

# NH<sub>3</sub> as a Hydrogen Career

1-2 of October 2012

9th Annual NH<sub>3</sub> Fuel Association Conference



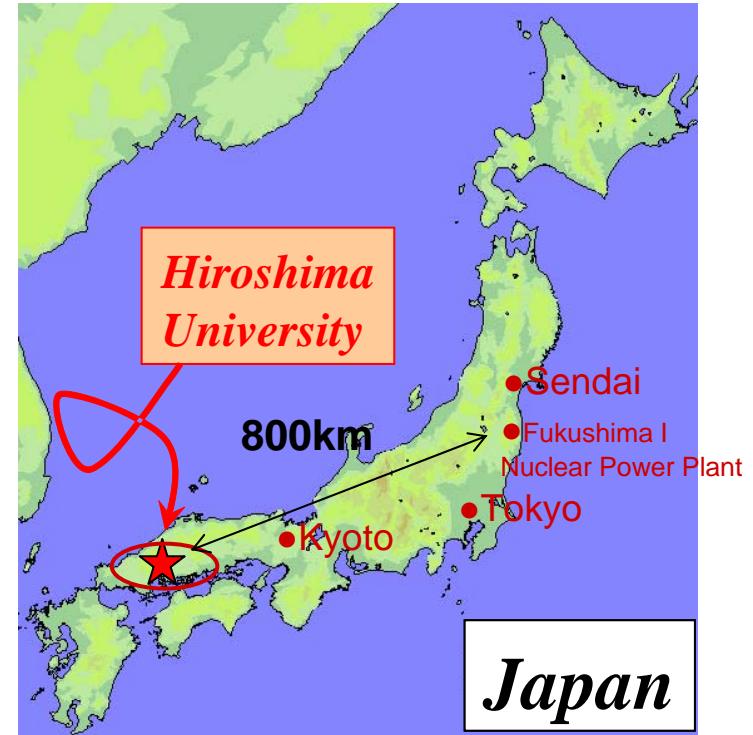
Yoshitsugu Kojima  
HIROSHIMA UNIVERSITY



Institute for Advanced Materials Research

# Table of Contents

- 1. Energy and Environmental Issues**
- 2. Research on Hydrogen Storage Materials**
- 3. Characteristics of NH<sub>3</sub>**
- 4. NH<sub>3</sub> utilization**
- 5. Future perspective**
- 6. Summary**



*Japan*



Itsukushima Shinto Shrine    Hiroshima Peace Memorial

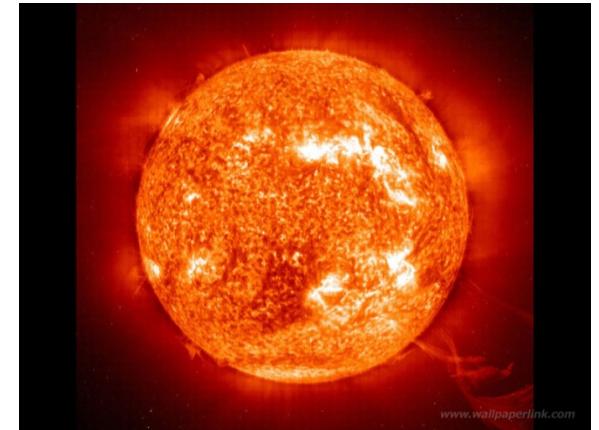
## History of Industrial Revolution



**Coal**  
**First Industrial Revolution**  
**( 18th ~ 19th century )**



**Oil ( Natural gas )**   **Renewable energy**  
**Second Industrial Revolution**  
**( End of the 19th century ~ Early 20th century )**



**Third Industrial Revolution**  
**( 21st century ? )**

**Fossil energy economy**

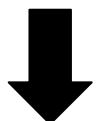
**12 billion ton of oil equivalent**

**Sustainable economy**

**Secondary energy → H<sub>2</sub>**

## 2. Research on Hydrogen Storage Materials

Hydrogen  
career ?



Liquid  
hydrogen

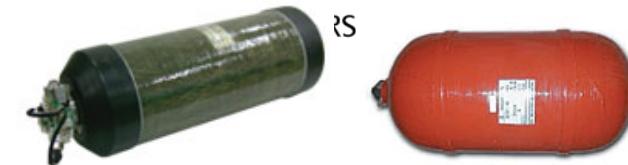


Liquid hydrogen(20K) , 7kgH<sub>2</sub>/100L

3.7 billion ton /year

Liquefying the hydrogen uses **30-40%** of the hydrogen's energy content

# Development of FCV ( 2000 ~ )



**Honda FCX(35MPa)    Toyota FCHV(70MPa)**

**Cruising distance: 620km,    Cruising distance: 830km**

**Internal volume:  
171L, 3.9kgH<sub>2</sub>**

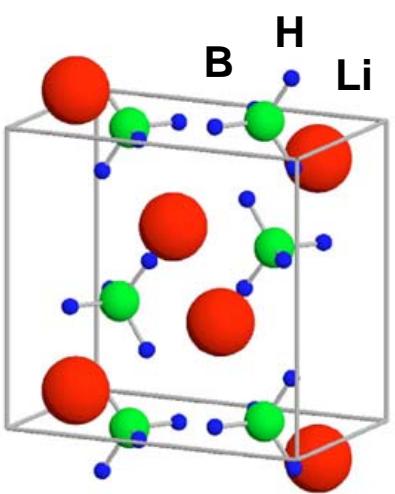
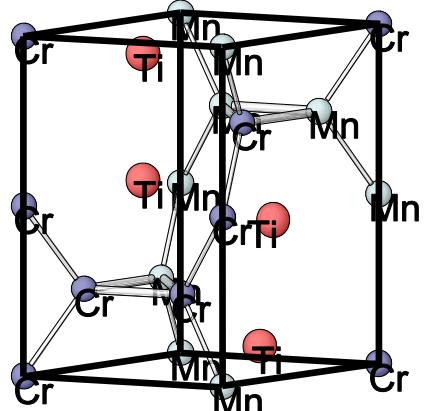
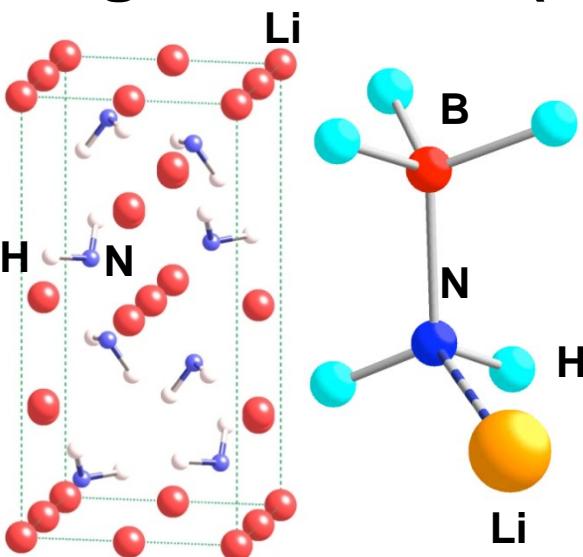
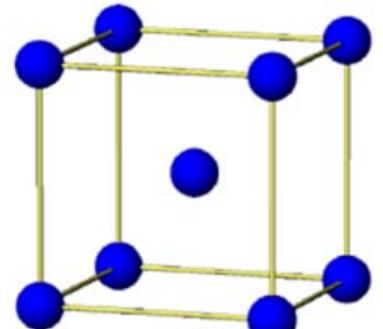
**Internal volume:  
156L, 6.1kgH<sub>2</sub>**

