

8 th Korea-China clean Energy workshop, Nov. 23-27, 2010

R&D Activities of Coal to Fuel/Chemicals Technology in China

Wen Li

State Key Lab of Coal Conversion

Institute of Coal Chemistry, CAS

liwen@sxicc.ac.cn

In this presentation...

- **Coal Utilization in China**

- **Direct Coal Conversion**

Pyrolysis

Direct liquefaction

Coal Gasification

- **Indirect coal conversion**

Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis

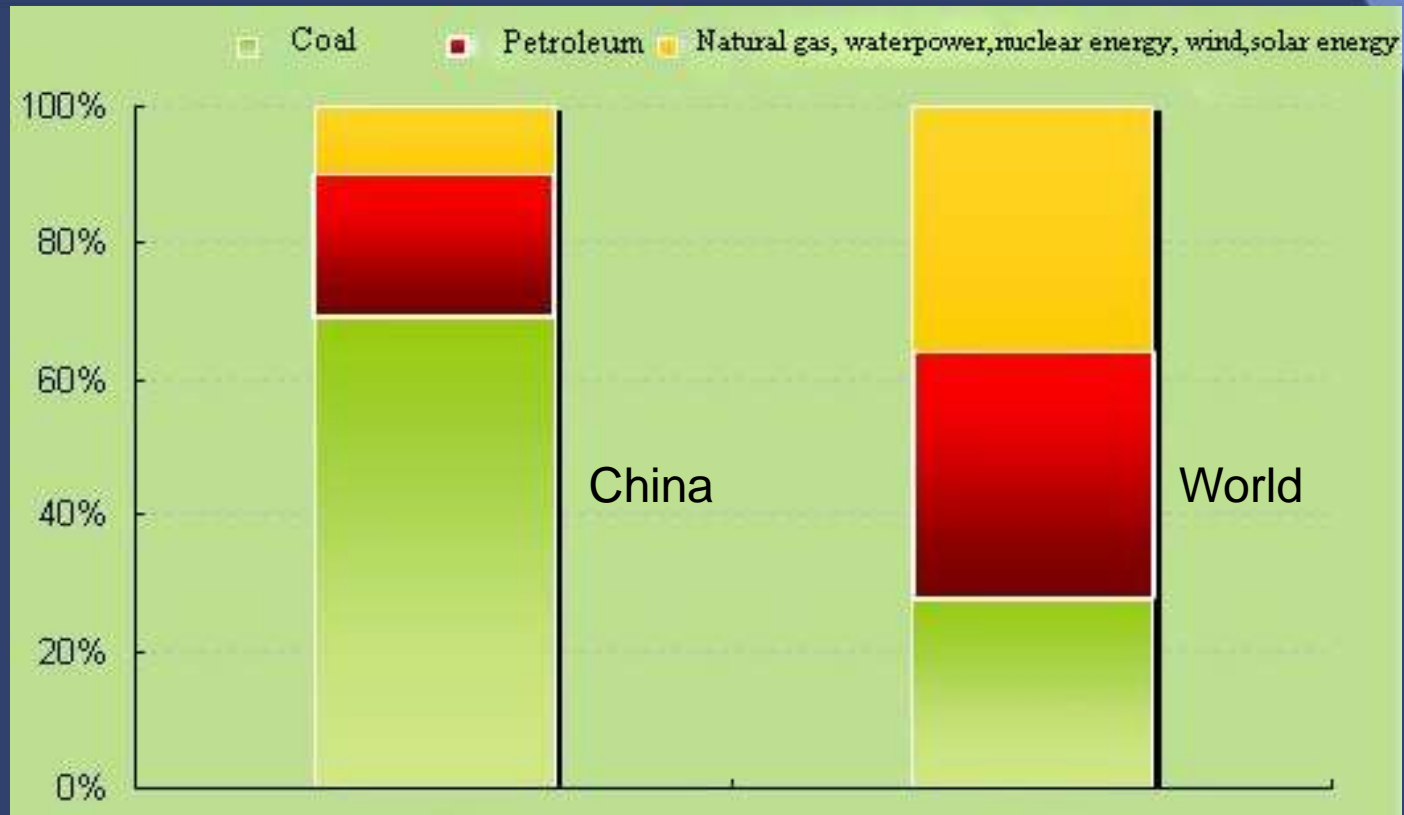
Higher Alcohols Synthesis

Down-stream product of

- **Integrated liquefaction for low rank coal**

methanol

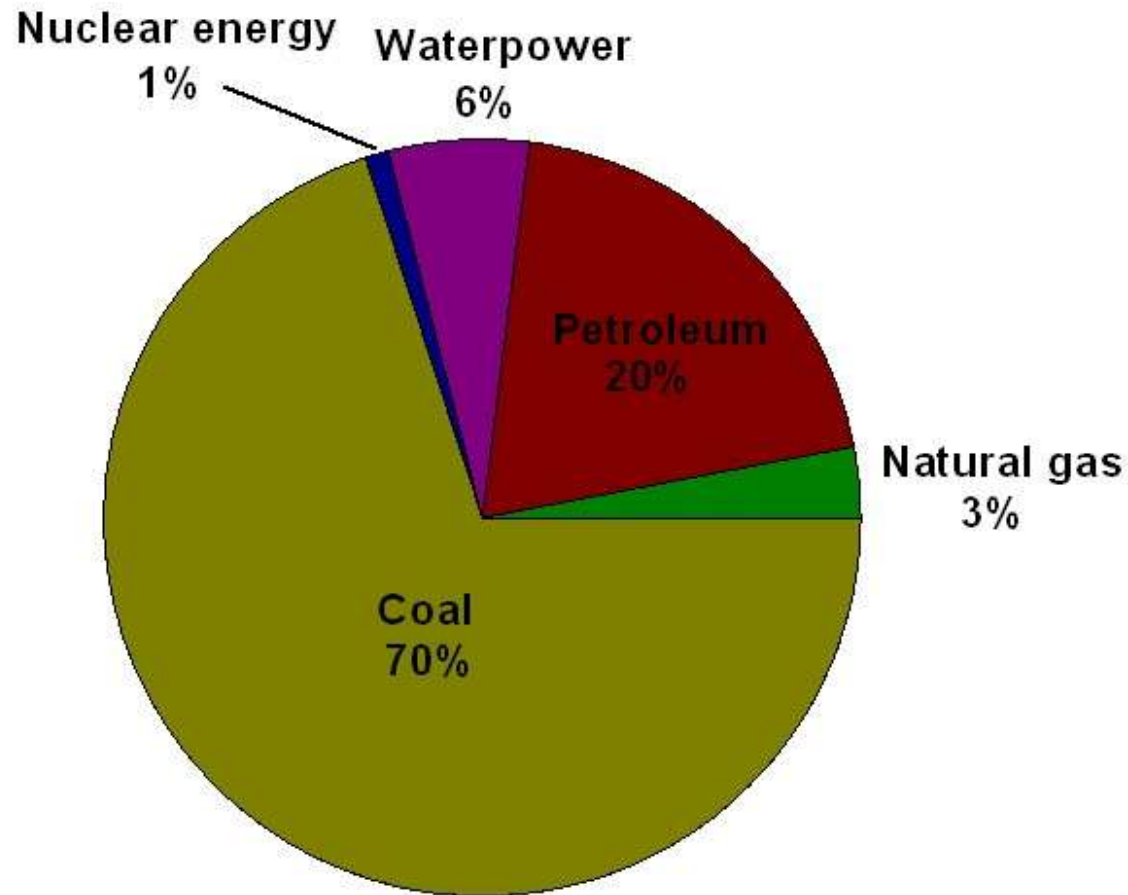
Structure of primary energy consumption



Source: [world bank report](#) -world development index, 2008

Coal is the most important energy source in China

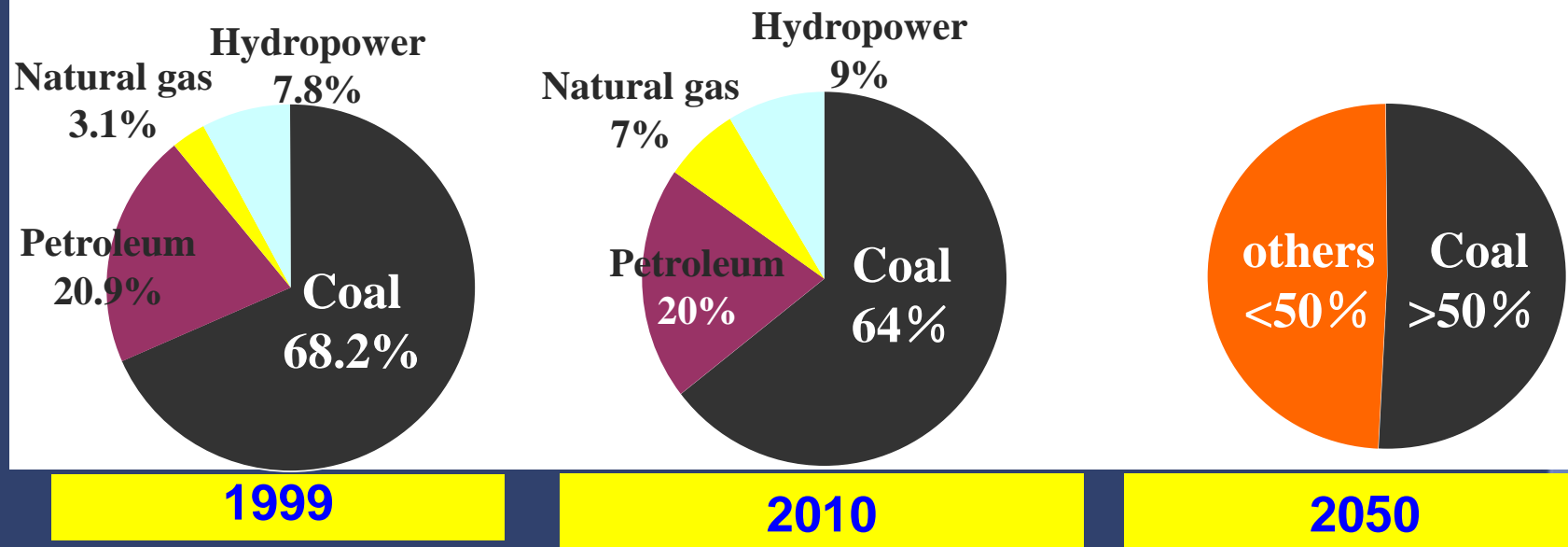
Structure of energy consumption in China



Source: BP energy statistics, 2008

About 70% of the primary energy was supplied by the coal in China

Predicted primary energy structure of China



Coal will be the predominant energy in China for a long time.
currently $\sim 70\%$; 2050 $> 50\%$

Coal Utilization in China

