

Recent Progress in **THC** Polypropylene Catalysts

Hidetoshi Umebayashi
Group Leader
Catalysts Development Department
Toho Titanium Co., Ltd.
Chigasaki, Japan

E-mail: humbayashi@toho-titanium.co.jp
URL: <http://www.toho-titanium.co.jp/en/>

Outline

- 1. Introduction of Toho Titanium**
- 2. Introduction of THC Catalyst**
- 3. Today's Topics:**
 - New family of THC catalysts**
 - Broadening the range of value-added PP**
 - 3.1 - for leading edge high performance ICP grade**
 - 3.2 - for super high flow Homo-PP/RCP**
- 4. Summary**

1. Introduction of Toho Titanium

JX Holdings Group



JX Nippon Oil & Energy Corp.



Petroleum Refining & Marketing

JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration Corp.



Oil and Natural Gas Exploration

JX Nippon Mining & Metals Corp.



Metals


TOHO TITANIUM



50.3% shares held by JX Holdings

Common Functions Companies

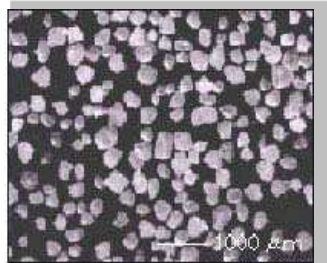
Individual Operating Companies

Business Domain and Major Products

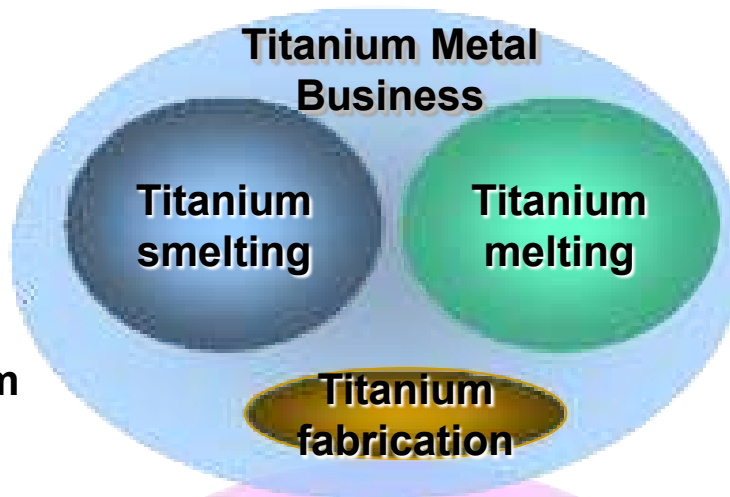
Business development centered around titanium metal smelting technology



Sponge titanium



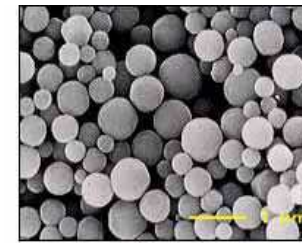
Titanium catalysts used to produce polypropylene



Titanium ingot



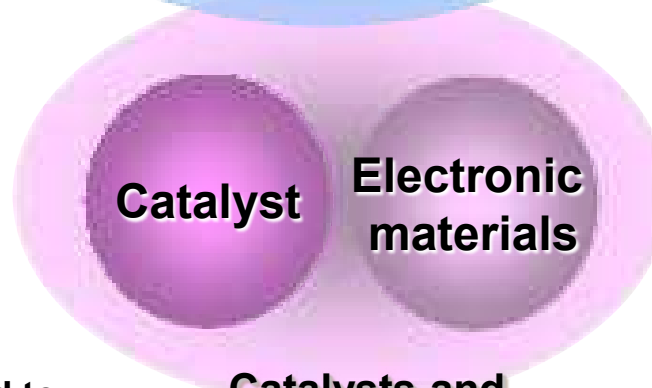
Fabricated titanium



Ultra-fine nickel powder



High-purity titanium dioxide



Catalysts and Chemicals Business

Product of TOHO for Polyolefin

Catalyst:

- **THC catalyst series**

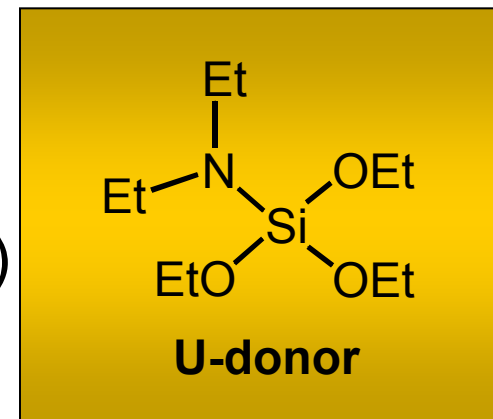
(Mg-supported-type)

External donor:

- **U-donor** (for high melt flow PP grade)

Raw materials:

- **TiCl₄** (Highly Purified)
- **MgCl₂ bulk & powder** (Highly Purified)
- **Pre-mixed powder of MgCl₂/TiCl₃**
- **Pre-mixed powder of MgCl₂/TiCl₄**



TOHO's Catalyst Production Sites and Worldwide Business

Toho Titanium Europe

Japan

KUROBE
Plant

Tokyo

HEAD QUARTER &
CHIGASAKI Plant

Toho Titanium
America

TOHO Catalyst History

- 1953: **TOHO Titanium Co., Ltd.** founded.
- 1954: Invention of Ziegler-Natta catalyst by Prof. Natta.
- 1957: **TOHO** initiated development of **TiCl₃-type Catalyst: TAC.**
- 1965: **TAC** commercial production line started at Chigasaki.

TAC had been used globally for the following 40 years.

- 1986: **THC** commercial production line started at Chigasaki.
- 1999: Kurobe Plant started.
- 2000: **TAC** production ceased.
- 2011: **TOHO** acquired **U-donor** business from Ube Industries.

TOHO has been contributing to PP industry for more than 50 years.

2. Introduction of THC Catalyst

Benefits by using THC Catalyst

THC Catalyst Business

- Independent of process licensors

THC Catalyst Properties

- Wide range of catalyst line-up
 - isospecificity
 - particle size
- High porosity
- High activity
- Consistent quality

