

Metal Organic Framework – A Novel Sorbent for a Greener World

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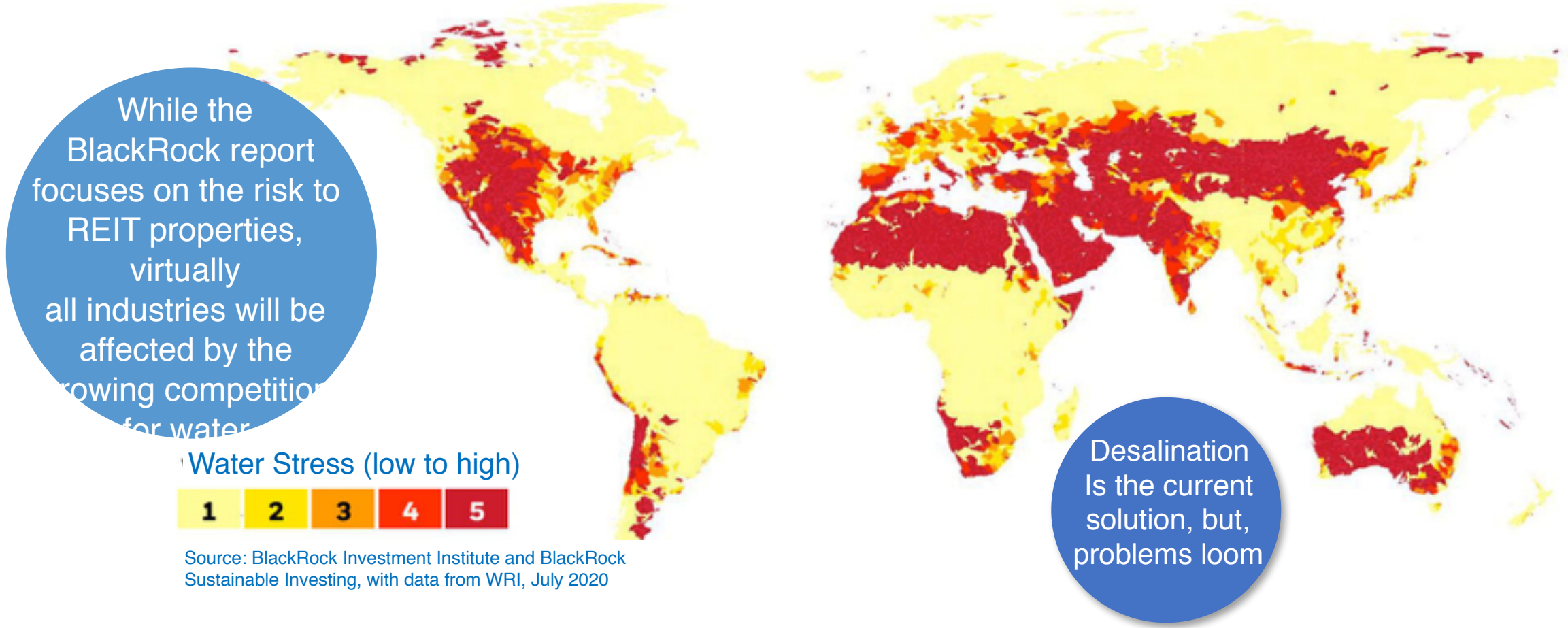
David Kuo

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- 113 US and Worldwide Patents

Projected water stress around the world by 2030



While the BlackRock report focuses on the risk to REIT properties, virtually all industries will be affected by the growing competition for water.

Desalination Is the current solution, but, problems loom

Water Stress (low to high)

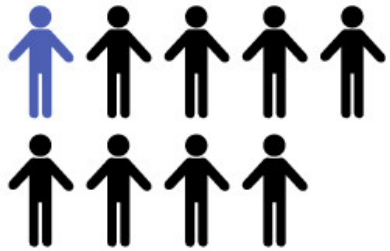


Source: BlackRock Investment Institute and BlackRock Sustainable Investing, with data from WRI, July 2020

Growing Problem: Scarcity and Quality

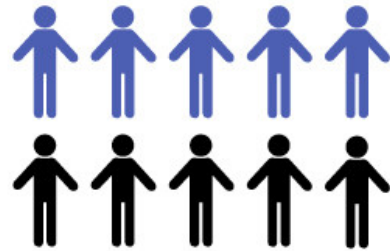
Drivers

Population Growth and Economic Growth



1 in 9

People on the planet today lack basic drinking water



1 in 2

People will live with water stress by 2025

Challenges

Sustainability and Resilience

- **Compromised Supply**
 - Dwindling sources
 - Groundwater over extraction
 - Aquifer depletion
 - Climate change
 - Contamination
- **Delivery challenges**
 - Aging infrastructure
 - Carbon footprint of transport

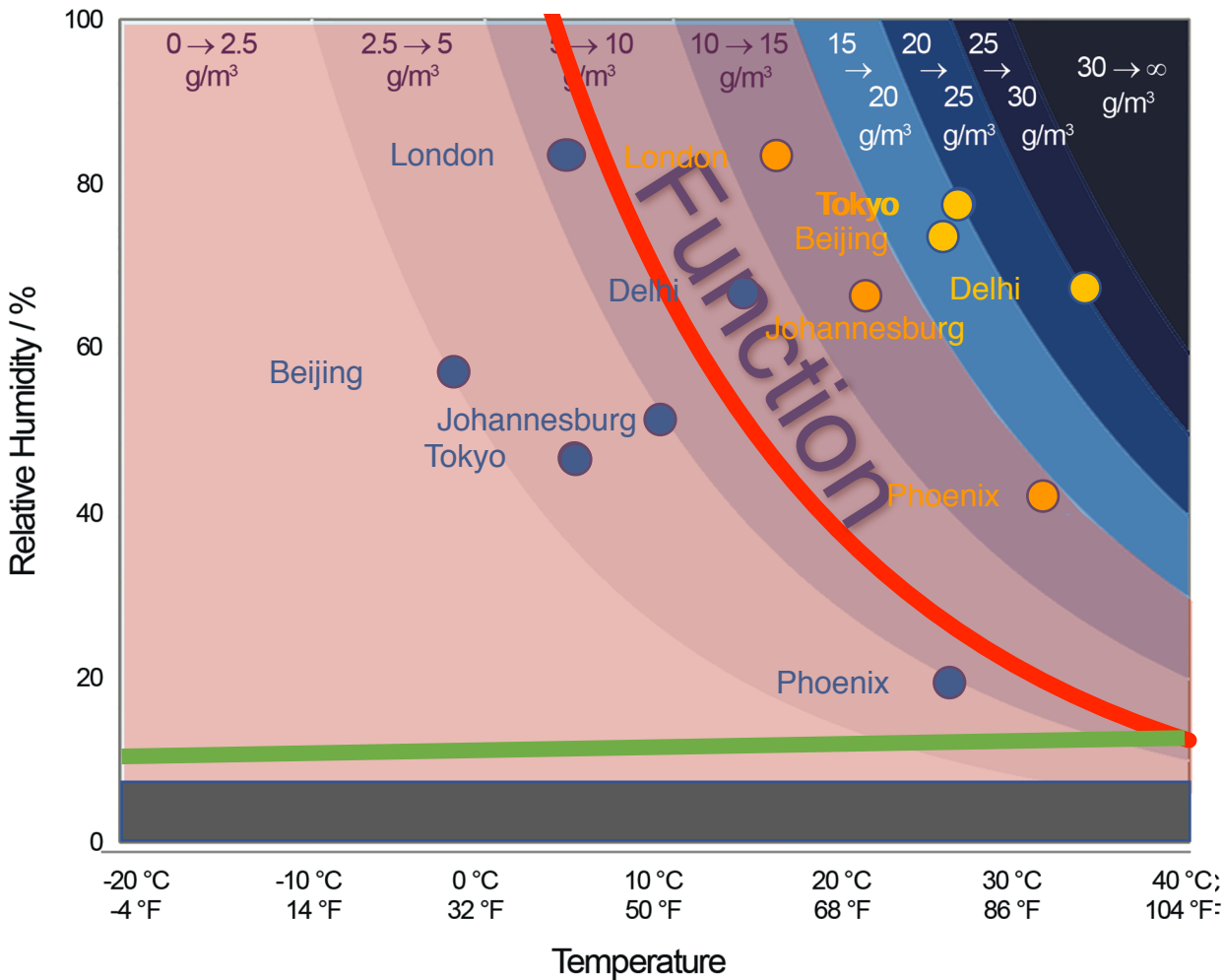
A Major Natural Resource

- 3,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 (three sextillion)
Liters of water in the air at any one time
- 160 Countries import their water
- 1/3 of the world population has no access to clean water

Atmospheric Water Generation Depends on Weather

Below 15g/m³, AWG Condensing Solutions Degrade or Fail Altogether

Performance of AWG Systems is Dependent on Absolute Humidity, which is Determined by the Relationship Between RH and Temp



