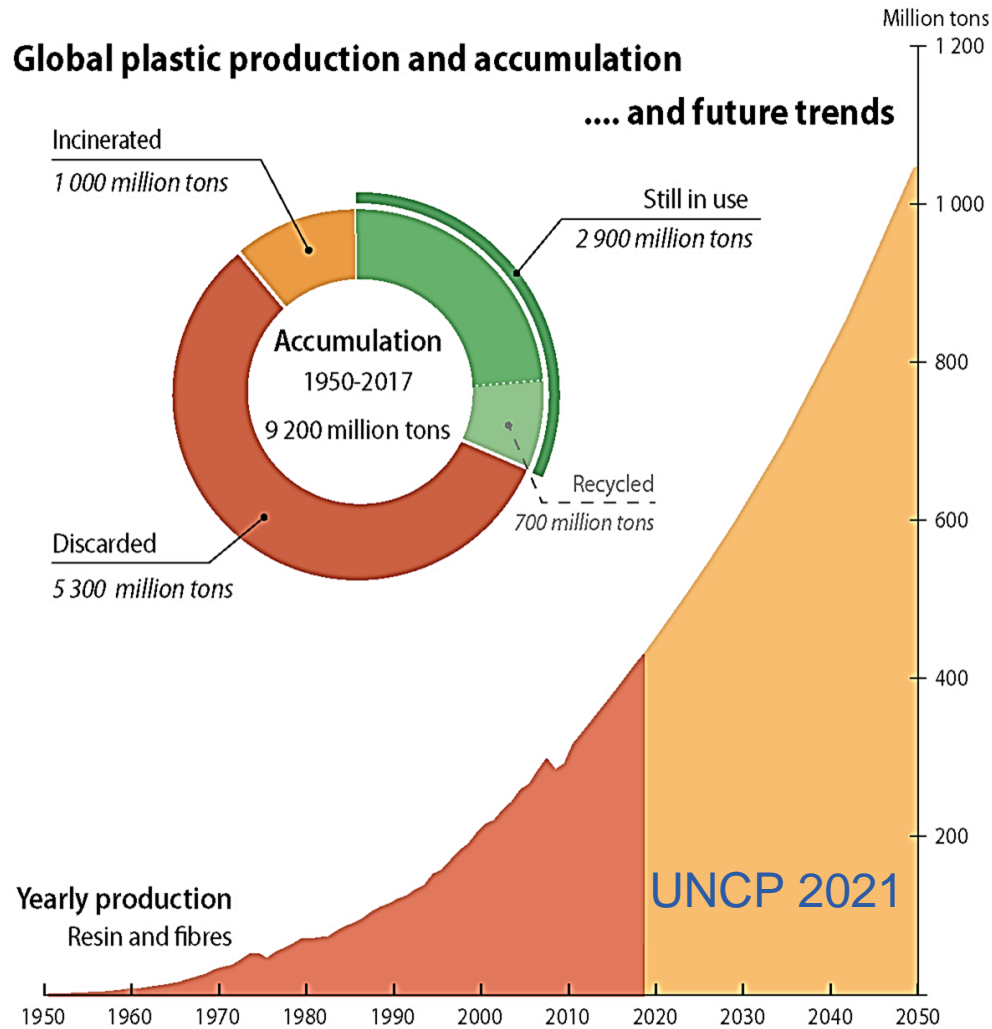
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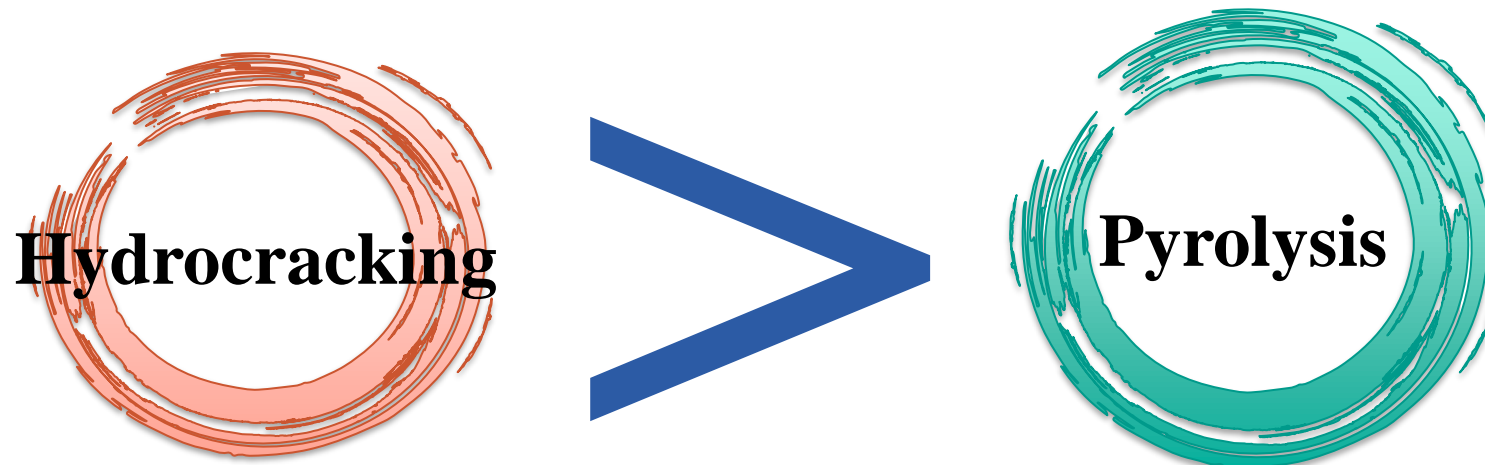
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# Redefining Waste: Innovative Paths in Recycling

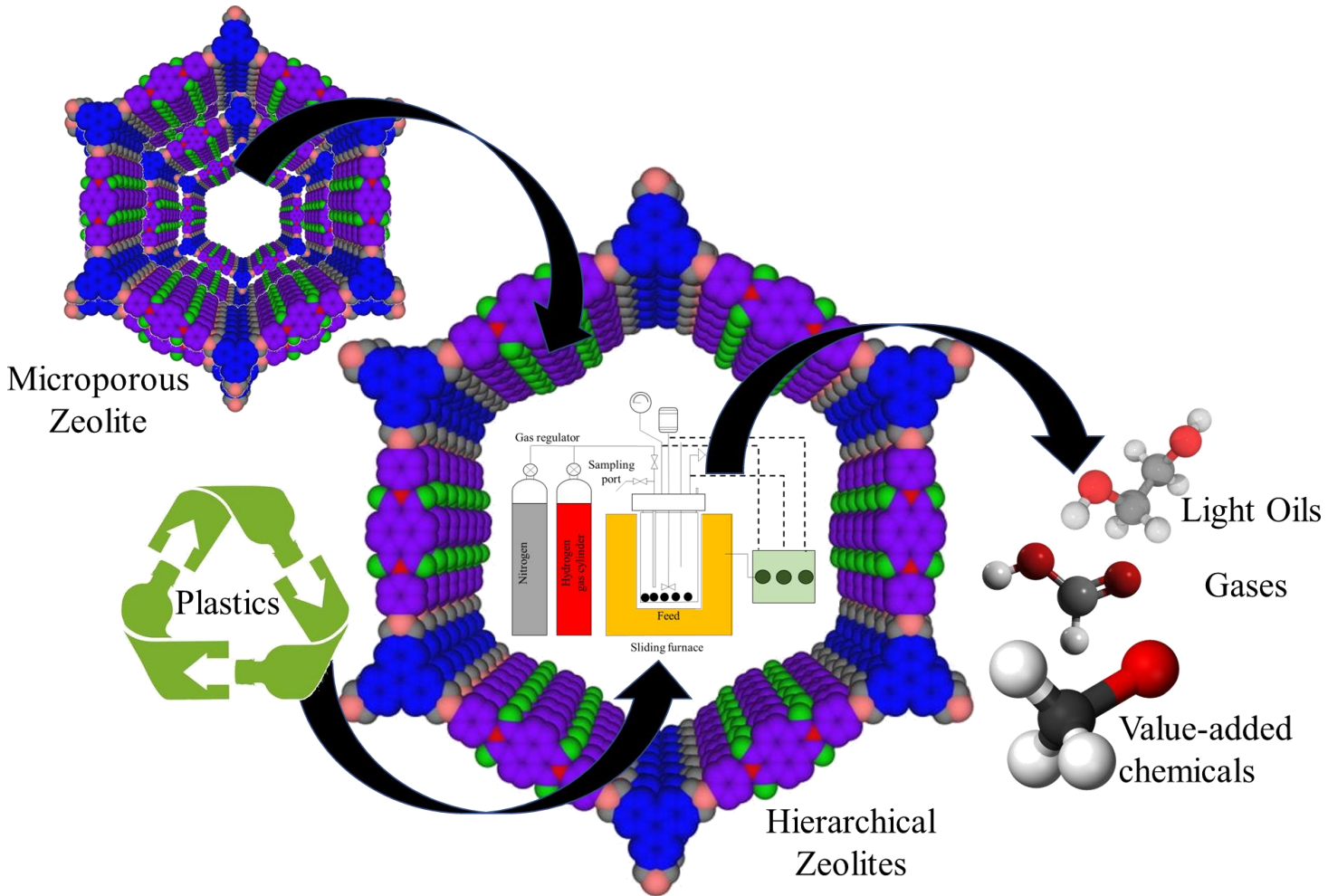


# Life Cycle Impact Assessment

Impact category	Unit	Pyrolysis	Hydrocracking
Abiotic depletion	kg Sb eq	$1.7 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.43 \times 10^{-4}$
Abiotic depletion (fossil fuels)	MJ	$2.99 \times 10^4$	$2.45 \times 10^4$
Global warming (GWP100a)	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	$2.56 \times 10^3$	$1.05 \times 10^3$
Ozone layer depletion (ODP)	kg CFC-11 eq	$-4.4 \times 10^{-4}$	$-2.3 \times 10^{-4}$