**130-160km/1kgH<sub>2</sub>**

**Toyota aims for \$50,000 production hydrogen sedan by 2015**

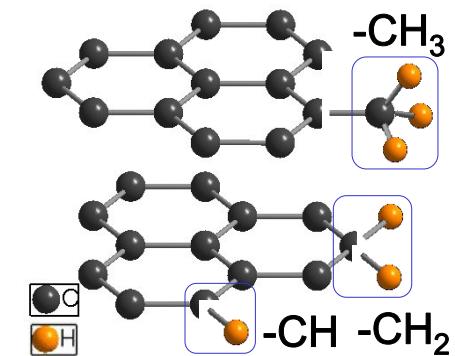
**Hydrogen storage materials**

# Hydrogen storage materials (1999 ~ 2012)

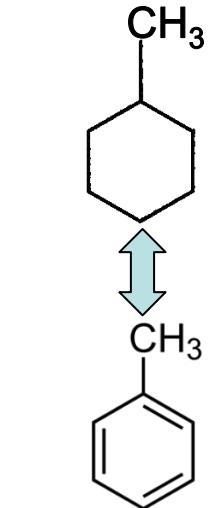
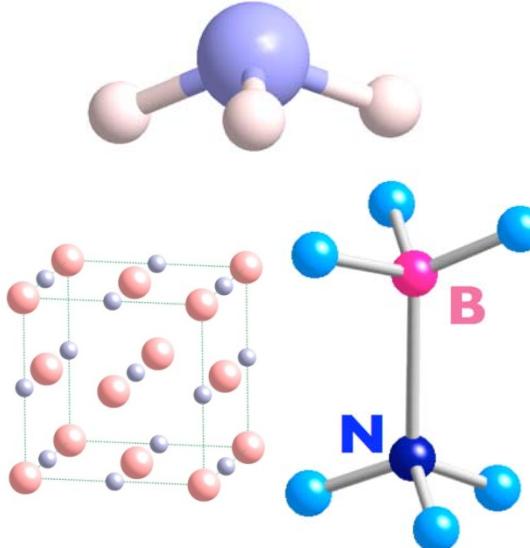


Hydrogen absorbing alloy

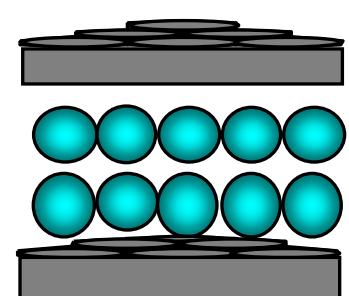
Complex hydrides



Inorganic hydrides



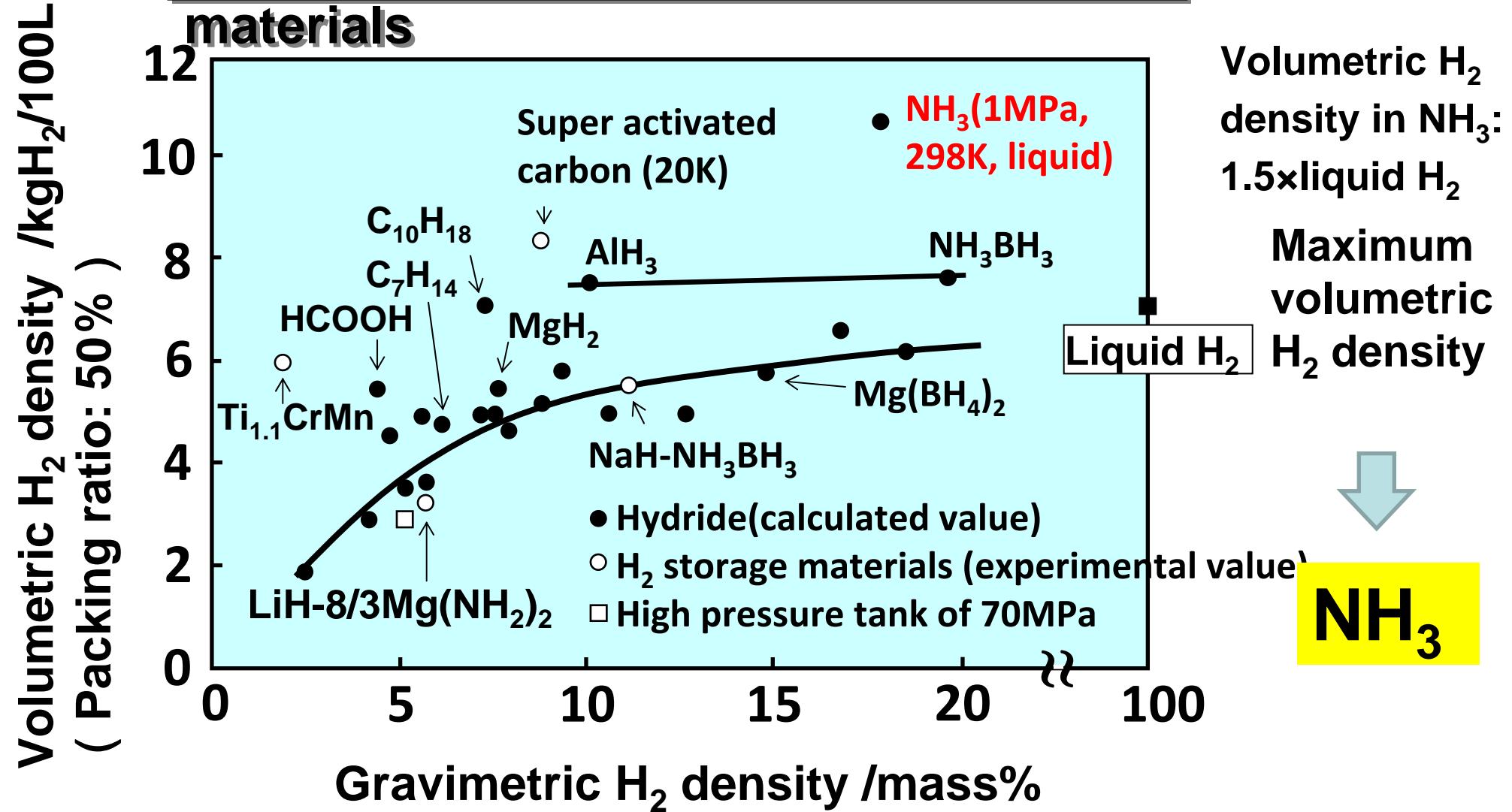
Organic hydrides



Porous materials

Evaluation and characterization of 200 kinds of hydrogen storage

# Gravimetric and volumetric H<sub>2</sub> densities of hydrogen storage materials

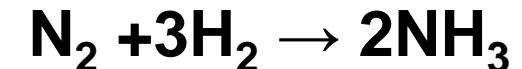


### 3. Characteristics of NH<sub>3</sub>



**Haber-Bosch process**

**10-25MPa, 573-823K**



**Annual  
production of the  
world 153  
million ton (2008)**

**California farmer, Injection of liquid ammonia in a sugar beet field**

**NH<sub>3</sub>: Inclusion of hydrogen**

**Renewable fuel independent of fossil fuel**

**NH<sub>3</sub>**  
**0.18kgH<sub>2</sub>/kg material**  
**0.107kgH<sub>2</sub>/L material**

## DOE Targets for Onboard Hydrogen Storage Systems for Light-Duty Vehicles

**Table 2 Technical Targets: Onboard Hydrogen Storage Systems**

Storage Parameter	Units	2010	2017	Ultimate
System Gravimetric Capacity: Usable, specific-energy from H <sub>2</sub> (net useful energy/max system mass) <sup>a</sup>	kWh/kg (kg H <sub>2</sub> /kg system)	1.5 (0.045)	1.8 (0.055)	2.5 (0.075)
System Volumetric Capacity: Usable energy density from H <sub>2</sub> (net useful energy/max system volume)	kWh/L (kg H <sub>2</sub> /L system)	0.9 (0.028)	1.3 (0.040)	2.3 (0.070)
Storage System Cost <sup>b</sup> : • Fuel cost <sup>c</sup>	\$/kWh net (\$/kg H <sub>2</sub> ) \$/gge at pump	TBD (TBD) 3-7	TBD (TBD) 2-4	TBD (TBD) 2-4

