# Refurbishment of catalytic tar reformer and project on green gasoline



John Bøgild Hansen, Haldor Topsøe A/S IEA Meeting, Skive, October 25, 2017



# We have been committed to catalytic process technology for more than 70 years

- Founded in 1940 by Dr. Haldor Topsøe
- Revenue: 700 million Euros
- 2400 employees
- Headquarters in Denmark
- Catalyst manufacture in Denmark and the USA

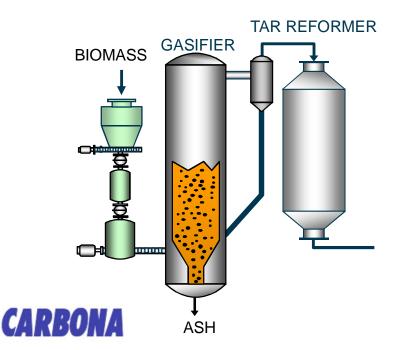




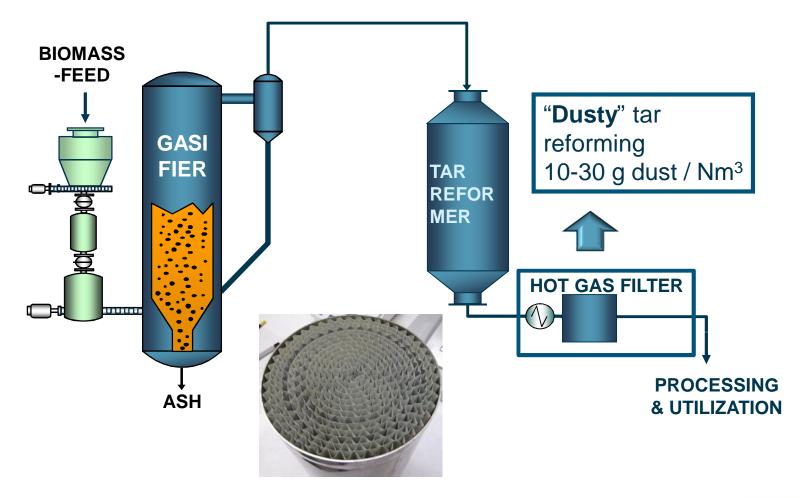


# Tar reforming – Enabling technology for biomass gasification

- Gasification of biomass results in a syngas that contains tars and contaminants
  - 1000 -2500 ppm tar
  - 50 100 ppm S, particulates
  - 850-930°C, 1-30 bar g
  - Ammonia decomposition



### "Dusty" tar reforming



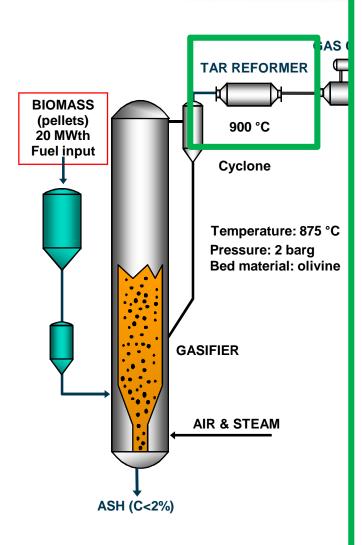
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## Skive Fjernvarme a.m.b.a. (Skive CHP)

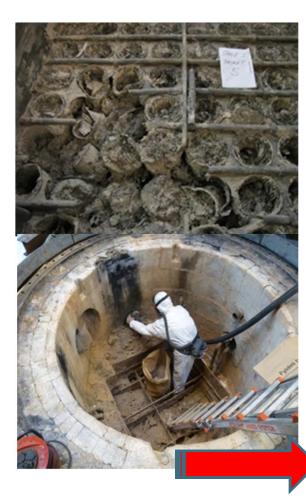
Location	Skive, Denmark	
Capacity	<b>21 MW<sub>th</sub></b> , Max 28 MW <sub>th</sub>	
Operational year	2009	
Fuel consumption	100 TPD	
Fuel	Biomass, wood pellets	
Gasification techn.	Air blown, bubbling fluidized bed	
Pressure range	1 – 3 bar g	
Power generation	Gas engines	



### **Biomass Gasification Gas Engine**



### Tar reforming reactor before revamp 2014:



- Poor control  $\rightarrow$ Unstable operation
- Damaged internals
- Troublesome catalyst replacement
- Poor working environment.

