

## Improving solid particle penetration of catalytic stripper for PEMs system

### Objectives

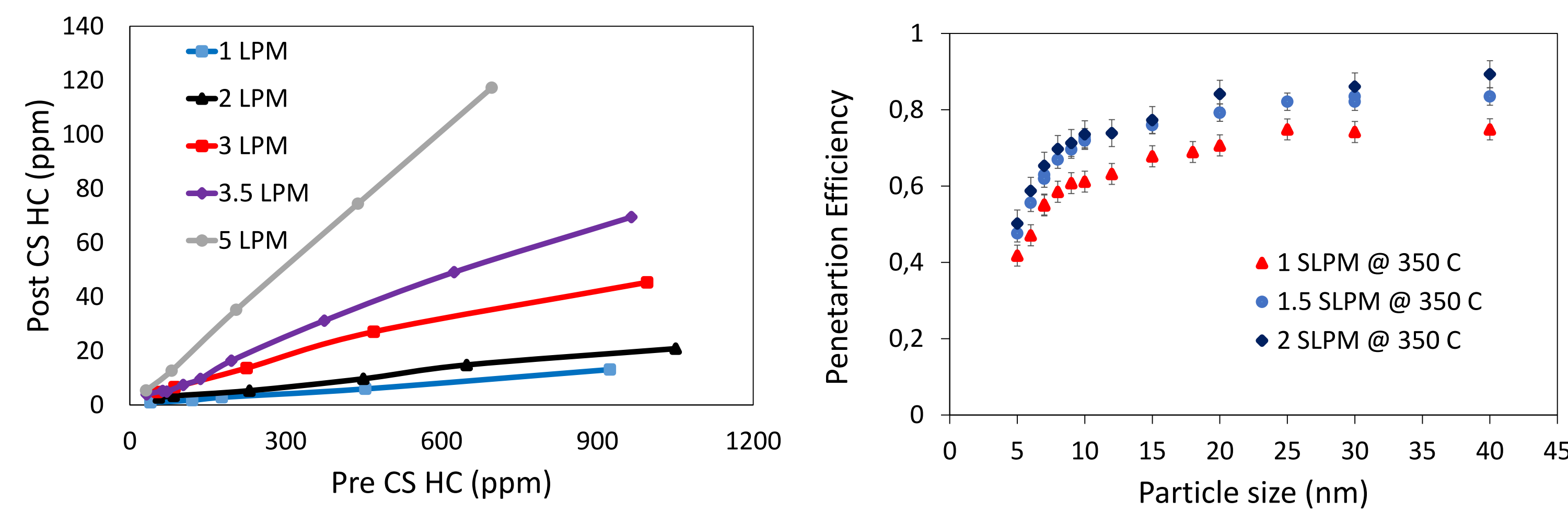
Improvement of catalytic stripper for higher solid particle penetration with adequate volatile and semi-volatile particle removal, and HC removal.

### Methodology

Catalytic Stripper (CS) is improved for solid particle penetration (especially at 10-20 nm particle size) with adequate semi-volatile particles and HC removal. Improved CS is designed with optimum catalyst bed length based upon the test results of existing CS (S/N 010CX16-20130021).

