

Dividing Wall Columns Simulation Done Easy

Harry Kooijman & Ross Taylor

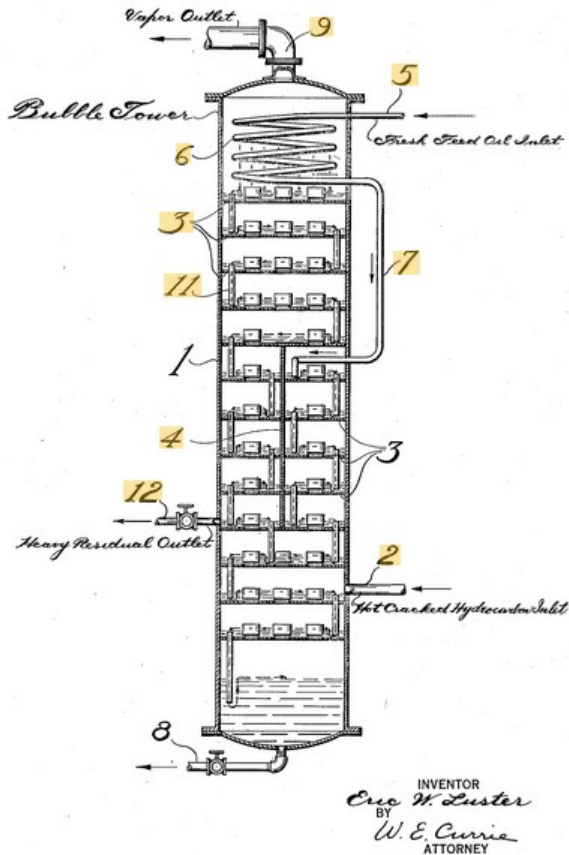
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Clarkson University
Potsdam, NY 13699**

- Introduction: An incomplete history of Dividing Wall Columns
- Parallel Column Model for DWC in ChemSep
- Refinery application:
 - Reformate BenzOUT process
- Chemicals applications:
 - SHOP (Shell Higher Olefins Process)
 - Ethylene and Propylene Glycols
 - Ethanol-Amines
 - Oleo-Chemicals: Fatty Alcohols
- Summary

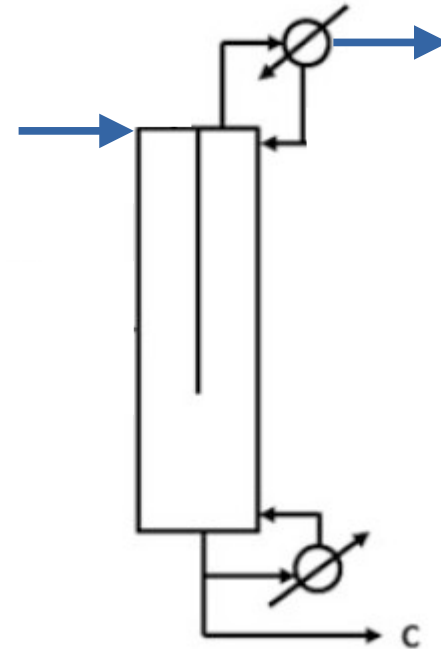
An Incomplete History of DWCs

A long road from concept to common-place:

- 1930: Luster, Standard Oil US 1,915,681 A



Equivalent to

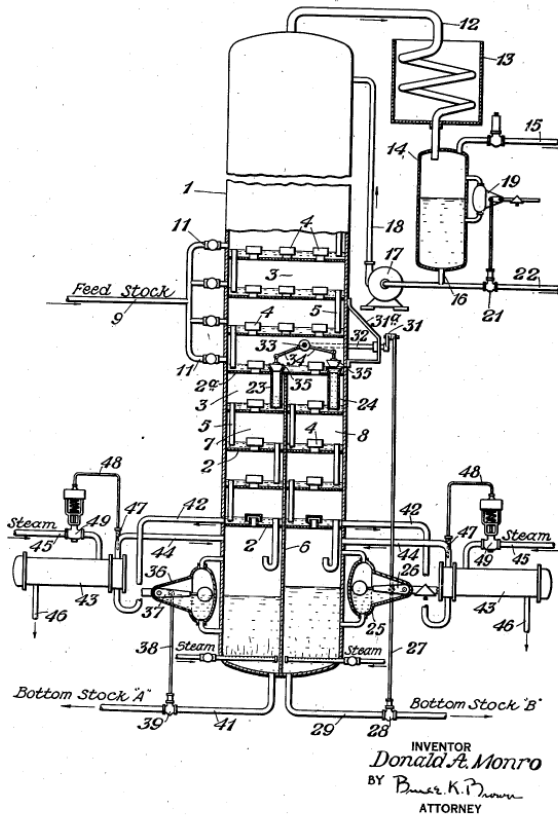


Top-split DWC
(with one condenser)

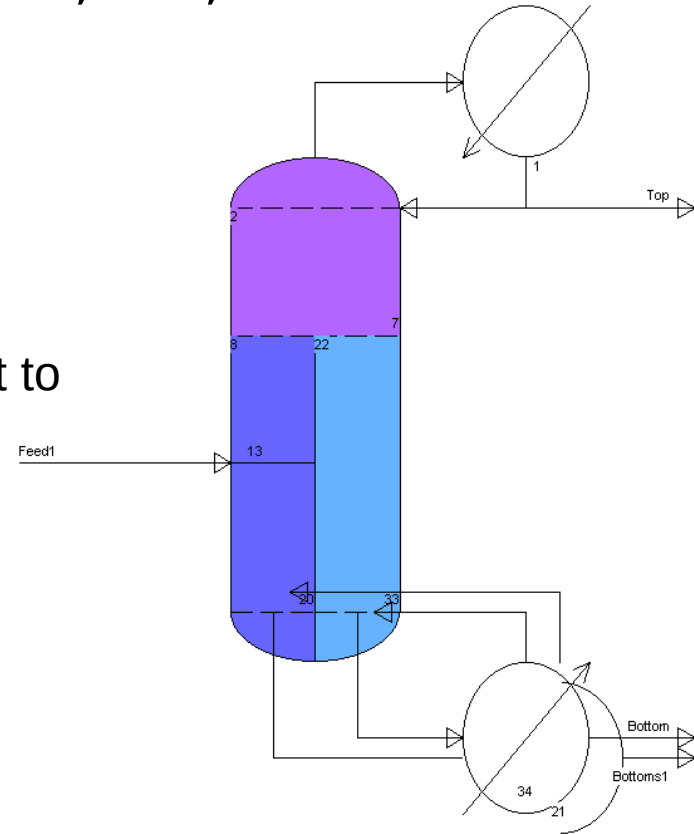
An Incomplete History of DWCs

A long road from concept to common-place:

- 1938: Monro*, Standard Oil, US 2,134,882



Equivalent to



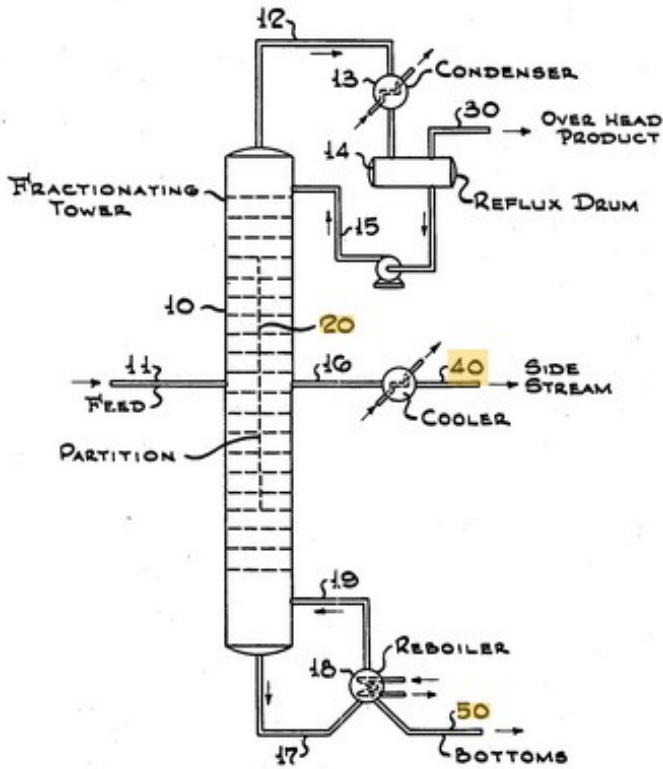
Bottom-split DWC

* Often cited as Monroe, but the patent has Monro in multiple locations

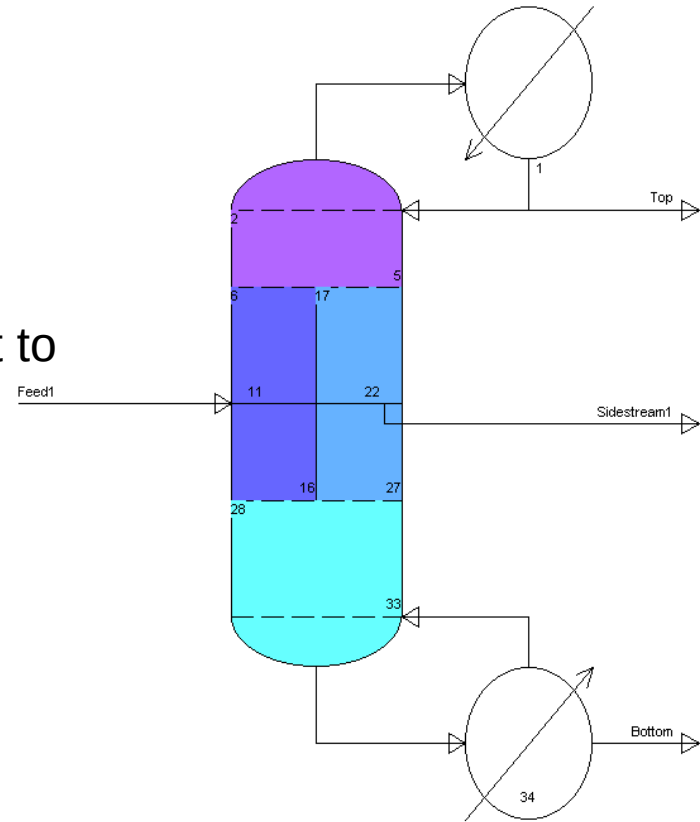
An Incomplete History of DWCs

A long road from concept to common-place:

- 1949: Wright, Standard Oil US 2,471,134 A



Equivalent to

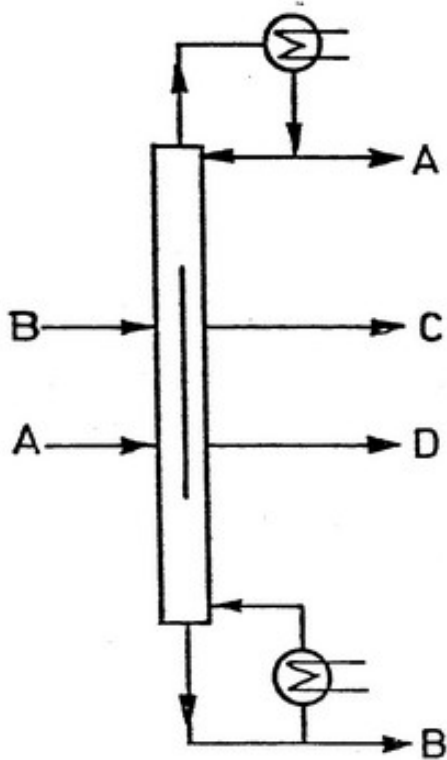


Simple DWC

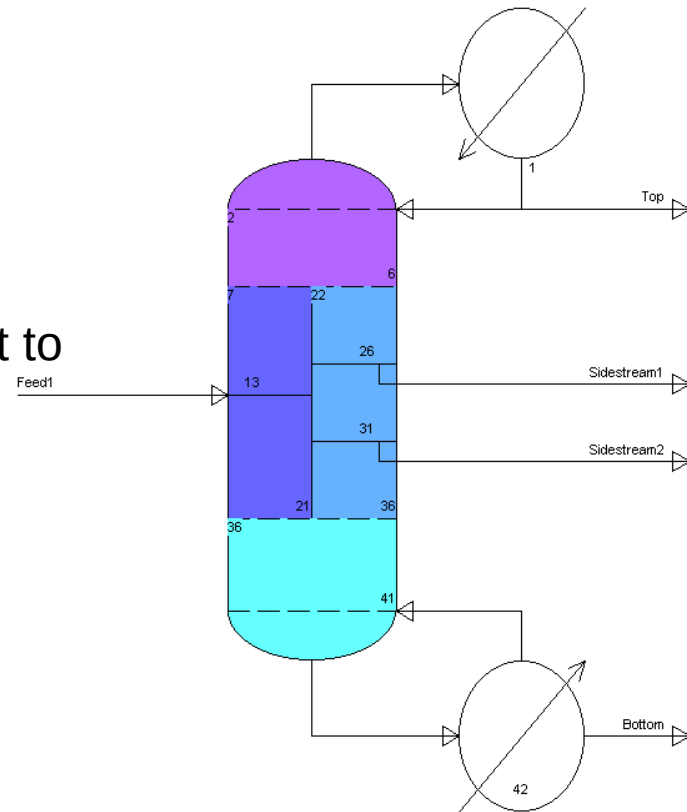
An Incomplete History of DWCs

A long road from concept to common-place:

- 1985: Kaibel, BASF EP 0,126,288 A2



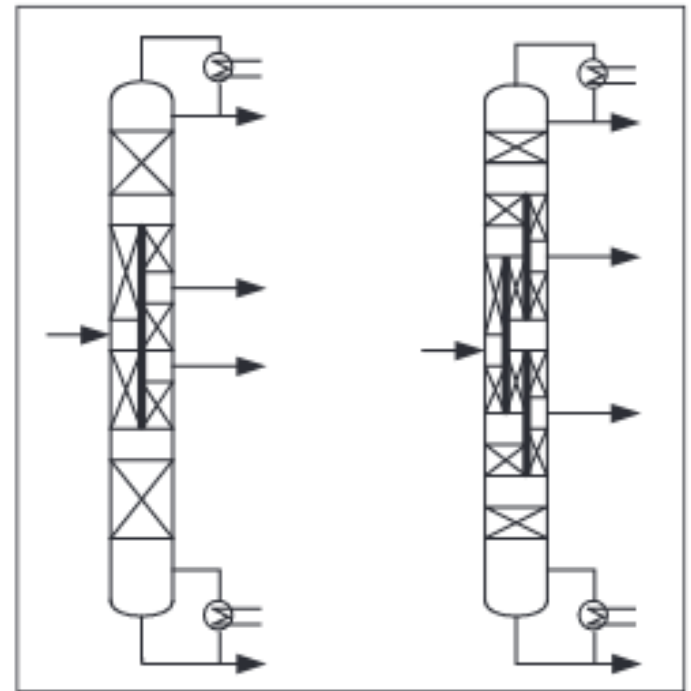
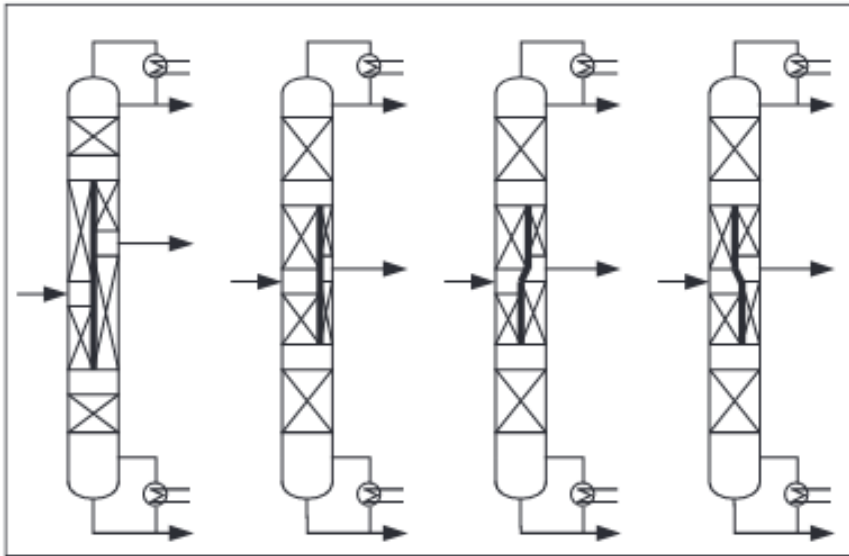
Equivalent to



Kaibel DWC

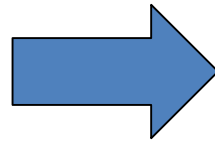
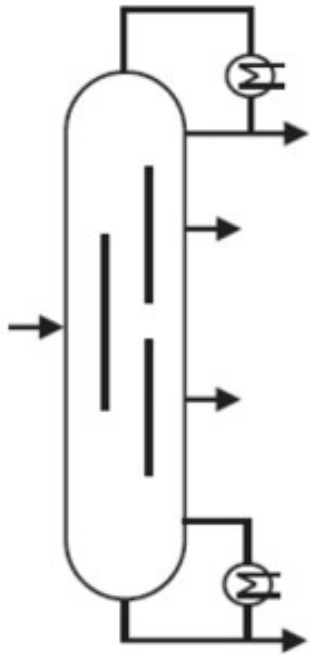
An Incomplete History of DWCs

- There is now, of course, MUCH more
- ~1997: Montz unfixed walls technology & sloped walls
- Multiple walls (up to 6 products)**
- Linde DWC columns (heat integrated)**
- Reactive DWCs**

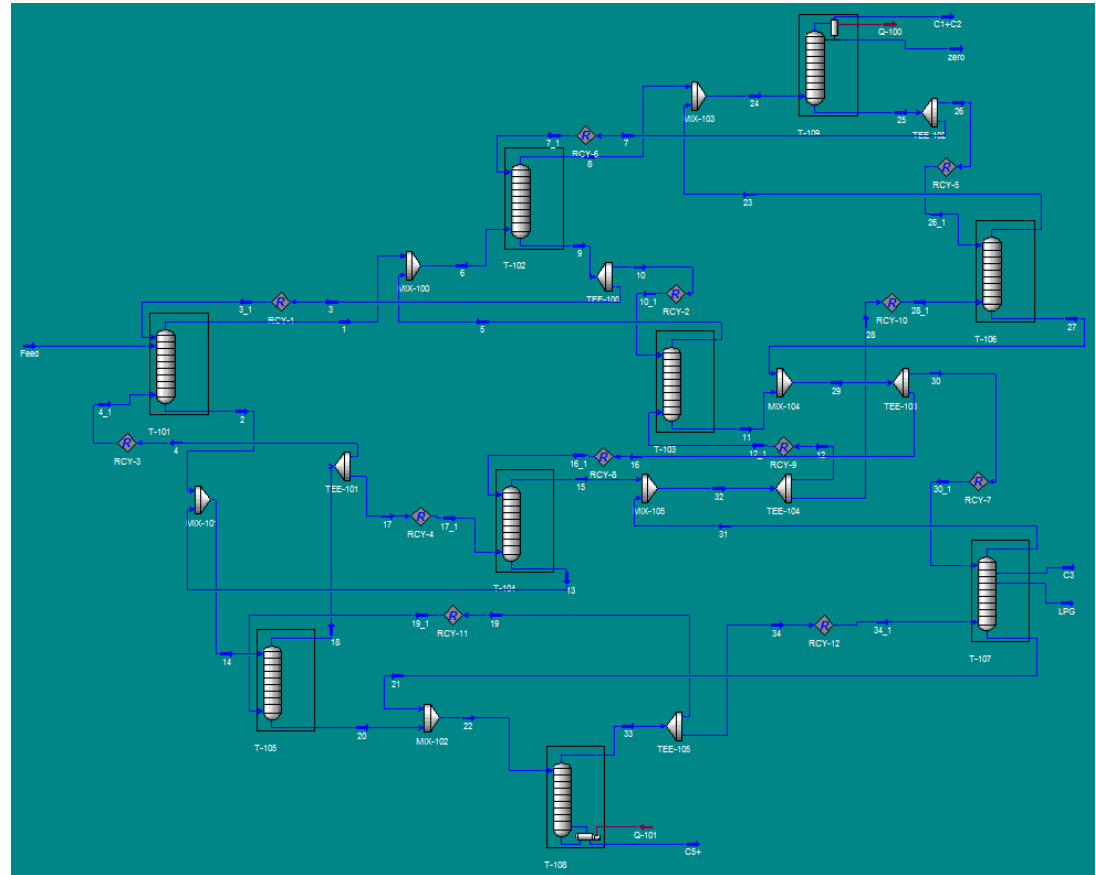


DWC Simulation: Old (and Hard) Way

Dividing Wall Column



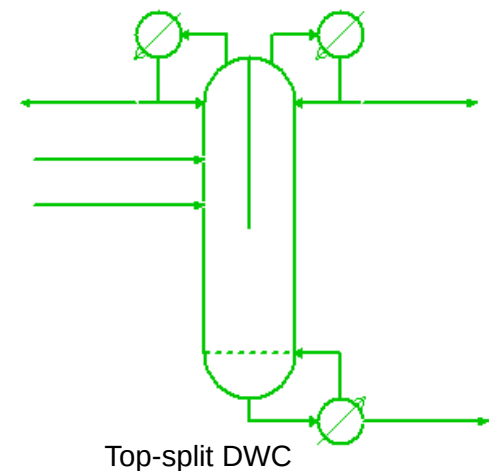
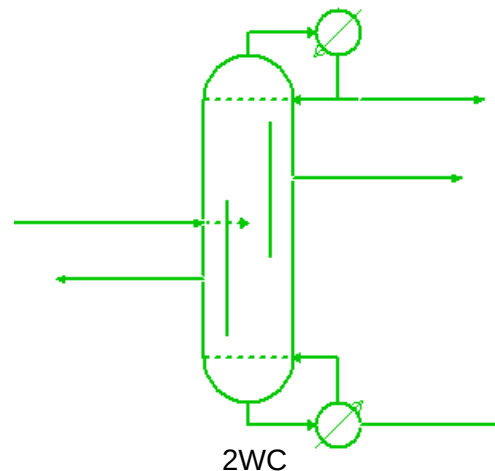
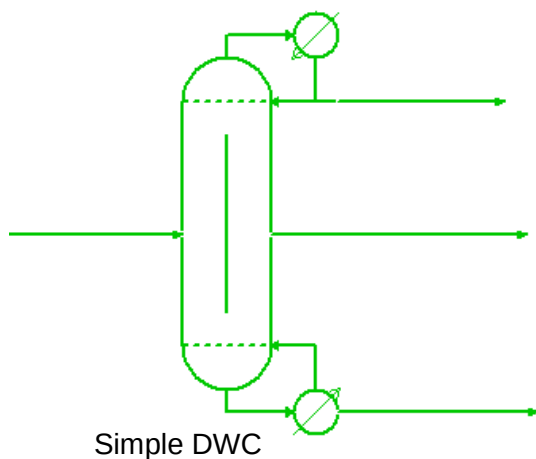
Simulated with multiple columns
(here in UNISIM Design)



Ashrafiyan, R. (2014). *Using Dividing Wall Columns (DWC) in LNG Production: dividing wall column, double dividing wall column, prefractionator arrangement, Petlyuk column, NGL recovery, distillation* (Master's thesis, Institutt for energi-og prosesseknikk).

