

# Modeling Heat & Mass transfers in a porous material

*F.RICHARD, X.QIN, B.BATIOT, J.COLOMBIANO (mimi),  
T. BENHASSI, T.ROGAUME*  
University of Poitiers  
France

GDR « Feux »  
IUSTI - Marseille  
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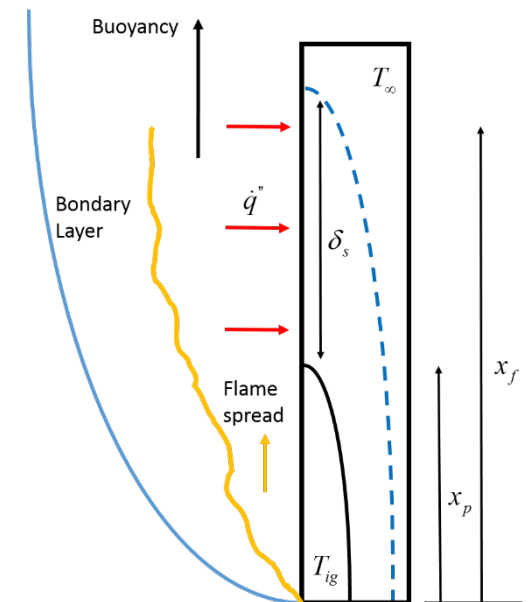
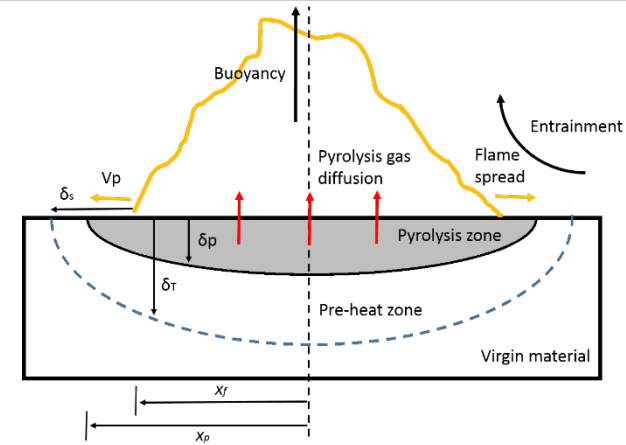
# Flame spread over solid fuels

*Fire dynamics involve complex physical and chemical phenomena often strongly coupled*

- Combustion in the gas phase
- Heat & Mass transfer at interface
- Pyrolysis process in the condensed phase

