



**AEE INTEC**

AEE - Institut für Nachhaltige Technologien

# Process Intensification in Biorefineries using Membrane Distillation (MD)

Austrian Biorefining Stakeholder Workshop

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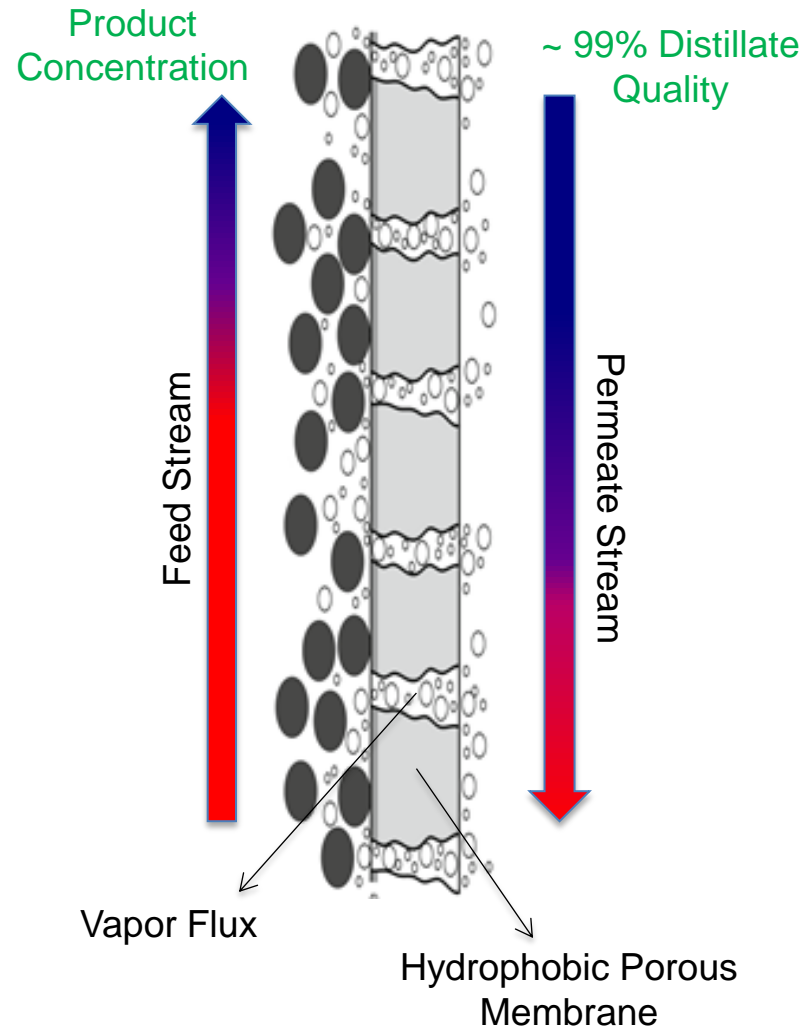
# Agenda

