

# INNOVATIVE MANAGEMENT OF THE WASTEWATER PRODUCED IN THE H<sub>2</sub>S SCAVENGING OF NATURAL GAS

**MARCO MASCHIETTI**

Produced Water Club Meeting (Online)

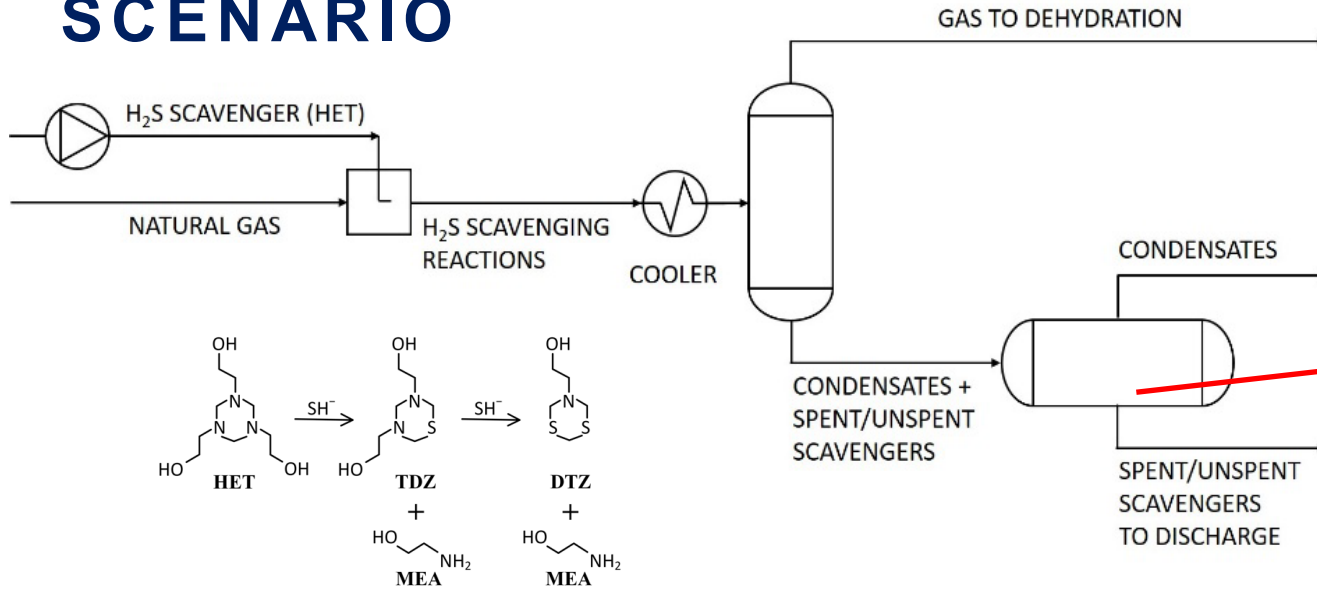
30 November 2023



# AGENDA

- Introduction to the ZeroH<sub>2</sub>S idea
- Membrane separation
- Hydrothermal oxidation
- New method for on-line analysis of spent/unspent H<sub>2</sub>S scavengers

# GAS-PHASE SCAVENGING OFFSHORE: CURRENT SCENARIO



**Opportunity for EIF reduction:** Spent and Unspent H<sub>2</sub>S scavengers (SUS) often discharged into the sea: small quantity (<0.1% of total water discharge) but high EIF (10-20% of total water discharge).

**Opportunity for Cost Reduction:** SUS contains large amounts of unreacted MEA-triazine. TDZ (present but difficult to quantitate) has also scavenging potential.

## SUS Samples (Danish North Sea, 2014 to date)

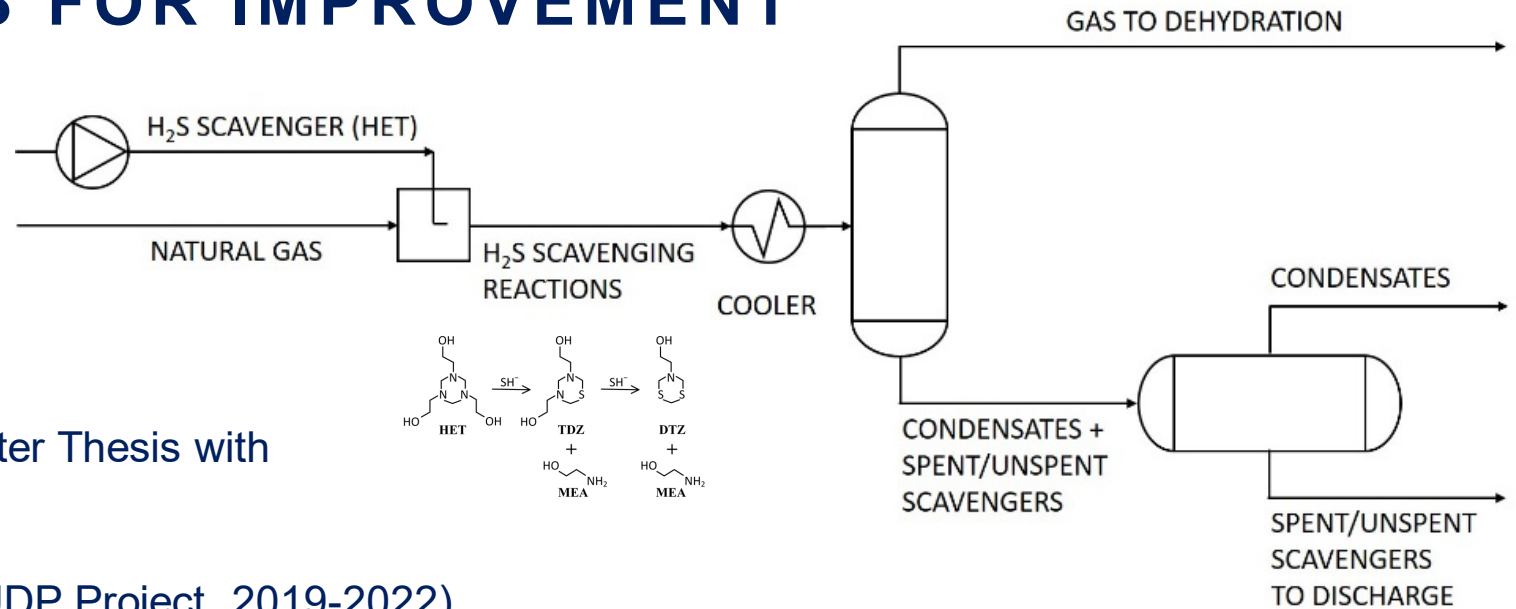
pH	8.9 – 9.6
COD	(120 – 320) g/L
Eco-toxicity	500 (marine bacteria) – 2000 (algae) times higher than Produced Water
TOC	(36 – 123) g/L
MEA-Triazine (HET)	(35 – 105) g/L
Monoethanolamine (MEA)	(8 – 19) g/L
MEA-Dithiazine (DTZ)	(7 – 25) g/L
MEA-Thiadiazine (TDZ)	substantial



