



Turning CO₂ into Fuels and Chemicals for Sustainable Energy Development

Chunshan Song*

Pennsylvania State University

EMS Energy Institute, Dept of Energy & Mineral Eng, and

Dept of Chemical Eng, University Park, PA 16802

***E-mail: csong@psu.edu**

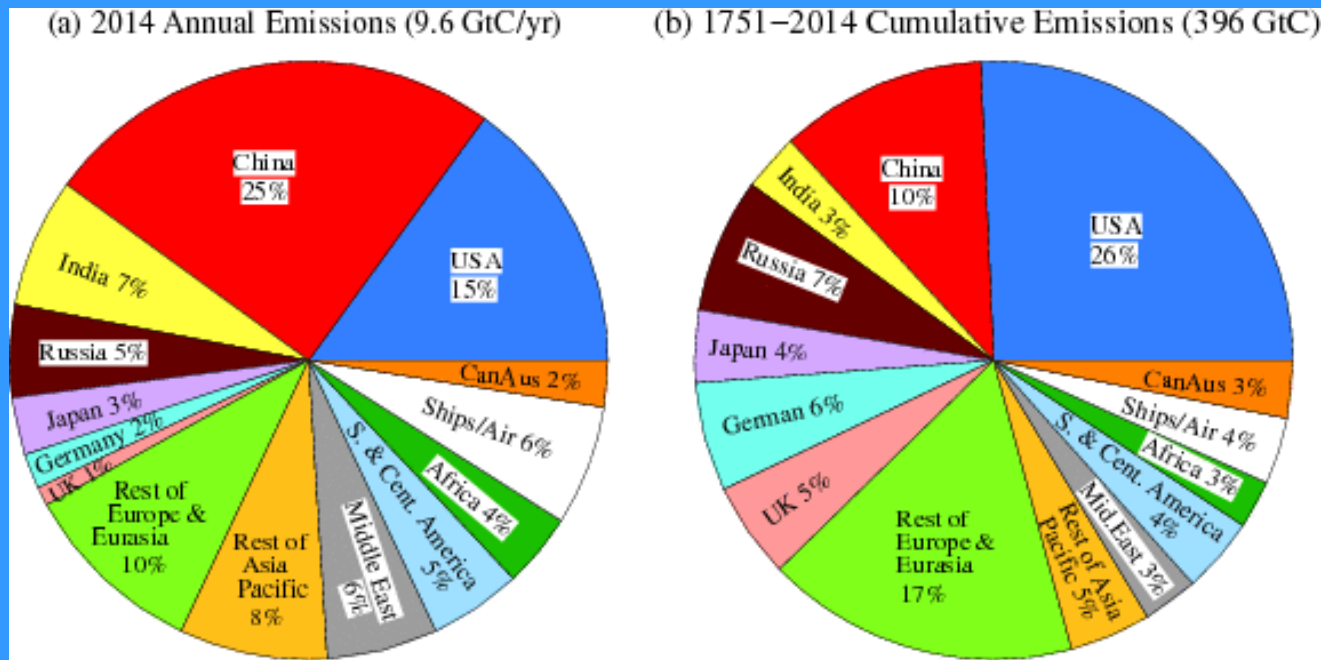
US Energy Association Briefing

Washington DC, April 21, 2016

CO₂ Emissions Worldwide

World CO₂ emissions projected to rise from 28.18 billion metric tons (BMT) in 2005 to 35.21 BMT in 2020 and 43.22 BMT in 2035 (by EIA IEO, 2011).*

2013 world's total CO₂ emissions **35.1 BMT**, with 9.5 BMT in China (**7.1 MT** per person), 5.9 BMT in US (**18.9 MT** pp), 1.8 BMT in India, 1.7 BMT in Russia, and 1.4 BMT in Japan.



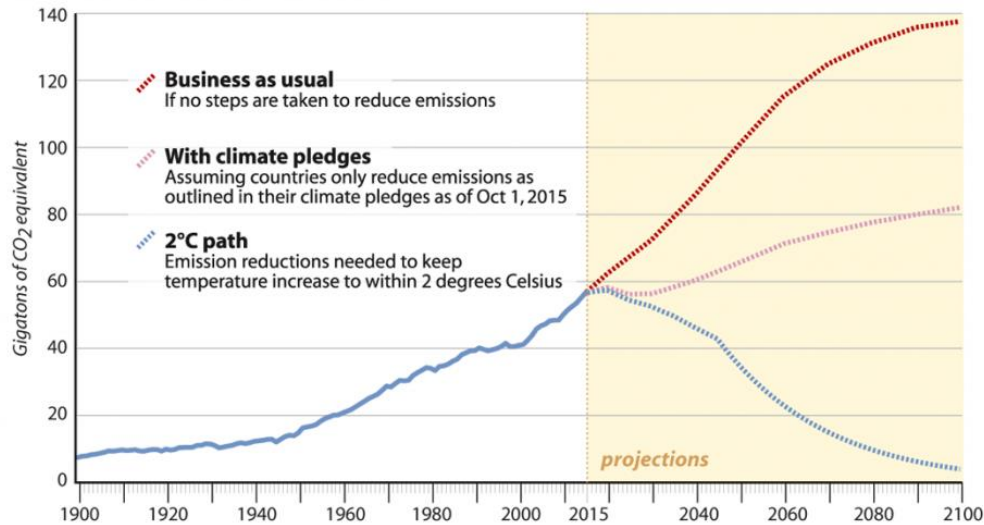
COP21 - CO₂ Control 2 Degree C Scenario

Charting the Paris Climate Pledges

To stave off potentially cataclysmic effects of climate change, the world must keep global warming under 2 degrees Celsius. The climate pledges that countries have submitted so far would reduce emissions enough to hold warming to 3.5 degrees C.



GLOBAL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS*



*Chart includes emissions of all greenhouse gases, expressed in carbon dioxide equivalent

SOURCES: Climate Interactive

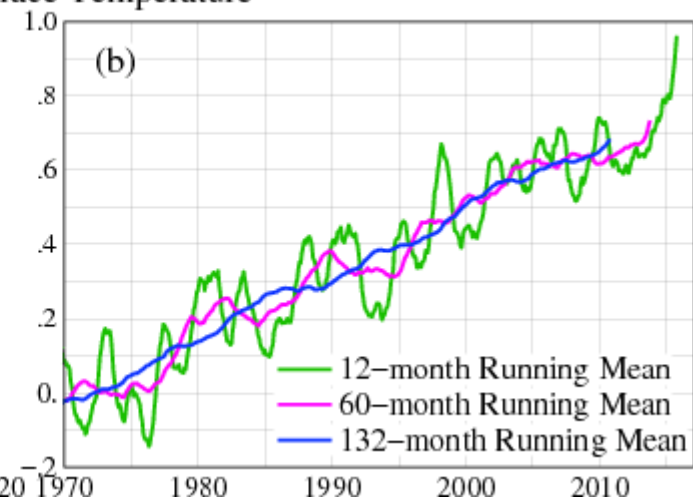
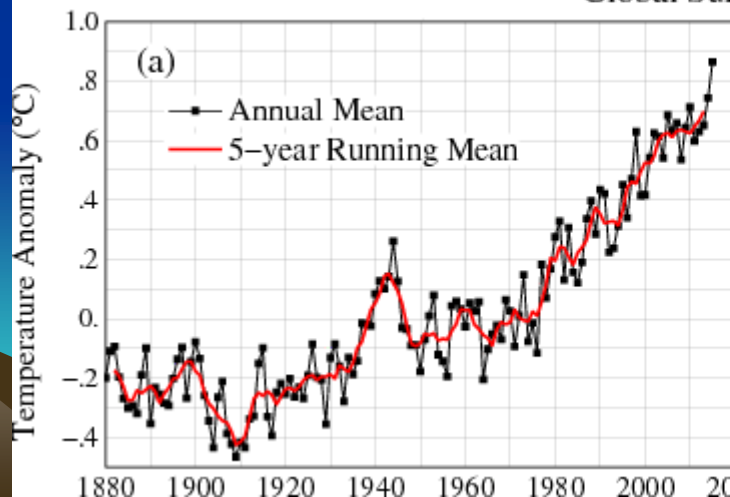
PAUL HORN / InsideClimate News

**NAVEENA SADASIVAM,
INSIDECLIMATE NEWS, OCT 6,
2015**

[HTTP://INSIDECLIMATENews.ORG/NEWS/05102015/CLIMATE-TREATY-FORECAST-CLOUDY-CHANCE-DISASTER-UNITED-NATIONS- PLEDGE-GLOBAL-WARMING](http://insideclimatenews.org/news/05102015/climate-treaty-forecast-cloudy-chance-disaster-united-nations-pledge-global-warming)

<http://www.columbia.edu/~mhs119/Updated Figures/>

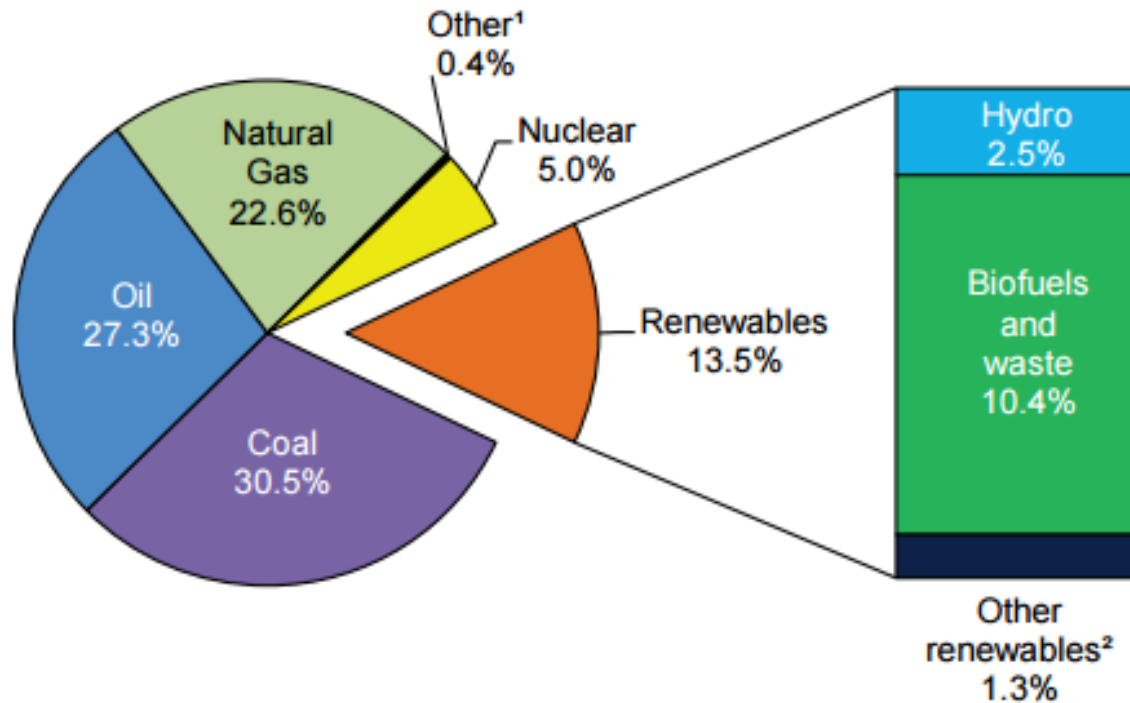
Global Surface Temperature



Global Energy Mix: Carbon-Based

Global energy mix

Energy sources in world total primary energy supply, share in %, 2013



Source: IEA (2015), Renewables Information

Global Energy Challenges in the 21st Century*

1. **Supply clean fuels, electricity and water to meet the growing energy demand worldwide with declining amounts and qualities of resources.**
2. **Increase efficiency by overcoming the limits of existing “wasteful” fossil energy systems (prod, conv, storage, transport, utilization).**
3. **Eliminate environmental pollutants due to energy utilization; reduce greenhouse gas (CO₂) emissions.**
4. **Sustainable energy development involving more of renewable sources (also involves CO₂).**
5. **Sustainable organic material development involving carbon-based skeletons (incl CO₂).**

