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# An Overview of the Hydrogen Storage Materials

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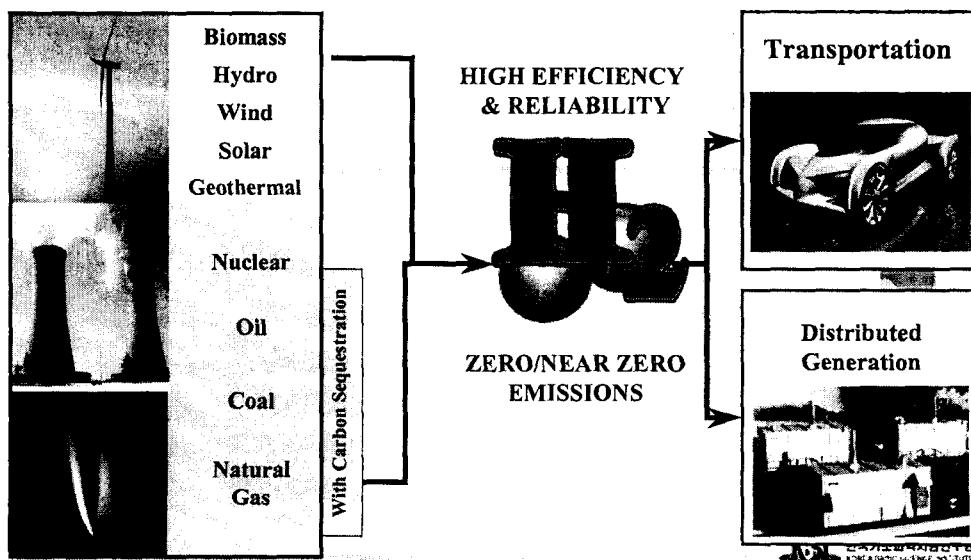
김 해 진 박사  
(한국기초과학지원연구원)

# An Overview of the Hydrogen Storage Materials

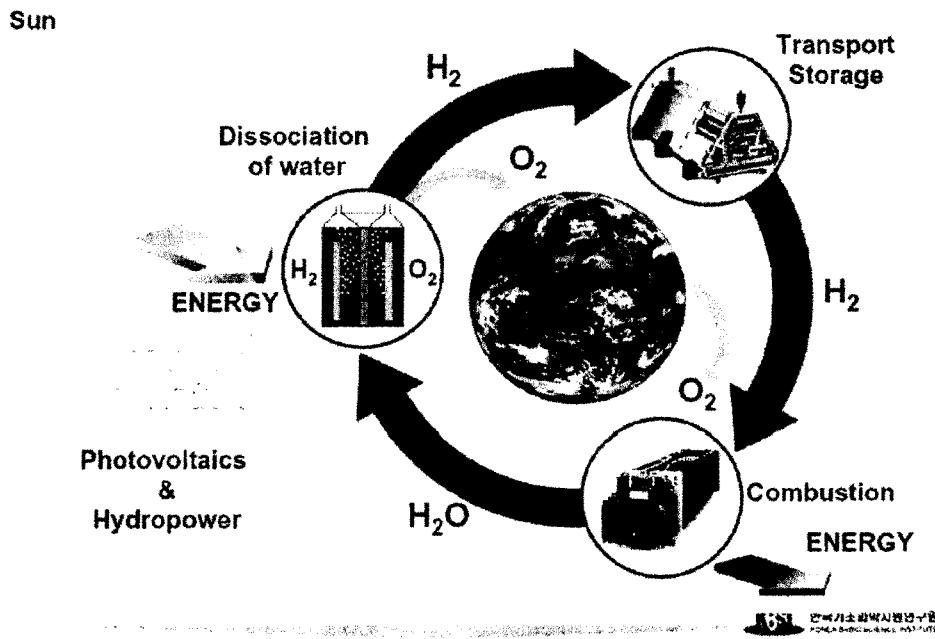
Hae Jin Kim  
Frontier Research Laboratory  
KBSI



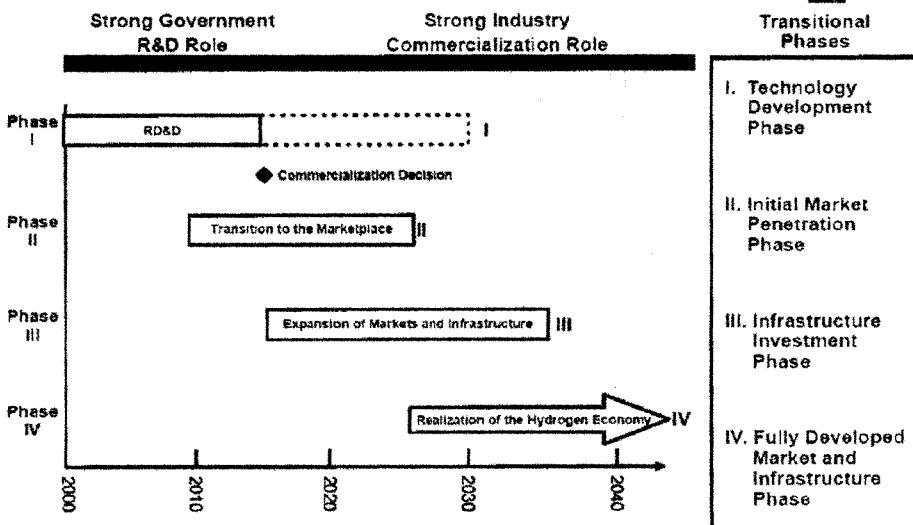
**Why Hydrogen?** It's abundant, clean, efficient,  
and can be derived from diverse domestic resources.



## HYDROGEN CYCLE



## Time for Hydrogen Economy



## DOE Hydrogen Storage R&D Program Approaches

### Chemical Storage (2004)

- *NaBH<sub>4</sub> Process Chemistry*
- *Life-Cycle Analyses*
- *Other Hydrides*

### Complex Metal Hydrides

- *NaAlH<sub>4</sub> System Integration*
- *Hydride Materials R&D*
- *Kinetics/Mechanistic Studies*

Standard Testing Procedures/Facilities

### Advanced Concepts (2004)

- TBD

### Carbon

- *Kinetics/Mechanistic Studies*
- *Process R&D*
- *Structure/Property Analyses*

### Compressed/Liquid Tanks

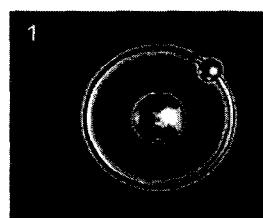
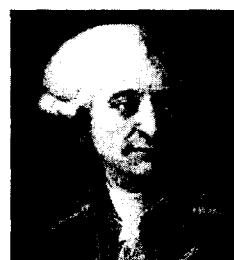
- *5,000/10,000 psi Tanks*
- *Semi-Conformal System*
- *Tank Liners/Overwrap Materials*
- *Insulated Pressure Vessels*
- *Unusual Shapes*

From Patrovic & Milliken (2003)



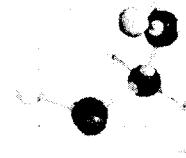
## History

- Discovered about 200 years ago (1766)



Antoine Lavoisier (1743-1794)  
Henry Cavendish (1731-1810)

# History



- In 1931, hydrogen was discovered to have isotopes



Harold C. Urey (1893-1981)  
Nobel Laureate 1934



Frederick Soddy (1877-1956)  
Nobel Laureate 1921

vs.

