1	Experimental analysis of $\rm CO_2$ frost front behaviour in moving packed beds for cryogenic $\rm CO_2$				
2	capture				
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6					
7	Abstract				

8 In this work, the feasibility of a novel method of cryogenic carbon capture based on carbon dioxide 9 frost deposition onto a cold moving bed is explored. As a gas mixture including CO<sub>2</sub> flows through a 10 sufficiently cold packed bed, CO<sub>2</sub> is deposited onto the bed material as a frost. As the bed is warmed 11 by the gas stream the frost front advances through the bed. Experimental measurements of the rate 12 of frost advance within a static packed bed are used to set up a moving bed to achieve continuous CO<sub>2</sub> 13 removal. Precooled and dry binary gas mixtures of CO<sub>2</sub> and nitrogen are used to determine frost front 14 velocity in a capture column. The frost front velocity measured in fixed bed experiments with varying 15  $CO_2$  concentrations and gas flow rates are in the range of 0.4 to 1 mm/s. The experimental results 16 were used to design a moving bed system that would match this range of frost front velocities so that 17 continuous capture would be possible. Experiments were conducted to investigate the behaviour of 18 temperature profiles within the capture column under moving bed conditions. These show that frost 19 accumulation does not occur and successfully demonstrates continuous cryogenic carbon capture.

20 Keywords: carbon capture, cryogenic separation, moving bed, desublimation

21 1. Introduction

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Increased concerns over climate change has led governments to invest in climate change mitigation technologies. CO<sub>2</sub> abatement such as carbon capture and storage (CCS) and carbon dioxide removal (CDR) are agreed to be necessary in order to meet climate targets of 2°C and below at the lowest cost [1, 2]. CCS was firstly proposed for the energy sector as a method to decarbonise fossil fuels [3], but now the focus is attracting attention as a method to decarbonise other industries such as cement making and biogas purification [4, 5].

28 In the UK, the government aims to capture 10Mt of CO<sub>2</sub> per year by 2030 through carbon capture and 29 utilisation and storage (CCUS) technology, with a further pledge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 30 by 100% relative to 1990 levels by 2050 as an amendment to the 2008 climate change act, which had 31 previously made a commitment to reduce emissions by 80% [6]. The UK will focus on hotspots of 32 industrial activity for CCUS development, known as industrial clusters, such as the Net Zero Teeside 33 and Zero Carbon Humber projects. These industrial clusters will reduce the cost of CCUS by providing 34 economies of scale [2]. The EU also plans to implement commercial scale CCS within the energy and 35 industrial sectors in the 2020s, acknowledging the role of CCS in the IPCC 1.5°C special report [7].

#### 36 **1.1. Cryogenic carbon capture**

Post-combustion carbon capture technology has an important advantage of being able to be retrofitted onto existing power plants and industries [3]. Of these post-combustion technologies, chemical absorption is the most established and mature technology [1]. A significant disadvantage of absorption using amine-based solutions is that the process requires large equipment sizes with difficulties in scaling down economically for industrial applications [8]. For these industries, other methods of post-combustion carbon capture need to be explored [4]. The requirement for low carbon technologies across various industries increases as the energy sector continues to decarbonise.

44 Cryogenic carbon capture (CCC) is a technology that can operate at smaller scale and has been 45 considered both in carbon capture for cleaning flue gases [9, 10] and biogas upgrading [11]. CCC 46 operates through a physical phase change of CO<sub>2</sub>, meaning that no absorbent is required. Furthermore, the application of cryogenic packed beds allows for CO<sub>2</sub> capture at low pressure. These key advantages have driven research into CCC [5, 9, 12-14]. CCC often features a fixed heat transfer surface to cool down the CO<sub>2</sub> sufficiently to cause desublimation and frost deposition [9, 14]. Once the heat transfer surface is saturated with frost, heat must be applied to regenerate the heat transfer surface and recover CO<sub>2</sub>. This regeneration step requires periodic shut down of the capture step; the overall process would require multiple capture columns operating cyclically to capture CO<sub>2</sub> continuously [15], increasing capital cost substantially.

