

Gas Hydrates : Properties and opportunities for The Energy Transition

Dr. V. Valtchev

A.Omran

Dr. N. Nestrenko

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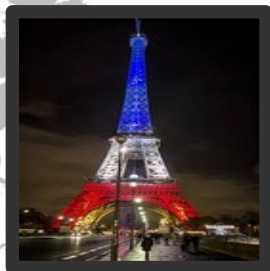
A. Omran, MSc.
 Chemical Engineer,
 AMIChemE, SMAIChe, MSFGP and SCF



Texas A&M

R&D: Computational & Experimental studies.
 Industry:

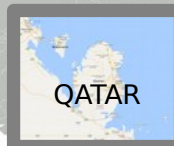
- **Gas Separation**
- **Natural Gas Storage**
- **H₂ Storage**



H₂ and methane Storage R&D



R&D, Different Gas and Petrochemical companies



QATAR



R&D and QatarGas: Control 1/3 of LNG Exports worldwide and 2 very big GTL facilities.

Hydrate For Energy

Zeolites As A Solution



AGENDA



Introduction



Methane Storage



CH₄-CO₂ Replacement



Hydrogen Storage

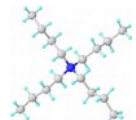


Conclusion





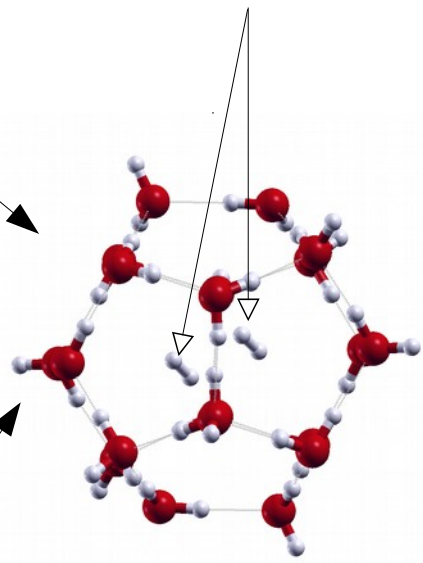
(and/or)



Salts (e.g. QAS)

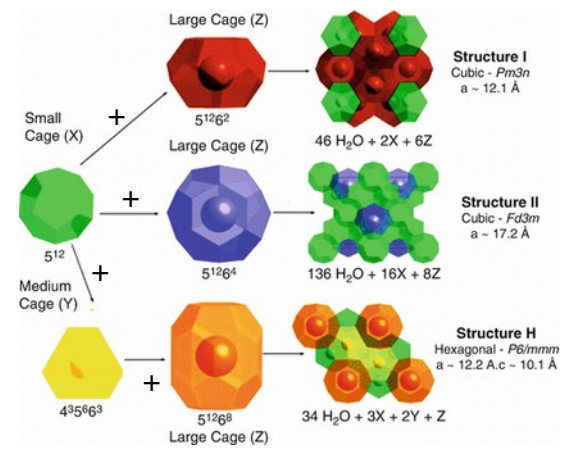
H-bonding & vdW forces

Guests (e.g. H₂)

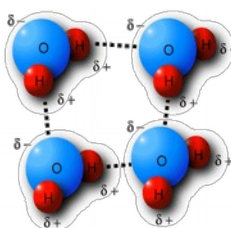


P-T conditions

Guest nature

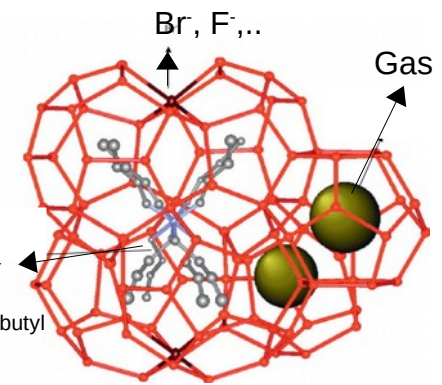


Clathrate Hydrates



Host Water

Challenges:
Slow kinetics, storage capacity and stability.



