



The Fuel Science Center

Adaptive Conversion Systems for Renewable Energy and Carbon Sources

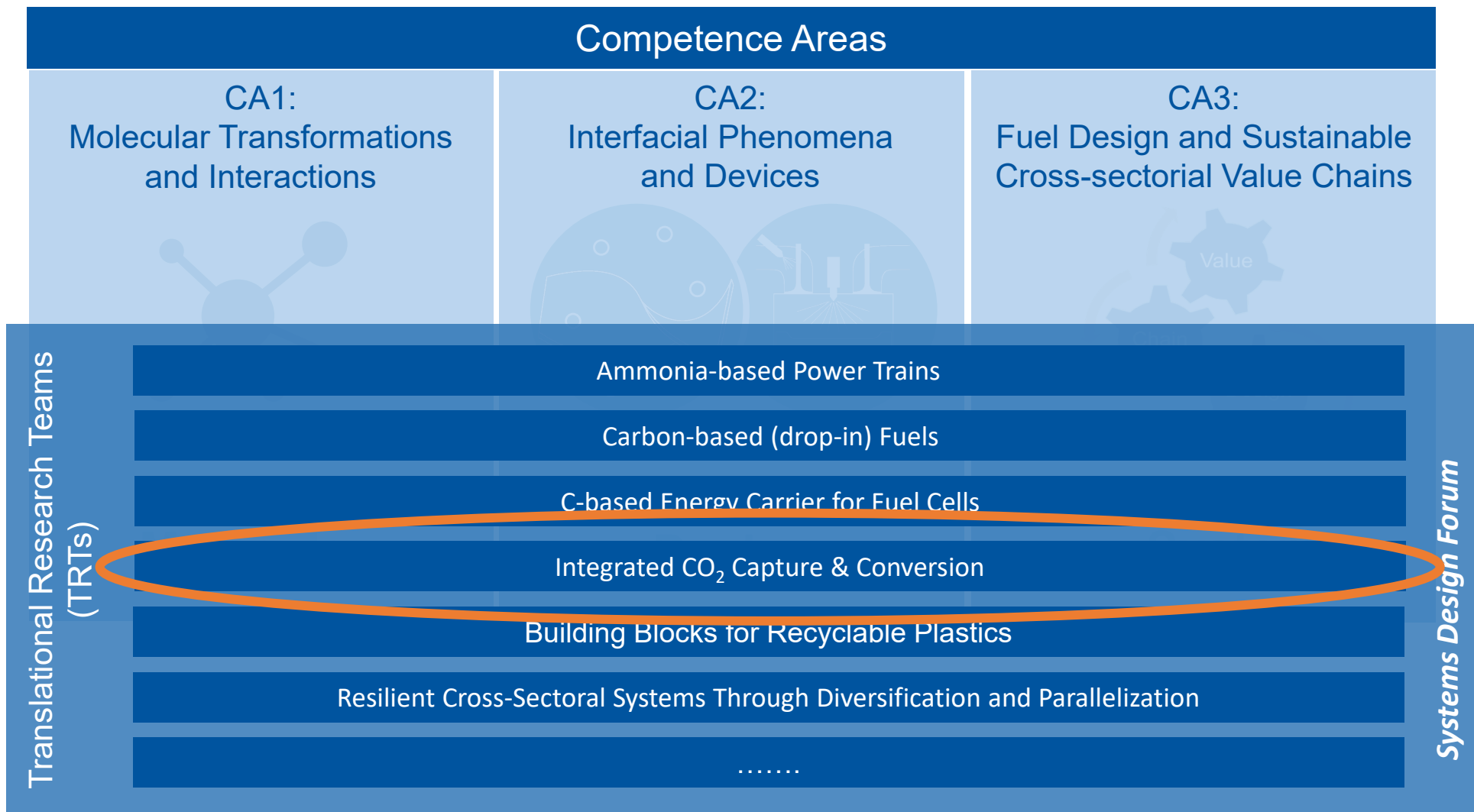
Workshop 2025+

Aachen, 07.06.2023



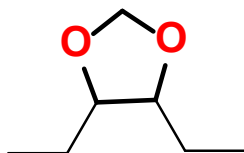


Structure of the Research Program: Examples for new TRTs

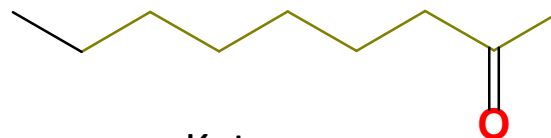




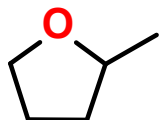
The Fuel Design Process: Molecular Structures for Fuels & Chemicals



Acetals
(e.g. OMEs => cyclic acetals)



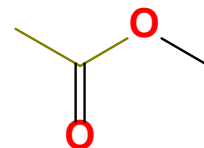
Ketones
(e.g. methylketones)



Furanics
(e.g. 2-MTHF)



Ammonia
(and amines)



Esters
(e.g. acetate)



Alcohols
(e.g. HyFiT)

