Comparative Overview of Costs for Capture Technologies

Prof. Dianne Wiley Program Manager (Capture)

Cooperative Research Centre for Greenhouse Gas Technologies (CO2CRC)

Breakthrough Post Combustion Capture Technologies HiPerCap Workshop, Melbourne © CO2CRC March 25-27, 2015







The role of CCS economics

- Economics is one of the four elements of quadruple bottom line business decision making
- Decisions also need to ensure sustainable management of risk and reliability
- Technology assessments used to support decisions on technology selection, capital investments, marketing strategies, R&D priorities, and related activities.
 - Understand where and what the cost drivers are to enable development of novel and creative ways to reduce cost.





Measures of CCS economics

Indirect

- Energy penalty
- CO₂ avoided/emission intensity
- Direct
 - Cost/Present Value (PV, \$)
 - Cost of CO₂ avoided/captured/injected ((\$/t CO_{2 avoided/captured}))
 - Production cost (eg. LCOE \$/MWh, \$/ton steel etc.)





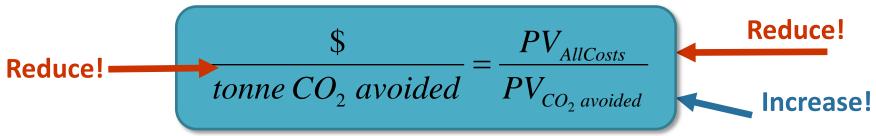
Techno-economic assessments

- Compare costs of alternative options.
- Differences reflect different configurations and operating alternatives.
 - Relativities just as important as absolute values.
- Rely on "technology-levelling" assumptions.
 - Process assumptions e.g. plant size, fuel type, capacity factor, reference plant.
 - Economic assumptions e.g. cost of capital, cost year, discount rate, energy/fuel costs, nominal vs. real costs, project life.
- Require appropriate technology benchmark.





Reducing capture costs



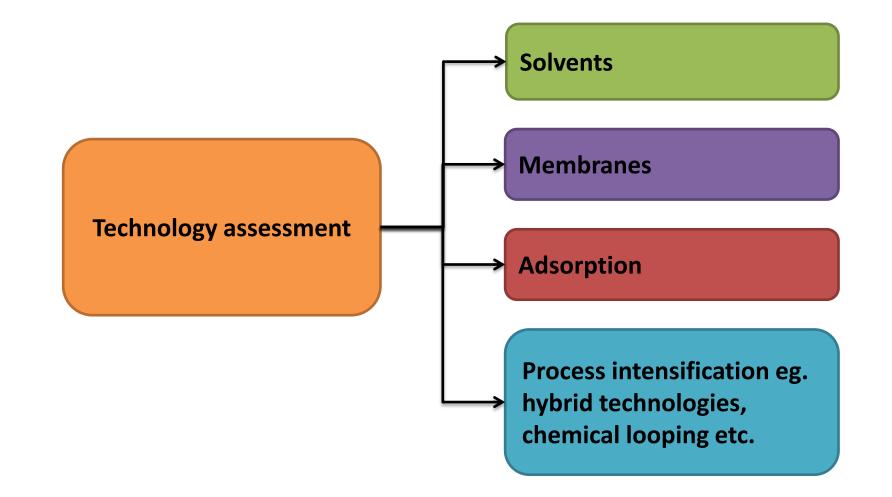
- Reduce Capital costs
 - cheaper equipment
 - more efficient (smaller) equipment
- Reduce Operating costs
 - more efficient equipment
 - less energy demand
- Reduce energy penalty
 - use improved technologies
 - heat and process integration



- Increase CO₂ captured
 - improve capture efficiency
 - improve capture rate
- Reduce CO₂ emitted
 - improve process efficiency
 - change fuel
- Increase energy efficiency
 - heat and process integration



