

**CHEMICAL PROCESS ABSORPTION COLUMN DESIGN FOR  
CO<sub>2</sub> SEQUESTRATION**

**Abstract**

The design of a prototype chemical process absorption column was carried out to facilitate the sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub> from flue gas emanating from an exhaust point of a power generating set. Factors such as ambient temperature and atmospheric pressure were factored into consideration before the fabrication of the absorption column. The rate of the absorbing liquid is 0.1056kg/min and contains 5% mole/mole carbon (iv) oxide. Also the energy and material balance of the entire sequestration process was done. Finally the equipment design for the process was carried out.

**Keyword:** material balance, energy balance, CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration, ammonia, equipment design, absorption column, knockout drum, absorber, evaporative gas cooler, solution cooler, solution heat exchanger, flash drum, stripper, and reboiler.

**1. Introduction**

Plant design is a technical term that embraces all engineering aspects involved in the development of either a new, modified, or expanded industrial plant (Coulson and Richardson, 1968). It involves the making of economic evaluations of new processes, design industrial pieces of equipment for the proposed new venture or developing a plant layout for co-ordination of the overall operation. The development of a process involves many different steps starting from the inception of the basic idea. The atmospheric concentration of carbon (IV) oxide, i.e., the most critical greenhouse gas, has increased from 280 ppm in the pre-industrial age to more than 370 ppm now, and is expected to increase above 500 ppm by the end of this century, Watson R.T (2001). This is recognized to be due to anthropogenic activities, particularly burning of fossil fuels and land use changes, and has been accomplished by a corresponding increase of the earth's average temperature.

Present strategies rely on improving the efficiency in energy use, on reducing fossil fuel consumption, and on using renewable energy sources or nuclear power plants. However, the continuing increase in the world population together with concomitant growth in energy consumption and the industrial development in developing countries like china and India has

34 posed a challenge in the efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Thus, the inevitable way to  
35 keep within this country the overall CO<sub>2</sub> load of the atmosphere and hydrosphere below  
36 unbearable levels is that of complementing emission reduction efforts by techniques to capture  
37 CO<sub>2</sub> from point sources before emission or to capture it from the air stream after emission, and to  
38 store it permanently outside the atmosphere.

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## 40 **2. Materials and Methods**

### 41 **2.1 Materials**

42 The materials made up of glass wares were purchased at science apparatus market; they were put  
43 together alongside other components fabricated to make a complete reactor. The equipment has  
44 an absorption column, flask containing the ammonia solution, reservoir to house the content of  
45 the mixture in the aftermath of the reaction, openings for flue gas entrant and exit point after the  
46 reaction, non-heat sensitive pipe connected to the entry point of the absorption column and the  
47 exhaust pipe of the gasoline generating set.

### 48 **2.2 Methodology**

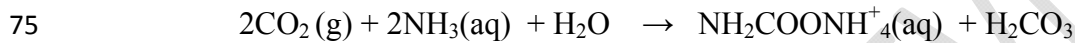
49 Due to the nature of the equipment made of glassware and in order to control the experiment,  
50 standard conditions of ambient temperature and atmospheric pressure were adopted for the  
51 process and also for the flow rate of the solution into the absorption column. Three  
52 parameters/independent variables were used which are concentration of solvent, contact time and  
53 volume of solvent. Due to the nature of the equipment made of glassware and in order to control  
54 the process, standard conditions of ambient temperature and atmospheric pressure were adopted  
55 for the process. Three independent variables were used; which are concentration of solvent  
56 ranging from 2-10 mol/dm<sup>3</sup>, contact time of 20-100 seconds and volume of solvent between 40-  
57 200 ml.

58 For the carbon sequestration to be achieved, 10 mol/dm<sup>3</sup> concentration of aqueous ammonia was  
59 prepared and poured into a flask containing ammonia solution which supplies the solution to the  
60 absorber, the aqueous ammonia was evenly distributed across the inner surface of the column  
61 while in contact with the plates. The petrol generating set was turned on while the gas analyzer  
62 detected the components and quantity of gases before it being charged into the heat exchanger.  
63 The heat exchanger helped to attain the desired temperature of 40°C before the flue gas was  
64 charged into the absorption column from the entry point near the base of the absorption column.  
65 The flue gas in the column contacted with the aqueous ammonia in a counter current form for a

66 period of 60 seconds after which the tap at the exit point close to the top of the absorption  
67 column was opened and gas analyzer was used to determine the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> and CO leaving  
68 the column. The chemical solution is charged into the column from the top and is evenly  
69 distributed across the inner surface of the column while in contact with the plates. Gas enters  
70 through an opening at the base of the column, counter-currently contacting with the liquid as it  
71 flows up and reacts with the ammonia solution as it is beneficial to make CO<sub>2</sub> and aqueous  
72 contact and react vigorously.

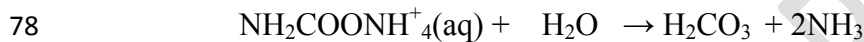
73 **Equation for the reaction:**

74 i) CO<sub>2</sub> Absorption



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77 ii) Ammonia Regeneration



79 About 98% recovery of CO<sub>2</sub> occurs and the recovery liquid is a 20% w/w NH<sub>3</sub>

80 **Assumptions:**

- 81 1) The rate of the absorbing liquid is 0.1056kg/min and contains 5% mole/mole carbon  
82 (iv) oxide.
- 83 2) The spent air effluent analysis, 0.000347ft<sup>3</sup>/s at 30<sup>0</sup>C, 1atm with % composition on  
84 dry basis of carbon (IV) oxide (3.5%), nitrogen (79%) and oxygen (17.5%). The exit  
85 air is saturated with water vapour at the absorbing liquid inlet temperature of 40<sup>0</sup>C.
- 86 3) Recovery of 85% CO<sub>2</sub>.
- 87 4) Reaction equation

88 **Process Details:**

89 Basis: 1 minute operation

90 **Feed Stream**

91 Stream 2: Spent air effluent (dry basis)

92 CO<sub>2</sub> = 3.5%

93 Nitrogen = 79%

94 Oxygen = 17.5%

95 **Total volume** of spent air effluent = 0.000347Ft<sup>3</sup>/s

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97 **3. Results and Discussions**

