

Sustainable Electrification of the Chemical Industry

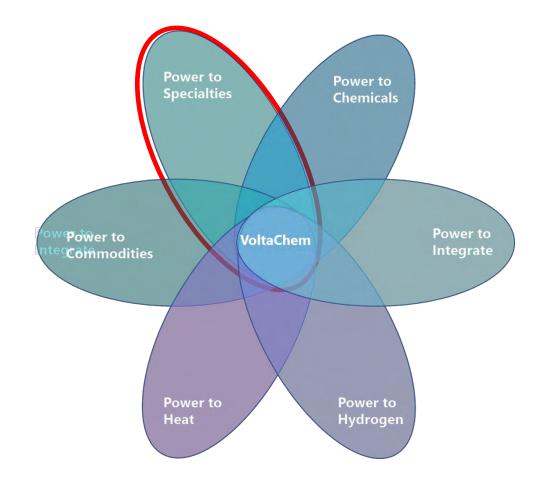
# Challenges and advances in organic electrosynthesis: combining building blocks in electrochemical reactions.

Dr. Amanda Garcia









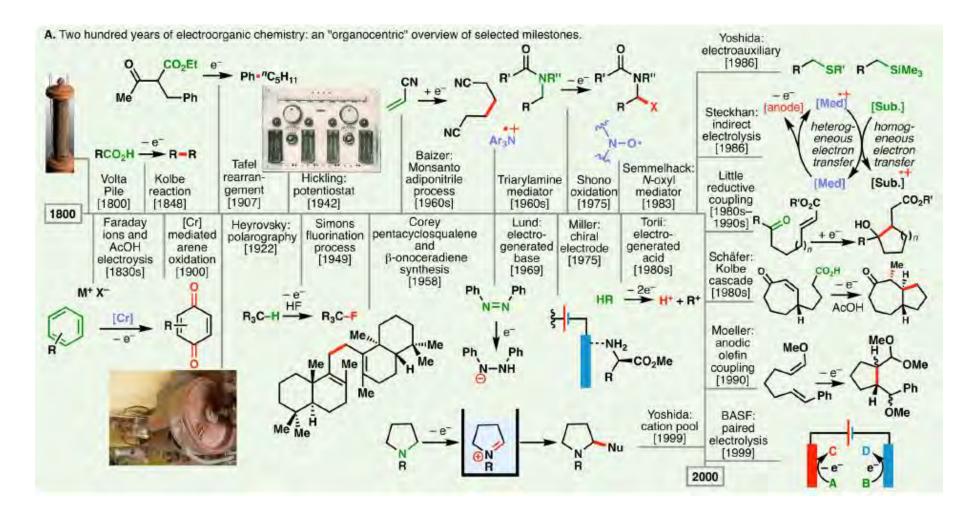
#### • Power to Specialties:

#### Focus on bio-based feedstocks

Expanding toolbox with C-C coupling, electro-amination, electro-hydroformylation, electro-conversion of sugars.



