



# HYDROGEN STORAGE FOR FUEL CELL APPLICATIONS:

## CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES AND PROSPECTS FOR METAL-ORGANIC FRAMEWORKS

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# Presentation Outline

## ❑ Hydrogen and Fuel Cells in South Africa

- ❑ Strategic drivers

- ❑ R&D and Innovation Strategy

- ❑ Scope of HySA Infrastructure Centre of Competence

- ❑ HySA Infrastructure Project Portfolio (Selected)

## ❑ Hydrogen Storage

- ❑ Challenge

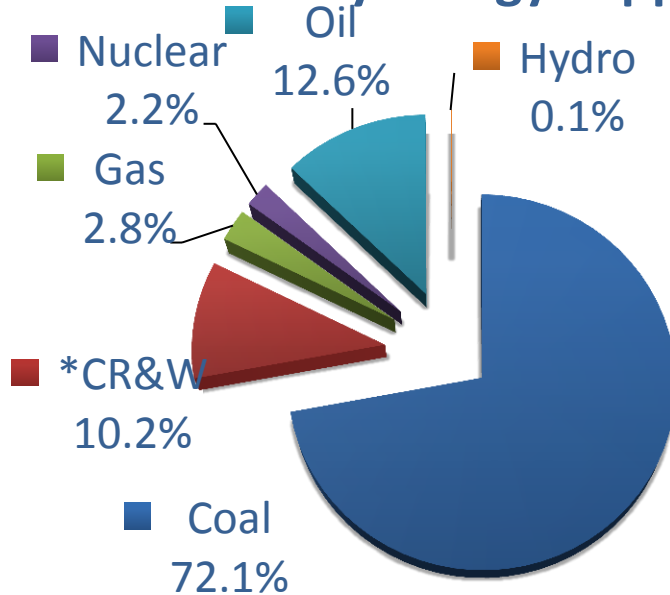
- ❑ Storage options

- ❑ Technical targets

- ❑ Metal-Organic Frameworks

# South African Energy Profile

## Current South Africa Total Primary Energy Supply



- Coal supplies ~75 % of South Africa's primary energy and 90 % of its electricity requirements

