



Thermodynamic modeling of biomass combustion and ash chemistry applications

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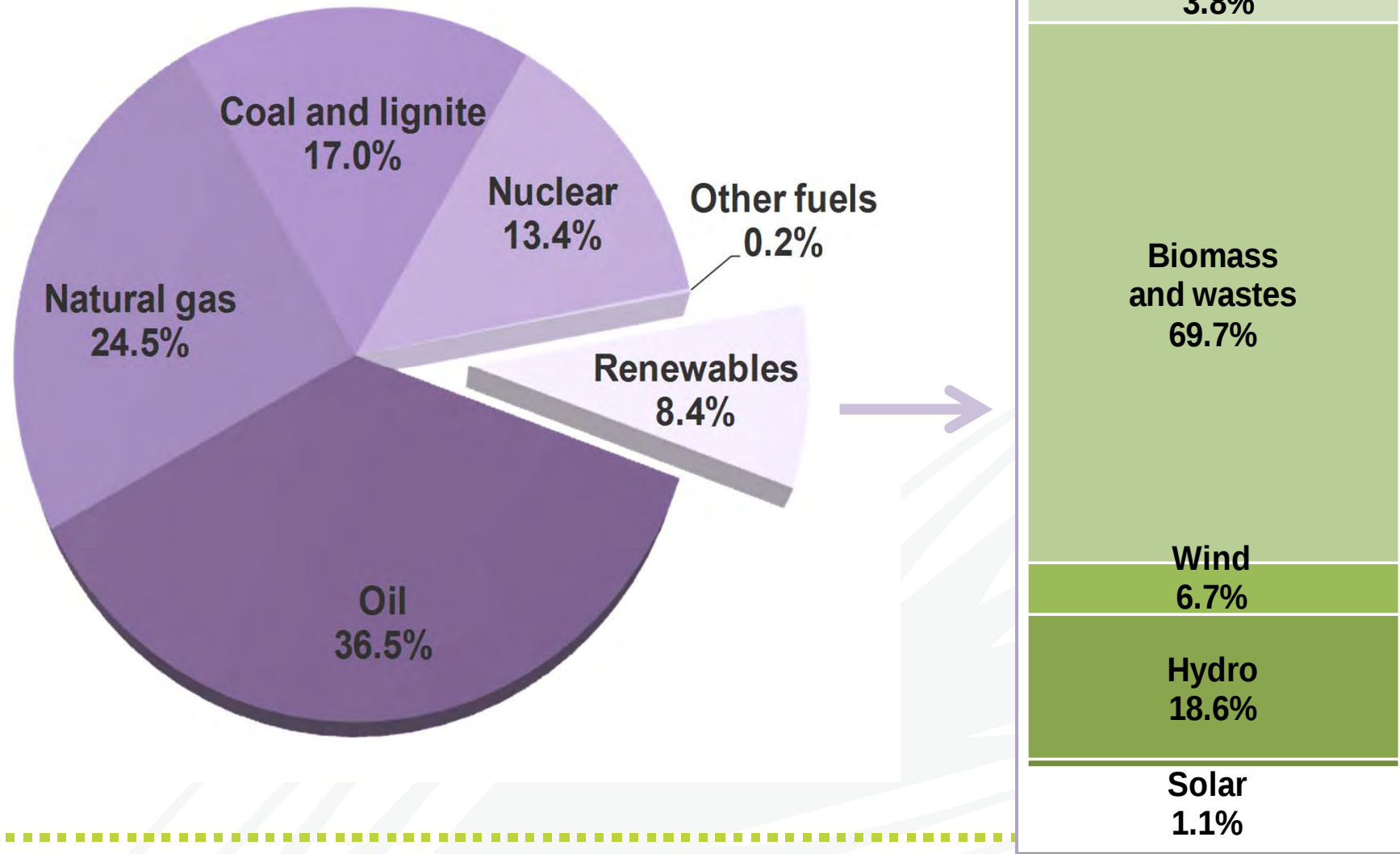
1. Åbo Akademi University, Finland

2. Umeå University, Sweden

3. Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal, Canada

EU-27, gross inland energy consumption

Primary raw materials



Source: European Commission's Market Observatory data for 2008

Biofuels – Waste derived fuels – “Opportunity fuels”

- Woodchips
- Saw dust
- Bark
- Forest residues
- Annual crops
- Prunings
- Shells, husks & hulls
- Olive stones
- Biorefinery residues
- Pulp & paper process by-products
- Refuse derived fuels (RDF)
- Waste sludges
- Recovered waste wood
- Meat and bone meal
- Chicken litter

Ash Forming Matter in Biomass Combustion – Research Topics

- Characterization of AFM
- Release of AFM in furnace
- Fly Ash Formation
- Bed/Grate Reactions
- Fouling
- Superheater Corrosion
- Understanding Fuel Mixtures

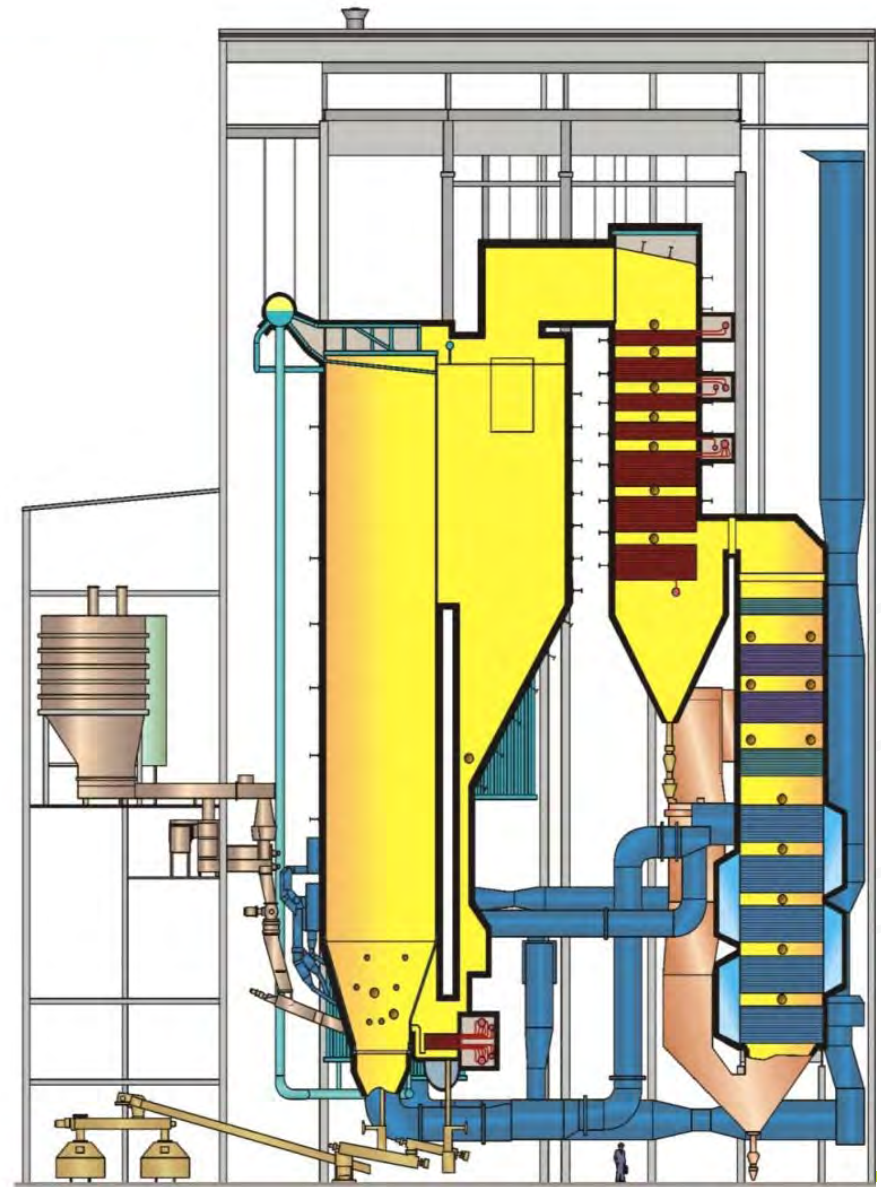
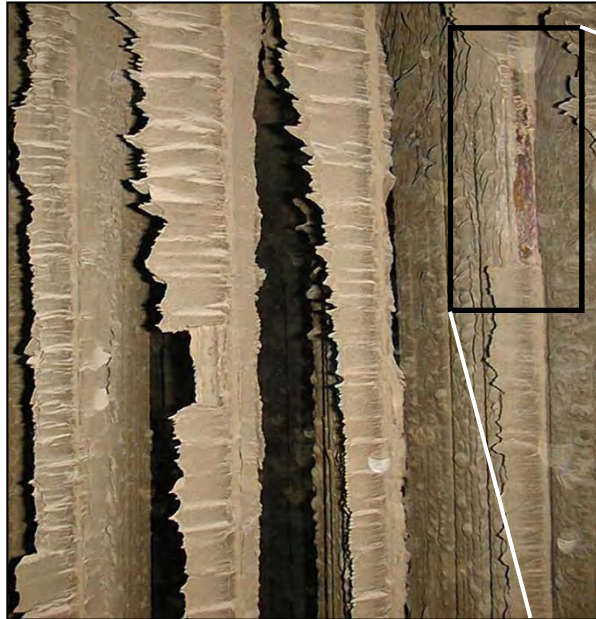
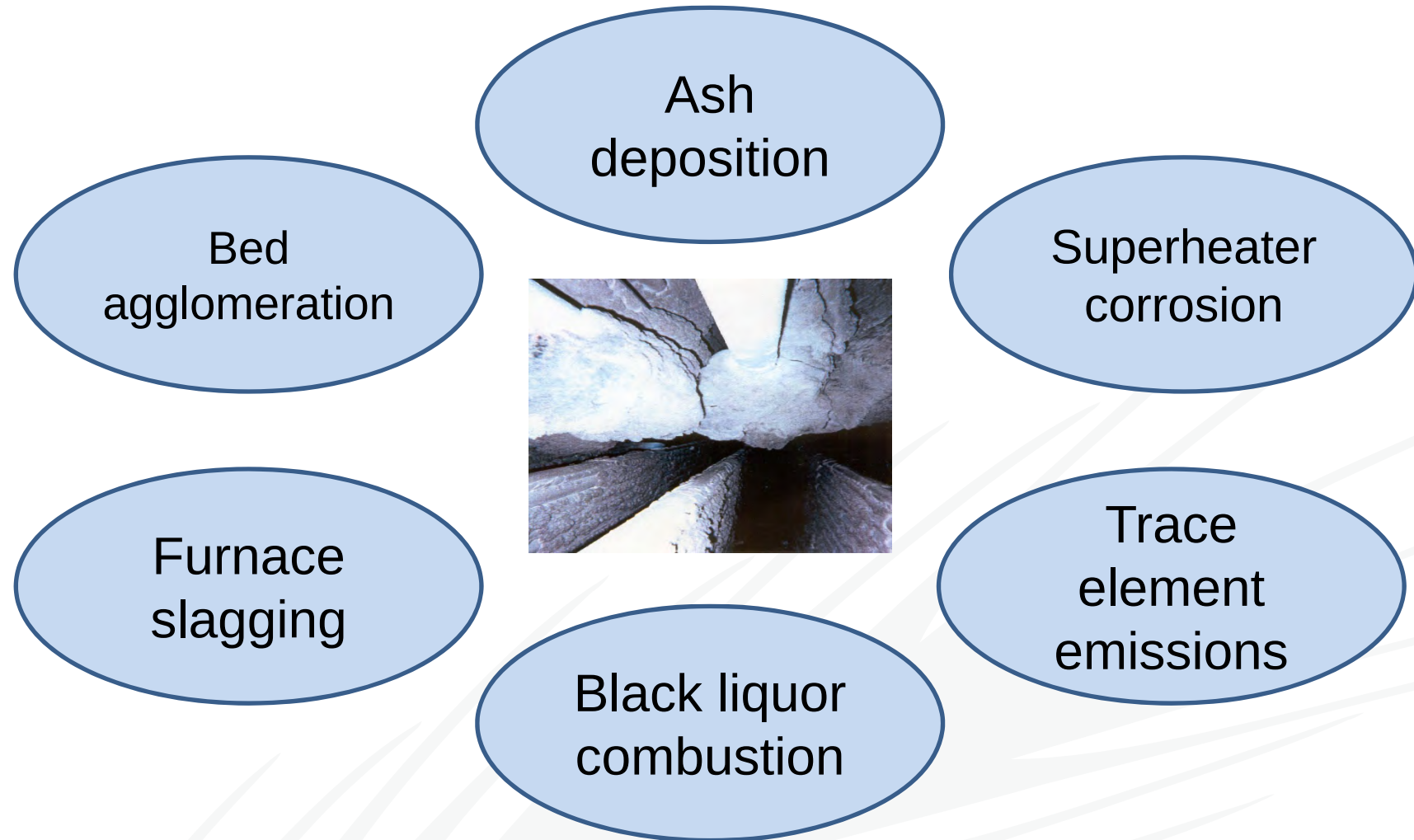


