

Liquid transportation fuels by biomass steam gasification – Status of Winddiesel and scaling up

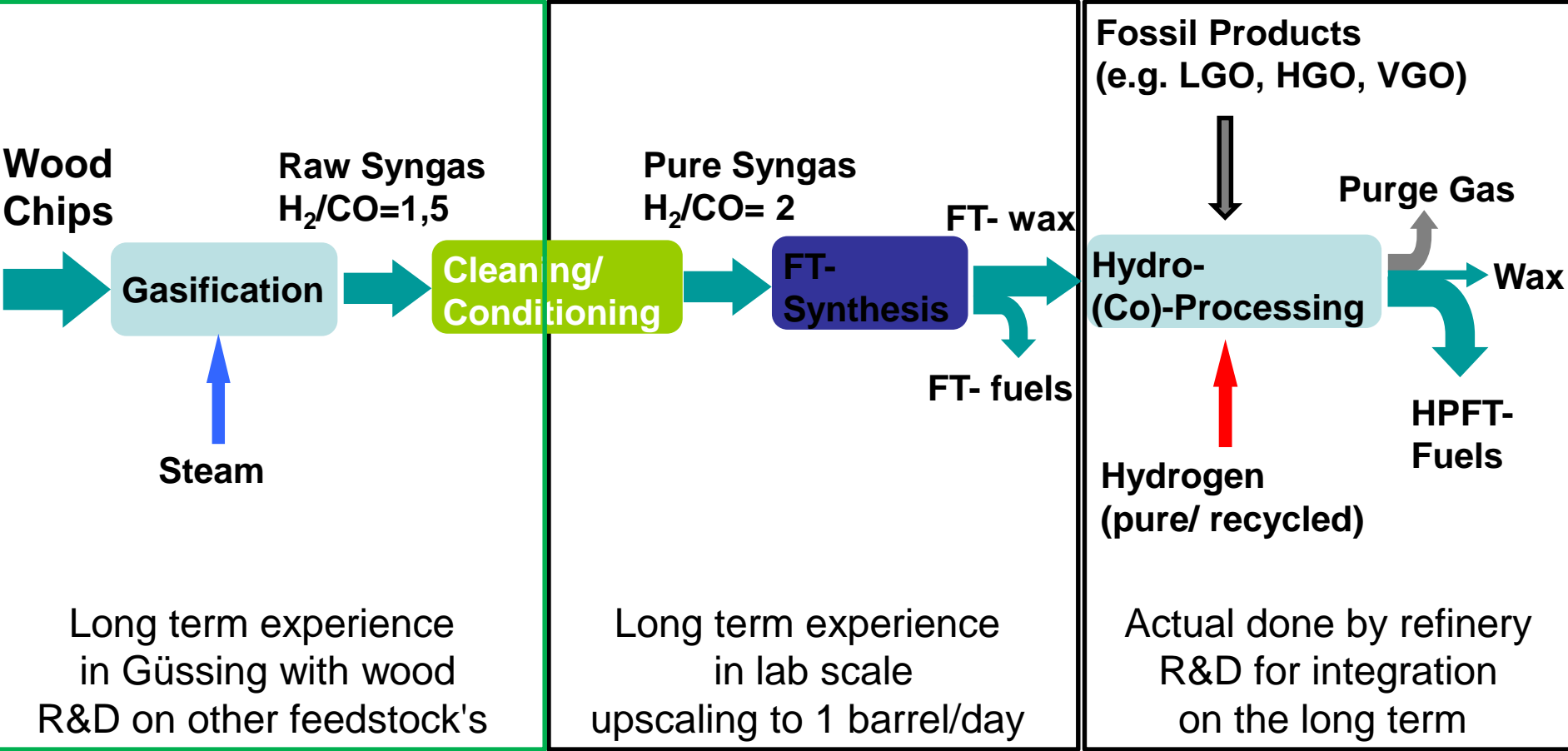
Dr. Reinhard Rauch

Bioenergy 2020+

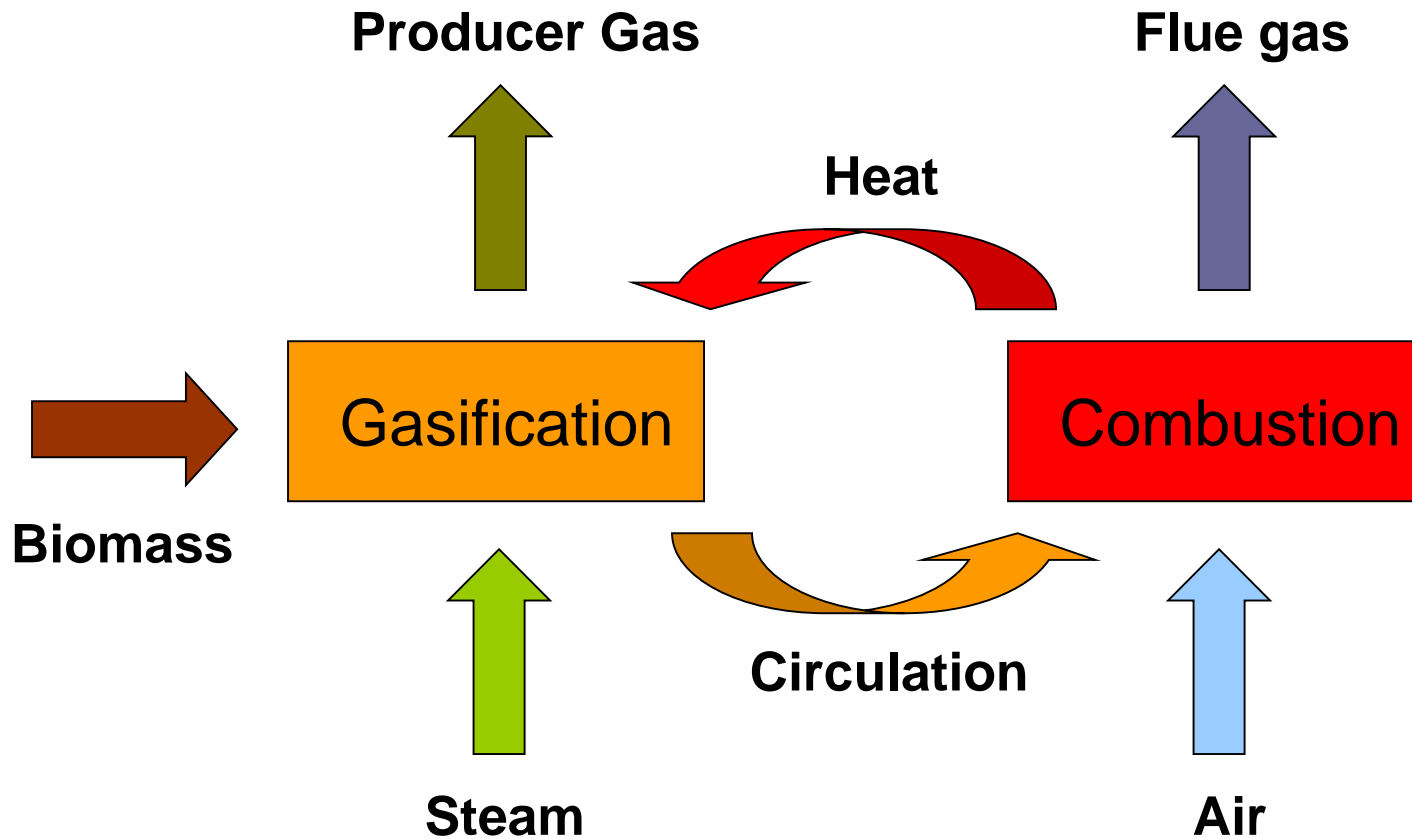
Vienna, University of Technology

9th International Seminar on Gasification

19th October 2016

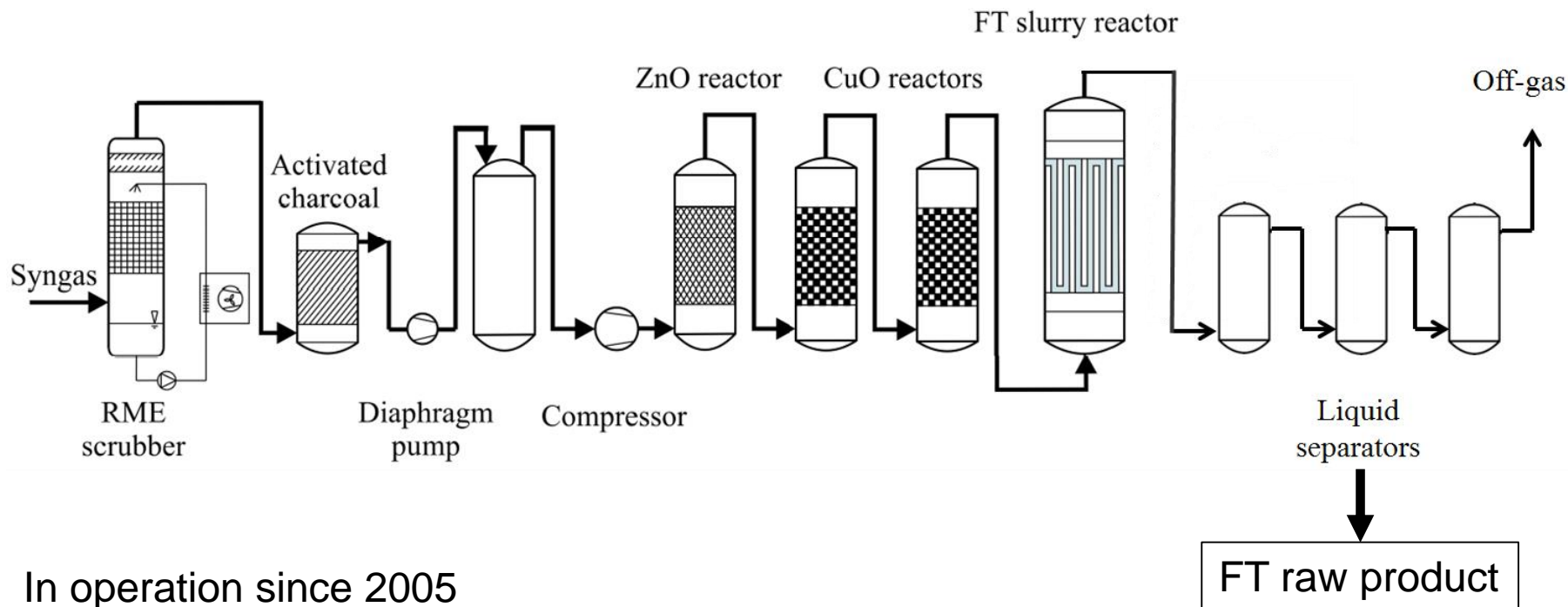


Gasification Concept of Dual Fluid



Location	Usage / Product	Fuel / Product MW, MW	Start up	Supplier	Status
Güssing, AT	Gas engine	8.0 _{fuel} / 2.0 _{el}	2002	AE&E, Repotec	Operational
Oberwart, AT	Gas engine / ORC / H ₂	8.5 _{fuel} / 2.8 _{el}	2008	Ortner Anlagenbau	(Operational)