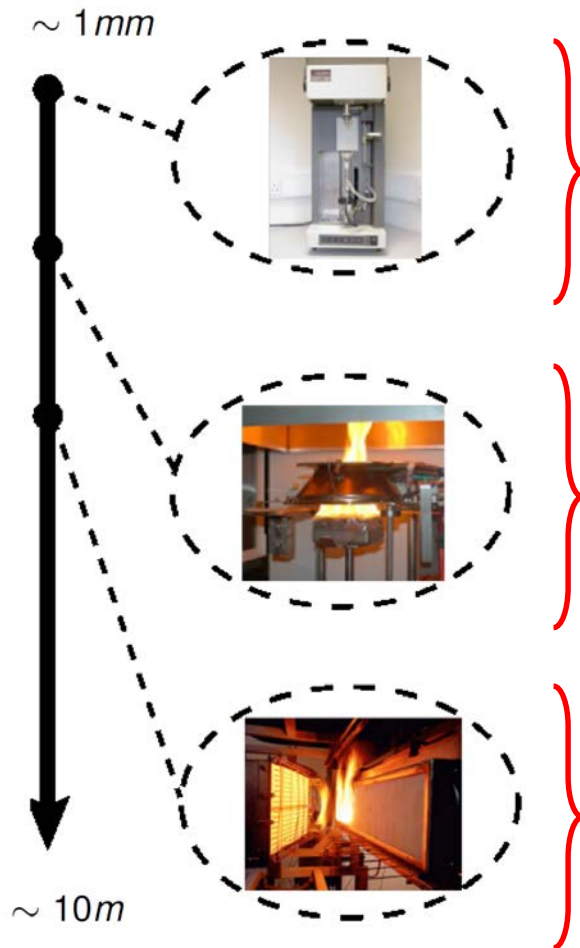
**A key feature in fire description**

***Predict the rate of flame spread (ROS) over solid fuels***



## Properties extraction & Model validation

### - Scales separation -

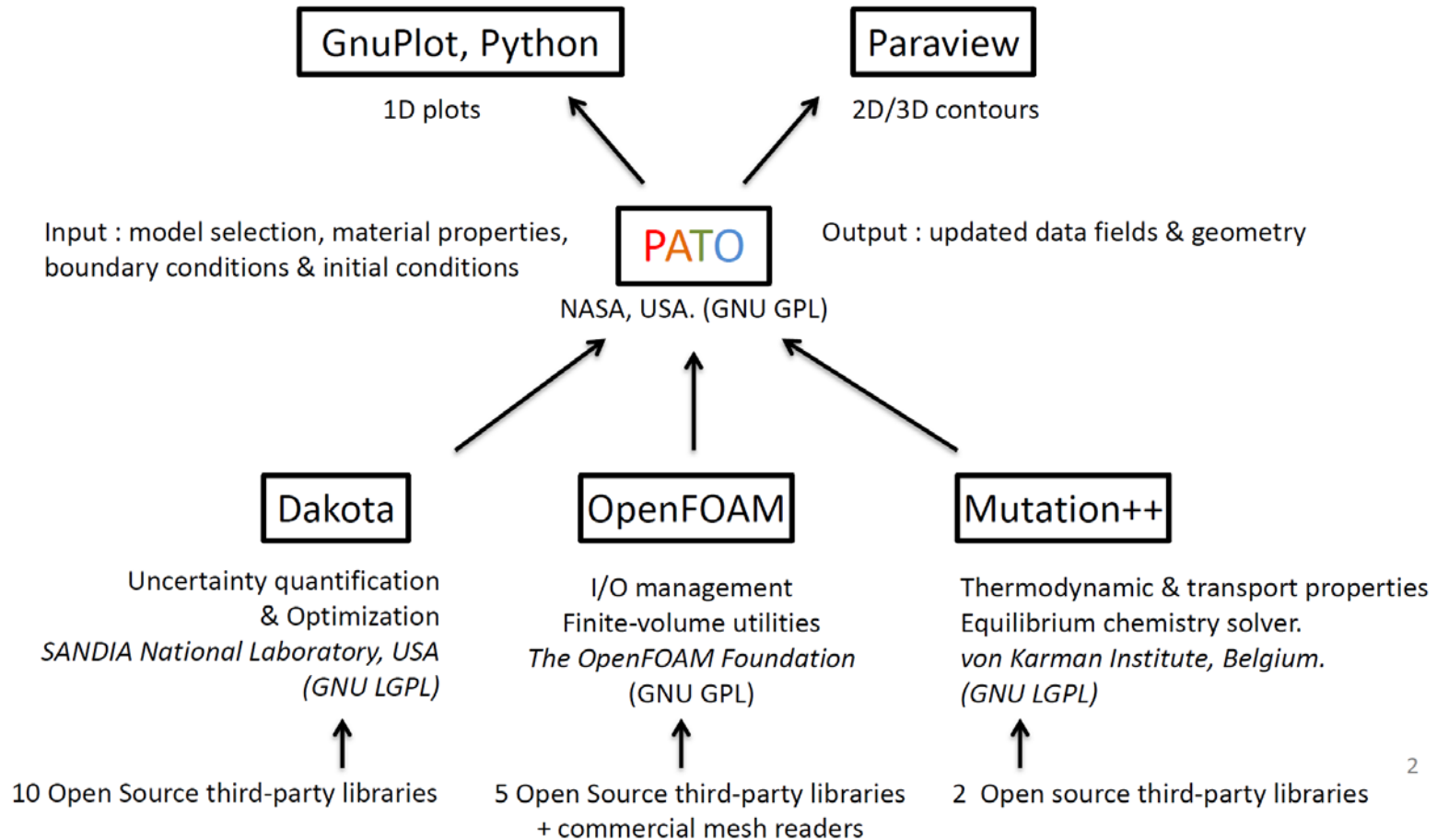


- **TGA scale** ( $\sim 1\text{ mm}$ )
  - ✓ Controlled Heat & mass transfer
  - ✓ Chemical mechanism & kinetic properties extraction
- **Cone calorimeter scale** ( $\sim 10\text{ cm}$ )
  - ✓ Add of heat & mass transfer model
  - ✓ Thermal properties extraction
- **LIFT & radiant panel scale** ( $\sim 1\text{ m}$ )
  - ✓ Propagation of the pyrolysis front
  - ✓ Thermal properties extraction

## Flame spread : coupled problem

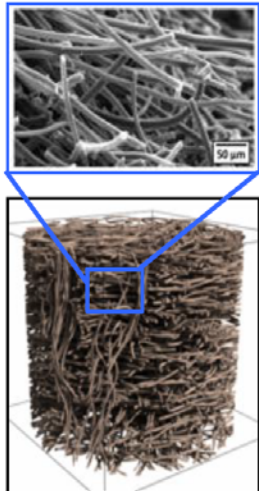
### Separate effect validation

## A flexible toolbox for Multiphase Porous Reactive Materials

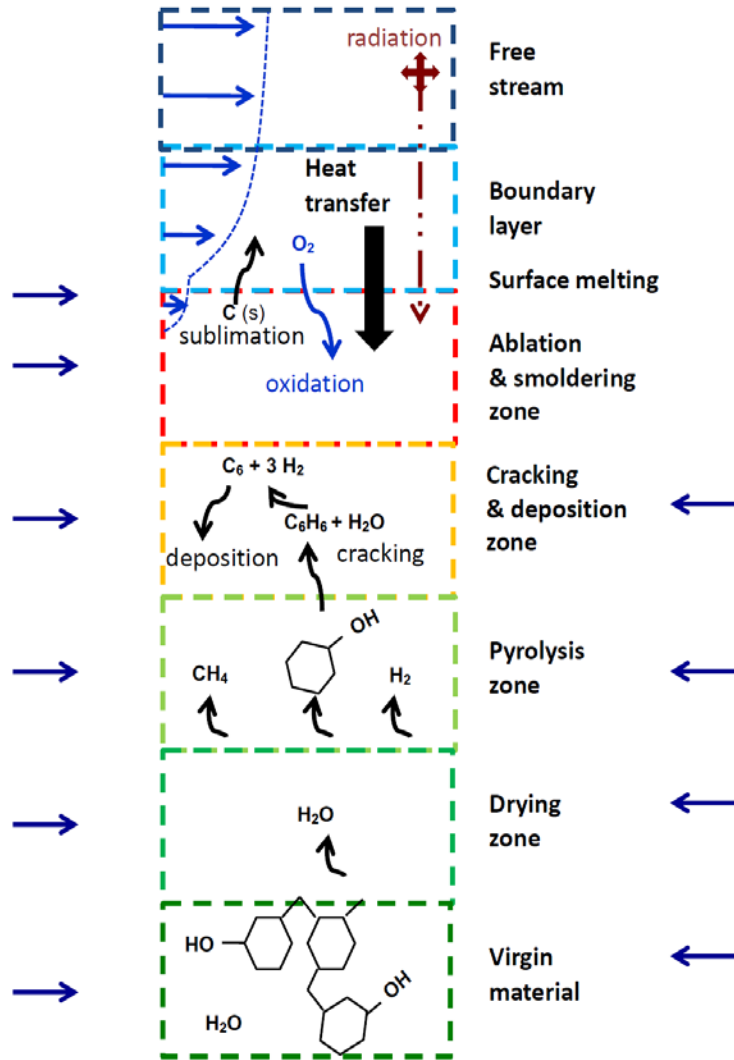


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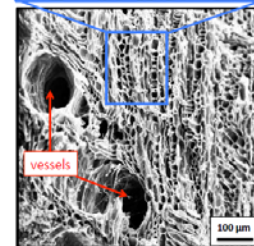
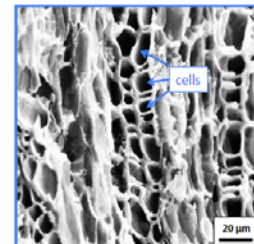
## A pragmatic generic model for porous reactive materials



Carbon fiber preform  
(NASA/UC Berkeley)



Biomass pyrolysis



Charred wood  
(University of New Caledonia)

Lachaud & al <sup>5</sup>

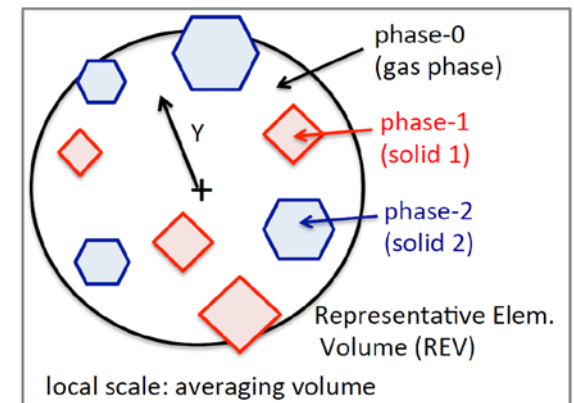
## Hypotheses

- Multi-phase reactive material ( $N_p$  solid phase)
- Multi-species reactive gas mixture ( $N_g$  gaseous species)
- Local thermal equilibrium : all the phases are locally at the same temperature
- Each solid phase can pyrolyze, vaporize, sublimate, and release species in the gas phase
- Each solid phase can react with the gas phase (e.g oxidation of a carbon phase)
- Gas phase chemistry can be in equilibrium, follow a finite rate mechanism, or be frozen

**Averaged effective properties, e.g density :**

$$\rho = \epsilon_g \rho_g + \sum_{i \in [1, N_p]} \epsilon_i \rho_i = \sum_{i \in [0, N_p]} \epsilon_i \rho_i$$

volume fraction
intrinsic density



Lachaud & al

## Thermogravimetric analysis TGA



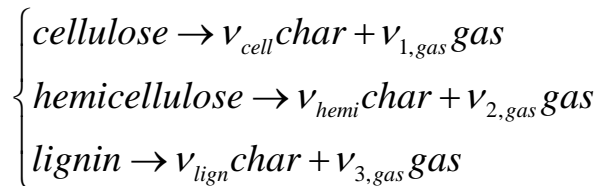
### Experimental conditions

- Sample weight ( $\sim 10\text{mg}$ )
- Non isothermal tests ( $\beta \in [5, 50]^\circ\text{C} / \text{min}$ )
- Atmosphere ( $O_2 \in [0, 21]\% \text{vol}$ )