### Lower productivity

Copyright Carbona INC Finland

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### The rebuild tar reformer

has several advantages...

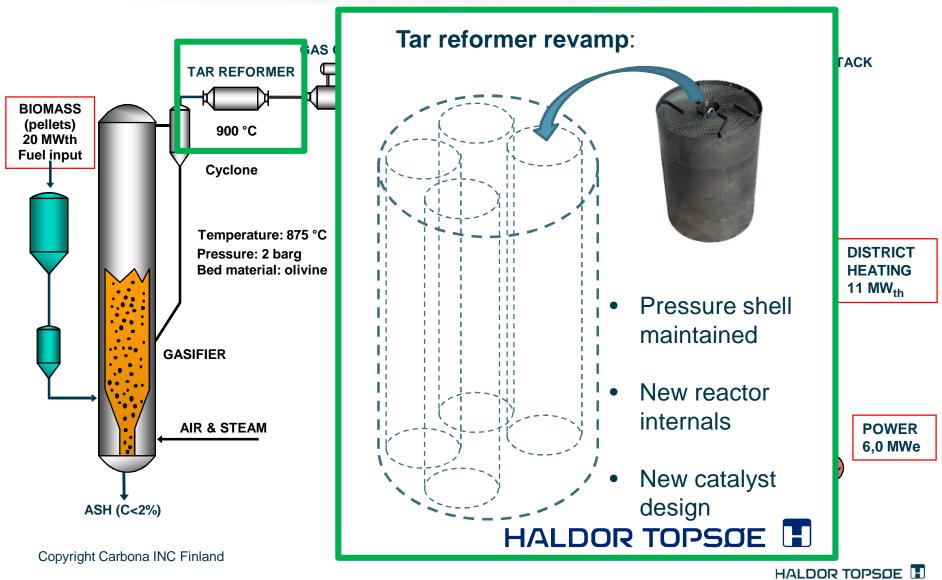


### Improvements:

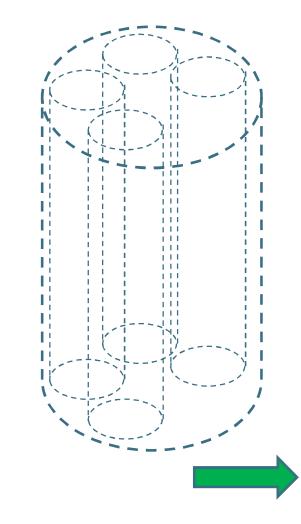
- Improved design of reactor internals
- Faster and easier catalyst replacement
- Much better working environment
- Efficient dust blowing
- Improved design of catalyst
- Better dust handling  $\rightarrow$  increased utilization
- Improved process control
- Robust long-term activity  $\rightarrow$  longer lifetime

Increased stable operation hours

### **Biomass Gasification Gas Engine**



### The robust tar reformer



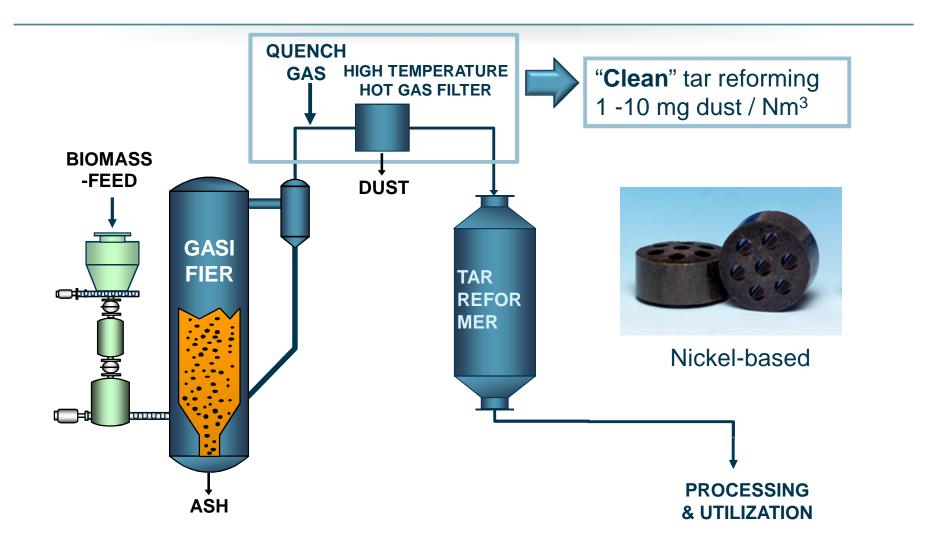


The new design of the reformer has led to

- less dust deposition
- better dust blasting
- controlled regeneration of the monoliths

Increased operation hours and longer lifetime of the monoliths.

