

# **CORE Technology Developments at Argonne**

*By  
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## **Argonne National Laboratory**



*A U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Science Laboratory  
Operated by The University of Chicago*



# Scope

- **Investigate Bipolar Plate Interactions with Cathode Materials**
- **Develop new Diesel Reforming Catalysts**



# *Why do we need new Diesel reforming catalysts?*

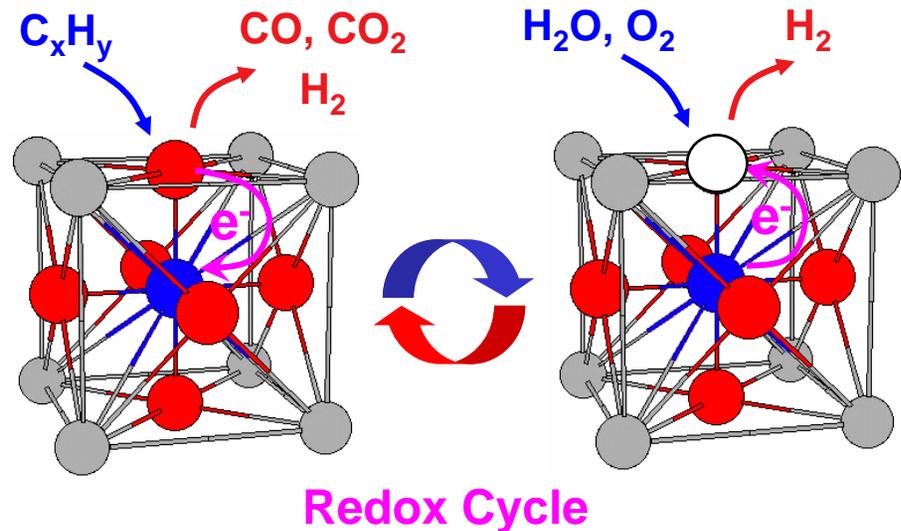
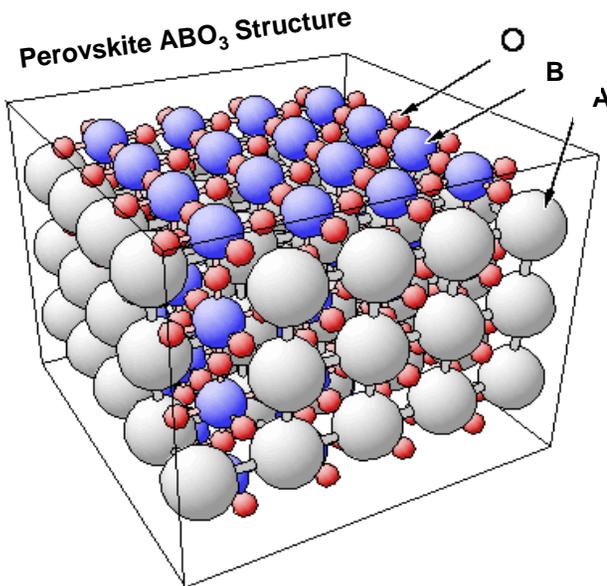
- **Nickel on alumina and Rhodium on oxide support evaporate and consolidate**
- **Nickel, and to a lesser extent, Rhodium adsorb sulfur compounds and deactivate**
- **Poly-aromatic compounds in Diesel react more slowly and block the catalytic sites**



# Approach

- **The Perovskite Matrix...**

- Does not adsorb sulfur compounds.
- Is stable under high temperature & redox environment.
- Can exchangeable *A* & *B* site elements



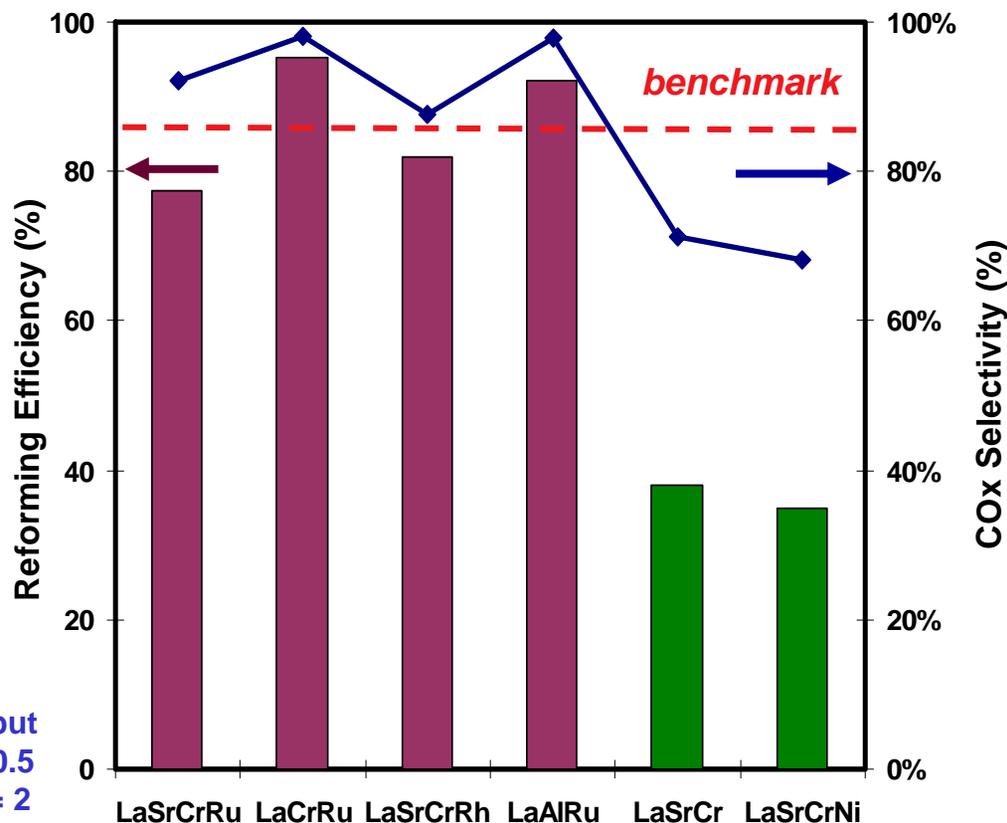
Conductivities of both  $e^-$  and  $V_O^{\bullet\bullet}$  of perovskite expand the catalytic active site through electron and oxygen vacancy transfers in a redox process.

