



ADVANCED MEMBRANE TECHNOLOGIES FOR CO₂ CAPTURE AND UTILIZATION

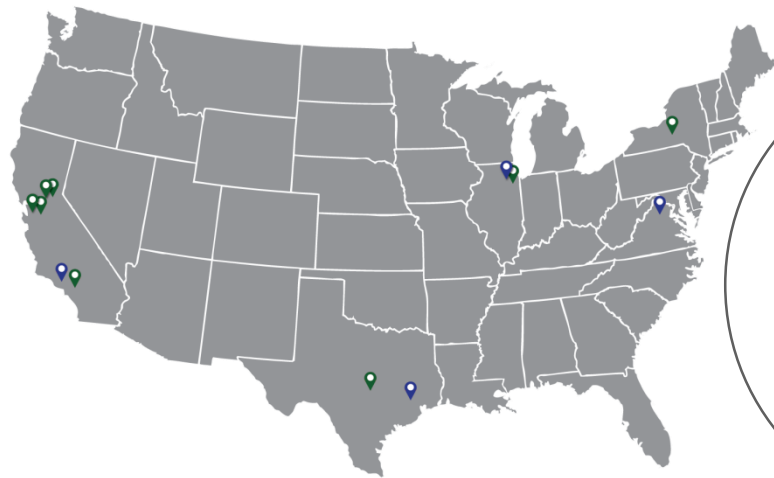
Howard S. Meyer, Shiguang Li, Naomi Klinghoffer, Travis Pyrzynski: GTI
Yong Dong: Air Liquide Advanced Separations
Miao Yu: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

June 2019

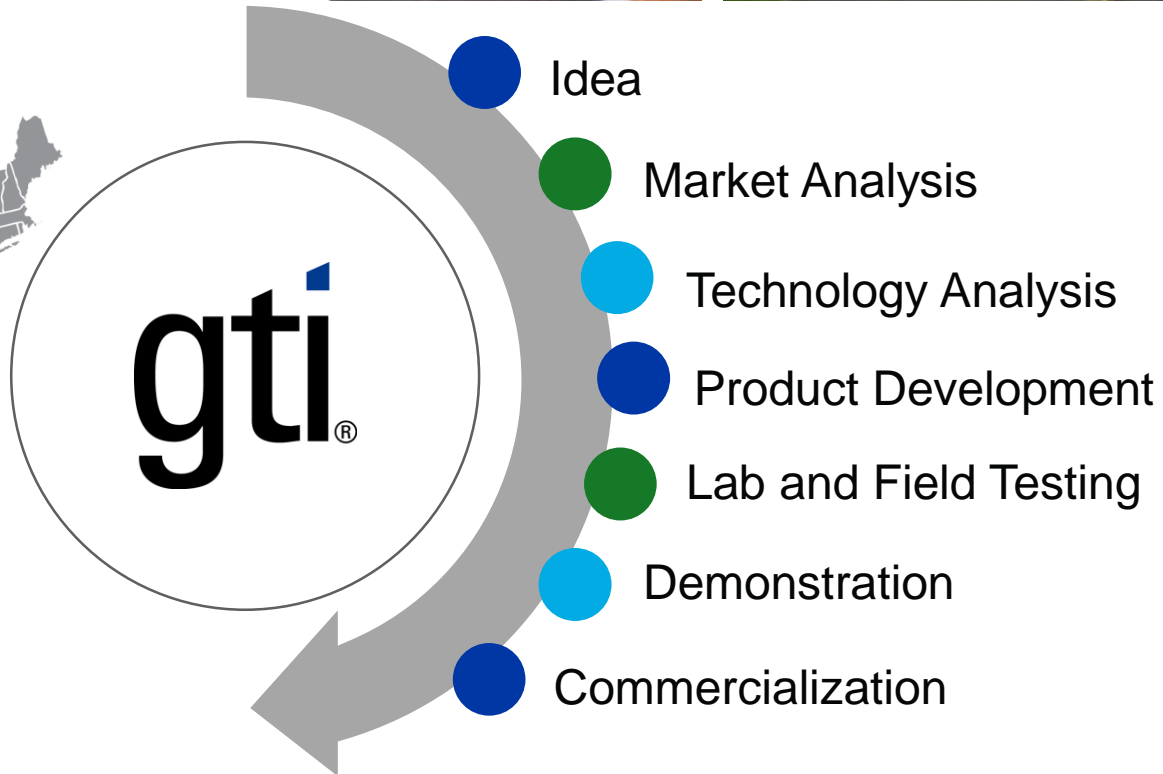
Trondheim CCUS Conference

Introduction to GTI

- Research organization, providing energy and environmental solutions to the government and industry since 1941
- Facilities: 18 acre campus near Chicago

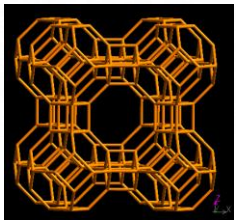


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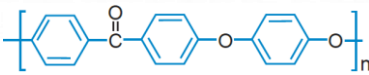


Experience: Advanced materials and innovative processes for energy and environmental relevant applications

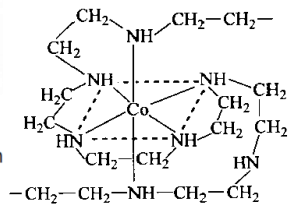
Development of advanced materials and structures for energy and environmental relevant applications



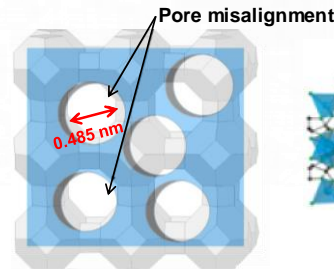
Molecular sieves



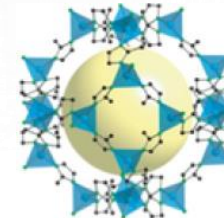
Polymers



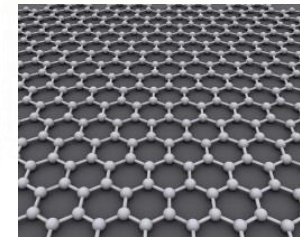
Solvents



Size-Sieving Sorbents

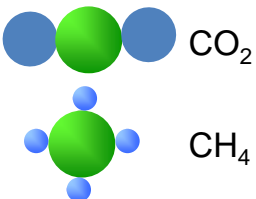


MOFs

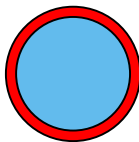


Graphene oxides

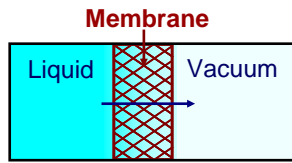
Application



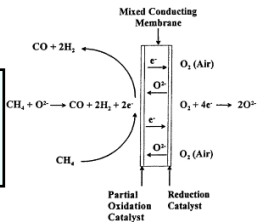
Gas separation



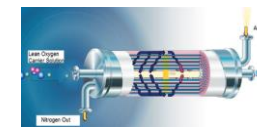
Gas storage



Pervaporation



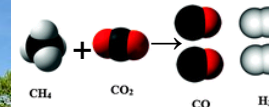
Membrane reactors



Air separation



Carbon capture

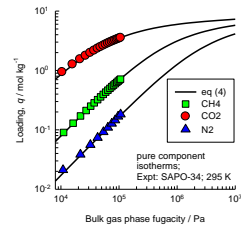


CO2 utilization

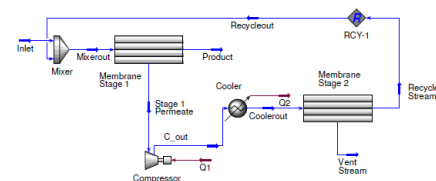
Scale up from lab-scale to pilot plants



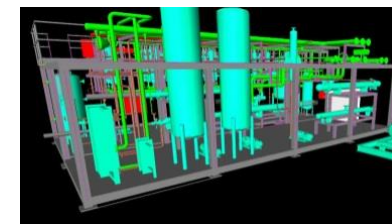
Membrane Scale-up



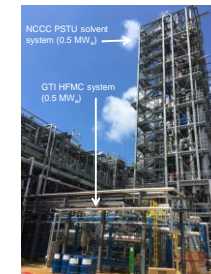
Performance modeling



Process design & economics



Design & construction of field testing unit



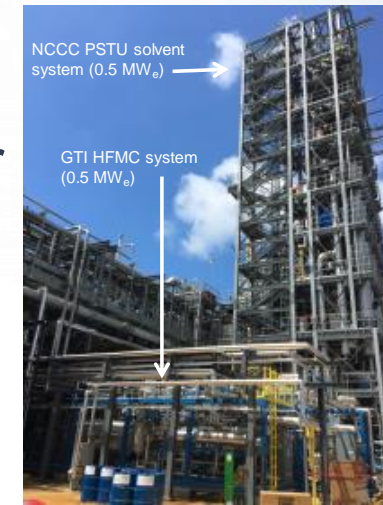
Pilot plant testing

Expertise on CCUS

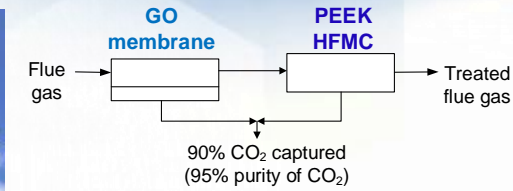
- 1st Gen CO₂ capture technology CarboLock™: Currently in BP4 of piloting a 10 tonne/day CO₂ capture system at the National Carbon Capture Center (NCCC), targeting \$40/tonne of CO₂ captured, supported by US DOE
- 2nd & 3rd Gen technologies supported by US DOE targeting \$30-35/tonne of CO₂ captured

