

H₂ essential molecule for industry and Society

UNAFIC

Régis Réau - 21st November 2017

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City • Date

Name & function • Department

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The Air Liquide Group

2016 key figures

(Following the acquisition of Airgas on May 23rd, 2016)



~65,000
EMPLOYEES ⁽¹⁾

Present in
80
COUNTRIES

Revenue
€ 18.1
BILLION ⁽²⁾

Net profit
€ 1.844
BILLION

More than
3 MILLION
CUSTOMERS
& PATIENTS

(1) As of August 1st, 2017.

(2) Excluding Welding and Diving, restated as discontinued operations.

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AIR LIQUIDE, THE WORLD LEADER IN GASES, TECHNOLOGIES AND SERVICES FOR INDUSTRY AND HEALTH

Unique expertise and skills

Separating the components of the **air** to take advantage of their properties



OXYGEN



NITROGEN



ARGON
AND RARE GASES

Producing molecules from **natural resources** of the Planet



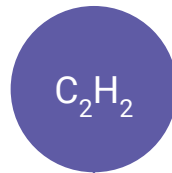
HYDROGEN



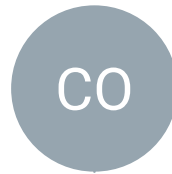
HELIUM



SILANE

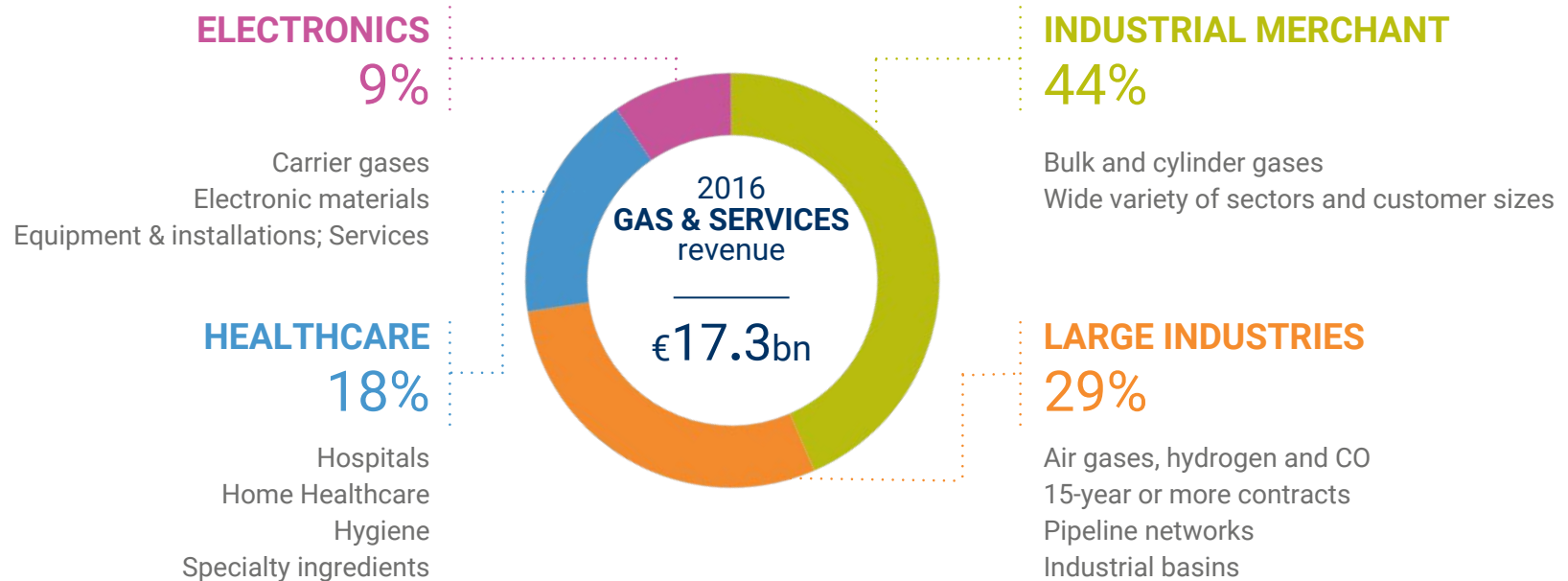


ACETYLENE



CARBON
MONOXIDE

A diversified and solid business mix

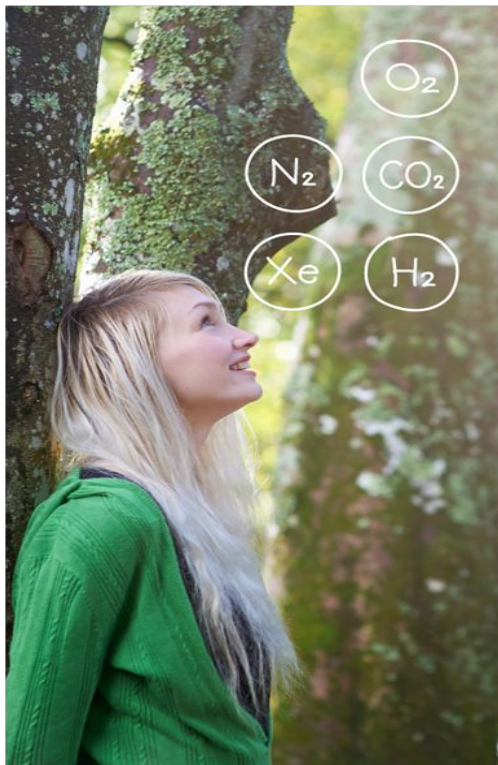


From Properties and Reactivity to Applications