## B-site doping of LaCrO<sub>3</sub> creates effective catalysts

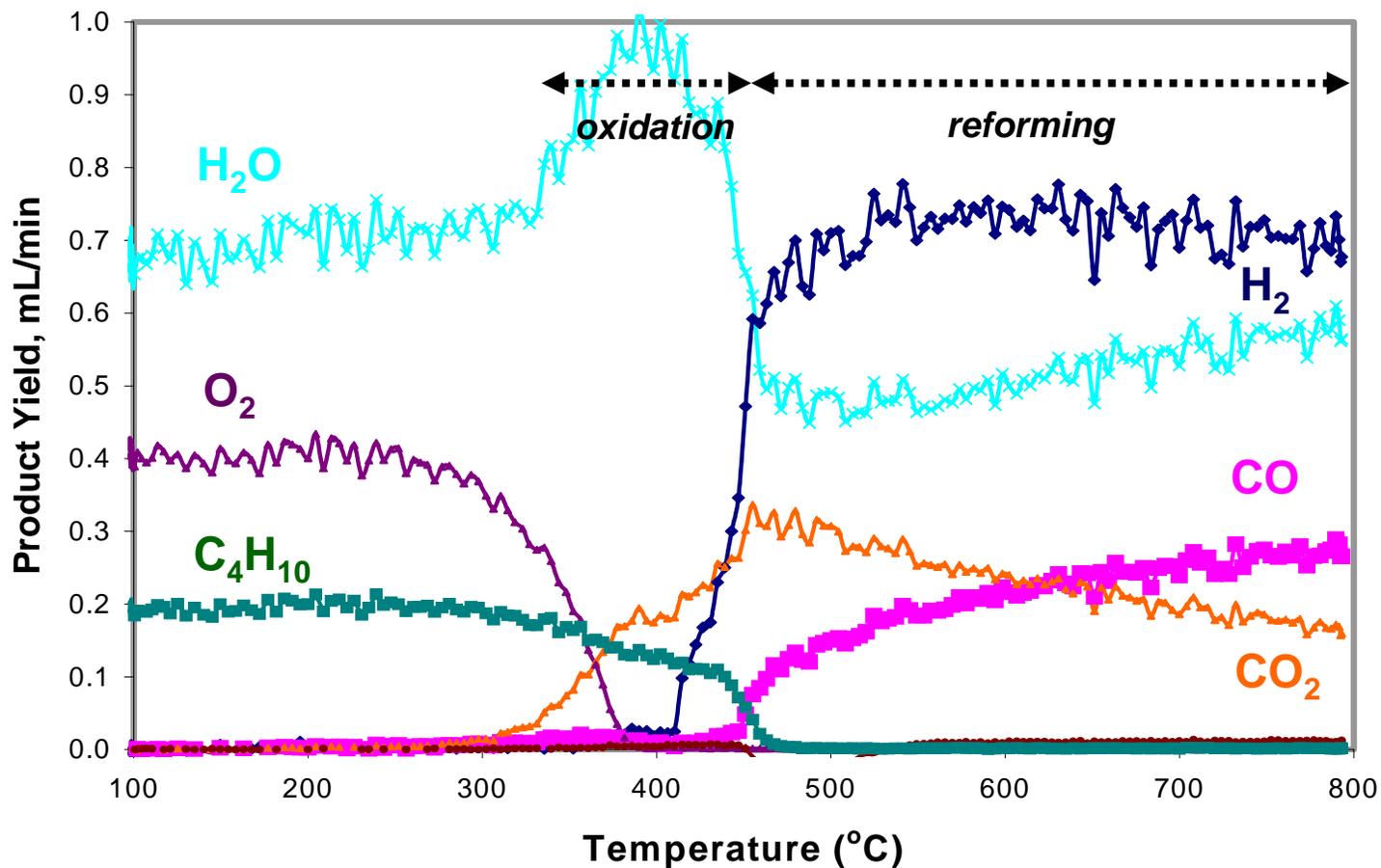
- Exchanging B site with 5% Ru or Rh significantly improves reforming efficiency and COx selectivity.
- New perovskites approach or exceed supported Rh in catalytic activity.