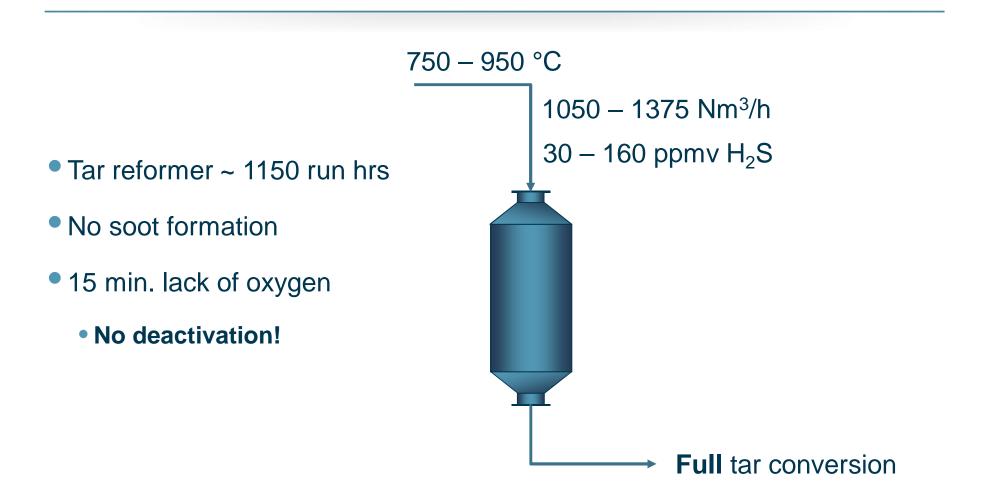
### "Clean" tar reforming



## Gas Technology Institute, Chicago

Location	Chicago, USA	
Capacity	~ 4 MW <sub>th</sub>	
Fuel consumption	18 TPD	
Fuel	Biomass, wood pellets	
Gasification techn.	Oxygen blown, bubbling fluidized bed	
Pressure range	1-9 bar g	

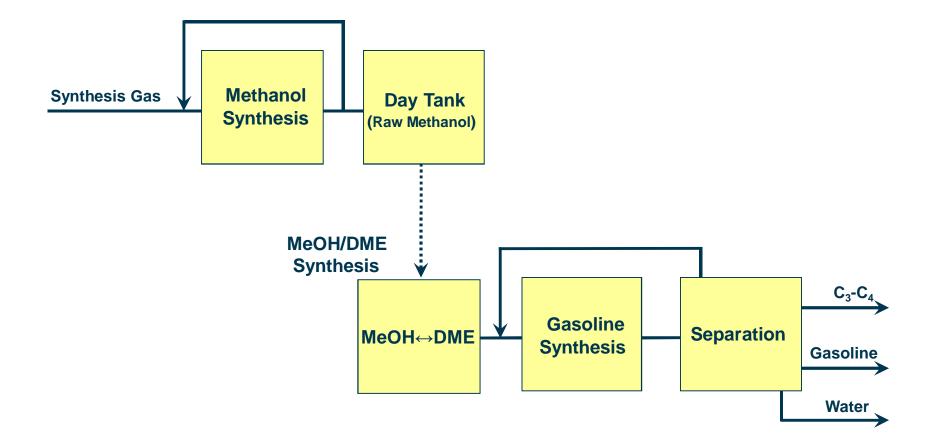
### Gas Technology Institute, Chicago



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### Topsøe Metgened Toasatiolin&ynthesis



