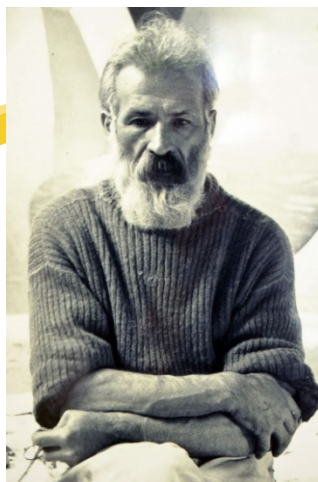




Ne aflăm într-o sferă, ne jucăm cu alte sfere,
le îmbinăm, le facem să clipească.

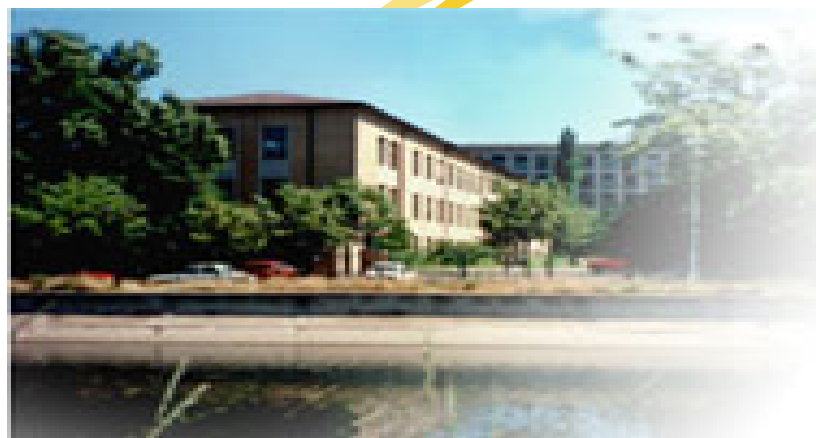
We are in a sphere, play with other spheres,
combine them, make them blink.

Constantin Brâncuși
(1876-1957)

Biopolymer-assisted synthesis of materials with spherical structures

Oana Carp

Institute of Physical Chemistry "Ilie Murgulescu"



Institute of Physical Chemistry
"Ilie Murgulescu"



Romanian Academy



Academician
Ilie G. Murgulescu
(1902-1991)

Research programs

1. Chemical thermodynamics and kinetics. Quantum chemistry
2. Catalytic materials and processes
3. Electrode processes, materials for electrochemical and corrosion systems
4. Materials science and advanced characterization methods
5. Functional and complex colloids
6. Biomedical applications and environmental protection
7. Surface science and thin films

A 16-a ediție a Seminarului Național de Nanostiință și Nanotehnologie

București, Biblioteca Academiei Române, 6 iunie 2017

Nanochemistry vs. NATURE

PRESERVING THE APPLICATIONS WHILE MINIMIZING OR ELIMINATING THE NEGATIVE IMPLICATIONS OF NANOMATERIALS

The design of nanoscale substances, materials, and processes through green chemistry and engineering that results in the development of new performances without adverse consequence to humans and biosphere

L. McKenzie and J. Hutchison

There's plenty of room at the bottom, R.Feynman

**Green Chemistry
1998**

**2004
Green Nano Chemistry**

Nanoscience and nanotechnology: to impart new properties and new capacities to materials on the basis of their size and geometries.

**1959
NANO**

**The 12 Principles
P.T.Anatas and J.C.Warner**

- ✓ More effective and environmentally more benign chemical processes
- ✓ Renewable feedstocks for chemical industry
- ✓ Sustainable processing of chemical products

Green Chemistry is NOT A Solution To All Environmental Problems BUT The Most Fundamental Approach To Prevent Pollution

Toward an ideal compound: genesis and excellence

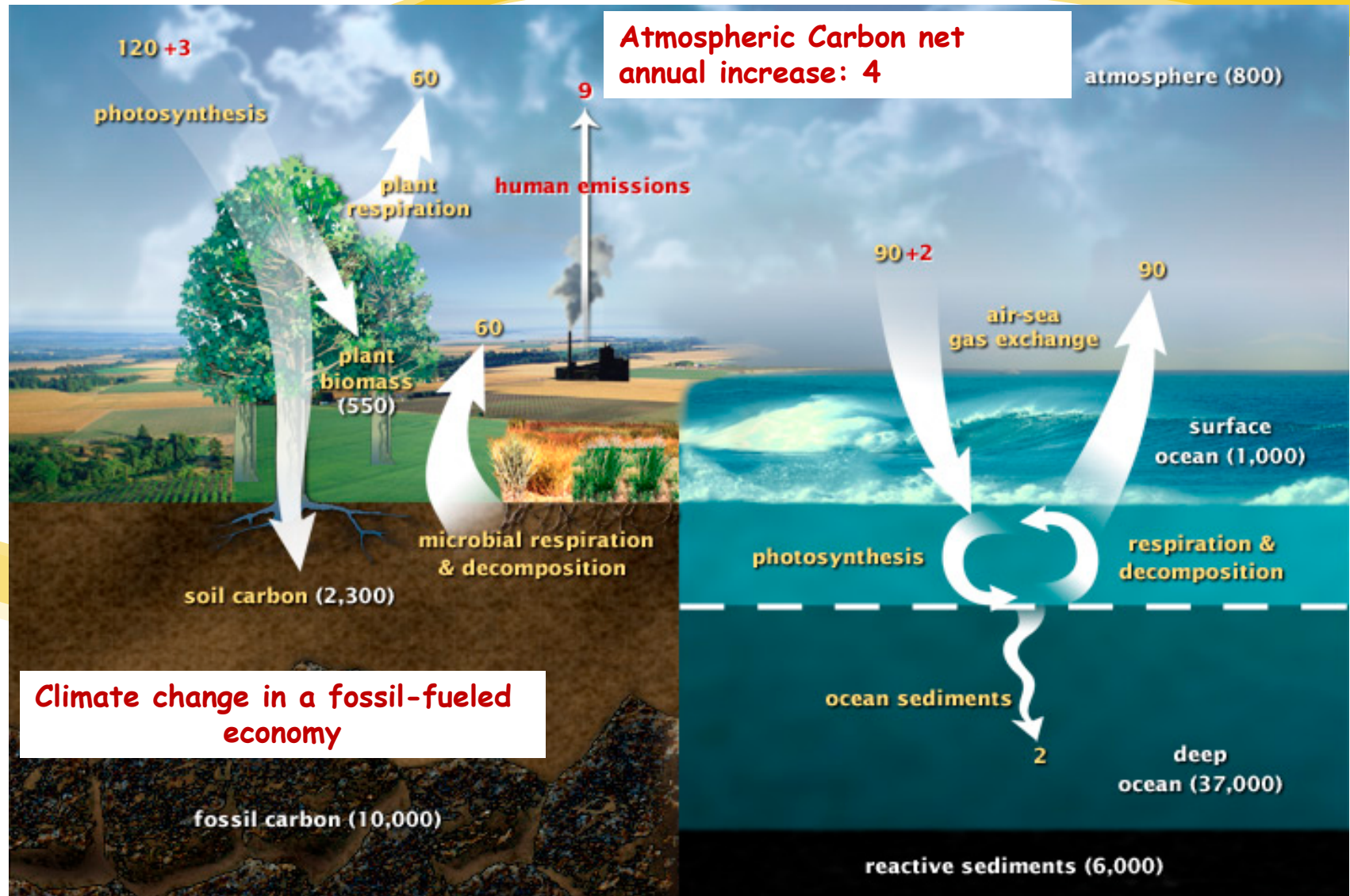
GREEN SYNTHESIS

- simple
- one step
- safe
- atom efficient
- 100% yield
- available materials
- no wasted reagents
- environmentally acceptable

HARMONIOUS COMPOUND

- chemical stable
- thermal stable
- cheap
- nontoxic
- biocompatible
- easy to modify
- smart
- multiple applications

Fast carbon cycle: the movement of carbon between land, atmosphere, and oceans.



Yellow numbers are natural fluxes, and red are human contributions in gigatons of carbon per year. White numbers indicate stored carbon. ([Diagram](#) adapted from U.S. DOE, [Biological and Environmental Research Information System](#).)

Pushing further is possible....

To invert current development by sequestering the atmospheric CO_2

Material Science solution: incorporation by "low-tech" procedures of the biomass carbon into less degradable carbon-based advanced materials, powerful and long term CO_2 collectors.

