

Pilot Testing of a Heat Integrated 0.7 MWe CO₂ Capture System with Two-Stage Air-Stripping

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<http://www.caer.uky.edu/powergen/home.shtml>

University of Kentucky Center for Applied Energy Research



- Biofuels and Environmental Catalysts
- Carbon Materials
- Clean Fuels and Chemicals
- Environmental and Coal Technology
- Electrochemical Power Sources
- Power Generation and Utility Fuels

Areas of Research

Corrosion

- Non-metallic coating
- Inhibitors
- Localized effects

Conversion

- Gasification
- CO₂ Utilization
- NG Upgrading

Pilot Plants

- Heat Integration
- Hybrid Processes
- Solvent & process testing

Membrane Separations

- Zeolite membranes
- Solvent enrichment

Solvents

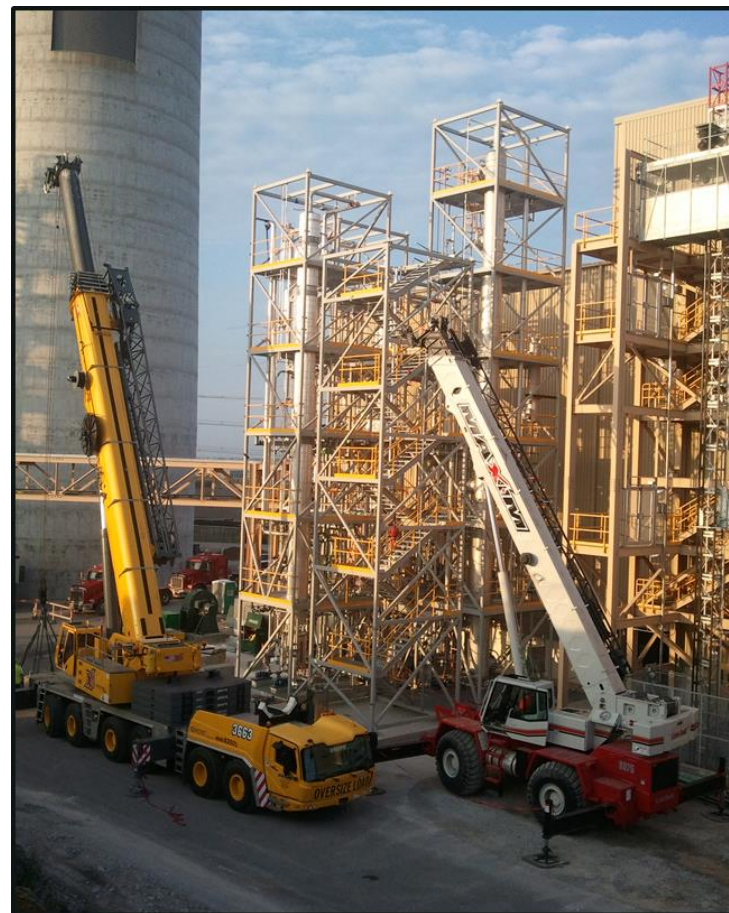
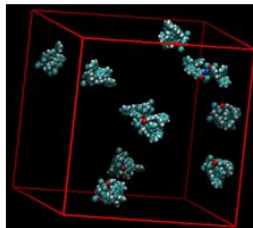
- Chem/Physical Properties
- Emission
- Degradation

Chemical Looping

- Spouting Fluidized bed
- Combustion/ gasification
- Solid particle handling

Electrochemistry

- Water treatment
- Solvent enrichment



Presentation Outline


- Overview of Project
 - Technology Description
- Emission and Degradation assessment

2 MW_{th} Pilot-Scale CO₂ Capture Project


KU E.W. Brown Generating Station

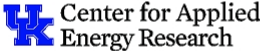
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Current UKy-CAER CO₂ Capture Project



- Host site at Kentucky Utilities EW Brown Generating Station, Harrodsburg, KY
- 0.7 MWe advanced post-combustion CO₂ capture pilot plant
- Capture and release program (~1400 scfm flue gas)
- Designed as a modular configuration
- Includes several UKy-CAER developed technologies
- Tested two different amine solvents (MEA and H3-1)
- Funded in part by DOE-NETL (DE-FE0007395)