**\$2-4/gge  
( 2010 ~ 2011)**

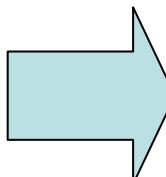
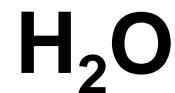
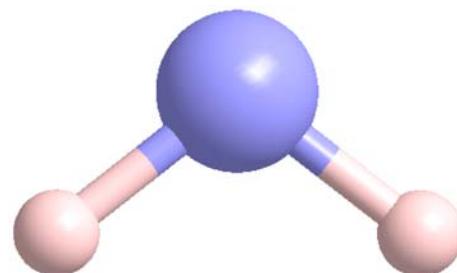
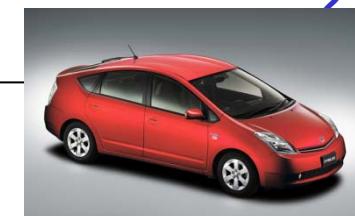
H/M: 2, H<sub>2</sub>: 11 mass%

ΔH: -285 kJ/mol H<sub>2</sub>

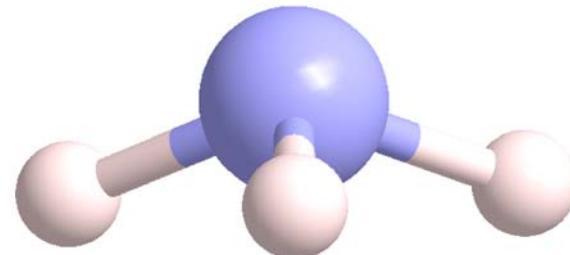
H/M: 3, H<sub>2</sub>: 18 mass%

ΔH: -31 kJ/mol H<sub>2</sub>

Specimen	Mg(BH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	NH <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> absorbing alloy (LaNi <sub>5</sub> )
H <sub>2</sub> content ΔH	15 mass% -57 ~ -75 kJ/mol H <sub>2</sub>	18 mass% -31 kJ/mol H <sub>2</sub>	1.5 mass% -31 kJ/mol H <sub>2</sub>



Partial atomic charges



δ-

δ+

Stable under water and oxygen

# “Safety Assessment of Ammonia as a Transport Fuel”

## Risø National Laboratory, Denmark (2005)

Substance	Health	Flammability	Flash point
Ammonia GWP: 0	3	1	132
Natural gas GWP: 21	1	4	-187
Methane GWP: 21	1	4	-187
Hydrogen GWP: 0	0	4	-157
LPG(propane)	1	4	-104
Methanol	1	3	60.4
Gasoline(92 octane)	1	3	-43

GWP: Global warming potential

From above it is seen that ammonia is the most hazardous due to health effects, but the least hazardous due to flammability. All considered substance /compounds are ranked as not reactive in emergency situations.



**Safety number: Ammonia=Hydrogen**

## 4. NH<sub>3</sub> utilization

Hydrogen carrier



Energy carrier



NH<sub>3</sub>

Energy  
carrier

Gas turbine

SOFC

ICE vehicle

Hydrogen  
carrier

FCV

Domestic  
fuel

# 4.1 Large scale power generation using gas turbine ( Output power Million kW, 1000MW )

## Preliminary calculation of energy balance (WE-NET: 1996)

Item	Liquid H <sub>2</sub> system	NH <sub>3</sub> system
Input electric energy	100	100
Energy after production	72.9	70.3
Energy loss by transportation (5000km)	(2.5)	(1.6)
Energy after transportation	70.4	68.7
Plant cost /million dollars	7400	5400
Energy generated <b>(Efficiency: 60%)</b> Combined Cycle	hydrogen carrier	32 H <sub>2</sub> gas turbine
	energy carrier	41 NH <sub>3</sub> gas turbine

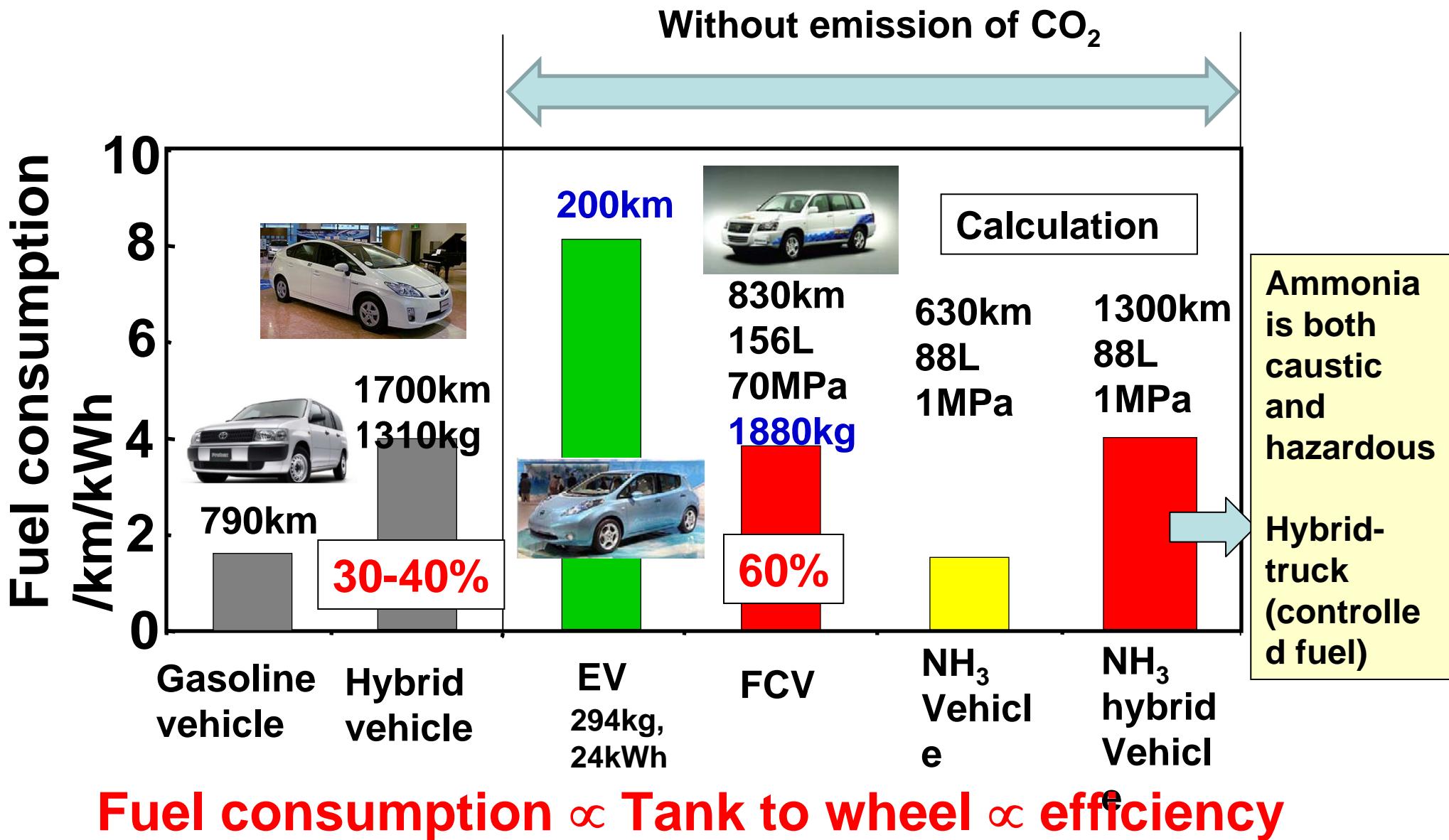
NH<sub>3</sub>  
SOFC  
1kW-  
1MW

Efficiency:  
60%

## 4.2 Next generation vehicle development



### Fuel consumption of next generation vehicle

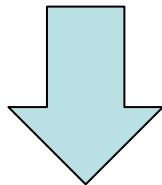


# 4.3 Energy and hydrogen career

**Ammonia storage issue (Energy and hydrogen careers for gas turbine, SOFC, ICE vehicle FCV)**

- 1. High flash point, High Decomposition temperature (above 400°C)**
- 2. Toxic to humans**

