

## **THERMOGRAVIMETRIC STUDY OF PROMOTED HYDRATED LIME SORBENTS FOR FLUE GAS CLEAN UP \***

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### **ABSTRACT**

A thermogravimetric (TG) technique has been developed for studying the effectiveness of  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  sorbents for removal of  $\text{SO}_2$  from humidified simulated flue gas. Results obtained with the TG technique were in good agreement with earlier fixed-bed reactor studies, indicating that the TG technique is a satisfactory method for screening sorbents. An impregnation procedure was used to investigate the ability of eight inorganic salts to increase the utilization of hydrated lime. The alkali halides were most effective, with more than a twofold increase in utilization. A second approach to preparing the sorbent—dissolution of the salt in the water used to prepare the hydrate from  $\text{CaO}$  at  $95^\circ\text{C}$ —gave less satisfactory results. No correlation could be found between the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  incorporation and the  $\text{SO}_2$  uptake on the sorbents. Data from other studies were compared with the TG results, and it was concluded that the manner of combining the additive with the  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  was an important factor in determining additive effectiveness.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Calcium- and sodium-based compounds are being investigated as potential sorbents for dry-scrubbing flue gas clean-up processes. In particular, calcium-based compounds have been used in conjunction with limestone injection multistage burners (LIMB) and furnace sorbent injection after the burners. More recently, it has been suggested that with only minor modifications to the flue gas duct work of an existing coal-fired electric-power-generating facility, high removal efficiencies for sulfur dioxide can be obtained by injecting a dry sorbent into the flue gas [1,2]. The flue gas is cooled and humidified by the injection of water either upstream or downstream of the injected dry hydrated lime or other sorbent materials. This approach is considered attractive because it could easily be used to retrofit pre-NSPS

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(New Source Performance Standards) utility plants, resulting in lower capital investment as compared with wet limestone scrubbers

Several companies have been developing calcium-based sorbent duct injection processes over the last few years. In the confined-zone dispersion process developed by Bechtel Corporation [3], a pressure-hydrated dolomitic slurry is injected through a dual-fluid nozzle in the center of the duct concurrent with the gas flow. As the cone of spray moves downstream and expands, the gas within the cone cools and the  $\text{SO}_2$  is rapidly absorbed by the liquid droplets. According to the developers, pressure-hydrated dolomitic lime is more finely divided and much more reactive than conventionally hydrated lime. The in-duct scrubbing (IDS) process [4], developed by General Electric Environmental Services, Inc., is similar to a conventional spray dryer except that the reaction vessel is eliminated, instead, a rotary atomizer sprays slaked-lime reagent directly into the flue gas duct. Dravo Corporation is developing a third process called hydrate addition at low temperature (HALT) [5]. It involves the injection of a calcium hydroxide sorbent into a duct with humidification and/or temperature control of the flue gas. Additives in the water used to prepare the hydrate and the conditions of hydration give the reagent particles a surface chemistry and morphology designed to enhance  $\text{SO}_2$  capture.

Bench-scale studies have been carried out by a number of investigators with the primary objective of increasing the reactivity and utilization of the calcium hydroxide sorbent. Yoon et al. [6] have shown in fixed-bed reactor studies that the method of hydration can affect the reactivity of calcium hydroxide prepared from a given limestone. The utilization of the calcium hydroxide increased linearly with surface area in tests carried out at  $65^\circ\text{C}$  and 60% relative humidity. Borgwardt and Bruce [7] have shown that the high-temperature reactivity ( $800^\circ\text{C}$ ) of  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  can be correlated with the BET surface area. Their results obtained at  $65^\circ\text{C}$  using a differential reactor supported the conclusions of Yoon et al. that the reactivity increased with surface area. Some fundamental studies carried out by Klingspor and coworkers [8–11] showed that  $\text{SO}_2$  did not react with  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  or  $\text{CaCO}_3$  if less than one monolayer of water was absorbed on the sorbent, i.e., below 20% relative humidity. Hydrated lime and calcium carbonate were shown to have the same capacity for water vapor adsorption per BET surface area, these studies also showed that the reaction rate for  $\text{SO}_2$  conversion increased with the number of monolayers of water vapor adsorbed. Other investigations have shown that hydrated calcites and quicklime have similar reactivity [12]. Dolomitic hydrates (pressure-hydrated), however, showed higher reactivity on a calcium basis, on a calcium and magnesium basis, the reactivity was similar to calcitic materials, suggesting the magnesium participated in the reaction.