Annual Production of Coal in China:
over **2.2** billion Tons

Coal Utilization in China

combustion ≈80%	power generation	56%
	metallurgy	16%
	building materials	13%
	domestic fuel	10%
	chemicals	5%

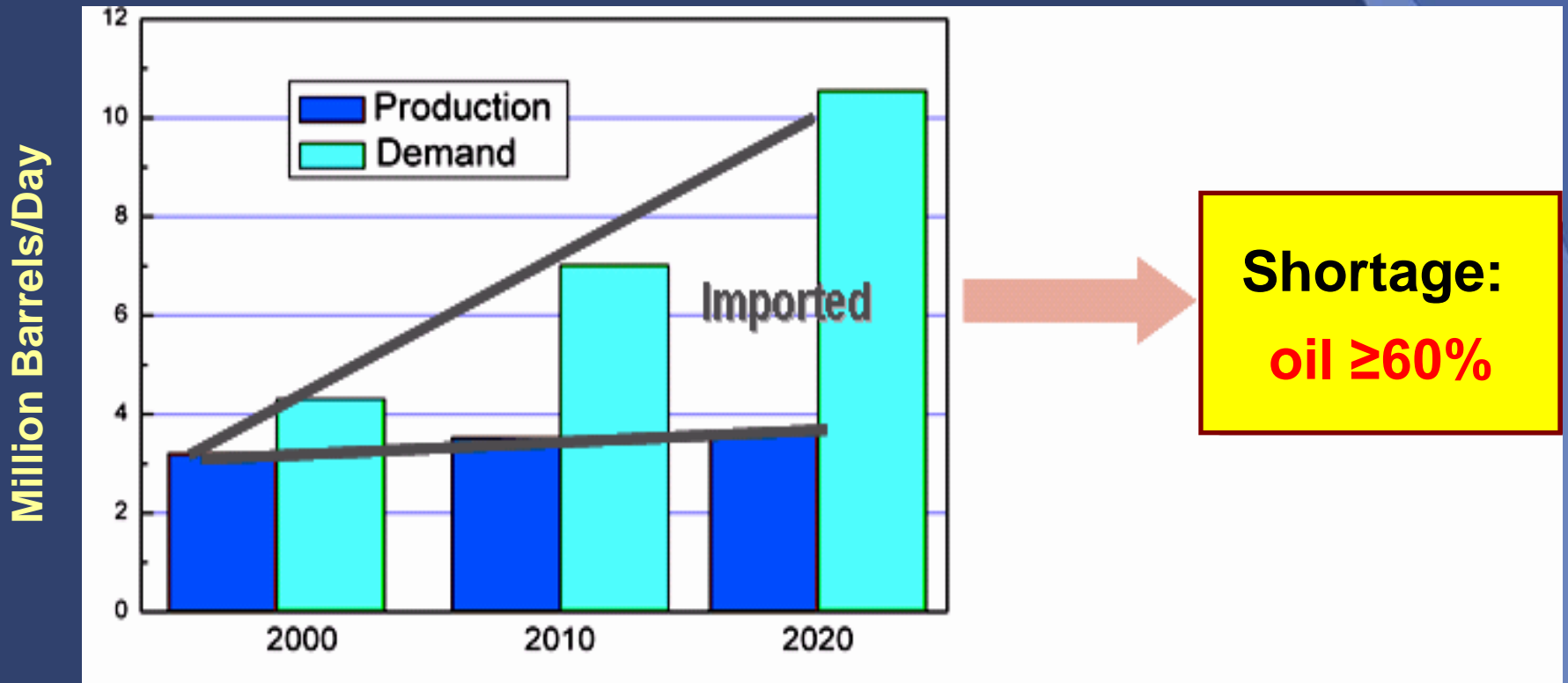
Coal Utilization in China

Status of coal utilization in China


predominant in combustion

huge amount, low efficiency, heavy pollution

Supply and demand of petroleum in China



Over 50% of oil is imported in 2009, and will increase with time. Only coal to liquid (CTL) can compensate such big deficiency.



3 problems must be solved concerning coal utilization in China

- **efficiency improvement**
- **pollutant and CO₂ emission control**
- **coal to liquid fuel**

R&D Activities in China

Clean Coal Technology

Route 1 Direct conversion

Route 2 Indirect conversion

Direct conversion

- **Pyrolysis:** tar, gas, char
- **Direct coal liquefaction:** oil

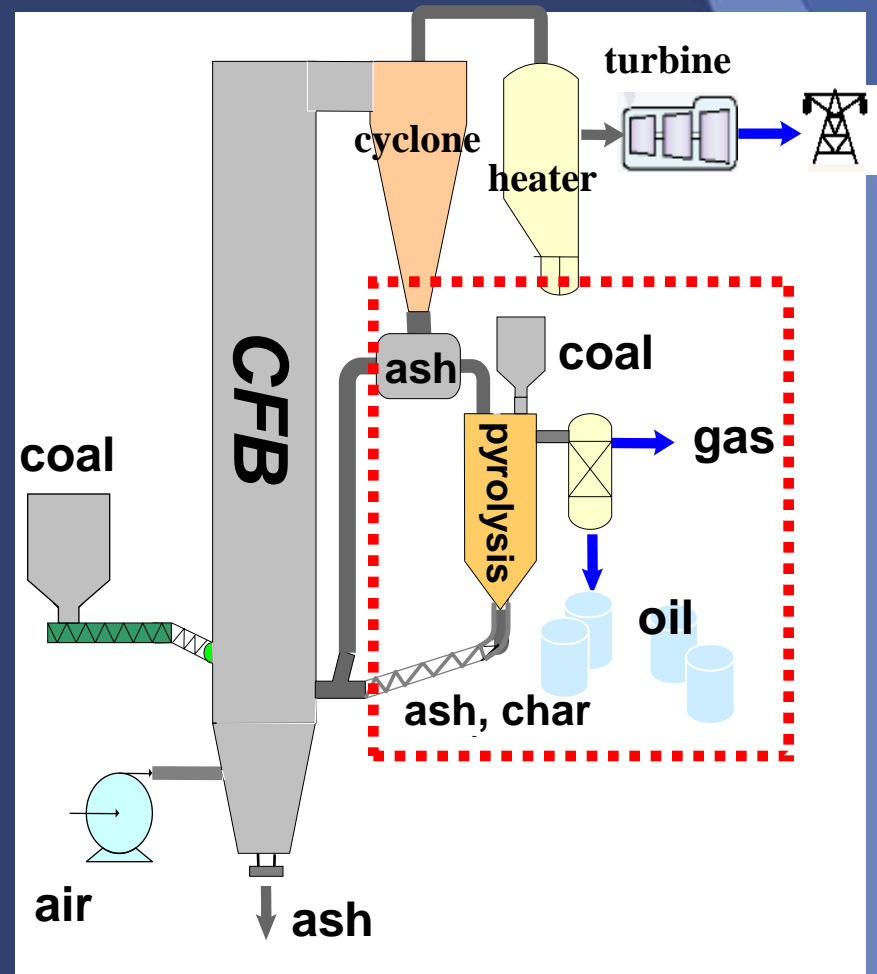
Pyrolysis

Combined with CFB

Results in demo scale

75 t/h CFB

- Oil 10%
 - Gas 5%
 - S removal 40%
- } Coal price



Direct Liquefaction Project in Shenhua Group

Overall Status

Approved scale: **5** Mt/a (constructed in two phase)

