

# Surrogate Model based Optimal Design of Carbon Capture Process

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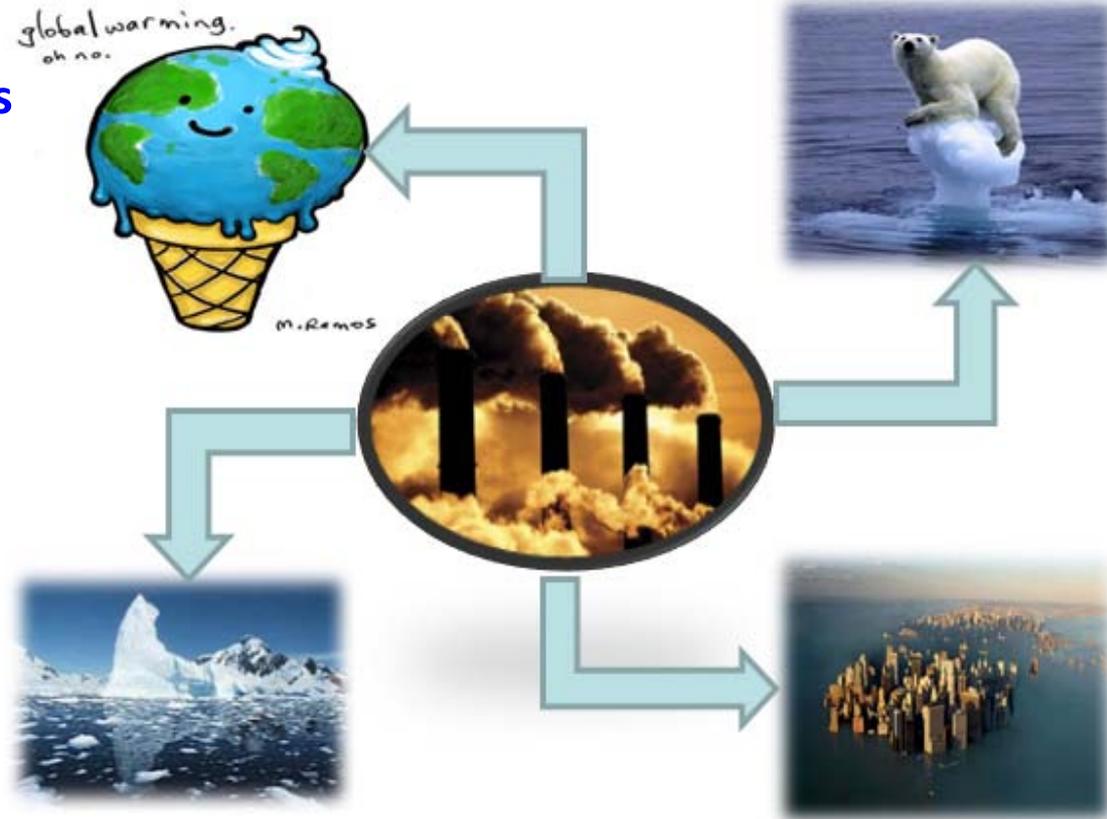
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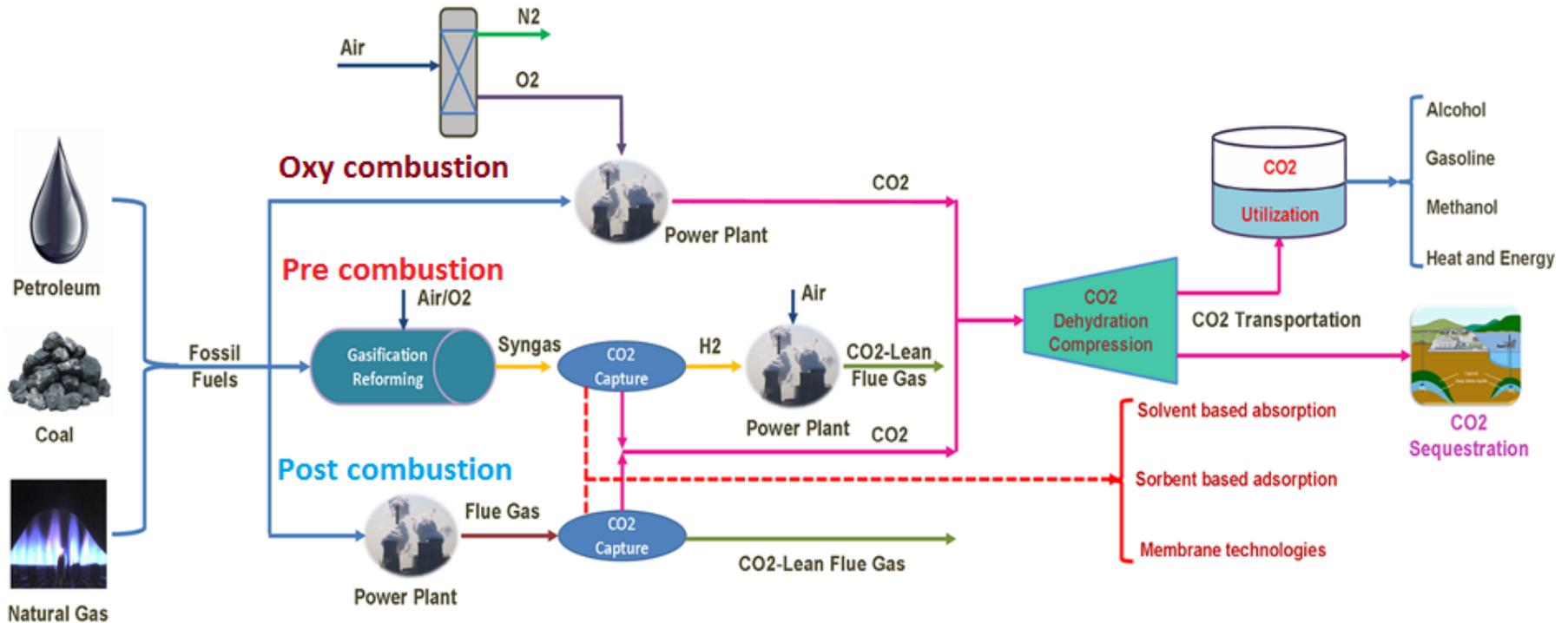
# MOTIVATION

