



# Separation Technologies for Advanced Biofuels

**Antonio J. A. Meirelles**

**Laboratory of Extraction, Applied Thermodynamics and  
Equilibrium (EXTRAE)**

**School of Food Engineering (FEA)**

**University of Campinas (UNICAMP)**

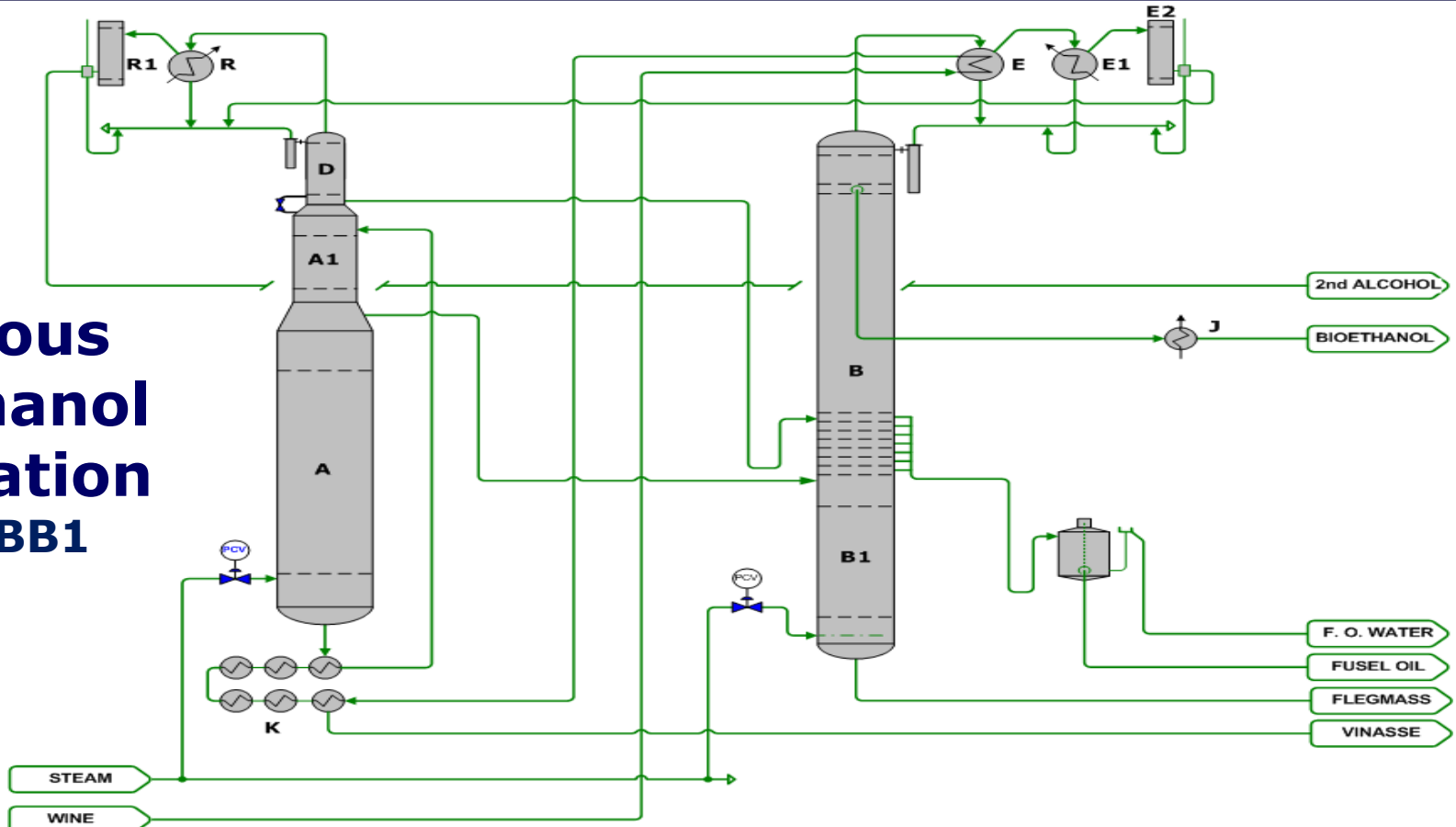
# Topics

- 1. Bioethanol Distillation and Purification in Industrial Practice.**
- 2. Some Research Results and Research Groups on the Subject.**
- 3. Questions to be Investigated**

