# **Dynamic Modeling and Optimization** of Large-Scale Cryogenic Processes

Maria Soledad Diaz

Planta Piloto de Ingeniería Química Universidad Nacional del Sur -CONICET Bahía Blanca, ARGENTINA





## > Objective

- Natural Gas Processing Plants
- Methodology
- Mathematical Models
- Discussion of Results
- Conclusions and Current Work



- Dynamic optimization model for natural gas processing plant units
  - Dynamic energy and mass balances
  - Phase equilibrium calculations with cubic equation of state
  - Hydraulic correlations
  - Phase change in countercurrent heat exchanger
  - Carbon dioxide precipitation in column
  - Phase existence in column
- Simultaneous dynamic optimization approach
  - Discretization of state and control variables
  - Resolution of large-scale Nonlinear Programming problem



Analysis of main variables temporal and spatial profiles

# Natural Gas in Argentina



Component	Feed A	Feed B
Nitrogen	1.44	1.37
Carbon dioxide	0.65	1.30
Methane	90.43	89.40
Ethane	4.61	4.43
Propane	1.76	2.04
Butanes	0.77	0.96
Pentanes+	0.34	0.50



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- Provide ethane as raw material for olefin plants (ethylene) and petrochemical
- High ethylene yield
- Minimum by-products







- Cryogenic sector (demethanizing), Conventional fractionation (deethanizing, depropanizing, debutanizing, gasoline stabilization), CO<sub>2</sub> removal
- Current technology: Turboexpansion (Old technology: Absorption)
- High pressure
- Cryogenic conditions









# **Cryogenic Sector**



- Operating conditions optimization in natural gas processing plants (NLP) (Diaz, Serrani, Be Deistegui, Brignole, 1995)
- Automatic design and debottlenecking of ethane extraction plants (MINLP) (Diaz, Serrani, Bandoni Brignole, 1997)
- Thermodynamic model effect on the design and optimization of natural gas plants (NLP) (Diaz, Zabaloy, Brignole, 1999)
- Flexibility of natural gas processing plants Dual mode operation (Bilevel NLP) (Diaz, Bandoni, Brignole, 2002)



**General Formulation** 

 $\min \Phi(z(tf), y(tf), u(tf), tf, p)$ z(t), y(t), u(t), tf, p

st

F(dz(t)/dt, (z(t), y(t), u(t), p, t)=0G(z(t), y(t), u(t), p, t) = 0

 $z_0 = z(0)$ 

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{z}(t) &\in [\boldsymbol{z}^l, \, \boldsymbol{z}^u] &, \quad \boldsymbol{y}(t) \in [\boldsymbol{x}^l, \, \boldsymbol{x}^u] \\ \boldsymbol{u}(t) &\in [\boldsymbol{u}^l, \, \boldsymbol{u}^u] &, \quad \boldsymbol{p} \in [\boldsymbol{p}^l, \, \boldsymbol{p}^u] \end{aligned}$$

t, time



*tf*, final time*u*, control variables*p*, time independent parameters 11

*Simultaneous Approach* Cervantes, Biegler (1998)

Nonlinear DAE optimization problem

Discretization of Control and State variables

Collocation on finite elements

Large-Scale Nonlinear Programming Problem (NLP)



Interior Point Algorithm

Biegler, Cervantes, Waechter (2002)<sup>12</sup>

# rSQP Algorithm



## **Application of Barrier method**



## As $\mu \rightarrow 0$ , $x^*(\mu) \rightarrow x^*$



Sequence of barrier problems for decreasing  $\mu$  values

# **Barrier Method Algorithm: Primal-Dual Approach**



# **Cryogenic Sector**





# **Cryogenic Heat Exchangers and HP Separator**



Tube

#### **Energy Balances: Partial Differential Equations System**

Tube side  $\frac{\partial Tt(z,t)}{\partial t} + vt \frac{\partial Tt(z,t)}{\partial z} = \frac{h_t * A_{sup}}{\rho t * Cp_t * A_t * L} (Ts(z,t) - Tt(z,t))$ Shell side  $\frac{\partial Ts(z,t)}{\partial t} - vs \frac{\partial Ts(z,t)}{\partial z} = \frac{h_s * A_{sup}}{\rho s * Cp_s * A_s * L} (Tt(z,t) - Ts(z,t))$  Tt(0,t) = Tto(t) Ts(L,t) = Tso(t) Tt(z,0) = Tt \* (z) Ts(z,0) = Ts \* (z)First-order hyperbolic PDE

