

# IMPROVEMENT OF THE PRODUCTION OF AROMATIC COMPOUNDS OBTAINED FROM THE PYROLYSIS OF SCRAP TIRE RUBBER USING HETEROPOLYACIDS-BASED CATALYSTS

By

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Santander

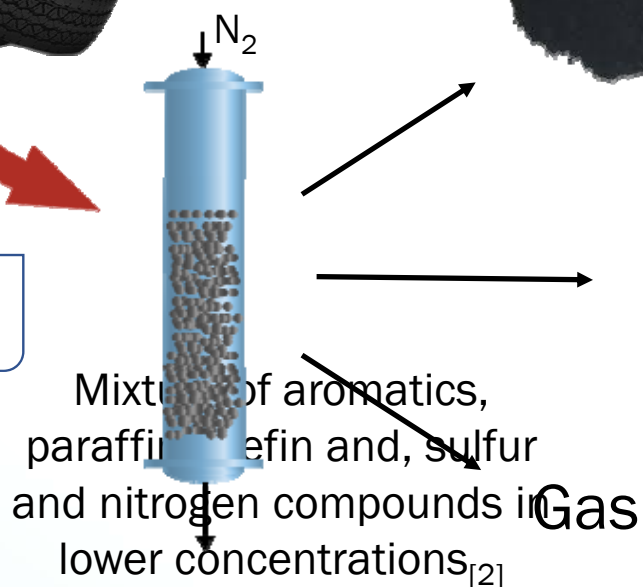


# Introducción

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**PYROLYSIS**



D,L limonene  
30-40 wt% [3]

BTX aromatics  
6-8 wt% [3]

Benzene  
Toluene  
Xylenes  
Ethylbenzene

Chemical synthesis of plastics, synthetic rubber, paints, pigments, explosives, pesticides, fragrances, degreasers and cleaning products. [4]

# Introducción



**AROMATICS**

Zeolites

Bifunctional

Pure Silica



Lower Si/Al ratio increase in the concentration of single ring aromatic compounds



Decrease of oil yield and an increase of gas yield



High cracking activity

# Introducción

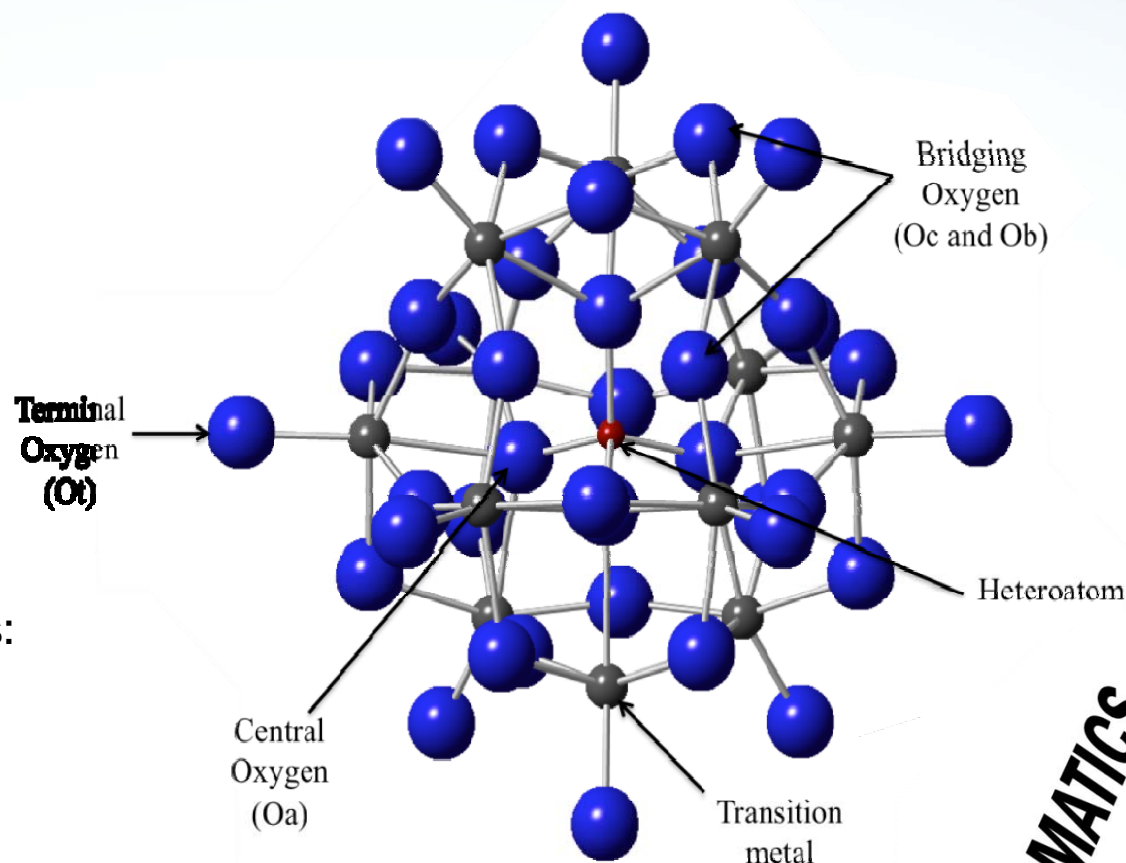
## NEW ALTERNATIVE

- ◆ Acid and redox functions
- ◆ Lewis and Brønsted acidity



Different reactions:

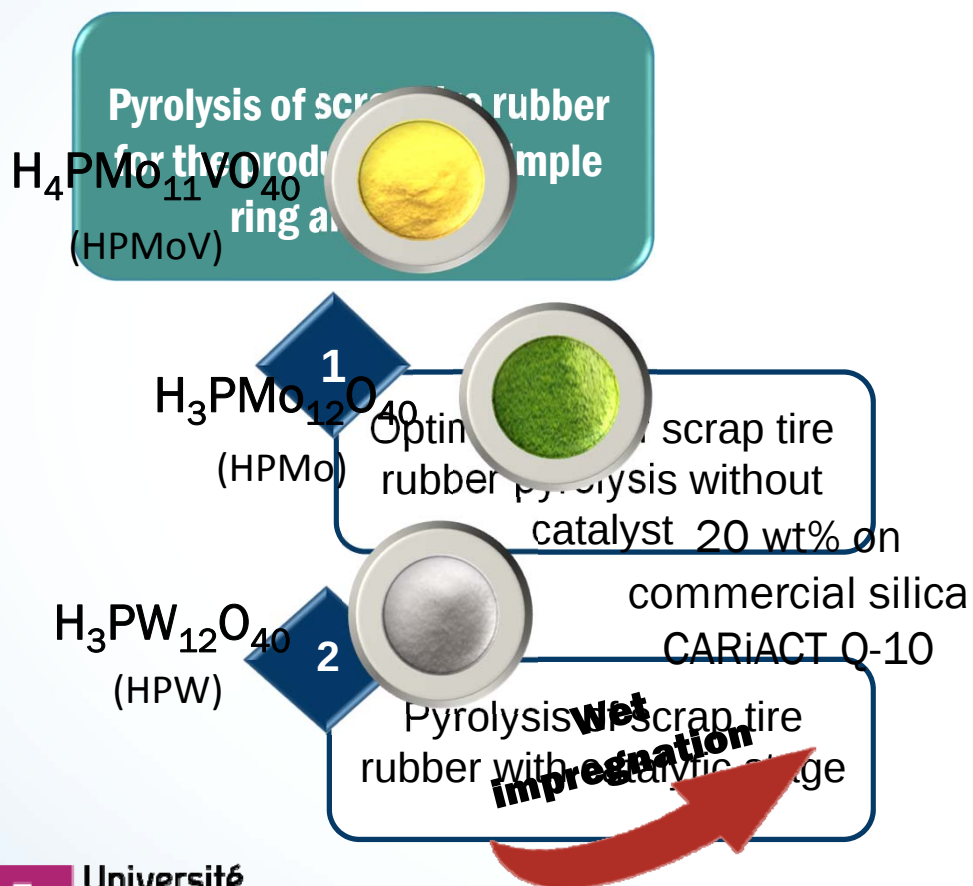
- ◆ Oxidation.
- ◆ Reduction.
- ◆ Condensation.
- ◆ Carboxylation.
- ◆ Dehydrogenation.
- ◆ Isomerization



## HETEROPOLYACIDS

AROMATICS

# Methodology



$D_p = 0.85 - 1\text{mm}$

| Compound                 | Concentration (wt%)** |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| NR                       | 50.05 ± 2.07          |
| SBR                      | 1.44 ± 0.125          |
| BR*                      | 14.72 ± 2.195         |
| Black carbon + additives | 33.79                 |

Note: \*It was determined by difference.