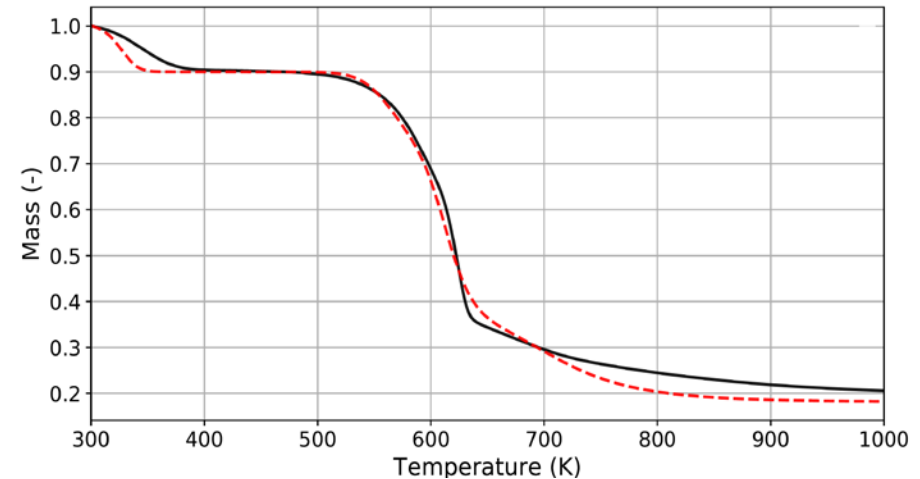
## Mesure mass of sample as a function of temperature

### Properties extraction : PATO / DAKOTA

JEGA library  
(SOGA, MOGA)

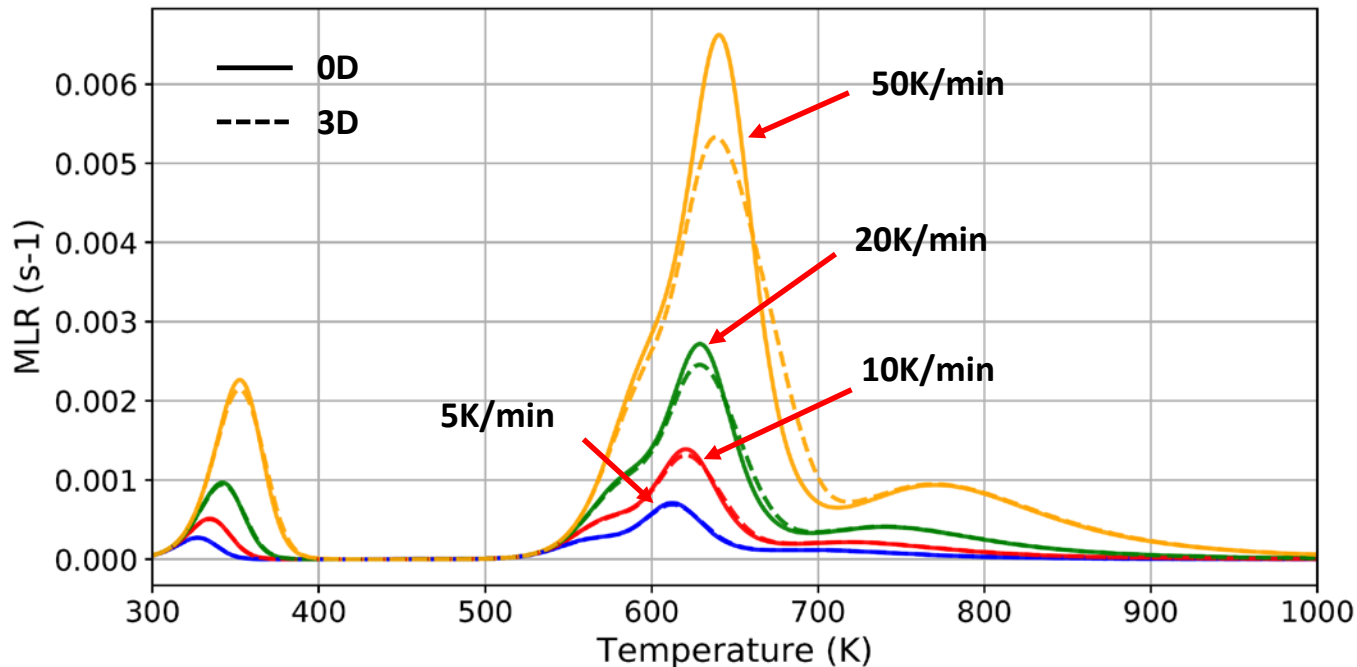
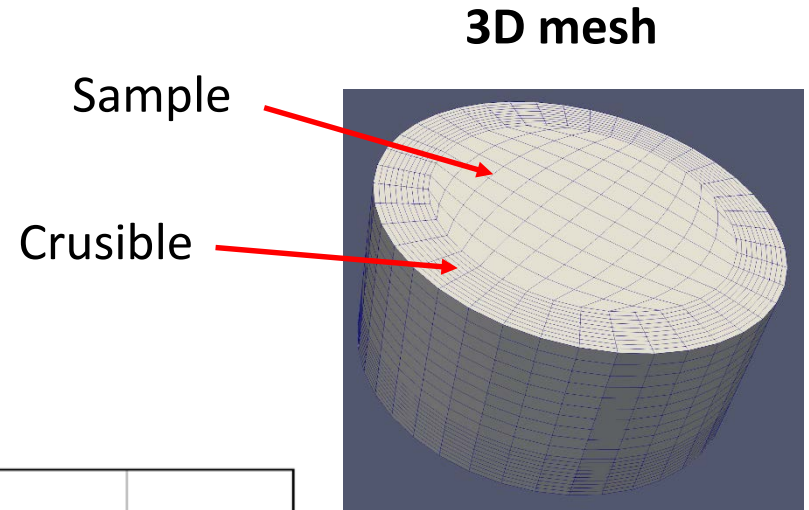