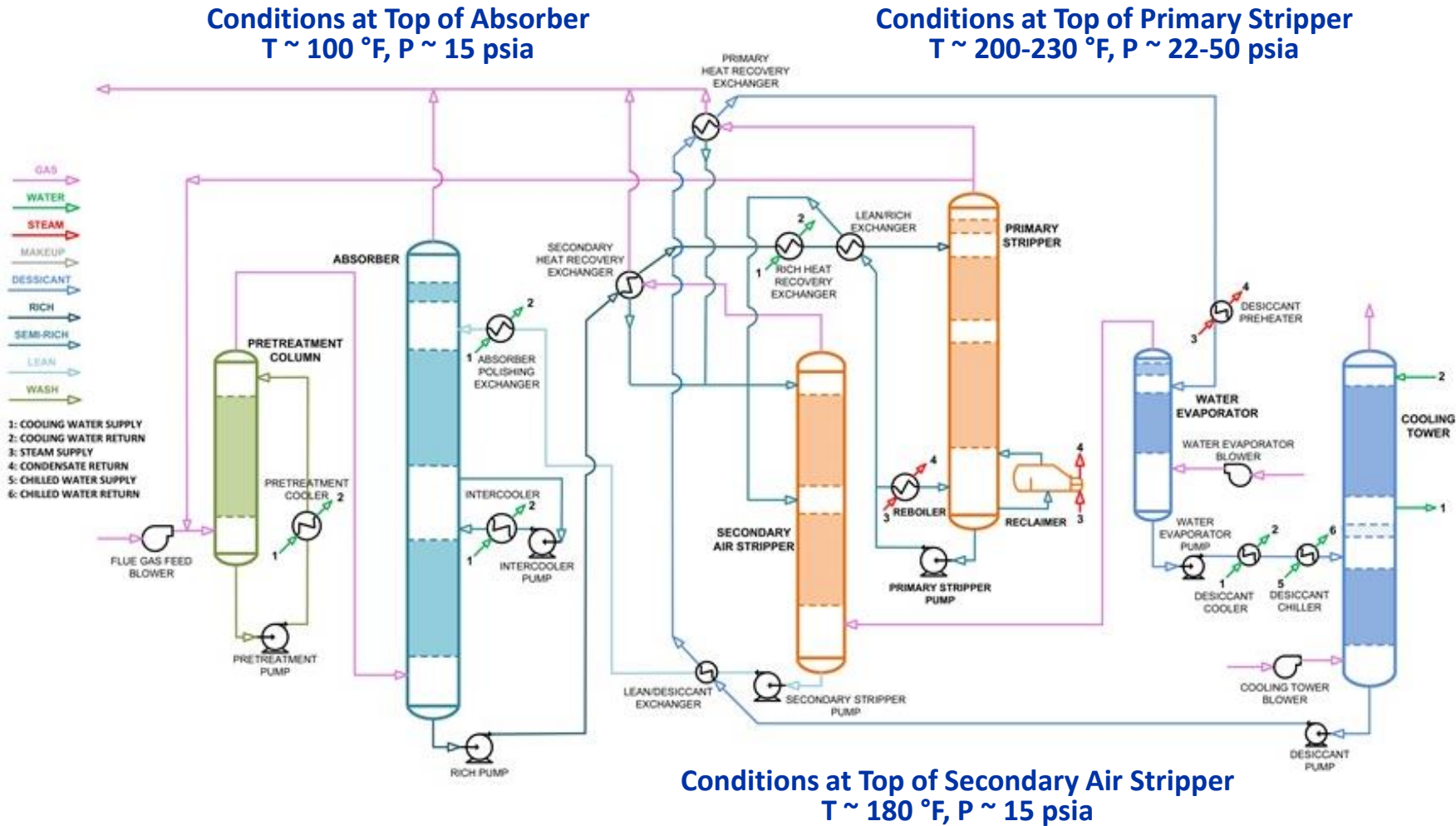
Small Pilot (1400 scfm) CO₂ Capture

- Unique UKy-CAER CO₂ Capture Process
 - **Heat integrated cooling tower** and liquid desiccant air drying system for decreased energy consumption
 - **Two-stage stripping** for increased solvent working capacity
- Continuous gas stream composition monitoring (**CEMS**)
- Continuous **steam usage** measurement
- Continuous **energy consumption** measurement
- Comprehensive liquid sampling ports for **solvent quality analyses**
- Comprehensive **gas sampling** ports for emissions and degradation analyses
- Liquid/gas **column profile** sample ports for absorber profile validation
- **Corrosion coupon** testing locations for material evaluation
- On-site **analytical laboratory** for routine liquid sample analysis



Phase 2 Modifications: Install CO₂ pre-concentration membrane and emission reduction systems

Technology Description



Highlights

- Process can easily capture 90% of CO₂
- Solvent regeneration energy of 1200–1750 BTU/lb CO₂-captured, ~13% lower than Reference Case 10 (RC 10)

MEA
Parametric
Campaign

MEA
Long-term
Campaign

- Ambient conditions have an impact on CO₂ capture
- Absorber liquid/gas distribution has an impact on performance
 - Lean/rich exchanger performance is critical
 - Elemental accumulation in the solvent needs to be monitored

- Solvent regeneration energy of 900–1600 BTU/lb CO₂-captured, ~36% lower than RC10
- Secondary air stripper performs as expected

H3-1
Parametric
Campaign

H3-1
Long-term
Campaign

- 90% CO₂ capture and low solvent regeneration energies are possible with a range of solvent concentrations

The UKY-CAER Transformational CO₂ Capture technology has the ability to reduce regeneration energy with a variety of different solvents