- Backbone of the energy supply: Fossil fuels  
**petroleum, coal, natural gas**
- One-third of U.S. CO2 emissions come from power plant
- Global warming issues
  - Ice melting at poles
  - Rising of ocean levels
- Available carbon capture technologies would increase electricity costs



# CO2 CAPTURE TECHNOLOGIES

## Summary of the current CO2 carbon capture technologies



Most widely investigated CO2 capture technology: Post combustion

# CO2 CAPTURE TECHNOLOGIES

## MEA solvent based post-combustion capture technology

- Highly energy intensive
- Large solvent makeup due to their thermal and oxidative degradation
- High cost

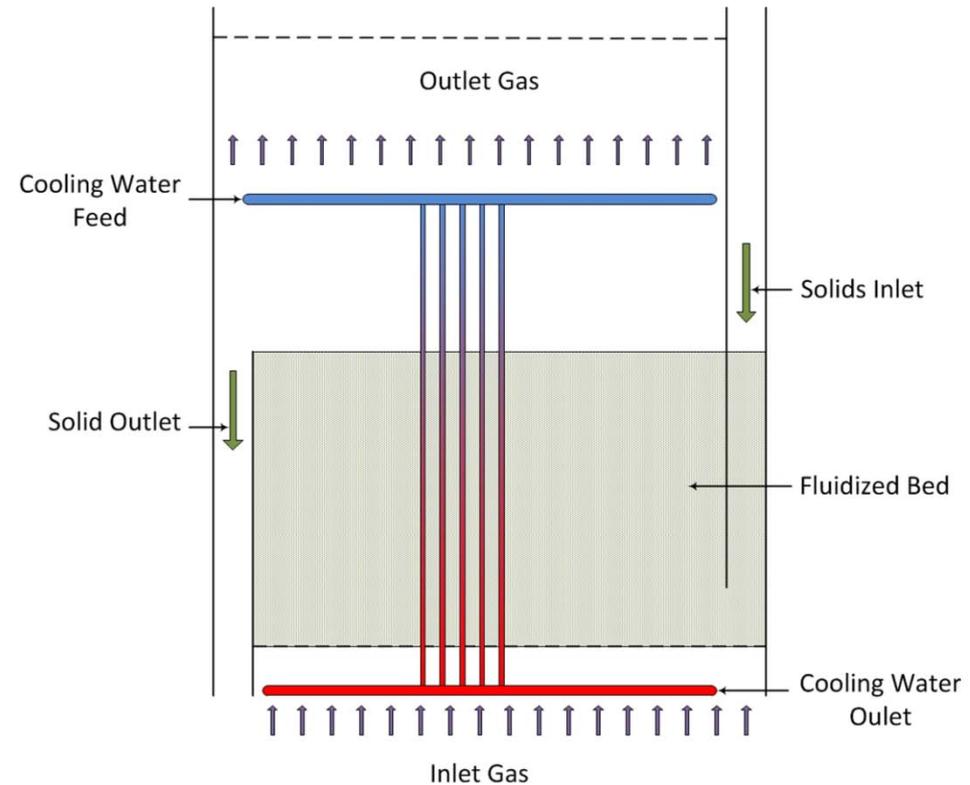
*(Samanta, I&EC Research, 2012)*

## Cost-effective capture technology is extremely needed to reduce the CO2 emission

- Growing interest: solid sorbent based adsorption process
  - Reduced energy for regeneration
  - Greater capacity and selectivity
- DOE: Carbon Capture Simulation Initiative (CCSI)
  - Bubbling fluidized bed adsorber/regenerator
  - Moving bed adsorber/regenerator

