

## **WP2: Gas-solid reactions**

**Ian S. Metcalfe**  
**Professor of Chemical Engineering**  
**Newcastle University**

**[i.metcalfe@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:i.metcalfe@ncl.ac.uk)**

**26 January 2017**

# WP2: Gas-solid interfaces: Membranes for gas separation and solid oxide fuel cells

*Metcalf (NCU-Chem. Eng.); Partners:  
Driscoll, Pickard (CAM-Materials), Dutton,  
Morris  
(CAM-Physics), Grey (CAM-Chem),  
Hofmann (CAM-Eng), Abrahams (QMU)*

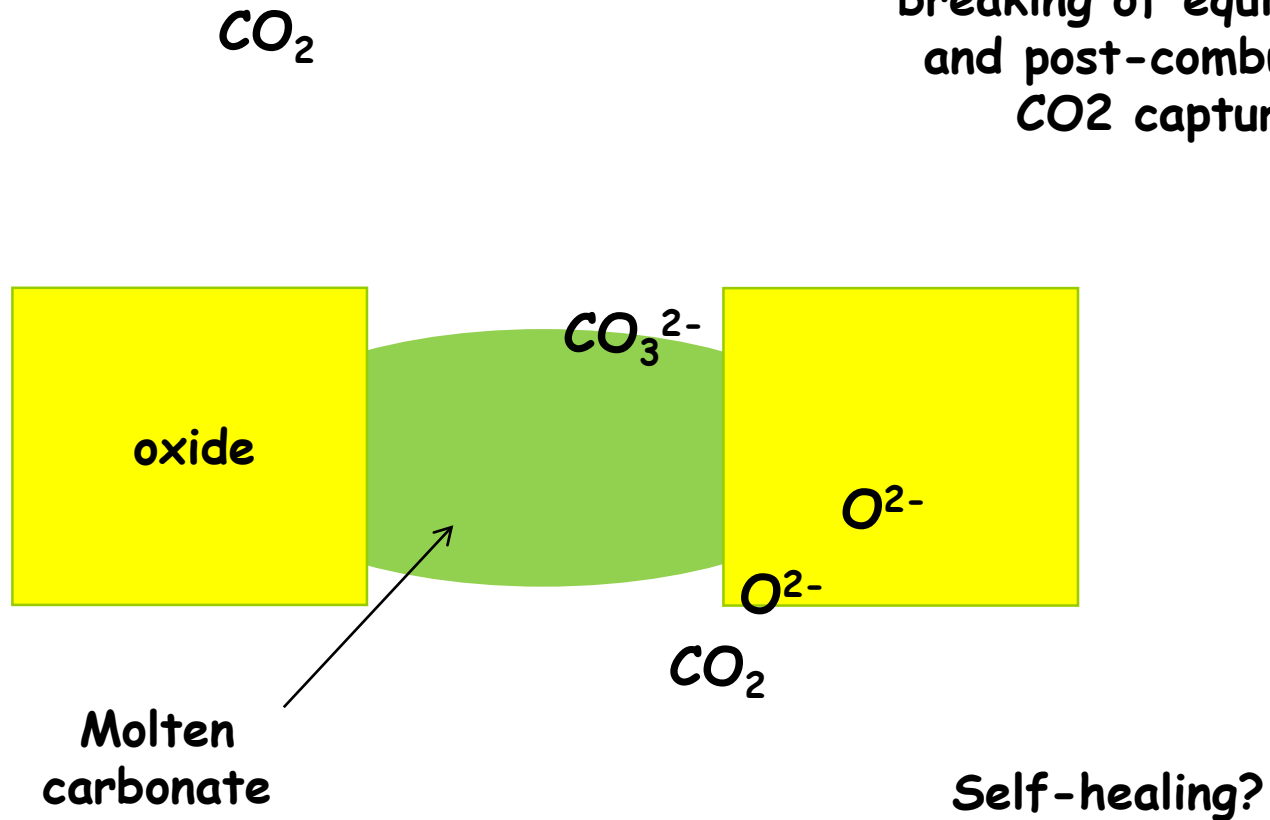
**High temperature, high selectivity carbon dioxide permeable membranes**

**Micro-SOFCs – Surface and interface modification using ALD/CVD**

**Model systems, new techniques for looking at oxygen exchange in particular**

# Dual ion conduction - carbon dioxide permeation

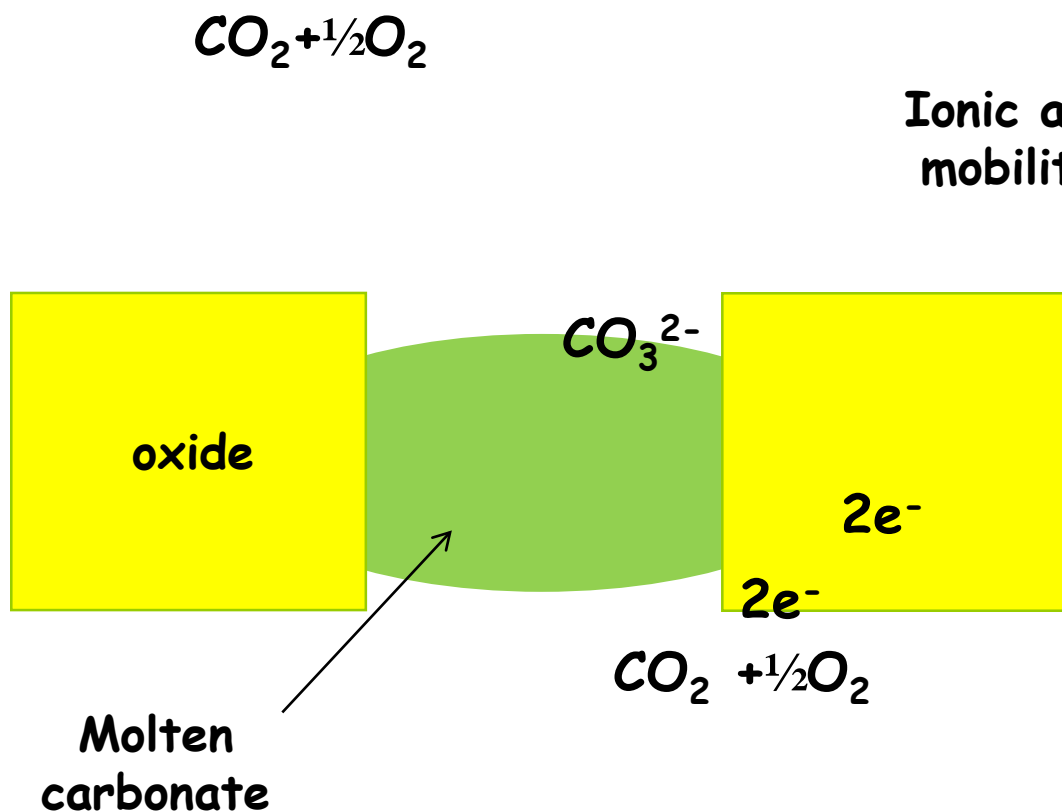
Applications: WGS  
breaking of equilibrium  
and post-combustion  
CO<sub>2</sub> capture