* C.S. Song. *Catalysis Today*, 2006, 115, 2–32

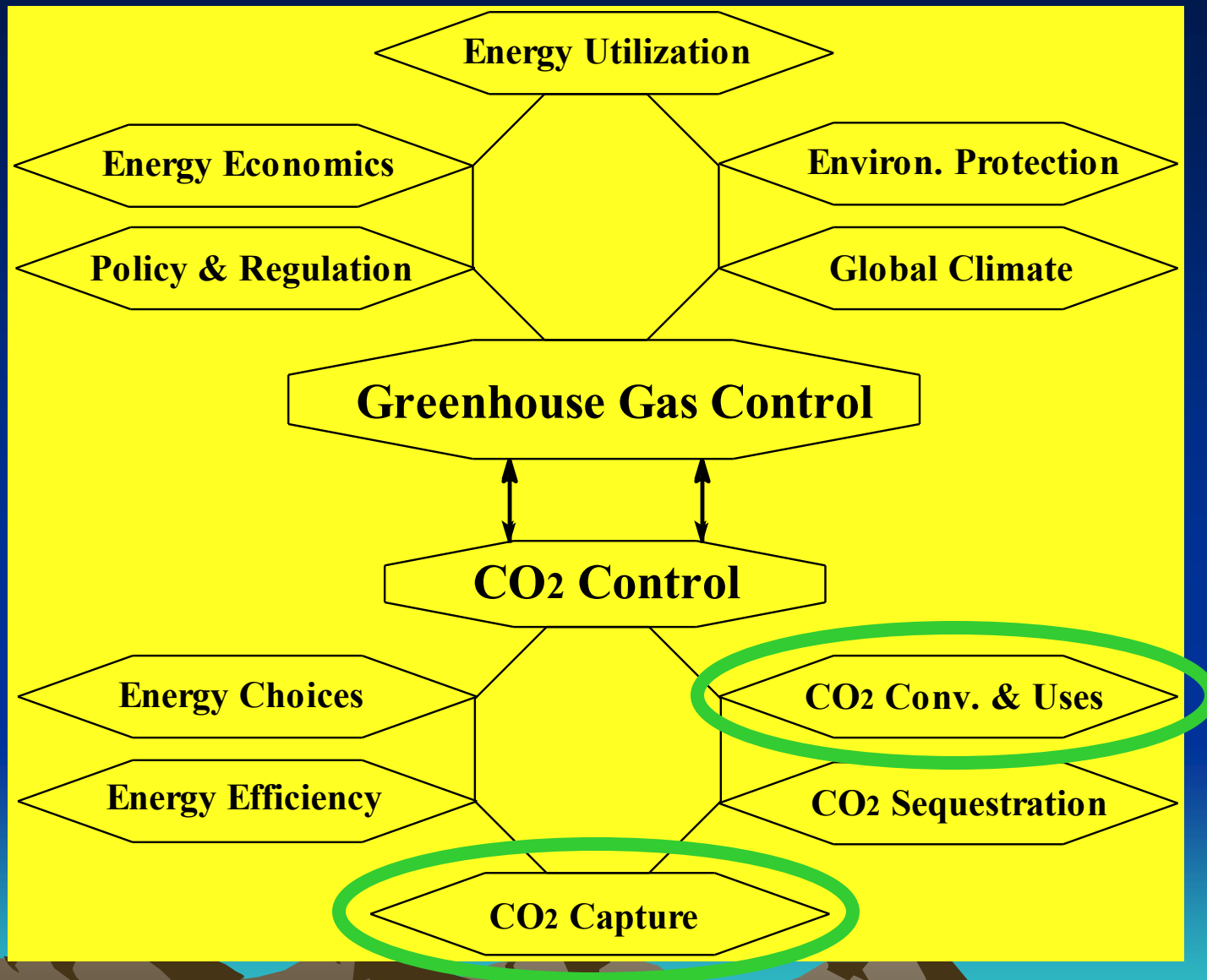
Energy-Environment Problems

“**Energy** is the hardest part of the **environment** problem; **environment** is the hardest part of the **energy** problem; and resolving the energy-economy-**environment** dilemma is the hardest part of the challenge of sustainable well-being for industrial and developing countries alike.”*

*John P. Holdren, *Science*, 2008, 319, 424-434.




GHG & CO₂ Control Related to Energy Utilization*



* C.S. Song, Catalysis Today, 2006, 115, 2-32

Advantages of CO₂ Conversion to Fuels, Chemicals and Materials

- CO₂ can be used as a raw material to make fuels, chemicals, and materials that are currently produced using oil, gas and coal.
 - **CO₂ conversion with renewable energy can effectively minimize CO₂ emissions, while producing clean and alternative fuels, chemicals and materials without using fossil carbon resources.**
 - This decreases the consumption of fossil resources, and avoids the CO₂ emissions and minimize environmental impacts from the portions of fossil fuels displaced.
- 

Time to Begin Exploring a New Supply Chain Using CO₂

- ❖ Capturing and recycling CO₂ to chemicals and fuels can make an effective use of plentiful carbon resource and reduce GHG emissions.
- ❖ **CO₂ conversion to chemicals and fuels can also reduce, and even replace, the fossil resources consumed for the same purposes.**
- ❖ Is it possible to build a new supply chain using CO₂ as raw material, replacing the fossil resources (petroleum, natural gas) as a raw material for chemicals and fuels?

CO₂ Capture

H₂ Supply

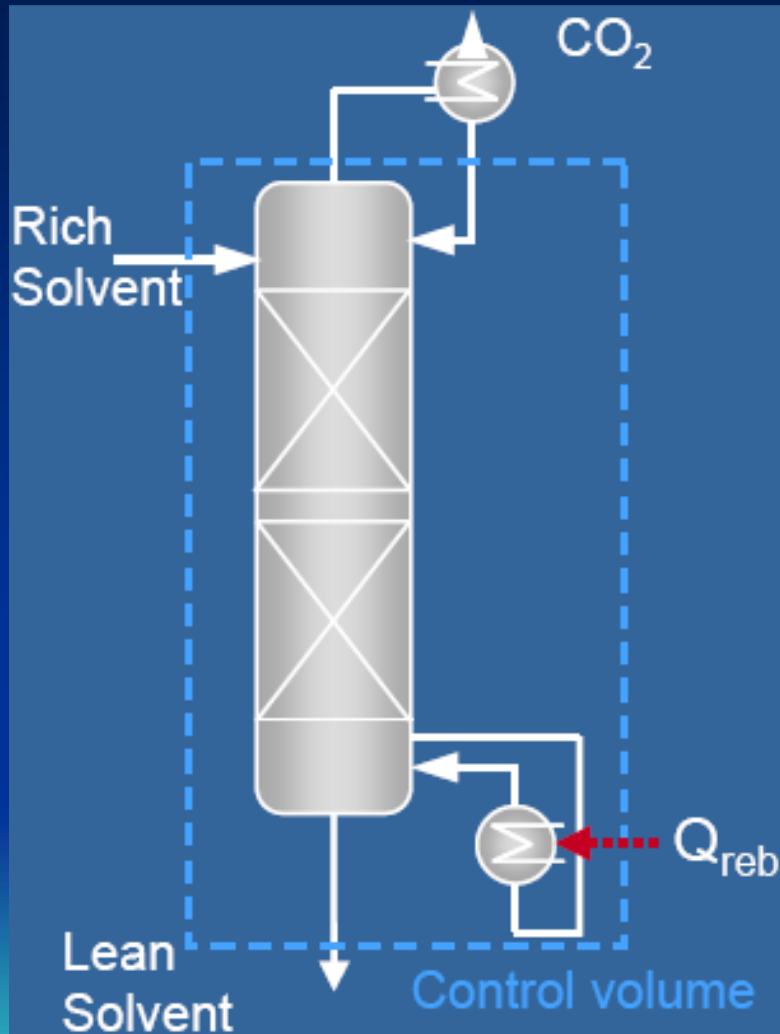
CO₂+H₂ Conversion

Product Supply

**How to Lower Cost of CO₂
Capture from Flue Gas?**



Problems in Conventional CO₂ Capture: Energy-Consuming Parts of CO₂ Amine Scrubbing



3 major contributions

- Heating up the solvent
- **Desorption of CO₂**
- Evaporating of reflux water

Q_{reb}

15

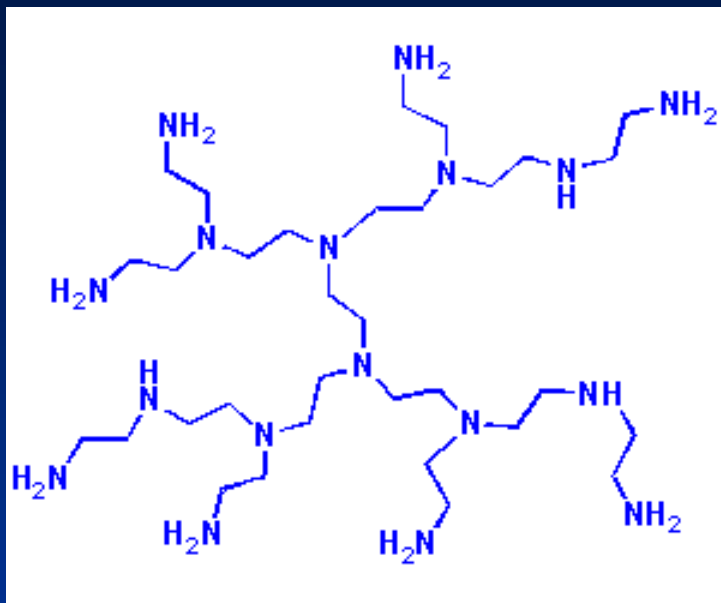
50

35

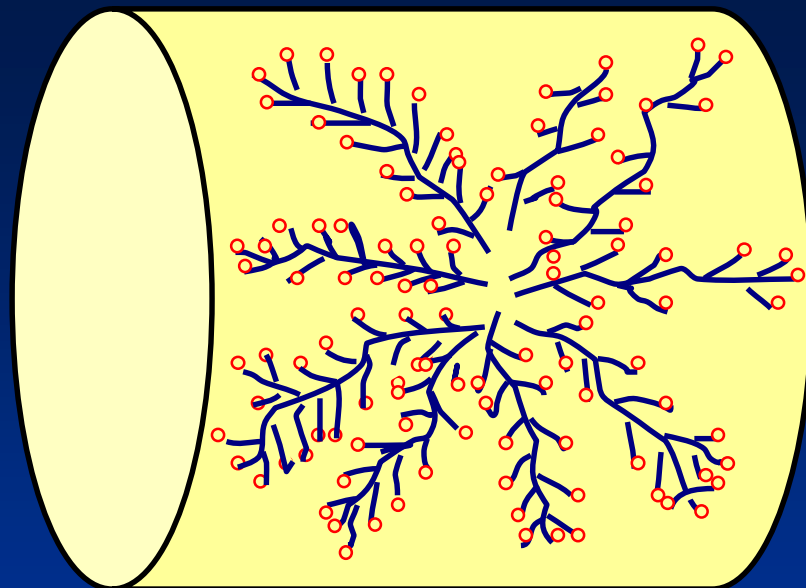
Choice of Solvent

- High capacity solvent
- **Low absorption enthalpy**
- Low strip steam demand

CO₂ “Molecular Basket” Sorbent (MBS) Concept*

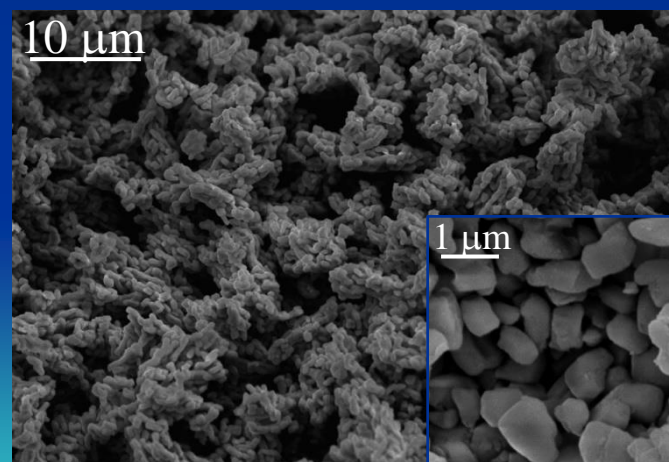


Polyethylenimine (PEI)



