

University of North Dakota
UND Scholarly Commons

Theses and Dissertations

Theses, Dissertations, and Senior Projects

1-1-1969

Removal of Sulfur Oxides from Synthetic Flue Gas by Lignite Fly Ash

Ellen Bernard Lukes

Follow this and additional works at: https://commons.und.edu/theses

Recommended Citation

Lukes, Ellen Bernard, "Removal of Sulfur Oxides from Synthetic Flue Gas by Lignite Fly Ash" (1969). *Theses and Dissertations*. 3693. https://commons.und.edu/theses/3693

This Thesis is brought to you for free and open access by the Theses, Dissertations, and Senior Projects at UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Theses and Dissertations by an authorized administrator of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact und.commons@library.und.edu.



REMOVAL OF SULFUR OXIDES FROM SYNTHETIC FLUE GAS BY LIGNITE FLY ASH

by

Mrs. Ellen Bernard Lukes

B. S. in Chemical Engineering, University of North Dakota 1967

A Thesis

Submitted to the Faculty

of the

University of North Dakota

in partial fulfillment of the requirements

for the Degree of

Master of Science

Grand Forks, North Dakota

January 1969 This thesis submitted by Mrs. Ellen Bernard Lukes in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Science from the University of North Dakota is hereby approved by the Faculty Advisory Committee under whom the work has been done.

> /s/ Wayne R. Kube (Chairman)

/s/ Robert C. Ellman

/s/ Edward Nelson

/s/ James L. Elder

/s/ A. W. Johnson Dean of the Graduate School

Permission

Title Removal of Sulfur Oxides from Synthetic Flue Gas by Lignite Fly Ash
Department Chemical Engineering
Degree Master of Science

In presenting this thesis in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a graduate degree from the University of North Dakota, I agree that the library of this University shall make it freely available for inspection. I further agree that permission for extensive copying of this thesis for scholarly purposes may be granted by the professor who supervised my thesis work or, in his absence, by the Chairman of the Department or the Dean of the College in which my thesis work was done. It is understood that any copying or publication or other use of this thesis or part thereof for financial gain shall not be allowed without my written permission. It is also understood that due recognition shall be given to me and to the University of North Dakota in any scholarly use which may be made of any material in my thesis.

 Signature
 /s/ Ellen Bernard Lukes

 Date
 November 8, 1968

iii

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author wishes to express appreciation to the Bureau of Mines Coal Research Laboratory, United States Department of the Interior, at Grand Forks, North Dakota, and the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North Dakota, for the fellowship under which this work was done.

The author also wishes to express special gratitude to Mr. Everett A. Sondreal, Professor Wayne R. Kube, Dr. Edward O. Nelson, and Mr. Robert C. Ellman for their patient counsel and guidance throughout the investigation.

The author wishes to thank Mr. James L. Larsien for his help in constructing the experimental apparatus and Mr. Willis Beckering and Mr. Giovannie L. Lancianese for analyses.

The author wishes to especially thank Mr. Donald J. Winge for work on illustrations, Miss Darlyne H. Wolfgram for typing the thesis, and the other employees of the Bureau of Mines who assisted in this investigation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pag	e
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	
LIST OF TABLES	
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS	
ABSTRACT	2
INTRODUCTION.	
Chapter I. AIR POLLUTION IN THE COAL INDUSTRY	
Effects of air pollution Methods for control of sulfur dioxide emission Dry processes under development	
II. DESIGN OF APPARATUS.	j
Reaction vessel Flowmeters Moisture control Electric furnace	
III. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES	3
Statistical design of experiment	
IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.	2
Statistical analysis of SO ₂ absorption data Graphical data Comparison tests using alkalized alumina Appearance changes of flyash samples during tests	
CONCLUSIONS	3
APPENDIX A)
APPENDIX B	L
APPENDIX C)
LIST OF REFERENCES.	7

v

LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
1.	Fly ash sample No. 4 after exposure at 1,100° F and 1,200 parts per million SO2	11
2.	Analysis of variance for a fixed-model four-factor factorial experiment in a completely randomized design.	13
3.	Analysis of variance of SO2 absorption data	14
Ц.	Difference in absorption as a function of particle size (alkalized alumina)	17
5.	Percent increase of SO3 in the ash	21
6.	Original ash analysis (percent)	22
7.	Analysis of samples (in percent) after 17-1/2 hours at 350° F and 600 parts per million S02	22
8.	Analysis of samples (in percent) after 17-1/2 hours at 350° F and 1,200 parts per million SO2	23
9.	Analysis of samples (in percent) after 17-1/2 hours at 350° F and 1,800 parts per million SO2	23
10.	Analysis of samples (in percent) after 17-1/2 hours at 800° F and 600 parts per million S02	24
11.	Analysis of samples (in percent) after 17-1/2 hours at 800° F and 1,200 parts per million S02	24
12.	Analysis of samples (in percent) after 17-1/2 hours at 800° F and 1,800 parts per million SO2	25
13.	Analysis of samples (in percent) after 17-1/2 hours at 1,100° F and 600 parts per million SO2	25
14.	Analysis of samples (in percent) after 17-1/2 hours at 1,100° F and 1,200 parts per million S02	26
15.	Analysis of samples (in percent) after 17-1/2 hours at 1,100° F and 1,800 parts per million SO2	26

