Post-combustion carbon capture research at Newcastle University

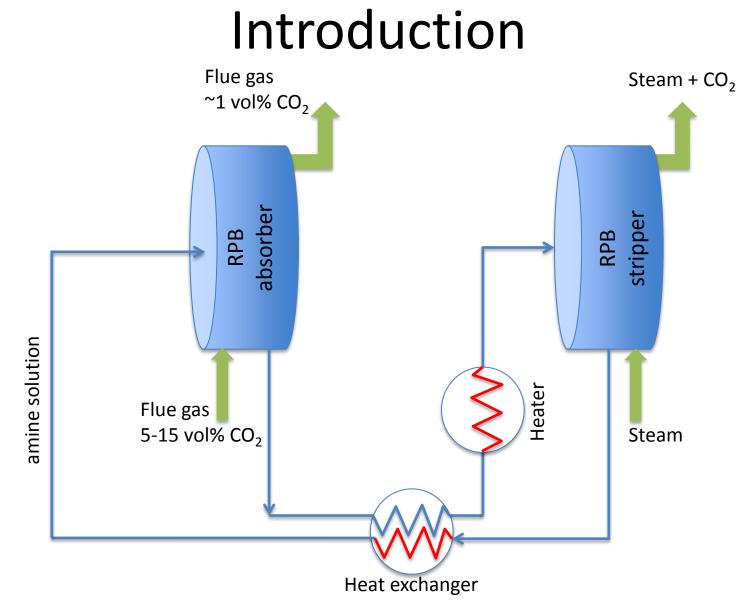
Jonathan Lee, David Reay, Newcastle University. Colin Ramshaw, Cranfield University



Talk Outline

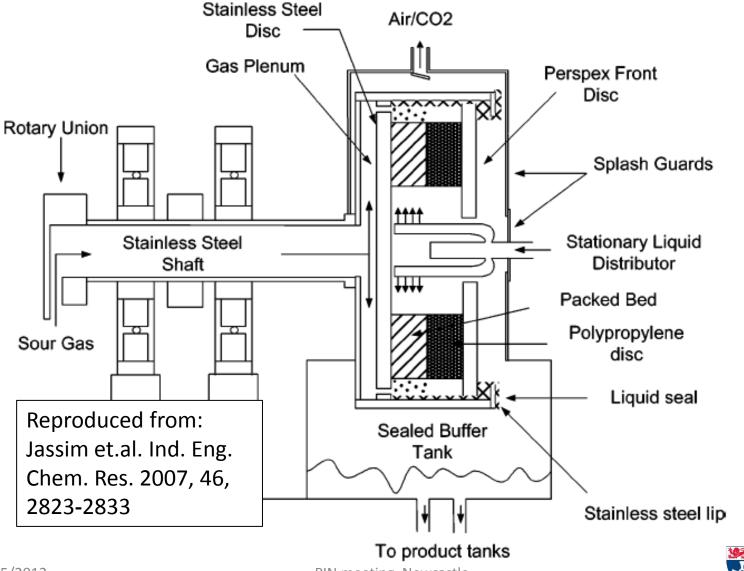
- Introduction
- Summary of results from previous studies
- RPB for carbon capture
- Planned experimental work at Newcastle







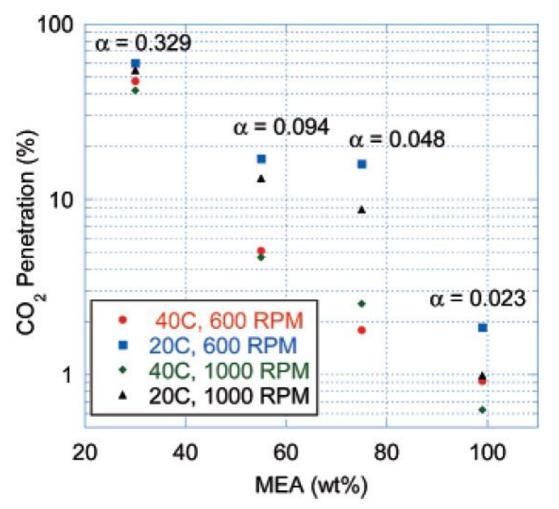
Previous Work at Newcastle



PIN meeting, Newcastle



Previous work at Newcastle



Depth of packing = 121 mm Gas flow rate = 64.4 m³ h⁻¹ 4.5vol% CO₂ in feed Liquid flow = 2.4 m³ h⁻¹

