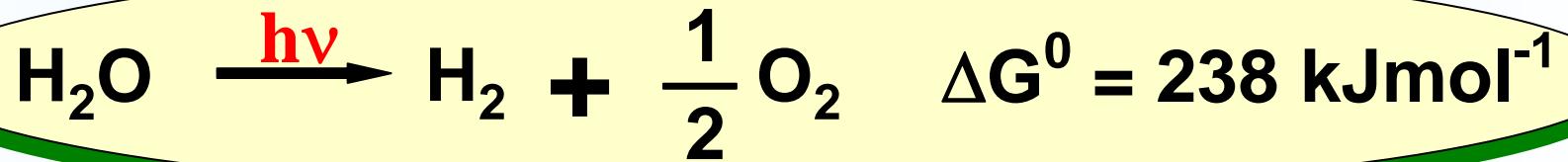


Hydrogen production from water with solar energy

Kazunari Domen

*Chemical Systems Engineering
The University of Tokyo*

Hydrogen Production from Water using Solar Energy



- **Solar cell + Electrolysis**

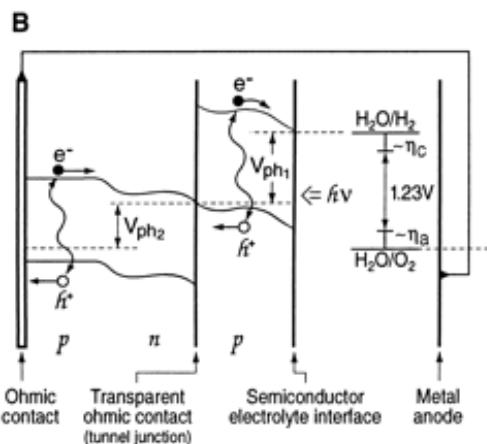
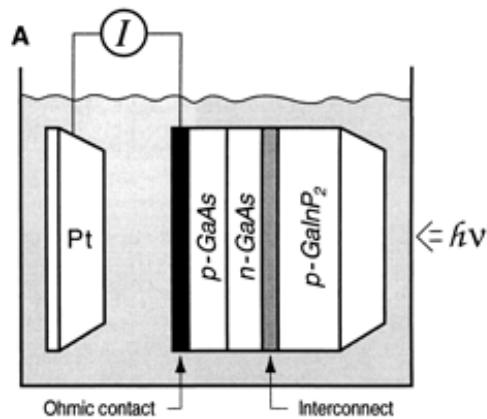
- : pilot plants

- **Photoelectrochemical Cell**

- : good efficiencies with tandem cells



Two examples of photoelectrochemical cells



Efficiency=12.4 %

J. A. Turner et al., *Science* 1998,

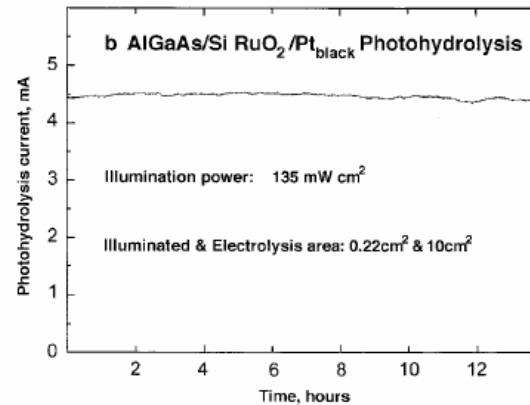
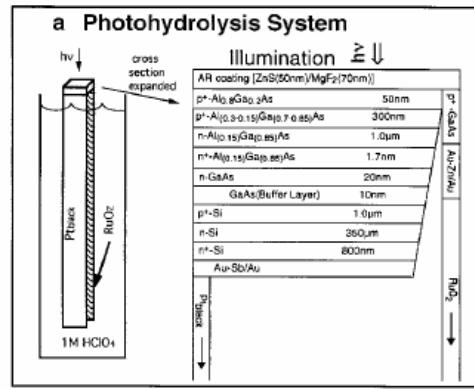


Figure 4. Schematic representation (a) and measured characteristics (b) of the illuminated AlGaAs/Si RuO₂/Pt_{black} photoelectrolysis cell. Further details of the layered AlGaAs/Si structure are given in ref 18.

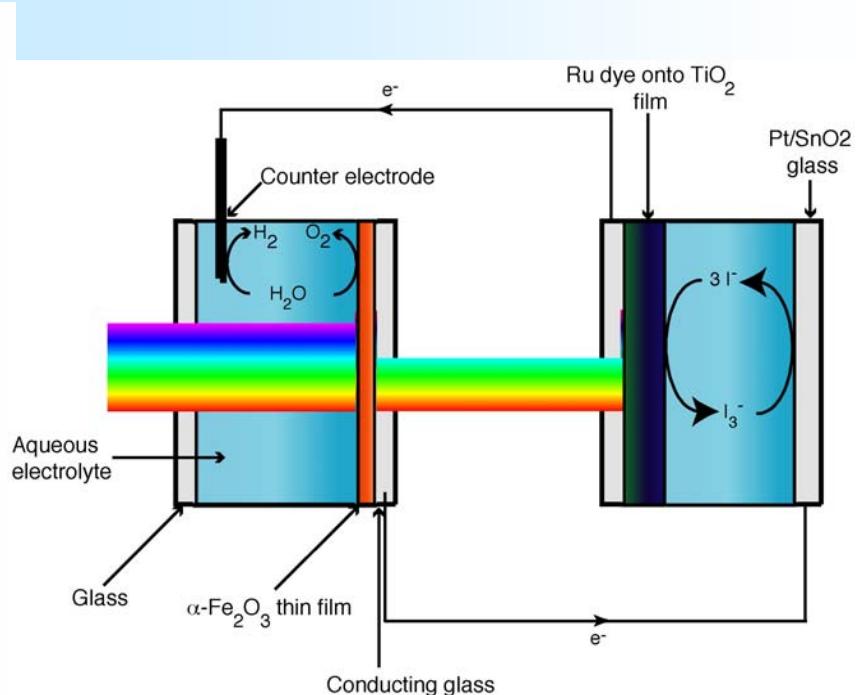
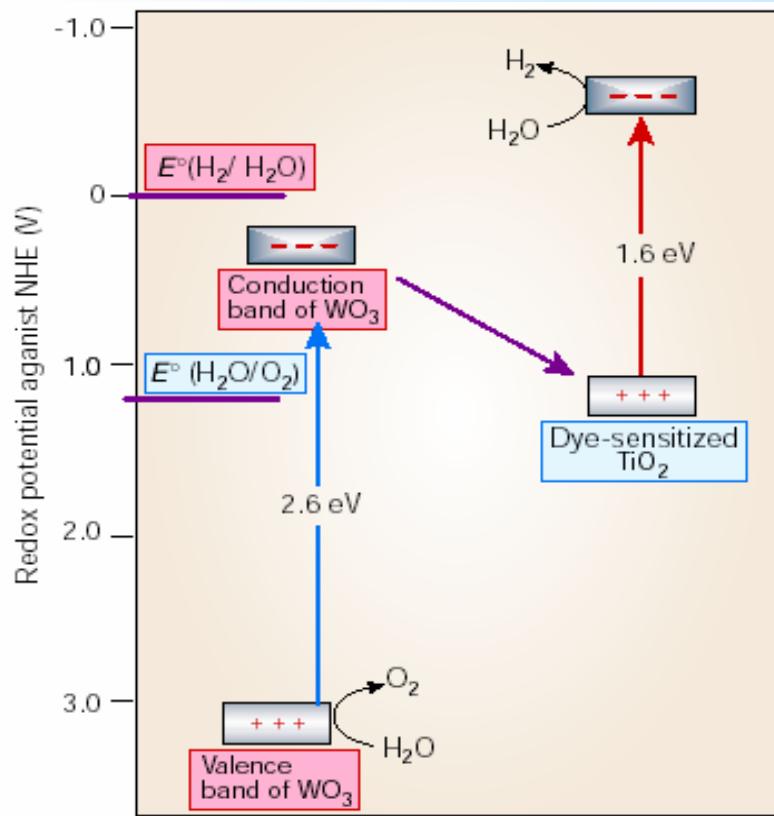
Efficiency=18.3 %

S. Licht et al., *J. Phys. Chem. B* 2000,



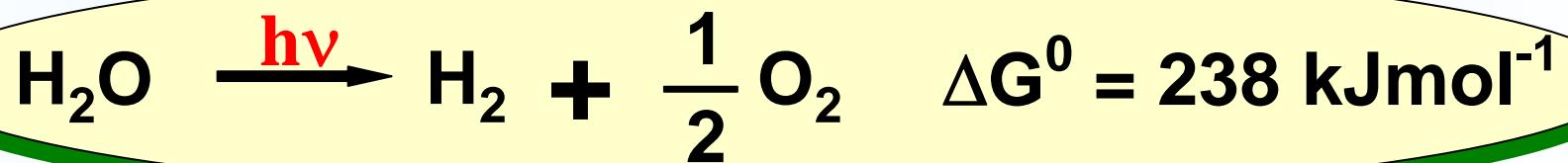
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Photoelectrochemical cells + PV



M. Grätzel, *Nature* 2001, 414, 338–344.

solar energy conversion efficiency = 3 ~ 4 %



- Solar cell + Electrolysis
- Photoelectrochemical Cell
- Artificial Photosynthesis (Photocatalysis)
 - Inorganic solid material
 - metal complex
 - organic material
 - biomaterial
- Photosynthesis