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure		Page
1.	Schematic design of apparatus and control system for laboratory study of SO2 absorption by fly ash	6
2.	Fly ash sample container.	7
3.	Burrell high temperature electric furnace	9
Ц.	Percent increase in SO ₃ versus time using five different samples of fly ash (350° F and 600 parts per million SO2)	30
5.	Percent increase in SO3 versus time using five different samples of fly ash (800° F and 600 parts per million SO2)	31
6.	Percent increase in SO3 versus time using five different samples of fly ash (800° F and 1,200 parts per million SO2)	32
7.	Percent increase in SO3 versus time using five different samples of fly ash (800° F and 1,800 parts per million SO2)	33
8.	Percent increase in SO3 versus time using five different samples of fly ash (1,100° F and 600 parts per million SO2)	34
9.	Percent increase in SO3 versus time using five different samples of fly ash (1,100° F and 1,200 parts per million SO2)	35
10.	Percent increase in SO3 versus time using five different samples of fly ash (1,100° F and 1,800 parts per million SO2)	36
11.	Percent increase in SO ₃ versus time using five different samples of fly ash (1,600° F and 600 parts per million SO ₂).	37
12.	Percent increase in SO3 versus time using five different samples of fly ash (1,600° F and 1,200 parts per million SO2).	38

ABSTRACT

Removal of Sulfur Oxides from Synthetic Flue Gas by Lignite Fly Ash

by

Mrs. Ellen Bernard Lukes, Master of Science

The University of North Dakota, 1969

Faculty Adviser: Professor Kube

The absorption of sulfur dioxide from a synthetic flue gas by fly ash was investigated. Tests were made by passing a flue gas mixture of known composition over various samples of lignite fly ash and then analyzing the samples by means of x_{-} ray fluorescence.

The significance of time, temperature, partial pressure of sulfur dioxide in the flue gas, and the composition of the ash was determined by statistical analysis. Analysis of variance indicated that the four variables studied all had a significant effect on the amount of sulfur dioxide absorbed by the fly ash at the 99.5 percent confidence level. Five of the six two-way interactions and two of the four three-way interactions were also significant.

At $1,600^{\circ}$ F there was approximately a 20 percent increase in the sulfur content (as SO₃) of certain fly ash samples investigated after 17-1/2 hours of exposure time. Other samples of different initial composition absorbed less SO₂. This investigation did indicate that a high initial sodium or calcium content increases the amount of SO₂ that fly ash will absorb.

Comparison tests were made using alkalized alumina at 625° F and 1,100° F. Alkalized alumina absorbed sulfur dioxide more readily than fly ash at 625° F. Fly ash was a better absorbent during the first 10 hours of exposure at 1,100° F. At 1,600° F the fly ash absorbed SO₂ as well as the alkalized alumina did at 625° F. Whether the alkalized alumina was in pellet form or crushed, the amount of SO₂ absorbed remained approximately the same over the time intervals studied.

The high temperatures necessary for appreciable absorption of SO2 by lignite fly ash are such that use in equipment auxiliary to a boiler would not be feasible, but reinjection directly into the boiler may be feasible if the additional ash load can be tolerated.

INTRODUCTION

Sulfur oxides in flue gas from combustion of fossil fuels present air pollution problems. In addition, absorption by ash particles during combustion may contribute to the formation of fireside deposits in coal fired boilers. Analyses of lignite ash prepared by laboratory ashing procedure indicate that a high percentage of sulfur in lignite is retained in the ash. Limited data from sulfur balances on combustion tests using lignite showed that a lesser percentage is retained during combustion in boilers, and that the retention is related to the composition of the ash.

The primary objective of this research was to investigate the properties of various lignite-derived materials, particularly flyash, in relation to their ability to absorb and retain sulfur oxide containing gases. Sulfur oxide absorption was studied as influenced by the variables of temperature, time, partial pressure of sulfur oxide, and the ash composition. Sulfur content, as SO_3 , in the flyash was determined before and after exposure to a synthetic flue gas.

Tests were run on five flyash materials from lignite from three mines as burned at three different powerplants. These materials represented high- and low-sodium contents in the range of 0.1 to 7.3 percent of ash at levels of calcium concentration between 16.7 and 38.3 percent of ash.

If lignite flyash proved to be a satisfactory absorber of sulfur oxides from flue gases, a use for a waste material would be found and a potentially inexpensive SO₂ removal process might be developed.

CHAPTER I

AIR POLLUTION IN THE COAL INDUSTRY

Effects of Air Pollution

Air pollution in the United States is costing an estimated \$11 billion annually (\$60 per person) in damage to buildings, equipment, fabrics, crops, livestock and other goods, while also harming the health of the population. In 1963, sulfur dioxide emissions amounted to more than 23 million tons [1]¹.

Numbers in brackets refer to items in List of References.