Figure courtesy: Mälarenergi Ab & Foster Wheeler⁴

Fouling and corrosion due to unsuitable fuel mix



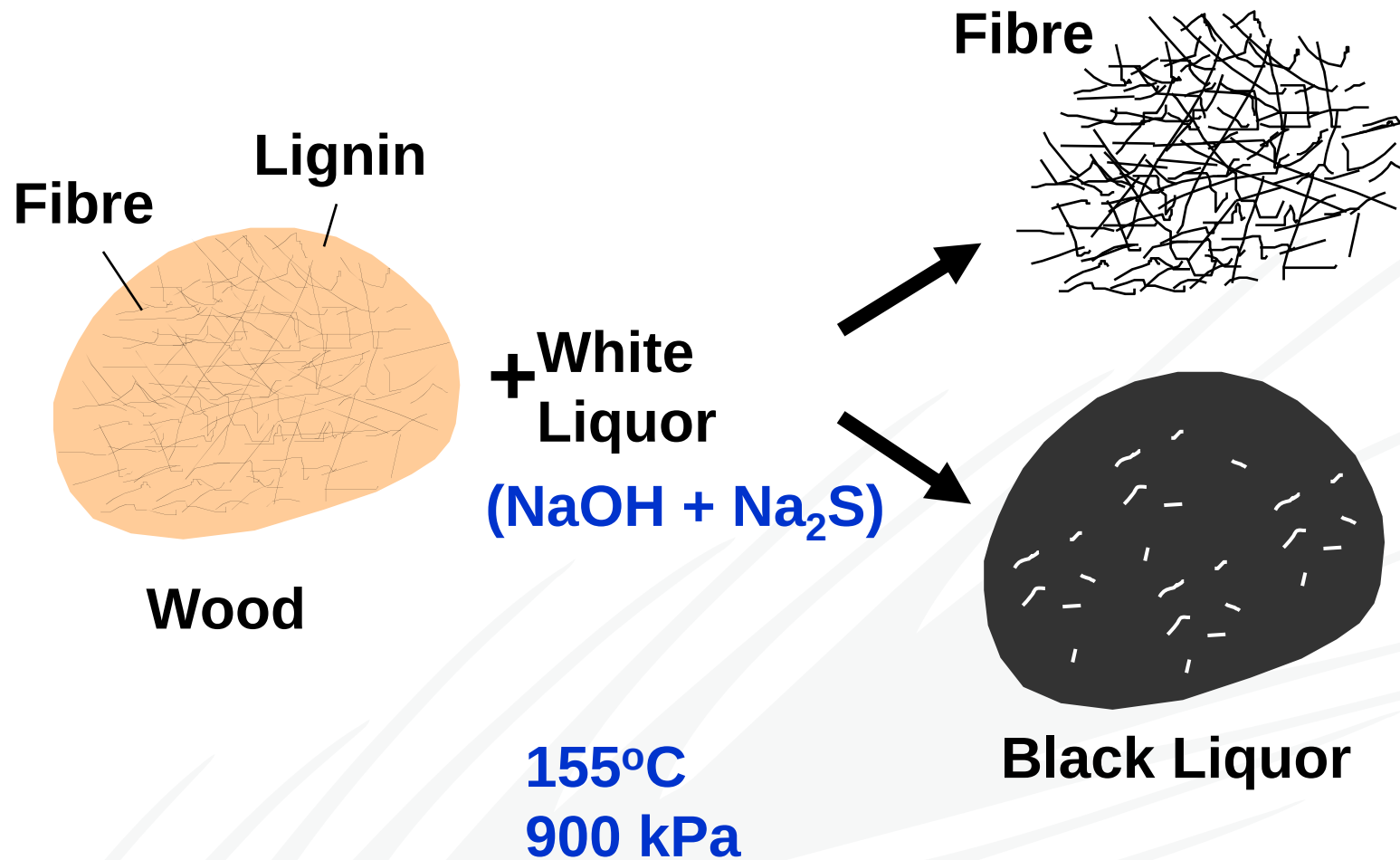
Thermodynamic modeling & Ash chemistry



Example

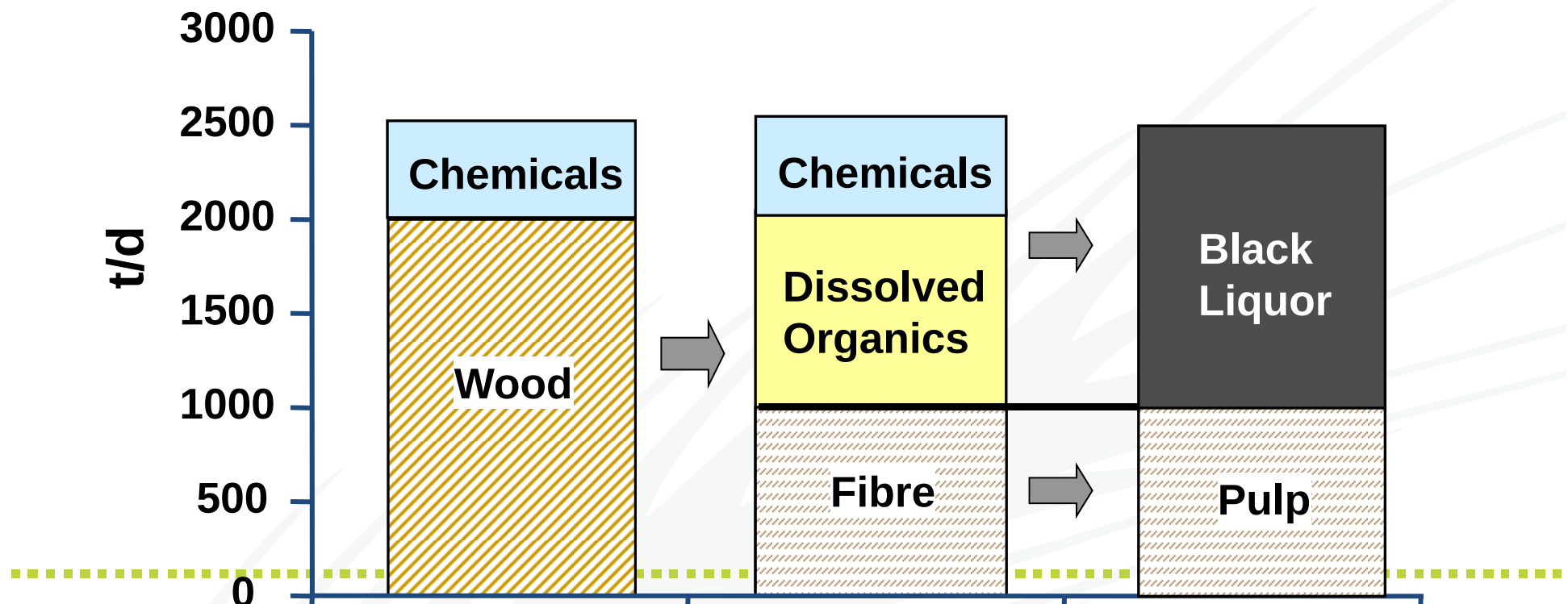
Black liquor recovery boiler

Kraft Pulping Process



A 1000 t/d Kraft Pulp Mill produces 1500 t/d BL d.s.