# POSSIBLE STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

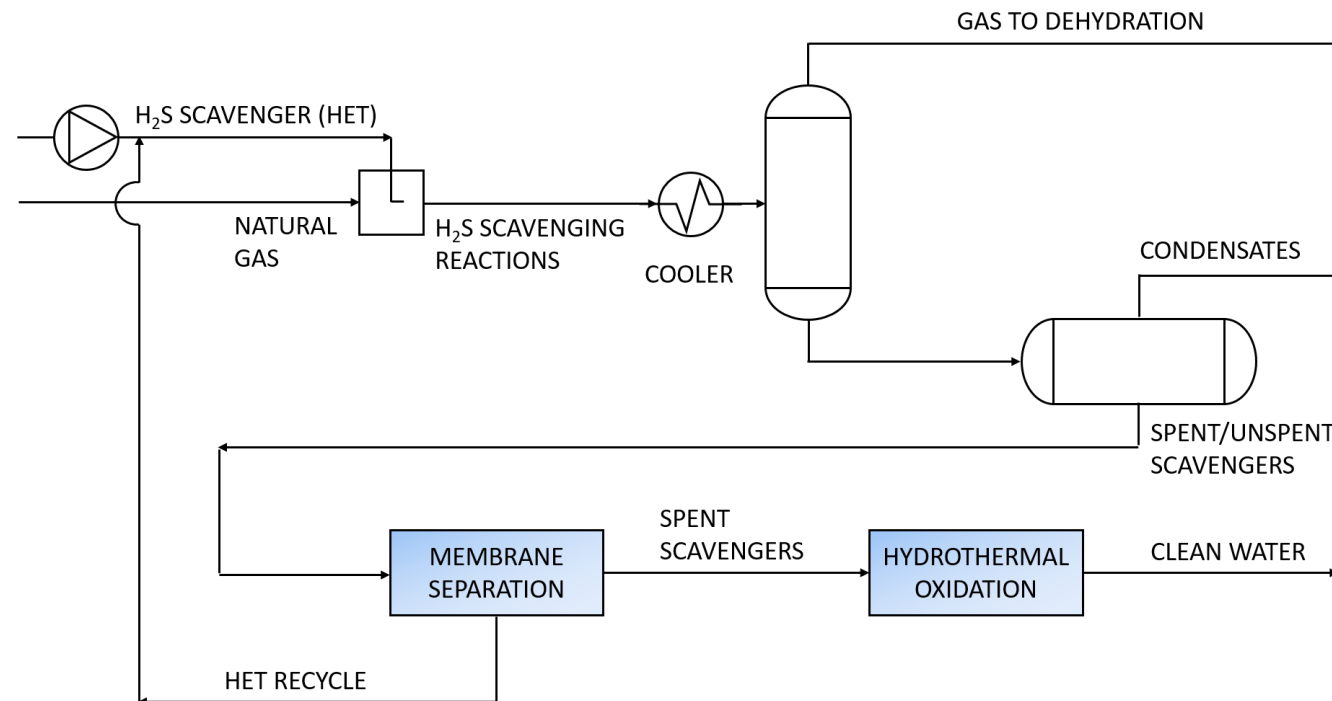
## AAU COMMITMENT

- Optimizing the injection process
  - (i) Sensors and Black Box approaches (2 Master Thesis with TotalEnergies, 1 completed, 1 on-going)
  - (ii) Physicochemical modelling (SCAVOP – EUDP Project, 2019-2022)
- Green chemicals to substitute MEA-triazine (funded by DTU Offshore, on-going)
- Recover and recycle unspent MEA-triazine and on-site treatment of the residual wastewater before discharge (ZeroH2S projects, funded by DTU Offshore, on-going)



# THE ZERO H<sub>2</sub>S IDEA

- Recovery of MEA-triazine (HET), and possibly other species with H<sub>2</sub>S scavenging potential, by membrane nanofiltration and recycle
- Hydrothermal Oxidation (HTO) for removing toxicity of the water discharge



# LAB-SCALE PROOF-OF-CONCEPT (2020-2022)

## Experimental tests on commercial membranes for removal of SUS organics and separation of HET

Separation and Purification Technology 277 (2021) 119641



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Separation and Purification Technology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/seppur](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/seppur)



Performance evaluation of membrane filtration for treatment of H<sub>2</sub>S scavenging wastewater from offshore oil and gas production

Mahdi Nikbakht Fini, Nikolaos Montesantos, Marco Maschietti, Jens Muff<sup>\*</sup>



Journal of Environmental Chemical Engineering 10 (2022) 108735



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Journal of Environmental Chemical Engineering

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jece](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jece)



Facile fabrication of high performance nanofiltration membranes for recovery of triazine-based chemicals used for H<sub>2</sub>S scavenging

Alaa Khalil<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Nikolaos Montesantos<sup>a</sup>, Marco Maschietti<sup>a</sup>, Jens Muff<sup>a,b</sup>



## Experimental tests on hydrothermal oxidation of SUS

Chemical Engineering Journal 427 (2022) 131020



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Chemical Engineering Journal

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/cej](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/cej)



Proof of concept of hydrothermal oxidation for treatment of triazine-based spent and unspent H<sub>2</sub>S scavengers from offshore oil and gas production

Nikolaos Montesantos, Mahdi Nikbakht Fini, Jens Muff, Marco Maschietti<sup>\*</sup>



Water Research 230 (2023) 119507



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Water Research

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/watres](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/watres)



Reducing the environmental impact of offshore H<sub>2</sub>S scavenging wastewater via hydrothermal oxidation

Nikolaos Montesantos<sup>a</sup>, Lars M. Skjolding<sup>b,\*</sup>, Anders Baun<sup>b</sup>, Jens Muff<sup>a</sup>, Marco Maschietti<sup>a,\*</sup>



# ADVANCEMENT IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE H<sub>2</sub>S SCAVENGING REACTION

## Experimental Study of the Aqueous Phase Reaction of Hydrogen Sulfide with MEA-Triazine Using In Situ Raman Spectroscopy

Iveth Romero, Sergey Kucheryavskiy, and Marco Maschietti\*

Cite This: *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.* 2021, 60, 15549–15557

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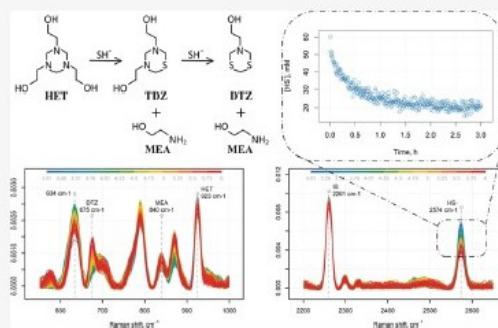
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Supporting Information

**ABSTRACT:** A method for quantitation of bisulfide in the aqueous phase reactions of H<sub>2</sub>S scavenging with MEA-triazine is proposed. The method is based on time-resolved in situ Raman spectroscopy, thus allowing in situ monitoring of the reactions. The method is applied to obtain the kinetic data of the reactions in batch configuration at room temperature for initial pH values of 9, 10, and 11 and MEA-triazine/bisulfide initial concentration ratios in the range of 0.5–10. The pH increases remarkably during the reactions, causing a substantial decrease in the rate of disappearance of bisulfide. If the system is reacidified, complete depletion of bisulfide can be achieved, evidencing the irreversibility of the scavenging reactions. The results are also supported by a qualitative analysis of the trends of the characteristic Raman peaks of MEA-triazine, dithiazine, and monoethanolamine. These trends are in line with the currently accepted reaction scheme, consisting of two scavenging reactions in series.



