



Energy research Centre of the Netherlands

CAESAR

CArbon-free Electricity by SEWGS

Daan Jansen

Presented at European Conference on CCS Research, Development to
implementation, One Great George Street Conference Centre, London,
United Kingdom, 24-26 May 2011



Energy research Centre of the Netherlands



CAESAR

Carbon-free Electricity by SEWGS

European conference on CCS Research, Development to implementation
ONE GREAT GEORGE STREET Conference centre



CAESAR

- Small or medium-scale R&D focused FP7 project
- Builds on the SEWGS knowledge gained in CACHET
- Five partners involved:
 - AP (UK)
 - BP (UK)
 - ECN (NL)
 - SINTEF (No)
 - PTM (It)
- 4 years project, started 1 Jan 2008
- Budget 3,1 Meuro



The CAESAR project has received funding from the European Community's seventh Framework Programme FP7/2007 -2013 under grant agreement no 213206.

CAESAR Introduction



Sorbent material design and development,
PDU testing, coordination



Sorbent material development



Advanced process development
and pilot plant design



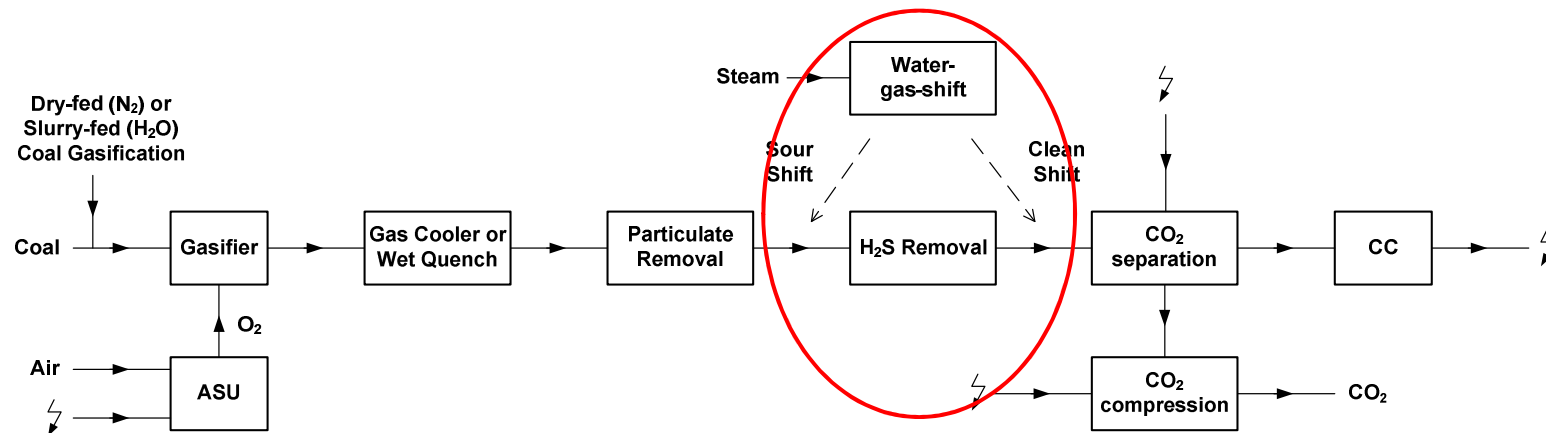
Application, process integration & economics
EBTF