- AEE INTEC
- Membrane Distillation
- MD @ AEE INTEC
- MD in Biorefineries

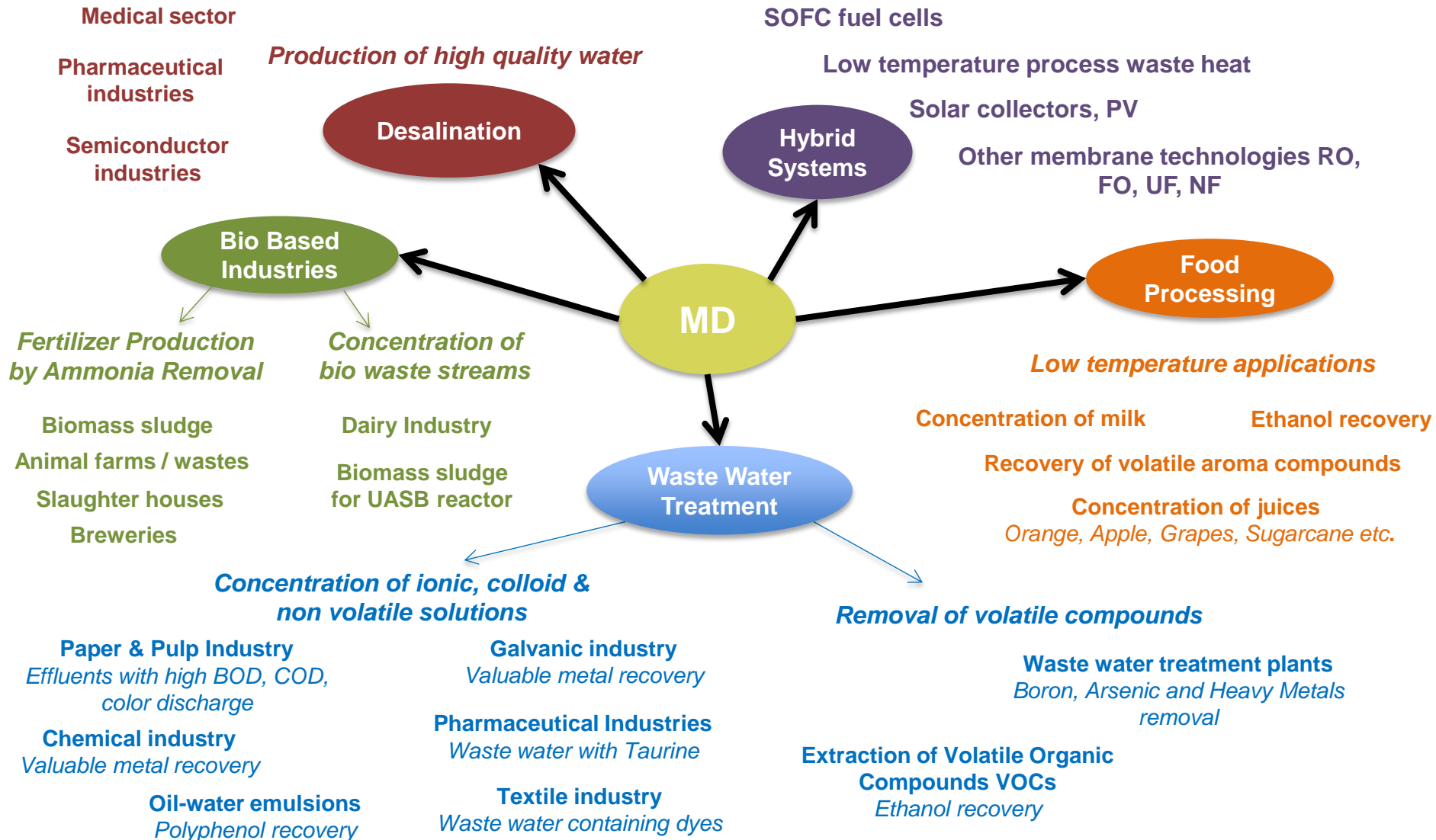


# Membrane Distillation MD - Principle

- *Non-Isothermal* Membrane Separation Process
- Driving force: Partial vapor pressure difference (induced as  $\Delta T$ )
- Vapor phase flux
- Lower Thermal and Electrical energy demand
- Integration potential for Waste Heat or Solar Energy