Significant increases in the utilization of hydrated lime have been found with  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  sorbents containing inorganic salts. Ruiz-Alsop and Rochelle

[13] have investigated the effect of adding these salts to hydrated lime, alkali halides resulted in the highest degree of utilization. Similar bench-scale studies [14] of hydrated lime, limestone and sodium bicarbonate showed that relative humidity significantly affected  $\text{SO}_2$  absorption by lime and limestone containing additives such as  $\text{NaCl}$ ,  $\text{NaNO}_3$ ,  $\text{NaOH}$  and  $\text{CaCl}_2$ , but had less impact on  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  reactivity.

The present studies were carried out to determine the utility of thermogravimetric (TG) studies as a screening technique for determining the degree of utilization of  $\text{Ca(OH)}_2$  sorbents containing inorganic salts. In addition, it was of interest to compare the utilization of sorbents prepared by three techniques as follows:

Sorbent type	Preparation sequence
A	(1a) $\text{CaO} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{Ca(OH)}_2$ dry
	(2a) $\text{Ca(OH)}_2 + \text{salt solution} \rightarrow \text{Ca(OH)}_2 \text{ NaCl}$ dry moist
	(3a) $\text{Ca(OH)}_2 \text{ NaCl} \rightarrow \text{Ca(OH)}_2 \text{ NaCl}$ moist dry
	In step (1a), the excess water is removed by the heat of reaction. The incipient wetness procedure is used in step (2a).
B	(1b) $\text{CaO} + \text{salt solution} \rightarrow \text{Ca(OH)}_2 \text{ NaCl}$ slurry
	(2b) $\text{Ca(OH)}_2 \text{ NaCl} \rightarrow \text{Ca(OH)}_2 \text{ NaCl}$ slurry dry
	In step (1b) an excess of water is used to prevent complete evaporation of the water, decreasing the possibility of sintering of the $\text{Ca(OH)}_2$ that can occur during step (1a).
C	(1c) $\text{CaO} + \text{salt solution} \rightarrow \text{Ca(OH)}_2 \text{ NaCl}$ dry
	Step (1c) is identical to step (1a) except for the presence of $\text{NaCl}$ in the water of hydration.

Dry commercial hydrated lime is prepared according to step (1a) because no costly water removal step is involved.

## EXPERIMENTAL

### *Materials*

Impregnated hydrated limes were prepared using Longview hydrated lime (LL), available from Southern Industries Corporation, Saginaw, AL. The chemical and physical properties of this material are shown in Table 1. Baker reagent grade (Lot 1410-1)  $\text{CaO}$  was used to prepare hydrated limes, its composition is also shown in Table 1. Calcium oxide (Cat No 20, 815-9)

TABLE 1  
Chemical analysis of sorbents

	Sorbent (wt %)	
	Longview lime	Baker CaO
Ca	48.2	69.6
Mg	1.02	0.76
Al	0.06	0.02
Fe	0.15	0.12
Si	< 0.96	< 0.95
Na	0.04	0.07
K	0.39	0.26
Wt loss at 110 °C	< 0.1	< 0.1
Ignition wt loss (%)	26.0	4.0
TG wt loss (%) (300–460 °C)	21.4	3.1
TG wt loss (%) (460–800 °C)	4.4	0.8
Theoretical wt loss <sup>a</sup>	24.3	0
Carbonate carbon	1.21	0.18

<sup>a</sup> Assuming pure  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  and  $\text{CaO}$

and  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  (Cat No 23, 923-2) from Aldrich Chemical Company and  $\text{CaCO}_3$  (C-64) from Fisher Scientific were used as thermogravimetric standards

#### *Apparatus and procedures*

The weight increase resulting from exposure of the sorbent to the humidified simulated flue gas (hereafter referred to simply as flue gas) was determined using a modified Perkin–Elmer TGS-2 unit. The glass-inlet furnace tube and the thermocouple assembly were replaced by a jacketed glass vessel (12 inches long and 1 inch in diameter) as shown in Fig. 1. Humidification of the flue gas ( $100 \text{ ml min}^{-1}$  at  $25^\circ\text{C}$  and  $760 \text{ mmHg}$ ) was effected by mixing the flue gas with an equal volume of  $\text{N}_2$  ( $100 \text{ ml min}^{-1}$  at  $25^\circ\text{C}$  and  $760 \text{ mmHg}$ ) that had been saturated with water vapor at  $70^\circ\text{C}$  in spargers. After mixing the humidified nitrogen with the flue gas, the calculated composition of the gas stream was 18.2%  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , 2466 p.p.m.  $\text{SO}_2$ , 2.5%  $\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{N}_2$  as the balance (see Appendix I). The humidity was measured using the Vaisala humidity and temperature indicator HMI 31 equipped with a HMP 32 UT probe. The probe was calibrated using a saturated solution of sodium chloride at  $25^\circ\text{C}$ . The measured value of the relative humidity was  $59 \pm 0.5\%$ . No  $\text{CO}_2$  was included in the flue gas mixture, since only the weight increase due to reaction with  $\text{SO}_2$  was desired. A heated transfer line from the spargers to the jacketed reaction vessel was used to maintain the water in a vaporized state. The sorbent sample (2–4 mg) was

