

Academic studies related to CarbFix and SulFix

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University of Iceland – Reykjavík






CarbFix started in 2007



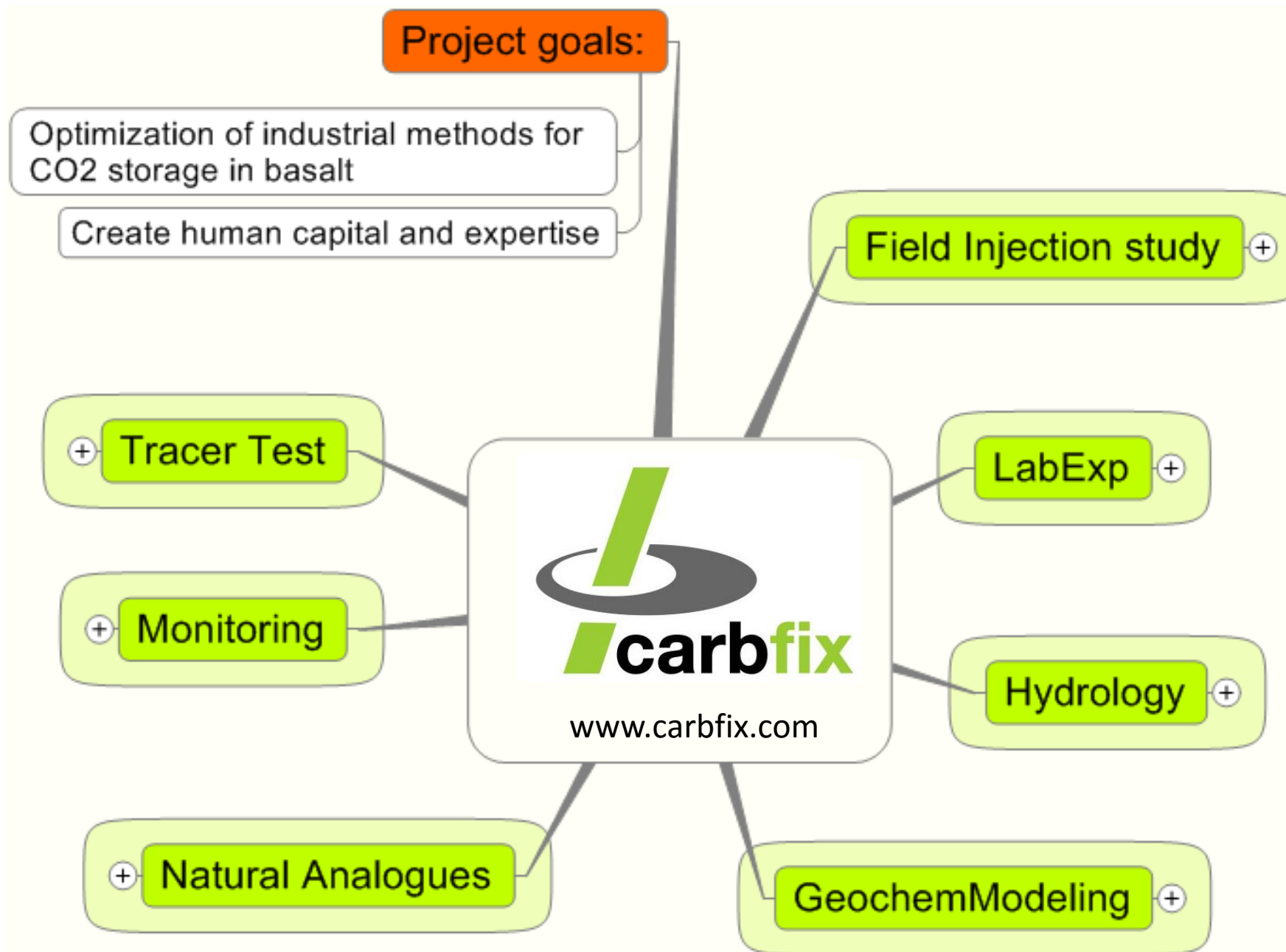
(1) Institute of Earth Sciences, University of Iceland. (2) CNRS, Université Paul Sabatier, France
(3) Earth Institute, Columbia University, USA. (4) Reykjavik Energy, Iceland.

(5) ISOR Iceland GeoSurvey, Iceland. (6) Amphos 21 Consulting, Spain. (7) IPGP, Sorbonne Paris Cité, France.
(8) Nano-Science Center, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. (9) University of Durham, UK



Natural Sciences building
University of Iceland

Gislason¹, Oelkers², Broecker³, Gunnlaugsson⁴, Snæbjornsdottir¹, Clark¹, Mesfin¹, Alfredsson¹, Aradottir⁴, Sigfusson⁴, Gunnarsson⁴, Stute³, Matter³, Hall³, Ragnheidardottir⁴, Sigurdardottir⁴, Wolff-Boenisch¹, Stefansson¹, Galeczka¹, Guðbrandsson¹, Stockman¹, Gysi¹, Axelsson⁵, Harðardottir⁵, Friðriksson⁵, Bruno⁶, Grandia⁶, Ménez⁷, Campion⁷, Trias⁷, Didriksen⁸, Olsson^{1,8}, Stipp⁸ and Burton⁹