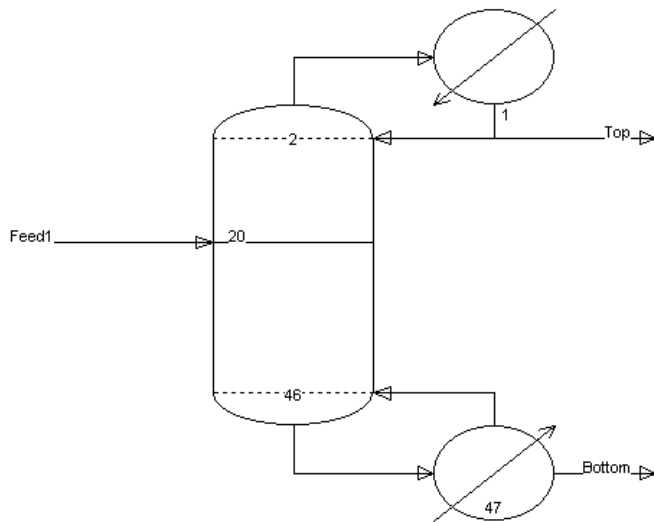
DWC Process Simulation in ChemSep

- Parallel Column Model for CAPE-OPEN compliant environments
- Does not require any guesses for streams
- Predefined configurations with single & multiple walls, selection from drop-down list
- Icons reflect actual configuration (in COCO via CAPE-OPEN)
- Rapid tray/packing internals design of each column section with selection of any modern type internal
- Column sizing include auxiliaries: CAPEX & OPEX
- Connection to vendor rating tools

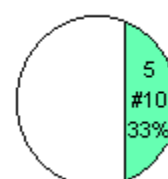
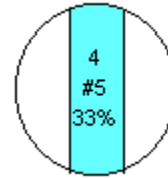
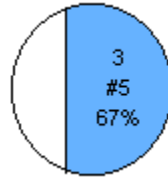
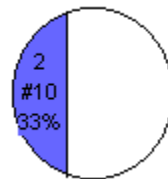
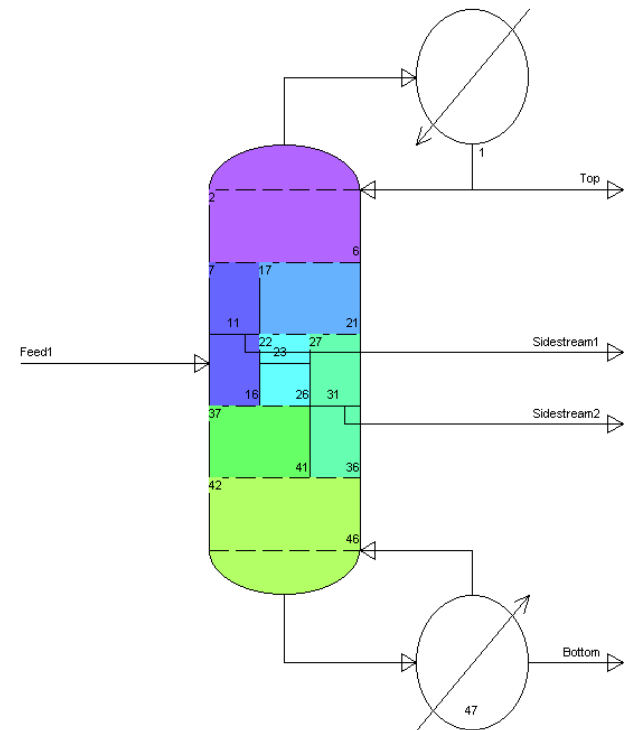


Parallel Column Model - ChemSep

Select DWC from predefined configurations

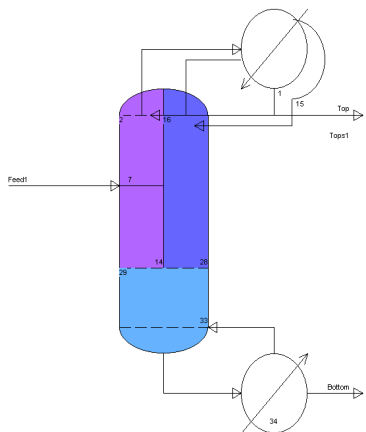


- Two Wall Column (2WC) ▼
- Simple Distillation
 - Extractive Distillation
 - Azeotropic Distillation
 - Simple Absorber/Stripper
 - Reboiled Absorber/Stripper
 - Refluxed Absorber/Stripper
 - Single Column Stage
 - Simple Extractor
 - Single Extraction Stage
 - Complex Column
 - Total Reflux Column
 - Dividing Wall Column (DWC)
 - Top-split D'WC
 - Bottom-split D'WC
 - Kaibel D'WC
 - Two Wall Column (2WC)**
 - Upper Kaibel 2WC
 - Lower Kaibel 2WC
 - Double Kaibel 2WC

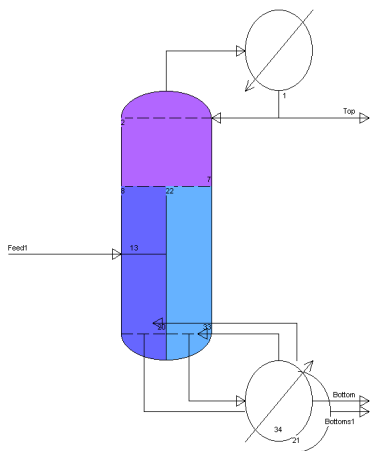


Predefined DWC / 2WC

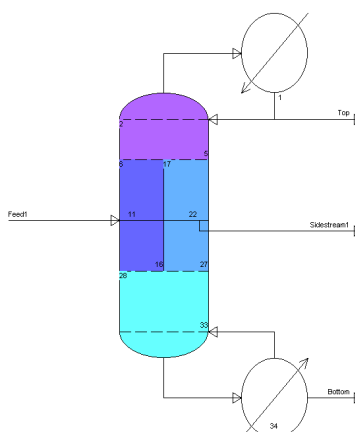
Top-Split DWC



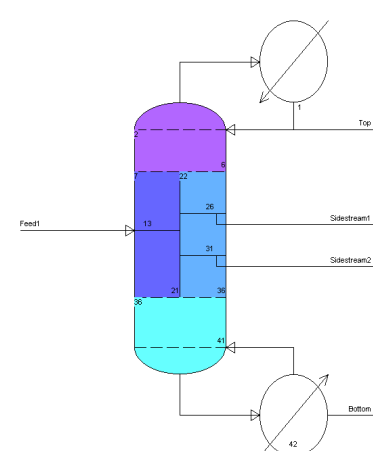
Bottom-Split DWC



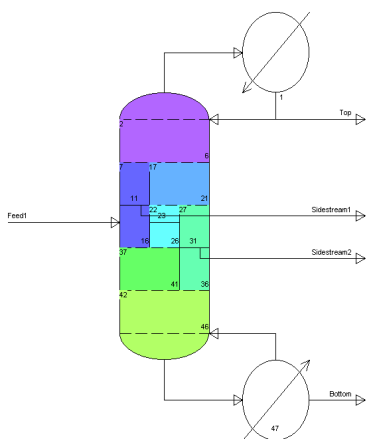
Regular DWC



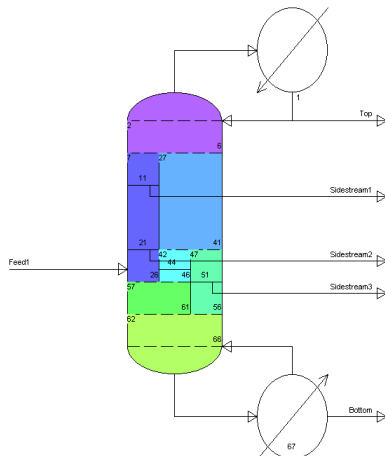
Kaibel DWC



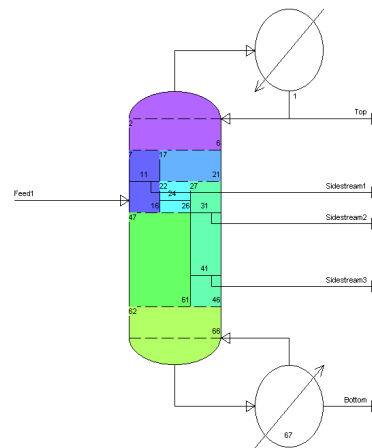
2WC



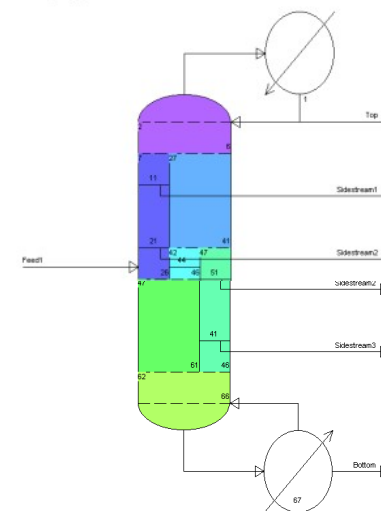
Upper-Kaibel 2WC



Lower-Kaibel 2WC



Double Kaibel 2WC

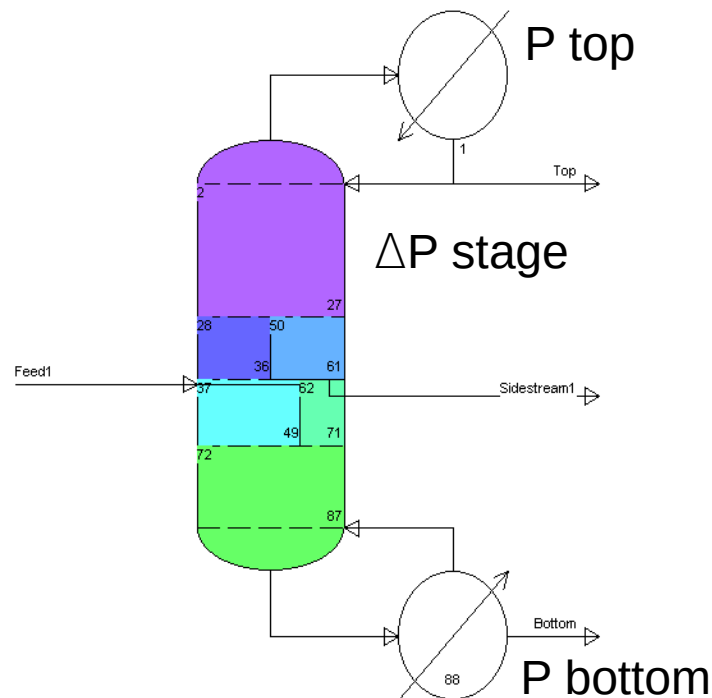


Parallel Column Model - ChemSep

Simplified pressure specification:

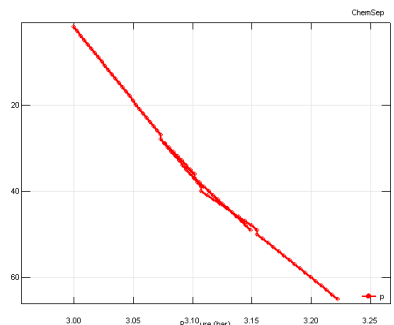
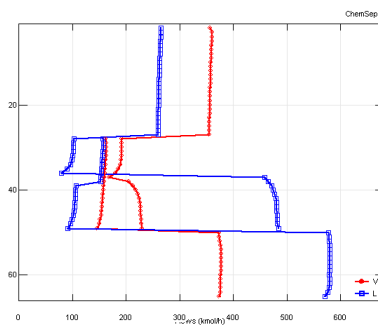
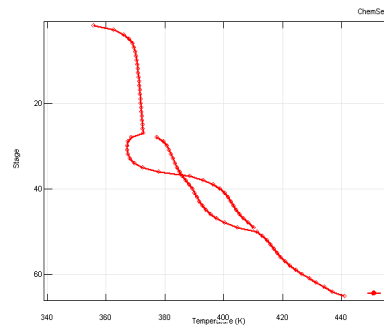
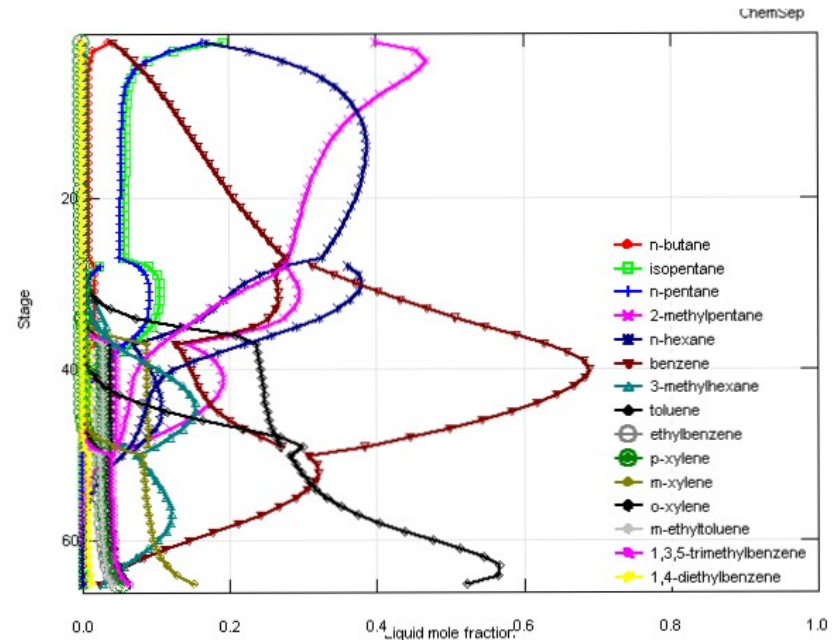
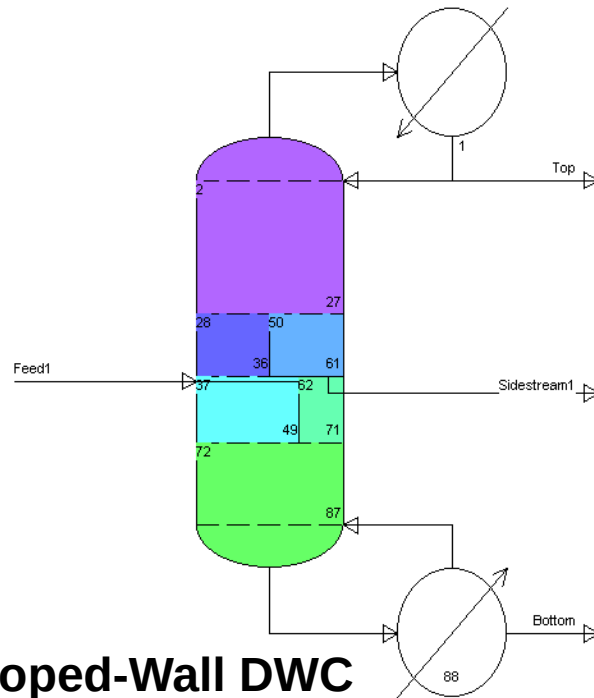
- Top and Bottom pressure
- Top and ΔP : makes switching configuration easy!

Assume area ratio equalizes ΔP on either side of the wall



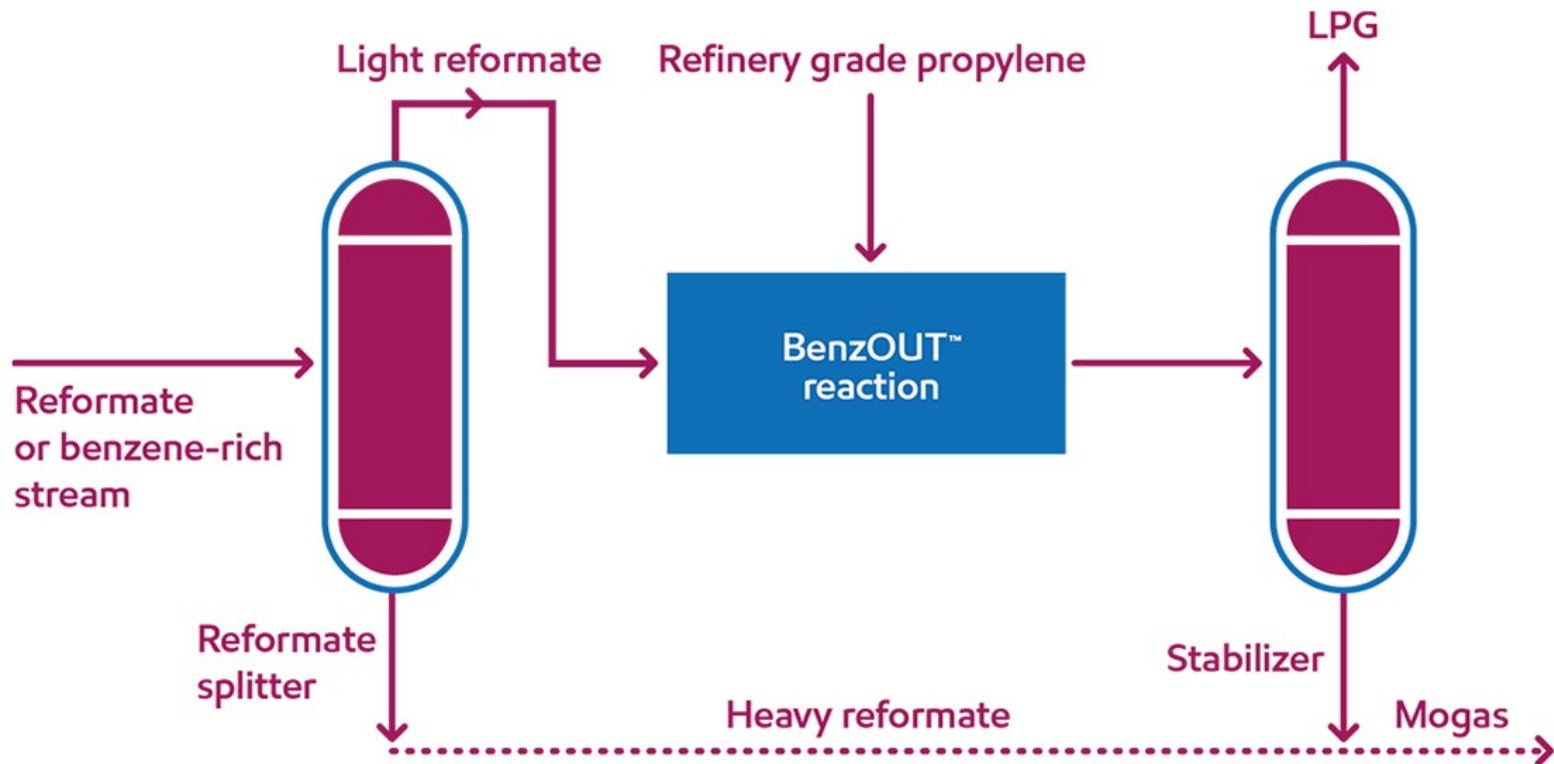
Parallel Column Model - Easy Results

Profile plots with combined walls



Refinery: Reformate Processing

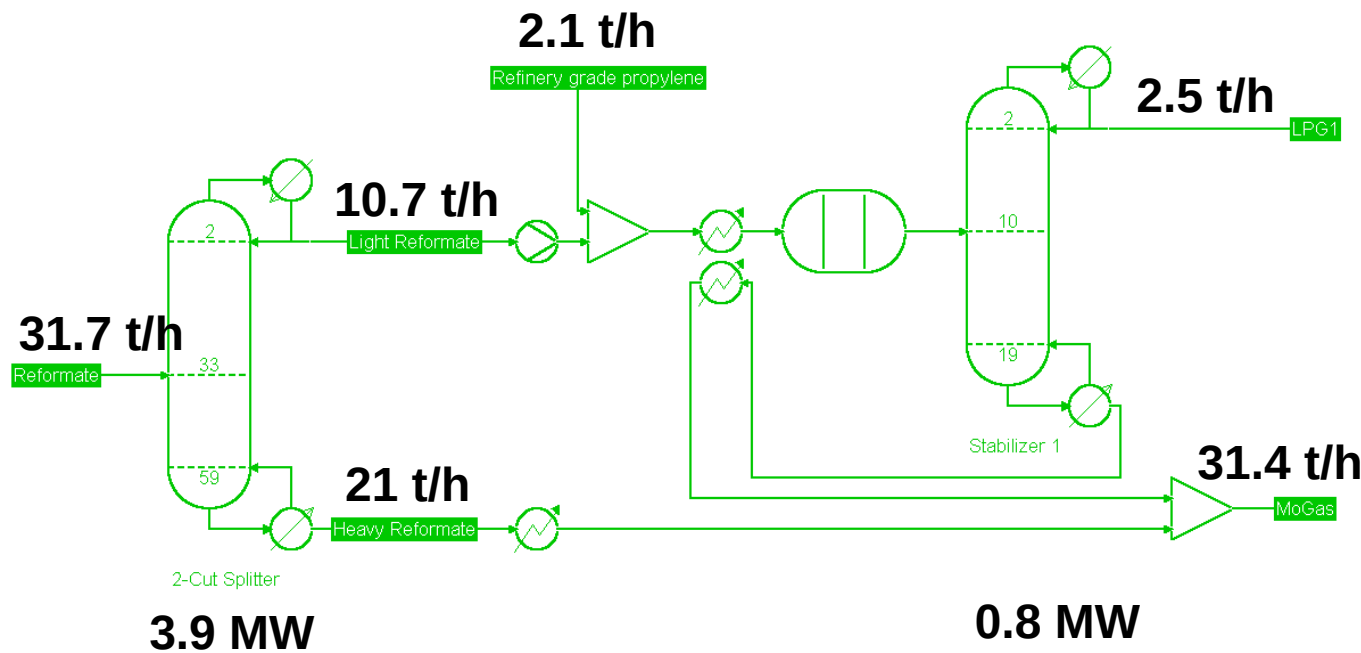
- Reduce Benzene in gasoline (Mogas) by reacting with Propylene without causing a loss in octane#
- Includes stabilizer to maintain low vapor pressure
- Patented US 8,395,006 B2 by EXXON-Mobile:



Refinery: EXXON-Mobil BenzOUT

- Process needs to fulfill petroleum properties specs:
 - Minimize drop in **Octane Number**
 - Maintain low **Reid Vapor Pressure**

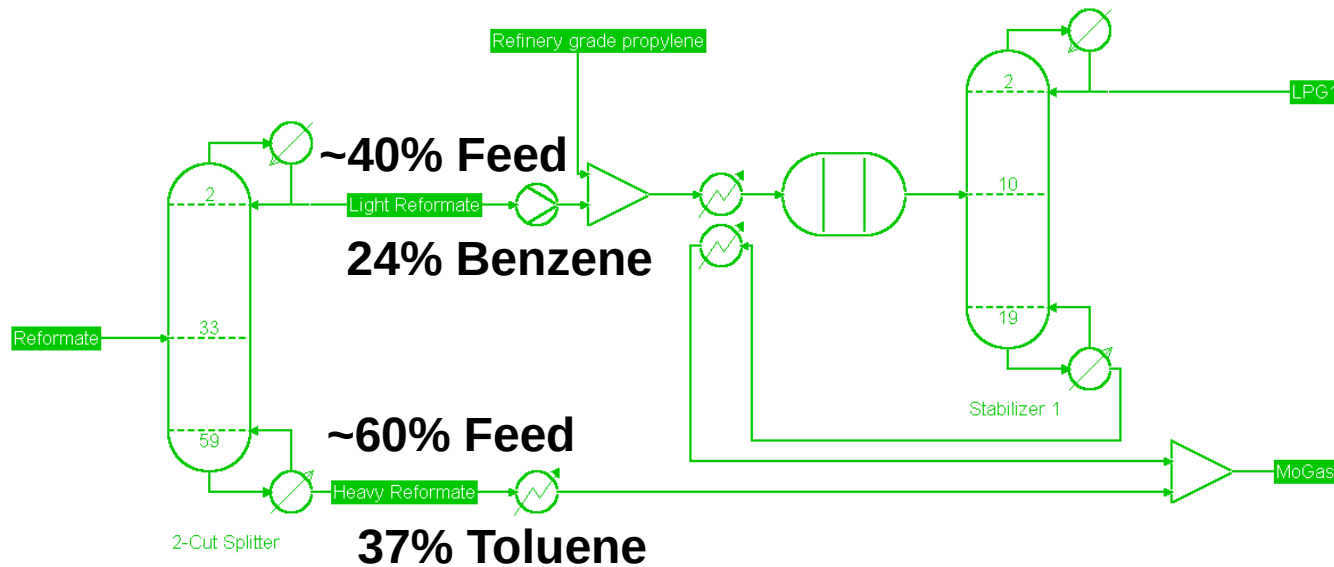
Need to monitor these extra properties



Stream	Reformat	MoGas	Unit
Pressure	3.5	2.5	bar
Temperature	100	71.0902	°C
Flow rate	343	335.349	kmol / h
Mole frac n-butane	0.0309038	0.00909843	
Mole frac isopentane	0.0819242	0.0835314	
Mole frac n-pentane	0.0580175	0.0592973	
Mole frac 2-methylpentane	0.0862974	0.0882657	
Mole frac n-hexane	0.045481	0.0465187	
Mole frac benzene	0.101458	0.0121412	
Mole frac 3-methylhexane	0.0186589	0.0190846	
Mole frac toluene	0.248397	0.254064	
Mole frac ethylbenzene	0.0306122	0.0313107	
Mole frac p-xylene	0.0370262	0.037871	
Mole frac m-xylene	0.106122	0.108544	
Mole frac o-xylene	0.0478134	0.0489043	
Mole frac m-ethyltoluene	0.0361516	0.0369765	
Mole frac 1,3,5-trimethylbenzene	0.0594752	0.0608322	
Mole frac 1,4-diethylbenzene	0.0116618	0.0119279	
Mole frac Propane	0	6.03384e-07	
Mole frac Propylene	0	6.69168e-07	
Mole frac Cumene	0	0.0595601	
Mole frac 2,4-dimethylpentane	0	0.0228709	
Liquid phase			
OCTN	100.404	98.3165	-
RVP	0.414281	0.315115	bar
TVP100	0.427999	0.333599	bar

