



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

Michele Aresta

A Vision

Dreams

Facts

Lectio Magistralis delivered at
The Bath University on the day
October 5th, 2016

The University of Bath commemorates 50 y
since its foundation.

Even if quite young it has reached a
prestigious
position in UK and the world.

**Ad
majora!**

Dedicated to....

- **My Family:** Raffaella
Gianluca, Brunella, Manuela
- My undergraduate and graduate Students
- My Post-Docs
- All Co-authors
- My former students and now Colleagues:
Eugenio Quaranta, Immacolata Tommasi,
Angela Dibenedetto
- The University of Bath and You

Thanks

*To all funding agencies: MIUR, UNIBA, EU
(FP4,6,7), ENIChem, ENI, TOTAL, ARKEMA*



Rockall (U.K.)

North Atlantic Ocean

North Sea

UNITED KINGDOM

IRELAND

NETHERLANDS

GERMANY

DENMARK

LITHUANIA

ESTONIA

LATVIA

BELARUS

POLAND

UKRAINE

BELGIUM

LUX.

CZECH REPUBLIC

SLOVAKIA

MOLDOVA

FRANCE

SWITZ.

AUSTRIA

HUNGARY

ROMANIA

PORTUGAL

SPAIN

ANDORRA

MONACO

ITALY

SLOVENIA

CROATIA

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Serbia

BULGARIA

TURKEY

GREECE

BARI

Scale 1:19,500,000

Lambert Conformal Conic Projection, standard parallels 40°N and 56°N

Remains of a human settlement dated at 3500 bC in Bari area

Pills of History

Most large cities were founded btw 800 and 650 bC

The Altamura Man
125 000 years old



Gnathia



Magna Grecia
650-207 bC

Messapi

Roman Province

Calabri

Peuceti

Dauni

FOGGIA

BARI

TARANTO

BRINDISI

LECCE



Some more history notes

Roman Province
207 bC-500 aC



Bizantine since
507

Arab Emirate
841-871 aC



Norman Swabian
Domination
from ca 950 until 1260





Giovanni Carrieri - 2014

www.giovannicarrieri.com - info@giovannicarrieri.com

Castel del Monte

Hunting Castle?
Astronomical studies?

Built in 1230
by Frederick II
Swabian
(1194-1250)
King of Italy



Saint Nicholas Basilica 1087-1100



- The Spanish domination in XIII-XVI centuries and afterwards until of the end XVIII century linked Bari to Naples and Palermo



- After Italy unification 1860 and until 1950 the economy was based on agriculture, food industry (first for the production of hard wheat), fishing, briding. Industrialization (steel, cement, refineries, agro-food) was started after 1950!
- Now, the tertiary is the main activity, followed by agriculture (1° for oil, 2° for wine production) and industry (large industries are being replaced by SMEs in the HiTech, Avio and Biotech areas).
- Tourism is gaining positions: in 2015 over 3 Mpersons toured in Apulia, with a share of >25% foreign people.





University of Bari



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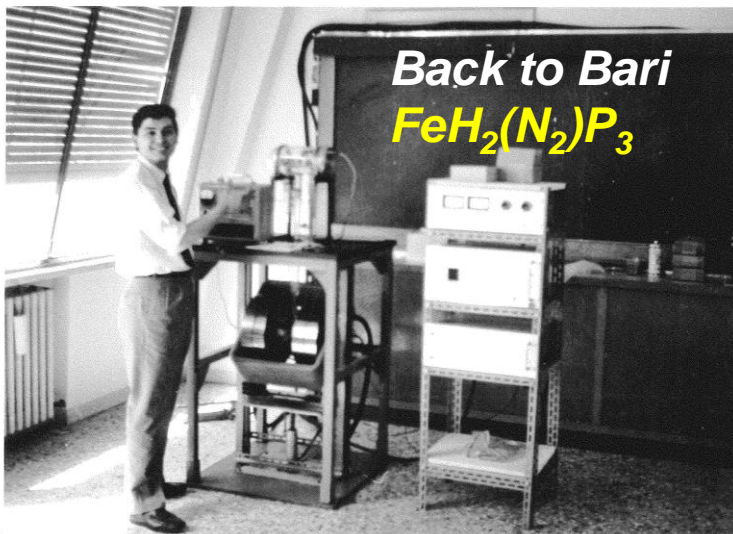
Milan

To Bari again

From Dinitrogen Fixation

to

Carbon Dioxide Utilization



Back to Bari
 $FeH_2(N_2)P_3$



CO₂ is a resource, it is not a waste...

New Nickel–Carbon Dioxide Complex: Synthesis, Properties, and Crystallographic Characterization of (Carbon dioxide)-bis(tricyclohexylphosphine)nickel

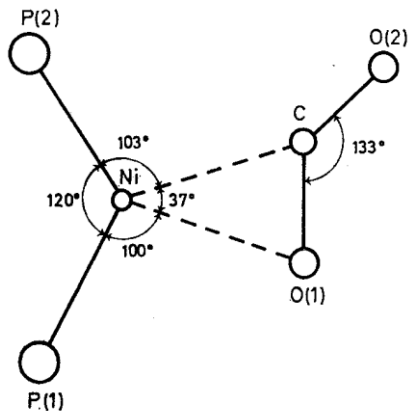
By MICHELE ARESTA and C. FRANCESCO NOBILE

(Istituto di Chimica Generale ed Inorganica, Università, Via Amendola 173, 70126 Bari, Italy)

and VINCENZO G. ALBANO, ELISABETTA FORNI, and MARIO MANASSERO

(Istituto di Chimica

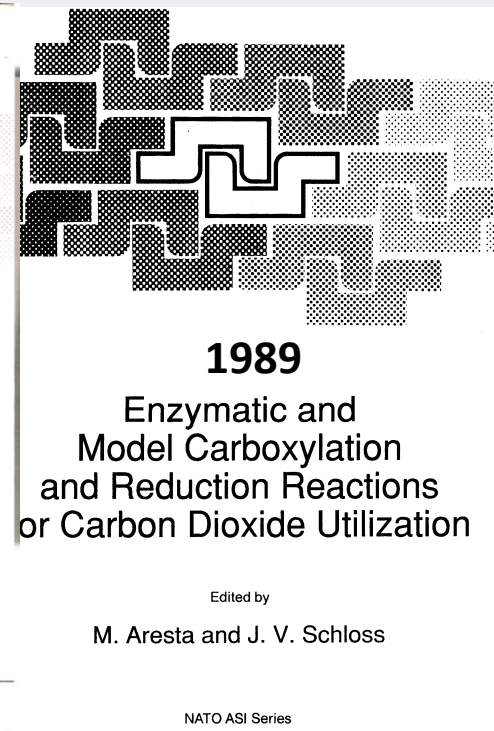
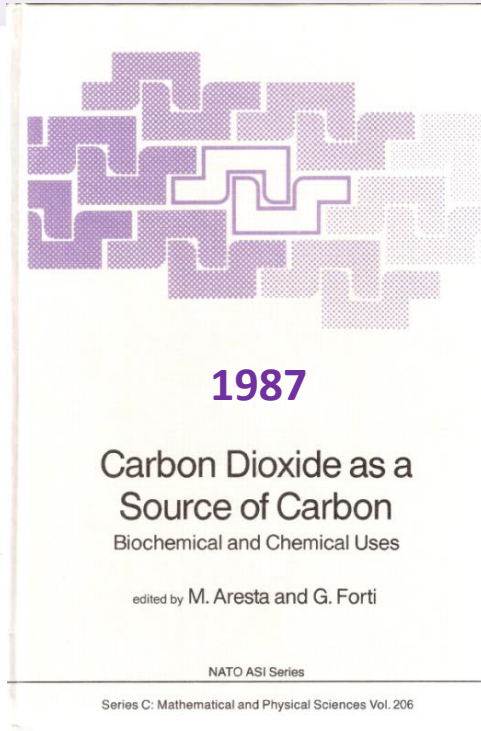
20133 Milano Italy)



Reprinted from

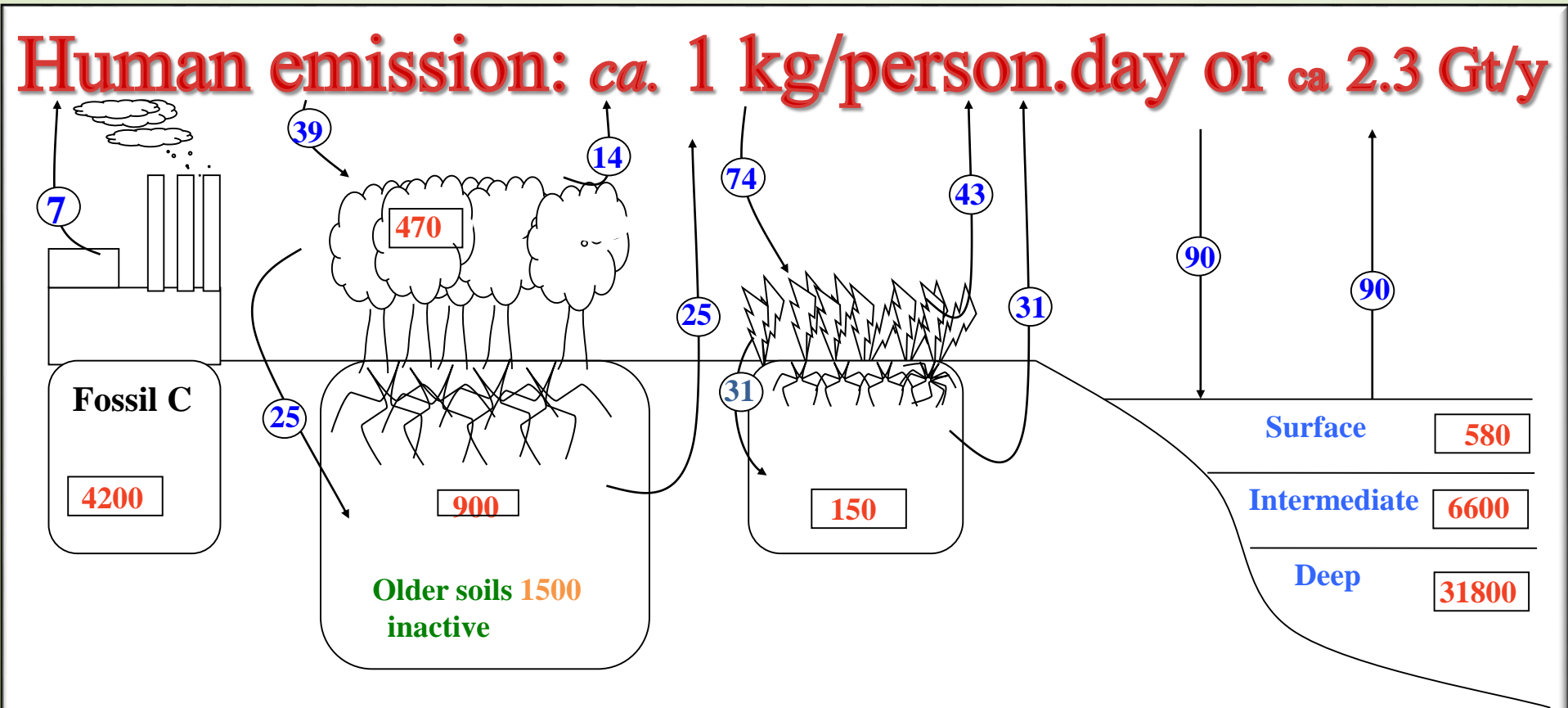
Journal of The Chemical Society
Chemical Communications
1975

The Chemical Society, Burlington House, London W1V 0BN



ICCDU
running since
1991

The natural C-Cycle



A recent estimate has set at **1 020 Gt/y** the amount of converted CO₂

FOSSIL FUEL

TERRESTRIAL BIOSPHERE

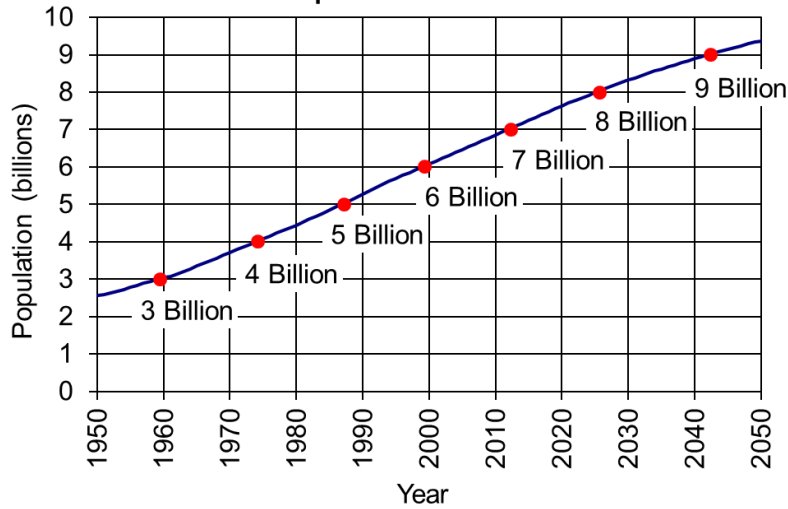
OCEAN

residential in **GtC**;