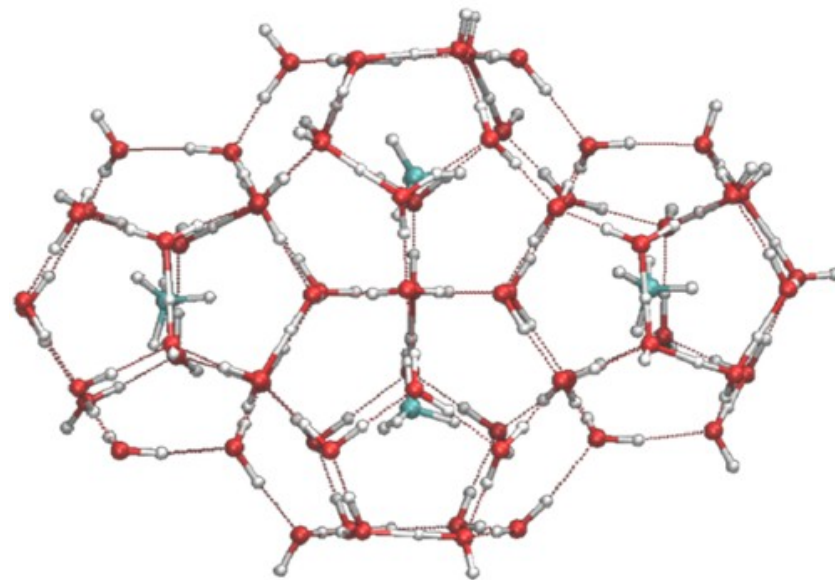
TBA = tetra-n-butyl ammonium

Semiclathrates

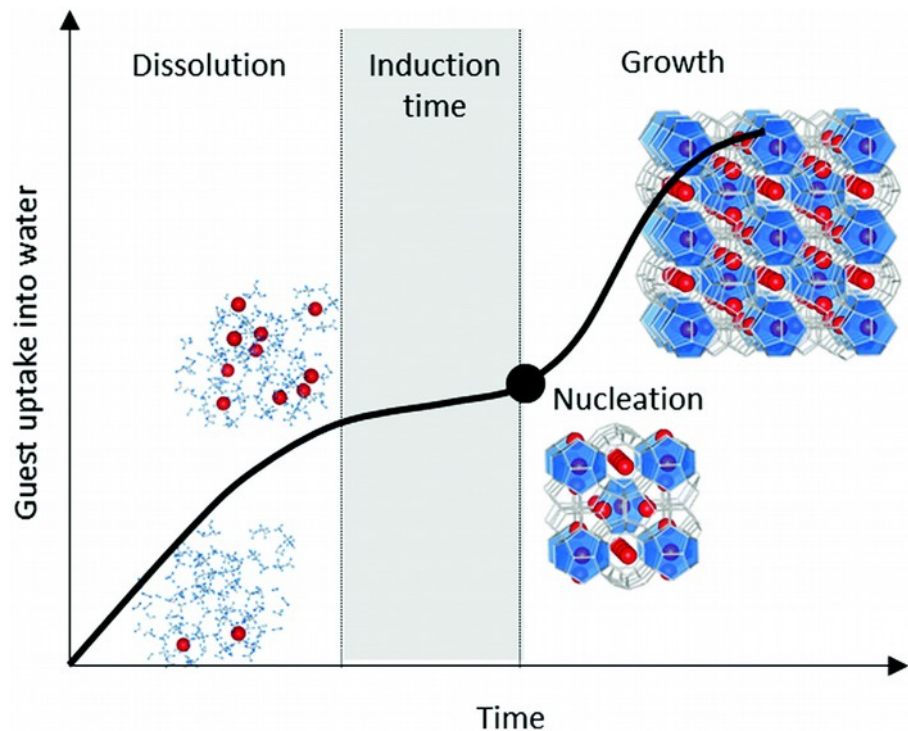
1-T.A. Strobel *et al.*, **Chem. Phys. Letters** 478 (2009) 97-109
2-Tariq, M., *et al.* (2016). **Energy & Fuels**, 30(4), 2821-2832.

Beyond *vdW-Platteeuw* Model:

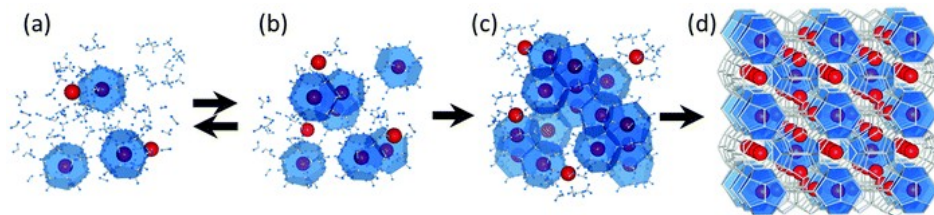
- Although one of the best applications of statistical thermodynamics, VdW-Platteeuw theory has its limitations
- Understanding the different molecular interactions and their effect on the stability and capacity gas hydrate and hydrate formation condition.
- 3 Main interactions:
 - 1) **Guest-Host** Interaction (*hilfsgase*).
 - 2) **Guest-guest** Interactions.
 - 3) **Host-Host** Interaction.



