

---

## 聲明

本檔案之內容僅供下載者自我學習或推廣化學教育之非營利目的使用。並請於使用時註明出處。例如「本頁取材自○○○教授演講內容」

---

# Green and Sustainable Chemistry with Microreactors

*3/13/2021*

楊立勛 (Barry Yang)

瑞林科技顧問公司 (Richlink Consulting Co.)

*blyang55@gmail.com* 0918381256

# Outline

- Flow chemistry key to green and sustainable chemistry
- Microreactor enables flow chemistry
  - Safer and greener operation, strong performance
- Impact on education and frontier R&D
- Commercial successes
- Summary

# Ten Chemical Innovations That Will Change Our World

**IUPAC identifies emerging technologies in Chemistry with potential to make our planet more sustainable**

*by Fernando Gomollón-Bel*

Top Ten Emerging Technologies in Chemistry  
IUPAC has made a concerted effort to more broadly promote the chemical and related sciences and series that have the potential to change our world.

Experts recruited by IUPAC selected the Top Ten Emerging Technologies in Chemistry for this article from a pool of nominated chemists from around the globe.

## Flow chemistry

**Chemistry** International April-June 2019

# Why Flow Chemistry?

- Better consistency, easier management
  - Thanks to automation and tight process control
  - Fewer opportunities for human errors
  - Unattended operation achievable and practical
- Opportunities for novel process route
  - Allow unstable or toxic intermediates to be consumed immediately upon generation, enabling synthetic routes otherwise unsuitable for batch operation
- Global leadership endorsements
  - IUPAC, FDA, US Congress

# Batch vs. Continuous Flow

## Batch Reactor, Cyclic Operation

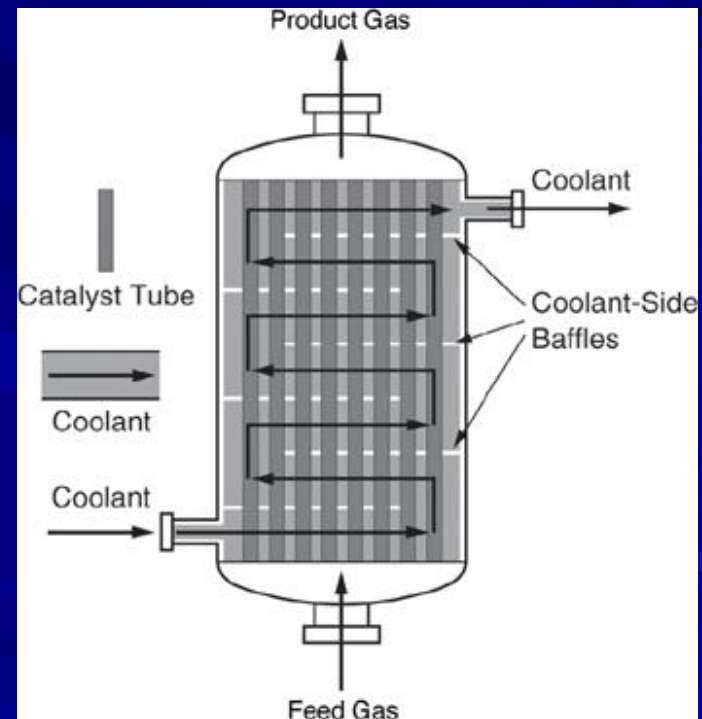
Charge, start stirring, heat up, dose and react, cool down, stop stirring, discharge, clean up



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Batch\\_reactor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Batch_reactor)

## Flow Reactor, Continuous Operation

Start up, steady operation, shut down



<https://www.informit.com/articles/article.aspx?p=1652026&seqNum=4>

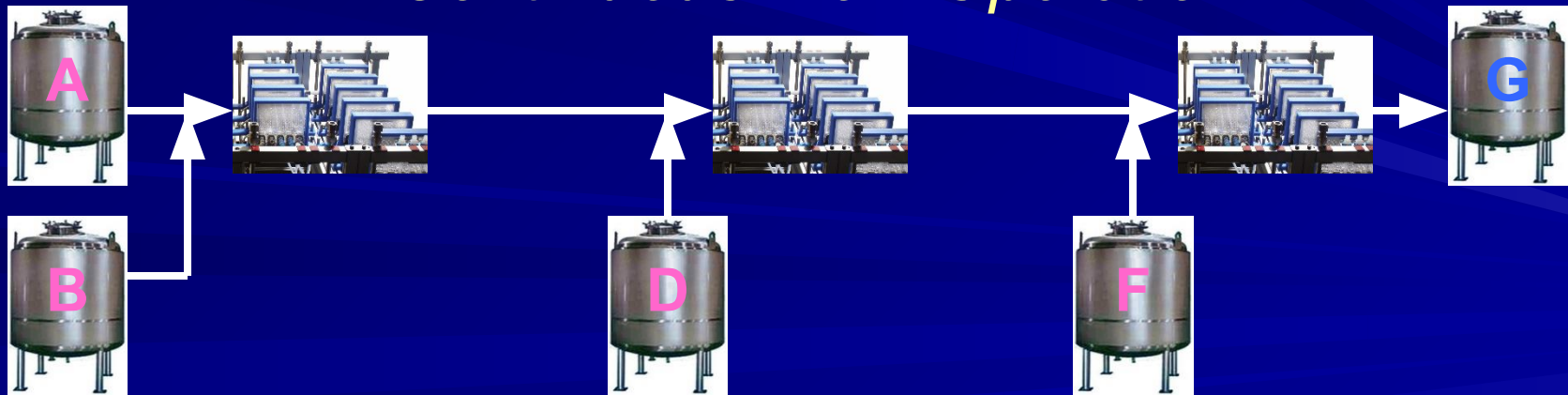


# Flow Process for Simplicity & Versatility

## *Batch Operation*



## *Continuous Flow Operation*



# FDA's Draft Release, 2/2019

## Quality Considerations for Continuous Manufacturing Guidance for Industry

*Additional copies are available from:*

*Office of Communications, Division of Drug Information  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
Food and Drug Administration*

*10001 New Hampshire Ave., Hillandale Bldg., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002*