Demon. scale: **1** Mt/a (first train of phase)

Construction site: Erdos, Inner Mongolia

Direct Liquefaction Project in Shenhua Group



May-Jul., 2008

Gasifier for H₂ supply
performed successfully

Shell Technology

2000 t/day

Direct Liquefaction Project in Shenhua Group



Dec., 2008

Coal liquefaction reactor
performed successfully

After 24 h, target product
13 days stable operation

Direct Liquefaction Project in Shenhua Group



Full View of Coal Liquefaction Plant in Operation

Direct Liquefaction Project in Shenhua Group

● Current problems-equipments

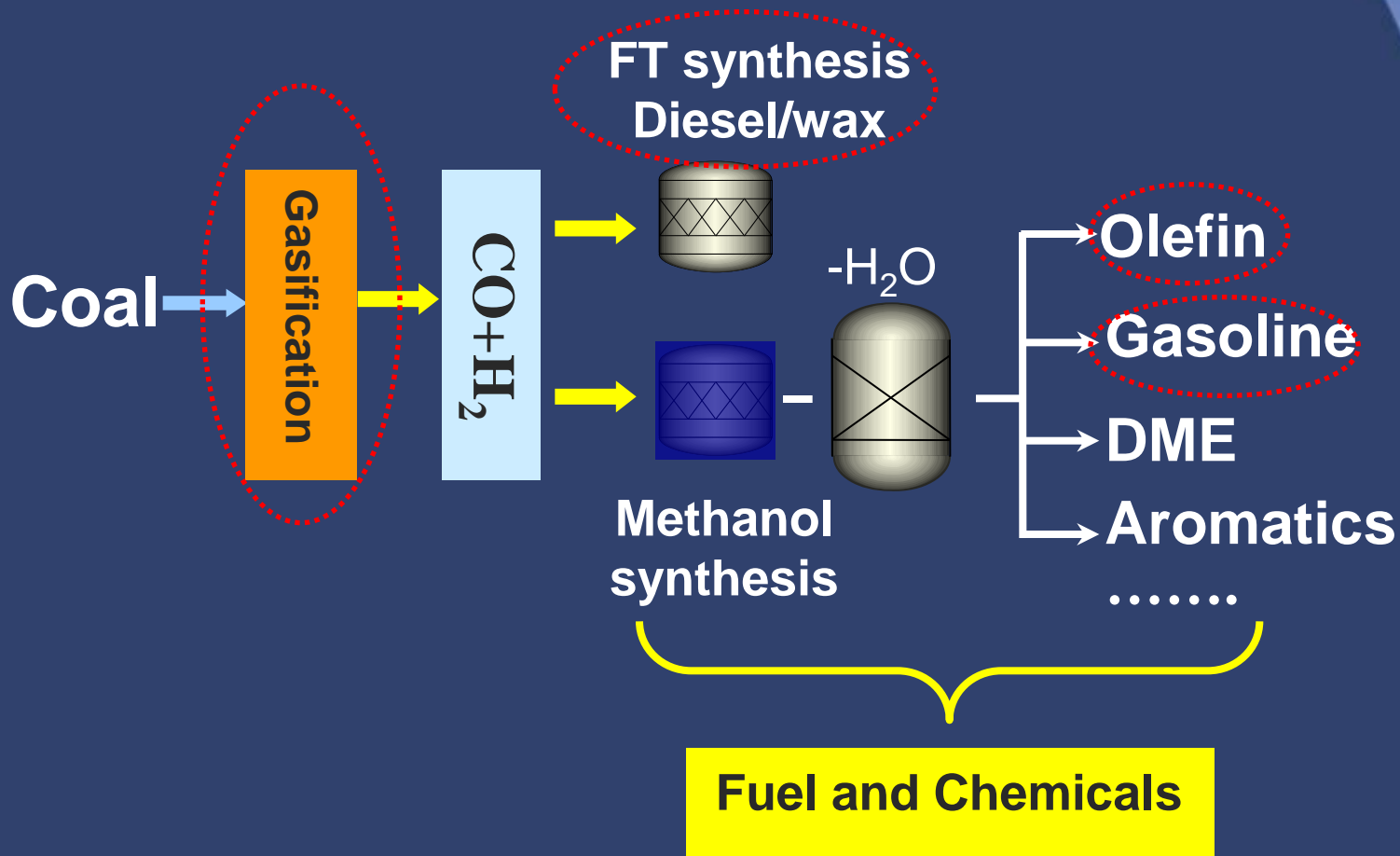
failure of let-down **valve** & recycling **pump** system
unstable vacuum level of vacuum tower

● Short-term targets

To operate the unit > 4000 hrs accumulatively

To keep the load of the unit over 80%

Indirect Coal Conversion



Coal Gasification Status in China

- **Fixed-bed Gasifier**

Lurgi, 2.6 MPa, 480 t/d Lump coal

- **Fluidized-bed Gasifier**

HTW, 1.0~2.5 MPa, 800-950°C, 720 t/d

Coal with high reactivity

- **Entrained-bed Gasifier**

Texaco (30), Shell (20), GSP (7)

3.0 MPa, 500- 2000 t/d

High quality coal (low ash, low ash fusion temp.)

Most technology is imported; Costly;

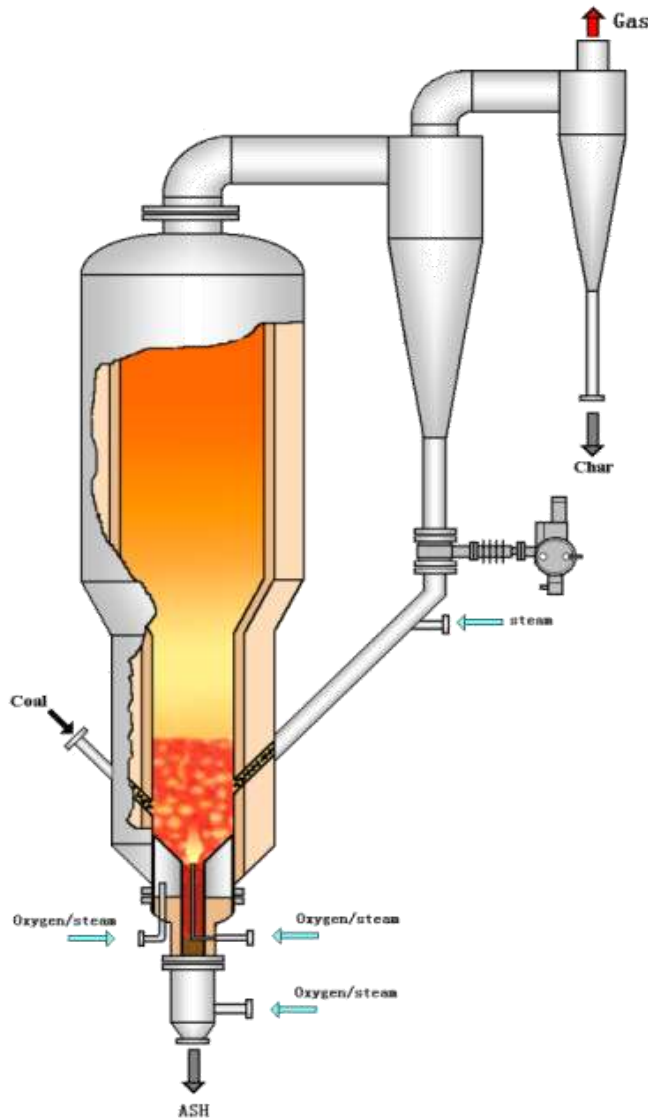
Difficult to gasify “3 high” coal in China

Target Coal for the Conversion

3 “high” coal

- high **S**, high **ash**, high **ash fusion temp. >1500°C**
- 30 - 40% of the total coal reserve in China

Ash Agglomerating Fluidized Bed Coal Gasification Process-ICC



- **Gas-solid fluidization**
 - Fast heat and mass transfer
 - High gasification capacity
- **Central HT jetting region**
 - Improve coal conversion
 - Promote Ash agglomerating
- **Selective ash separation**
 - Lower carbon content in ash
 - Improve operation reliability

Ash agglomerating fluidized bed (AFB)-ICC

Superior coal adaptability

Different kinds coals, Petro coke, biomass + coal

Wide ash content : 1% ~ 38%

High ash fusion point : 1160 ~ 1500 °C +

“3 high” coal

Carbon conversion: ~90%

Efficient gas (CO+H₂): ~70%

Lower O₂ consump.: ~300 Nm³ O₂/km³ (CO+H₂)

