

Sorption Enhanced Mixed Matrix Membranes for H₂ Purification and CO₂ Capture (DE-FE0026463)

Lingxiang Zhu¹, Deqiang Yin¹, Shailesh Konda¹,
Hien Ngyuen¹, Mark Swihart¹, and **Haiqing Lin**¹,
Jay Kniep² and Tim Merkel²
Andrew Placido³ and Kunlei Liu³

¹University at Buffalo, State University of New York (**UB**)

²Membrane Technology and Research, Inc. (**MTR**)

³Center for Applied Energy Research, University of Kentucky (**CAER**)

NETL CO₂ Capture Technology Project Review Meeting

Pittsburgh, PA

8/14/2018



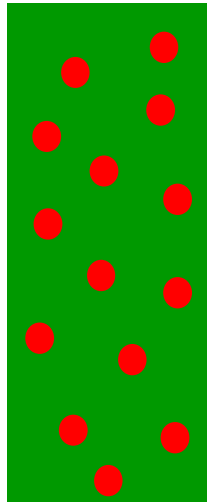
Sorption Enhanced Mixed Matrix Membranes for H₂ Purification and CO₂ Capture

- Award number:** DE-FE0026463
- Project period:** 10/1/15 to 12/31/18
- Funding:** \$1,485,099 DOE
\$ 376,837 UB and MTR contribution
\$1,861,936 total
- Program manager:** Steve Mascaro
- Participants:** University at Buffalo (**UB**);
Membrane Technology and Research, Inc. (**MTR**);
and University of Kentucky (**CAER**)
- Project Objectives:** Develop industrial membranes with H₂ permeance of 500 GPU and H₂/CO₂ selectivity of 30; and
Conduct parametric tests with real syngas at CAER.

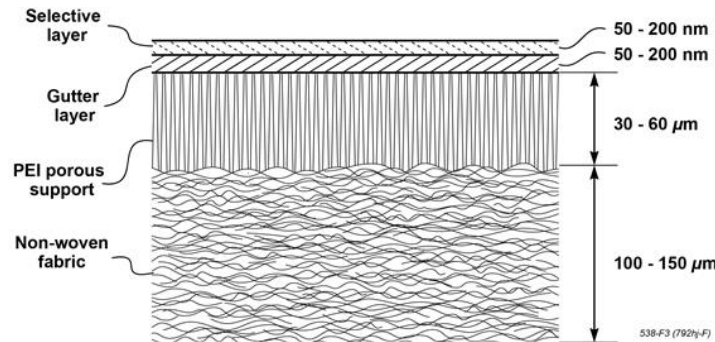


Project Scope

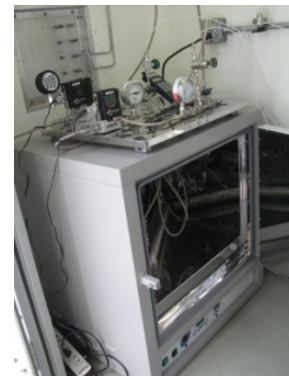
- BP1:** Prepare mixed matrix materials with H_2 permeability of 50 Barrers and H_2/CO_2 selectivity of 30 **(Q1-Q4)**
- BP2:** Prepare thin film composite membranes with H_2 permeance of 500 GPU and H_2/CO_2 selectivity of 30 **(Q5-Q10)**
- BP3:** Conduct a 20-day field test of membranes with real syngas at CAER **(Q11-Q13)**



Nanostructured materials



Industrial membranes



Field test



Our Approach: H₂/CO₂ Solubility Selectivity

$$\alpha = \frac{P_{H_2}}{P_{CO_2}} = \frac{S_{H_2}}{S_{CO_2}} \times \frac{D_{H_2}}{D_{CO_2}}$$

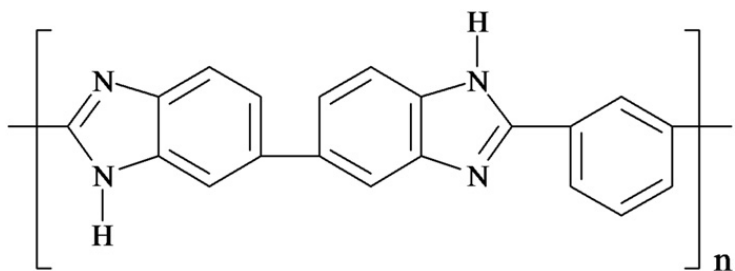
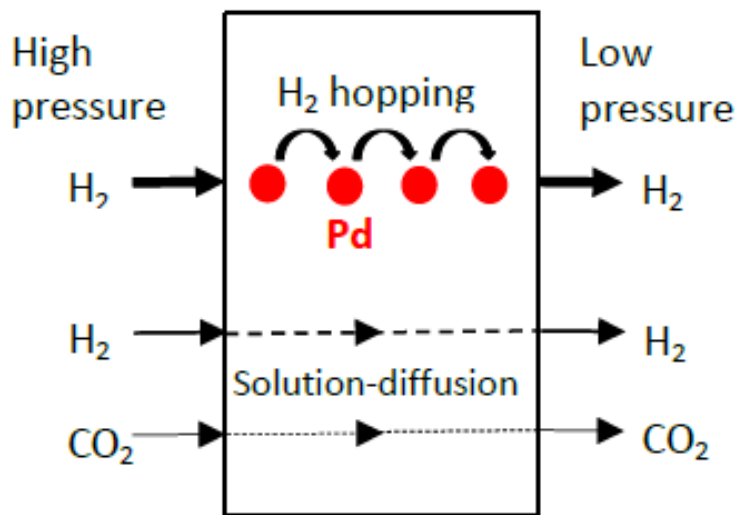
Materials	Temp. (°C)	H ₂ solubility cm ³ (STP)/(cm ³ atm)	H ₂ /CO ₂ solubility selectivity
Poly(dimethyl siloxane)	35	0.10	0.078
Polysulfone	35	0.075	0.036
Matrimid [®]	35	0.12	0.035
Pd metal*	25	38,000	> 1,000

* Calculated at 0.02 bar H₂

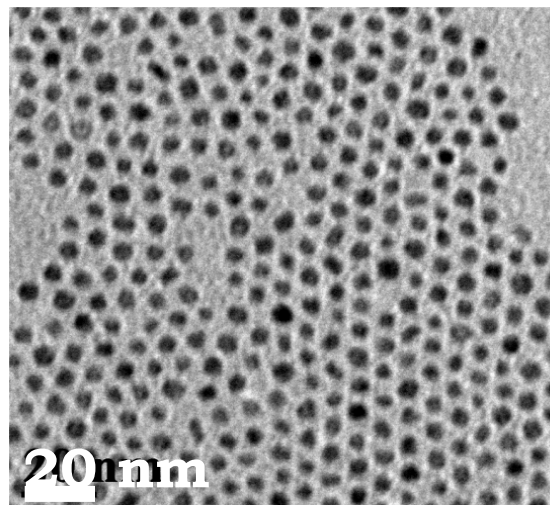
Adams and Chen, *Materials Today*, 14 (2011) 282-289