*Phone: 855-543-3784 or 301-796-3400; Fax: 301-431-6353*

*Email: [druginfo@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:druginfo@fda.hhs.gov)*

*<https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/default.htm>*

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)**

**February 2019  
Pharmaceutical Quality/CMC  
Pharmaceutical Quality/Manufacturing Standards (CGMP)**



# National Centers of Excellence in Continuous Pharmaceutical Manufacturing

- H.R.4866
- Aims to limit drug shortages and spur U.S. drug manufacturing by encouraging use of continuous manufacturing in the development and approval of drugs and biologics
- FDA to designate certain universities as National Centers of Excellence in Continuous Pharmaceutical Manufacturing, which would study and recommend improvements to continuous manufacturing
- Bill passed in the House on 9/21/2020, going to the Senate next

# Why Microreactor?

- Safer and greener operation
  - Intrinsically safe, less waste
- Performance upgrades
  - Process intensification
  - Higher yield, reduced needs for purification
- Shorter time to commercial operation
  - Accelerated process R&D, optimization, and scale-up
- Lower cost
  - Reduced R&D and scale-up costs, lower OPEX

# Safe Operation Tied to Reactor Volume

## Batch Reactor

Reactor size up to 15,000 L

Hold-up ~10,000 L

Assuming 2 days per cycle,  
annual “throughput” ~1,800 ton



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Batch\\_reactor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Batch_reactor)

## Microreactor

Corning G4

Hold-up ~2.5 L (assuming 10  
plates at 0.25 L per plate)

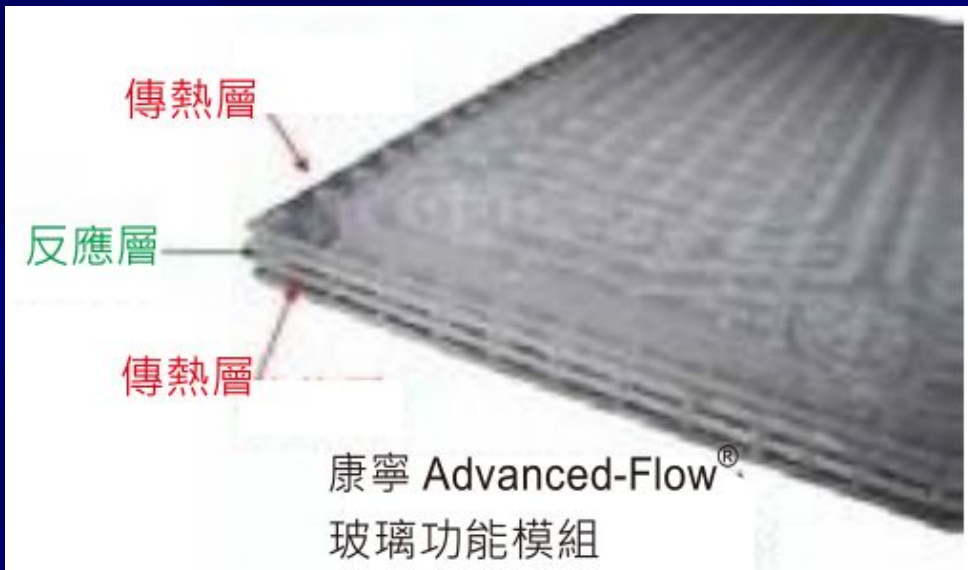
Annual throughput 2,000 ton



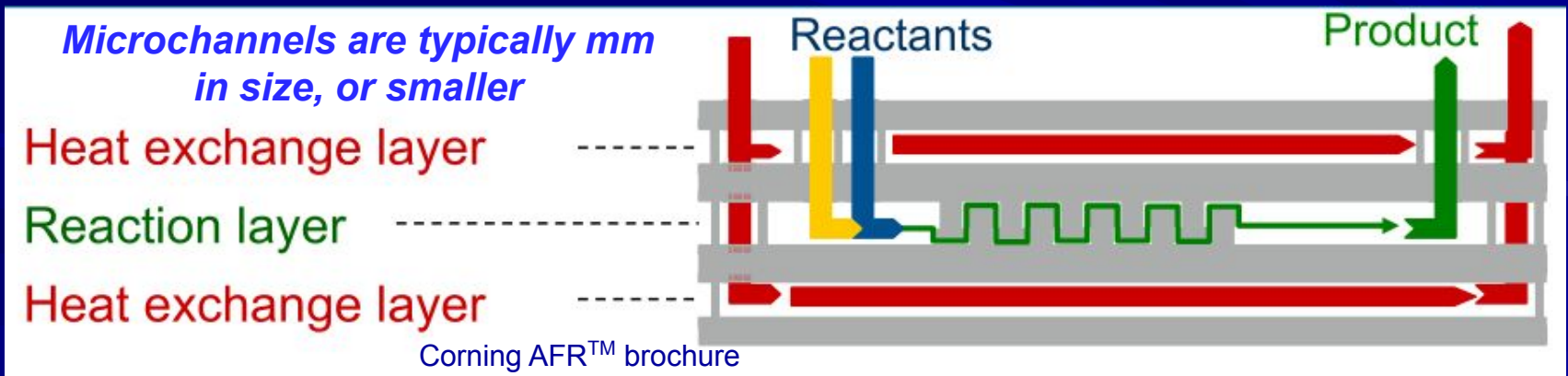
Corning AFR™ G4

# Microreactor Fundamentals

## - Excellent Temperature Control








VS.