**Research purposes**



- 1. Conversion from ammonia to hydrogen (mixture of H<sub>2</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub>, generation of high purity H<sub>2</sub>) , Cold start**
- 2. Ammonia storage materials (lower vapor pressure), Harmless NH<sub>3</sub>**

# (1) Conversion from ammonia to hydrogen at RT

MH-NH<sub>3</sub>

523-573K, 0.5MPa, H<sub>2</sub> flow

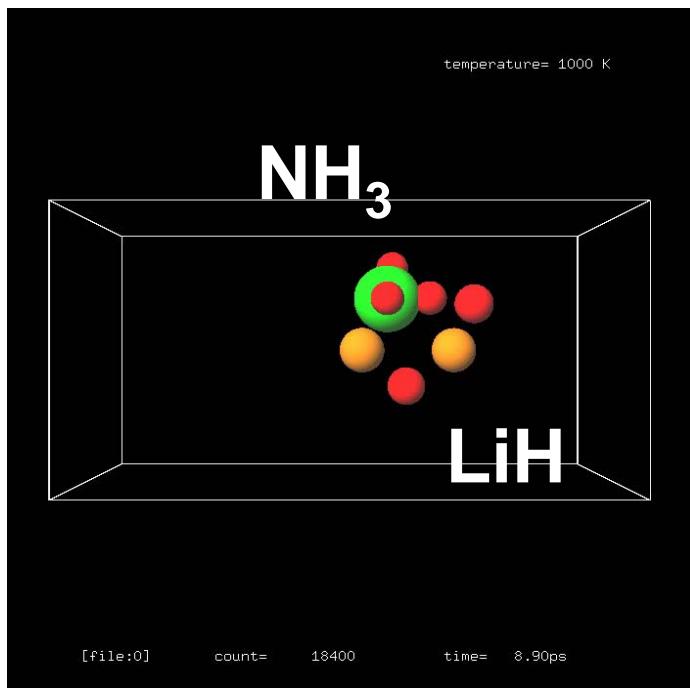


$\Delta H^0: -43\text{kJ/molH}_2$  H<sub>2</sub> content: 8.1 mass%

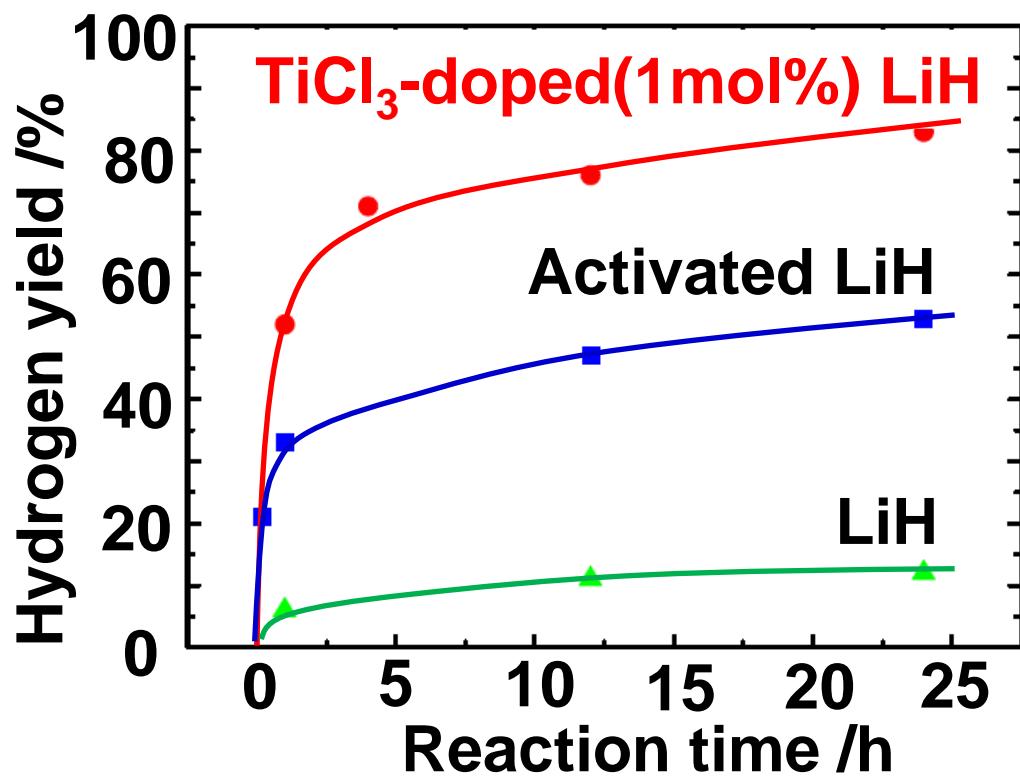
H<sub>2</sub> generation at room temperature

Y. Kojima, K. Tange, S. Hino, S. Isobe, M. Tsubota, K. Nakamura, M. Nakatake, H. Miyaoka, H. Yamamoto and T. Ichikawa, J. Mater. Res., 24, 2185 (2009)

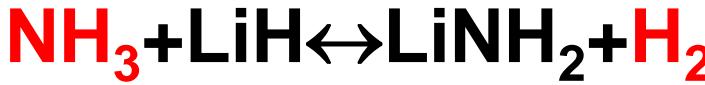
## Molecular dynamics simulation



## Hydrogen desorption curves of LiH-NH<sub>3</sub> system(room temperature)



# Conversion system between NH<sub>3</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>



0.1-0.6MPa



Pressure Gas  
Gauge 2 densitometer

Gas sampler

Reaction  
cell



100-900rpm

Gas circulation  
pump

Pressure  
gauge 1

NH<sub>3</sub> Flow  
meter

NH<sub>3</sub> flow rate  
~ 50cc/min  
(0°C, 1atm)