### Experimental Results

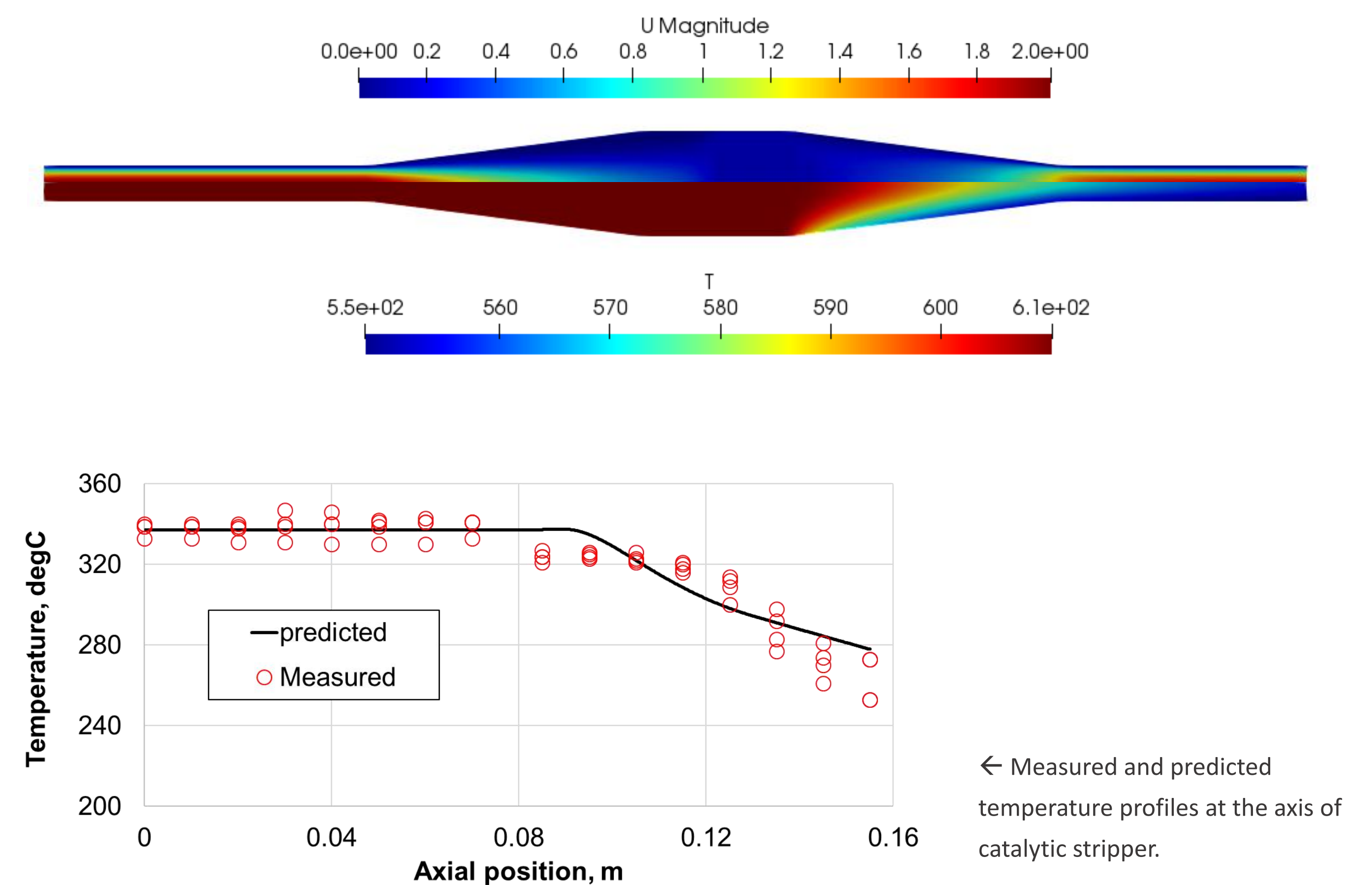
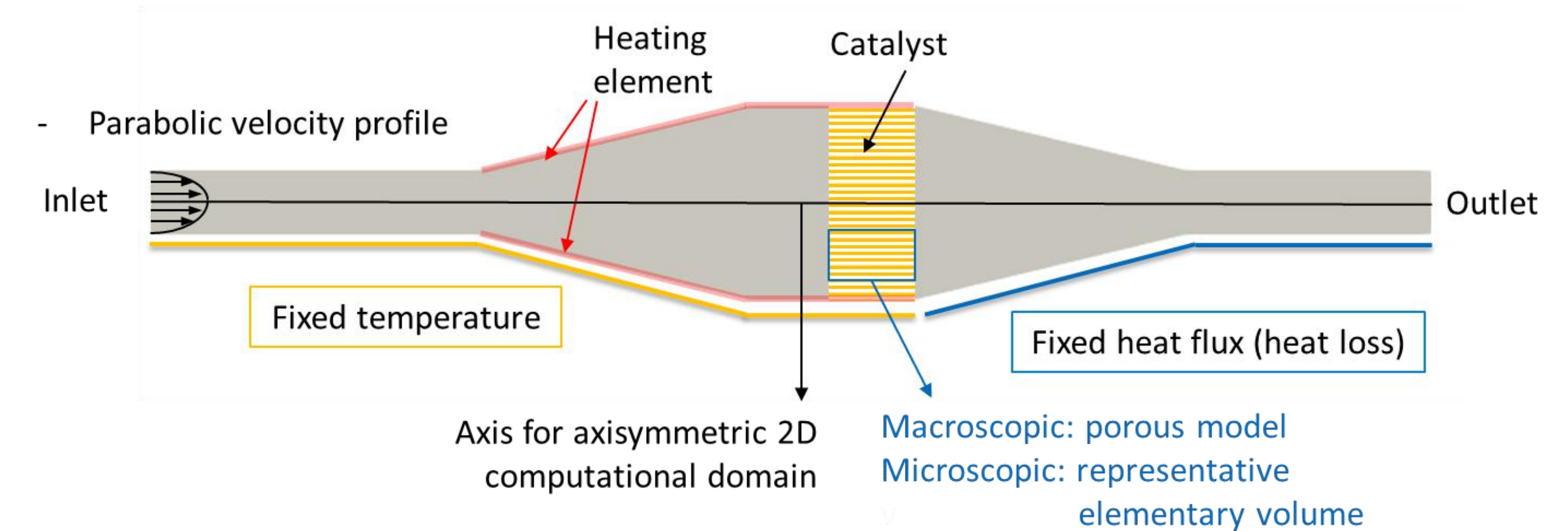
HC removal and Solid particle penetration of CS (S/N 010CX16-20130021)



