



2005 DOE Hydrogen Program Review

Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Research

Draft Poster Presentation

University of South Florida

May 25, 2005

Project ID # STP2

Participants

University of South Florida

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University of Central Florida

- Clovis Linkous (FSEC), Nahid Mohajeri (FSEC), Colin Bateman (FSEC)

Projects

Hydrogen Storage (ST10)

- Transition Metal Hydrides (USF and UF)
- Nano-structured Materials (USF)
- Hydrogen Storage Components (USF)

Hydrogen Production (STP2)

- Solar Photoelectrochemical (USF)
- Solar Photocatalytic (USF)
- Thermochemical Cycle (UF)
- Biomass Gassification (UF)
- Solid State Ionic Conductors (USF)

Fuel Cells (STP2)

- Modified Engin. Polymers (FSEC)
- PEM Fuel Cell Research (UF)
- PEM Fuel Cell Research (USF)

Overview



Timeline

- Oct 2004 to May 2008
- 16% Complete

Budget

- Total project funding
 - DOE \$4.8M
 - Contractor \$1.25M
- Funding
 - FY04 \$1.9M
 - FY05 \$2.9M

Barriers

- **Fuel Cells**
 - DOE 3.4.4.2 (O-Q)
 - Durability, Heat Utilization, Electrode Performance, Cost, Reduced catalysts loadings
- **H2 Production**
 - DOE 3.1.4.2.5 V
 - Thermochemical technology, solar capital cost
 - DOE 3.1.4.2.2 G
 - Feedstock cost and availability, efficiency of gasification, CO emissions
 - DOE 3.1.4.2.4 T
 - Cost, efficiency, catalyst
 - DOE 3.1.4.2.4 Q
 - Cost, efficiency, catalyst
 - DOE 3.1.4.2.4 R
 - Cost, efficiency

Fuel Cell - Approaches



1. Strategic Polymer Fluorination
2. PBI-H₃PO₄ MEA Development
3. MEA Advancement

Targets:

- Fuel cell cost < \$55/KW
- Power density ~0.5 W/cm²

(Approach I) Strategic Fluorination



- Use only as much fluorine in the polymer as is necessary to promote conductivity and chemical stability
 - place fluorines near the sulfonic acid groups to increase acidity
 - surface fluorinate to provide protection where hydroxyl radicals are generated
- Heavily sulfonate polymers to promote proton conductivity, but cross-link to prevent solubility and mechanical stability problems
- Develop accelerated test apparatus to evaluate prototype PEM's

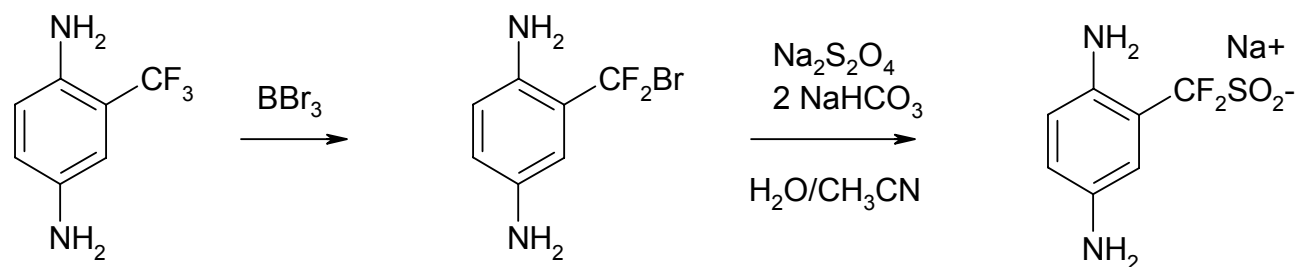
Technical Progress

(Approach I) Strategic Fluorination

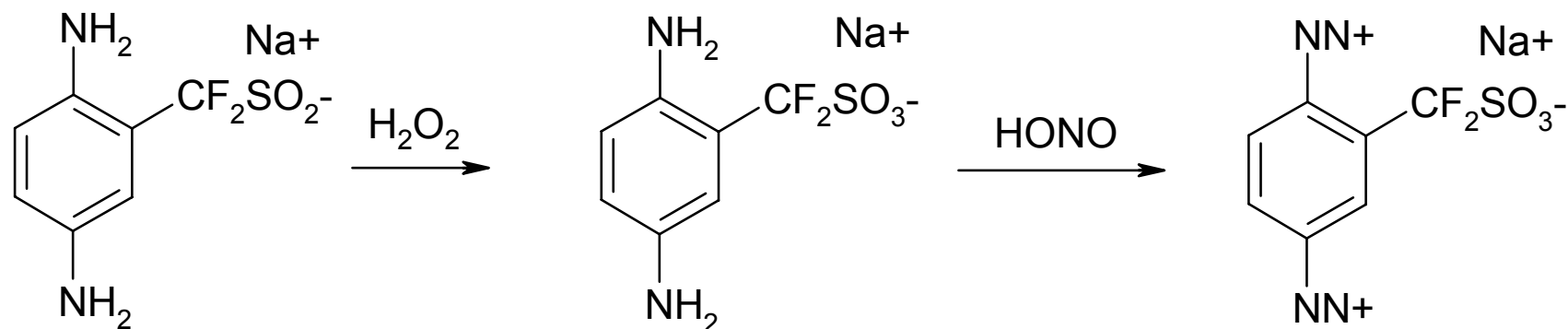


- Successfully brominated benzyltrifluoride, the first step in making a fluorosulfonic PEEK polymer
- Developed catalytic peroxide decomposition method for accelerated testing of PEM electrolytes
- Prepared surface fluorinated (“Nafion-clad”) PEM’s based on polystyrene sulfonic acid

Initial Steps in Synthetic Scheme for PEEK Fluorosulfonic Acid (Approach I) Strategic Fluorination



Bromination of the trifluoromethyl monomer



Formation of the sulfonic acid

Approach 2

PBI-H₃PO₄ MEA Development



- Employ PEM material: PBI-H₃PO₄
 - Low cost, low humidity, high temperature, durability
- Identify specific challenges related to synthesis, MEA fabrication and performance
- Synthesize and characterize membranes
- Improve synthesis/fabrication to enhance performance and reduce cost

Technical Progress

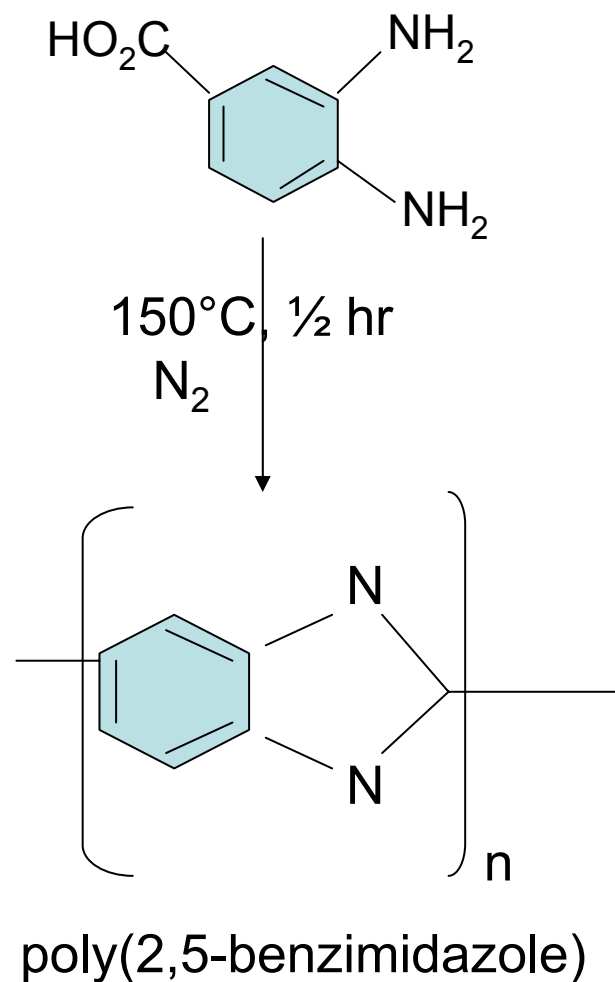
(Approach 2) PBI-H₃PO₄ MEA Development



- Identification of low temperature PBI synthesis technique
 - Reduces cost of PBI material
 - Simplifies membrane manufacturing
- Development of test bed for evaluation of performance under varying operating conditions

Low-Temperature PBI Synthesis

(Approach 2) PBI-H₃PO₄ MEA Development



3,4-diaminobenzoic acid + P₂O₅+Methane sulfonic acid, 150°C, ½ hr

Solution Casting

Extraction, Drying

H₃PO₄ impregnation

Catalyst application

MEA fabrication

(Approach 3) MEA Advancement



- Catalyst Development
 - Develop novel bimetallic metal/oxide catalysts to lower platinum loading
- Membrane Development
 - Decrease fuel crossover
 - Analyze pretreatments to maximize proton transport while minimizing molecular transport
 - Develop porous support
 - Develop nanocomposite membranes

Technical Progress

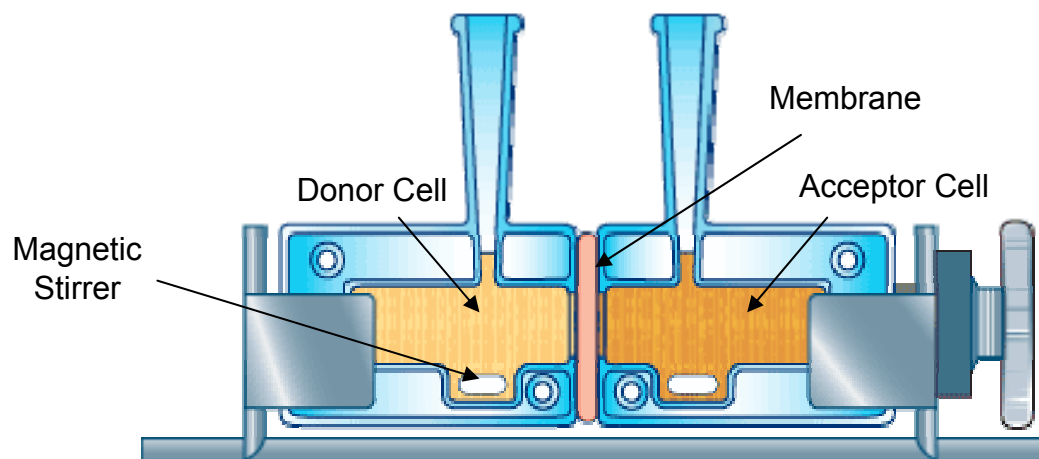
(Approach 3) MEA Advancement



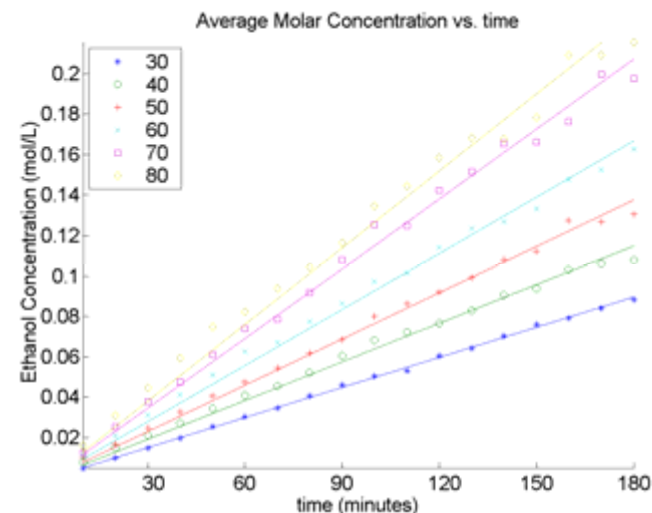
- Fabrication and chemical analysis of cobalt-tin-ruthenium catalysts in custom MEAs initiated
- Nafion[®] pretreatments involving H₂O₂, HCl, and H₂SO₄ have been developed to determine effects on proton and molecular transport
- Analyzed Porous SiC(PSC) membrane support to reduce fuel crossover
 - Nafion[®] impregnated PSC membranes showed up to a six fold decrease in ethanol cross-over as compared to Nafion[®] 117 films.