Air Liquide Territory: Essential Small Molecules

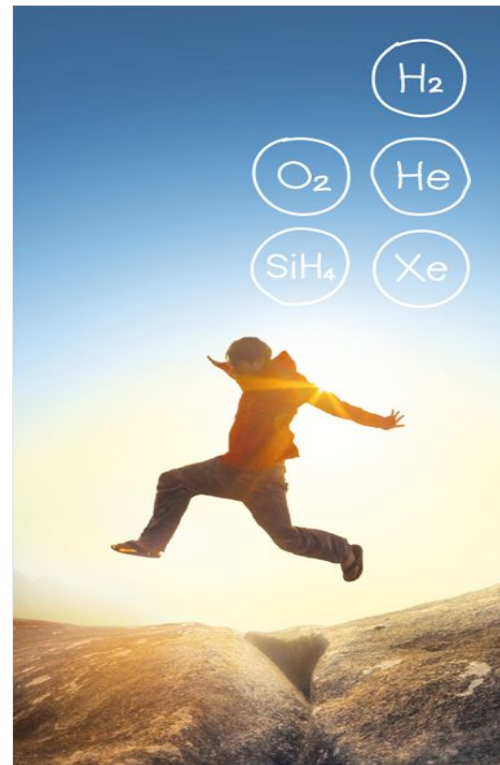
to life



to matter



to energy



What is the H atom? What is the H2 molecules ?

- The first element of the periodic table
- The lightest element : atomic weight: 1.008
- Isotopes : H (99.98%), D (0.01%), T ($t_{1/2} = 12.3$ y)

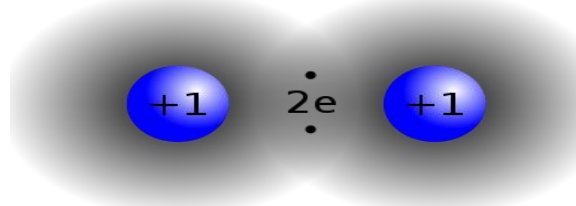
Exists as H^+ , H^- , H_2 , $(H_2O, CH_4, MgH_2...)$

- The simplest molecule : low gas density (0.0852 kg
- Very stable bond : 436 kJ/mol (C-C, 350 kJ/mol)
- Combustible gas : $H_2 + \frac{1}{2} O_2 \rightarrow H_2O$ (- 242 kJ/mol)
- Energy density :

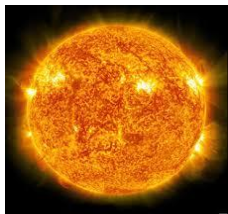
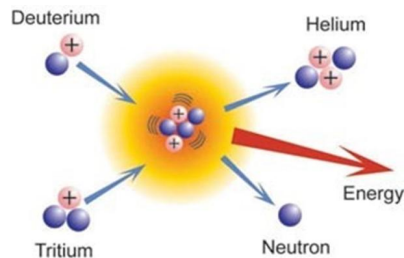
	Wh/kg	Wh/l
H_2	39	1.6
CH_4	15	10
Diesel	13	10
Jet Fuel	12	10

Periodic Table of the Elements

H-H molecule



H (D, T, H+, H-, H.) and H₂ in Nature



the most abundant element
essential to energy

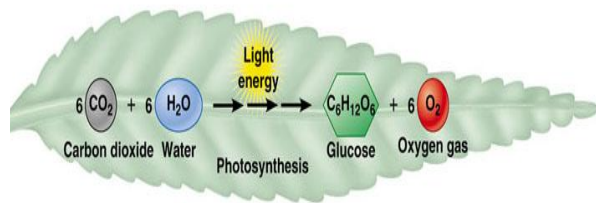
Universe

H-feedstocks

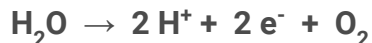
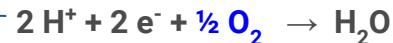
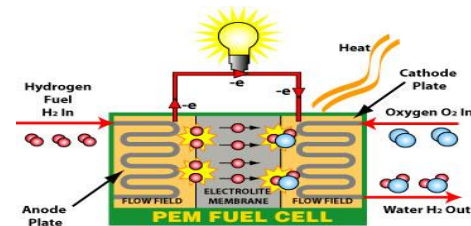
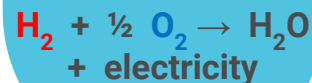


H₂O, fossil fuels
C_nH_{2n+2}, biomass -(CH₂O)-

Photosystem(I)



Fuel Cells :



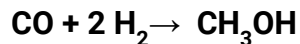
H₂ in modern life : a versatile molecule