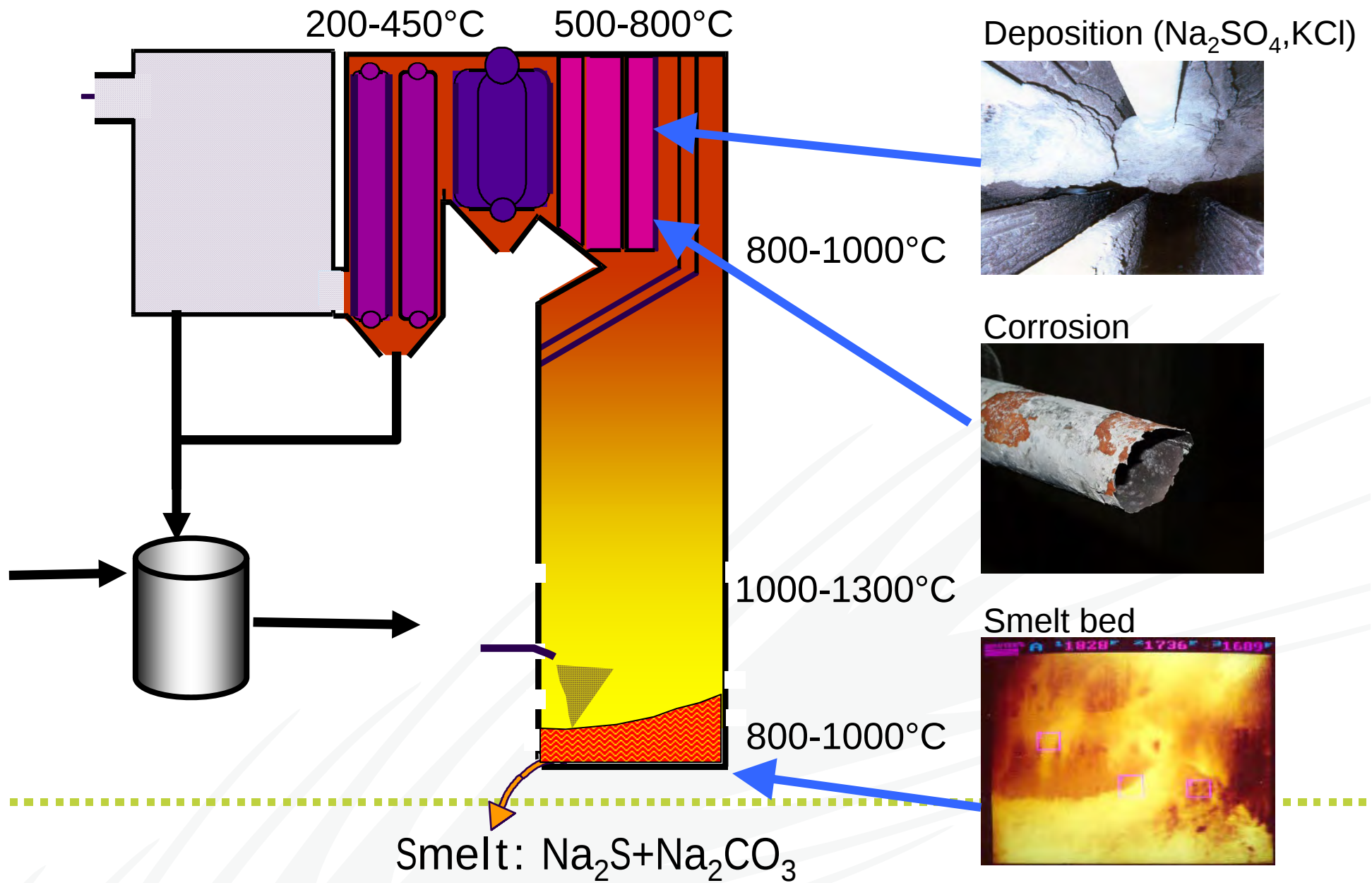
8000 ~ 10,000 t/d weak black liquor

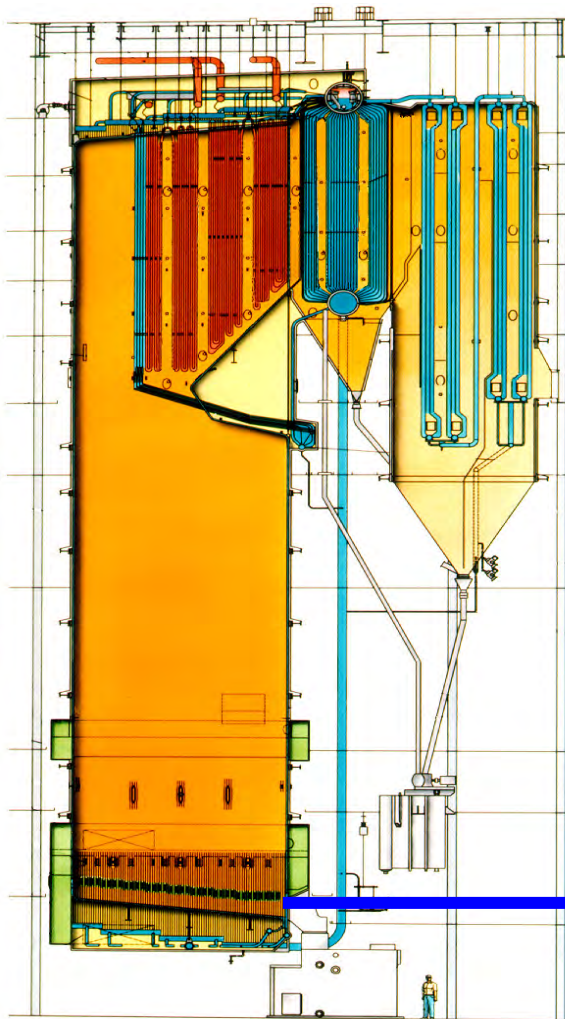


As-Fired Black Liquor Composition (750 liquor samples; All Wood Species)

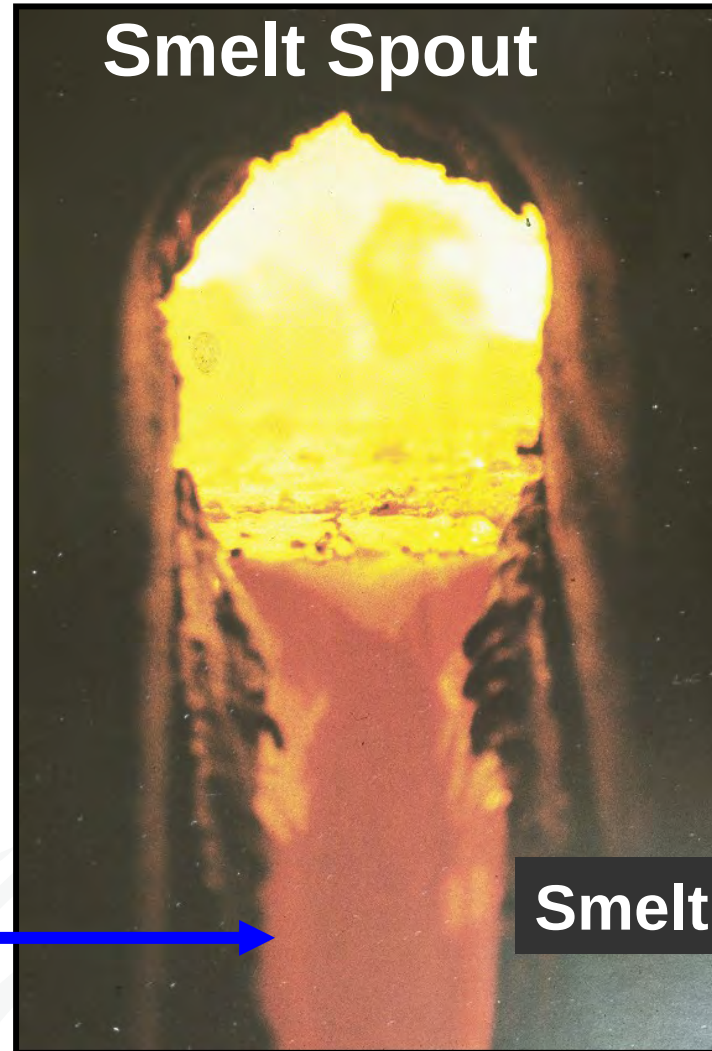
		Typical	Range
Solids content, %		72	65 – 85
HHV, MJ/kg		13.9	12.5 – 15.5
Composition	C, wt% d.s.	33.9	30 – 40
	H	3.4	3.2 – 4.0
	O	35.8	34 – 38
	Na	19.6	17 – 22
	S	4.6	3.6 – 5.6
	K	2.0	1 – 3
	Cl	0.5	0.1 – 4

Molten salts in the recovery boiler

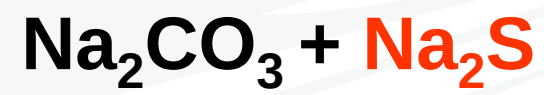




Smelt Spout



Smelt

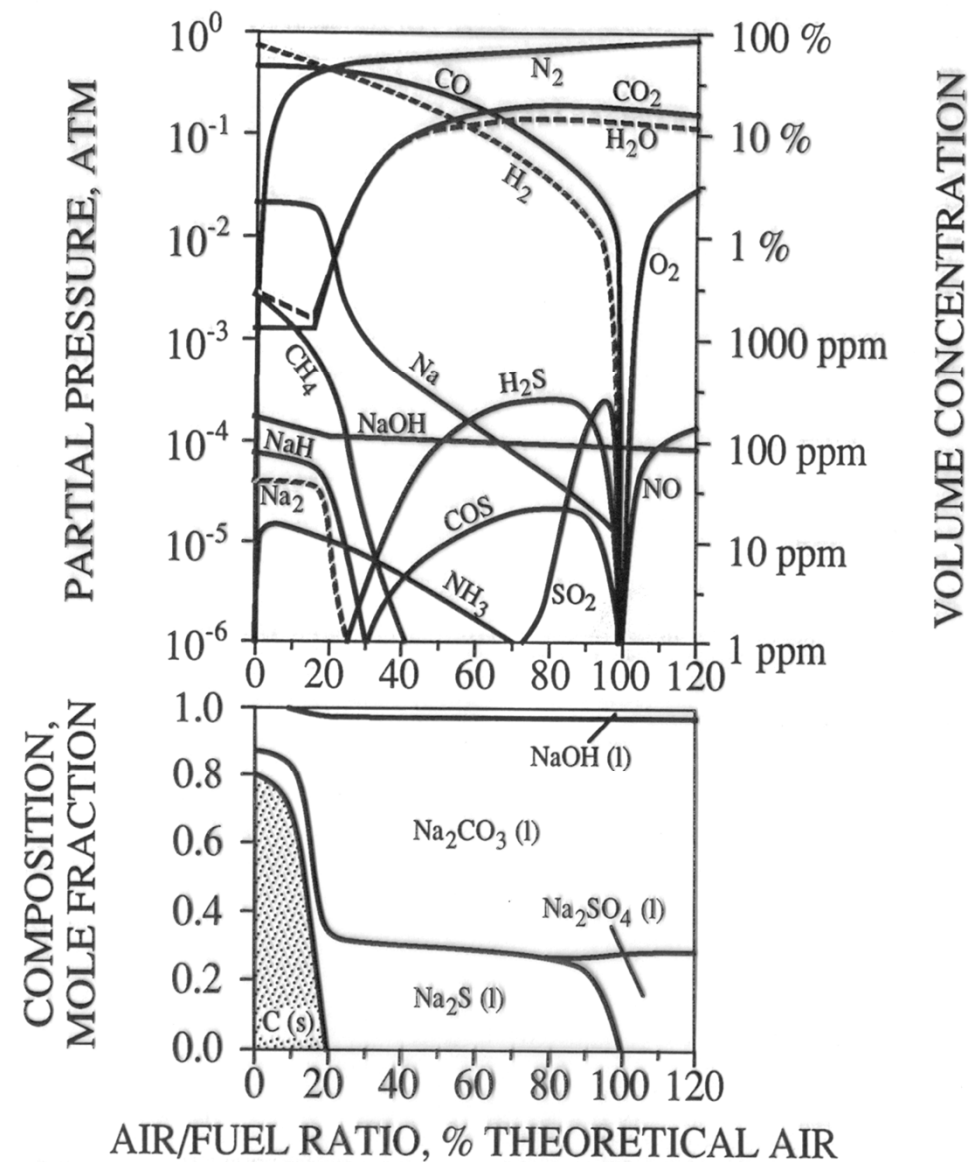
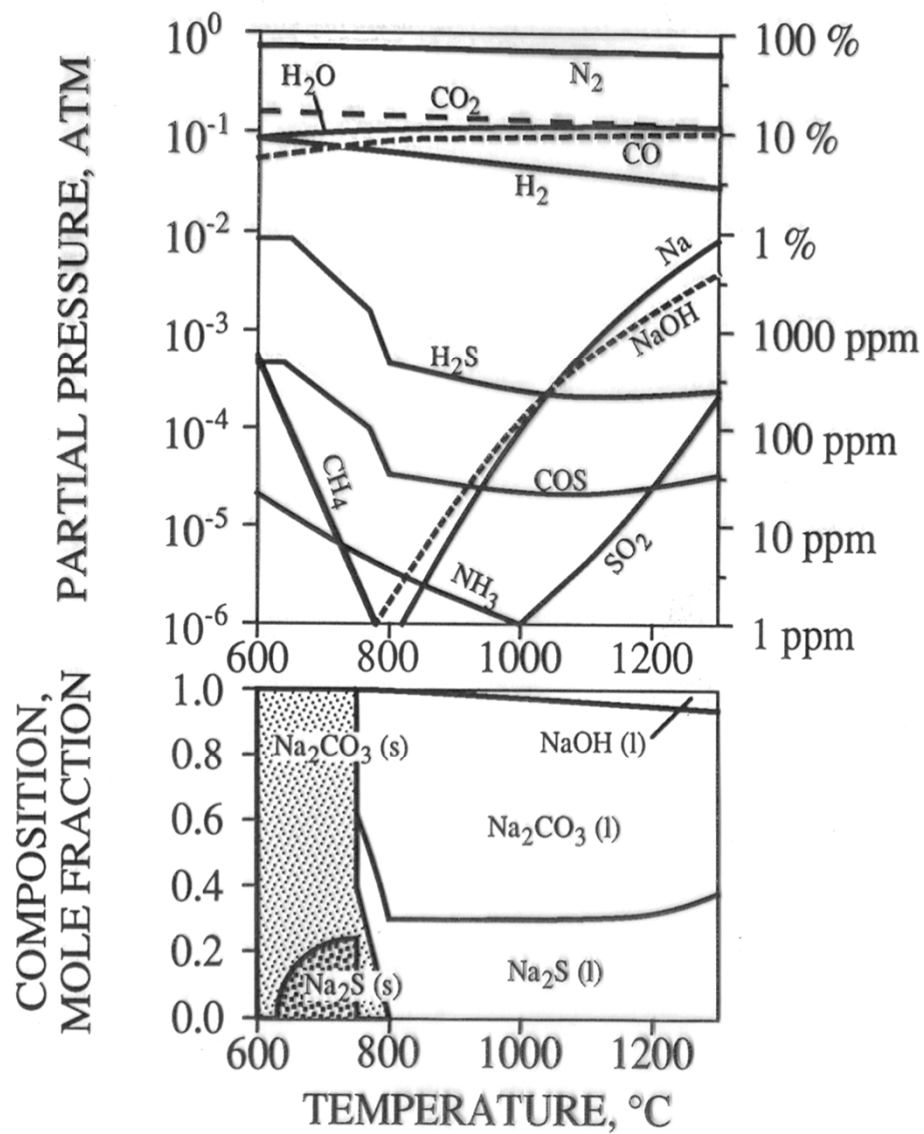


