



# Novel Conversion Approaches using Natural Gas

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# Natural Gas Upgrading Processes and Drivers

- Dry Reforming to make syn-gas ( $H_2$ , CO)
  - Replace steam with  $CO_2$
  - Reduce carbon footprint
  - Eliminates need for water
- Cool Reforming and Cool GTL (Gas to Liquids)
  - Uses both steam and  $CO_2$  to make syn-gas
  - Reduce cost and simplifies gas-to-liquids process
  - Reduce carbon footprint
- Soft Oxidation
  - Eliminates flaring of sour gas wells
  - Increases product yield at well head

## Dry Reforming of Methane (DRM)

### Problem:

- Expensive: Uses precious metal catalysts
- Cokes: Catalysts deactivate due to carbon build up

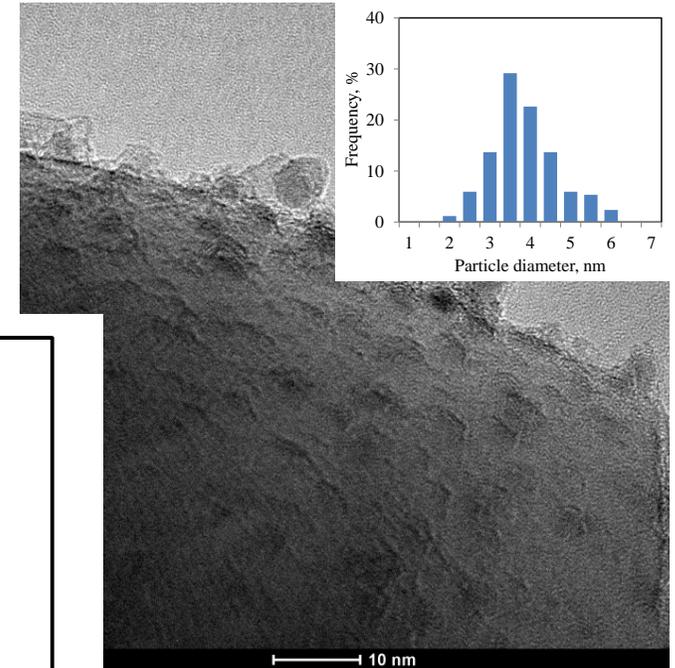
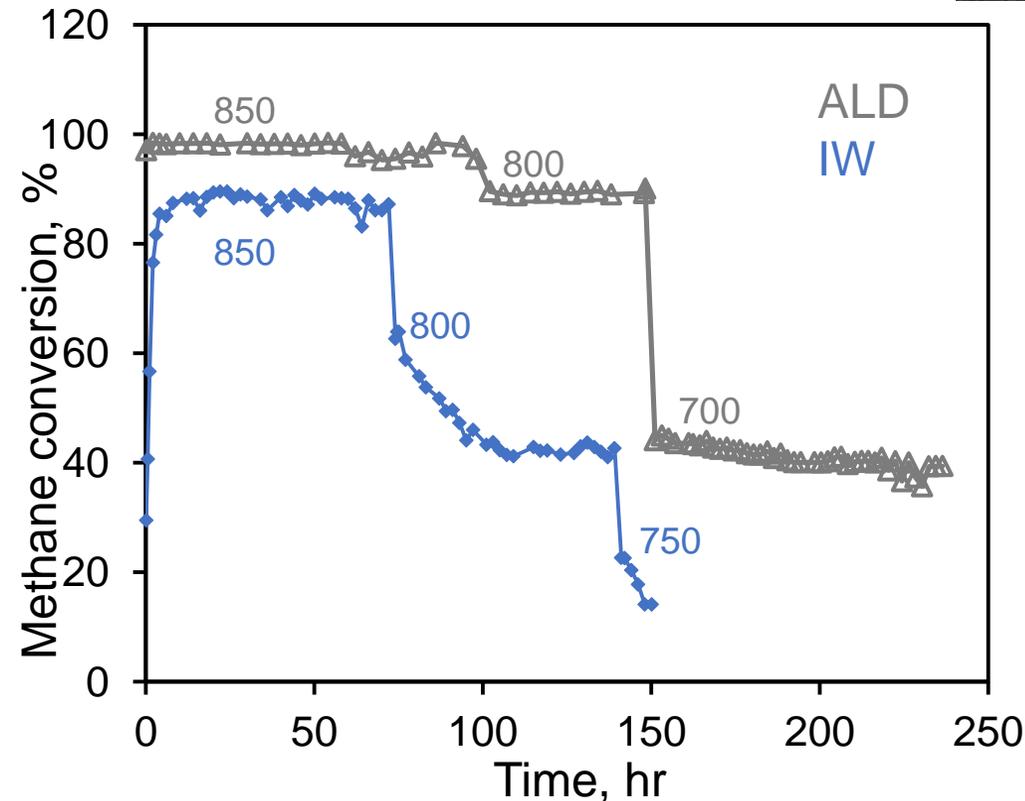
### Approach:

- Apply nano-catalysts using Atomic Layer Deposition (ALD)
- Use inexpensive catalysts, ex. Nickel

# Encouraging Results for DRM using ALD

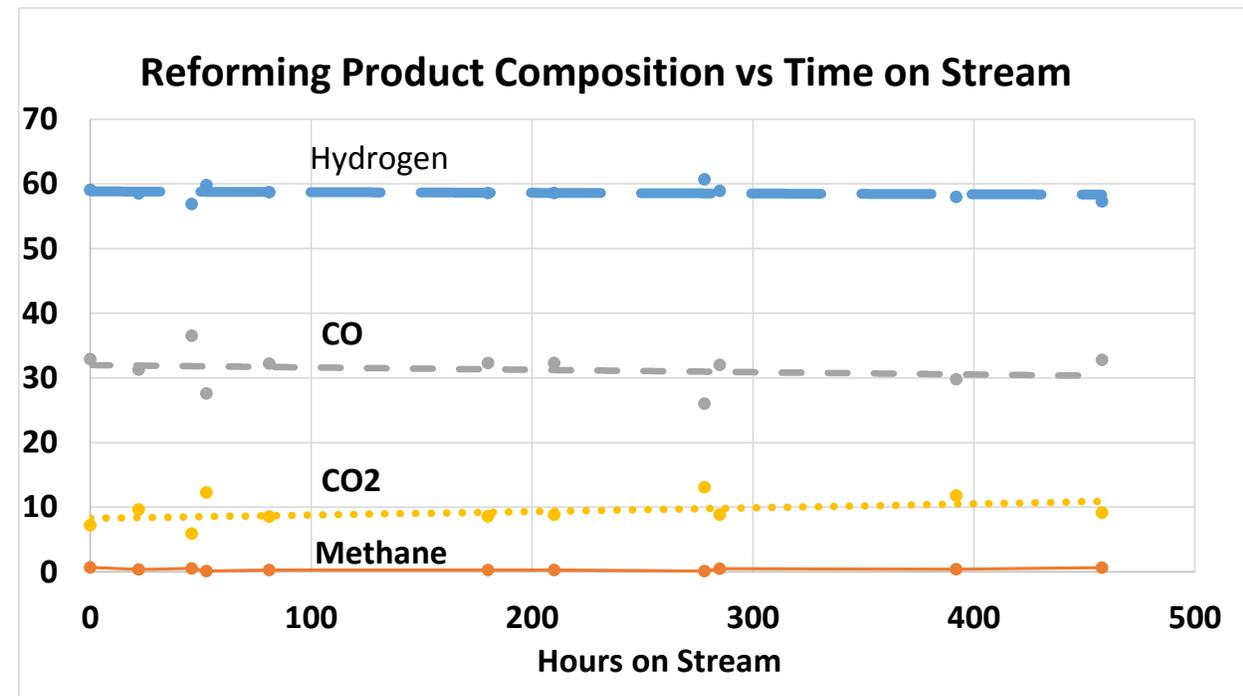
- Porous Alumina substrate best
- Better performance
- Better stability
- Little coking
- TRL = 2