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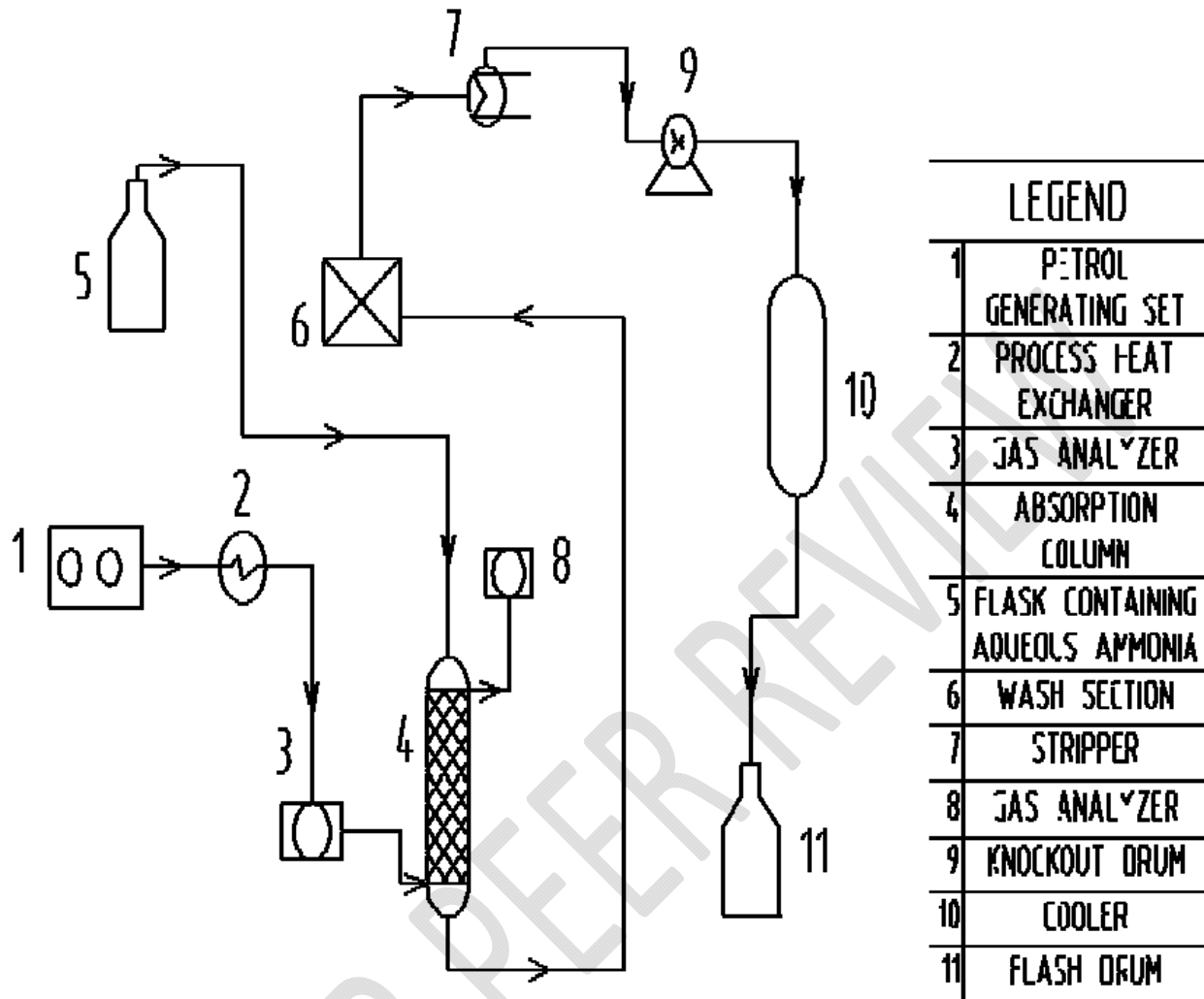


Fig.1 Experimental set-up for absorption using the prototype semi-batch column

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102 The capturing of CO<sub>2</sub> from spent air effluent was achieved through the absorption of CO<sub>2</sub> with  
 103 ammonia solution to form ammonia carbamate which was later regenerated to recover the  
 104 ammonia and CO<sub>2</sub>. The raw gas (air effluent from a generating set) was cooled to about 40°C  
 105 (reaction temp.) and separated to remove any condensed water from the raw gas. Dry air effluent  
 106 was charged to the adsorption column. The absorber is into two sections, the absorption section  
 107 and wash section. In the absorption section the air was charged counter currently with ammonia  
 108 solution from the top and the CO<sub>2</sub> was absorbed to form ammonium carbamate. The off air from  
 109 absorption section is water washed in the wash section to remove any entrained liquid. The  
 110 scrubbed gas recovered as overhead is sent to the knock-out drum to recover any entrained  
 111 ammonia solution from the absorption column. The rich-amine solution from the bottom of the

112 absorber is passed to energy recovery system and a solution heat exchanger where it is pre-  
113 heated to about 150<sup>0</sup>C (regeneration temperature). The spent ammonia solution exchange heat  
114 with incoming regenerated ammonia solution from bottom of the regenerator. Pre-heated spent  
115 ammonia solution is separated to remove any gas associated with the spent ammonia solution.  
116 Regeneration of ammonia solution is carried out in the regenerator by the application of heat  
117 supplied by steam generated in the reboiler at the base of the regenerator. The top product of  
118 regenerator contains mainly CO<sub>2</sub> and steam which is cooled in the cooler 5 to condense them.  
119 The steam is separated and returned to the reboiler.

120 The bottom product of regenerator containing regenerated ammonia solution is passed through  
121 solution heat exchanger where it exchanges heat with spent ammonia solution from the absorber.  
122 It is further cooled to bring its temperature to about 40<sup>0</sup>C (absorption temperature).