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## Isotopes of Hydrogen

- Three common isotopes:
  - Protium (H)
    - common hydrogen
    - 99.985% abundant
  - Deuterium (D)
    - one neutron
    - 0.015% abundant
  - Tritium (T)
    - two neutrons
    - $1 \times 10^{-5}\%$  abundant



$^1\text{H}$

Protium

1 Proton

Henry Cavendish  
(1776)



$^2\text{H}$

Deuterium

1 Proton

Harold C. Urey  
(1931)



$^3\text{H}$

Tritium

1 Proton

Ernest Rutherford  
(1934)

Unstable with a half-life  
of 12.43 years

H/D=6000

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## Two groups of H molecule

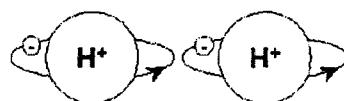
$I = 0$ , antiparallel nuclear spin

$I = 1$ , parallel nuclear spin

Para



Ortho



- Normal Hydrogen is 75% Ortho, 25% Para (at 298 K)
- The melting and boiling points of para hydrogen are ca. 0.1 K lower than those of normal hydrogen.
- At T=0 K, ALL the molecules must be in a rotational ground state (in the para form)
- The ortho form cannot be prepared in the pure state

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## Mass energy densities for various fuels

Increasing molecular wt.  
↓

Fuel	Hydrogen weight fraction	Ambient state	Mass energy density (MJ/kg)
Hydrogen	1	Gas	120
Methane	0.25	Gas	50 (43) <sup>2</sup>
Ethane	0.2	Gas	47.5
Propane	0.18	Gas (liquid) <sup>1</sup>	46.4
Gasoline	0.16	Liquid	44.4
Ethanol	0.13	Liquid	26.8
Methanol	0.12	Liquid	19.9

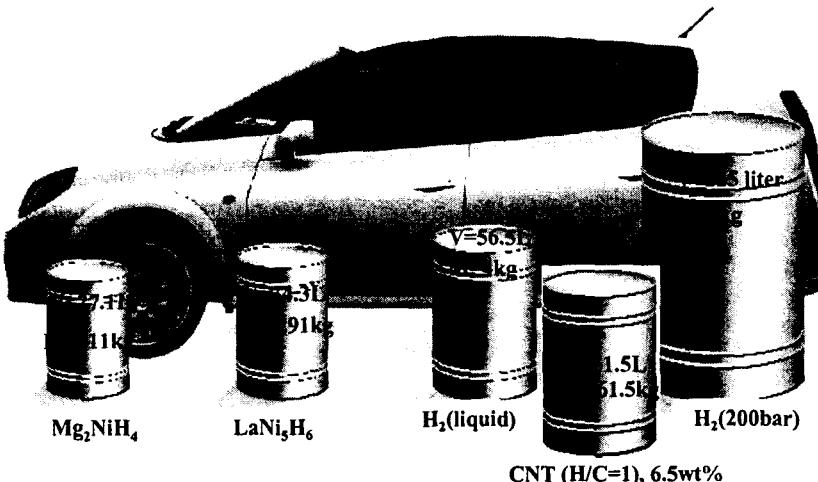
(1) A gas at room temperature, but normally stored as a liquid at moderate pressure.

(2) The larger values are for pure methane. The values in parentheses are for a "typical" Natural Gas.

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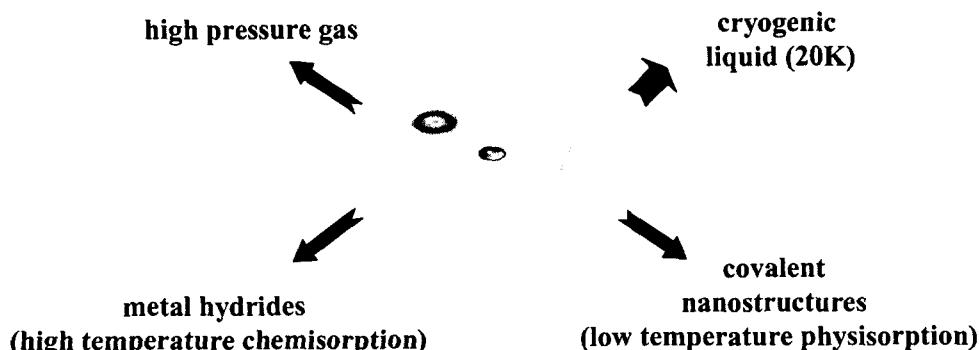
# How large of a gas tank do we want?

Volume Comparisons for 4 kg Vehicular H<sub>2</sub> Storage

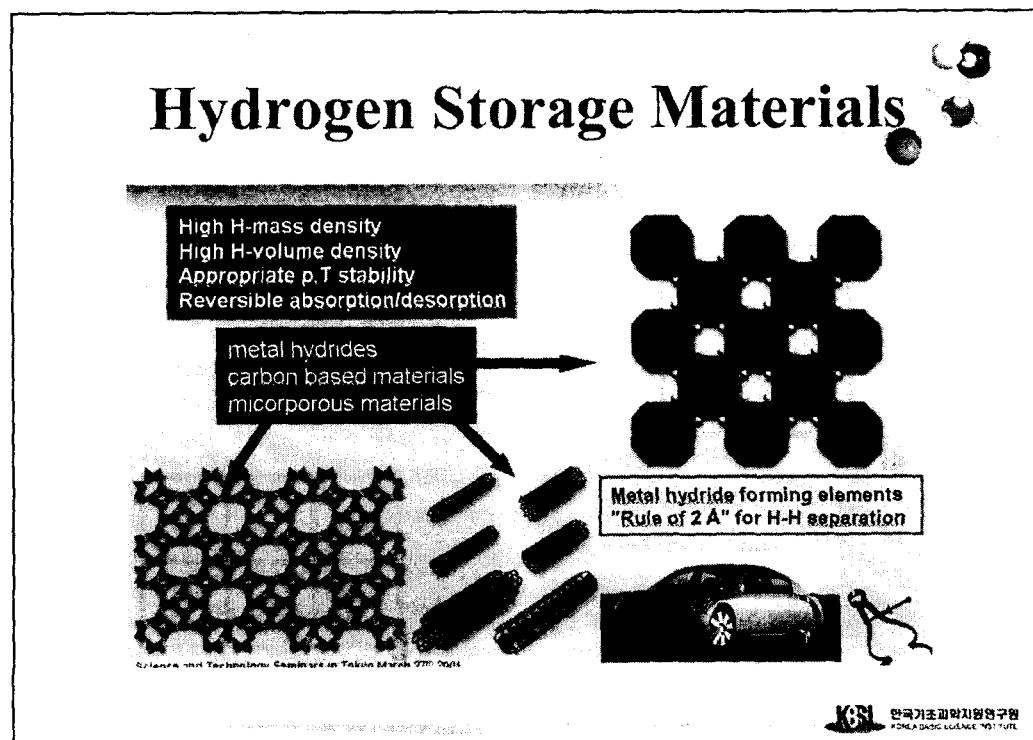
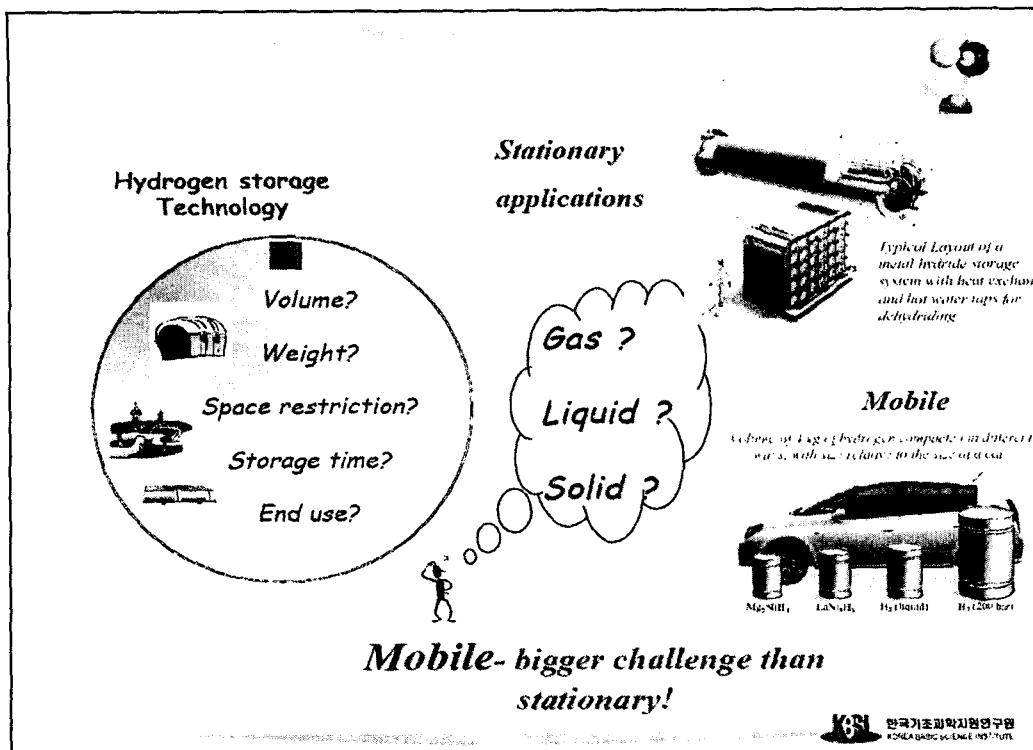


