

Optional Advanced Exercise SCR

You have the task to calculate the catalytic converter volume filled with a vanadium-based SCR catalyst for a biomass power plant. NO emissions of 800 mg/m^3 have been measured at an exhaust gas temperature of 250°C and the NO emissions shall be reduced by 80%. For this purpose lab tests have been conducted with the catalyst and 80% NO reduction has been achieved at 250°C at a GHSV of 3000 h^{-1} . In the biomass power plant 10 t wood (dry) is burned per hour at an air excess of $\lambda = 1.8$.

Hints:

The composition of wood can be described by the formula $\text{CH}_{1.49}\text{O}_{0.67}$. Write down the reaction equation for complete combustion to CO_2 and water. Assume ideal gas behavior of all gases and calculate the volumes/volume flows at standard conditions. To this the gas volume/volume flow you have to add the volume/volume flow of uncombusted nitrogen and of the air excess. The DeNOx performance is assumed to be proportional to the catalyst volume.

Solution Exercise SCR

Stoichiometry of combustion:



Combustion product gas in mol/mol wood:

$$1 \text{ mol CO}_2 + 0.745 \text{ mol H}_2\text{O} = 1.745 \text{ mol combustion product gas}$$

Combustion gas in m³ per mol wood at STP (1 bar, 0°C = 273.15 K):

$$\begin{aligned} p \cdot V &= n \cdot R \cdot T \quad \Rightarrow \quad V_{\text{Comb.}} = 1.745 \text{ mol} \cdot 8.3144 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1} \cdot 273.15 \text{ K} / (1 \cdot 10^5 \text{ Pa}) \\ V_{\text{Comb.}} &= 1.745 \text{ mol} \cdot 8.3144 \text{ kg m}^2 \text{ s}^{-2} \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1} \cdot 273.15 \text{ K} \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^2 \\ V_{\text{Comb.}} &= 0.03963 \text{ m}^3 \end{aligned}$$

Inert gas through the power plant:

$$\text{Air: } 79\% \text{ inert gas, } 21\% \text{ O}_2 \quad n_{\text{inert}} = 1.0375 \text{ mol} \cdot 79/21 = 3.903 \text{ mol}$$

Inert gas in m³ per mol wood at STP (1 bar, 0°C = 273.15 K):

$$\begin{aligned} p \cdot V &= n \cdot R \cdot T \quad \Rightarrow \quad V_{\text{inert}} = 3.903 \text{ mol} \cdot 8.3144 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1} \cdot 273.15 \text{ K} / (1 \cdot 10^5 \text{ Pa}) \\ V_{\text{inert}} &= 0.08864 \text{ m}^3 \end{aligned}$$

Additional air in the power plant at $\lambda = 1.8$:

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{Excess}} &= V_{\text{inert}} \cdot 100/79 \cdot 0.8 \\ V_{\text{Excess}} &= 0.08864 \text{ m}^3 \cdot 100/79 \cdot 0.8 = 0.08976 \text{ m}^3 \end{aligned}$$

Total gas volume per mol wood:

$$V_{\text{total}} = V_{\text{Comb.}} + V_{\text{inert}} + V_{\text{Excess}} = 0.2180 \text{ m}^3$$

Solution Exercise SCR

Gas volume for 10 t Holz pro Stunde bei Normbedingungen:

$$V_{10t} = m_{\text{Holz}} \cdot h^{-1} / \text{Molmasse Holz} \cdot V_{\text{total}} \text{mol}^{-1}$$

$$\text{Molar mass wood (CH}_{1.49}\text{O}_{0.67}) = 1 \cdot 12 \text{ g mol}^{-1} + 1.49 \cdot 1 \text{ g mol}^{-1} + 0.67 \cdot 16 \text{ g mol}^{-1} = 24.21 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$$

$$V_{10t} = 10 \cdot 10^6 \text{ gh}^{-1} / (24.21 \text{ g mol}^{-1}) \cdot 0.2180 \text{ m}^3 \text{mol}^{-1}$$

$$V_{10t} = 90'045 \text{ m}^3 \text{h}^{-1}$$

Required catalyst volume for 80% reduction:

$$V_{\text{cat.}} = V_{10t} / \text{GHSV}$$

$$V_{\text{cat.}} = 90'045 \text{ m}^3 \text{h}^{-1} / 3000 \text{ h}^{-1} = 30.0 \text{ m}^3$$