Tokyo in August
28°C
RH 72%

Tokyo in January
5°C
RH 51%

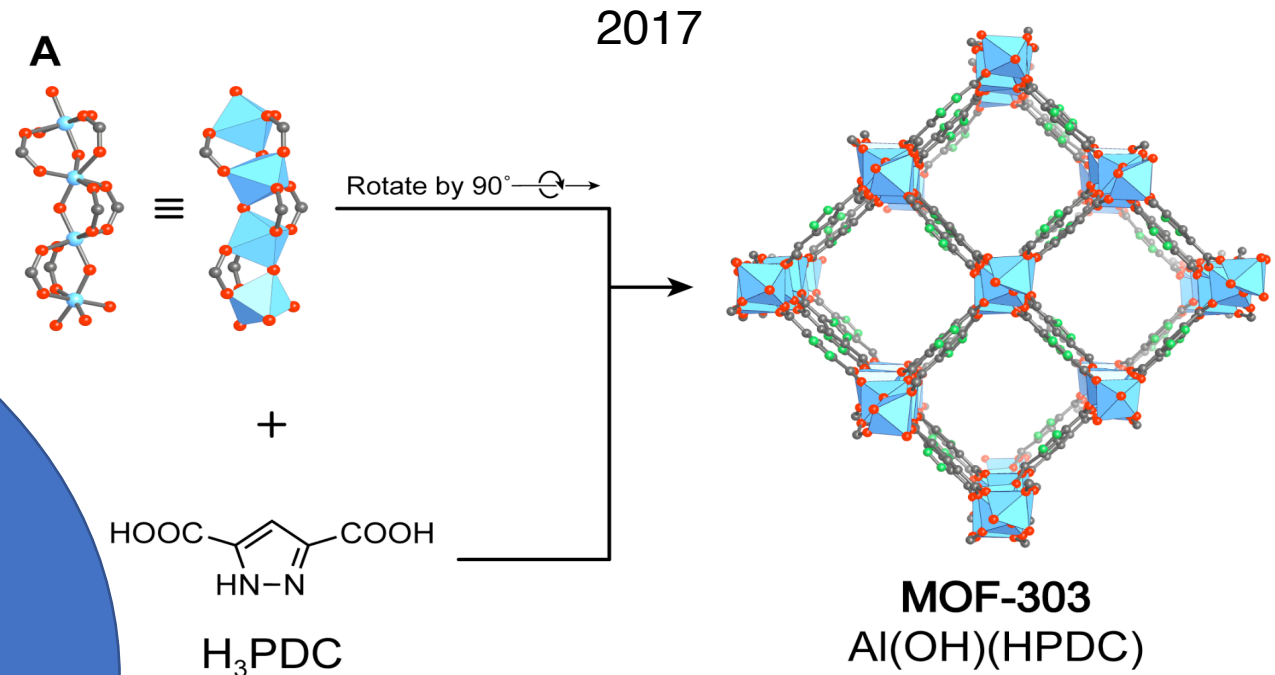
- Denotes Summer
- Denotes Winter



Metal Organic Framework (MOF)



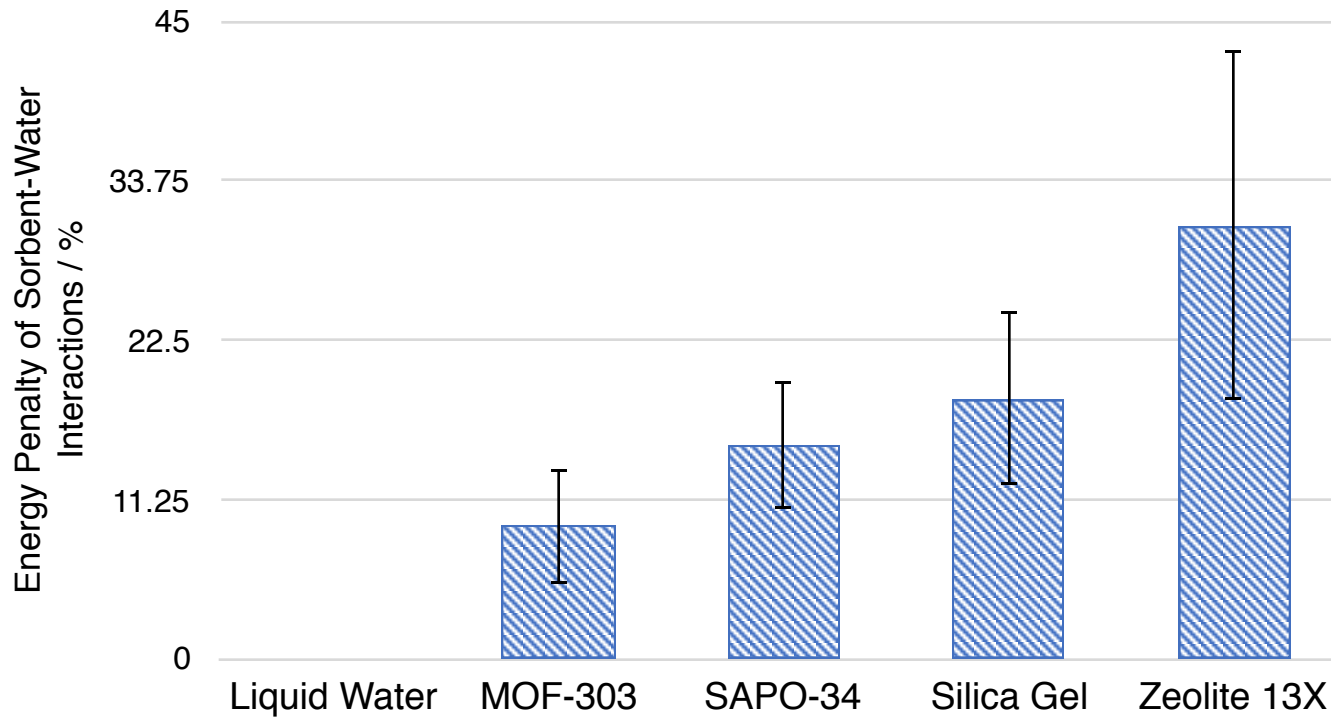
- Pioneered (1995) by Professor Omar Yaghi @ UC Berkeley
- Extreme Porosity: 50 % of volume is empty space
- Extreme Surface Area: 1 gram can cover a football field
- Can be designed to selectively capture water, hydrogen, natural gas, and carbon dioxide



Water capacity at 25 °C at RH of 25%

0.33 Liters per 1 kg of MOF-303

Energy Efficiency is also Sorbent Dependent



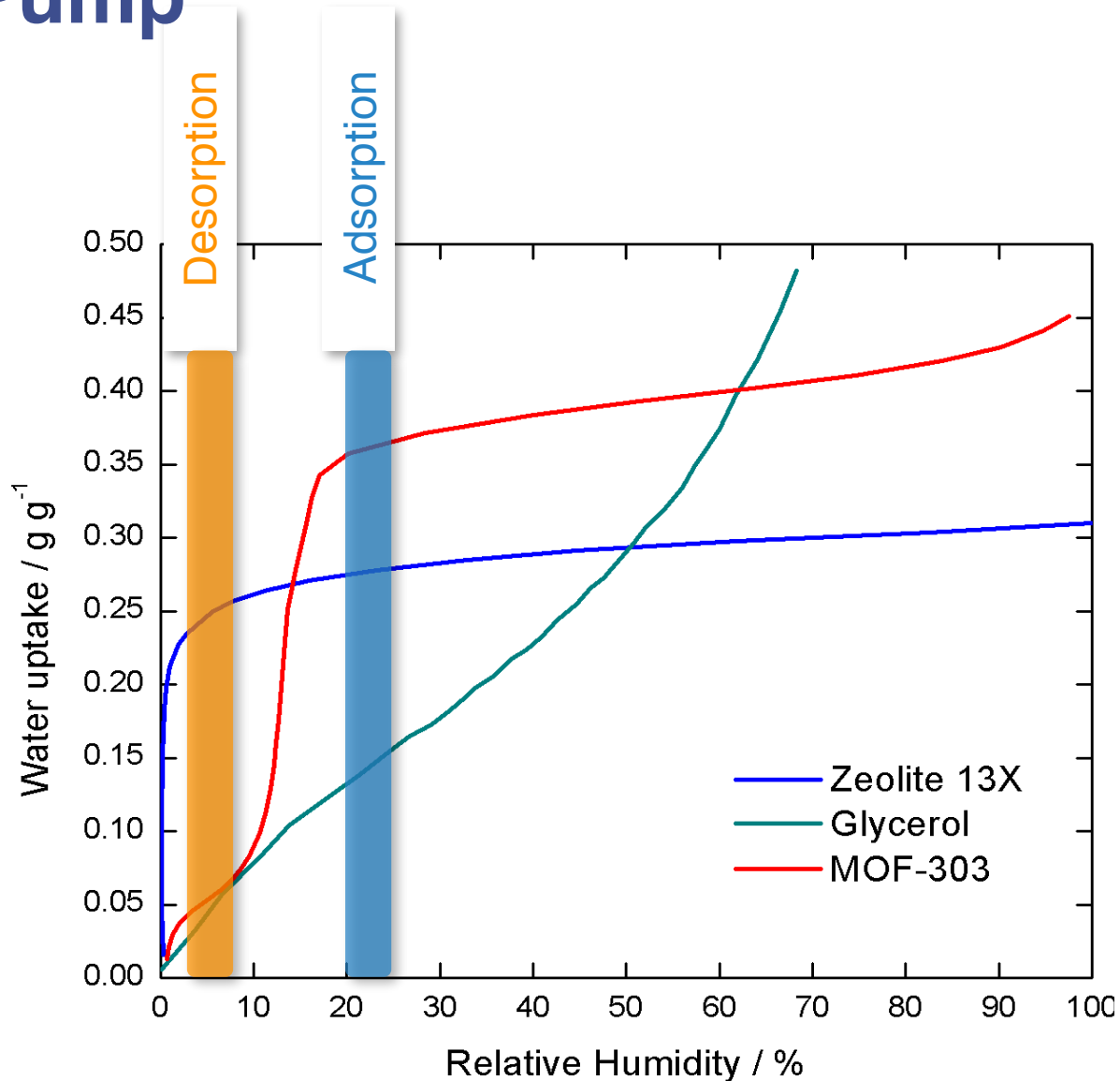
Where Q_{st} is the heat of adsorption, h_{fg} is the latent heat of vaporization of liquid water and A is the cumulative energy of sorbent-water interactions

The lower the A value, the lower is the energy of adsorption which in turn drives the energy-efficiency of water harvesting systems

The lower the value of energy of adsorption the lower the required temperature of desorption, which in turn determines the coefficient of performance of water harvesting systems