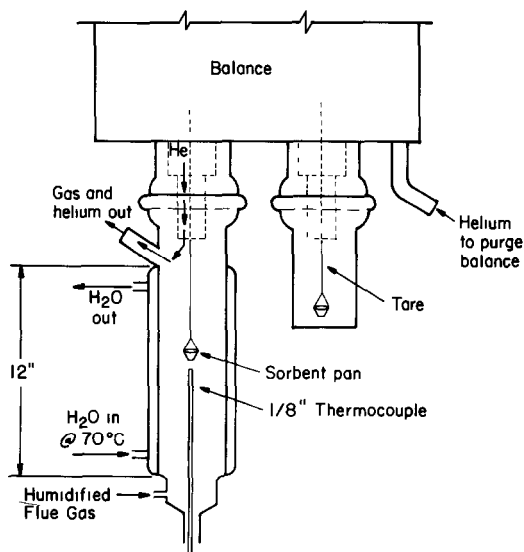


Fig 1 Modified TG unit

dispersed on glass wool that was placed in a quartz bucket. The temperature of the reaction vessel was  $70^{\circ}\text{C}$ , this temperature was chosen to make a fairer comparison with the data in ref 13.

In a typical TG run,  $\text{N}_2$  (instead of the flue gas) was mixed with the  $\text{N}_2$  gas stream saturated with water vapor to determine the weight increase owing to adsorption of water only on the sorbent (at 59% relative humidity). After exposure of the sorbent for 30 min to humidified  $\text{N}_2$ , the flue gas was mixed with the  $\text{N}_2$  (saturated with water vapor), and the sorbent was exposed to the humidified flue gas for 60 min. The weight increase occurring during the 60-min exposure was used to calculate the degree of sorbent utilization. It was assumed that the  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  reacted with the  $\text{SO}_2$  in the presence of water to form  $\text{CaSO}_3 \cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , this salt was the main product in fixed-bed reactor studies [13]. It is unlikely that the nature of the product would depend on the composition and/or concentration of the inorganic promoter. Thus, although the assumption of the formation of a different product (such as  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) would result in different values for the percentage utilization, the order of effectiveness of the promoters would remain unchanged. The percentage weight increase that would be observed if pure  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  reacted completely was 74.3%. The degree of utilization was defined by

$$\% \text{ utilization} = \% \text{ wt increase (expt)} \times \frac{54.0}{\% \text{ Ca}} \times \frac{1}{74.3} \times 100\%$$

where

54.0 = per cent Ca in pure  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$

and

74.3 = stoichiometric weight increase for the reaction



The calculation of the degree of utilization for sorbents containing sodium chloride is shown in Appendix II

Surface areas were obtained using the BET equation from the adsorption of  $\text{N}_2$  in a Micromeritics 2500 unit. A Micromeritics Sedigraph 5000 was used for the particle size distributions, the dispersing liquid (mineral oil plus surfactant) had a viscosity of 4.113 cP and a density of 0.811  $\text{g ml}^{-1}$ . A Micromeritics AutoPore II 9220 was used to determine pore volume and pore size distribution by mercury intrusion, the contact angle was  $130^\circ$ , and the surface tension was 485  $\text{dyne cm}^{-1}$ .

Hydrated limes containing inorganic additives were prepared using three procedures and are classified as Type A, Type B and Type C sorbents according to the procedure described previously

- A Impregnation of the LL was carried out at  $25^\circ\text{C}$  with a solution of the salt dissolved in water. The solution/lime ratio was 1 ml of solution to 1 g of lime. The slurry was stirred for 5 min and then placed in a microwave oven for 10 min. The dried material was crushed and ground using a mortar and pestle.
- B An aqueous solution of the salt (42 ml) was added to 14 g of Baker CaO at room temperature. The slurry was placed in a water bath at  $95^\circ\text{C}$  for 30 min. After being dried in a microwave oven for 10 min, the sorbent was crushed and ground using a mortar and pestle.
- C 20 g of Baker CaO was added to 12 ml of an aqueous solution of the salt at  $50^\circ\text{C}$ . Rapid stirring of the slurry resulted in a vigorous reaction and the evolution of considerable steam, upon completion of the reaction (about 1 min), the material was dry and was used without further treatment in the TG studies.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