Available photons for water splitting



$$\Delta G^0 = 237 \text{ kJ/mol}$$

$$= n \times F \times E^0$$

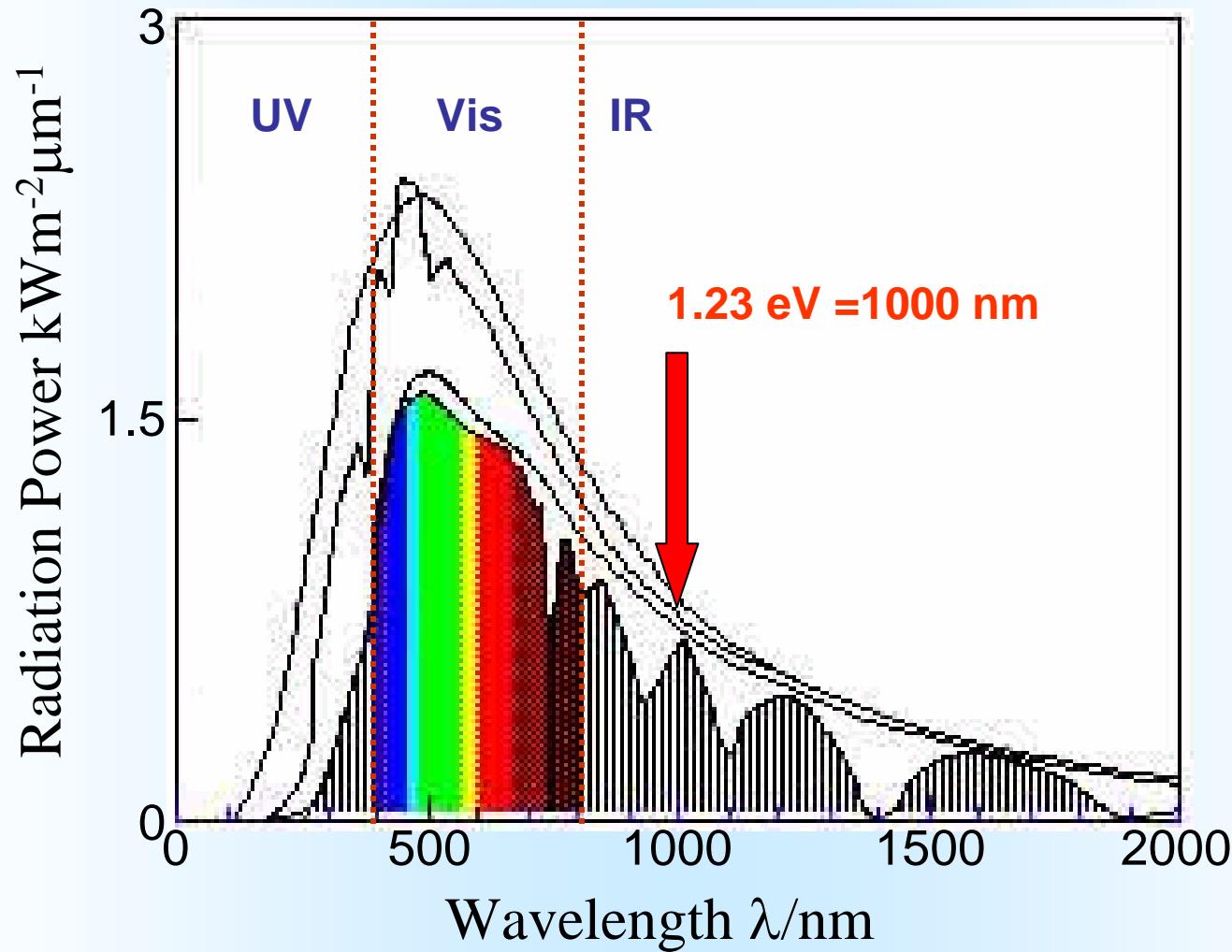
$$= 2 \times 96500 \text{ C/mol} \times 1.23 \text{ V}$$

One electron energy = 1.23 eV

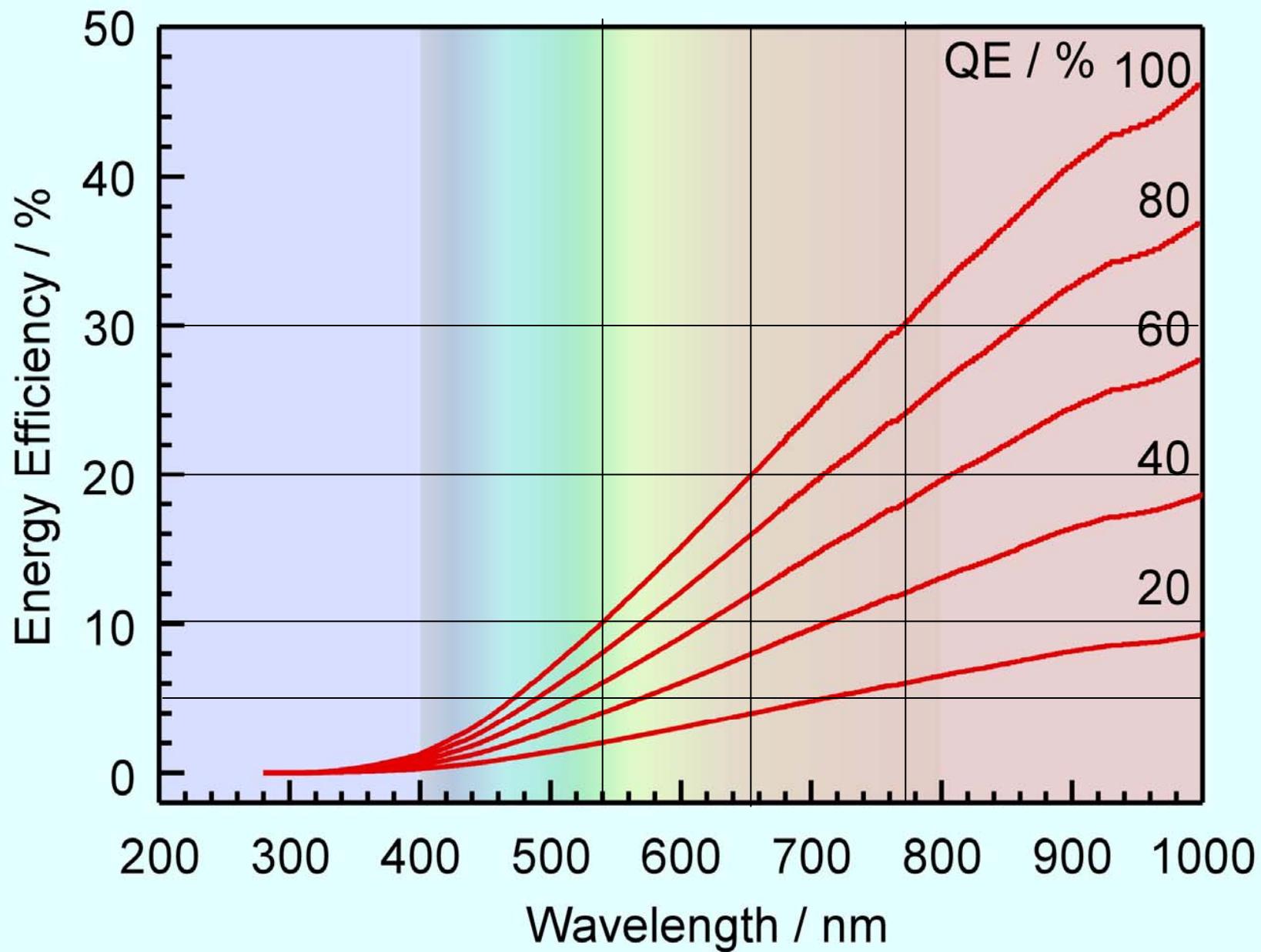
Photon energy

$$\frac{\text{E (eV)} = h\nu}{1.23 \text{ eV}} = \frac{1238}{\lambda(\text{nm})} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \lambda = 1000 \text{ nm}$$

Solar Energy Distribution



Solar Energy Conversion Efficiency

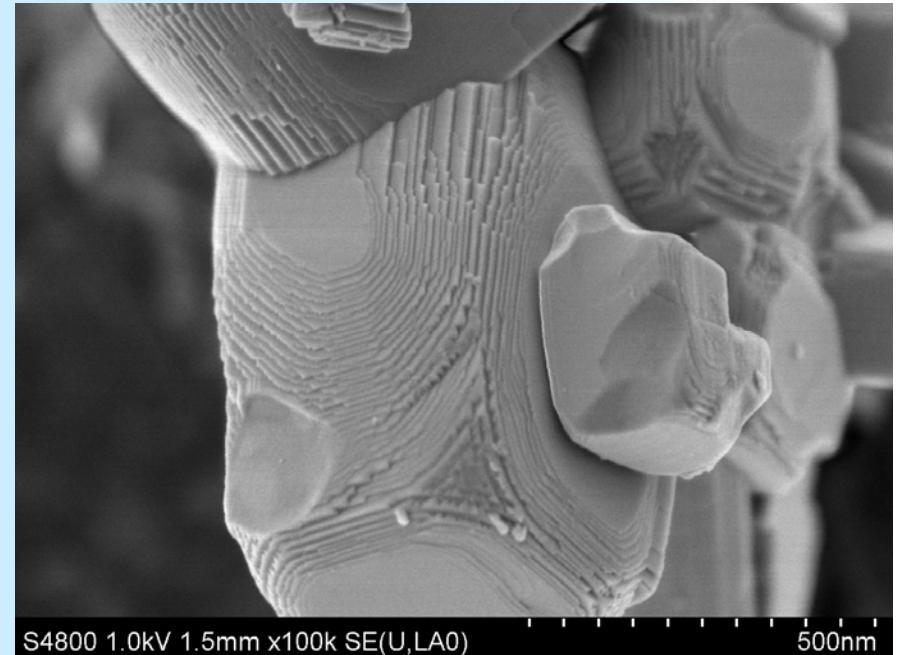
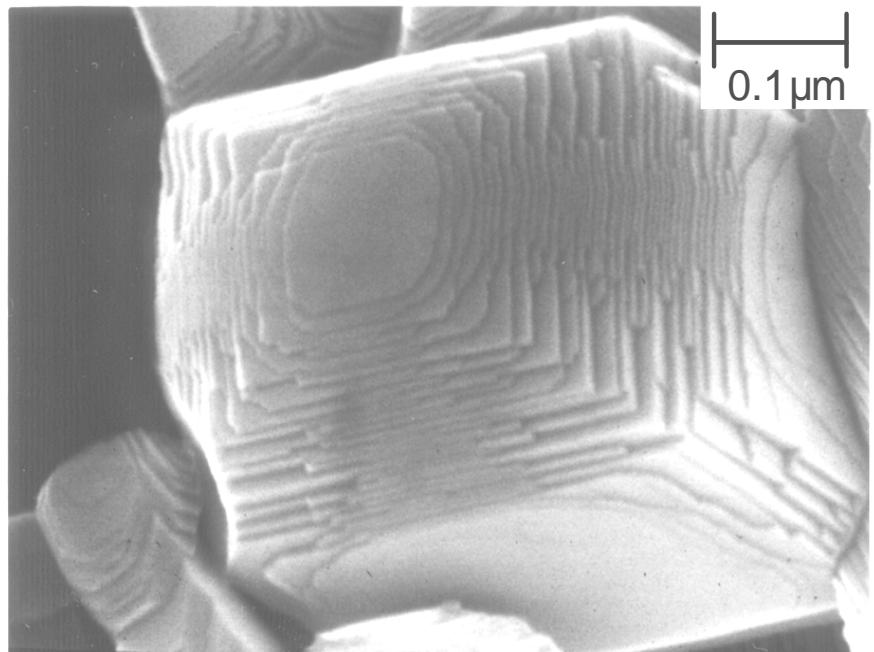


Solar energy conversion efficiency

(Q.E. = 100 %)

Wavelength / nm	Energy efficiency / %
400	1.67
450	4.29
500	7.95
550	11.9
600	16.2
650	20.6
700	25.1
750	29.4
800	33.5