Immobilize PEI in Nanoporous Mat

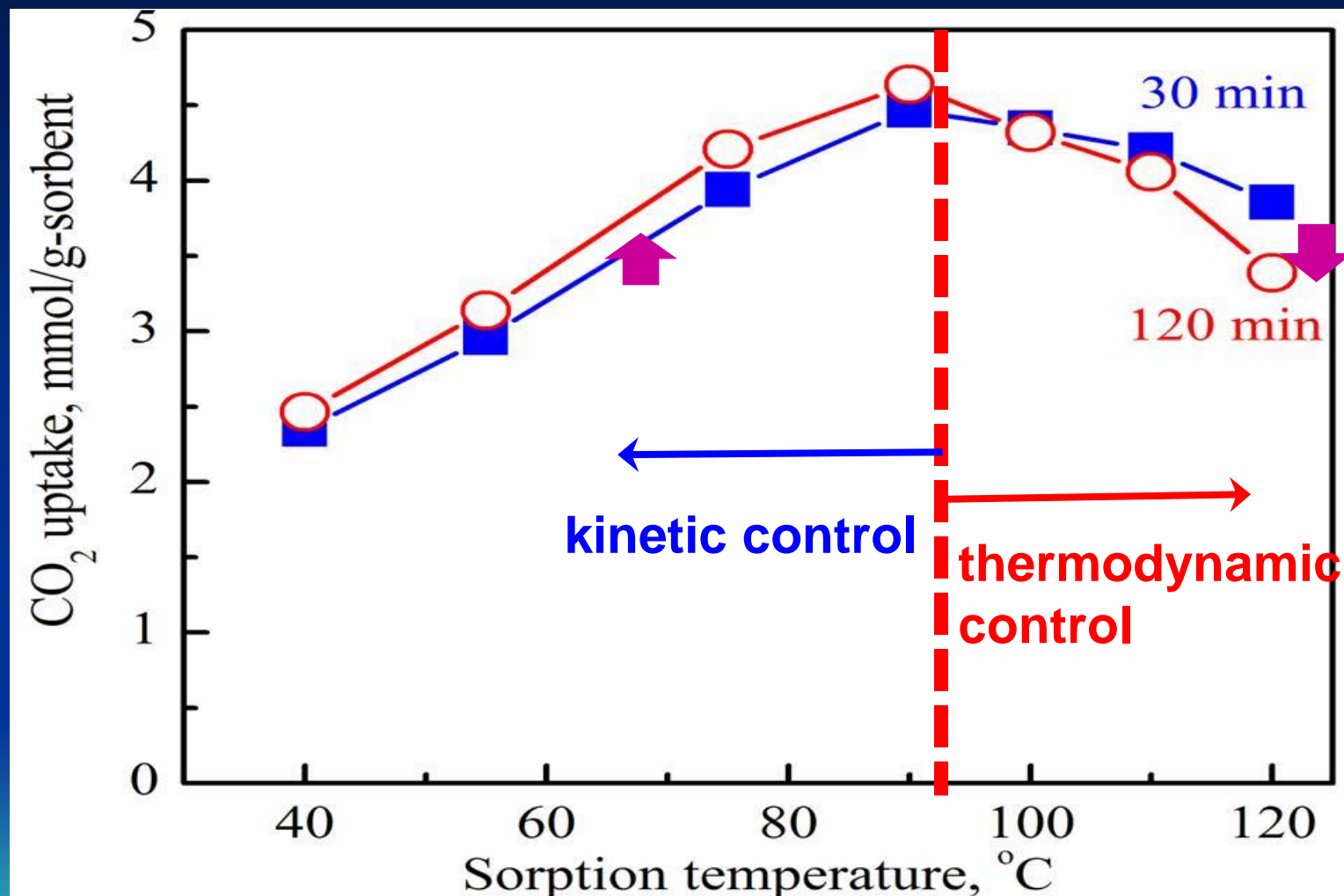
- Large pore volume can store more CO₂
- Branched CO₂-philic sites
- Branched amine facilitate the desorption
- Synergic effect on capacity and kinetics between nanoporous support and PEI



*X.L. Ma, X. Wang, C.S. Song, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2009, 131, 5777.

* X. Xu, C. Song et al., *Micropor Mesopor Mater*, 2003, 62, 29; *Energy Fuel*, 2002

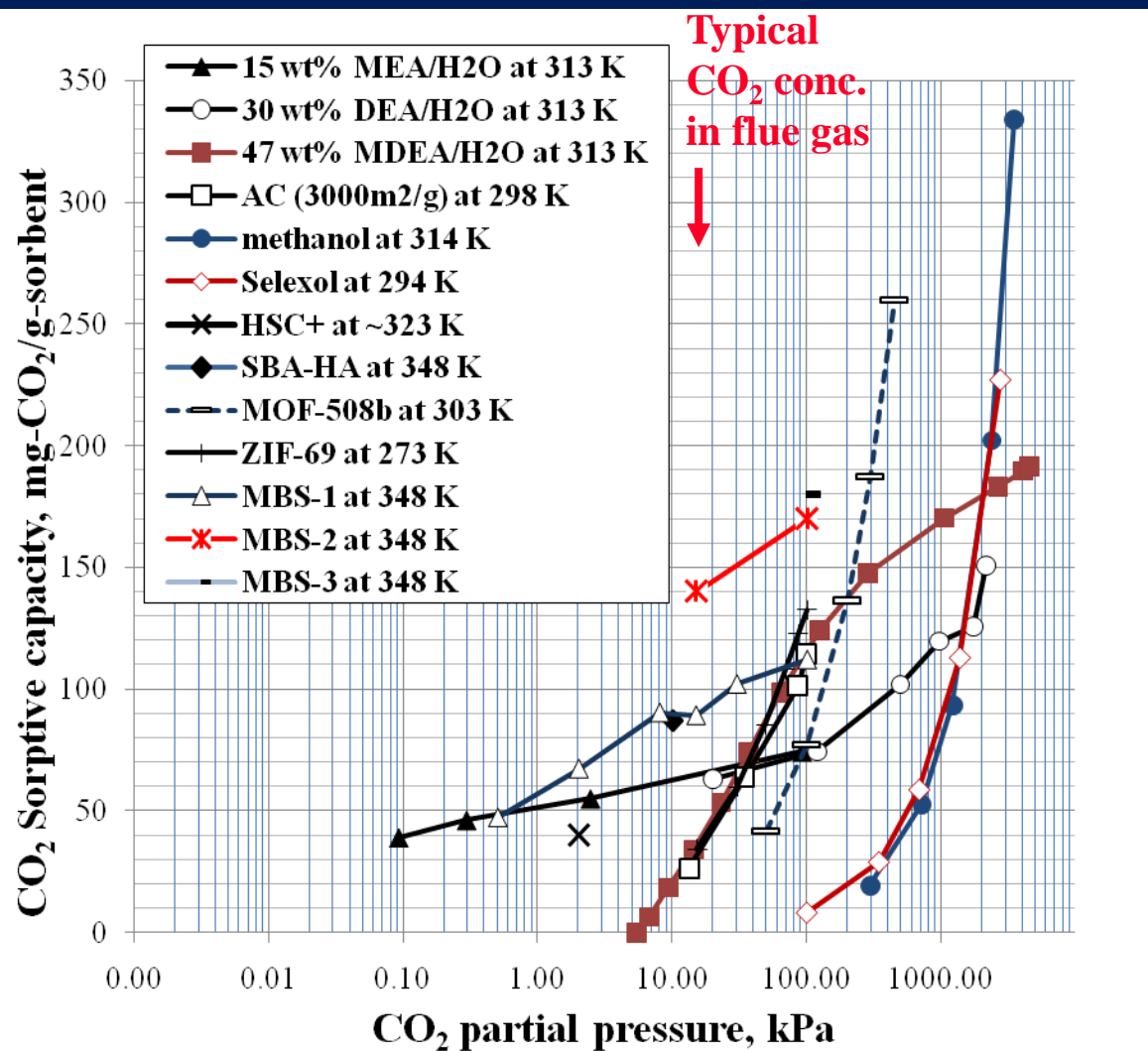
Effect of Sorption Temp and Time on CO₂-MBS* – 50 wt% PEI/SBA-15



*X. Wang, C.S. Song, Catalysis Today, 2012.

CO₂ Sorption Performance of MBS in Comparison with Commercial and State-of-the-Art Sorbents

Sorption Isotherm



Capacity of MBS-2*:
140 mg-CO₂/g-S
Factor

MBS-2 > MBS-1	1.5
MBS-2 > MEA/DEA	2.1
MBS-2 > SBA-HA ¹	1.5
MBS-2 > ZIF-69 ²	4.0
MBS-3 ≈ MBS-2	1.0

*at 15 kPa of CO₂ partial pressure

1: Hyperbranched aminosilica sorbent (SBA-HA) by Hicks et al, *JACS* 2008.
2: Zeolitic imidazolate frameworks (ZIF-69) by Banerjee et al, *Science* 2008.

*X.L. Ma, X. Wang, C.S. Song, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2009, 131, 5777.