As indicated in the Experimental section, the calculation of the percentage utilization was based on the chemical analysis for Ca in the sample. The chemical analysis, however, did not indicate if the Ca was present as  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$ , or in a form non-reactive towards  $\text{SO}_2$  at  $70^\circ\text{C}$  such as the carbonate. Therefore, a TG study using a dry  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere (100  $\text{ml min}^{-1}$ ) was carried out to determine the percentage of  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  present in the LL and Type A sorbents prepared therefrom. The rate of temperature

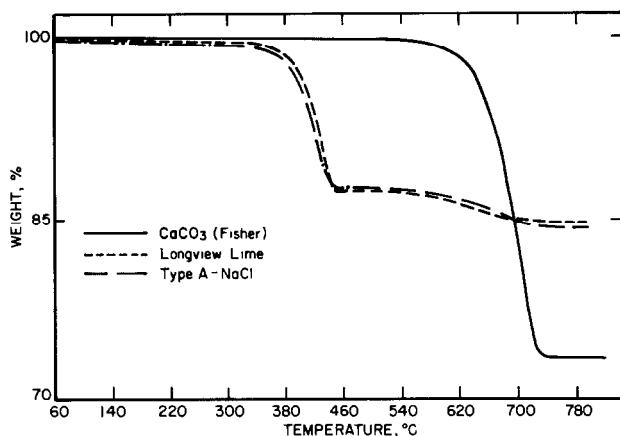


Fig 2 Decomposition curves for selected sorbents between 50 and 800 °C

increase was  $10^{\circ}\text{C min}^{-1}$ . The thermal curve in Fig 2 indicates that the conversion of  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  into  $\text{CaO}$  occurs between 300 and 460 °C, with an additional weight loss between 540 and 800 °C. The percentage of the Ca in LL as  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  was then calculated

$$\% \text{ Ca (as } \text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2) = \frac{54.0}{48.2} \times \frac{21.4 \text{ (expt wt loss)}}{24.3 \text{ (calc wt loss)}} \times 100\% = 98.7\%$$

where

54.0 = per cent Ca in pure  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$

48.2 = per cent Ca in Longview lime

The weight loss between 540 and 800 °C was probably due to decomposition of  $\text{CaCO}_3$  to  $\text{CaO}$ , although the thermal curve for  $\text{CaCO}_3$  (Fisher Scientific) indicated that no significant decomposition of  $\text{CaCO}_3$  occurred below 600 °C. The shift in decomposition temperature may have been due to the higher dispersion of the  $\text{CaCO}_3$  in the LL or to the decomposition of impurities such as  $\text{MgCO}_3$ . The thermal curve for a typical Type A sorbent is shown in Fig 2, the calcium hydroxide content for these sorbents, i.e., 94–96%, was about the same as that for LL, indicating that an insignificant amount of  $\text{CO}_2$  pick-up occurred during the preparation of these sorbents.

As shown in Fig 3, the thermal curve for Baker CaO indicated the presence of  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$ , with a weight loss of 3.9% between 300 and 460 °C and a weight loss of 0.8% between 460 and 800 °C, apparently due to decomposition of  $\text{CaCO}_3$  to  $\text{CaO}$ . These data indicate that the Baker CaO contained small amounts of  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  and  $\text{CaCO}_3$ , some of which may have formed during the loading of the sample into the TG unit. The weight decrease observed between 460 and 800 °C for both the Type B and Type C sorbents indicates the presence of  $\text{CaCO}_3$ , which may have formed during the hydration and drying steps.

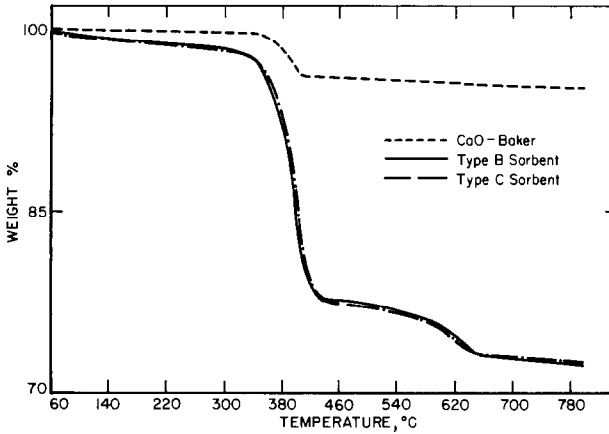


Fig 3 Decomposition curves for selected sorbents between 50 and 800 °C

The basis for not including  $\text{CO}_2$  in the flue gas mixture was that although a dry  $\text{N}_2 + \text{CO}_2$  mixture resulted in no weight increase with LL, an 8.4 wt % increase was found with a humidified  $\text{N}_2 + \text{CO}_2$  mixture. Thus, the utilization of Ca for  $\text{SO}_2$  pick-up only could not be calculated using the TG technique without analysis of the used sorbent for carbon and sulfur, which is difficult because of the small sample size.