### 123 3.1 Material Balance Results

#### 124 CALCULATIONS

125 **To get the volumetric flow rate:**

$$126 \text{Volume} = \pi r^2 h$$

127 The absorption column specifications are:

- 128 - Length of column: 40cm
- 129 - Diameter of column: 5cm
- 130 - Number of plates: 10
- 131 - Distance between plates: 2cm
- 132 - Distance between outlet and plates in the column: 5cm
- 133 - Distance between outlet and bottom of column: 5cm
- 134 - Distance between inlet and plate contact: 5cm

$$135 \text{Radius} = \frac{\text{Diameter}}{2} = \frac{5}{2} = 2.5\text{cm} (0.025\text{m})$$

$$136 \text{Volume} = \pi \times 0.025^2 \times 0.4 = 7.8539 \times 10^{-4} \text{m}^3$$

137 Convert to feet: where 1ft<sup>3</sup>=0.0283m<sup>3</sup>

$$138 \frac{0.0007845}{0.3048^3} = 0.0277 \text{ft}^3 \times 60 = 1.6642 \text{ft}^3/\text{hr}$$

139 Assuming 75% absorption capacity for CO and converting the calculated values from ft<sup>3</sup>/hr to ft<sup>3</sup>/sec

$$140 \quad \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1.6642}{1} = \frac{1.24815}{3600} = 0.0003467 \text{ ft}^3/\text{sec}$$

141 **To get the mass flow rate:**

142 **At optimum condition:** Vol. of solvent = 120ml

143 Multiply by the density;  $120 \times 0.88 \times 1 \text{ gram} = 105.6 \text{ g/min} = \mathbf{0.1056 \text{ kg/min}}$

144 **Balance around the absorber**

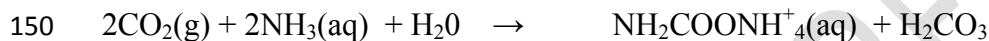
145  $\text{CO}_2$  in  $F_3 = 0.0000364 \text{ kg} (0.000000827 \text{ kmol})$

146 For 85% recovery,  $\text{CO}_2$  scrubbed

147  $= 0.85 \times \text{CO}_2 \text{ Fed in } F_3 = 0.0000309 \text{ kg}$

148  $\text{Kmol of CO}_2 \text{ scrubbed} = 0.000000701 \text{ kmol}$

149 Reaction equation in Absorber



151 Ammonium carbamate

152 From above equation

153  $= (0.000000701 \times 2) \text{ kmol of CO}_2 \text{ required} (0.000000701 \times 2) \text{ kmol NH}_3$

154 Total mole of liquid consumed

155  $= 0.000001402 + 0.000000701 = 0.000002103 \text{ kmol}$

156 Total mole of absorbing liquid =  $0.1056 \text{ kmol/min}$

157 Recovery liquid is a 20% w/w  $\text{NH}_3$

158 Average molecular weight of recovery

$$159 \quad \text{Liquid} = \frac{20(17)}{100} + \frac{80(18)}{100} = 17.8$$

160 Total mole of recovery liquid

$$161 \quad = \frac{0.1056}{17.8} = 0.0059 \text{ kmol}$$

162 Mole of  $\text{NH}_3$  in recovery liquid =  $0.00118 \text{ kmol}$

163 Mass of Ammonia in recovery liquid =  $0.02006 \text{ kg/min}$

164  $\text{Kmol of H}_2\text{O}$  in recovery liquid =  $0.00472 \text{ kmol}$

165 Mass of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in recovery liquid =  $0.08496 \text{ kg/min}$

166 Unreacted  $\text{NH}_3 = 0.00118 \text{ kmol}$

167 Unreacted  $\text{H}_2\text{O} = 0.004719 \text{ kmol}$

168 **Balance check**

169 **Flow stream F<sub>3</sub> (kg)**

170 Total F<sub>3</sub> = 0.0006954kg/min

171 **Flow stream F<sub>8</sub>**

172 CO<sub>2</sub> = 0.0000118kmol x 44 = 0.0005192kg

173 Total F<sub>8</sub> = 0.02006 + 0.08496 + 0.0005192 = 0.1055kg/min

174 **Flow stream F<sub>4</sub>**

175 Unscrubbed CO<sub>2</sub> = 0.000484kg/min

176 From specifications, the exit air is saturated at 40<sup>0</sup>C.

177 Vapour pressure of water at 40<sup>0</sup>C, 760mmHg.

178  $\ln p^*w = \frac{A-B}{T+C}$  - Antoine's equation

179 Where A, B and C are Antoine's constant, T = Temperature

180  $p_w^0 = 232.293$  mmHg

181 Mole fraction of water vapour in flow F<sub>4</sub>

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$$\frac{\text{Vapour pressure of water vapour}}{\text{Total pressure}}$$

183 Total F<sub>4</sub> = 0.000887 + 0.000526 + 0.000133 + 0.000484 = 0.00203

184 NH<sub>3</sub> solution = 1X10<sup>-6</sup> X 0.00203 = 0.00000000203kg

185 **Flow stream F<sub>5</sub> (spent amine solution)**

186 CO<sub>2</sub> = 0.0005192kg

187 **Flow stream  $F_3^1$**

188 Water used for washing =  $0.5 \times$  total gas washed = 0.001015kg

189 **Flow stream  $F_4^1$**

190 Let assume  $H_2O$  in  $F_4^1 = H_2O$  in  $F_3^1 = 0.001015$ kg

191  $H_2O$  in  $F_5 = H_2O$  in  $F_8 + H_2O$  in  $F_3^1 - H_2O$  in = 0.08406

192 Total  $F_5 = 0.000053 + 0.000043 + (0.00118 \times 17) + 0.08406 + 0.0005192 = 0.1047$ kg

193 **Balance**

194 At steady state

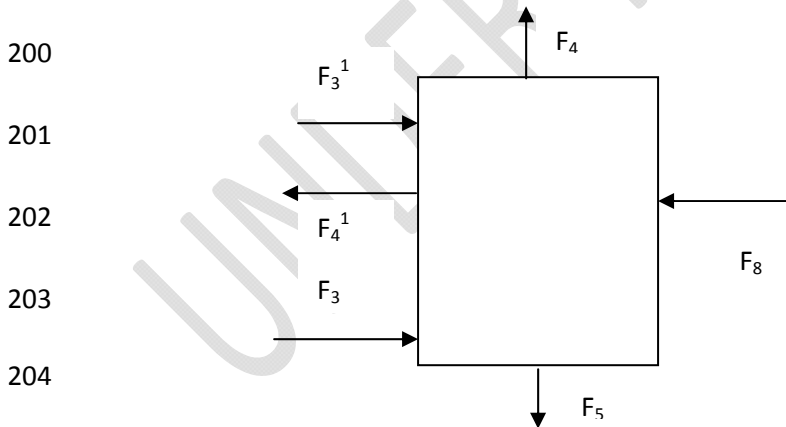
195 Total input = total output

196  $F_3 + F_8 + F_3^1 = F_4 + F_4^1 + F_5$

197  $0.1072104 = 0.107745$

198 **3.1.1 Material Balance Summary Tables**

199 **3.1.1.1 Absorber**



206 Fig. 2: Material Balance diagram for Absorber

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208 Table 1: Absorber Input Streams

