

## Exergy and Energy Analysis of Effective Utilization of Carbon Dioxide in the Gas-to-Methanol Process

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### Abstract

Two process models are used to convert carbon dioxide into methanol. These processes have been extended and improved using Aspen Plus simulator software. Both processes are found in the CO<sub>2</sub> correction system. In this machine, the desired synthesis gas is produced in a flexible configuration. At the same time, the conversion of CO<sub>2</sub> to hydrogen via a copper-based catalyst has been accomplished in the methanol blending and bonding machine to produce the target product, methanol. The simulation results show that, in both proposed CO<sub>2</sub>-gas-to-methanol process, the energy efficiency can be significantly increased, and the CO<sub>2</sub> emission significantly reduced as compared to the conventional Gas-to-methanol process. Energy efficiency is also affected by the recycling factor. The higher the recycling factor, the better the CO<sub>2</sub> conversion and reaction will be as well as increased energy efficiency and decreased CO<sub>2</sub> emission. However, the refractive index seems to have little effect on energy efficiency, and the useful recovery that goes back to the breeder is meager. Implementation of the carbon dioxide utilization process for gas-to-methanol units has significant impacts on these systems in the term of energy and exergy, the performance ratios increased 6.5 and 4.2%, respectively, compared to the base cases. Regarding exergoeconomics, the exergy cost rate decreased 71 \$/s. An exergoenvironmental analysis showed the impacts are significant. The environmental impact difference increased by 3%, which, because of its definite form, means a carbon dioxide utilization plant makes a more significant positive difference in the environment.

## 1. Introduction

The process of converting methanol to methanol (GTM) based on methanol synthesis and mixing has attracted much attention in the last decade, as

demand for methanol is generally increasing and the natural gas supply is relatively low [1].

Methanol is one of the essential raw materials for the petrochemical and energy industry. The reason is the widespread use of matter [2]. Its use ranges

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from chemistry (as a solvent or raw material for the production of olefins, formaldehyde, acetic acid, etc.) to the energy industry (as a fuel, in combination with diesel, and for use in fuel cells). Methanol is widespread and will potentially become a more valuable commodity in the coming years. This can be attributed to the abundance of natural gas resources, such as shale gas and methane on the coal bed, that has recently received much attention in horizontal fissures and hydraulic fission technology [3].

The main human impacts on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in nature can be described as the leading global warming factor [3]. Various technologies to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are being developed and implemented such as carbon capture and storage technology (CCS) as well as carbon capture and use technology (CCU) [4]. Comparing the two seems to be a useful and cost-effective CCU. Because it not only reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, it can also produce valuable fuels and chemicals that reduce the cost of petrochemical plants to produce and convert CO<sub>2</sub> [5]. The CCU approach to convert CO<sub>2</sub> to hydrogen and modify CO<sub>2</sub> has recently been considered as a promising way to use CO<sub>2</sub>, given its potential for use in the GTM process at large units. GTM technology can also use natural and greenhouse gas wastes [6]. These gases are released due to their low economic value and generate a large amount of excess CO<sub>2</sub>.

The GTM process, based on methanol synthesis and bonding, generally consists of three parts: first, the production of gas in which the methane correction reaction is assisted by processes such as automatic heat correction (ATR), partial methane oxidation reaction (POM), methane steam reforming (SMR), and methane carbon dioxide reforming (CDR) [7]. Second, the synthesis and repair of methane usually carried out by a copper-based catalyst, which eventually produces crude methanol with a small number of other products such as dimethyl ether (DME) and ethanol. Third, product purification, which separates out the final product, methanol.

The current methane correction technology mentioned above has several problems [8]. The ratio  $H_2/(2CO + 3CO_2)$  deviates from the value of one, but we need that value for the methanol compound. Thus, an adjustment step is required for the addition of the coefficient  $H_2/(2CO + 3CO_2)$ . This modification, which is expensive, is also required for POM and ATM processes [9].

Therefore, in the present study, two modification reactions of methane have been made to adjust the  $H_2/(2CO+3CO_2)$  ratio to produce synthetic gas. Extensive efforts have recently been made to improve the GTM process based on methanol compounding. Ehlinghter and his colleagues have investigated the design, analysis, and integration of the methanol process from shale gas [10]. Bermudez and his colleagues have stimulated the production of methanol from a coal-fired stove that is the basis for CO<sub>2</sub> correction [11]. Lee and his colleagues designed processes with three models for gas-to-liquid (GTL) production that produce methanol, DME, F-T diesel. They did this to determine the best GTL process with a low-priced scenario. Park and his colleagues studied the best reaction conditions for maximum methanol production [12].

Several processes have been designed and simulated to compare GTM processes based on methanol synthesis and to identify the most desirable and cost-effective. Others have looked at all stages of the GTM process and considered their energy efficiency and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions [13]. Building on studies on FTs based on the GTL process that uses iron and cobalt as catalysts, we proposed two new methods for the GTM process, which we call CGTMs [14]. The base of the methanol compound functions and the CO<sub>2</sub> is reacted and converted to it by two hydrogen conversion and conversion reactions. This process has shown an increase in energy efficiency as well as a decrease in CO<sub>2</sub> emission, which is due to the recycling of the reactive part of the synthesized gas and its return to the methanol correction and recovery apparatus [15].

**Table 1. Nomenclature of the text.**

Air Separation Unit	ASU
Thermal car modification	ATR
Capital costs	CAPEX
Carbon capture and storage	CCS
Carbon capture and operation	CCU
Optimal carbon dioxide from methane	CDR
Carbon formation reaction	CFR
Carbon dioxide utilization process from gas to methanol	CGTM
Carbon efficiency	$C_{eff}$
Dimethyl ether	DME
Fischer-Tropsch	F-T
Gas to liquid	GTL
Gas to methanol	GTM
Langmuir-Hinshelwood-Hougen-Watson	LHHW
Lower thermal value	LHV
natural gas	NG
Operating costs	OPEX
Partial oxidation of methane	POM
Methane correction with water vapor	SMR
Steam to carbon	S/C
Thermal efficiency	Teff
Water vapor changes	WGS
Thermal Exergy efficiency	Texe
Carbon exergy efficiency	Cexe

A literature review shows some significant gaps in the body of methanol-based carbon-dioxide-utilization or the CDU field of research and technology: 1. methanol-based CDU has not been getting enough attention in recent papers [5], 2. the gas-to-methanol process can be made more sustainable [7], and 3. the energy and exergy performance of the GTM process is relatively low [14]. In this regard, the main aim of this paper is to suggest a combination of the CDU with conventional GTM technology to resolve these issues. Moreover, considering all the mentioned facts, the main innovations of this paper are:

- Implementation of an Exergy-based design for a GTM process
- Improvement of the energy and exergy performance of the unit
- Combination of the CDU and GTM units into a CGTM unit
- Designation of a sustainable green methanol supply-chain

## 2. Methods and materials

In general, the GTM process based on methanol composition includes a primary feeder, gas pre-treatment, correction device, methanol mixer, and crop separator. However, current studies do not generally include gas pre-treatment and separation devices because they have performed well in petrochemical plants, with little impact on process efficiency [15]. We now examine CGTM process models in a simple but meaningful way, which

necessarily includes feeding, breeding, methanol mixing, and recycling devices with several separation lines. The difference between the proposed GTM

and CGTM is in the structure of the process, which can be seen in Figure 1 [13].

