

**TRICAT**

---

**CATALYTIC SOLUTIONS  
FOR  
VGO HYDROTREATING**



# Principles of Catalyst Design: Conventional VGO Hydrotreating

---

**Application:** FCC Feed Hydrotreating

**Objectives:**

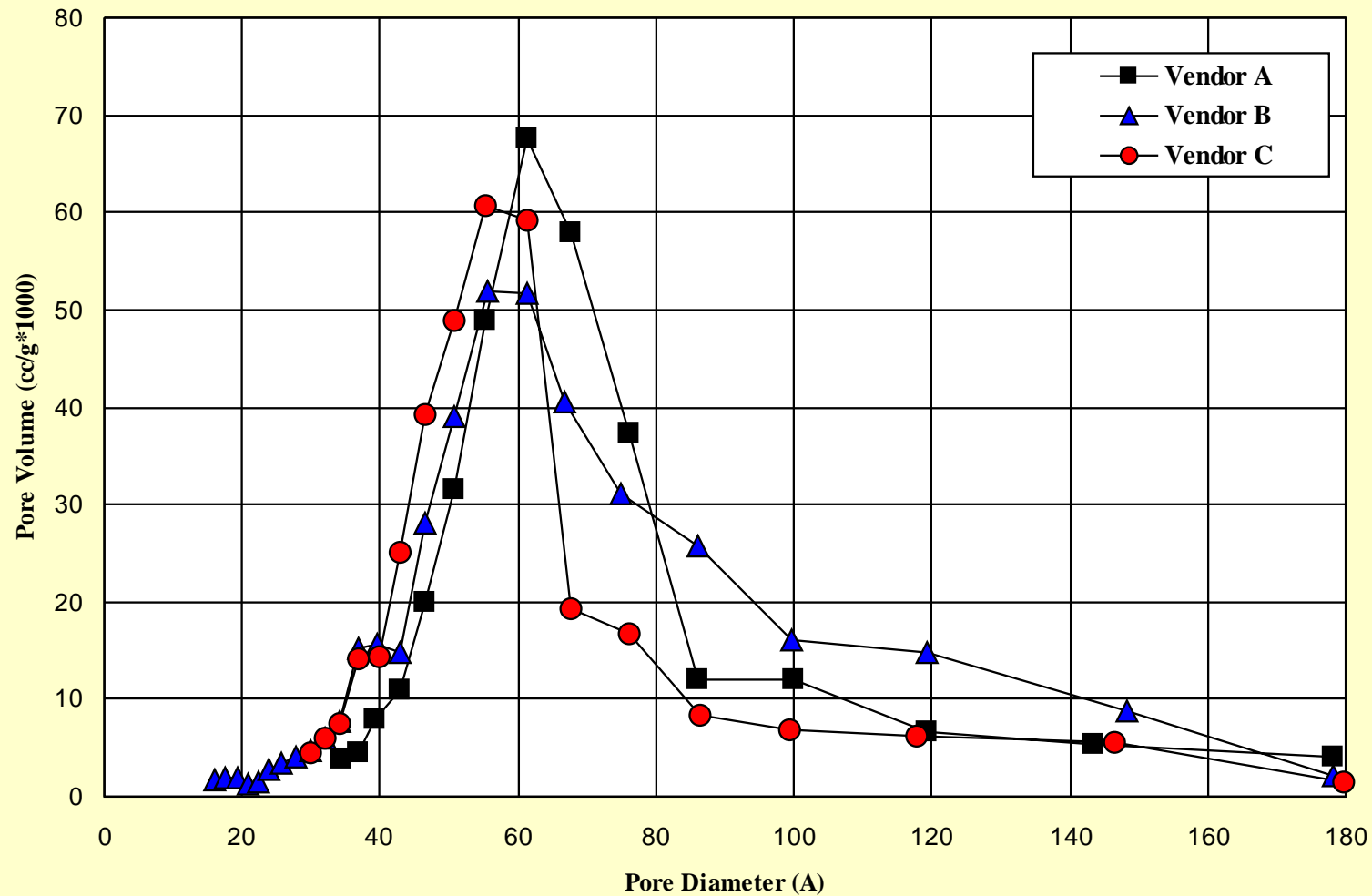
- Maximum HDN Activity
- High HDS Activity
- Moderate HDM Activity

