

# 질소 순환 시스템 효율/안정성 유지 이슈

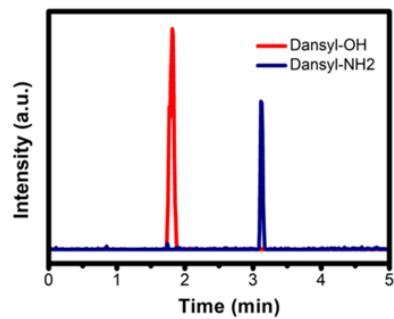
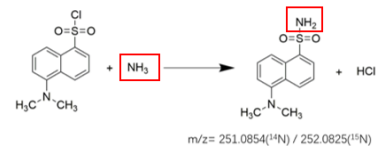
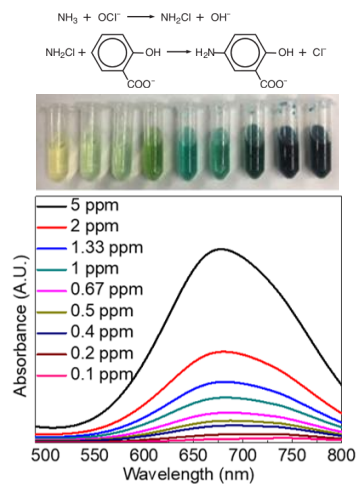
## Efficiency and Stability Issues in Nitrogen Cycle Reaction System

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Uk Sim, Ph. D.

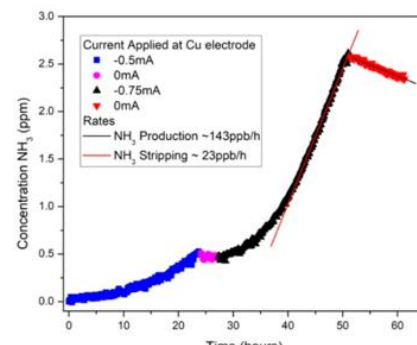
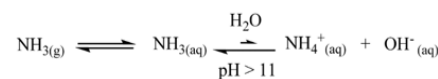
# Detection of Ammonia Production

## Ex-situ analysis



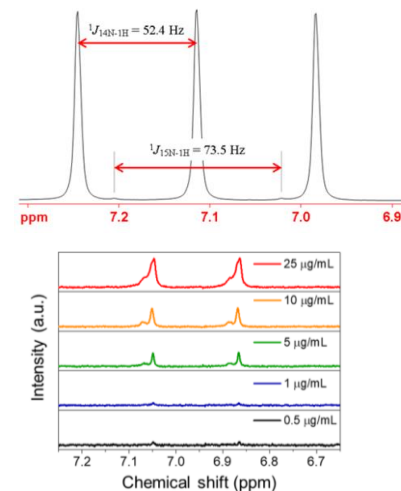
ACS Energy Lett. 2020, 5, 1532–1536

LC-MS



Chen et al., Science 360, eaar6611 (2018)

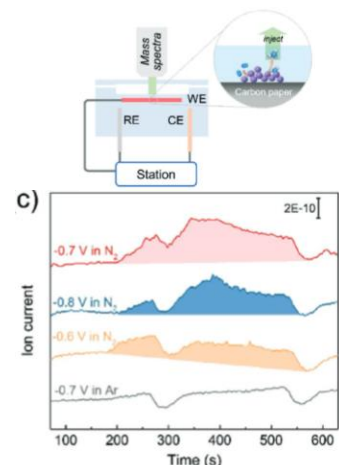
GC



NMR

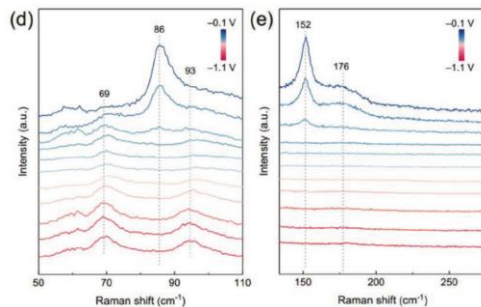
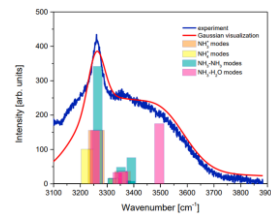
Colorimetric method

## in-situ analysis



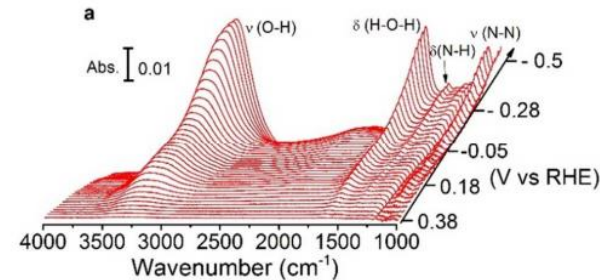
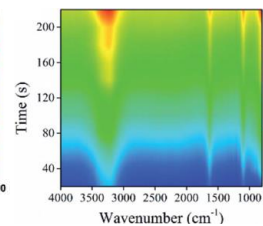
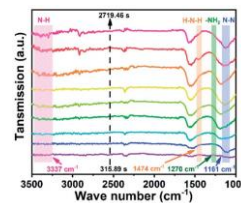
Adv. Energy Mater. 2020, 10, 2001289

DEMS



iScience 23, 101757, November 20, 2020

Raman



J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2018, 140, 4, 1496–1501

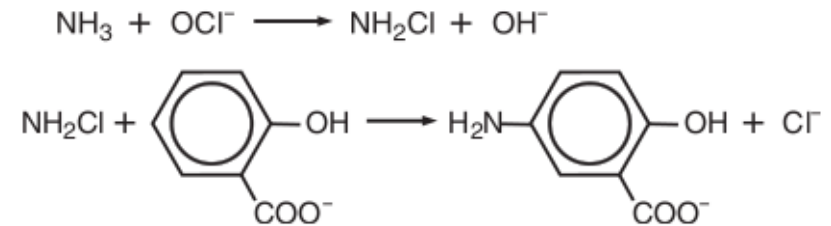
FT-IR

# Salicylate Test and UV/Vis Spectroscopy

- $\text{NH}_3/\text{NH}_4^+$  test

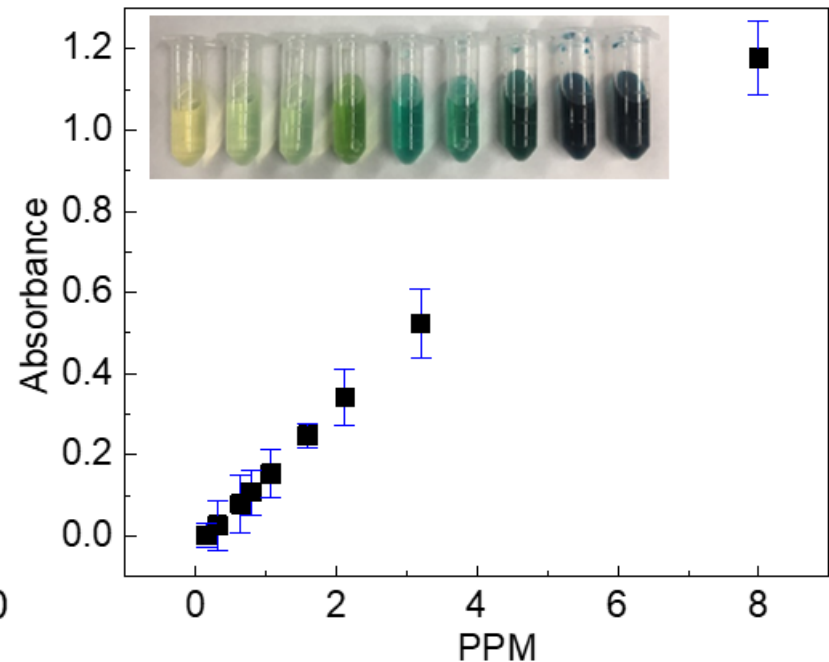
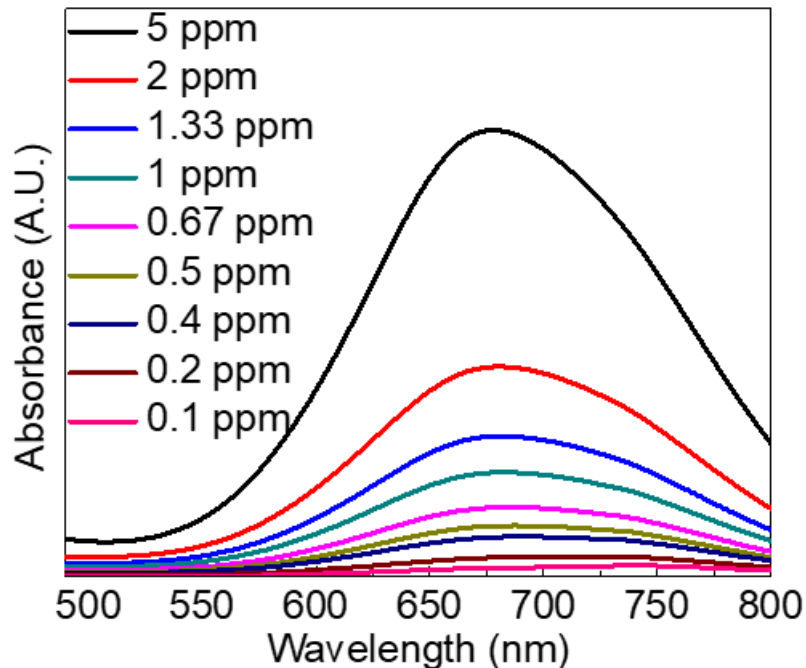
- API Ammonia Test Kit
- Polyethylene glycol (<90wt%) and sodium salicylate (<10wt%)
- Ammonia levels from 0 to 8 ppm