# Hierarchical Based Zeolites



## Hierarchical Zeolites

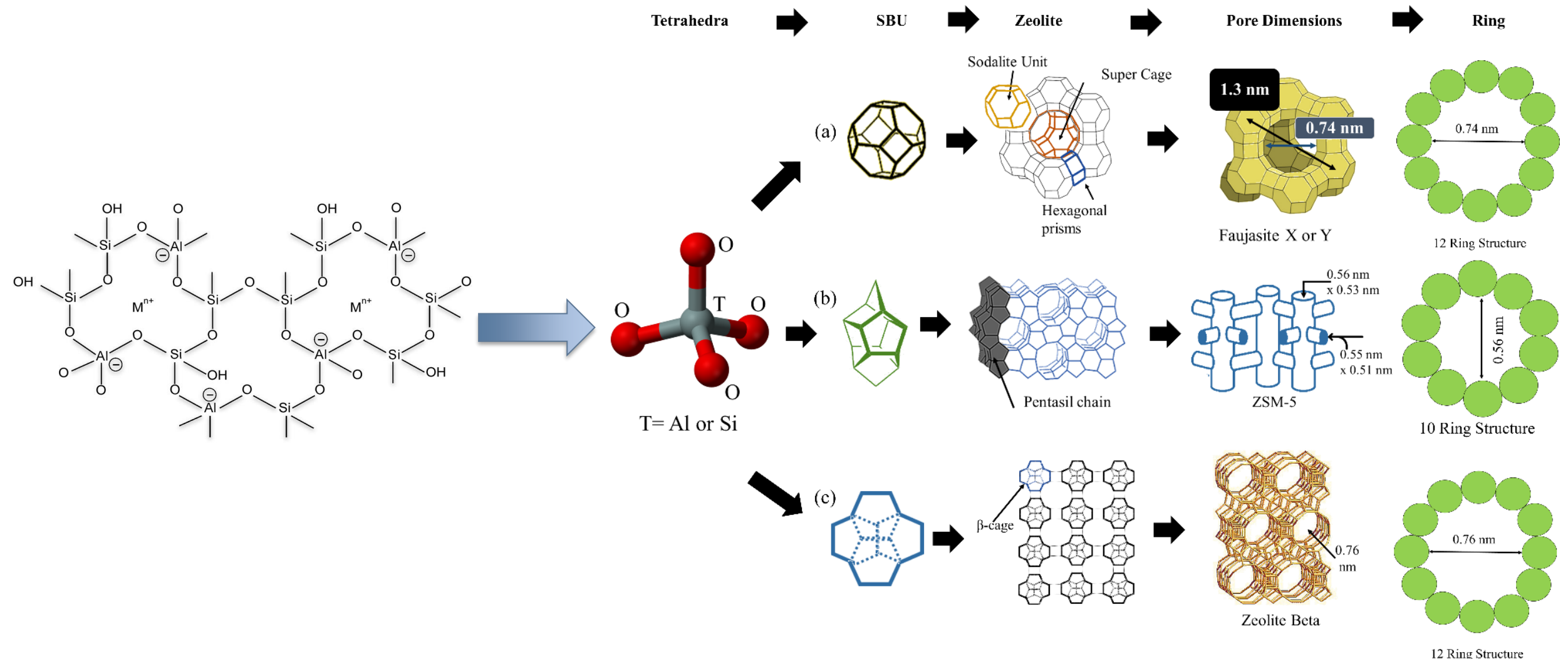
### Bottom-up Strategy

- Soft Templating
- Hard Templating

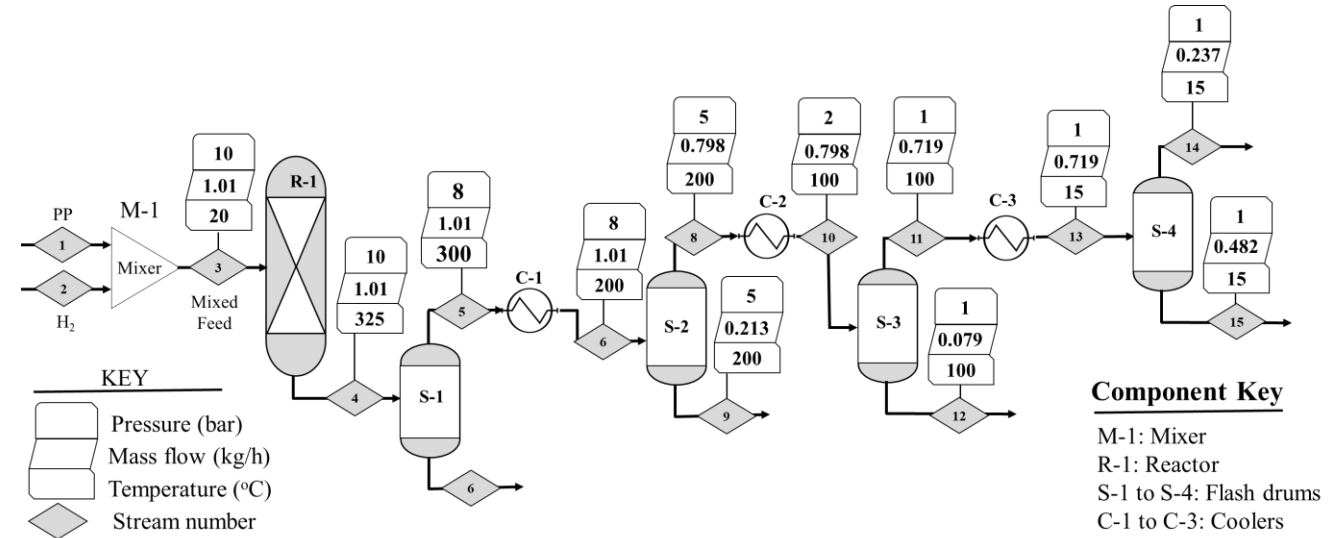
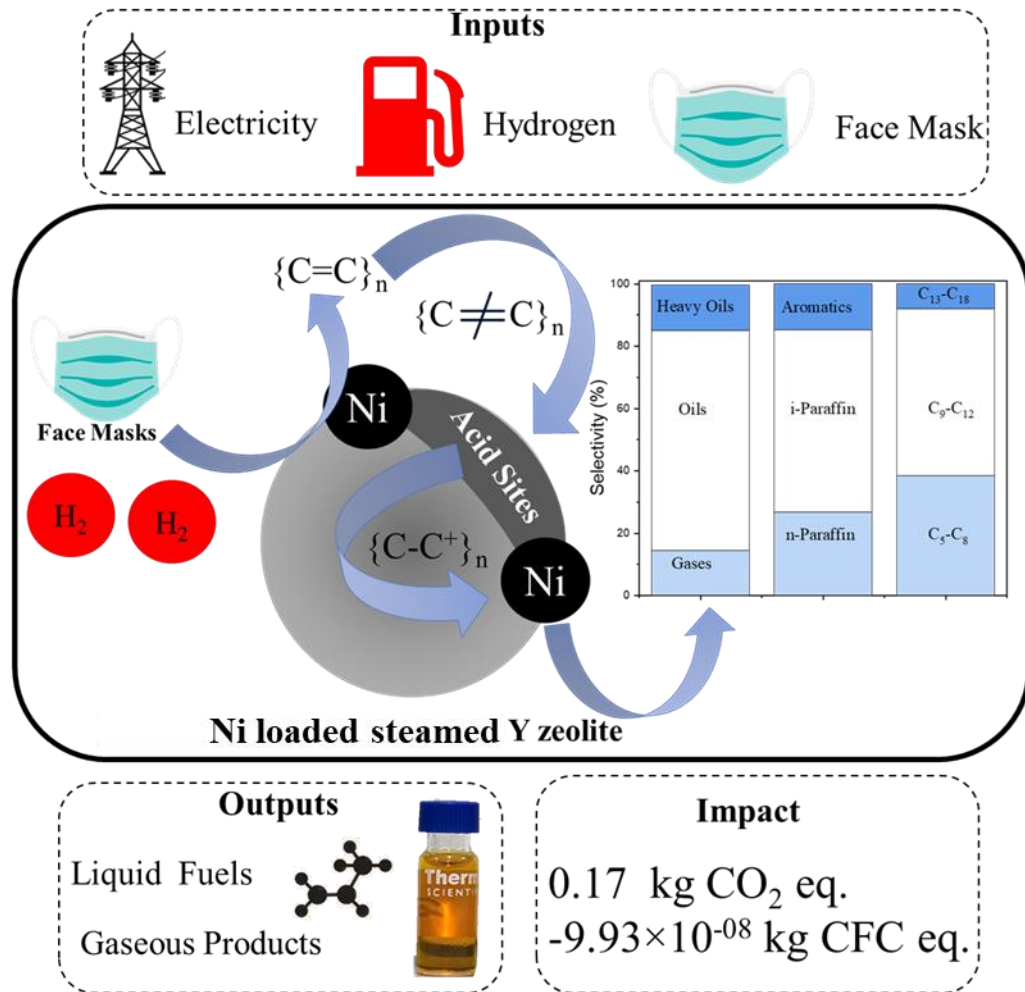
### Top-Down Strategy