ATR input  
 $O_2/C = 0.5$   
 $H_2O/C = 2$

Comparison of B-site dope vs. non-doped perovskites



# Temperature programmed reforming on a LaSrCrRu catalyst

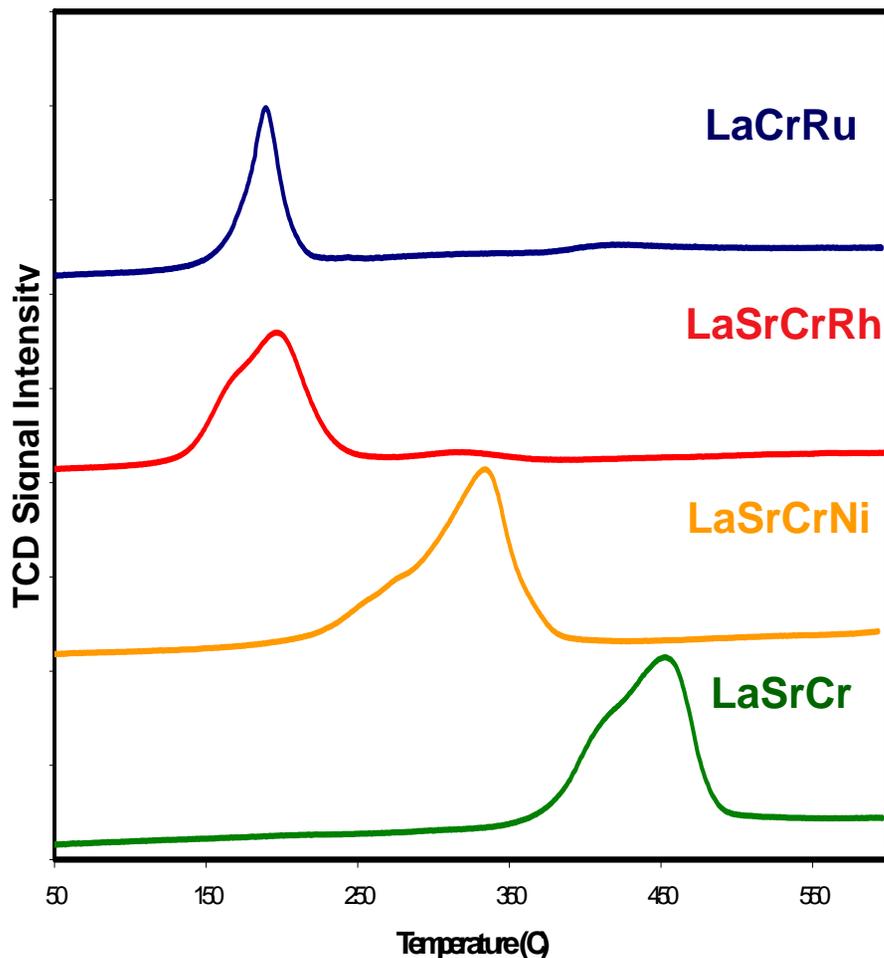


Ru doped perovskites demonstrate low light-off temperature for hydrogen production

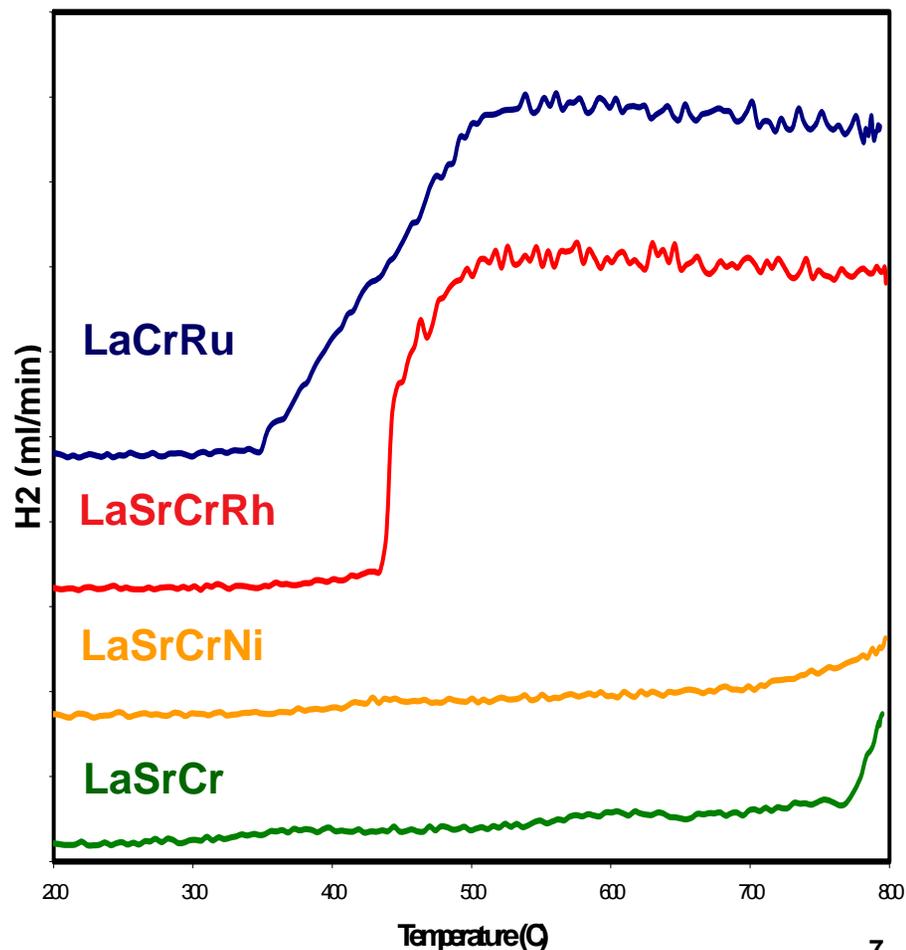


# TPR and light-off studies suggest dopant reduction as key step in redox process

$H_2$ -TPR study revealed lower reduction temperature for PM doped perovskites....