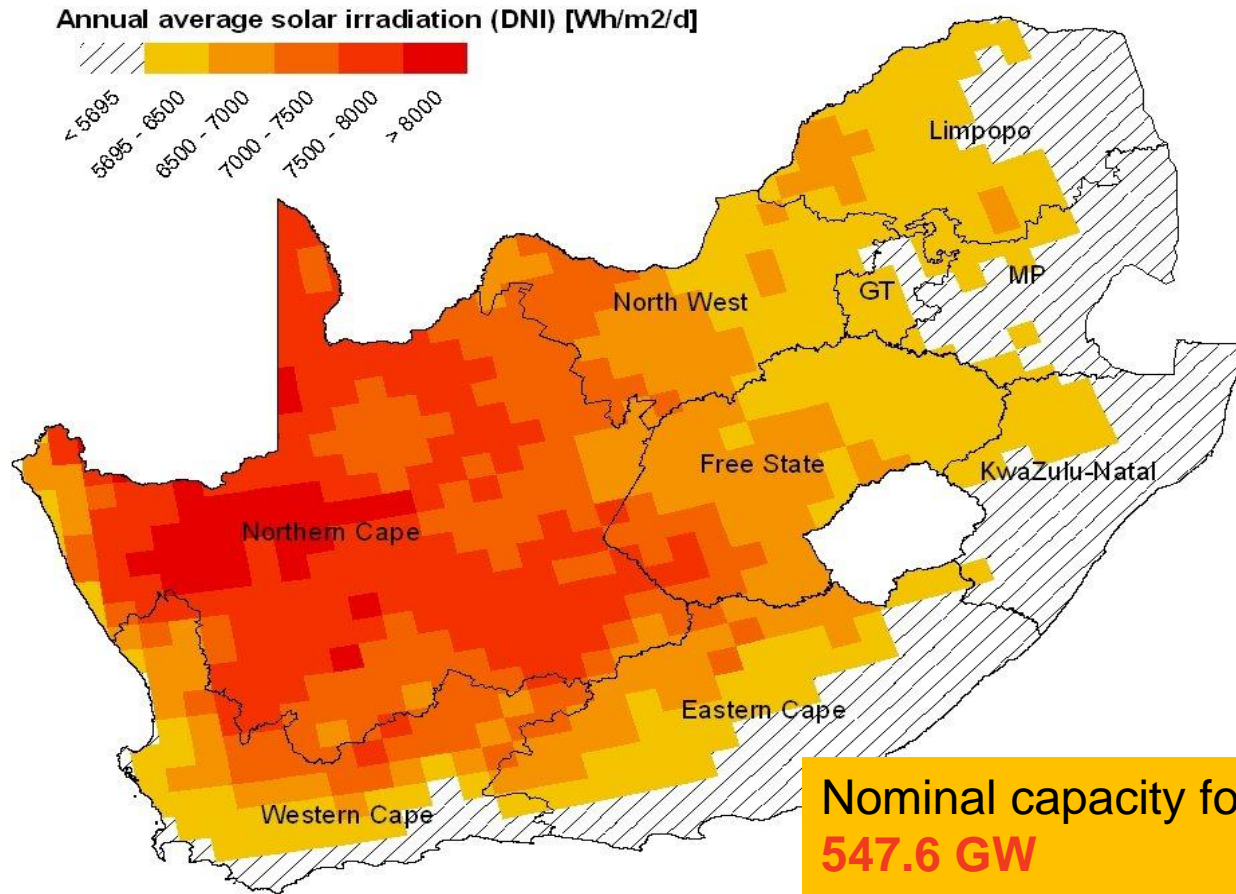
\*CR&W: Combustible Renewable and Waste

Source: International Energy Agency (IEA)



- RSA has energy intensive economy
- RSA has a large SO<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> footprint
- RSA's CO<sub>2</sub> footprint per capita ranks among the **top 12 in the world**

# Solar Energy Potential in South Africa



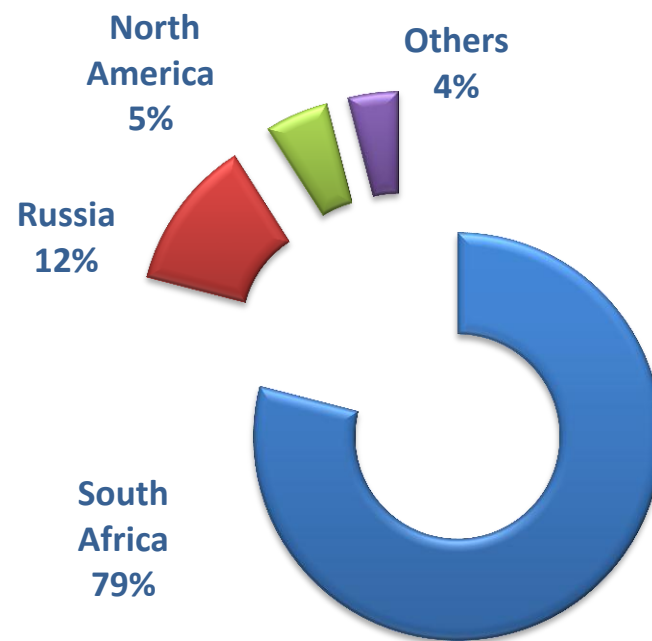
Nominal capacity for CSP in South Africa is **547.6 GW**

Thomas P. Fluri, *Energy Policy*, v 37, Issue 12, December 2009, 5075–5080

# Mineral Resources in South Africa

Rank in the World	SA Mineral Resource
1	Gold
1	Platinum
1	Titanium
1	Chromium
1	Manganese
1	Vanadium
2	Zirconium

## PGM Supply by region



- ❑ South Africa produces about **59 different minerals** from 1115 mines and quarries
- ❑ South Africa has nearly **80% of the world's PGMs**.
- ❑ These metals contribute US\$2,200 billion of the country's total resource value of US\$2,494 billion.