- Reaction sequence

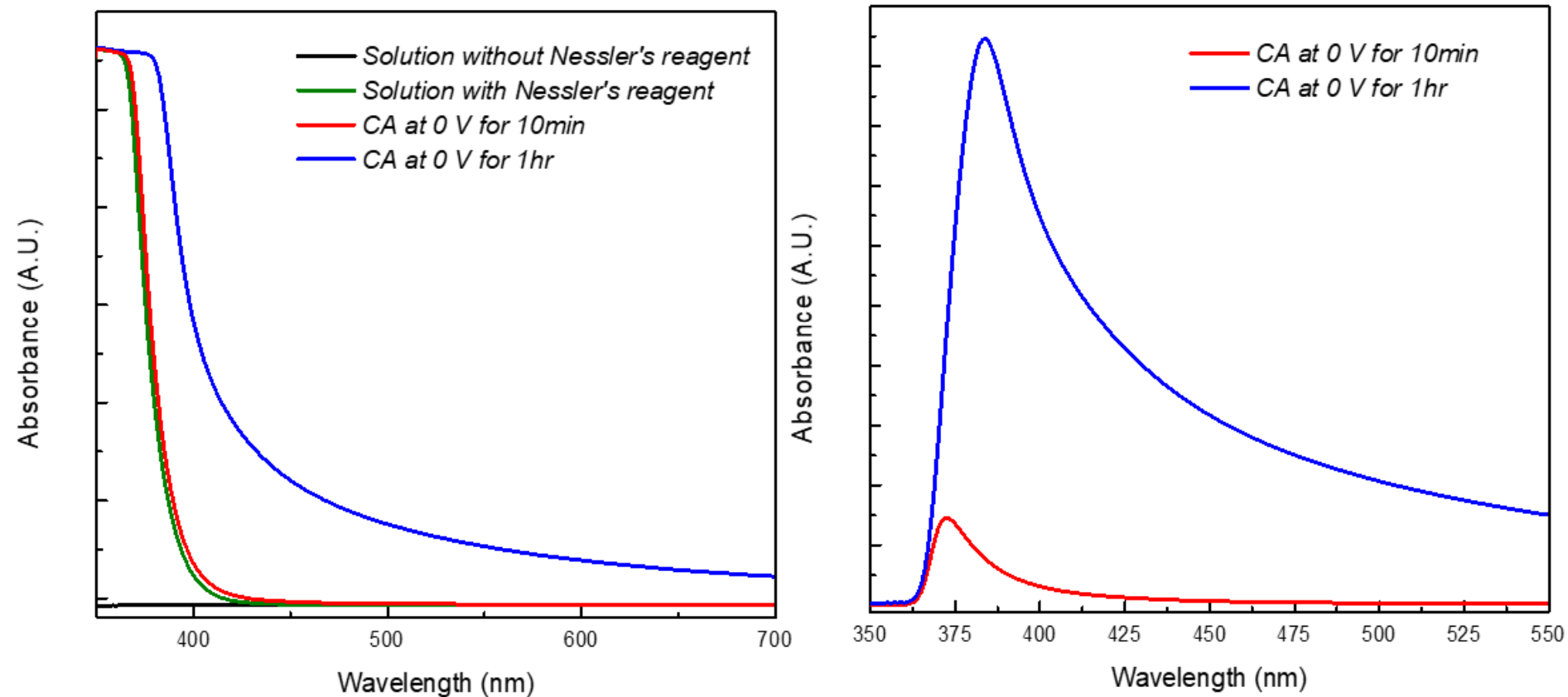


1. Conversion of ammonia to monochloroamine
2. Monochloroamine reacts with salicylate to form 5-aminosalicylate.
3. 5-aminosalicylate is oxidized in the presence of sodium nitroferricyanide to form a blue-green colored dye that absorbs light at 650 nm.

## Calibration data



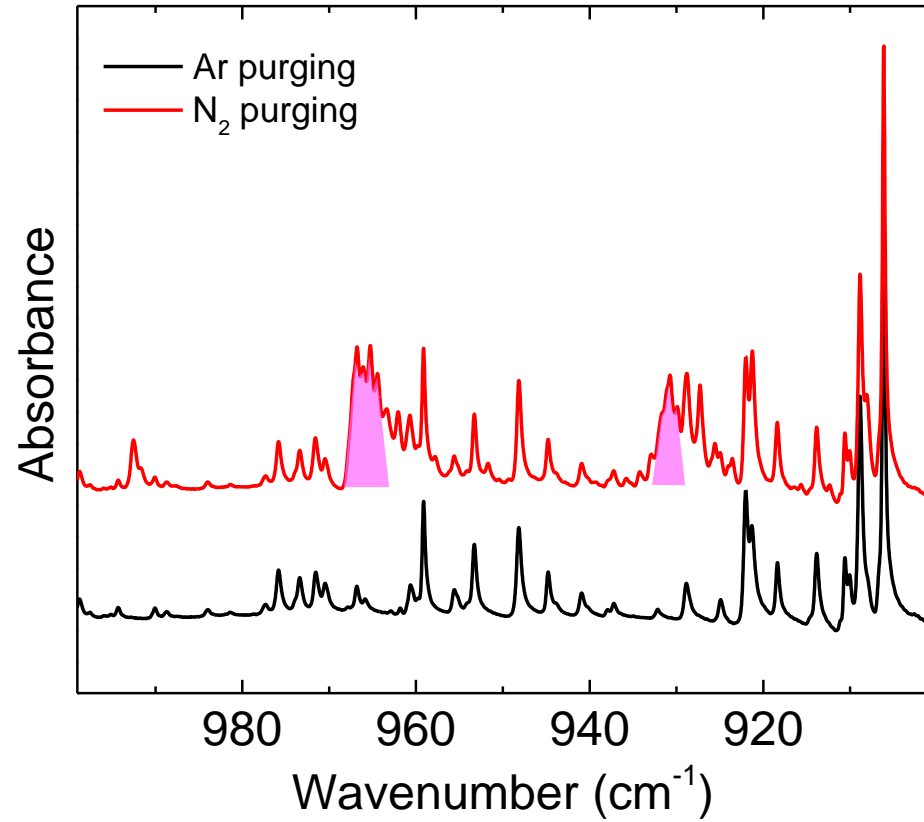
# Nessler's reagent



- Nessler's reagent : Potassium tetraiodomercurate (II) ( $K_2[HgI_4]$ )
- $NH_4^+ + 2[HgI_4]^{2-} + 4OH^- \rightarrow HgO \cdot Hg(NH_2)I \downarrow + 7I^- + 3H_2O$



