



# Noble metals-based catalysts for hydrogen production via bioethanol reforming in a fluidized bed reactor

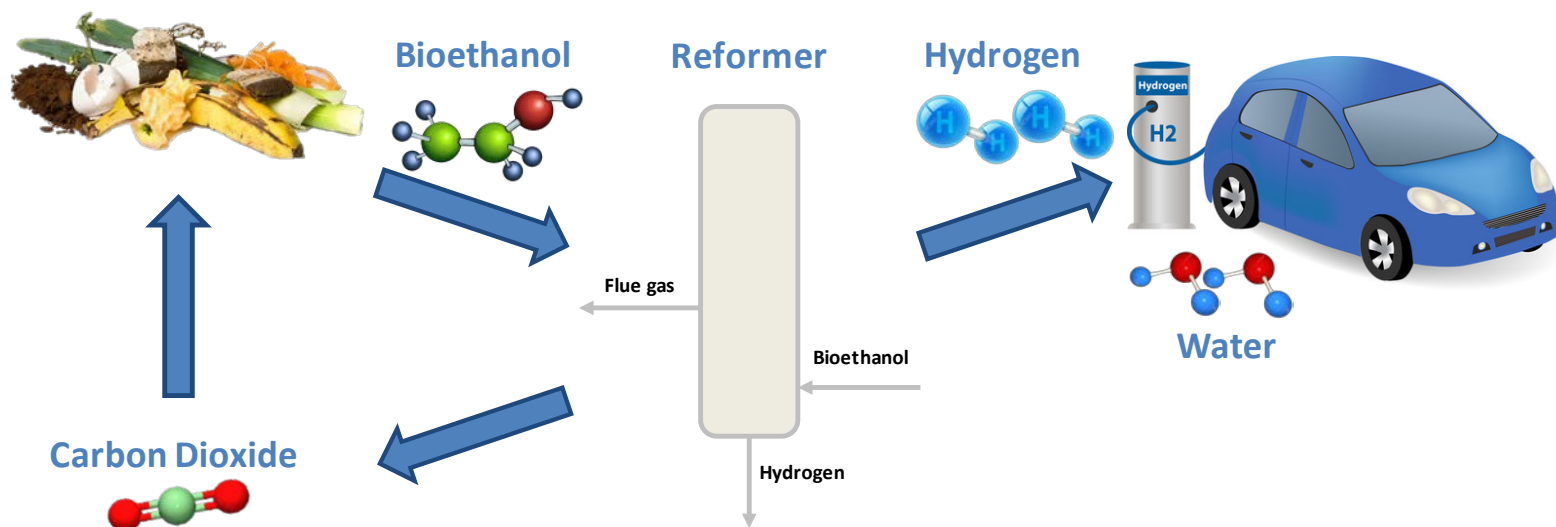
Concetta Ruocco\*, Vincenzo Palma, Marta Cortese, Marco Martino  
cruocco@unisa.it

University of Salerno, Department of Industrial Engineering, Fisciano (SA), Italy





## BIOETHANOL AS H<sub>2</sub> SOURCE



BIOETHANOL Typical composition: 12-15 wt% ethanol<sup>[1]</sup>

Impurities: few ppm to 1% of heavier alcohols, acids, aldehydes, esters

Expensive steps for  
bioethanol dehydration  
and purification

Direct use of raw  
bio-ethanol

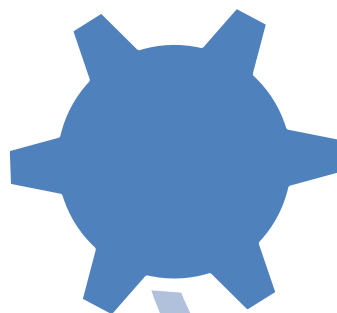
Rarely investigated for  
reforming: negative  
impact on the catalyst<sup>[2]</sup>

[1] Wang. W. et al., Int. J. Energy Res. 34 (2010) 1285-1290.

[2] Le Valant A. et al., Int J Hydrogen Energy 36 (2011) 311-318.