# **Electro-organic synthesis – State of the art**

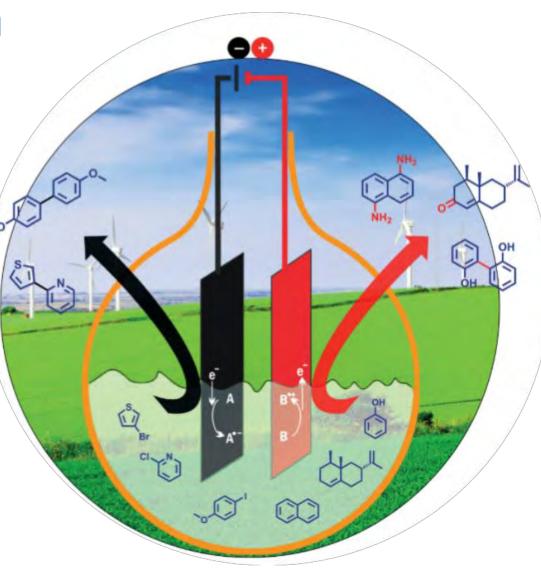




# **Electrochemical production**

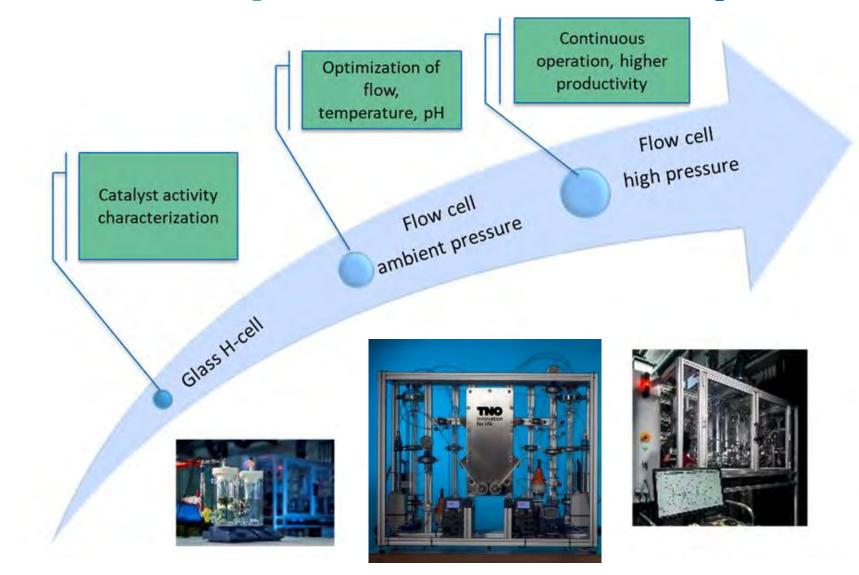
- Replace of conventional chemical oxidizing or reducing agents by electric current
- Renewable and safe technology
- No reagent waste
- Reactivity can be tuned by changing the applied potential
- Easily scalable to the industrial level
- Provides high selectivity in mild conditions

- Still considered a specialist topic
- Reaction mechanisms are often complex
- Requires equipment that often is not available in organic lab
- Requires more fundamental understanding



#### Angew.Chem. Int. Ed. 2018, 57,5594 –5619

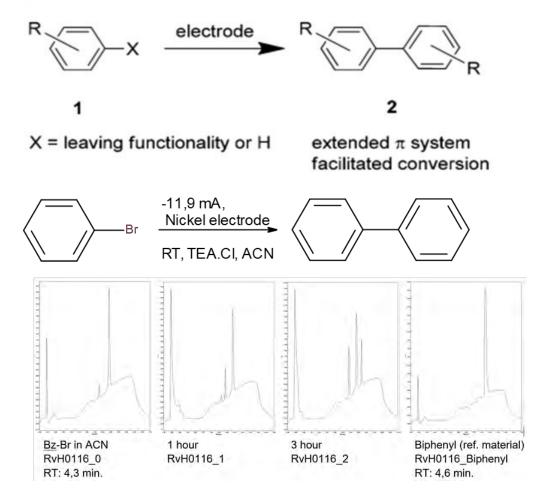
### Focus on development and scale-up





# Our tool box

# **Arylation Reaction**



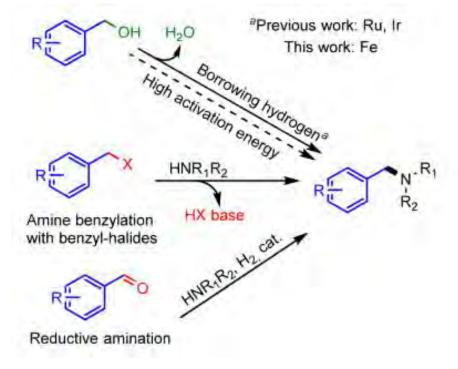
 $\frac{2}{R}$  - x X2 cathode anode \$ x X-+ 2H<sup>+</sup> + 2X<sup>-</sup> X-

Fritted glass

Chem. Rev. 2018, 118, 6706-6765

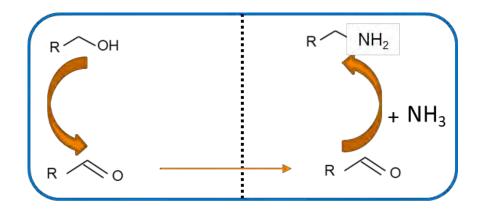


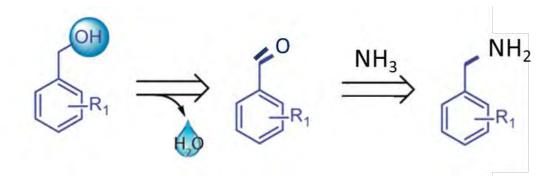
# **Electroamination of benzyl alcohols**