### Douglas Fir



## 0D Arrhenius model

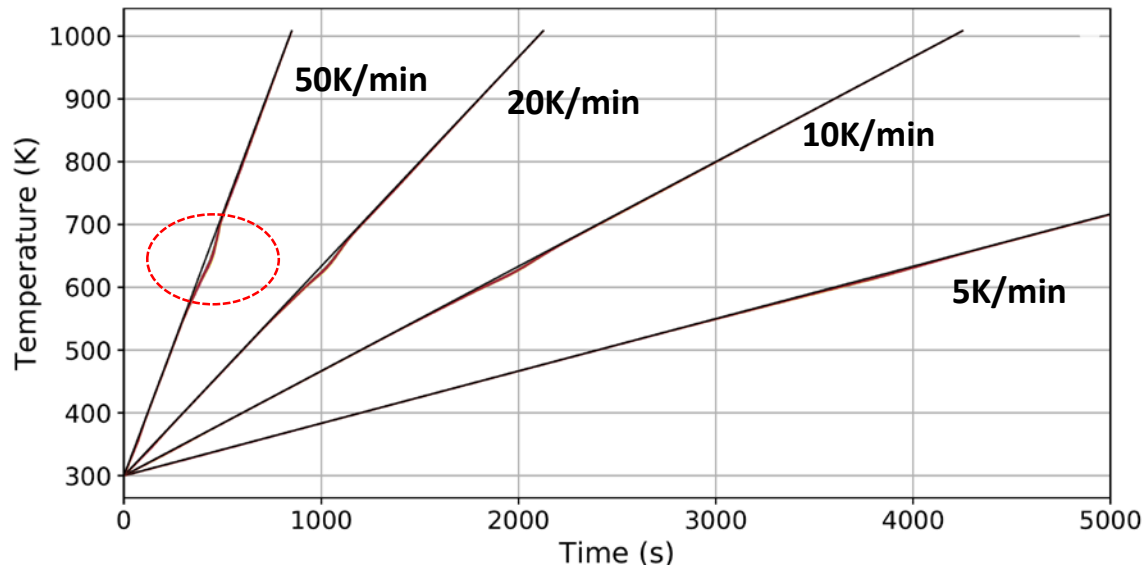
$$\begin{cases} \text{virgin} \rightarrow v_c \text{ char} + v_g \text{ gas} \\ \frac{d\alpha_i}{dt} = A \exp\left(-\frac{E_a}{RT}\right) (1-\alpha_i)^n \\ T = T_0 + \beta t \end{cases}$$





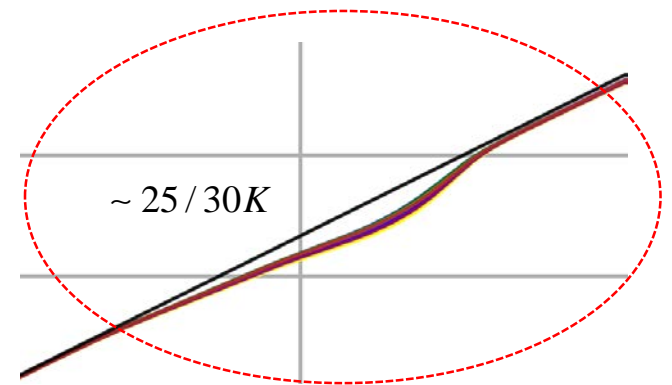
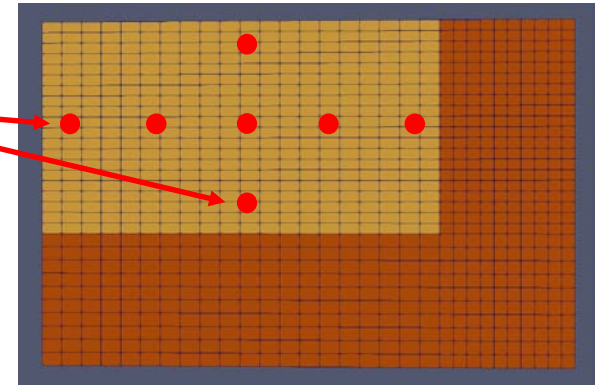
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Temperatures

3D mesh

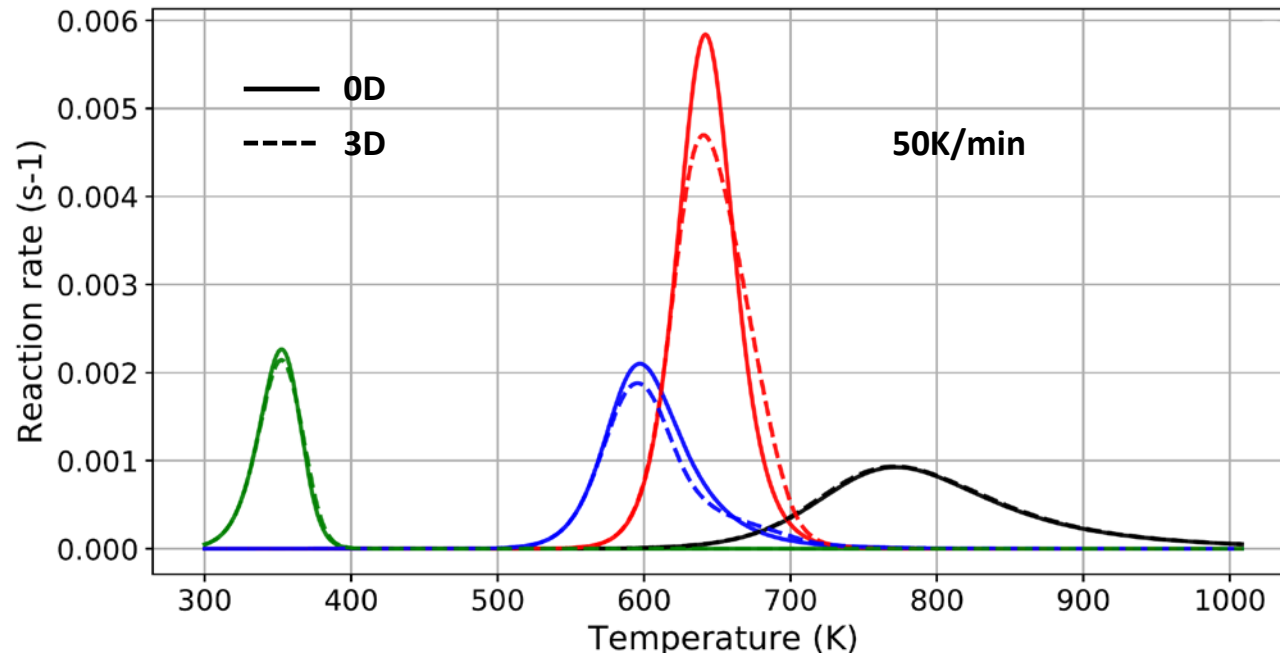
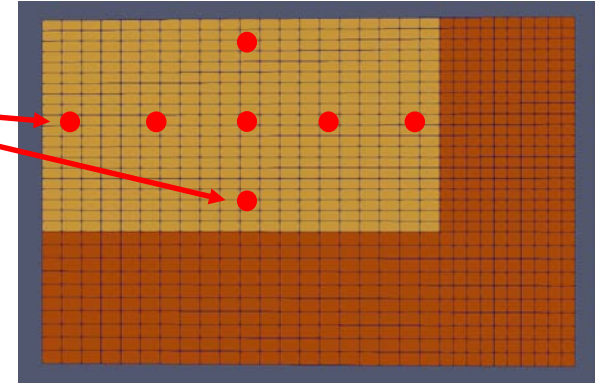