Gen	Project	Current scale	Cost target (per tonne of CO ₂ captured)
2 nd	GO-PEEK	Lab	\$35
3 rd	GO ²	Bench	\$30
3 rd	Rota-Cap	Bench	\$30
3 rd	Sorbent	Bench	\$30

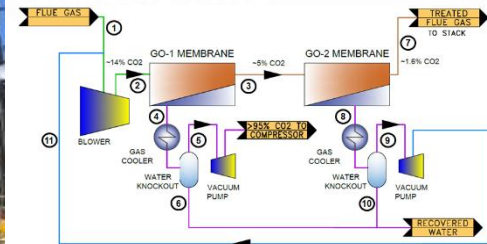
- Four CO₂ utilization technologies (dry reforming, e-beam, DME production, and DMC production) supported by US DOE



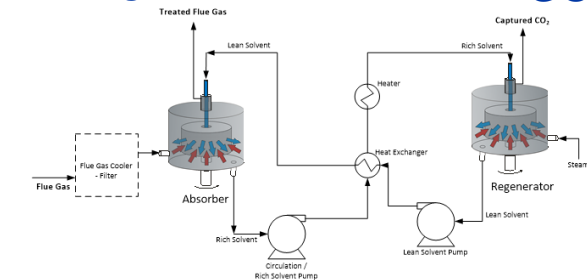
HFMC



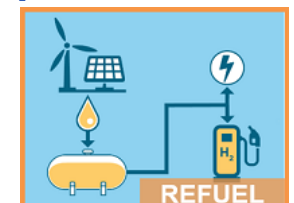
GO-PEEK



GO²

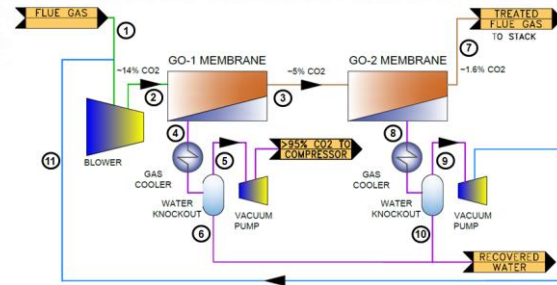
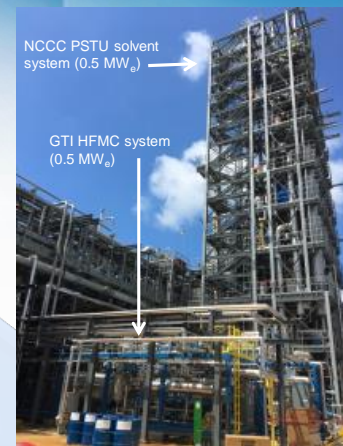


Rota-Cap



ARPA-E REFUEL

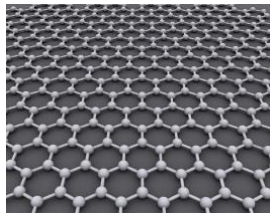
Capabilities: R&D from Concept to Pilot Plant



Process design and package

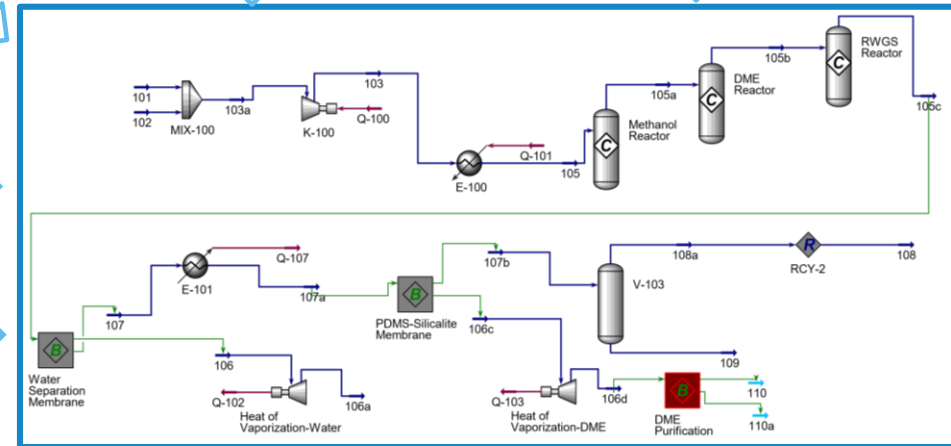
Bench-scale process laboratory and field tests

Pilot plant design and testing



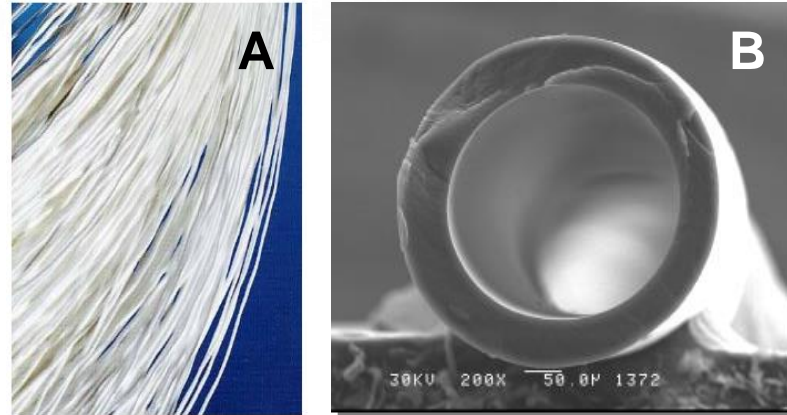
Component or/and system validation in laboratory environment

Technology concept



Modeling/Simulation

1st Gen Technology: Hollow Fiber Membrane Contactor (HFMC)



- **Objectives**: Build a 0.5 MW_e pilot-scale CO₂ capture system and conduct tests on flue gas at the National Carbon Capture Center (NCCC), and demonstrate a continuous, steady-state operation

■ **Team**: gti[®]



ALaS

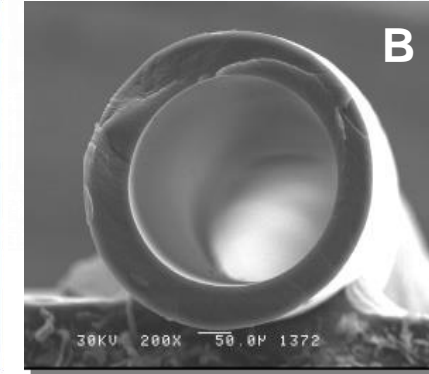
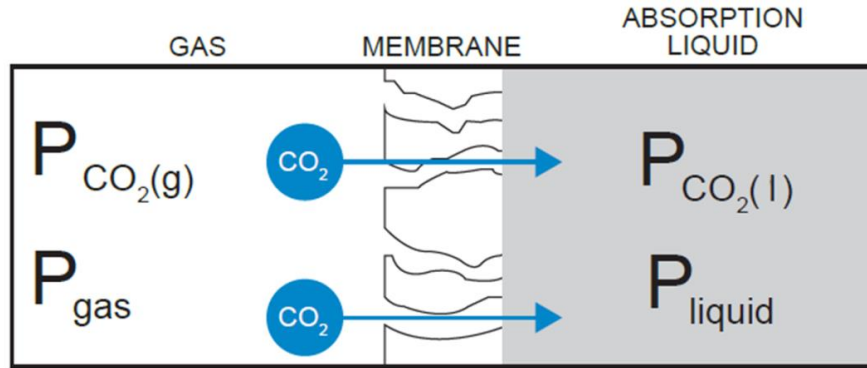