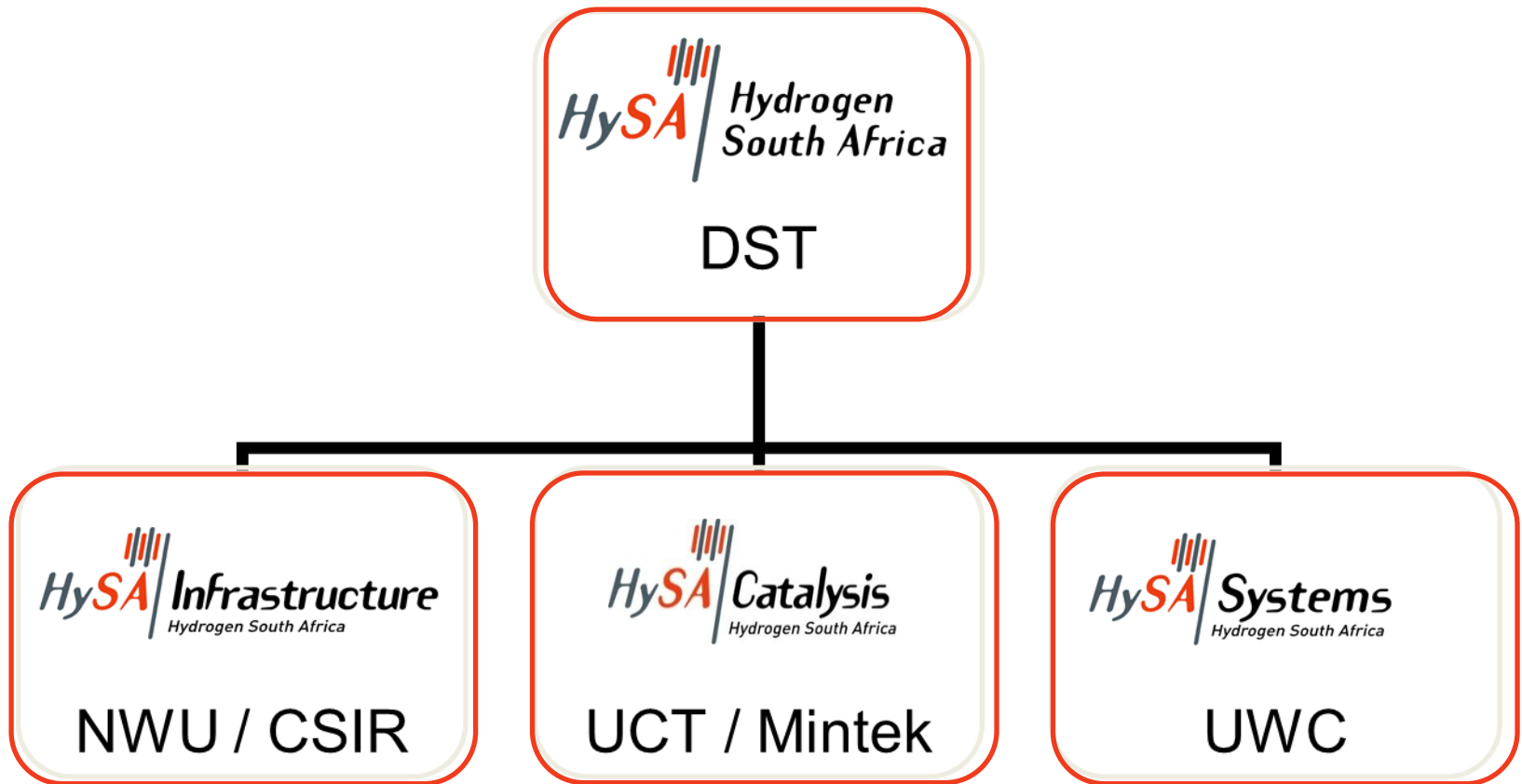


# H&FC R&D Technology and Innovation Strategy

## Strategic Goals

- ❑ Establish a base for **hydrogen production, storage technologies and processes**
- ❑ Establish a base for developing catalysts based on PGMs; **supply 25% of PGM catalysts demand by 2020**
- ❑ Build on existing global knowledge to **develop know-how** to leap-frog existing fuel cell technologies for niche applications to address regional developmental challenges

# Centres of Competence



# HySA Infrastructure Centre of Competence



**Dr. Dmitri Bessarabov**  
**Centre of Competence Director**



**Key Programme 4 (CSIR)**

**Hydrogen  
Storage/Distribution/Safety**

**Key Programme 5 (NWU)**

**Hydrogen Production/  
Electrolysers/components &  
Electrolyser Systems  
linked to Renewable Energy**





# HySA Infrastructure: Mission

To deliver **technologies** for **H<sub>2</sub> Production, Storage and Distribution Infrastructure** that meet set cost targets and provide best balance of safety, reliability, robustness, quality and functionality

# HySA Infrastructure: Programme Scope

## HySA/Infrastructure

### H<sub>2</sub> Production, Electrolysers/components & Electrolyser Systems linked to Renewable Energy

PEM electrolyser components development and benchmarking

PEM electrolyser system development

Unit cells and Stacks

PEM electrolyser characterisation tools

Depolarized electrolysis (e.g. SO<sub>2</sub>)

ECH (electrochemical compression of H<sub>2</sub>: components and systems)

### H<sub>2</sub> Storage/Systems/Components

Carbon Nanostructures

Chemical storage (e.g. NH<sub>3</sub>)

MOF, other types

Modelling

Compressed H<sub>2</sub>

H<sub>2</sub> from appropriate biomass and biological pathways (WGS)

System Integration (H<sub>2</sub> production and delivery)