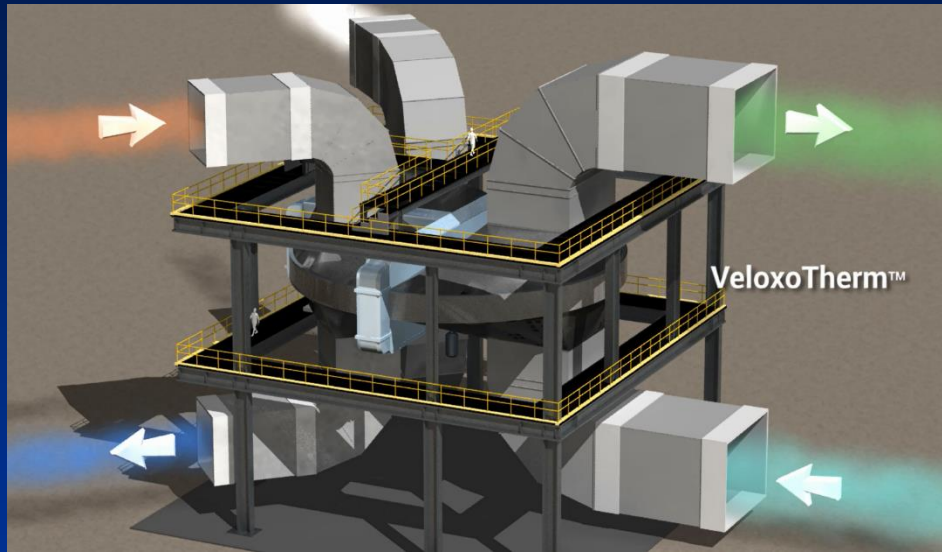
Pilot Plant Study of CO₂-MBS

- Penn State and RTI teamed up for a pilot plant study of CO₂-MBS sorbent for CO₂ capture under DOE NETL support in 2015*.
- The study successfully demonstrated CO₂-MBS for CO₂ capture from gas mixtures in a bench scale fluidized transport plant.

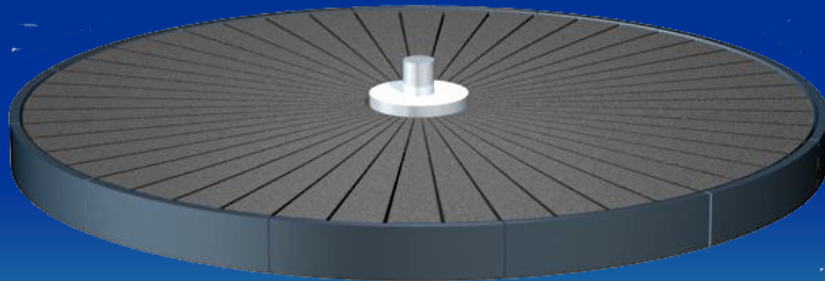


*Funded by US DOE/NETL; pilot plant photo in Feb 2015.

Inventys - The VeloxoTherm™ Process



The patented VeloxoTherm™ process uses structured adsorbent in a rotary system, similar to rotary air heaters, is claimed to be a more economically viable approach for separating CO₂ from flue gas streams. The claimed capture cost is ~\$15/ton-CO₂ capture.



H₂ Supply - from H₂O

Using renewable, fluctuating energy (solar, wind, geothermal, etc.)-derived electricity to produce H₂ from water.

H₂ production is also an effective way to store renewable energy via extracting H from H₂O.

US DOE target for H₂ production:

2011 price: \$4.10/kg H₂

2015 target: \$3.00/kg H₂

2020 target: \$2.00/kg H₂

Cost factors for H₂ production from PEM electrolyzer

#Electricity price; Electrolyzer efficiency; System capital cost



Vision for the Future

- Capturing CO₂ and converting it with H₂ (H₂O) into fuels, chemicals, and materials using renewable energy, is an important path for sustainable development.
- **This approach effectively uses a greenhouse gas to control greenhouse gas emissions while providing alternative supply of ultra-clean carbon-based energy and significantly reducing consumption of fossil fuels thus minimizing negative environmental impacts.**



Challenges for CO₂ Conv & Utilization*

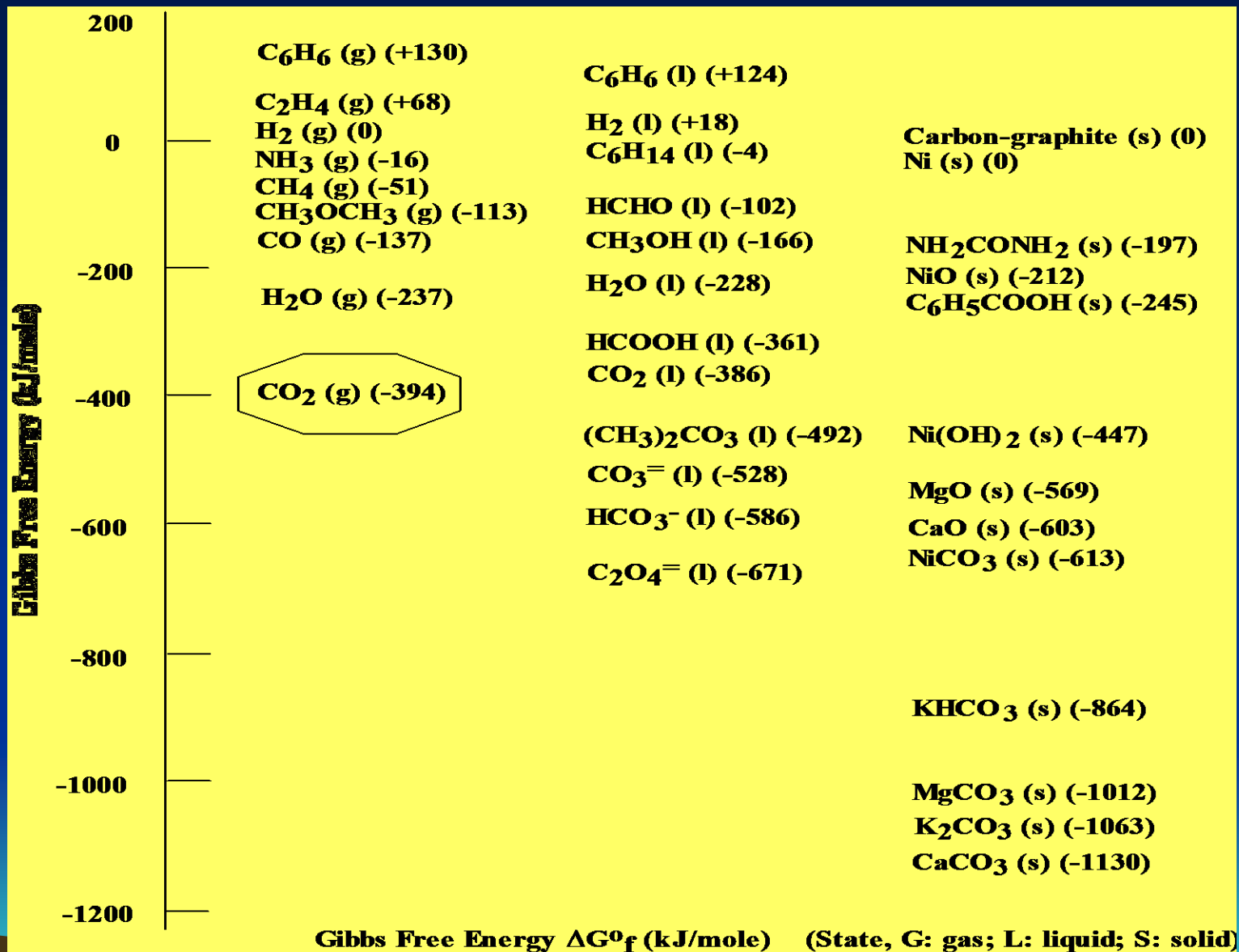
- ❖ Perceptions, Energy requirements of CO₂ chemical conversion (plus source & cost of H₂ and other co-reactants if involved).
- ❖ Costs of CO₂ capture, separation, purification, and transportation to users.
- ❖ Market size limitations, lack of investment-incentives and industrial commitments for producing CO₂-based chemicals.
- ❖ Socio-economical driving forces usually do not facilitate CO₂ conversion and utilization.

* C.S. Song, *Catal. Today*, 2006, 115, 2-32.

Paradigm Shift—Use CO₂ for Fuels?



Thermodynamics of CO₂ Conversion & Sequestration*



* C.S. Song, Catalysis Today, 2006, 115, 2-32.

Amounts of Uses vs Emissions

The amounts of carbon in liquid and gaseous fuels are similar to those in CO₂ from flue gas of power plants. Thus converting CO₂ to fuels using renewable energy can dramatically cut down CO₂ emissions and also reduces the consumption of fossil fuels.

– C. Song, CO₂ Conversion and Utilization, ACS, 2002

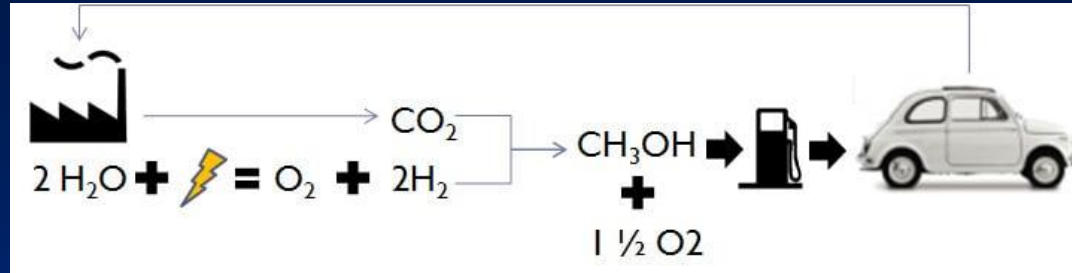
The actual utilization of CO₂ although significant for the chemical industry (ca. 200 Mt/y) represents a minor fraction of the anthropogenic emission (32,000 Mt/y)

– M. Aresta, J CO₂ Utilization, 2013.

Use and Reuse of CO₂ – the “U” in CCUS

- CO₂ to Fuels with renewable energy
 - Liquid fuels, SNG
 - Alcohol fuel
 - CO₂ to Chemicals
 - hydrocarbon chemicals (C₂-C₄)
 - oxygenated chemicals (MeOH, DMC, etc.)
 - As working fluid or co-reactant (sc-CO₂, etc.)
 - CO₂ to Durable Materials
 - carbonates materials
 - polymer materials
-
- CO₂-EOR / CO₂-EGR coupled with CO₂ storage