OUTLINE

- Carbohydrates as soft templates for spherical metal oxide
- Carbohydrates as hard templates for spherical metal oxide
- Carbon based materials from carbohydrates
- Future work

- Carbohydrates as soft templates for spherical metal oxide
- Carbohydrates as hard templates for spherical metal oxide
- Carbon based materials from carbohydrates
- Future work

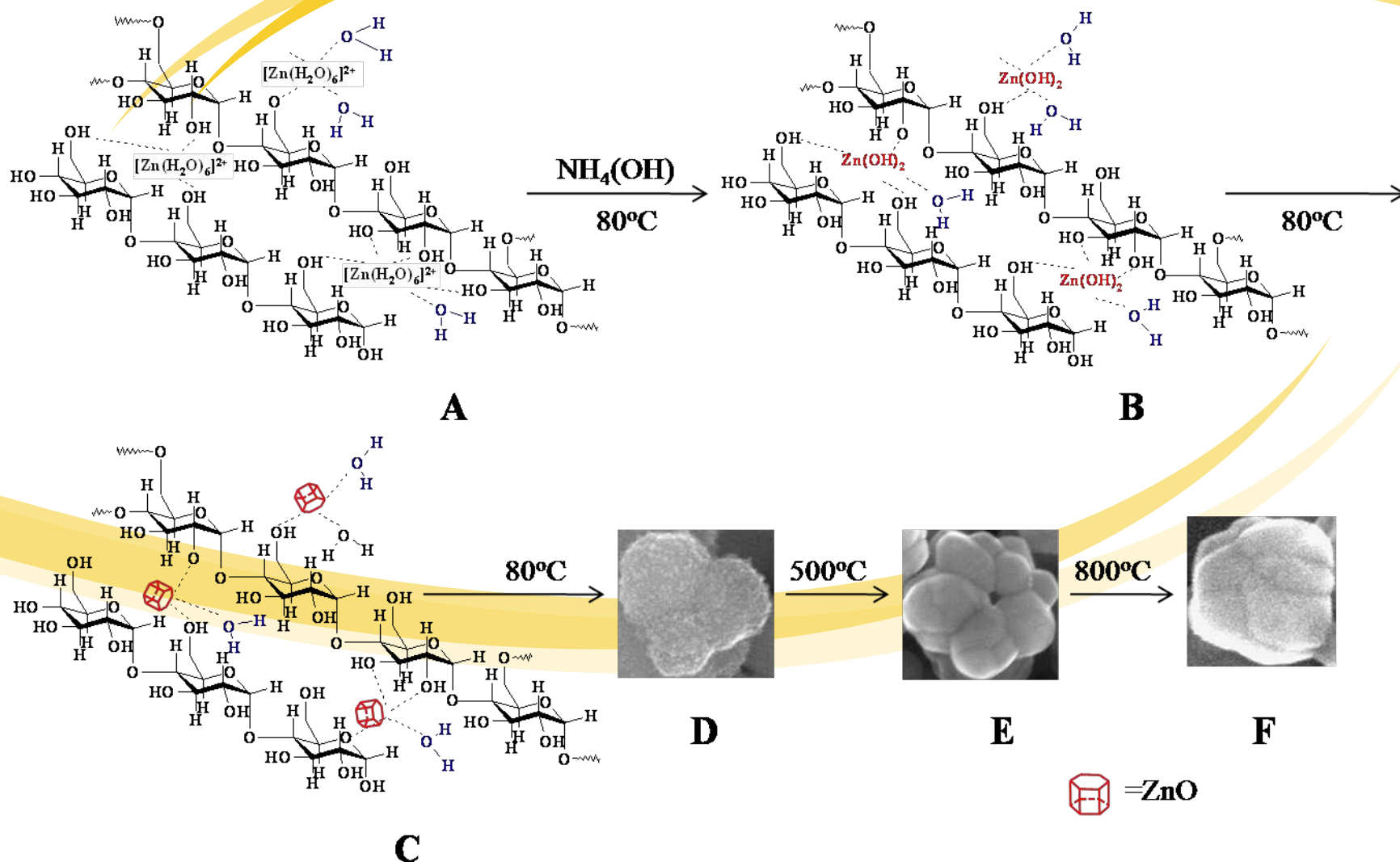
Carbohydrates: soft templates

General objective

Developing synthesis methodologies in which carbohydrates are used as growth inhibitors and crystal habit modifiers

Carbohydrates: soft templates

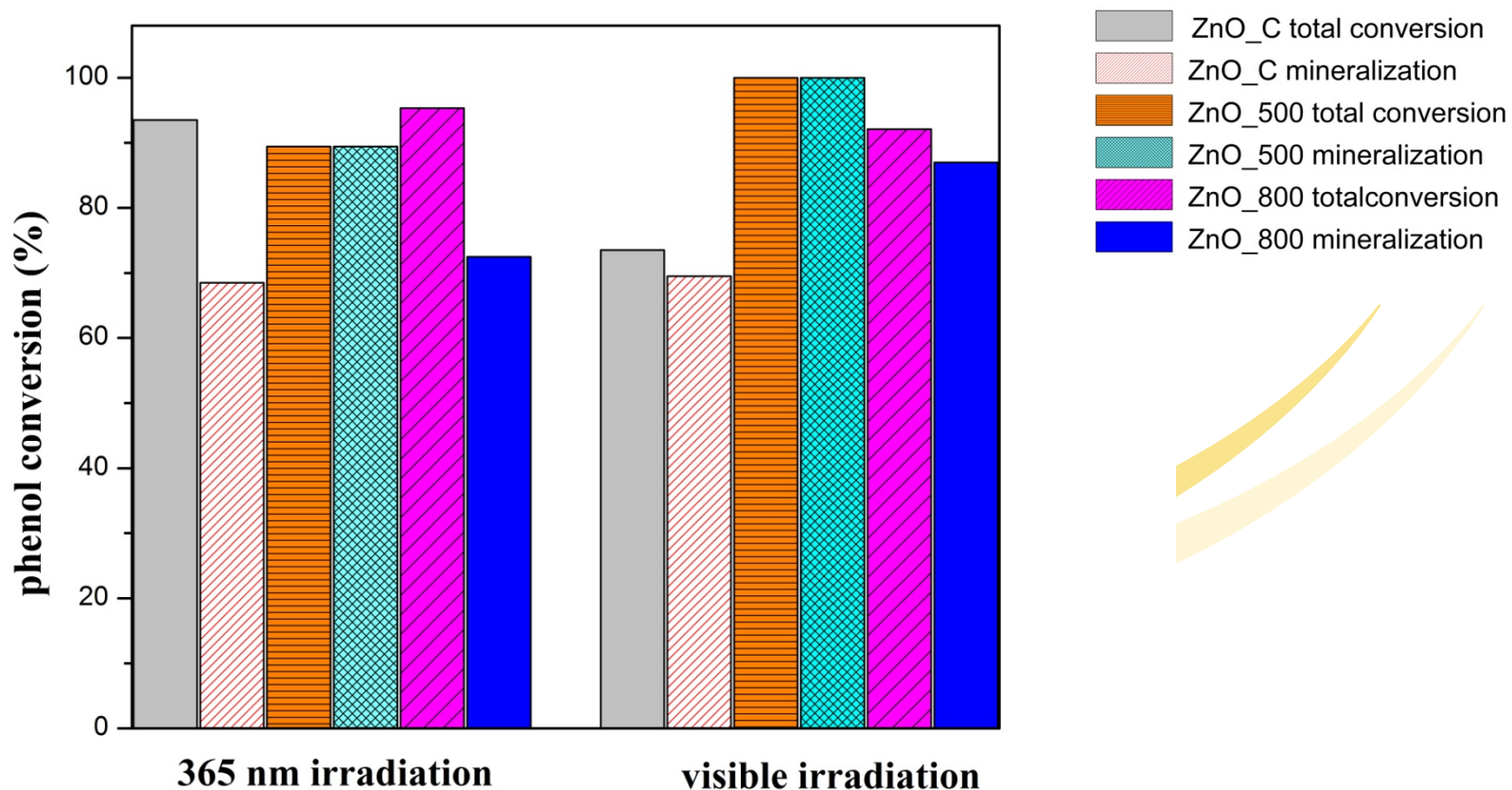
Starch: ZnO multisphere and donut-like structures