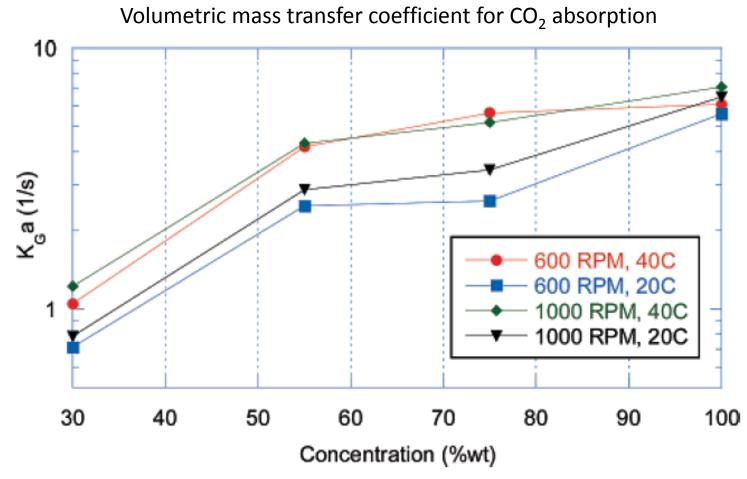
Results show increasing removal as the MEA solution strength rises from 30-100 wt%.

Not possible to use 100 wt% MEA in packed columns due to its viscosity.

Reproduced from: Jassim et.al. Ind. Eng. Chem. Res. 2007, 46, 2823-2833



Previous work at Newcastle

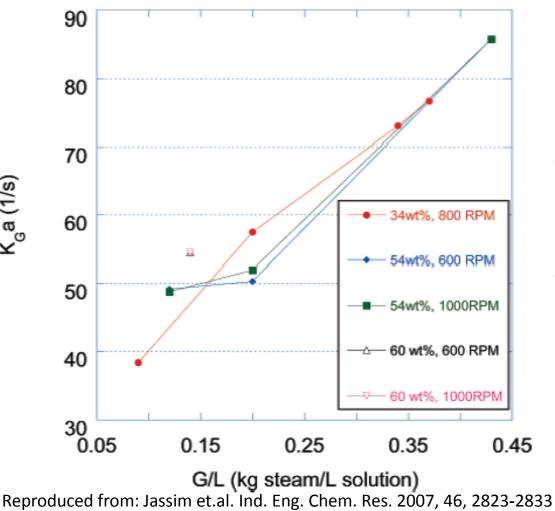


Reproduced from: Jassim et.al. Ind. Eng. Chem. Res. 2007, 46, 2823-2833



Previous work at Newcastle

Volumetric mass transfer coefficient for CO₂ stripping



Depth of packing = 121 mm Steam flow rate 250 kg h⁻¹

- High rates of CO₂ stripping even at low steam:liquid flow ratios.
- CO₂ stripping rate is independent of MEA solution strength



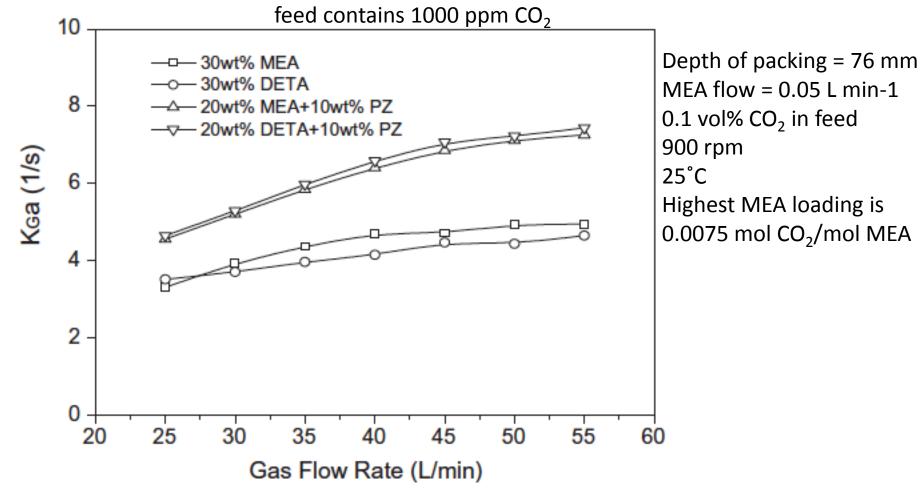
K_ga (1/s)





Other Recent Work

Volumetric mass transfer coefficient for CO₂ absorption using 30wt% MEA



Reproduced from: Cheng and Tan, Separation and Purification Technology, 2011, 82, 156-166.



02/05/2012

Conclusions from Previous Work

- Rotating packed beds enhance the rate of CO₂ absorption by a factor of at 10 – 100.
- The rate of CO₂ absorption is higher at low CO₂:MEA loadings .
- Rotating packed beds with increased MEA solution strength will reduce energy required to strip CO₂ from the amine.