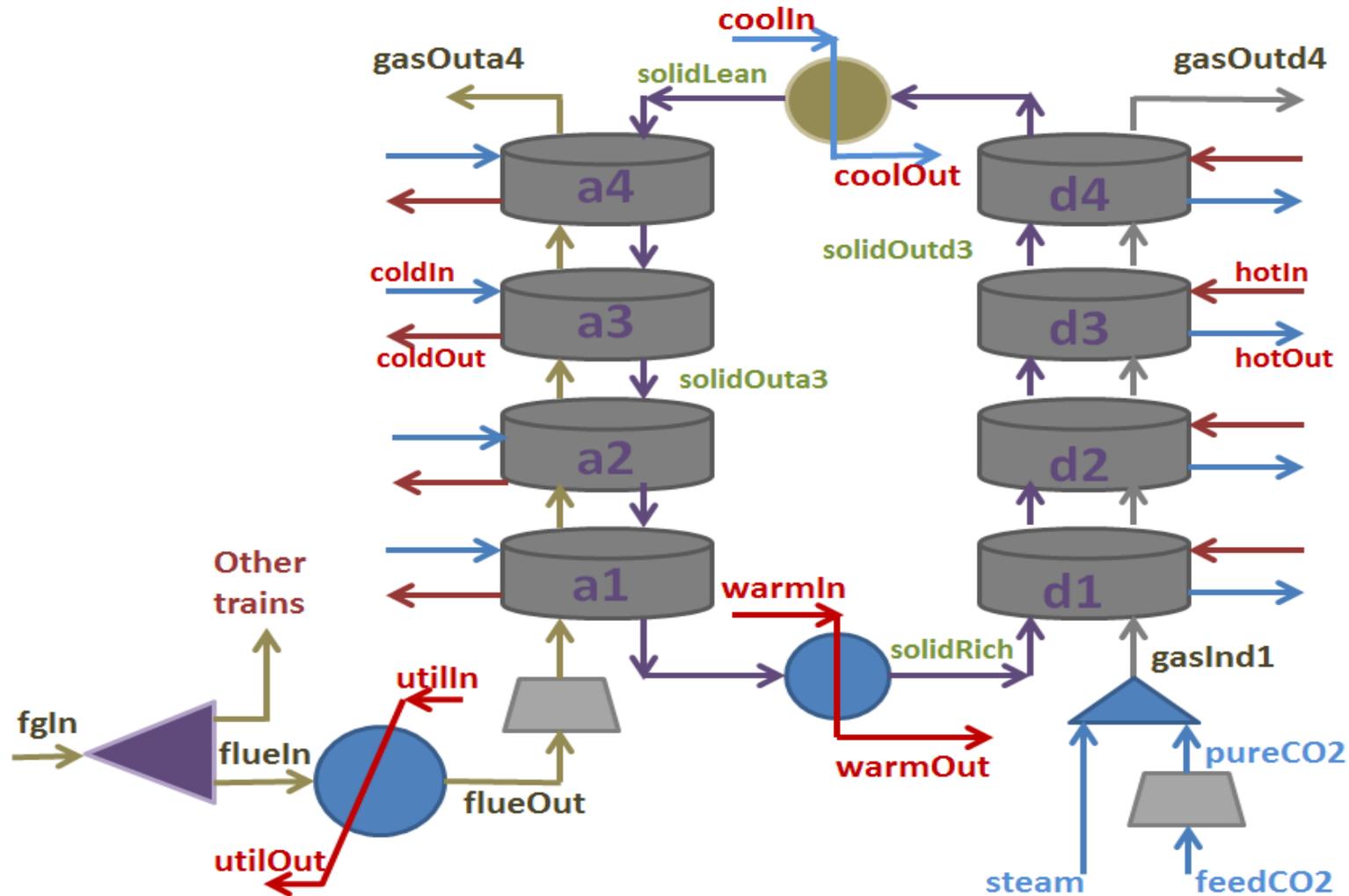
# BUBBLING FLUIDIZED BED REACTOR

- **Bubbling fluidized bed**
  - 1D model
  - Modeled in Aspen Custom modeler
  - Differential model
  - Uses Aspen Properties package



Andrew Lee, US DOE-National Energy Technology laboratory,  
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# CO2 CAPTURE PROCESS FLOWSHEET



General flow sheet for carbon capture process

# OBJECTIVES AND HURDLES

- **Objectives**

- Achieve the set carbon capture rate

- Minimizing the cost of electricity (COE)

- Identify & develop the optimized bubbling fluidized bed process designs

- Optimal configuration

- Optimal design conditions

- Optimal operating conditions

- **Hurdles**

- Computationally intractable for large scale nonlinear optimization because of the detailed first principle models