## ETHANOL REFORMING: PROCESS INTENSIFICATION



**FLUIDIZED BED: IMPROVED MASS TRANSFER AND GAS SOLID CONTACT**



**DEVELOPMENT OF ACTIVE, SELECTIVE AND STABLE CATALYSTS**

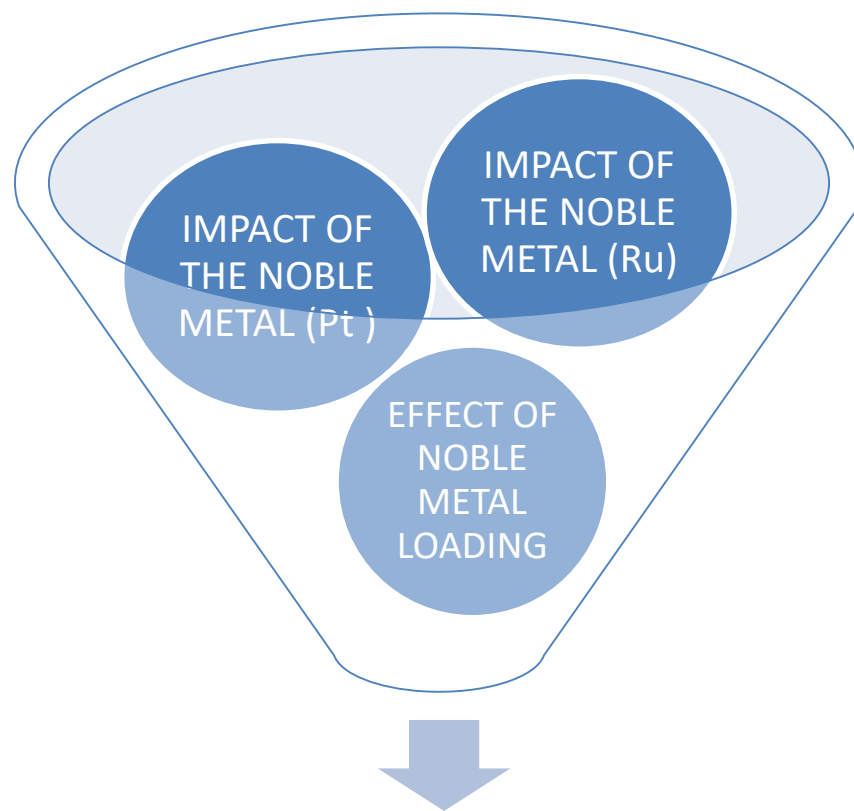
**AIR CO-FEEDING: AUTHOTHERMAL CONDITIONS AND REDUCED COKE**





# AIMS OF THE WORK

## EVALUATION OF THE STABILITY OF BIMETALLIC CATALYSTS FOR OXIDATIVE STEAM REFORMING IN A FLUIDIZED BED



**SELECTION OF DURABLE CATALYSTS TO TEST UNDER RAW BIOETHANOL**



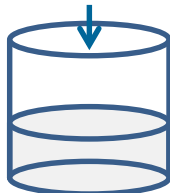
# CATALYST PREPARATION & CHARACTERIZATION

Mesoporous  
 $\text{SiO}_2$  gel



1° Step

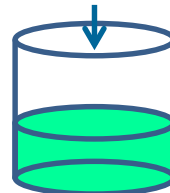
$\text{SiO}_2$



$\text{CeO}_2$  precursor  
solution

2° Step

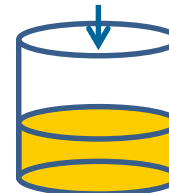
$\text{CeO}_2/\text{SiO}_2$



Ni nitrate  
solution

3° Step

$\text{Ni}/\text{CeO}_2/\text{SiO}_2$



Pt or Ru chloride  
solution

10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2$ - $\text{SiO}_2$

0.5Pt-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2$ - $\text{SiO}_2$

1Pt-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2$ - $\text{SiO}_2$

2Pt-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2$ - $\text{SiO}_2$

3Pt-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2$ - $\text{SiO}_2$

0.5Ru-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2$ - $\text{SiO}_2$

1Ru-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2$ - $\text{SiO}_2$

2Ru-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2$ - $\text{SiO}_2$

3Ru-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2$ - $\text{SiO}_2$

Impregnation order (Ni earlier than Pt), Ni (10 wt%) and Pt/Ru (3 wt%) loadings as well as  $\text{CeO}_2/\text{SiO}_2$  ratio (30 wt%) previously optimized



