



Hydrogen Storage and Delivery by Reversible Hydrogenation of Liquid-phase Hydrogen Carriers

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Fundamental Energetics for Reversibly Containing Hydrogen:

➤ For H_2 (gas) \rightleftharpoons H_2 (contained) equilibrium:

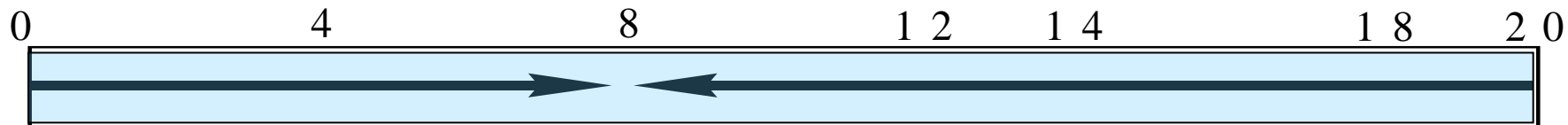
$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S = -RT\ln K$$

➤ For containing H_2 in a spontaneous process:

- $\Delta G < 0$
- $\Delta H < 0$
- entropy (S) decreases from its' gas phase value (31.1 cal/mole K)

The greater variable contribution to ΔG is from ΔH

Known Enthalpies Ranges for Physical and Chemical Stage



Weakly to strongly physisorbed H_2 on Substrate

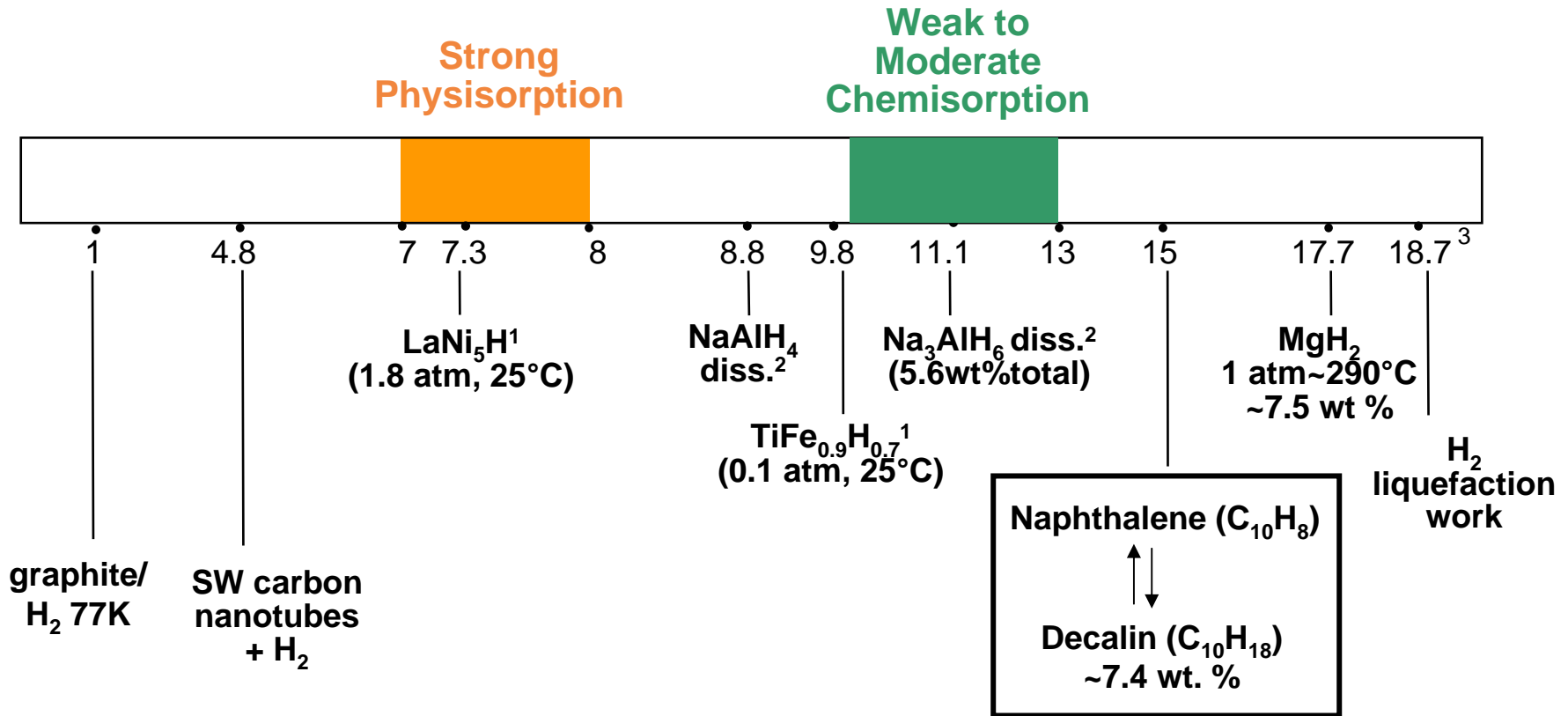
H_2 containment in porous solid, reversible by H_2 pressure



Strongly to weakly chemisorbed H_2 on Substrate

H_2 containment in a solid or liquid by temperature and/or H_2 pressure reversible chemistry