● fluxes in **GtC per year**

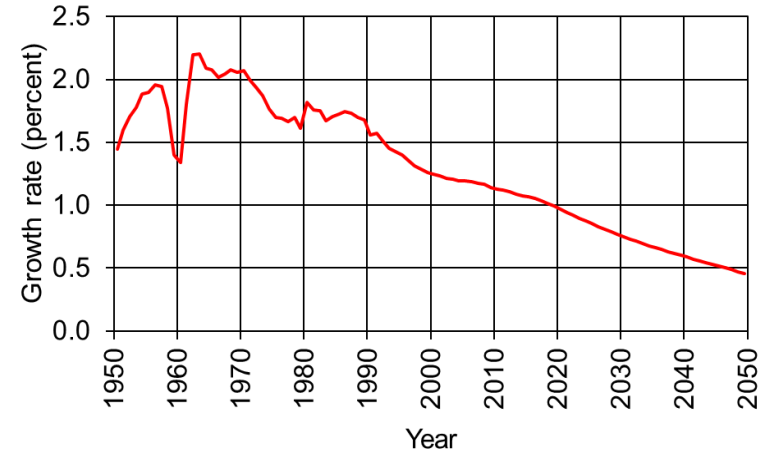
Society, Energy, and CO₂

World Population: 1950-2050



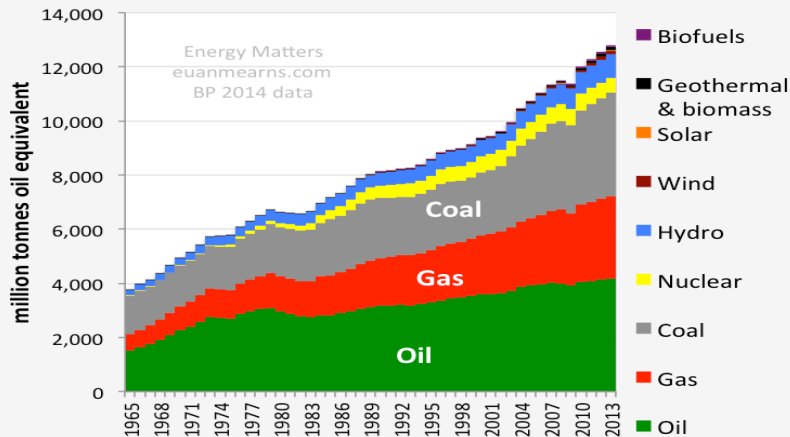
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, International Data Base, August 2016 Update.

World Population Growth Rates: 1950-2050

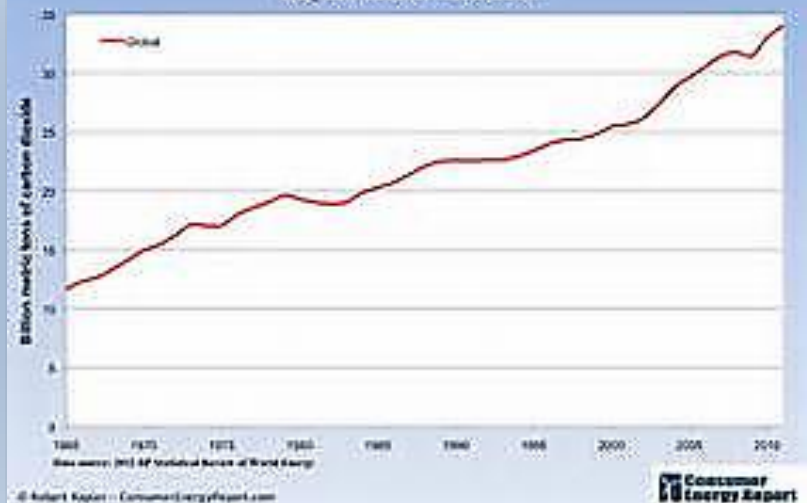


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, International Data Base, August 2016 Update.

Global Energy Consumption 1965-2013

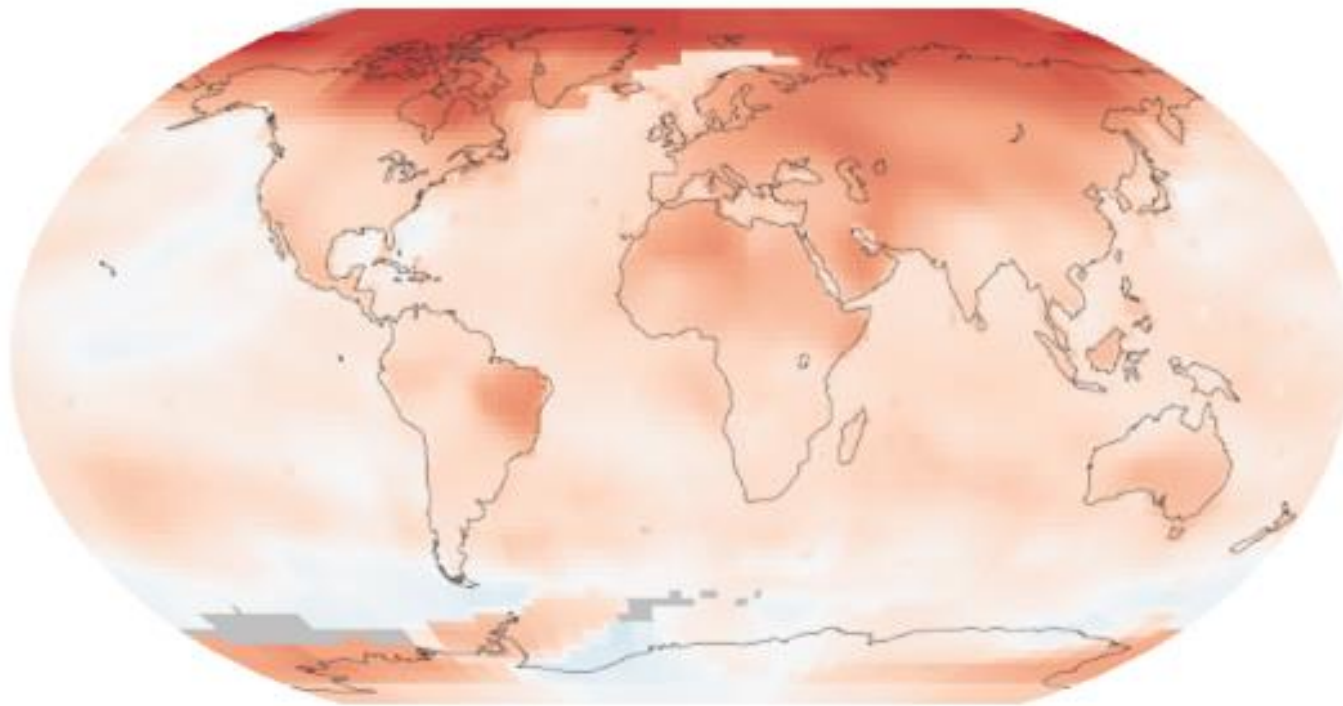


CO₂ Emissions 1965-2011



Global warming from 1880 to 2013

As of 2014, 2013 tied with 2009 and 2006 for the seventh warmest year since 1880 according to NASA scientists. With the exception of 1998, the 10 warmest years in the 134-year record have all occurred since 2000, with **2010** and **2005** ranking as **the warmest years on record**.



2005-2014

[view slideshow](#)

COP21, Paris 2015



PARIS2015
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
COP21·CMP11

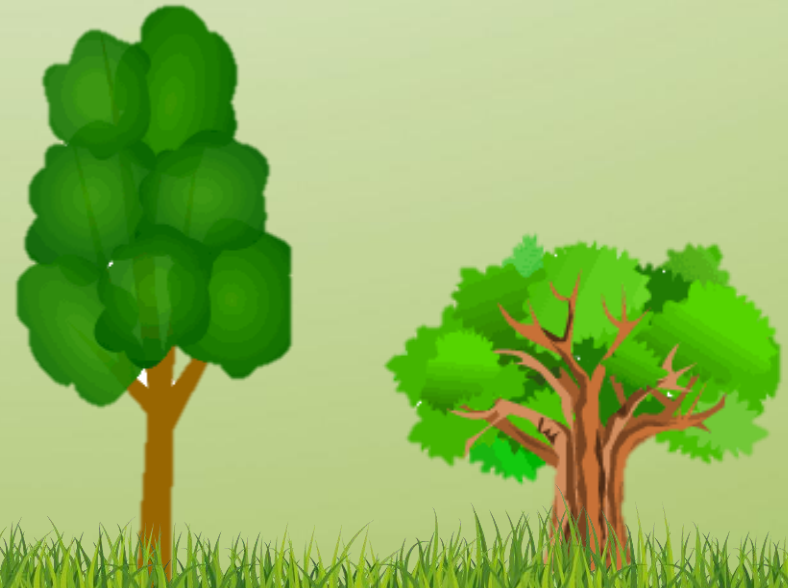
- Article 7 of the Draft clearly states the role of:
 - *Technology deployment and dissemination for implementation of mitigation and adaptation*
 - *Strengthening cooperative actions on technology development and transfer for improving resilience to CC and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.*
- The Draft Proposal recognizes the key role of a “*vision for innovation*” and states that *accelerating, encouraging, and enabling innovation is critical* for an *effective long-term global response to climate change and promoting economic growth and sustainable development.*

Need of stepping from the linear...

Take...Use...Dispose



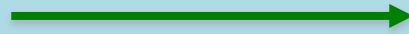
...to the circular-C economy



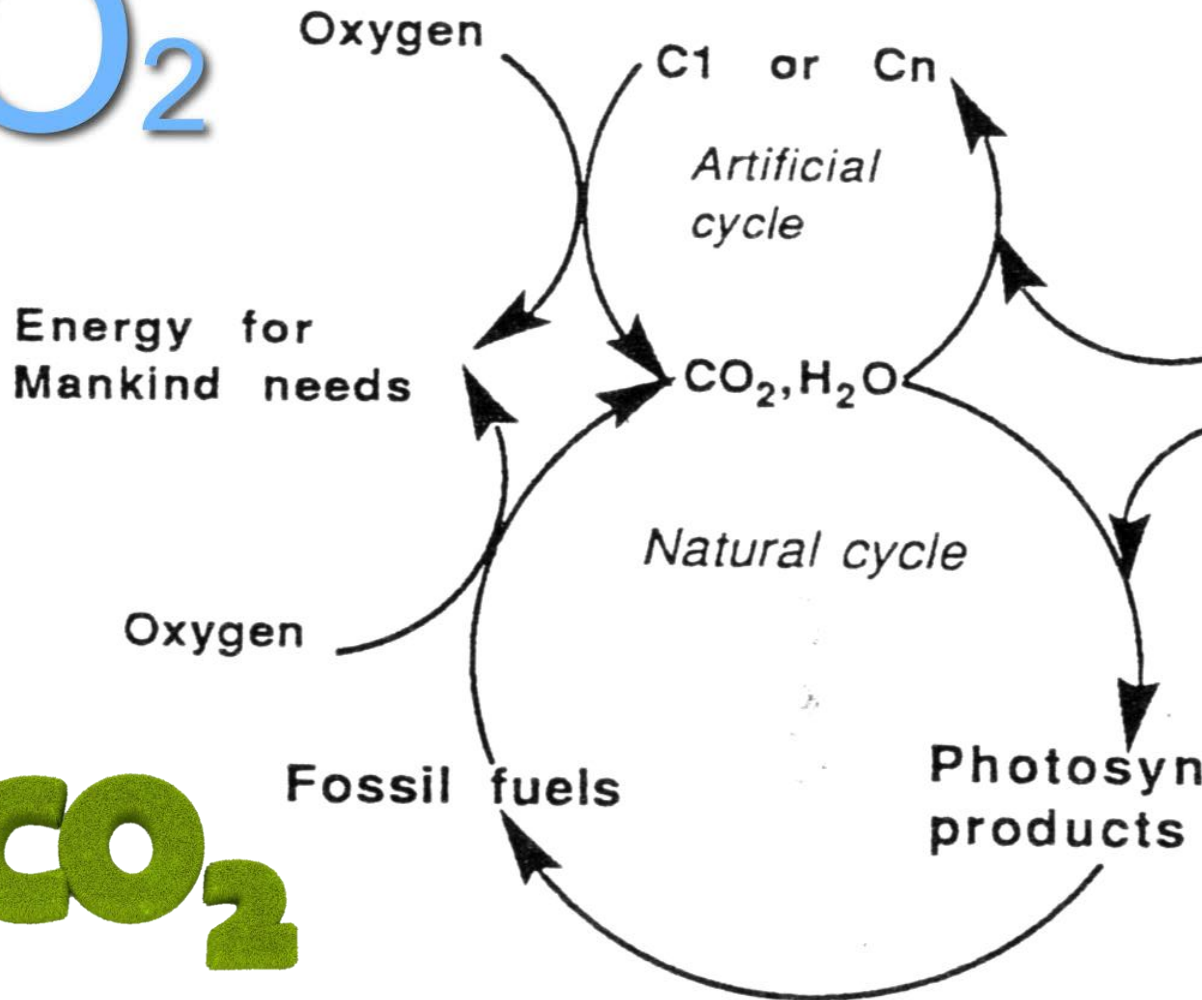
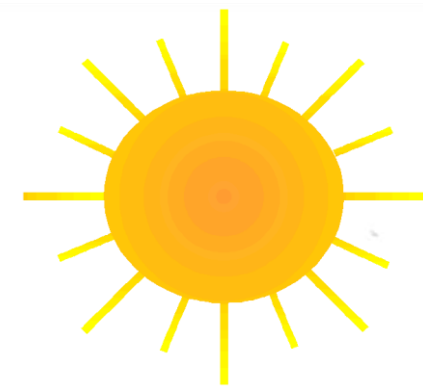
Alternative to fossil-C: Carbon-recycling, a must for the future

