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**DISSERTATION TITLE: INVESTIGATION OF CO<sub>2</sub> ABSORPTION RATE IN  
DEAETHANOLAMINE AND POTASSIUM CARBONATE AND PROMOTED  
POTASSIUM CARBONATE.**

تقصي معدل إمتصاص ثاني أكسيد الكربون بواسطة الأمين (DEA) وكربونات البوتاسيوم  
وكربونات البوتاسيوم المطور (المعزز)

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the Bachelor of engineering (Hons) Degree in transportation and  
Refining engineering**

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قال تعالى:

﴿شَهِدَ اللَّهُ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ وَالْمَلَائِكَةُ وَأُولُو الْعِلْمِ قَائِمًا بِالْقِسْطِ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ﴾

[العمران: الآية 18]

## **Dedication**

We would like to dedicate this research to our

Dear parents

To the people who paved our way of science and knowledge

All our teachers Distinguished

To the taste of the most beautiful moments with our friends

Also we dedicate this research to our brothers and sisters

Who spent their life to provide sufficient, Happiness and love

Finally we dedicate this research to our colleagues

In Transportation and Refining department, specially and

To all batch 22<sup>th</sup> petroleum engineering

Students.

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Thank you all

## ABSTRACT

The increase of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions to our atmosphere is the major contributor to global climate change. A number of methods for reducing greenhouse gases have been proposed including carbon capture and sequestration (CCS). There are three major approaches for CCS post-combustion capture, pre-combustion capture, and oxyfuel process. Post-combustion capture offers some advantages as existing combustion technologies can still be used without radical changes on them. This makes post-combustion capture easier to implement as a retrofit option (to existing power plants) compared to the other two approaches. Currently, the reactive absorption of CO<sub>2</sub> into amine solvents is the most widely used technology for CO<sub>2</sub> capture. One of the many potential solvent candidates is potassium carbonate (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>). Although potassium carbonate is associated with lower cost, less toxicity and is less prone to degradation effects when compared to the current industrial benchmark solvent, monoethanolamine (MEA), it has a low rate of reaction resulting in poor mass transfer performance. Developing a non-toxic and affordable promoter will facilitate the use of potassium carbonate solvent systems for CO<sub>2</sub> capture. Comprehensive flow sheet models have been built for each of the solvent systems, using aspen plus as the modeling tool. Using aspen plus simulation for the reaction kinetics of CO<sub>2</sub> into DEA, unprompted and DEA-promoted potassium carbonate (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) solutions have been studied. The investigation of the CO<sub>2</sub> absorption rate comes out with a clear increase in the CO<sub>2</sub> absorption with the increases of the process pressure. On the other hand, the absorption rate decreases with the increases of the process temperature. the results presented here show that at 80°C the addition of small amounts of DEA (1%, 2%, and 3%) accelerate the overall absorption process of CO<sub>2</sub> in carbonate solvents by 1.63%, 3.26%, and 4.87% respectively. Furthermore, the investigation of the promoter concentration effects showed a sudden declining in the absorption rate for concentrations greater than 4% for the reason of the involving promoter in the main interaction as an additional solvent. Absorption column has been designed to capture carbon dioxide in this research.

The key words: carbon dioxide capture, diethanolamine, potassium carbonate ,solvent , promotion, and aspen plus.

## التجريد

تعد زيادة إنبعاث ثاني أكسيد الكربون في الغلاف الجوي مساهما رئيسيا" في تغيير المناخ العالمي وهناك عدد من الأساليب لخفض الغازات الدفيئة تشمل احتجاز الكربون، والطرق الرئيسية هي الاحتجاز قبل الاحتراق، والاحتجاز بعد الاحتراق والاحتراق الأكسجيني . يقدم الاحتجاز بعد الاحتراق مميزات في ظل تكنولوجيا الاحتراق الموجودة التي يمكن استخدامها من غير أحداث تغييرات جذرية كما تعتبر سهلة في التنفيذ والتحديث مقارنة مع غيرها من الطرق . يعتبر تفاعل الامتصاص لثاني أكسيد الكربون بواسطة الامينات أكثر انتشارا، وتعتبر كربونات البوتاسيوم واحدة من أهم المذيبات المرشحة لعمليات الامتصاص، وترتبط كربونات البوتاسيوم بالميزات التالية فهي غير سامة، رخيصة الثمن، أقل عرضة للإهلاك والتدهور مقارنة مع المزيبات القياسية الصناعية الحالية (MEA) وهي ذات معدل تفاعل منخفض مقارنة نتيجة لانخفاض معدل انتقال الكتلة أثناء التفاعل. تم تطوير كربونات البوتاسيوم عن طريق محفزات غير سامة تعمل على تسهيل عملية امتصاص ثاني أكسيد الكربون. تم انشاء مخططات سريان شاملة لكل مذيب باستخدام برنامج (ASPEN PLUS) لوصف حركية تفاعل الـ (CO<sub>2</sub>) مع الـ (DEA) (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) و(K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>-DEA). وأوضحت النتائج التالية عند درجة حرارة (80 °C) انه عند إضافة كميات قليلة من (DEA) بمقدار (0.01%, 0.02% and 0.03%) تزيد معدل تفاعل (CO<sub>2</sub>) مع (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) بمعدل (1.63%, 3.26% and 4.87%) على التوالي بالإضافة لانه تم التحقيق في تأثير تركيز المحفزات الذي يظهر انخفاض مفاجئ في معدل الامتصاص للتركيز أعلى من 4% بسبب أن المحفزات تدخل نفسها في تفاعلات عكسية على انها مذيبات اضافية. كما تم تصميم برج امتصاص ذو حشوات لإحتجاز غاز ثاني اكسيد الكربون.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Meaning
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon dioxide
IEA	International Energy Agency
GHG	Greenhouse gases
CCS	CO <sub>2</sub> Capture and storage
H <sub>2</sub> O	Water
PCC	Post combustion capture
H <sub>2</sub>	Hydrogen gas
CO	Carbon monoxide
MEA	Monoethanolamine
DEA	Diethanolamine
MDEA	Methyldiethanolamine
AMP	2_ amino,2_ methyl 2_1 propanol
K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Potassium carbonate
M	Molarity
PZ	Piperazine
NO <sub>x</sub>	Nitrogen oxides
SO <sub>x</sub>	Sulpher oxides
AL <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Alumina
TEA	Tertiary ethanolamine
CSTR	Continuous stirred tank reactor
-ΔH	The heat of absorption(enthalpy)
DCU	Delay coking unit
NRTL	None Random two Liquid (Property method)
NRTL-RK	Redish Wrong None Random two Liquid (Property method)
ELECNRTL	Electrolyte None Random two Liquid (The most versatile electrolyte property method)
NTU	Number of Transfer Unit
HTU	Height Transfer Unit
HETP	Height of an Equivalent Theoretical Plate

## SYMBOLS

Symbols	Description	Unit
$D_c$	Column diameter.	m
$f_1$	liquid viscosity correction factor	-
$f_2$	liquid density correction factor	-
$f_3$	surface tension correction factor	-
$F_p$	Packing factor, characteristic of the size and type of packing.	$m^{-1}$
$G_m$	molar gas flow-rate per unit cross-sectional area.	kmol/m <sup>2</sup> s
$H_G$	Height of a gas-phase transfer unit.	m
$H_L$	height of a liquid-phase transfer unit	m
$H_{OG}$	the height of an overall gas-phase transfer unit.	m
$H_{OL}$	is the height of an overall liquid-phase transfer unit.	m
$K_3$	percentage flooding correction factor.	-
$K_4$	Factor function of ( $V^*_w$ , $F_p$ , $\mu_L$ , and $\rho_L$ , $\rho_V$ )	-
$K_g$	film mass-transfer coefficient.	m/s
$L_m$	molar liquid flow-rate per unit cross-sectional area	kmol/m <sup>2</sup> s.
$L^*_w$	liquid mass flow-rate per unit area column cross-sectional area.	kg/m <sup>2</sup> s
$N_{OG}$	the number of overall gas-phase transfer units	-
$P$	column operating pressure.	atm ,bar.
$(Sc)_V$	gas Schmidt number.	-
$(Sc)_L$	liquid Schmidt number.	-
$V^*_w$	gas mass flow-rate per unit column cross-sectional area.	kg/m <sup>2</sup> s
$X_1, X_2$	the mol fractions of the solute in the liquid at the bottom and top of the column, respectively.	-
$X_e$	the concentration in the liquid that would be in equilibrium with the gas concentration at any point.	-
$Y_e$	the concentration in the gas that would be in equilibrium with the liquid concentration at any point.	-
$y_1, y_2$	the mol fractions of the solute in the gas at the bottom and top of the column, respectively.	-

$Z$	column height	m
$\rho L, \rho v$	liquid and vapour densities.	kg/m <sup>3</sup>
$\mu l$	liquid viscosity.	Ns/m <sup>2</sup>
$\Psi h$	=HG factor	-
$\Phi h$	=H <sub>L</sub> factor	-

# Chapter 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Introduction

Carbon dioxide is one of the greenhouse gases compositions. It is an odorless, colorless gas which is faintly acid and nonflammable, and it has a molecular formula of CO<sub>2</sub>[1].

There are two primary sources of CO<sub>2</sub> including the natural CO<sub>2</sub> sources which are representing the majority of CO<sub>2</sub> released to the atmosphere involving the oceans, animal and plant respiration, decomposition of organic matter, forest fires, and emissions from volcanic eruptions. The other sources of CO<sub>2</sub> consist the human activities such as the fuel consumption in power generation, transportation, industries, chemicals manufacturing, petroleum production, and agricultural activities. Many of these source types burn fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas), which are the leading cause of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions [2].

CO<sub>2</sub> makes up the largest share of greenhouse gases (about 60%) which it causes climate change by rising up the planet temperature. Recent international energy agency (IEA) predicted that the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions attributable to the energy sector will increase by 130% by 2050 in the absence of new policies or supply constraints, largely as a result of increased fossil fuel usage see Figure (1). thereby the temperature increase in the range of (4-7)°C, to reduce the emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> by 2050 will increased energy efficiency, increased renewable energies, and nuclear power, and the decarbonization of power generation from fossil fuels. The only technology available to mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from large-scale fossil fuel usage is CO<sub>2</sub> capture and storage (CCS) [3].