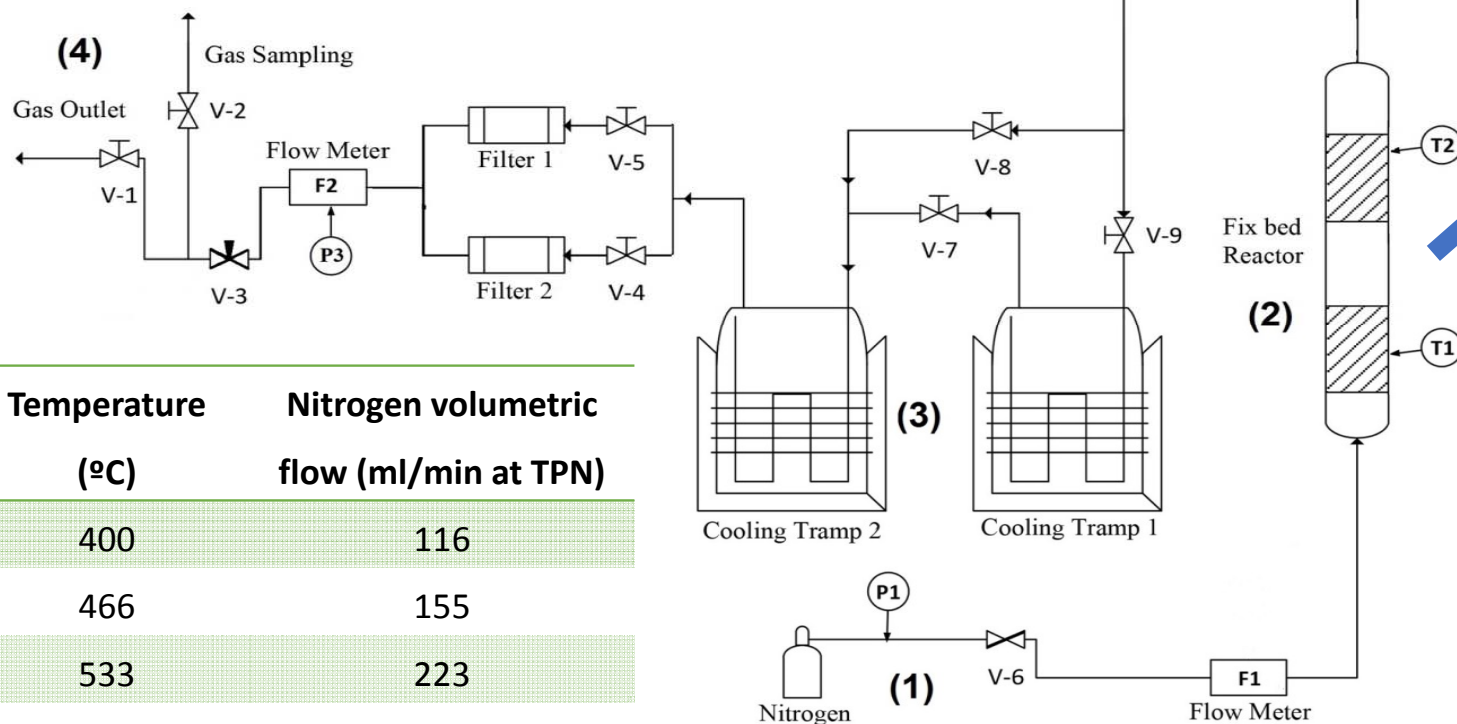
\*\*Dry basis.

# Methodology

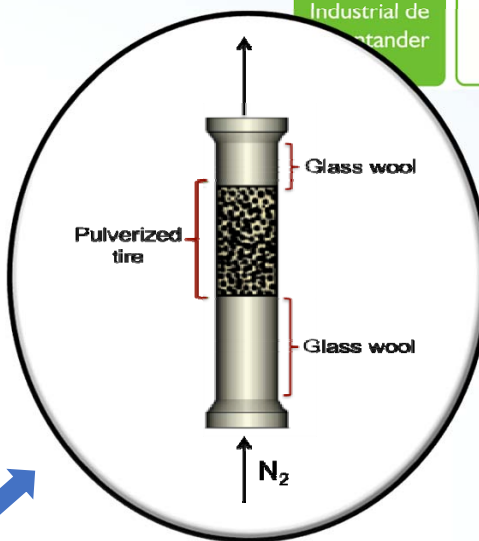
1

Optimization of scrap tire rubber pyrolysis without catalyst

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| Temperature<br>(°C) | Nitrogen volumetric<br>flow (ml/min at TPN) |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 400                 | 116                                         |
| 466                 | 155                                         |
| 533                 | 223                                         |
| 600                 |                                             |

