

# 전기화학 촉매소재 설계

## Design of Electrocatalytic Materials

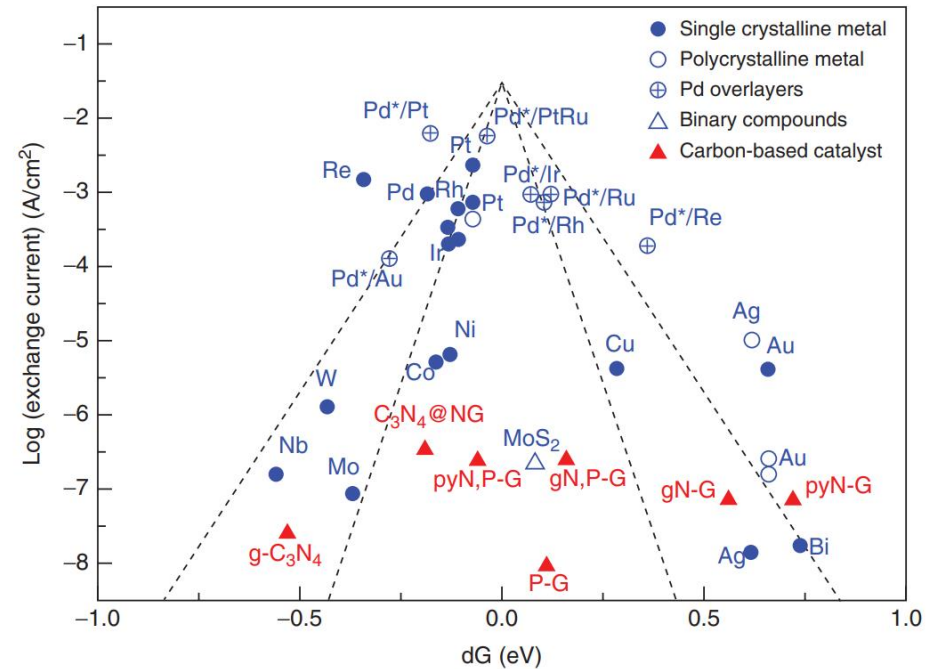
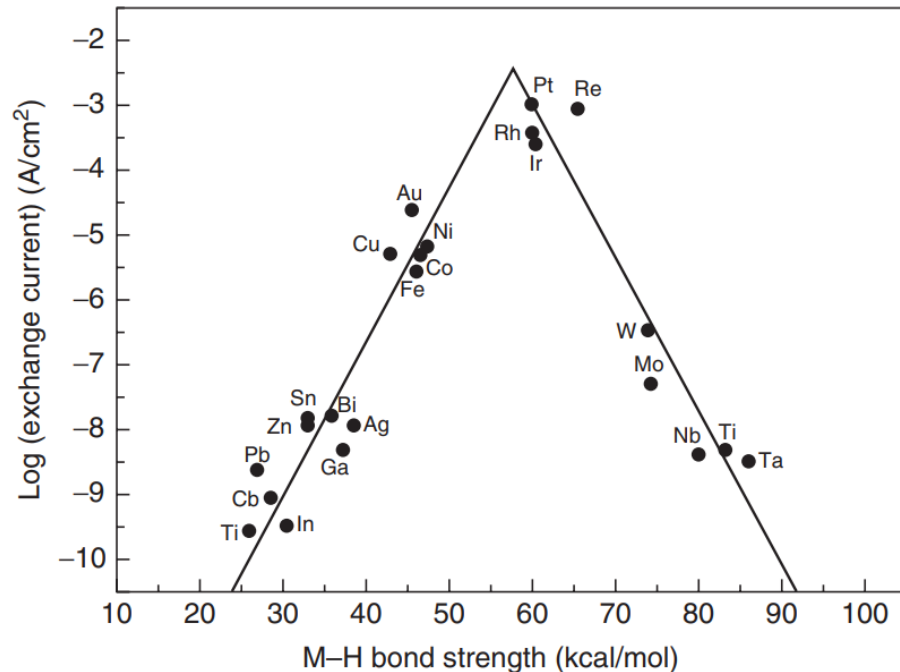
**Uk Sim**

**Department of Materials Science & Engineering  
Chonnam National University**

# Sabatier Principle

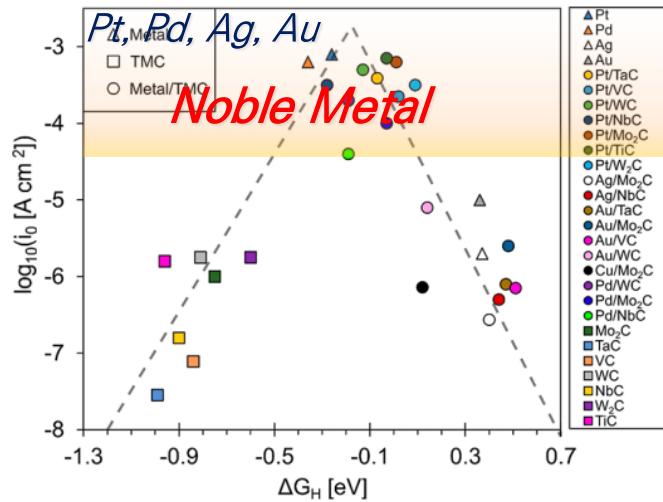
Interactions between the catalyst and the substrate should be "just right"; that is, neither too strong nor too weak.