# Carbon dioxide permeation – electronically conducting host

Applications: Carbon dioxide removal from flue gas

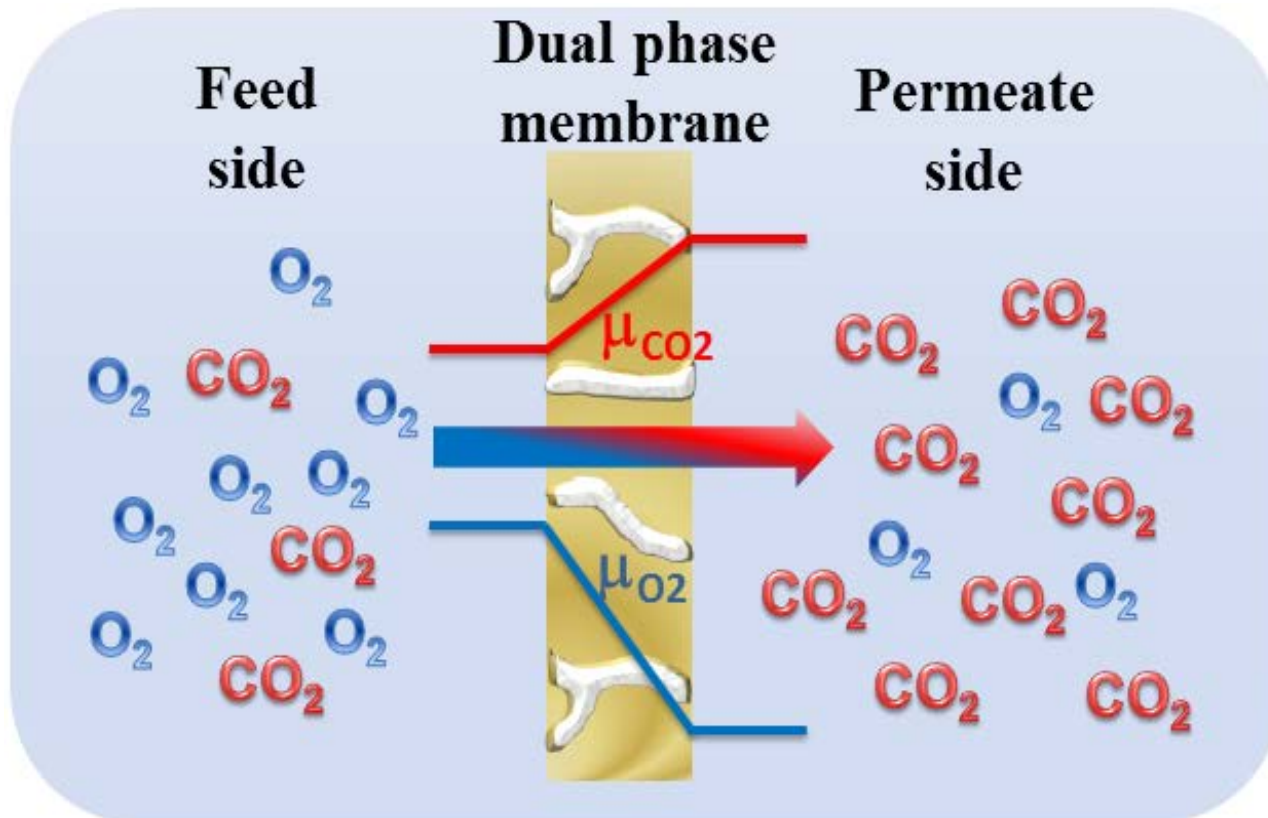
Ionic and electronic mobilities are high