- Desilication
- Dealumination

# Different Zeolite Supports

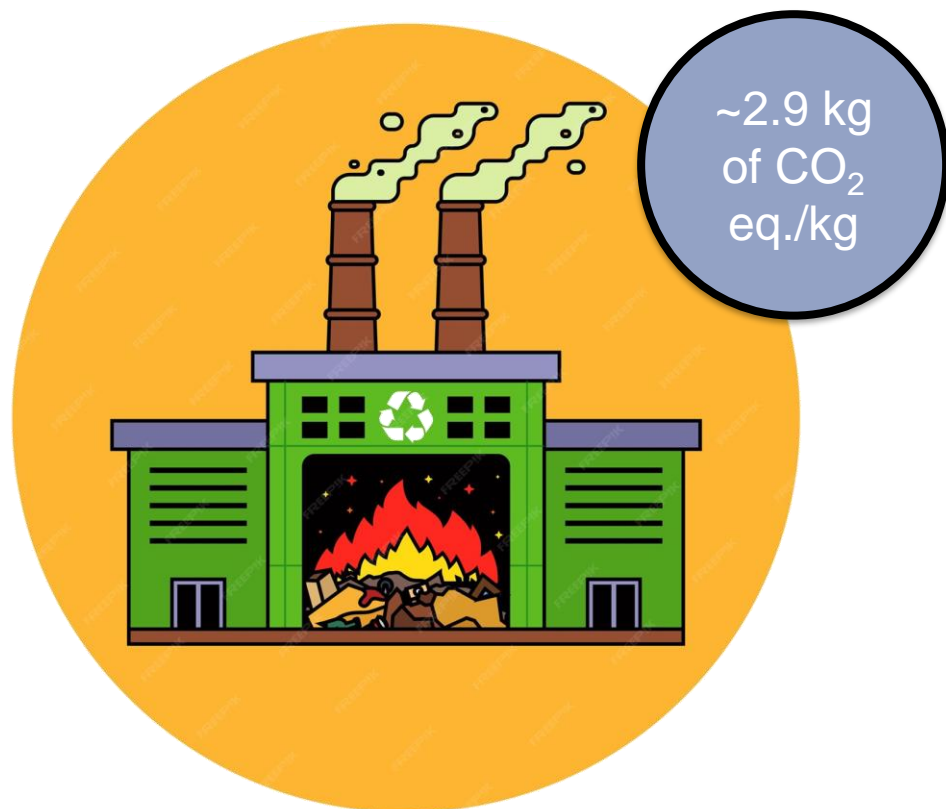


# Hydrocracking of Waste Surgical Masks



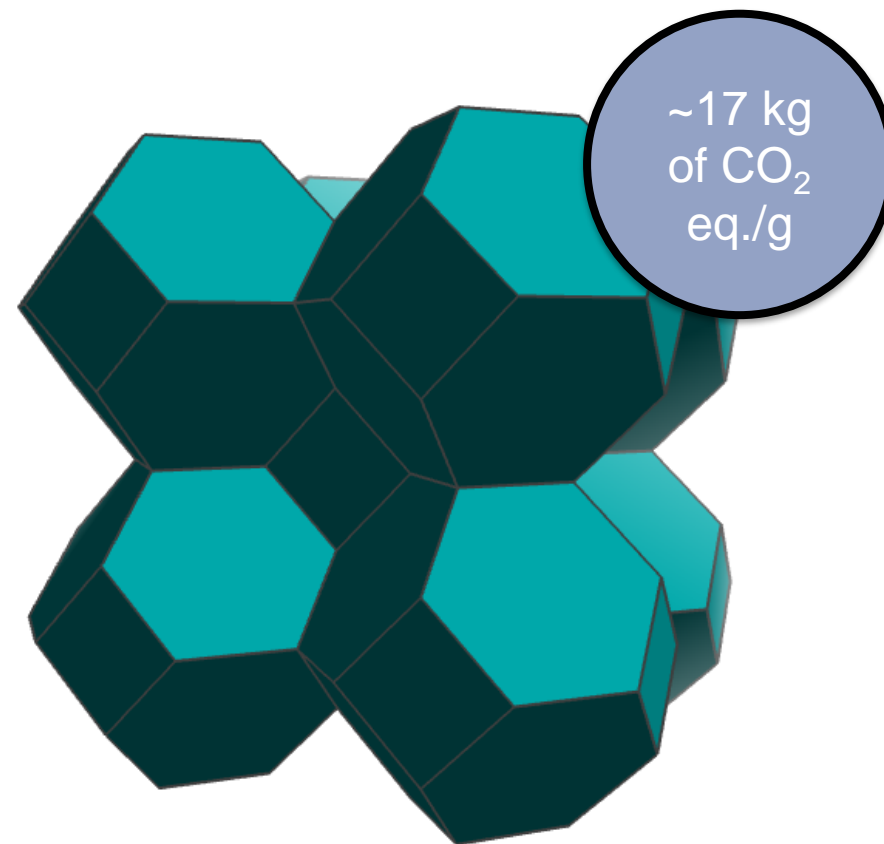
Impact category	Unit	Incineration	Pyrolysis	Hydrocracking
Abiotic depletion	kg Sb eq	2.65 × 10 <sup>-07</sup>	-6.4 × 10 <sup>-08</sup>	-8.4 × 10 <sup>-08</sup>
Abiotic depletion (fossil fuels)	MJ	71.99	49.83	48.77
Global warming (GWP100a)	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	4.42	0.39	0.17
Ozone layer depletion (ODP)	kg CFC-11 eq	1.65 × 10 <sup>-08</sup>	-9 × 10 <sup>-08</sup>	-9.93 × 10 <sup>-08</sup>
Marine aquatic ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DB eq	453.41	-1732.38	-1913.49
Terrestrial ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DB eq	3.69 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	-1.72 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-1.88 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>

# A Road Towards Sustainable Catalysis



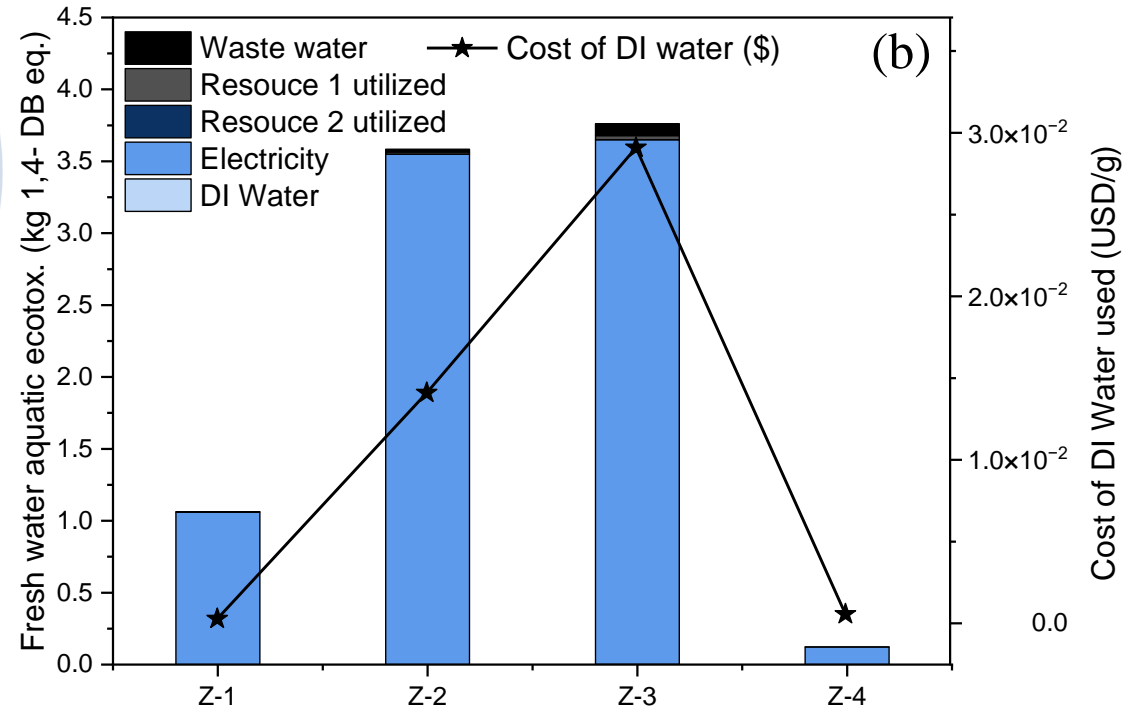
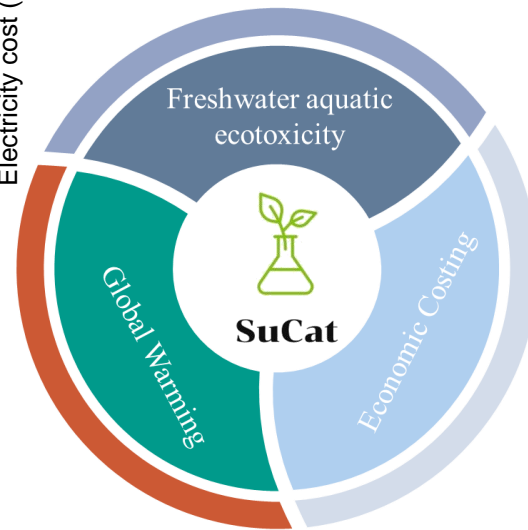
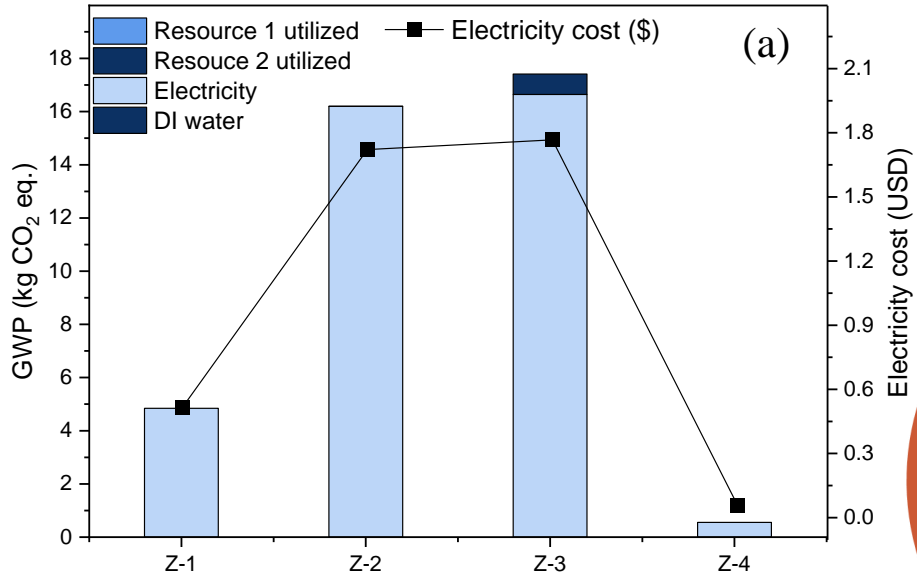
Incineration of plastics