# Comparison of Heat Transfer Performance

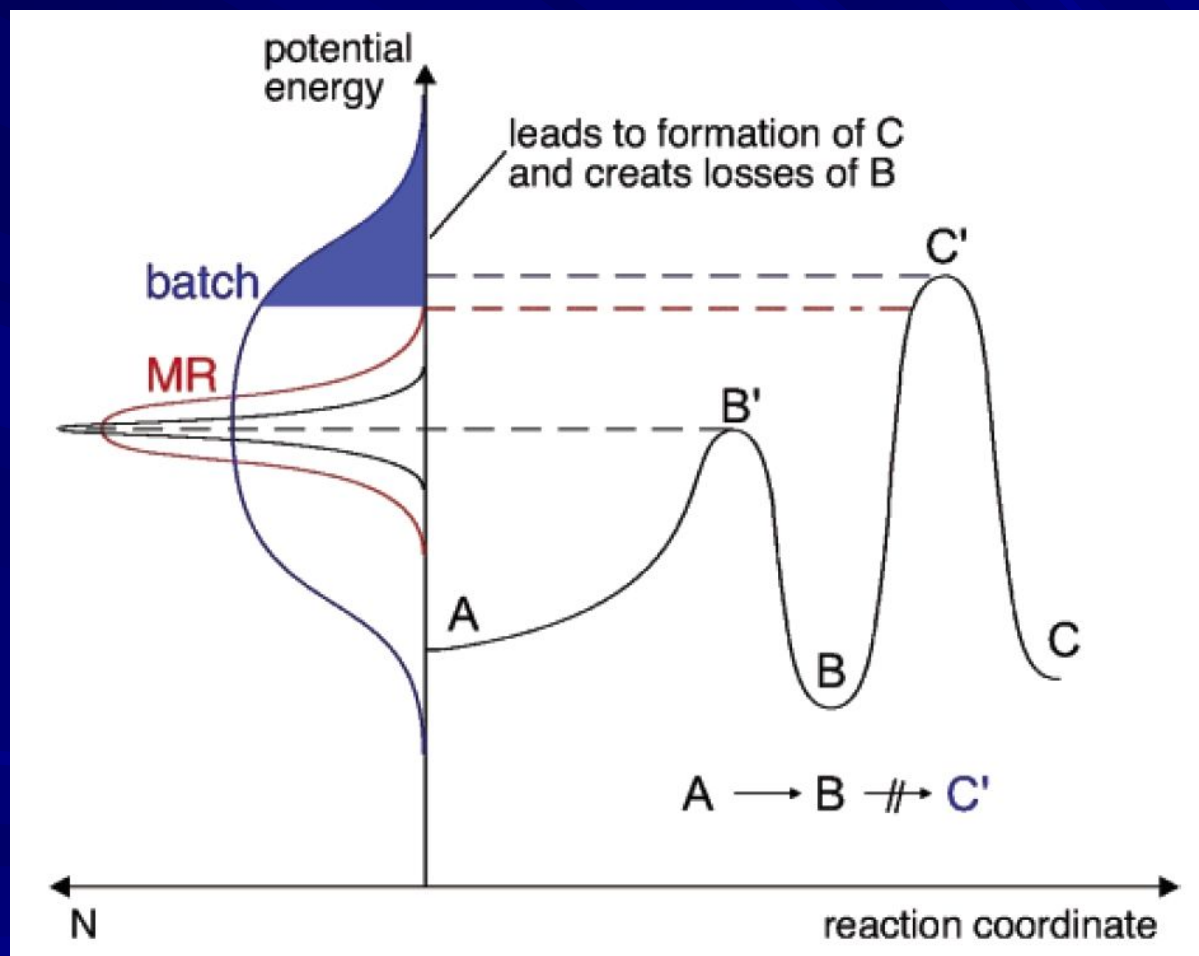
Table 2. Comparison of heat-transfer performance of different heat-exchanger (HEX) reactors.

Reactor	Silicon Carbide Plate HEX Reactor	High-Temperature Alloy Microchannel HEX Reactor	Glass Plate HEX Reactor	Stainless Steel Plate HEX Reactor	Standard Batch Reactor
					
Heat-Transfer Coefficient, $U$ , W/m <sup>2</sup> -K	7,500	1,500	600	2,500	400
Residence Time	Few minutes	Few minutes	Few minutes	Few minutes	Few hours
Ratio of Surface Area to Volume, m <sup>2</sup> /m <sup>3</sup>	2,000	2,000	2,750	400	2.5
Heat Exchange Capacity, kW/m <sup>3</sup> -K	<u>15,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>1,650</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1</u>

C. Gourdon, Selecting Process-Intensified Equipment, CEP, March 2020, 29



# Higher Selectivity from Tighter Temperature Control



Org. Process Res. Dev. 2004, 8, 440



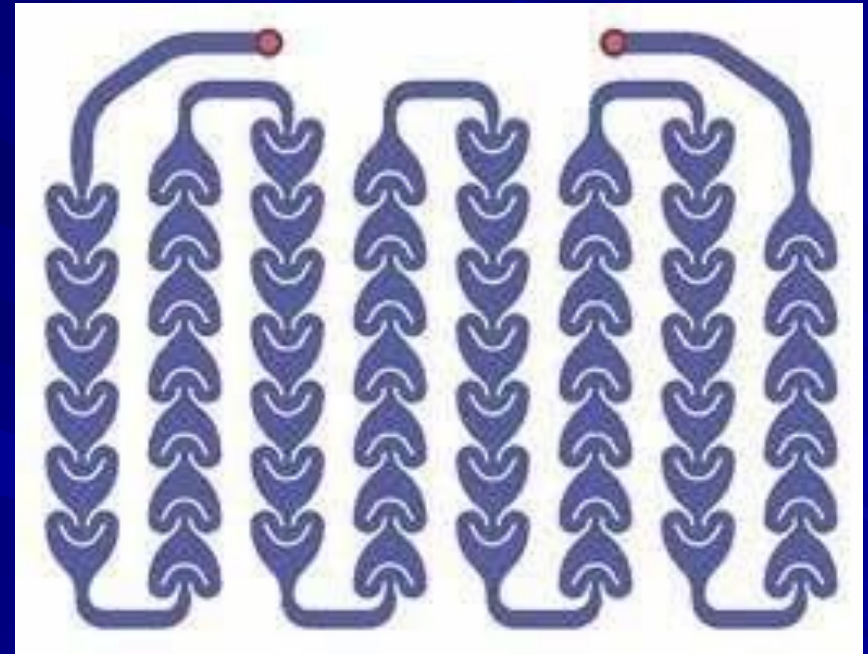
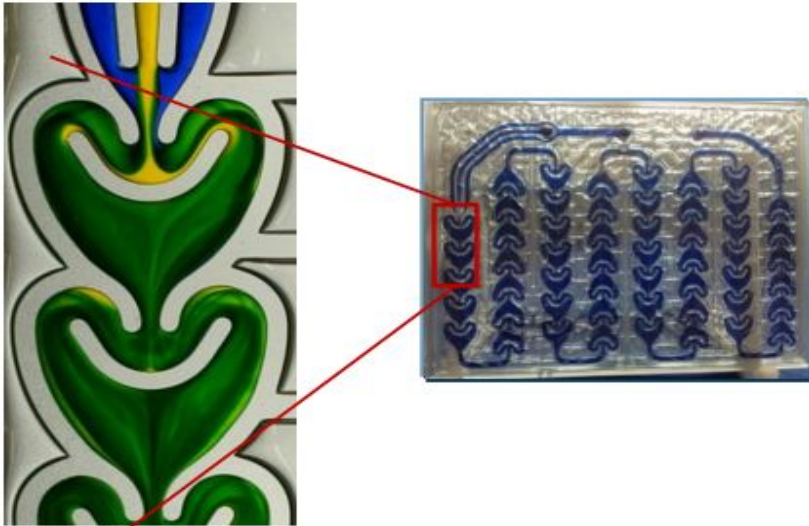
# Static Mixer in Microreactor