Our Approach: Sorption Enhanced Mixed Matrix Materials

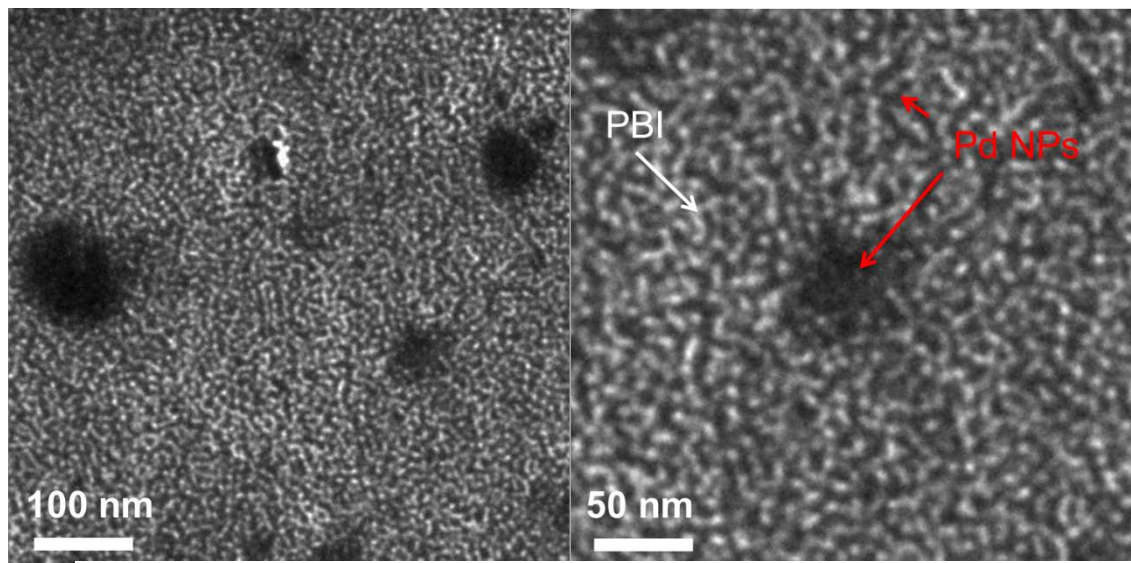


Polybenzimidazole
(PBI)



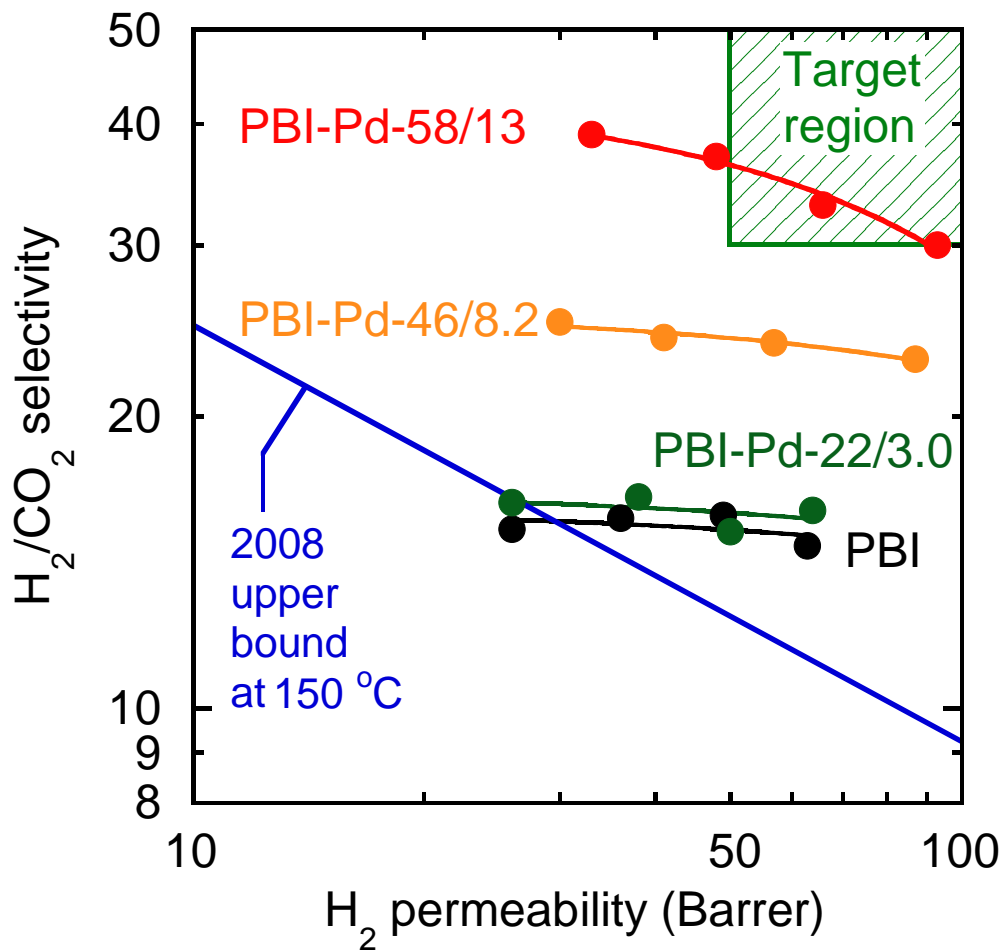
Pd
nanoparticles

Konda, Lin,
Swihart, et al.,
AIChE J., in press



Mixed matrix materials (MMMs)

Membrane Materials Meeting the BP1 Target



Mixed-gas:
50% H₂/50% CO₂

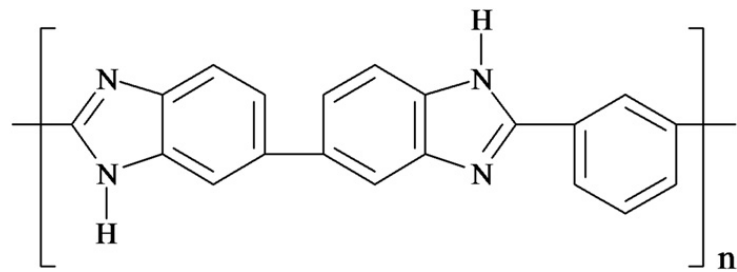
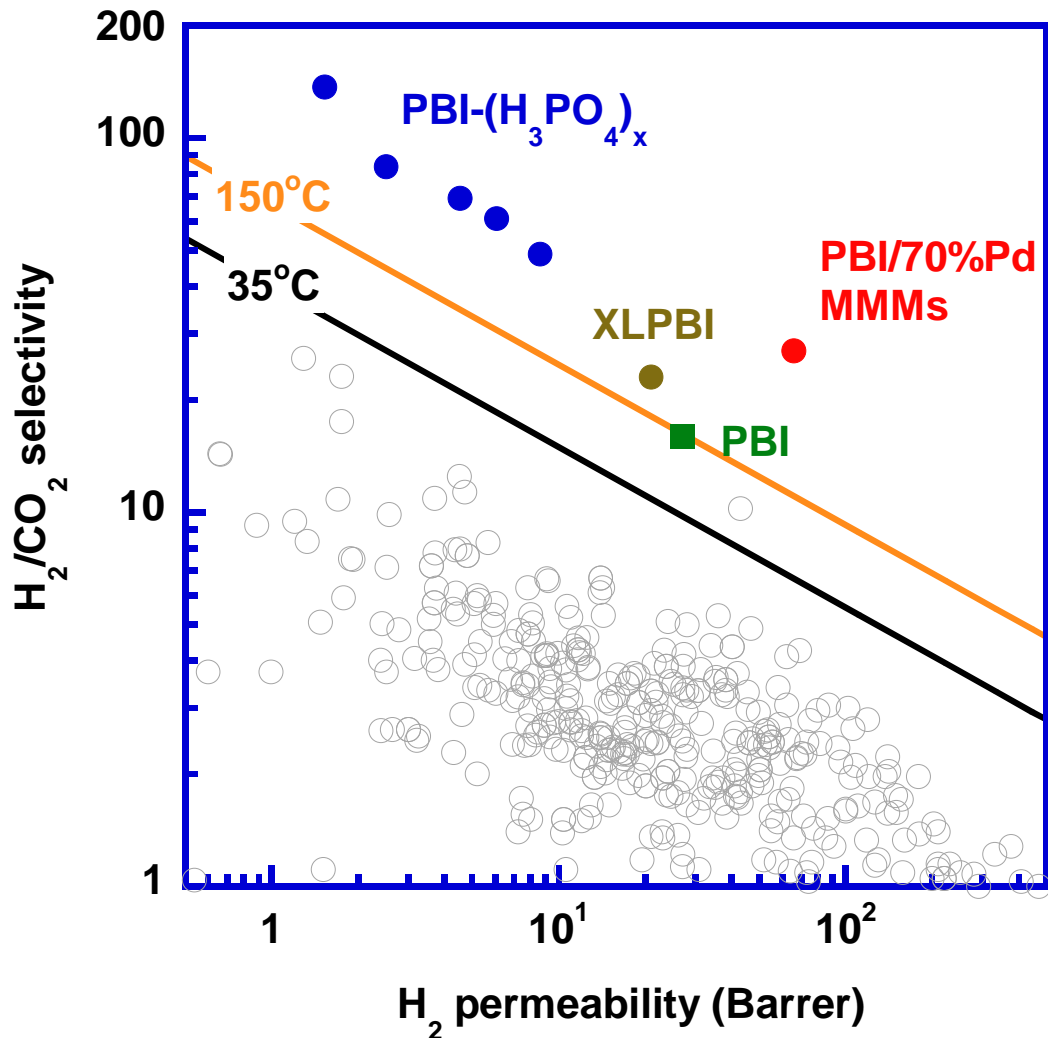
Temperatures:
150-175-200-225 °C
from left to right.

