

Solid State Materials for Hydrogen Storage

SAND2019-3176PE



Enabling twice the energy density for onboard H₂ storage

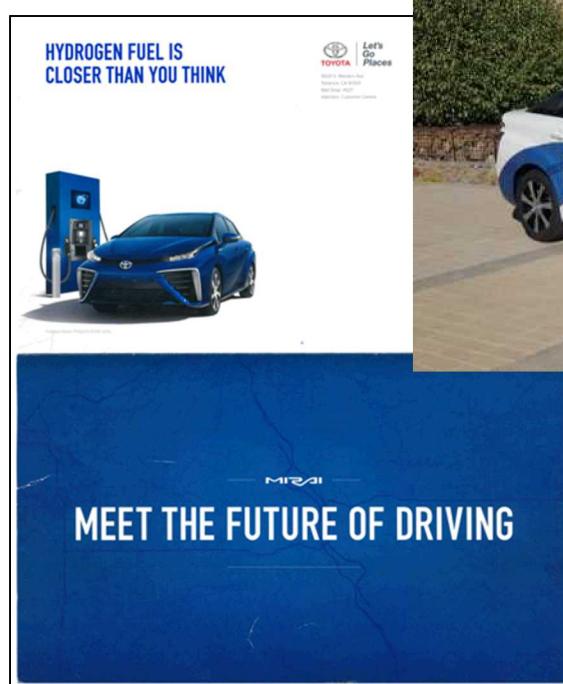
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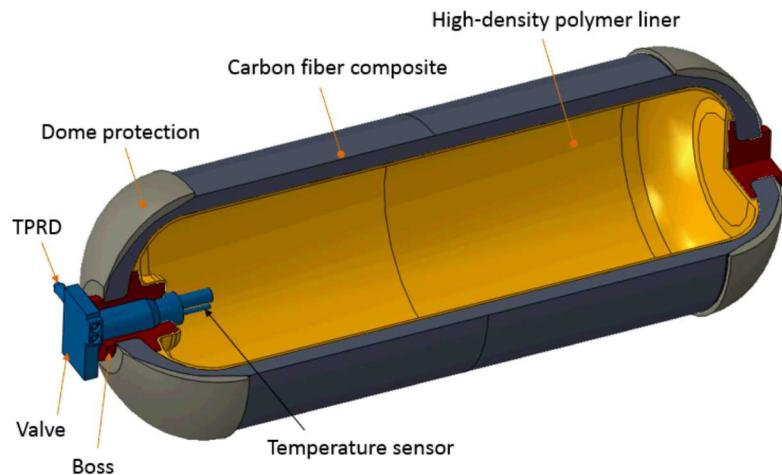
Hydrogen-powered cars are now commercially available



- **700 bar pressurized tanks**
- **265 – 312 mile range**
- **Refueling stations being installed in some areas**

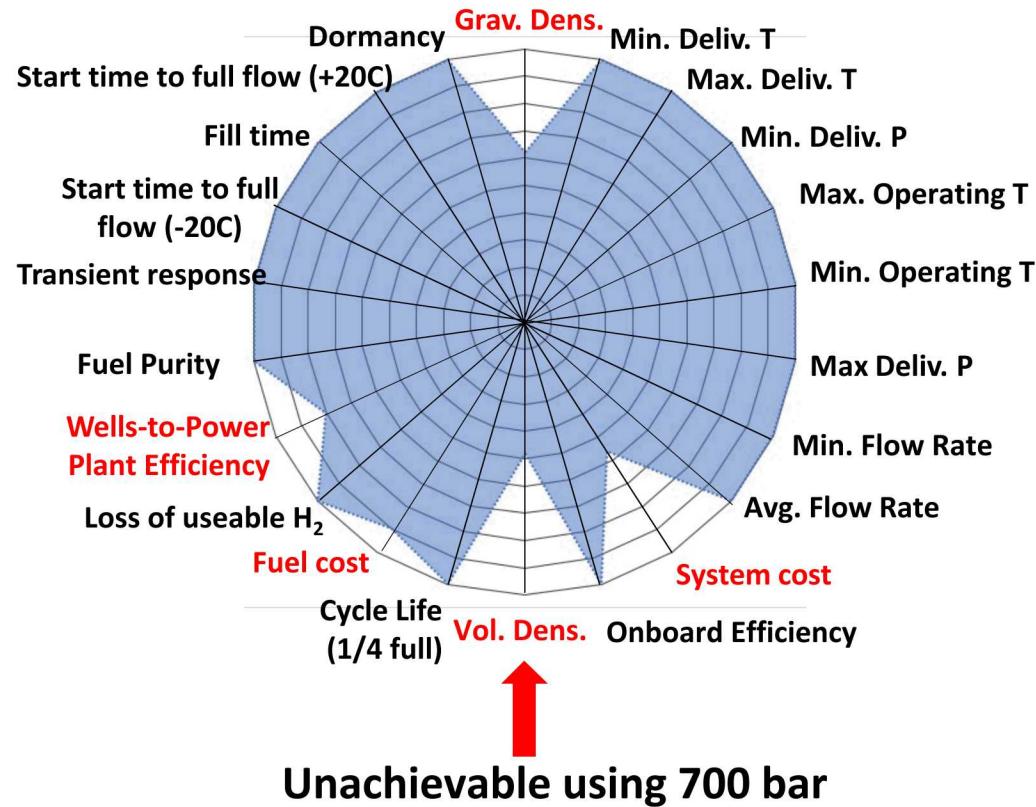
Although fuel cell vehicles are now commercially available, compressed H₂ storage falls short of several DOE targets