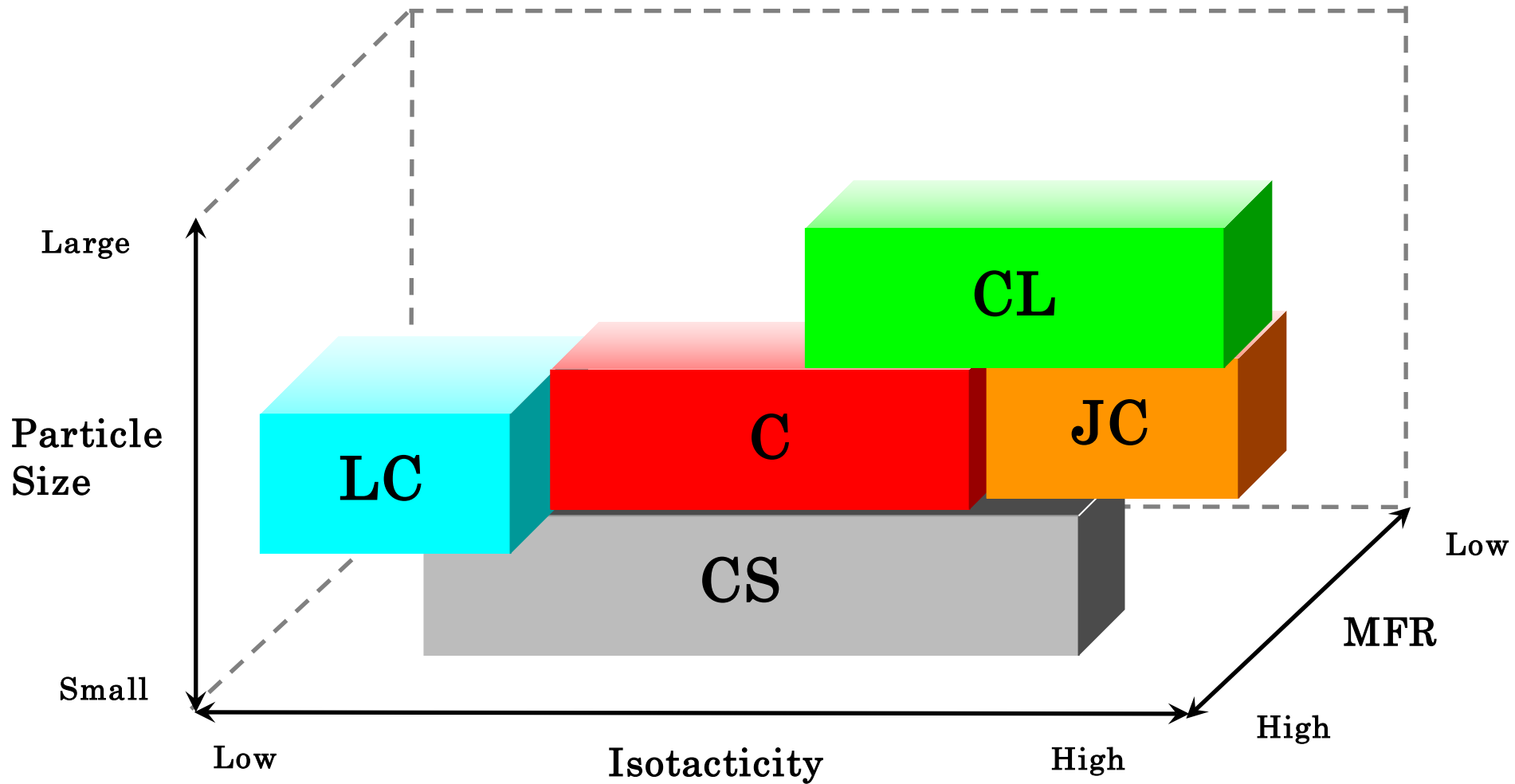
Benefits for Customers

- Any PP producer can use **THC Catalyst**

Benefits for Customers

- Various PP grades can be made in various PP processes
- High rubber content ICP can be made
- Clean polymer (low ash) can be made
- Stable production