<b>Alcoholic products</b>	<b>Specifications</b>	<b>Standards fixed by</b>
<b>Fuel (Hydrous/ Anhydrous)</b>	<b>alcoholic content, pH, acidity, conductivity, density, chloride, sulfate, iron, hydrocarbons</b>	<b>ANP</b>
<b>Special/ Neutral</b>	<b>alcoholic content, pH, acidity, conductivity, density, chloride, sulfate, iron, hydrocarbons, sulfur, copper, sodium, nitrogen, phosphorus, acetaldehyde, ethyl acetate, methanol, propanol, isopropanol, butanol, isobutanol, isoamyl alcohol, higher alcohols, crotonaldehyde, dioxane, cyclohexane, benzene, ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, acetal</b>	<b>Market</b>

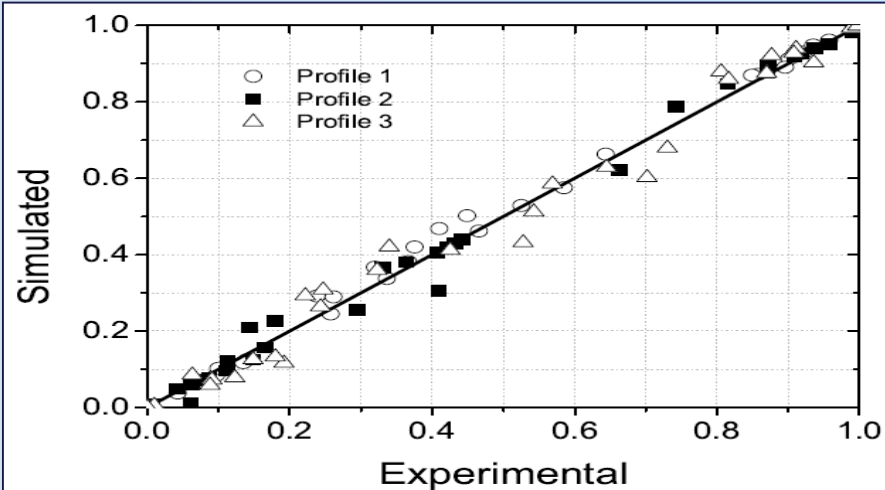
# Hydrous Bioethanol Distillation

## AA1DBB1



**Table 1**  
Wine composition.

Component	Mass fraction	Component	Mass fraction
Ethanol	0.081	1-Pentanol	$1.00 \times 10^{-6}$
Water	0.91712934	Methanol	$3.20 \times 10^{-7}$
Isoamyl alcohol	0.0001425	Acetaldehyde	$1.58 \times 10^{-5}$
Propanol	$3.00 \times 10^{-5}$	Acetone	$1.50 \times 10^{-5}$
Isopropanol	$1.02 \times 10^{-6}$	Ethyl acetate	$7.69 \times 10^{-6}$
Isobutanol	$2.78 \times 10^{-5}$	Methyl acetate	$1.00 \times 10^{-6}$
Butanol	$1.43 \times 10^{-6}$	Acetic acid	0.0004351
2-Butanol	$1.00 \times 10^{-6}$	Propionic acid	$1.00 \times 10^{-6}$
Active amyl alcohol	$1.00 \times 10^{-6}$	Sulfur dioxide	$1.90 \times 10^{-5}$
1-Hexanol	$1.00 \times 10^{-6}$	Carbon dioxide	0.001169



$$F = \frac{\left( \frac{w_{ethanol}}{\sum w_{congeners}} \right)_{product}}{\left( \frac{w_{ethanol}}{\sum w_{congeners}} \right)_{wine}}$$



Computational simulation applied to the investigation of industrial plants for bioethanol distillation

Fabio R.M. Batista , Luis A. Follegatti-Romero , L.C.B.A. Bessa , Antonio J.A. Meirelles

**Table 8**  
Purification factor and steam consumption for the three configurations studied.

Configurations	$F_{volatile}$	$F_{Intermediate}$	$F_{heavy}$	$F_{Total}$	Steam consumption (kg steam/l of bioethanol)
AB	1.85	294.87	$>10^{30}$	25.01	1.78
ABB1	2.10	307.83	$>10^{30}$	28.31	1.80
AA1DBB1	2.53	309.83	$>10^{30}$	33.85	2.17



Double-effect integration of multicomponent alcoholic distillation columns

Larissa C.B.A. Bessa , Fabio R.M. Batista , Antonio J.A. Meirelles



Performance and cost evaluation of a new double-effect integration of multicomponent bioethanol distillation