(Pilot) Plant design and
techno-economic assessment

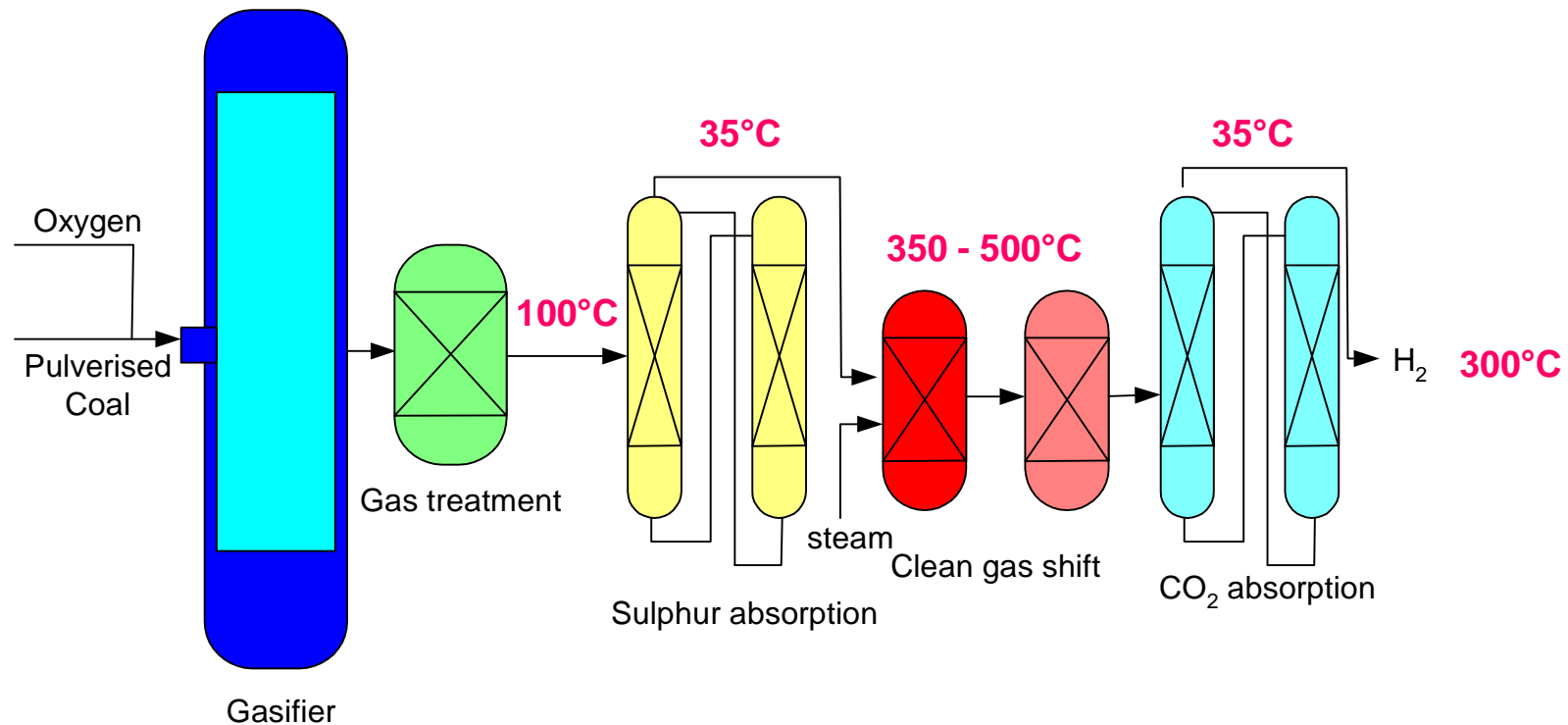
Pre combustion capture as of today

- In IGCC;
 - gas separation technologies commercial available
- In Natural gas combined cycles;
 - Reforming and gas separation technologies commercial available

