



**Universidad**  
Zaragoza



Escuela de  
Ingeniería y Arquitectura  
**Universidad Zaragoza**

# *Power to Gas in Aragón*

**CO<sub>2</sub> CAPTURE-USE AND INDUSTRIAL EMISSIONS MITIGATION GROUP**

Mechanical Engineering Department

Escuela de Ingeniería y Arquitectura. Universidad de Zaragoza (Spain)

**Luis M Romeo (luismi@unizar.es)**

ELYNTEGRATION Workshop, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

# POWER TO GAS IN ARAGÓN

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- ✓ 1. CO<sub>2</sub> CAPTURE-USE AND INDUSTRIAL EMISSIONS MITIGATION GROUP
- ✓ 2. POWER TO GAS AND CO<sub>2</sub> RECYCLE
- ✓ 3. RENEWABLE ENERGY & CO<sub>2</sub> POTENTIAL IN THE PYRENEES
- ✓ 4. POWER TO GAS – CARBON CAPTURE HYBRID SYSTEMS
  - ✓ OXYFUEL
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- ✓ 5. CURRENT RESEARCH
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# CO<sub>2</sub> CAPTURE-USE AND INDUSTRIAL EMISSIONS MITIGATION GROUP

## Main lines of research

- ✓ Energy integration and emissions mitigation in industry
- ✓ Energy Storage
- ✓ Carbon capture and utilization
- ✓ **Power-to-Gas**



## Relevant recent projects

2018 – 2020 Solar Calcium-looping integration for Thermo-Chemical Energy Storage

Horizon 2020, [European Union](#)

2017 – 2019 Methane based on renewable energy and carbon capture and utilization, in residential, industrial and transport sectors

MINECO, [Spanish ministry](#)

2016 – 2018 Hydroxycombustion: towards 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of oxy-fuel combustion plants

MINECO, [Spanish ministry](#)

2015 – 2016 Energy storage (Power-to-Gas) and carbon capture integration in chemical industry with hydrogen production

ERCROS S.A., [Private project](#)

2013 – 2016 Amine-impregnated Alumina Solid Sorbent for CO<sub>2</sub> Capture

Research Fund for Coal and Steel, [European Union](#)

2014 – 2015 Modelling and optimization of CHP plants SAICA-1, SAICA-2, SAICA-3 and SAICA-4

S.A. Industrias Celulosa Aragonesa, [Private project](#)

2012 – 2015 Optimisation of oxygen-based CFBC Technology with CO<sub>2</sub> capture (O2GEN)

Seventh Framework Programme, [European Union](#)

2014 Innovative Processes: Implementation of Power to Gas technology in the Aragonese Pyrenean region

Ministerio de Industria, Comercio y Turismo, [Spanish ministry](#)

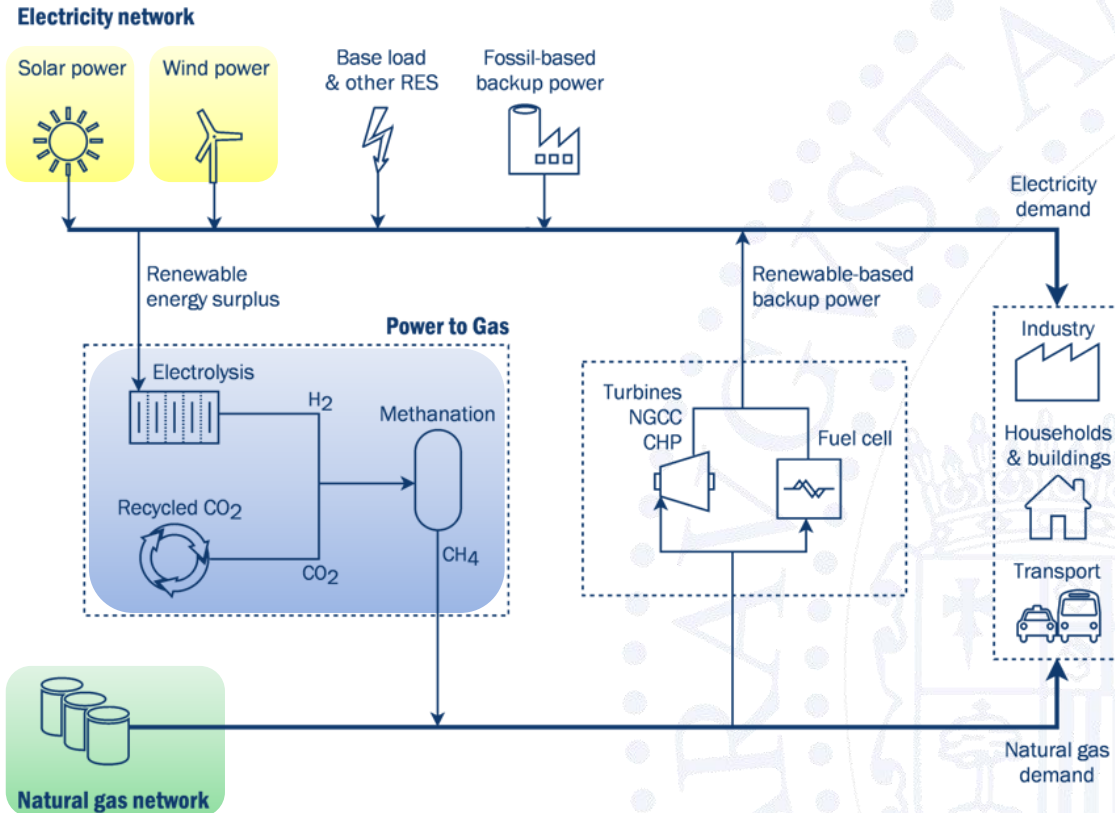


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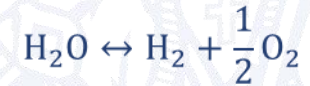
# POWER TO GAS AND CO<sub>2</sub> RECYCLE



## Energy storage

Surplus electricity from renewable sources is transferred to the natural gas network

