

SOLAR PEC H₂ DEVICES

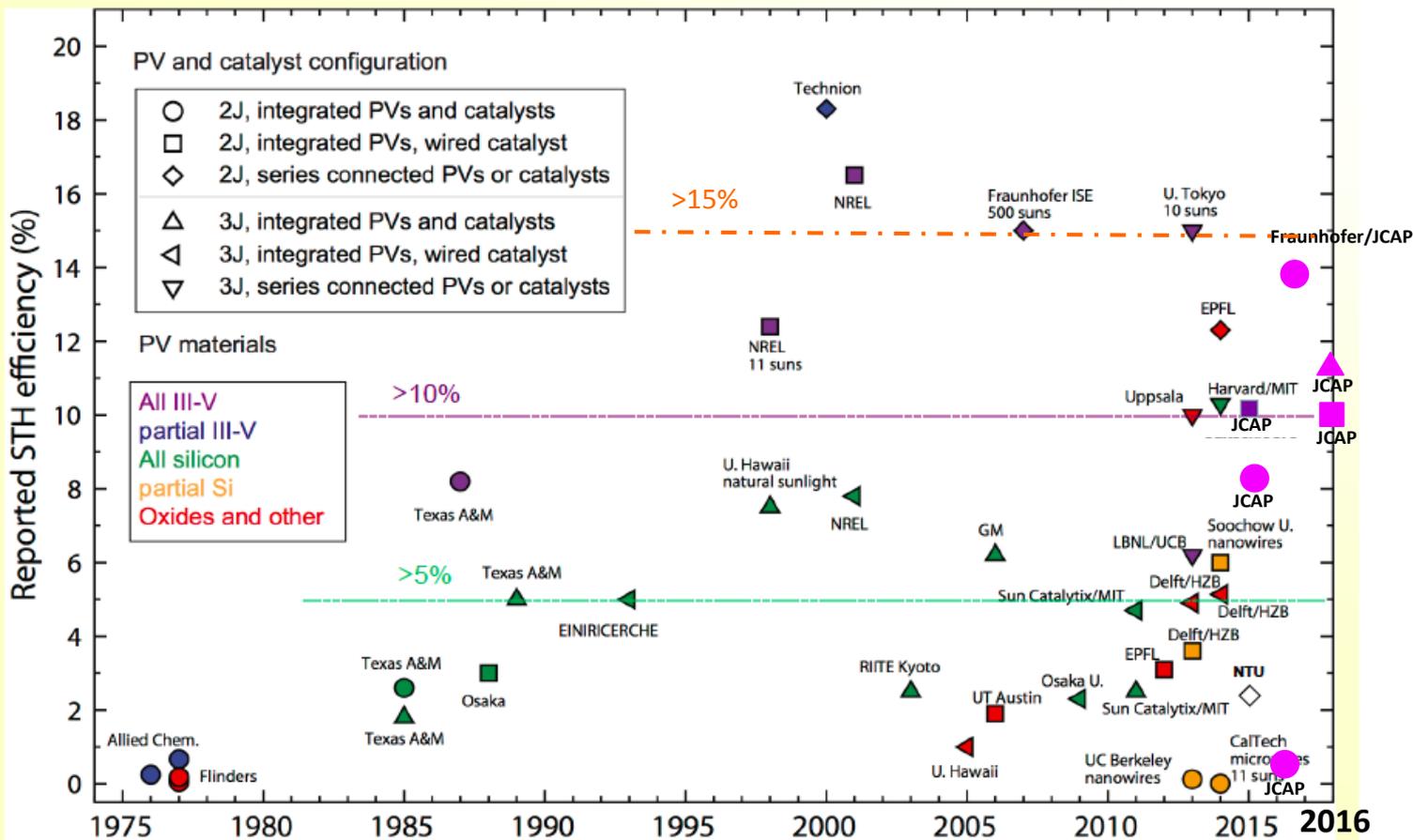
FRANCES HOULE
JOINT CENTER FOR ARTIFICIAL PHOTOSYNTHESIS
LAWRENCE BERKELEY NATIONAL LABORATORY