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# Hydrogen Storage Options



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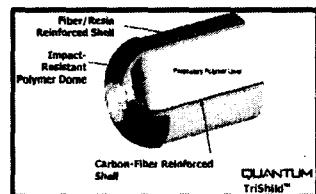
# Compressed Hydrogen Storage

Aluminium/Thermoplastic

Glass/Carbon fibre

$H_2 : 5000 \text{ psi}$   
SF: 2.25

Composite  $H_2$  Cylinder – 12 wt%



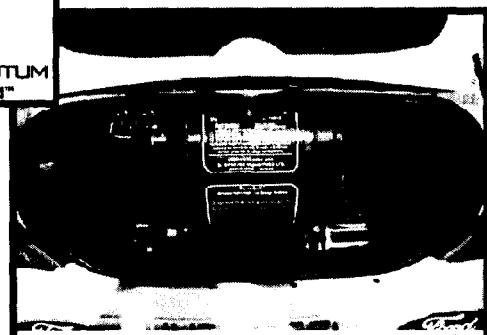
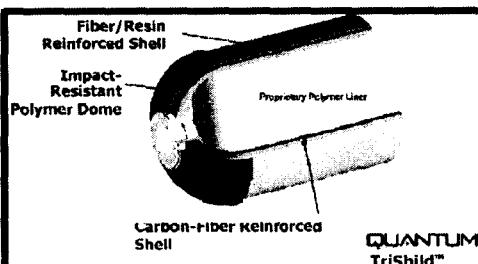
Conformable geometrics

Higher wt% via increased pressure

Heating on filling

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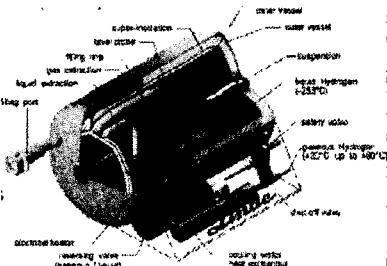
## Compressed Hydrogen



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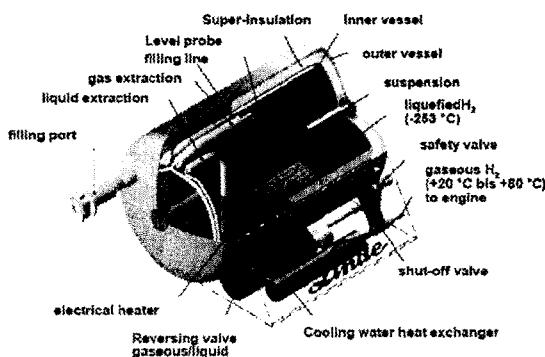
# Liquid Hydrogen Storage

- Liquid Hydrogen Storage
- Cryogenic storage of hydrogen @ -253°C
- Advantages
  - ✓ Low pressure
  - ✓ High storage density
- Disadvantages
  - ✓ Energy required for liquefaction
  - ✓ Evaporative losses during fueling
  - ✓ Evaporative losses during periods of inactivity, i.e. when parked
  - ✓ Consumer Acceptance
- Future developments to improve packaging and reduce evaporative losses

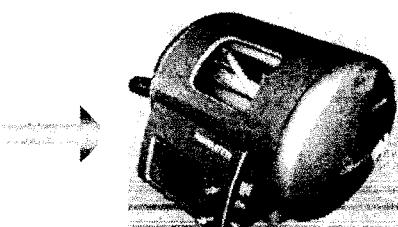


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## Liquid Hydrogen Development of Storage Technology



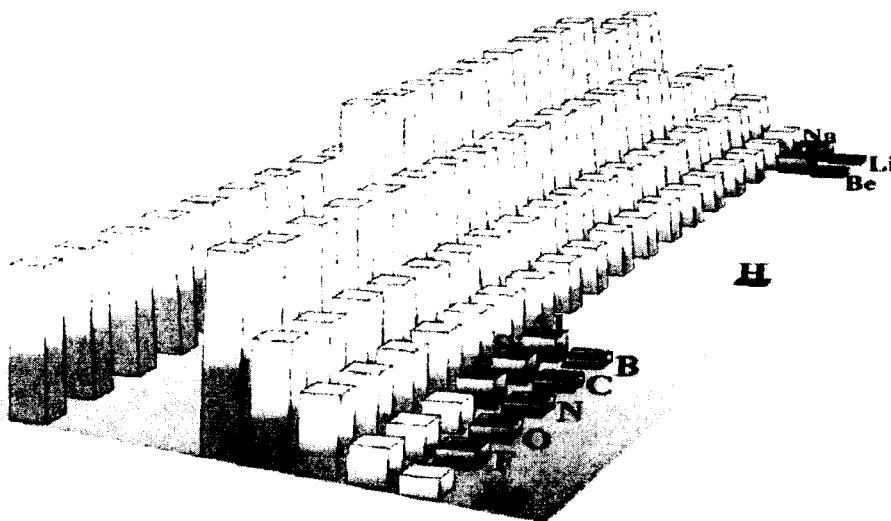
Automotive Design:



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## *The Periodic Table of the Chemical Elements*

*The mass of each element is indicated by elevation above the plane*



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## Hydrides

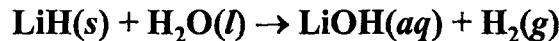


- Binary compounds of hydrogen
  - has an intermediate electronegativity
    - ionic hydrides
      - LiH
    - covalent hydrides
      - HF
  - metallic hydrides
    - NiH<sub>2</sub>

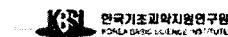
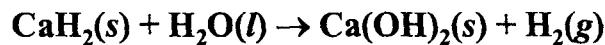
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# Ionic Hydrides

- white solids
- metal cation and hydride ion
- very reactive



- reducing agents



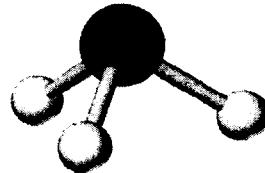
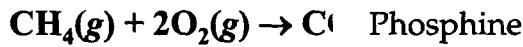
# Covalent Hydrides

- covalently bonds with all nonmetals and weakly electropositive metals
- gases at room temperature
  - hydrogen can be:
    - nearly neutral
    - substantially positive
    - slightly negative



# Neutral Covalent Hydrides

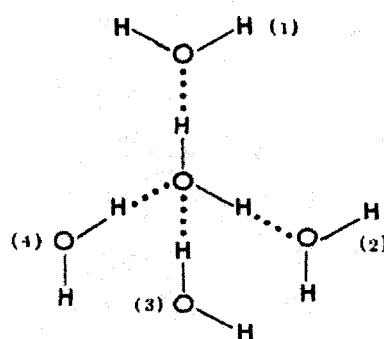
- low polarity
  - only dispersion forces
- Examples:
  - PH<sub>3</sub>
  - CH<sub>4</sub>
  - Hexene



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# Positive Covalent Hydrides

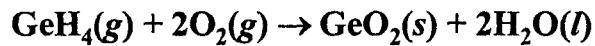
- high melting and boiling points
  - protonic bridging
- Examples:
  - ammonia
  - water
  - hydrogen fluoride



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# Negative Covalent Hydrides

- Contains hydridic hydrogens
- Very reactive towards oxygen
- Examples:
  - $\text{B}_2\text{H}_6$
  - $\text{SiH}_4$
  - $\text{GeH}_4$