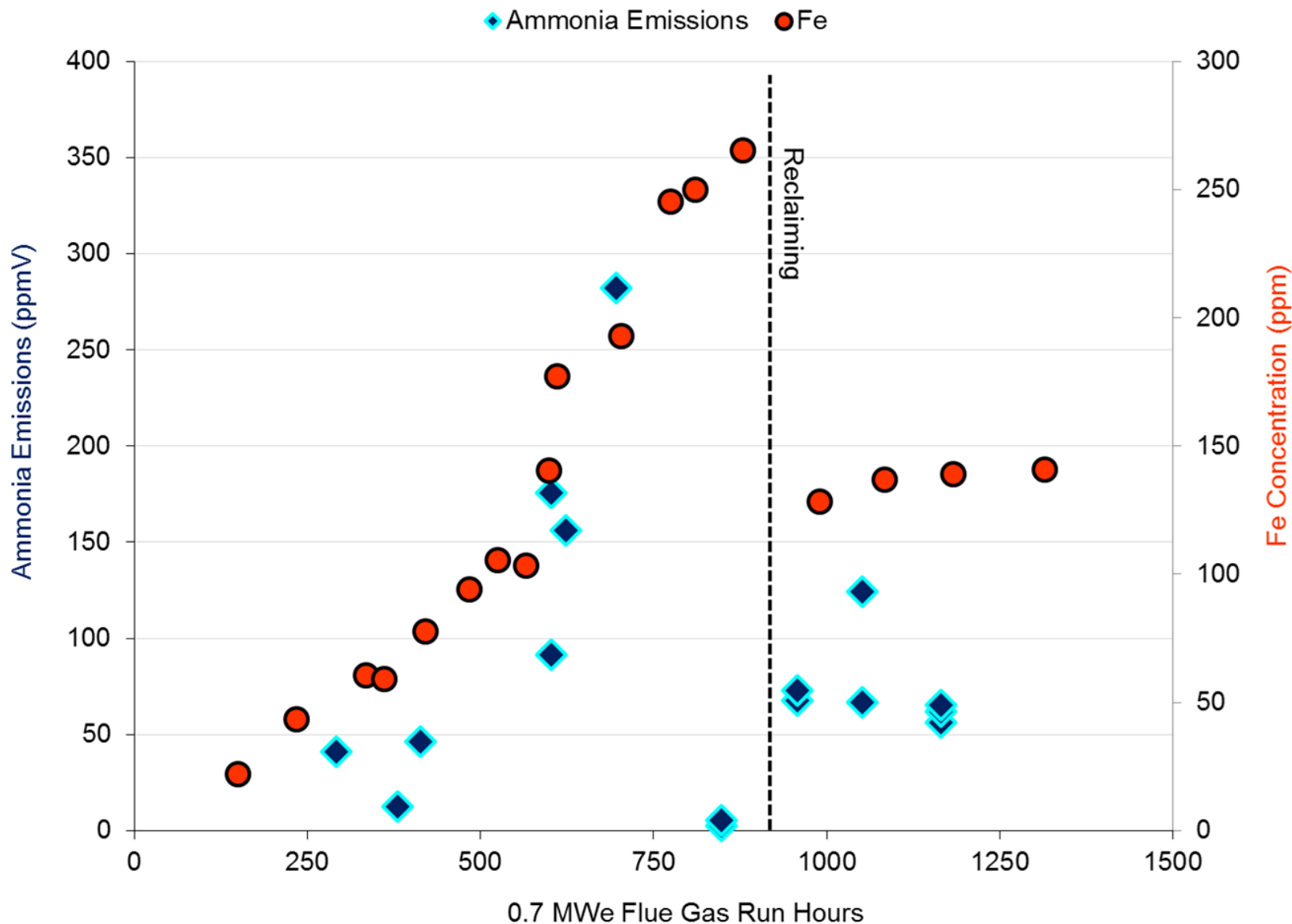
Emissions and Solvent Degradation

Full Environmental Study:

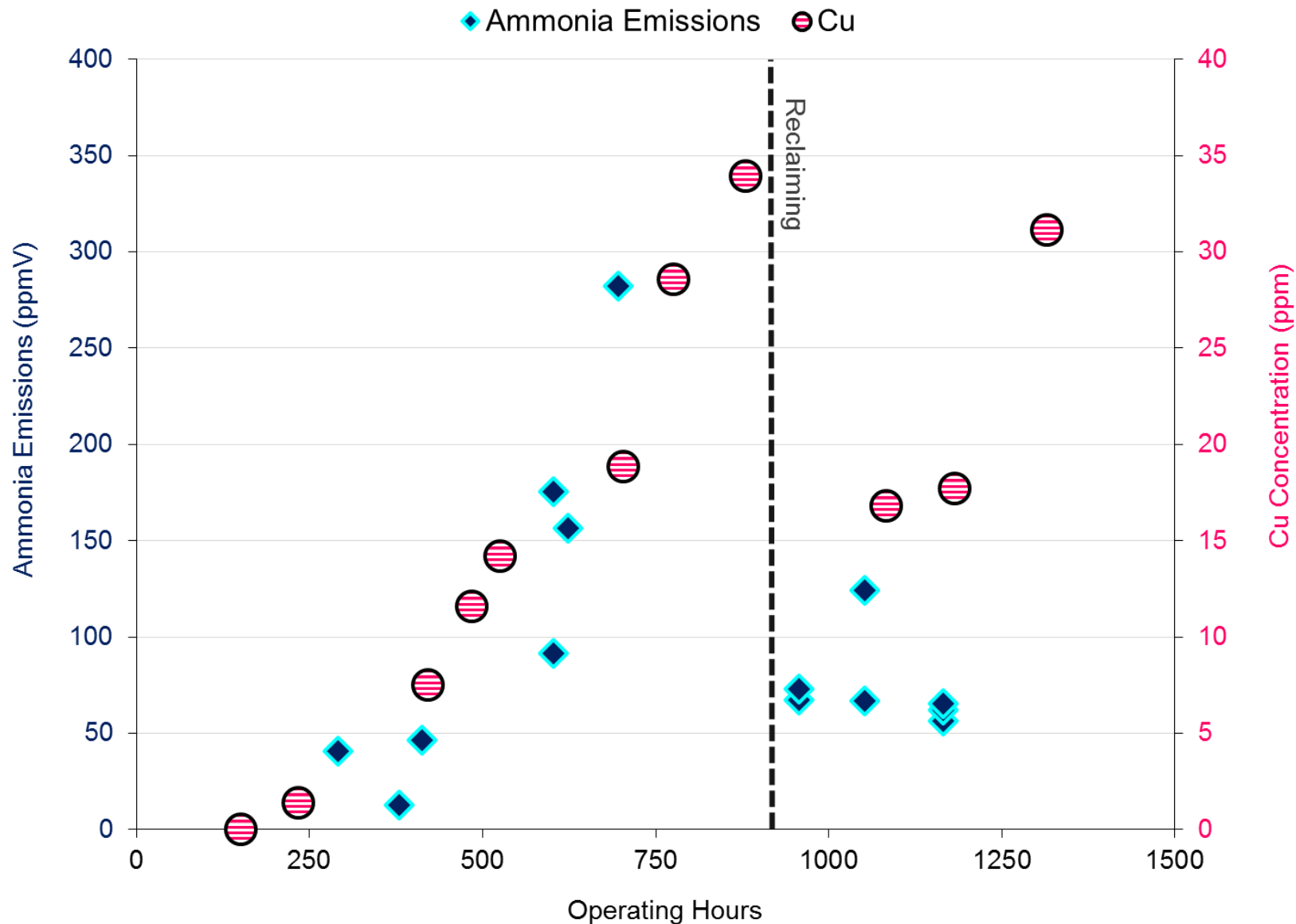
- Amine Degradation
- Heavy Metal Accumulation
- Nitrosamines
- Amine Emissions
- NH_3 , Formaldehyde
- All Other Waste Streams
- 3rd party Emission and EH&S Assessment



NH₃ Emissions and Iron Correlation



NH₃ Emissions and Copper Correlation



Corrosion



An amine strainer was removed due to frequent leakage and was found to have brass internals. It was severely corroded and the likely source of the high copper levels observed during the MEA campaign.