Graduate student projects
2007 – 2016

8 PhD projects finished
3 MSc projects defended
2 PhD projects ongoing

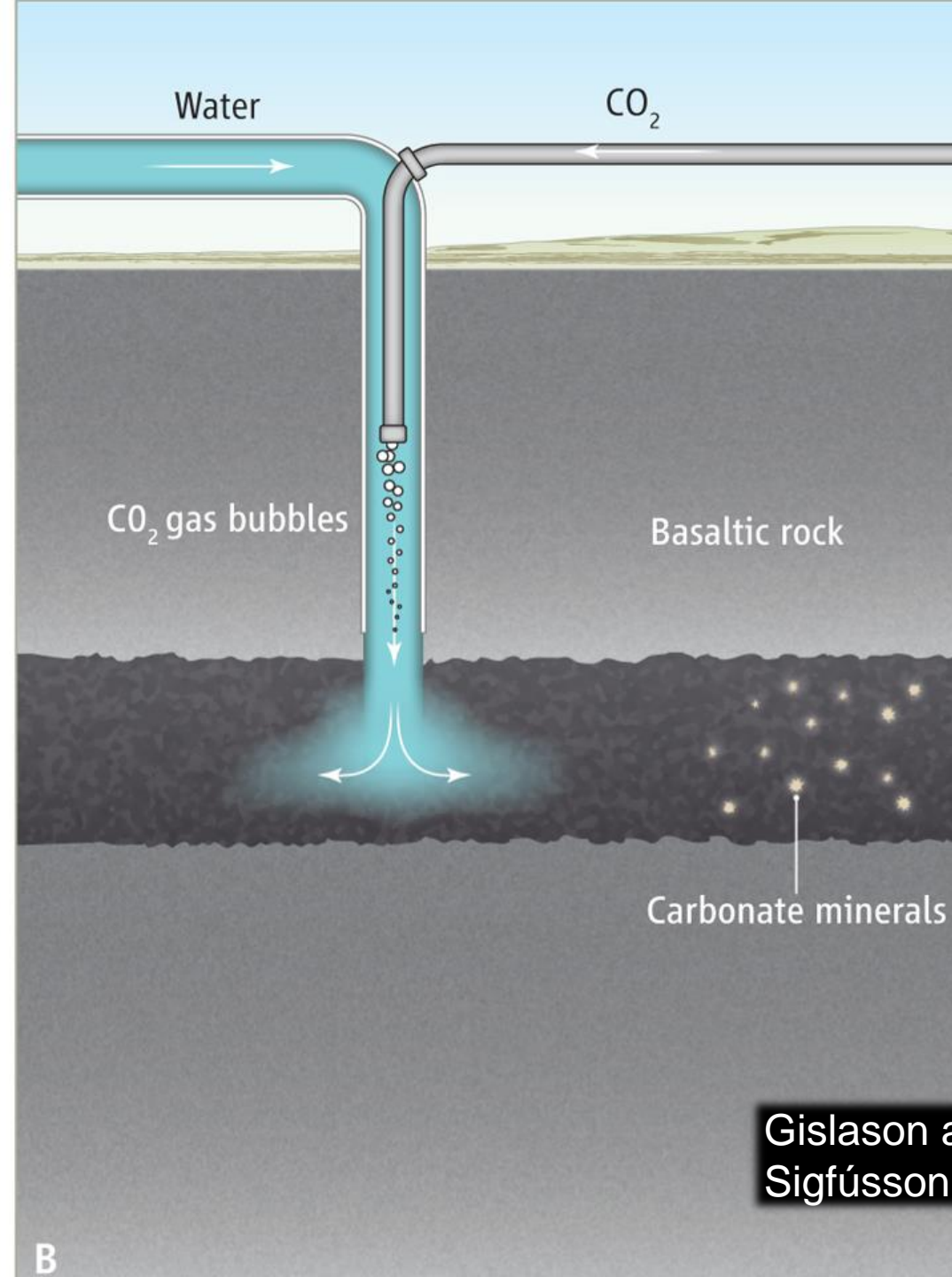
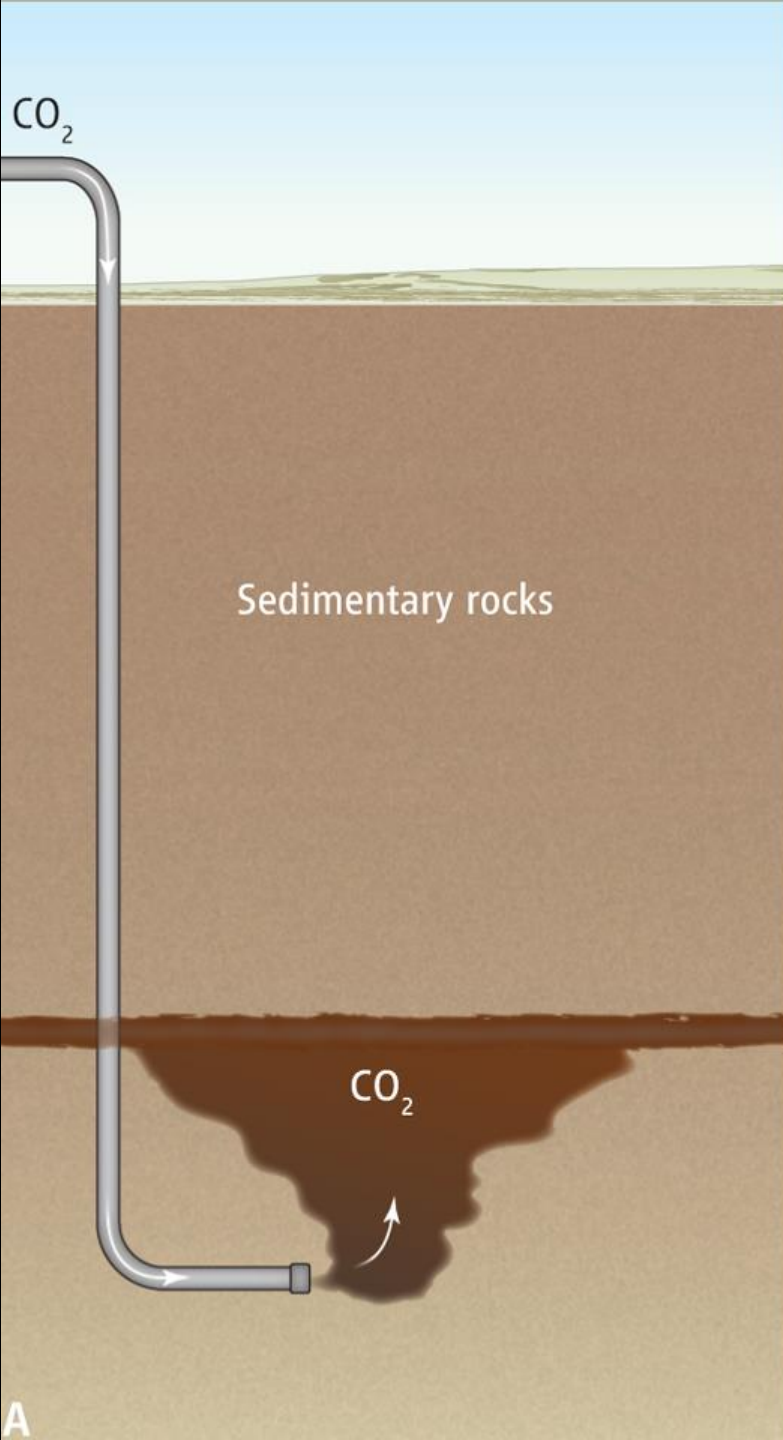
Graduate students in the CarbFix project 2007-2016