Strategies:

- **Direct conversion of Carbon Dioxide:**
Carbon Dioxide Capture and Utilization-CCU
- **Let Nature fix CO₂ and Chemistry convert biomass (terrestrial and aquatic) into chemicals, materials and fuels**



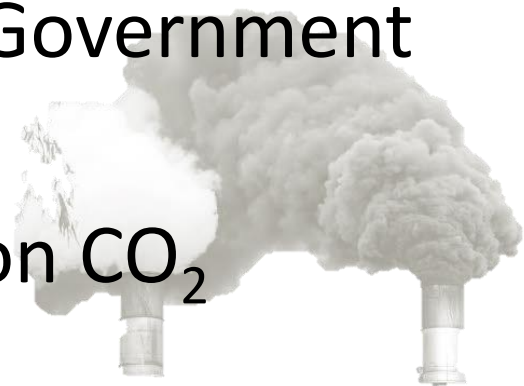
- **Integration of Chemistry and Biotechnology**



M. Aresta in “Enzymatic and Model carboxylation and reduction reactions for carbon dioxide utilization”, M. Aresta and J.V. Schloss Eds, Kluwer Acad Publ, NATO ASI Series C 314 (1990) 1-42

CO₂ and the italian government

- 1985 Letter to the Ministry of University proposing the Italian Research Center for Carbon Management
- 1989 Proposal to CNR of a Center on CM
- 1990 Organization of the Italian Group for CM
Participation in the IEA GHG Programme
- 1991 The Italian Institute for CM was agreed
- 1992 The fall of the Government cancelled all achievements: “CM is not a Government issue, but of those who emit CO₂”
- 1998 RUCADI, the first EU Project on CO₂



Carbon Dioxide Recovery and Utilization

RUCADI FP4 1998-2002

Carbon Dioxide Recovery and Utilization

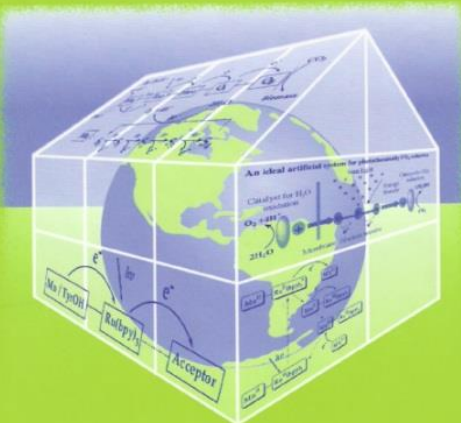
Edited by Michele Aresta

2003

Kluwer Academic Publishers

ACS SYMPOSIUM SERIES 852

Utilization of Greenhouse Gases



2003

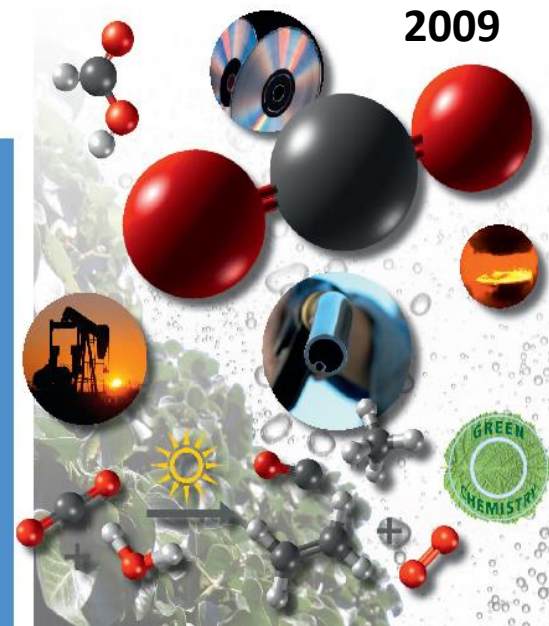
EDITED BY
Chang-jun Liu, Richard G. Mallinson,
and Michele Aresta