700 Bar Compressed Gas (2015 record) vs. revised DOE Ultimate Targets



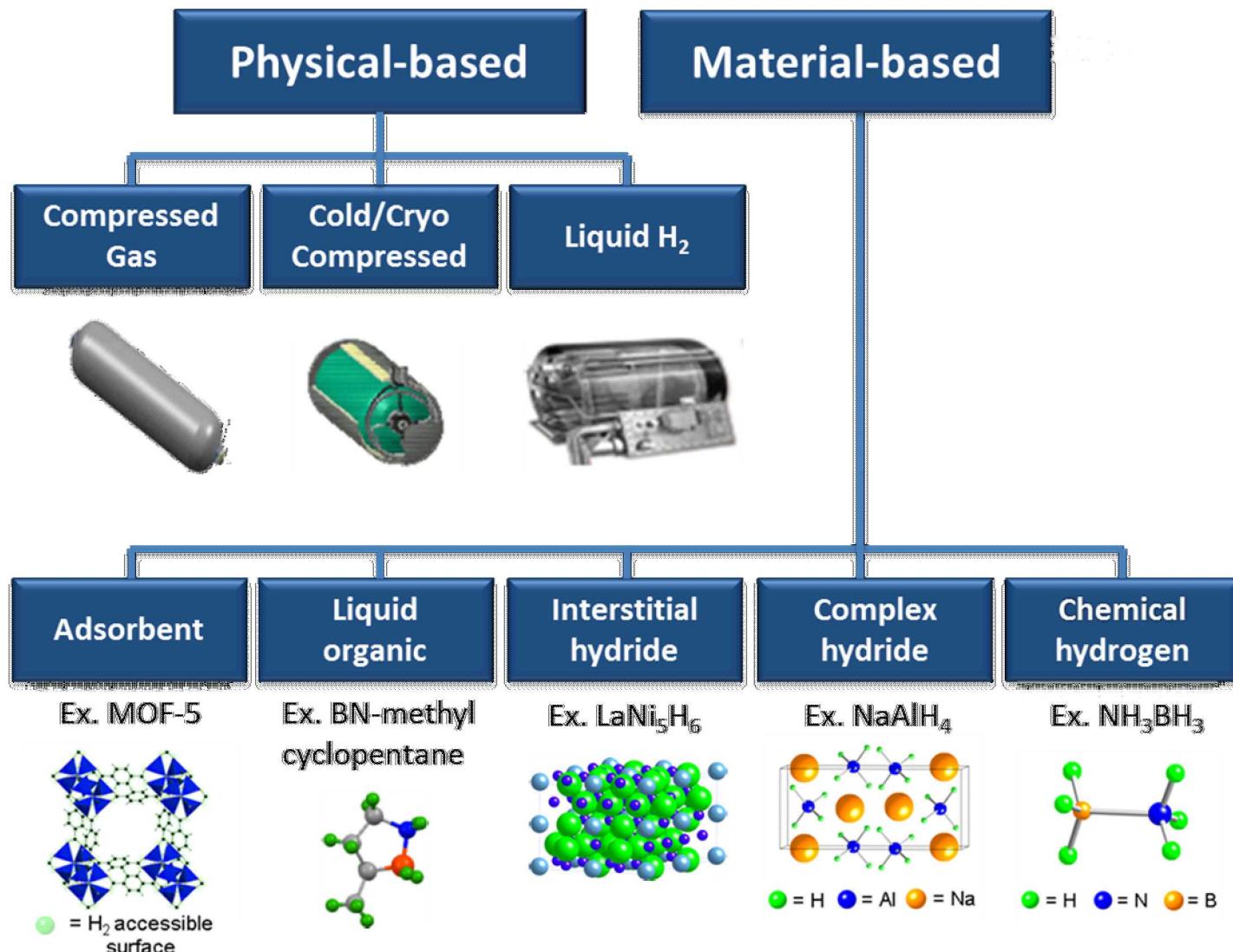
TPRD = Thermally Activated Pressure Relief Device

Credit: Process Modeling Group, Nuclear Engineering Division, Argonne National Laboratory (ANL)

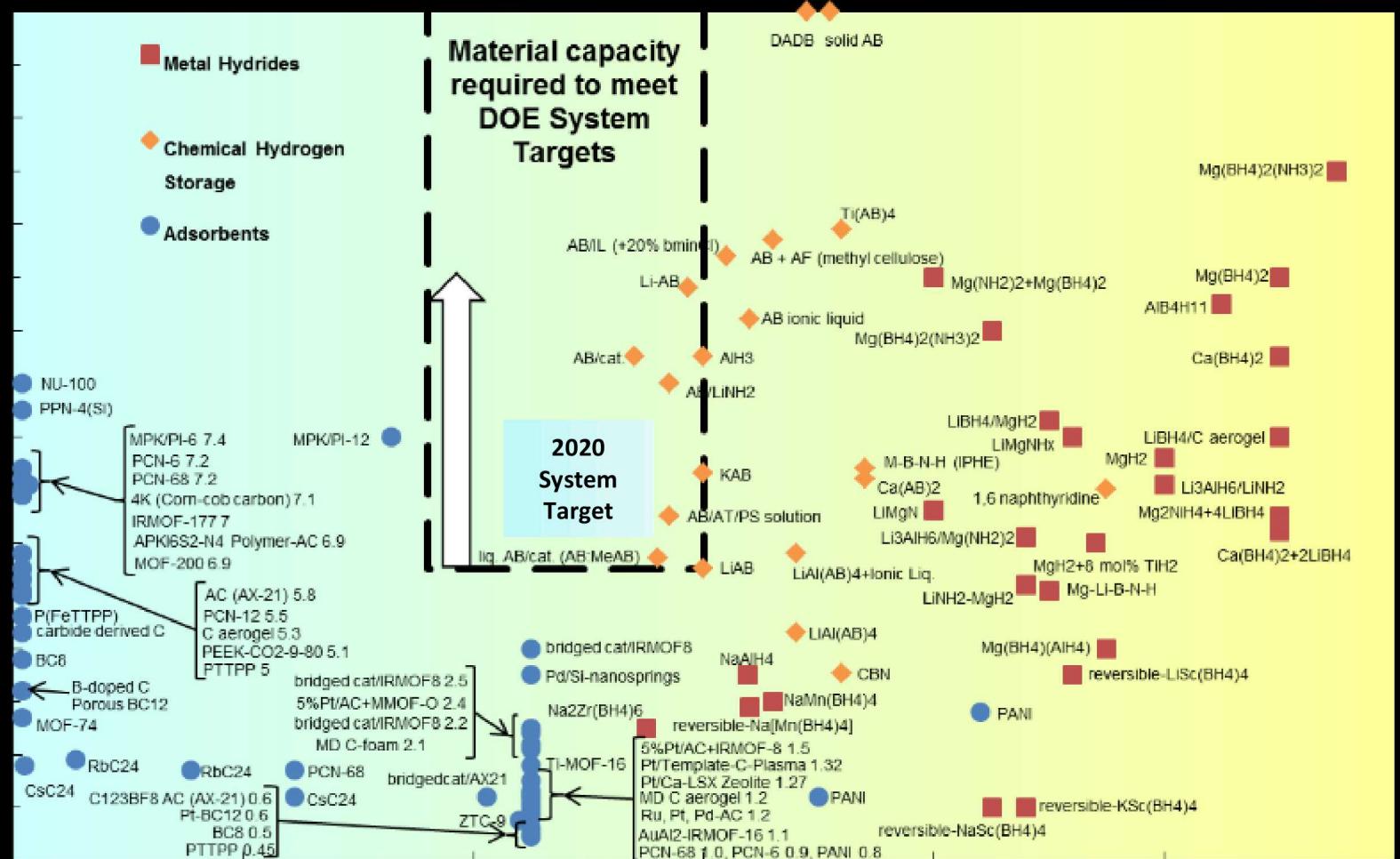


Unachievable using 700 bar

How is hydrogen stored?