Comp	Mol. Wt	F <sub>3</sub>		F <sub>8</sub>		F <sub>3</sub> <sup>1</sup>	
		Mole kmol/ hr	Mass kg/hr	Mole kmol/ hr	Mass kg/hr	Mole kmol/ hr	Mass kg/hr
CO <sub>2</sub>	44	0.0000118	0.0000364	0.0000118	0.0005192	-	-
O <sub>2</sub>	32	0.000526	0.000133	-	-	-	-
N <sub>2</sub>	28	0.000133	0.000526	-	-	-	-
NH <sub>3</sub>	17	-	-	0.00118	0.02006	-	-
H <sub>2</sub> O	18	-	-	0.08496	0.08496	-	0.001015
H <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	61	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carbamate	62	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>			0.0006954		0.01055		0.001015

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220 Table 2: Absorber Output Streams

Comp	Mol. Wt	$F_4^1$		$F_4$		$F_5$	
		Mole kmol/ hr	Mass kg/hr	Mole kmol/ hr	Mass kg/hr	Mole kmol/ hr	Mass kg/hr
CO <sub>2</sub>	44	-	-	0.02006	0.000484	0.0000118	0.0005192
O <sub>2</sub>	32	-	-	0.08406	0.000526	-	-
N <sub>2</sub>	28	-	-	0.000043	0.000133	-	-
NH <sub>3</sub>	17	-	-	-	0.0005713	0.0000118	0.02006
H <sub>2</sub> O	18	-	0.001015	-	0.000286	0.000000701	0.08406
H <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	61	-	-	-	-	0.000000701	0.000043
Carbamate	62	-	-	-	-	0.000000701	0.000053
<b>Total</b>			0.001015		0.00203		0.1047

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222 **3.1.1.2 Knock-Out Drum 1**

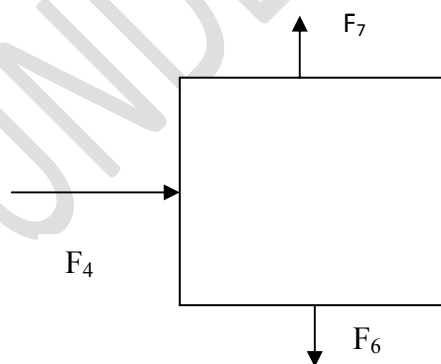
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Fig. 3: Material Balance diagram for Knock Out Drum 1

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Table 3: Knock-Out Drum 1 Calculation Details

Comp	INPUT (F <sub>4</sub> )			OUTPUT (F <sub>6</sub> )		OUTPUT (F <sub>7</sub> )	
	Mol. /wt	Mole Kmol/h	Mass kg/hr	Mole kmol/hr	Mass Kg/hr	Mole Kmol/hr	Mass Kg/hr
CO <sub>2</sub>	44	0.000484	0.000484	-	-	0.000484	0.0005192
O <sub>2</sub>	32	0.000526	0.000133	-	-	0.000526	0.000133
N <sub>2</sub>	28	0.000133	0.000133	-	-	0.000133	0.000133
NH <sub>3</sub>	17	-	-	-	0.0029	-	-
H <sub>2</sub> O	18	-	-	-	0.00116	-	-
Total			0.000203		0.00000000203		0.0011782

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231 **3.1.1.3 Flash Drum**

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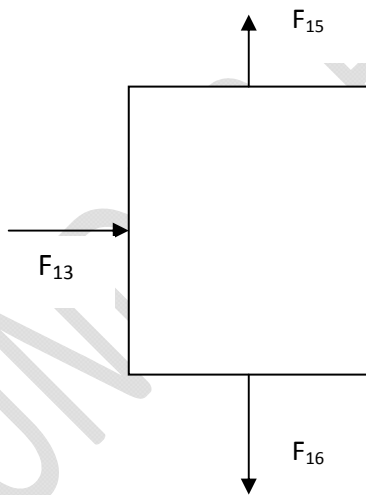
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Fig. 4: Material Balance diagram for Flash Drum

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Table 4: Flash Drum Input and Output Streams

INPUT STREAM	OUTPUT STREAM

	<b>F<sub>13</sub></b>		<b>F<sub>15</sub></b>		<b>F<sub>16</sub></b>	
<b>Comp</b>	<b>Mole kmol/hr</b>	<b>Mass kg/hr</b>	<b>Mole kmol/hr</b>	<b>Mass kg/hr</b>	<b>Mole kmol/hr</b>	<b>Mass kg/hr</b>
CO <sub>2</sub>	-	0.0005192	-	0.0005192	-	-
NH <sub>3</sub>	-	0.02006	-	-	0.86	0.02006
H <sub>2</sub> O	0.000000701	0.08406	-	-	0.000000701	0.08406
H <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	0.00118	0.000043	-	-	0.00118	0.000043
Carbamate	0.00118	0.000053	-	-	0.00118	0.000053
Total		0.1047		0.0005192		0.104216

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#### 242 3.1.1.4 Stripper

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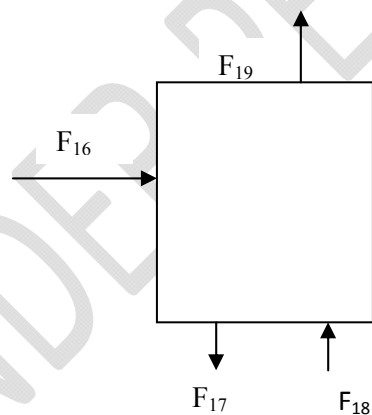
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249 Fig. 5: Material Balance diagram for Stripper

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254 Table 5: Stripper Input and Output Streams