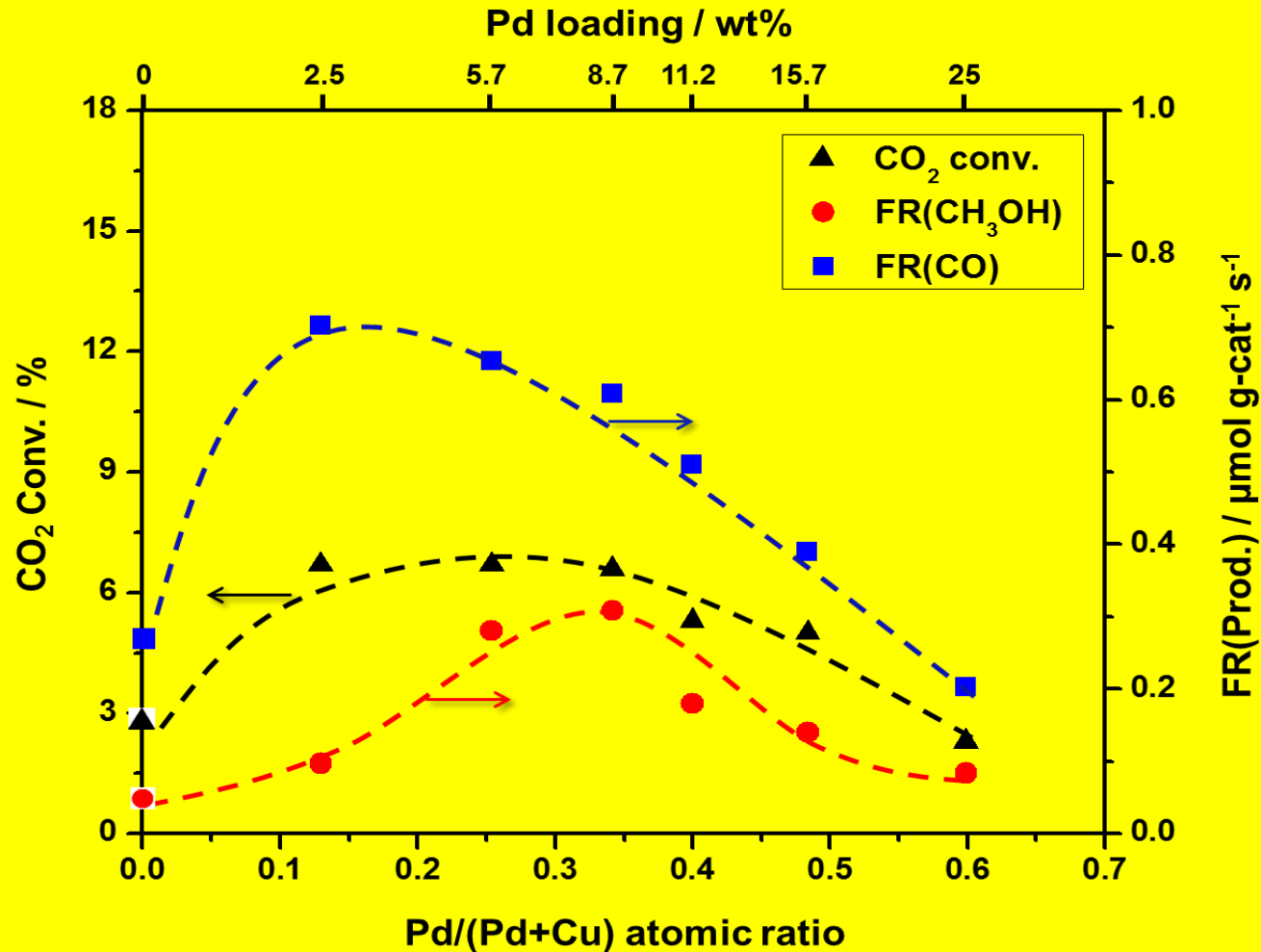
CRI's George Olah Renewable Methanol Plant



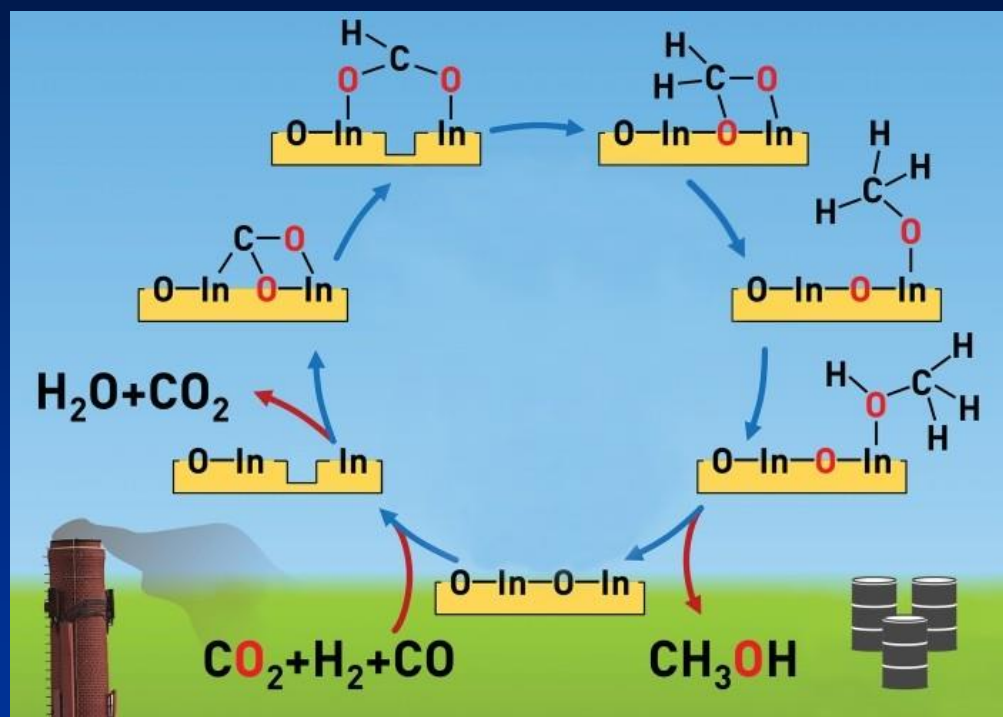
Located in Svartsengi, near Grindavik, Iceland, began production in 2011. In 2015 CRI expanded the plant from a capacity of 1.3 million litres/year to more than 5 million litres/year. The plant uses Cu-ZnO catalyst, and now recycles 5.5 thousand tonnes of CO₂ a year (captured from flue gas of a power plant), which would otherwise be released into the atmosphere, using renewable energy.

CRI's Emissions to Methanol: <http://carbonrecycling.is/projects-1/>

New Pd-Cu Bimetallic Cat for CO₂ to Methanol



New $\text{In}_2\text{O}_3/\text{ZrO}_2$ Catalyst for CO_2 to Methanol



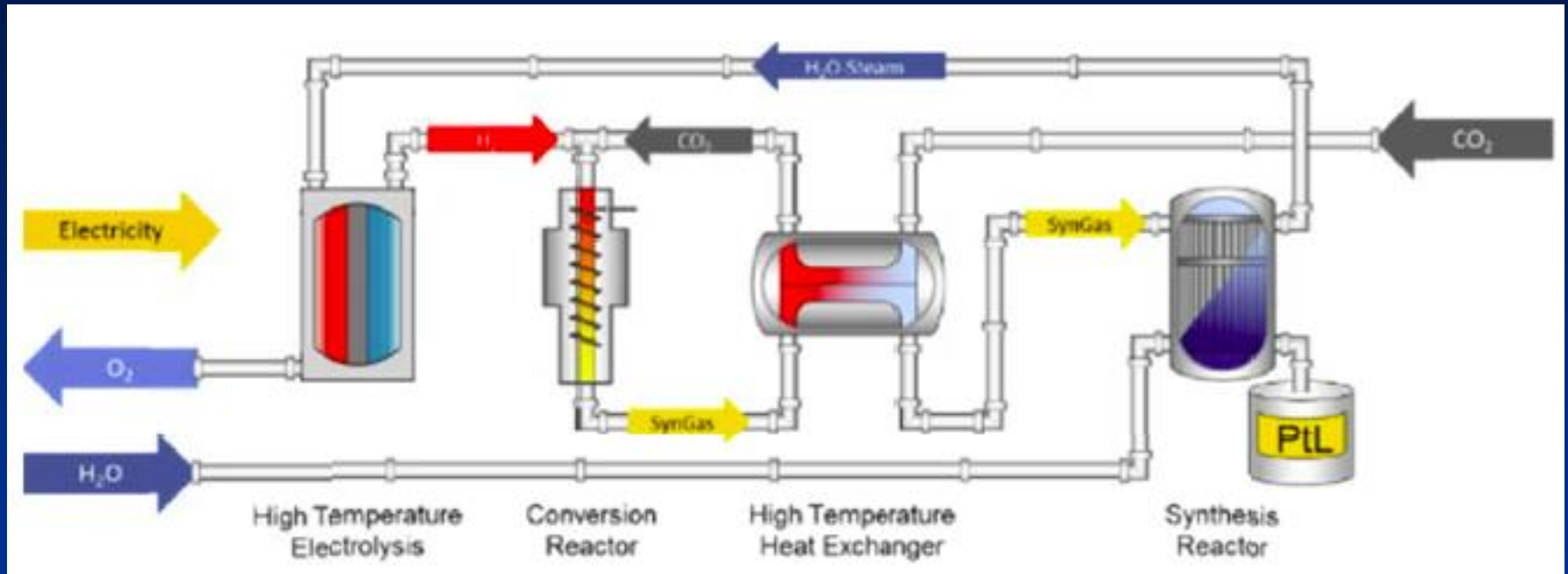
Highly selective CO_2 hydrogenation with H_2 to methanol under industrially relevant conditions.

Stu Borman, C&EN, 2016, 94 (13), 7, March 28, 2016.

Expt work by Javier Pérez-Ramírez of ETH Zurich and coworkers now demonstrate that zirconium oxide-supported In_2O_3 catalyzes the process under conditions similar to those required for industrial production (Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2016, DOI: 10.1002/anie.201600943).

Built on computational work led by Qingfeng Ge of Southern Illinois Univ and Tianjin Univ (ACS Catal. 2013, DOI: 10.1021/cs400132a).

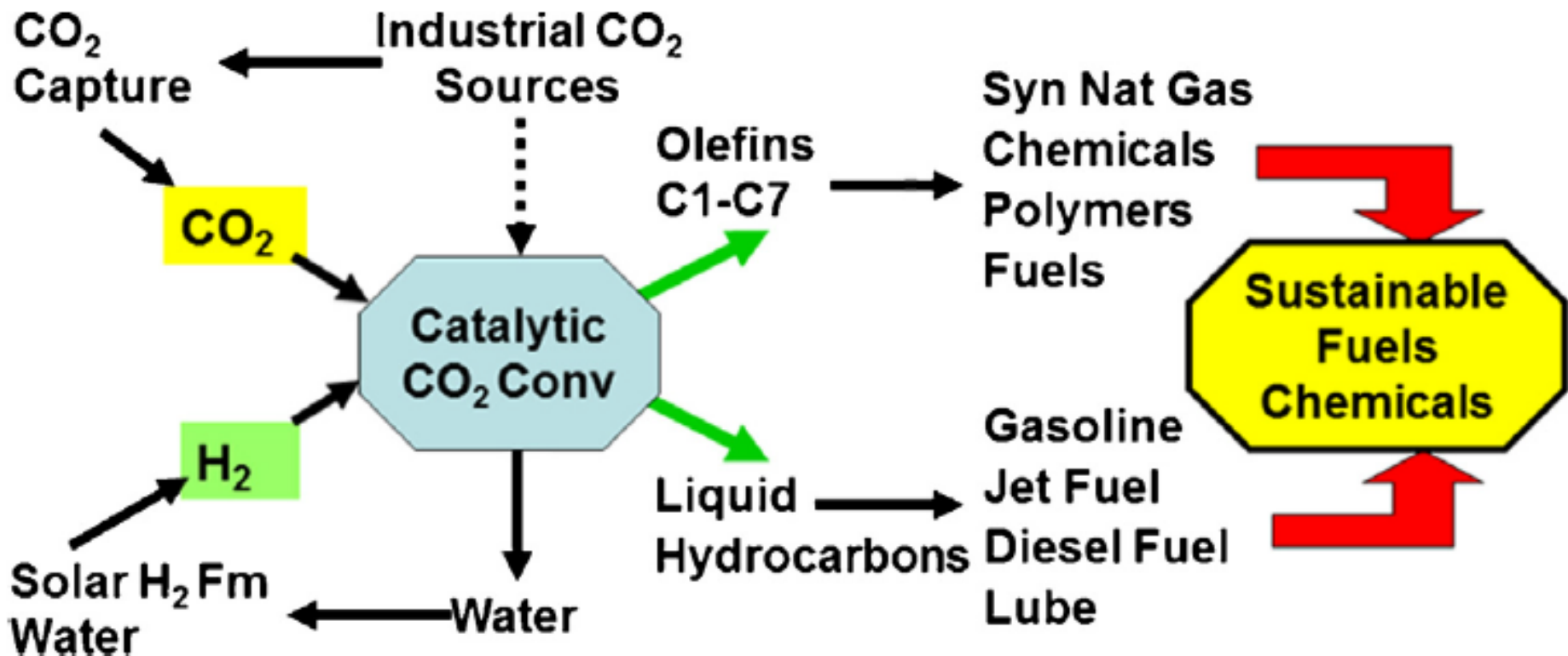
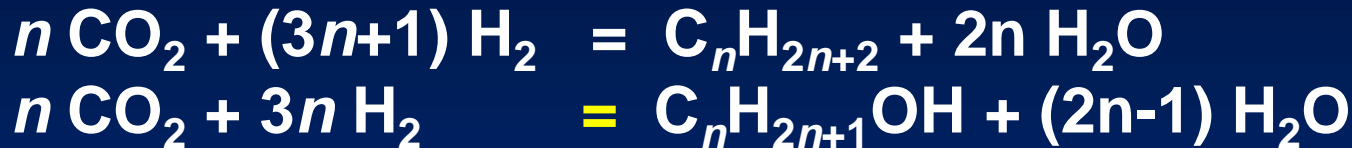
Sunfire GmbH: CO₂ to Hydrocarbon Fuel via FTS