# MD Applications

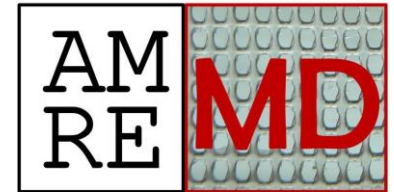


# MD Projects @ AEE INTEC

## Feed Concentration



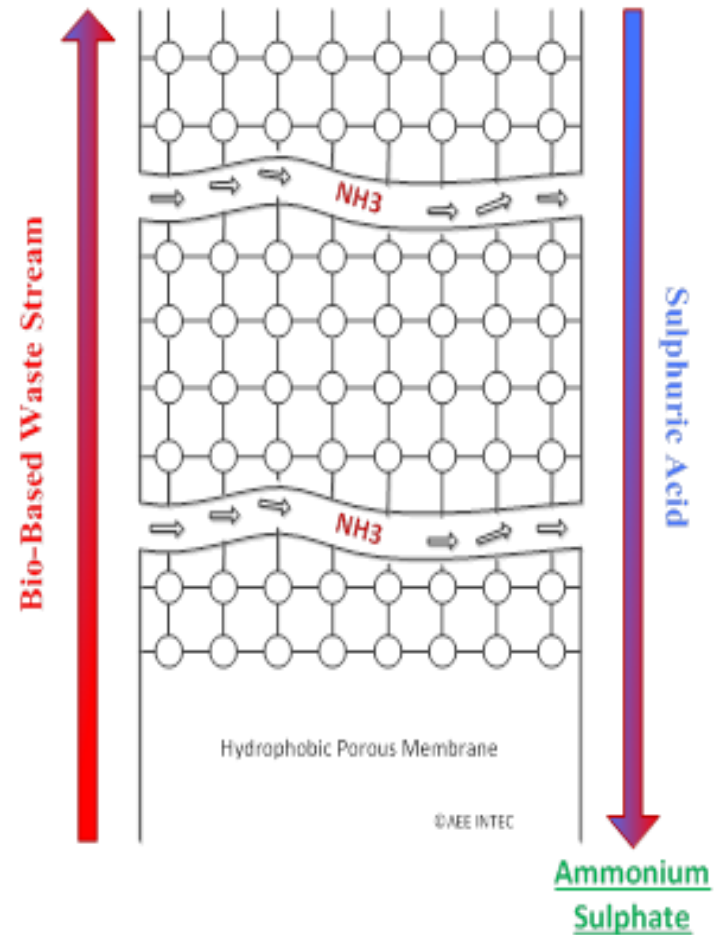
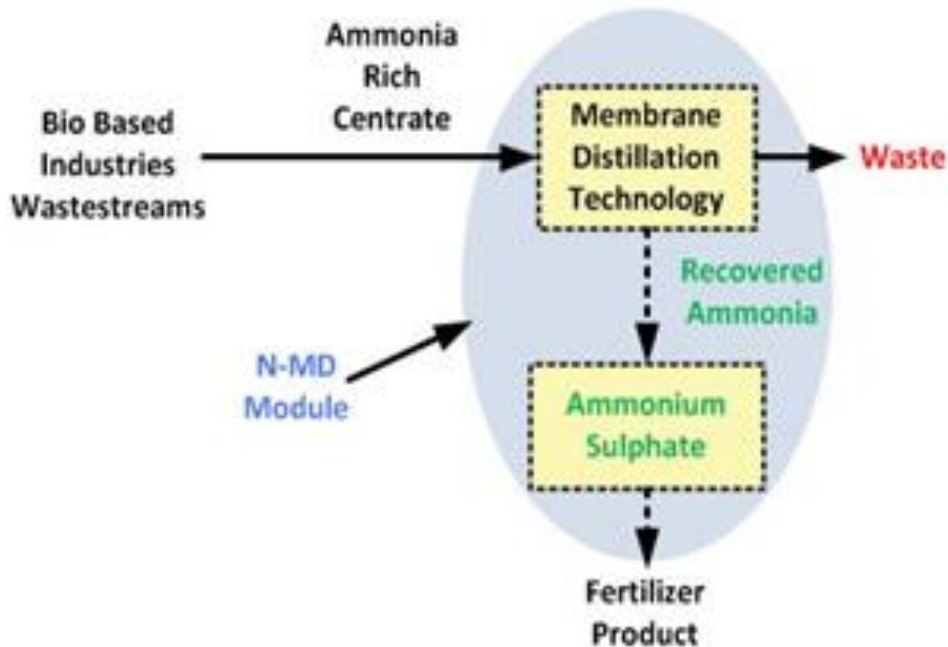
## Ammonia Separation