Materials processing

Flat glasses,
Heat treatment
Reducing atmospheres

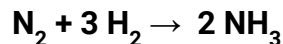


Methanol production



Ammonia synthesis

Haber-Bosch process



Electronics

Reactant & gas carrier for
semiconductors fabrication



Food industry

Oil hydrogenation



Space

Rocket fuel

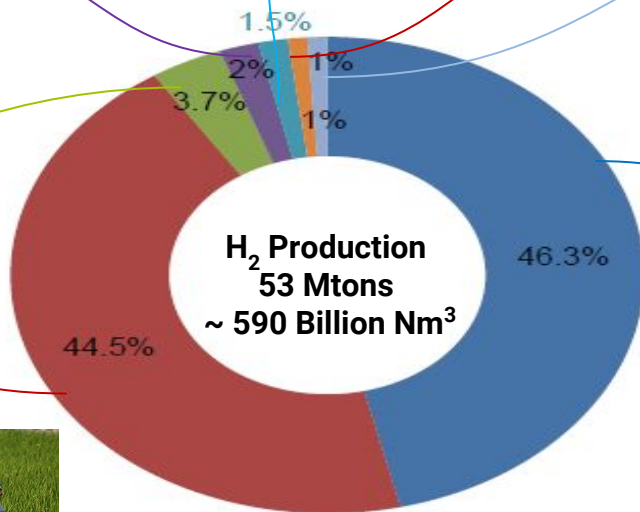


Petroleum refining

Hydrosulfurization
Hydrocracking



2015: Towards H₂ mobility
Hydrogen fuel cell vehicle



Energy : GreenHouse Gases (CO_2 , CH_4 , N_2O ...)

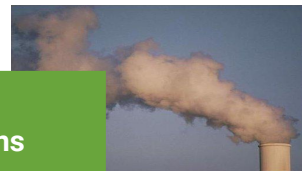
Cities : 2%

global land area
but 70% of CO_2
emissions



GHG emissions

Europe & Japan,
-80% (2050);
USA -28% (2030),
China -20%
(2030)...



Air quality



92 % of the world population lives in places where the levels of air quality do not correspond to the levels fixed by the WHO for the fine particles the diameter of which is lower than 2,5 microns



Transportation

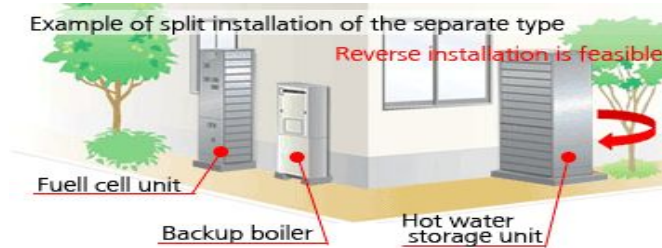
26% of total GHG
emissions

H2

Fuel Cell : Electrical Vehicules, H₂-mobility

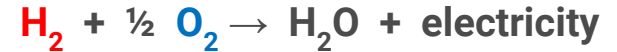
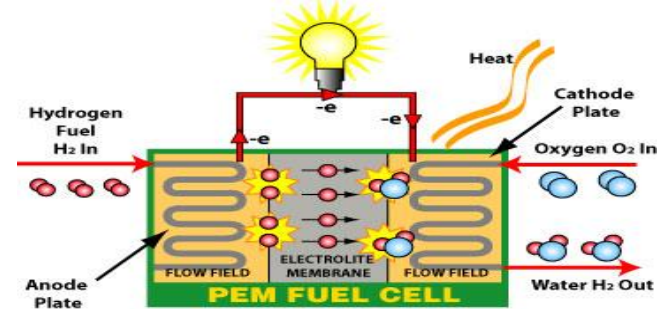


and also residential: Smart cities !



Panasonic

> 150000 installations (Japan)