Ash agglomerating fluidized bed (AFB)-ICC



1.0-3.0 MPa

D=0.8 m

50~100 t /d

AFB pilot plant-2007

Ash agglomerating fluidized bed (AFB)-ICC



0.6 MPa
D=2.4 m
300 t /d
Anthracite
~30% ash

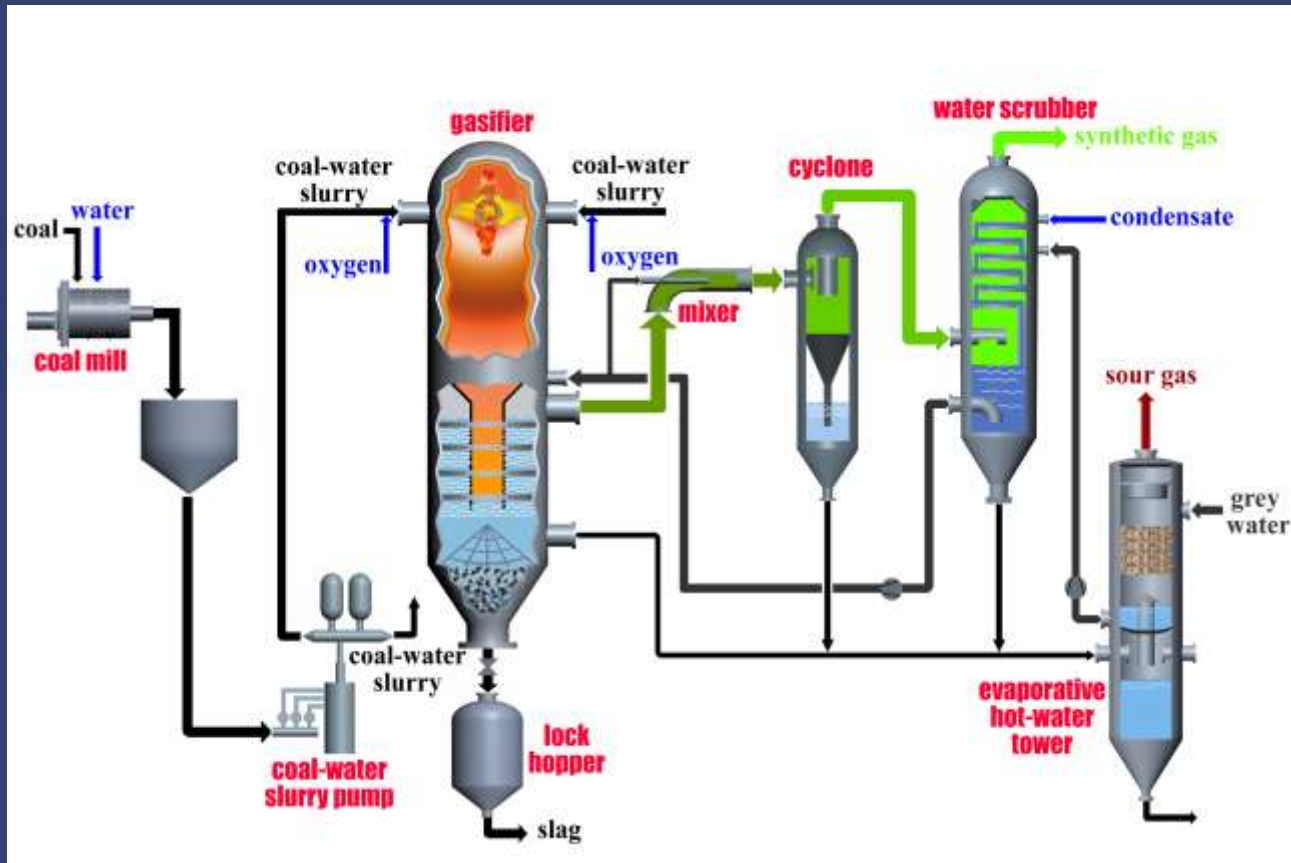
AFB used for 50 kt/a Ammonia, 2009

Ash agglomerating fluidized bed (AFB)-ICC



**AFB Process used for 100 kt/a MTG Plant, 2010
Jincheng Anthracite Group**

Multi-nozzle-opposed entrained flow gasifier-ECUST



China-owned Independent Tech.: 4 nozzles opposed enhanced heat transfer, improved C conversion

Multi-nozzle-opposed entrained flow gasifier-ECUST

Comparison of Multi-nozzle Gasifier with Texaco for Beisu coal

Item	Multi-nozzle	Texaco
C conversion, %	>98	95
CO + H ₂	85	82-83
O ₂ consum.*Nm ³ /km ³	309	336
Coal consum.*kg/km ³	535	547

* Based on the volume of CO + H₂

Multi-nozzle-opposed entrained flow gasifier-ECUST



1150 TPD gasifier for NH_3 production in Yanzhou coal Group

Multi-nozzle-opposed entrained flow gasifier-ECUST



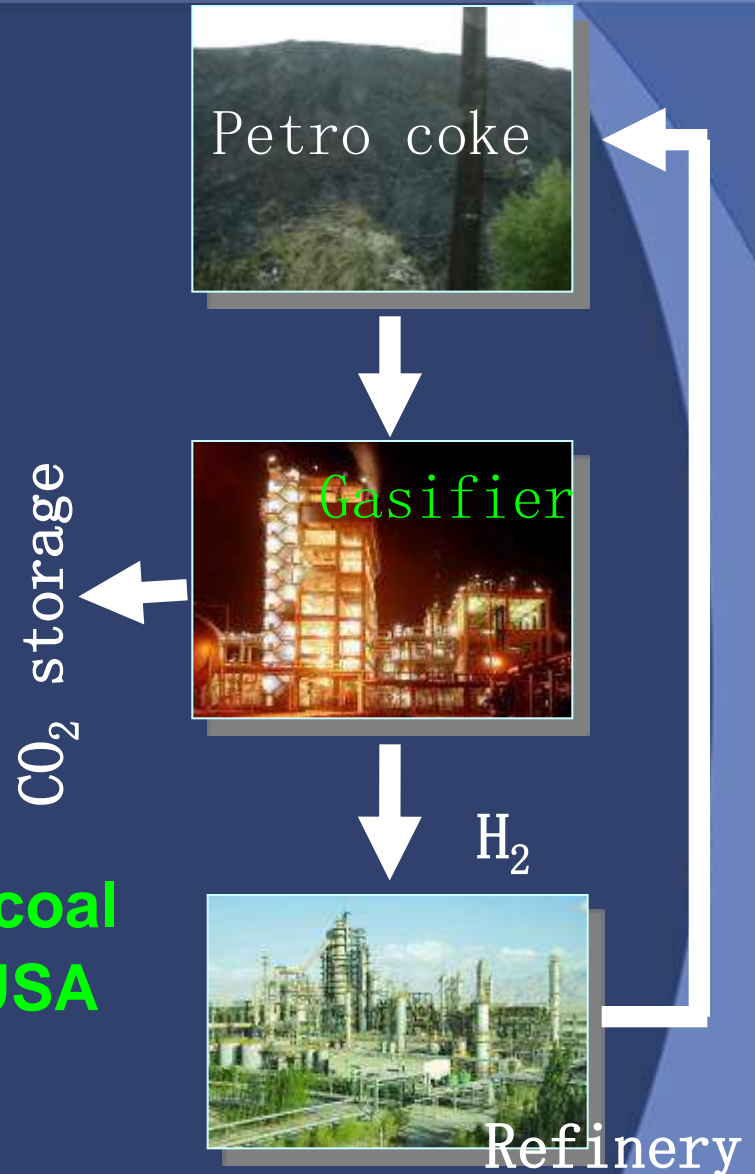
2000 TPD gasifier for methanol production in Shenhua Group

Multi-nozzle-opposed entrained flow gasifier-ECUST

2008, exported to Valero Energy Co. USA, H₂ production from petro coke

~2300 t/d, 4 run, 1 spare

China firstly export large-scale coal chemical engineering tech. to USA



Multi-nozzle-opposed entrained flow gasifier-ECUST

Application: 18 enterprises, 50 sets gasifier

Scale, t/d	Product	status
2000	methanol	6 run, 11 in construction
1800	ammonia	4 run, 2 in construction
1500	methanol, NH ₃	4 run, 3 in construction
2300	methanol, DME	8 in construction
1500	Methanol, power	3 run