Refinery: EXXON-Mobil BenzOUT

- Process needs to fulfill petroleum properties specs:
 - Minimize drop in **Octane Number**
 - Maintain low **Reid Vapor Pressure**



Stream	Reformat	MoGas	Unit
Pressure	3.5	2.5	bar
Temperature	100	71.0902	°C
Flow rate	343	335.349	kmol / h
Mole frac n-butane	0.0309038	0.00909843	
Mole frac isopentane	0.0819242	0.0835314	
Mole frac n-pentane	0.0580175	0.0592973	
Mole frac 2-methylpentane	0.0862974	0.0882657	
Mole frac n-hexane	0.045481	0.0465187	
Mole frac benzene	0.101458	0.0121412	
Mole frac 3-methylhexane	0.0186589	0.0190846	
Mole frac toluene	0.248397	0.254064	
Mole frac ethylbenzene	0.0306122	0.0313107	
Mole frac p-xylene	0.0370262	0.037871	
Mole frac m-xylene	0.106122	0.108544	
Mole frac o-xylene	0.0478134	0.0489043	
Mole frac m-ethyltoluene	0.0361516	0.0369765	
Mole frac 1,3,5-trimethylbenzene	0.0594752	0.0608322	
Mole frac 1,4-diethylbenzene	0.0116618	0.0119279	
Mole frac Propane	0	6.03384e-07	
Mole frac Propylene	0	6.69168e-07	
Mole frac Cumene	0	0.0595601	
Mole frac P-diisopropylbenzene	0	0.0320708	
Liquid phase			
OCTN	100.404	98.3165	-
RVP	0.414281	0.315115	bar
TVP100	0.427999	0.333599	bar

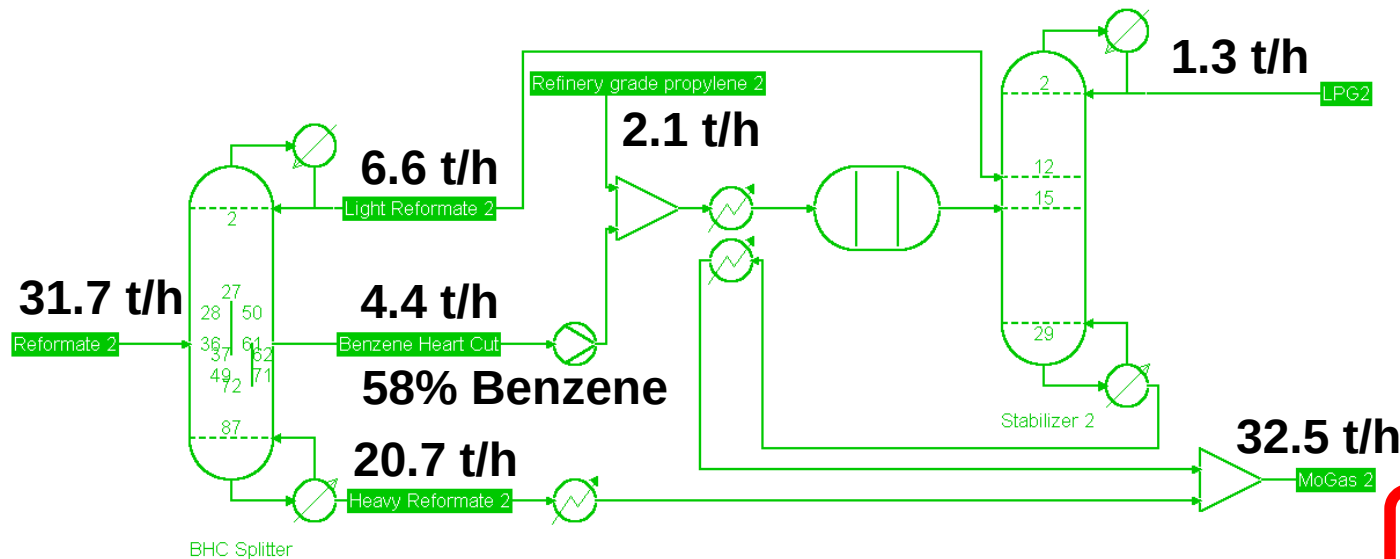
Refinery: EXXON-Mobil BenzOUT

Improve the economics of this process while maintaining OCTN & RVP:

- Only send Benzene-rich “heart-cut” to reactor:
Reduce flow through reactor & stabilizer by 2x
- Can revamp existing reformat splitter to DWC

Refinery: EXXON-Mobil BenzOUT

- Advantages:
 - Smaller reactor + stabilizer: TAC -30%
 - No difference in OCTN or RVP
 - Slight lower overall duty (-5%)



Stream	Reformat 2	MoGas 2	Unit
Pressure	3.5	2.5	bar
Temperature	100	71.3644	°C
Flow rate	343	334.936	kmol / h
Mole frac n-butane	0.0309038	0.0115992	
Mole frac isopentane	0.0819242	0.0805443	
Mole frac n-pentane	0.0580175	0.0587449	
Mole frac 2-methylpentane	0.0862974	0.0883696	
Mole frac n-hexane	0.045481	0.0465759	
Mole frac benzene	0.101458	0.0120102	
Mole frac 3-methylhexane	0.0186589	0.0191081	
Mole frac ethylbenzene	0.0306122	0.0313493	
Mole frac p-xylene	0.0370262	0.0379177	
Mole frac m-xylene	0.106122	0.108678	
Mole frac o-xylene	0.0478134	0.0489646	
Mole frac m-ethyltoluene	0.0361516	0.037022	
Mole frac 1,3,5-trimethylbenzene	0.0594752	0.0609072	
Mole frac 1,4-diethylbenzene	0.0116618	0.0119426	
Mole frac Propane	0	2.02693e-06	
Mole frac Propylene	0	2.25938e-06	
Mole frac Cumene	0	0.0597255	
Mole frac Butadiene	0	0.001500	
Liquid phase			
OCTN	100.404	98.3402	-
RVP	0.414281	0.318967	bar
TVP100	0.427999	0.337995	bar

Refinery: EXXON-Mobil BenzOUT

Other advantages:

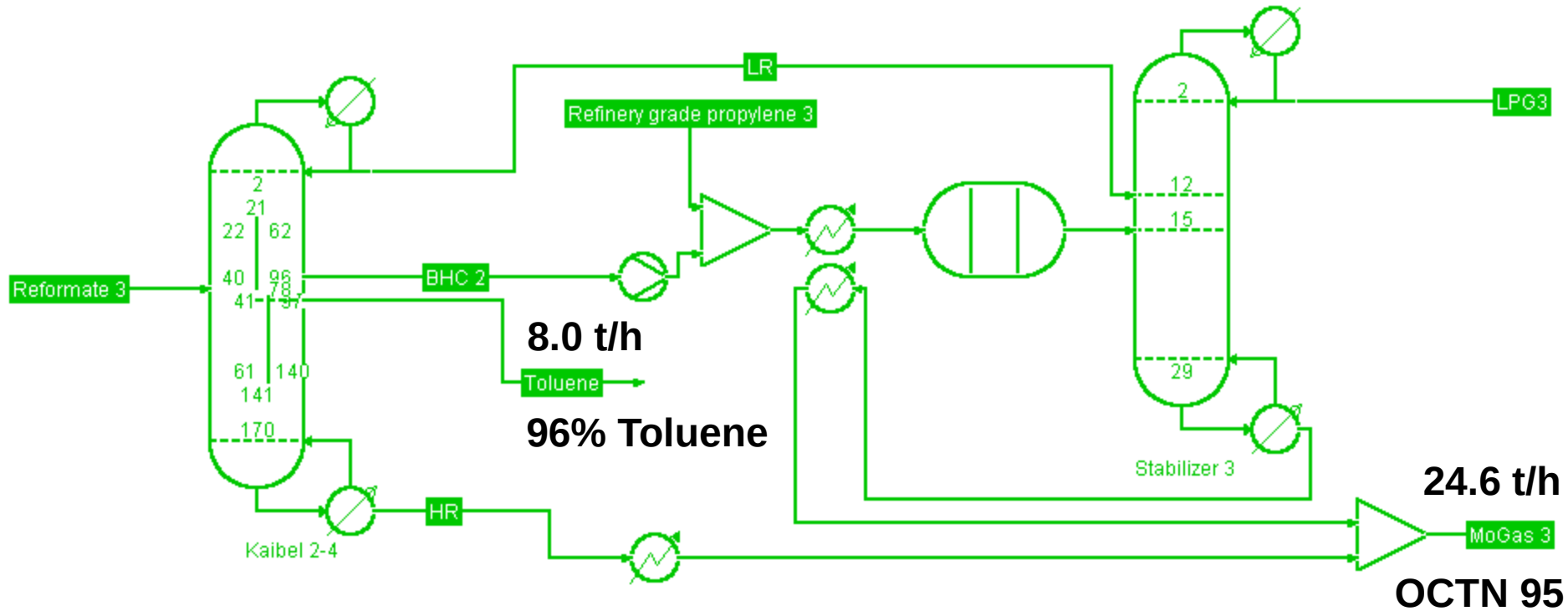
- Flexible co-production of Benzene-rich product

Can we further optimize?

