

DE LA RECHERCHE À L'INDUSTRIE



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# CATALYTIC STRATEGIES FOR THE CONVERSION OF $\text{CO}_2$ AND BIOMASS WASTE

CEA / CNRS | Thibault Cantat



JOURNÉE X – ENS – ESPCI  
ENS PARIS – MAY 09-2019

# SCIENTIFIC ADVICE ON CCU FOR THE EC



**Prof. Elvira Fortunato**

Nova University Lisbon and member of  
the EC's Group of Chief Scientific Advisors



**SAPEA**  
Science Advice for Policy by European Academies



European Commission's Group of  
Chief Scientific Advisors

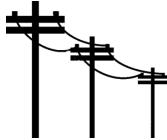


#SAPEA

#CCU

#SAMGroup\_EU

## Services to society



Electrical power  
on the grid

Power available  
on demand



Heat



Fuels for  
mobility



Industrial products  
(chemicals, materials,  
fertilizers)



Sun

Wind

Geothermy

Surfaces

Water  
Uranium

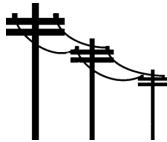
## Ressources

Inorganics

metals  
N, Si, P

Carbon feedstocks

## Services to society



Electrical power  
on the grid

Power available  
on demand



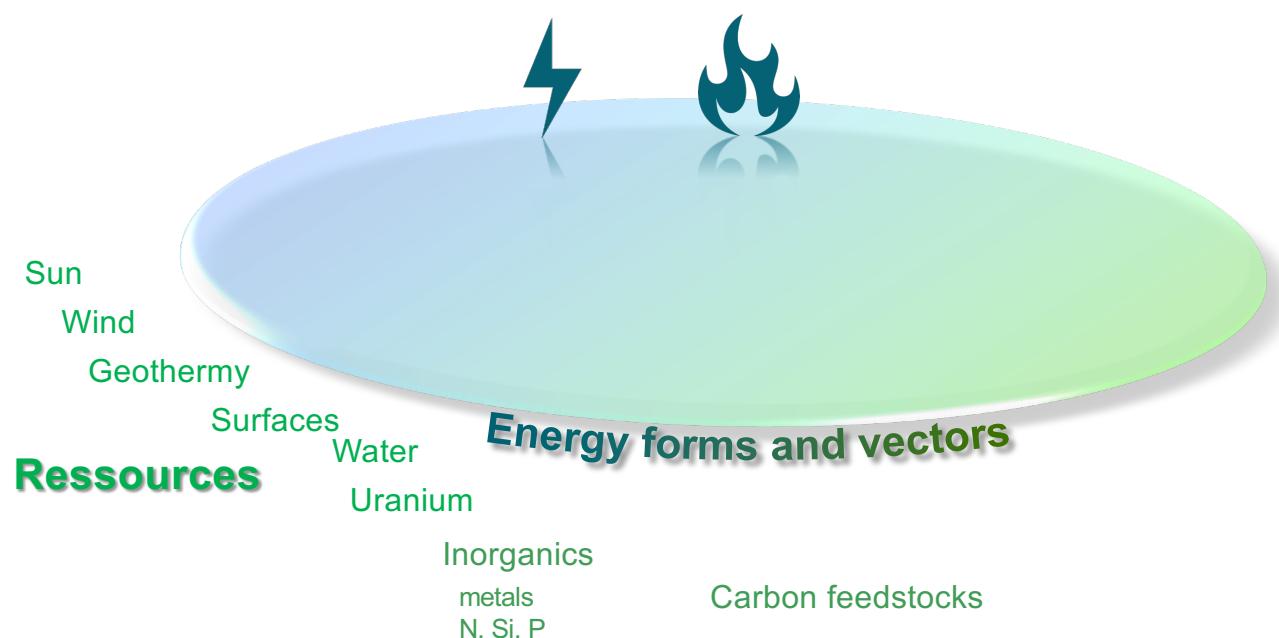
Heat



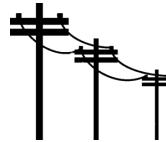
Fuels for  
mobility



Industrial products  
(chemicals, materials,  
fertilizers)



## Services to society



Electrical power  
on the grid

Power available  
on demand



Heat



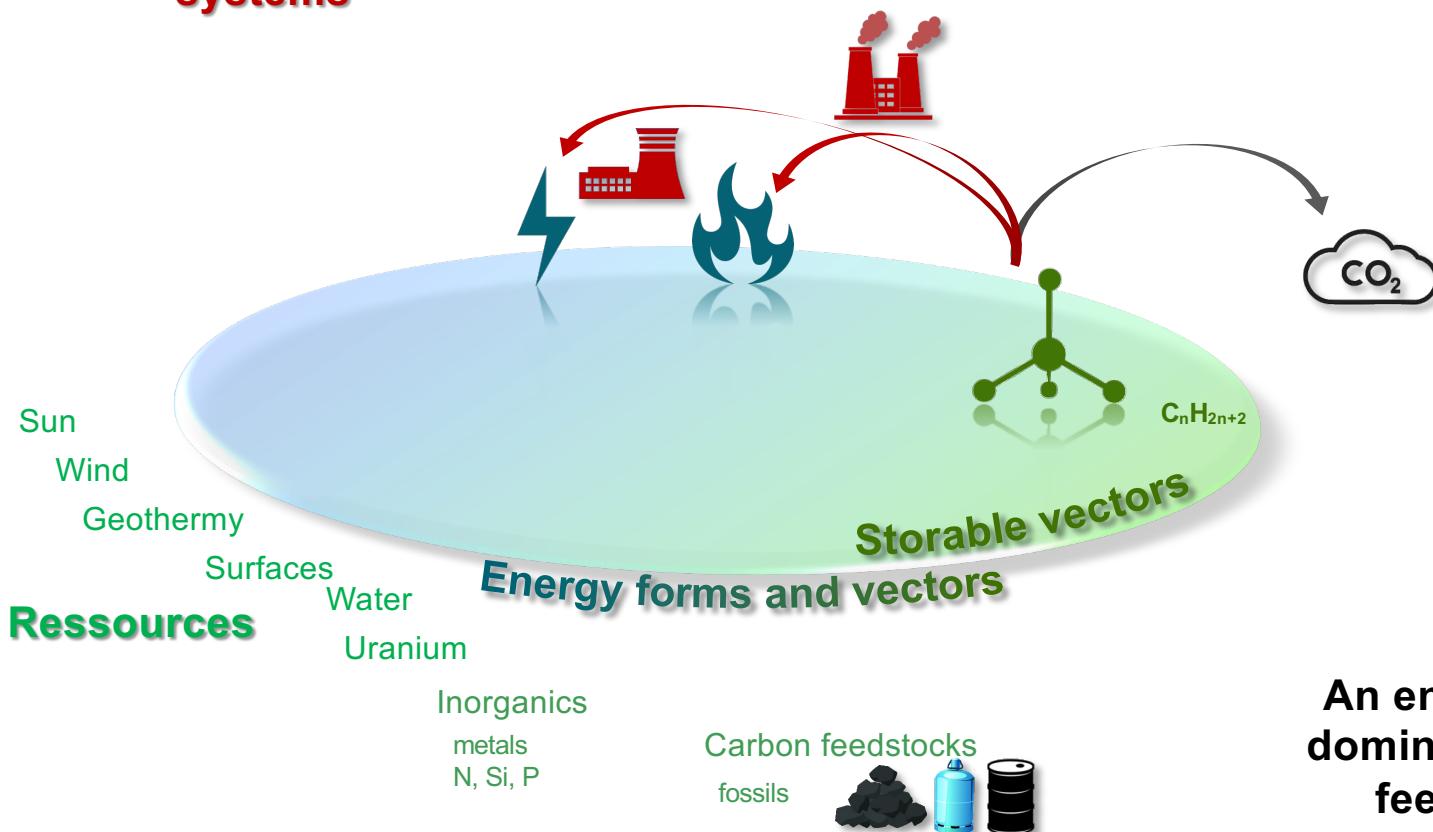
Fuels for  
mobility



Industrial products  
(chemicals, materials,  
fertilizers)

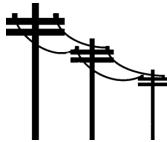


## Interconversion systems



An energy system  
dominated by fossil  
feedstocks...

## Services to society



Electrical power  
on the grid

Power available  
on demand



Heat



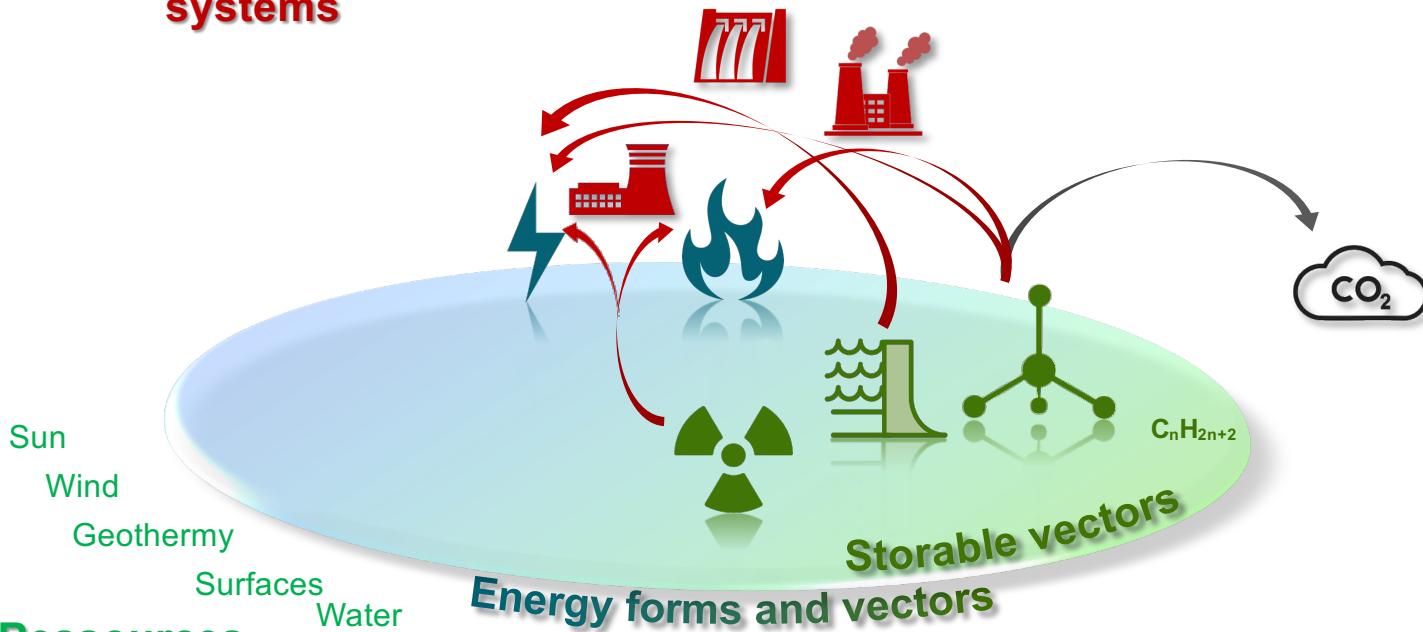
Fuels for  
mobility



Industrial products  
(chemicals, materials,  
fertilizers)



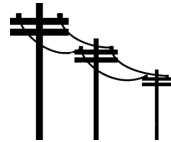
## Interconversion systems



...which benefits from low  
carbon energy sources for  
the production of electricity.



## Services to society



Electrical power  
on the grid

Power available  
on demand



Heat

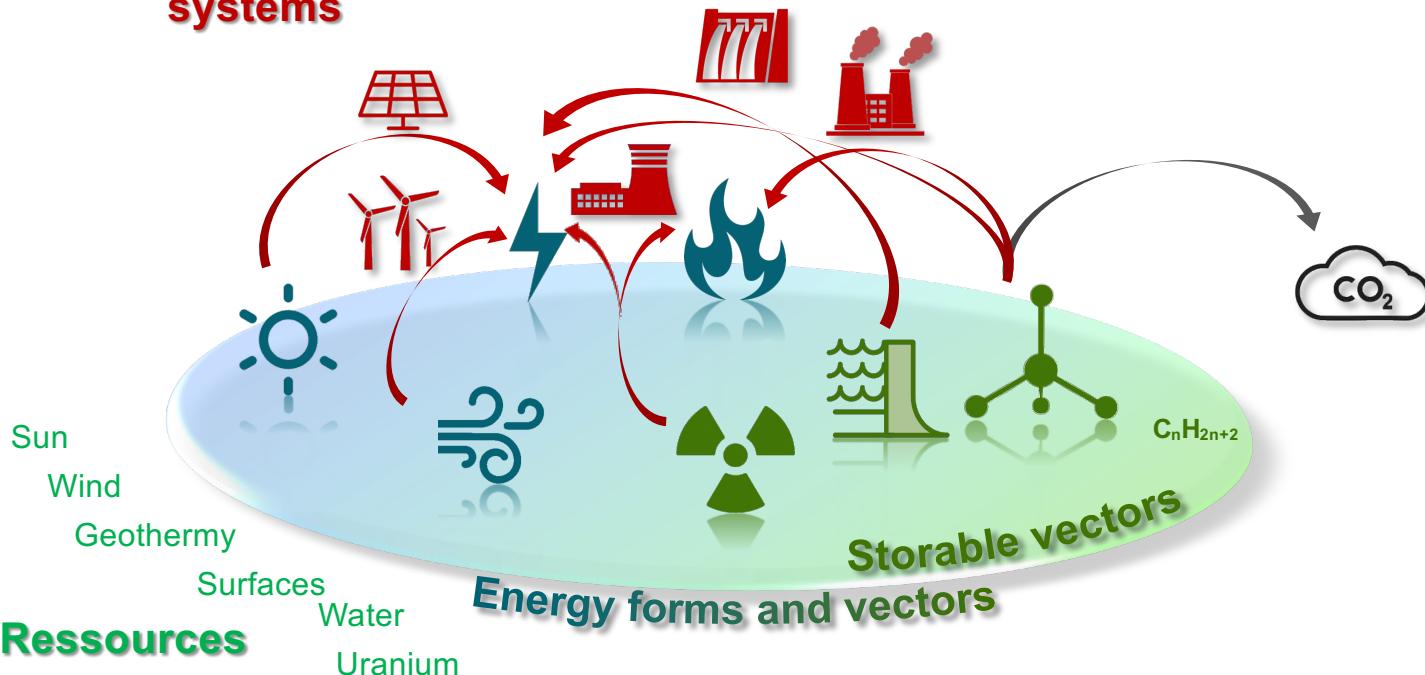


Fuels for  
mobility



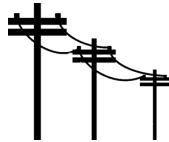
Industrial products  
(chemicals, materials,  
fertilizers)

## Interconversion systems



The increasing penetration  
of renewable energy sources  
destabilizes the services  
provided to society...

## Services to society



Electrical power  
on the grid

Power available  
on demand



Heat



Fuels for  
mobility

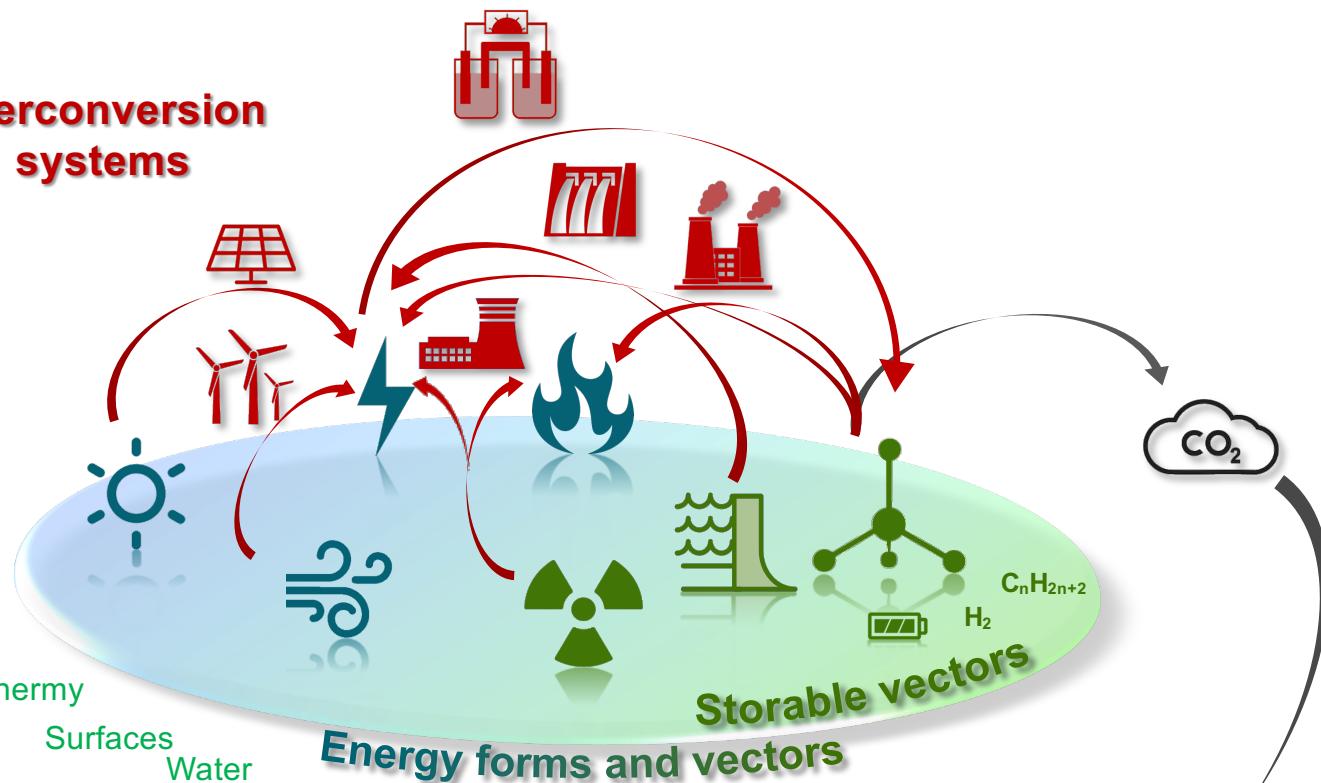


Industrial products  
(chemicals, materials,  
fertilizers)



## Interconversion systems

Sun  
Wind  
Geothermy  
Surfaces  
Water  
Uranium



## Ressources

### Inorganics

metals  
N, Si, P

Carbon feedstocks  
fossils

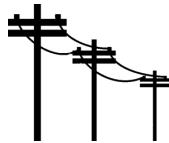


biomass



...and imposes the  
development of conversion  
and storage solutions...

## Services to society



Electrical power  
on the grid

Power available  
on demand



Heat



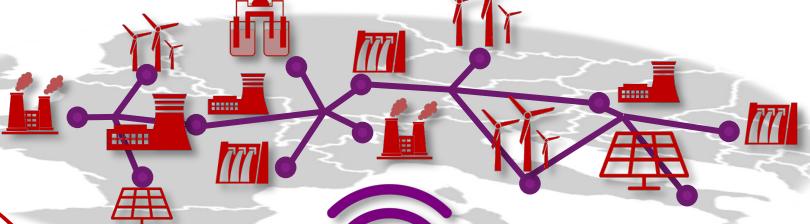
Fuels for  
mobility



Industrial products  
(chemicals, materials,  
fertilizers)



## Interconversion systems



## Optimized networks

Sun

Wind

Geothermy

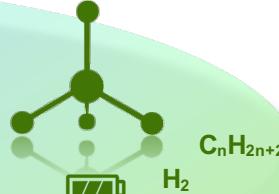
Surfaces

Water

Uranium

## Ressources

### Energy forms and vectors



Storable vectors

### Inorganics

metals  
N, Si, P

Carbon feedstocks  
fossils

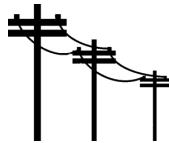


biomass



... to form a multi-vectors and  
multi-networks energy  
system to be optimized...

