

Southwest Research Institute®

CO₂ Capture and Utilization Emerging Markets and the Role of R&D

IPER 2025

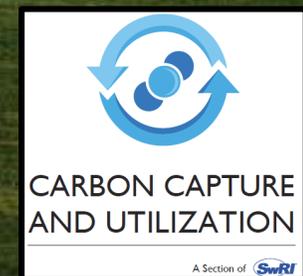
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Chemical Engineering Department

Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Division



*Benefiting government, industry and the public
through innovative science and technology*

Overview



CARBON CAPTURE
AND UTILIZATION

A Section of 

- SwRI CED / CCU-PD Overview
- Market Trends for CC Tech
- Market Trends for CU Tech
- New Tech examples
 - SwRI
 - External
- Role of R&D
- Closing comments

SwRI® Technical Expertise

- Applied Physics
- Applied Power
- **Chemistry and Chemical Engineering**
- Defense and Intelligence Solutions
- Fuels and Lubricants Research
- Intelligent Systems
- Mechanical Engineering
- Powertrain Engineering
- Space Science
- Space Systems
- Solar Systems Science

“Deep Sea to Deep Space”
And Everything Between



Energy



Cyclone Forecasting



Homeland Security,
Defense, and
Intelligence



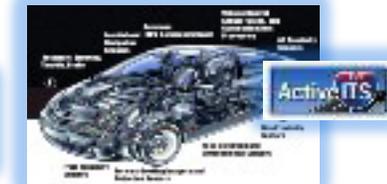
Robotics,
Automation,
and
Simulations



Drug Discovery



Regenerative
Medicine



Infrastructure
Communications



Alvin Deep Diving
Submersible



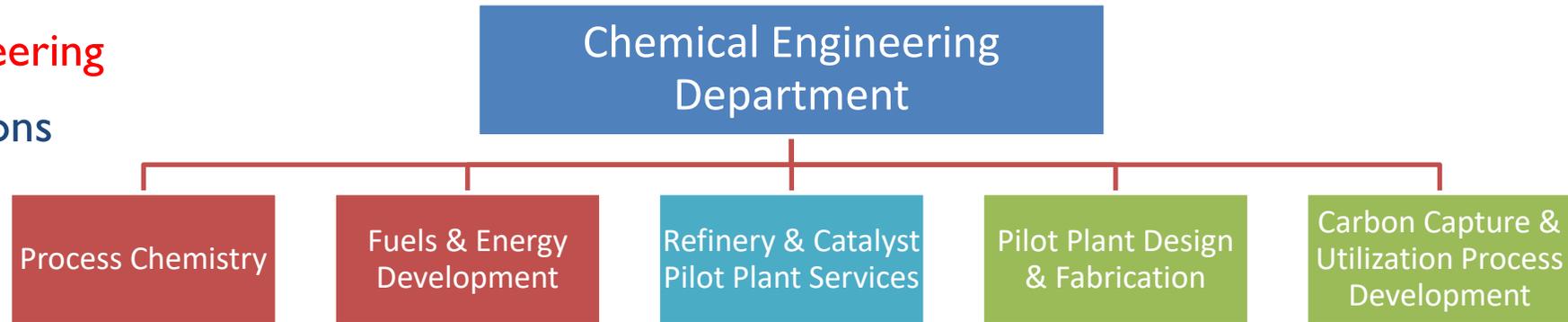
Water and
Geological



Engine Design and
Optimization

SwRI® Technical Expertise

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- Space Science
- Space Systems
- Solar Systems Science



Carbon Capture and Utilization Process Development (CCU-PD)

CO₂ Capture

Point Source Capture – Pilot Units

- CO₂ to Carbonates
- CO₂ flue gas separation

Lab Testing

- VLE Testing Capabilities
- Absorption/Desorption Kinetics
- Sparger Design
- Analytical Characterization

Engineering Services

- TEA of value-added product streams
- Pilot to Demonstration scale testing



CO₂ Market

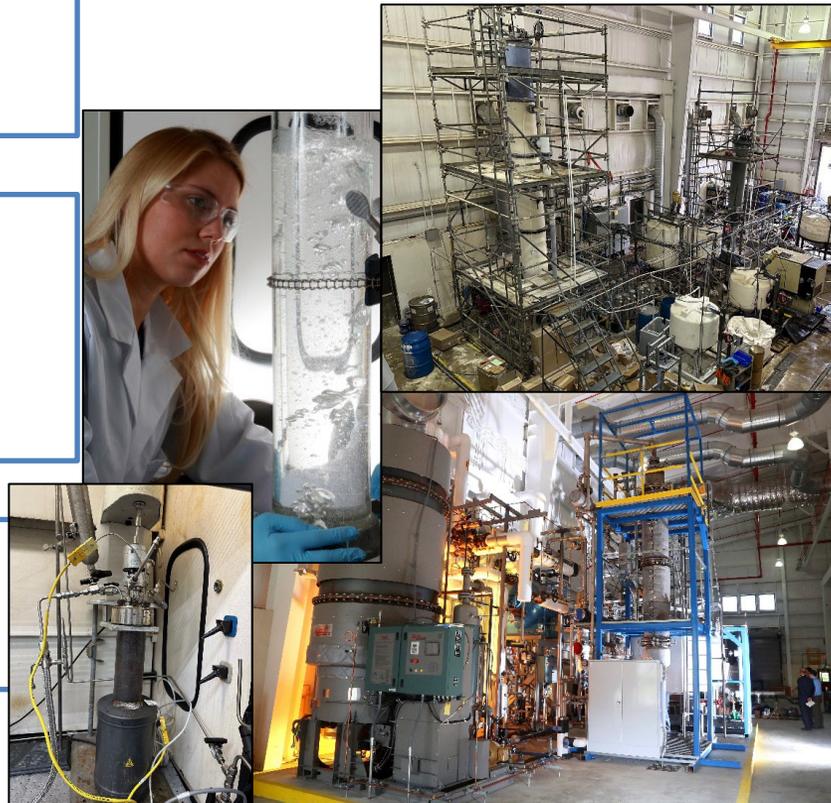
CO₂ Utilization

CO₂ Market Areas

- CO₂ to Fuels (RWG/FTS)
 - Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)
- CO₂ to Chemicals
 - Methanol, olefins, aromatics
- CO₂ to Polymers
 - Plastics, foams, resins

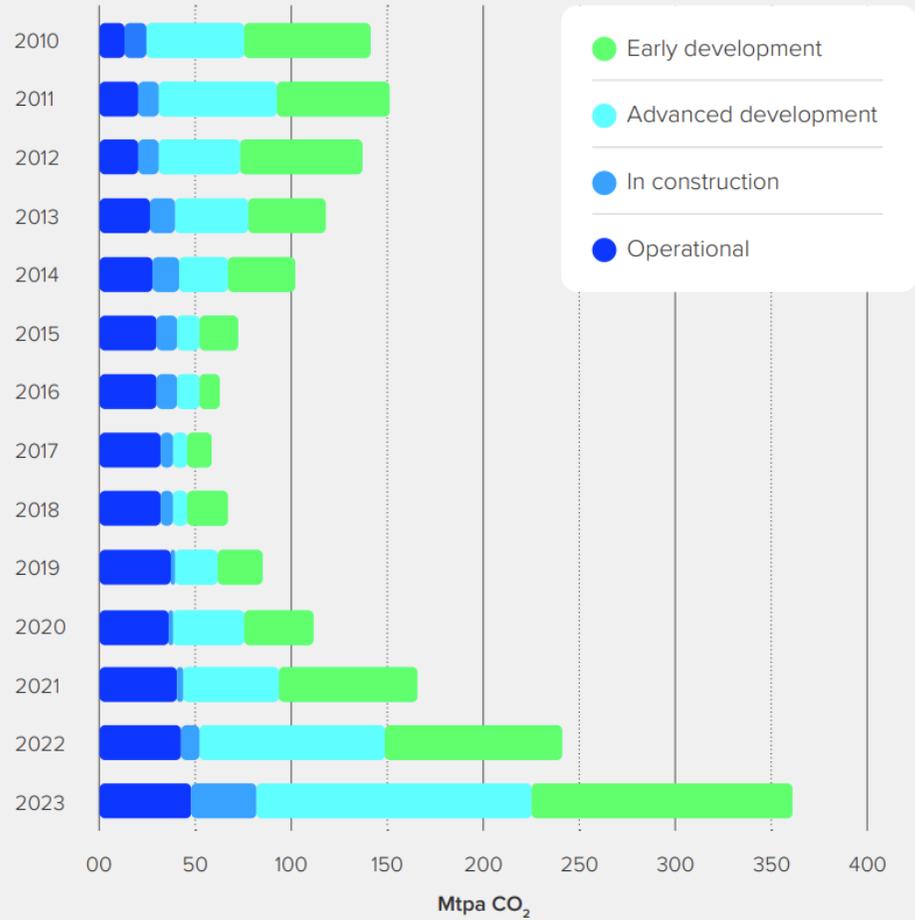
CO₂ to Value-Added Products

- Consider CO₂ as valuable starting material for new and emerging markets
- Support R&D and new technology development such as graphene generation