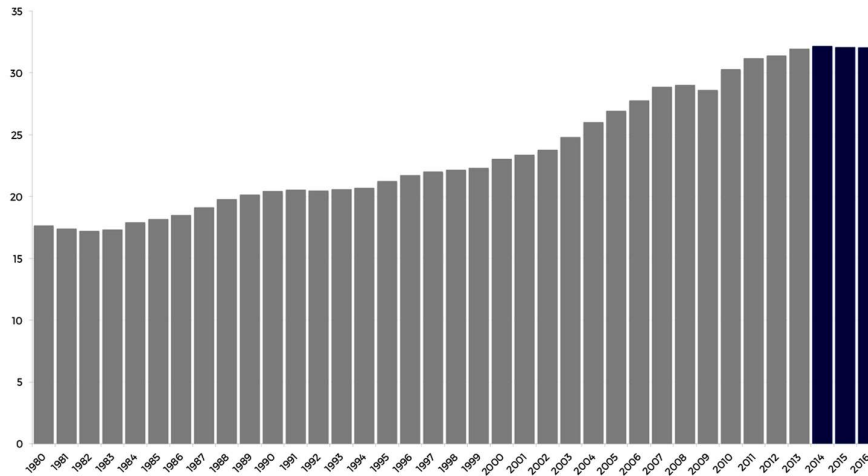


Figure 1-1: Global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (Gigatonnes) 1989-2016

## 1.2 Carbon dioxide capture

One of the most promising approaches to tackle the high emission rate of carbon dioxide is the use of Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) technology. This technology aims at capturing carbon dioxide from power stations and other industrial facilities, compressing, and then transporting it to one of CO<sub>2</sub> storage techniques. Three types of technology have been utilized for carbon capture from power plants comprising the pre-combustion, post-combustion and oxy-combustion [4]. The selection criteria of CO<sub>2</sub> capturing technology typically depend on the gas stream required purity, and the gas stream operating conditions. Post-combustion capture with chemical absorption offers high capture efficiency, high selectivity at low partial pressures, and the lowest energy use and costs when compared with the other separation techniques[8].

## 1.3 Problem statement

Carbon dioxide is one important greenhouse gases composition when it existed by the normal composition. These gases help protect the Earth from the hazardous radiation by absorbing the redirecting energy back to the Earth's surface.

The increase in the amount of carbon dioxide motivates the scientists to develop several systems to reduce the emission in the atmosphere. The CO<sub>2</sub> capture by aqueous solutions process is one of the effective processes in this field and this

process is still on the development track. Furthermore, the investigation of the system will give the potential to understand the enhancement mechanism is.

#### **1.4 Objectives:**

1. Investigation on the performance of amines (DEA) and potassium carbonates solvent system.
2. Study the effect of promotion of potassium carbonates by (DEA) on the CO<sub>2</sub> absorption rate.
3. Design of absorption column design for CO<sub>2</sub> absorption.

#### **1.5 The Scope of Study:**

Simulation of a chemical absorption process to remove CO<sub>2</sub> from the feed stream (flue gas) using different solvents: Amines (DEA), potassium carbonates, promoted potassium carbonate, and compare the performance of these solvents to determine the solvents which give the highest absorption rate.

## Chapter 2

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 Introduction

Carbon capture and a storage is a range of technologies that hold the promise of trapping up to 90% of carbon dioxide and emissions from the power stations and industrial sites and it involves all the methods that avoid it is escape into the atmosphere and contribute to climate change ,The Capture and sequestration of carbon dioxide could play an important rule in reducing greenhouse gas emissions while enabling low carbon electricity generation from power plants as estimated in (U.S. Inventory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks) more than 40% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in united states are from electric power generation . CCS technologies are currently available and can dramatically reduce by (80%-90%)CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from power plants that burn fossil fuels applied to 500 MW coal fed power plant which emits roughly 3 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year, the amount of GHG emissions avoided with a 90% reduction efficiency the recent Mandates for CO<sub>2</sub> would be equivalent to planting more than 62 million trees and waiting for them to grow and avoiding annual electricity related emissions from more than 300,000 homes, EPA greenhouse gas reporting program includes facilities that capture CO<sub>2</sub> for the purpose of supplying the CO<sub>2</sub> to the economy or for injecting it underground and is currently occurring at over 120 facilities in the united states . new ways to remove and process CO<sub>2</sub> from their product Streams must be investigated. This chapter reviews and summarizes the previous studies Related to CO<sub>2</sub> capture and what the searchers reached.

#### 2.2 Carbon dioxide emissions

CO<sub>2</sub> is one of the gases in our atmosphere. Both natural processes and human activities Contribute to its presence at a present concentration of about 0.040% [406 parts per Million (ppm) on January 7, 2017], uniformly distributed over the earth. Commercially, CO<sub>2</sub> finds uses as a refrigerant (dry ice is solid CO<sub>2</sub>), in beverage carbonation, and in fire Extinguishers. Because the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere is low, no practical Process has yet been developed to obtain the gas by

extracting it from the air. Most Commercial CO<sub>2</sub> is recovered as a by-product of other processes, such as the production of ethanol by fermentation and the manufacture of ammonia. some CO<sub>2</sub> is obtained From the combustion of coke or other carbon-containing fuels [13].The atmosphere's Concentration of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) has increased by more than 30 percent over the Last 250years, largely due to human activity. Two-thirds of that rise has occurred in the Past 50 years Unless there is a change [14].

### **2.2.1 Effects of the carbon dioxide emissions**

Increasing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the environment lead to global warming which is an issue of Great concern today. The climate of the earth is varying continuously due to various Factors, viz., change in the Earth's orbit, change in the Sun's intensity, change in ocean Currents [15].Anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions have increased since the pre-Industrial era, driven largely by economic and population growth, and are now higher than ever. This has led to atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide, methane, and Nitrous oxide that are unprecedented in at least the last 800,000 years. Their effects, Together with those of other anthropogenic drivers, have been detected throughout the Climate system and are extremely likely to have been the dominant cause of the Observed warming since the mid-20th century [16], Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), that are thought to cause “global warming” – severe increases in Earth's atmospheric and surface temperatures, with disastrous environmental consequences [17].Carbon dioxide capture

Capture is the removal of CO<sub>2</sub> from flue gas, which comes from the thermal power plant Combustion chamber [15]. Carbon capture and storage (CCS) is one of the promising routes to Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel-fired power plants [18].

They are different technologies for CO<sub>2</sub> capture used before and after combustion, Capture of CO<sub>2</sub> by chemical absorption is the technology that is closest to commercialization. While a number of different solvents for use in chemical absorption Of CO<sub>2</sub> have been proposed, a systematic comparison of the performance of different Solvents has not been performed and claims on the performance of different solvents Vary widely [19].

## **2.3 Solvent used in carbon dioxide capture**

Much research has been done on different types of sorbents that can be used in direct air capture [20], such as (DEA, MEA,  $K_2CO_3$ , solid sorbents and other) and use best one to capture Carbon dioxide.

### **2.3.1 Primary and Secondary Amines**

The capacity for amine solvents to react with carbon dioxide is due to the reactivity of the amine group. The standard absorption process commonly considered for post-combustion  $CO_2$  capture process uses a 30 wt. % or 7 M aqueous solution of MEA. The availability of a lone pair of electrons in the basic amine group of an MEA molecule makes it very reactive towards carbon dioxide [21].

At 50 °C, this reaction proceeds very efficiently releasing a heat load of approximately 72 kJ per mole of  $CO_2$  absorbed (30 wt.% MEA).

The solvent is regenerated by heating the loaded solution to around 120 °C. A thermal energy of 165 kJ per mole of  $CO_2$  desorbed is required for the regeneration.

A significant increase in the thermal energy is required for the desorption of  $CO_2$ , when compared to the exothermic heat of absorption, due to the extra energy required to heat water sensibly to approximately 120 °C and to generate steam to drive desorption.

To increase reaction rates, researchers have looked into the use of MEA solvents combined with the use tertiary alkanol amine solvents such as MDEA cyclic diamines such as piperazine (PZ), sterically hindered amines like AMP and blends of various alkanol amines.

Carbon dioxide absorption using primary and secondary amines may encounter many operational issues including high energy consumption. One of the main challenges with the use of amine solvents is its susceptibility to oxidative degradation due to exposure to the solvent to oxygen found in most flue gas streams. Researchers found that primary amines such as MEA degrade faster than their secondary and tertiary counterparts such as DEA and MDEA.

### **2.3.2 Tertiary Amines**

This reaction generates a protonated amine and bicarbonate ion instead of an amine carbamate as observed in the reaction of primary and secondary amines with  $CO_2$ . Although the absorption rate is slower and consumes water, this reaction results in high  $CO_2$  loading capacity and has low heat of absorption.

Unlike primary and secondary amines tertiary amines are not limited to a solvent loading of 0.5 mole CO<sub>2</sub> per mole of amine these solvents readily approach a maximum loading of 1 mole CO<sub>2</sub> per mole of amine, significantly increasing the solvent capacity[21].

#### **2.4 Development of solvents**

Potassium carbonate (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) is an alternative solvent that may potentially overcome some of the issues associated with amine solvents. The major benefit is the ability to run the absorption process at high temperatures resulting in a more efficient and economical regeneration process. Potassium carbonate is also associated with lower toxicity and better resistance to degradation than commonly seen with amine solvents at high temperatures and in the presence of oxygen and other minor flue gas components such as SO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub>. The use of potassium carbonate as an absorption solvent has emerged since the early 20th century in the 1950's, Benson and field established the Benfield process which employed hot potassium carbonate as a CO<sub>2</sub> absorption solvent[21].