AWSM workshop
April 14-15, 2016



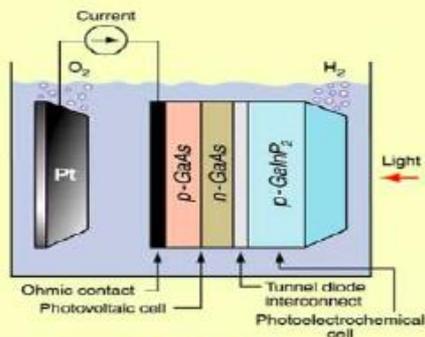
Updated with 2015-16 demonstrations

Reported Solar to Hydrogen Conversion Efficiencies



Selected laboratory scale solar to H₂ demonstrations

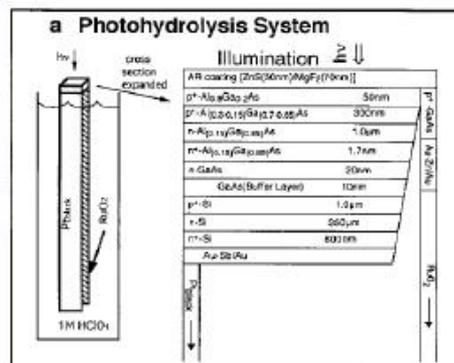
Novel cell uses light to produce H₂ at 12.4% efficiency



12% STH

Turner *et al.* (1998)

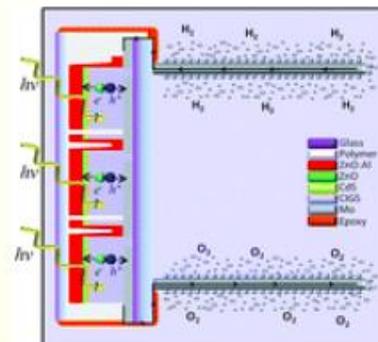
Pt/pn-GaAs//p-GaInP/Pt



18% STH

Licht *et al.* (2000)

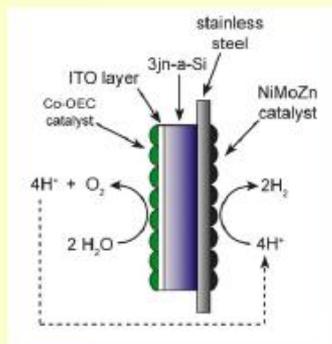
RuO₂/pn-AlGaAs//pn-Si/Pt black



10% STH

Jacobsson *et al.* (2013)

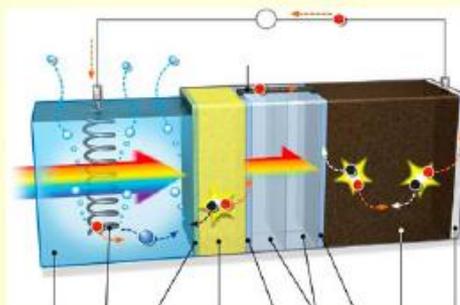
3xCIGS tandem + Pt



~3% STH

Nocera *et al.* (2011)

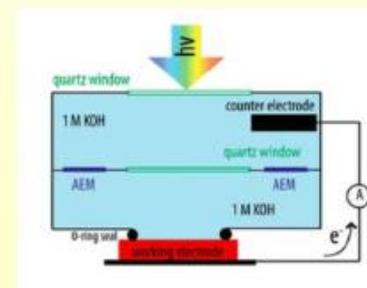
Co-Pi/3J-a-Si/NiMoZn



~5% STH

van de Krol *et al.* (2013)

Co-Pi/BiVO₄//2J-a-Si/Pt wire



10%

STH with separation
Lewis *et al.* (2015)