## Electrolysis

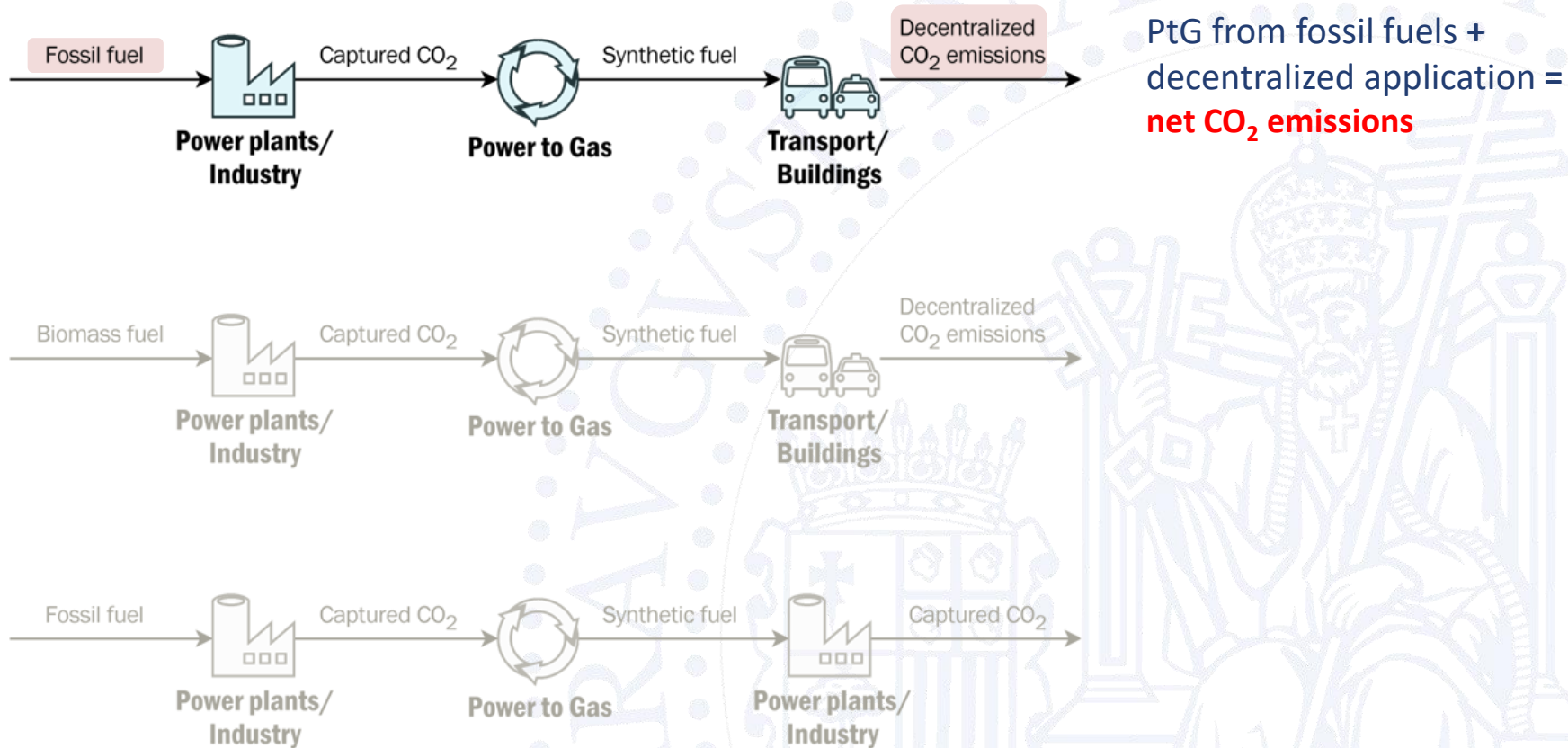


## Methanation

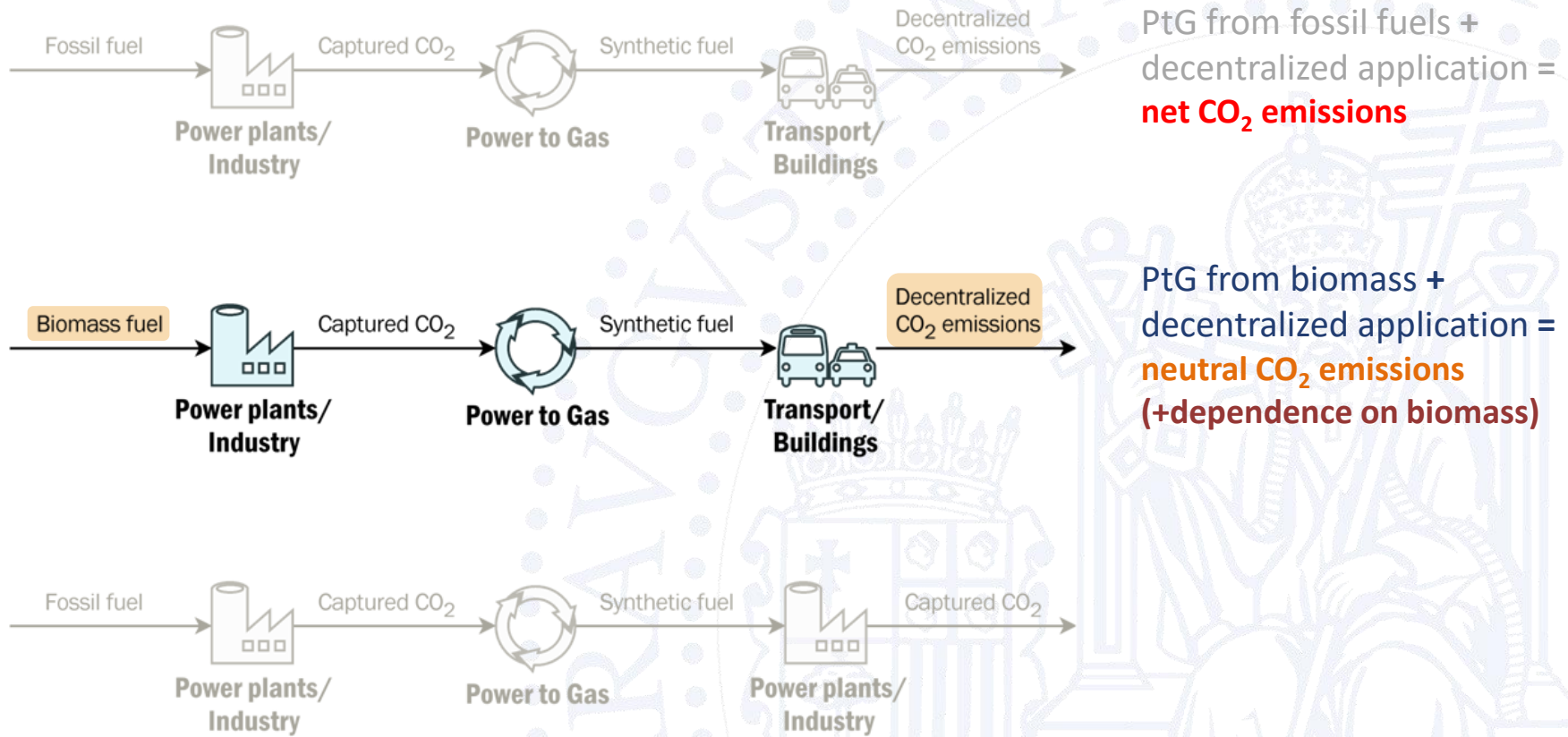


Bailera et al. (2017) *Renew. Sust. Energy. Rev.*, 69, 292-312

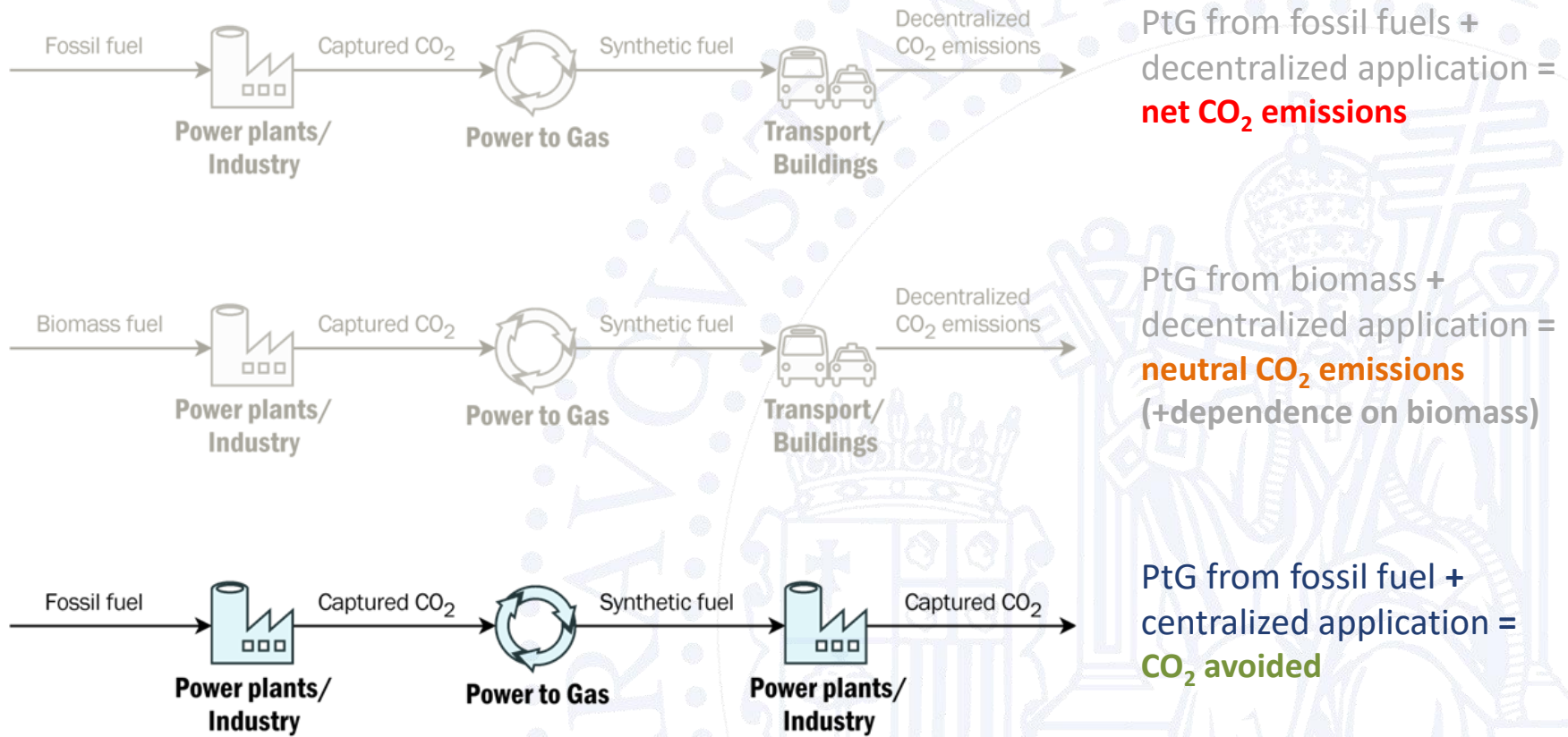
# POWER TO GAS AND CO<sub>2</sub> RECYCLE



# POWER TO GAS