The sorption curves for LL are shown in Fig 4. Although the sorbent weight had stabilized after exposure for a few minutes to the humidified  $\text{N}_2$ , a 30-min exposure was used to ensure equilibration of the sample. After exposure to the humidified flue gas, there was typically a rapid weight increase during the first 10 min, followed by a rather abrupt decrease in the rate of  $\text{SO}_2$  pick-up. A similar weight-time profile was found for all the sorbents used in this study. Although a weight increase due to  $\text{SO}_2$  pick-up

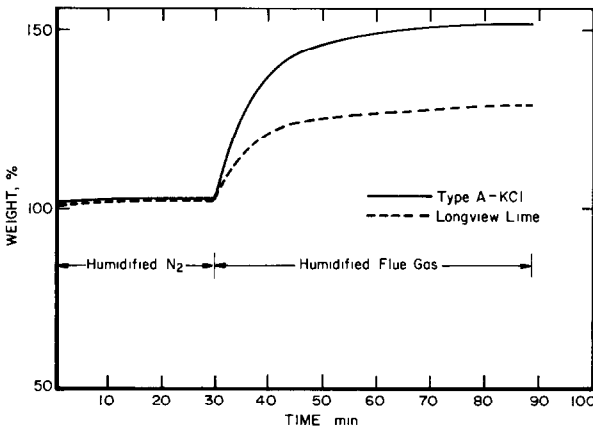


Fig 4 Weight per cent increase for typical sorbents in humidified  $\text{N}_2$  and flue gas



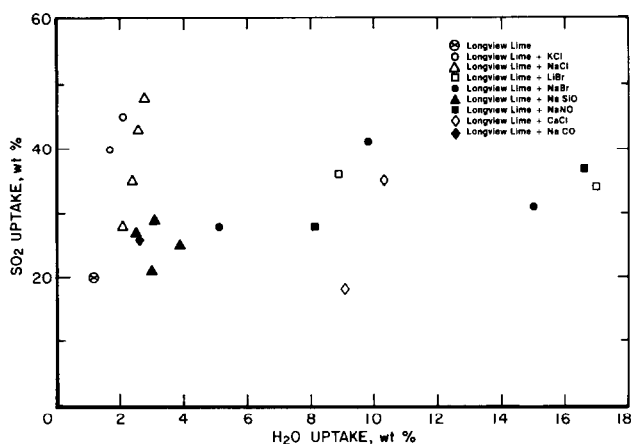


Fig 5 H<sub>2</sub>O uptake vs SO<sub>2</sub> uptake for Type A sorbents

was found only when using humidified flue gas, there was no correlation between the SO<sub>2</sub> uptake from humidified flue gas and the weight increase resulting from exposure to H<sub>2</sub>O (see Fig 5) The absence of such a correlation indicated that sorption of an excess amount of H<sub>2</sub>O on the sorbent did not result in higher utilization of the sorbent The weight increases due to H<sub>2</sub>O pick-up and SO<sub>2</sub> pick-up are shown in Table 2, a ranking of Type A sorbents according to percentage utilization is shown in Fig 6

A number of conclusions can be reached after reviewing the data in Table 2

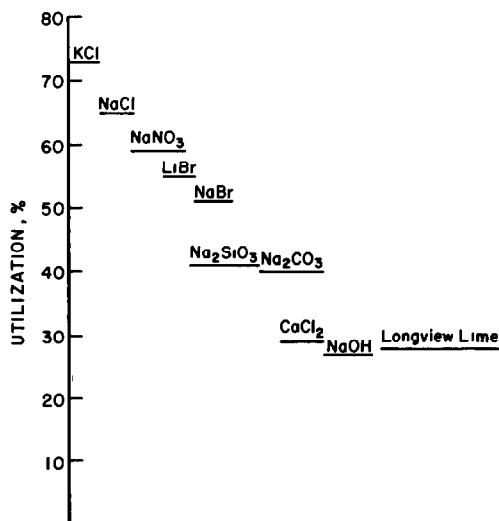


Fig 6 Percentage utilization for Type A sorbents (0.1 mol salt per mol Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub>)