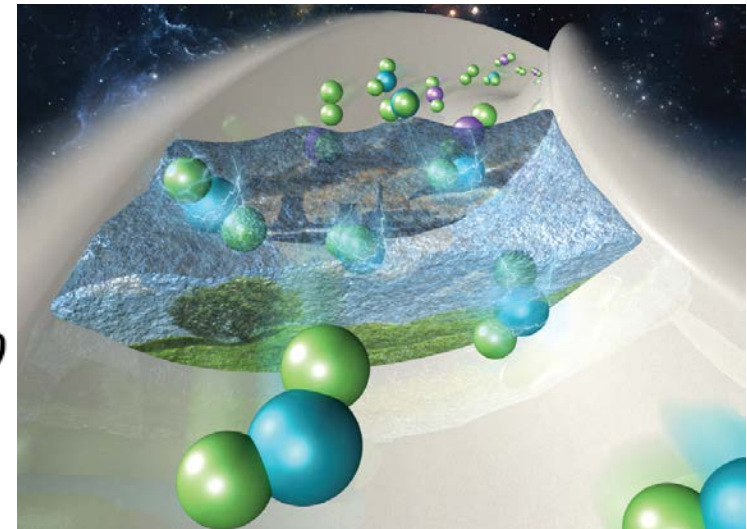
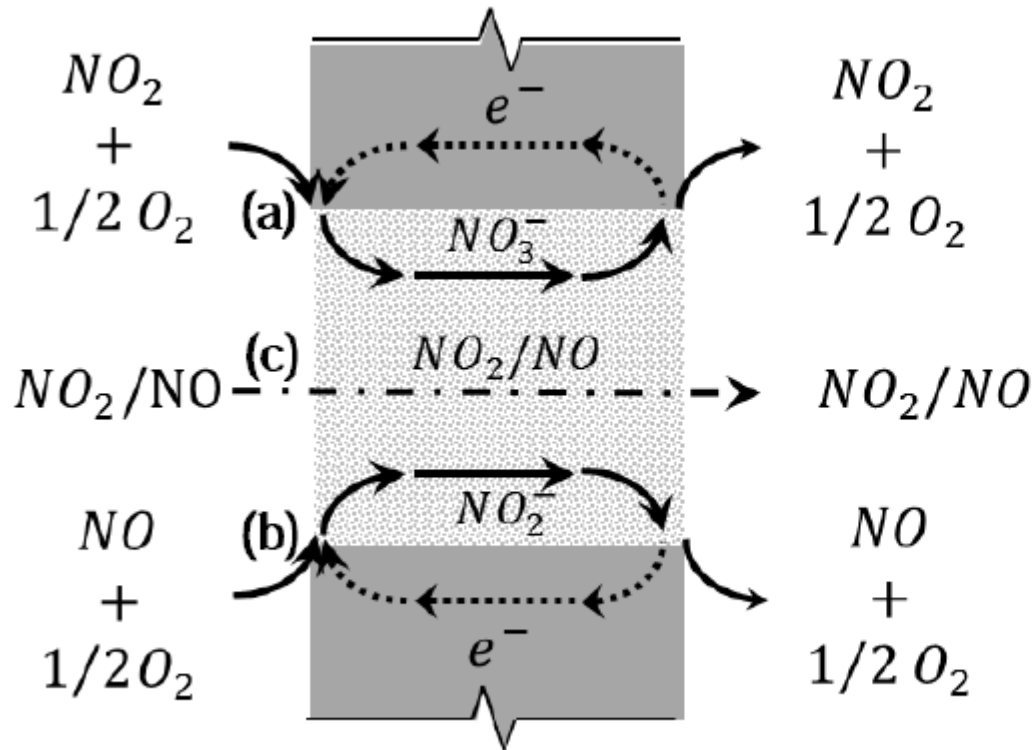
# The membrane

**So why don't we just look inside the membrane?**

# Dual phase membranes for up-hill CO<sub>2</sub> permeation



# NOx permeation



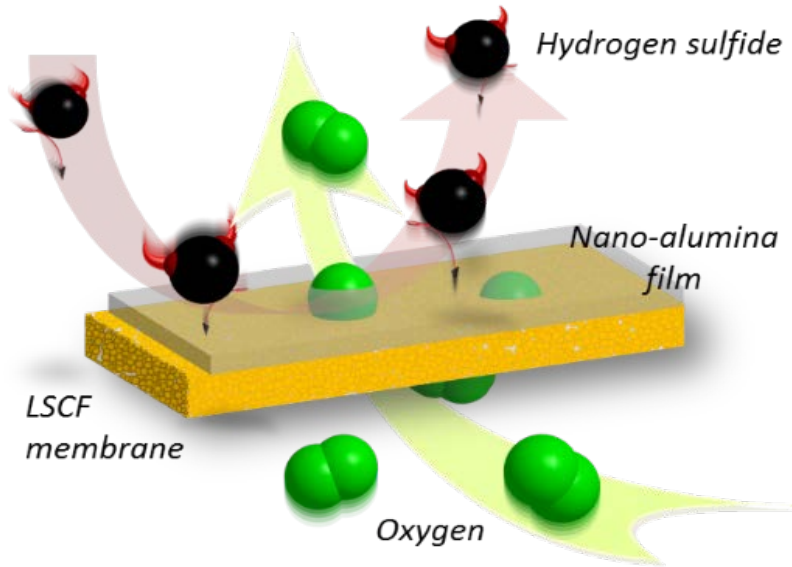
Ceramic Support

G. Zhang, E. I. Papaioannou, I. S. Metcalfe,  
Energy Environ. Sci. 8 (2015) 1220–1223.



# Atomic layer deposition

## □ Proposed structure

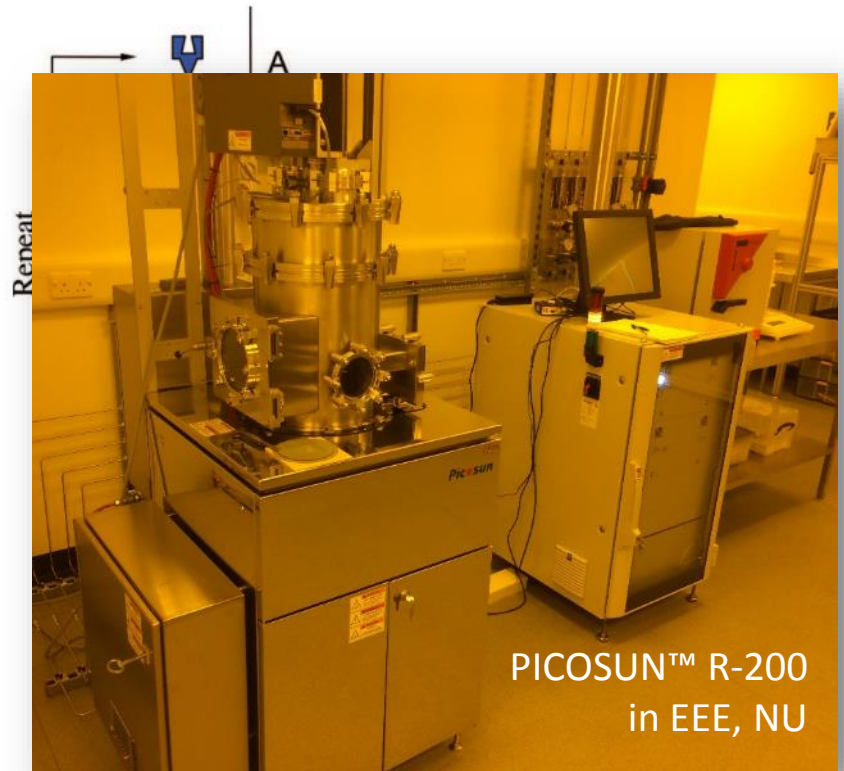


## Expected feature:

- Isolating LSCF from H<sub>2</sub>S or other sulfur
- Dense Alumina (AlO<sub>x</sub>) nanofilm
- Conformal to the bulk LSCF membrane