AND CO<sub>2</sub> RECYCLE

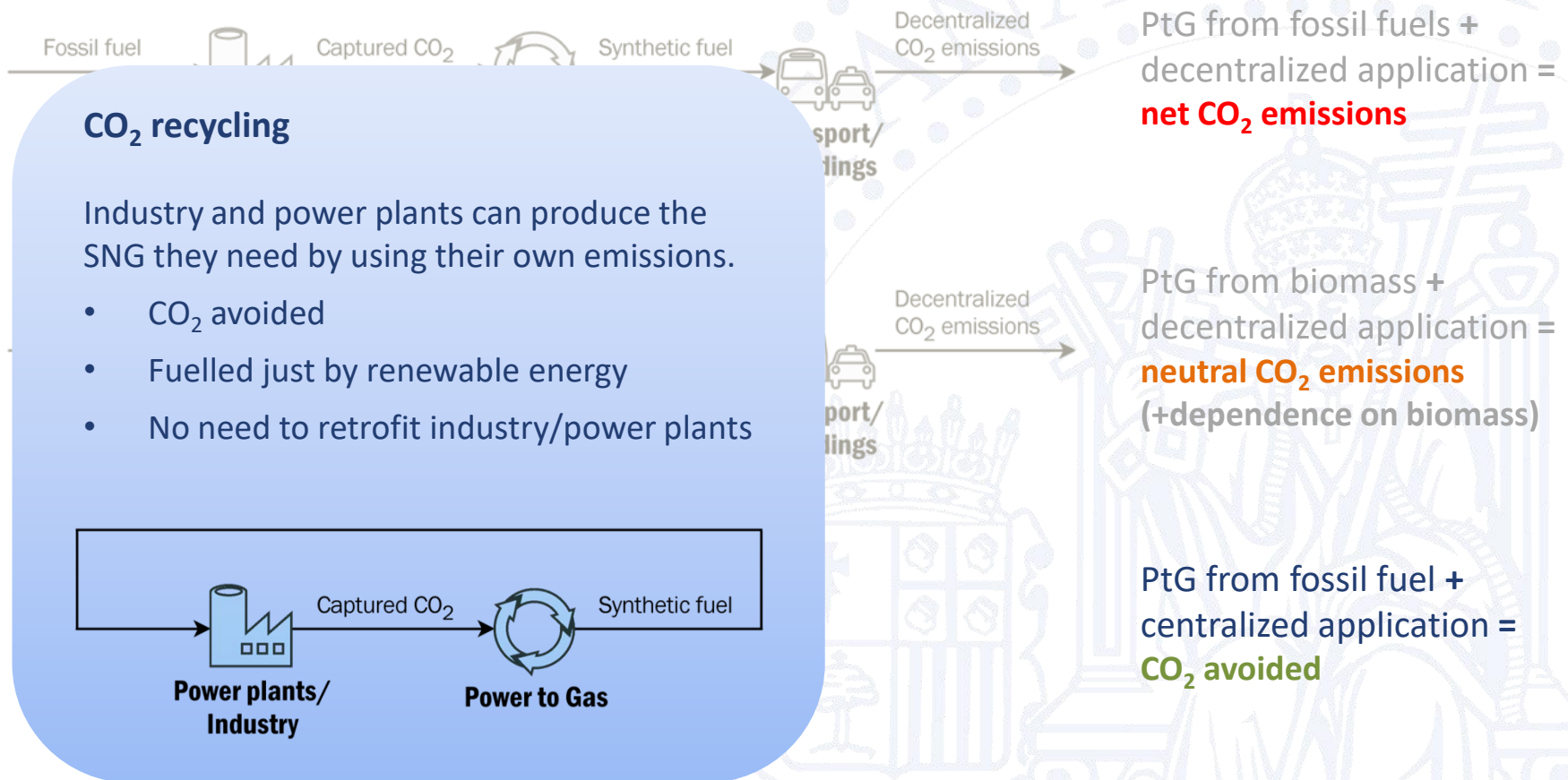


# POWER TO GAS AND CO<sub>2</sub> RECYCLE





# POWER TO GAS AND CO<sub>2</sub> RECYCLE



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# RENEWABLE ENERGY & CO<sub>2</sub> POTENTIAL IN THE PYRENEES