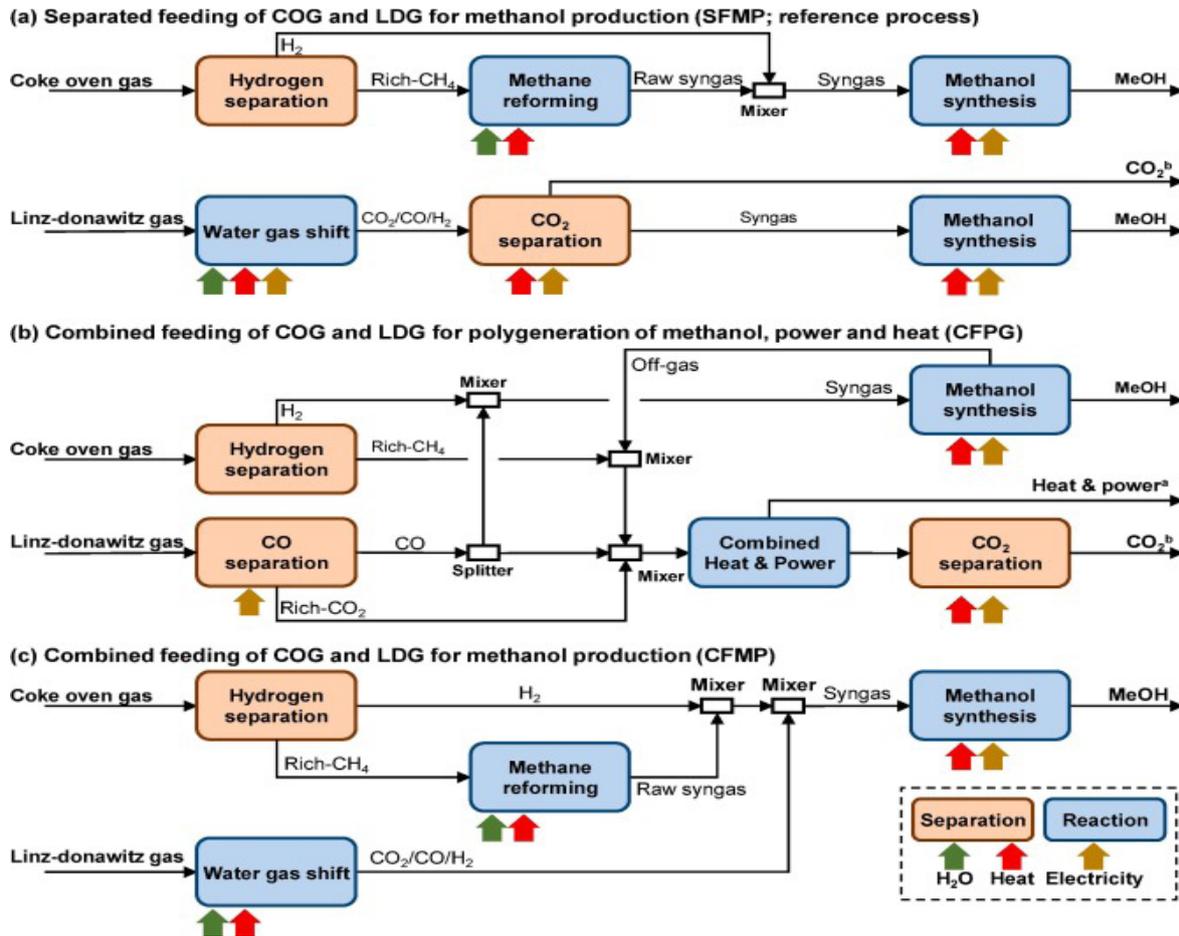


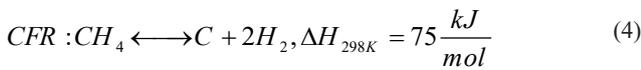
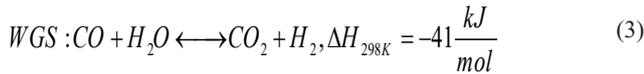
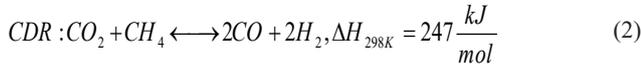
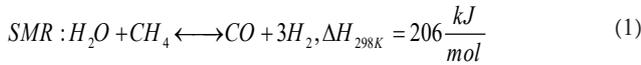
Figure 1. Schematic of the CGTM flow chart process [7, 11, 13, 15].

(1) In Option 1, we first modify CO<sub>2</sub> with natural gas and water vapor to produce a synthesis gas and CO<sub>2</sub> mixed with steam, and then convert the methanol to hydrogen and convert CO<sub>2</sub> [16].

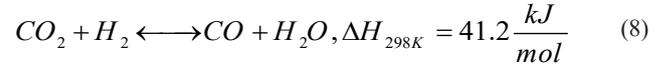
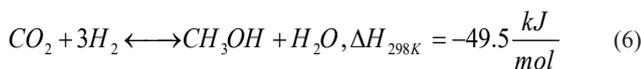
(2) In Option 2, we deliver fresh CO<sub>2</sub> directly to the methanol mixing plant to produce our desired methanol utilizing CO<sub>2</sub> hydrogen conversion. Several underlying assumptions have been made with the models used, which we will explain below [11].

Methane, ethane, butane, propane, CO<sub>2</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub> are used as the main components of primary nutrition, and we call them natural gas (NG). The thermodynamic methods used for both models are based on the Peng Robinson relation, which

results in noble gases, hydrocarbons, and alcohols. In the correction device, previous modifiers were used for the primary modifier, which operated at 550 °C and 5 bar. In this case, the Ni catalyst in the modifier converts almost all of the C<sub>2</sub> + hydrocarbons present in the NG, and then converts the recycled gas in the methanol blend to methane [12]. Also, the R<sub>Gibbs</sub> model, based on Gibb's free energy minimization, was selected for the pre-modification equilibrium simulation for C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>4</sub> hydrocarbons. Meanwhile, the R<sub>Gibbs</sub> model was implemented for normal and modifying reactions as follows [17]:



The modifier operated five times at 500 ° C. In this example, because the reaction rate is high at high temperatures, reactions 1 to 3 were considered as a chemical equilibrium. To better simulate the modifier in the  $R_{Gibbs}$  model, a finite chemical equilibrium was considered. After modification, the synthesized gas was sent directly to the methanol compound reactor, without regulating the device. Because the synthesis gas coefficient is variable, the  $CO_2$  correction was obtained by mixing with water vapor [16]. The  $CO_2$  hydrogen conversion reactor in methanol was based on a copper catalyst that provided a good content of hydrogen. The methanol mixing reactor was operated at 250 ° C and 80 bar. The main reactions in the methanol compound reactor can be explained by the following three reactions [14]:



The methanol blending reactor was simulated with the RPLUG reactor. However, the LHHW kinetic model was used to investigate the three primary reactions of methanol compounds [18]. The kinetic parameters in the LHHW model were obtained from previous experiments. The multipolar reactor had 11458 tubes, was 12 meters long, 0.03675 meters in diameter, and the particle density of the catalyst was 2000 kg/m<sup>3</sup> [19]. After mixing methanol with gas vapor, which contains unreacted gas, the methanol and nitrogen were removed from the top of the reactor. Meanwhile, the main crop of methanol and other products (water, DM, ethanol) was released from the bottom of the reactor. Part of the unreacted synthesized gas was recycled and returned to the methanol reformers to improve energy efficiency, such as  $CO_2$  conversion [20]. The rest of the un-synthesized gas was ejected to avoid inert gas accumulation and used as a fuel to reduce NG consumption [21].