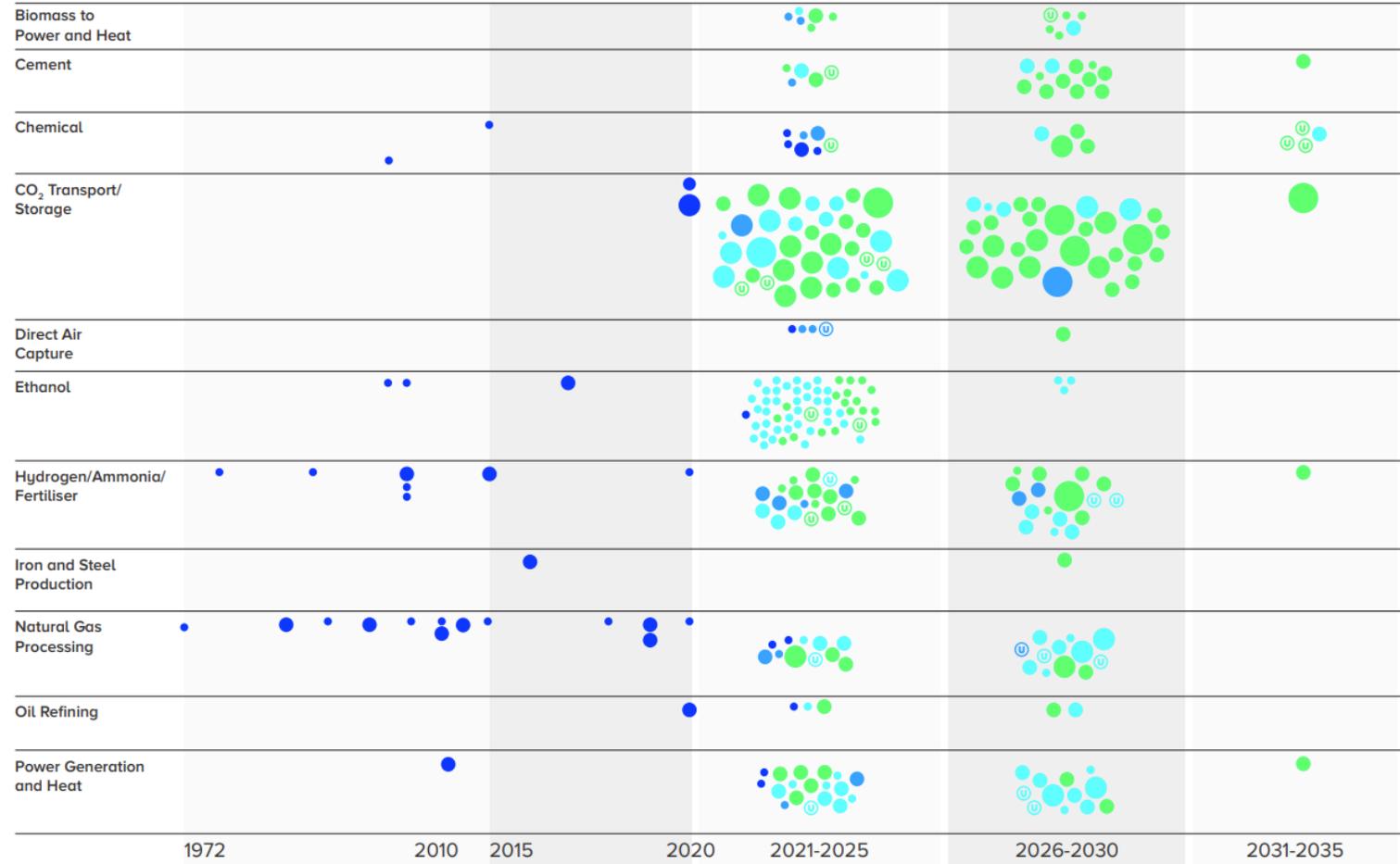


Global CCUS Trends

Figure 3.1-1: Capacity of commercial facility pipeline since 2010

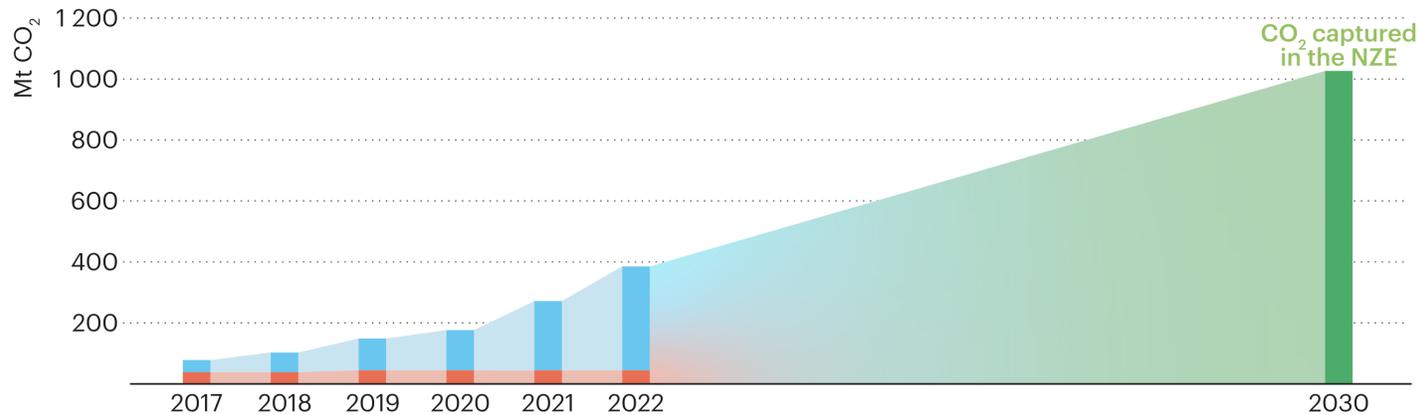


[Global-Status-of-CCS-Report-1.pdf \(globalccsinstitute.com\)](https://www.globalccsinstitute.com/reports/global-status-of-ccs-report-1/)