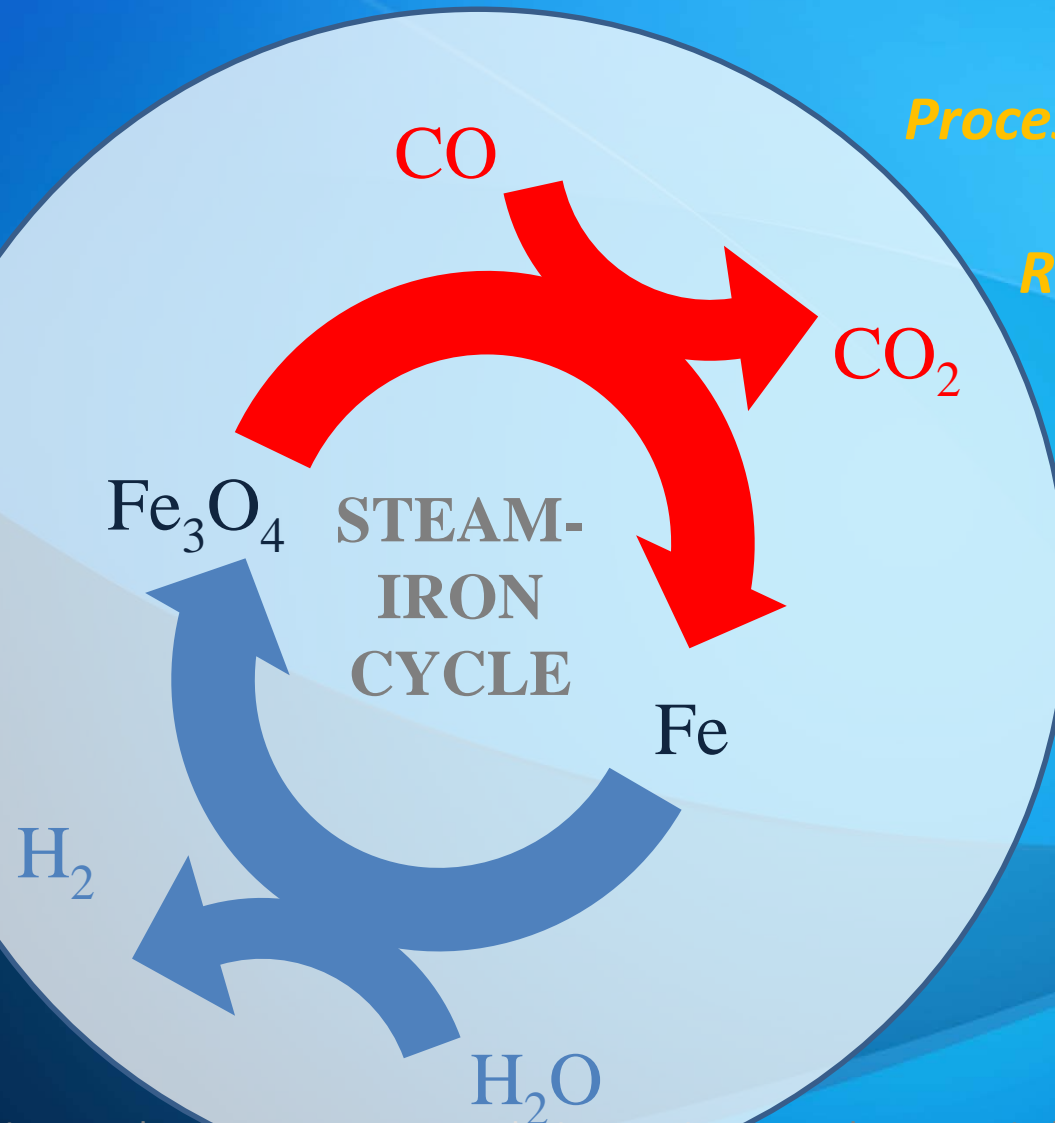
## □ Ultra thin film fabrication

- Sputtering
- Pulsed-laser deposition (PLD)
- Atomic layer deposition (ALD)



# Steam-Iron Process

(using natural gas reducing feed)



