

Frankfurt, 27.11.2024

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?



KOPERNIKUS
»PROJEKTE
Die Zukunft unserer Energie



GEFÖRDERT VOM

Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Ralf Ehret

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

definition

• fuels in generell

- fuels: combustible substances → chemical energy is converted into mechanical energy through combustion in combustion engines.

• conventional fuels (gasoline, diesel, kerosene)

- a mixture of different hydrocarbons (HC) based on crude oil

• e-fuels (electrofuels)

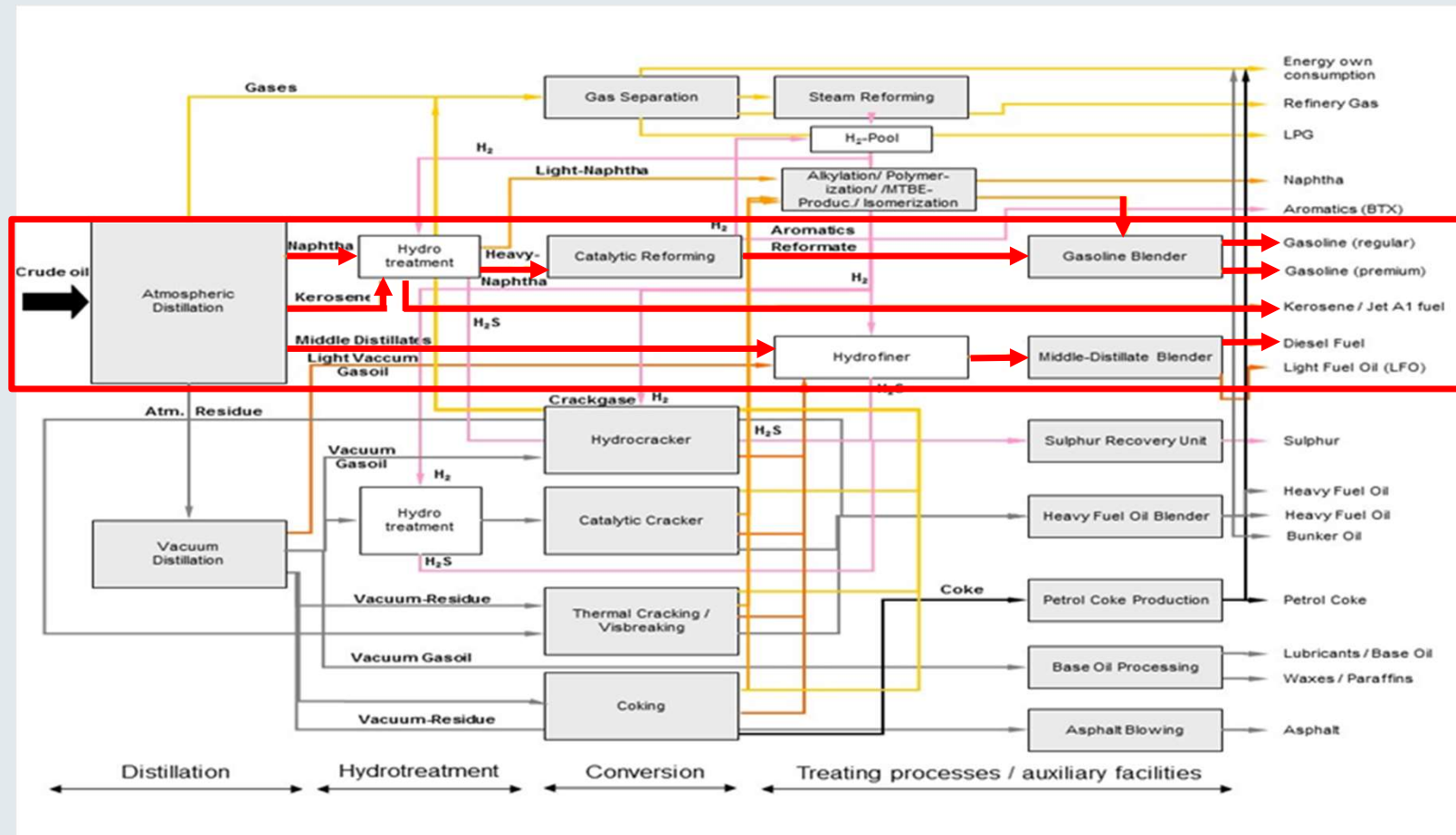
- synthetic fuels (also HC) that are produced from water and carbon dioxide (CO₂) using electrical energy
- known as power-to-fuel (PtF or in general PtX)



<https://www.bmw.de>

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

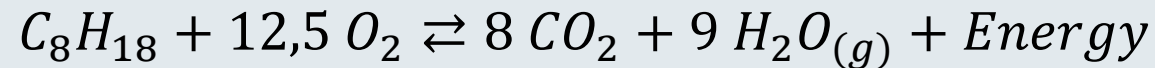
How conventional fuels are produced?



Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

Why do we use hydrocarbons to generate energy?

- easy to handle
- no major hazard potential with careful handling
- high energy density