## Mixing of Two Liquid Phases

Liquid 1: Blue

Liquid 2: Yellow

Mixture: Green



*Corning heart shaped static mixer*

Corning AFR™ brochure, 2016

# Advantages of Microreactor

- **Process intensification**
  - Up to 100X intensification demonstrated over traditional flow reactor
- **Much safer operation (intrinsic safety)**
  - Minimal chemical hold-up
  - Characteristics of a flame arrester
  - Usually no moving parts (such as a stirrer) to cause mechanical breakdown, little vibration
- **Higher energy efficiency**
- **Operating window can often be widened safely**
- **Process control inherently better**
- **Assured scale-up (numbering up)**

与全球领先的矿物工程公司Bateman的技术相比，本发明设备体积仅为其**1/2000**，制造成本为其**1/50**，开车时间由5~7d缩短到**2~4min**，年开工时间从不足7200h提高到**8000h**以上。



比较项目	本发明	Bateman技术
设备容积	100L	200m <sup>3</sup>
年开工时间	>8000h	<7200h
单次清洗耗时	~2h	~20d

数据来源：“湿法磷酸萃取净化新型装备技术”成果鉴定材料（2011年），企业标定

徐建鸿, 第二届微化工研讨会, 上海, 2018

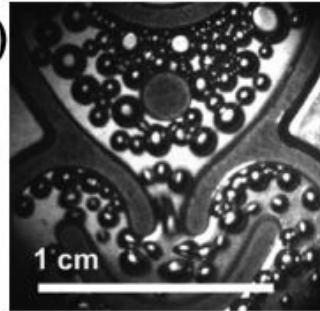
# Disadvantages of Microreactor

- **Limited compatibility with solid particulates**
  - Particulates could cause channel clogging
    - Not suitable for reactions with heavy precipitation
    - Although recent development has successfully demonstrated processing slurries with up to 30% solid content
- **Higher pressure drop**
  - Due to channel size being small
- **High reactor cost**
  - Due to the need for fine engineering and precision manufacturing
  - But total cost to market is often much lower



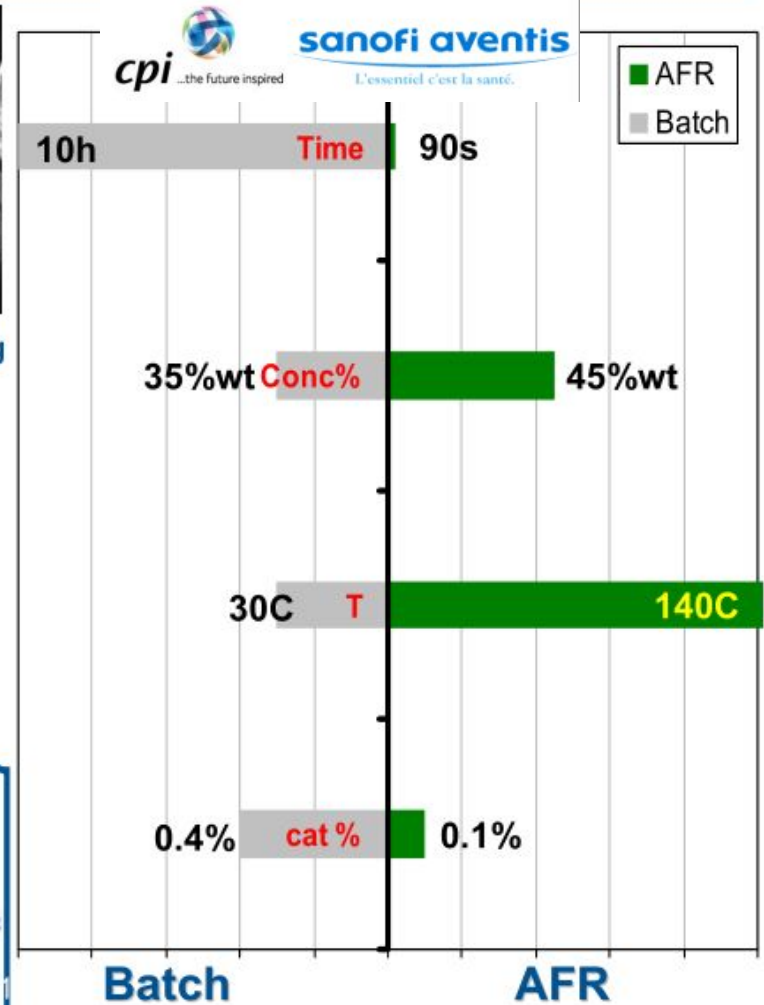
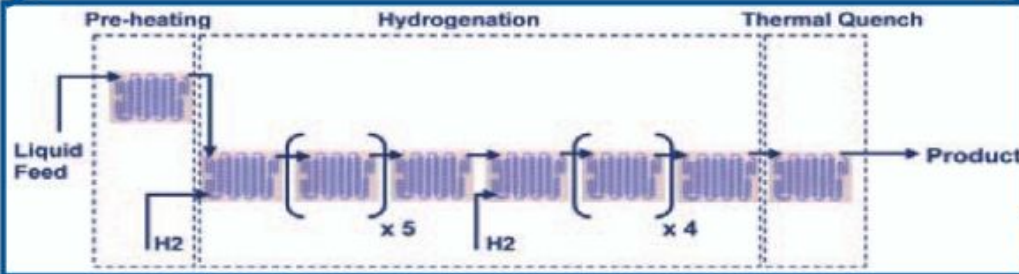
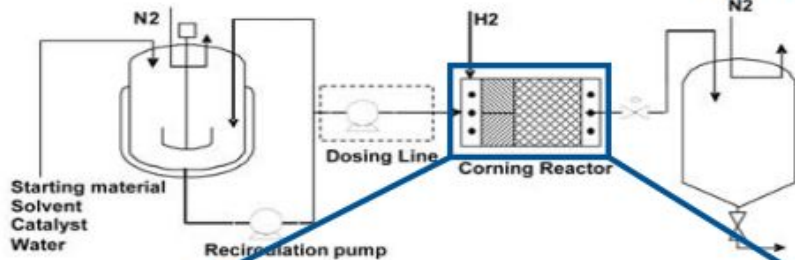
# Selective Hydrogenation of Slurry in Corning AFR™ with 98%+ Conversion and Selectivity