Zhu, Swihart and Lin, *Energy Environ. Sci.*, 11 (1), 94-100 (2018)



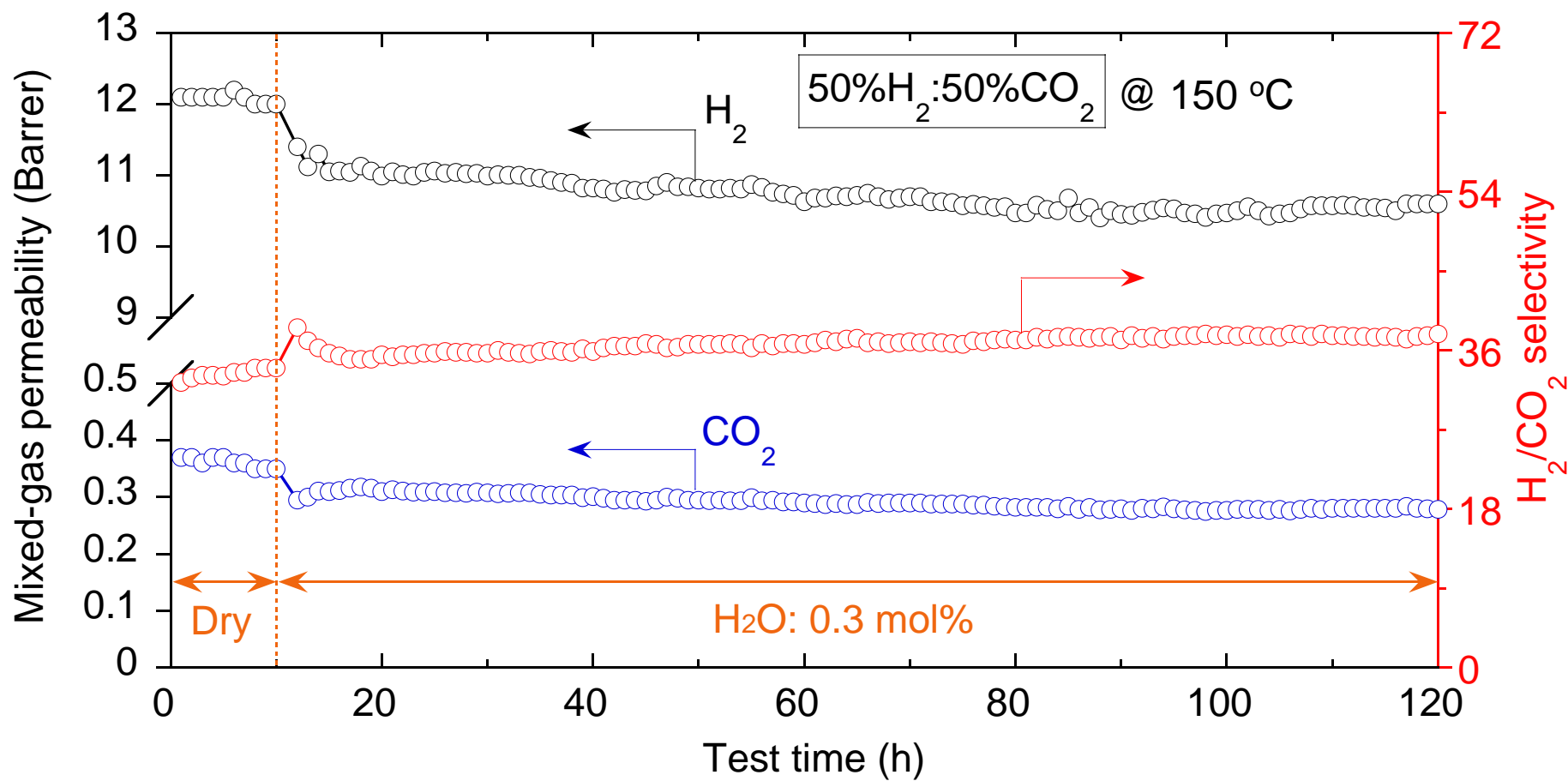
Tasks (BP2)	Start date	End date
Task 7 Scale up Polymer Synthesis	10/1/2016	3/31/2017
Task 8. Scale up Synthesis of Pd-based Nanomaterials	10/1/2016	3/31/2017
Task 9. Prepare Thin Film Composite Membranes	1/1/2017	9/30/2017
Task 10. Conduct Parametric Tests of Membranes for H ₂ /CO ₂ Separation	1/1/2017	12/31/2017
Task 11. Design and Modify Membrane Stamp Test Unit for CAER Field Test	6/1/2017	12/31/2017
Milestone f: Mixed matrix membranes with superior H₂/CO₂ separation properties prepared		
Task 13. Run 20-Day Field Test at CAER	6/1/2018	11/30/2018
Task 14. Analyze Field Test Results / Membrane Post-analysis	10/1/2018	12/31/2018
Milestone h: Successful field test completed		