Hydride

0.5g

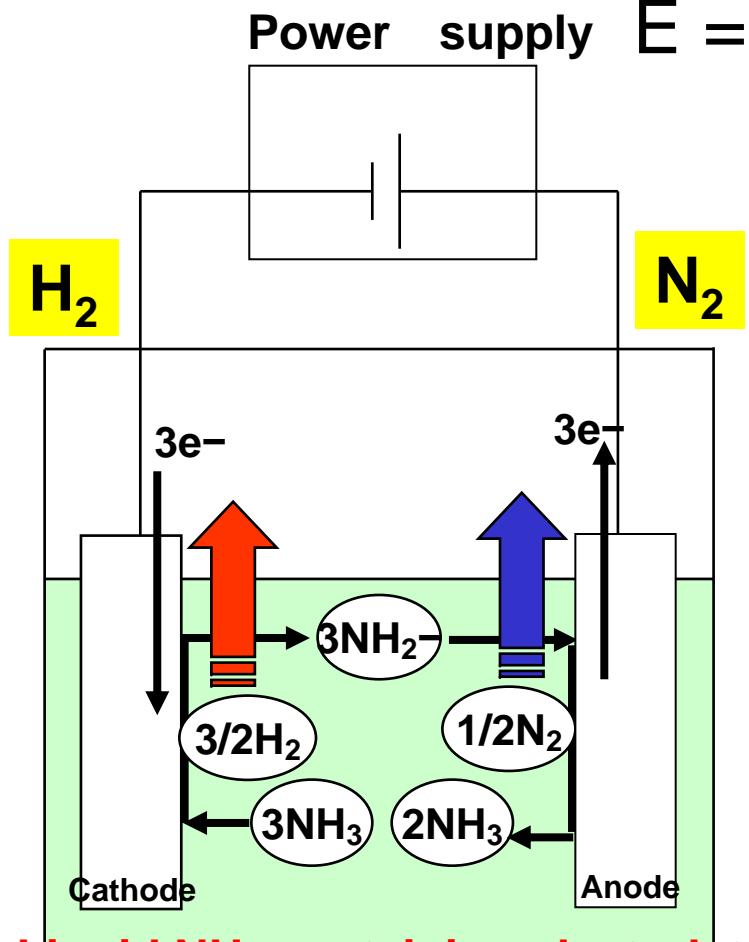
Heater

50-400°C

NH<sub>3</sub>

# Electrolysis of NH<sub>3</sub>

E(H<sub>2</sub>O)=1.23V → E(NH<sub>3</sub>) ? 



$\Delta G^0$ : Standard Gibbs free energy difference=13.1kJ/mol

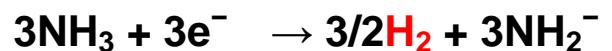
n=3: Electron number responsible for reaction

E : Theoretical decomposition voltage      Vapor Pressure of NH<sub>3</sub> (25 °C)