Microscopic Induction Time : Gas dissolution

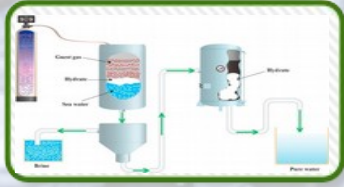


KPIs* : Induction time, t_{90} , uptake and conversion



Labile-cluster model of hydrate nucleation: (a) labile-clusters, (b) agglomeration of clusters, (c) primary nucleolus, and (d) hydrate crystal

KPI*: key performance indicators



Desalination



Hydrogen Storage



**Solid Electrolytes
for Fuel Cells**

**Hydrate-Based Applications
For Energy Transition**



Methane Storage



**Combined CCS and
Energy Recovery**

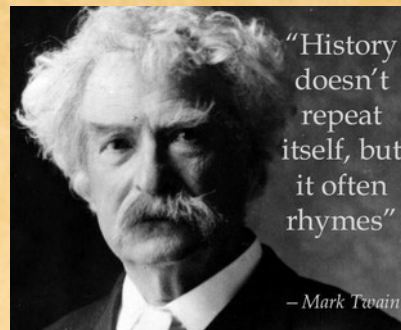


**PCM for Cold
Energy
Storage**

Energy Crisis

Natural gas surged toward the equivalent of \$190/barrel

■ Dutch front-month gas ■ Brent crude oil



Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (EPCA)

Storage!



<https://www.cvce.eu/>

Safe and long term Storage (CH₄, H₂, CO₂)?

Discrete gas resources (fuel gas, shale gas)?

Strategic Storage Plan!