MOF-303 provides WaHa with the highest coefficient of performance

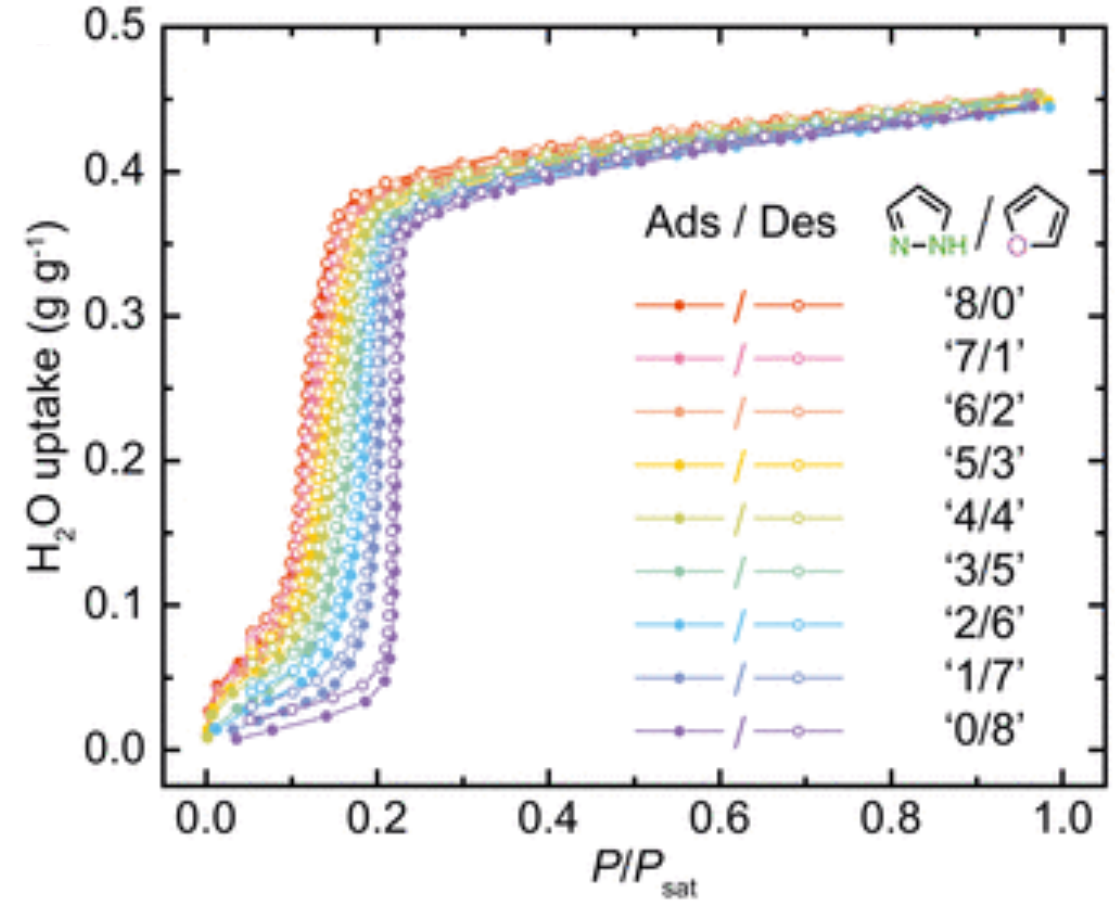
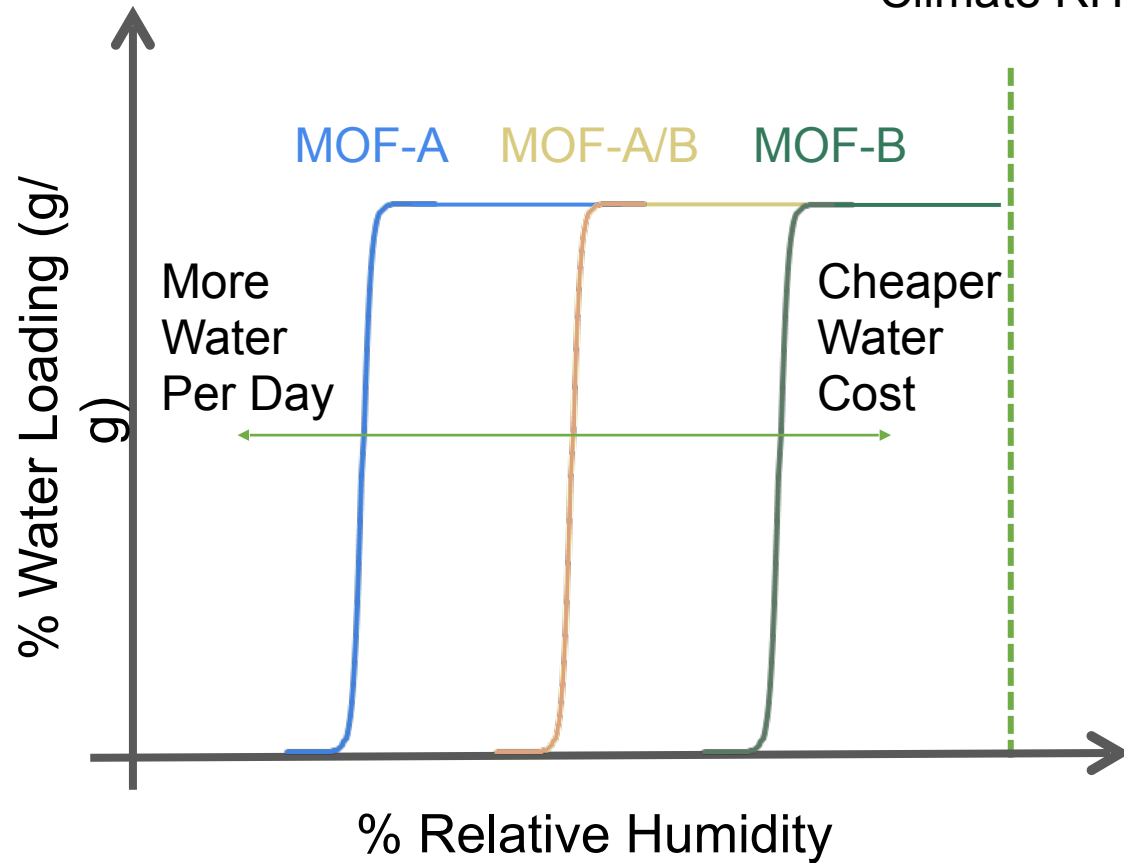
MOF: Step Isotherm enables Energy Efficiency with a Heat Pump



- Zeolite
 - Capable of adsorption at low RH, albeit not as much uptake as MOF
 - However, adsorption energy is very high (2x of MOF), and it is difficult (and costly) to get water out
- Glycerol
 - As a liquid, has a fairly low surface to volume ratio, hence hard to get water in & out
 - Isotherm shows low uptake under ~50% humidity, hence not adequate in arid areas
- MOF-303
 - Exhibits ideal, Step function isotherm, with inflection near 15% RH and high adsorption capability

MuTiVariate (MTV) MOF

Climate RH



- More hydrophilic MOF-A makes more water per day albeit at higher energy cost
- More hydrophobic MOF-B makes less water per day at lower energy cost
- MTV-MOF-A/B makes as much water as needed at desired energy cost

