

ViennaGreenCO₂

Energy efficient CO₂ capture and carbon neutral CO₂ supply chain for greenhouse fertilization at Vienna Simmering

Highlights der Energieforschung 2019 Dekarbonisierung in der Industrie

Vienna, October 8th 2019

Gerhard Schöny & Tobias Pröll

Presentation outline

- **Part I: Introduction of solid sorbent CO₂ capture**
 - CCS/CCUS as key climate change mitigation
 - CO₂ capture benchmark technology
 - Temperature swing adsorption
 - Reactor design aspects for continuous TSA processes
- **Part II: The ViennaGreenCO₂ project**
 - Project aims, consortium and key figures
- **Part III: The VGCO₂ TSA pilot unit**
 - Selected results from experimental work at TU Wien
 - The ViennaGreenCO₂ TSA pilot unit
- **Part IV: Preliminary results from VGCO₂ piloting campaign**

IPCC 5th AR (2014) Key Messages

1. **Warming of the climate is unequivocal**
2. **Human activities represent dominant cause for warming** („*extremely likely*“)
3. **Continued GHG emissions cause further climate change** → amplification of already existing risks for natural and human systems

Substantial and sustained reductions of GHG emissions are needed

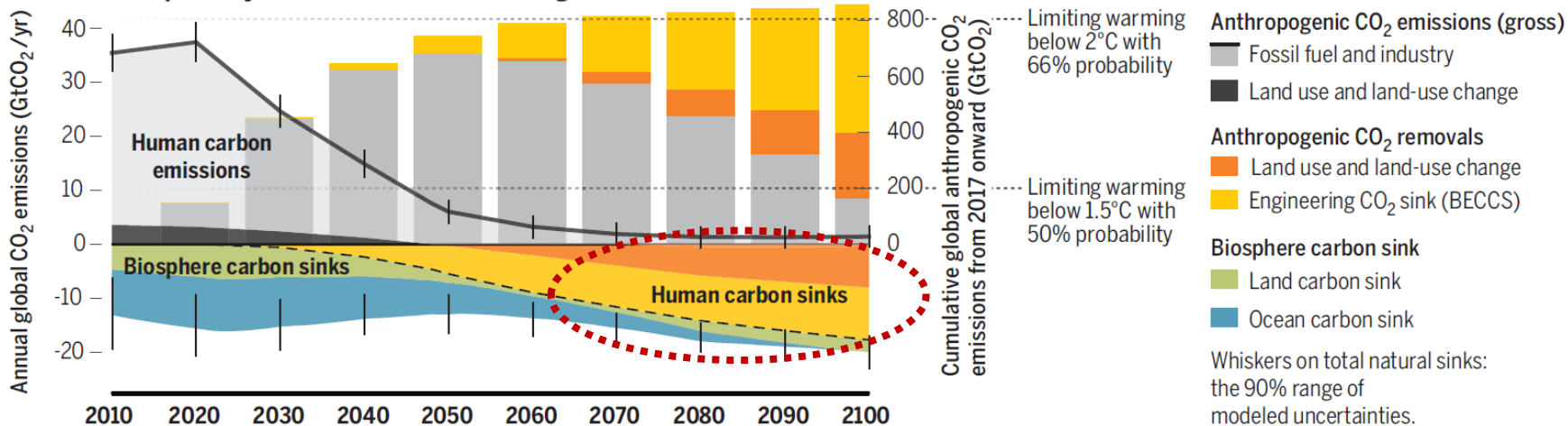


Climate change mitigation

- 2015: Paris climate agreement: Global warming < 2°C

Roadmap to decarbonisation according to Paris agreement:

Decarbonization pathway consistent with the Paris agreement



Source: J. Röckström et. al., „A roadmap for rapid decarbonisation“, Science, 2017

- Carbon capture technologies required for CCS, CCU and NETs**

Carbon Capture Technologies

Main routes for CO₂ capture

- Pre-Combustion
- Post-Combustion
- Oxy-Fuel

- Existing assets (e.g. power plants, industrial sites) can be retrofitted with Post Combustion CO₂ capture technology

Drawbacks of Amine Scrubbing technology:

- High CAPEX and energy demand, volatility of solvent, corrosion, etc.

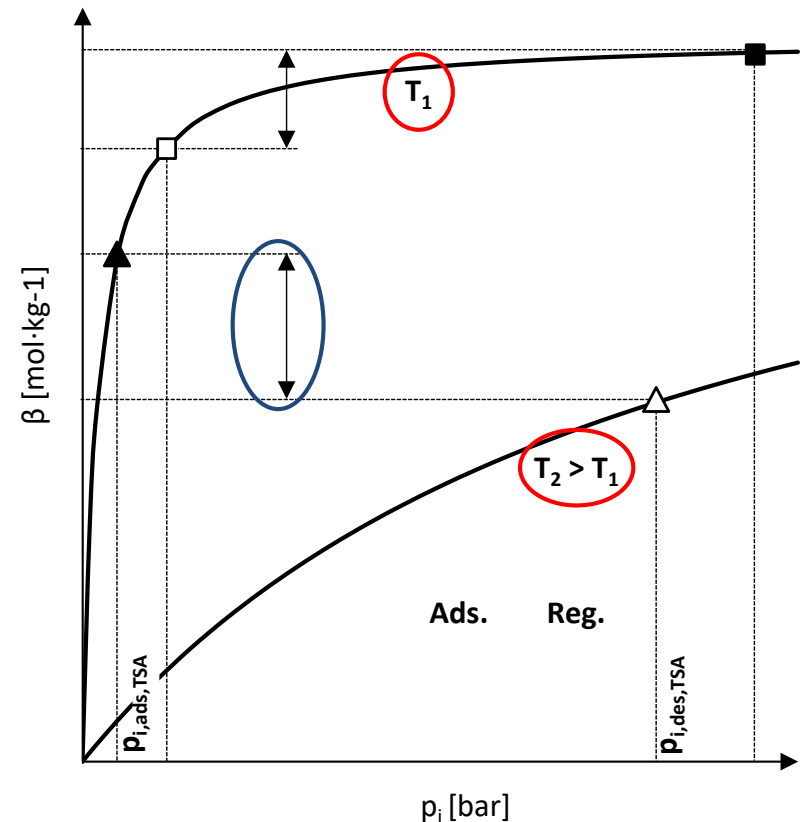
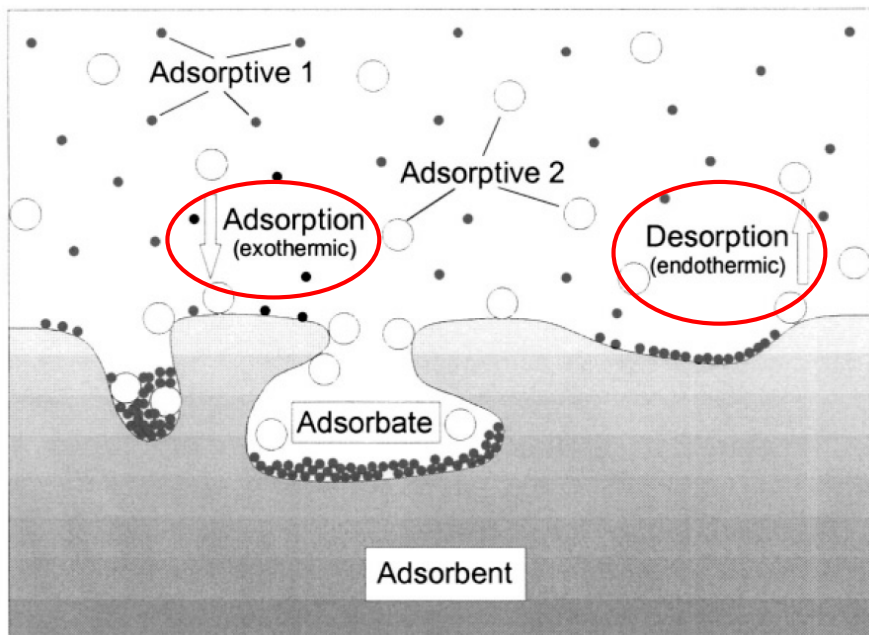
State of the art post combustion technology: Amine scrubbing