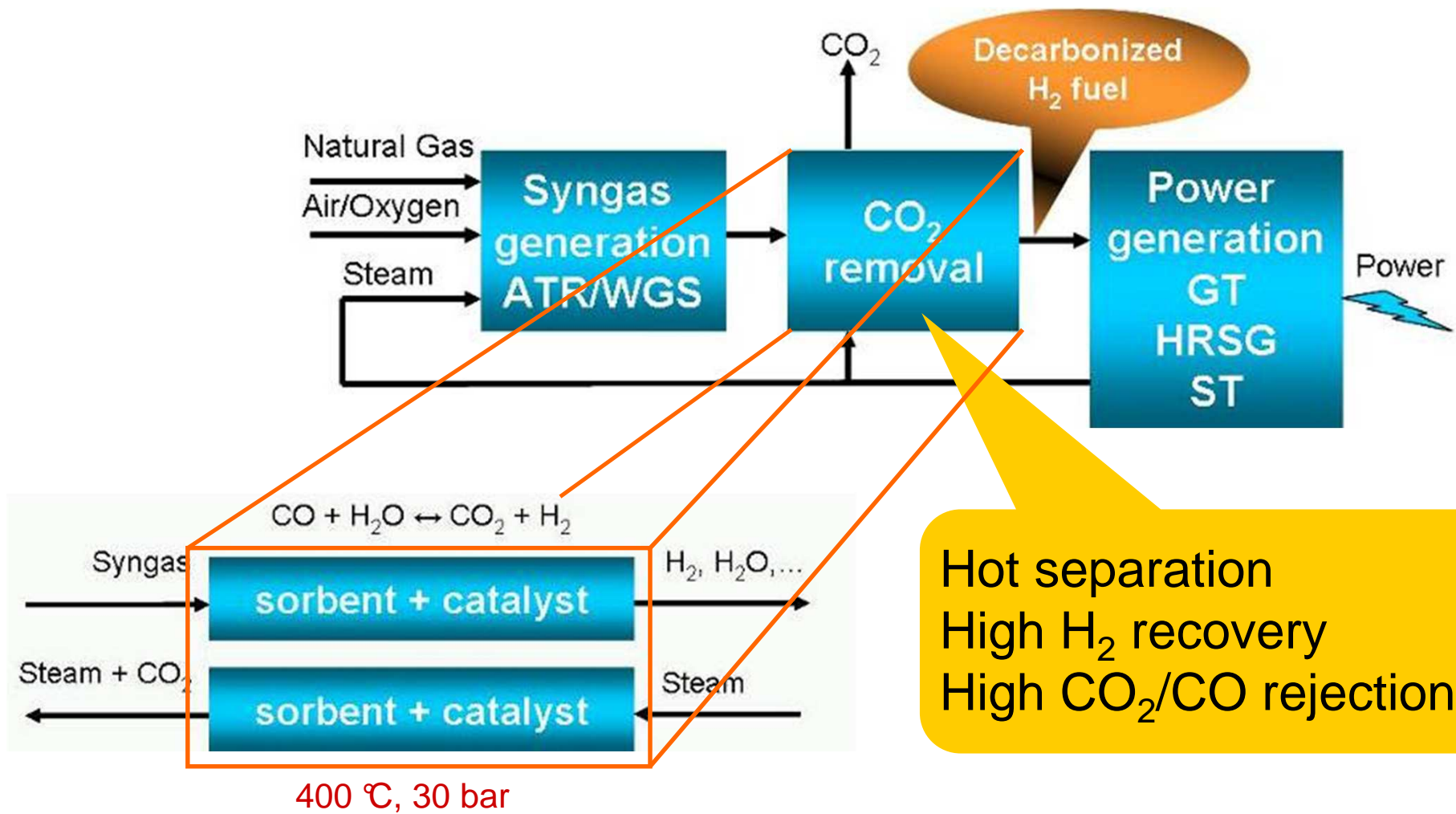


Pre combustion capture as of today

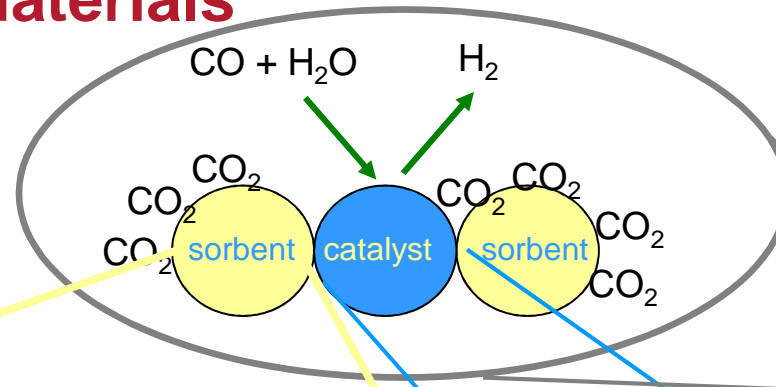
- Current plants use optimised shift followed by physical solvent separation process