Ni/pn-GaAs//p-GaInP/NiMo

PLANAR DEVICE: THE LOUVERED DESIGN WITH FULL PRODUCT SEPARATION

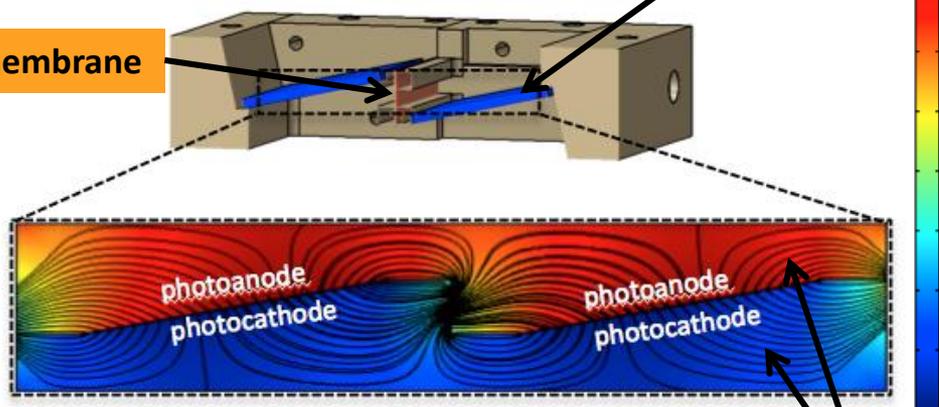
Geometry optimized by multiphysics modeling

Catalyst/semiconductor/catalyst

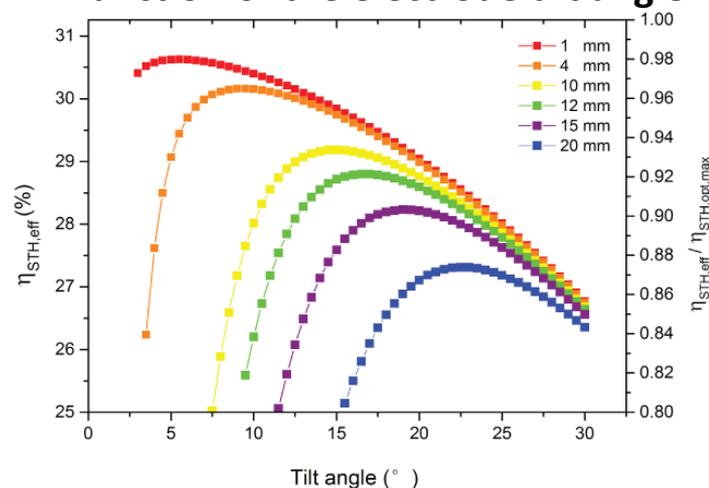
Electrolyte potential (V) and current density (stream line)

Potential (mV)

membrane



Solar to H₂ conversion efficiency as a function of the electrode tilt angle



Cell parameters:

PV width = 1.43 cm

Nafion height = 3.10 mm

Channel height = 3.25 mm

Catalysts: IrO₂ and Pt

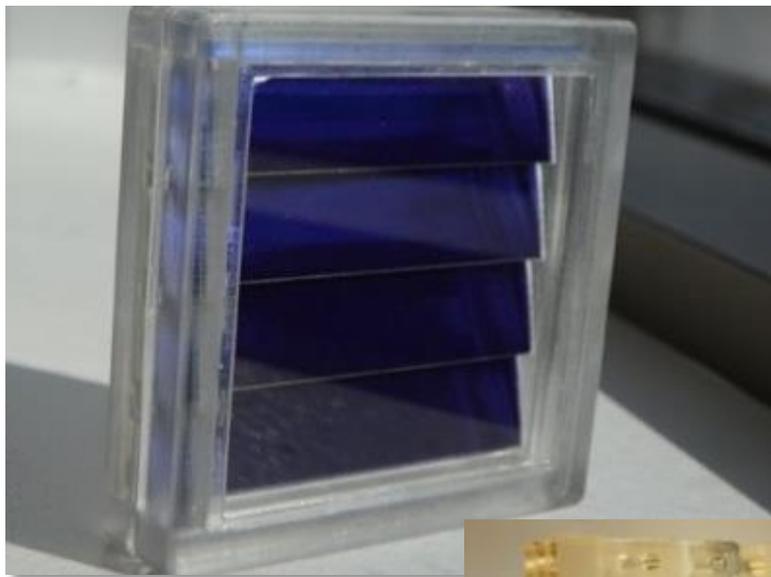
Solution: 1 M H₂SO₄

Nafion conductivity: 10 S m⁻¹

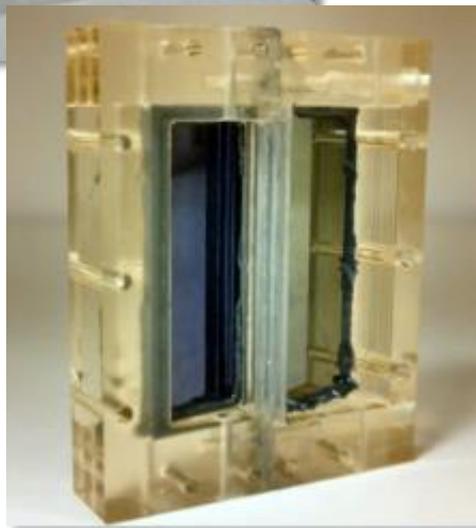
TCO conductivity: 10⁵ S m⁻¹

Membrane height can not exceed 15 mm to achieve 90% of the ideal conversion efficiency.

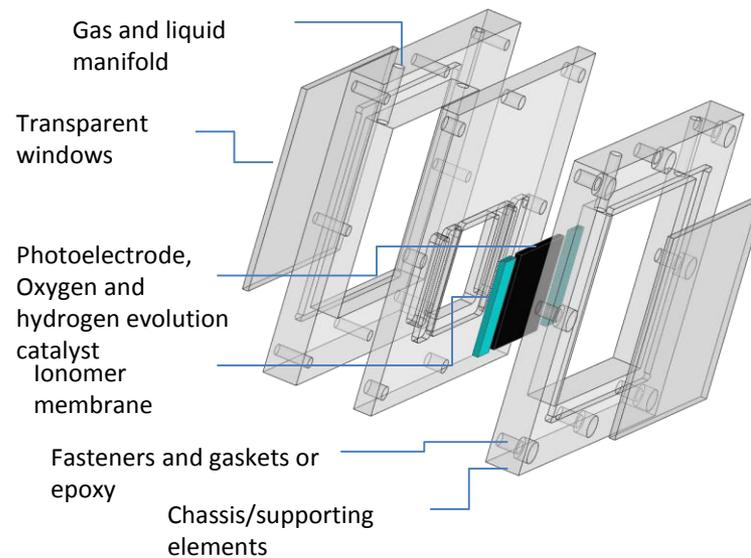
LOUVERED DEVICE VARIATIONS



10 cm x 10 cm



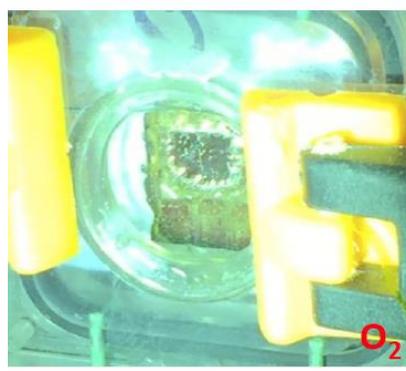
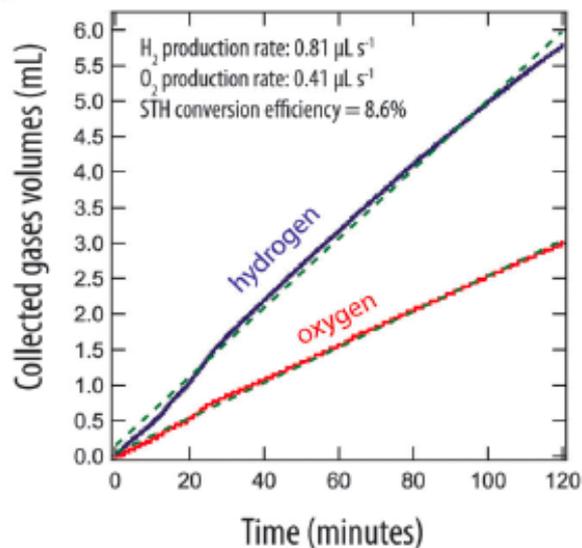
5 cm x 5 cm