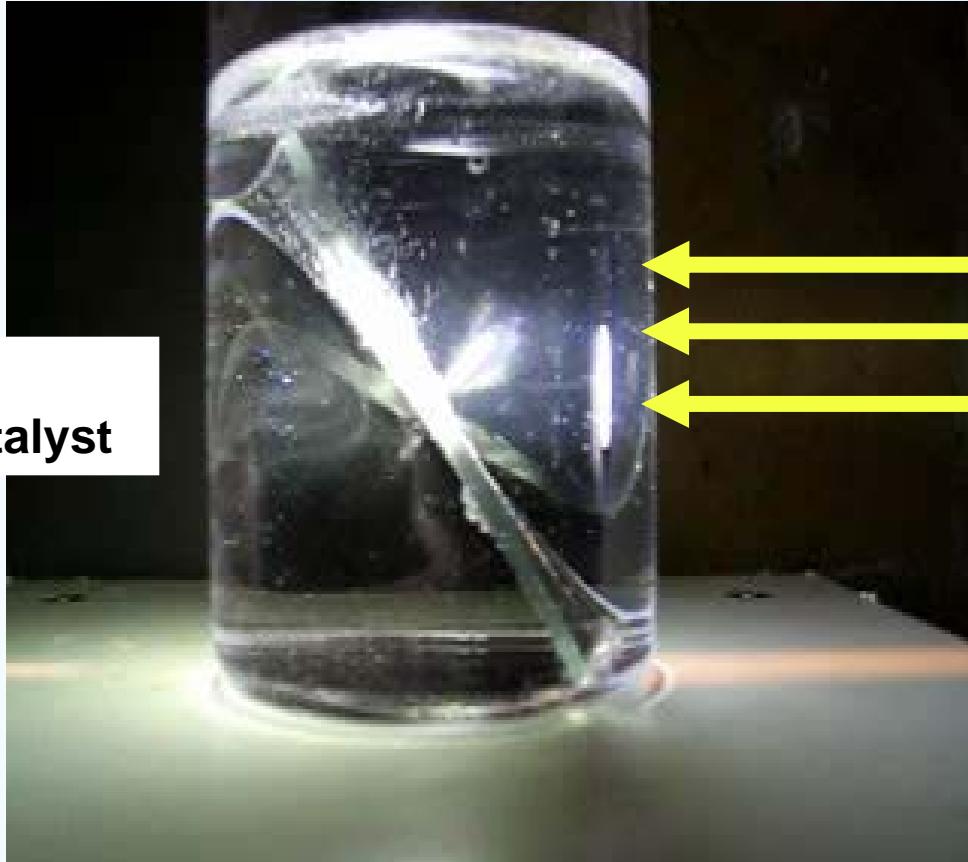
SEM Images of La-doped NaTaO₃



Prof. A. Kudo (Tokyo Univ. Sci.)

Overall water splitting on NiO(0.2wt%)/NaTaO₃ :La

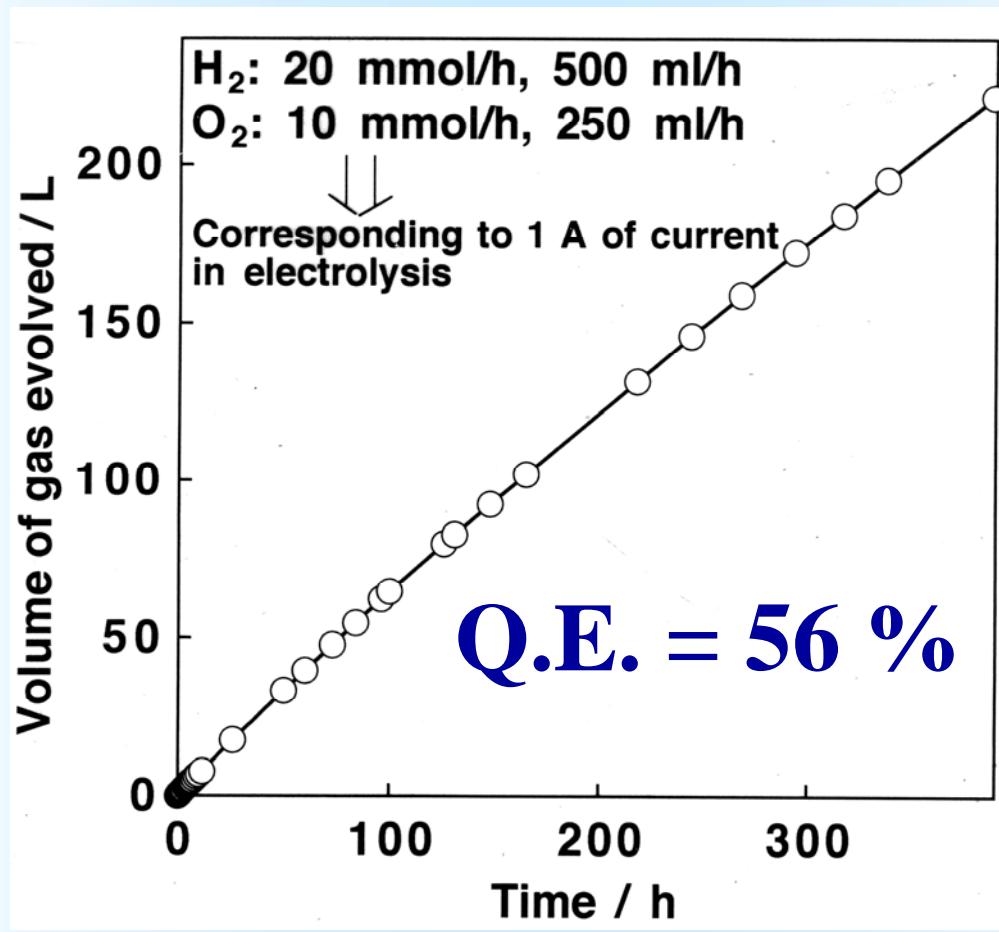
Layered
photocatalyst



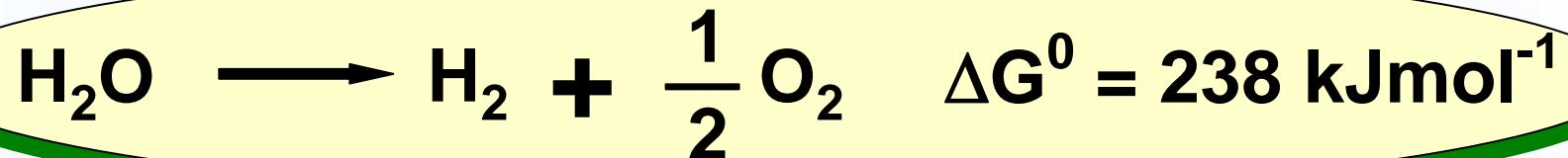
200W
Xe-Hg
Lamp

BG:4.1eV
QY:50% (270nm)

Time Course of Overall Water Splitting on NiO(0.2wt%)/NaTaO₃:La



Challenge with Visible Light



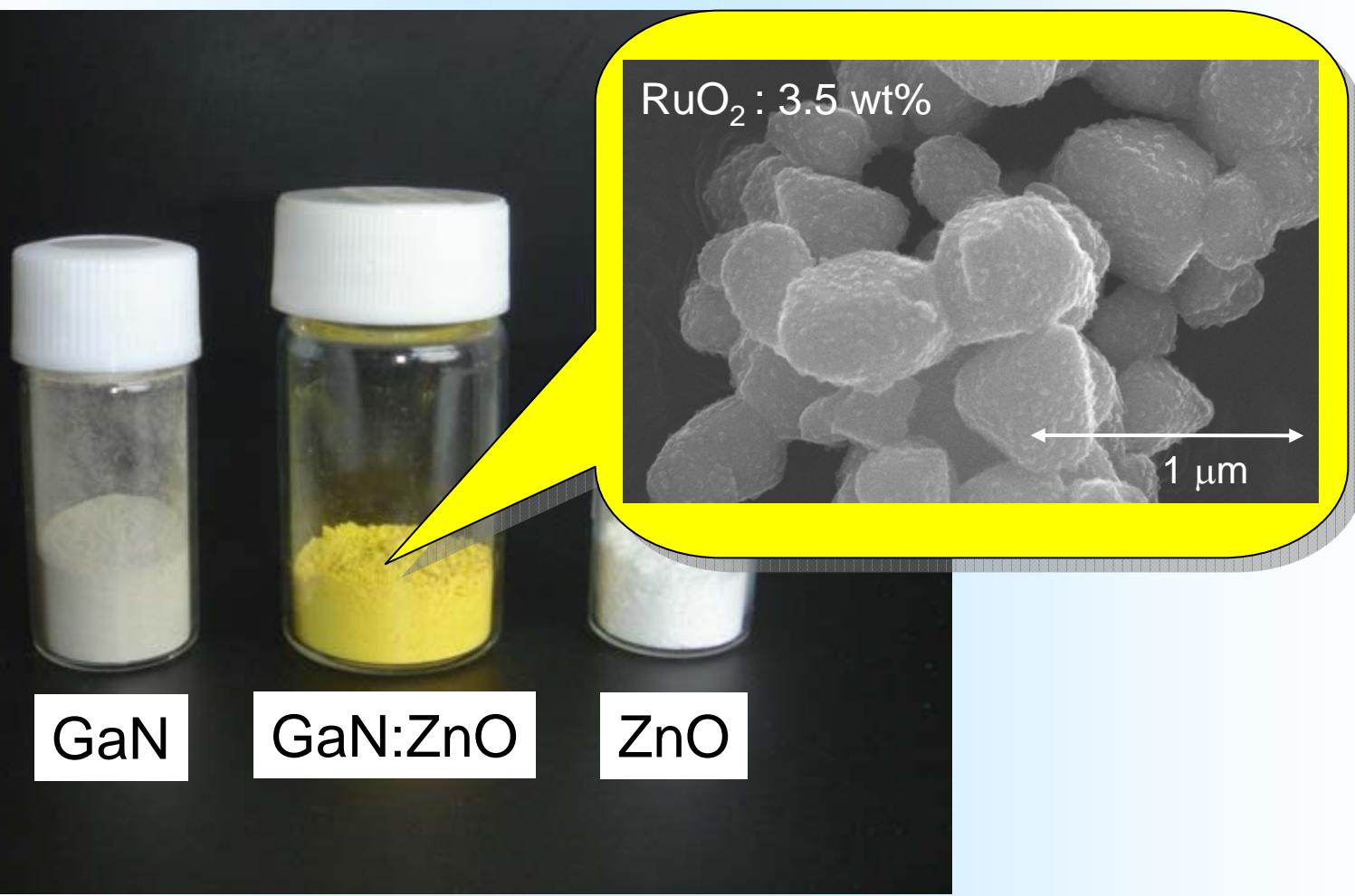
Photocatalytic Materials ?