Villach, AT	Gas engine	15 _{fuel} / 3.7 _{el}	2010	Ortner Anlagenbau	On hold
Senden/Ulm, DE	Gas engine / ORC	14 _{fuel} / 5 _{el}	2011	Repotec	Operational
Burgeis, IT	Gas engine	2 _{fuel} / 0.5 _{el}	2012	Repotec, RevoGas	(Operational)
Göteborg, Sweden	BioSNG	32 _{fuel} /20 _{BioSNG}	2013	Repotec/ Valmet	Operational
California	R&D	1 MW _{fuel}	2013	GREG	Operational
Gaya, France	BioSNG R&D	0,5 MW _{fuel}	2016	Repotec	Commissioning
Thailand	Gas engine	4 _{fuel} / 1 _{el}	2016	GREG	Under construction

FT lab scale plant



In operation since 2005

5-10kg/day of FT raw product

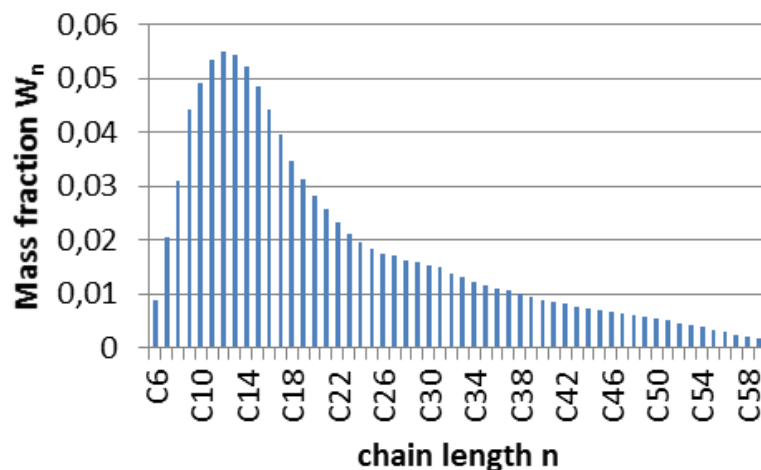