## Temperature- and pH-Dependent Kinetics of the Aqueous Phase Hydrogen Sulfide Scavenging Reactions with MEA-Triazine

Iveth Romero, Fernando Montero, Sergey Kucheryavskiy, Reinhard Wimmer, Anders Andreasen, and Marco Maschietti\*

Cite This: *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.* 2023, 62, 8269–8280

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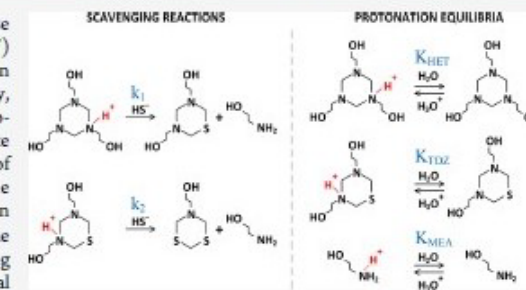
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**ABSTRACT:** A novel kinetic model for the aqueous phase hydrogen sulfide scavenging reactions using MEA-triazine (HET) is proposed. The assumptions of the model are based on experimental observations obtained by NMR spectroscopy, supporting the existence of 3,5-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)hexahydro-1,3,5-thiadiazine (TDZ) as a quantitative reaction intermediate and showing the protonation behavior of HET and the lack of protonation of 5-(2-hydroxyethyl)hexahydro-1,3,5-dithiazine (DTZ). Experimental kinetic data were obtained with a new in situ Raman spectroscopy setup, which enabled monitoring the time-variation of bisulfide concentrations in a batch stirred reacting system at temperatures of up to 75 °C for HET/HS<sup>-</sup> initial concentration ratios from 0.5 to 5. The optimal model parameters were regressed from the experimental data using a brute force optimization method. The rate constants of the first and second scavenging reactions were estimated to be 0.435 and 0.004 L mol<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> at 25 °C, and the activation energies were 68 and 57 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>, respectively.





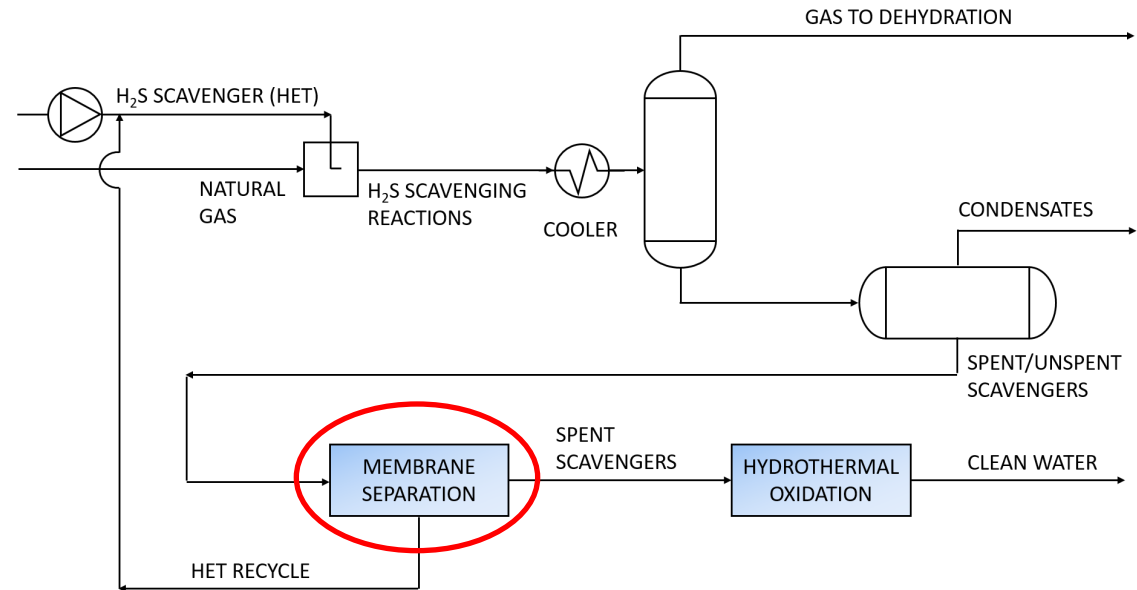
# AGENDA

➤ Introduction to the ZeroH<sub>2</sub>S idea

➤ **Membrane separation**

➤ Hydrothermal oxidation

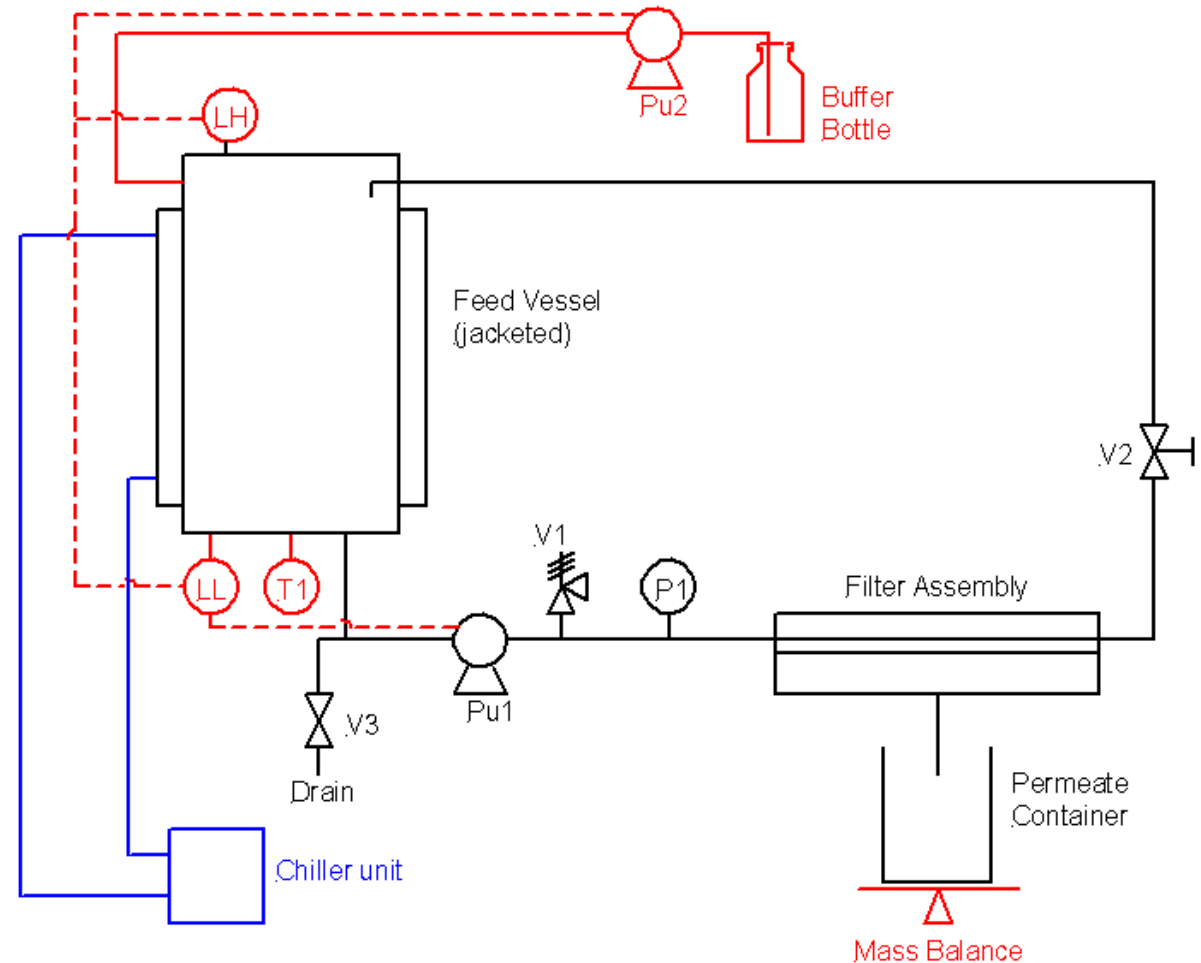
➤ New method for on-line analysis of spent/unspent H<sub>2</sub>S scavengers