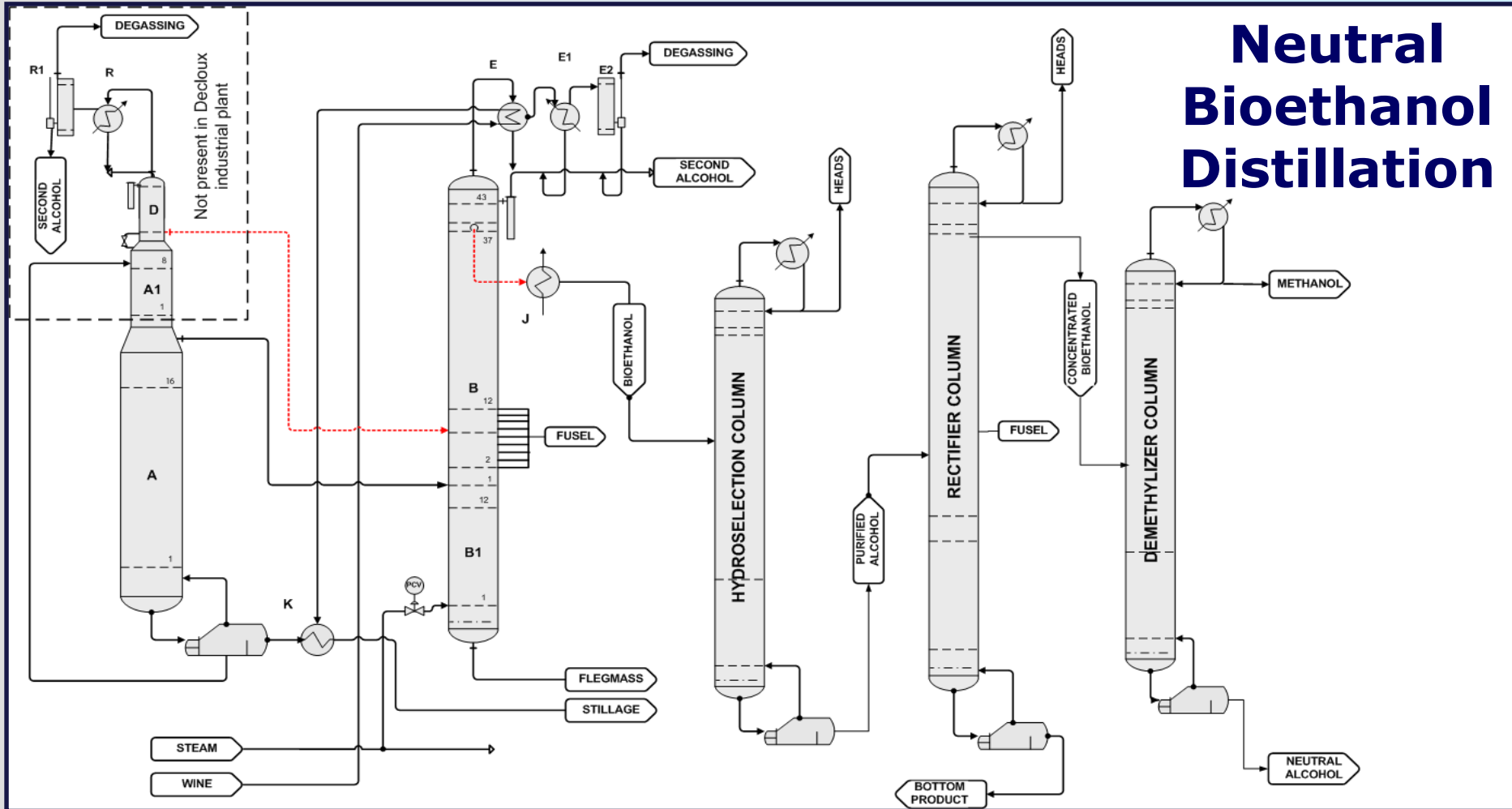
Larissa C.B.A. Bessa , M.C. Ferreira , Eduardo A.C. Batista , Antonio J.A. Meirelles

**Table 6**  
Results for the conventional and integrated processes.

Parameter	Conventional	Integrated	
Specific steam consumption (SSC)	2.151	0.995	
Ethanol recovery (ER)	99.21	99.26	
		HP	LP
$(\sum w_m)_P$	$1.16 \times 10^{-2}$	$7.98 \times 10^{-3}$	$8.28 \times 10^{-3}$
Purification factor (PF)	1.844	2.692	2.592
Distillate ethanol content	0.930	0.930	0.930