Wide Variety of MOF's with Different Isotherm Steps

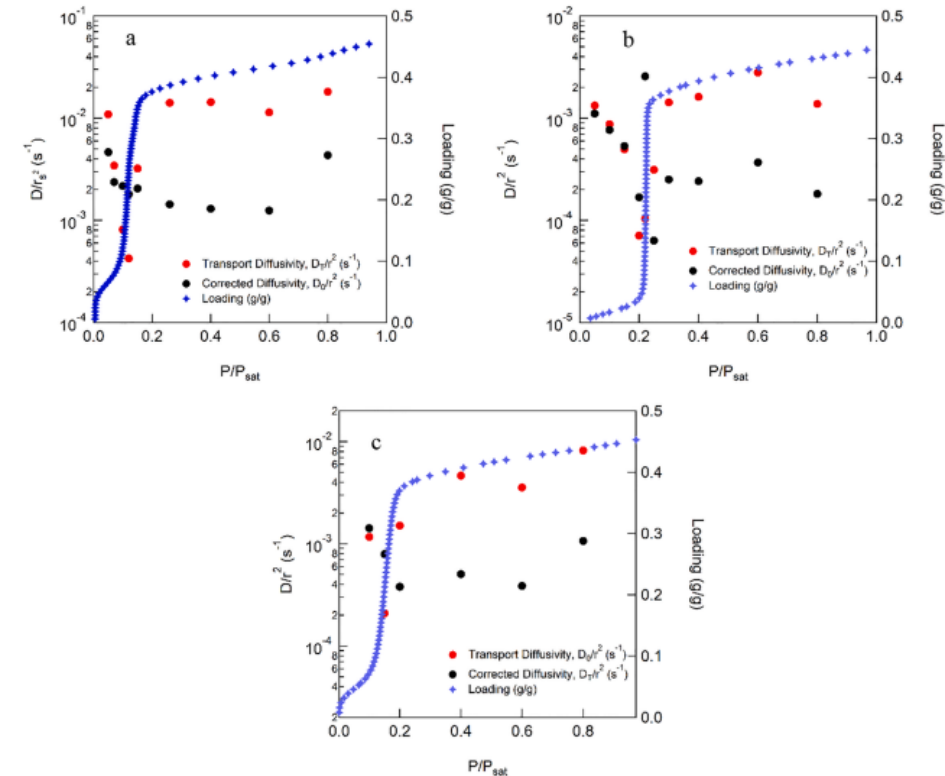
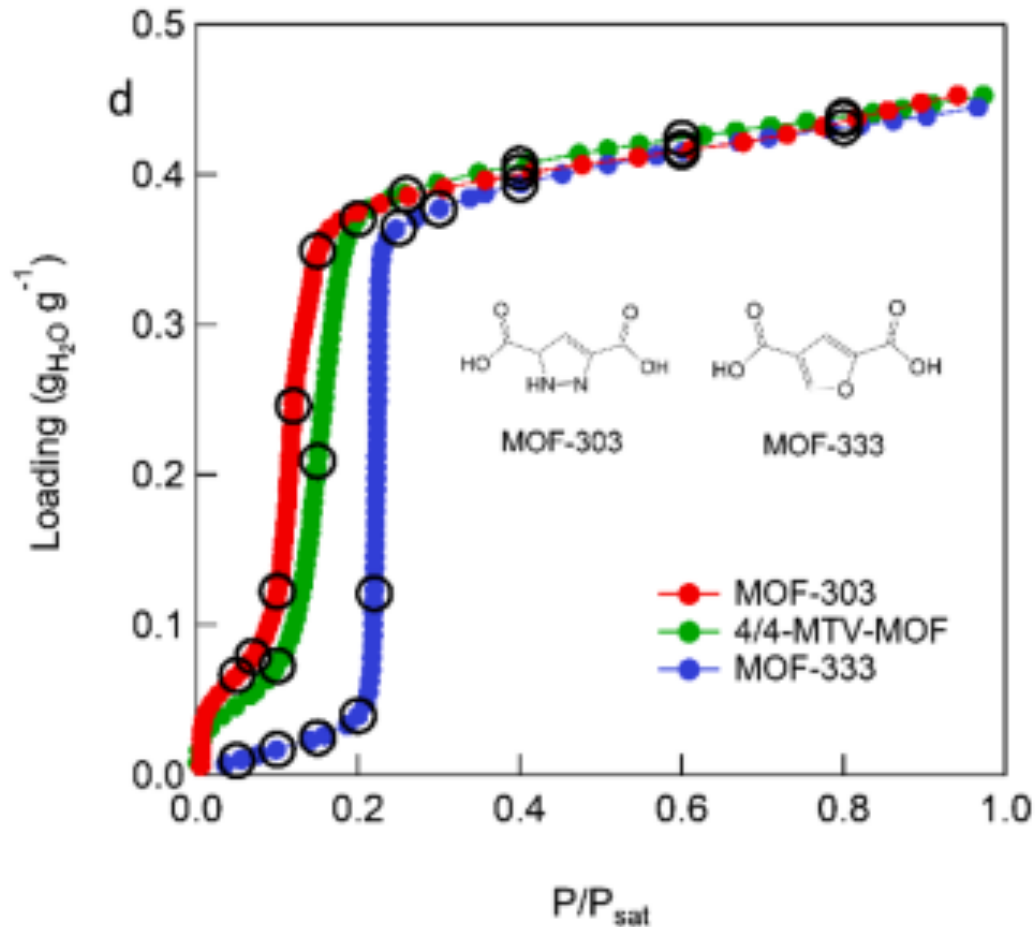
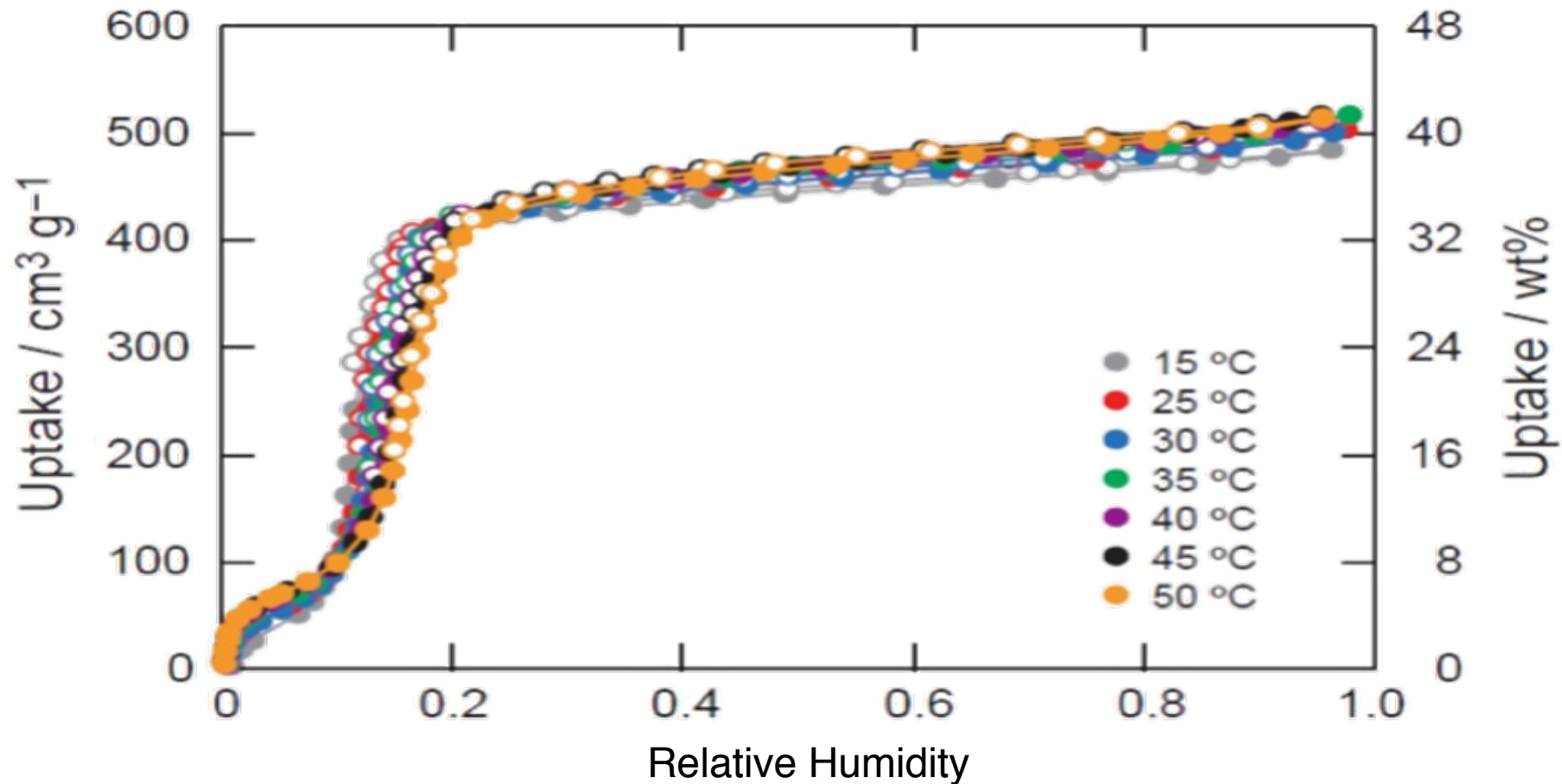


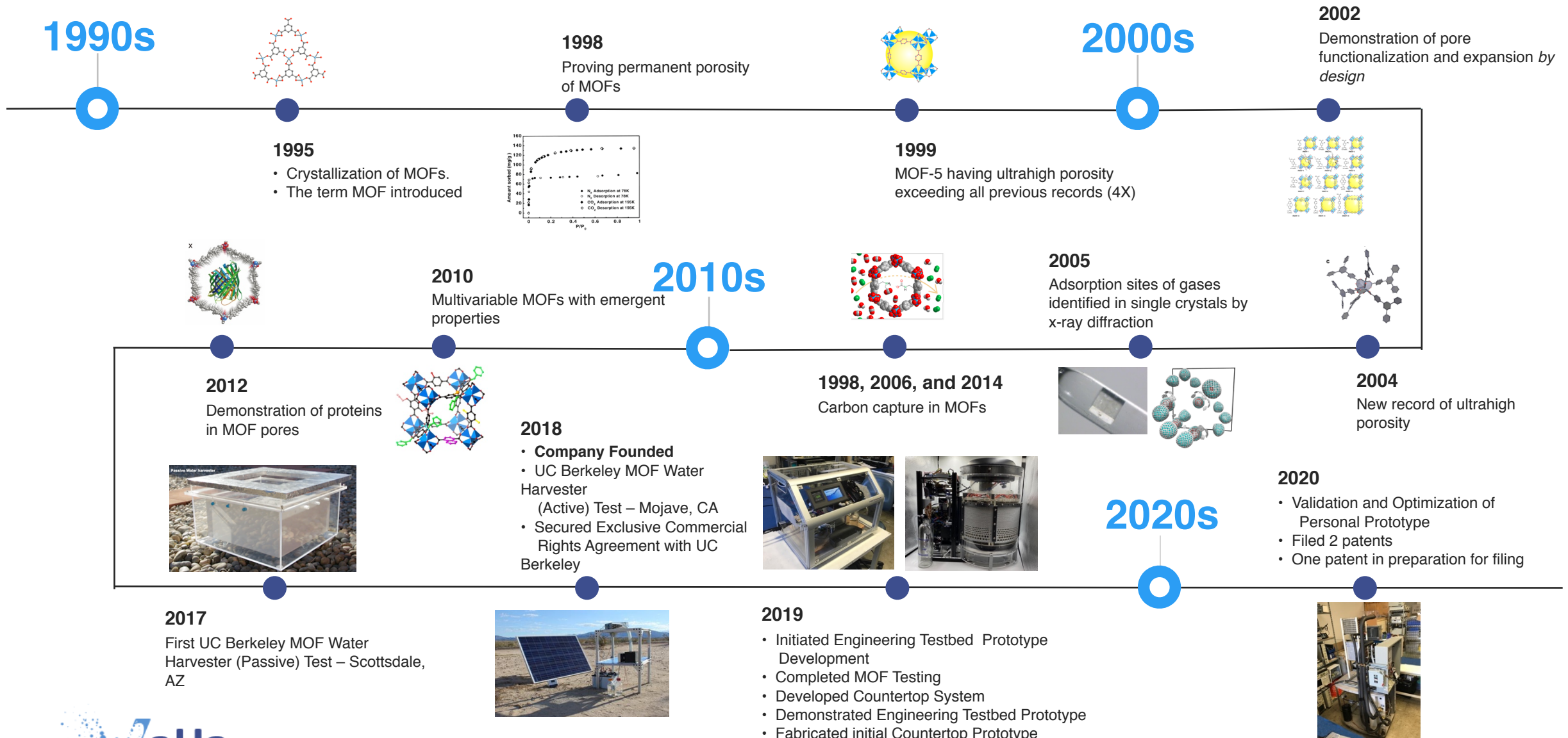
Fig. 5. Corrected and transport diffusivities for water in (a) MOF-303, (b) MOF-333, and (c) 4/4-MTV-MOF, overlaid with adsorption isotherms to illustrate the impact of equilibrium effects on transport diffusion measurements. Isotherms as from Figure 1 (Hanikel et al., 2019; Hanikel et al., 2021).