Ranges for Various H₂ Storage Technologies



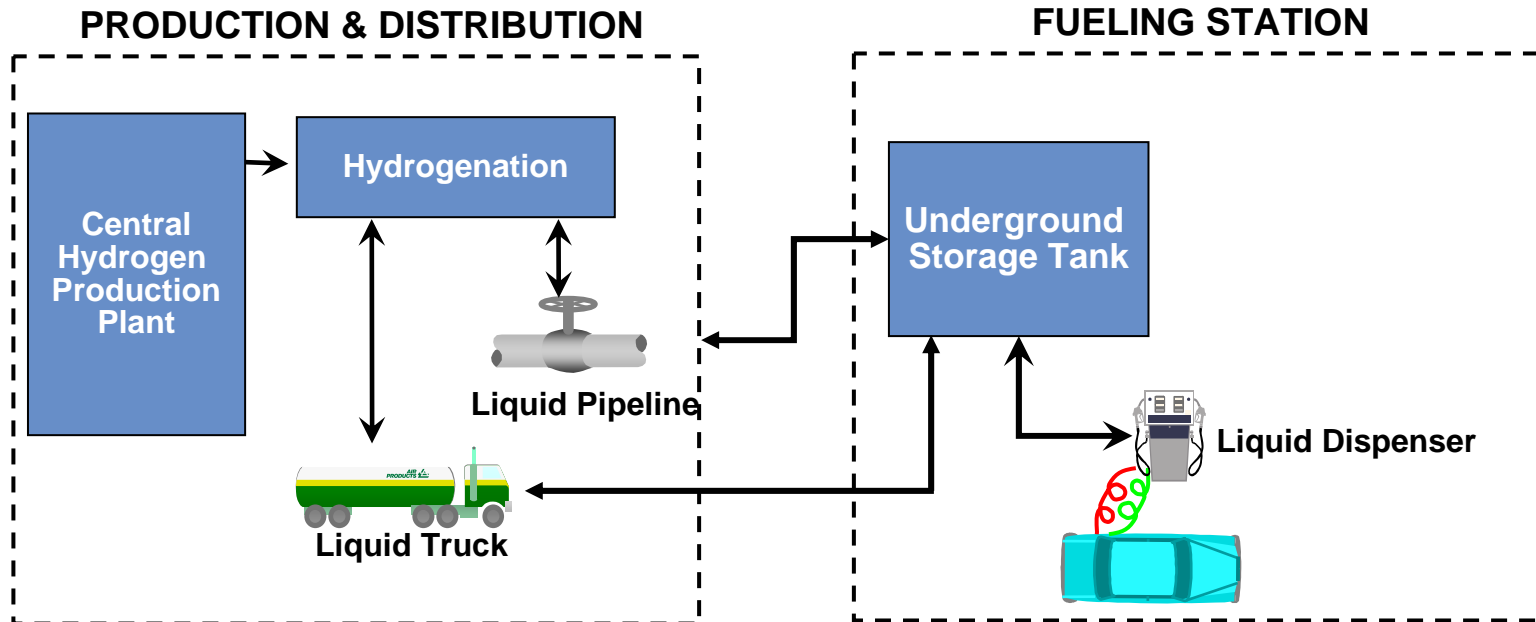
Note: Lower Heating Value for H₂ (LHV) = 57 kcal/mole

¹G. Sandrock, J. Alloys and Compounds 293-295, 877 (1999)

²B. Bogdanovic, G. Sandrock, MRS Bulletin 712 (2002)

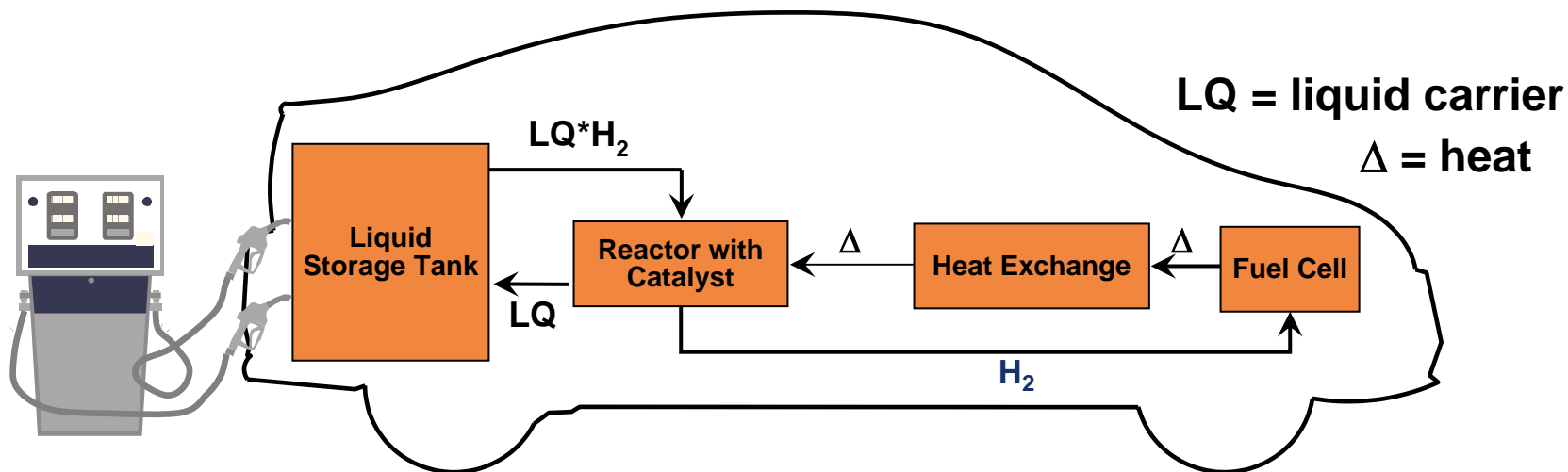
³W. Peschka, "Liquid Hydrogen Fuel of the Future" Springer-Verlag p. 65

Storage Approach for Delivery to a Fueling Station

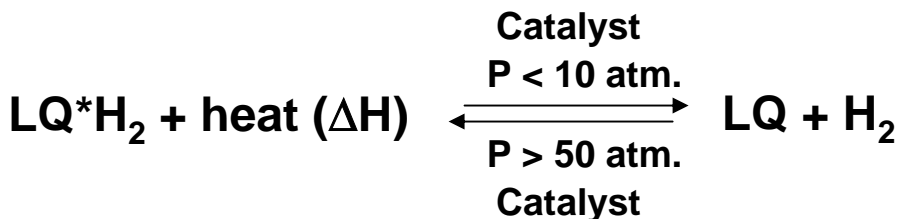


Approach:

An off-board regenerable liquid carrier for vehicles and stationary H₂ gas delivery



- Conformable shape liquid tank with design to separate liquids; 22.5 gallons for 5 kg hydrogen at 6 wt. % and unit density
- Heat exchange reduces the vehicles' radiator load by *ca.* 40% (for ΔH of 12 kcal/mol H₂ and 50% FC efficiency)