Equilibria with Molten Phases: Black Liquor Recovery Boiler and Alkali Salts

Lars Pejryd & Mikko Hupa (1984) Bed and furnace gas composition in recovery boilers – advanced equilibrium calculations. *Tappi Pulping Conference*

- Equilibrium modeling of furnace gas and smelt bed of a kraft recovery boiler
- Non-ideal interactions for liquid $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3\text{-Na}_2\text{S}$ optimized by Gunnar





Thermodynamic databases for alkali salts

Thermodynamic properties of alkali salts

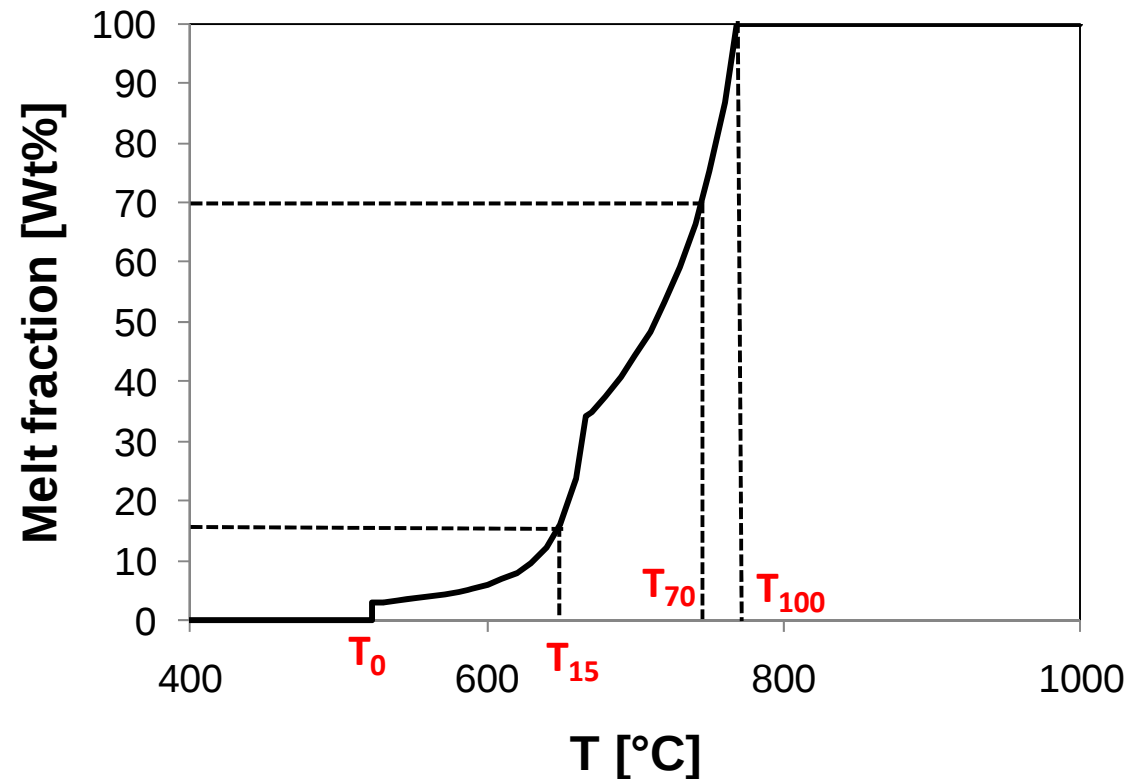
- Na-K-S-C-O-Cl-H system re-evaluated
- Lindberg (2007) *Thermochemistry and melting properties of alkali salt mixtures (PhD thesis)*
- Lindberg, Backman & Chartrand. (2007) Journal of Chemical Thermodynamics. *Thermodynamic evaluation and optimization of the (NaCl + Na₂SO₄ + Na₂CO₃ + KCl + K₂SO₄ + K₂CO₃)*
- Covers all Na-K components from reducing to oxidizing conditions
- FTPulp database in Factsage

My PhD defense in 2007

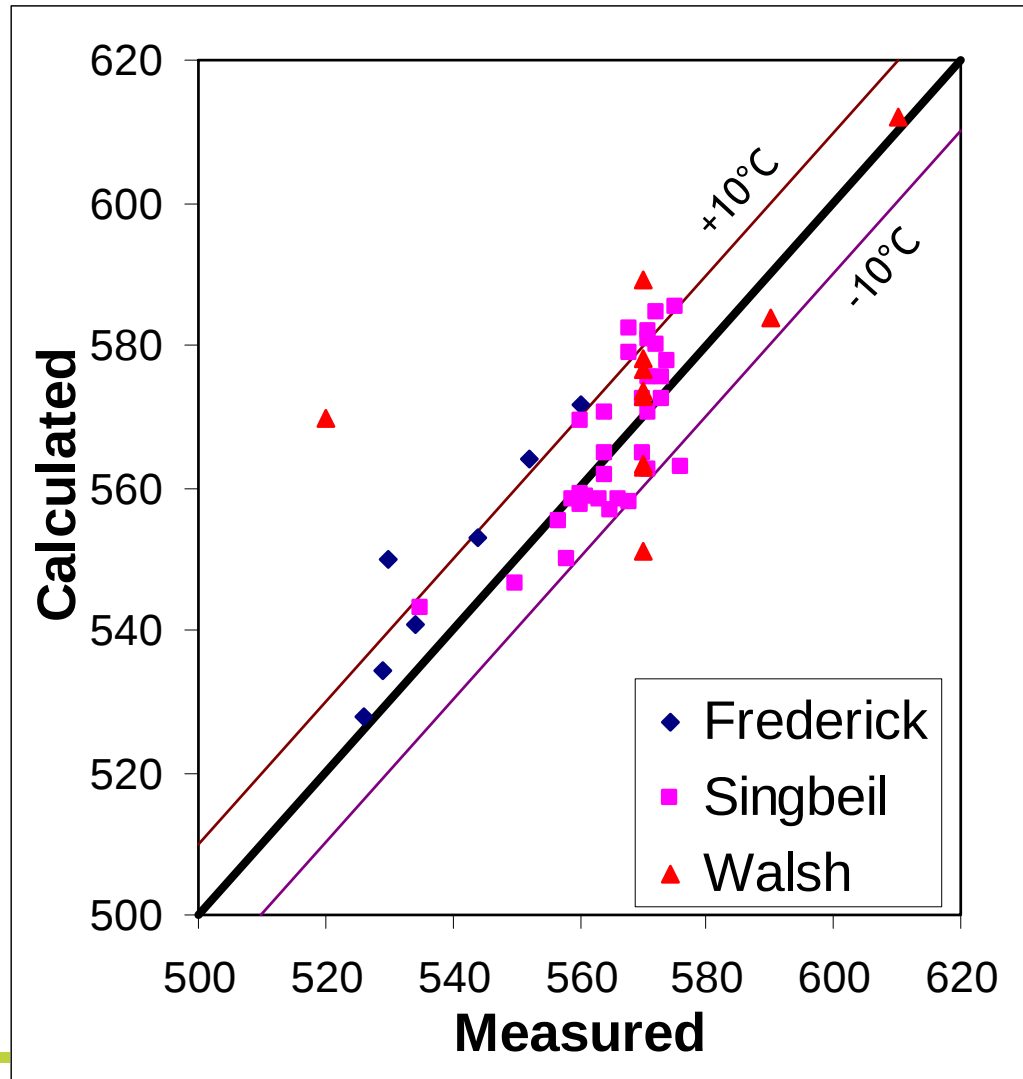


Melting properties of alkali salts & characteristic temperatures

- T_0 , First melting temperature: Corrosion
- T_{15} , Sticky temperature: Deposition
- T_{70} , Flow temperature: Deposit buildup
- T_{100} , Complete melting temperature: Flow properties