### 54 **1.2. Moving bed for cryogenic carbon capture**

A significant limitation of CCC is the loss of heat transfer efficiency as CO2 frost develops on the heat 55 56 transfer surface [15, 16]. As a solution to overcome this limitation, a novel advanced cryogenic carbon 57 capture process that uses a moving packed bed to perform heat transfer has been proposed. This 58 moving bed process, known as Advanced Cryogenic Carbon Capture (A3C), comprises three major unit 59 operations; a chilling step to cool the gas and reduce the water vapour content, a recuperative cooler-60 drier stage which cools the gas and removes the remaining water vapour, and a CO<sub>2</sub> separation stage 61 which separates CO<sub>2</sub> from the flue gas and captures it as a frost on a moving bed [11]. The refrigeration 62 required for bed cooling would be conventional but would be closely integrated with the process heat 63 demand for CO<sub>2</sub> sublimation at around 196K, reducing the overall energy consumption significantly.

The technical and economic feasibility of the A3C process has been assessed through modelling and economic analyses [11], in which it was compared on a consistent basis with amine-based  $CO_2$  capture for a number of potential applications. A common observation for existing CCC is that it has a high energy consumption for the necessary refrigeration. The appeal for the highly recuperative A3C process is that it minimises this energy demand, with the feasibility study showing a specific energy consumption for  $CO_2$  capture of 263 kWh/ tonne for biogas upgrading applications [11]. An outline of the A3C separation is provided in figure 1. The feasibility study highlights biogas upgrading as a potential application that is favourable to the A3C process in comparison to small scale amine-based absorption. This solidified the process at a technological readiness level (TRL) of 2-3 [1]. This work is focused on the control of frosting in the desublimer unit of the CO<sub>2</sub> separation stage. The desublimer is the critical unit operation of the A3C process, demonstration of the moving bed process with experimental tests would validate the A3C process at TRL 3. Allowing advancement from the research focused TRLs to development focused TRLs [1].

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The movement of the bed in the separation step allows CO<sub>2</sub> to be recovered from the frosted bed material by warming outside of the capture column and then cooled it again for return to the capture column. This moving bed system would prevent the build-up of CO<sub>2</sub> frost within the capture column, eliminating the need for multiple capture columns for continuous operation and improving the heat transfer efficiency of the process.



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Figure 1. Outline of the two stages of A3C separation process, temperatures refer to a flue gas
application [11] (colour)

87 This work aims to expand upon previous CCC studies and connect it to the moving bed processes [17-

19] as to date there are no studies combining these two aspects. Another research gap is a lack of

studies on fundamentals of CO<sub>2</sub> frost formation within a packed bed and how it interacts with heat
transfer. Measuring heat transfer in a moving bed while measuring and factoring CO<sub>2</sub> frost
development presents a set of unique challenges, which will have to be addressed.

92 The first challenge is the frost front velocity, the velocity at which the frosted region in a static packed 93 bed advances up the column. The moving bed would have to match this frost front velocity to form 94 an equilibrium frost front. Therefore, this work presents experiments conducted to investigate the 95 frost front velocity within a purposely built experimental rig which allows experiments with either 96 static or moving packed beds. In static operation, the experimental set up is similar in design to work 97 done by Tuinier et al. [9]. Tuinier et al. injected a mixed gas of nitrogen,  $CO_2$  and water vapour into a 98 pre-cooled capture column with the difference in dew and sublimation points of CO<sub>2</sub> and water causing 99 the two components to form separate frost fronts which advanced through the column at different 100 velocities. The fixed packed bed experimental results from this work are used to construct frost front 101 velocity curves which are then compared with results from Tuinier et al [9, 15] for validation. Then, 102 moving bed experiments are presented for the first time to investigate whether the frost front velocity 103 can be controlled.

## 104 2. Materials and Methods

The cryogenic cooling column was designed as a 1m tall vertical column made of PTFE, ID=0.072m,
OD=0.095m. The column is held between two aluminium plates with orifices to allow the filling and
emptying of bed material in the column. A sketch of the rig is presented in figure 2.

The bed material consists of small, approximately spherical, stainless steel beads used commercially for shot peening. These were sifted to ensure that the material consists of particles with a diameter of 1.4-1.7mm. Furthermore, the bed porosity within the column was calculated as 0.42 by weighing test samples of bed material occupying a known volume. Two GSS ExplorIR®-W CO<sub>2</sub> sensors record CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations with a precision of 0.001% and type-K thermocouples attached to dataloggers (TC-Direct 4 channel) record temperature inside the column at different heights above the gas injector. The gas injector is a perforated copper pipe that rests inside the cooling column, distributing the gas stream across the column. The copper pipe is perforated with 116 1mm wide radial slits on opposite sides of the pipe.