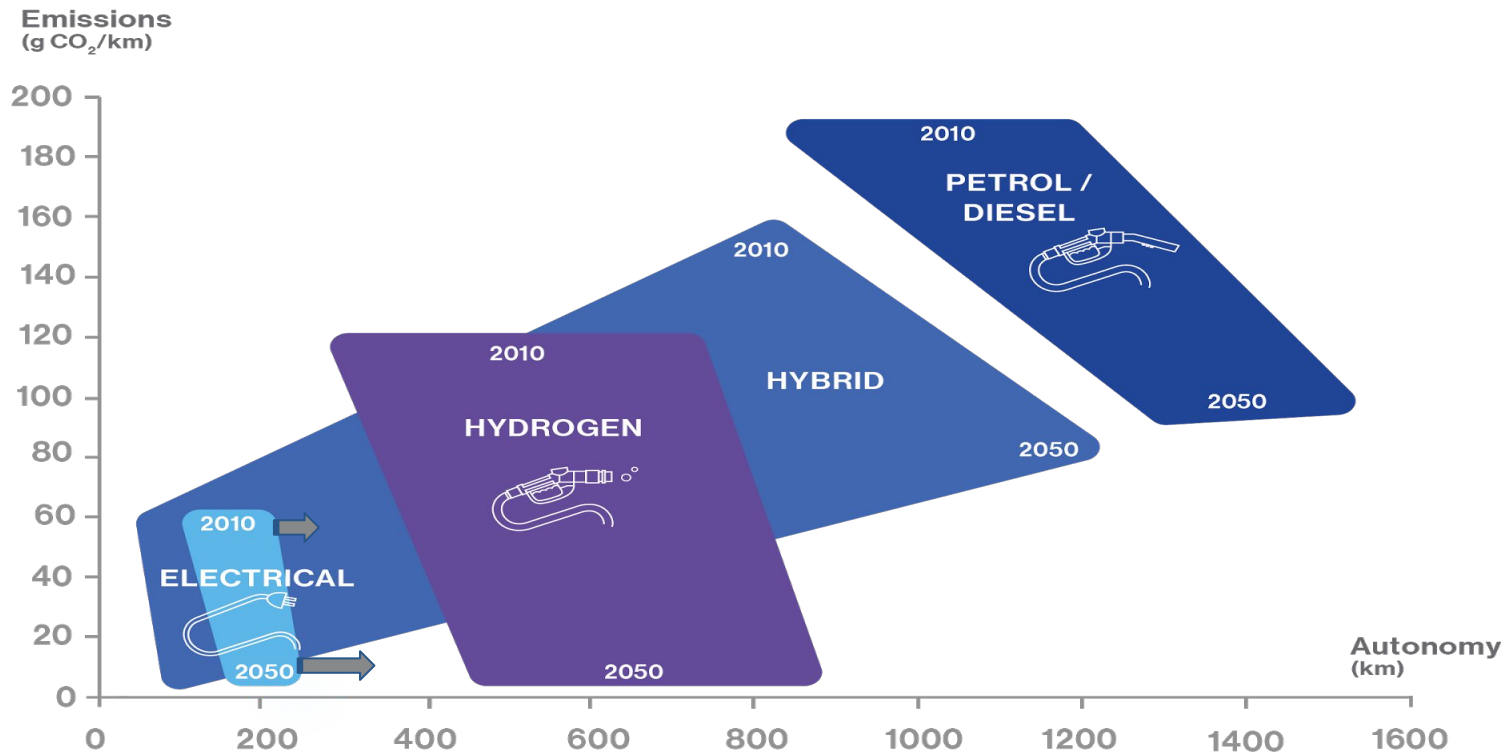


No CO₂/particules emissions

Good efficiency

H₂: the molecule for energy storage

Hydrogen: a competitive solution for clean transportation



Smart Governance & smart citizens to accompany new usages...



 The «taxi of tomorrow»

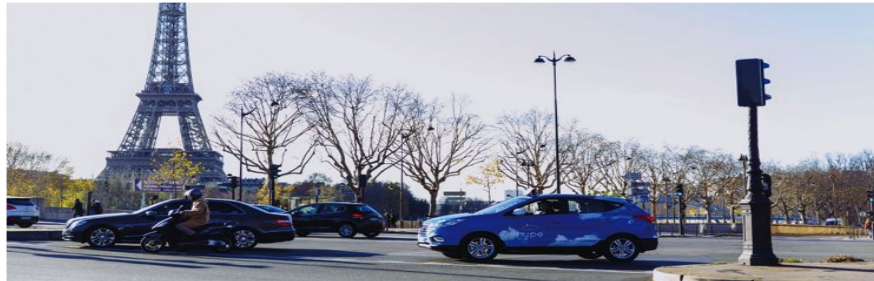
An emission-free
Paris



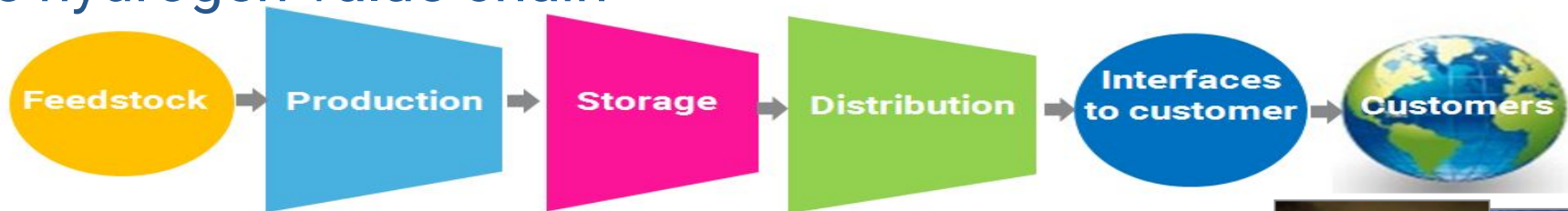
Targeting
70 taxis
by the end of 2016

and 600
within 3 years

Speeding-up energy transition for taxis



Air Liquide: + 50 years of experience on the hydrogen value chain



95% in large central plants
Mainly from fossil fuels



Pipeline



Tanks (liquid)



Trailers (gas)



Cylinders (gas)