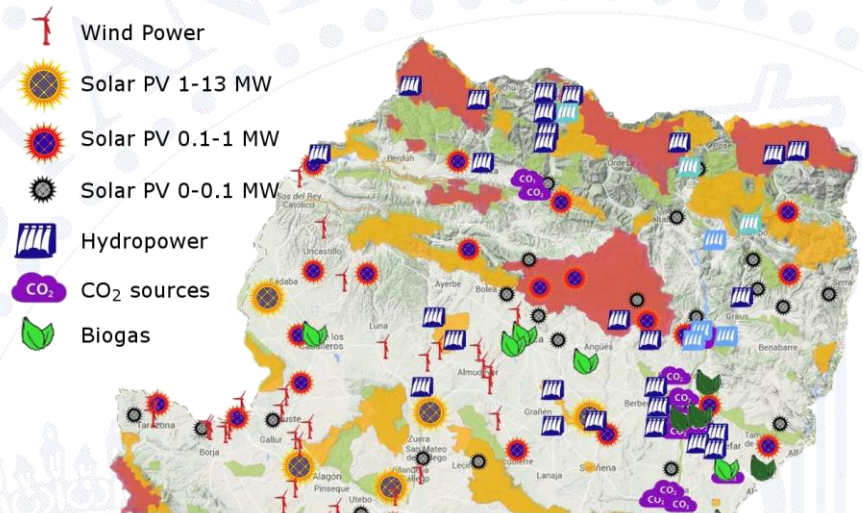
✓ FdH<sub>2</sub> collaboration

✓ A detailed analysis of the availability of renewable energy resources (wind energy, solar and hydropower) has been carried out to select the most appropriate renewable source.

- ✓ Wind energy is located far from the Pyrenees region
- ✓ Solar energy is influenced by orientation and not suitable for the reduction of available working hours

✓ It has been concluded that hydropower is the best option and most flexible for this kind of projects.

✓ There are several important sources of CO<sub>2</sub> in the industrialized area but most of them are far from the renewable sources. One specific case has been selected in the Pyrenees region because the industry has also possibilities of excess hydrogen.



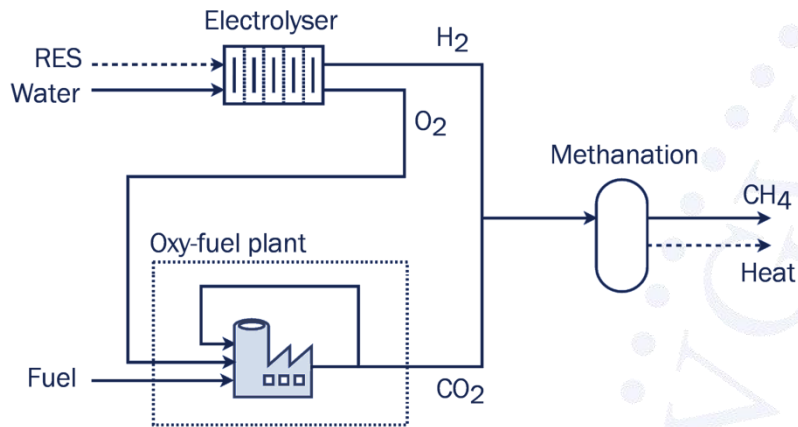
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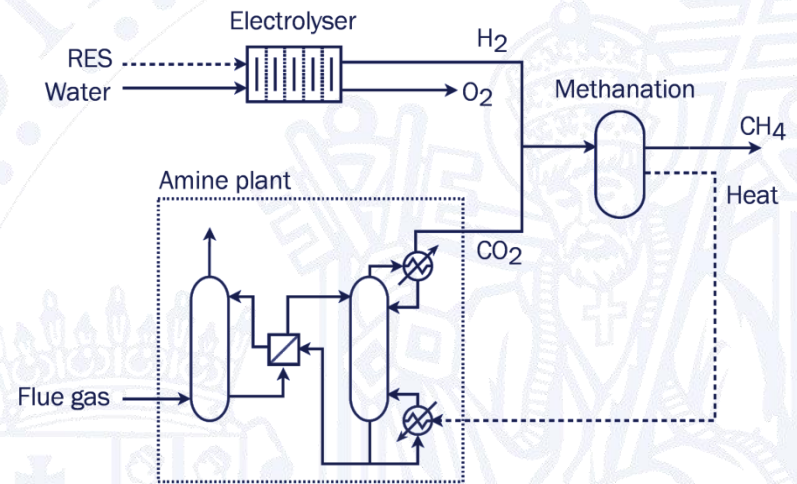
# POWER TO GAS – CARBON CAPTURE HYBRID SYSTEMS

## 1. PtG – OXYFUEL COMBUSTION



- ✓ O<sub>2</sub> from electrolysis replaces ASU
- ✓ Heat from methanation can be integrated in the power cycle of the power plant

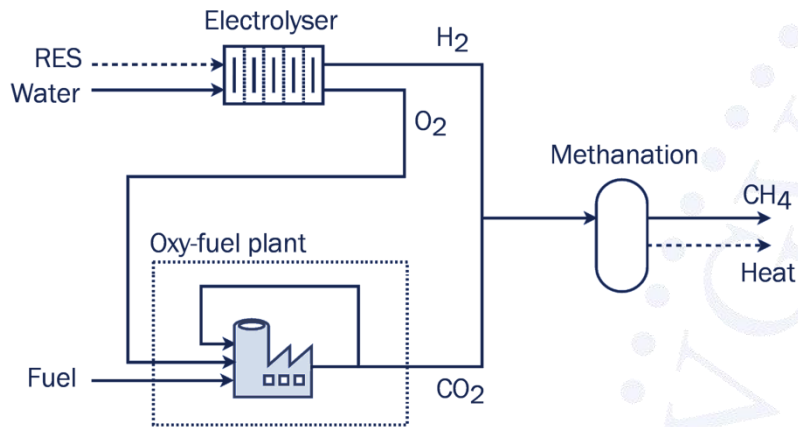
## 2. PtG – AMINE PLANT



- ✓ Heat from methanation is integrated in the reboiler of the stripper column
- ✓ O<sub>2</sub> integration depends on the application