## volcano plots

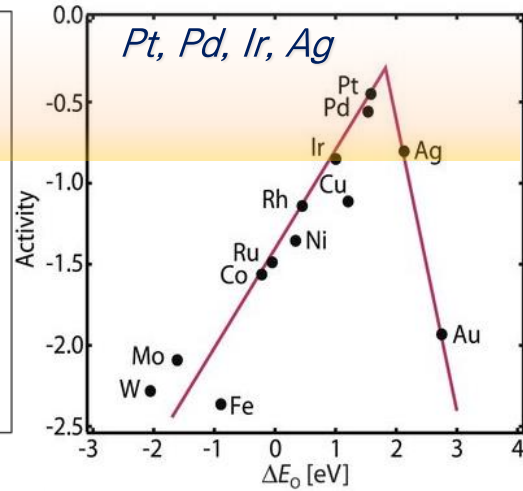


# Volcano plots

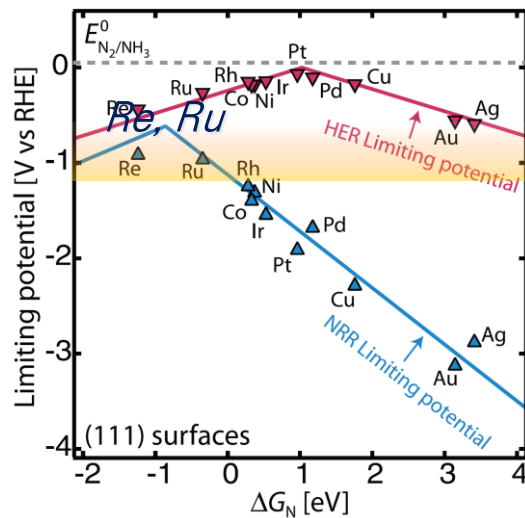
수소발생반응



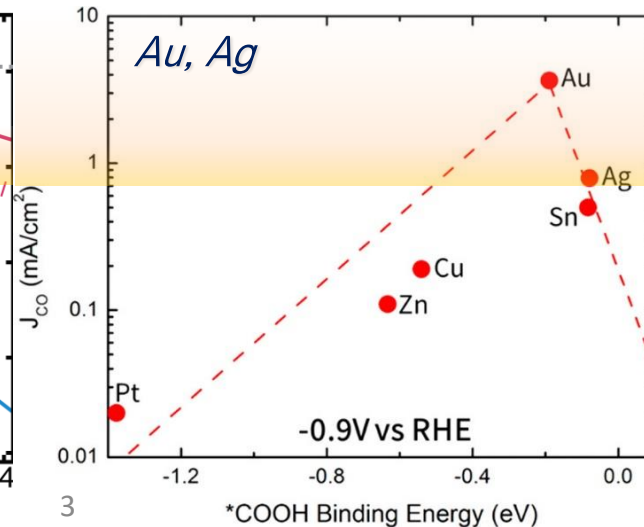
산소환원반응



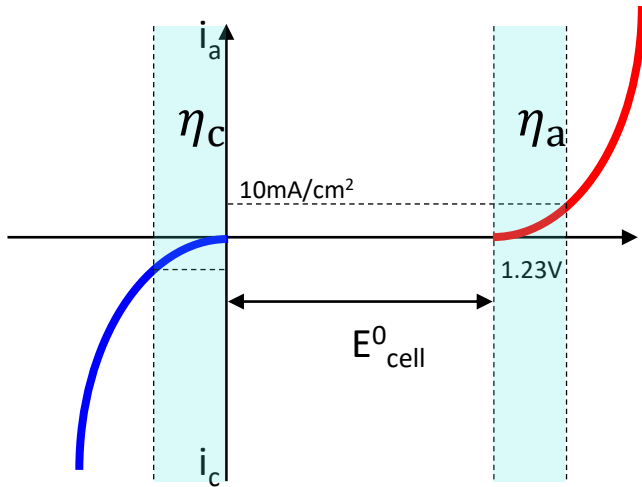
질소환원반응



이산화탄소환원반응



# Catalyst for Water Splitting



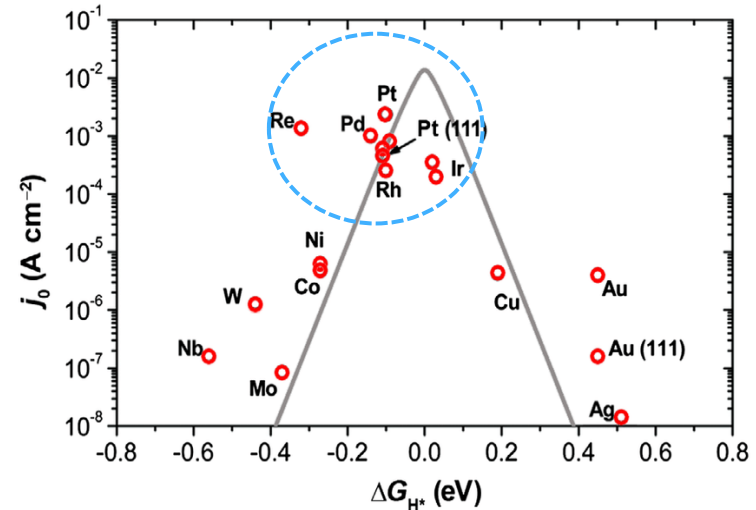
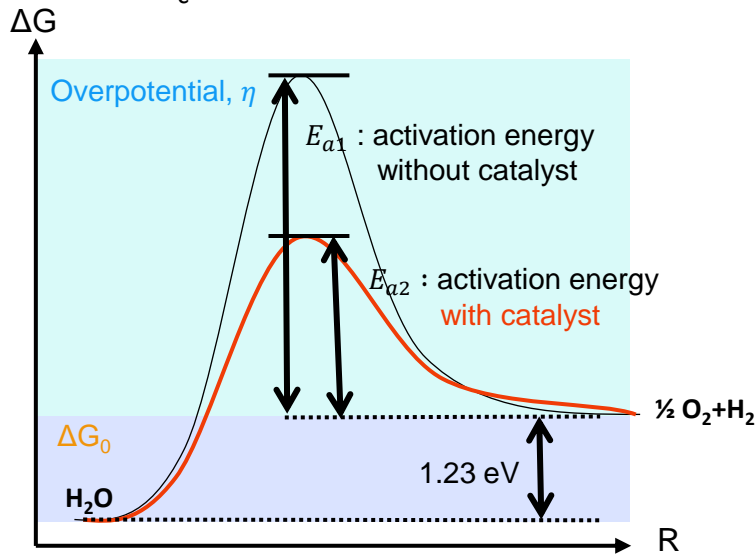
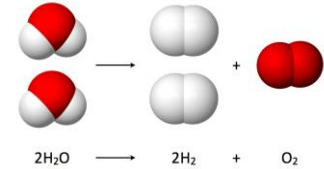
## Real voltage required for water splitting

$$\diamond E_{\text{applied}} = 1.23\text{V} + \eta_c + \eta_a$$

$\eta_c$ : overpotential at cathode

$\eta_a$ : overpotential at anode

- $\diamond$  As the overvoltage is reduced,  $E$  can be reduced, which can be reduced through the catalyst.