VS



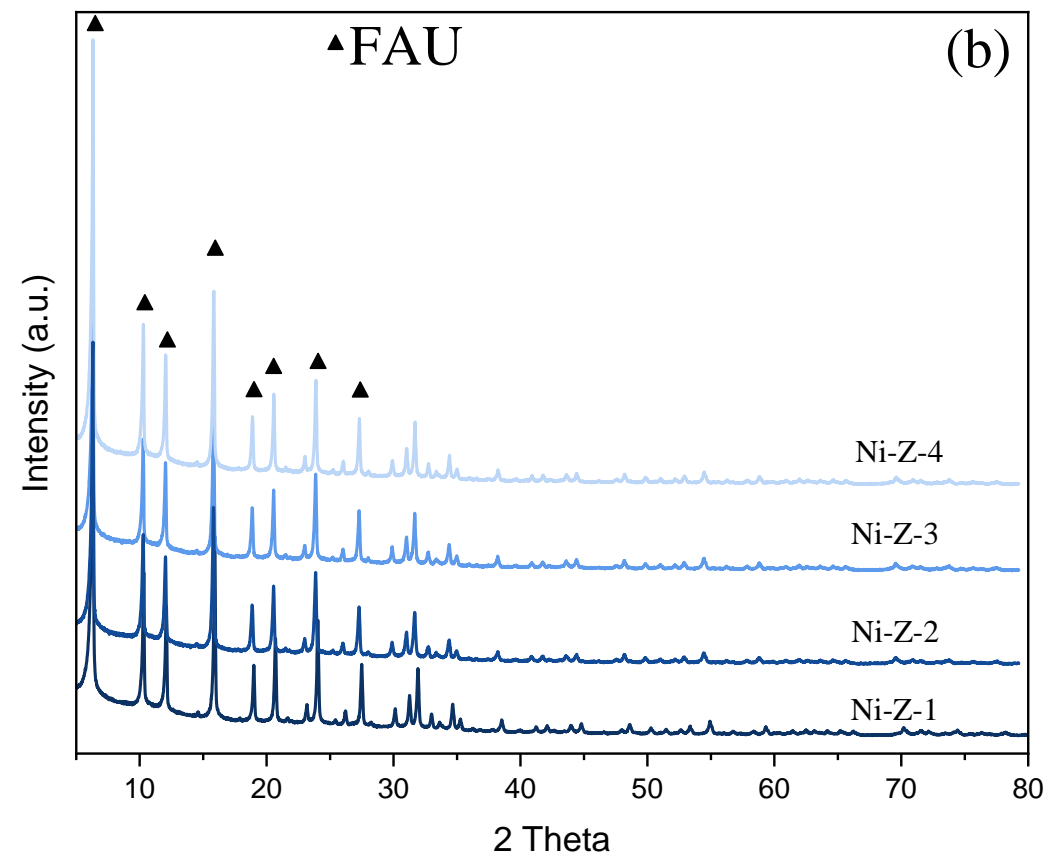
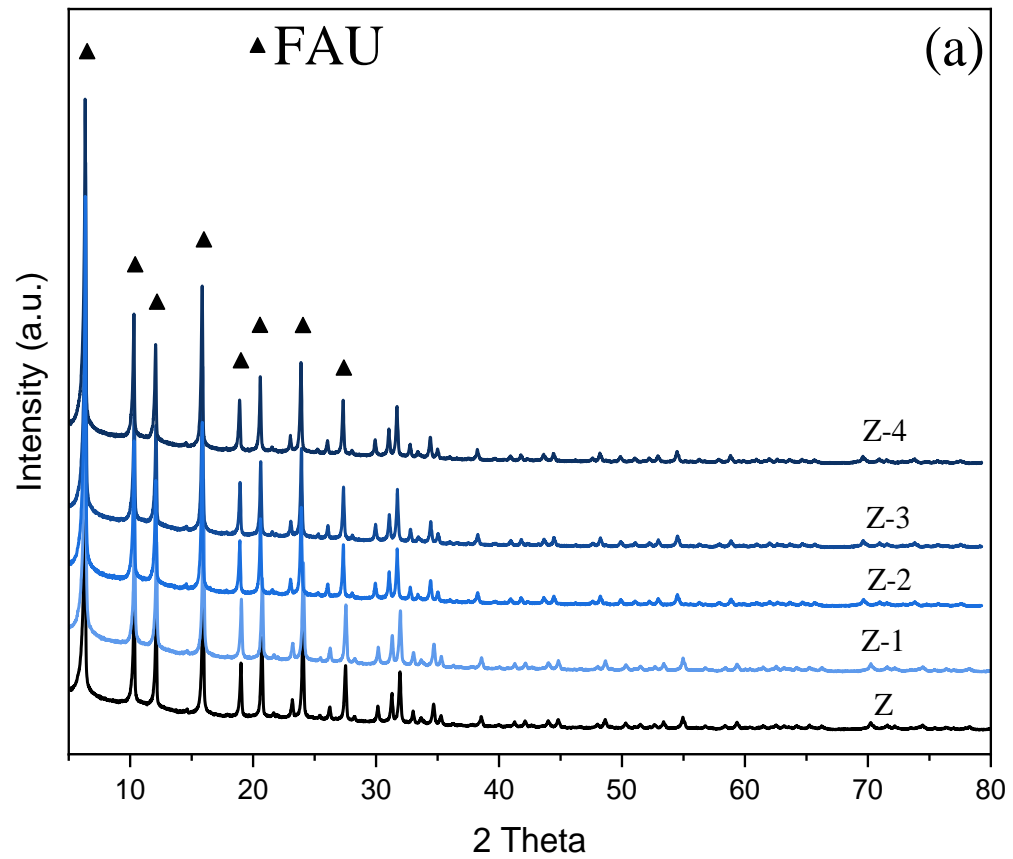
Catalyst Synthesis