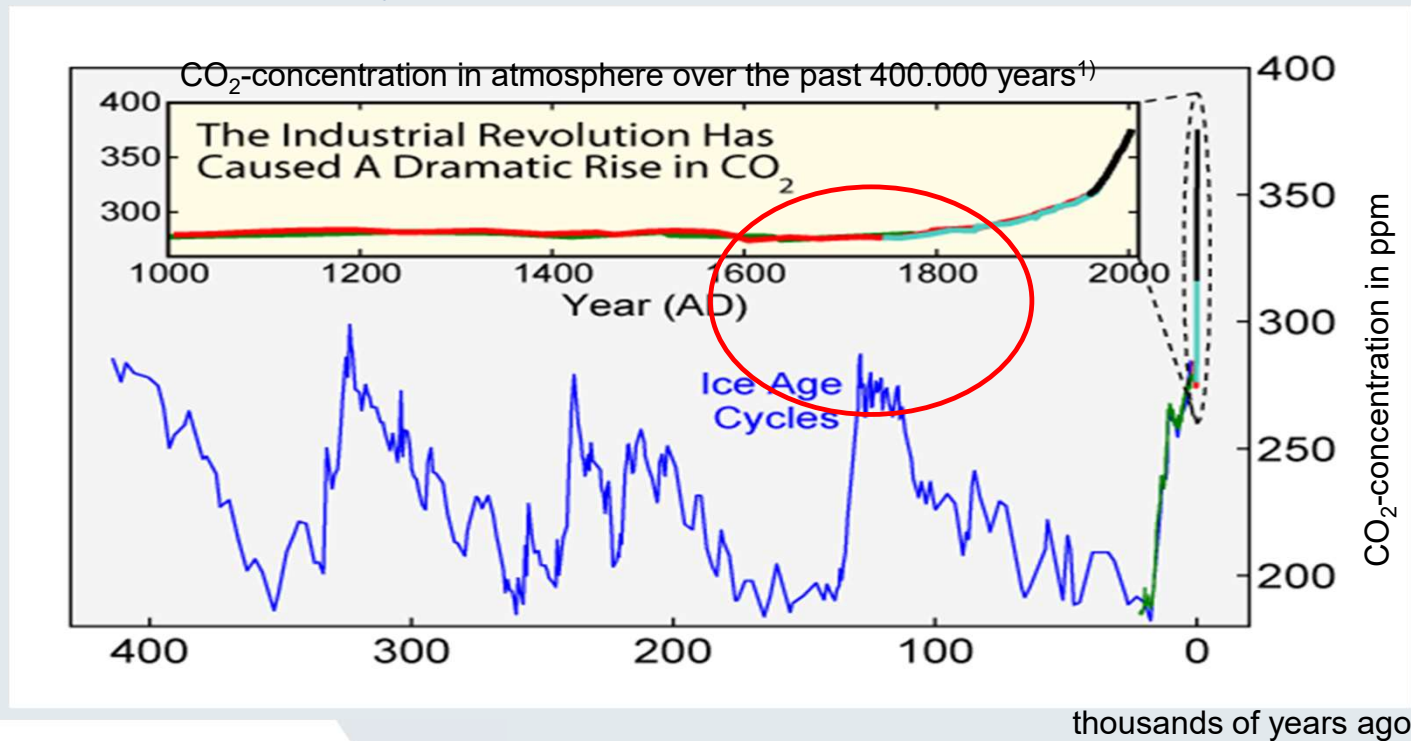


$$Energy = 5572 kJ/mol \equiv 13,55 kWh/kg \equiv 9,5 kWh/L$$

- hard coal 8,3 kWh/kg
- wood ≈ 4 kWh/kg
- natural gas $\approx 12,5$ kWh/kg

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

What problems does the combustion of hydrocarbons cause?

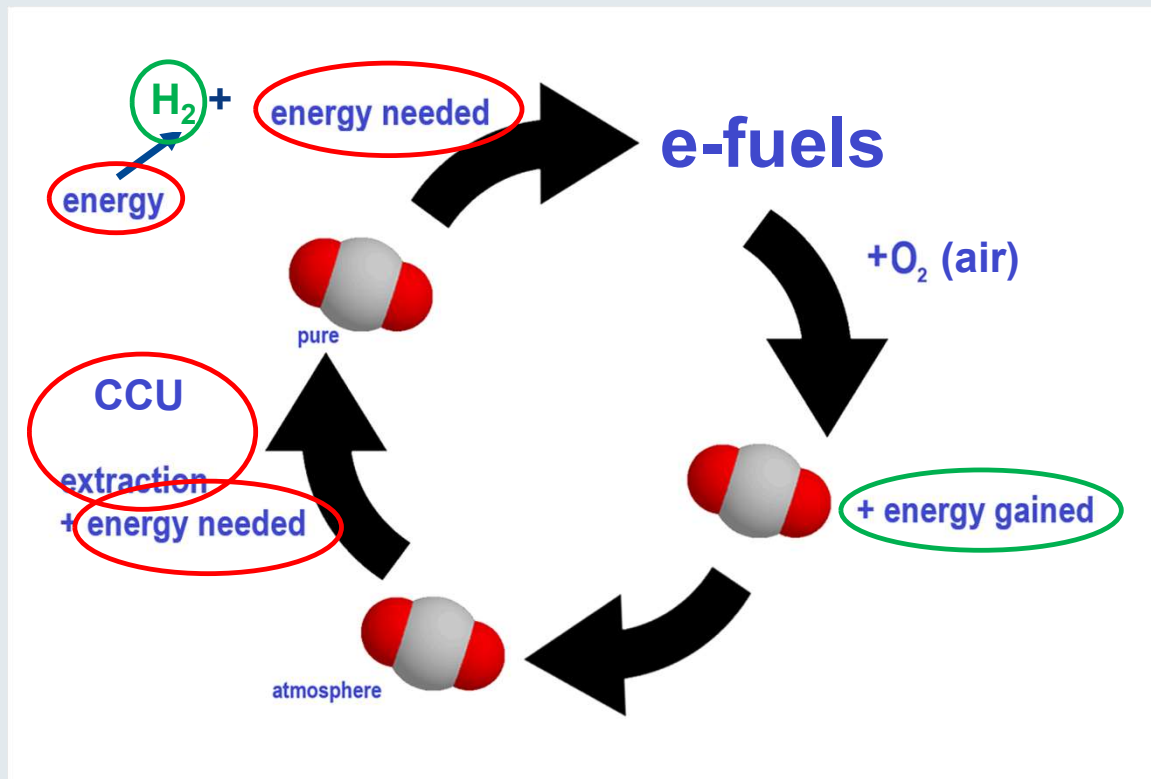


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1) Hileman B: Ice Core Record Extended: Analyses of trapped air show current CO₂ at highest level in 650,000 years. In: Chemical & Engineering News. Band 83, Nr. 48, November 2005, S. 7

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

How can we solve this problem?