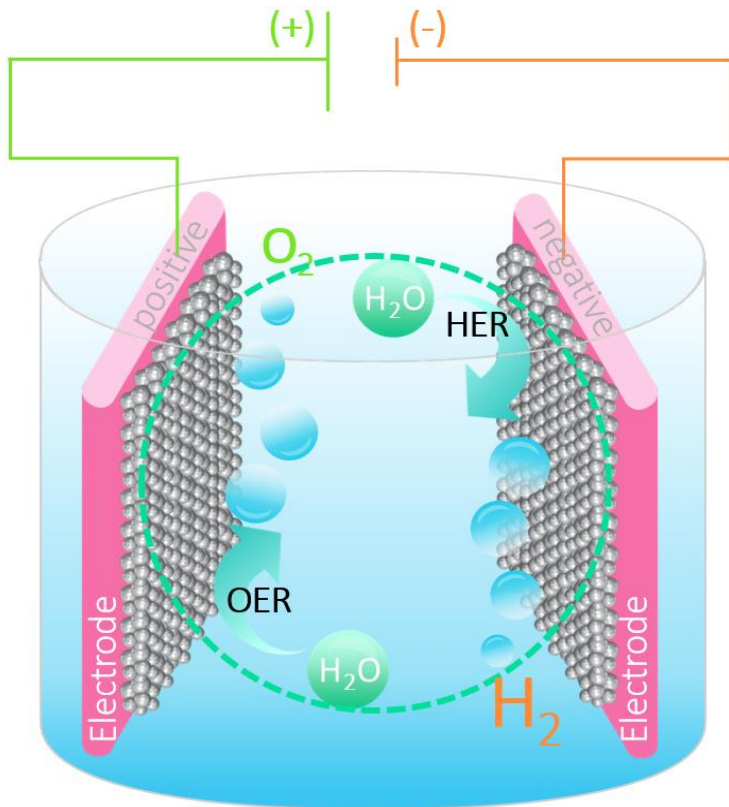


**Noble materials:** high cost, scarcity, and low stability

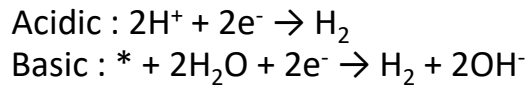
Electrochemical reactions require **efficient materials** with superior performance for reaching the global outlook of energy conversion.

# HER, OER mechanism

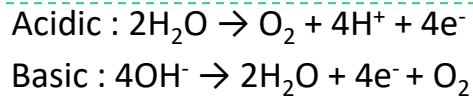
Full water splitting



**Negative (HER)**



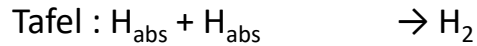
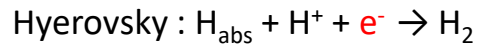
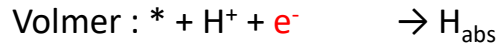
**Positive (OER)**



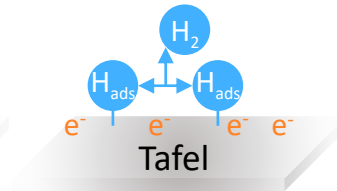
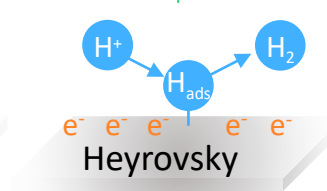
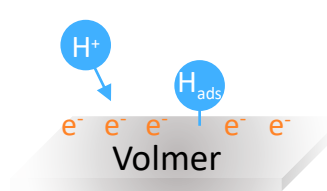
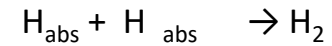
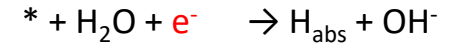
**Overall reaction**  $2\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2 + \text{O}_2$

Hydrogen evolution reaction mechanism

acidic condition

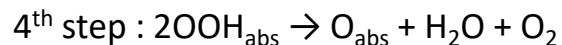
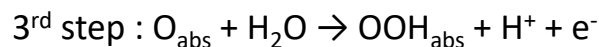
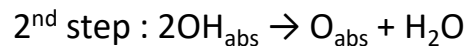
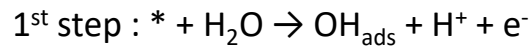


basic condition

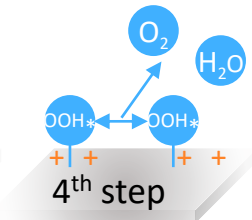
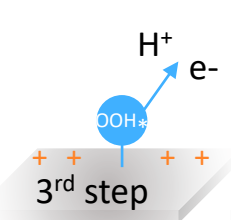
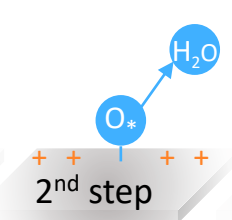
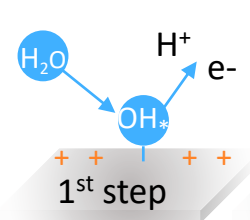
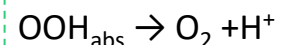
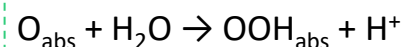
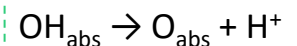
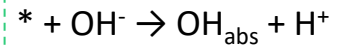