THC Catalysts Line-up



3. Today's Topics:

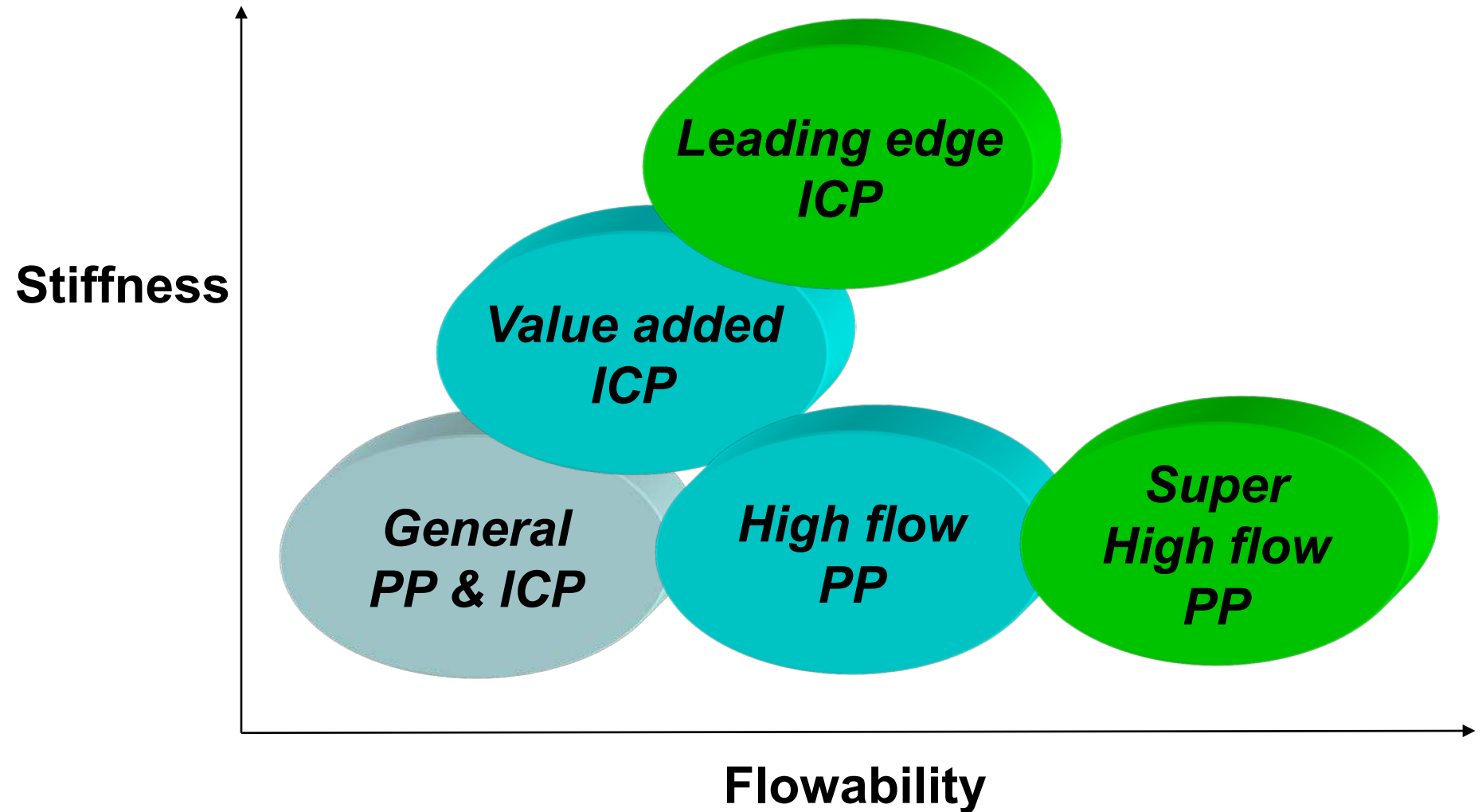
New family of THC catalysts

→ Broadening the range of value-added PP

**3.1 - for leading edge high performance
ICP grade**

3.2 - for super high flow Homo-PP/RCP

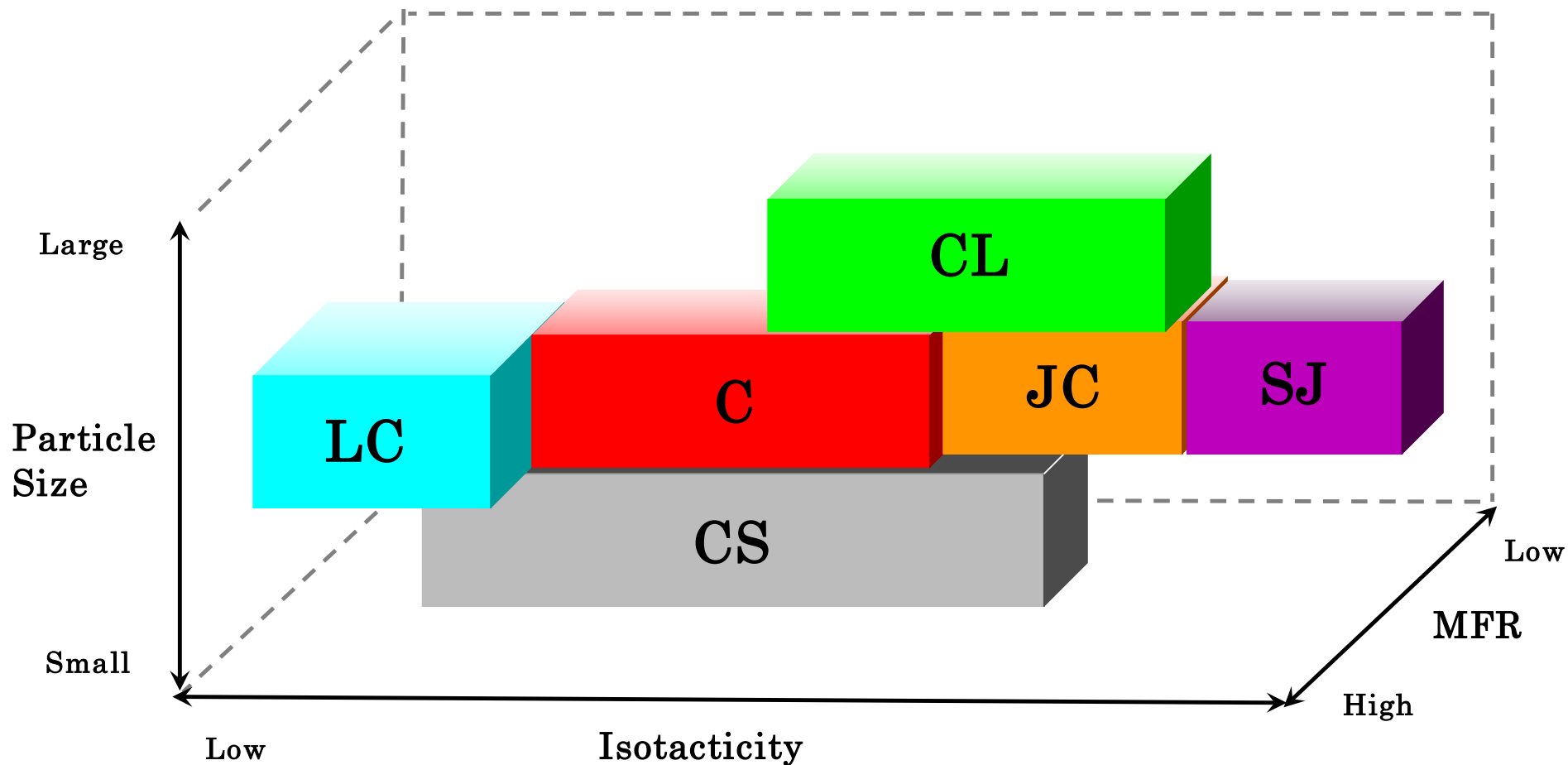
Broadening the range of value-added PP



3.1 For leading edge high performance ICP

