

## Supporting Information

Surface Modification of Mesostructured Cellular Foam to Enhance Hydrogen Storage in binary THF/H<sub>2</sub> Clathrate Hydrate

Nithin B. Kummamuru<sup>1,2</sup>, Radu-George Ciocarlan<sup>3</sup>, Maarten Houllberghs<sup>4</sup>, Johan Martens<sup>4,5</sup>, Eric Breynaert<sup>4,5,\*</sup>, Sammy W. Verbruggen<sup>1,6</sup>, Pegie Cool<sup>3</sup>, Patrice Perreault<sup>2,7,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sustainable Energy Air & Water Technology (DuEL), Department of Bioscience Engineering, University of Antwerp, Groenenborgerlaan 171, 2020 Antwerpen, Belgium

<sup>2</sup> Laboratory for the Electrification of Chemical Processes and Hydrogen (ElectrifHy), University of Antwerp, Olieweg 97, 2020 Antwerp, Belgium

<sup>3</sup> Department of Chemistry, University of Antwerp, Universiteitsplein 1, 2610 Wilrijk, Belgium

<sup>4</sup> KU Leuven, Centre for Surface Chemistry and Catalysis-Characterization and Application Team (COK-KAT), Celestijnenlaan 200F – box 2461 Leuven 3001, Belgium

<sup>5</sup> NMR/X-Ray Platform for Convergence Research (NMRCoRe), Celestijnenlaan 200F – box 2461 Leuven 3001, Belgium

<sup>6</sup> NANOLab Center of Excellence, University of Antwerp, Groenenborgerlaan 171, 2020 Antwerpen, Belgium

<sup>7</sup> University of Antwerp, BlueApp, Olieweg 97, 2020 Antwerpen, Belgium

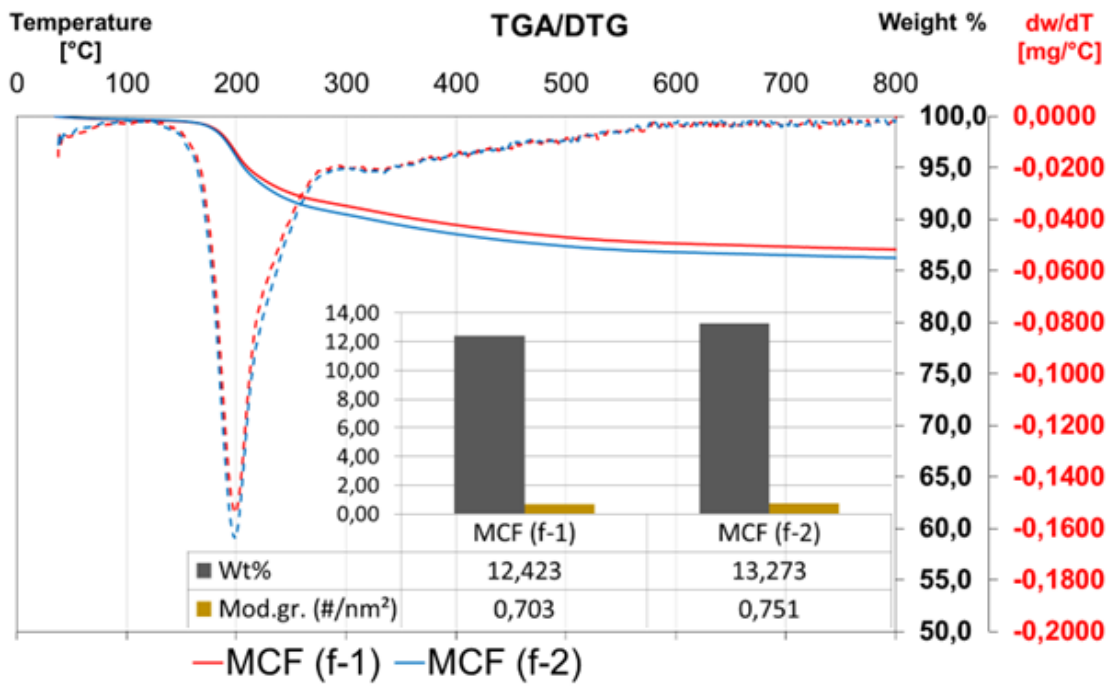
Corresponding Author:

\*eric.breynaert@kuleuven.be

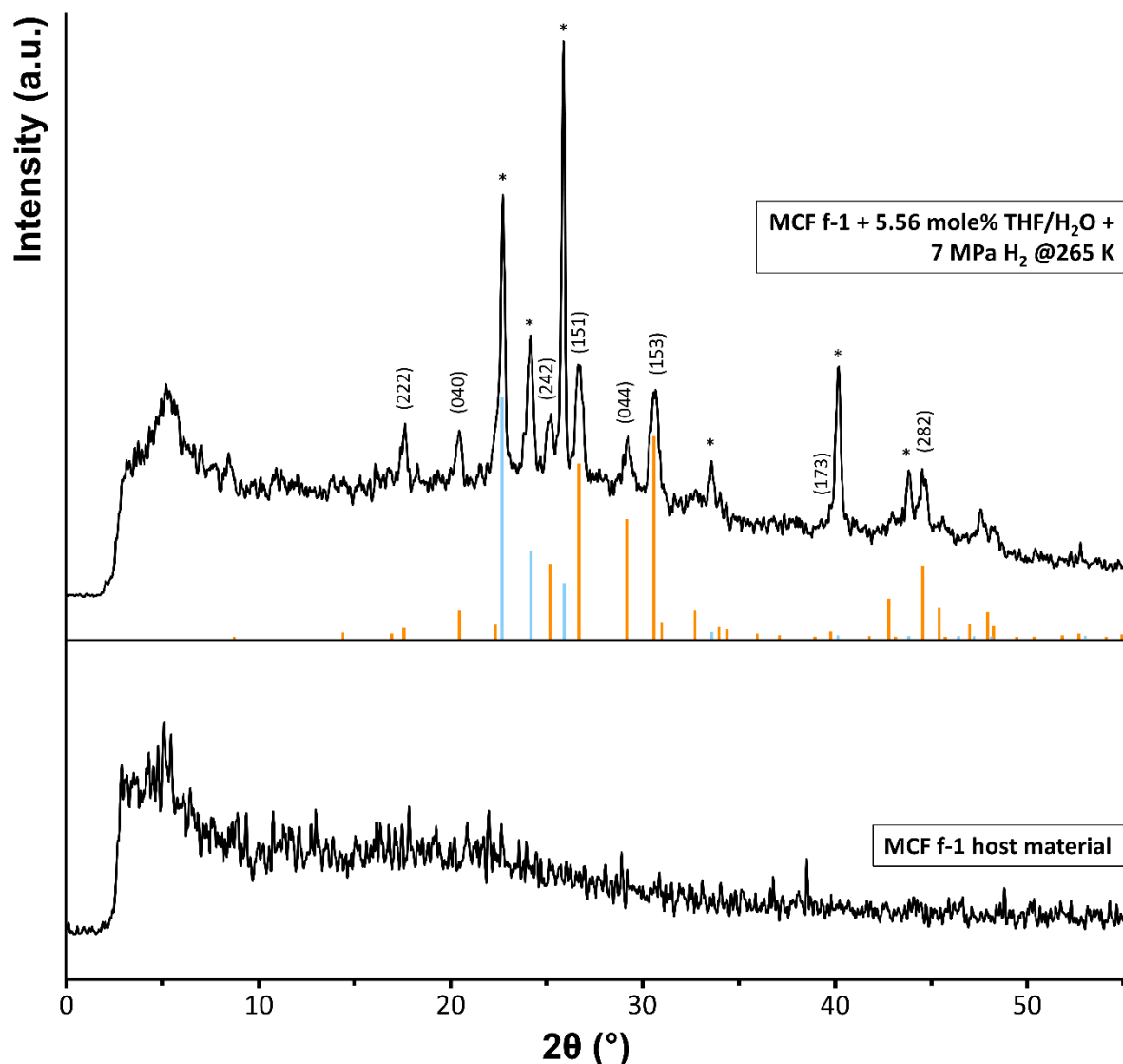
\*patrice.perreault@uantwerpen.be Tel: +32 489 57 39 21