## 0D Arrhenius model

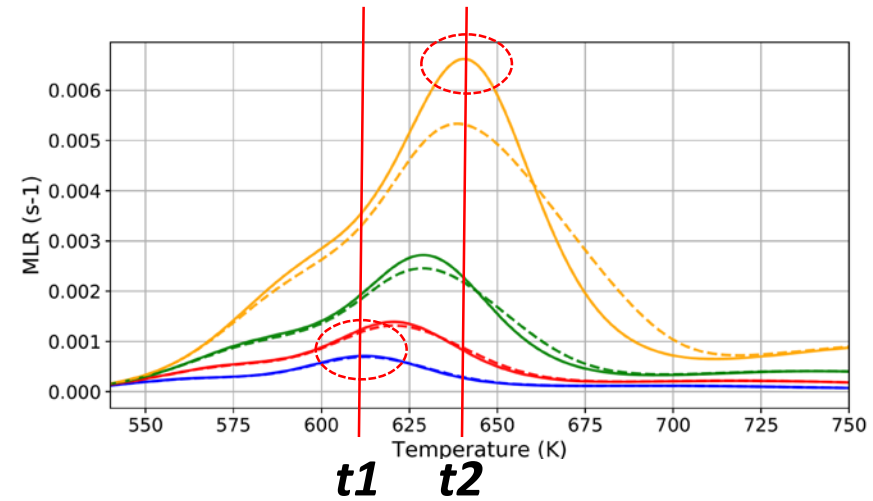
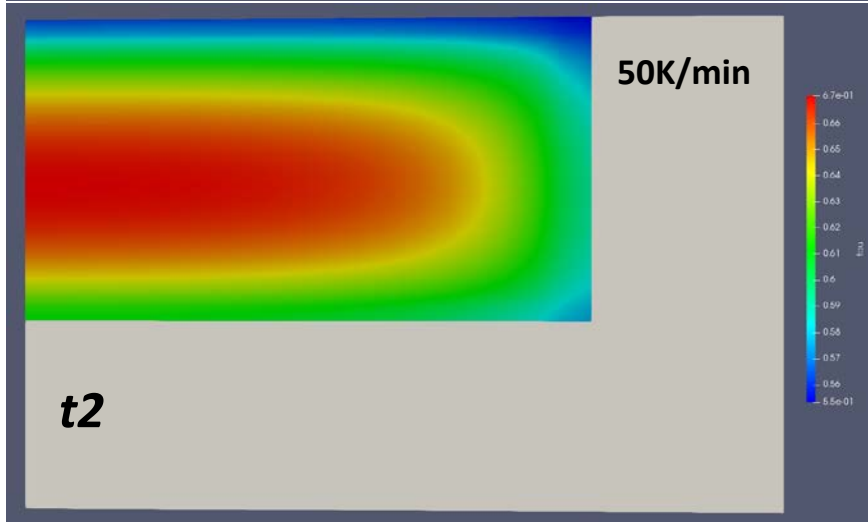
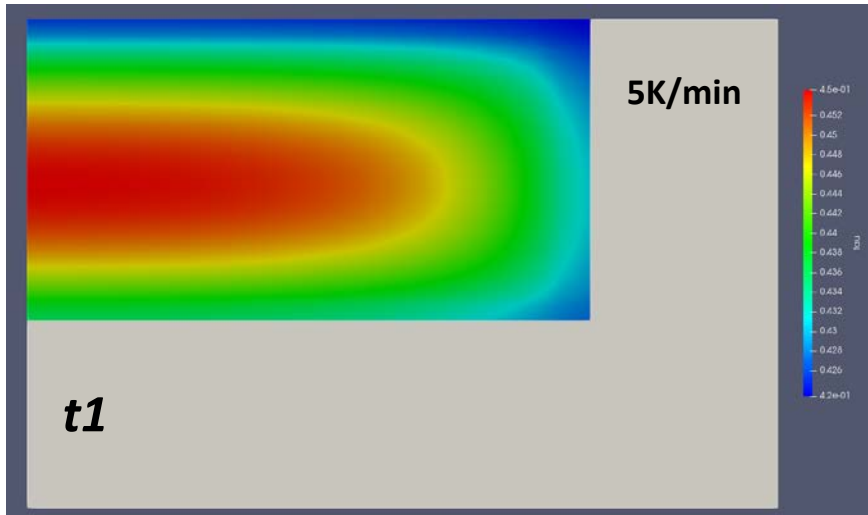
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Temperatures

3D mesh



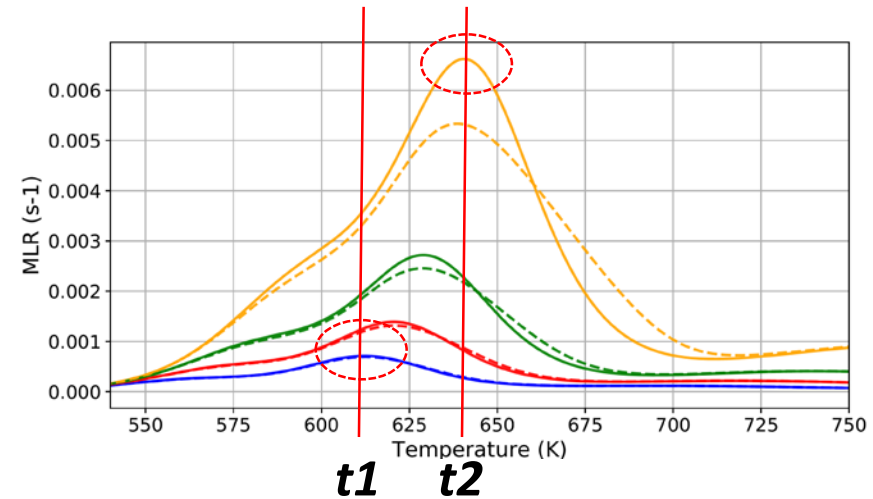
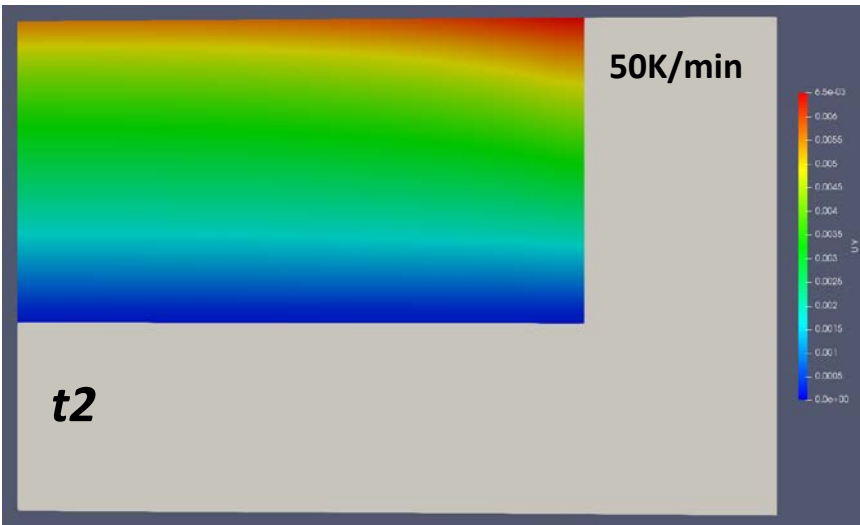
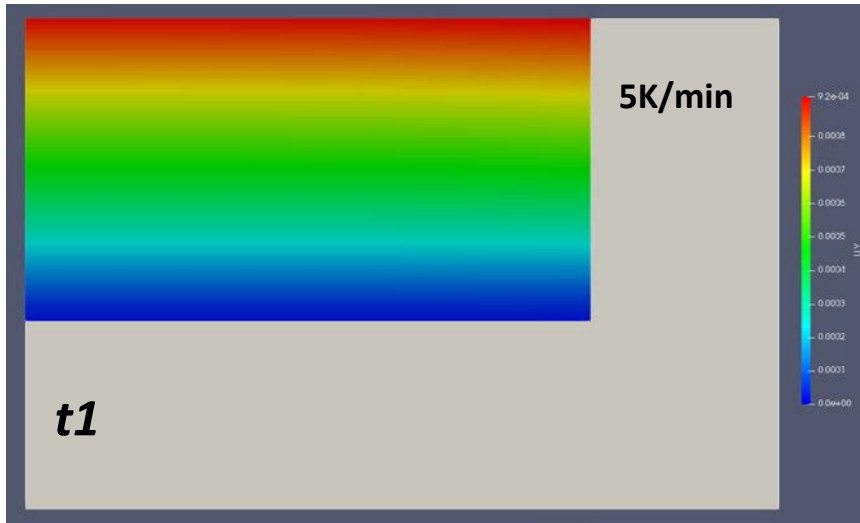
## Total reaction rate