Source: <http://www.snclavalin.com/en/boundary-dam-iccs>

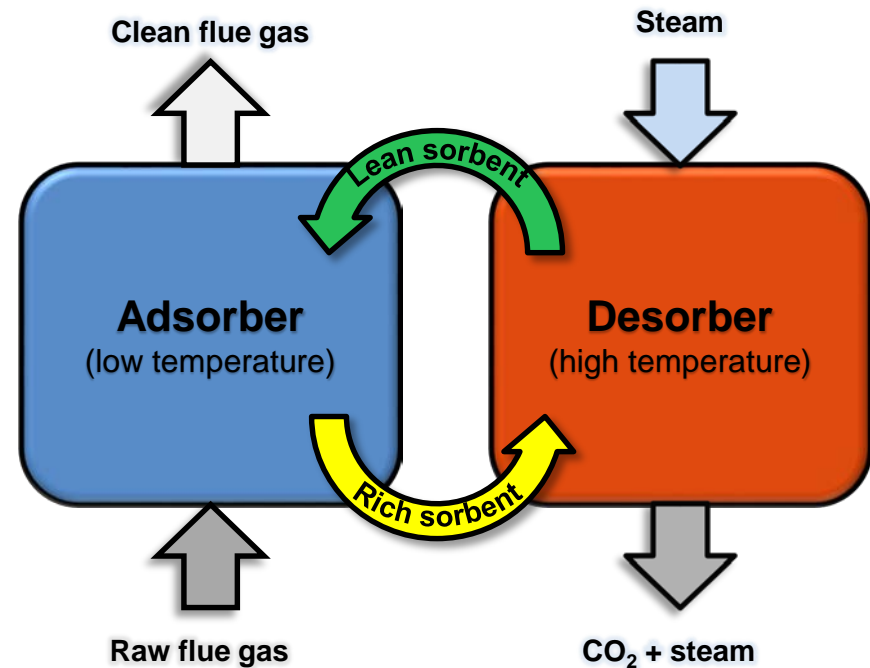
Adsorption vs. Absorption

- Amine solvent replaced by solid amine sorbent material for selective CO₂ ADSORPTION: Temperature Swing Adsorption (TSA)



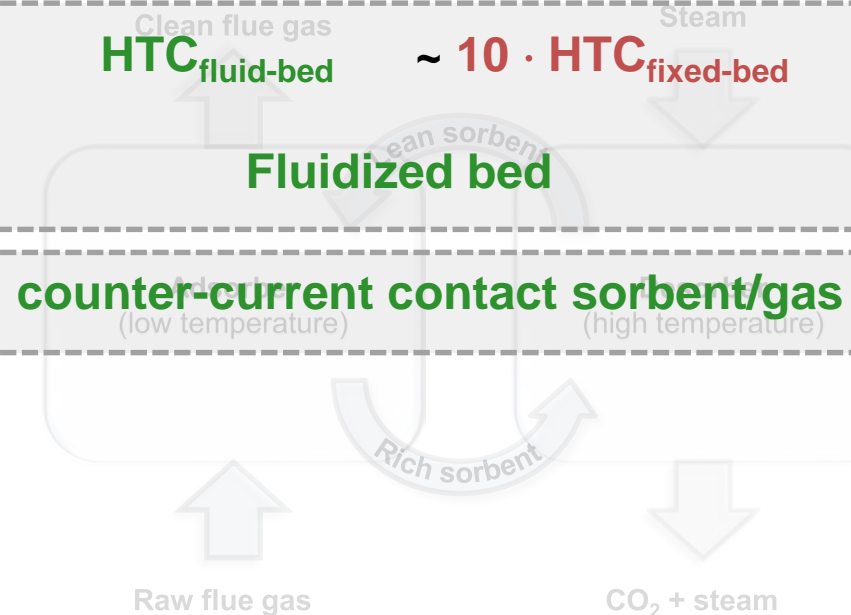
Reactor design demands in TSA

- Separate adsorber and desorber
- Heat management is crucial
- Process heat demand → Min.
- Flue gas throughput → Max.
- Pressure drop ADS → Min.



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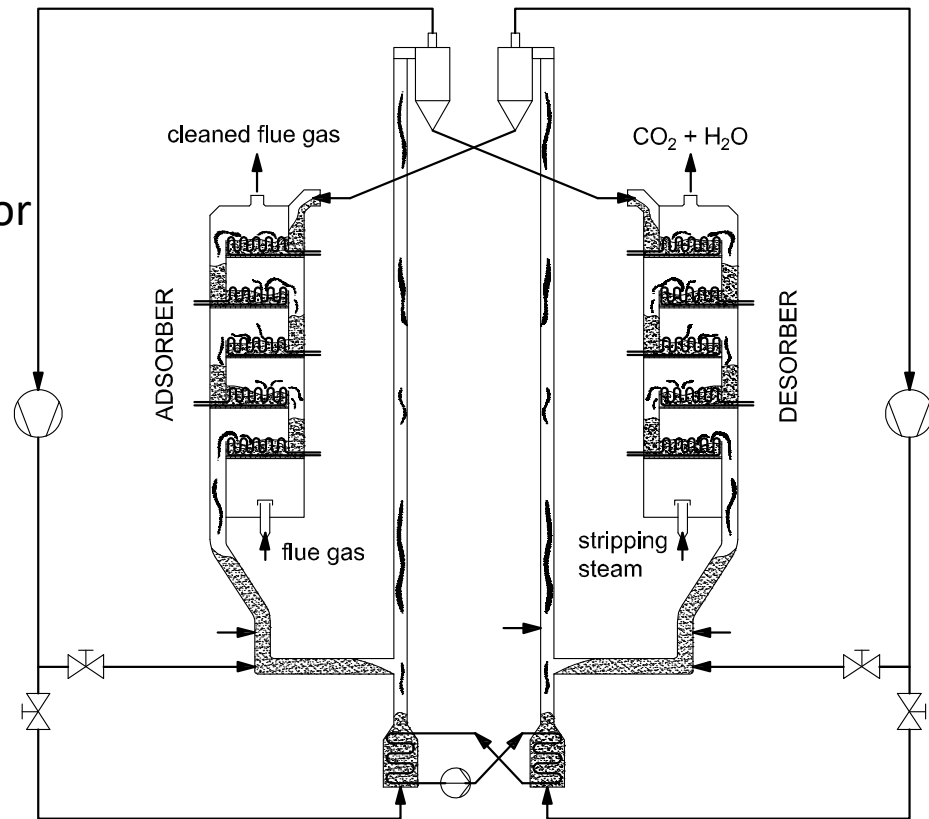
Continuous TSA solid sorbent CO₂ capture process