1	Electrolysis	$\text{H}_2\text{O (vapor)} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2 + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2$	$\Delta H_R = +242 \text{ kJ/mol}$
2	CO ₂ reduction	$\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{CO} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	$\Delta H_R = +41 \text{ kJ/mol}$
3	Fischer-Tropsch synthesis	$\text{CO} + 2 \text{H}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{-(CH}_2\text{)-} + \text{H}_2\text{O (vapor)}$	$\Delta H_R = -157 \text{ kJ/mol}$

Sunfire's pilot plant in Dresden, Germany, built over 2013-2014. Its Solid Oxide Electrolysis plant can convert CO₂ to 160 litres (1 bbl) of hydrocarbons a day using renewable electricity, with a electricity to fuel carbon efficiency of 70%.

Direct CO₂ Hydrogenation to Chemicals & Fuels



* Sathawong, Koizumi, Song, Prasassarakich. J. CO₂ Utilization 2013 (3-4) 102-106.

* C.S. Song, Energy Resources, 1995, 16, 63-64.

CO₂ HYD over Conventional Fe and Co Catalysts

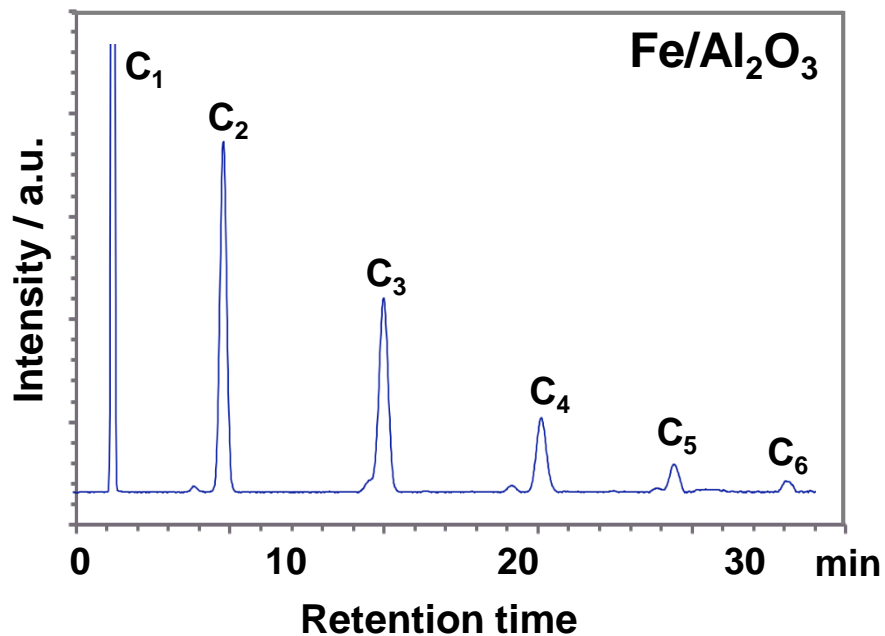


Fig. 3 GC-FID chromatograms of HCs.
Cat.: Fe/Al₂O₃. Cond.: H₂/CO₂ = 3,
Temperature = 573 K, Total pressure = 1 MPa

CO₂ conv. = 12%

C₂⁺ sel. = 38%

Low CO₂ conv., relatively low C₂⁺

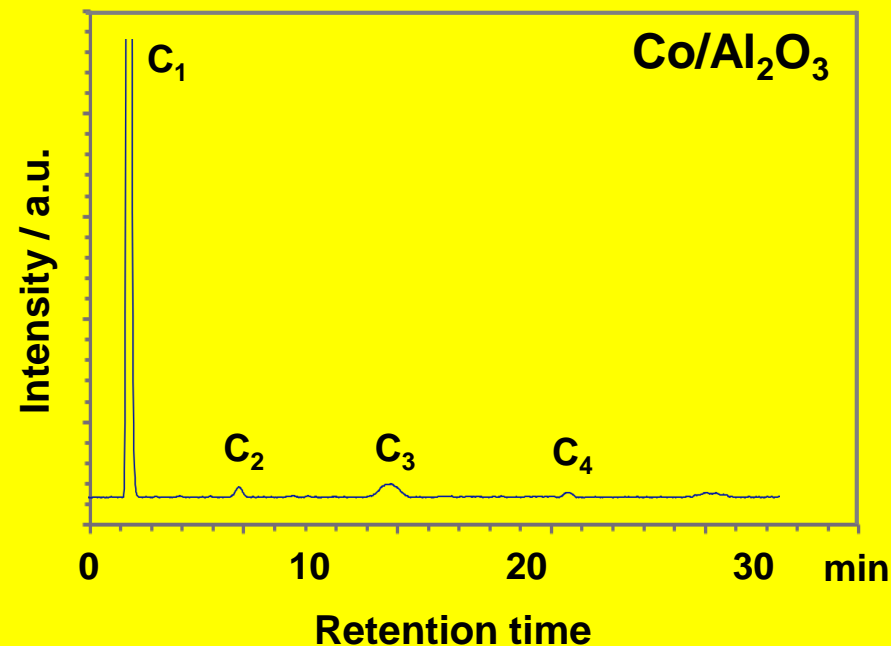


Fig. 4 GC-FID chromatograms of HCs.
Cat.: Co/Al₂O₃. Cond.: H₂/CO₂ = 3,
Temperature = 573 K, Total pressure = 1 MPa

CO₂ conv. = 49%

C₂⁺ sel. = 1%

High CO₂ conv., almost no C₂⁺ sel.

New Fe@Hollow S-1 as Support for CO₂ HYD

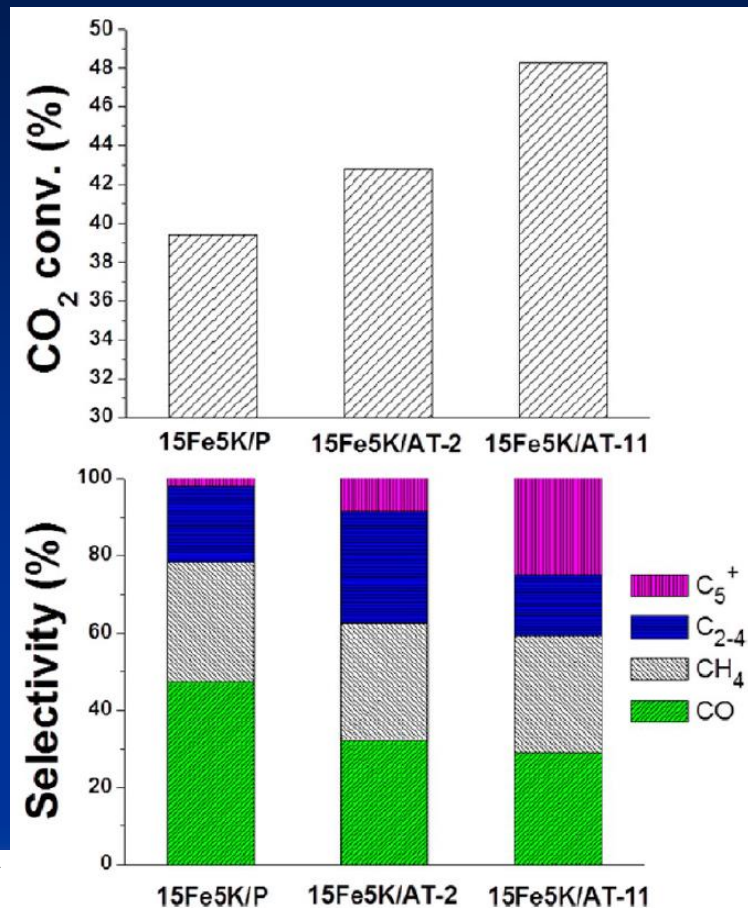
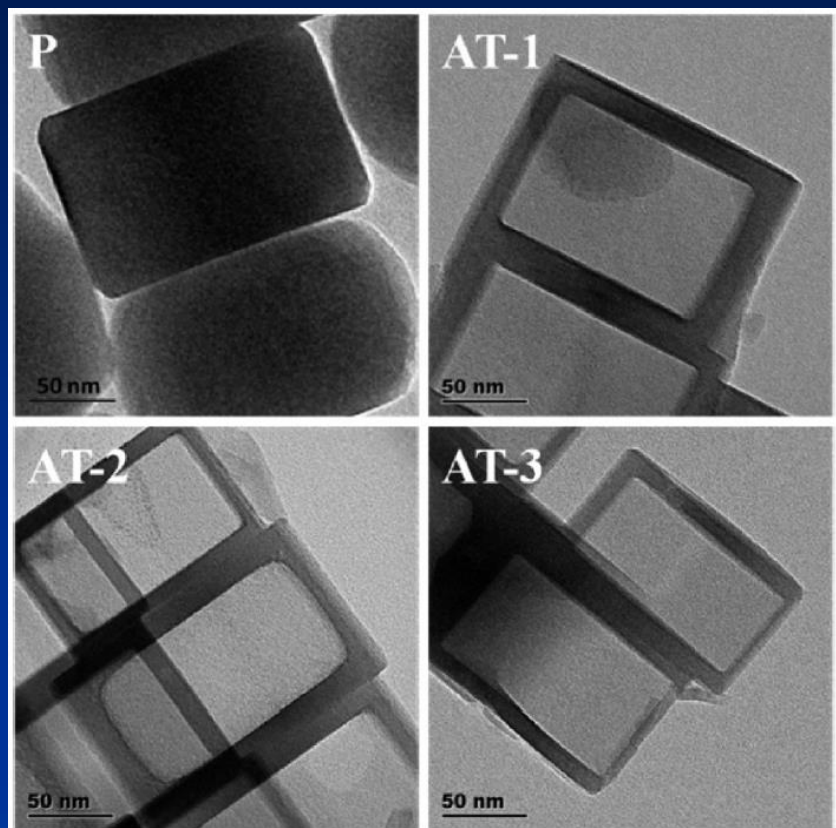