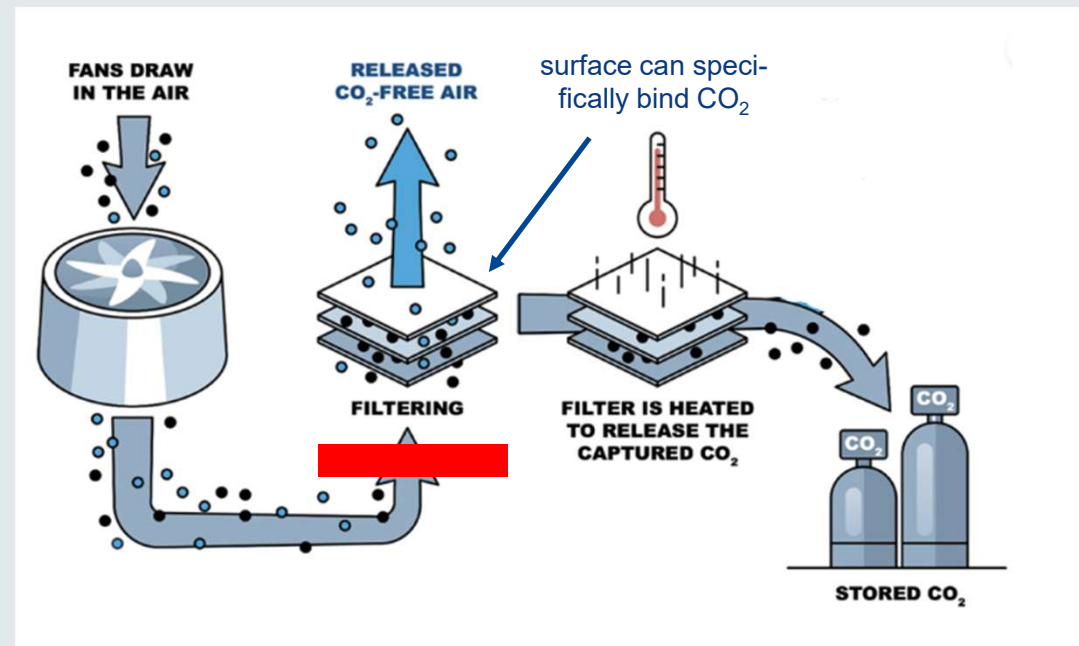
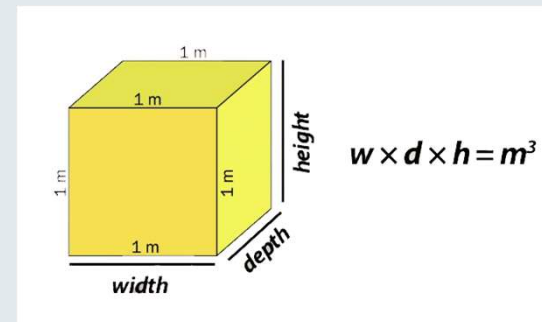
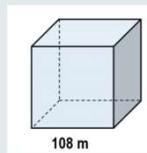


- perfect carbon circle!
 - CO₂ balance = 0
 - but....
1. How to extract CO₂?
 2. How to produce green hydrogen?
 3. How much energy we need?
 4. Are we in a position, to generate this energy in a climate-neutral way?
 5. At what cost can e-fuels be produced?

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

How to extract CO₂ from atmosphere?

- 400 ppm?
- 1 m³ air contains: 0,785 g CO₂
- s-DAC ≡ solid-Direct Air Capture
- to extract 1 ton CO₂ → 1,27 mill. m³ air
- energy needed: ≈ 2 MWh/ton CO₂
- GER released 600 mill. tons CO₂ (2023)²⁾
- renewable energy needed: **1200 TWh**
- total renewable energy in GER: **272 TWh** (2023)²⁾



2) Umweltbundesamt (2024)

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Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

Are there other sources for CO₂ available?

- low concentration of CO₂
- hard coal-fired power station
- up to 15% CO₂ in exhaust gas
- why just 15%?
- purity of the exhaust gas?
- I-DAC ≡ liquid-Direct Air Capture
- energy consumption increases by 30%
- not all CO₂ could be captured
- coal-fired power generation will end in 2038 (Ger)



Kohlekraftwerk Karlsruhe Luftbild Foto & Bild | luftbild rheinneckar, kraftwerk, kohle Bilder auf fotocommunity

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

Are there other sources for CO₂ available?

- low concentration of CO₂
- cement plant → cement production
 - responsible for 8% of global for CO₂ emissions¹⁾
- limestone is indispensable resource
 - responsible for 2/3 of emissions
- polluted exhaust gas
- I-DAC ≡ liquid-Direct Air Capture
- energy needed: ≈ 2,4 MWh/ton CO₂²⁾



<https://www.rosenheim24.de/rosenheim/rosenheim-land/rohrdorf-ort50271/samstag-offenen-zementwerk-rohrdorf-rosenheim24-2362749.html>



1) <https://www.spektrum.de/magazin/klimaneutrale-industrie-neuerfindung-von-zement/2150676>

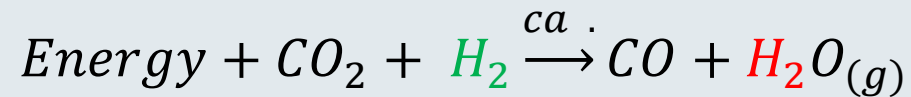
2) [geoengineeringmonitor.org \(boell.de\)](https://www.geoengineeringmonitor.org/boell.de)