Solidus temperature (T_0) of superheater deposits from BL recovery boilers

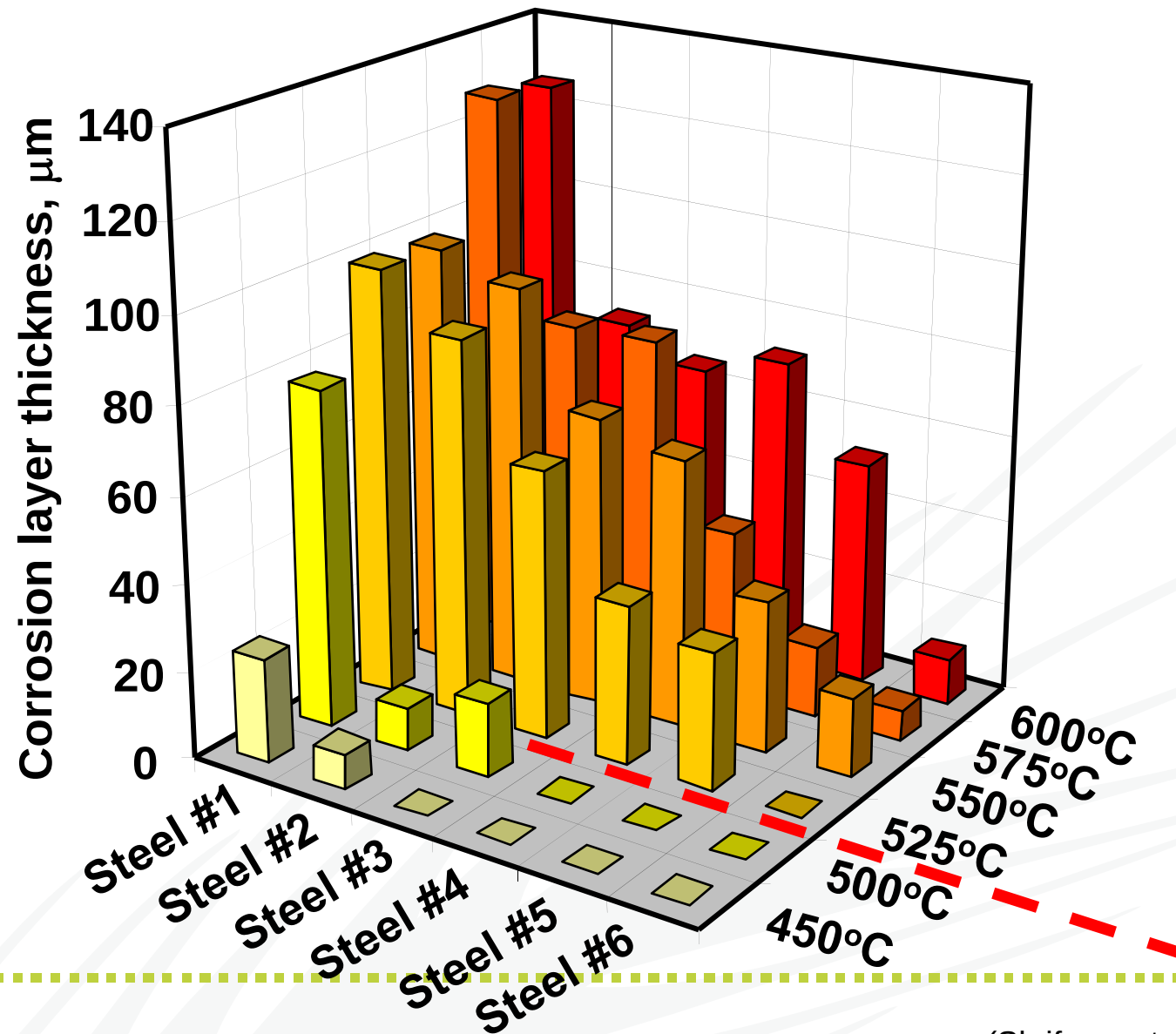


Solidus measured with DTA

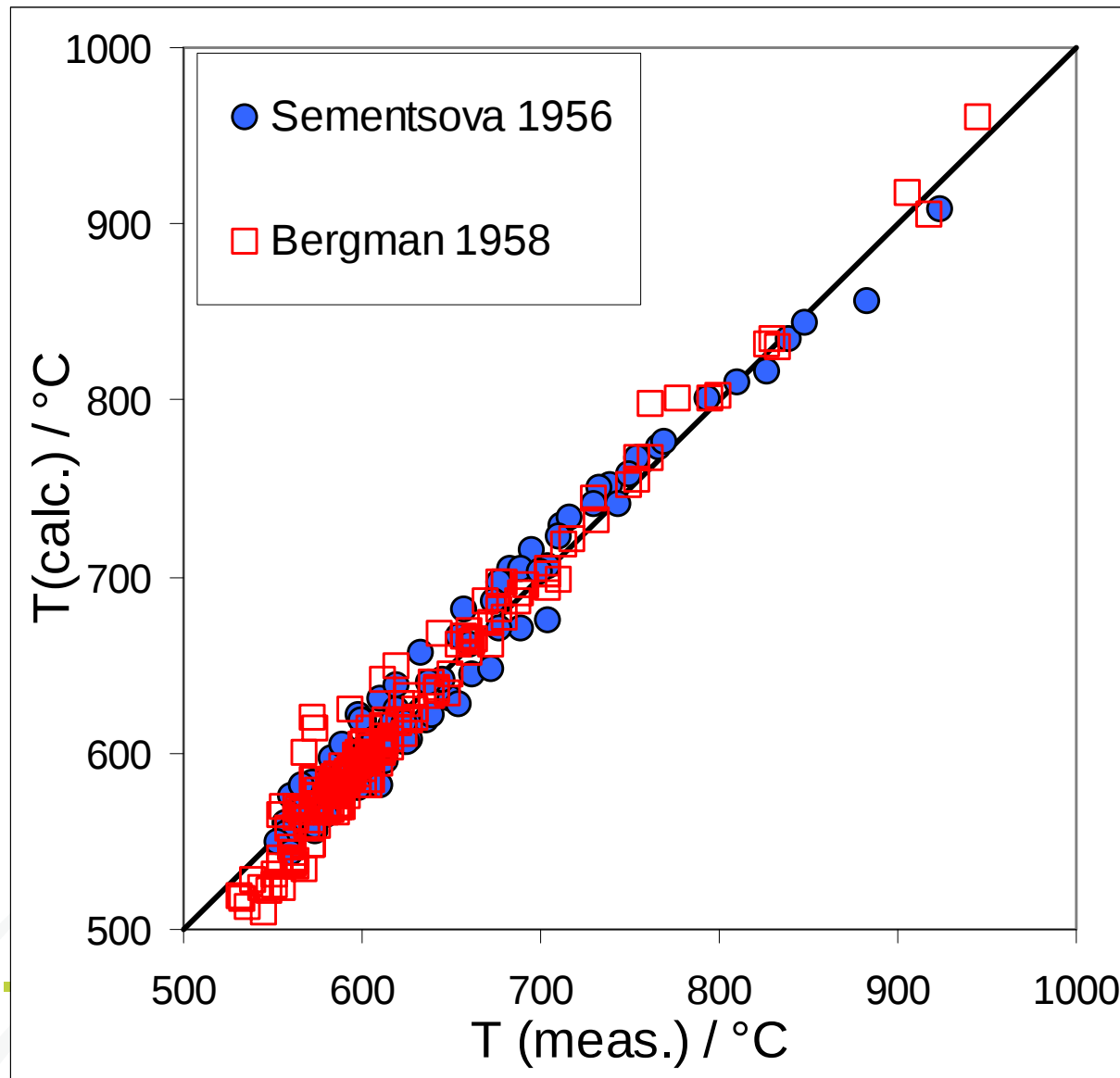
Deposits contain Na^+ , K^+ , SO_4^{2-} , CO_3^{2-} , Cl^-

Thermodynamic model predicts solidus (T_0) within $\pm 10^\circ\text{C}$

$(\text{Na,K})_2\text{SO}_4 + 1.3\% \text{ Cl}$, $T_0=522^\circ\text{C}$

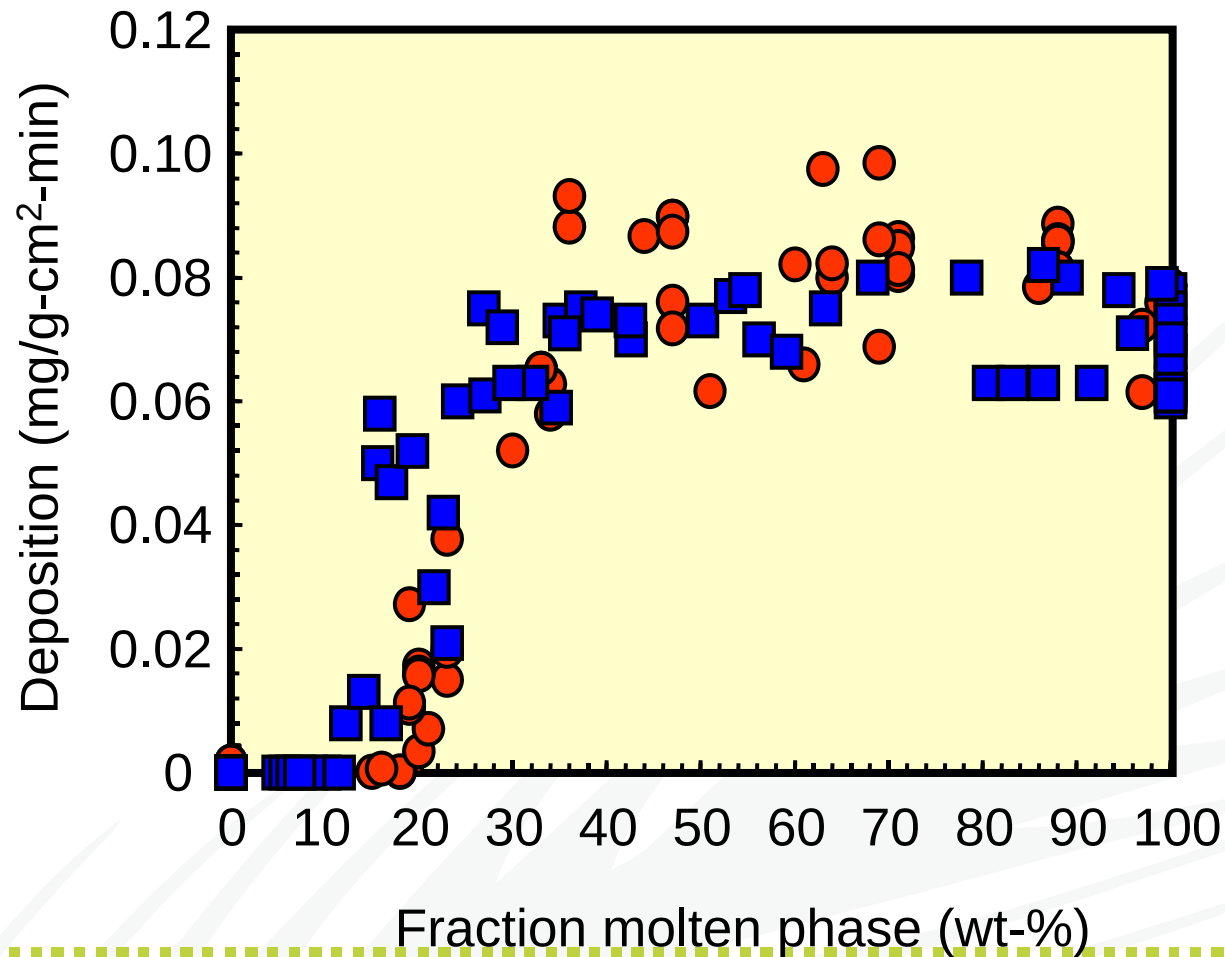


Liquidus temperatures (T_{100}) of $\text{Na}^+, \text{K}^+/\text{Cl}^-, \text{SO}_4^{2-}, \text{CO}_3^{2-}$ mixtures



