

# Biobased polymers as construction materials



**SOPREMA**  
**GROUP**

Antoine DUVAL

# BACKGROUND – ANTOINE DUVAL

2010 – Ingénieur Science et Génie des Matériaux



2013 – Doctorat – Université Grenoble Alpes



2014 - 2015 – Post-doctorat (1 an) – KTH (Stockholm, Suède)



2015 - 2017 – Post-doctorat (2 ans) – ICPEES (Strasbourg)



2017 - 2018 – Directeur R&D Eco-matériaux (18 mois) – Neolife (Limonest)



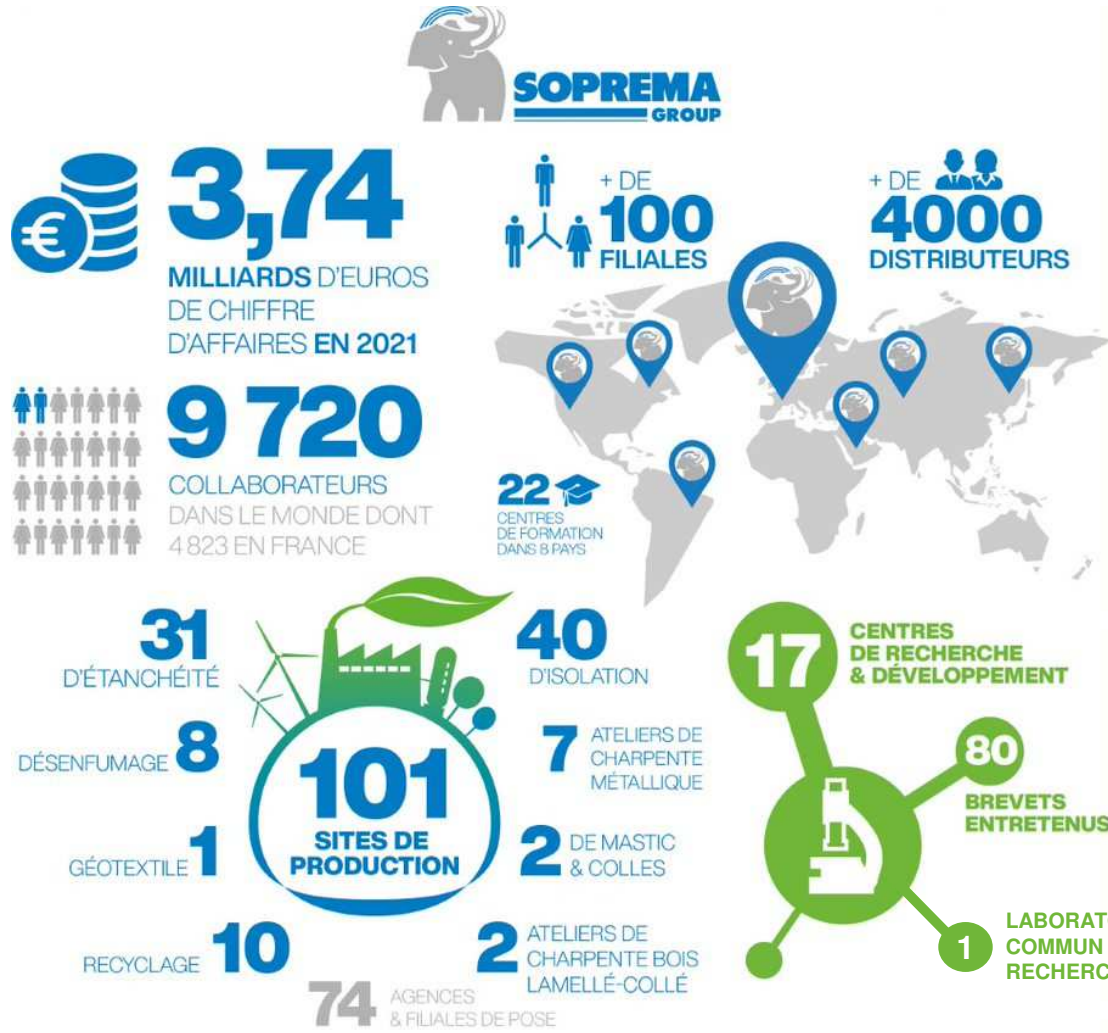
2019 - 2021 – Ingénieur de recherche – ICPEES (Strasbourg)



Depuis 2021 – Responsable R&D Chimie Verte – Soprema (Strasbourg)



# SOPREMA GROUP – WORLDWIDE PRESENCE



1908



1909



1941

SOCIÉTÉ DES PRODUITS ET REVÊTEMENTS D'ÉTANCHÉITÉ MAMMOUTH



# JOINT RESEARCH LABORATORY MUTAXIO

Mutation axée sur des matériaux biosourcés pour un bâtiment durable



BioTeam led by Pr. Luc Avérous

*Biobased and Sustainable Polymers for  
Environmental & Biomedical Applications*

Collaborative projects



# POLYMERS IN BUILDING APPLICATIONS

# SOPREMA GROUP – APPLICATIONS

## WATERPROOFING

Bituminous membranes



Synthetic membranes



Liquid systems



Green roofs



Photovoltaic



Cool roof



## THERMAL INSULATION

Polyurethane foams



Wood fiber panels



Polystyrene (XPS)



Cellulose wadding



# R&D AT SOPREMA

## Objectives of R&D

- Improve the **properties** of products and systems
- Facilitate the **work** of the operators, installers, customers...
- Reduce the **carbon footprint** of the products

Recycled raw materials

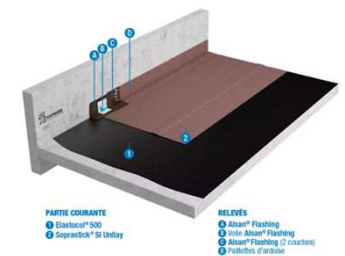
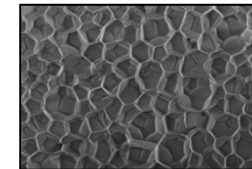
up to 10 times less CO<sub>2</sub> eq than oil-based raw materials

Biobased raw materials

up to negative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

- Manage **end-of-life** of products

**Le Labo**  
the inventive factory

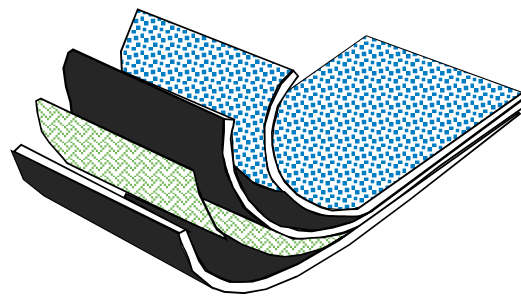





01

**TOWARDS BIOBASED  
WATERPROOFING  
MEMBRANES**



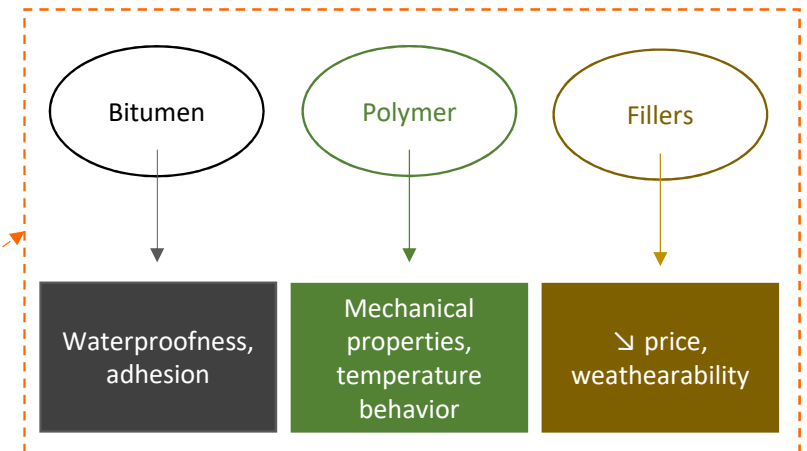
# BITUMINOUS WATERPROOFING MEMBRANES



-  Frame
-  Top layer (finish, UV protection...)
-  Bituminous binder

## Bituminous binders specifications

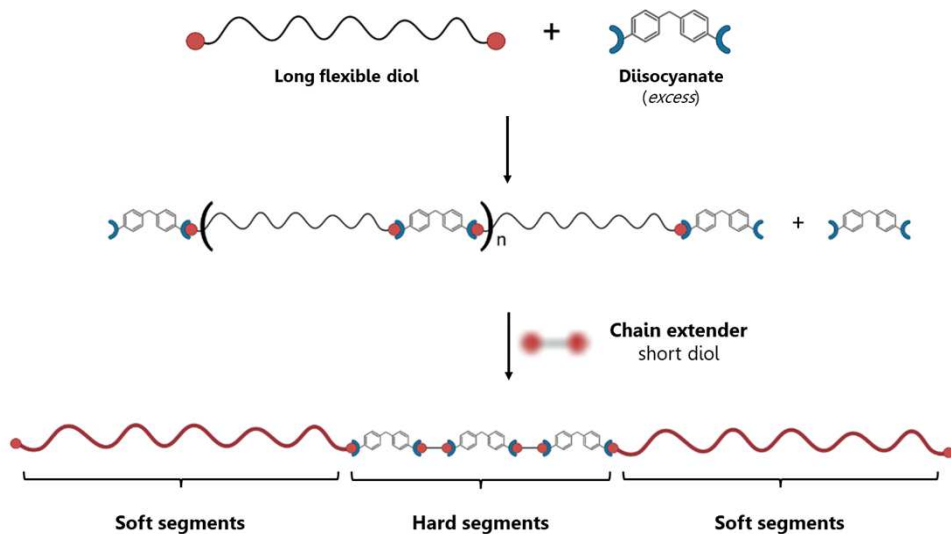
- Waterproofness, hydrophobicity
- Strong adhesion to various supports
- Softening point > 120 °C (bitumen: fluid at 100 °C)
- Thermal stability higher than 230 °C
- Mechanical properties ( $\sigma = 0.4 - 0.8 \text{ MPa}$ ,  $\epsilon = 1000 \%$ )
- Flexibility at - 25 °C