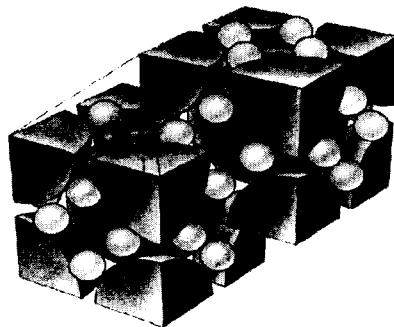


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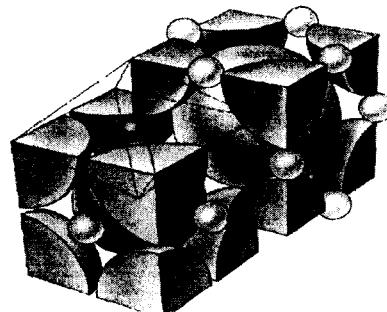
# Metalic Hydrides

## HYDROGEN INTERCALATION IN METALHYDRIDES

HYDROGEN  
ON  
TETRAHEDRAL SITES

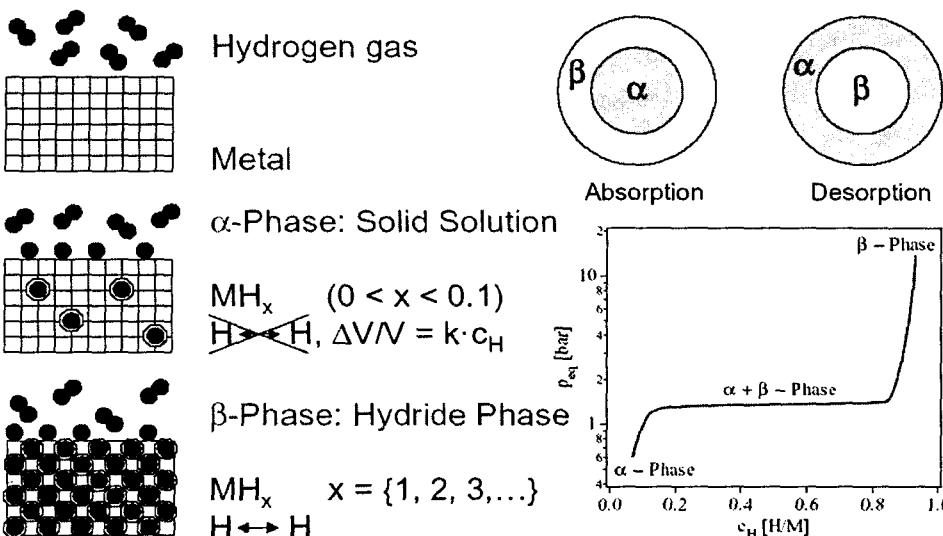


HYDROGEN  
ON  
OCTAHEDRAL SITES

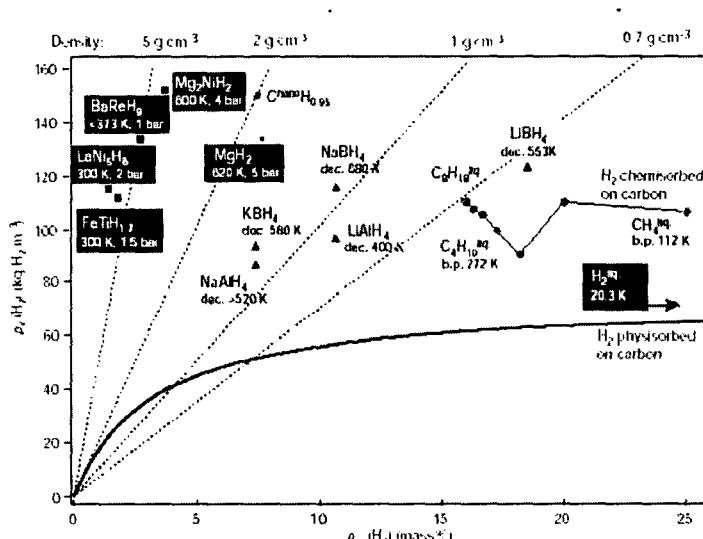


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## HYDROGEN ABSORPTION



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Low mass density = general weakness of all known MH working near RT

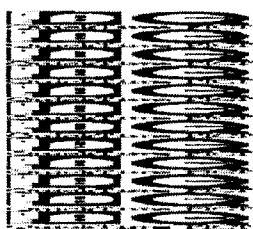
Intermetallic compounds & alloys can reach 9 wt.% but are not reversible within the required Ts

Stored hydrogen per mass and volume. Comparison of metal hydrides, carbon nanotubes, petrol and other hydrocarbons.

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# Hydrogen Storage In MH

- Metal hydride storage

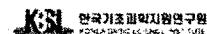


- ★ safety and long term stability
- ★ highest capacity by volume
- ★ high capacity by weight for Mg
- ★ free geometry

**Problem: Storage & Application**

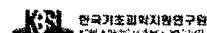
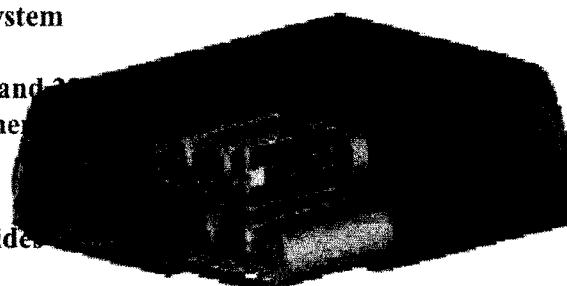
- ↓ high temperature of operation → 300°C
- ↓ sluggish → refueling: ≈ several hours

Challenges in development of the storage, transport and distribution infrastructures

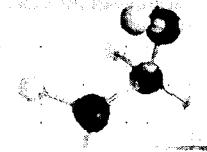


## Metal Hydride Storage

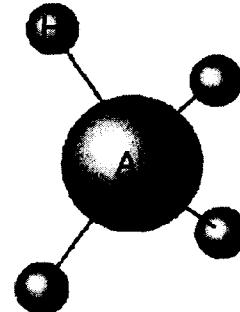
- Current metal hydride system  
= 1.5 – 5 wt.% H<sub>2</sub>
  - ✓ Operate @ 300-400 °C and 20 bar
  - ✓ Primary challenge is thermal management
- Low – temperature hydrides  
development
  - ✓ Goal: 5.5 wt %H<sub>2</sub> @ <100 °C



# Complex Hydride



- Complex hydrides consist of a H=M complex with additional bonding element(s)
- hydrogen complexes include:
  - $(\text{AlH}_4)^-$  (alanates)
  - $(\text{BH}_4)^-$
  - with Group VIII elements
- features:
  - ionic, covalent, metallic bonding
  - can have lower formation energy
  - can have high H/M
- 173 complex hydrides listed on [hydpark.ca.sandia.gov](http://hydpark.ca.sandia.gov)



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## Irreversible Chemical Hydrides

Three Approaches



20 - 35% sol.  
Stabilized with  
1-3% NaOH

Catalyst

Borax in NaOH



Light mineral oil slurry,  
proprietary stabilizers

Paste  
byproduct

- Hydrogen capacity is high at around 10 wt% hydrogen.
- Dehydrogenation kinetics are fast.
- Reactions are irreversible on-board vehicle.



Polyethylene-coated pellets,  
mechanically cut to expose Na

Regeneration costs are  
a major issue

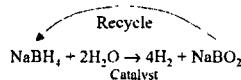
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## 수소연료전지 스쿠터 시운전 성공

### 수소에너지사업단

국내 기술진이 친환경 미래 에너지의 하나로 각광받는 수소연료전지를 장착한 스쿠터〈사진〉의 시험 운전에 성공했다.

고효율수소에너지제조저장이용기술개발사업단(단장 김종원)은 18일



Other complex hydrides:  $\text{NaAlH}_4$  [7 wt%, 2 stage]  
 Beryllium hydrides  $\text{Li}_2\text{BeH}_4$ , 8 wt% [Toxicity issues]

한국과학기술연구원(원장 김유승), 삼성엔지니어링(대표 정연주)과 함께 촉매반응을 통해 수소 기체를 발생시키는 방식의 연료전지를 스쿠터에 장착, 1회 연료주입량인 6리터의 화학수소화물( $\text{NaBH}_4$ ) 수용액으로 140km 이상 주행할 수 있었다고 밝혔다.

이번에 개발한 전지는 기존 350기압 저장법보다 1.5~2배 가량 수소저장밀도를 높일 수 있다.