*Process invented in 1907*

*Requires no separation step*

*High Purity H<sub>2</sub>*

*Cyclic Process*

A. Murugan, A. Thursfield  
and I. S. Metcalfe, Energy  
Environ. Sci. 4(11) (2011)  
4639-4649.

**Sintering over time...**



- Reaction and diffusion equation: 😊

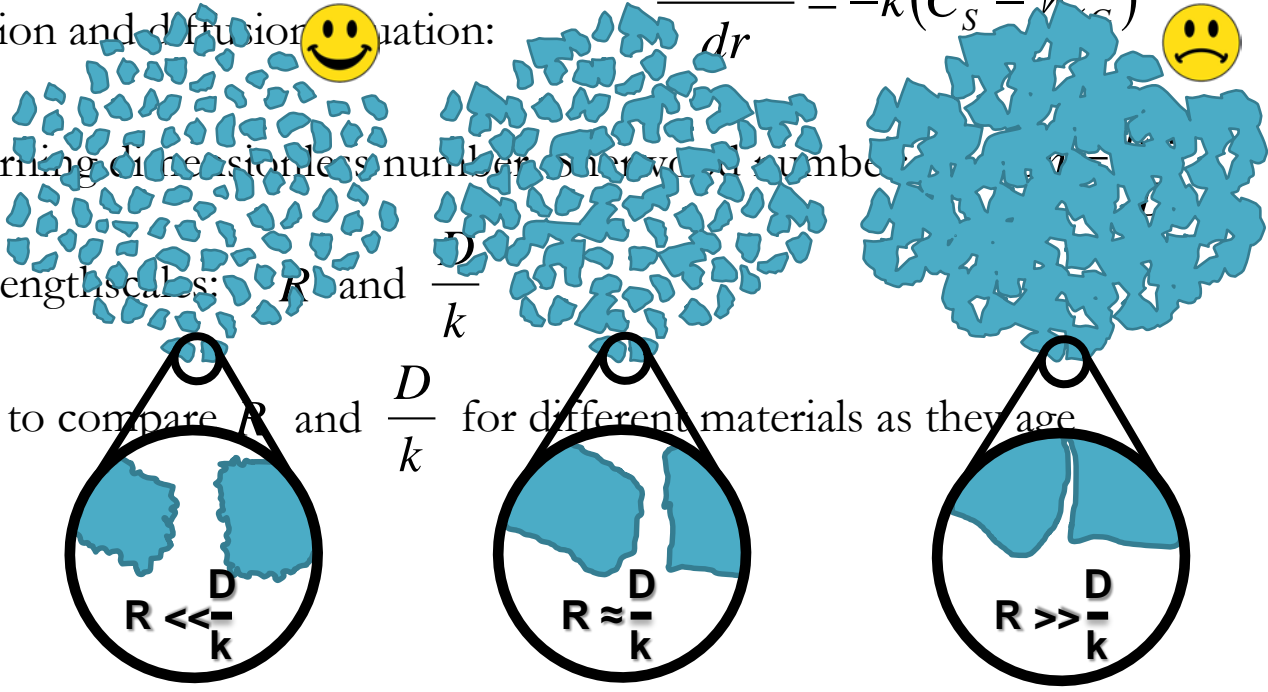
$$\frac{DdC_s}{dr} = -k(C_s - \gamma C_s)$$



- Governing dimensionless number, sintering number

- Two length scales:  $R$  and  $\frac{D}{k}$

- Need to compare  $R$  and  $\frac{D}{k}$  for different materials as they age

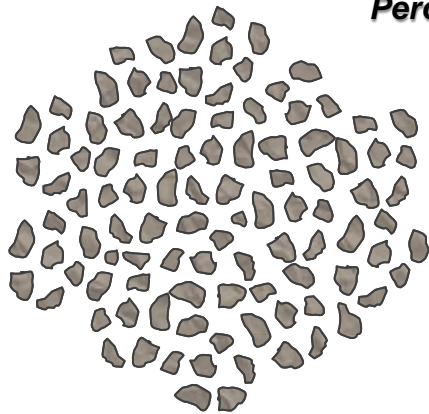


- Iron oxide kinetics are problematic – sintering and crystallite size becomes greater than chemical length scale.

At start  $R \ll \frac{D}{k}$  but on sintering  $R \gg \frac{D}{k}$

- Need materials that always have  $R \ll \frac{D}{k}$ , small  $R$  or high  $\frac{D}{k}$
- Perovskite oxides do not sinter easily (already low surface area)
- Phase stable under reducing conditions

**Perovskite Oxide – MIEC material**



Does NOT sintering  
easily over time...



$$5 \frac{m^2}{g}, 5 \frac{g}{cc}, 25 \times 10^4 \frac{cm^2}{cm^3}$$

$$R \approx 4 \mu m$$

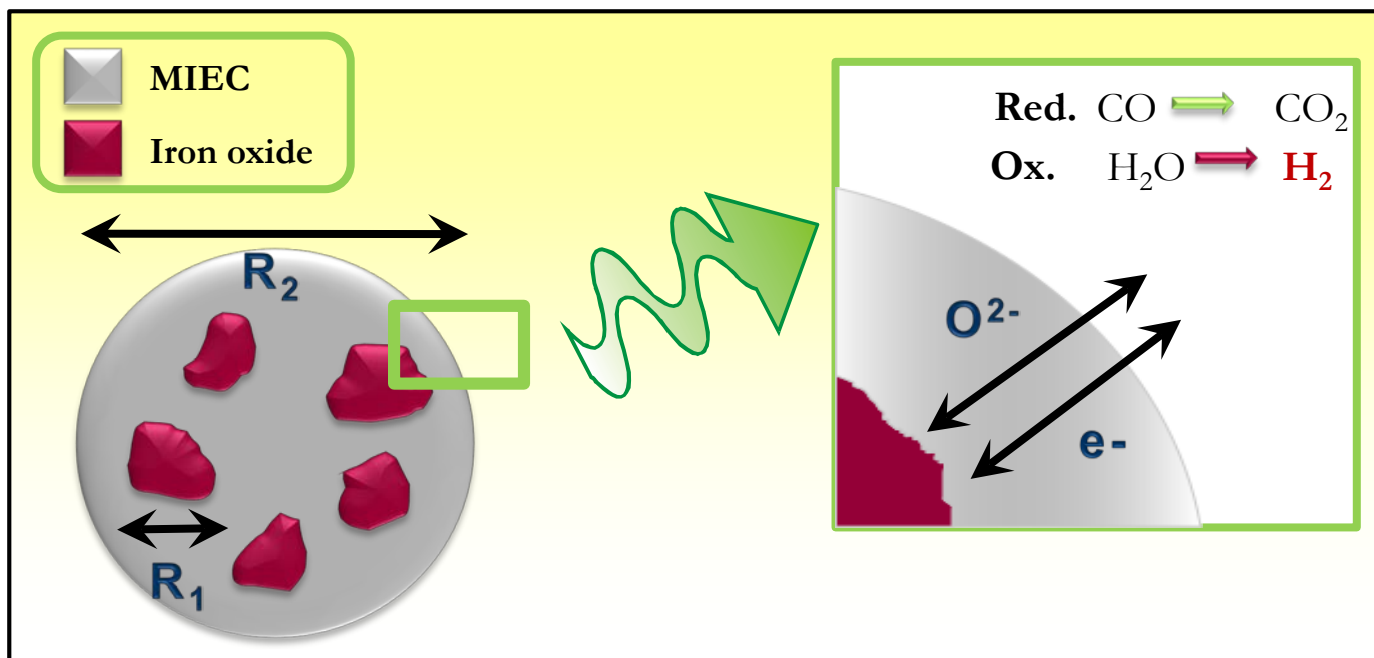
- Perovskites can be designed to have long chemical length scales,

$$\frac{D}{k} \text{ always high } \approx 100 - 300 \text{ micron (need high } D/k \text{ but not at expense of low } k!)$$