Improved energy efficiency

- Lower heat capacity of CO₂ carrier
- No evaporation of water in regenerator
- Increased CO₂ transport capacity
- Enhanced heat integration

Reduced capital costs

- Significantly smaller adsorber column
- Lower material standards (e.g. CS)
- Lower effort for emission control



Estimated CO₂ capture cost reduction potential:
-25% compared to state-of-the-art

Part II:

The ViennaGreenCO₂ project

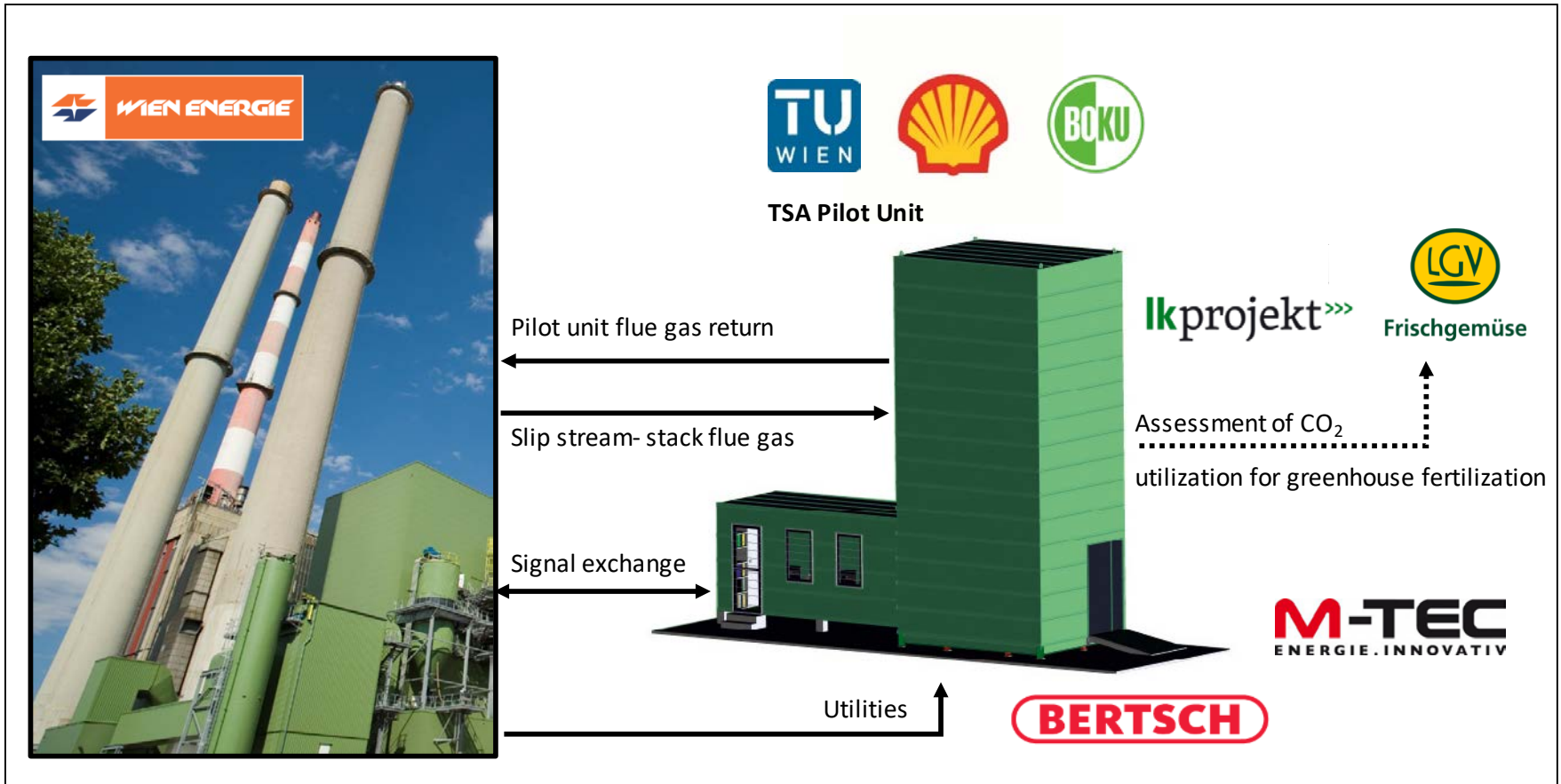
Project Aims

- **Up-scaling of TSA technology** from lab scale to ~ 1 tCO₂/day using a system design that is feasible for demonstration at larger scale
- **Long-term** (automated) **operation (>1000h)** of TSA pilot unit
- **Validation of process simulation** tools
- Continuous **techno-economic evaluation** of TSA process
(energy demand, CAPEX optimization, heat integration, process emissions, etc.)
- Assessment of **full-scale CO₂ supply chain** in Vienna/Simmering for **greenhouse fertilization**

Host site: Wien Energie power plant site in Vienna



Project consortium



Project key figures

- Total eligible project costs: 4.617.128 EUR
- Total funding powered by  : 2.443.500 EUR
- Additional funding  : 2.000.000 EUR
- Project start: 01.01.2015
- Project duration: 5 years
- Pilot plant in operation: 2018/2019

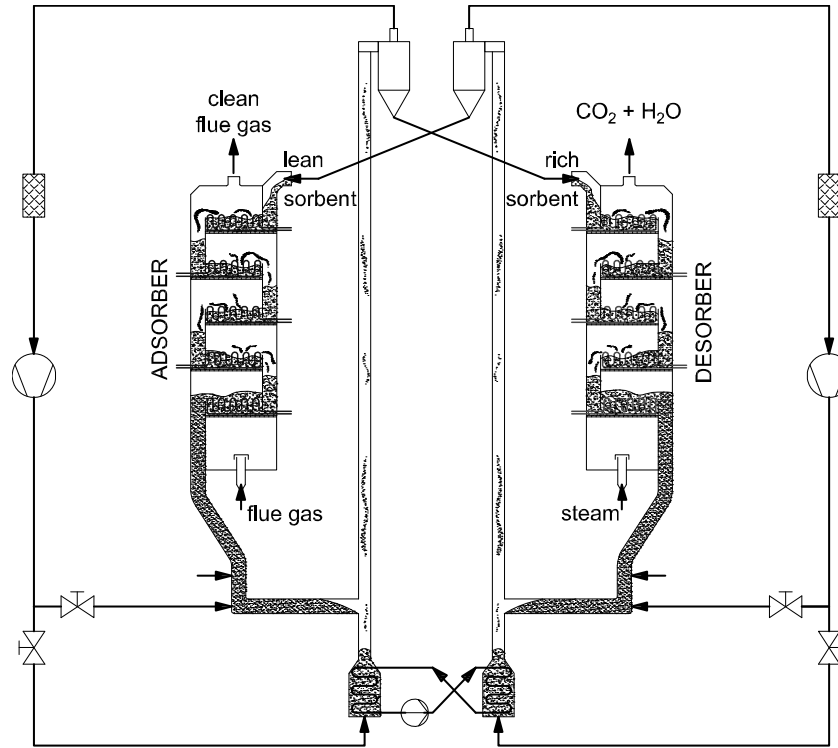
Part III:

The VGCO₂ TSA pilot unit

Bench-scale experiments



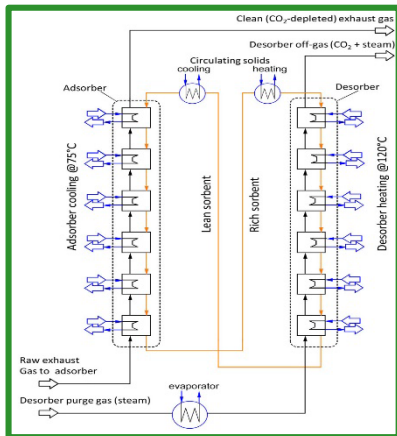
TSA process scale-up and optimization



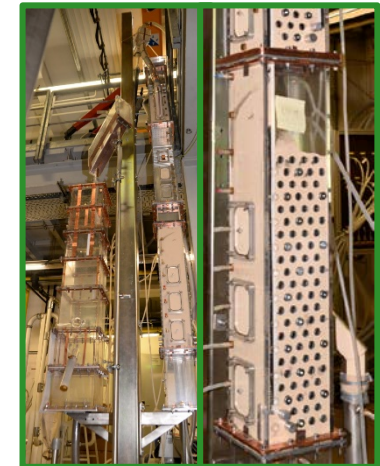
HTF tests and HEX design



Process model develop. & simulation



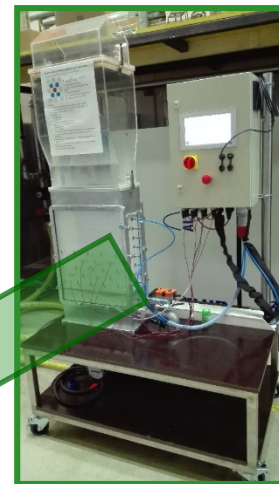
Cold flow modelling



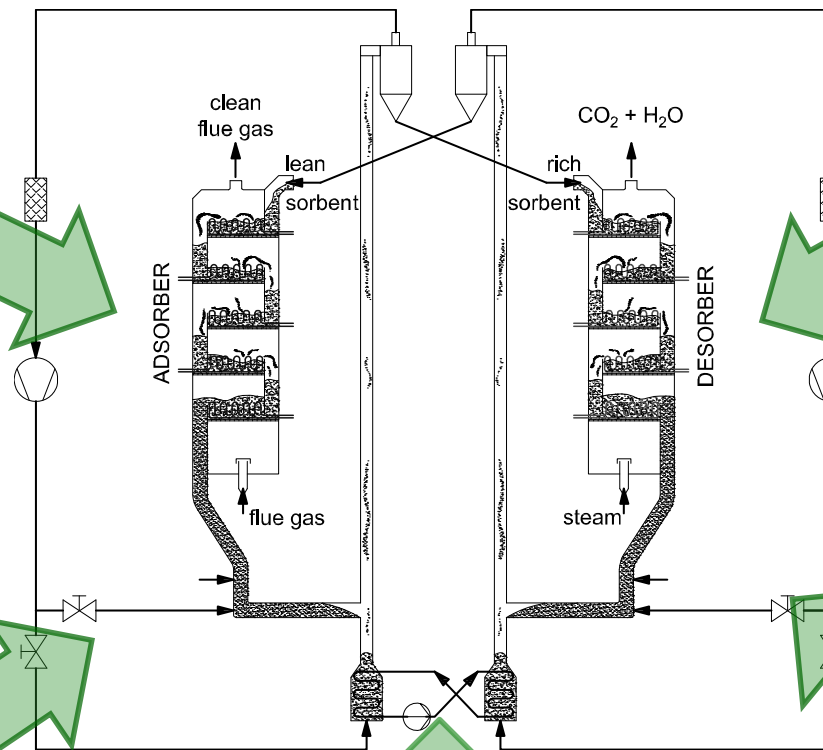
Bench-scale experiments



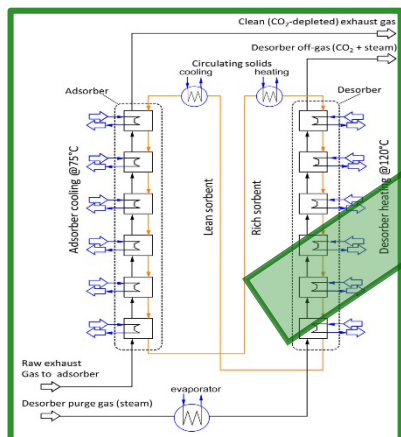
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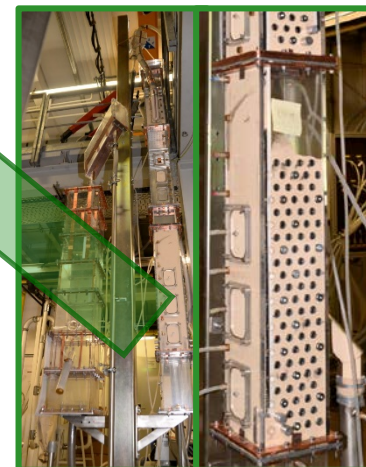
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Cold flow modelling



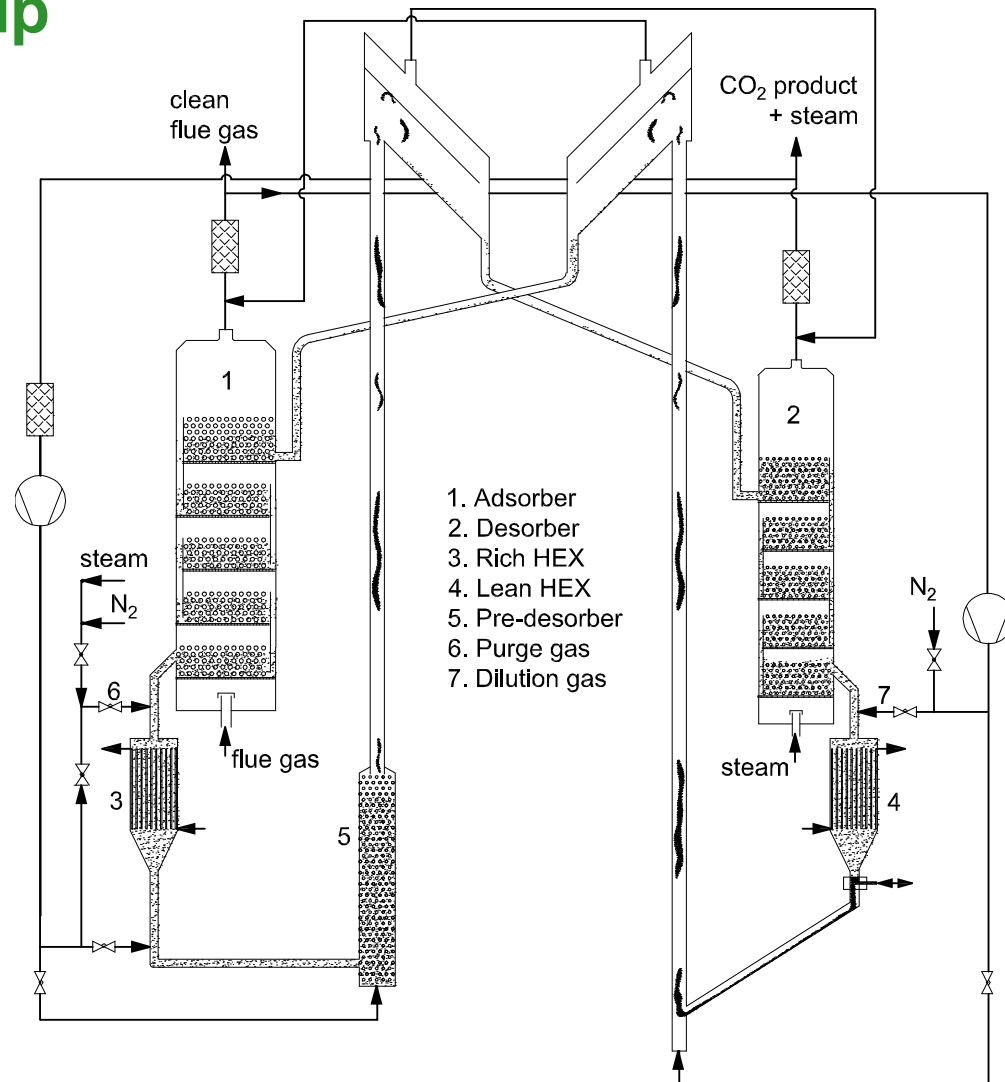
Basic & Detail Engineering,
HSE (Hazid, Hazop, etc.),
Permit application, ...