TABLE 2

Thermogravimetric results

Sorbent	Moles salt/ moles Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub>	Surface area (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	% Wt increase <sup>a</sup>		% Utili- zation
			H <sub>2</sub> O	Flue gas	
Longview lime	–	17	1.1 <sup>b</sup> (1.0–1.8)	19 <sup>b</sup> (15–20)	28
Baker CaO	–	1	0	0	0
<i>Type A sorbents (Longview lime + salt solution)</i>					
Salt solution					
KCl	0.052	18	1.7	40	65
KCl	0.104	17	2.1	45	73
NaCl	0.033	18	2.1	28	45
NaCl	0.066	20	2.4	35	58
NaCl	0.132	21	2.6	43	73
NaCl	0.198	18	2.8	48	81
LiBr	0.052	19	8.9	36	57
LiBr	0.104	17	17.0	34	55
NaBr	0.026	20	5.1	28	44
NaBr	0.052	20	9.8	41	67
NaBr	0.104	20	17.0	31	51
Na <sub>2</sub> SiO <sub>3</sub>	0.025	17	3.0	21	33
Na <sub>2</sub> SiO <sub>3</sub>	0.051	16	3.1	29	46
Na <sub>2</sub> SiO <sub>3</sub>	0.078	12	2.5	27	44
Na <sub>2</sub> SiO <sub>3</sub>	0.103	10	3.9	25	41
NaNO <sub>3</sub>	0.054	18	8.1	28	44
NaNO <sub>3</sub>	0.108	19	16.6	37	59
CaCl <sub>2</sub>	0.052	11	10.3	35	55
CaCl <sub>2</sub>	0.104	9	9.1	18	29
NaOH	0.103	14	7.2	17	27
NaOH	0.206	7	13.3	10	16
Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	0.103	17	2.6	26	40
<i>Type B sorbents (Baker CaO + salt solution at 95 °C)</i>					
No salt	–	18	1.3	22	32
KCl	0.053	19	1.5	35	51
KCl	0.107	17	2.0	46	68
NaCl	0.066	20	1.5	35	53
NaCl	0.132	19	1.5	36	55
CaCl <sub>2</sub>	0.100	7	5.0	18	26
CaCl <sub>2</sub>	0.200	6	11.9	30	46
<i>Type C sorbents (Baker CaO + salt solution, &gt; 100 °C)</i>					
No salt	–	15	1.4 (1.2–1.7) <sup>c</sup>	14 (10–19) <sup>c</sup>	20
NaCl	0.110	13	2.3	32	48
NaCl	0.110 <sup>d</sup>	14	3.1	33	49
KCl	0.056	14	3.4	28	41

<sup>a</sup> Average of 2 or 3 runs <sup>b</sup> Average of 5 runs <sup>c</sup> Average of 5 runs <sup>d</sup> 40 g of CaO + 24 ml H<sub>2</sub>O used

(1) The alkali halides were the most effective additives

(2) The utilizations obtained for Type A sorbents were 10–25% higher than the utilizations for Type B sorbents with the same salt loading

(3) The low utilization obtained for Type C sorbents was not due to incomplete conversion of CaO to Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub> because the thermal curves for the fresh sorbents indicated that most of the Ca in the sample was present as Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub>. The low surface areas obtained for these sorbents probably accounted for the low utilizations. Preparation of these Type C sorbents on such a small scale is probably not a realistic indicator of the performance of these sorbents when prepared commercially

(4) Both Na<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>3</sub> and CaCl<sub>2</sub> and perhaps NaOH showed evidence of undergoing reaction with the hydrated lime, as indicated by the decrease in utilization at high salt concentrations as well as by the low surface areas of these sorbents. Salts such as Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub>·CaCl<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O and [CaO<sub>x</sub>SiO<sub>2y</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O] can form, resulting in significant alteration of the properties of the hydrated lime [13]. Preparation of a type C sorbent using CaCl<sub>2</sub> resulted in an extremely vigorous reaction and the formation of a dense, hard material, totally unlike the dry, free-flowing powders obtained with other additives. The utilizations obtained for the sorbent containing NaOH were unexpectedly low in view of the positive results found for NaOH-promoted lime in studies carried out by Yoon et al [6].

No SO<sub>2</sub> uptake occurred on these hydrated lime sorbents in the absence of water. The importance of working at high relative humidity has been demonstrated by Klingspor and coworkers [8–10].

As shown in Fig 7, there was little difference in the particle size distribution of LL alone and LL that was impregnated with a NaCl solution. Sorbents prepared according to Type B or C procedures, however, were considerably smaller in particle size, with 80–90% of the particles less than 10 μm compared with only 50–60% for LL. A possible reason for this