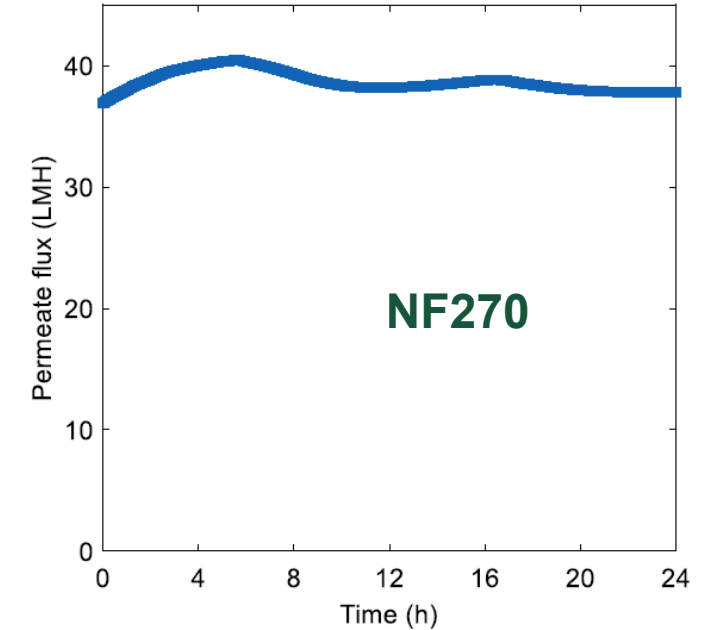
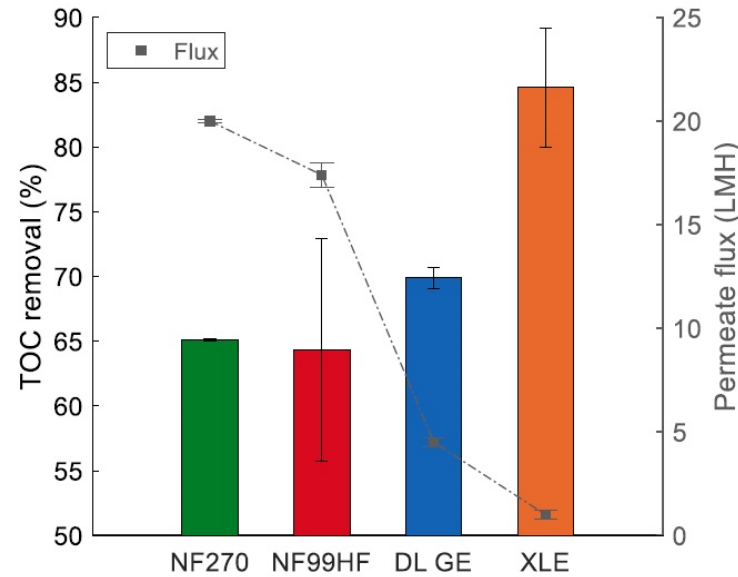
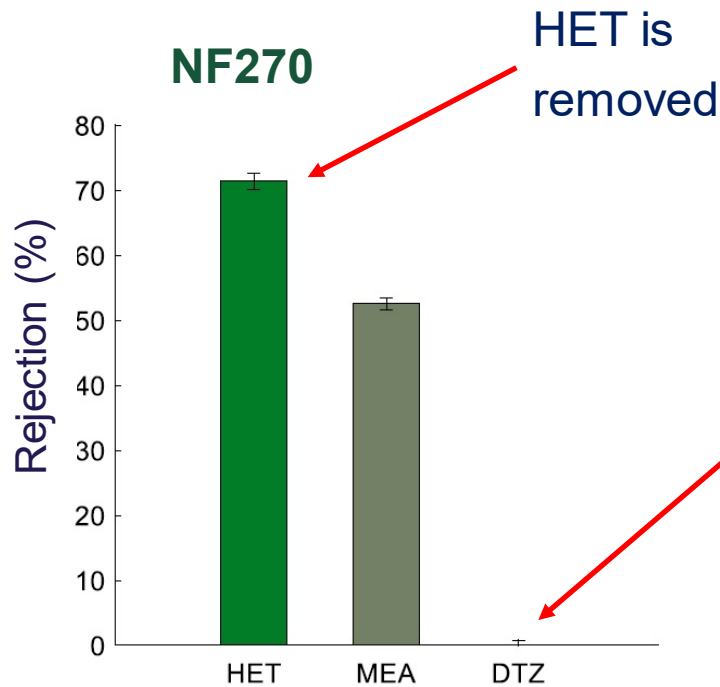
# CROSS-FLOW FILTRATION (LAB SCALE)

- 30 bar and 40°C
- Flow rate: 100 L/h
- Flat sheet membrane
- Recovery of 250 mL of permeate out of 500 mL of feed ( $P/F = 0.5$ ) or recycle of permeate for 24 h fouling tests
- Duration: (2 – 10) hours



# MEMBRANE RECOVERY OF MEA-TRIAZINE – KEY RESULTS

The separation HET/DTZ is possible!