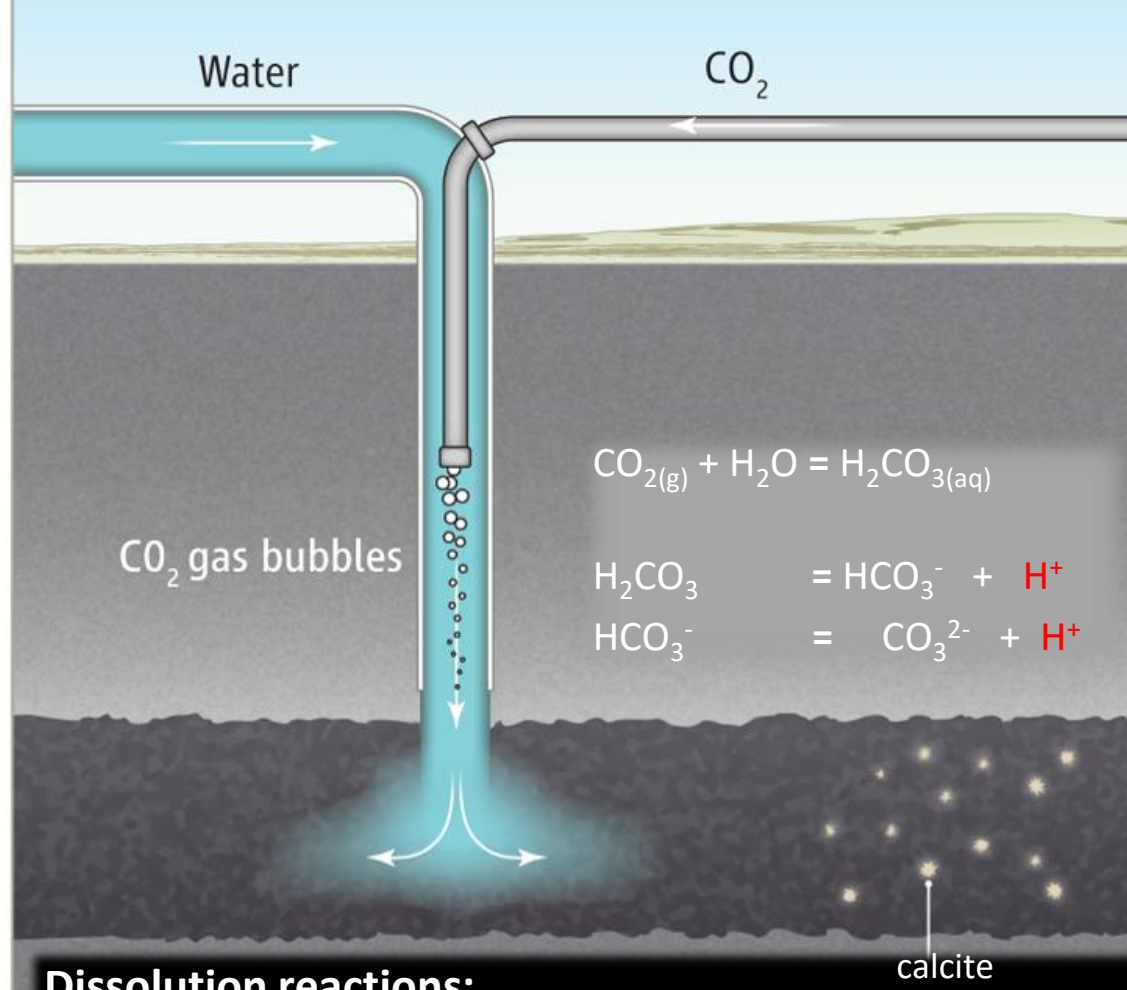
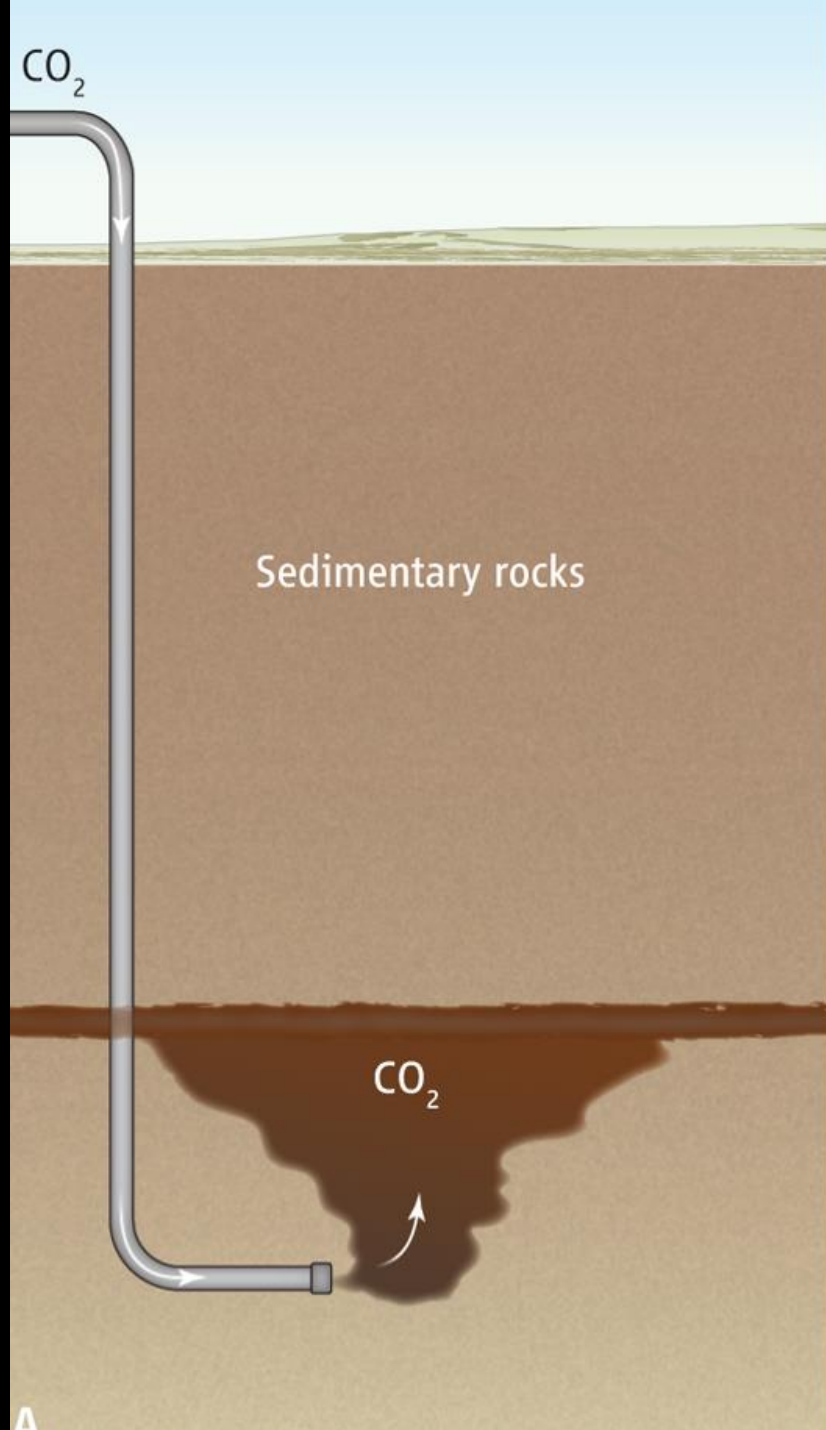
- Therese K. Flaathen. Natural analogue and the effect of SO₄ on basaltic dissolution rate and carbonate precipitation rate.
- Gabrielle Stockman. The effect of carbonate coating and bacteria on the dissolution rate of basaltic glass and basaltic minerals.
- Mahnaz Rezvani Khalilabad. Aquifer characterization with tracer test technique
- Elísabet Vilborg Ragnheiðardóttir. Costs, profitability and potential gains of the CarbFix I Program
- Edda Sif Pind Aradóttir. Field scale reactive transport modelling (TOUGHREACT) of CO₂ injection
- Diana Fernandez de la Reguera. Monitoring and verification of geologic carbon dioxide (CO₂) storage using tracer techniques , and kinetics of CO₂ dissolution in water
- Helgi A. Alfredsson. Stratigraphy and chemical composition of rocks and fluids at the CarbFix I injection site before injection
- Snorri Gudbrandsson. Dissolution rates of crystalline basalt and plagioclase as a function of temperature and solution composition
- Alex P. Gysi. Numerical and experimental modelling of CO₂-water-basalt interaction
- Iwona Galeczka . Plug flow experiment simulation of CO₂ injections
- Jonas Olsson. Natural analogue for CCS metal uptake by carbonates
- Sandra Ósk Snæbjörnsdóttir, carbon storage potential and monitoring of CarbFix I
- Deirdre Clark, Monitoring of CarbFix-Sulfix II and plug flow experiment simulation of CO₂ injections



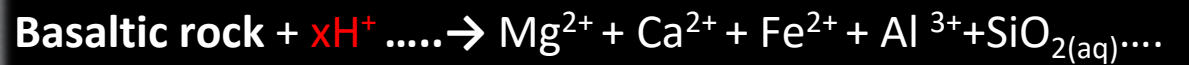
The CarbFix1 method



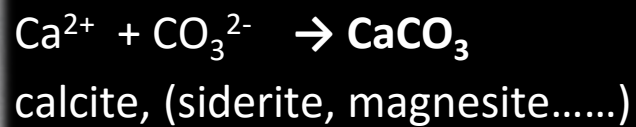
Gislason and Oelkers, Science 2014,
Sigfússon et al., IJGGC 2015