**Table S1.** Regressed values of rate constants ( $k$ ), Avrami exponent ( $n$ ) from the JMAK[1] model.

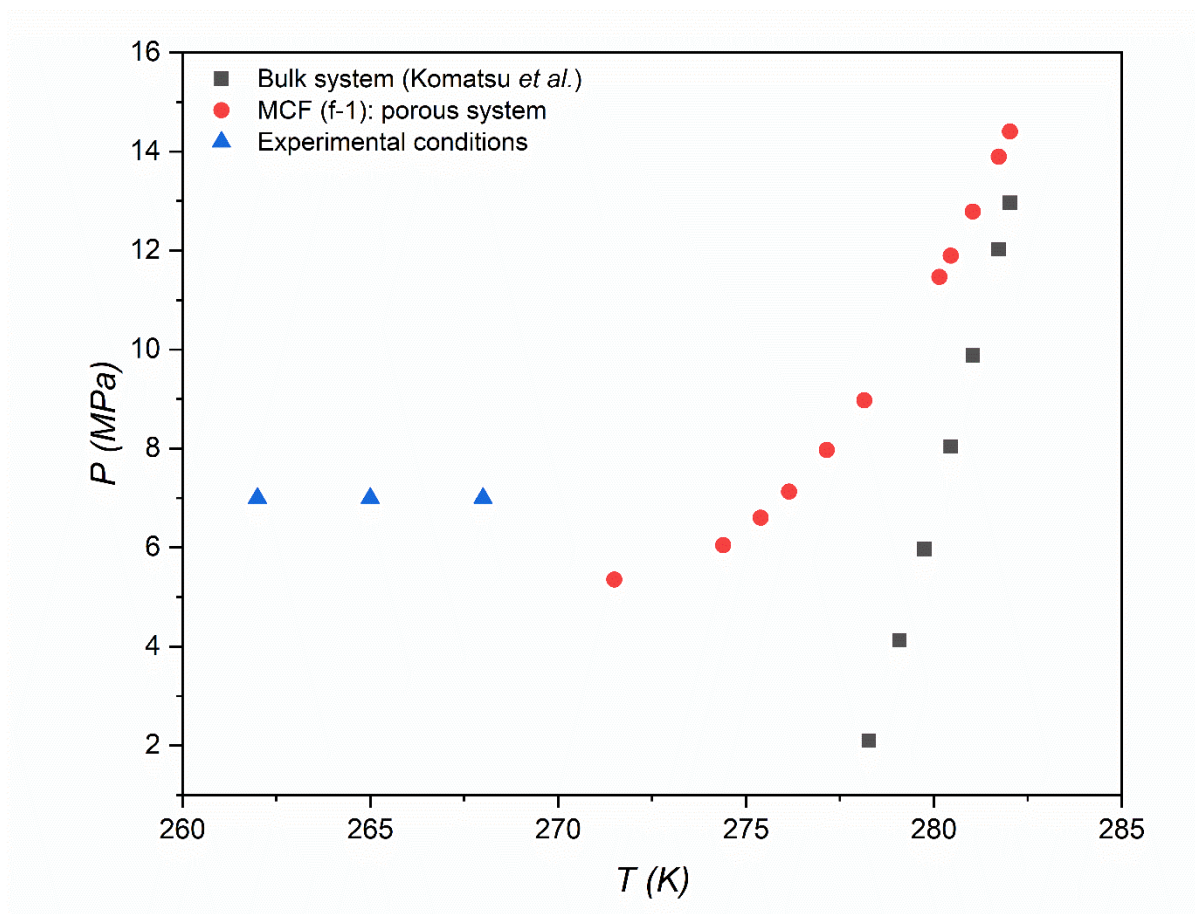
System	T (K)	JMAK		AAD
		$k$ (min <sup>-1</sup> )	$n$	
f-1	268	0.065	0.20	0.68
	265	0.092	0.18	0.84
	262	0.092	0.29	0.74