**Heat integration techniques still scarcely used in the industrial practice**

# Neutral Bioethanol Distillation



## Separation and Purification Technology

Volume 118, 30 October 2013, Pages 784–793



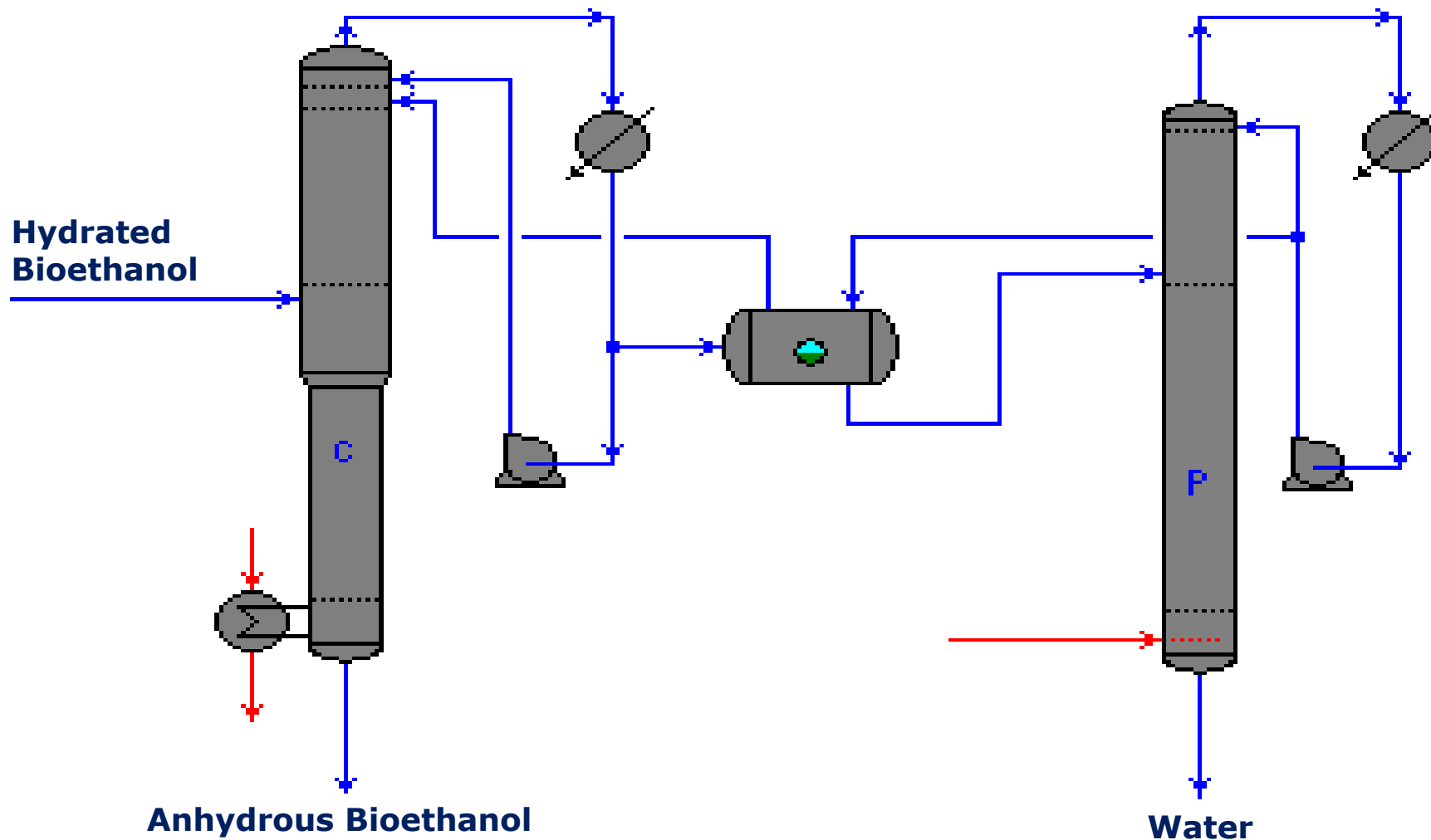
ELSEVIER

### A new distillation plant for neutral alcohol production

Fabio R.M. Batista , Luis A. Follegatti-Romero , Antonio J.A. Meirelles 

	Plant	New Plant
<b>Steam</b> (Kg/L)	5.22	5.22
$N_{Trays}$	279	144
<b>F</b>	8250	8804