Unfolded – PEC with membrane side panels

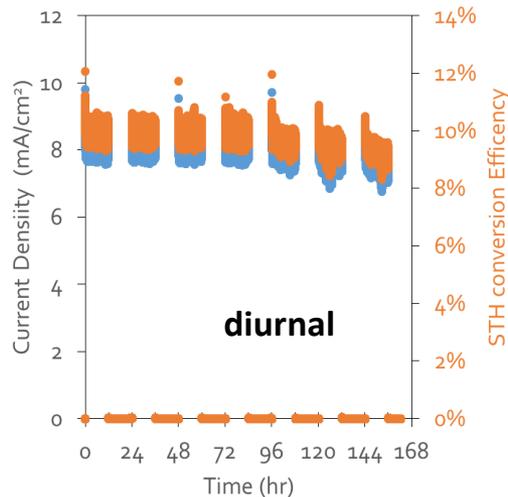
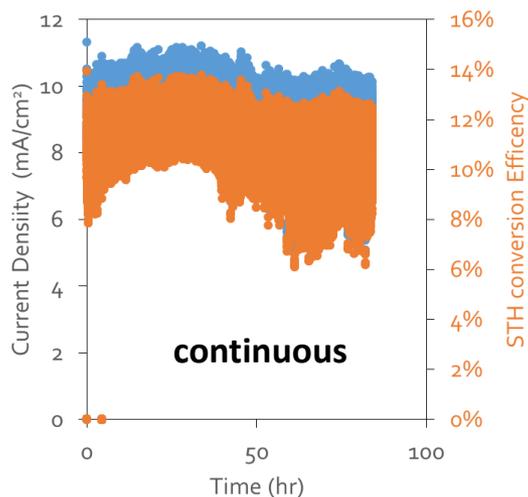
HIGH EFFICIENCY WATER OXIDATION SYSTEMS – UNFOLDED LOUVERED

3.