Other physical and chemical methods for removing pyrite sulfur from coal, which are in experimental stages and seem promising, are [3]:

a. stage pulverization and subsequent removal of pyrites (Bituminous Coal Research, Inc.)

b. electrostatic separation of pyrites (Battelle Memorial Institute)

c. froth floatation using addition of depressants specific to pyrites (Bureau of Mines)

d. magnetic separation of pyrites (Coal Research Bureau, West Virginia University, and Bureau of Mines)

e. fluidized bed with air elutriation (Bureau of Mines)

3. Use of dolomite and other additives to the furnace [3]: The results of injecting finely divided material into existing boiler systems or blending limestone with the fuel have generally been discouraging in terms of the ability to obtain high efficiency and high utilization of the material added. Conflicting reports have circulated as to the effectiveness of limestone addition. These reports range from complete to negligible removal of sulfur oxides.

4. <u>High stacks</u> [3]: Tall stacks can provide relief in localized situations, but they are appropriate only for large installations where their cost can be justified. Chimney heights of 800 feet are becoming quite common. The objective is to keep ground level concentrations sufficiently low to avoid any damageable or harmful effects. This solution does not solve the pollution problem, but can give local relief.

5. <u>Gas treating processes (wet and dry)</u> [5]: As sulfur oxides are acidic, alkaline media are used in most of the schemes for their removal. Most of the work on wet processes has been discontinued because of metal corrosion, cooling of the stack gases, loss of buoyancy, and high costs of operation and waste disposal.

Chemical processes can achieve a high degree of sulfur removal, but as yet no method appears to have overcome the problems of loss of part of the coal, loss of energy in the coal, or the high costs of treatment.

elemental sulfur by the conventional Claus process. The principle difficulty in the process is the loss of alkalized alumina by attrition over extended periods of time [4].

It is felt that the Bureau's process has a distinct advantage in that elemental sulfur is the end product. Elemental sulfur does not present any special handling problems, as do the acid products realized from other processes.

CHAPTER II

DESIGN OF APPARATUS

The overall functions required for the present experiments were to pass a synthetic flue gas containing sulfur dioxide over different samples of fly ash. The amount of SO₂ absorbed was determined for various time intervals by analyzing for the increase in SO₃ content in the ash. A schematic diagram showing the test arrangement is given in figure 1.

Reaction Vessel

An airtight stainless steel box with two shelves was used to contain the fly ash samples as a synthetic flue gas was passed over them. The design and dimensions are given in figure 2.

The flue gas enters through perforated stainless steel tubing along the upper right length of the box. Previously the gas has been passed through tubing on the right outside wall in order to preheat the synthetic flue gas before it passes through the box.

The flue gas leaves through another perforated tube along the bottom left length of the box. The tubing then leads to the exhaust fan.

Flowmeters

The gases entering the box were measured using capillary flowmeters. The difference in pressure on the two sides of a capillary tube (as indicated by a manometer) is a measure of the rate of flow of gas through the flowmeter. The flowmeters were calibrated at several different rates of flow, and a smooth curve was drawn showing the rate of flow as a function of the difference in levels. The calibration curves can be found in Appendix C, figures 17 through 20.



- A Capillary flowmeter
- **B** Constant temperature water bath
- Distilled water С
- Burrell electric furnace D
- E Flyash sample container, see Fig
- Fig 1 Schematic design of apparatus and control system for laboratory study of SO2 absorption by flyash.



Fig 2 Flyash sample container.

In calibrating the SO₂ capillary, the quantity of SO₂ for a known time interval was measured by bubbling the gas through a 3 percent solution of hydrogen peroxide. The quantity of SO₂ present in the solution was then calculated by titrating with a standard base (0.1 N NaOH) using methyl purple as the indicator. The calibration curve was drawn from this data (figure 20).

Moisture Control

Moisture was added to the atmosphere by bubbling the air and nitrogen through a thermostated flask of distilled water. A constant temperature bath around the flask of distilled water controlled the vapor pressure of the water.

Electric Furnace

The entire box was placed in a Burrell Electric Furnace (figure 3). The high temperature electric furnace was manufactured by the Burrell Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Temperature in the furnace was automatically controlled by a millivoltmeter coupled to a platinum-platinum 13 percent rhodium thermocouple. The heating elements consisted of eight silicon carbide rods spaced so as to give a uniform temperature profile throughout the usable furnace area [6].

CHAPTER III

EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

The absorption of sulfur dioxide by lignite fly ash exposed to synthetic flue gas at a constant temperature was measured by analyzing the ash for SO3 content prior to and after exposure. The amount of absorption in relation to time was determined by exposing similar samples for different periods. Variables studied were time, temperature, partial pressure of sulfur dioxide, and the composition of the fly ash.

The synthetic flue gas consisted of: nitrogen 43 percent, air 33 percent, carbon dioxide 12 percent, water vapor 12 percent, and sulfur dioxide of 600, 1,200, or 1,800 parts per million. Since the concentration of sulfur dioxide was always only a fraction of 1 percent, changes in its concentration had no measurable effect on the remaining components, which were maintained at the foregoing percentages.