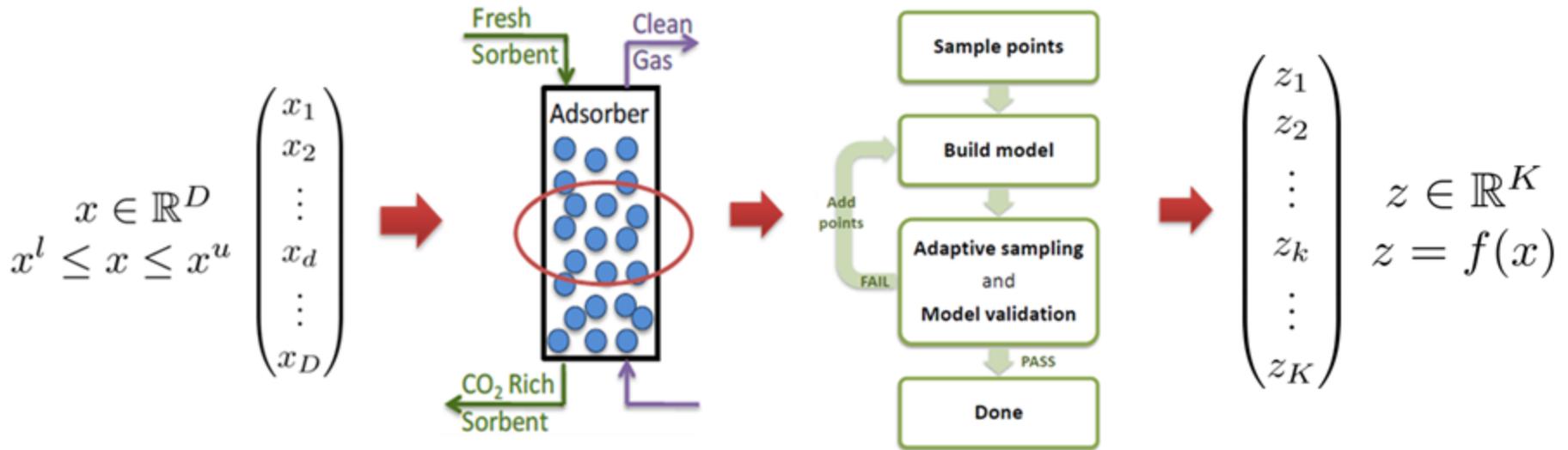
- **Handles**

- Generate the set of low complexity algebraic surrogate models

- Automated Learning of Algebraic Models for Optimization(**ALAMO**)

*(<http://archimedes.cheme.cmu.edu/?q=alamo>)*

# SURROGATE MODEL GENERATION

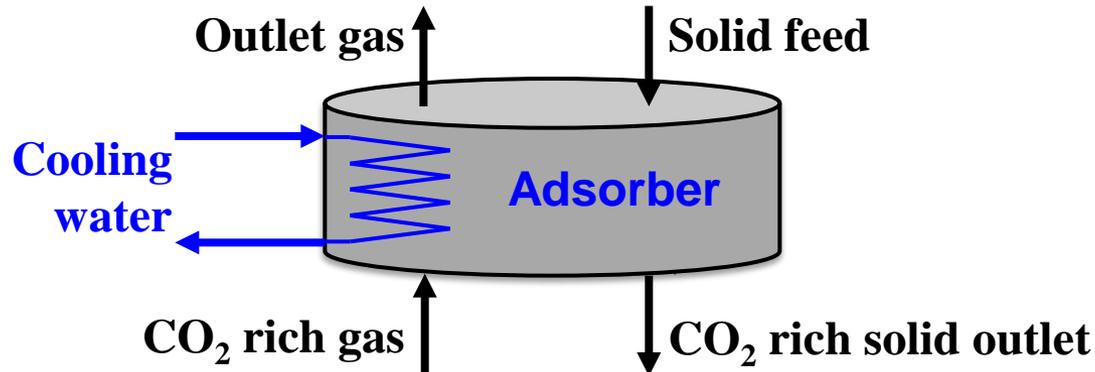


- **Independent variables**  $x$ 
  - Geometry
  - Operating conditions
  - Inlet flow conditions

- **Dependent variables**  $z$ 
  - Geometry required
  - Operating condition required
  - Outlet flow conditions
  - Design constraints

# BUBBLING FLUIDIZED BED

## Bubbling fluidized bed adsorber diagram



- **Model inputs (16 total)**

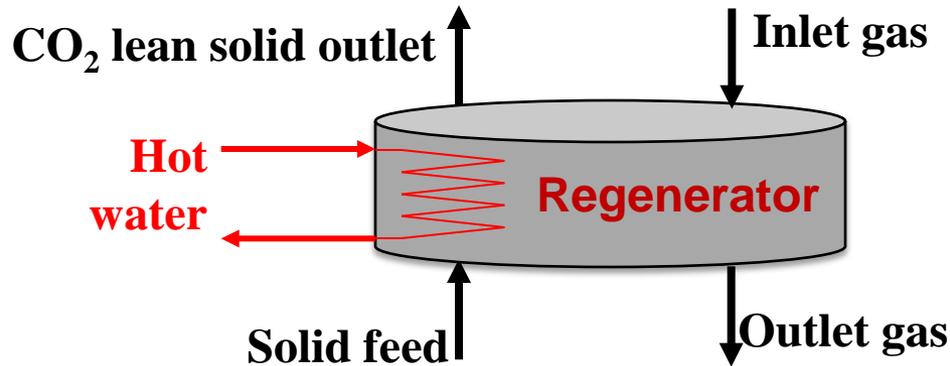
- Geometry (3)
- Operating conditions (5)
- Gas mole fractions (2)
- Solid compositions (2)
- Flow rates (4)

- **Model outputs (14 total)**

- Geometry required (2)
- Outlet pressure (1)
- Gas mole fractions (3)
- Solid compositions (3)
- Flow rates (2)
- Outlet temperatures (3)

