

Optimal Design of an Integrated CO<sub>2</sub> Capture–Conversion Process: Combined Reforming of Methane based Methanol Production Utilizing CO<sub>2</sub> Captured via Adsorption at a Hydrogen Plant

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The aim of this work is to design an optimal integrated CO<sub>2</sub> capture–conversion process. Since the feasibility of a CO<sub>2</sub> conversion process depends on how to obtain the necessary high purity CO<sub>2</sub> feedstock, it is essential to integrate a CO<sub>2</sub> capture plant with a CO<sub>2</sub> conversion plant and optimize it for improving its sustainability. In this work, CO<sub>2</sub> capture via the adsorption technology applied to a hydrogen plant is mainly considered. The captured CO<sub>2</sub> is fed into a methanol plant employing combined reforming of methane reaction. In order to argue the sustainability of the developed process, both CO<sub>2</sub> reduction feasibility and economic feasibility are discussed by evaluating a net CO<sub>2</sub> emission index (kg<sub>CO2</sub>/t<sub>MeOH</sub>) and methanol production cost (\$/t<sub>MeOH</sub>) and by comparing with those of a reference case, a non-CO<sub>2</sub> utilizing methanol plant. Additionally, an optimal purity of the captured CO<sub>2</sub> stream is searched to minimize the methanol production cost.