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## Complex Hydrides

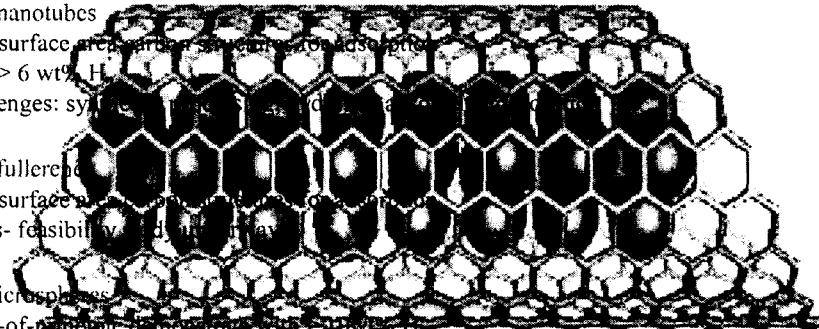
- Reversibility
  - role of catalyst or dopant
- Thermodynamics
  - pressure, temperature
- Kinetics
  - long-range transport of heavy species
- Cyclic stability
- Synthesis
- Compatibility/safety

Examples	Theoretical reversible capacity/ wt%
$\text{Na}(\text{AlH}_4)$	5.6
$\text{Li}(\text{AlH}_4)$	7.9
$\text{Mg}(\text{AlH}_4)_2$	7.0
$\text{Ti}(\text{AlH}_4)_4$	8.1
$\text{Fe}(\text{BH}_4)_2$	9.4
$\text{Na}(\text{BH}_4)$	7.9
$\text{Ca}(\text{BH}_4)_2$	8.6

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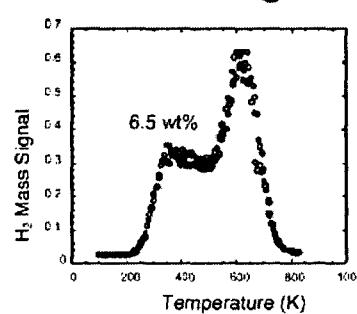
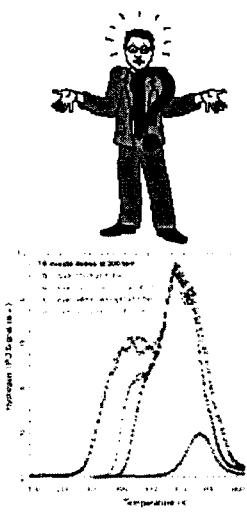
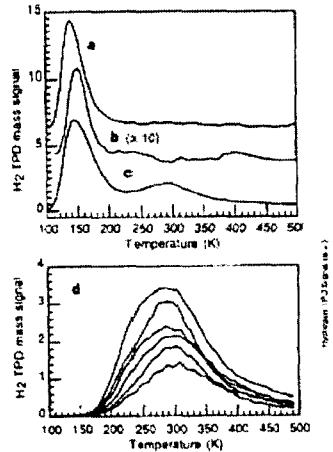
# Advanced Solid-State Storage

- Carbon nanotubes
  - ✓ High surface area, high porosity, large H<sub>2</sub> adsorption
  - ✓ Goal > 6 wt% H<sub>2</sub>
  - ✓ Challenges: synthesis, processing, thermal/pressure management of adsorption/desorption
- Carbon fullerenes
  - ✓ High surface area, high porosity, large H<sub>2</sub> adsorption
  - ✓ Status: feasibility, synthesis, processing, thermal/pressure management of adsorption/desorption
- Glass microspheres
  - ✓ Proof-of-principle demonstrated with ~10 wt% H<sub>2</sub>
  - ✓ Potential for low cost, high-capacity conformable storage
  - ✓ Challenges: synthesis, processing, thermal/pressure management of adsorption/desorption



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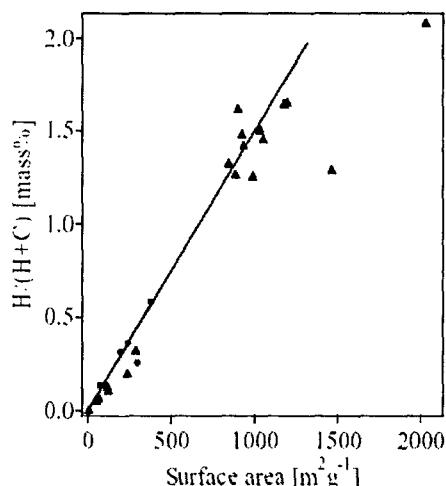
## Hydrogen in SWCNT



Hydrogen TPD spectrum of a degassed sample, room temperature H<sub>2</sub> exposure at 500 torr. The adsorbed hydrogen corresponds to 6.5 wt%. Hydrogen TPD data from an SWNT sample that was exposed to hydrogen at 300 Torr for 10 minutes followed by a variation in post-dosing conditions.

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## HYDROGEN STORAGE IN CARBON NANOTUBES



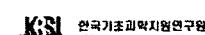
Ref.: M.G. Nijkamp, J.E.M.J. Raaymakers, A.J. van Dillen, K.P. de Jong, Appl. Phys. A 72 (2001), pp. 619-623

Hydrogen gas adsorption at  
77 K  
electrochemical capacity at  
293 K

1.5 mass% / 1000 m<sup>2</sup>g<sup>-1</sup>  
max. 2 mass%

Hydrogen gas adsorption at  
296 K and 125 bar:  
max. adsorption 1.5 mass%

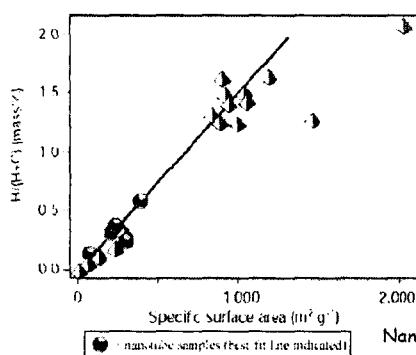
Ref.: R. Ströbel et al., Journal of Power Sources  
84 (1999), pp. 221-224



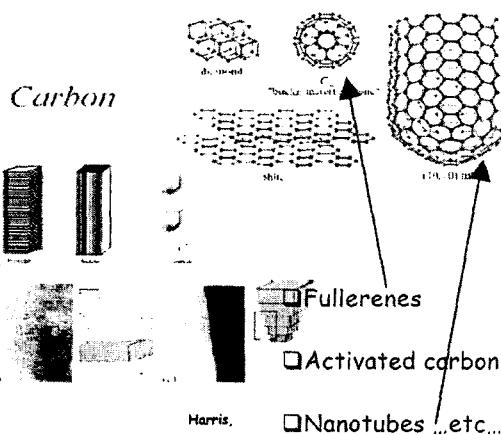
## Carbon materials - an alternative to high density storage...

Hydrogen absorbs at solid surfaces depending on the applied pressure & temperature

Reversibly stored amount of hydrogen  
on various carbon materials vs. the  
specific surface area of the samples



Schlapbach & Züttel, Nature 414, 353-358, 2001

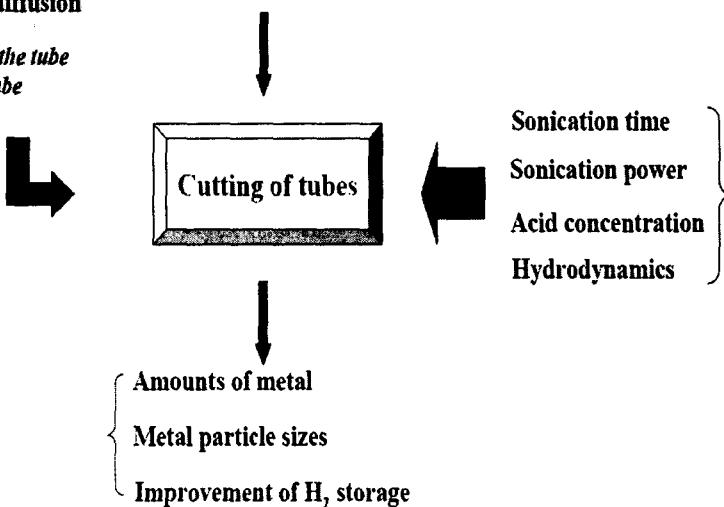


Nanostructured graphitic carbon at 77K amounts to 1.5%  
mass per 1,000m<sup>2</sup>/g surface area. Temperature dependent -  
at 77k one order of magnitude higher than at 300K.