Proposal



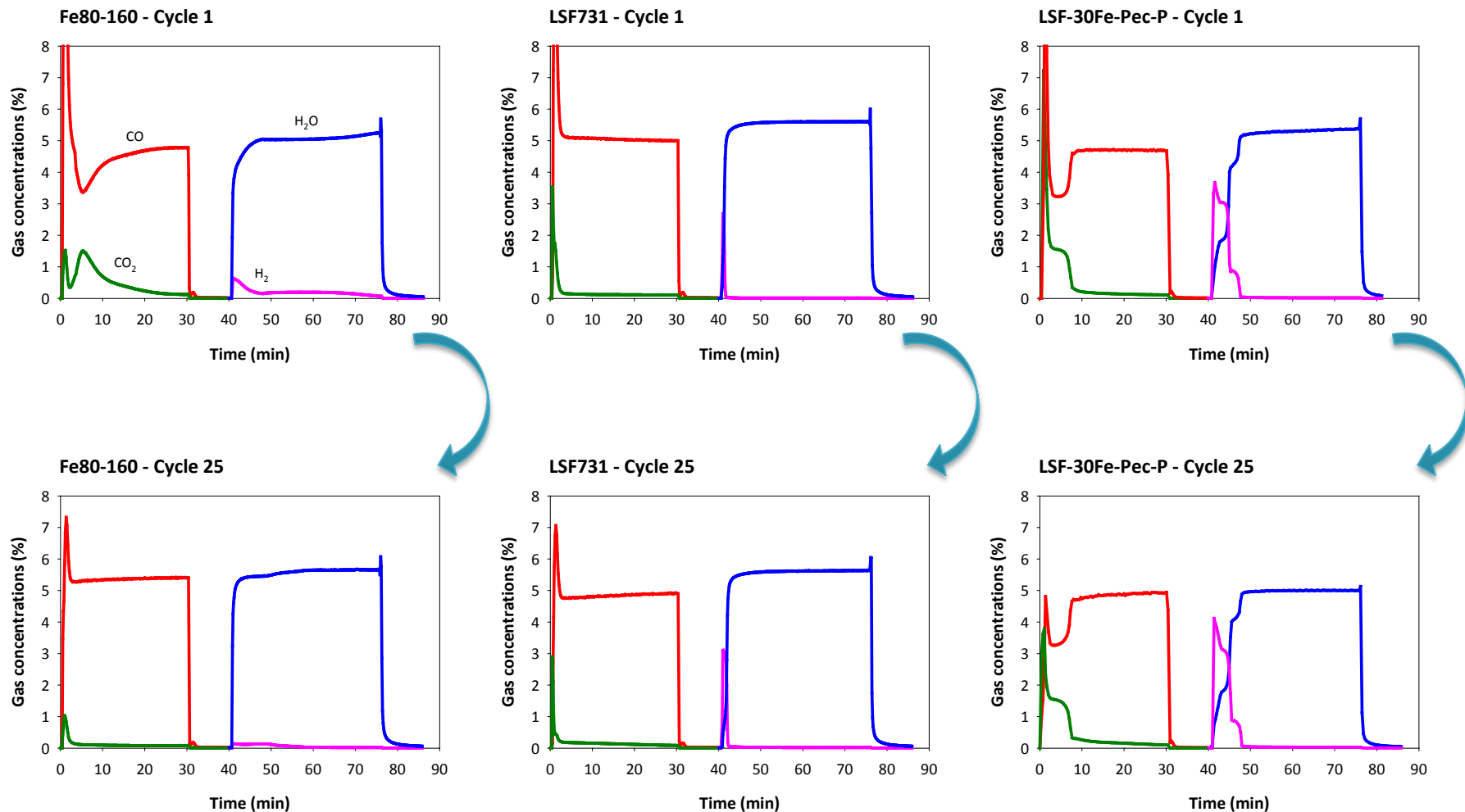
COMPOSITE MATERIALS



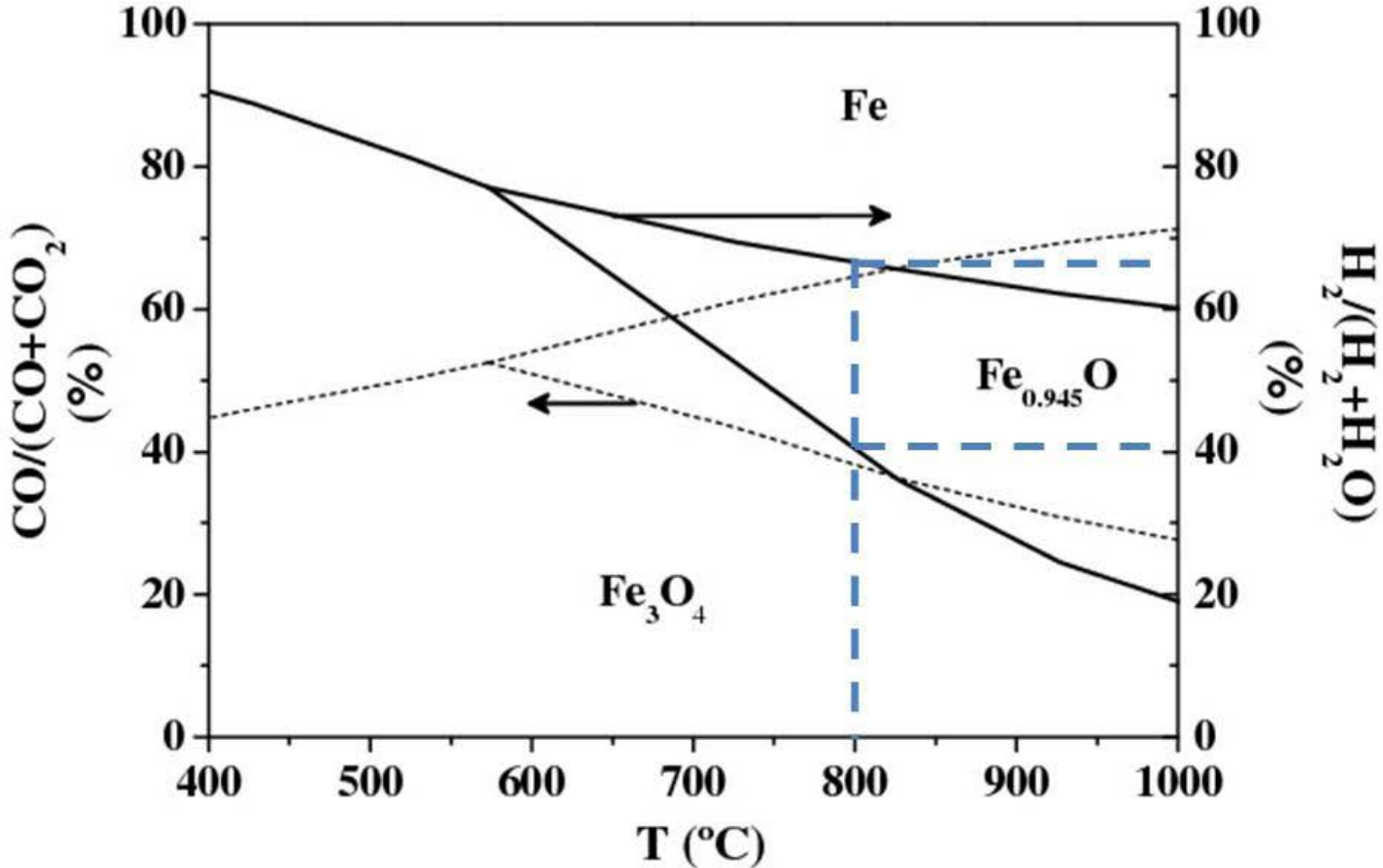
# Results – 1<sup>st</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> cycles