## 2.1 Exergy analysis

In the proposed cycle, greater use of thermal exergy and waste reduction in the plant are considered to increase efficiency [22]. As observed in Eq.(9), the complete cycle efficiency was obtained from the sum of the chemical and thermal efficiency of the system [23]. The electrical efficiency of the system was obtained from the product's thermal LHV used in the electrical performance using General Eq. (10) [24]. The overall performance of the system was calculated by Eq. (19) and is shown in Table 2.

$$\eta_{Total} = \eta_{electrical} + \eta_{heat} \quad (9)$$

$$\eta_{electrical} = \frac{W_{net}}{LHV_{fuel} * \xi_{fuel}} \quad (10)$$

Table 2. Exergy equations in cycle simulation [24].

Element	Exergy Efficiency	Equation
functional efficiency	$\eta_{Ex, f} = \frac{\sum Ex_{product}}{\sum Ex_{source}}$	11
Electrical efficiency	$\eta_{Ex, ele} = \frac{\sum Ex_{ele, out} - \sum Ex_{ele, in}}{\sum Ex_{fuel}}$	12
Exergy efficiency	$\eta_{Ex, total} = \frac{\sum Ex_{ele, out} + \sum Ex_{heat, out} - \sum P_{ele, in}}{\sum Ex_{fuel}}$	13
Exergy efficiency Fuel cell	$\eta_{Ex, f (cell)} = \frac{E_{ele}}{(Ex_{fuel, in} - Ex_{fuel, out}) + Ex_{ox, in} - E_{ox, out}}$	14
Exergy efficiency turbine	$\eta_{Ex, f (turbine)} = \frac{E_{shaft}}{Ex_{in} - \sum E_{out}}$	15
Exergy efficiency Steam reformer	$\eta_{Ex, f (reformer)} = \frac{Ex_{productgas}^{ch} - Ex_{steam}^{ch} - Ex_{feed}^{ch}}{(Ex_{fluegas, in}^{tm} - Ex_{fluegas, out}^{tm}) - (Ex_{productgas}^{tm} - Ex_{steam}^{tm} - Ex_{feed}^{tm})}$	16
Exergy efficiency heat exchanger	$\eta_{Ex, f (Heatexchanger)} = \frac{Ex_{p, out} - Ex_{p, in}}{Ex_{s, out} - Ex_{s, in}}$	17
Exergy efficiency drum	$\eta_{Ex, f (drum)} = \frac{Ex_{steam, out} - Ex_{steam, in}}{Ex_{evaporator, out} - Ex_{evaporator, in}}$	18
Exergy efficiency reactor	$\eta_{Ex, f (combustion\ chamber)} = \frac{Ex_{flue\ gas}^{tm} - Ex_{fuel}^{tm} - Ex_{ox}^{tm}}{Ex_{fuel}^{ch} + Ex_{oc}^{ch} - Ex_{fluegas}^{ch}}$	19
Exergy efficiency compressor, pump	$\eta_{Ex, f (Compressor, pump)} = \frac{Ex_{out} - Ex_{in}}{Ex_{shaft}}$	20

## 2.2 Exergoeconomics analysis

The method of external economic analysis is similar to environmental analysis [25]. This is an exergy analysis of the energy conversion system and then an economic analysis based on the Total Income Requirements (TRR) method that covers the entire life cycle of the energy conversion system. Initially, the total capital investment was calculated

[24]. Then, based on the assumptions of economic, financial, operational, and market input parameters, the total annual revenue needed was calculated. This TRR shows the cost of producing the system products and offsets all costs incurred each year of the project's economic life to guarantee the industrial plant. After that, the annual variable costs of the product were related to the investment, operation, maintenance, fuel, and other costs (cost

categories) [26]. The equipment was converted into a series of equivalent annual payments. Then, by calculating the specific cost rate for each stream of matter and energy, costs were assigned to the

respective exergy flows. Since the external economic analysis is well established, only the formulas of analogy with those used for the environmental analysis are presented in Table 3 [27].

**Table 3. Equations for exergoeconomic and exergoenvironmental assessments [25, 26, 27].**

Exergoeconomics		Exergoenvironmental	
Exergy stream cost rate	$C_j = c_j * E_j$	Exergoenvironmental :stream impact rate	$B_j = b_j . E_j$
Component cost balance	$\sum C^{j,k,in} + Z_k = \sum C^{j,k,out}$	Component environmental impact balance	$\sum B^{j,k,in} + Y_k = \sum B^{j,k,out}$
Component-related cost rate	$Z_k = Z_k^{CL} + Z_k^{OM}$	Component-related environmental impact rate	$Y_k = Y_k^{CL} + Y_k^{OM} + Y_k^{DI}$
The component relative cost difference	$r_k = \frac{C_{P,k} + C_{F,k}}{C_{F,k}}$	Component relative environmental impact difference	$r_{b,k} = \frac{b_{P,k} - b_{F,k}}{b_{F,k}}$
Component exergoeconomic factor	$f_k = \frac{Z_k}{Z_k + C_{D,k}}$	Component exergoenvironmental factor	$f_{b,k} = \frac{Y_k}{Y_k + B_{D,k}}$

### 2.3 Exergoenvironmental analysis

As mentioned earlier, all previously developed thermodynamic approaches to allocation are useful for formulating the complexity in energy systems with several desirable ones. Energy products in these efforts have responded to problems related to micro-level allocation to access detailed process information that the current economy has failed to do [28]. More precisely, this inaccuracy stems from neglecting the process details and aggregating the entire process of each subsystem. This accumulation results in a different allocation share among the products in the use of P-type auxiliary equations. However, there are accounting constraints that are used for the macro level [29]. There are several non-energy products in the same unit (along with energy goods) that cannot be evaluated based on their sensitivity such as petrochemical and fresh products. Water, is at least the second top assessment of responsibilities in the absence of a better assessment method. Modification of the auxiliary equations in the standard environmental approach is proposed to