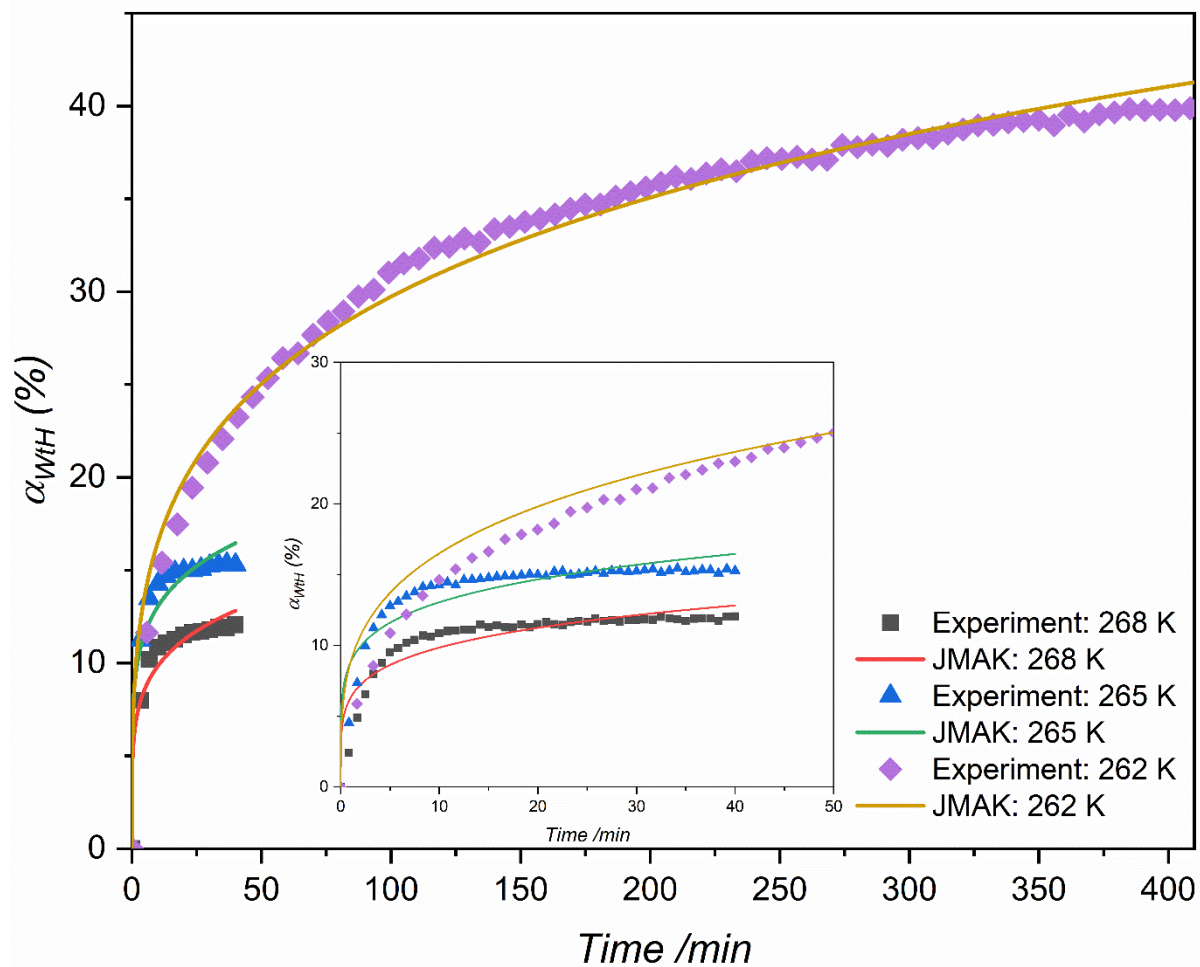
**Figure S1.** Thermogravimetric analysis and estimation of the group's modifier/nm<sup>2</sup> (Mod.gr., #/nm<sup>2</sup>) resulted from the corroboration of carbon content after 423 K (150° C) and BET surface area.