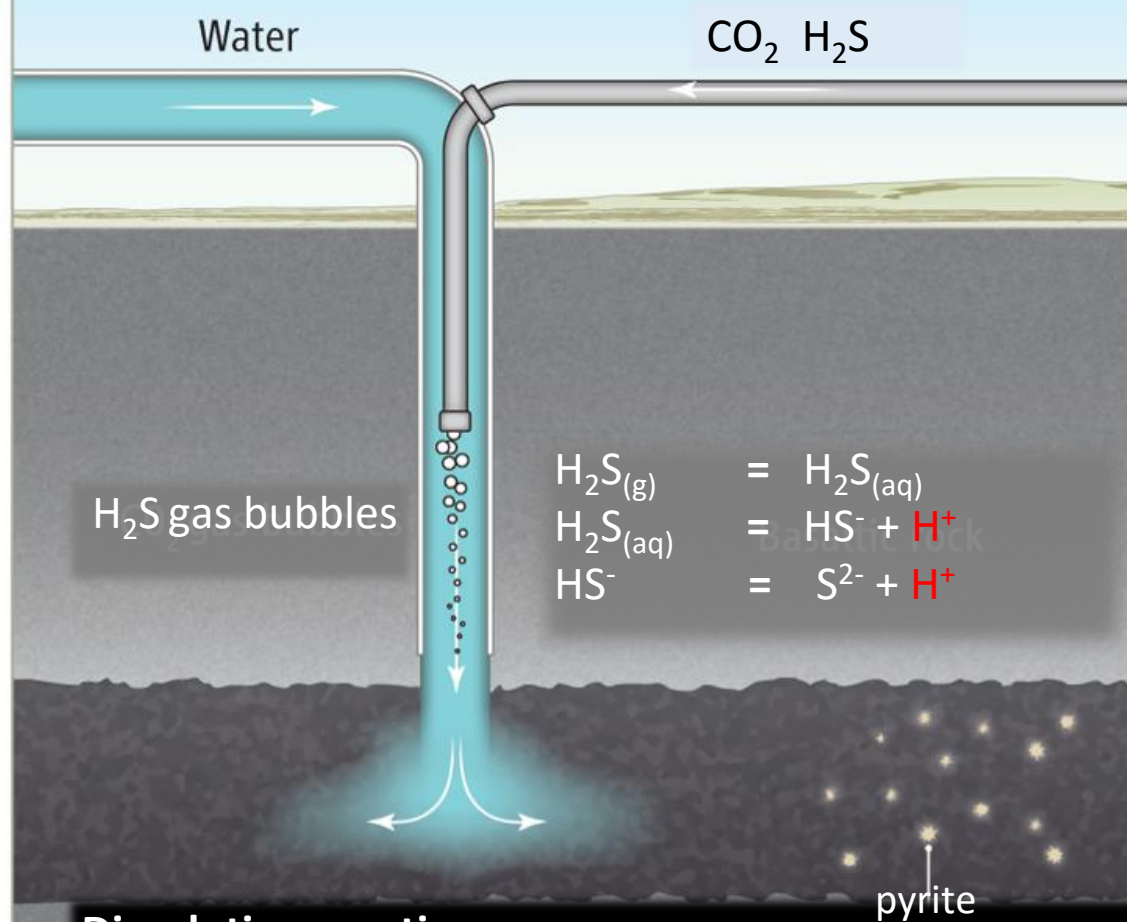
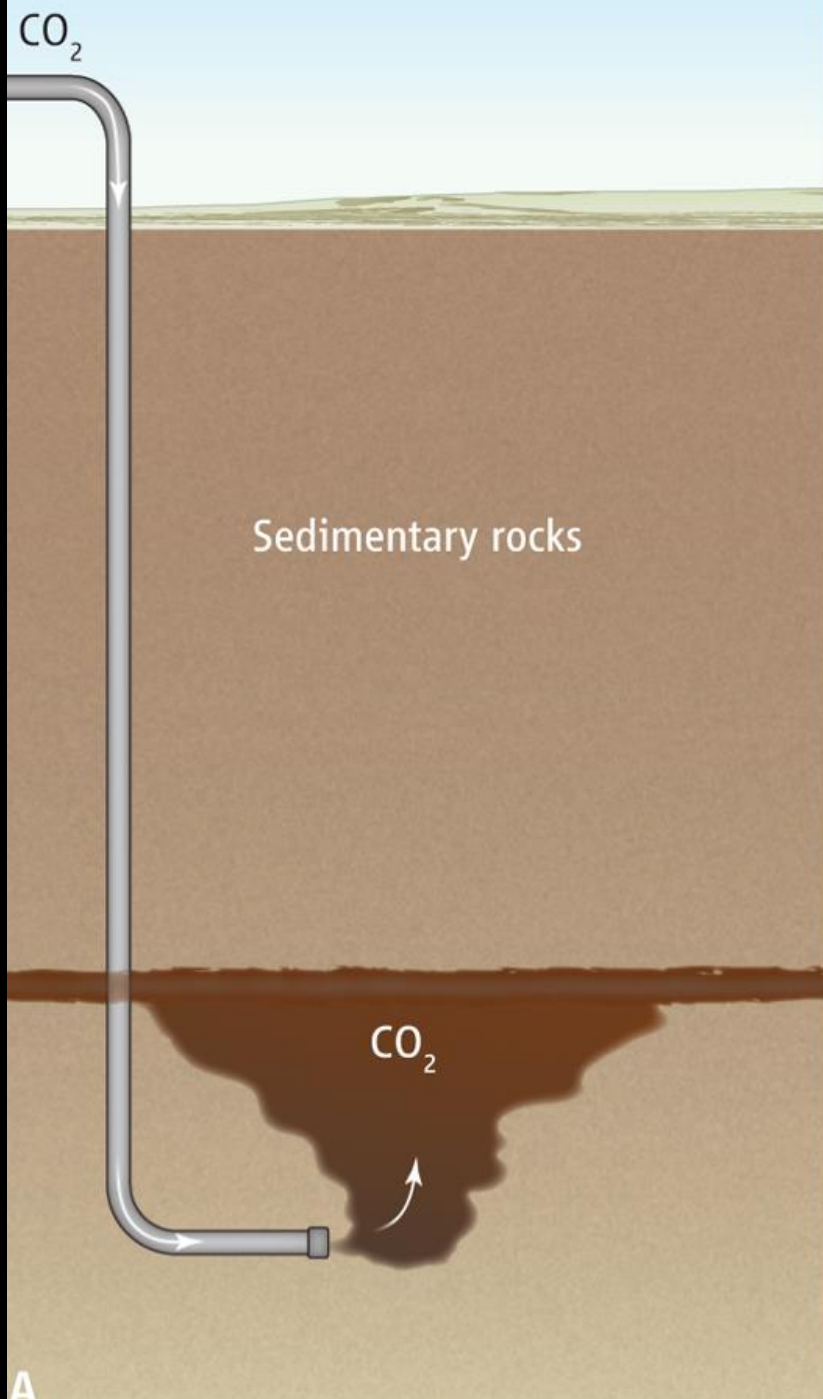


Dissolution reactions:

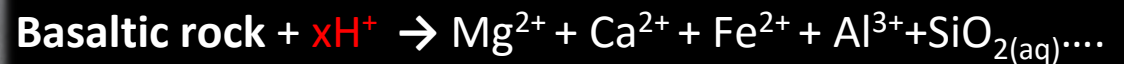


Precipitation reactions:

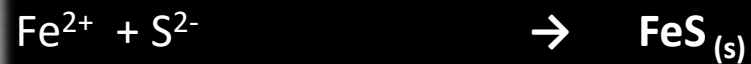




Dissolution reactions:



Precipitation reactions:



Pyrite (FeS₂) – pyrrhotite(Fe_{1-x}S_x) simplified reaction

B

CarbFix 1 Injection well HN-2



HN-02
Wellhead Information
Well Name: HN-02
Well ID: HN-02
Well Type: Injection
Well Status: Active