# FTIR result



**FTIR with MCT detector**

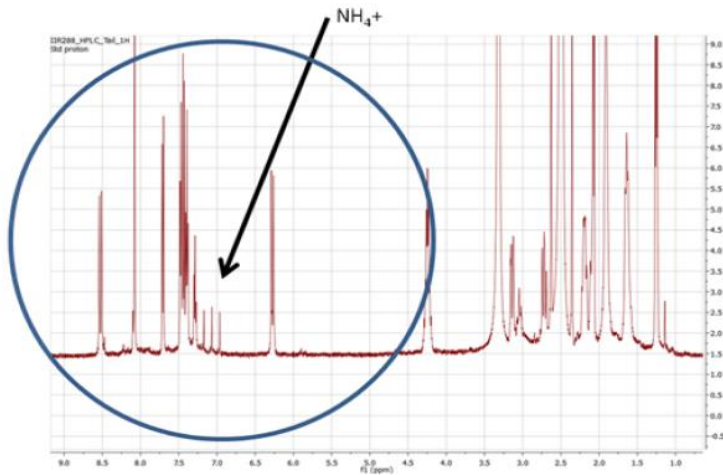
# NMR confirmation

## \* $^{14}\text{N}$ Nitrogen J coupling.

$^{14}\text{N}$  is the most natural abundant nitrogen isotope, 99.6 %. It has a spin  $I=1$ . If coupled to a  $^1\text{H}$ , NH, the  $^1\text{H}$  line should split into  $(2I+1)=3$  lines with equal intensities.

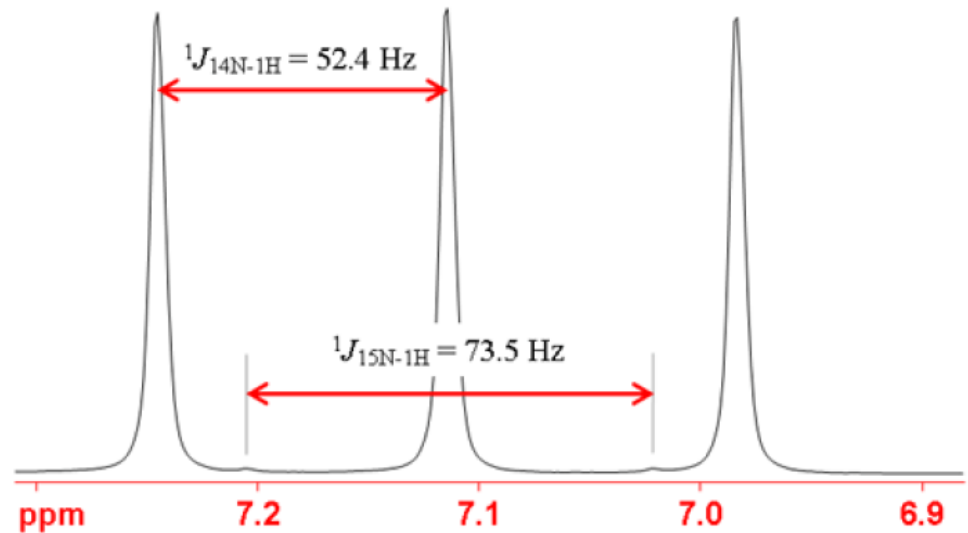
Most of the time though, due to quadrupolar relaxation effects, no  $^{14}\text{N}$  splitting of the  $^1\text{H}$  line is observed.

Now, when N is in a highly symmetric environment, like  $\text{NH}_4^+$  the  $^{14}\text{N}$  splits the proton signal into a triplet as shown in the following spectrum,



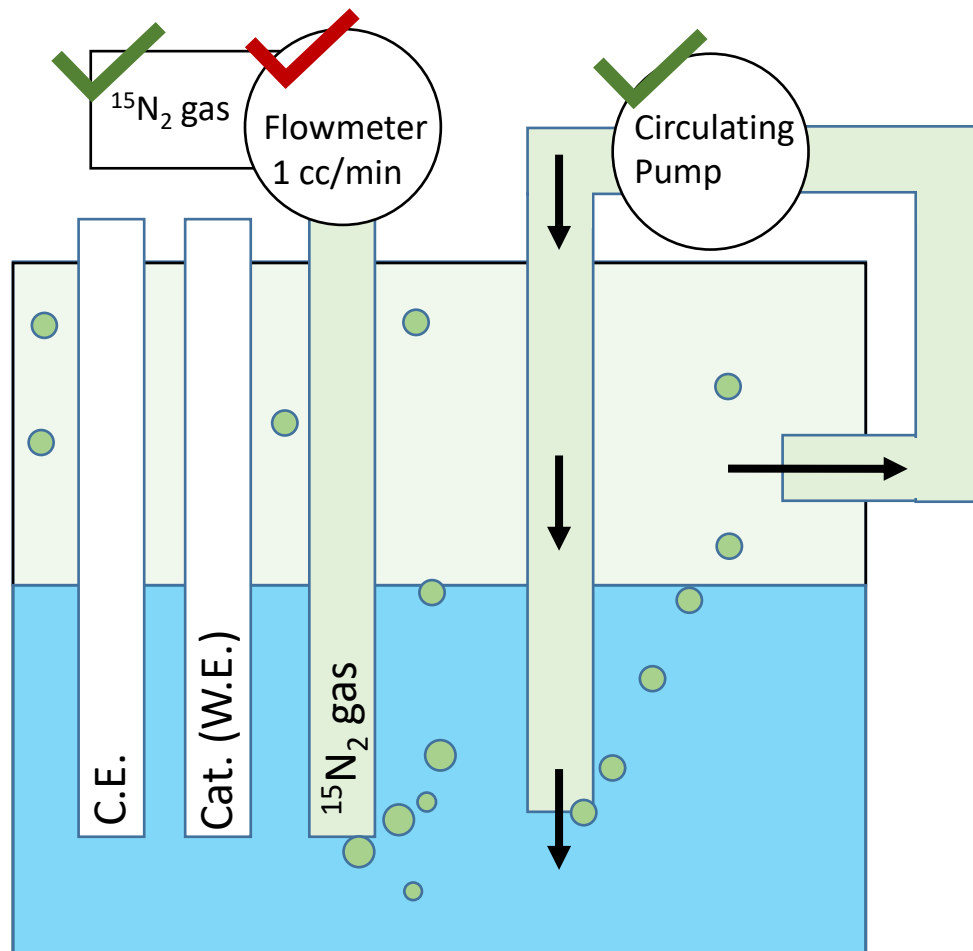
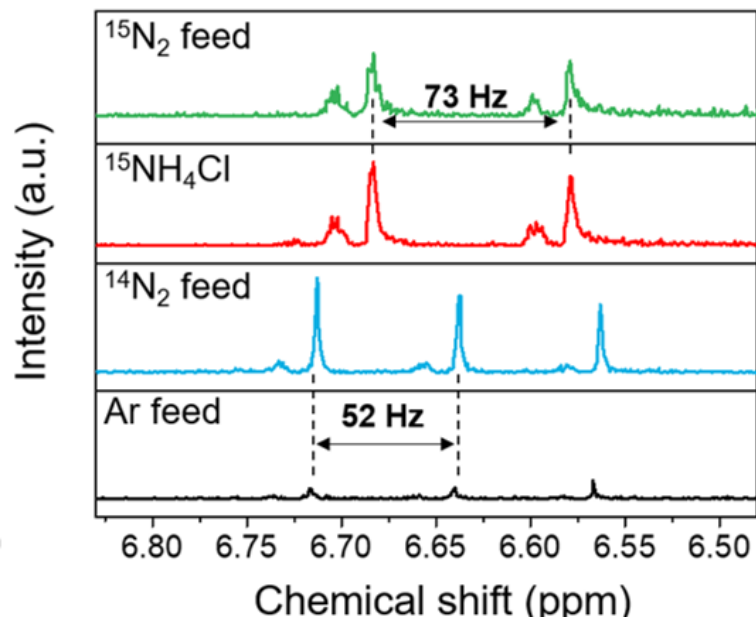
The following information on N-H couplings was found in the literature,

$^1\text{H}$  spectrum of natural abundance  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  (1.5 M) in 1M HCl/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  showing coupling to  $^{14}\text{N}$  as a (spin 1) triplet and coupling to  $^{15}\text{N}$  as a weak doublet. Note that the  $^{14}\text{N}$  coupling constant is smaller than that of  $^{15}\text{N}$  because of  $^{14}\text{N}$ 's lower resonant frequency.