## Spatial gradient :

- ~ 3% à 5K/min
- ~ 12% à 50K/min

## Axial velocity

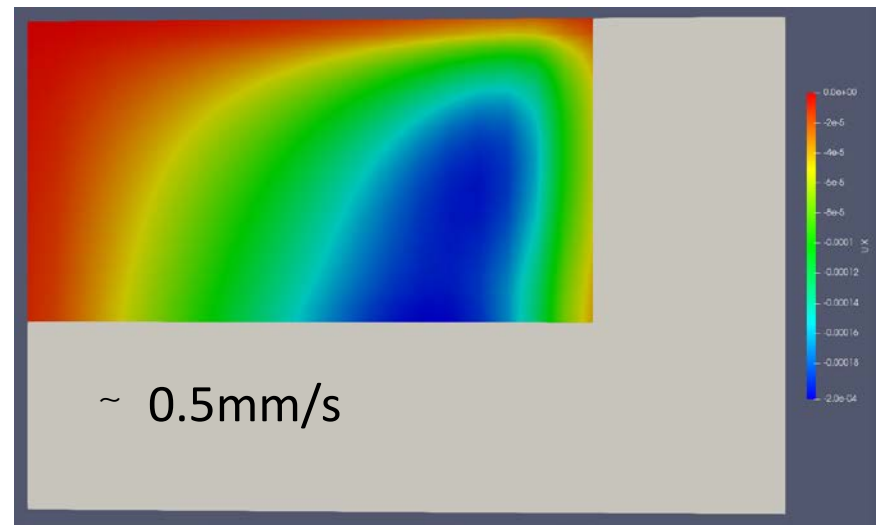
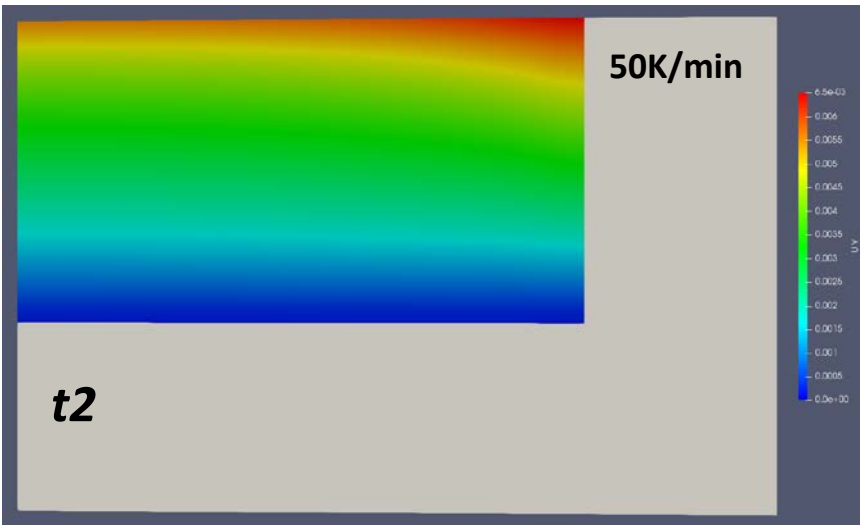
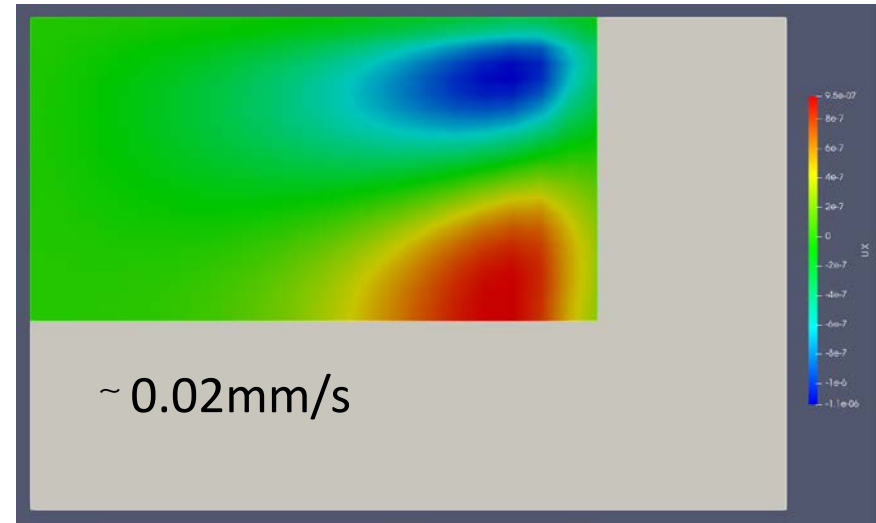
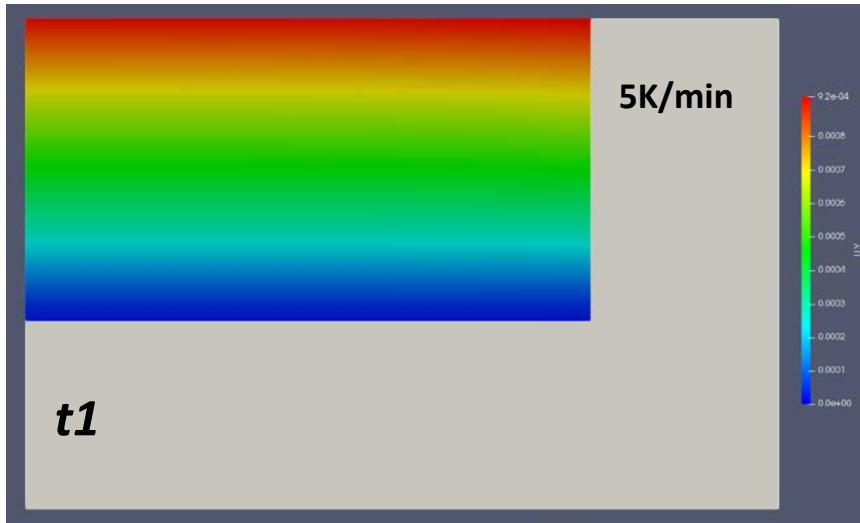