For detail of these projects, please visit <http://www.aee-intec.at/>

# MD in Biorefineries

- Adding value to bio waste streams



- Average experimental results from AMRE MD

Flow Rate	Feed Temperature	Permeate Temperature	Module Area	dT	NH4N Initial Concentration	Flux
L/h	C	C	m <sup>2</sup>	C	mg/L	kg/m <sup>2</sup> h
300	80	20	1.6	0.5	1200	0.02

- Experimental conclusions

- $\dot{m}_{flux} \propto T_{feed,In}$

- $\dot{m}_{flux} \propto \dot{V}_{feed,In}$

- $\dot{m}_{flux, NH4N} \propto C_{NH4N feed,In}$

- $\dot{m}_{flux, H2O} \propto 1/C_{NH4N feed,In}$

- $\dot{Q}_{Thermal} \propto (T_{feed,In} - T_{permeat,Out})$  or  $\Delta T$



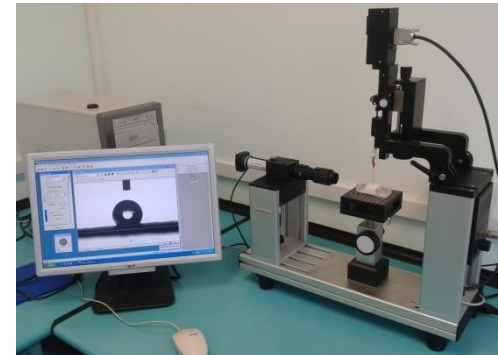
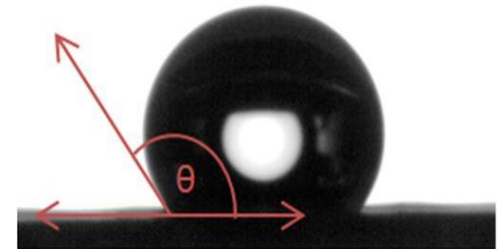
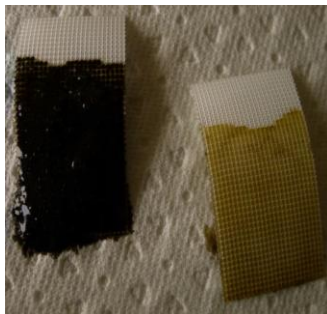
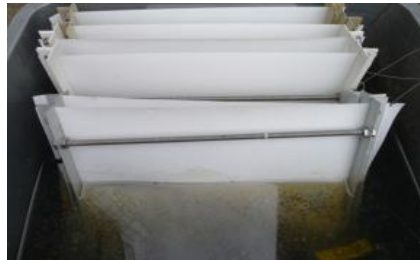
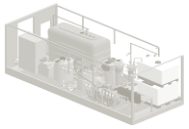
# Case Study on MD in Biorefineries

- MD system for treating 900 m<sup>3</sup>/year Pig manure sludge with 9,8 g/L of NH<sub>4</sub>N.

Ammonium Sulphate Product	32.5 ton/year
Specific Thermal Energy	11.1 kWh/kg
Specific Electrical Energy	0.15 kWh/kg
Infrastructure Costs	~ 40 000 EUR
Thermal Energy Costs	~ 7500 EUR/year
Profitability	~ 15 000 EUR/year
Payback Period	2.7 years