Experimental Setup for Catalyst and Membrane Development

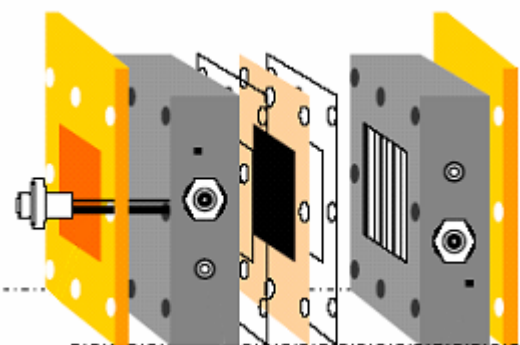
(Approach 3) MEA Advancement



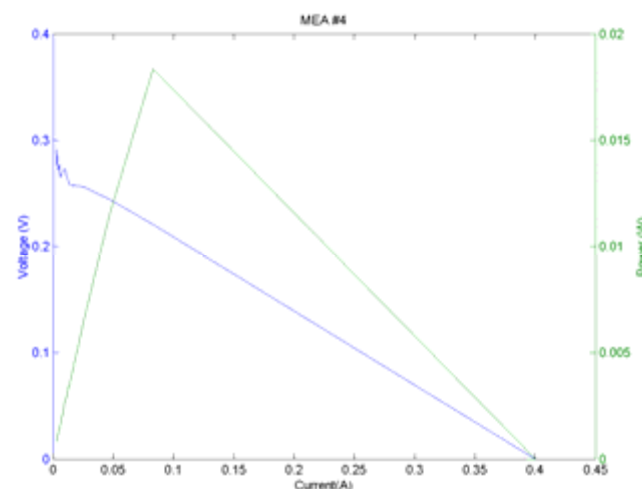
PermeGear Crown Glass Side-Bi-Side permeation cell¹



PSC Ethanol Concentration in Donor Cell vs. Time



25 cm² PEM single cell fuel cell, serpentine flow pattern²



Voltage and Power vs. Current Curve for custom MEA

¹ <http://www.permegear.com>

² <http://www.fuelcell.com/pdfs/FuelCellBrochure.pdf>

Future Work – Fuel Cells



- **Strategic fluorination**
 - Prepare fluorosulfonic acid versions of other engineering polymers
 - Determine limits of cross-linking, degree of sulfonation, and proton conductivity
 - Finalize accelerated PEM test method
 - Measure durability of surface-fluorinated PEM's
 - Combine cross-linking and partial fluorination strategies into new PEM membranes
 - Test prototype PEM's in fuel cell configuration
- **PBI MEA Development**
 - Characterization of high temperature performance
- **Freezing effects: (Nafion & alternatives)**
 - Performance characterization operating sub-freezing and post freeze/thaw cycling
 - Determination of effect on materials
 - Need fundamental understanding to reach DOE cold-start goals
- **Catalyst development**
 - Reduced precious metal loadings, bimetallics, low-cost systems for both H- and DEFC's
- **Membrane development**
 - Effect of membrane pre-treatment on proton conductivity
 - Internally humidified nanocomposite membranes → zeolites, clathrates and nanocrystalline α -SiC

Publications and Presentations

Fuel Cells



- C.A. Linkous, “Low Cost Membranes for PEM Fuel Cells,” invited lecture at the Gordon Research Conference on Membranes, Colby-Sawyer College, August 4, 2004.
- C.A. Linkous, “Plastics in Fuel Cells – What are the Possibilities?” invited lecture at the Society of the Plastics Industries, Inc., Orlando, FL, March 9th, 2005.
- H.A. Ingley and G. O’Sullivan, “Evaluation of the Effects of Air Contaminants on PEM Fuel Cell Performance” Proceedings of the ISES Solar World Congress, 2005.
- B.A. Grayson, J. T. Wolan, Y. Ke, R. P. Devaty, and W. J. Choyke, “Ethanol permeation through nanoporous free-standing 6H-SiC membranes” accepted for International Conference on SiC and Related Materials, September 1, 2005

H₂ Production Approaches



1. **Solar Photocatalytic**

- Target: Improve efficiency of water splitting from 70% to 90% while addressing cost

2. **Solar Photoelectrochemical**

- Target: Improve hydrogen production cell cost to ~\$70/m²

3. **Thermochemical Cycle**

- Target: Lower operating temperatures (to ~700°C) of cycle to improve economics

4. **Biomass Gasification**

- Target: Maximize hydrogen yield and efficiency of process while reducing CO emissions to below 10% by volume.

5. **Solid State Ionic Conductors**

- Target: Reduce current weight and increase operating temperatures of electrolyte system to 150°C

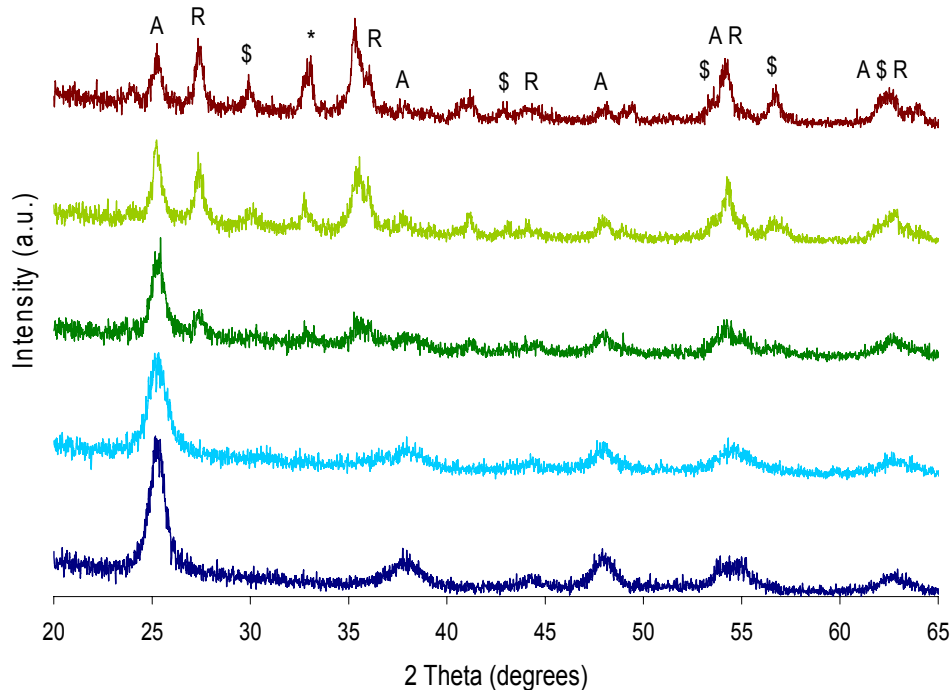
Accomplishments

(Approach 1) Solar Photocatalytic TiO₂-ZnFe₂O₄ Nanocomposites

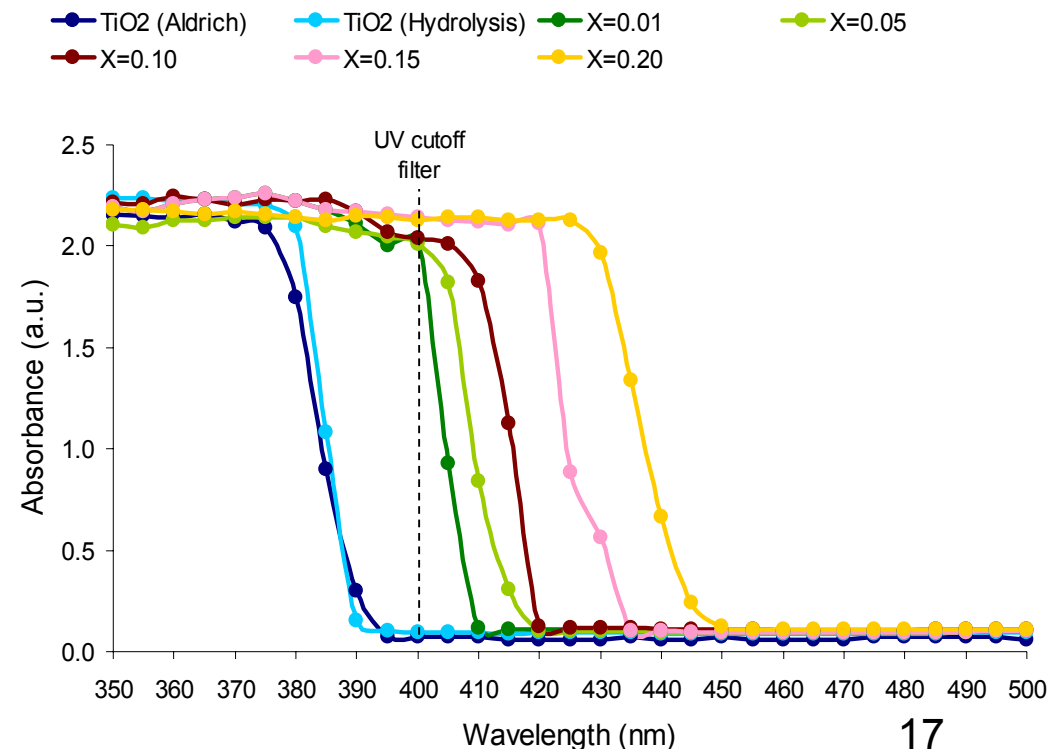


- A new coprecipitation/hydrolysis technique was developed to create TiO₂-(X)ZnFe₂O₄ alloys
- XRD analysis was used to characterize dual-phase nanocomposites for various alloy concentrations and calcination temps

— X=0.01 — X=0.05 — X=0.1 — X=0.15 — X=0.2



- UV-Vis spectroscopy was performed to analyze visible light absorption shifts
- Visible light absorption directly related to alloying concentration of low bandgap ZnFe₂O₄
- (Photoactive) Absorption shifts greater than 60nm can be achieved by proper alloying