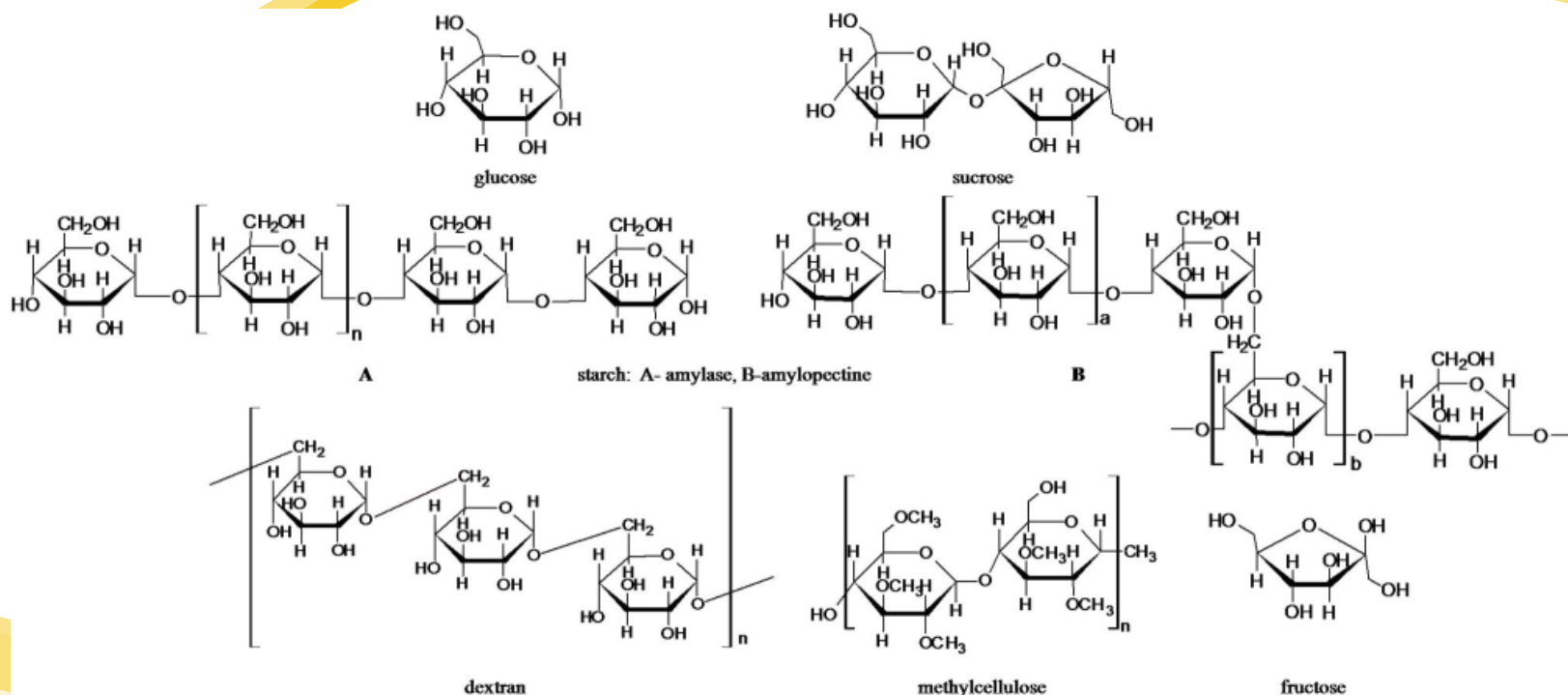
O.Carp, A.Țirsoagă, B.Jurcă, R.Ene, S.Somărescu, A.Ianculescu,
Carbohydrate Polymers, 2015, 115, 285-293

Carbohydrates: soft templates

Starch: ZnO multisphere and donut-like structures



Carbohydrates: soft templates



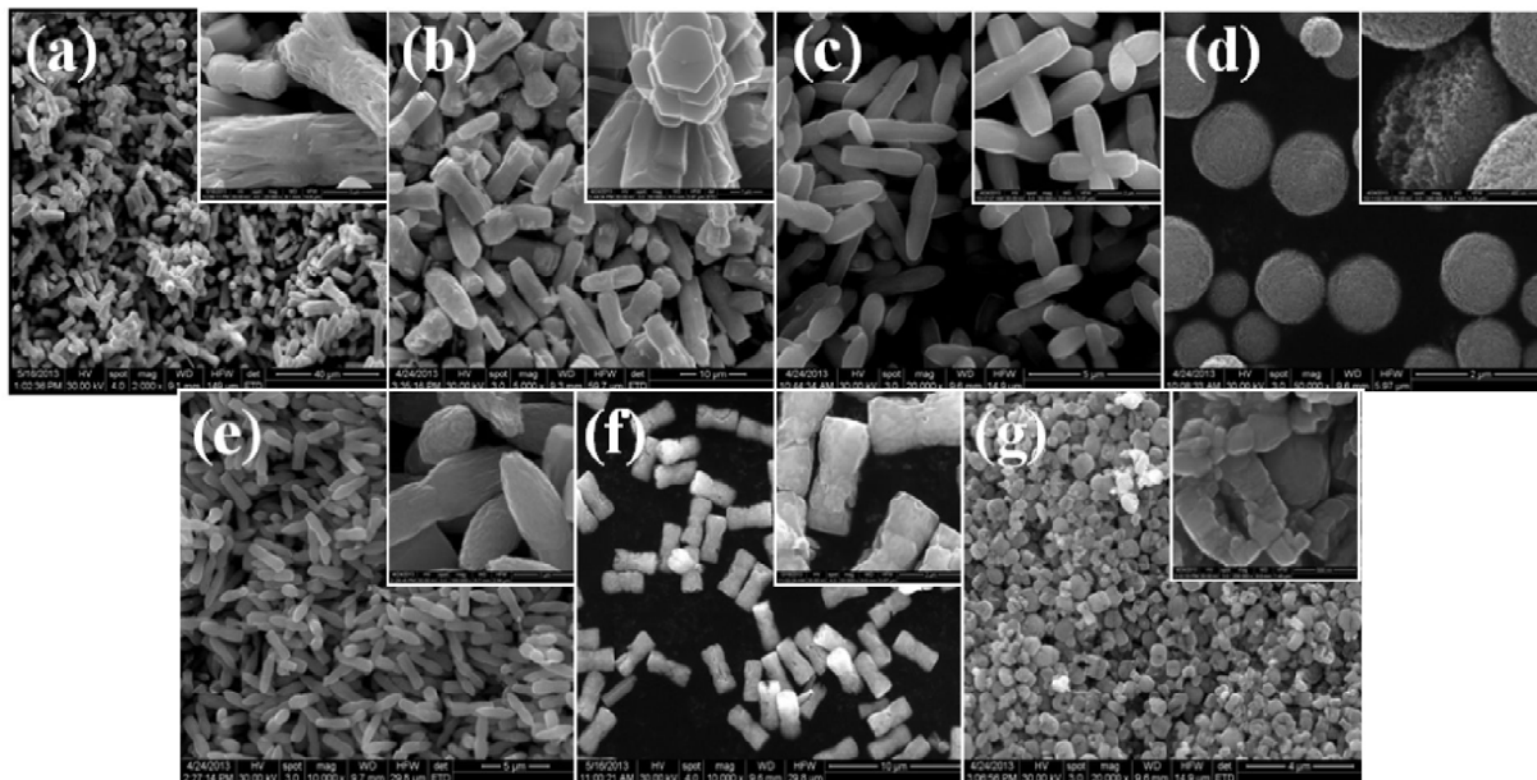
Green synthetic procedure:



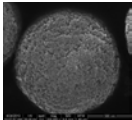
120°C, 2 hours
TEA

A. Stan, C. Munteanu, R. Ene, M. E. Anghel, A. M. Musuc, R. Birjega, A. Ianculescu, I. Raut, L. Jecu, M. Badea Doni, O. Carp
Dalton Trans., 2015, 44, 7844-7853

Carbohydrates: soft templates

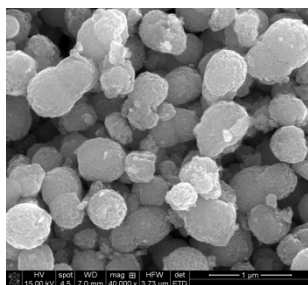


SEM images of ZnO obtained in the absence/presence of saccharides: (a) ZnO; (b) ZnO_G; (c) ZnO_S; (d) ZnO_ST; (e) ZnO_D; (f) ZnO_MC_500; (g) ZnO_F



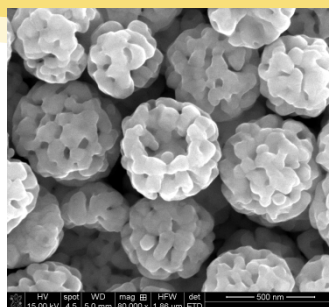
Saccharides as soft templates: **ZnO-starch spheres**

**ZnO/Ag
core/shell
composite**

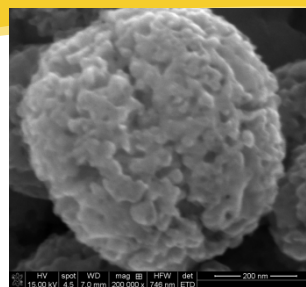


**Ag
source**

**Ni
source**

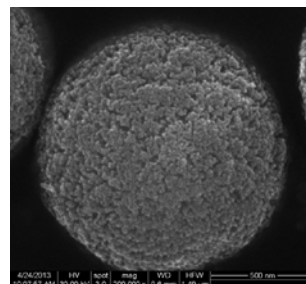


Ni²⁺/ZnO



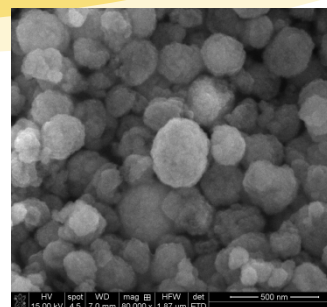
**Ti
source**

**ZnO/TiO₂
core/shell composite**

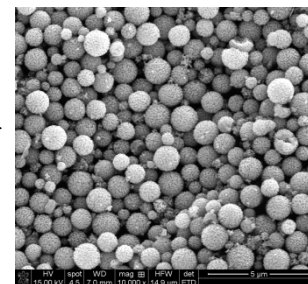


T (°C)