with

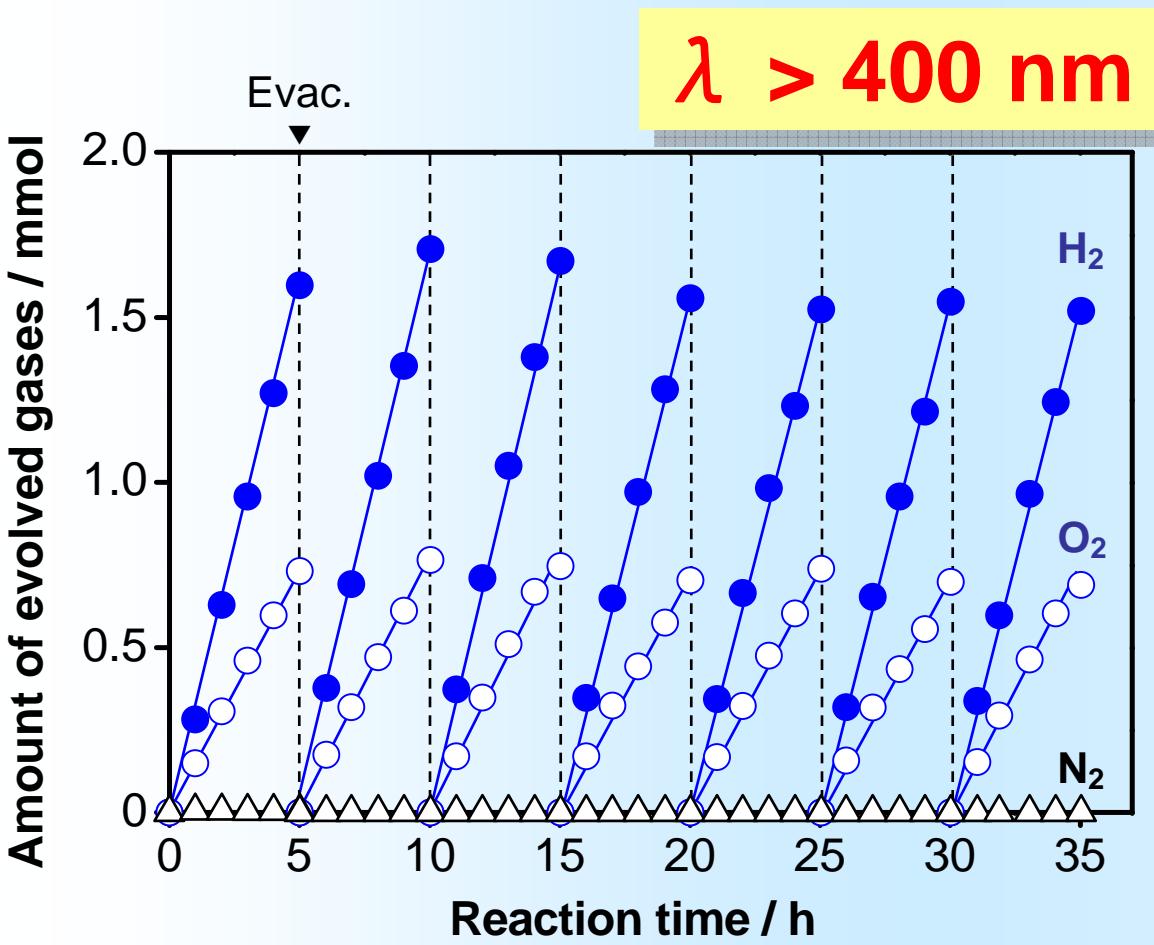
- Sufficient Solar Energy (Visible Light) Absorption
- Potential for Overall Water Splitting
- Enough Stability



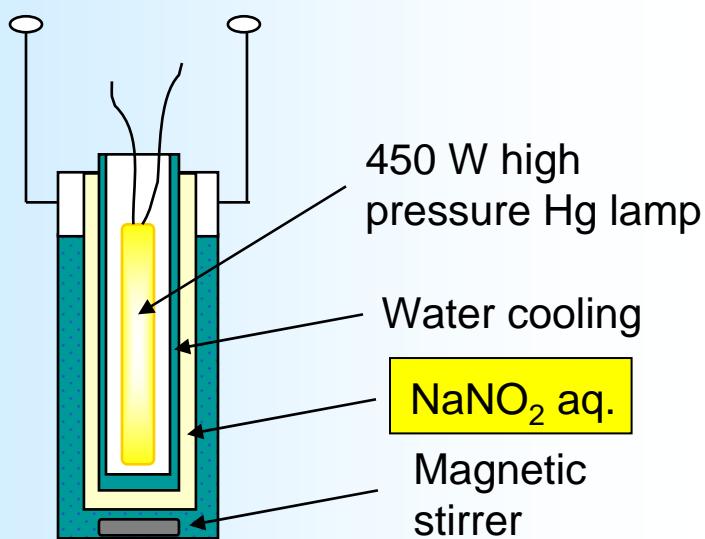
GaN:ZnO solid solution



Visible Light-Driven Overall Water Splitting on Rh-Cr oxide/GaN:ZnO

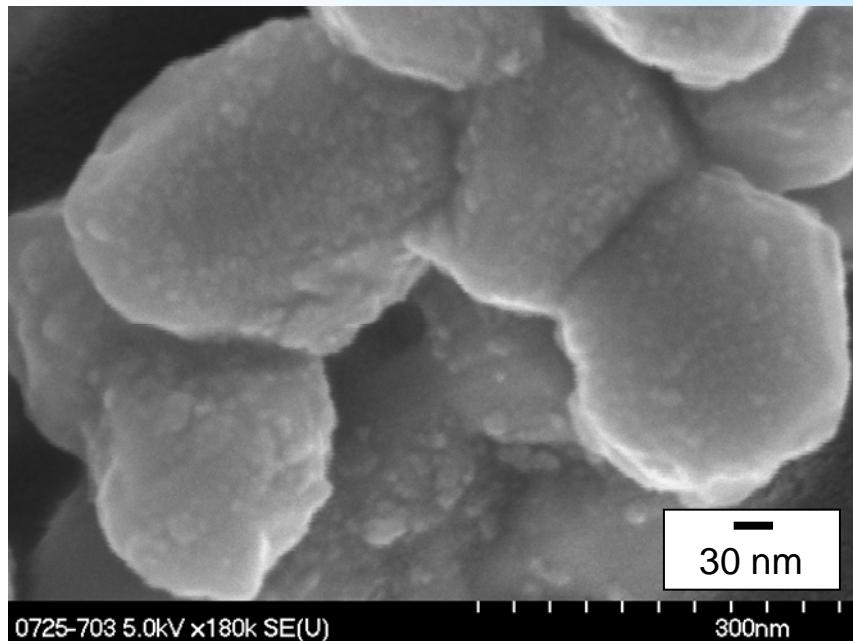


Catalyst: 0.3 g
Cocat.: Rh 1 wt%, Cr 1.5 wt%
Reactant soln.: 370 mL (pH 4.5)
Inner irradiation type cell
with a 2 M NaNO₂ aq. filter
450 W Hg lamp

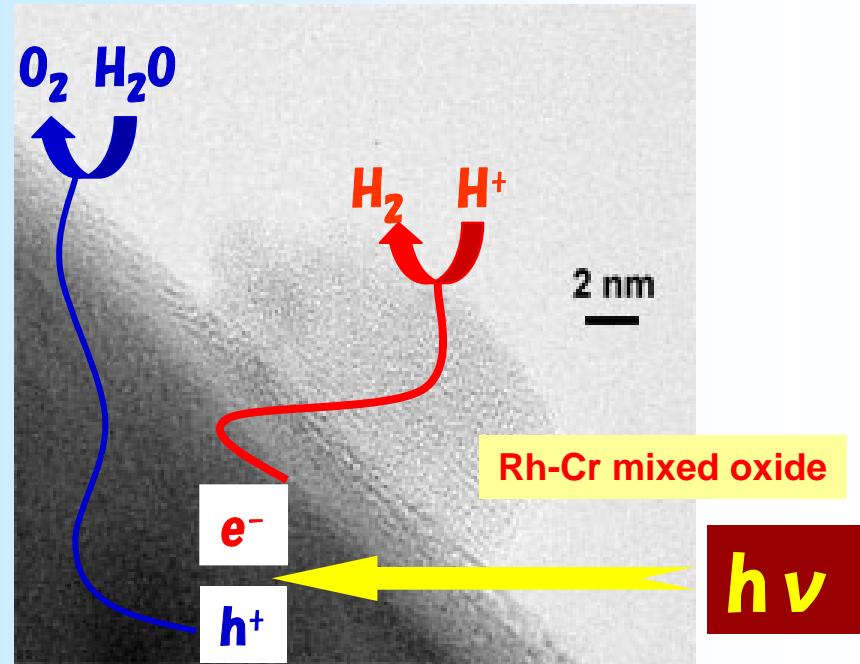


Electron micrographs of Rh-Cr oxide/GaN:ZnO

SEM image



TEM image



Overall water splitting on Rh-Cr oxide / GaN:ZnO



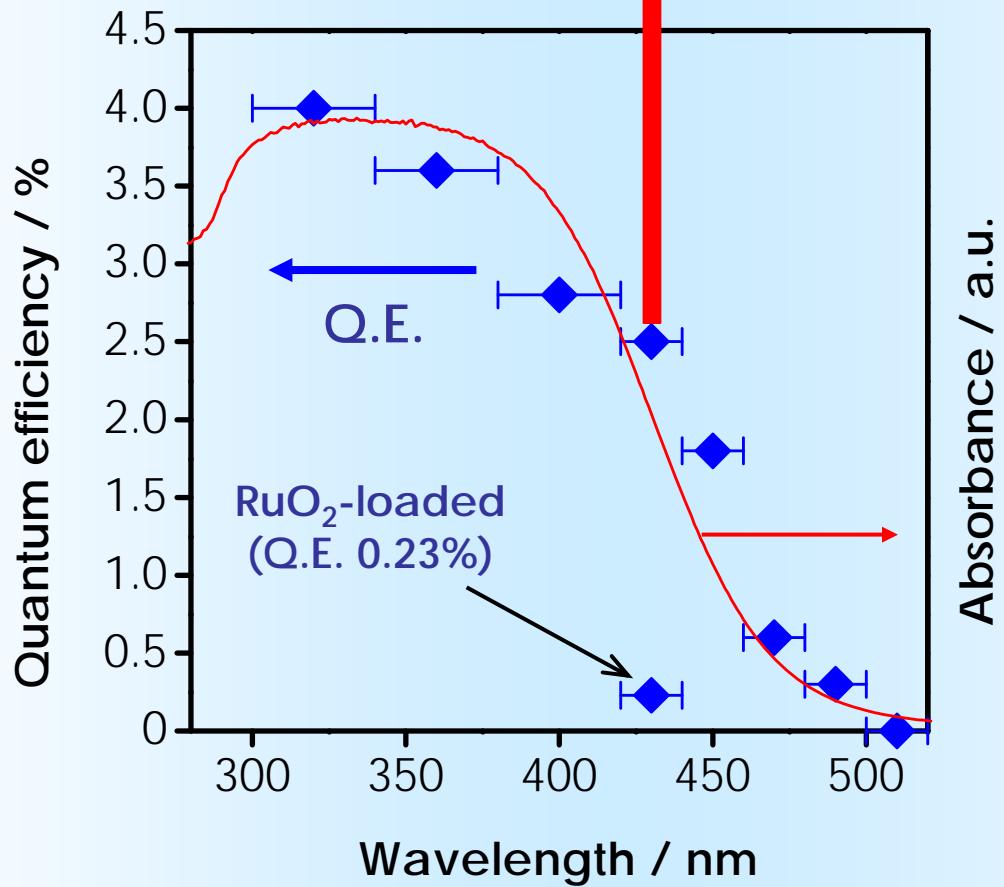
$\lambda > 300 \text{ nm}$



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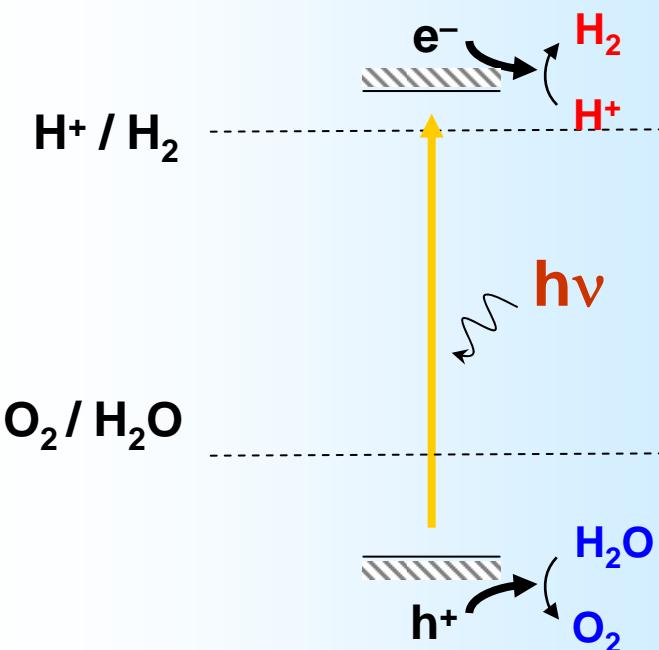