#### **Method of Lines**



Spatial Discretization: Backward Finite Differences



#### Energy Balance at cell i

Tube side 
$$\frac{dTt_i}{dt} = -\frac{vt_i}{\Delta z} (Tt_i - Tt_{i-1}) + \frac{h_t * A_{sup}}{\rho t_i * Cp_t * A_t * L} (Ts_i - Tt_i)$$
  
Shell side 
$$\frac{dTs_i}{dt} = \frac{vs_i}{\Delta z} (Ts_i - Ts_{i-1}) + \frac{h_s * A_{sup}}{\rho s_i * Cp_s * A_s * L} (Tt_i - Ts_i)$$



Algebraic Equations (no Phase Change)

$$\rho_{j,i} = \frac{M * P}{z_{j,i} * R * T_{j,i}}$$

$$v_{j,i} = \frac{F_j}{\rho_{j,i} * A_j}$$

$$i = 1, ..., N \text{ (cells)}$$

$$j = tube \text{ or shell side}$$

$$HE \text{ model} \longrightarrow DAE \text{ System}$$
Natural Gas

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#### Mass Balance at cell i

Vapor Phase

$$\frac{dM_{V,i}}{dt} = V_{i-1} - V_i - m_{VL,i}$$

Liquid Phase

$$\frac{dM_{L,i}}{dt} = L_{i-1} - L_i + m_{VL,i}$$

Rodriguez, Bandoni, Diaz (2005)



 $m_{VL,i}$ : interfacial mass-transport rate from vapor to liquid phase

Component

$$\frac{dm_{ij}}{dt} = V_{i-1}y_{i-1,j} + L_{i-1}x_{i-1,j} - V_iy_{i,j} - L_ix_{i,j}$$

## Energy Balance at cell i

$$\frac{dE_i}{dt} = L_{i-1} * h_{i-1} + V_{i-1} * H_{i-1} - L_i * h_i - V_i * H_i + Q_i^t$$

Momentum Balance at cell i

Vapor Phase

$$\frac{d(M_{V,i}v_{V,i})}{dt} = V_{i-1}v_{V,i-1} - V_i v_{V,i} + F_{P,i} - F_{int\,er,i} - m_{VL,i}v_{L,i}$$

Liquid Phase

$$\frac{d(M_{L,i}v_{L,i})}{dt} = L_{i-1}v_{L,i-1} - L_iv_{L,i} + F_{P,i} + F_{int\,er,i} + m_{VL,i}v_{L,i} - F_{w,i}$$

## Algebraic Equations at cell i

$$\theta_i = \frac{A_{V,i}}{A_T}$$
 Void fraction based on cross-section area

$$M_{V,i} = A_T L e_i \theta_i \rho_{V,i}$$
$$M_{L,i} = A_T L e_i (1 - \theta_i) \rho_{L,i}$$

$$v_{V,i} = \frac{V_i}{A_{V,i}\rho_{V,i}}$$

$$v_{L,i} = \frac{L_i}{(1 - A_{V,i})\rho_{L,i}}$$
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Driving Force

$$F_{P,i} = \left( Ps_{i-1}\theta_{i-1} - Ps_i\theta_i \right) A_T$$

Interfacial shear stress

$$F_{int\,er,i} = \frac{4\sqrt{\theta_i}}{D} f_{f,i} \frac{\rho_{L,i}}{2} (v_{V,i} - v_{L,i})^2$$

Interfacial friction factor

$$f_{f,i} = f_v \left[ 1 + 24 \left( \frac{\rho_{L,i}}{\rho_{V,i}} \right)^{1/3} \frac{\delta}{D} \right]$$