Accomplishments

(Approach 1) Solar Photocatalytic $\text{TiO}_2\text{-ZnFe}_2\text{O}_4$ Nanocomposites

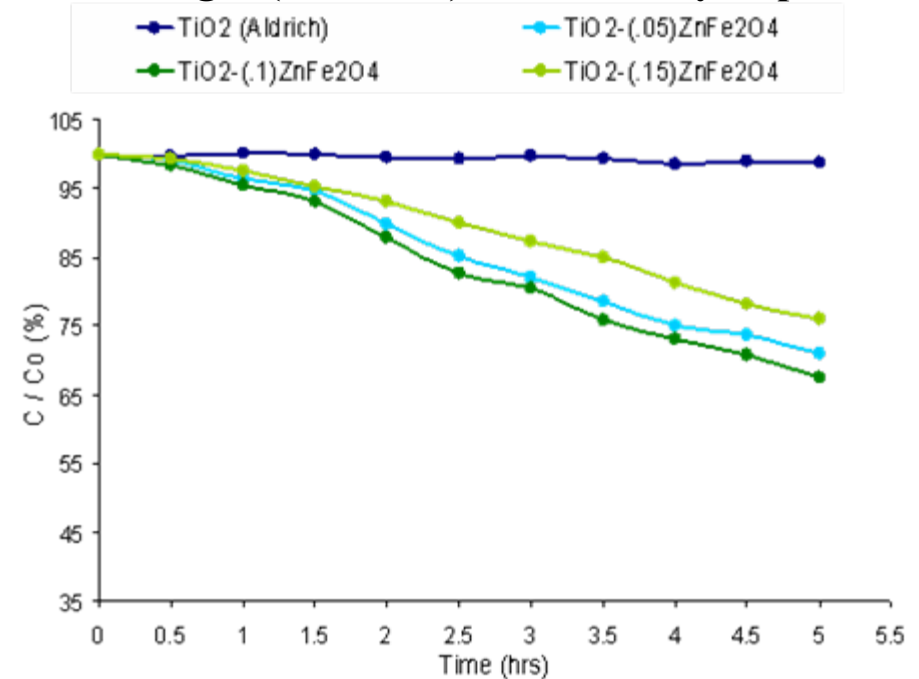


- Pure TiO_2 , pure ZnFe_2O_4 , and modified $\text{TiO}_2\text{-ZnFe}_2\text{O}_4$ alloys were created
- $\text{TiO}_2\text{-ZnFe}_2\text{O}_4$ nanocomposites have been optimized based on control parameters such as H_2O /alkoxide ratio, calcination temperature, SO_4^{2-} impregnation, pH used for preparation, and precursor selection*.

For the first time, a photocatalytic reactor was created to analyze the photocatalysts exposed to UV, UV-Vis, and visible light irradiation.

- Organic degradation was used to simulate H_2 production by photocatalyst's redox reactions
- Experiments successfully concluded the photoactivity of $\text{TiO}_2\text{-ZnFe}_2\text{O}_4$ catalysts at irradiation wavelengths longer than 400nm (shown right)

Visible Light (>400 nm) Photoactivity Experiment



- Wade, J., Srinivasan, S., & Stefanakos, E., (2005). "An Investigation of $\text{TiO}_2\text{-ZnFe}_2\text{O}_4$ Nanocomposites for Visible Light Photocatalysis," Presentation at the 2005 MRS Spring Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Wade, J. (2005). "An Investigation of $\text{TiO}_2\text{-ZnFe}_2\text{O}_4$ Nanocomposites for Visible Light Photocatalysis," Master's Thesis, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.

Accomplishments

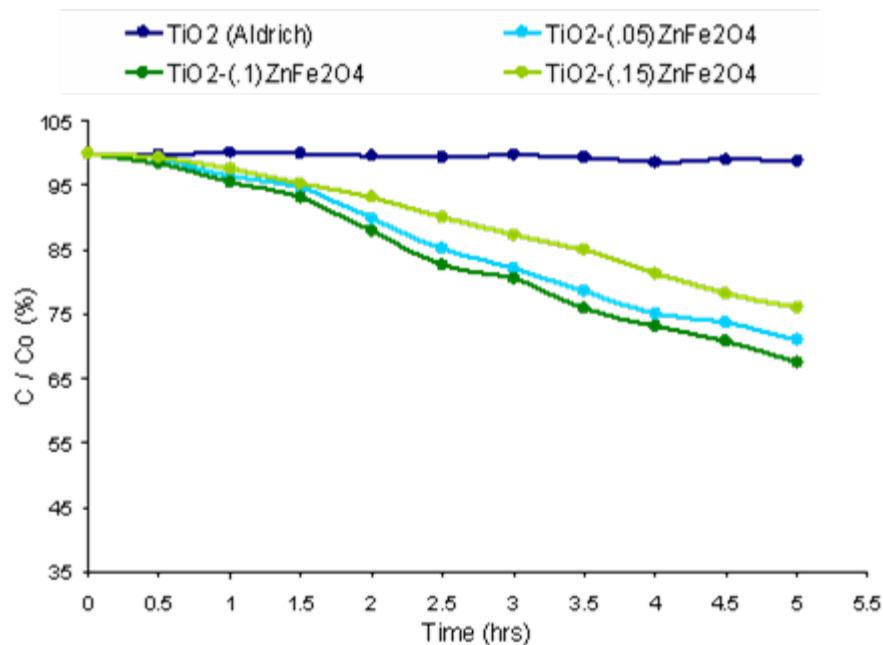
(Approach 1) Solar Photocatalytic TiO₂--CdS Nanocomposites



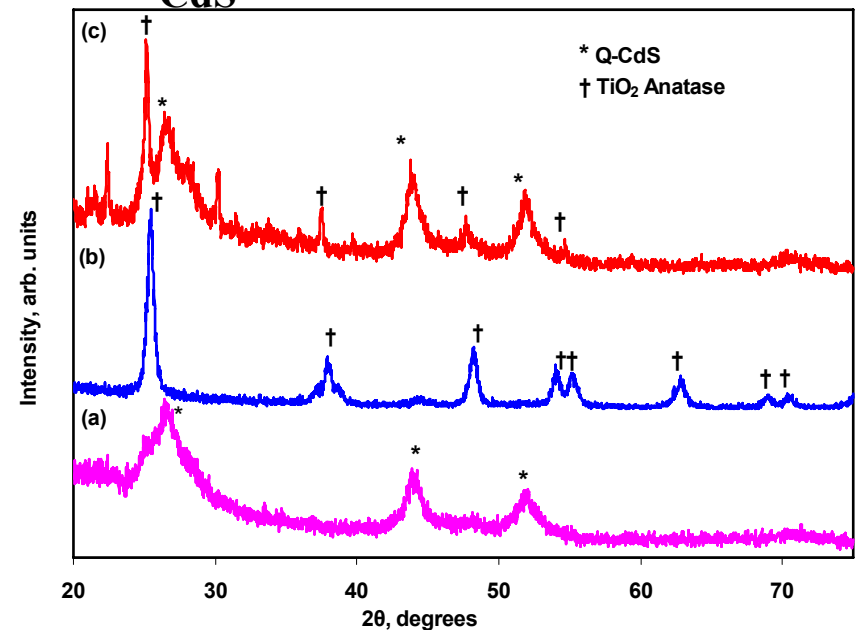
TiO₂-CdS nanocomposites were developed utilizing quantum sized CdS for visible light synthesization reactions*.

- EDS, SEM, and XRD measurements were used to structurally characterize and modify TiO₂-CdS for optimum photoactivity.
- UV-Vis spectroscopy revealed absorption at wavelengths of 490nm with photoactivity studied by degradation of organics.

Visible Light (>400 nm) Phenol Degradation



XRD Analysis of TiO₂, CdS, and TiO₂-CdS



* Srinivasan, S., Wade, J., & Stefanakos, E., (2005). "Visible light photocatalysis via nano-composite CdS/TiO₂ materials," Presentation at the 2005 MRS Spring Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Accomplishments

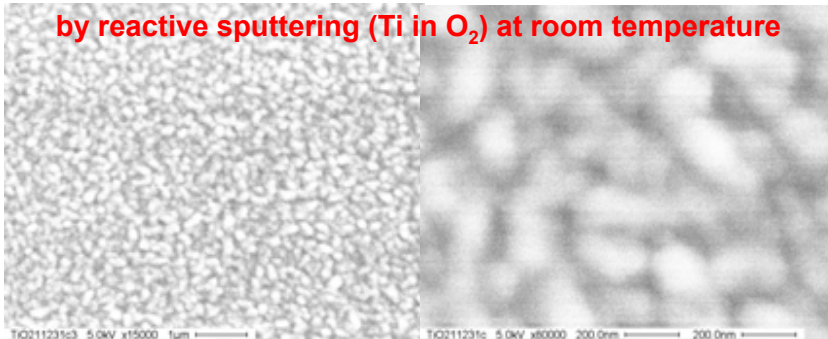
(Approach 1) Solar Photocatalytic TiO₂ by RF Sputtering



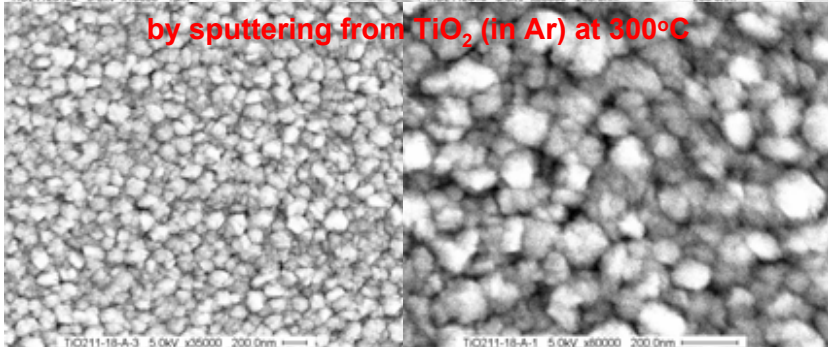
SEM images of sputtered TiO₂ films:

- Film morphology depends on deposition conditions
- Porous films with larger surface areas are preferred for photocatalytic applications