Safety and Codes

PGM Recycling

# Characterization Tools Development for PEM Water Electrolysis

## ❑ Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS)

### Technique

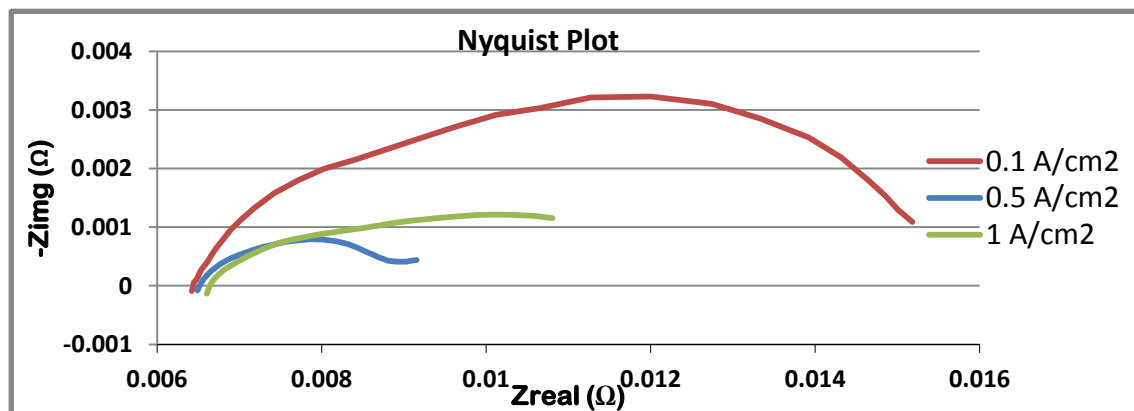
- Steady State
- AC disturbance signal

### Equipment

- Gamry
- Solartron

### Advantages

- Individual loss contributions
- Ohmic, Activation, Mass transfer



# Characterization Tools Development for PEM Water Electrolysis

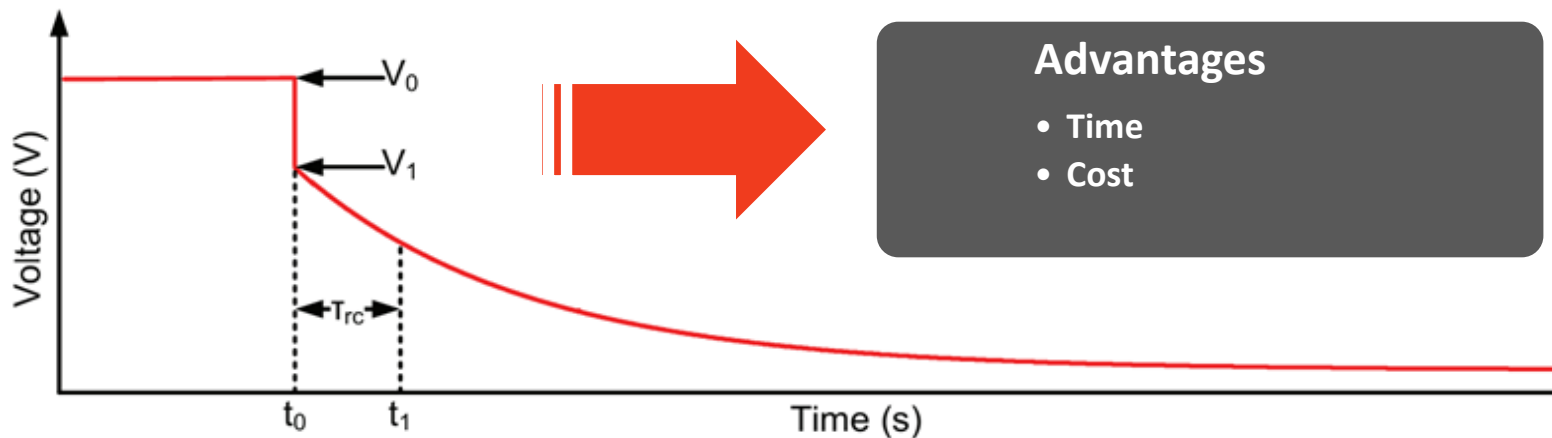
## ❑ Current Interrupt (CI)