Oxygen evolution reaction mechanism

acidic condition

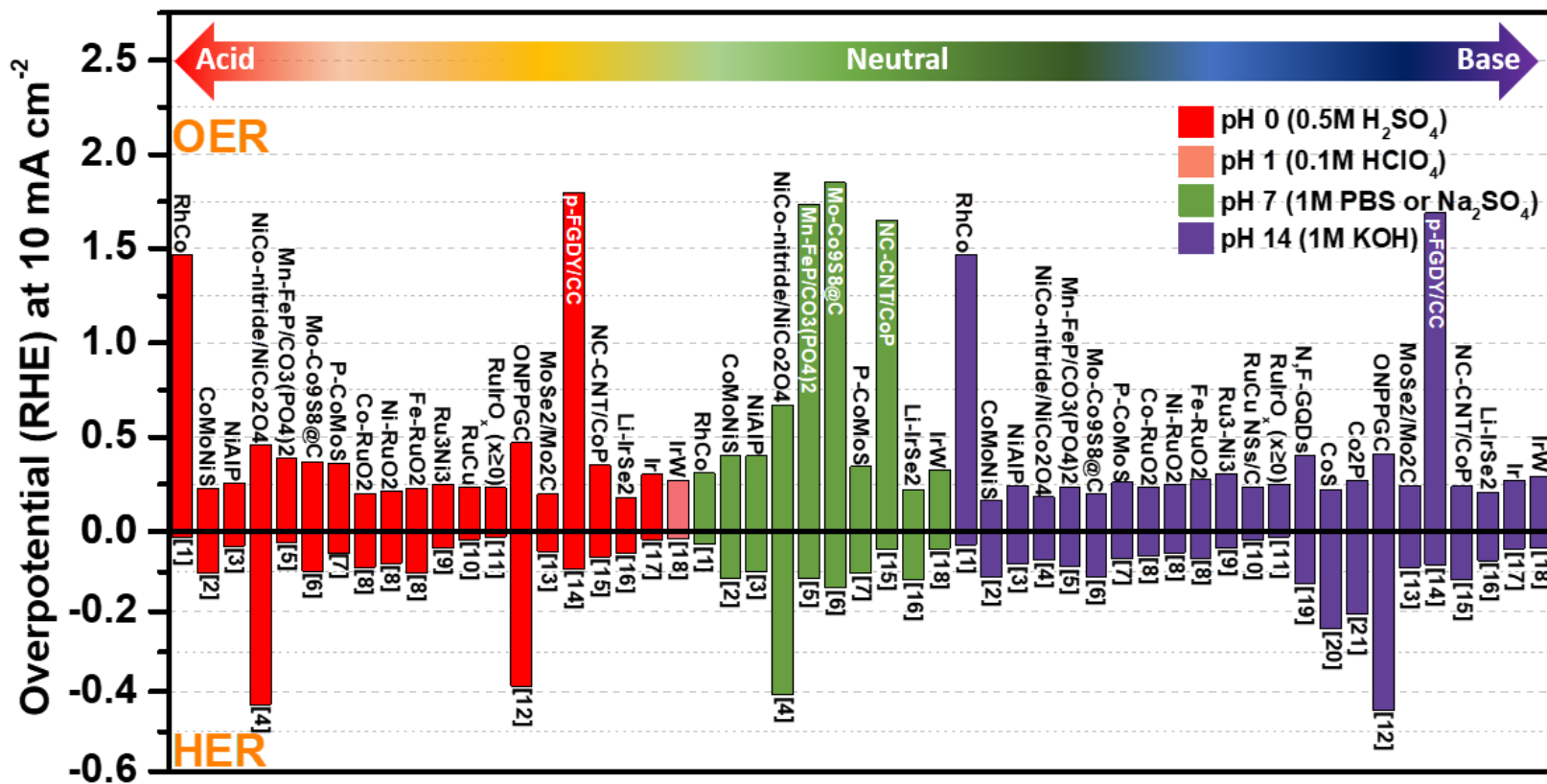


basic condition

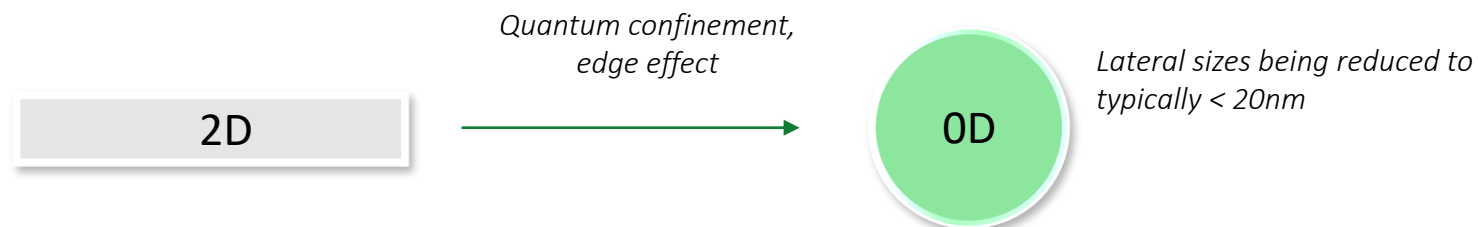


# Rational Design of Efficient Electrocatalyst for Full Water Splitting across all pH conditions

Performance of Various Electrocatalysts for Water Splitting over a Wide pH range



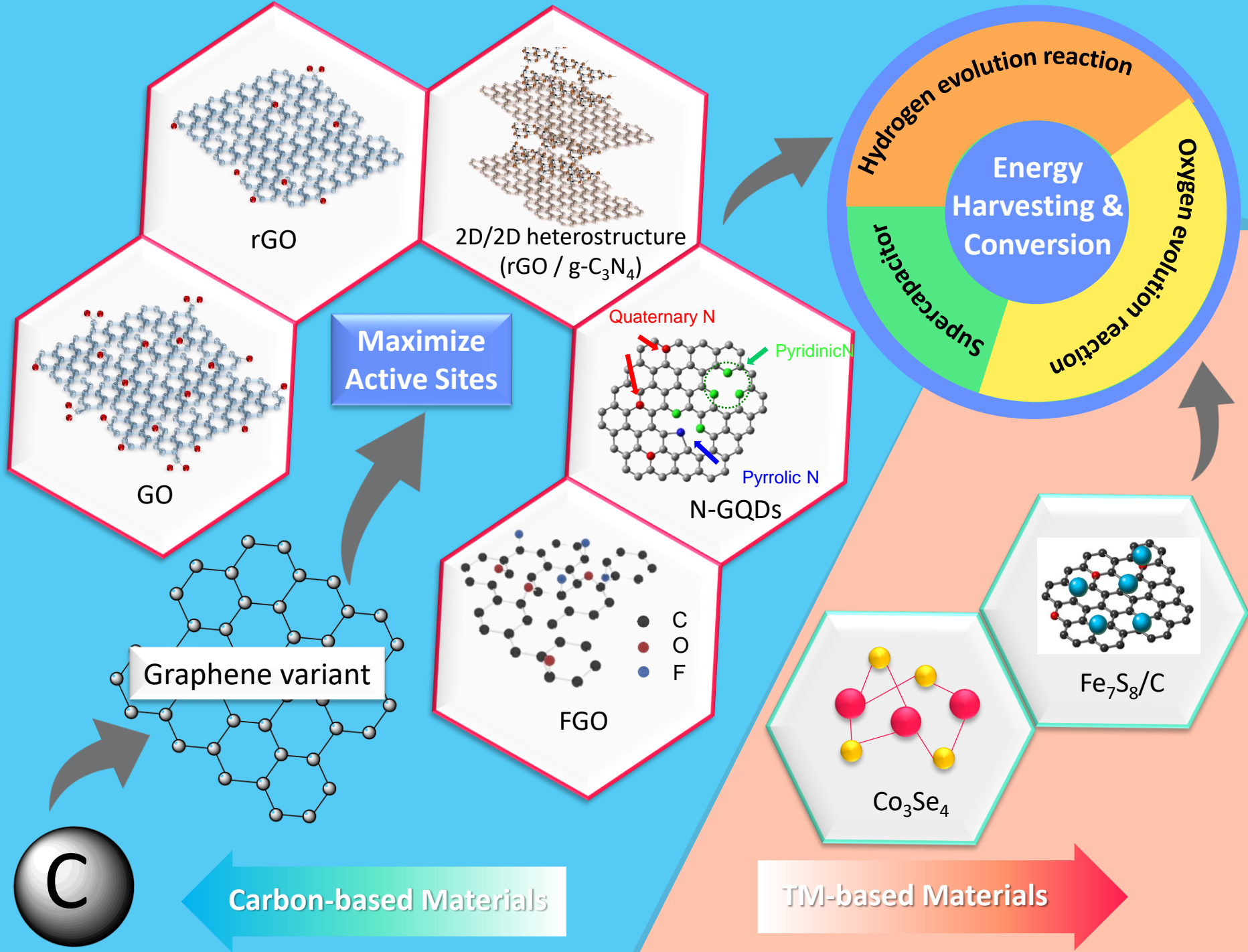
# Nitrogen and Fluorine co-doping in Graphene Quantum Dot for Water Splitting



intralayer -----> Strong covalent  
interlayer -----> Weak van der Waals

## ◆ Advantage of 0D materials (quantum dots)

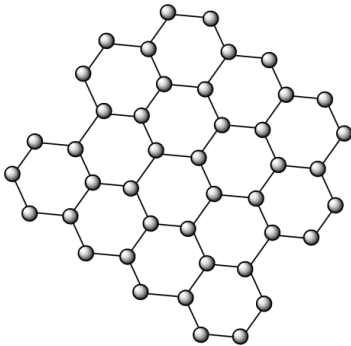
- Edge abundant features
- Larger surface-to-volume ratio
- Better solubility in both aqueous and nonaqueous solvent
- Higher tunability in both aqueous and nonaqueous solvents
- Higher tunability in physiochemical properties
- Better amenability to hybridize with other nanomaterials
- Ease to be doped and functionalized