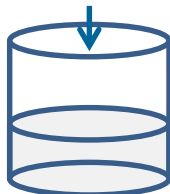
# CATALYST PREPARATION & CHARACTERIZATION

Mesoporous  
 $\text{SiO}_2$  gel



1° Step

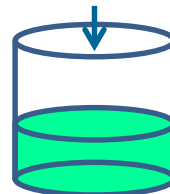
$\text{SiO}_2$



$\text{CeO}_2$  precursor  
solution

2° Step

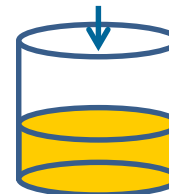
$\text{CeO}_2/\text{SiO}_2$



Ni nitrate  
solution

3° Step

Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2/\text{SiO}_2$



Pt or Ru chloride  
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2Pt-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2\text{-SiO}_2$

3Pt-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2\text{-SiO}_2$

0.5Ru-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2\text{-SiO}_2$

1Ru-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2\text{-SiO}_2$

2Ru-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2\text{-SiO}_2$

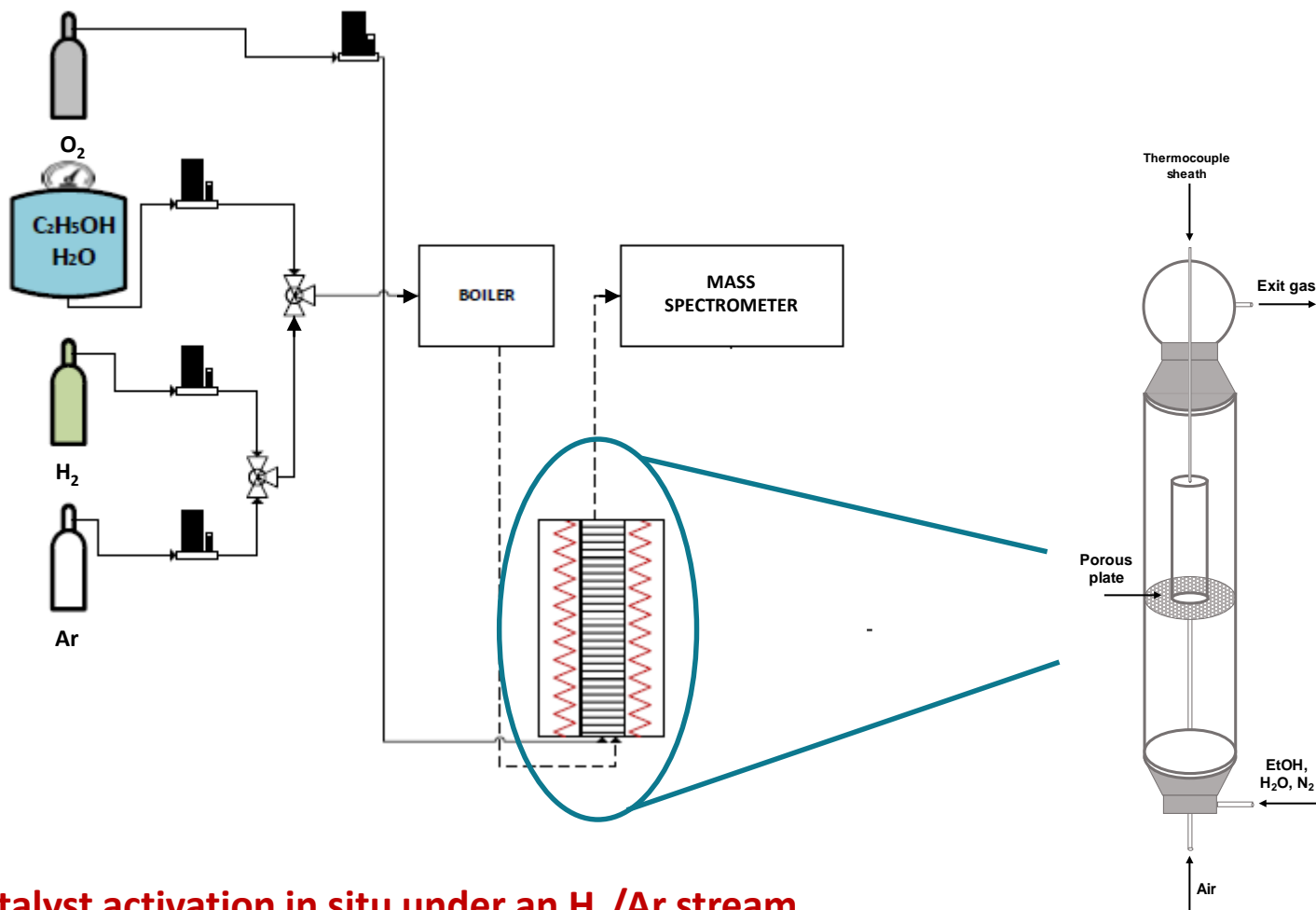
3Ru-10Ni/ $\text{CeO}_2\text{-SiO}_2$

**Characterization: Surface Area Measurements (BET) on fresh and spent catalysts  
Thermogravimetric (TGA) Analysis on Spent Catalysts**

Carbon formation rate measurements from TGA data  $\text{CFR} = \frac{\text{mass}_{\text{coke}}}{\text{mass}_{\text{catalyst}} \cdot \text{mass}_{\text{carbon, fed}} \cdot \text{time}}$



# LABORATORY APPARATUS & PROCEDURE



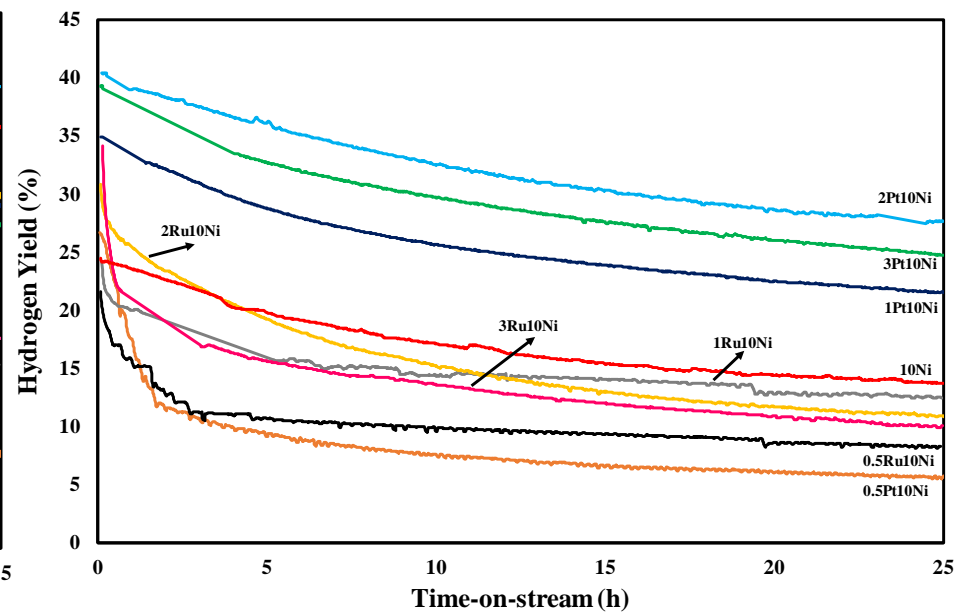
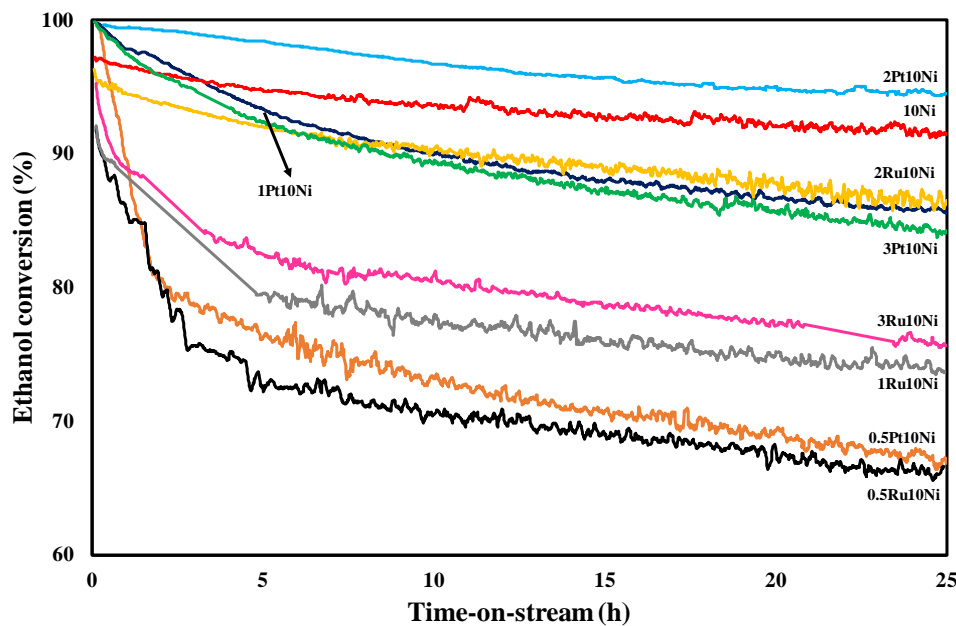
- Catalyst activation in situ under an  $H_2/Ar$  stream
  - Stability test at  $H_2O/C_2H_5OH$  (r.a.) ratio of 4 and  $O_2/C_2H_5OH$  (r.o.) of 0.5
- WHSV (ethanol mass flow rate/catalytic mass) =  $61.7 \text{ h}^{-1}$   $T=500^\circ\text{C}$