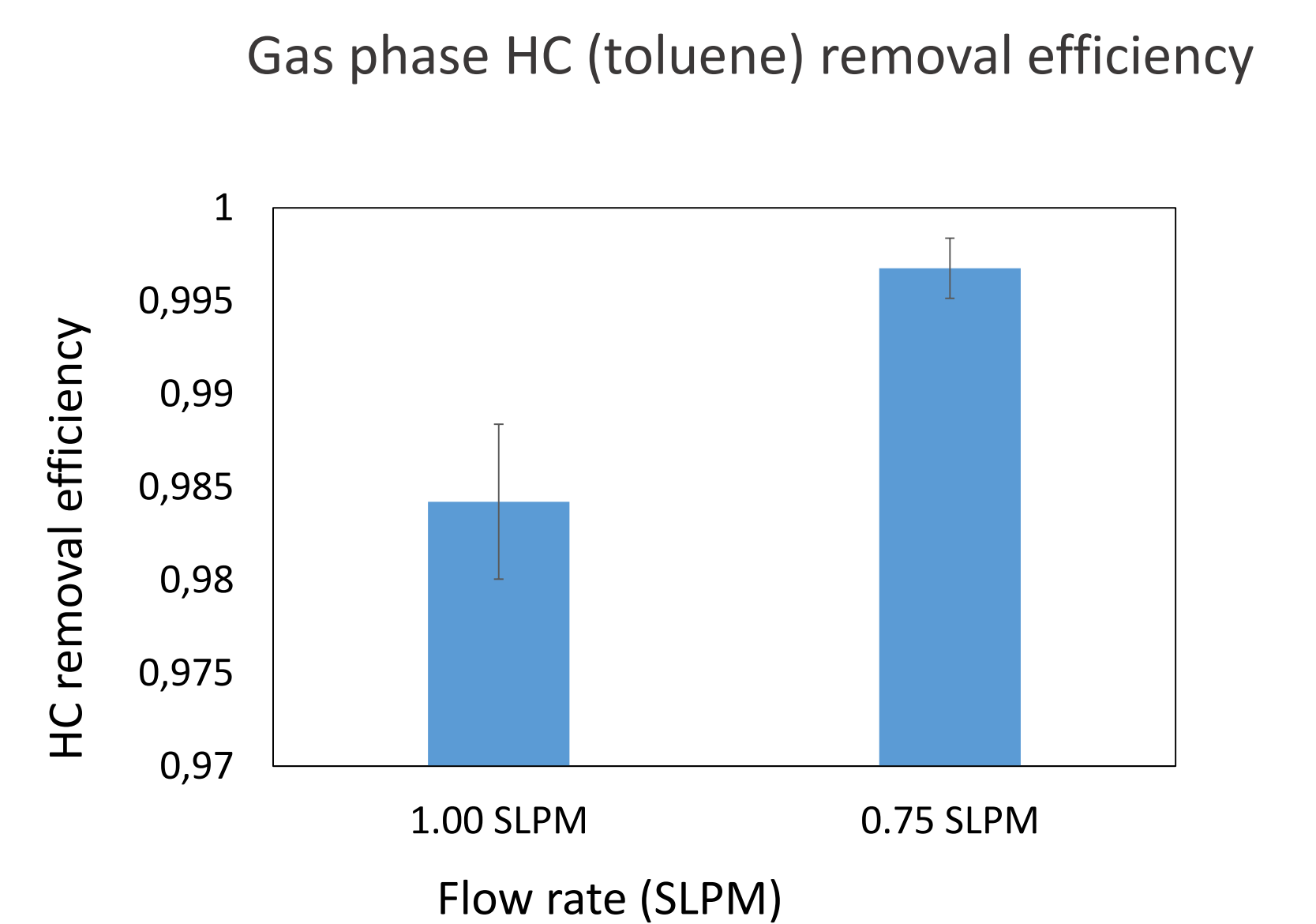
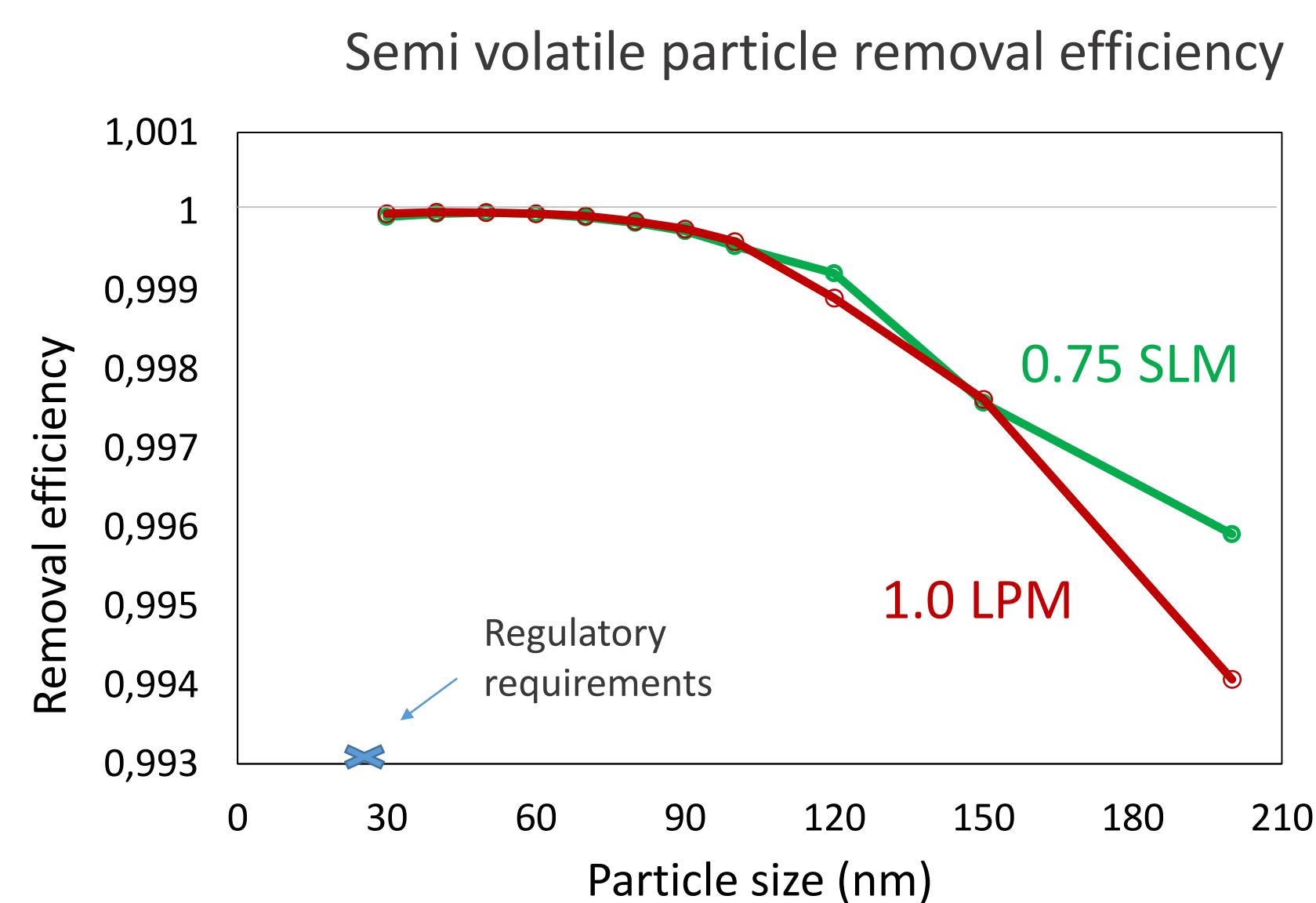
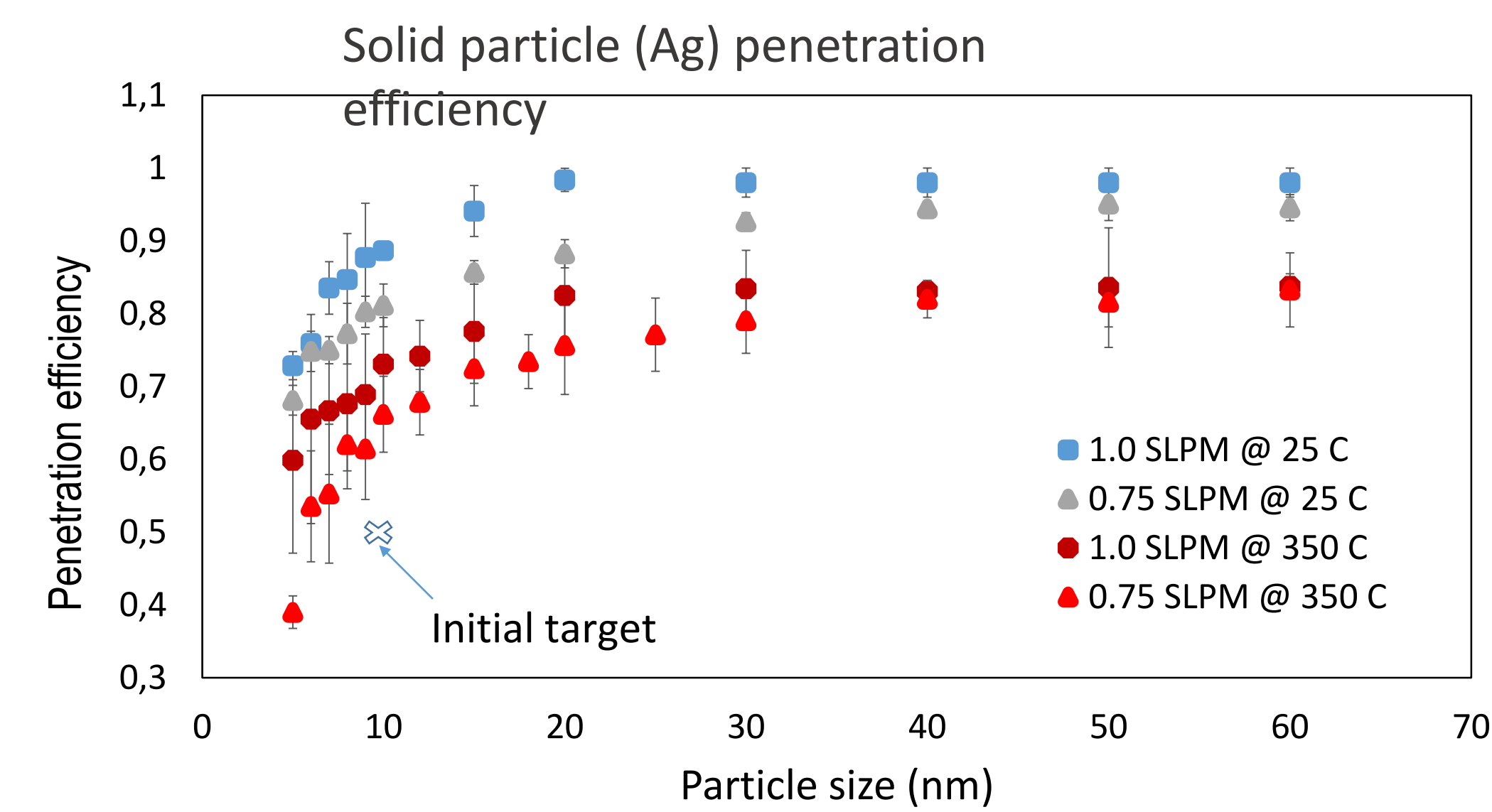
Solid particle penetration and HC removal results of CI CS (S/N 010CX16-20130021) suggests a trade off between them with flow rate. Increase of flow rate from 1.0 SLPM to 2.0 SLPM will increase the solid particle penetration around 10-15% while decrease HC removal 1-2%. We implemented this in the new CS by reducing active catalyst bed length 50% than the previous one.

### Numerical modelling

OpenFOAM, an open source CFD-toolkit, is employed to develop macroscopic and microscopic models for particle penetration and species conversion efficiency through the catalytic stripper.



### New improved CS



### Conclusions

- We achieved 10-15% improvement in solid particle penetration with new CS, resulting 65-75% penetration at 10 nm size.
- A computational fluid dynamics model for catalytic stripper has been successfully developed and validated with experimental data for HCs removal and solid particle penetration.
- Optimized CS can remove higher concentration of semi-volatile (Tetracontane) particles than the regulatory requirement (>99% removal of 10<sup>3</sup> particles@30 nm). Gas phase HC removal is 98-99% for higher than 1000 ppm toluene concentration.