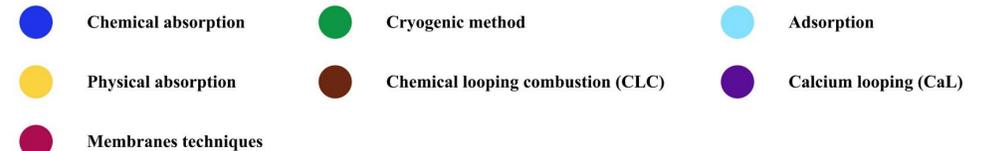
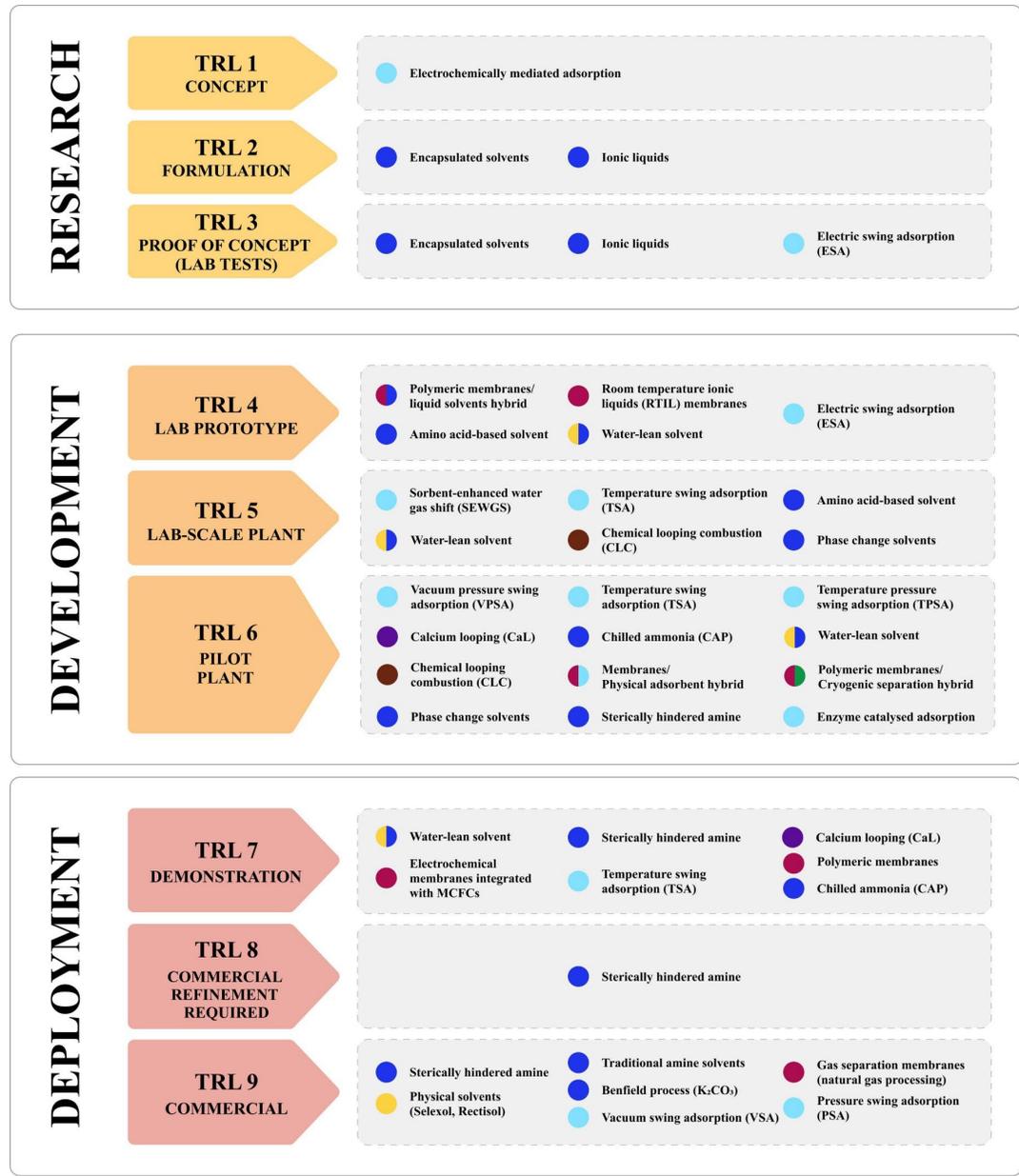


CO₂ Capture

- Commercialized technology [TRL 7-9]
 - Amines, PSA, VSA
- Room for improvements [TRL 1-6]
 - Absorption capacity
 - Selectivity
 - Energy reduction



CCUS – Analysis - IEA



CO₂ Capture – Deployment

Technology	Advantages	Disadvantages
Amines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High absorption efficiency (>90%) • Regenerative sorbents • Mature Process • Designer amines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absorption dependent on CO₂ concentration (partial pressure) • Regeneration requires large amounts of thermal energy • Sorbet degradation (environmental) • Solvent loss • Selectivity • Requires feed gas cooling
PSA/VSA/TSA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High selectivity (PSA at higher pressures) • High purity (99%) and high recover (>90%) • VSA – lower pressure operation, humid environments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires pure flue gas (remove H₂O, NO_x, SO_x) • Regeneration cycles • Sorbent loading (size of equipment) • Sorbent material degradation
Calcium Looping -CFB, Carbonator and Calciner -CaO + CO ₂ ↔ CaCO ₃ Carbonation: 550-700C Calcination: 800-950C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can handle high temperature feed gases • Regenerative sorbents • Can handle impurities (CO, H₂, CH₄) • High capture efficiencies (>90%) at low partial pressures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires high energy for calcination • Reaction efficiency can become mass transfer limited • Deactivation over time



Air Liquide/BASF [85 units], 150-5000 tpd



Linde/Honeywell/Air Liquide [1150 units], 10-5000 tpd

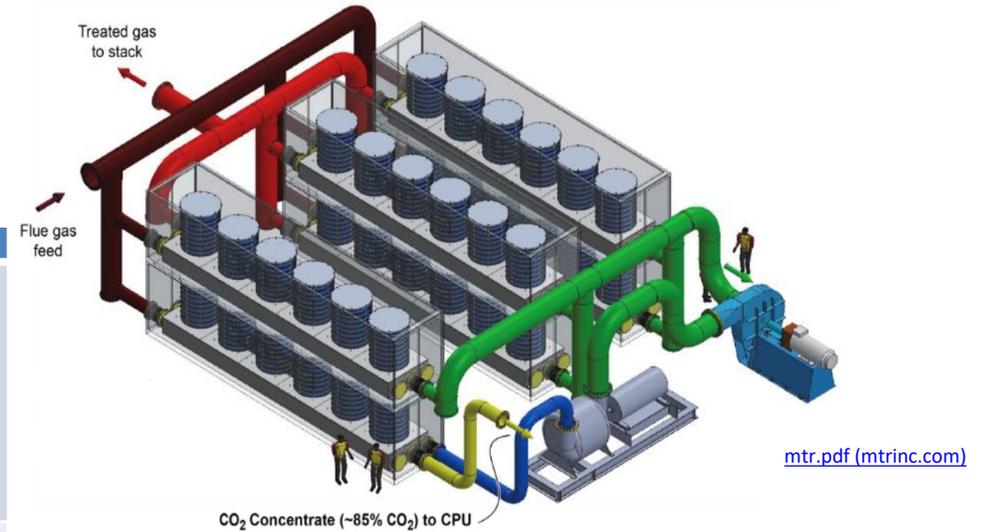


Sumitomo, >50 tpd
Tecnicas Refundias (V-CAL)
8-Rivers (Calcite)

Calcium Looping 17 MW demo plant completed in La Pereda, Spain. The pilot plant was commissioned in 2012 with demonstrated capture efficiency of over 90%

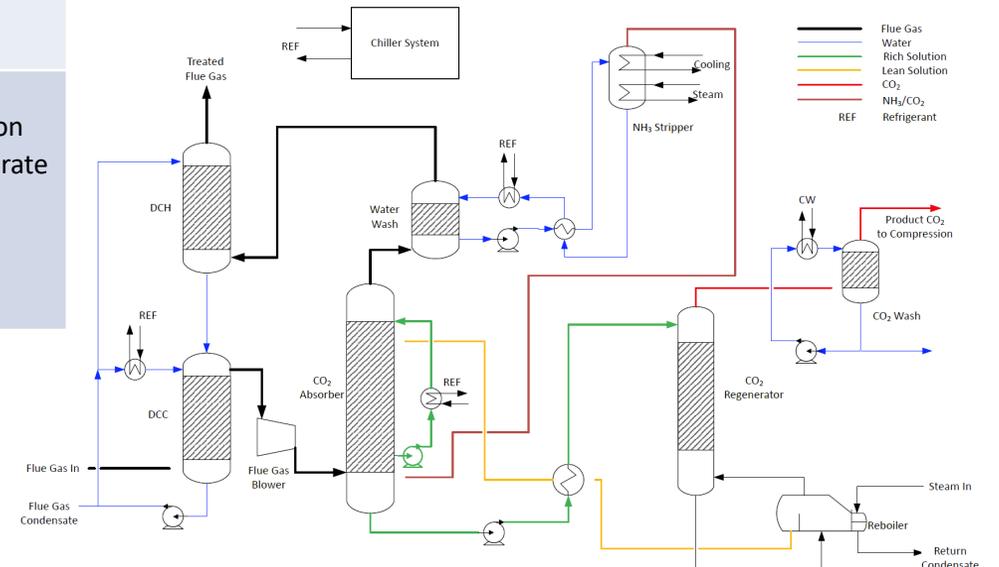
CO₂ Capture - Development

Technology	Advantages	Disadvantages
Polymeric Membranes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solution-diffusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polyethylene Oxide (PEO), • Perfluoro • Thermally rearranged (TR) • Facilitated Transport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amine based 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smaller footprint • Reduced energy • No phase transformation • Reduced operating cost (simple system) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permeability and selectivity trade-off • PEO – crystallinity/film-forming • Relatively low temperature
Ceramic Membranes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Products/DOE • SwRI-Li₂ZrO₃ based 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thermal stability • Mechanical stability • Small footprint • Elevated temperature operation • Reduced operating cost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production cost • Seals/leakage
Chilled Ammonia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baker Hughes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absorption at high loading (1.0 mol-CO₂/mol-NH₃ – MEA is 0.5 mol) • Low corrosion • Low degradation • Easy regeneration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ammonia escape • Secondary pollution • Lower absorption rate