. Over time there have been many variations to the process including operating the absorber at higher temperatures and improving the packing systems used in the absorber and regenerator columns [22]. This process was proposed in order to remove CO<sub>2</sub> from synthesis gas manufactured for Fischer-Tropic synthesis. Since the synthesis gas was available at higher pressures, it was beneficial to employ a CO<sub>2</sub> absorption process that operated at higher pressures as well. Hence, it was proposed to use hot, concentrated alkaline solutions of potassium carbonate under pressure [23].for exampleUsedPilot Plant for Capturing CO<sub>2</sub> by using Potassium Carbonate as solvent .and they designed it to capture4 - 10 kg/hr. of co2 from an air/CO<sub>2</sub> feed gas rate of 30 – 55 kg/hr. at 50 °C and it designed else to test the performance of a precipitating potassium carbonate solvent system and to validate Aspen Plus simulations. After ending the study showed that CO<sub>2</sub> recovery results were around five times higher when a promoted K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solvent was used compared to the un-promoted K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solvent.

others develop the Potassium Carbonate and havestudied the effect of blending potassium carbonation (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) with alumina (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) using real flue gas with 8% CO<sub>2</sub> and 12% H<sub>2</sub>O at 65 °C and capacity of 66.2 mgCO<sub>2</sub>/(gr sorbent). After ending the study showed that The low-cost sorbent and The capture capacity of the sorbent as a function of cycle number and Small changes occurred in the pore size distribution

and surface area of the prepared sorbent, else found could be used for industrial CO<sub>2</sub> capture processes with fixed-bed reactors [9](Bongartz 2015)(Bongartz 2015), Potassium carbonate based absorption processes are lower cost, less toxic, and less prone to degradation effects that are commonly seen with MEA at high temperatures and in the presence of oxygen and other minor flue gas components. Potassium carbonate acquires the ability to absorb not only CO<sub>2</sub> but also other polluting gases found in standard flue gases such as sulfur oxides (SO<sub>x</sub>) and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>). In addition, when compared to amine solvents, potassium carbonate solvents have very low volatility which results in much-reduced solvent loss to the atmosphere.

Diethanolamine (DEA) Used in textile processing, in industrial gas purification, and as a solvent for drugs Administered intravenously [24], DEA which significantly reduced the capital and operating costs of the process and generated higher treated gas purity, and used at normal temperature and pressure, but it not efficient and economical regeneration process with lower resistance to degradation.

This process was further developed by adding a small amount of a rate promoter, The absorption rates of CO<sub>2</sub> in diethanolamine (DEA) promoted potassium carbonate (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) at temperature ranging from 343.2K to 363.2K and normal pressure, with the mass fractions of DEA and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> respectively ranged from 0 to 0.02, and 0.35 to 0.40, after end the investigation appeared that the absorption rate increases when the temperature increase. And absorption rate of CO<sub>2</sub> increases with the increase of the mass Fraction of DEA also very small amount of DEA can significantly enhance the absorption of CO<sub>2</sub> in K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution at high temperatures [18].

Some studies work to make comparing between MEA, DEA, TEA, and AMP Solutions at the continuous stirred reactor in 313 to 333 K. and enthalpy for anyone was 88.91, 70.44, 44.72, and 63.95, respectively.

After ending the study appears deviation or decrease in Solubilities of CO<sub>2</sub> in the aqueous amine solutions with an increase in temperature. And AMP, DEA, TEA, and MEA respectively had alarge scale of solubility. Also found the Heat of absorption (-ΔH abs) was high in MEA, DEA, TEA, and AMP, respectively. That means higher CO<sub>2</sub> loadings with lower reaction temperature [25].

## Chapter 3

### METHODOLOGY

**3.1 The main feed steam (flue gas) data: from delay cocking unit (DCU) From the Khartoum refinery, combustion reaction, the total mole of CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, and SO<sub>2</sub> formed.**

Table 3-1: Composition of gas inlet

Component	Moles\hr	Mole fraction
CO <sub>2</sub>	140.12	0.09451
H <sub>2</sub> O	221.85	0.1496
SO <sub>2</sub>	0.0036	2.428×10 <sup>-6</sup>
O <sub>2</sub>	39.582	0.02667
N <sub>2</sub>	1080.97	0.7291
Total	1482.5236	1.0

Average stack temperature = 298.35 c, =569.03 F

Table 3-2: Simulation Design Data

Absorber	
Diameter	100 mm
Packing Type and Size	SULZER Mellapak 350Y
Packing Height	2568 mm
Stripper	
Diameter	100 mm
Packing Type and Size	SULZER Mellapak 350Y
Packing Height	2568 mm
Feed and Products	
Sour Gas to Absorber	47.58 Nm <sup>3</sup> /hr.
Lean KOH solution to Absorber	70.00 l/hr.
Rich KOH solution to Stripper	99.98 l/hr.

### 3.2 Case study:

Investigate the (DEA), potassiumcarbonates, promoted potassium carbonate systems by develop flow sheet models for chemical absorption process for CO<sub>2</sub> capture from flue gas in ASPEN plus simulator for each solvent system using the ELECNRTL property method and compared the performance of different solvents system to determine the solvents that give the highest absorption rate.



### 3.3 Potassium Carbonate Solvents

#### 3.3.1 Reaction chemistry

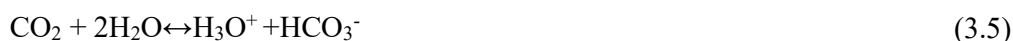
The chemical absorption equilibrium reaction:



Dissociation reaction (salt dissociation reaction of carbonate and bicarbonate) :



Hydrolysis of dissolved  $\text{CO}_2$  to  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  and bicarbonate ions ( $\text{HCO}_3^-$ ):



The dissociation of ( $\text{HCO}_3^-$ ) to ( $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ ) and ( $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ )



The ionization of water to hydronium ( $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ ) and hydroxide ( $\text{OH}^-$ ) ions:



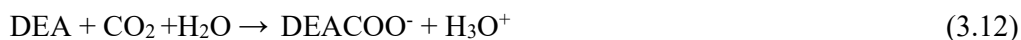
Hydrolysis of dissolved  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  to  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  and  $\text{HS}^-$



### 3.4 DEA Solvents

#### 3.4.1 Reaction chemistry

The chemical absorption equilibrium reaction:



Dissociation reaction (salt dissociation reaction of DEA):



Hydrolysis of dissolved  $\text{CO}_2$  to  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  and bicarbonate ions ( $\text{HCO}_3^-$ ):



The dissociation of ( $\text{HCO}_3^-$ ) to ( $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ ) and ( $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ )



The ionization of water to hydronium ( $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ ) and hydroxide ( $\text{OH}^-$ ) ions:



Hydrolysis of dissolved  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  to  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  and  $\text{HS}^-$



### 3.5 Process description

A typical chemical absorption process consists of an absorber and a stripper, in which the absorbent is thermally regenerated. In a chemical absorption process, the flue gas containing  $\text{CO}_2$  enters a packed bed absorber from the bottom and contacts counter-currently with a  $\text{CO}_2$ -lean absorbent. After absorption, the  $\text{CO}_2$ -rich absorbent flow into a stripper (through heat exchanger exchanges with a  $\text{CO}_2$ -lean absorbent which come from the stripper) for thermal regeneration. After regeneration, the  $\text{CO}_2$ -lean absorbent is pumped back to the absorber cyclic use. The pure  $\text{CO}_2$  released from the stripper is compressed for the subsequent transportation and storage. The operating pressure is around 1 bar and the temperatures in the absorber and stripper are usually in the range of 40-60°C and 120-140°C, respectively. [26]

The outlet streams are:

- 1- Treated gas stream.
- 2-  $\text{CO}_2$  Captured stream.

### **3.6 Aspen plus process simulator**

ASPEN is a process simulation software package widely used in industry today. Given a process design and an appropriate selection of thermodynamic models, ASPEN uses mathematical models to predict the performance of the process. This information can then be used in an iterative fashion to optimize the design. This accurate modeling of thermodynamic properties is particularly important in the separation of non-ideal mixtures, and ASPEN has large databases of regressed parameters. ASPEN can handle very complex processes, including multiple-column separation systems, chemical reactors, distillation of chemically reactive compounds, and even electrolyte solutions like mineral acids and sodium hydroxide solutions[27].

#### **3.6.1 ELECNRTL**

The ELECNRTL property method is the most versatile electrolyte property method. It can handle very low and very high concentrations. It can handle aqueous and mixed solvent systems. The ELECNRTL is fully consistent with the NRTL-RK property method: the molecular interactions are calculated exactly the same way, therefore ELECNRTL can use the databank for binary molecular interaction parameters for the NRTL-RK property method. Many binary and pair parameters and chemical equilibrium constants from the regression of experimental data are included in Aspen Physical Property System databanks.

The electrolyte NRTL model uses the infinite dilution aqueous solution as the reference state for ions. It adopts the born equation to account for the transformation of the reference state of ions from the infinite dilution mixed solvent solution to the infinite dilution aqueous solution.

Water must be present in the electrolyte system in order to compute the transformation of the reference state of ions. Thus, it is necessary to introduce a trace amount of water to use the model for no aqueous electrolyte systems.

The electrolyte NRTL model is more applicable compared with the other models such as Pittermodel; this because the NRTL model includes the general temperature dependence of ion interaction parameters and also the model is

conveniently embedded in Aspen Plus software with built-in parameter estimation facility. Furthermore, the NRTL model able to estimate the properties of the medium and high concentration aqueous solutions [10]. The thermodynamic calculation of electrolyte system using NRTL model mainly depends on the ionic force between the individual ionic species. The force changes with the number and the type of the species as well as with the distance between species. Electrolyte NRTL databank contains the non-randomness factors (GMELCN), the energy parameters of (GMELCC, GMELCD, and GMELCE) for several molecule-electrolyte and electrolyte-electrolyte pairs[28]. The chemical solvent normally contains (20-40) wt.% potassium carbonate, (1-3) wt.% DEA activator and (0.4-0.7) wt.% V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> corrosion inhibitor. The normal operation conditions of CO<sub>2</sub> absorption process is; pressure range (1- 2 at) and temperature range (70-140) °C based on the unit design [28].

### **3.6.2 Limitations of Electrolytes-I**

Restrictions using the True component approach: – Liquid-liquid equilibrium cannot be calculated – The following models may not be used: Equilibrium reactors: Gibbs and REquil, Kinetic reactors: RPlug, RCSTR, and RBatchShortcut distillation: Distl, DSTWU, and SCFrac Rigorous distillation: MultiFrac and Petrobras[29].

### **3.6.3 Limitations of Electrolytes-II**

Restrictions using the Apparent component approach: Chemistry may not contain any volatile species on the right side of the reactions, Chemistry for liquid-liquid equilibrium may not contain dissociation reactions and Input specification cannot be in terms of ions or solid salts[29].