## Spatial gradient :

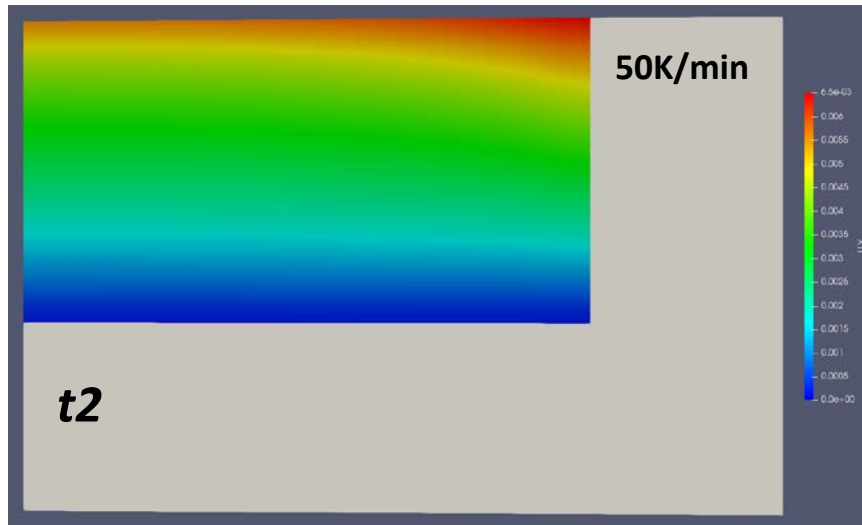
- ~ 1mm/s à 5K/min
- ~ 7mm/s à 50K/min

## Axial velocity

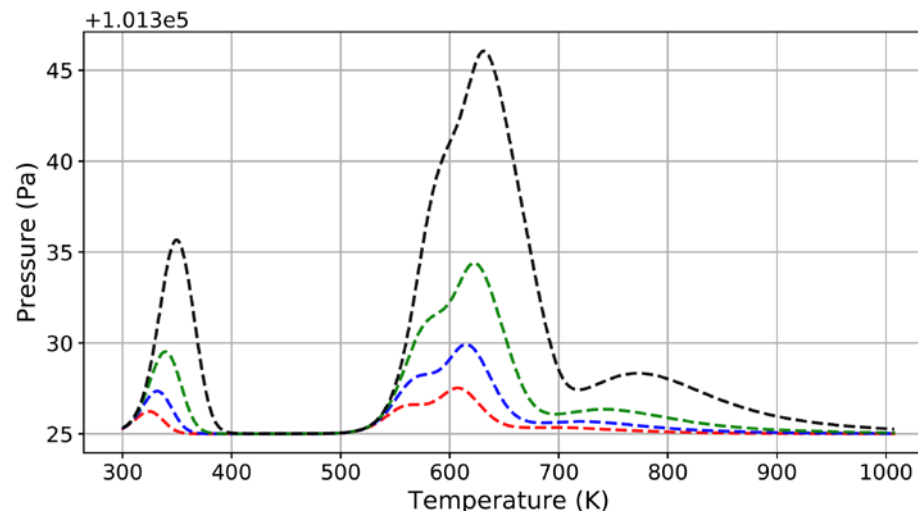
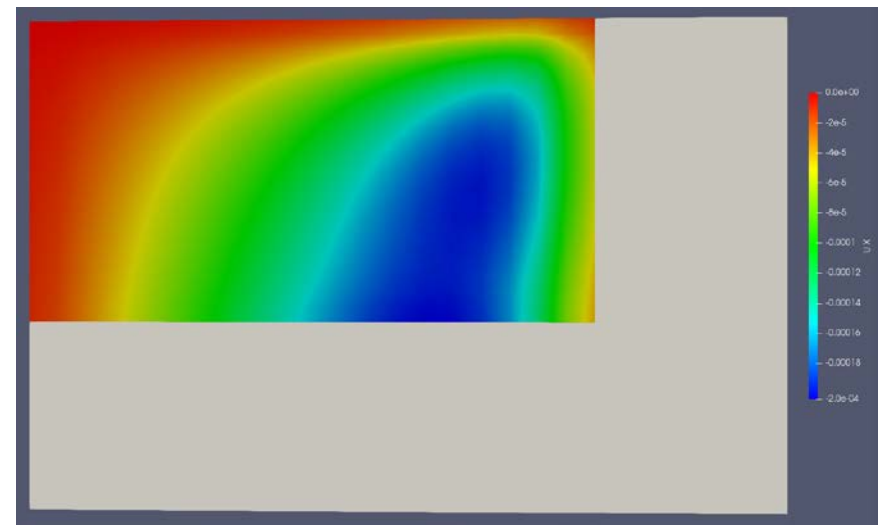
## Radial velocity