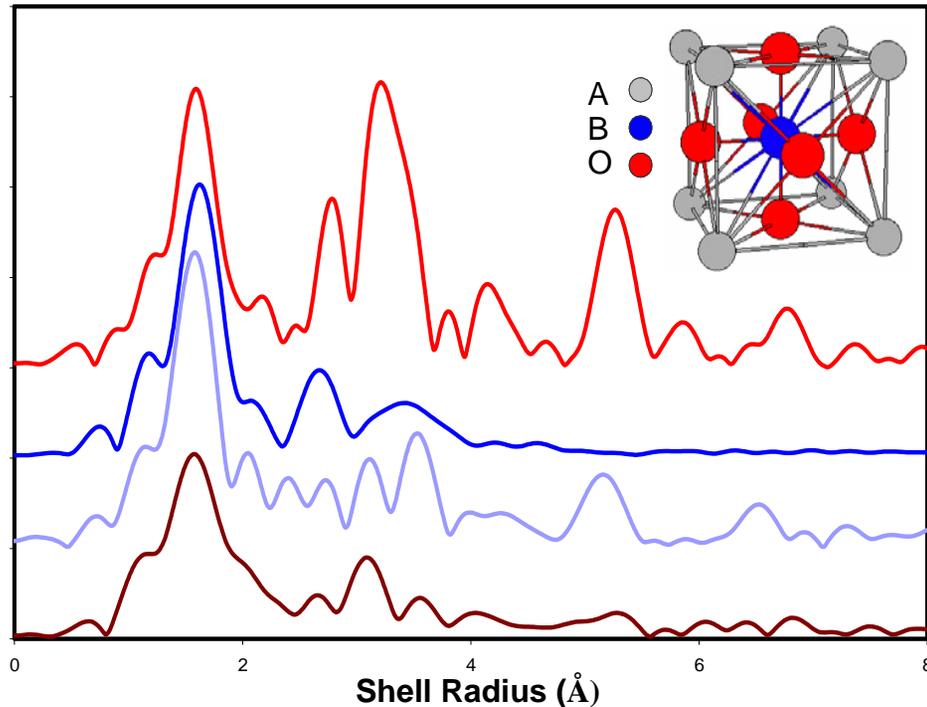
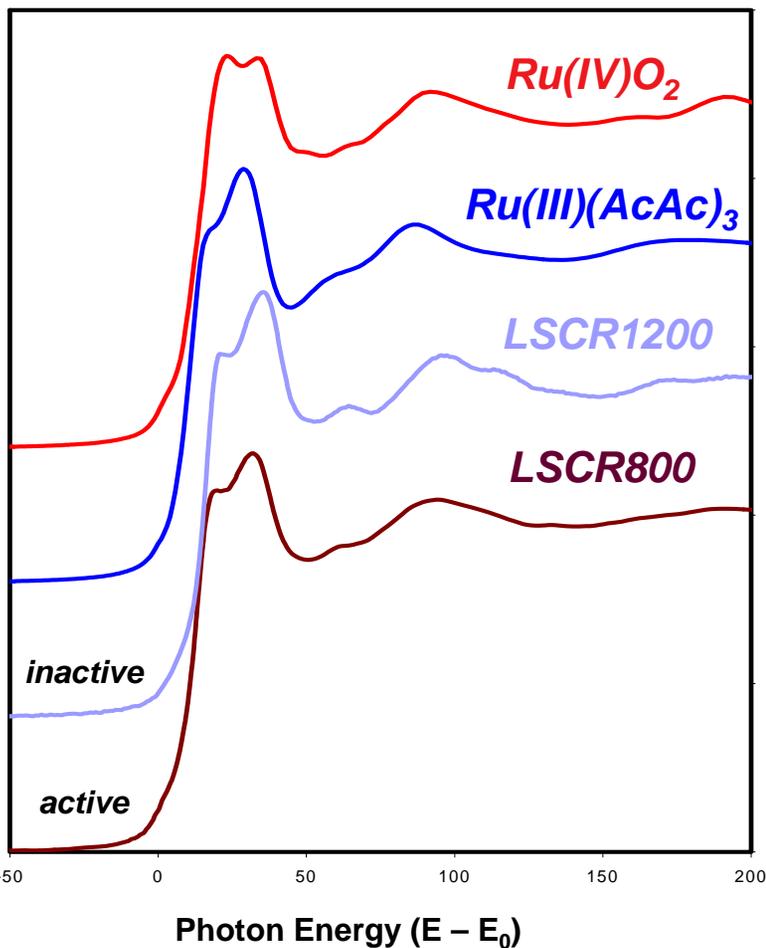
Same catalysts showed lower T-lightoff & broader operating window in  $C_4H_{10}$  ATR study.



# XANES & EXAFS identify local structure & valance of exchanged B-site dopant in perovskites

XANES identified Ru in chromite is in +3 valance state....

EXAFS found Ru atomically dispersed with increased CN at higher calcination temperature.

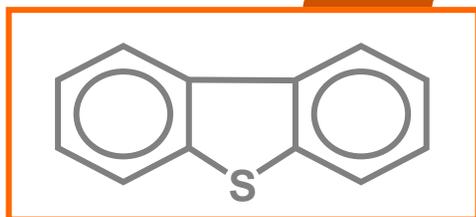


	<i>N</i>	<i>R</i> (Å)	$\sigma^2$
LSCR1200	6.0	1.943	2.5x10 <sup>-5</sup>
LSCR800	4.7	1.953	2.5x10 <sup>-5</sup>

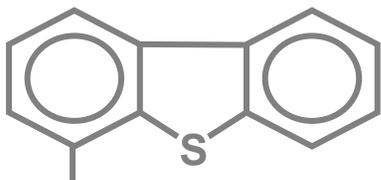
# Sulfur has a tolerable effect on the catalytic activity

Dibenzothiophene (DBT) and its derivatives are difficult to be removed from diesel through HDS process ...

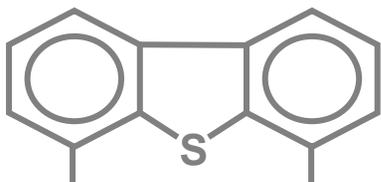
Introducing 50 ppm sulfur in the form of DBT temporarily suppress reforming efficiency and CO<sub>x</sub> selectivity.