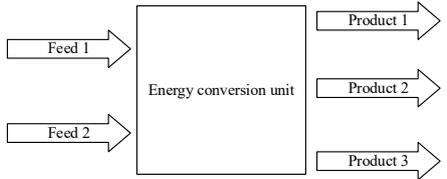
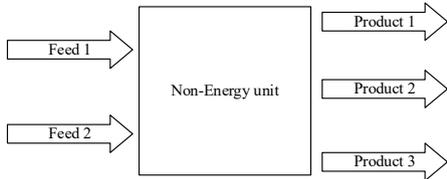
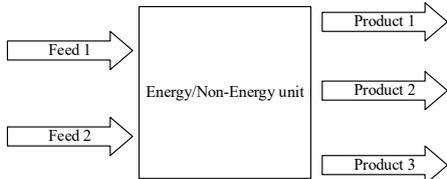
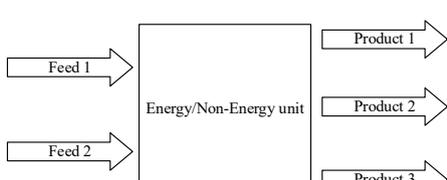
rationally allocate the standard level of greenhouse gas emissions among producers, while the original equilibrium equations remain the same [30].

The idea of this research is to replace the high costs with the exergy content in the P/F auxiliary equations between energy and non-energy flows, and if all flows for which environmental load is assigned are energy flows, P/F rules will be applied [31]. (Sums up for each subsystem). If all the streams for which the environmental load is assigned are non-energy streams, the exergy content P/F rules should be replaced with additional costs. This is because the high cost reflects the amount of exergy consumed in the production of materials, and may, therefore, represent exergy destruction and greenhouse gas emissions. These high costs are available in many previous studies, e.g., [31, 32], or can also be calculated directly by the exergy consumption concentration (CEXC) approach. For simplicity, the high cost from the literature are used in this study. In other words, if the units have both energy and non-energy flows, this allocation is based on the classical commodity method, which assumes that the

environmental impact is due to significant products from foreign and other sources[32]. Greenhouse gas emissions are allocated according to one of the two rules mentioned above. The contribution of each unit to the greenhouse gas emissions was calculated using the environmental specific load, which is calculated in the exergy unit of each stream. This was done using the Bastianoni carbon emission enhancement (CEA) approach presented in [15, 33]. In this method, presented as average upstream and downstream debt allocation methods, the cumulative environmental loads per unit of production are summarized, and the percentages of aggregates represent the environmental responsibility of the resultant unit [32]. The

thermodynamic methods for distributing the load across the outputs are useful concepts for formulating complex energy systems with several desired energy products. These approaches allow for the identification of problems related to the transfer of load at the micro-level, conventional economic theories are often too complicated at this level. However, due to the lack of process details and the integration of the whole process of each subsystem, it is less accurate than the macro-level analysis [33]. This combination creates a different allocation of stocks between stocks. Table 4 summarizes the rules listed below:

Table 4. The method used in different cases [33, 34].

Case	Specification	Allocation Rule	Formulation
	Energy carriers e.g., Cogeneration unit	P-type/F-type	$b_1 = b_2 = b_3$
	Non-energy carriers e.g. Ammoniac and Ammonia plants	P-type/F-type replacing exergetic costs instead of exergies	$\frac{b_1 E_1}{CEXC_1} = \frac{b_2 E_2}{CEXC_2} = \frac{b_3 E_3}{CEXC_3}$
	P1 and P2: Energy carriers P3: Non-energy carrier e.g., crude oil distillation column	5th principle suggested by Finnveden subtracting P3 and Conventional exergoenvironmental P-type/F-type	$b_1 = b_2$ $\frac{b_3 E_3}{CEXC_3} = cte$
	P1, P2: NonEnergy carriers P3: Energy carrier e.g., Cement production with waste heat recovery power plant	5th principle suggested by Finnveden subtracting P3 and Conventional exergoenvironmental P-type/F-type replacing exergetic costs instead of exergies	$b_3 = cte$ $\frac{b_1 E_1}{CEXC_1} = \frac{b_2 E_2}{CEXC_2}$

It may be possible to calculate the contribution of each unit to the emission of environmental gases using the specific environmental charge calculated in the exergy unit of each stream, (b). This is done using the Bastianoni carbon emission enhancement

(CEA) approach presented in [34]. In this method, presented as the average upstream and downstream debt allocation methods, the accumulated environmental loads per unit of production are normalized. "The appropriate level of aggregation identifies the

behavior of each process unit and its purpose in the overall production process [31]. Again, it is worth noting that as the analytical level of analysis increases, the accuracy of the results decreases. Products

are considered as units of minimum scale, so it is advisable to go into the details of the process as far as data is available or time-limited analysis allows [35].

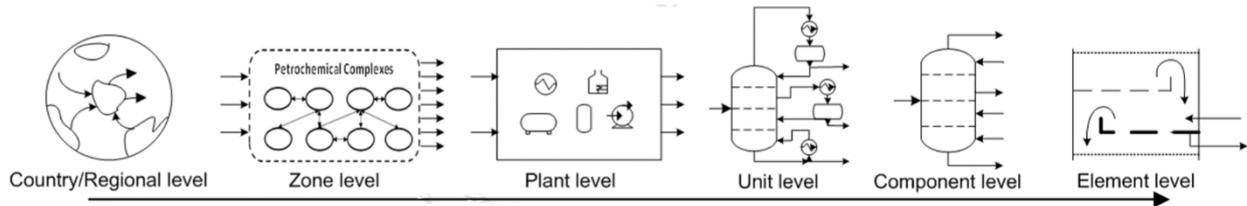


Figure 2. Different levels of system analysis [35].

A more comprehensive view requires more data to perform a more time-consuming analysis. However, more complexities are considered and more accurate results are obtained [36]. The accumulation error sequence depends on the amount of accumulation and file size. The previously developed thermodynamics-based methods described in Section 2.1 are used for component surface analysis but are limited to a specific unit of energy (and, in some cases, the plant surface) as a specific application. Such limited logic may not apply to environmental accounts in cases where an area is affected by manufacturing activities in the macro analysis of the current work system, as recommended in the literature [33], due to a large number of plants. The lack of information and the extent of the area of interest for environmental analysis is the study of the area concerned. Addressed. It placed. In further studies on the type of policy, this method may also be applied at the regional or country level, while reducing the level of accuracy [34]. However, in some cases, the accumulation error may be significant as some manufacturing processes consume small amounts of pollutants (such as renewable energy), nutrients, or even contaminants produced elsewhere. Use as raw materials (such as carbonated drinking process) Alternatively, treatment units) In such cases, the use of type P fraud is deceptive [34]. Therefore, the choice of aggregate level in the analysis and the category of environmental impacts in the

analysis should be considered.