## **3.7 Process Simulation Procedure**

The main basic steps used to run the simulation Program are listed below:

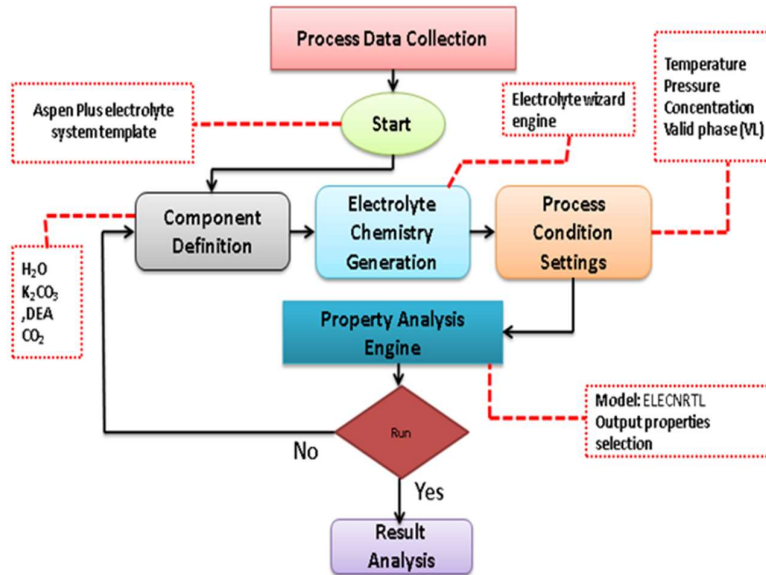


Figure 3-1: Simulation flow diagram

### 3.8 Material balance of absorption column

Table 3-3: Data of flue of gas absorption column

flue gas component	Moles/hr	Mole. Wt	Mole fraction	g/hr
CO <sub>2</sub>	140.12	44	0.09451	6165.28
H <sub>2</sub> O	221.85	18	0.1496	3993.3
SO <sub>2</sub>	0.0036	64	2.428 × 10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.2304
O <sub>2</sub>	39.58	32	0.02667	1266.56
N <sub>2</sub>	1080.97	28	0.7291	30267.16
Total	1482.524		1.0	41692.5304

$$\text{Amount of DEA} = 140.12 \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{h}} \text{CO}_2 \times \text{DEA} \frac{\text{mol/h}}{0.302 \text{ mol/h}} = 467.067 \text{ mole/h}$$

Overall material balance:

$$G_{in} + L_{in} = G_{out} + L_{out} \quad (3.23)$$

$$G_{in}(y_2 - y_1) = L_{in}(x_2 - x_1) \quad (3.24)$$

$$1482.524(y_2 - 0.09451) = 467.067(0.3 - 0)$$

$$y_2 = (y_{CO_2}) = 0.189 = 18.9\%$$

$$L_{out} = 467.067 + 140.12 = 607.187 \text{ mole/h}$$

Amount of exist gas ( $G_{out}$ ) from overall material balance:

$$G_{out} = G_{in} + L_{in} - L_{out} \quad (3.25)$$

$$G_{out} = 1482.524 + 467.067 - 607.187 = 1342.4 \text{ mole/h}$$

### 3.9 Packed Column Design

Packed columns are used for distillation, gas absorption, and liquid-liquid extraction. Stripping (desorption) is the reverse of absorption and the same design methods will apply. The gas-liquid contact in a packed bed column is continuous, not stage-wise, as in a plate column. The liquid flows down the column over the packing surface and the gas or vapor, counter-currently, up the column. In some gas-absorption columns co-current flow is used. The performance of a packed column is very dependent on the maintenance of good liquid and gas distribution throughout the packed bed, and this is an important consideration in packed-column design.

#### 3.9.1 Types of Packing:

The principal requirements of a packing are that it should: Provide a large surface area: a high interfacial area between the gas and liquid. Have an open structure: low resistance to gas flow. Promote uniform liquid distribution on the packing surface.

Promote uniform vapor gas flow across the column cross-section. Many diverse types and shapes of packing have been developed to satisfy these requirements. They can be divided into two broad classes:

1. Packings with a regular geometry: such as stacked rings, grids and proprietary structured packings.
2. Random packings: rings, saddles and proprietary shapes, which are dumped into the column and take up a random arrangement

### **3.9.2 Structured packing**

The term structured packing refers to packing elements made up from wire mesh or perforated metal sheets. The material is folded and arranged with a regular geometry, to give a high surface area with a high void fraction. Structured packings are produced by a number of manufacturers. The basic construction and performance of the various proprietary types available is similar. They are available in metal, plastics and stoneware. The advantage of structured packings over random packing is their low HETP (typically less than 0.5 m) and low pressure drop (around 100 Pa/m). They are being increasingly used in the following applications:

1. For difficult separations, requiring many stages: such as the separation of isotopes.
2. High vacuum distillation.
3. For column revamps: to increase capacity and reduce reflux ratio requirements.

### **3.9.3 Mellapak packing**

Mellapak packing is the most widely used structured packing worldwide. It has proven excellent performance in columns with diameters up to 15 m. It is supplied in sheet metal thicknesses from 0.1 mm up.

### **3.9.4 Special features**

1. Pressure drop per theoretical stage 0.3-1.0 mbar
2. Pressure drop at 70-80% flooding about 2 mbar/m.
3. Minimum liquid load approx  $0.2 \text{ m}^3/\text{m}^2\text{h}$ .
4. Maximum liquid load up to more than  $200 \text{ m}^3/\text{m}^2\text{h}$  (typically in desorption columns).

### **3.9.5 Preferred applications**

1. Vacuum to moderate pressure.
2. High pressure in selected applications
3. Increasing capacity of existing tray and packed columns

### 3.9.6 Typical applications

1. Chemical Ethylbenzene/styrene, tall oil, industry: cyclohexanone/olairseparation.
2. Petrochemical Quench columns, industry: C<sub>3</sub>- and C<sub>4</sub>- splitters, xylene splitters Refineries Vacuum and atmospheric columns.
3. Absorption: Natural gas drying, CO<sub>2</sub>- and H<sub>2</sub>S-absorbers and strippers, ethylene oxide absorbers and strippers, acrylonitrile absorbers.



Figure 3.2 Mellapak packing



### 3.9.7 Packed-column design procedures:

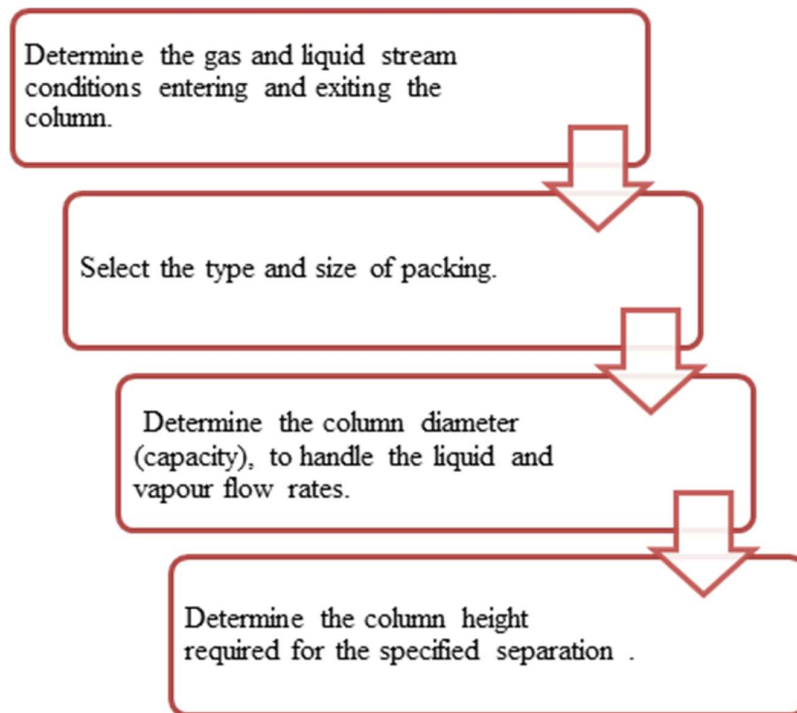


Figure 3-3: The design of a packed column will involve the following steps

### 3.10 Column diameter

The column cross-sectional area and diameter for the selected pressure drop can be determined from the generalized pressure-drop correlation given in Figure (3.4)

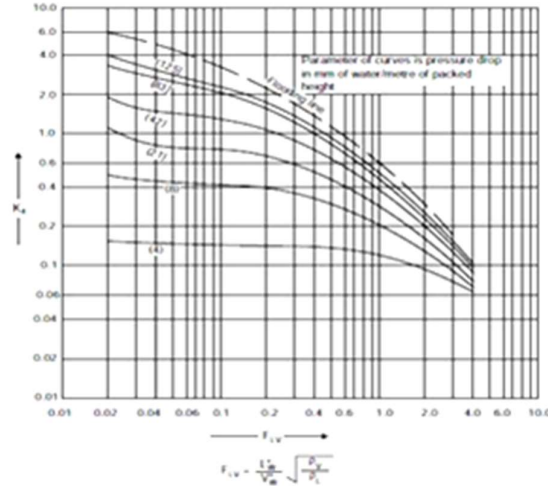


Figure 3-4: Generalized pressure drop correlation, adapted from a figure by the Norton Co. with permission

Figure (3.4) correlates the liquid and vapor flow rates, system physical properties and packing characteristics, with the gas mass flow-rate per unit cross-sectional area; with lines of constant pressure drop as a parameter.