200 tpd pilot - Polaris Membrane - 10x CO₂ permeance, 10x size reduction

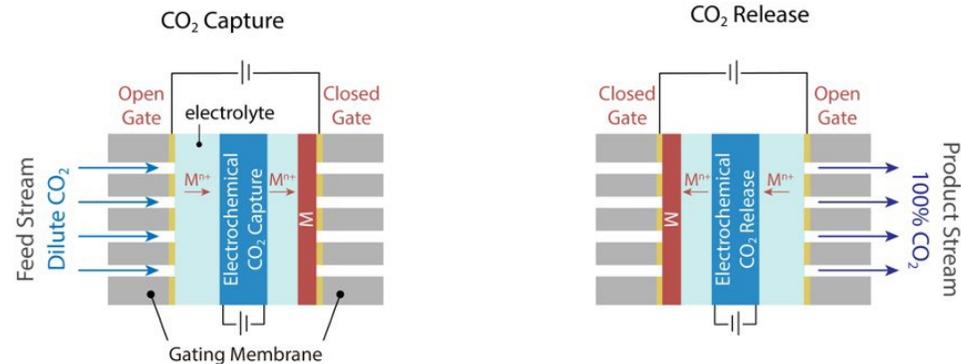
Baker Hughes, Chilled Ammonia Process



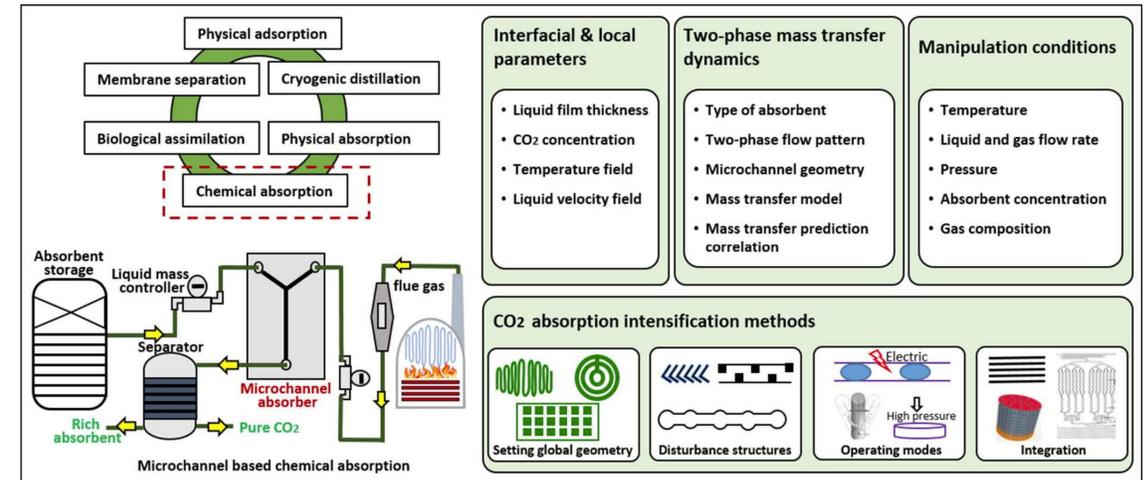
CO₂ Capture - Research

Technology	Advantages	Disadvantages
Ionic Liquids <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Room temperature molten salts composed of cations and anions Supported Ionic Liquids (SILs) Encapsulated solvents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low volatility High tunability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in viscosity after CO₂ capture High cost
Electroswing Adsorption (ESA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flow gas Activate electrodes Capture CO₂ Deactivate electrodes Release CO₂ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced energy consumption (electrical versus thermal) Reduced overall cost Reduced footprint 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires "Green" grid Requires conductive adsorbents Requires even heating Requires significant time to cool (Heating is ~1.5% of cycle time)

Electroswing Adsorption



Microfluidics for CO₂ Absorption/Conversion



Protic Ionic Liquid (PILs)

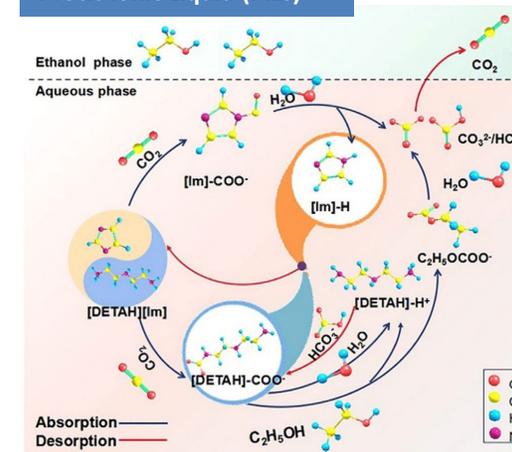
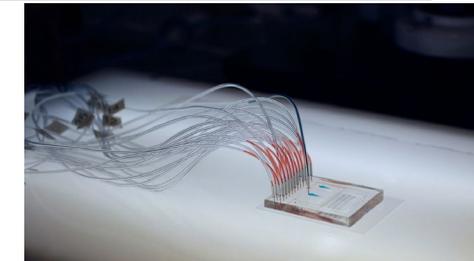


Fig. 3.6. The mechanism of CO₂ capture into [DETAH][Im]-EtOH-H₂O (Lü B, 2021). (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ccst.2023.100178>.



CO₂ Capture – DAC (In Between)

- DAC Systems
 - Multi-technology
 - Adsorption, absorption
 - Liquid, solid media
 - Low CO₂ concentration
 - Typically, in dry environments
- Challenges:
 - Cost
 - Size required, first of kind units
 - End use of CO₂
 - On site usage
 - Pipeline to EOR / sequestration



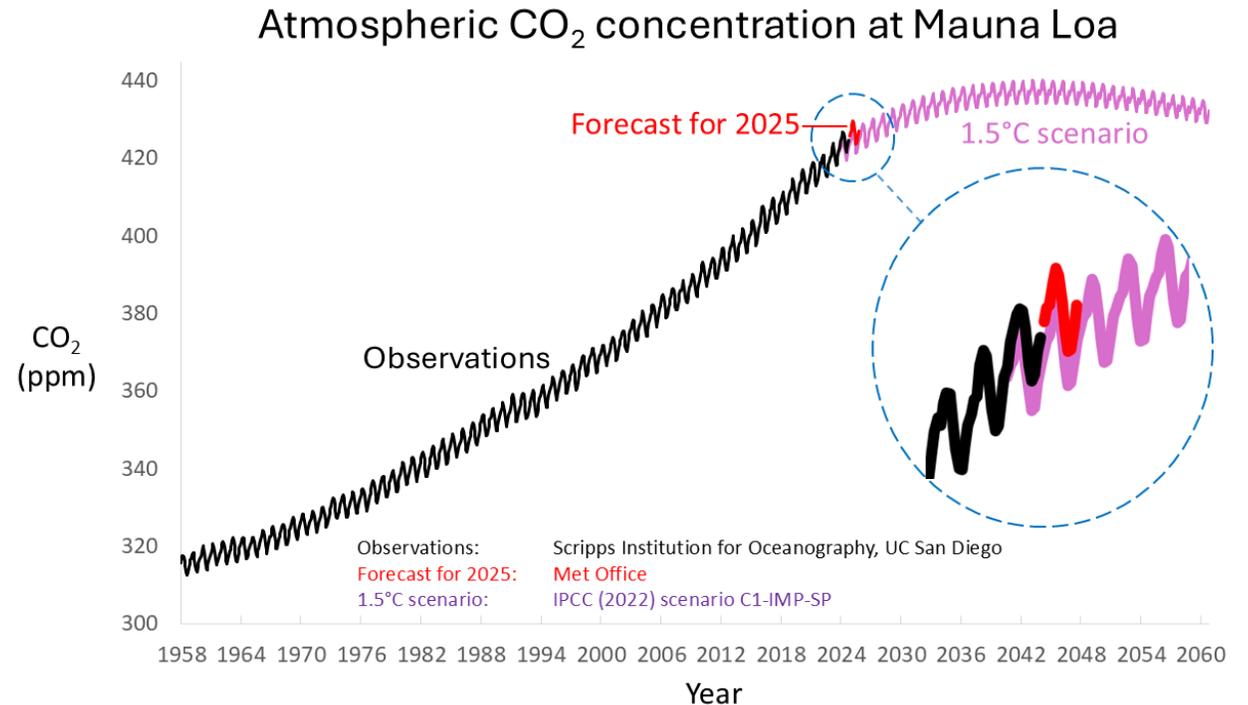
Climeworks – Mammoth, Iceland: 36,000 tons/yr



1Pointfive (CarbonEngineering/Oxy) – STRATOS, West Texas: 500,000 tons/yr

CO₂ Capture R&D Drivers

- Optimize solvent/column technology
 - Increase absorption capacity
 - Reduce regeneration energy
 - Increase lifetime
 - →Reduce opex
- Reduce capex
 - Smaller footprint
 - Reduced size
- New Tech Development
 - Innovation