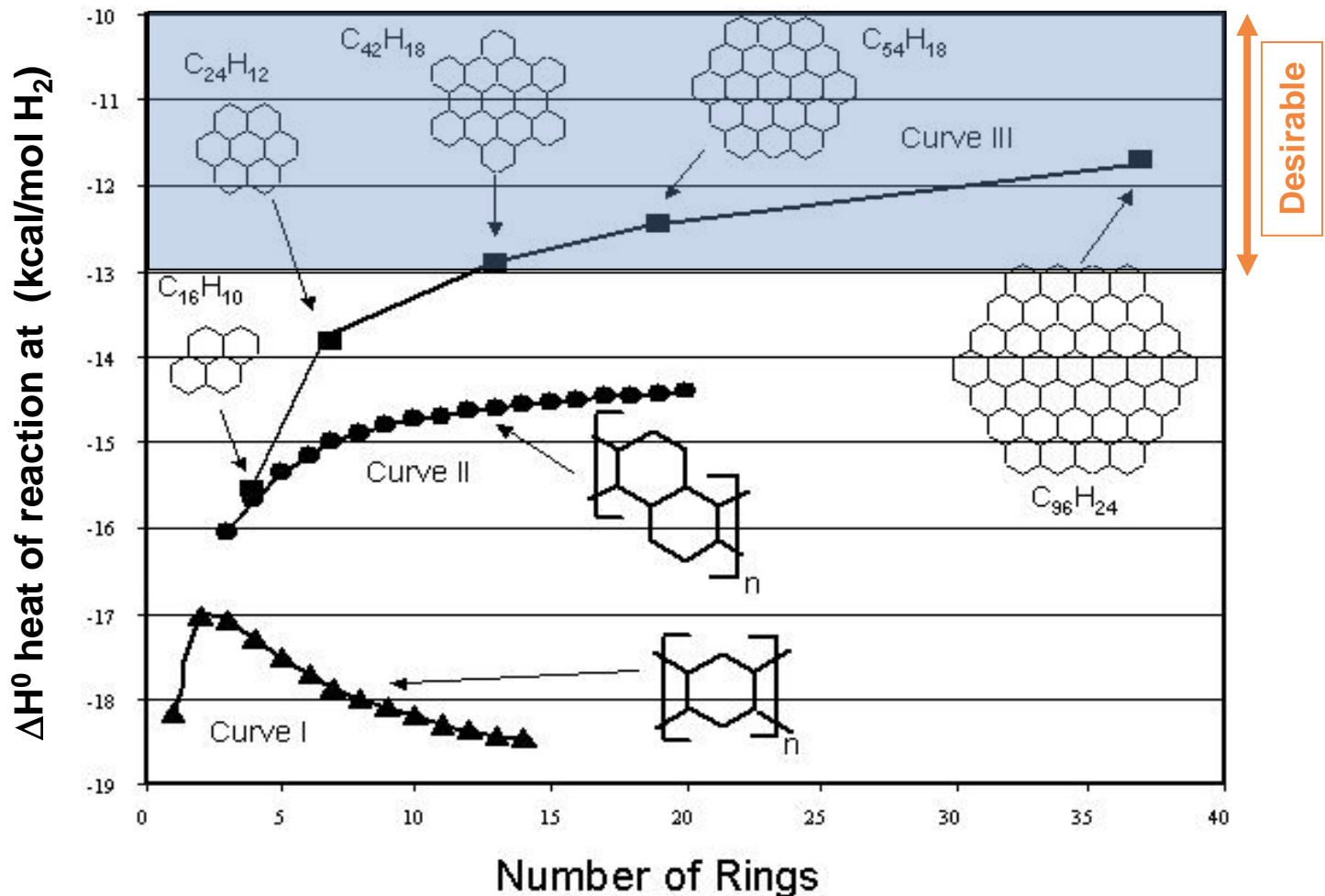
Maximum energy efficiency: by (a) recovering the exothermic (-ΔH) of hydrogenation and (b) utilizing the waste heat from the power source to supply the ΔH for the endothermic dehydrogenation.

Partial List of “Liquid Carrier” Performance Criteria

- **Optimal heat of hydrogenation (10-13 kcal/mole H₂), enabling the catalytic dehydrogenation at unprecedented temperatures (<200 °C)**
- **Low volatility (b.p. > 300 °C), enabling the use of these liquids in simplified systems onboard vehicles and reducing exposure to vapors**
- **Low toxicity and environmental impact**
- **Clean catalytic hydrogenation and dehydrogenation, enabling multiple cycles of use with no significant degradation of the molecule**
- **Manufacture of the liquid carriers from low cost, natural source raw materials.**

