

# High-pressure hydrogen production from formic acid and the separation of H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> under high-pressure conditions

Hajime Kawanami,<sup>a\*</sup> Masayuki Iguchi,<sup>a</sup> Heng Zhong,<sup>a</sup> Yuichiro Himeda,<sup>b</sup> Qiang Xu,<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Research Institute for Chemical Process Technology, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology

<sup>b</sup> Research Institute of Energy Frontier, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology

<sup>c</sup> Research Institute of Electrochemical Energy, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology

\* [h-kawanami@aist.go.jp](mailto:h-kawanami@aist.go.jp)

Formic acid (FA) is considered as a promising liquid organic hydrogen carrier for the fuel cells. FA is well-known compound to transfer into H<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>. With its properties, we concerned FA as the source of high-pressure or supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub> without compressor and these high-pressure gases can utilize for not only the high-pressure hydrogen for FCVs, but also the various chemicals for solvent and reagents. In our presentation, we would like to show the development of the continuous production of high-pressure H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> over 120 MPa without any compressor, and easy separation method from the generated gases of H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>.

For the development of the high-pressure gas generation system by the decomposition of FA, we used the Ir complex ([Cp\*Ir(4,4'-dihydroxy-2,2'-bipyridine)(H<sub>2</sub>O)][SO<sub>4</sub>]) as a homogeneous catalyst. The catalyst can successfully produce the high-pressure gas with a high rate (TOF = 2500 h<sup>-1</sup> at 30 MPa) even at the temperature of 80°C for several hours. In the high-pressure conditions (supercritical conditions), Ir complex is deactivated gradually, then we developed durable catalyst under the conditions, and the catalyst can generate supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub> for longer time. We also demonstrated the high-pressure H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> gas separation by cooling the gas to change the supercritical to gas-liquid phase.

We also applied the heterogeneous catalyst for the high-pressure H<sub>2</sub> generation toward the industrial application. A palladium nano-particle on graphene oxide (Pd/PDA-rGO)) was used for the reaction, and the catalyst can effectively catalyze the decomposition of FA to produce high-pressure H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> over 35 MPa and the catalyst can be easily separated after the reaction.

Ours system has a potential to be used as a simple and easy to handle system for the generation of high-pressure CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub> and these separated high-pressure gases can be used for the variety of application such as fuel cell vehicles.