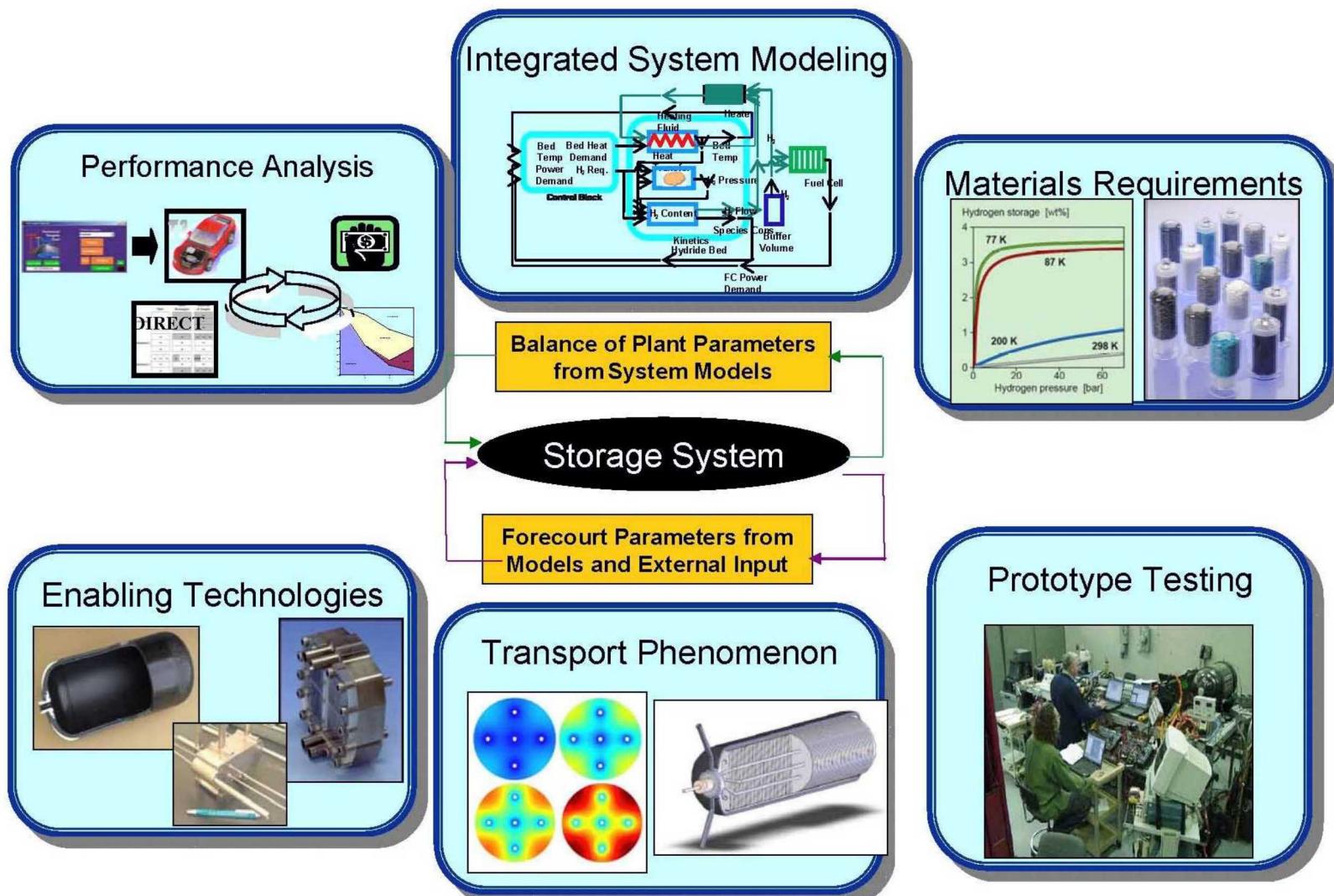


2005-2013: 3 DOE/EERE-funded Centers of Excellence focused on materials development



Although many materials were investigated, none were identified that met all DOE technical targets

2009-2015 Hydrogen Storage Engineering Center of Excellence



HSECoE formed to address lack of knowledge concerning system and engineering aspects of complete materials-based hydrogen storage systems

Hydrogen Materials Advanced Research Consortium (HyMARC): highly coordinated capabilities to accelerate materials discovery

HyMARC Phase 1:

- FY16 – FY 18
- 3 DOE Labs
- Budget \$3M/yr

HyMARC Phase 2:

- FY19 – FY22
- 5 DOE Labs
- Budget \$8 M/yr

Seedling Projects

- Applied material development
 - Novel material concepts
 - High-risk, high-reward
- Concept feasibility demonstration
- Advanced development of viable concepts



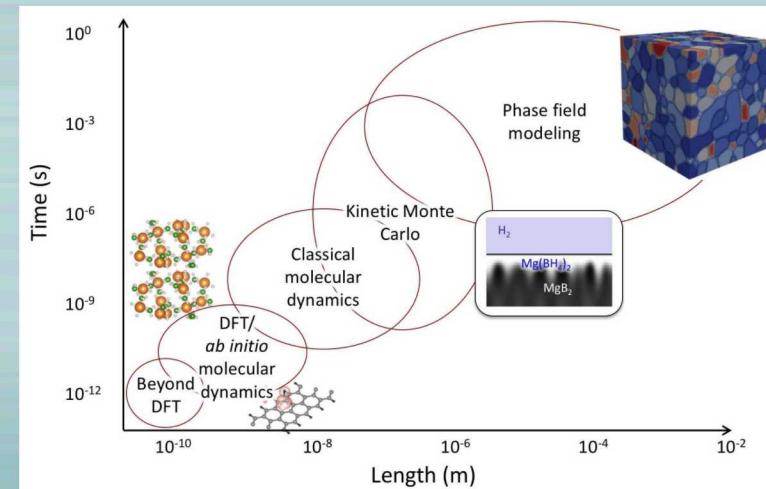
- Foundational R&D
- Computational models
- Synthetic protocols
- Advanced characterization tools
- Validation of material performance
- Guidance to FOA projects
- Database development