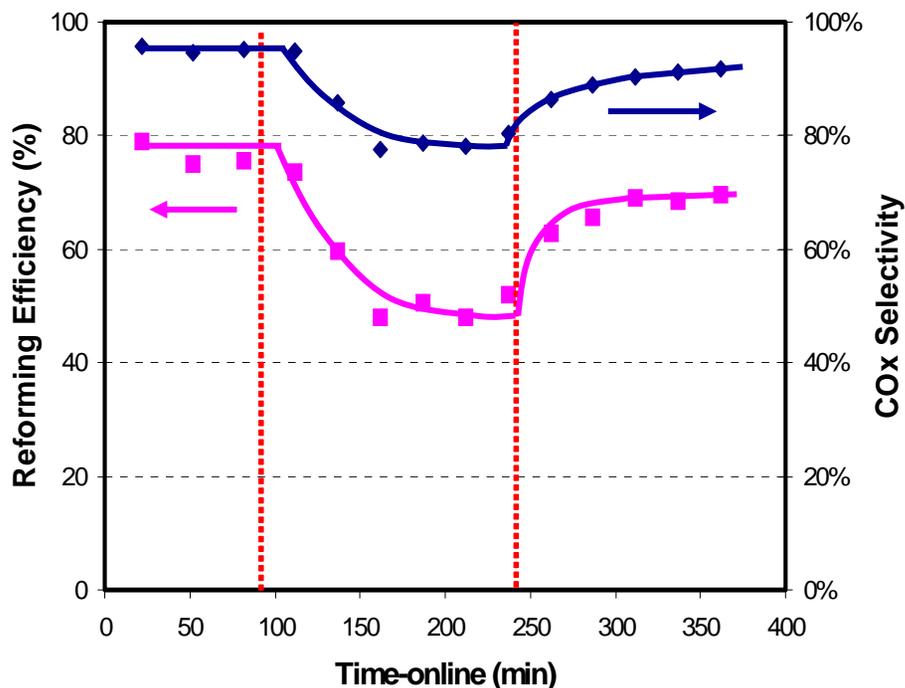
DBT



4-MDBT

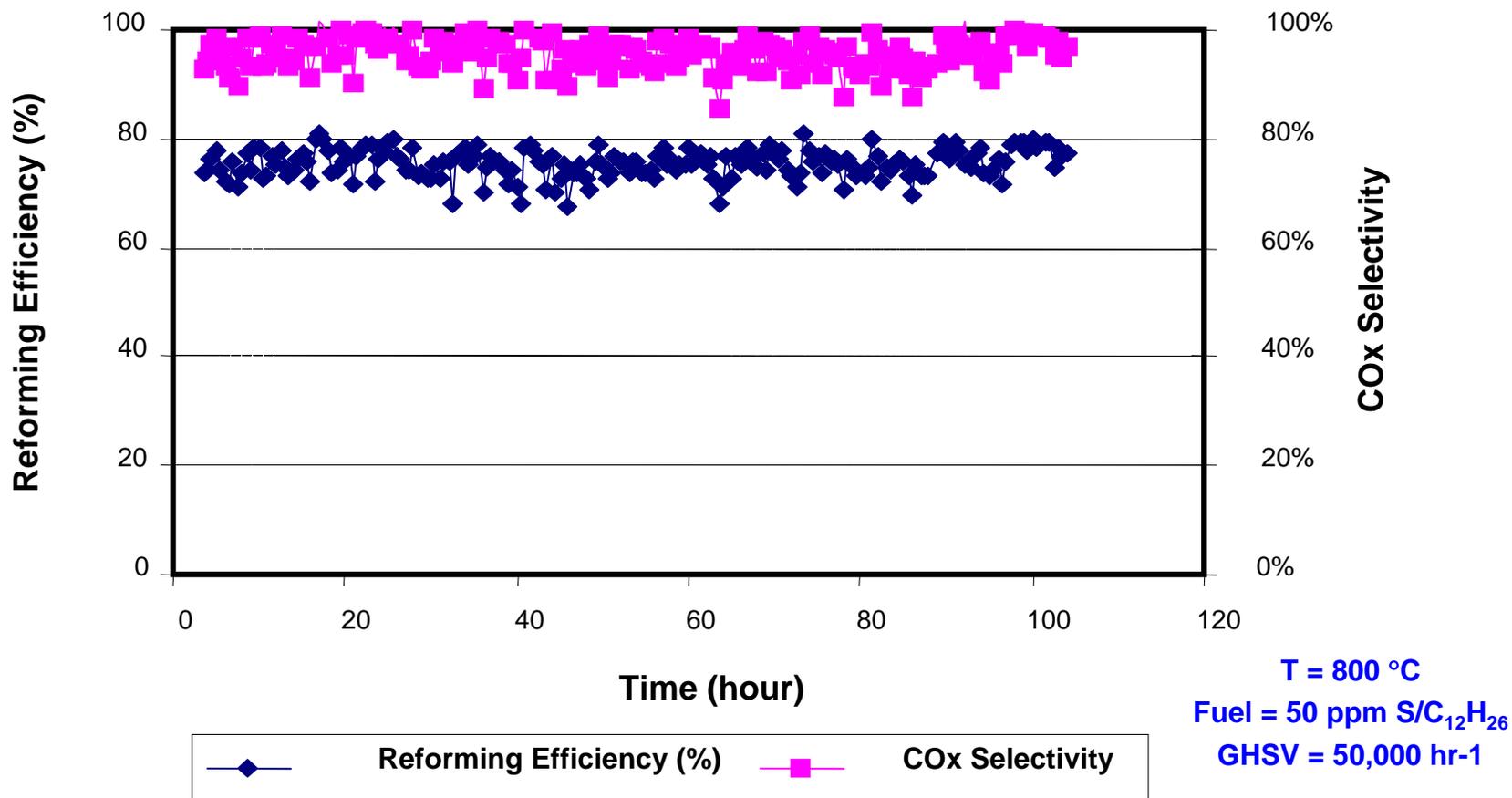


4,6-DMDBT



Catalyst re-activates after S is removed from fuel.

# Stable reforming observed during 100-Hr aging test with 50 ppm S in DBT



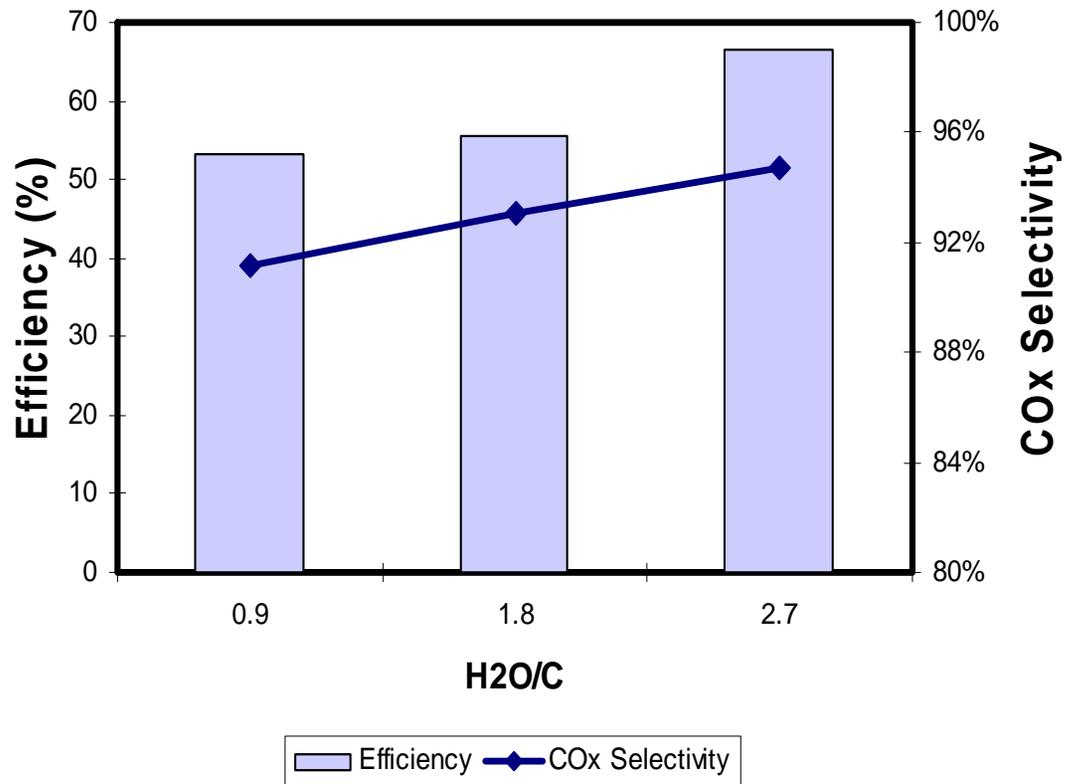
**Excellent catalytic stability was observed during 100 hour aging test with S contaminated fuel**