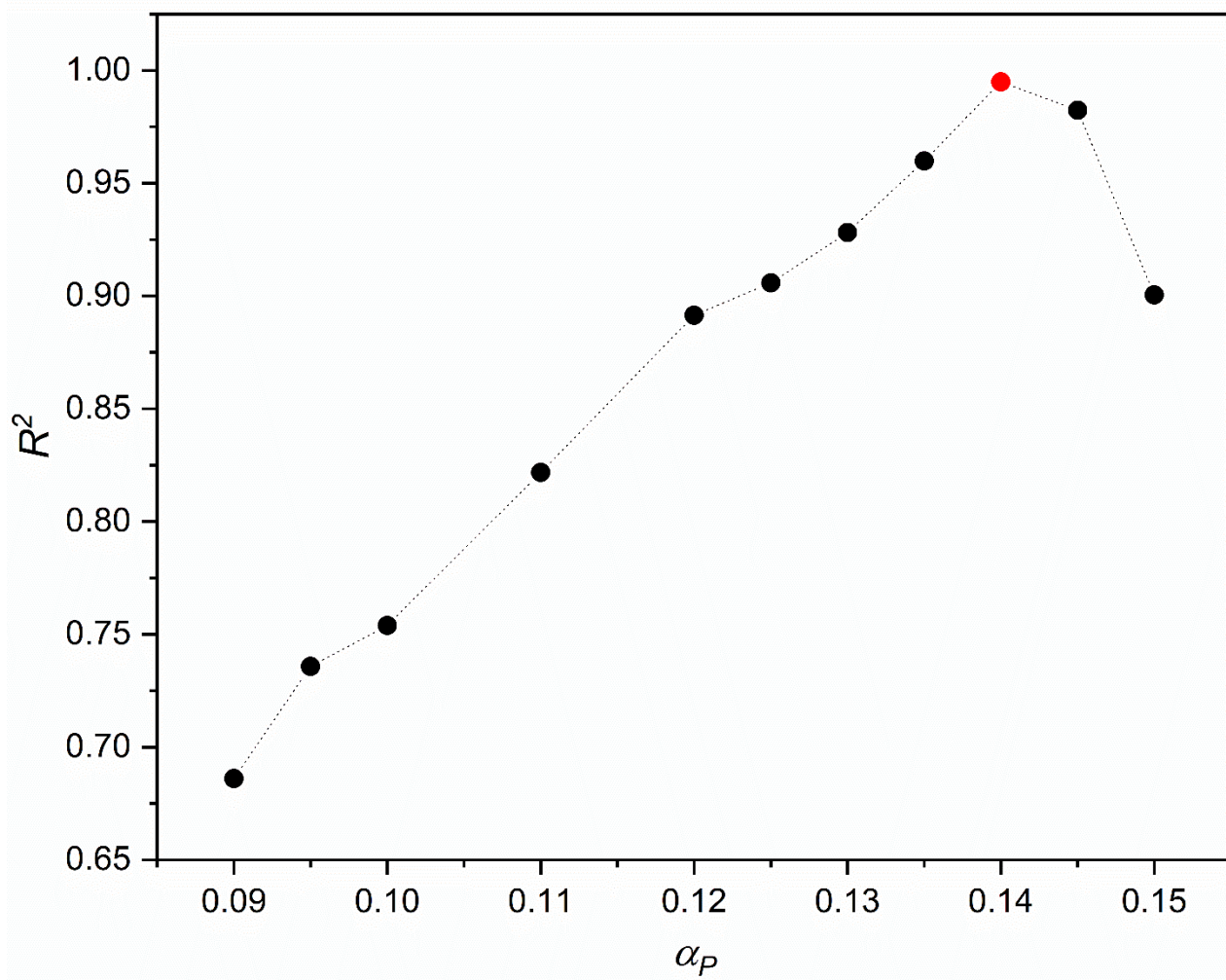
**Figure S2.** X-ray diffraction pattern of MCF f-1 saturated with 5.56 mole% THF/H<sub>2</sub>O solution (100 % pore volume) subjected to 7.0 MPa H<sub>2</sub> pressure at 265 K, determined under cryogenic conditions. Reflections characteristic of sII clathrate hydrates (Fd-3m;  $a = 17.3 \text{ \AA}$ ) are denoted by their corresponding miller indices (hkl). Reference diffraction lines for sII hydrates and hexagonal ice are shown in orange and blue, respectively [2]. The presence of hexagonal ice (marked with an asterisk (\*)) is exacerbated when using liquid nitrogen as refrigerant, as it promotes water condensation and subsequent ice formation from water vapor in the air. **Bottom.** Reference X-ray diffraction pattern of the porous host material, i.e., MCF f-1 (dried).