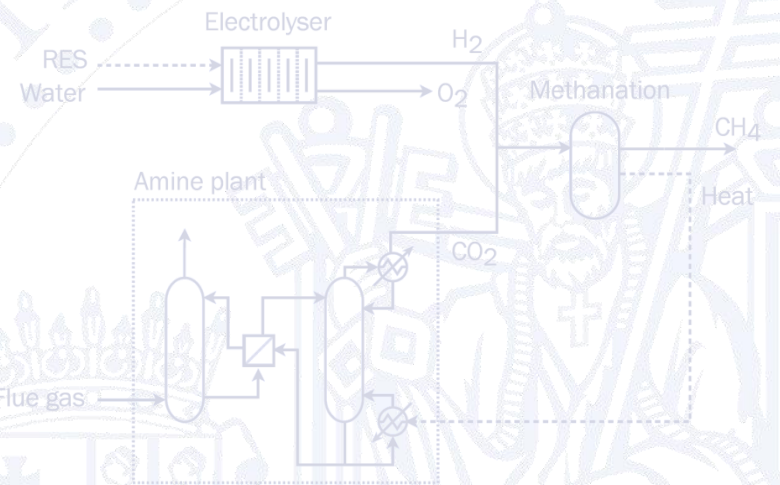
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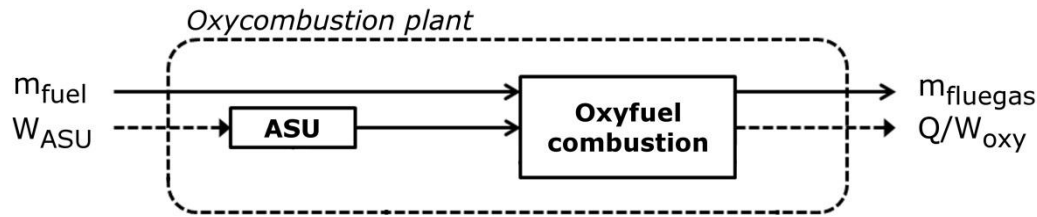
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# POWER TO GAS – CARBON CAPTURE HYBRID SYSTEMS – OXYFUEL

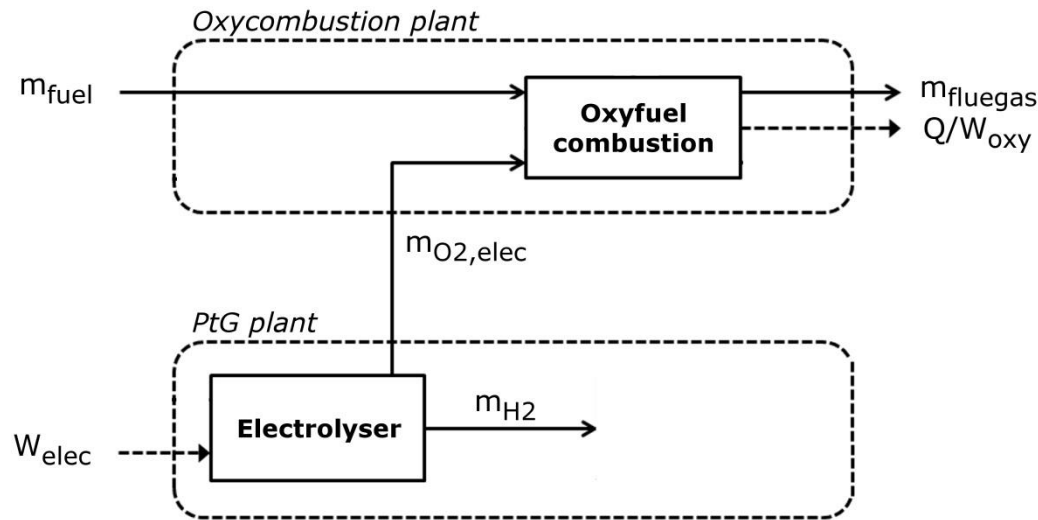


Bailera et al. (2015) Int. J. Hydrog. Energy, 40, 32:10168-10175

Bailera et al. (2016) Appl. Energy, 167, 221-229

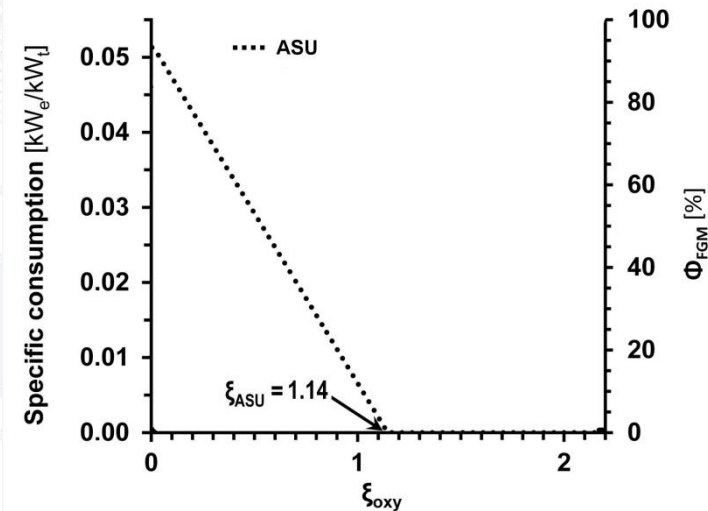
Bailera et al. (2017) Int. J. Hydrog. Energy, 42, 19:13625-13632

# POWER TO GAS – CARBON CAPTURE HYBRID SYSTEMS – OXYFUEL



Can ASU  
be avoided?

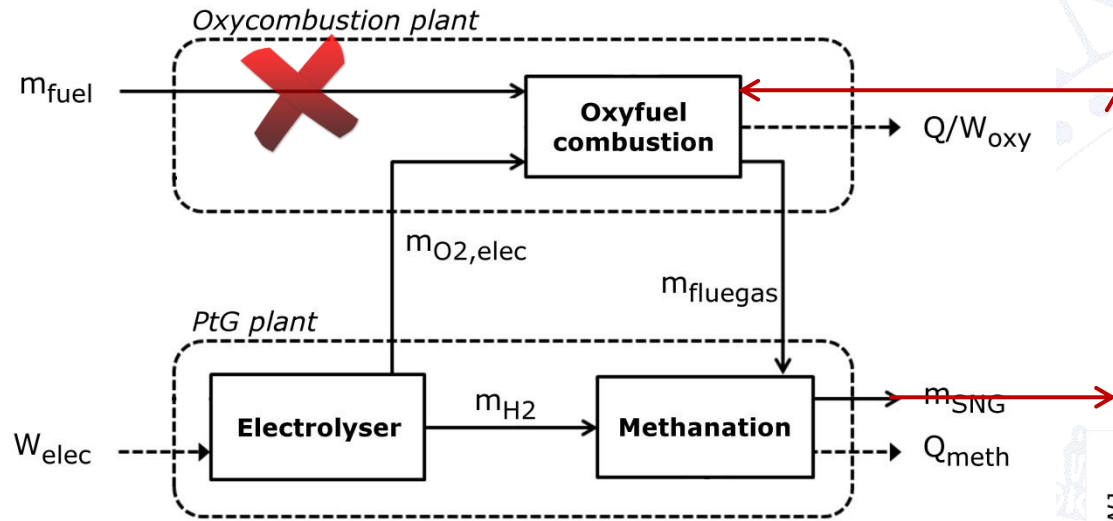
$$\xi_{oxy} = \frac{LHV_{H2} \cdot \dot{m}_{H2}}{\dot{Q}_{oxy}}$$



