



FARADAY 
TECHNOLOGY, INC.

CO₂ Reduction to Hydrocarbons via Copper Gas-Diffusion Electrocatalysts

DOE SBIR-STTR 2017 Phase I Release 1 Webinar

Carbon Capture & Carbon Utilization

**Brian Skinn
Faraday Technology, Inc.**

Sponsored by:

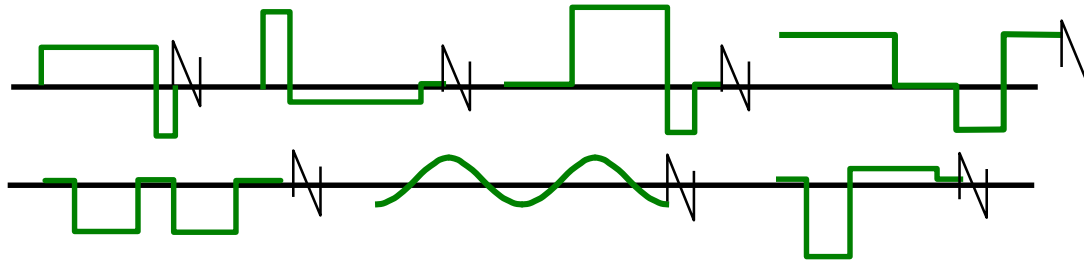
US DOE

Contract No. DE-SC0017199

12 May 2017



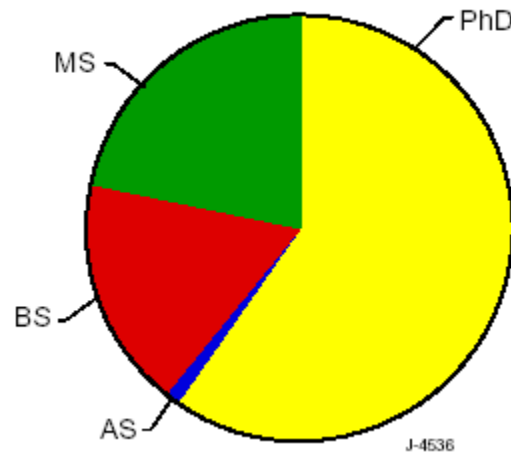
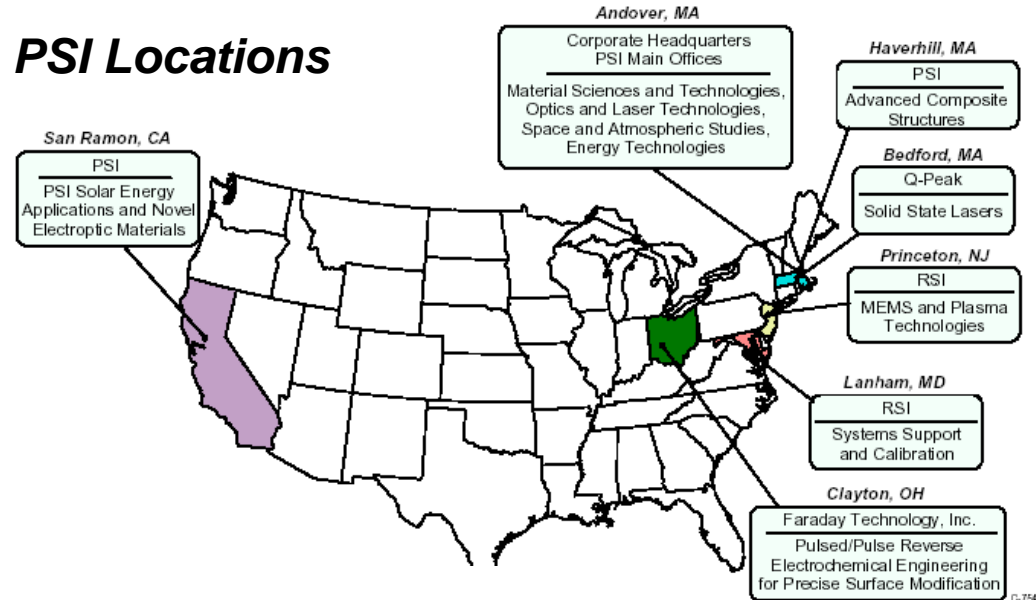
Introduction to Faraday Technology, Inc.



FARADAY TECHNOLOGY, INC.

- Electrochemical engineering
 - ~29 Issued Patents and ~15 Pending Patents in this area
 - www.FaradayTechnology.com
- Subsidiary of Physical Sciences, Inc. (Boston, MA)
 - www.psicorp.com
- Collective employment ~160;
~90 MS/PhDs
- Annual revenue of ~ \$60 million
- ~ 100 patents company-wide in numerous fields

PSI Locations



PSI Employees by Education

VISION - TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM

“...to be known as the company that changed the focus of electrochemical engineering from the art of complex chemistries to the science of pulse/pulse reverse electric fields...”

Electrochemical Machining, Polishing, Deburring, Through-Mask Etching

Anodic Pulse “Tuned” to:

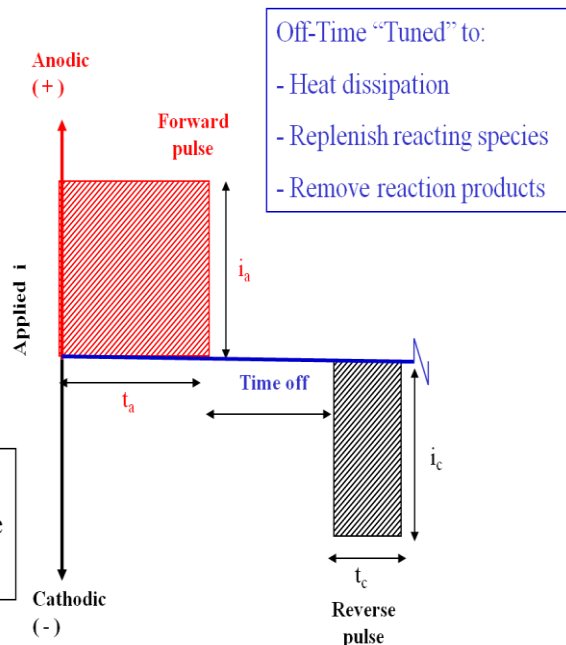
- Control current distribution

→ Eliminates need for viscous, low water content electrolytes

Cathodic Pulse “Tuned” to:

- Reduce oxide/depassivate surface

→ Eliminate need for HF



Electrodeposition/Plating

Cathodic Pulse “Tuned” to:

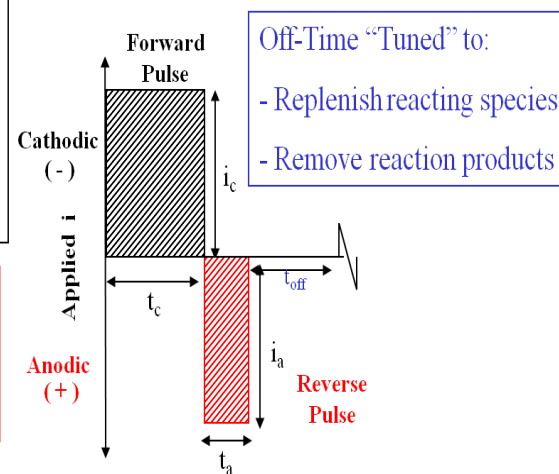
- Enhance mass transfer
- Control current distribution

→ Simplify chemistry

Anodic Pulse “Tuned” to:

- Remove H_2 effects

→ Acidify interface



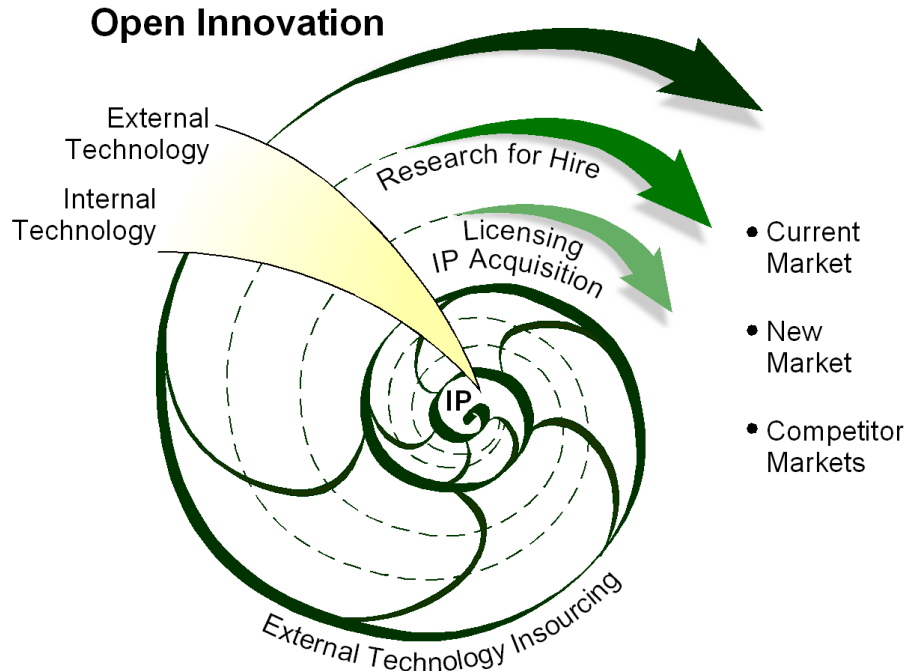
- 2008 Blum Scientific Achievement Award for Pulse Reverse Surface Finishing
- 2016 R&D 100 Finalist for HF-Free Nb SRF Cavity Polishing

- 2011 R&D 100 for Co-Mn Alloy Plating
- 2013 Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award for Cr^{+3} Plating



FARADAY
TECHNOLOGY, INC.