### Technique

- Current Interrupt
- Voltage drop

### Equipment

- In-house developed switch
- LeCroy Oscilloscope



# Characterization Tools Development for PEM Water Electrolysis

## ❑ Current Mapping (CM)

### Technique

- Steady State
- Current measurements

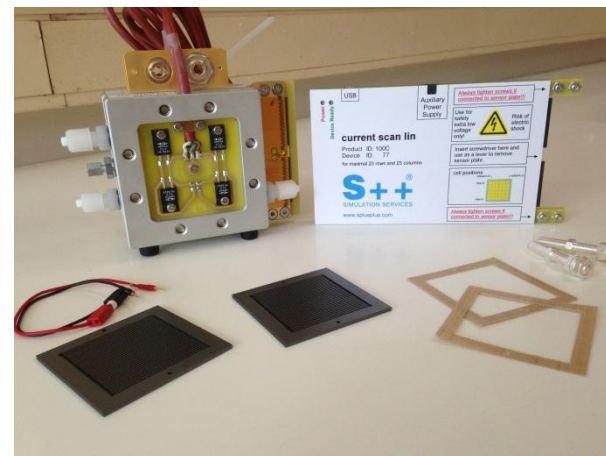
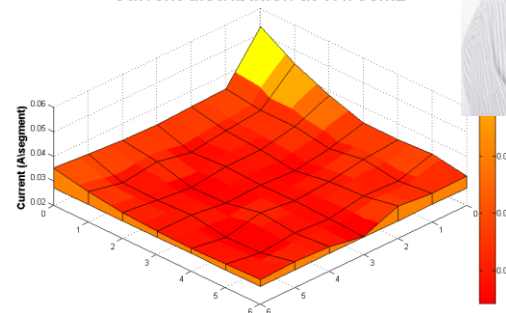
### Equipment

- S++

### Advantages

- Identify irregular current distributions
- Investigate the effects of: temperature, water management, flow-field patterns, start up / shut down, operating pressure

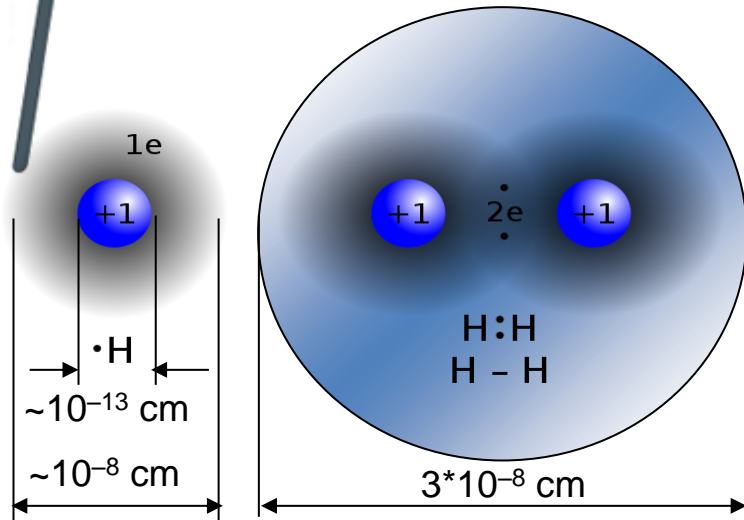
Current distribution at 0.1A/cm<sup>2</sup>





# Hydrogen Storage

# The Hydrogen Storage Challenge



## □ HYDROGEN:

- One proton, one electron
- Lightest element, lowest density
- Strong covalent bond
- Non-polar bond
- Low polarisation ability

→ Weak interaction between  $\text{H}_2$  molecules

□ At 298 K and 1 atm:

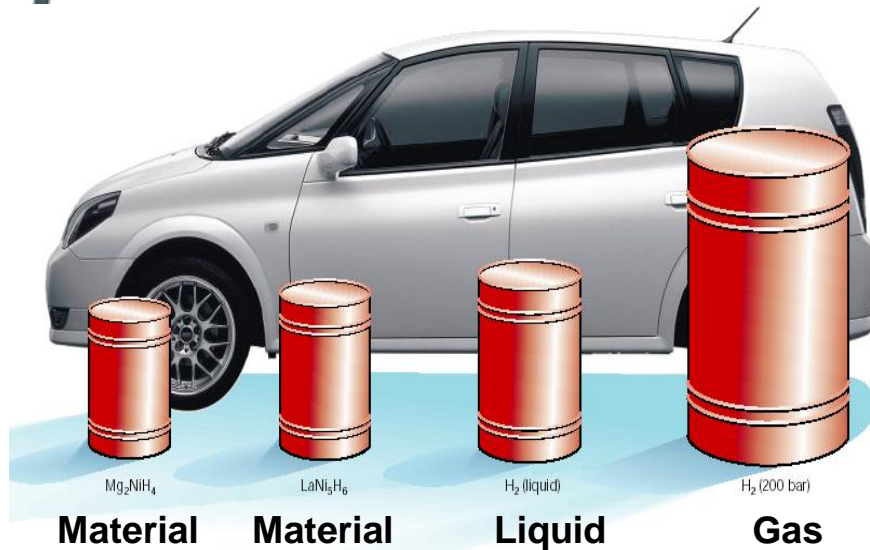
4 kg  $\text{H}_2$  = 45,000 L  $\equiv$  balloon of 5 m diameter