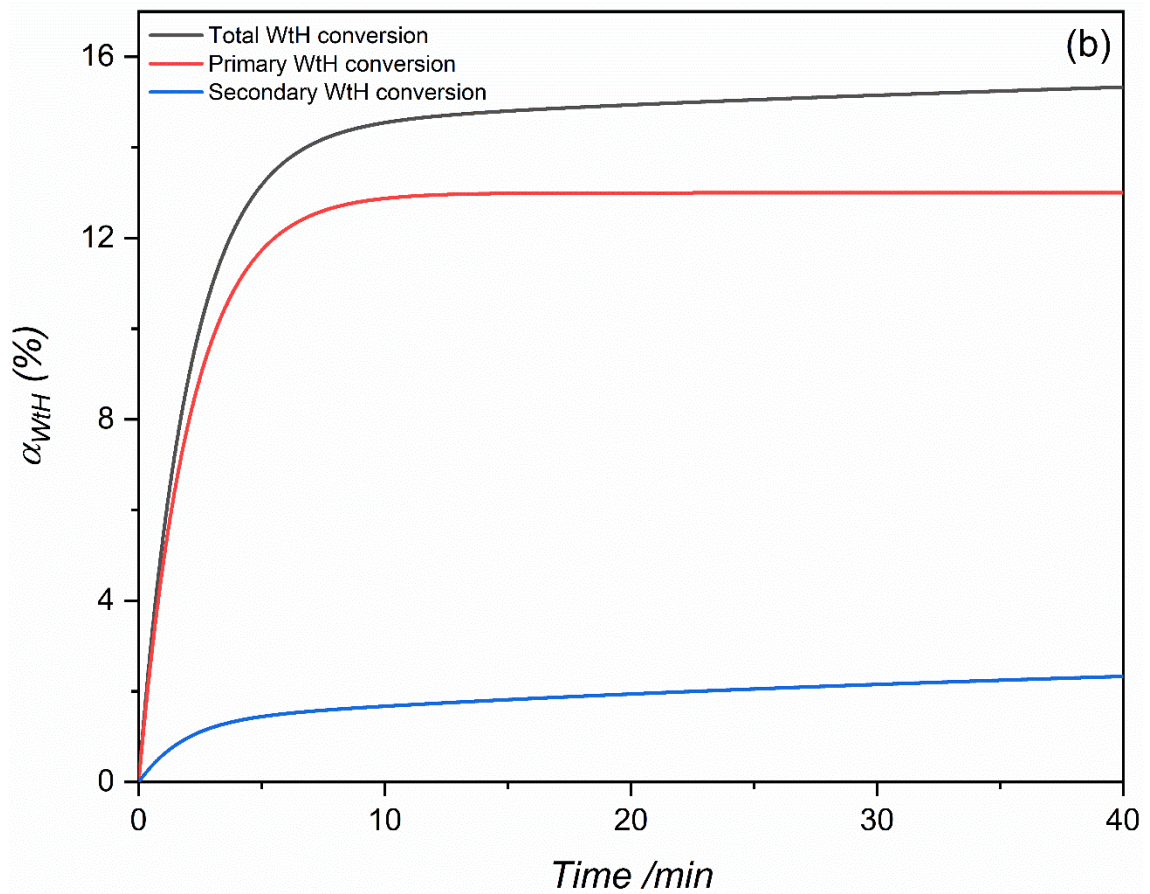
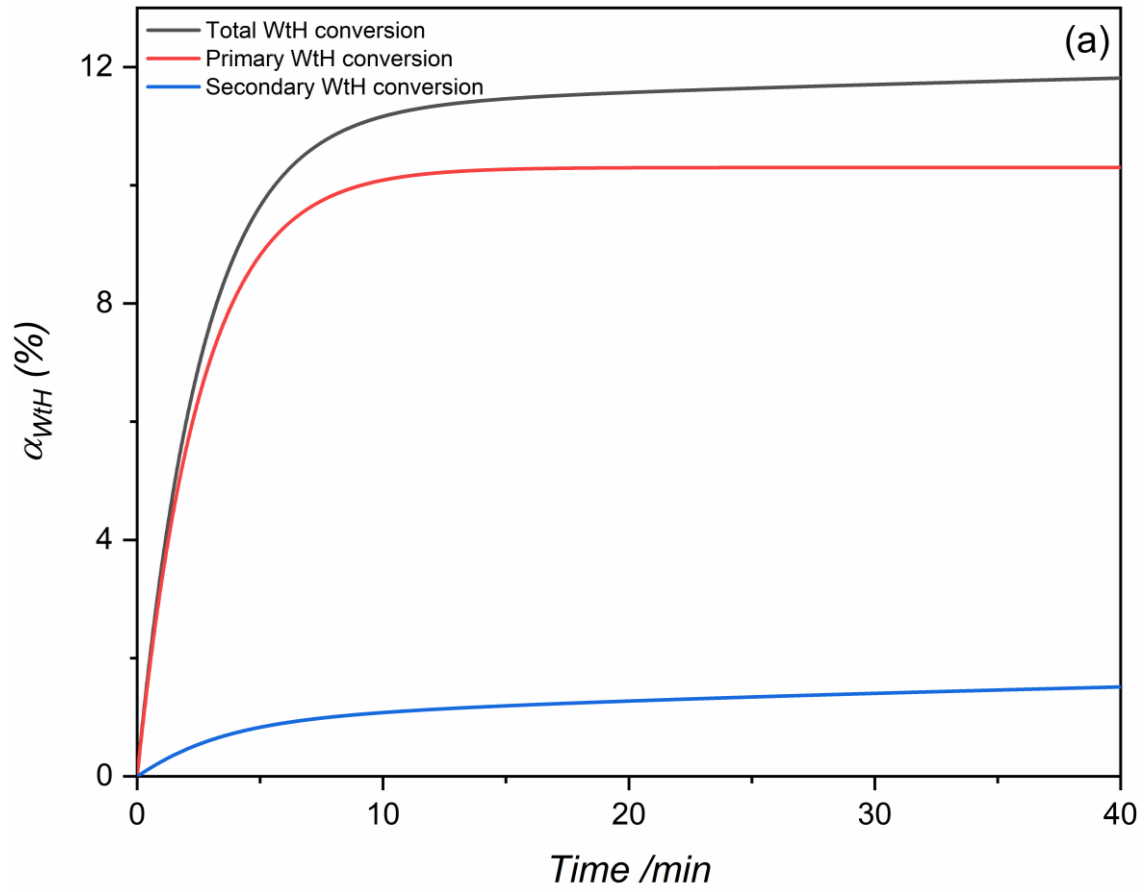
**Figure S3.** Phase equilibrium of binary H<sub>2</sub>-THF hydrate in the presence of porous and bulk systems [3]. The blue triangles represent the experimental conditions used in this work.