HyMARC objective: accelerate discovery of breakthrough storage materials by providing capabilities and foundational understanding

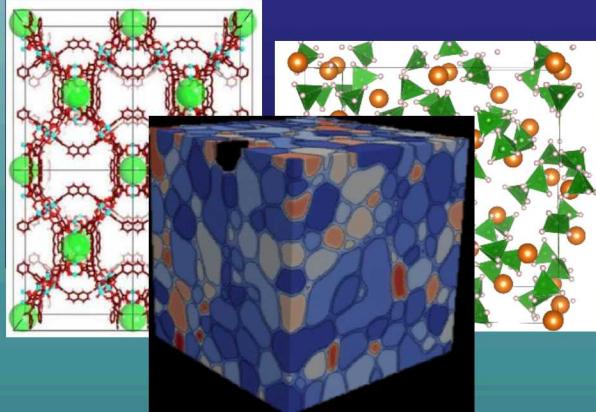
Foundational understanding of phenomena governing thermodynamics and kinetics limiting the development of solid-state hydrogen storage materials

HyMARC will deliver **community tools and capabilities**:

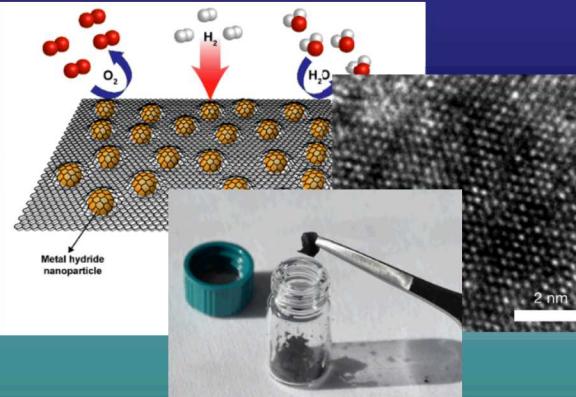
- **Computational models and databases** for high-throughput materials screening
- **New characterization tools and methods** (surface, bulk, soft X-ray, synchrotron)
- **Tailorable synthetic platforms** for probing nanoscale phenomena



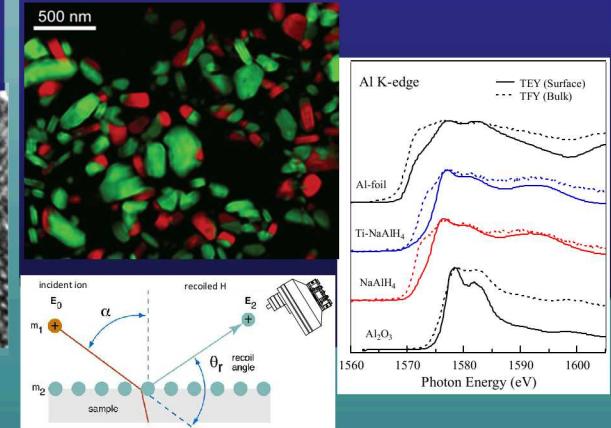
Theory, simulation, & data



Controlled synthesis

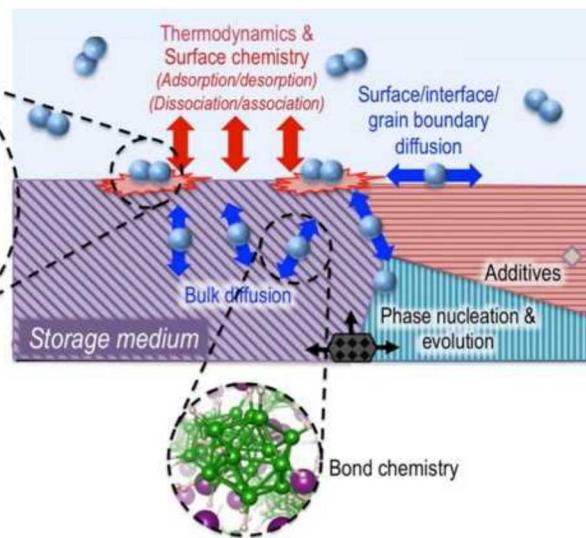


In situ characterization

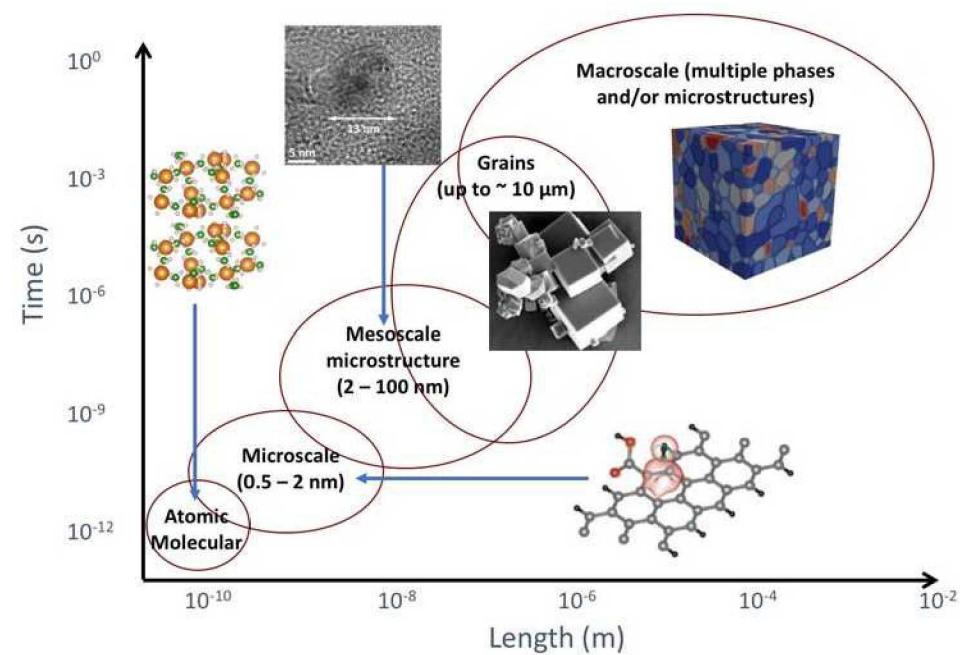


Relevance: poorly understood phenomena at length scales from < 1 nm to μ m govern storage material behavior