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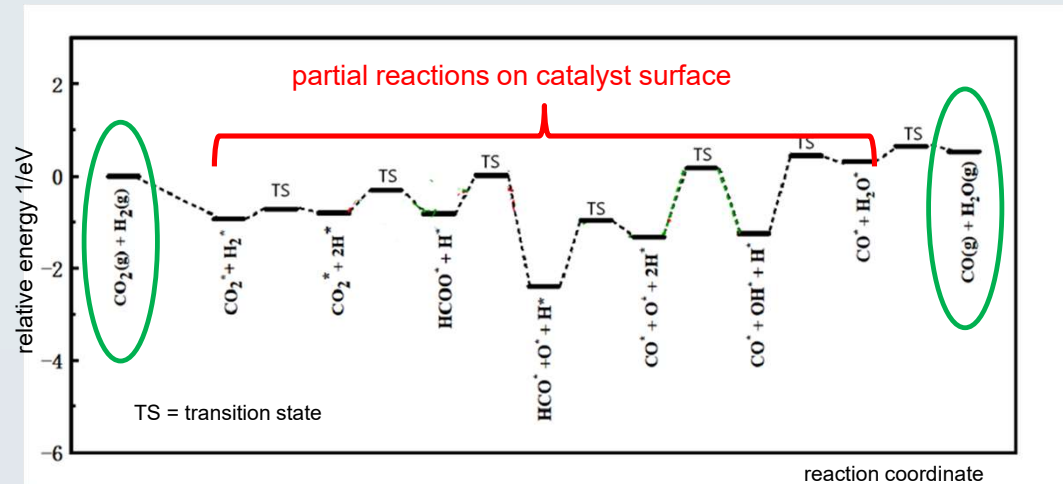
Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

How to produce green hydrogen?

- reverse watergas shift reaction (RWGS)



- heterogeneously catalysed reaction
- several side reactions (Sabatier-reaction, methanisation, dry-, steamreforming, coking,...)
- law of conservation of energy
- included in Fischer-Tropsch-reaction
- energy needed: 0,85 MWh/ton CO¹⁾



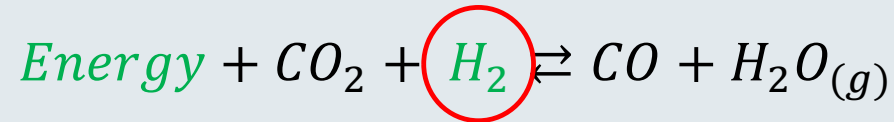
1) REPOSE, unpublished results

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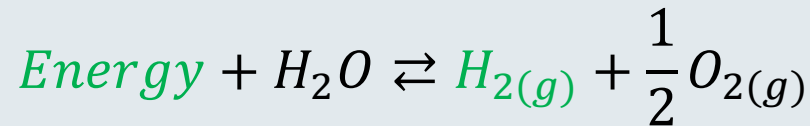
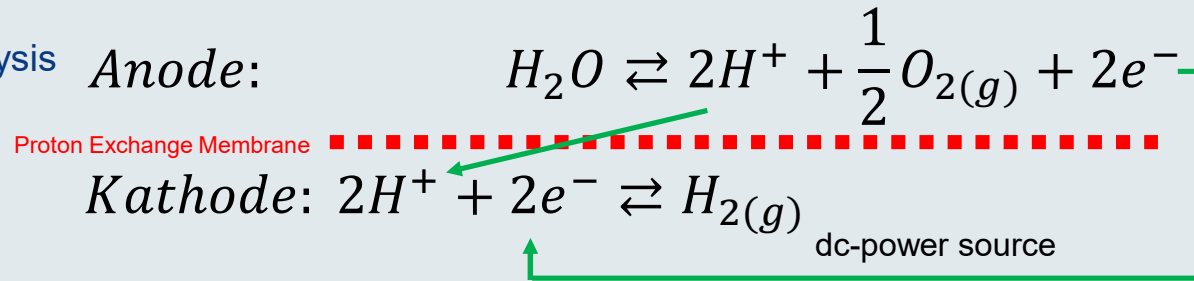
Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

How to produce green hydrogen?

- RWGS reaction → necessity of green hydrogen



- H₂O PEM-electrolysis



- renewable energy needed: 50 MWh/ton H₂¹⁾



<https://www.siemens-energy.com/global/en/home/products-services/product-offerings/hydrogen-solutions.html>

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

How to produce green hydrogen?

- renewable energy needed: 50 MWh/ton H₂
- current H₂-demand in GER: 10⁶ tons ≙ 50 TWh (almost industrial use)
- total renewable energy in GER: 272 TWh (2023)
- expected demand (2050¹⁾): 15 · 10⁶ tons ≙ 750 TWh
- necessity of import → H₂ transportation



production site



<https://www.siemens-energy.com/global/en/home/products-services/product-offerings/hydrogen-solutions.html>

1) https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/de/forschung/energiewende-und-nachhaltiges-wirtschaften/nationale-wasserstoffstrategie/nationale-wasserstoffstrategie_node.html#:~:

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

How to produce green hydrogen?

- How is the current situation in water electrolysis?
- currently 17 manufacturers worldwide offering 92 different systems (PEM, alkaline, high-temperature)



<https://www.refhyne.eu>

- 2021: Chemiepark Rheinland (Wesseling) 10 MW PEM-electrolyser REFHYNE¹⁾ → up to 1.300 tons H₂/y
- 8/2024: Oberhausen, 20 MW PEM-electrolyser TRAILBLAZER, Air Liquide
- 2024 Porsgrunn (Norway), 24 MW PEM-electrolyser (so far biggest in Europe)
- 2024 decision taken: 100 MW PEM-electrolyser REFHYNE II → up to 16.000 tons H₂/y (operational in 2027)
- 2023 Port of Rotterdam → start of construction of 5 plants, total capacity 1 GW → up to 180.000 tons H₂/y (operational in 2025-30)

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

How to produce green hydrogen?