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# Figure 2. Sketch of moving bed experimental set up. (colour)

Figure 2 shows a liquid nitrogen (LN2) bath used to cool down the gas streams, with the heat exchanger (HX) utilising the low temperature nitrogen vapour for further cooling. Liquid nitrogen was used as the refrigerant for the cooling gas due to its ease of use for experiments at this scale where energy consumption was not a focus of this work. The nitrogen and CO<sub>2</sub> gases are supplied from high pressure cylinders, with purities of over 99.98% and 99.8% respectively. The nitrogen stream (blue) is cooled to roughly -140°C and is used to cool down the bed material until it reaches -120°C. The cooled 126 nitrogen gas is injected directly into the capture column filled with metal bed material. The gas stream 127 is then switched to the mixed gas line (orange) of  $CO_2$  and nitrogen, which is cooled to roughly -75°C. 128 The gas is first pre-cooled to close to the saturation temperature for CO<sub>2</sub> deposition so that the more 129 intensive cooling by the moving bed in the separation step can be matched to the energy required for 130 desublimation. The gas mixture is then cooled further by the moving bed to desublimate CO<sub>2</sub>, causing 131 frost to form on the bed material. The mixed gas line is controlled using manual flow control valves to regulate the flow rates of the CO<sub>2</sub> and nitrogen gas lines which are then mixed. The total flow rate and 132 133 CO<sub>2</sub> composition of the mixed gas is measured using a rotameter and a GSS sensor.

134 The frost front velocity for fixed bed experiments was measured under a range of different gas flow 135 rates and  $CO_2$  concentrations, as shown in table 1.

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- 137

### **Table 1.** Frost front velocity experimental conditions

Inlet gas flow rate (LPM)	Superficial velocity (m/s)	Inlet gas $CO_2$ concentration (% v/v)
100	0.23	18
100	0.23	8
100	0.23	4
120	0.28	18
80	0.18	18
50	0.12	18

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The superficial velocities are dependent on the temperature of the gas, with colder gas temperatures resulting in a higher density of gas and thus reducing the superficial velocity within the column. The superficial velocity was calculated using a temperature approximate to the desublimation temperature of CO<sub>2</sub> within the gas phase in order to calculate the superficial velocity of the mixed gasin the column prior to desublimation.

For moving bed experiments, a purpose built screw conveyor was placed at the bottom of the capture column with a variable speed motor. The speed of the motor can be adjusted to alter the RPM of the screw conveyor and therefore control the flow rate of the bed material. The outlet for the bed was designed to ensure that the bed material has a consistent rate of movement at all distances from the centre with minimal mixing of the material.

149 The moving bed experiments were conducted using a gas superficial velocity of 0.17 m/s and a  $CO_2$ 150 concentration of 18%. This gas flow rate was set to match the bed flow rate measured for the screw 151 conveyor at 200 RPM at ambient conditions, providing a bed mass flow rate of 0.024 kg/s and vertical 152 velocity of about 1 mm/s. Moving bed experiments recorded the temperature profiles of the 5mm and 30mm thermocouples with bed inlet temperature of -140°C. The conditions for the moving bed 153 154 experiments are summarised in table 2. The outlet gas sensor set up was modified to collect and 155 measure gas samples close to the frost front. A small pipe was inserted to the 30mm point connected 156 to the gas sensor at the capture column outlet, which would allow gas samples close to the frost front 157 to be measured by the GSS sensor. The 30mm thermocouple was placed inside the gas sampling pipe 158 to measure the temperature at the same point.

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### **Table 2.** Moving bed experimental conditions

-140
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0.024
1
0.17
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After the initial cooling step was completed in each experiment, bringing the bed to the desired temperature, the flow of cooling N<sub>2</sub> gas was stopped and the screw conveyor started to remove bed material from the capture column at a fixed rate. Shortly after, the mixed gas was fed by the gas injector. Thermocouples at 5mm and 30mm points were used to measure the temperature of the bed material close to the injector, where it is believed that the frost front will remain static in place as opposed to advancing further up the column.

167 **3. Results and discussion** 

### 168 **3.1 Fixed bed temperature profiles**

Figure 3 shows a selection of results from the cryogenic packed bed experiments used to determine frost front velocity. Figure 3ai and 3bi show the temperatures of the bed material at certain distances above the gas injector where the flue gas is introduced to the cooling column. The plateaus that form after initial temperature change indicate frost deposition onto the bed material. The time at which the plateaus form at each of the thermocouples are used as reference points for measuring frost front velocity.