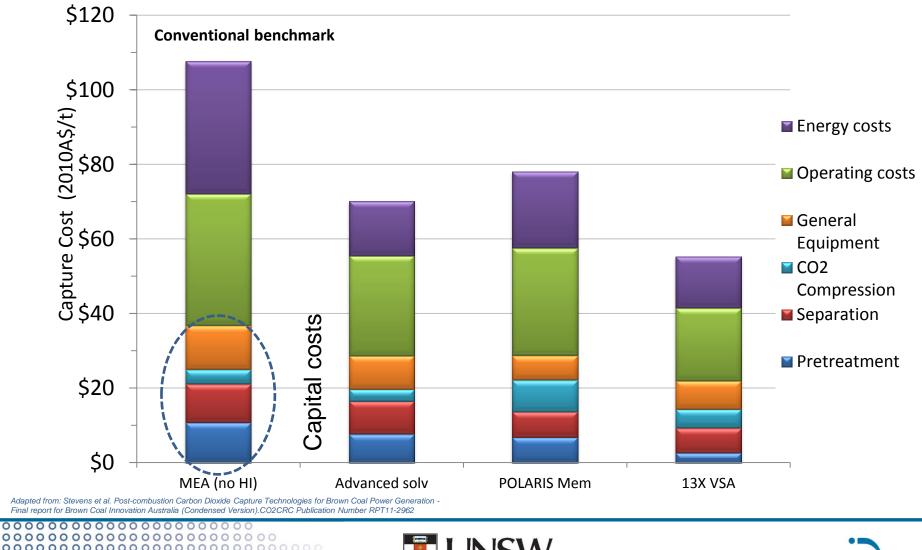
Capture economics







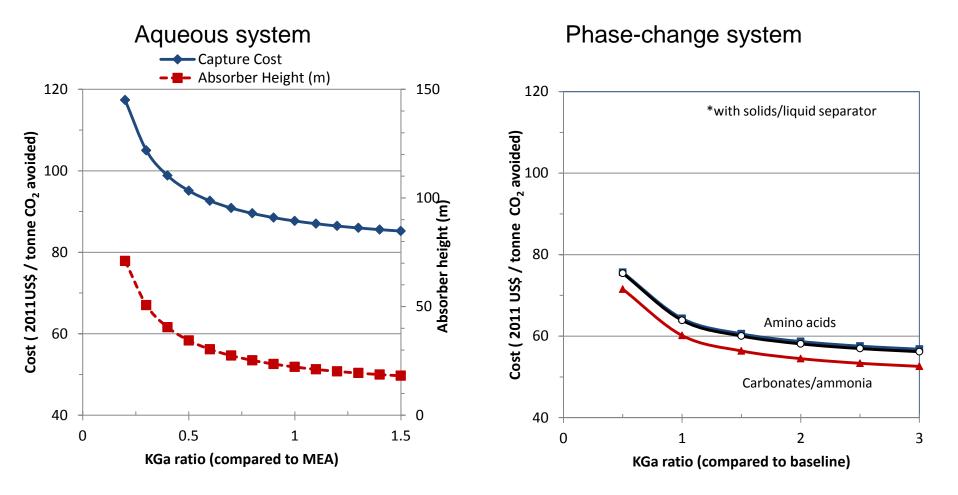
Technology comparison (500 MW black Australian coal power plant)







Solvent improvement: size and capital costs

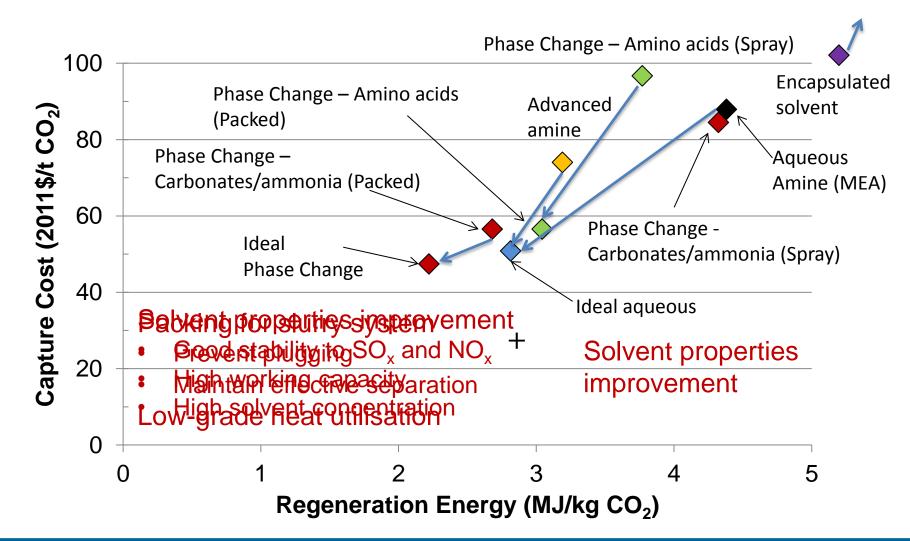


Adapted from: Raksajati et al (2013) 'Reducing the cost of capture from flue gas using aqueous chemical absorption' IECR 52 16887