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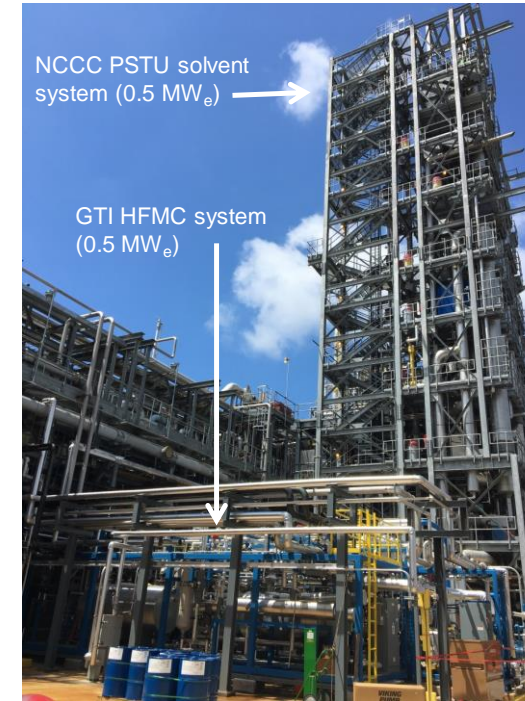
Singular PEEK HFMC technology currently at 0.5 MW_e pilot scale development stage (DE-FE0012829)

Membrane contactor:
high surface area
device that facilitates
mass transfer



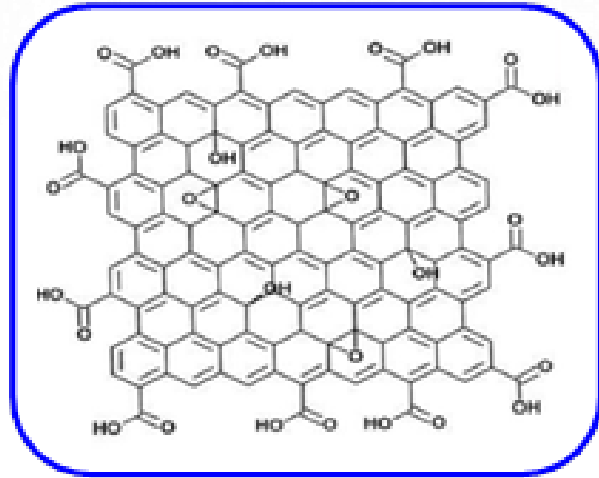
PEEK made into
hollow fibers with
high packing
density

Commercial-sized (8-inch-
diameter) modules with
intrinsic CO_2 permeance of
~2,000 GPU used in pilot
scale testing



Plant constructed,
installed and being
tested at NCCC
12 m (L) x 7.5 m
(W) x 3.5 m (H)

2nd Generation Technology: GO-HFMC Hybrid Process



GO (graphene oxide): single-atomic layered, oxidized graphene



Ultrathin, Molecular-Sieving Graphene Oxide Membranes for Selective Hydrogen Separation

Hang Li *et al.*

Science **342**, 95 (2013);

DOI: 10.1126/science.1236686

- **Objectives:** Develop a hybrid membrane process combining a graphene oxide (GO) gas separation membrane unit and a PEEK HFMC unit to capture $\geq 90\%$ of the CO_2 from flue gases with 95% CO_2 purity

- **Team:** gti[®]

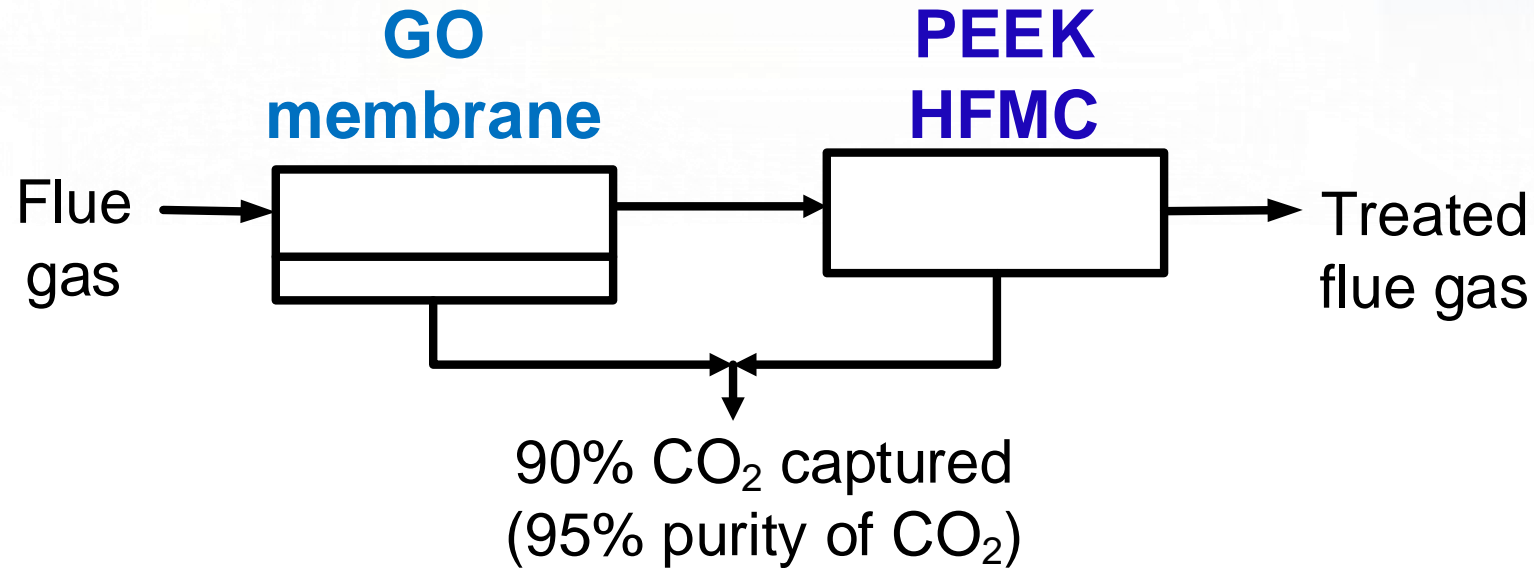


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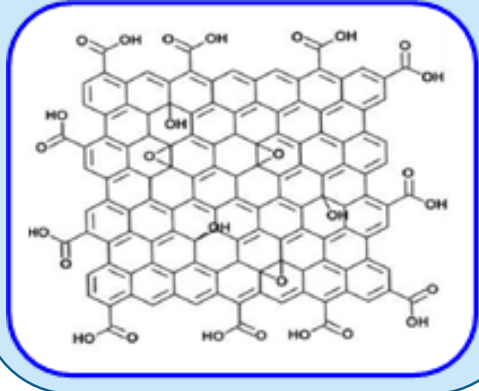
GO-HFMC process



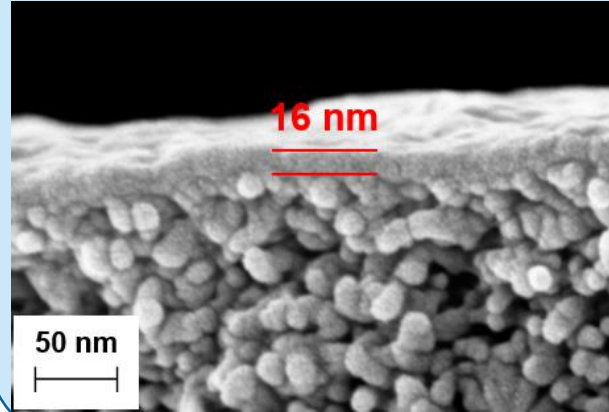
- GO-PEEK uses a conventional gas separation membrane unit to capture bulk of the CO₂ from flue gas followed by a PEEK HFMC unit to further capture CO₂ to achieve DOE's technical target
- GO membrane – CO₂ permeance $\geq 1,000$ GPU – CO₂/N₂ selectivity ≥ 90
- HFMC – CO₂ permeance $\geq 3,000$ GPU – CO₂ mass transfer coefficient ≥ 3 (sec)⁻¹

Advanced fabrication + unique GO properties → High performance CO₂ capture membrane

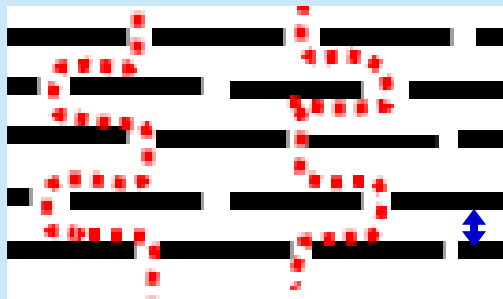
- GO: single-atomic layered, oxidized graphene



- Can be made ultra-thin, and thus high flux

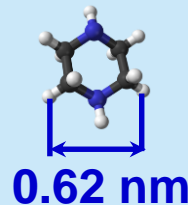


- Space in between GO layers filled with CO₂-philic agent, and thus high selectivity