Figure 3. Temperature readings from gas injector and different heights in the column and CO<sub>2</sub> sensor
 measurements from a) 100LPM, 0.23 m/s, 18%, b) 50LPM, 0.12m/s, 18% (colour)

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The results in figure 3 show CO<sub>2</sub> removal within the column during each experiment ranging from 93% to 100% (or CO<sub>2</sub> levels below the detection limit). Figure 3aii and 3bii show the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the mixed gas before entering the packed bed and after exiting the packed bed. Almost all CO<sub>2</sub> is captured until the final moments of each experimental run, which is the point where the packed bed material entirely reaches the plateaued temperature. It can be seen that the point in time when the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration exiting the column starts to rise occurs roughly at the same time that the frost front has advanced 250mm up the column.

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The time at which the plateaus form for each temperature profile gives an indication of how fast the frost front is advancing through the capture column. From figure 3ai and 3bi, the 0.23 m/s superficial velocity results in a faster frost front velocity as the temperature profiles plateau earlier than can be seen in the 0.12 m/s temperature profiles. At the lower flow rate temperature profiles for the 150mm and 250mm thermocouples do not plateau after 450s, indicating that the frost front never advanced that far up the column during the experiment.

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Figure 4 shows the averaged results of the frost front experiments and presents the frost front velocity
under different gas flow rates and CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations. The gradients of each line represent the frost
front velocity inside the cooling column at a rate of mm/s.

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- 201
- 202

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b)

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superficial velocities, b) frost front velocities for different CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations. (colour)

212 The range of frost front velocity varies between 0.46-0.78 mm/s with varying CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations 213 ranging from 4%-18% and between 0.37-0.99 mm/s with varying gas superficial velocities ranging from 214 0.12-0.27 m/s. The trendlines shown in figure 4 do not intercept the y-axis at zero, this is likely 215 indicative of supercooling effects where the incoming flue gas is cooled but there is no point of 216 nucleation for CO<sub>2</sub> frost deposition to occur. It should be noted however, that the magnitude of the 217 difference in where the y-axis is intercepted is dependent on the assumption of  $t_0$  and the beginning 218 of the experiment. For the purpose of these experiments, t<sub>0</sub> is assumed to be the time at which the 219 temperature of the flue gas entering the column, shown by the gas injector thermocouple, reached 220 the temperature that CO<sub>2</sub> would desublimate for the given gas composition.

## 221 **3.2** Comparison with literature and modelling

The experimental work was compared with a theoretical model based on the conservation of energy over the frost region. This model was used to predict the frost front velocity within the capture column under different gas flow rates and CO<sub>2</sub> compositions. The theoretical model is summarised by equation (1) given below.

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$$U_{frost} = \frac{Q_g}{A\rho_s c_{ps} \Delta T}$$
(1)

where  $U_{\text{frost}}$ =frost front velocity,  $Q_{\text{g}}$  is the cooling duty required for the CO<sub>2</sub> present in the gas to desublimate, *A* is the cross sectional area of the column,  $\rho_{\text{s}}$  is the density of the bed material,  $c_{\text{p,s}}$  is the specific heat capacity of the bed material and  $\Delta T$  is the temperature change of the bed material from initial bed temperature to frosted bed temperature.

The fixed bed experimental results from experiment were also compared with results from Tuinier et al [9, 15],  $CO_2$  temperature profiles from their experimental work were used to estimate frost front velocities. The capture columns used in the different sets of experiments differ, thus correction factors were used in order to better compare the two sets of results using equation (2). 235 The overall correction factor was predicted to be as follows:

$$\frac{dvdy}{d\rho dc_p} \tag{2}$$

where y is the volume fraction of  $CO_2$  in the gas phase and v is the gas superficial velocity. The relative

differences between the sets of experimental data are compiled in table 3.

2	3	9

## Table 3. Correction factors for experimental results

Characteristic	Tuinier [9]	This work	Correction factor
Superficial gas velocity (m/s)	0.1	0.23	2.36
$CO_2$ composition (% v/v)	20	18	0.9
Bed material	Glass	Steel	
Density of bed material (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	2547	7850	3.08
Specific heat capacity during	365.4	400	1.10
capture step (J/kgK)			

## 240

The results in Tuinier et al.'s work allow an estimate for the frost front for a small range of results, the frost front velocity for 20% CO<sub>2</sub> at 10LPM was estimated to be 1.37mm/s. The correction factors allow the frost front velocity to be converted to an approximate frost front velocity for different gas flow rates. Differences in concentration were kept minimal by comparing 10% and 20% CO<sub>2</sub> results from Tuinier et al. and 8% and 18% results from this work respectively. Comparisons are shown in figure 5.