Polymer Development and Scale-up

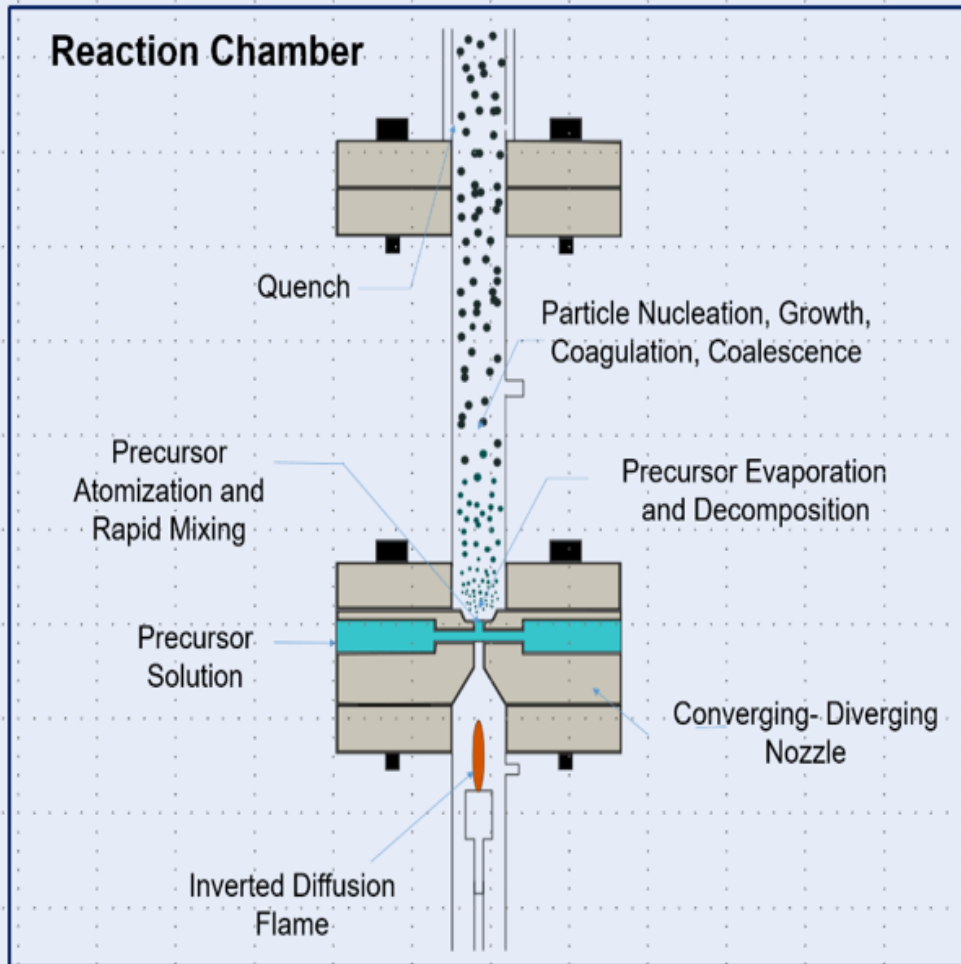


- Commercial PBIs are identified
- Modification of PBIs has been demonstrated to improve performance

Long-term Stability of a PBI-(H₃PO₄)_{0.16} Film in Simulated Syngas (H₂, CO₂ and H₂O)

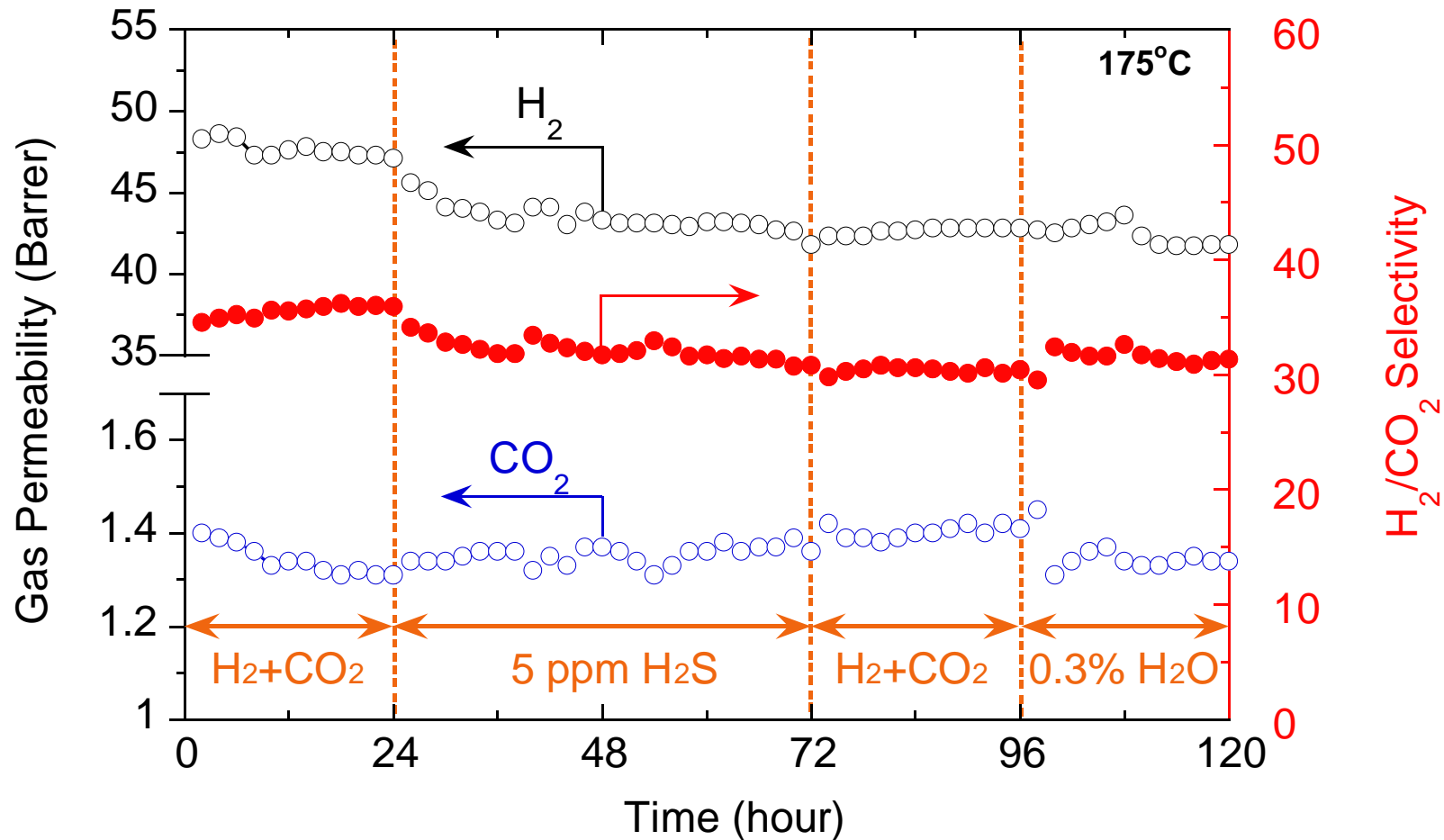


Nanoparticle Synthesis Scale-up: Gas Phase Synthesis



- ❑ Scaled up the nozzle diameter
- ❑ Achieved plugging-free production
- ❑ Can produce 2 g of Pd-Cu alloy NPs in 8 h

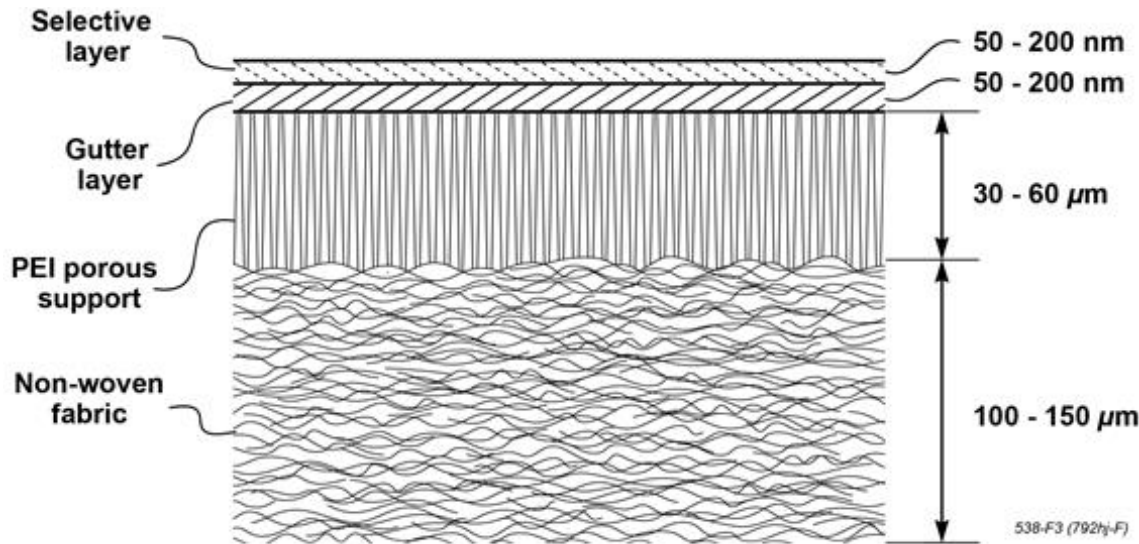
Stability of Mixed Matrix Materials against H₂S