## The key point of H<sub>2</sub> storage

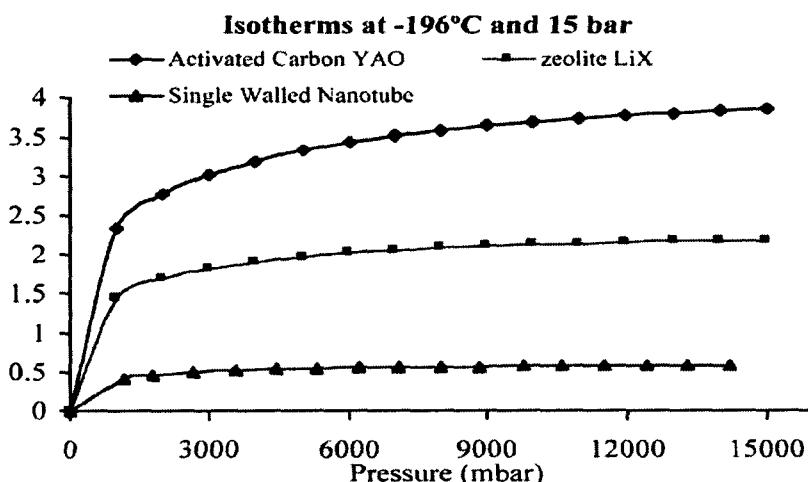
block the hydrogen diffusion

*A structural defect in the tube  
A sharp bend of the tube*



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*IGA traces (PCT plots) of activated carbon, zeolite and SWNT material at -196°C up to 15 bar with 1 bar pressure steps.*



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# Hydrogen Storage in Carbon

Material	Density wt%	Temp (K)	Pressure (MPa)	Reference	Year
GNFs (herring bone)	67.55	RT	11.35	Chambers	1998
GNFs (platelet)	53.08	RT	11.35	Chambers	1998
Li-MWNTs	2.0	~473-673	0.1	Chen	1999
K-MWNTs	1.4	< 313	0.1	Chen	1999
GNFs (tubular)	11.26	RT	11.35	Chambers	1998
CNFs	~10	RT	10.1	Fan	1999
Li/K-GNTs (SWNT)	~10	RT	8-12	Gupta	2000
GNFs	~10	RT	8-12	Gupta	2000
SWNTs (lo purity)	5-10	273	0.04	Dillon	1997
SWNTs (hi purity)	8.25	80	7.18	Yo	1999
CN nanotubes	8	573	0.1	Bai	2001
Nano graphite	7.4	RT	1	Orimo	2000
SWNTs (hi p + Ti alloy)	6-7	~300-700	0.07	Dillon	2000
CNPb	6.5	RT	~12	Browning	2000
CNFs	~5	RT	10.1	Cheng	2000
MWNTs	~5	RT	~10	Zhu	2000
SWNTs (hi p + Ti alloy)	3.5-4.5	~300-600	0.07	Dillon	1999
SWNTs (50% purity)	4.2	RT	10.1	Liu	1999
Li-MWNTs	~2.5	~473-873	0.1	Yang	2000
SWNT (50% purity)	~2	RT	ochcm	Nutzschadl	1999
K-MWNTs	~1.8	< 313	0.1	Yang	2000
(9,9) array	1.8	77	1.0	Wang	1999
MWNTs	< 1	RT	echem	Beguin	2000
CNF	0.1-0.7	RT	0.1-10.5	Poirier	2001
(9,9) array	0.6	RT	1.0	Wang	1999
SWNTs	~0.1	300-520	0.1	Hirscher	2000
Various	< 0.1	RT	3.5	Tibbets	2001
SWNT (+ Ti alloy)	0	RT	0.08	Hirscher	2001

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## Comparison of H<sub>2</sub> storage

Different types								
	Process	Energy involved in the process	Storage pressure	Temperature (°C)	Volumic density	mass ratio (%)	specific energy	Energy needed for H <sub>2</sub> release
compressed	Multiple steps adiabatic compression - cooling	3.3 kWh kg H <sub>2</sub>	200-350 to 800 bar	25 °C	max. 33 kg H <sub>2</sub> m <sup>-3</sup>	1.1 à 2.6 (200 bar)	0.45 à 5 kWh kg	0
	Aquifers Salt caverns		80 - 160 bar			11.5-13 (700-800 bar)		
liquefied	Liquid N <sub>2</sub> cooling - Multiple steps adiabatic compression	10 kWh kg H <sub>2</sub>	No data	- 253 °C	71 kg H <sub>2</sub> m <sup>-3</sup>	26	14 kWh kg	1 to 3 % loss per day
NaBH <sub>4</sub> H <sub>2</sub> storage demand <sup>14</sup>	NaBH <sub>4</sub> - 2 H <sub>2</sub> O + catalyst ⇒ NaBO <sub>2</sub> + 4 H <sub>2</sub>	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	0
Metal hydrides	channescption / desorption	No data	2 to 10 bar	0-100 °C	max. 150 kg H <sub>2</sub> m <sup>-3</sup>	2	0.8 à 2.3 kWh kg	No data
Active carbons	physisorption / desorption	No data	250 bar	25 °C	18 kg H <sub>2</sub> m <sup>-3</sup>	No data	2.2 kWh kg	No data
Carbon nanofibres & nanotubes	physisorption / desorption	No data	125 bar	25 °C	No data	1.5	1.7 à 3 kWh kg	No data
fullerenes	channescption / desorption	100 kJ mol (14 kWh kg of H <sub>2</sub> )	27 bar	100-200 °C	No data	6-7.7	2.5 kWh kg	160 kJ mol (22 kWh kg H <sub>2</sub> )

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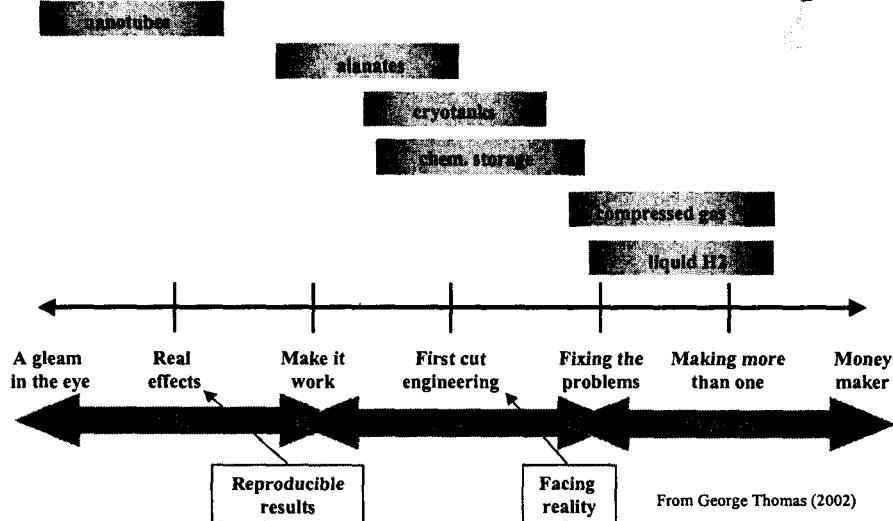
# Maximum storage densities

Energy Density MJ/liter

• High pressure gas	3600 psi: 2.0	5000 psi: 2.75	
• ambient temperature	150 K: 3.5	20 K: 8.4	
• cryogenic system			
• Liquid hydrogen	8.4		
• Reversible storage media			
• carbon structures			
• nanotubes	?		
• fullerenes	?		
• hydrides			
• intermetallics	10.8 - 12.0		
• alanates	8.25		
• composite materials	?		
• Chemical methods	<u>Eff.</u>	<u>gasoline</u>	<u>methanol</u>
• liquid fuel + reformer	50%:	6.6	5.9
•	75%:	9.9	8.9
• off-board reprocessing		?	