# Reforming of a Surrogate Diesel Fuel

Space velocity: 86000 hr<sup>-1</sup>

Temperature 800°C

40%	Dodecane
25%	Butylcyclohexane
20%	Decalin
7%	Butylbenzene
5%	Tetraline
3%	1-Methylnaphtalene
0.29%	Dibenzothiophene



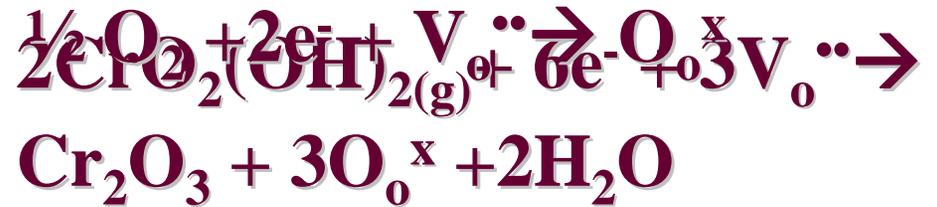
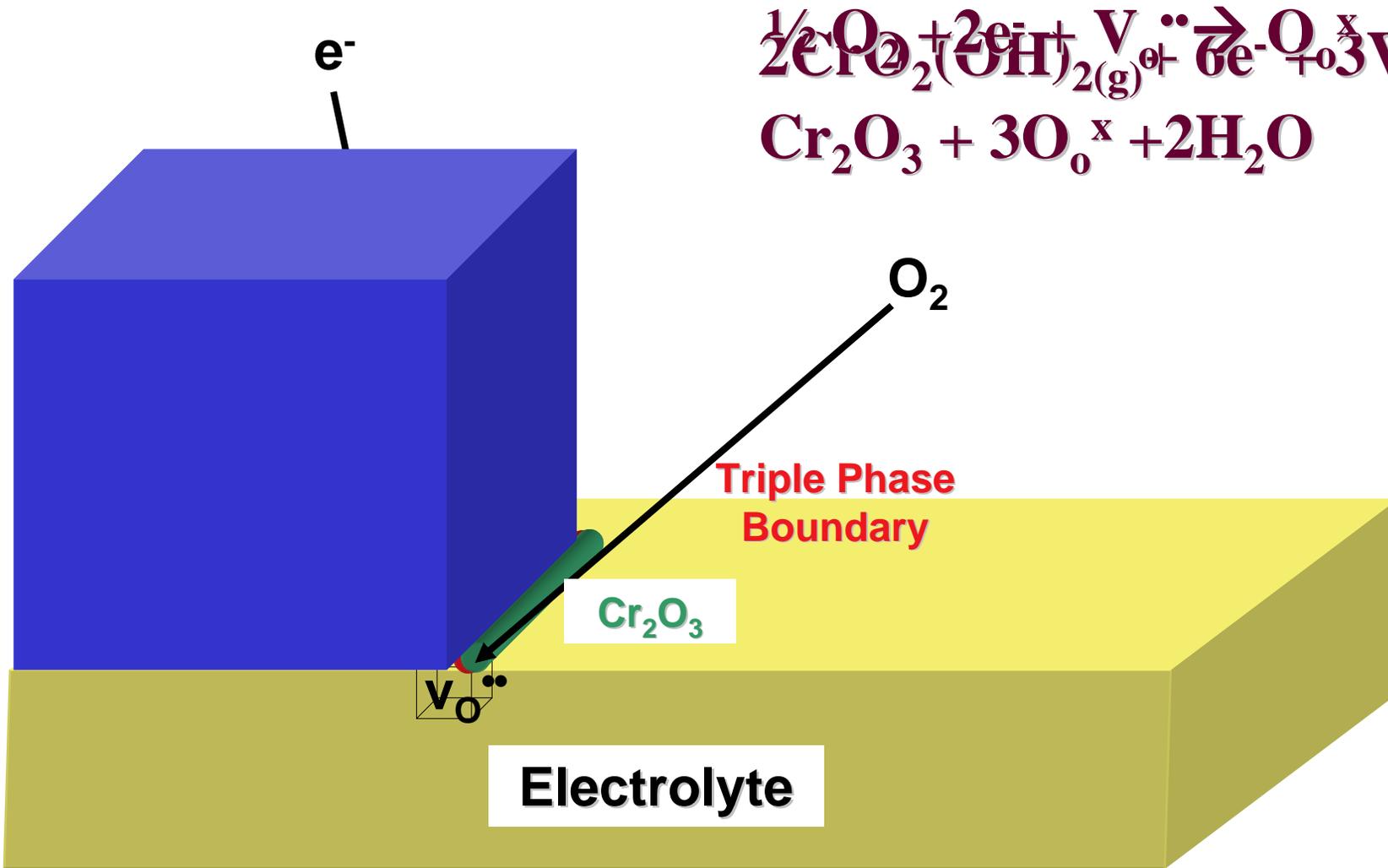
## *Future plans for catalyst development*