**S
source**



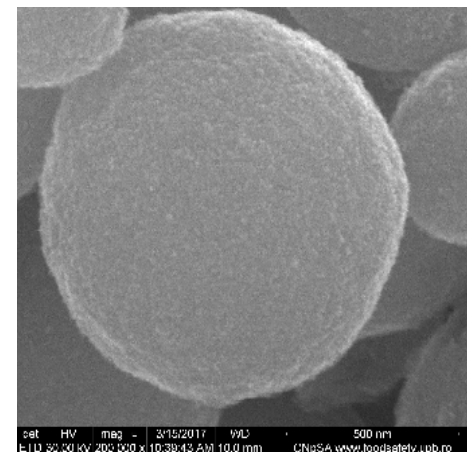
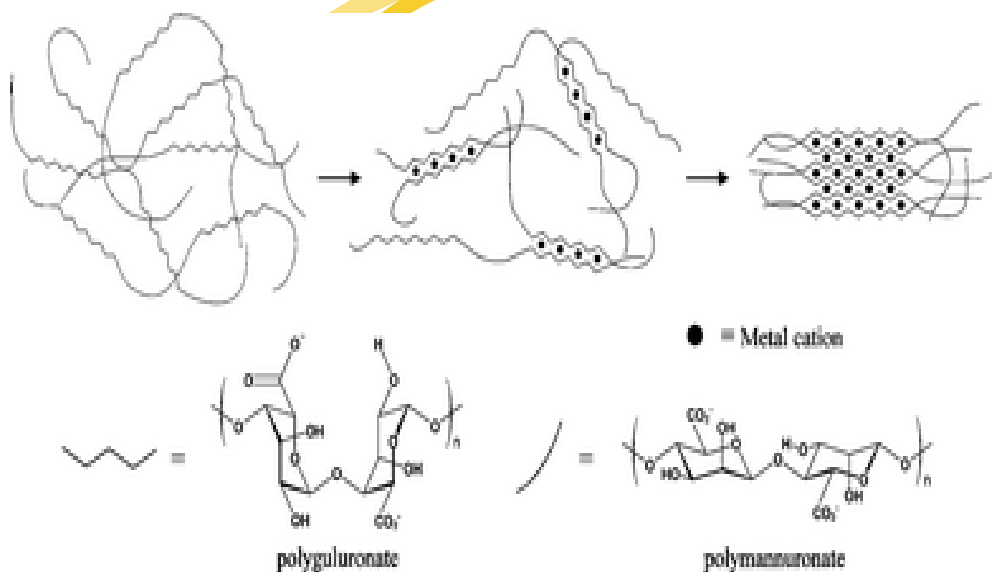
**ZnO/ZnS
core/shell composite**



ZnO

other cations also..

Saccharides as soft templates: ZnO-alginate spheres



The egg-box model of cation binding in alginate

Green synthetic procedure:



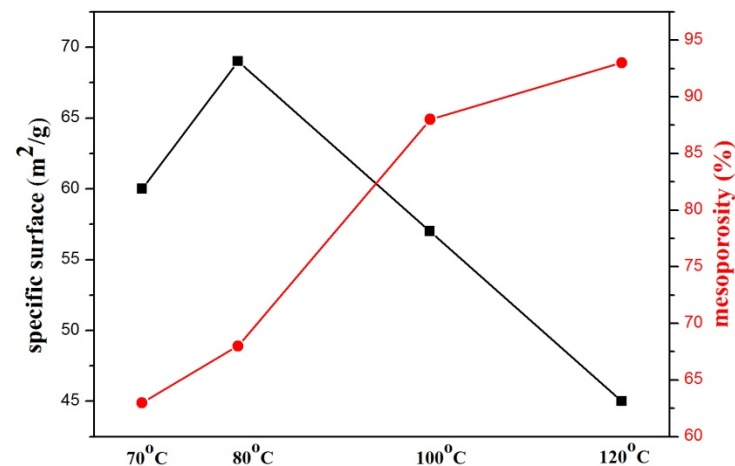
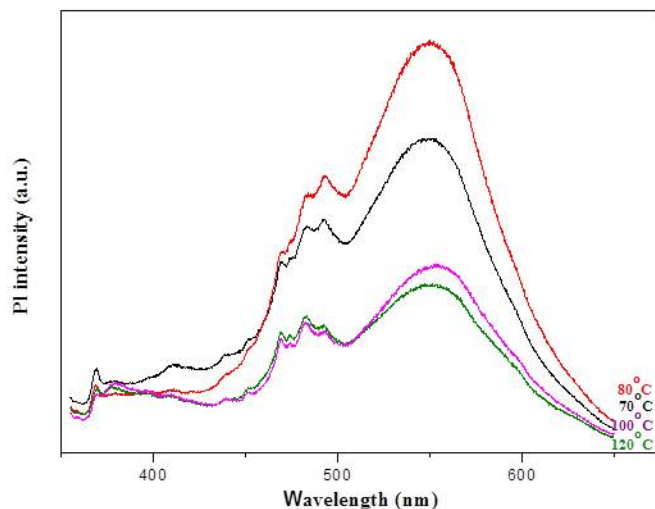
70-100°C,
30 min- 2 hours
TEA

Sensitive to experimental conditions including reactants addition order !!

P.Cucos, A.Ianculescu, Daniela C. Culita, A. Cucos, I. Atkinson, M. Anghel,
O.Carp, Green Chemistry (to be submitted)

Saccharides as soft templates: ZnO-alginate spheres

Reaction temperature



Order of reactants addition (100°C)

(Zn²⁺+TEA)+alginate: 58 m²/g (89% mesoporosity)

(Zn²⁺+alginate)+TEA: 37 m²/g (66% mesoporosity)

high antibacterial, antibiofilm and antifungal activity

Carbohydrates: soft templates

- ✓ The approach, an alternative to the conventional chemical procedures, introduces saccharides as common "chemicals" in the synthesis of high quality oxide materials.
- ✓ The general character of the method derives from the possibility of using various bio-carbohydrates with different compositions and functionalities.



**biological diversity may be easily used
for attaining material functionality**

A. Stan, C. Munteanu, R. Ene, M. E. Anghel, A. M. Musuc, R. Birjega, A. Ianculescu, I. Raut, L. Jecu, M. Badea Doni, O. Carp
Dalton Trans., 2015, 44, 7844-7853

P. Cucos, A. Ianculescu, Daniela C. Culita, A. Cucos, I. Atkinson, M. Anghel, O. Carp, Green Chemistry (to be submitted)

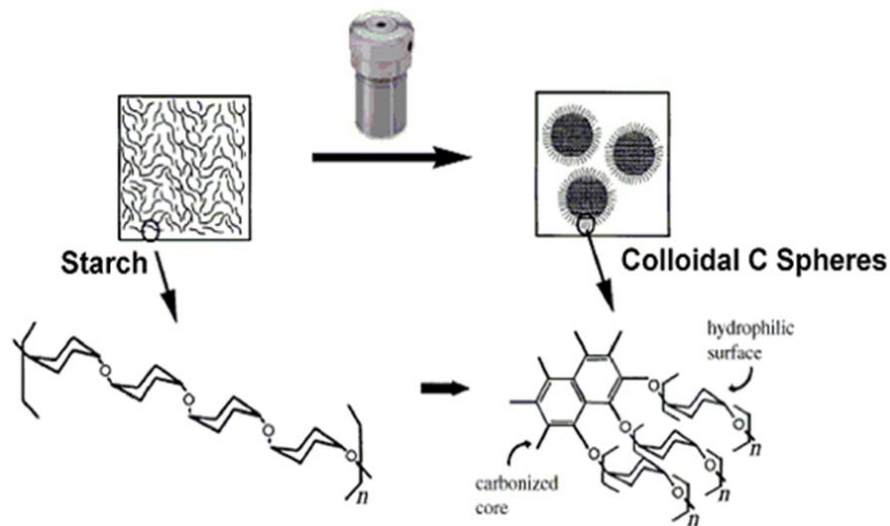
- Carbohydrates as soft templates for spherical metal oxide
- Carbohydrates as hard templates for spherical metal oxide
- Carbon based materials from carbohydrates
- Future work

Carbohydrates: hard templates

hydrothermal carbonization (beginning of the twentieth century)