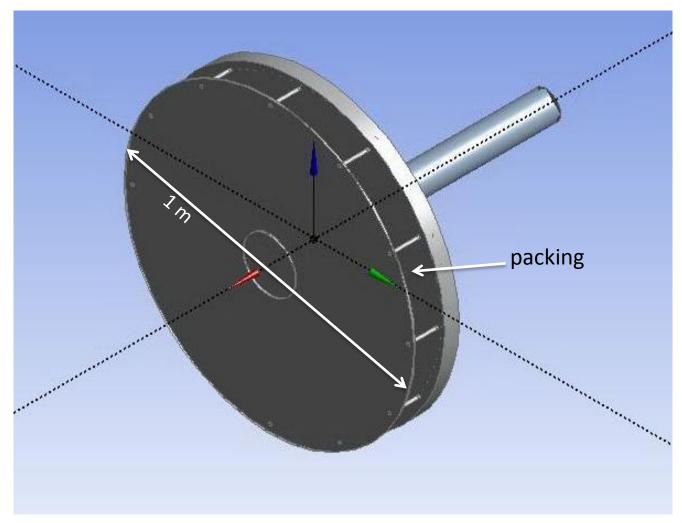


RPB for Carbon Capture from Power Plants

- RPB have the potential to dramatically reduce the size and cost of carbon capture units for power plants.
- Uncertainty exists about
 - Power consumption
 - Pressure drop
 - Viscous liquid distribution in a RPB
- The current project at Newcastle will investigate these parameters.

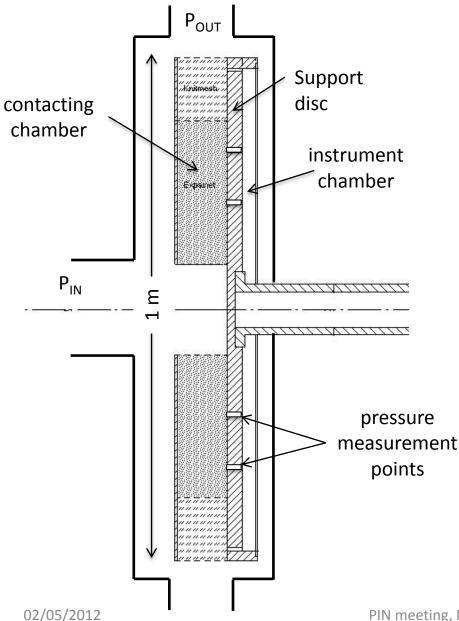


Rig Design





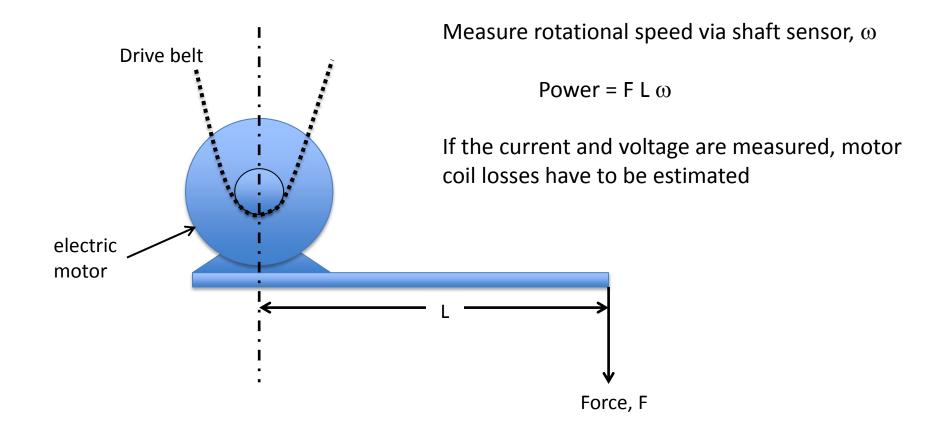
Pressure Measurement



- Measurements of P_{OUT}-P_{IN} obscure the frictional pressure drop through the packing.
- Measuring ΔP between the contacting chamber and the instrument chamber removes centrifugal pressure from the measurement.