$$E(NH_3) = 0.038V + 0.039V = 0.077V(\text{theory})$$

Cathode

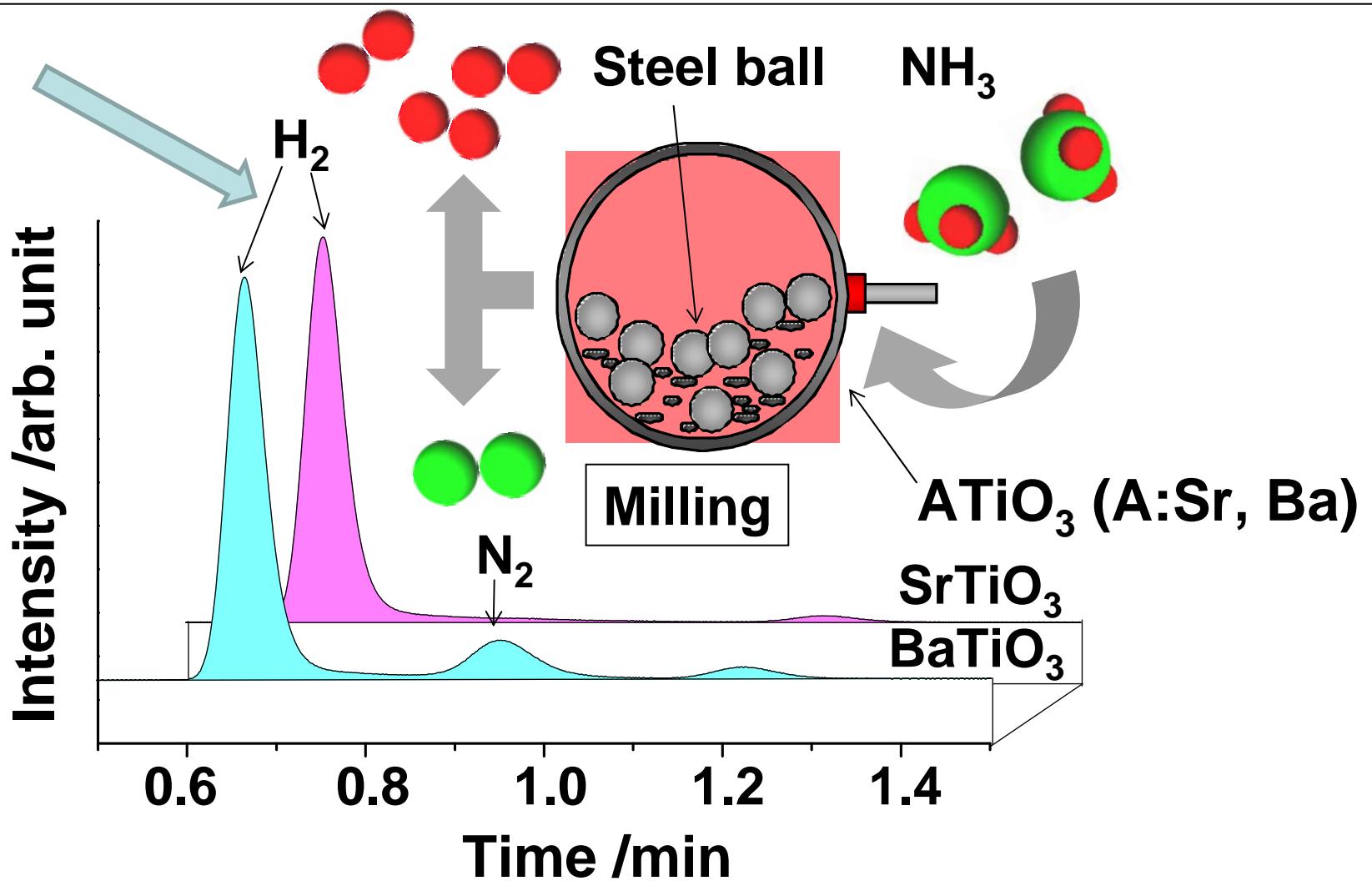


Anode



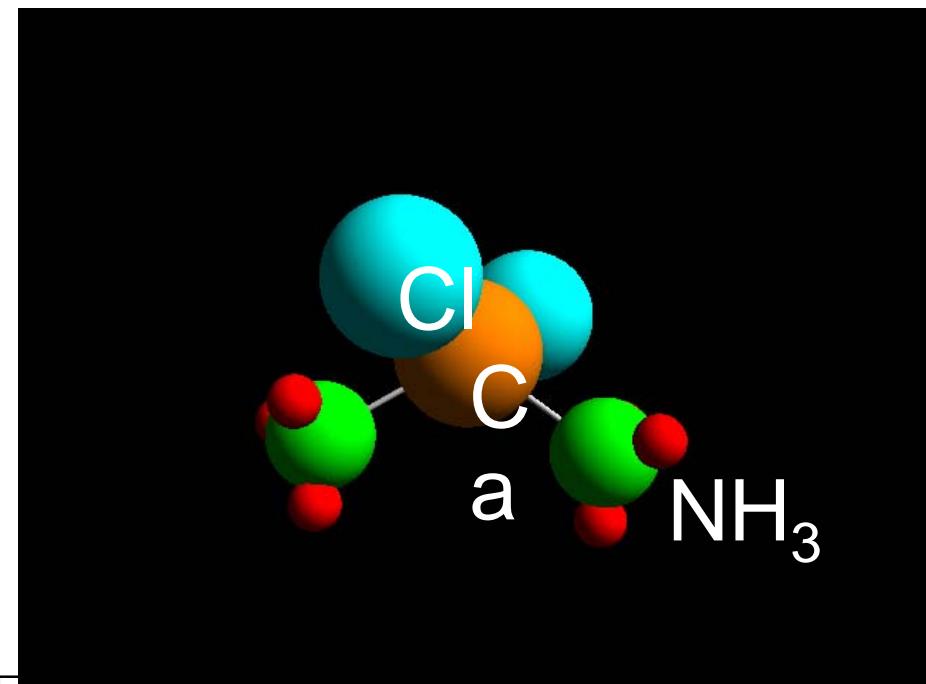
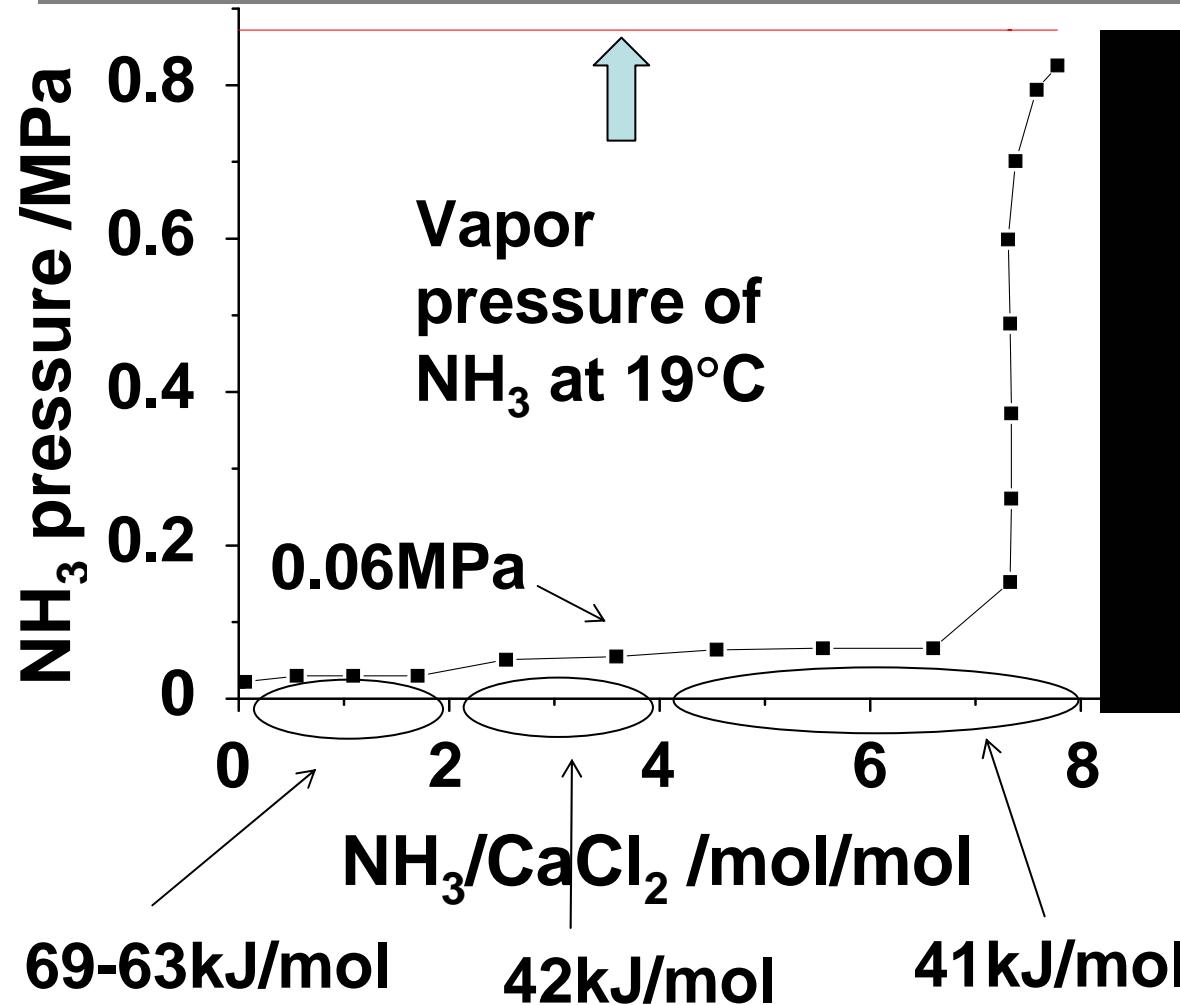
0.5V(experimental)

We have detected hydrogen and nitrogen gas when  $\text{SrTiO}_3$  and  $\text{BaTiO}_3$  powder is mechanically milled under ammonia gas at room temperature.



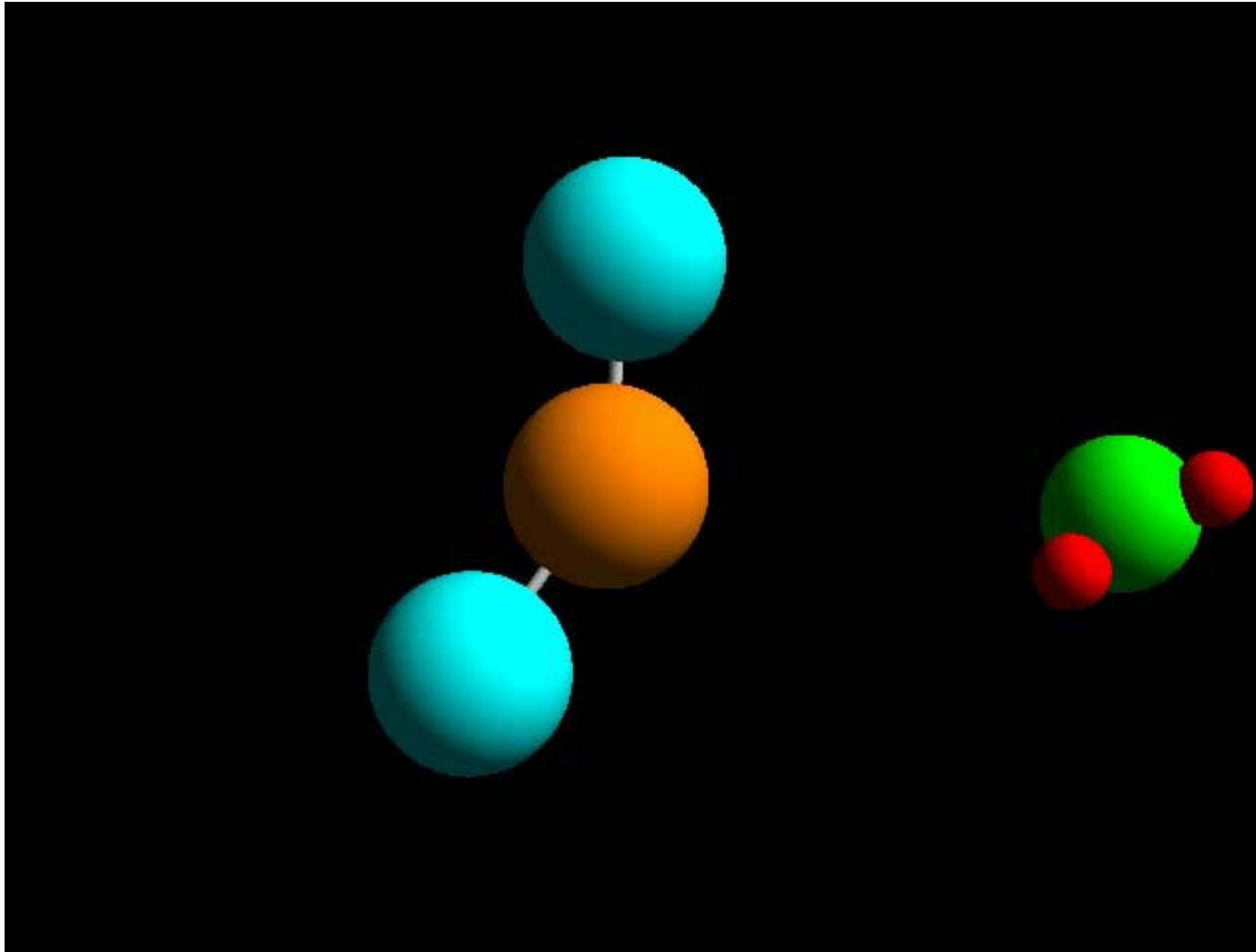
## (2) NH<sub>3</sub> absorbing materials

### P-C isotherm for CaCl<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub> system



115g/L      107g/L  
102kg      56kg  
 $\text{Ca}(\text{NH}_3)_8\text{Cl}_2$       Liquid NH<sub>3</sub>

*ab initio* molecular-dynamics (MD) simulation based on density functional theory (DFT) .