# BUBBLING FLUIDIZED BED

## Bubbling fluidized bed regenerator diagram



- **Model inputs (14 total)**

- Geometry (3)
- Operating conditions (5)
- Gas mole fractions (1)
- Solid compositions (2)
- Flow rates (3)

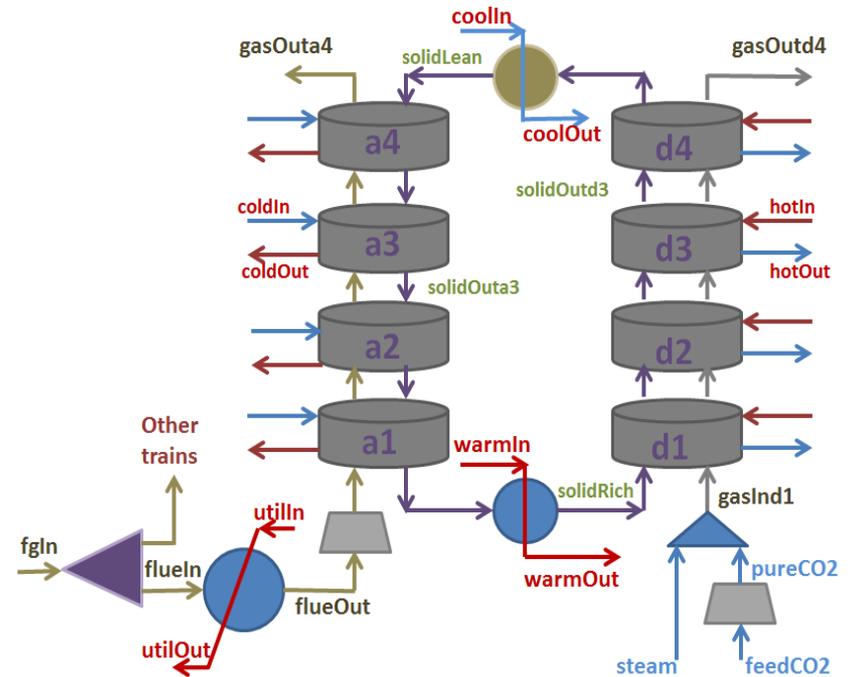
- **Model outputs (14 total)**

- Geometry required (2)
- Inlet pressure (1)
- Gas mole fractions (3)
- Solid compositions (3)
- Flow rates (2)
- Outlet temperatures (3)

# NONLINEAR OPTIMIZATION FORMULATION

## Assumptions for nonlinear programming formulation

- Each stage is a single stage operation
- Utility cost for sorbent HX is negligible
- No pressure change for liquid and solid flow
- Each stage of adsorber/regenerator operation requires attached heat exchanger
- Surrogate models for fluidized bed adsorber and regenerator
- First principle models for SolidRich/SolidLean heat exchanger, blower, mixer



# NONLINEAR OPTIMIZATION FORMULATION

## Nonlinear Optimization Model

- Parameters
- Variables
- Equations
  - Economic modules
  - Process modules
    - Material balances
    - Hydrodynamic/Energy balances
    - Reactor surrogate models
  - Link between economic modules and process modules
  - Bounds for variables