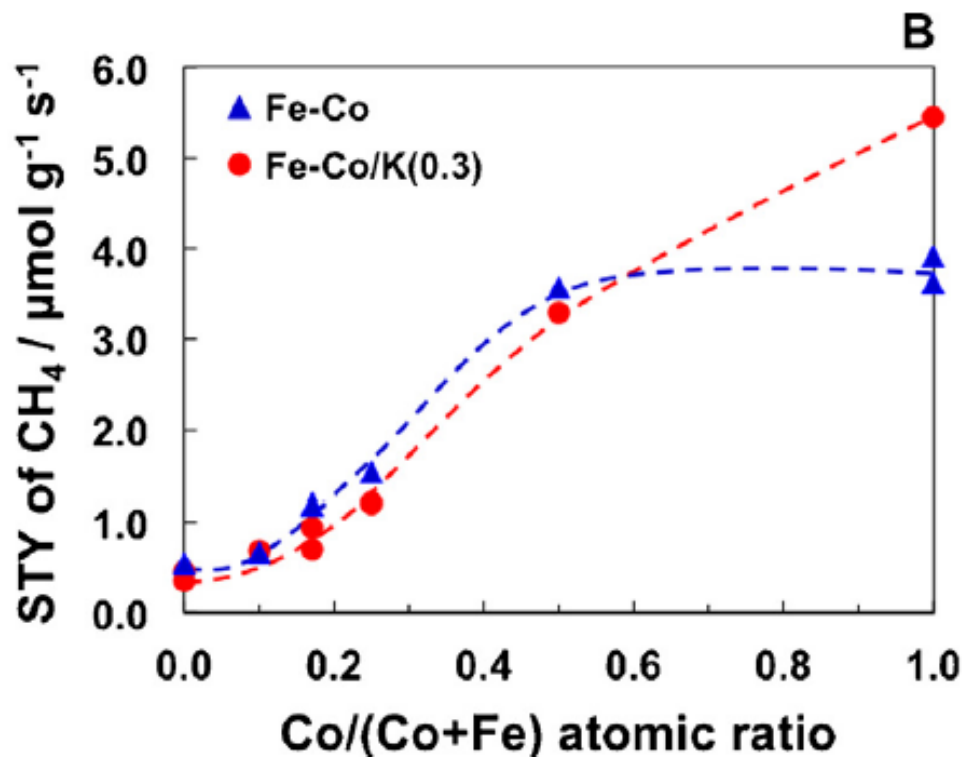
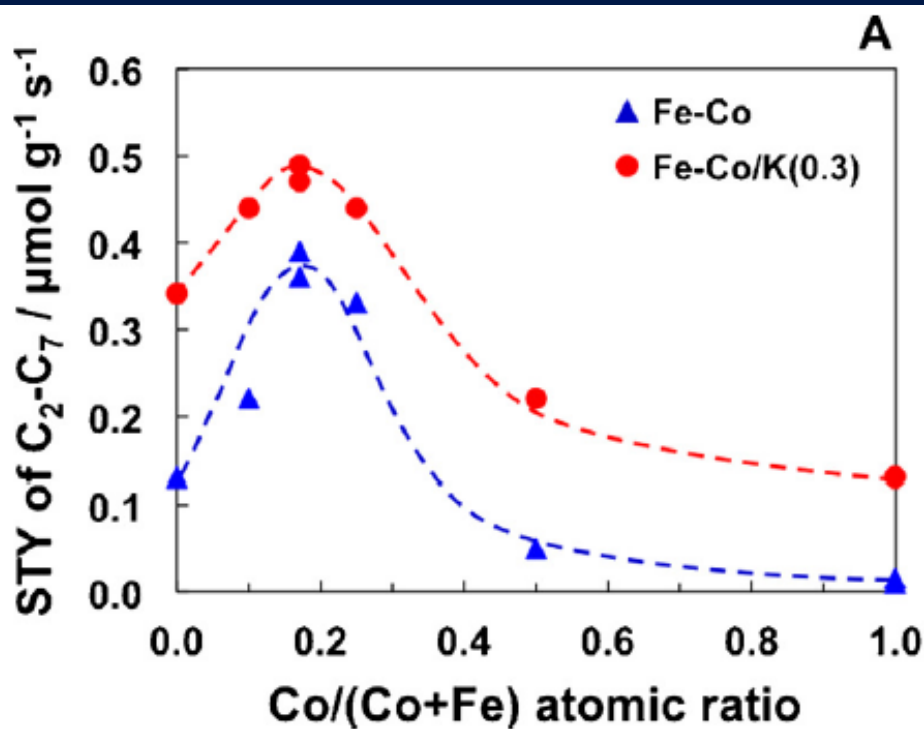
Fig. 5. Left: TEM images of solid silicalite-1 (P) and hollow silicalite-1 after treatment with TPAOH concentration of

0.20 M (AT-1), 0.30 M (AT-2), and 0.50 M (AT-3). **Right:** CO₂ hydrogenation into hydrocarbons over FeK catalysts loaded on solid silicalite-1 (P), hollow silicalite-1 (AT-2), and macroporous silicalite-1 (AT-11),

Novel Fe-Co Bimetallic Catalysts for Selective Conv of CO₂ to C₂+ HCs

Known Facts:

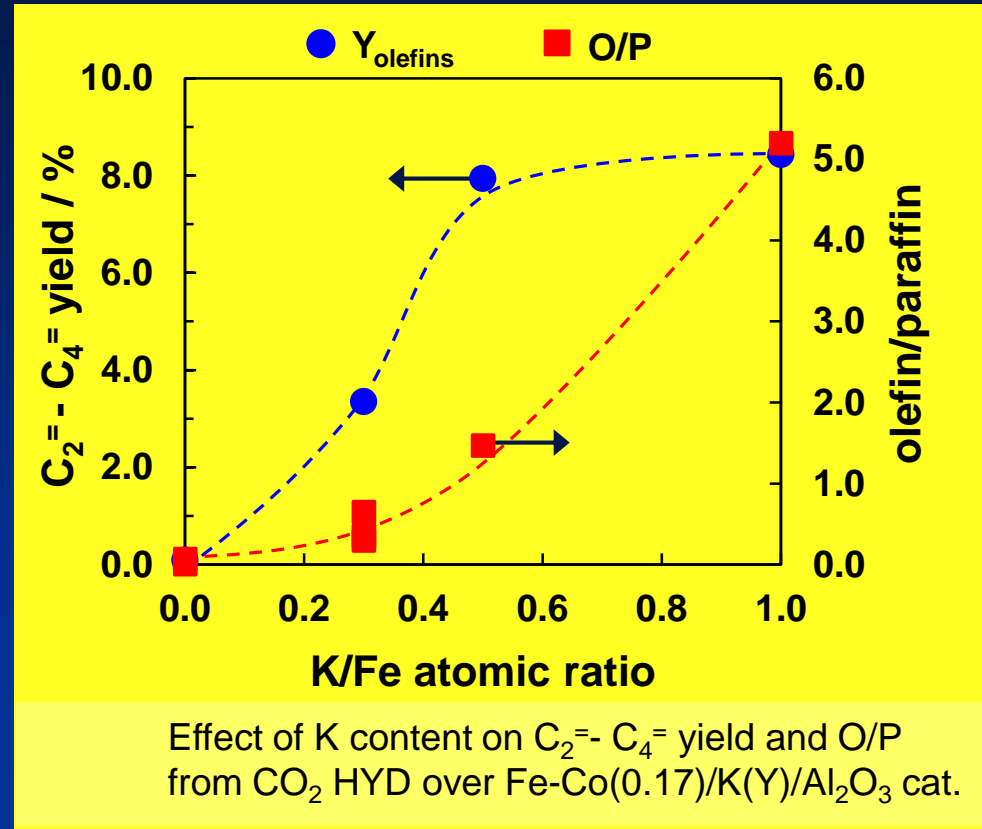
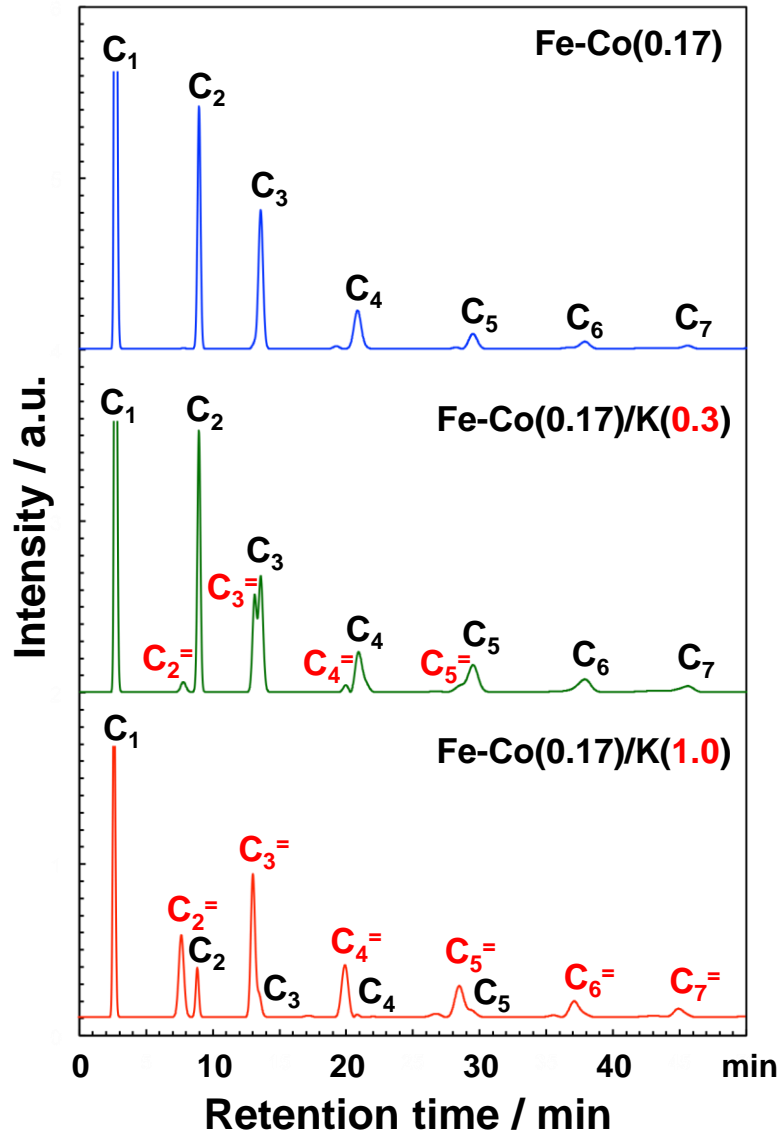
Co leads to CH₄
Fe shows low sel



Cat.: Fe-Co/Al₂O₃. H₂/CO₂ = 3,
Temp: 573 K, Tot P: 1 MPa

* Sathawong, Koizumi, Song,
Prasassarakich. J. CO₂
Utilization 2013 (3-4) 102-106.