# BIOBASED WATERPROOFING MEMBRANES

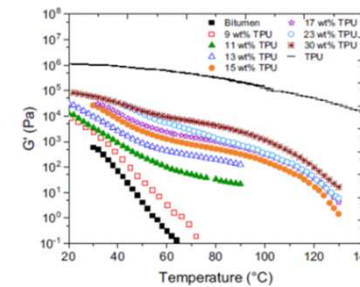
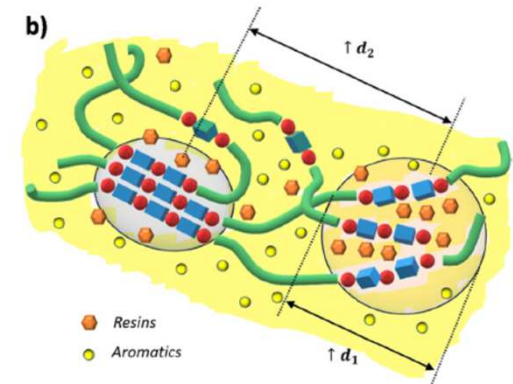
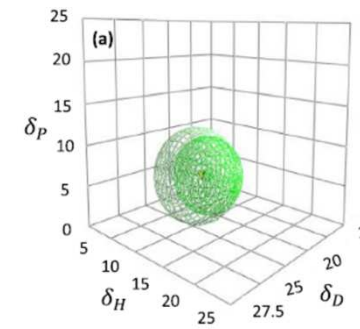
## Replacement of petro-based polymer by biobased polymer

### Biobased thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU) synthesis



Design of experiment approach: nature of polyol and chain extender, HS content...  
Validation of polymer properties (thermal, mechanical...)

### Study of polymer – bitumen compatibility



Commercial product



R. Gallu, F. Méchin, F. Dalmas, J.-F. Gérard, R. Perrin and F. Loup, *Polymer*, 2020, **207**, 122882.

R. Gallu, F. Méchin, F. Dalmas, J.-F. Gérard, R. Perrin and F. Loup, *Construction and Building Materials*, 2020, **259**, 120404.

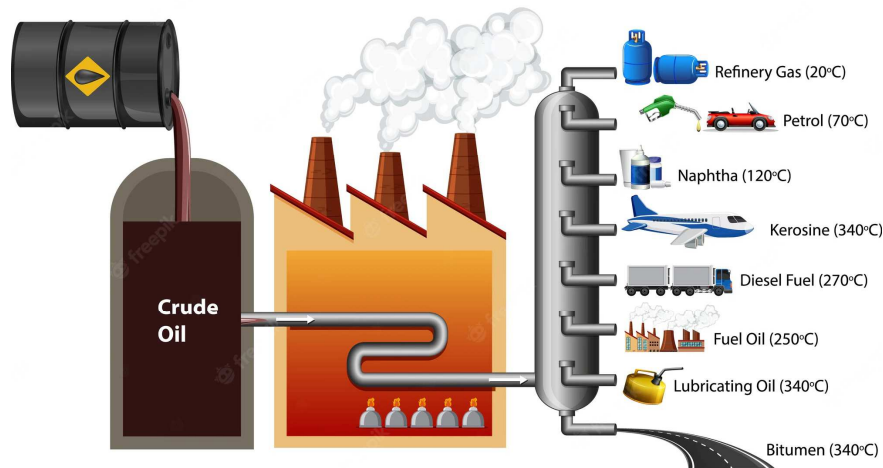
R. Gallu, F. Méchin, F. Dalmas, J.-F. Gérard, R. Perrin and F. Loup, *Construction and Building Materials*, 2021, **289**, 123151.



# BIOBASED WATERPROOFING MEMBRANES

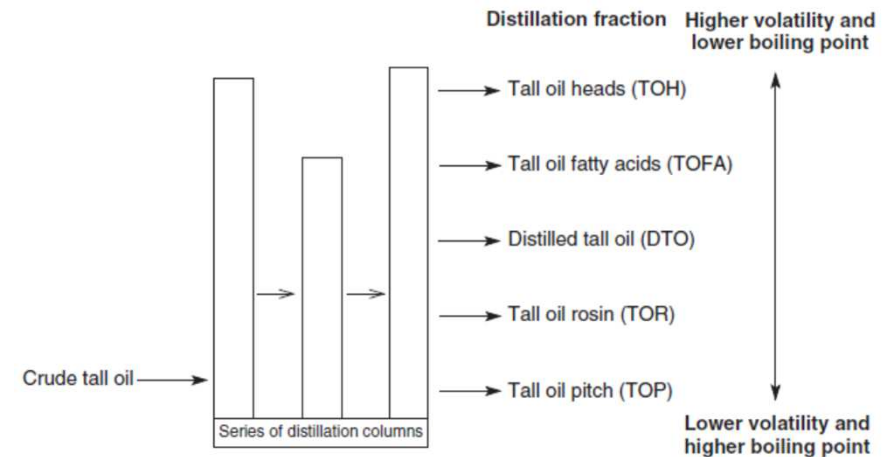
## Biobased alternative to bitumen

### Crude Oil Distillation Process



Bitumen = heaviest fraction of crude oil distillation  
Used in asphalt pavement and roofing

### Crude Tall Oil Distillation Process



Tall oil pitch = heaviest fraction of tall oil distillation  
Potential biobased alternative to bitumen

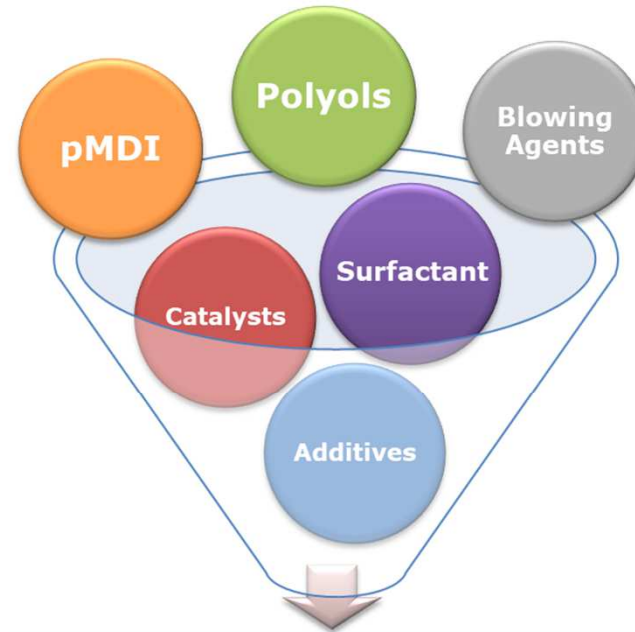
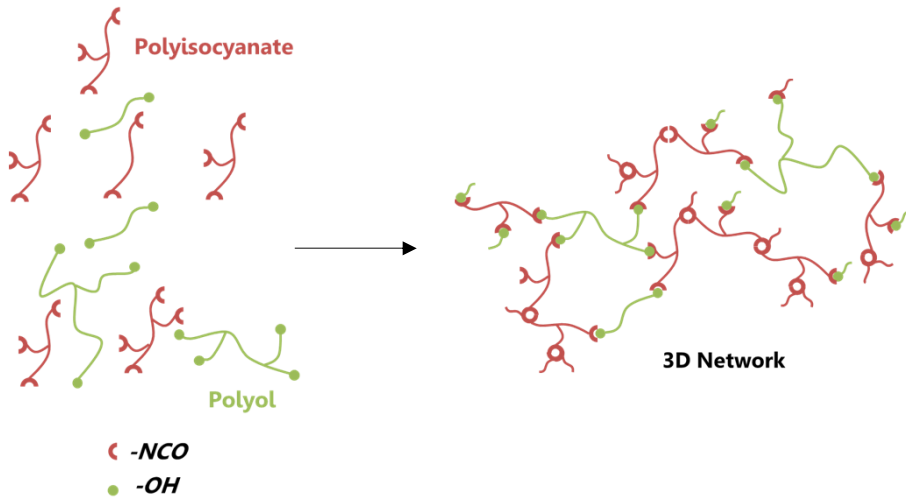
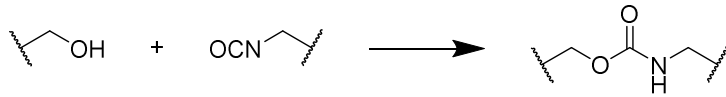
**Tall Oil** = by-product of Kraft paper pulp, derivative of pine resins and extractives (fatty acids, resinic acids, sterols, etc)