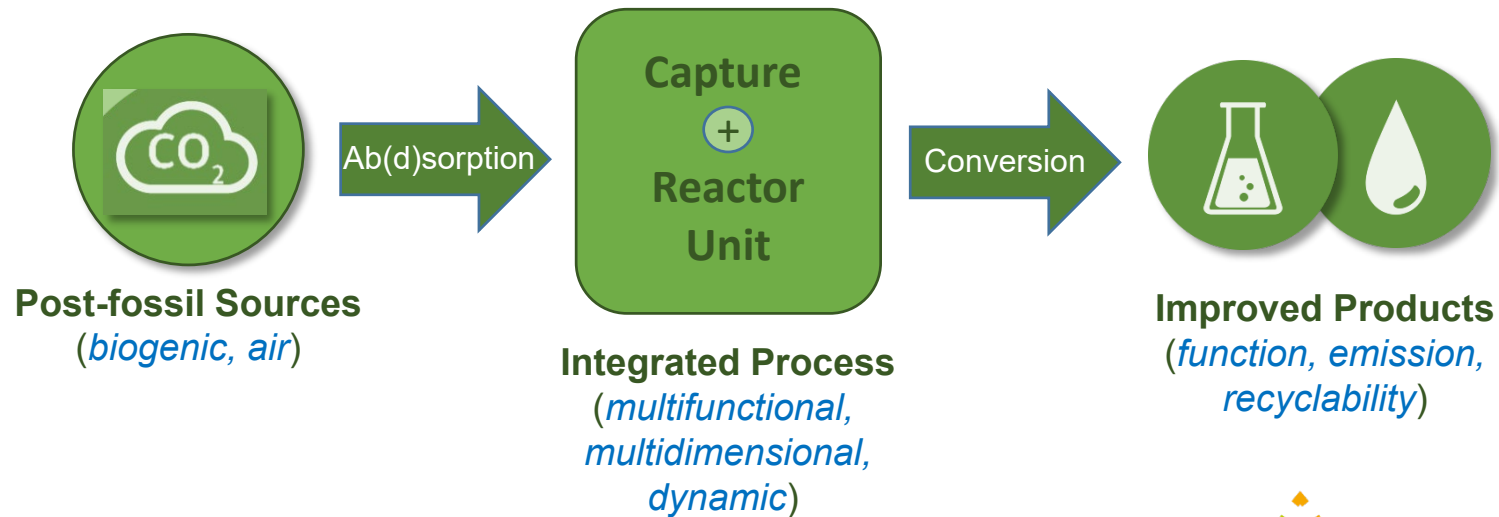


Integrated Carbon Capture and Conversion – Challenges and Opportunities

Carbon Capture and Conversion (CCU) – Traditional Approach

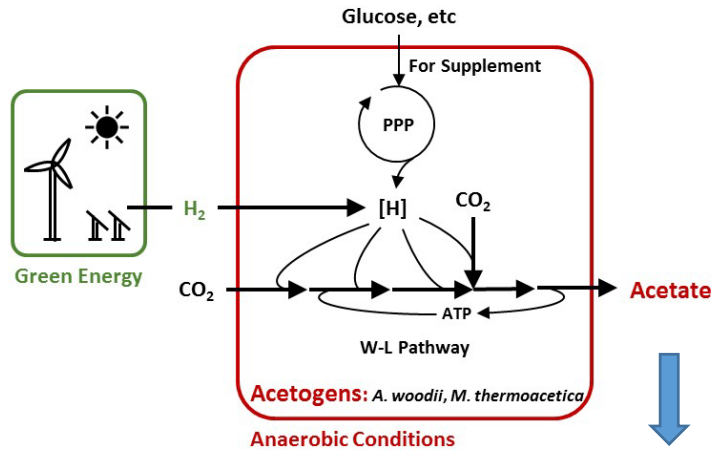


Integrated Capture and Conversion – Recent Approach (FSC focus)



Integrated Carbon Capture and Conversion (IC³) – Literature Examples