Selective C₂-C₄ Olefin Prod over Fe-Co



Olefins were main products at
K/Fe = 1.0 atom atom⁻¹

→ K suppressed olefin hydrogenation activity of the catalyst

Hollow Zeolite Encapsulating Ni-Pt@S-1 for CO₂ Reforming of CH₄ to Syngas (CO+H₂)

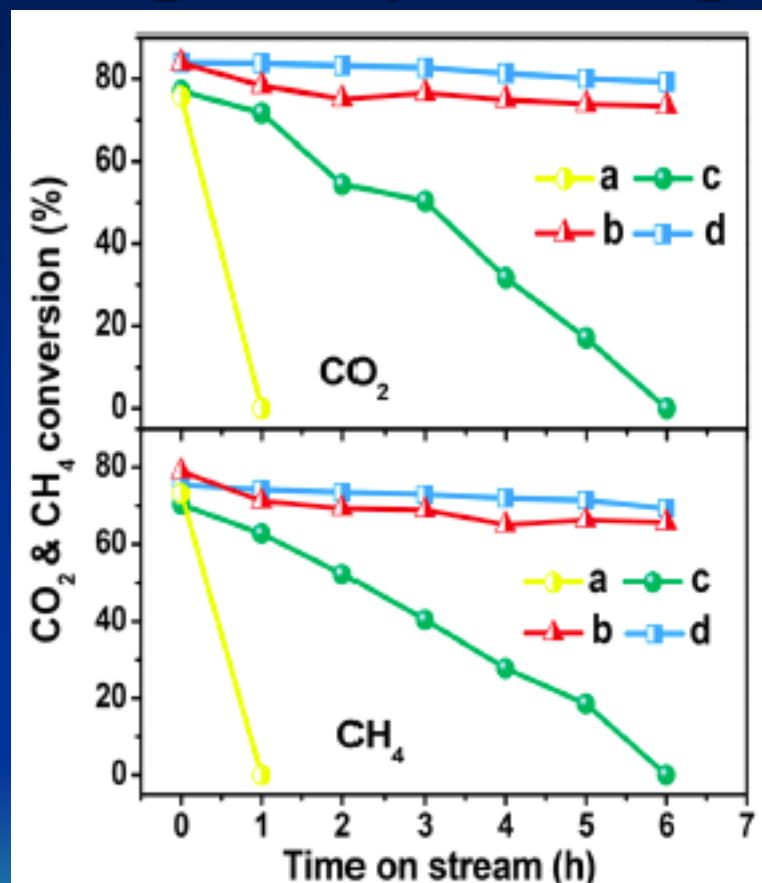
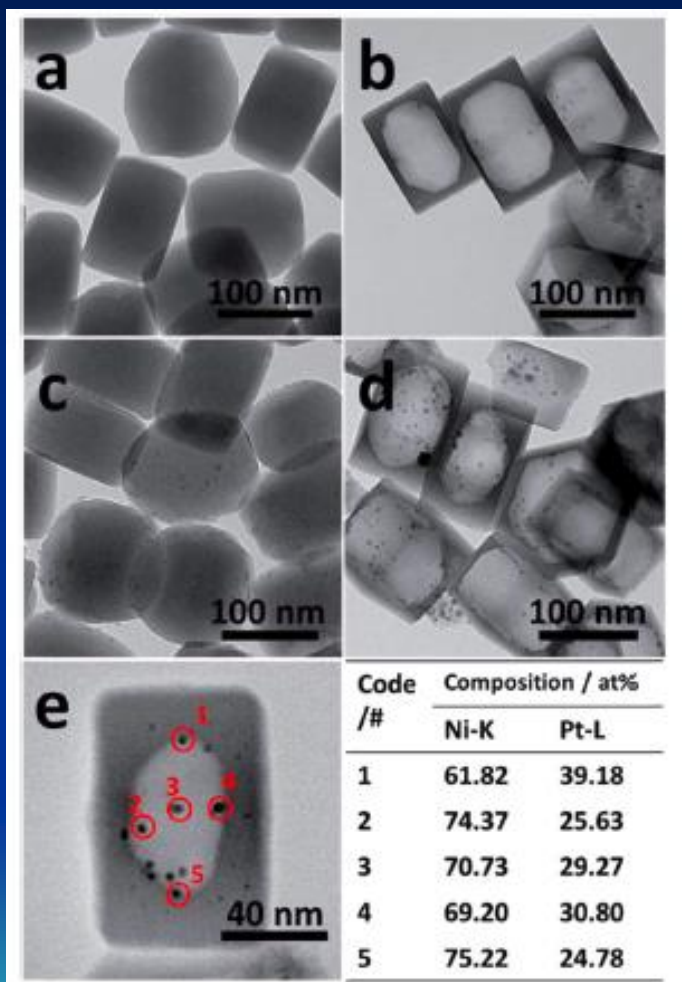
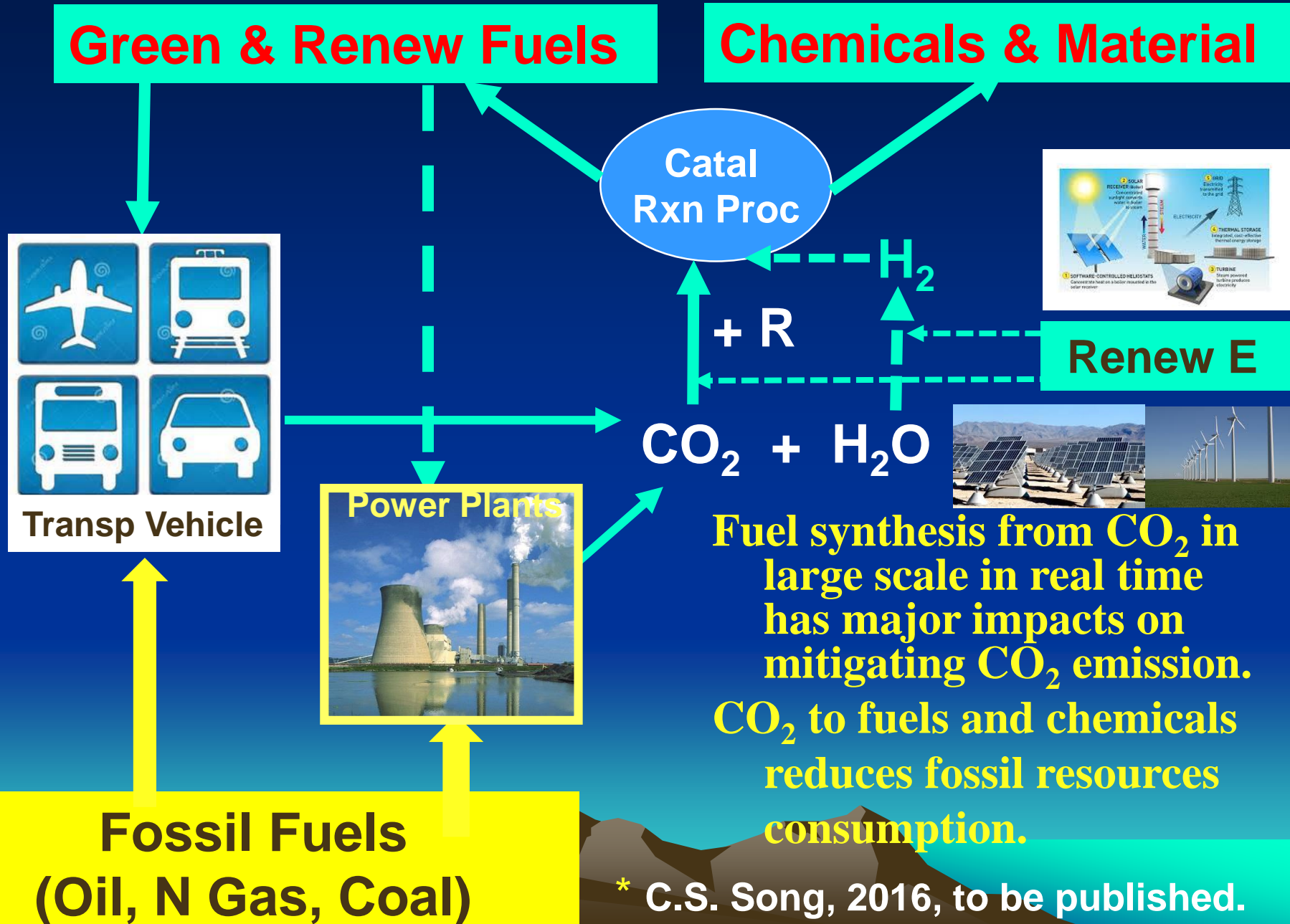


Fig. 7 CO₂ and CH₄ conversion as a function of time on stream over (a) 1.5Ni/S-1, (b) 1.5Ni@Hol S-1, (c) 1.5Ni-0.5Pt/S-1, and (d) 1.5Ni-0.5Pt@Hol S-1 catalysts [800 °C, atmospheric pressure, GHSV = 72 000 ml g⁻¹ h⁻¹, and CH₄/CO₂ = 1 : 1 (v/v)].

Sustainable Green Energy Cycle Using CO₂



Green & Renew Fuels

Chemicals & Material

Catal Rxn Proc

Renew E

Transp Vehicle

Power Plants

Fossil Fuels

(Oil, N Gas, Coal)

CO₂ + H₂O

Fuel synthesis from CO₂ in large scale in real time has major impacts on mitigating CO₂ emission. CO₂ to fuels and chemicals reduces fossil resources consumption.

*** C.S. Song, 2016, to be published.**

Conclusions

- ❖ **CO₂ capture and utilization present major challenges and new opportunities for sustainable green energy cycle development.**
- ❖ **Converting CO₂ to fuels and chemicals with renewable energy input can not only mitigate CO₂ emission, but also reduce fossil resources consumption.**
- ❖ **Major challenges in developing**
 - **novel nano-structured materials and more energy-efficient and economically attractive processes for (1) CO₂ capture (post, pre-comb) in high capacity with fast kinetics, and (2) catalytic CO₂ conversion in high activity and selectivity to clean fuels, value-added chemicals, and materials using renewable energy**

People Who Contributed at PSU, DUT, and Chula U

Xiaochun Xu, Xiaoliang Ma, Xiaoxing Wang, Eric Fillerup, Emanuela Peduzzi, Dongxiang Wang, Zhonghua Zhang, Bruce Miller, Alan Scaroni (PSU) for CO₂ capture

Ratchy Satthwong, Naoto Koizumi, Xiao Jiang, Wenjia Wang (PSU), Fanshu Ding, Anfeng Zhang, Chengyi Dai, Fangyu Song, Xinwen Guo (DUT), and Pattarapan Prassasarachi (Chula U) for CO₂ conversion

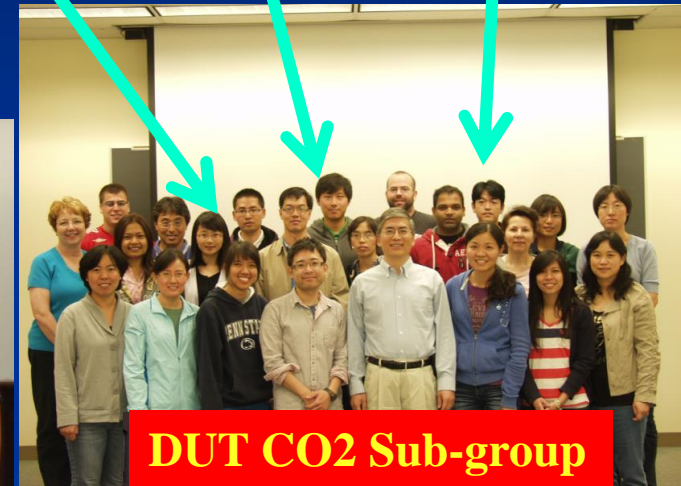
Ratchy Satthwong Xiao Jiang Naoto Koizumi

Xiaoxing Wang

Dongxiang Wang

Eric Fillerup

Emanuela Peduzzi



Acknowledgments



Altex

ConocoPhillips

BASF
The Chemical Company