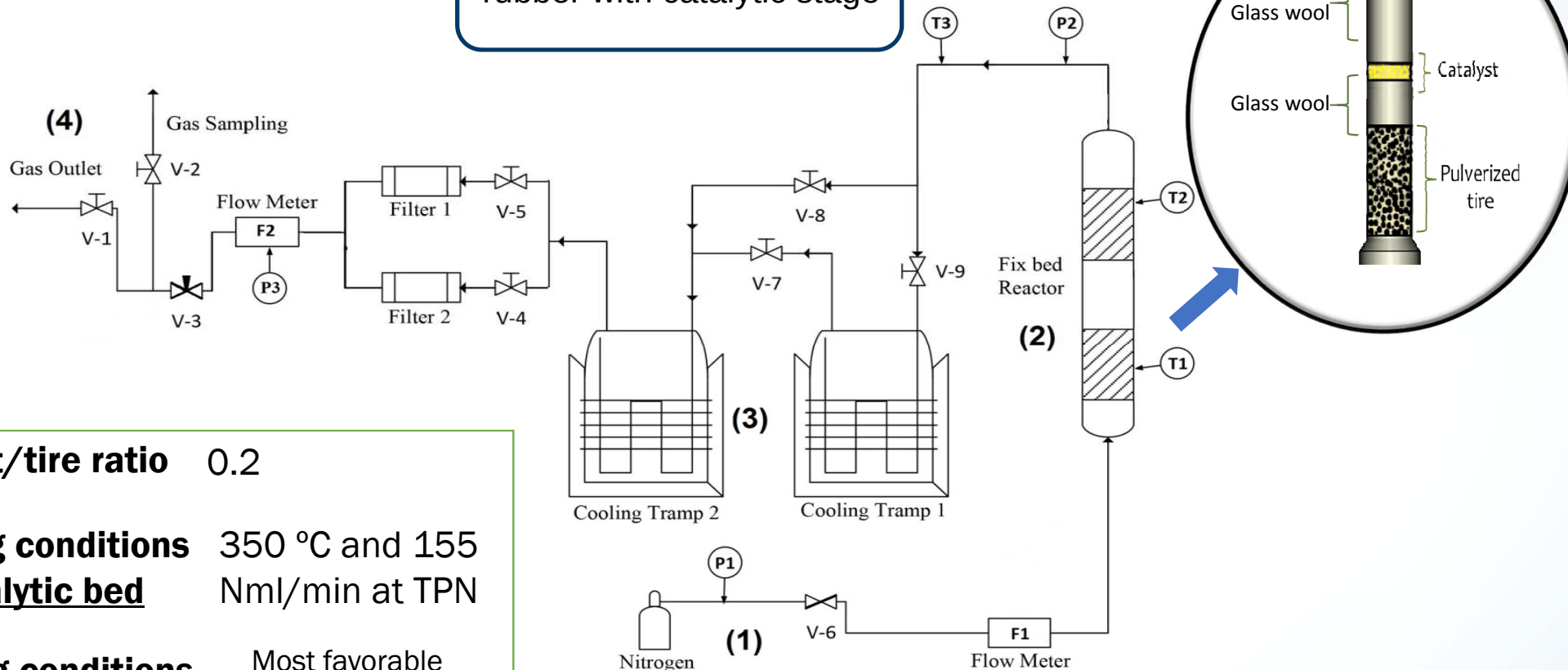


| Response<br>variable 1        | Response<br>variable 2               |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Pyrolytic oil yield<br>(wt %) | Aromatic<br>compounds yield<br>(wt%) |