(4 kg  $\text{H}_2$  gives 500 km driving range)



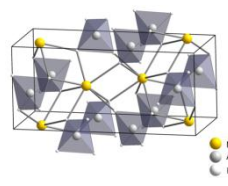
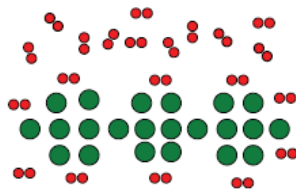
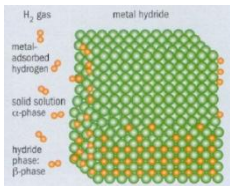
# Hydrogen Storage Options

□ Hydrogen can be stored in various ways



- Compressed gas
- Liquid hydrogen
- Materials-based storage

- *Metal hydrides*
- *Complex hydrides*
- *Chemical hydrides*
- *Porous materials*



L. Schlapbach, A. Züttel, *Nature* **414** (2001) 353; R. Harris et al., *Fuel Cell Rev.* **1** (2004) 17.



# US DOE On-board Technical Targets

Storage Parameter	Unit	2010	2017	Ultimate
System gravimetric capacity	wt.%	4.5	5.5	7.5
	(kWh/kg)	(1.5)	(1.8)	(2.5)
System volumetric capacity	kg H <sub>2</sub> /m <sup>3</sup>	28	40	70
	(kWh/L)	(0.9)	(1.3)	(2.3)
Fuelling time (5 kg)	min	4.2	3.3	2.5
Fuel system cost	\$/kg H <sub>2</sub>	TBD	TBD	TBD
Durability	cycles	1000	1500	1500
H <sub>2</sub> loss rate	(g/h)/kg	0.1	0.05	0.05

❑ Targets are less stringent for stationary / portable power applications

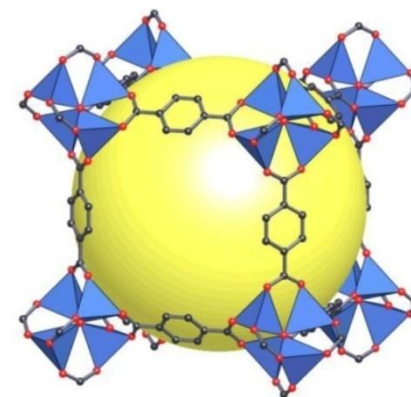
# Analysis from US DOE

Current status	Gravimetric (kWh/kg sys)	Volumetric (kWh/L sys)	Costs (\$/kWh)
700 bar compressed (Type IV)	1.7	0.9	18.9
350 bar compressed (Type IV)	1.8	0.6	15.5
Cryo-compressed (276 bar)	1.9	1.4	12.0
Metal Hydride (NaAlH <sub>4</sub> )	0.4	0.4	11.3
Sorbent (MOF-5, 200 bar)	1.7	0.9	18.0
Off-board regenerable (AB)	1.4	1.3	N/A
<b>2017 targets</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>TBD</b>

Source: N.T. Stetson, US DOE 2012 Annual Merit Review and Peer Evaluation Meeting

# Metal–Organic Frameworks (MOFs)

- ❑ Inorganic-organic hybrid crystalline materials
- ❑ Metal ions + organic linkers
- ❑ Structural diversity
- ❑ High surface area (up to 7140 m<sup>2</sup>/g)
- ❑ Ultrahigh porosity (up to 90% free volume)
- ❑ Tunable pore sizes and functionalities



MOF-5:  
 $Zn_4O(BDC)_3$

Rosi N.L., Eckert J., Eddaoud M., Vodak D.T., Kim J., O'Keeffe M., Yaghi O.M.. Science, 2003, **300**, 1127-1129.