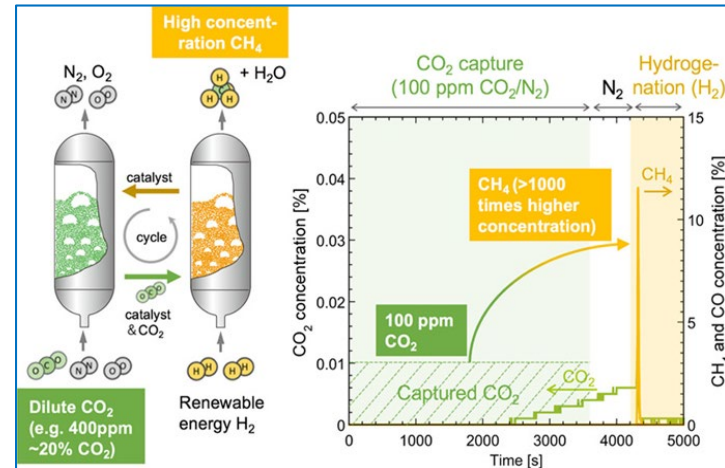
Biological



Park et al.
Nat. Metabolism. 2019 1, 643–651.

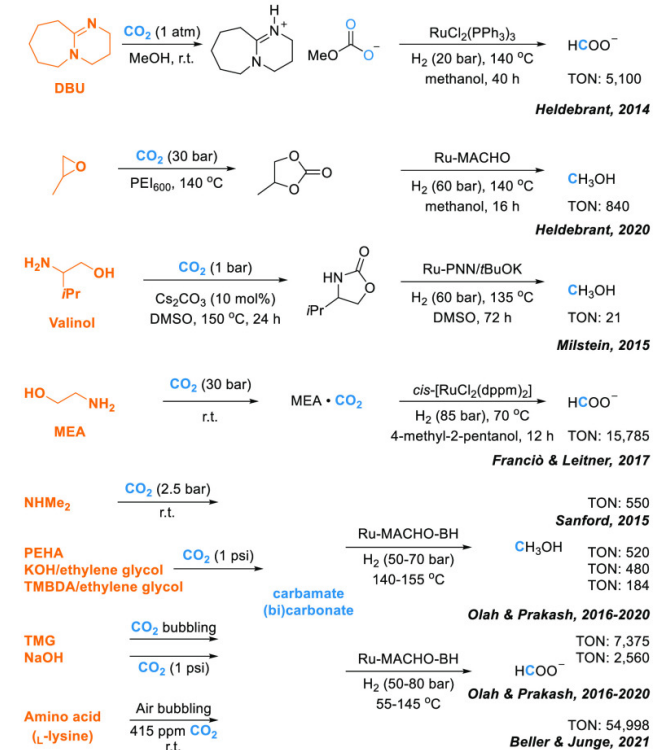
aerobic
conversion

Heterogeneous



A. Urakawa, et al.
ACS Sust. Chem. & Eng. 2021, 9, 3452-3463

Homogeneous



Review: M. Beller et al.,
JACS Au, 2022, 2, 1020–1031.