Q.E. of overall water splitting on Rh-Cr oxide/GaN:ZnO

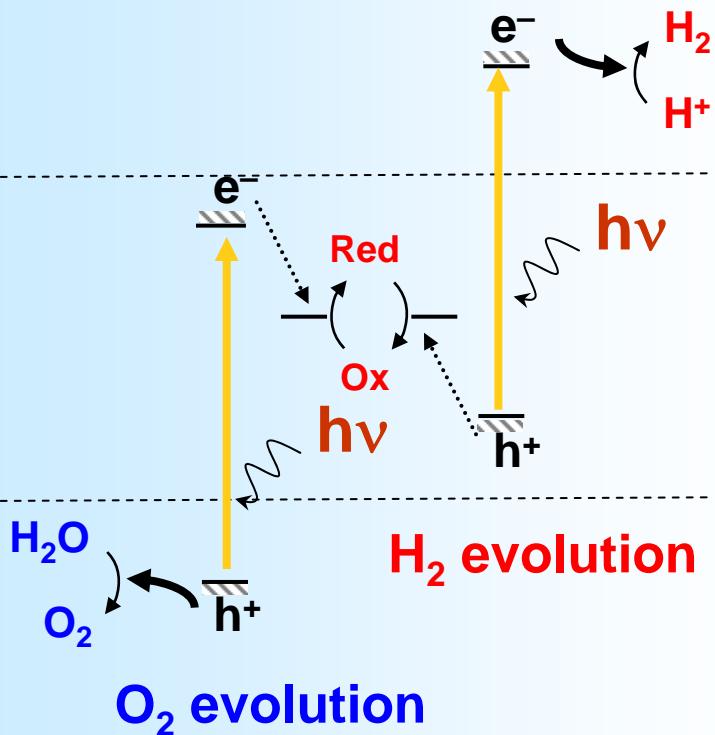


Two approaches for overall water splitting

One-step excitation



Two-step excitation (Z-scheme)



Various Oxynitrides



BaTaO_2N

Ta_3N_5

LaTaON_2

SrTaO_2N

CaTaO_2N

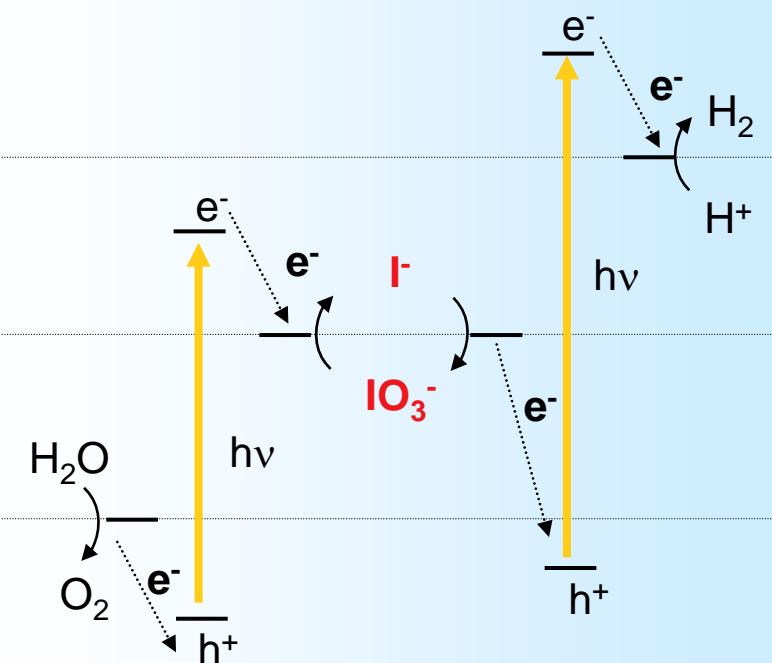
$\text{Li}_2\text{LaTa}_2\text{O}_6\text{N}$

CaLaTiON

Oxide

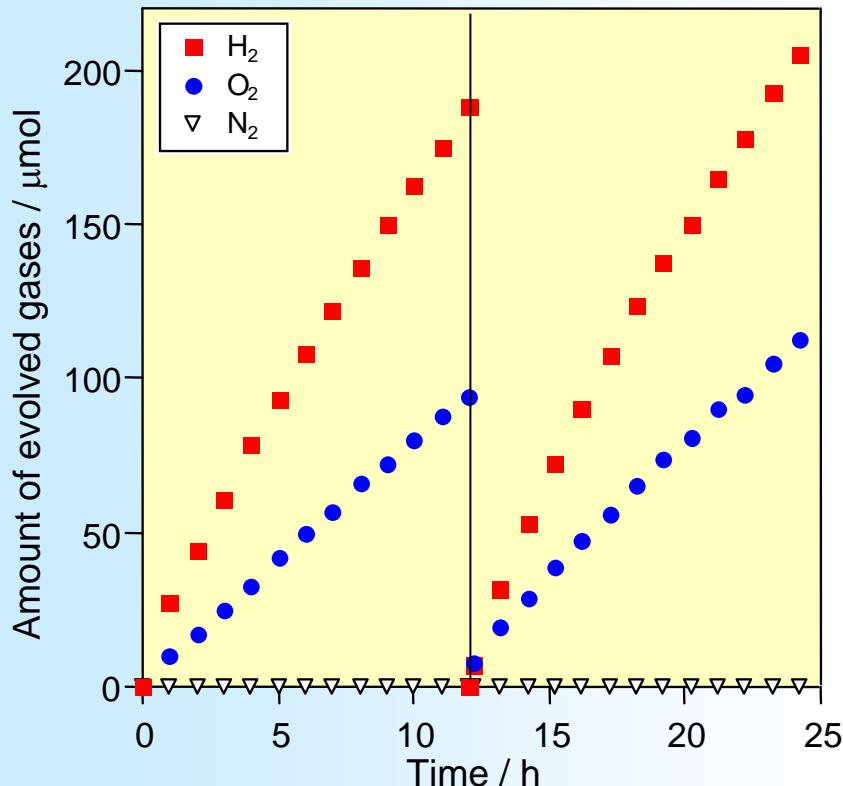


Two-step overall water splitting under visible light



Pt/WO_3
($\lambda < 450 \text{ nm}$)

Pt/TaON
($\lambda < 500 \text{ nm}$)



(Reaction conditions)

$\text{Pt/TaON}: 0.2 \text{ g} + \text{Pt}/\text{WO}_3: 0.2 \text{ g}$

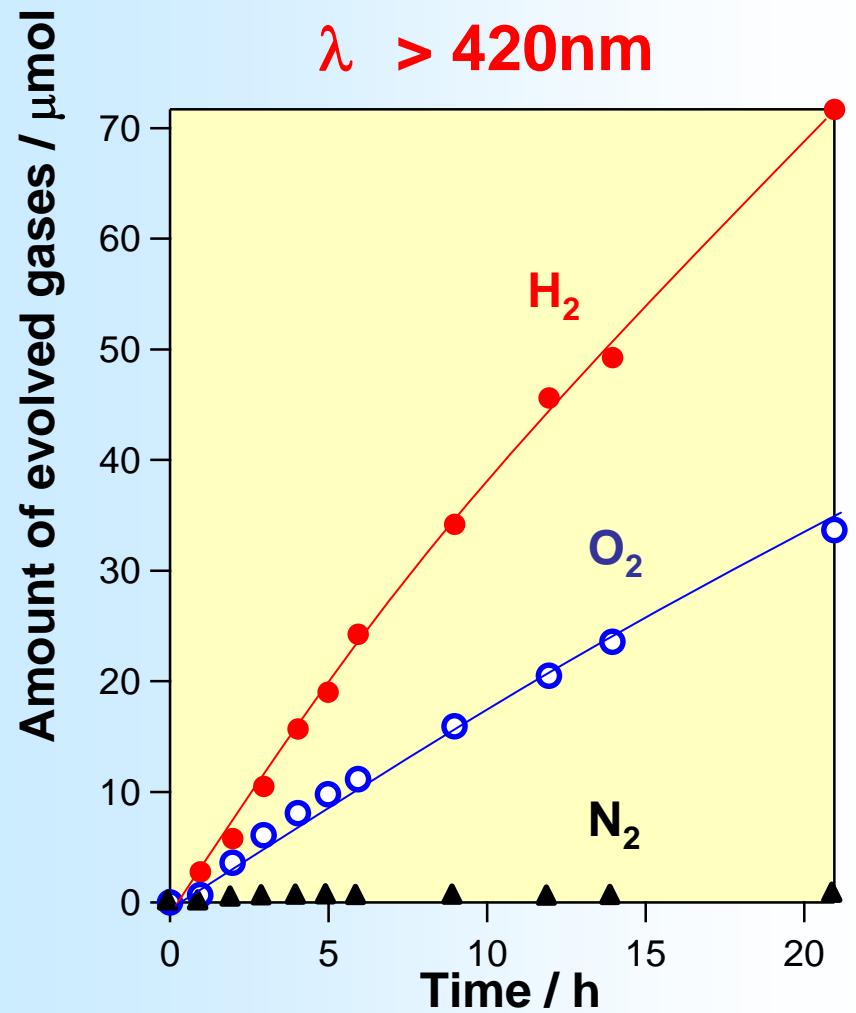
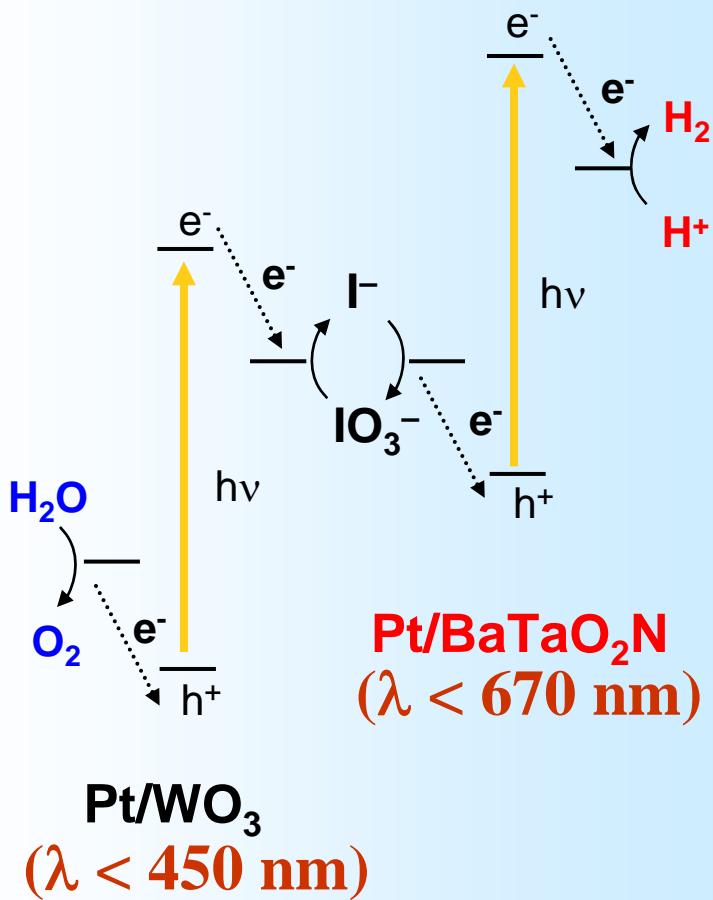
5 mM-NaI aqueous solution: 250 mL ($\text{pH} = 6.5$)