Friction resistance on wall surface

$$F_{w,i} = \frac{4}{D}\tau_w$$



$$f_{v} = \begin{cases} 0.079 \, Re^{-0.25}, 4000 \le Re \le 30000\\ 0.046 \, Re^{-0.20}, Re > 30000 \end{cases}$$

Internal Energy  $E_i = M_{V,i}H_i + M_{L,i}h_i$ 

Summation Eqns

$$\sum_{i} y_{i,j} - \sum_{i} x_{i,j} = 0$$

Equilibrium ratio

$$K_{i,j} = \frac{\phi_{i,j}^L}{\phi_{i,j}^V} \qquad \qquad y_{i,j} = K_{i,j} x_{i,j}$$

$$h_i = h_i^{ideal} - \Delta h_i, \qquad h_i^{ideal} = \sum_{j=1}^{nc} h_{i,j}^{ideal} (T_i) x_{i,j}$$

$$H_i = H_i^{ideal} - \Delta H_i, \quad H_i^{ideal} = \sum_{j=1}^{nc} H_{i,j}^{ideal} (T_i) y_{i,j}$$





Compressibility factor  

$$z_{i}^{V} = z^{V} (Ts_{i}, Ps_{i}, y_{i,j})$$

$$z_{i}^{L} = z^{L} (Ts_{i}, Ps_{i}, x_{i,j})$$
Residual enthalpies  

$$\Delta H_{i} = \Delta H (Ts_{i}, Ps_{i}, y_{i,j})$$

$$\Delta h_{i} = \Delta h (Ts_{i}, Ps_{i}, x_{i,j})$$
Fugacity coefficients  

$$\phi_{i,j}^{V} = \phi^{V} (Ts_{i}, Ps_{i}, y_{i,j})$$

$$\phi_{i,j}^{L} = \phi^{L} (Ts_{i}, Ps_{i}, x_{i,j})$$

$$Ps_{i} = \frac{\rho_{L,i} * z_{i}^{L} * R * Ts_{i}}{Pmols_{i}^{L}}$$

$$Ps_{i} = \frac{\rho_{V,i} * z_{i}^{V} * R * Ts_{i}}{Pmols_{i}^{V}}$$

$$25$$

# High Pressure Separator

Horizontal tank

a conten

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = Lp + Vp - L - V$$

$$Vol_V = \pi r^2 Long - \frac{M_L}{\rho_L}$$

$$L = C_v x_v \frac{(P_t - P_s) + g \rho_L (h_t + r)}{\rho_L / \rho_w}$$

 $M_V = \rho_V Vol_V \qquad M = M_V + M_L$ 

$$M_{L} = \frac{\rho_{L} Long}{Pmol_{L}} \left( \pi r^{2} - r^{2} \arccos\left(\frac{h_{t}}{r}\right) + h_{t} \sqrt{r^{2} - h_{t}^{2}} \right)$$



# Turboexpander

- Feed: vapor from High Pressure Separator
- > Polytropic expansion ( $\eta = 1.26$ , natural gas)

$$\frac{T_s}{T_e} = \left(\frac{P_s}{P_e}\right)^{\frac{\eta}{\eta}}$$

- Assumption: Static mass and energy balances
- Thermodynamic predictions: Soave-Redlich-Kwong
- Algebraic equations: Same as Flash



Outlet partially condensed stream: to Demethanizing column 27



# **Demethanizing Column**

Diaz, Tonelli, Bandoni, Biegler (2003)