## Services to society



Electrical power  
on the grid

Power available  
on demand



Heat



Fuels for  
mobility



Industrial products  
(chemicals, materials,  
fertilizers)



## Interconversion systems



## Optimized networks

Negative CO<sub>2</sub>  
emissions

Sun

Wind

Geothermy

Surfaces

Water

Uranium

## Ressources

### Inorganics

metals  
N, Si, P



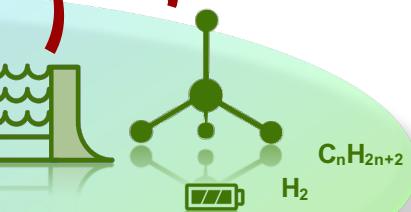
Carbon feedstocks  
fossils



biomass



## Closed materials cycles

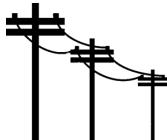


Storable vectors

$C_nH_{2n+2}$

... while respecting the  
environment and ensuring  
closed matter cycles, to build  
a sustainable energy system.

## Services to society



Electrical power  
on the grid

Power available  
on demand



Heat



Fuels for  
mobility



Industrial products  
(chemicals, materials,  
fertilizers)



**CCU vs biomass?**

## Interconversion systems

Sun  
Wind  
Geothermy  
Surfaces  
Water  
Uranium

**Energy forms and vectors**



**Closed materials  
cycles**



**CCU vs batteries,  
H<sub>2</sub> fuel cells?**



Carbon feedstocks

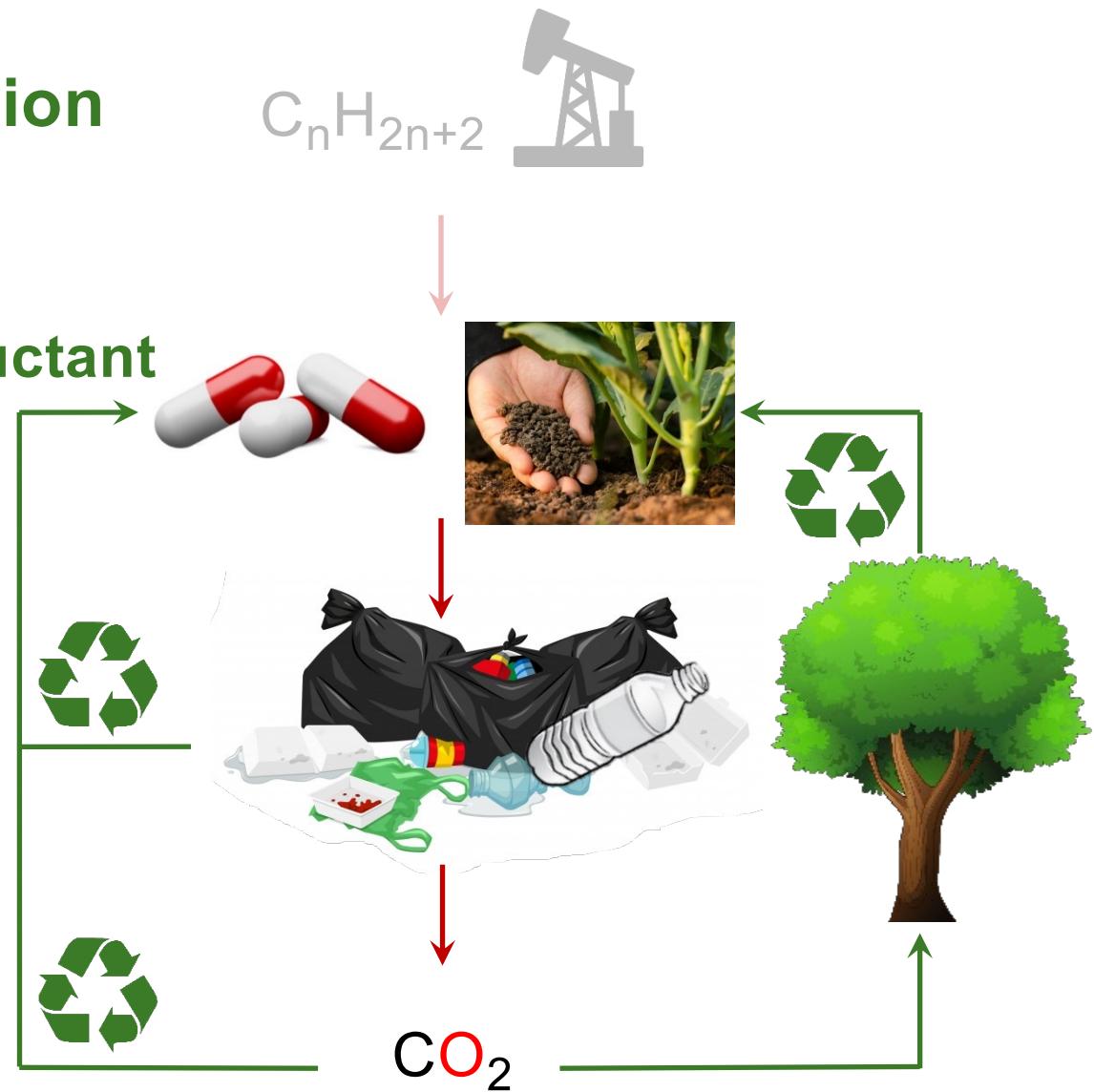
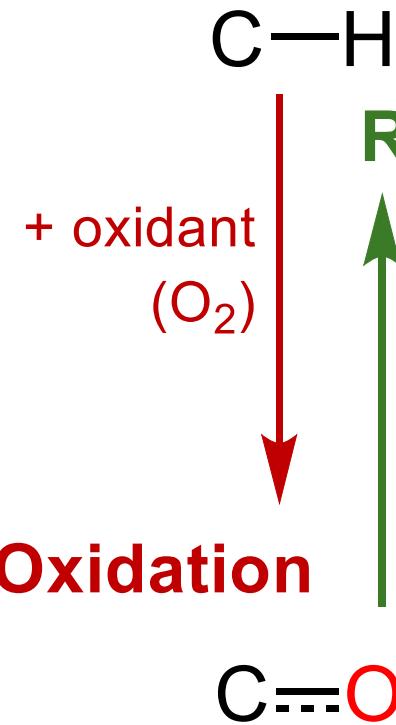


Negative CO<sub>2</sub>  
emissions

**CCU**

**Carbon Capture and  
Utilization is an option to  
achieve sustainability in an  
energy system**

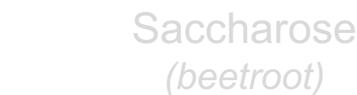
# A CHANGE OF PARADIGM



# RENEWABLE CARBON FEEDSTOCKS

The diagram illustrates the linkage between two glucose units in cellulose. The left unit is shown in its chair conformation with substituents at C1, C2, C3, C4, and C6. A horizontal wedge at C1 indicates an axial substituent pointing down. The right unit is also in a chair conformation, rotated 180 degrees relative to the left one. A horizontal wedge at C1 indicates an equatorial substituent pointing up. The linkage is a beta(1-4) glycosidic bond, where the C1 carbon of the left unit is bonded to the C4 carbon of the right unit. The oxygen atoms involved in the linkage are highlighted in red.

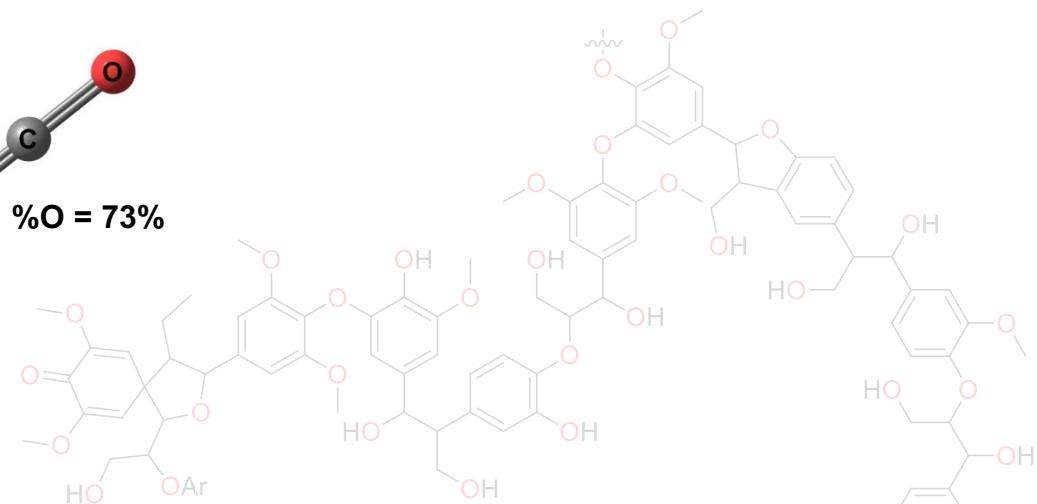
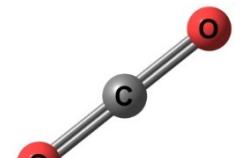
%O = 73%



%O = 27%

## D-catechin (*Senegalia catechu*)

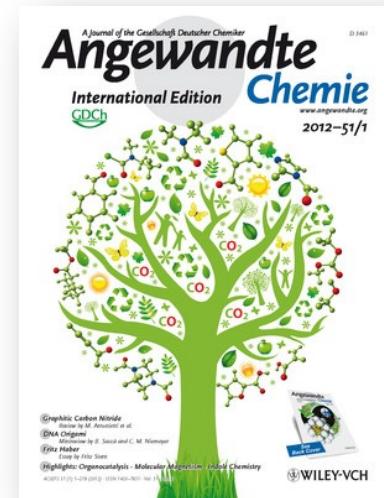
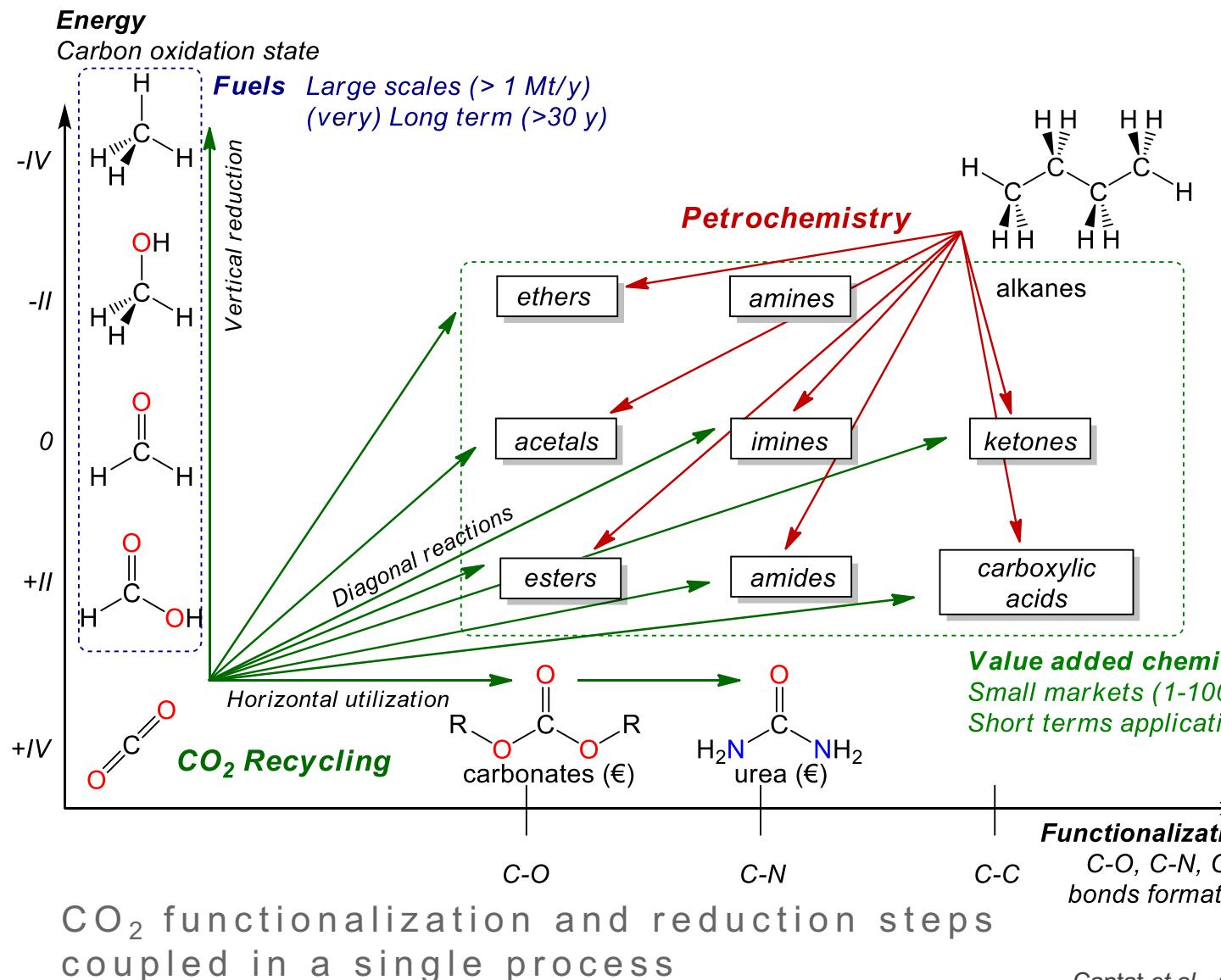
**%O = 33%**



## Lignin (*gymnosperms*, *angiosperms*)

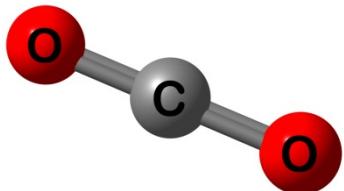
%O = 27%

# VARIOUS OPPORTUNITIES TO CO<sub>2</sub> RECYCLING...

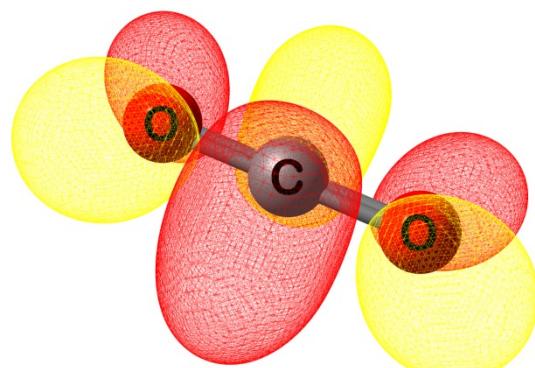


**COVER**  
**VIP Paper**  
**Highlighted in Nature**

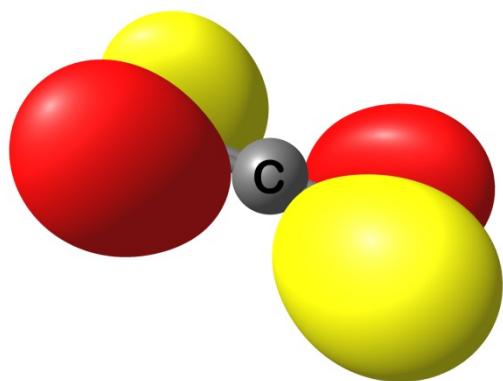
# CO<sub>2</sub> STABILITY



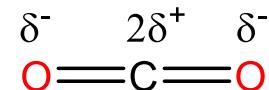
C-O: 1.16 Å



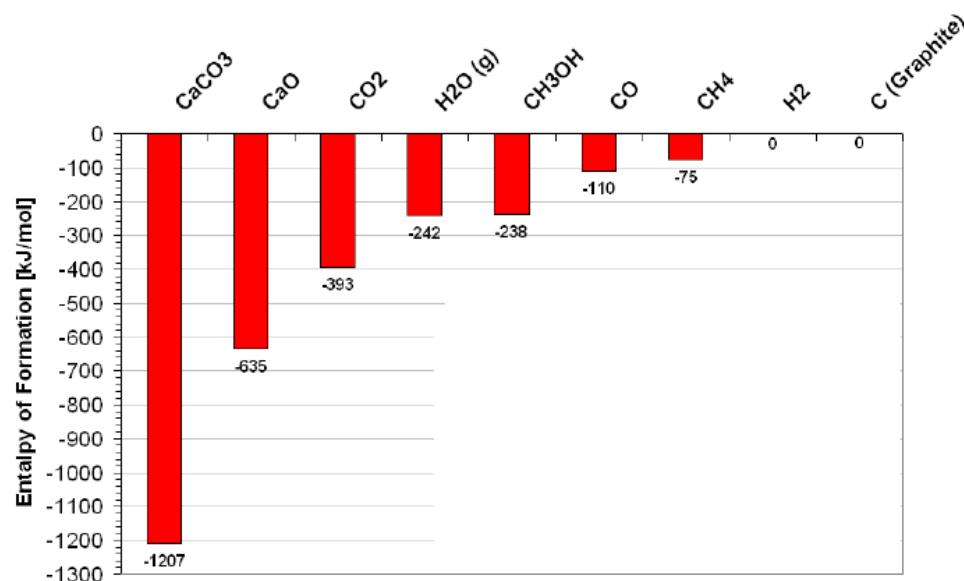
— LUMO  
2π<sub>u</sub>



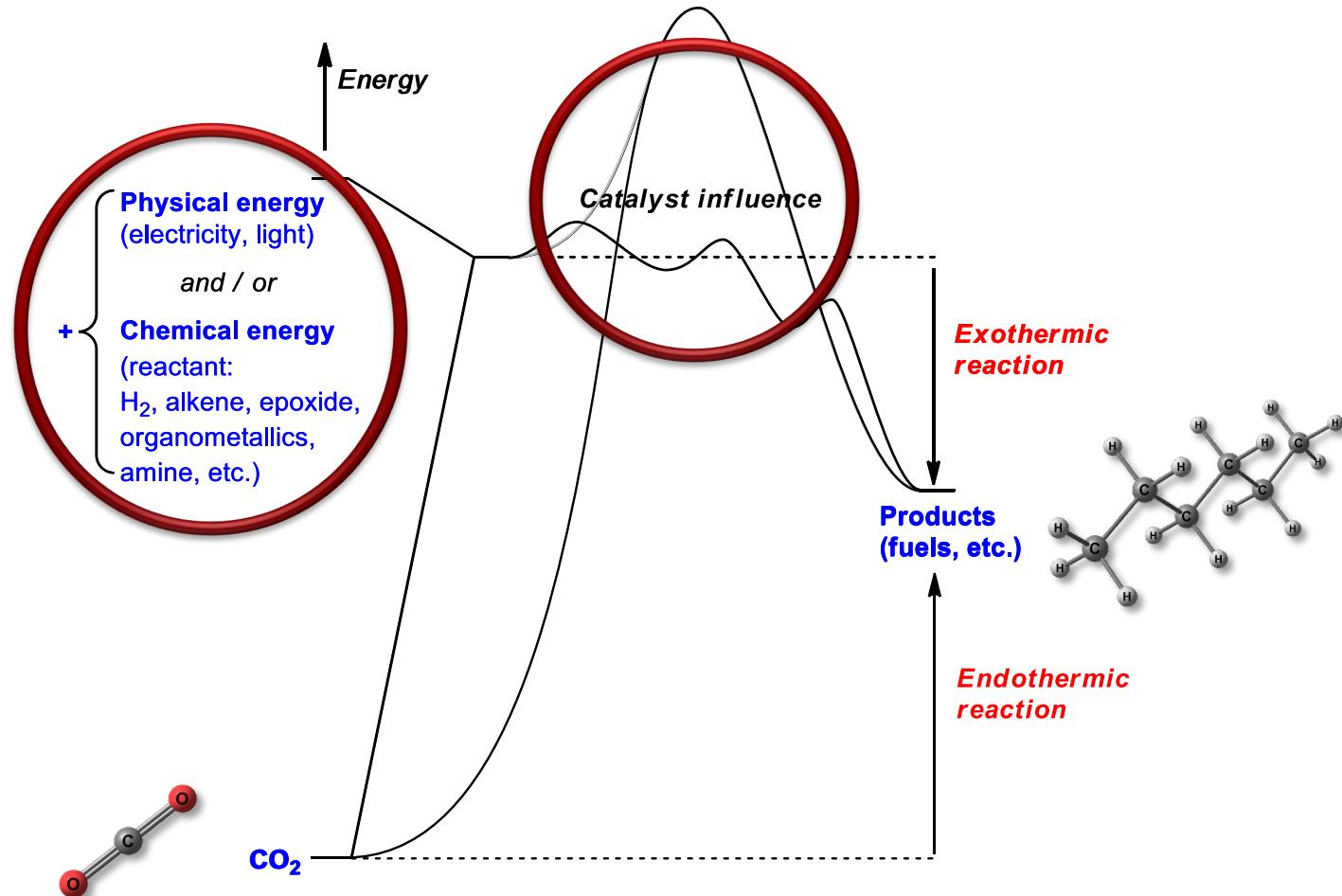
HOMO  
1π<sub>g</sub>



- Non-polar
- Electrophilic at C (Lewis acid)
- Nucleophilic at O (Lewis base)