Distinct chemical/physical processes affect the bulk properties of storage materials



Multiple length scales must be taken into account

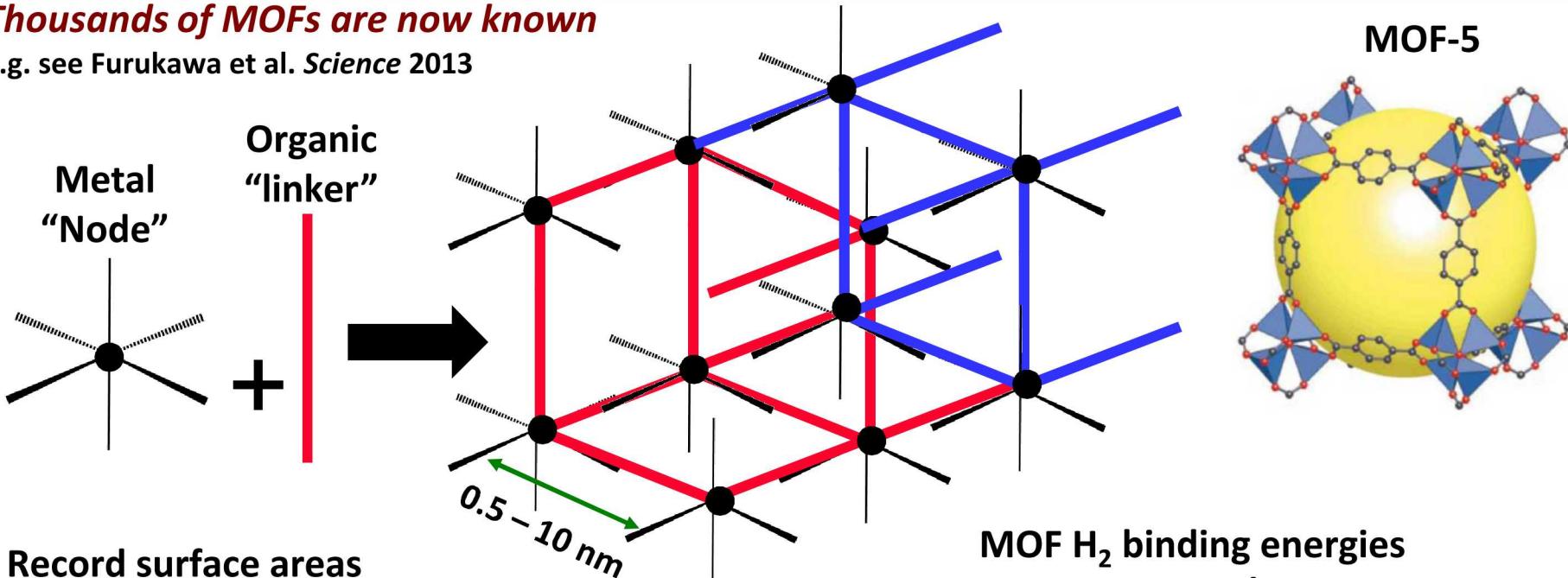


“Design rules” are needed to guide materials discovery

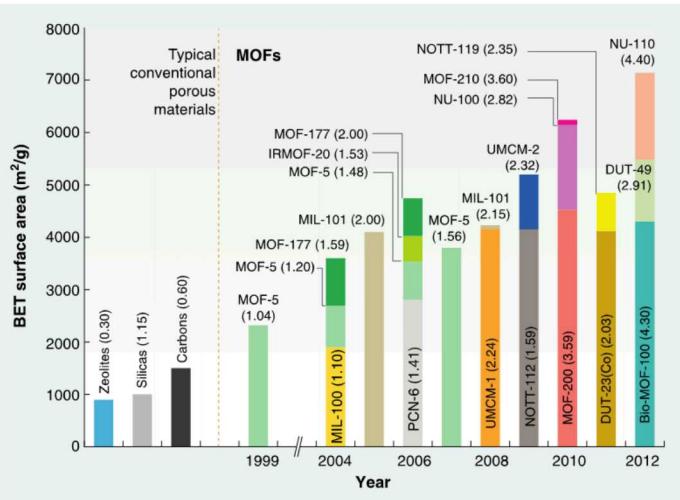
Metal-Organic Frameworks (MOFs) are among the most promising hydrogen sorbents