TSA pilot unit main design parameter

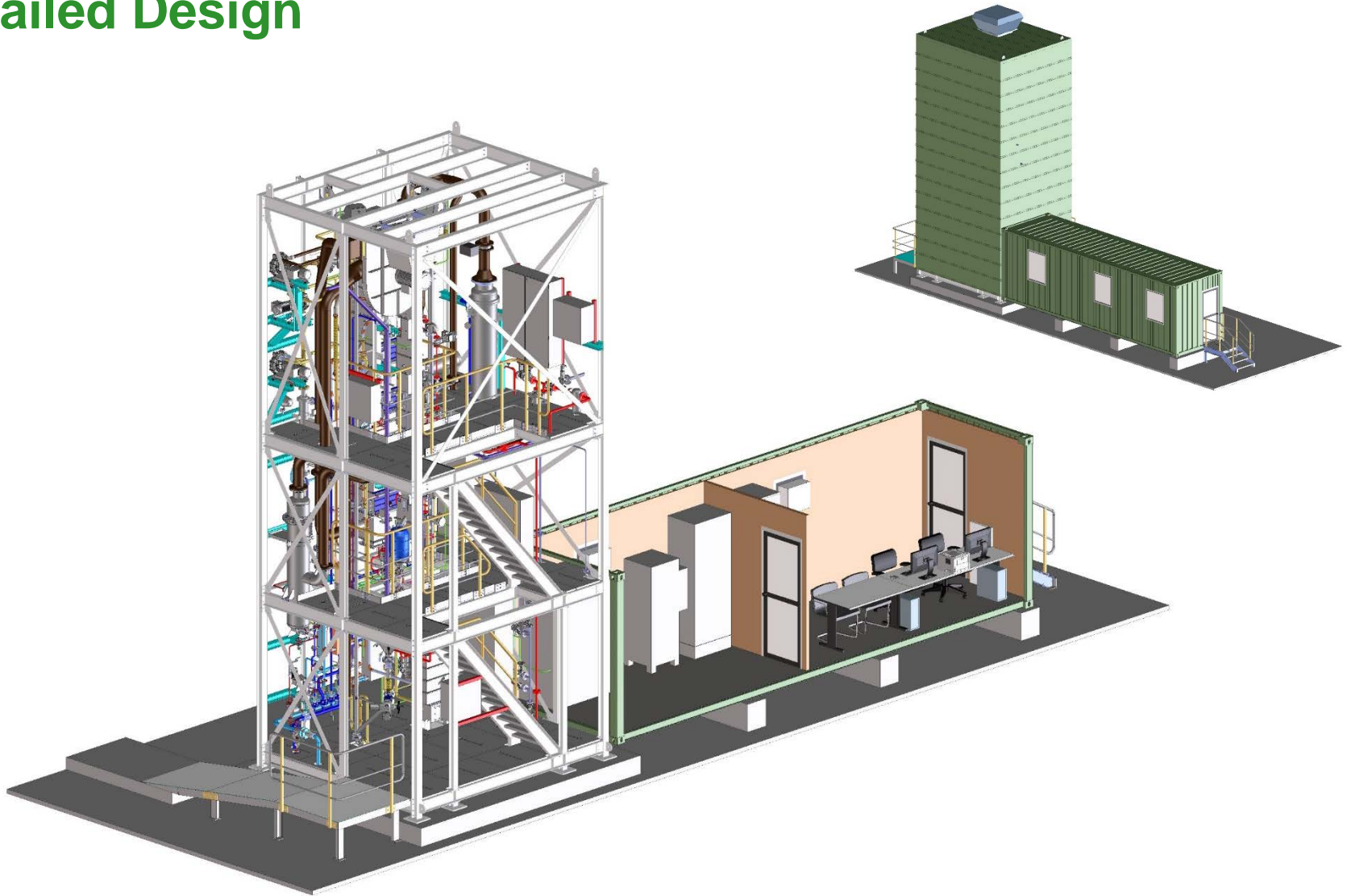
| | Design value | Unit |
|---|----------------------|--|
| CO₂ capture target | | |
| CO ₂ capture capacity | 1.0 | t _{CO₂} ·day ⁻¹ |
| Target CO ₂ capture efficiency | 90 | % |
| CO ₂ feed concentration | 4.0 | %-Vol. |
| Operating gas velocity in adsorber inlet | 0.7 | m·s ⁻¹ |
| TSA operation | | |
| Adsorber operating temperature | 50 | °C |
| Desorber operating temperature | 115 | °C |
| Maximum Adsorber pressure drop | 50 | mbar |
| Adsorbent properties | | |
| Adsorbent type | amine functionalized | |
| Adsorbent loose bulk density | 500-600 | g/l |

TSA pilot unit reactor setup

- **Adsorber** (5 FB stages with external downcomers, flue gas for fluidization)
- **Desorber** (5 FB stages with internal downcomers, steam/N₂ for fluidization)
- **Pre-Desorber** (in rich riser system, operated with CO₂ product recycle)
- **Steam-heated Rich Heat Exchanger**
- **Water-cooled Lean Heat Exchanger**
- **Mechanical Slide Valve** (below DES) and **L-Valve** (below ADS) for control of SCR and sorbent inventory distribution