Food processing



Refining



Chemicals



Metals



Glass



Electronics



H₂ charging stations



Space



Early market:
Mobility

SUPPLY CHAIN
12.5 Billion Nm³ H₂ /year

Safe

Efficient

Reliable

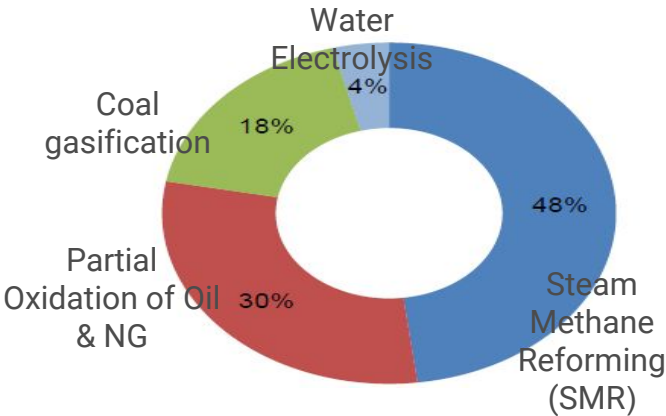
Competitive

Sustainable

World leader in gases, technologies and services for Industry and Health

Hydrogen generation today

- Hydrogen is produced at large scale ($> 150,000 \text{ Nm}^3/\text{h}$)
- 96 % H_2 produced is from fossil fuels : $\text{CH}_4 + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 4 \text{H}_2 + \text{CO}_2$
- 4 % H_2 produced is from water: $\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{H}_2 + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2$



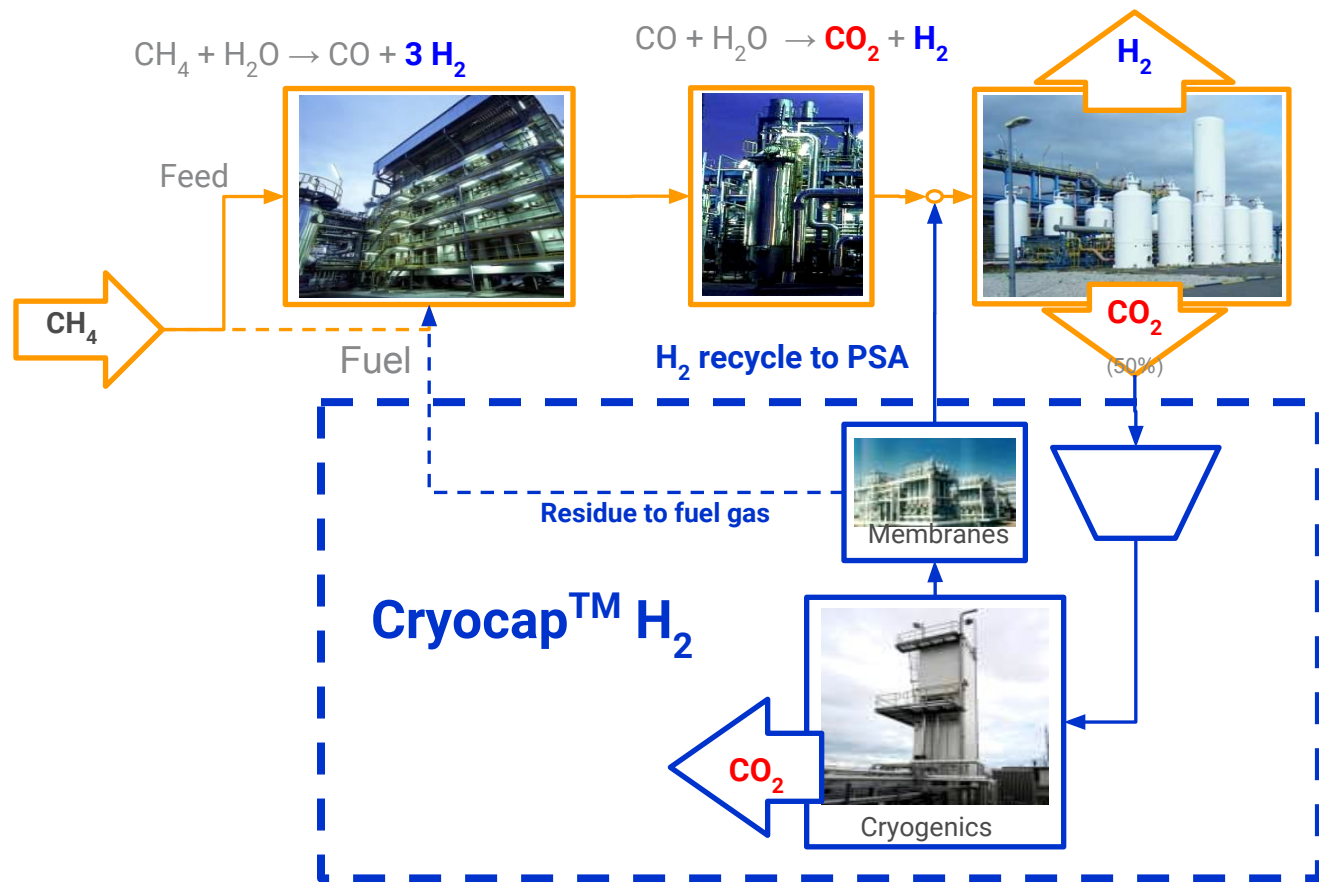
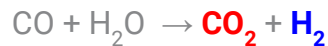
2010 Global H_2 Production
53 Mtons (~ 590 Billion Nm^3)



Air Liquide Yanbu H_2 SMR plant (Saudi Arabia Kingdom)
Total hydrogen capacity of 340,000 Nm^3/hour

World leader in gases, technologies and services for Industry and Health

CO₂ capture from SMR plants (Cryocap™ H₂)



