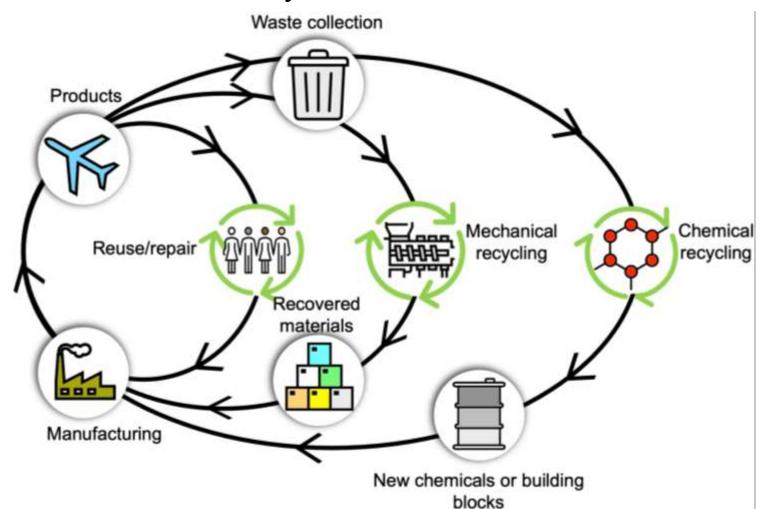
Plastic Wastes Enabling Decarbonized Chemical Manufacturing

Zhe Qiang
School of Polymer Science and Engineering
The University of Southern Mississippi



Decarbonized Manufacturing: What are Key Elements to Consider?

Materials Circularity: No Waste, All Resources



Reuse/Repair

Recycling/Upcycling

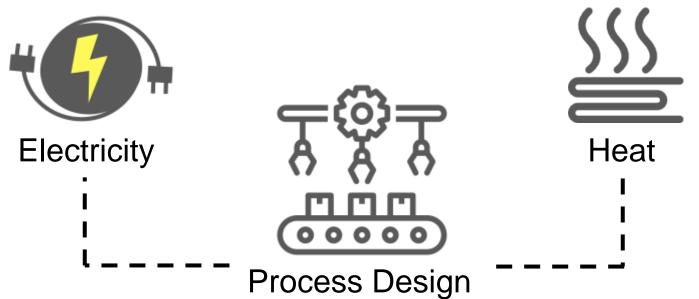
Life Cycle (Carbon Footprint)

Renewable, Reliable, and Affordable Feedstock

Decarbonized Manufacturing: What are Key Elements to Consider?

Manufacturing Process: Sustainable and Energy Efficient





Reuse/Repair

Recycling/Upcycling

Life Cycle (Carbon Footprint)

Renewable, Reliable, and Affordable Feedstock

Renewable Energy

Carbon Capture and Utilization

Electrification

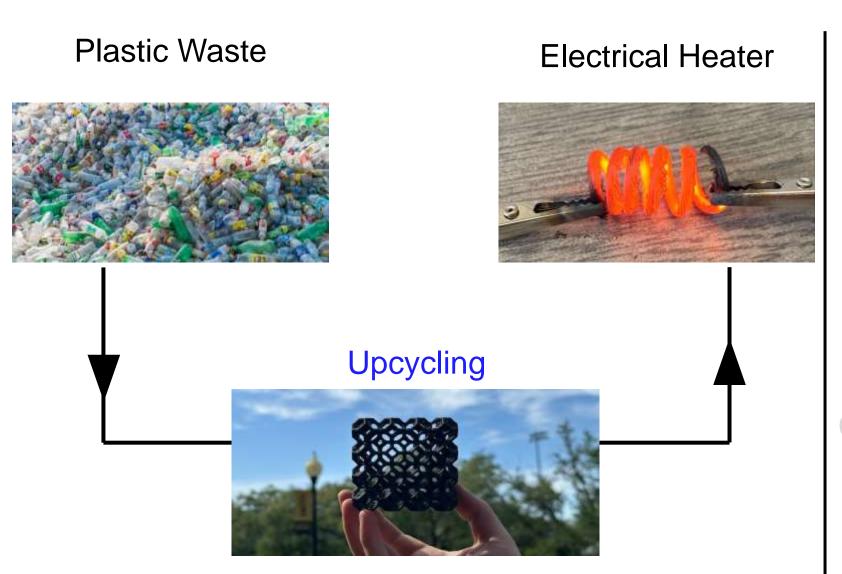
Resource Efficiency

Key Challenges to Address:

Plastic Waste Reutilization (< 7% Recycling Rate, the lowest)

Decarbonizing Heat (~30% of Global CO₂ emission, the highest)

A Technology Design to Simultaneously Tackle Multiple Opportunities



Reuse/Repair

Recycling/Upcycling

Life Cycle (Carbon Footprint)

Renewable, Reliable, and Affordable Feedstock

Renewable Energy

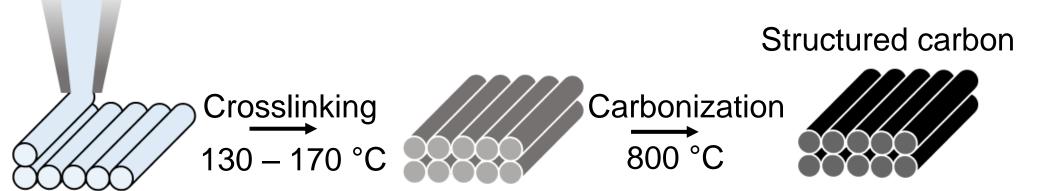
Carbon Capture and Utilization

Electrified Heating

Resource Efficiency

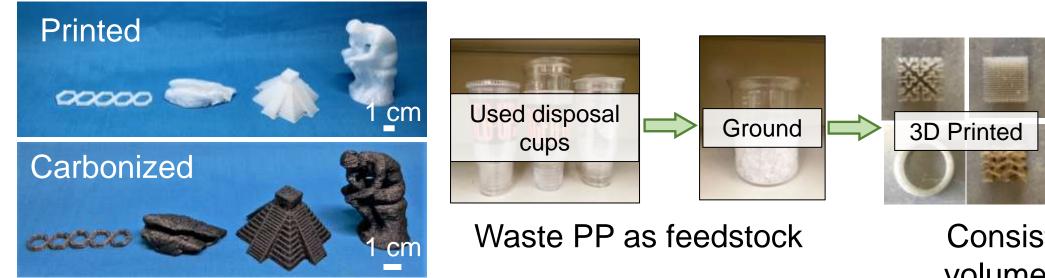
Additive Manufacturing of Carbons from Polyolefin Wastes

FDM printed polypropylene (PP)



Adv. Mater. 2023, 2208029

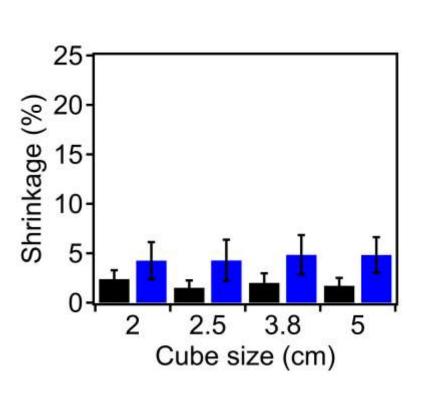
Carbonized



Consistent yield and volumetric shrinkage

Plastic Wastes to Carbons with Accurate Structural Control

From Printed to Carbonized, <5% Shrinkage Enabled by Fiber Inclusion







Outstanding Joule Heating Performance





Extending to Chemical Synthesis and Carbon Capture

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