Edited by Michele Aresta

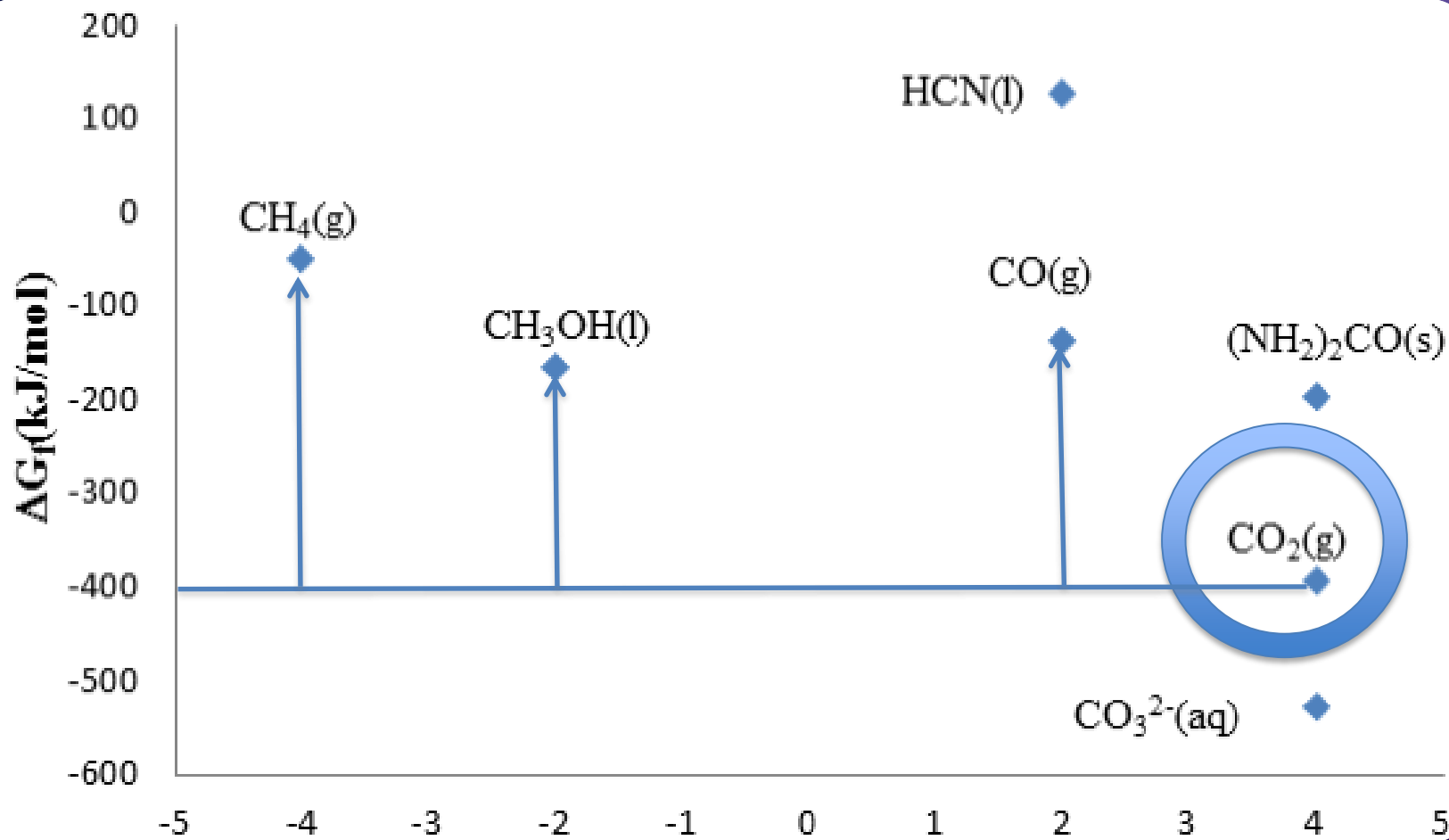
WILEY-VCH

Carbon Dioxide as Chemical Feedstock

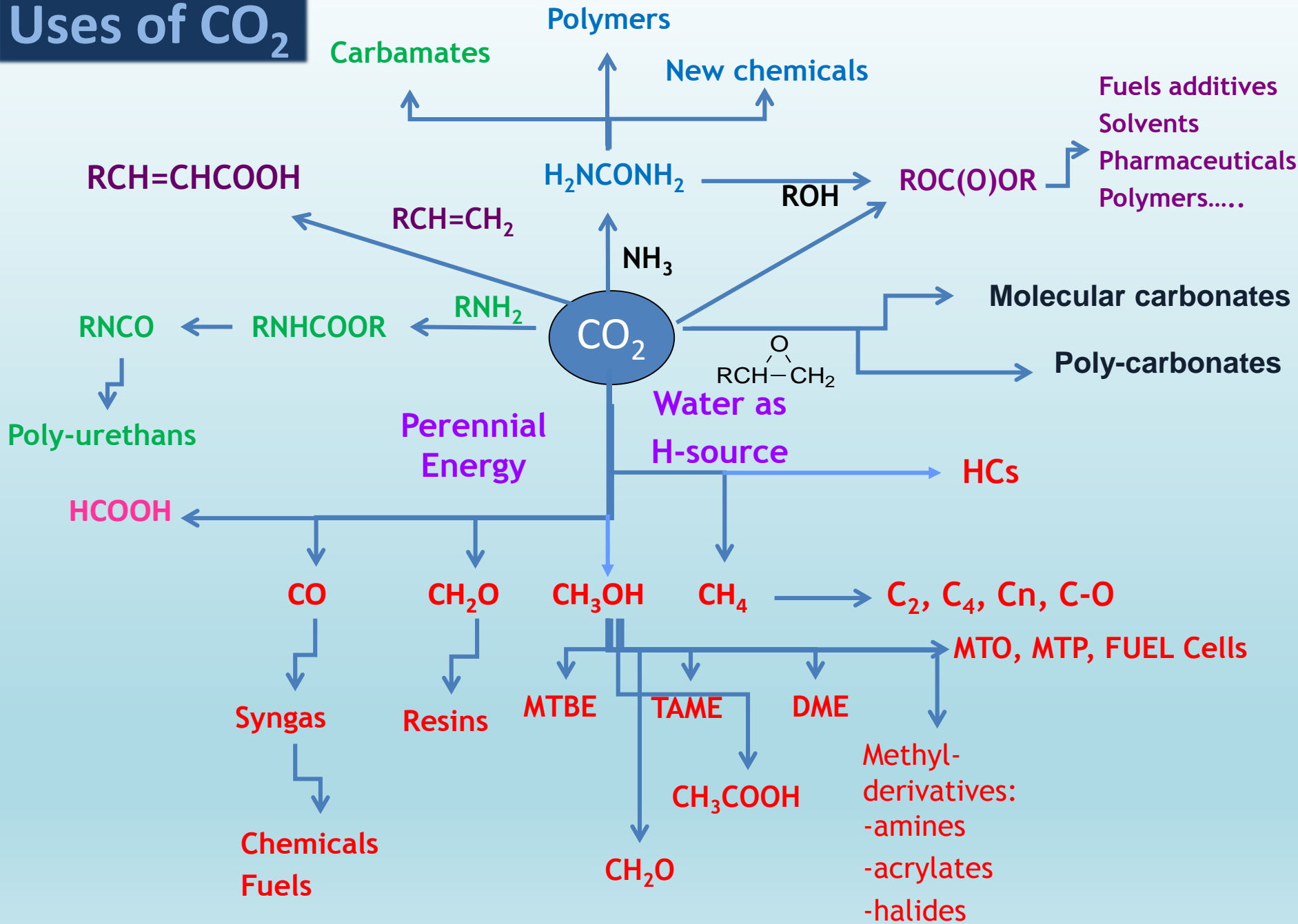
2009



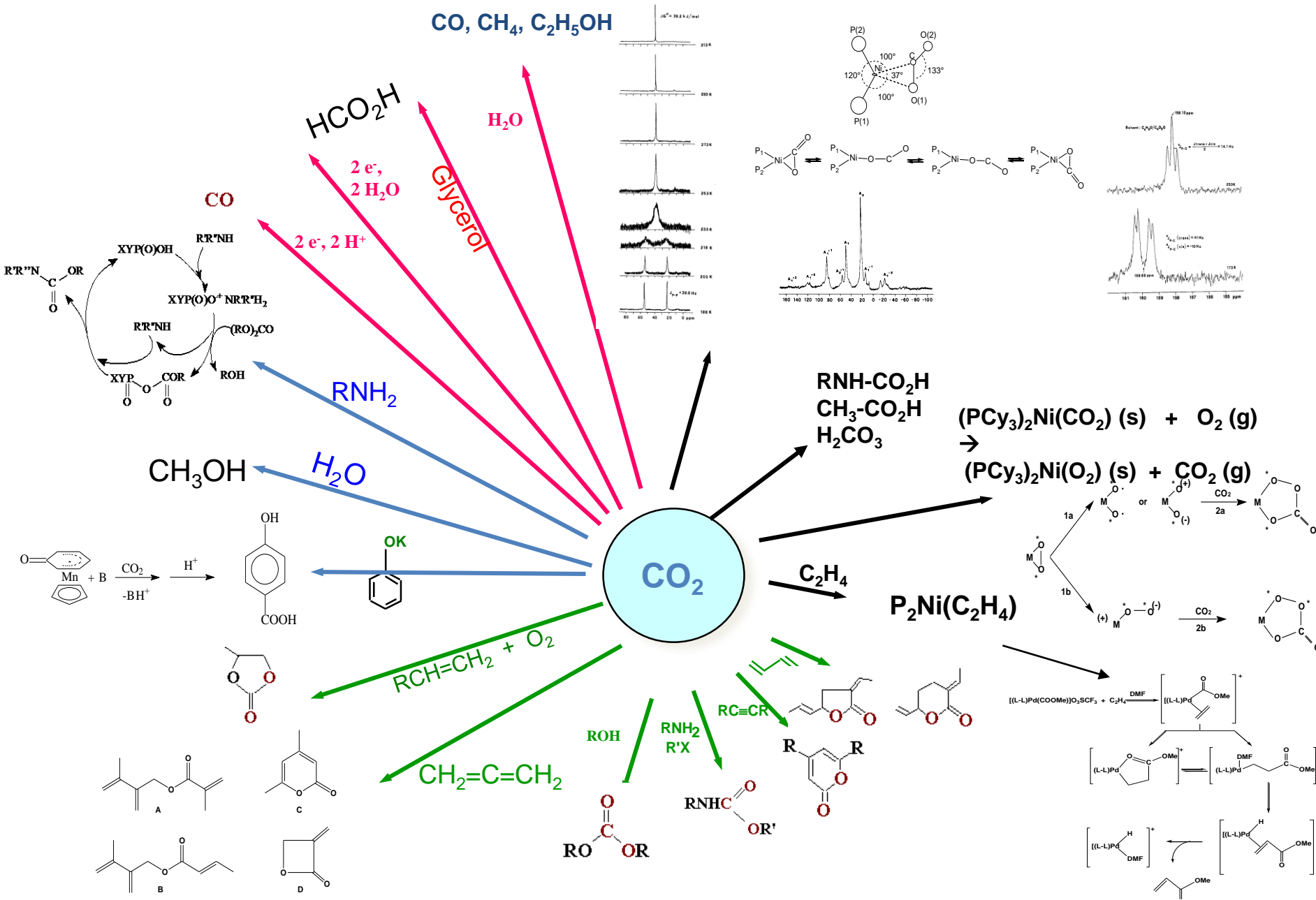
Energy issues



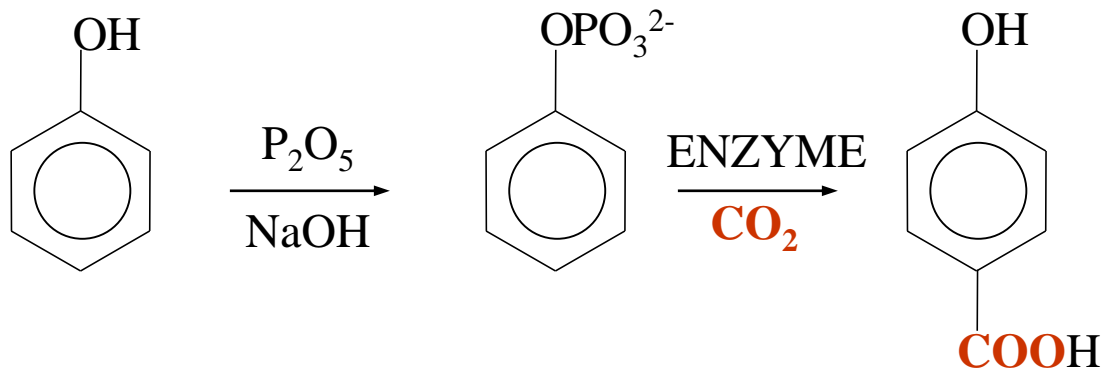
Uses of CO₂



From fundamental studies to applications

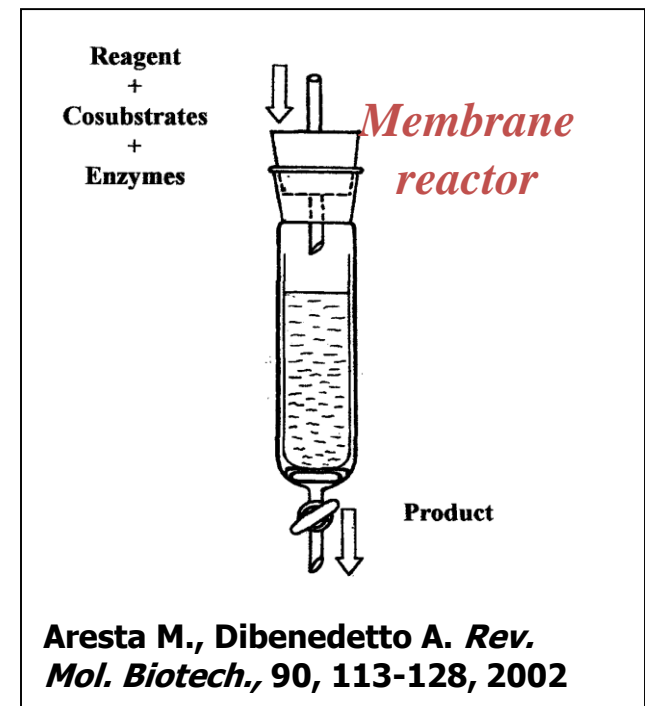
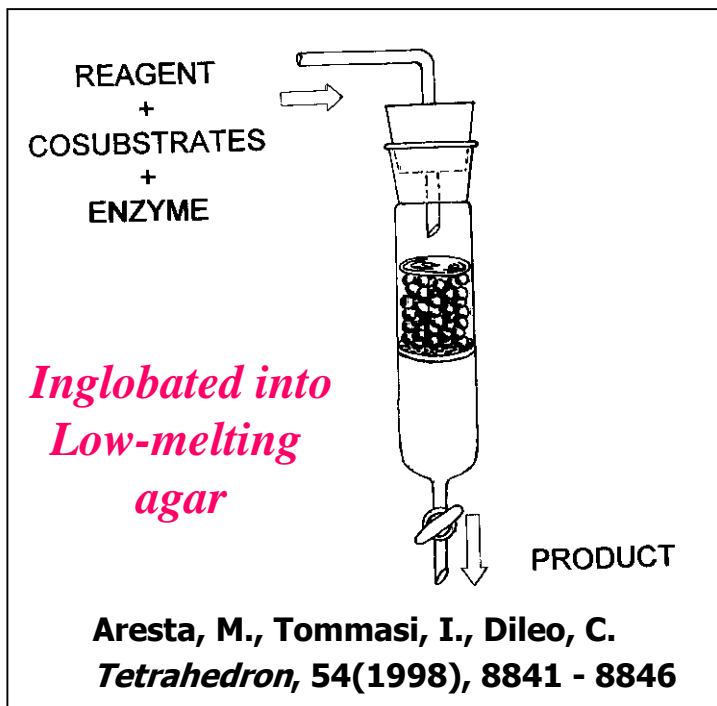


Enzymatic Phenol Carboxylation



TON = 1600

TOF = 60



Synthesis $2\text{ROH} + \text{CO}_2 = (\text{RO})_2\text{CO} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
and uses of dialkyl carbonates....

Dialkylcarbonates uses...



Cosmetics



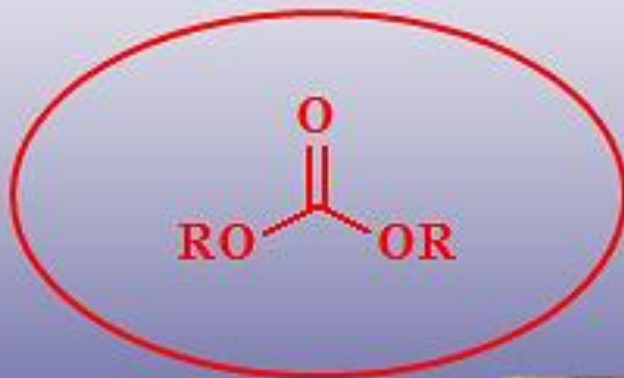
Solvents and reagents



Pesticides



Drugs



Polymers



Additives to gasoline

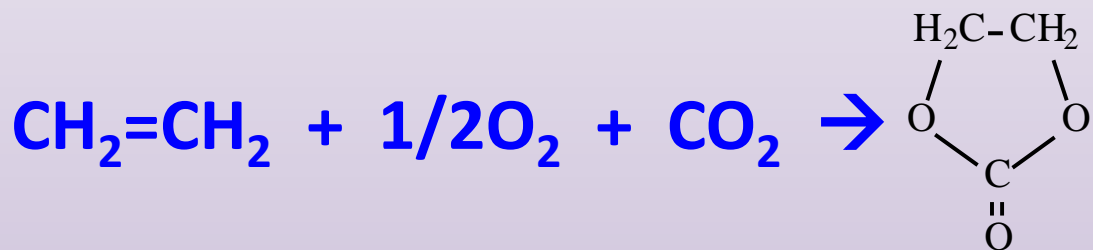
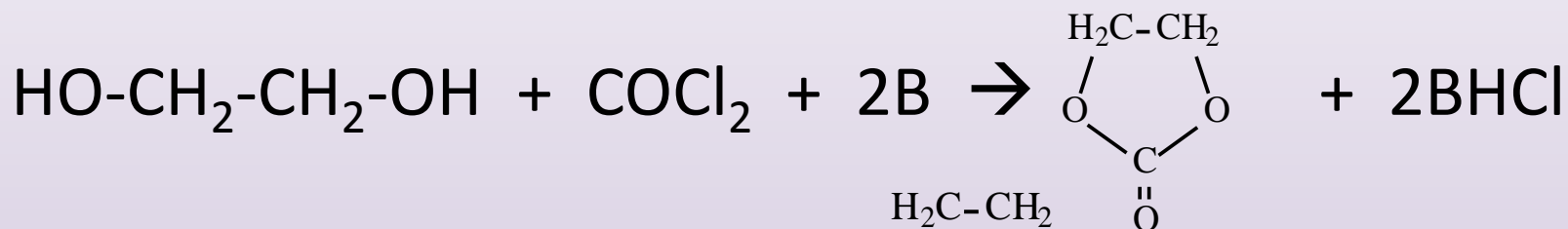
The water issue.