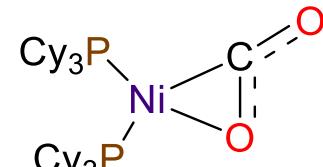
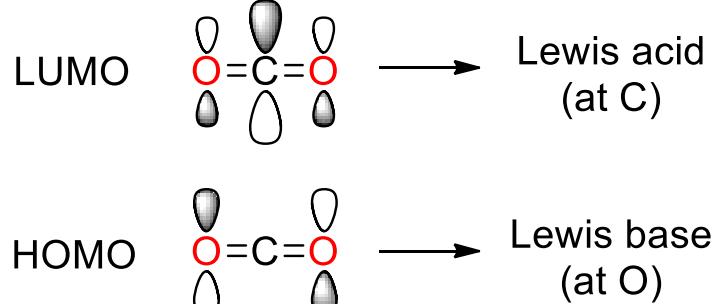


# CHEMICAL TRANSFORMATION OF CO<sub>2</sub>

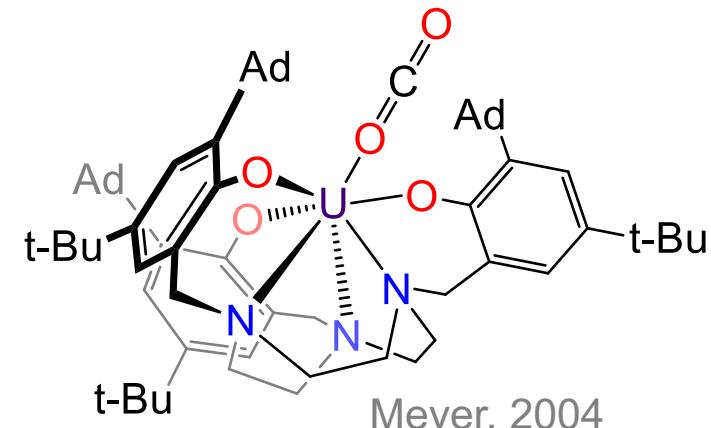


Two energetic challenges: thermodynamic and kinetic

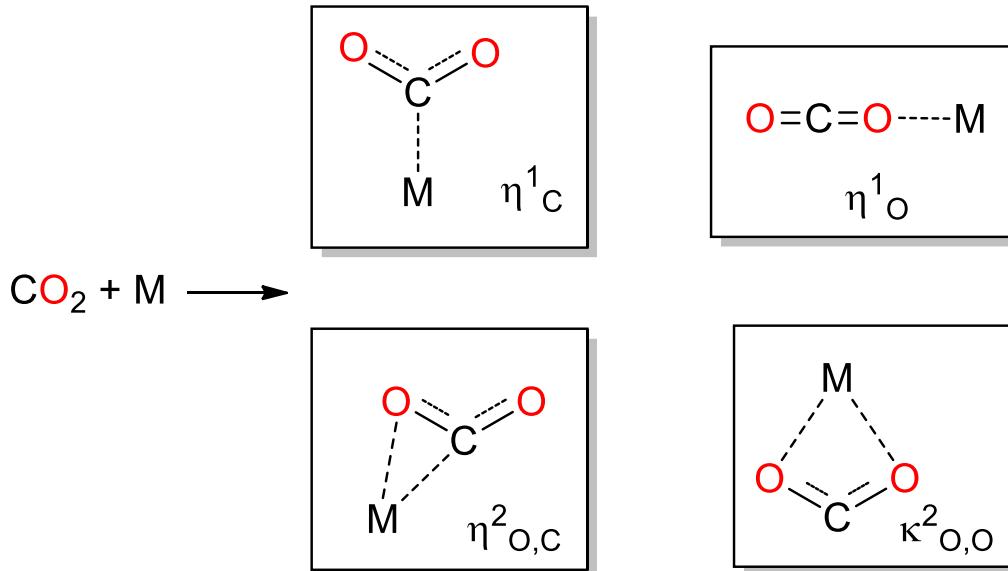
# CO<sub>2</sub> ACTIVATION BY TRANSITION METALS



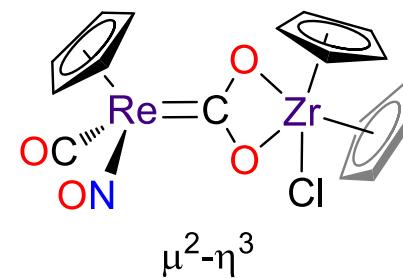
Aresta, 1975



Meyer, 2004



Bimetallic activation



Cutler, 1986

# CO<sub>2</sub> ACTIVATION BY ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

## ■ Activation by Frustrated Lewis Pairs (FLPs)



Lewis pair formation  
prevented by sterics

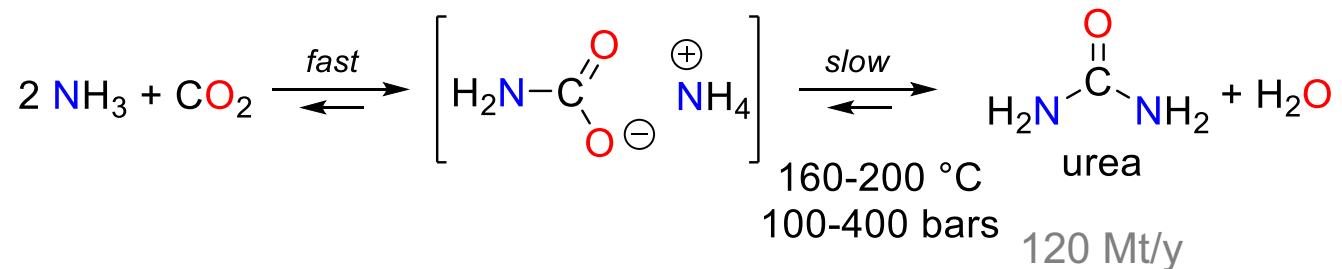


## CO<sub>2</sub> CONVERSION IN THE INDUSTRY

# INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES UTILIZING CO<sub>2</sub>

## Industrial routes from CO<sub>2</sub>

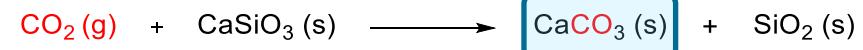
- Bosch-Meiser process for urea production



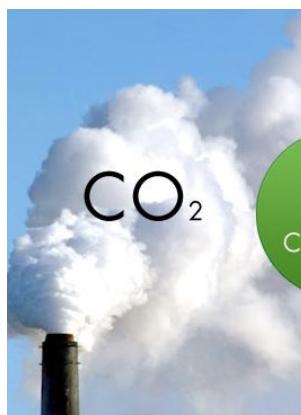
# CO<sub>2</sub> CAPTURE AND MINERALIZATION



Strategy



Brick and cement made from CO<sub>2</sub>



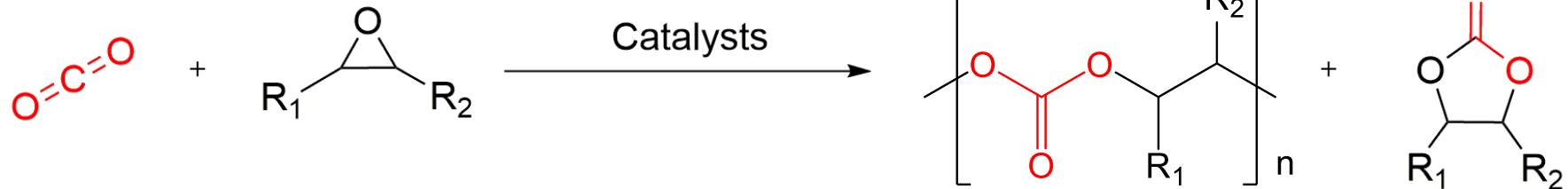
BUILDING MATERIAL



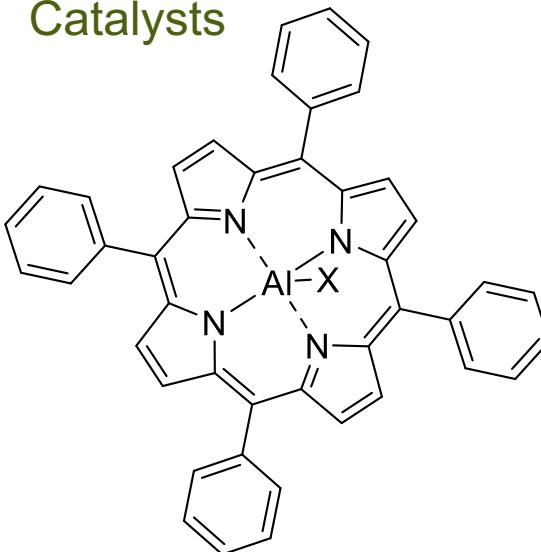
**Calera®**

# FROM CO<sub>2</sub> TO POLYMERS

# Strategy



## Catalysts



1<sup>st</sup> generation: Inoue et al (1983)  $x = .$

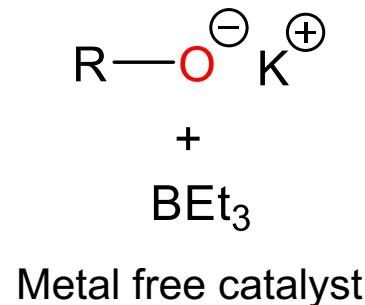
$$X = -Cl,$$

$$-(O-CHR-CH_2)_n$$

$$Cl$$

J. Am. Chem. Soc., Vol. 105, No. 5, 1983

J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2016, 138, 11117



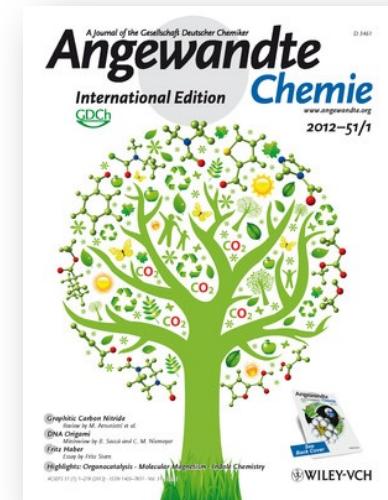
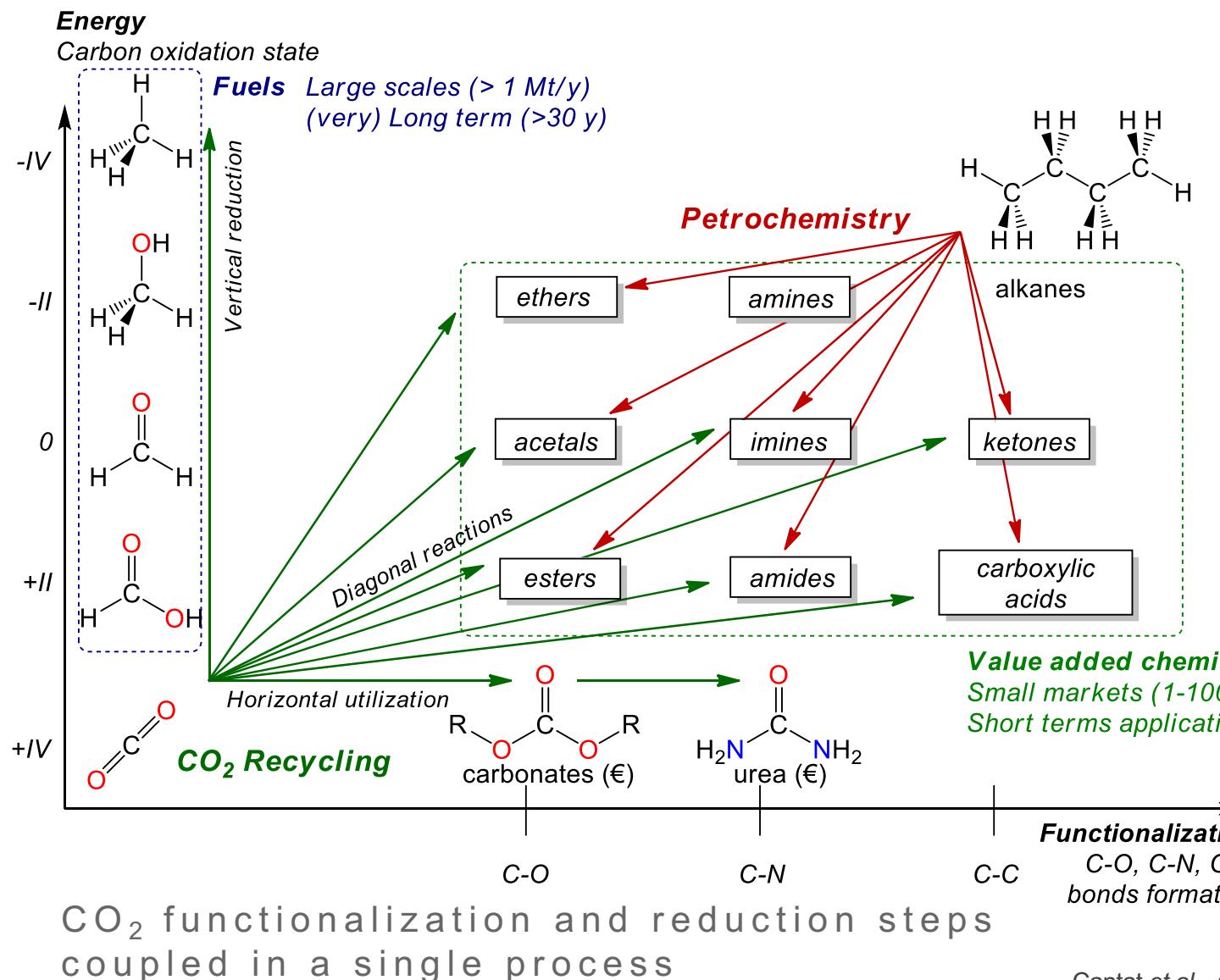
$$\text{Zn}_3[\text{Co}(\text{CN})_6]_2 \cdot a\text{ZnCl}_2$$

# Industrial catalyst

## Double metal cyanide



# VARIOUS OPPORTUNITIES TO CO<sub>2</sub> RECYCLING...



**COVER**  
**VIP Paper**  
**Highlighted in Nature**

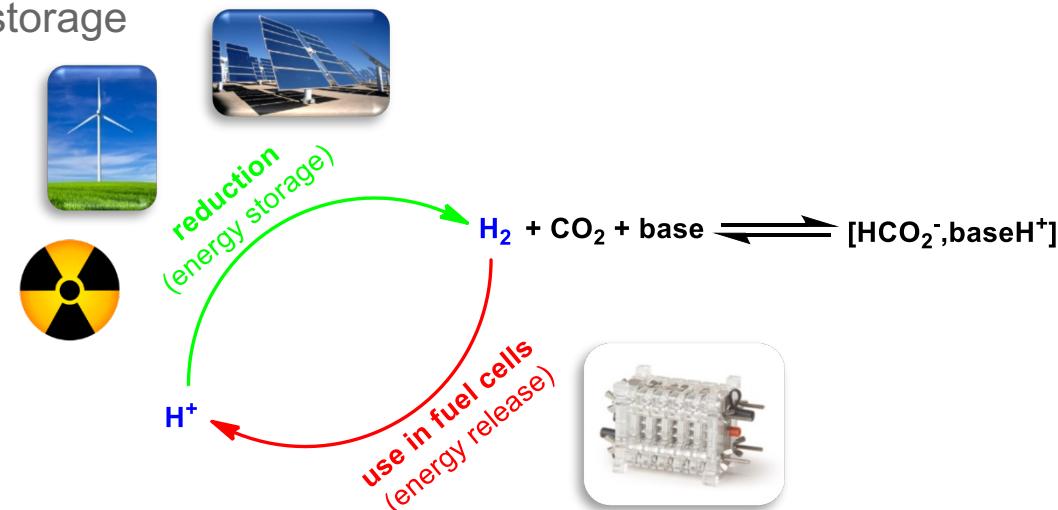


## CO<sub>2</sub> REDUCTION TO FUELS

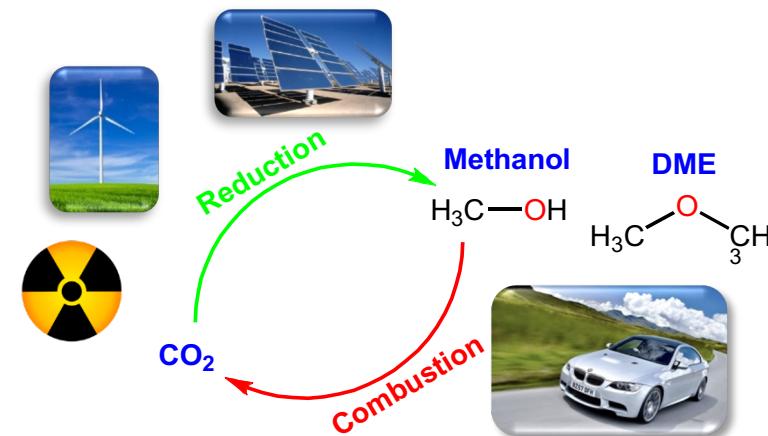
# CO<sub>2</sub> FOR ENERGY STORAGE

## CO<sub>2</sub> reduction: recycling to fuels

- CO<sub>2</sub> hydrogenation for hydrogen storage
  - CO<sub>2</sub> to formic acid
  - CO<sub>2</sub> to methanol

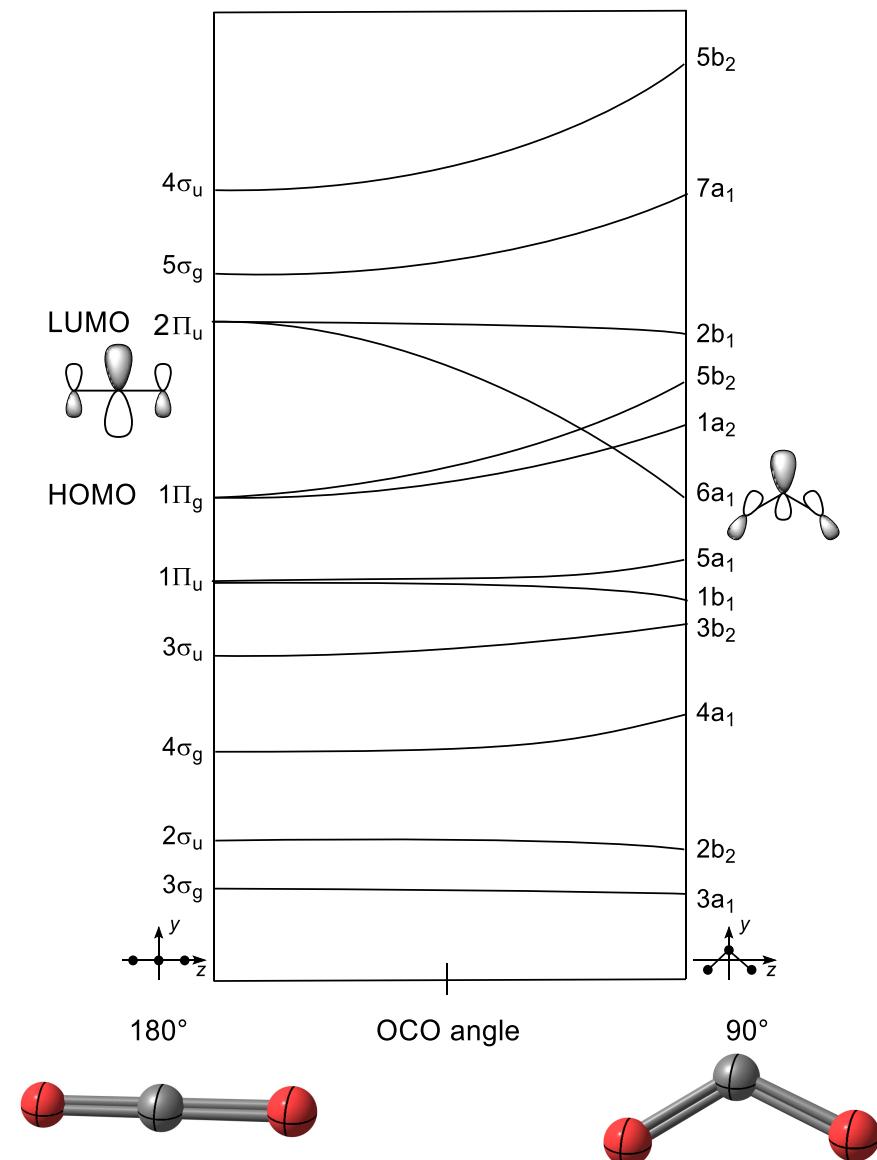
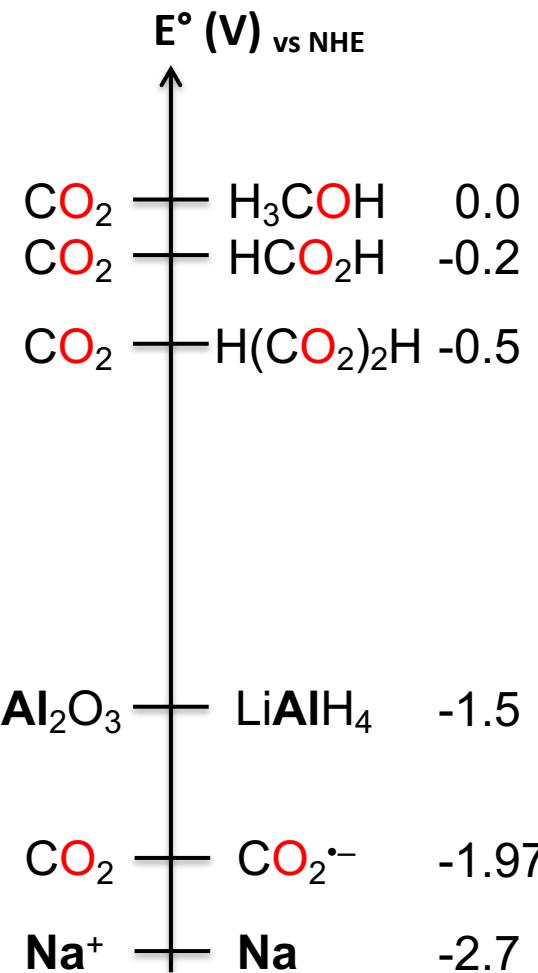


- CO<sub>2</sub> electro- and photoelectrocatalytic reduction to CO, formic acid, methanol, etc.