Slurry reactor, because of excellent heat transfer and easy scaling up

Gas treatment removes Sulphur to below 10ppb

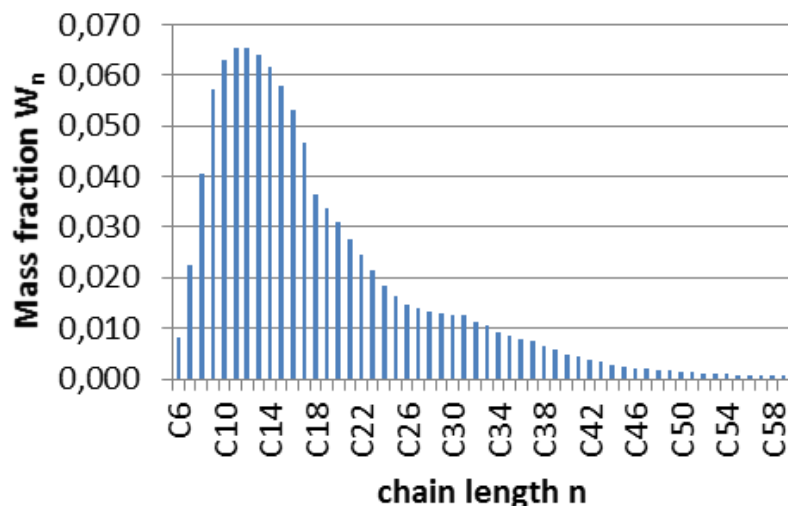
Cobalt and Iron- based catalyst were tested

Fully automatic

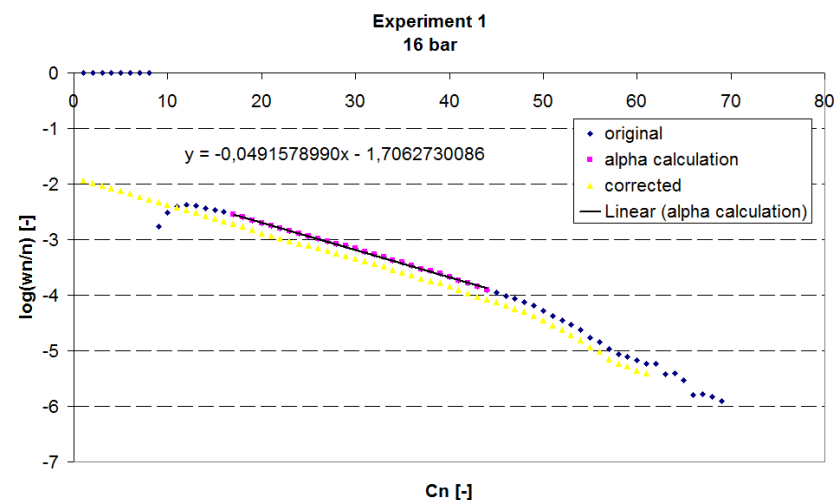
Product distribution 1000 h cat A



Product distribution 500 h catalyst D



Experimental data for input in
simulation of M&E balances



$$W_n = n(1 - \alpha)^2 \cdot \alpha^{n-1}$$

$$\log \frac{W_n}{n} = n \log(\alpha) + \log \frac{(1 - \alpha)^2}{\alpha}$$

Scaling up to 1 bpd

**5 liters per day
in operation**

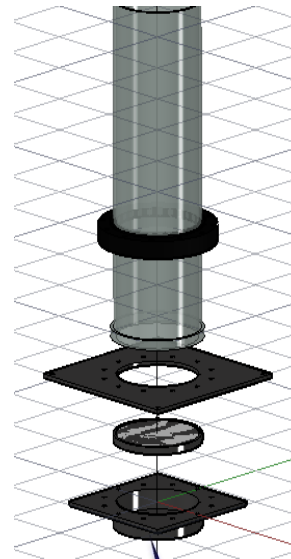


Smaller Cold Flow Model
(100 mm inner diameter Ø)