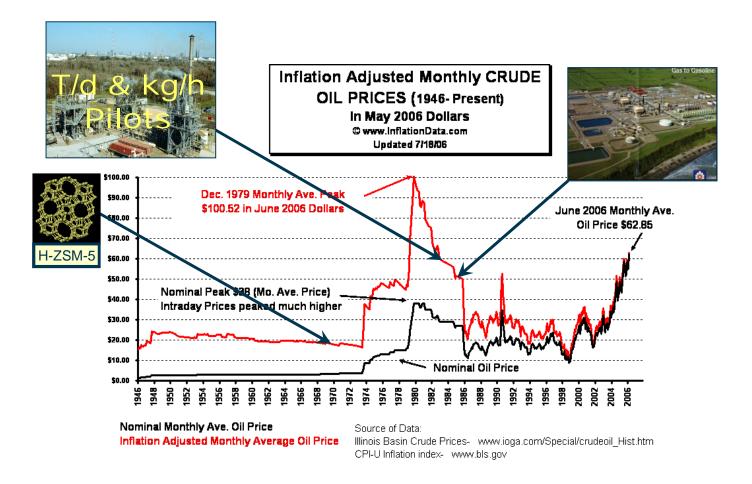
### **TIGAS** Demonstrationsanlæg

### I T/d; > 7000 timer, Houston, Texas, USA



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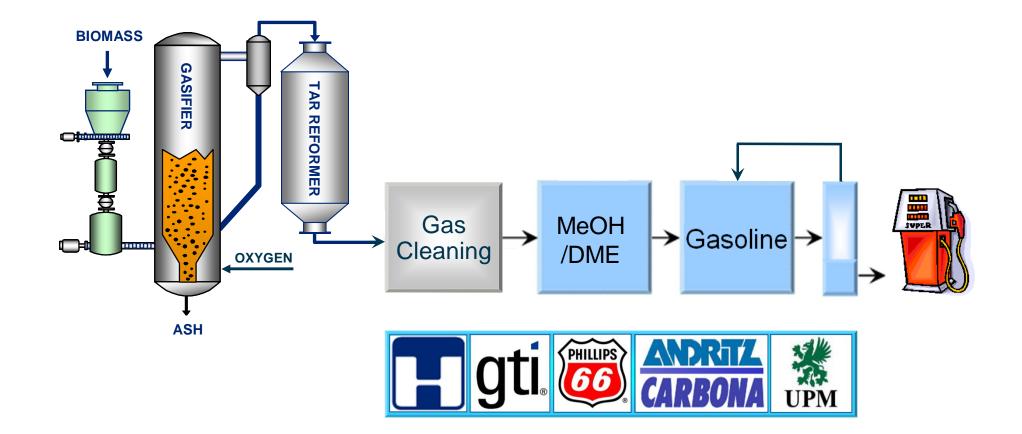
### **Historical Perspective**