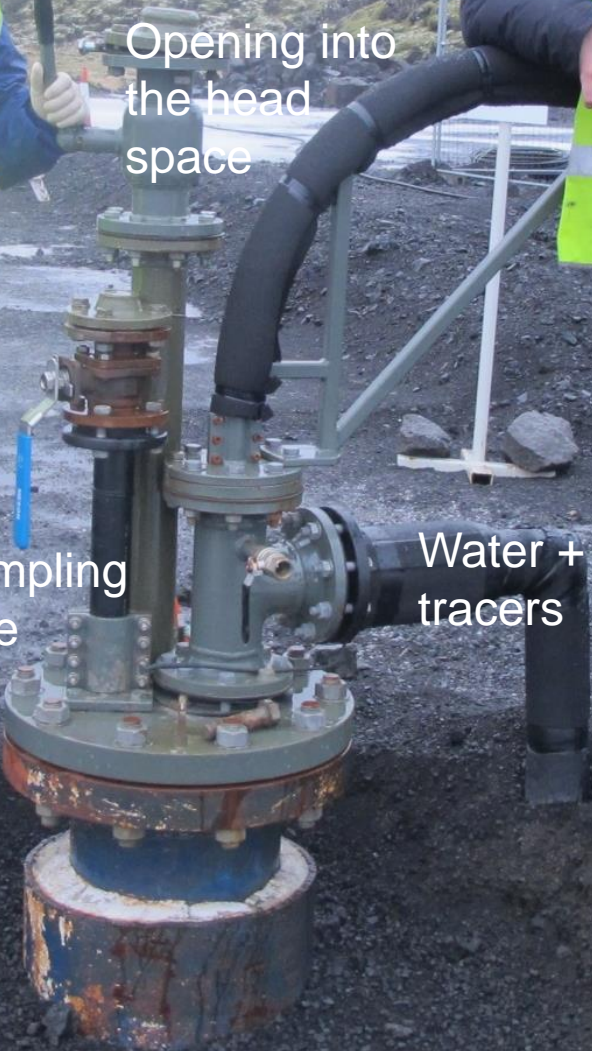


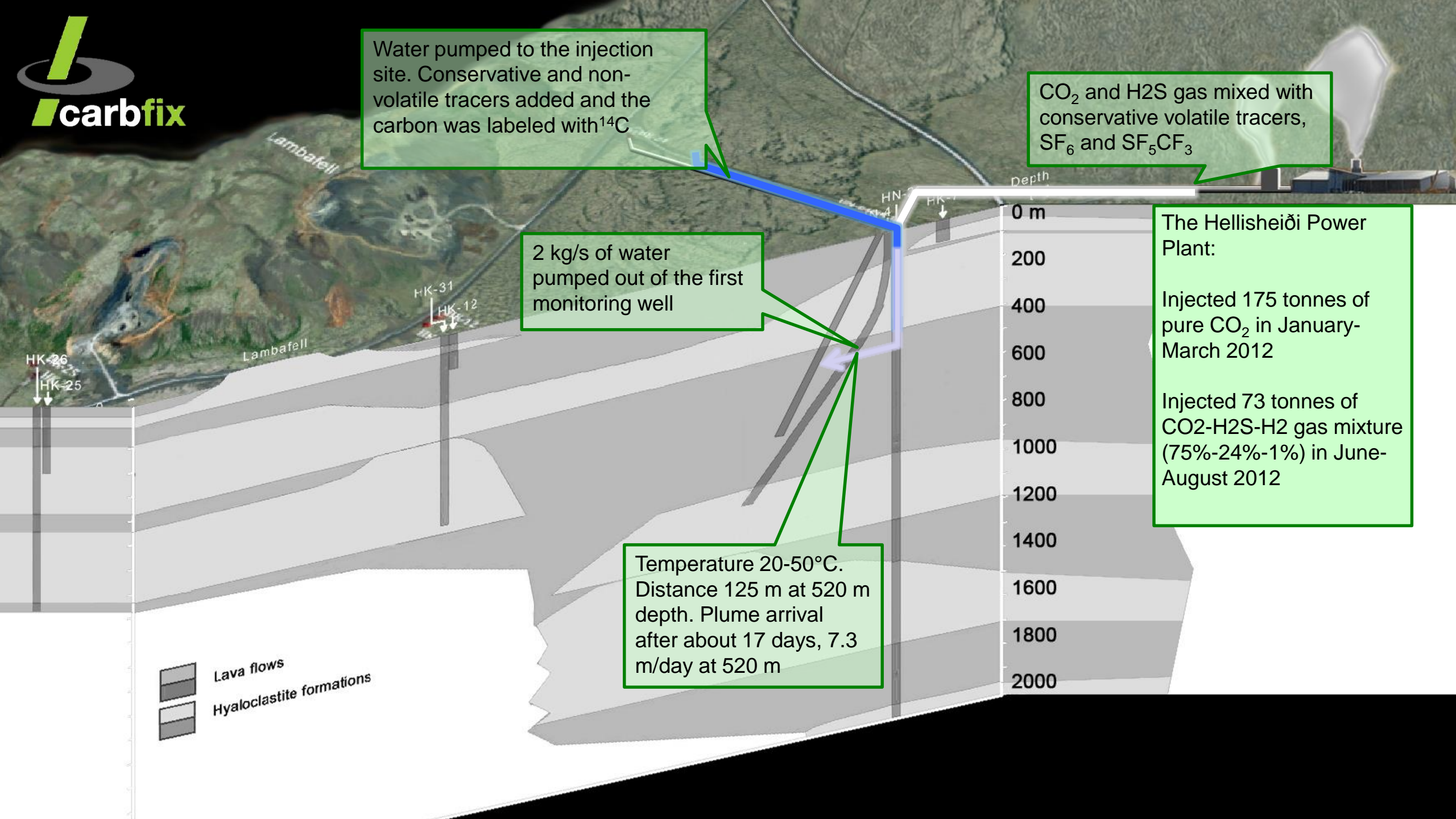
Opening into
the head
space

Sampling
pipe

Water +
tracers

Gas +
tracer





Water pumped to the injection site. Conservative and non-volatile tracers added and the carbon was labeled with ^{14}C

CO_2 and H_2S gas mixed with conservative volatile tracers, SF_6 and SF_5CF_3

2 kg/s of water pumped out of the first monitoring well

The Hellisheiði Power Plant:
Injected 175 tonnes of pure CO_2 in January-March 2012
Injected 73 tonnes of CO_2 - H_2S - H_2 gas mixture (75%-24%-1%) in June-August 2012

Temperature 20-50°C.
Distance 125 m at 520 m depth. Plume arrival after about 17 days, 7.3 m/day at 520 m