Sorption-Enhanced Water-Gas Shift (SEWGS)



SEWGS principle and Materials



1 cm



Fe-Cr

$Mg_6Al_2(OH)_{16}CO_3 \cdot 4H_2O$

- Al(OH)₆-octahedron
- Mg(OH)₆-octahedron
- H₂O
- CO₃²⁻

Promoted with K₂CO₃

Hydrotalcite (layered clay)

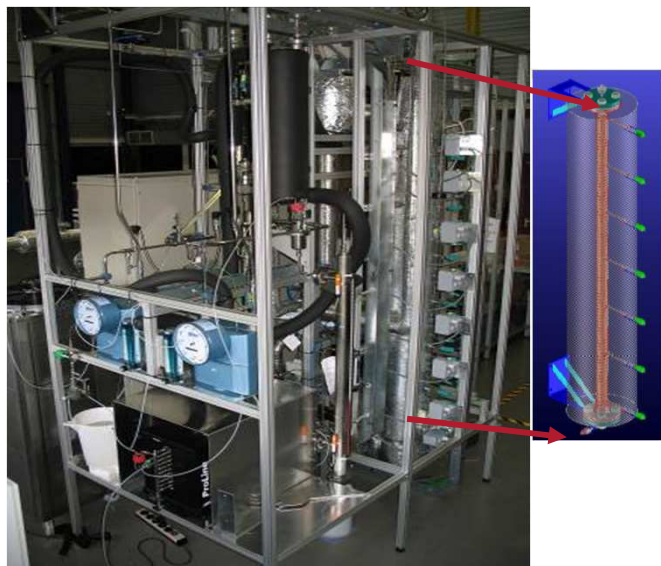
A Brief History of SEWGS

- SEWGS development initiated by Air Products in 2002
 - Development by Air Products continued, with funding from the US DOE and the CO₂ Capture Program (CCP)
- Development by ECN on Sorption Enhanced Reforming started in **CATO-1**
 - ECN work resulted in better understanding of the sorption process and new materials
- AP and ECN up in 2006 for the SEWGS process development in the EU FP6 project **CACHET**.
 - ECN constructed two test rigs (2007 and 2008)
 - PoC of SEWGS process finalised the CACHET project
- 2008, Process development continued in FP7 **CAESAR** project.
 - Improvements in sorbents and process economics. other applications

Why CAESAR?

- **CACHE: Efficiency 45% and Capture costs 100 €/t for NGCC**
- Novel/improved sorbents are needed for low-cost CO₂ capture with SEWGS;
 - Improved chemical and mechanical stability
 - Improved sorbent capacity
 - reduced steam demand during regeneration
- Reactor modelling is essential to develop novel reactor concepts and for optimisation of full cycle operation
 - See presentation (APL Wednesday 11:30 – 11:55)*
- Improve integration in order to improve efficiency
 - See presentation (PTM Wednesday 11:55 – 12:20)*
- The SEWGS process should also be made suited for other applications i.e. IGCC and industrial processes (blast furnace gas)

Test Rigs



2 m single column, 38 mm ID

Design conditions:

T_{max} : 550°C

P_{max} : 31 bara

Feed gases:

CH_4 , CO , CO_2 , H_2 , H_2S , N_2 ,

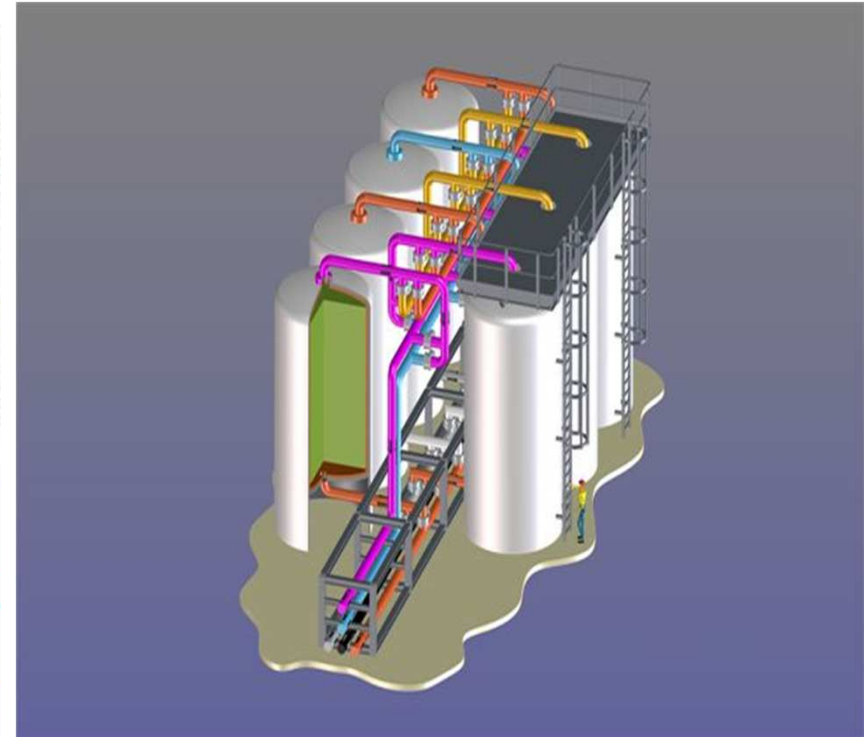
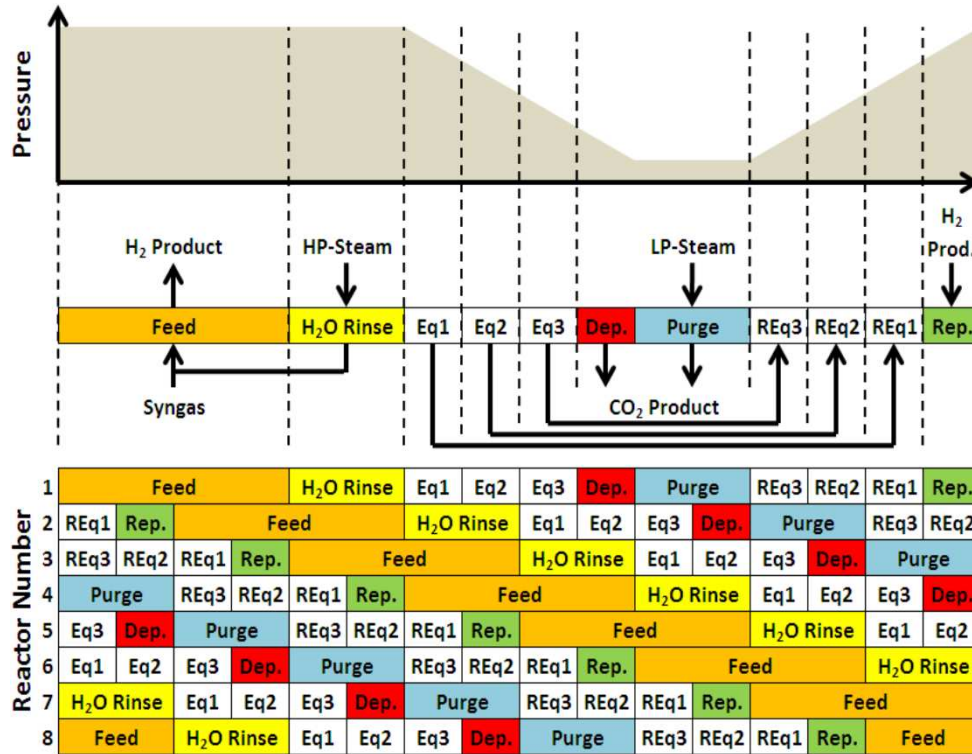
Steam



Six, 6 m high,
38 mm ID columns
48 valves



The SEWGS process



Sorbent development in CAESAR

Mechanical Stability

- Hydrotalcite is a soft clay
- Key was to develop a sorbent that does not form MgCO_3 under the relevant process conditions