**Nanoparticles used in ALD and Incipient Wetness (IW)**



## Cool Reforming to make “perfect” syn-gas

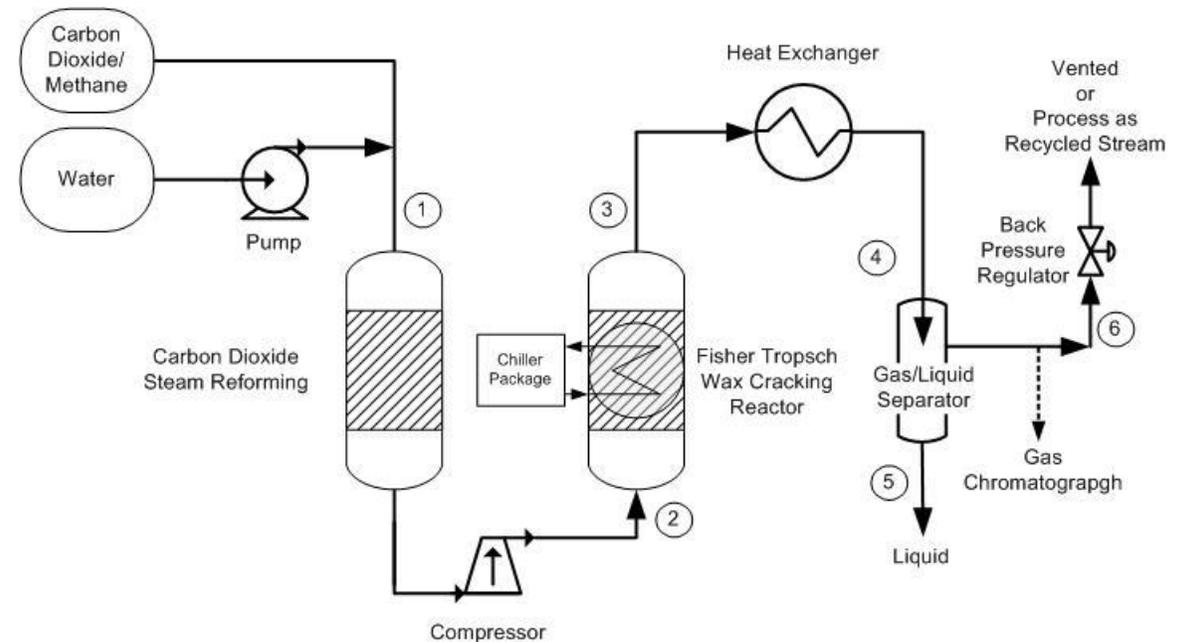
- Process: natural gas + steam + CO<sub>2</sub> to syn-gas (H<sub>2</sub>, CO)
- Water and CO<sub>2</sub> ratio adjustable with fuel, for stable syn-gas output
- High conversion
- High yield
- Lower temperature
- Good stability



# Cool Gas To Liquids (GTL)

- Simple GTL system
- Fischer Tropsch reactor at Cool Reformer pressure:
  - Commercial catalyst
  - No waxes
  - Lower temperature
  - Low/No recycle
- TRL = 3