# Methodology

2

Pyrolysis of scrap tire rubber with catalytic stage



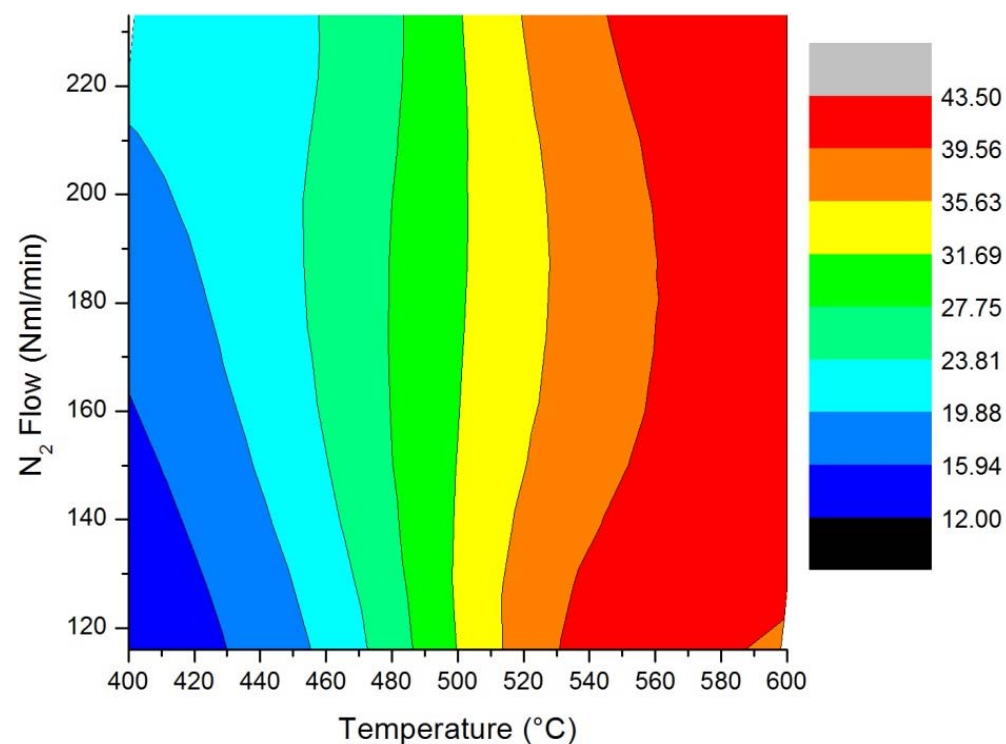
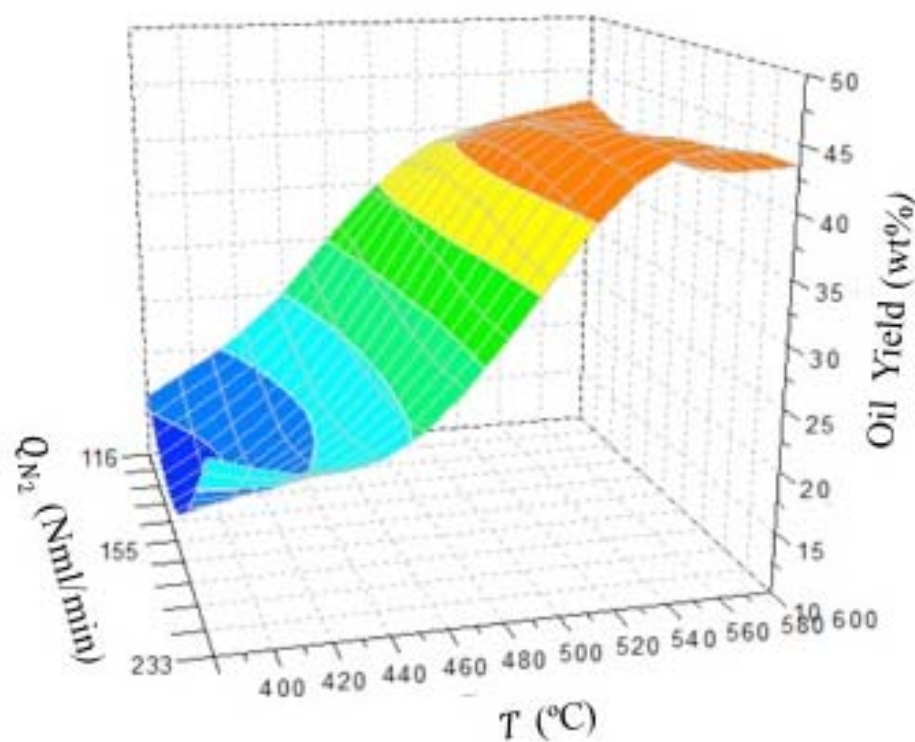
**Catalyst/tire ratio** 0.2