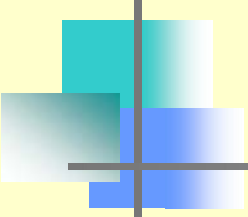
**Catalyst Design:**

- Small Average Pore Diameter
- Narrow Pore Size Distribution
- Typically NiMo Catalyst

# Hydrotreating Catalyst Pore Size Distribution

## NiMo VGO Catalysts





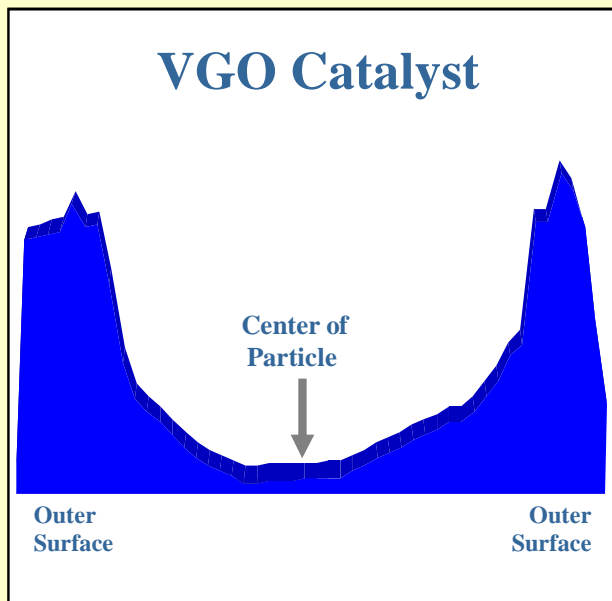
# Resid Demetallation: Catalyst Design Issues

---

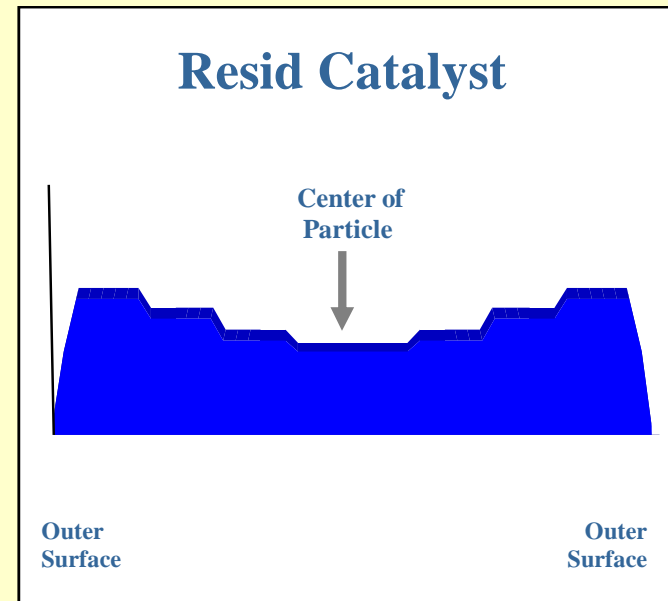
- ▶ Typical metal-containing *porphyrinic* compound has average diameter of 40-70Å.
- ▶ Effective demetallation catalyst design must allow the large molecules to diffuse into catalyst internals.
- ▶ Reactions are rapid at active sites, such that pore mouth plugging followed by rapid deactivation (and P problems) can occur quickly.
- ▶ Broad pore size distribution allows porphyrin to access internal pores allowing metals laydown throughout the particle.

