

Superstructure-based Optimization of Membrane-based Carbon Capture Systems

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Introduction



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Motivation: Current applications are insufficient to simultaneously optimize multiple technologies, process configurations, and operating conditions while minimizing the cost of electricity (COE).

Goal:

Develop a superstructure-based mathematical optimization framework.

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 Simultaneously optimize the process configuration, process design and operating conditions based on rigorous models.

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Goal:

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Membrane systems optimization

Superstructure based optimization

- First principles + simplified models.
- Studies focus on multi-stage configurations.
- The number of process configurations analyzed by the optimizer is limited. (Hasan et al., 2012 and Arias et al., 2016)



Advanced process configurations

- Rigorous models.
- **Fixed process configurations** (simulation-optimization frameworks).
 - (Merkel et al., 2010; Morinelly & Miller 2011 & 2012).



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Advanced Process Configurations



Superstructure Optimization Framework



Discrete Decisions: How many units? NLP – bypassing the units not installed

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Continuous decisions: Unit design, Operating conditions (temp, pressure, flow rates, compositions)



Cost of Electricity

 $\min COE =$

 $\frac{(Investment + Operating_{fix} + Operating_{var})}{(Net Power)}$

s.t. Material Balances Energy Balances Equipment Design Process Configuration Capture Target

Quality Guidelines for Energy System Studies: Performing a Techno-economic Analysis for Power Generation Plants (DOE/NETL-2015/1726)

Product and Process Design Principles Synthesis (Seider et al., 2009)

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Purchase cost calculations

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- Investment cost
 - Power Plant, Capture (Membrane, HX, compressor)
- Operating cost:
 - Fixed: labor, maintenance, others
 - Variable: utilities "coolant & steam", waste water, others
- Net power:
 - Power PP (kW for compression, blowers, pumps, etc.)

















Membrane model

Counter current flow



Membrane model



Main Assumptions:

- Counter current flow
- Finite differences method

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• Sweep (possible)

$$FR_{i,n,s} = FR_{i,n-1,s} - J_{i,n,s} h \quad \forall i,n > 1,s$$

$$FP_{i,n,s} = FP_{i,n-1,s} - J_{i,n,s} h \quad \forall i,n < |Nc|,s$$

$$h = \frac{L}{|Nc| - 1}$$

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Membrane Pressure Drop

- Retentate side
 - Linear regression
- Permeate side
 - Rigorous model (Morinelly et al., 2012)



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Surrogate model:

- > Vapor viscosity (μ cP) (3.6e11 cP = 1 bar*hr)
- Input variables: F(x {molar fractions, T, P, F})
 - ACM (non-ideal calculations)

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R2 = 0.999

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Case study (test example + model comparison)



Flash Formulation

Flash Model (flash tank):

Non-Ideal calculations are replaced by a surrogate model

Operating Conditions:

- Flue gas temp: 25-50 C
- Flue gas pressure: 15-30 bars
- Flue gas molar fractions (CO2): 0.5-0.89 kmol/kmol
- ➤ T_{FL}: -40 to -20 C
- Surrogate models for Gas outlet (ALAMO):
 - $r^2(F_G) = 0.978$, $r^2(F_{CO2}) = 0.992$, $r^2(F_{N2}F_{O2}F_{Ar}) = 0.999$





$P_F = P_{FL} = P_L = P_G \qquad > 3$	
\succ T _{FL} = T _G =T _L \succ 2	
$\succ \mathbf{F}_{G} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{F}_{F}, \mathbf{T}_{F}, \mathbf{P}_{F}, \mathbf{x}^{F}_{i}, \mathbf{T}_{FL}) \qquad \succ 1$	
\succ Fy _i = f(F _F , T _F , P _F , x ^F _i , T _{FL}) \succ 5	
\succ Q _{FL} = f(F _F , T _F , P _F , x ^F _i , T _{FL}) \succ 1	
\succ F _L = F _F - F _G \succ 1	
\succ $x_i^L = (x_i^F F_F - Fy_i)/F_L \qquad \geq 5$	
➤ 18 equations ➤ 18	3 eqns



Case study (test example + model comparison)

Flash Model (flash tank):

- > Non-Ideal calculations are replaced by a surrogate model **Operating Conditions:**
- Flue gas temp: 25-50 C
- Flue gas pressure: 15-30 bars
- Flue gas molar fractions (CO2): 0.5-0.89 kmol/kmol
- ➤ T_{FI}: -40 to -20 C

 \succ Gas: F_G, T_G, P_G, y_i

 \geq 27 variables (i = 5)

 \succ Liquid: F₁, T₁, P₁, x^L_i

Variables:

- Surrogate models for Gas outlet (ALAMO):
 - $r^{2}(F_{G}) = 0.978$, $r^{2}(F_{CO2}) = 0.992$, $r^{2}(F_{N2}F_{O2}F_{Ar}) = 0.999$



Actual vs. Predicted Data

Actual vs. Predicted Data



Model Comparison

Case study

- 650 MW power plant
- 90% Capture
- 99% CO₂ pure to storage
- 3 membranes





Model Comparison

Case study

- 650 MW power plant •
- 90% Capture •
- 99% CO₂ pure to storage ٠
- 3 membranes •

Carbon Capture Simulation for Industry Impact

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intercooling

Storage

Model	Simulation (ACM)	GAMS (% change)			-
Relative COE (\$/MWh)	-	-3.35			
Net power (MW)		+2.85			
Membrane (M\$)		0.00			
Compressors (M\$)		+2.78	Model	Simulation	Optimization
Expanders (M\$)		+49.59	Equations	5,285	2,631
Pump (M\$)		-4.25	Variables	5,494	2,801
Heat exchanger (M\$)		-52.06			
CCSI ² Carbon Capture Simulation for Industry Impact		Ace Livermore al Laboratory	VirginiaUniversity,	VERSITY OF XAS NUSTIN	NERGY 12

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Membrane System Optimization

Design:

- # of membranes to be installed
- Membrane area
- Size/cost of Heat exchanger, pumps, compressors, expanders

Operation:

- Flows (feed, permeate, retentate)
- Temperature (gas, coolant)
- Pressure
- Concentrations (gas)



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		Base case
	Optimal (4 stages)	(3 stages)
Relative COE (\$/MWh)	-	1.70
Net power (MW)		-0.06
Membrane (M\$)		0.07
Compressors (M\$)		0.24
Expanders (M\$)		0.10
Vacuum pump (M\$)		0.57
Heat exchanger (M\$)		0.16

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Remarks

- Developed a superstructure optimization model.
 - Find the optimal plant layout and operating conditions (rigorous models).
 - Surrogate model generation, validation to avoid non-ideal calculations in critical regions.

- A robust mathematical optimization framework has been developed.
 - Simultaneous optimization of the process configuration, unit design and operating conditions.
- Integrated conceptual design and process synthesis tools.
 - Complements typical flowsheet optimization.
 - Facilitate the rapid development of PCC Technologies.
- Extensible to other membrane and process configurations.



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Thank you for your attention

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