- Kaibel configuration: enables co-production of >96% Toluene as separate product
- Maintaining OCTN 95 Mogas

Refinery: EXXON-Mobil BenzOUT

- Existing reformate splitters can be revamped using sloped-wall DWC designs, like Dejanovic *et al.**



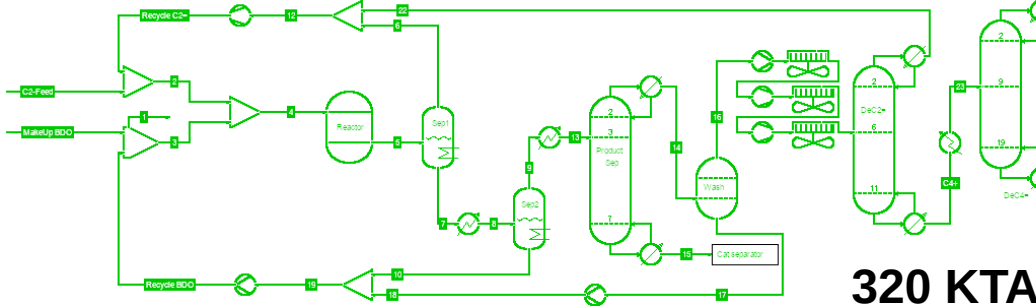
Slightly more energy if Toluene is produced

* Dejanović, I., Matijašević, L., Jansen, H., Olujić, Ž., 2011. Designing a Packed Dividing Wall Column for an Aromatics Processing Plant. Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research 50, 5680–5692. <https://doi.org/10.1021/ie1020206>

Chemicals: SHOP

Shell Higher Olefins Process (linear α -olefins)

K varies 0.6 to 0.7



Stream	C4=	C6=	C8=	C10=	C12=	C14=	C16=, C18=
Temperature, °C	56.70	65.48	71.1	87.52	135.16	169.26	221.49
Flowrate, ton/h	9.51	9.47	8.32	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.13
Mass compositions:							
C2=	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
C4=	0.3995	0.0010	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
C6= + b-C6=	0.0015	0.9990	0.0011	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
C8= + b-C8=	0.0000	0.0000	0.9985	0.0012	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
C10= + b-C10=	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.9998	0.0013	0.0000	0.0000
C12= + b-C12=	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.9987	0.0006	0.0000
C14= + b-C14=	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.9991	0.0000
C16= + b-C16=	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0009	0.5189
C18= + b-C18=	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.3875
C20= + b-C20=	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0915

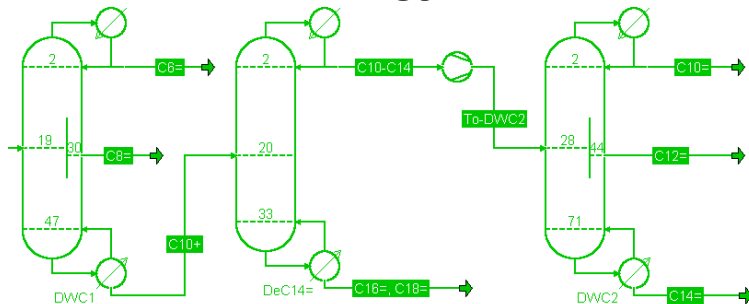
Columns	DecC6=	DecC8=	DecC10=	DecC12=	DecC14=	Unit
Condenser temperature, °C	65.88	124.06	97.52	135.16	169.26	
Reboiler temperature, °C	178.46	227.39	183.49	214.43	221.49	
Condenser duty, MW	-1.47	-1.63	-1.84	-1.47	-0.82	
Reboiler duty, MW	3.41	2.13	0.73	1.51	0.72	

K=0.60 Stoichiometric factors

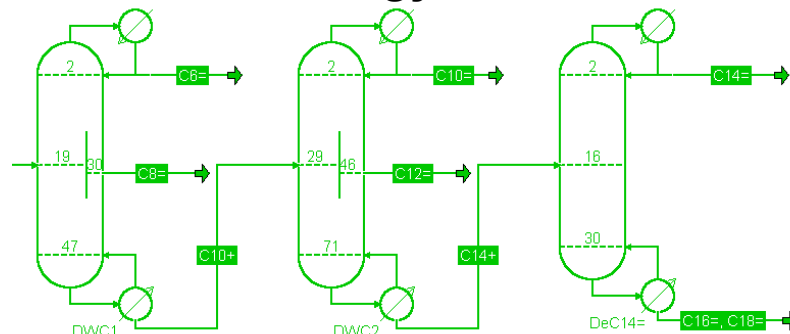
- C2 36925
- C4 3510
- C6 2281
- C8 1483
- C10 964
- C12 627
- C14 407
- C16 265
- C18 172
- C20 112
- b-C6 53
- b-C8 53
- b-C10 12
- b-C12 12
- b-C14 12
- b-C16 12
- b-C18 12
- b-C20 12

Stream	C2-Feed	5	9	C4+	C4*	C6*	C8*	C10*	C12*	14*	C16*, C18*	Unit
Pressure	80	80	20	30	9	1.1	0	0	0	0.15	30*	
Temperature	20	80	18	187.91	85.88	124.06	97.52	135.16	169.26	171	221.49	°C
Flow rate	80	801.071	51.2728	23.848	9.51109	9.4699	8.32323	6.07953	5.19276	0.1	5.79139	ton/h
Mass frac ethylene	1	0.024405	0.0118894	2.74822e-08	1.41148e-05	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Mass frac 1-butene	0	0.086832	0.190414	0.186971	0.090457	0.00103411	4.14356e-13	0	0	0	0	
Mass frac 1-hexene	0	0.0476924	0.107054	0.189692	0.00149202	0.0011159	2.19479e-14	0	0	0	0	
Mass frac 1-octene	0	0.0283195	0.158682	0.164438	2.94424e-09	1.90024e-05	0.96408	0.00121857	5.76434e-19	0	0	
Mass frac 1-decene	0	0.0183399	0.127295	0.133613	7.00812e-19	1.64848e-15	0.000310988	0.988348	0.00128991	5.72111e-13	0	
Mass frac 1-dodecene	0	0.0124623	0.0939354	0.104289	2.38491e-20	2.89845e-28	3.87196e-11	0.0011302	0.979899	0.0005	8.88465e-13	
Mass frac 1-tetradecene	0	0.00897698	0.0762413	0.0789797	0	0	4.20352e-18	4.27453e-18	1.40594e-11	0.970993	0.0020164	
Mass frac 1-hexadecene	0	0.00514195	0.0598888	0.0887974	0	0	7.43385e-25	4.87163e-21	1.8818e-23	8.90382e-05	0.48476	
Mass frac 1-octadecene	0	0.00345699	0.0409502	0.0428795	4.97997e-21	0	0	0	0	5.14874e-12	0.86221	
Mass frac 1-eicosene	0	0.00239758	0.025799	0.0289977	0	0	2.08996e-21	1.88717e-21	3.67653e-25	3.38719e-21	0.711485	
Mass frac 2-methyl-1-butene	0	0.00114203	0.00419921	0.0040795	3.91789e-05	0.0026837	2.84271e-05	5.89384e-18	1.91929e-21	0	0	
Mass frac 2-methyl-1-hexene	0	0.00104315	0.00589886	0.00587973	1.33911e-10	1.5186e-08	0.034462	3.28316e-08	5.14203e-17	0	0	
Mass frac 2-methyl-1-octene	0	0.00023381	0.00188489	0.00188323	2.76079e-18	2.16372e-18	0.0999926	0.0142793	5.88187e-09	1.78999e-18	0	
Mass frac 2-methyl-1-decene	0	0.00024166	0.0019015	0.00199891	8.92979e-22	1.42139e-12	1.0844e-05	0.017649	8.67999e-09	4.4531	0	
Mass frac 2-methyl-1-dodecene	0	0.00028792	0.0021842	0.00232892	0	0	1.00119e-19	6.32718e-14	5.30439e-12	0.0088627	2.77229e-06	
Mass frac 2-methyl-1-tetradecene	0	0.00027934	0.00253533	0.00266117	0	0	3.21094e-24	4.76007e-20	5.18379e-08	0.0024812	0	
Mass frac 2-methyl-1-hexadecene	0	0.000332462	0.00283229	0.00289169	0	0	0	0	1.84898e-18	0.0025769	0	
Mass frac 2-methyl-1-octadecene	0	0.000332462	0.00318917	0.00217372	4.80834e-21	2.35799e-21	1.03944e-23	1.04229e-21	3.93204e-21	7.84079e-21	0.0183662	
Mass frac 1,4-dioxane	0	0.748273	0.00791098	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

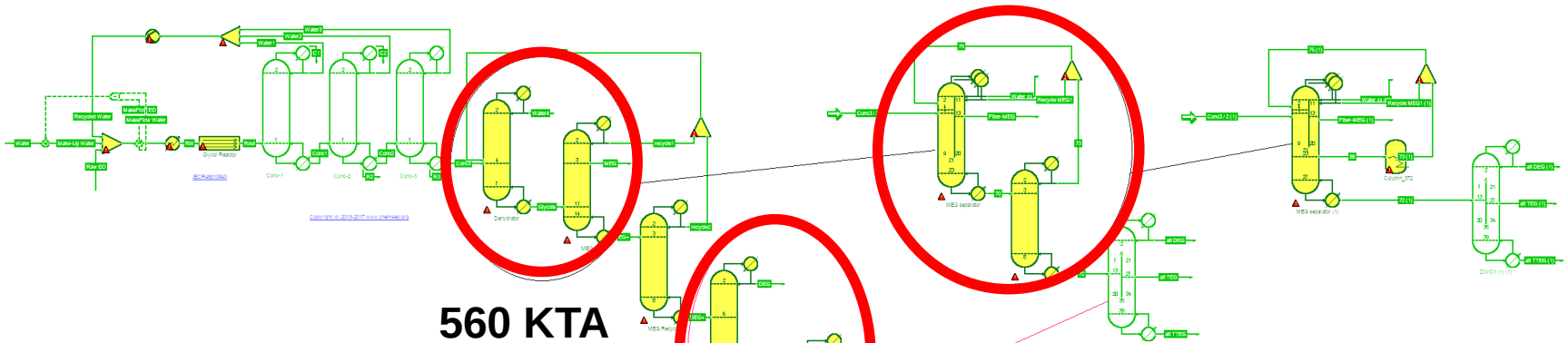
3,2,3: -12% energy



3,3,2: -22% energy

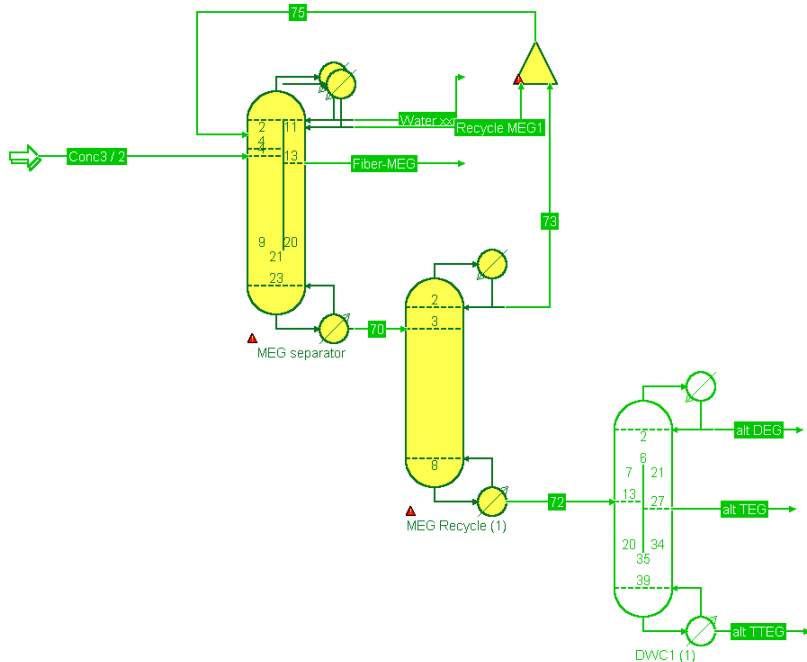


Chemicals: Ethylene Glycols (MEG)