“Mass transfer in atmospheric water harvesting systems”, Thomas Lassitter a , Nikita Hanikel b , Dennis J. Coyle c , Mohammad I. Hossain a , Bryce Lipinski c , Michael O’Brien c , David B. Hall c , Jon Hastings a , Juan Borja c , Travis O’Neil c , S. Ephraim Neumann b , David R. Moore c , Omar M. Yaghi b , T. Grant Glover a,* [Chemical Engineering Science](#) Volume 285, 5 March 2024

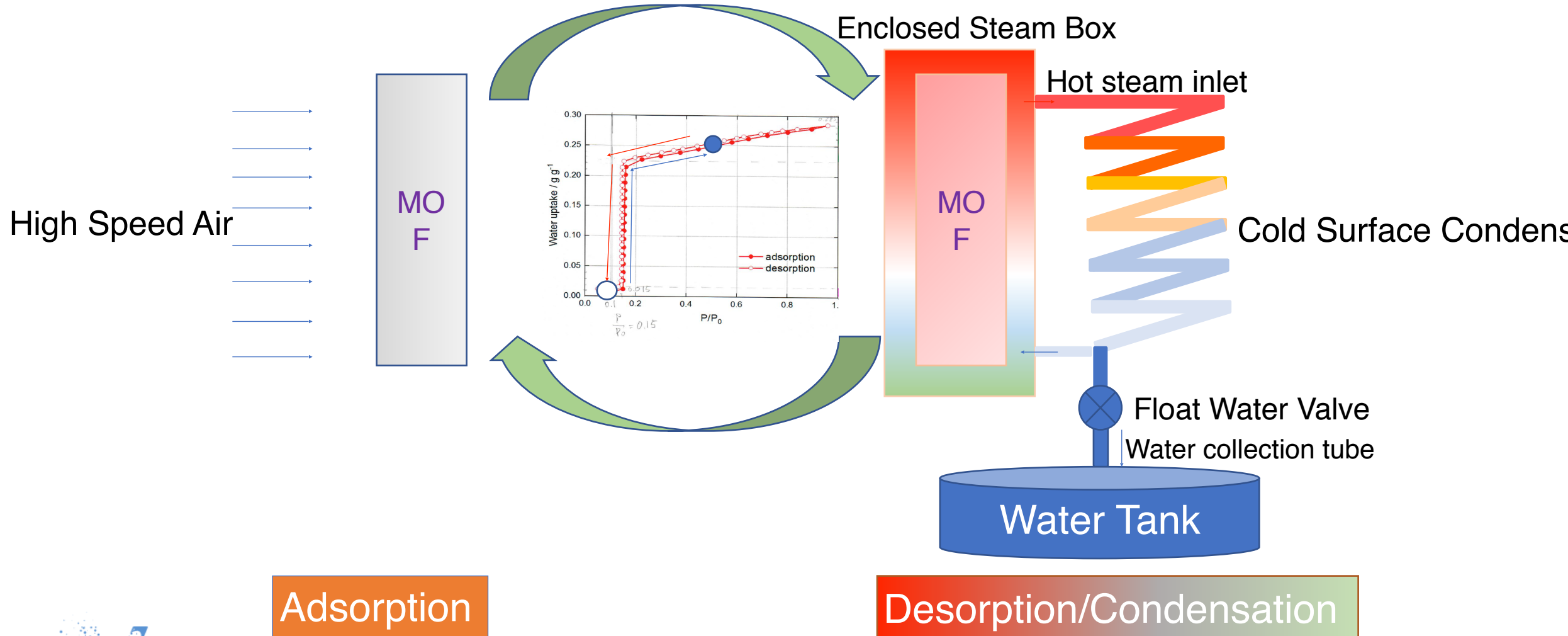
Temperature Dependency of MOF Isotherms




Evolution of MOFs and WaHa

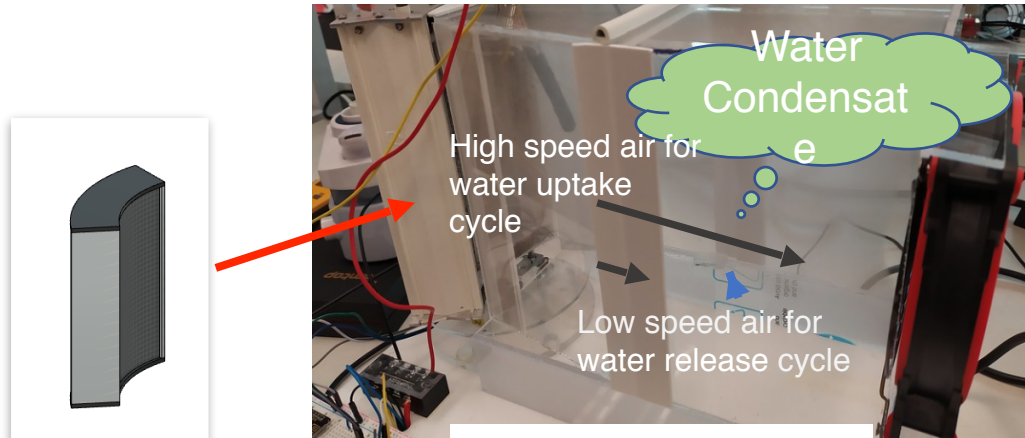


Adsorption and Desorption/Condensation

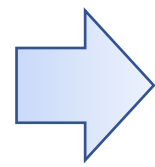
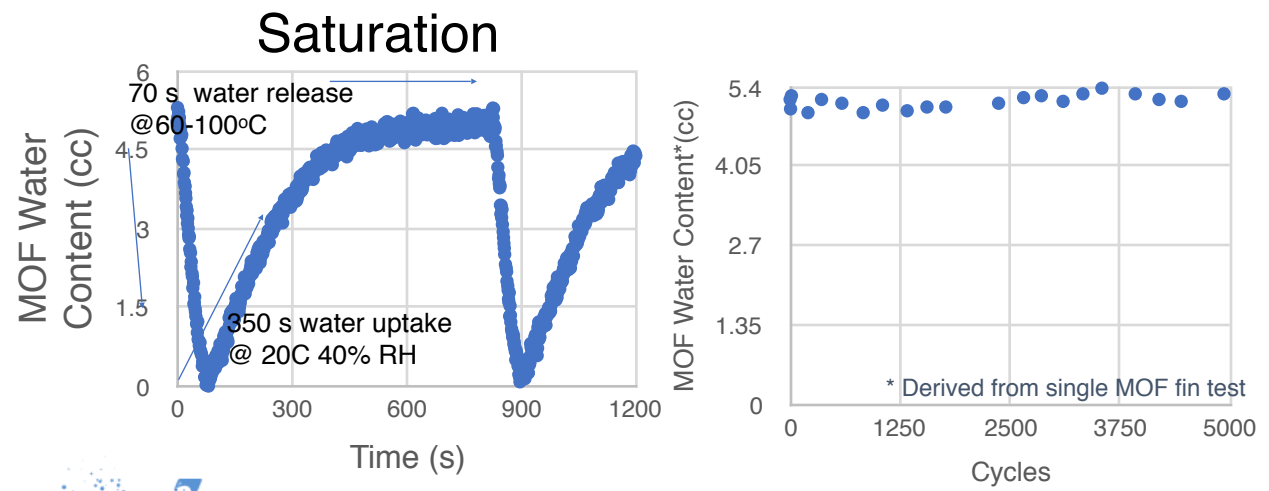