02

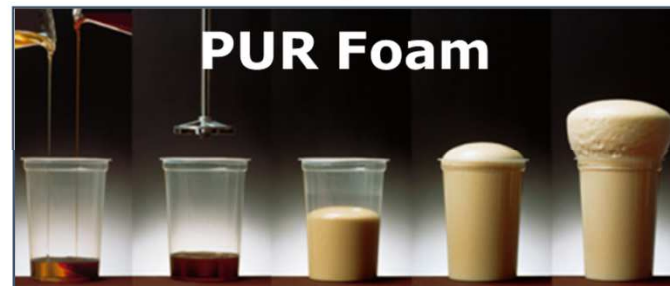
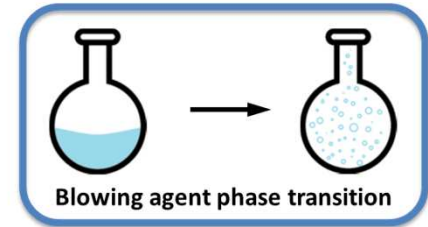
TOWARDS BIOBASED  
INSULATION MATERIALS

# POLYURETHANE INSULATION FOAMS

## Polyurethane chemistry



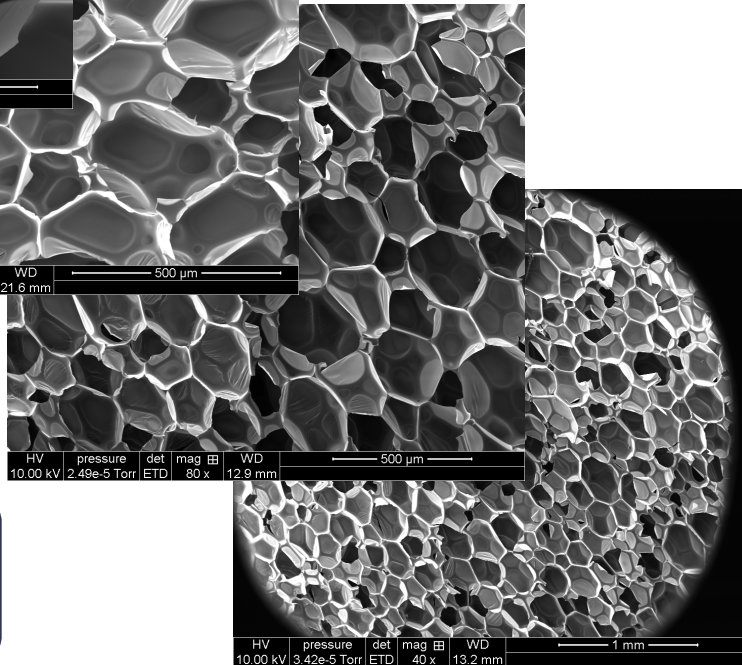
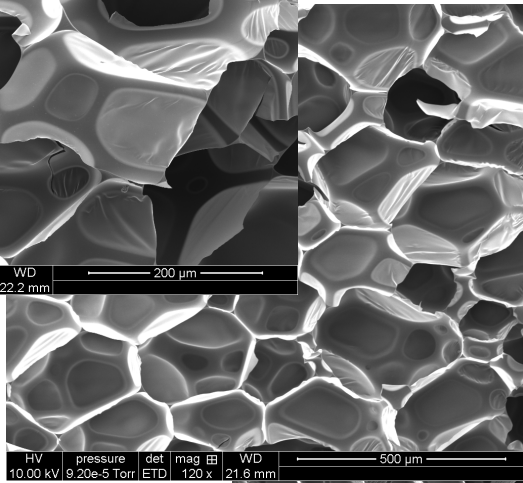
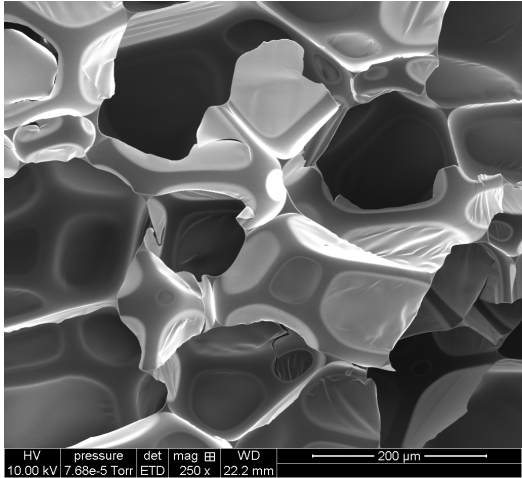
**Complex Process**  
Starts in 5 sec  
Ends after 2 min



# POLYURETHANE INSULATION FOAMS

Thermoset cellular polymer with closed pores

Thermal conductivity  
 $\lambda = 20 - 27 \text{ mW m}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$



Density:  $28 - 40 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$   
Solid matter: 2 – 5 %vol

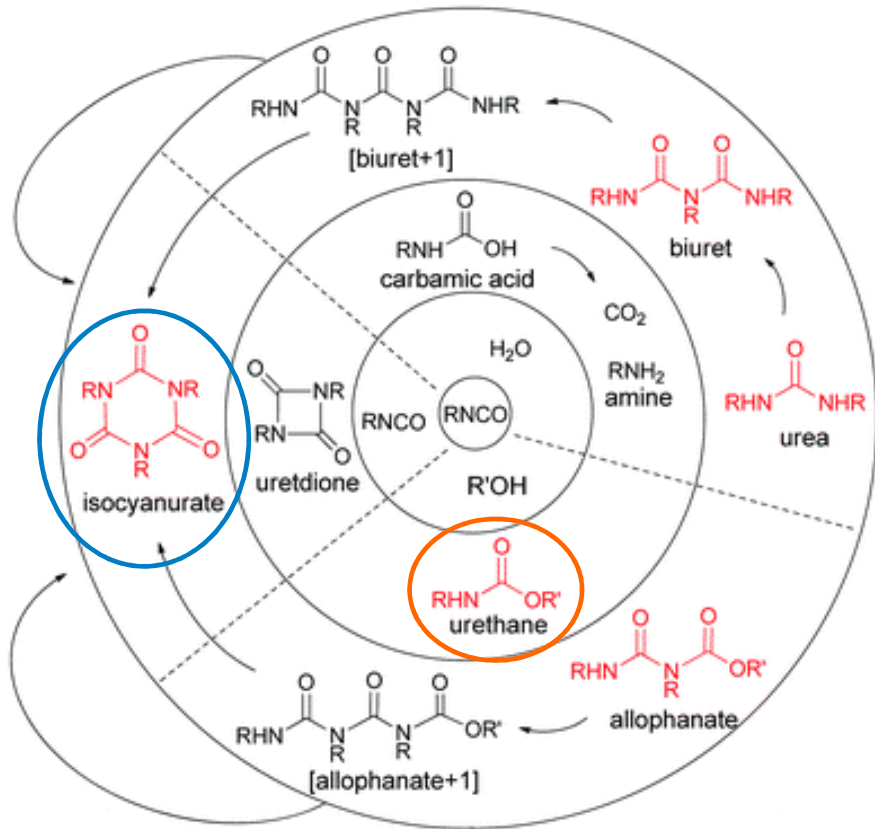


> 90% Closed Cells  
Size: 100 – 300 μm  
Aspect Ratio: 1.3 – 1.9

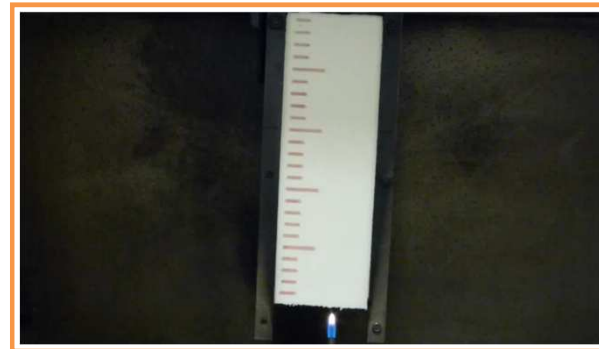


# PUR AND PIR FOAMS

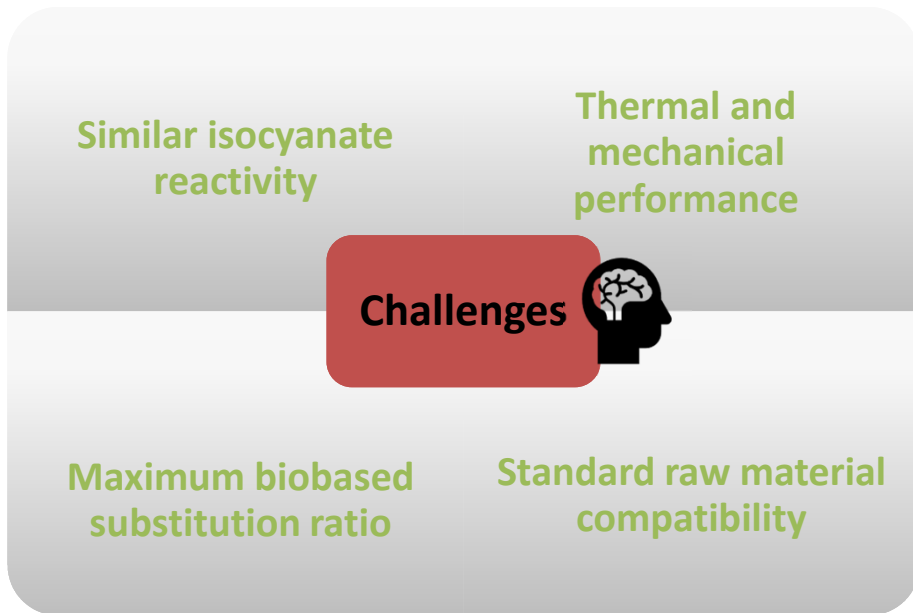
## Isocyanate chemistry



Foam type	PUR	PIR
Main linkage type	urethane	isocyanurate
NCO/OH ratio	≈ 1.1	≈ 3
Polyol type	polyether	polyester