- Lava flows
- Hyaloclastite formations

HK-26
HK-25

HK-31
HK-12

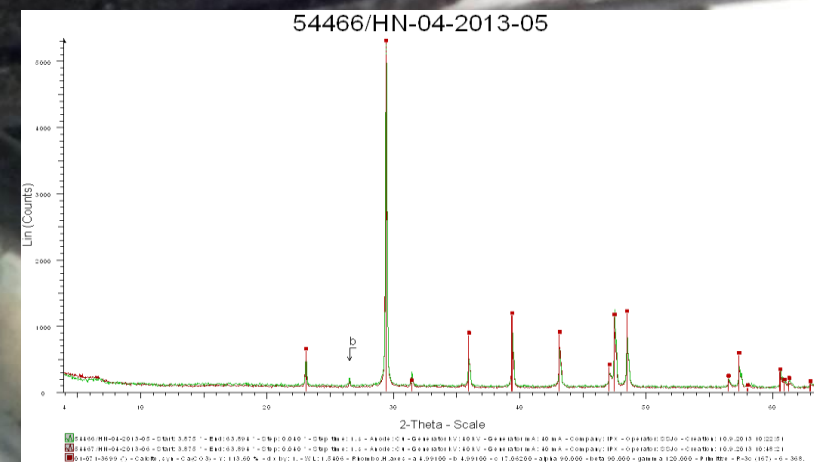
HN-4
HK-7

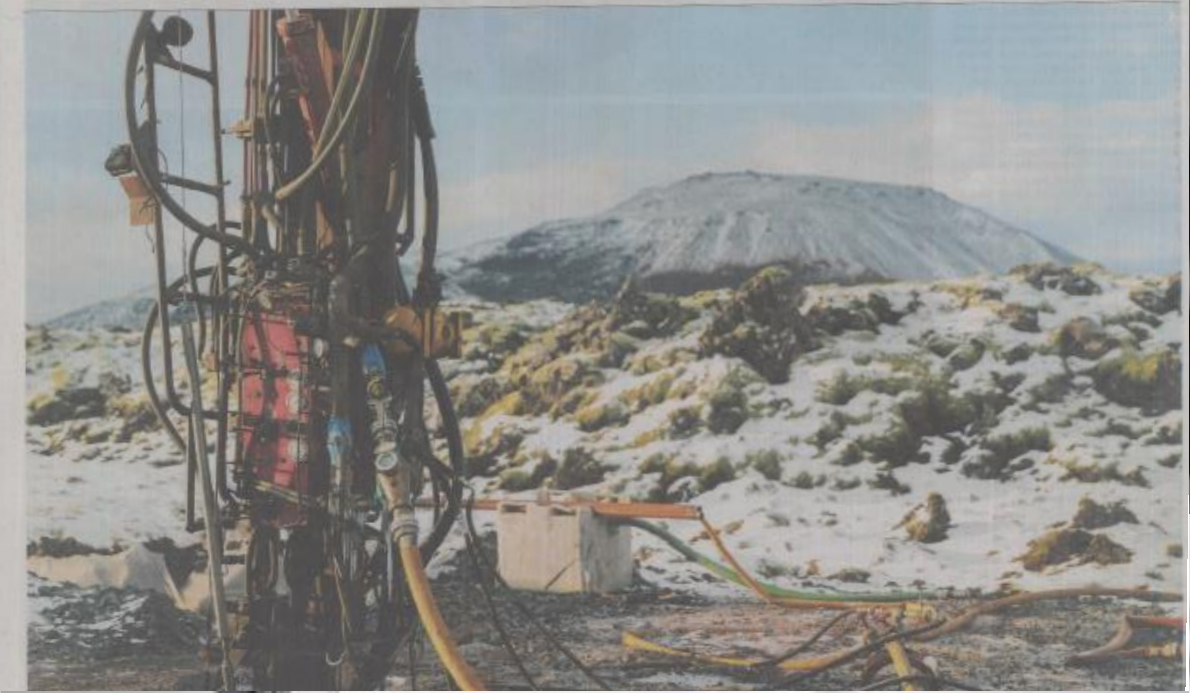
Depth

0 m
200
400
600
800
1000
1200
1400
1600
1800
2000



Photo: Ingvi Gunnarsson

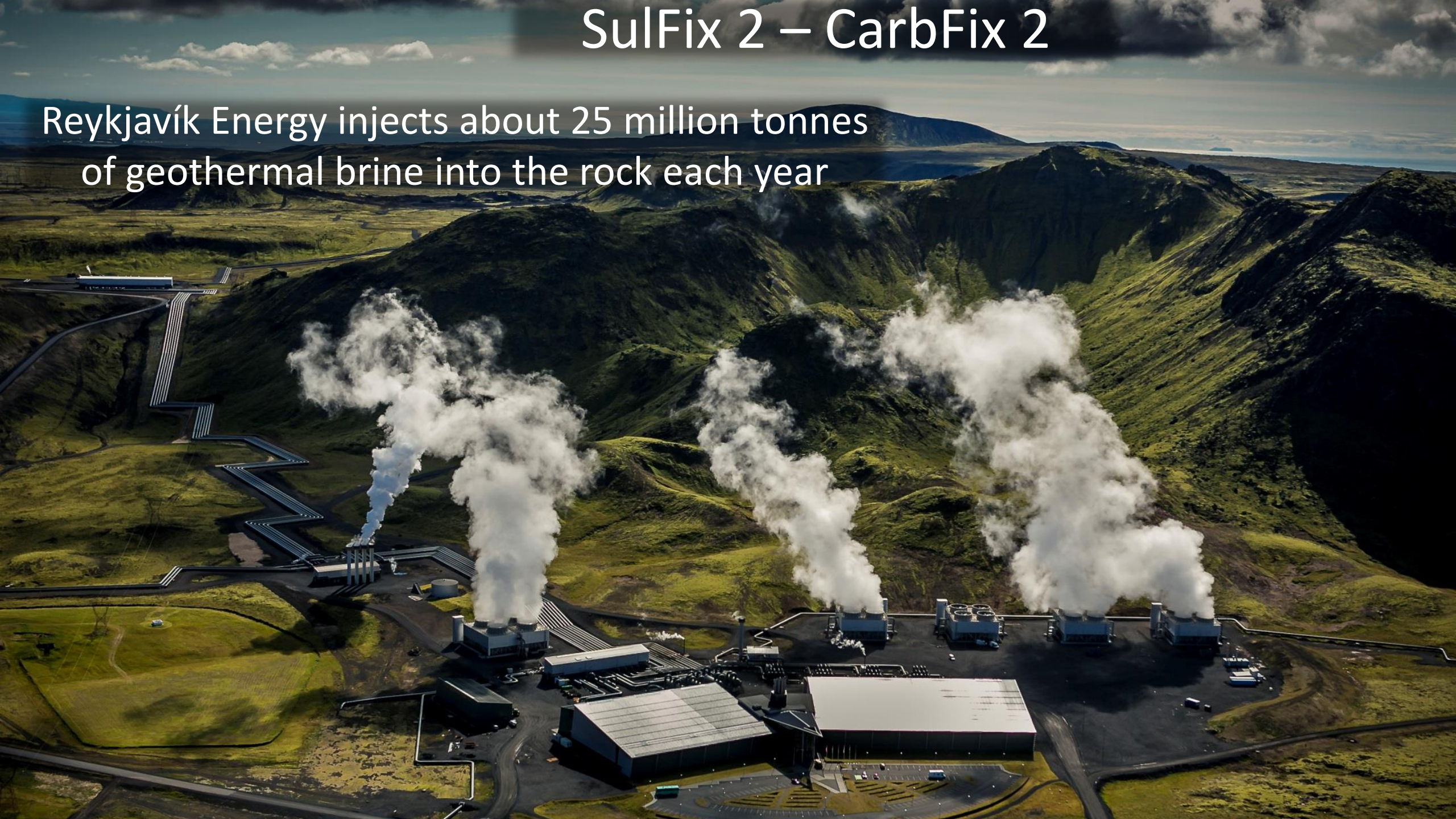




Photos: Bára Kristinsdóttir for NYT

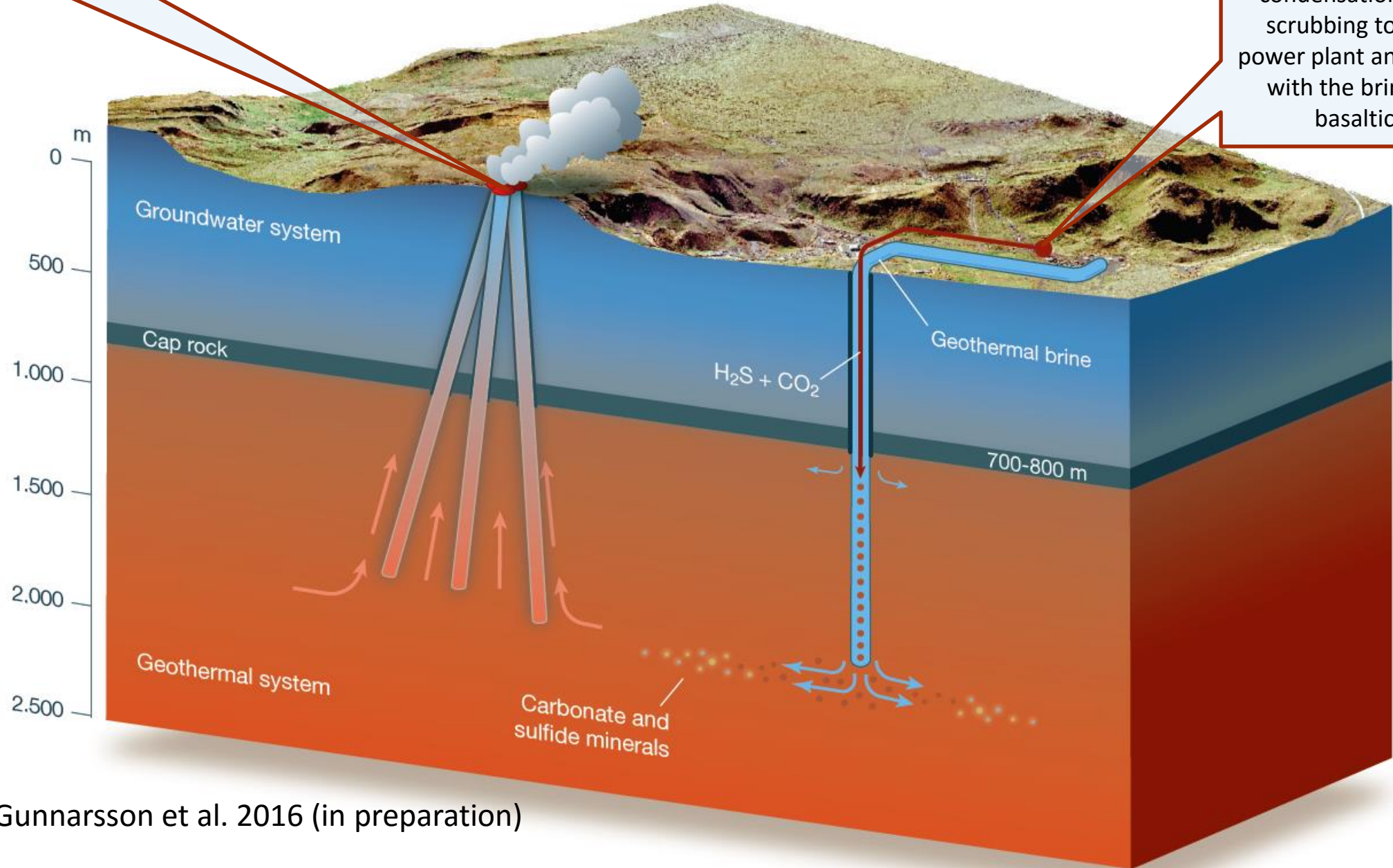
SulFix 2 – CarbFix 2

Reykjavík Energy injects about 25 million tonnes of geothermal brine into the rock each year



Conservative tracers arrive months after injection

CO₂ and H₂S are dissolved in condensation water in a scrubbing tower at the power plant and co-injected with the brine into the basaltic rocks



Gunnarsson et al. 2016 (in preparation)



Gas and condensation water are taken from one of the turbines at Hellisheiði



“Insoluble gases” out

“Pure” condensate “shower” →

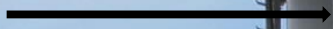
“Pure” condensate “shower” at 20°C

In-going gases at 5 bars

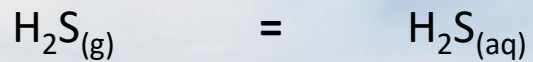
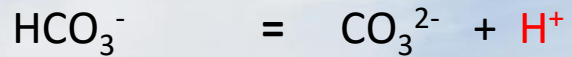
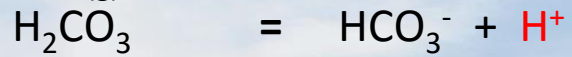
Out-going gas-charged condensate water
at \approx pH 4, 20°C and pressurised to 8 bars
before injection

“Insoluble gases” out: H₂, N₂, O₂, CH₄, Ar...