Friedrich Bergius
The Nobel Prize in Chemistry
1931



Hydrothermal carbonization on the presence of metal cations

Carbohydrates: hard templates

General objectives

Synthesis of hollow (mesoporous) structures with high surface/volum ratio

Synthesis of (mesoporous) spherical solid structures

Carbohydrates: hard templates

different carbohydrates templates and ZnO

hollow

full

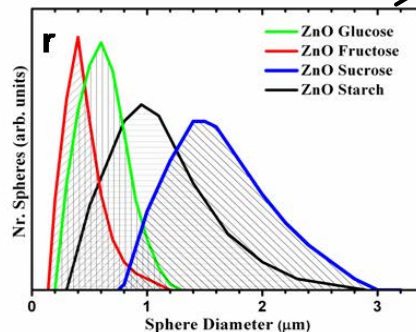
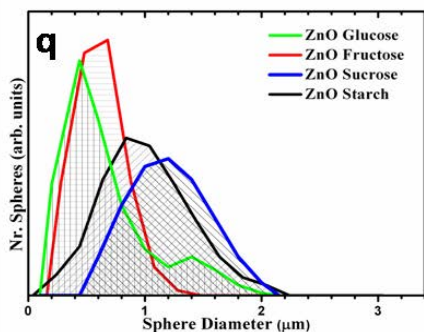
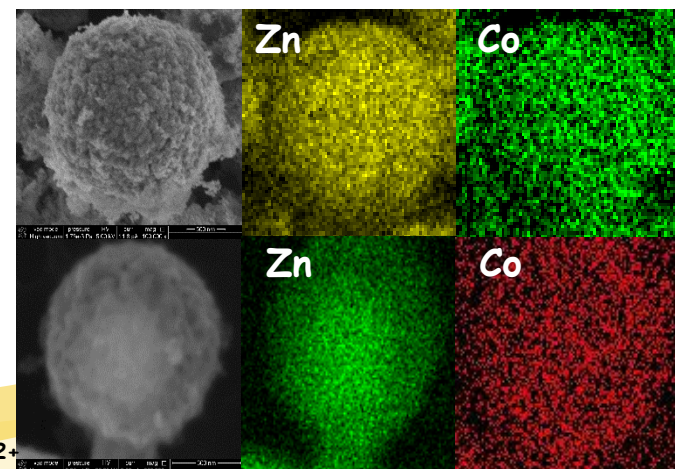
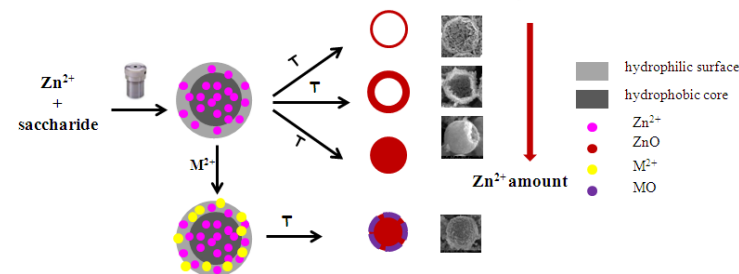
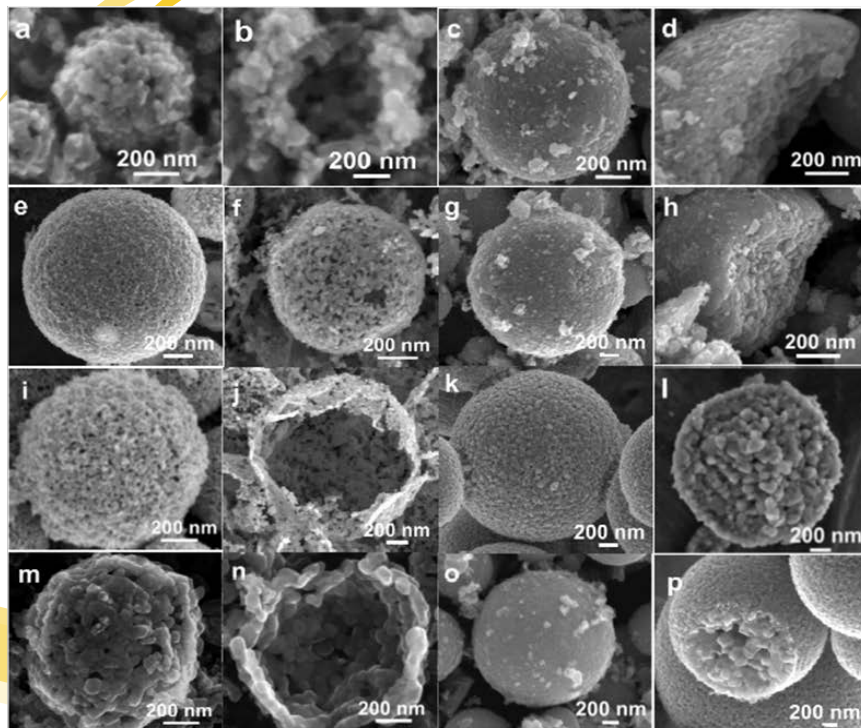
hollow/solid spheres

glucose

fructose

sucrose

starch

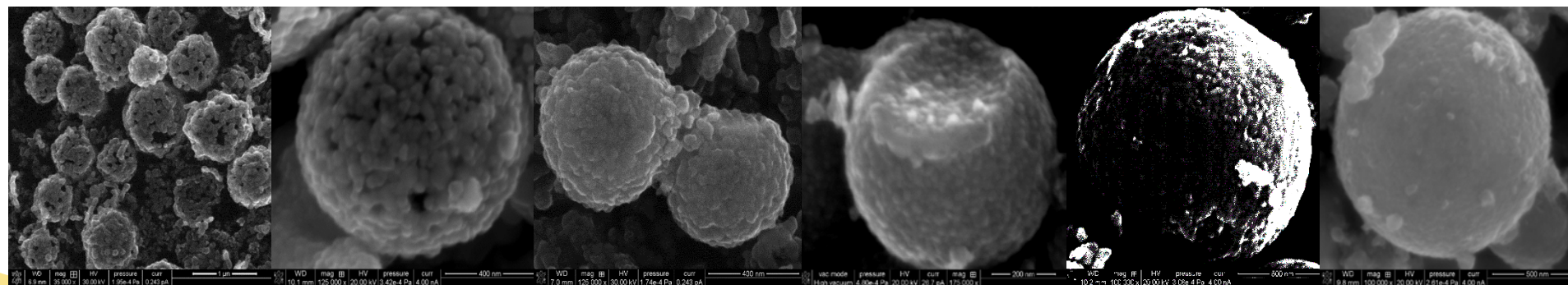


Carbohydrates: hard templates

hollow/solid spheres

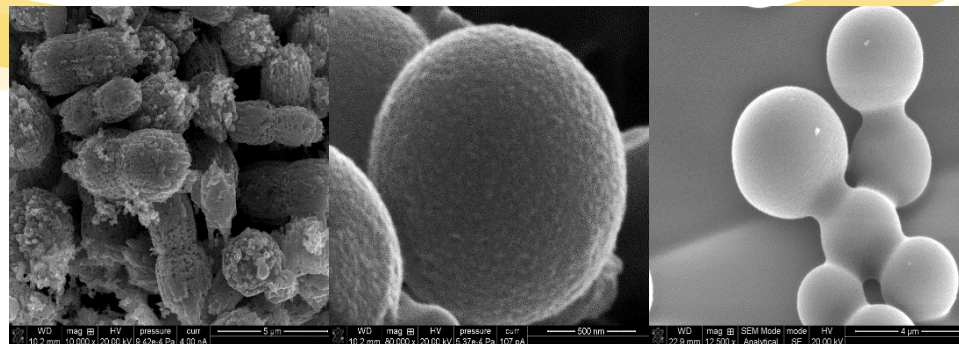
Synthesis

1. template synthesis and cation introduction **ONE POT**
2. thermal treatment (phase and composition modifications)



HOLLOW

SOLID



Zn^{2+}

$\text{Zn}^{2+}/\text{starch}=\text{constant}$ $\text{Zn}^{2+}, \text{starch}$

Carbohydrates: hard templates

hollow/solid spheres

MIC and MBEC values ($\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$) of the tested compounds on the Gram-positive and Gram-negative reference and clinical strains in planktonic and biofilm form.