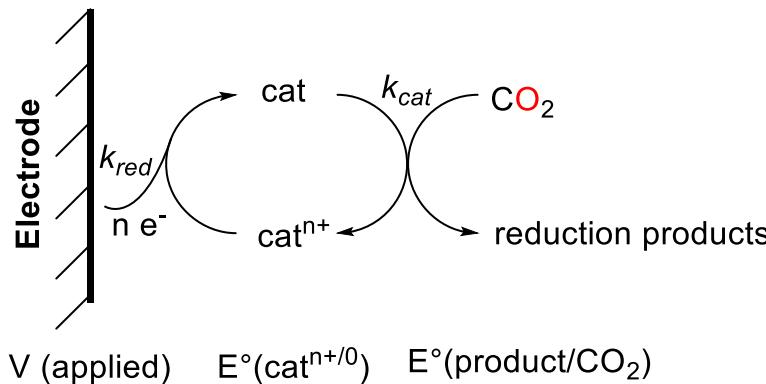
# **CO<sub>2</sub> REDUCTION: THERMODYNAMICS**

# Thermodynamics

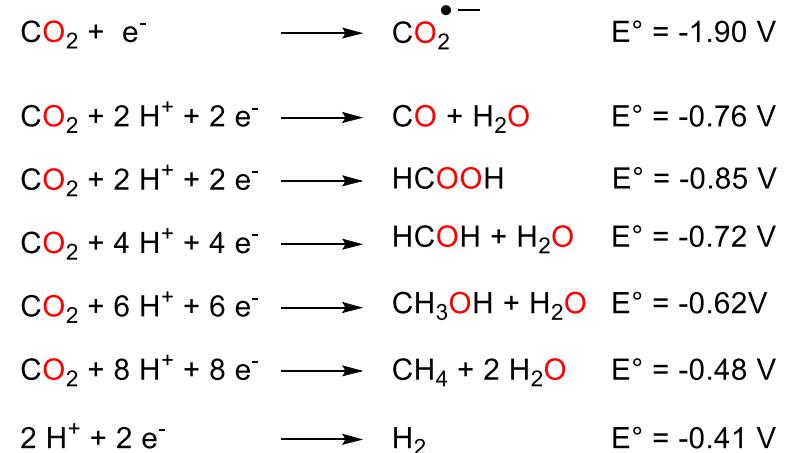


# CO<sub>2</sub> ELECTROREDUCTION

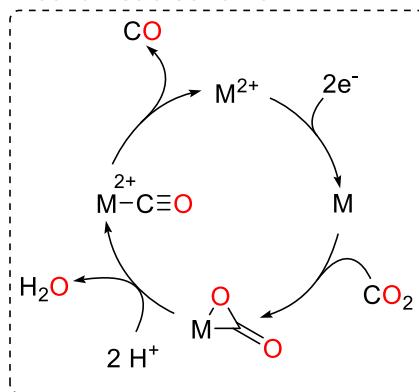
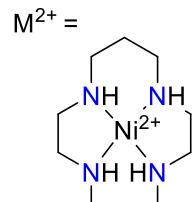
## Principle of CO<sub>2</sub> electroreduction



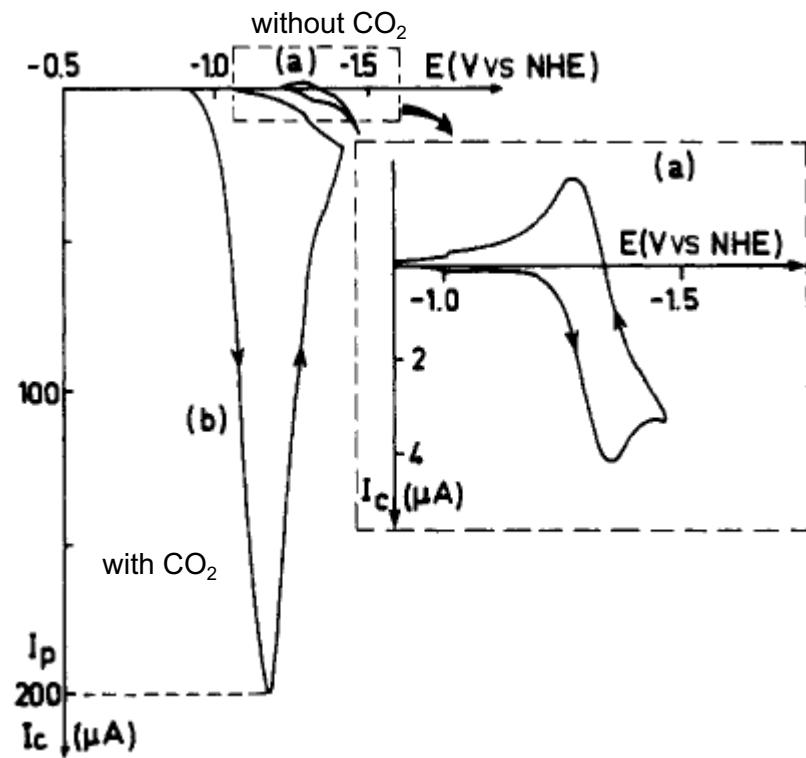
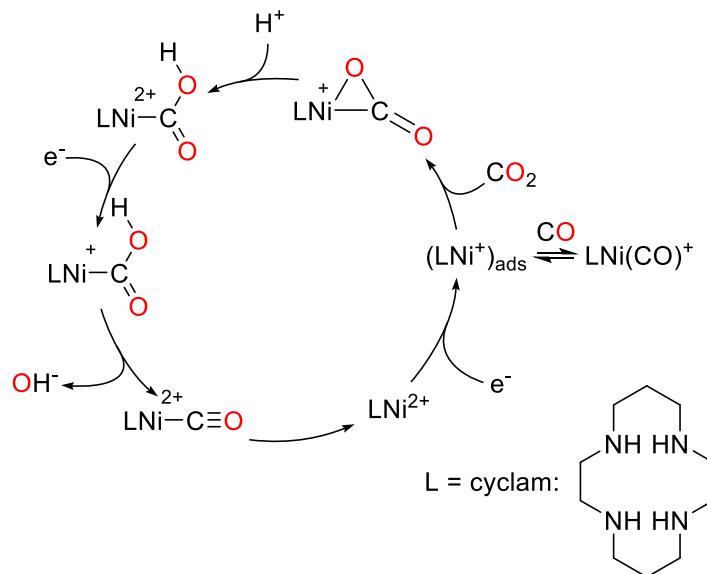
Multi-electron reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> in water (pH=7) vs. SCE



# CO<sub>2</sub> ELECTROREDUCTION TO CO

**Mechanistic scheme****Example:**

Sauvage, 1984

Voltammogram for the electroreduction of CO<sub>2</sub> catalyzed by Ni(cyclam)<sup>2+</sup>

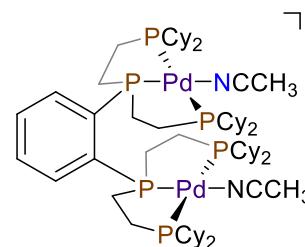
Overpotential:  $\eta = 0.55 \text{ V} (\text{V} = -1.31 \text{ V})$   
 TurnOver Frequency: TOF = 1250 s<sup>-1</sup>

# CO<sub>2</sub> ELECTROREDUCTION TO CO

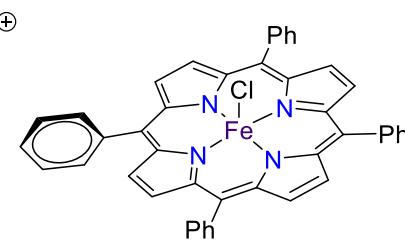
## Improved catalysts and performances



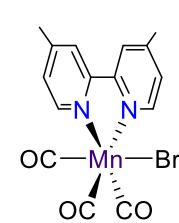
Sauvage, 1984



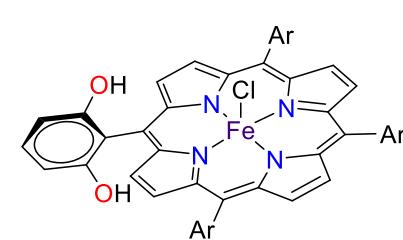
Dubois, 1990



Savéant, 1994



Deronzier, 2011



Savéant, 2012

$\eta$  (V)

0.6	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.5
log $TOF$ (s <sup>-1</sup> )	2.2	0.7	-0.1	3
log $TOF_0$ (s <sup>-1</sup> ) at $\eta = 0$ V	-7.1	-7.5	-14	-4.6

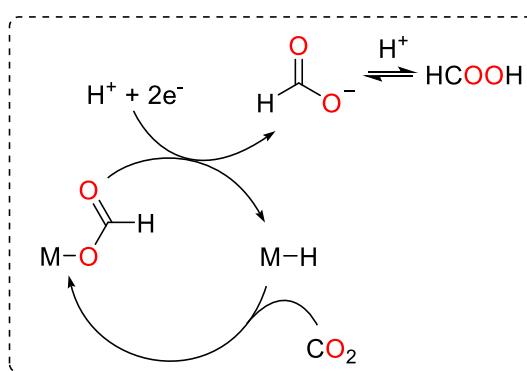
- Concomittant H<sub>2</sub> evolution is observed for all the catalysts
- Fine management of the local concentration of H<sup>+</sup> is crucial

# CO<sub>2</sub> ELECTROREDUCTION TO FORMIC ACID



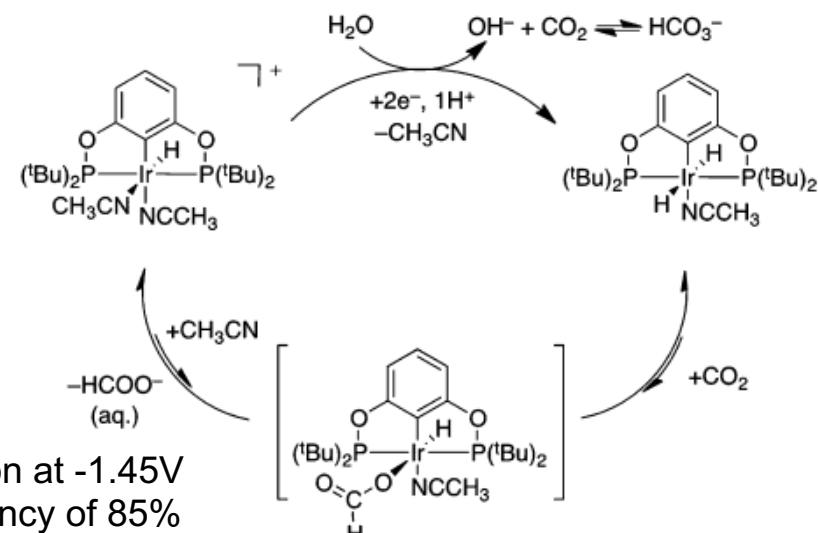
## Molecular catalysts:

### Mechanistic scheme



Copper, rhodium and iridium complexes are good catalysts

Example with iridium:



Formic acid production at -1.45V  
with a Faraday efficiency of 85%  
and a TOF of 20 s<sup>-1</sup>

High selectivity: Low contamination of the products with H<sub>2</sub> and CO

Brookhart, JACS 2012, 134, 5500

- Formate dehydrogenase (FDH) selectively reduces CO<sub>2</sub> to formate at the thermodynamic potential with a TOF of ca. 280 s<sup>-1</sup>
- Industrial developments are underway, using modified copper(0) metal electrodes (Farady efficiencies >90%, overpotential ~1V)

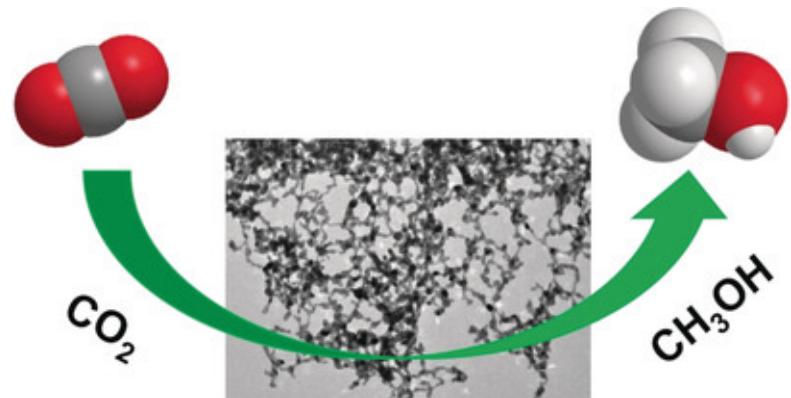
# CO<sub>2</sub> ELECTROREDUCTION TO METHANOL

A completely different story !



- Much more difficult because of multiple H<sup>+</sup> and e<sup>-</sup> transfers to synchronize
- Few successes:

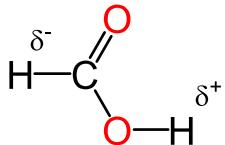
Faradaic efficiency of CH<sub>3</sub>OH production can reach 80.0% with a current density of 31.8 mA.cm<sup>-2</sup>



# CO<sub>2</sub> ELECTROREDUCTION TO CH<sub>3</sub>OH VIA HCOOH

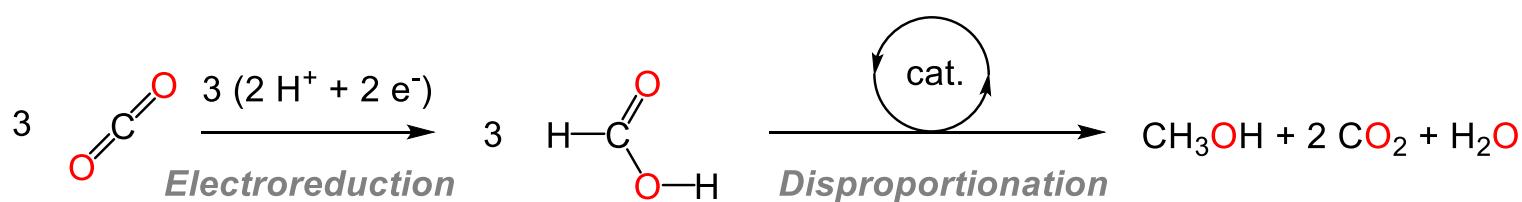
$$E^\circ(\text{CO}_2/\text{HCOOH}) = -0.61 \text{ V}$$

$$\text{BDE}(\text{C-H}) = 91 \text{ kcal/mol}$$

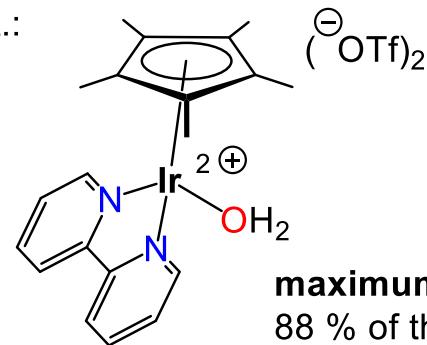


Renewable through CO<sub>2</sub> electrolysis

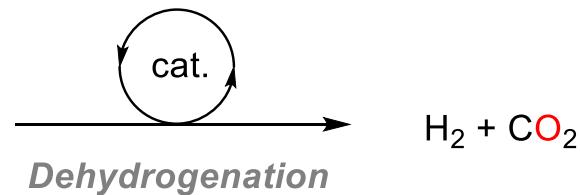
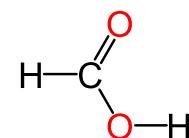
**Thermodynamic  
and kinetic advantage**