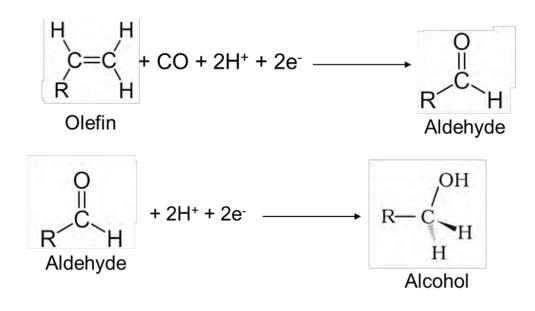
- Pharmaceutical active compounds
- Rivastigmine for treating dementia due Parkinson
- Drugs to reduce cholesterol







# **Electrohydroformylation Reaction**



- High demand in industry for linear alcohols as well as linear aldehydes
- large availability of 1-alkene from the petrochemical industry
- the large increase in production of plastics
- industrially useful compounds produced by hydroformylation (long carbon chain alcohols (detergents))

#### Hexene to Heptanol in organic solvent using Cu electrode

$$H_{3}C \xrightarrow{CH_{2}} + CO + 4H^{+} + 4e^{-} \rightarrow H_{3}C \xrightarrow{OH}$$



# **Electrochemical C-C coupling**

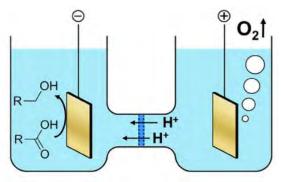
### Dimerization reaction for production of tartaric acid

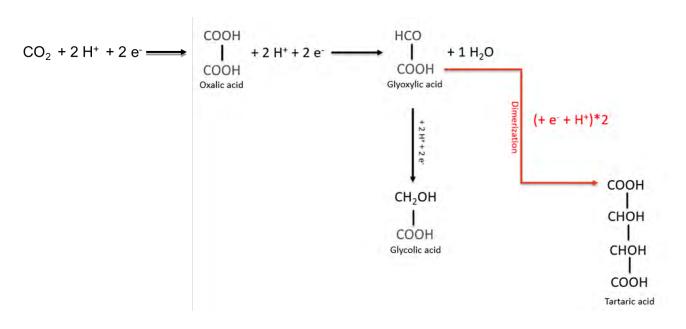
#### **Conventional production**

- TTA is industrially produced by bacterial fermentation of glucose or oxidation of carbohydrates.
- Low yield