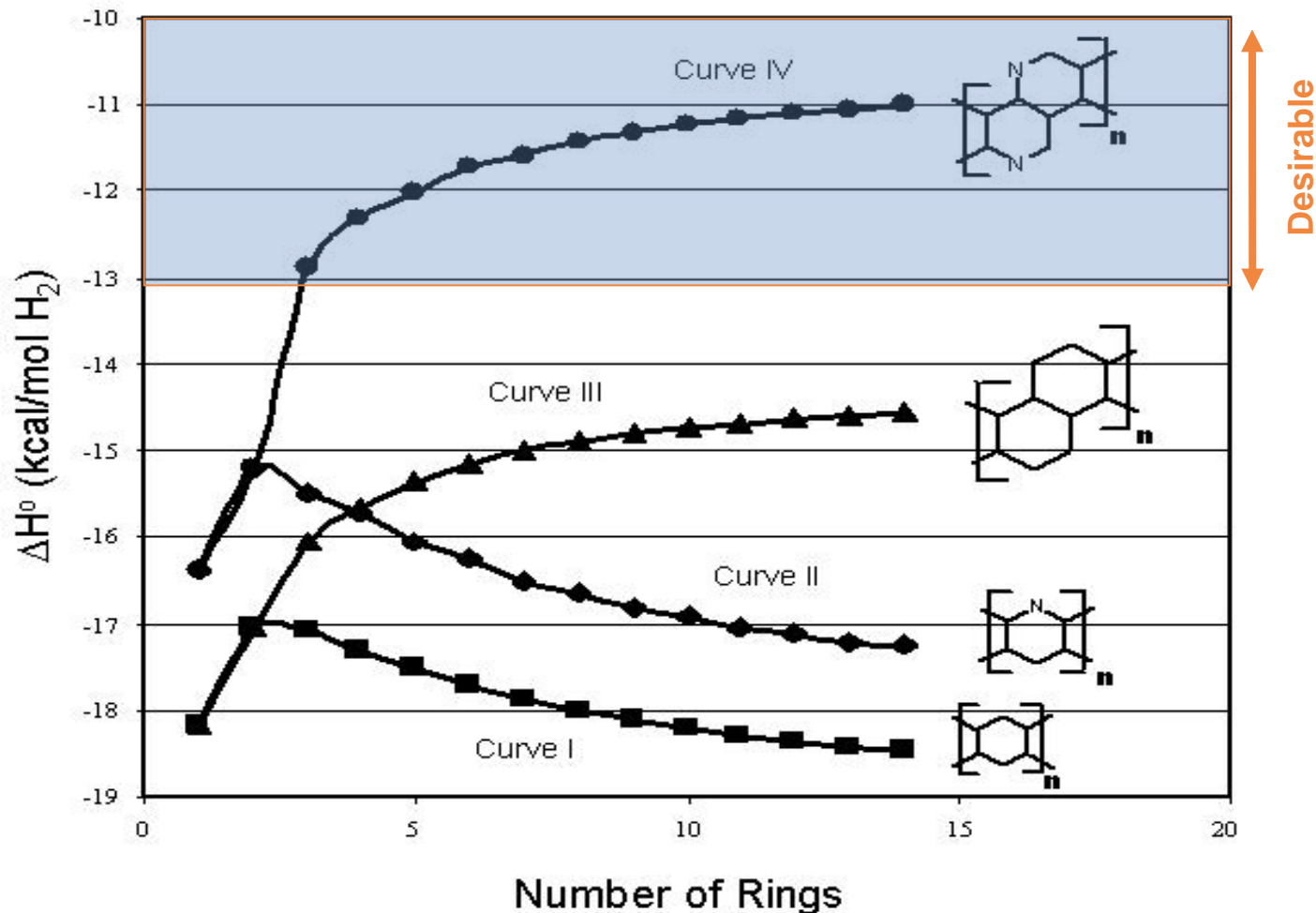
These are not completely satisfied by known organic liquid carriers (eg. cyclohexane, decalin)

Enthalpies of Hydrogenation as a function of fused aromatic rings



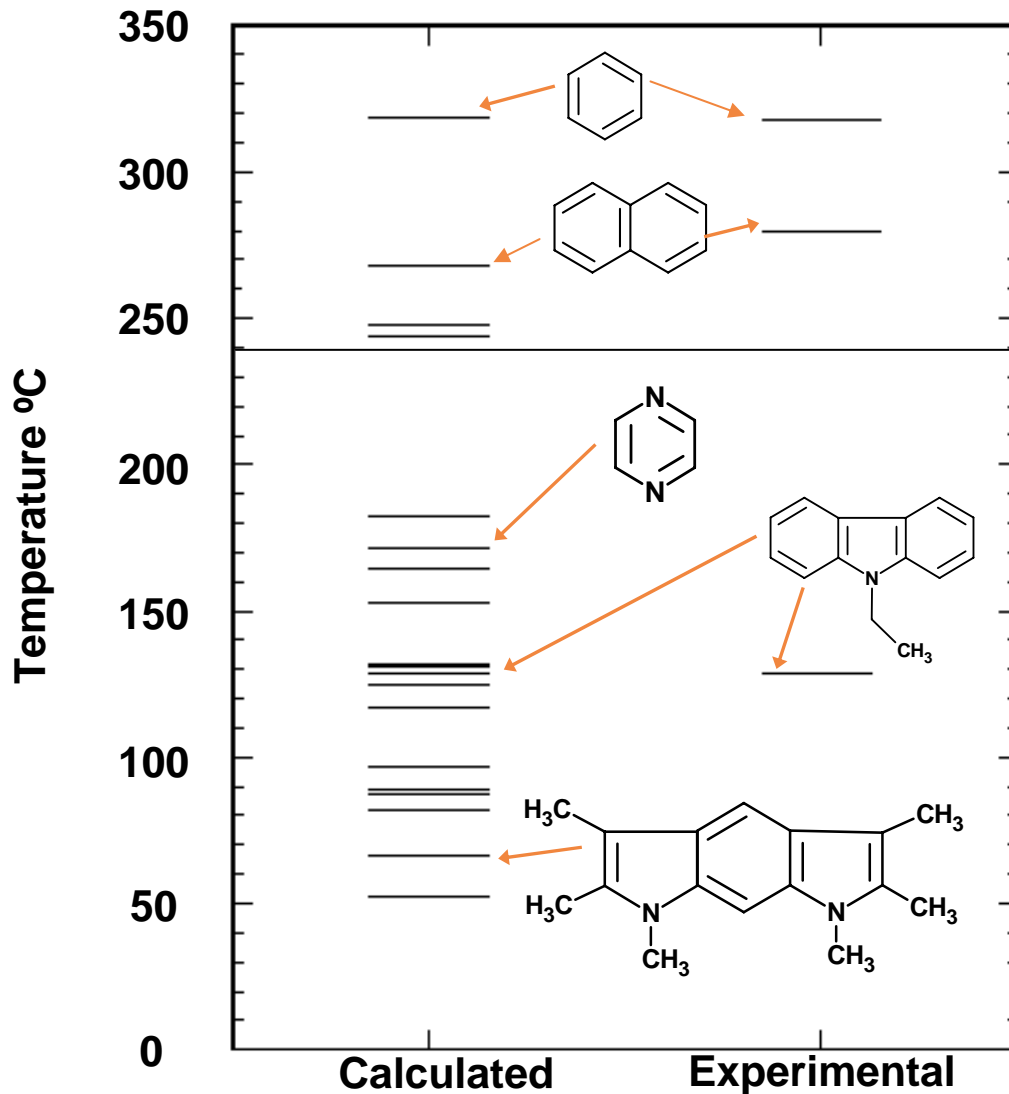
Fused multi-ring aromatic systems desirably lower ΔH