Metal Accumulation

In addition to Fe and Cu, elevated levels of Cr, Ni were also observed –

This may be related to system commissioning as NCCC observed similar results in their initial MEA testing campaign, with significantly lower levels observed in subsequent solvent testing campaigns

Se will need to be constantly monitored to verify it remains below RCRA limits

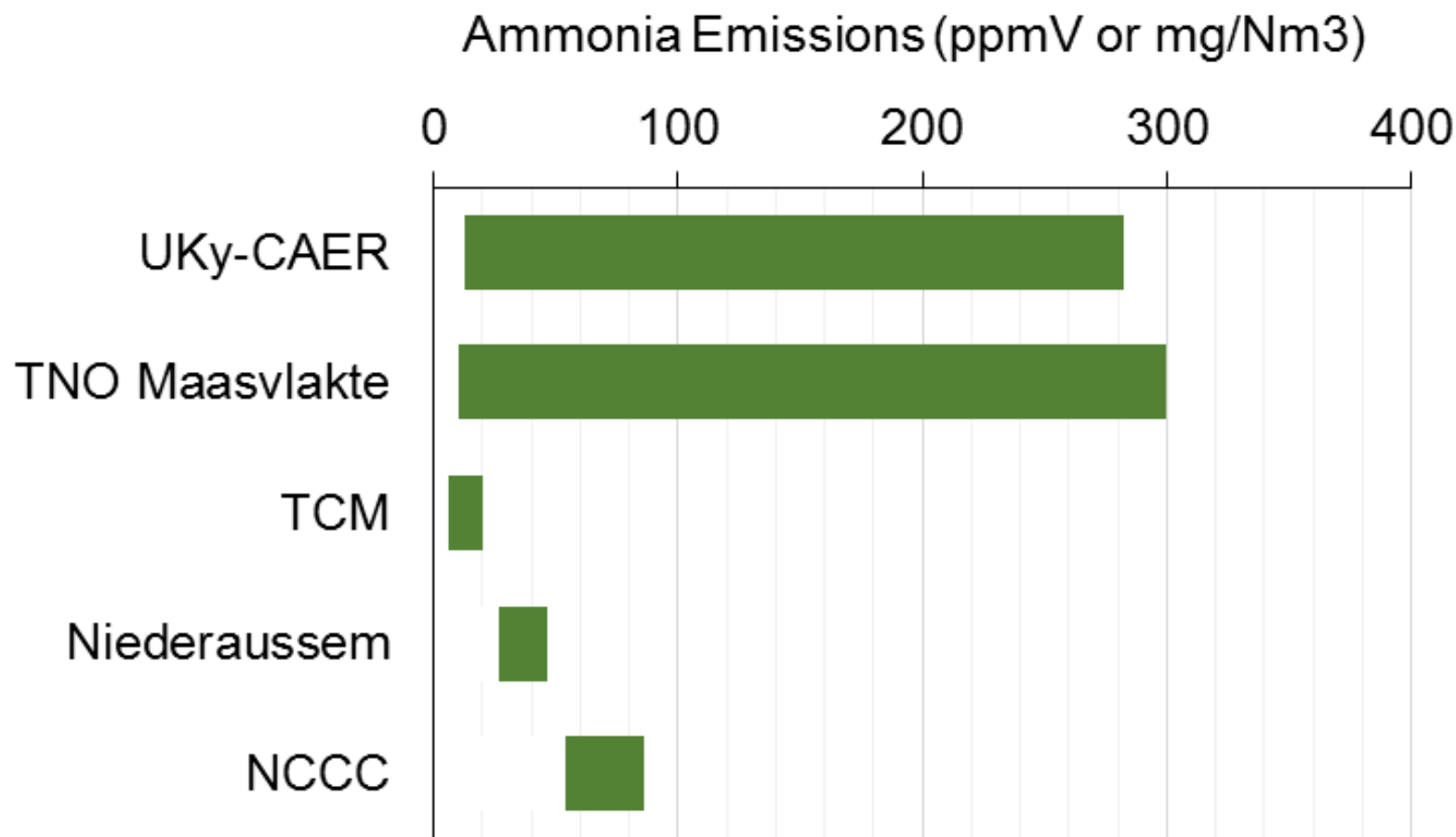
Elemental accumulation reported during pilot MEA solvent testing campaigns.

Elements	UKy-CAER (mg/L)	NCCC (mg/kg)	CSIRO (mg/kg)
Cr	29.382	45.90	4.20
Fe	265.248	137.20	199
Ni	28.024	28.77	4.6
Cu	33.898	< LOD	3.54
As	0.290	0.219	
Se	0.769	1.950	
Ba	0.982	0.265	
Pb	3.653	< 0.01	
Ag	< LOD	< 0.50	
Cd	< LOD	< 0.01	
Be		< LOD	
Mg		15.34	6.2
Al		4.060	
Zn		0.940	11.5
Mn		5.620	2.12
V			0.44
Mo			0.49
Co		1.020	
Flue Gas Source	Coal	Coal	Brown coal
Operating Hours	880 ^a	1140	1476 ^b
Reference		Carter (2012) and Wheeldon (2013)	Reynolds et al. (2015a)

^a Values reported before reclaiming.

^b Combined hours from 2 campaigns (640 h and 836 h) using the same solvent batch|

Comparative NH₃ Emissions



PCCC-4, Birmingham AL, September 5-8, 2017

Thompson et.al., Int J Greenhouse Gas Control 2017, 64, 22-33.

Khakharia, et.al., Ind. Eng. Chem. Res. 2015, 54, 5336-5344.