Thousands of MOFs are now known

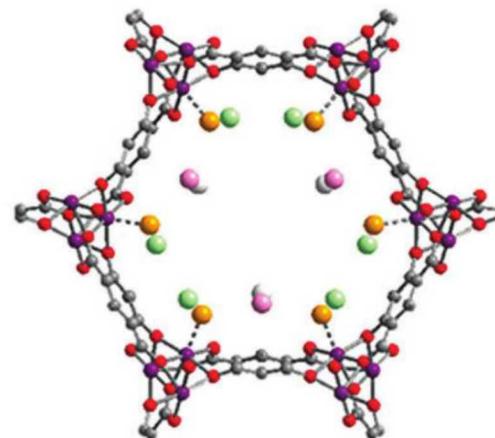
e.g. see Furukawa et al. *Science* 2013



Record surface areas



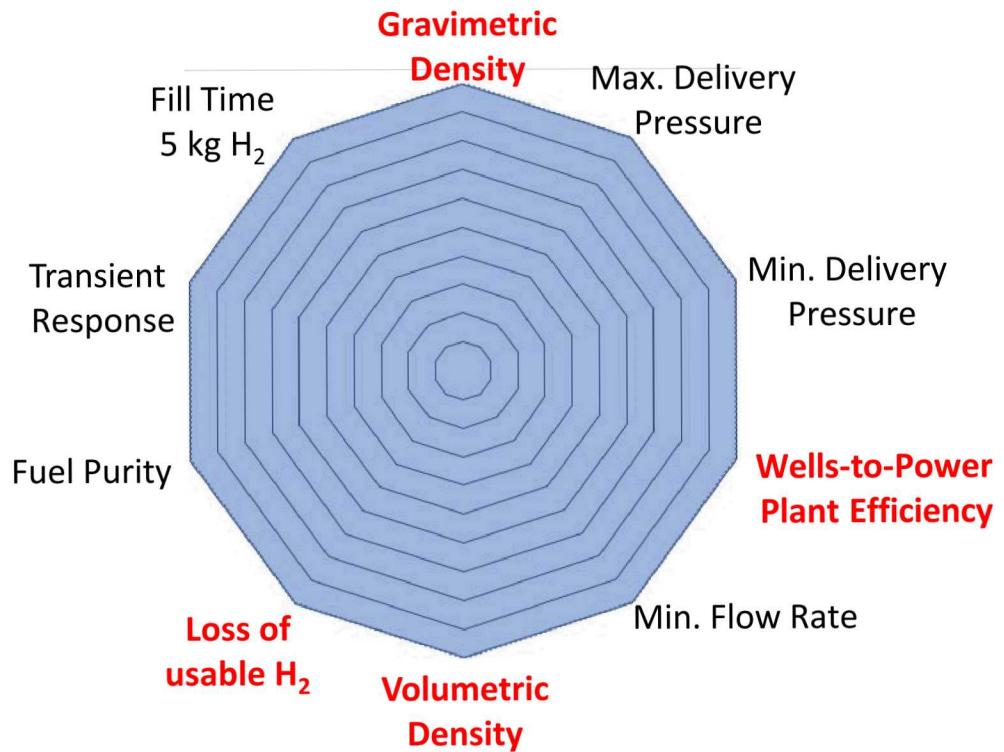
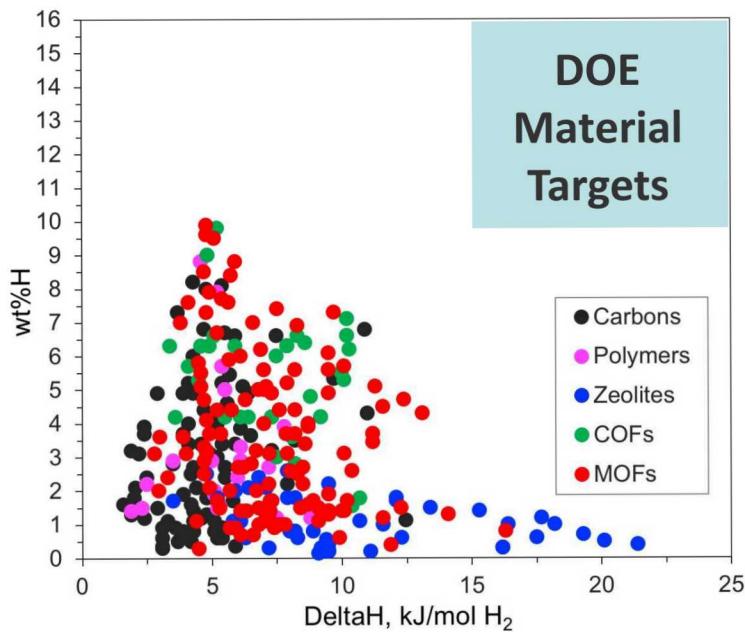
MOF H₂ binding energies
~ 2 – 33 kJ/mol



No sorbent materials can meet all of the DOE targets

H_2 binds too weakly to provide sufficient capacity at ambient temperature

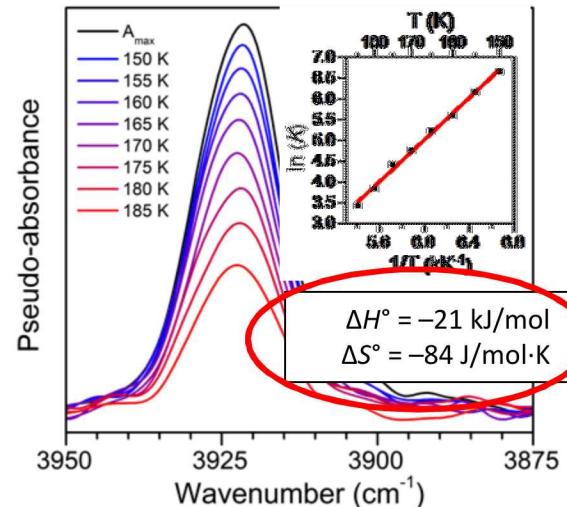
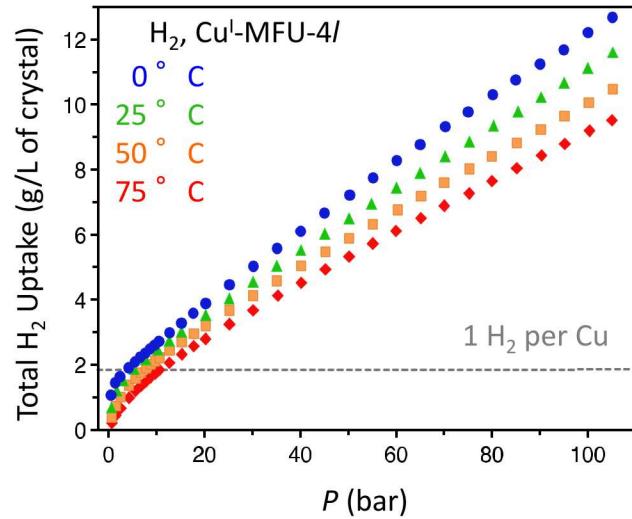
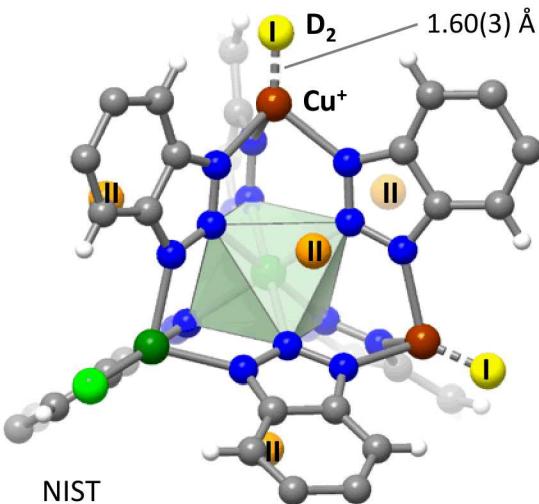
DOE Targets HyMARC is focusing on are in **red**



Recent HyMARC research indicates H₂ binding energies can be increased in MOFs

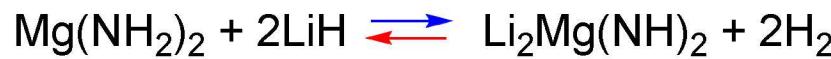
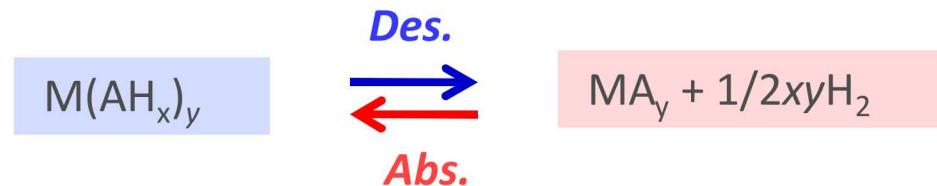


