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Showcasing research from Professor Kubota's laboratory, Department of Chemical Engineering, Fukuoka University, Fukuoka, Japan.

Ammonia synthesis from nitrogen and steam using electrochemical cells with a hydrogen-permeable membrane and Ru/Cs⁺/C catalysts

If produced using renewable electricity, ammonia functions not only as an artificial fertilizer but also as a carbon-neutral fuel. While direct electrolytic synthesis is not straightforward, it is possible to synthesize ammonia from nitrogen and water at around 250°C and 1 MPa by separating proton reduction sites and nitrogen hydrogenation sites with hydrogen-permeable membranes and leveraging the advantages of electrochemical and catalytic reactions. This method is carried out with efficiency comparable to that of Haber-Bosch process reactors. The article discusses research applying Ru/Cs+/C catalysts to this technique.