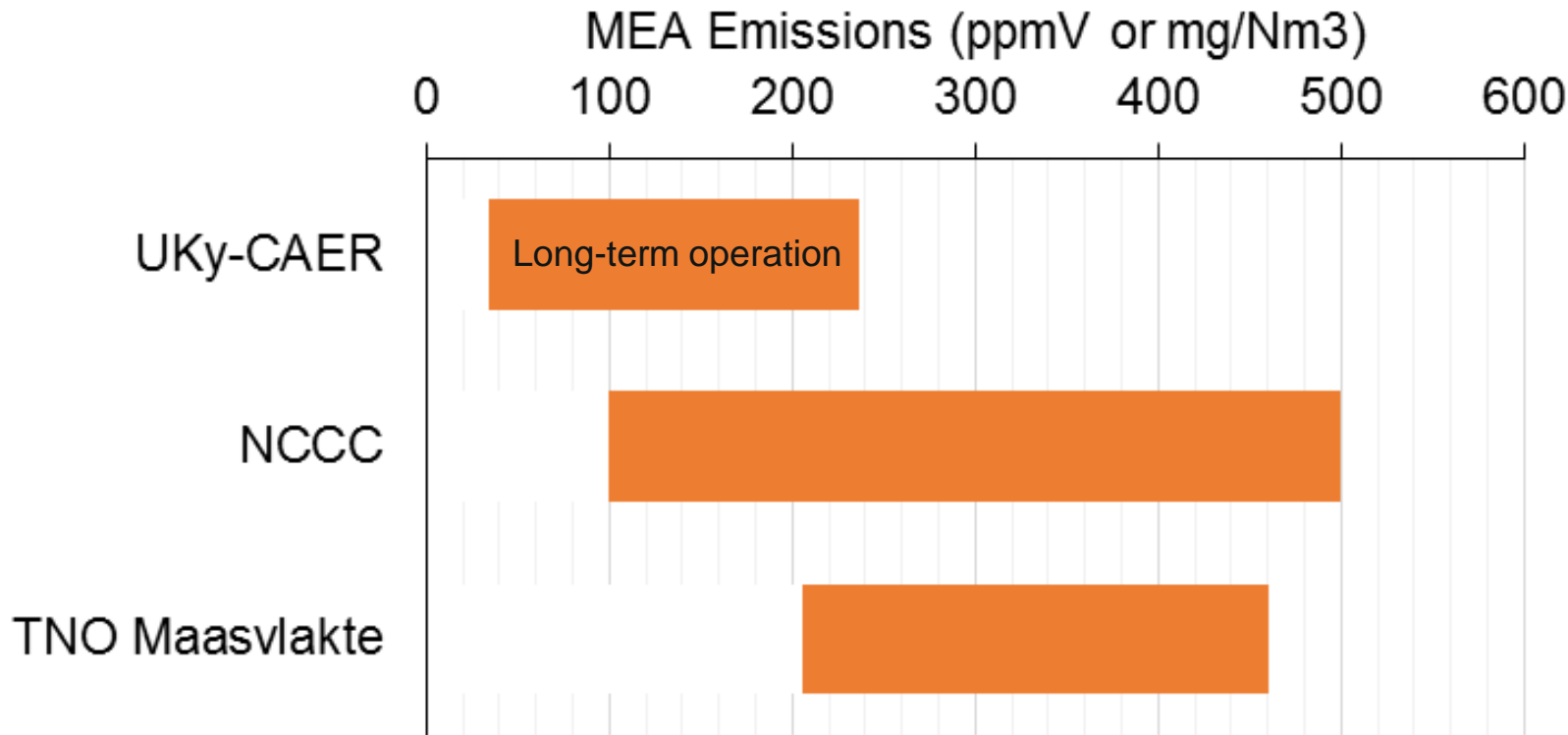
Morkin et.al., Energy Procedia 2014, 63, 6023-6038.

Moser, et.al., Energy Procedia, 2010, 4, 473-479.

Carter, National Carbon Capture Center: Post-Combustion. Presented at the NETL CO₂ Capture Technology Meeting, 9-12 July 2012, Pittsburgh, PA, USA..

Comparative MEA Emissions

Pilot results from coal combustion



Some MEA emission observed over 1300 ppmV during parametric testing
Baghouse installed at Brown Station after MEA campaign

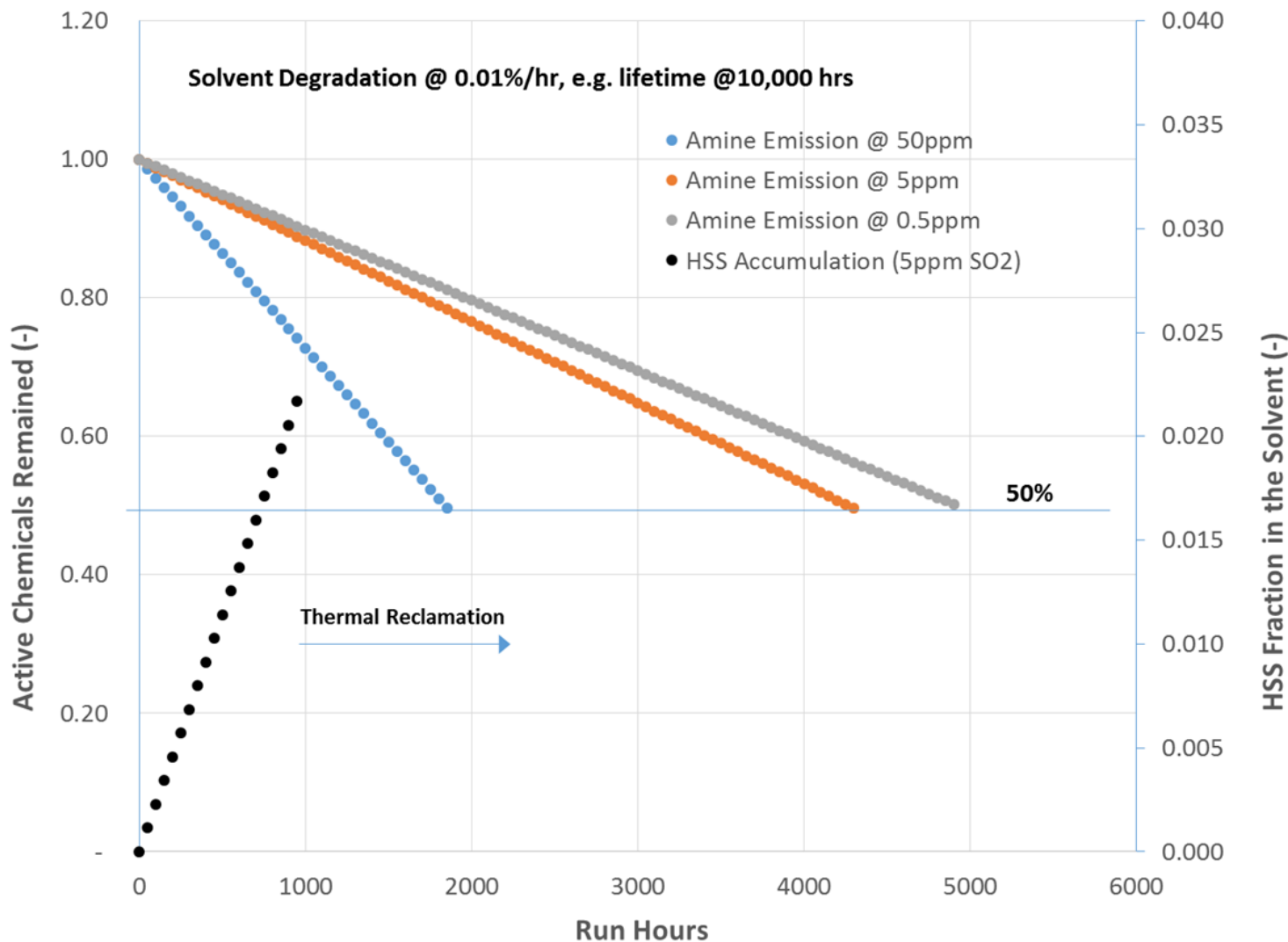
Thompson et al., Int J Greenhouse Gas Control, 2017, 64, 267-275.