Detailed Design



Construction – Main Equipment



Construction – Assembly Pilot unit Container



Construction – Mechanical Completion



Transport: Bludenz → Vienna



Transport: Bludenz → Vienna



TSA Pilot Unit in Simmering

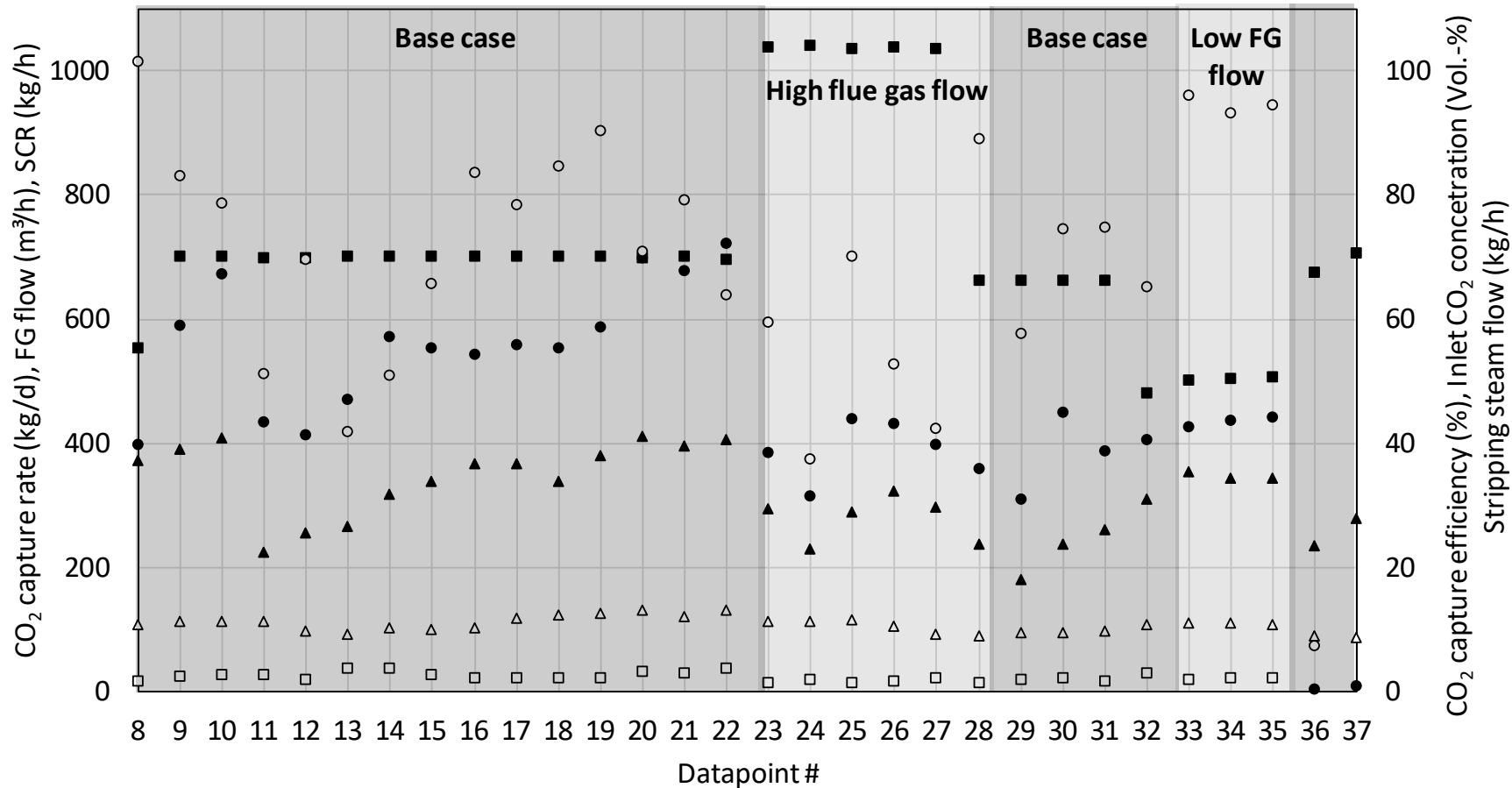


Part IV:

Preliminary results from VGCO₂ piloting campaign

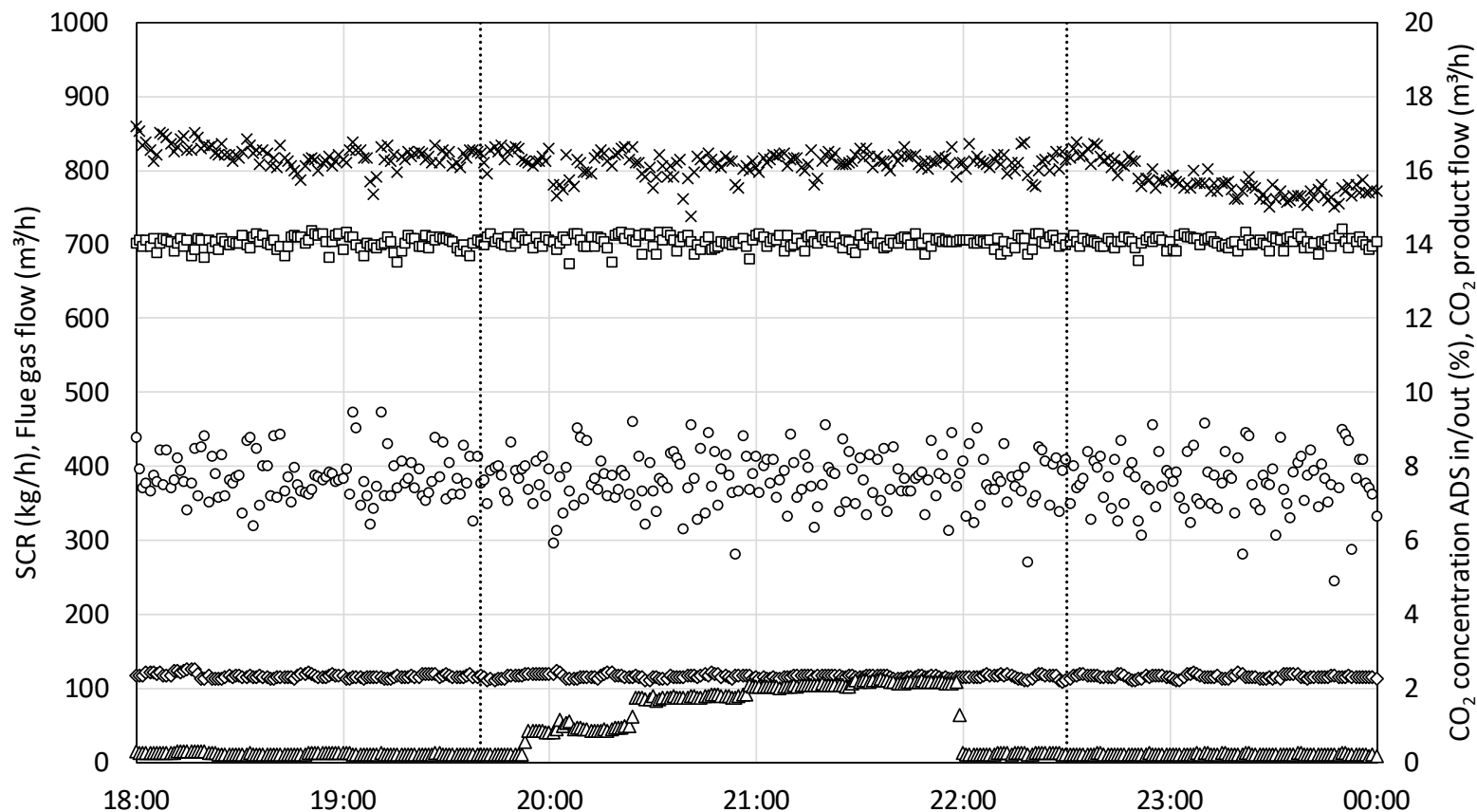
Summary of recorded Datapoints

● capture rate ■ FG flow ▲ SCR ○ capture efficiency □ CO2 concentration △ steam flow