Another challenge in using high costs is the error in importing secondary energy carriers as fuel. In such cases, if environmental loads (outside of local pollution management) are not taken outside the boundaries of the system, the destruction of exergy products will result in high costs of imported fuel [35]. However, economically and flexibly, the intermediate feed is usually processed near the end consumer. In such cases, it is recommended to extend the boundaries of the system to consider all the environmental impacts of the production activity under study. Otherwise, if emissions do not affect the purpose and environment of the area, it is advisable to reduce the share of high out-of-system costs by importing secondary energy carriers or processed feeds [36]. However, because of all the shortcomings, the idea of replacing the exergy contents with the exergy destruction/high costs in the allocation process, the notion of a share in the propagation related to the exergy destruction/additional costs, makes the managers' thermodynamic logic. Environmental decisions are more acceptable to producers, and it also extends the use of proprietary thermodynamic methods to a broader range of energy or non-energy systems [21, 36]. The performance parameters of this plant can be described using the following indexes in Table 5 [37].

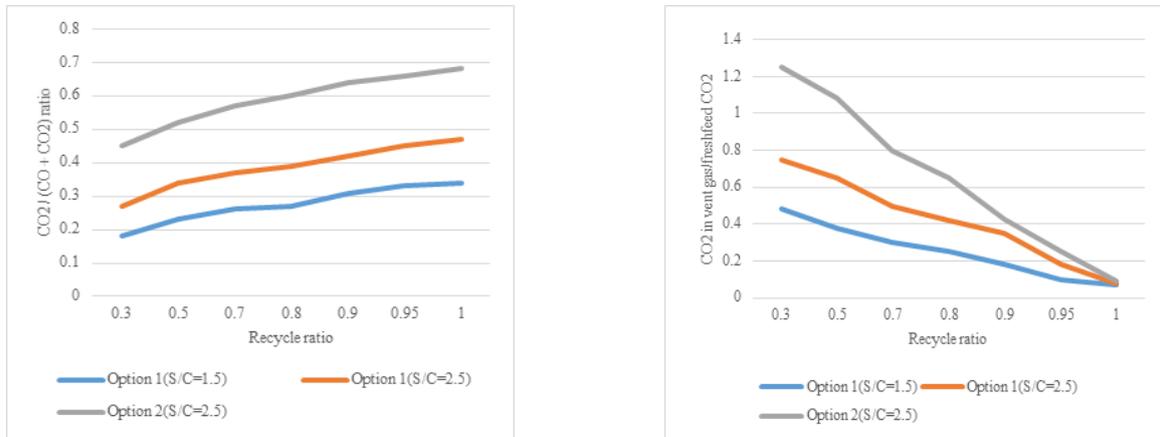
Table 5. The performance factors of the NDCL plant [31-36].

Factor	Formula
The Energy performance plant	$\eta_{Gross} = \frac{W_{gross}}{m_{fuel} * LHV_{fuel}} * 100$
methanol efficiency	$\eta_{methanol} = \frac{LHV_{H_2} * m_{methanol}}{m_{fuel} * LHV_{fuel}} * 100$
Carbon capture efficiency	$\eta_{CO_2} = \frac{CO_{2,i} - CO_{2,o}}{CO_{2,i}}$
specific carbon dioxide emission	$E_{CO_2} = \frac{m_{CO_2emit}}{W_{net}}$
the annual CO <sub>2</sub> emissions rate	$\epsilon_{fCO_2} = \frac{m_{CO_2emit}}{3.6 * E_{chf}}$
The exergy efficiency of the plant	$ExE = \frac{\xi_{H_2} * LHV_{H_2} * m_{H_2} + \xi_{FA} * LHV_{FA} * m_{FA}}{Electricity\ consumption}$

### 3. Results and discussion

We conducted a study of different samples under operating conditions, as shown in standard Tables of S2 to S4 from SI [38]. During the study, the CGTM process was evaluated with seven different recovery coefficients to investigate its effect on the CO<sub>2</sub>/(CO + CO<sub>2</sub>) ratio in the synthesized gas as well as all CO<sub>2</sub> conversions and energy efficiency. The molar ratio of the fresh feed CO<sub>2</sub>/NG/H<sub>2</sub>O was stabilized over a range of (0.3-0.5):1:(1.5-2.5) to keep the process away from the sediment area. Also, the operating conditions have been chosen to avoid carbon compounds. The synthesized gas reformer was manufactured with changeable compounds, and the optimal H<sub>2</sub>/(2CO+3CO<sub>2</sub>) ratio in the synthesis gas for the methanol blend with the copper catalyst should be in the range of 0.99 to 1.1 (Table S2 to S4). The molar shift of the input feed was achieved by placing it in a reasonable area. The ratio of H<sub>2</sub>/(2CO+3CO<sub>2</sub>) in the gas synthesis varied with the recovery coefficient. We thus fixed the optimal

H<sub>2</sub>/(2CO + 3CO<sub>2</sub>) ratio in the gas synthesis, and the CO<sub>2</sub>/NG ratio should be adjusted based on Tables S2 to S4 [38]. As shown in Figure 3(a), the CO<sub>2</sub>/(CO + CO<sub>2</sub>) ratio in the gas can be increased by increasing the recovery coefficient. The reason for this can be explained by the more significant amount of conversion of CO from CO<sub>2</sub> to methanol in the methanol system. This increases with the recovery coefficient of the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> accumulated in the gas that feeds the inlet of the methanol compound reactor. However, it is noteworthy that the increased recovery factor as opposed to the accumulation of CO<sub>2</sub> in the synthesis gas. As a result, the total amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emitted from the input process is improved, and the total amount of CO<sub>2</sub> converted decreased, as shown in Figure 3b.



**Figure 3. (a) Influence of recovery ratio on the  $\text{CO}_2 / (\text{CO} + \text{CO}_2)$  ratio of the synthesized gas. (b) Impact of recycling ratio on total  $\text{CO}_2$  conversion.**

In the second option (Option 2), the  $\text{CO}_2 / (\text{CO} + \text{CO}_2)$  ratio increases when the recycle ratio value is approximately 0.55. The total amount of  $\text{CO}_2$  conversion is close to zero. Also, when the coefficient of recovery is increased to about 0.98, nearly 95% of the  $\text{CO}_2$  in both choices is converted. The conversion of hydrogen to  $\text{CO}_2$ , as well as its modification, can be attributed to the methanol and correction system, respectively. In the methanol compound reactor, a high  $\text{CO}_2 / (\text{CO} + \text{CO}_2)$  ratio with the optimal  $\text{H}_2 / (2\text{CO} + 3\text{CO}_2)$  ratio modifies the conversion of  $\text{CO}_2$  to methanol by  $\text{CO}_2$  hydrogen conversion. A higher the  $\text{CO}_2 / (\text{CO} + \text{CO}_2)$  ratio, meanwhile, results in higher passages and final  $\text{CO}_2$  conversion. Moreover, the recovered  $\text{CO}_2$  in the rectifier is also converted by the modified  $\text{CO}_2$ . Meanwhile, in the processes mentioned earlier, the recycled  $\text{CO}_2$ , which is sent to methanol reformers, is converted into methanol and gas synthesis. As such, a significant amount of  $\text{CO}_2$  gas is reduced by recycling.