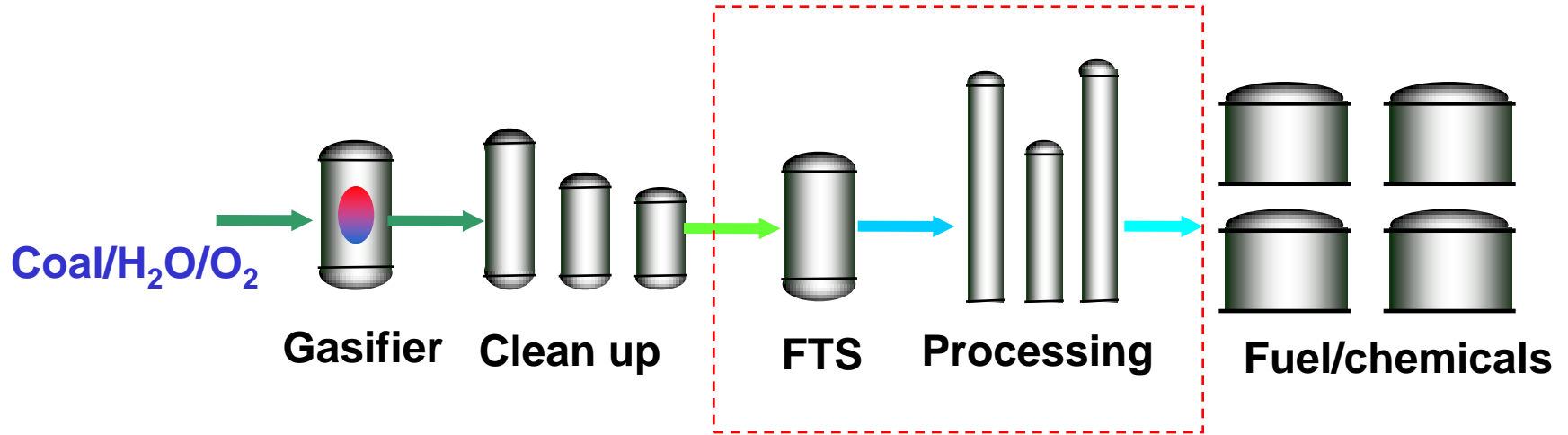
Indirect coal Conversion

Fuel/chemicals from coal



- **F-T synthesis to diesel and higher hydrocarbons**
- **Higher alcohols synthesis**
- **Methanol down stream product**

Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis (FTS)



Two kinds of Process

- **Fe-based Cat. Slurry-bed, syngas low H/C**
- **Co-based Cat. Fixed-bed, syngas high H/C**

F-T Synthesis: Fundamentals



Product Distribution

CH_4 , $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_4$, $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_{11}$, $\text{C}_{12}\text{-C}_{18}$, $\text{C}_{19}\text{-C}_{22}$, ..., $\text{C}_{100}\dots$
 R-OH , R-CO-R , ...

Catalyst: selectivity, stability

Reactor: heat transfer (exothermic reaction)

Fe-based catalyst for FT Synthesis

- **Low Temperature Process**

temperature **250 °C**

productivity **0.25 kg/ kg h**

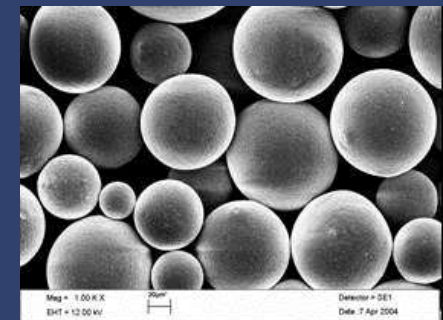
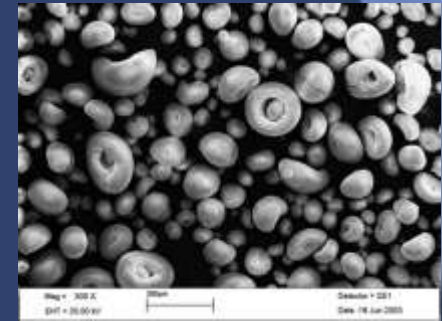
efficiency **40%**

- **High Temperature Process**

temperature **270 °C**

productivity **0.80 kg/ kg h**

efficiency **44%**



HT steam was used for power generation to improve efficiency

Fe-based catalyst for FT Synthesis



diesel



1,000 t/a pilot, 2006

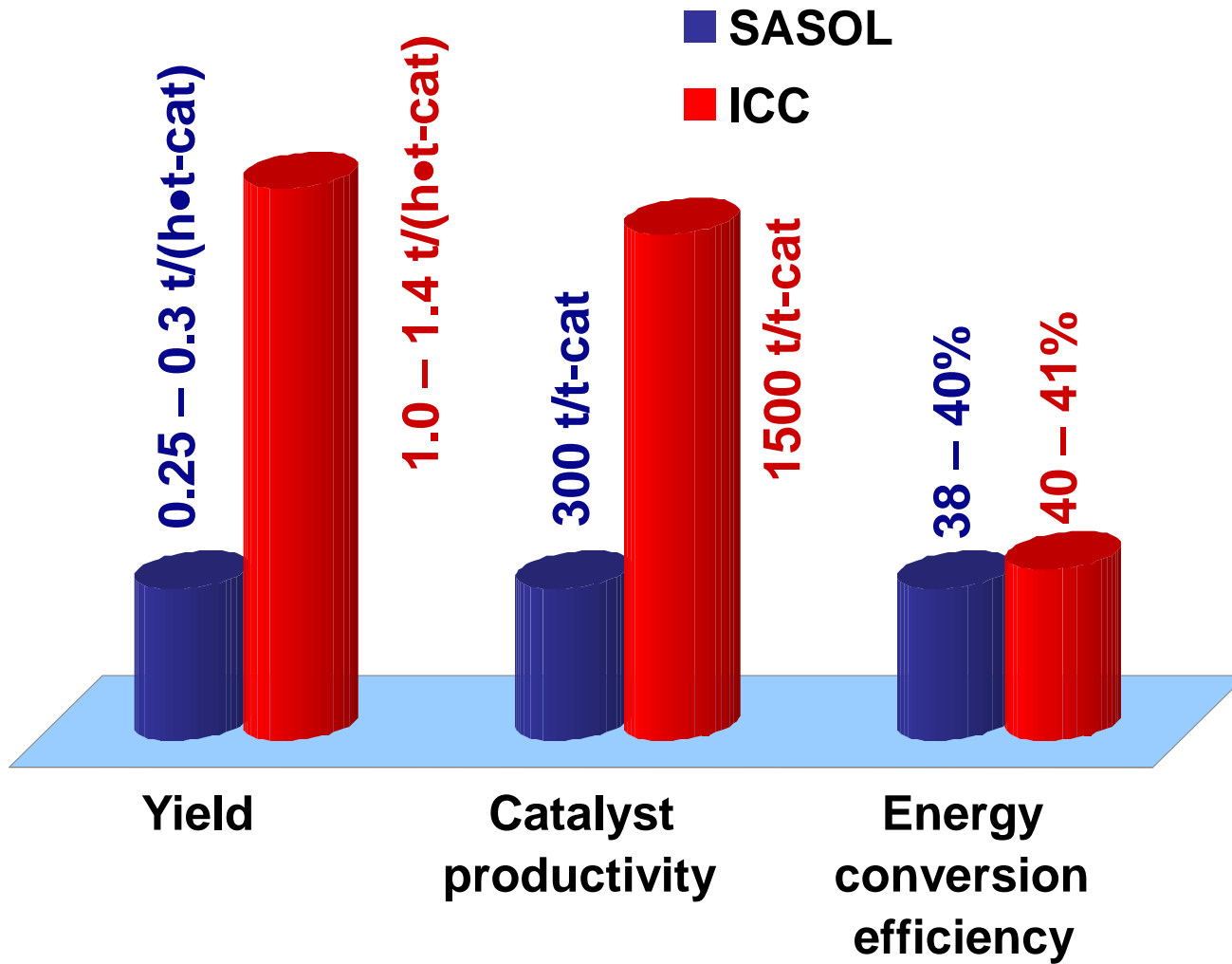
Fe-based catalyst for FT Synthesis

160 kt-diesel /a demo plant run very well in full production in May, 2010 in Inner Mongolia

Another 2 demo plants are being operated



Fe-based catalyst for FT Synthesis

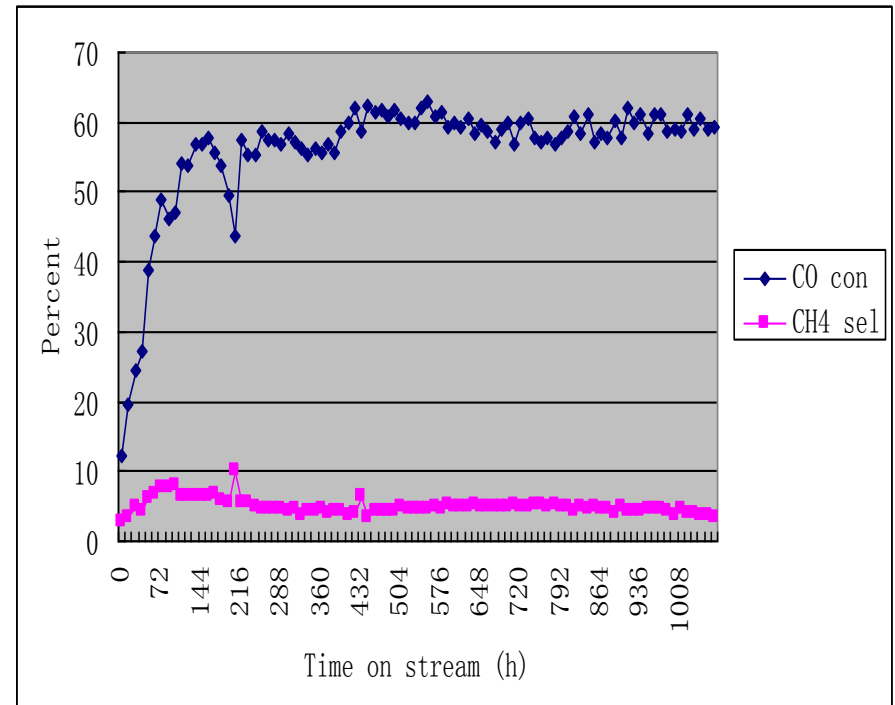


Co-based catalyst for FT Synthesis

fixed-bed reactor

Catalyst property

Time, h	25	80
T, °C	180	190
CO conv.	54.1 %	78.9 %
C ₅ ⁺ selec.	89.4 %	90.9 %
C ₅ ⁺ produc. (gr/L/hr)	111	170
CH ₄ selec.	3.8%	3.7%