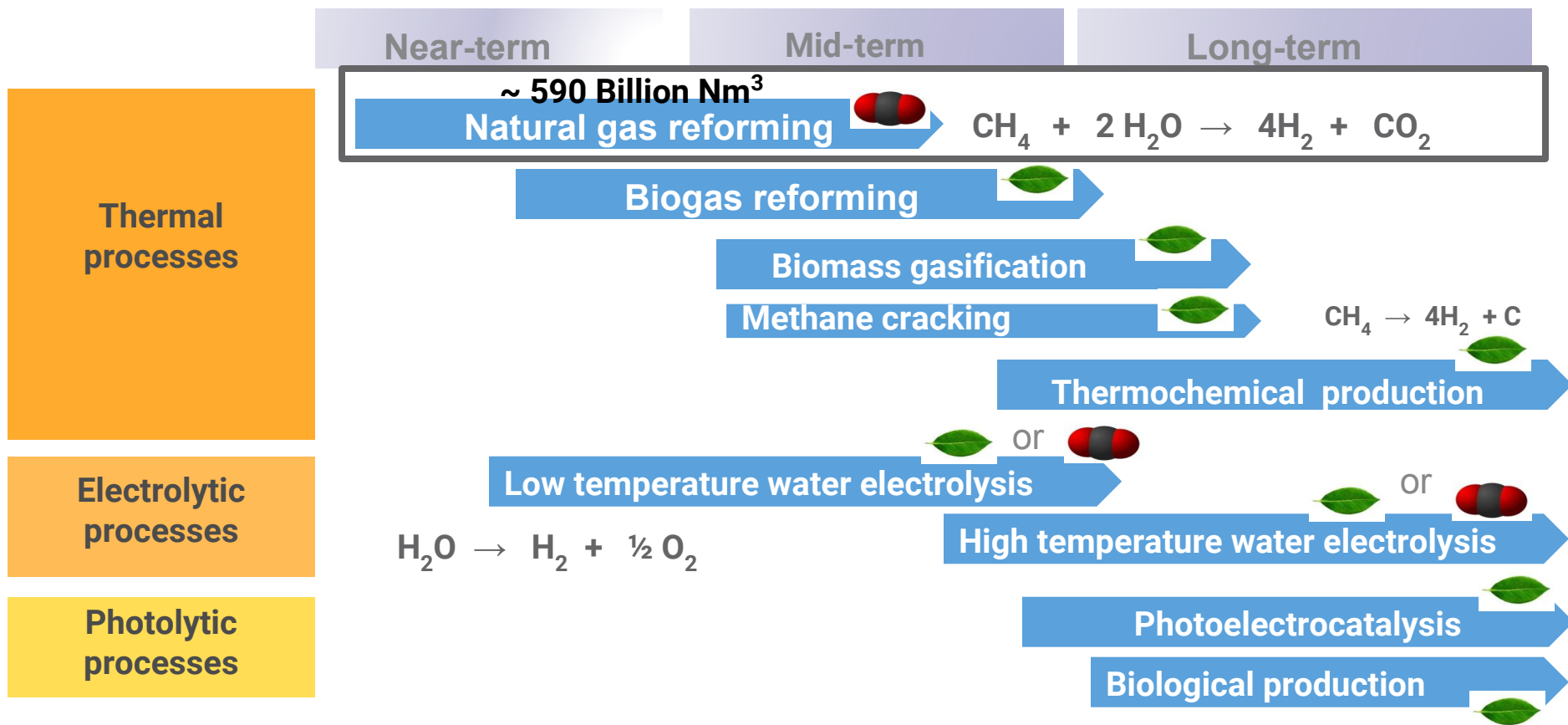
First demo at

Port-Jerome SMR

(47,000 Nm³/h H₂)



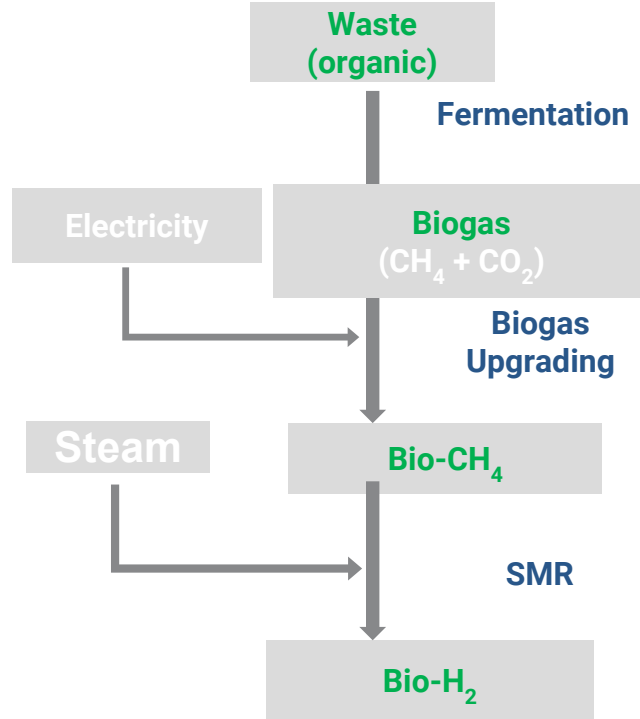
Challenge : environmental friendly H₂ productions



Urban agriculture / vertical farms : feeding the cities



World's largest vertical farm
opens this year in the US
(Newark, April 15)



micro-methanisation
(Tryon)



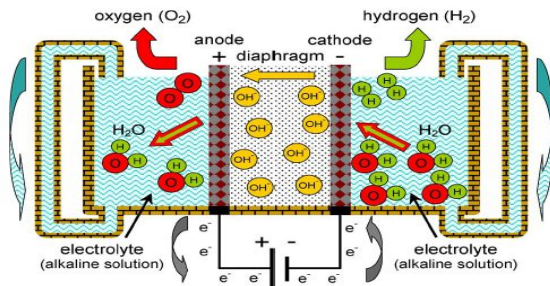
Polymeric hollow
fiber bundle

+ Bio-energy for Cities....