### 25 bbl/d Demonstration Plant

Green Gasoline from Wood Using Carbona Gasification and Topsoe TIGAS Processes

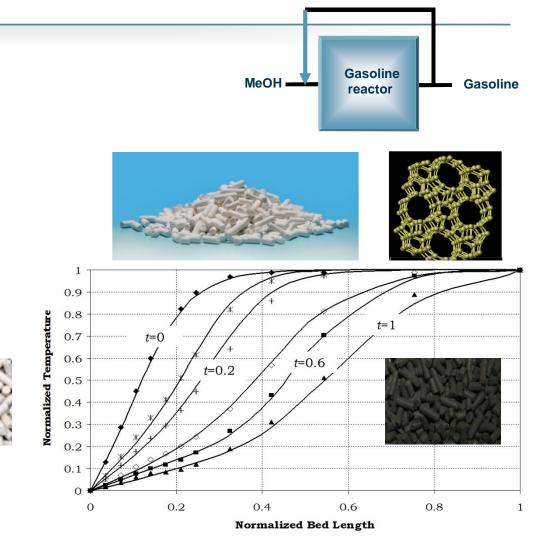






### Methanol to gasoline (MTG)

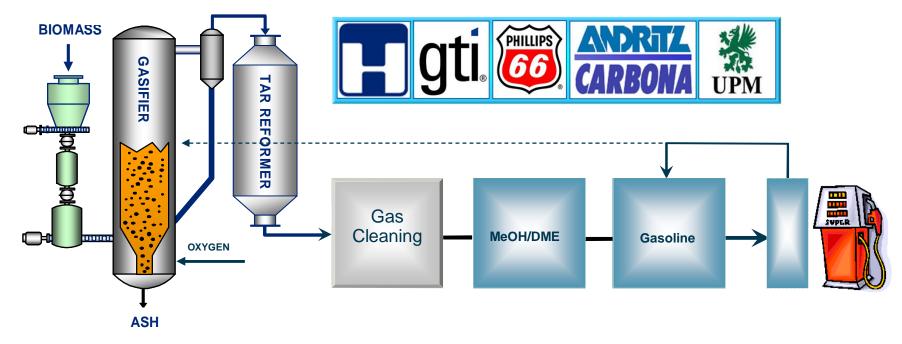
- 290-430°C
- 15-20 barg
- WHSV =  $0.8 2.6 h^{-1}$  fixed bed
- Gasoline reactor: ZSM-5
- Cycle length: 10-40 days
- Lifetime: 1-2 years





### **Biogasoline Demonstration Plant**

Green Gasoline from Wood Using Carbona Gasification and Topsoe TIGAS Processes



Entire value chain: biomass in  $\rightarrow$  gasoline out



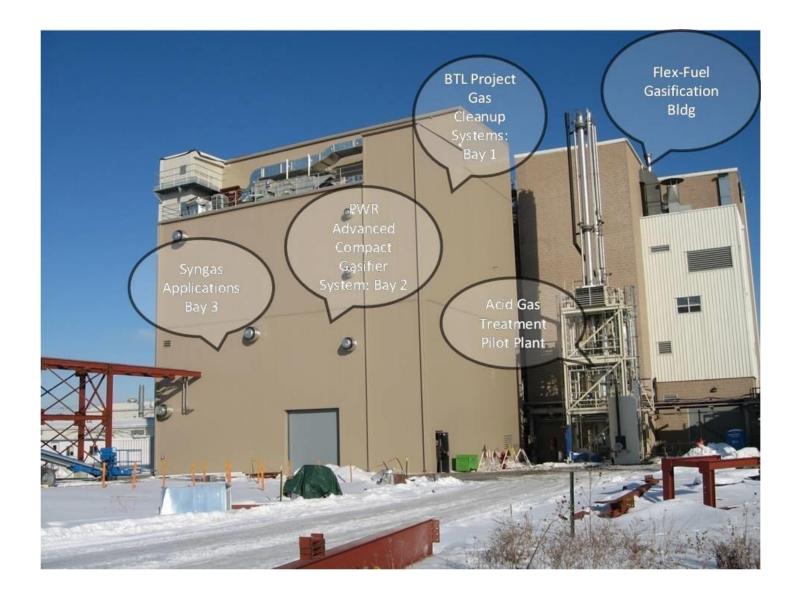
### **Biorefinery facility**



# **gti**<sub>®</sub>

- Gasification & Tar reforming (existing)
- Morphysorb<sup>®</sup> AGR unit (existing)
- Utility units & control system (existing)
- Syngas compression (new)
- TIGAS synthesis unit (new)
- Gasoline & waste water tanks (new)















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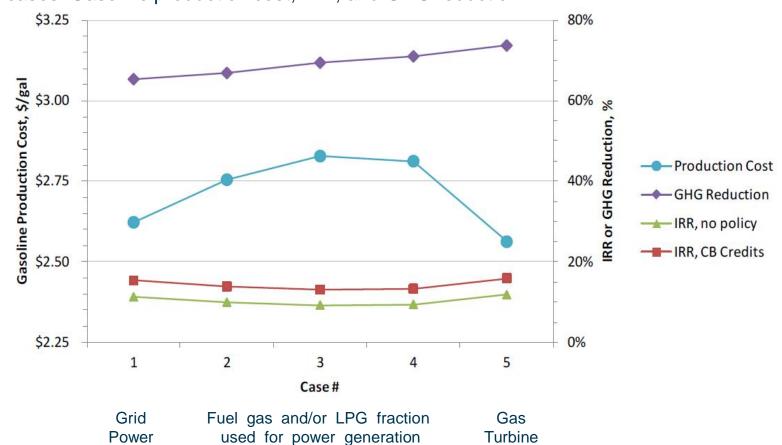
### Gasoline testing