- **Conduct 1000 hour life test**
- **Test catalyst on actual Diesel fuel**
- **Explore sequential recycling of vent gas**
- **Extend single site catalysis concept to other compounds**
- **Transfer technology to vertical teams**

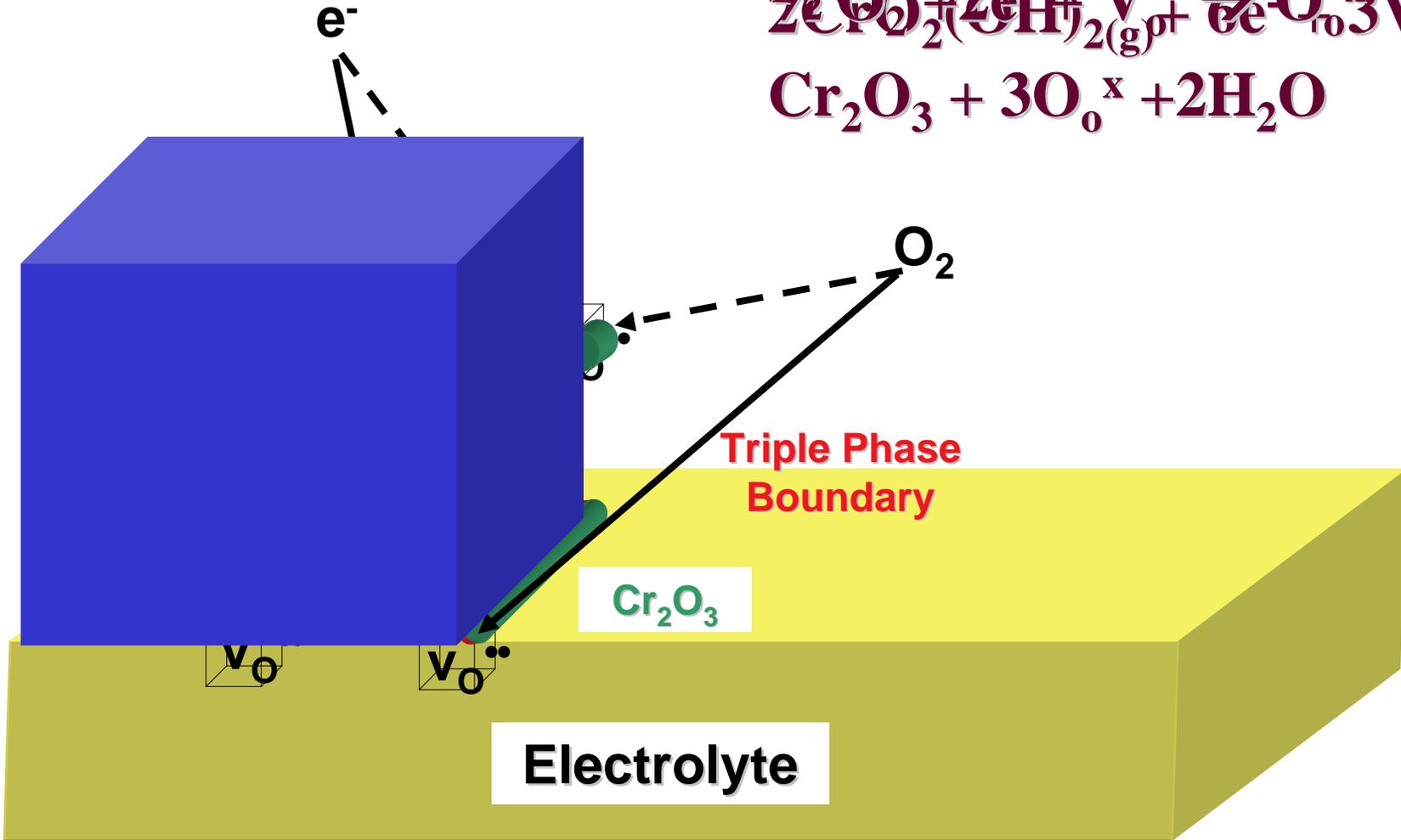
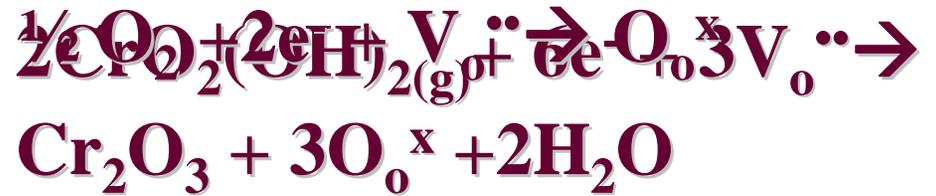
# Chromium Oxyhydroxide Formation



# Electronically Conducting Cathodes



# Mixed Conducting Cathodes



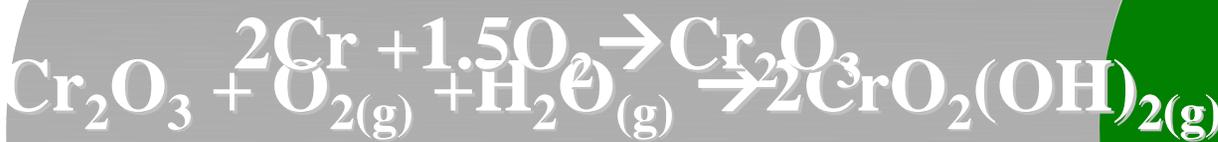
## Summary of Cell Tests with Crofer

- Cr content highest at cathode/electrolyte interface
- Cr throughout the LSF and LSF<sub>sub</sub>
- Cr content correlates with oxygen ion vacancy concentration
  - LSM < LSF < LSF<sub>sub</sub>