FARADAY'S BUSINESS MODEL: OPEN INNOVATION



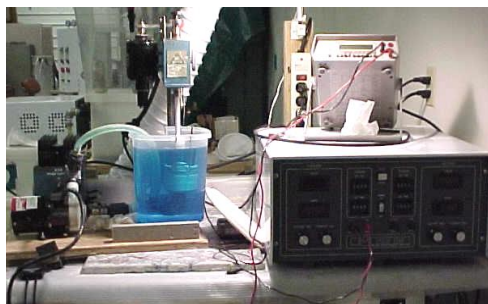
- Establish IP (29 issued U.S. patents + know-how)
- Leverage Federal SBIR opportunities as non-equity technology funding
 - Retain IP rights
- Collaborate with universities and government laboratories
- Develop electrochemical engineering solutions based on PC/PRC processes
- Transition technology & competitive advantage to large companies via
 - Field-of-use licenses
 - Patent sale (8)
- Direct transition to interested government entities

*Detailed mechanistic understanding is not required;
Development of robust process is critical!*

FARADAY'S TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

Technology development begins conceptually and is demonstrated at the bench-scale and developed through α/β -scale validation.

Technology/IP Alignment



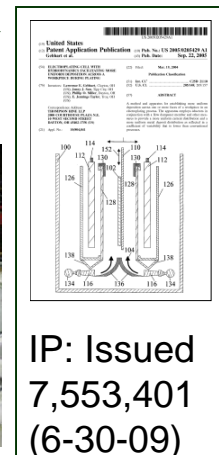
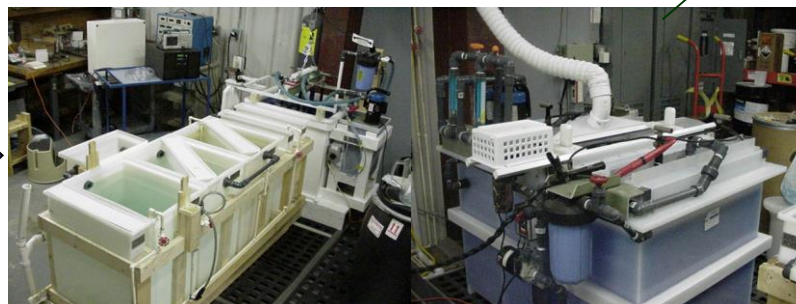
Bench-Top Feasibility

Cell

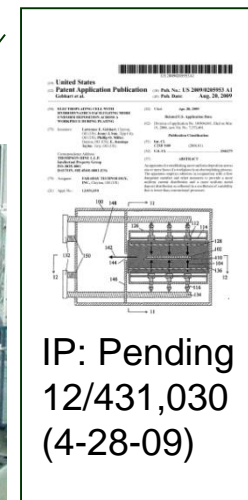


Design

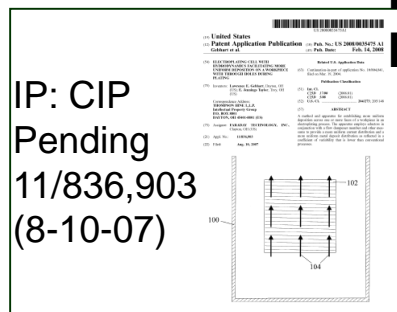
Pilot-Scale Validation



Production-Scale Validation

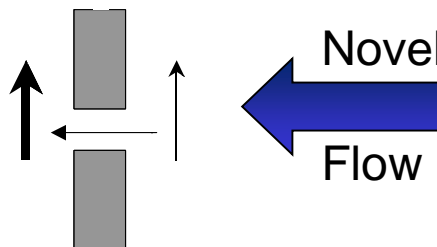


Further IP Enhancement

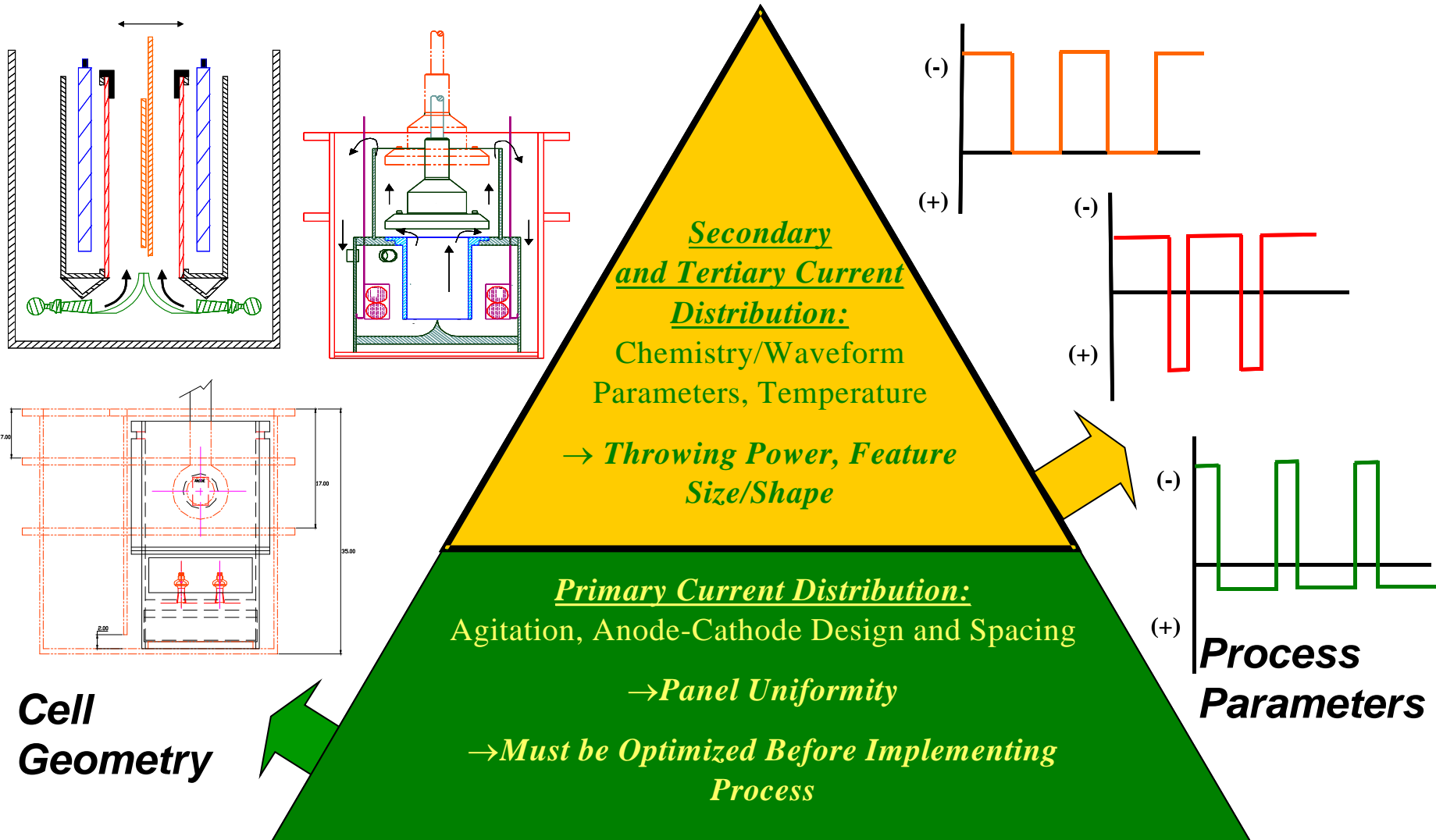


Novel

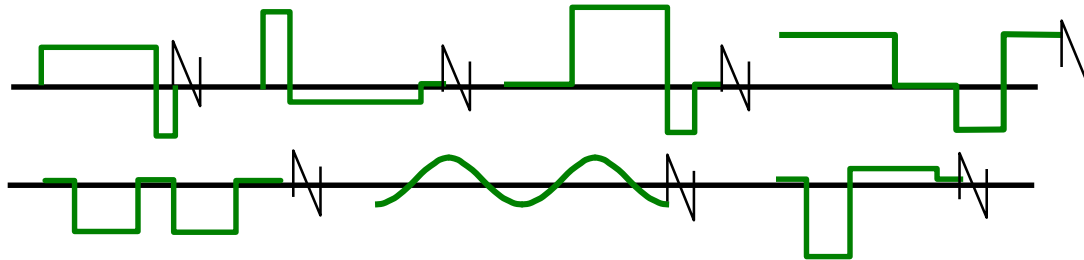
Flow



APPARATUS – PROCESS



Program Overview



Program Overview

■ Timeline

- Start date: 21 Feb 2017
- End date: 20 Nov 2017

■ Challenges

- Copper deposition optimization
- Catalyst performance evaluation

■ Partners

- MIT (Fikile Brushett)