$$rG^\circ(298 \text{ K}) = -25.8 \text{ kcal/mol}$$

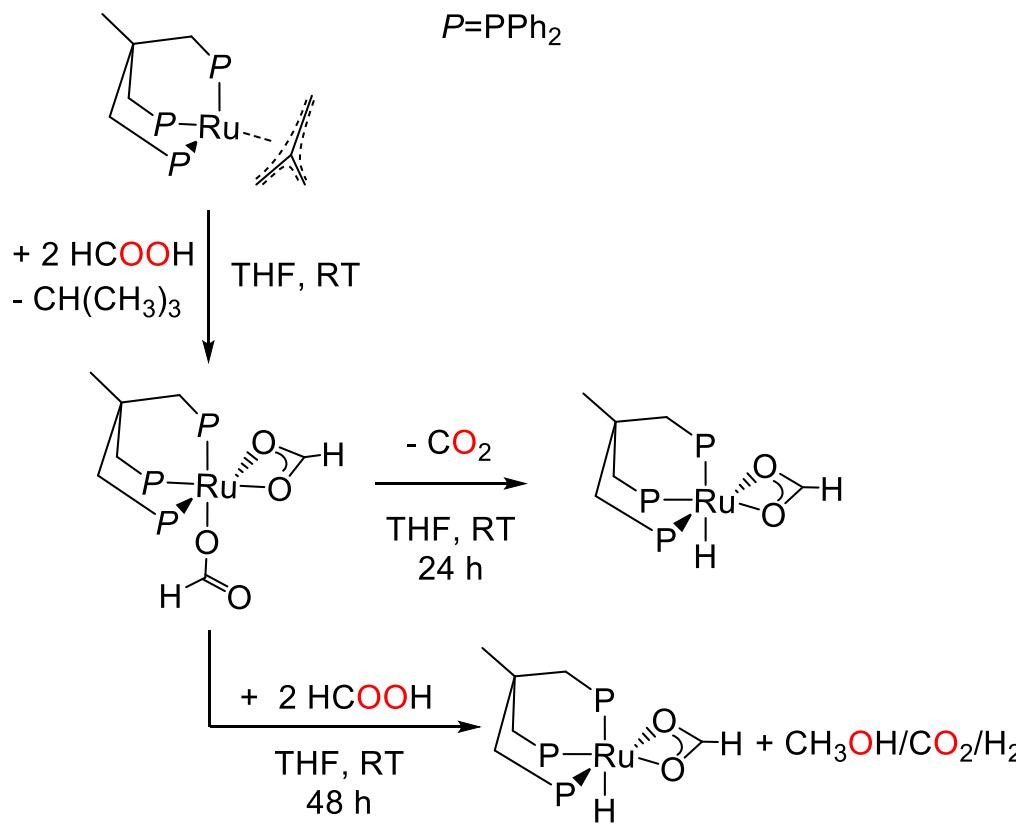


**maximum CH<sub>3</sub>OH yield = 1.9 %**  
88 % of the C-H bonds yield H<sub>2</sub>

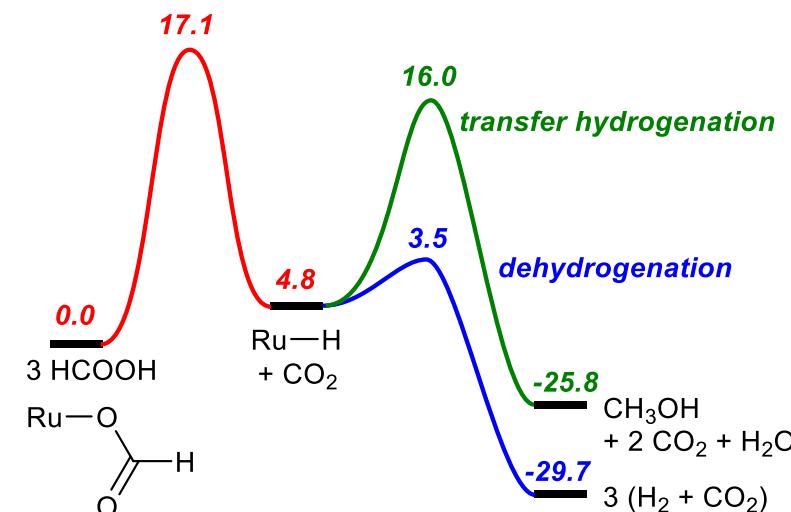


$$rG^\circ(298 \text{ K}) = -3.2 \text{ kcal/mol}$$

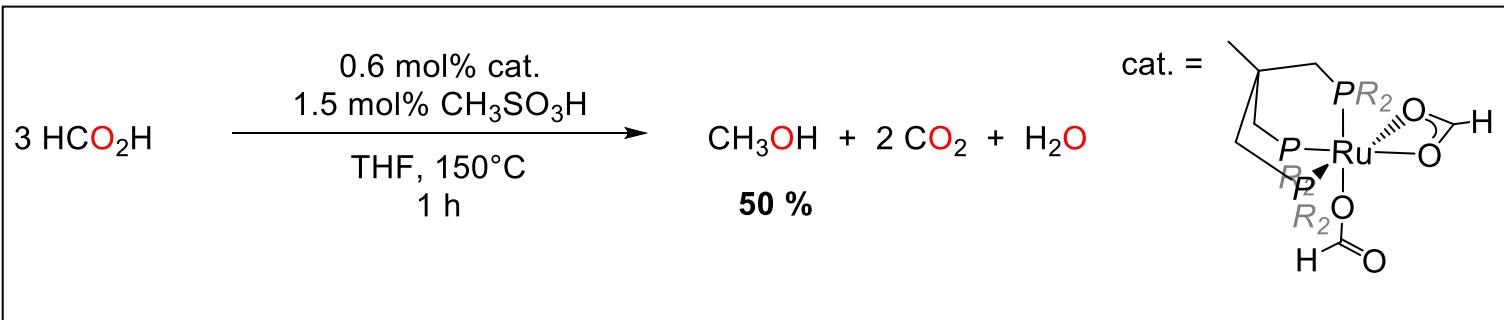
# CO<sub>2</sub> ELECTROREDUCTION TO CH<sub>3</sub>OH VIA HCOOH



M06-2X/6-31+G\*(H,C,O,P)+SDD(Ru) PCM(THF)



**Selectivity is under thermodynamic control**

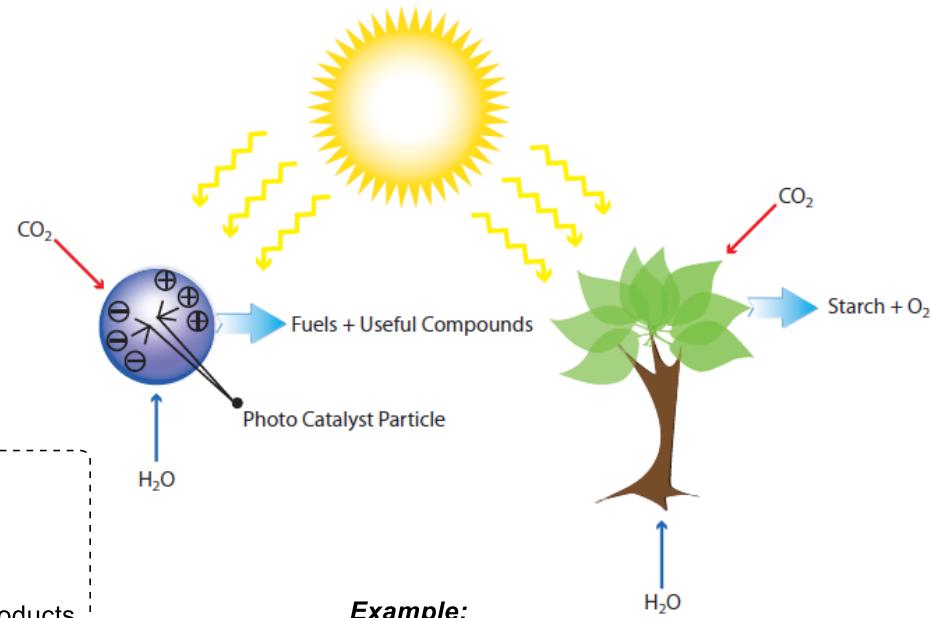
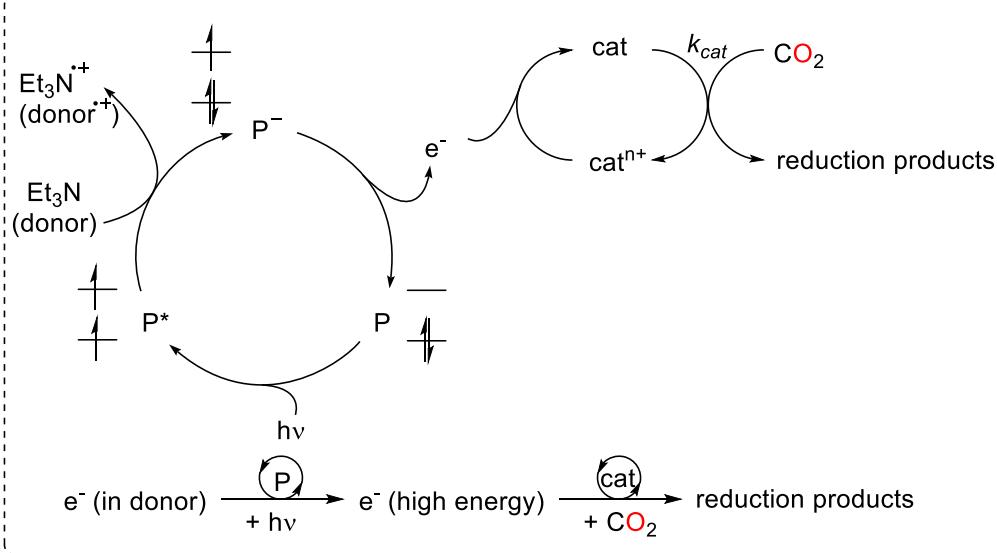


# CO<sub>2</sub> PHOTOREDUCTION

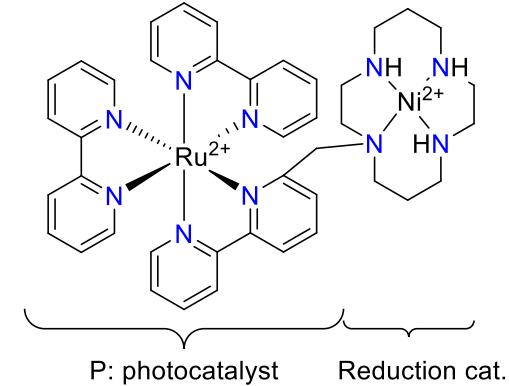
## The *dream* reaction

- CO<sub>2</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O + light = reduction
- Artificial photosynthesis:

### Mechanistic scheme

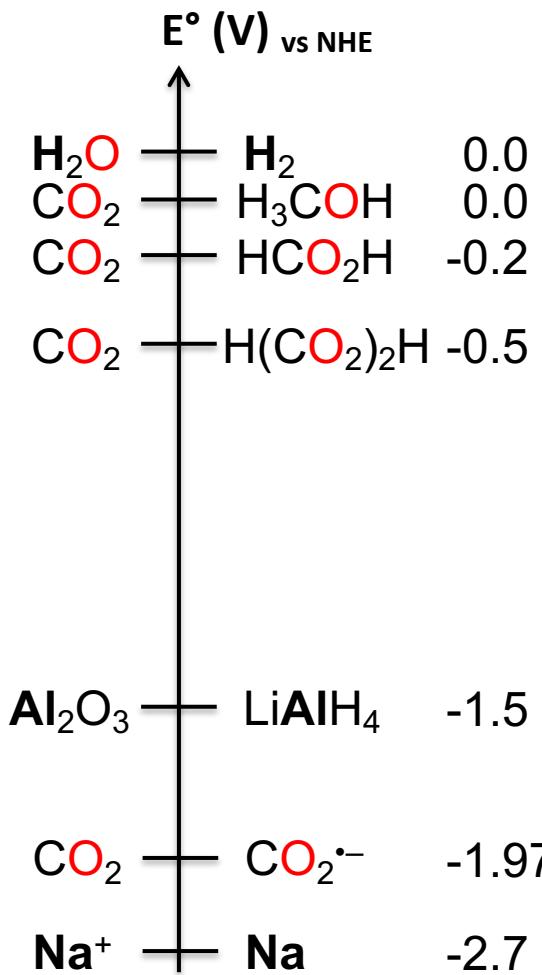


### Example:



# REDUCTION OF C-O BONDS BY HYDROGENATION

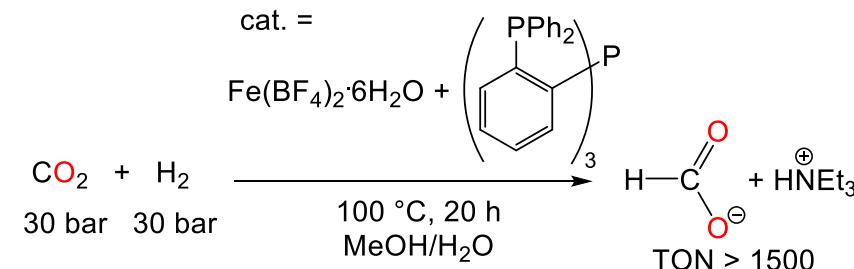
## Thermodynamics



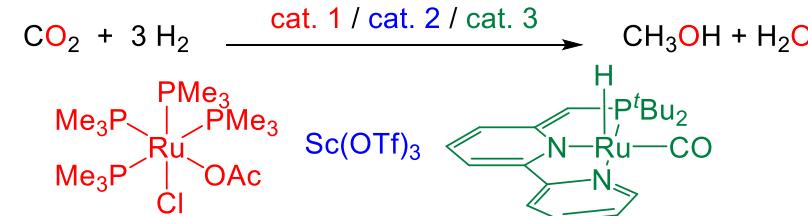
Cantat et al., ACS Catal. 2017, 7, 2107  
 Savéant et al., Chem. Soc. Rev. 2013, 42, 2423

## Kinetics

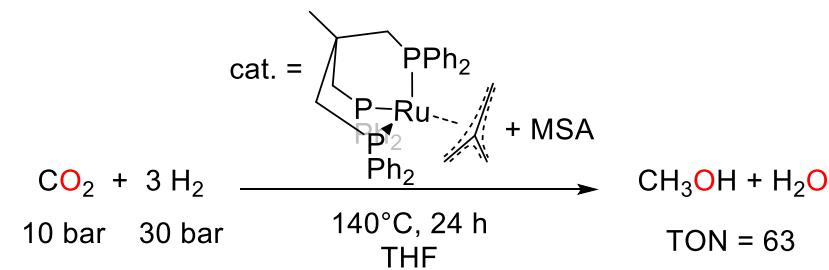
H-H Bond Dissociation Energy (BDE): 104 kcal/mol



M. Beller et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2012, 134, 20701



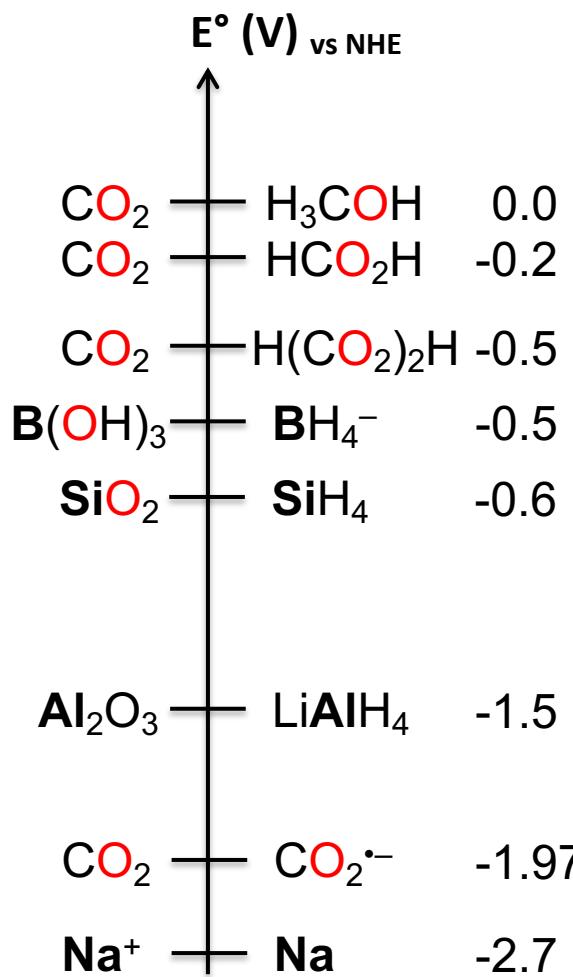
M. S. Sanford et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 18122



W. Leitner et al., Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2012, 51, 7499

# REDUCTION OF C-O BONDS BY HYDROSILYLATION

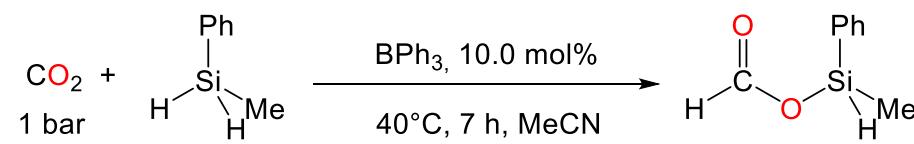
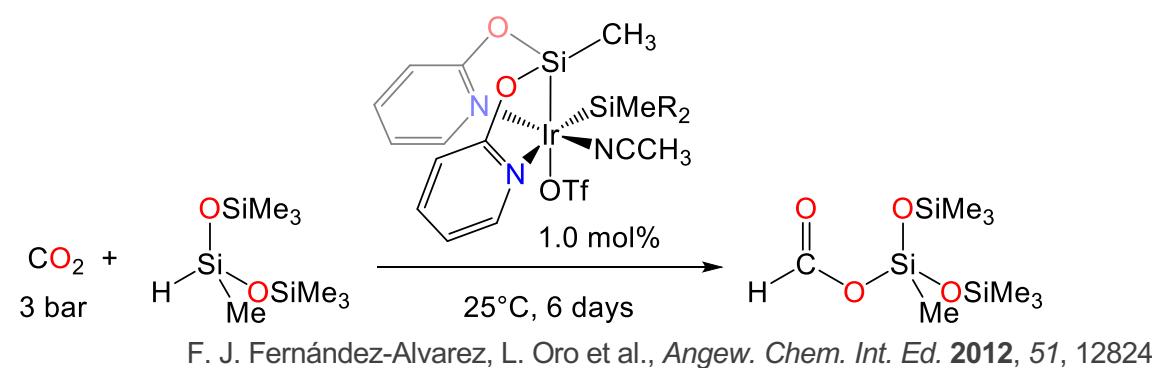
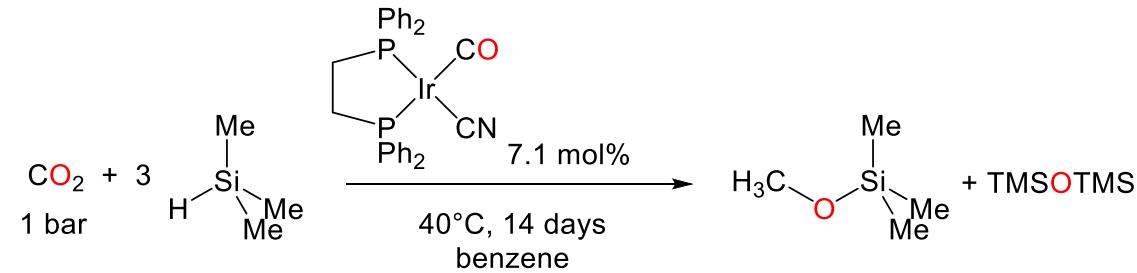
## Thermodynamics



Cantat et al., ACS Catal. 2017, 7, 2107  
 Savéant et al., Chem. Soc. Rev. 2013, 42, 2423

## Kinetics

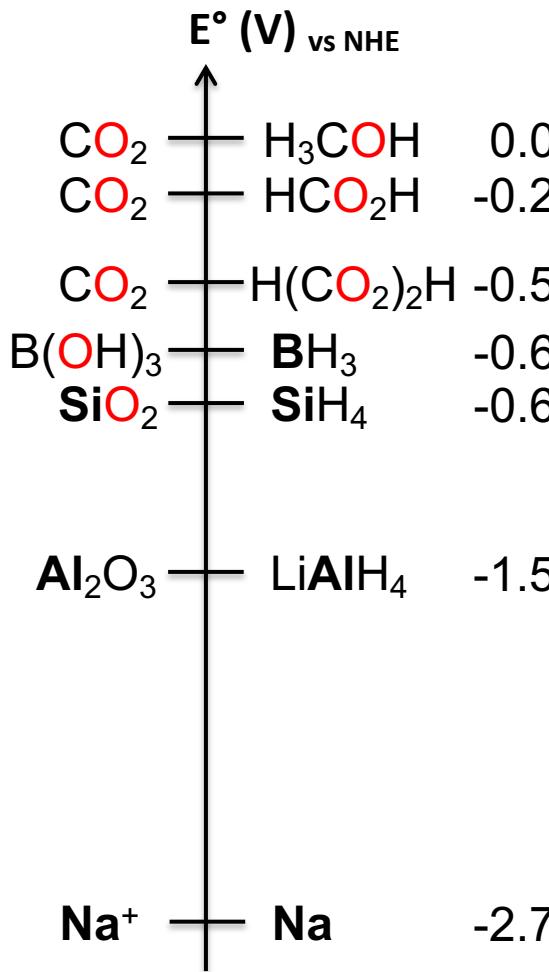
Si-H Bond Dissociation Energy (BDE): 92 kcal/mol