Shifts the Equilibrium

Damages the Catalysts

Membrane Reactors

Cyclic carbonates



- ✓ **The oxidative carboxylation would avoid the use of phosgene and the production of waste.**
- ✓ The synthetic methodology based on the use of epoxides and CO_2 finds a limit in the amount of H_2O_2 produced worldwide and is expensive.

Architecture and PCs



**Library of the
Sung Kyun Kwan
University-Seoul**



**The Barbie House
Shanghai**

Attempts to improve or mimic Nature

- **Enhanced photosynthesis**
- **Man-made photosynthesis
(Artificial leaf !!? Artificial tree!!?)**
- **Man-made microorganism.....**
- **Integration of Biotechnologies and Catalysis**
- **Solar chemistry**



A faster Rubisco with potential to increase photosynthesis in crops

[Lin MT](#)¹, [Occhialini A](#) [Andralojc PJ](#) [Parry MA](#) [Hanson MR](#)

¹ Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853.

² Plant Biology and Crop Science, Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 2JQ.

³ Plant Biology and Crop Science, Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 2JQ, UK.

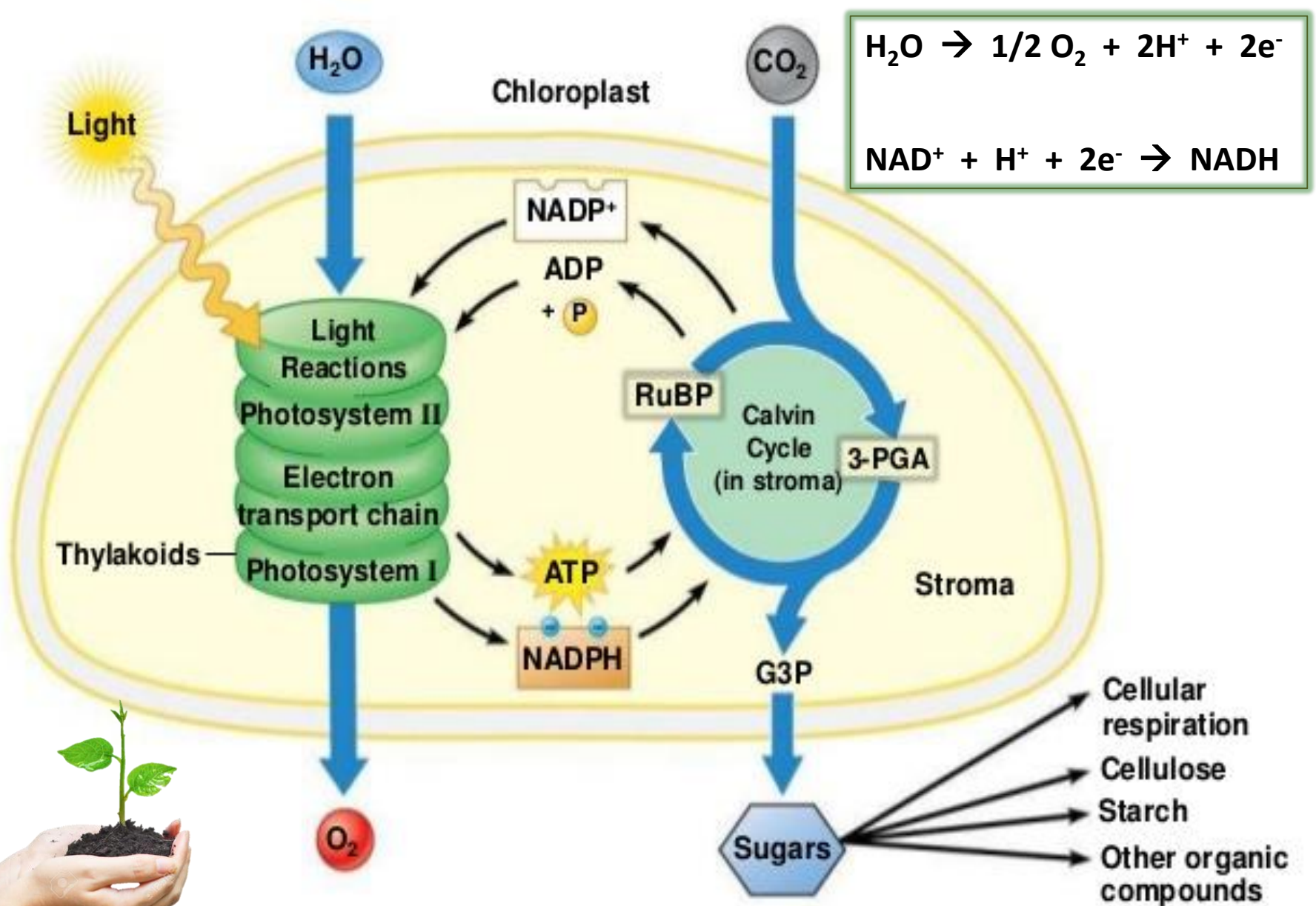
⁴ Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853.

Abstract

In photosynthetic organisms, D-ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase (Rubisco) is the major enzyme assimilating atmospheric CO₂ into the biosphere. Owing to the **wasteful oxygenase activity and slow turnover of Rubisco**, the enzyme is among the most important targets for improving the photosynthetic efficiency of vascular plants introducing the **CO₂-concentrating mechanism (CCM) from cyanobacteria into plants** could enhance crop yield. However, the complex nature of Rubisco's assembly has made manipulation of the enzyme extremely challenging, and attempts to replace it in plants with the enzymes from cyanobacteria and red algae have not been successful. Here we report two transplastomic tobacco lines with functional Rubisco from the cyanobacterium *Synechococcus elongatus* PCC7942 (Se7942). These **transplastomic tobacco lines** represent an important step **towards improved photosynthesis in plants** and will be valuable hosts for future addition of the remaining components of the cyanobacterial CCM, such as inorganic carbon transporters and the β -carboxysome shell proteins



Basics of photosynthesis



Hydrogen producing microorganisms

No O₂ evolution!

- Anaerobic digestion → Dark process

Acid forming phase → H₂ production (1-8 h)

Hydrogenases are required

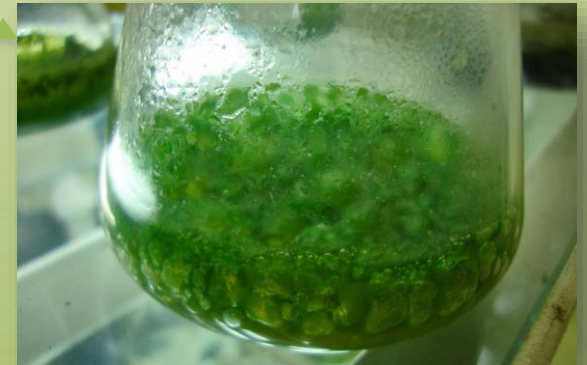
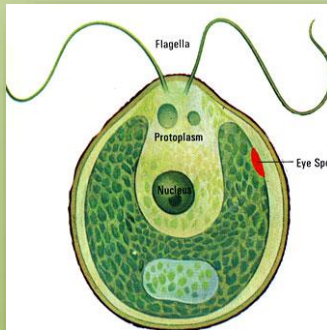
- H₂ forming
- H₂ consuming



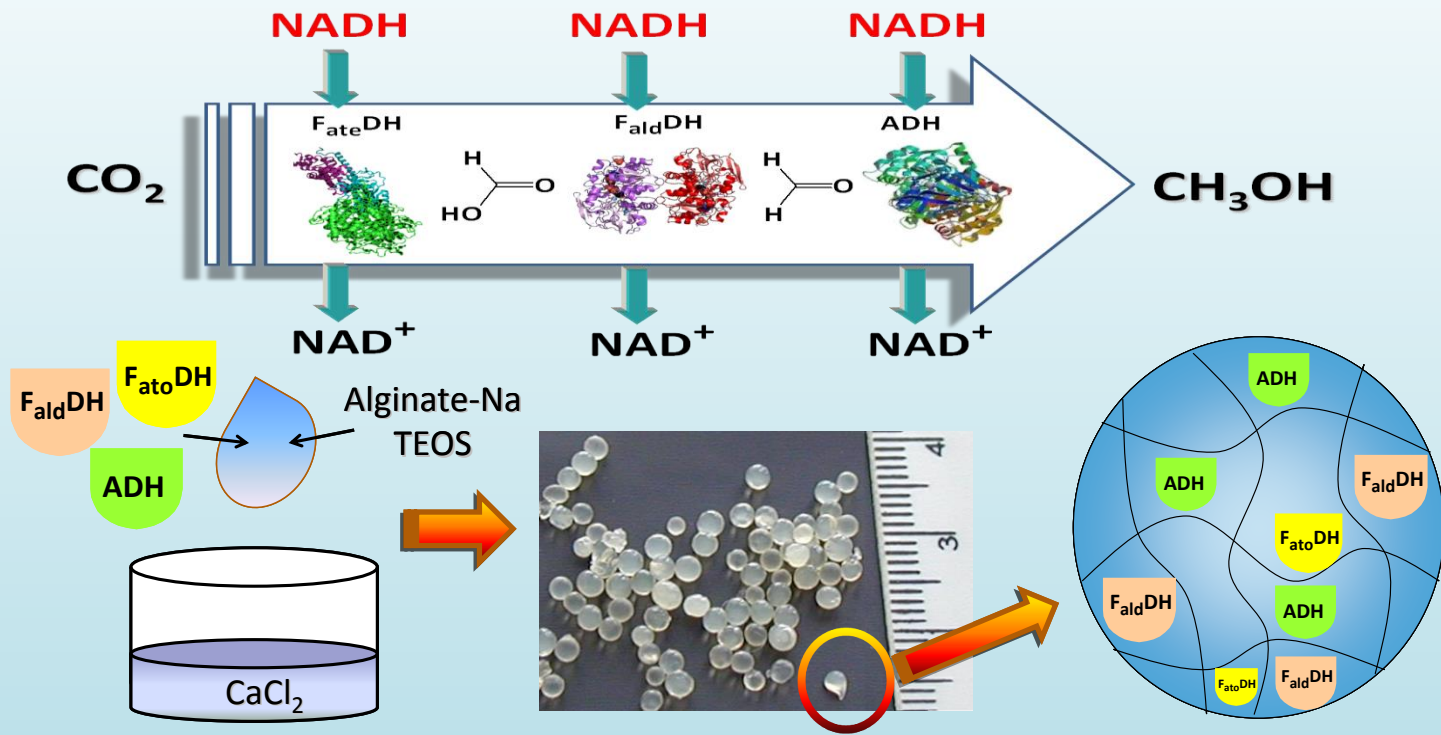
- Photosynthetic microorganisms (anoxygenic)