Project Team Members

- **Faraday**

- Brian Skinn (PI)
Phone: 937.836.7749
Email: brianskinn@faradaytechnology.com



- **DOE**

- TPOC: I. A. Aurelio
isaac.aurelio@netl.doe.gov



- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

- Fikile Brushett
 - Ph: 617.324.7400
 - Email: brushett@mit.edu



Problem or Opportunity

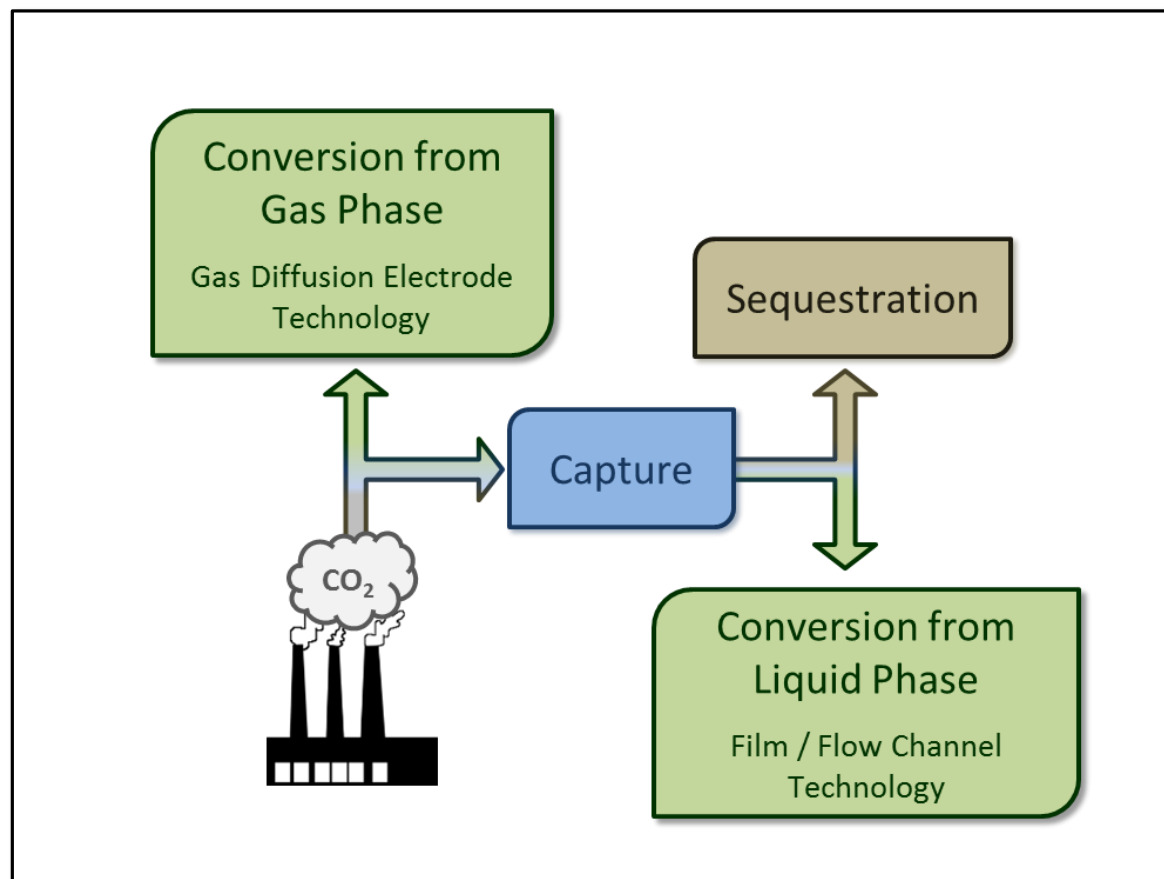
- **Problem**

- Development of conversion/utilization technologies for transforming captured CO₂ to value-added products are needed to enhance the cost proposition of carbon capture technologies.

- **Opportunity**

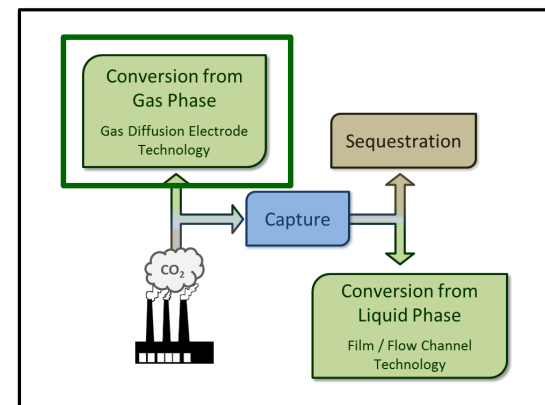
- Demonstrate potential for tailored micro-/nanoparticulate Cu GDE electrocatalysts fabricated by FARADAYIC[®] ElectroDeposition in combination with state-of-the-art MIT GDE electroreactor system to enable cost-effective CO₂ conversion to hydrocarbons such as ethylene.

Problem or Opportunity



Objective of Program

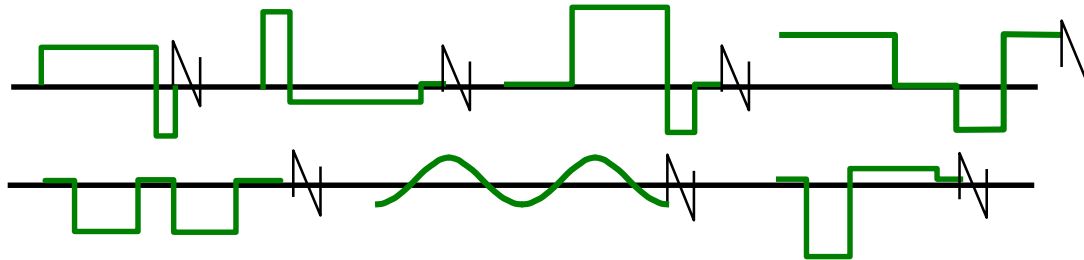
- The objective of the program is to develop an electrocatalytic system for economical conversion of CO₂ to ethylene, encompassing:
 - FARADAYIC[®] ElectroDeposition of Cu electrocatalyst with tuned microstructure and other properties onto GDL substrates
 - State-of-the-art electroreactor technology incorporating modern gas-diffusion electrode (GDE) materials



Technical Approach

- For the Phase I program **Faraday** will:
 - Construct a benchtop FARADAYIC[®] ElectroDeposition Cell
 - Develop candidate FARADAYIC[®] ElectroDeposition protocols
 - Perform a preliminary techno-economic analysis of the electrocatalytic system
- For the Phase I program **MIT** will:
 - Evaluate/analyze Cu electrocatalysts
 - Build/Retrofit demonstration-scale electroreactor
 - Perform electrocatalysis tests & products analysis