Hot Reactor
and Pilot Plant



**1 barrel per day
In commissioning**

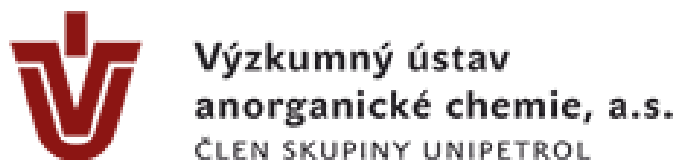


Design for the larger Cold
Flow Model (300 mm Ø)

Scaled-up
Plant for 1 bpd



Scientific partners



Industrial partners

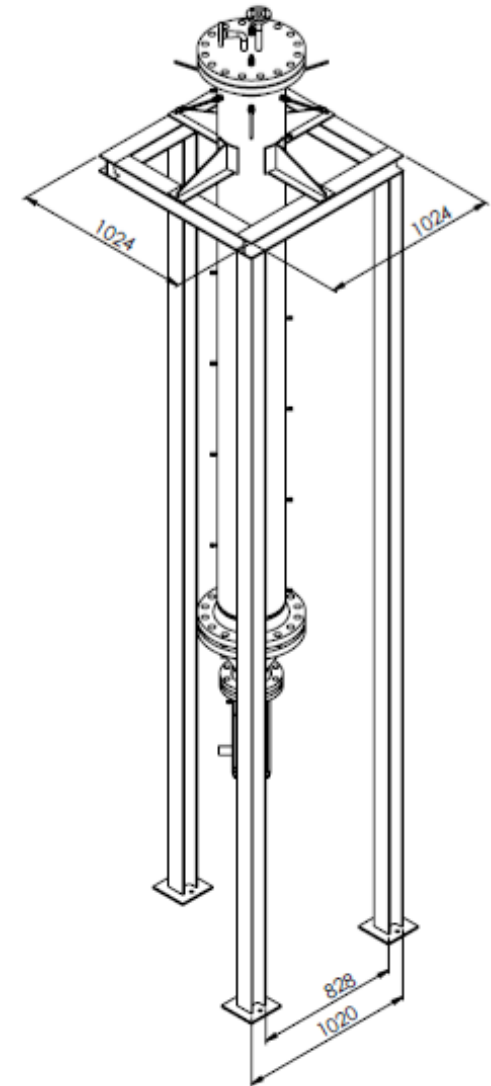
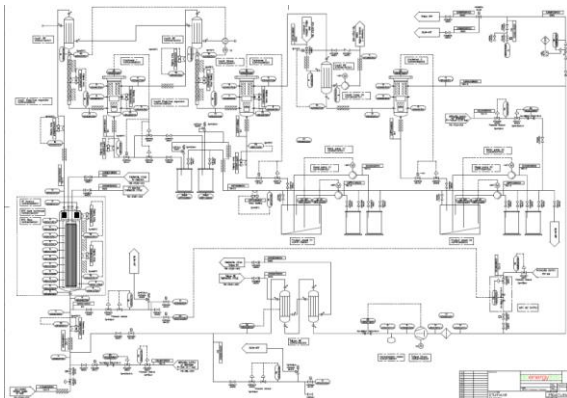


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- ✓ Economic optimisation of gas treatment
- ✓ Scaling up of Slurry FT reactor
 - Long term tests of FT synthesis with wood based synthesis gas
 - Upgrading of the raw FT products
 - Testing of FT products



Upscaling of FT slurry reactor

- Efficiency of bubble column slurry reactor (BCSR) is strongly depended on the hydrodynamic regime of the bubble movement