- Bailera et al. (2015) *Int. J. Hydrog. Energy*, 40, 32:10168-10175
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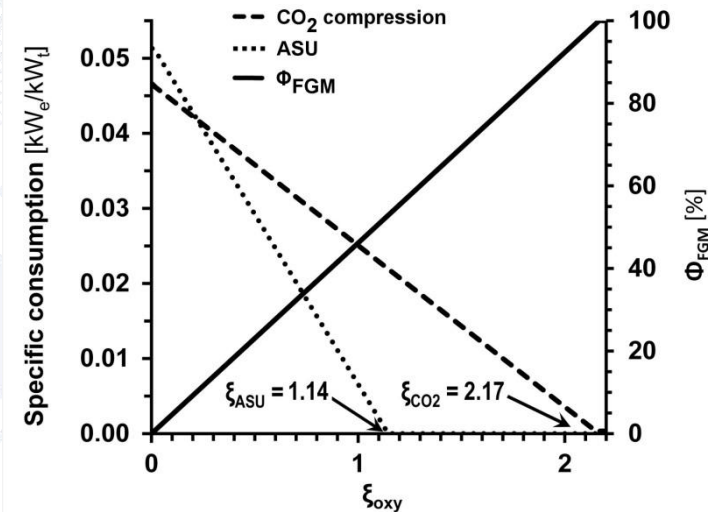
# POWER TO GAS – CARBON CAPTURE HYBRID SYSTEMS – OXYFUEL



Can  $\text{CO}_2$  storage be avoided?

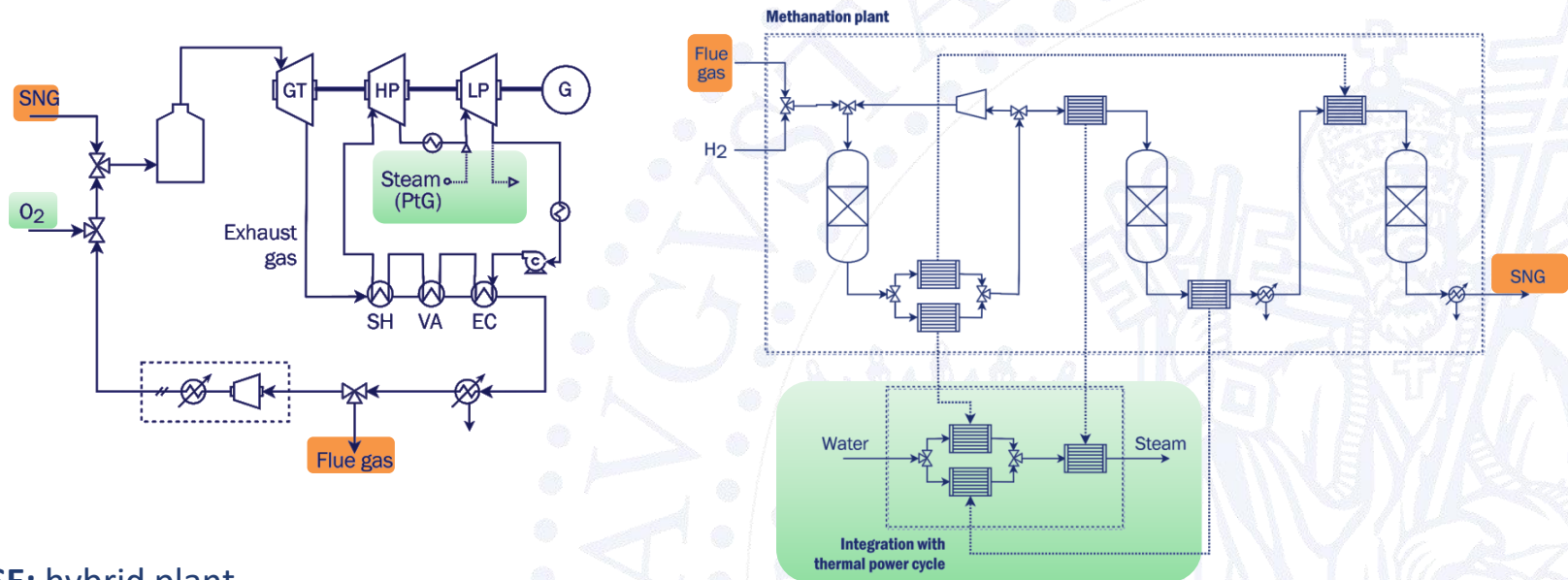
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# POWER TO GAS – CARBON CAPTURE HYBRID SYSTEMS – OXYFUEL

## APPLIED CASE: Power to Gas - Oxyfuel combined cycle (~30 MWe)



### CASE: hybrid plant

- ✓ **Net power:** 31.1 MWe → 35.8MWe
- ✓ **ASU consumption:** 3MWe → 0 MWe
- ✓ **Efficiency:** 55.9% → 64.0 %
- ✓ **Fuel input:** 5775.9 m<sup>3</sup> of SNG (95.2% CH<sub>4</sub>)
- ✓ **Flue gas output:** 5859.1 m<sup>3</sup> → 0 m<sup>3</sup>
- ✓ **SNG production:** 0 m<sup>3</sup> → 5757.0 m<sup>3</sup> (95.2% CH<sub>4</sub>)

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# POWER TO GAS – CARBON CAPTURE HYBRID SYSTEMS – OXYFUEL

## APPLIED CASE: Power to Gas - Oxyfuel combined cycle (~30 MWe)



### Electrolysis necessity:

98.2 MWe (*same hours in storage/production mode*)

### Efficiency of the plant:

35.8 MW / 98.2 MW = 36.5%

Converting renewables into manageable sources gives similar efficiencies to those presented by power plants with carbon capture

### Advantages:

- ✓ No fossil fuel required
- ✓ No CO<sub>2</sub> to be stored
- ✓ PtG-OxyCC can be used to manage renewable surplus

✓ ASG consumption: 3MWe → 6 MWe

✓ Efficiency: 55.9% → 64.0 %

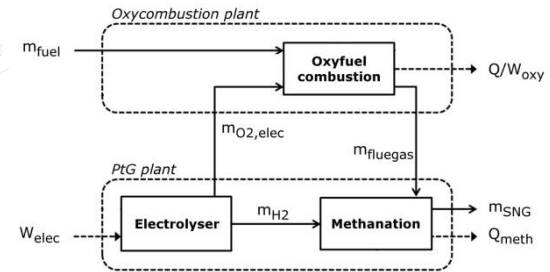
✓ Flue gas output: 5859.1 m<sup>3</sup> → 6 m<sup>3</sup> (NTP)

✓ SNG production: 0 m<sup>3</sup> → 5757.0 m<sup>3</sup> (NTP) (95.2% CH<sub>4</sub>)