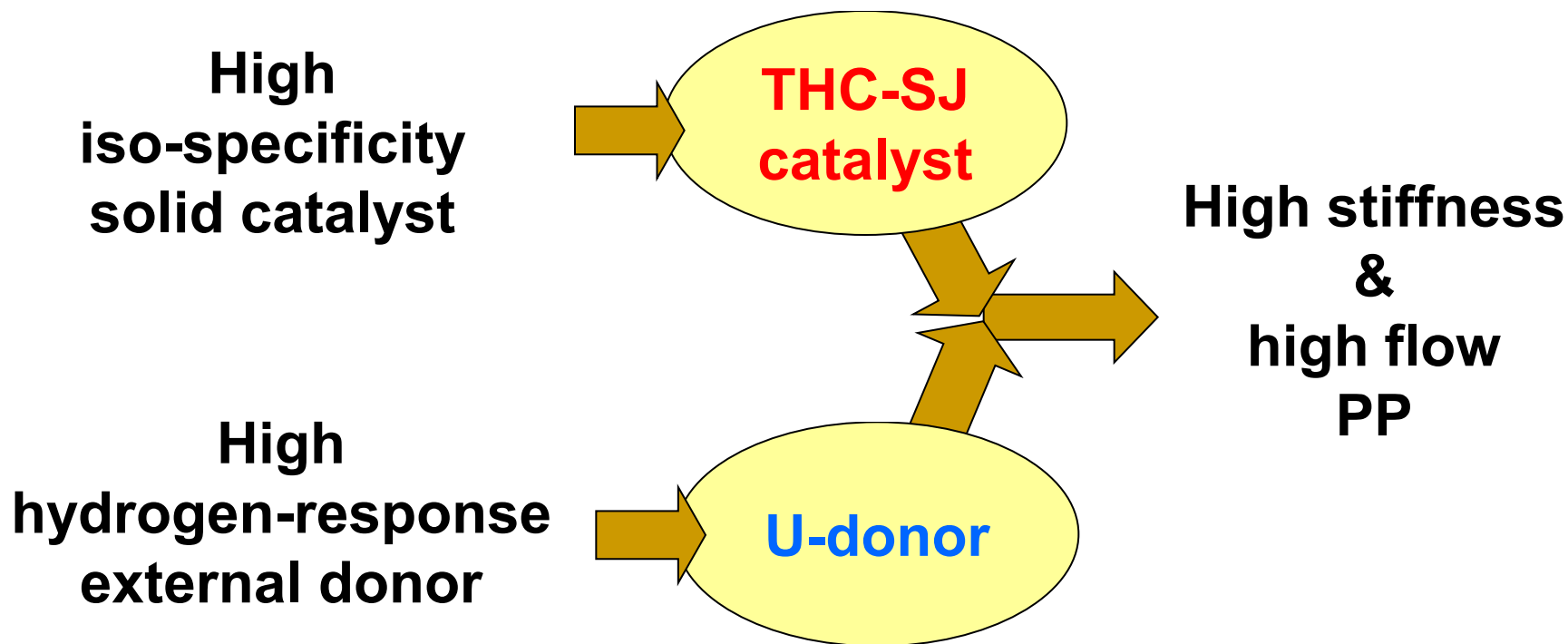
- Application: **Automotives, TWIM**
- PP properties: **high stiffness & high flow**
- Catalyst: advanced catalyst system
 - having high iso-specificity and hydrogen response
 - **THC-SJ catalyst**
(new THC family with non-SVHC phthalate internal donor)
 - **U-donor**

THC Catalysts New Line-up “SJ”