Countertop Unit 4L/day

Showcase in the  Smithsonian
Dec 2021-July
2022



Water Cycle Test



New Founding Team



**Frank R. Ramirez, JD,
MBA**

CEO & Board of Directors

Serial Entrepreneur
Energy Storage, ClimateTech,
Dental Pharma & Finance

Stanford MBA
UC Law School
Serial Entrepreneur



Eugene Kapustin, PhD
CTO

MOF Synthesis &
Characterization, Performance
Optimization
7 patents

Professor Yaghi's Protege
MOF Expert



David S. Kuo, PhD
EVP, Engineering

Exp: Thermal Science Heat
Transfer expert, Adv. Product
Design,
110 Patents

Experienced RD/Product Lead
Heat Mass Transfer Expert



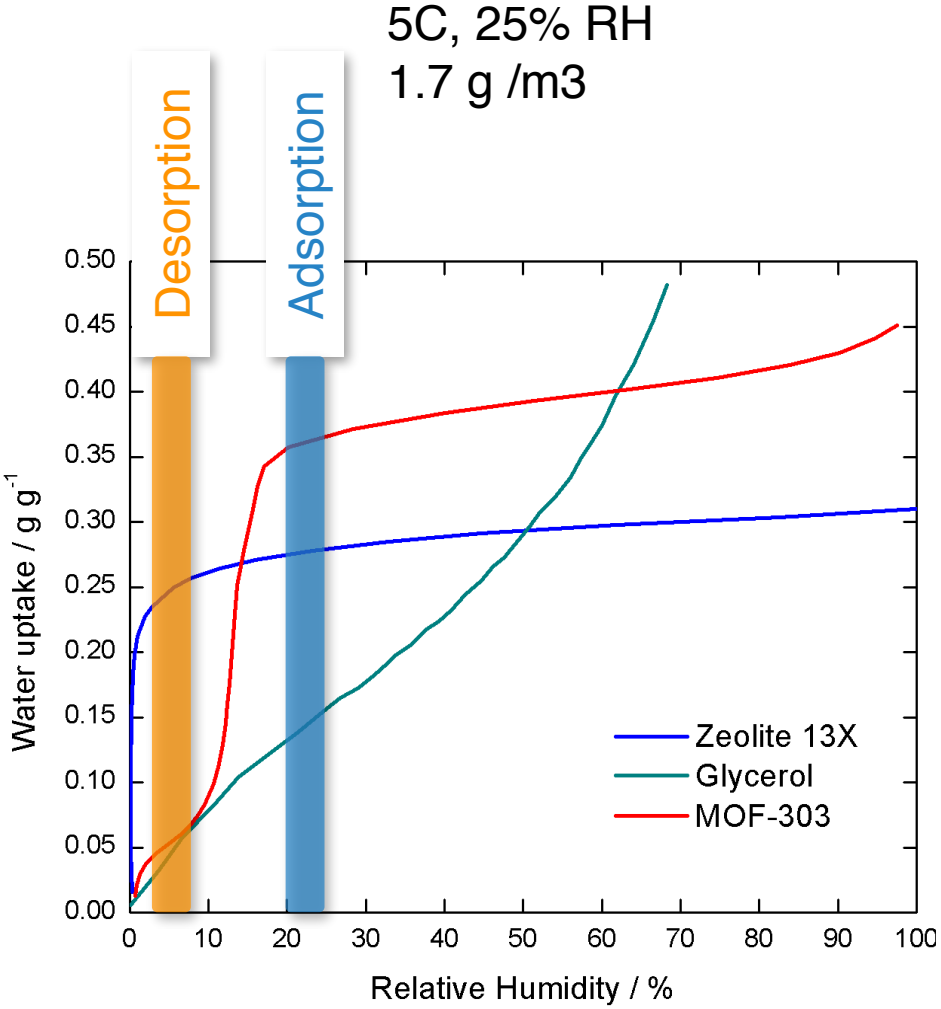
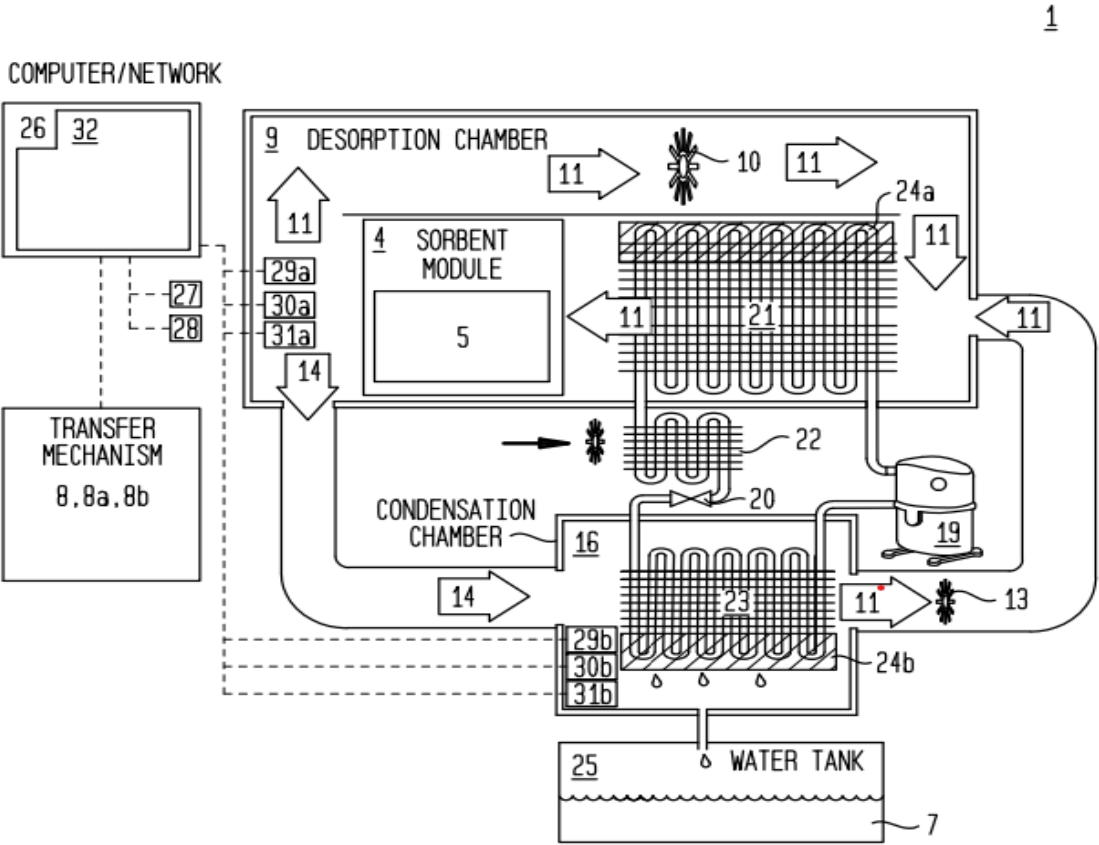
Chris Kay
COO

Serial Entrepreneur
Med Device, Software, and
Energy Storage,
5 patents

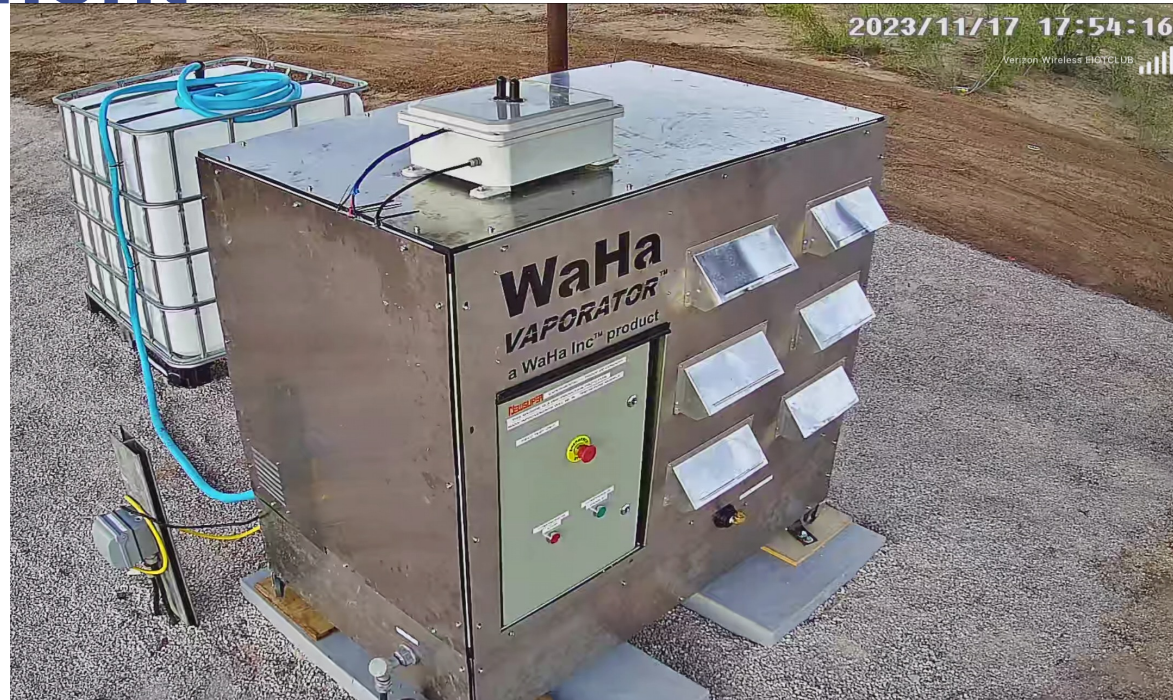
Serial Entrepreneur
Business Development