300 W Xe-lamp, L-42 cut-off filter

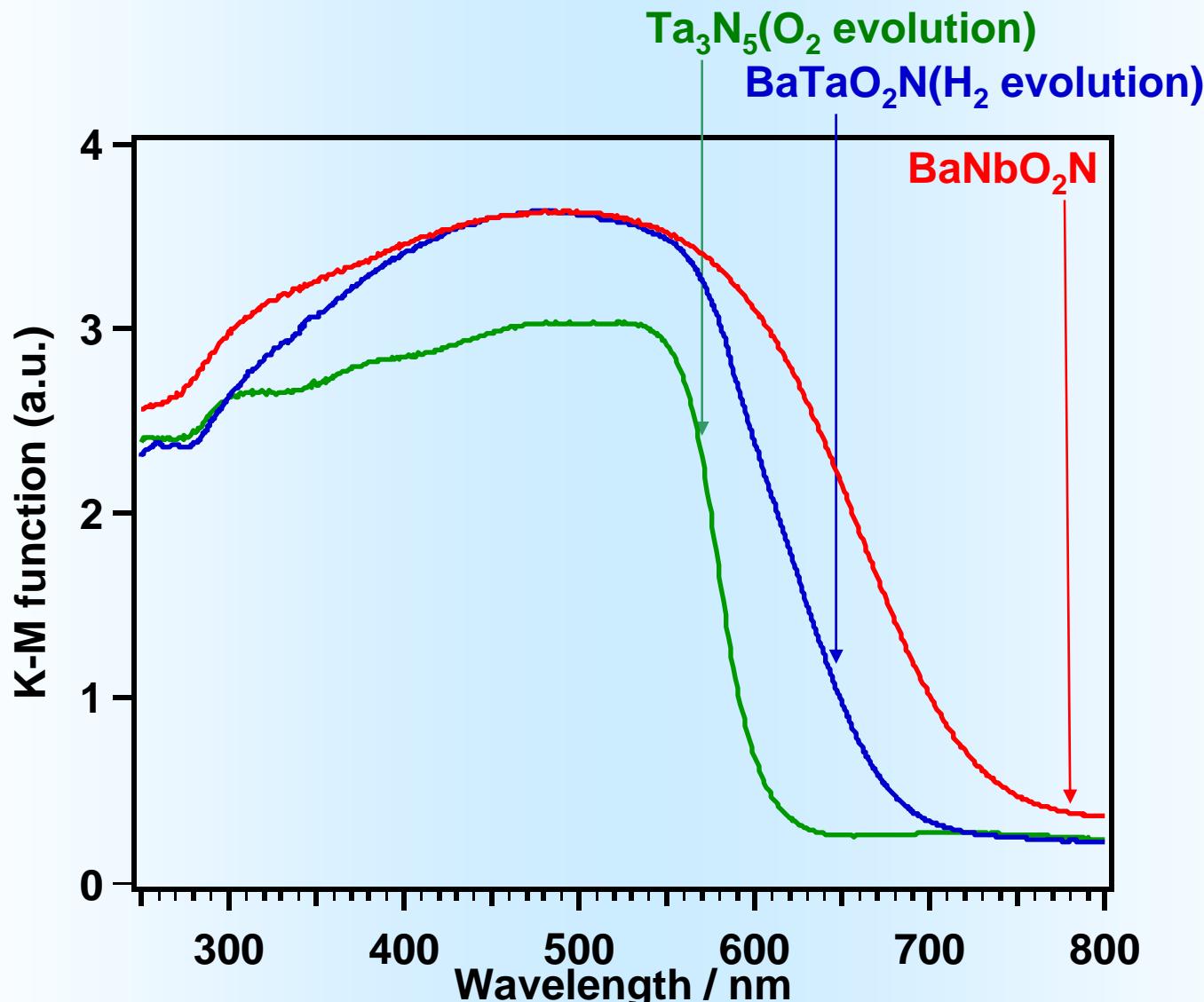
Chem. Commun. 2005, 3829



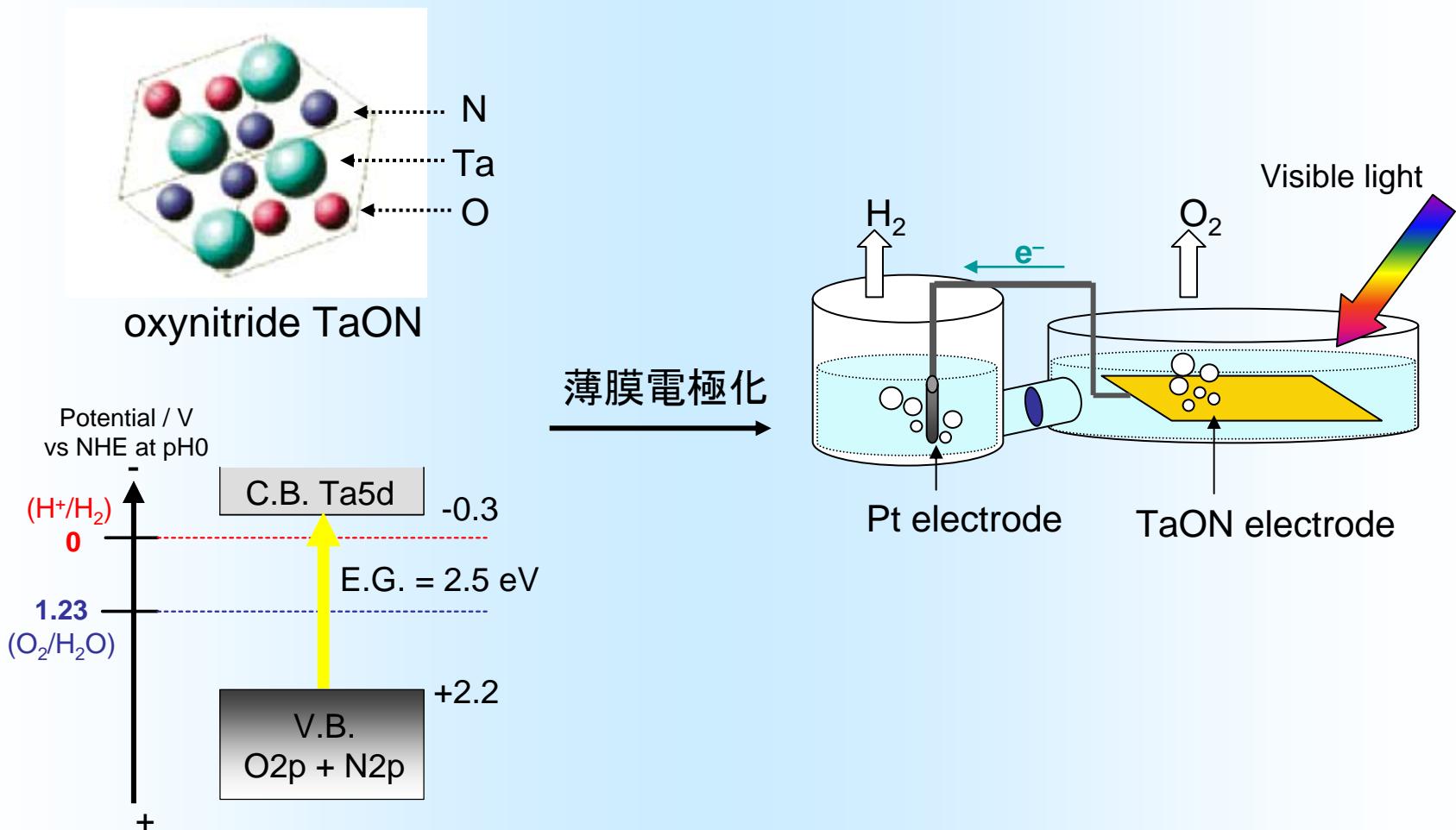
Two-step overall water splitting on Pt/WO₃+Pt/BaTaO₂N



Available materials for two-step overall water splitting



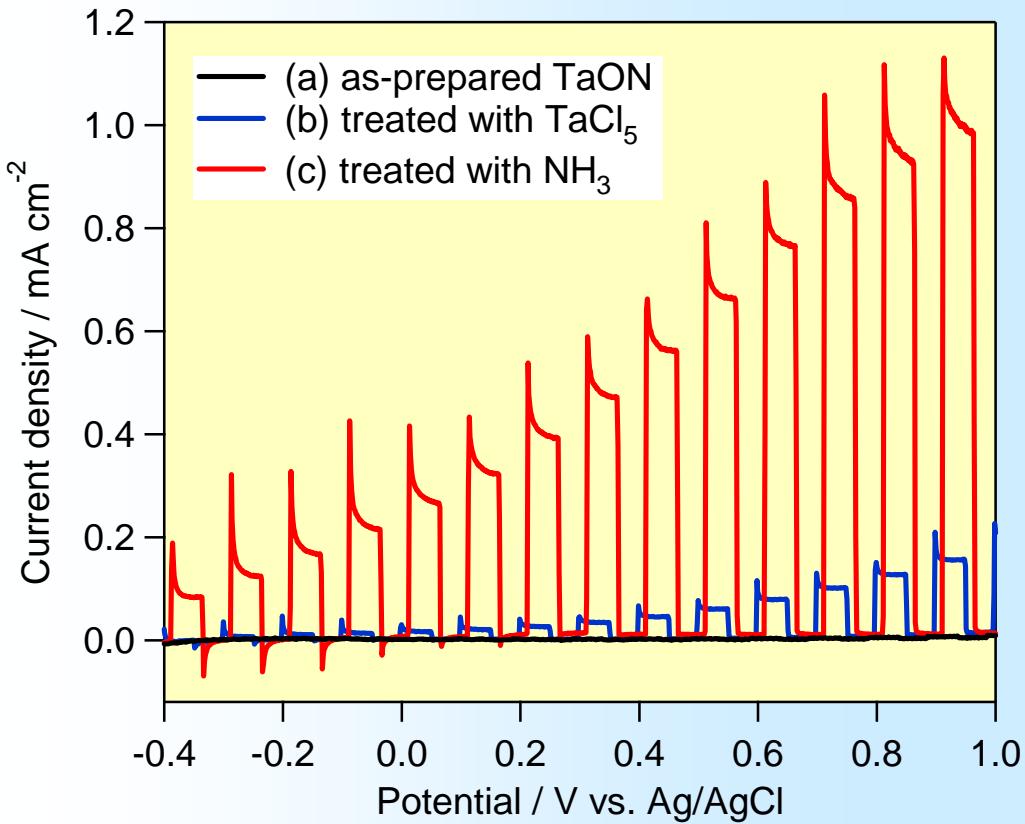
Application of oxynitrides to PEC cell



K. Domen et al., *J. Phys. Chem. B*, 2003, 107, 1798

R. Abe et al., *Chem. Commun.*, 2005, 3829

阿部(北海道大学)