$f_1$  **First principle models**

$f_2$  **Surrogate models**

$f_3$  **Economic modules**

$F_1$  **Constraints on geometry**

$F_2$  **Constraints on cost**

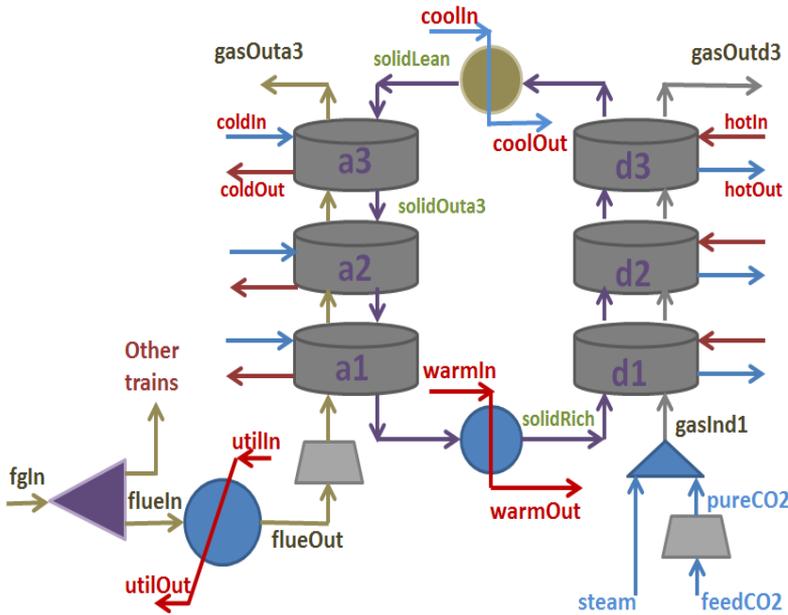
$F_3$  **Constraints on capture rate**

**Nonlinear programming to seek the optimal design/operation levels**

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & COE \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & f_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0 \\ & f_2(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = 0 \\ & f_3(x, X) = 0 \\ & F_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \geq 0 \\ & F_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \geq 0 \\ & F_3(x, X) \geq 0 \\ & x_i^{lo} \leq x_i \leq x_i^{up}; \quad \forall i \in N \\ & X_i^{lo} \leq X_i \leq X_i^{up}; \quad \forall i \in N \end{aligned}$$

**Using GAMS/BARON Software**

# CASE STUDY

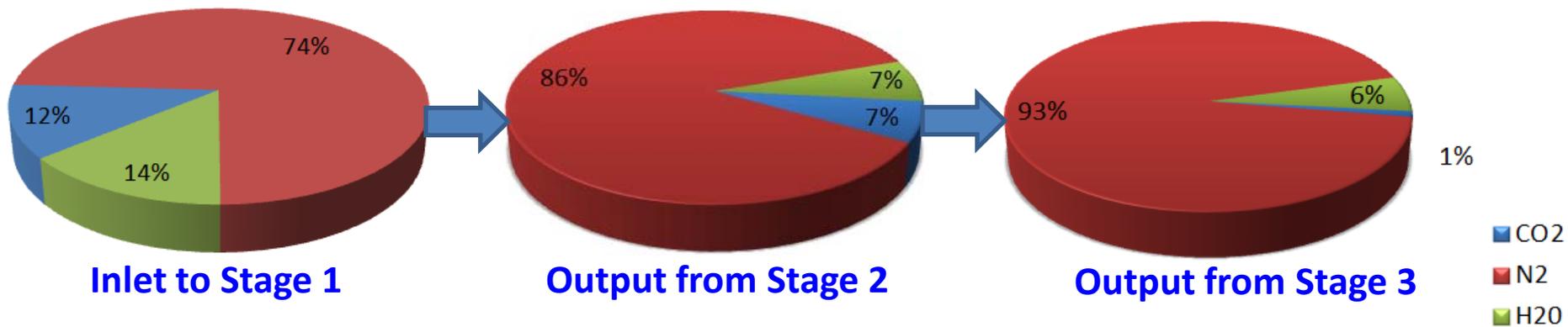


Variables	Lower bound	Value	Upper bound
COE(\$/MWh)	-	108.5	1000
CapEX(\$)	1.0E+8	1.9E+8	1.0E+10
steamF(kgmol/s)	0.3	0.3	1
steamFlow(kg/s)	-	216	-
feedCO2F(kgmol/s)	0.1	0.1366	0.4
Derate(MW)	-	213.98	650
utilInF(kgmol/s)	5	9.26	10

**CapEx:** Capital overnight cost

**derate:** derating of the plant due to steam Take-off

**steamFlow:** Steam Take-off amount from power plant



Molar composition of flue gas

# CONCLUSIONS

- We developed a surrogate model based framework to seek the optimal design/operating levels for a fixed arrangement of pieces of equipment
- ALAMO provides surrogate models of adsorbers and regenerators and thus the whole nonlinear programming has a lower complexity
- Next steps:
  - Formulate MINLP to optimize simultaneously the topology of the plant and the corresponding design/operating levels
  - Select reactor type for each stage
  - More complex superstructures...