850°C 50 mg

— CO — CO<sub>2</sub> — H<sub>2</sub> — H<sub>2</sub>O



# Baur-Glaessner phase diagram



# Surface oxygen adsorption and incorporation – Henny Bouwmeester

$$n \frac{\partial f_g^{18}}{\partial t} = -\mathcal{R}_0 S (f_g^{18} - f_o^{18})$$

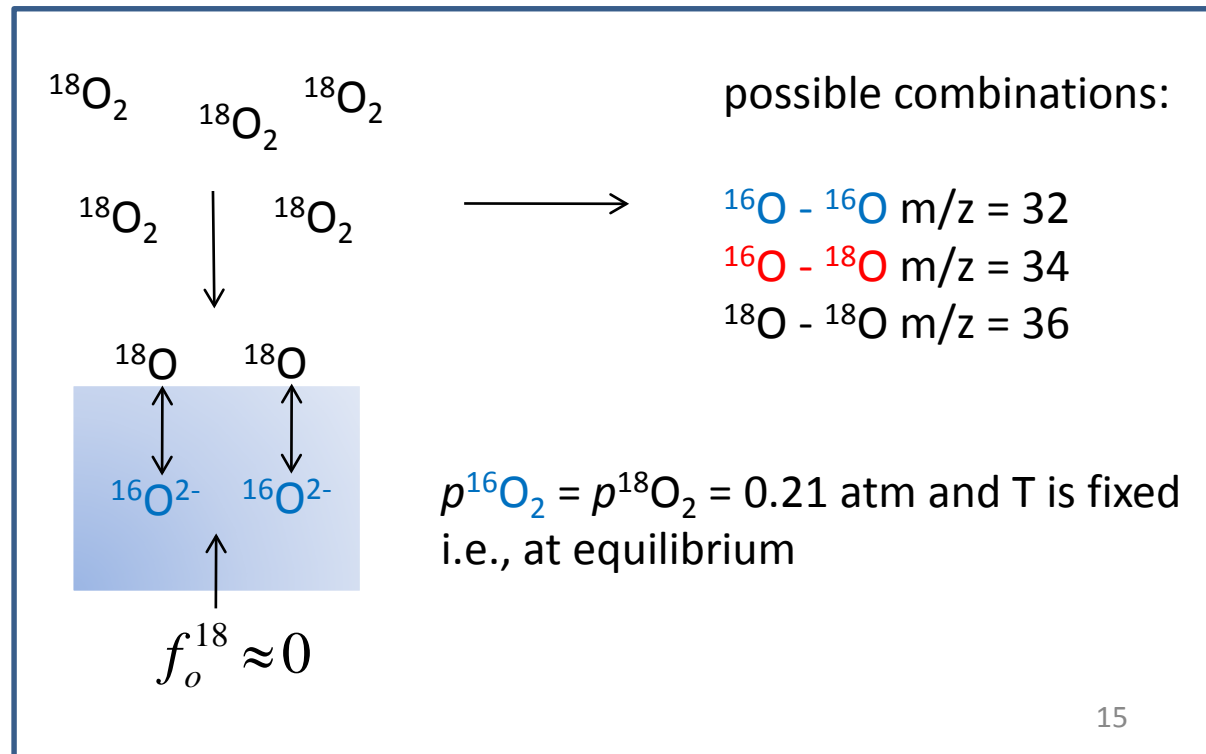
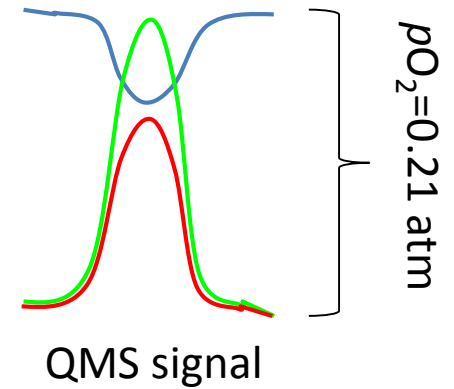
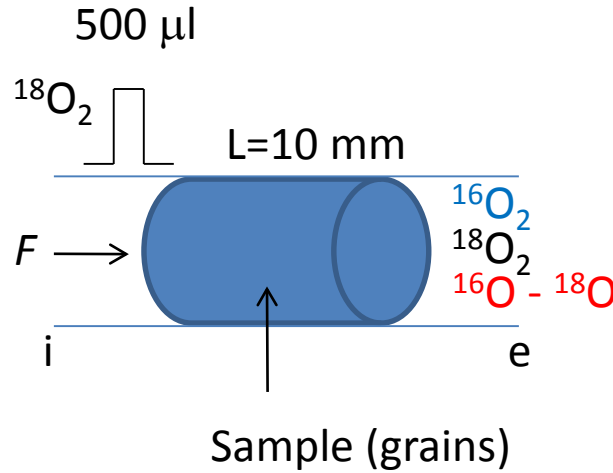
Ideal plug flow