## Axial velocity



## Radial velocity

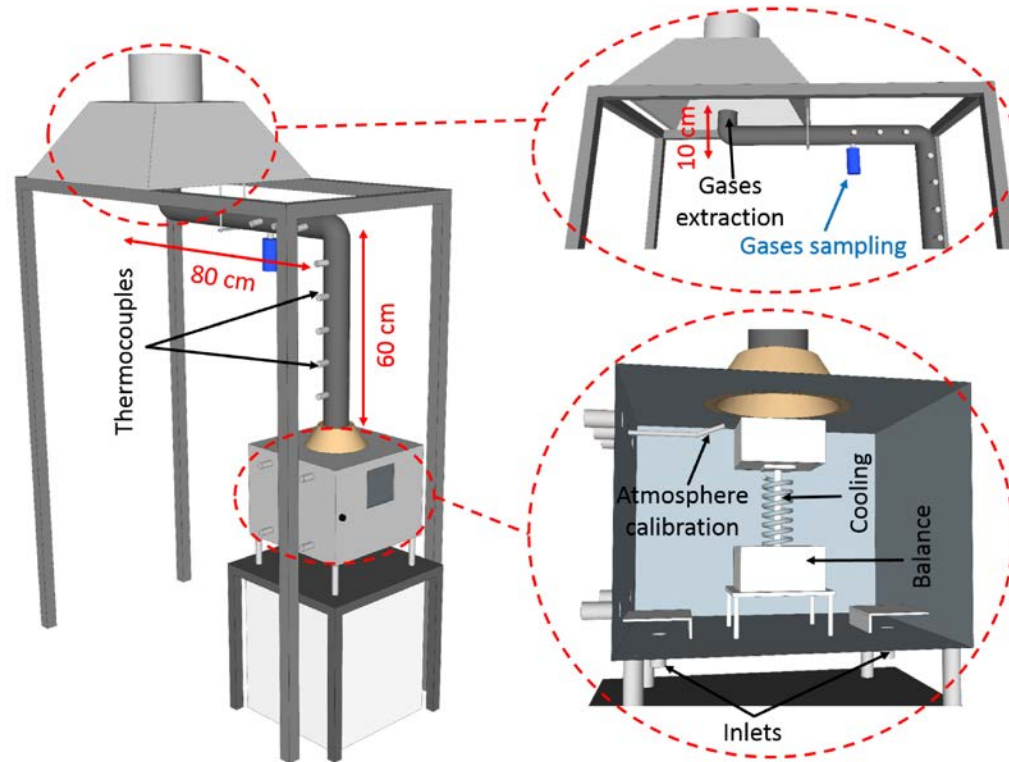


## Cone calorimeter analysis



## Experimental conditions

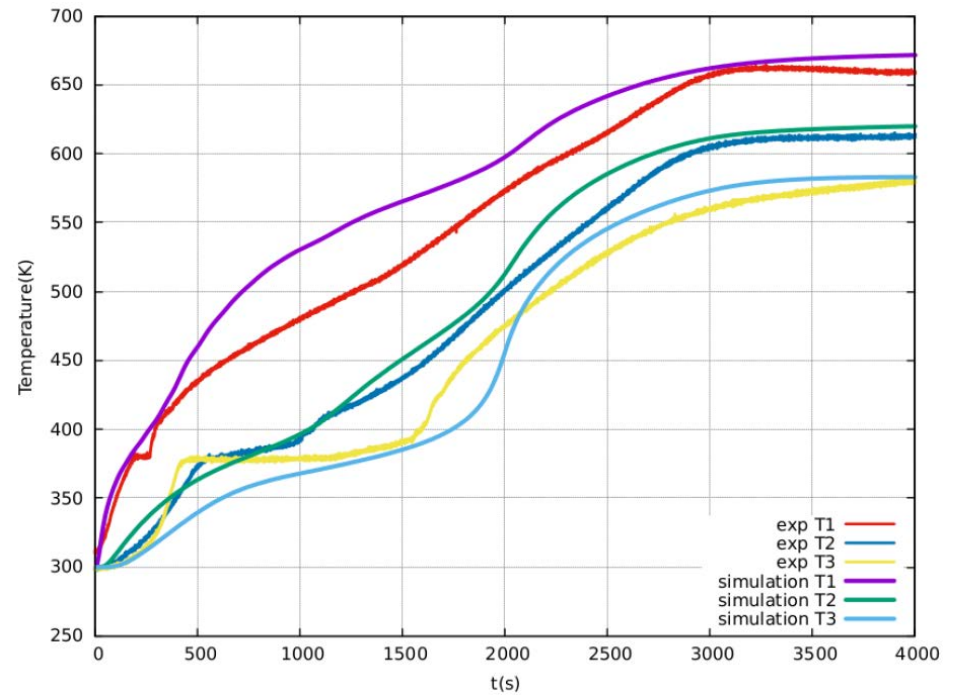
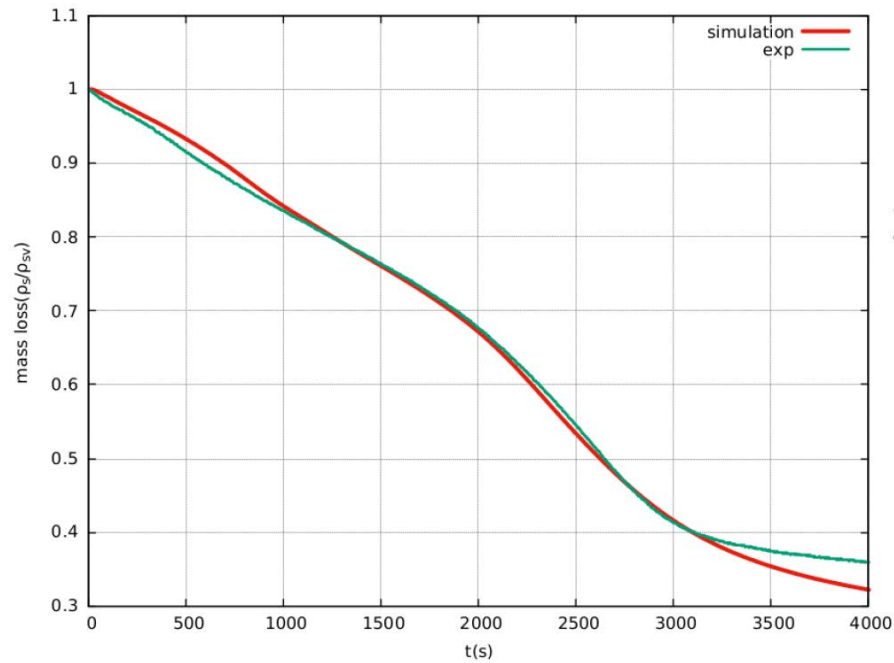
- Heat fluxes ( $Q \in [0, 50] \text{ kW/m}^2$ )
- Atmospheres ( $O_2 \in [1, 21] \% \text{ vol}$ )
- Inlet flow rate ( $[120, 160] \text{ l/min}$ )



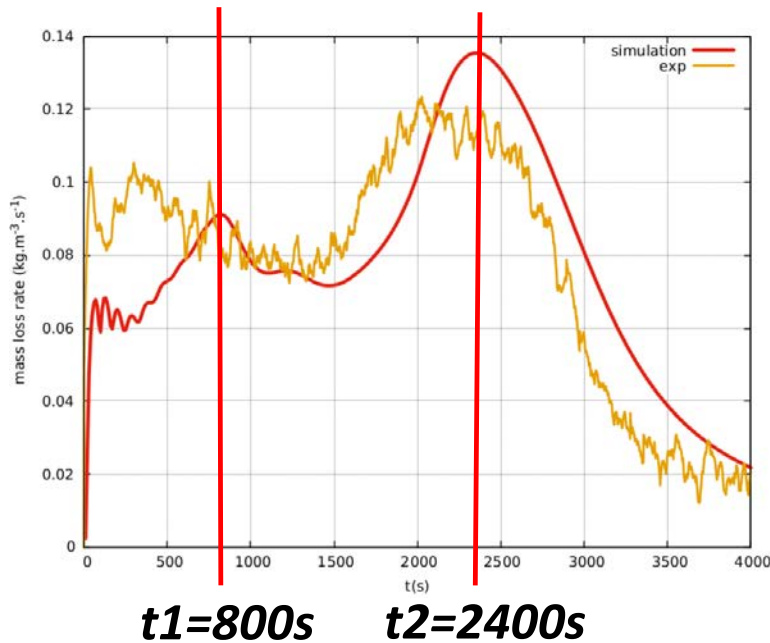


# Cone calorimeter scale

Conditions : N2, 20 kW/m<sup>2</sup>

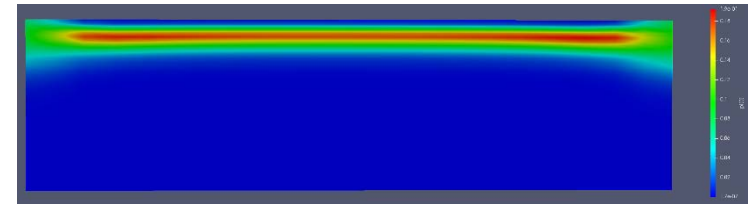




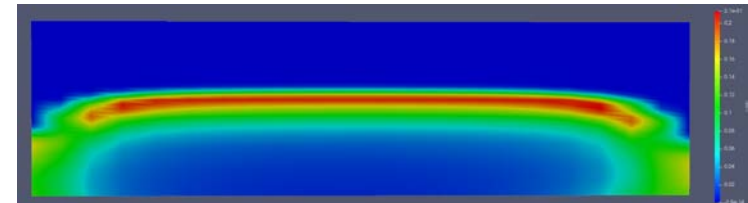


- Pyrolysis front evolves in 3D (space dependant)
- Pyrolysis front depends on boundary conditions
- Dynamic of pyrolysis front is unsteady

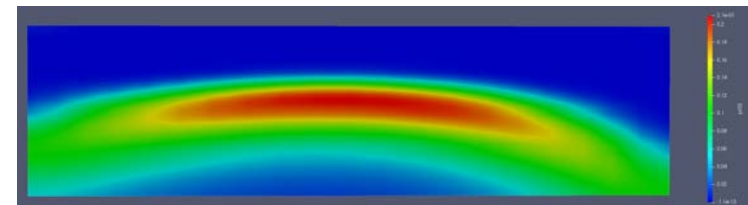
Pyrolysis front at  
t=800s



Water evaporation front at  
t=800s



Pyrolysis front at  
t=2400s



**Thank you**