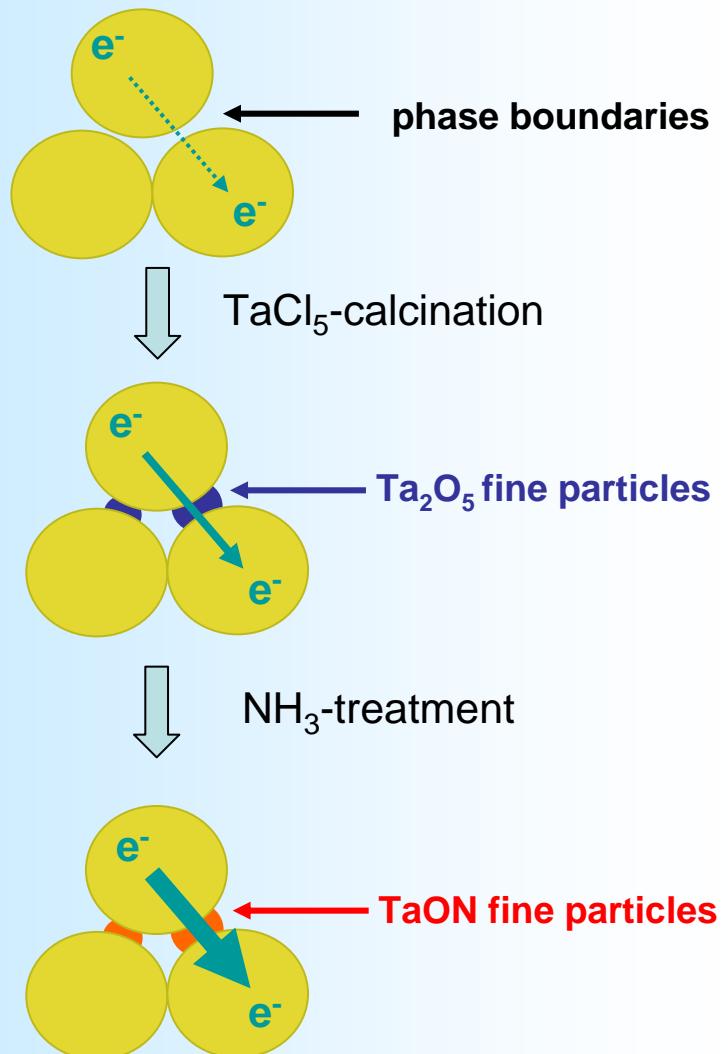
[Conditions]

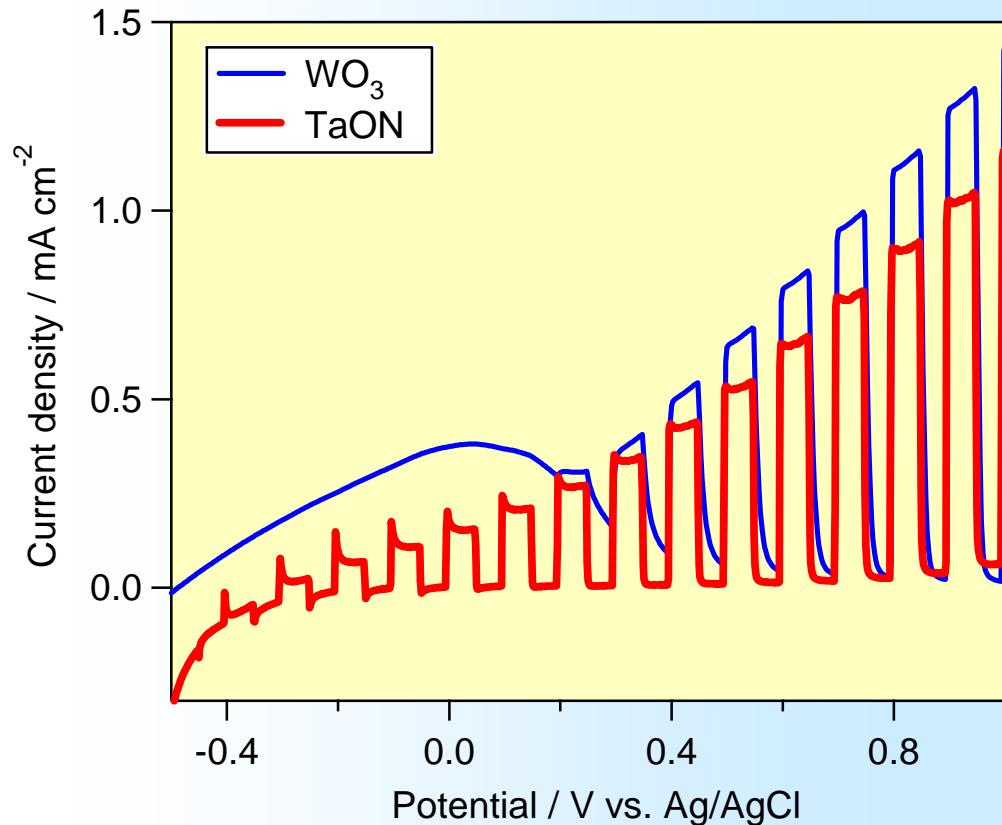
Supporting electrolyte: 0.1 mol L^{-1} of Na_2SO_4

Potentiostat: PARSTAT 2263

Rate of scan: 50 mV / s

Light source: Xe illuminator (300 W, $300 < \lambda < 500 \text{ nm}$)





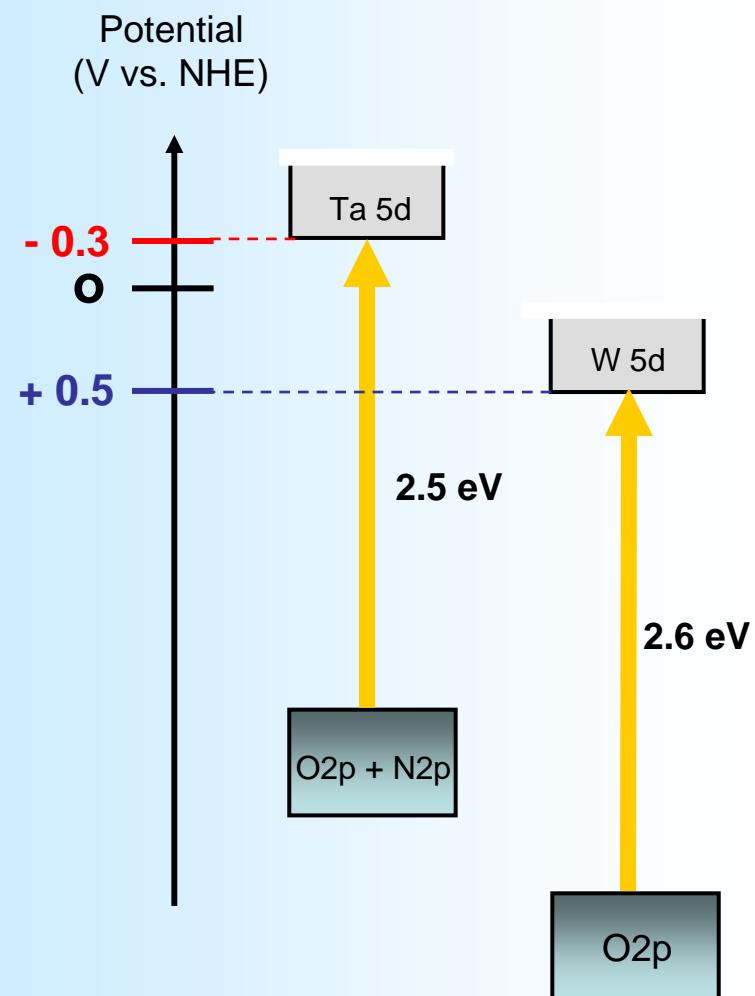
[Conditions]