Enthalpies of Hydrogenation as a function of N substitution



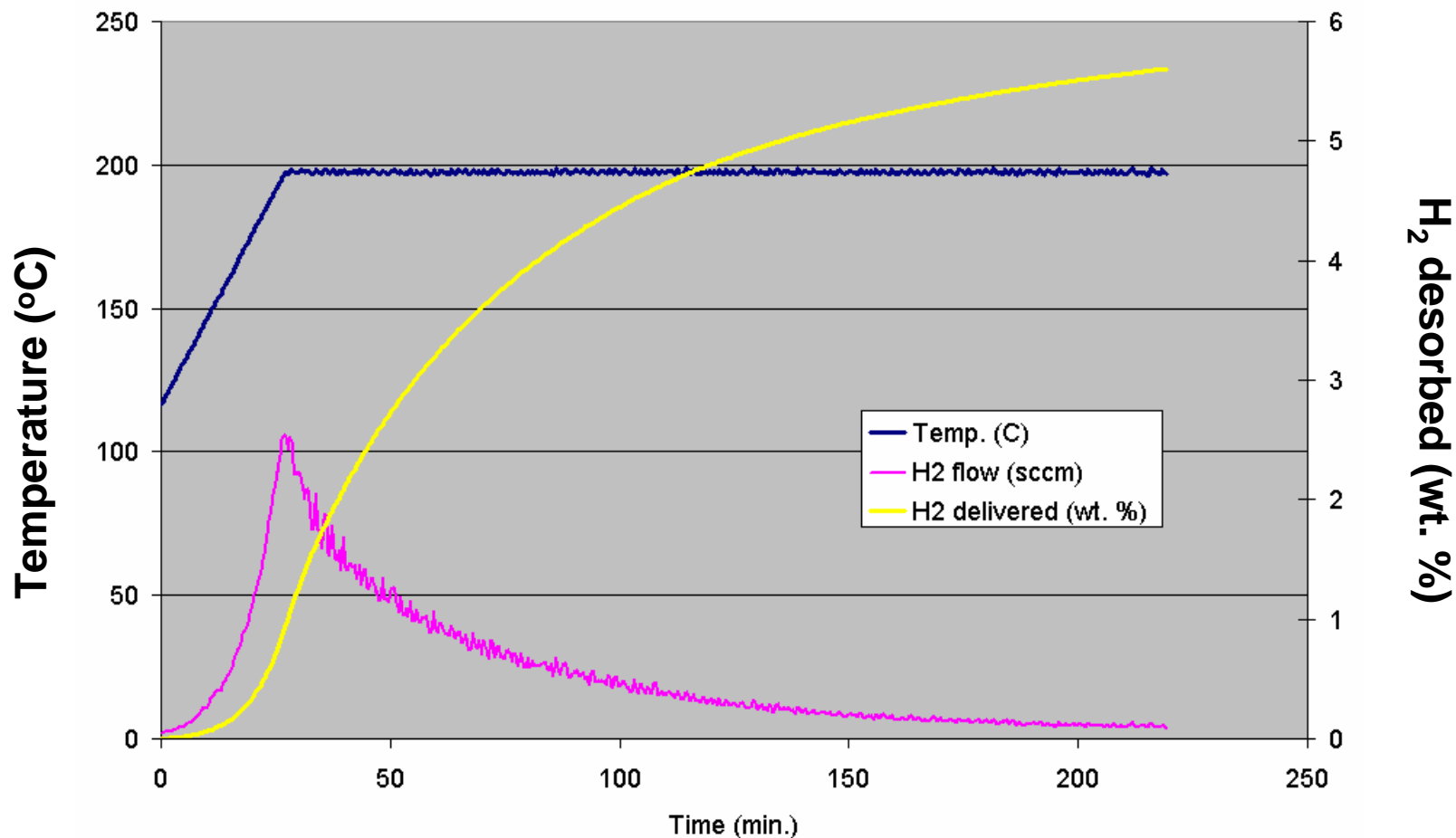
Inclusion of N heteroatoms can greatly lower ΔH

Dehydrogenation temperature for 95% conversion at 1 atm. H₂ pressure



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Flow Measurement of Hydrogen Generation from N-ethylcarbazole