Cyanobacteria Blue-green algae

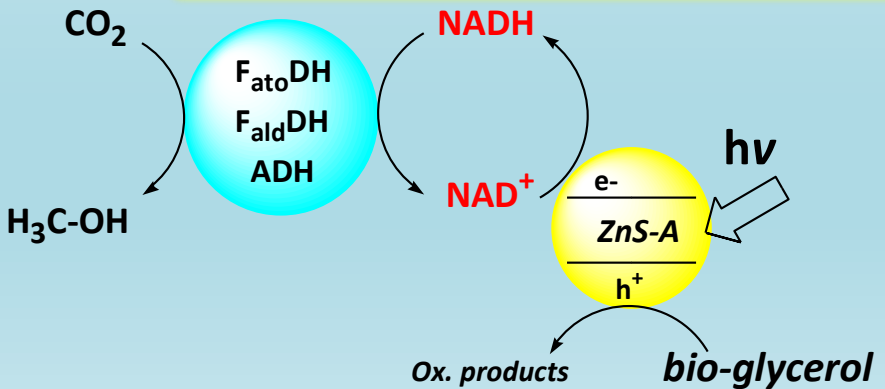
- *Clamidomonas*



Hybrid reduction of CO₂

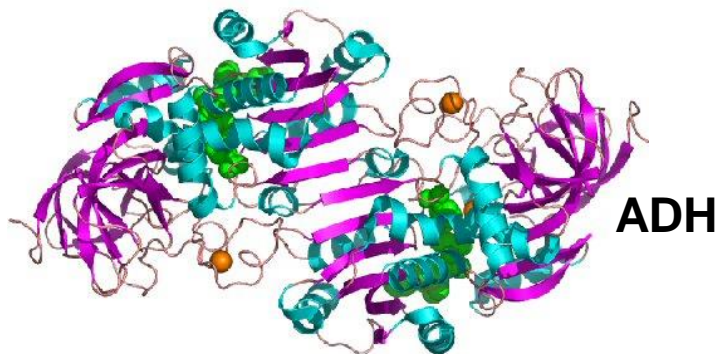
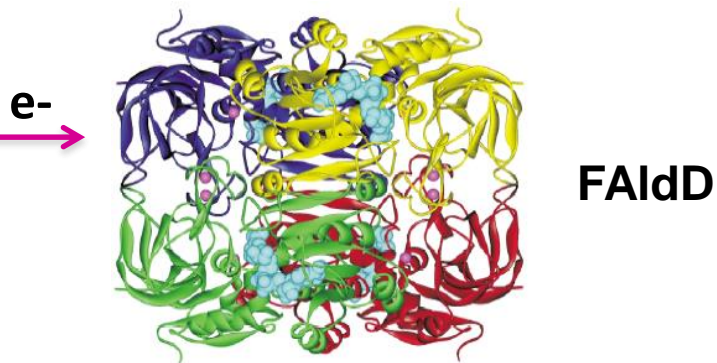
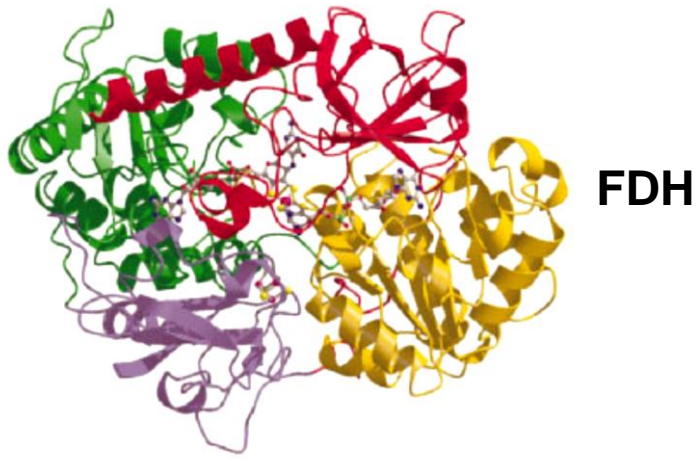


Use of ZnS-A and Ru/ZnS as light harvesting system (Xe)



From 3NADH/CH₃OH to >100 CH₃OH/NADH

M. Aresta et al, ChemSusChem, 2012
BJOC, 2015



Regeneration of NADH



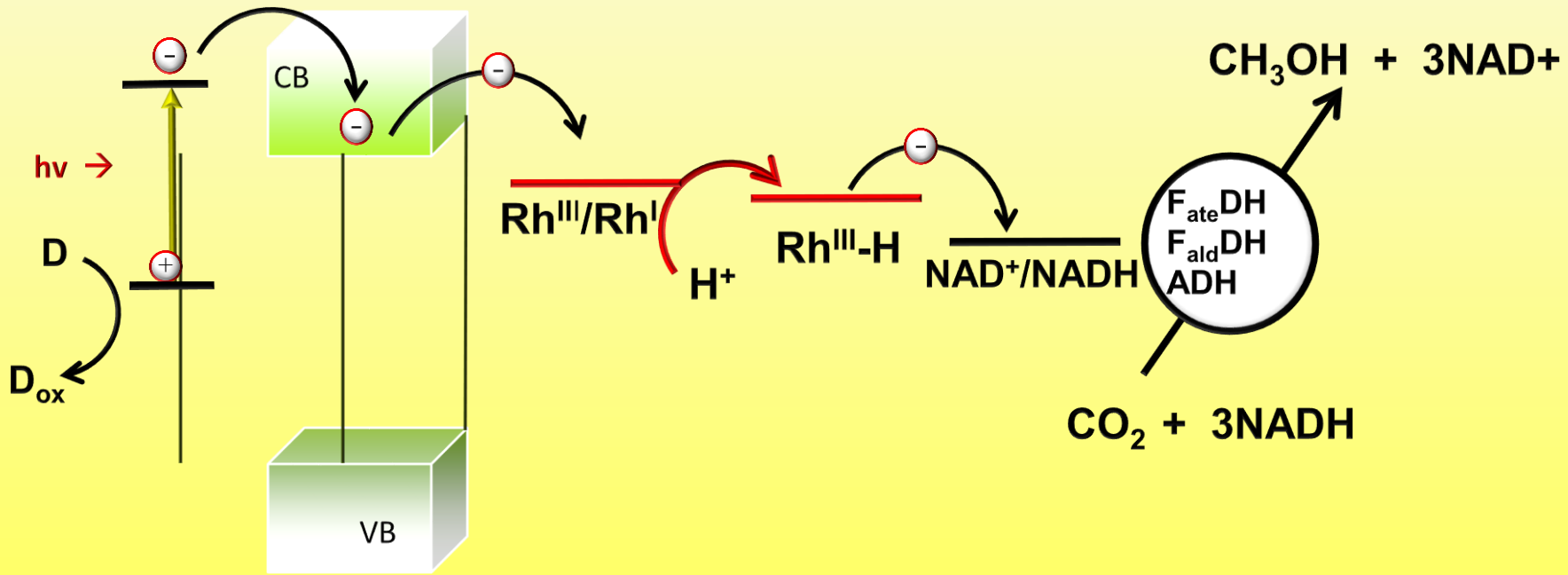
Enzymes supported
on an electrode



PV- e^- injection



Hybrid CO₂ Reduction: Electron cascade in the Vis-Light photochemical regeneration of NADH using modified TiO₂ as solar energy utilizer and a Rh complex as e⁻ and H⁻ transfer mediator



From 3NADH/CH₃OH to over 1000 CH₃OH/NADH!

Fermentation of CO_2 with H_2

Use of bacterial strains able to convert CO_2 and H_2 into :