- projekt: OffsH2ore¹⁾
- feasibility study
 - off-shore wind farm
 - 500-MW platform for H₂O-PEM-electrolyses
 - capacity: 50.000 tons/y H₂
 - modular concept → easy scalability
 - energy: reversed osmosis → waste heat from electrolyses
 - clean and dry H₂ → compressed to 500 bar
- transportation:
 - via pipeline
 - via ship (max load 400 tons)



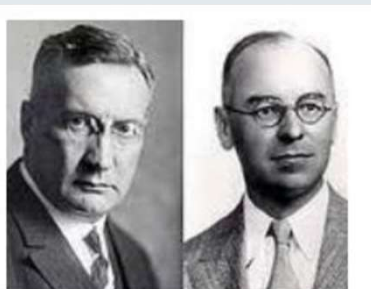
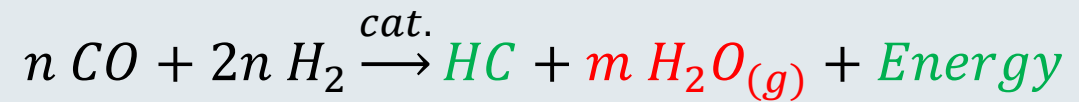
Schematic illustration of an offshore concept for hydrogen production and pressurised gas transport (ship or pipeline)

	ecology (LCA)	economy (TEA)
pipeline	+	-
ship	-	+

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

How to produce e-fuels?

- syn gas: CO (from CO₂ via RWGS) + H₂
- Fischer-Tropsch-reaction:
- developed 1920 → commercialized in 1930s
- historical: coal liquefaction (2 steps)
- per kg HC → 1,25 kg H₂O → loss of H₂
- side products (CA, alcohols, aldehydes, ketons, ...)



Franz Fischer Hans Tropsch

www.wikipedia.de



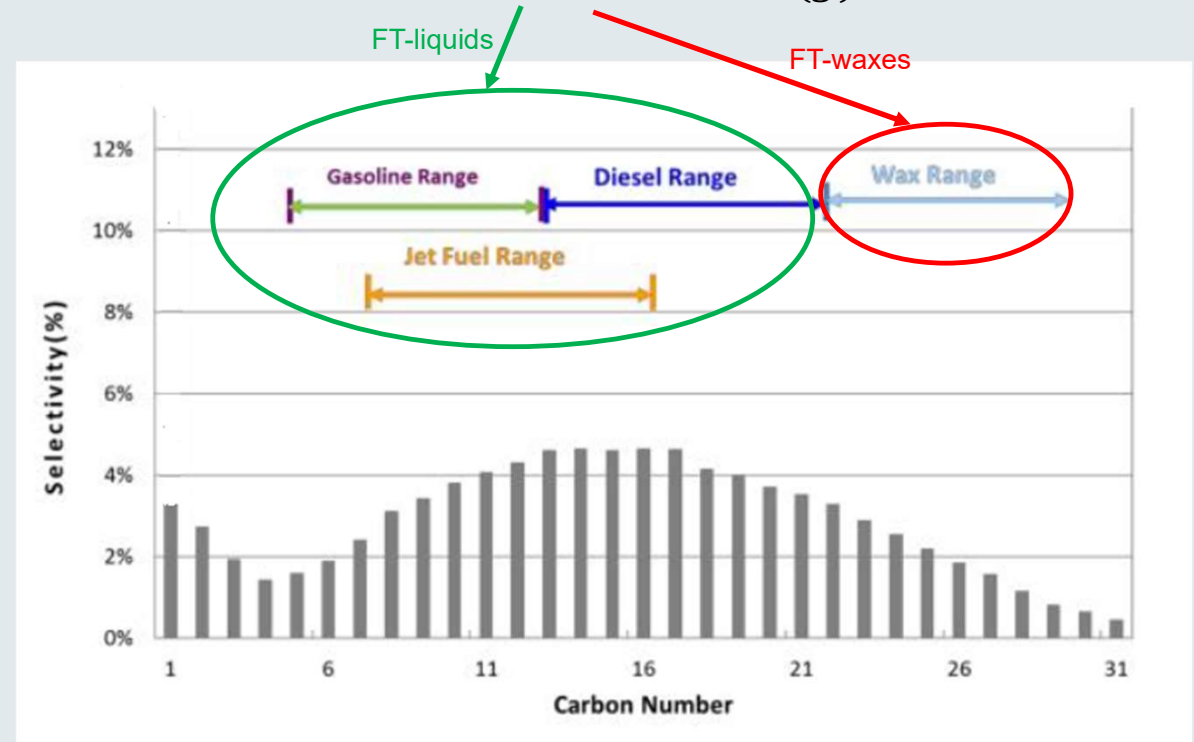
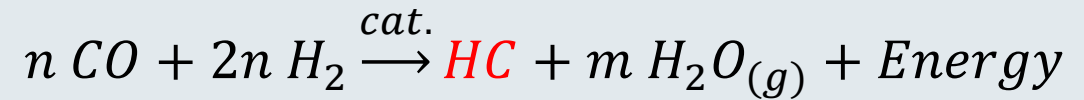
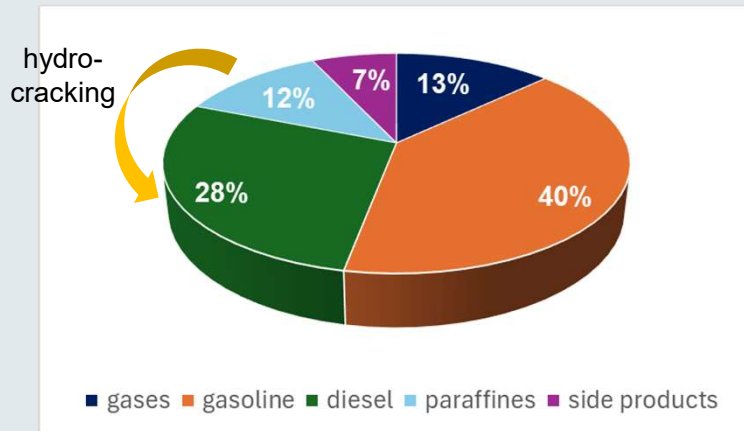
SASOL - Slurry phase distillate reactor¹⁾

1) <https://websites.umich.edu/~elements/fogler&gurmen/html/01chap/html/reactors/sasol.htm>

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

How to produce e-fuels?