The lengths of time over which different samples of similar ash were exposed were 1/2, 1-1/2, 3-1/2, 7-1/2, and 17-1/2 hours.



- A Door
- **B** High temperature insulating firebrick
- C Silicon carbide heating element
- D Flyash sample container, see Fig
- E Pt/Pt 13 percent Rh thermocouples
- F Cast high temperature hearth plate
- G Support for furnace

Fig 3 Burrell high temperature electric furnace.

The temperature levels selected were 350° , 800° , $1,100^{\circ}$, and $1,600^{\circ}$ F. A temperature of 350° F corresponds to the temperature of the combustion gases leaving the air-heater in a boiler, and 800° F to the temperature entering the air heater. A temperature of $1,100^{\circ}$ F has been reported as the point of maximum absorption of sulfur dioxide by bituminous coal ash [7], and $1,600^{\circ}$ F corresponds to a temperature beyond this reported maximum absorption temperature. An additional test was run at 625° F as a comparison with the Bureau of Mines process using alkalized alumina.

The major test series were run on five fly ash materials relating to lignite from three mines, and burned at three different powerplants. These materials represented high- and low-sodium contents in the range of 0.1 to 7.3 percent of the ash at levels of calcium content between 16.7 and 38.3 percent of the ash. The fly ash was sampled and used as recovered from the fly ash collectors.

Each 4-gram sample of fly ash was placed in a porcelain boat to a depth of approximately 1/4 inch. For each run twenty-five boats were placed on two shelves in the fly ash sample container (Figure 2) and inserted into the cold furnace. After heating to the required temperature, the flow of flue gas was started at 0.39 cubic feet per minute at 80° F. After specific time intervals fly ash samples were withdrawn and placed in a desiccator to cool.

The fly ash samples, after cooling, were analyzed for SO3 by x-ray fluorescence using a Philips vacuum x-ray spectrograph equipped with a chromium x-ray tube and a flow proportional counter.

In order to find if any other component of the fly ash other than SO₃ changed appreciably, a complete analysis of the fly ash used was made before and after an experimental run. No indications of change in other constituents were noted. These data can be found in Appendix B, Tables 7 through 18.

Tests were designed with a high flow rate for the purpose of supplying a large excess of sulfur dioxide over that which could be absorbed. In this manner the concentration of sulfur dioxide in the container was maintained at a level close to that in the entering stream. In a test at $1,100^{\circ}$ F and 1,200 parts per million sulfur dioxide, representing one of the higher rates of absorption, analysis of the exit gas indicated that 70 percent of the sulfur dioxide admitted remained in the exit stream.

Duplicate tests were run to determine whether the position of a fly ash sample within the container had an important effect on the amount of sulfur dioxide absorbed. Table 1 shows absorption in two tests for fly ash sample No. 4 at $1,100^{\circ}$ F and 1,200 parts per million sulfur dioxide. The difference between A, the usual sample position, and B, The details of the method of factorial analysis are outlined in Table 2. The sum of squares listed opposite each of the test variables (designated factors S, A, F, and T) represent values for the main effects of the independent variables. Similarly, sums of squares given for second and third order interactions represent effects of varying levels of independent variables on each other. For example, the interaction S x T indicates an influence of changing levels of SO₂ partial pressure and of furnace temperature not accounted for by the sum of squares for S and for T. The residual sum of squares relates to the uncontrolled variation or error, and since no replicates were performed at the various levels, this term takes the place of a fourth order interaction.

3

From the sums of squares in Table 2, the mean squares or variances are obtained by dividing by the degrees of freedom. Then by using the "F" test, each of the mean squares for the factors and their interactions are compared with the mean square for the residual (representing error) by calculating a ratio with the residual sum of squares as the denominator to determine their individual significance. This ratio is termed "F" and is compared to critical values which have previously been calculated and tabulated for the desired confidence level and the appropriate degrees of freedom.

CHAPTER IV

EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

This chapter describes the results obtained in the investigation of the absorption of sulfur dioxide from a synthetic flue gas by fly ash. A complete set of data is included in the Appendix.

Statistical Analysis of the SO2 Absorption Data

The significance of the variables regarding their effect on the amount of sulfur dioxide absorbed is described by a sum of squares statistical analysis of the data. The statistical approach allows statements regarding the significance of the variables to be made with certain confidence. The analysis of variance for the amount of sulfur dioxide absorbed presented in Table 3 is patterned after Wine [8].

The ratio of the mean square terms of the other sources of variation to the residual mean square is the value of F for that particular source of variation. In a fixed effects experiment, such as this, the computed F value is then compared to the F value which is expected at the degrees of freedom involved and the degree of confidence desired. In order to be significant at this confidence level, the calculated F must be larger than the expected or critical F value.