# Sustainable Catalysis

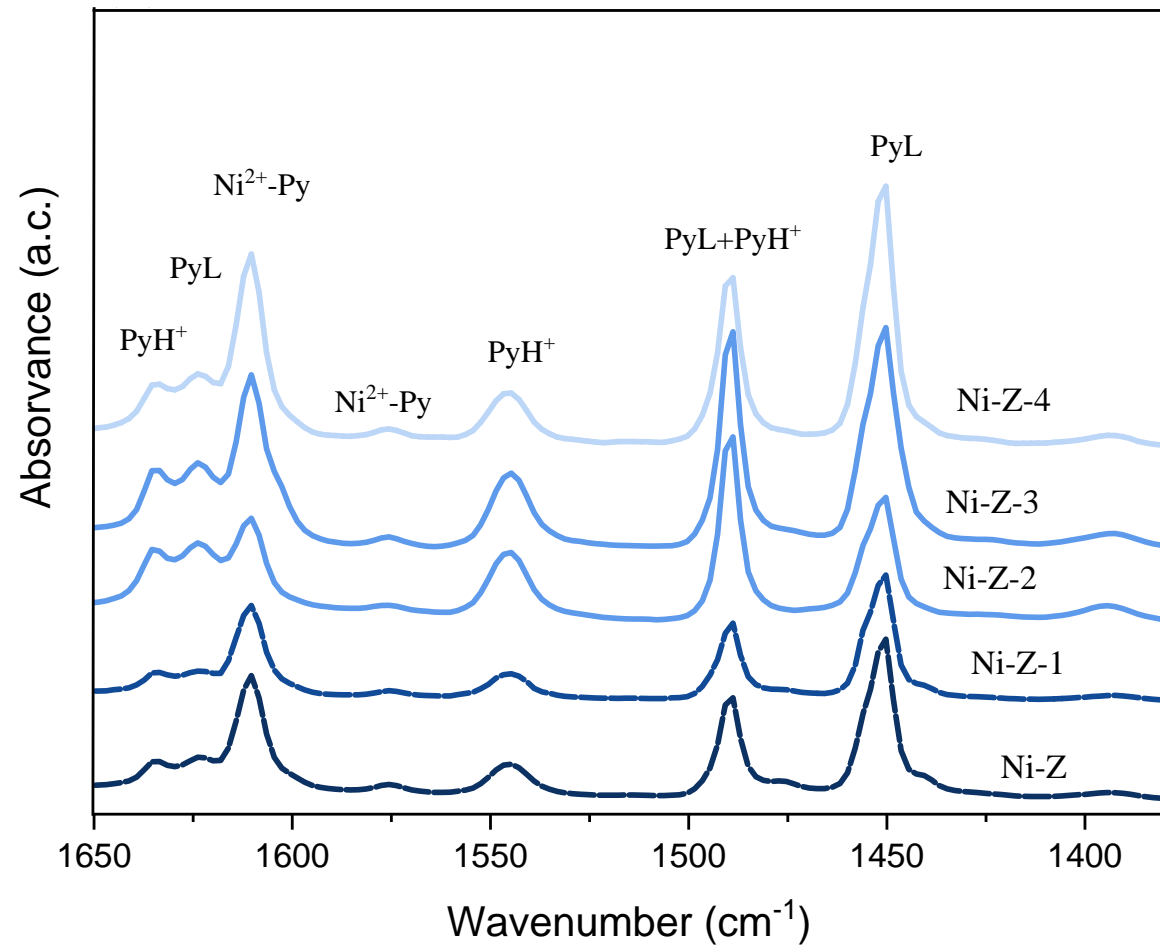
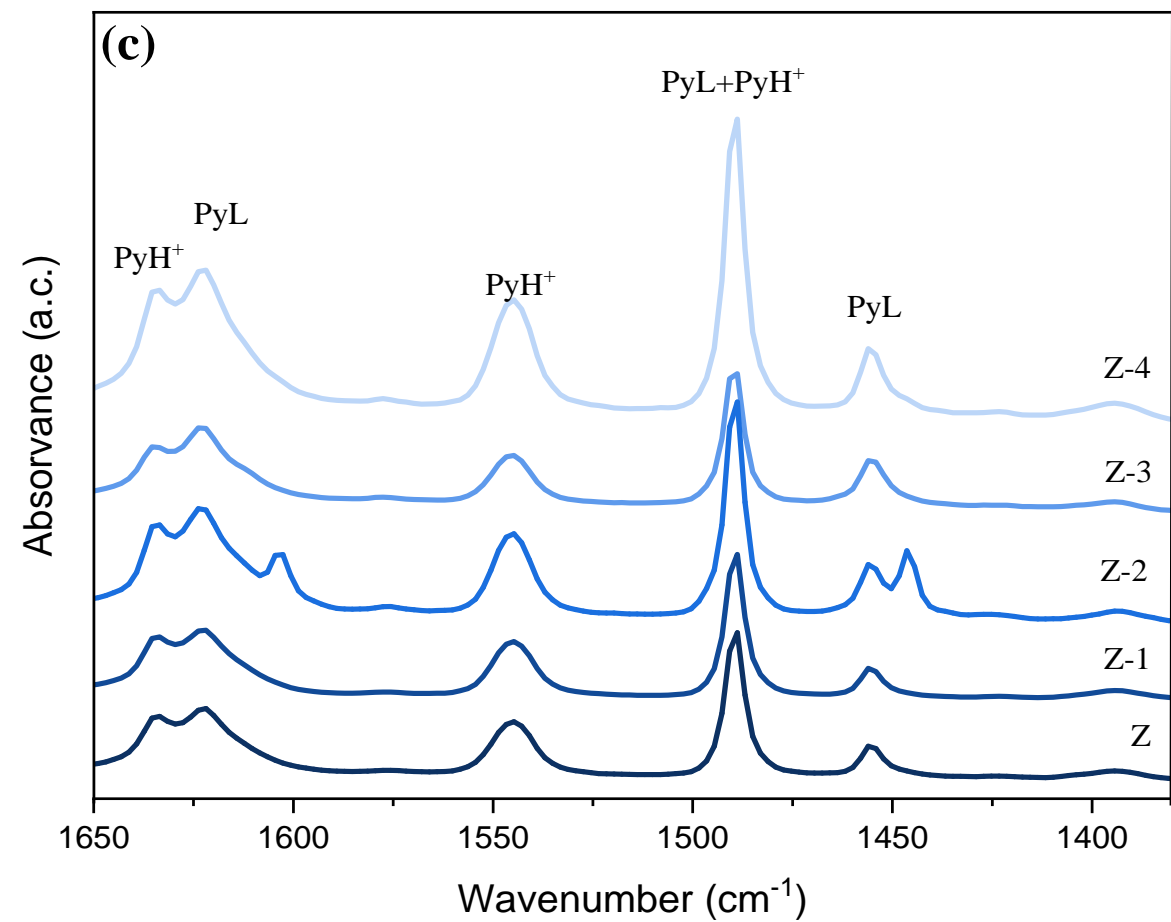




# X-Ray Diffraction



# Acidic Properties



# Physiochemical Properties

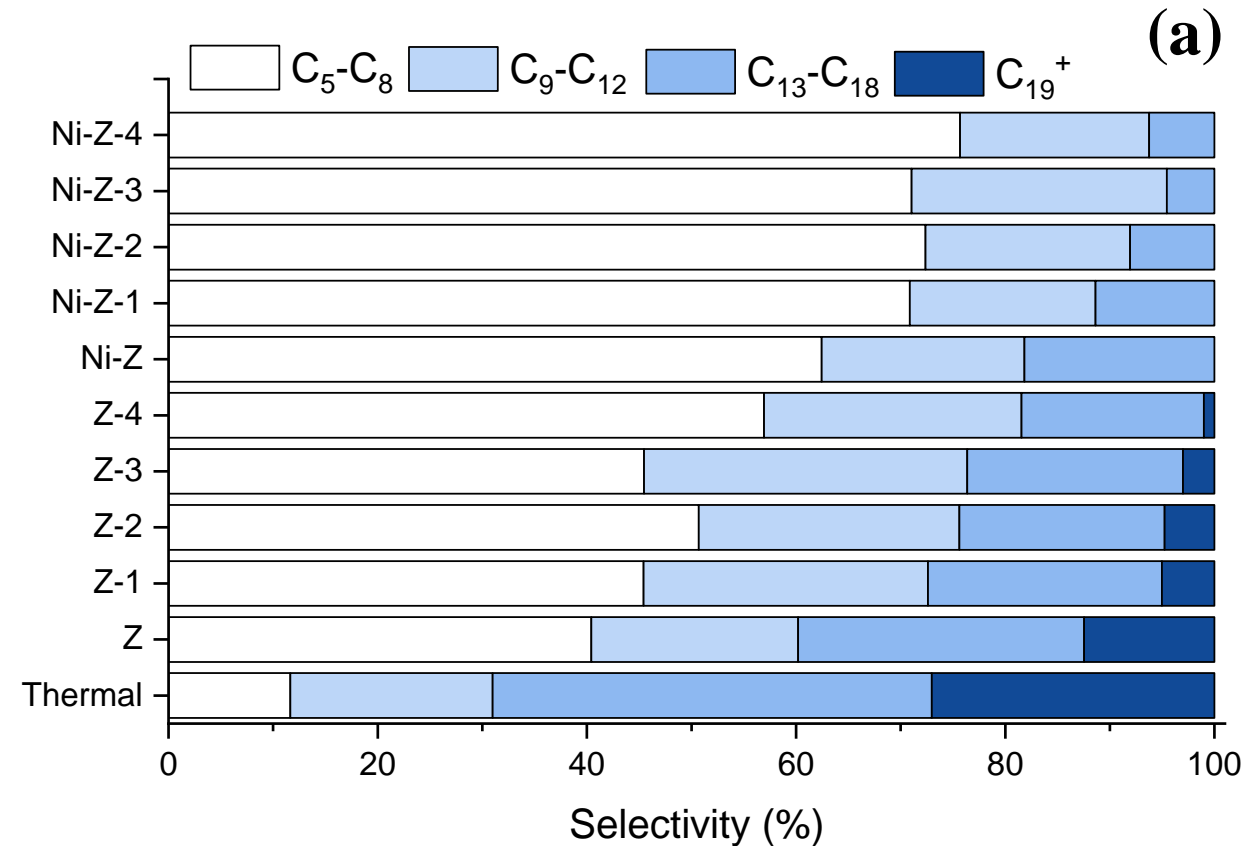
Catalyst Name	Relative intensity	Si/Al (ICP)	Si/Al <sub>IV</sub> (XRD)	FAI	EFAI	PyH <sup>+</sup>	PyL	$\frac{PyH^+_{350^\circ C}}{PyH^+_{150^\circ C}}$	$\frac{PyL_{350^\circ C}}{PyL_{150^\circ C}}$	V <sub>micro</sub>	V <sub>meso</sub>	S <sub>ext</sub>
	%					μmolg <sup>-1</sup>		%	%	cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup>		m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup>
<b>Z</b>	100	30	31	5.95	0.15	231	42	53	88	0.239	0.248	256
<b>Z-1</b>	93	29	29	6.34	0.07	237	36	47	89	0.272	0.283	297
<b>Z-2</b>	90	28	33	5.69	0.93	174	75	45	46	0.230	0.260	283
<b>Z-3</b>	87	37	39	4.76	0.29	116	47	28	73	0.239	0.282	301
<b>Z-4</b>	92	29	32	5.88	0.52	269	57	44	69	0.245	0.264	287
<b>Ni-Z</b>	96	-	-	-	-	123	263	37	34	0.227	0.224	241
<b>Ni-Z-1</b>	84	-	-	-	-	96	210	36	39	0.252	0.268	297
<b>Ni-Z-2</b>	82	-	-	-	-	137	178	35	29	0.237	0.260	281
<b>Ni-Z-3</b>	72	-	-	-	-	136	115	35	37	0.238	0.277	297
<b>Ni-Z-4</b>	83	-	-	-	-	114	250	34	36	0.222	0.255	286