# NMR confirmation

## NMR analysis



## Stability test

- Long-term stability have low F.E.
- (about 2 %, 12 h and 20 h)
- cycle stability test is ongoing.

- NMR analysis using  $^{15}\text{N}_2$  and  $\text{N}_2$  is being performed to verify the nitrogen reduction performance of the catalyst.
- The triple peaks occurred when nitrogen is purged, where its interval is 52 Hz corresponding to ammonia signal.
- Double peaks are indicated when using  $^{15}\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  to standard data, which interval is 73 Hz.
- Analysis using  $^{15}\text{N}_2$  gas is ongoing.

# Assessment protocol

## 1. Preparation of experiment

- 1.1 Electrochemical cell setup: potentiostat, catalysts, electrode, and system design
- 1.2 Possible contamination removal from external unprecedented ammonia source

## 2. Electrochemical test

- 2.1 Check NRR signal from CV-measurement
- 2.2 Bulk electrolysis for ammonia production
- 2.3 Confirm ammonia signal using UV-Vis
- 2.4 Check stability or possible degradation of catalysts

1. Check electrochemical cell system
2. Design/synthesis of catalysts

NO

Is ammonia produced?

YES

## 3. Double-check external ammonia source

- 3.1 Substrate, electrode, equipment
- 3.2 Atmospheric source by chemicals
- 3.3 Gas source from nitrogen cylinder, pipe, purging line
- 3.4 Side-reaction by residue organic precursors during catalysts synthesis

NO

Is it clean?

YES

## 5. Analysis and study of catalytic reaction

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 5.1 Current density    | 5.2 Concentration    |
| 5.3 Stability          | 5.4 Yield            |
| 5.5 Faraday Efficiency | 5.6 Reaction pathway |

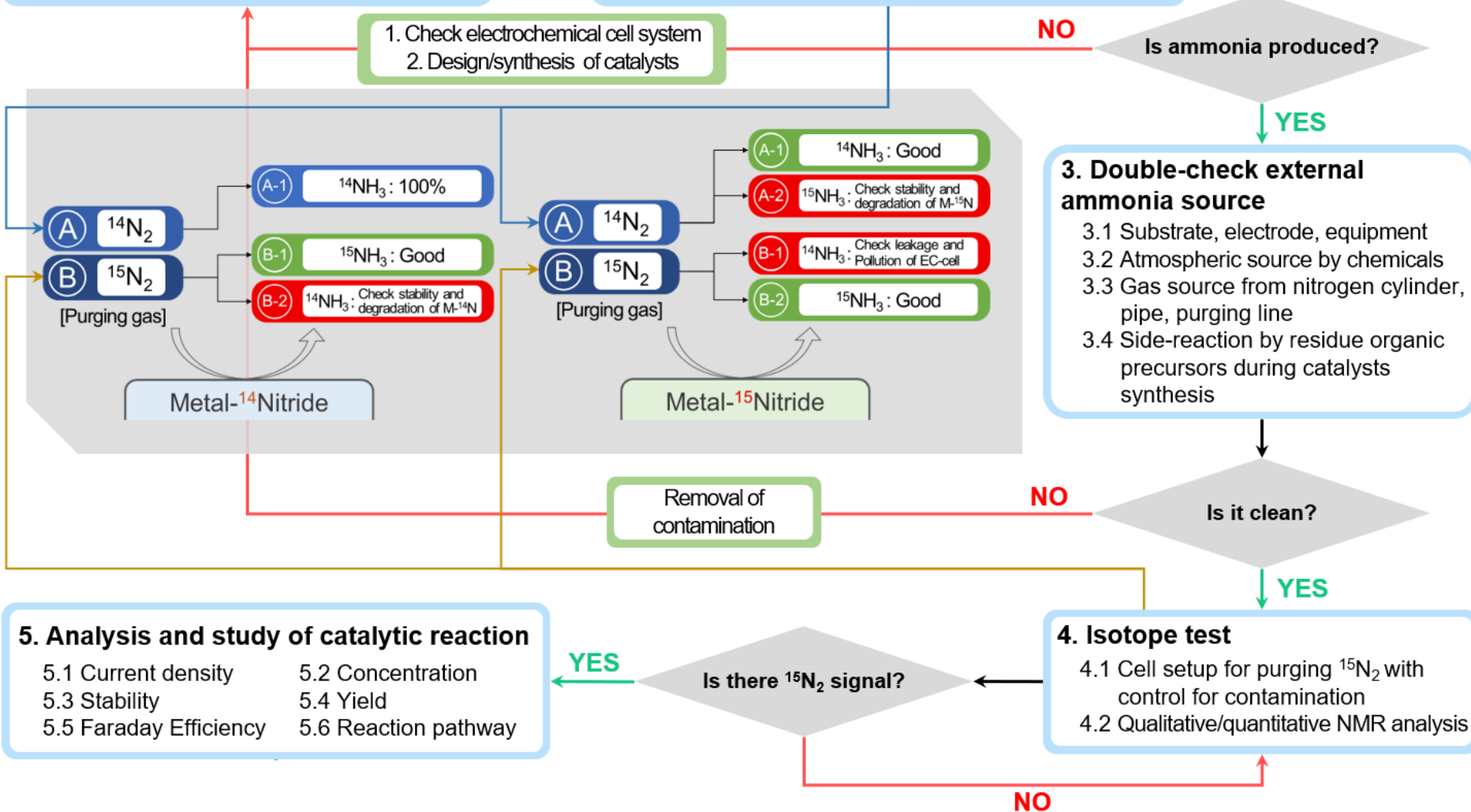
YES

Is there  $^{15}\text{N}_2$  signal?

NO

## 4. Isotope test

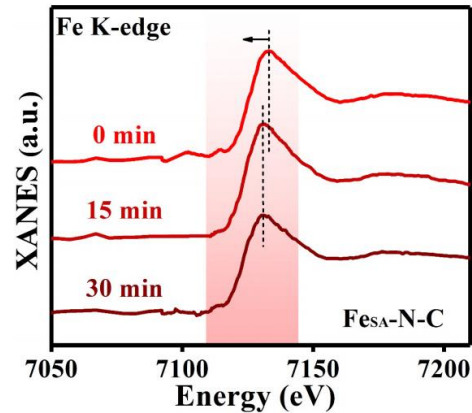
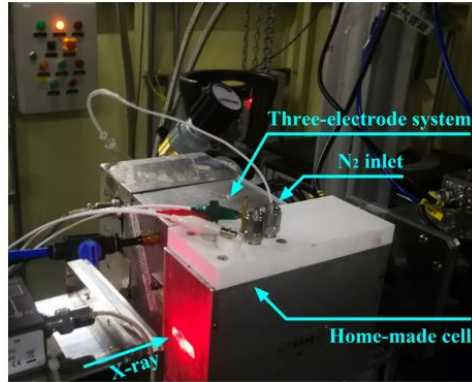
- 4.1 Cell setup for purging  $^{15}\text{N}_2$  with control for contamination
- 4.2 Qualitative/quantitative NMR analysis



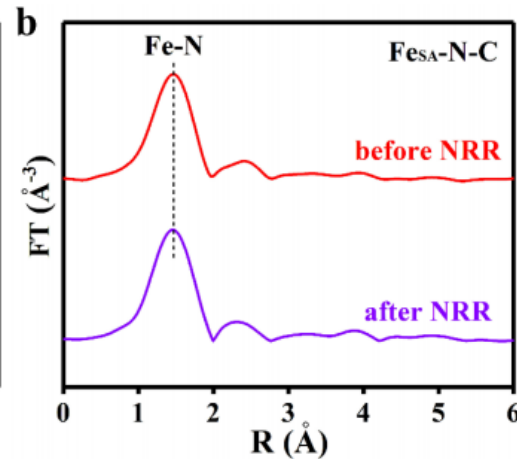
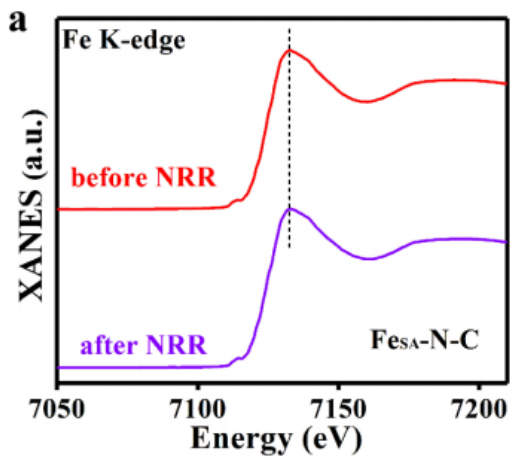