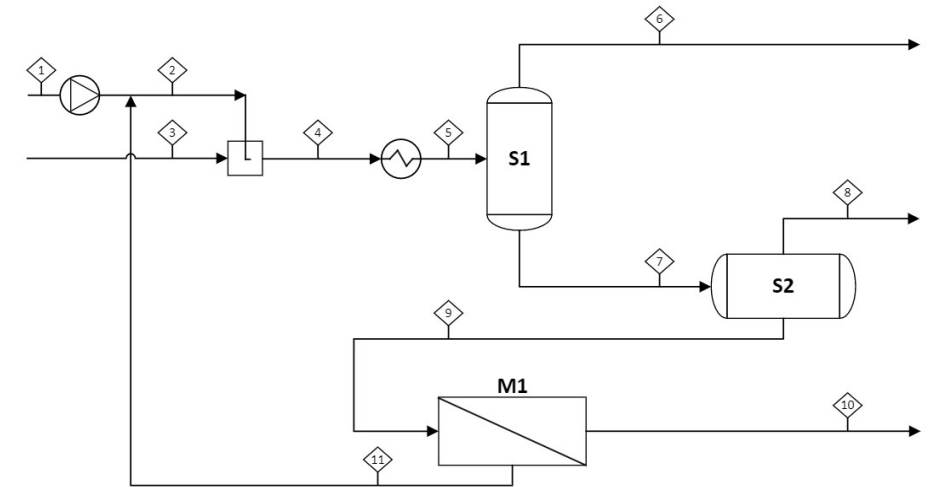
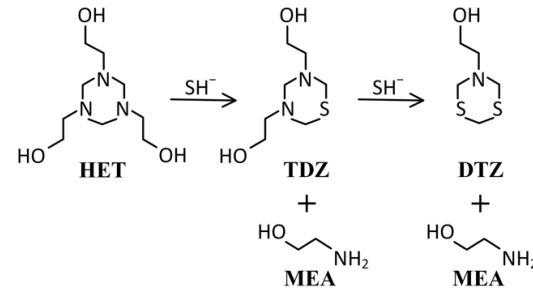


- NF270: best compromise between recovery, selectivity and permeability
- No evidence of fouling up to 24 hours of operation

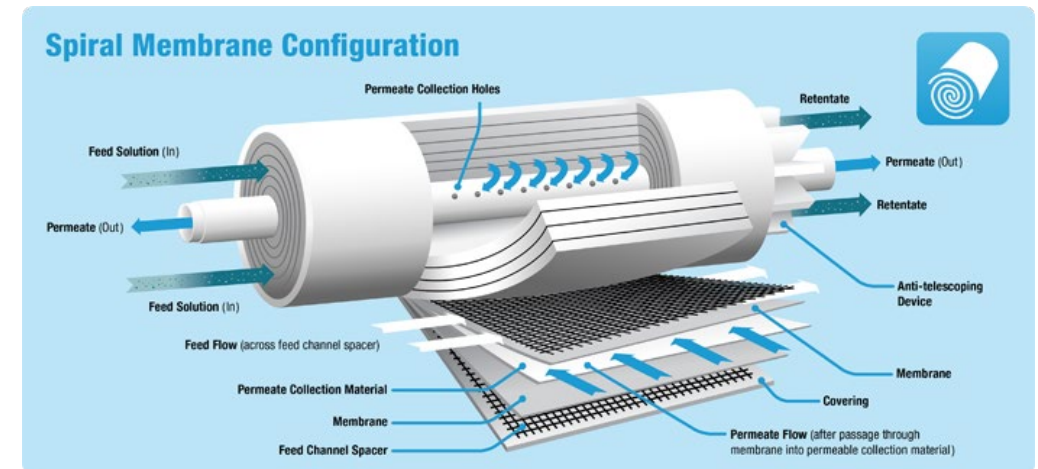
# MEMBRANE FILTRATION – BASIC DESIGN: ASSUMPTIONS

## Addition of an NF unit – Design Assumptions

- It is assumed that all the excess MEA-triazine is available for potential recovery.



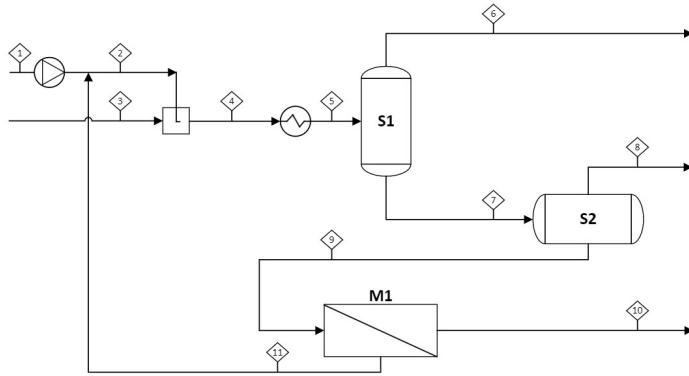
- One membrane module (spiral wound) for permeate-to-feed ratio 0.5
- TMP 30 bar
- Rejection of MEA-triazine: 70%





# MEMBRANE FILTRATION – BASIC DESIGN RESULTS

## Resource recovery and reduction of discharge:



Current dosage (kg <sub>scaV</sub> /kg <sub>H2S</sub> )	Reduction of HET consumption	Reduction of discharge of organics
12	40%	34%
20	58%	53%
40	72%	68%

## Size and cost:

- To get an idea: the photo shows a 24 m<sup>3</sup>/day NF unit (2 modules)
- Cost of the membrane unit in the photo (incl. pump, gauges, membranes, and controls, 2-6 bar, no ATEX, VAT excl.): 24 000 EUR (Silhorko)
- Pump energy requirement (if needed): in the order of 1 kW