The term  $K_4$  on figure (3.4) is the function:

$$K_4 = \frac{13.1(V_w^*)^2 F_p \left(\frac{\mu_L}{\rho_L}\right)^{0.1}}{\rho_V(\rho_L - \rho_V)} \quad (3.26)$$

The values of the flow factor FLV given in Figure 11.44 covers the range that will. Generally give satisfactory column performance. The ratio of liquid to gas flow will be fixed by the reflux ratio in distillation; and in gas absorption will be selected to give the required separation with the most economic use of solvent.

$$\text{Percentage flooding} = \left[ \frac{K_4 \text{ at design pressure drop}}{K_4 \text{ at flooding}} \right]^{1/2} \quad (3.27)$$

This can be obtained from Figure(3.4) where a flooding line has been included with the lines of constant pressure drop.

$$V_w^* = \left[ \frac{K_4 \rho_V(\rho_L - \rho_V)}{13.1 F_p \left(\frac{\mu_L}{\rho_L}\right)^{0.1}} \right]^{0.5} \quad (3.28)$$

$$\text{Column area required} = \frac{G_v}{V_w^*} \quad (3.29)$$

$$\text{Diameter} = \sqrt{\text{area} \frac{4}{\pi}} \quad (3.30)$$

Estimation of HOG:

Cornell's method:

Cornell *et al.* (1960) reviewed the previously published data and presented empirical Equations for predicting the height of the gas and liquid film transfer units. Their correlation Takes into account the physical properties of the system, the gas and liquid flow-rates; and the Column diameter and height.

$$H_G = \frac{0.011\psi_h(SC)_v^{0.5} \left(\frac{D_C}{0.305}\right)^{1.11} \left(\frac{Z}{3.05}\right)^{0.33}}{(L_w^* f_1 f_2 f_3)^{0.5}} \quad (3.31)$$

$$H_L = 0.305\phi_h(SC)_L^{0.5} K_3 \left(\frac{Z}{3.05}\right)^{0.15} \quad (3.32)$$

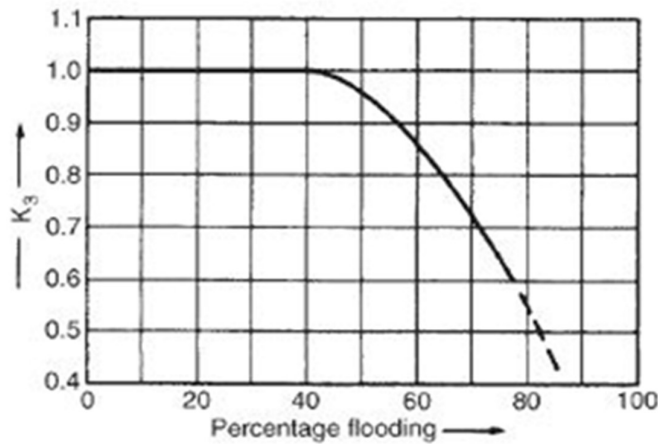


Figure 3-5: Percentage flooding correction factor

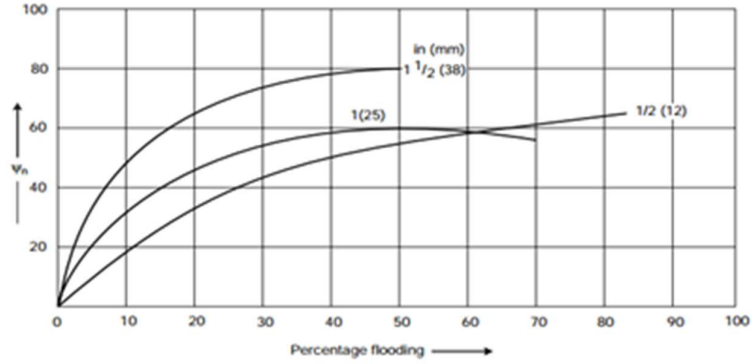


Figure 3-6: Factor for HG

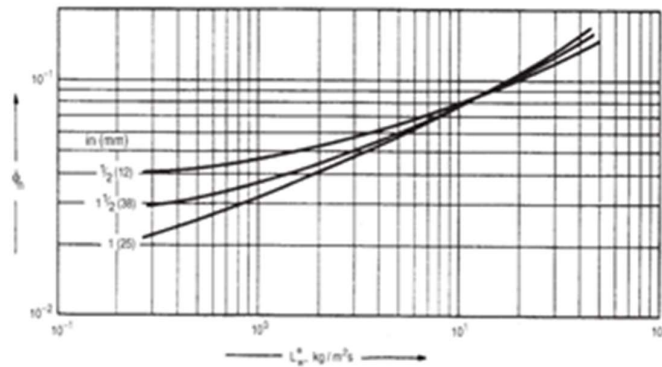


Figure 3-7: factor for HL

The relationship between the overall height of a transfer unit and the individual film transfer units  $H_L$  and  $H_G$ , which are based on the concentration driving force across the liquid and gas films, is given by:

$$H_{OG} = H_G + m \frac{G_m}{L_m} H_L \quad (3.33)$$

$$H_{OL} = H_L + \frac{L_m}{m G_m} H_G \quad (3.34)$$

The number of transfer units is obtained by graphical or numerical integration of equations. Where the operating and equilibrium lines are straight, and they can usually be considered to be so for dilute systems, the number of transfer units is given by:

NOG is the number of overall gas-phase transfer units

$$= \int_{y_2}^{y_1} \frac{dy}{y - y_e} \quad (3.35)$$

NOL is the number of overall liquid-phase transfer units

$$= \int_{x_2}^{x_1} \frac{dx}{xe-x} \quad (3.36)$$

The number of overall gas-phase transfer units is often more conveniently expressed in

terms of the partial pressure of the solute gas

$$N_{OG} = \int_{p_1}^{p_2} \frac{dp}{p-pe} \quad (3.37)$$

If the equilibrium curve and operating lines can be taken as straight and the solvent feed essentially solute free, the number of transfer units is given by:

$$N_{OG} = \frac{1}{1-\frac{mGm}{Lm}} \ln \left[ \left( 1 - \frac{mGm}{Lm} \right) \frac{y_1}{y_2} + \frac{mGm}{Lm} \right] \quad (3.38)$$

This equation is plotted in figure 3.8, which can be used to make a quick estimate of the number of transfer units required for a given separation.

It can be seen from figure 3.8 that the number of stages required for a given separation is very dependent on the flow rate  $Lm$ . If the solvent rate is not set by:

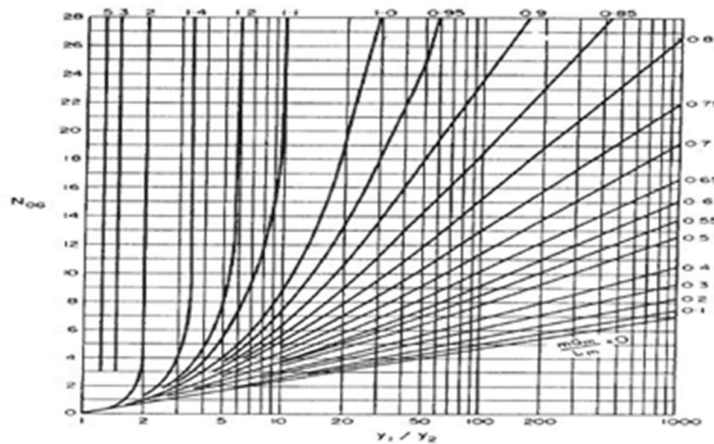


Figure 3-8: number of transfer units  $NOG$  as a function of  $y_1/y_2$  with  $mGm/Lm$  as parameter.

Figure 3.9 can be used to make quick estimates of the column height at different flow rates to find the most economic value.

The height of packing required,  $Z$ , is given by:

$$Z = H_{OG}N_{OG} \quad (3.39)$$

$$Z = H_{OL}N_{OL} \quad (3.40)$$

## Chapter 4

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

#### 4.1 Introduction

In this chapter, we mention all result of each section.

#### 4.2 DEA result

Table ( 4.1) shows that all the entered solids are dissolved as a result of more than 60% of water feed with the solvent transferred to  $\text{CO}_3^{-2}$ , and  $\text{hco}_3^-$  and the captured  $\text{CO}_2$  percentage equals to 67% in addition to other gases in different percentages at normal temperature and pressure .

Table 4-1: Electrolyte DEA simulation results

Substream: MIXED	ACIDGAS	GASIN	GASOUT	LEANIN	LEANOUT	RITCHIN	RITCHOUT
H <sub>2</sub> O	0.000347	0.149643	0.002572	0.651359	0.924375	0.90179	0.474391
DEA	1.92E-15	0	8.28E-09	0.032742	0.06312	0.035392	0.010267
CO <sub>2</sub>	2.06E-05	0.094515	0.000154	3.26E-09	2.70E-07	0.001204	0.063172
H <sub>3</sub> O <sup>+</sup>	0	0	0	8.25E-13	2.59E-11	1.34E-09	4.23E-11
OH <sup>-</sup>	0	0	0	8.90E-06	2.09E-05	6.64E-07	1.40E-07
HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0	0	0	0.000183	9.45E-05	0.022813	0.004557
CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-2</sup>	0	0	0	0.000142	2.55E-06	0.000236	0.000173
DEAH <sup>+</sup>	0	0	0	0.000519	0.000753	0.026464	0.014247
DEACOO <sup>-</sup>	0	0	0	7.15E-06	0.000155	0.002171	0.008755
H <sub>2</sub> S	0.000539	0.000554	1.01E-06	1.47E-09	2.39E-07	9.04E-06	5.99E-07
HS <sup>-</sup>	0	0	0	3.58E-05	0.000477	0.001007	0.000588

#### 4.2.1 Pressure profiles

Figure(4. 1) shows the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration changes during absorption step with change in pressure, The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration was increased with pressure increased. The increase in pressure, decrease the distance between the molecules and so that increase the solubility of gas in the solvents.

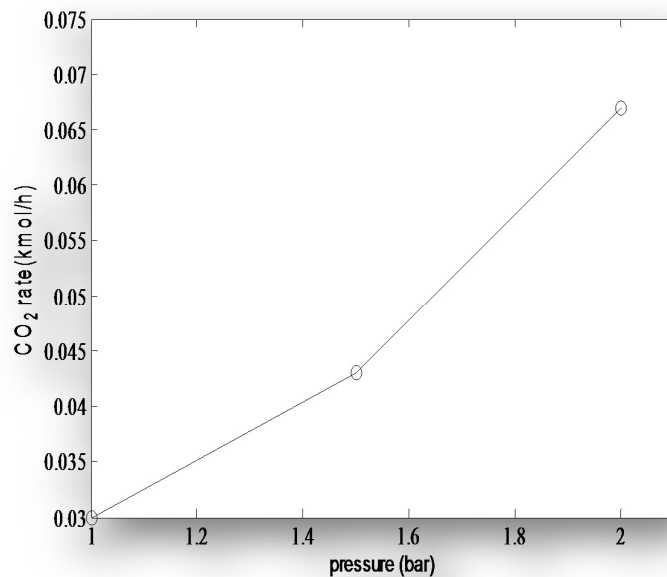


Figure 4-1: Change of the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration with pressure

#### 4.2.2 Temperature profiles

Figure( 4.2) shows the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration changes during absorption step with a change in temperature. The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration was decreased when the temperature was increased. The increase in temperature lead to release the gases from the solvents addition to that in the amines solvents the temperature increase cause the solvent degradation.