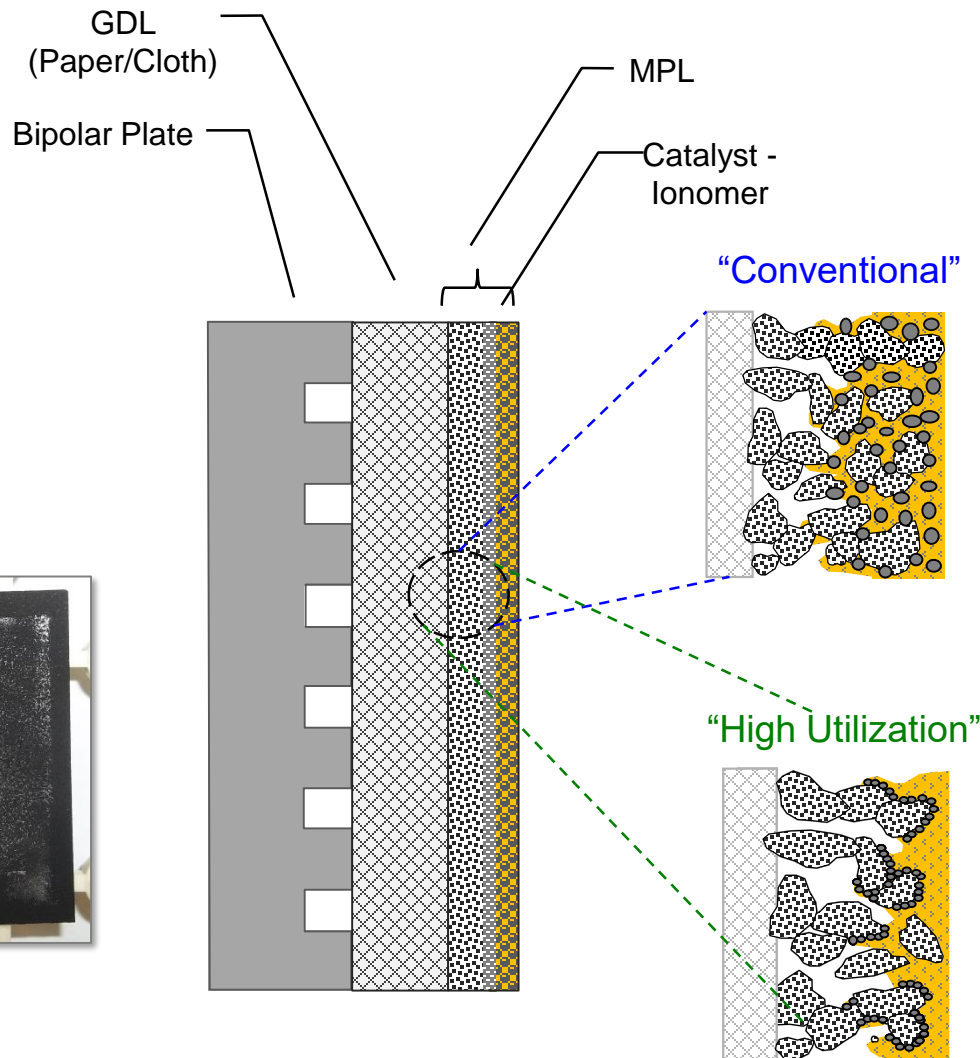
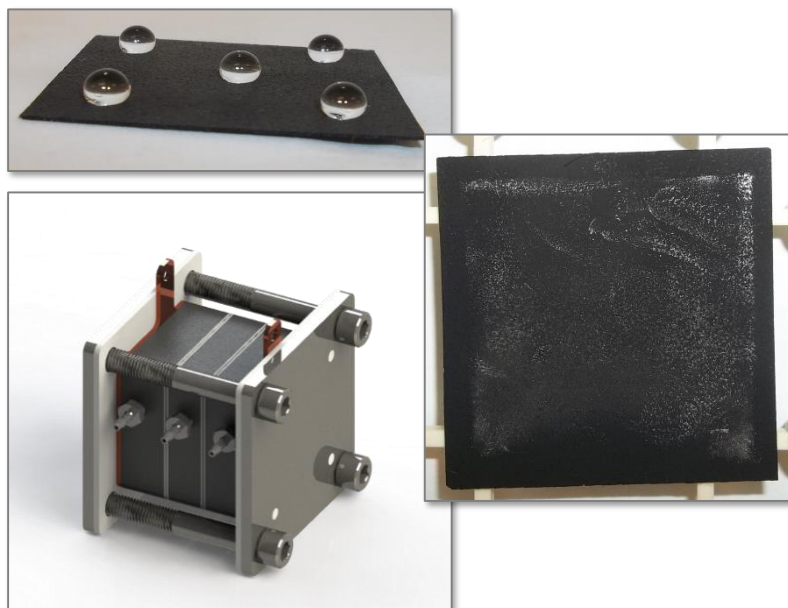
Prior Work



Prior Work: FARADAYIC[®] Tin Electro catalysis



- FARADAYIC[®] Sn Deposition
- CO₂ Conversion to Formate
- GDE-Based Electroreactor



Preliminary Results

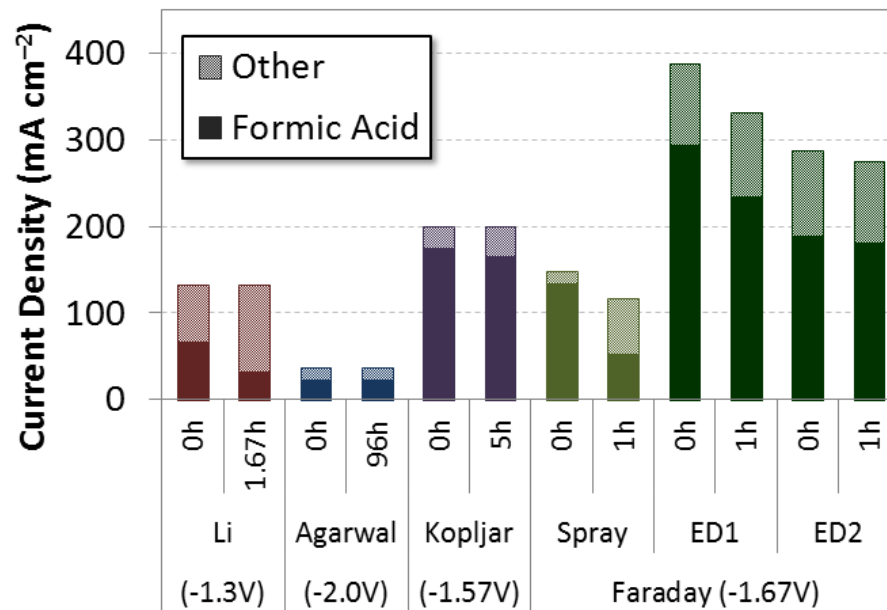
- Preliminary **FARADAYIC[®] ElectroDeposition (ED)** samples show significantly increased total and FA-efficient current densities relative to conventional **spray-coating method** and literature data

- $j_{\text{total}} \geq 275 \text{ mA cm}^{-2}$
- %FA $\geq 70\%$

- Favorable short-term catalyst durability

- Significant potential for optimization

- Ionomer loading
- Sn electrocatalyst loading
- Sn electrocatalyst ED parameters
- GDE (GDL/MPL) parameters



(Half-cell potentials vs SHE)

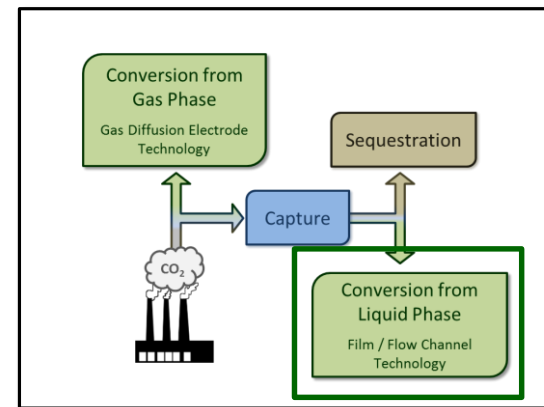
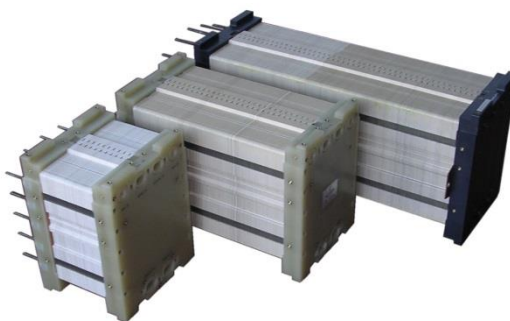
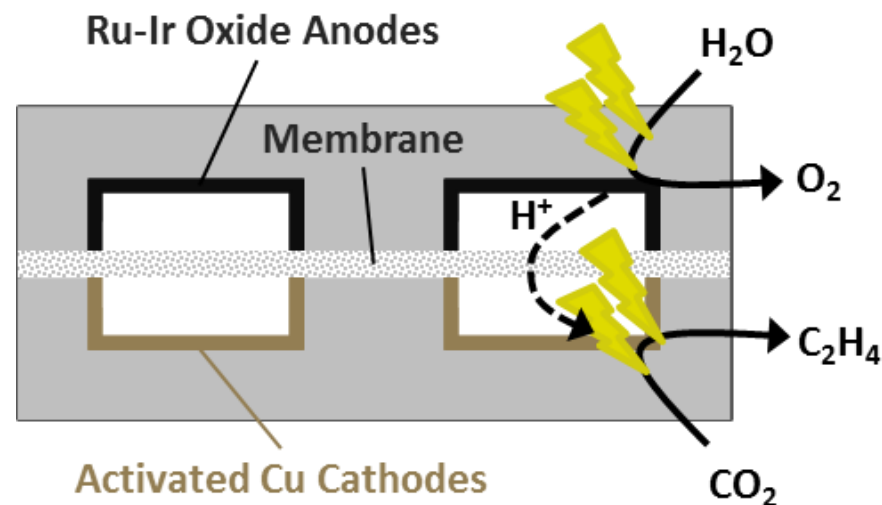
Li and Oloman. *J Appl Electrochem* **35**: 955, 2005.