MgO
89 mmol/cm³



MgCO_3
35 mmol/cm³

Sorbent Development



Before



After



Sorbent development in CAESAR

*The consortium developed a new HTC sorbent: **ALKASORB***



- We demonstrated the cyclic stability of **ALKASORB** using two different SEWGS cycles. The material was shown to be chemically and mechanically stable over 2000+ cycles.
- No formation of undesirable MgCO_3 was observed, which is important since formation of MgCO_3 can lead to mechanical failure of the sorbent pellets and can decrease the carbon capture ratio.
- Moreover, it was demonstrated that the cyclic capacity of **ALKASORB** is higher and that it needs substantially less steam is required for its regeneration.
- Using data collected from numerous sources (Rubotherm at SINTEF, breakthrough data at ECN in the single-column, and TGA data from Air Products), combined CO_2 and H_2O isotherms for **ALKASORB** were created.

Catalyst screening in CAESAR

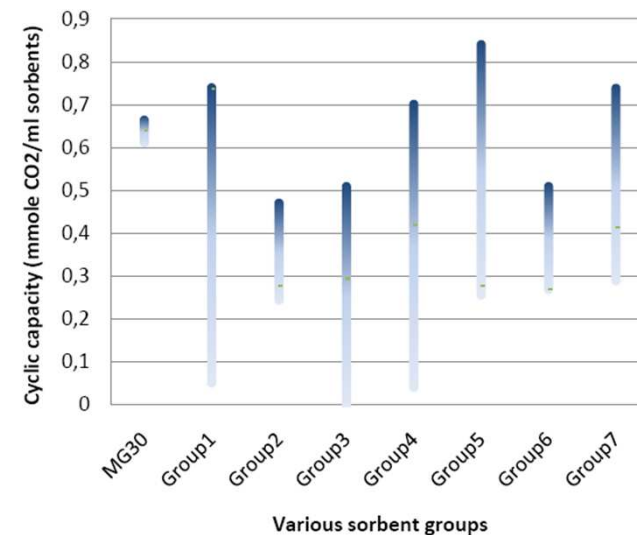
*The **ALKASORB** sorbent can work without shift catalyst.*

- A stability test showed the stability of the working capacity as well as shift activity of **ALKASORB** during 2000 cycles, at a minimal steam to carbon ratio (2 mole/mole).
- Hence, it was demonstrated that the SEWGS process does **not require a shift catalyst**, which brings substantial economic and technical benefits.
- **ALKASORB** captures also H₂S along with the CO₂ without significant loss of capacity.



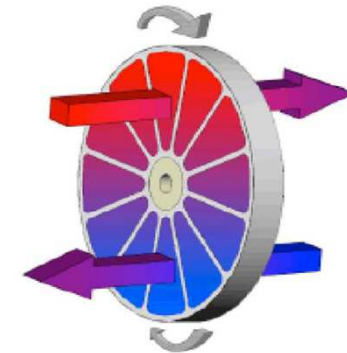
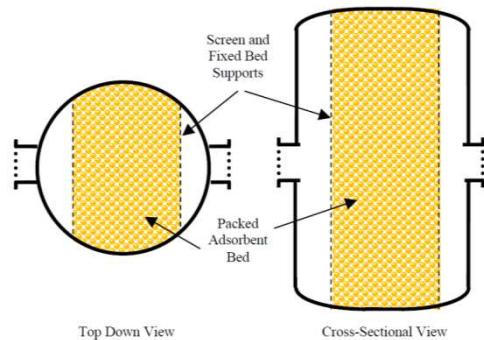
Sorbent development in CAESAR

- High throughput techniques have been applied in the search for even more efficient sorbents for the SEWGS process.
- From the 400+ sorbents tested by high-throughput screening, we selected the four most promising for further testing.
- These four sorbents were benchmarked against **ALKASORB**.
- Not one of these four sorbents performed sufficient to scale up the sorbent for testing in the single-column and multi-column test rigs.