- Engine emissions testing at Southwest Research Institute
  - Tested a 80/20 high biomass TIGAS/gasoline blend.
  - Emission levels better than for conventional gasoline.
  - Found to be "substantially similar" to conventional gasoline
- Fleet test
  - Testing 8 vehicles (EPA Standard Road Cycle)
    - 2 Camry (2.5 L PFI)
    - 2 Corolla (1.8 L PFI)
    - 2 F-150 (3.5 L V6 EcoBoost®),
    - 2 Fusion (1.5 L EcoBoost®)
- Commercial gasoline vs. 50% biogasoline blend
- Accumulate 75,000 miles per vehicle
- Engine inspections
- Engine emission tests @ 4000 & 75,000 miles





### Economics



### 5 cases: Gasoline production cost, IRR, and GHG reduction

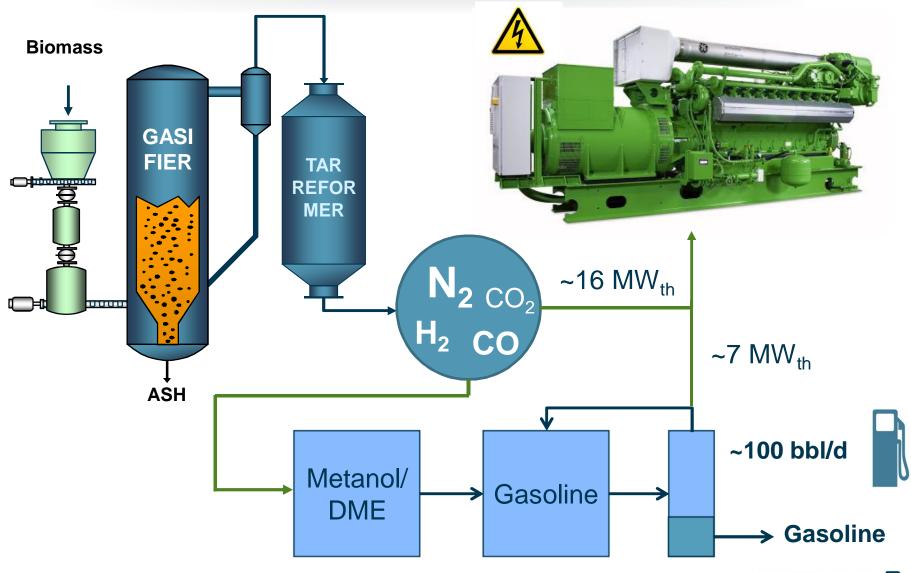


### Summary

- MTG: direct conversion of methanol to gasoline
- Topsøe MTG: TIGAS is a versatile technology for conversion of syngas to gasoline
- Escalating share of unpredictable renewable energy
  - is a challenge to balancing supply/demand balance in the power grid
  - adds increasing demand to standby backup capacity
  - · increases overflow frequency
- Co-production of power and fuel
  - is a feasible solution to counteract imbalances
  - improves overall system flexibility
  - maximizes operator revenue
- Simplicity and efficiency makes TIGAS suitable for co-generation
  - through integration with IGCC or traditional power plants
  - enabling air-blown gasification of biomass
  - providing fast response to load variations
  - and providing maximum fuel/power flexibility