It is featured by low CH₄ selectivity and good stability

Co-based catalyst for FT Synthesis



Wax

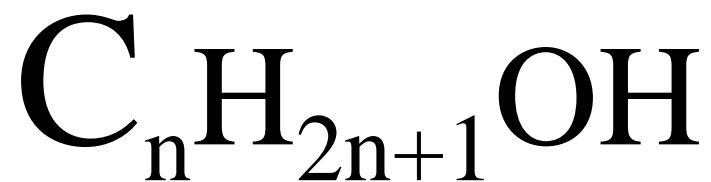
Run with 5 L catalysts
Conversion 63%
 $\text{CH}_4 < 6\%$, $\text{C}_{5+} > 90\%$
 500 h^{-1}

Co-based catalyst for FT Synthesis



Demo plant of 5000 t/a was run well in Lu'an Group
The 1st Co-based FT CTL demo plant in China

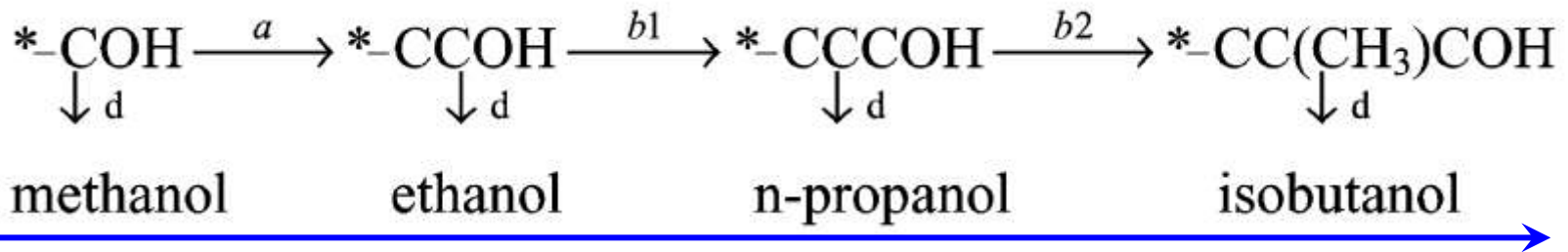
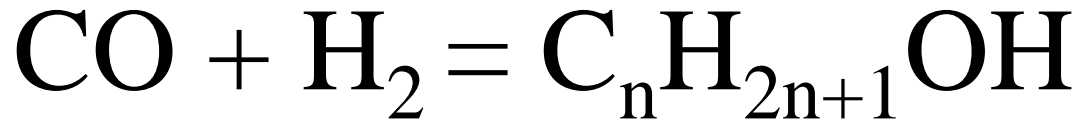
Higher Alcohols Synthesis (HAS)



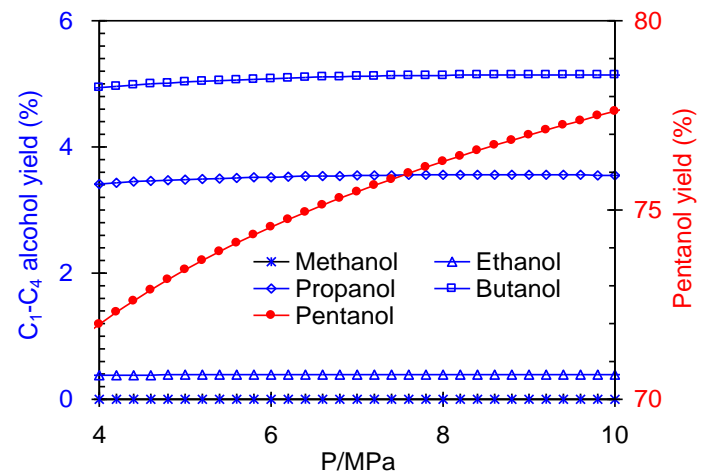
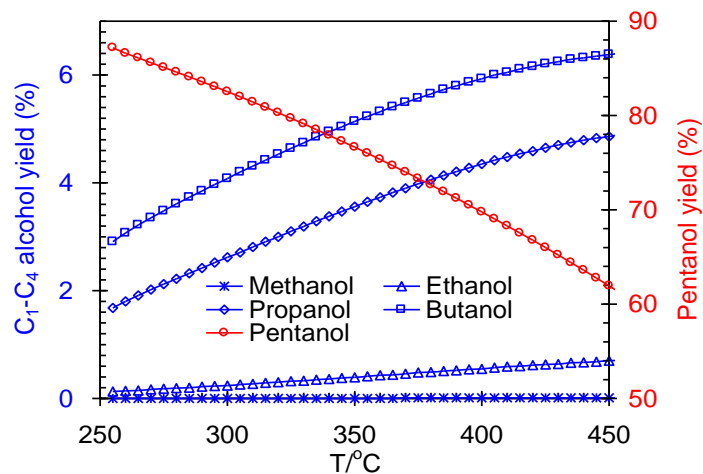
- Fuel and Fuel Additives
- Chemicals and Intermediates for Synthesis



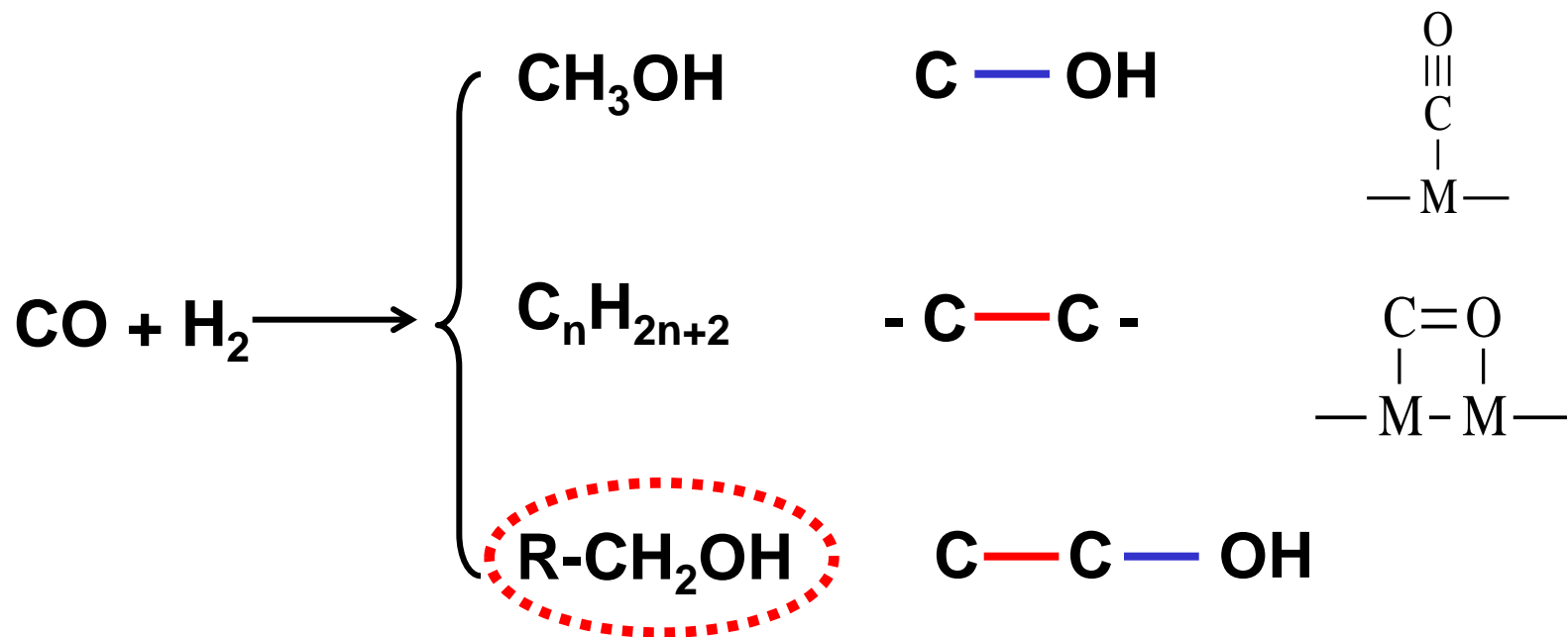
Higher Alcohols Synthesis: Thermodynamics



Higher alcohols synthesis is favored in thermodynamics.