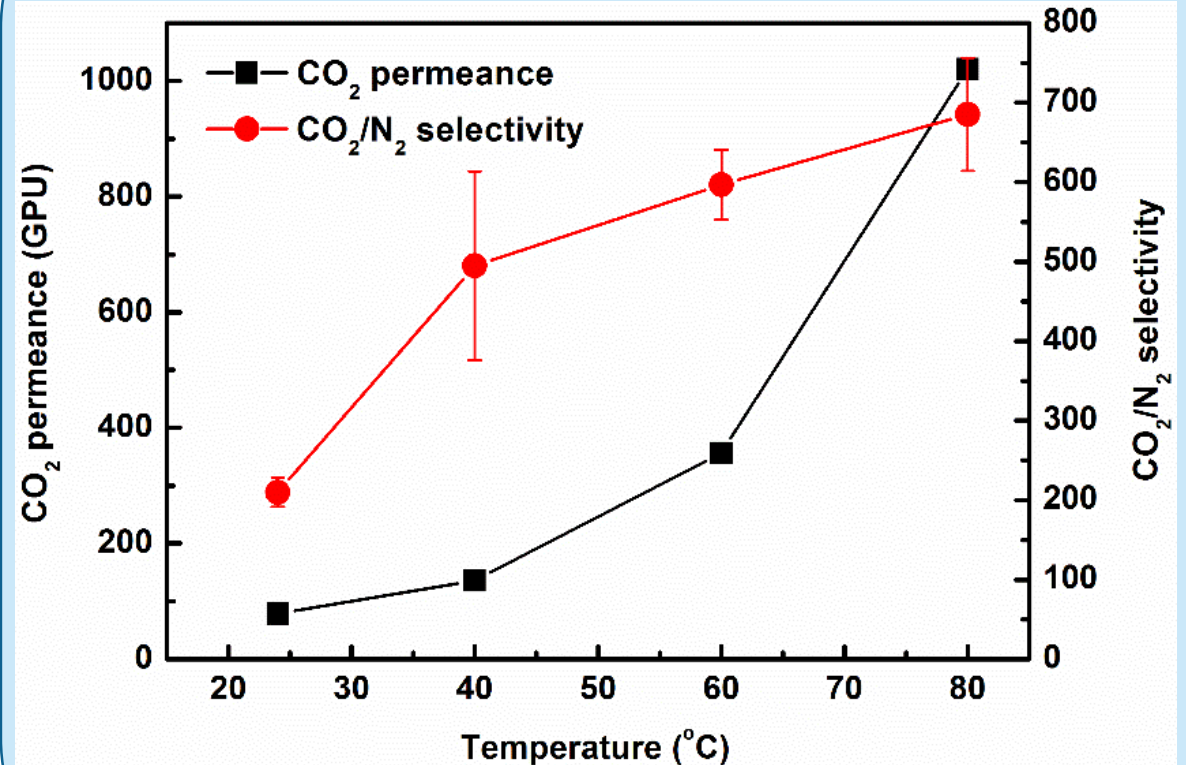


0.7-1.1 nm

CO₂-philic agent
example: piperazine (PZ)



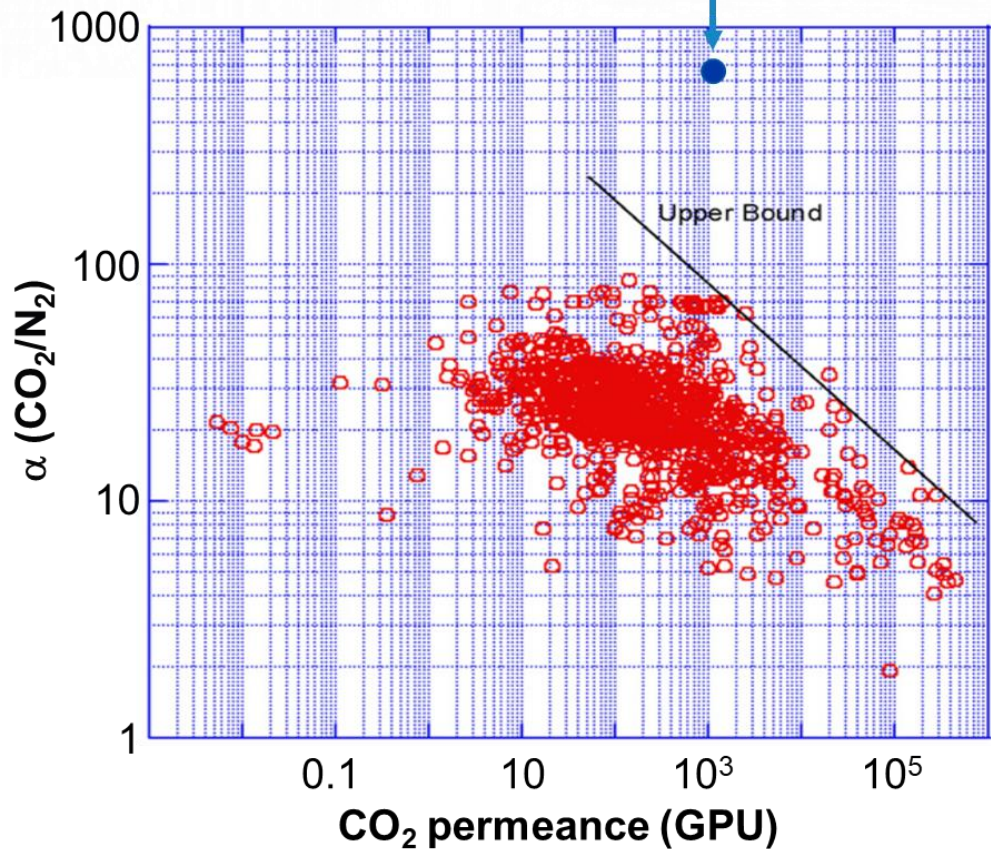
- High performance GO-PZ membrane



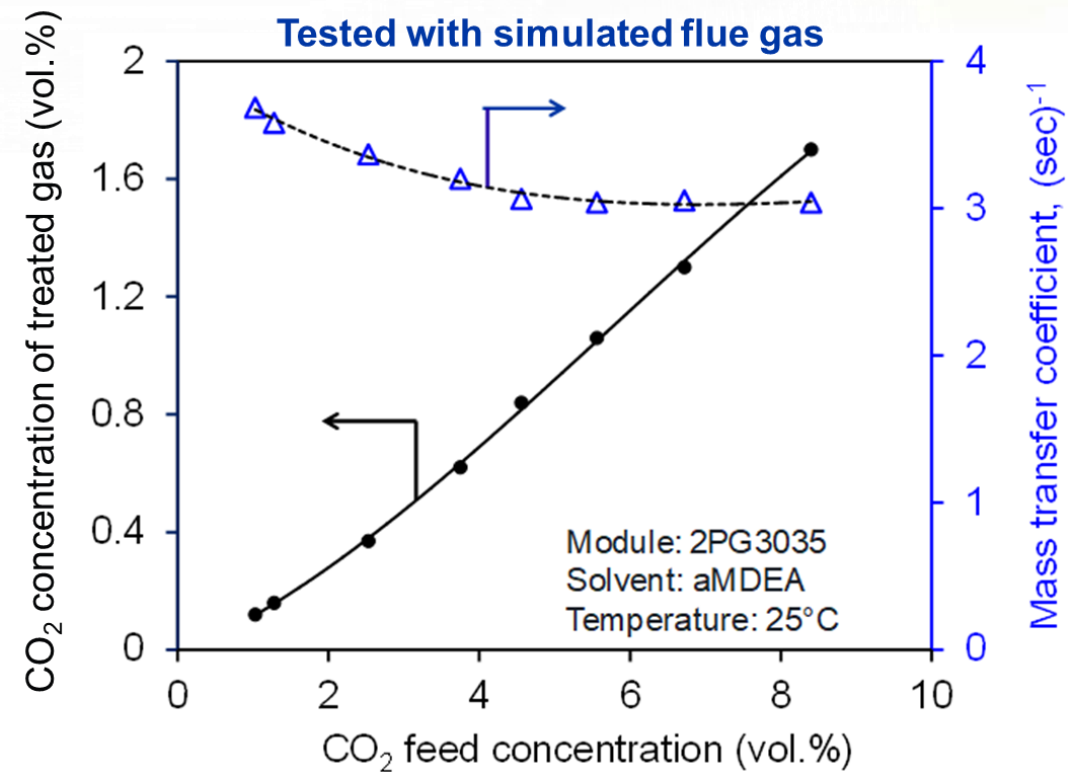
Feed: 15% CO₂/85%N₂ with saturated water vapor
Permeate: with sweep gas

GO superior performance to polymeric membranes

Our GO membranes: P_{CO_2} : 1000 GPU,
 α_{CO_2/N_2} : 680 (tested at 80°C with sweep gas)