**Operating conditions of catalytic bed** 350 °C and 155 Nml/min at TPN

**Operating conditions of scrap tire bed** Most favorable operating conditions found in stage 1

# Results and discussion

## MAXIMUM OIL YIELD

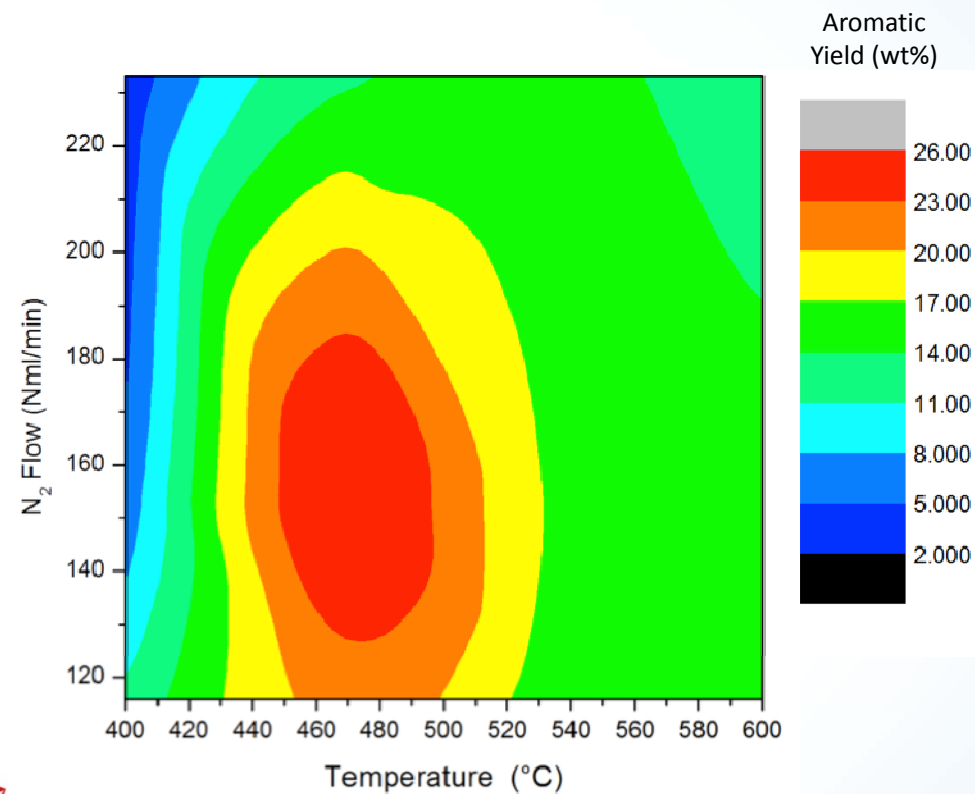
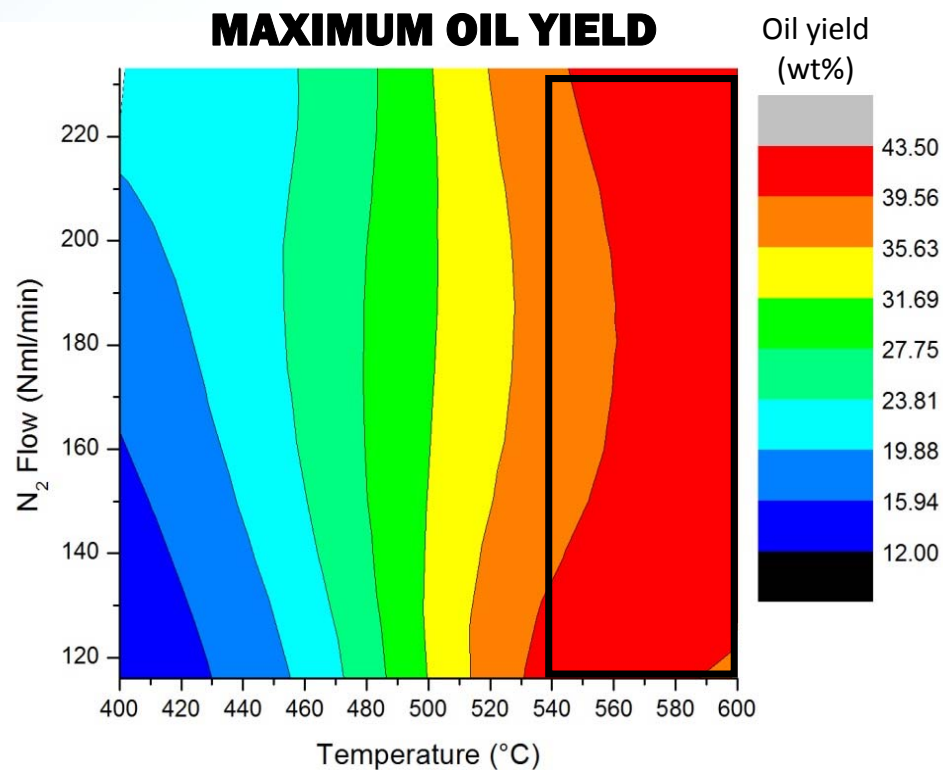