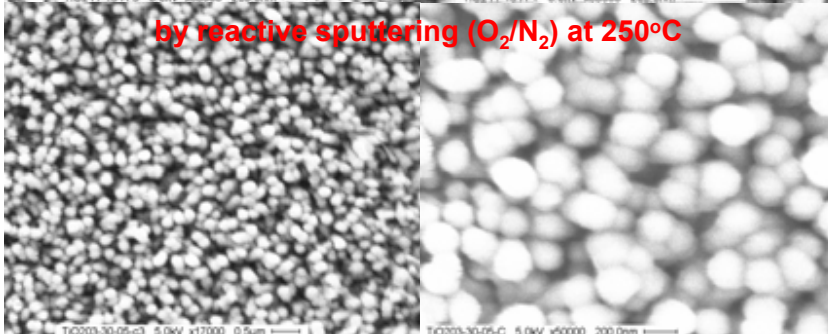
by reactive sputtering (Ti in O₂) at room temperature



by sputtering from TiO₂ (in Ar) at 300°C

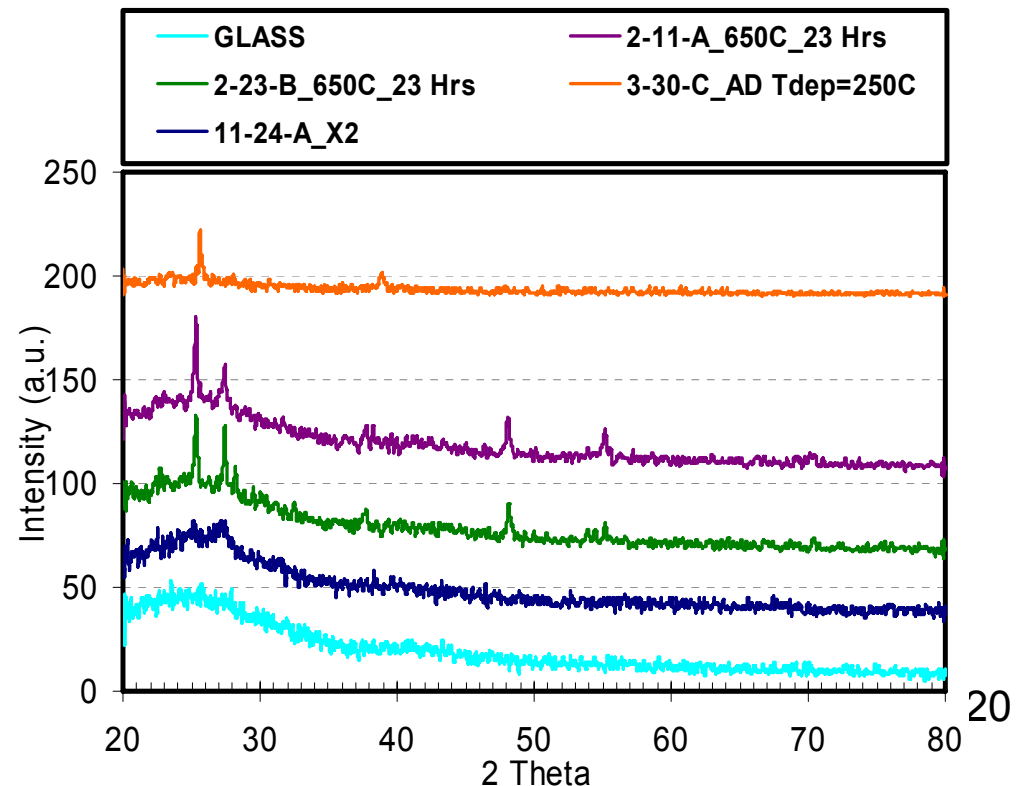


by reactive sputtering (O₂/N₂) at 250°C



XRD analysis of Sputtered TiO₂ Films:

- As-deposited at room temperature films are amorphous (2nd from bottom)
- Annealing in air at high temperatures yields polycrystalline TiO₂ (3rd and 4th from bottom)
- Annealed films contain peaks corresponding to both the Anatase (desirable) and Rutile phases
- Deposition at temperatures as low as 250°C yield polycrystalline films; Anatase phase seems to dominate, although both phases are present (top)



Future Work

(Approach 1) Solar Photocatalytic



I. **TiO₂-ZnFe₂O₄ nanocomposites**

- Through September 30th (2005)
 - Use chemical procedures to inhibit the anatase-to-rutile transformation of TiO₂ for ZnFe₂O₄ alloying concentrations greater than 10mol%
 - Enhance the photoactivity of the nanocomposites by 25% for organic degradation experiments.
- FY 2006 (10/05-09/06)
 - Complete experimental transformation from organic degradant to H₂ production using visible light photocatalysis.

II. **TiO₂ thin films by RF sputtering**

- Through September 30th (2005)
 - Begin doping (alloying) to modify absorption properties
 - Demonstrate absorption for wavelengths above 400 nm
 - Design/construct apparatus and begin photocatalytic experiments
- FY 2006 (10/05-09/06)
 - Demonstrate photocatalytic activity for films with absorption above 400 nm
 - Optimize process for maximum photocatalytic activity

Objectives

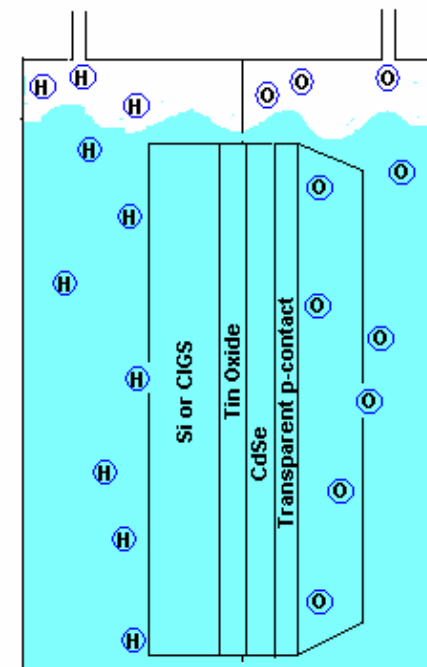
(Approach 2) Solar Photoelectrochemical



The overall objective of this project is to develop a tandem photovoltaic solar-electrolytic cell that will generate hydrogen from water in a cost-effective manner.

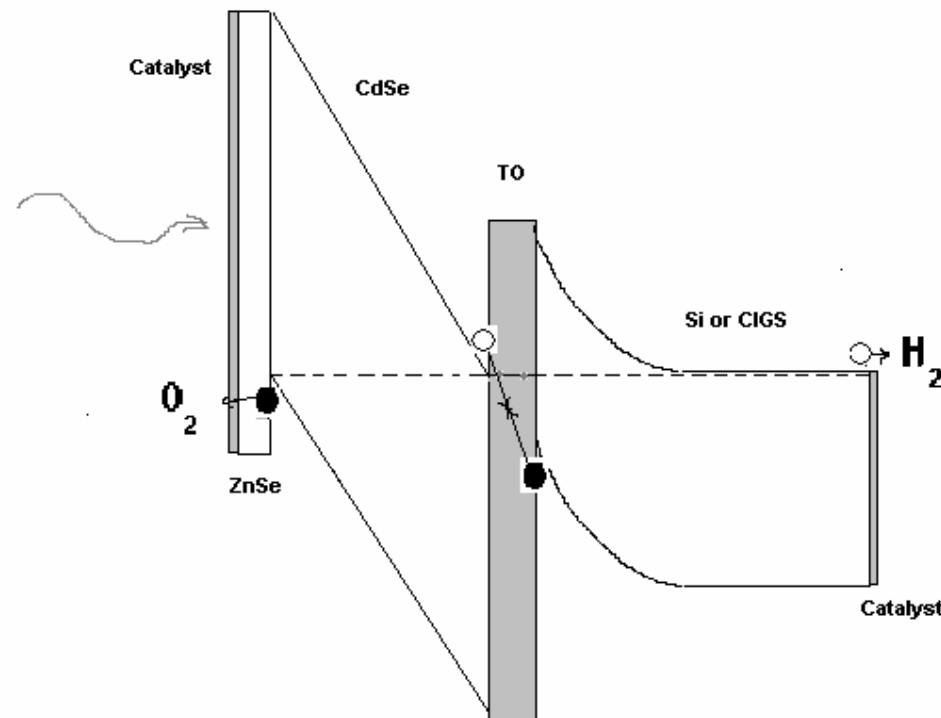
Objectives for the first year are:

- **Fabricate representative Si/transparent conductor devices.**
- **Deposit representative CdSe devices on Si/transparent conductor devices.**
- **Demonstrate tandem compatibility.**



(Approach 2) Solar Photoelectrochemical

- Thin-film solar cells have demonstrated potential for low cost and high efficiency.
- Tandem thin-film solar cells can produce voltages in excess of 1.5 volts that are needed to electrolyze water.
- With proper development of catalytic contacts and membranes the cells can be placed inside an electrolyzer cell.
- CdSe ($E_g = 1.7$) and CuInGaSe ($E_g = 1.0$) as a tandem have projected efficiency of 25 – 30%.
- CuInGaSe efficiency of 18% has been demonstrated.
- A CdSe top cell with V_{OC} of order 1 volt is needed. This will first be developed on Si with SnO_2 as the common contact.



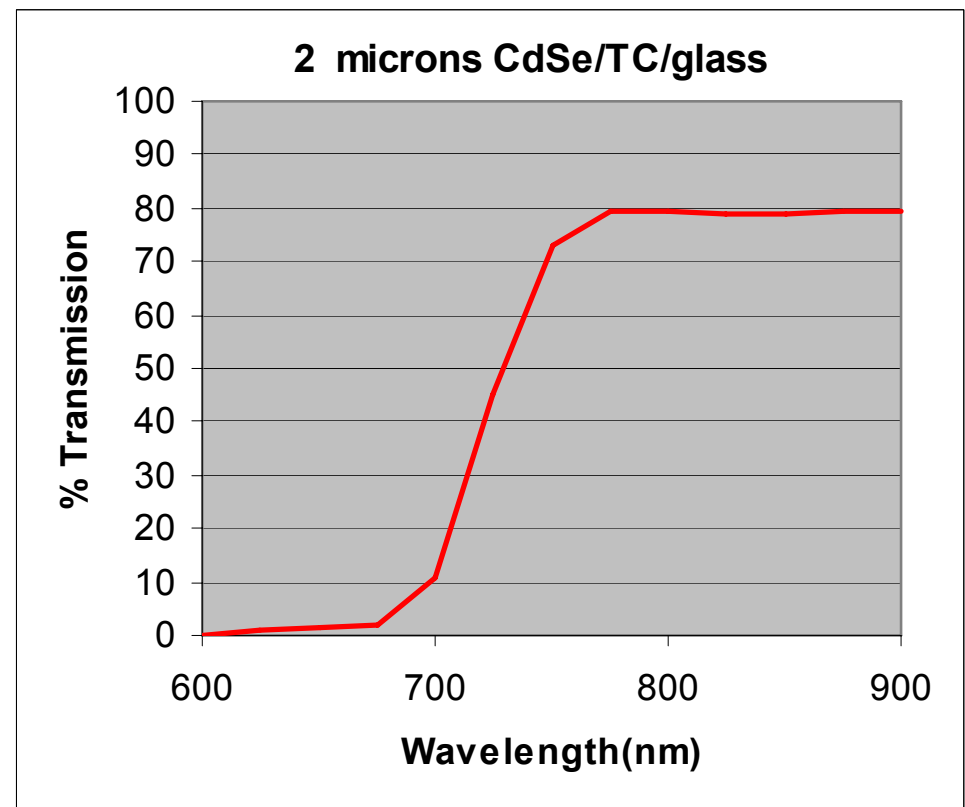
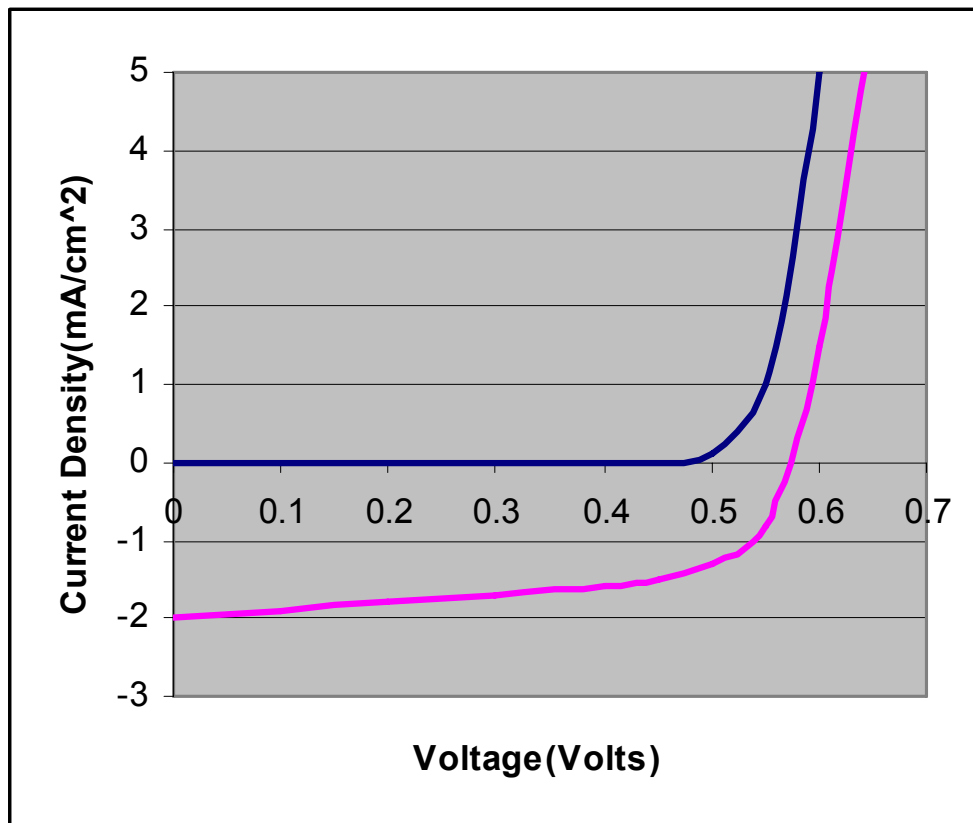
Accomplishments