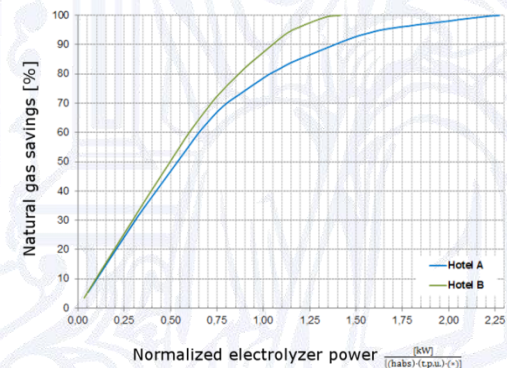
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## APPLIED CASE: Power to Gas - Oxyfuel in small applications

- ✓ **Oxyfuel boiler integrated with an electrolyser and a methanation reactor** applied to supply thermal energy in hotels (medium size, 80 rooms)
- ✓ **Efficiencies higher than 50% and fuel savings up to 60% are obtained**
  - ✓ Option A is dimensioned with a 30 kW electrolyser and able to produce 25% of the natural gas demand
  - ✓ Option B is bigger with a 72 kW electrolyser and able to produce 60 % of the natural gas demand.
- ✓ **The conclusions showed that with actual costs both installations were not feasible without subsidies.**
- ✓ Nevertheless, social and environmental benefits (employment and CO<sub>2</sub> reduction) are relevant for the touristic region if these systems are installed

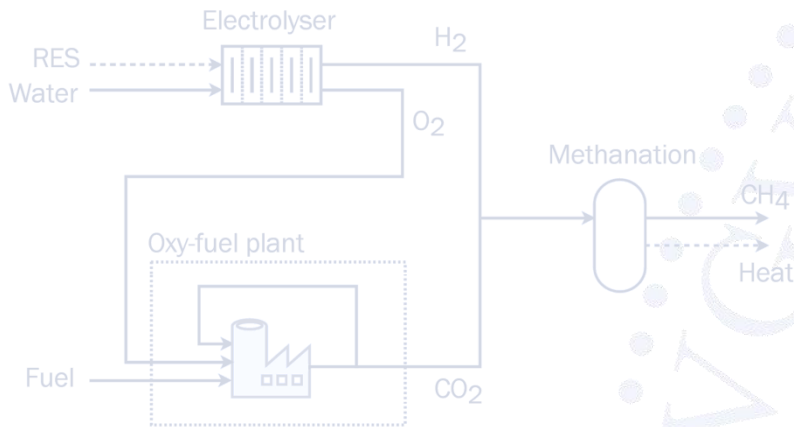


Natural Gas Savings [%]	Required electrolyzer power [kW]	
	Hotel A	Hotel B
20	30,4	48,5
40	62,4	98,1
60	96,3	149,3



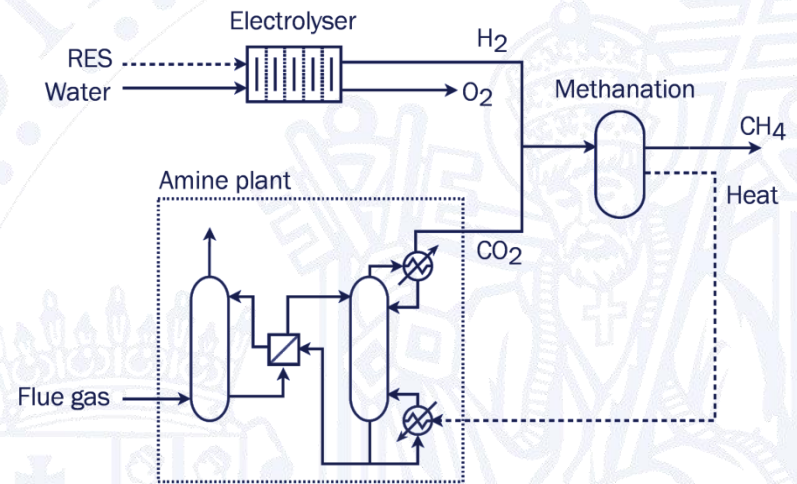
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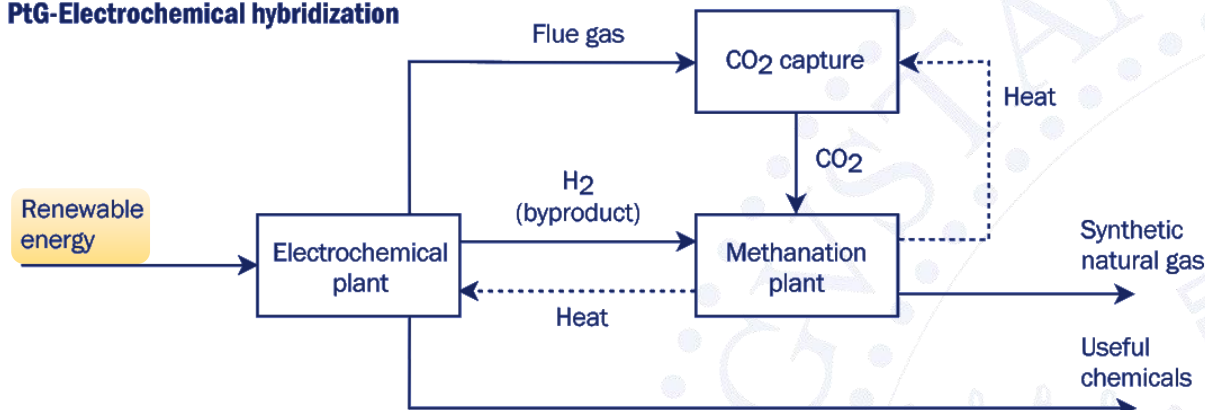


- ✓ Heat from methanation is integrated in the reboiler of the stripper column
- ✓ O<sub>2</sub> integration depends on the application

# POWER TO GAS – CARBON CAPTURE HYBRID SYSTEMS – AMINE PLANT

## APPLIED CASE: Power to Gas – Electrochemical industry (real case)

### PtG-Electrochemical hybridization



### Electrochemical plant

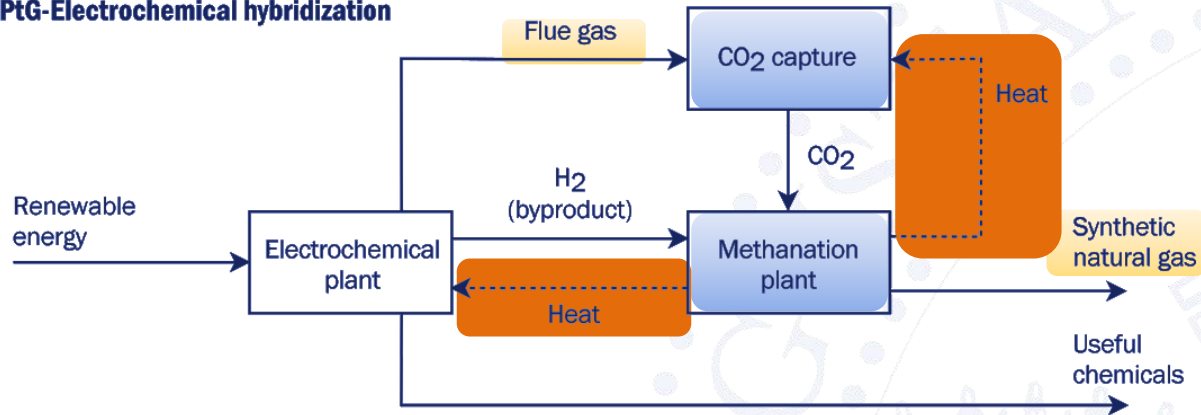
The EC plant follows the **low cost** periods of the **electricity** market