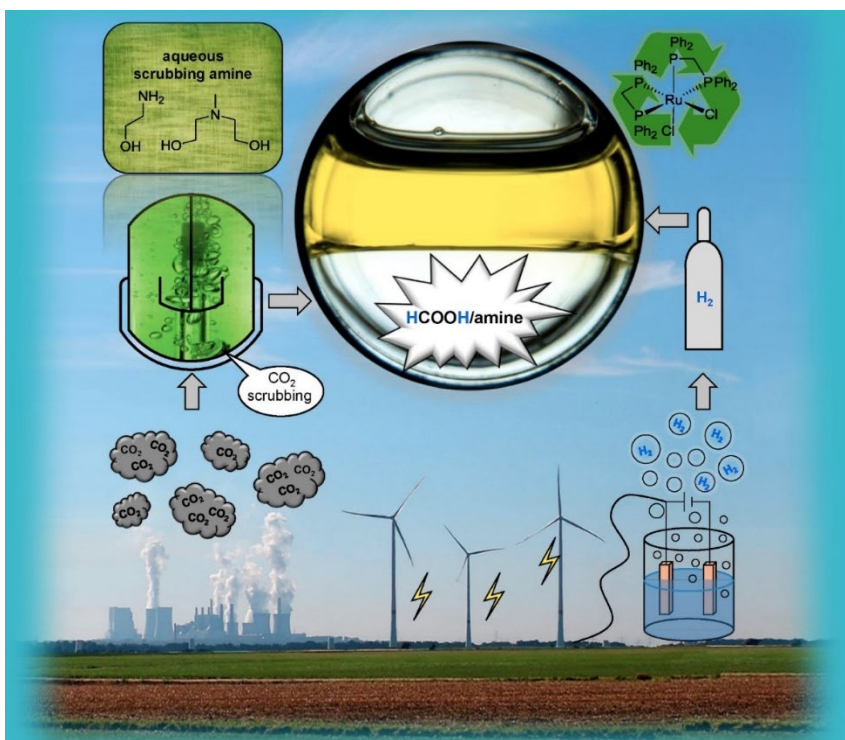
=> A number of reviews/perspectives have appeared since Sept 2022