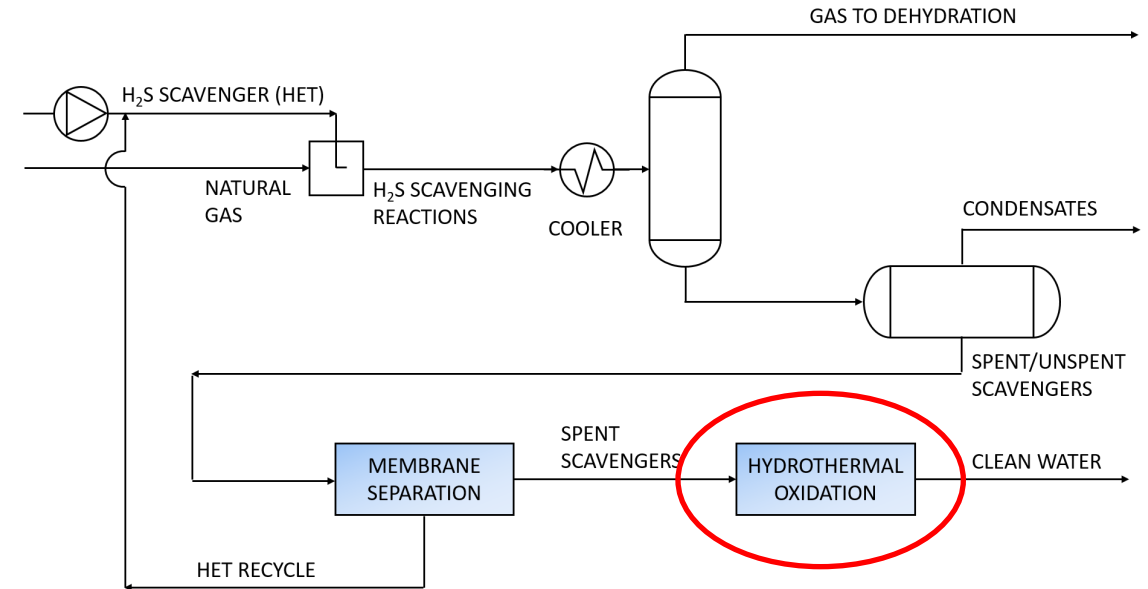
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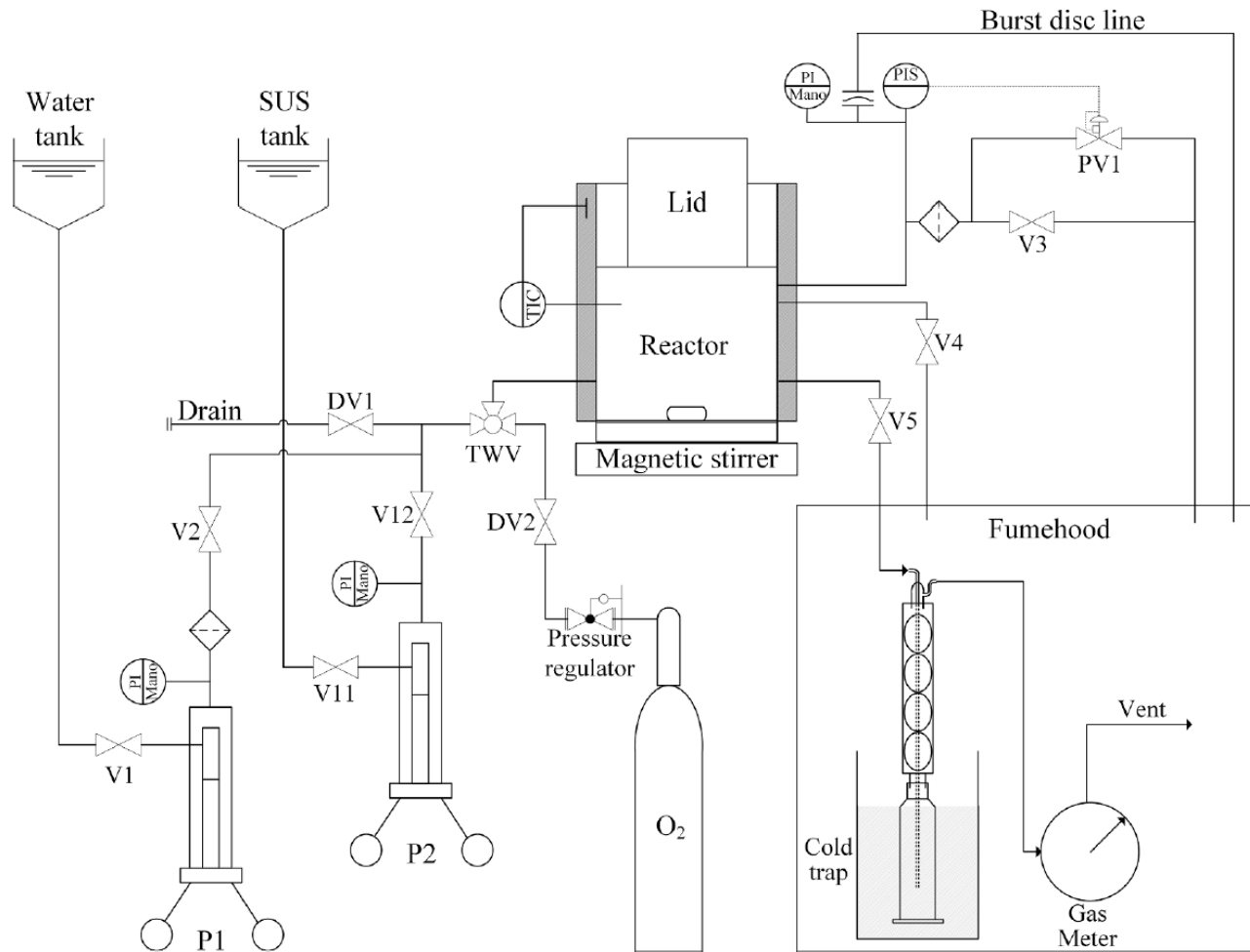
➤ Membrane separation

➤ **Hydrothermal oxidation**

➤ New method for on-line analysis of spent/unspent H<sub>2</sub>S scavengers



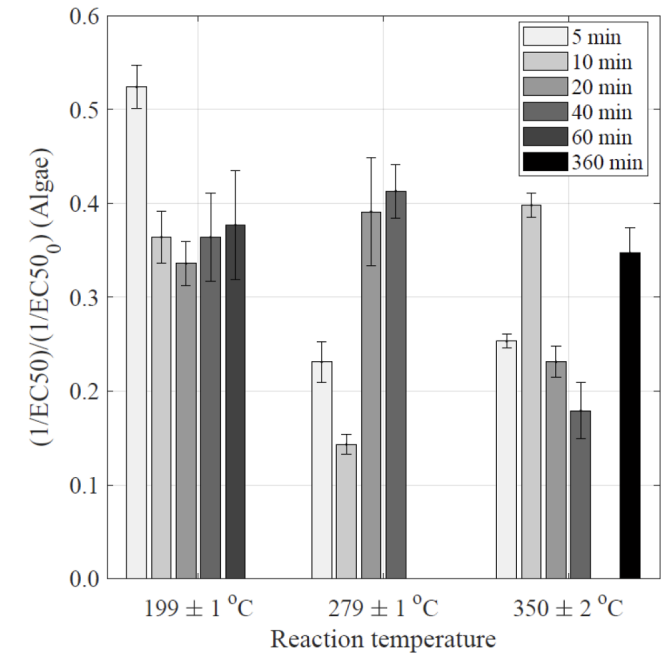
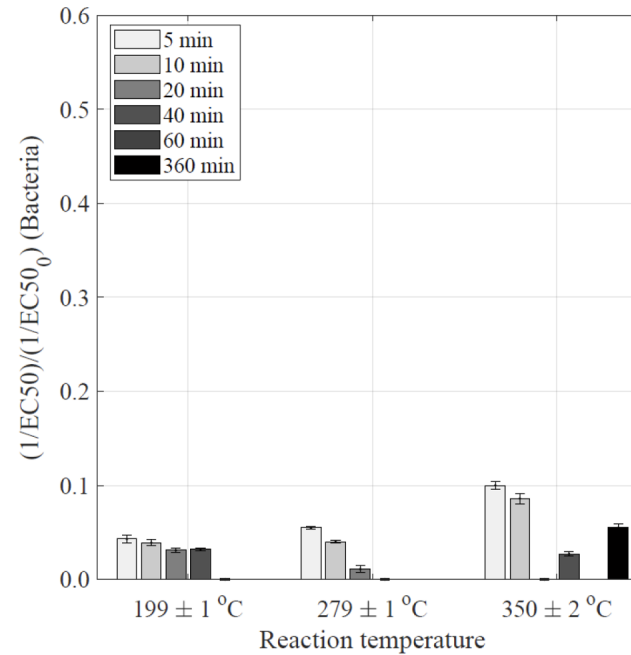
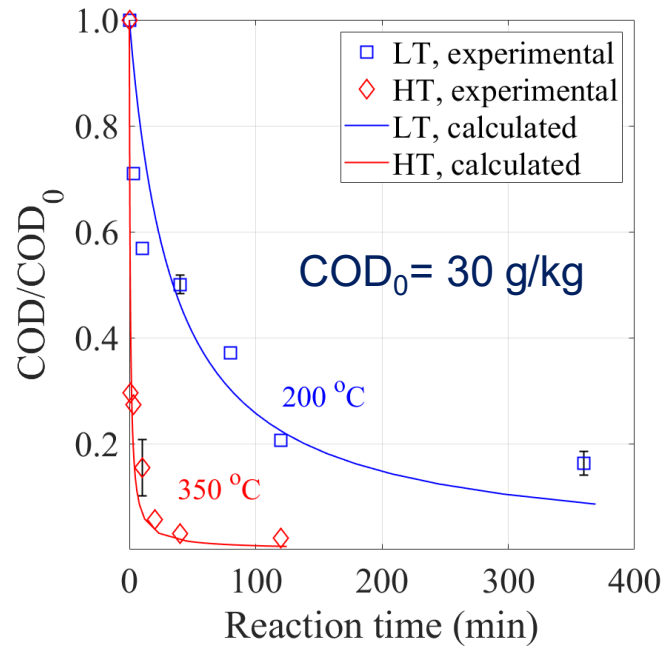
# HYDROTHERMAL OXIDATION (LAB SCALE - BATCH)



