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Challenges in (homogeneous) catalysis with precious metal catalysts

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Antonio Zanotti, Jane Patrick, Sarah Facchetti

About Platinum Group Metals

The platinum group metals (PGMs)





Platinum Palladium Rhodium Ruthenium Iridium Osmium



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Global markets for PGMs



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Introducing Johnson Matthey in the PGM landscape

... critical enablers for current and PGMs are high demand precious metals ... emerging applications Palladium Autocatalysts Platinum Industrial J applications Rhodium At the heart of the PGM Fuel cells market Iridium Life Sciences Ruthenium Technologies

Introducing Johnson Matthey in the PGM landscape



Snapshot of PGM supply

Sources of PGM supply in 2023 (excluding closed-loop recycling)

~ 70% PGM used in JM products is from secondary supply



Snapshot of PGM supply Sources of mined PGM supply in 2023



The different recycling loops



Recycled metal is reused by the owner

Reduces demand for `new' metal in an application

"Invisible"



PGM

Recycled metal is returned to the market

Increases supply of 'new' metal in the market

Metal is dispersed via product sales

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The urban mine

A source of low-carbon metal that can continue for decades



Available for recovery at end of vehicle lifetimes ±30 years

Platinum Palladium Rhodium

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Recycled metals: critical raw materials management Market supply of PGM volumes excluding closed loop supply



The world will continue to require PGMs

Decarbonisation trends make the recycling model even more relevant in the future due to:

- Cost advantage
- Lower carbon content
- Circularity
- Supply security





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PGMS MARKET RESEARCH

PGMS Market Research

- Team of analysts dedicated to analysis of the platinum group metals markets
- Principal authority on the pgm markets globally
- Deep insight into end-use product applications and markets, primary supply and recycling
- Short and long-term analysis for internal and customer strategic planning

Public domain resources



The PGM supply/demand equilibrium https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n7BjuMqTADg

PGM refining <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vn4wnz5KSAM</u>

Fundamentals of PGMs https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QV0Ehx-MjJg <text>

Platinum group metals: a circular solution for a net zero future https://youtu.be/TeCvxN2Qo4U?si=htjGBZB-32PaEmrp

About a catalyst's footprint in a catalytic step

The carbon footprint of PGMs



CO₂ eq of primary and secondary PGMs

Source: 'Life Cycle Assessment of Global Platinum Group Metals Production' created by Sphera on behalf of The International Platinum Group Metals Association (IPA), v1.9, 20/10/2020 -Shannon Boonzaier, Christoph Hoppe, Johannes Gediga. https://www.ipa-news.com/index/sustainability/lca-data-access.html

CO₂ eq Secondary

732

819

639

730

730

The carbon footprint of PGMs



CO₂ eq of primary and secondary PGMs

Certified 100% secondary metal is available

Heterogeneous catalysts



Manufacturing footprint of Pd/C is mostly negligible vs metal footprint



The carbon footprint of a Pd/C hydrogenation step



The carbon footprint of Pd/C hydrogenation step



Impact of solvents on GWP of catalytic step



■ 5% w/w Pd ■ solvent

The choice of solvent has a major impact on the catalyst step GWP

Note that selection purely based on GWP (CO_2 eq.) of solvents may differ from selection based on combined other metrics, e.g.:

Green Chem **2016**, *18*, 3879 (GSK) *Green Chem* **2016**, *18*, 288 (GSK, Sanofi, Pfizer)

About base metal catalysts vs PGM catalysts

Growing interest for base metal catalysts

Recent advances in nonprecious metal catalysis Ickes *et al. Org.Process.Res.Dev* **2023**, *27*, 423

Collaboration as a key to advance capabilities for earth abundant metal catalysis Wisniewski *et al. Org.Process.Res.Dev* **2023**, *27*, 1160

Diversification of pharmaceutical manufacturing processes: taking the plung into the non-PGM catalyst pool Engle, Seechurn *et al. ACS Catal.* **2024**, 9708

Advances in Earth abundant metal catalysis Wheelhouse *et al. Org. Process Res. Dev.* **2023**, *27*, 1157

For a different point of view see:

B. Lipshutz Johnson Matthey Technol. Rev. **2023**, 67, 278 E. Schofield Johnson Matthey Technol. Rev. **2023**, 67, 285

Sustainability of Ni and Pd coupling processes

	CO ₂ eq catalyst preparation	CO ₂ eq catalyst contribution in process	CO ₂ eq entire process
Ni	17.5	0.19	2326
Pd	11,289	2.37	1554

Ni catalysis is not necessarily more sustainable than Pd catalysis, but it should be regarded as complementary

Look at the big picture!

From: M. U. Luescher, F. Gallou and B. H. Lipshutz, *Chem. Sci.*, **2024**, DOI: 10.1039/D4SC00482E

Interactions of multiple metrics and environmental indicators to assess processes, detect environmental hotspots and guide future development M.U. Luescher, F. Gallou *Green. Chem.* **2024**, *26*, 5239

Sustainability of Ni and Pd coupling processes

More about cost:

An example of route comparisons in C-H activation:

Ni > Pd > no cat > Rh > Co > Ru

A.K. Komarova, D.S. Perekalin Organometallics **2023**, *42*, 1433

More about toxicity:

Toxicity of metal compounds: knowledge and myths

K.S. Egorova, V.P. Ananikov Organometallics **2017**, *36*, 4071

About the importance of process optimization

Asymmetric transfer hydrogenation

First Generation (Noyori)

- Reliable and flexible
- Well-understood scope
- Cost-effective

Second Generation (Wills)

- Special applications
- Enable the `impossible'