Integrated Carbon Capture and Conversion (IC³) – FSC Examples

Current state-of-the-art

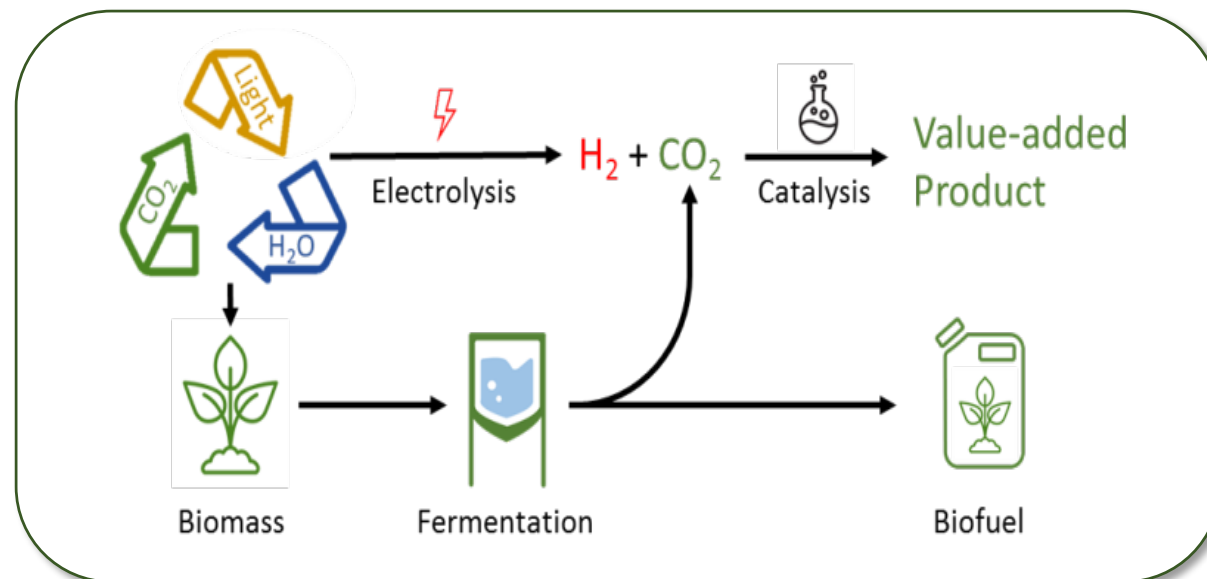
Converting captured CO₂



with A. Jupke;
ChemSusChem, **2017**, *10*, 1085-1093.
Green Chem. **2019**, *21*, 6307-6317

New „integrative“ approach

Converting biogenic CO₂ „in situ“



with L. Blank;
Green Chem., **2021**, *23*, 9860-9864.



Integrated Carbon Capture and Conversion (IC³) – Questions

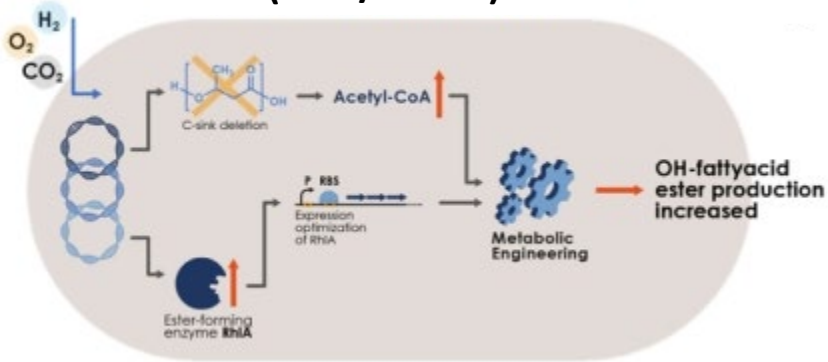
- 1) Is this concept part of current research activities in your specific area or discipline?
If so, how would you define the state-of-the-art?**
- 2) Is the concept part of current research activities in your team?
If not, which of your activities would you consider relevant?**
- 3) Scientific / methodological developments and breakthroughs from your research area**



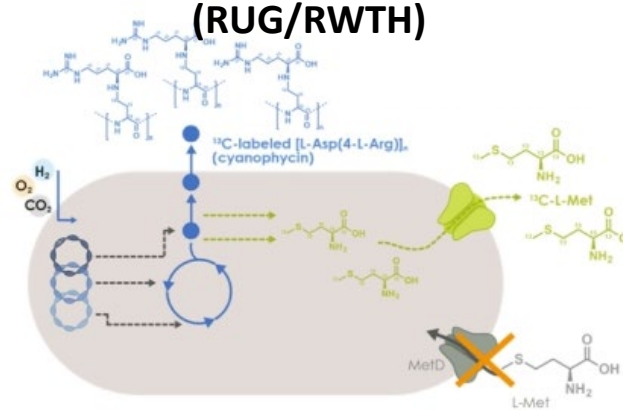
Integrated Carbon Capture and Conversion (IC³) – Bio-Catalysis as Example

Ongoing microbial H₂-driven CO₂-fixation studies in Lauterbach and Blank lab within the H2020 project ConCO₂rde (in total 11 PhDs):

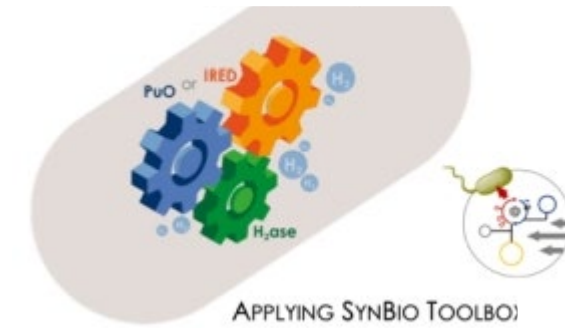
OH-fattyacid ester production (RUG/RWTH)