- Fischer-Tropsch-(FT)-reaction
- what means „HC“?
- product distribution = f (T, p, cat., reactor system, t)
- distribution for L(ow)T(emp.)-FT:



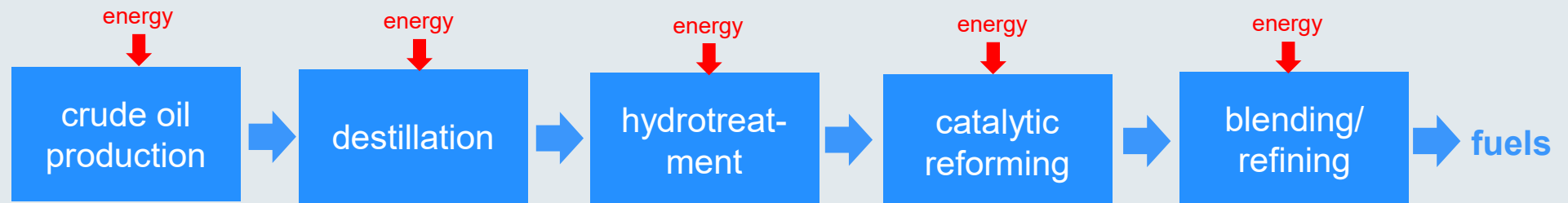
product distribution of LTFT (200 - 250 °C)¹⁾

1) Rui Xu, Department of Chemical Engineering, Auburn Univ, 2013

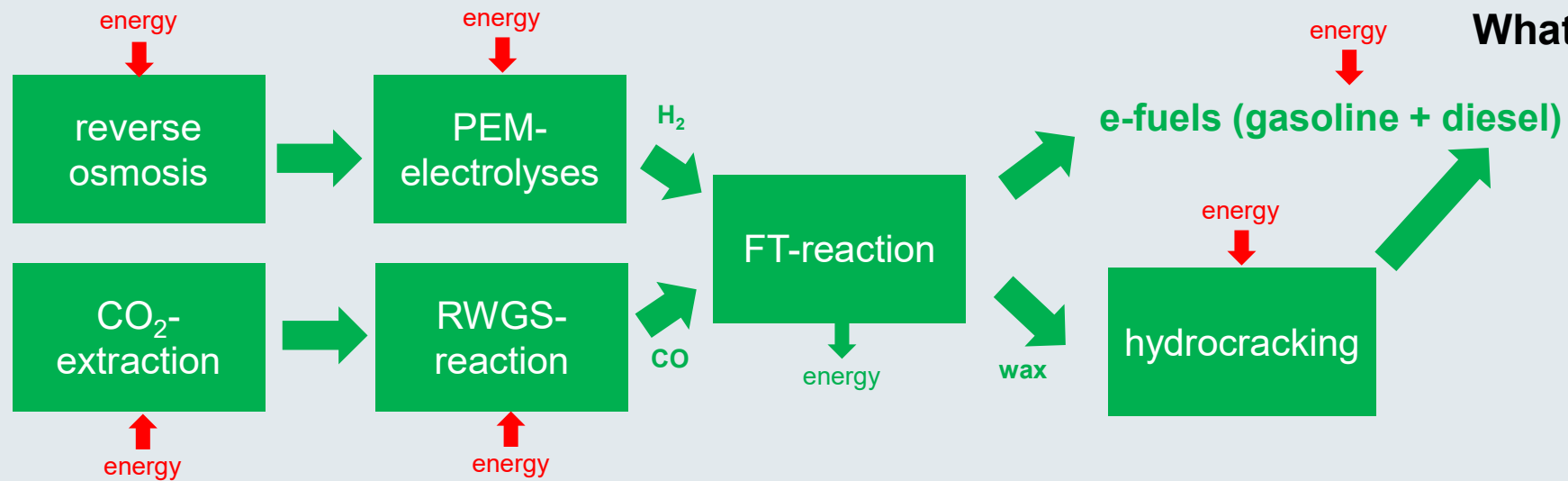
Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

Interim summery

- conventional fuels:



- e-fuels:



Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

Energy needed?

- to produce 1 L fuel (gradle to tank)
- conventional fuel 1,6 - 1,8 kWh¹⁾ ≈ 2 kWh
- e-fuel 18 - 25 kWh¹⁾ ≈ 22 kWh
- fuel consumption in GER 2023²⁾

fuel	quantity [tons]	density [kg/L]	volume [m ³]
diesel	36*10 ⁶	0,84	42,9*10 ⁶
gasoline	18*10 ⁶	0,74	24,3*10 ⁶
kerosene	9*10 ⁶	0,80	11,3*10 ⁶
total	63*10 ⁶		


Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

Additional energy needed?

$$Energy = 78,5 \cdot 10^9 L \cdot 20 kWh/L = 1.570 \cdot 10^9 kWh \equiv 1.570 TWh$$

- renewable energy available in GER¹⁾

$$Energy (2023) = 513 TWh \Rightarrow 53\% renewable \Rightarrow 272 TWh$$

- 

$$? \quad \frac{152 TWh}{30782 wt} \approx 5 \frac{GWh}{wt} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{1570 TWh \cdot wt}{15 GWh} \approx 105.000 wt$$