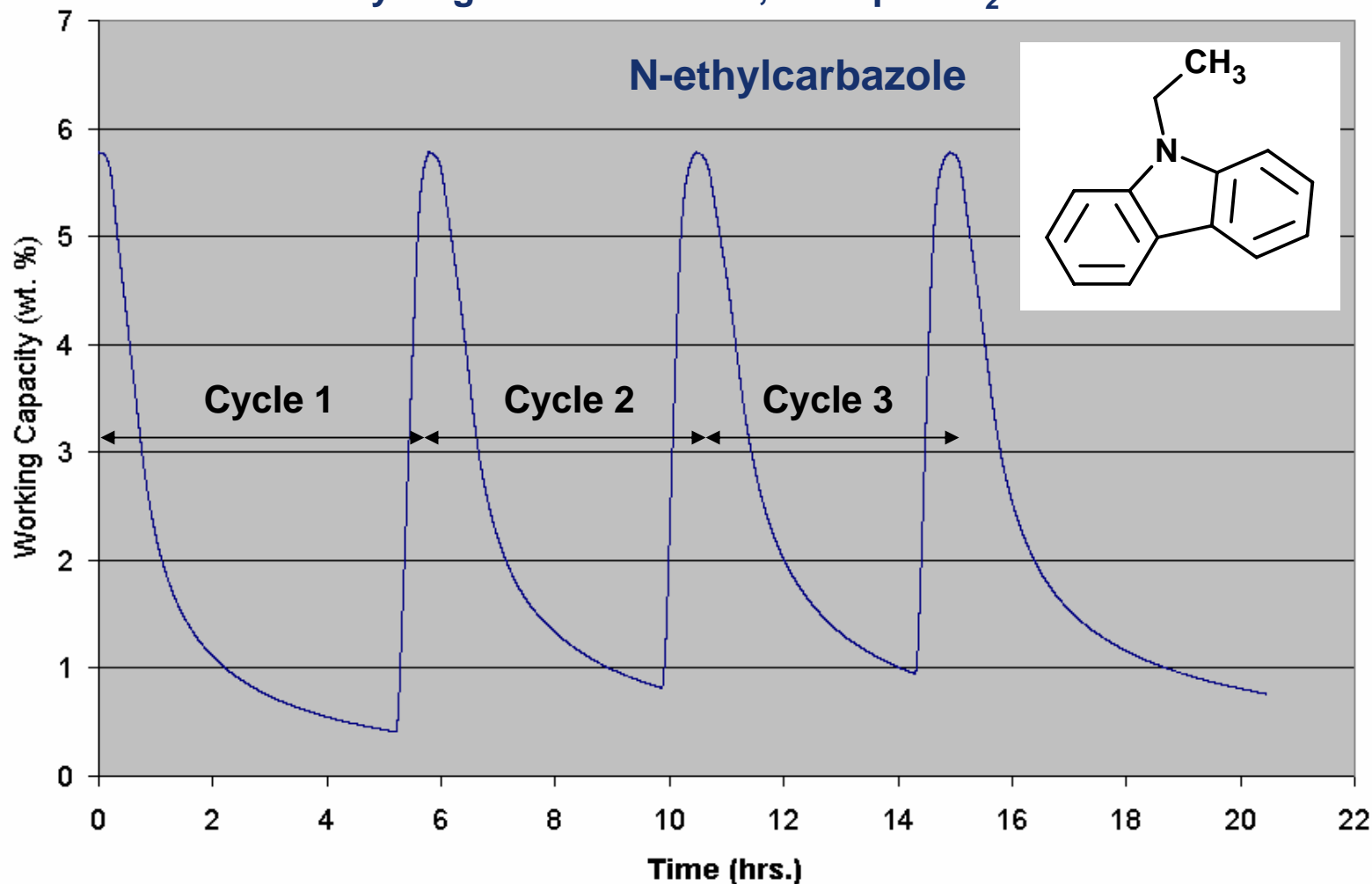


GC/MS analysis after run termination showed loss of 5.7% wt H₂

Results: Cycling Studies

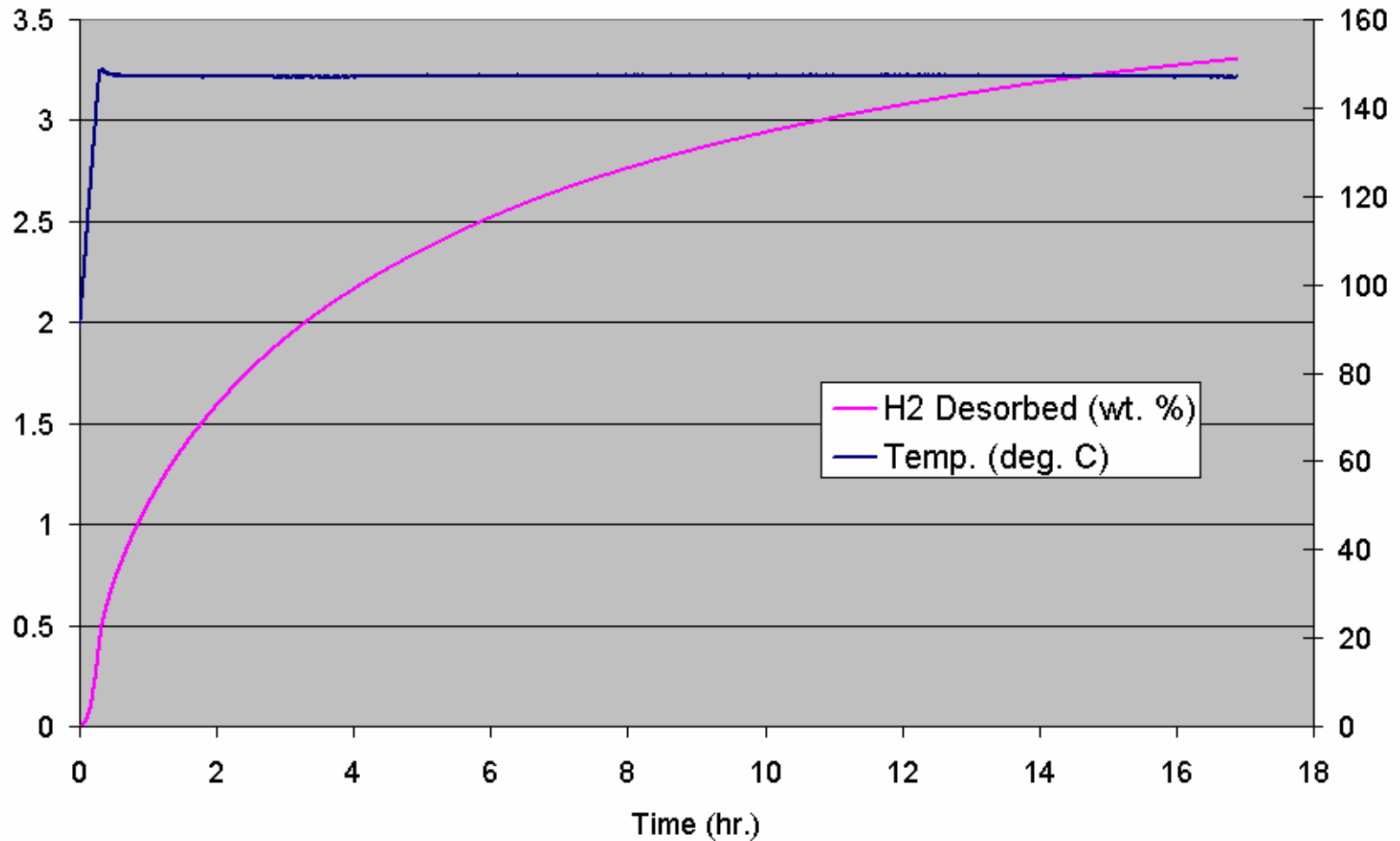
Dehydrogenation: Ramp from 25 °C to 200 °C, 15 psia H₂