# In-situ method in NRR

## In-situ XAS

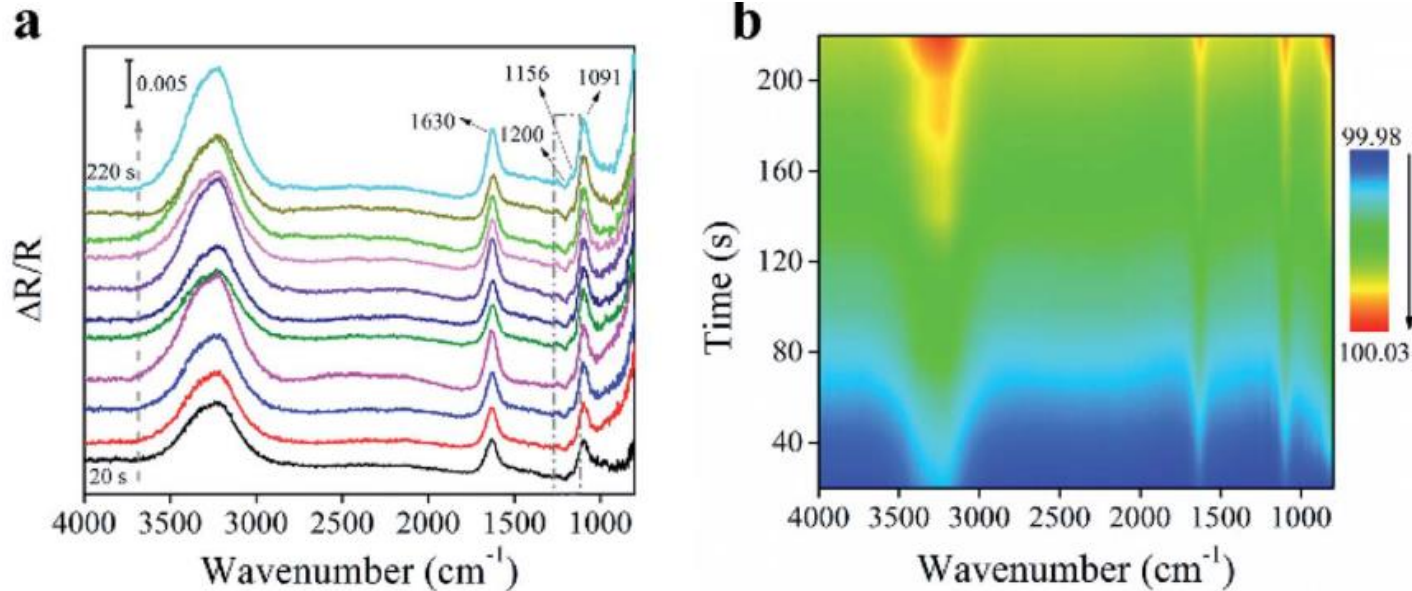


- Potentiostatic testing was carried out at 0 V vs. RHE and the XANES results of the Fe K-edge were collected at different times.
- Once the reaction proceeds, the peak shifted from 7133 eV to a lower energy of 7131 eV after 15 min, suggesting a decreased valence state of Fe.
- During the NRR process,  $N_2$  molecules are fixed to bond with Fe sites by donating electrons to the unoccupied d orbitals of Fe.



# In-situ method in NRR

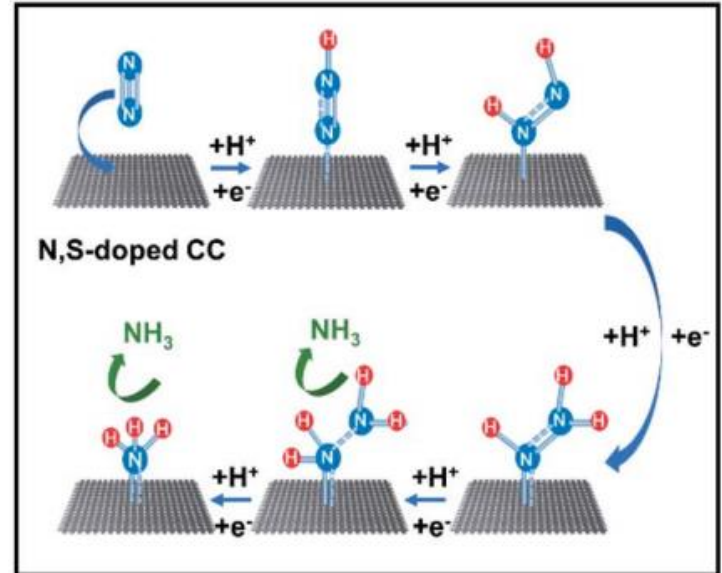
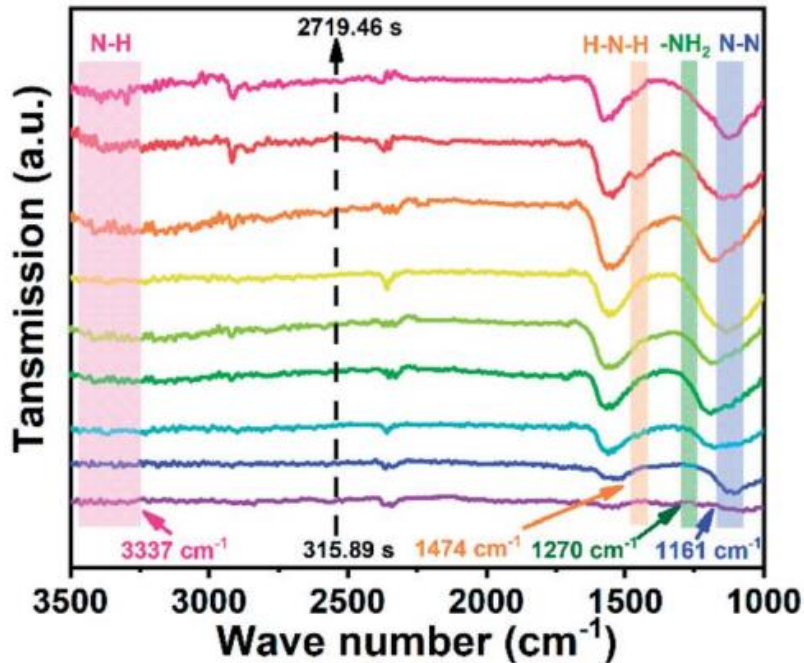
## In-situ FTIR



- In situ electrochemical FTIR experiments are also conducted to elucidate the reaction mechanism of the NRR over the NiFe–MoS<sub>2</sub> NCs at -0.3 V vs. RHE in 0.1 M Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution.
- Two negative-going peaks located at 1200 and 1156  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are observed, which are attributed to the **N–H** stretching and **–NH<sub>2</sub>** rocking vibration mode of the symmetrically coordinated NH<sub>3</sub>.