[Mauna Loa carbon dioxide forecast for 2025 - Met Office](#)

CO₂ Transport (pipelines)

- US:
 - 5000 miles of CO₂ pipeline
 - 260,000 hazardous liquid pipeline
 - 3-million natural gas pipeline

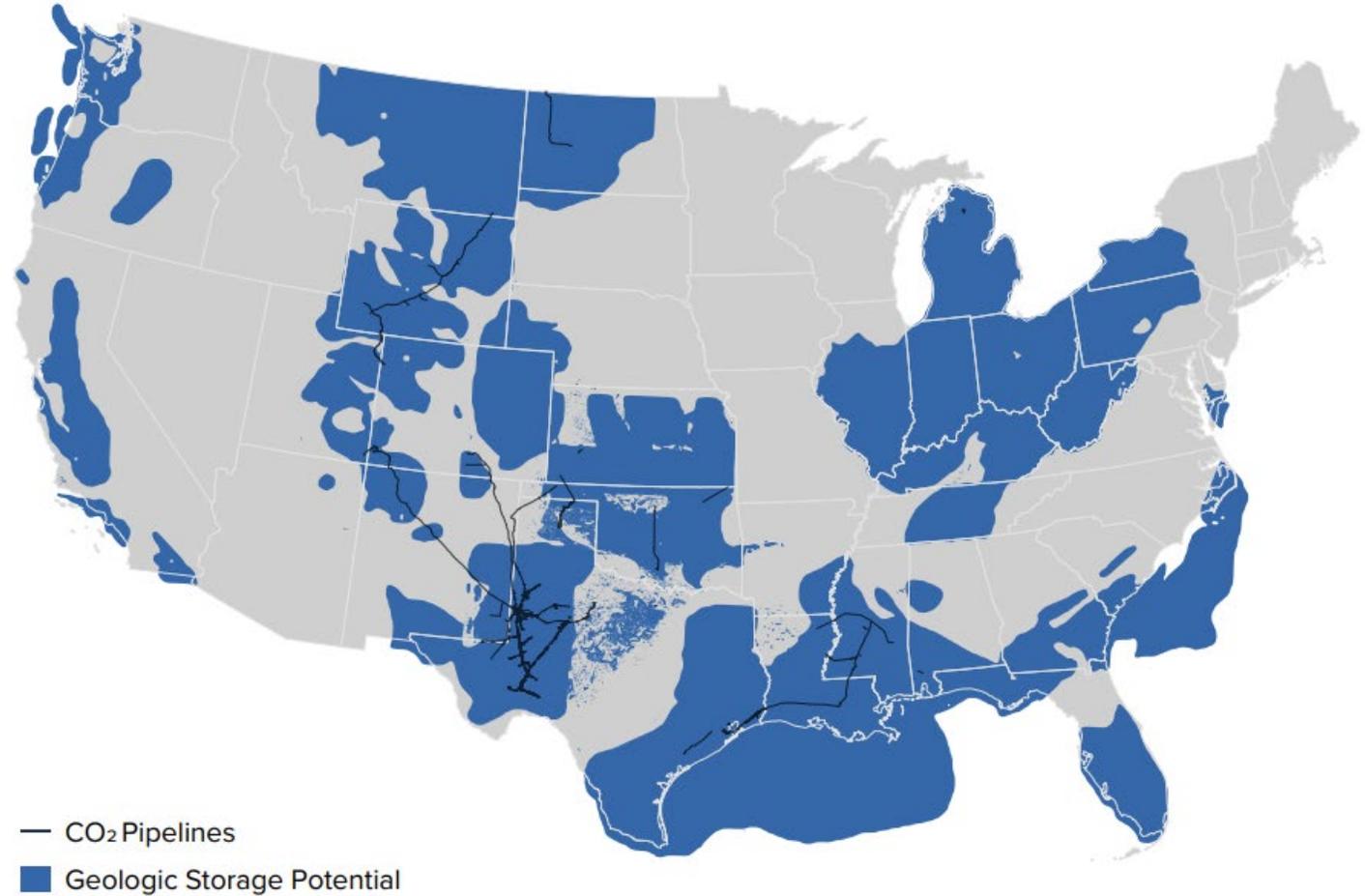


Figure 4. CO₂ pipelines and geologic storage potential in the US. (Storage regions from the National Carbon Sequestration Database and Geographic Information System, NATCARB. Figure courtesy of the Great Plains Institute.)

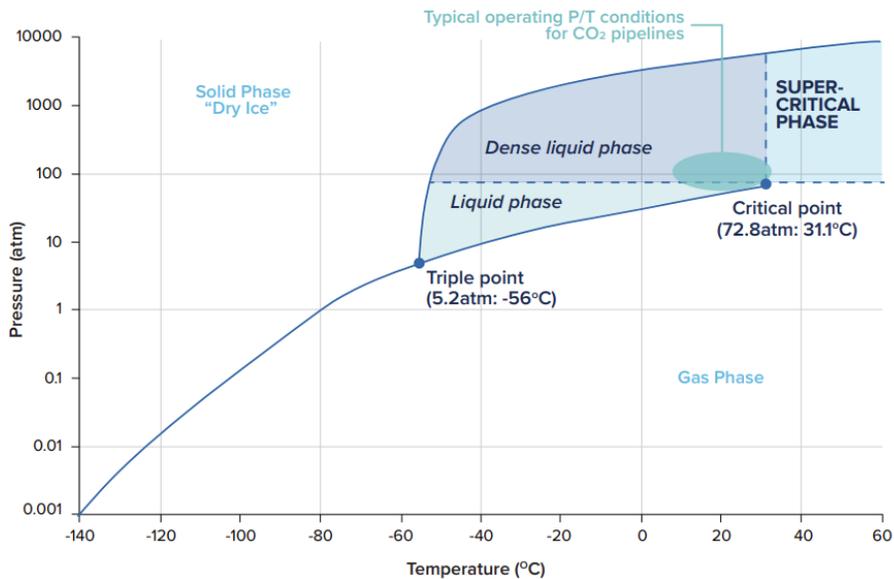
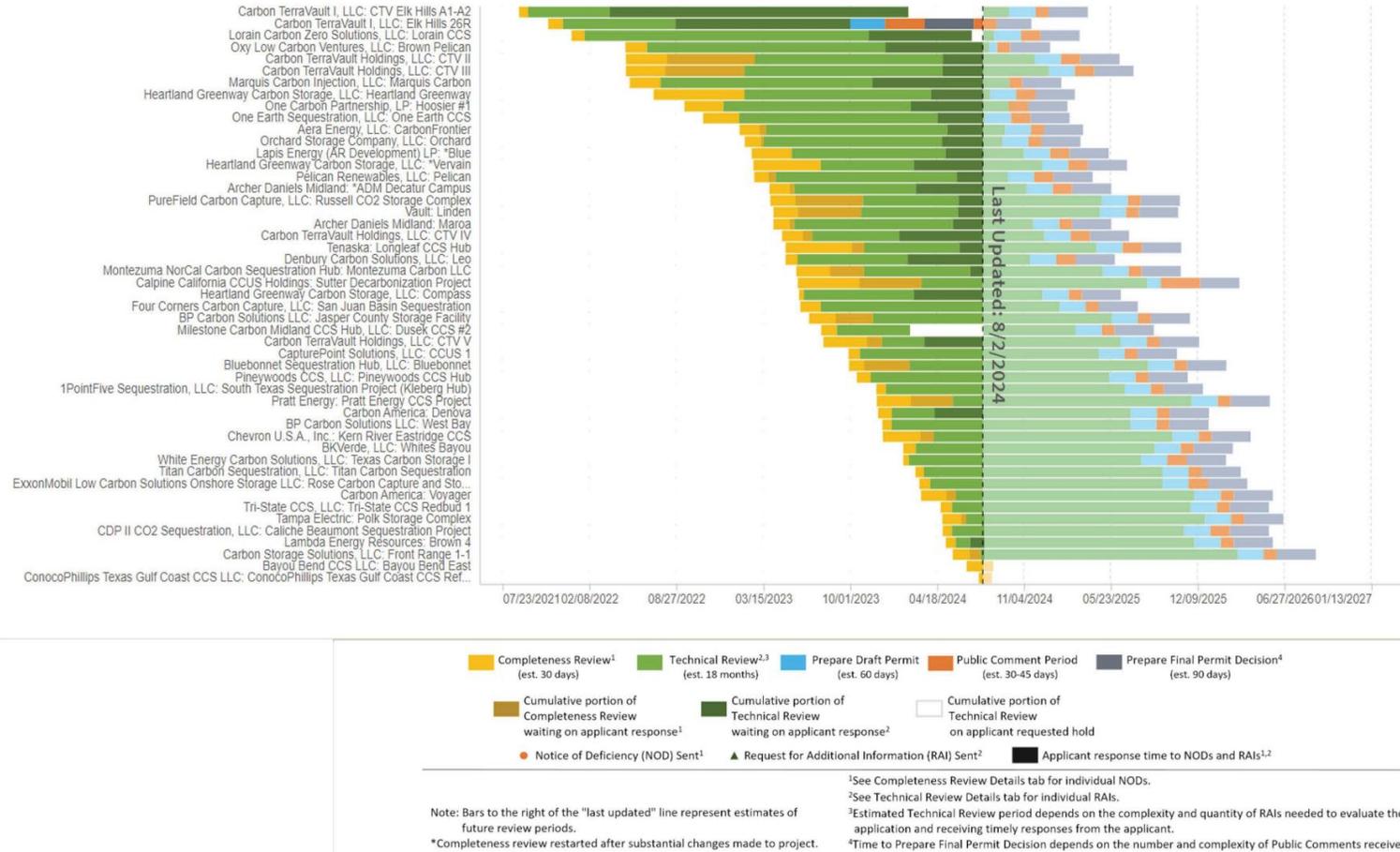