Hydrogenation: 170 °C, 1200 psia H₂



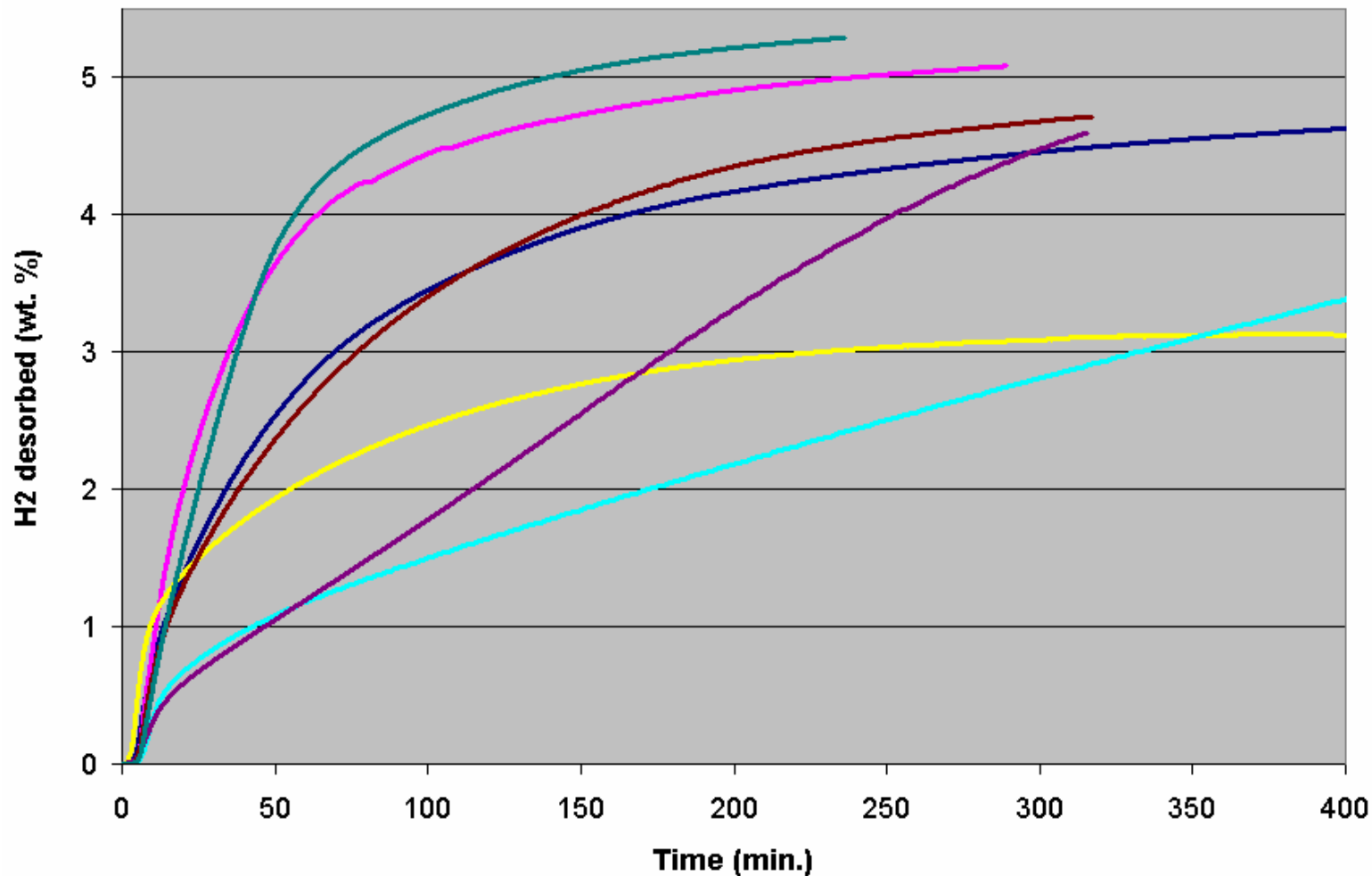
→ Rapid hydrogenation and cycling stability

N-ethylcarbazole Dehydrogenation: (Ramp from 25 °C to 150 °C, 15 psia H₂)



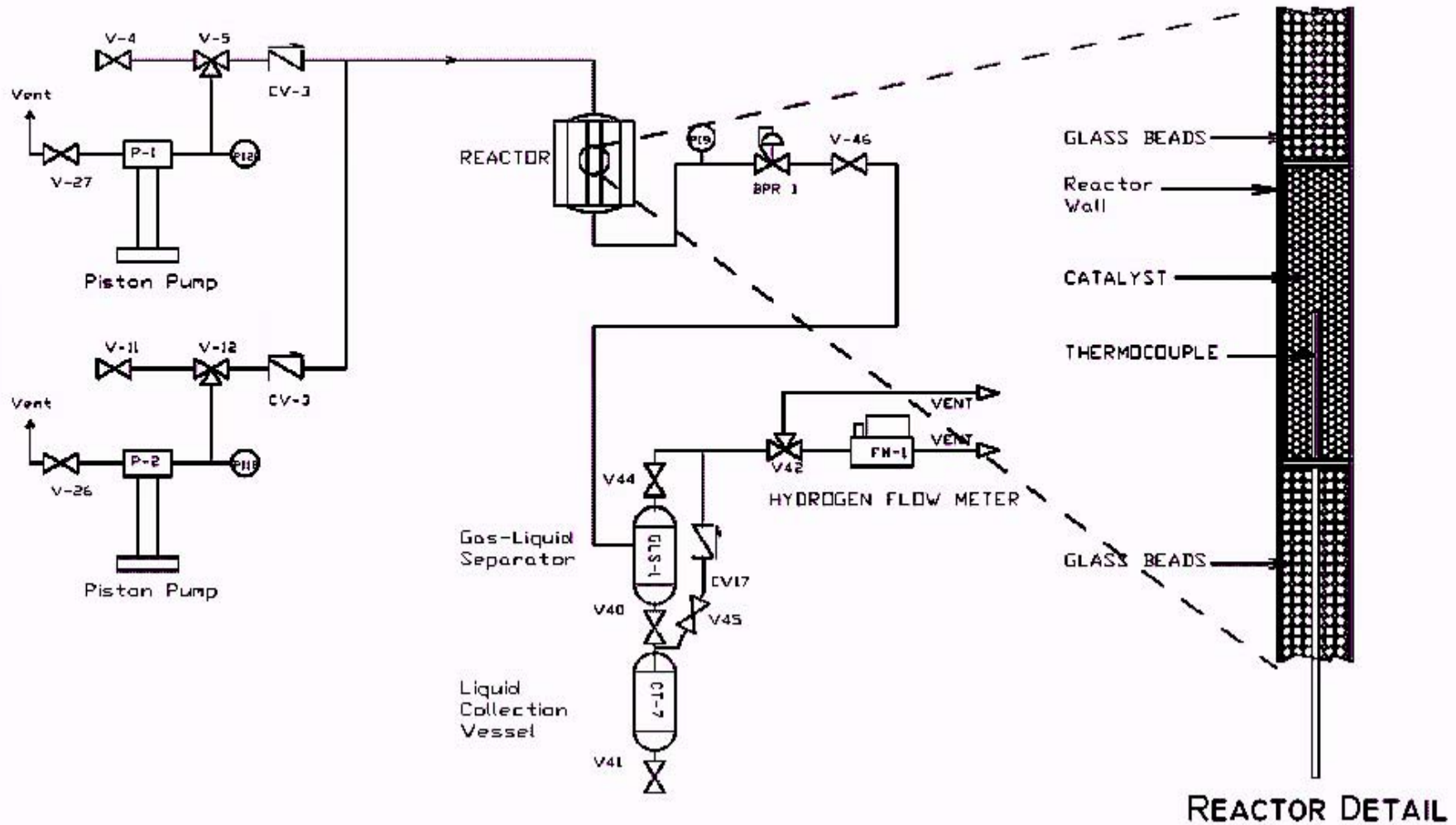
Slow catalytic dehydrogenation rate at 150 °C