Gram-positive strains	planktonic MIC		biofilm MBEC		Gram-negative strains	planktonic MIC		biofilm MBEC	
	ZnO_0.02 hollow ($\mu\text{g/mL}$)	ZnO_0.5_1 solid ($\mu\text{g/mL}$)	ZnO_0.02 hollow ($\mu\text{g/mL}$)	ZnO_0.5_1 solid ($\mu\text{g/mL}$)		ZnO_0.02 hollow ($\mu\text{g/mL}$)	ZnO_0.5_1 solid ($\mu\text{g/mL}$)	ZnO_0.02 hollow ($\mu\text{g/mL}$)	ZnO_0.5_1 solid ($\mu\text{g/mL}$)
<i>S. aureus</i> ATCC 6538	31.5	62.5	>500	15.62	<i>P. aeruginosa</i> ATCC 27853	>500	62.5	>500	<0.97
MRSA	>500	1.95	>500	31.25	<i>P. aeruginosa</i> 719	>500	31.25	>500	<0.97
<i>B. subtilis</i> ATCC 12488	>500	62.5	>500	7.81	<i>E. coli</i> O26	62.5	<0.97	>500	>500
<i>B. subtilis</i> 6683	62.5	0.97	>500	3.9	<i>K. pneumoniae</i> 11	>500	15.62	>500	>500

Carbohydrates: hard templates

- ✓ General methodology (mono-, di- and polysaccharides)
- ✓ Ease of adjustment of the structure type, size and surface features
- ✓ Accessibility for further functionalization

- Carbohydrates as soft templates for spherical metal oxide
- Carbohydrates as hard templates for spherical metal oxide
- Carbon based materials from carbohydrates
- Future work

Carbohydrates: template and carbon source

General objective

Different carbon-metal/metal oxide composites with controlled properties

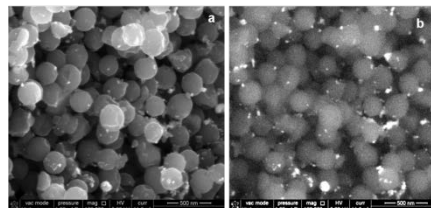
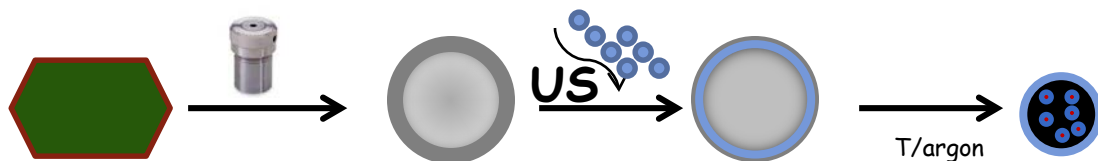
Carbohydrates: template and carbon source

Synthesis

1. template synthesis
2. cations introduction
3. thermal treatment (phase and composition modifications)

ZnO-carbon

INSTEAD of AIR
ARGON



XPS data:

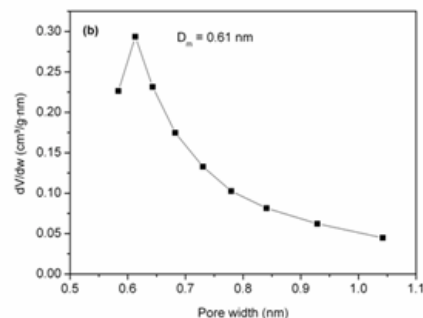
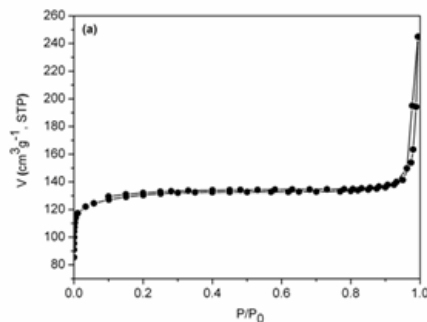
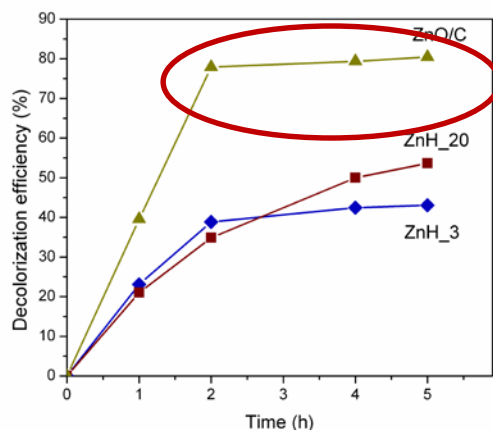
binding energies, chemical species, atomic relative concentrations

Sample	Binding energy, eV				Atomic relative concentration, at%		
	C1s	O1s	Zn2p3/2	ZnLMM	C	O	Zn
ZnO/C	284,8 (C-C)	531.5 (O ²⁻)	1022.5	499.2	84	8.8	7.2
as received	286.5 (OH-C-O)	533.4 (OH-C-O, C=O)					
ZnO/C	284,8 (C-C)	531.3 (O ²⁻)	1022.5	498.9	82.3	8.3	9.4
1 min sputtering	286.5 (OH-C-O)	533.3 (OH-C-O, C=O)					
ZnO/C	284,8 (C-C)	531.2 (O ²⁻)	1022.5	498.7	83.0	6.8	10.2
5 min sputtering	286.5 (OH-C-O)	533.0 (OH-C-O, C=O)					

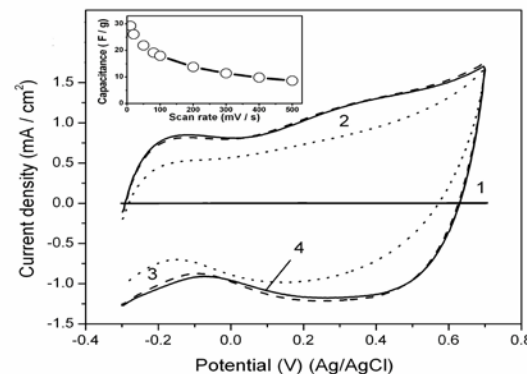
Carbohydrates: template and carbon source

ZnO-carbon

Photocatalytical activity
in degradation of MB under
visible irradiation



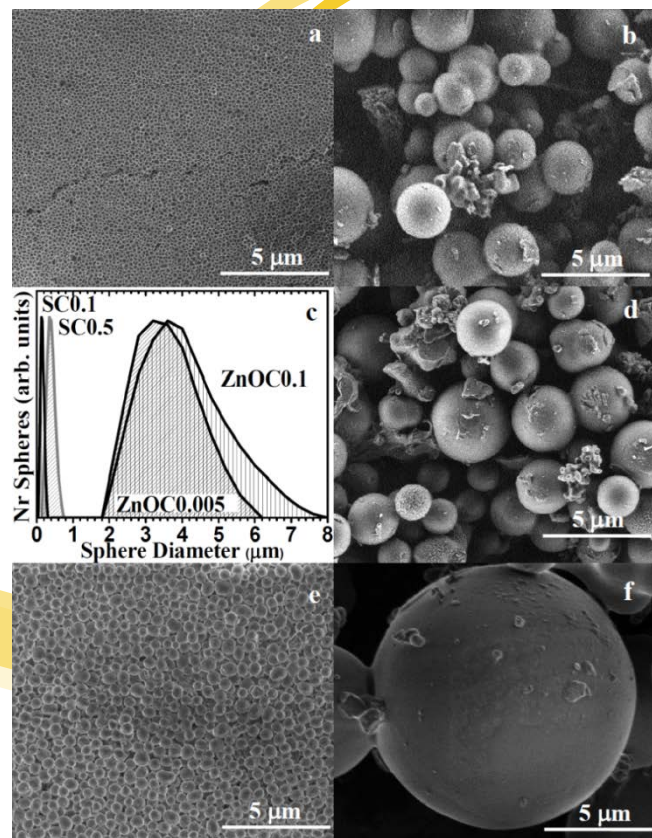
Micropore surface:
447 m^2/g
(87% of
total area
of 512 m^2/g)



Specific capacitance of 22.13 $\text{F} \cdot \text{g}^{-1}$
(scan rate = 50 mVs^{-1})

Carbohydrates: template and carbon source

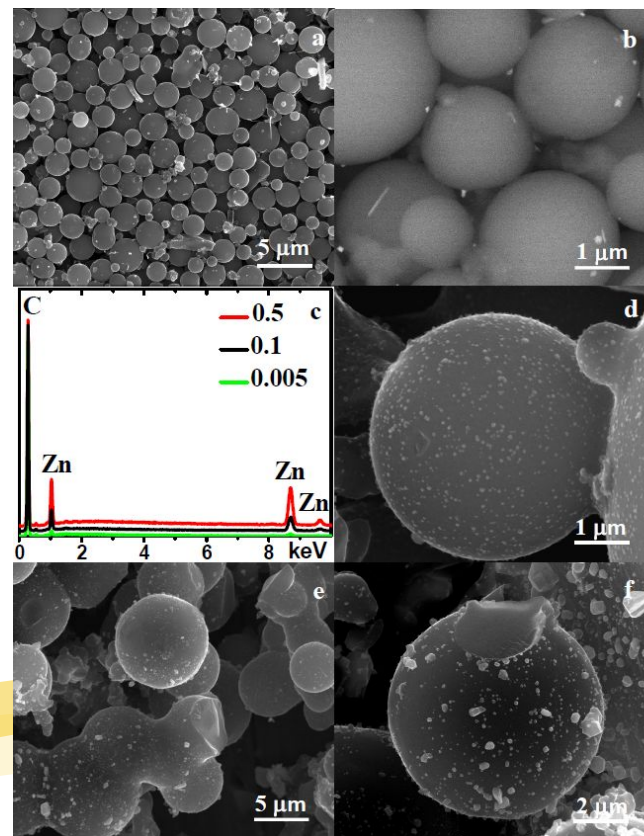
One-pot synthesis



SEM images of the precursors spheres:
 (a) SC0.1; (b) ZnOC0.005; (c) diameter
 distribution of the spheres;
 (d) ZnOC0.1; (e) SC0.5; (f) ZnOC0.5.