PBI-Pd-58/13: 58 wt% or 13 vol% Pd nanoparticles



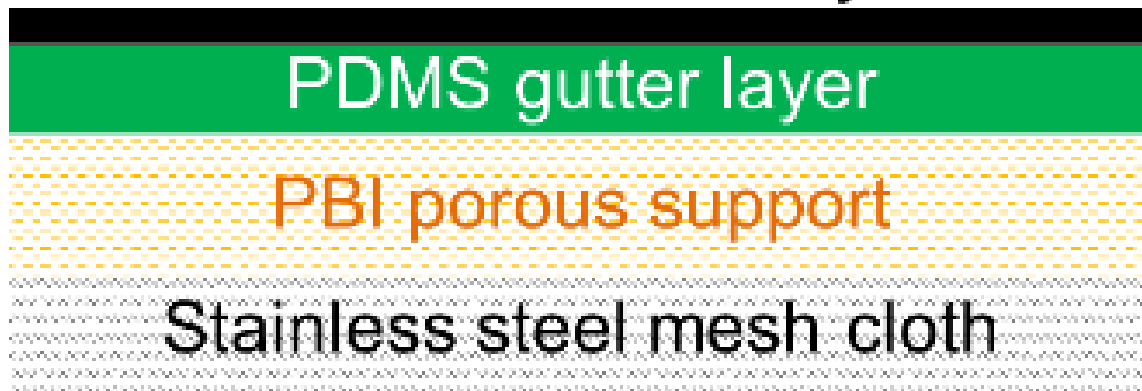
Thin Film Composite (TFC) Membranes



Conventional
TFC
membranes

Baker and Low,
Macromolecules, 47 (2014)
6999-7013.