Source	of ion ^a	Sum of squares	Degrees of freedom	of Mean square	Calculated "F"	Critical "F"
S A F T S X T T A F S A X X T T A F S A X X F F S A X X F S A X X F S X X S X A	x T x T x F	108.92 80.58 931.99 560.74 47.10 76.00 404.15 4.19 54.52 190.94 116.48 81.83 6.06 10.36	2 4 3 4 8 16 12 8 12 6 48 24 32 24	54.46 20.14 310.66 140.18 5.89 4.75 33.68 0.52 4.54 31.82 2.43 3.41 0.19 0.43	188.97 ^b 69.90 ^b 1,077.95 ^b 486.41 ^b 20.43 ^b 16.48 ^b 116.86 ^b 1.82 15.76 ^b 110.42 ^b 8.42 ^b 11.83 ^b 0.66 1.50	5.64 4.01 4.59 4.01 3.01 2.43 2.62 3.01 2.62 3.36 1.83 2.17 2.04 2.17
Residu	al	27.66	96	0.29		
TOLAT	a _S A	= SO ₂ part: = ash compo	ial pressure	F = furna T = time	ace temperature intervals	

ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE OF SO2 ABSORPTION DATA

^bSignificant at 99.5 percent confidence level.

The analysis of variance shows the sulfur dioxide partial pressure (S) to have a significant effect on the amount of sulfur dioxide absorbed at a confidence level of 99.5 percent. This indicates, for this data, that a statement saying, "the partial pressure of sulfur dioxide in the synthetic flue gas has a significant effect on the amount of sulfur dioxide absorbed by the flyash samples," would be correct 99.5 times out of 100.

The five different fly ash samples (the A factor) also had a significant effect on the amount of sulfur dioxide absorbed. The variation caused by the fly ash compositions is again significant at the 99.5 percent confidence level.

The third factor investigated, the furnace temperature (F), is also significant at the 99.5 percent confidence level. The computed "F" value of 1,077.95, the largest "F" value computed for any of the factors or interactions involved, indicates that the greatest portion of the variation observed in the amount of sulfur dioxide absorbed by the fly ash samples is due to the temperature factor.

There were five different samples of fly ash used in this research project. Samples No. 1 and 4 appeared to absorb more sulfur dioxide than the other samples tested. Sample No. 4 had the highest calcium content and sample No. 1 had the highest sodium content of the five different fly ash samples tested. It has been thought that the calcium and sodium content of the fly ash influences its sulfur dioxide absorbing tendencies. The present data seemed to support this idea. In order to give conclusive reasons for the higher absorption, more investigation of other samples of fly ash would be needed.

1

Sample No. 5, which is a low sodium content fly ash, absorbed very little sulfur dioxide until the temperature reached 1,600° F. After 17-1/2 hours and at 600 and 1,200 parts per million sulfur dioxide, sample No. 5 absorbed more SO₂ than sample No. 4. The temperature greatly affects the amount of sulfur dioxide absorbed for the samples of different ash composition.

The high temperatures required for absorption by lignite fly ash would likely discourage its use in absorption equipment auxiliary to a boiler but would still allow absorption by the reinjection of fly ash directly into the boiler if this can be tolerated with reference to boiler fouling. But it must also be kept in mind that the fly ash has an initial sulfur content from prior passage through a boiler in contact with the sulfur dioxide in the flue gas.

Unlike the fly ash tested by Orning [7], a maximum absorption temperature was not reached within the range 350° to $1,600^{\circ}$ F₉ as shown by figure 14, Appendix C. Orning achieved a maximum absorption temperature of $1,100^{\circ}$ F for fly ash from bituminous coals. Lignite fly ash continued to absorb sulfur dioxide at an increased rate at $1,600^{\circ}$ F in the present tests. Further investigation could be made as to whether an inflection point exists in the absorption versus temperature plot at temperatures exceeding $1,600^{\circ}$ F. Another reaction vessel would be necessary as the present unit is limited, as designed, to approximately $1,600^{\circ}$ F. In addition, higher service temperature gaskets and stainless steel screws would be required.

Comparison Tests Using Alkalized Alumina

A process for removing sulfur dioxide from stack gases using alkalized alumina as the absorbent has been studied at the U.S. Bureau of Mines, Pittsburgh, Pa. [9]. Tests were run to compare the absorption rate of fly ash with samples of alkalized alumina.

The alkalized alumina is manufactured in pellet form (about 1/16 inch in diameter), and the fly ash is not. A test was made to see if the alkalized alumina absorption increased if the sample was crushed

occur as a function of the sulfur dioxide concentration in the flue gas, but as the temperature level is increased, the samples become somewhat caked, and a red-brown porous crust forms on the surface. At $1,600^{\circ}$ F this reddish layer comprised almost one-fourth of the sample.

Under the crust in sample No. 4 was a powdery substance, almost grey in color. The bottom layer of each fly ash sample which absorbed the most sulfur dioxide [9] consisted of extremely fine particles with a definite color change from the original ash or the top layer. Fly ash samples No. 3 and 5, which were the poorer absorbers of the five samples studied, formed a harder cake than the other fly ash samples, but still remained porous and were easily broken. Porosity of all samples was high and the inner portion was apparently available to the SO₂ in the gas stream.