(Approach 2) Solar Photoelectrochemical



Single Junction CdSe Devices: ZnSe:Cu/CdSe/SnO₂

- Jsc of 17.4 mA/cm²
- Voc of 575 mV (850 mV reported by others in other configurations)
- Transmission of 80% of sub band gap light to the underlying cell



Accomplishments

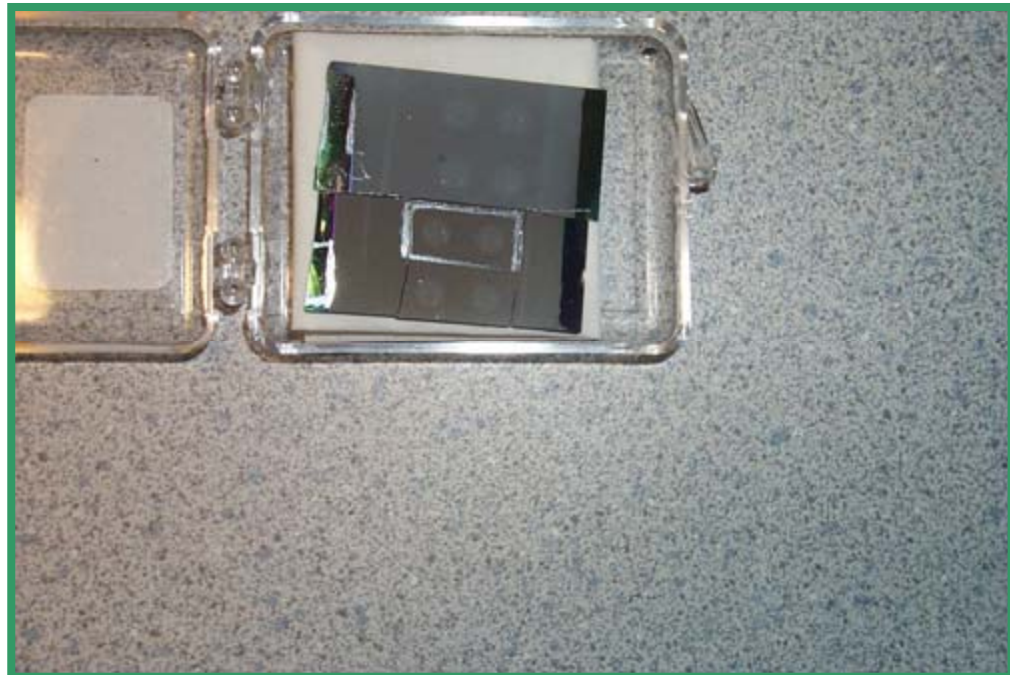
(Approach 2) Solar Photoelectrochemical



- A $\text{SnO}_2/\text{n-Si}$ device process has been developed.
- V_{OC} 's up to 500 + mV have been demonstrated with $\text{SnO}_2/\text{n-Si}$.
- Operable CdSe devices have been deposited on SnO_2/Si substrates.
- The first operable tandem devices have been fabricated.

First Tandem Devices - V_{OC}

- 220 mV for CdSe
- 420 mV for the tandem



Future Work

(Approach 2) Solar Photoelectrochemical



Remainder of FY 05

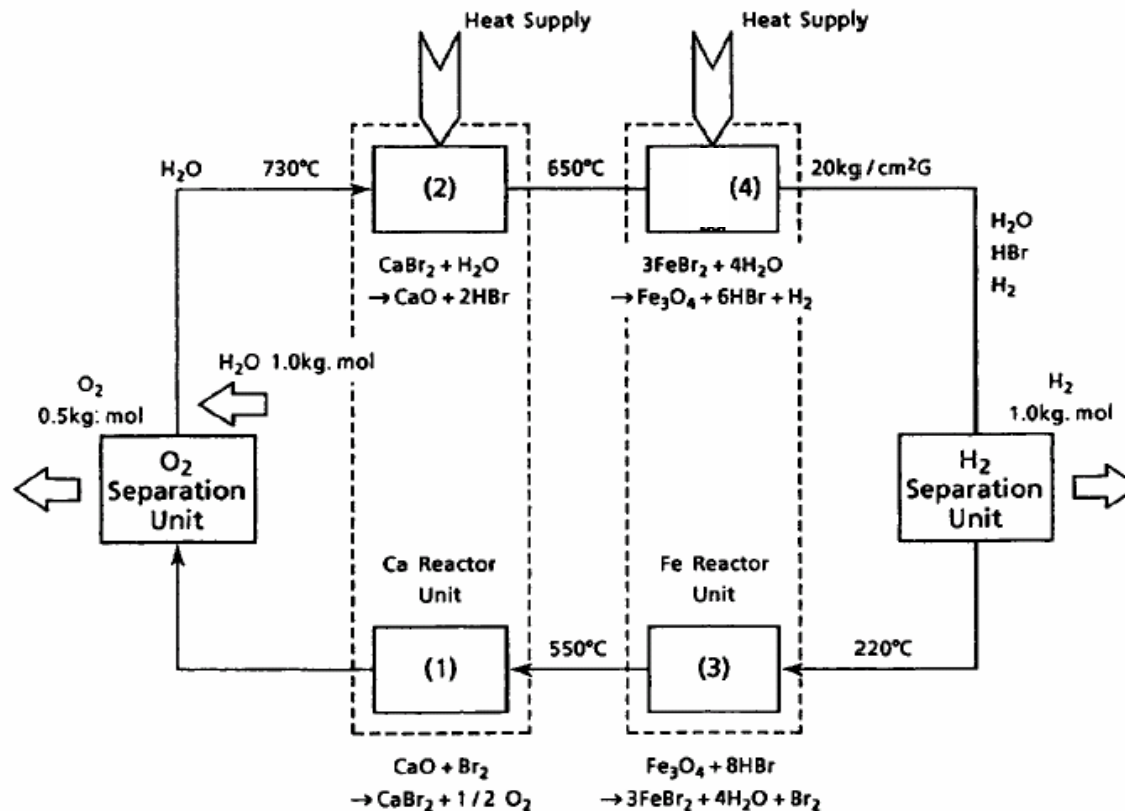
- Demonstrate Voc's of 500 mV for CdSe on TO/Si
- Demonstrate operable tandem devices

FY 06

- Develop thermal budget compatibilities for the tandem structure
- Develop advanced doping capabilities for ZnSe
- Demonstrate a tandem Voc of 1 volt.

(Approach 3) Thermochemical Cycle

- Test feasibility of UT-3 thermochemical cycle for hydrogen production
- Increase hydrogen yield through new pellet formulation
- Reduce the reactor operating temperature



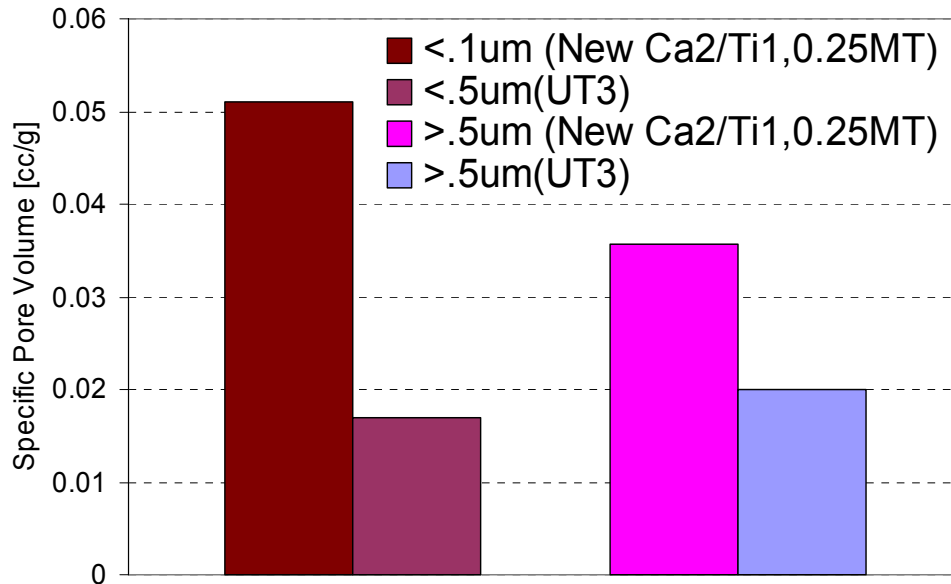
Technical Accomplishments

(Approach 3) Thermochemical Cycle



New CaO reactant pellets :

- Precursor for pellet synthesized using Sol-Gel techniques
- Pellet molding apparatus and procedure developed
- Pellet heat treatment designed
- Initial pellet characterization completed



•Achieved a much higher Pore volume than the Univ of Tokyo pellet. (Fig.1)

Fig.1 Pore Volume Distribution of New and UT-3 pellets.

Technical Accomplishments

(Approach 3) Thermochemical Cycle

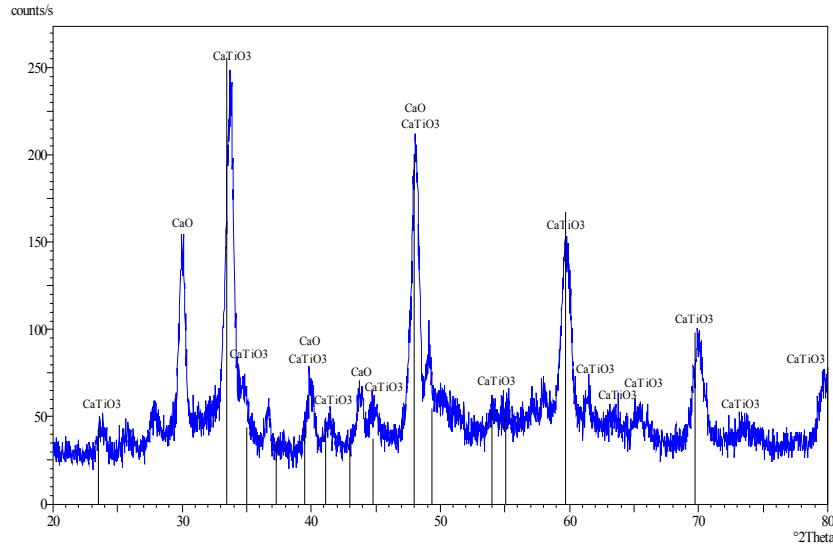


Fig.2 XRD for New pellet (2:1 Ca:Ti mole)

XRD data confirms the presence of CaO reactant and CaTiO₃ substrate in the New pellet. (Fig.2)

Sample Description	Ca/Ti	Max Heating Temp	Wt %CaO
Synthesized Powder 1	1	430°C	9.01%
Synthesized Powder 1	1	430°C	8.65%
Synthesized Powder 2	2	1000°C	27.71%
Synthesized Powder 2	2	1000°C	26.55%
Pure CaO	N/A	none	98.30%
Pure CaO	N/A	none	97.95%
Pure CaTiO ₃	1	none	3.29%

Fig. 3 Chemical composition analysis

27% of CaO reactant detected by chemical analysis in New pellet. (Fig.3)

Technical Accomplishments

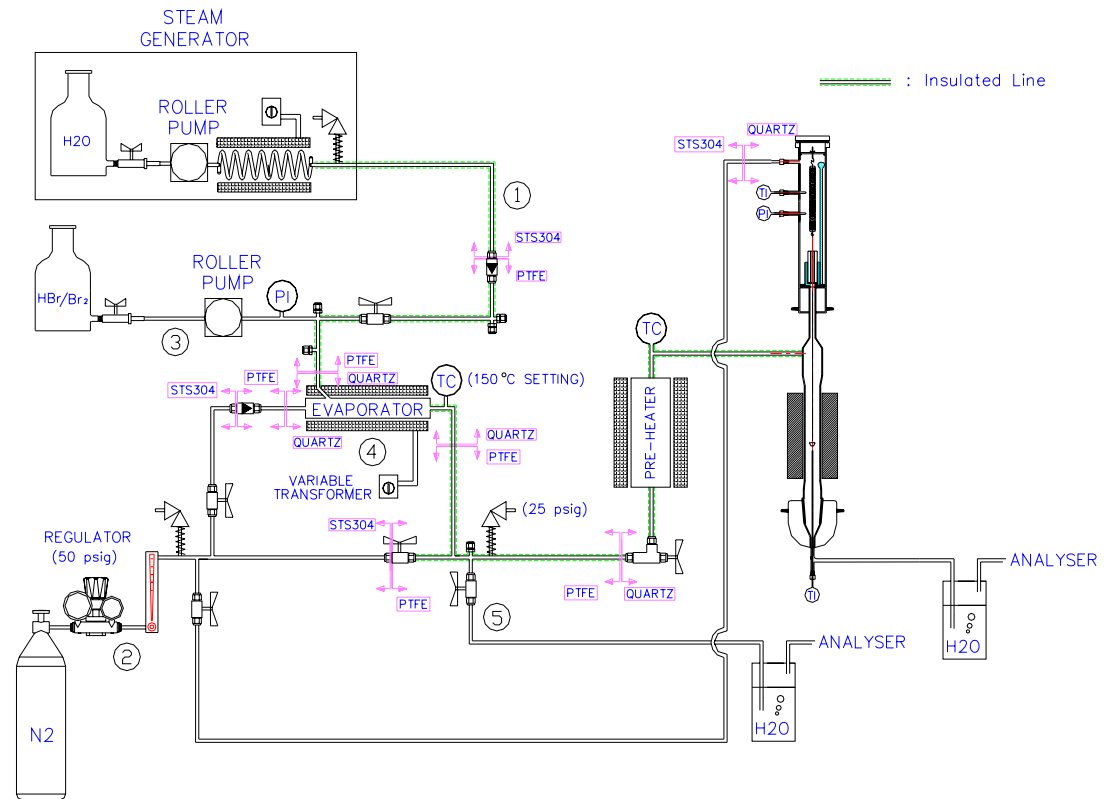
(Approach 3) Thermochemical Cycle

Feed and reactor system with thermogravimetric balance

(800°C, HBr, Br₂, steam)



Feed system set-up



Schematic diagram

Future Work

(Approach 3) Thermochemical Cycle



2005

- Operate bromination reactor to find O₂ yield



- Conduct CaO pellet kinetic study and thermo-gravimetric analysis
- Use kinetic data to improve pellet formulation to increase O₂ yield

2006

- Formulating new Fe₃O₄ pellet
- Operate bromination and hydrolysis reactors to find H₂ yield



- Conduct Fe₃O₄/FeBr₂ pellet kinetic study and thermo-gravimetric analysis
- Use kinetic data to improve pellet formulation to increase H₂ yield
- Recommendation for future work

Objectives

(Approach 4) Biomass Gasification



- **Thermodynamic Analysis:**
 - Improve energy efficiency, increase H₂ yield of conventional steam biomass gasification (target increase of H₂ yield 18-20% - molar basis) and combine reforming, shift and separation processes using novel sorption enhancement technique
 - Relevance to DOE: Capital cost reduction by process integration
- **Catalysis:**
 - Develop new tar cracking catalysts with higher selectivity towards hydrogen that can operate at low temperature (500-600°C or below)
 - Relevance to DOE: Improved catalyst for tar cracking

Accomplishments

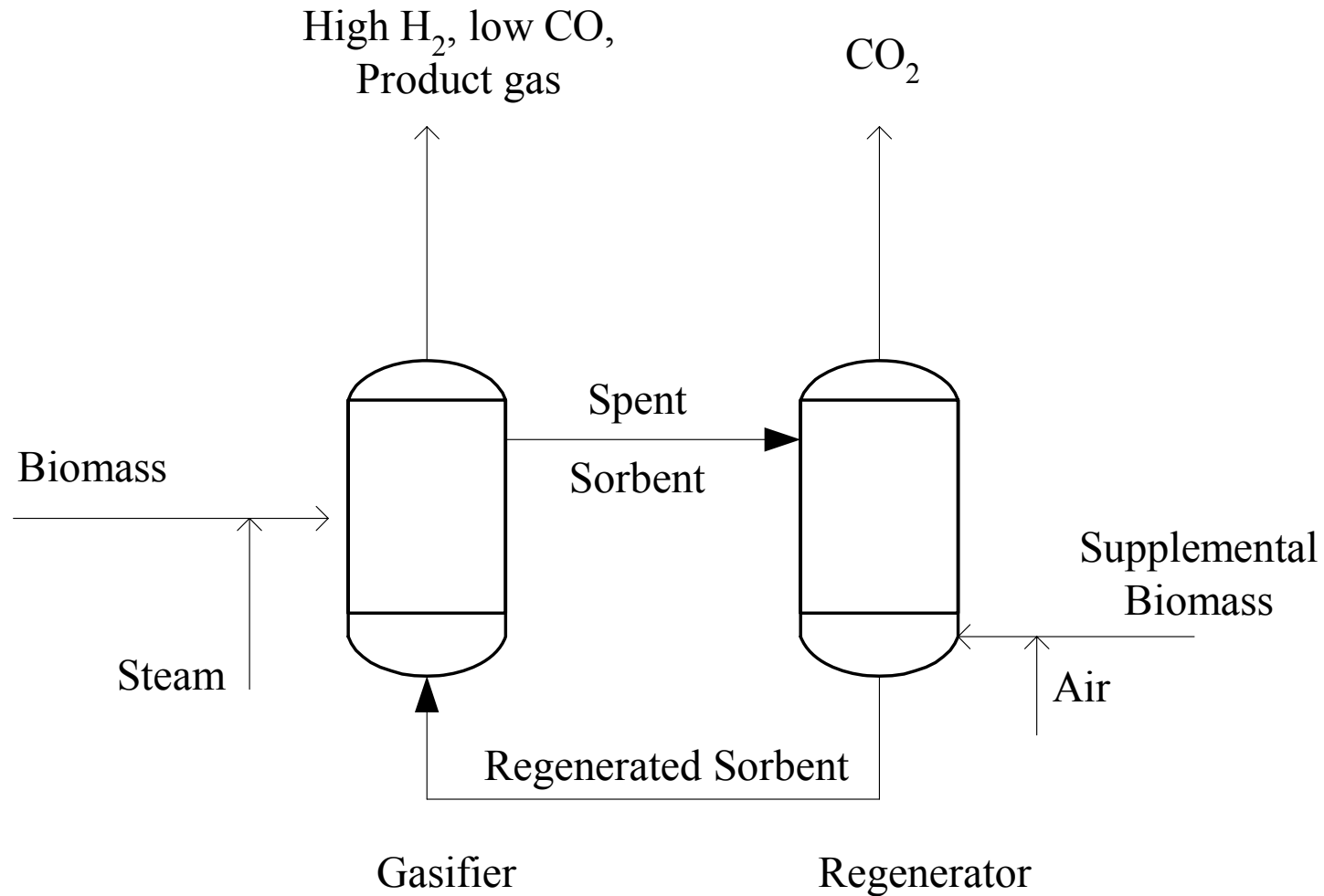
(Approach 4) Biomass Gasification



- **Thermodynamic Analysis:**
 - Basic thermodynamic studies completed
 - Preliminary modeling of sorbent enhanced gasification process using ASPEN™ simulator completed
 - Experimental set-up completed
- **Catalysis:**
 - Design of reactor system completed
 - Catalyst preparation and characterization in progress

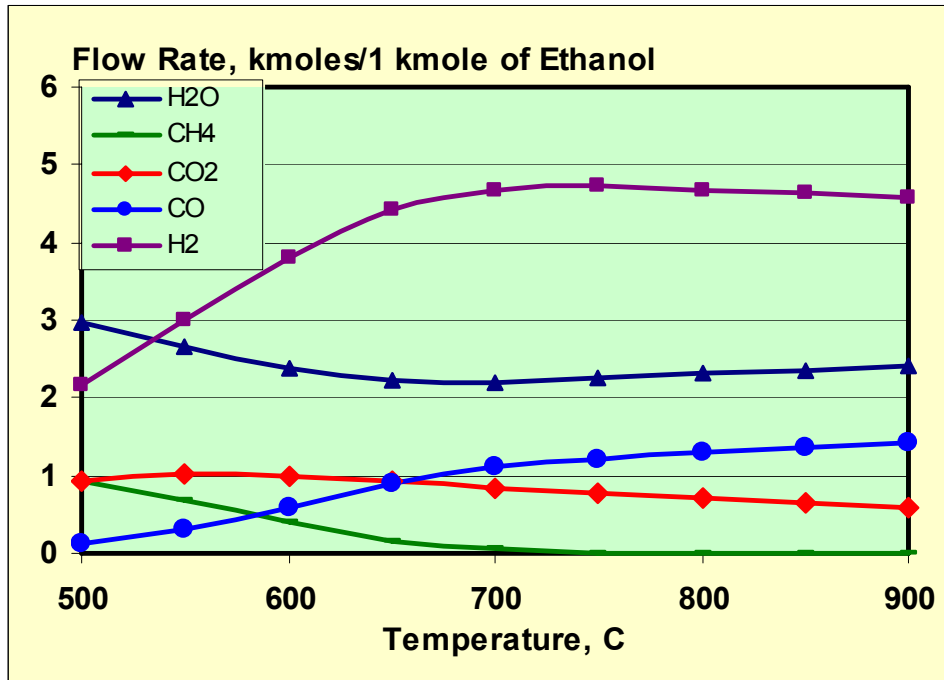
Schematic of Sorbent Enhanced Gasification

(Approach 4) Biomass Gasification

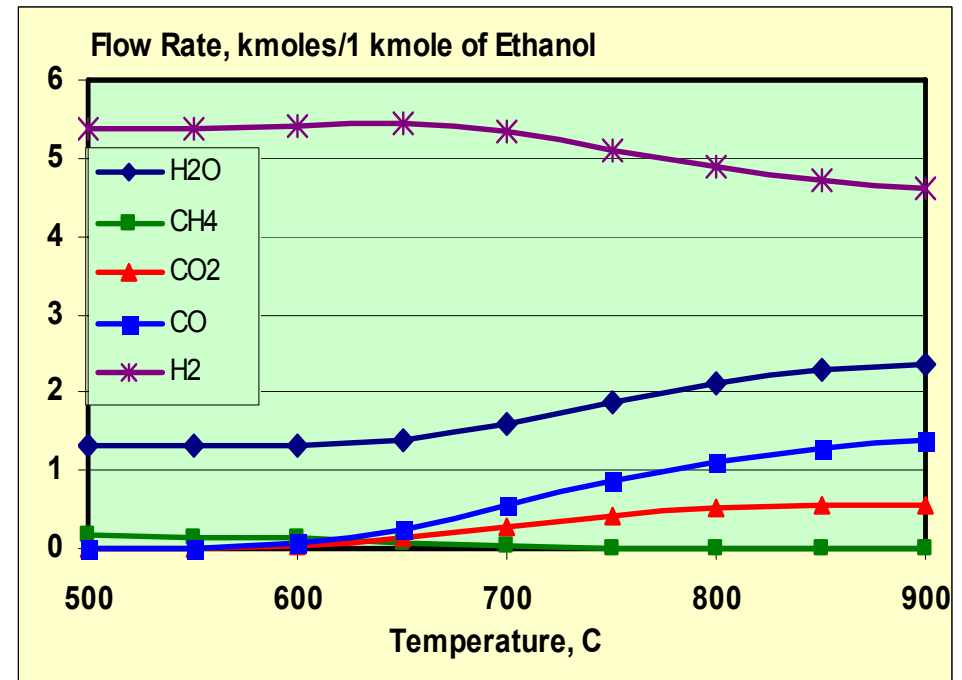


Simulation of Sorbent Enhanced Gasification

(Approach 4) Biomass Gasification



No CaO sorbent



With CaO sorbent

Fig.: Product yields of ethanol reforming (ethanol used as model biomass compound)

- **H₂ yield increases by 18% -20%**
- **Gasification temperature decreases by 100°C.**
- **CO reduces to ppm level in the operating temperature range** 35

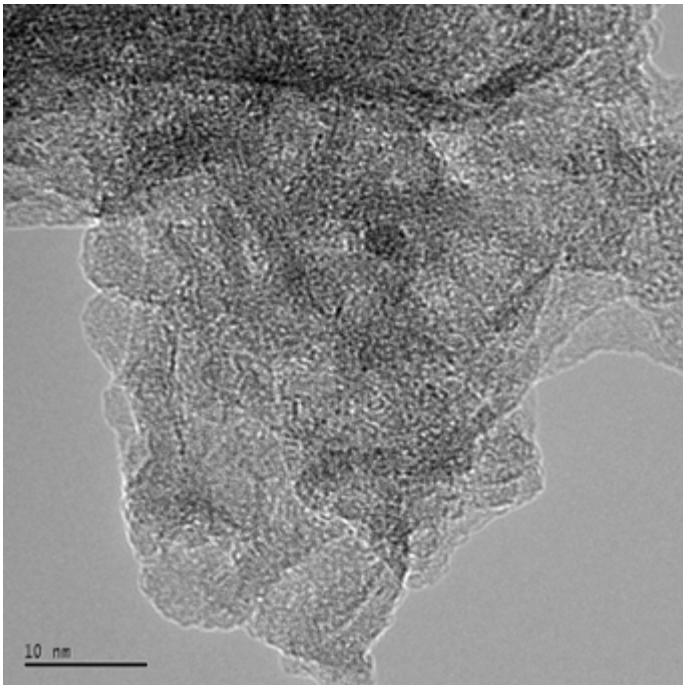
Experimental Set-up

(Approach 4) Biomass Gasification

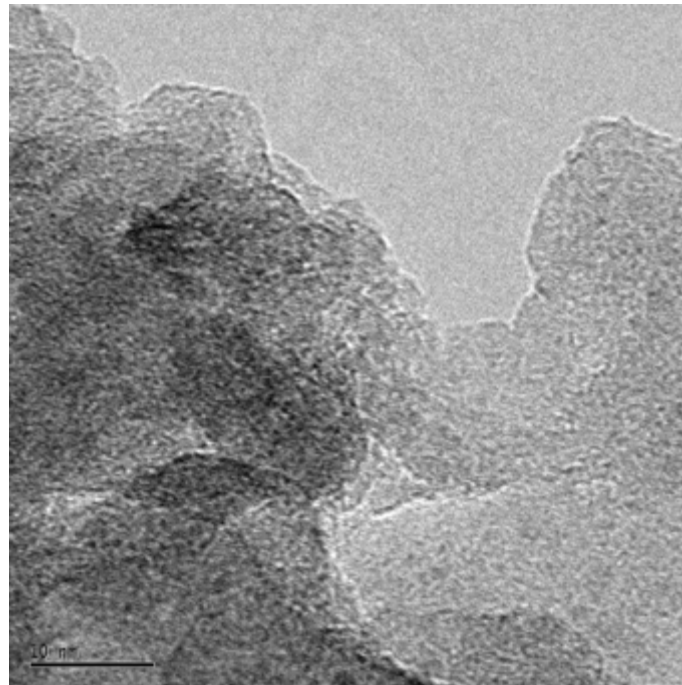


TEM of Ni/Al₂O₃ Catalyst

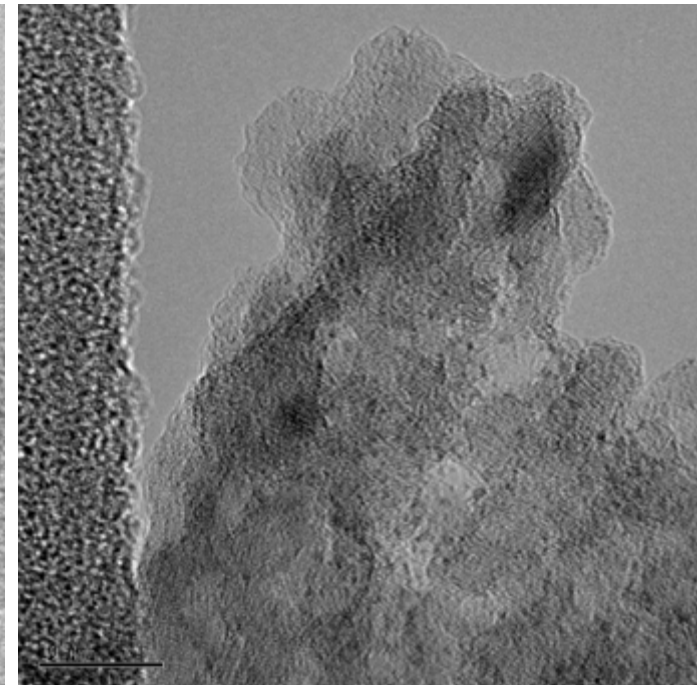
(Approach 4) Biomass Gasification



Nanoparticle Al₂O₃



Ni/n-Al₂O₃ (450°C)



Ni/n-Al₂O₃ (800°C)

- Nanoparticle alumina amorphous
- Ni inhomogeneously distributed on the surface after 450°C calcination
- Structure visible after calcination at 800°C

Future Work

(Approach 4) Biomass Gasification



Thermodynamics Analysis:

- FY 2005
 - Conduct energy analysis of sorbent enhanced gasification
 - Validate the sorbent enhancement concept
- FY 2006
 - Study sorbent regeneration, in particular reduction of regeneration temp and alternate sorbents

Catalysis:

- FY 2005
 - Build reactor assembly for testing of catalyst
 - Catalytic activity measurements using model reactor
- FY 2006
 - Investigate different methods of catalyst preparation to obtain a uniform coating of Ni on the Al_2O_3 support
 - Test various additives to improve catalyst activity and stability

(Approach 5) Solid State Ionic Conductors



The objective of this project is economic electrolytic hydrogen production. This will be sought through better electrolytes and electrochemical cells with which several barriers to this objective can be overcome as follows:

Solutions to Barriers from DOE Technical Plan

Barriers 3.1.4.2.4 Q & S: The electricity required for water electrolysis can theoretically be cut by an order of magnitude by scavenging the anode with a reducing agent. This agent may be landfill gas (or other biogas), synthesis gas or industrial waste products.

Barrier 3.1.4.2.4 U: The electricity required for water electrolysis can be further cut by replacing it with energy in the form of cheaper low quality heat to raise the temperature and evaporate the feedstock. An optimum choice of temperature can provide a good balance of efficiency and low cost. A sound temperature range would be above 150C (to lower the electricity demand) and below 300C (where a quantum jump occurs in cost and difficulty of system construction and operation).

Barrier 3.1.4.2.1 A: An electrolyzer with a scavenged anode is effectively a gas shift reactor in which electrolysis replaces shift, separation and purification with one step. This mitigates the need for economies of scale and addresses the most difficult barriers for both gas shift and electrolytic hydrogen production..

Barriers 3.1.4.2.2 F & 3.1.4.2.4 T: Landfills and modified incinerators could supply scavenger gas for practical electrolytic hydrogen production. The insolation incident on the large landfill sites could supply the DC power needed for electrolysis.

Plan of Attack

(Approach 5) Solid State Ionic Conductors



To implement the stated solutions we are developing electrochemical cells with electrolytes that have the following characteristics:

- **True solid state proton conductors**
- **Operate between 100 and 250C**
- **No liquid water required and no water loss at elevated operating temperature**
- **Reduced catalyst requirements**
- **Impermeable to fuels, scavengers, reaction intermediates, molecular products and catalysts**

Electrolytic cells are being built for operation with the thin film solid state ionic conductors. The cells operate dry at temperatures between 125 and 300C and pressures below the vapor pressure of water at these temperatures. Under these conditions, liquid water cannot exist so it cannot interfere with the use of potentially water soluble reactants, products, catalysts, scavengers, electrolytes or structural materials. Also, there will be no undesirable flooding of components by liquid water.

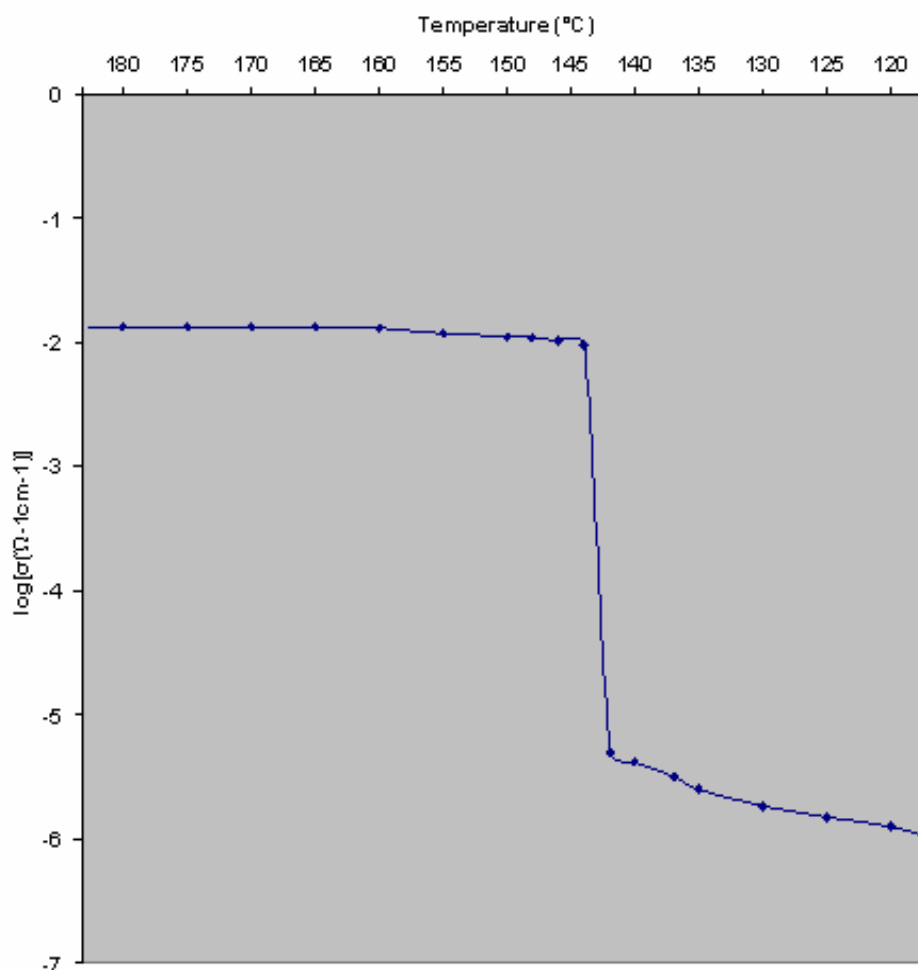
Performance and stability of electrolytes and cells are being studied with and without anode scavengers used to reduce the voltage requirement. Impermeability to anode scavengers will be tested.

Electrolyte Preparation

(Approach 5) Solid State Ionic Conductors



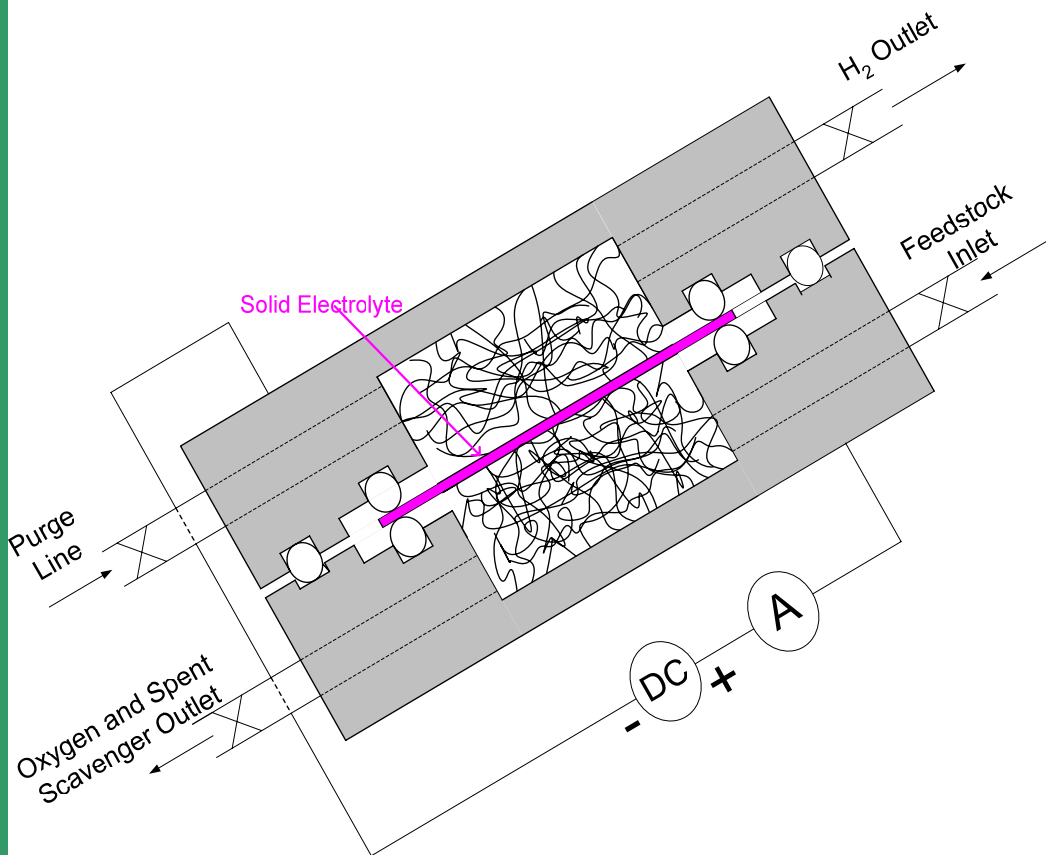
Relationship between $\log[\text{Conductivity}]$ and Temperature



- CsHSO_4 has been chosen to be the first solid state proton conductor to be studied.
- This compound has been prepared by reacting sulfuric acid with Cs_2SO_4 or Cs_2CO_3 and selectively precipitating CsHSO_4 by temperature control.
- One half inch and two inch diameter disks of this material were made for study by pressing the powder at 490 MPa.
- The conductivity of a disk increases by almost 4 orders of magnitude within a few degrees as can be seen in the adjacent figure.

Electrolytic Cell

(Approach 5) Solid State Ionic Conductors



• Steam or another gaseous source of hydrogen is fed into the top of the positive (lower) compartment where it reacts with the positive electrode to produce hydrogen ions. These pass through the solid electrolyte to the negative chamber where the negative electrode converts them to hydrogen gas that is withdrawn at the top of the negative compartment. Oxygen, or other remnant of the feed stock is withdrawn from the bottom of the positive compartment.

Future work

(Approach 5) Solid State Ionic Conductors



- **Performance and stability studies of electrolytes and cells will continue.**
- **New electrolyte materials will be sought and investigated for use with specific scavengers. Electrolyte, feedstock and scavenger will have to be matched for compatibility.**
- **We will apply metallurgical and semiconductor processing techniques to inorganic solid electrolyte materials to try to prepare strong and sturdy thin electrolytes.**
- **A monitoring and control system for flow of materials through the cell will be acquired and installed.**
- **Electrode attachment techniques to minimize contact resistance will be pursued.**
- **Catalysts and surface treatments will be applied to attempt to increase power densities.**
- **We will Test permeability of electrolytes to feed stocks and scavengers.and study performance and stability of the solid electrolytes.**

Publications & Presentations

H₂ Production



- “*A thermodynamic analysis of hydrogen production by gasification of biomass*”, Madhukar Mahishi, Sanjay Vijayaraghavan, Deepak Deshpande, D. Yogi Goswami, accepted for publication at ISES 2005 Solar World Congress, August 6-12, 2005, Orlando, FL
- “*Hydrogen Production from Biomass: An energy analysis of Thermochemical Biomass Gasification*”, Madhukar Mahishi, Mojtaba S. Sadrameli, D. Yogi Goswami, Abstract accepted for 2005 ASME International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition, November 5-11 2005, Orlando, FL
- “H₂ Production by Electrochemical Dissociation of H₂S in IGGC plant”. B. Krakow, E. Weaver, L. Ecklend-Mitchell, E. Stefanakos, G. Moore, M. Smith. An Abstract submitted for a presentation at the Twenty Second Annual International Coal Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, September 12 to 15, 2005.

Hydrogen Safety



- Failure of a prototype membrane leading to mixing of H₂ and oxidant gases, enabling onset of combustion inside device that could spread into laboratory
 - thorough testing of prototype membranes as single components under accelerated conditions before life-testing in fuel cell
 - check valves in gas lines
 - perform initial life tests on single, 25 cm² cells
- Handling reactive chemicals, catalysts, solvents and high pressure gases
- High pressure hydrogen gas regulations
- Methodologies for disposing/deactivating chemicals
- Safety and Risk Management training
- Regular monitoring of lab safety by the EHS&RM officials
- Complying with MSDS data sheet
- H₂/He leak testing with in-built automated alarm system and external leak check procedures
- Trained personnel for the safe operation of high pressure systems, reactive gases and explosive materials
- Standard operating procedures (protocols) establishment and regular maintenance/repair of the equipment

Interactions and Collaborations



- Jim Fletcher, University of North Florida
- Plug Power, Albany NY
- Rick Cooper, Polyfuel
- University of Hawaii, Dept of Chemistry
- Brevard Community College
- Nanomaterials and Nanomanufacturing Center, University of South Florida
- NREL