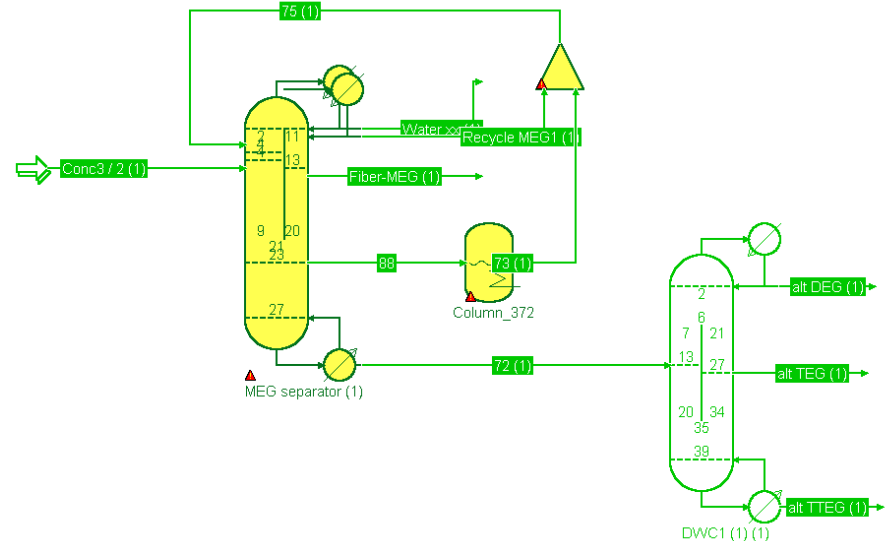
560 KTA

-7% energy



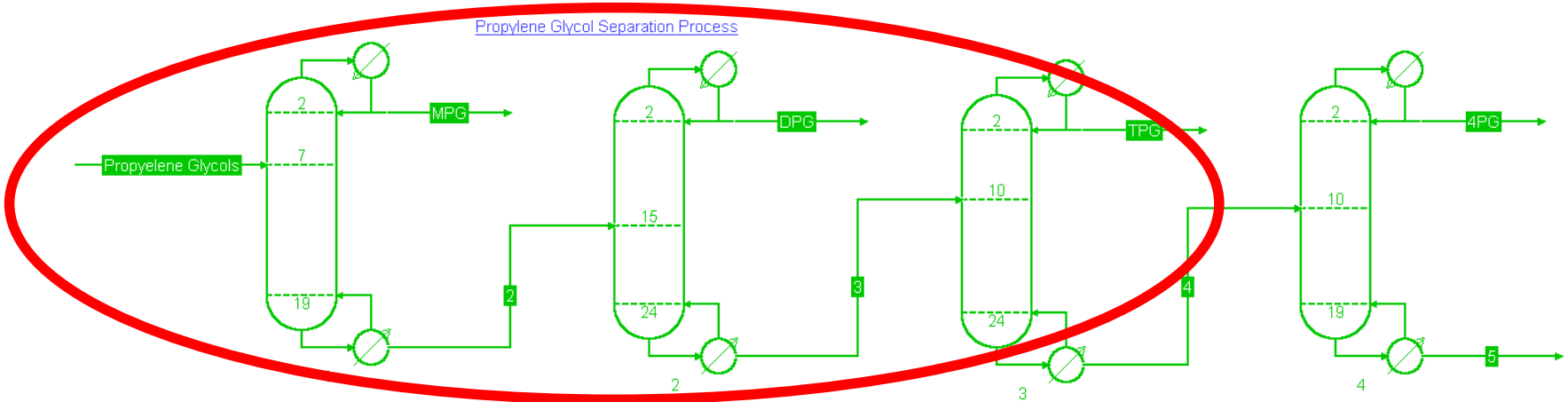
small savings

-14% energy



Chemicals: Propylene Glycol (MPG)

Propylene Glycol Separation Process



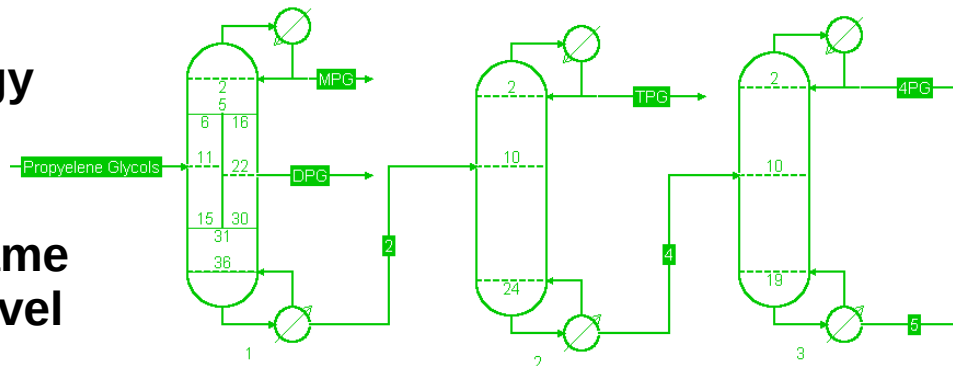
- [Shell MPG and DPG](#)
- [Solventis MPG and DPG](#)
- [BASF MPG, DPG, and TPG](#)
- [Other routes to MPG](#)
- [OltChim](#)
- [Thyssen-Krupp](#)
- [Copyright \(c\) ChemSep.org 2022](#)

Stream	MPG	DPG	TPG	4PG	Unit
Pressure	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.02	bar
Temperature	124.656	161.651	170.525	192.629	°C
Flow rate	20	40	30	20	kmol / h
Mass frac MPG	0.996465	0.000565592	0	0	
Mass frac DPG	0.00348994	0.992301	0.00465464	0	
Mass frac TPG	4.46161e-05	0.0071331	0.992754	0.00226756	
Mass frac 4PG	0	0	0.00259103	0.991573	
Mass frac 5PG	0	0	0	0.00613969	
Mass frac HexaPropylene Glycol	0	0	0	0	

160 KTA

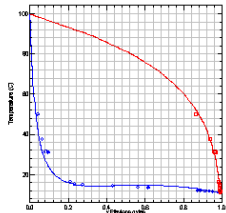
Large energy savings

DWC for same pressure level

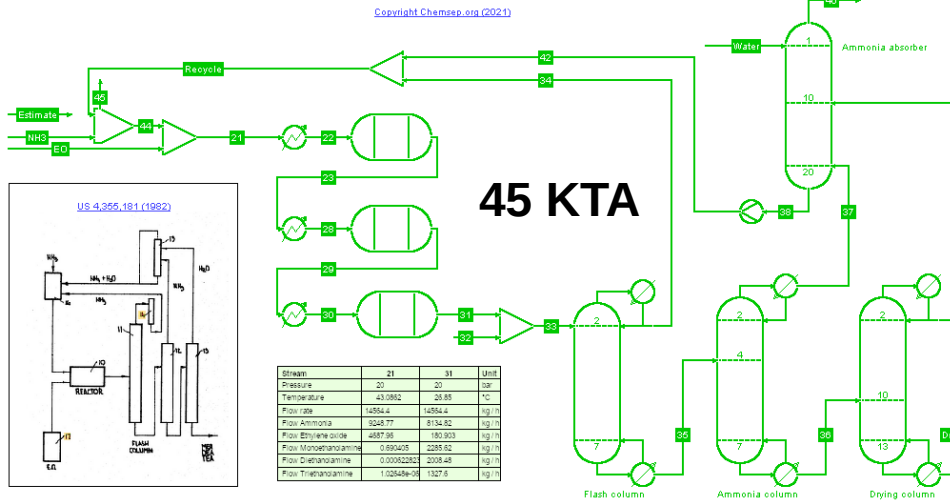
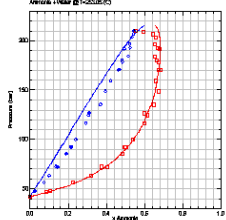


Chemicals: Ethanol-Amines

[EO+Water, Coles K.F., Pepper F., Ind. Eng. Chem., 42\(7\), pp. 1434-1438, \(1950\)](#)

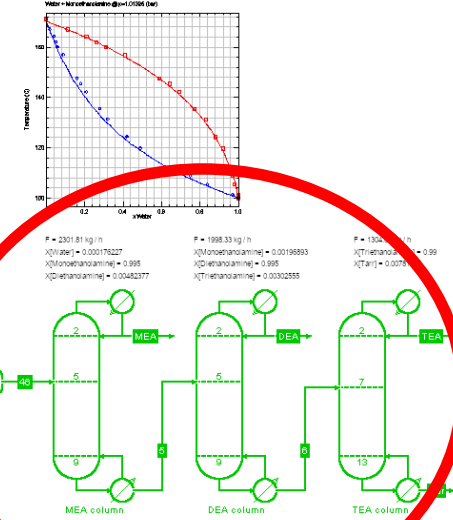


[Sved S., H. Rizvi and Robert A. Heldemann., J. Chem. Eng. Data 32, pp. 193-191 \(1987\)](#)



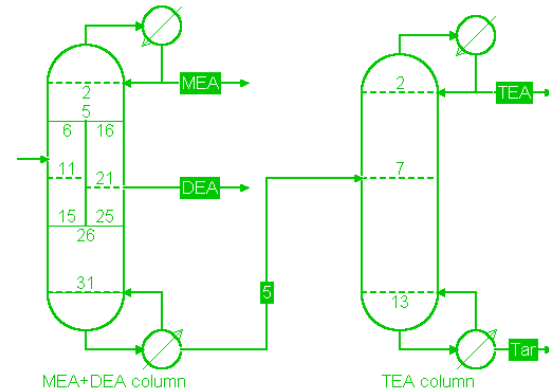
[Simulation and optimization of ethanol amine production plant, Korean J. Chem. Eng. 28 \(6\) pp. 1504-1511 \(2009\)](#)
[Cost-efficient production of ethanolamines](#)
[Ullmann chapter on Ethanol-Amines](#)
[Catalysts for the production of ethanolamines, Ind. Eng. Chem. Prod. Res. Dev. \(1995\) 25 pp. 424-430](#)
[US 2,622,073 \(1952\)](#) [US 4,119,670 \(1978\)](#)

[Park, S.-B., Lee, H., Korean J. Chem. Eng. 14, pp. 146-148 \(1997\)](#)

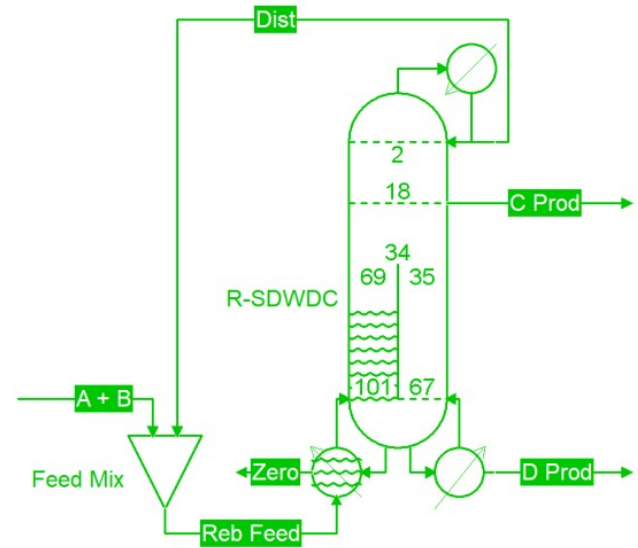
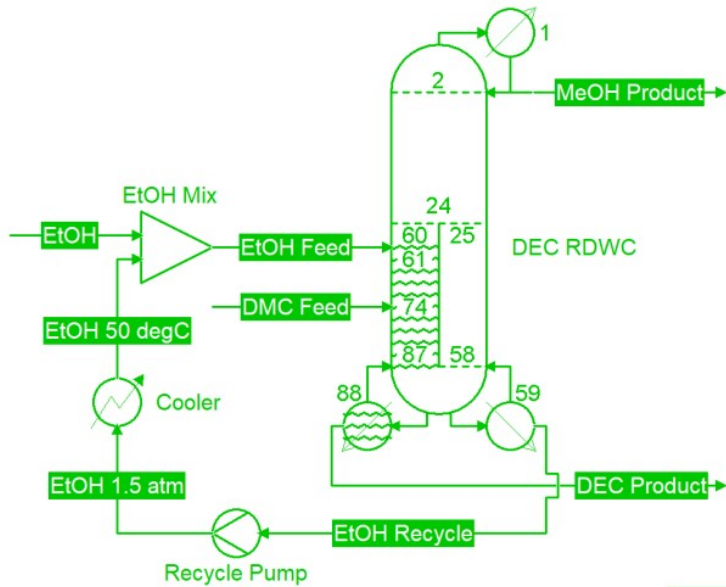


Stream	33	35	36	Dry EA	Unit
Pressure	20	20	8	1.01325	bar
Temperature	-25.7941	-199.076	-175.184	-190.197	°C
Flow rate	14818.3	7599.93	6699.93	5871.99	kg/h
Flow Ammonia	8134.82	417.134	21.8272	141329e-15	kg/h
Flow Water	628.543	624.603	624.603	0.119235	kg/h
Flow Monoethanolamine	2285.82	2284.93	2284.93	2284.93	kg/h
Flow Diethanolamine	2038.48	2038.48	2038.48	2038.48	kg/h
Flow Triethanolamine	1327.6	1327.6	1327.6	1327.6	kg/h