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*The most promising technologies  
are the farthest from commercialization*



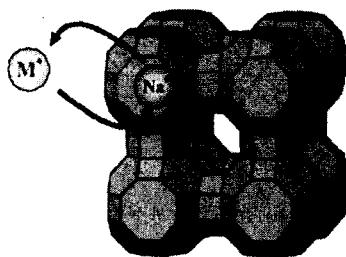
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# Advanced storage approaches identified

1. Crystalline Nanoporous Materials
2. Polymer Microspheres  
Self-Assembled Nanocomposites
3. Advanced Hydrides
4. Metals – Organic
5. BN Nanotubes  
Hydrogenated Amorphous Carbon
6. Mesoporous materials
7. Bulk Amorphous Materials (BAMs)
8. Iron Hydrolysis
9. Nanosize powders
10. Metallic Hydrogen  
Hydride Alcoholysis



## Hydrogen Uptake in Zeolite

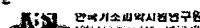


Zeolite A

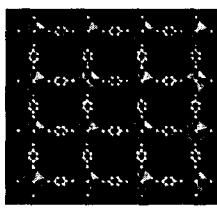
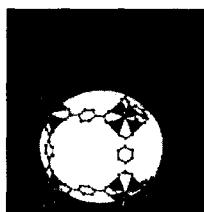
- Low cost, chem.&therm. Robust
- Good structural reproducibility
- Environmentally friendly & safe

Material	H <sub>2</sub> uptake (wt.%)		
	-196°C	RT	270°C
NaA	1.54	0.28	0.30
CdA	1.14	0.25	0.30
MgA	1.19	-	-
Na <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> RHO	0.00	0.18	0.20
CdRHO	0.08	0.19	0.25
LiX	2.15	-	-
NaX	1.79	-	0.25
CdX	1.42	-	-
MgX	1.61	-	0.28
CuX	-	-	0.25
NaY	1.81	-	-
CdY	1.47	-	-
MgY	1.74	-	-

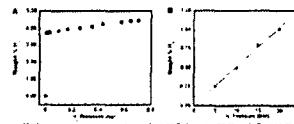
15bar H<sub>2</sub>



# Mesoporous Metal Organic (MOF-3)



Single-crystal X-ray structures of MOF-3(A), IRMOF-6(B), and IRMOF-2(C)  
Z = Zinc polyhedron; C = carbon; C = black spheres

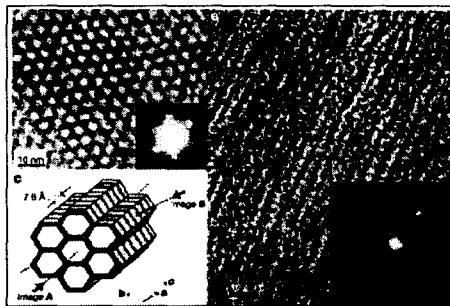


Hydrogen uptake at 75 K (A)  
at RT and 20 bar (B)

- Chemical formula  $Zn_4O(BDC)_3(DMF)_8(C_6H_5Cl)$ 
  - $BDC = 1,4\text{-benzenedicarboxylate}$
  - DMF = dimethylformamide
- $ZnO_4$  tetrahedral clusters linked together by  $C_6H_4-C-O_2$  "struts"
- Cubic crystal structure
- 1.294 nm spacing between centers of adjacent clusters
- What are the hydrogen storage characteristics of this material?

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# Mesoporous Organosilica Material



benzene-silica hybrid material  
Hydrogen storage behavior?

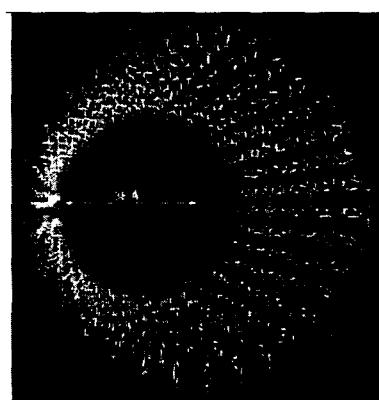


Figure 4 Model showing the pore surface of mesoporous benzene-silica. Benzene rings are aligned in a circle around the pore, fixed at both sides by silicate chains. The silicate is terminated by silanol ( $Si-OH$ ) at the surface. Hydrophobic benzene layers and hydrophilic silicate layers array alternately at an interval of 7.6 Å along the channel direction. Silicon, orange; oxygen, red; carbon, white; hydrogen, yellow.

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# Boron Nitride Nanotube

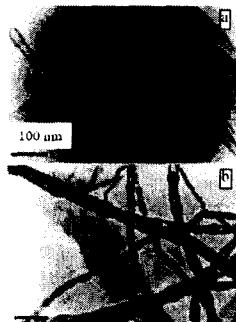


Figure 1. The morphology of BN nanotubes: (a) multiwall nanotubes; and (b) bamboo-like nanotubes. Scale bar = 100 nm.

Multiwall : 1.8 wt%  
Bamboo-like : 2.6 wt%

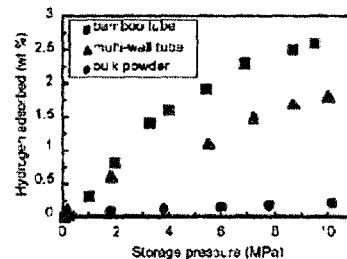


Figure 2. The hydrogen absorption is a function of pressure in multiwall BN nanotubes and bamboo nanotubes at 10 MPa is 1.8 and 2.6 wt%, respectively, in sharp contrast to the 0.2 wt% in bulk BN powder. The values reported here have an error of  $\pm 0.5$  wt%.

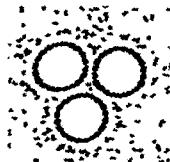
# Hydrogen Storage in Inorganic Nanostructured Materials at KBSI

# Hydrogen Storage in NT

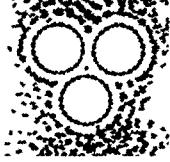
Single tube, T=265



Three tubes, T=265



Three tubes, T=77

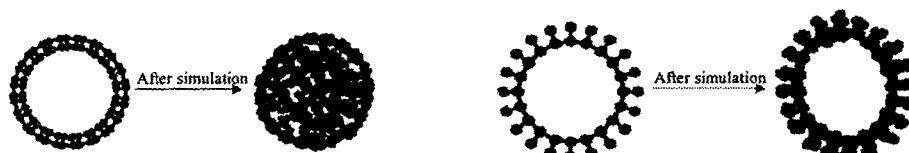


Physisorption: Results suggest that tubes should be kept mechanically separated.

After simulation



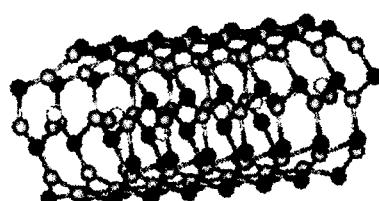
After simulation



Chemisorption inside and outside tube: inside is not stable but outside is stable

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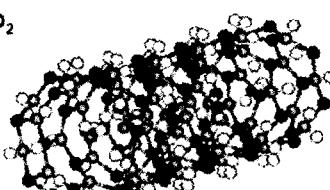
# H<sub>2</sub> Storage in LiAlO<sub>2</sub> Nanotubes