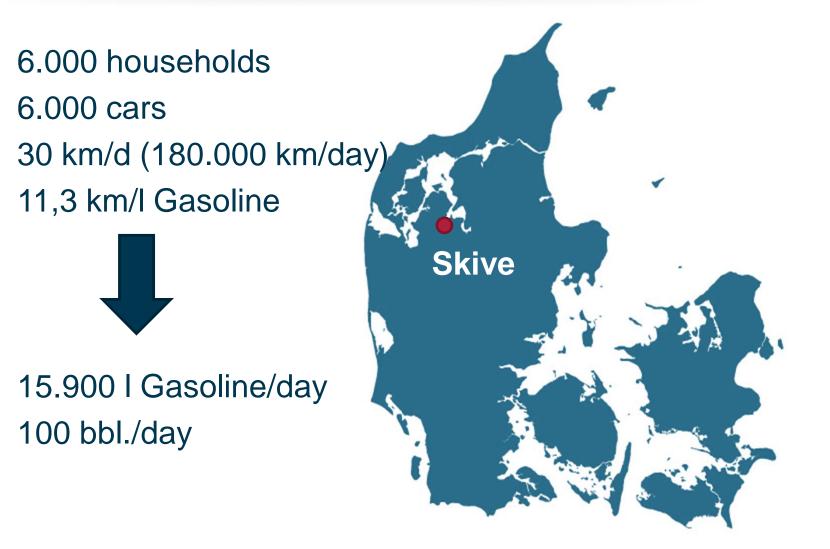


### Thought experiment



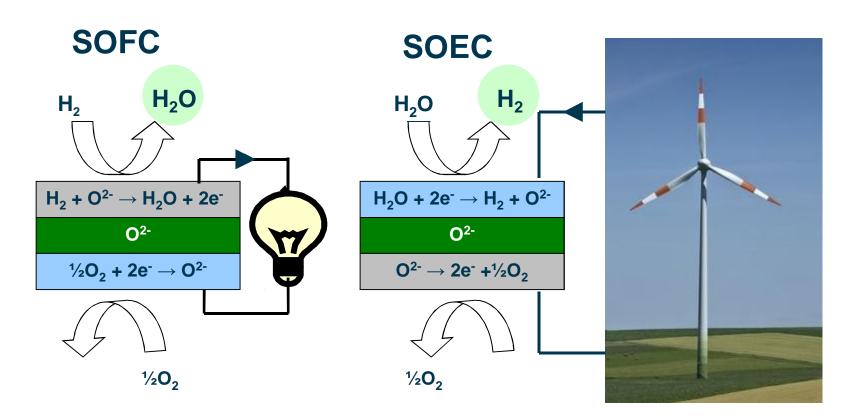
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# Skive > 20.000 citizens





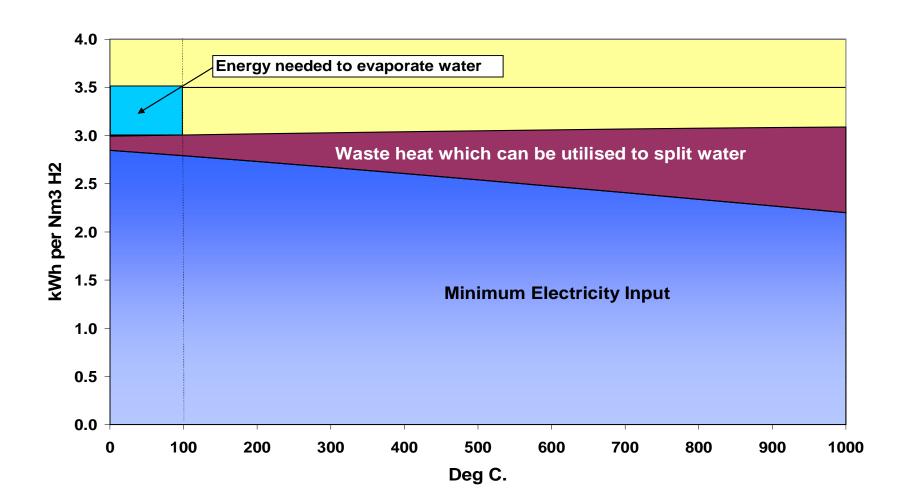
### **Fuel Cell and Electrolyser**



 $H_2 + CO + O_2 \xrightarrow{\text{SOF}} H_2O + CO_2 + \text{electric energy } (\triangle G) + \text{heat } (T \triangle S)$ SOEC

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## SOEC more efficient than present Electrolysers Internal waste heat used to split water



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### Biogas upgrade by means of SOEC

## $CH_4 + CO_2 + 3H_2O + EI \rightarrow 2CH_4 + H_2O + 2O_2$





# New EUDP project 50 kW SOEC and 10 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h methane



### Participants: Haldor Topsøe A/S Aarhus University HMN Naturgas Naturgas Fyn EnergiMidt Xergi DGC PlanEnergi Ea Energianalyse