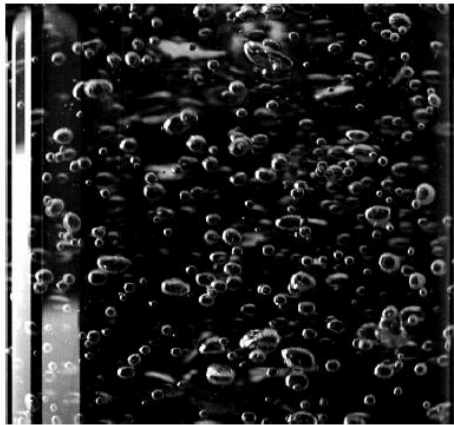


Figure 5: Gas velocity $U_{\text{gas}} = 0,0053 \text{ m/s}$

Homogenous Regime

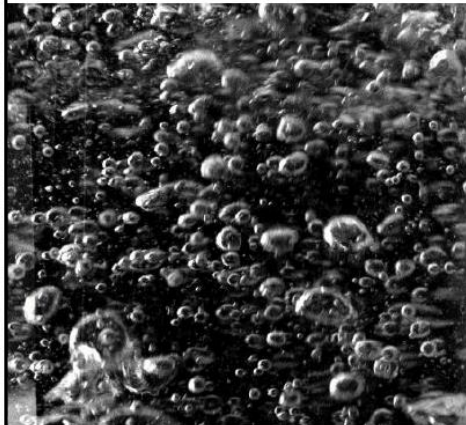


Figure 5: Gas velocity $U_{\text{gas}} = 0,0106 \text{ m/s}$

Transition Regime

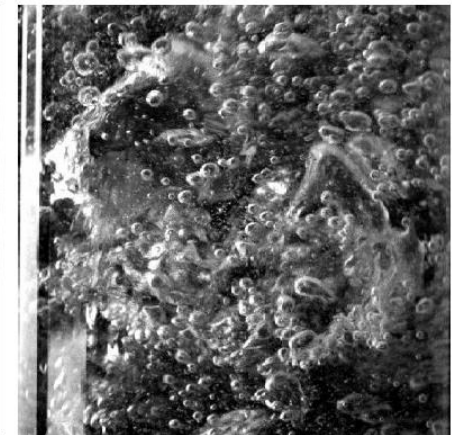
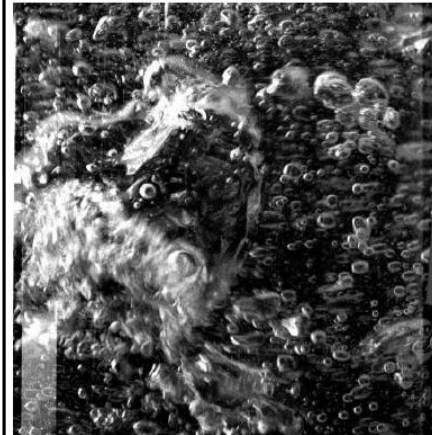


Figure 5: Gas velocities 0,0212 and 0,0371 m/s, respectively

Heterogeneous Regime

Churn up turbulence increase hold – up of small bubbles → 4 times more efficient than homogenous regime

- Several tests with water and naphtha carried out with cold flow model laboratory plant
 - Variation of gas superficial velocity and slurry concentration
 - Investigation of effect on pressure drop and gas hold – up



- » Switch from water to naphtha is changing hydrodynamics significantly, Weber number (We) can be employed for comparison

$$We = \frac{\rho_{liquid} * U_{gas}^2 * d_{bubble}}{\sigma_{liquid}} \quad (1)$$

Where, in our systems:

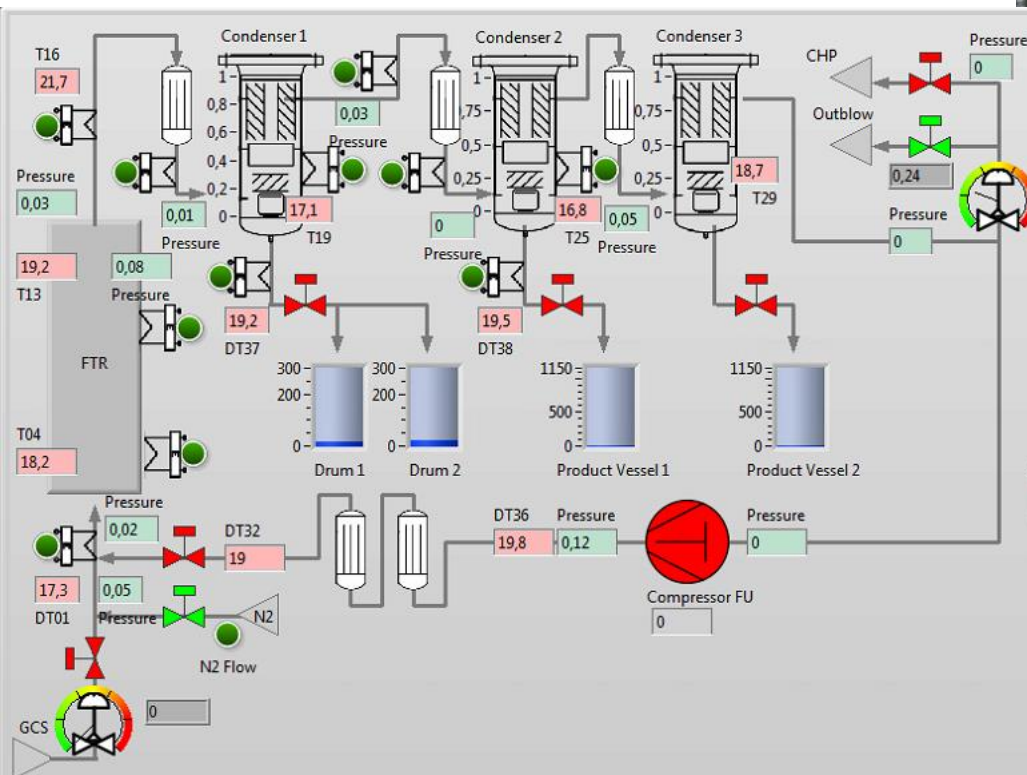
- ρ_{liquid} : density of the liquid;
- U_{gas} : superficial gas velocity through the gas distributor orifices;
- σ_{liquid} : surface tension of the liquid;
- d_{bubble} : initial bubble size at its formation, which can be calculated by [4]:

$$d_{bubble} = \left[\frac{6 * d_{orifice} * \sigma_{liquid}}{g * (\rho_{liquid} - \rho_{gas})} \right]^{1/3} \quad (2)$$

With g equals $9,81 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$.

$We > 2$ bubble breaking and axial mixing => heterogeneous regime!