Armchair

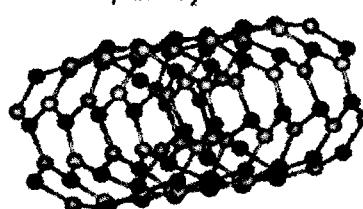
Surface Area : 817 m<sup>2</sup>/g

$\alpha$ -LiAlO<sub>2</sub>



ZigZag

Surface Area : 1027 m<sup>2</sup>/g

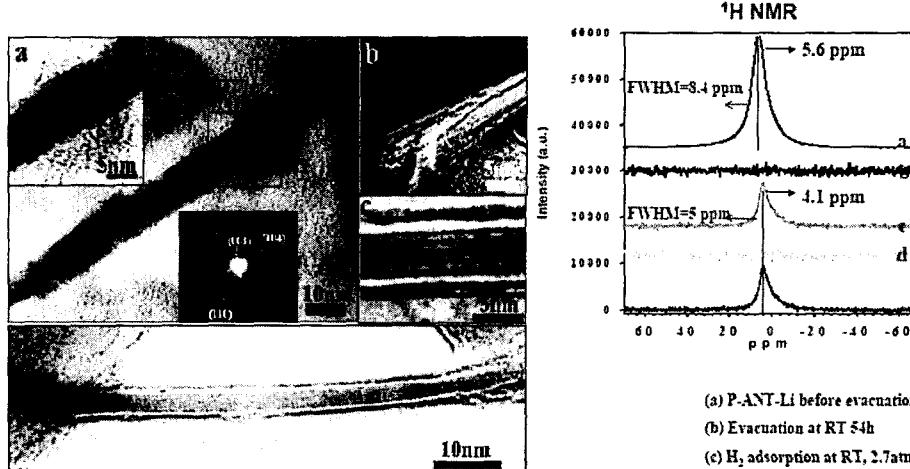


$\beta$ -LiAlO<sub>2</sub>

Surface Area : 969 m<sup>2</sup>/g

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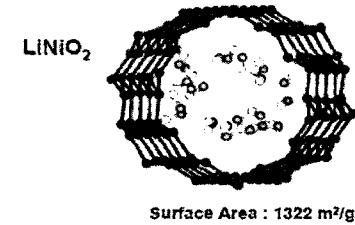
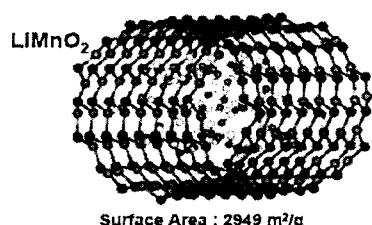
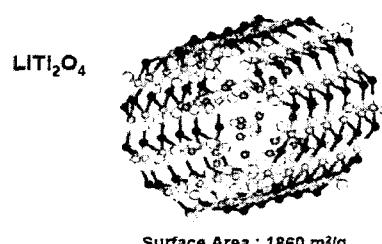
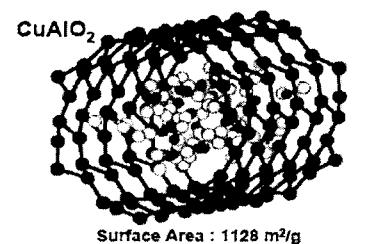
## H<sub>2</sub> storage in LiAlO<sub>2</sub> Nanotube



(a) P-ANT-Li before evacuation  
(b) Evacuation at RT 54h  
(c) H<sub>2</sub> adsorption at RT, 2.7atm 45h  
(d) Re-evacuation at RT 10min  
(e) H<sub>2</sub> re-adsorption at RT, 2.7atm 45h

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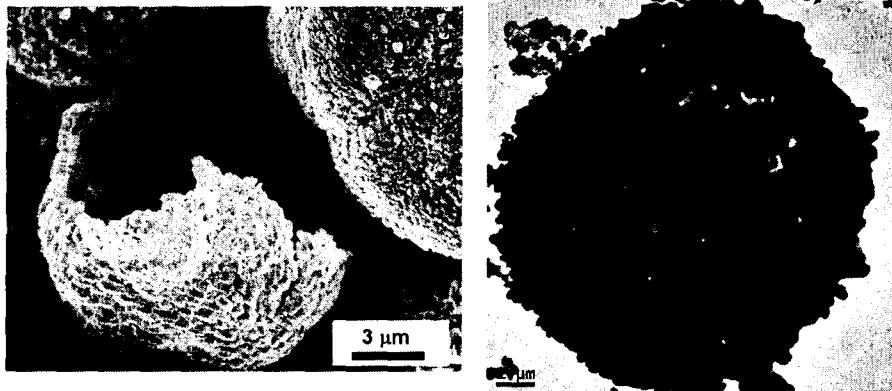
## H<sub>2</sub> uptake in M-oxide Nanotubes



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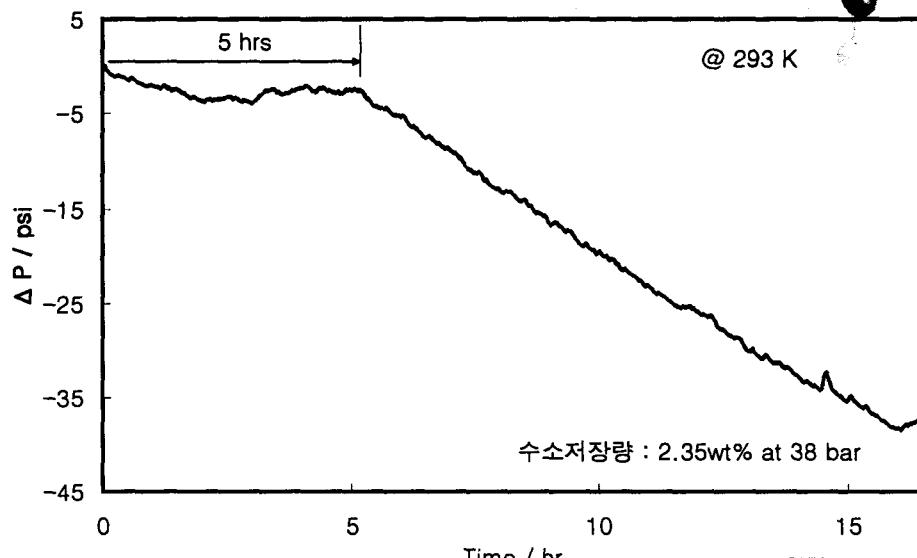
# $\text{Cu}_2\text{Cl}(\text{OH})_3$ microspheres

Biomimetic control을 통한  $\text{Cu}_2\text{Cl}(\text{OH})_3$  aggregate microsphere



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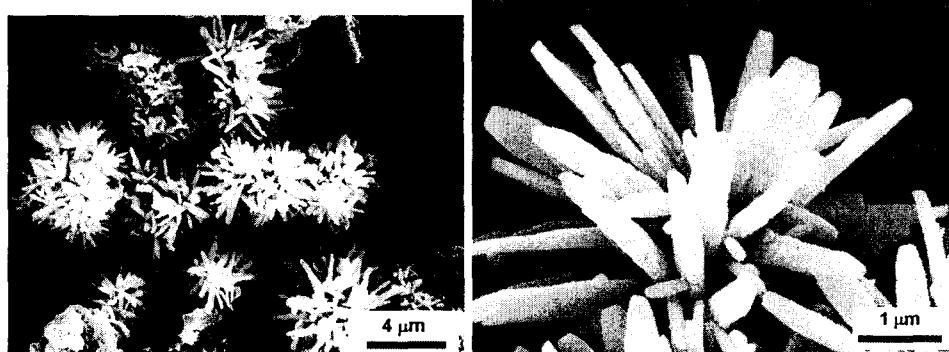
## H<sub>2</sub> Storage in calcinated $\text{Cu}_2\text{Cl}(\text{OH})_3$ microspheres



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# CuAlO<sub>2</sub> nanoflower

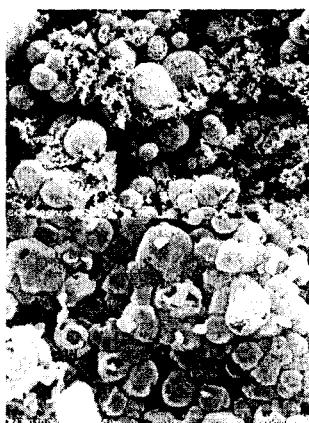
계면활성제의 상평형도를 이용한 morphology 제어와 이것을 Template로 고상법을 이용하여 CuAlO<sub>2</sub> 나노구조체 합성



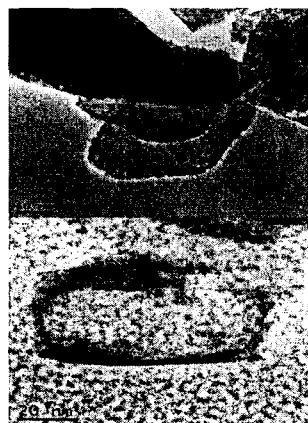
H<sub>2</sub> Storage : 0.66 wt% @RT, 45 bar

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## Candidate for H<sub>2</sub> Uptake Materials LiMnO<sub>2</sub> Nanomaterials



SEM Images



TEM Images

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# Summary



- Hydrogen storage, even though still at its infancy, appears as a possible attractive alternative.
- Improved safety and energy density

**A breakthrough in Hydrogen storage technology could facilitate the introduction of H economy society.**