Bailera et al. (2017) Appl. Energy, 202, 435-446

# POWER TO GAS – CARBON CAPTURE HYBRID SYSTEMS – AMINE PLANT

## APPLIED CASE: Power to Gas – Electrochemical industry (real case)

### PtG-Electrochemical hybridization



### Electrochemical plant

The EC plant follows the low cost periods of the electricity market

Useful chemical products are obtained by processes of electrolysis that sub-produce  $H_2$

The EC plant needs steam, which is produced in a natural gas boiler.

**Flue gas can be recycled** to SNG with methanation and amine carbon capture

**Heat** from methanation can be **integrated** in the amine plant or can be used to produce steam

Bailera et al. (2017) Appl. Energy, 202, 435-446

# POWER TO GAS – CARBON CAPTURE HYBRID SYSTEMS – AMINE PLANT

## APPLIED CASE: Power to Gas – Electrochemical industry (real case)

### Size and economics

Selected methanation plant:

- ✓ 6 MW of H<sub>2</sub> input
- ✓ H<sub>2</sub> buffer of 1000 Nm<sup>3</sup>  
(criteria: small to reduce costs)
- ✓ **6070 h** (criteria: > 6000 h)
- ✓ 85.9% H<sub>2</sub> used (criteria: > 85.0%)
- ✓ **58.2% CO<sub>2</sub> used**  
(amine plant's nominal output: 524 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h)

CAPEX (5.1 M€)

- ✓ Amine plant, 523 k€
- ✓ Methanation plant, 2158 M€
- ✓ Heat exchanger network, 180 k€
- ✓ Other (direct costs), 1316 M€
- ✓ Other (indirect costs), 960 k€

**OPEX (215 k€/year)**

- ✓ MEA, catalyst, electricity, O&M...

**INCOMES (1.0 M€/year)**

- ✓ Natural gas savings, 978 k€/year
- ✓ Steam savings, 36 k€/year

Bailera et al. (2017) Appl. Energy, 202, 435-446



# POWER TO GAS – CARBON CAPTURE HYBRID SYSTEMS – AMINE PLANT

## APPLIED CASE: Power to Gas – Electrochemical industry (real case)

### Size and economics

Selected methanation plant:

✓ **Pay-Back: 8 year**

✓ **Internal rate of return: 8.96%**

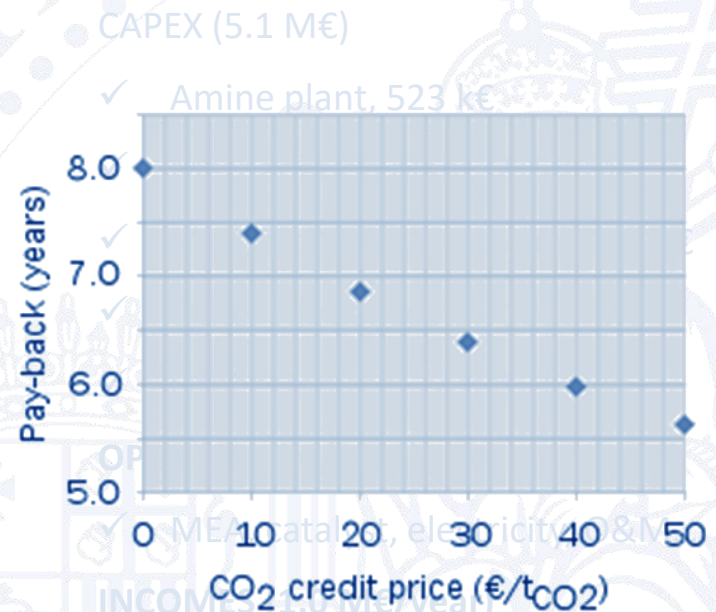
✓ **Net Present Value: 4.76 M€**

✓ 85.9% H<sub>2</sub> used (criteria: > 85.0%)

✓ 58.2% CO<sub>2</sub> used  
NG price: 28.99 €/MWh  
(amine plant's nominal output: 524 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h)

**CO<sub>2</sub> credit price: 0 €/t<sub>CO2</sub>**

Project lifetime: 20 years



Bailera et al. (2017) Appl. Energy, 202, 435-446

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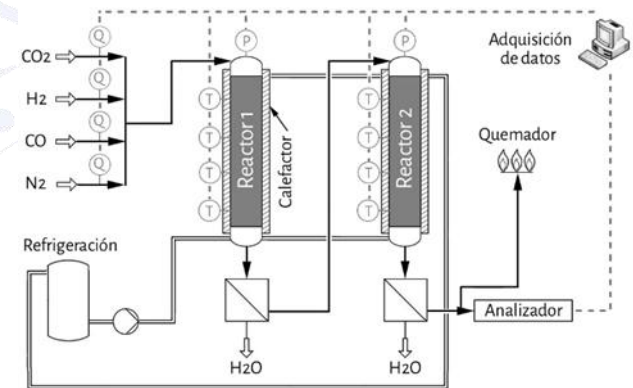
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# CURRENT RESEARCH

## MERCURIA PROJECT

- ✓ **Pilot plant installation** (equivalent to a 5 kW electrolyser and two atmospheric pressure methanation reactors)
- ✓ Analysis of operational variables as input gas **impurities**, **transient response** to temperature changes and **heat transfer**.
- ✓ **Thermographic analysis**: On-line monitoring with an infrared camera for the measurement and control of catalyst temperature.
- ✓ Proposals and analysis of configurations of **Power to Gas applications** in residential, transport and industrial sectors.



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# HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Based on an analysis of the availability of renewable energy resources, it has been concluded that **hydropower is the best option** to be used jointly with Power to Gas **in the Pyrenees region**
- ✓ **Power to Gas-Carbon capture** hybrid systems allow to **recycle CO<sub>2</sub>** in closed loops
  - ✓ **PtG-Oxycombustion** avoids, both CO<sub>2</sub> storage and ASU, energy penalizations in small applications
  - ✓ **PtG-Amine** in chemical industry is economically **FEASIBLE**, and it avoids CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and saves natural gas
- ✓ **Current research** is focused in the **design and operation of a PtG pilot** plant installation and the analysis of **configurations of PtG** applications in residential, transport and industrial sectors



***Thanks for your attention!***

***Acknowledgements***

*The authors would like to acknowledge funding from the R+D Spanish National Program from Ministerio de Economía y Competitividad, MINECO (Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness) under project ENE2016-76850-R.*

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