Wheeldon, J., National Carbon Capture Center: Post-Combustion CO₂ Capture Program. Presented at the NETL CO₂ Capture Technology Meeting, 8-11 July 2013, Pittsburgh, PA, USA.

Wheeldon, J., National Carbon Capture Center: Post-Combustion testing. Presented at the NETL CO₂ Capture Technology Meeting, 29 July - 1 August 2014, Pittsburgh, PA, USA.

da Silva et al., Energy Procedia, 2013, 37, 778-783

Additional Solvent Considerations



Cost needs to be addressed by 3rd generation solvents

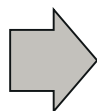
Additional Highlights

- Heat Stable Salt (HSS) accumulation from flue gas as expected
 - Sulfate and nitrate are major species
- Service water usage did not lead to any operational problems
- MEA thermal and oxidative degradation very similar to other campaigns
 - Formate and HEI major oxidative species
 - HEIA major thermal degradation product
- Aldehyde emissions were also comparable to other MEA testing campaigns
- Nitrosamines emissions were not observed above the ~1 ppbV detection limit

Amine Degradation

Lab scale experiments under harsh conditions; high temperatures, high CO₂ loading, high contaminant levels (metals)

Large amount of degradation and many degradation products identified



Bench scale experiments; less harsh and closer to actual process conditions

Less degradation and fewer degradation products



Pilot scale experiments; close to actual process conditions

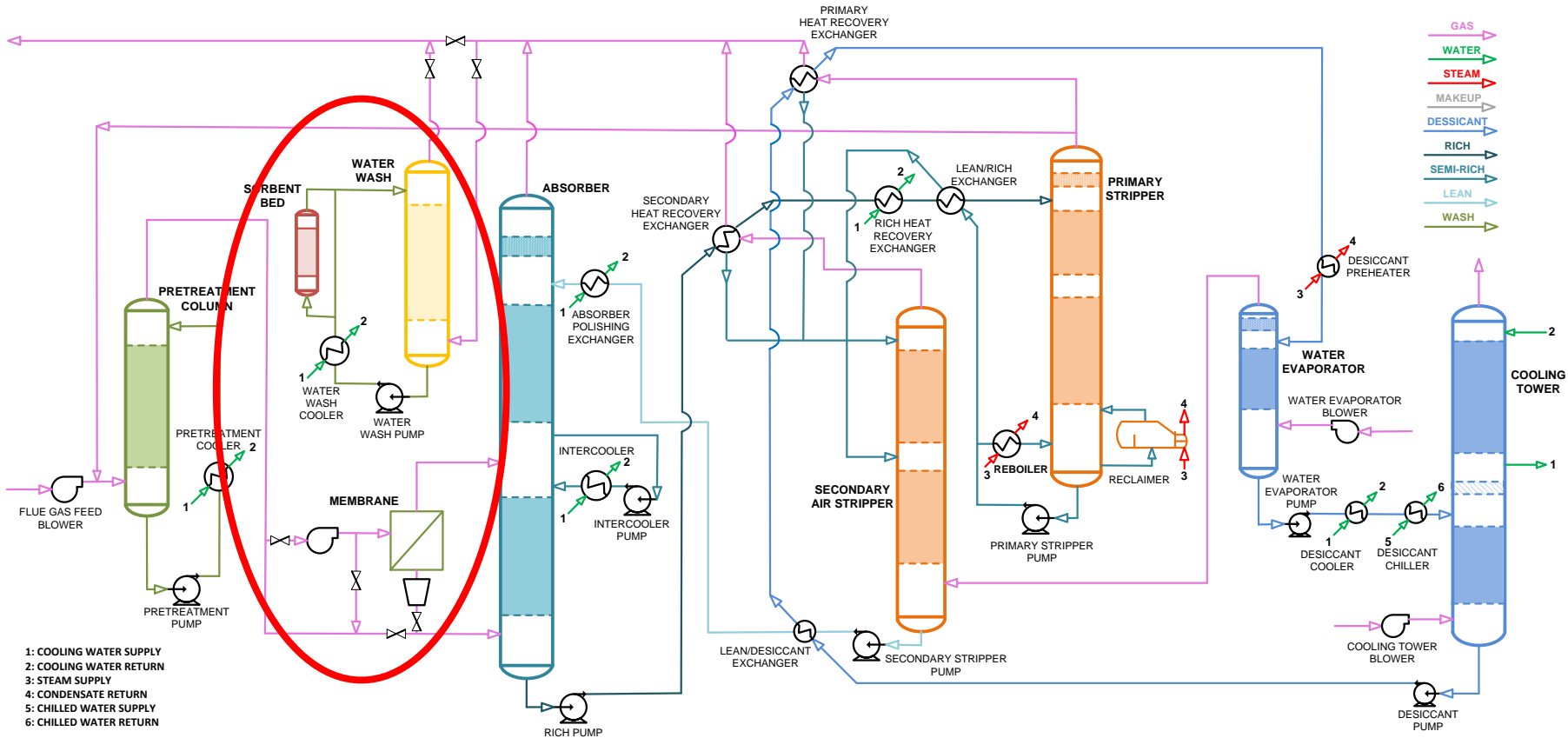
Fewest degradation products identified with lowest overall degradation

Key Knowledge Gained

- Liquid/gas distribution can significantly reduce the absorber efficiency.
- It is important to consider the L/R exchanger performance when reporting and comparing solvent regeneration values.
- Thermal reclaiming may be needed for RCRA element management.