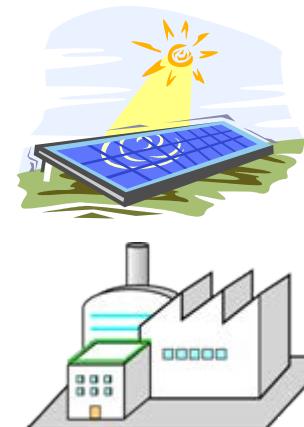


**Lower  
vapor  
pressure**

A. Yamane et al., Abstract of MH2012, Kyoto Japan (2012)

**Absorption energy**  
**Mg<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>K**

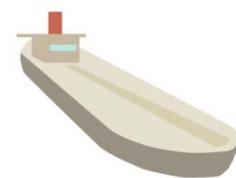
# 5. Future perspective



H<sub>2</sub> production

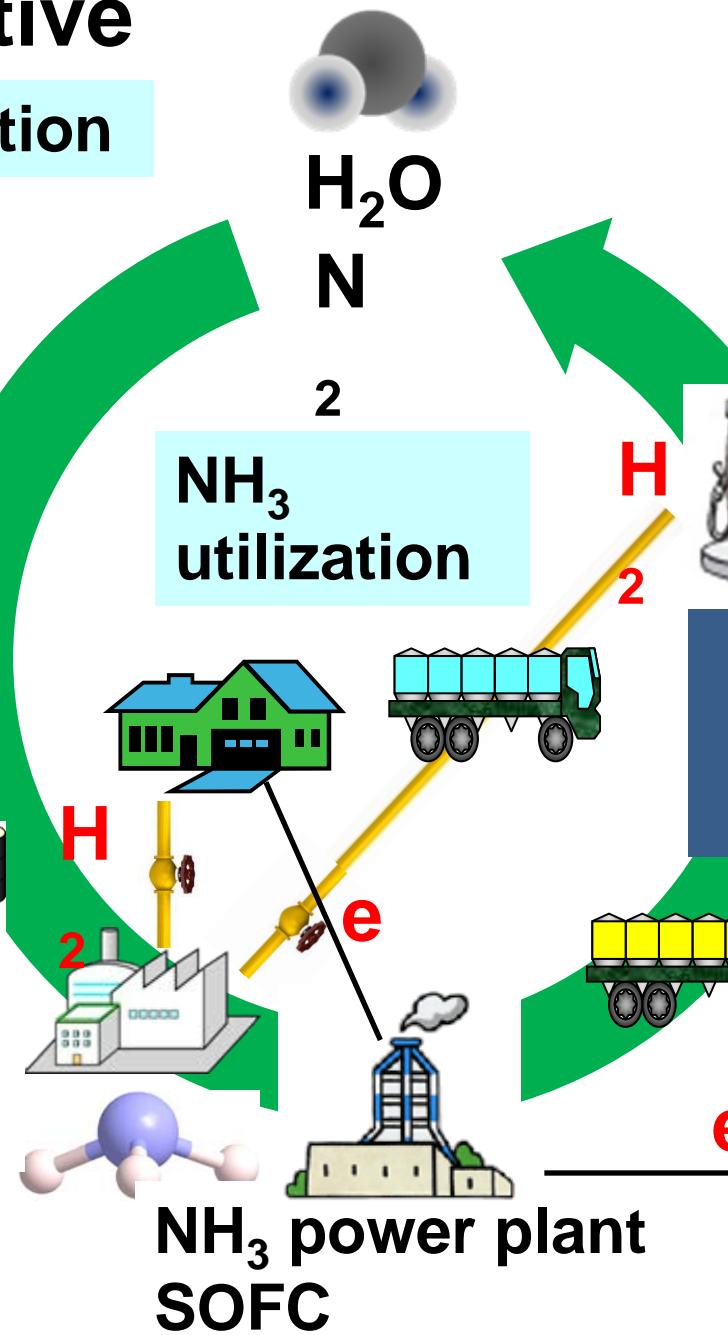


NH<sub>3</sub> production

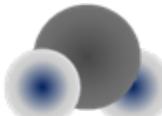


9000km

Energy stock



NH<sub>3</sub> power plant  
SOFC



H<sub>2</sub>O  
N  
2

NH<sub>3</sub>  
utilization



NH<sub>3</sub>

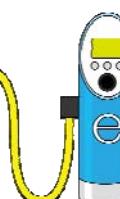
Passenger car



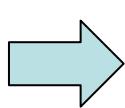
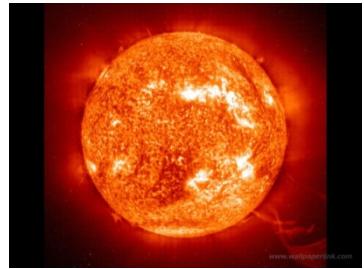
Truck

NH<sub>3</sub>  
Controlled fuel

Passenger car

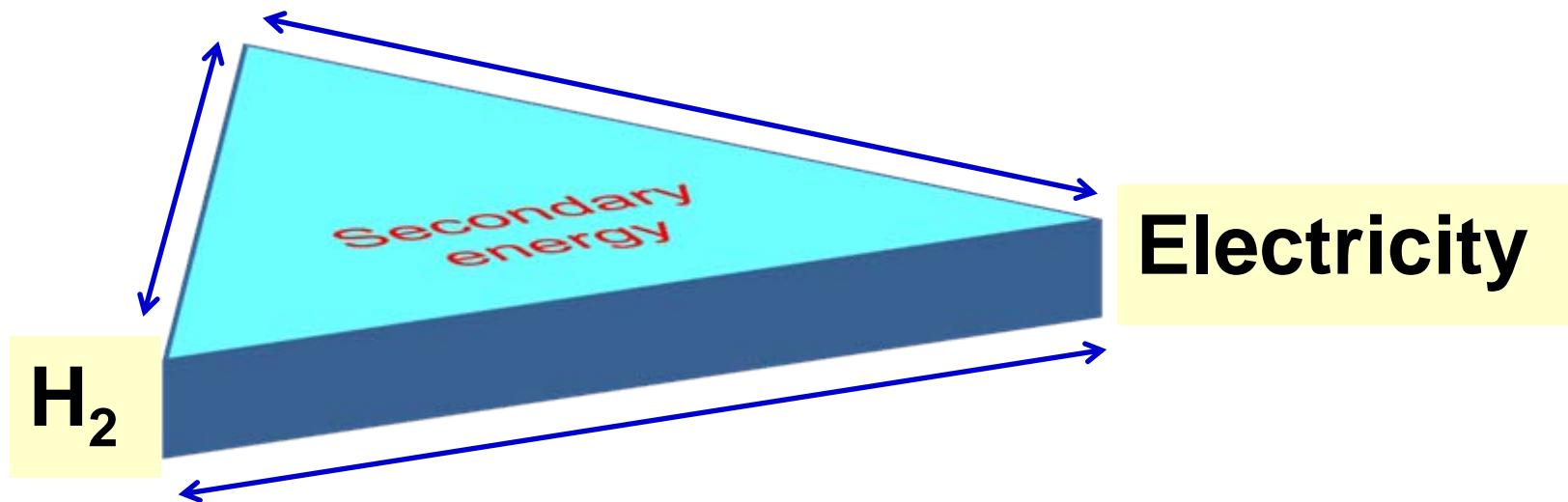


# Realization of sustainable economy ( renewable energy economy ) ( 2030 )



**NH<sub>3</sub>**

**Controlled fuel**



**Best mix of NH<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>2</sub> and electricity**

# 6. Summary

1. Ammonia has advantages in cost and convenience as a fuel for vehicle, electric power plant and SOFC.
2. LiH-NH<sub>3</sub> system with TiCl<sub>3</sub> desorbed 6 mass% of H<sub>2</sub> at room temperature.
3. Hydrogen gas was generated by the electrolysis of liquid ammonia.
4. We have detected hydrogen and nitrogen gas when SrTiO<sub>3</sub> and BaTiO<sub>3</sub> powder is mechanically milled under ammonia gas.
5. The vapor pressure of ammonia was decreased in metal chlorides.