Agarwal et al. *ChemSusChem* **4**: 1301, 2011.

Kopljar et al. *J Appl Electrochem* **44**: 1107, 2014.

FARADAYIC[®] Cu Film Electrocatalysts

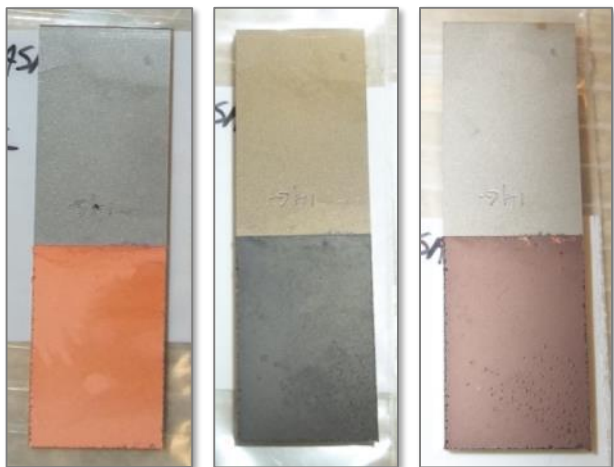
- Flow channels for electrolytes
- CO₂ reduction on Cu catalyst
- O₂ evolution on commercial mixed oxide anode
- Anticipate direct use of CO₂-laden capture media
 - Amines, etc.



NASA SBIR Contract #NNX14CC53P
DOE STTR Contract #DE-SC0015812

Testing of FARADAYIC[®] Cu Film Electrocatalysts

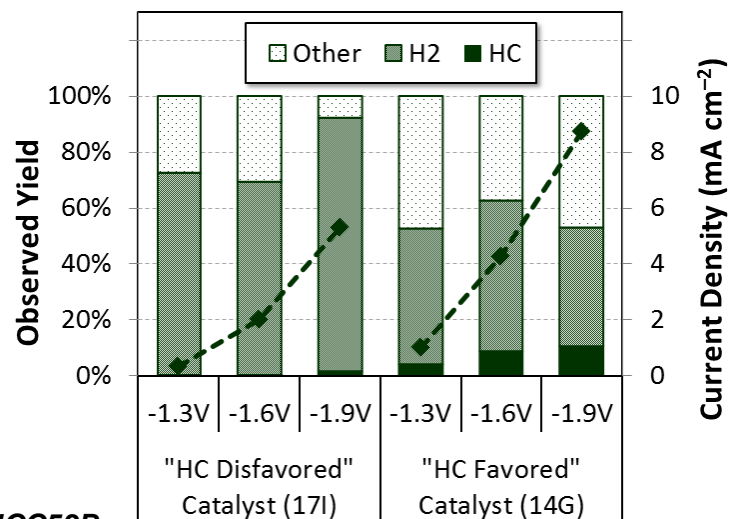
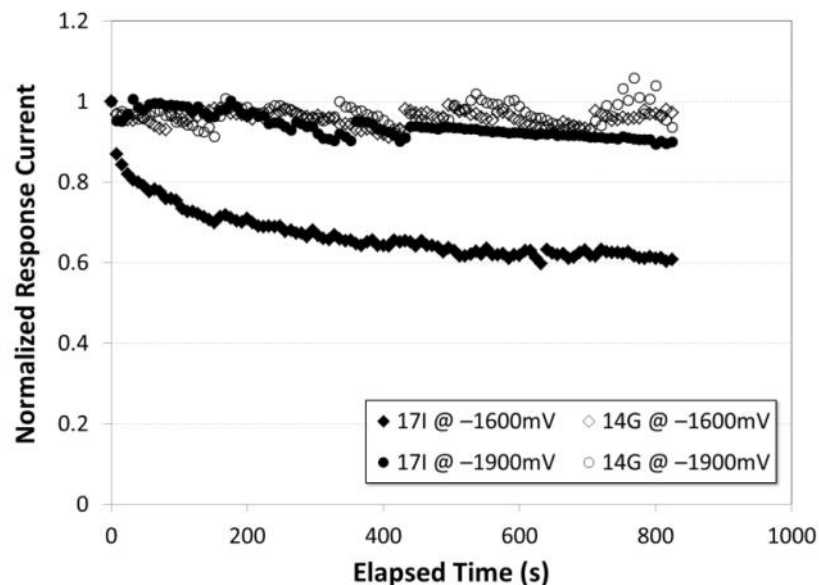
Deposit Oxidize Reduce



Li & Kanan, J Am Chem Soc 134: 7231 (2012)

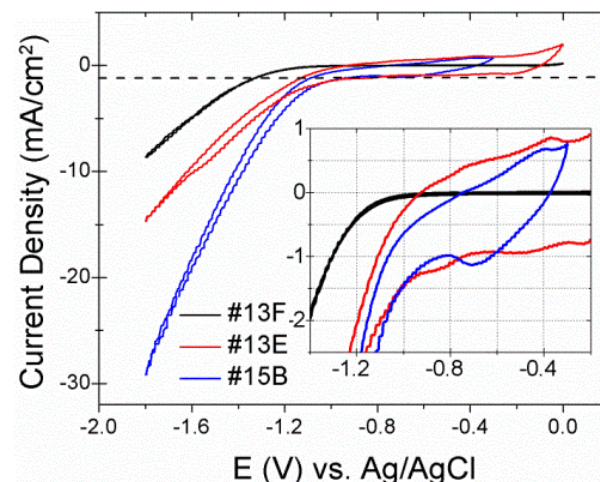
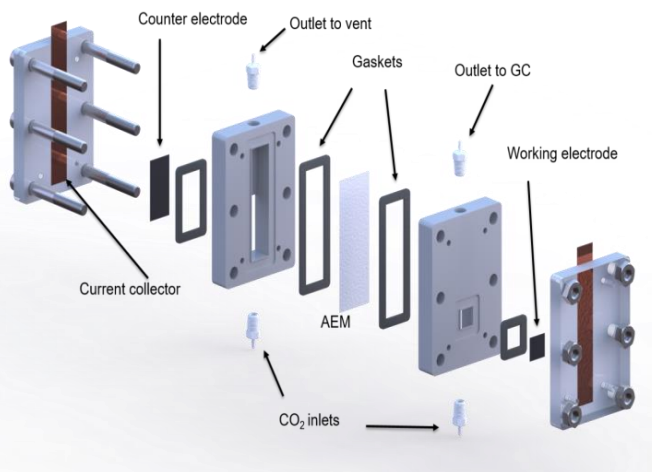
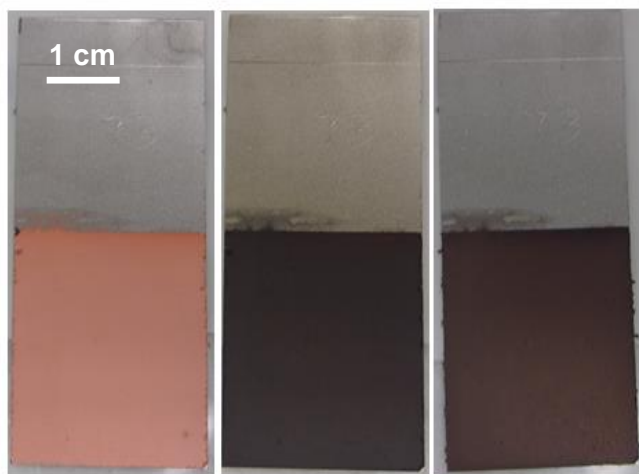


Chronoamperometry
&
GC Product Analysis

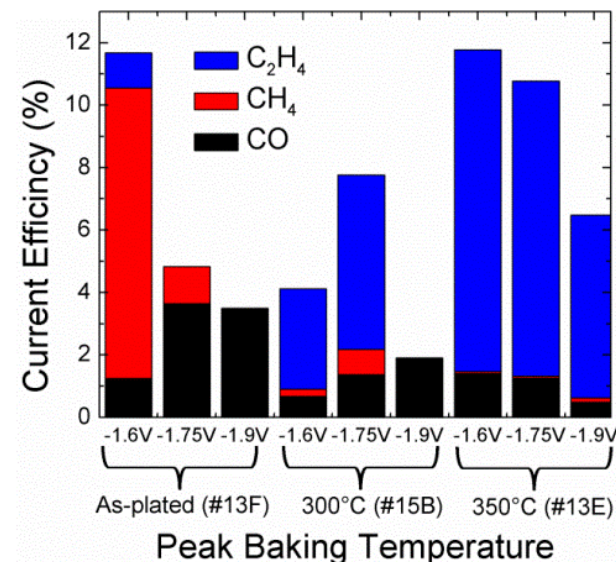


Testing of FARADAYIC[®] Cu Film Electrocatalysts

Deposit Oxidize Reduce



Cyclic Voltammetry
&
GC Product Analysis



Prior Work: FARADAYIC[®] ElectroCatalyzation



- Low-loading deposition of Pt fuel cell catalyst
- Beta-scale batch system (NSF)
- Pilot-scale reel-to-reel system (OH)