ZnO-carbon

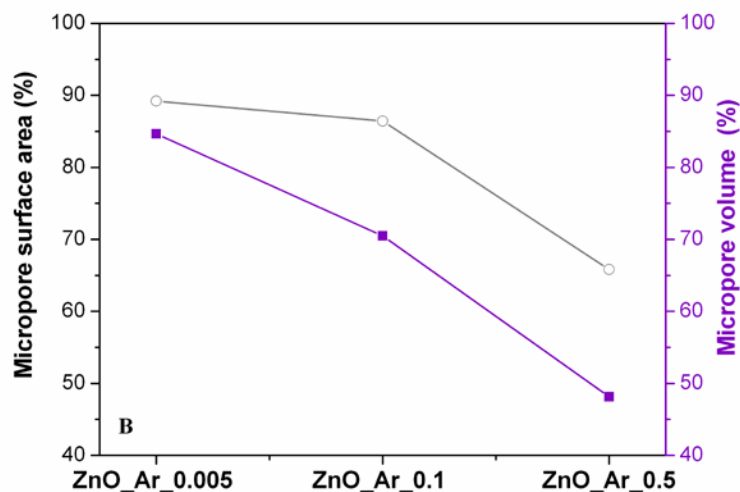
Argon
 700°C, 3h



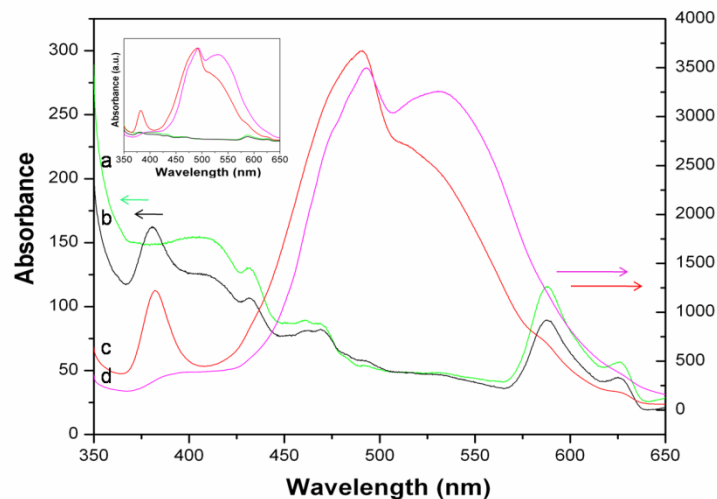
SEM images of the composite spheres
 ZnOCX: (a, b) ZnOC0.005; (c) their
 corresponding EDX spectra (d) ZnOC0.1;
 (e, f) ZnOC0.5.

Carbohydrates: template and carbon source

ZnO-carbon



Variation of micropores surface area (black line with circle symbols) and pores volume (blue line with square symbols) for the composites thermally treated in argon



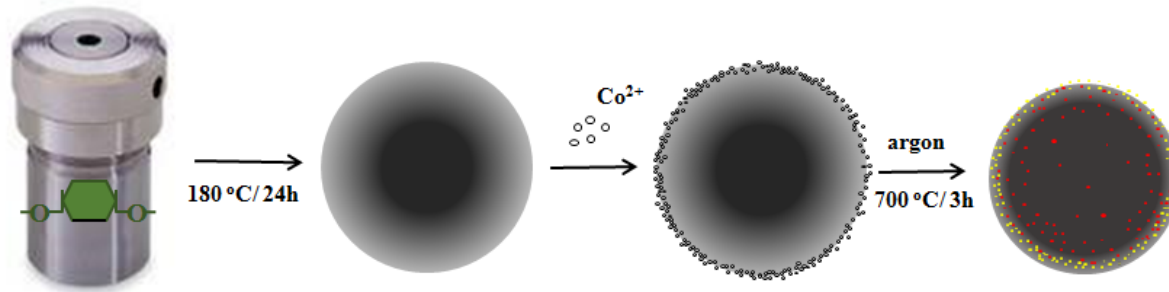
Room-temperature photoluminescence of:
(a) ZnOC0.005; (b) ZnOC0.1;
(c) ZnOC0.5 and (d) ZnO0.5.

Modulation of carbon materials properties through the amount of the metal (Zn^{2+})

Carbohydrates: template and carbon source

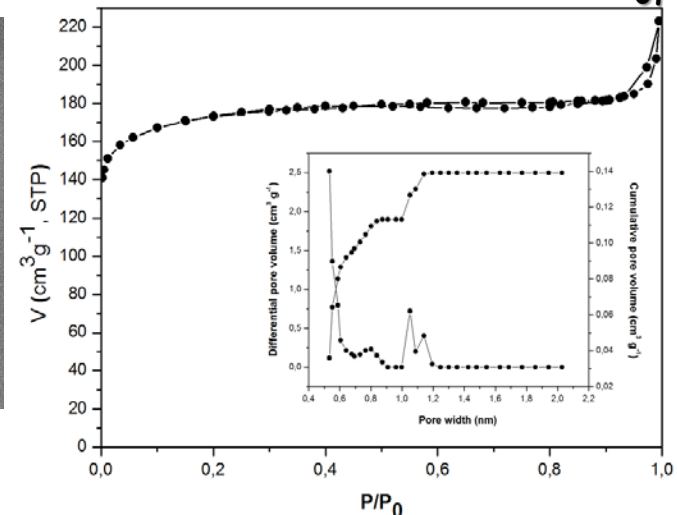
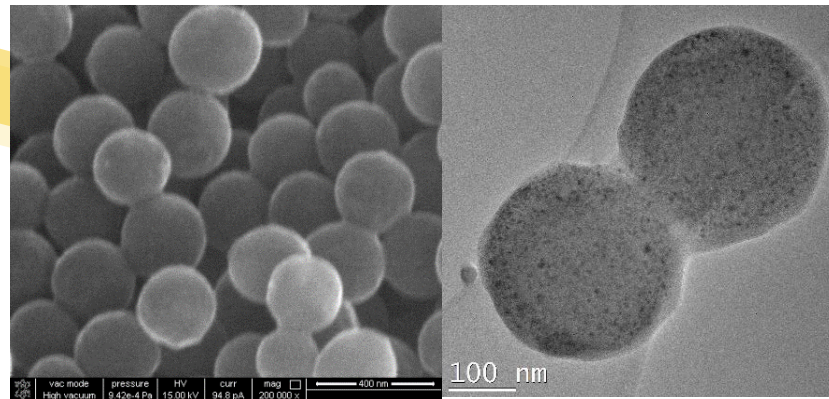
One-pot synthesis

