## No. A-2-1E

PJ: Integrated Electrochemical Systems for Scalable CO<sub>2</sub> Conversion to Chemical Feedstocks

- **Theme : Project Overview**
- **Organization : The University of Tokyo**

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## **1.** Research Outline

 $\square$  Development of a system to convert atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> into useful chemical feedstocks based on electrochemical processes.



Achievement of carbon cycle based on electricity which is a platform of future energy system  $\sim$  Toward 100 million ton/year reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions @ 2050  $\sim$ 

## 2. Our Future Vision: Urban DAC-U System (Artificial Photosynthesis)



#### Air conditioning and ventilation + DAC





NEDO

#### CO<sub>2</sub> Enrichment + Electrolysis

Urban DAC-U system to capture and recycle CO<sub>2</sub> from inside and outside of buildings

- $\Box$  The concentration of O<sub>2</sub> as well as CO<sub>2</sub> can be maintained, even when people are in the office, reducing energy for ventilation.
- $\Box$  Conversion from atmospheric and indoor CO<sub>2</sub> into useful chemical feedstocks

#### **Work Packages of the Project**



KPI				
	2022	2024	2029	
$CO_2 emission \approx (t-CO_2/t-C_2H_4)$	$+1.0 \sim +1.5$ $+0.5 \sim +1.0$ at laboratory scale 1,000 hours		<-0.5 at pilot plant scale 5,000 hours	
CO <sub>2</sub> emission during operation	$-$ 0.5 $\sim$ 0.0 (5.0~4.5 V, FE= 55 $\sim$ 65%)	$-1.0 \sim -0.5$ (4.5~3.8 V, FE= 55 ~80%)	<-2.0 (3 V, FE= 80%)	
CO <sub>2</sub> emission upon equipment manufacturing	+1.5	+1.5	+1.5	

\*\*CO<sub>2</sub> emission of the entire system from atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> capture to ethylene production (including emission upon manufacturing of equipment)

#### **Division of roles**

mosphere/	Osaka University	3-2 Process	cess ion	R&D items		Player		
Hubbl CO <sub>2</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> Chi	yoda Corporation	High-value	CO <sub>2</sub> capture and	CO <sub>2</sub> captu	re by TSA method	SC	Collaborative member
	Enriched CO <sub>2</sub>		(ethylene, etc.)	enrichment Elect	Electroche	lectrochemical CO <sub>2</sub> enrichment		Collaborative member
	0 <sub>2</sub>					Catalyst Catalyst		UBE
	$\ominus$ $\oplus$					Functional Substrate Cu-based materials	OSU UTK	FKW
		k 1	A scalable	CO <sub>2</sub>	Reactor	Gas-Diffusion Electrode (GDE)		UBE, FKW, Maxell
			electrochemical system		member	MEA- based reactor	RIKEN	Collaborative member
	Re	newable energy				Stack		
$\Box$ CO <sub>2</sub>	Capture and Enrich	nment ( <b>Poste</b>	r No. A-2-2E)	System integration	Reaction p Integrated	process development / Process integration d system analysis & control / LCA	UTK	CYD
□ CO <sub>2</sub> □ Syst	tem Integration / LO	CA (Poste	r No. A-2-4E)	*UTK: The Universi RIKEN: Institute o UBE: UBE Corpora CYD: Chiyoda Cor	ty of Tokyo, OSU: f Physical and Ch ition, SC: Shimizu poration, FKW: Fu	: Osaka University, emical Research, u Corporation, urukawa Electric Co., Ltd, Maxell : Maxell, Ltd.	4	<u>.</u>
Poster No	. Theme		Major Results			Futu	ire V	Norks
A-2-2E	CO <sub>2</sub> Capture and Enrichment	<ul> <li>Clarified the concept (r</li> <li>Successful enrichment</li> </ul>	requirements) of the implementation r of atmospheric CO <sub>2</sub> from 400 ppm to	model for l 0 100% (pi	ouilding ure CO <sub>2</sub>	$\cdot$ Design and manufactur $\cdot_2$ ) $\cdot$ Low drive voltage and lo	ing of p ong-terr	rototypes m stable operation
A-2-3E	CO <sub>2</sub> Electrolysis	<ul> <li>•FE to ethylene 60%, 2.8 V operating potential between 2 poles achieved</li> <li>•Efforts to achieve large area / 10cm square cell evaluation and institutional collaboration</li> <li>•Development of electrodes that simultaneously satisfication current efficiency, current density, and stability</li> </ul>						
A-2-4E	System Integration LCA	<ul> <li>Conceptual system des production and LCA fc</li> </ul>	sign from atmospheric CO <sub>2</sub> capture to or CO <sub>2</sub> emission	ethylene		<ul> <li>Continuous process ben Electrolysis."</li> <li>Improvement of LCA ac</li> </ul>	chmark curacy	k of "CO <sub>2</sub> Enrichmer
	東大先端研 Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology The University of Takya		RIKEN UBE Corporation		2	CHIYODA FURUKAU		

**UBE** Corporation

4. Goals and Roles



## 2-1. Progress

- Selection of effective adsorbents
- $\square$  10-fold enrichment of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>
- Policy formulation for defining DAC requirements from architecture
- Continuous search for DAC collaboration partners for requirements definition (Signed 7 NDAs)
- Define the boundaries between building equipment and DAC, and create a requirements definition organization template (tentative)