New transfer hydrogenation patents granted at a stable rate of around 50 per year'

Glorius, Leker *et al. Adv.Synth.Catal* **2020**, *362*, 1258

Catalyst loading in transfer hydrogenation

The 'simple' substrates

	Molar catalyst loading	Weight catalyst per ton substrate	ppm Ru (mg / Kg)
1 st Gen (Noyori)	S/C 100- 2,000/1	20 - 1 Kg	3,000-150
2 nd Gen (Wills)	S/C 1,000-20,000/1	2 Kg – 100 g	300-15



R', R" = alkyl, aryl, halide, OR, NR₂

- First generation Noyori catalysts have wellunderstood scope
- Reliable and cost-effective on 'simpler' targets

Second generation Wills catalysts offer incremental advantages:

- Much lower loadings
- Easier product purification

Catalyst loading in transfer hydrogenation

The complex substrates

	Molar catalyst loading	Weight catalyst per ton substrate	ppm Ru (mg / Kg)
1 st Gen (Noyori)	S/C 20 - 100 (if possible at all)	100 - 20 Kg	15,000-3,000
2 nd Gen (Wills)	S/C 100- 1,000/1	20 – 2 Kg	3,000-300



 $X,Y,Z = NHR, NR_2, SR, OH, OR, COOR, CONR_2$



Second generation catalysts:

- provide more robust processes
- enable 'impossible' transformations
- Reduce catalyst loadings

Transfer hydrogenation has a wide scope Н Second generation catalysts are effective on complex molecules .OH OH COOMe Ixazomib MeO OH Sandoz: Chem. Sci. C7H15 **2022**, *13*, 2946–2953 NHBoc OH BnÓ OH **89%** 100% cov. 84% 80-99% >99% 85% 98% ee 97% ee 98% ee 98% ee 96% ee 6:1->99:1 dr, 72-97% ee NH HŅ^{, PMP} OH HO NC R CF3 ÓН Ozanimod 100% conv. 100% conv. 100% conv 62% **89%** 70-94% **Chemessentia**: Eur. J. Org. 98% ee 99% ee, 99:1 dr >99% ee 93-99% ee 98% ee 96% ee ΌΗ Chem. 2021, 2021, 1924 ΟН **BocHN** OH OH 0 `OEt ʹΌΗ Ŵе R₃ Br Bn 92-97% 93% >99% 100% conv. 100% conv. 90-98%. Bı >99% ee 96:4 dr, 99% ee 97% ee 96:4-99:1 dr, 95-99% ee 97% ee 96% ee NH₂ OH 98% ee, 96% yield

Review: Wills, Nedden, Zanotti Chemical Records 2016, 16, 2623

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Elbasvir

2310

Merck: Org. Lett. 2014, 16,

Carbon footprint of a first-generation TH catalyst



LCA Tools: SimaPro 9.6 (Pre-Sustainability, The Netherlands) with ecoinvent v3.10 (ecoinvent, Switzerland)

https://ecoinvent.org/database/ ecoinvent Version 3

Wernet, G., Bauer, C., Steubing, B., Reinhard, J., Moreno-Ruiz, E., and Weidema, B., 2016. The ecoinvent database version 3 (part I): overview and methodology. The International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment, [online] 21(9), pp.1218–1230.

Carbon footprint of a first-generation TH catalyst **DISCLAIMER: this is work in progress !**



Ligand TsDpen based on *Org. Synth.* **1998**, *9*, 387: around \sim 1,000Kg CO₂ /Kg ; waste included, and energy not included (solvents biggest contributors).

> Estimation based on model Birch reduction : *OPRD* **2024**, *28*, 2168 ~100Kg CO_2 /Kg (largely solvent dependent!), waste included, energy not included

Estimated total: ~3,500 Kg CO_2/Kg product, waste included, and energy not included. Metal contribution approx. 70% (assuming Ru 70% from secondary sources)



Optimisation case studies with TH catalysts From literature conditions to scalable process





Catalyst GWP remains major contributor to step but is reduced by 30 times

Optimization enables reduction of solvent/reagents impact by a factor of 14 times

No isolation included No waste disposal included

Optimisation case studies with TH catalysts From initial conditions to scalable process





Semi-optimized isolation and waste disposal included

Catalyst GWP similar to solvent in initial process and negligible in optimized process

Optimization reduced impact of catalyst by a factor of 60 and of combined solvent/reagent/waste by a factor of 3.5

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About design for refining

Challenges in closing the metal loop

Process optimization improves costs and sustainability, but metal recovery can be challenging

Low metal concentration

Nature of liquid waste (hazard, toxicity...)

Pretreatments requirements

Representative sampling

Understanding the mass balance – where does the metal escape?

Trade in and out of countries – regulations

Design the process for refining

A closed-loop approach will reduce carbon emission and capital expenditure

It is important to:

- Understand metal balance
- Understand waste pre-treatment

D. Arnold *et al*.

'Designing for refining' submitted to Chemistry Today, 2024

There are solutions to maximise value recovery from liquid waste:



See, for example:

https://www.mastermeltgroup.com/catalyst-webinar

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Conclusions

PGMs: challenging the myths



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PGMS MARKET RESEARCH

And my own conclusions...

What matters is not the headline price / carbon footprint but the **economic/sustainability value** that PGMs create

Process optimization unlocks the value of catalysts, enables better use of resources, minimizes contribution of **catalyst cost/footprint**

PGMs are an example of functioning **circular economy** and their future availability is sustainable

(...and I have ignored the comparison with biocatalysis – for discussion another day!...)

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Many thanks to:

JM

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THANK YOU !

and

Antonio.Zanotti-Gerosa@matthey.com

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