PEEK HFMC effective for low CO₂-concentration feeds

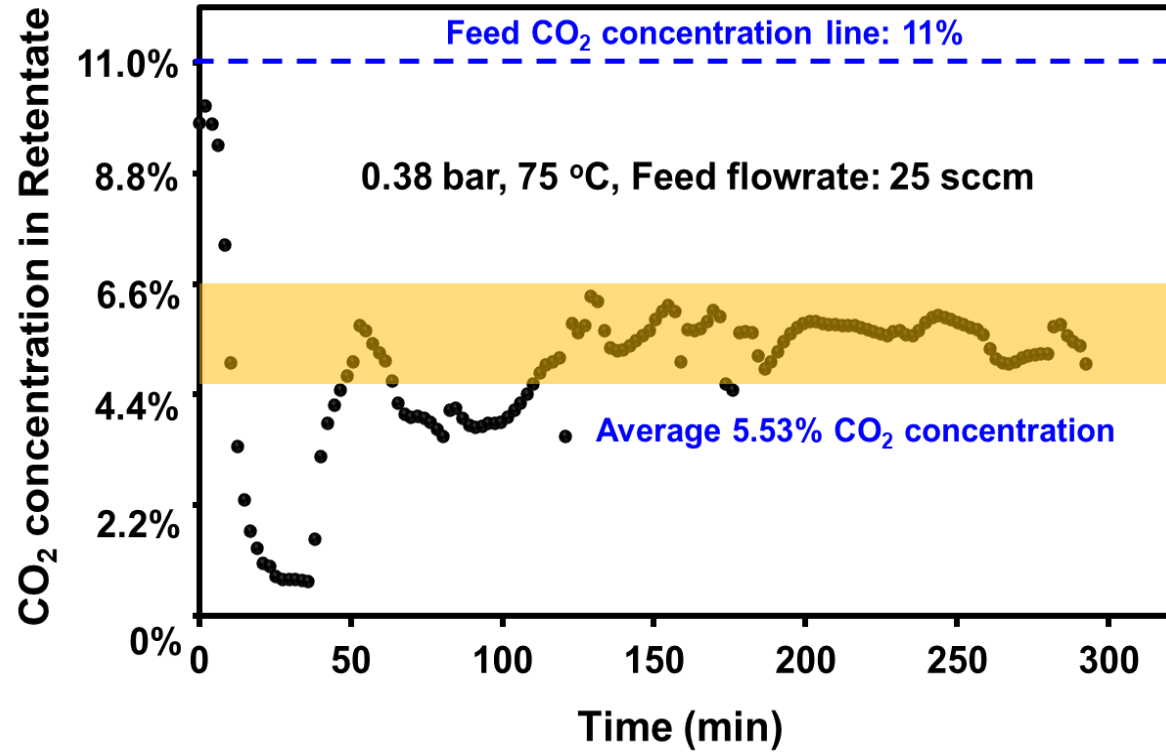


Achieved goals of mass transfer coefficient > 3 (sec)⁻¹ and of permeance > 3000

Integrated testing ongoing, preliminary results indicated >90% CO₂ removal and >95% CO₂ purity

GO unit: Feed CO₂ concentration: 11 vol.%

- Retentate CO₂ concentration: 5.53 vol.%

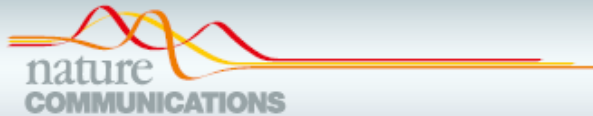


PEEK unit: Feed CO₂ concentration: 5.53 vol.%

- Retentate CO₂ concentration: 0.21 vol.%
- CO₂ purity from regeneration: 96.9 vol.%

Component	Mol %	Det. Limit	Weight %
Helium		0.1%	
Hydrogen		0.1%	
Carbon Dioxide	96.9%	0.03%	97.9%
Oxygen/Argon	0.50%	0.03%	0.37%
Nitrogen	2.62%	0.03%	1.68%
Carbon Monoxide		0.03%	
Methane		0.002%	
Ethane		0.002%	
Ethene		0.002%	
Ethyne		0.002%	
Propane		0.002%	
Propene		0.002%	
Cyclopropane		0.002%	
Propadiene		0.002%	
Propyne		0.002%	
i-Butane		0.002%	
n-Butane		0.002%	
1-Butene		0.002%	
i-Butene		0.002%	
trans-2-Butene		0.002%	
cis-2-Butene		0.002%	
1,3-Butadiene		0.002%	
neo-Pentane		0.002%	
i-Pentane		0.002%	
n-Pentane		0.002%	
Pentenes		0.002%	
Hexane Plus		0.002%	
Hydrogen Sulfide		0.10%	
Total	100.0%		100.0%

3rd Generation Technology: GO² Process



ARTICLE

DOI: [10.1038/s41467-017-02318-1](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-017-02318-1)

OPEN

Ultrathin graphene oxide-based hollow fiber membranes with brush-like CO₂-philic agent for highly efficient CO₂ capture

Fanglei Zhou¹, Huynh Ngoc Tien², Weiwei L. Xu², Jung-Tsai Chen², Qiuli Liu², Ethan Hicks², Mahdi Fathizadeh², Shiguang Li³ & Miao Yu¹

- **Objective:** Develop a transformational graphene oxide (GO)-based membrane process (**GO²**) for CO₂ capture with 95% CO₂ purity

- **Team:** gti[®]