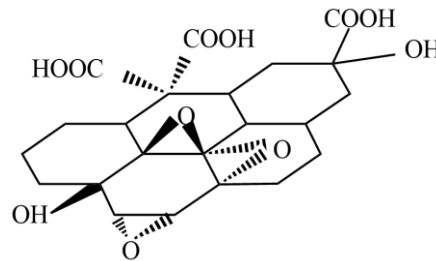
# reduced Graphene Oxide Deposited on Silicon Nanowire for HER

## ◆ Graphene



- High thermal conductivity ( $\sim 5000 \text{ W m}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ )
- Superior carriers mobility ( $200,000 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
- High transparency ( $\sim 97.7\%$ )
- High theoretical specific surface area ( $\sim 2630 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$ )
- **Zero band gap**

## ◆ Graphene oxide (GO)



- Low material cost
- **Electrically insulating**
- Reliable and exceptional synthesis process
- Weak van der Waals interaction
- Synthesis by **Hummer's method**

reduction

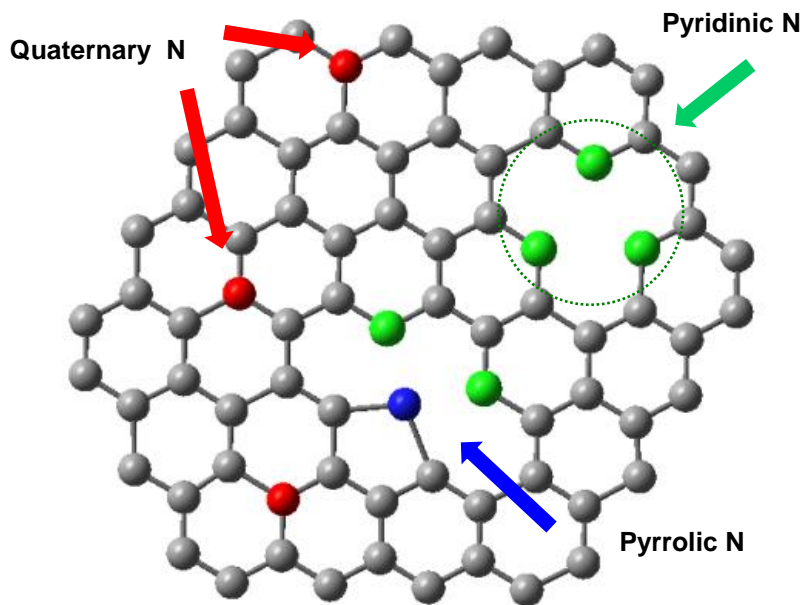
## ◆ Reduced Graphene oxide (rGO)



- High electrical conductivity (resulted from better graphitization of C=C  $\pi$ -conjugation of the graphene basal plane)
- Large specific surface area
- High electron mobility
- **Reduced by hydrazine hydrate**