$$\mathcal{R}_0 = \frac{n}{\tau_r S} \ln \left( \frac{f_{g,i}^{18}}{f_{g,e}^{18}} \right)$$

$$\tau_r = (V_b \varepsilon / F) ; \sim 5-40 \text{ ms}$$

S BET surface area

n O atoms in gas phase

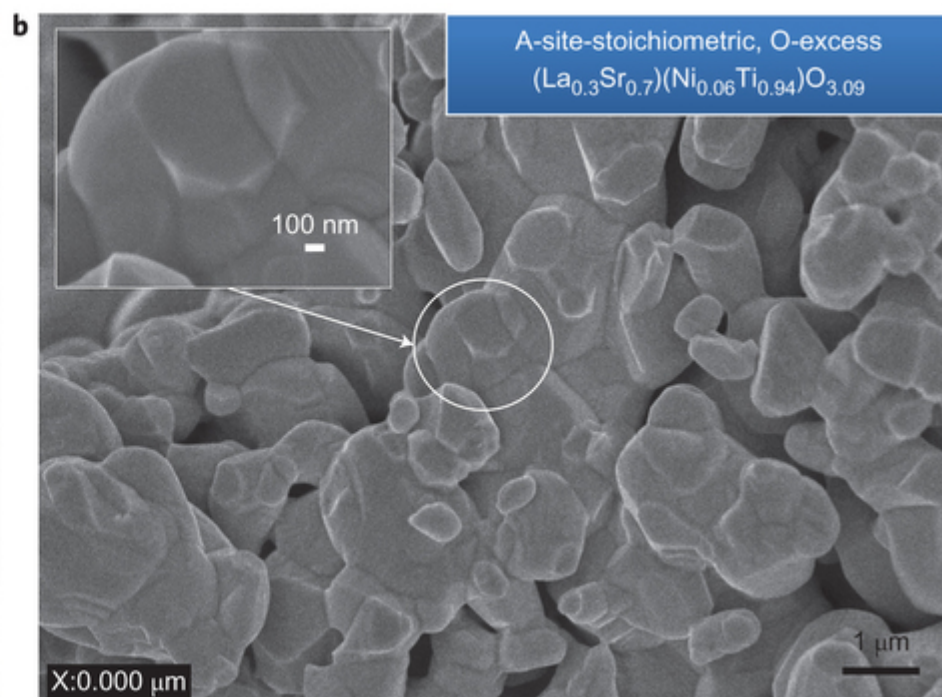
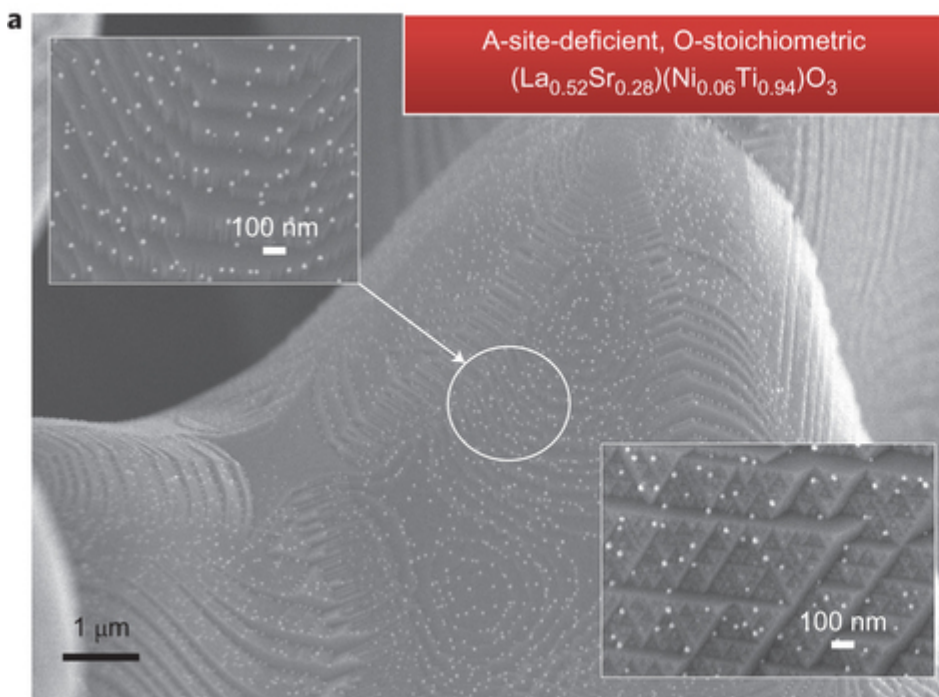


# Catalytic modification of interaces

• [George Tsekouras](#), [David N. Miller](#), [Hervé Ménard](#) & [John T. S. Irvine](#)

*Nature Chemistry* **5**, 916–923 (2013) doi:10.1038/nchem.1773

**a**, Exsolutions from the initially A-site-deficient, O-stoichiometric  $\text{La}_{0.52}\text{Sr}_{0.28}\text{Ni}_{0.06}\text{Ti}_{0.94}\text{O}_3$  after reduction at 930 °C (20 hours) in 5% $\text{H}_2/\text{Ar}$ . **b**, A-site-stoichiometric, O-excess  $\text{La}_{0.3}\text{Sr}_{0.7}\text{Ni}_{0.06}\text{Ti}_{0.94}\text{O}_{3.09}$  sample reduced at 930 °C (20 hours) in 5% $\text{H}_2/\text{Ar}$  indicates that no exsolution has occurred.



**END**