Stickiness of Partially Molten Particles

Entrained Flow Reactor Tests in Toronto



Åbo Black Liquor Recovery Boiler Advisor

- **Rainer Backman, Gunnar Eriksson, Kaj Sundström:** The Recovery Boiler Advisor - Combination of Practical Experience and Advanced Thermodynamic Modelling, Proceedings: *3rd Colloquium on Process Simulation*, June 12-14, 1996
- An application of ChemApp on the chemical processes in the kraft recovery boiler
- Windows-based program for boiler designers and operators to predict chemical processes in the furnace and in flue gas channels
- One-dimensional, multi-stage chemistry model using chemical equilibrium calculations, physical models for deposit behavior and experimental information for combustion characteristics



Recovery Boiler Fouling Advisor

eXit

Case

Data

Advise

Results

Options

Help

Operating Conditions

Total Air Ratio	1.1
Primary Air Ratio	0.3
Black Liquor Solids	70.0 %
Precipitator Efficiency	99.0 %
Steam Temperature	473.0 C
Gas Temperature	850.0 C
Heat Conductivity	1.030 W/m
Heat Transfer coef	600.0 W/m2K

Cancel

OK

Boiler Overview

Firing

Liquor

Close Overview

Smelt

Carry Over

Dust

Flue Gases

CALCULATE

Created with the "Åbo Advisor"

Recovery Boiler Fouling Advisor

File Edit Case Data Advise Results Options Help

Liquor Analysis Data

Element		wt-%
Carbon	C	37.73
Hydrogen	H	3.96
Sodium	Na	17.33
Potassium	K	1.60
Sulfur	S	3.63
Chlorine	Cl	0.57
Oxygen	O	35.18
Nitrogen	N	0.00

Properties from
Typical

Carry Over level
Medium

Cancel OK

☐ Liquor Additions

Boiler Overview

Close Overview

CALCULATE

Created with the "Åbo Advisor"

Recovery Boiler Fouling Advisor - c:\rfa152\prj\sample.rbf

File Edit Case Data Advise Results Options Help

Flue Gases to Stack

Volume-% in			
Wet Gases		Dry Gases	
CO2	13.38 %	16.25	*File Data
H2O	17.67 %		
SO2	50 ppm	60	
HCl	25 ppm	30	
O2	2.14 %	2.60	
N2	66.81 %	81.14	
NOx	72 ppm	84	

Close

Dust Composition

		w-%
Na2SO4	71.72	
Na2CO3	8.35	
NaCl	0.06	
K2SO4	14.37	
K2CO3	0.21	
KCl	5.29	
Dust Load	14.56	g/m3n
Dust pH	10.41	

Sticky Temperature
573 C

*File Data Close

Boiler Overview

Close Overview

CALCULATE

Created with the "Åbo Advisor"

Recovery Boiler Fouling Advisor - c:\rfa152\prj\sample.rbf

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Carry Over Composition

Solid Composition w-%			
Na2SO4	22.43	K2SO4	2.21
Na2S	0.27	K2S	0.01
NaCl	2.08	KCl	0.04
Na2CO3	66.06	K2CO3	6.91

Sticky Temperature
676 C

Flow Temperature
772 C

Equilibrium Thickness
2.1 mm

Amount
4.38 g/m3n

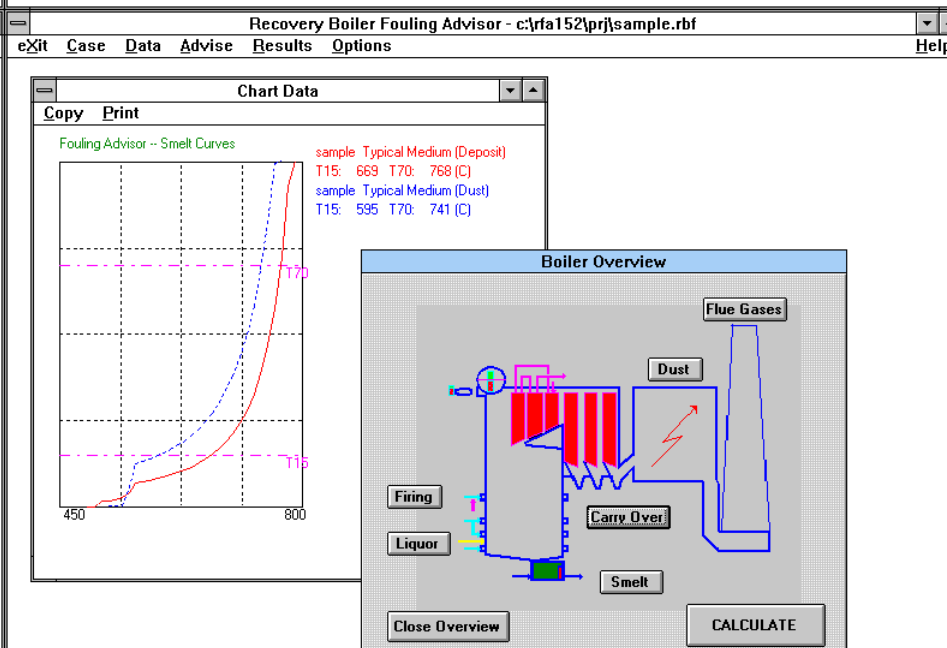
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Boiler Overview

Close Overview

CALCULATE

Created with the "Åbo Advisor"



Created with the "Åbo Advisor"

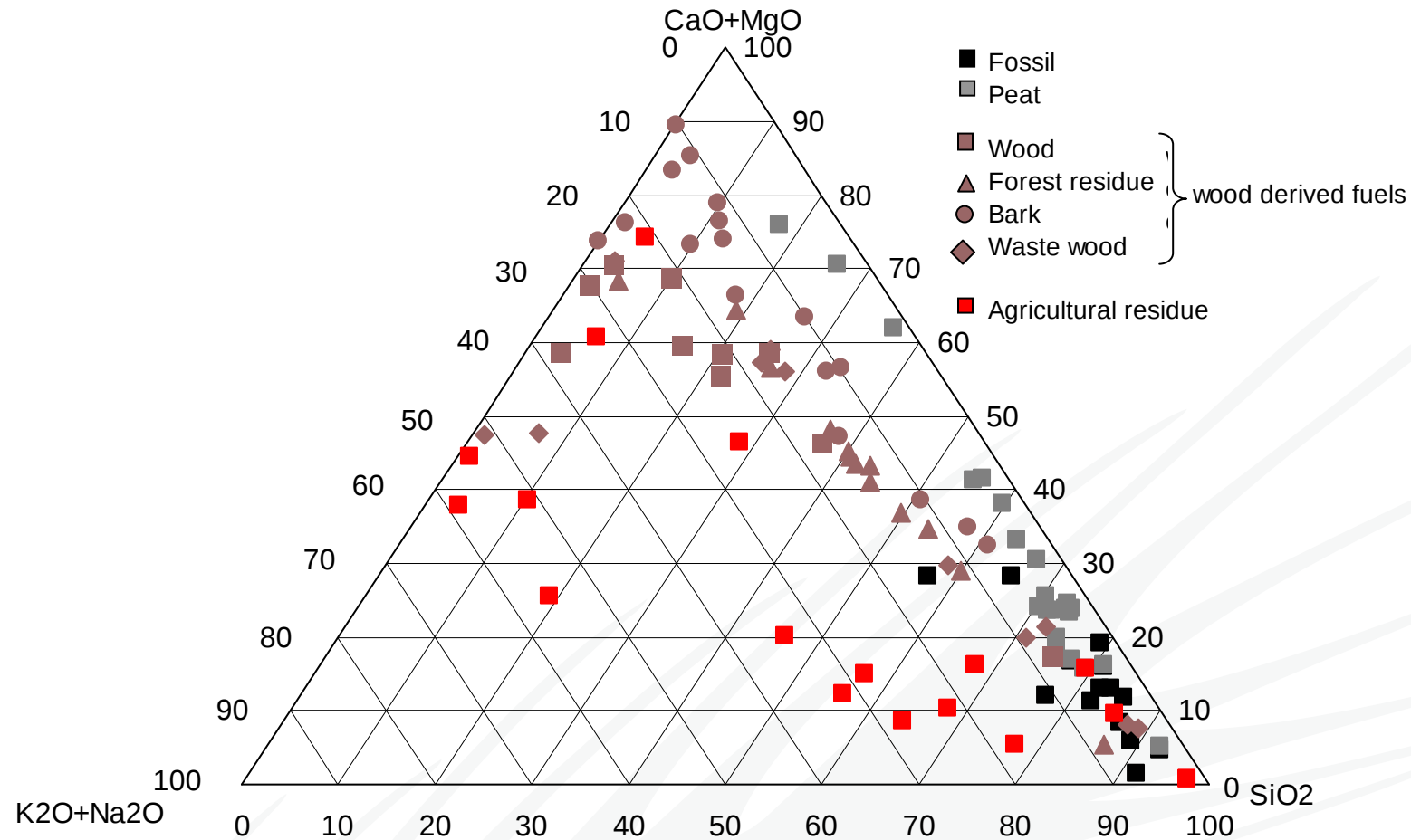
Why thermodynamic modeling is useful for BL combustion

- Well-defined "ash" chemistry (Na-K salts)
- Alkali salts have good contact in smelt bed
- High liquid content in inorganic particles down to 500 °C + molten phase has low viscosity → fast reactions
- Concepts T_{15} and T_{70} work for recovery boilers