#### **Electrochemical production**

- Selective reduction on Ag and Pb electrode at ambient conditions
- High yield





#### **Electrochemical reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>n</sub> products**

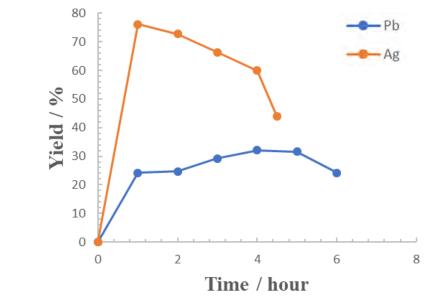


# **Electrodimerization reaction**

#### Electrochemical Reduction of GLYA to TTA in aqueous solvent on Pb and Ag

GLYA to TTA – Ag [TTA] / mmol Time / hour

E @ -1.0 V

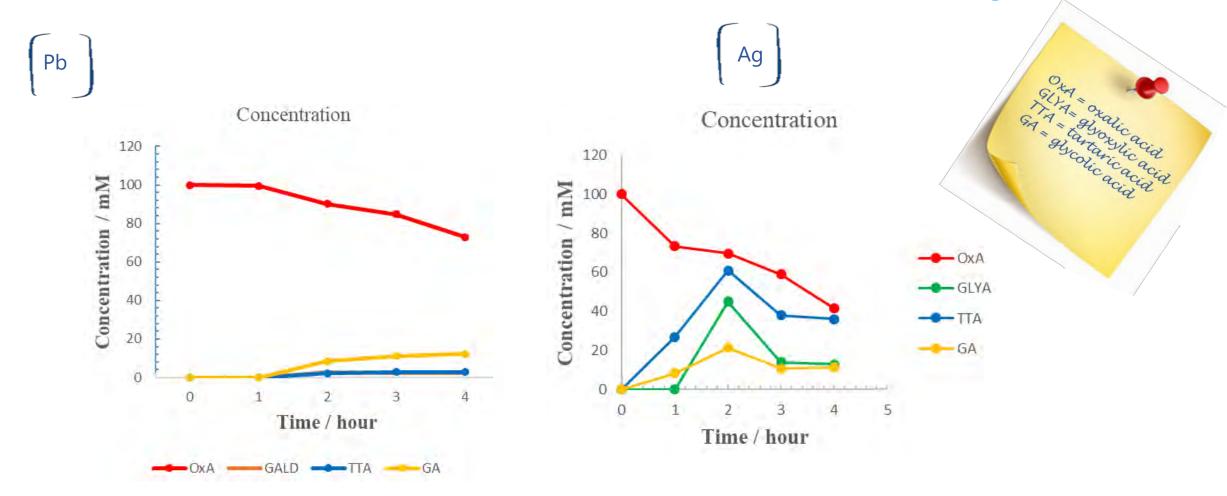






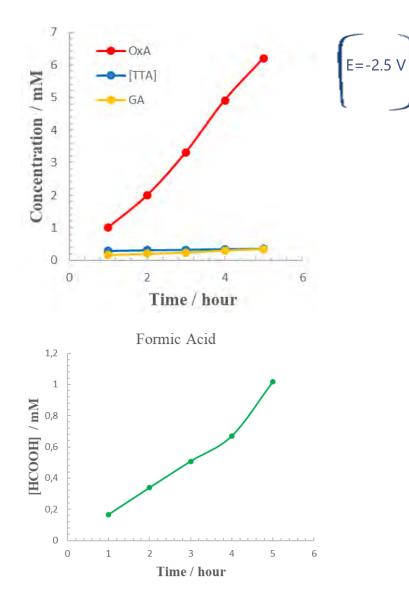
# **Electrodimerization reaction**

*Electrochemical Reduction of OxA to TTA in acetonitrile on Pb and Ag (E= -1.0 V)* 



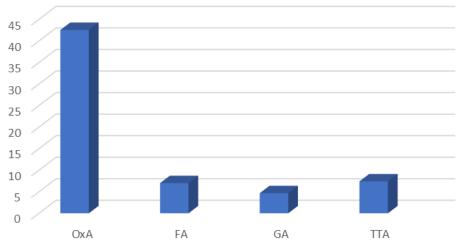


#### **Electrochemical Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> to TTA in acetonitrile on Pb**





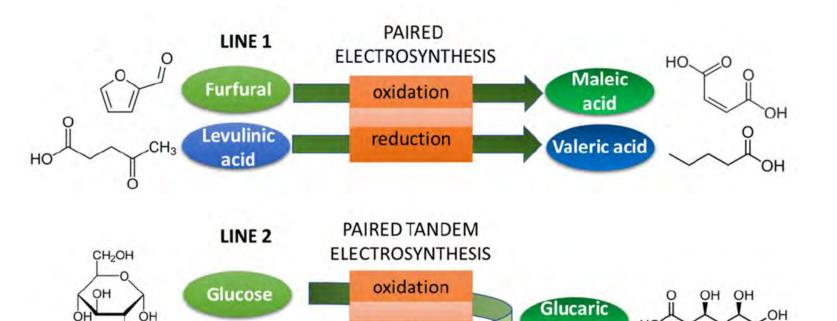
FE (%) measured at 5 h





# **Paired Electrolysis**

Adipic acid



hydro-

leoxygenation

Figure 1.2 The two showcases to be demonstrated in the PowerPlatform

HO

OH

OH

0

acid

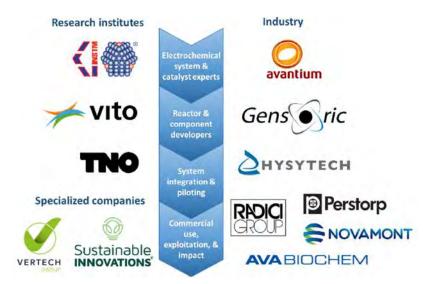
#### PERFORM

PowerPlatform: Establishment of platform infrastructure for highly selective electrochemical conversions



Work programme topics addressed

H2020- CE-SPIRE-02-2018: Processing of material feedstock using nonconventional energy sources