Methanol production is increased by increasing the recovery coefficient [38]. More methanol can be produced by the unreacted synthetic gas due to the incoming fresh feed, and the flow rate at the modifier output as well as the input of the methanol compound reactor increases as the recovery coefficient increases. The reason for this can be attributed to the increased volume of recycled synthesis gas [38], if the recovery coefficient is increased, then technically methanol production can be improved, increasing

energy efficiency and reducing  $\text{CO}_2$  emissions. Economically, one can also see an increase in current interest. The size of the two reactors should be increased because the spatial velocity for all samples is assumed to be the same. This can significantly increase operating costs and initial capital. In both economic and technical terms, the recovery coefficient should be determined according to the defined conditions to maximize the economic benefit.

Furthermore, two essential energy yields, called  $T_{\text{eff}}$  heat efficiency and  $C_{\text{eff}}$  carbon efficiency, must be considered in the information. In a caustic modifier, NG is commonly used as a gas fuel. However, to increase energy efficiency, the discharged gas is used as a burner force to reduce NG consumption.  $T_{\text{eff}}$  and  $C_{\text{eff}}$  can also be increased. In some instances in the present study (usually when the recovery coefficient of choice 2 (Option 2) is less than 0.7 and in choice 1 (Option 1) less than 0.5), heat energy is required for the modifier to be able to fully absorb the gases. Burn the extraneous extrusion. In other instances, however, the thermal energy generated by the additional gases for the modifier is not beneficial, especially when the recovery coefficient is increased, i.e., when the recovery coefficient exceeds 0.7 for Option 1 and 0.8 for Option 2. In other words, extra NG gas is needed at high recycling rates.  $T_{\text{eff}}$  and  $C_{\text{eff}}$  are calculated in two different ways under the conditions we mentioned. Here are some specific methods for calculating  $C_{\text{eff}}$  and  $T_{\text{eff}}$ .

If the LHV of excess gases exceeds the value of the heat capacity [24, 33, 37]:

$$T_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\text{LHV of methanol}}{\text{LHV of feed NG}} \quad (21)$$

$$C_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\text{total moles of C atoms in methanol}}{\text{total moles of C atoms in feed NG}} \quad (22)$$

If the LHV of the additional gases is less than the value of the original heat capacity:

$$T_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\text{LHV of methanol}}{\text{LHV of feed NG} + \text{heat duty} = 0.8 \cdot \text{LHV of vent gas}} \quad (23)$$

$$C_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\text{total moles of C atoms in methanol}}{\text{total moles of C atoms in feed NG} + \text{total moles of C atoms in fuel NG}} \quad (24)$$

When the total mole of carbon atoms in the NG is refreshed:

$$\text{total moles of C atoms in fuel NG} = \frac{\text{heat duty} = 0.8 \cdot \text{LHV of vent gas} \cdot 1.012}{\text{LHV of fuel NG}} \quad (25)$$

In Equations 23 and 24, the value of 0.8 is estimated for the transient thermal efficiency of the modifier and is considered as the thermal duty of the entire thermal apparatus, such as modifiers and heaters in the modifier.

The number 1.012 in Equation 25 indicates the mole value of each carbon atom relative to the mole value of NG fuel used in the present studies.

Figure 4 shows the  $T_{\text{eff}}$  and  $C_{\text{eff}}$  values for both choices in different recovery coefficients. Both values increased steadily as the recovery coefficient increased. This result was found even in the region where the recovery coefficient was high (between 0.8 and 0.98) in the GTL process that uses an iron catalyst and F-T compound unit. However, this differs from the GTL process which uses a cobalt catalyst and F-T blend machine, which performs at high recovery rates. The increase in energy efficiency here is mainly due to the increase in  $\text{CO}_2$  conversion with a high recycling coefficient in the methanol mixing reactor. As the recovery coefficient increases, more  $\text{CO}_2$  is converted to methanol in the  $\text{CO}_2$  reactor.  $T_{\text{eff}}$  and  $C_{\text{eff}}$  thus increase with an increasing recycling factor. However, only a small amount of  $\text{CO}_2$  conversion is accomplished by the WGS reaction in the GTL process with the F-T combination reactor and cobalt catalyst.

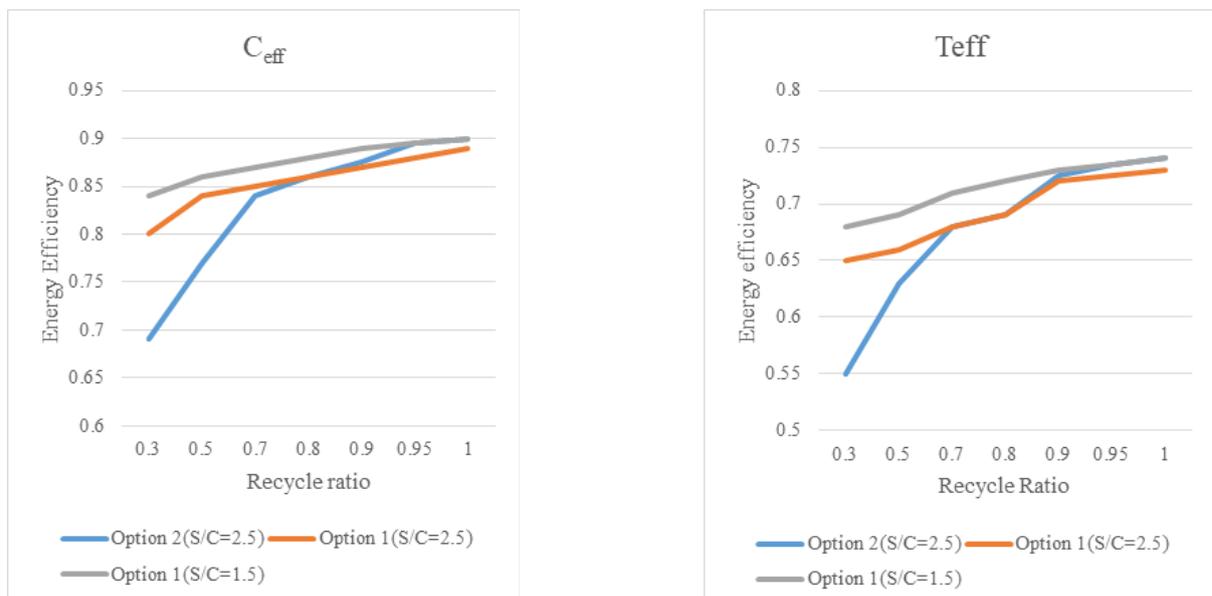


Figure 4. Impact of recovery ratio on energy efficiency: (a)  $C_{\text{eff}}$  and (b)  $T_{\text{eff}}$ .