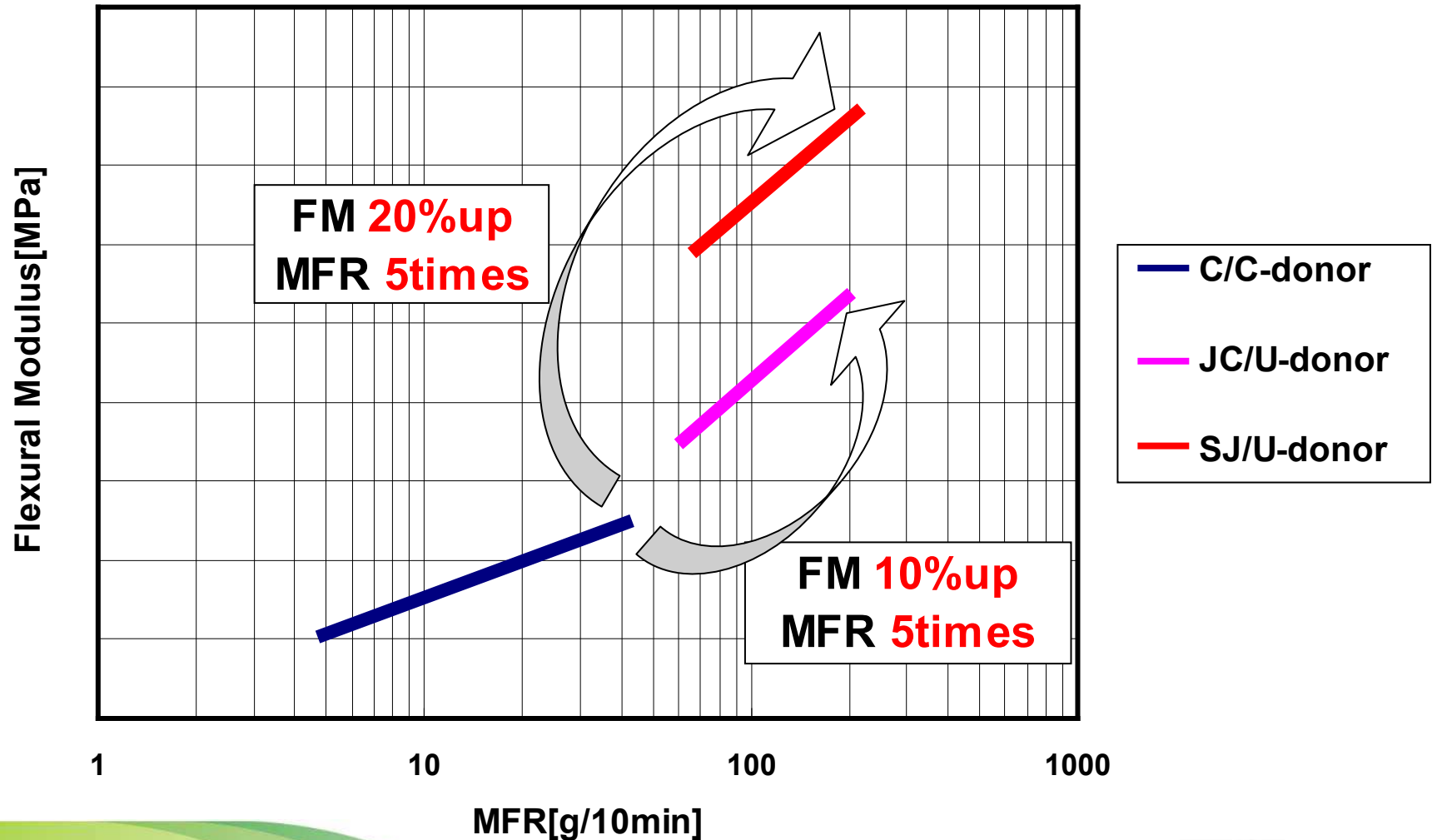
Catalyst system for leading edge high performance ICP

Combination of **high iso-specificity solid catalyst** and **high hydrogen-response external donor**



THC-SJ Catalyst for leading edge high performance ICP

Toho's Homo polymerization results



3. Today's Topics:

New family of THC catalysts

→ Broadening the range of value-added PP

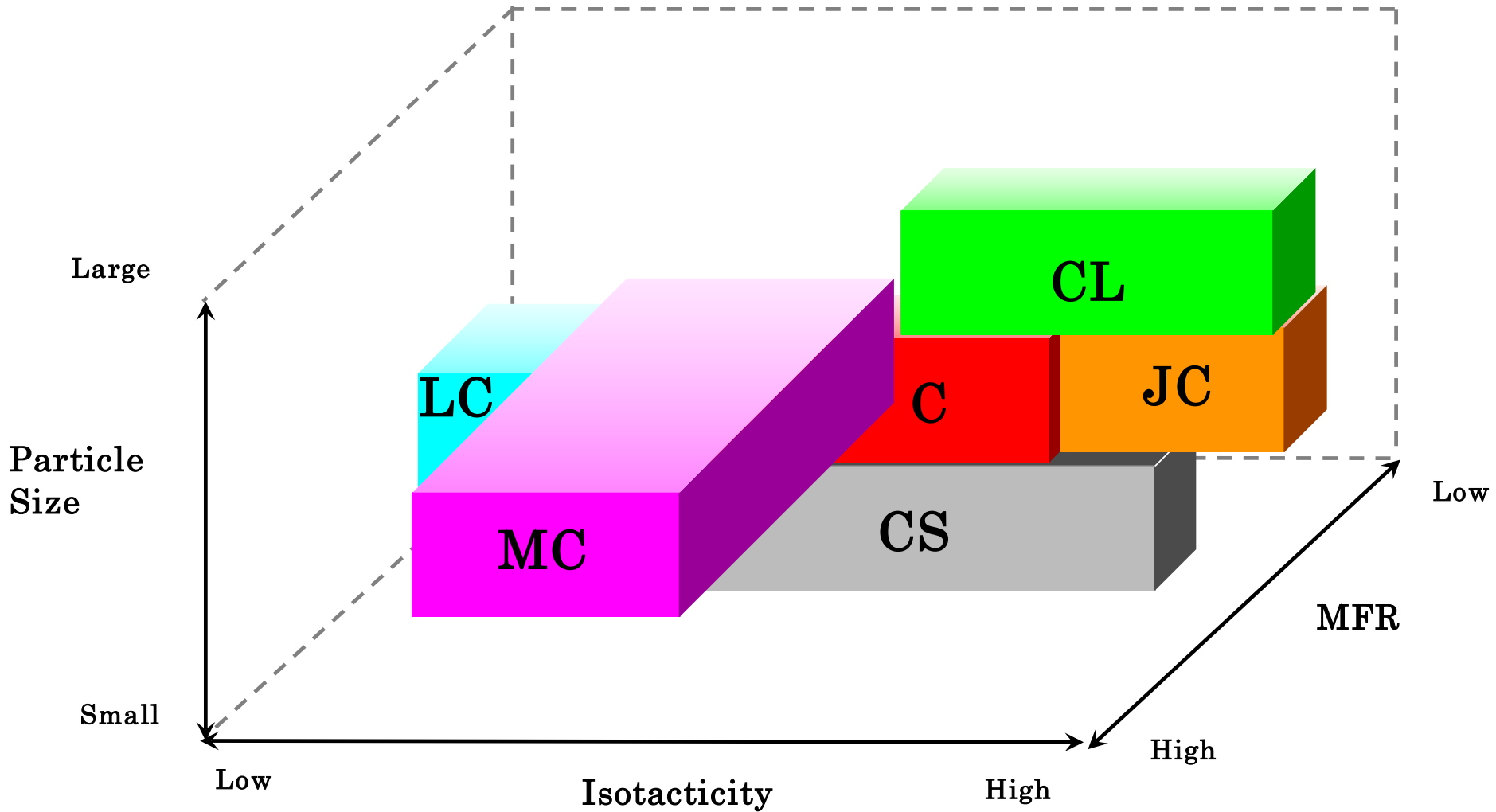
**3.1 - for leading edge high performance
ICP grade**