Oil Crisis 1973

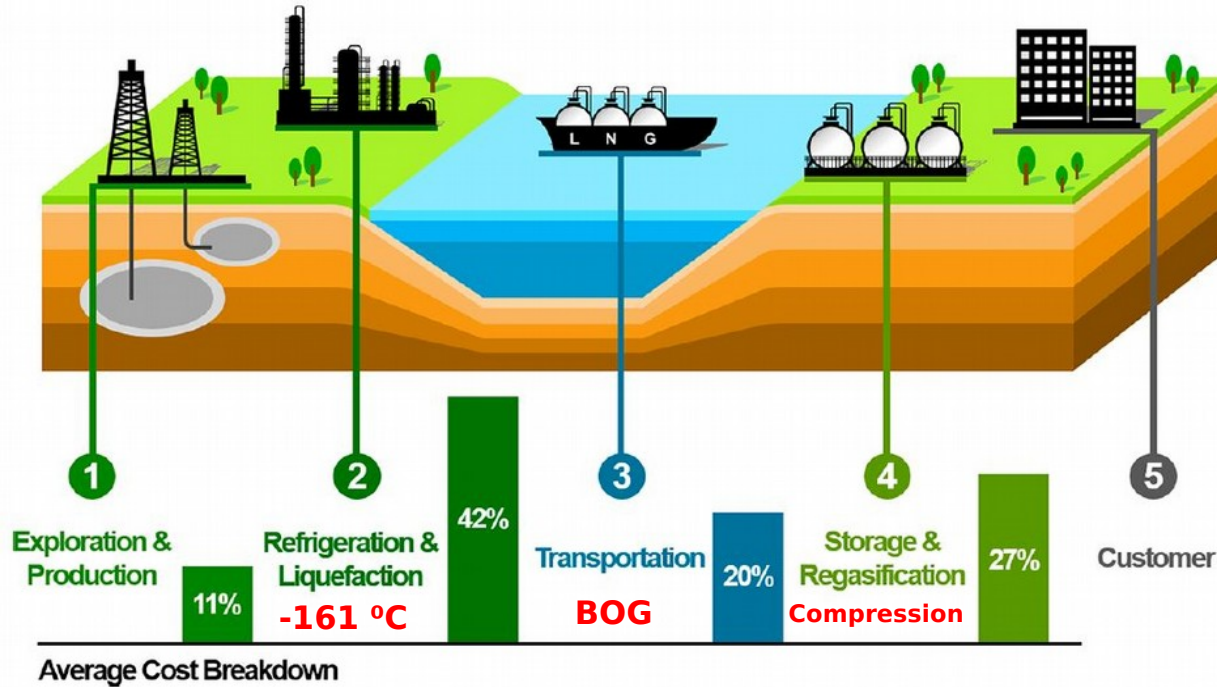
Gas Crisis 2021



Methane
Storage



Energy Storage: SNG vs LNG

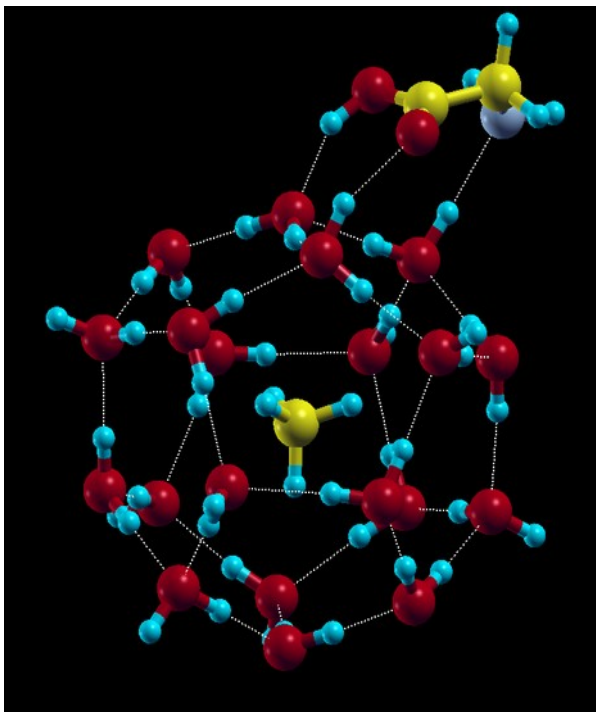


- LNG can reach 600 v/v but with extensive energy cost to achieve $-161\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^1$.
- **SNG plant has almost half cost of LNG** one of the same capacity (CAPEX).
- Transportation and storage will require high compression power. **18-25% cost reduction is estimated in case of NGH transport².**

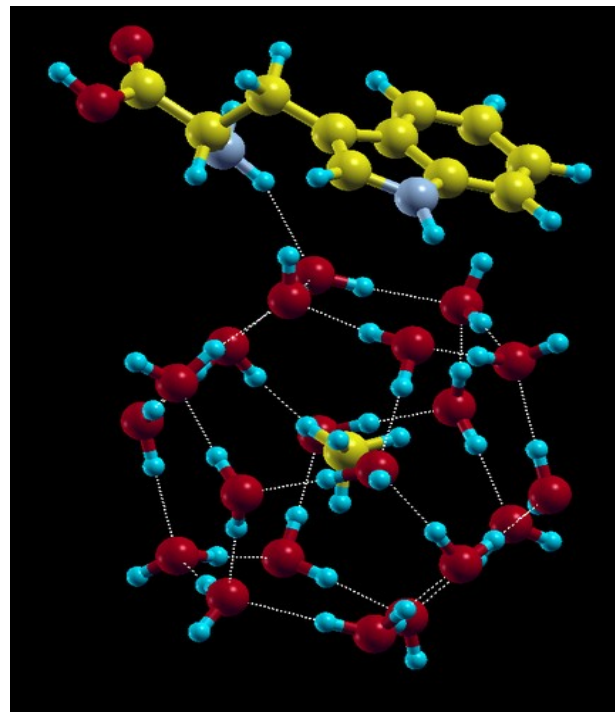
1-Lee, I. *et al.* (2017). *Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research*, 57(17), 5805-5818.

2- Kanda, H. (2006, June). In *23rd world gas conference, Amsterdam*.

DFT Calculation of Interaction Energy and H-bonding:



Gly



Try



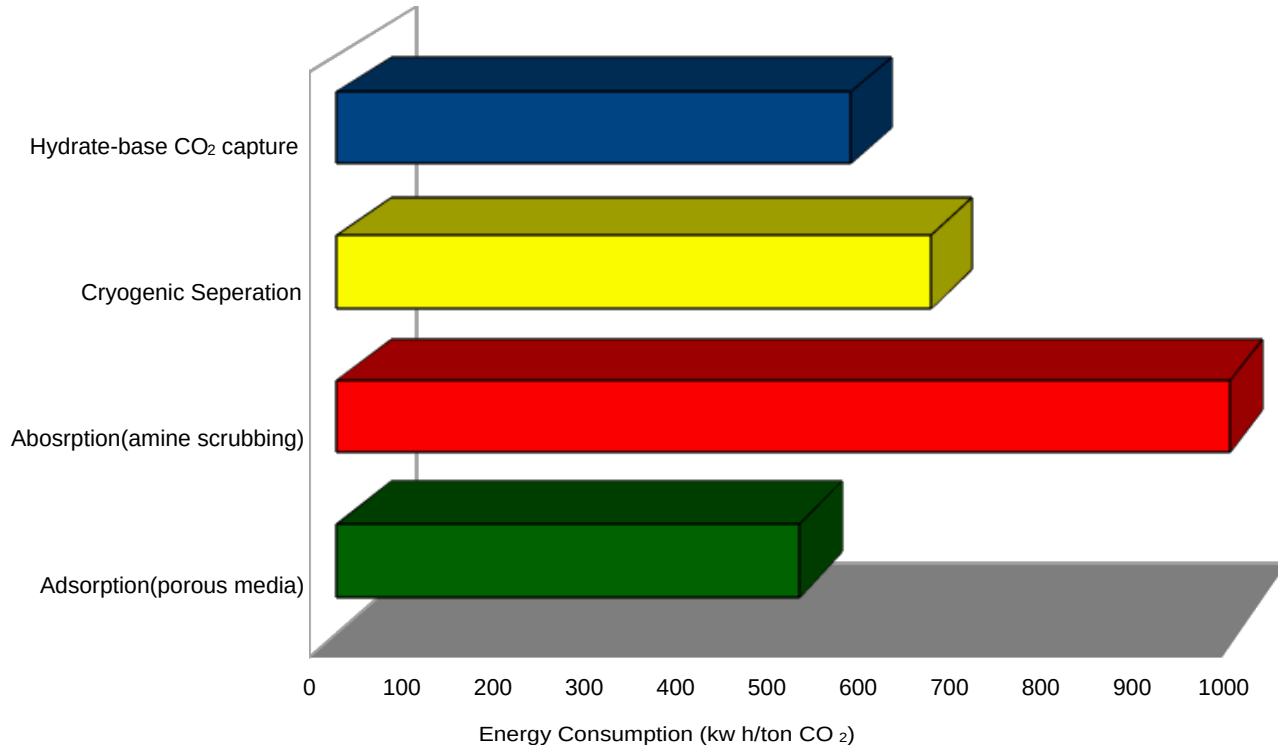
CCS



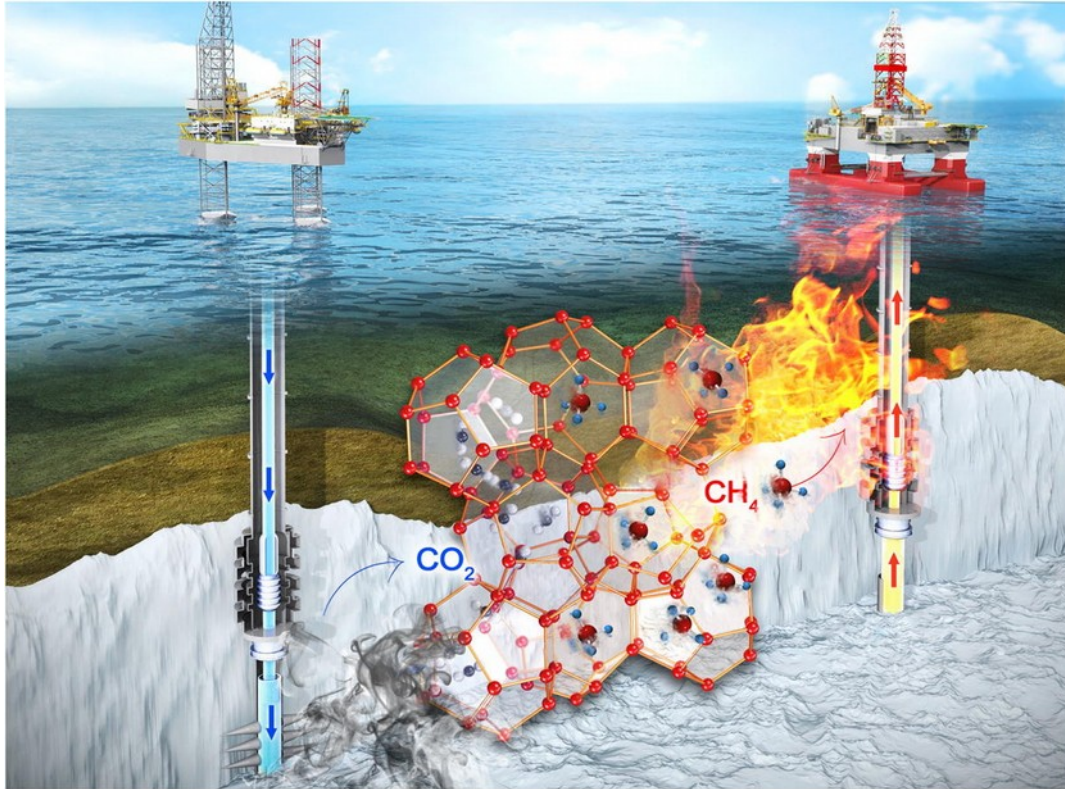
Carbon Capture Technologies

- Current capture technologies has its drawbacks.
- Membranes cost 24-48\$ per ton.
- MOFs sustainability affected by impurities, humidity and pressure drop.
- Absorption is energy intensive

What about sequestration?