"New York City converts waste to biogas ..." April 2014

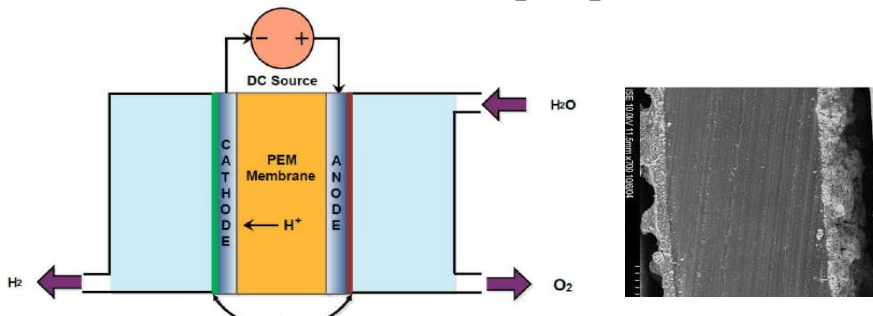
H₂ Production by low temperature water electrolysis

Electrochemical reaction: $\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{electricity} \rightarrow \text{H}_2 + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2$



Cathode (HER): $2\text{H}_2\text{O} + 2\text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{H}_2 + 2\text{OH}^-$

Anode (OER): $2\text{OH}^- \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O} + 2\text{e}^-$



Cathode (HER): $2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{H}_2$

Anode (OER): $\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2 + 2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^-$

Alkaline electrolysis

- Low temperature: 70-100°C
- Well established technique up to large scale systems
- Cheap materials: mainly Ni-based electrocatalysts

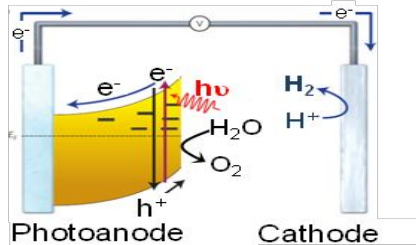
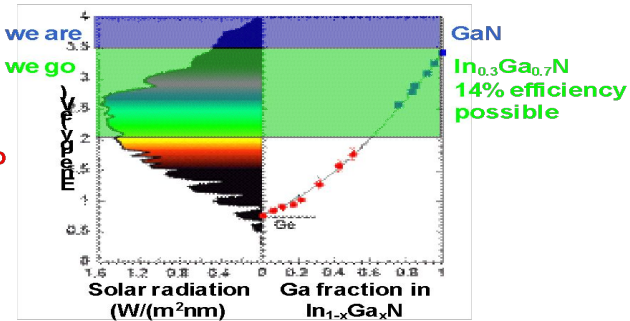
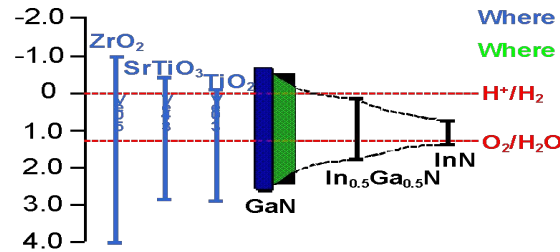
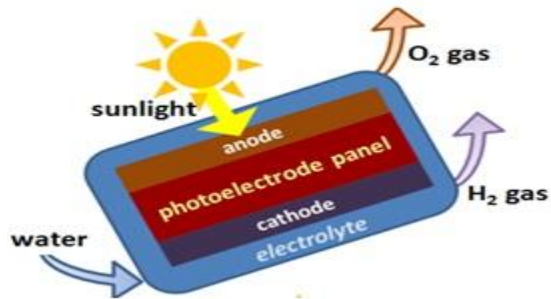
Proton exchange membrane (PEM) electrolysis

- Low temperature: 80 °C
- Hydrogen side: Platinum (1-6 mg/cm²)
- Oxygen side: Platinum, Iridium, Ruthenium and their oxides and mixtures (1-2 mg/cm²)
- The most difficult part: the oxygen electrode (oxidation of water to oxygen)