Figure 6. Carbon dioxide phase diagram (after Mazzoldi et al., 2008). Dense phase CO₂ includes both dense liquid phase CO₂ and supercritical CO₂. CO₂ is typically transported in its dense liquid phase (circled region in the figure).

CO₂ Sequestration

UIC Class VI Permit Tracker

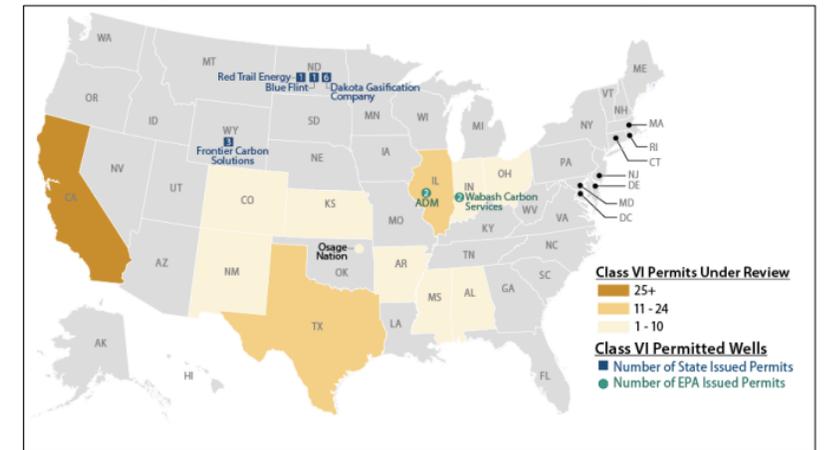


[Current Class VI Projects under Review at EPA | US EPA](#)



- EPA: 8-permits (Illinois/Indiana)
- Primacy States:
 - North Dakota: 8
 - Wyoming: 3
 - Louisiana: 0
- 130+ EPA permits pending

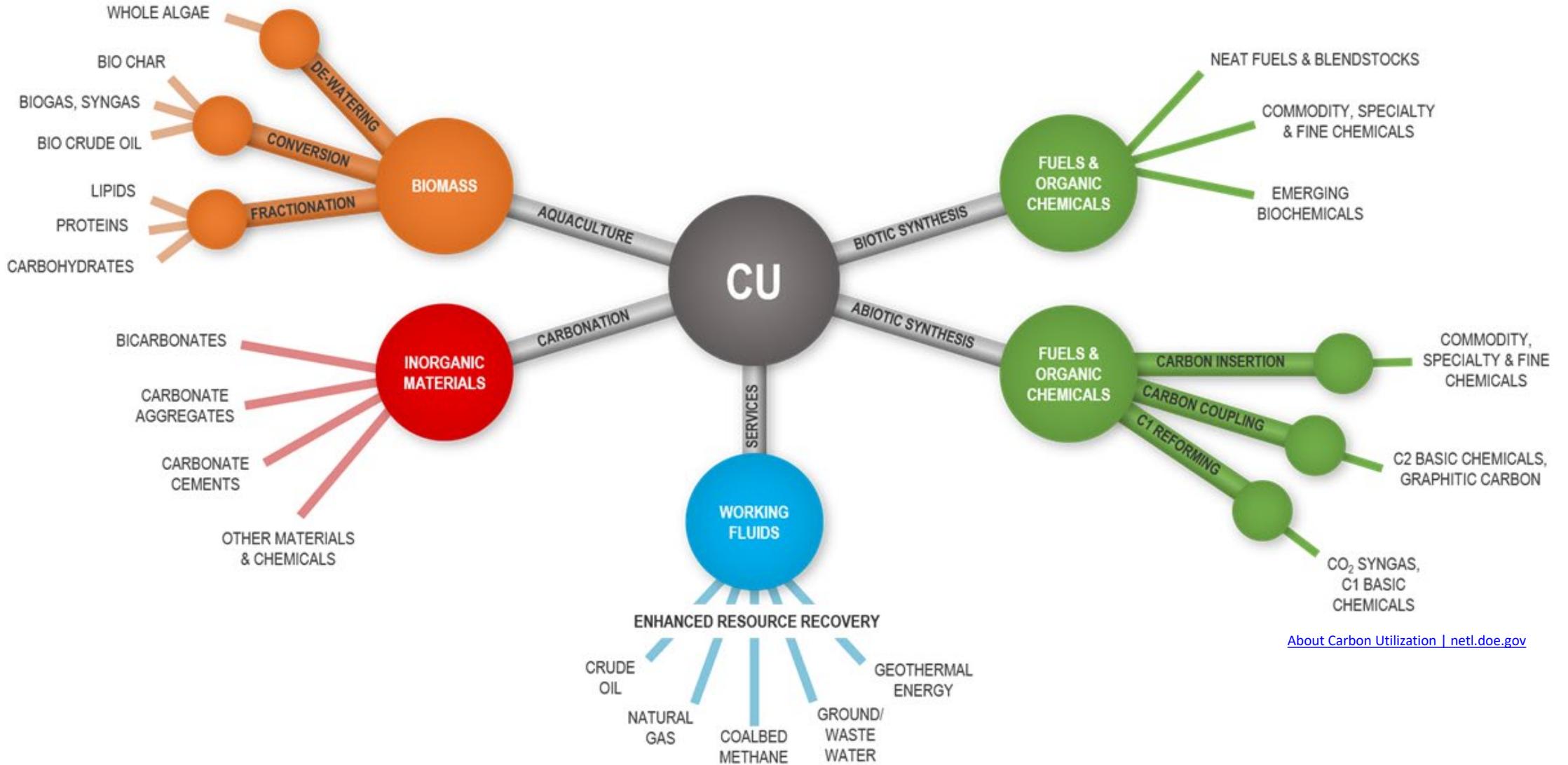
Figure 1. Class VI Permits Issued and Under Review by EPA



Source: CRS graphic based on U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "Current Class VI Projects Under Review at EPA," accessed on April 1, 2024, <https://www.epa.gov/uic/current-class-vi-projects-under-review-epa>.

Note: Figure includes permits under review by EPA as of April 1, 2024. Figure does not include permits that may be under review by states with UIC Class VI program primacy, as these are managed by individual states rather than EPA.