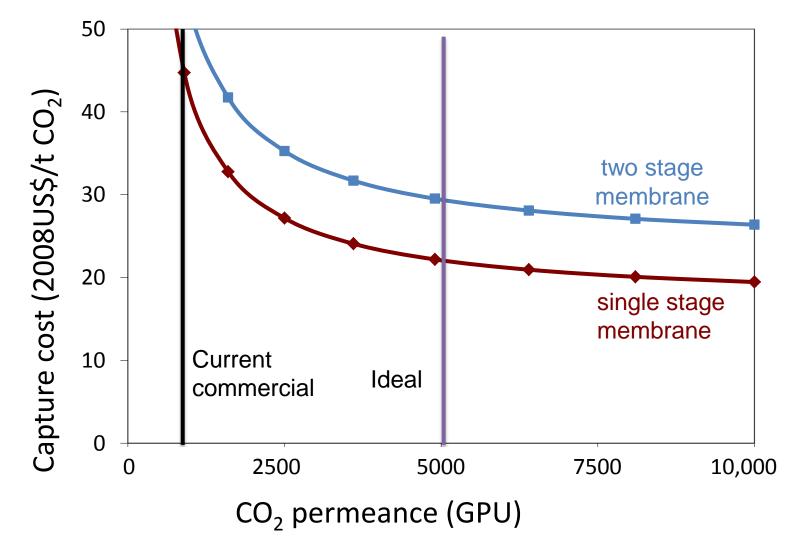
Solvent improvement: reducing energy







Membrane improvement: size and cost

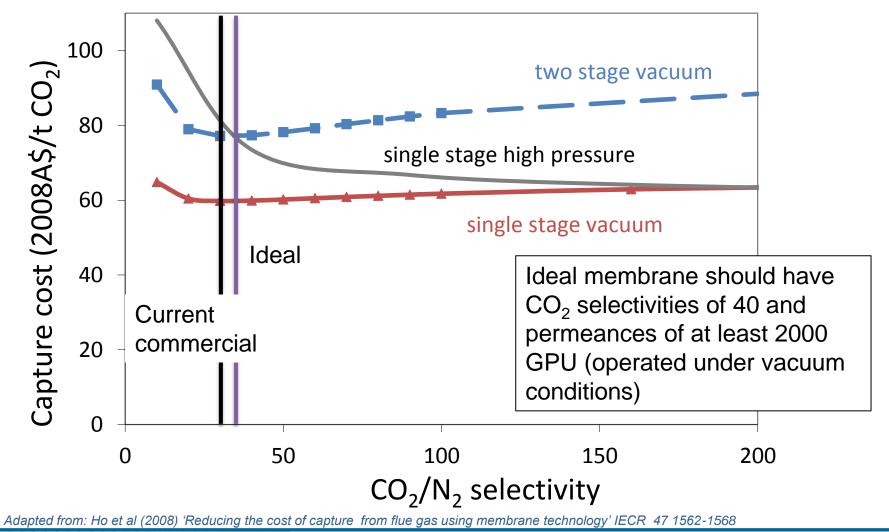


Adapted from: Ho et al (2008) 'Reducing the cost of capture from flue gas using membrane technology' IECR 47 1562-1568