# Nitrogen doping in Graphene Quantum Sheets

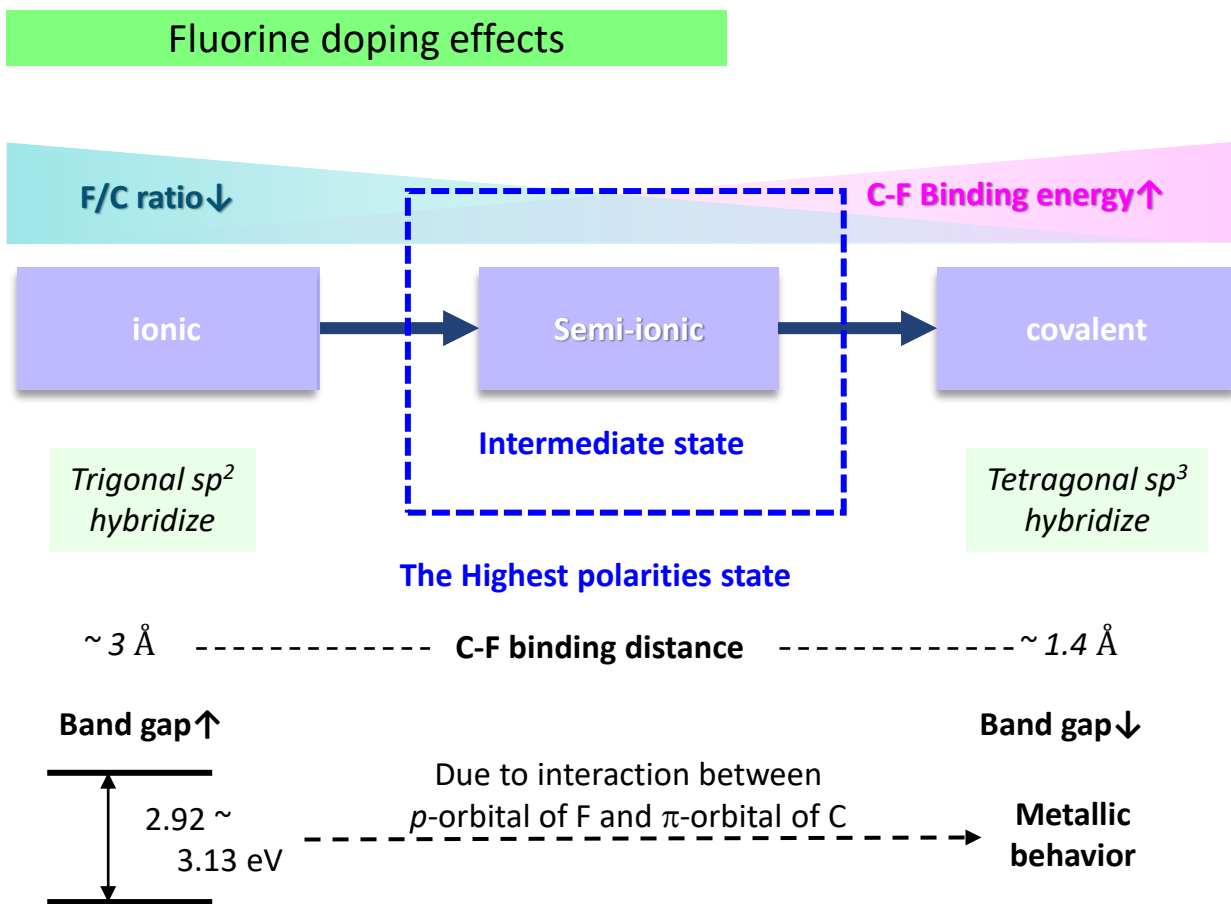
## Nitrogen doping effects



- GQD with chemically bonded N atoms could alter their electronic characteristics and offer more active sites
- carbon adjacent to an N atom can cause a positive shift in Fermi energy, which was a benefit for the charge transfer
- Pyridinic : N atoms at the edge of six-membered ring
- Pyrrolic : N atoms at the edge of five-membered ring
- Graphitic : the substitutional site in graphene plane
- As the nitrogen doping time increases, the order of pyridinic, pyrrolic and others dominant.
- The doping to pyridinic and pyrrolic sites increases the work function

Uk Sim et al., Energy Environmental Science 2015

# Nitrogen and Fluorine co-doping in Graphene Quantum Dot for Water Splitting



- fluorine functionalization could alter the electronic state
- the bonding interaction between C and F can change ionic, semi-ionic, and covalent configurations owing to the strong electronegativity of fluorine
- With increasing F/C ratio, the C-F bonds change their character from ionic to semi-ionic to covalent one.
- the *semi-ionic C-F bonding* doped with  $\sim 4\%$  fluorine could enhance the electrical properties of the electrode and *facilitate electron transport* through the active material

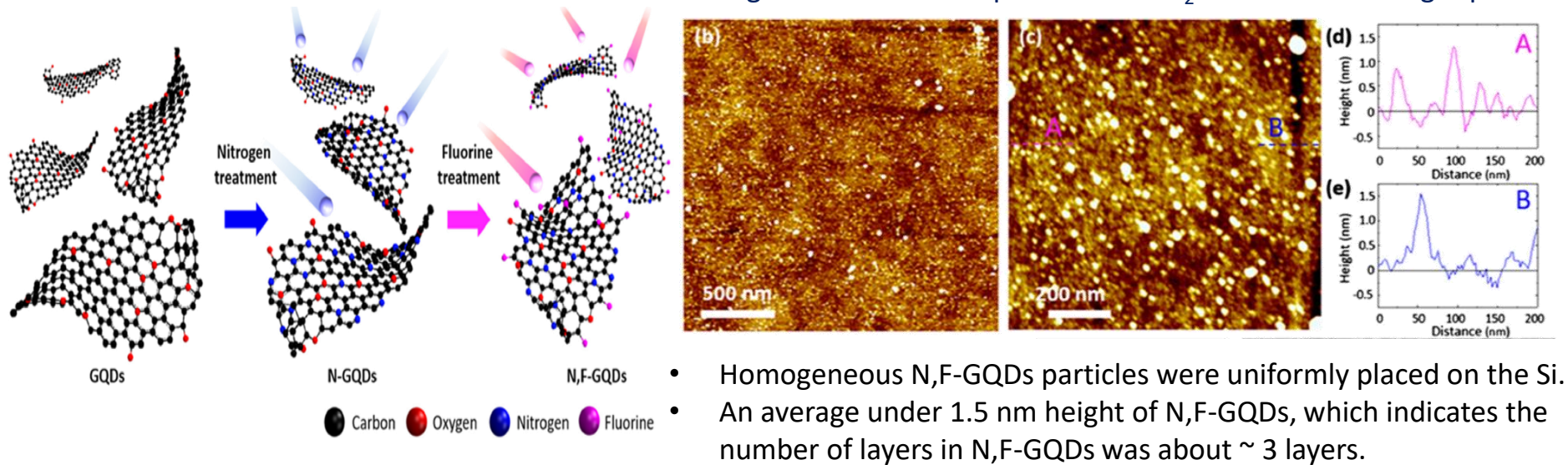
Uk Sim\* et al., Chemical Engineering Journal 2022 accepted