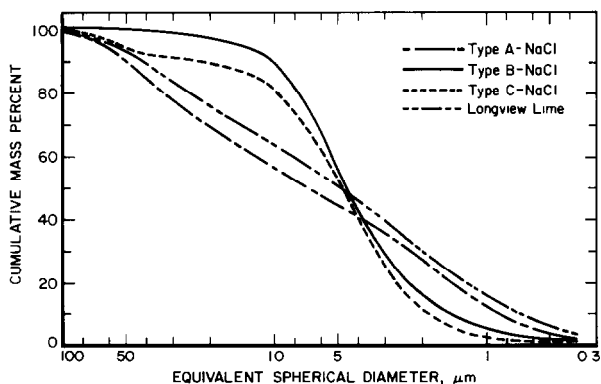


Fig 7 Particle size distributions

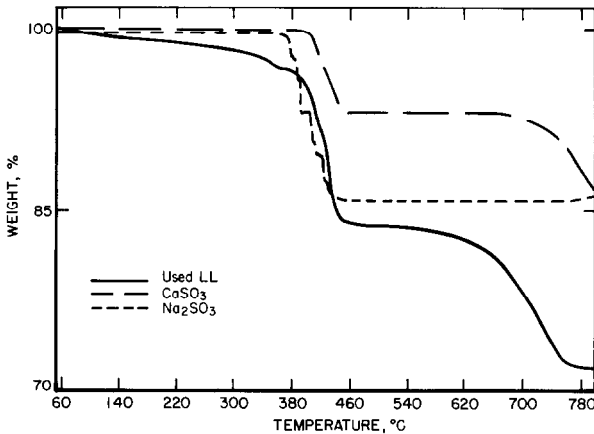
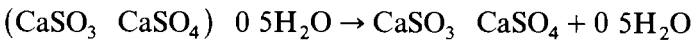


Fig 8 Decomposition curve for used Longview lime,  $\text{CaSO}_3$  and  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_3$  between 50 and  $800^\circ\text{C}$

diversity may be a difference in the particle size of the oxides used to prepare the hydrated limes, previous studies [15] have shown that use of a finer quicklime ( $\text{CaO}$ ) resulted in more reactive sorbents (for furnace injection) owing to a corresponding finer hydrate. The smaller particle size of Type B sorbents, however, did not result in higher surface areas or increased percentage utilization with these sorbents.

Analysis of the used LL sorbent by a TG technique is shown in Fig 8, also shown are the decomposition curves for pure  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_3$  and  $\text{CaSO}_3$  (in an  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere). Unlike the fresh sorbent, the used LL sorbent showed a small weight decrease at  $350^\circ\text{C}$ , followed immediately by a larger weight decrease between  $375$  and  $460^\circ\text{C}$ . The first decrease ( $350^\circ\text{C}$ ) was found also for other used sorbents and may have resulted from dehydration of the hemihydrate:



The hemihydrate has been identified as a product in flue gas scrubber systems, although TG analysis of this product indicated that dehydration occurred between  $400$  and  $470^\circ\text{C}$  [16]. The larger weight decrease between  $375$  and  $460^\circ\text{C}$  may have been due to the dehydration of unreacted  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  to  $\text{CaO}$  and to the decomposition of the reaction products  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_3$  and  $\text{CaSO}_3$ . The large weight decrease between  $460$  and  $800^\circ\text{C}$  for the used LL sorbent was probably due to the decomposition of calcium sulfite:



The results obtained with Type A sorbents are in good agreement with the fixed-bed reactor data of Ruiz-Alsop and Rochelle [13], indicating that the TG technique is an effective method for screening sorbents containing various inorganic salts. In a similar fixed-bed reactor study, Jorgensen et al

studied the effectiveness of NaOH, NaCl, NaNO<sub>3</sub> and CaCl<sub>2</sub> [14] Each salt was mixed with the Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub> in a dry procedure (not by the procedure of water dissolution and mixing with Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub> followed by drying) Calcium chloride was the most effective sorbent, followed by NaOH, NaNO<sub>3</sub> and NaCl, in decreasing order of effectiveness This order of effectiveness was in sharp contrast to the TG results and may have been due to the different method used in combining the salt and the Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub> The deliquescent nature of the NaOH and CaCl<sub>2</sub> probably resulted in impregnation of the Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub> after exposure to the humidified flue gas, whereas the quantity of H<sub>2</sub>O pick-up by the NaCl was insufficient to impregnate the Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub> Yoon also found that NaOH and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> were effective additives but the method used to prepare these sorbents was not clear [5] Finally, McCarthy et al showed that CaCl<sub>2</sub> was an effective additive, but again details on the preparation of the sorbent were not stated [15]