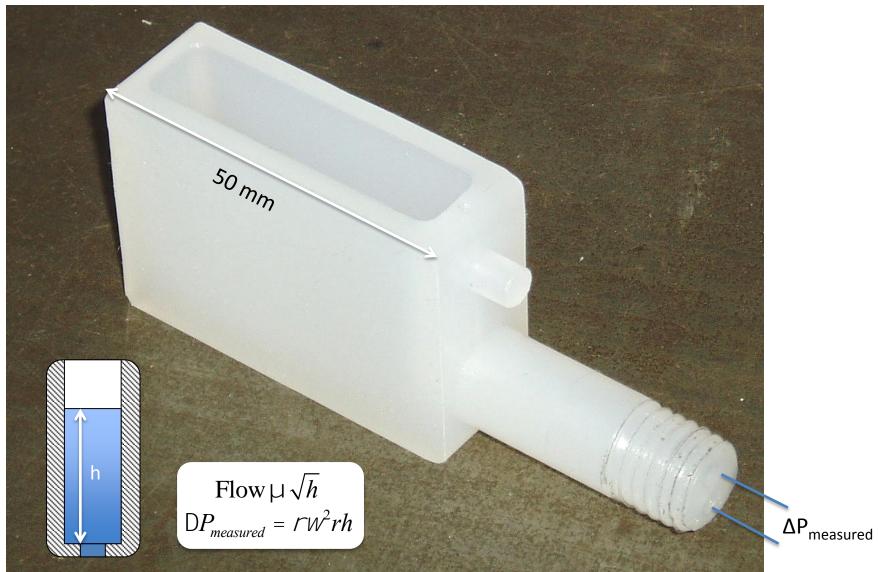


Power Measurement

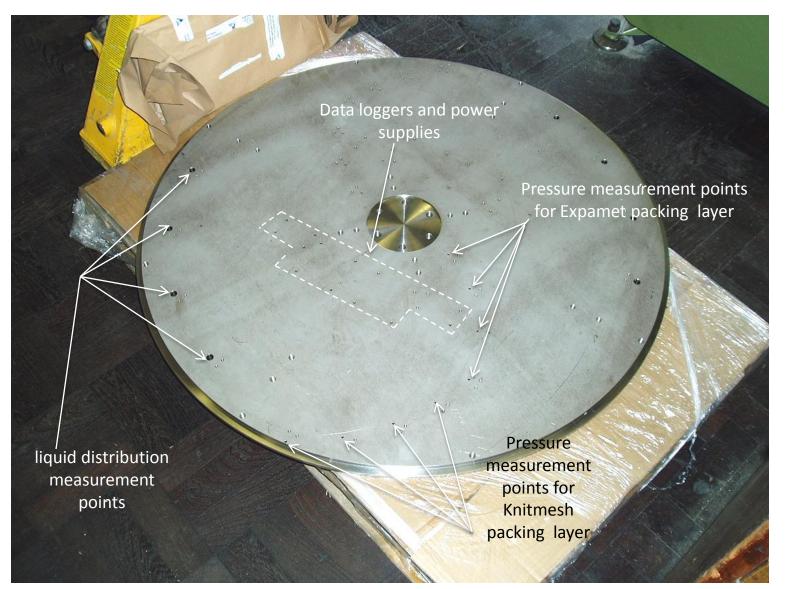




Collector for liquid distribution measurements







Support disc for the rotating packed bed

PIN meeting, Newcastle



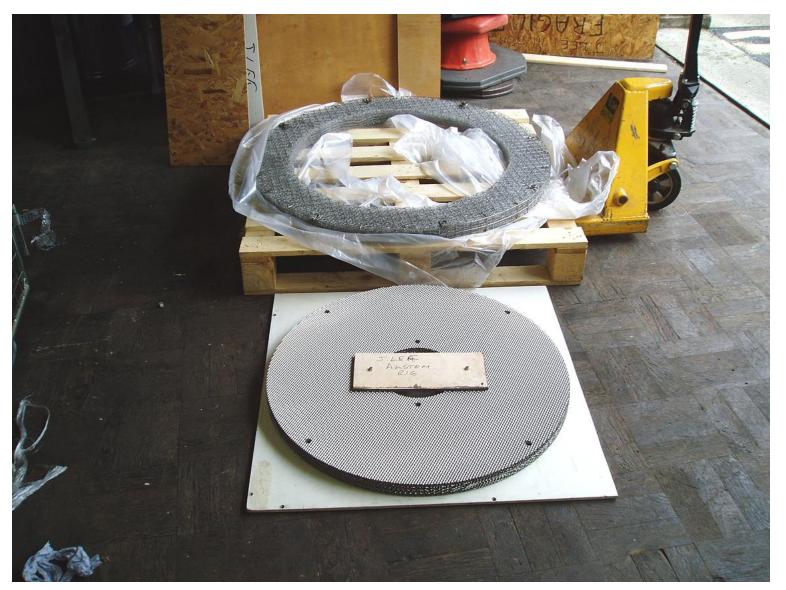


Support disc with instrument cover– data logger access panels remo 02/05/2012 PIN meeting, Newcastle



Support disc with instrument cover – data logger access panels in place 02/05/2012 PIN meeting, Newcastle





Knitmesh and Expamet together





PIN meeting, Newcastle