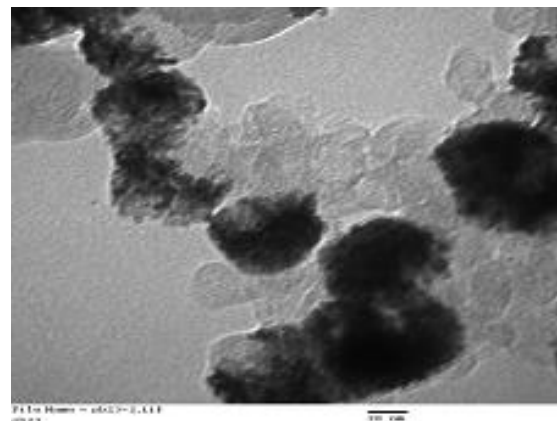
Batch System

Continuous Reel-to-Reel

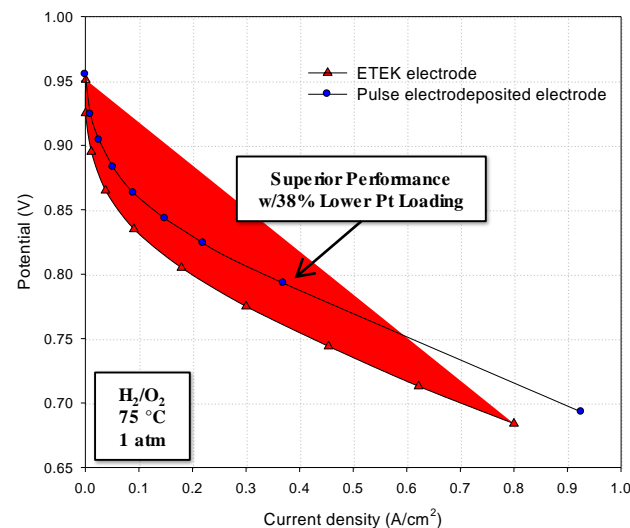


U.S. Patent 6,080,504 Granted

TEM of Pt on Carbon

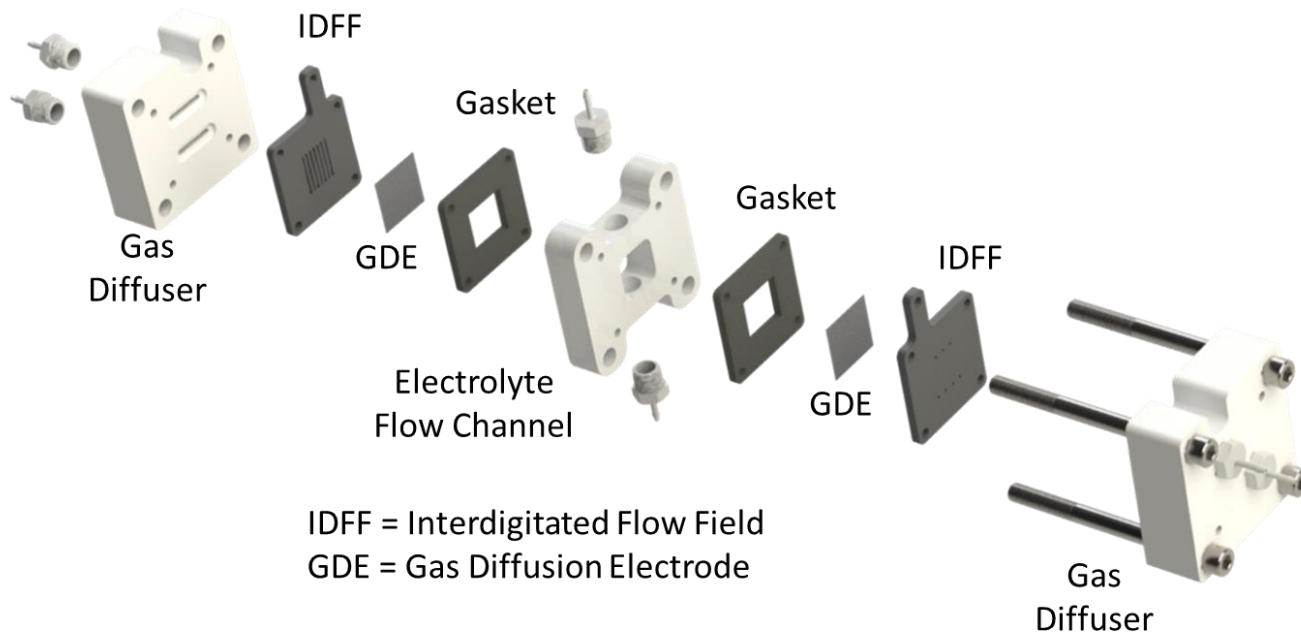


Performance Comparison

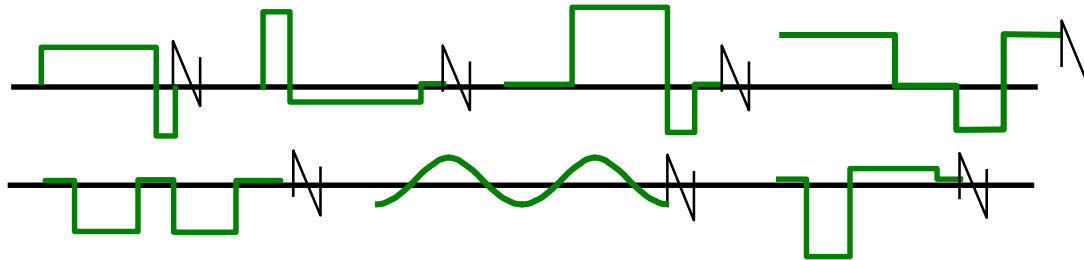


Prior Work: MIT Electroreactor Design

- Brushett Group – Electroreactor fabrication expertise
- Available tools include: CNC mill, laser cutter, 3-D printer
- Direct fabrication of SolidEdge/SolidWorks 3-D models
- COMSOL Multiphysics simulation of 3-D models



Program Description



Objective of Phase I Base

The Phase I objective is to demonstrate the potential for economical, scalable pulsed FARADAYIC® ElectroDeposition of Cu GDE electrocatalysts for carbon dioxide reduction to ethylene.

The questions to be answered in the Phase I program are:

1. Can the potential be shown to *fabricate by FARADAYIC® Electrodeposition techniques micro-structured copper electrocatalysts* suitable for use in GDE electrocatalytic systems?
2. Can the potential be shown for the catalysts of Objective 1 to afford *high activity and selectivity* for the reductive conversion of CO₂ to hydrocarbons?
3. Can the potential be demonstrated for these electrocatalysts and reactors to afford *competitive process economics as compared to currently available carbon sequestration/conversion technologies*?

Program Tasks

- Task “0”:** Kickoff Meetings (**Faraday**)
- Task 1:** Benchtop ElectroDeposition Cell (**Faraday**)
- Task 2:** FARADAYIC[®] Copper ElectroDeposition Tests (**Faraday**)
- Task 3:** Cu GDE Catalyst Characterization / Evaluation (**MIT**)
- Task 4:** Laboratory-Scale Electroreactor (**MIT**)
- Task 5:** Economic / Scale-Up Analysis (**Faraday**)
- Task 6:** Reporting and Program Management (**Faraday**)

Task: Kickoff Meeting(s)

- **Faraday & DOE TPOC**

- Engage TPOC
- Identify DOE priorities



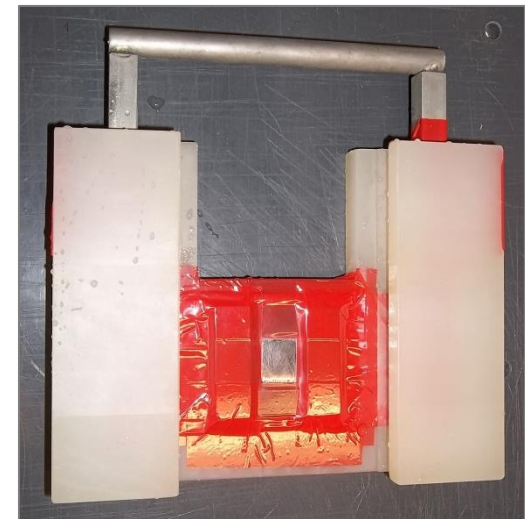
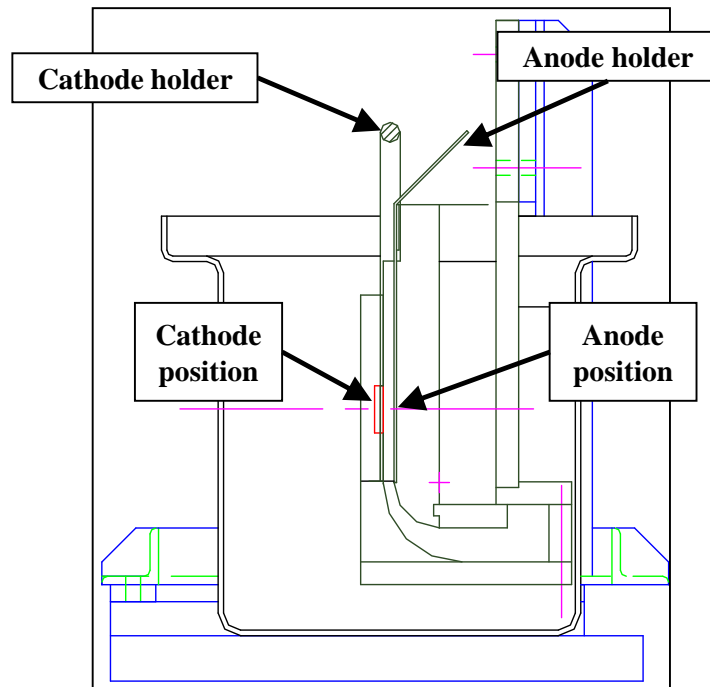
- **Faraday & MIT**