3.2 - for super high flow Homo-PP/RCP

3.2 For super high flow Homo-PP/RCP

- Application: **non-woven, spunbond**
- PP properties: **Super high flow**
(MFR=1000~2000)
- Catalyst: innovative catalyst system
having high hydrogen-response
 - **THC-MC catalyst**
(new THC family with non-phthalate internal donor)
 - **U-donor**

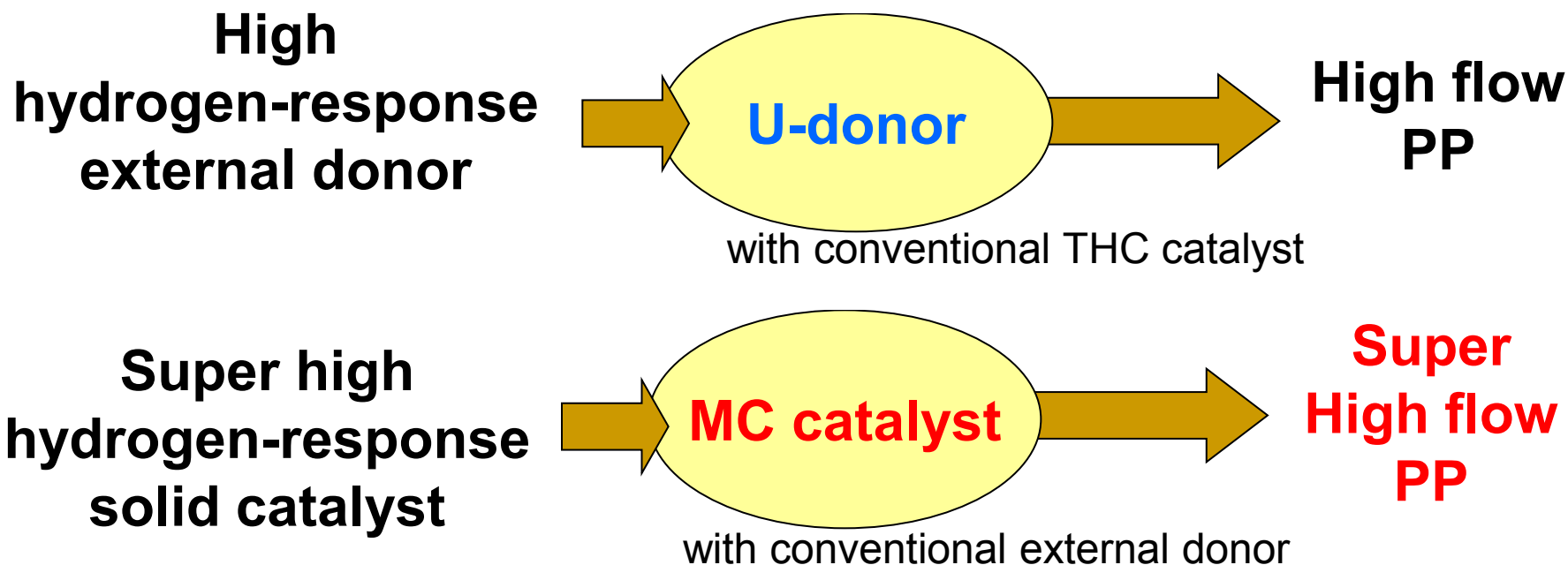
THC Catalysts New Line-up “MC”



Catalyst system for super high flow PP

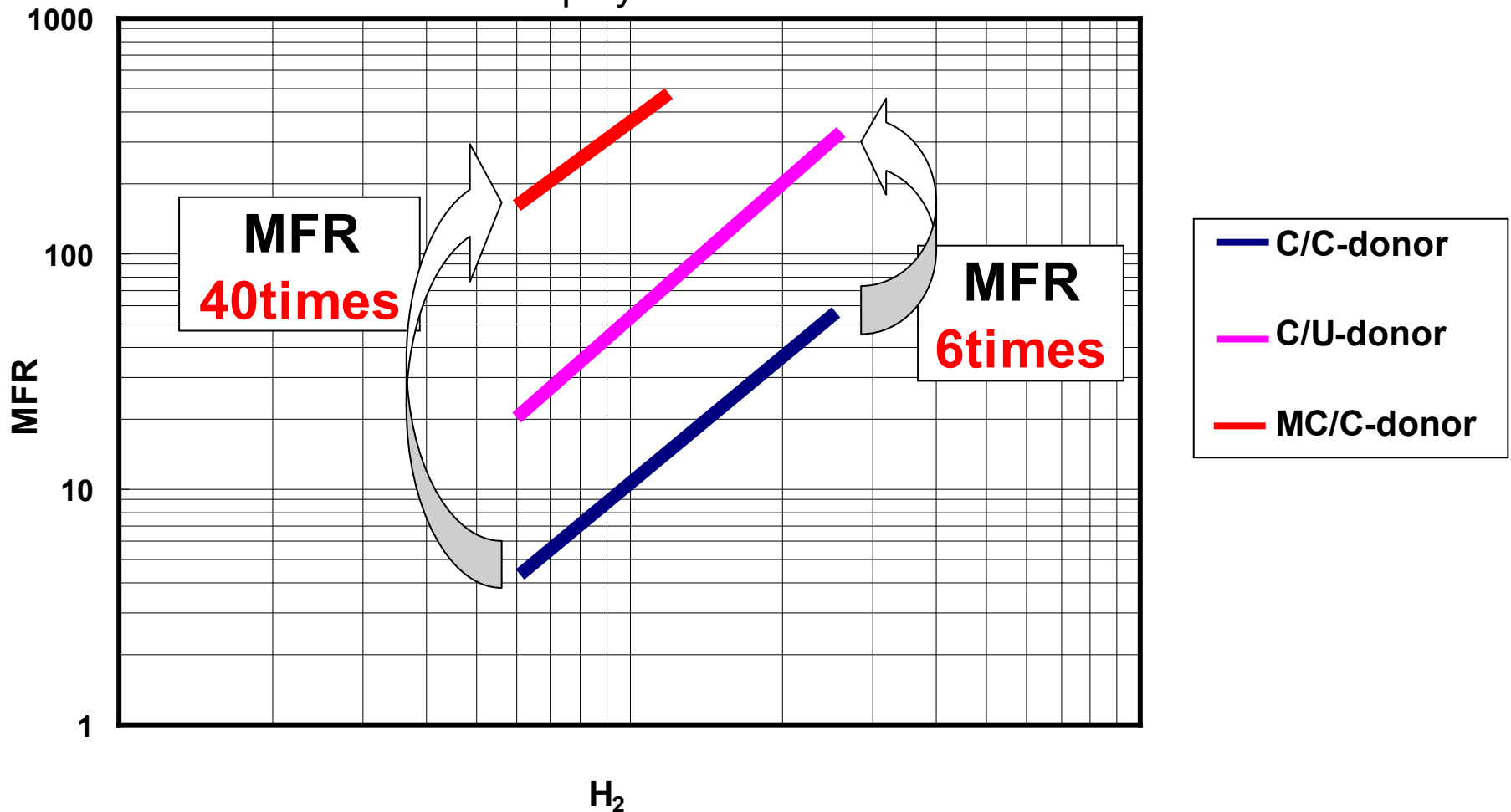
Combination of conventional solid catalyst and **high hydrogen-response external donor**

Combination of **high hydrogen-response solid catalyst** and conventional external donor



THC-MC catalyst for super high flow Homo-PP/RCP

Toho's Homo polymerization results



4. Summary

- (1) **TOHO** has been supplying Ziegler-Natta PP Catalysts for half a century.
- (2) **TOHO's THC** catalyst are globally used for production of all PP grades in various PP processes.
- (3) **TOHO's THC-SJ catalyst** produces extremely high crystallinity and high modulus PP.
Combination of **THC-SJ catalyst** and **U-donor** is good for high modulus and high flow ICP.
- (4) **TOHO's THC-MC catalyst** produces super high flowability PP.