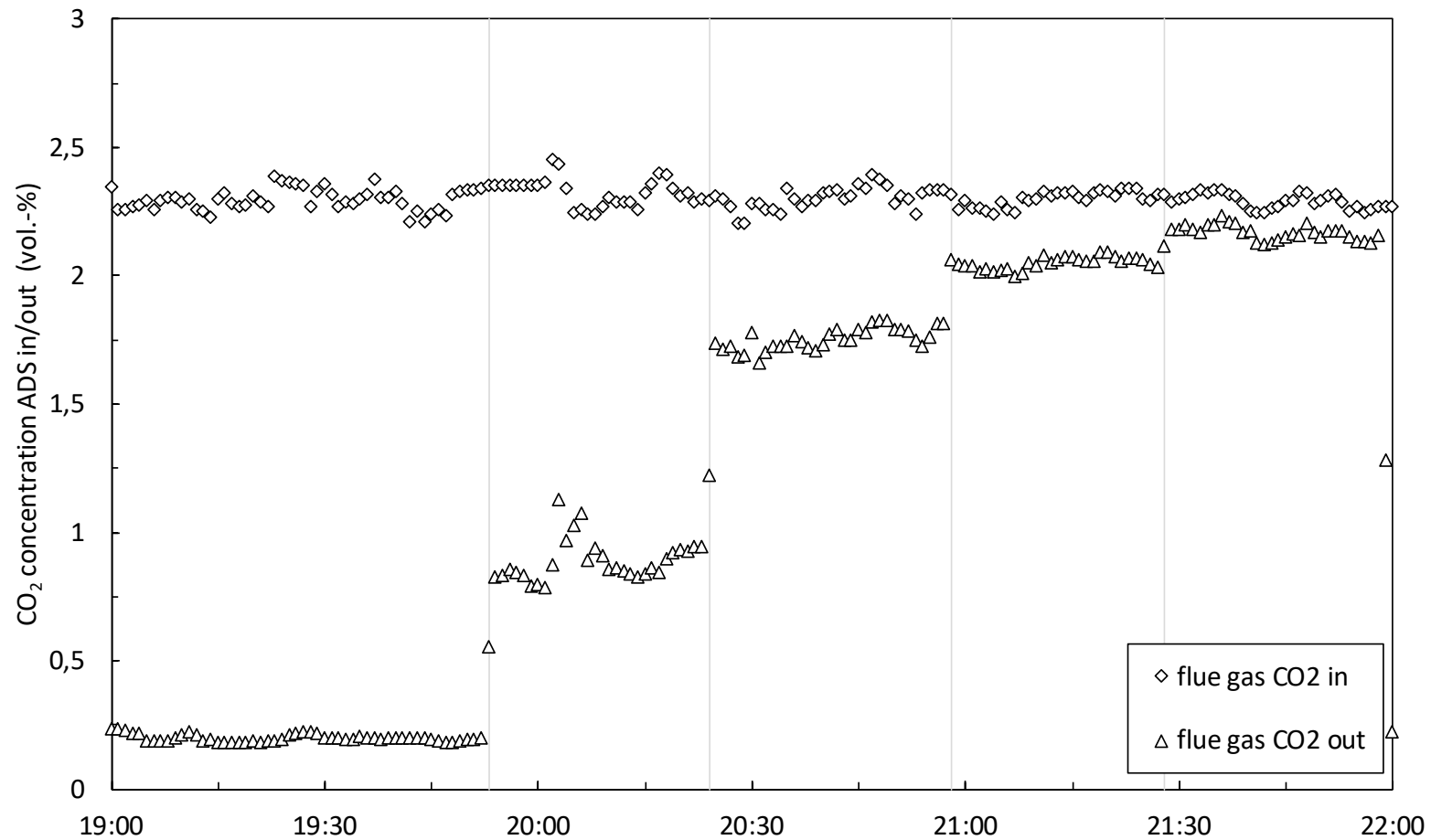


Datapoint #19 - Overview

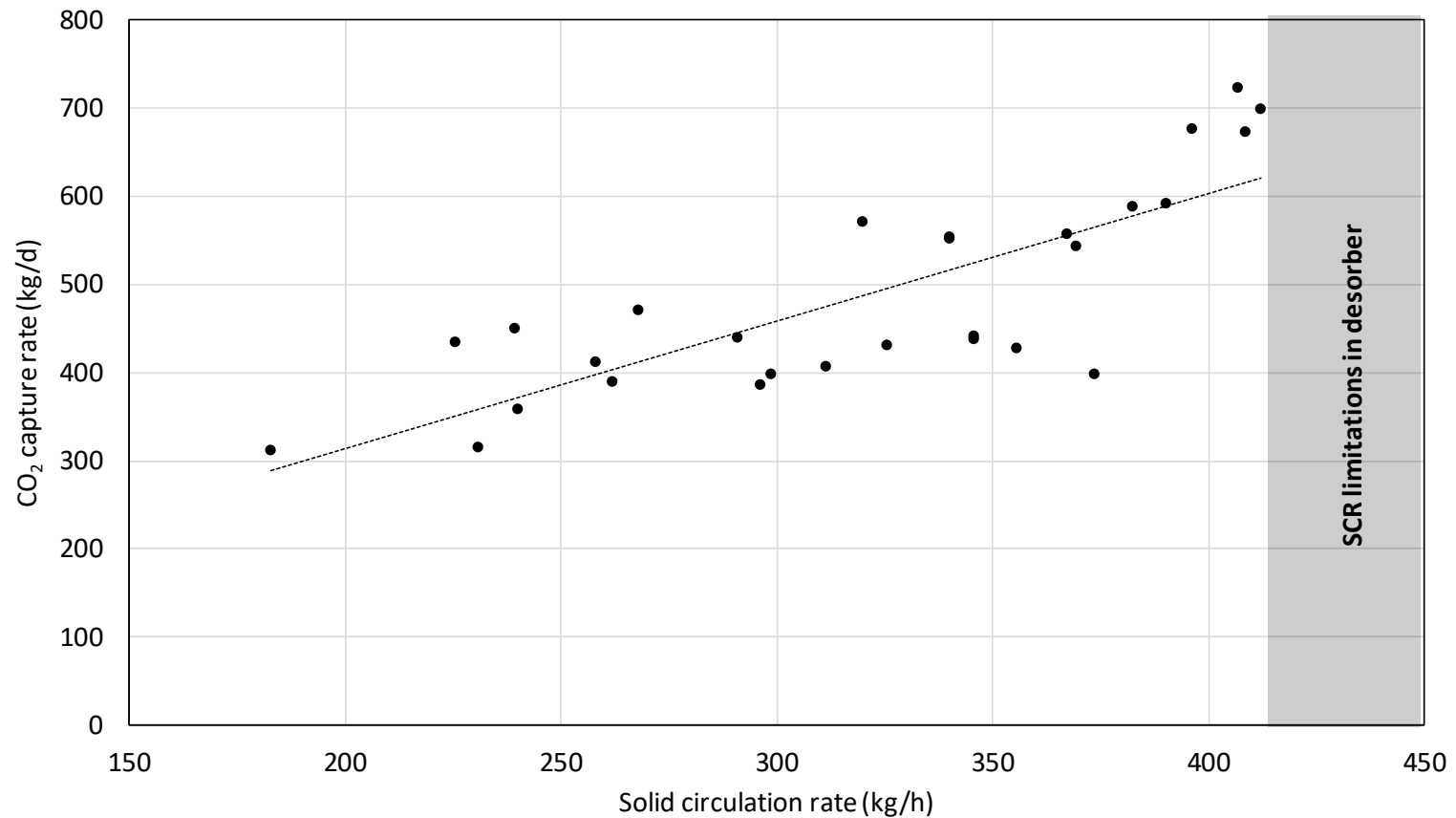
○ SCR □ flue gas flow ◇ flue gas CO₂ in △ flue gas CO₂ out × CO₂ product flow start/end