- Commissioning is ongoing
- First experiments are planned for this week



Conversion of wind and photovoltaic to transportation fuels



H₂O electrolysis

H₂

Gas cooling
and cleaning

CO₂ removal

H₂/CO = 2:1

FT synthesis

Upgrading

FT-diesel
FT-kerosene

CO₂

Product gas

Flue gas

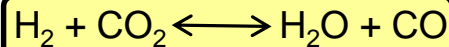
GASIFIER

COMBUSTOR

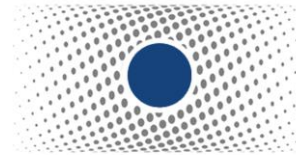
Biomass

Steam + CO₂

Air +
additional fuel



RWGS



Institute of Chemical Engineering



Energy &
Chemical
Engineering

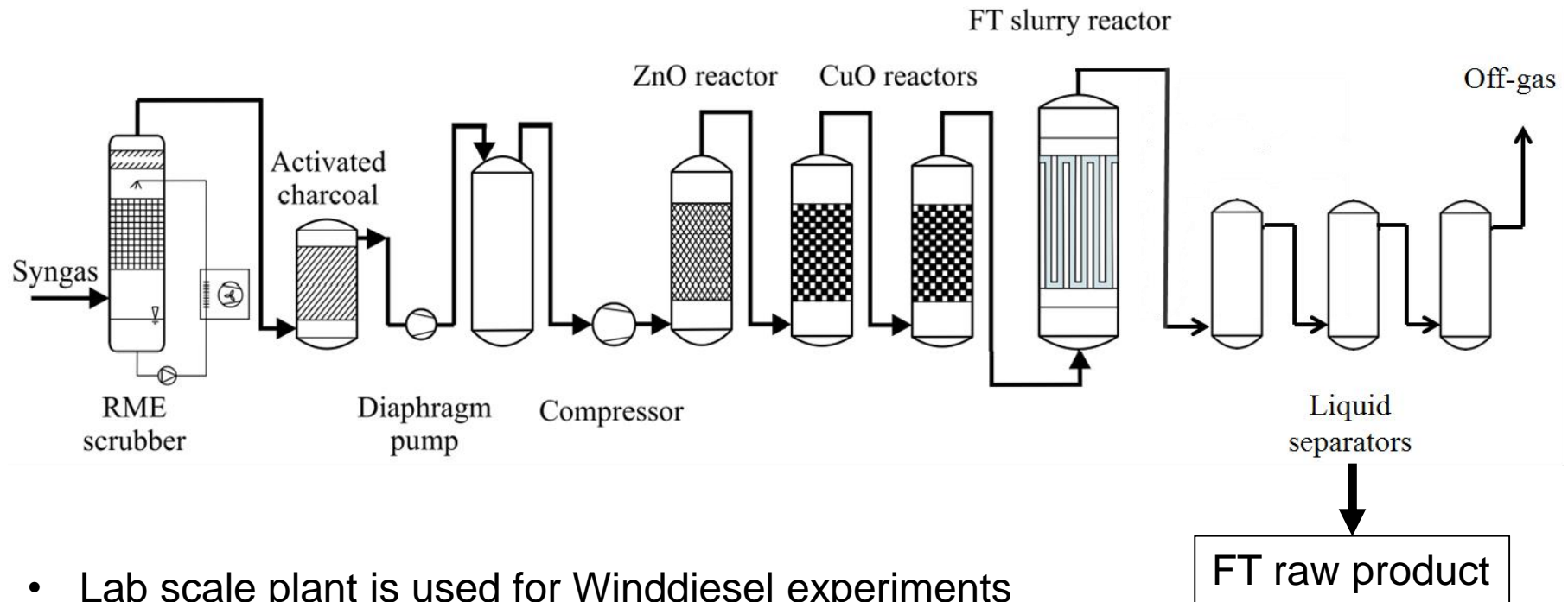
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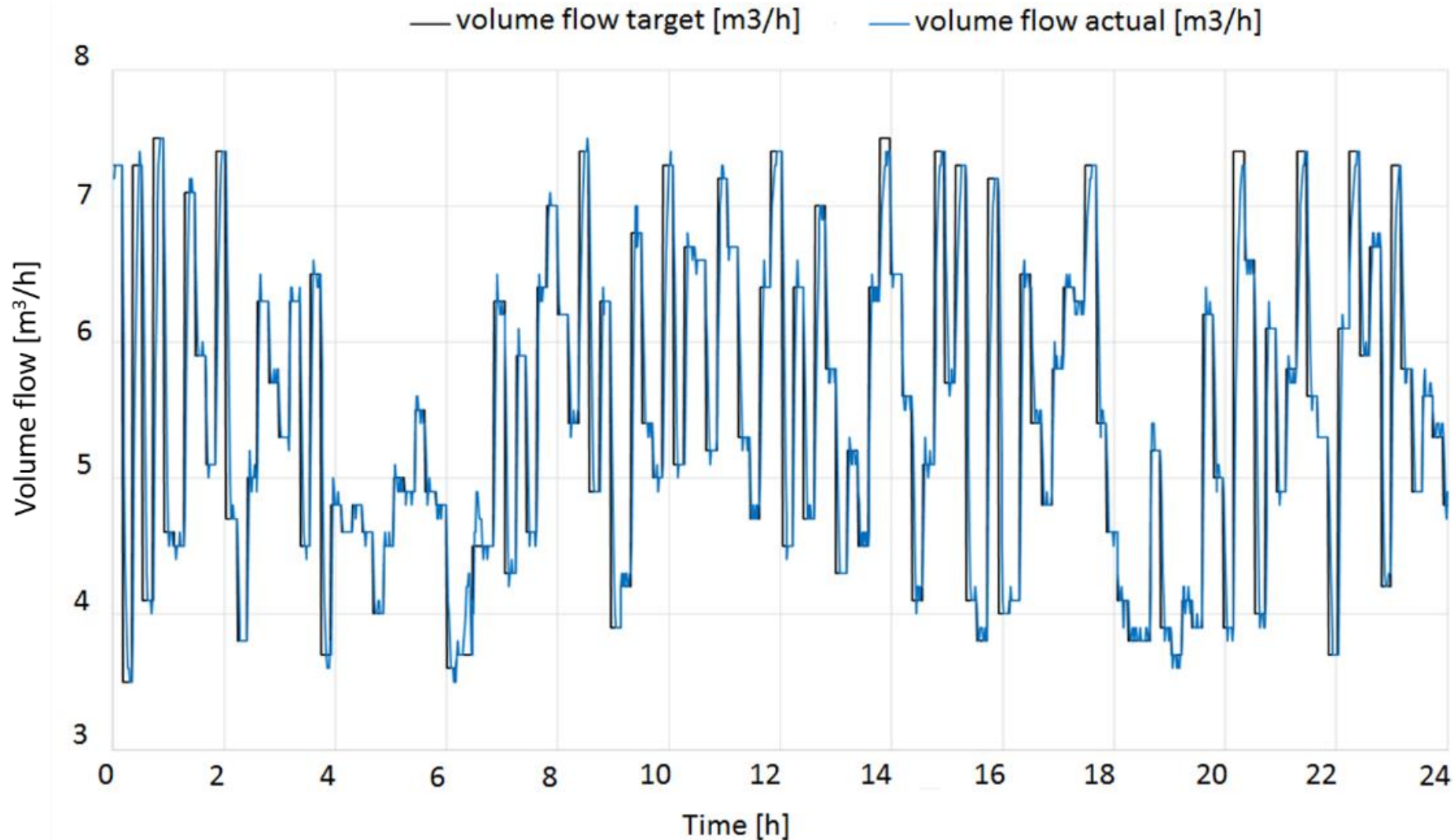