# BIODEBASED POLYOLS FOR POLYURETHANE FOAMS



## Various biobased feedstocks



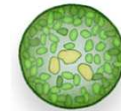
Sugar derivatives



Lignin



Vegetable oils

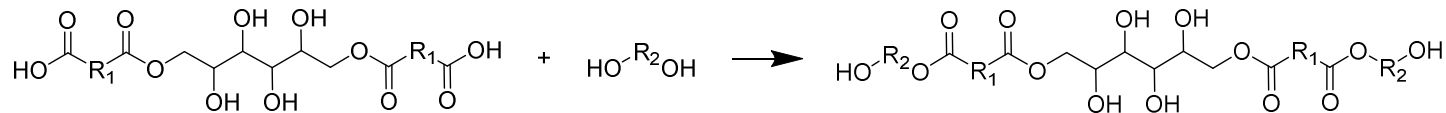
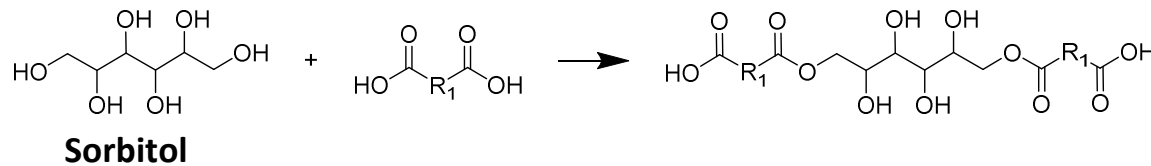


Micro-algae



## Synthesis of sorbitol-based polyol

### Successive esterifications



### Advantages:

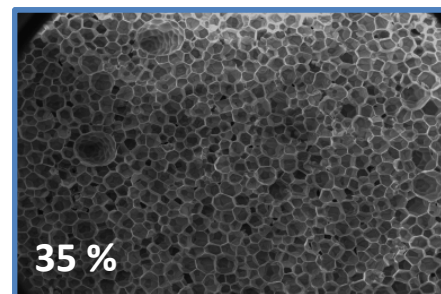
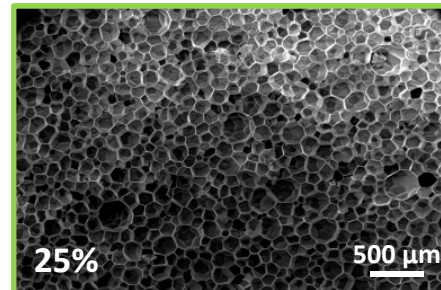
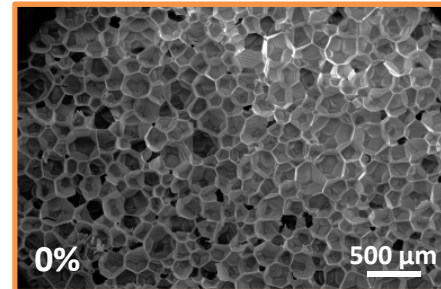
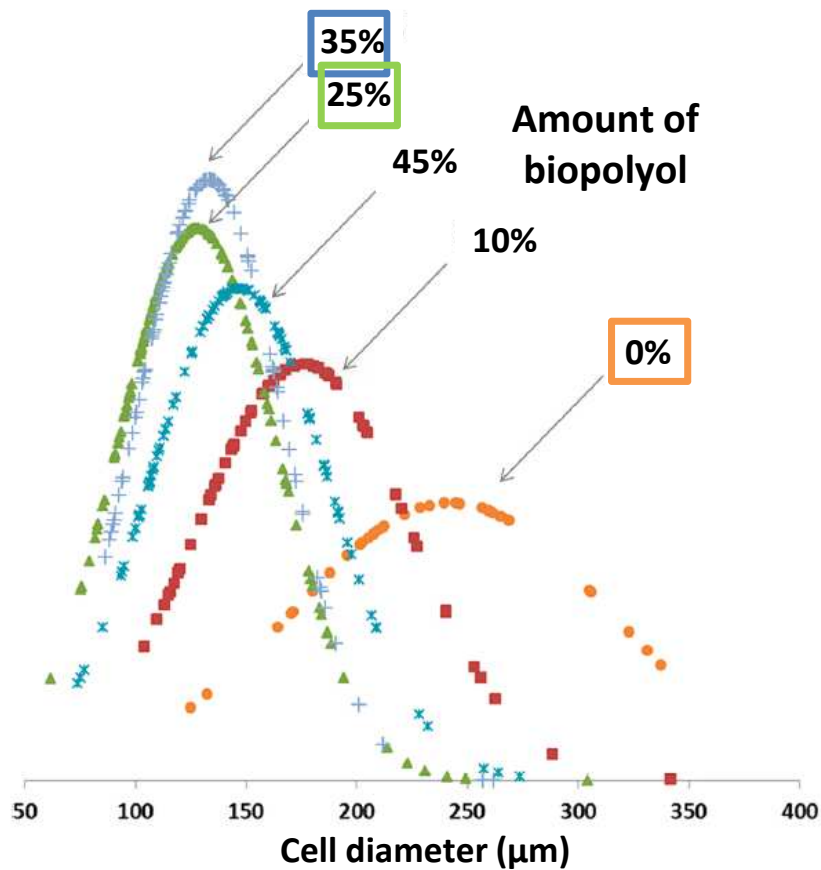
- ✓ Simple 2-step process
- ✓ Bulk synthesis
- ✓ Water as by-product
- ✓ Bio-based



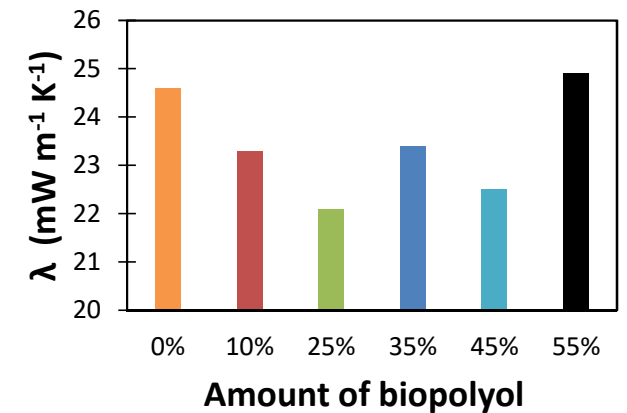
### Polyol properties

OH-value	mg KOH g <sup>-1</sup>	570
Acid value	mg KOH g <sup>-1</sup>	1.9
Viscosity @ 25°C	mPa.s	14 000
Functionality		≈ 4

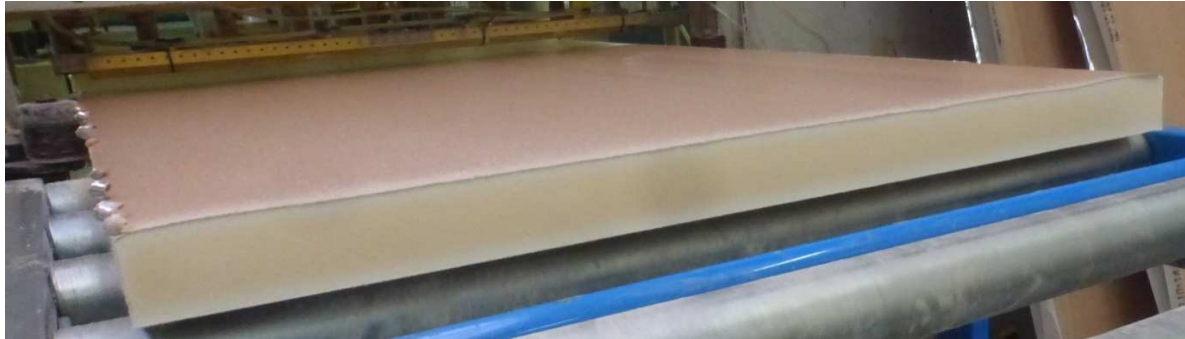
## PIR foams from sobitol-based polyols



### Thermal conductivity



## Scale-up of sorbitol-based polyol production



Polyol produced at ton scale

Industrial tests on Soprema production lines  
(Saint-Julien-du-Sault, 89)



P. Furtwengler, R. Perrin, A. Redl and L. Avérous, *European Polymer Journal*, 2017, **97**, 319–327.

P. Furtwengler, R. M. Boumbimba and L. Avérous, *Macromolecular Materials and Engineering*, 2018, **303**, 1700501.

P. Furtwengler, R. Matadi Boumbimba, A. Sarbu and L. Avérous, *ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng.*, 2018, **6**, 6577–6589.