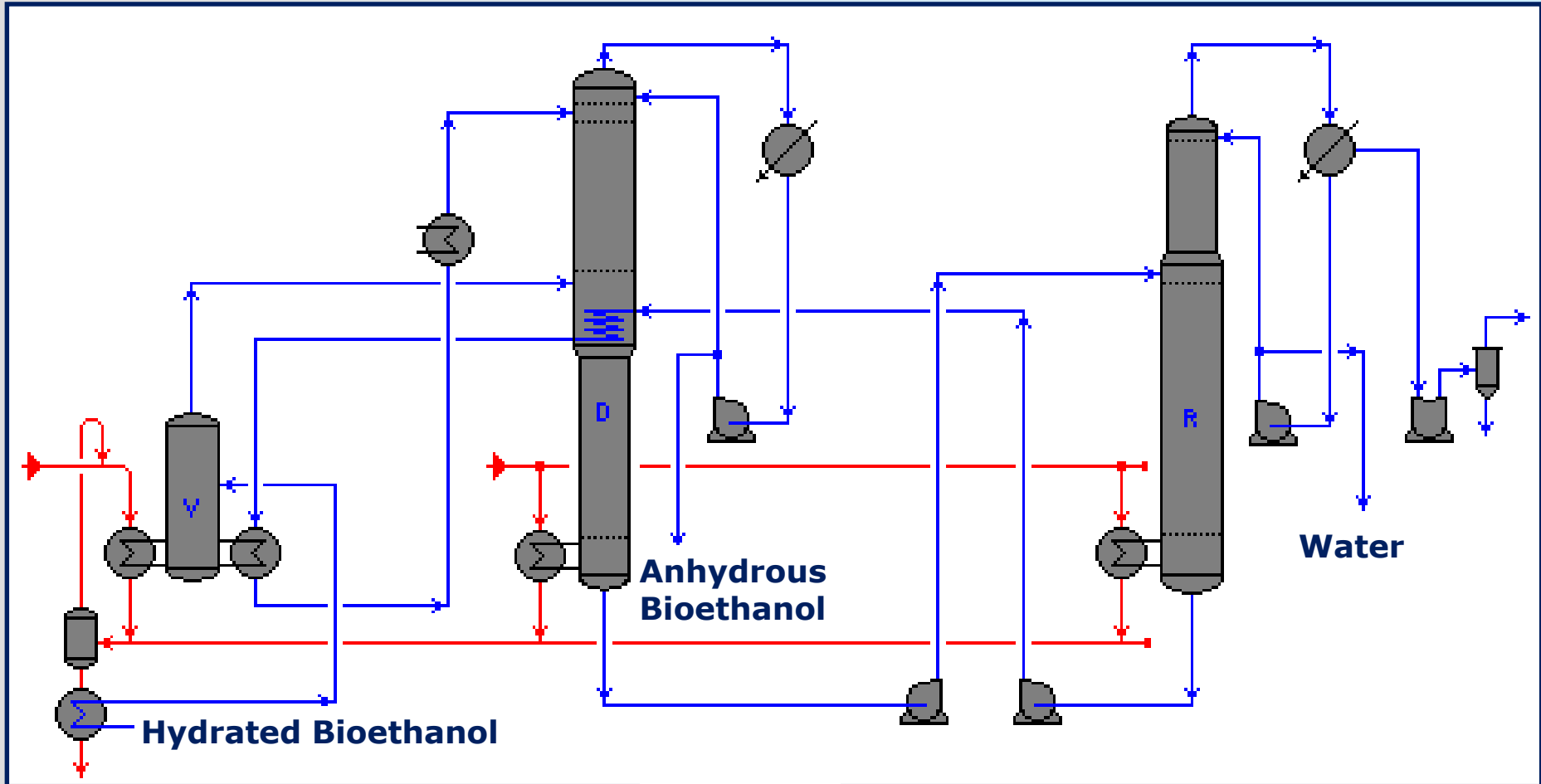
# Dehydration by Azeotropic Distillation with Cycle-Hexane