CH₄ Recovery - CO₂ Sequestration:



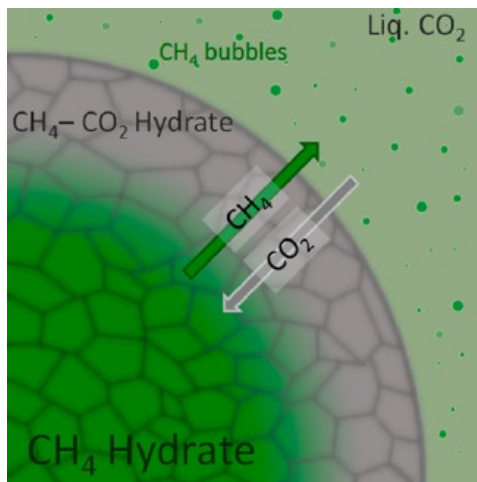
Energy-efficient natural gas hydrate production using gas exchange

Maintain the geological structure.

-Practical, already applied in the USA (Alaska) and reported in Japan and Canada.

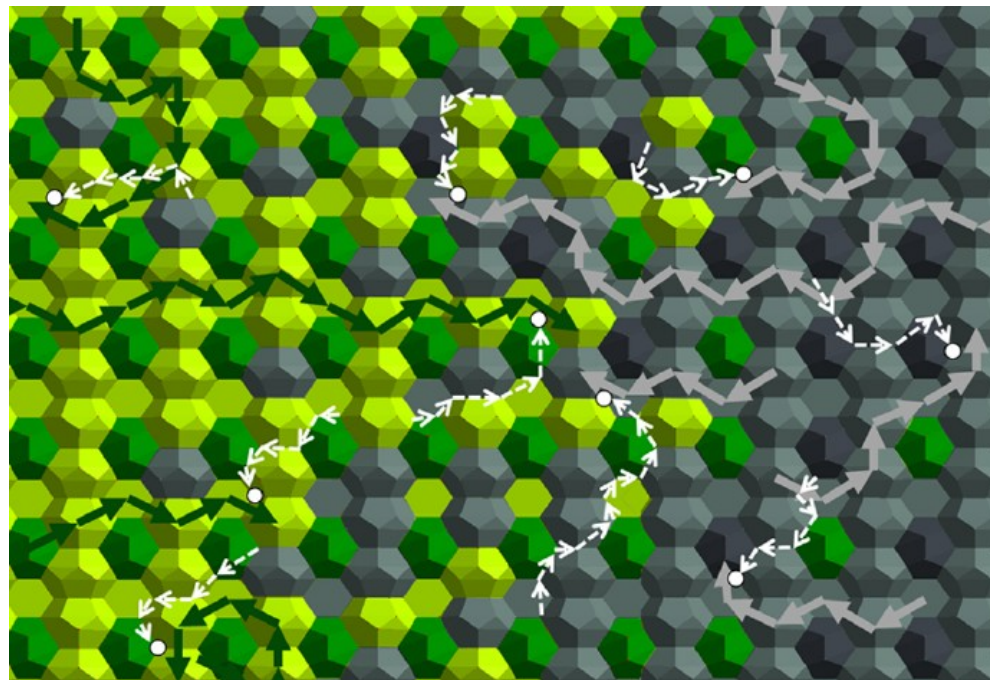
Challenges:
Slow kinetics, storage capacity and replacement mechanism.