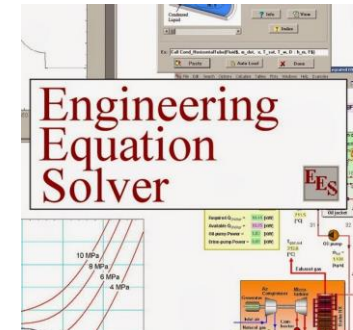
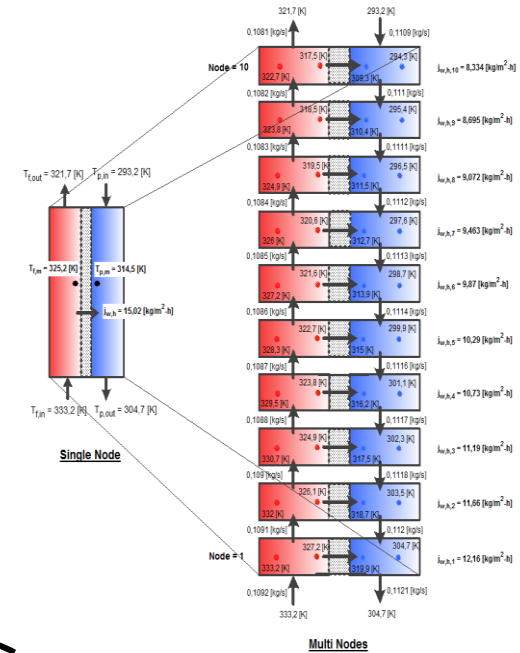
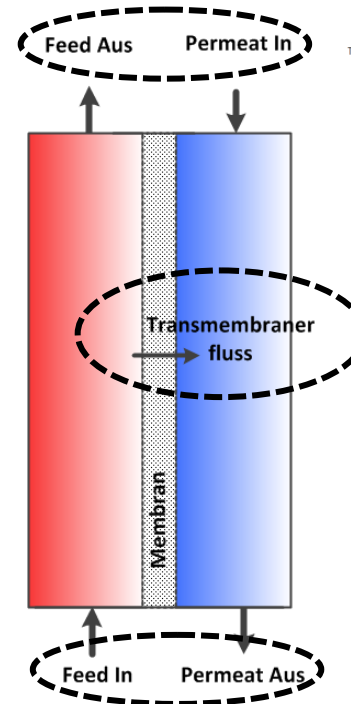
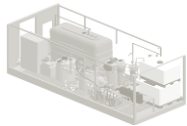
## ■ Membrane Specification

- Hydrophobicity by Contact Angle Measurements
- Chemical Resistance
- Physical Stability by Liquid Entry Pressures (LEP) Tests