PBI/Pd selective layer



**Thermally
stable TFC
membranes**



Surface of PBI-supports: SEM Characterization

Aver. pore size: 14 nm
Surface porosity: ~15%



Mag = 80.00 K X 200 nm
Auriga-39-38

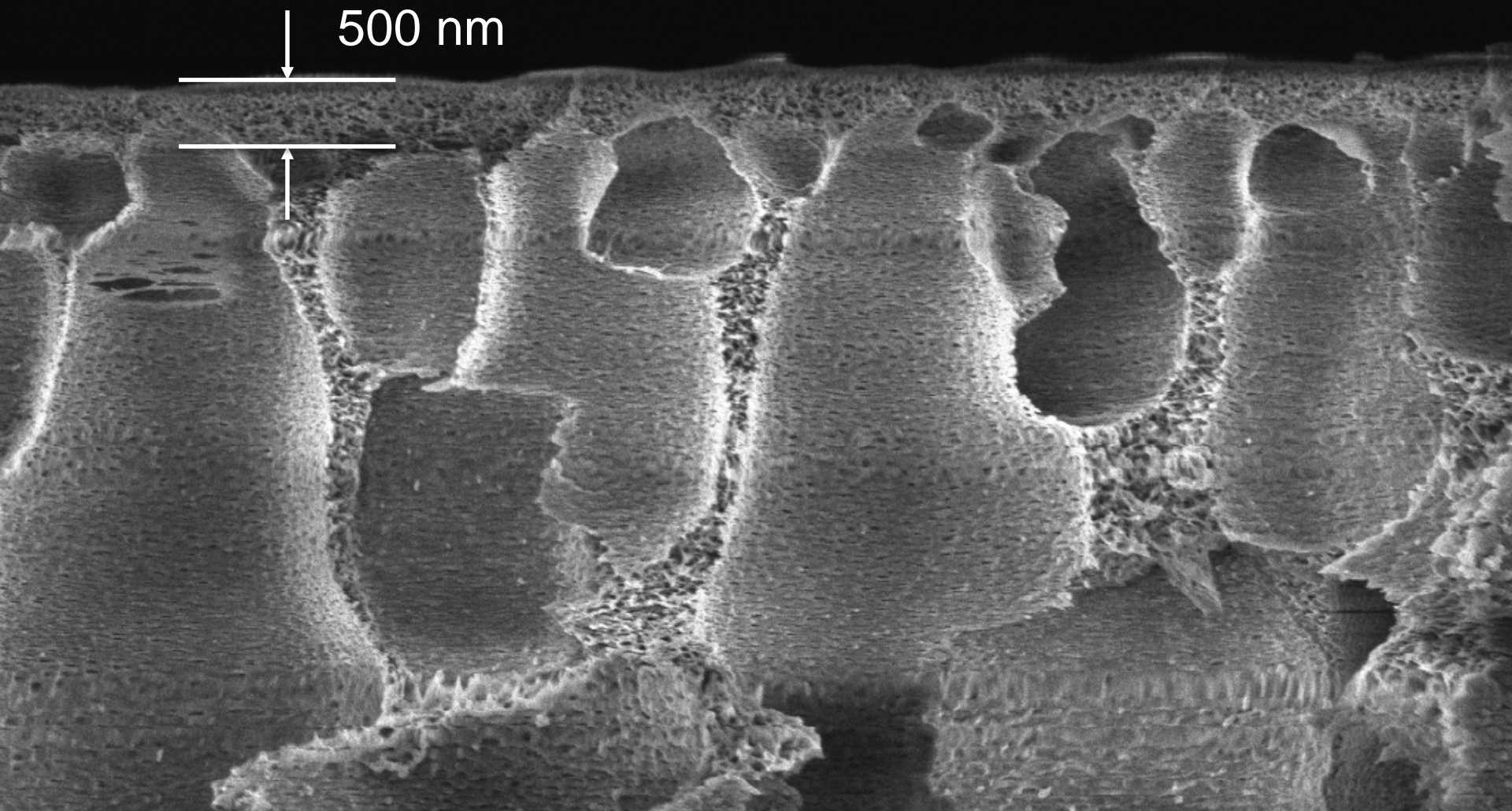
WD = 5.5 mm
FIB Imaging = SEM

EHT = 4.00 kV
Noise Reduction = Line Avg

Signal A = InLens Date :7 Jul 2017
FIB Probe = 30KV:600pA

FIB Lock Mags = No
Tilt Corr. = Off

Cross-section of PBI-supports: SEM Characterization



Mag = 15.00 K X 1 μ m
Auriga-39-38

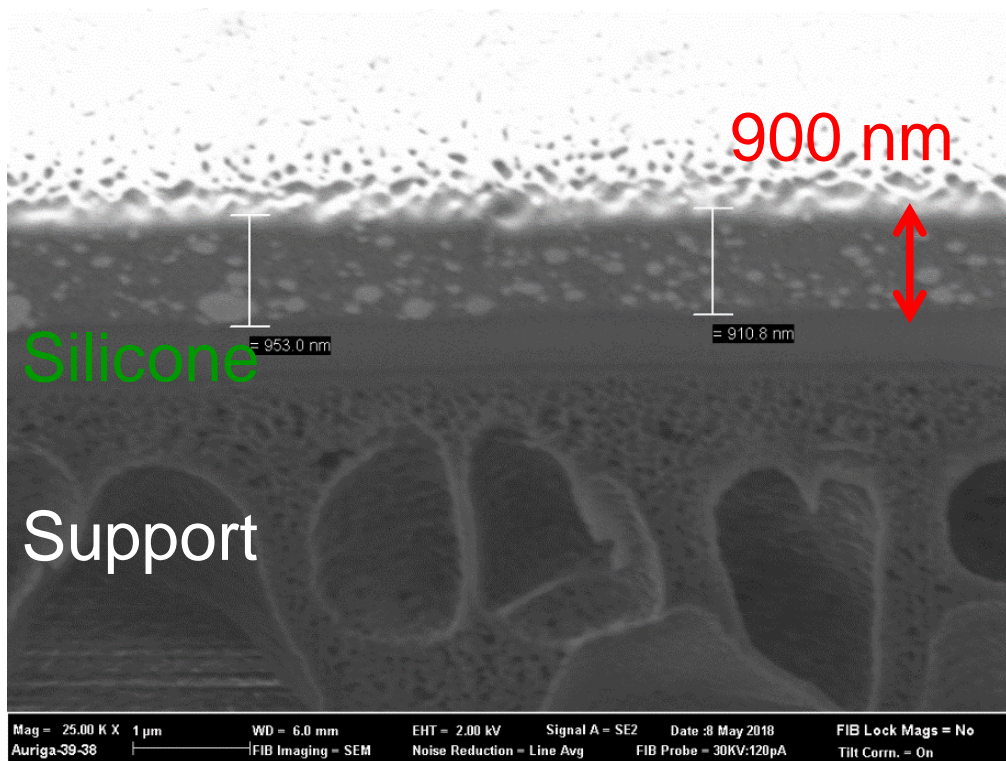
WD = 6.1 mm
FIB Imaging = SEM

EHT = 2.00 kV
Noise Reduction = Pixel Avg.

Signal A = InLens Date :7 Jul 2017
FIB Probe = 30KV:600pA

FIB Lock Mags = No
Tilt Corr. = Off

Reduce PBI/Pd Selective Layer Thickness to below 900 nm



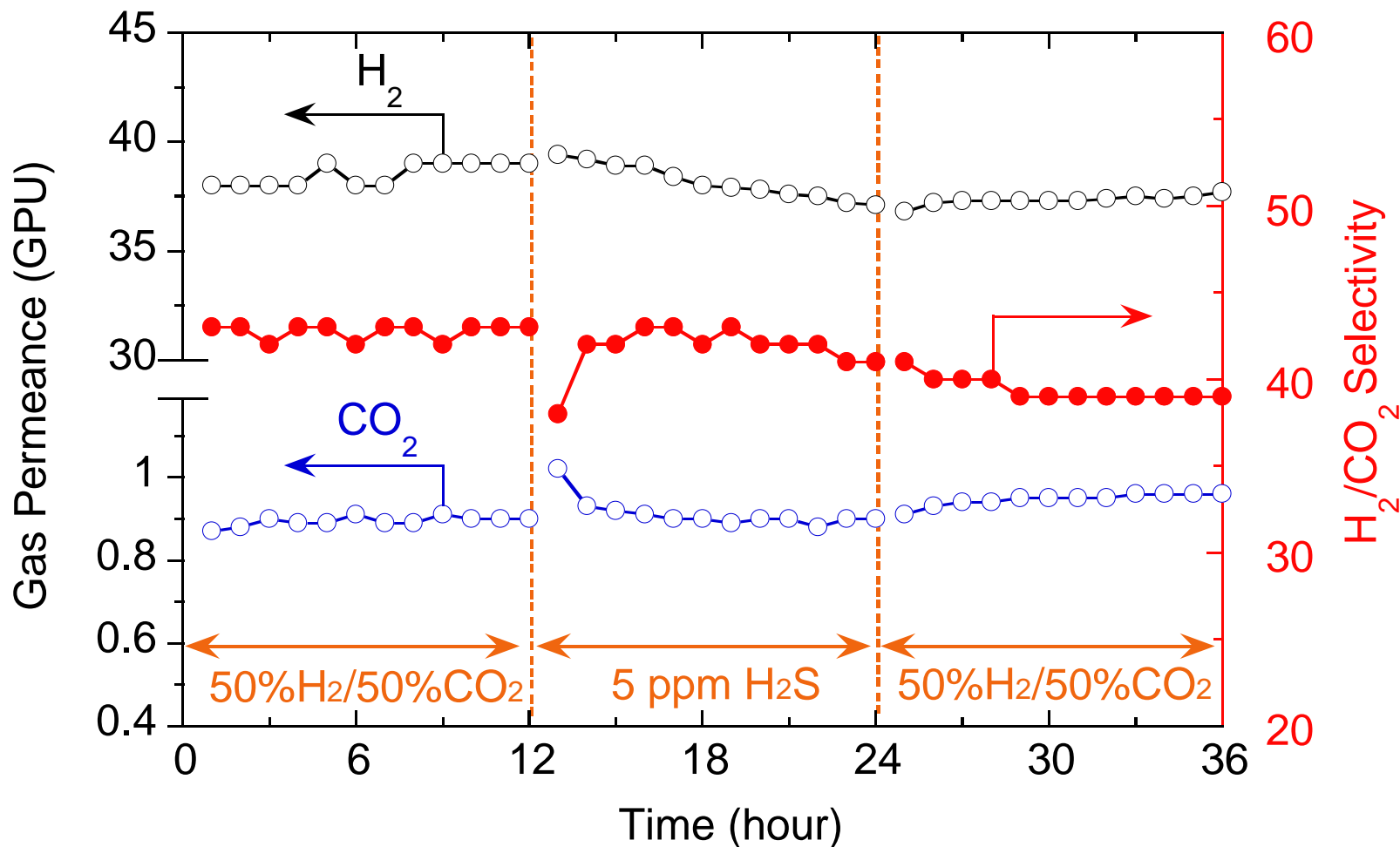
PBI-Pd-58/13

H₂ permeance: ca. 40 GPU
H₂/CO₂ selectivity: 40

Note: The PDMS gutter layer has an H₂ permeance of ~400 GPU

Measurement condition: 150 °C, 150 psig; 50% H₂/50% CO₂

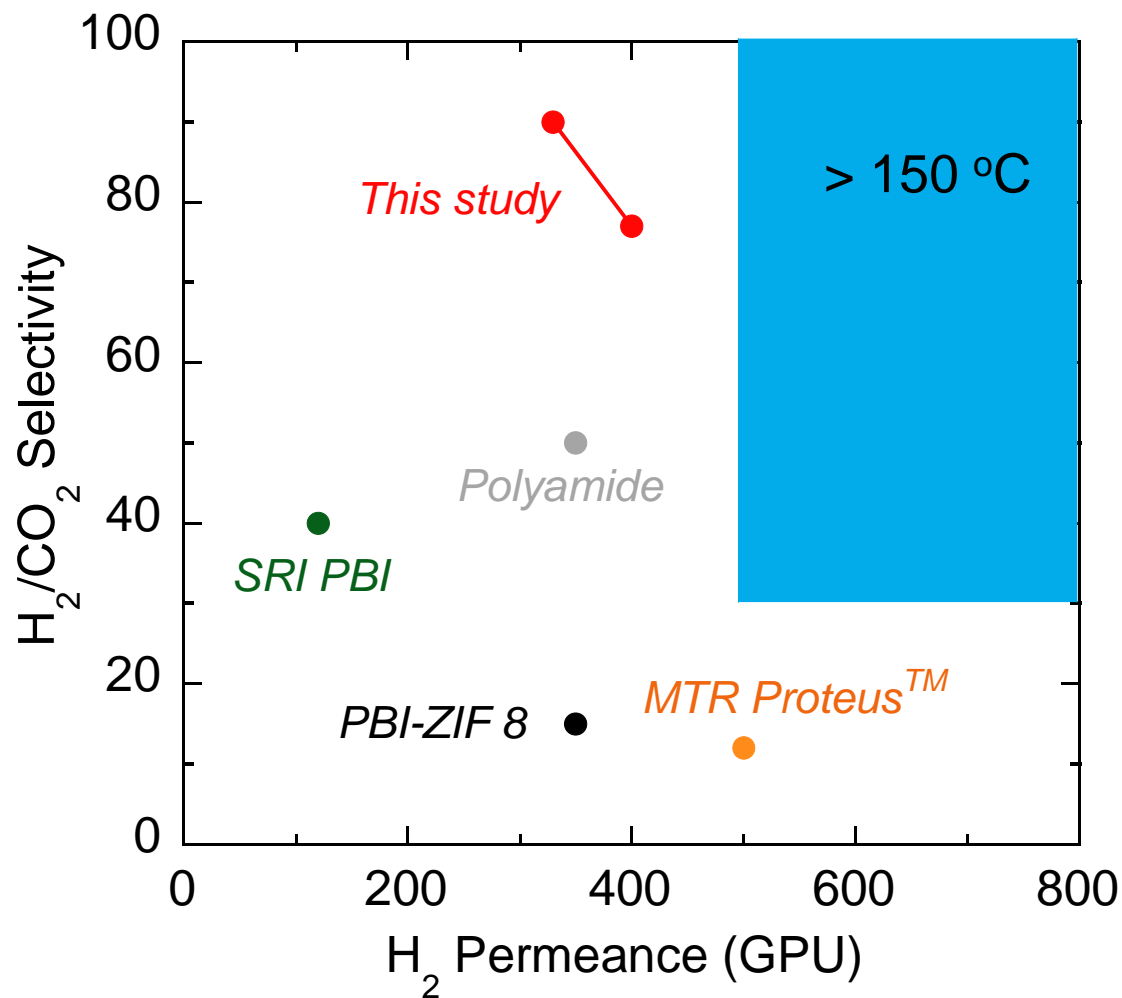
Stability with H₂S for PBI-Pd-58/13-based TFC Membrane