- Experimental:
 - Load change behavior, catalyst selection,
 - verification of the simulation
- Simulation:
 - Design parameter of a large-scale plant,
 - process comparison of competing technologies
- Economics:
 - Determination of the investment and operating costs of large-scale facilities,
 - comparison with competing technologies

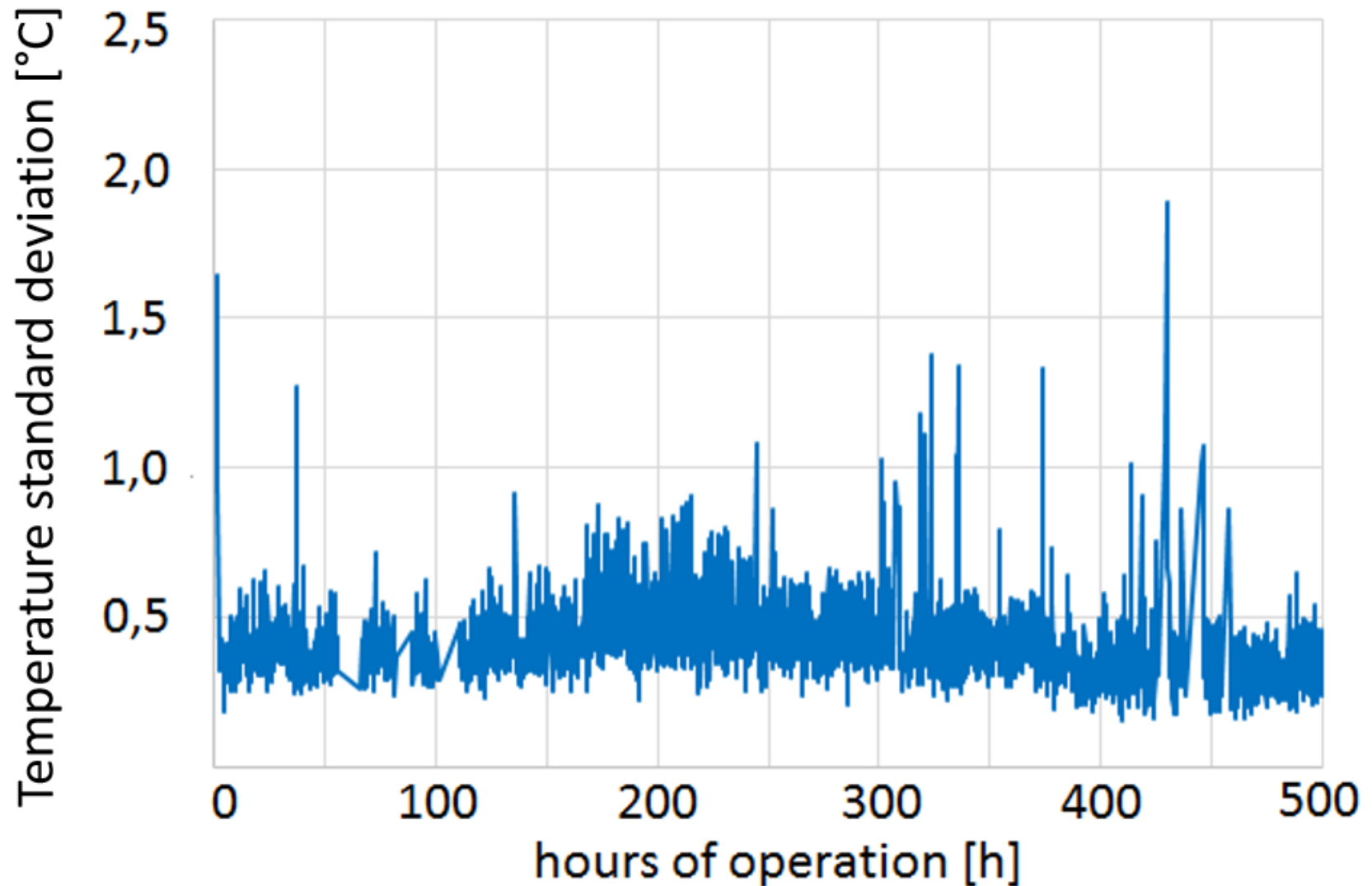


- Lab scale plant is used for Winddiesel experiments
- Long term test over 500 hours are done to compare standard operation with winddiesel operation
- Gas volume flow is changed all the time
- Temperature and pressure is kept constant (isothermal operation is necessary for FT synthesis)
- Change in CO-conversion, selectivity and catalyst aging are investigated