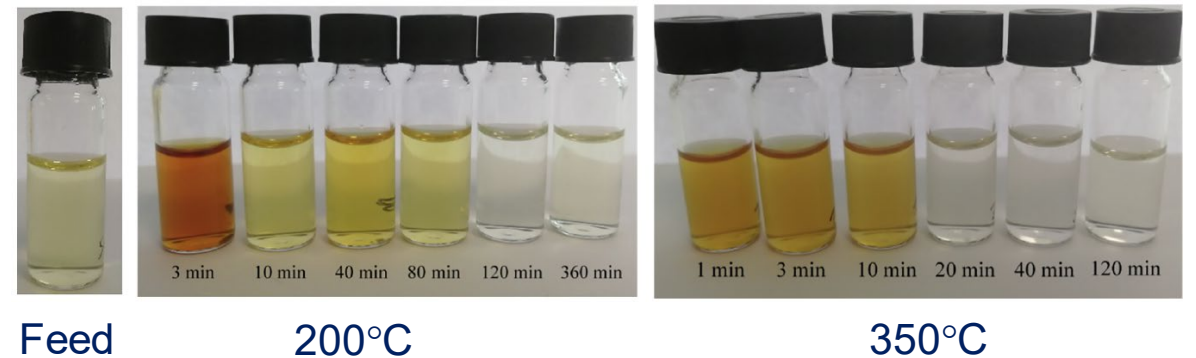
- Low temperature experiments: 200°C and 70-90 bar
- High temperature experiments: 350°C and 210-250 bar
- Excess of oxygen
- Reaction time: from 1 to 360 min



# REMOVAL OF TOXICITY VIA HYDROTHERMAL OXIDATION



- HET, MEA, and DTZ rapidly decompose
- COD reduction ca. 70 times faster at 350°C
- C, N, S converted into  $CO_2$ , ammonium, nitrate, and sulfate
- Substantial eco-toxicity reduction: >90% towards marine bacteria, 48% to 86% towards algae



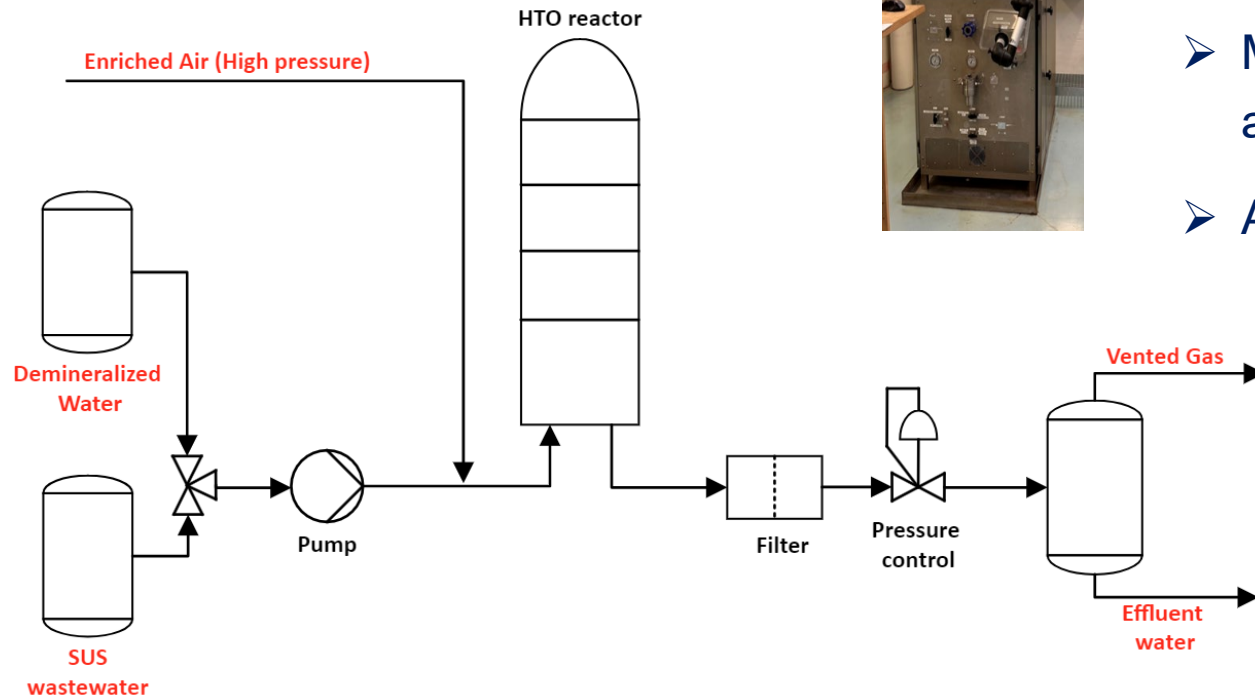
# HYDROTHERMAL OXIDATION (CONTINUOUS FLOW)

Experimental campaign on-going in Aquarden Technologies.



**Very good news so far:**

- Operability proved so far up to feed COD 200 g/L
- COD reductions in the range 93-98%
- Main products: sulfate, ammonium (and nitrate), and CO<sub>2</sub>
- Autothermal process and excess heat generated



**Possible problems with the vent gas:**

- H<sub>2</sub>S (10<sup>2</sup> ppm) detected in the vent gas, but only at low temperature (280°C)
- CO (10<sup>3</sup> ppm) in the vent gas, at all temperatures.