## **2-2.** Progress

- $\blacksquare$  Enrichment of CO<sub>2</sub> from 0.2% to 100%
- □ Selective electro-filtration of  $CO_2$  from a mixture of unreacted  $CO_2$  and  $C_2H_4$  emitted from the electrolysis reactor
- Lower voltage and larger area by improving electrodes and reactors
- Identify performance degradation factors and develop guidelines for countermeasures



Vulnorable to maisture Low



#### Diagram with the boundary

**Requirements definition table** 

Electricity

adsorbent

PSA/TSA

/heavy oil/gas

## **3-1. Future Works**

 Formulation of DAC requirements from architecture
 Continuing to search for DAC collaboration partners to formulate the requirements definition

Organic electrolyte	$\sim$ 1 V	Low voltage	durability
Bipolar electrodialysis	>1.5 V	High durability	High voltage
Aqueous electrolyte	3~4 V	Simple structure	High voltage Low durability
This Project	1.9 V (Target : 1.1 V)	Low voltage	Low durability System design freedom: wide

#### **3-2. Future Works**

Reducing the operation voltage
 Preparing the integrated system
 Enhancing the system durability

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**Organization : Osaka University / RIKEN / UBE Corporation / Furukawa Electric Co., Ltd.** / Maxell, Ltd / The University of Tokyo

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## **1.** Research Outline



#### Progress 2.

## 1) Improvement of Reaction Selectivity/Reduction of Operation Voltage

 $\pm 0$ 90  $\Box$  56% of FE (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>) was achieved at the 3.4 V of operation voltage (MEA). +1.0(%) 80 □Operation voltage of 2.8 V (@200 mA/cm<sup>2</sup>) was achieved. ※FE : faradaic efficiency +1.570 FY 2022 500 60 (%) Reaction FY 202 **60%** 400



 $CH_4$ 

CO

H<sub>2</sub>

C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>

[Review]

#### Attaining both high faradic efficiency and high stability 2)



Improvements of electrocatalysts and electrode substrate.

Design guideline was obtained through the identification of critical factors.

#### Scaling up of the reactor 4)



0

**Team-based development of** 3) industrial scale electrode



Distribution of CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> concentration between Anode and Cathode



- □ 10 cm square scale reactor was successfully developed.
- □ Key factors for the scaling up the reactor were identified.
- □ Started to study stacking. Ethylene production was confirmed.
- A skeleton model for simulating mass transfer in

#### **3.** Future Works

C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> 2.5 cm 5 cm 10 cm efficie 60 50

> 2.5 cm square x 4 stacks reactor (Ethylene production confirmed)



Reproduce the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration (reduction reaction) as you go downstream in Cathode. →Analysis of the effect of flow on reaction efficiency.



GDL

MOONSHO

50

40

30

20

Optimal flow path design for large-area cells based on flow paths and flow conditions inside the GDL.

 $\Box$  Further improvements of the performance of the CO<sub>2</sub> electrolysis reactors. Developing electrodes and reactors that satisfy all the requirements for higher FE, current density, and stability. Developing scalable MEA-based cell stacks. (MEA: membrane electrode assemblies )

# (2)

#### □ Process integration from CO<sub>2</sub> capture, through enrichment, to electrolytic reduction □ Design of a pilot-scale plant

Development of process concepts for industrialization

#### [Consideration of system integration from the early stages of R&D]

Reaction process development / Process integration (Chiyoda Corporation)

 $\Box$  Co-operative developments with the project members. Evaluation of CO<sub>2</sub> reduction catalysts.

- ① Analyze gaps between current and ideal systems
- Efficient PDCA cycle between technology and system development
- ③ Clarify directions and issues for technological development
- ④ Review of systems in response to technological developments

## 2. Progress



#### Characterization and Control of integrated systems

- LCA of the system (The University of Tokyo)
- Optimal operating conditions for each process
- **D** Developing integrated process control methods
- LCA evaluation of the entire system

## No. A-2-4E

**1.** Research Outline

## PJ: Integrated Electrochemical Systems for Scalable CO<sub>2</sub> Conversion to Chemical Feedstocks

Theme : System Integration / LCA

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Figure 4. "CO<sub>2</sub> Enrichment + CO<sub>2</sub> Electrolysis" Continuous Benchmarking Equipment  $\Box$  Lab. scale "CO<sub>2</sub> Enrichment + CO<sub>2</sub> Electrolysis" coupled operation has

been started for evaluation.(**Fig. 4**)



**Pilot Construction Pilot Demonstration**  Figure 7. LCA evaluation for electrolytic reduction process (excerpt)

□ Conduct basic study of LCA (**Fig. 7**)

➡ Study LCA for a system that reuses heat from combustion of by-products as heat for CO2 desorption from DAC

#### **3.** Future Works

 $\Box$  Verification and confirmation on a lab. scale using the "CO<sub>2</sub> Enrichment + CO<sub>2</sub> Electrolysis" continuous evaluation system (**Fig. 4**)

➡ Identification of issues / Implementation of 500 hours operation and forecast of 1000 hours operation (FY2024 target)

□ Improving the accuracy of system evaluation (LCA, etc.)

Review and optimization of systems in accordance with the progress of technological development

□ Collaboration with various agencies (continued)