# In-situ method in NRR

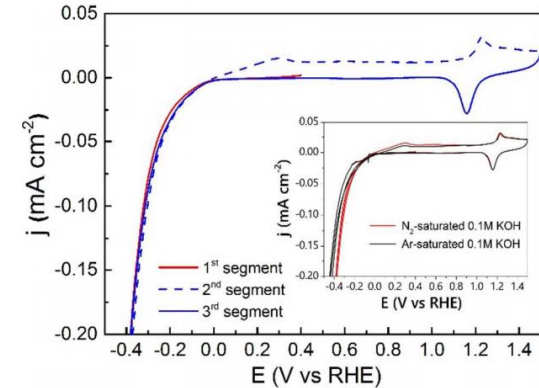
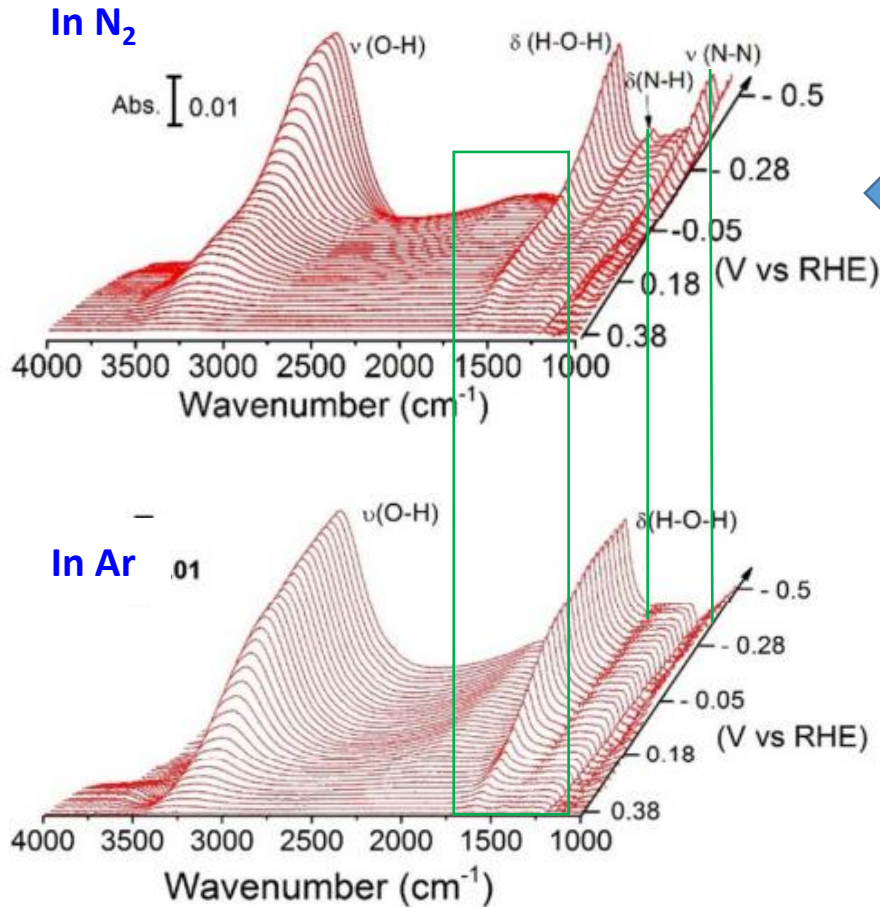
## In-situ FTIR



- The absorption at  $1161\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is assigned to the N–N stretching, the intensity of which increased with increasing reaction time.
- Simultaneously, three weak absorptions at  $1270$ ,  $1474$ , and  $3337\text{ cm}^{-1}$  were observed, which are attributed to  $\text{-NH}_2$  wagging, H–N–H bending, and N–H stretching of H–N–H bending, respectively.

# In-situ method in NRR

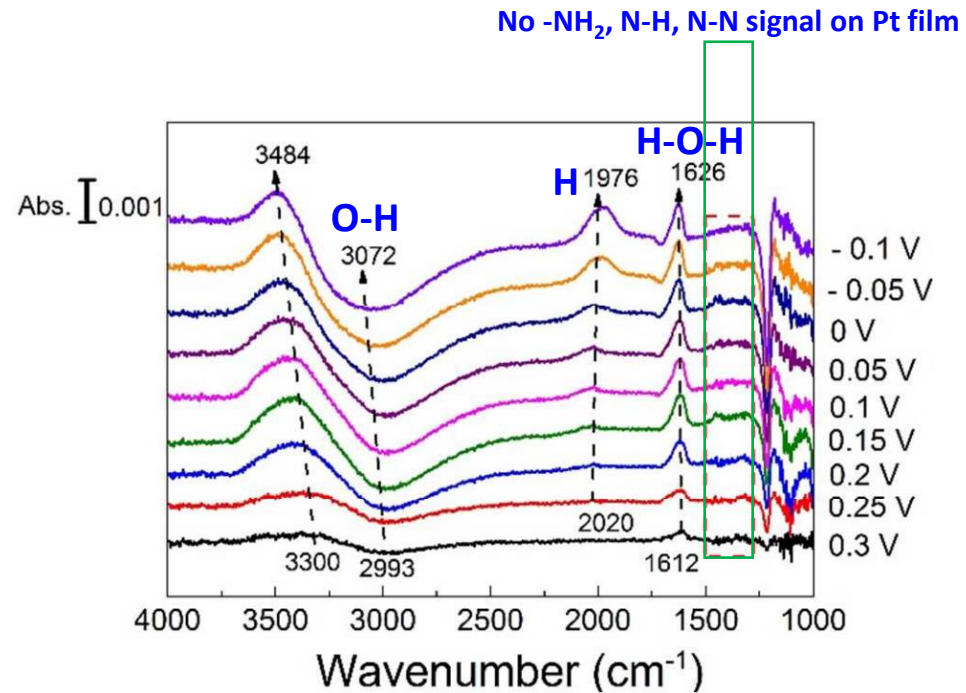
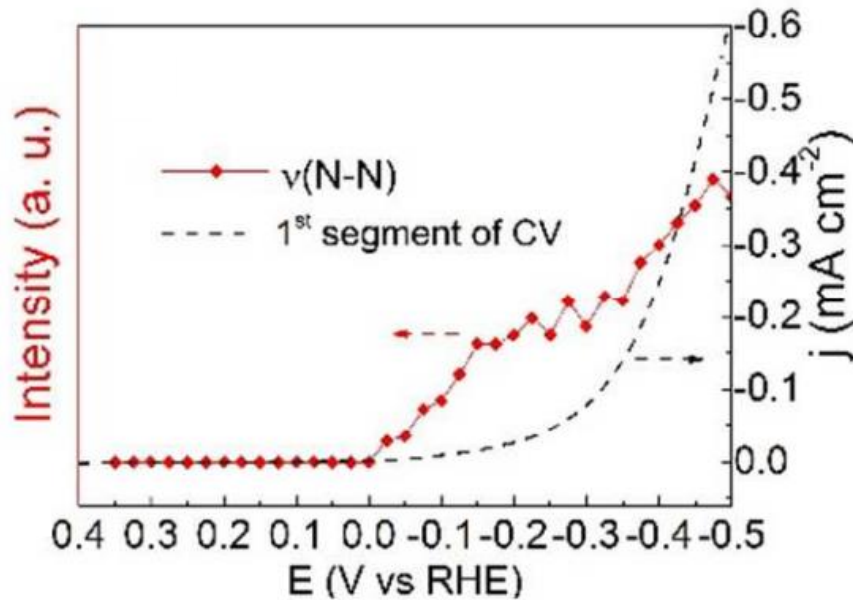
## In-situ FTIR



- The FTIR spectra collected in the 1st scan from 0.4 V to -0.5 V.
- A broad positive band at  $\sim 2088$  cm<sup>-1</sup> that appeared with the reduction current in figure attributes to the adsorbed H atoms.
- Three weak bands at 1450 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1298 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1109 cm<sup>-1</sup> attribute to the H-N-H bending, -NH<sub>2</sub> wagging and N-N stretching of adsorbed N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>y</sub> species, respectively.

# In-situ method in NRR

## In-situ FTIR



*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2018, 140, 4, 1496–1501

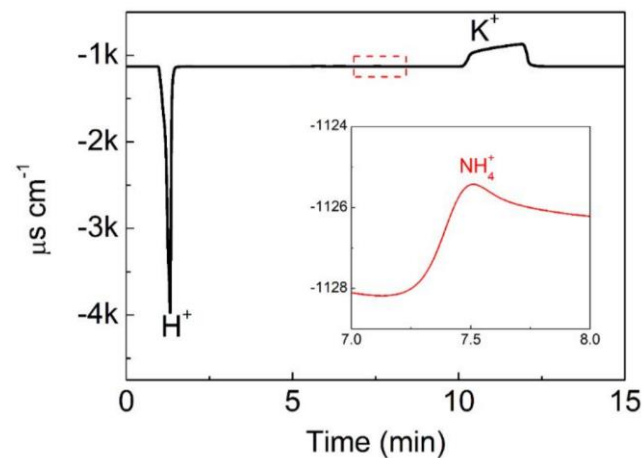
- The potential dependence of the strongest band among the three (N-N stretching at  $1109 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and the corresponding 1<sup>st</sup> segment of the CV (black dashed line).
- The band started to appear at potentials below 0 V and increased with potential decreasing, accompanying with the increase of the reduction current in the 1<sup>st</sup> segment of the CV.
- The results of FTIR on Pt film can be due to the low faradic efficiency of NRR on Pt surfaces compared with HER resulting in a much lower signal from  $\text{N}_2\text{H}_y$  if there is any. (right data)