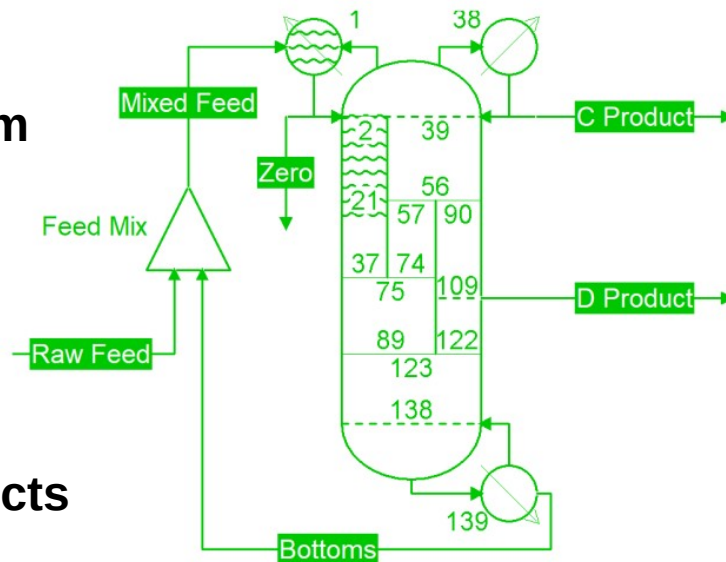
**No energy savings
Savings from single C & R**



Reactive DWC



Capex savings from reactor integration



Big benefits from stripping of products

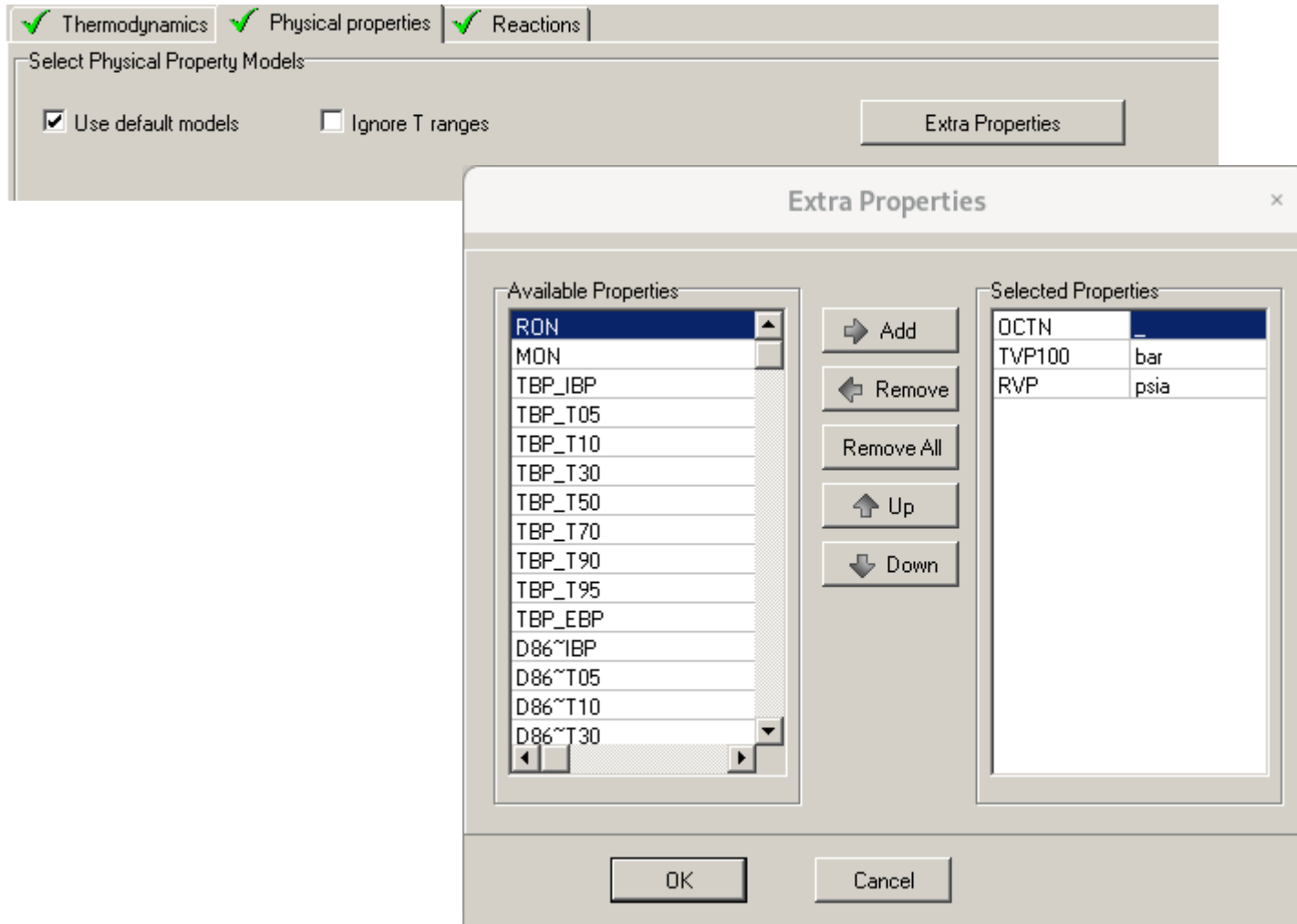
Summary

- Simulation 'easily' done in ChemSep by use of predefined configurations **with** pressure drops
- Can optimize DWC process on petroleum properties
- Not every DWC is physically feasible / lower in capex
- DWC selection & its integration in the process matter

Questions?

Selection of “Extra Properties”

Part of the physical properties models selection



Extra Properties Methods

RON & MON: Table values / Estimated from groups or Tb & SG

OCTN: Posted Octane Number = $RON/2 + MON/2$

Flash Point: Riazi (eqn. 3.114/3.115)

TVP100: Antoine vapor pressure model at 100 F
(with Ambrose or Riedel as back-up)

RVP: Approximation using the TVP100, mixtures per Riazi p. 132

TBP: Spline interpolation

D86: Riazi-Daubert 1986 on TBP

API density

K Watson

More to come...

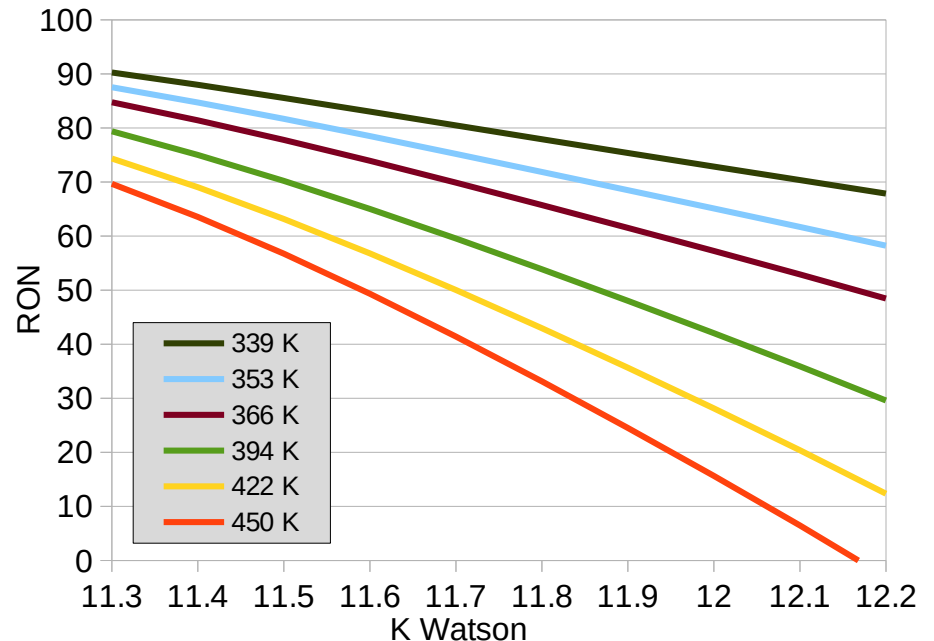
RON & MON Estimation

RON:

- UNIFAC groups: Albahri (*Ind.Eng.Chem.Res.* (2003) 42, pp. 657-662 + (2004) 43, p. 7964) and new -OH/=O/-O- groups average error 8.8%
- Pseudo's: Nelson (1969) as $f(K_w, T_b)$ for Naphtha's

MON:

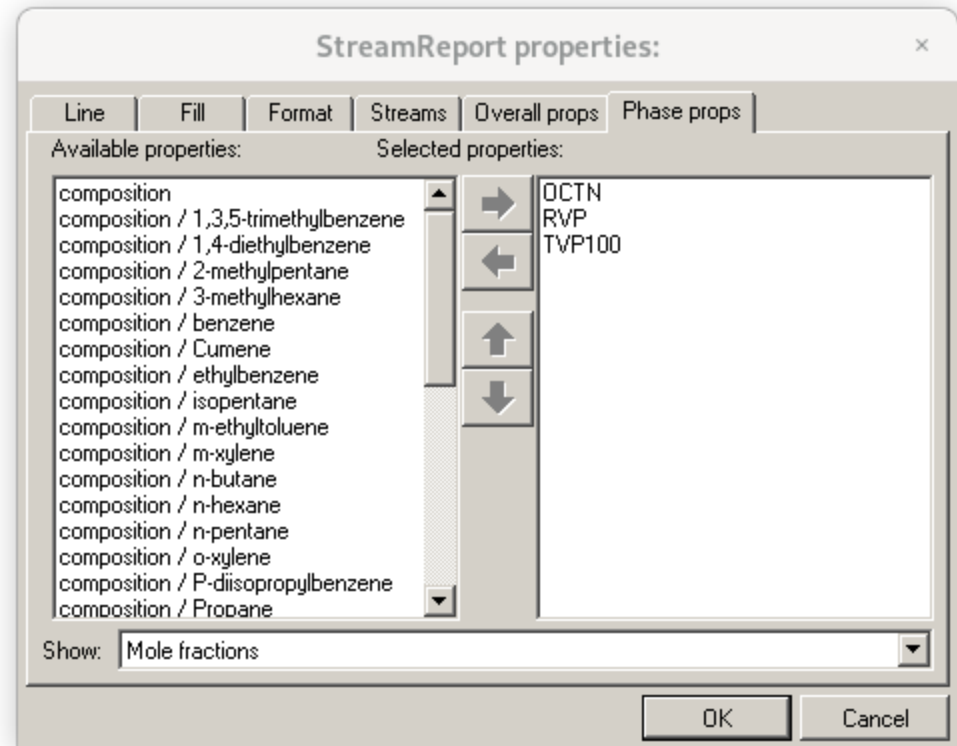
Jenkins (1968)
average error 8%



Extra Properties

Stream-tables with custom CAPE-OPEN properties

Stream	Reformat	MoGas	Unit
Pressure	3.5	2.5	bar
Temperature	100	71.0902	°C
Flow rate	343	335.349	kmol / h
Mole frac n-butane	0.0309038	0.00909843	
Mole frac isopentane	0.0819242	0.0835314	
Mole frac n-pentane	0.0580175	0.0592973	
Mole frac 2-methylpentane	0.0862974	0.0882657	
Mole frac n-hexane	0.045481	0.0465187	
Mole frac benzene	0.101458	0.0121412	
Mole frac 3-methylhexane	0.0186589	0.0190846	
Mole frac toluene	0.248397	0.254064	
Mole frac ethylbenzene	0.0306122	0.0313107	
Mole frac p-xylene	0.0370262	0.037871	
Mole frac m-xylene	0.106122	0.108544	
Mole frac o-xylene	0.0478134	0.0489043	
Mole frac m-ethyltoluene	0.0361516	0.0369765	
Mole frac 1,3,5-trimethylbenzene	0.0594752	0.0608322	
Mole frac 1,4-diethylbenzene	0.0116618	0.0119279	
Mole frac Propane	0	6.03384e-07	
Mole frac Propylene	0	6.89168e-07	
Mole frac Cumene	0	0.0595601	
Mole frac P-diisopropylbenzene	0	0.0320708	
Liquid phase			
OCTN	100.404	98.3165	-
RVP	0.414281	0.315115	bar
TVP100	0.427999	0.333599	bar



Liquid phase			
OCTN	100.404	98.3165	-
RVP	6.00864	4.57036	psi
TVP100	6.2076	4.83844	psi