Example

Biomass and waste boilers

Major ash-forming elements in different fuels



ÅA fuel database

Ash phases

Silicates

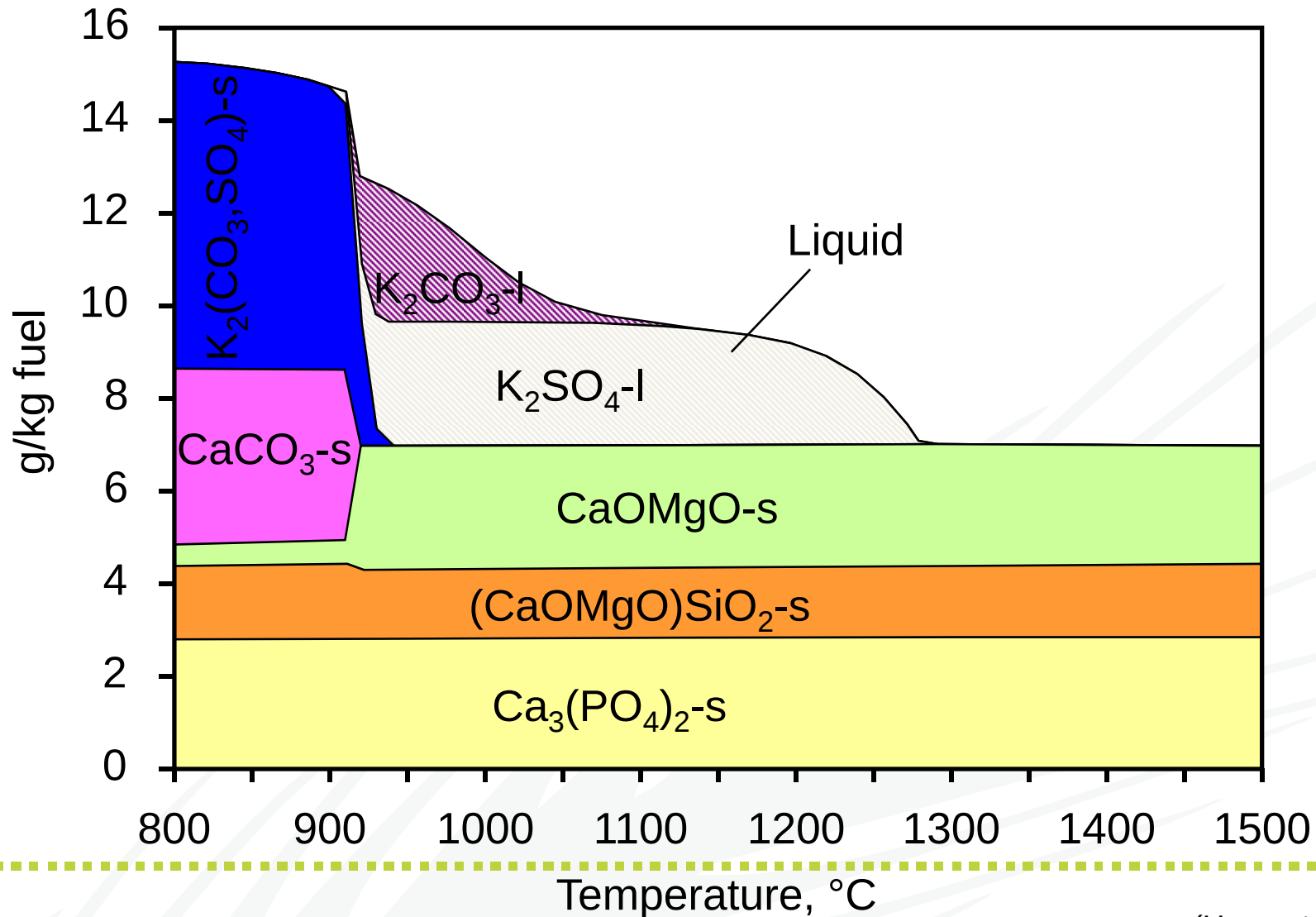
- Minerals in fuels
- Polymeric phases
- Ex. KAlSi_3O_8
- High viscosity liquid
- Quasichemical or associate models for thermodynamics

Salt-like phases

- Various formation reactions
- Simple ionic phases
- Examples KCl , CaSO_4
- Low viscosity liquid
- Sublattice models for thermodynamics

Fly Ash Composition of *Salix*

Multicomponent Multiphase Thermodynamic Calculation



Availability of thermodynamic data

Accurate existing data

- Low-alkali silicates (coal, peat)
- Alkali salt mixtures (black liquor)
- Selected Na-K-Ca-Mg-Zn-Pb salt mixtures (on-going) (biomass, waste)

Improvements needed

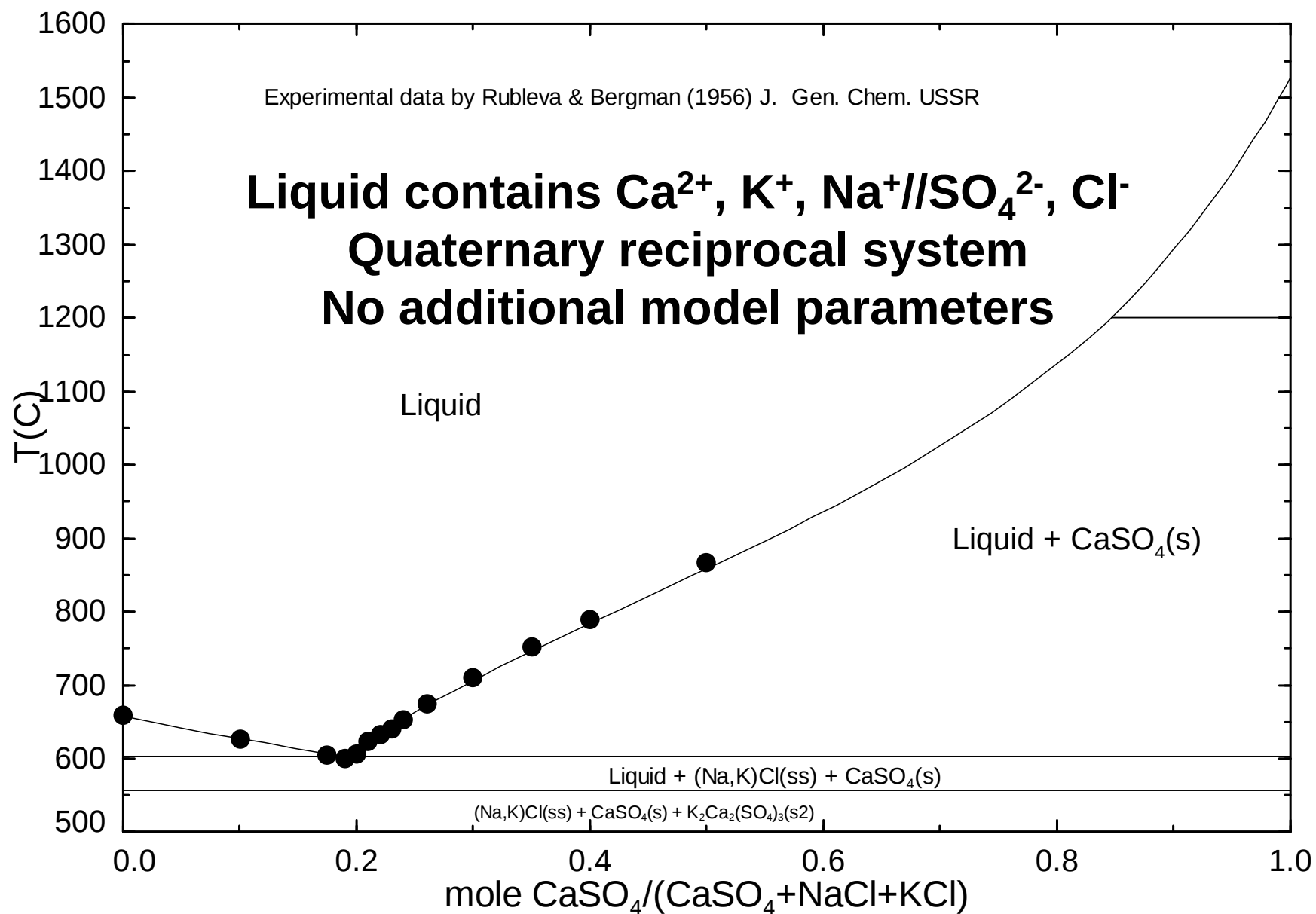
- K_2O -rich silicates (straw)
- Phosphate mixtures (on-going) (agricultural fuels)
- Unified database for heavy metals

Molten salts

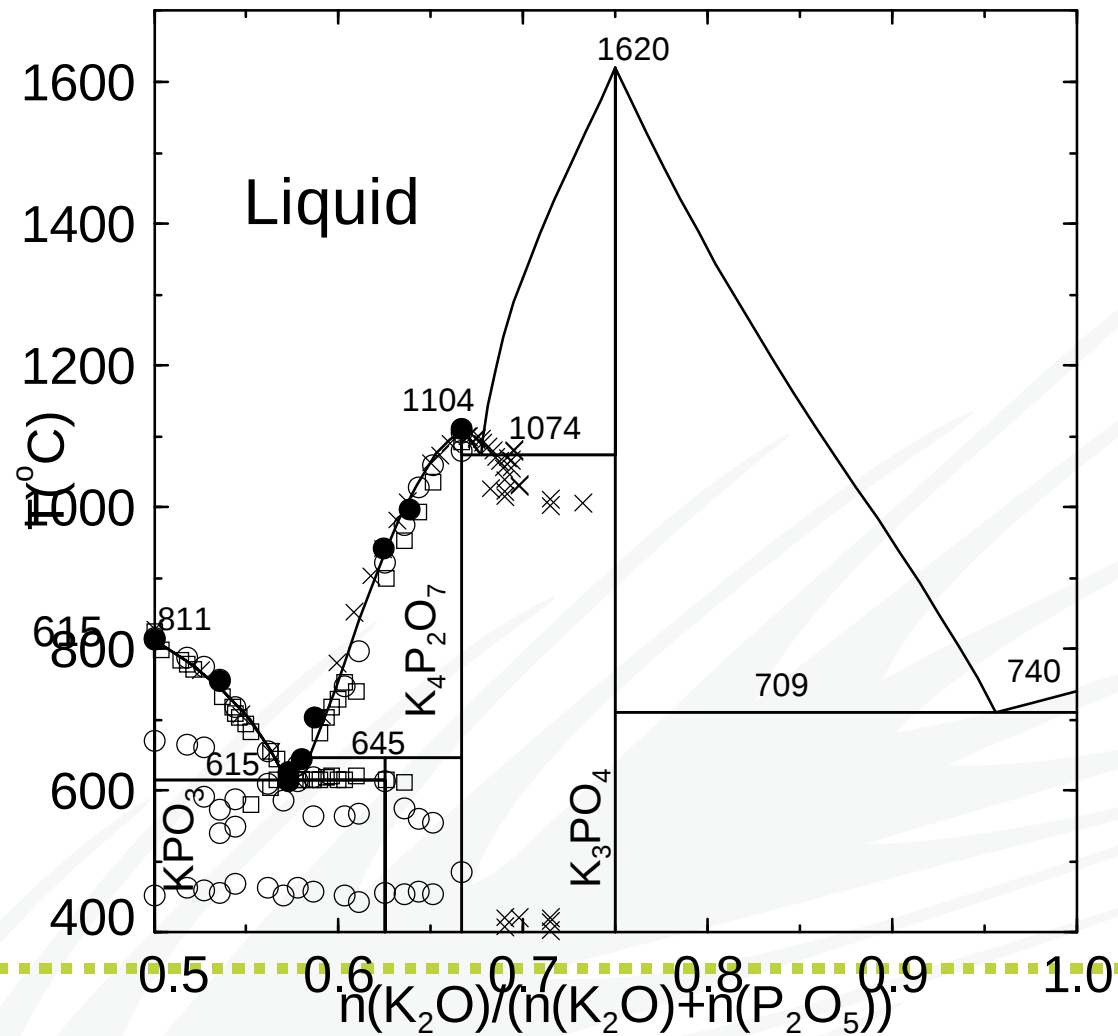
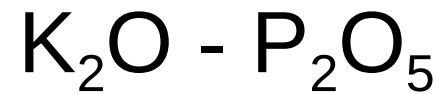
On-going and future developments

- Addition of **Ca-Mg-Pb-Zn-P** to **Na-K-S-C-O-Cl-H** system underway to cover all major salt-like phases in biomass and waste combustion
- New approach to include phosphorus in the liquid phase

CaSO₄ - (NaCl+KCl)