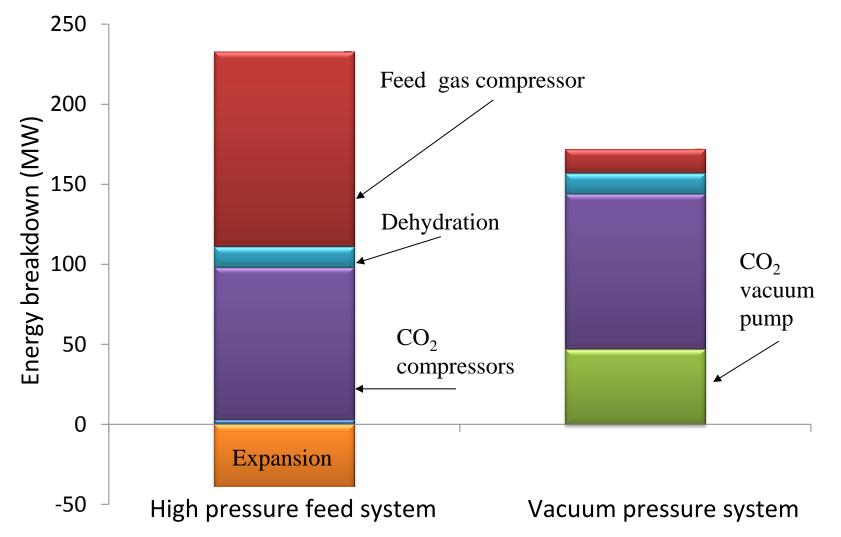
Membrane improvement: compression energy







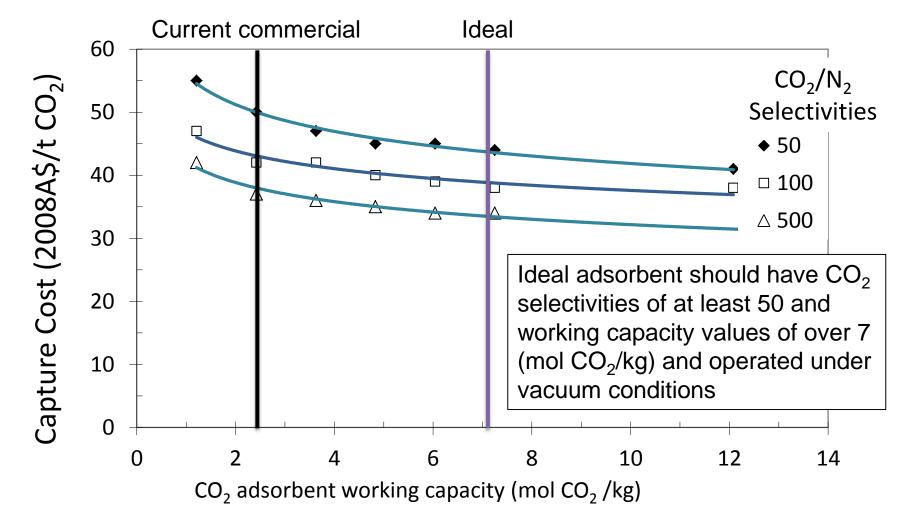
Adsorption development: compression energy







Adsorption improvement: size, energy, cost



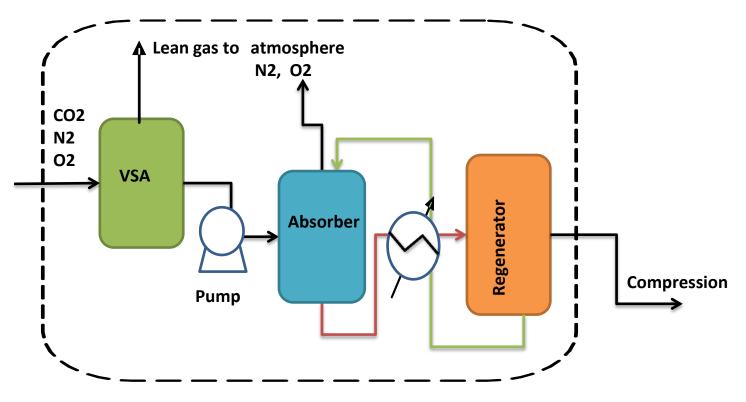
Adapted from: Ho et al (2008) 'Reducing the cost of capture from flue gas using pressure swing adsorption' IECR 47 4883-4890





Process intensification: Hybrid capture

• Combination of adsorption and solvent technologies, membrane and solvent, adsorption and cryogenic etc.