CONCLUSIONS

The conclusions that follow are based on the author's interpretation of the results of the investigation:

In order to be used as an absorbent for sulfur dioxide, lignite fly ash would have to be utilized at elevated temperatures. In the temperature interval studied, 350° to $1,600^{\circ}$ F, the fly ash absorbed more sulfur dioxide at $1,600^{\circ}$ F than at any of the lower temperatures tested. In order to be useful commercially, fly ash could be reinjected directly into the boiler, if this could be tolerated with reference to boiler fouling. An advantage of fly ash is that the absorption rate is highest during initial time intervals.

Unlike the fly ash from bituminous coal studied by Orning [7], no maximum absorption temperature was found between 350° and $1,600^{\circ}$ F. The bituminous fly ash studied by Orning exhibited a maximum absorption temperature at $1,100^{\circ}$ F. The bituminous fly ash tested either above or below $1,100^{\circ}$ F absorbed less sulfur dioxide. Using fly ash from lignite, the amount of sulfur dioxide absorbed continued to rise as the temperature increased to $1,600^{\circ}$ F.

The statistical analysis of the sulfur dioxide absorption data showed that each of the four variables tested had a significant effect on the amount of sulfur dioxide absorbed by the fly ash. The longer the time, the higher the temperature, the higher the partial pressure of sulfur dioxide in the flue gas-the more sulfur dioxide the fly ash samples will absorb. The composition of the fly ash also had an effect on the amount of sulfur dioxide absorbed. Tests showed that a high calcium or sodium content in the fly ash increased the absorption of sulfur dioxide. Further tests should be conducted to determine the effect of temperature above $1,600^{\circ}$ F and to investigate more thoroughly the influence of ash composition.

APPENDIX A

SYMBOLS

Al	*	Fly ash sample No. 1 (Hoot Lake sample).
A2		Fly ash sample No. 2 (Hoot Lake sample).
A3	11	Fly ash sample No. 3 (Voltaire sample).
Aц	8	Fly ash sample No. 4 (Voltaire sample).
A5	8	Fly ash sample No. 5 (Sidney sample).
Fl		Furnace temperature of 350° F.
F2		Furnace temperature of 800° F.
F3		Furnace temperature 1,100° F.
F4	=	Furnace temperature 1,600° F.
Sl	H	600 parts per million sulfur dioxide in flue gas.
S2	=	1,200 parts per million sulfur dioxide in flue gas.
s3	=	$1{}_{\rm s}800$ parts per million sulfur dioxide in flue gas.
Tl	=	Cumulative time of 1/2 hour.
T2		Cumulative time of $l=1/2$ hours.
Т3	8	Cumulative time of $3-1/2$ hours.
Т4	8	Cumulative time of 7-1/2 hours.
T5	11	Cumulative time of 17-1/2 hours.
502	88	Sulfur dioxide.
503		Sulfur trioxide.
PAA	88	Alkalized alumina in pellet form (1/16 inch diameter).
CAA	88	Crushed alkalized alumina.

APPENDIX B

TABLE 5

PERCENT INCREASE OF SO3 IN THE ASH

		s ₁ s ₂ s ₃							S2							
		Al	A2	A3	A4	A5	Al	A2	A3	Alt	A5	Al	A2	A3	A4	A5
Fl	T1	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.3	=0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	-0.3
	T2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.6	=0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	-0.2	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.3	-0.3
	T3	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.4	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.2	-0.1
	T4	0.2	0.8	0.4	0.5	=0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	-0.1
	T5	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.8	=0.1	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6	-0.1	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.0
F2	T1	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	=0.1	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.3	-0.2	0.9	0.3	0.4	0.5	-0.1
	T2	0.8	0.6	0.4	1.0	=0.1	1.0	0.6	0.6	1.3	-0.1	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.0
	T3	1.0	0.7	0.7	1.3	0.0	1.2	0.7	0.8	1.7	0.0	1.8	1.0	1.1	1.7	0.0
	T4	1.2	0.7	1.0	2.4	0.0	1.8	0.9	1.1	2.4	0.1	2.1	0.9	1.2	2.8	0.2
	T5	3.0	1.1	1.3	3.2	0.2	2.9	1.5	1.5	3.4	0.3	3.4	1.8	1.7	3.5	0.2
F3	T1	1.2	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.2	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.8	0.0	2.0	1.0	0.7	1.9	0.1
	T2	1.7	1.0	0.7	1.4	0.2	1.8	1.4	1.1	2.1	0.0	2.5	1.8	1.2	3.3	0.6
	T3	2.1	1.7	1.4	2.6	0.5	3.2	2.1	1.7	3.0	0.0	-4.1	2.1	1.9	4.2	0.6
	T4	4.0	2.4	1.7	4.8	1.5	4.3	2.1	1.9	5.8	1.6	5.7	1.7	2.9	6.6	2.7
	T5	6.6	4.4	3.5	6.5	3.1	6.0	5.2	4.2	8.6	4.6	9.6	6.0	4.6	9.1	5.3
Fų	T1	0.0	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.8	1.3	1.6	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.7	1.4	0.8	1.8
	T2	-0.2	0.8	1.3	1.9	1.6	1.8	3.6	2.4	3.1	2.3	2.0	3.6	2.4	4.7	3.1
	T3	0.9	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.8	3.3	4.9	4.9	5.4	4.6	2.5	7.7	6.3	6.7	9.0
	T4	4.0	4.1	1.9	3.3	3.0	9.0	10.2	5.8	7.8	6.5	12.5	12.4	7.5	11.4	8.5
	T5	6.9	2.4	2.4	4.1	5.0	17.4	8.5	7.1	9.1	10.8	19.4	10.8	9.3	14.5	12.2