OH 0

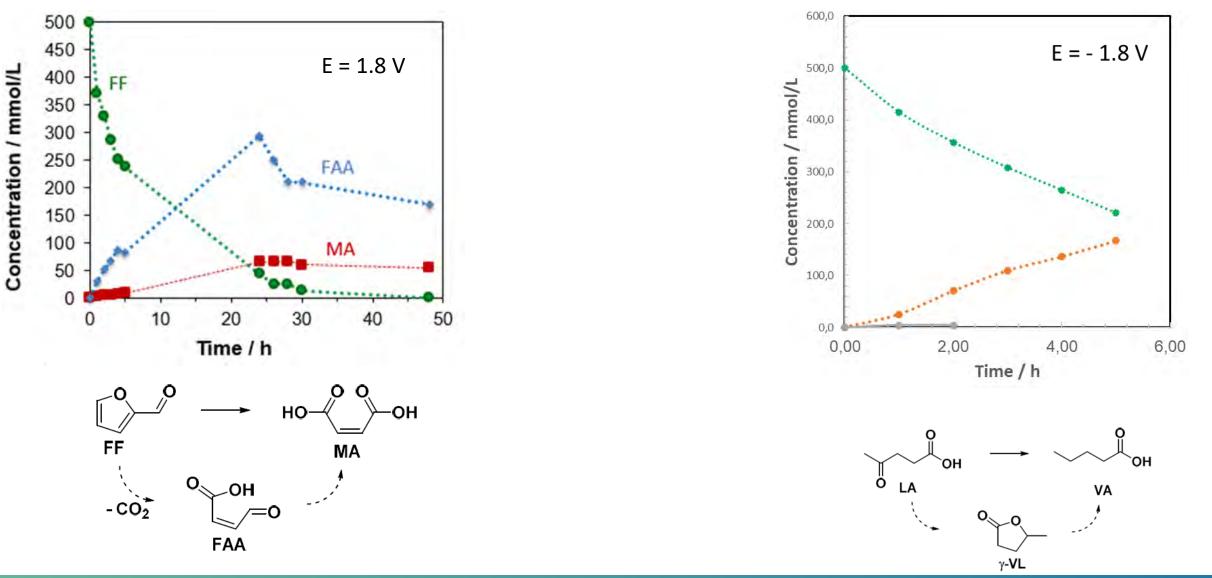
OH

Ół

0

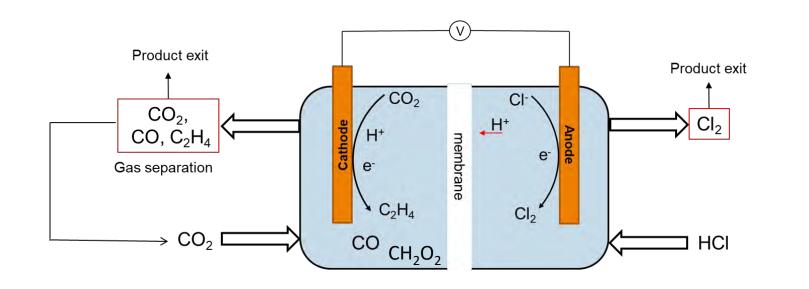
HO.

# **Conversion of Furfural to Maleic Acid on PbO<sub>2</sub>**





## **Paired Electrolysis** *CO*<sub>2</sub> *Reduction / Chloride oxidation*



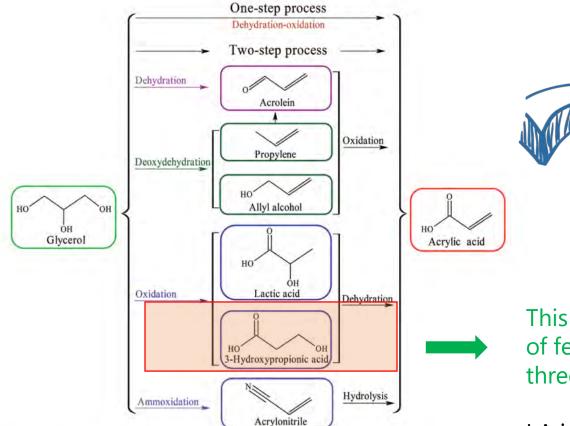
# E-COUCH

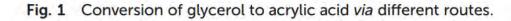
Production of valuable chemicals in a highly efficient manner from essentially waste materials.





# **Glycerol as feedstock**





Acrylic acid is an important bulk chemical widely used in the manufacture of polymeric products.

This route would be the most interesting because of the price of feedstock doesn't change (glycerol and 3-HPA have both three oxygen atoms)

LA is the most stable Dehydration to acrolein is more difficult.



# Acknowledgment



### Thank you for your attention!!!

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