- Review program goals
- Identify / discuss milestones and completion targets
- Synchronize work plans

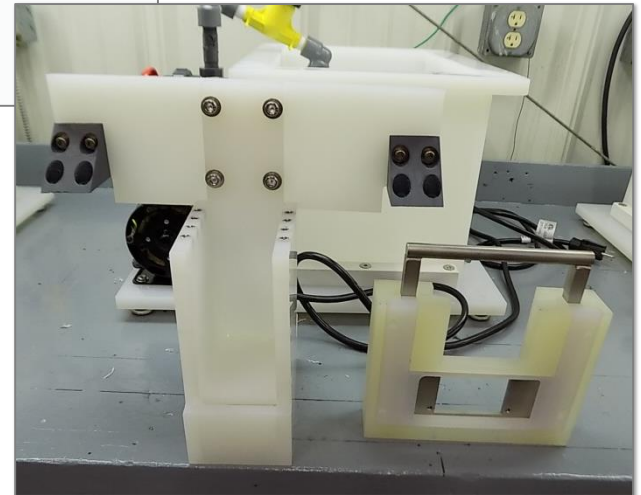
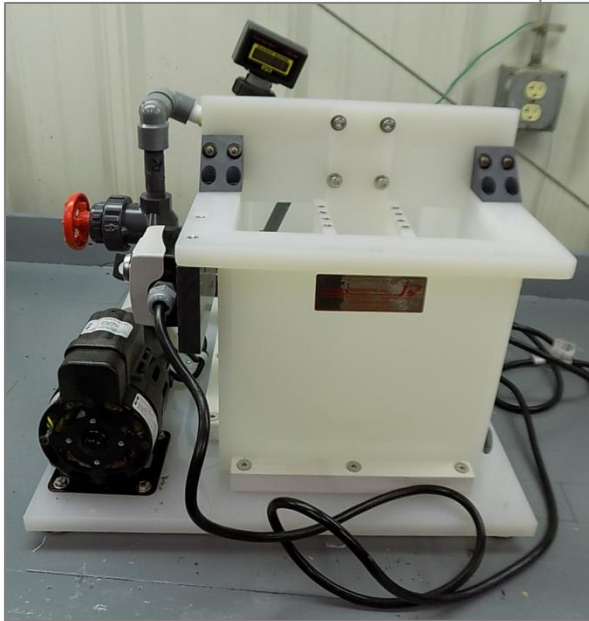
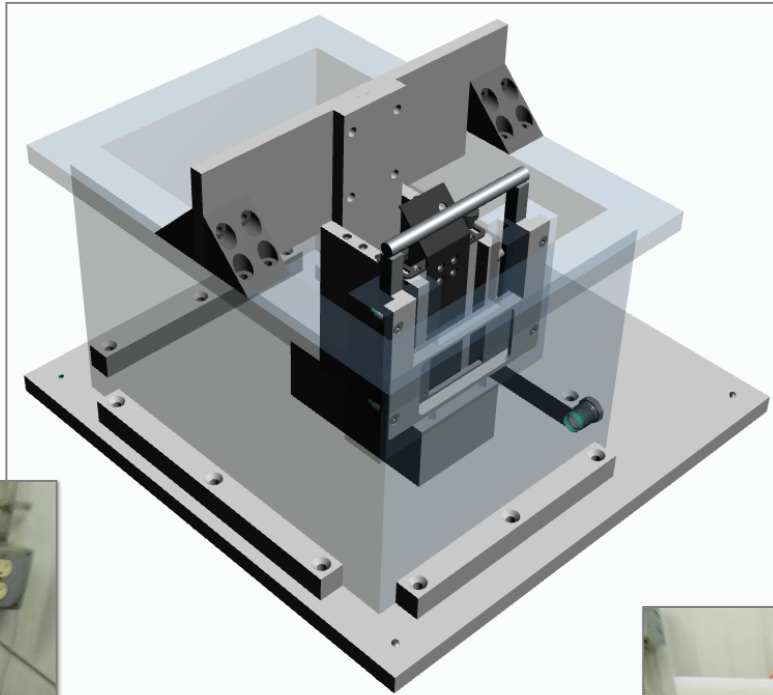


Task 1: Construction of Cu Deposition Apparatus

- Patented FARADAYIC[®] ElectroCell
 - U.S. 8,329,006 – 8,226,804
7,947,161 – 7,553,401



Task 1: Construction of Cu Deposition Apparatus



Task 2: FARADAYIC[®] Copper ElectroDeposition

- Modified FARADAYIC[®] Copper ElectroDeposition Bath
 - CuSO_4
 - H_2SO_4
 - HCl
 - PEG
- Exploration of deposition parameter space
 - DC vs PC vs PRC
 - Peak currents
 - Frequency & duty cycle
 - CuSO_4 , PEG concentrations
- Deposits analyzed for, e.g.:
 - Microstructure (SEM)
 - Electrocatalytic properties (CV, CA)



Task 3: Catalyst Characterization / Evaluation

- Instrumental Analysis

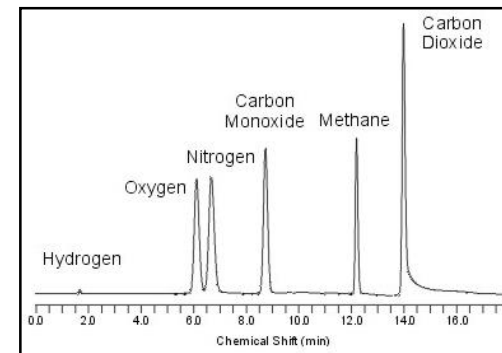
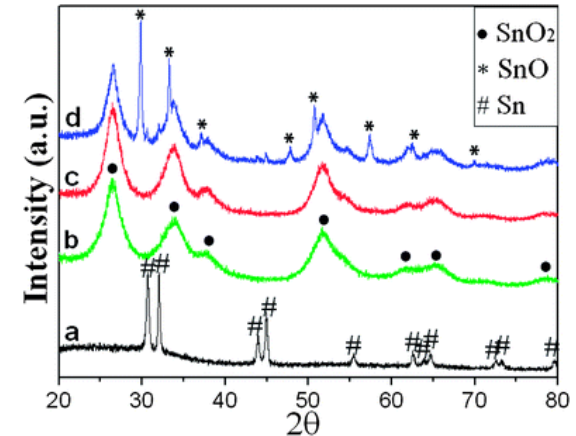
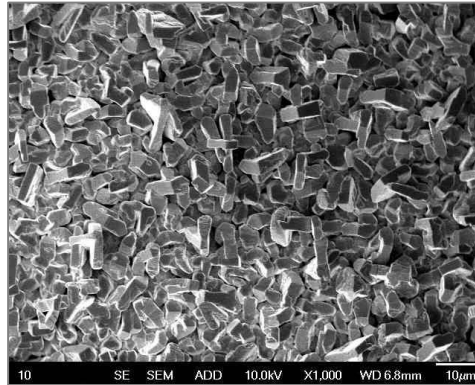
- SEM
- XRD