✓ **Formate HCO_2^-**

CO_2

✓ **Acetate CH_3CO_2^-**

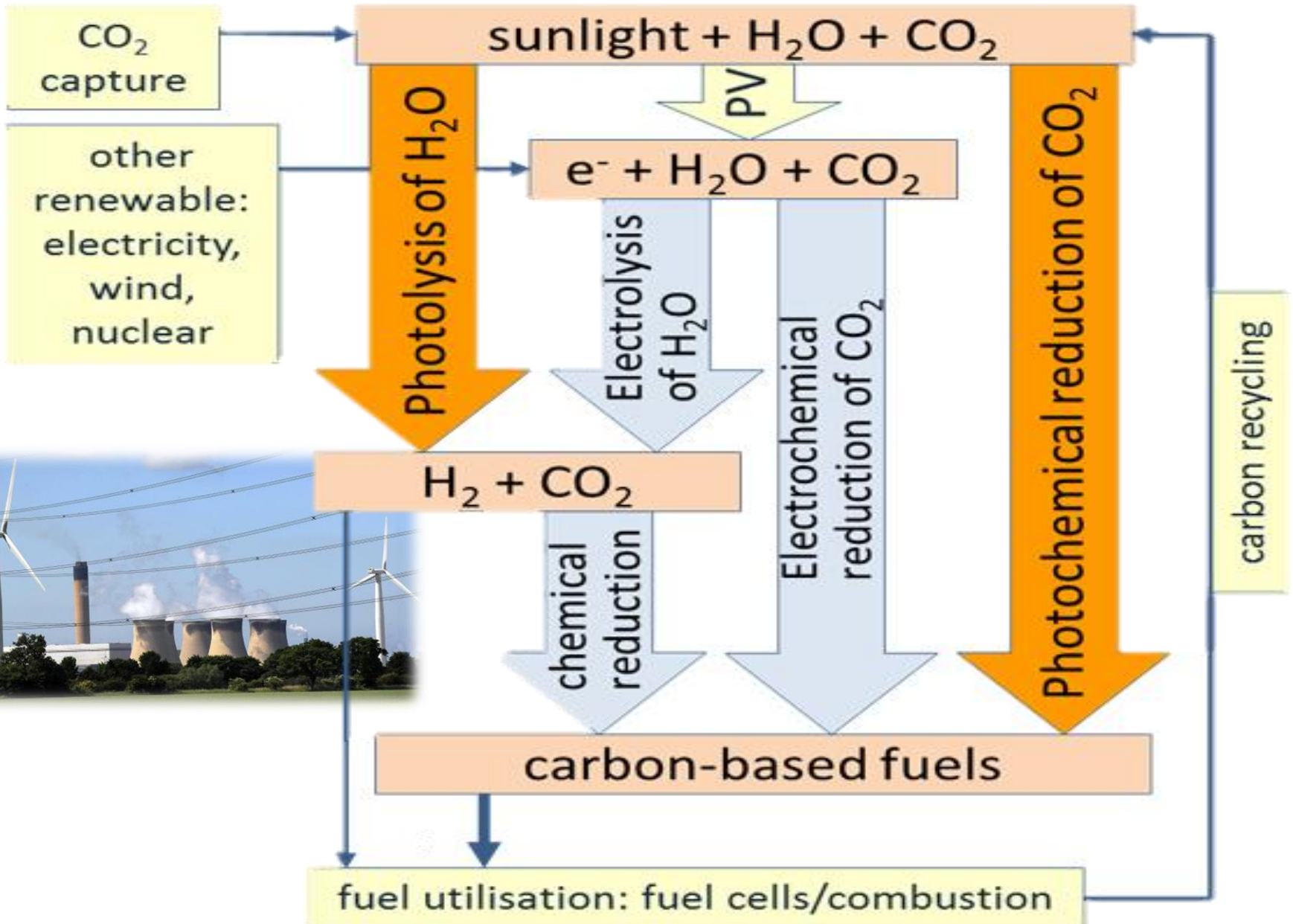
H_2

✓ **Other Cn**

**H_2 is produced locally by
use of PV**

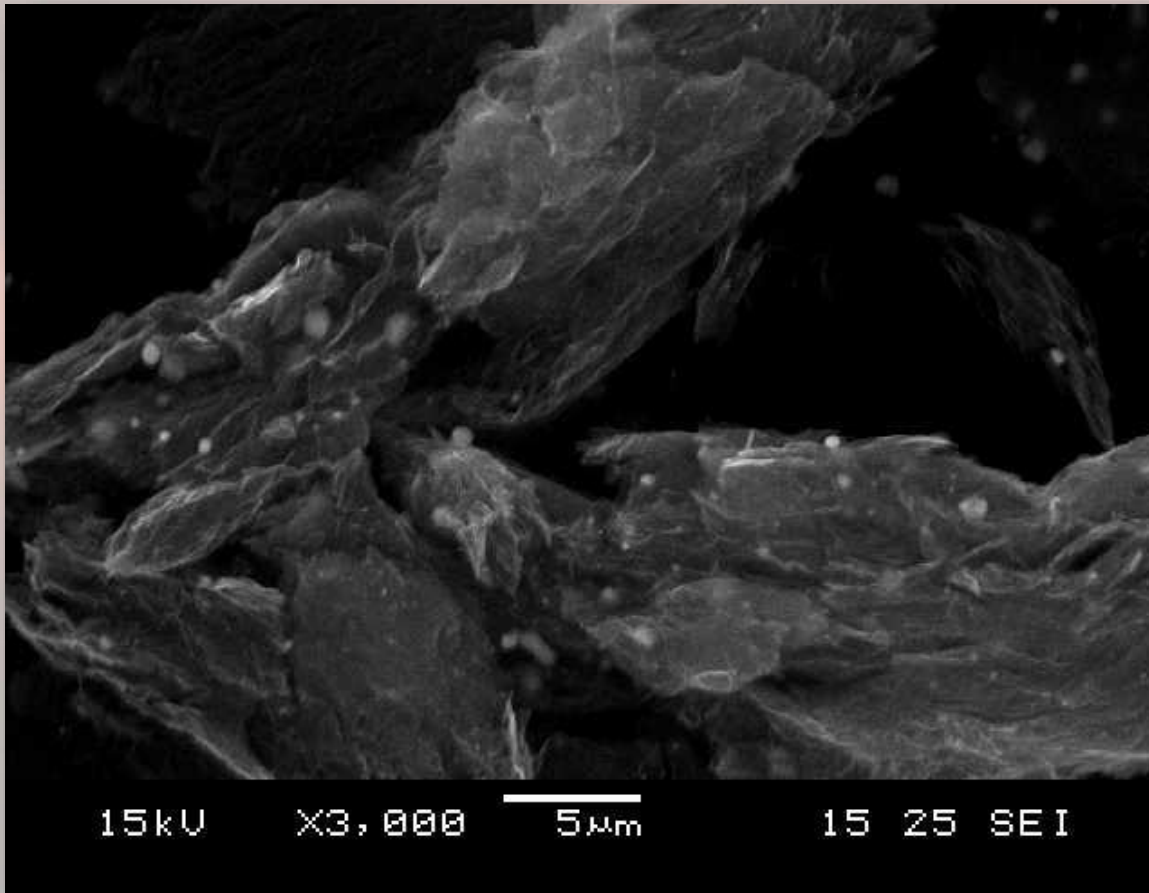


Solar-driven C-recycling



New photocatalytic materials

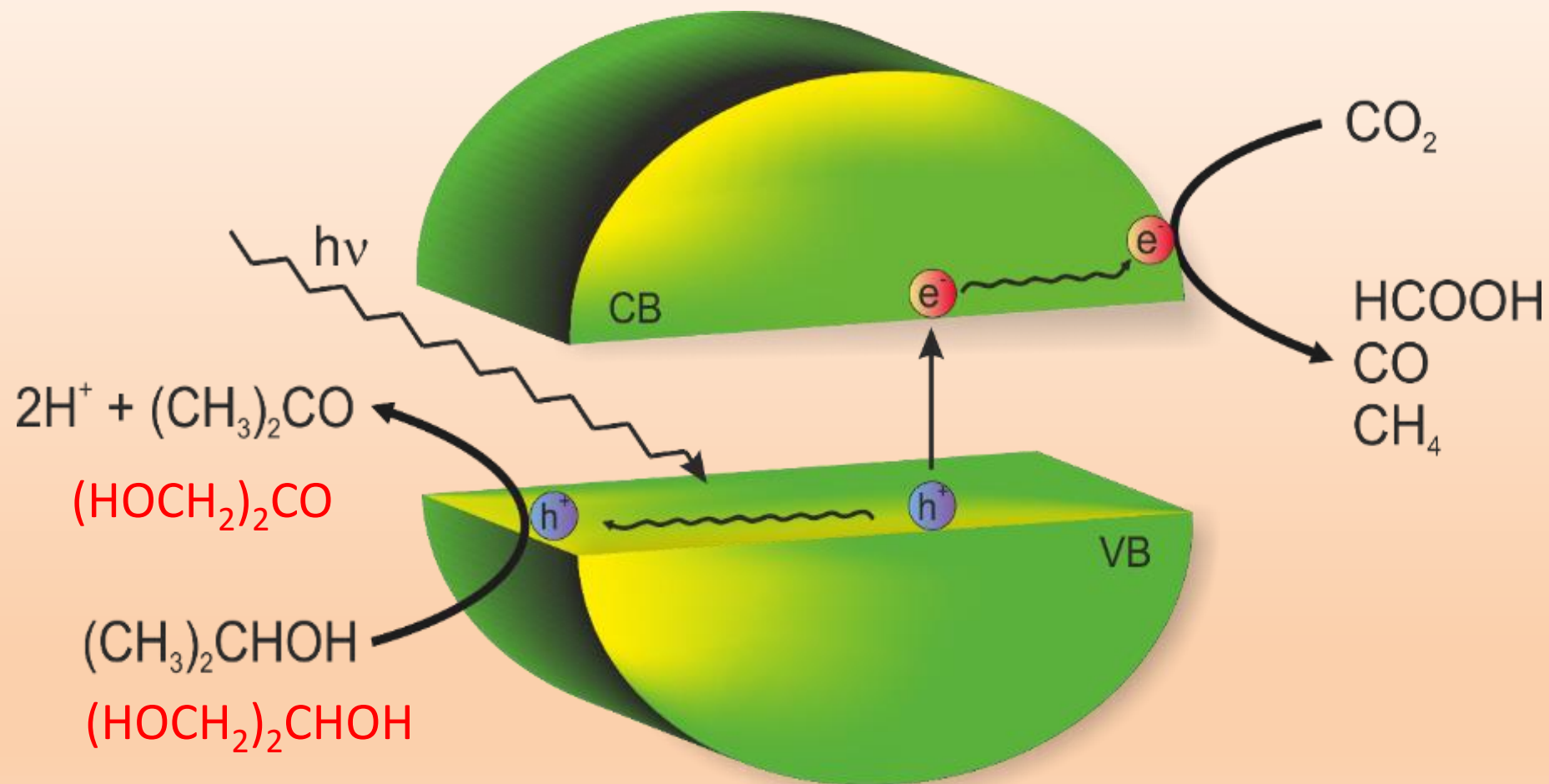
- Graphene oxide as support for new photocatalysts



**New effective
photocatalysts
for Carboxylations**

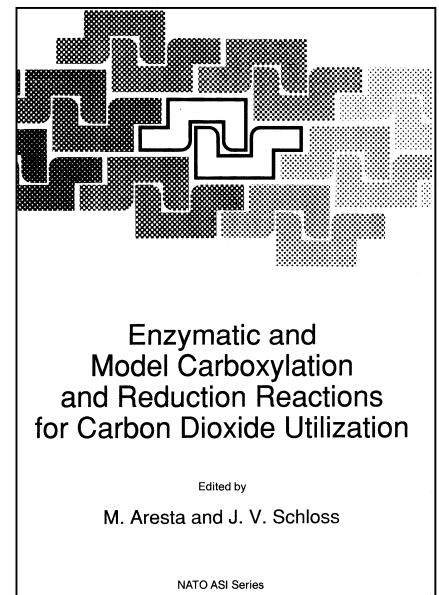
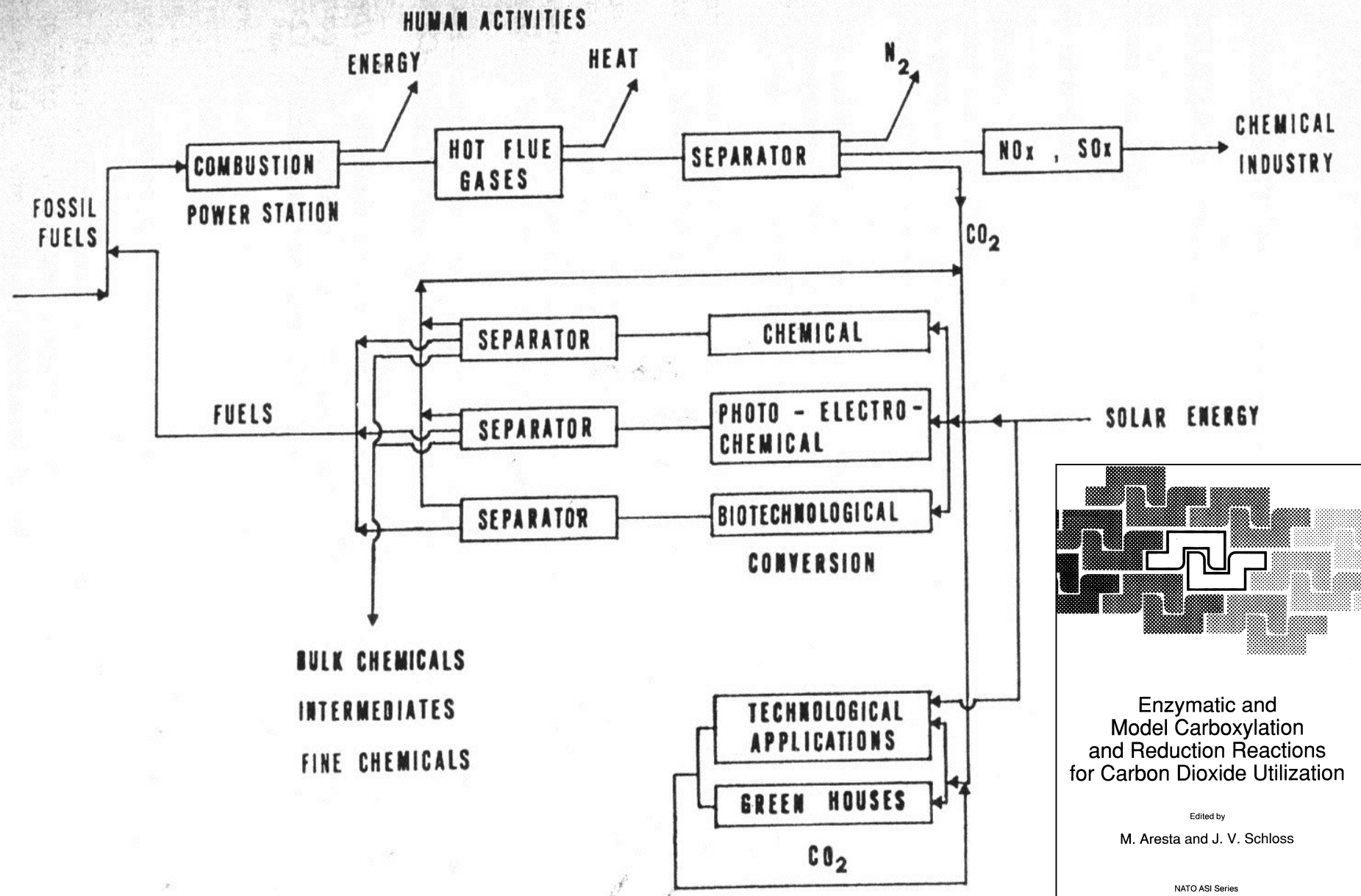
M. Aresta, et al.
2016 submitted

Photoreduction of CO₂ in glycerol (i-propanol) with p-type semiconductors



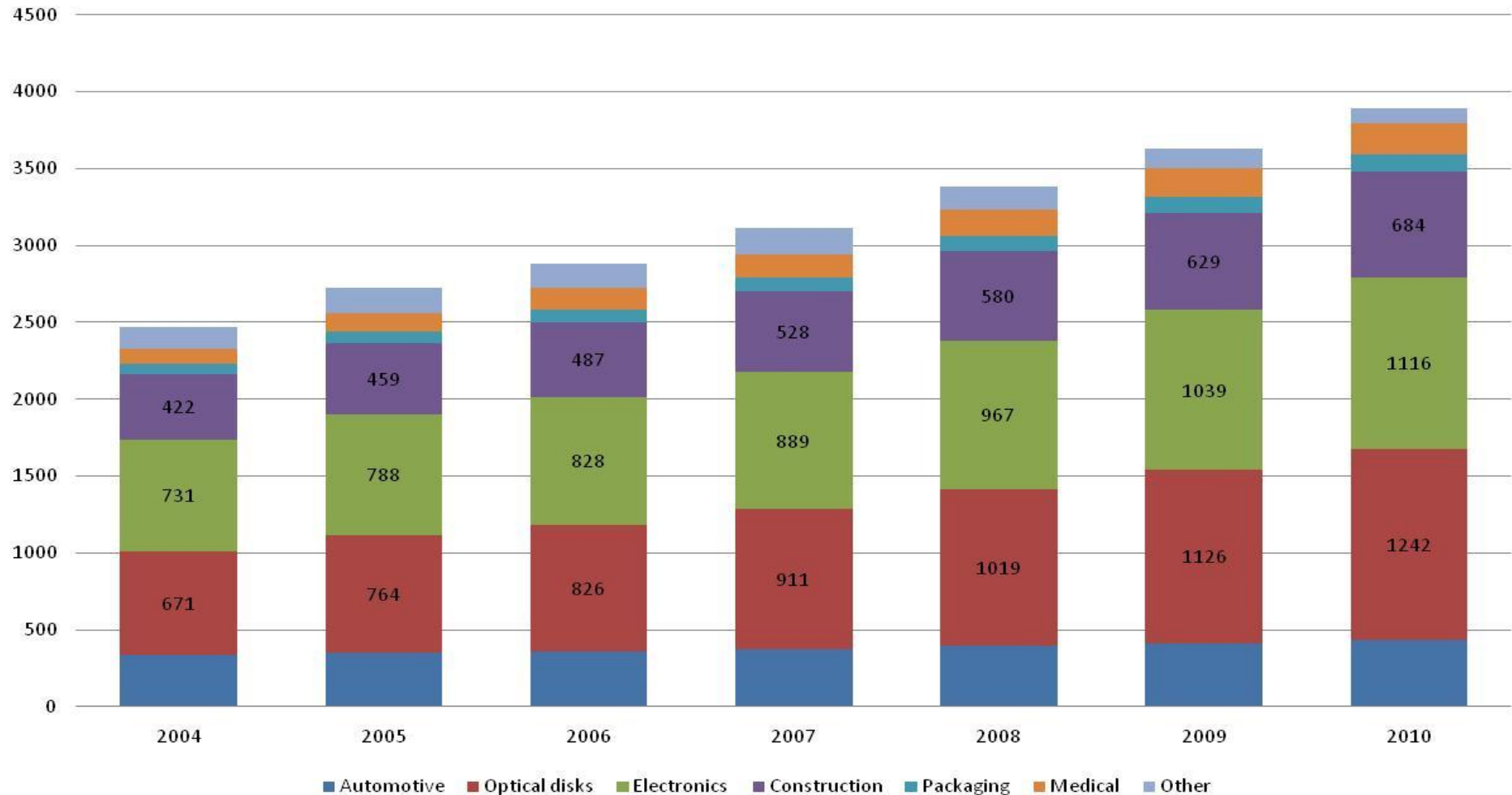
An integrated approach to CO₂ utilization,