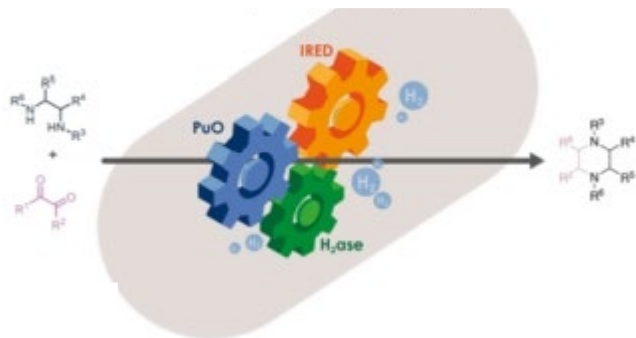
Synthesis of isotop-labeled amino acids (RUG/RWTH)



Production of piperdines (RWTH/INSA)



Production of functionalized piperazines (RWTH/RUG)



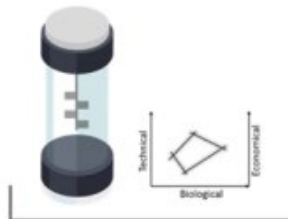
Gas Fermentation (ACIB/RWTH)

Gas uptake by cells = gas transfer rate

$$\left[\frac{dC_i}{dt} \right] = k_L a \left(\frac{y_i P}{H_i} - C_i \right)$$



STEP 1 Flask-scale gas-cultivation
• strain characterization
• gas composition (y_i)



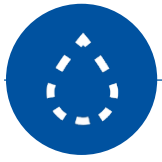
STEP 2 Lab-scale gas-bioreactor
• biological, technical limits
• K_La operational window



STEP 3 Pilot plant design

Lauterbach publication list on H₂ conversion:

- Nat. Commun., **2023**, 14, 2693.
- J. Am. Chem. Soc., **2022**, 144, 37, 17022–17032
- Chem. Commun., **2022**, 58, 10540-10543
- Angew. Chem. Int. Ed., **2021**, 60, 15854–15862
- Metab Eng., **2021**, 68, 199-209.
- Chem. Commun., **2020**, 56, 9667 - 9670
- Angew. Chem. Int. Ed., **2020**, 5, 20229:10929–10933
- Green Chem, **2019**, 21, 1396-1400



Integrated Carbon Capture and Conversion (IC³) – Bio-Catalysis as Example

- Adaptive combination of Knallgas bacteria (CO₂-fixing) and Pseudomonas production strains (Lauterbach and Blank)
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **2023**, 62, e202215013 (*Carbon-Negative Biosynthesis*)
- Bubble-free gas fermentation (membrane technology for safety, efficiency) in collaboration with M. Wessling
Biotechnol Bioeng. **2023** 120:1269-1287 (Membrane stirrer system)
- Production of chemicals/biomass by recombinant Knallgas bacteria using formate from chemical synthesis
Curr. Opin. Chem. Biol. **2019** 49:91-96. (Review about Knallgas bacteria)
- Polymer (PHA) production from CO₂ by Knallgas bacteria for further functionalisation
J Biotechnol. **2015** 20:119-27 (High PHA production by *C. necator*)



Integrated Carbon Capture and Conversion (IC³) – PIs and Disciplines

Biology: Blank, Lauterbach, Rother

Process: Jupke, Mitsos, Wessling, *Khetan*, Leonhard

Chemistry: Bolm, Herres-Pawlis, Klankermayer, Leitner, Palkovits, *Picini*, Simon, *Tüysüz*