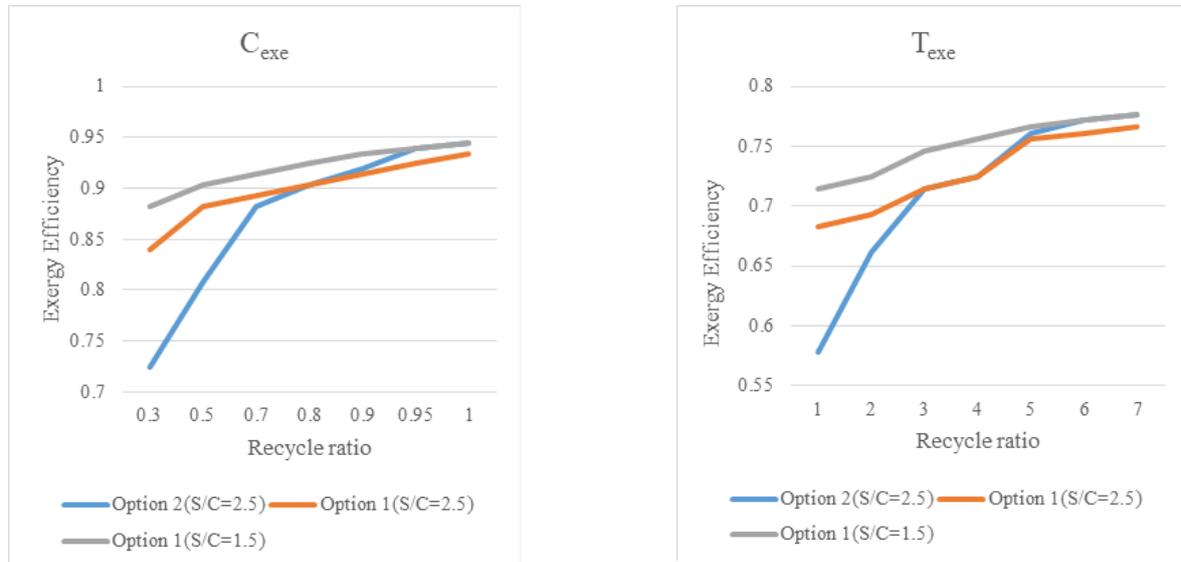


Figure 4. Impact of Recovery Ratio on Exergy Efficiency: (a)  $C_{exe}$  and (b)  $T_{exe}$ .

Figure 5 depicts  $T_{eff}$  and  $C_{eff}$  for both fission choices. Although  $T_{eff}$  and  $C_{eff}$  tend to move downward with a decreasing gap coefficient, no significant change is seen with a fission coefficient change.  $T_{eff}$  and  $C_{eff}$  have their highest values when the refractive index drops to zero. Since the CDR reaction is very endothermic, more  $CO_2$  must be sent to the modifier, and

this requires more required energy. Although excess synthesis gas is produced concurrently with the increase in the fission coefficient, it seems that the heat duty co-operation is dominated by  $T_{eff}$  and  $C_{eff}$ . As the fission coefficient increases, according to observations, it seems that the fission coefficient will have lower energy efficiency in CGTM.

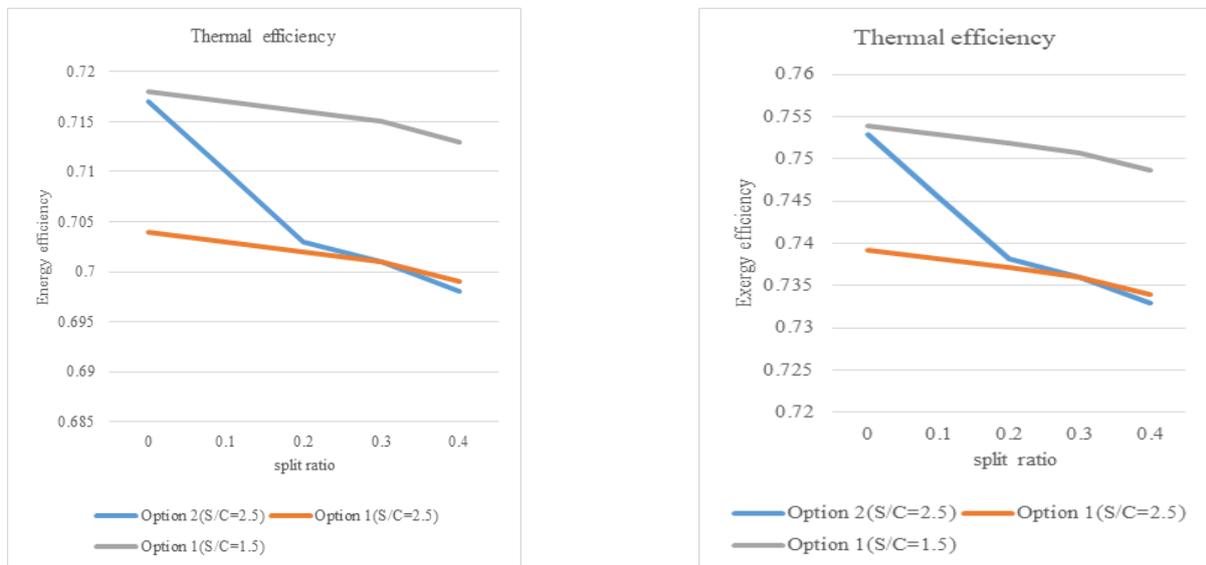


Figure 5. Impact of split ratio on efficiency: (a) energy efficiency and (b) exergy efficiency.

As mentioned earlier,  $CO_2$  is converted to methanol by the CDR reaction plus hydrogen conversion in the modifier and reactor, respectively. Overall, the equilibrium conversion of  $CO_2$  by the CDR reaction in the modifier is higher than the conversion of  $CO_2$  to hydrogen in the methanol-combined reactor with

copper catalyst. Particularly under the application of the low recycling factor used in modern studies. It should, therefore, be noted that  $CO_2$  conversion by  $CO_2$  hydrogen conversion can improve the recovery coefficient.