Supporting electrolyte: 0.1 mol·L⁻¹ of Na_2SO_4

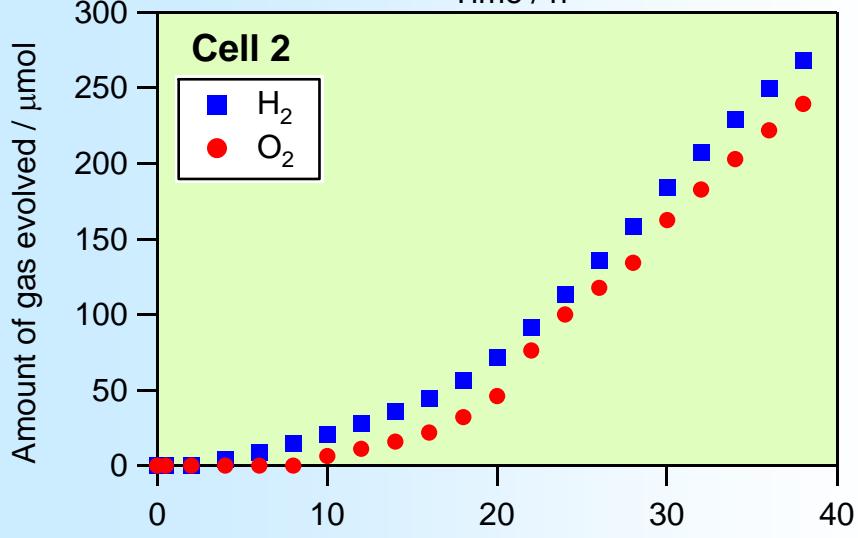
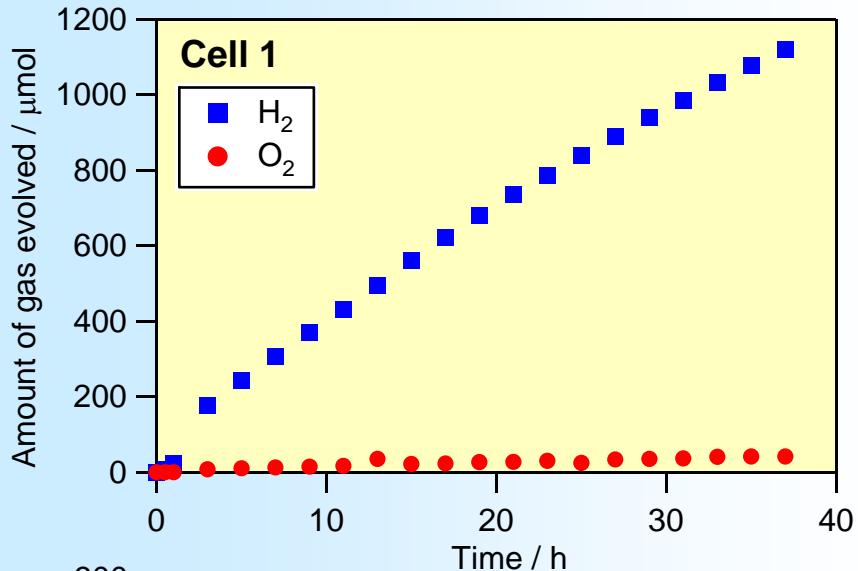
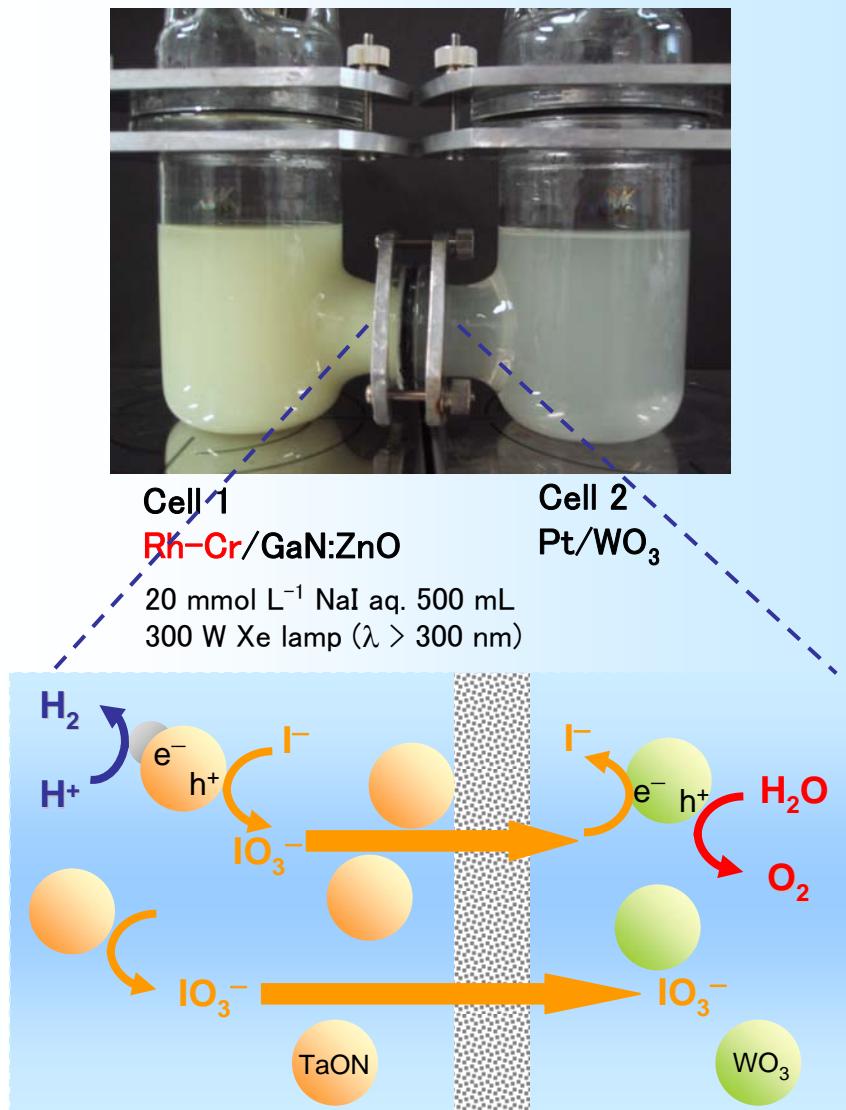
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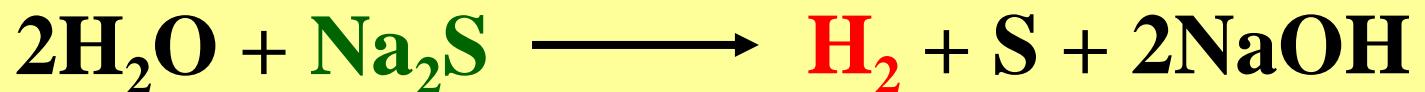
Two-room overall water splitting



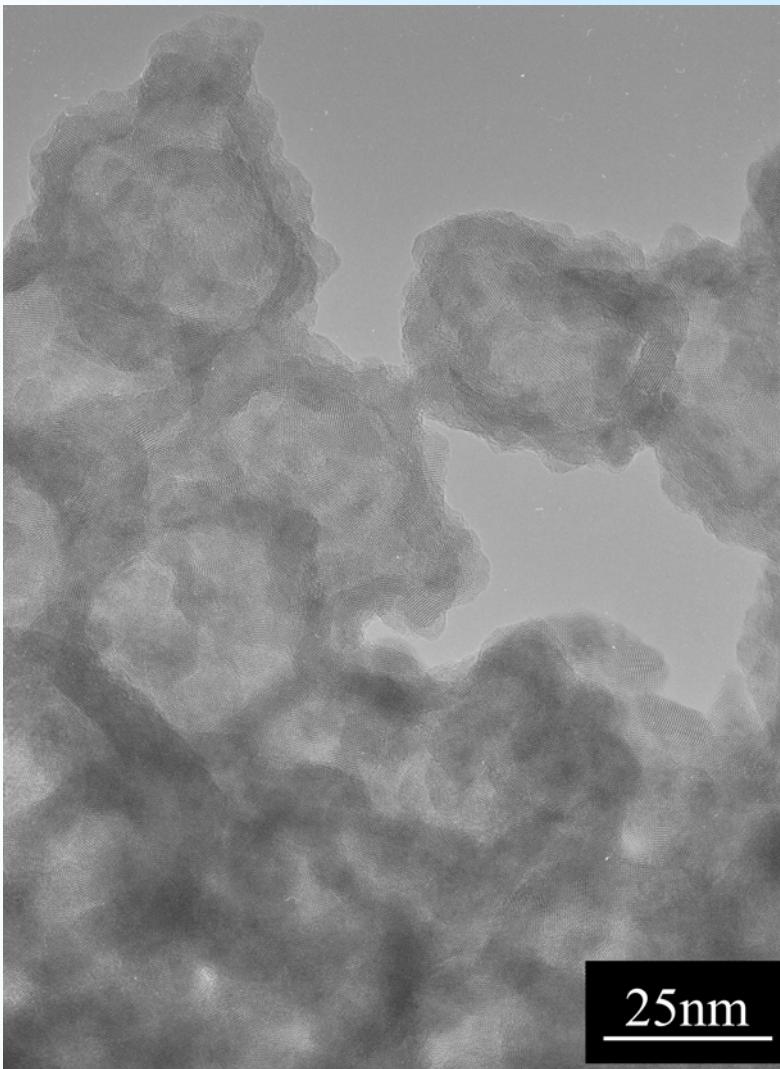
Overall water splitting with sacrificial reagents



$$\Delta G^0 = 238 \text{ kJmol}^{-1}$$



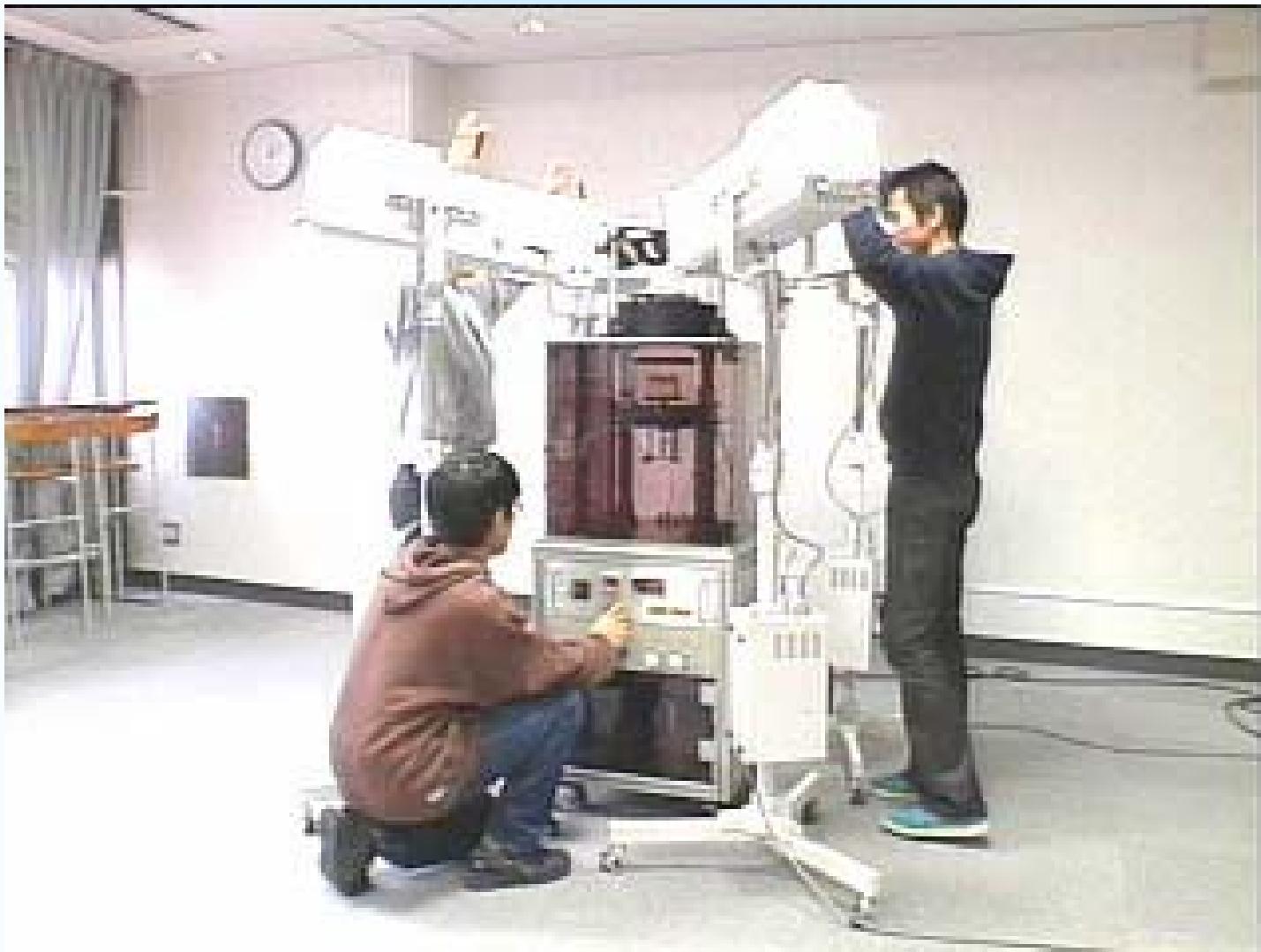
TEM image of stratified CdS



CdS capsules (30 nm) consist of nanoparticles (5nm)

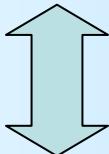
Prof. K. Tohji (Tohoku Univ.)

H_2 production on stratified CdS from Na_2S solution



Prof. K. Tohji (Tohoku Univ.)

Hydrogen Production from Water using Solar Energy

- Solar cell + Electrolysis
vs
 - Photoelectrochemical Cell
- 
- materials

- Artificial Photosynthesis (Photocatalysis)

Key Issues

New materials

Hybridization; structure

Application to wide area; Reactor design