Electro-Catalysis: Eichel, Mayrhofer, *Mechler*, N.N./CEC

Analytcs: DeBeer, Wiegand, Zobel

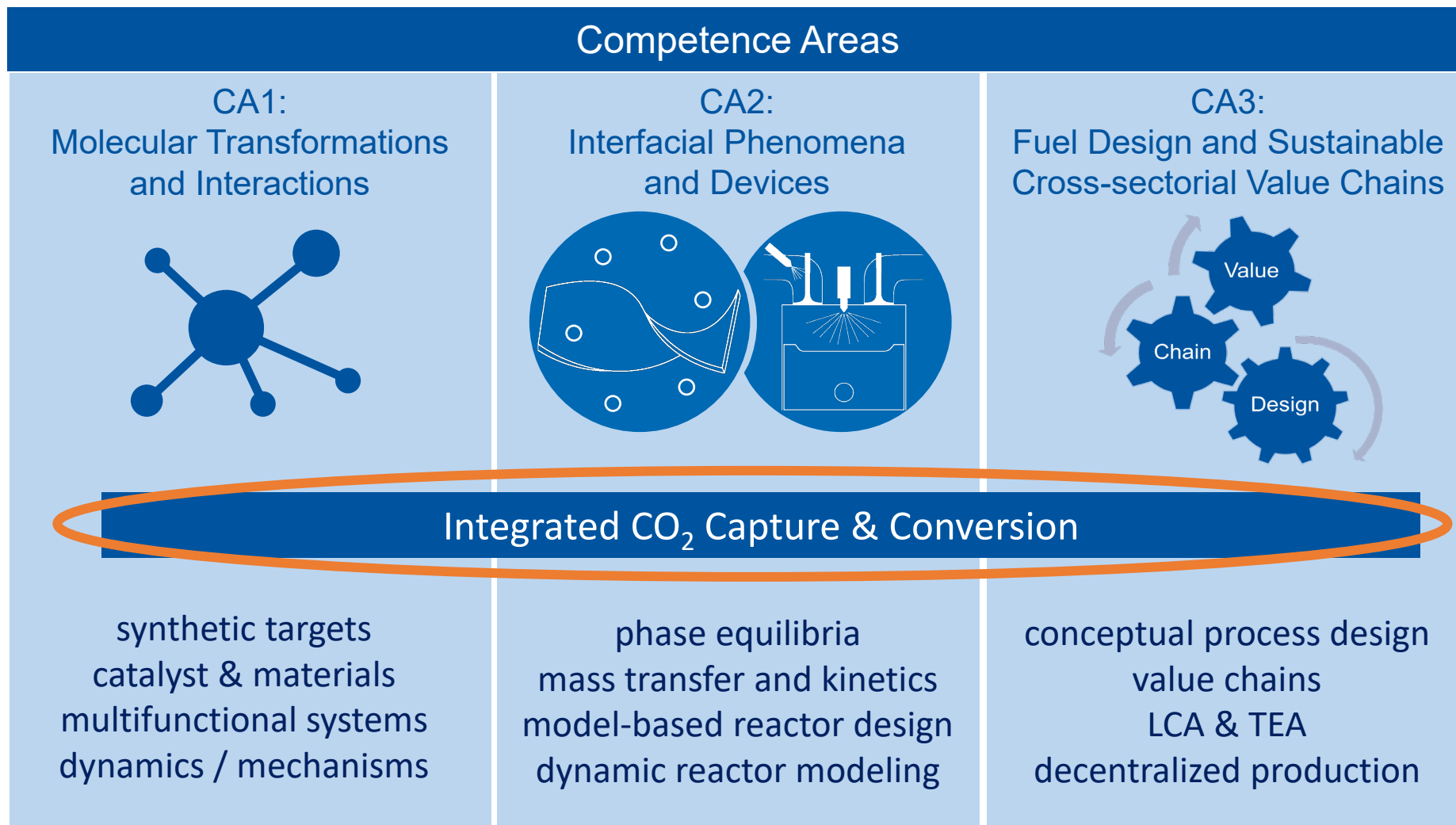
System: von der Assen, Walther

=> Electrochemical approaches?

=> Overlap/Synergy with other TRTs?



Scientific Challenges and FSC Competences





Structure of the Research Program: Examples for new TRTs