Research of J. R. Long and coworkers



- **In situ powder neutron diffraction:** Extremely short Cu–D₂ distance observed in Cu^I-MFU-4/ by neutron powder diffraction. Corroborates strong binding enthalpy and large red-shift of $\nu(\text{H–H})$ observed from DRIFTS.
- **High-P adsorption:** Open Cu⁺ sites saturate at relatively low pressures. Volumetric usable capacity for Cu^I-MFU-4/ surpasses Ni₂(*m*-dobdc) at 75 ° C.
- **DRIFTS in V₂Cl_{2.8}(btdd):** VTIR confirms high enthalpy of adsorption. Enthalpy–entropy relation distinct from M₂(dobdc) family.

High hydrogen capacity metal hydrides, but strong chemisorption and H₂ release/uptake are limiting



Bogdanovic *et al.* *J. Alloys Comp.* **1997**, 253-254, 1
Bogdanovic, Schwickardi, *U.S. Patent 6,106,801*, **2000**

Cheng *et al.* *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, 48, 5828
Luo *et al.* *J. Alloys Comp.* **2004**, 381, 284

Pinkerton *et al.* *J. Phys. Chem. C* **2007**, 111, 12881
Vajo *et al.* *J. Phys. Chem. C* **2005**, 109, 3719

Soloveichik *et al.* *Int. J. Hydrogen Energy*, **2009**, 34, 916
Severa *et al.* *Chem. Commun.* **2010**, 46, 421

high dehydrogenation temperatures

high pressure required for rehydrogenation

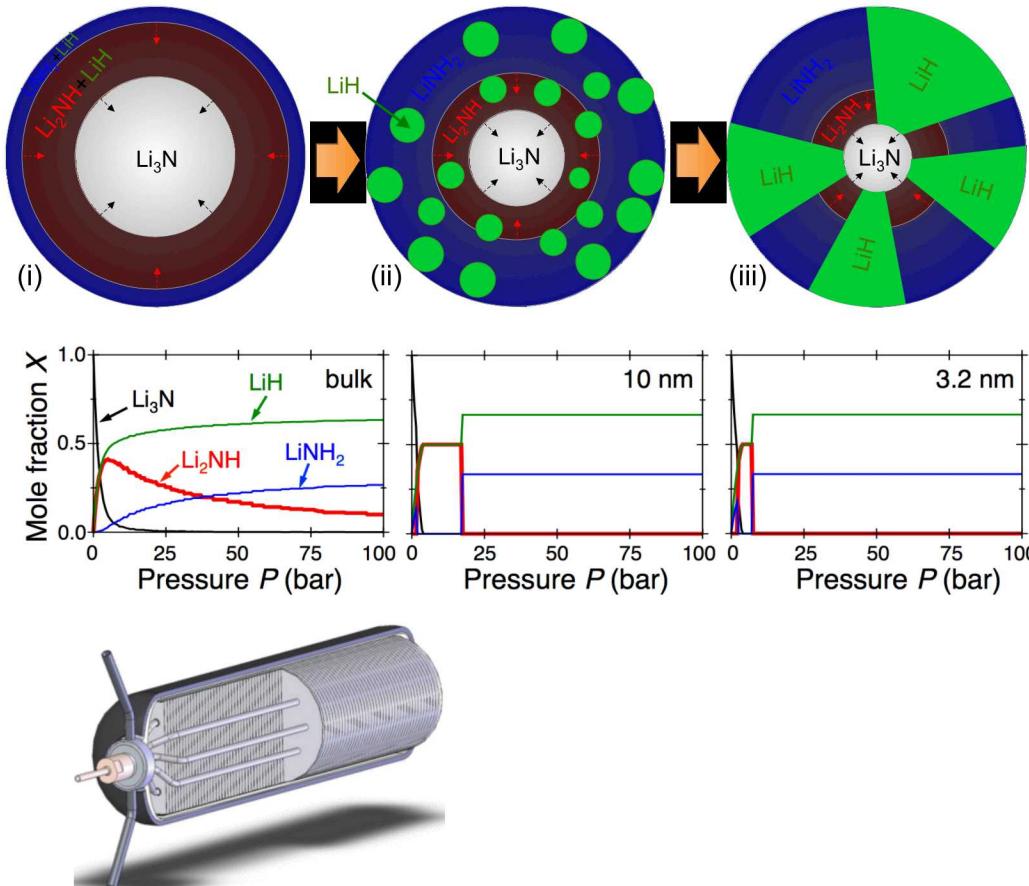
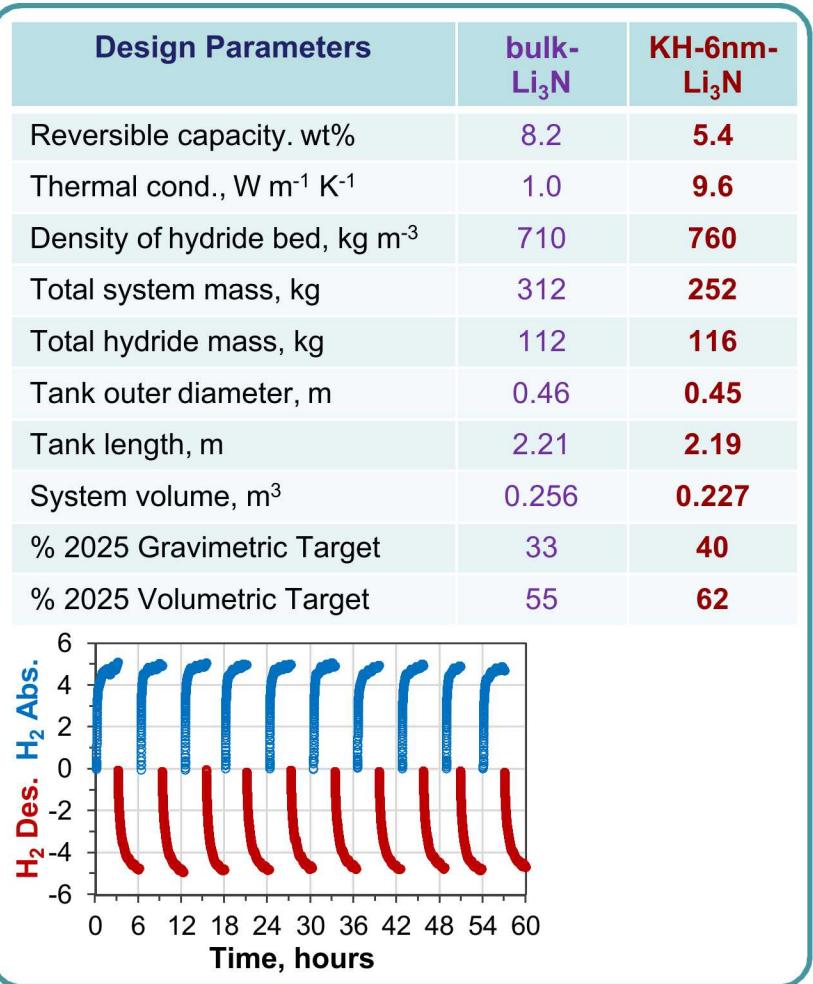
Problems & Challenges