- Products Analysis

- GC

- Electrocatalytic Performance

- Polarization curves
- Chronoamperometry



Task 3: Catalyst Characterization / Evaluation

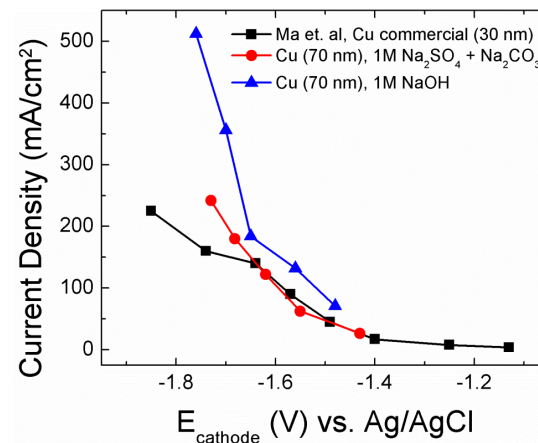
- Baseline GDE Catalyst

- Disperse 70 nm Cu in ionomer/alcohol
- Spray paint onto GDL

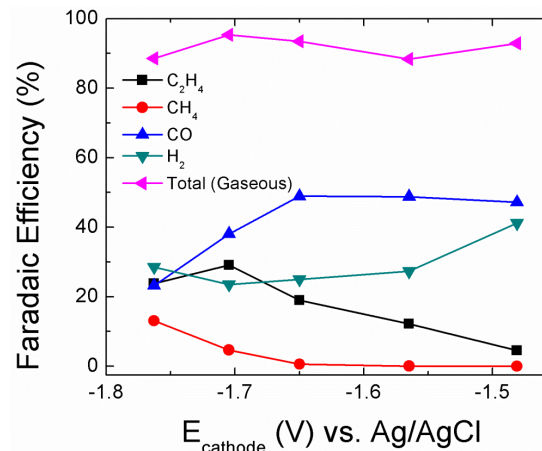


- Preliminary Results

- Polarization curves

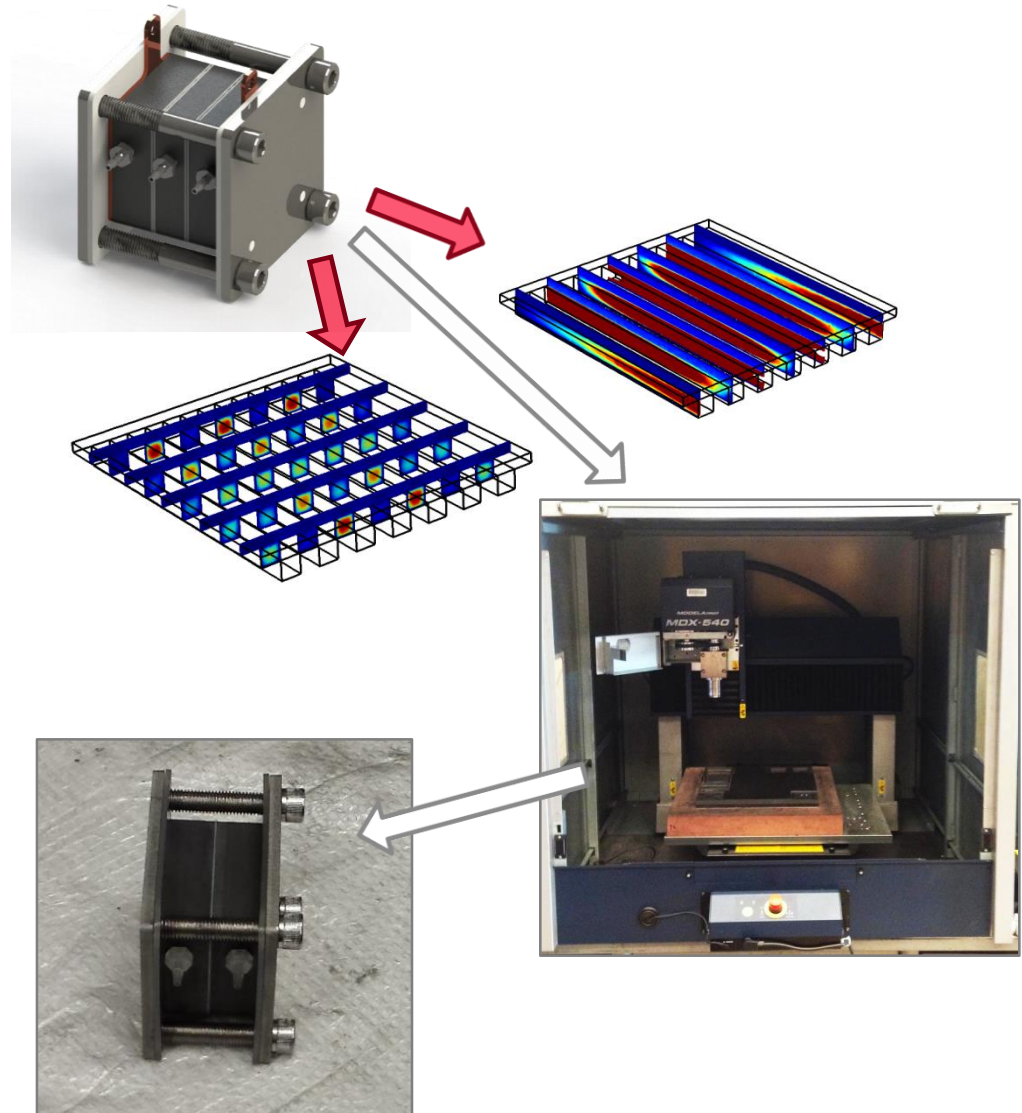


- Electrocatalytic activity



Task 4: Laboratory-Scale Reactor

- SolidWorks 3-D CAD
- COMSOL Multiphysics Modeling
- Benchtop CNC
- Electroreactor Prototype



Task 4: Laboratory-Scale Reactor

- SolidWorks 2-D CAD

- COMSOL
Modeling

- Benchtop

- Electro



Task 5: Economic / Scale-Up Analysis

5.1. Techno-Economic Analysis

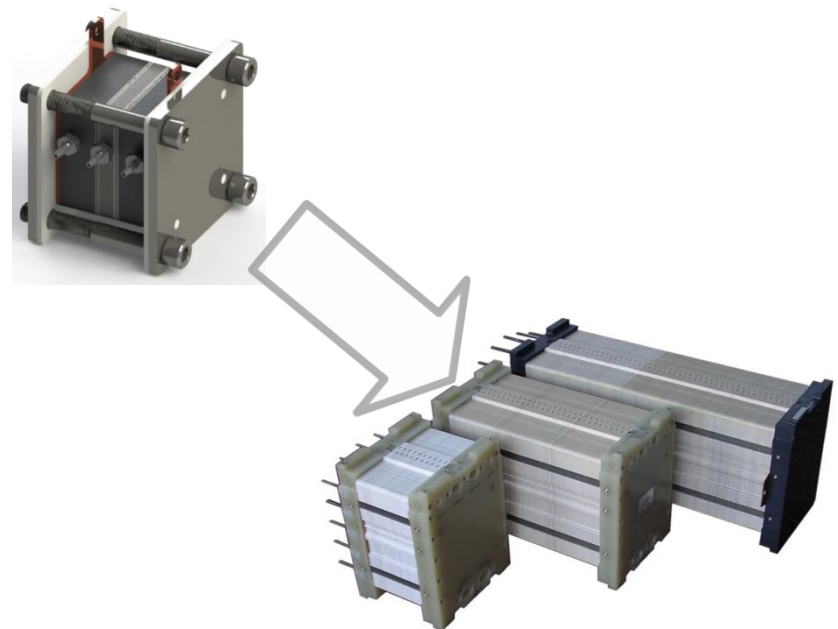
- Standard methodologies
 - EPA, DOE/NETL, etc.
- Evaluate cost/benefit of novel technology relative to existing processes

$$COE = \frac{CCF \cdot TOC + OC_{FIX} + CF \cdot OC_{VAR}}{CF \cdot MWh}$$

$$Cost\ of\ CO_2\ Captured = \frac{(COE_{With\ CC} - COE_{Without\ CC})}{CO_2\ Captured}$$

5.2. Scale-Up Analysis

- Technology evaluation
- Market-entry / pre-commercial analysis



Task 6: Reporting and Program Management

- Centered on the management of the project to ensure milestones and reporting requirements are met
- Contractual reporting requirements
 - Final report due 4 Dec 2017
- Faraday will convene periodic internal review meetings to assess program progress toward milestones/objectives
- Faraday will continue telephone/WebEx briefings with MIT partners and/or DOE program/technical staff.

Program Tasks Status

- Task “0”:** Kickoff Meetings (**Faraday**)
Completed by this webinar
- Task 1:** Benchtop ElectroDeposition Cell (**Faraday**)
Cell in final stage of build
- Task 2:** FARADAYIC® Copper ElectroDeposition Tests (**Faraday**)
Pending ElectroDeposition Cell
- Task 3:** Cu GDE Catalyst Characterization / Evaluation (**MIT**)
Apparatus & assay methods ready
First baseline GDE catalysts prepared; testing initiated
- Task 4:** Laboratory-Scale Electroreactor (**MIT**)
First-model reactor fabricated; future enhancements pending
- Task 5:** Economic / Scale-Up Analysis (**Faraday**)
Pending GDE performance results
- Task 6:** Reporting and Program Management (**Faraday**)
Ongoing

Action Items

1. Commission plating cell
2. Procure Cu plating bath components
3. Develop initial experimental matrix
4. Initiate copper plating tests



FARADAY 
TECHNOLOGY, INC.

Contact Information

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Thank You!