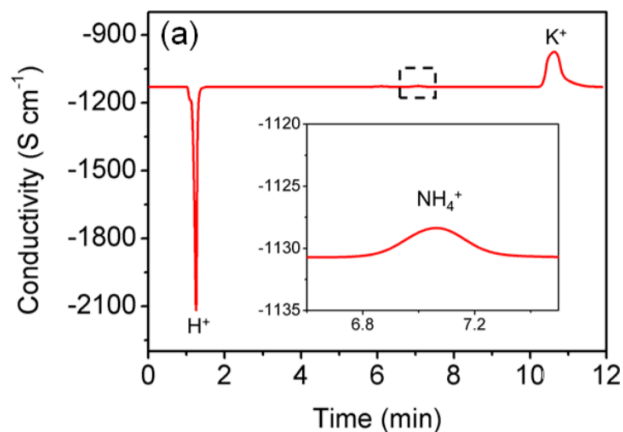
# Detecting of Ammonia

## Ion chromatography (IC)

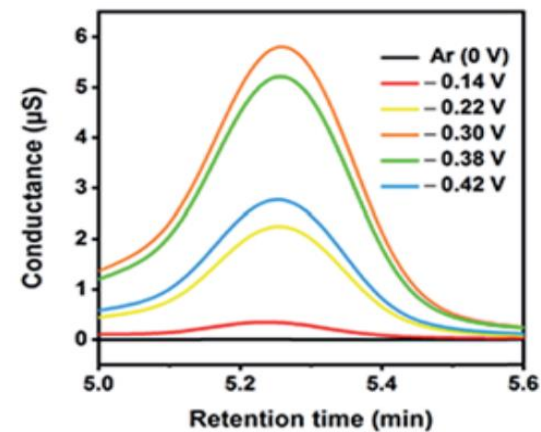
Nature Comm. (2019), 10:4380



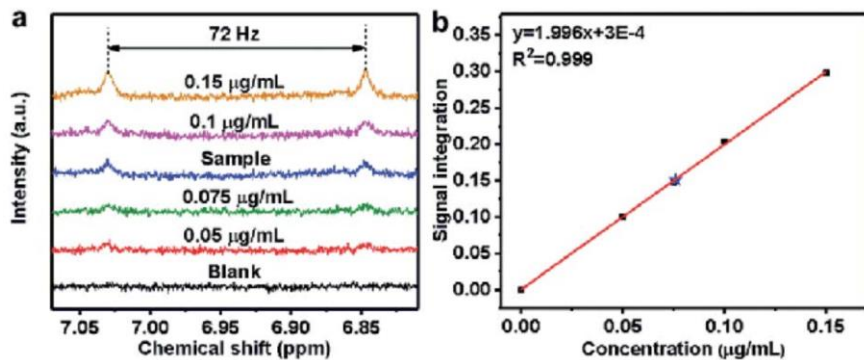
J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2019, 141, 14976–14980



J. Mater. Chem. A, 2019, 7, 19977–19983



## Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR)

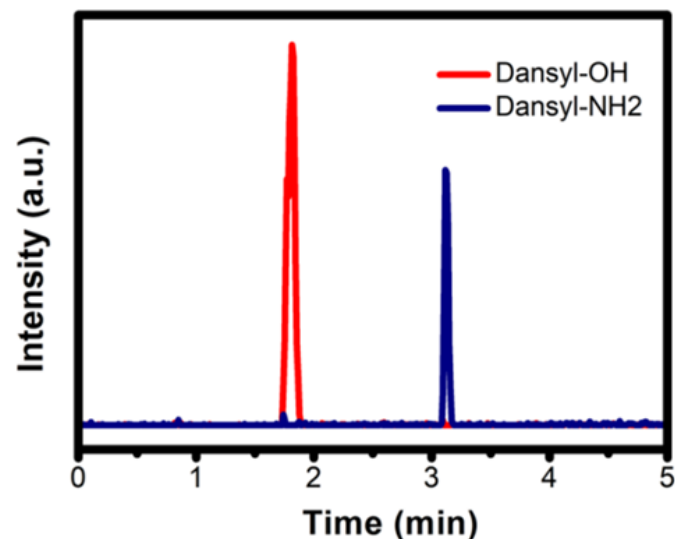
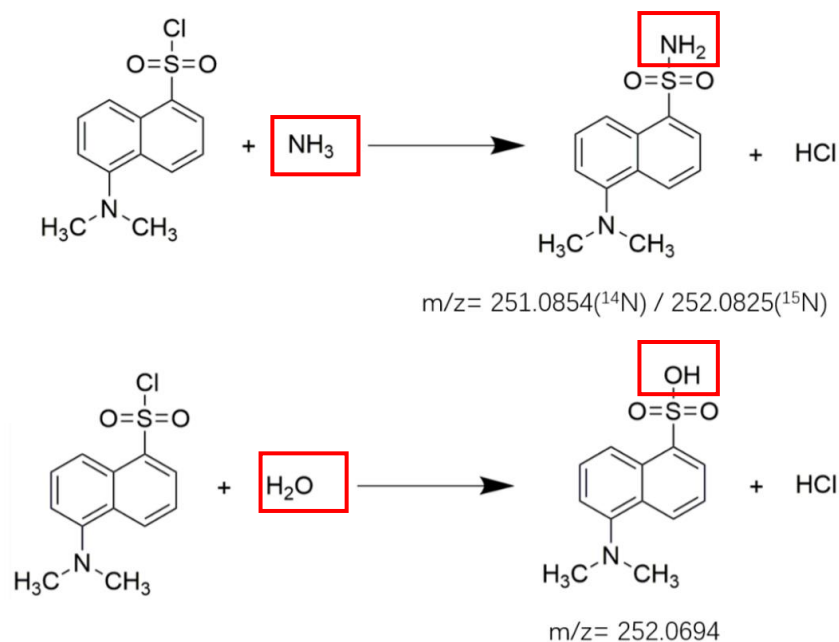


J. Mater. Chem. A, 2019, 7, 26371–26377 | 26373

- Condition : with water suppression Bruker Avance3 400 MHz
- $^{15}\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  solutions were prepared with 0.1 M HCl

# Detecting of Ammonia

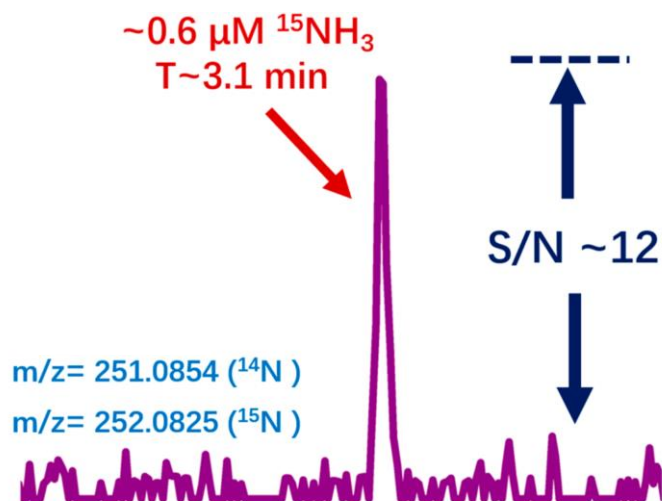
## Liquid Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS)



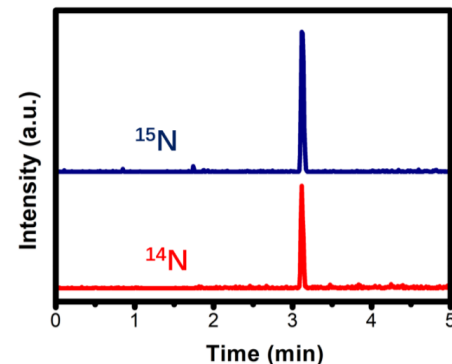
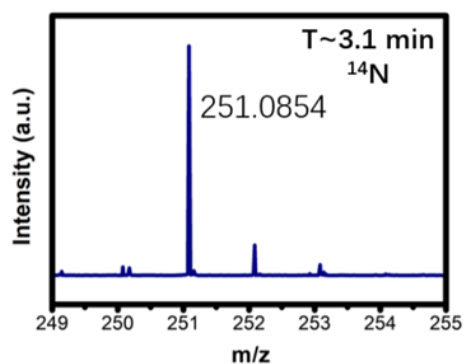
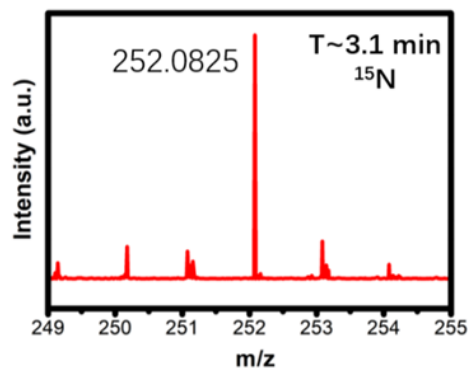
- Despite their similar masses, the initial UPLC step separates the DNS-OH and DNS-NH<sub>3</sub> products by eluting them from the column at substantially different times. The mass-selected chromatograms for **DNS-OH** and **DNS-NH<sub>3</sub>** displayed two distinct peaks (1.8 and 3.1 min, respectively).