photoanode

III-V semiconductor stack
 8.6% STH efficiency in 1M KOH, 1 cm²

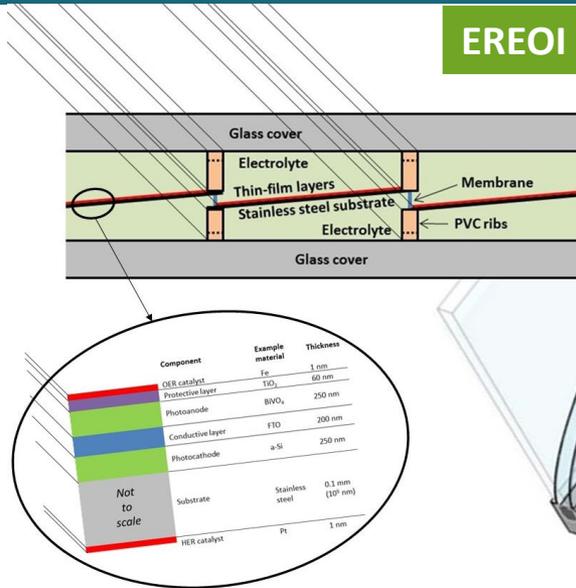


photocathode

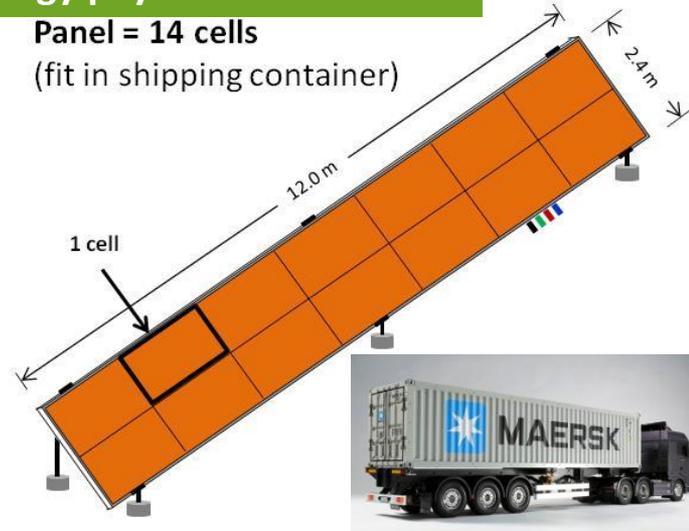
III-V semiconductor stack
 10-12% STH efficiency in 1M H₂SO₄,
 1 cm²

1 GW SCALE SOLAR HYDROGEN PLANT MODEL: 10% STH, 10 YEAR LIFETIME

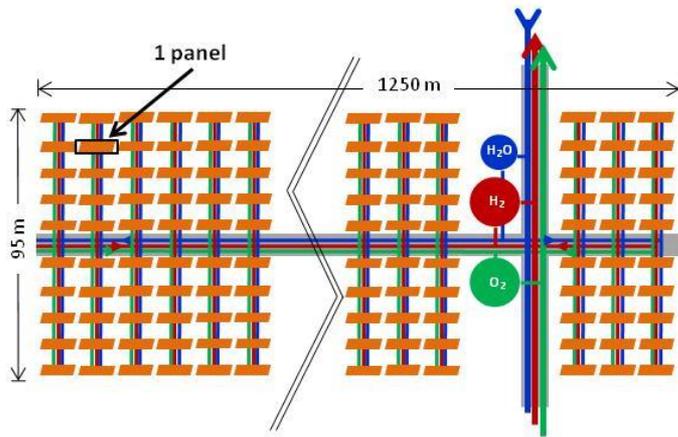
EROEI = 2.3, energy payback time 4.2 Yrs



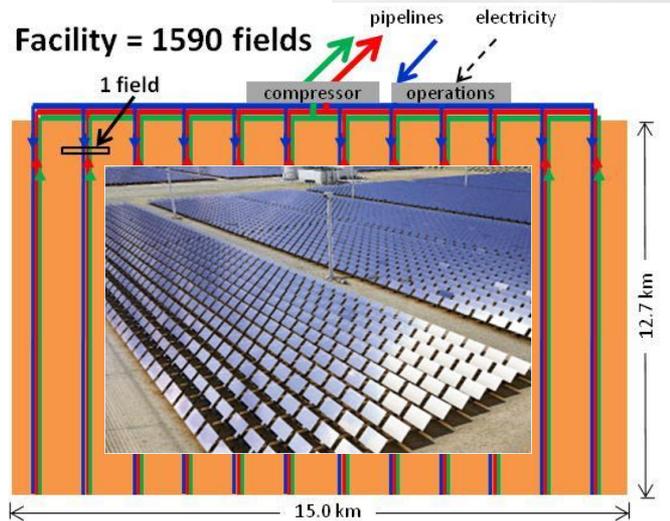
Panel = 14 cells
(fit in shipping container)



Field = 1000 panels



Facility = 1590 fields





**Thanks to the JCAP
team and DOE Basic
Energy Sciences!**

The Joint Center for Artificial Photosynthesis (JCAP) is the nation's largest research program dedicated to the development of an artificial solar-fuel generation technology. Established in 2010 as a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Energy Innovation Hub, JCAP aims to find a cost-effective method to produce fuels using only sunlight, water, and carbon-dioxide as inputs. JCAP is led by a team from the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and brings together more than 140 world-class scientists and engineers from Caltech and its lead partner, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. JCAP also draws on the expertise and capabilities of key partners from the University of California campuses at Irvine (UCI) and San Diego (UCSD), and the Stanford Linear Accelerator (SLAC). In addition, JCAP serves as a central hub for other solar fuels research teams across the United States, including 20 DOE Energy Frontier Research Center.

For more information, visit <http://www.solarfuelshub.org>.



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