Energy-Efficient System for Water Generation

FIG. 1

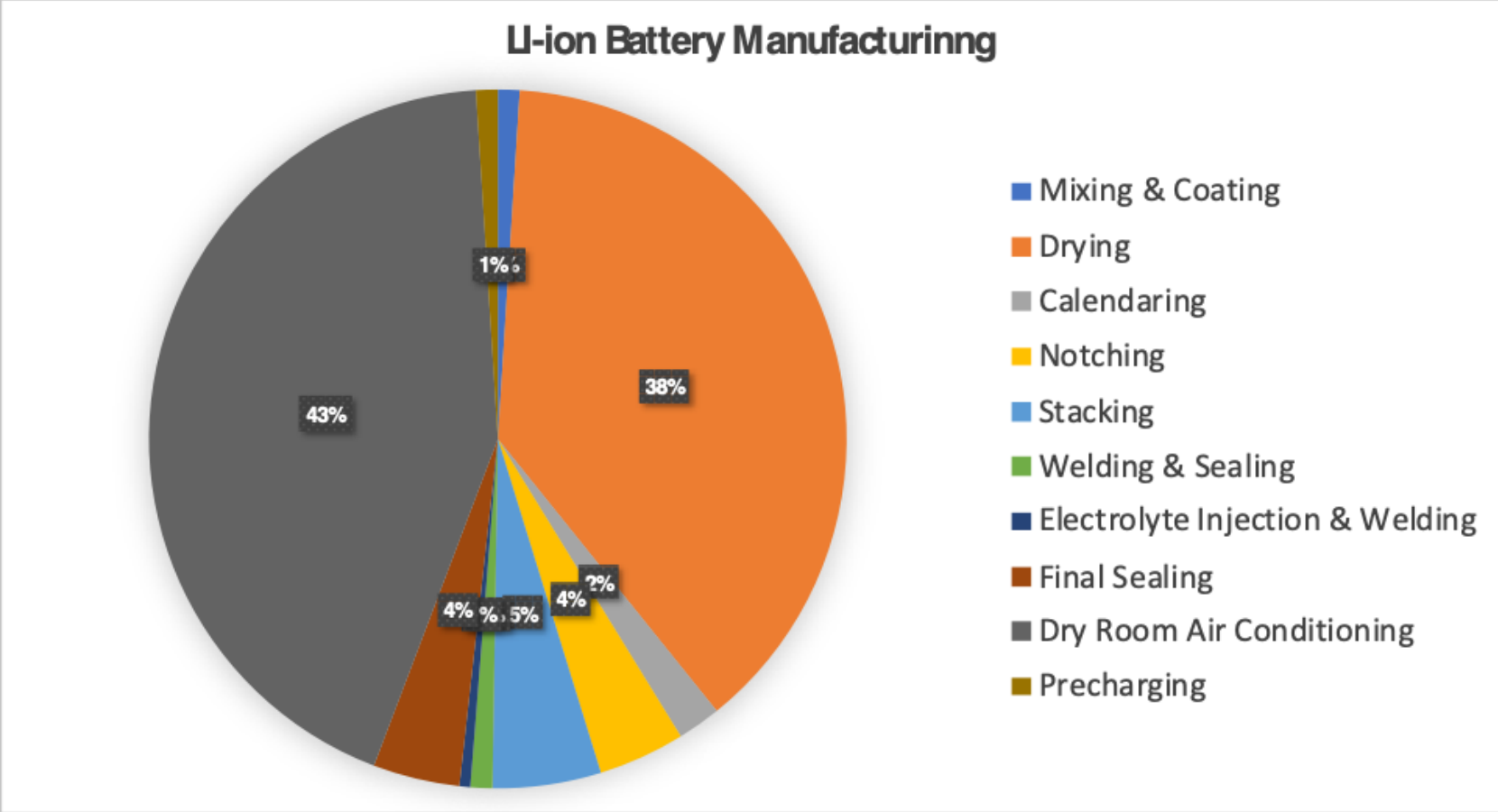


Energy Efficient AWG System in Harsh Environment



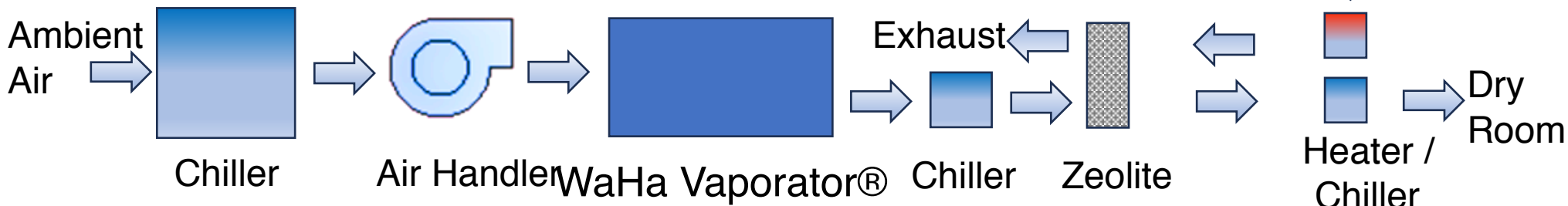
- Install in the desert of West Texas
- 20-24 liters / day
- 0.45 – 0.69 kWh/kg (based on AH)

Dry Room Air Conditioning is the #1 Source of Energy Consumption in Li-ion Battery Manufacturing