# Vanadium Contamination: VGO Versus Resid Catalyst

## Vanadium Penetration



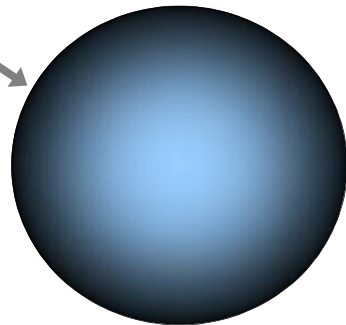
↑  
Vanadium  
Concentration



# Vanadium Contamination: VGO Versus Resid Catalyst

## VGO Catalyst

Vanadium  
Concentrates  
On Catalyst  
Surface

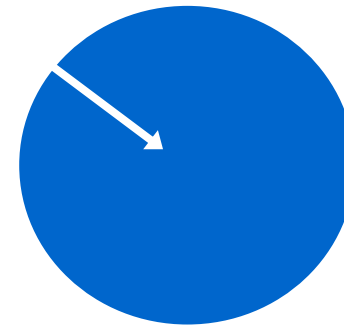


### Result:

- ◆ Internal Surface Blocked
- ◆ V Uptake Ineffective
- ◆ Reduced Cycle Length

## Resid Catalyst

Wider Pore  
Size Enables  
Deeper V  
Penetration



### Result:

- ◆ Higher V Uptake
- ◆ Longer Cycle Length



# Principles Of Catalyst Design

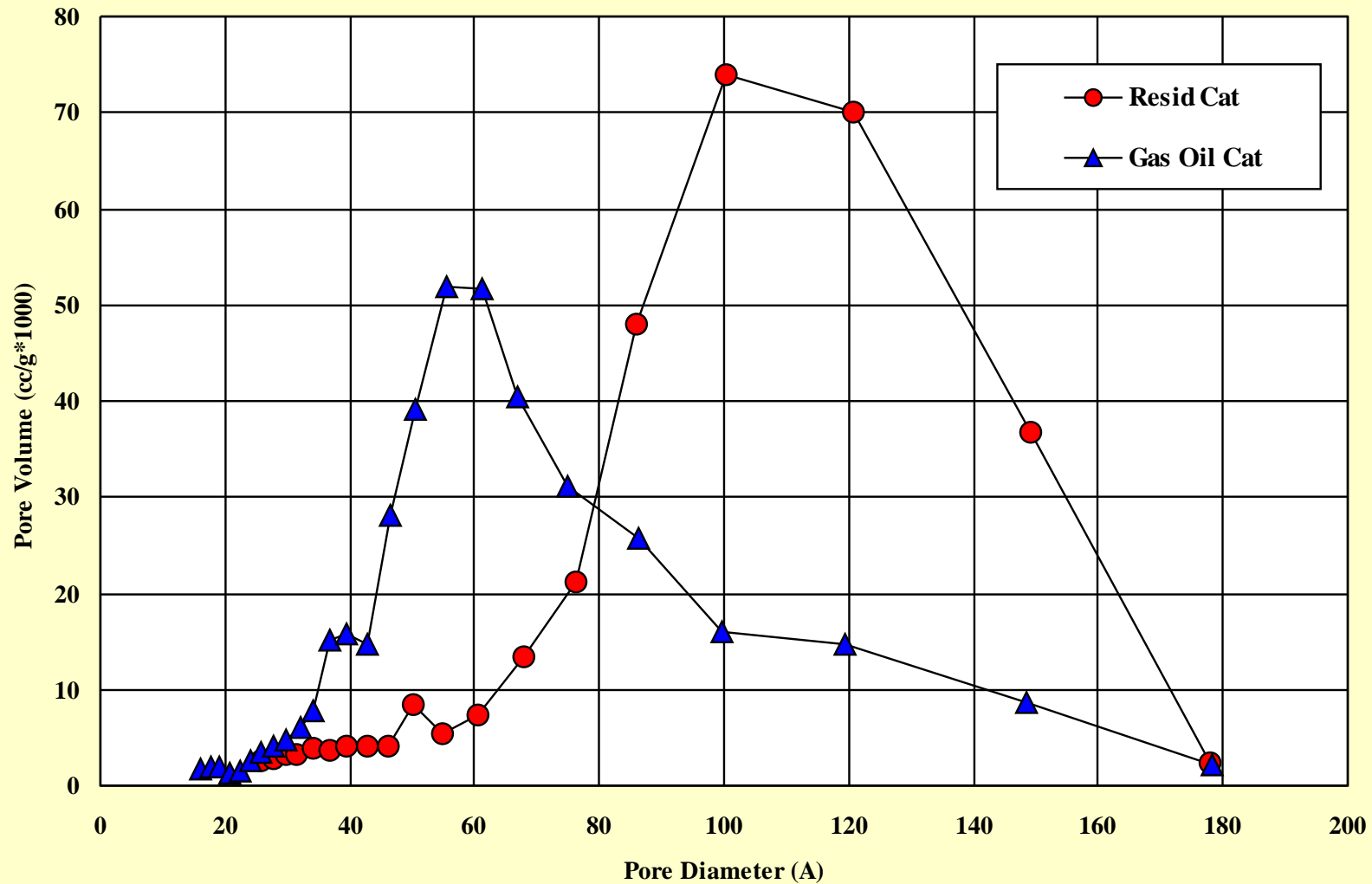
## Resid Hydrotreating

---

- ▶ **Applications:** ARDS, VRDS, H-Oil, LC Fining
- ▶ **Objectives:** Maximum HDM Activity  
High HDS / HDN Activity
- ▶ **Catalyst Design:** Larger Average Pore Diameter  
Broad Pore Size Distribution  
NiMo or CoMo

# Hydrotreating Catalyst Pore Size Distribution

## VGO vs. Resid Catalysts





# Principles Of Catalyst Design

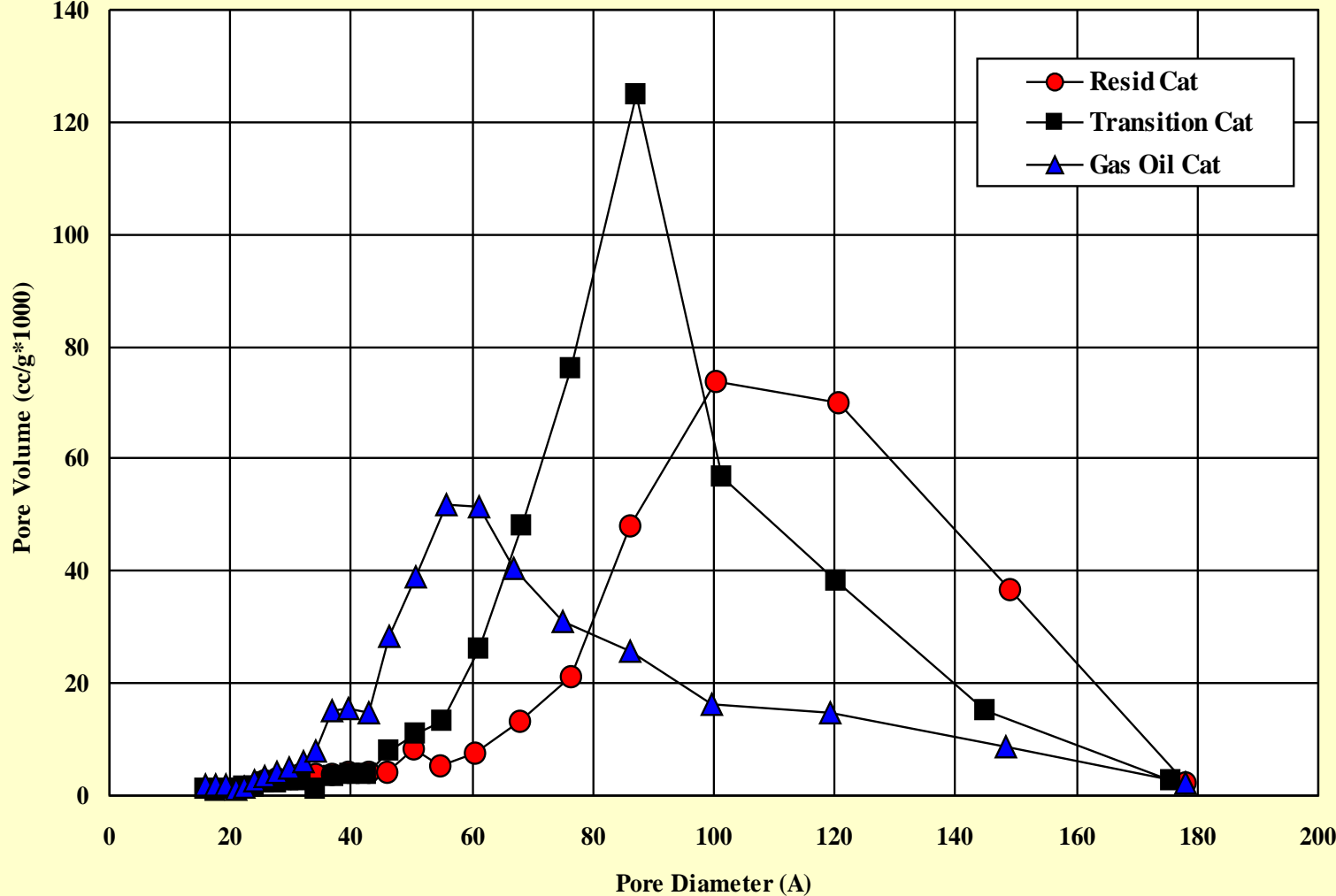
## Transition Catalyst

---

- ▶ **Applications:** Lower Beds, Reactors of Resid Units  
Guard Bed, Reactors of VGO
- ▶ **Objectives:**
  - In Resid Units:** Enhanced HDS/HDN at expense of HDM
  - In VGO Units:** Enhanced HDM at expense of HDN/HDS
- ▶ **Catalyst Design:** Intermediate Between  
Resid and VGO Catalyst

# Hydrotreating Catalyst Pore Size Distribution

## VGO vs. Resid Catalysts





# Vanadium Partitioning VGO Hydrotreating Catalyst

---

## VANADIUM ON SPENT CATALYST, Wt.%

	<u>Conventional Gas Oil Catalyst</u>	<u>Transition Catalyst, Above Conventional Catalyst</u>
Top Bed	2.5	2.8
Bed 2	2.5	0.4
Bed 3	1.1	0.3
Bed 4	0.7	0.1
Weighted Average	1.4	1.1



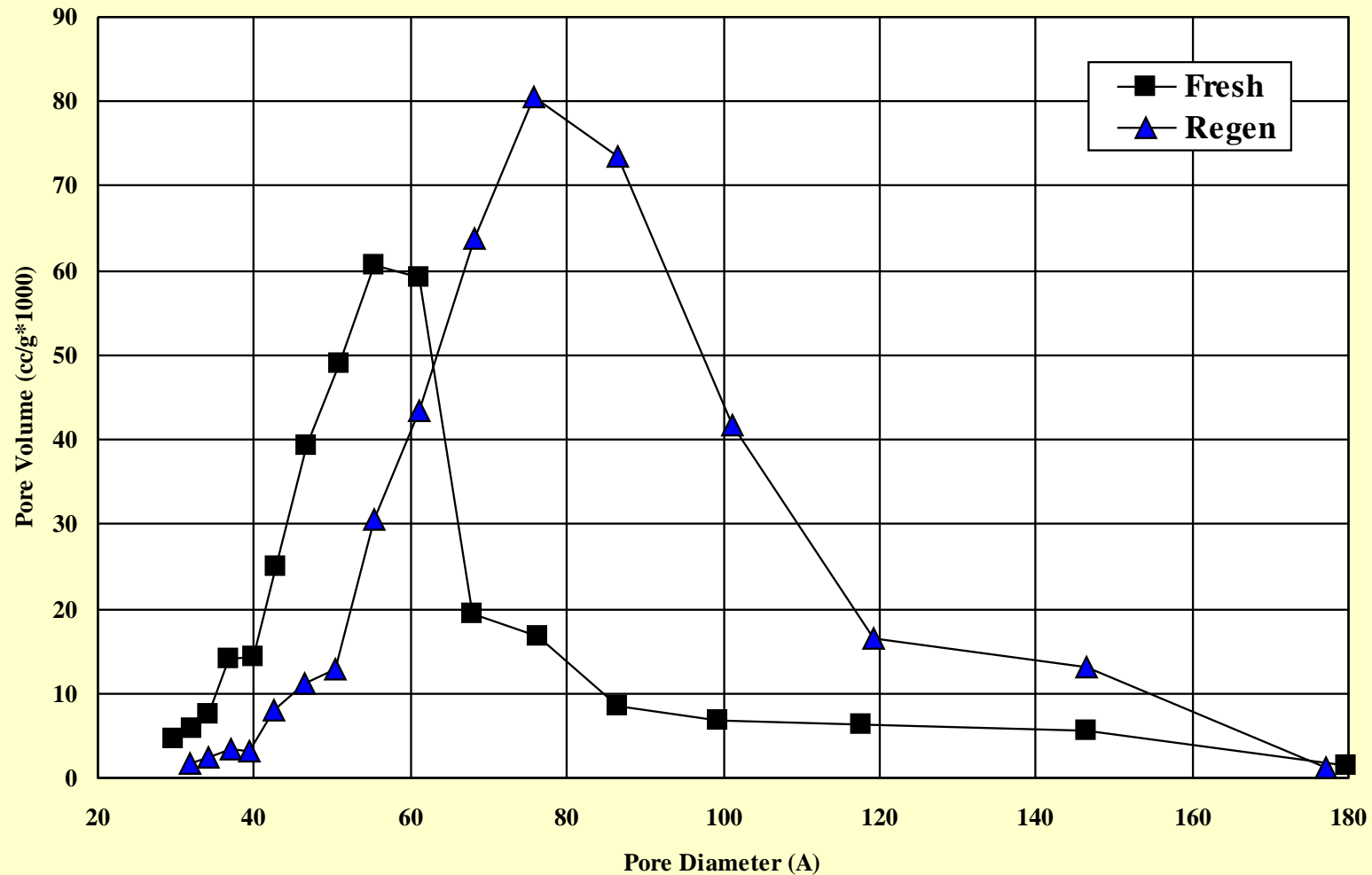
# Impact of Catalyst Regeneration on Pore Size Distribution

---

- ▶ Thermal treatment of spent hydrotreating catalyst can open pore structure.
- ▶ Regeneration of spent VGO hydrotreating catalyst via the TRICAT Regeneration Process shifts pore distribution to larger sizes.
- ▶ Regenerated VGO catalyst pore structure resembles that of Transition catalysts.

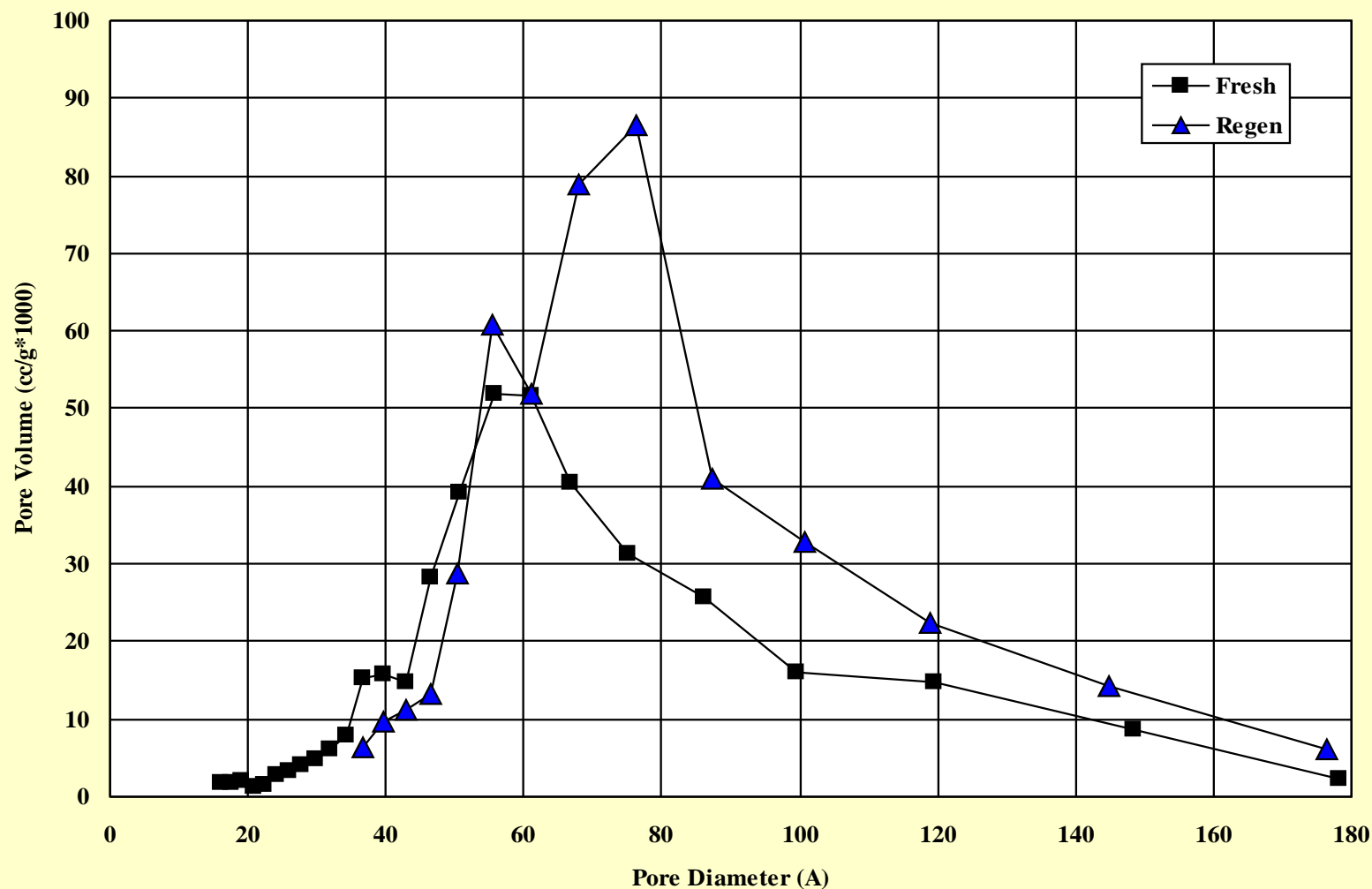
# Hydrotreating Catalyst Pore Size Distribution

## Fresh vs Regenerated VGO (NiMo) Catalyst



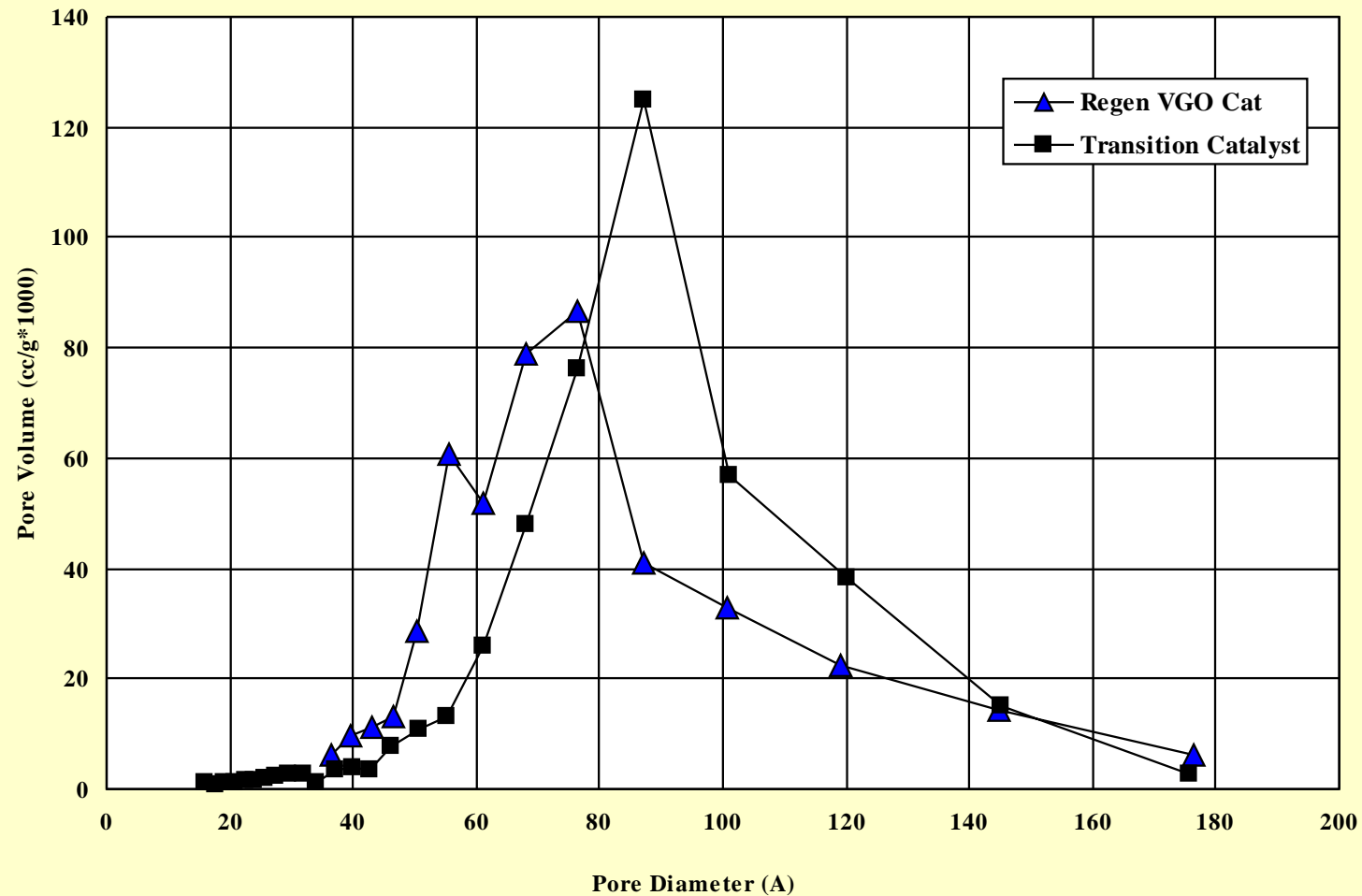
# Hydrotreating Catalyst Pore Size Distribution

## Fresh vs Regenerated VGO (NiMo) Catalysts



# Hydrotreating Catalyst Pore Size Distribution

## Regenerated VGO vs. Resid "Transition" Catalyst





# Conclusions

---

- ▶ **Resid and Transition HDT catalysts offer wider catalyst pore size distribution than conventional VGO catalysts.**
- ▶ **Catalyst regeneration via the TRICAT Regeneration Process (TRP) can widen pore diameter.**
- ▶ **Regenerated catalyst offers an effective and economic alternative to Transition catalysts to improve vanadium uptake and improve cycle length in VGO service.**