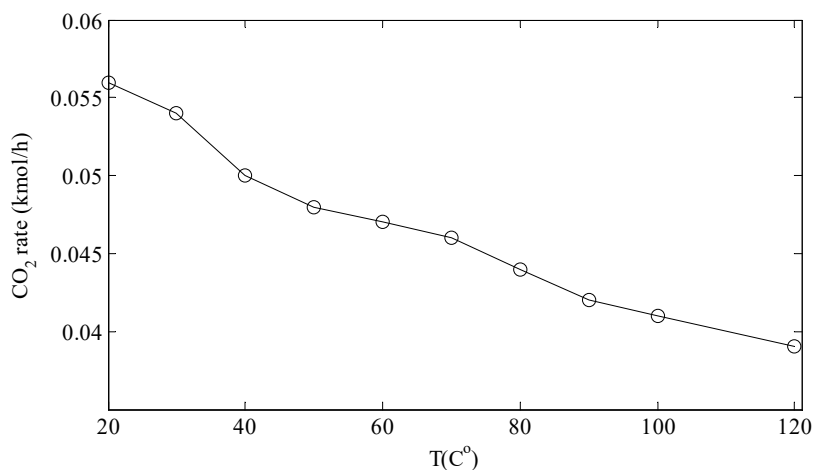


Figure 4-2: Effects of Temperature on CO<sub>2</sub> rate.



### 4.2.3 Concentration profiles

Figure (4.3) shows the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration changes during absorption step with a change in concentration of DEA. The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration was increased when the concentration was increased because it increased the capacity of the solvent.

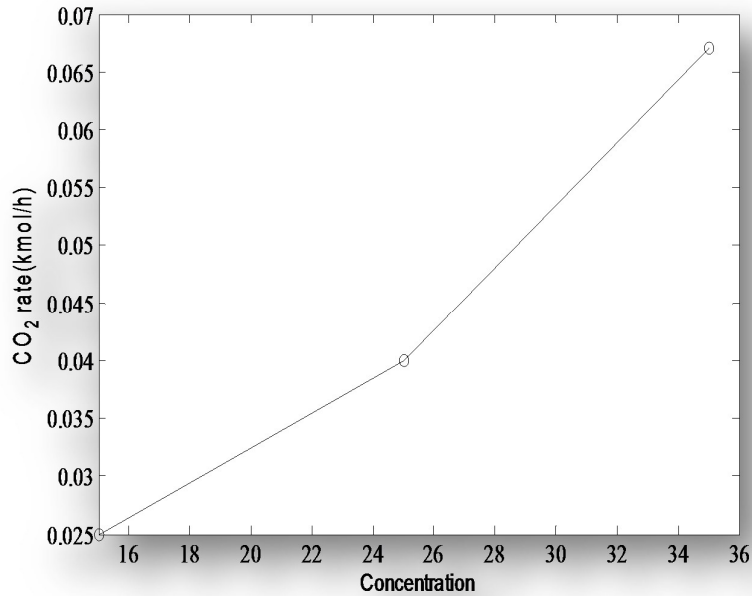


Figure 4-3: Change of the CO<sub>2</sub> rate with solvent concentration

### 4.3 Potassium carbonate (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) results

Table ( 4.2) shows that all the entered solids are dissolved as a result of more than 60% of water feed with the solvent transferred to CO<sub>3</sub><sup>-2</sup>, and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and the captured CO<sub>2</sub> percentage equals to 43% addition to other gases in different percentages at normal temperature and pressure.

Table 4-2: Show the potassium carbonate aspen plus results

Substream: MIXED	ACIDGAS	GASIN	GASOUT	LEANIN	LEANOUT	RITCHIN	RITCHOUT
N <sub>2</sub>	0	1.29423	0.360207	0	0	0	1.91E-06
H <sub>2</sub> O	0.000347	0.149643	0.002572	0.6528	0.924375	0.90179	
CO <sub>2</sub>	1.11E-06	0.094515	0.000154	5.02E-22	9.69E-08	0.000113	0.041565

KOH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H3O <sup>+</sup>	0	7.05E-09	0	1.08E-20	2.08E-12	3.34E-10	8.13E-20
OH <sup>-</sup>	0	2.47E-14	0	0.2384	0.000469	1.60E-07	0.330243
HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0	7.00E-09	0	1.95E-10	0.000953	0.013185	0.198499
CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-2</sup>	0	6.23E-15	0	0.0008	0.006246	0.000365	0.000129
K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

#### 4.3.1 Pressure profiles

The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration changes during absorption step with the change in pressure. The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration was increased with pressure increased. The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration was increased with pressure increased. The increase in pressure, decrease the distance between the molecules and so that increase the solubility of gas in the solvents.

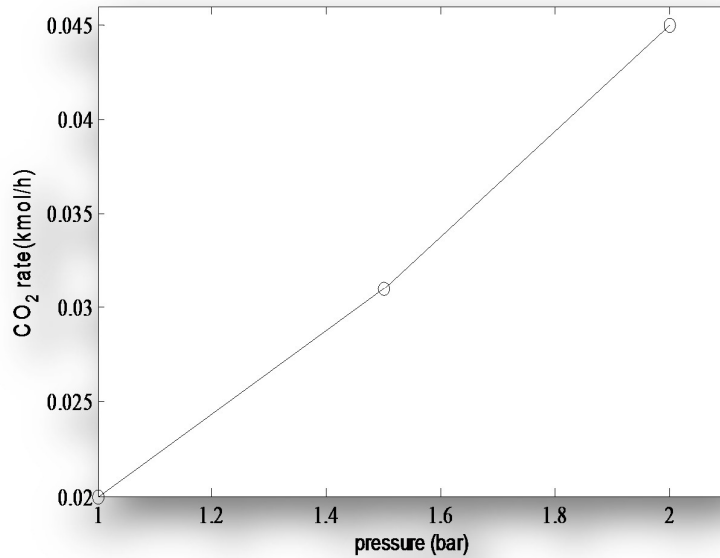


Figure 4-4: Change of the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration with pressure

#### 4.3.2 Temperature profiles

Figure(4. 5) shows the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration changes during absorption step with a change in temperature. The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration was increased with temperature increased to specified temperature because the solubility of the potassium carbonate is high.

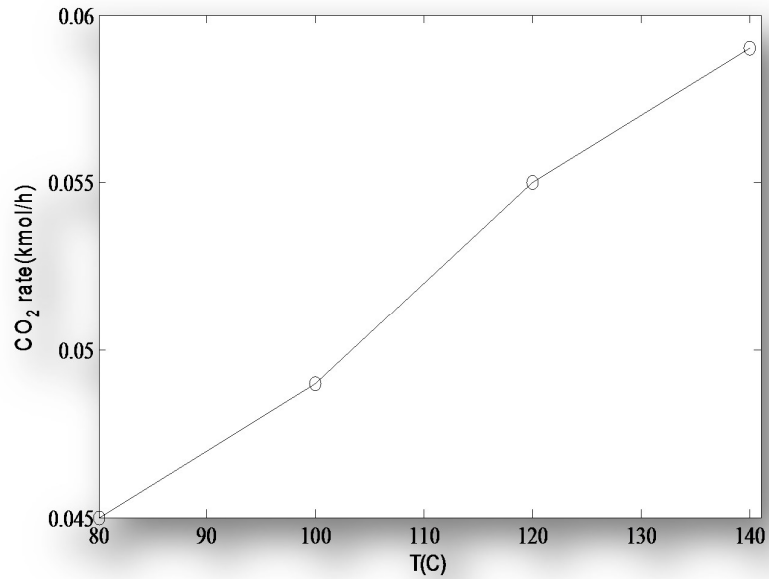


Figure 4-5: Change of the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration with temperature

### 4.3.3 Concentration profiles

Figure (4.6) shows the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration changes during absorption step with a change in concentration of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration was increased when the concentration was increased because it increased the capacity of the solvent

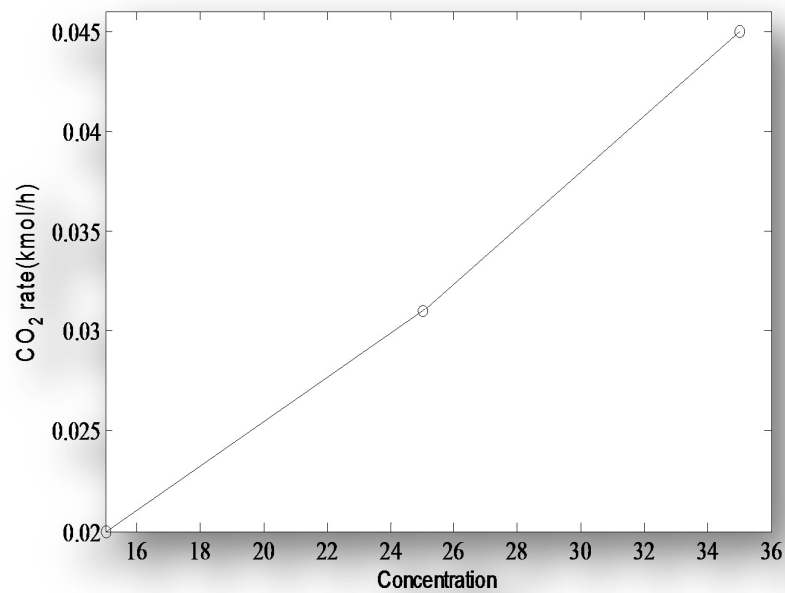


Figure 4-6: Change of the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration with solvent concentration

#### 4.4 Potassium carbonate promoted by DEA results

Table ( 4.3) shows that all the entered solids are dissolved as a result of more than 60% of water feed with the solvent transferred to  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  and  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  and the captured  $\text{CO}_2$  percentage equals to 82% in addition to other gases in different percentages at normal temperature and pressure.