Figure 5. Comparison between theoretical modelling predictions, experimental work and results
 estimated from Tunier et al. [9, 15] a) frost front velocity trend based on CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in mixed
 gas b) frost front velocity trend based on gas superficial velocity. (colour)

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In figure 5a, the gradient 0.0226 is for experimental results, 0.0247 is for theoretical modelling and 0.0381 is for Tuinier et al. corrected values; in figure 5b the gradient 3.52 is for the theoretical modelling, 3.7019 is for experimental work and 3.7652 is for Tunier et al corrected values. The trends in figure 5 show a good level of agreement between the sets of results, especially between the 256 theoretical modelling predictions and the experimental results; however, there is less reliability in 257 comparisons between experimental and literature data with changing concentration. Thus, it is 258 possible to make a relatively simple comparison between different sets of experimental results as long 259 as the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the flue gas and initial bed temperatures are similar. This method of 260 using correction factors to accommodate for discrepancies in CO<sub>2</sub> concentration is only suitable for 261 relatively small changes in concentration, as altering the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in the flue gas will alter 262 the desublimation temperature of the  $CO_2$ , which then affects the temperature change of the bed 263 material and gas phase through the capture column.

### 264 3.3. Moving bed experiments

The fixed bed experimental measurements shown in Figure 5 were used to predict the frost front velocity so that the bed flow could be set to stop front movement at the gas conditions for the moving bed experiments.

268 The moving bed aims to balance the accumulation of frost within the bed material by removing frosted 269 bed from the capture column. The relationship between the bed and frost front velocities allow a 270 comparison between the mass flow rates of  $CO_2$  and the bed material. Assuming that all the  $CO_2$  is 271 deposited as frost under conditions given in table 2 indicates that the CO<sub>2</sub> frost mass flow rate is 1.78% 272 that of the bed material flow rate. This is in agreement with earlier work done on the A3C process [11]. In other words, mass of CO<sub>2</sub> frost desublimed on the bed material is 1.78% of the mass of the 273 274 bed material itself. This is comparable to the loading of  $CO_2$  in solvent based carbon capture, the 275 amount of CO<sub>2</sub> that can be absorbed within the solvent, typically mol CO<sub>2</sub>/mol solvent. A loading value 276 of 1.78% is low in comparison to the typical MEA based loading 0.077-0.354 mol CO<sub>2</sub>/mol amine [20], 277 converted to 0.06-0.25 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/kg amine. This is due to the high density of the steel bed material in 278 comparison to the gas phase. Altering the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the gas phase would affect the 279 loading respectively by increasing the mass of frost desublimed on the bed material. The loading of 280 CO<sub>2</sub> on bed material is primarily affected by the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the gas phase and the initial

bed temperature of the bed material. Higher CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations and colder bed material
temperatures would improve the loading.

283 Only temperature profiles of the thermocouples that are within the frosted region of the bed will 284 display a plateau indicative of CO<sub>2</sub> frost formation. Ideally the temperature profiles of thermocouples 285 outside the frosted region would remain constant below the frosting temperature as the bed material 286 would have a uniform temperature throughout the entire capture column. This is not the case 287 realistically, however there is a temperature gradient present in the bed material after the cooling 288 step has been completed. The bed material therefore is expected to slowly increase in temperature 289 as frosted bed material is removed from the column and relatively warmer bed material travels down 290 the column.

291 Figure 6 shows the temperature profiles of thermocouples close to the gas injector as well as a 292 temperature profile calculated from the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration at the frost front. The gas sensor at the 293 outlet of the capture column records the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> present in the gas leaving the capture 294 column, which is then used to estimate the temperature of the frost front using the Span and Wagner 295 equation of state [21] shown in equation (3). The saturation pressure in equation (3) is compared to 296 the partial pressure of  $CO_2$  in the mixed gas stream, when the saturation pressure is less than the 297 partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub> will desublime out of the gas phase onto the bed material. If the simulated 298 temperature profile closely matches the temperature profile of one of the thermocouples, then the 299 frost front can be assumed to be located close to the region of the bed where that thermocouple is 300 located.