**NH<sub>3</sub> economy is a practical H<sub>2</sub> economy**

Ministry of Education,  
Culture, Sports, Science  
and Technology  
(MEXT)  
Ministry of Economy,  
Trade and Industry  
(METI)

# Liquid Hydrogen Fuel for Hydrogen Delivery

\$20 million

新規 連日 (夕刊)

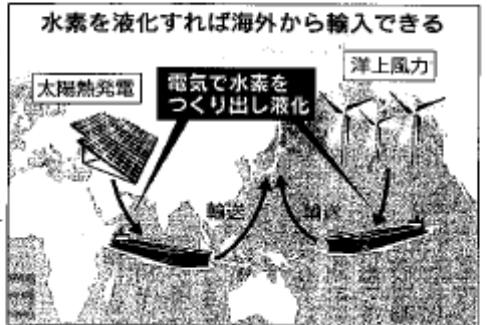
2012年(平成24年)9月21日(金曜日)

©日本経済新聞社 2012 (日刊)

政府はクリーンエネルギーの切り札となる水素燃料の実用化に向けた技術開発に乗り出す。水素は気体で扱いにくいため、簡単に大量の水素を液化して輸送・貯蔵できる技術を確立し、普及を促す。2013年度から大学や石油会社と連携して研究に着手し、20年代の実用化を目指す。

水を電気で分解してつくる水素は燃やしても二酸化炭素(CO<sub>2</sub>)を発生させず、環境負荷の小さい発電のクリーンエネルギーといわれる。だが、常温で気体なので持ち運びにくいほか、爆発の危険もある。あるいは、セ氏マイナス約42度まで冷却する必要がある。大規模な冷却装置がないと液体の状態を保てず、保管や輸送のコストが膨らむという欠点があった。

費用として13年度予算案を急ぐため、経済産業省や文部科学省は技術開発を始めた。水素をそのまま冷やして液化する方法や、別の物質と反応させて別種の液体燃料に変える手法も候補になる。



## 液化技術の開発支援 政府、20年代実用化

# 水素燃料輸送しやすく

日本経済新聞

夕刊  
9月21日  
(金曜日)

発行所 日本経済新聞社  
東京本社 (03)3270-0251  
〒100-8065 京都市中京区大須町1-3-7  
大阪本社 (06)6943-7111  
名古屋支社 (052)243-3311  
西部支社 (092)473-3300  
電子版アドレス  
<http://www.nikkei.com/>  
購読のお申込み  
<http://0120-21-4946>  
<http://www.nikkei4946.com>

足のオセン  
若野口

September 21, 2012

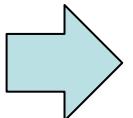
# Acknowledgement:

This work was partially supported by the “Advanced Fundamental Research Project on Hydrogen Storage Materials” supported by NEDO (2007-2011FY), Japan.

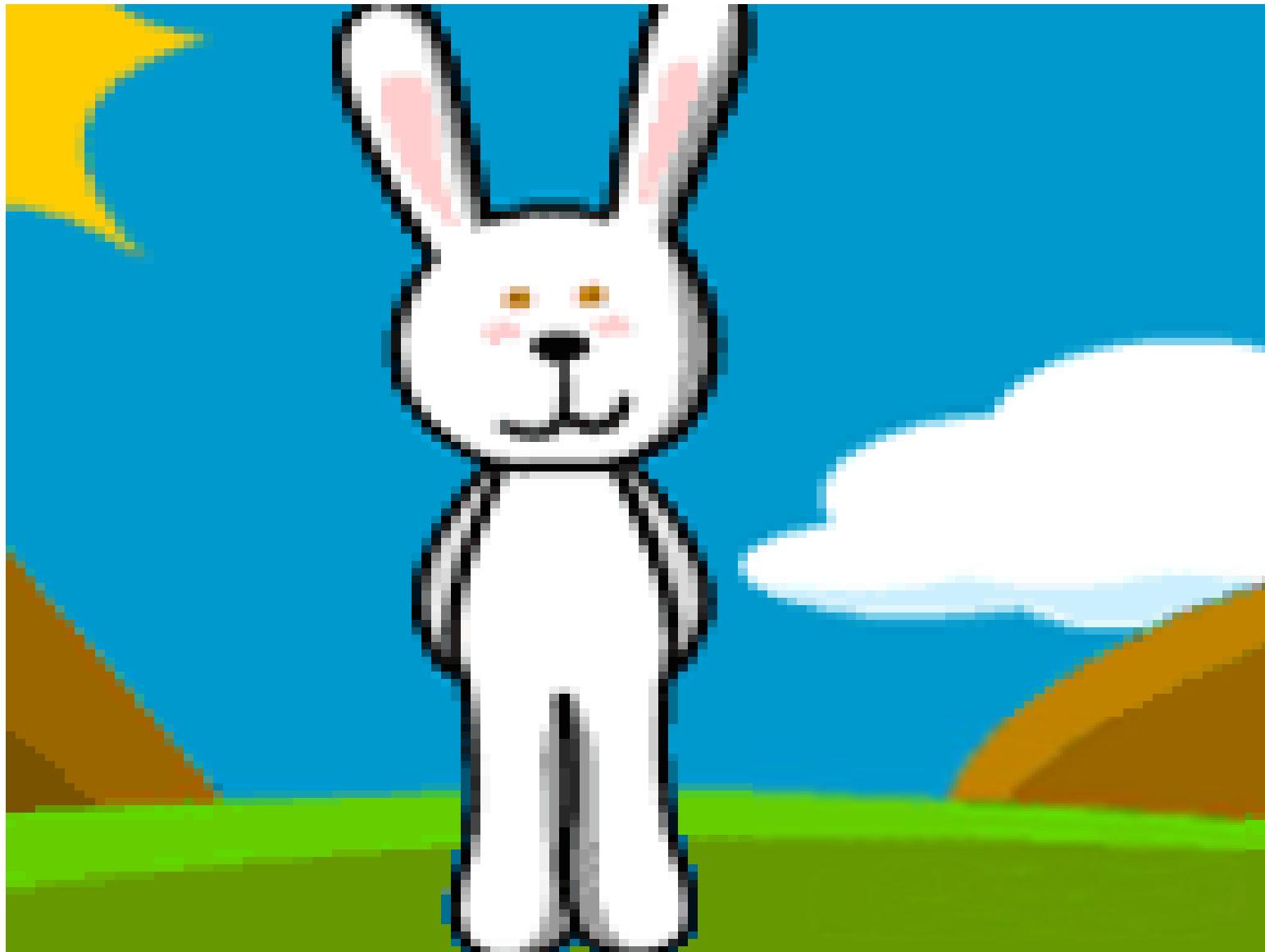


Staff: 6, PD: 2, M1: 4, M2: 4, D1: 1, D2: 1, D3: 3, D4: 1, D5: 1 (24) (2012)

**Emerging Fuels(DOE)**



**Alternative Fuels ?**



Thank you for your attention.