PCT/IB2017/055107

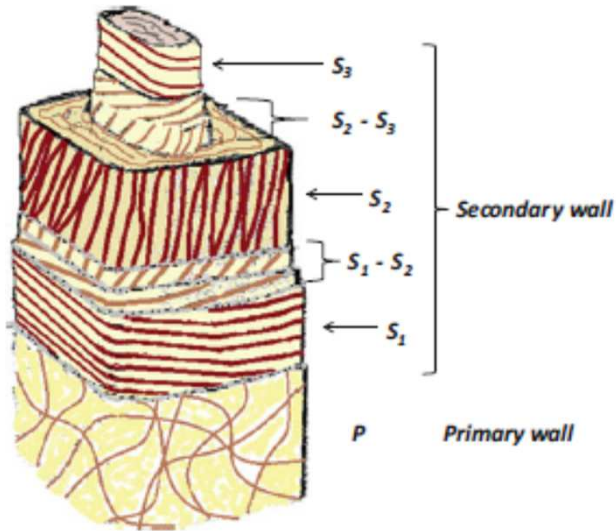
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FR 17/00351

FR 18/00072

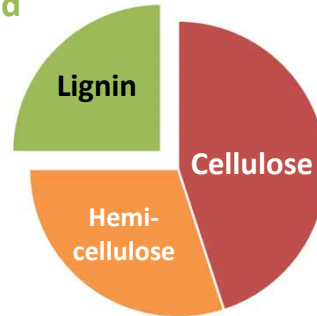
# BIOBASED POLYOLS FROM LIGNIN



Salmen, in *Plant Biomechanics* (2018)

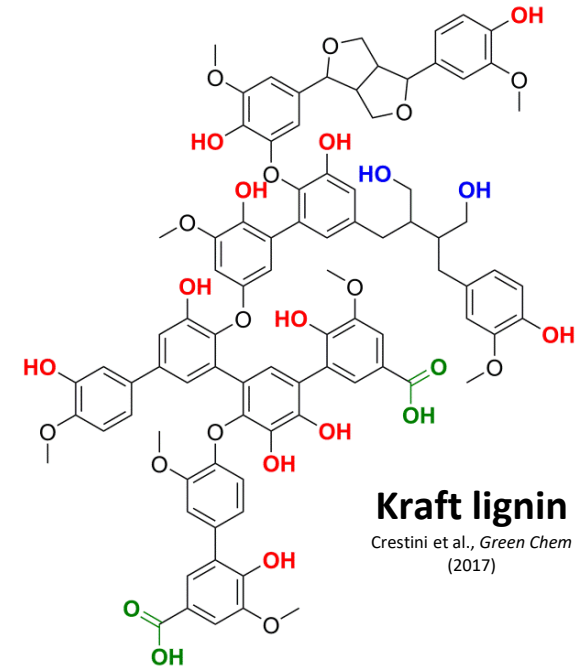
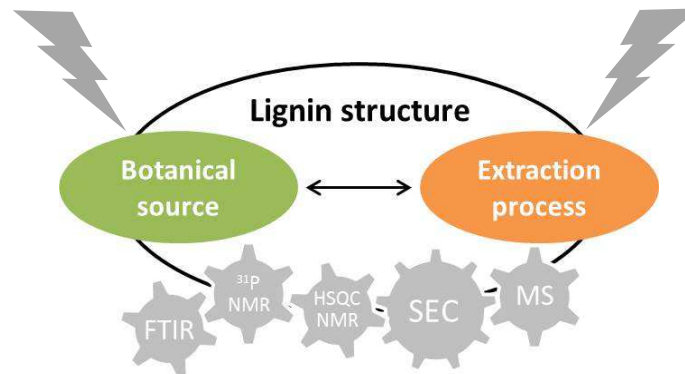
Vegetal cell wall = matrix of lignin and hemicellulose reinforced by cellulose microfibrils

≈ 20-30 %wt  
in wood



1<sup>st</sup> source  
of diversity

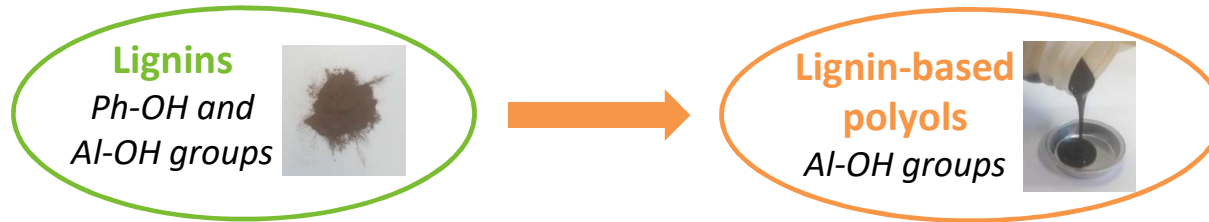
2<sup>nd</sup> source  
of diversity



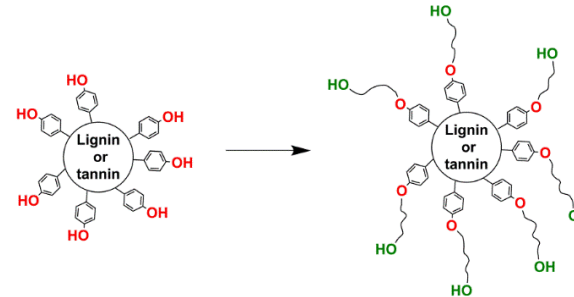
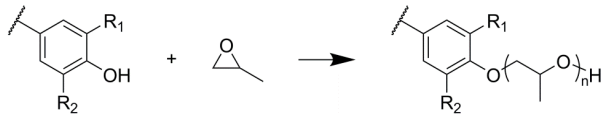
**Kraft lignin**  
Crestini et al., *Green Chem* (2017)

# BIOBASED POLYOLS FROM LIGNIN

## Synthesis of lignin-based polyols by oxypropylation



### Oxypropylation reaction

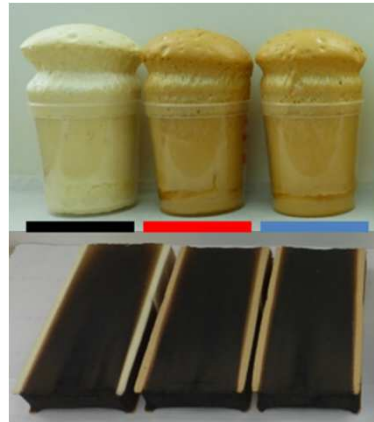
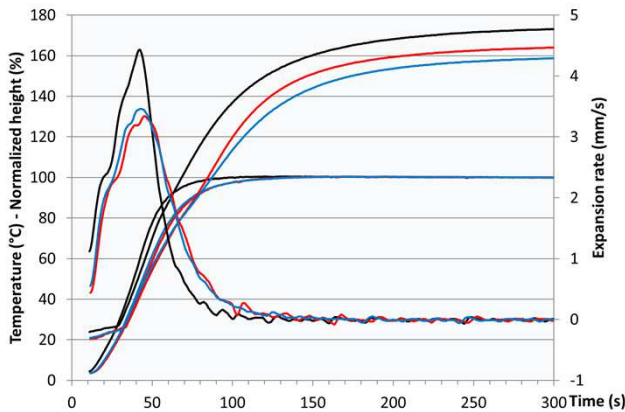


Characteristic	Unit	KLP	Polyester polyol	Polyether polyol
OH-value	mg KOH/g	200-300	180-250	500-600
Viscosity @ 25°C	mPa.s	700-3000	2000-5000	1000-3000
Functionality		?	2	3.3

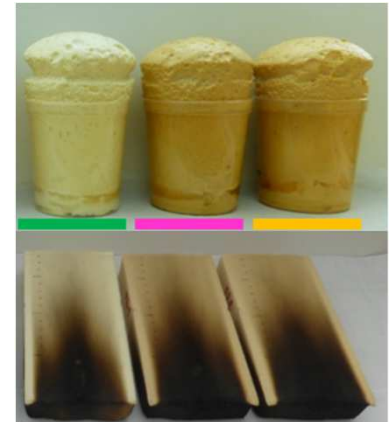
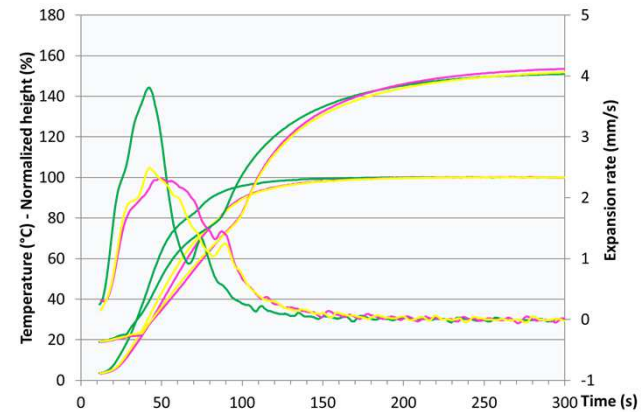
# BIOBASED POLYOLS FROM LIGNIN

## PUR and PIR foams from oxypropylated lignins

PUR foams – 50% substitution



PIR foams – 25% substitution



		Standard	KLP 1	KLP 2
Density	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	29.1	29.0	29.7
Compr. strength	kPa	335	276	270
Lambda	mW/(m.K)	24.0	24.0	24.2
Closed cells	%	92	95	95

		Standard	KLP 1	KLP 2
Density	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	28.8	29.4	29.9
Compr. strength	kPa	288	268	275
Lambda	mW/(m.K)	23.5	24.4	24.3
Closed cells	%	97	94	94