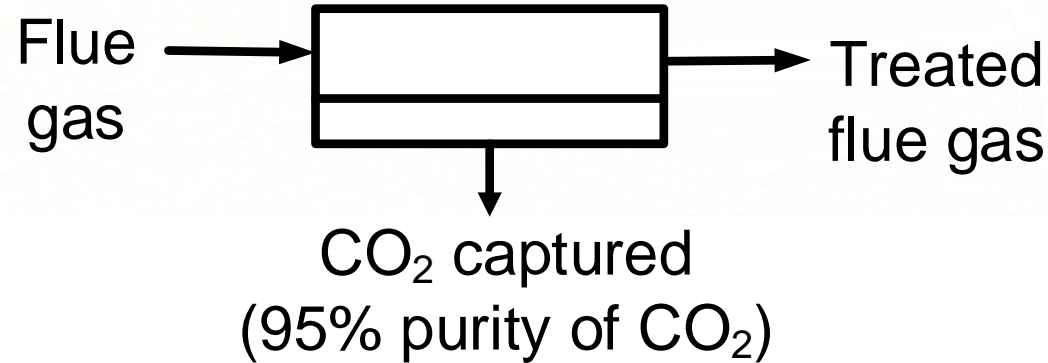
Rensselaer



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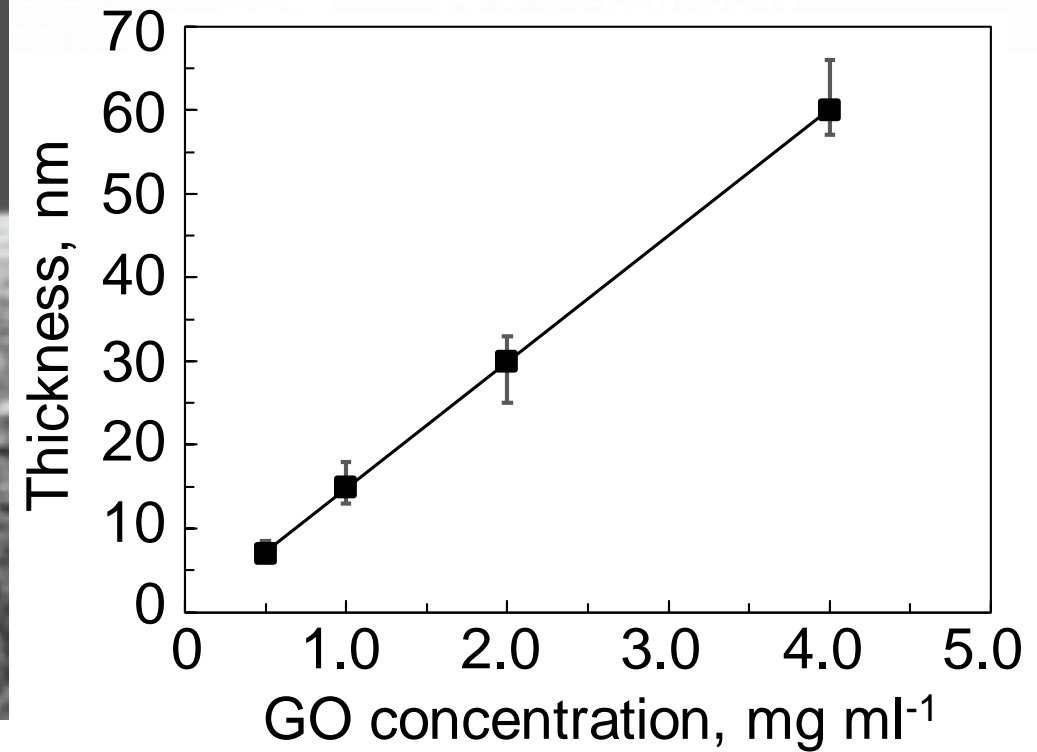
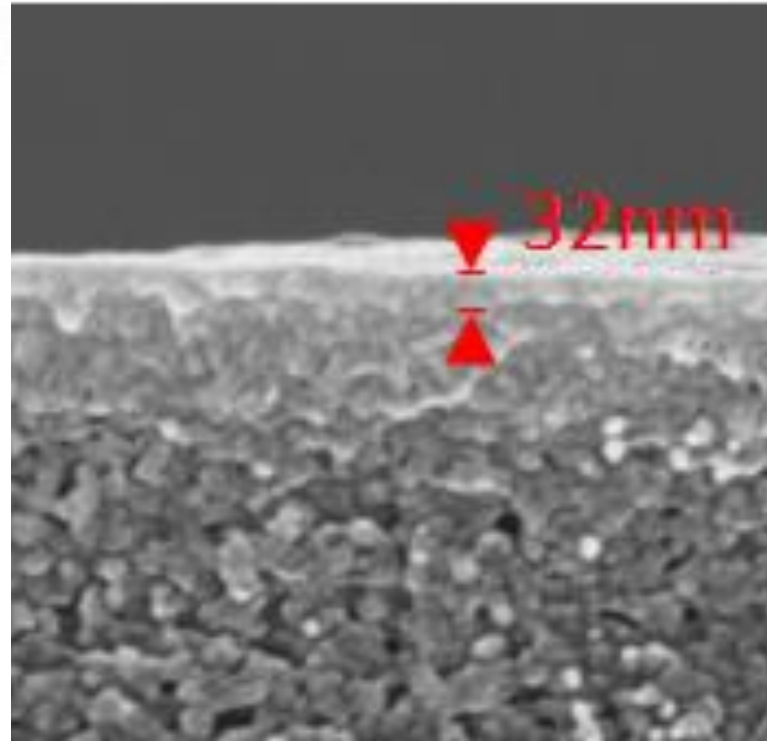
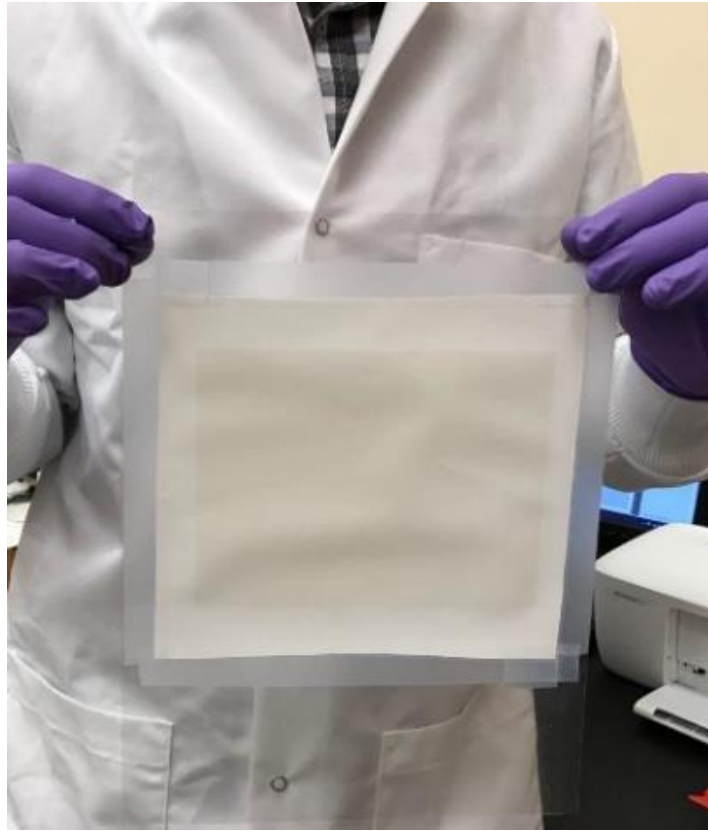


Process description



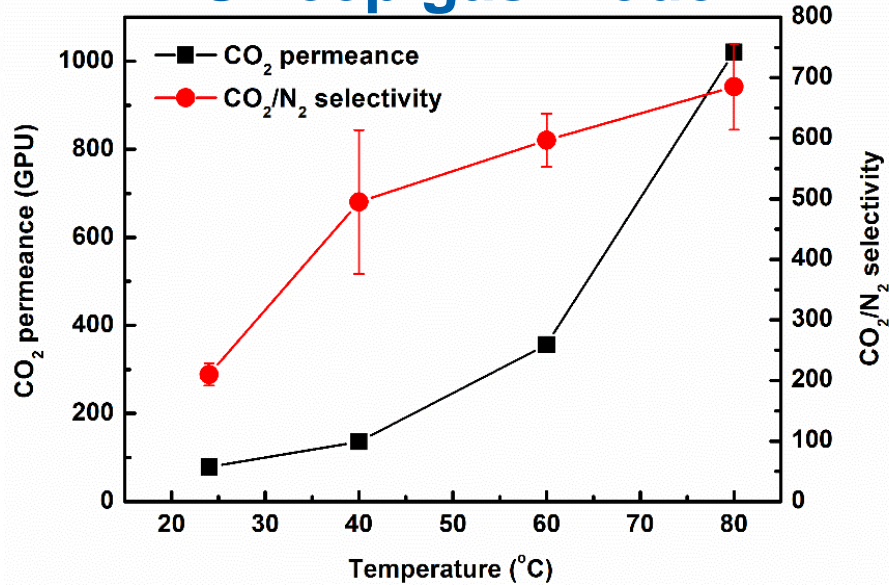
- 90% removal from coal or natural gas flue gases: a proprietary **GO² process** integrates a high-selectivity GO-1 membrane and a high-flux GO-2 membrane for optimal performance
- GO-1: selectivity ≥ 200 and CO₂ permeance $\geq 1,000$ GPU
- GO-2: selectivity ≥ 20 and CO₂ permeance $\geq 2,500$ GPU

In addition to hollow fiber membranes, flat sheet membranes were successfully prepared by printing