Hole-in-the-Cage Model



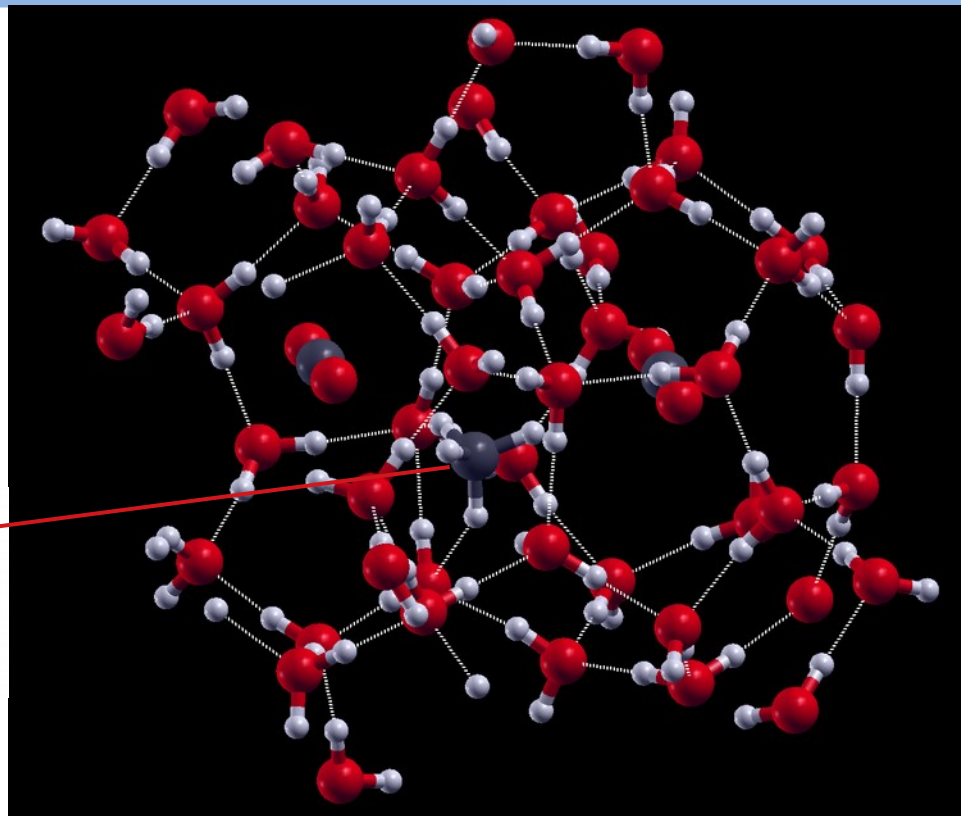
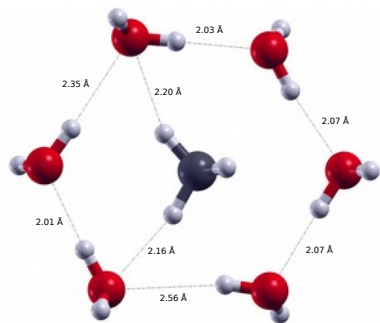
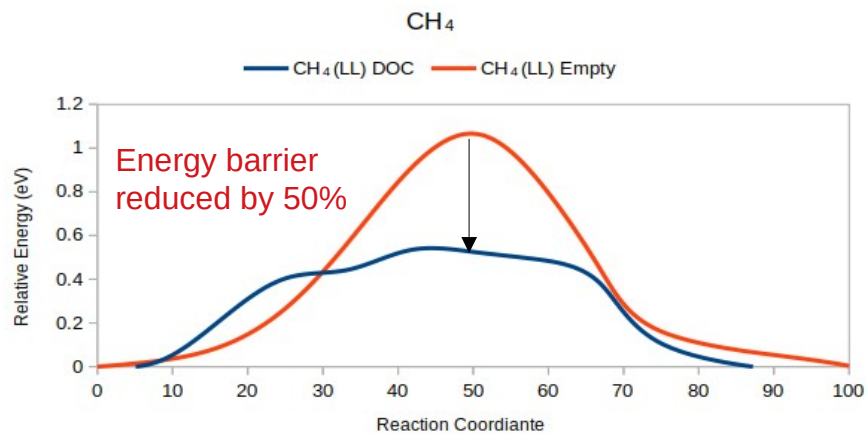
2 Steps (1)Fast Surface reaction followed by (2) **slow solid state diffusion**.

A water vacancy is needed for a successful jump of a guest molecule into a neighboring (empty) cage. The guest migration paths follow mostly connected LCs.



Water vacancies (white spheres and thin broken arrows)
CH₄- and CO₂-guest atoms (thick dark green and gray arrows)
Light gray (LCs) and dark gray (SCs).