# BIOBASED POLYOLS FROM LIGNIN

## Scale-up of oxypropylated lignin production

Scale-up with industrial partner

**ARKEMA**



FR3056986 - WO18065727 -  
EP3523357 - FR3056985 -  
WO18065728 - EP3523358 -  
FR3065218 - WO18189495



1500 m<sup>2</sup> pannels produced on Soprema industrial lines

**Issues**

Propylene oxide



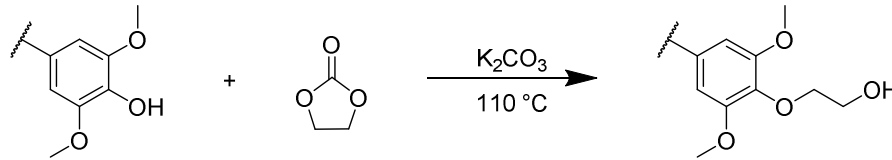
bp = 34 °C  
Pressurized reactor

**Complex scale-up**

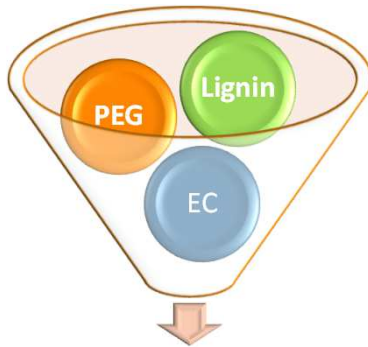


# BIOBASED POLYOLS FROM LIGNIN

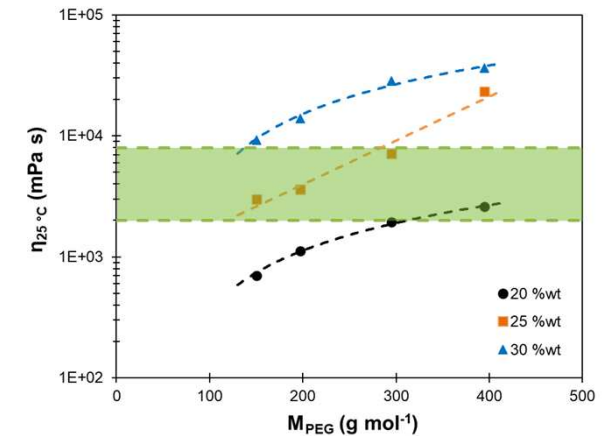
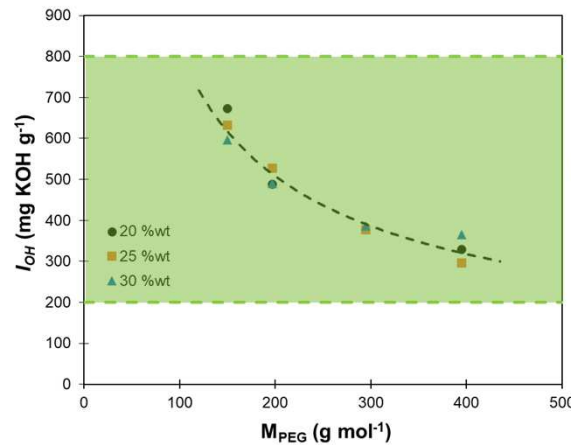
## Alternative polyol synthesis using cyclic carbonates



Solvent-free, ambient pressure, only water for work-up



Liquid polyol



### Mild conditions

- no toxic chemicals
- ambient pressure
- 110 – 130 °C
- no purification

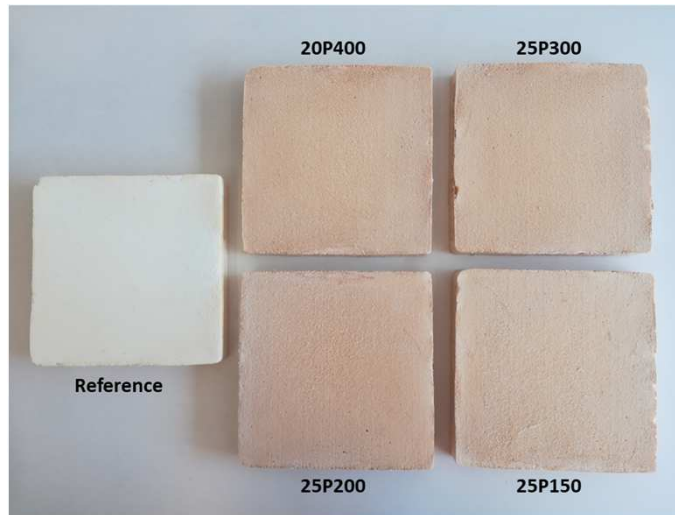
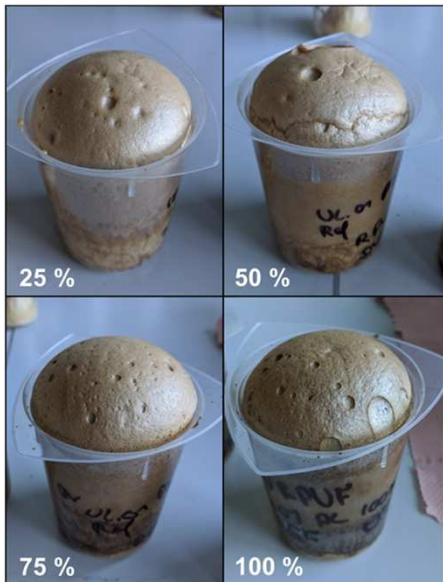
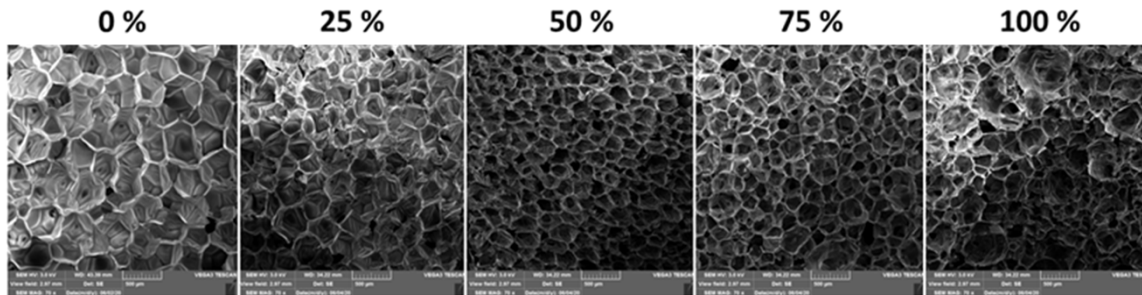
### Polyol properties

- only aliphatic OH groups
- good stability
- tunable OH content
- low viscosity



# BIOBASED POLYOLS FROM LIGNIN

## PUR foams from lignin-based polyols



Polyol name	20% lignin-based polyol			
	Closed cells (%)	Cells diameter ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Cells height ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	$\lambda_{10}^{\circ\text{C}}$ ( $\text{mW m}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$ )
Standard	97	190	325	23.5
25P150	92	190	405	24.2
25P200	95	200	420	24.4
25P300	95	200	435	24.3
20P400	97	180	375	24.4

### Current development

- scale-up of polyols synthesis
- improvement of formulation
- influence of lignin type and content



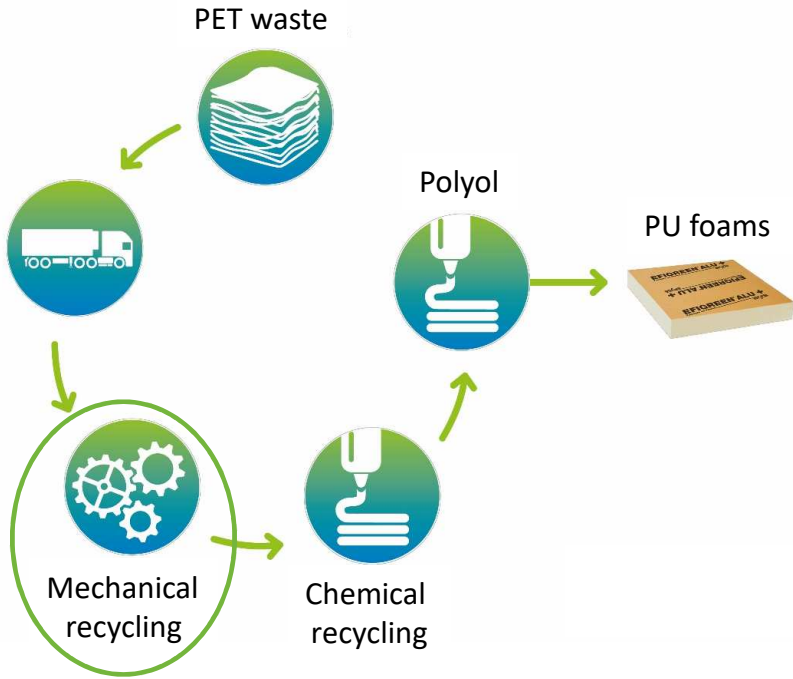
A. Duval, G. Layrac, A. van Zomeren, A. T. Smit, E. Pollet and L. Avérous, *ChemSusChem*, 2021, **14**, 387–397.