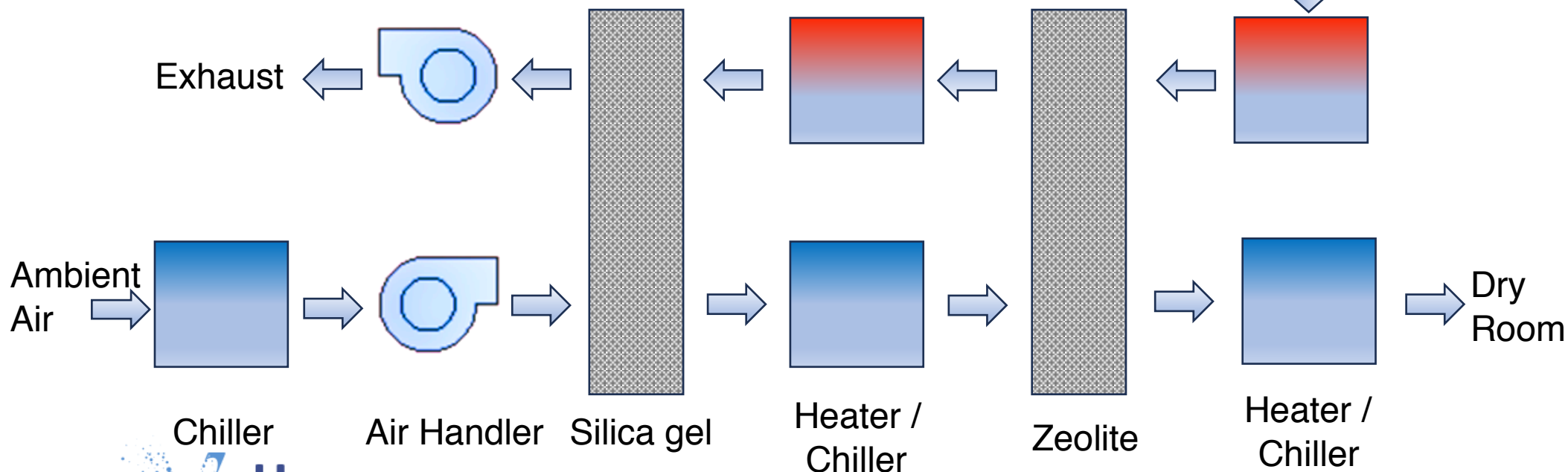


Our Process Reduces Dry Room Air Conditioning Energy Consumption by 40-60%

WaHa Dehumidification Process – most efficient



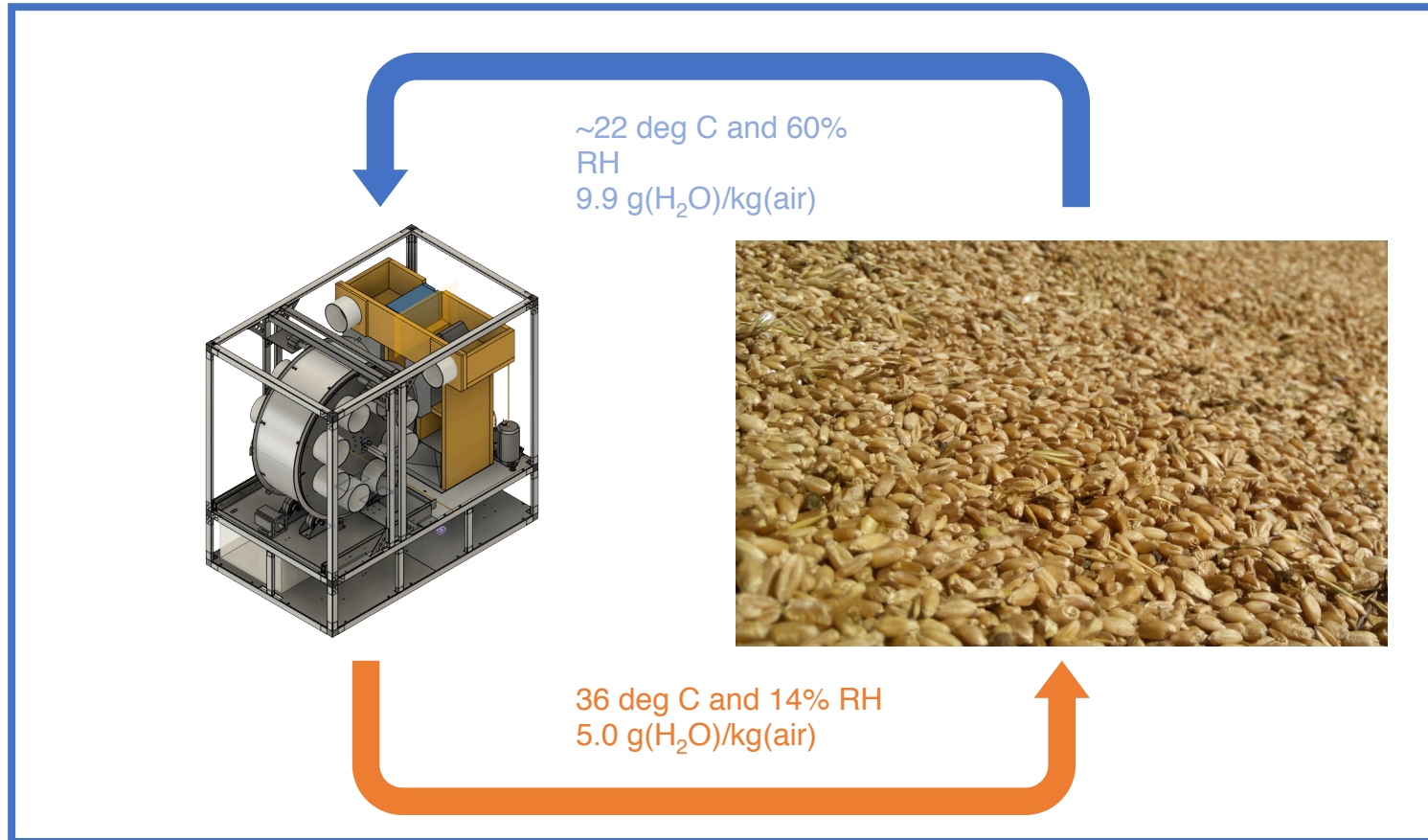
Conventional Process – less efficient



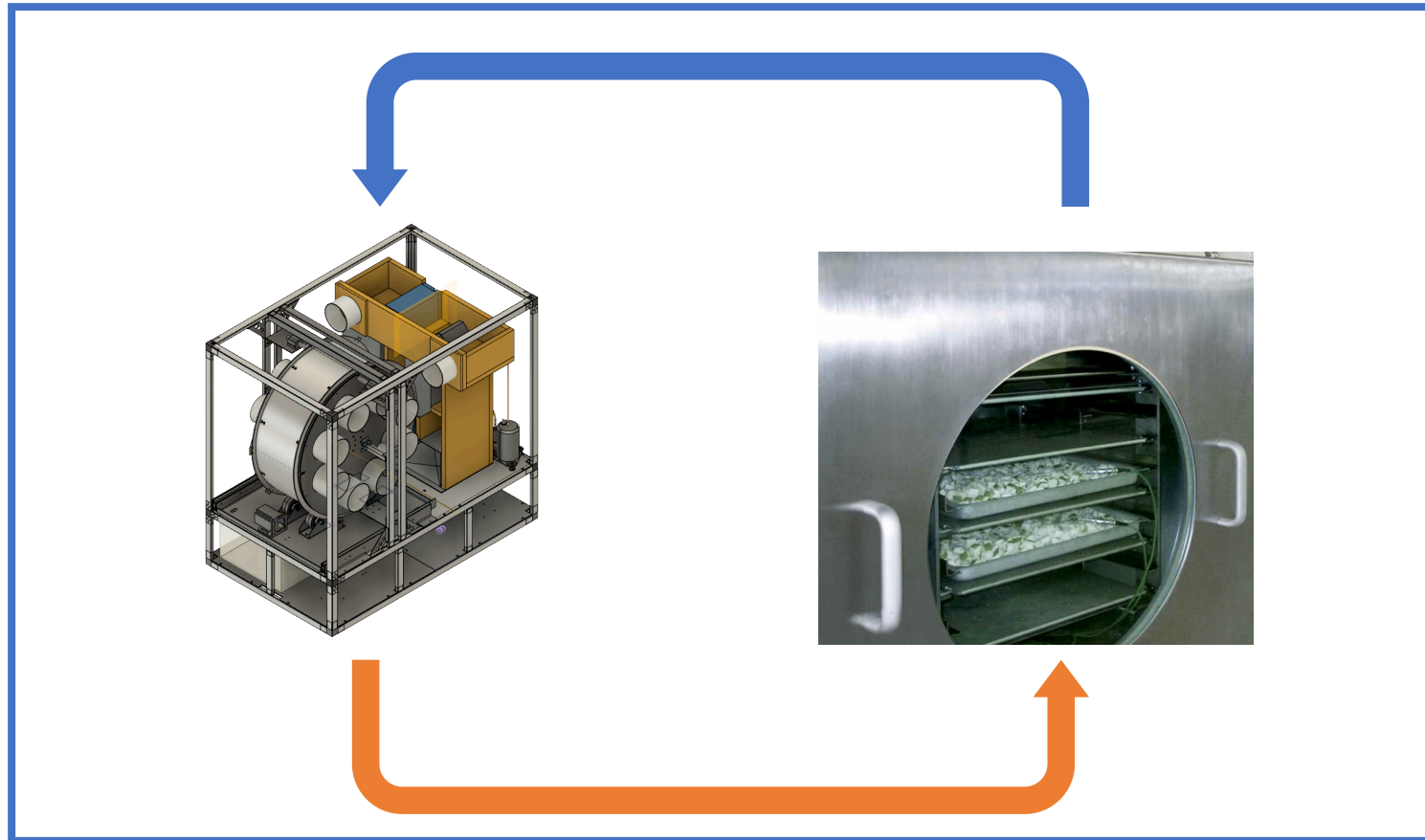
- Replacing traditional silica gel regeneration with WaHa Vaporator®
- Reducing water being sent to zeolite



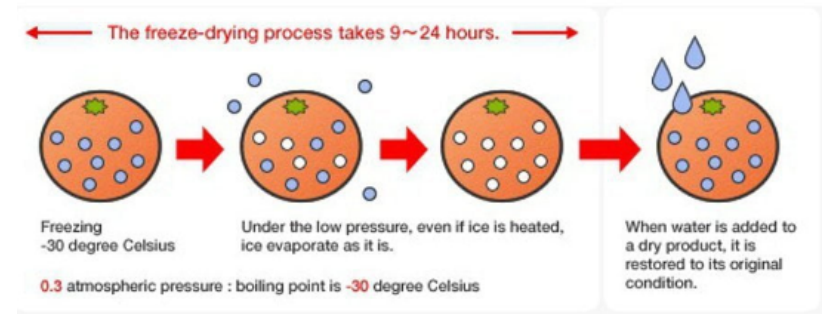
Grain Drying



Freeze Drying @ -20C



Freeze Drying – How does it work?



Water Purity Analyzed – Torrent Laboratory

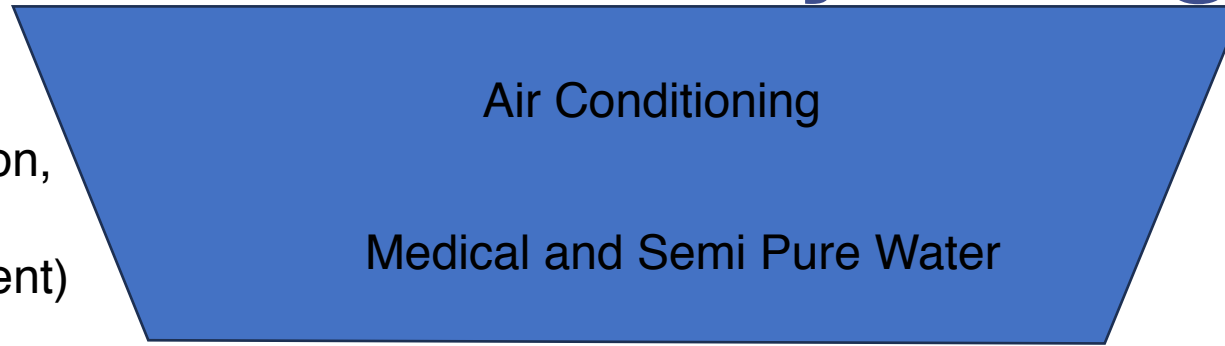
	PQL	Value	MCL	Unit	Comments
Nickel	0.005	ND		mg/L	
Selenium	0.01	ND		mg/L	
Aluminum	0.1	ND		mg/L	
Iron	0.3	ND		mg/L	
Calcium	0.2	ND		mg/L	
Magnesium	20	ND		mg/L	
Potassium	0.02	ND		mg/L	
Sodium	20	ND		mg/L	
Manganese	2	ND		mg/L	
Arsenic	0.0005	0.00073	0.01	mg/L	Trace level near detection limit
Chromium	0.0005	ND		mg/L	
Lead	0.0005	ND		mg/L	
Copper	0.02	0.59	1.3	mg/L	Likely from Copper tubing

	PQL	Value	MCL	Unit	Comments
Calcium Hardness	1	ND		mg/L	
Total Hardness	1	ND		mg/L	
Nitrate	0.1	ND		mg/L	
Nitrite	0.1	0.15	1	mg/L	Trace level near detection limit
Total Dissolved Solids	10	12		mg/L	Range for tap water is 50-1000
Residual Chlorine	0.2	ND		ug/L	
Chloroform	0.5	ND		ug/L	
Bromoform	0.5	ND		ug/L	
BDCMethane	0.5	ND		ug/L	
DBCMethane	0.5	ND		ug/L	
pH	0.1	5.27		SU	Same as distilled water
Turbidity	0.2	0.33	5	NTU	Near detection limit
Total Coliforms		Absent		CFU/mL	
E. Coli		Absent		CFU/mL	

- Analysis by Torrent, EPA and NSF Certified
- Results better than guidelines
- pH level consistent with distilled water (dissolved CO₂). Can be raised (7.11) with mineralization
- This water gathered during a time of poor air quality in CA due to extensive fires
- Cu due to copper cooling coil – easy to fix

Traction – Lots, *but*, only 1 Target Market

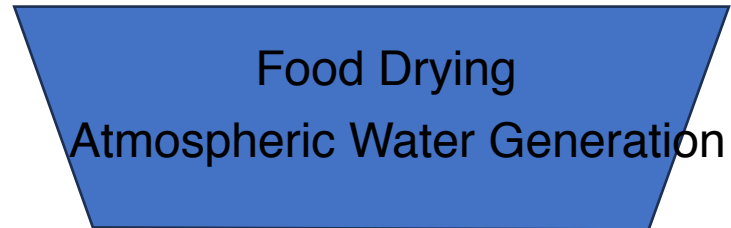
Long-term
(regulatory, qualification,
customer build cycle,
technology development)



Medium-term
(focus, partnerships)



Short-term
(strong market fit, opportunistic,
low technical risk)



**Low dew point
dehumidification:
Li-ion battery
production**

Markets – essentially same device for all markets

Market	TAM	Target Markets	Notes	Differentiators
Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA)	\$1.4B \$.8B \$.5B	Dehumidification Supplemental Water CO2 Injection (later)	4 LOIs signed, 4 more in negotiations 1 offer to fund all development	Yield, Opex, Capex Opex, Sustainability Farm siting flexibility, Sustainability
Desiccant (where vapor-compression dehumidifiers do not work well)	\$2B	Low temperature (cold storage, ice rinks) Low dewpoint (Li-ion battery production) Storage rooms (pharma, silos) Coolers	Energy analysis verified by a large US HVAC company. 9x-64x improvement over their systems.	Opex Capex
Humidity management	TBD	Semiconductor fabs Data centers	Solution reviews w/2 largest fabs	Opex Humidity variance Sustainability
HVAC dehumidification / Humidity management / Indoor air quality	\$127-191B	Commercial Industrial Residential Automotive	Energy analysis verified by a large US HVAC company. 5.5 – 7x improvement over their systems.	Opex & Capex Sustainability Comfort Maintenance
Solar Panel Cleaning	\$1.3B	Generate water directly at solar farms for panel cleaning	Letter of support from robotic solar panel cleaning company	Panel productivity Opex & Capex
Ultrapure	\$5B	Semiconductor manufacturing Pharmaceutical manufacturing Energy production (green H2) Cosmetics	LOI from biotech company	Quality Capex & Opex Reliability Sustainability

WaHa Technology Addresses

- Water Scarcity
- Energy Savings for Dehumidification
- Low Energy Pure Water Generation

Q & A