# Hydrocracking of HDPE

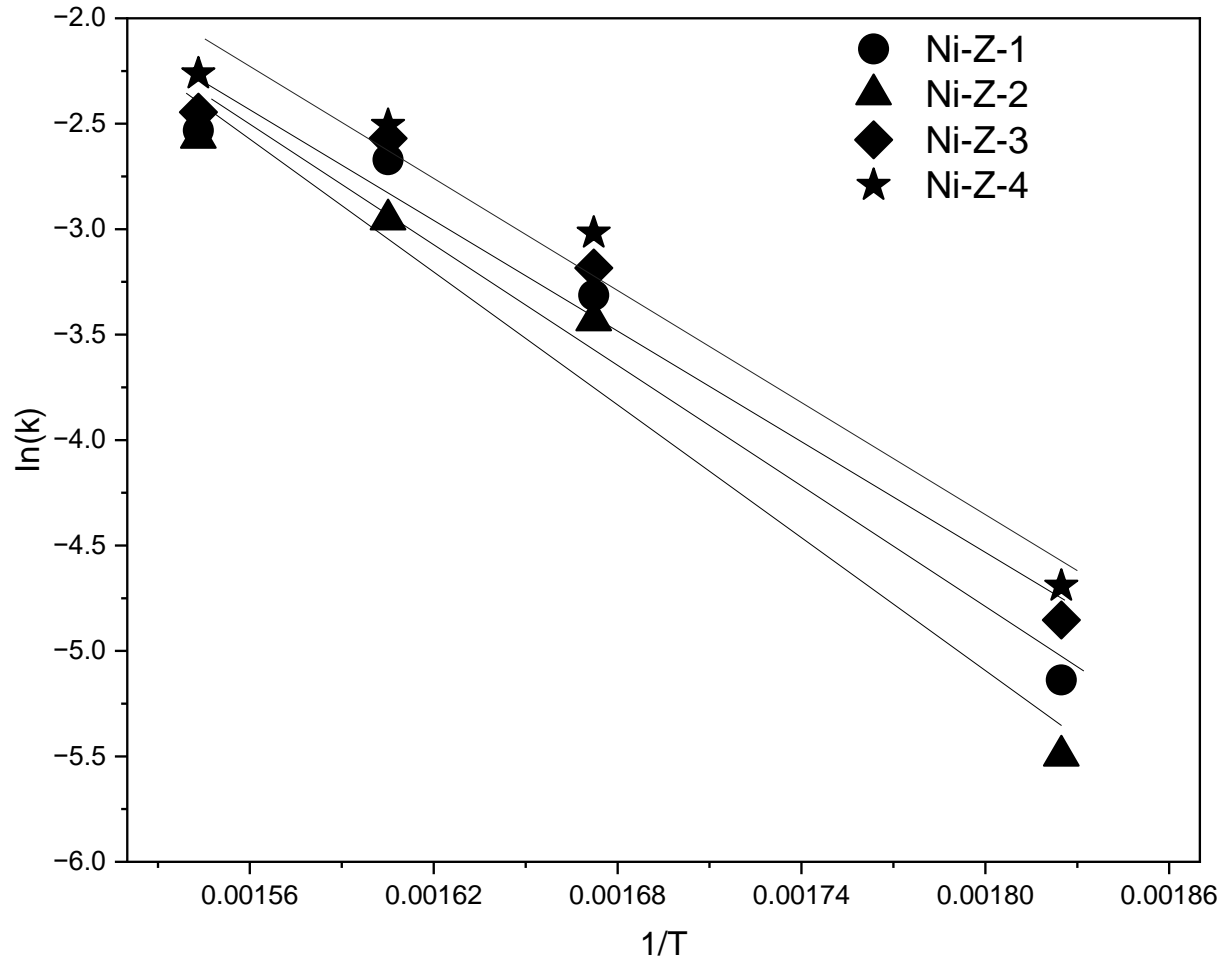
Catalyst	Yield (%) (Selectivity (%))			Conv. (%)
	Gases	Lighter Oils	Heavier Oils	
<b>Thermal</b>	19.2 (42.9)	10 (22.3)	15.6 (34.8)	44.8
<b>Z</b>	22.8 (26.7)	55.3 (65.0)	7.1 (8.3)	86.5
<b>Z-1</b>	21.2 (23.7)	62.6 (69.9)	5.8 (6.4)	89.6
<b>Z-2</b>	21.0 (23.3)	63.6 (70.6)	5.5 (6.1)	90.1
<b>Z-3</b>	25.7 (28.1)	61.2 (66.9)	4.7 (5.0)	91.6
<b>Z-4</b>	25.0 (26.9)	62.7 (67.8)	4.8 (5.2)	92.5
<b>Ni-Z</b>	28.5 (29.9)	60.9 (63.9)	6.0 (6.3)	95.3
<b>Ni-Z-1</b>	29.5 (29.8)	65.2 (65.7)	5.0 (5.1)	>99
<b>Ni-Z-2</b>	31.5 (31.8)	63.3 (63.9)	4.3 (4.4)	>99
<b>Ni-Z-3</b>	35.9 (36.0)	58.3 (58.6)	5.3 (5.4)	>99
<b>Ni-Z-4</b>	40.1 (40.1)	56.4 (56.5)	3.3 (3.3)	>99



Hydrocracking Experiment at 375 °C, 20 bar hydrogen pressure for 60 min residence time