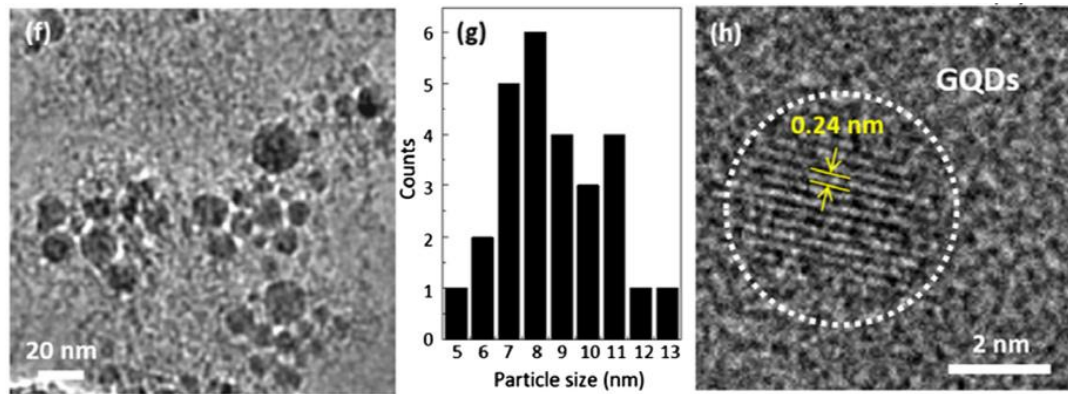
# N,F-GQDs for water splitting

Uk Sim\* et al., *Applied Surface Science* 507 (2020) 145157

➤ AFM images of the GQDs dispersed on a SiO<sub>2</sub> substrate and height profiles



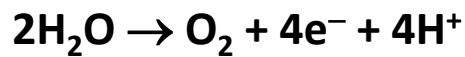
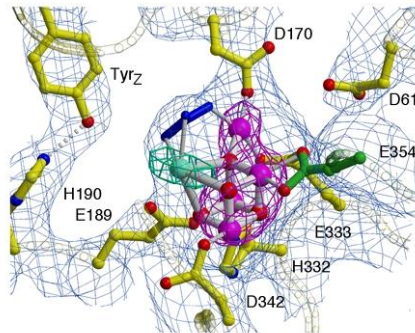
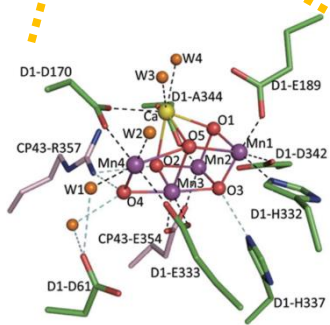
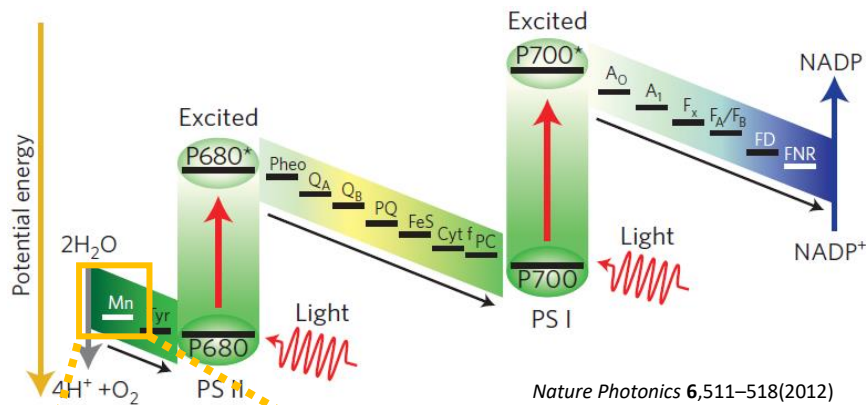
➤ TEM images and histogram showing the size distribution of GQDs



- Most of N,F-GQDs dispersed on graphene sheet show a size distribution from 2 to 10 nm with an average size of 8.7 nm.
- The lattice structure shown in the high-resolution TEM image indicates the N,F-GQDs are highly crystalline.