# Metal–Organic Frameworks (MOFs)

## □ Highlights

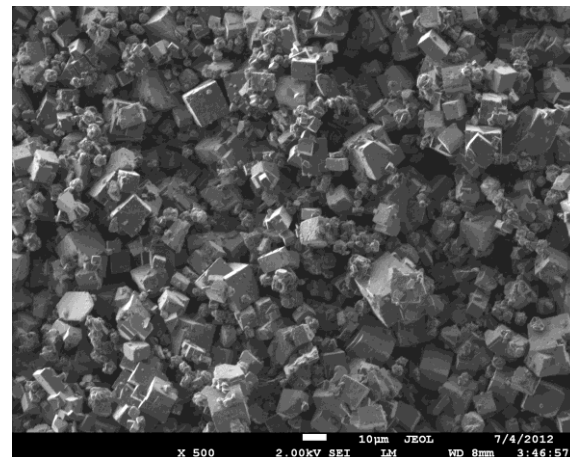
□ MOF synthesis and scale-up

□ MOFs characterization

□ Effect of variables

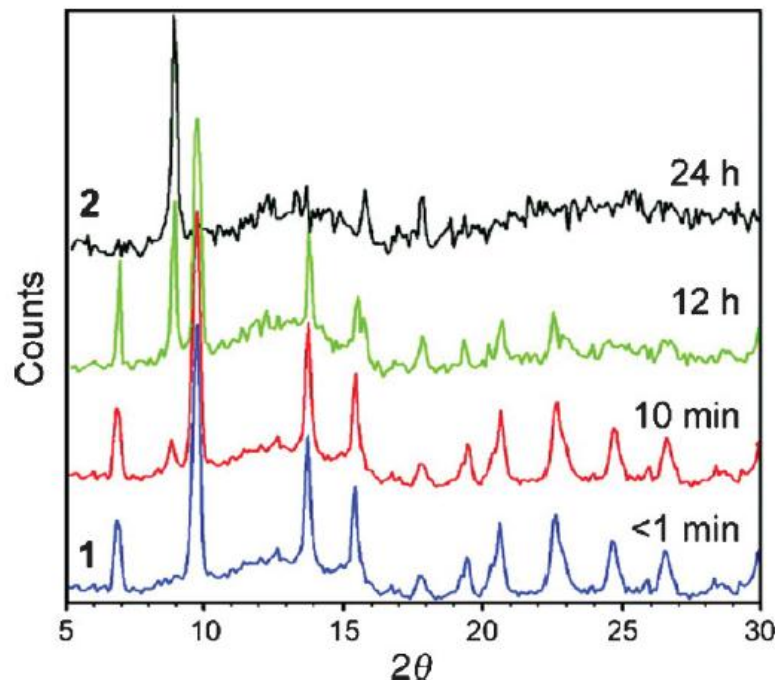
□ Preliminary modifications

□ H<sub>2</sub> storage behaviour



# Metal–Organic Frameworks (MOFs)

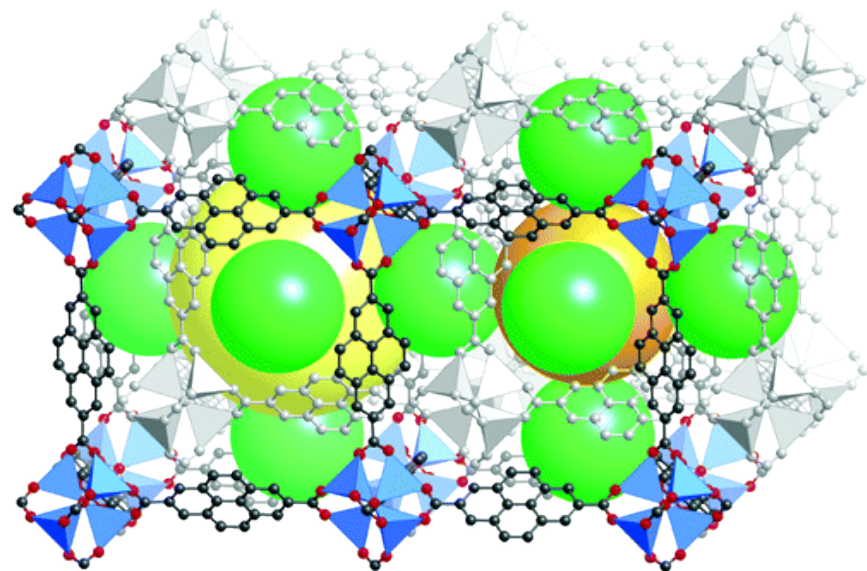
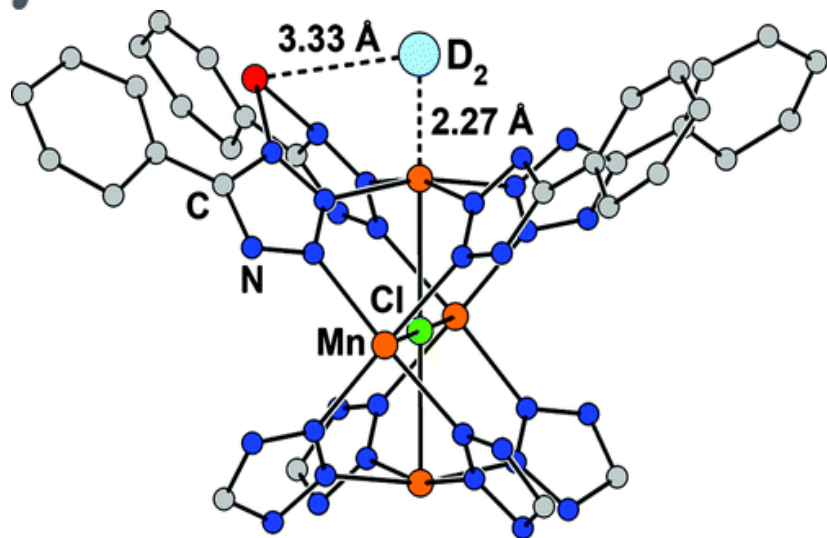
- ❑ Technology gaps:
  - ❑ Cryogenic storage of H<sub>2</sub> (77 K)
    - ❑ Low heat of ads 4–12 kJ/mol
    - ❑ Need 15–25 kJ/mol
  - ❑ Cost
  - ❑ Moisture sensitivity