Dehydrogenation Catalyst Screening



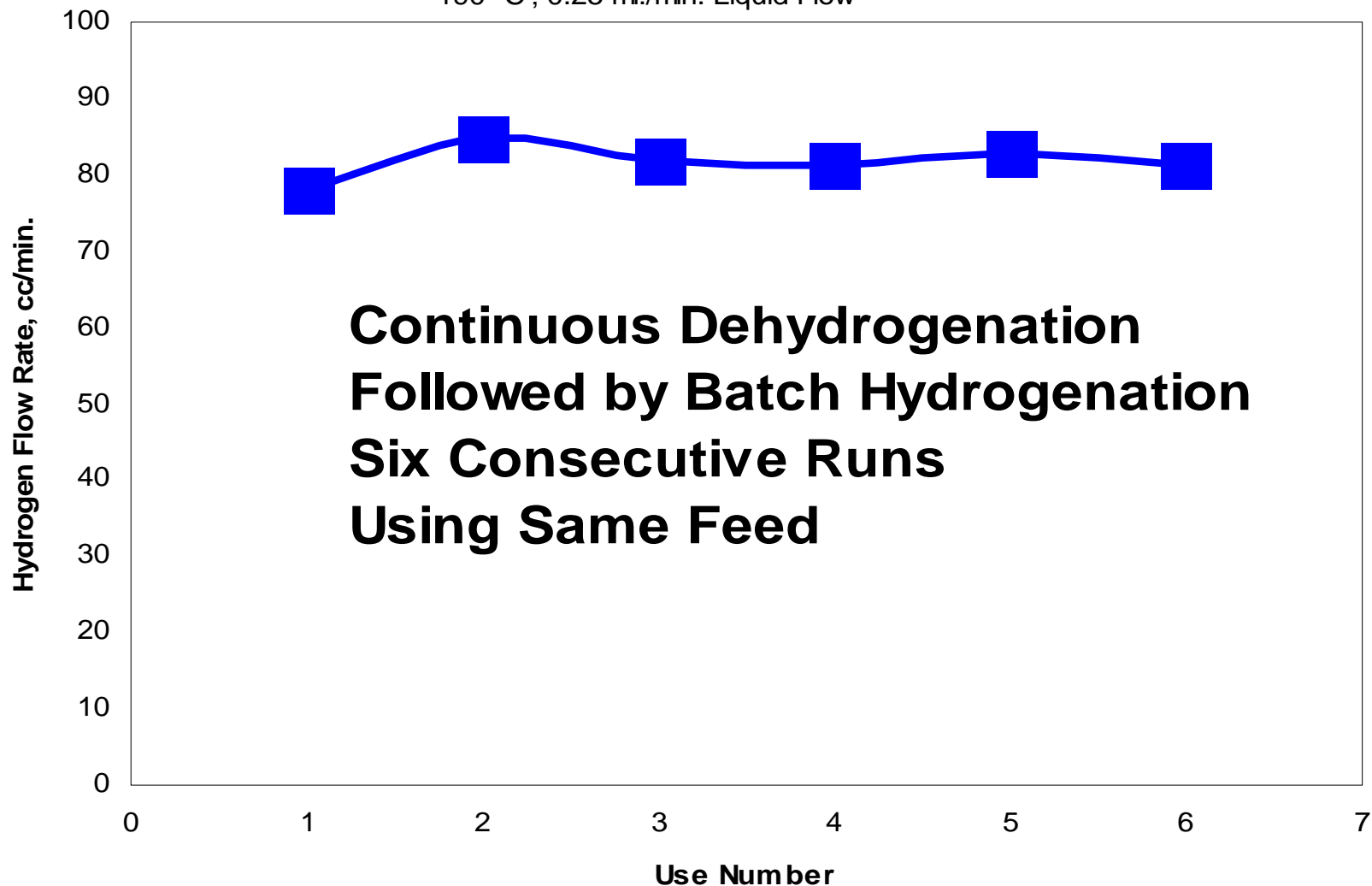
Over 40 catalysts screened in last 3 months

CONTINUOUS PACKED BED REACTOR (DOWNFLOW OPTION)



Packed Bed Dehydrogenation Demonstration

190 °C ; 0.25 ml./min. Liquid Flow



H₂ Quality from Continuous Flow Dehydrogenation Experiments

Component	Mole %
Hydrogen	99.9+
Methane	0.0013%
Ethane	0.0083%
Carbon Monoxide	ND
N containing compounds	ND
C3's	ND
C4's	ND
C5's	ND
C6's	ND

ND – Non Detectable

Dehydrogenation Video Clip



Perhydro-N-ethylcarbazole

Pd/Al₂O₃ catalyst

Temperatures: 100-200°C

Technical Challenges: Molecule and Catalyst

- **Development and testing of new liquid carriers:**
 - optimal heats of hydrogenation
 - increase hydrogen capacity
 - modify substrate melting points (eg. by the use of mixtures of multiple substrates)
- **Development of new dehydrogenation catalysts:**
 - increase rates at low temperatures
 - selective dehydrogenation
 - transfer of catalyst knowledge to reactor design activities

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