J. Okuda et al., Chem. Eur. J. 2016, 22, 7730

# REDUCTION OF C-O BONDS BY HYDROSILYLATION

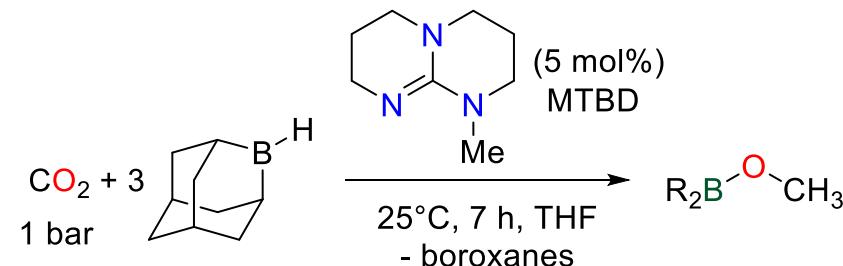
## Thermodynamics



## Kinetics

Si-H Bond Dissociation Energy (BDE): 92 kcal/mol

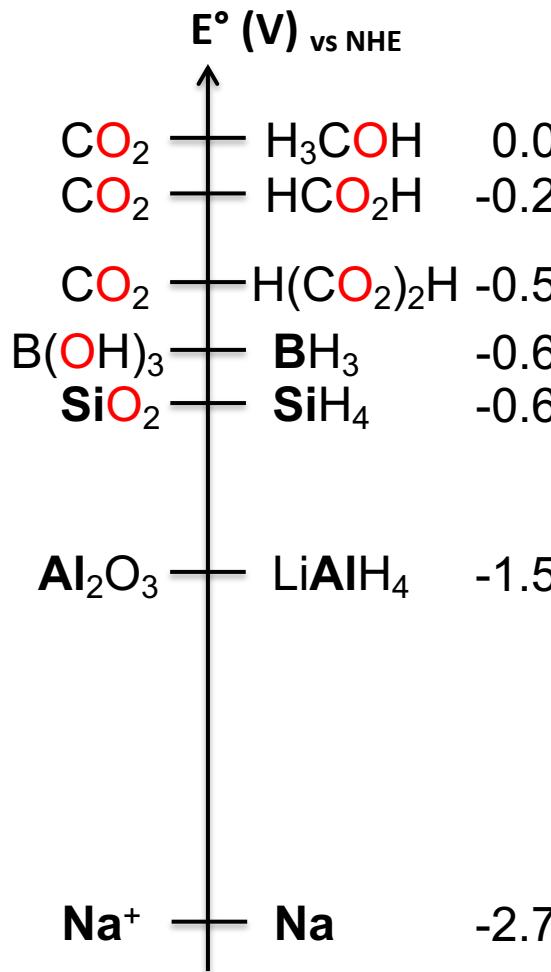
B-H Bond Dissociation Energy (BDE): 78 kcal/mol



Cantat et al., *Chem. Eur. J.* **2014**, 20, 7098.  
Patent WO2014162266 (2013/04)

# REDUCTION OF C-O BONDS BY HYDROSILYLATION

## Thermodynamics

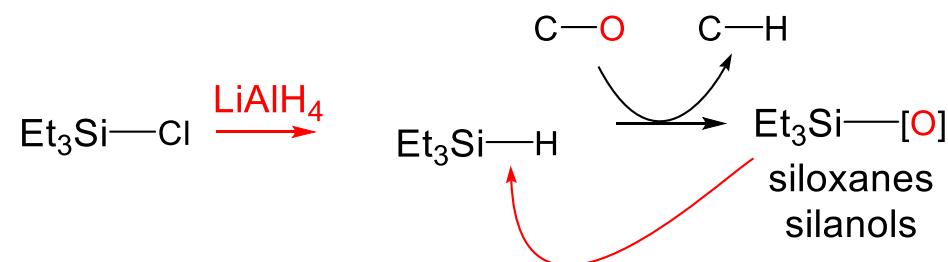


## Kinetics

Si-H Bond Dissociation Energy (BDE): 92 kcal/mol

B-H Bond Dissociation Energy (BDE): 78 kcal/mol

## Generation and recyclability



Energy efficiency

Energy efficiency

Reactivity and selectivity

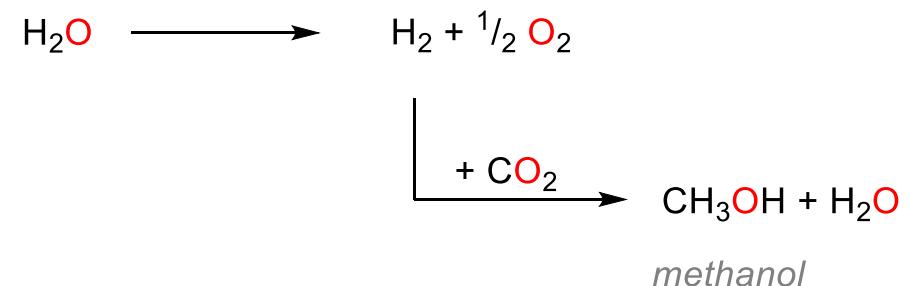
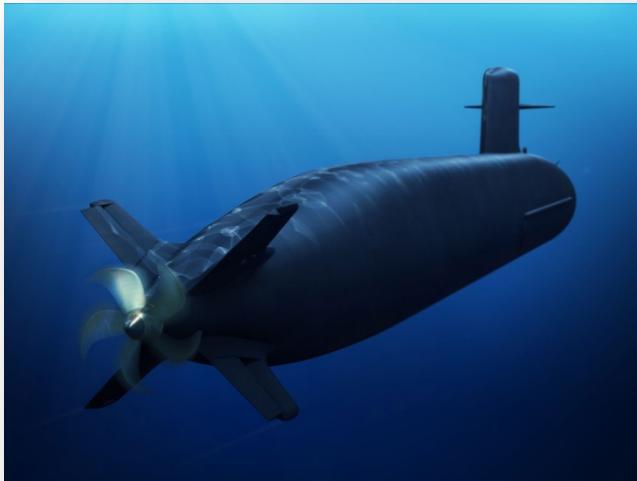
Reactivity and selectivity

Recyclability

Recyclability

# CO<sub>2</sub> TO FUELS

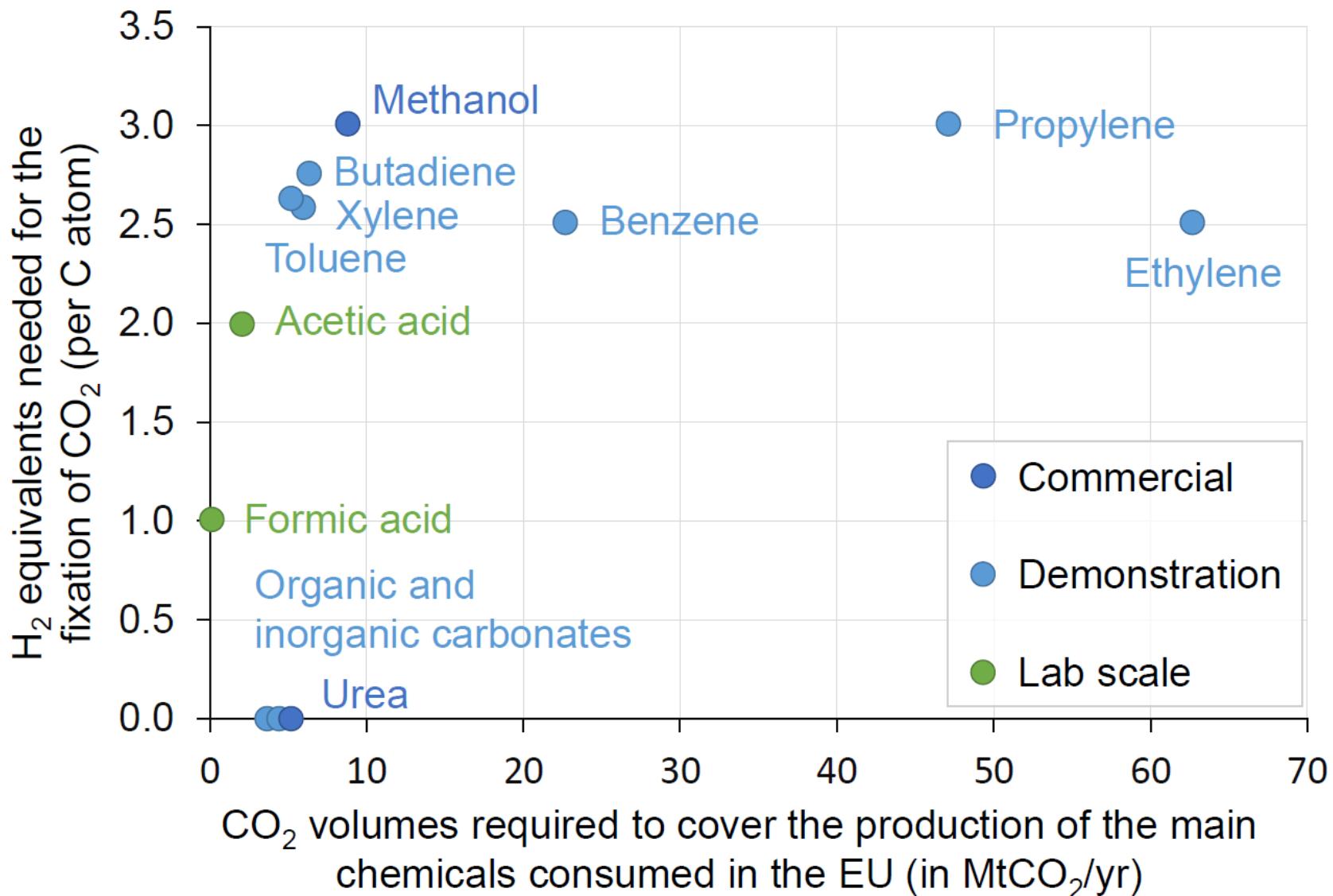
Limited short terms opportunities



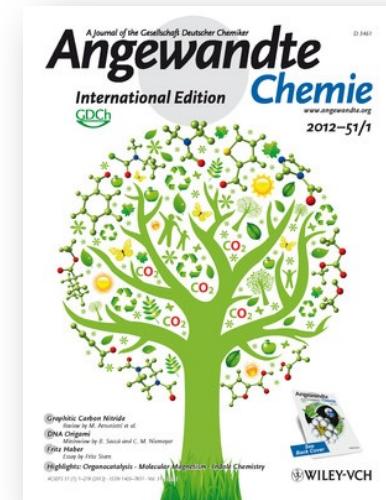
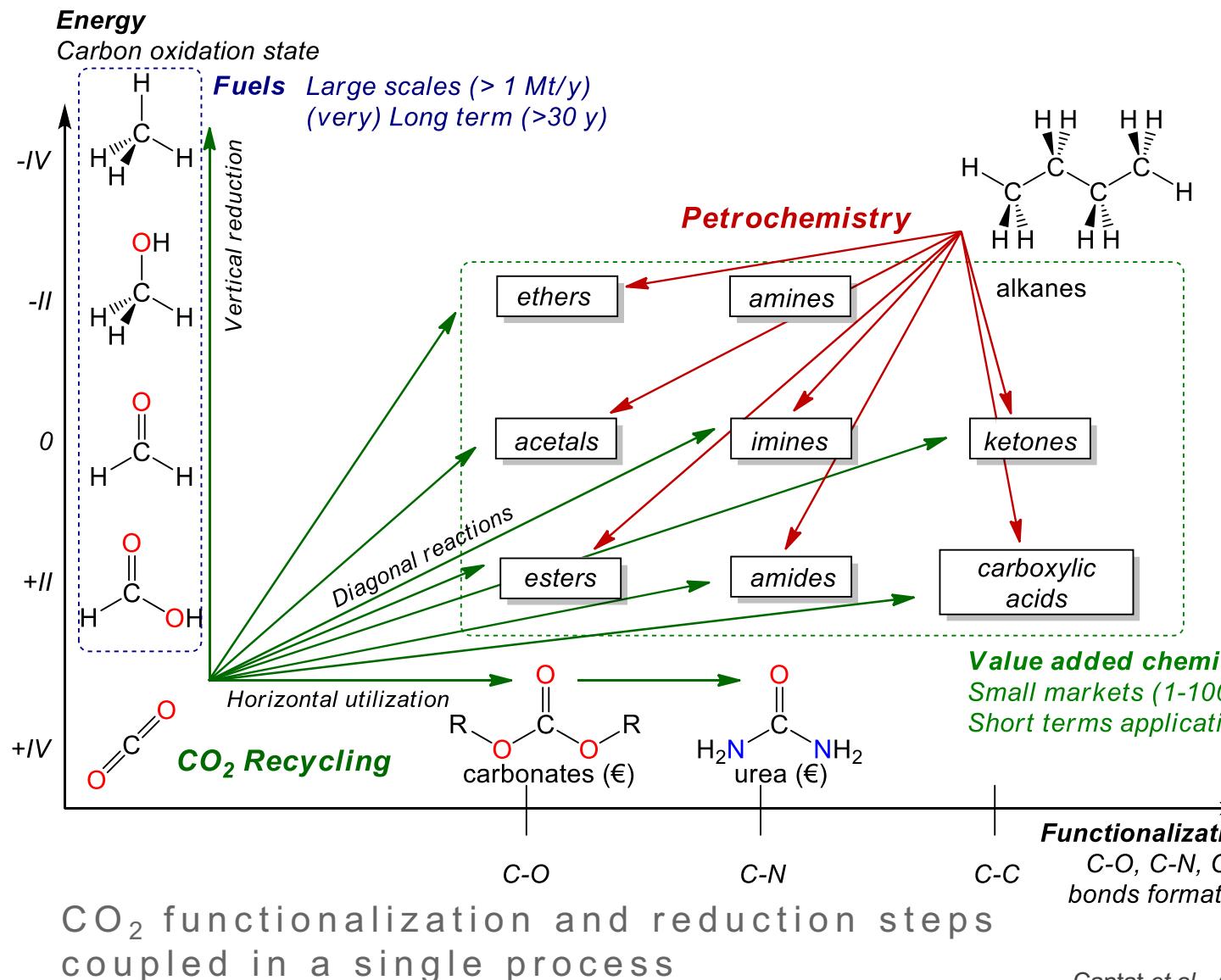


## CO<sub>2</sub> CONVERSION TO VALUE-ADDED CHEMICALS

# CARBON BASED PRODUCTS IN AN ENERGY SYSTEM



# VARIOUS OPPORTUNITIES TO CO<sub>2</sub> RECYCLING...

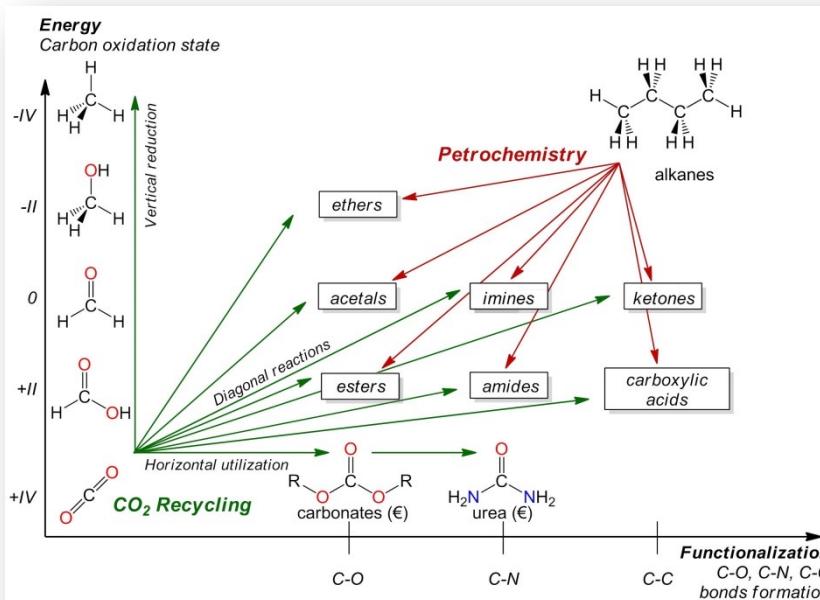


**COVER**  
**VIP Paper**  
**Highlighted in Nature**



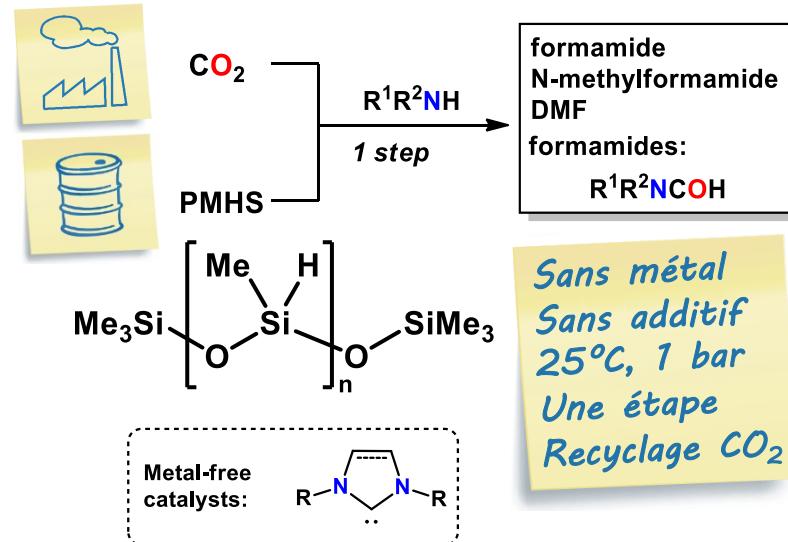
# PROOF-OF-CONCEPT: NEW CATALYTIC PROCESS

## Proof-of-concept for the diagonal approach



**Co-recycling  $\text{CO}_2/\text{PMHS}$  (CEA/DSM technology)**

**Metal-free catalysts, room temperature, single step**



- Cover picture in **Angewandte Chemie**
- Very Important Paper (top 5%)
- Highlighted in **Nature**

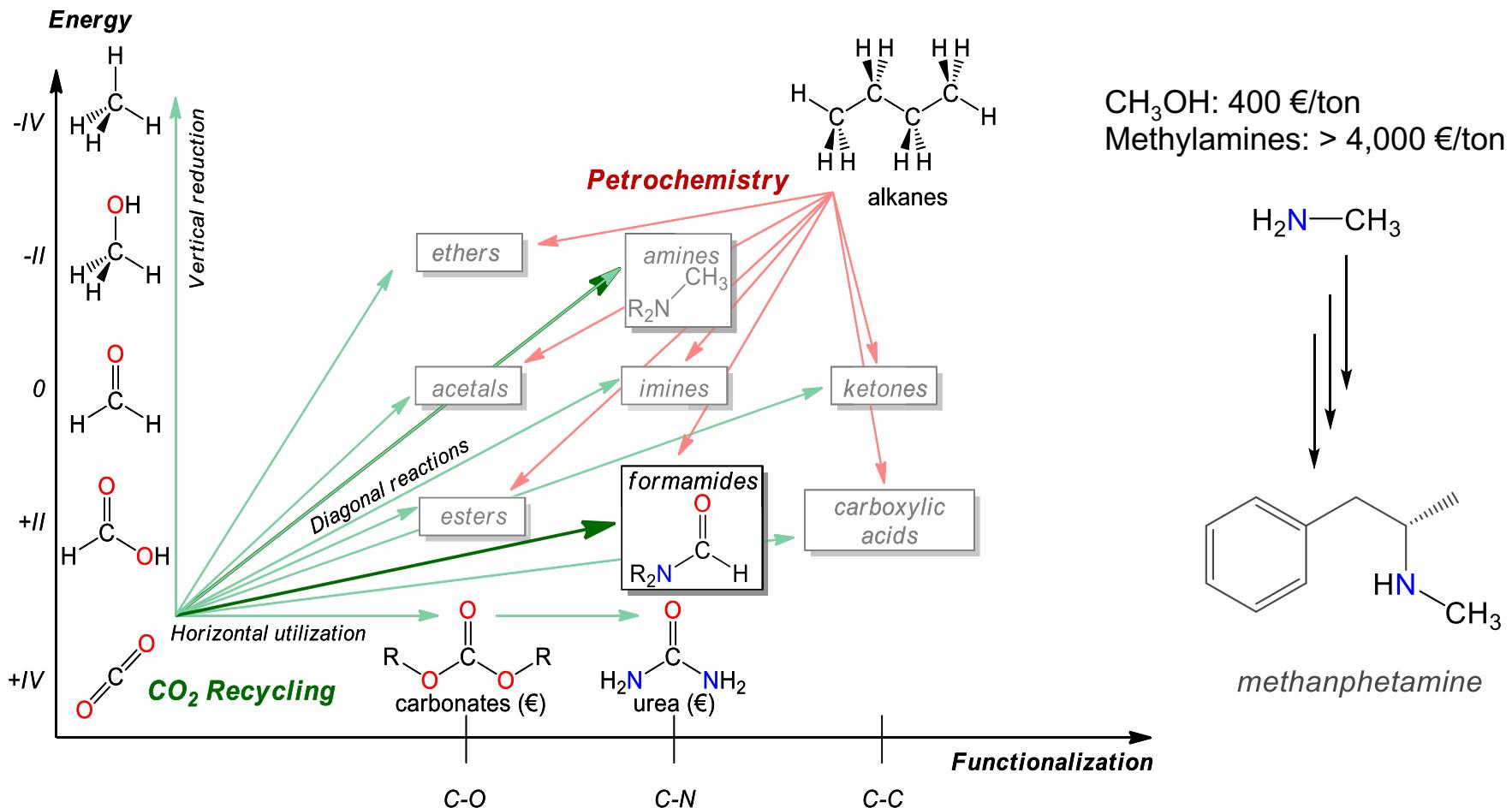
*World production: 500 kt/y from oil  
 Utilization as solvents and reactants*