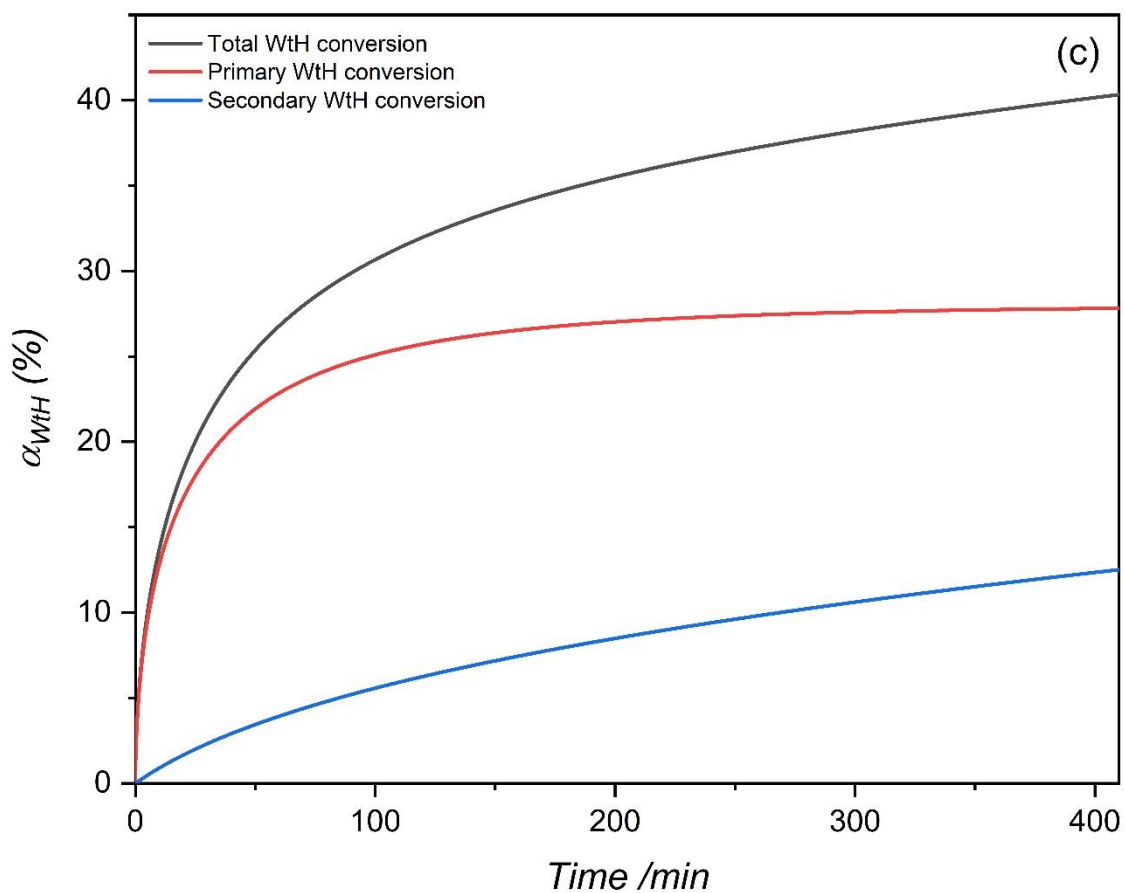
**Figure S4.** Comparing the JMAK model[1] to experimental data for water-to-hydrate conversion (%) in THF-like functionalized MCF (f-1) porous material at three different temperatures with an initial pressure of 7 MPa.



**Figure S5.** Effect of changing  $\alpha_P$  on the degree of fit for the material MCF (f-1) at 265 K.







**Figure S6.** The contribution of primary and secondary-stage hydrate growth on water-to-hydrate conversion in material (f-1) at 268 K(a), 265 K(b), 262 K(c).

## References

- [1] M. Fanfoni, M. Tomellini, The Johnson-Mehl-Avrami-Kohnogorov model: A brief review, *Il Nuovo Cimento D* 20 (1998) 1171-1182.
- [2] Y-H. Ahn, B. Lee, K. Shin, Structural Identification of Binary Tetrahydrofuran + O<sub>2</sub> and 3-Hydroxytetrahydrofuran + O<sub>2</sub> Clathrate Hydrates by Rietveld Analysis with Direct Space Method, *Crystals*, 8 (2018) 328.
- [3] H. Komatsu, H. Yoshioka, M. Ota, Y. Sato, M. Watanabe, R. L. Smith, Jr, C. J. Peters, Phase Equilibrium Measurements of Hydrogen–Tetrahydrofuran and Hydrogen–Cyclopentane Binary Clathrate Hydrate Systems, *J. Chem. Eng. Data*, 55 (2010) 2214–2218