Co-CoO-carbon



 = starch
 = hydrophilic → hydrophobic carbon matrix
○ = Co²⁺ ● = CoO ● = Co

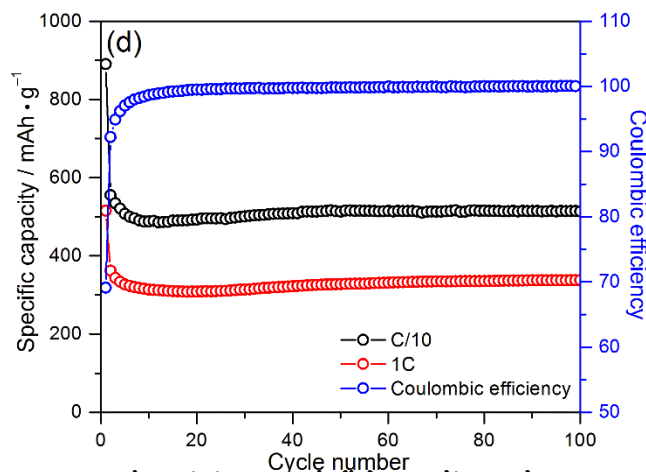
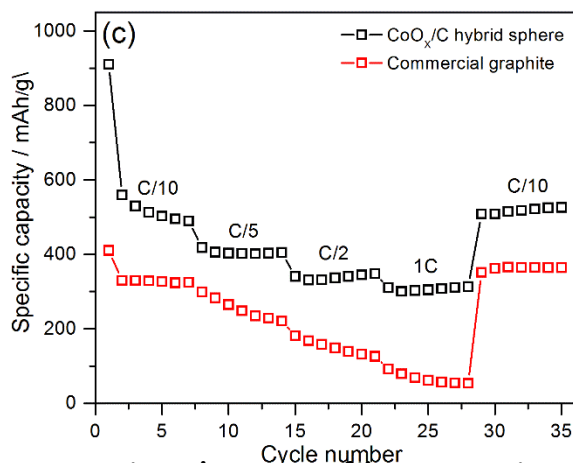
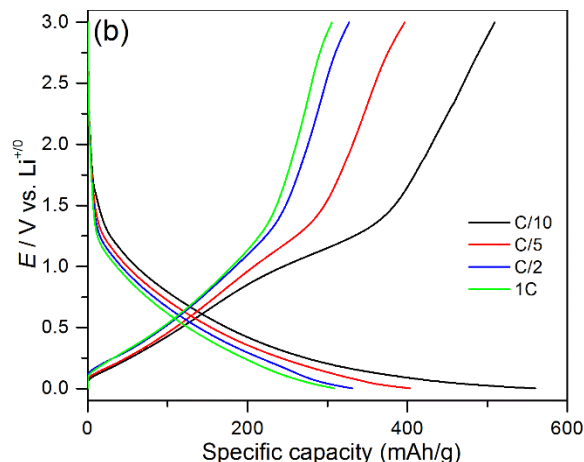
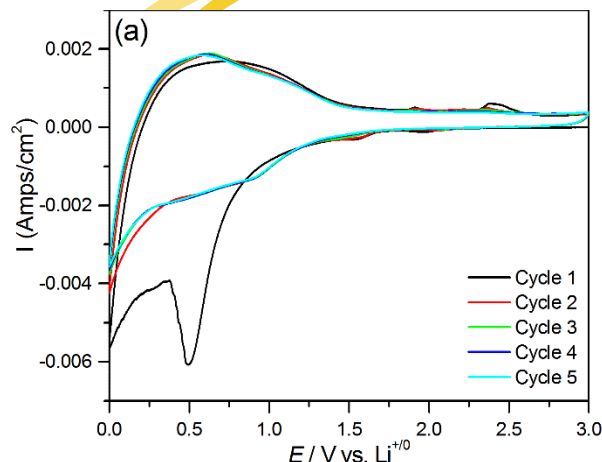
Micropore surface:
543 m²/g
(81% of
total area
of 669 m²/g)



Carbohydrates: template and carbon source

One-pot synthesis

Co-CoO-carbon



(a) Second galvanostatic voltage profiles at various current densities and (b) cyclic voltammetry of CoPCSs hybrid sphere. (c) Electrochemical rate performance of CoPCSs hybrid sphere and commercial graphitic carbon. (d) Galvanostatic cycling performance of CoPCSs hybrid sphere at various current densities

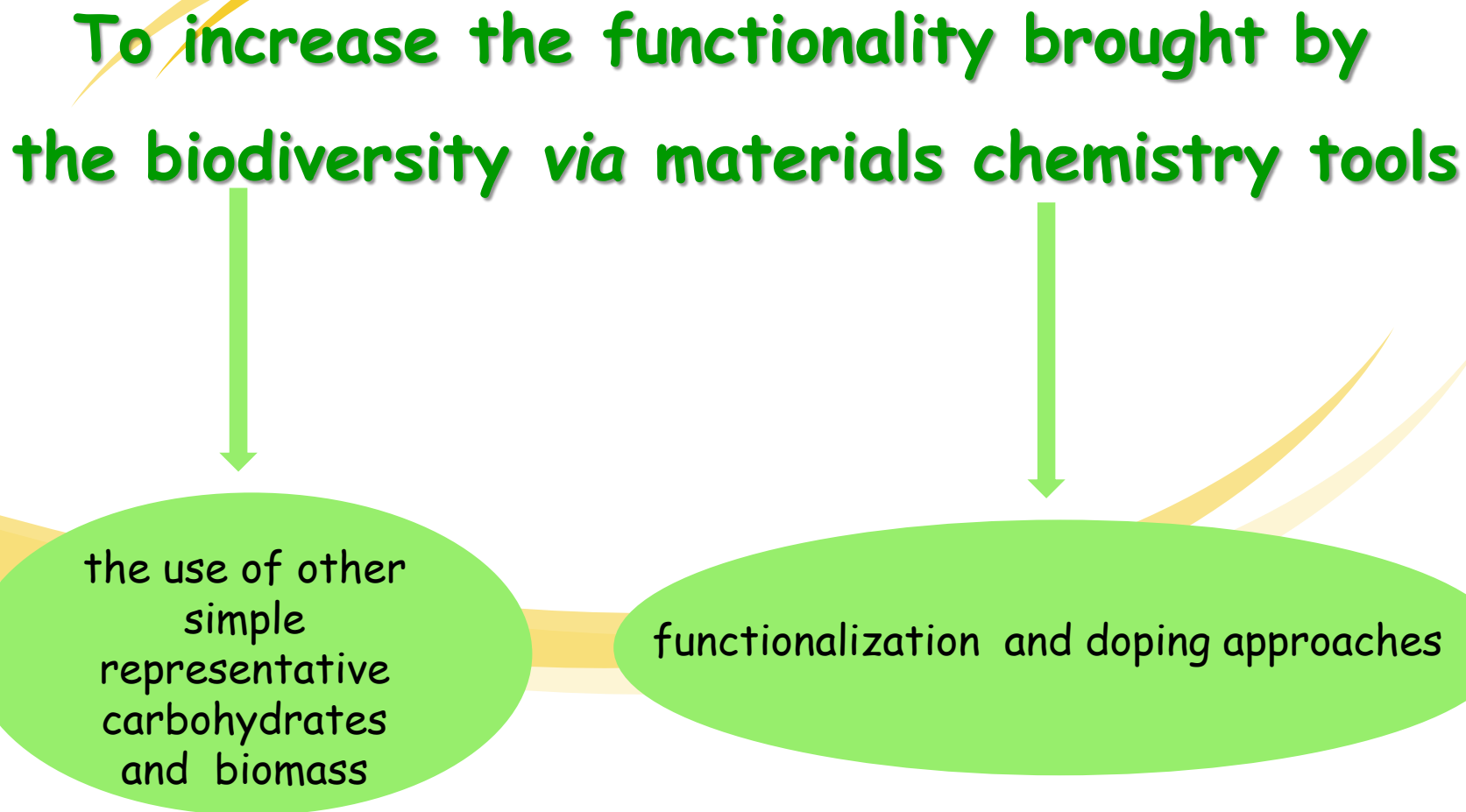
Carbohydrates: template and carbon source

HTC is a resourceful procedure for design functionalized carbon materials with inorganic components. The employed doping approach dictates the localization of the new functionalities. Subsequent thermal carbonization processes enable a control over both surface and bulk chemistry.



specific interactions between a certain metal cation and a saccharide may manipulate the properties of the derived carbon material

To increase the functionality brought by the biodiversity via materials chemistry tools



```
graph TD; A[To increase the functionality brought by the biodiversity via materials chemistry tools] --> B([the use of other simple representative carbohydrates and biomass]); A --> C([functionalization and doping approaches]);
```

the use of other
simple
representative
carbohydrates
and biomass

functionalization and doping approaches

Team



Dr. Greta Patranoiu (ICF)
synthesis, UV-Vis, IR,
PL spectroscopy



Dr. Diana Visinescu (ICF)
synthesis, UV-Vis, IR, PL
spectroscopy



Dr. Paula Cucos (ICF)
synthesis, UV-Vis, IR, PL
spectroscopy



Dr. Cristian D. Ene (ICF)
synthesis, UV-Vis, IR, PL
spectroscopy, thermal analysis



Dr. Adina Musuc (ICF)
thermal analysis



**Dr. Jose Calderon
Moreno (ICF)**
SEM, TEM



**Dr. Ruxandra Barjega
(INFLPR)**
RX



Dr. Nicolae Spataru (ICF)
electrochemical measurements



Dr. Daniela Culita (ICF)
BET measurements



Dr. Simona Somacescu (ICF)
XPS



Prof. Carmen Chifiriuc (UB)
antimicrobial tests



**and
others.....**

Prefer să creez aceste sculpturi și să greșesc decât să nu greșesc și să o recreez pe Venus din Milo, căci Venus din Milo a mai fost creată și este, vai insurpotabil de bătrână.

I prefer to create these sculptures and be wrong than not be wrong and to recreate Venus from Milo; Venus from Milo has been already created once and oh, she's unbearably old.

Constantin Brâncuși

Beginning of the world



The blond negress



Portrait of miss Pogany



Danaide



The kiss



Newborn



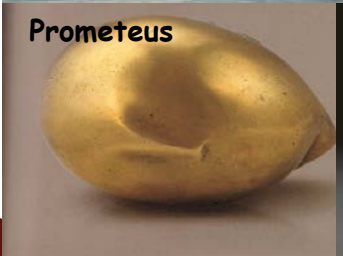
Silent table



The gate of Kiss



Prometheus



Sleeping muse



The gorgeous



Oak base



Leda