Differential Equations at stage i  $(1 \le i \le N)$ 

$$\frac{dM_i}{dt} = F_i + V_{i+1} + L_{i-1} - V_i - L_i$$

$$\frac{dm_{ij}}{dt} = F_i z_{i,j} + V_{i+1} y_{i+1,j} + L_{i-1} x_{i-1,j} - V_i y_{i,j} - L_i x_{i,j} \qquad j=1,...,ncomp$$

$$\frac{dE_i}{dt} = V_{i+1}H_{i+1} + L_{i-1}h_{i-1} - V_iH_i - L_ih_i - F_i[\varphi_iH_{Fi} + (1-\varphi_i)h_{Fi}] + Qsr_i$$



$$N = 8; ncomp = 10_{28}$$

## **Algebraic Equations**

Compressibility factor ( $z_i^V$ ,  $z_i^L$ ) Residual enthalpies ( $\Delta H_i$ ,  $\Delta h_i$ ) Fugacity coefficients ( $\phi_{i,j}^V$ ,  $\phi_{i,j}^L$ )

$$K_{i,j} = \frac{\phi_{i,j}^{L}}{\phi_{i,j}^{V}}$$
  $y_{i,j} = K_{i,j} x_{i,j}$ 

$$\sum_{j} y_{i,j} - \sum_{j} x_{i,j} = 0$$

$$H_i = H_i^{ideal} - \Delta H_i$$

$$h_i = h_i^{ideal} - \Delta h_i$$

### **Algebraic Equations**

Vapor volume

$$Vol_i^V = \pi \left(\frac{D_i}{2}\right)^2 H_{plate,i} - \frac{M_i^L}{\rho_i^L}$$

Vapor and liquid holdup

$$M_i^V = \rho_i^V Vol_i^V$$

$$M_i = M_i^V + M_i^L$$

Component holdup

$$m_{i,j} = M_i^V y_{i,j} + M_i^L x_{i,j}$$

$$E_{i} = M_{i}^{V} (H_{i} - \frac{p_{i}}{\rho_{i}^{V}}) + M_{i}^{L} (h_{i} - \frac{p_{i}}{\rho_{i}^{L}})$$

# **Demethanizing Column**

Liquid holdup and hydraulic correlations

$$M_{i}^{L} = 0.896\pi \left(\frac{D_{i}}{2}\right)^{2} (Hw_{i} + Hwo_{i})\rho_{i}^{L}$$
$$Hwo_{i} = 30(0.01495)^{2/3} Fw_{i} \left(\frac{L_{i}}{\rho_{i}^{L}Weirl_{i}}\right)^{2/3}$$

$$Hldrop_{i} = \beta (Hw_{i} + Hwo_{i})$$
$$Ho_{i} = 5.56.10^{-4} \left(\frac{V_{i}}{\rho_{i}^{V}Ahole_{i}Co_{i}}\right)^{2} \left(\frac{\rho_{i}^{V}Pmol_{i}^{V}}{\rho_{i}^{L}Pmol_{i}^{L}}\right)$$



Equivalent height of vapor free liquid

Pressure drop through aerated liquid

Dry hole pressure drop

Pressure drop 
$$P_1 = P_{TOP} - KK\rho_1^V V_1^2$$

 $P_{i} = P_{i-1} + 0.24917.10^{-5} (Ho_{i} + Hldrop_{i}) \rho_{i}^{L} Pmol_{i}^{\mathcal{J}_{1}}$ 

Carbon dioxide solubility constraints

Phase Equilibrium

$$\mu_{i,CO2}^V = \mu_{i,CO2}^L = \mu_{i,CO2}^S$$

$$\overline{f_{i,CO2}^{V}} = \overline{f_{i,CO2}^{L}} = \overline{f_{i,CO2}^{S}}$$

Assumption

No hydrocarbon in solid phase

$$\overline{f_{i,CO2}^S} = f_{i,CO2}^S$$

To avoid  $CO_2$  precipitation

$$\overline{f_{i,CO2}^{V}} \leq f_{i,CO2}^{S}$$
$$\overline{f_{i,CO2}^{L}} \leq f_{i,CO2}^{S}$$