Phosphate chemistry – new results



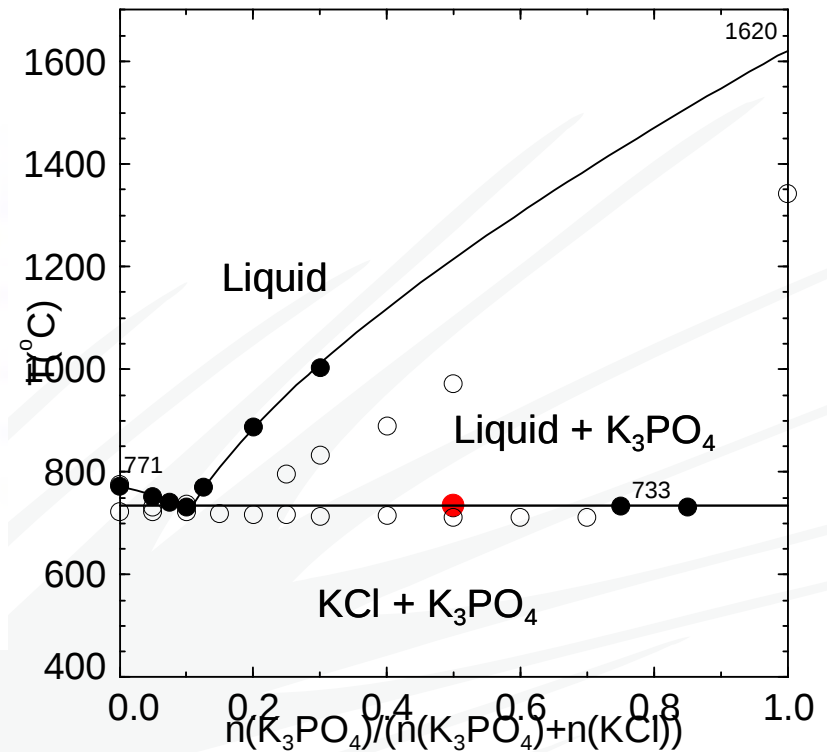
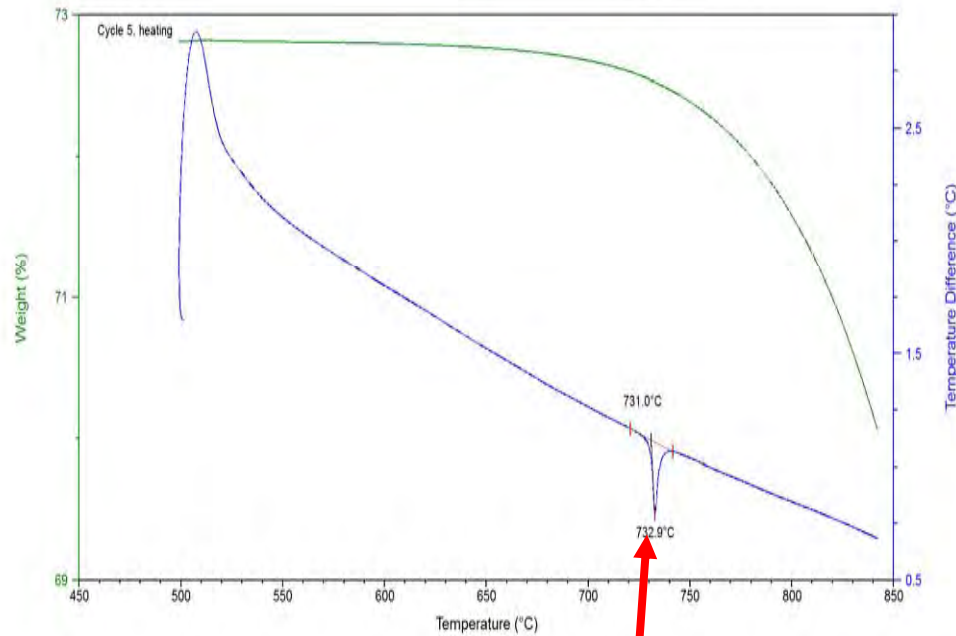
K_3PO_4 -KCl mixture

Model vs experiment

Sample: K_3PO_4 -KCl 74-26 wt%
Size: 11.6010 mg

DSC-TGA

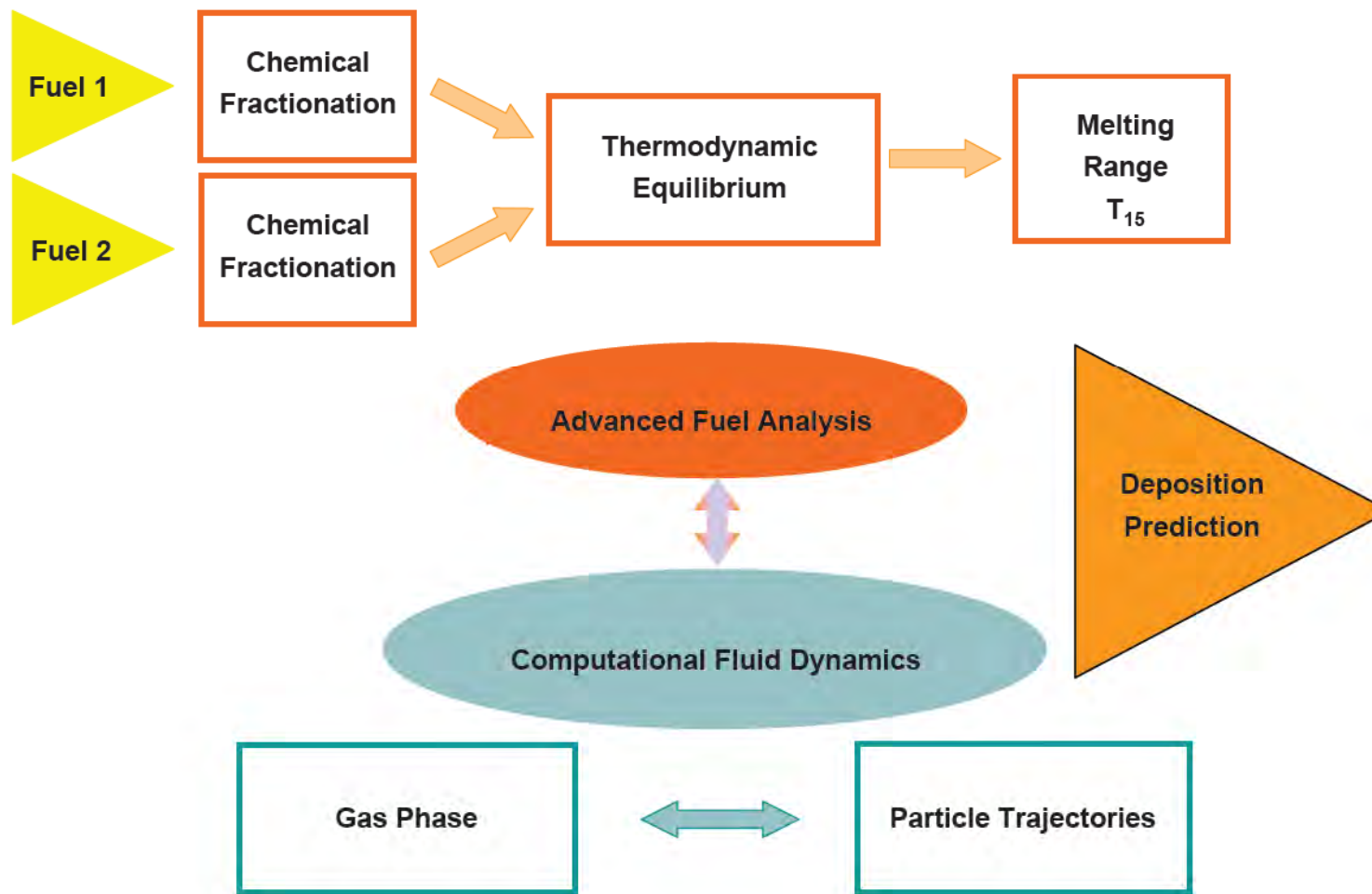
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Operator: PB
Run Date: 16-Jun-2011 09:18



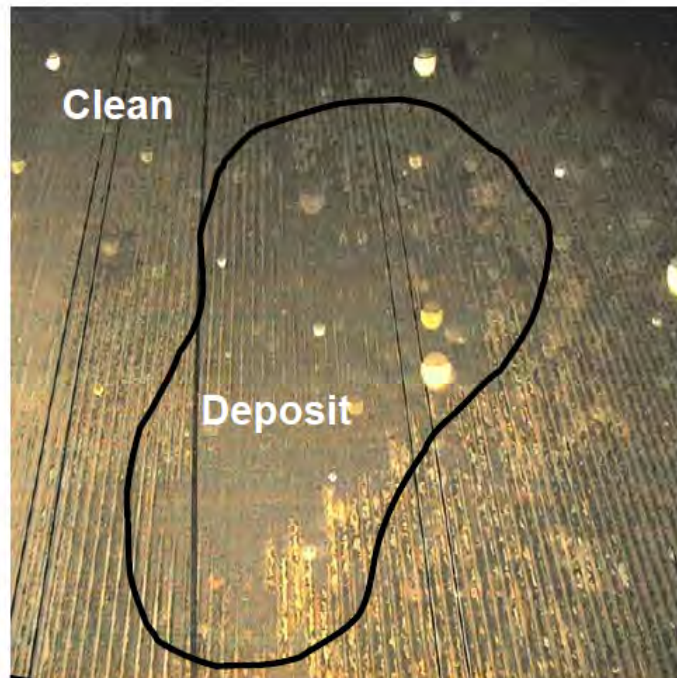
731-733 °C

Example for biomass boilers

Advanced Ash Behaviour Prediction Tool for Biofuel Mixtures



Visual Validation of Deposition Model



Lower part of the right wall



Peat

More of Gunnar's contributions to combustion applications

Influence of Black Liquor Variability, Combustion, and Gasification Process Variables and Inaccuracies in Thermochemical Data on Equilibrium Modeling Results

Anders Larsson,* Anders Nordin, Rainer Backman, and Björn Wernqvist

Energy Technology and Thermal Process Chemistry, Umeå University, SE-90187 Umeå, Sweden

Gunnar Eriksson

GTT-Technologies, Kaiserstrasse 100, D-52134 Herzogenrath, Germany

Environ. Sci. Technol. 2001, 35, 1867–1874

Thermodynamic Modeling of PCDD/Fs Formation in Thermal Processes

PENGFU TAN,[†] INAKI HURTADO, AND
DIETER NEUSCHÜTZ

*Lehrstuhl für Theoretische Hüttenkunde,
Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen,
Kopernikusstrasse 16, D-52056 Aachen, Germany*

GUNNAR ERIKSSON

*GTT-Technologies, Kaiserstrasse 100,
52134 Herzogenrath, Germany*

Environ. Sci. Technol. 1996, 30, 50–56

Thermodynamic Behavior of Metal Chlorides and Sulfates under the Conditions of Incineration Furnaces

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ALFONS BUEKENS

*Department of Industrial Chemistry, Free University of
Brussels (VUB), Pleinlaan 2, 1050 Brussels, Belgium*

PHILIP J. SPENCER AND
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(RWTH), Kopernikusstr. 16, D-52074 Aachen, Germany*

Thermodynamic modeling of ash chemistry in combustion

- Useful tool for modeling alkali salt melting and reactions in BL recovery boilers
 - Bed behavior, corrosion, deposit formation
 - Useful tool for predicting ash chemistry in biomass and coal combustion
 - Well-defined databases for coal ashes and slags
 - Database for salt phases including Ca, Mg, Pb, Zn, and P is being developed
 - Databases for alkali-rich silicates need development
 - Limitations of kinetics, fuel speciation, combustion techniques need to be addressed for proper use of thermodynamic modeling
-

Gratulerar Gunnar

önskar
alla vänner vid
Åbo Akademi