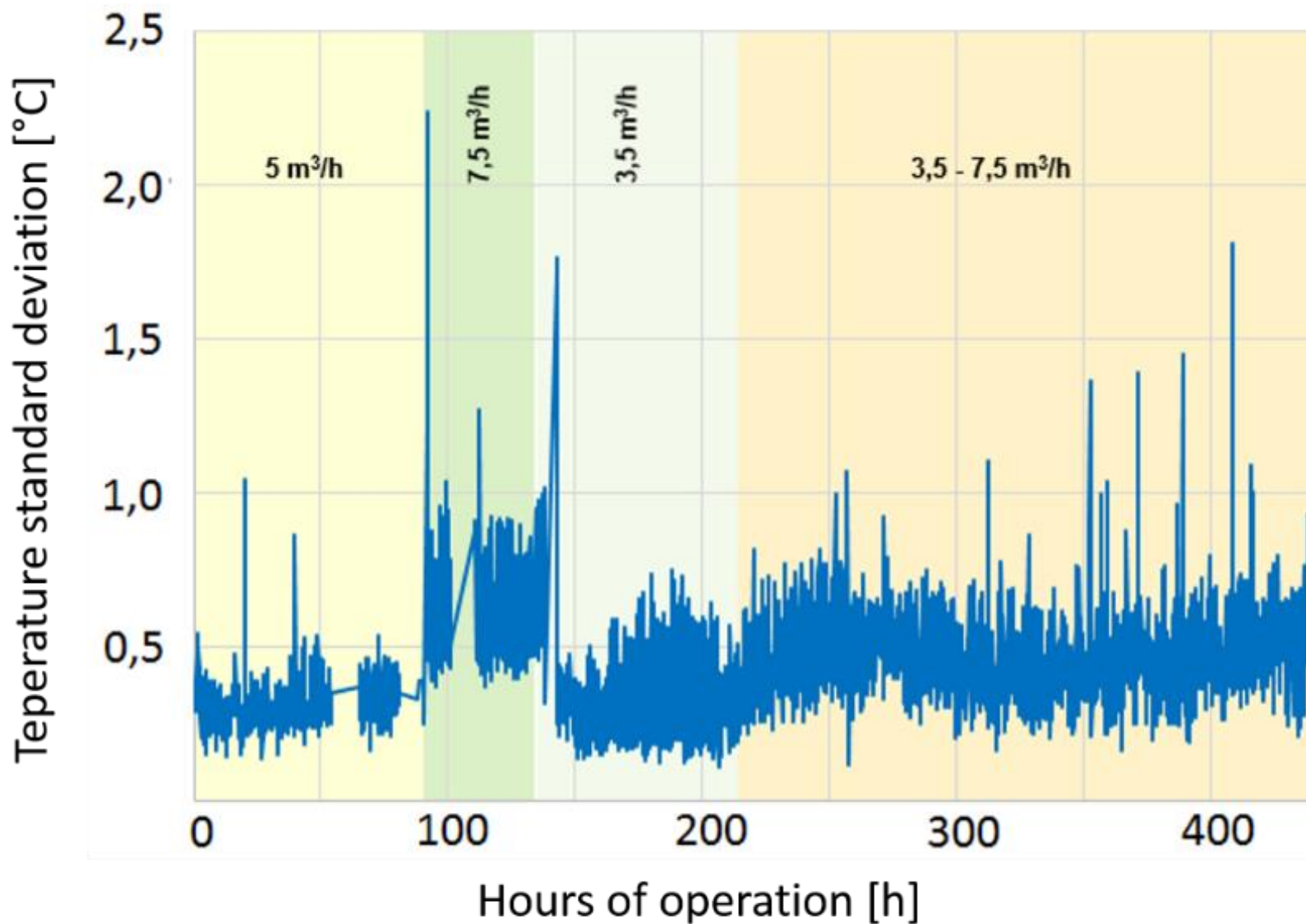
Load change in slurry



Normal operation



Winddiesel operation



- Conversion of electricity to transportation fuels, especially to kerosene and diesel for heavy transport (no chance with electric mobility)
- One possibility to increase the carbon conversion in from biomass to biofuels
- First results are very promising, as slurry reactor is ideal for very fast load changes
- Catalyst aging depends on type of catalyst (some are influenced, some not)

Information

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More info at

<http://www.ieatask33.org>

<http://www.ficfb.at>

<http://www.vt.tuwien.ac.at>

<http://www.bioenergy2020.eu>