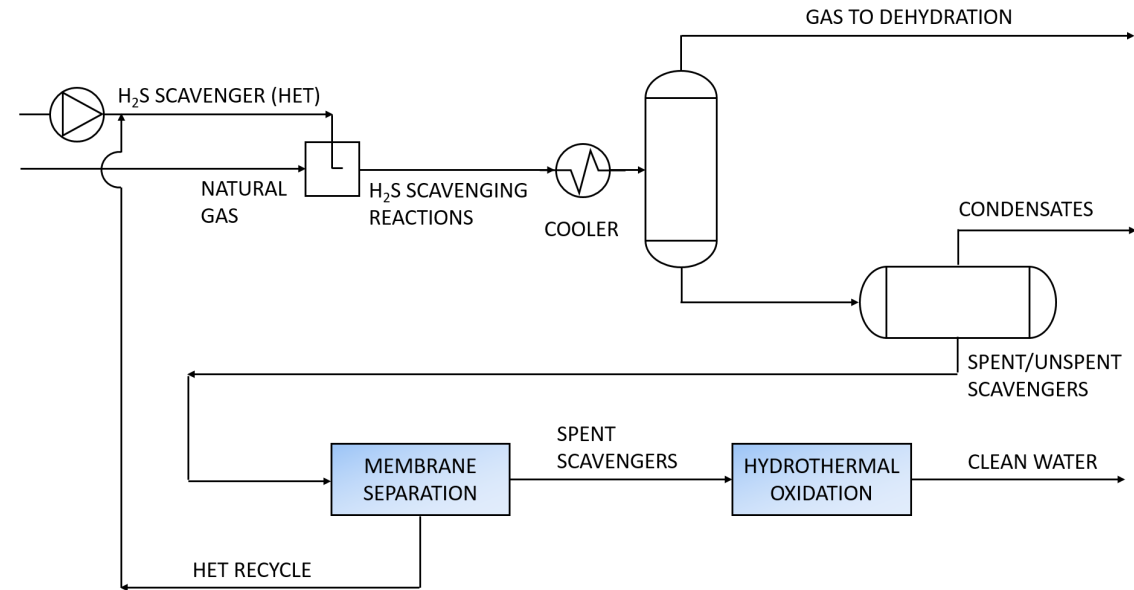
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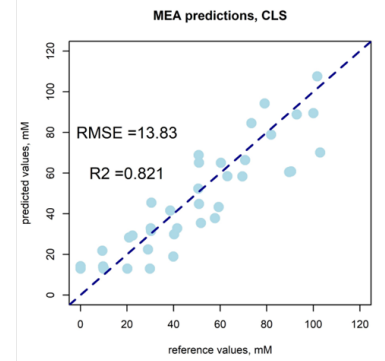
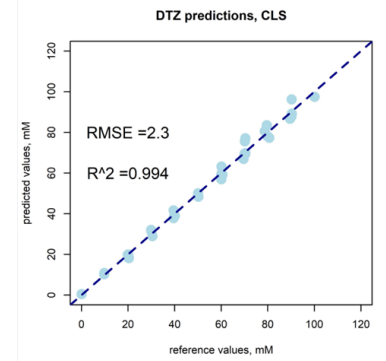
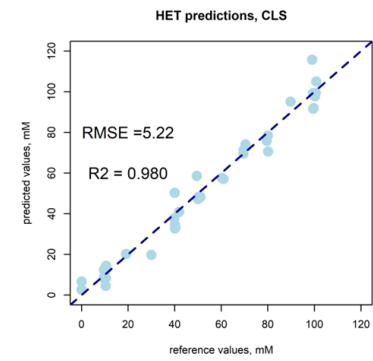
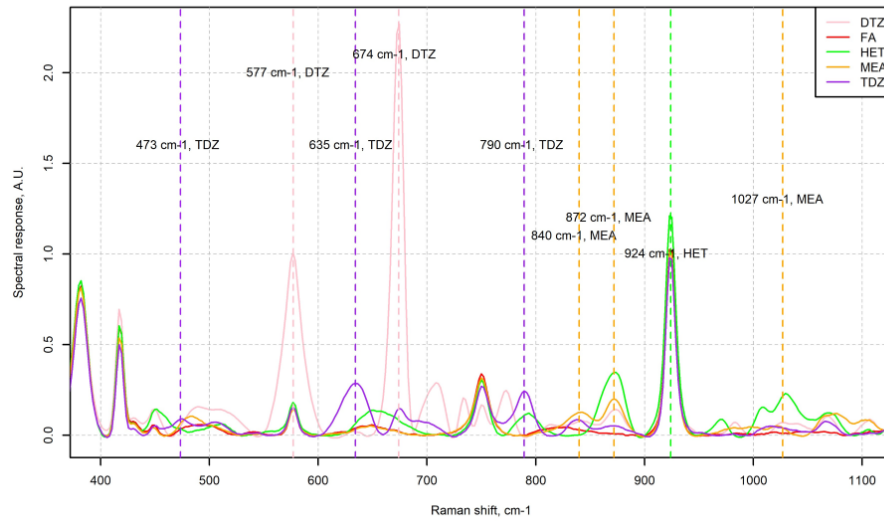
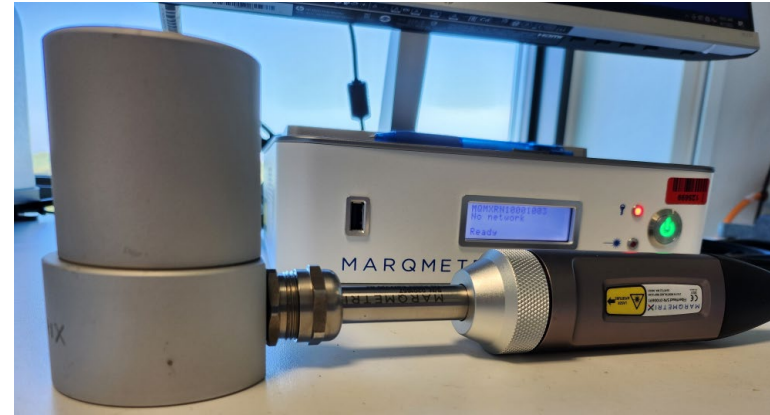
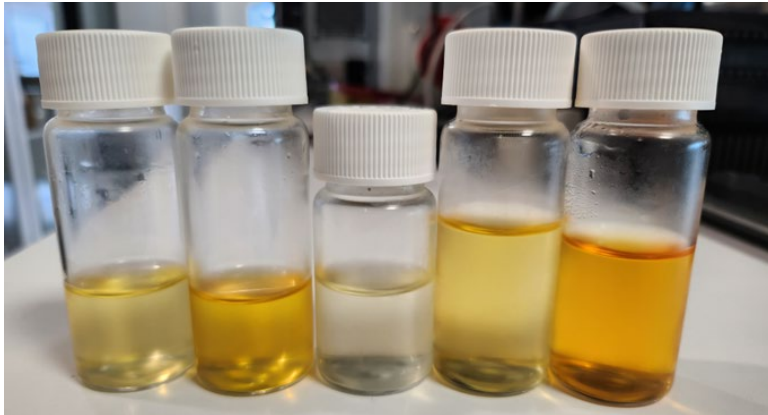
➤ Hydrothermal oxidation

➤ New method for on-line analysis of spent/unspent H<sub>2</sub>S scavengers





# ANALYSIS OF SPENT/UNSPENT SCAVENGERS BY MEANS OF RAMAN SPECTROSCOPY



# THE ZEROH2S TEAM



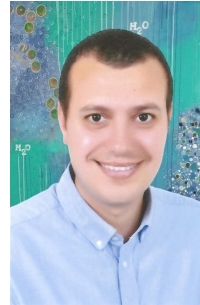
**Marco Maschietti**  
Associate Professor,  
HPHT processes, topside offshore  
oil and gas



**Jens Muff**  
Associate Professor  
Advanced oxidation and membrane  
processes



**Sergey Kucheryavskiy**  
Associate Professor  
Spectroscopy and chemometrics



**Alaa Khalil**  
Postdoc  
Chemical Science and Engineering  
Membrane processes



**Karolina Agata Szlek**  
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**Alessandro Perrucci**  
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Hydrothermal oxidation



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Collaborations:



**DTU Offshore**

Danish Offshore Technology Centre