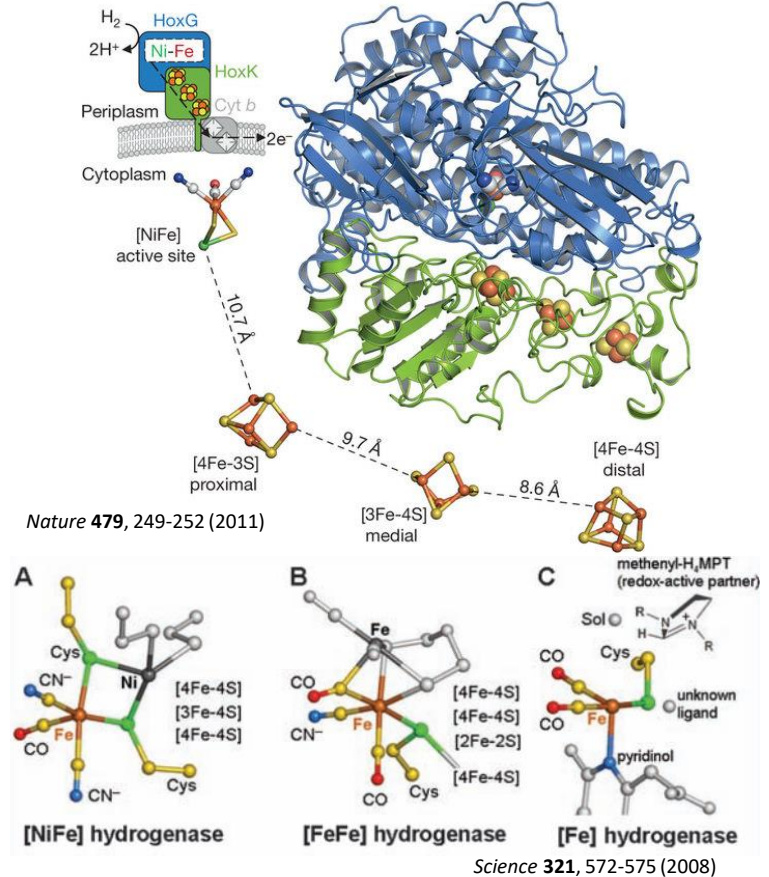
# Natural enzyme

## Oxygen Evolution



PSII and Mn<sub>4</sub>CaO<sub>5</sub> cluster

## Hydrogen Evolution



Hydrogenase and [Fe–S] cluster

# C.japonica derived Sulfur-doped Activated Carbon

## Biomass

Earth abundant  
Low cost and revenue source



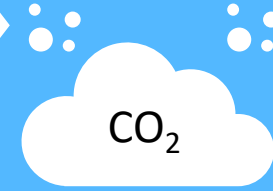
## Industrial production

Thermal treatment

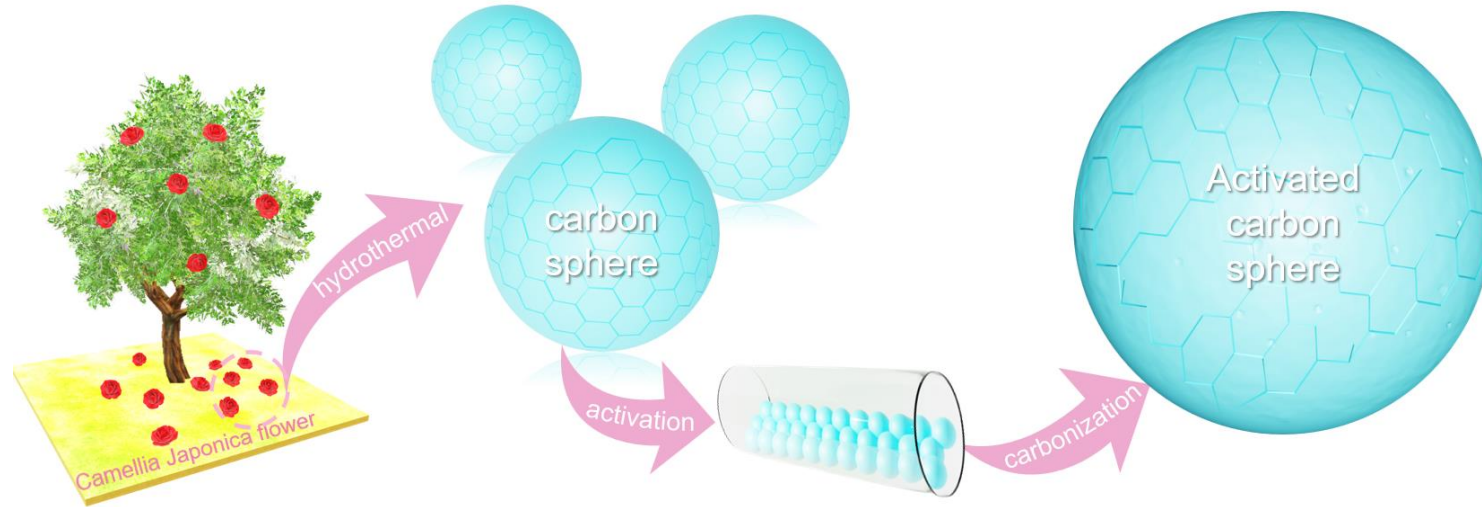


## Gas production

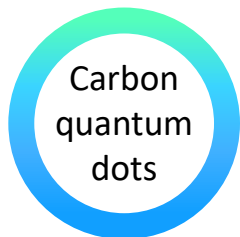
CO<sub>2</sub> emission



*Camellia japonica* flower was applied to catalysts for operating electrochemical reactions without emission of CO<sub>2</sub>.

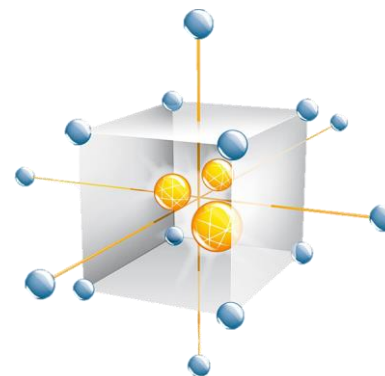


# Metal anchored carbon quantum dots



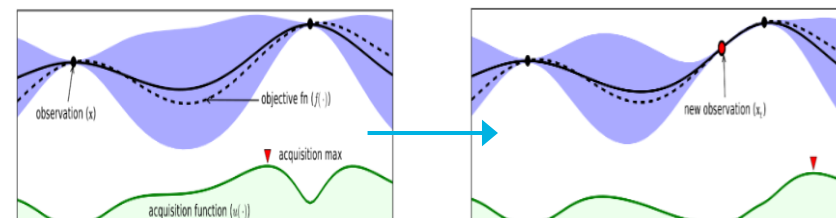
- Non-toxic
- Environmentally friendly
- High photostability
- High chemical stability
- Easy surface functionalization
- High electric conductivity

## Design of experiments (DoE)



*the design of experiments (DoE) is considered to discover superior performance of the prepared catalysts.*

## Machine learning: optimization method – Bayesian algorithm



$$x^* = \arg \min_{x \in X} f(x)$$