A. Duval, D. Vidal, A. Sarbu, W. René and L. Avérous, *Materials Today Chemistry*, 2022, **24**, 100793.

03

**POLYMER RECYCLING  
TOWARDS NEW PRODUCTS**

# SOPRALOOP – THE CONCEPT

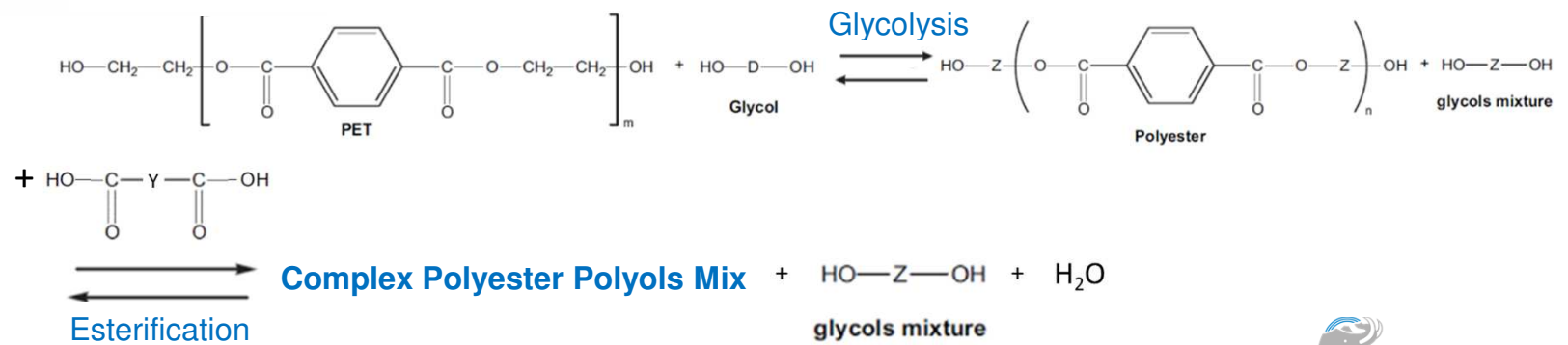
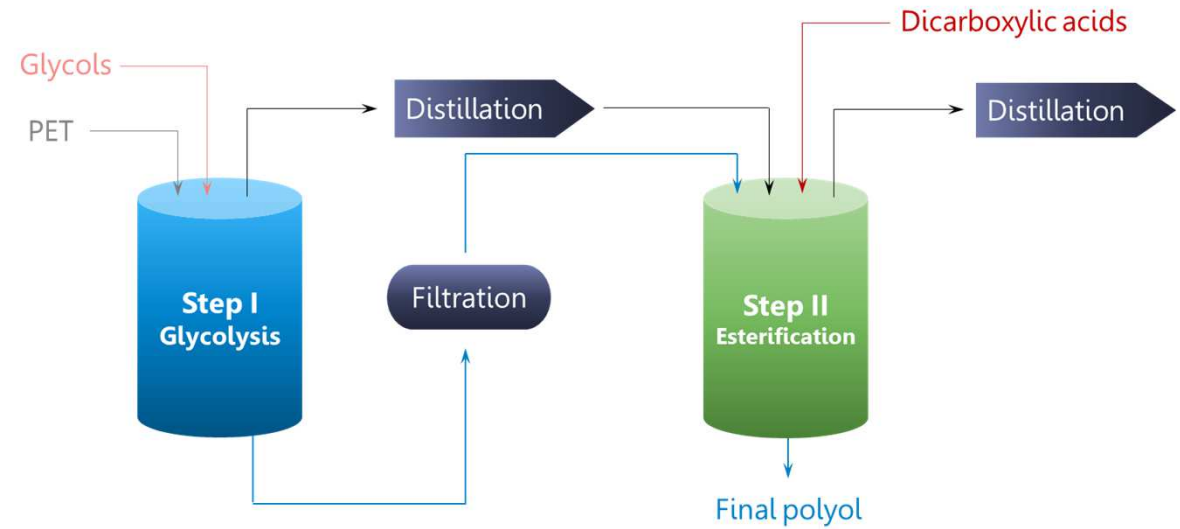
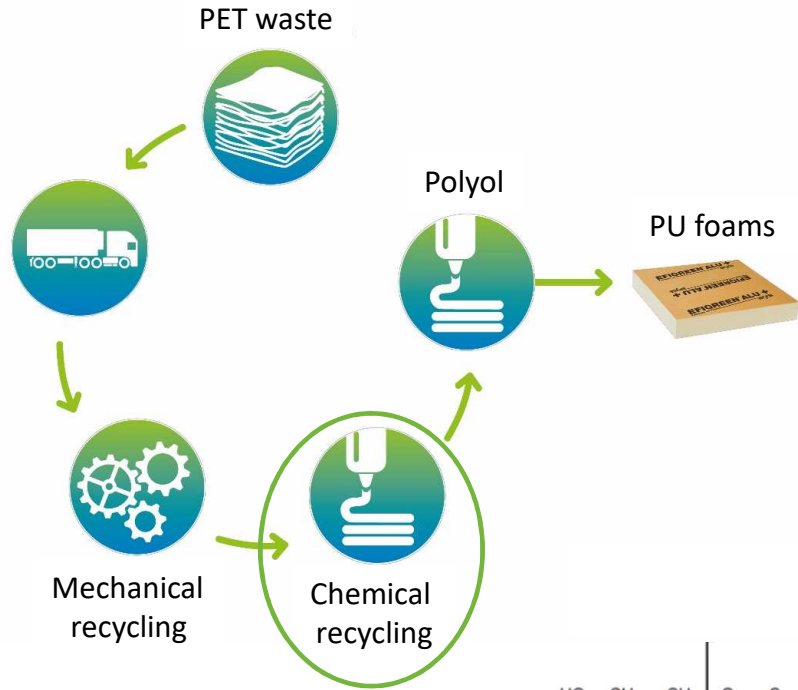


Post-consumer waste



Post-consumer PET waste





# PU FOAMS RECYCLING



Excellent insulating material  
BUT thermoset polymer

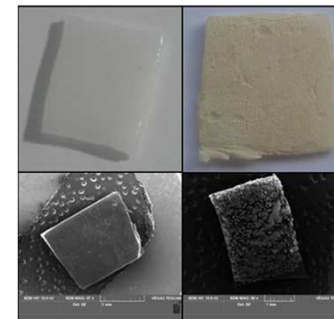
Chemical recycling



Solvolysis → Polyols



Biotech upcycling



Enzymes (esterases, amidases, laccases...)  
→ New building blocks



# CONCLUSIONS



## TITRE 1

### Tempestate praetorio

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimina
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

Cum parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem

- creberrime docens, idque, incertum qua mente



## TITRE 2

### Thalassius vero ea

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discriminane lateret adfectans.
- quibus mox Caesar acrius efferatus
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum
- potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando
- velut contumaciae quoddam vexillum altius erigens



## TITRE 3

### Praefectus praetorio

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimina
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

Cum parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem

- potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando



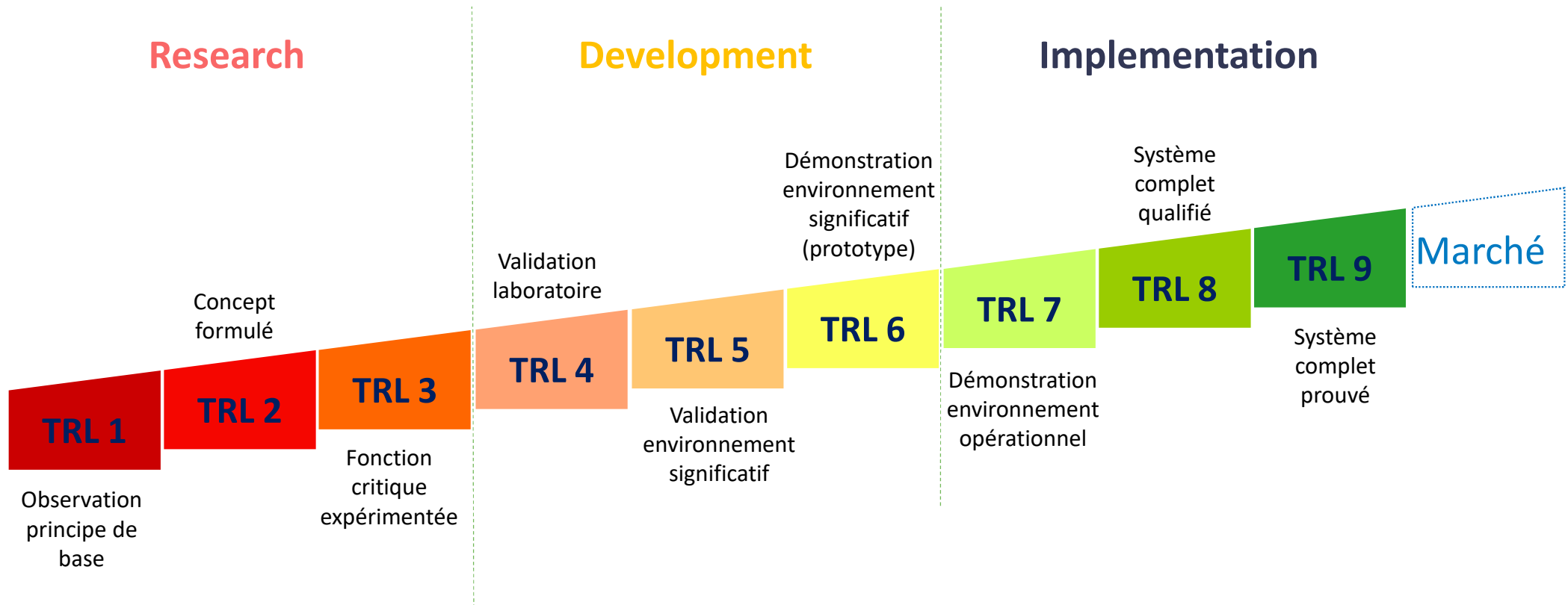
**THANKS FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION**



Antoine DUVAL  
[aduval@soprema.fr](mailto:aduval@soprema.fr)



# MATURITE DES PROJETS R&D – TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVEL





## SOMMAIRE

### 1. GRAND TITRE DE LA PREMIÈRE PARTIE

- Sous titre 1
- Sous titre 2

### 2. GRAND TITRE DE LA DEUXIÈME PARTIE

- Sous titre 1
- Sous titre 2

### 3. GRAND TITRE DE LA TROISIÈME PARTIE

### 4. TITRE DE LA QUATRIÈME

### 5. GRAND TITRE DE LA CINQUIÈME PARTIE

- Sous titre 1
- Sous titre 2
- Sous titre 3

01

VERS DES MEMBRANES  
D'ETANCHEITE  
BIOSOURCEES



# SLIDE TEXTE SIMPLE

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## | NIVEAU 1

### **Niveau 2**

Niveau 3

Niveau4

- Niveau 5

# SLIDE TEXTE ET IMAGE

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## I THALASSIUS VERO EA

### **tempestate praefectus praetorio**

praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimina, non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat, ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

### **molliverunt, sed adversando iurgandoque**

cum parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando creberrime docens, idque, incertum qua mente, ne lateret adfectans. quibus mox Caesar acrius efferatus, velut contumaciae quoddam vexillum altius erigens, sine respectu salutis alienae vel suae ad vertenda opposita instar rapidi fluminis irrevocabili impetu ferebatur.