# Reaction Kinetics



$$k = A \cdot e^{\frac{E_a}{RT}}$$

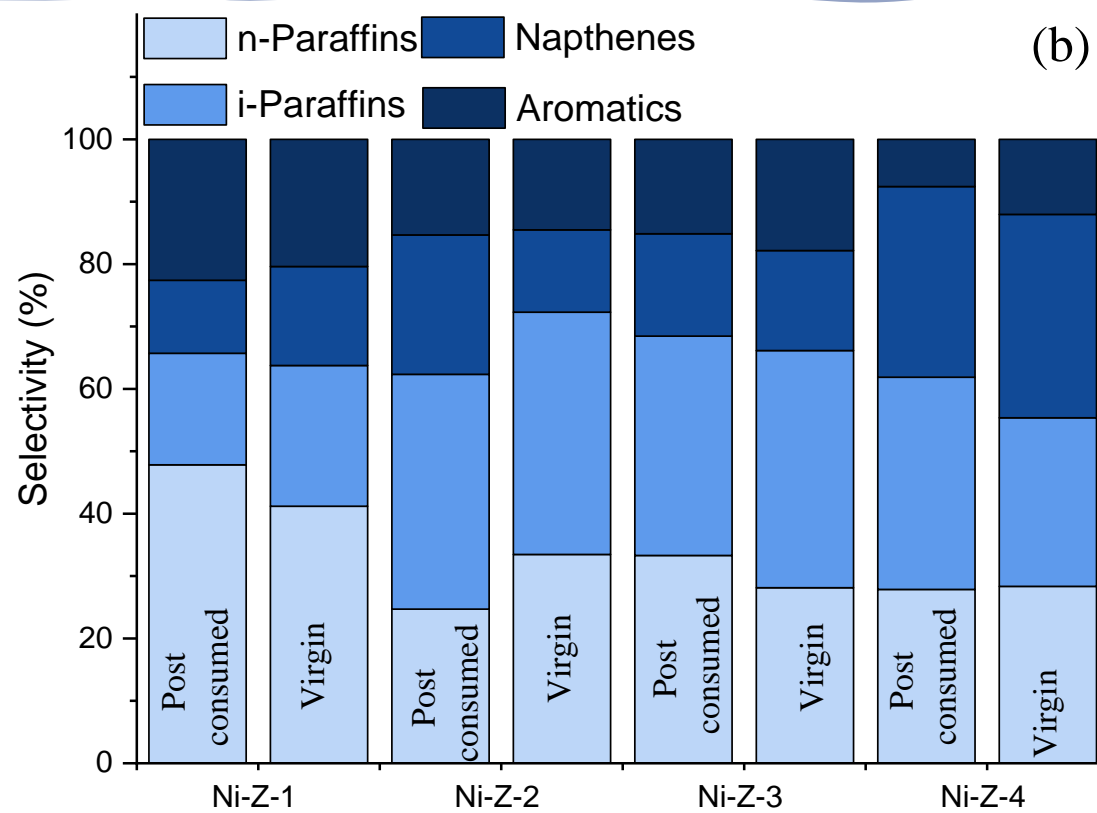
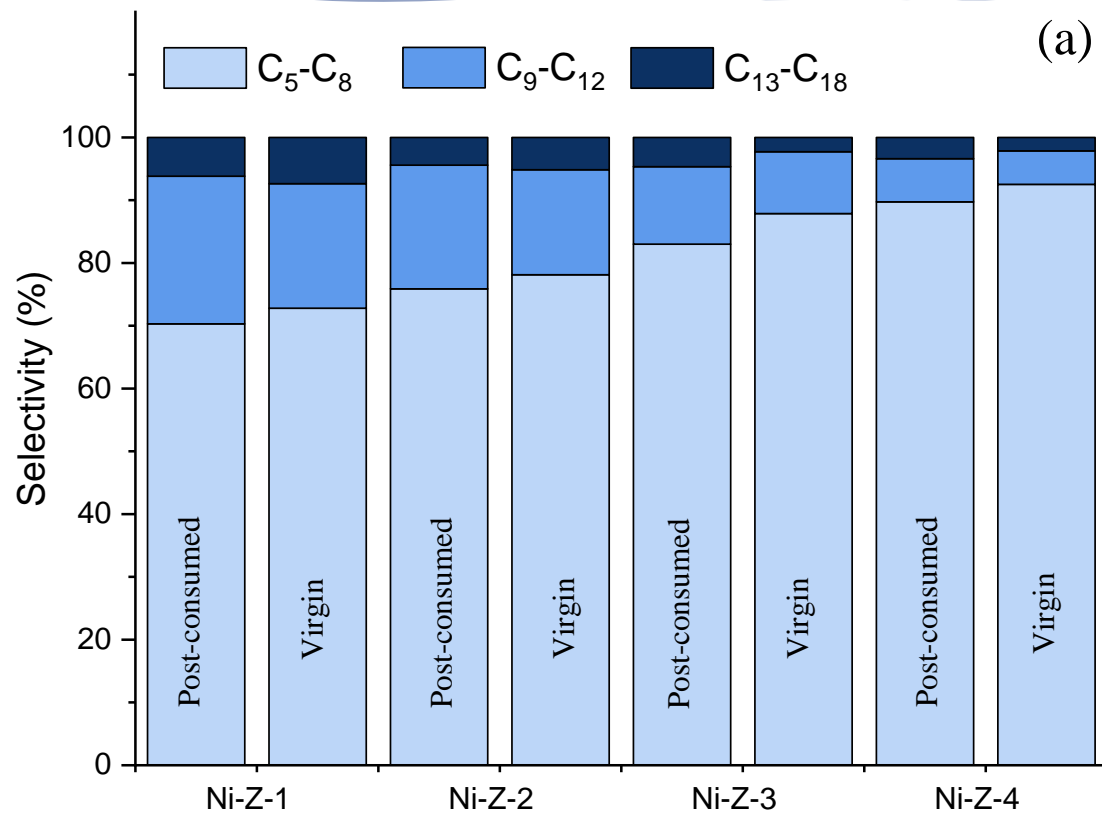
Sample ID	R <sup>2</sup>	E <sub>a</sub> (kJ.mol <sup>-1</sup> )	A (min <sup>-1</sup> )
Ni-Z-1	0.97	88	1.2×10 <sup>6</sup>
Ni-Z-2	0.96	81	3.3×10 <sup>5</sup>
Ni-Z-3	0.96	75	1.1×10 <sup>5</sup>
Ni-Z-4	0.97	74	1.1×10 <sup>5</sup>

# Post-Consumed Plastics



Catalyst	Material	Yield (%) (Selectivity (%))			Conv. (%)
		Gases	Lighter Oils	Heavier Oils	
Ni-Z-1	Post-consumed HDPE	26.63 (26.91)	64.86 (65.55)	7.46 (7.54)	98.95
	Virgin HDPE	26.14 (26.37)	66.17 (66.77)	6.79 (6.86)	>99
Ni-Z-2	Post-consumed HDPE	28.66 (28.86)	63.73 (64.42)	6.91 (6.95)	>99
	Virgin HDPE	31.16 (31.22)	62.52 (62.65)	6.11 (6.12)	>99
Ni-Z-3	Post-consumed HDPE	30.28 (30.46)	62.89 (63.27)	6.23 (6.27)	>99
	Virgin HDPE	33.34 (33.47)	60.33 (60.57)	5.93 (5.95)	>99
Ni-Z-4	Post-consumed HDPE	33.44 (33.64)	60.17 (60.53)	5.99 (6.03)	99
	Virgin HDPE	36.88 (36.91)	57.60 (57.66)	5.42 (5.43)	>99