# Detecting of Ammonia

## Liquid Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS)

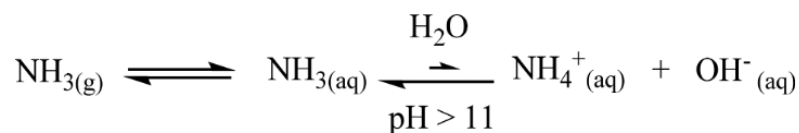
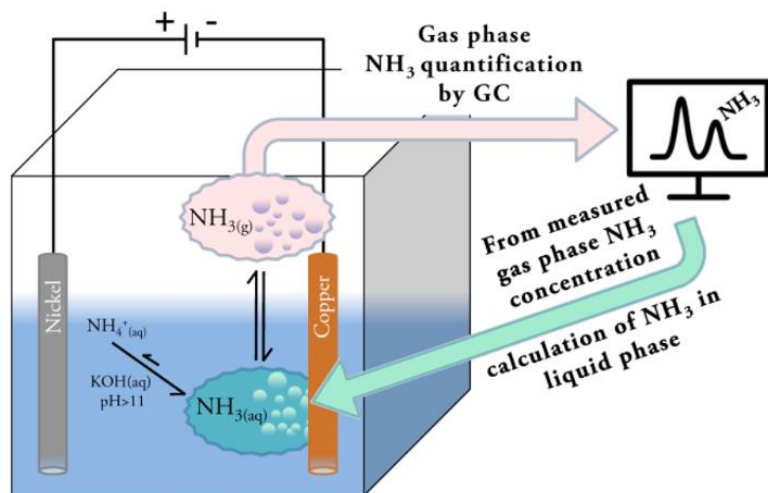


- Mass-selected chromatogram for a 0.6  $\mu\text{M}$   $^{15}\text{NH}_3$  sample derivatized by dansyl chloride, demonstrating a high S/N ratio of  $\sim 12$  and a short elution time of  $\sim 3.1$  min.
- The presence of ammonia and its heavy isotopologue can be distinguished and quantified by their MS peak areas at m/z= 251.0854 ( $^{14}\text{N}$ ) and m/z=252.0825 ( $^{15}\text{N}$ ).
- Dansyl chloride is widely used in derivatization of amino acids for fluorescence and mass spectrometry analysis.



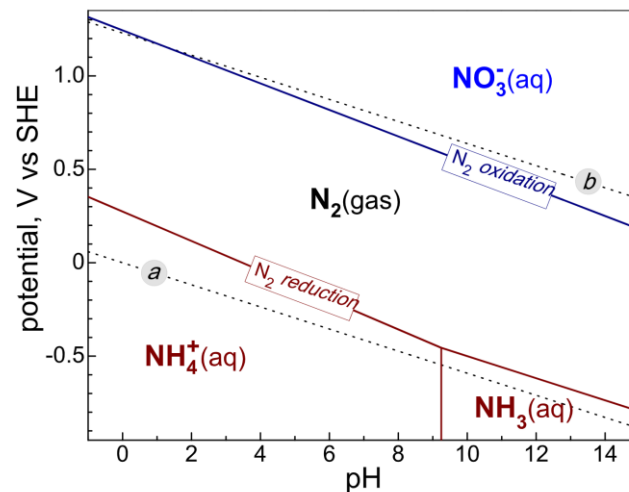
# Detecting of Ammonia

## Gas Chromatography (GC)



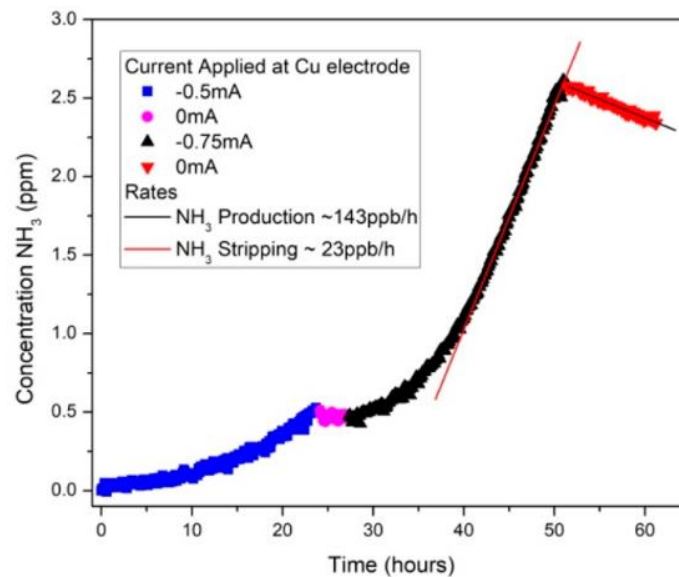
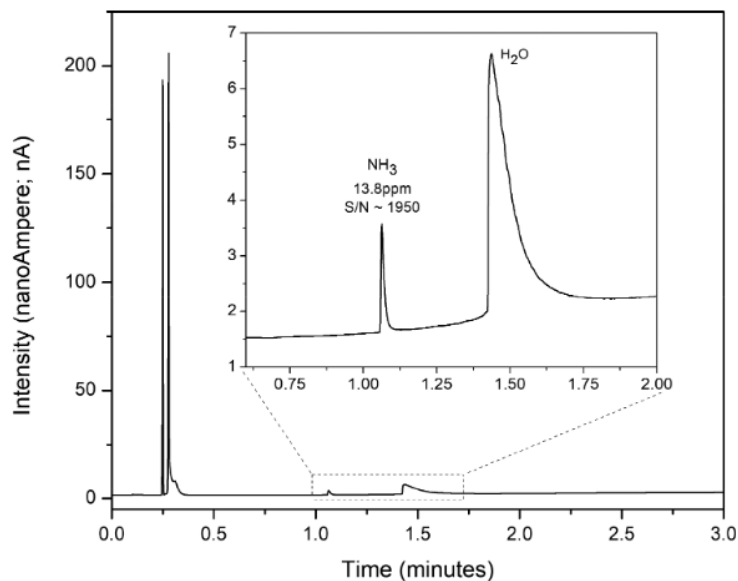
- Relevant equilibrium to be considered is between ammonia in the gas phase ( $\text{NH}_3(\text{g})$ ) and ammonia as dissolved gas ( $\text{NH}_3(\text{aq})$ )
- Electrochemical ammonia generation device and equilibrium between dissolved ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3(\text{aq})$ ) and gas-phase ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3(\text{g})$ ) provided pH is basic.
- Gas-phase ammonia concentration is addressed directly by GC, while dissolved ammonia concentration is calculated from gas-phase ammonia concentration.
- When pH is greater than 11, the equilibrium is fully shifted to the left side of the equation.

Chen et al., Science 360, eaar6611 (2018)



# Detecting of Ammonia

## Gas Chromatography (GC)



- Permanent gases are eluted at 0.25 min, ammonia at 1.1 min, and water at 1.3 min.
- This peak increases in time, indicating ammonia is generated electrocatalytically in solution and it quickly equilibrates with its gaseous head space as the high pH ensures that NH<sub>3</sub> is present in solution rather than NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>.
- The ammonia production rate in the gas phase reached about 143 ppb/h.
- When the current is stopped while maintaining the nitrogen carrier gas flow active, NH<sub>3</sub> concentration slowly decrease.