The mechanism for the promoting effect of the inorganic salts is unclear Regardless of how the sorbent is prepared, a salt such as NaCl will probably react to some degree with the Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub> in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O to form CaCl<sub>2</sub> and NaOH Thus, the fact that NaCl is only slightly hygroscopic may be irrelevant when considering the absence of any correlation between the hygroscopic nature of the additive and the degree of utilization Simons and Garman [17] have investigated the rate-controlling mechanisms of sulfation of CaO particles at 700–1200 °C Rate-limiting processes included (1) the filling of the smallest pores and the subsequent loss in internal surface area, (2) the activated diffusion of the SO<sub>2</sub> through the product deposits, and (3) the loss of intraparticle diffusion owing to complete plugging of the largest pores It is not unreasonable to assume similar rate-limiting processes in sulfation of hydrated lime at 70 °C The additives may modify the properties of the CaSO<sub>3</sub> · 0.5H<sub>2</sub>O product layer, thereby facilitating access of the SO<sub>2</sub> to the unreacted Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub> in the interior of the particle [13] Future studies at the Pittsburgh Energy Technology Center will include differential reactor studies with small particles (one micrometer or less) of hydrated lime, with the objective of determining the rate-limiting steps for the sulfation of hydrated lime with and without additives

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#### APPENDIX I

The humidified flue gas was prepared by mixing N<sub>2</sub> saturated with water vapor at 70 °C with a gas containing 6027 p p m SO<sub>2</sub>, 6.10% O<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> as

the balance The composition of the humidified flue gas is calculated as follows

Vapor pressure of water at 70 °C = 233.7 Torr

Percentage H<sub>2</sub>O in N<sub>2</sub> gas stream = 234 Torr/760 Torr = 30.8%

Volume of N<sub>2</sub> at 70 °C = 100 ml min<sup>-1</sup> ×  $\frac{343 \text{ K}}{298 \text{ K}}$  = 115.1 ml

$$\text{Percentage H}_2\text{O in N}_2 \text{ gas stream} = \frac{\text{ml water vapor}}{\text{ml water vapor} + \text{ml N}_2} = 0.308$$

$$= \frac{x}{(x + 115)}$$

$x = \text{ml water vapor} = 51.1 \text{ ml}$

*Composition of humidified flue gas*

Total volume of gas = humidified N<sub>2</sub> stream + SO<sub>2</sub>-containing stream  
 = (51.1 + 115.1) + (115.1) = 281.3 ml

Percentage H<sub>2</sub>O = 51.1/281.3 = 18.2% (59.1% relative humidity)

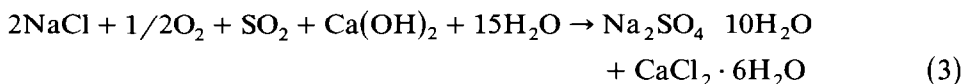
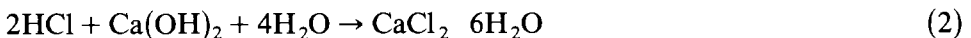
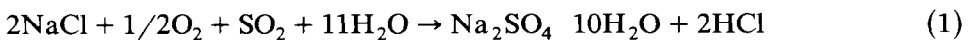
Percentage SO<sub>2</sub> = 0.6027% × 115.1/281.3 = 0.2466%

Percentage O<sub>2</sub> = 6.10% × 115.1/281.3 = 2.50%

Balance of gas is N<sub>2</sub>

## APPENDIX II

The degree of utilization was calculated assuming only the calcium (and none of the additive) reacted with the SO<sub>2</sub>. With sorbents containing sodium salts, however, it is likely that salts such as Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> · 7H<sub>2</sub>O, Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> · 10H<sub>2</sub>O, Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> and Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> · 7H<sub>2</sub>O could also have formed. The purpose of this appendix is to calculate the degree of utilization assuming that all of the sodium in a sorbent containing 0.066 mole NaCl per mole Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub> (0.052 g NaCl per g Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub>) reacted to form Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> · 10H<sub>2</sub>O according to the following reactions



The percentage weight increase for this reaction (3) is 183% (vs/ 74% for the reaction of Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub> to form CaSO<sub>3</sub> · 0.5H<sub>2</sub>O). Thus, if all the Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub> and

NaCl reacted with the SO<sub>2</sub>, the stoichiometric weight increase can be calculated as follows

Percentage weight increase of sorbent resulting from formation of Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> 10H<sub>2</sub>O is

$$\frac{0.052 \text{ g NaCl}}{1.052 \text{ g sorbent}} \times 183\% = 9.0\%$$

Percentage weight increase resulting from formation of CaSO<sub>3</sub> 0.5H<sub>2</sub>O is

$$\frac{100 \text{ g Ca(OH)}_2 - 0.033 \text{ g used in eqn (3)}}{1.052 \text{ g sorbent}} \times 74.3 = 68.3\%$$

The degree of utilization of this sorbent then would have been 35/77.3 or 45%. This utilization is at least 50% higher than that for LL (no additive). If salts with formula weights less than the formula weight of Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> 10H<sub>2</sub>O were formed, then the utilization for the NaCl-impregnated LL is even higher.

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