# SLIDE IMAGE ET LÉGENDE

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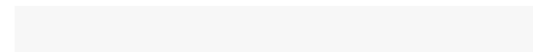
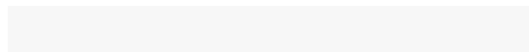
## Thalassius vero ea

- tempestate praefectus praetorio



## SLIDE 2 IMAGES ET LÉGENDE

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# SLIDE TEXTE ET IMAGE

## | THALASSIUS VERO EA

### Tempestate praefectus praetorio

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimina
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

### Molliverunt, sed adversando iurgandoque

Cum parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem

- potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando
- creberrime docens, idque, incertum qua mente
- ne lateret adfectans. quibus mox Caesar acrius efferatus
- velut contumaciae quoddam vexillum altius erigens

## | TEMPESTATE PRAEFECTUS PRAETORIO

### Thalassius vero ea

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimine lateret adfectans.
- quibus mox Caesar acrius efferatus
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

### Ded adversando iurgandoque

Parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem

- potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando
- velut contumaciae quoddam vexillum altius erigens



# SLIDE TEXTE ET IMAGE

## I THALASSIUS VERO EA

### Tempestate praefectus praetorio

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimina
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

### Molliverunt, sed adversando iurgandoque

Cum parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem

- potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando
- ne lateret adfectans. quibus mox Caesar acrius efferatus
- velut contumaciae quoddam vexillum altius erigens

## I TEMPESTATE PRAEFECTUS PRAETORIO

### Thalassius vero ea

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimine lateret adfectans.
- quibus mox Caesar acrius efferatus
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

### Ded adversando iurgandoque

Parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem

- potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando
- velut contumaciae quoddam vexillum altius erigens

## I PRAEFECTUS PRAETORIO

### Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimina

non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat

- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

### Cum parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem

potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando

# SLIDE 3 PARTIES



## TITRE 1

### Tempestate praetorio

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimina
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

Cum parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem

- creberrime docens, idque, incertum qua mente



## TITRE 2

### Thalassius vero ea

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discriminane lateret adfectans.
- quibus mox Caesar acrius efferatus
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum
- potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando
- velut contumaciae quoddam vexillum altius erigens



## TITRE 3

### Praefectus praetorio

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimina
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

Cum parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem

- potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando

# SLIDE 3 PARTIES - ALTERNATIVE



## TITRE 1

### Tempestate praetorio

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimina
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

Cum parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem

- creberrime docens, idque, incertum qua mente



## TITRE 2

### Thalassius vero ea

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discriminane lateret adfectans.
- quibus mox Caesar acrius efferatus
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum
- potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando
- velut contumaciae quoddam vexillum altius erigens



## TITRE 3

### Praefectus praetorio

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimina
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

Cum parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem

- potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando

# SLIDE 4 PARTIES

1

## Thalassius vero ea

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discriminane lateret adfectans.
- quibus mox Caesar acrius efferatus
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum
- potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando
- velut contumaciae quoddam vexillum altius erigens

2

## Tempestate praetorio

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimina
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

Cum parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem

- creberrime docens, idque, incertum qua mente

3

## Praefectus praetorio

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discrimina
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum

Cum parum congrueret, eum ad rabiem

- potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando

4

## Thalassius vero ea

Praesens ipse quoque adrogantis ingenii, considerans

- incitationem eius ad multorum augeri discriminane lateret adfectans.
- quibus mox Caesar acrius efferatus
- non maturitate vel consiliis mitigabat
- ut aliquotiens celsae potestates iras principum
- potius evibrabat, Augustum actus eius exaggerando
- velut contumaciae quoddam vexillum altius erigens

# GRAPHIQUES ET SCHÉMAS

## I CONSIDERANS

incitationem eius ad multorum  
augeri discriminane lateret  
adfectans.

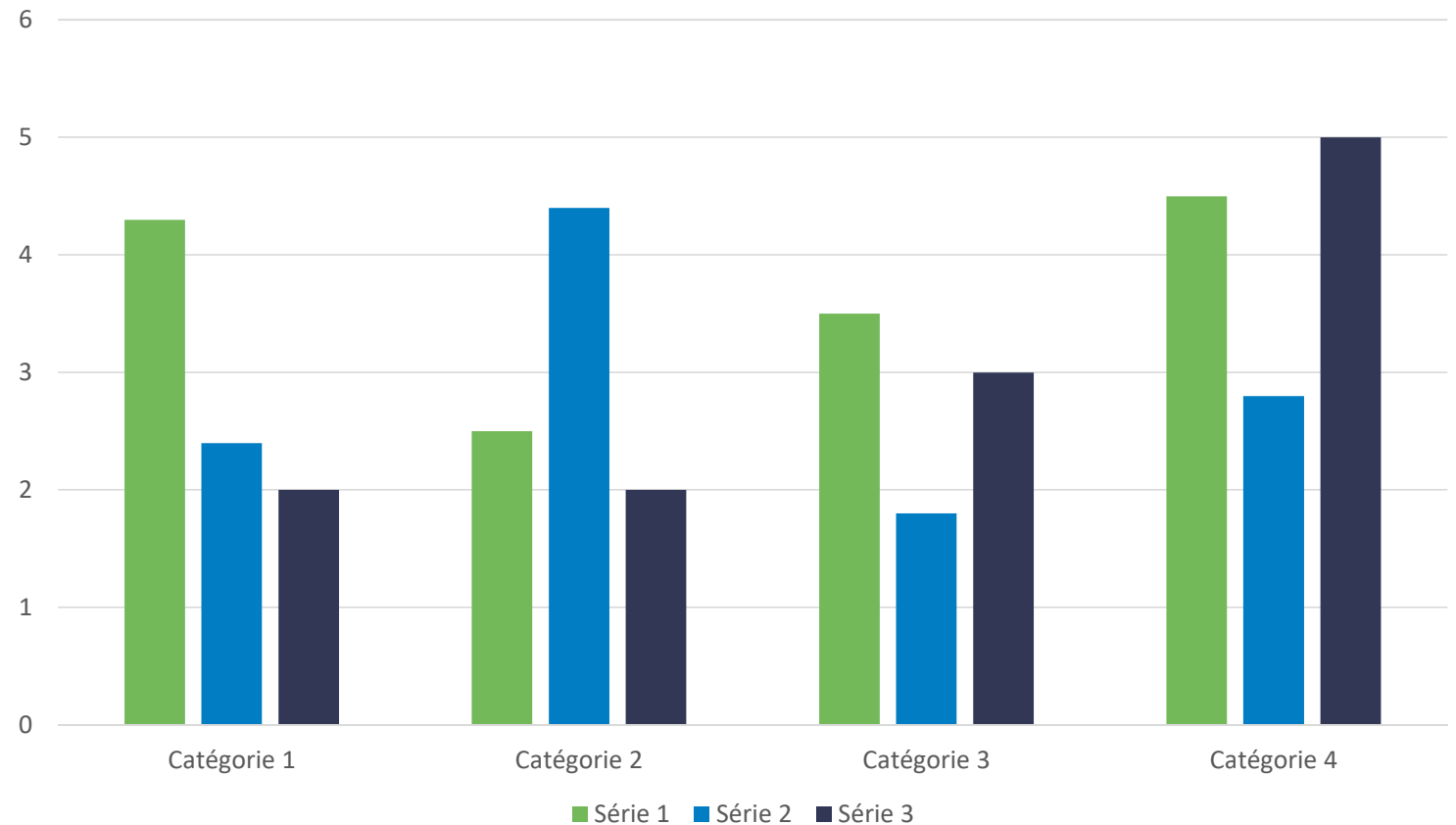
quibus mox Caesar acrius  
efferatus

## I NON MATURITATE

consiliis mitigabat

adfectans

quibus mox Caesar



## CHIFFRES CLÉS - ALTERNATIVE

2<sub>M€</sub>

| DO IUNSKJHKJH

32%

| DCUZN KLQPS

1/3

| OISUS OILKJLB



**MERCI POUR  
VOTRE ATTENTION**



# ANNEXE | BIBLIOTHÈQUE DE CONTENUS



## Pour intégrer une photo dans une « Forme » :

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