S. S. Kaye, A. Dailly, O. M. Yaghi, J. R. Long, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2007, 129, 14176.

# Metal–Organic Frameworks (MOFs)

## □ Strategies for enhancing H<sub>2</sub> storage



## □ Control of pore size

□ Unsaturated metal sites

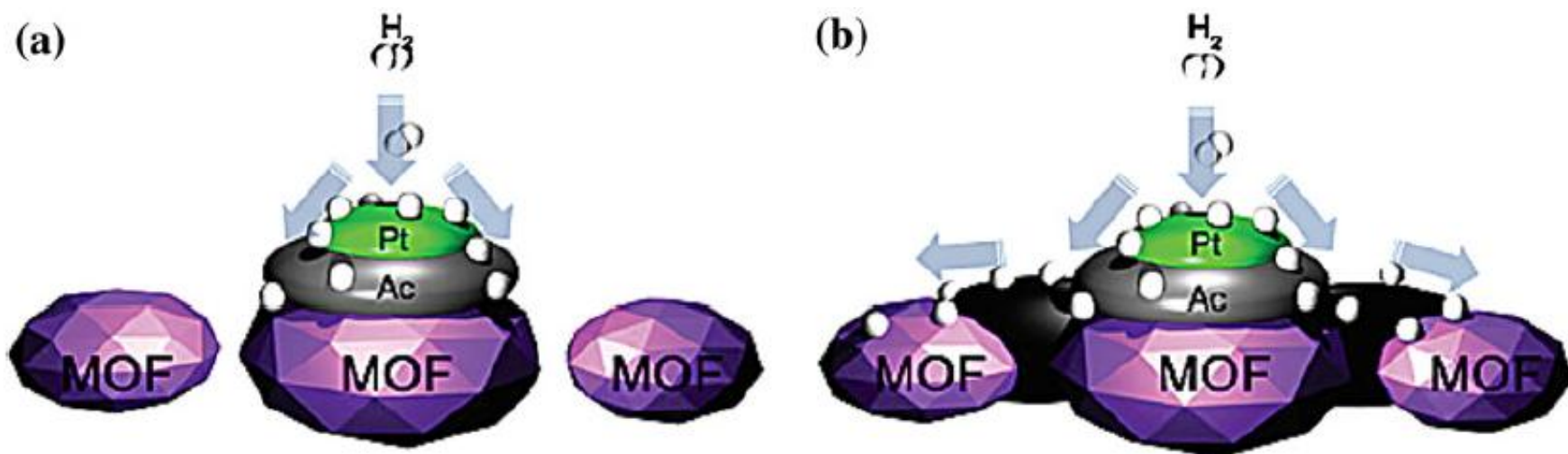
□ Ligand functionalisation

M. Dinca, J.R. Long, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 129 (2007) 11172-11176.

J.L.C. Rowsell, O.M. Yaghi, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 128 (2006) 1304-1315.

# Enhancing Hydrogen Storage in MOFs

## □ Strategies for enhancing H<sub>2</sub> storage



## □ Incorporate Pd or Pt nanoparticles

Li, Y.; Yang, R. T. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 8136

# Conclusion

- ❑ Hydrogen storage is still a serious challenge
- ❑ MOFs are promising with potential to meet US DOE targets
- ❑ Breakthrough for MOFs:
  - ❑ *Low cost*
  - ❑ *High heat of H<sub>2</sub> adsorption*
  - ❑ *Large surface area and pore volume*
  - ❑ *High hydrostability and thermal stability*



# Acknowledgements

## Financial Support



science  
& technology  
Department:  
Science and Technology  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



## Host Institutions





Korea-South Africa H<sub>2</sub> Fuel Cell Collaboration  
Workshop, 15-18 July 2013, Hyundai Hotel,  
Gyeongju, Rep. of Korea

Thank You