# RESULTS OF STABILITY TESTS

EFFECT OF CATALYTIC FORMULATION: Ru-Ni and Pt-Ni SAMPLES

$T=500^{\circ}\text{C}$   $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}=4$   $\text{O}_2/\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}=0.5$   $\text{WHSV}=61.7 \text{ h}^{-1}$



**HIGHEST DURABILITY FOR THE 2Pt10Ni SAMPLE**

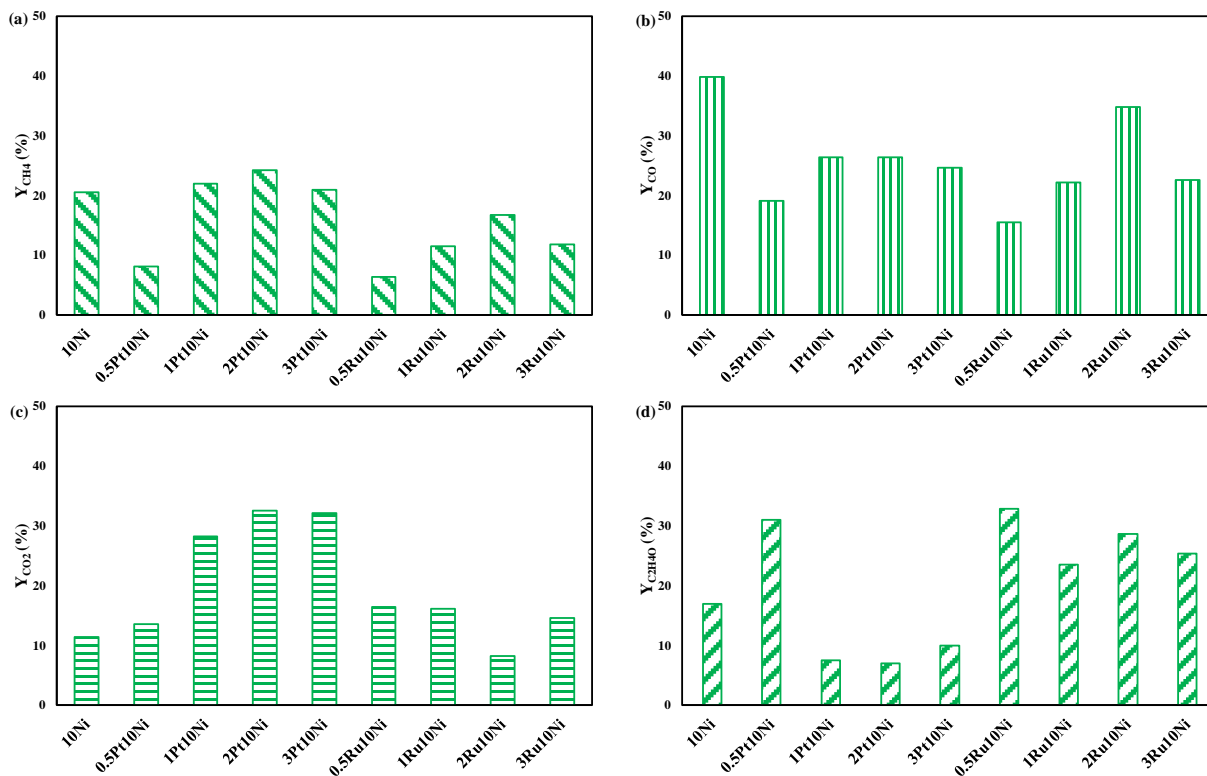
Low hydrogen yield over the 0.5Ru10Ni and 0.5Pt10Ni catalysts, previously identified as the most active samples





# RESULTS OF STABILITY TESTS

## REACTION PRODUCTS YIELD



**High  $C_2H_4O$  production and low  $CH_4$  yield over Ru series and 0.5Pt10Ni catalyst:  
occurrence of methane decomposition and coke formation**



# SPENT CATALYSTS CHARACTERIZATION

## BET Analysis and CFR

Sample	BET Fresh Sample ( $\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{g}^{-1}$ )	BET Spent Sample ( $\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{g}^{-1}$ )	CFR ( $\text{g}_{\text{coke}} \cdot \text{g}_{\text{catalyst}}^{-1} \cdot \text{g}_{\text{carbon,fed}}^{-1} \cdot \text{h}^{-1}$ )
10Ni	230	182	$3.9 \cdot 10^{-6}$
0.5Pt10Ni	213	145	$8.4 \cdot 10^{-6}$