INPUT STREAMS					OUTPUT STREAMS			
	F <sub>16</sub>		F <sub>18</sub>		F <sub>17</sub>		F <sub>19</sub>	
Comp	Mole kmol/ hr	Mass kg/hr	Mole kmol/ hr	Mass kg/hr	Mole kmol/ hr	Mass kg/hr	Mole kmol/ hr	Mass kg/hr
NH <sub>3</sub>	-	0.02006	-	-	-	0.02006	-	-
H <sub>2</sub> O	0.00000701	0.08406	-	0.00004326	-	0.1690	-	0.00004326
H <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	0.00118	0.000043	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carbamate	0.00118	0.000053	-	-	-	-	-	-
CO <sub>2</sub>	-	-	-	-	-	0.0005192	-	0.00055004
Total		0.104216		0.00004326		0.1896		0.0005933

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### 256 3.1.1.5 Knock-Out Drum 2

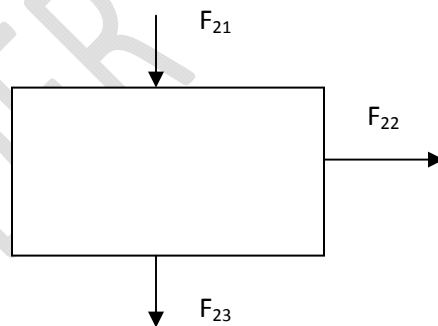
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262 Fig. 6: Material Balance diagram for Knock Out Drum 2

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265 Table 6: Knock-Out Drum 2 Input and Output Streams

INPUT STREAMS				OUTPUT STREAMS			
F <sub>21</sub>				F <sub>22</sub>		F <sub>23</sub>	
Comp	Mole/ wt	Mole kg/hr	Mass kg/hr	Mole kmol/hr	Mass kg/hr	Mole kmol/hr	Mass kg/hr
CO <sub>2</sub>	44	-	0.0005501	-	0.0005501	-	-
H <sub>2</sub> O	18	-	0.00004326	-	-	-	0.00004326
Total			0.0005933		0.0005501		0.00004326

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### 267 3.2 Energy Balance Results

268 The conservation of energy differs from that of mass in that energy is generated (or consumed) in  
 269 a chemical process. Material can change form; new molecular species was formed by chemical  
 270 reactions where the total mass flow into a process unit must be equal to the flow out at the steady  
 271 state. The same is not true of energy. The total enthalpy of the outlet streams will not equal that  
 272 of the inlet streams if energy is generated or consumed in the processed, such as that due to heat  
 273 of reaction.

#### 274 3.2.1 Energy Balance Summary Tables

##### 275 3.2.1.1 Absorber

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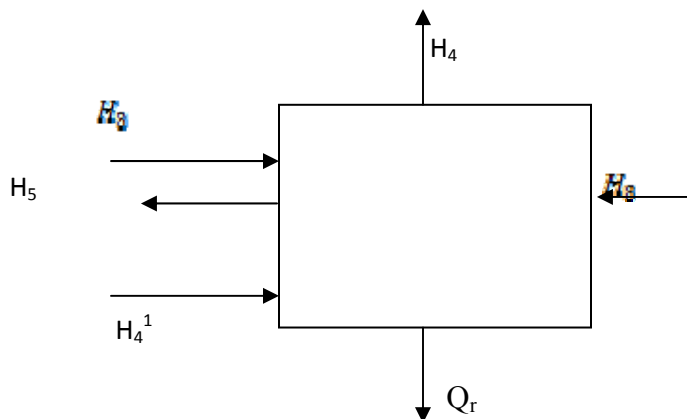


Fig. 7: Energy Balance diagram for Absorber

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284 Where  $Q_p$  = heat of the process, in this case  $Q_p = 0$  (Adiabatic process)

285  $Q_r$  = Heat of the reaction =  $\Sigma - \Delta H_r^0$

286 Total heat input =  $H_3 + H_3^1 + H_8$

287 Total heat output =  $H_5 + H_4 + H_4^1$

288 **Enthalpy Input,  $H_3 = \int_{T_{ref}}^{T_3} \sum_n C_p dT$**

289 Table 7: Absorber Energy Balance Summary

ENERGY	INPUT (KJ/hr)	OUTPUT (KJ/hr)
$H_3$	0.1704	-
$H_4$	-	0.3329
$H_4^1$	-	0.1705
$H_8$	3.9952	-
$H_5$	-	102.4708
$Q_r$	98.8085	-
Total	102.9741	102.9741

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### 291 3.2.1.2 Stripper

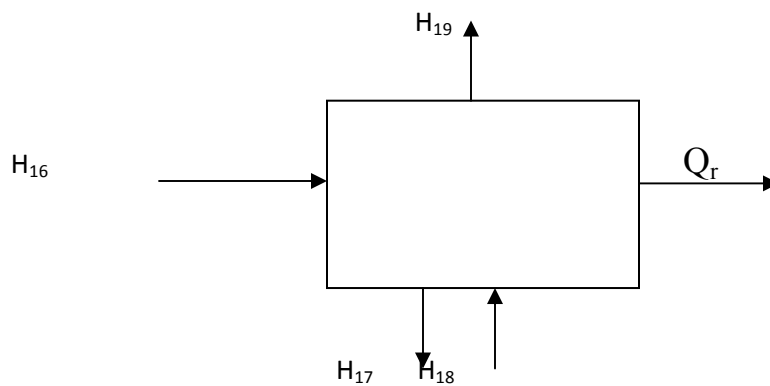
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301 Table 8: Stripper Energy Balance Summary

ENERGY	INPUT (KJ/hr)	OUTPUT (KJ/hr)
H <sub>16</sub>	47.4869	-
H <sub>18</sub>	0.1326	-
H <sub>17</sub>	-	127.77
H <sub>19</sub>	-	- 76.5845
Q <sub>r</sub>		- 98.805
Total	47.6195	- 47.6195

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### 303 3.2.1.3 Gas Cooler 5

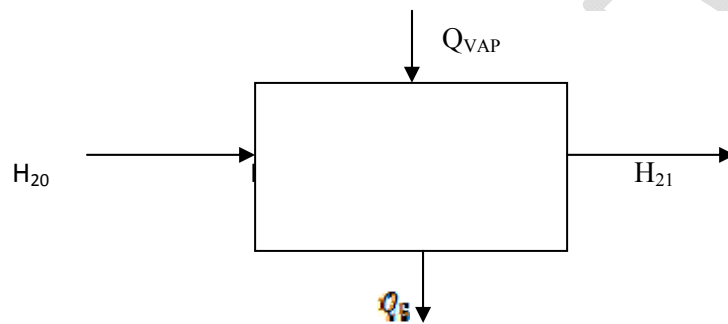
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Fig. 9: Energy Balance diagram for Gas Cooler 5