Higher Alcohols Synthesis: mechanism



Difficulty: the synthesis of **higher alcohols** needs carbon chain growth and C-OH formation on the same catalyst simultaneously.

Higher Alcohols Synthesis: Selectivity

Challenge: **Selectivity of the catalyst**

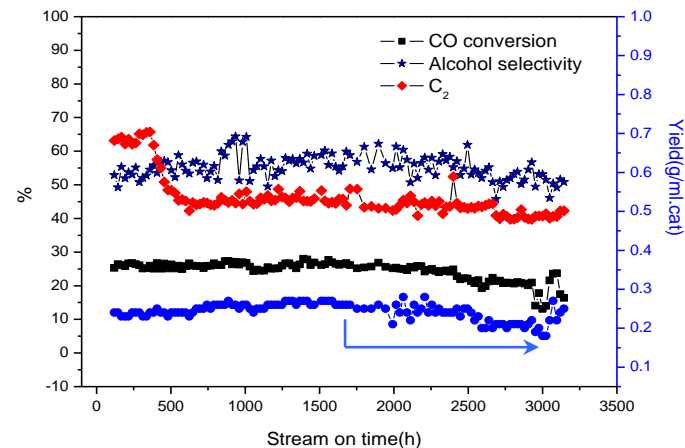
alcohols not hydrocarbons (FTS)

higher alcohols (C₂⁺) not methanol (MS)

Alcohols Synthesis: Progress at ICC

Basic properties of the Cu-Fe catalyst

Catalyst	I-type
Morphology	Black cylinder
Size/mm	$\Phi 3.0 \times 4.0$
Particle density/g/mL	1.1-1.4
Surface area/m ² /g	130-180
Average pore size/nm	8-10
CO conversion/%	20-40
Selectivity of total alcohols/%	>50
C ₂ ⁺ OH/total alcohol/%	>45
Space time yield/Kg/(Lcat h)	>0.2
Productivity(oxygenates.g)/L(Syngass)	0.07-0.12



Alcohols Synthesis: Progress



20 Kg/d, 6~8MPa, 240~260°C, Cu-Fe Catalyst

Methanol Derivatives

Methanol Market in China

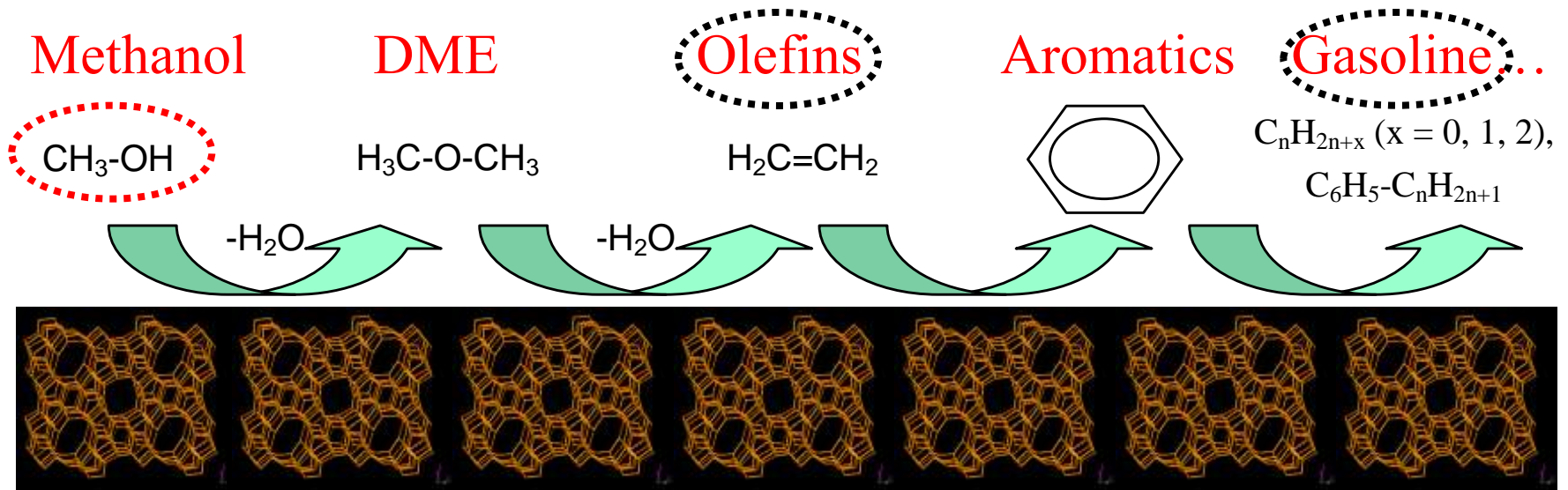
Feedstock	Plants	ratio%	Capacity	ratio%
	Number		Mt	
Coal	229	81.2	21	67
Natural Gas	32	11.3	7.4	23.9
Coke Oven Gas	21	7.5	2.8	9.1

2009, Capacity: **32** Mt, quantity demand: **10** Mt.

2010, Capacity: **32.12** Mt, Quantity demand: **18-21** Mt.

Methanol capacity is badly surplus. Its down steam product is urgent.

Methanol Conversion Reactions



Different products could be obtained from controlled conversion of methanol in zeolite cat.

Down stream product of methanol-gasoline

MTG process-ICC



Small ZSM-5 crystals



3500 t/a DEMO plant

One step synthesis

Heat insulation reactor

Down stream product of methanol-gasoline

Results obtained in the DEMO Plant

Gasoline compositions:

Isoparaffins	39.1%
Olefins	6.3%
Paraffins	6.8%
Cycloalkanes	7.3%
Aramatics	37.4%
Sulfur	0%

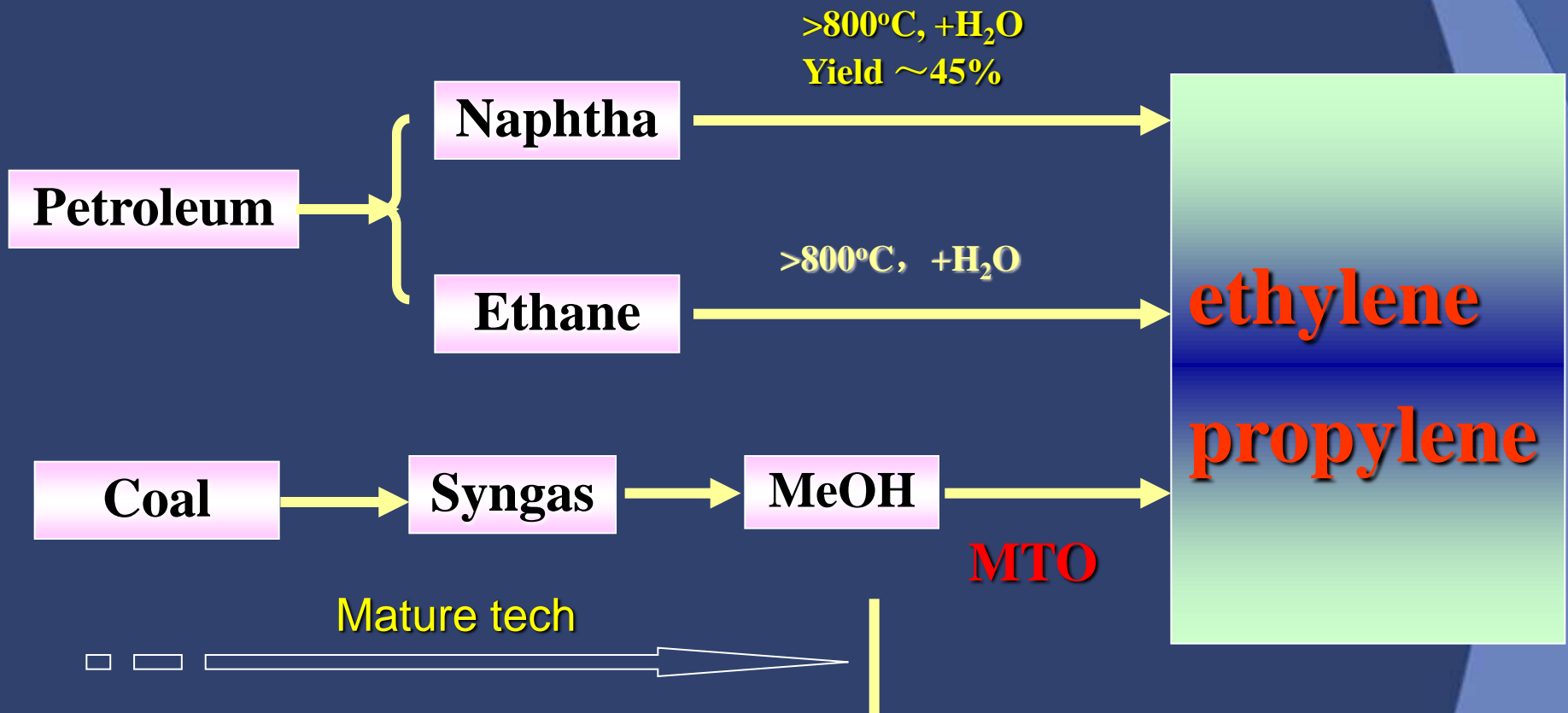


Qualified 93# gasoline was obtained.