As can be seen in Figure 2, the ratio of  $CO_2/(CO +$

CO<sub>2</sub>) in the first choice under the same conditions is always lower than the second choice, due to the different structure of the two processes. This is in agreement with the results in [38]. In Option 1, fresh CO<sub>2</sub> is converted to CO by the CDR reaction of the modifier, resulting in a decrease in CO<sub>2</sub> in the synthesis gas content. However, in Option 2, fresh CO<sub>2</sub> is directly fed to the methanol mixing reactor without consuming CO<sub>2</sub> in the modifier. In option 1, the CO<sub>2</sub>/(CO + CO<sub>2</sub>) vapor-to-carbon ratio (S/C=1.5) is lower than that for (S/C=2.5). The reason for this is the competition between CDR and SMR reactions in the breeder. These issues indicate that a lower S/C ratio improves the CO<sub>2</sub> conversion rate and leads to a lower CO<sub>2</sub>/(CO + CO<sub>2</sub>) ratio. As shown in Figure 3, the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the exhaust gas for Option 1 is lower than Option 2. We can conclude that CO<sub>2</sub> consumption by the CDR process is much higher than the CO<sub>2</sub> hydrogenation process under the same conditions. However, Option 1 with the S/C=1 ratio shows less CO<sub>2</sub> in the exhaust gas, which can improve CO<sub>2</sub> conversion at a low S/C ratio. Conversely, the difference in the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the exhaust gas between Option 1 and 2 decreases with increasing recovery coefficient. This happens for Option 2 by increasing the CO<sub>2</sub> conversion in the methanol reactor with a higher CO<sub>2</sub>/(CO+CO<sub>2</sub>) ratio. In addition, as we can see in Fig. 4, the T<sub>eff</sub> and C<sub>eff</sub> calculated for Option 1 are greater than Option 2 with a S/C=2.5. When the coefficient of recovery is between 0.3 and 0.8, the results are quite the opposite to those obtained. Higher T<sub>eff</sub> and C<sub>eff</sub> values for Option 1 with a S/C=2.5 ratio and low recovery coefficient (between 0.3 to 0.8) are mainly due to the greater conversion of CO<sub>2</sub> into the modifier by the CDR reaction, and the heat generated by the exhaust gases. The power supply needed by the device is improved. In contrast, higher T<sub>eff</sub> and C<sub>eff</sub> values for Option 2 with a high recovery coefficient (between 0.8 to 0.98) generally lead to greater conversion of CO<sub>2</sub> into the methanol mixing reactor as well as lower energy consumption in the rectifier when greater NG is required and attributed. Besides, Option 1 with the S/C ratio = 1.5 indicates that higher energy efficiency occurs with a lower S/C ratio. However, with high recovery coeffi-

cients, Option 2's the S/C=2.5 ratio is comparable to Option 1's S/C = 1.5 ratio, this is due to the increased CO<sub>2</sub> conversion in the methanol mixing reactor and the reduction in energy consumption in the correction plant. As shown in Fig. 5, T<sub>eff</sub> and C<sub>eff</sub> were slightly lower in Option 1 with an S/C = 2.5 ratio than for Option 2 with a lower fission coefficient, this may be due to the greater CO<sub>2</sub> conversion in the combined reactor in Option 1 and the methanol and consumption of less energy in the rectifier in Option 2. Examination of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, such as T<sub>eff</sub> and C<sub>eff</sub> for Options 1 and 2 at S/C=2.5 leads us to conclude that Option 2 has more problems in the CGTM process, especially with high recovery coefficients, as shown in Figure 6. The total amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emitted in the CGTM process is much lower than the original GTM with identical fission and recovery coefficients.

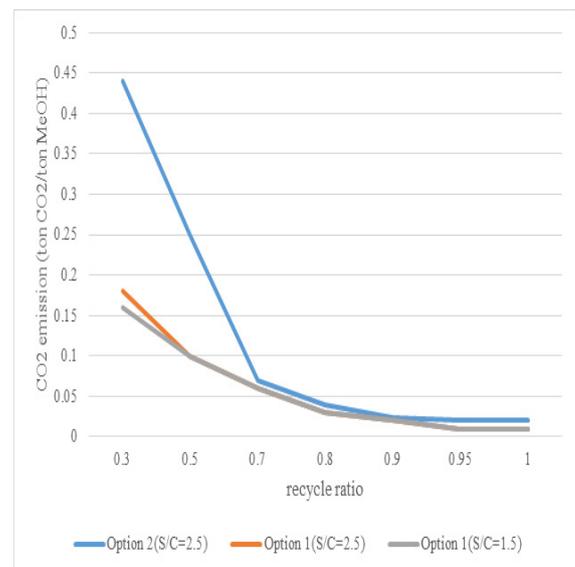


Figure 6. Impact of recycling ratio on total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Table 6 compares the performance results of CGTMs and GTMs. For the CGTM process, the recycling coefficients increased from 7.0 to 95.0, C<sub>eff</sub> from 5 to 3.8%, T<sub>eff</sub> from 8.4 to 9.7%, and methanol production from 4.17 to 1.47% as compared to the original GTM.

Table 6. The results of different options and assumptions.

exergy destruction cost (\$/s)	F(%)	r(%)	Cex	Tex	MSR	Re-former (kmol/h)	Ceff.	Teff.	MeOH	NG (kmol/h)	H <sub>2</sub> O (kmol/h)	CO <sub>2</sub> (kmol/h)	R2C	R1b	S2	R1	S/C ratio	Op.
1722.643	72.46368	34.67454	0.93765	0.7539	858.2154	366.5788	0.87514	0.70364	122.0394	98	155.82	42.14	0.9849	0.3283	0.1	0.95	1.5	1
1744.127	71.57107	34.24741	0.9261	0.74445	1015.182	483.4928	0.86436	0.69482	121.1672	98	247.94	44.1	0.98882	0.47726	0.1	0.95	2.5	1
1728.449	72.22024	34.55805	0.9345	0.7518	1249.696	460.1982	0.8722	0.70168	118.139	98	247.94	41.65	0.99372	0.63014	0.1	0.95	2.5	2
1758.08	71.00305	33.97561	0.91875	0.74025	613.1664	343.1568	0.8575	0.6909	101.9004	98	155.82	36.26	0.98784	0.24206	0.1	0.7	1.5	1
1797.103	69.46127	33.23785	0.8988	0.7245	691.733	455.5138	0.83888	0.6762	98.0392	98	247.94	39.2	0.97706	0.38514	0.1	0.7	2.5	1
1807.662	69.05554	33.04371	0.89355	0.72135	799.9544	427.8974	0.83398	0.67326	88.4744	98	247.94	37.24	0.99078	0.55174	0.1	0.7	2.5	2
1876	66.5472	31.872	0.861	0.6951	763.6258	427.8582	0.8036	0.64876	81.8692	98	247.94	0	2.05702	0.31654	0.1	0.7	2.5	Base case

R = recycle / (recycle + vent) (= R recycling / (recycling + suction)), (2) S = recycle-to-reformer / recycle (S = optimal recycling / recycling)

R1 = CO<sub>2</sub> / (CO<sub>2</sub> + CO)

R2 = H<sub>2</sub> / (2CO + 3CO<sub>2</sub>) c, where R1 and R2 refer to the composition of the synthesis gas at the inlet of the methanol synthesis unit.

## 4. Conclusion

We have proposed two CGTM methods with different fresh CO<sub>2</sub> feed points for the beneficial use of CO<sub>2</sub>. We investigated the effect of the refractive index and recovery coefficient on heat and carbon efficiency as well as the overall CO<sub>2</sub> conversion rate in both proposed CGTMs. In addition, we compared the performance of both CGTMs with the original GTMs. As can be seen from the simulation results, the carbon and heat efficiency are sensitive to the recycling factor, and a higher recycling factor appears to improve CO<sub>2</sub> conversion, increase carbon and heat efficiency, and reduce emissions [39]. However, the fission factor appears to have little effect on the thermal and carbon efficiency and does not affect the optimized recycling of the corrective device. Compared to the initial GTM process, the thermal and carbon efficiency for both CGTMs has been successfully increased, and the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions significantly reduced due to the optimal use of CO<sub>2</sub> in methanol for each modifier. Exergy efficiency, environmental indicators, and exergy degradation costs were also significantly improved during this process [40].

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