310 Table 9: Gas Cooler 5 Energy Balance Summary

ENERGY	INPUT (KJ/hr)	OUTPUT (KJ/hr)
H <sub>20</sub>	5.0624	-
H <sub>21</sub>	-	2.5312
Q <sub>VAP</sub>	0.09769	-
Q <sub>5</sub>	-	2.62889
TOTAL	5.16009	5.16009

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### 314 3.2.1.4 Solution Heat Exchanger



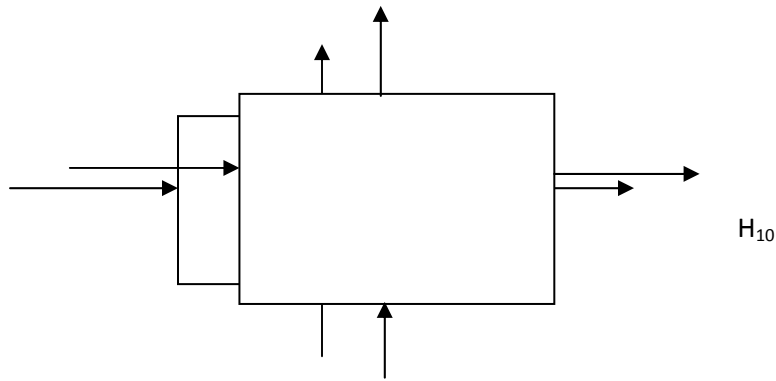
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321 Fig. 10: Energy Balance diagram for Solution Heat Exchanger

322 **Balance**

323  $H_{10} + H_{14} = H_{12} + H_{13}$

324 **ASSUMPTIONS**

- 325 (1) The reboiler only generate steam for desorption process.
- 326 (2) Regenerated Amine solution does not pass through the reboiler so that  $H_{17} = H_{14}$
- 327 (3) That the energy recovery system is dominant.

328 Table 10: Solution Heat Exchanger Energy Balance Summary

ENERGY	INPUT (KJ/hr)	OUTPUT (KJ/hr)
H <sub>10</sub>	102.4708	-
H <sub>12</sub>	-	182.7006
H <sub>13</sub>	-	47.5402
H <sub>14</sub>	127.77	
Total	230.2408	230.2408

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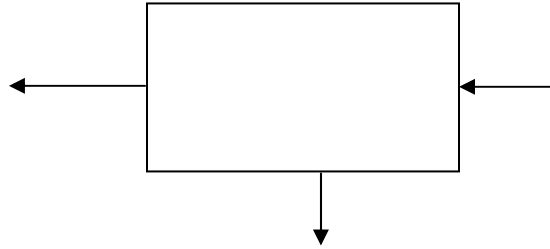
333 **3.2.1.5 Solution Cooler 4**

334

335

336

337



338

Fig. 11: Energy Balance diagram for Solution Cooler 4

339 Hence  $Q_4 = (H_{12} = H_{11}) - H_9$

340 Table 11: Solution Cooler 4 Energy Balance Summary

ENERGY	INPUT (KJ/hr)	OUTPUT (KJ/hr)
H <sub>9</sub>	-	3.9952
H <sub>11</sub>	182.7006	-
Q <sub>4</sub>	-	178.7054
Total	182.7006	182.7006

341

### 342 3.2.1.6 Evaporative Gas Cooler 2

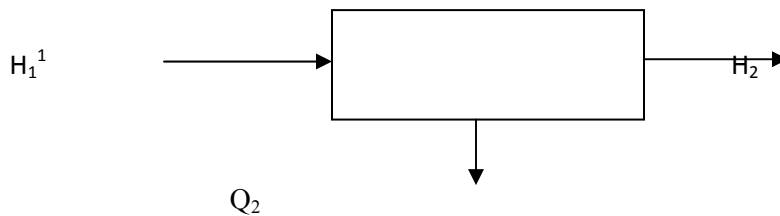
343

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Fig. 12: Energy Balance diagram for Evaporative Gas Cooler 2

349

350

$$H_1 + \int_{30}^{80} \epsilon_n C_p dT$$

351

352

353 Table 12: Gas Cooler Energy Balance Summary

ENERGY	INPUT (KJ/Hr)	OUTPUT (KJ/Hr)
H <sub>1</sub> <sup>1</sup>	0.8712	-
H <sub>2</sub>	-	0.1704
Q <sub>2</sub>	-	0.7008
TOTAL	0.8712	0.8712

354

### 355 3.3 Process Equipment Specifications

#### 356 3.3.1 Absorber Specifications

357 Absorption of CO<sub>2</sub> in 20% w/w NH<sub>3</sub> solution

358 -  $G\delta y = KGa (P_A - P_{AC}) \delta h$

359 P<sub>Ae</sub> = partial pressure that would be in equilibrium with the bulk of liquid, because the liquid  
 360 is a concentrated solution of NH<sub>3</sub>, the partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub>, P<sub>Ae</sub> in equilibrium with it is  
 361 virtually zero. Also P<sub>A</sub> = y<sub>p</sub> where P is the total pressure.

362 -  $G\delta y = KGa y \delta h$

363 Rearranging and integrating

364 
$$\frac{1}{K_{Ga}} = \frac{1}{K_{Ga}} + \frac{H}{K_{La}}$$

365

366 Table 13: Results Summary of Absorber Specifications

Equipment name	Absorber
Type	Wetted wall column
Packing type	Ceramic intalox paddle
Packing size	38mm
Packing factor	170m <sup>-1</sup>
Column area	0.0003142m <sup>2</sup>
Column diameter	0.01m
Height of absorption section	1.0m
Height of wash section	0.2m
Bottom liquid depth	0.000044m
Top gas disengagement height	0.3048m
Packing height	0.235m
Column material	Stainless steel
Design temperature	50°C
Design pressure	1.1atm

Column wall thickness	5mm
Column cover thickness	5mm (terrisspherical)

367 The design of wet scrubbers or any air pollution control device depends on the industrial process  
368 conditions and the nature of the air pollutants involved. Inlet gas characteristics and dust  
369 properties are of primary importance. Scrubber was designed to collect particulate matter and/or  
370 gaseous pollutants (Coulson and Richardson, 2005). Wet scrubbers remove dust particles by  
371 capturing them in liquid droplets. Wet scrubbers remove pollutant gases by dissolving or  
372 absorbing them into the liquid. Droplets that are in the scrubber inlet gas were separated from the  
373 outlet gas stream by means of another device referred to as a mist eliminator or entrainment  
374 separator.