Coordinator: HALDOR TOPSOE

> Duration: June 2013 -Dec. 2017 Project sum: 5.3 mio € Location: Foulum





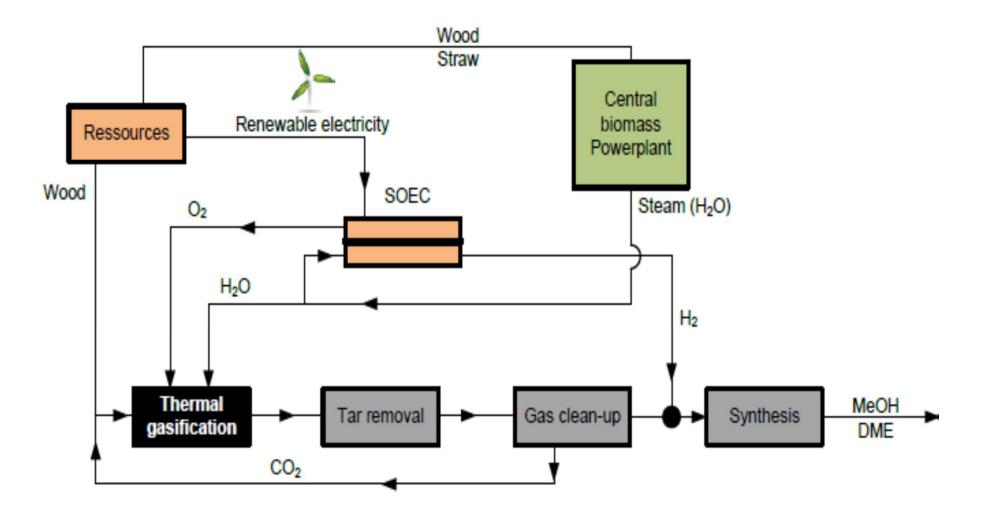


### Methanation and SOEC at Foulum



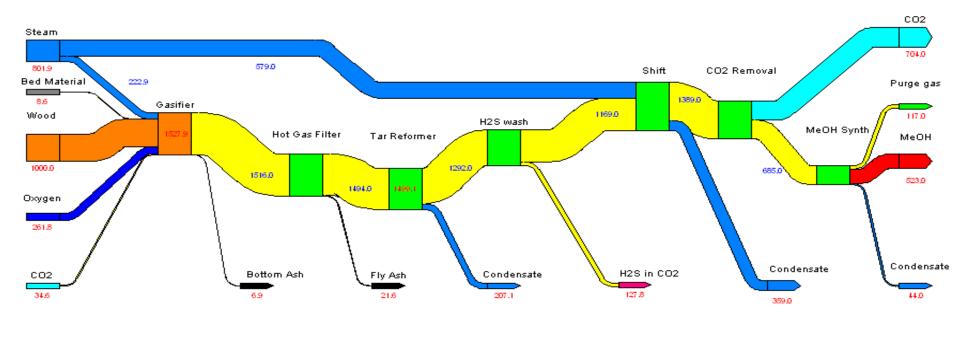
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### **GreenSynFuel Project**



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### Mass Flows in Wood to MeOH

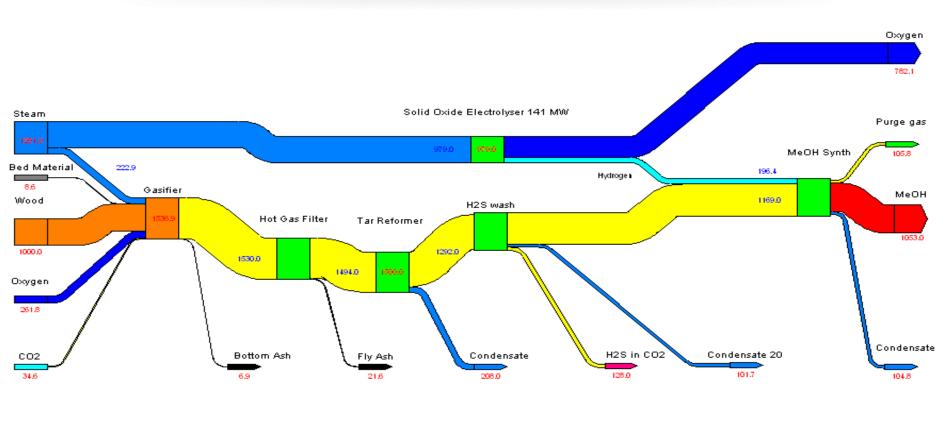


Mass balances for Wood Gasification to MeOH

Flows in Metric Tonsperday



### Mass Flows in Wood + SOEC to MeOH



Mass balances for combined Wood Gasification and SOEC to MeOH Flo

Flows in Metric Tons per day



# Effciencies: Stand alone wood gasifier and gasifier plus SOEC

LHV Efficiency %	Wood Gasifier alone	Wood gasifier Plus SOEC
Methanol	59.2	70.8
District Heat	22.6	10.8
Total	81.8	81.6