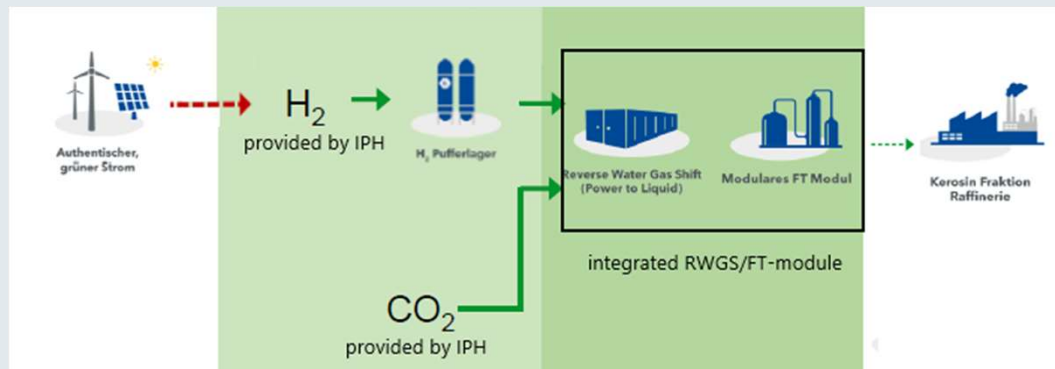
- but.....

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

Use of excess energy!

Energy lost (2023)¹⁾ = 8.6 TWh \equiv 430.000 m³ fuel

- large scale FT-plants in Germany? → small scale
- REPOSE²⁾ \equiv Renewable Power Supply for e-fuels
- capacity: 2.500 tons/y fuel



INERATEC plant at IPH
(operational Dec. 24)

1) PV- and wind energy, Umweltbundesamt, 2023, Statistisches Bundesamt 2023

2) CENA, Provadis Hochschule, Ineratec, Fraunhofer Institut

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

Transportation

- fuels (diesel, gasoline, kerosene) and CO_{2(sc/l)} → pipelines oder ships → established technology
- H₂?



energy source	calorific value [kWh/kg]	density [kg/m ³]	volume [L]	in relation to cv
H ₂	33	0,09	11.200	3735
gasoline	11	750	1,3	1,3

- liquification

energy source	calorific value [kWh/kg]	density [kg/m ³]	volume [L]	in relation to cv
H ₂ (liquid)	33	71	14,1	4,7
gasoline	11	750	1,3	1,3

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

Transportation

- boiling point H₂?
- storage, loading, loss of H₂ during transportation via ship.....?
- compression?



<https://www.chemie-master.de/FrameHandler.php?loc=https://www.chemie-master.de/pse/pse.php?modul=O>

energy source [600 bar]	calorific value [kWh/kg]	density [kg/m ³]	volume [L]	in relation to cv
H ₂	33	48	18,7	6,2
gasoline	11	750	1,3	1,3

- hydrogen induced embrittlement → cracking



increases with temperature and pressure

→ specific steel alloys or composite reinforced pipelines

- transportation of H₂ is a major challenge!



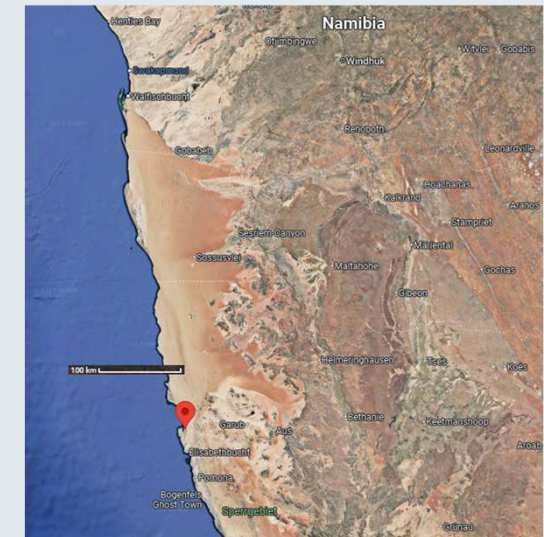
Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

Other possibilities für H₂-transportation?

- as a chemical compound → e.g. NH₃
- March 2023: Signing of feasibility and implementation agreement between Namibia and Hyphen Hydrogen Energy¹⁾
- to proof within 2 years the possibility to install that:
 - total invest: 10 billion \$ →
 - desaltination plant
 - H₂O-electrolyses → H₂
 - Linde air separation plant → N₂
 - Haber-Bosch-ammonia plant → NH₃
 - new harbour at Lüderitz bay + infrastrucur
 - capacity/year: 2 million tons ammonia, 350.000 tons H₂, 7.000 MW PV-electricity (total Namibia: 600 MW)
 - transportation on liquid NH₃ → boiling point: -33 °C (H₂: -252 °C)
 - conversion into H₂ → via thermal catalytic cracking



model of the planned plant in Namib Desert¹⁾



<https://www.google.de/maps>

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

The life cycle assessment view

- kg CO₂-equivalents for 1 L fuel

	conventional fuels		e-fuels	
	gasoline	diesel	gasoline	diesel
well to tank (WTT) ¹⁾	0,5 - 1	0,6 - 1,2	0 - 2,4	0 - 2,7
tank to wheel (TTW) ²⁾	2,4	2,7	0	0
total (WTW)	2,9 - 3,4	3,3 - 4,5	0 - 2,4	0 - 2,7

1) indirect emissions → extraction, production + rafination, transport

2) direct emissions → combustion

- 100% renewable energy is a necessity

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

The techno-economic view

- tax & OPEX values for 1 L gasoline

only costs for e-fuel production



	conventional fuel		e-fuel
	1,60 €		3,18 €
mineral oil tax ¹⁾	65 ct	mineral oil tax ¹⁾	65 ct
CO ₂ tax	10 ct	CO ₂ tax	-
	85 ct		253 ct
crude oil		electricity + CO ₂	20 ct
refinery		hydrogen	180 ct
transportation		transportation	11 ct
margin		margin	15 ct
VAT		VAT	27 ct

1) fix amount, no percentage, diesel mineral oil tax: 47 ct

2) Promotionsarbeit S. Schemme, FZ Jülich 2020

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

Current situation?