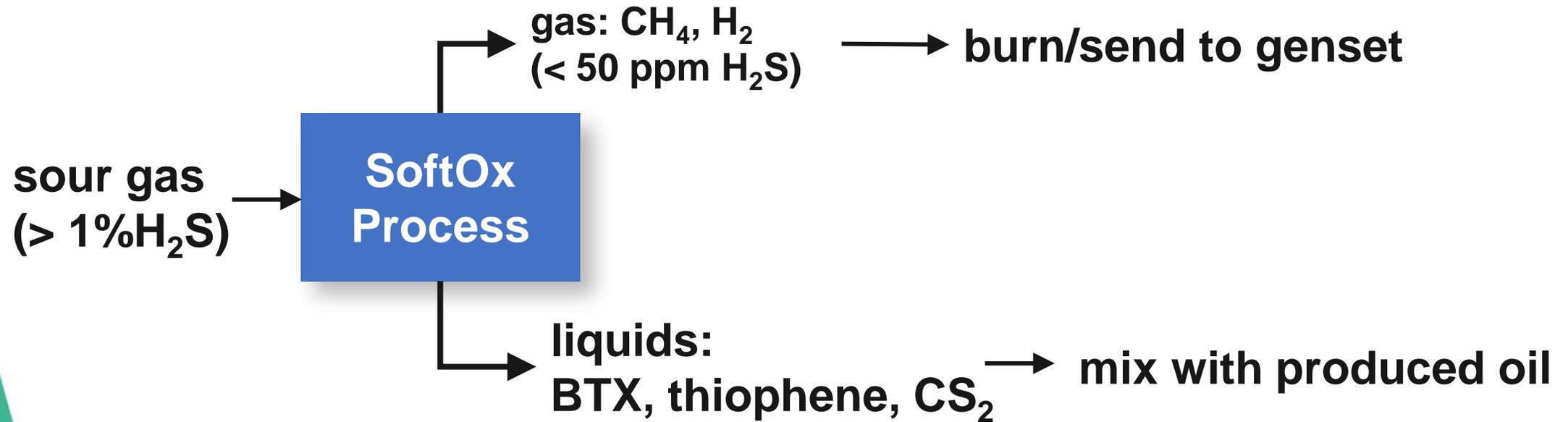
## Cool GTL



# Cool Reforming and GTL Applications

- Landfill gas sites
- Gas plants
- Reservoirs with high CO<sub>2</sub> and natural gas
- High CO<sub>2</sub> in flare gas

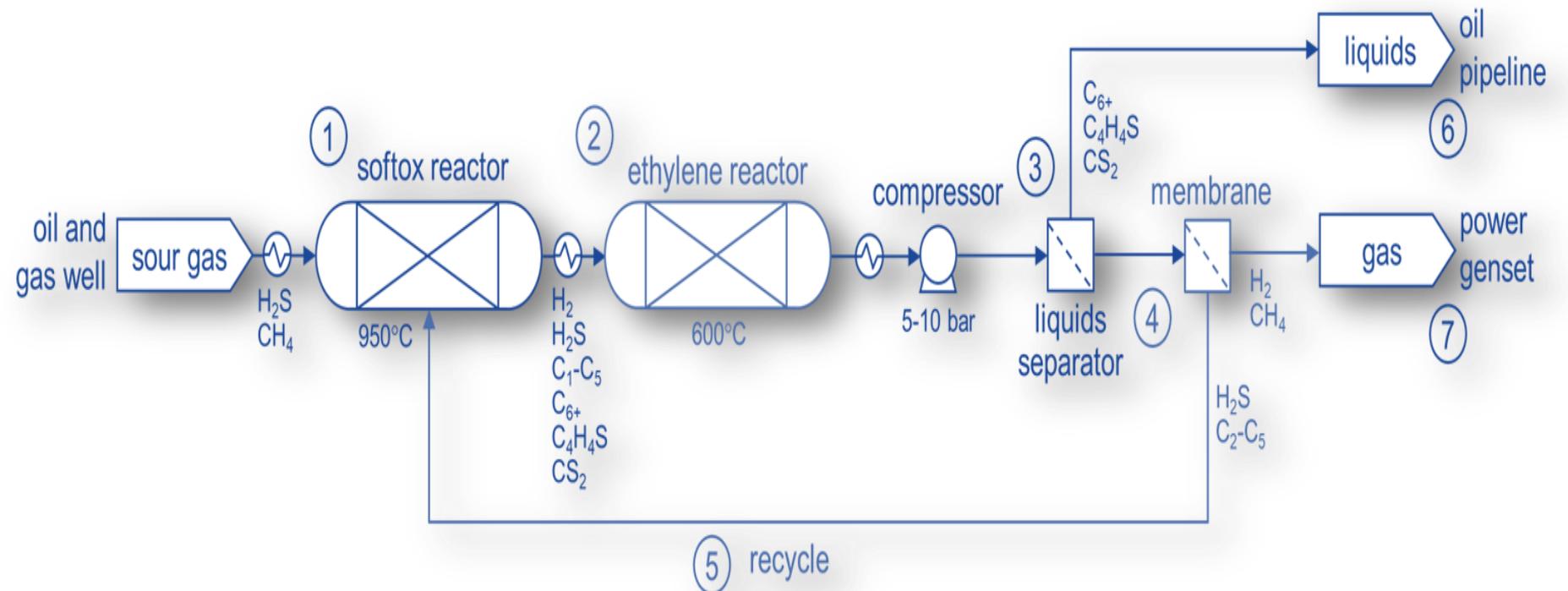
## SoftOx (Soft Oxidation)



**Convert wellhead sour gas into liquids that can be mixed with crude oil and a low-sulfur, H<sub>2</sub>-rich gas for generating electrical power**