Table 4-3: Potassium carbonate promoted aspen plus results

Substream: MIXED	ACIDGAS	GASIN	GASOUT	LEANIN	LEANOUT	RITGHIN	RITCHOUT
CO <sub>2</sub>	1.80E-06	0.094515	0.000154	3.08E-06	3.08E-06	3.86E-10	0.078553
H <sub>2</sub> O	4.52E-19	0.149643	1.298165	9.24E-06	9.24E-06	2.07E-13	2.07E-13
SO <sub>2</sub>	1.80E-10	0.005234	0.065035	2.55E-10	2.55E-10	4.87E-18	4.87E-18
O <sub>2</sub>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N <sub>2</sub>	5.19E-31	1.101928	1.72E-05	1.71E-18	1.71E-18	3.16E-15	3.16E-15
DIETH-01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DEA <sup>+</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H <sub>3</sub> O <sup>+</sup>	0	4.57E-05	0	1.35E-06	1.35E-06	2.98E-25	2.98E-25
K <sup>+</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
K <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> (S)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DEACOO <sup>-</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OH <sup>-</sup>	0	3.55E-15	0	6.70E-12	6.70E-12	8.56E-17	8.56E-17
HSO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0	4.57E-05	0	9.54E-09	9.54E-09	9.62E-10	9.62E-10
HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0	1.16E-09	0	6.22E-10	6.22E-10	1.07E-05	1.07E-05
SO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0	2.86E-10	0	1.28E-15	1.28E-15	8.50E-07	8.50E-07
CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0	6.71E-18	0	1.09E-06	1.09E-06	3.08E-06	3.08E-06

##### 4.4.1 Pressure profiles

Figure(4. 7) shows the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration changes during absorption step with a change in pressure. The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration was increased with pressure increased. The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration was increased with pressure increased. The increase in pressure, decrease the distance between the molecules and so that increase the solubility of gas in the solvents.

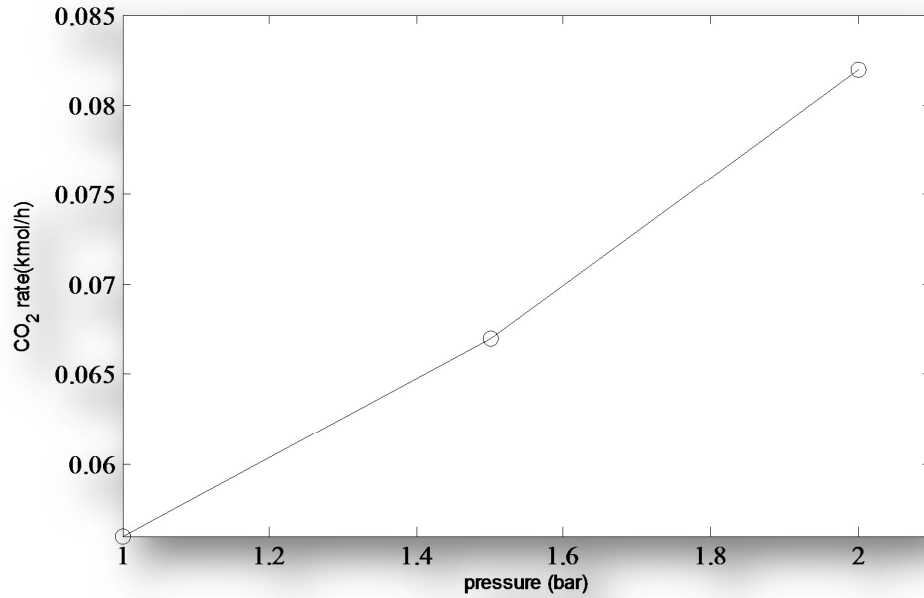


Figure 4-7: Change of the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration with pressure

#### 4.4.2 Temperature profiles

Figure(4. 8) shows the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration changes during absorption step with a change in temperature. The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration was increased with temperature increased. The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration was increased with temperature increased to specified temperature because the solubility of the potassium carbonate is high.

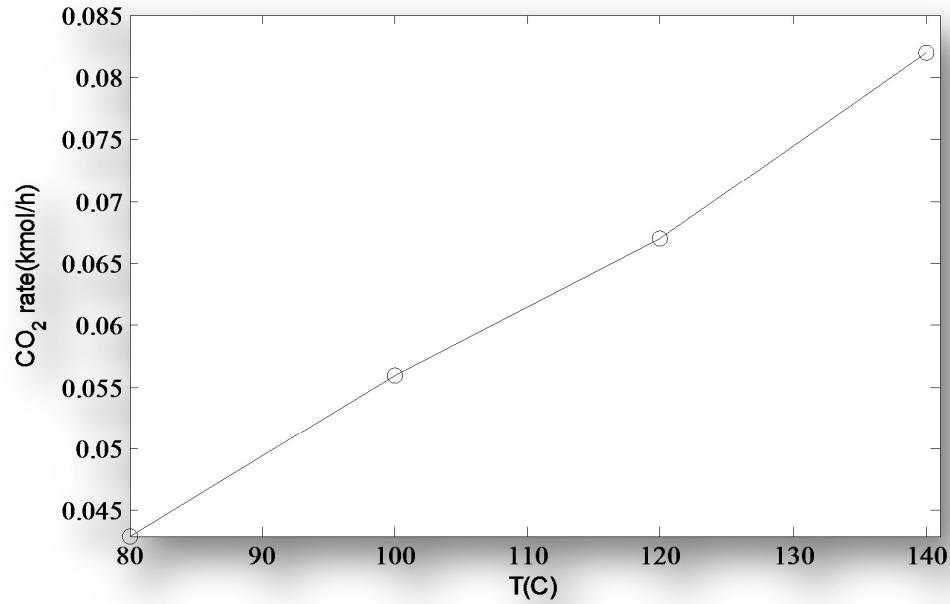


Figure 4-8: Change of the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration with temperature

#### 4.4.3 Concentration profile

Figure (4.3) shows the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration changes during absorption step with change in concentration of DEA, The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration was increased when potassium carbonate concentration was promoted by little amount of DEA as enhanced, The enhancement rate decreases when the concentration of DEA promoter reached the values greater than 4%.

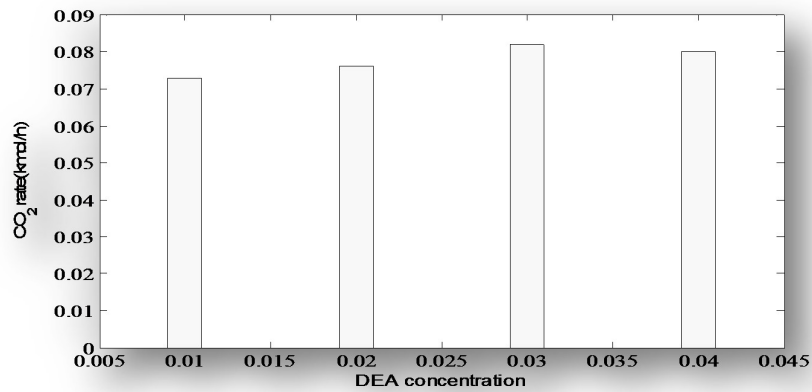


Figure 4-9: Change of the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration with concentration

Table 4-4: Design of Absorption Column: (table data obtained from Raoult's law)

Mole of CO <sub>2</sub> in DEA	0.058	0.06	0.062	0.064	0.066	0.068	0.007
Partial pressure of gas Kpa	5.87	6.08	6.282	6.4848	6.687	6.89	7.092

Assume that  $P_{total} = 1 \text{ atm} = 101.325 \text{ Kpa}$

$$y_1 = 0.0945$$

Partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub> in the feed ( $P_{CO_2}$ ) = 9.5756 Kpa

Number of stage:

Partial pressure in the exist gas at 90 per cent recovery =  $9.576 \times 0.1 = 0.9576 \text{ Kpa}$

Molecular weights:

CO<sub>2</sub> = 44, N<sub>2</sub> = 28 , O<sub>2</sub>=32, H<sub>2</sub>O=18 , SO<sub>2</sub> =64 , DEA =105.2

Slope of equilibrium line:

From the data : partial pressure at 0.068 w/w CO<sub>2</sub> = 6.89 Kpa

$$\text{Mole fraction in vapor} = \frac{6.89 \text{ Kpa}}{101.325 \text{ Kpa}} = 0.068$$

$$\text{Mole fraction in liquid} = \frac{\frac{6.89}{105.2}}{\frac{6.89}{105.2} + \frac{93.11}{18}} = 0.0125$$

$$\text{Slope (M)} = \frac{0.068}{0.0125} = 5.44$$

Using Figure (3.8) the number of stages required at different water rates will be determined and the "optimum" rate chosen:

$$\frac{y_1}{y_2} = \frac{p_1}{p_2} = \frac{9.576}{0.9576} = 10$$

Table 4-5: The optimum rate

$\frac{G_m}{L_m}$	0.2	0.4	0.55	0.7	0.75	0.8	0.9	0.95	1.0	1.1
N <sub>OG</sub>	2.3	3	3.7	4.4	4.7	5.6	5.8	7.3	9	18

It can be seen that the “optimum” will be between  $mG_m/L_m = 0.9$  to  $1.0$ , as would be expected. Below  $0.9$  there is only a small decrease in the number of stages required with increasing liquid rate; and above  $1.0$  the number of stages increases rapidly with decreasing liquid rate. Check the liquid outlet composition at  $0.9$  and  $1.0$  :

Material balance:

$$L_m x_1 = G_m (y_1 - y_2)$$

$$x_1 = \frac{G_m}{L_m} (0.0945 \times 0.9) = \frac{G_m}{L_m} (0.08505) \times \frac{m}{5.44}$$

$$\text{at } m \frac{G_m}{L_m} = 0.9, x_1 = 0.09 \text{ mole fraction}$$

$$\text{at } m \frac{G_m}{L_m} = 1.0, x_1 = 0.14 \text{ mole fraction}$$

Use  $1.0$ , as the higher concentration will favor the stripper design and operation, without significantly increasing the number of stages needed in the absorber.

$$N_{OG} = 9$$

#### 4.5 Column diameter:

$$\text{Gas flow rate} = 1482.524 \text{ mole/h} = 41.69 \text{ Kg/h}$$

$$\text{Liquid flow rate} = 467.067 \text{ mole/h} = 49.135 \text{ Kg/h}$$

$$\text{Select SULZER Mellapak350Y, } F_P = 75 \text{ m}^{-1}$$

$$\text{Gas density} = 2.38174 \text{ Kg/m}^3$$

$$\text{Liquid density} = 1027.86 \text{ Kg/m}^3$$

$$\text{Liquid viscosity} = 8 \times 10^{-3} \text{ Ns/m}^2$$

$$F_{LV} = 0.0567$$

Design for a pressure drop of  $20 \text{ mm H}_2\text{O/m}$  packing

From Figure (3.4)

$$K_4 = 0.68$$

At the flooding  $K_4 = 4$

$$\text{Percentage flooding} = \sqrt{0.68/4} \times 100 = 41.23 \%$$

$$V^*_{w=2.34} \text{ Kg/m}^2\text{s}$$



$$\text{Column area required} = 5 \times 10^{-0.6} \text{ m}^2$$

$$\text{Diameter} = 1.26 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{Column area} = \frac{\pi}{4} \times (1.26)^2 = 1.24 \text{ m}^2$$

Estimation of  $H_{OG}$ :

Cornell's method :

$$D_L = 2.2 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$$

$$D_V = 1.5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$$

$$\mu_v = 0.013 \times 10^{-3} \text{ N s/m}^3$$

Calculate the Schmidt number:

$$(Sc)_v = 372$$

$$(Sc)_L = 3537.8$$

Calculate the liquid mass flow rate per unit area

$$L_w = 4671.22 \text{ Kg/s.m}^2$$

From figure (3.5), (3.6), (3.7)

$$K_3 = 0.98$$

$$\Psi_h = 78$$

$$\Phi_h = 0.047$$

$$H_L = 0.833 \text{ m}$$

$$H_G = 2.255 \text{ m}$$

$$H_{OG} = 3.088 \text{ m}$$

$$Z \cong 9 \text{ m}$$

Table 4-6: Summary for absorption tower design

Number of transfer unit	9
Column diameter	1.26 m
Height of gas phase transfer unit	2.225 m
Height of liquid phase transfer unit	0.833 m
Over all transfer unit	3.088 m

Height of tower	9 m
-----------------	-----

## Chapter 5

### CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATION

#### 5.1 Conclusion

The best condition for DEA to work high rate of CO<sub>2</sub> capture at normal temperature and pressure, but it not efficient and economical regeneration process with lower resistance to degradation.