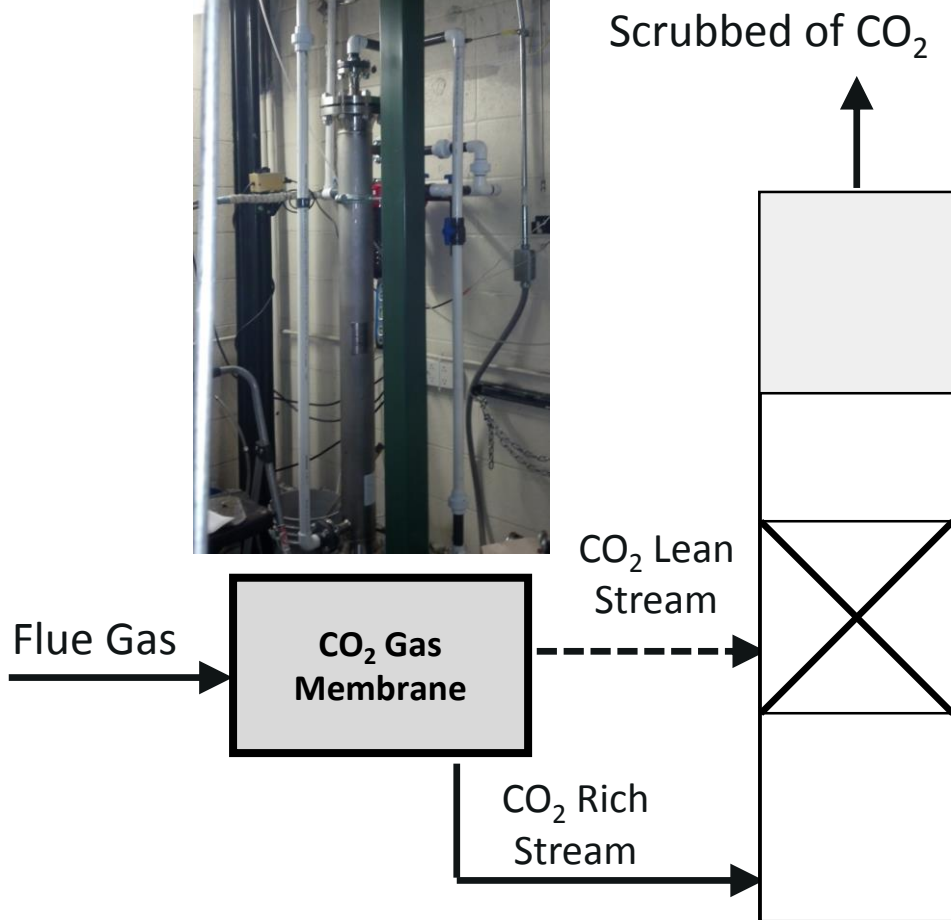


Hybrid 0.7 MWe CCS Flow Diagram



PCCC-4, Birmingham AL, September 5-8, 2017

Pre-Concentration Membrane



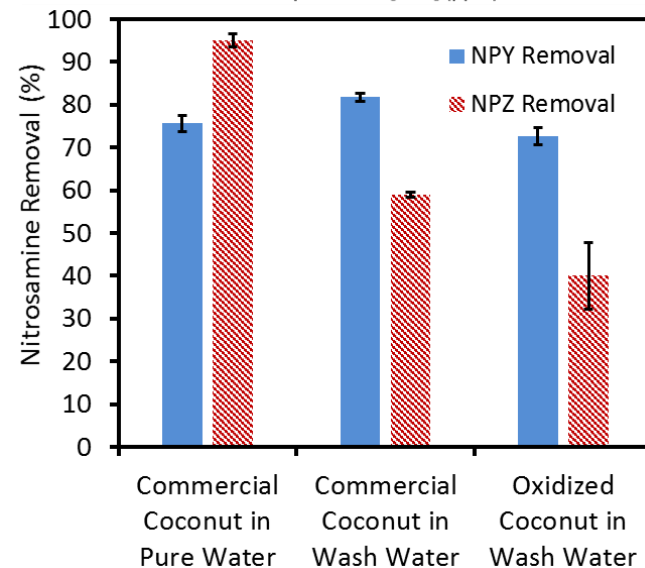
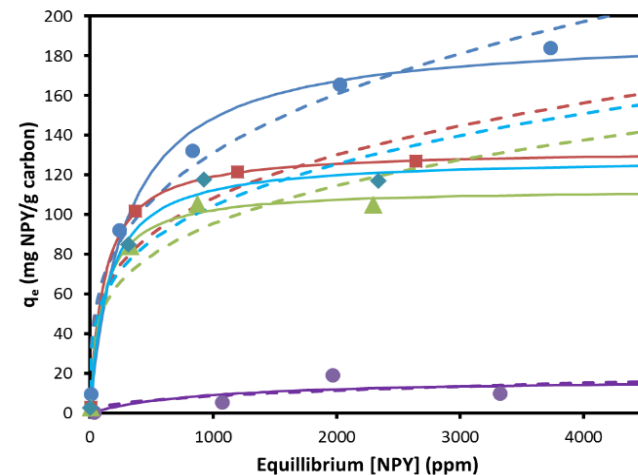
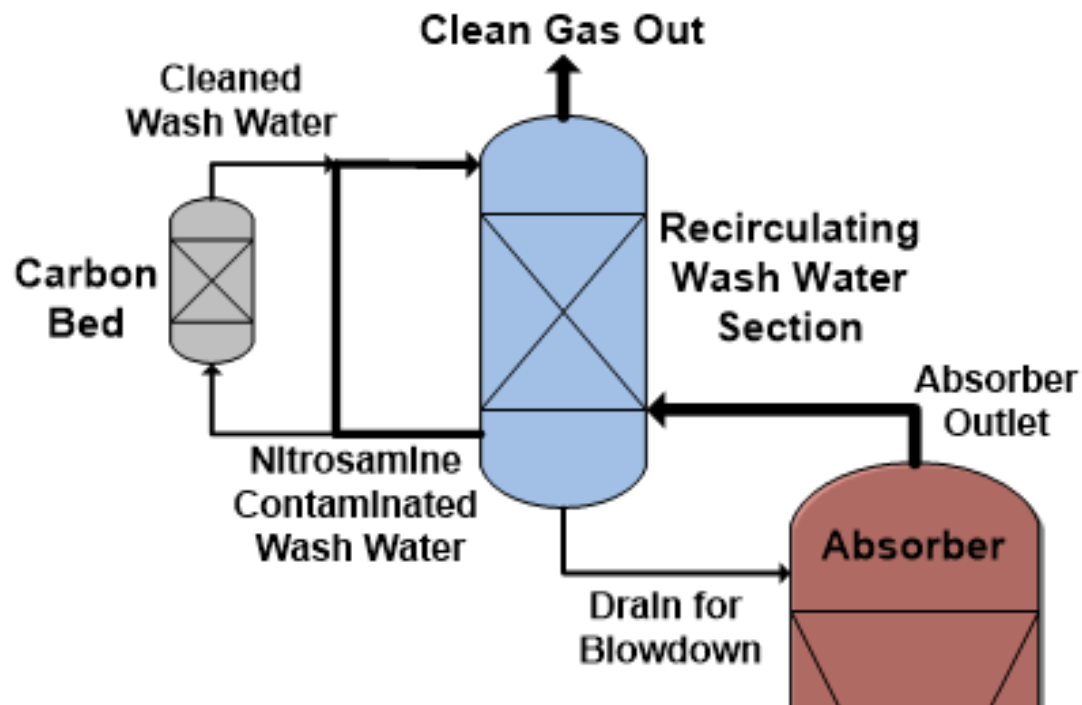
Major Achievements