	THE R. LEWIS CO., LANSING MICH.				Contractioner Statement In contraction in the other
Component	Al	A2	A3	A)4	A5
Fe203 Ti02 Ca0 K20 S03 P205 Si02 A1203 Mg0 Na20	11.50 0.83 25.70 0.51 6.28 0.80 26.40 13.85 7.85 5.50	$12.90 \\ 0.72 \\ 29.90 \\ 0.36 \\ 4.50 \\ 0.91 \\ 27.27 \\ 15.0 \\ 8.15 \\ 2.00 $	6.90 0.90 17.20 0.74 1.60 0.52 45.45 16.85 4.95 5.40	6.50 0.69 36.20 0.41 4.92 1.12 24.40 11.20 7.60 4.60	7.65 0.81 27.65 0.82 1.73 0.87 34.10 18.25 9.80 0.20
Total	99.22	101.71	100.51	97.64	101.88

ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES (IN PERCENT) AFTER 17-1/2 HOURS AT 350° F AND 1,200 PARTS PER MILLION SO2

TABLE 9

ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES (IN PERCENT) AFTER 17-1/2 HOURS AT 350° F AND 1,800 PARTS PER MILLION SO2

Component	Al	A2	A3	А4	A5
Fe203 Ti02 CaO K20 S03 P205 Si02 Al203 Mg0 Na20	11.2 0.9 25.9 0.4 6.5 0.8 26.3 13.8 7.9 5.1	12.8 0.7 29.8 0.3 4.8 1.0 26.9 14.1 7.8 2.0	6.9 1.0 16.9 0.6 1.5 0.5 46.0 16.5 4.8 5.3	6.4 0.7 35.7 0.4 4.8 1.2 25.0 11.2 7.5 4.3	7.8 0.9 27.6 0.9 1.8 0.9 35.2 16.2 10.2 0.2
Total	98.8	100.2	100.0	97.2	101.7

CONSIGNATION OF STATE OF CONSIGNATION OF CONSIGNATICON OF CONSIGNATICON OF CONSIGNATION OF CON	THE PACKAGE AND THE THE THE THE THE	Declaration and the contraction and the set and the	COMPANY AND AND AND THE THE RECORD AND THE WAY AND	CALL SHOT AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF THE CALL SHOT ON THE CALL SHOT	Construction of the Owner Construction of the
Component	Al	A2	A3	A4	A5
Fe203 Ti02 Ca0 K20 S03 P205 Si02 A1203 Mg0 Na20	10°7 0°8 25°6 0°4 9°5 0°8 25°5 13°9 7°8 5°3	12.2 0.7 29.5 0.4 6.0 1.0 26.6 14.4 7.9 2.1	6.9 0.9 17.1 0.7 2.7 0.5 45.2 16.7 4.8 5.2	6.3 0.7 34.7 0.4 7.5 1.2 23.9 11.0 7.2 4.7	7.8 0.8 27.3 0.8 2.0 0.9 34.7 16.4 9.8 0.2
Total	99.7	100.8	100.7	97.6	100.7

ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES (IN PERCENT) AFTER 17-1/2 HOURS AT 800° F AND 1,800 PARTS PER MILLION SO2

TABLE 13

ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES (IN PERCENT) AFTER 17-1/2 HOURS AT 1,100° F AND 600 PARTS PER MILLION SO2

Component	Al	A2	A3	A4	Α5
Fe203 TiO2 CaO K2O SO3 P205 SiO2 Al2O3 MgO Na2O	10.6 0.7 24.5 0.4 12.4 0.8 25.3 13.5 7.4 6.0	12.0 0.7 28.0 0.4 8.6 0.9 26.5 13.9 7.6 2.7	6.9 0.8 16.7 0.6 4.5 0.2 44.2 16.2 4.7 6.2	6.2 0.6 34.0 0.4 10.5 0.7 23.6 10.6 7.0 5.0	7.7 0.7 26.7 0.8 4.9 1.0 33.0 16.4 9.6 0.4
Total	101.6	101.3	101.0	98.6	101.2

Component	Al	A2	A3	Al4	A5
Fe203	10.4	12.8	6.9	6.6	7.4
Ti02	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5
CaO	24.8	29.2	17.5	36.0	26.2
K20	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.9
S03	12.7	6.6	3.4	8.1	6.8
P205	0.7	0.9	0.3	0.8	1.0
Si02	23.2	25.6	44.1	22.2	33.3
A1203	13.4	14.3	16.3	11.2	15.6
MgO	7.9	8.6	5.1	9.0	9.7
Na20	4.3	1.8	5.2	4.0	0.2
Total	98.1	100.6	100.0	98.6	101.6

ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES (IN PERCENT) AFTER 17-1/2 HOURS AT 1,600° F AND 600 PARTS PER MILLION SO2

TABLE 17

ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES (IN PERCENT) AFTER 17-1/2 HOURS AT 1,600° F AND 1,200 PARTS PER MILLION SO2

Component	Al	A2	A ₃	A4	A5
Fe203 Ti02 Ca0 K20 S03 P205 Si02 Al203 Mg0 Na20	9.0 0.4 21.3 0.3 23.2 0.7 20.2 12.3 7.0 4.1	11.1 0.4 27.4 0.4 12.7 1.0 24.9 14.0 7.9 1.7	6.6 0.4 16.3 0.6 8.1 0.2 4.4 15.5 4.6 4.9	6.3 0.3 33.1 0.3 13.1 0.7 21.2 10.5 7.7 3.9	7.1 0.4 24.8 0.7 12.6 0.9 31.0 14.7 9.2 0.2
Total	98.5	101.5	99.6	97°1	101.6

COMPARISON OF SO2 ABSORPTION OF FLY ASH SAMPLE NO. 4 WITH ALKALIZED ALUMINA (PELLET AND CRUSHED)

Time, (hour)	S03 increase, percent		
	A4	CAA	PAA
0	0	0	0
1/2	5.8	0.5	0.1
1 1/2	6.4	1.1	0.9
3 1/2	7.1	0.9	1.7
7 1/2	9.9	4.1	4.2
17 1/2	11.9	13.4	12.0

Test conditions: 1,200 parts per million SO2 1,100° F



Fig 4 Percent increase in SO₃ versus time using five different samples of flyash (350 °F and 600 ppm SO₂).



Fig 5 Percent increase in SO₃ versus time using five different samples of flyash (800 °F and 600 ppm SO₂).



Fig 6 Percent increase in SO₃ versus time using five different samples of flyash (800 °F and 1,200 ppm SO₂).



Fig 7 Percent increase in SO₃ versus time using five different samples of flyash (800 °F and 1,800 ppm SO₂).



Fig 8 Percent increase in SO3 versus time using five different samples of flyash (1,100 °F and 600 ppm SO2).



Fig 9 Percent increase in SO₃ versus time using five different samples of flyash (1,100 °F and 1,200 ppm SO₂).



Fig IO Percent increase in SO₃ versus time using five different samples of flyash (1,100 °F and 1,800 ppm SO₂).



Fig || Percent increase in SO₃ versus time using five different samples of flyash (1,600 °F and 600 ppm SO₂).



Fig 12 Percent increase in SO₃ versus time using five different samples of flyash (1,600 °F and 1,200 ppm SO₂).



Fig 13 Percent increase in SO₃ versus time using five different samples of flyash (1,600 °F and 1,800 ppm SO₂).

40 APPENDIX C



Fig 14 SO₃ in flyash after exposure to synthetic flue gas at various temperatures.



Fig 15 Comparison of flyash sample number four to alkalized alumina.



Fig 16 Comparison of three different samples of flyash to alkalized alumina.







L





Fig 20 Calibration of SO₂ capillaries.

Cultoration of SO2

LIST OF REFERENCES

- [1] Nilsen, Joan. "Air Pollution: Costly to Ignore, Costly to Control." Chemical Engineering, vol. 73, No. 15, July 18, 1966, pp. 90-94.
- [2] Ludwig, J. H., and Spaite, P. W. "Control of Sulfur Oxide Pollution." <u>Chemical Engineering Progress</u>, vol. 63, No. 6, June 1967, pp. 82-86.
- [3] Perry, H., and Field, J. H. "Air Pollution and the Coal Industry." <u>Transactions of the Society of Mining Engineers</u>, vol. 238, <u>December 1967</u>, pp. 337-345.
- [4] Bituminous Coal Research, Inc. "Research Goal: Solution of the Sulfur Problem." Coal Research, No. 25, Winter 1966.
- [5] Murphy, Zane E., and Perry, Harry. "Air Pollution and the Lignite Industry." Paper in Technology and Use of Lignite, Proceedings: Bureau of Mines-University of North Dakota Symposium, Grand Forks, North Dakota, April 27-28, 1967, pp. 113-125.
- [6] Odenbaugh, Merwin L. "Sintering Characteristics of Lignite Ash," Unpublished Master of Science Thesis, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of North Dakota, June 1966.
- [7] Weintraub, M., Goldberg, S., and Orning, A. A. "A Study of Sulfur Reactions in Furnace Deposits." Journal of Engineering for Power, October 1961, pp. 444-450.
- [8] Wine, R. Lowell. Statistics for Scientists and Engineers. Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N. J., 1964, pp. 452-474.
- [9] Bienstock, D., Field, J. H., and Myers, J. G. "Removal of Sulfur Oxides From Flue Gas with Alkalized Alumina at Elevated Temperatures." Journal of Engineering for Power, July 1964, pp. 353-360.

47