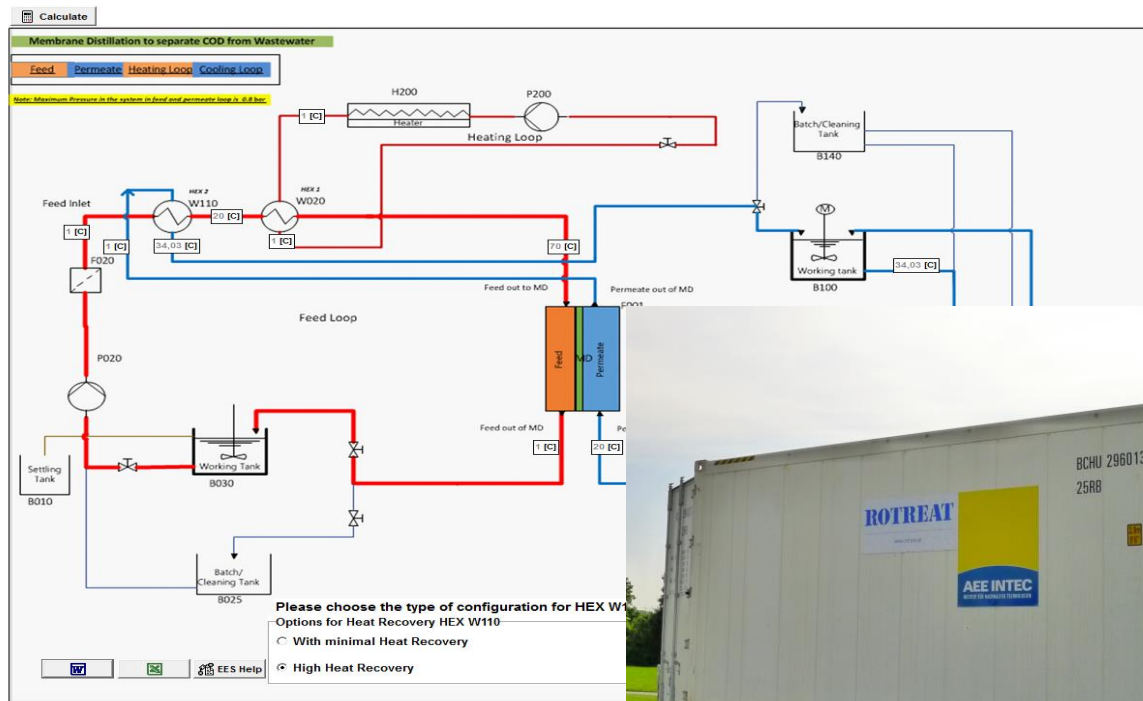


## Module Design

- Numerical Simulations
- Module Configuration
- Geometrical Parameters
- Process Parameters

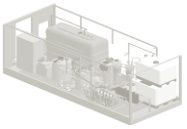


- Membrane Distillation Plant Design
- Module Assembly



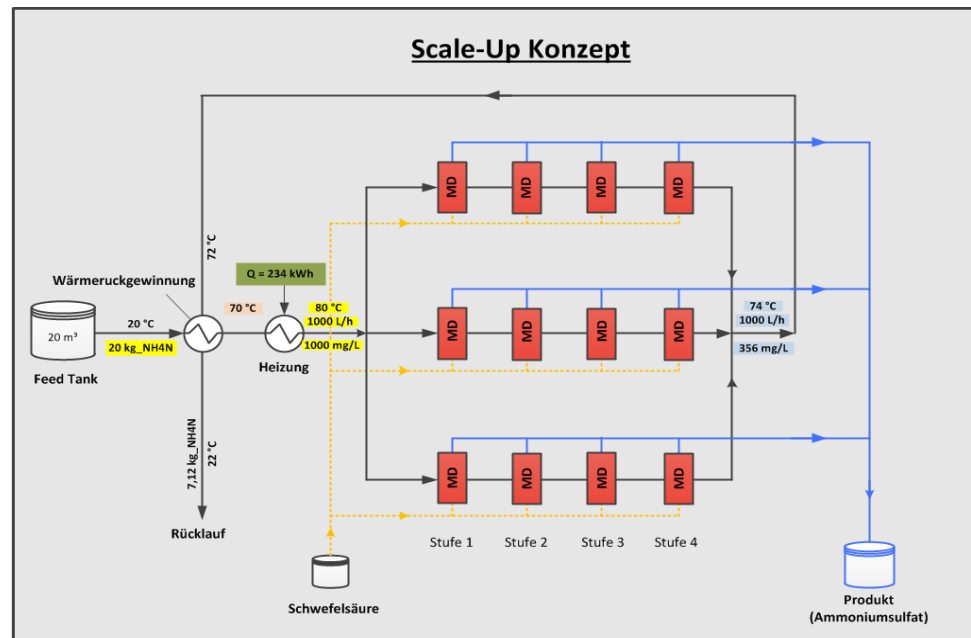
## ■ Experiments

- Preliminary / Feasibility Tests
- Lab-Scale Experiments
- Demonstration Plant Experiments



## ■ MD System Up-scaling

- Lab / Demo Scale → Real System Design
- Scheme for MD Process Integration
- Economics of the MD Process





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**IDEA TO ACTION**

# Thank You for Your Attention !