- highly exothermic (>400 kJ/mol)
- ~30 μm catalyst in slurry
- significant catalyst reduction



Excellent G/L Mixing

Ref: Chemistry Today 27(6),  
Nov-Dec (2009)



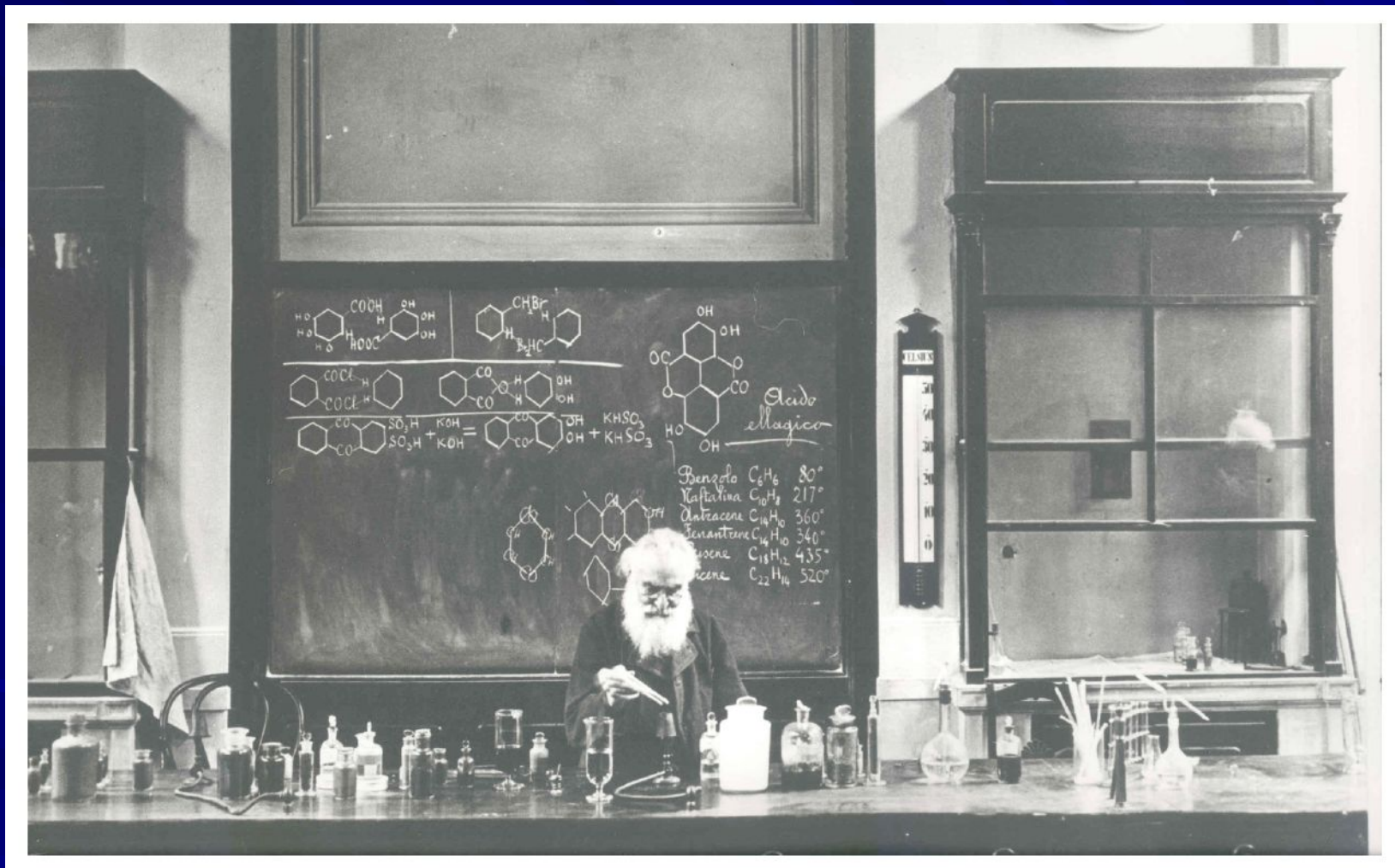
# Benefits of Microreactor

- **Shorter time to market**
  - Accelerated process R&D, optimization, and scale-up
- **Non-traditional processing enabled**
  - Practical, safer, on-site, on-demand production
  - Portable, small footprint, modular/skid design
  - Can integrate multiple operations into 1 unit
  - Dedicated device for assigned reaction, avoiding cross contamination
  - Can handle some multi-phase reactions effectively
- **Overall cost reduction, greater profit**
  - Reduced R&D and scale-up costs
  - Lower OPEX (higher yield, higher throughput, less solvent, less waste...)