stable intermediates
([B₁₂H₁₂]²⁻, [NH]²⁻, etc.)

contamination of H₂ gas with impurity gases

loss of capacity upon cycling

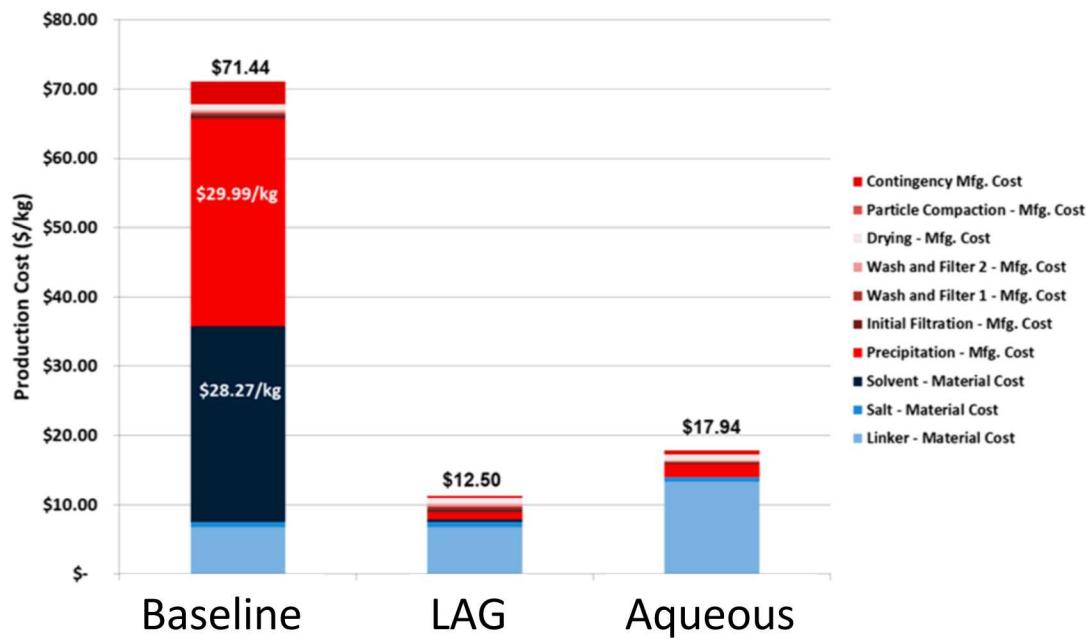
Nanoscale metal hydrides accelerates release kinetics



⇒ Used HSCOE Metal Hydride Finite Element model to reveal non-intuitive tradeoffs and benefits of using nanoscale metal hydrides in an operational H_2 storage tank

Techno-economic analysis suggests large-scale production of MOF sorbents is economically feasible

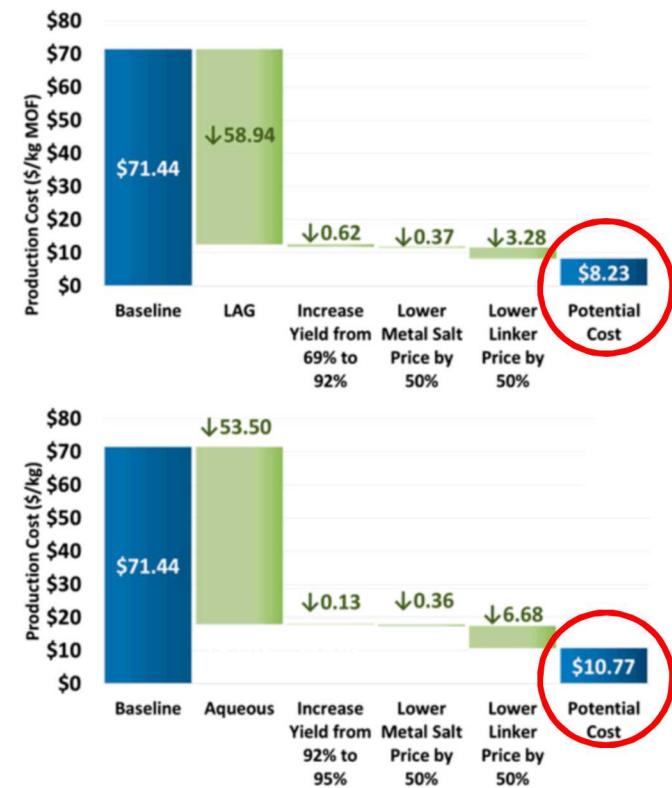
Production of 2.5 Mkg/year of $Mg_2(dobdc)$
($dobdc^{4-}$ = 2,5-dioxido-1,4- benzenedicarboxylate; Mg-MOF-74)



Baseline: solvothermal process

LAG: Liquid-Assisted Grinding

Aqueous: replace organic solvents with water



Take-home messages

Compressed gas (700 bar): physically impossible to meet DOE volumetric target

Solid-state materials have potential to meet DOE targets

HyMARC: a National Laboratory team focused on accelerating materials discovery:

- **Foundational research**
- **Development of advanced characterization tools**
- **Computational modeling across all relevant length scales**
- **Innovative materials synthesis and development**
- **Collaboration and assistance to Seedling projects**

In FY19, Research to develop *Hydrogen Carriers* was initiated (Tom Autrey, PNNL, lead)

**We are grateful for the financial support of EERE/FCTO and
for technical and programmatic guidance from
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Enabling twice the energy density for onboard H₂ storage