CO₂ Utilization

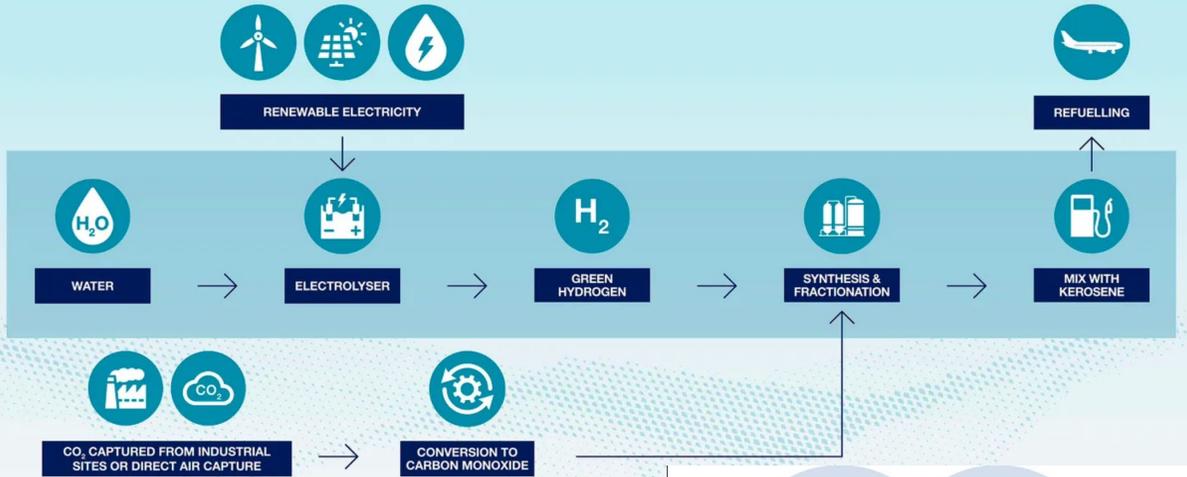


[About Carbon Utilization | netl.doe.gov](http://netl.doe.gov)

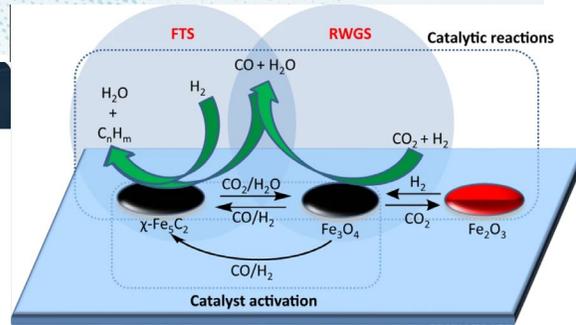
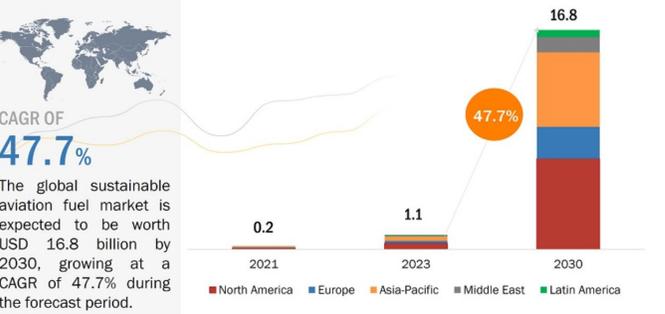
CO₂ Utilization - Fuels

Power-to-Liquids for aviation

PtL is a type of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) that is composed of synthetically produced liquid hydrocarbons.



SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL MARKET GLOBAL FORECAST TO 2030



2 – 100 mL reactors

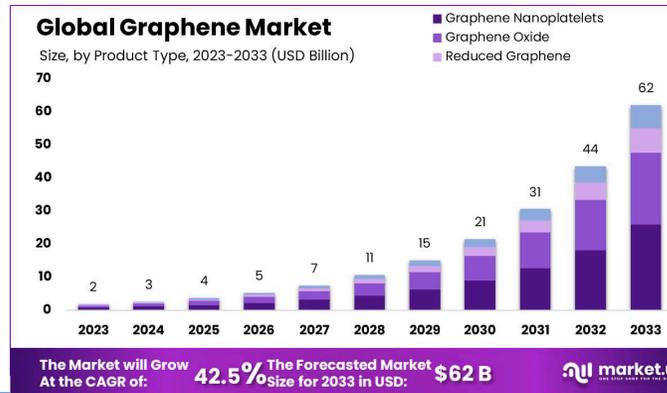
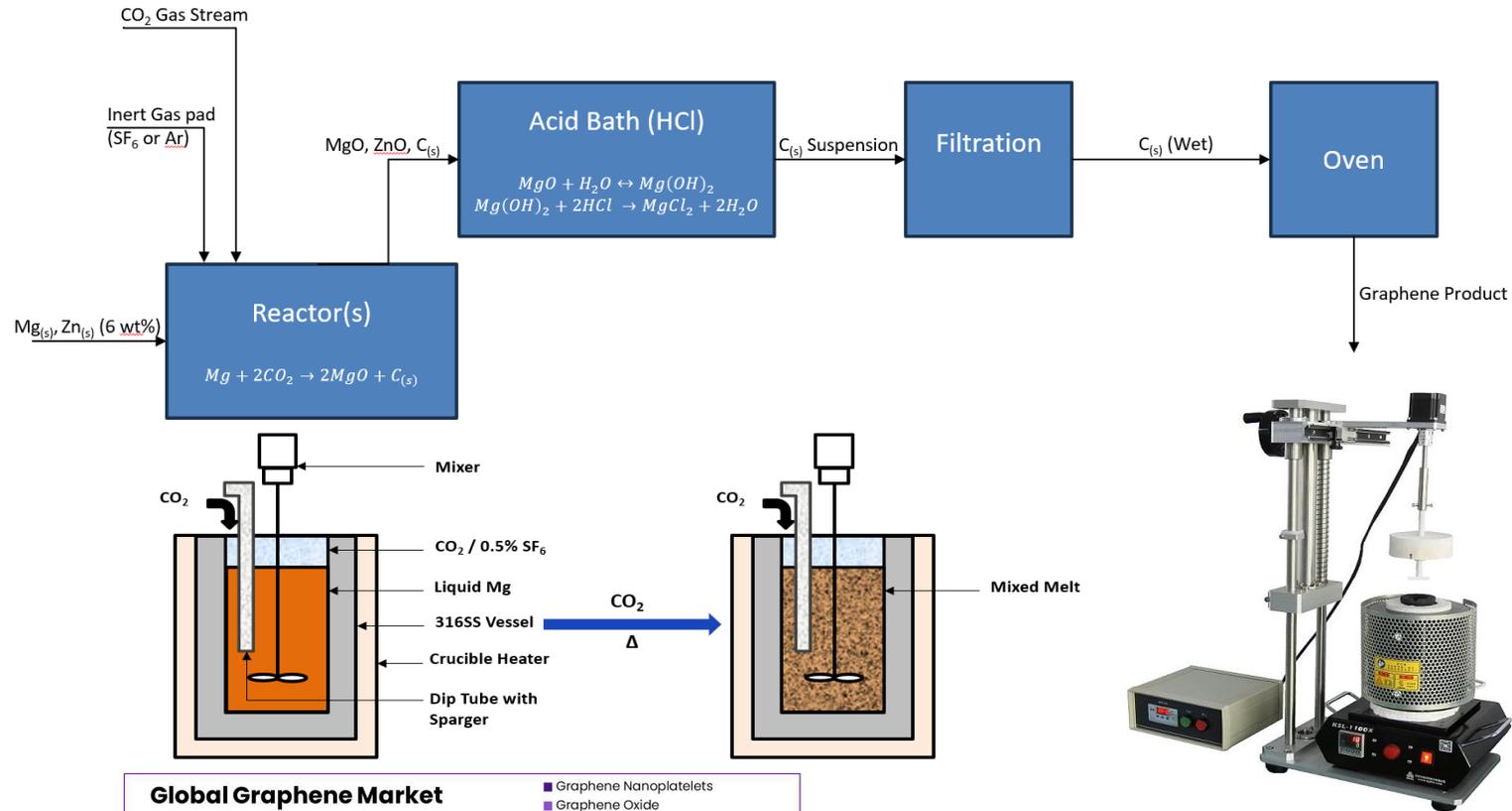
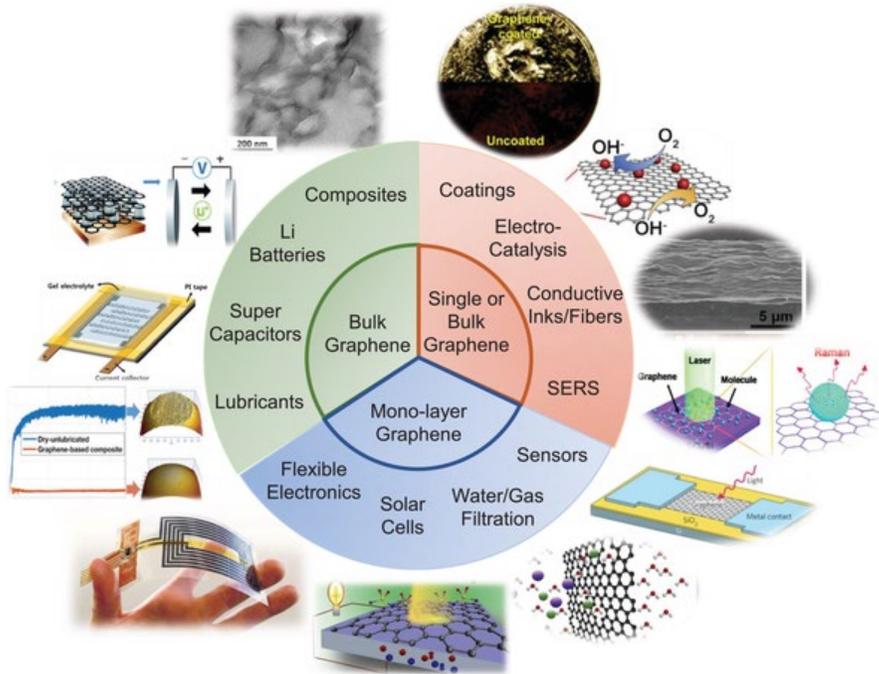