Now a 200 kt/a MTG factory is under construction.

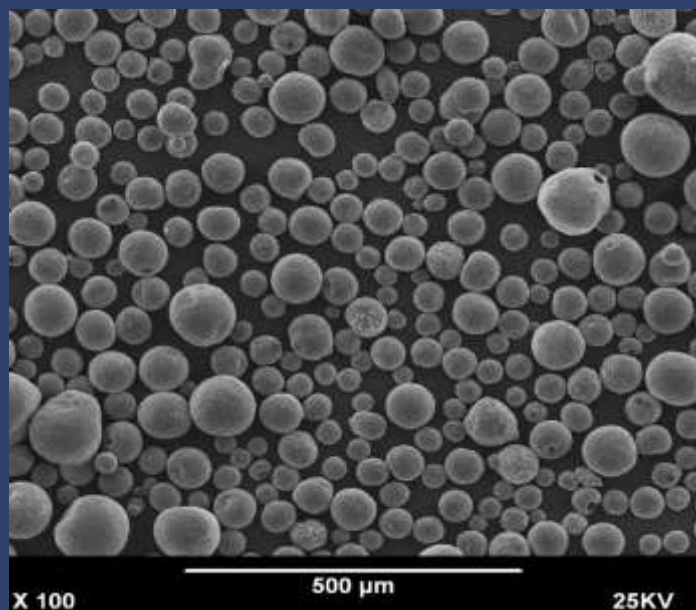
Down stream product of methanol-olefins

Route to olefins production



Down stream product of methanol-olefins

MTO developed by Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics



SAPO-34

Cat recovery	550°C 5 min	550°C 10 min	550°C 30 min	550°C 60 min
Residue C (wt%)	3.2	1.6	0.87	0.56
Conversion (%)	100	100	100	100
Product selec. (wt%)				
CH ₄	1.39	1.43	1.49	1.82
C ₂ =--C ₃ =	93.60	93.41	92.99	90.55

The selectivity of olefin is over 90% with low formation of CH₄

600 Kt/a MTO in Shenhua Group

The first industrial apparatus for MTO in the world

MeOH conv.100%, Olefin Selectivity 80%

Aug, 2010, Qualified PP was produced



Effective utilization of low rank coal

Integrated liquefaction:

Combination of direct & indirect conversion

Low rank coal in China

	lignite	sub-bitu	bitu	anthara
water %	20-50	10-20	10-15	2-10
volatile %	38-65	37-55	10-35	3-6
heat kcal/kg	2000-4000	~ 5000	5000-6000	~ 7000
Oxygen %	15-23	10-15	3-12	2-3
H/C	0.97	0.79	0.77	0.33
utilization	??	Power??	coke/power	sygas/power

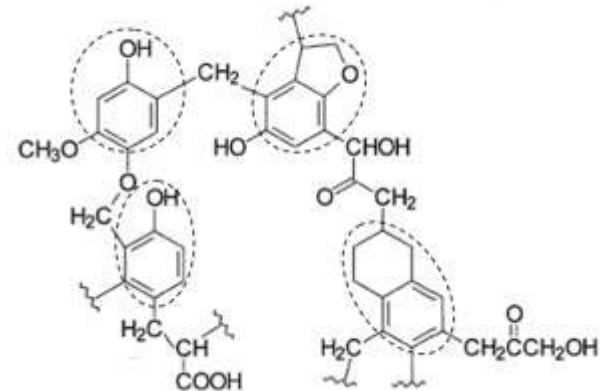
lignite 130 Bt

Sub-bitu 300 Bt

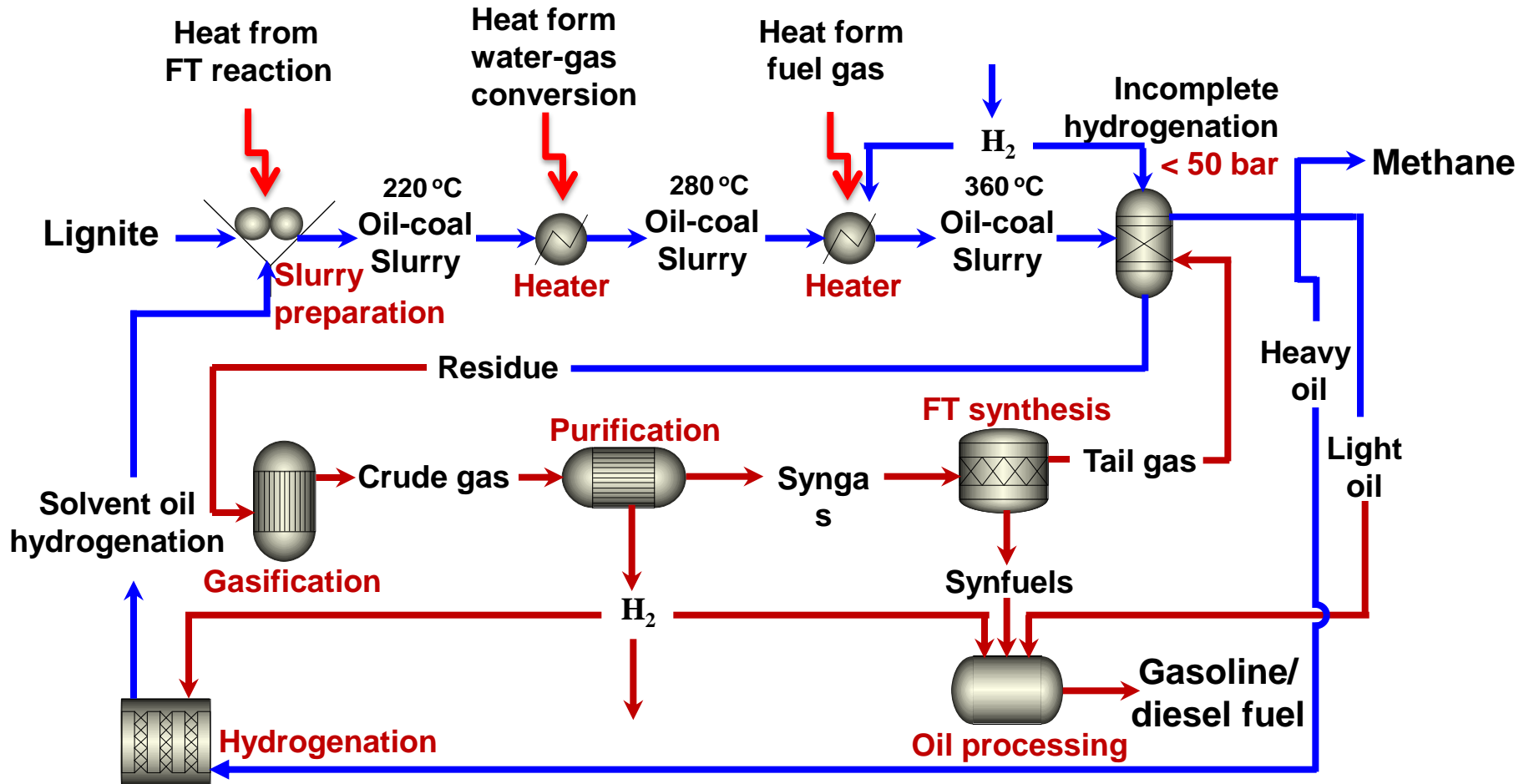


Low rank coal
~ **50%**

Ideal feedstocks for fuel/chemicals



Integrated liquefaction for low rank coal



Drying + Partial liquefac + FT; energy efficiency 35 → 40%

Integrated liquefaction for low rank coal



Demo plant processing lignite of 10 Kt/a, Inner Mongolia

CONCLUSIONS

- Compared to conventional combustion in coal utilization, the routes to fuels and chemicals via coal gasification are recognized as the most advanced technology in clean coal utilization.
- Large amount of coal in China with high ash content (>25 wt%) and high ash fusion temperature (>1500 °C) can be used as the feedstock of AFB gasification.
- The new concept of integrated liquefaction is most suitable to convert low rank coal into fuel/chemicals with high energy efficiency.

Acknowledgement

Chinese Academy of Sciences

Ministry of Science and Technology

National Science Foundation of China

Thanks for your attention