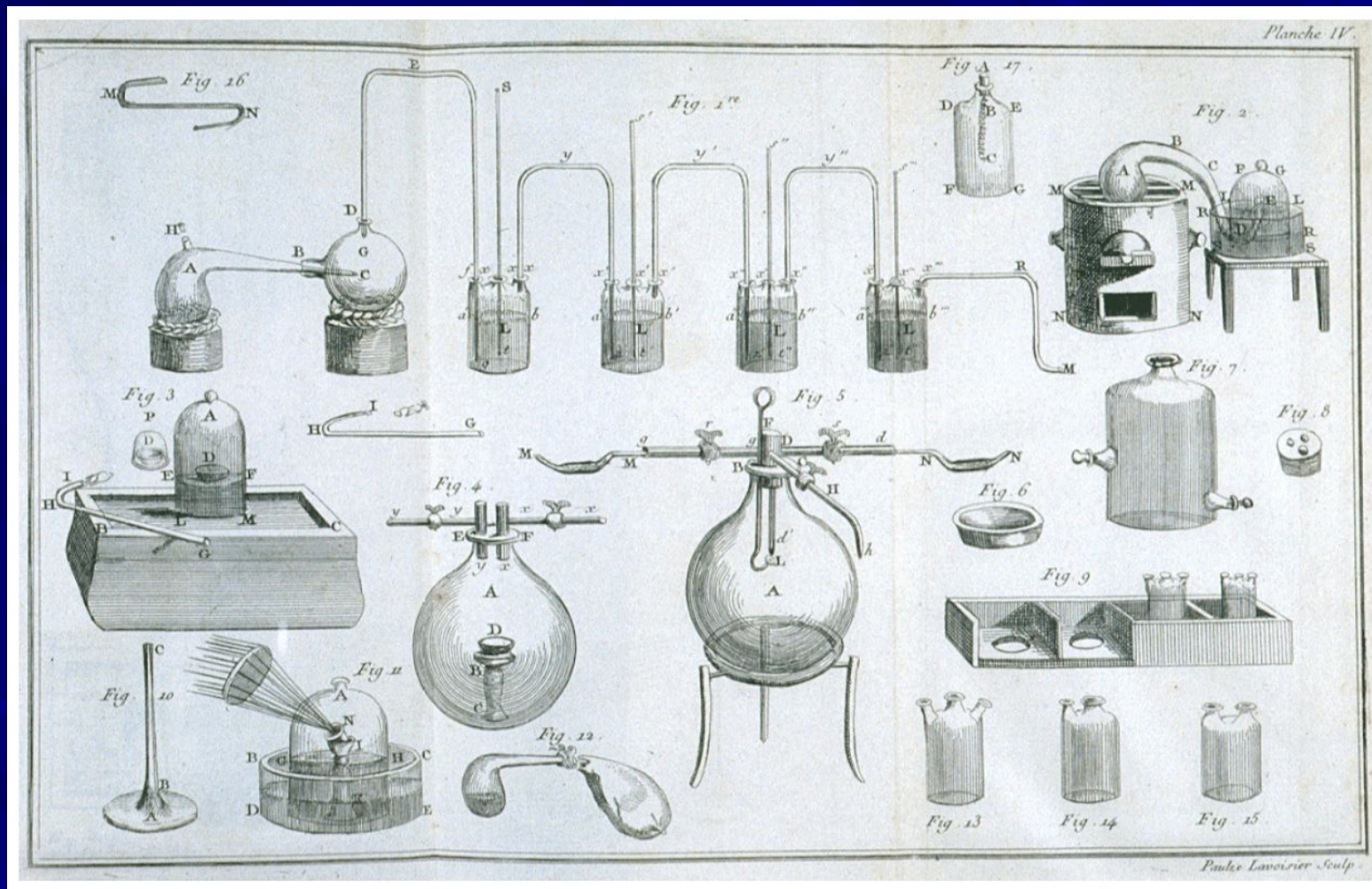
# Impact on Education and Frontier R&D

# Good Old Day



C. Moberg, Microreactors in Chemistry, KTH (2011)

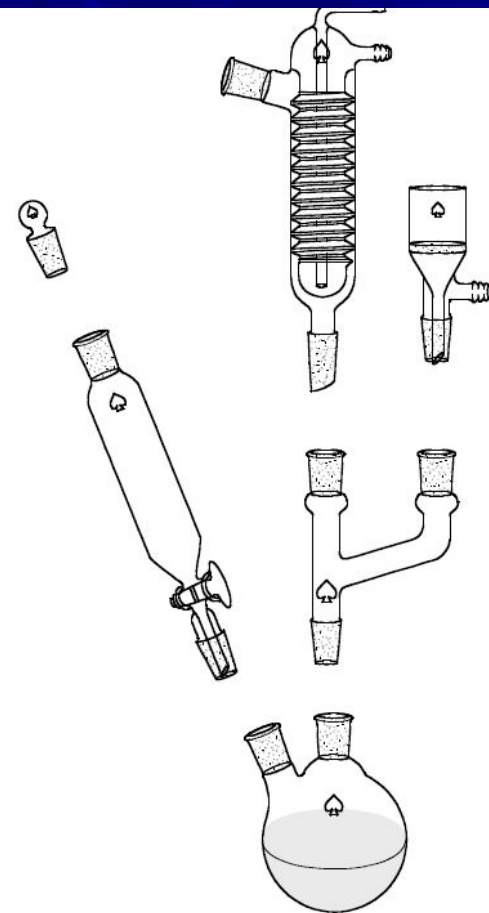
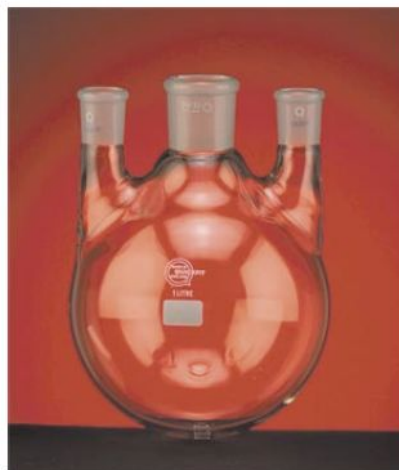
# 19<sup>th</sup> Century Equipment for Synthesis



C. Moberg, Microreactors in Chemistry, KTH (2011)



# 20<sup>th</sup> Century Equipment for Synthesis



C. Moberg, Microreactors in Chemistry, KTH (2011)

# Educational Microreactor at NCU - Corning Nebula™ System



# 流动化学教学在欧美成为热门课程

## Continuous-Flow Chemistry in Chemical Education

Daniel Blanco-Ania and Floris P. J. T. Rutjes<sup>‡</sup>

Radboud University, Institute for Molecules and Materials, Heyendaalseweg 135, 6525 AJ Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Received: 20 September 2017; accepted: 25 October 2017

While continuous-flow chemistry is steadily increasing its footprint in academic research and in the manufacturing of pharmaceutical intermediates and fine chemicals, the attention for flow chemistry in educational programs is on average rather limited. This account is meant to provide a personal overview of the possibilities to address the involvement of flow chemistry in the various stages of chemical education.