PBI-Pd-58/13: 58 wt% or 13 vol% Pd nanoparticles
175 °C; 150 psig



Benchmarking Our TFC Membranes



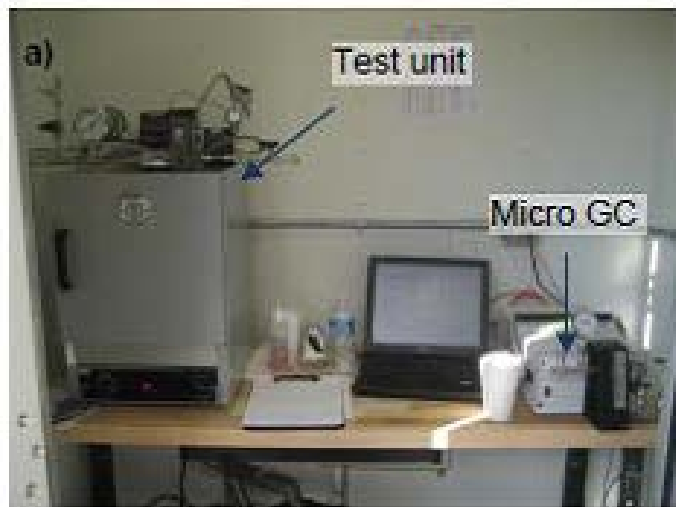
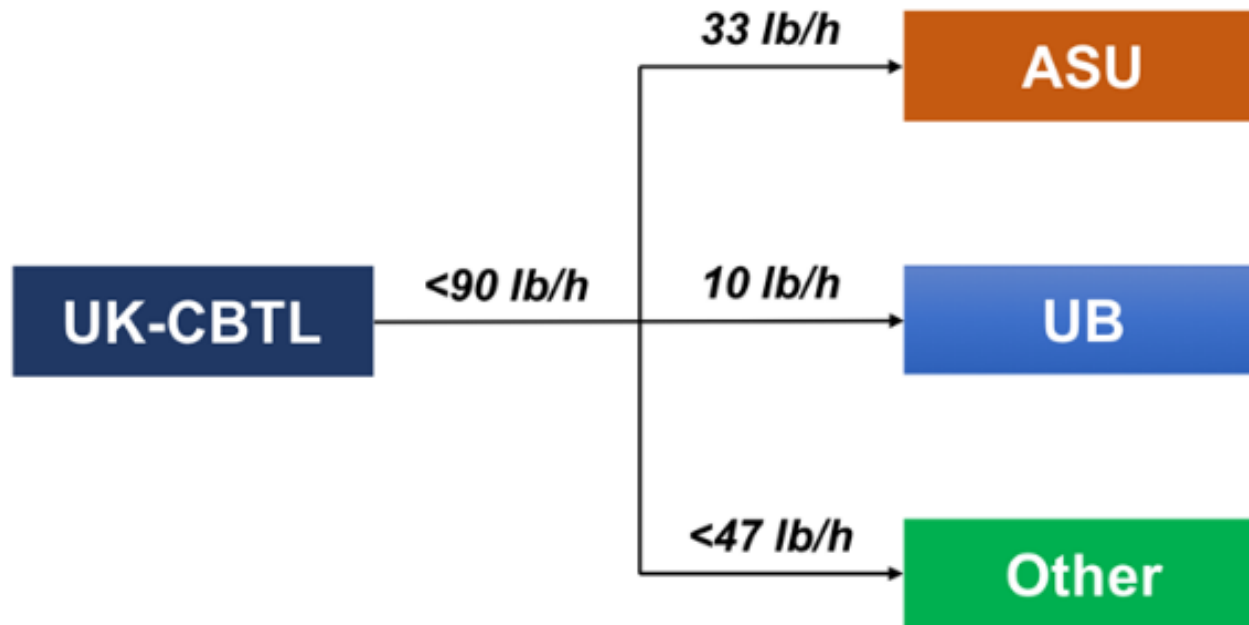
- Thin film (70 nm)
- 230 °C

Gasifier at University of Kentucky Center for Applied Energy Research (CAER)