Potassium carbonate absorption process at high temperatures resulting in a more efficient and economical regeneration process and better resistance to degradation than commonly seen with amine solvents at high temperatures.

The absorption rates of CO<sub>2</sub> in diethanolamine (DEA) promoted potassium carbonate (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) increases with the increase of the mass Fraction of (DEA),also very small amount of DEA can significantly enhance the absorption of CO<sub>2</sub> in K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution at high temperatures which is recorded an absorption rate of 82%.

The enhancement rate decreases when the concentration of DEA promoter reached the values greater than 4%.

#### 5.2 Recommendation

- 1- To do an experimental work with a series of heterocyclic amine functionalized promoters.
- 2- To study the energy balance and energy losses around the process units in order to observe .

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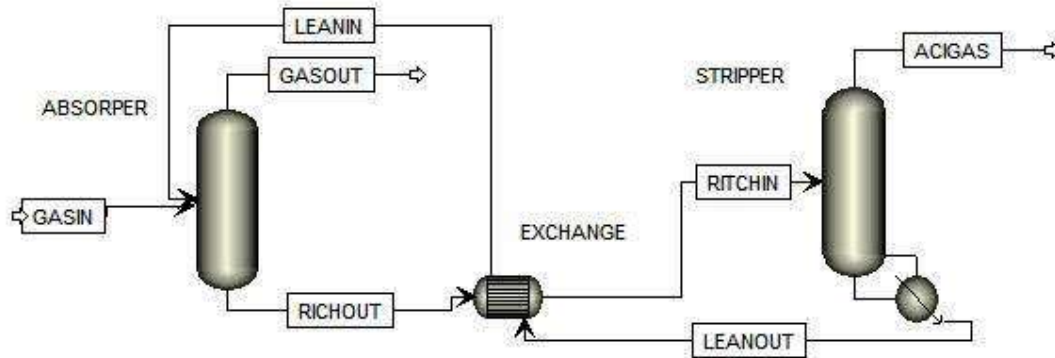
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## Appendix-A

Model for process simulation



Data input for DEA simulation:-

Properties < Components - Specifications × +

All Items Selection Petroleum Nonconventional Enterprise Database Information

Select components

Component ID	Type	Component name	Alias
H2O	Conventional	WATER	H2O
CO2	Conventional	CARBON-DIOXIDE	CO2
DIETH-01	Conventional	DIETHANOLAMINE	C4H11NO2-1
H2S	Conventional	HYDROGEN-SULFIDE	H2S
N2	Conventional	NITROGEN	N2
O2	Conventional	OXYGEN	O2
H2	Conventional	HYDROGEN	H2
DEA+	Conventional	DEA+	C4H12NO2+
H3O+	Conventional	H3O+	H3O+
DEACOO-	Conventional	DEACOO-	C5H10NO4-
OH-	Conventional	OH-	OH-
HS-	Conventional	HS-	HS-
HCO3-	Conventional	HCO3-	HCO3-
S--	Conventional	S--	S-2
CO3--	Conventional	CO3--	CO3-2

Find Elec Wizard User Defined Reorder Review

Results Available Check Status

## Operation condition data for DEA flue gas

Specifications

Flash Type: Temperature Pressure

State variables

Temperature: 25 C

Pressure: 2 bar

Vapor fraction:

Total flow basis: Mole

Total flow rate: 1466.5 mol/hr

Solvent:

Reference Temperature:

Composition

Mole-Frac

Component	Value
CO2	0.095
DIETH-01	
H2S	0.03
N2	0.725

Total: 1

## Operation condition data for DEA lean solvents

Specifications

Flash Type: Temperature Pressure

State variables

Temperature: 25 C

Pressure: 2 bar

Vapor fraction:

Total flow basis: Mole

Total flow rate: 800 mol/hr

Solvent:

Reference Temperature:

Composition

Mole-Frac

Component	Value
H2O	0.67
CO2	0.03
DIETH-01	0.3
H2S	

Total: 1

## Data input for $k_2CO_3$ simulation

Select components

Component ID	Type	Component name	Alias
H2O	Conventional	WATER	H2O
CO2	Conventional	CARBON-DIOXIDE	CO2
K2CO3	Conventional	POTASSIUM-CARBONATE	K2CO3
H2S	Conventional	HYDROGEN-SULFIDE	H2S
N2	Conventional	NITROGEN	N2
O2	Conventional	OXYGEN	O2
H2	Conventional	HYDROGEN	H2
H3O+	Conventional	H3O+	H3O+
K+	Conventional	K+	K+
KOH(S)	Solid	POTASSIUM-HYDROXIDE	KOH
KOH*W(S)	Solid	KOH*H2O	KOH*W
KOH:2(S)	Solid	KOH*2H2O	KOH*2W
K2CO3(S)	Solid	POTASSIUM-CARBONATE	K2CO3
KHCO3(S)	Solid	POTASSIUM-BICARBONATE	KHCO3
OH-	Conventional	OH-	OH-
HS-	Conventional	HS-	HS-
HCO3-	Conventional	HCO3-	HCO3-
S--	Conventional	S--	S-2
CO3--	Conventional	CO3--	CO3-2

Find    Elec Wizard    User Defined    Reorder    Review

## Operation condition data for $k_2CO_3$ flue gas

Main Flowsheet x GASIN (MATERIAL) x +

Mixed    CI Solid    NC Solid    Flash Options    EO Options    Costing    Information

Specifications

Flash Type: Temperature    Pressure

State variables

Temperature: 80    C

Pressure: 2    bar

Vapor fraction: [ ]

Total flow basis: Mole

Total flow rate: 1466.5    mol/hr

Solvent: [ ]

Reference Temperature: [ ]

Composition

Mole-Flow    kmol/hr

Component	Value
H2O	0.15
CO2	0.095
K2CO3	[ ]
H2S	0.03
Total	1

Component Attributes

Particle Size Distribution



Operation condition data for  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  lean solvent:-

Flash Type: Temperature Pressure

State variables:

- Temperature: 80 C
- Pressure: 2 bar
- Vapor fraction: [ ]
- Total flow basis: Mole
- Total flow rate: 800 mol/hr
- Solvent: [ ]

Composition:

Component	Value
H2O	0.699
CO2	0.001
K2CO3	0.3
H2S	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>

Data input for  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  promoted by DEA simulation

Select components

Component ID	Type	Component name	Alias
CO2	Conventional	CARBON-DIOXIDE	CO2
H2O	Conventional	WATER	H2O
SO2	Conventional	SULFUR-DIOXIDE	O2S
O2	Conventional	OXYGEN	O2
N2	Conventional	NITROGEN	N2
K2CO3	Conventional	POTASSIUM-CARBONATE	K2CO3
DIETH-01	Conventional	DIETHANOLAMINE	C4H11NO2-1
DEA+	Conventional	DEA+	C4H12NO2+
H3O+	Conventional	H3O+	H3O+
K+	Conventional	K+	K+
K2SO3(S)	Solid	POTASSIUM-SULFITE	K2SO3
KOH(S)	Solid	POTASSIUM-HYDROXIDE	KOH
KOH*W(S)	Solid	KOH*H2O	KOH*W
KOH*2(S)	Solid	KOH*2H2O	KOH*2W
K2CO3(S)	Solid	POTASSIUM-CARBONATE	K2CO3
KHCO3(S)	Solid	POTASSIUM-BICARBONATE	KHCO3
DEACOO-	Conventional	DEACOO-	C5H10NO4-
OH-	Conventional	OH-	OH-
HSO3-	Conventional	HSO3-	HSO3-
HCO3-	Conventional	HCO3-	HCO3-
SO3--	Conventional	SO3--	SO3-2
CO3--	Conventional	CO3--	CO3-2

### Operation condition data for $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ –DEA flue gas

Specifications

Flash Type: Temperature Pressure

State variables

Temperature: 25 C

Pressure: 2 bar

Vapor fraction: [ ]

Total flow basis: Mole

Total flow rate: 1466.5 mol/hr

Solvent: [ ]

Reference Temperature

Volume flow reference temperature: [ ] C

Component concentration reference temperature: [ ] C

Composition

Mole-Flow mol/hr

Component	Value
CO2	0.095
H2O	0.15
SO2	0.0036
O2	
N2	0.7514
K2CO3	
DIETH-01	
DEA+	
Total	1

### Operation condition data for $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ –DEA lean solvent

Specifications

Flash Type: Temperature Pressure

State variables

Temperature: 80 C

Pressure: 2 bar

Vapor fraction: [ ]

Total flow basis: Mole

Total flow rate: 800 mol/hr

Solvent: [ ]

Reference Temperature

Volume flow reference temperature: [ ] C

Component concentration reference temperature: [ ] C

Composition

Mole-Frac

Component	Value
CO2	0.001
H2O	0.719
SO2	
O2	
N2	
K2CO3	0.25
DIETH-01	0.03
DEA+	
Total	1