### 375 3.3.2 Evaporative Gas Cooler 2 specifications

376

377 Area of cooler  $A = \frac{\dot{Q}}{U\Delta\zeta_m}$

378

379 The evaporative cooler (also swamp cooler, desert cooler and wet air cooler) is a device that was  
380 designed to cool air through the evaporation of water. Evaporative cooling differs from typical  
381 air conditioning systems which use vapour-compression or absorption refrigeration cycles.  
382 Evaporative cooling works by employing water's large enthalpy of vaporization. The temperature  
383 of dry air can be dropped significantly through the phase transition of liquid water to water  
384 vapour, which requires much less energy than refrigeration.

385

386

387 Table 14: Results summary of Evaporative Gas Cooler 2 specifications

Equipment name	Gas Cooler 2
Type	Horizontal C & R
Sub-type	Split-ring floating Head
Shell type	Split-flow
Number of tubes	130
Number of tubes per pass	65
Surface area of exchange	0.003m <sup>2</sup>
Heat load	0.7008KJ/min
Tube bundle diameter	37.5mm
Shell inside diameter	48.5mm
Bundle clearance	11mm

Overall heat coefficient	0.082w/m <sup>2</sup> °C
Tube-side heat coefficient	11.935 w/m <sup>2</sup> °C
Shell-side heat coefficient	3.1391 w/m <sup>2</sup> °C
Tube-side fouling factor	5000w/m <sup>2</sup> °C
Shell-side fouling factor	5000w/m <sup>2</sup> °C
Tube pitch	25mm
Tube arrangement pattern	Triangular
Baffle spacing	9.7mm
Baffle cut	25%
Baffle type	Segmented
Baffle height	76.275mm
No of support place nods	8
Diameter of nods	9.5mm
Tube-side design press	2.2atm
Tube-side design temp.	70 °C
Tube-side pressure drop	0.215kpa
Shell-side design press	1.1atm
Shell-side design temp.	90 °C
Shell-side design pressure Drop	169.77 kpa
Tube material	Mild steel
Shell material	Stainless steel.

388

### 389 3.3.3 Solution Cooler 2 Specifications

390 Basic design equation

391 
$$\phi = UA\Delta T_m$$

392 **Shell – side heat transfer coefficient**

393 
$$\frac{h_s d_e}{k_f} = J h \times Re \times Pr \times 0.33 \left( \frac{\mu}{\mu_w} \right)^{0.14}$$

394  $h_s$  = shell – side heat transfer coefficient,  $d_e$  = equivalent diameter

395  $J h$  = heat transfer correction factor,  $Re$  = Reynolds number,  $Pr$  = prandth number

396  $\mu$  = viscosity of fluid at mean temp,  $\mu_w$  = viscosity of fluid at wall temp.

397  $(\mu/\mu_w)^{0.14}$  = viscosity correction factor.

398

399 **Overall heat coefficient**

400 Kw for mild steel = 45w/m<sup>0</sup>C (Sinnott and Towler)

401 
$$\frac{1}{U_0} = \frac{1}{h_o} + \frac{1}{h_{od}} + \frac{d_o \ln \frac{d_o}{d_i}}{2kw} + \frac{d_o}{dt} \times \frac{1}{h_i} \times \frac{d_o}{dt} \times \frac{1}{h_{id}}$$

402 Shell – side pressure drop

403 
$$\Delta P_s = 8/f \times \left(\frac{D_s}{d_e}\right) \times \frac{L}{IB} \left(\frac{\rho u s^2}{2}\right) \frac{\mu^{0.14}}{W}$$

404 Neglecting viscosity correction factor

405 From figure 12 (Coulson and Richardson)

406 
$$J f = 5.5 \times 10^{-2}$$

407 Table 15: Results summary of Solution Cooler 2 specifications

Equipment name	Solution cooler
Type	Horizontal shell & tubes
Sub-type	Split-ring floating head
Shell-type	Split-flow
Surface area of exchange	0.304m <sup>2</sup>
Tube-inside diameter	16mm
Tube-outside diameter	20mm
Heat load	178.7054KJ/min
Tube length	4.88m
Tube-sheet	0.03m
Shell inside diameter	87.55mm
Tube bundle diameter	37.55mm
Bundle clearances	50mm
Number of tubes	1
Number of tube pass	1
Number of tubes per pass	1
Baffle spacing	17.51mm
Baffle cut	25 % (segmented type )
Tube pitch	25mm
Tube arrangement pattern	Triangular
Overall heat coefficient	362.9896 w/m <sup>2</sup> °C
Tube-side pressure drop	0.000013kpa
Shell-side pressure drop	243.17kpa

Tube-side design pressure	2.7atm
Shell-side design pressure	2.2atm
Tube-side design temp.	100 °C
Shell-side design temp.	212 °C
Shell wall thickness	5mm
Tube material	Mild steel
Shell material	Stainless steel

408 **3.3.4 Cooler 5 (Condenser 5) Specifications**

409 **A = surface area of exchange.**

410  $= \varphi$

411  $U\Delta T_m$

412 **Tube bundle diameter (D<sub>b</sub>)**

$$D_b = d_o \left( \frac{N_t}{K_1} \right)^{\frac{1}{n_1}}$$

413

414 From Table 15 (Coulson and Richardson), for triangular pitch.

415  $K_1 = 0.175, n_1 = 2.285$

416 **Tube inside coefficient.**

417 Cross – sectional area of one tube

$$= \frac{\pi(d_i^2)}{4}$$

418

419 **Shell – side heat transfer coefficient**

$$h_s = \frac{K_f}{d_e} \times J_h \times Re \times Pr^{0.33} \times \left( \frac{\mu}{\mu_w} \right)^{0.14}$$

420

421 where h<sub>s</sub> = shell – side heat coefficient, K<sub>f</sub> = thermal conductivity of fluid

422 J<sub>h</sub> = heat transfer coefficient, R = Reynolds number, Pr = prandth

423  $\left( \frac{\mu}{\mu_w} \right)^{0.14}$  = viscosity correction factor.