CH₄ Recovery - CO₂ Sequestration



H_2
Storage

Hydrogen H_2

zero emission



Targets: Blue Hydrogen Storage

- Check the thermodynamic stability of sl clathrate containing hydrogen.
- Possibility of double occupation of hydrogen with methane or is large cages.
- Evaluate the storage capacity of binary $\text{CH}_4\text{-H}_2$ compared to DOE targets.
- Study the diffusion of H_2 hopping between different cages that are either empty or pre-occupied by CH_4 or CO_2 .



Hydrogen production from renewable and non-renewable is no longer problematic. It is the **safe storage that represent the major challenge and bottleneck for sustainable hydrogen economy.**

Can CH₄-H₂ system achieve the DOE target?

| | H ₂ wt% | kW.h/kg | kW.h/L |
|--|--------------------|------------|------------|
| sII (64H ₂ .136H ₂ O) | 5.3 | 1.8 | 1.5 |
| sI (10.H ₂ .6CH ₄ .46H ₂ O) | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.4 |
| sI (6H ₂ .8CH ₄ .46H ₂ O) | 0.5 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| sI (24H₂.2CH₄.46H₂O) | 5.0 | 2.0 | 1.8 |
| 2020 DOE target | 4.5 | 1.5 | 1.0 |
| 2025 DOE target | 5.5 | 1.8 | 1.3 |
| Ultimate DOE target | 6.5 | 2.2 | 1.7 |

CH₄-H₂ system could achieve compromise and achieve current and future DOE hydrogen storage targets...

- As mentioned, only 6% CH₄ of are required to stabilize sI as per thermodynamic modeling.
- As per our calculation CH₄ preferably occupy the small cages leaving the large cages to be stabilized by hydrogen.
- CH₄ can be controlled through formation conditions or using templates.

Conclusion:

- ✓ Gas Hydrate can play a central role in energy transition and can be easily integrated with existing technologies.
- ✓ Methane Hydrate represent a good opportunity for long term and large scale natural gas storage that can allow market stability and medium and long term.
- ✓ Amino acids and acidic zeolites are effective and environmental friendly kinetic hydrate promoters.
- ✓ Ab initio calculations can be **powerful tool** to determine clathrate hydrates properties.
- ✓ It is necessary to choose the proper correlation functional that approximately **accounts for dispersion interactions**.
- ✓ CO₂-CH₄ replacement mechanism goes through double occupation mechanism rather than cage-in-the-hole scenario.
- ✓ H₂ can be accommodated the large cage of sl along with CO₂ or CH₄ resulting in storage capacity of **5.00 wt%** of molecular hydrogen. **However**, the gravimetric and volumetric capacities are **2.0 kW.h/kg** and **1.8 kW.h/L**, respectively. This makes that system a **promising material to fulfill DOE target or large and safe storage** .



Industrial Chair (ANR-TotalEnergies)



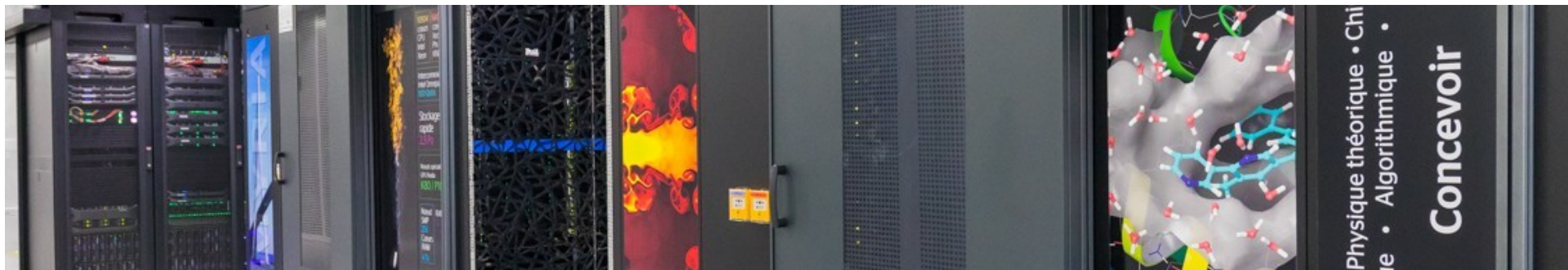
NANOCLEANENERGY



**Porous nano-catalysts
for a cleaner energy & materials transition**



Acknowledgment



We would like to thank CRIANN team for their support.



Questions?