Alternative reactor designs in CAESAR

- Alternative fixed vessel flow arrangements other than vertical
- Mechanical improvements to fixed vessel designs (e.g. rotating beds, internal heat exchangers etc.)



- Moving beds versus fixed beds

The main finding was that the current SEWGS fixed bed PSA design will most likely be the best arrangement. We will concentrate on improving fixed bed cycles

SEWGS Assessments for NGCC

	NGCC	NGCC MDEA	SEWGS integration 2	SEWGS int2 + exp
Net Power Output, [MW]	829.5	830.0	777.9	791.8
Thermal Power Input _{LHV} , [MW]	1422.6	1651. 0	1556.5	1556.5
Net Electric Efficiency (LHV base), [%]	58.3	50.3	50.0	50.9
Emissions [g _{CO2} /kWh _{el}]	351.8	29.8	17.1	16.8
CO₂ avoided, [%]	-	91.5	95.1	95.2
SPECCA (MJ_{LHV}/kg_{CO2})	-	3.07	3.08	2.70
Investment costs [€/MWe]				
COE [€/MWh]	54.2	76.37	74.17	73.33
Cost of CO₂ avoided [€/t_{CO2}]	-	68.9	58.9	56.4

CACHET results for NGCC: Efficiency 45% and Capture costs 100 €/t

EWGS Assessments for IGCC

	IGCC	SELEXOL	Sour SEWGS	ADV Sour SEWGS
Net Power Output, [MW]	425.7	383.5	388.0	393.6
Thermal Power Input _{LHV} , [MW]	888.8	1053.5	1032.7	1032.7
Net Electric Efficiency _{LHV} , [%]	47.48	36.4	37.6	38.2
Emissions, [g _{CO2} /kWh _{el}]	726	98	22	22
CO ₂ avoided, [%]	-	86.6	96.9	97.0
SPECCA (IGCC), (MJ _{LHV} /kg _{CO2})	--	3.67	2.84	2.65
COE, [€/MWh]		?	?	?
Cost of CO₂ avoided, [€/t_{CO2}]		?	?	?

SEWGS Assessments for blast furnace

- Steel industry accounts for 10-15% of industrial CO₂ emissions;
- Blast furnace gas has a concentration of CO and CO₂ of 20% each.

	No Cap	MEA cap	SEWGS cap
Net Electric Efficiency (LHV base), [%]	51.3	37.8	32.8
Emissions [g _{CO2} /kWh _{el}]	1366	958	345
CO ₂ avoided, [%]	--	30	75
SPECCA (MJ_{LHV}/kg_{CO2})	--	6.10	3.9

Recap

- We demonstrated the cyclic stability of **ALKASORB** using two different cycles. The material was shown to be chemically and mechanically stable over 2000+ cycles.
- It was demonstrated that the cyclic capacity of **ALKASORB** is higher and that it needs substantially less steam for its regeneration.
- **ALKASORB** can work without shift catalyst.
- **ALKASORB** captures also H₂S along with CO₂ without significant loss of capacity.
- Over 400 sorbents have been screened in a dedicated high throughput set up.
- The four most promising sorbents have been selected for further analysis and testing. Unfortunately, not one of these four sorbents performed sufficient to scale up the sorbent for testing in the single-column and multi-column test rigs.

Recap

- For the NGCC application, the energy use for SEWGS systems is lower compared to a conventional MDEA process.
- Moreover, SEWGS system allows a system components reduction and gives higher carbon capture ratios and the CO₂ avoidance cost are lower for the SEWGS process.
- SEWS in the IGCC applications reduces the energy use substantially compared to the SELEXOL process outlining its very good potential.
- The carbon capture rate is higher and the CO₂ avoidance costs are lower than for Selexol.
- SEWGS in blast furnace application showed reduced efficiency penalties compared to reference plant with MEA CO₂ capture;

More info on SEWGS

<http://caesar.ecn.nl/home/>

www.ecn.nl

[D. Jansen \(jansen@ecn.nl\)](mailto:jansen@ecn.nl)