20L, 7L, & 3L reactors



CO₂ Utilization – Novel Markets

- CO₂ to Graphene
 - SwRI IRD - Magnesiothermic Reduction

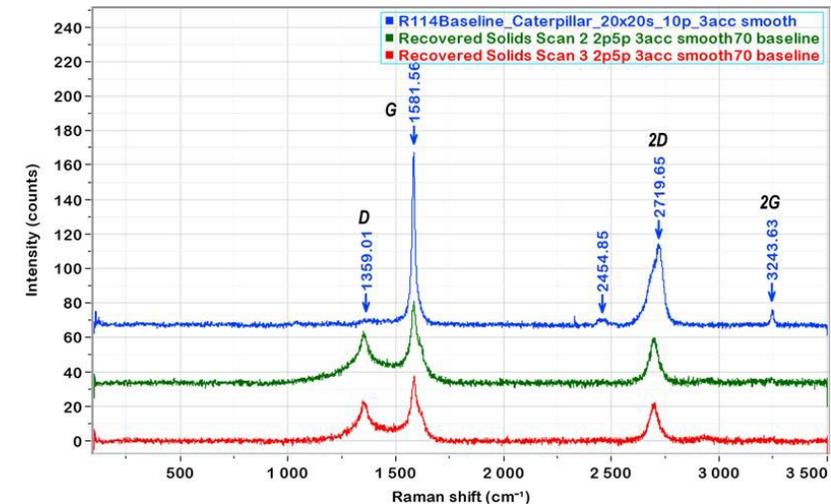
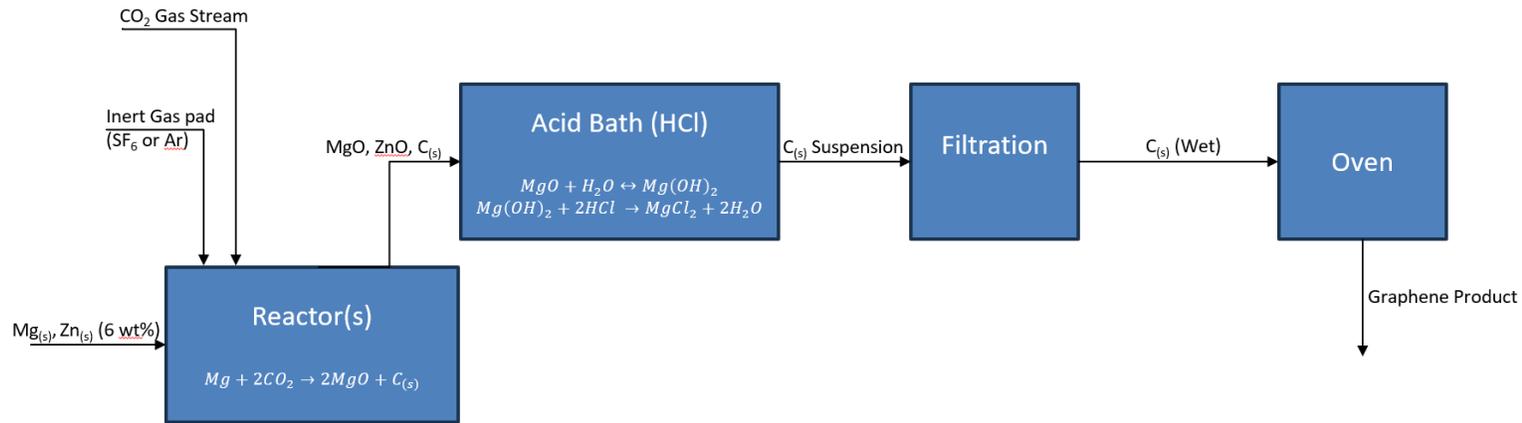


Kevin Wyss, D. X. (2022). Large-Scale Syntheses of 2-D Materials: Flash Joule Heating and Other Methods. *Advanced Materials*, 34

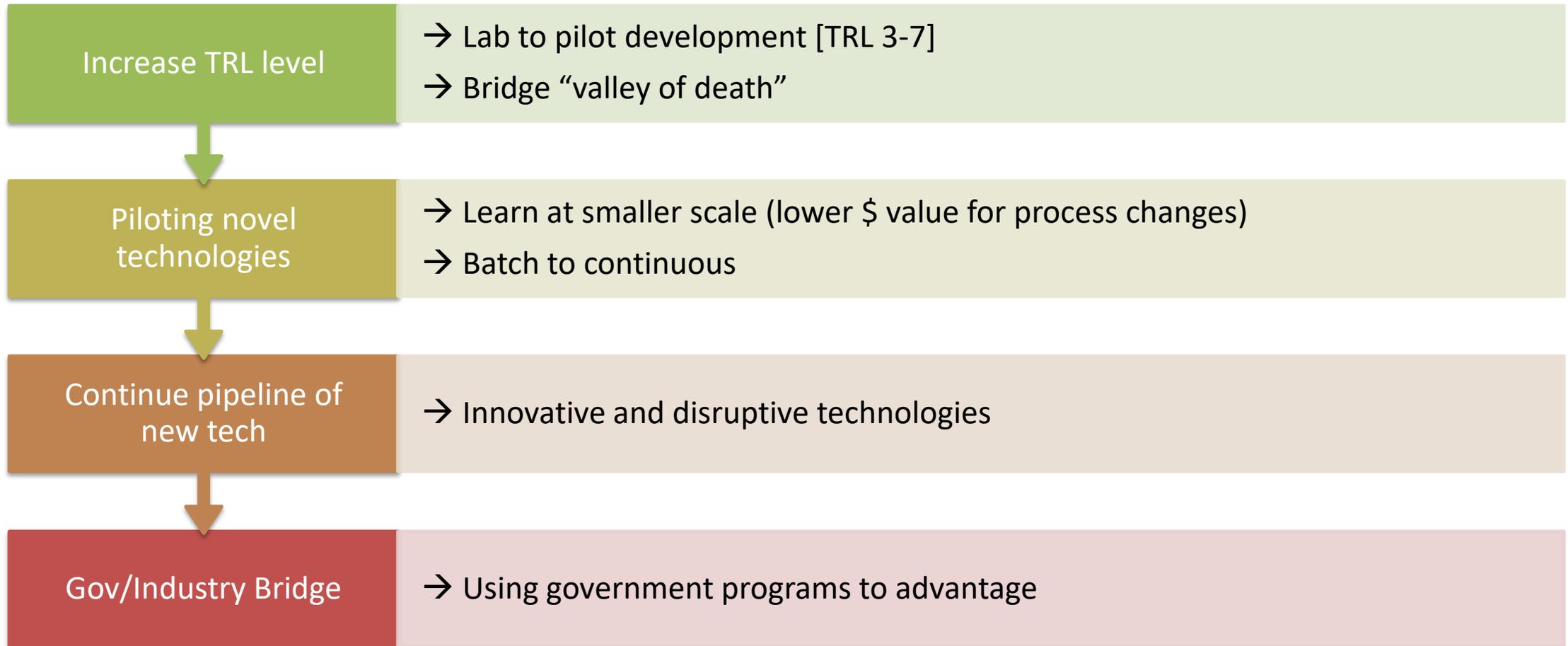


CO₂ Utilization – Novel Markets

- CO₂ to Graphene
 - SwRI IRD - Magnesiothermic Reduction
- Results so far
 - Increased yield
 - Increased dispersion
- Next steps
 - Complete test matrix
 - Higher conversion
 - Increased quality
 - Perform TEA for larger system
 - Scaleup (g → kg scale)



Role of R&D



Closing

- CO₂ is an emerging market
 - CO₂ utilization has historically had minimal growth (demand constant)
 - See increase with CO₂ availability in market
- CO₂ capture is “Standardizing”
 - General tech is simple/mass produceable
- Role of government
 - Important but less reliant
- Role of R&D
 - Key to innovation and improvements
 - Identifying new market areas
 - Reduced cost of learning mistakes (\$)

Thank you

Michael Hartmann – Manager-R&D
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CARBON CAPTURE
AND UTILIZATION

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