“Pure” condensate “shower” at 20 °C

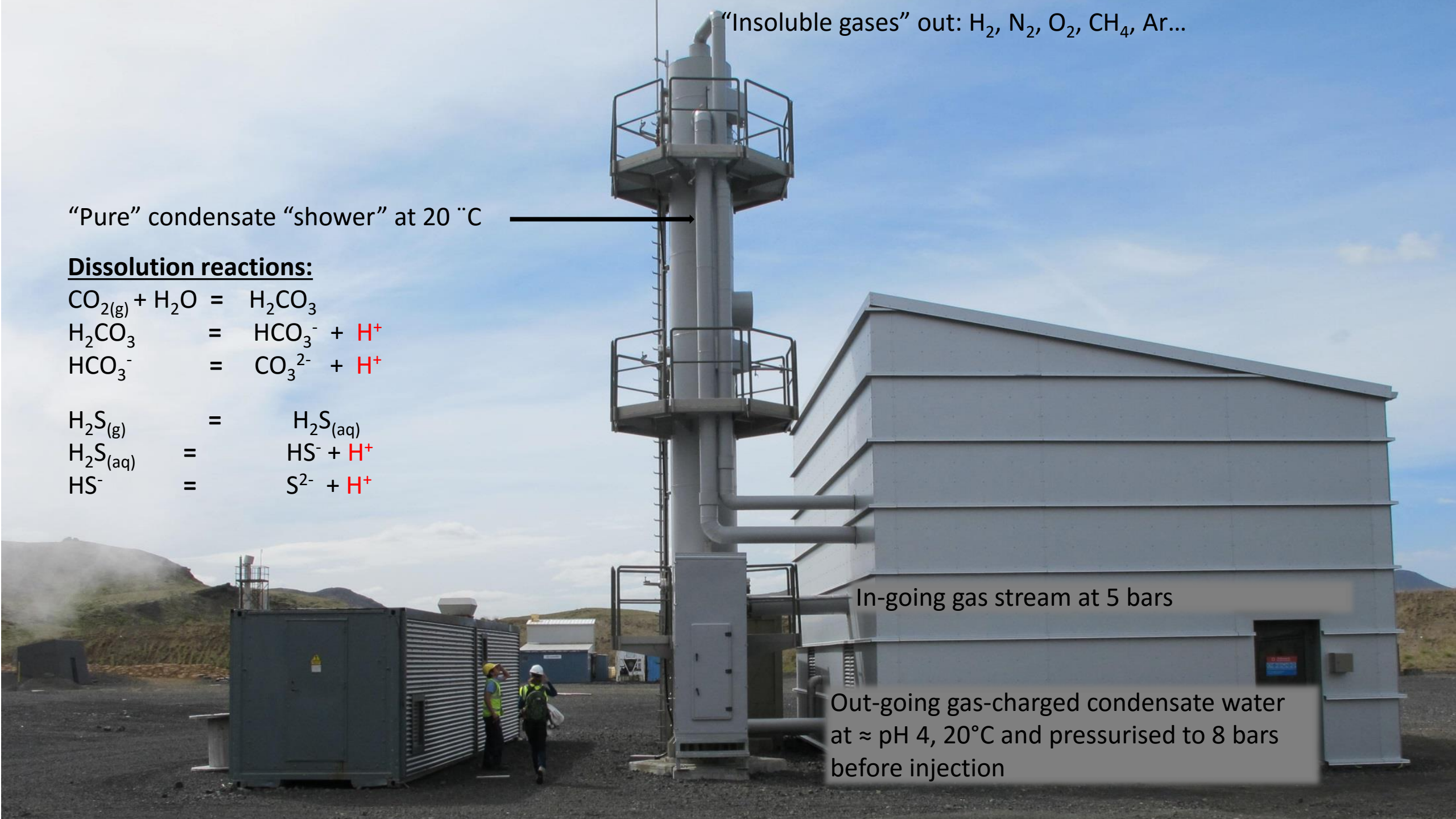


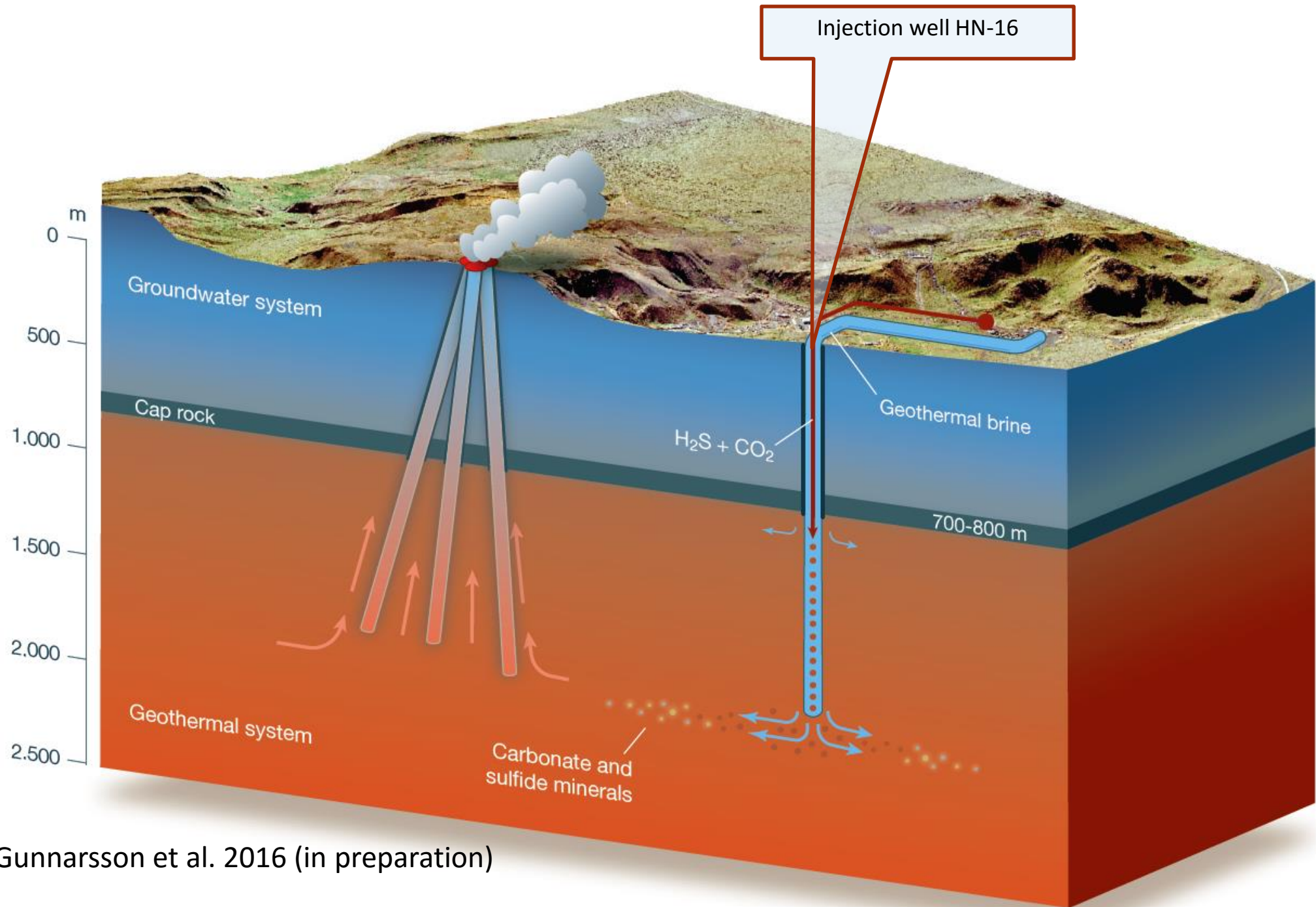
Dissolution reactions:



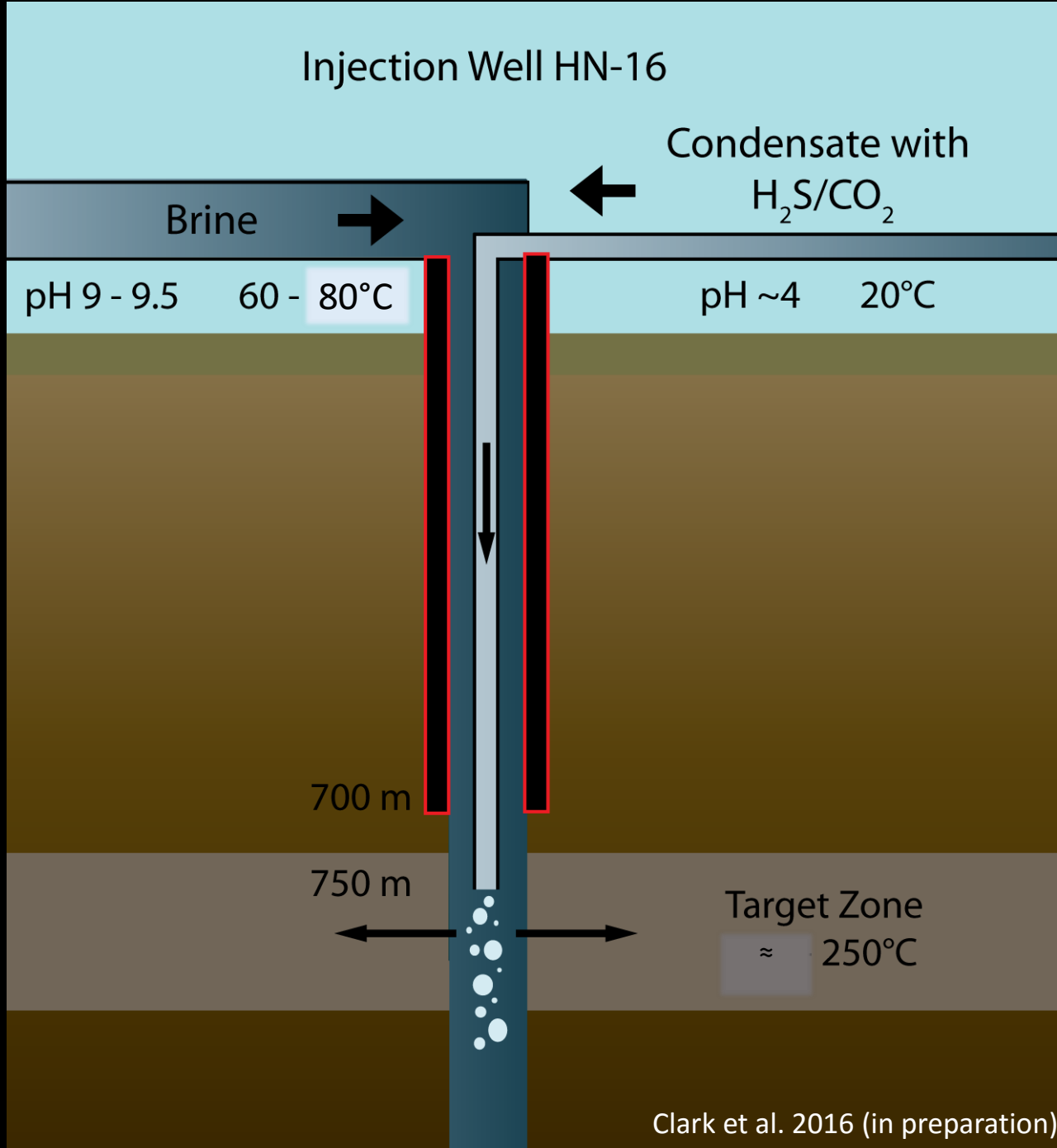
In-going gas stream at 5 bars

Out-going gas-charged condensate water at ≈ pH 4, 20°C and pressurised to 8 bars before injection

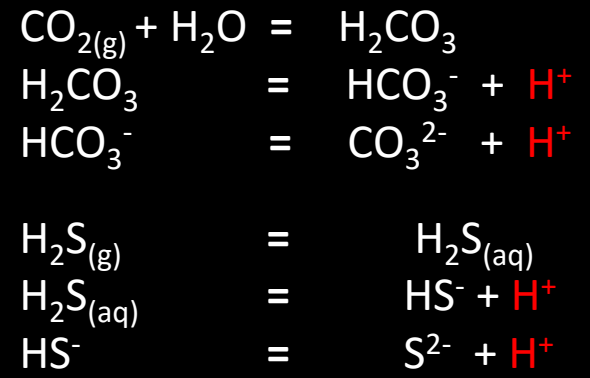




Gunnarsson et al. 2016 (in preparation)



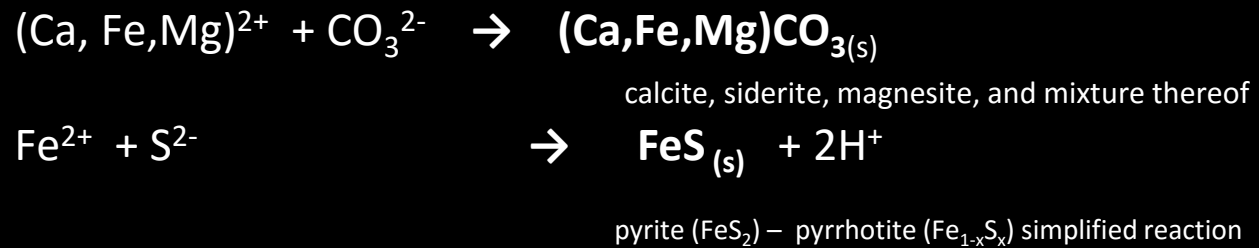
Dissolution reactions in the gas "scrubber":



Dissolution reactions:

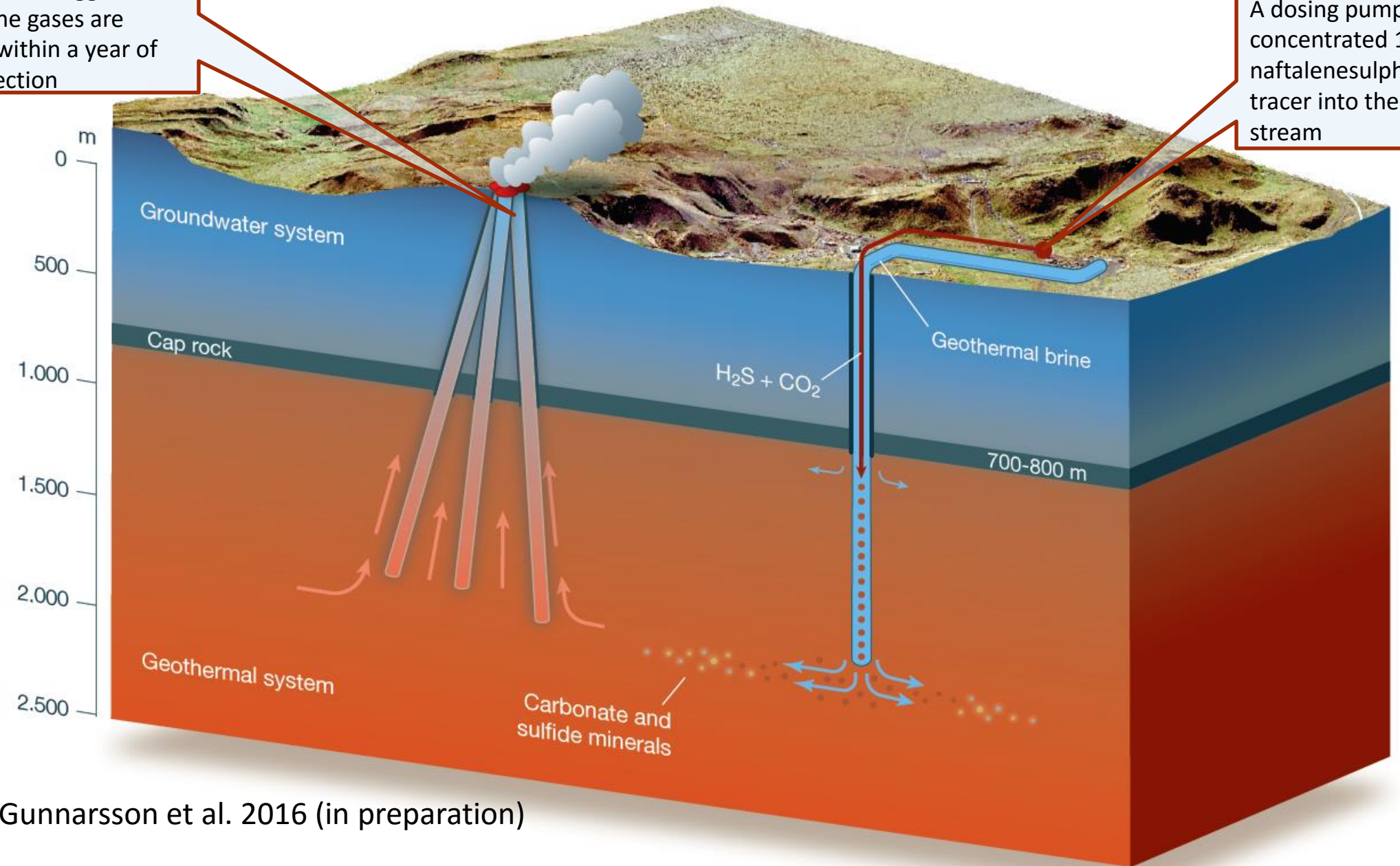


Precipitation reactions:



Mass balance on the injected and observed tracer, CO₂ and H₂S concentrations suggest that most of the gases are mineralised within a year of injection

A dosing pump injected a concentrated 1-naftalenesulphonic acid tracer into the condensate stream



Gunnarsson et al. 2016 (in preparation)