# Results and discussion



## MAXIMUM AROMATIC YIELD

### MAXIMUM OIL YIELD



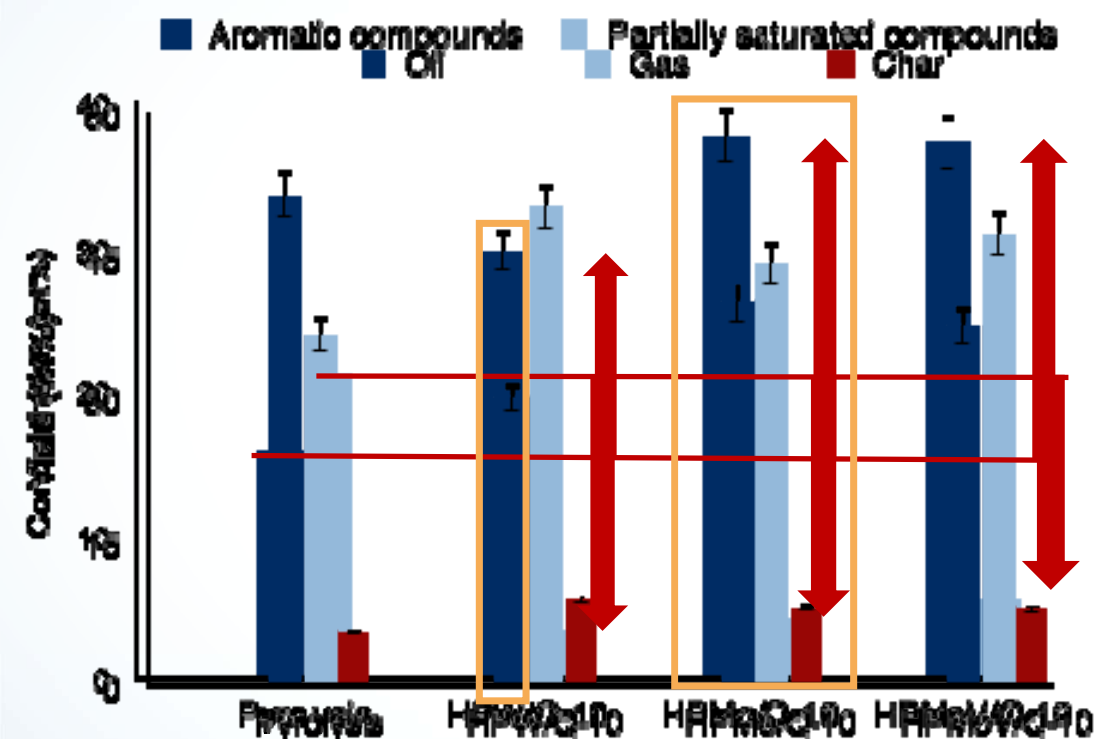
600 °C and 233 Nml/min



466 °C and 155 Nml/min

# Results and discussion

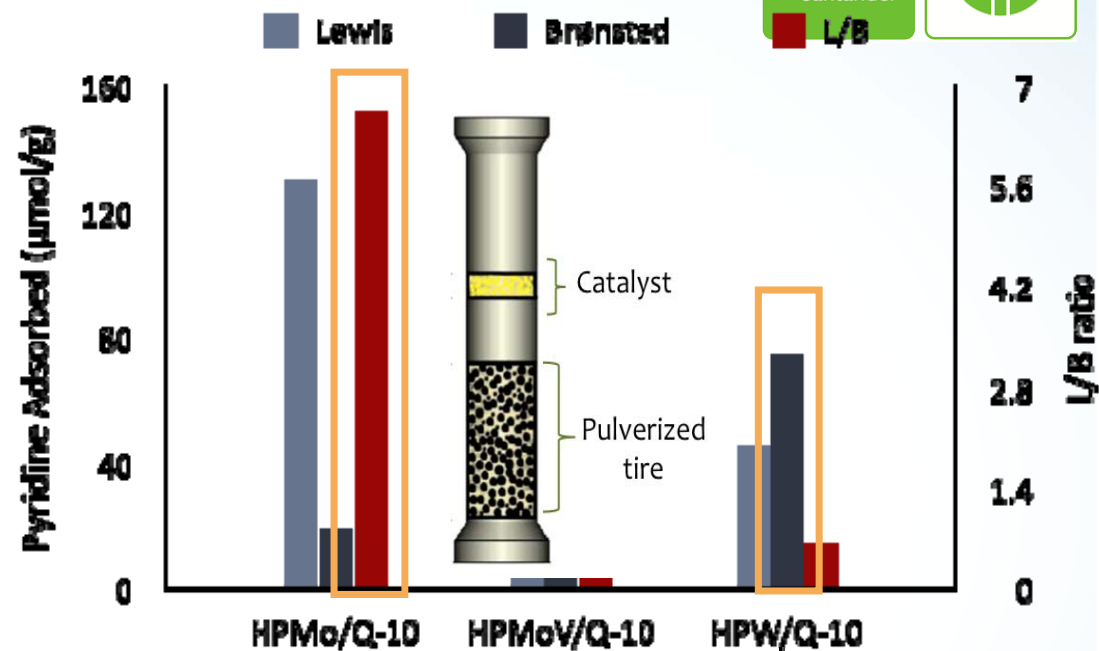
Product distribution obtained with the pyrolysis of pulverized tire with and without catalyst step