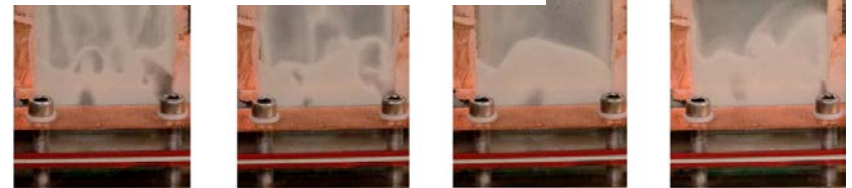
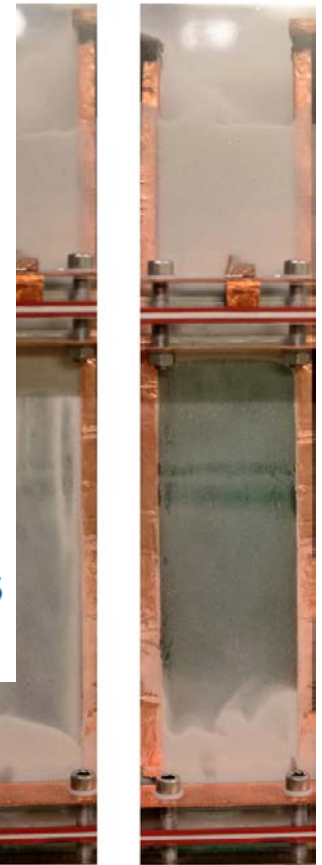
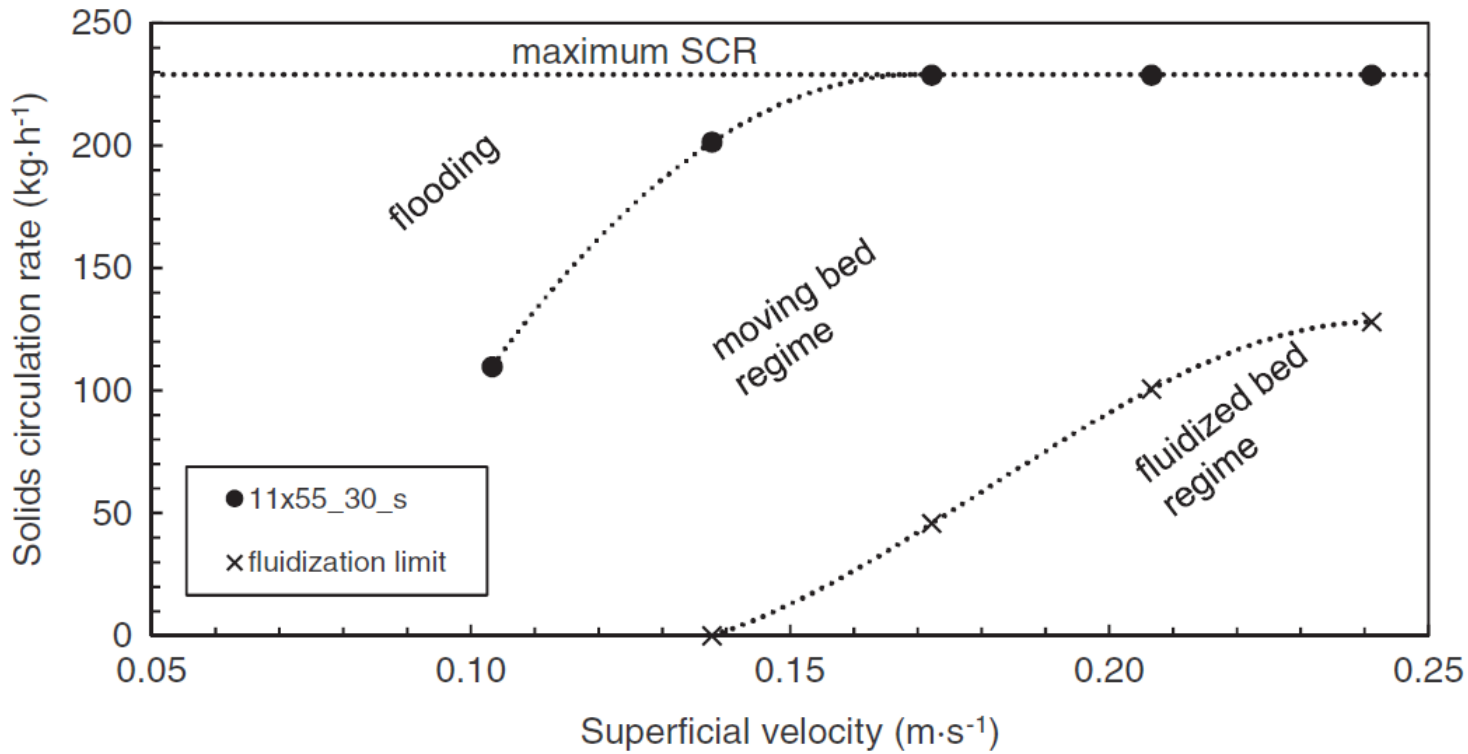
Datapoint #19 – CO₂ profile in Adsorber



CO₂ capture performance limited by SCR



CO₂ capture performance limited by SCR



Highlights from VGCO₂ piloting campaign

- In total **1032 hours** of hot CO₂ capture operation
- CO₂ capture performance limited by solid throughput in Desorber and hence by maximum achievable SCR (~up to 412kg/h)
- CO₂ capture rates of up to **724kg/day** and CO₂ capture efficiency of up to **96.1%** achieved at flue gas feed CO₂ concentrations between **0-4%** and flue gas flow rates from **450 to above 1000m³/h**
- CO₂ product purity at up to **89,5%** (rest: H₂O 2,3 - 5,3% and N₂ mainly from lean/rich purge)
- O₂ concentration in CO₂ product as low as **56 ppm** (typically around 100 ppm)

Preliminary conclusions from VGCO₂ piloting campaign

- No significant sorbent degradation or attrition
- Process emissions seems to be a key selling point of the technology
- Preliminary results from corrosion coupon testing indicate that solid sorbent technology allows for application of low material standards (e.g. carbon steel)
- Process energy demand is in the range of amine scrubbing systems and further reduction requires application of different amine functionalized sorbent materials (e.g. with amine blends of 1°/2°/3° amines)

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¹ TU Wien, ² Shell Global Solutions Int. BV, ³ BOKU Wien, ⁴ Bertsch Energy, ⁵ Wien Energie

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