But

 $f_{i,CO2}^{L} = f_{i,CO2}^{V}$  from VLE calculations at each stage

# **Demethanizing Column**

Carbon dioxide solubility constraints

$$\overline{f_{i,CO2}^{V}} \le f_{i,CO2}^{S}$$

Solid phase

$$f_{i,CO2}^{S} = P_{i,CO2}^{S} \phi_{i,CO2}^{V}$$

$$ln\left(\frac{P_{i,CO2}^{S}}{P_{CO2}^{t}}\right) = 14.568\left(1 - \frac{T_{CO2}^{t}}{T_{i}}\right) - 14.480 ln\left(\frac{T_{i}}{T_{CO2}^{t}}\right) + 65.356\left(\frac{T_{i}}{T_{CO2}^{t}} - 1\right)$$
$$-47.146\left[\left(\frac{T_{i}}{T_{CO2}^{t}}\right)^{2} - 1\right] + 14.540\left[\left(\frac{T_{i}}{T_{CO2}^{t}}\right)^{3} - 1\right]$$

#### Vapor phase

$$\overline{f_{i,CO2}^{V}} = y_{i,CO2} P_i \overline{\phi_{i,CO2}^{V}}$$

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# **Demethanizing Column: Phase Existence**

Raghunathan, Diaz, Biegler (2004)

## Gibbs Free Energy minimization at stage i

Karush Kuhn Tucker conditions

Raghunathan, Biegler (2003)

MPECs (Mathematical Program with Equilibrium Constraints)

as additional constraints (  $x.y = 0; x,y \ge 0$ )



IPOPT-C under AMPL  $(x.y \le \delta\mu)$ 

# **Demethanizing Column: Phase Existence**

Relaxed Equilibrium Conditions



# **Demethanizing Column: Phase Existence**

Liquid Holdup and Hydraulic correlations

$$M_{i}^{L} = 0.896\pi \left(\frac{D_{i}}{2}\right)^{2} Hw_{i}\rho_{i}^{L} + M_{i}^{L+} - M_{i}^{L-}$$

$$M_i^{L+} = 0.896\pi \left(\frac{D_i}{2}\right)^2 Hwo_i \rho_i^L$$

$$Hwo_{i} = 30(0.01495)^{2/3} Fw_{i} \left(\frac{L_{i}}{\rho_{i}^{L} Weirl_{i}}\right)^{2/3}$$



$$\left(L_i = k_d (M_i^{L+})^{\frac{3}{2}}\right)$$

$$0 \le M_i^{L+} \perp M_i^{L-} \ge 0$$

# Numerical Results



# **Optimization Problem: HEs + HPS**



$$\min\int_0^{tf} \left(T - T_{SP}\right)^2 dt$$

st.

{DAE System}

 $60 \le L \le 80 (kmol / min)$   $5 \le G \le 80 (kmol / min)$  $303 \le T_{out} \le 306 (K)$ 

(8+6 cells in HEs)



# Numerical Results: HEs + HPS

## **Optimization variables:** G, L

65.330

20 elements

ht

2 collocation points

18274 disc. variables

V

18 iter. (3 barrier problems)

Vapor

ŝ

Liquid



1.00

## Numerical Results: HEs + HPS

### **Optimization variables:** G, L





Temp. profile, tubes side

Temp. profile, shell side (no phase change)

# Numerical Results: HEs + HPS





Pressure profile, shell side

Liquid flowrate, shell side

## **Optimization Problem: Demethanizing Column**

$$\min \int_0^{tf} \left(\eta_{ethane} - \eta_{SP}\right)^2 dt$$
  
st.

$$15 \le P_{TOP} \le 22(bar)$$
  

$$99 \le Q_{REB} \le 200(kJ / min)$$
  

$$0 \le x_{B,CH4} \le 0.008$$
  

$$\overline{f_{i,CO2}^{V}} \le 0.90 f_{i,CO2}^{S}$$





# Feed B: High CO<sub>2</sub> content (2%)

**Optimization variable:** P<sub>TOP</sub>

20 finite elements
2 collocation points
43 iter. (3 barrier problems)
ηss = 74.5 %