GO-1 membrane: 1,000 GPU CO₂ permeance with selectivity >600

Sweep gas mode

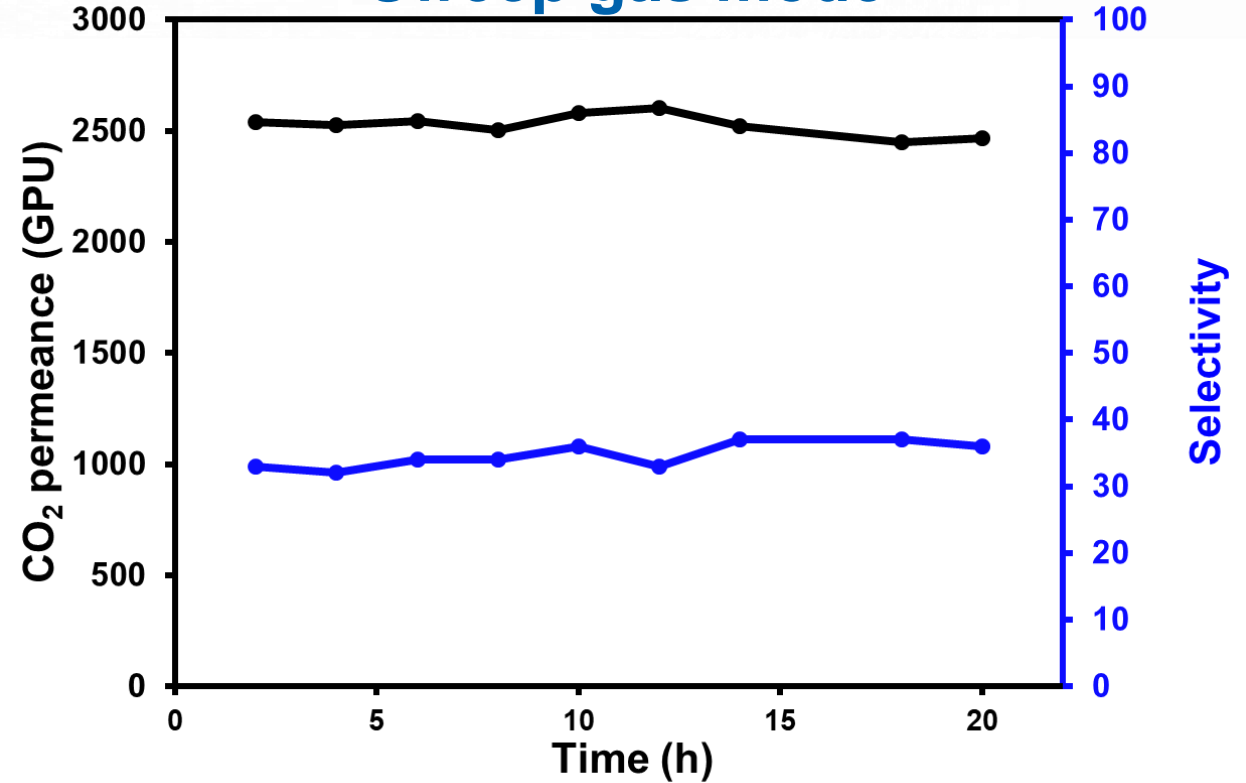


Vacuum mode

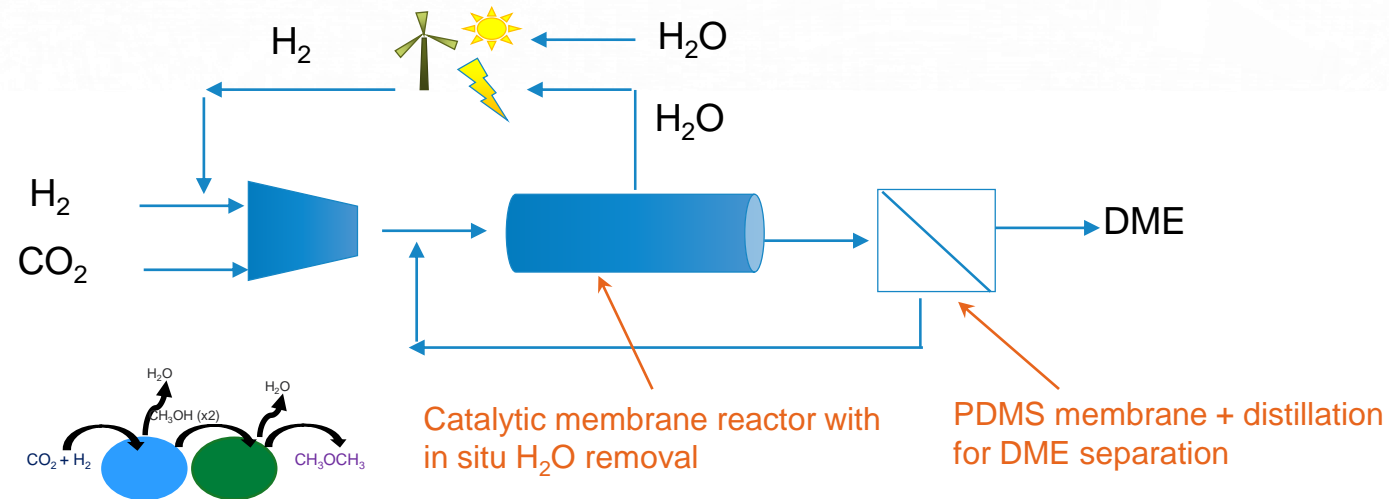
Temperature	75 °C
CO ₂ permeance, GPU	1080 ± 55
CO ₂ /N ₂ selectivity	650 ± 31

GO-2 membrane: 2,500 GPU CO₂ permeance with selectivity >30

Sweep gas mode



Membrane Reactor for DME Production



- **Objectives:** Demonstrate production of DME on a 1 kg/day scale from CO₂ and H₂ using a novel catalytic membrane reactor. Perform a market analysis and TEA to achieve a target SUE of 0.254 \$/kWh DME.

- **Team:**

gti®

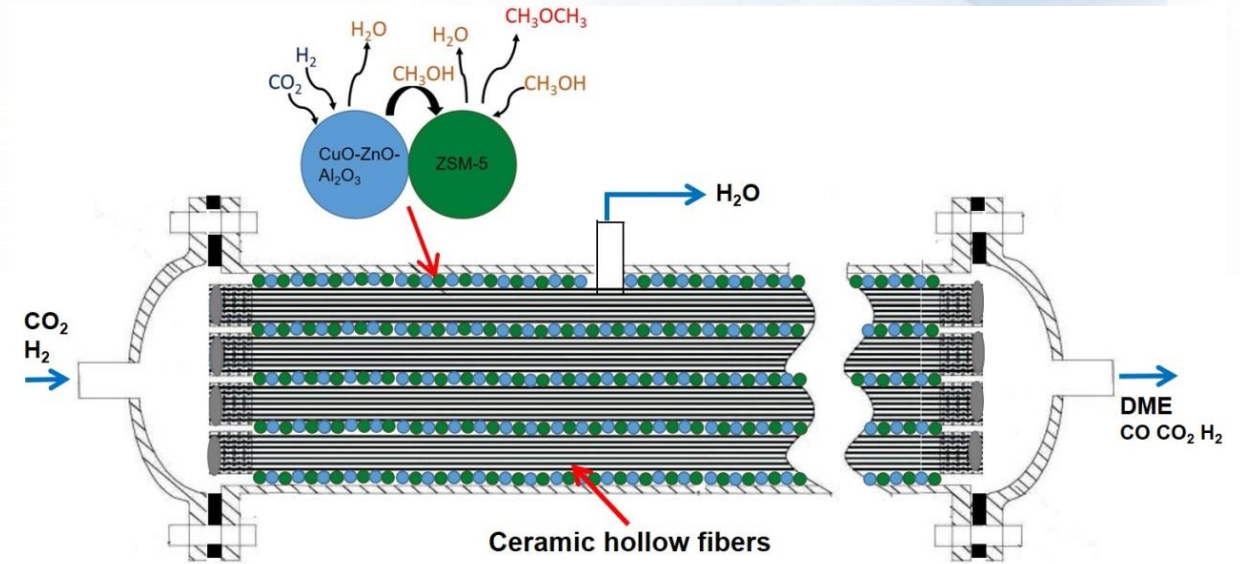
MISSOURI
S&T
University of
Science & Technology



Rensselaer

New approach to making DME

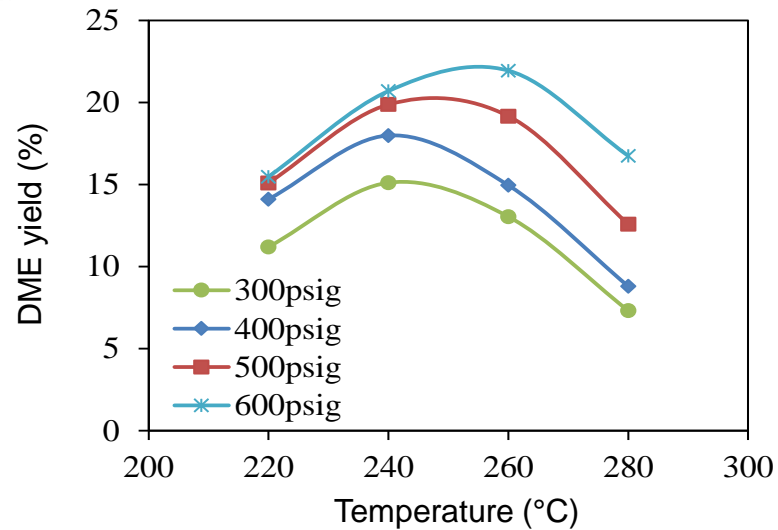
- Feed H_2 and CO_2 not CH_4 and H_2O
- Bifunctional catalyst and membrane reactor shift equilibrium towards product formation
- Membrane removes produced water in situ
 - improves catalyst stability
 - shifts equilibrium to higher CO_2 conversion and DME yields
- Compact, modular design
- Lower production cost
- Seeking commercialization partners



Membrane reactor at 200-300 °C and pressures up to 500 psi





- Methanol synthesis:** $\text{CO}_2 + 3\text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OH} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
 - DME synthesis:** $2\text{CH}_3\text{OH} \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OCH}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
- Overall reaction:** $2\text{CO}_2 + 6\text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OCH}_3 + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Bi-functional catalyst performance