1Pt10Ni	214	179	$2.4 \cdot 10^{-6}$
2Pt10Ni	226	191	$1.5 \cdot 10^{-6}$
3Pt10Ni	227	186	$2 \cdot 10^{-6}$
0.5Ru10Ni	212	142	$7.9 \cdot 10^{-6}$
1Ru10Ni	208	143	$5.1 \cdot 10^{-6}$
2Ru10Ni	210	145	$5.8 \cdot 10^{-6}$
3Ru10Ni	218	149	$6.3 \cdot 10^{-6}$

**Pronounced area reduction over the Ru series and the low-loaded samples due to carbonaceous deposits accumulation**



# CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE ACTIVITIES



Stability of Pt-Ni/CeO<sub>2</sub>-SiO<sub>2</sub> and Ru-Ni catalysts for oxidative reforming of ethanol in a fluidized bed reactor

- ✓ Highest ethanol conversion and hydrogen yield over the 2Pt10Ni catalyst and good performance of the noble metals-free sample
- ✓ Worst durability for the 0.5Pt10Ni and 0.5Ru10Ni
- ✓ Increase of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O selectivity over the Ru series
- ✓ Decrease of the carbon formation rate in the order 2Pt10Ni<3Pt10Ni<1Pt10Ni<10Ni

**FUTURE ACTIVITIES: EVALUATION OF 2Pt-10Ni/CeO<sub>2</sub>-SiO<sub>2</sub> CATALYST DURABILITY UNDER RAW BIOETHANOL FEEDING**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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