Functionalized, Structured Reactors for Sustainable Mobility and Clean Energy

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Outline



- Motivation and introductory material
- Sustainable Mobility (Emission Control)
- Clean Energy (Carbon Neutral Fuels)
- Conclusions

The Challenge of Sustainable Development



"...γῆμἐν ὁπόση πόσους σώφρονας ὄντας ἱκανὴτρέφειν, πλείονος δἐοὐδἐν προσδεῖ..." Πλάτων, Νόμοι, 360 π.Χ.

"...The land must be sufficient to support no more than a certain number of people living with moderation..." Plato, Laws, 360 B.C.

Aspects of Sustainable Mobility



→ Biological impact





Ohno, IQPC (2012)



Functions of an Emission Control Reactor (4WC)



- Nanoparticle Separation: Filtration & Pressure Drop
- Reactor: Soot, CO/HC/NO oxidation, NOx reduction
- Ash Accumulator: Aging performance

Adding Multiple Catalytic Functions to a Wall-Flow-Filter



Multi-Functional Filter-Reactor (MFR)

The MFR is a "single brick" solution for nanoparticle removal and soot, CO and HC oxidation, while NOx removal functions are in development.



SAE 2009-01-0287

MFR Assessment



4 times higher soot oxidation rate at 550 C compared to a State of the Art DPF



Effect of Aging (equivalent to 100 loading/regenerations ~10⁵ km)



Fuel penalty comparison for different driving cycles



SAE 2011-01-0606



Energy Consumption and Economic Growth

energy demand and GDP per capita (1980-2002)



Source: UN and DOE EIA

The TeraWatt Challenge (R. Smalley, 2004)



- Earth Capacity: 5 x 10⁹ people
- Population (Oct 2011): >7 x 10⁹
- Population in 2050: >10 x 10⁹
- Energy Requirement: ~ 60 TW

Deus Ex Machina: The Sun







Concentrated Solar Radiation



Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) Plants

1981 – today







650 - 2250 C

250-625 C

500-2000 C

Functions of a Solar Thermochemical Reactor



•Volumetric Receiver: Absorption of solar radiation/conversion into heat

Heterogeneous reactor: Gas solid reactions/Catalytic reactions

Common Development Path



Shaping of structured reactors

Coating of monoliths



Application Specific Testing

Lab side-stream reactor

Engine test cell

Field Testing



Lab fixed bed reactor

Solar Simulator

Field Testing







Solar Volumetric Receiver



Solar H₂ from

H₂O splitting



Solar CH₄ Reforming



CH₄ Solar Cracking



Solar Reactor manufacturing



Solar H₂ Plant Design

Solar Sulfur-Iodine Cycle



Carbon Neutral Solar Fuels

Solar Cavity heat exchanger Thigh Thigh Tiow-off Tamb Tamb Tiow-on Turbine Tamb Tow-on Turbine Tamb

Honeycomb reactor/

Thermochemical Storage of Solar Energy

Solar Thermochemical Reactor Research at APTL

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Solar Hydrogen: The HYDROSOL Process



- Renewable energy sources and raw materials
- Zero greenhouse gas emissions
- Long-term potential

HYDROSOL Principle of Operation: Redox Cycle

Water-splitting (oxidation step)

$$MO_{x-1} + H_2O \rightarrow MO_x + H_2$$

Regeneration (reduction step)

$$MO_x \rightarrow MO_{x-1} + \frac{1}{2}O_2$$

MO_x : Metal oxides

- Single Oxides of Fe, Mn, Zn, ...
- Mixed Oxides Fe, Mn, Ni, Zn, Co, rare earths (Ce, Pr, La), etc





HYDROSOL Technology Scale-Up







H₂O and CO₂ splitting (oxidation step)

$$MO_{x-1} + H_2O \rightarrow MO_x + H_2$$

$$MO_{x-1} + CO_2 \rightarrow MO_x + CO$$

Regeneration (reduction step)

$$MO_x \rightarrow MO_{x-1} + \frac{1}{2}O_2$$

 MO_x : Metal oxide

Cycling Process



Reactant gas concentration: 100% CO₂



Sustainable Energy & Materials from Sun, H₂O & CO₂



 $H_2 + CO \rightarrow C_x H_y$ (Liquid Fuels/Fischer-Tropsch process)

 $4H_2 + CO_2 \rightarrow CH_4 + 2H_2O$ (Gas fuels, methane/Sabatier process)

 $H_2 + CO \rightarrow C_x H_y$ (Plastics)

Sustainable Storage of Carbon AND Hydrogen!







- Eco-responsible Aerosol Based Nanotechnology
- Solar Reactors/Carbon Neutral Solar Fuels
- Compact multifunctional emission control reactors

Size Specific Nanoparticle Biological Responses



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Conclusion...





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