M. Aresta 1990, NATO ASI Series



Production and uses of PCs

Global PC demand by End Use
(ktons)



Methanol and DME



Methanation of CO_2

Sabatier reaction



$\text{C}_n \text{HC}$ and Olefins



CSP utilization: “Air diesel”

- Diesel from air



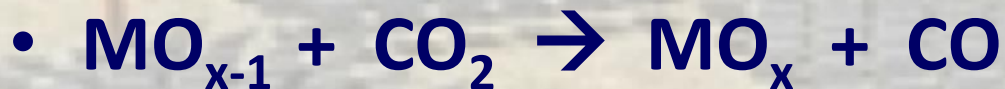
Easy release of “O”

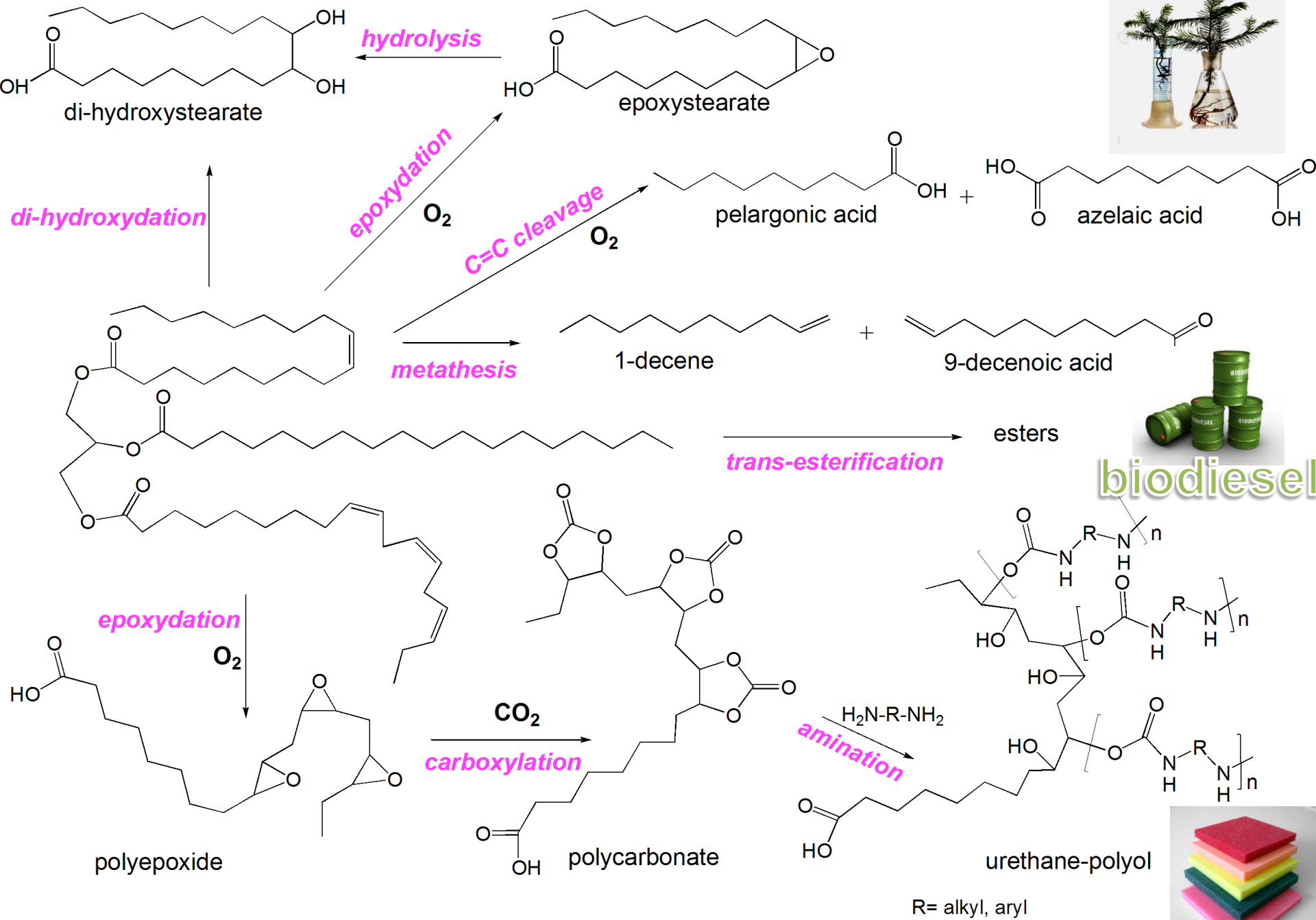


Mixed oxides



(> 1000 K)





Recent papers and books



ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Coordination Chemistry Reviews **2016**

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ccr



Review

My journey in the CO₂-chemistry wonderland

Michele Aresta ^{a,b,c,*}

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^b Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Bath, Bath BA2 7Y1, UK

^c CIRCC, via Celso Ulpiani 27, 70126 Bari, Italy



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Journal of Catalysis **2016**

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jcat



State of the art and perspectives in catalytic processes for CO₂ conversion into chemicals and fuels: The distinctive contribution of chemical catalysis and biotechnology

Michele Aresta ^{a,b,c,*}, Angela Dibenedetto ^{c,d}, Eugenio Quaranta ^{c,d}

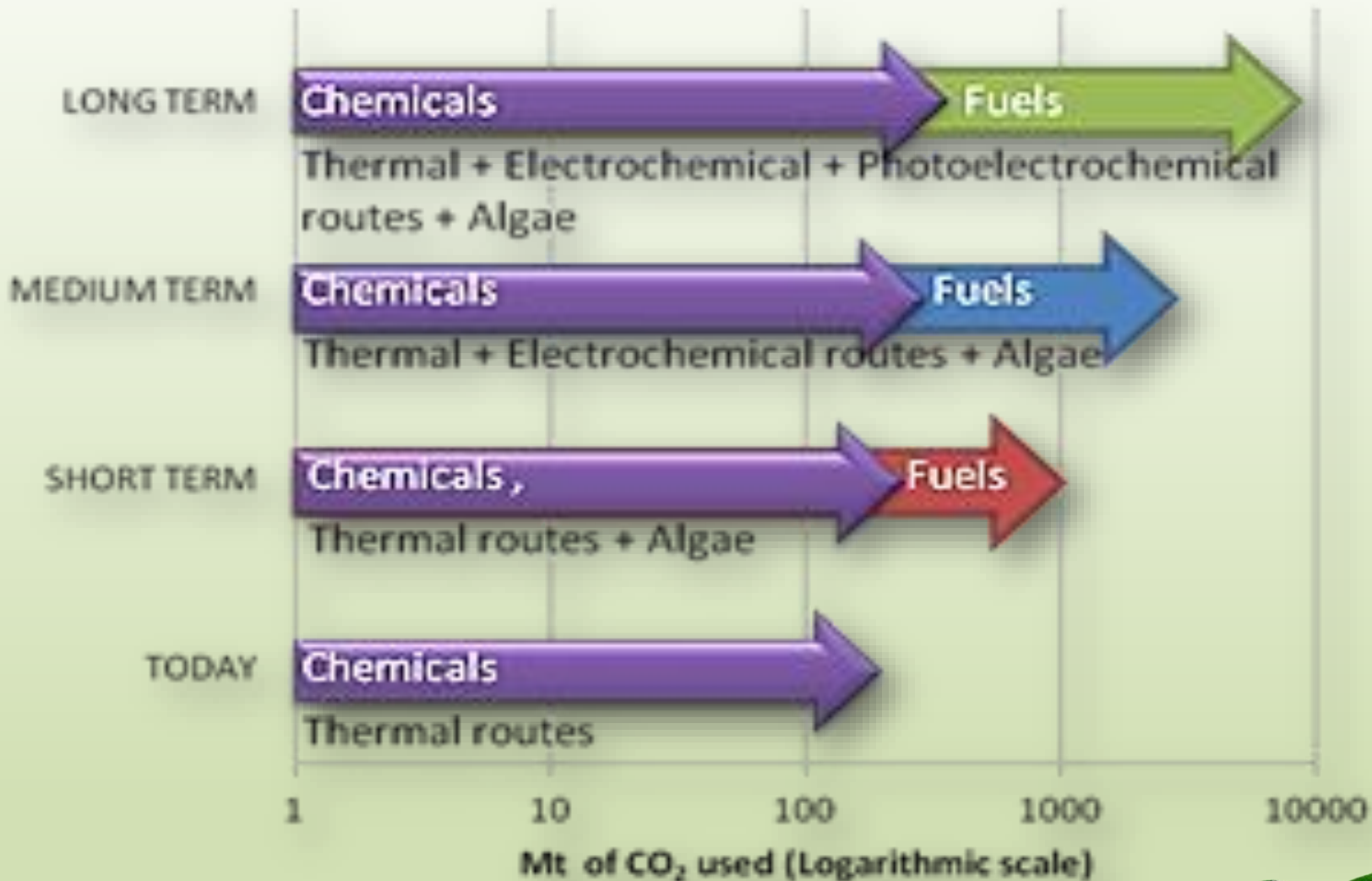
^a Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, National University of Singapore, Engineering Drive 4, 117585 Singapore, Singapore

^b David Parkin Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Bath, Bath BA2 7AY, UK

^c CIRCC, via Celso Ulpiani 27, Bari 70126, Italy

^d Department of Chemistry, Campus Universitario, University of Bari, 70126 Bari, Italy

CO₂ utilization is not a dream.... it is reality



Erasmus

“Oh Lord,

*Give me twenty more years to
live,*

The golden age is at hand”

Catalysis Today 115 (2006) 1

Preface

This issue of *Catalysis Today* is dedicated to Professor Michele Aresta, of the University of Bari, Italy, on the occasion of his 65th birthday, which he celebrated shortly before the opening of the conference. For more than 30 years, since his discovery of a Ni complex of CO₂ (J. Chem. Soc. Chem. Commun. 1975, 636), Professor Aresta has been a passionate proponent of the importance of CO₂ chemistry. He is both the founder and the Permanent Secretary of the International Scientific Committee of the ICCDU conferences. The state-of-the-art chemistry reflected in these pages is a direct result of his tireless energy, boundless enthusiasm, and endless perseverance.

Today contains selected Proceedings of the International Conference on Carbon Dioxide (ICCDU-VIII), which was held 20–23 June, 2005, in Oslo, Norway. The 2005 edition of the conference was dedicated to the chemistry of CO₂. It had 195 participants from 24 different countries. The program included 4 Plenary Lectures, 14 Oral Contributions, and 53 Poster Contributions. The topics covered included photo- and electro-catalysis of CO₂, separation and storage of CO₂, and other alternative media, and homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysis. The scientific breadth of this conference is unique, and the interactions between scientists from the various branches of chemistry lead

to exciting areas. Because of this focus on catalysis, the other, non-catalytic topics covered at ICCDU-VIII unfortunately could not be included in this issue. This includes contributions on the enhancement of CO₂ uptake by bacteria, the thermodynamics of CO₂, and modelling studies of CO₂ absorption, among others.

This issue of *Catalysis Today* is dedicated to Professor Michele Aresta, of the University of Bari, Italy, on the occasion of his 65th birthday, which he celebrated shortly before the opening of the conference. For more than 30 years, since his discovery of a Ni complex of CO₂ (J. Chem. Soc. Chem. Commun. 1975, 636), Professor Aresta has been a passionate proponent of the importance of CO₂ chemistry. He is both the founder and the Permanent Secretary of the International Scientific Committee of the ICCDU conferences. The state-of-the-art chemistry reflected in these pages is a direct result of his tireless energy, boundless enthusiasm, and endless perseverance.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the Norwegian Research Council and the companies Alstom, Hydro, and Statoil for their financial contributions to the conference. I would also like to thank the other members of the Organizing Committee for their hard work before and during the conference. Ultimately, a conference is judged on the quality of the science presented by the attendees. In this aspect I feel ICCDU-VIII was extremely successful, and I would like to thank all the participants, not only for their excellent contributions during the conference, but also their work in submitting papers to these Proceedings and during the peer review of the manuscripts. I would also like to thank my colleagues, especially Drs. Michael Stöcker and Richard Blom, for their encouragement and support in the preparation of this issue of *Catalysis Today*. I hope that the readers find this issue both informative and inspirational.

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