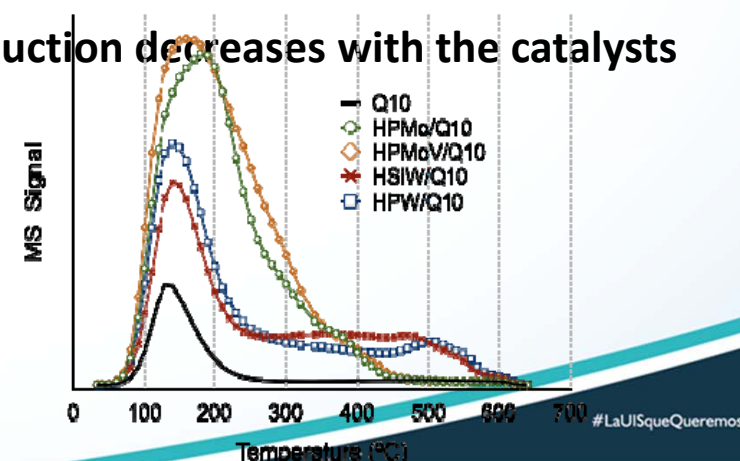
Brønsted Acidity = Increase gas yield

Cracking reactions

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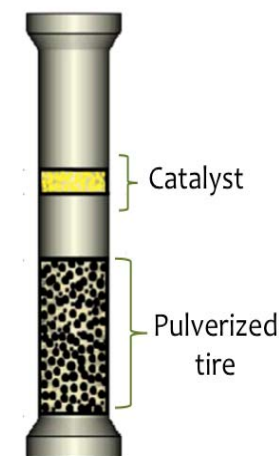
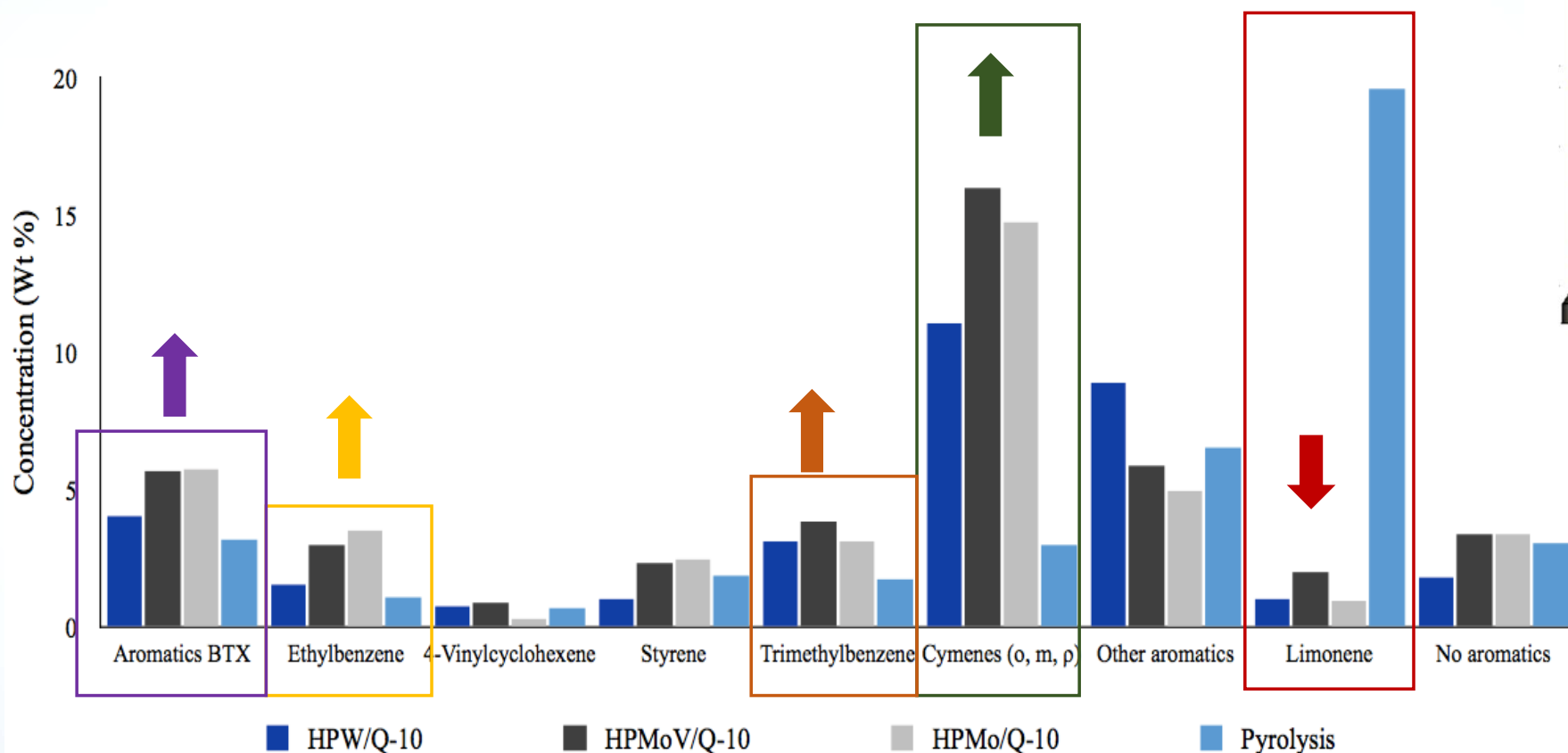


The oil production decreases with the catalysts



# Results and discussion

## Concentration of the aromatics and the partially saturated cyclic compounds in the pyrolytic oil



# Conclusions



- ✓ The operating variables for the pyrolysis of scrap tires having the most influence on distribution of products are the.  
**The highest yield of pyrolysis oil does not necessarily lead to a higher yield of aromatics.**
- ✓ The HPA based catalysts used in the catalytic reforming of volatiles from STR pyrolysis allow increasing the production of aromatic compounds but decrease the pyrolytic oil yield.
- ✓ The number of Brønsted sites do not promote the oil yield, founding in this study a decrease up to 41% when the Tungsten-based catalyst was used. Therefore, the gas yield was slightly increased.

# Conclusions



- ✓ On the contrary, the aromatic concentration in pyrolytic oil was increased to close to 140% when Molybdenum-based catalysts were used. Conversely, at these conditions, the concentration of partially saturated cyclic compounds, such as limonene, was drastically decreased.
- ✓ Cymenes compounds were the major aromatic compounds in pyrolytic oil as a result of the reforming of D, L limonene. The results show that the Molybdenum-based catalysts with an high ratio of Lewis/Brønsted acid sites favors its production

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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