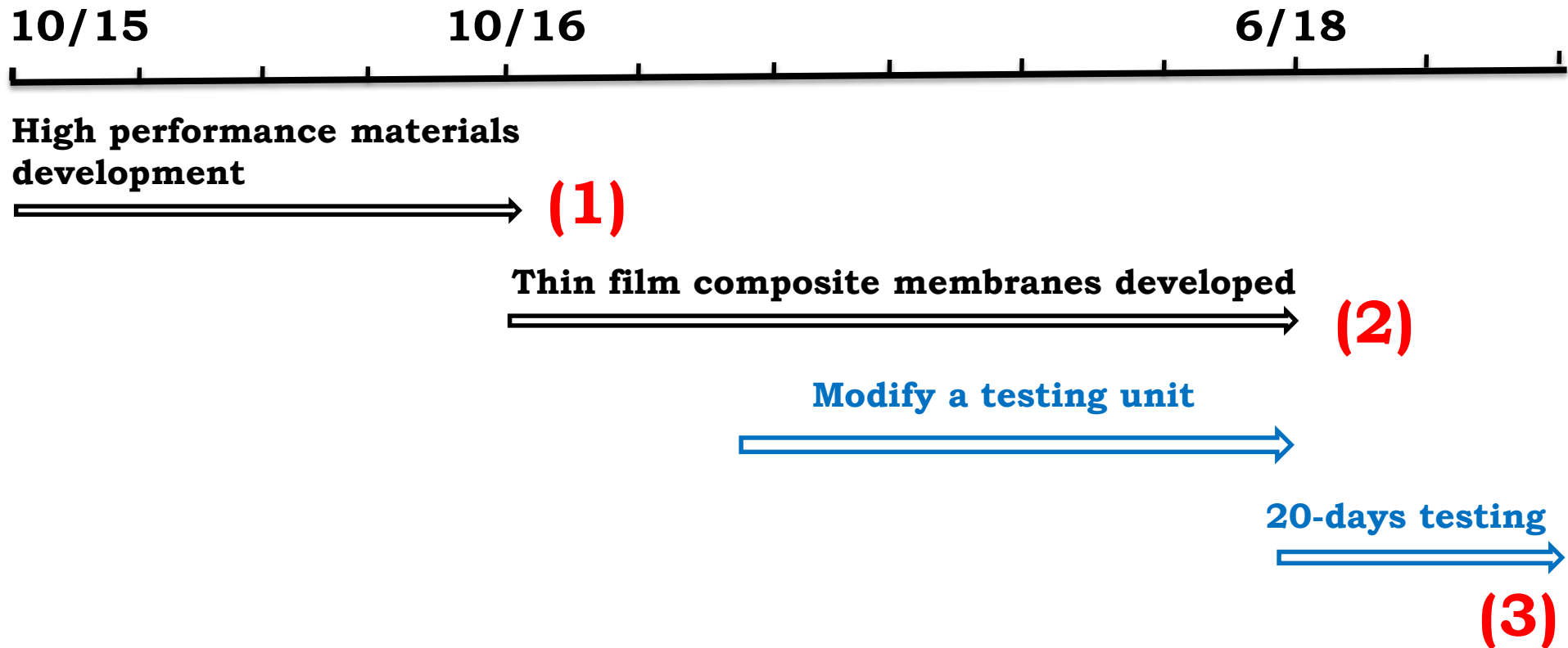


Syngas produced at atmospheric pressure, cooled to 40 °C, and then compressed to 450 psig

Membrane Testing Apparatus



Project Plan and Milestones

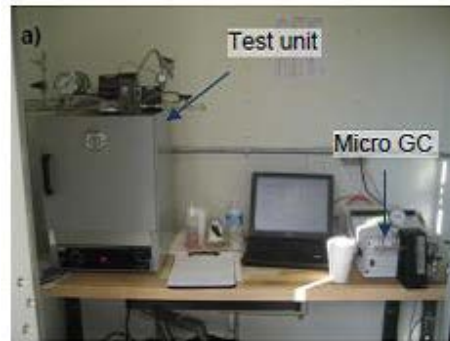
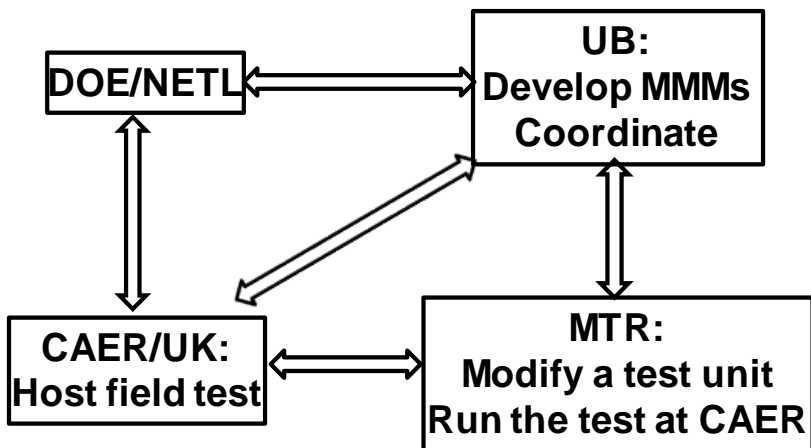
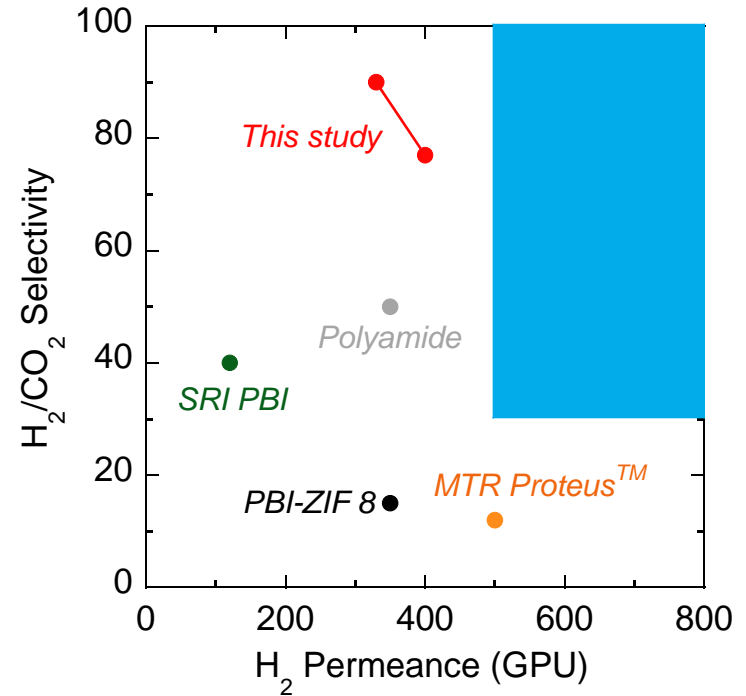
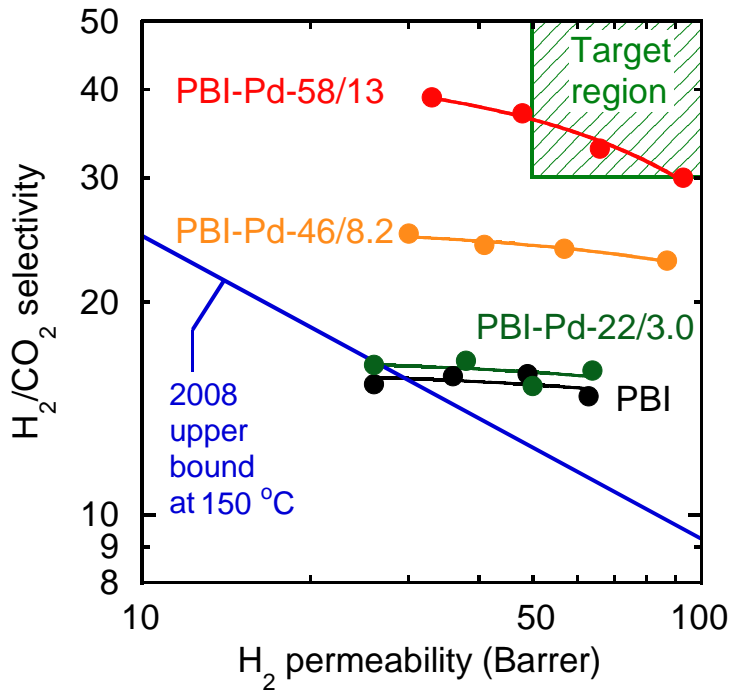


- (1)** High performance mixed matrix materials identified;
- (2)** High performance thin film composite membranes prepared; Testing skid modified;
- (3)** Parametric testing of membranes using real syngas

Project Milestones

Budget Period	ID	Description	(Planned) Completion Date
1	a	Updated Project Management Plan	11/30/15
1	b	Kickoff Meeting	12/31/15
3	c	Final report	12/31/18
1	d	Polymers and nanomaterials with promising H ₂ /CO ₂ separation properties identified and prepared	6/30/16
1	e	Mixed matrix materials with superior H ₂ /CO ₂ separation properties prepared	9/30/16
2	f	Mixed matrix membranes with superior H₂/CO₂ separation properties	3/31/18
2	g	Field test unit modified	3/31/18
3	h	Successful field test	11/30/18

Summary



Acknowledgments



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY



Steve Mascaro
Elaine Everitt



**Department of Chemical
and Biological Engineering**



Tim Merkel
Jay Kniep



Andrew Placido
Kunlei Liu