#### Feed B (high CO2 content)





#### Feed A

**Optimization variable:** 178 Reboiler Heat Duty  $(Q_R)$ 176 -Reboiler Heat Duty (MJ/min) 174  $\mathsf{Q}_{\mathsf{REBOILER}}$  $\mathsf{X}_{_{\mathrm{CH4}}}$ 20 finite elements 172 -170 -2 collocation points - 0.005 168 · 57 iter. (5 barrier problems) 166  $\eta ss = 77.8 \%$  (Ptop=19bar) 164 162 Active constraint: Methane mole 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 0 5 Time (min) fraction in bottoms



0.008

- 0.007

0.006

0.004

0.003

Bottom methane

mole fraction

# Numerical Results: Demethanizer Start Up

#### **MPECs**





# Numerical Results: Demethanizer Start Up

#### **MPECs**

## **Optimization variable:**

 $P_{TOP}, Q_R$ 

3<sup>rd</sup> time period 17944 discretized variables

576 complementarityconstraints97 iterations





# **Boiler Dynamic Optimization**

# Dynamic optimization model to determine controller parameters

Rodriguez, Bandoni, Diaz (2005b)

#### Boiler





#### DAE Optimization model

- Differential equations
  - Momentum and energy balances in risers and superheater
  - Mass and energy balances in drum
  - Integral part of controller and valve equation
- Algebraic equations
  - Friction loss
  - Mixture properties
  - Vapor holdup in drum
  - Gas temperature distribution equations in furnace, risers ans superheaters (6 eqns.)
  - Air / fuel ratio
  - Drum geometric relations (5 eqns.)



#### **DAE Optimization model**

- Optimization variables
  - PI controller parameters
- Step change in high pressure steam demand



- Additional PI controllers (current work)
  - Outlet steam pressure (fuel gas flowrate)
  - Superheated steam temperature (air excess)

- Rigorous dynamic optimization models for cryogenic train in Natural Gas Processing plant within a simultaneous approach
- > Thermodynamic models with cubic equation of state
- Carbon dioxide solubility addressed in both liquid and vapor phases as path constraints, at each column stage
- Phase detection through the first order optimality conditions for Gibbs free energy minimization (MPECs)
- Boiler dynamic model for controller parameters
- Simultaneous approach provides efficient framework for the formulation and resolution of DAE optimization problems for large-scale real plants



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# Appendix: Soave Redlich Kwong Equation of State

Compressibility factor  
for a mixture 
$$(z_i^L, z_i^V)$$
  $z = \frac{V}{V-b} - \frac{a\alpha}{R_g T(V+b)}$ 

$$a\alpha = \sum x_{j}^{*} z_{j}^{*}; x_{j}^{*} = x_{j} a_{j} \alpha_{j}; z_{j} = \sum_{k} x_{k}^{*} (1 - k_{j,k})$$

$$b = \sum_{j} b_{j}; b_{j} = 0.08664 R_{g} T_{cj} / P_{cj}$$

$$a_{j} = \left(\frac{0.42747R_{g}^{2}T_{cj}^{2}}{P_{cj}}\right)^{0.5}; \alpha_{j} = 1 + m_{j} \left[1 - \left(\frac{T}{T_{cj}}\right)^{0.5}\right]$$

Soave modification (Temperature dependence)



# Appendix: Soave Redlich Kwong Equation of State

Fugacity Coeff. for  
component *j* in  
mixture 
$$(\phi_{i,j}^V, \phi_{i,j}^L)$$
  $ln\phi_j = \frac{b_j}{b}(z-1) - ln(z-B) - \frac{A}{B} \left[ \frac{2a_j\alpha_j z_j^*}{a\alpha} - \frac{b_j}{b} \right] ln\left(1 + \frac{B}{z}\right)$ 

Residual enthalpy  
in mixture (
$$\Delta H_i$$
,  $\Delta h_i$ )  $-\frac{\Delta H}{R_g T} = -1 - \frac{1}{bR_g T} ln \left(1 + \frac{B}{z}\right) \sum_j x_j^* z_j^* \left(\frac{1 + m_j}{\alpha_j}\right)$ 

$$A = \frac{a\alpha P}{R_g^2 T^2}; B = \frac{bP}{R_g T}$$