# Post-Consumed Plastics

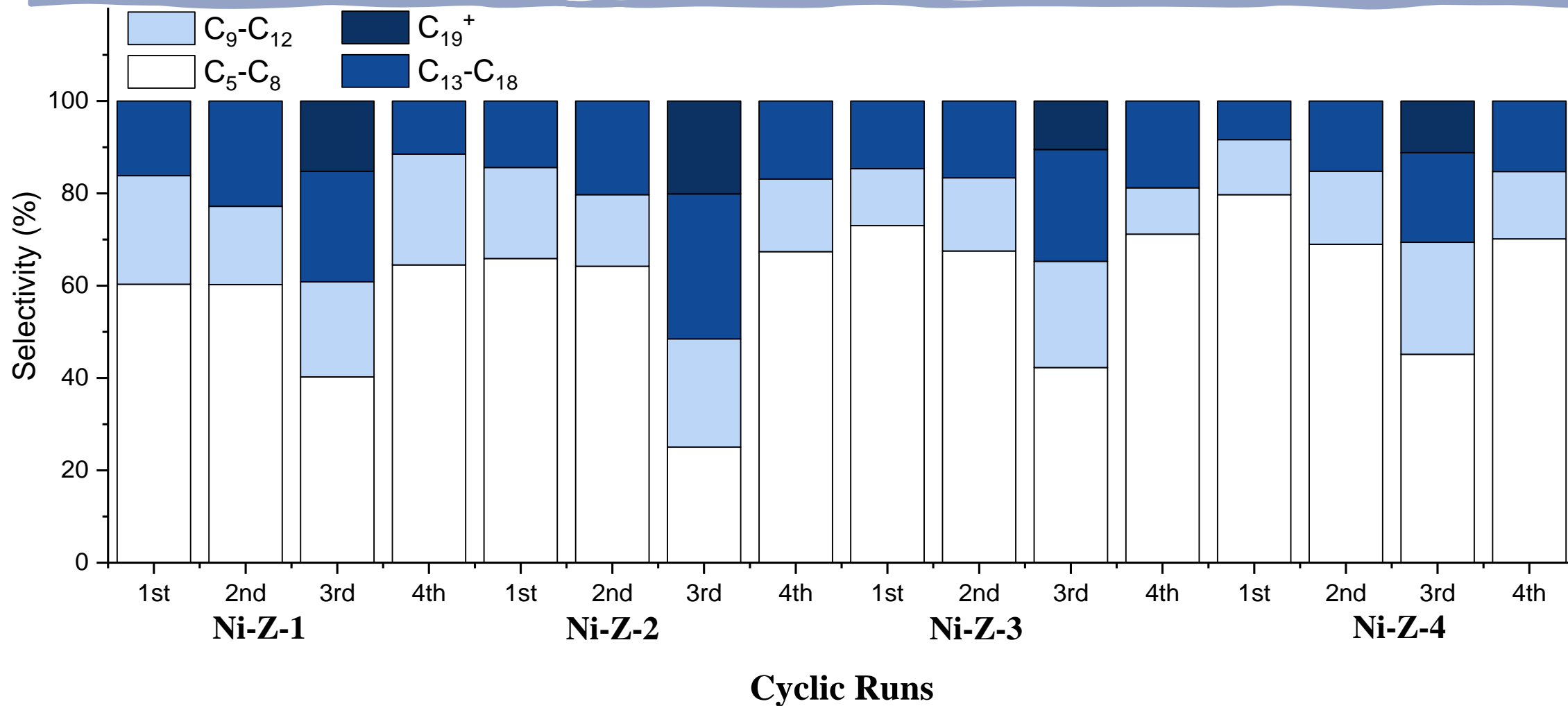


# Reusability

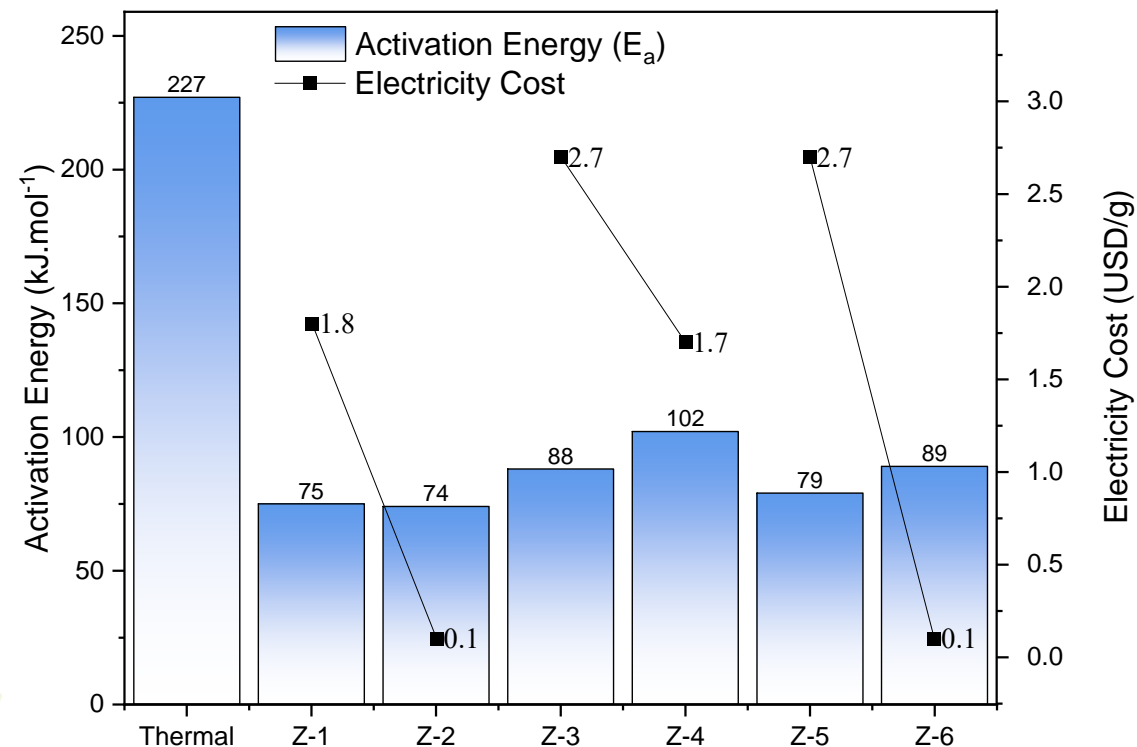
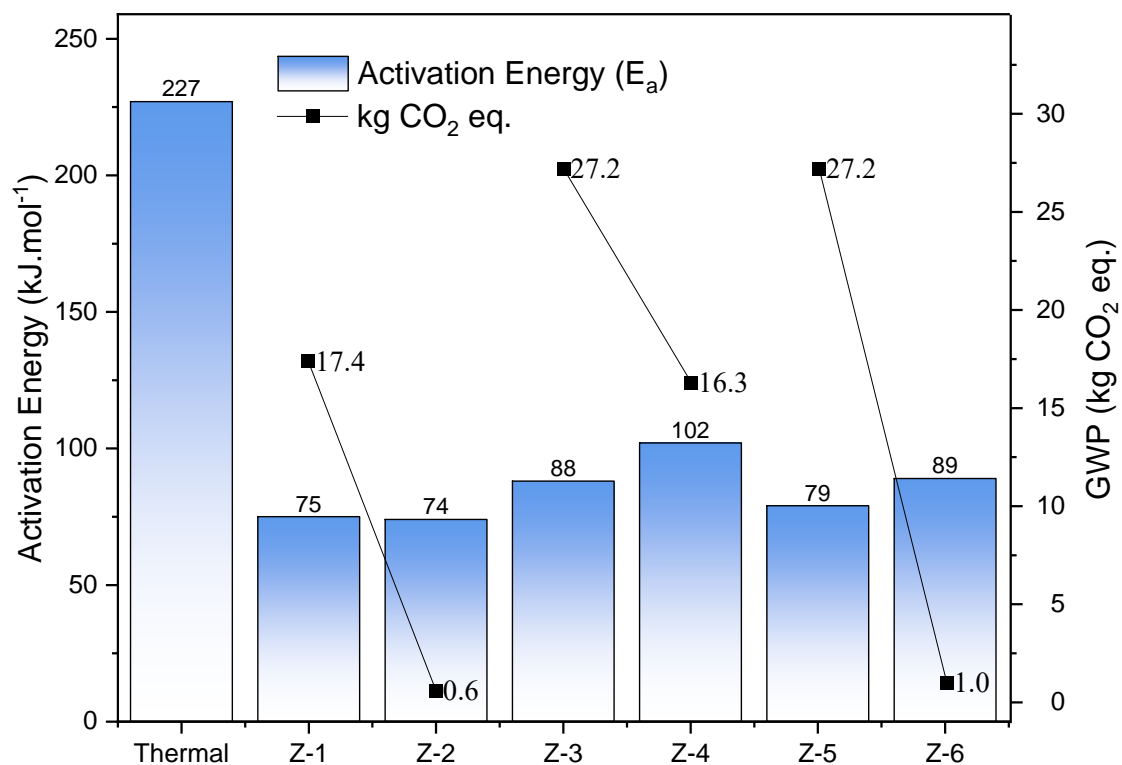
Catalyst	Material	Yield ( %) (Selectivity (%))			Conv. (%)
		Gases	Lighter Oils	Heavier Oils	
Ni-Z-1	Fresh Run	26.6 (26.9)	64.9 (65.6)	7.4 (7.5)	98.95
	Spent I	24.6 (26.5)	58.2 (62.8)	10.0 (10.8)	92.8
	Spent II	23.9 (27.2)	48.6 (55.2)	15.4 (17.5)	87.89
	Regenerated Run	23.4 (24.6)	60.8 (64.1)	10.7 (11.2)	94.79
Ni-Z-2	Fresh Run	28.7 (28.9)	63.7 (64.4)	6.9 (7.0)	>99
	Spent I	24.4 (25.6)	62.7 (65.7)	8.3 (8.7)	95.38
	Spent II	21.4 (25.2)	47.5 (55.9)	16.0 (18.8)	84.82
	Regenerated Run	21.2 (22.1)	61.6 (64.4)	12.8 (13.4)	95.57
Ni-Z-3	Fresh Run	30.3 (30.5)	62.9 (63.3)	6.2 (6.3)	>99
	Spent I	26.1 (27.2)	62.7 (65.3)	7.2 (7.5)	95.88
	Spent II	23.6 (26.2)	55.8 (61.8)	10.8 (12.0)	90.17
	Regenerated Run	30.2 (31.2)	58.9 (60.9)	7.6 (7.9)	96.67
Ni-Z-4	Fresh Run	33.4 (33.6)	60.2 (60.5)	6.0 (6.0)	>99
	Spent I	23.3 (24.0)	64.0 (65.8)	9.9 (10.2)	97.20
	Spent II	21.9 (23.7)	58.5 (63.2)	12.2 (13.2)	92.65
	Regenerated Run	31.9 (32.6)	59.1 (60.4)	6.8 (7.0)	97.82



# Reusability



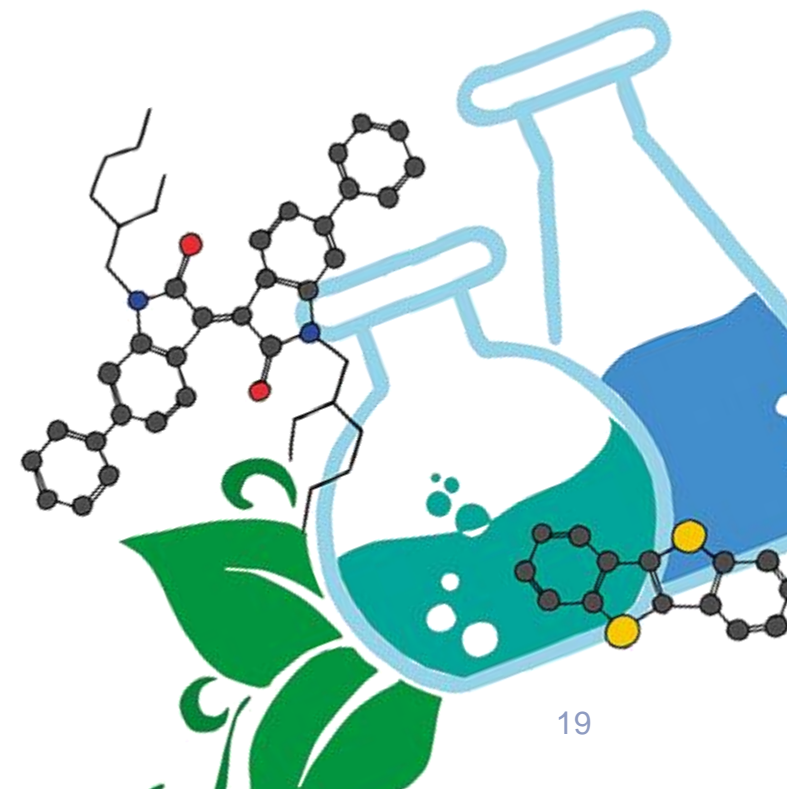
# Sustainable Catalysis: Other Zeolite Based Supports



# Conclusion

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- Sustainable Catalysis
- Low energy requirements
- High quality gasoline range fuels
- High reusability of spent catalysts
- Provide new direction to industries



# References

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- Azam, M. U., Vete, A., & Afzal, W. (2022). Process simulation and life cycle assessment of waste plastics: a comparison of pyrolysis and hydrocracking. *Molecules*, 27(22), 8084.
- Azam, M. U., Fernandes, A., Graça, I., & Afzal, W. (2023). Hydrocracking of surgical face masks over Y Zeolites: Catalyst development, process design and life cycle assessment. *Fuel*, 349, 128704.

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