**Total Low Pressure Steam**

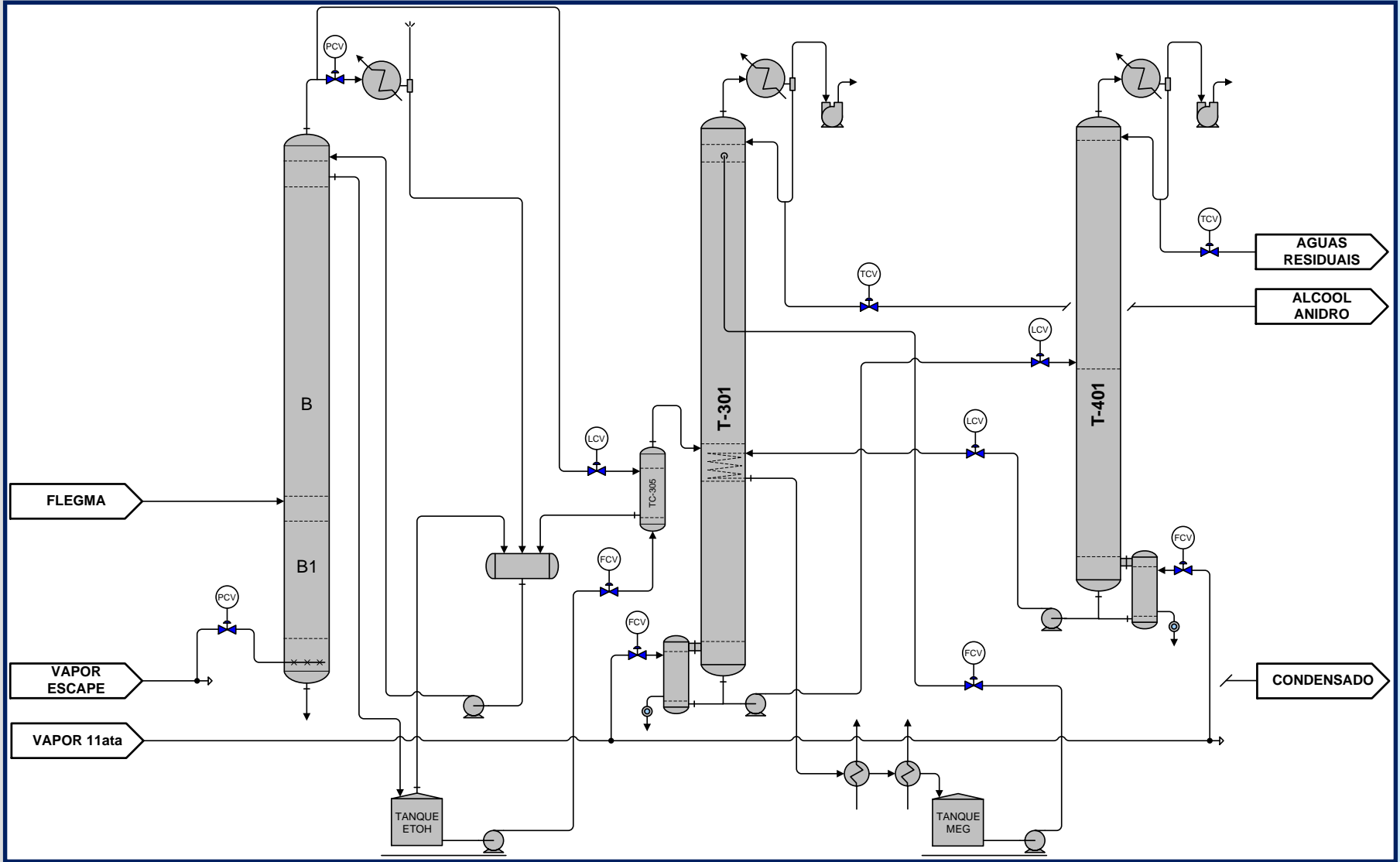
**1.50-1.60 Kg/L**

# Dehydration by Extractive Distillation with MEG



Model	Low Pressure Steam	High Pressure Steam	Total
Liquid Feed	0.30 Kg/L	0.40-0.50 Kg/L	0.70-0.80 Kg/L