- 2x increase in vol% CO₂
14% → 28%
- Engineered solution to utilize the increased driving force and realize energy savings – pump around

Major Challenges

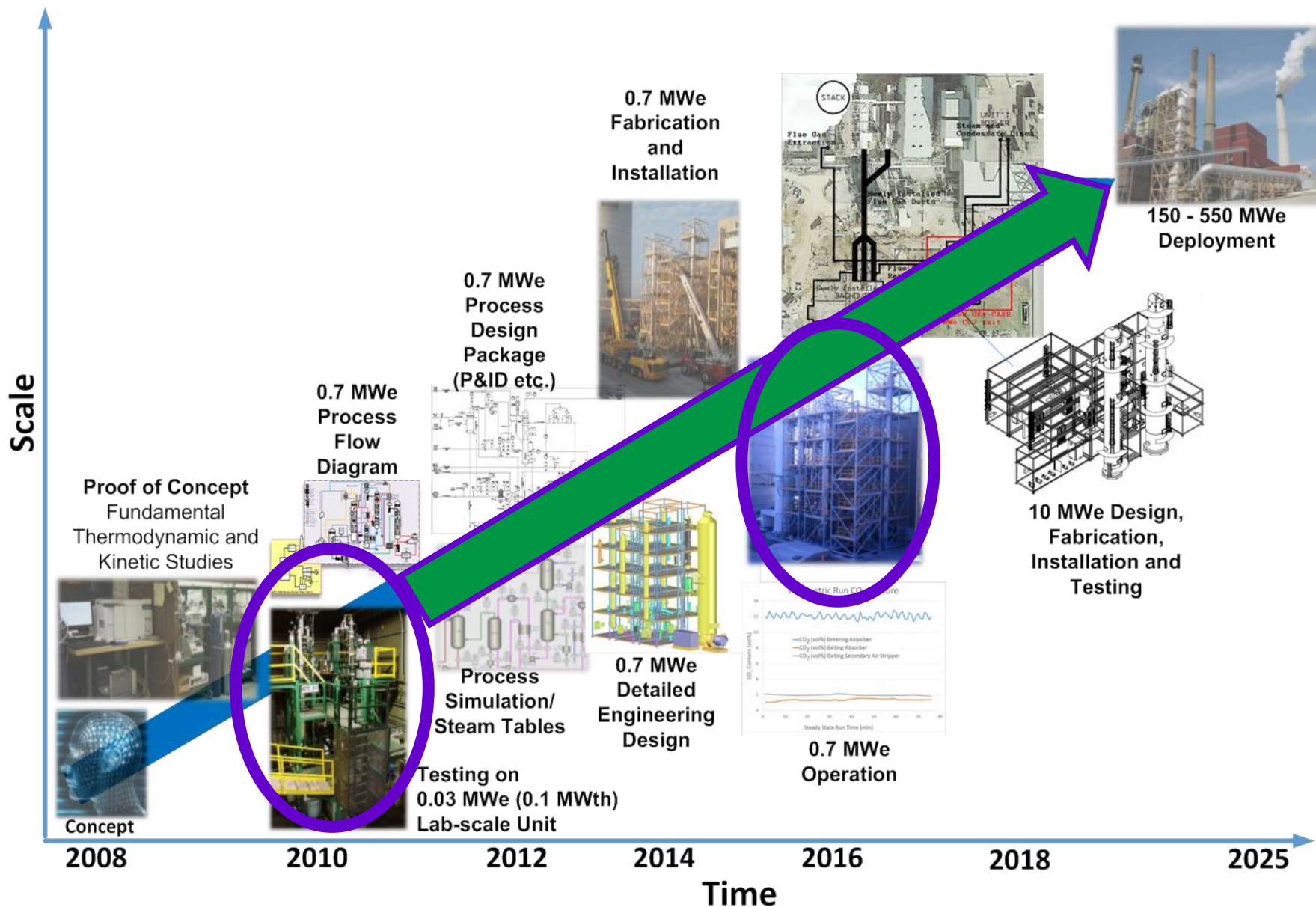
- Pressure drop across membrane giving low gas flow rates
- Not straight forward integration/installation to realize benefit from higher vol% CO₂

Modified WaterWash (WW)



Sorbent properties that can maximize N-nitrosamine adsorption while minimizing amine adsorption

Technology Development Pathway



Acknowledgements

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