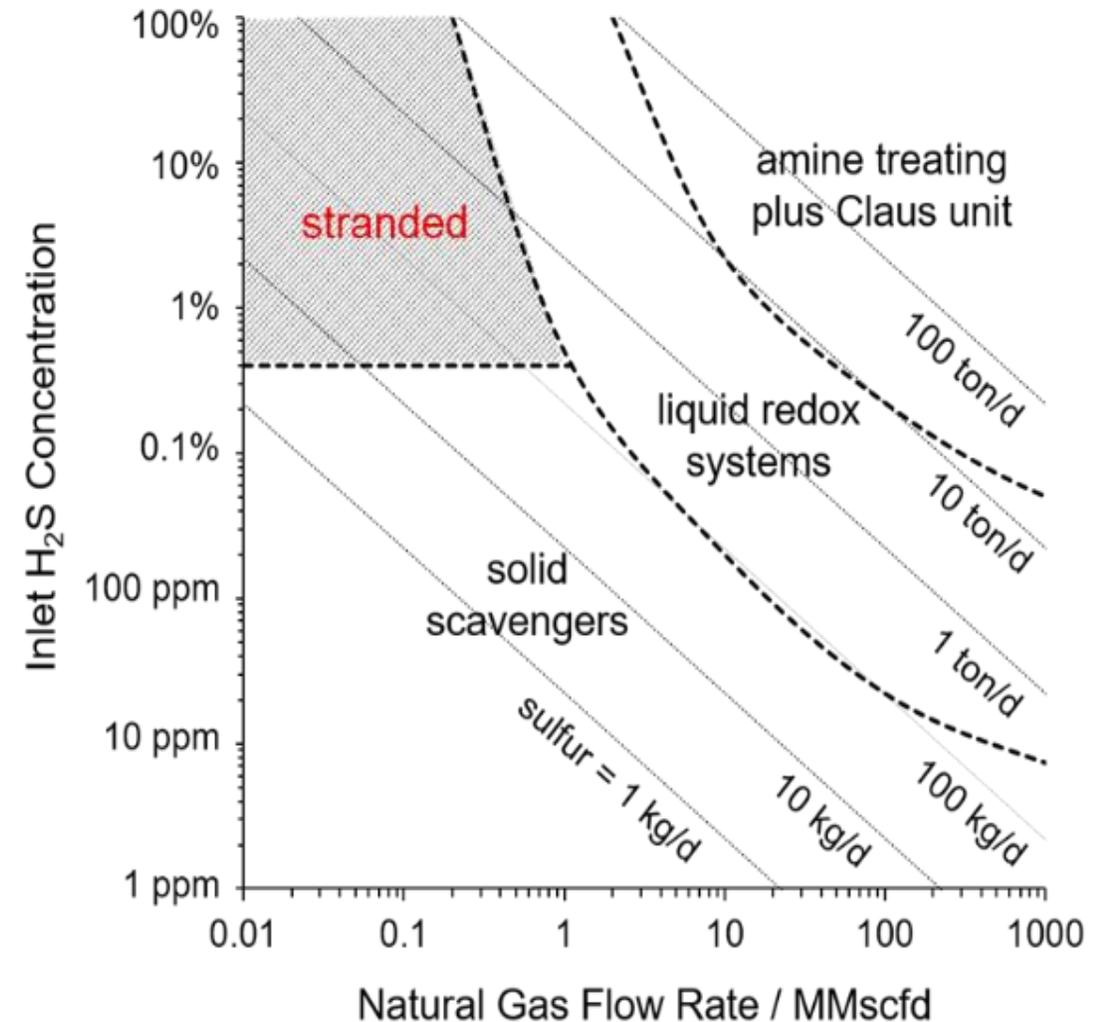
# SoftOx solving the sour gas issue

- Reducing H<sub>2</sub>S to allow power generation
- Added liquids to production
- Modular design
- Remote well head applications



## SoftOx Application Space

- Low flow, high H<sub>2</sub>S
- Remote/stranded
- Little infrastructure
- Focused on flaring
- TRL = 4



## Conclusions

- Atomic Layer Deposition (ALD) holds promise for Dry Methane Reforming (DMR)
- Cool reforming and Cool GTL has significant cost reductions that may enable GTL at smaller scales and reduce its carbon footprint
- Elimination of flaring using Soft Oxidation (SoftOx) can play a major role in the GHG reduction of remote gas fields
- All of these technologies address environmental issues for oil and gas production in a cost effective manner

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