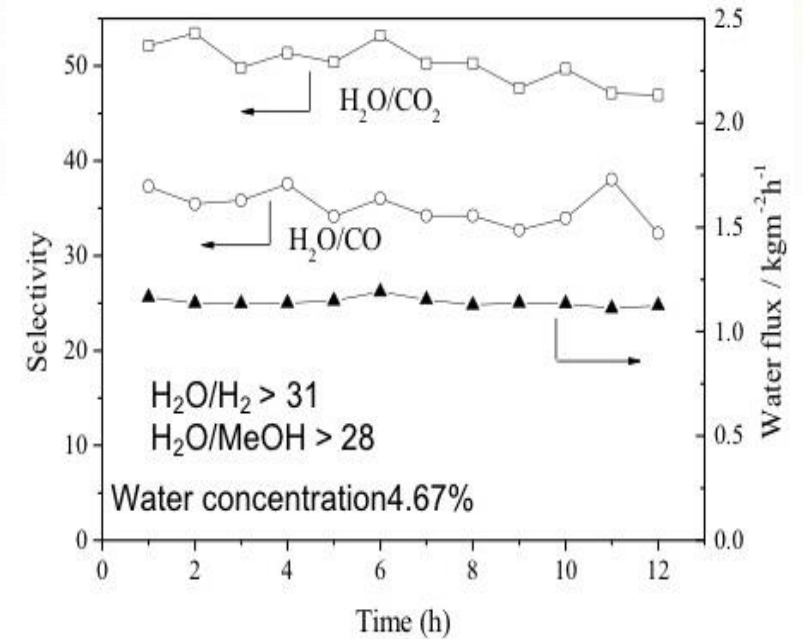


 Catalyst achieved DME yield of 22%



Catalyst Properties

-  Methanol synthesis: $\text{CuO}/\text{ZnO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$
-  DME synthesis: H-ZSM-5
-  BET surface area 132 m^2/g
-  Particle size 10-30 nm

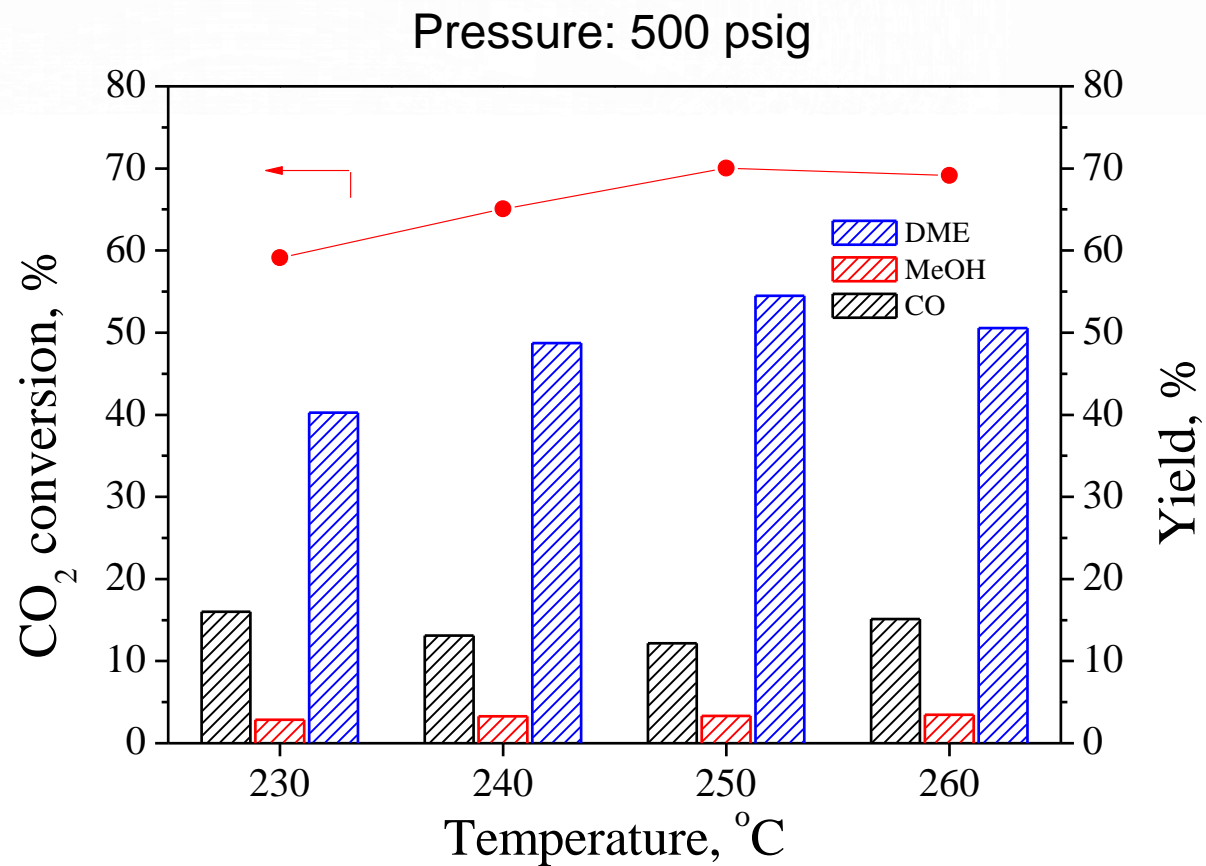
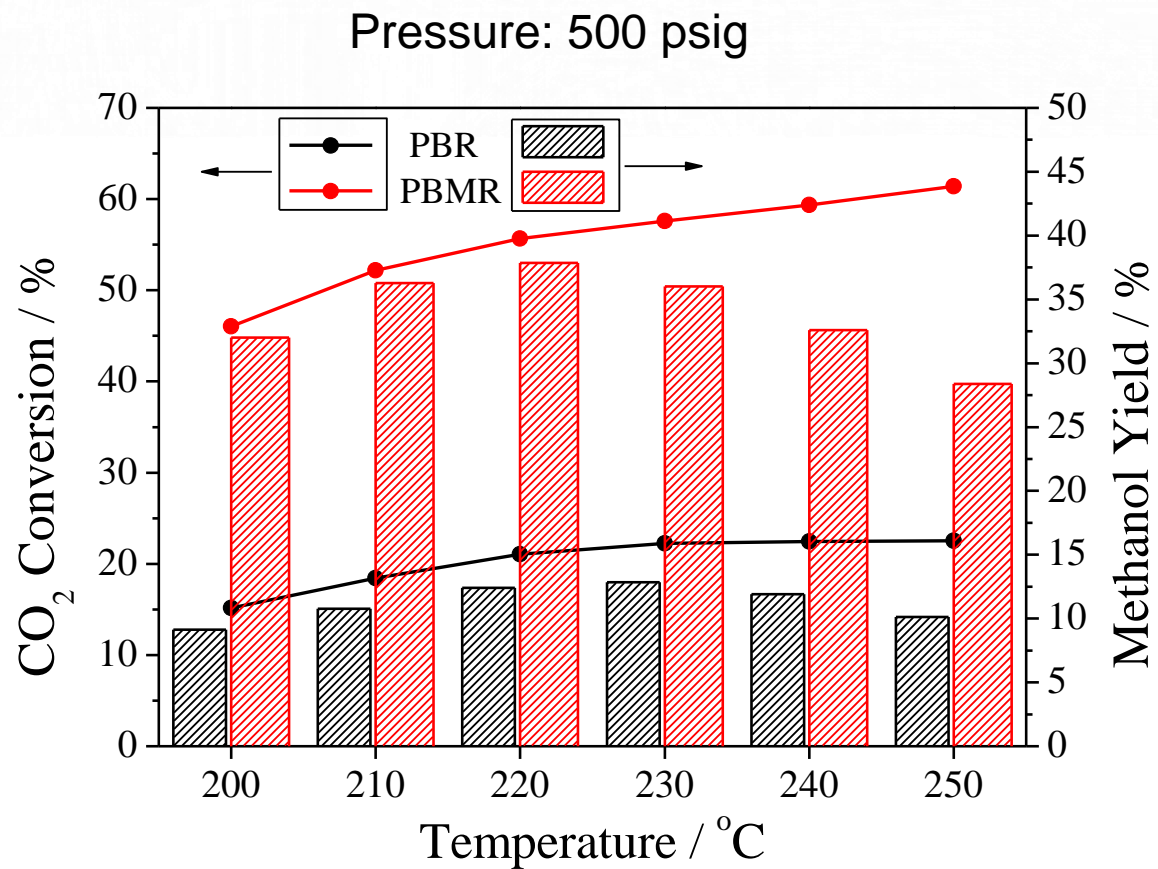
Water-selective membrane performance



Membrane Properties

-  Uniform membrane; no pinholes or cracks
-  Selectivity >30 for H_2O over CO_2 , CO , H_2 , MeOH at 200 °C, 300 psig

Typical impact of the membrane reactor on methanol and DME production compared with packed-bed reactor



Acknowledgements

- Financial and technical support



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DE-FE0026383
DE-FE0031598



DE-AR0000806

CO₂ Capture Project - Phase 4



- DOE NETL: Steven Mascaro, José Figueroa and Lynn Brickett
- DOE ARPA-E: Dr. Grigorii Soloveichik, Dr. Madhav Acharya, Dr. Sean Vail, Dr. Dawson Cagle

- Partners



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