Challenges

- Reduce cost
- Replace or reduce amount of noble & rare metals

H₂ Production by photoelectrocatalytic water splitting

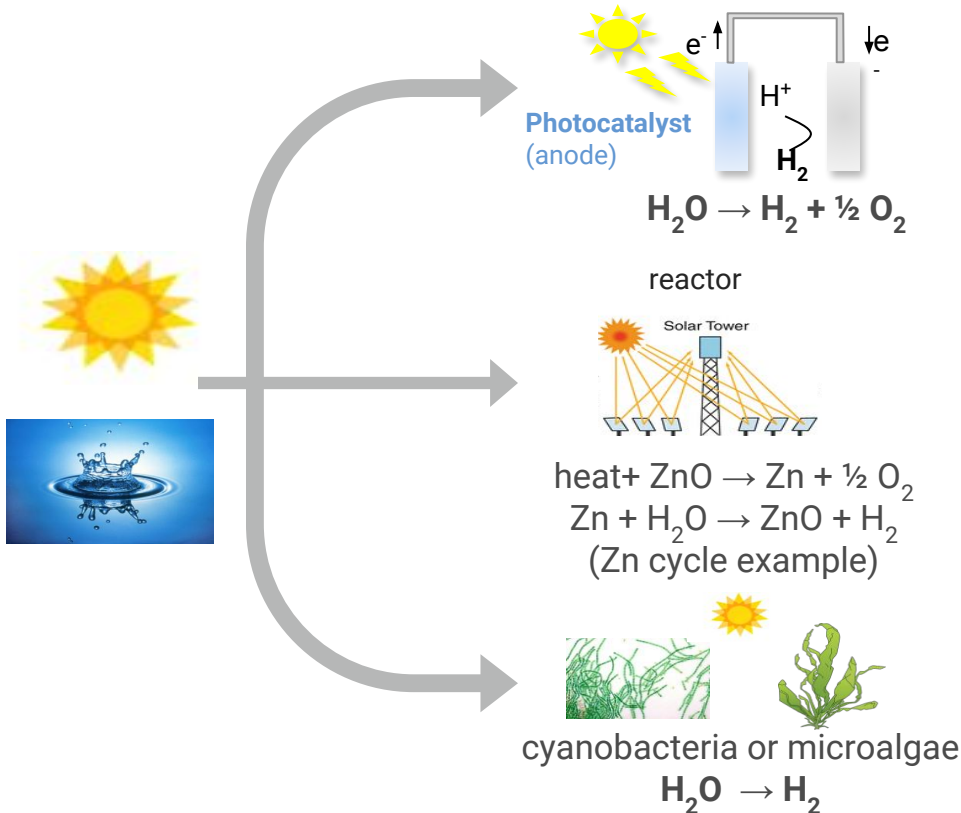


Challenges

- Materials efficiency (photocatalyst bandgap for maximum absorption of solar spectrum)
- Materials stability and durability in aqueous solution
- Materials cost

The future ??????

Solar-H₂ !



Photoelectrochemical water splitting

More research needed:

- highly efficient photocatalyst durability
- low cost materials
- large scale process

Thermochemical H₂ production

More research needed:

- durable materials
- low cost receivers/reactors
- heat transfer for chemical cycle

Biological H₂ production

More research needed:

- efficient microorganisms
- single organism system
- high volume manufacturing process



“I have no doubt that Japan comes to the ‘Front runner’ of hydrogen energy race. I commit to promote hydrogen innovation much harder.” – Japan Prime Minister Abe (April 2015)



Thank you for your attention

For further information



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Open Innovation
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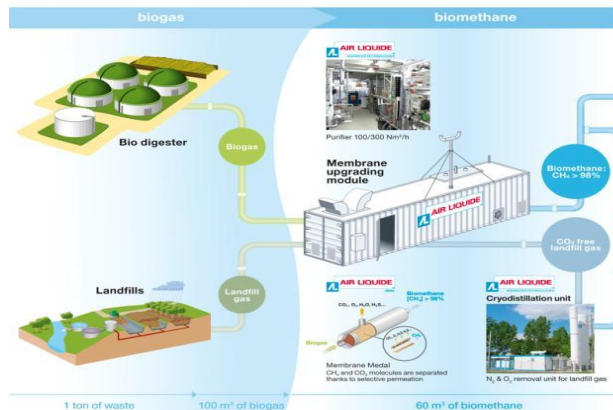
Régis REAU

Scientific Director
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New catalytic routes to produce clean hydrogen from methane

Biogas reforming



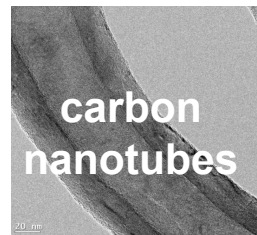
Challenges for catalysts due to CO₂

- Efficiency
- Durability
- Activity (carbon formation higher than SMR)

Catalytic CH₄ cracking



- Pure hydrogen
- High value carbon nanomaterial
- No CO₂ emissions



Challenges for catalysts

- Efficiency
- Durability
- Activity
- Regeneration ?

PV/electrolyzer system

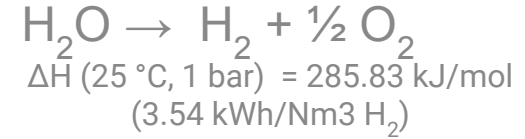
Principle: PV cell and water electrolyzer are **spatially separated systems** with power conditioning system



PV array



Electrolyzer powered electricity



Strengths: available technologies

Current limitations:

- solar electricity is the dominant cost
- high capital costs (materials)

Sun to H₂ efficiency: up to 13 %
(65 % for electrolyzer and 20 % for PV cell)

possible improvements but no disruptive technologies are expected