301 
$$ln\left(\frac{P_{sat}}{P_t}\right) = \frac{T_t}{T} \left( a_1 \left(1 - \frac{T}{T_t}\right) + a_2 \left(1 - \frac{T}{T_t}\right)^{1.9} + a_3 \left(1 - \frac{T}{T_t}\right)^{2.9} \right)$$
(3)

Where  $a_1$ =-14.740846,  $a_2$ =2.4327015,  $a_3$ =-5.3061778,  $P_{sat}$  is the saturation pressure,  $P_t$  is the triple point pressure (0.51795 MPa),  $T_t$  is the triple point temperature (216.592 K) and T is temperature (K).



**Figure 6.** Temperature profiles of thermocouples under moving bed conditions -140°C 18% CO<sub>2</sub>

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0.024 kg/s bed flow (colour)

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309 The calculated temperature profiles align well with the 30mm thermocouple temperature profile. The 5mm temperature profile demonstrates a plateau in figure 6 at roughly -95°C, where the expected 310 311 desublimation temperature for 18% v/v CO<sub>2</sub> is -97.2°C, which signifies the frost front is present at that 312 point. The 30mm temperature profile does not appear to demonstrate a clear plateau forming. The 313 temperature profiles for 5mm and 30mm under fixed bed conditions (figure 3ai and 3bi) follow a very 314 similar trend, with a plateau forming at the same temperature, whereas this pattern has been 315 interrupted in moving bed experiments. It can be seen that the temperature profile for the 30mm 316 point plateaus at a delayed time in comparison to figure 3. The 30mm plateau in fixed bed experiments forms approximately 70-80s after the 5mm temperature profile plateaus, in the moving bed 317 318 experiments the 30mm temperature profile plateaus approximate 125s after the 5mm temperature 319 profile. It is most likely that the moving bed is causing this phenomenon by slowing down the frost 320 front velocity in the capture column.

It appears that the frost front remains between the 5mm and the 30mm thermocouple, as opposed to advancing through the bed, which would be indicated by the general trend of the simulated temperature profile and the 30mm temperature profile. This would lead to the conclusion that the frost front velocity is being controlled by the movement of the bed. The moving bed experiment has therefore demonstrated that the build-up of CO<sub>2</sub> frost within the capture column can be prevented by continuously removing frosted bed material. The experimental work done in this paper justifies the A3C process being at TRL 3.

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330 Future work will integrate a second injector into the capture column for bed cooling to allow the 331 precooling step and the capture step of the moving bed to occur simultaneously. This is a necessary 332 step in order to progress the development of the cryogenic moving bed, which would require a 333 continuous cycle of the three stages of cryogenic carbon capture: the cooling stage, capture stage and 334 recovery stage. There is also opportunity for the capture column to be tested using different bed 335 materials, such as ceramic and glass beads, comparing the frost front velocities for different bed 336 materials within the capture column. Both areas of future work seek to develop the A3C process to 337 more robust, full system of carbon capture to advance the TRL even further.

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### 339 4. Conclusion

This work presents the first attempt for CO<sub>2</sub> desublimation using a moving packed bed. Firstly, experiments were conducted in a fixed bed packed bed that helped to derive a simple but effective method to estimate the frost front velocity for CO<sub>2</sub> capture. Secondly the results were used to design a moving bed with a matching bed velocity to allow for effective and continuous separation of CO<sub>2</sub> from gas mixtures. The frost front velocity was found to vary between 0.46-0.78 mm/s with varying CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations ranging from 4%-18% and between 0.37-0.99 mm/s with varying gas superficial velocities ranging from 0.12-0.28 m/s. These experimental results compare well with results from Tuinier et al. for varying gas flow rates by using correction factors. The comparison for varyingconcentration showed discrepancies and the need for improvement of the method used.

The moving bed experiments successfully showed that the frost front velocity can be controlled and that the accumulation of frost within the capture column can be prevented under appropriate conditions. The frost covering on the bed material is thin, resulting in a low ratio of CO<sub>2</sub> frost mass to bed material mass, this CO<sub>2</sub> frost loading is dependent on the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in the gas and can also be improved by reducing the initial bed temperature in the capture column. These findings will lead into further steps to develop the moving bed capture system, with the primary focus being the simultaneous operation of the cooling stage and capture stage within the capture column.

### 356 CRediT authorship contribution statement

David Cann: Validation, Formal analysis, Investigation, Writing. Carolina Font-Palma: Resources,
 Writing – review and editing, Visualization, Supervision, Project administration, Funding acquisition.
 Paul Willson: Conceptualization, Resources, Writing – review and editing, Visualization, Supervision,

360 Funding acquisition.

### 361 Declaration of competing interest

362 There are no competing interests in this work.

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