**Keywords:** Continuous-flow chemistry, chemistry education, teaching modules, sustainable chemistry

JOURNAL OF  
**CHEMICAL EDUCATION**

Laboratory Experiment  
pubs.acs.org/jchemeduc

## Flow Chemistry in Undergraduate Organic Chemistry Education

Burkhard König,<sup>†</sup> Peter Kreitmeier,<sup>†</sup> Petra Hilgers,<sup>‡</sup> and Thomas Wirth<sup>\*‡</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Institut für Organische Chemie, Universität Regensburg, Universitätsstrasse 31, D-93040 Regensburg, Germany

<sup>‡</sup>School of Chemistry, Cardiff University, Main Building, Park Place, Cardiff, CF10 3AT, United Kingdom

JOURNAL OF  
**CHEMICAL EDUCATION**

Cite This: *J. Chem. Educ.* XXXX, XXX, XXX–XXX

Laboratory Experiment

pubs.acs.org/jchemeduc

## Continuous-Flow Chemistry in Undergraduate Education: Sustainable Conversion of Reclaimed Vegetable Oil into Biodiesel

Frank A. Leibfarth,<sup>†,‡</sup> M. Grace Russell,<sup>†</sup> David M. Langley,<sup>†</sup> Hyowon Seo,<sup>†</sup> Liam P. Kelly,<sup>†</sup> Daniel W. Carney,<sup>§</sup> Jason K. Sello,<sup>§</sup> and Timothy F. Jamison<sup>\*†</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Department of Chemistry, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, United States

<sup>‡</sup>Department of Chemistry, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27599, United States

<sup>§</sup>Department of Chemistry, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island 02912, United States

## Corning Advanced-Flow Laboratory Molecule Maker

10.26 Chemical Engineering Laboratory

Spring 2018

MIT 优秀课程

## Continuous Flow Optimization

### Faculty Advisor:

Klavs F. Jensen

Office: 66-542a

Phone: 617-253-4589

E-mail: ktfjensen@mit.edu

### Client/Internal Consultant:

Victor L. Schultz

Office: 66-507

Phone: 617-324-1896

E-Mail: schultzv@mit.edu

CORNING | Advanced-Flow<sup>®</sup> Reactor Technologies

© 2019 Corning Incorporated | 26

伍辛軍, 連續流反應器技術與應用以及康寧流動化學教育平台介紹, ©2019 Corning Inc



# On-demand Continuous-flow Production of Pharmaceuticals in a Compact, Reconfigurable System (MIT)

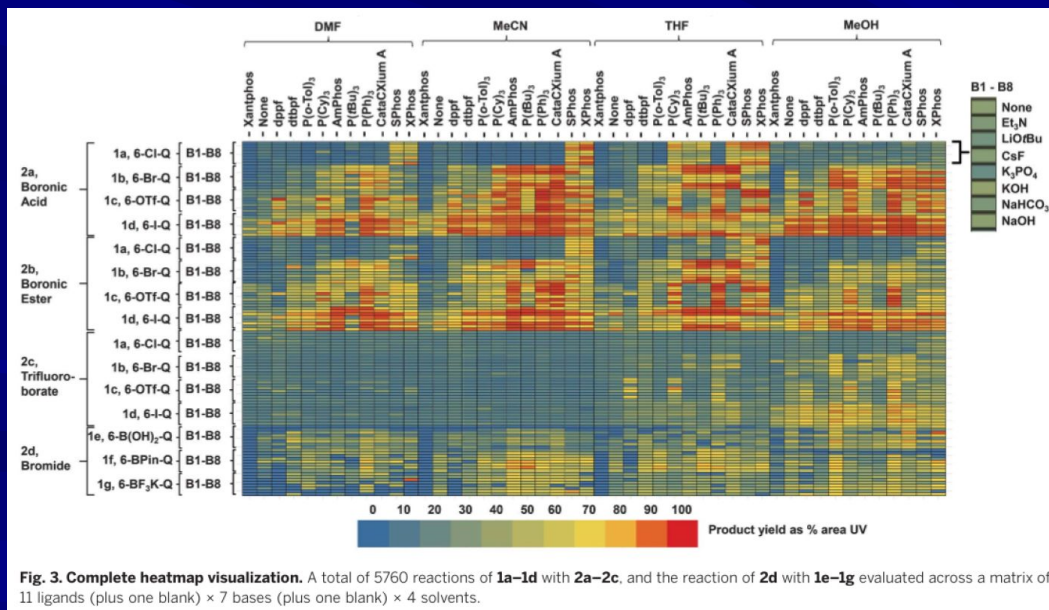
- Based on flow chemistry
- Refrigerator-size, modular-design, reconfigurable
- Demonstrated production of multiple pharmaceuticals meeting U.S. Pharmacopeia standards



Adamo et al., Science, 352, 61 (2016)

# Automated High-Speed Reaction Screening (Pfizer)

- Based on flow chemistry at nano-mole scale
- 1500 experiments per day, with real-time analysis
- Powerful for reaction optimization
- Results verified at raised scales



Perera et al., Science  
359, 429 (2018)



# A Continuous Flow Manufacturing Facility (Novartis)



<https://www.novartis.com/stories/discovery/new-drug-manufacturing-tools-change-pharma-chemistry>