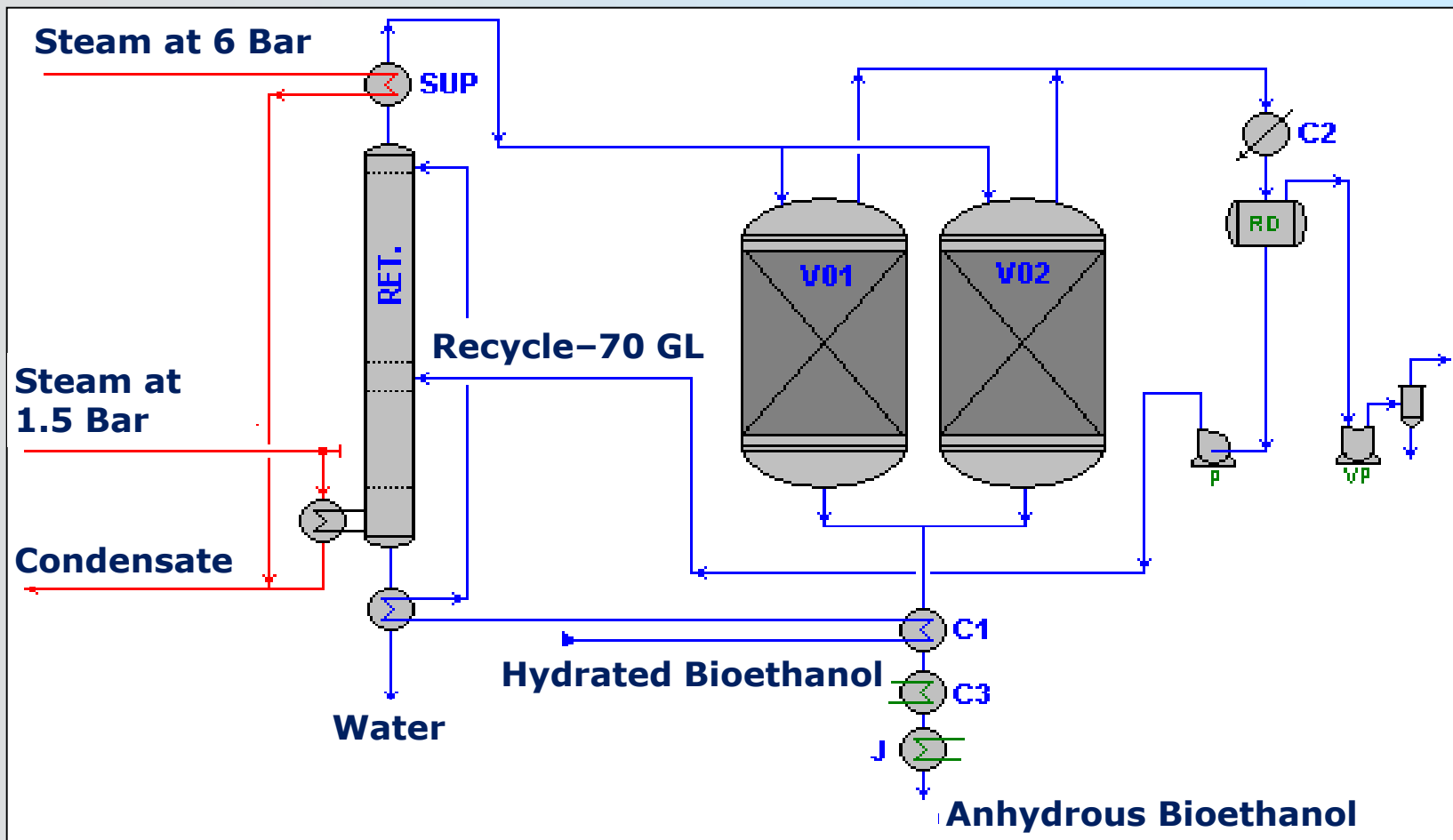
# Dehydration by Extractive Distillation with MEG



Model	High Pressure Steam	Total
Vapor Feed	0,40-0.50 Kg/L	0,40-0.50 Kg/L



# MOLECULAR SIEVE



Low Pressure Steam	High Pressure Steam	Total
0.40-0.50 Kg/L	0.10 Kg/L	0.50-0.60 Kg/L

Approximate Market Share		
AD with Cycle-Hexane	ED with MEG	Mol. Sieve
55 %	30 %	15 %



ELSEVIER



## Evaluation of process configurations for second generation integrated with first generation bioethanol production from sugarcane

Marina O.S. Dias<sup>a, b</sup>, Tassia L. Junqueira<sup>a, b</sup>, Carlos Eduardo V. Rossell<sup>a, b</sup>, Rubens Maciel Filho<sup>a, b</sup>, Antonio Bonomi<sup>a</sup>