- $\text{CO}_2$  as an alternative to petrochemistry
- Utilization of an energy vector (H, Si) coupled with a functionalizing reactant

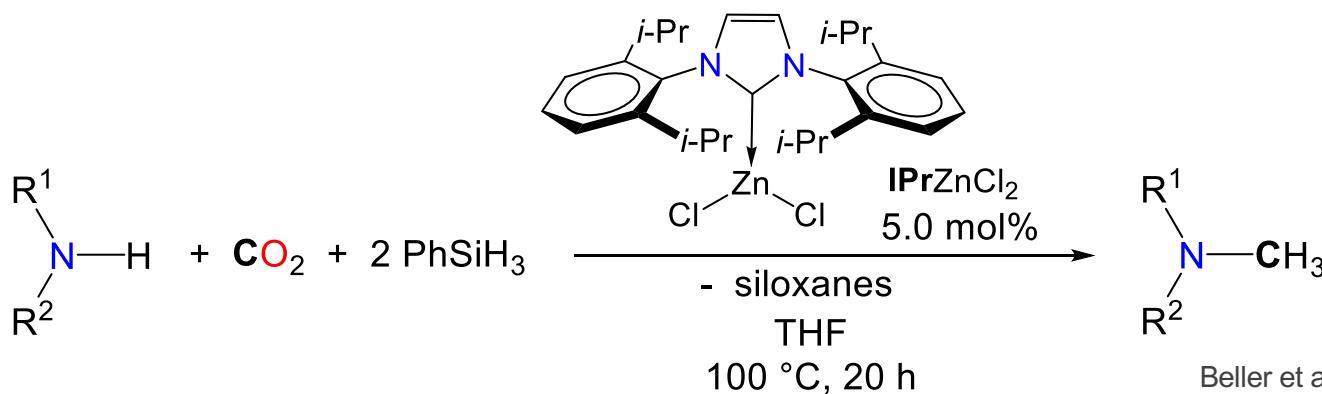
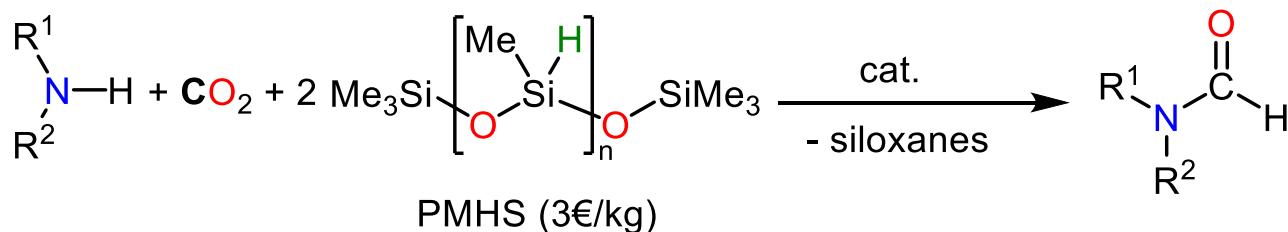
# SECOND CHALLENGE: METHYLATION USING CO<sub>2</sub>

## CO<sub>2</sub> as a methylating reagent

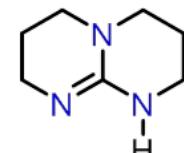
- Goal: diagonal reactions with large slope (access to highly reduced compounds)



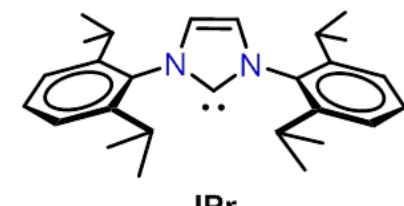
# NEW REACTIONS INVOLVING CO<sub>2</sub>



Catalysts:

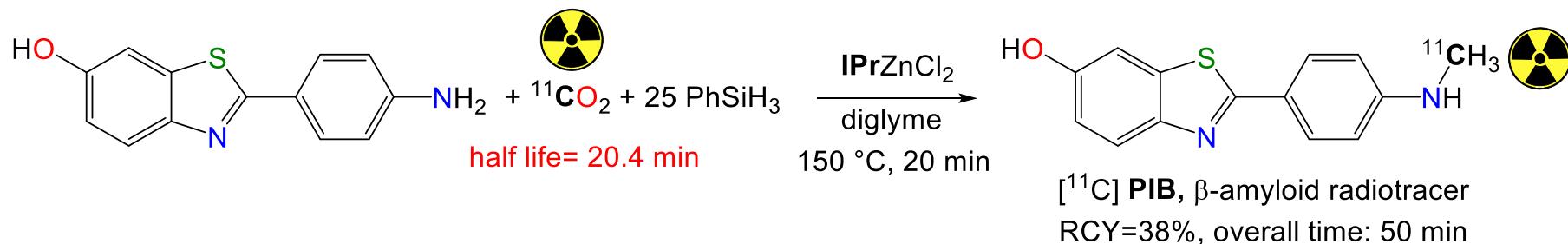


TBD



IPr

For a Ru cat., see:  
Beller et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, 52, 9568

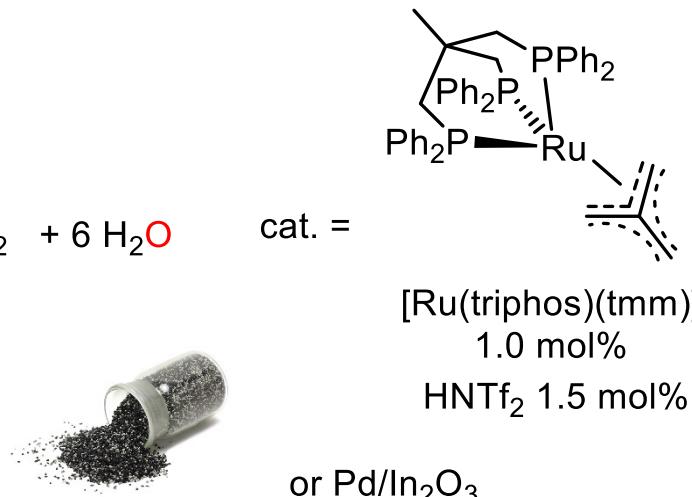
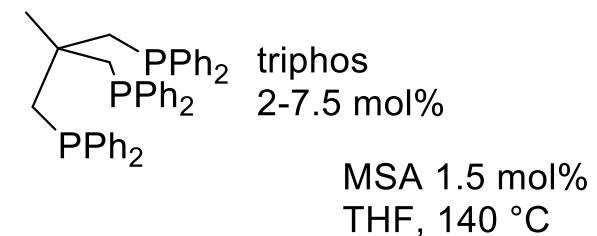
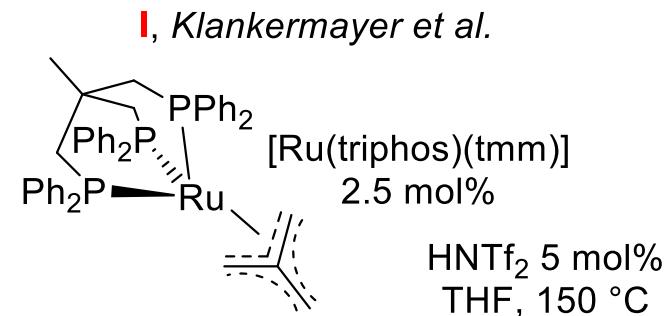
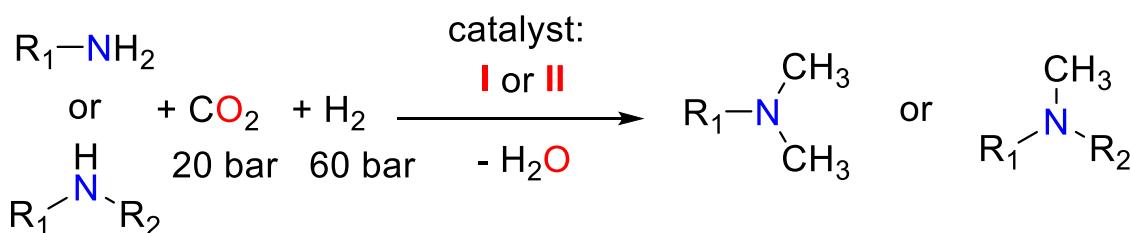


*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, 51, 187  
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, 134, 2934  
*Chem. Sci.* **2013**, 4, 2127  
*ChemCatChem* **2013**, 5, 117

Liger et al., *EurJOC*, **2015**, 6434  
 Cantat et al., Patent PCT/IB2013/054599

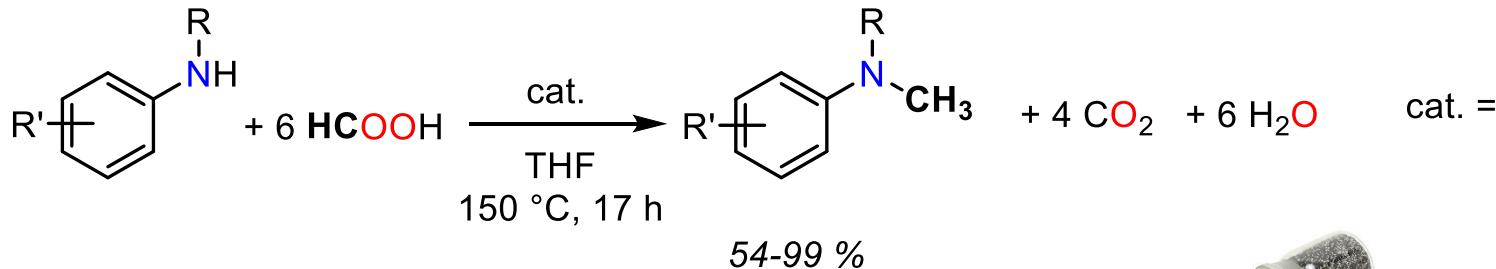
# METHYLATION OF AMINES USING HCOOH

## ■ H<sub>2</sub> as a reductant



Klankermayer et al., Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2013, 52, 9554.  
 Beller et al., Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2013, 52, 12156.  
 Cantat et al., Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2014, 53, 2543 [Highlight]

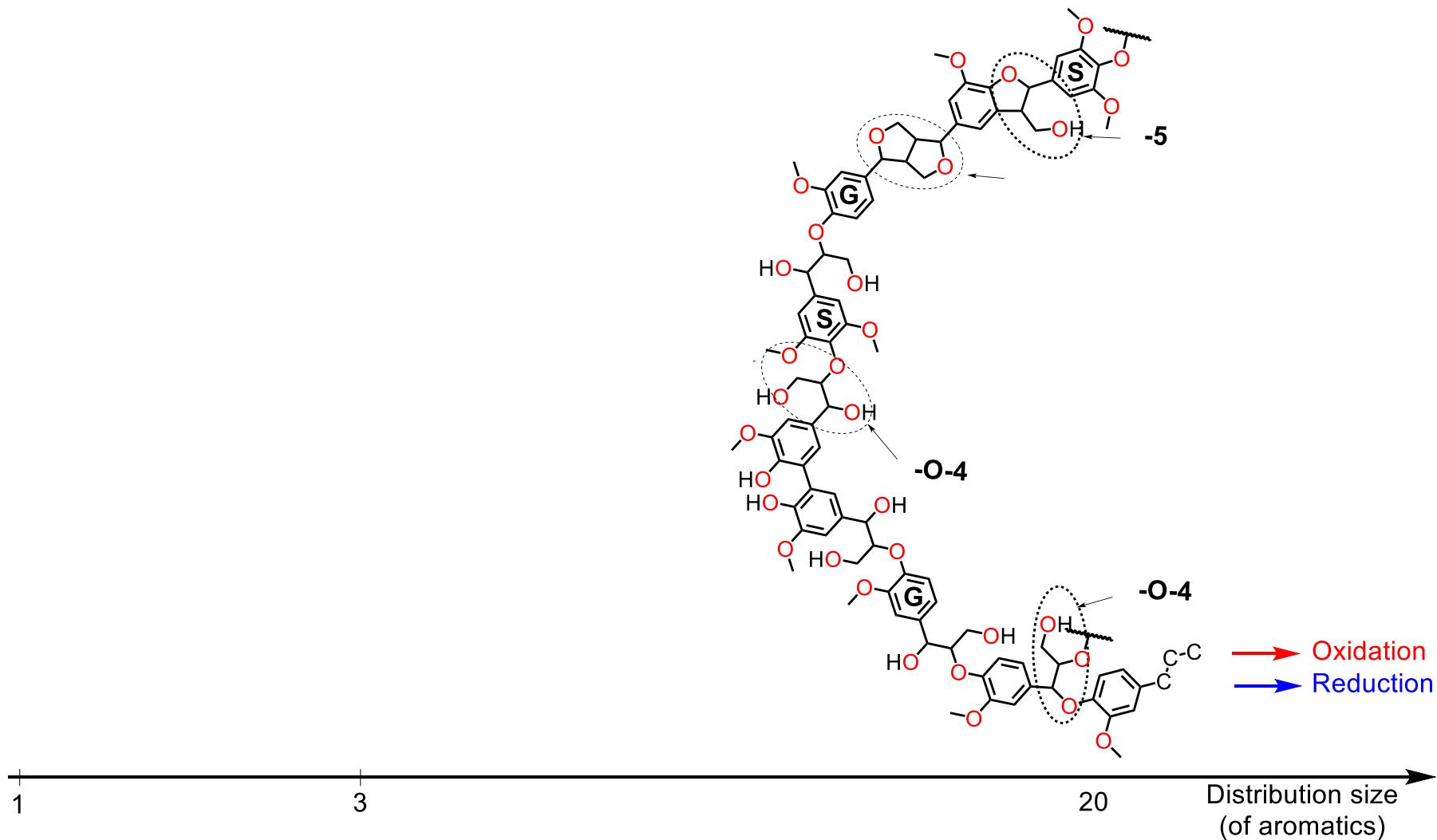
## ■ HCO<sub>2</sub>H as a carbon and hydrogen source





## BEYOND CO<sub>2</sub> REDUCTION: DEPOLYMERIZATION OF WASTE PLASTICS AND LIGNIN

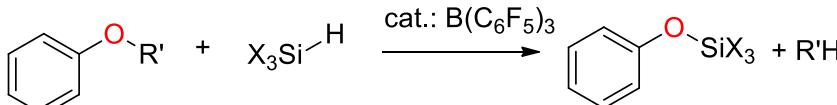
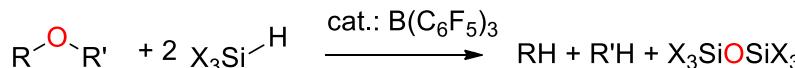
# CONVERGENT REDUCTIVE DEPOLYMERIZATION



Cantat et al., *Energy Environ. Science*, 2015, 8, 2734  
 For lignin oxidation see: Weckhuysen et al. *Chem. Rev.*, 2010, 110, 3552  
 Stahl et al. *Nature* 2014, 515, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2013, 135, 6415  
 Zhang et al. *Chem. Rev.*, 2015, 115, 11559

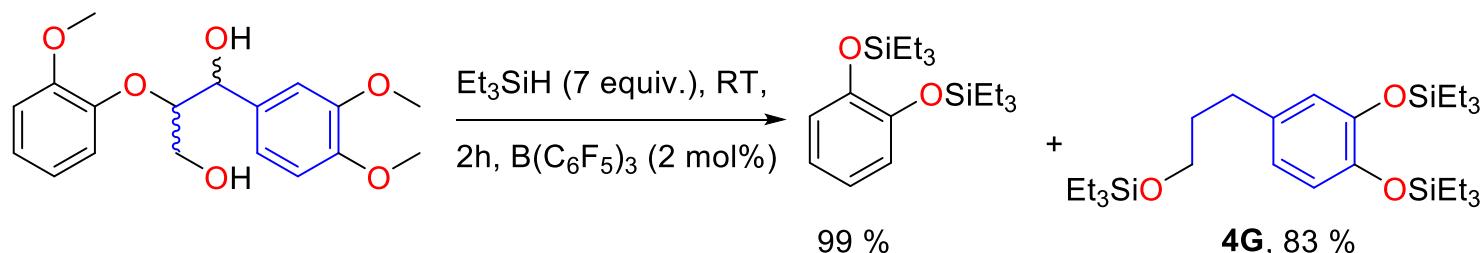
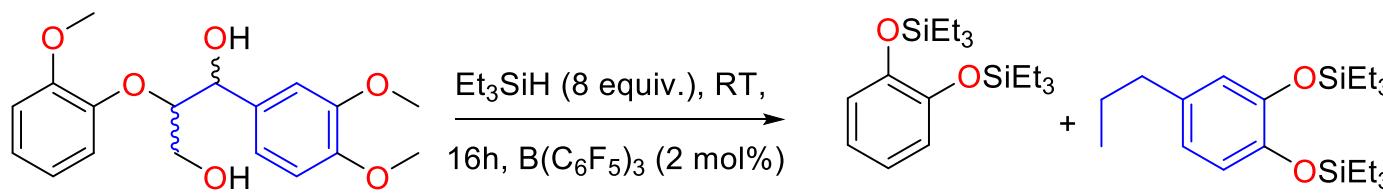
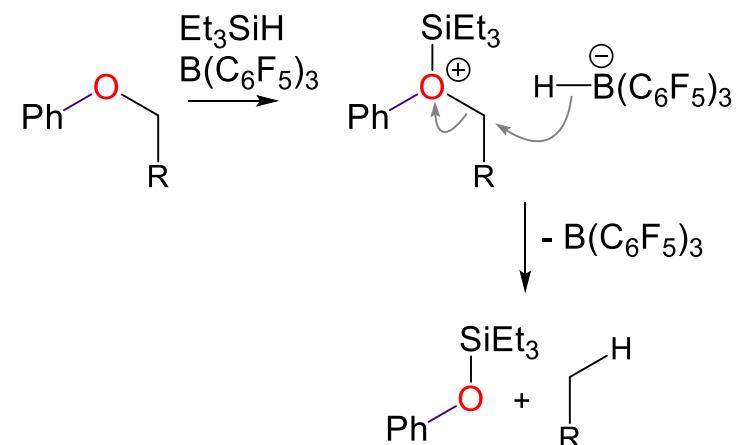
# CATALYTIC HYDROSILYLATION OF ETHERS

## Catalytic hydrosilylation of ethers (Piers and Gevorgyan)



Utilized in organic chemistry only  
Never applied to biomass molecules

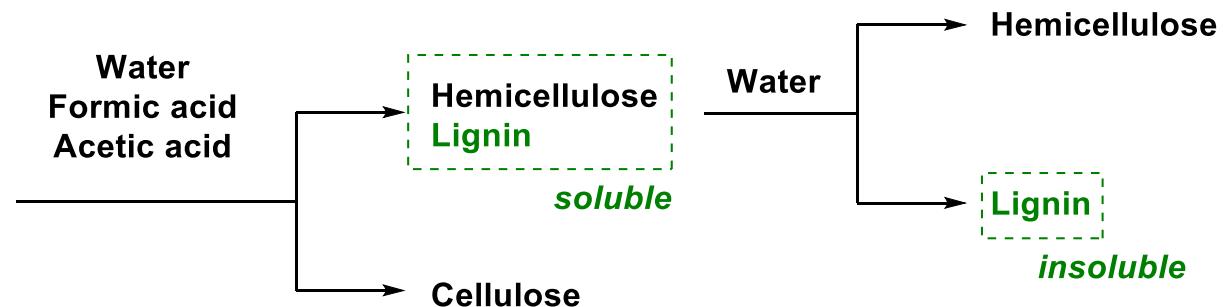
V. Gevorgyan, et al. *J. Org. Chem.* **2000**, 65, 6179  
Piers et al. *J. Org. Chem.* **2000**, 65, 3090





# REDUCTIVE DEPOLYMERIZATION OF LIGNIN

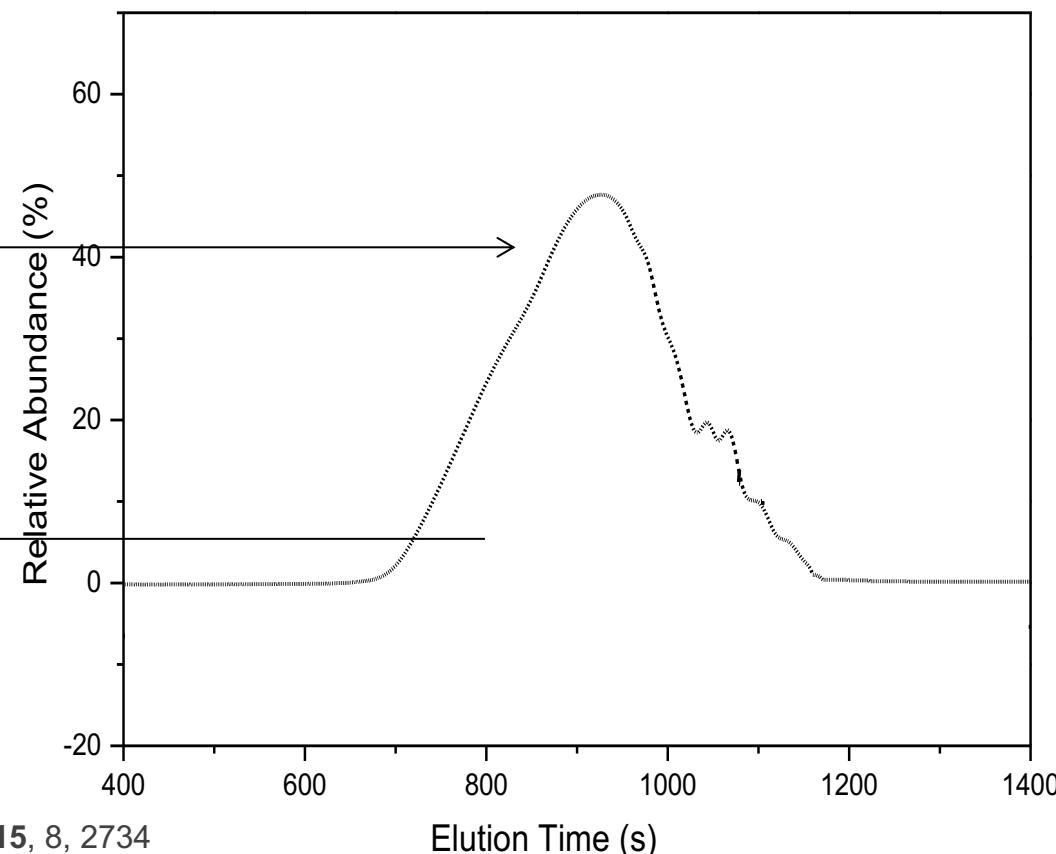
## Formacell process:



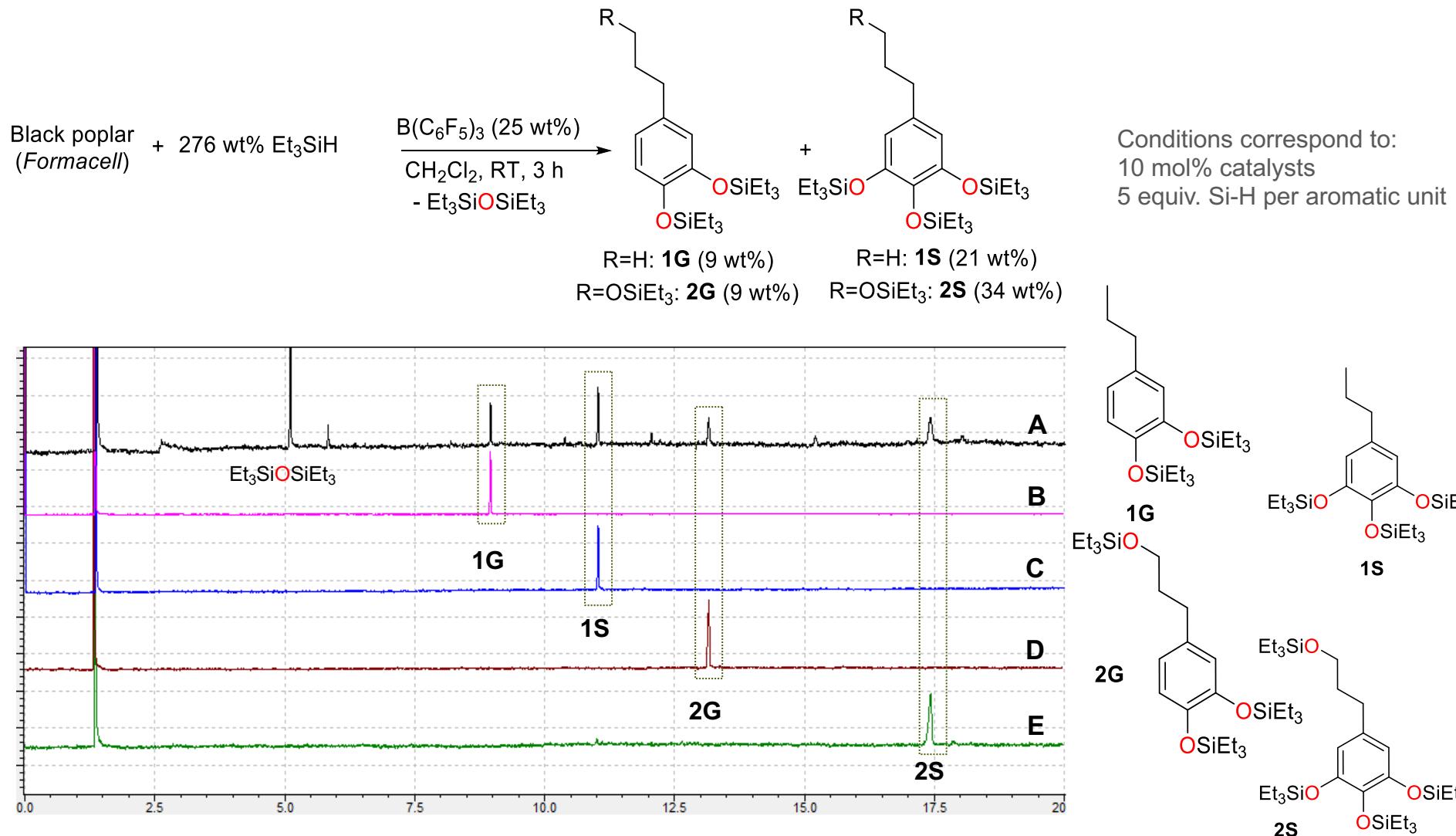
SEC chromatograms

Black poplar lignin

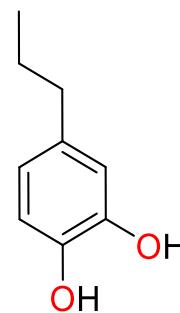
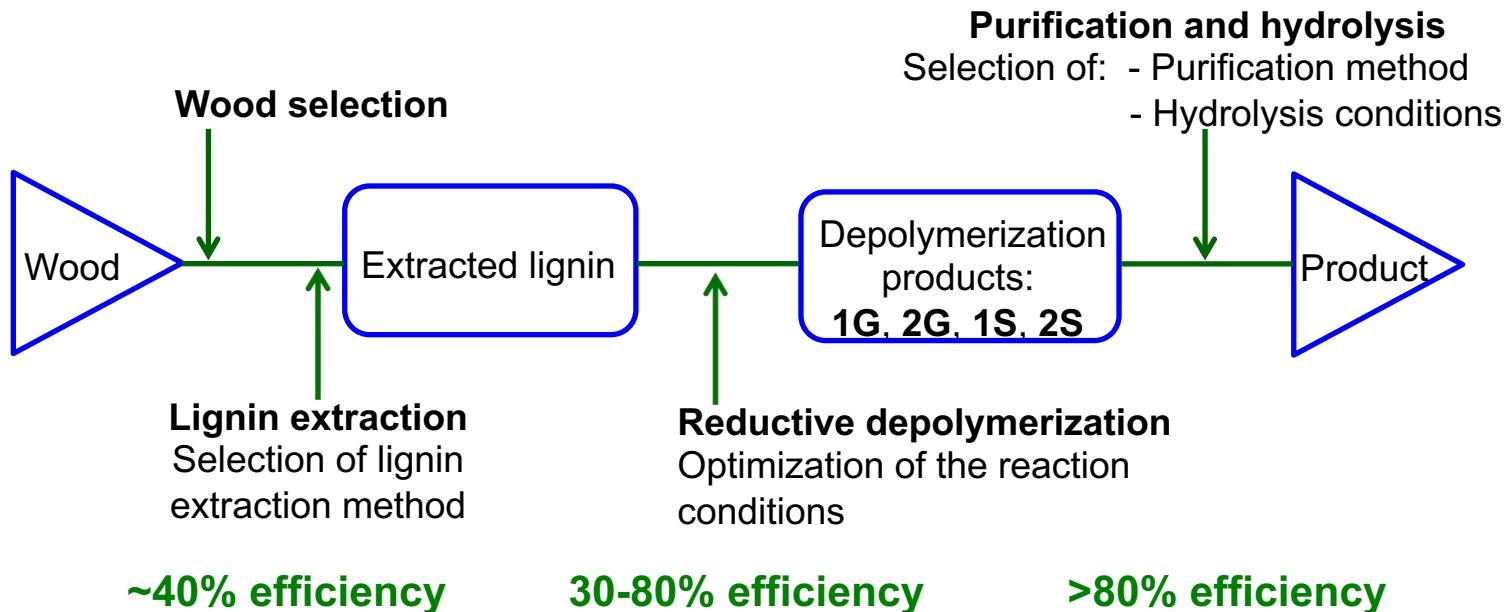
Black poplar lignin  
+ 276 wt% Et<sub>3</sub>SiH  
+ 25 wt% B(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>  
After 20 h at RT in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>



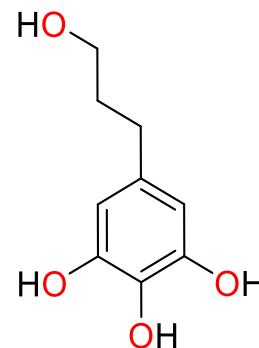
# REDUCTIVE DEPOLYMERIZATION OF LIGNIN



# AN INTEGRATIVE APPROACH

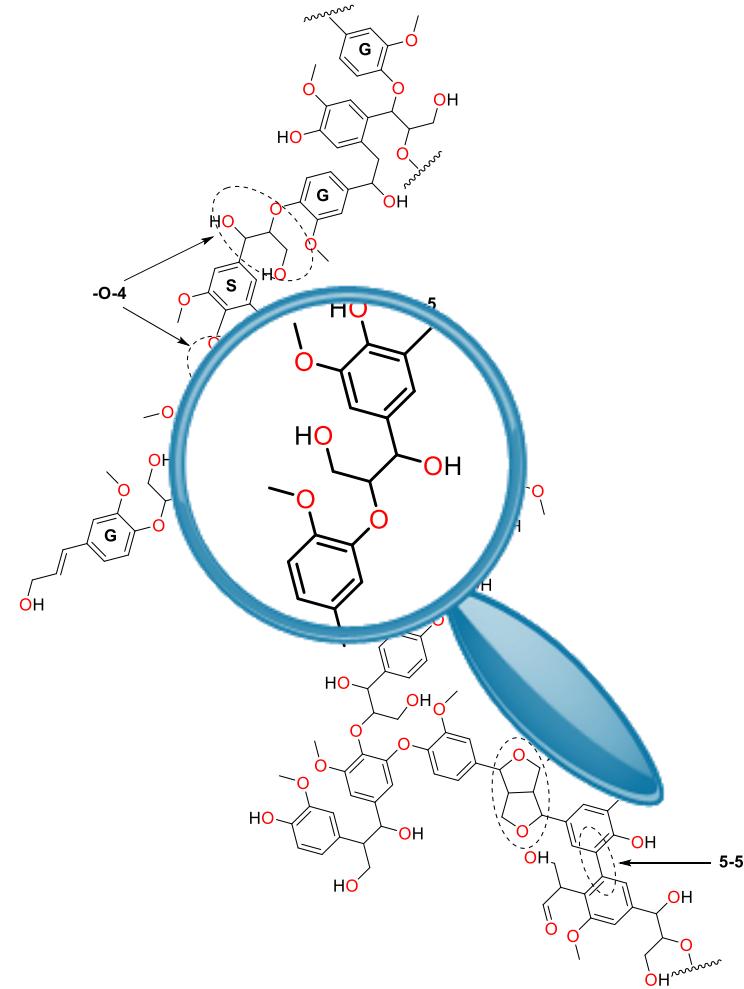


**0.5 wt% from wood!**  
**7.0 wt% from lignin**

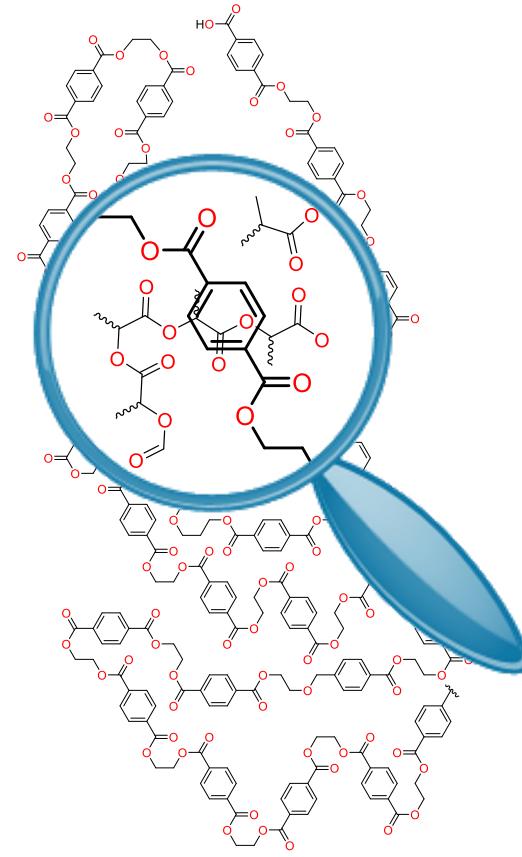


**2.4 wt% from wood!**  
**24.0 wt% from lignin**

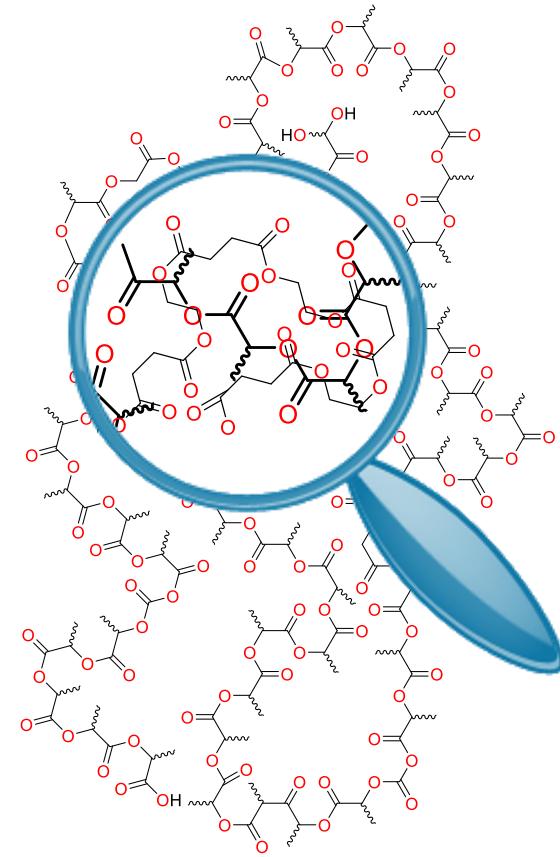
# BIOMASS/PLASTIC DEPOLYMERIZATION, SAME CHALLENGE ?



Lignin

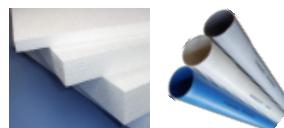
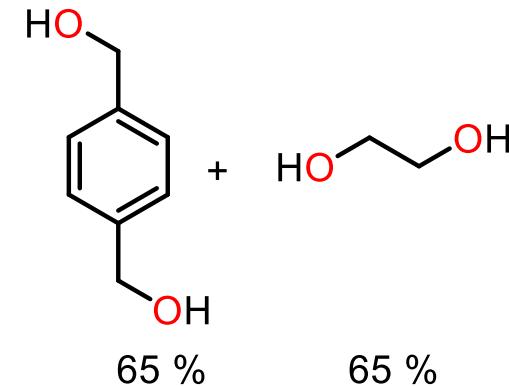
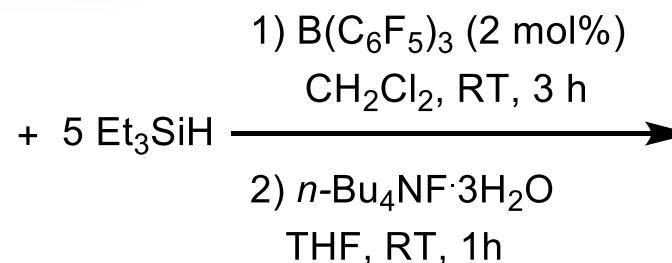
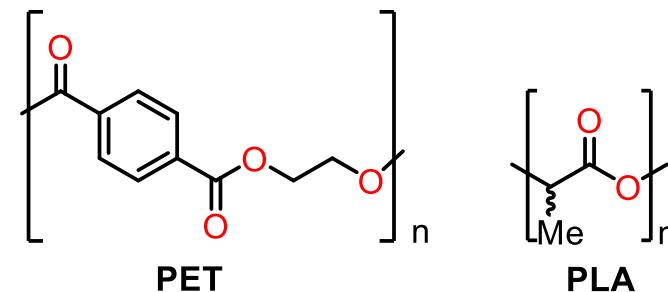


Poly(Ethylene Terephthalate)



Poly(Lactic Acid)

# DEPOLYMERIZATION OF WASTE PLASTICS



*ChemSusChem*, 2015, 8, 980; *ACS Sust. Chem. Eng.* 2018, 6, 10481  
 Patent app. PCT/IB2016/059684  
 For the hydrogenation of pure PET, see: Robertson *et al.*, *Chem. Commun.* 2014, 50, 4884

# RECYCLING STRATEGIES

## REWEAR

CLOTHING THAT CAN BE WORN AGAIN IS MARKETED WORLDWIDE AS SECOND-HAND GOODS.

## ENERGY

WHEN REWEAR, REUSE AND RECYCLE ARE NOT OPTIONS, TEXTILES ARE USED TO PRODUCE ENERGY.



## REUSE

TEXTILES THAT ARE NO LONGER SUITABLE TO WEAR ARE CONVERTED INTO OTHER PRODUCTS, SUCH AS CLEANING CLOTHS.

## RECYCLE

TEXTILES THAT CAN'T BE REUSED GET A NEW CHANCE AS TEXTILE FIBRES, OR ARE USED TO MANUFACTURE PRODUCTS SUCH AS DAMPING AND INSULATING MATERIALS FOR THE AUTO INDUSTRY.



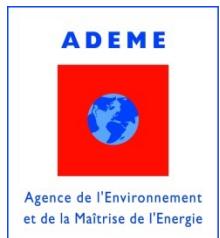
European Research Council

Established by the European Commission

StG 2013-2018  
CoG 2019-2024



INSTITUT DE FRANCE



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T. Godou  
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G. Destro  
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