# Where is the chromium coming from?

**Manifold (Inconel)**

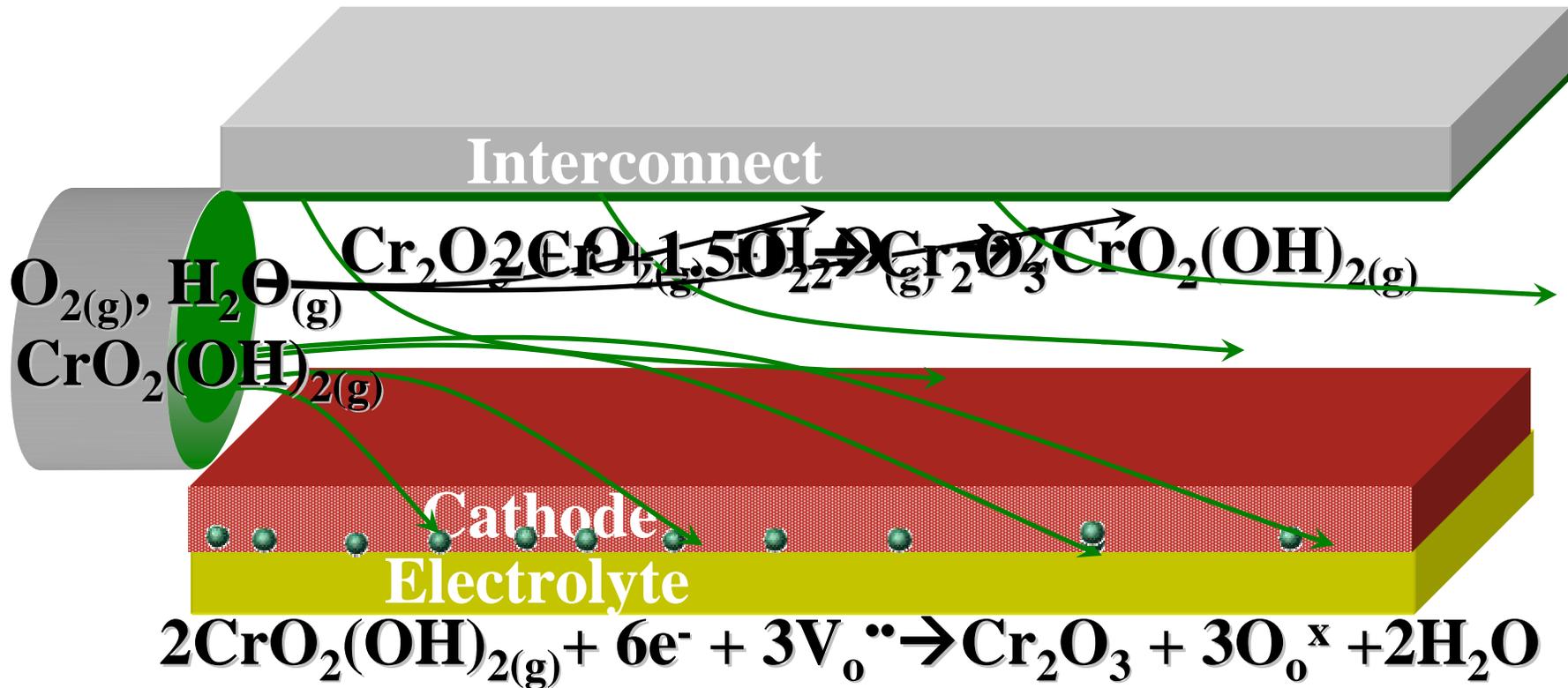


**SOFC**

**Interconnect  
(E-Brite)**

**Cathode (LSM)  
Electrolyte (8YSZ)**

# Where is the chromium coming from?

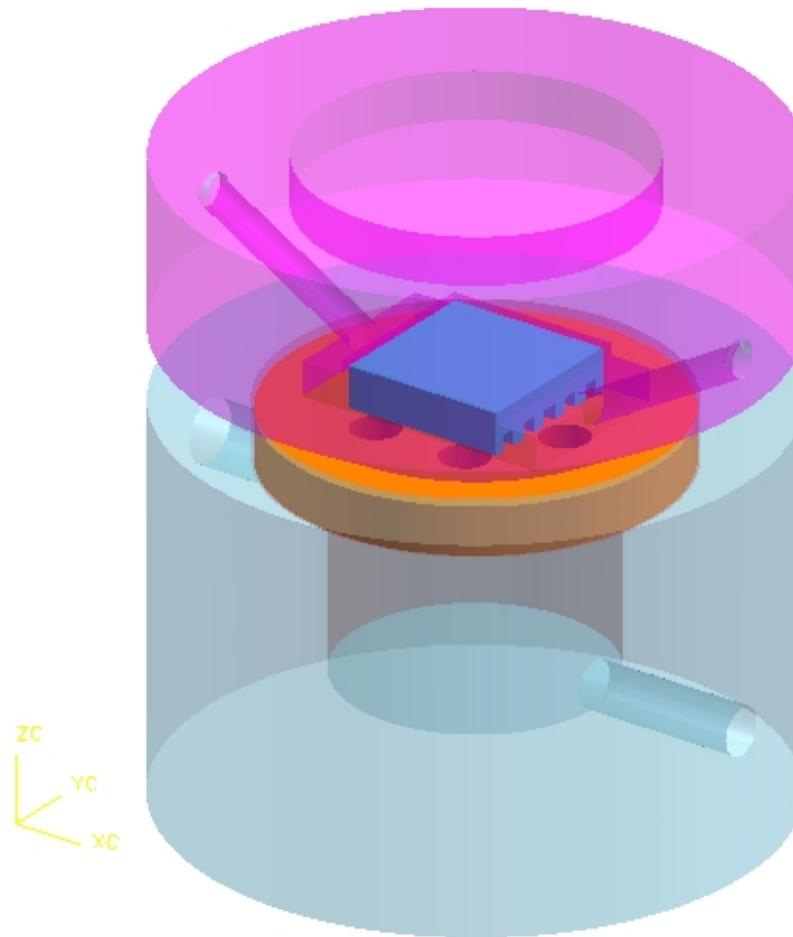




# *Future plans for chromium interactions*

- **Operate lab scale cells with ribbed current collectors**
- **Look for chromia deposits in cathode along flow-channels and under ribs**
- **Co-operate with PNNL on defining sources of chromium**

# Schematic of a Fixture with ribbed Flowfield



# *Acknowledgements*

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