## Cogeneration in integrated first and second generation ethanol from sugarcane

Marina O.S. Dias<sup>a</sup>, Tassia L. Junqueira<sup>a, b</sup>, Stavio Cavalett<sup>a</sup>, Marcelo P. Cunha<sup>a</sup>, Charles D.F. Jesus<sup>a</sup>, Paulo E. Mantelatto<sup>a</sup>, Carlos E.V. Rossell<sup>a</sup>, Rubens Maciel Filho<sup>a, b</sup>, Antonio Bonomi<sup>a, b</sup>

**I&EC** research  
Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research

## Study of the Fusel Oil Distillation Process

Marcela C. Ferreira, Antonio J. A. Meirelles, and Eduardo A. C. Batista\*

ExTrAE, Laboratory of Extraction, Applied Thermodynamics and Equilibrium, Department of Food Engineering, Faculty of Food Engineering, University of Campinas-UNICAMP, 13083-862, Campinas, SP, Brazil

*Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.*, 2013, 52 (6), pp 2336–2351

Furlan et al. *Biotechnology for Biofuels* 2013, 6:142  
<http://www.biotechnologyforbiofuels.com/content/6/1/142>



Biotechnology  
for Biofuels

RESEARCH

Open Access

## Bioelectricity versus bioethanol from sugarcane bagasse: is it worth being flexible?

Felipe F Furlan<sup>1</sup>, Renato Tonon Filho<sup>1</sup>, Fabio HPB Pinto<sup>1</sup>, Caliane BB Costa<sup>1,2</sup>, Antonio JG Cruz<sup>1,2</sup>, Raquel LC Giordano<sup>1,2</sup> and Roberto C Giordano<sup>1,2\*</sup>

## Some Industrial Constraints nowadays and in the future

Wine alcoholic content	$\geq 8-11$ °GL (HAC $\rightarrow$ 16 °GL)
Distillation Yield	$\geq 99\%$
Ethanol loss in stillage	$\leq 200$ Mg/Kg
Steam (hydrated)	$\leq 1.8-2.2$ kg/L
Steam (anhydrous)	$\leq 0.4-1.6$ kg/L
Plant Scale and Economies of Scale	<b>300-1.200</b> m <sup>3</sup> /day
Wine with molasses	<b>Incrustation in Column A</b>

### Questions to be investigated

#### 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation

1. Are new configurations for distilling bioethanol possible, for instance, flexible configurations for producing bioethanol of different standards in the same plant?
2. Control loops in distillation unities are optimal or should be optimized?
3. Are other combinations of adsorption and distillation possible, than the alternatives used in the industrial practice.

- 4. New configurations, new control loops, new combinations of adsorption and distillation affect or not the suggested heat integration procedures?**
- 5. Are new heat integration techniques possible?**
- 6. Are new distillation techniques (parastillation, divided wall column distilling - DWC, secondary reflux and vaporization – SRV, etc.) cost competitive and viable in bioethanol distillation?**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Generation and Modern Purification Techniques**

- 1. How will the Contaminants added/produced during Pre-Treatment and Hydrolysis of lignocellulosic residues affect distillation, adsorption and/or membrane separation?**
- 2. Can membrane technology/pervaporation replace distillation and/or adsorption technologies and compete with them in cost?**
- 3. In the long run can membranes resist, without loss in efficiency, to the contact with the alcoholic wine and its contaminants?**
- 4. Can membrane technology/pervaporation be combined with distillation and/or adsorption technologies in a optimized way?**

# **Bioethanol, Heat Integration, Bioproducts and Other Biofuels**

- 1. Are there new possibilities of heat integration involving bioethanol purification steps and other unit operations related with sugar and bioethanol production?**
- 2. What are the heat integration possibilities in the production of other possible biofuels derived from sugarcane, such as biobutanol and 2,5-Dimethylfuran (DMF)?**
- 3. What are the possibilities of integration in the simultaneous production of bioethanol, biobutanol and/or 2,5-Dimethylfuran (DMF)?**
- 4. What are the possibilities of integration in the purification steps related to the simultaneous production of bioethanol and ethyl biodiesel, considering lignocellulosic residues of oil plants (oil palm trees, for instance), the oils seeds used as crops in the recovery of sugarcane land, and the relatively high sugar content of some oil plants?**
- 5. Are there other possibilities of adding value to byproducts of bioethanol and other sugar-derived biofuels, such as fusel oil?**

# Thank you for your attention

## Acknowledgments:

