

# Renewable Energy

- Outline:

## **Hydrogen as an energy vector:**

- 1. Motivation**
- 2. Properties**
- 3. Production**
- 4. Storage**
- 5. Distribution**
- 6. Application**

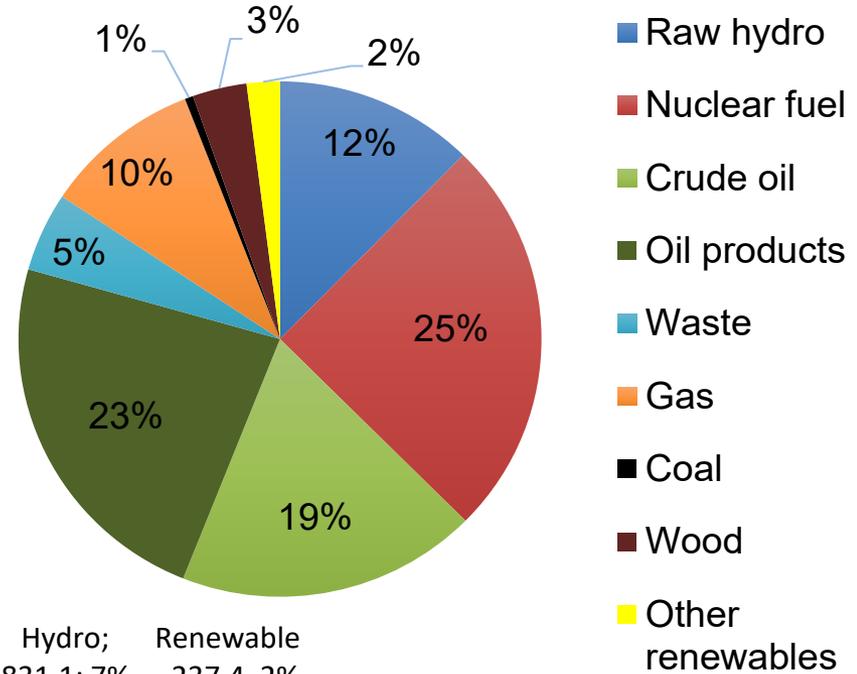
# Learning outcomes of today's lecture

- Hydrogen as an energy vector
  - What is hydrogen and what makes it special
  - Why using hydrogen as an energy vector, alternatives
  - How can hydrogen be generated, how renewable
  - How can hydrogen be stored
  - How can hydrogen be transported/distributed
  - Where and how is hydrogen used as an end product

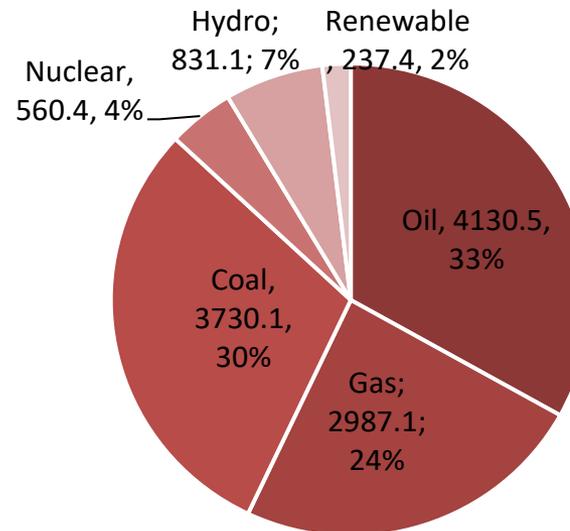
# Motivation

- Current society is largely based on the use of fossil fuels

- Switzerland: 56% (oil, gas, coal)



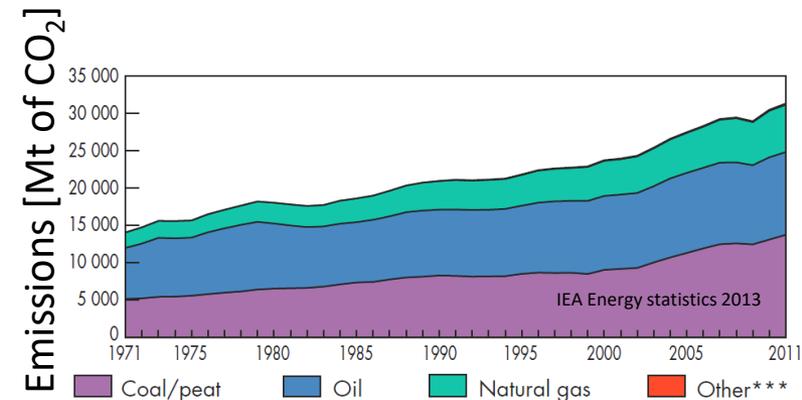
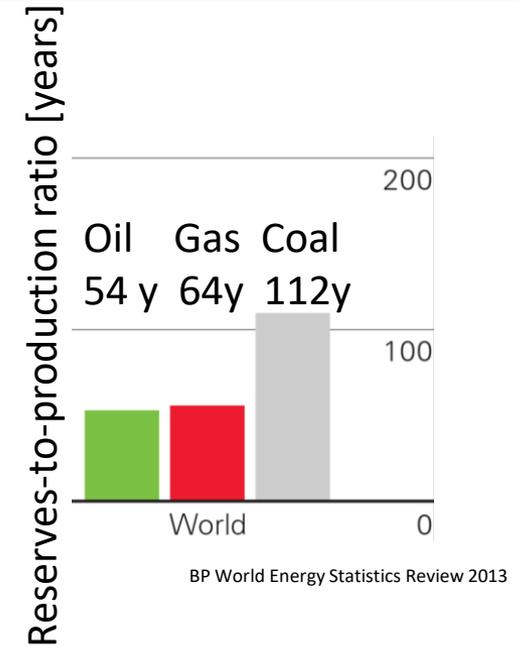
- Global: 87% (oil, coal, gas)



# Motivation

- This is not sustainable:
  - Finite reserves (economy)
  - Pollution and climate change (environment)
    - Emissions: CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, particles, NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, F-gases, heavy metals (Hg, As)
    - Health issues: smog (winter and summer-smog), ozone layer depletion
    - Climate change: temperature, precipitation, snow cover, sea level, etc.\*

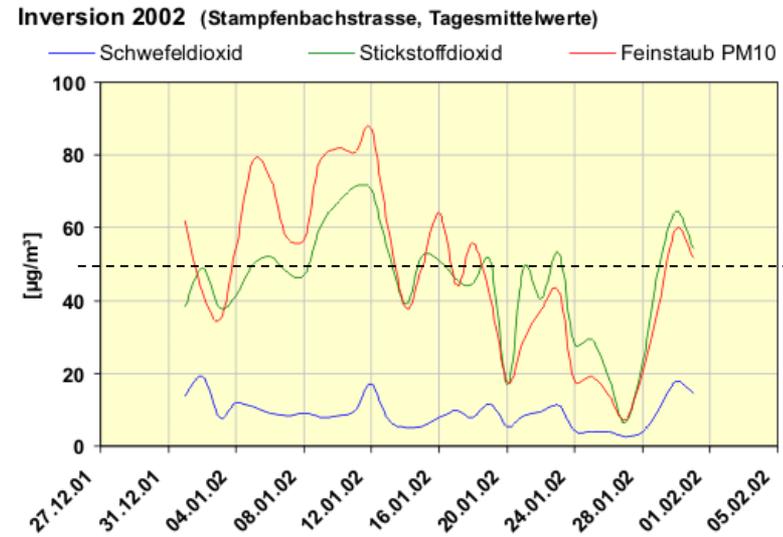
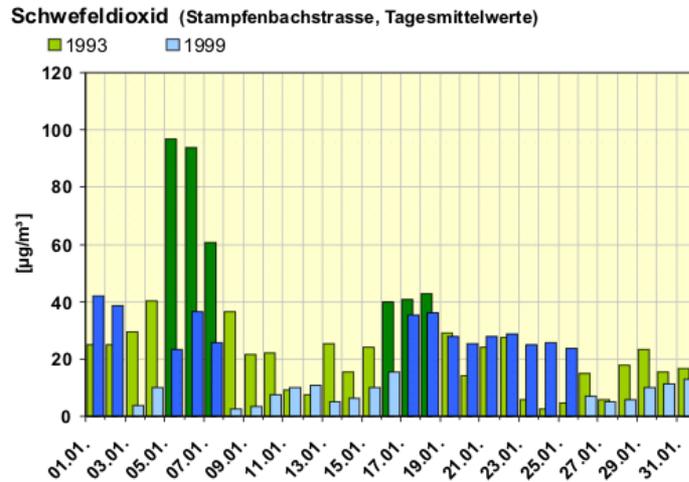
\*See IPCC report:  
<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/>



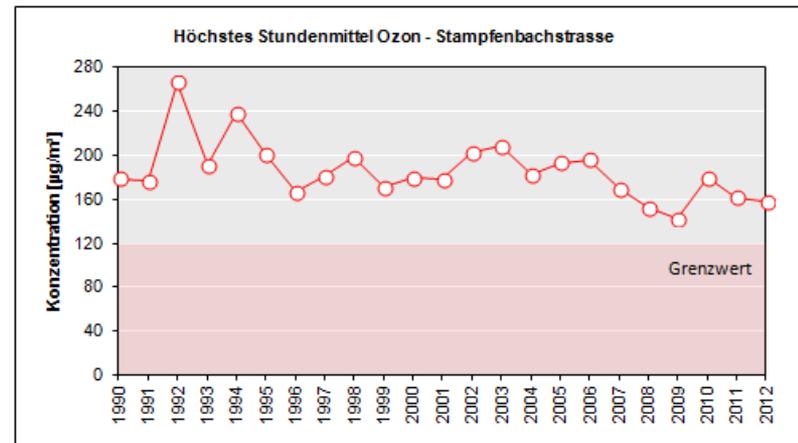
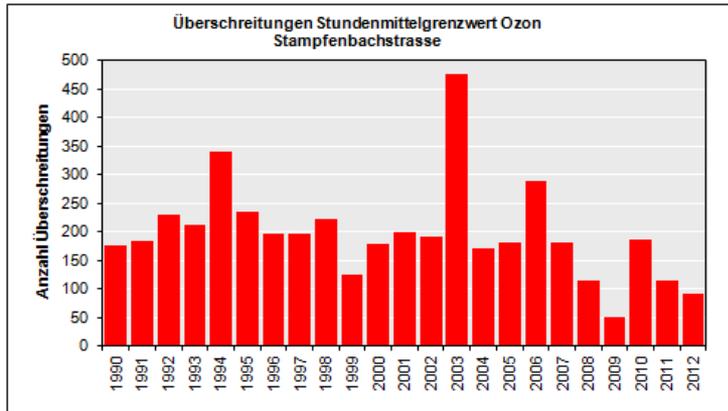
- Geopolitical tensions over resources (security)

# Motivation

- Winter smog in Zürich:



- Summer smog Zürich:



# Motivation

- Increase of renewable energy sources, but issues with
  - Storage
  - Transport, distribution

- Introduction of an energy vector:

*An energy vector allows to transfer, in space and time, a quantity of energy.*

*... energy vectors allow to make energy available for use at a distance of time and space from the source, [independent of] the point of availability of the primary resource in nature.*

Orecchini, The era of energy vectors, IJHE, 31, 2006.

# Motivation

- Various energy vectors:
  - Hydrogen
  - Synthetic fuels
  - Fossil fuels
  - Electricity
  - ...

Table 1  
Energy vectors key attitudes

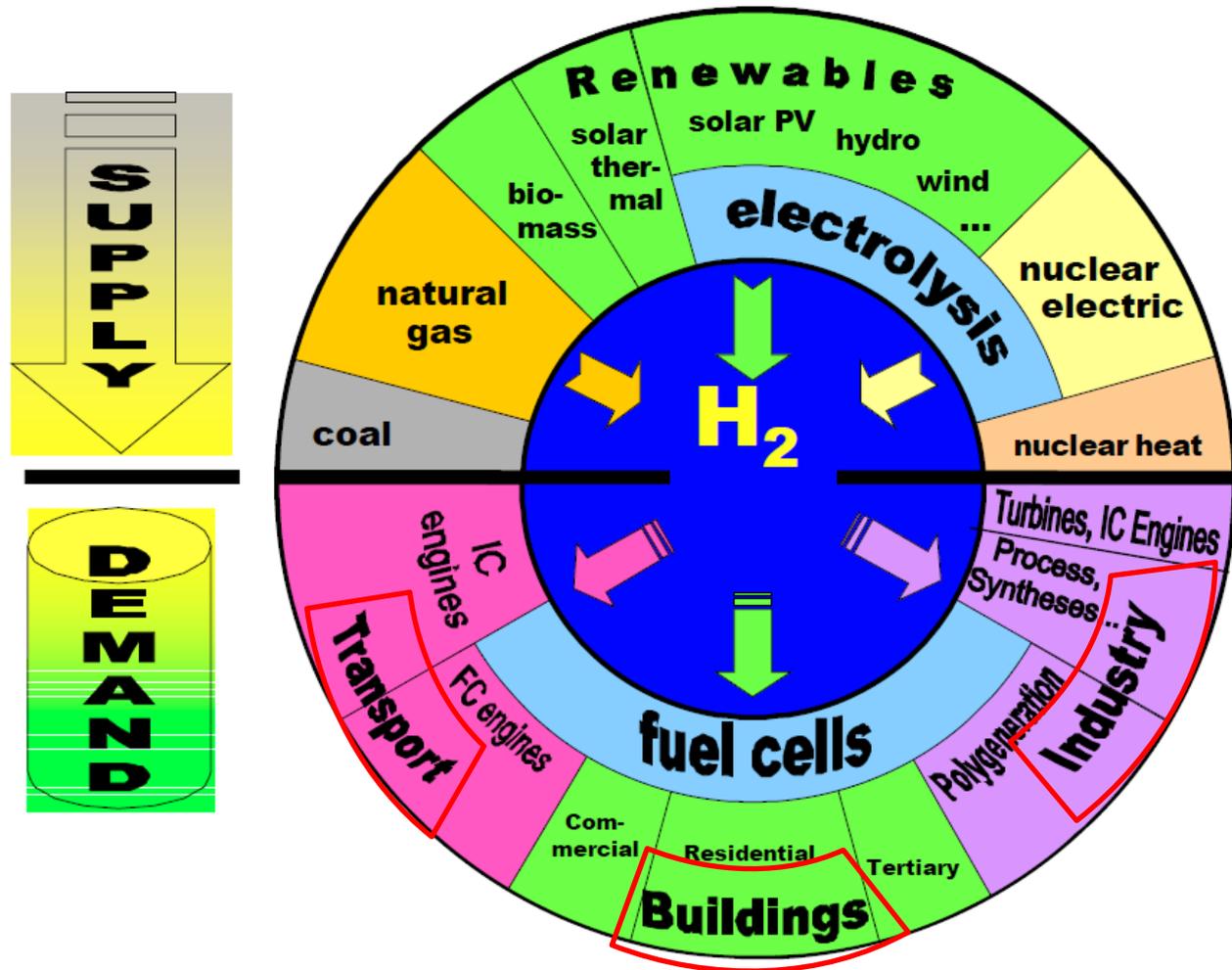
Energy vector	Transfer attitude	Storage attitude
Fossil fuels	Short, medium, long range	Yes, short, medium, long term.
Hydrogen	Short, medium, long range	Yes, short, medium, long term. (Cryogenic exception)
Heat exchanging fluids	Short range	Yes, short term
Electricity	Short and medium range	No (indirect methods)
Mechanical, oil-dynamic and pressure-dynamic transmissions	Short range	Yes
Radiation	Very long range in space Short range in atmosphere	No

Orecchini, The era of energy vectors, IJHE, 31, 2006.

# Motivation

- Hydrogen has been identified as a possible energy vector and alternative to hydrocarbon-based fuels:
  - Sustainable and environmentally acceptable (produced from water, production/storage/transport can be almost GHG and pollutant free)
  - Independent from crude oil
  - Available from different energy sources
  - Storable in gas, liquid, or metal-hydride form
  - Alternative production technologies
  - Versatile conversion (can be converted in variety of other forms) and application
  - Efficient direct conversion to/from electricity via fuel cells/electrolyzer
  - Almost pollutant free combustion (only NO<sub>x</sub>)
  - Large market potential

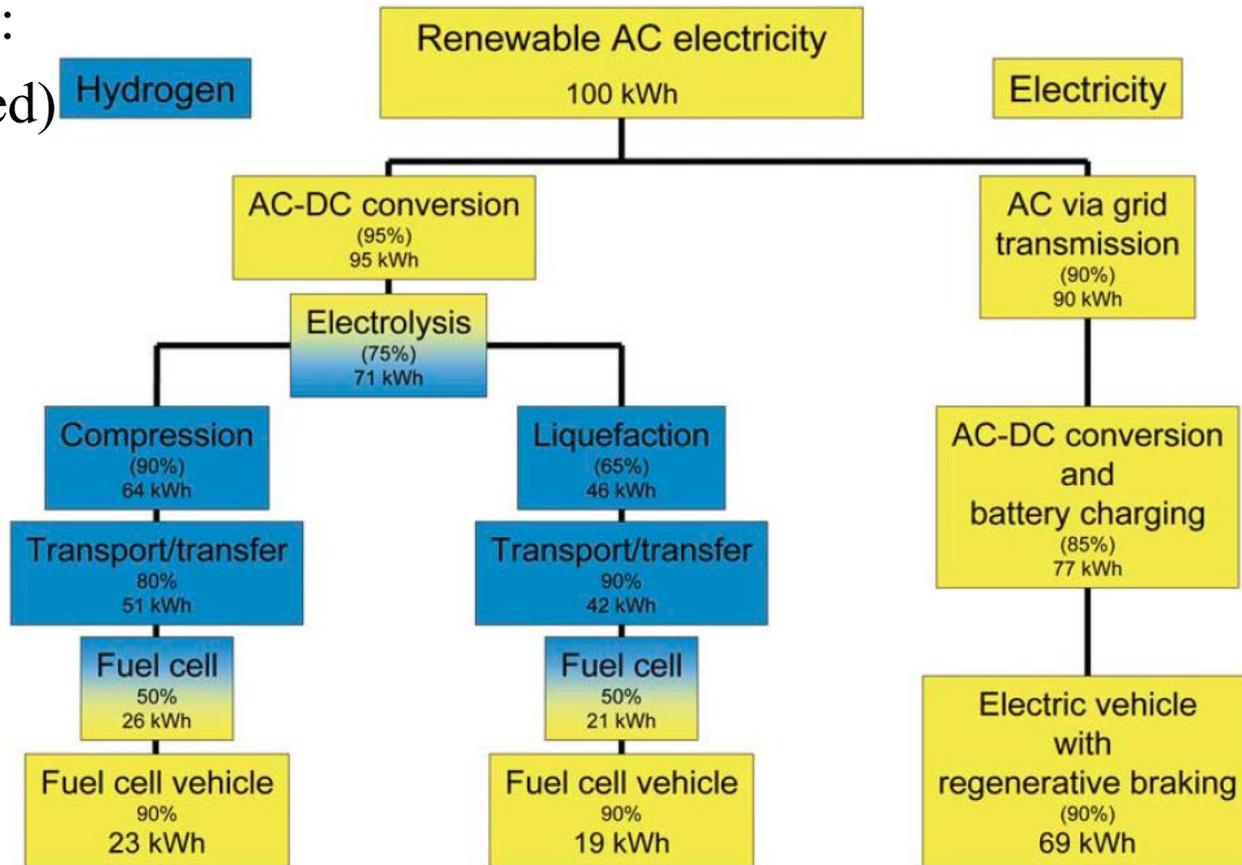
# Motivation



- Hydrogen is an energy carrier not an energy source!

# Motivation

- Hydrogen vs. electricity:  
(both renewably produced)



Bossel, Does a hydrogen economy make sense?, Proceedings of the IEEE, vol. 94, no. 10, October 2006.

- But:
  - Charging time of batteries, reliability, range, weight, toxicity
  - Versatility of electricity limited (hydrogen can also be used in ICE, or as chemical commodity)

# Renewable Energy

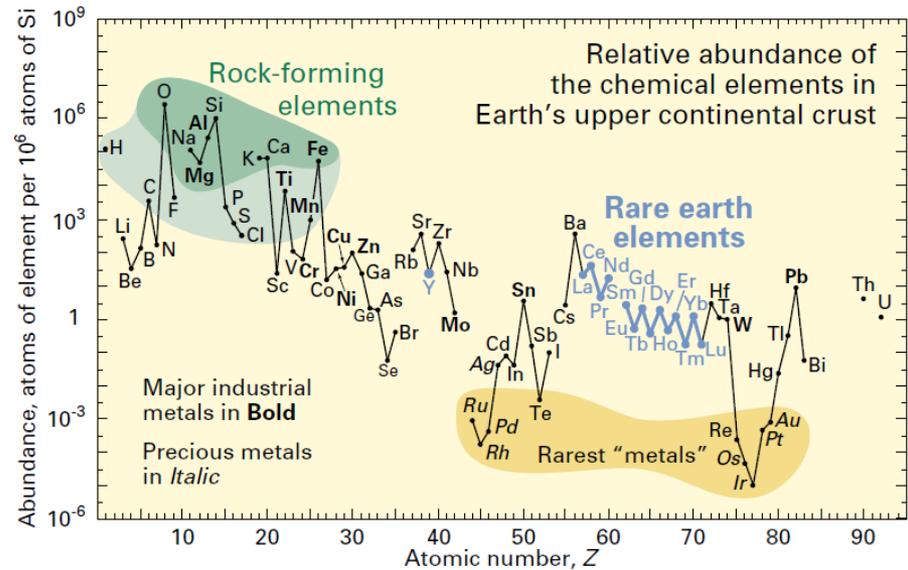
- Outline:

## **Hydrogen as an energy vector:**

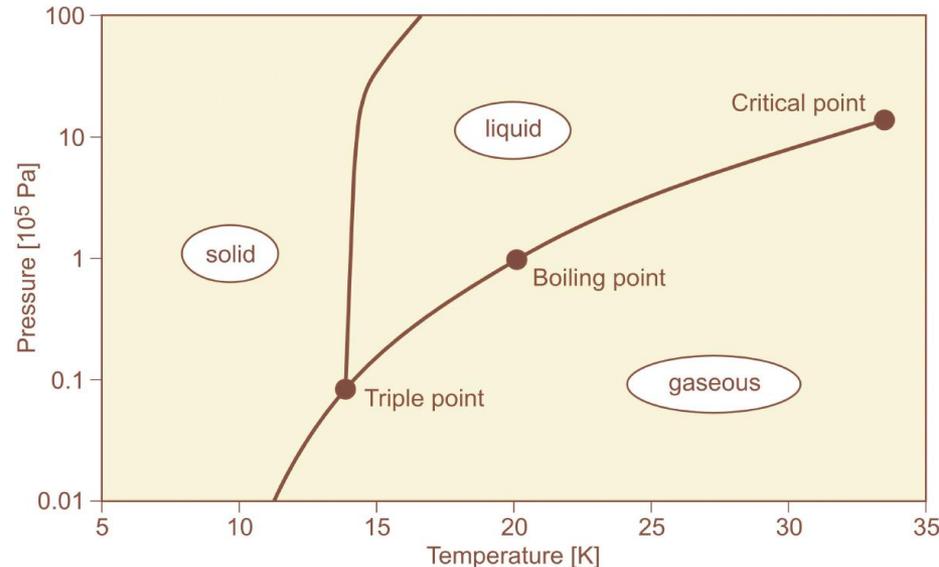
- 1. Motivation**
- 2. Properties**
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# Hydrogen properties

- Lightest, most abundant element
  - 90 wt% of the universe
  - 4th most abundant on earth (highly reactive - mainly found in water and hydrocarbons)
- Colorless, odorless, tasteless
- Non-toxic and non-corrosive
- Low viscosity ( $0.89 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s}$  @ 293 K, 1 atm)
- Low density ( $0.08345 \text{ kg/m}^3$  @ 293 K, 1 atm)
- Gaseous to 20 K (-253 °C)



US Geological Survey, Fact sheet, 2002.

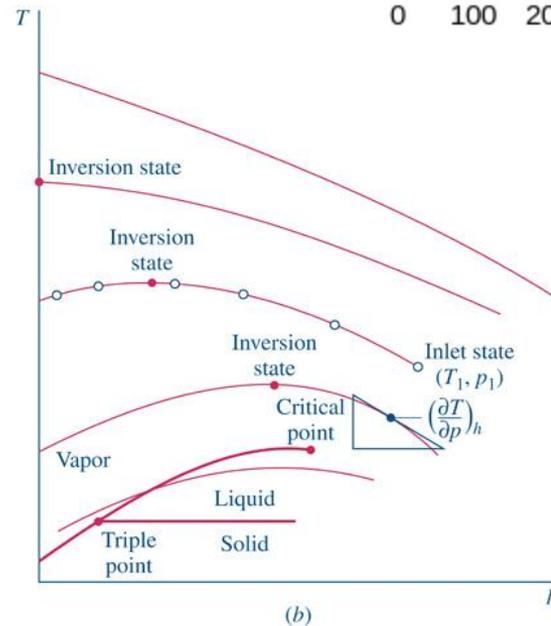
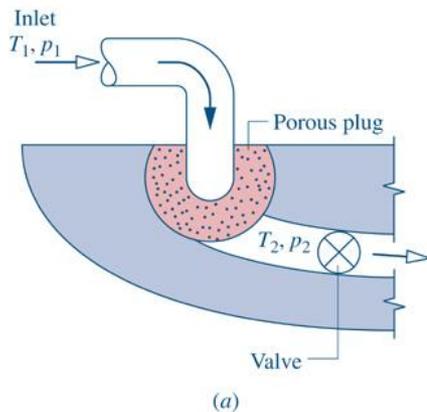
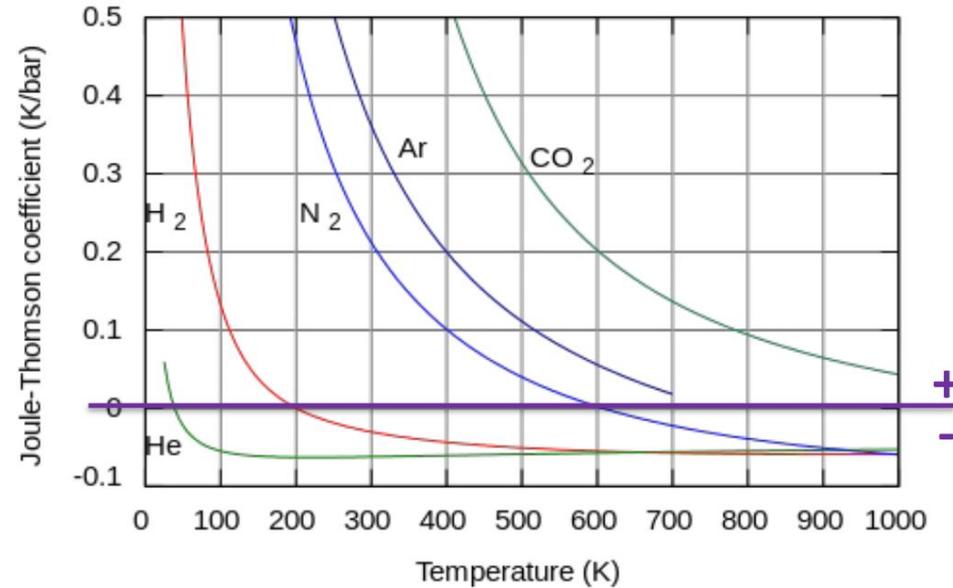


# Hydrogen properties

- Negative Joule-Thompson coefficient above inversion (inversion 193 K):

$$\mu_J = \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial p} \right)_h$$

- Determined experimentally in
- an enthalpic expansion process

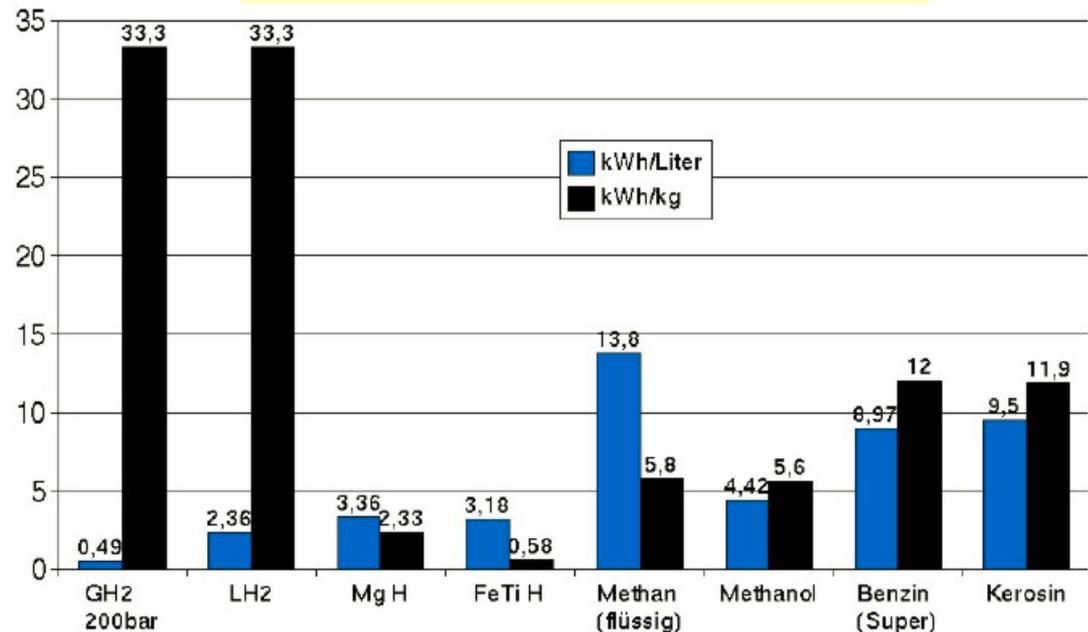


# Hydrogen properties

- Highly diffusive (diffusion coeff.  $0.61 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ ): rapid mixing
- High solubility: leads to steel embrittlement, enhanced with higher pressure and temperature

- Most energy per unit mass:

- Hydrogen: 120 MJ/kg
- Biomass 18 MJ/kg
- Gasoline 43 MJ/kg



# Hydrogen properties

- Safety:
  - Light: rises quickly and disperses
  - High diffusivity: less easy built up of flammable mixtures
  - Small and low viscosity: easily leaks and doesn't accumulate but can also diffuse in metals and embrittle them
  - Small volumetric energy density: holds less energy than gasoline
  - Concentration limits of flammable fuel/air mixture 5-76 vol% (gasoline 1-7 vol%)
  - Autoignition temperature 853 K (gasoline 533 K)
  - Non-toxic
  - Odorless: odorants such as thiole (  $\text{R}-\text{S}_{\text{H}}$  ) can be added (already done for natural gas)

# Hydrogen properties

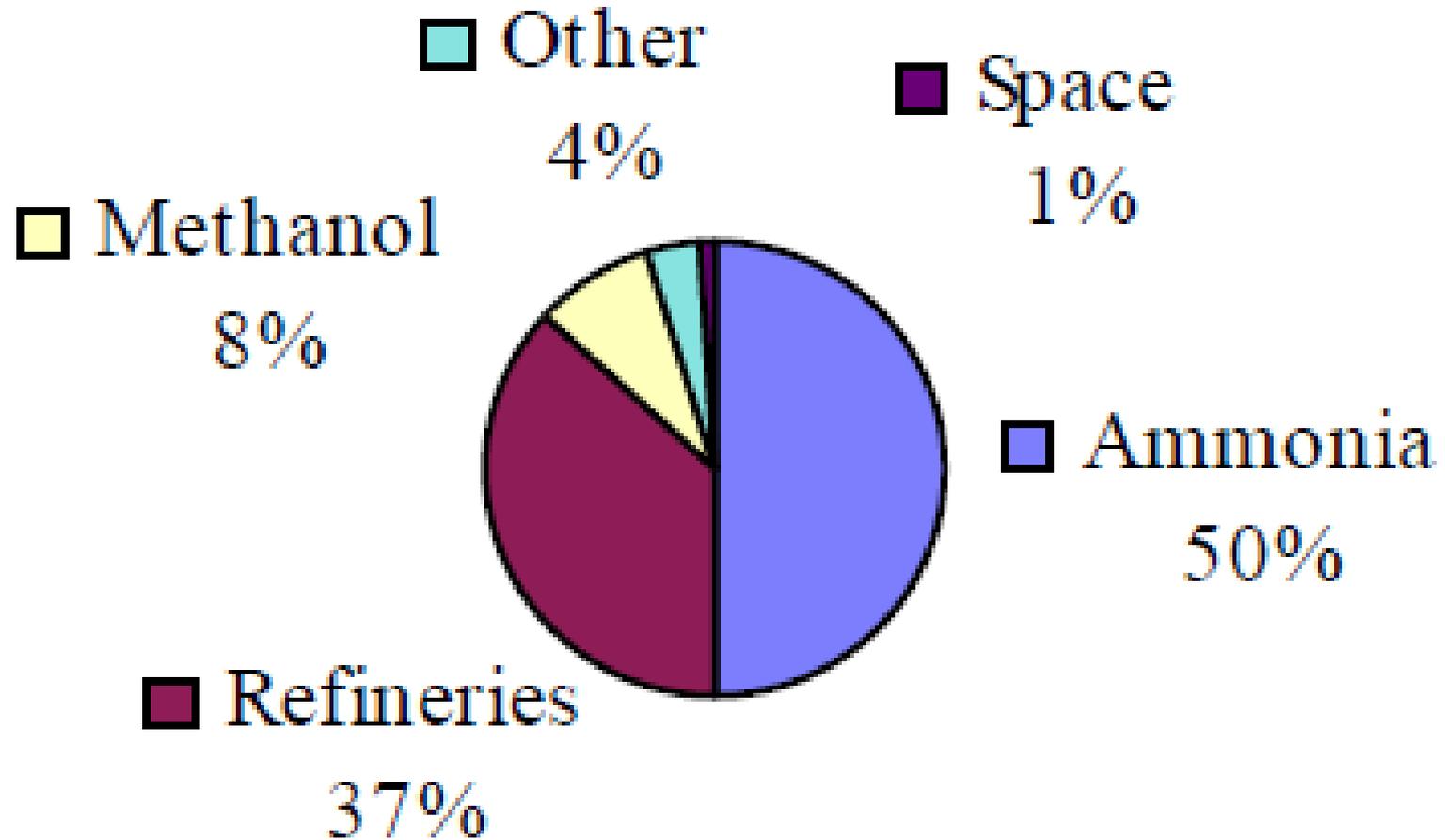
- Properties in comparison to other gases and liquids:

Property	Hydrogen	Methane	Propane	Gasoline
Molecular weight (u)	2.02	16.04	44.06	~107
Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> ) at normal conditions	0.084	0.651	1.87	4.4
Buoyancy (density with respect to air)	0.07	0.55	1.52	3.4 to 4.0
Diffusion coefficient (cm <sup>2</sup> /s)	0.61	0.16	0.12	0.05
Lean flammability limit in air (% by volume)	4.1	5.3	2.1	1.0
Rich flammability limit in air (% by volume)	75	15	10	7.8
Minimum ignition energy (mJ)	0.02	0.29	0.26	0.24
Minimum self-ignition energy (K)	858	813	760	501 to 744
Lean detonability limit in air (% by volume)	18	6.3	3.1	1.1
Rich detonability limit in air (% by volume)	59	13.5	7.0	3.3
Explosion energy (kg equivalent TNT per m <sup>3</sup> of vapor)	2.02	7.02	20.2	44.2

^ Selected physical properties of hydrogen, methane, propane and gasoline.

# Hydrogen use

- Current yearly world production ~75 mio tons and used for:



# Renewable Energy

- Outline:

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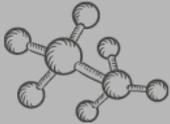
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# Colors of Hydrogen

## Grey Hydrogen

Process:  
Steam Reforming

Source:  
Natural Gas



## Blue Hydrogen

Process:  
Steam Reforming  
With Carbon Capture

Source:  
Natural Gas



## Green Hydrogen

Process:  
Electrolysis

Source:  
Renewable  
Energies



## Black Hydrogen

Process:  
Gasification

Source:  
Coal



## Pink Hydrogen

Process:  
Electrolysis

Source:  
Nuclear  
Energy



## Turquoise Hydrogen

Process:  
Pyrolysis

Source:  
Natural  
Gas



## Yellow Hydrogen

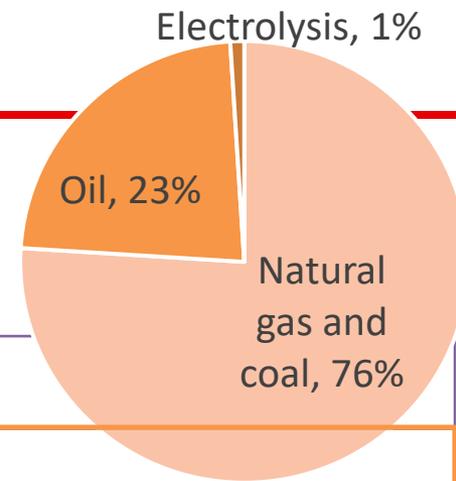
Process:  
Electrolysis

Source:  
Solar  
Energy



# Production

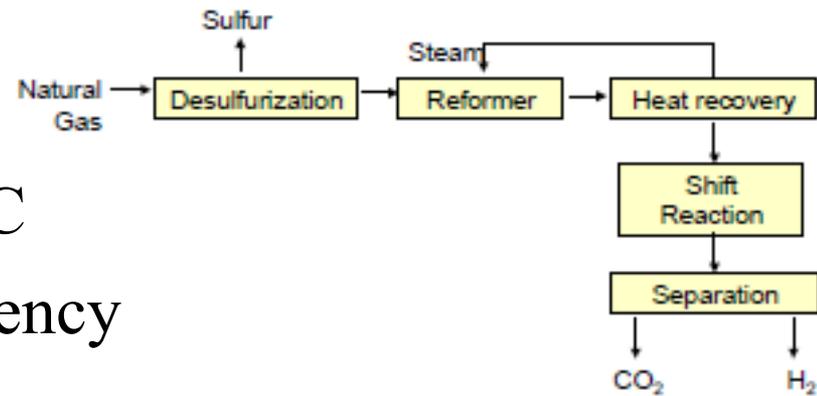
- Production of hydrogen:



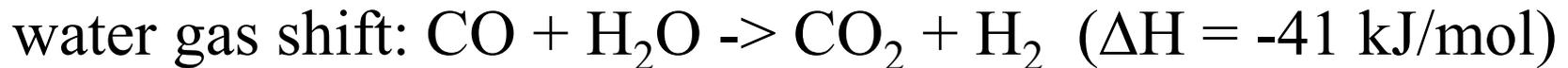
Technology	Hydrogen source	Energy source
Steam reforming	Natural gas	Combustion, solar
Gasification	Coal, carbonaceous material, biomass	Combustion, solar
Thermal cracking	Natural gas, oil	Combustion, solar
Thermal dissociation	Water	Solar
Thermochemical cycles	Water	Solar, nuclear
Photoelectrochemical	Water	Solar
Electrolysis	Water	Electricity from renewable, nuclear, fossil

# Production

- Steam reforming: uses light hydrocarbon feedstock, usually methane, reacts it at elevated temperatures with steam and catalytically converts the feed into hydrogen

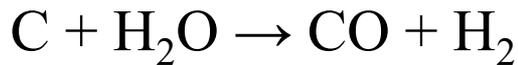


- Operates around 700 – 925°C
- Can achieve 65 – 75% efficiency



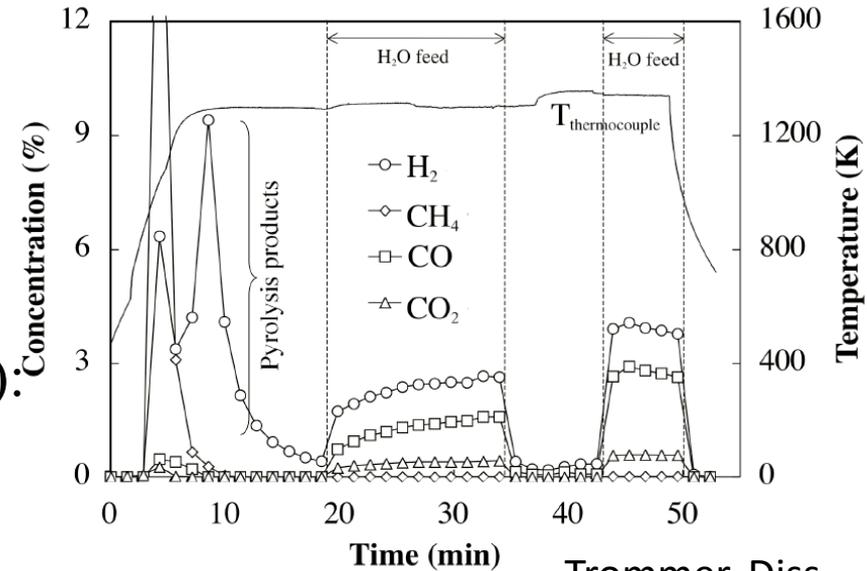
# Production

- Gasification: uses carbonaceous materials, reacts it at high temperatures ( $>700\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), without combustion, with a controlled amount of steam, oxygen, and/or  $\text{CO}_2$ . Results in  $\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{H}_2$ , and  $\text{CO}_2$ .



– Consists of (sequential or simultaneous):

- Dehydration
- Pyrolysis (thermal decomposition in the absence of  $\text{O}_2$ , devolatilization)
- Gasification (heterogeneous gas-solid reaction of pyrolysis residue with reactive gas)
- Combustion
- Water-gas-shift



Trommer, Diss  
ETH, 2006.

# Production

- Thermal cracking: complex organic molecules such as heavy hydrocarbons are broken down into simpler molecules such as light hydrocarbons, by the breaking of carbon-carbon bonds in the precursors at high temperatures and by using catalysts

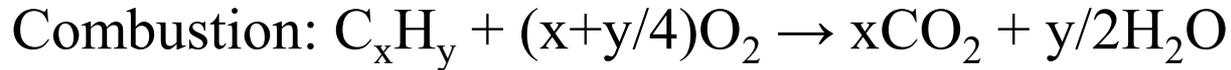


# Production

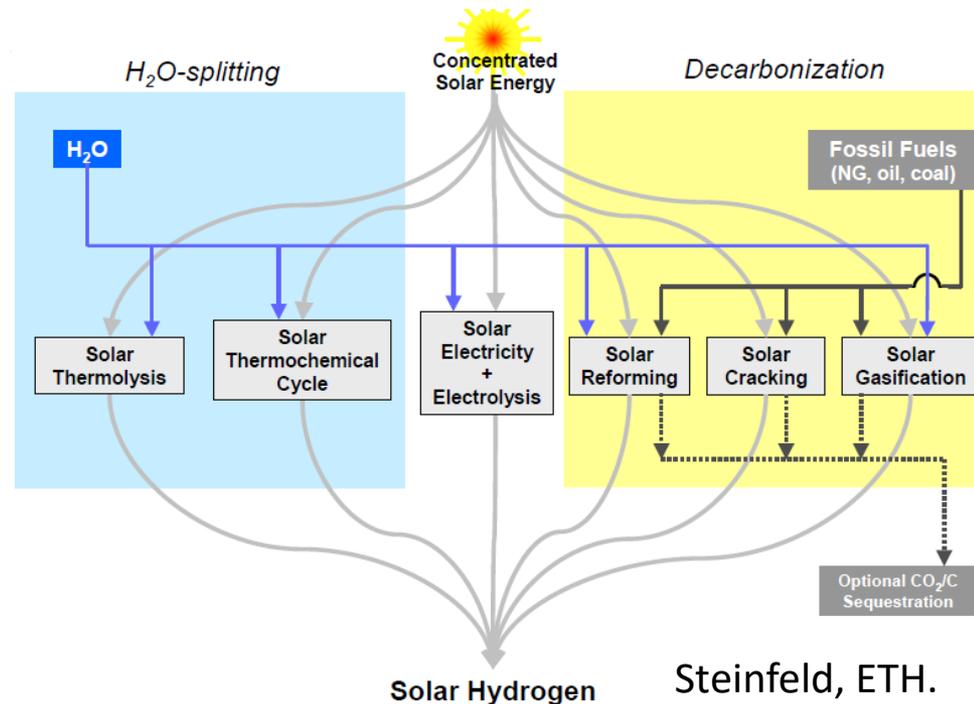
- Hydrogen derived from fossil fuels has many impurities:
  - From combustion:  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{N}_2$
  - From the feedstock: sulfur
- Purification:
  - Desulfurization for gaseous feedstock: calcium-based slurries ( $\text{SO}_2$  to sulfites and sulfates)
  - Desulfurization from solid/liquid feedstock: via catalysts into  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$
  - $\text{CO}_2$  removal:
    - temperature swing adsorption (solubility variation of  $\text{CO}_2$  with temperature)
    - pressure swing adsorption (pressure dependent absorption of e.g. zeolites)
    - special membranes (cellulose)
  - $\text{CO}$  removal from  $\text{H}_2$  mixture: Hydrogen-permeable membranes made of metals (palladium)

# Production

- Heat for steam reforming, gasification, or cracking can be produced via:
  - Autothermal processes (partial combustion of the feedstock)

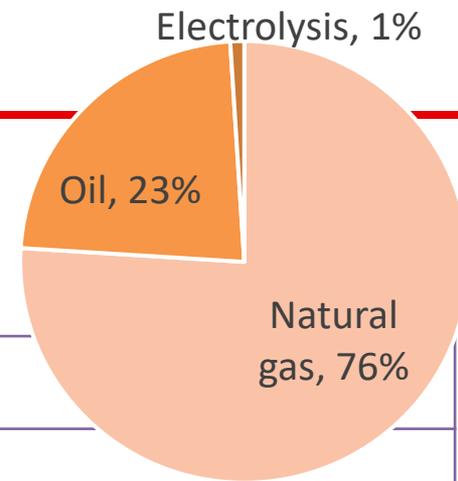


- Any other heat source such as solar or nuclear:



# Production

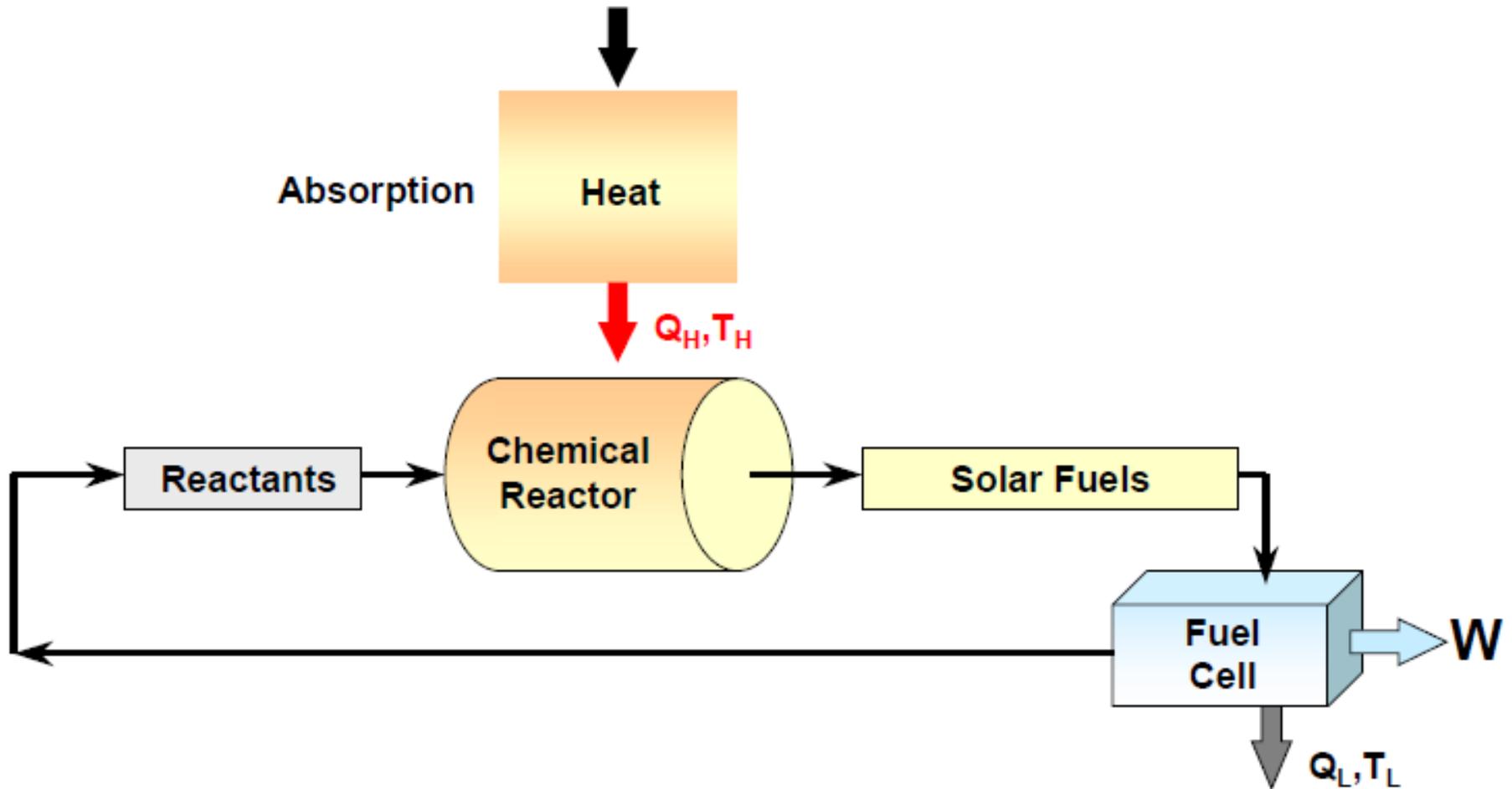
- Production of hydrogen:



Technology	Hydrogen source	Energy source
Steam reforming	Natural gas	Combustion, solar
Gasification	Coal, carbonaceous material, biomass	Combustion, solar
Thermal cracking	Natural gas, oil	Combustion, solar
Thermal dissociation	Water	Solar
Thermochemical cycles	Water	Solar, nuclear
Photoelectrochemical	Water	Solar
Electrolysis	Water	Electricity from renewable, nuclear, fossil

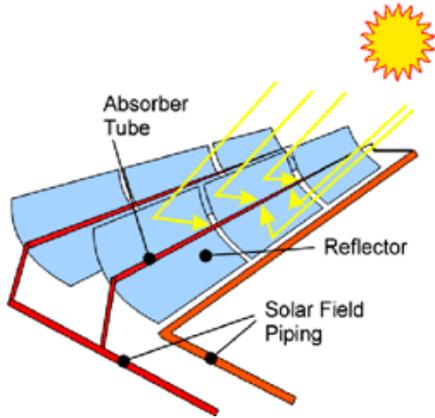
# Production

- Thermal and thermochemical approaches:

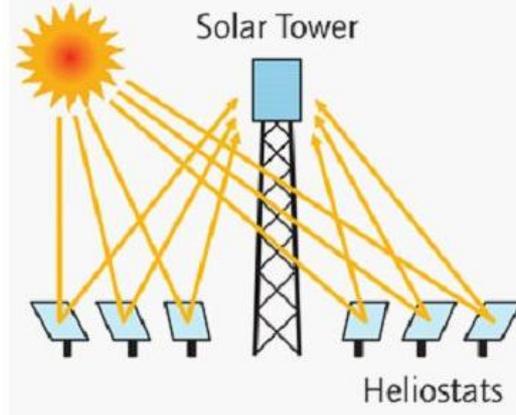


# Production

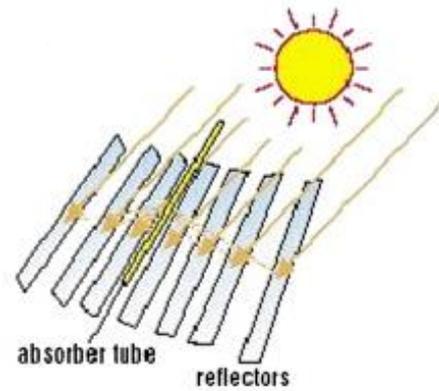
- Thermochemical cycles – solar: concentrating technologies



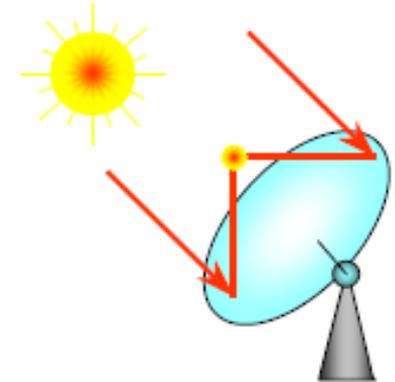
Parabolic through



Solar tower



Fresnel

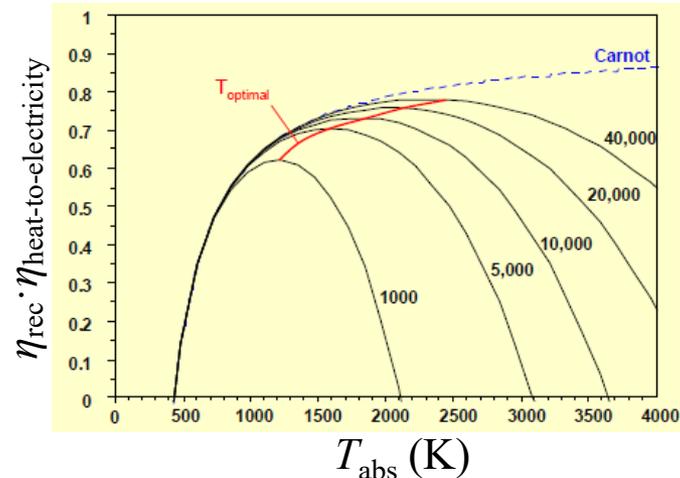


Dish

- Temperatures reachable:

$$\eta_{\text{rec}} = \frac{q_{\text{use}}}{q_{\text{sol,in}}} = \frac{q_{\text{use}}}{CI} = \alpha - \sigma\varepsilon \frac{T_{\text{abs}}^4 - T_{\text{amb}}^4}{CI}$$

$$\eta_{\text{heat-to-electricity}} = \frac{T_{\text{abs}} - T_{\text{amb}}}{T_{\text{abs}}}$$

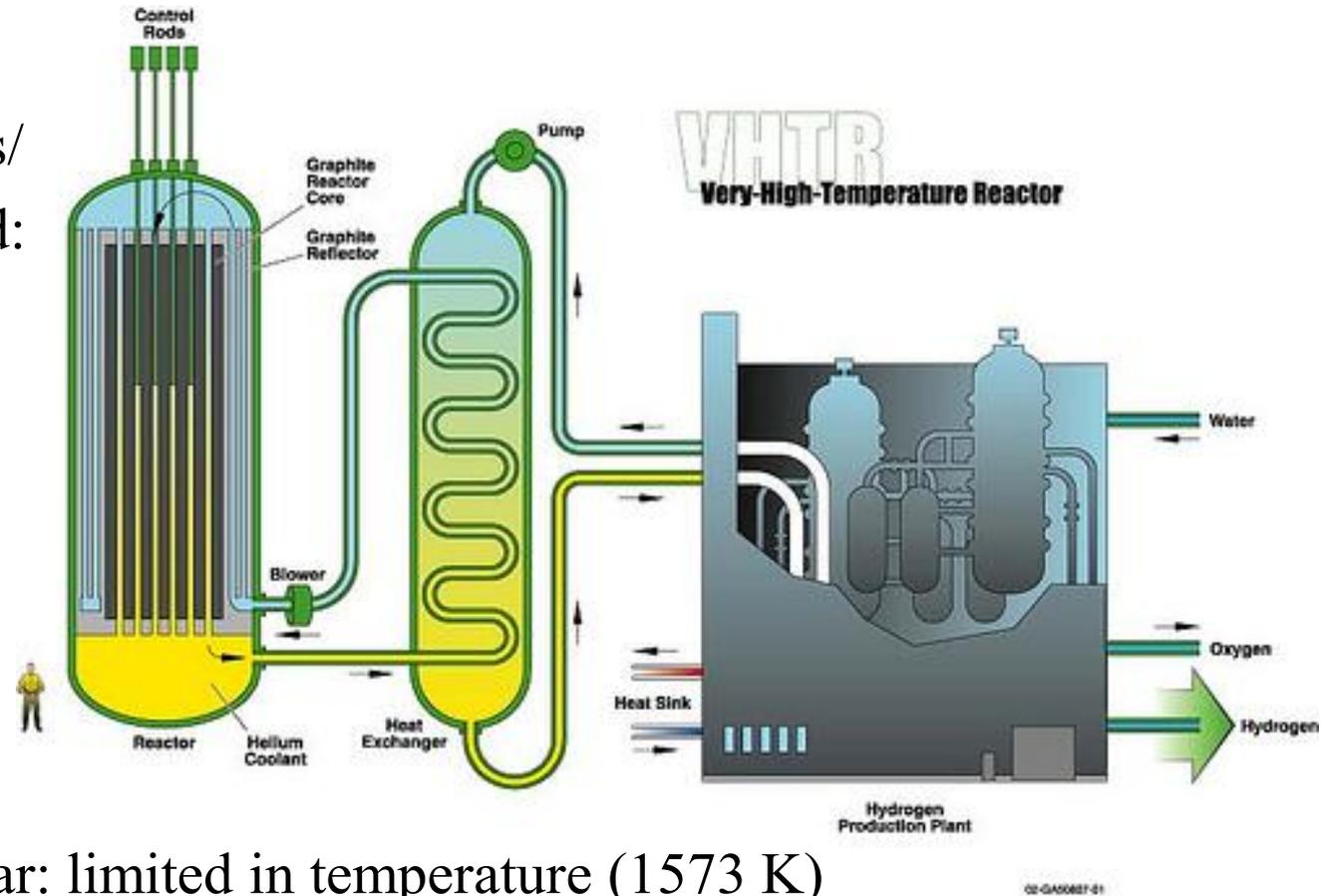


# Production

- Thermochemical cycles – nuclear:

- Possible coolants/  
heat transfer fluid:

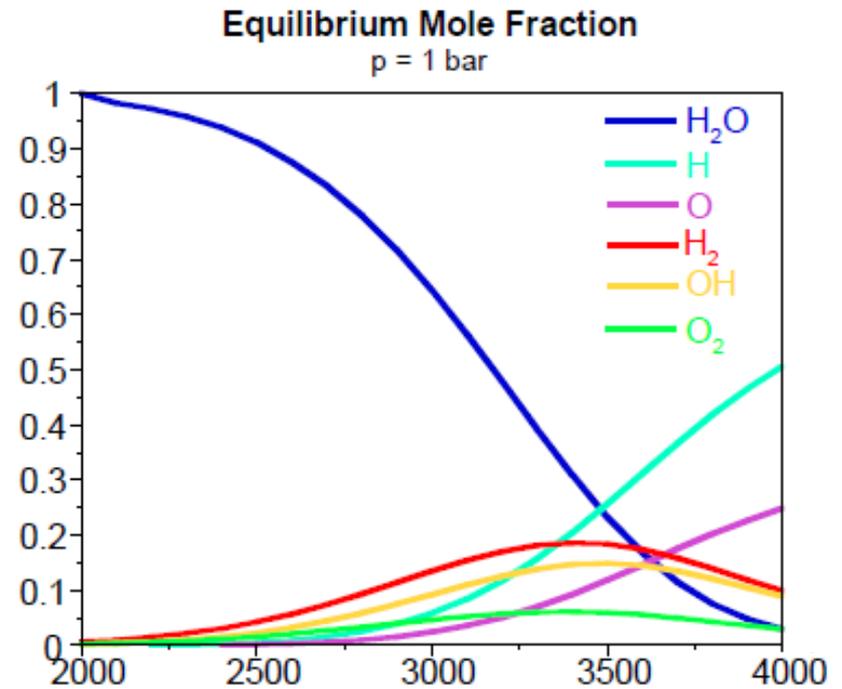
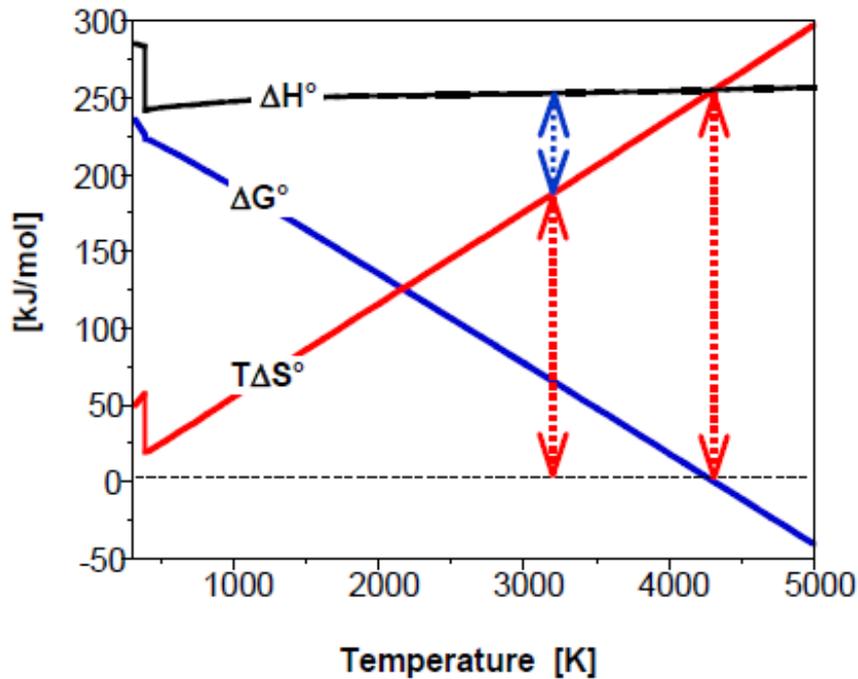
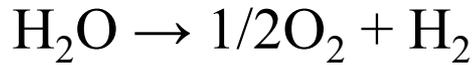
- Molten-salt
- Gases (e.g. He)
- Heavy metals



- Compared to solar: limited in temperature (1573 K)

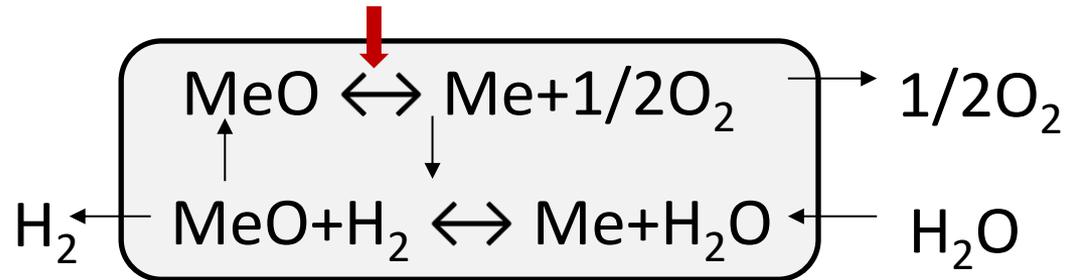
# Production

- Thermal dissociation:

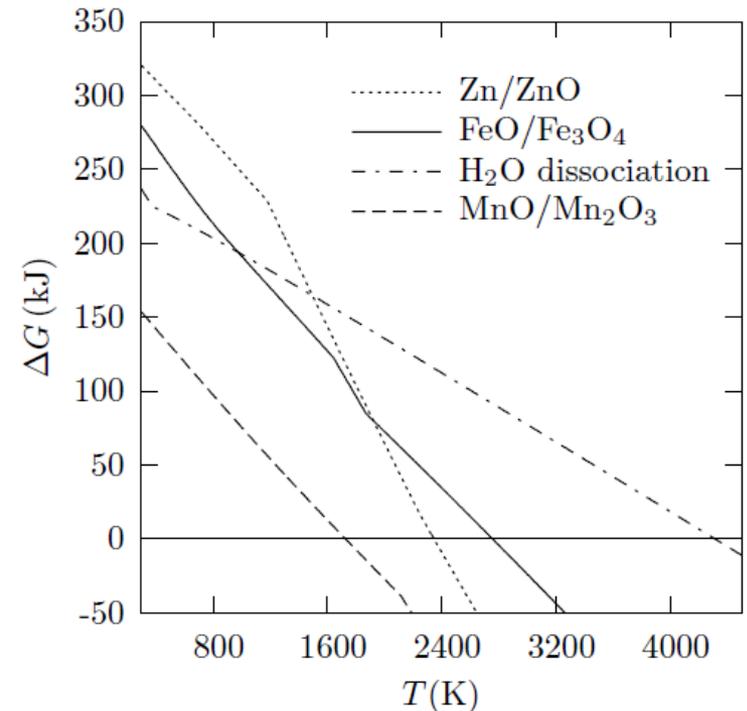


# Production

- Multi-step water-splitting cycles



- reduce required temperatures
- omit explosive  $\text{H}_2/\text{O}_2$  mixture



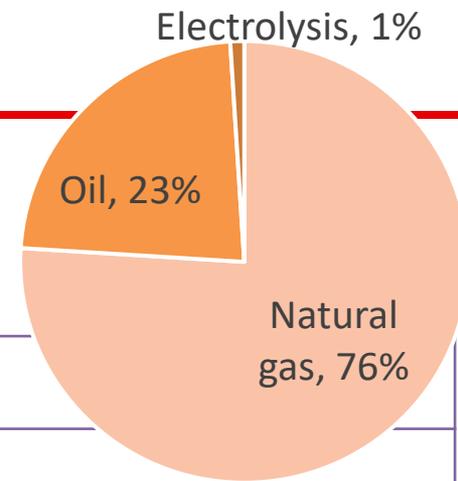
# Production

- Possible redox pairs for two-step cycles:

Cycle	Reactions	Cycle	Reactions
Zn/ZnO	$\text{ZnO} \rightarrow \text{Zn} + \text{O}_2$ $\text{Zn} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{ZnO} + \text{H}_2$	SoO <sub>2</sub> /SiO	$\text{SiO}_2 \rightarrow \text{SiO} + 1/2 \text{O}_2$ $\text{SiO} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{SiO}_2 + \text{H}_2$
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /FeO	$\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4 \rightarrow 3 \text{FeO} + 1/2 \text{O}_2$ $3 \text{FeO} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4 + \text{H}_2$	W/WO <sub>3</sub>	$\text{WO}_3 \rightarrow \text{W} + 3/2 \text{O}_2$ $\text{W} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{WO}_3 + 3\text{H}_2$
In <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> /In <sub>2</sub> O	$\text{In}_2\text{O}_3 \rightarrow \text{In}_2\text{O} + 1/2 \text{O}_2$ $\text{In}_2\text{O} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{In}_2\text{O}_3 + 2\text{H}_2$	Hg/HgO	$\text{Hg} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{HgO} + \text{H}_2$ $\text{HgO} \rightarrow \text{Hg} + 1/2 \text{O}_2$
SnO <sub>2</sub> /Sn	$\text{SnO}_2 \rightarrow \text{Sn} + \text{O}_2$ $\text{Sn} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{SnO}_2 + 2\text{H}_2$	Cd/CdO	$\text{Cd} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{CdO} + \text{H}_2$ $\text{CdO} \rightarrow \text{Cd} + 1/2 \text{O}_2$
MnO/MnSO <sub>4</sub>	$\text{MnSO}_4 \rightarrow \text{MnO} + \text{SO}_2 + 1/2 \text{O}_2$ $\text{MnO} + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{SO}_2 \rightarrow \text{MnSO}_4 + \text{H}_2$	CO/CO <sub>2</sub>	$\text{CO} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2$ $\text{CO}_2 \rightarrow \text{CO} + 1/2 \text{O}_2$
FeO/FeSO <sub>4</sub>	$\text{FeSO}_4 \rightarrow \text{FeO} + \text{SO}_2 + 1/2 \text{O}_2$ $\text{FeO} + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{SO}_2 \rightarrow \text{FeSO}_4 + \text{H}_2$	Ce <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> /CeO <sub>2</sub>	$\text{CeO}_2 \rightarrow \text{Ce}_2\text{O}_3$ $\text{Ce}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 2\text{CeO}_2 + \text{H}_2$
CoO/CoSO <sub>4</sub>	$\text{CoSO}_4 \rightarrow \text{CoO} + \text{SO}_2 + 1/2 \text{O}_2$ $\text{CoO} + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{SO}_2 \rightarrow \text{CoSO}_4 + \text{H}_2$	Mg/MgO	$\text{MgO} \rightarrow \text{Mg} + 1/2 \text{O}_2$ $\text{Mg} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{MgO} + \text{H}_2$
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /FeCl <sub>2</sub>	$\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4 + 6\text{HCl} \rightarrow 3\text{FeCl}_2 + 3\text{H}_2\text{O} + 1/2 \text{O}_2$ $3\text{FeCl}_2 + 4\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4 + 6\text{HCl} + \text{H}_2$	SnO/SnO <sub>2</sub>	$\text{SnO}_2 \rightarrow \text{SnO} + 1/2 \text{O}_2$ $\text{SnO} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{SnO}_2 + \text{H}_2$
Mo/Mo <sub>2</sub>	$\text{MoO}_2 \rightarrow \text{Mo} + \text{O}_2$ $\text{Mo} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{MoO}_2 + 2\text{H}_2$		

# Production

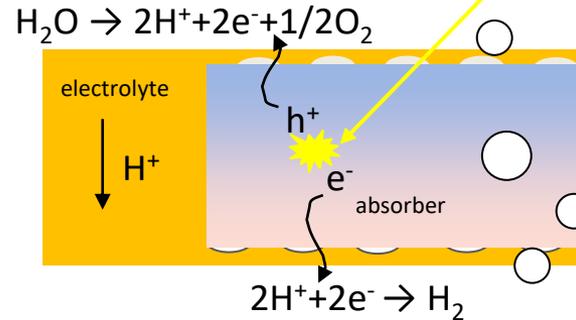
- Production of hydrogen:



Technology	Hydrogen source	Energy source
Steam reforming	Natural gas	Combustion, solar
Gasification	Coal, carbonaceous material, biomass	Combustion, solar
Thermal cracking	Natural gas, oil	Combustion, solar
Thermal dissociation	Water	Solar
Thermochemical cycles	Water	Solar, nuclear
Photoelectrochemical	Water	Solar
Electrolysis	Water	Electricity from renewable, nuclear, fossil

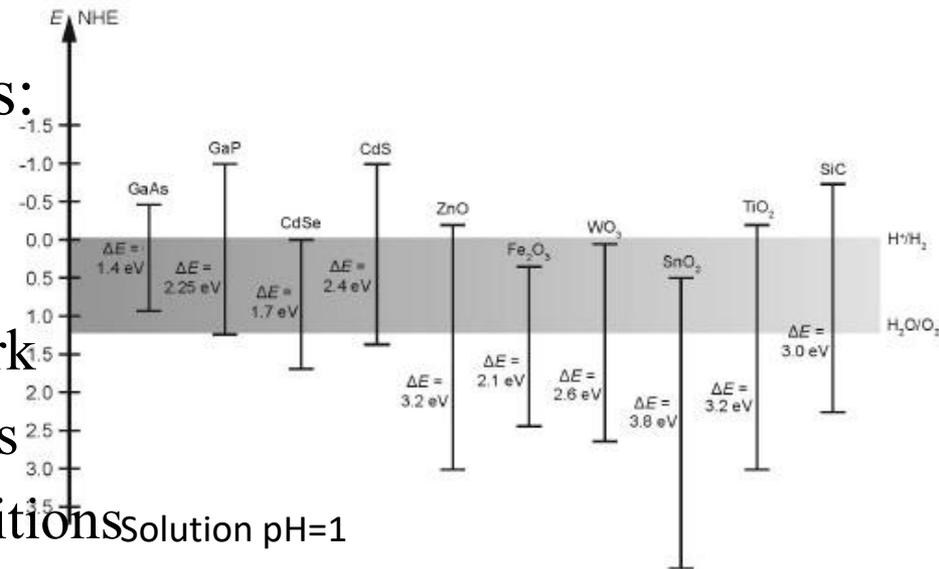
# Production

- Photoelectrochemical:



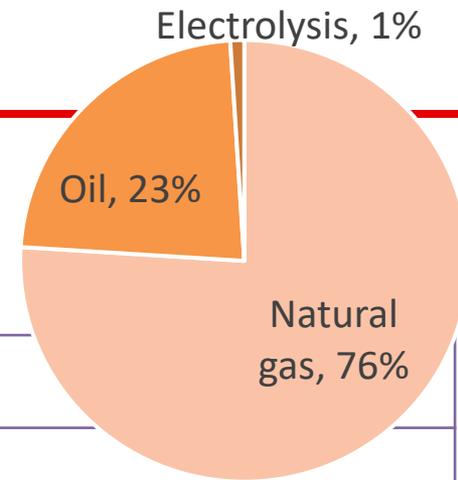
- Stringent material requirements:

- band gap size
- suitable band edge position
- high chemical stability in the dark and under illumination, as well as under highly acidic or base conditions
- efficient charge transport in the semiconductor
- selective and efficient electrochemical reactions
- earth-abundance and low costs



# Production

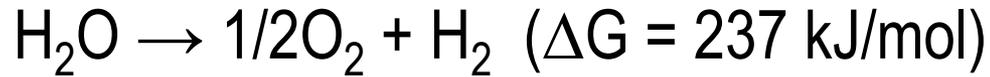
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Electrolysis	Water	Electricity from renewable, nuclear, fossil

# Production

- Electrolysis, e.g. SPE



- At standard conditions (25 °C and 1bar)

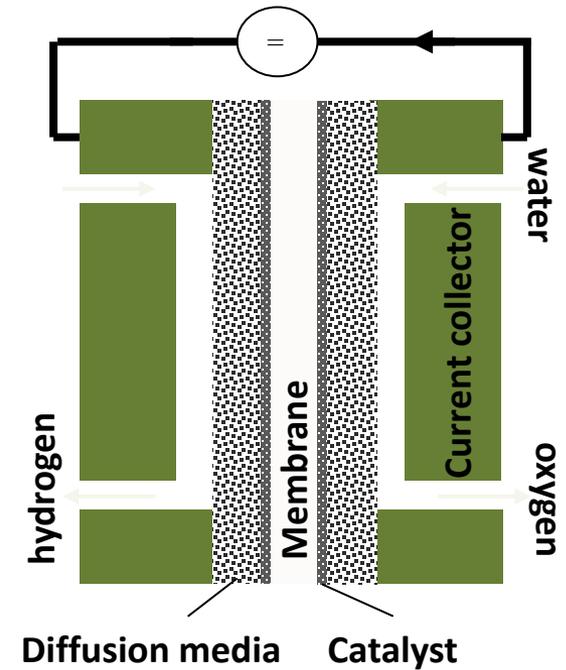
$$\Delta G = nFV_{rev} \rightarrow V_{rev} = \Delta G / (nF) = 1.23V$$

- Practical:

$$V = V_{rev} + \eta_a + |\eta_c| + \eta_\Omega$$

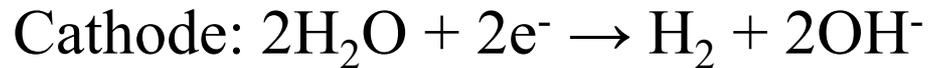
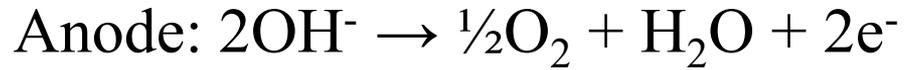
Overpotential due to electrochemical reactions and ohmic losses

$$\eta_{a,c} = a + b \log(i) \quad \text{Tafel relation}$$



# Production

- Alkaline electrolyzer: uses high pH electrolytes (KOH, NaOH)



NEL-Hydrogen: 50-485 Nm<sup>3</sup> H<sub>2</sub>/h  
25% KOH aqueous solution, 80°C

# Production

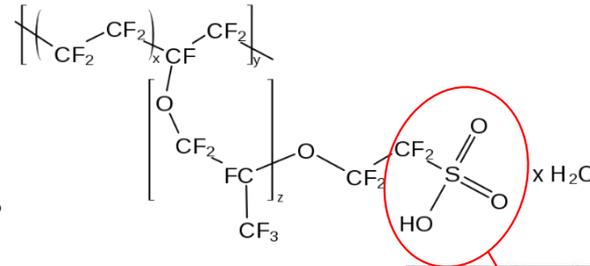
- Solid polymer electrolyzer: polymeric electrolyte

PEM fuel cell:



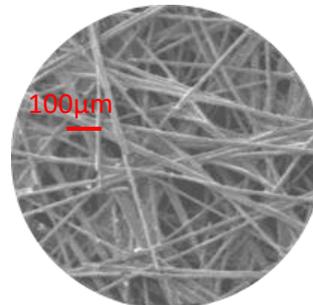
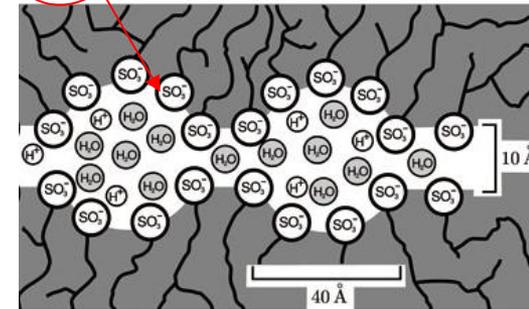
- Sulfonated tetrafluoroethylene:

- Semi-permeable for products
- Withstand large pressure differentials
- Proton conducting (10 S/m)
- Not conducting for electrons



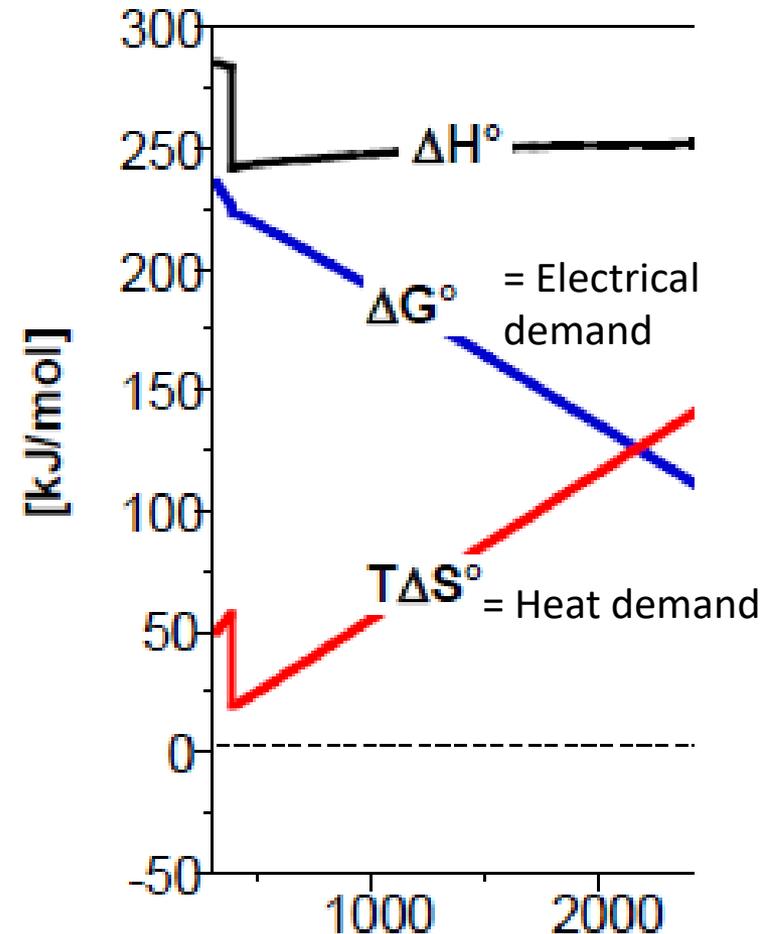
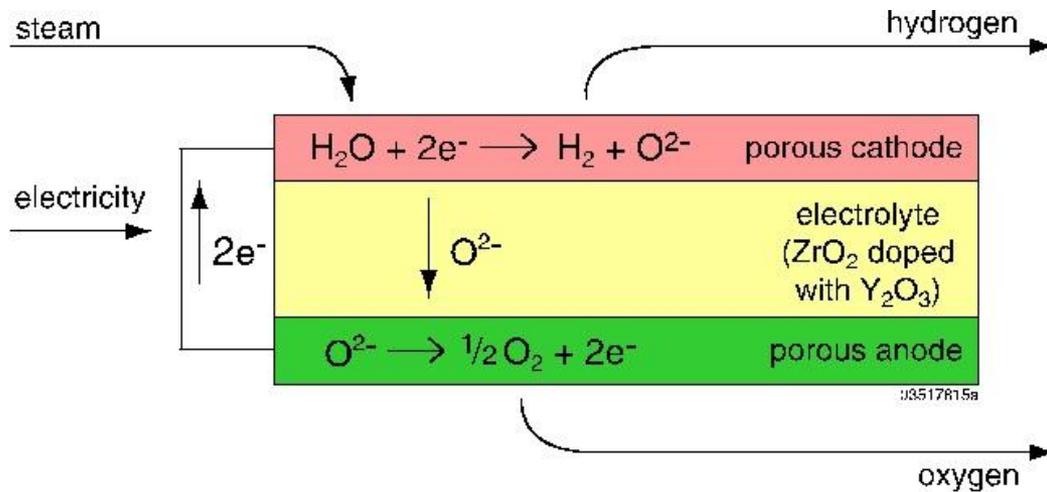
- Membrane is usually only 150-300  $\mu\text{m}$  thick
- Commonly uses rare metals as catalysts (Pt, Ir, Ru)
- Gas diffusion layers:

- Electrical conducting
- Gas diffusing, permeable
- Mechanical stable



# Production

- Solid oxide electrolyzers: operate at very high temperatures (~700-1000°C)



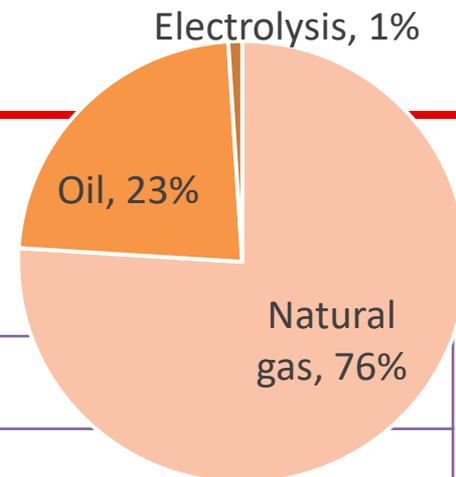
# Production

- Electricity from:
  - Solar: PV electricity
  - Solar: solar thermal electricity
  - Wind
  - Hydro
  - Geothermal
  - Biomass
  - Fossil fuels



# Production

- Production of hydrogen:



Technology	Hydrogen source	Energy source
Steam reforming	Natural gas	Combustion, solar
Gasification	Coal, carbonaceous material, biomass	Combustion, solar
Thermal cracking	Natural gas, oil	Combustion, solar
Thermal dissociation	Water	Solar
Thermochemical cycles	Water	Solar, nuclear
Photoelectrochemical	Water	Solar
Electrolysis	Water	Electricity from renewable, nuclear, fossil

# Production

- Prize comparison:

**Table 2 – Cost of hydrogen production technologies.**

Technology	Primary source	Prod. cost (\$/kg)	Ref.
Central steam reforming	Natural gas	1.5	[17,26]
Distrib. steam reforming	Natural gas	2.6	[26]
Gasification	Coal	1.2	[26]
Gasification with CCS	Coal	1.8	[17,26]
Distributed electrolysis	Grid electricity	6.8	[26]
Central electrolysis	Wind	3.8	[26]
Distributed electrolysis	Wind	7.3	[26]
Thermochemical cycle	Nuclear	1.4	[26]
Pyrolysis/Cracking	Natural gas + solar	3.0	[9]
Pyrolysis/Cracking	Natural gas + solar	3.6	[10]
Pyrolysis/Cracking	Natural gas + solar	4.5	[9]
Steam reforming	Natural gas + solar	2.2	[16]
FV electrolysis	Solar	9.1	[17]
Solar thermoch. S cycles	Solar	5.3	[17]
Sol. thermoch. oxide/metal	Solar	8.3	[17]

Abanades et al., IJHE, 38, 2013.

# Renewable Energy

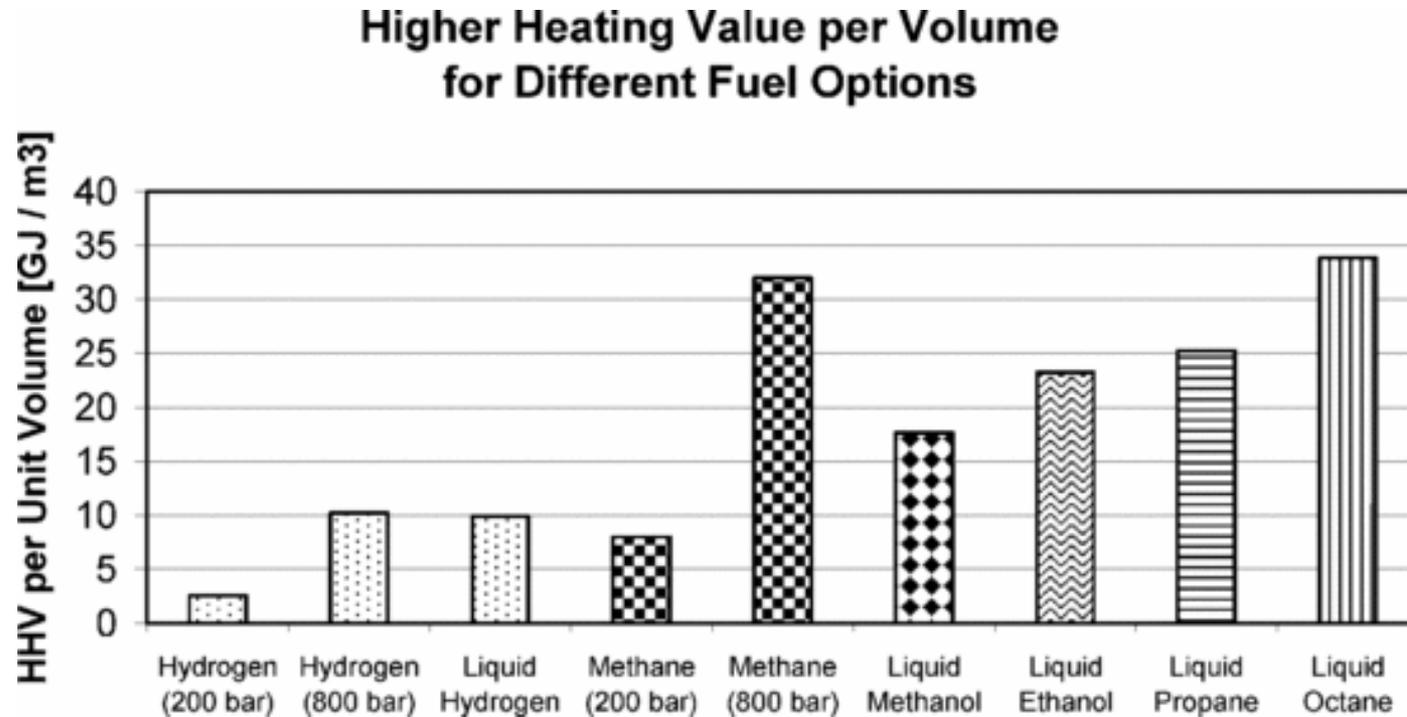
- Outline:

## **Hydrogen as an energy vector:**

- 1. Motivation**
- 2. Properties**
- 3. Production**
- 4. Storage**
- 5. Distribution**
- 6. Application**

# Storage

- Major drawback for hydrogen due to its extremely low density (problematic for mobility applications)



# Storage

- Two major storage possibilities:
  - Storage that alters the state or phase:
    - Compression
    - Liquefaction
  - Processes that associate hydrogen to other substances:
    - Adsorption on substrate (e.g. activated carbon)
    - Chemical combination of hydrogen to create hydrogen-rich compound:
      - Hydrogen is tightly bound, requiring chemical process for recovery (e.g. ammonia, methanol)
      - Compounds that can be reversibly transformed into another compound with higher/lower hydrogen content
      - Metal hydrides that can absorb and release hydrogen reversibly when temperature changes

# Storage

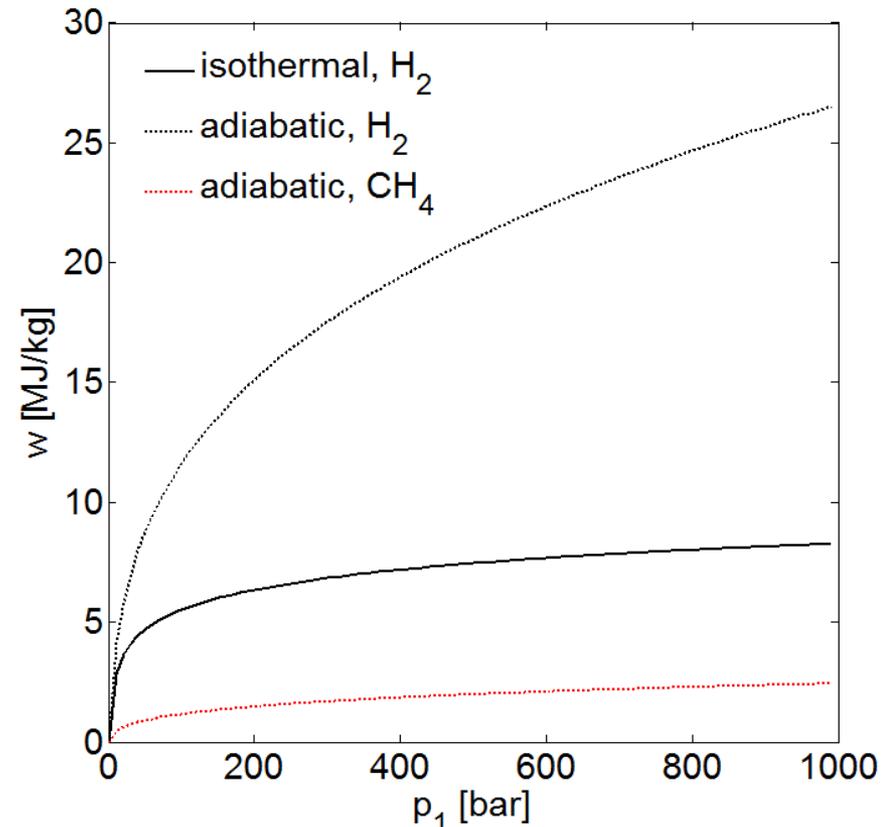
- Compression:
  - Ideal isothermal compression:

$$\frac{W}{m} = p_0 v_0 \ln \left( \frac{p_1}{p_0} \right)$$

- Adiabatic compression:

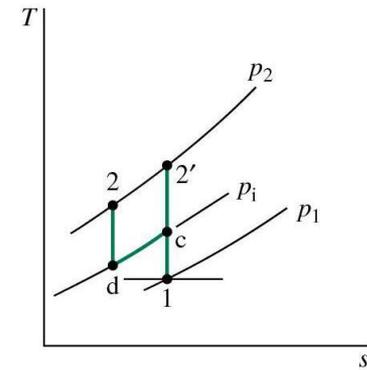
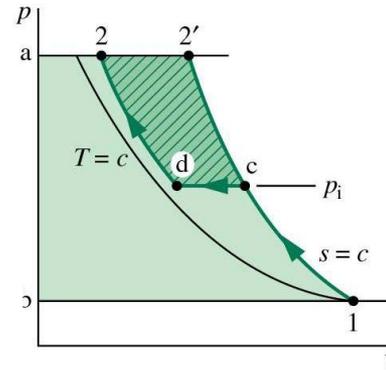
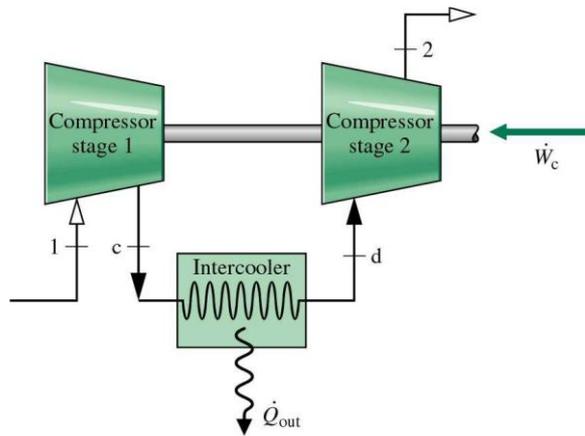
$$\frac{W}{m} = \frac{1}{\gamma - 1} p_0 v_0 \left( \left( \frac{p_1}{p_0} \right)^{\frac{\gamma - 1}{\gamma}} - 1 \right)$$

Ratio of specific heats =  $c_p/c_v$   
= 1.41 for hydrogen at 300 K



# Storage

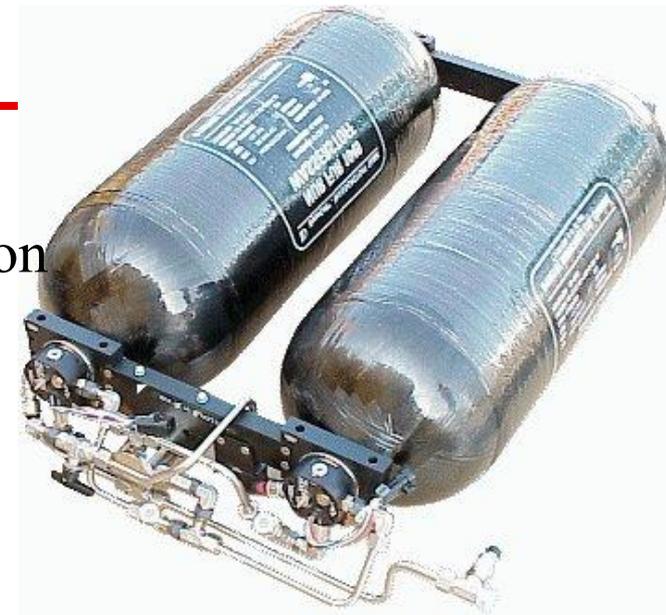
- Reality
  - Multi-stage compression with intercooling



# Storage

- Compression:
  - Quantity of interest gravimetric concentration
  - Described by performance factor:

$$PF = \frac{P_{burst} V}{m_{container}}$$



- Mass of the container is proportional to maximum pressure (just below bursting)
- Only way to improve  $PF$  is finding better materials
- Currently small quantities are stored in steel pressure cylinders up to 150 bar (e.g. in laboratories), weight 90 kg,  $PF$  around 250'000 J/kg
- A 500 liter container at 150 bar holds ca. 6 kg of hydrogen which corresponds to 20 liters of gasoline (FC have double efficiency than IC)

# Storage

- Compression:
  - For very large scale storage: underground formations (aquifers, mines, exhausted natural gas deposit, etc.)
  - Large scale storage in transport pipeline: 1000 km long, 1.2 m diameter at 60 atm → 1000 TJ (~23 mio liters gasoline)
- Compression technology
  - **Mechanical: volume flow** for H<sub>2</sub> is confined by a displacement device
    1. reciprocating piston
    2. diaphragm
    3. linear (magnetic)
    4. ionic liquid
  - **Non-mechanical** : specifically designed for H<sub>2</sub> application
    1. cryogenic
    2. electrochemical (**mass flow**)
    3. adsorption (thermal)
    4. metal-hydride (thermal)

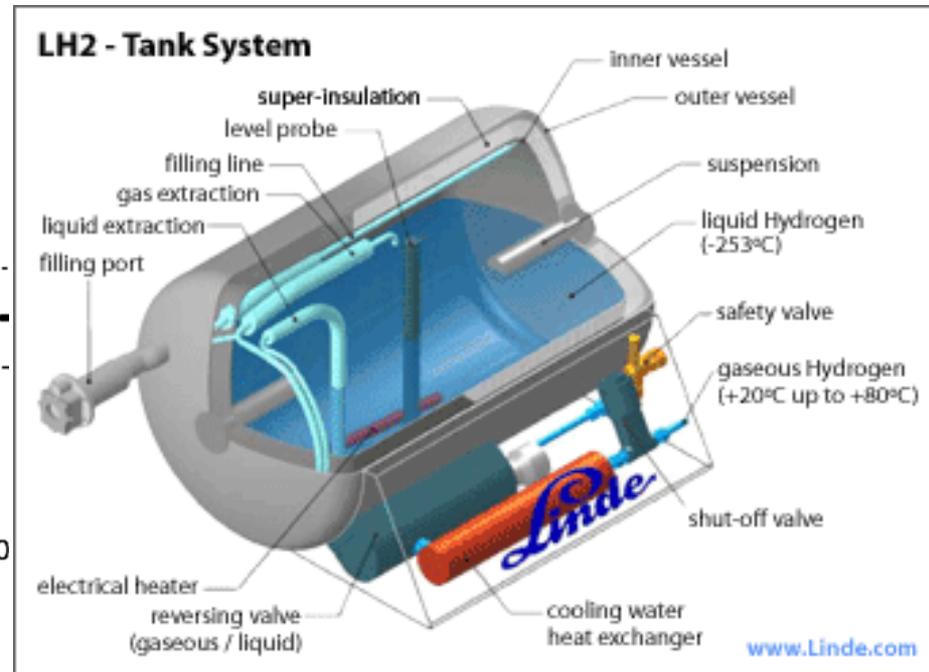
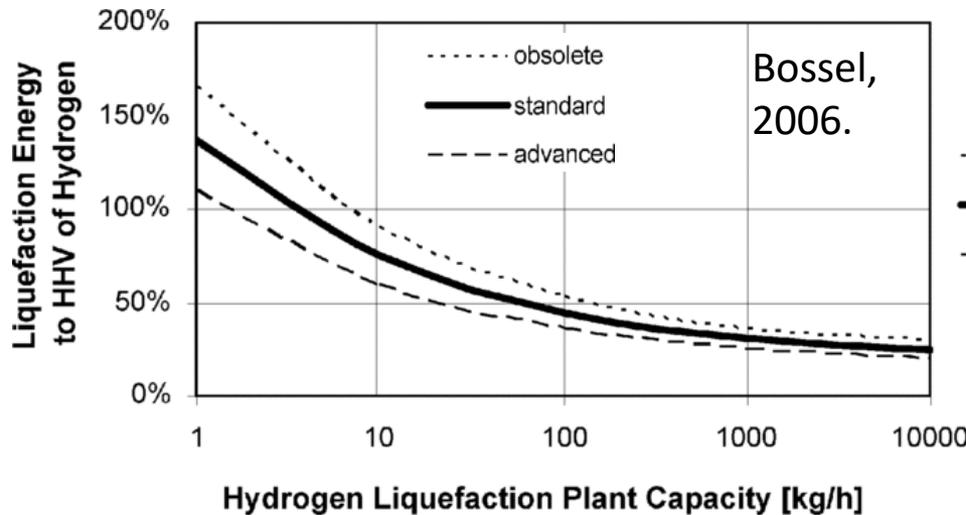
# Storage

- Liquification:
  - Cooling from 293 to 20 K, and condensation at 20 K and 1 atm, requires theoretically around 14 MJ/kg H<sub>2,l</sub>
  - But no heat sinks at 20 K exists, multi-stage process needed:

Three-stage propane refrigeration system is used for cooling hydrogen gas from ambient temperature to about 170 K, followed by multistage nitrogen expansion to obtain 77 K, and a multistage helium compression–expansion to complete the liquefaction of hydrogen at 20.3 K and atmospheric pressure

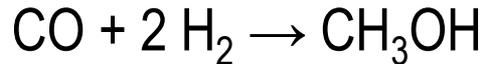
# Storage

- Liquefaction:
  - Cooling from 293 to 20 K, and condensation at 20 K and 1 atm, requires theoretically around 14 MJ/kg H<sub>2,l</sub>
  - Commercial production (Linde Gas AG) reports 54 MJ/kg

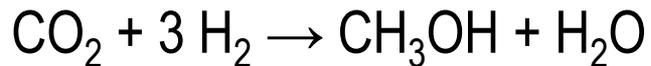


# Storage

- Chemical:
  - Fischer-Tropsch synthesis: use of a catalyst to produce methanol (most widely used catalyst: mixture of Cu, ZnO, and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>), At 50–100 bar and 250 °C



- Methanol synthesis:

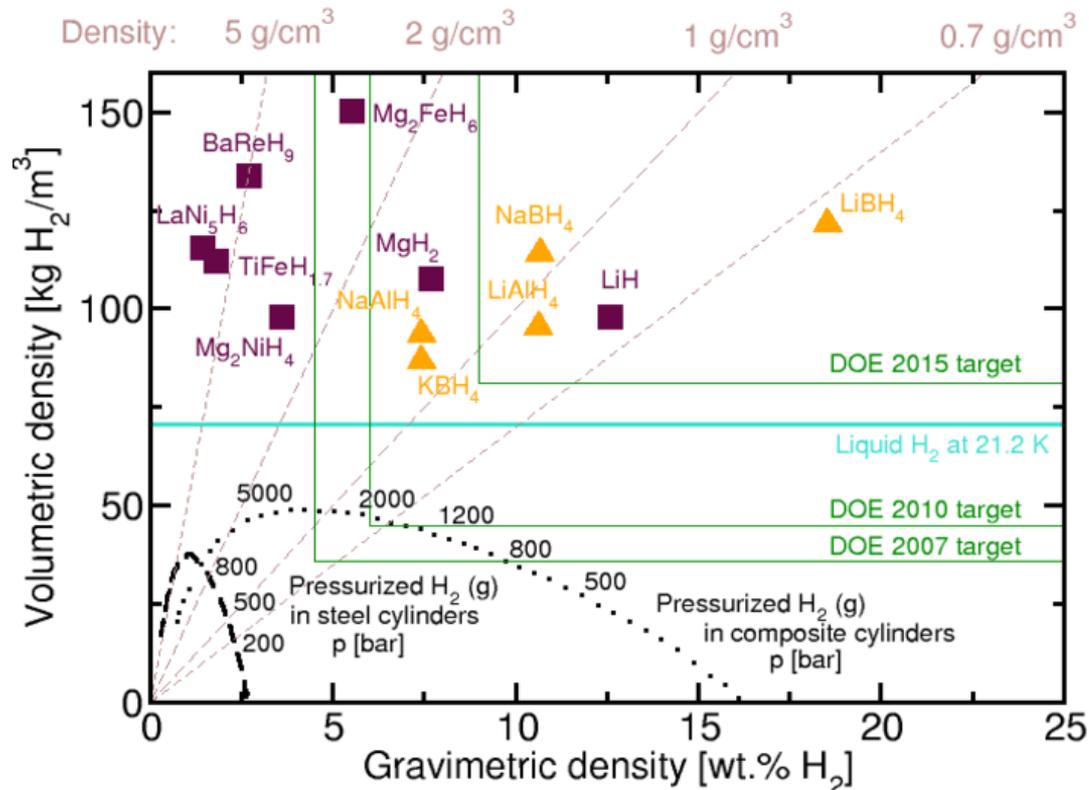


- Methanol: can be used in DMFC or ICE, already in liquid form  
Methanol as an energy vector?! But CO<sub>2</sub> has to come from the atmosphere

# Storage

- Chemical:

- Metal-hydrides (e.g.  $\text{CaH}_2$ ,  $\text{LiH}$ ): powdered metals absorb hydrogen under high pressures. With pressure release and applied heat, the process is reversed
- Have a somewhat bad LCA, and energy intense for production



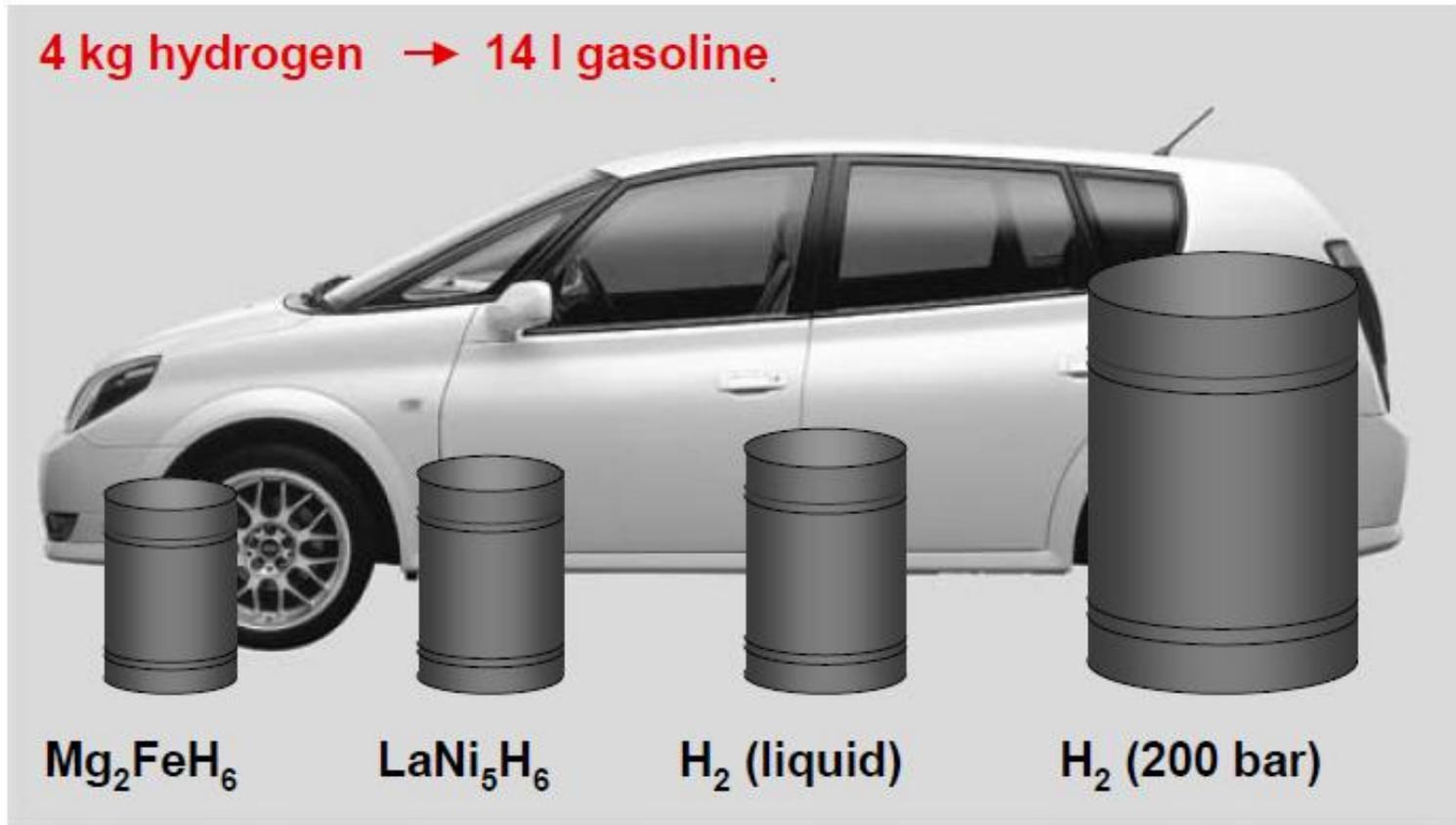
Krishna, 2012.

# Storage

- Comparison

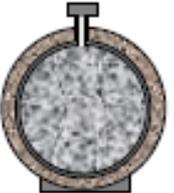
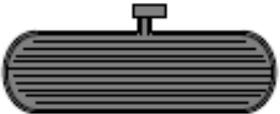
8.6 l gasoline / 100 km = 1 kWh / km

3 l gasoline / 100 km = 0.36 kWh / km



# Storage

- Comparison

Storage Media	Volume	Mass	Pressure	Temperature	
	max. 33 kg H <sub>2</sub> ·m <sup>-3</sup>	13 mass%	800 bar	298 K	Composite cylind. <i>established</i>
	71 kg H <sub>2</sub> ·m <sup>-3</sup>	100 mass%	1 bar	21 K	Liquid hydrogen
	20 kg H <sub>2</sub> ·m <sup>-3</sup>	4 mass%	70 bar	65 K	Physisorption
	150 kg H <sub>2</sub> ·m <sup>-3</sup>	2 mass%	1 bar	298 K	Metalhydrides

# Renewable Energy

- Outline:

## **Hydrogen as an energy vector:**

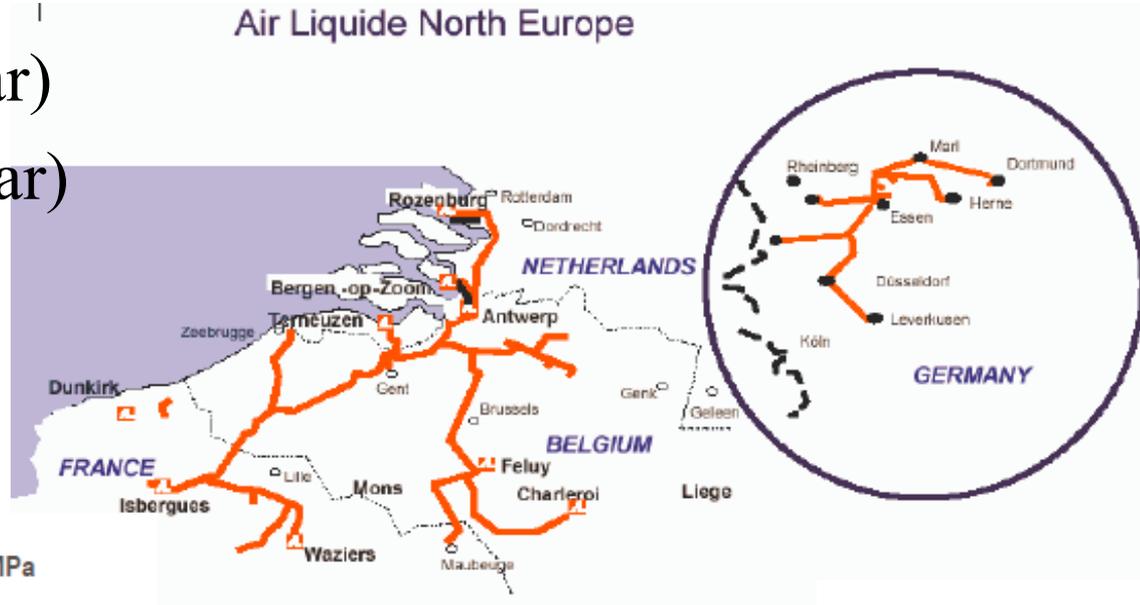
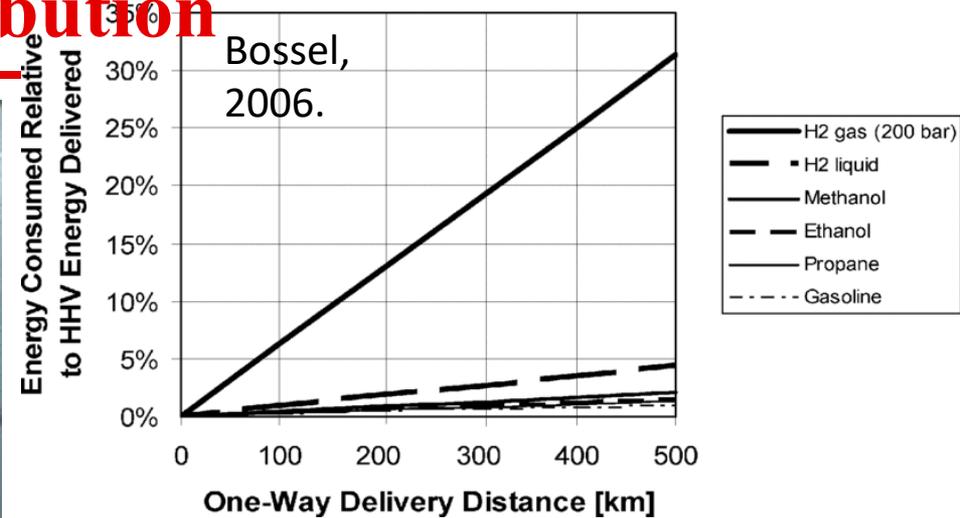
- 1. Motivation**
- 2. Properties**
- 3. Production**
- 4. Storage**
- 5. Distribution**
- 6. Application**

# Distribution

- Liquid:
  - Ship
  - Truck



- Gas:
  - Pipeline (0.5-300 bar)
  - Bottles (up to 200 bar)



Belgium-France-NL  
H<sub>2</sub>-Pipeline, Air Liquide

<b>Air Liquide:</b> Belgium, France, NL	966 km	10 MPa
<b>Germany:</b> Rhein-Ruhr Pipeline [operative since 1938] Leuna-Merseburg, Linde	240 km	1.1/ 2.3/ 30 MPa
	100 km	2-2.5 MPa

# Distribution

- Concept:

Trucks with compressed or liquid hydrogen:



Fueling station:



Transportation services

On site generation:  
By electrolysis and renewable  
By fossil fuels

Piped hydrogen



- What about decentralized production, even in the car?

# Distribution

- Hydrogen highway

Berlin  
Wolfsburg  
Hannover  
Bochum  
Düsseldorf  
Köln  
Wiesbaden  
Frankfurt  
Rüsselsheim  
Mannheim  
Stuttgart  
Augsburg  
München  
Ingolstadt  
Leuna  
Leipzig



40 "H2 pumps" on the Highway about 2000 km

# Distribution

- Hydrogen highway
- 3 FC- busses in each city
- Different hydrogen Productions



# Emerging Renewable Power

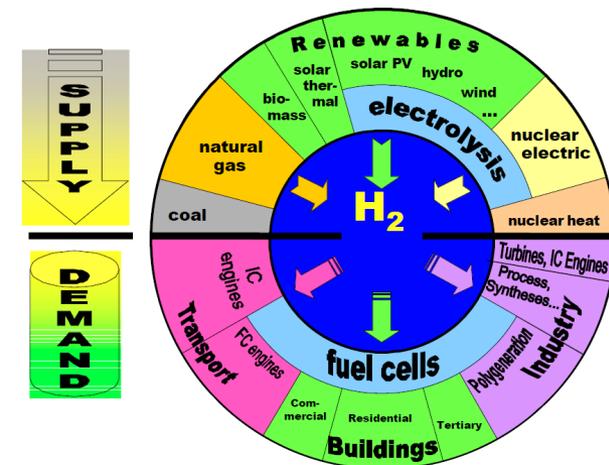
- Outline:

## **Hydrogen as an energy vector:**

- 1. Motivation**
- 2. Properties**
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- 4. Storage**
- 5. Distribution**
- 6. Application**

# Applications

- In transportation/mobility:
  - Internal combustion:
    - No CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, no smog (sulfur-based, unburned hydrocarbons, CO), no particles, reduction in NO<sub>x</sub>
    - Improved cold starting performance
    - Efficiency similar or slightly higher (higher diffusivity, uniform fuel-air mixtures, minimal ignition energy lower, wide flammability allows to work from lean to stoichiometric mixtures, high ignition temperatures allows to use higher compression ratio)
  - Fuel cells
    - No CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, no smog, no particles, no NO<sub>x</sub>
    - Improved cold starting performance
    - No noise
    - Higher efficiencies (not limited by Carnot)



# Applications

- Residential heating : natural gas network admixing, and/or hydrogen pipelines
- Industry:
  - industry heating: replacing coal, natural gas
  - industry feedstock:
    - » Refineries
    - » ammonia, methanol, other industries
    - » steel making

# Learning outcomes of today's lecture

- Hydrogen as an energy vector
  - What is hydrogen and what makes it special
  - Why using hydrogen as an energy vector, alternatives
  - How can hydrogen be generated, how renewable
  - How can hydrogen be stored
  - How can hydrogen be transported/distributed
  - Where and how is hydrogen used as an end product

# Additional literature

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- Da Rosa: Fundamentals of Renewable Energy Processes, Elsevier, 2005.
- Grimes, Varghese, Ranjan: Light, Water, Hydrogen, Springer, 2008.