“Ørsted scraps flagship European green fuels project”

- 201 mil. € investment
- 55.000 tons green Methanol (MeOH)
- CO₂ → combined heat and power plant + green H₂
- cancelled in 8/2024
- MeOH price to high



“Fulcrum BioEnergy abandons trash-to-fuel plant in Nevada. The waste gasification start-up abruptly laid off most staff in mid-May” (2024)

- capacity 42 million L of e-fuel per year
- employed about 120 people.
- permits no extended and technical problems



<https://cen.acs.org/energy/Fulcrum-BioEnergy-abandons-trashfuel-plant/102/web/2024/06>

Shell Nederland Raffinaderij B.V is to temporarily pause on-site construction work at its 820,000 tonnes a year biofuels facility at the Shell Energy and Chemicals Park Rotterdam in the Netherlands to address project delivery and **ensure future competitiveness given current market conditions** (July 2024).

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

Current situation in Ger?



Projekt	Hauptprodukt	Kapazität	Standort	Produktionstechnologie	Angekündigte Inbetriebnahme	CO ₂ -Quelle	Geplantes Einsatzfeld
1 Solarbelt	Kerosin	360 t/a	Werthe	Fischer-Tropsch	Seit 2021	Punktuelle Biomethan	Luftfahrt
2 NextGate	eFuels und Wachse	200 t/a	Hamburg	Fischer-Tropsch	Seit 2022	Biogenes CO ₂ per Tankwagen	Keine Angabe
3 Reallabor Westküste 100/ KeroSyn100	Kerosin	600 t/a	Demonstrationsanlage Raffinerie Heide	Methanol-to-Jet	2023/2024	Punktuelle Zementwerk	Luftfahrt
4 Inerotec	eFuels	3.500 t/a	Industriepark Hoechst	Fischer-Tropsch	2024	Biogas	Keine Angabe
5 Shell Rheinland Raffinerie	Kerosin	100.000 t/a ¹	Köln	Nicht bekannt	2025	Altholz	Luftfahrt
6 HyKero	Kerosin	42.000 t/a	Böhlen-Lippendorf	Fischer-Tropsch	2026	Punktuelle Biomethan	Luftfahrt u.a.
7 Jangada	Kerosin	34.000 t/a	ehemaliger Flugplatz in Drewitz (GRAL)	Fischer-Tropsch	2027	Biogene Punktquelle	Luftfahrt
8 Reallabor Westküste 100/ KeroSyn100	Kerosin	20.000 t/a	Demonstrationsanlage Raffinerie Heide	Methanol-to-Jet	2027	Punktuelle Zementwerk	Luftfahrt
9 reFuels - Kraftstoffe neu denken	Raffination Syn-Crude	Bis zu 50.000 t/a	MIRO Karlsruhe	Fischer-Tropsch	2027	Nicht bekannt	Nicht bekannt
10 OMV Burghausen	Kerosin	50.000 t/a	Voraussichtlich im Raum Burghausen (Bayern)	Nicht bekannt	Ende der 2020er-Jahre	Nicht bekannt	Luftfahrt
11 Concrete Chemicals	Kerosin u.a.	30.000 t/a SAF	Rüdersdorf	Fischer-Tropsch	2028	Punktuelle Zementwerk	Luftfahrt u.a.
12 DAWN	Kerosin	3.500 t/a	Jülich	Fischer-Tropsch	Nicht bekannt	Sun to liquid	Luftfahrt
13 E-Kerosin-aus-der-Luft	Kerosin	274 t/a	Rostock-Laage	Fischer-Tropsch	Nicht bekannt	Nicht bekannt	Luftfahrt u.a.
14 Technologie-Plattform (TPP)	SynCrude, Kerosin, Methanol u.a.	10.000 t/a	Leuna	Diverse Forschungsmodule	Baubeginn: 2024	Nicht bekannt	Keine Angabe
15 Green Fuels Lausitz	Methanol und Kerosin	200.000 t/a	Industriepark Schwarze Pumpe (Lausitz)	Methanol-Synthese/Fischer-Tropsch	Nicht bekannt	Abfallverwertung	Keine Angabe
16 Green MeOH	Methanol	200.000 t/a	Chemiepark in Stade	Methanol-Synthese	Nicht bekannt	Punktuelle Gaskraftwerk	Seefahrt
17 PtX 1.0	Kerosin	274 t/a	Böhlen-Lippendorf	Nicht bekannt	Nicht bekannt	Nicht bekannt	Luftfahrt
18 PtX Lab Lausitz	Kerosin	10.000 t/a	Lausitz	Fischer-Tropsch	In Planung	Biogene Punktquelle/DAC	Luftfahrt
19 SAF@STR	Kerosin	120.000 t/a	Stuttgart	Nicht bekannt	Nicht bekannt	Punktuelle Zementwerk	Luftfahrt

Are e-fuels a beneficial alternative to conventional fuels?

summary

- extreme amounts of renewable electrical energy required
 - so far not available → heavy investment necessary
- an overnight changeover is not feasible
 - stepwise approach → blending of e-fuels via a quota system and/or taxes
- challenging H₂ transportation
 - no sufficient solution so far → more research needed
- economy vs. ecology
 - politics can set the framework conditions through taxes
- fully integrative systems (DAC + electrolyses → e-fuels) necessary
 - outside GER → continued dependencies
- economy of scale

E-fuels as an interim solution?

Why e-fuels at all?

BEGLEITFORSCHUNG P2X-RINGVORLESUNG

Your opinion is important - We look forward to your participation!

Ihre Meinung ist wichtig - Wir freuen uns über Ihre Teilnahme!



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SCAN ME



www.soscisurvey.de/P2X-Ringvorlesung/

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PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE

Participation Certificate Request
VL4



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR
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