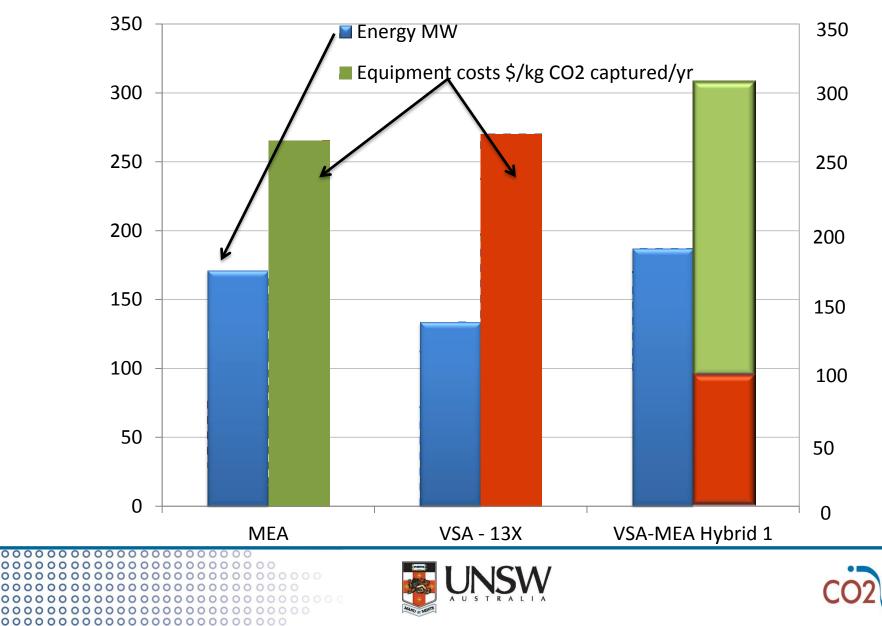


Adsorption + Solvent Hybrid Separation

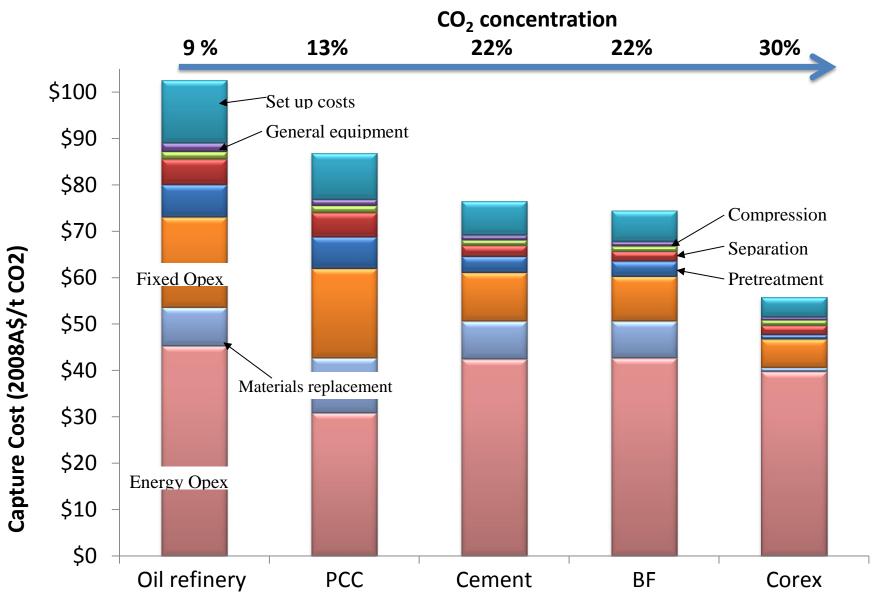




Energy and costs of VSA-solvent hybrid



Effects of emission source on costs



Adapted from: Ho et al (2010) Comparison of MEA capture cost for low CO2 emissions sources in Australia, IJGGC 5(1):49-60.

Comparison of capture development options

Parameter	Solvents	Membranes	Adsorption
Capital cost			





Other factors to consider

- Tolerance to impurities (SO_x, NO_x, water)
- Process configuration design and optimisation
- Optimising operating conditions
- Heat integration
- Load following and process flexibility





Conclusions from comparative costing

- Technology improvement driven by reductions in:
 - Energy usage
 - Capital costs (size of equipment, level of pretreatment)
 - Operating costs (materials replacement)
- Application dependent
 - No silver bullet
 - Technology specific intensification and integration
- Relies on consistent benchmarks and assumptions





CO2CRC Participants



Supporting Partners: The Global CCS Institute | The University of Queensland | Process Group | Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory CANSYD Australia | Government of South Australia | Charles Darwin University | Simon Fraser University