424

425

426

427

428 Table 16: Results summary of Cooler 5 (Condenser 5) specifications

Equipment name	Cooler 5
Type	Shell & tube H.E
Sub-type	Split-ring floating head
Head load	2.62889kJ/min
Shell type	Two shell pass
Number of tubes	1
Number of tubes pass	4
Number of tubes per pass	1
Tube bundle diameter	5.88mm
Surface area of cooler	0.00245m <sup>2</sup>
Shell inside diameter	63.88mm
Baffle spacing	494mm
Baffle cut	25%
Baffle height	0.75 Ds = 47.91mm
Baffle type	Segmented
Tube pitch	31.25mm
Tube pattern	Triangular pattern
No of rods	12
Diameter of rods	9.5mm
Shell-side design press	5.984atm
Tube-side design press	2.75atm
Shell-side design temp.	310 <sup>0</sup> C
Tube-side design temp.	160 <sup>0</sup> C
Shell material	Stainless steel
Overall heat coefficient	3.5142w/m <sup>20</sup> C
Shell wall thickness	5mm
Shell cover thickness	5mm
Tube-side pressure drop	0.0000079kpa
Shell-side pressure drop	791.388kpa.

429

### 430 3.3.5 Knock-Out Drum 1 Specification

431 Vapour–liquid separator was designed to separate a vapour–liquid mixture. The vapour–liquid  
432 separator is also referred to as a flash drum, knock-out drum, knock-out pot, compressor suction  
433 drum or compressor inlet drum (Kister, 1992). The vapour travels gas outlet at a design velocity  
434 which minimizes the entrainment of any liquid droplets in the vapour as it exits the vessel.



435 Table 17: Results summary of Knock Out Drum 1 specification

Equipment name	Knock-out drum I
Type	Vertical vessel
Drum diameter	0.002m
Drum length	0.004m
Mist eliminator type	Knitted wire-mesh
Mist eliminator thickness	0.152m
Clearance b/w liquid surface and centre of nozzle	0.3m
Clearance b/w centre of inlet Nozzle and mist eliminator	0.1524m
Clearance b/w mist eliminator and drum top edge	0.31m
Drum material of construction	Stainless steel
Drum wall thickness	7mm
Head and closure type	Ellipsoidal
Head and closure type	7mm
Mist eliminator material	Stainless steel.

436

437 **3.3.6 Knock-Out Drum 2 Specifications**

438 Table 18: Results summary of Knock Out Drum 2 specifications

Equipment name	Knock-out drum 2
Type	Vertical cylinder vessel
Drum diameter	0.002m

Drum length	1.0m
Mist eliminator type	Knitted wire-mush
Mist eliminator thickness	0.152m
Liquid depth	0.1374m
Clearance b/w liquid surface and centre of nozzle	0.05m
Clearance b/w the centre of nozzle and the mist eliminator	0.1m
Clearance b/w the mist eliminator and drum top	0.31m
Drum wall thickness	5mm
Head and closure type	Tom spherical
Head and closure thickness	5mm
Mist eliminate material	Stainless
Drum material	Stainless steel

439

### 440 3.3.7 Solution Heat Exchanger Specifications

441 A heat exchanger was designed for efficient heat transfer from one medium to another. The  
442 media is separated by a solid wall, so that they never mix, or they may be in direct contact  
443 (Kister, 1992). They are widely used in space heating, refrigeration, air conditioning, power  
444 plants, chemical plants, petrochemical plants, petroleum refineries, natural gas processing, and  
445 sewage treatment.

446 Table 19: Results summary of Solution Heat Exchanger specifications

Equipment name	Solution Heat exchanger
Type	Horizontal S&T
Sub-type	Split-ring floating head
Head load	- 54.9306 KJ/min
Shell type	Split flow
Number of tubes	1
Number of tubes pass	1

Number of tubes per pass	1
Tube bundle diameter	37.5504mm
Surface area of exchanger	0.019m <sup>2</sup>
Shell inside diameter	87.5504mm
Baffle spacing	17.6mm
Baffle cut	25%
Baffle height	135mm
Baffle type	Segmented
Tube pitch	25mm
Tube pattern	Triangular pattern
No of rods	8
Bundle diameter	124mm
Shell inside diameter	180mm
Tube outside diameter	20mm
Tube inside diameter	16mm
Tube length	4.88mm
Tube-sheet thickness	0.03m
Bundle clearance	50mm
Diameter of rods	9.5mm
Shell-side design press	1.1atm
Tube-side design press	1.1atm
Shell-side design temp.	160 <sup>0</sup> C
Tube-side design temp.	360 <sup>0</sup> C
Shell material	Stainless steel
Overall heat coefficient	300w/m <sup>2</sup> <sup>0</sup> C
Shell wall thickness	5mm
Tube -side coefficient	261.13w/m <sup>2</sup> <sup>0</sup> C
Shell-side coefficient	361.324w/m <sup>2</sup> <sup>0</sup> C
Shell cover thickness	5mm

447

### 448 3.3.8 Flash Drum Specifications

449 Table 20: Results summary of Flash Drum specifications

Equipment name	Flash drum
Type	Vertical gas
Drum diameter	Liquid separator

Drum length	0.002m
Mist dominator type	Knitted wore mesh
Mist dominator thickness	0.152m
Liquid depth	0.30m
Clearance between liquid surface and centre of nozzle	0.30m
Clearance between centre wilet nozzle & mist dominator	0.61m
Clearance between mist dominator and drum top	0.31m
Drum material of construction	Stainless steel
Head and closure type	Ellipsoidal

450

451 **4. Conclusion:**

452 The design of a plant to recover CO<sub>2</sub> from spent air from aerobic fermentation was successfully  
 453 carried out. Material and energy balances were carried out on each equipment and then over the  
 454 entire process. These balances were used in the chemical and mechanical engineering design of  
 455 the following equipment: absorber, knock out drum, flash drum, gas cooler, reboiler and  
 456 stripping column.

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