# The Active Substance is Dried, Granulated, and Compressed into Tablets Continuously



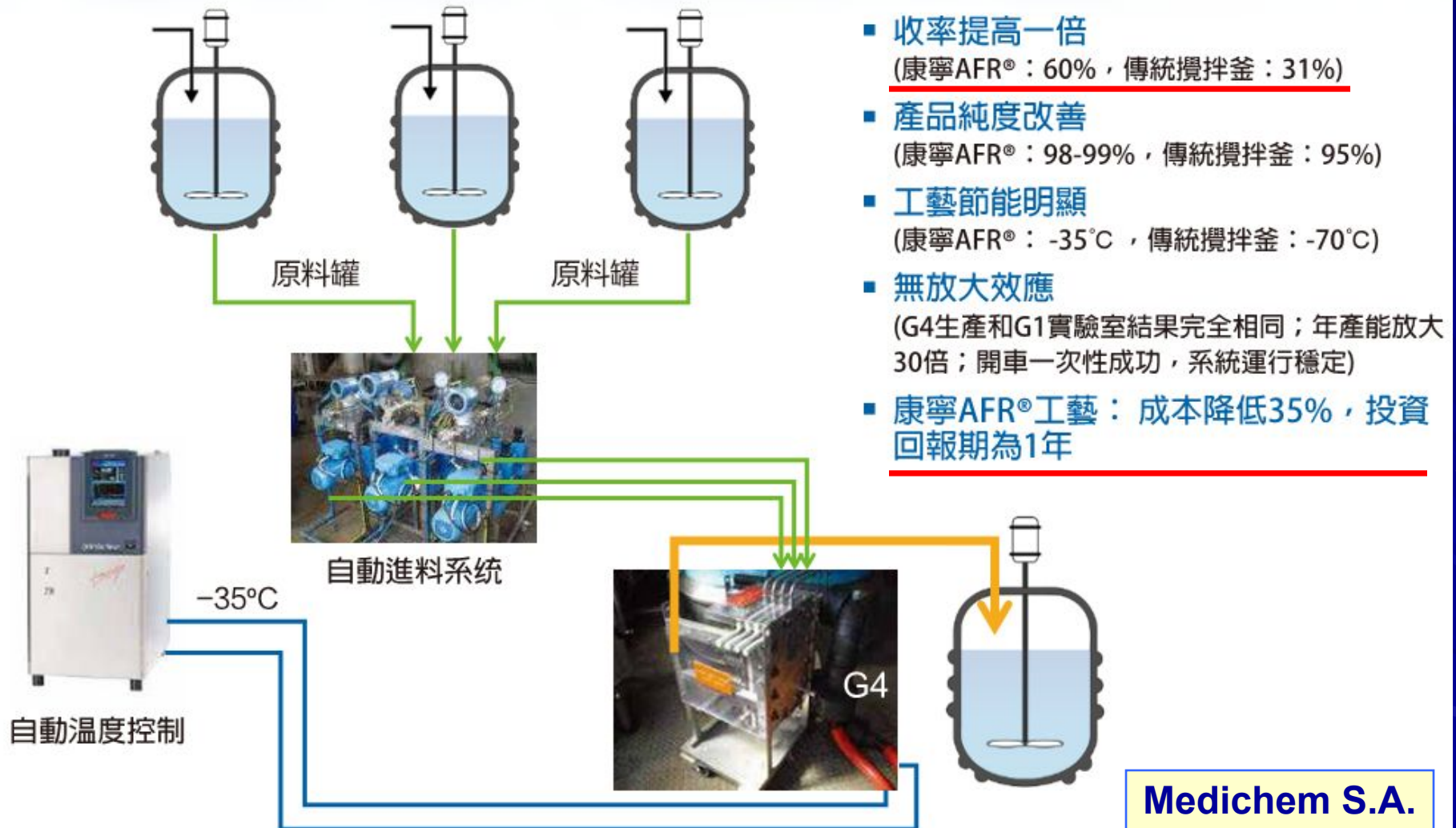
Novartis Continuous Flow  
Manufacturing Facility

<https://www.novartis.com/stories/discovery/new-drug-manufacturing-tools-change-pharma-chemistry>



# Commercial Successes

# 案例：康寧AFR®反應器成功實現原料藥中間體cGMP生產（西班牙）





# A Commercial Nitration Operation Using Corning G4



## 康寧AFR®連續工藝優勢：

- 開車一次性成功，體系運行穩定
- 從實驗室G1到大生產G4，年產能放大 >25倍；G4放大結果和G1完全相
- 同系統DCS控制，連續化運行
- >人力減少70%，廠房投資減少85%



康寧AFR®連續流反應工藝和設備佈局比傳統攪拌釜間歇式工藝簡化，  
總固定資產投資節省30%，操作費用也減少30%

康寧AFR\_小冊子

# Continuous Production Using Ehrfeld Mikrotechnik's Miprowa Reactor

- For Shaoxing Eastlake (紹興東湖高科)
  - For a highly exothermic alkoxylation reaction
- Design capacity: **10,000 m.t./yr**
  - Replacing 20+ conventional batch reactors
- Reactor core:
  - 7 m long, 40 cm wide
  - 150 rectangular reaction channels with exchangeable static mixers
- 4 ys from concept to commercial operation
- Commercial operation a huge success
  - Since 9/2016
  - Safer and greener operation
  - Lower cost, higher profit



A. Stankiewicz, The Principles and Domains of Process Intensification, CEP, March 2020, 23

**150 microchannels in parallel**



# Converting Landfill Gas to Liquid Fuels (Velocys/ENVIA)



[www.velocys.com](http://www.velocys.com)

2 Velocys FT reactors, each with **>10,000 microchannels in parallel**, producing ~200 barrels of liquid fuels per day



# Summary

- Continuous manufacturing based on flow chemistry is the future
  - Especially for pharmaceutical and fine chemicals industries
  - Endorsed by IUPAC, FDA, US Congress...
- Microreactor offers huge advantages for process development and production
  - Including safer and greener operations, performance upgrades, cost savings, and shorter time-to-market
  - Technology is already proven and being commercialized rapidly
- Flow chemistry and microreactors are entering college education
  - As part of chemistry lab courses