

HYDROCRACKING TECHNOLOGY





Contents



Unit Function

Feed / Products

Chemistry

Flow Scheme

Catalyst

Process Variables

Material Balance

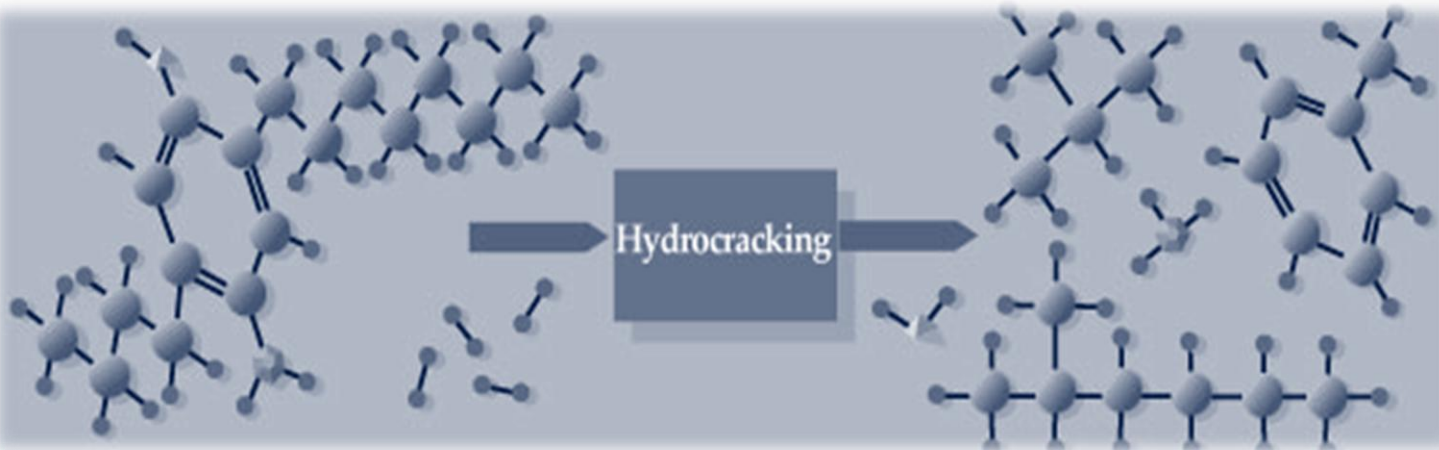
Main Equipments



Unit Function



Hydrocracker is a process that uses heat, pressure and a catalyst to break larger hydrocarbon molecules into smaller, lighter molecules and also converts heaviest and least desirable petroleum cuts , into marketable products.





Purpose Of HCK



- Converts high boiling points hydrocarbons of high molecular weight to lower molecular weights.
- Saturates olefins and aromatics
- Remove sulfur , nitrogen and Oxygen
- Producing a mixture of essentially pure paraffins, naphthenes, and aromatics.



Feed and Products



HCK feed stocks



The uncracking unit can be fed from different sources as blend from:-

- Atmospheric & Vacuum gas oil
- Coker gas oil
- FCC Cycle oil
- Blends of the above

In addition to

Hydrogen Makeup.



Unit products



- **Sour gases** are routed to refinery fuel gas system.
- **LPG** are routed to caustic wash system for further H₂S removal.
- **Naphtha** is sent to naphtha hydrotreater unit
- **Kerosene (JET FUEL)** is sent to storage tanks
- **Diesel** is sent to storage tanks
- **Unconverted oil** is sent to storage tanks.

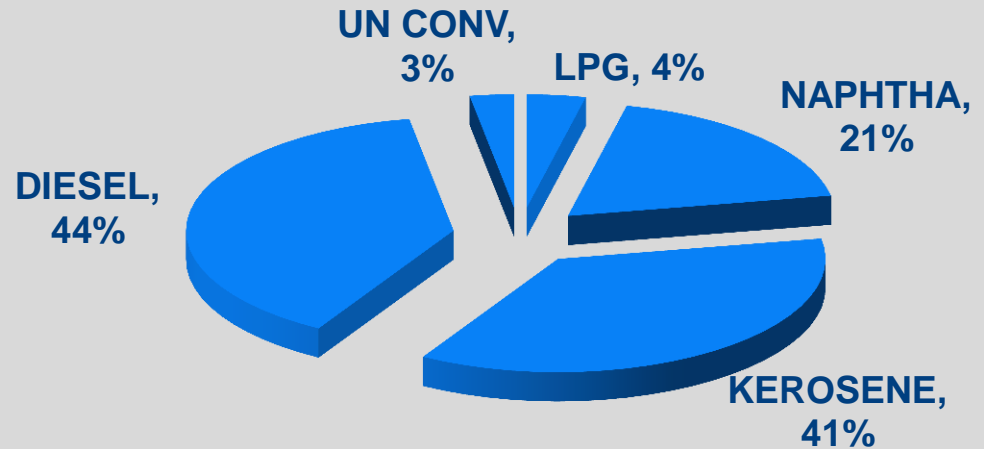


Volume Expansion



LPG	4%
Naphtha	21%
Kerosene	41%
Diesel	44%
UCO	3%

Product volume % from feed volume



Hydrocracking Chemistry



Reactions



Desired Reactions

- Treating to remove contaminants
- Cracking to obtain desired boiling range products.

Undesired Reactions

- Coking
- Condensation of PNA



Why pretreat feed stock ?



- Reduce temperature rise in cracking beds
- Extend cracking catalyst life time by removing feed metal.
- Protect cracking catalyst from plugging due to particulate
- Improve cracking catalyst effectiveness



Desired Reactions



Hydro treating Chemistry

1. Sulfur Removal
2. Nitrogen Removal
3. Oxygen Removal
4. Olefin Saturation
5. Metals Removal
6. Halides Removal



Sulfur Removal



➤ Mercaptan



➤ Sulfide



➤ Disulfide



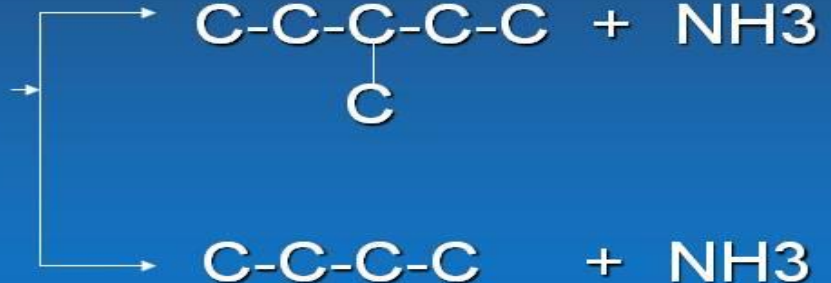


Nitrogen Removal



- A.(pyridine)

-
-
-
-
-
-





Oxygen Removal



■ A – PHENOLS





Olefin Saturation



■ A- LINEAR OLEFIN



■ B- CYCLIC OLEFIN





Metals Removal



Almost all the metals removal occurs at the top bed of the first reactor.

Metals are retained on the catalyst by a combination of adsorption and chemical reaction.

The catalyst has a certain maximum tolerance for retaining metals.



Halides Removal



Organic halides such as chloride and bromide, are decomposed in the reactor. The inorganic ammonium halides salts which are produced when the reactants are cooled are then dissolved by injecting wash water into the reactor effluent





Cracking chemistry



Extensive catalytic cracking followed by hydrogenation to form iso paraffins are the primary reactions. The rate of hydro cracking increases with the molecular weight of the paraffins.



Hydrocracker

Flow Scheme



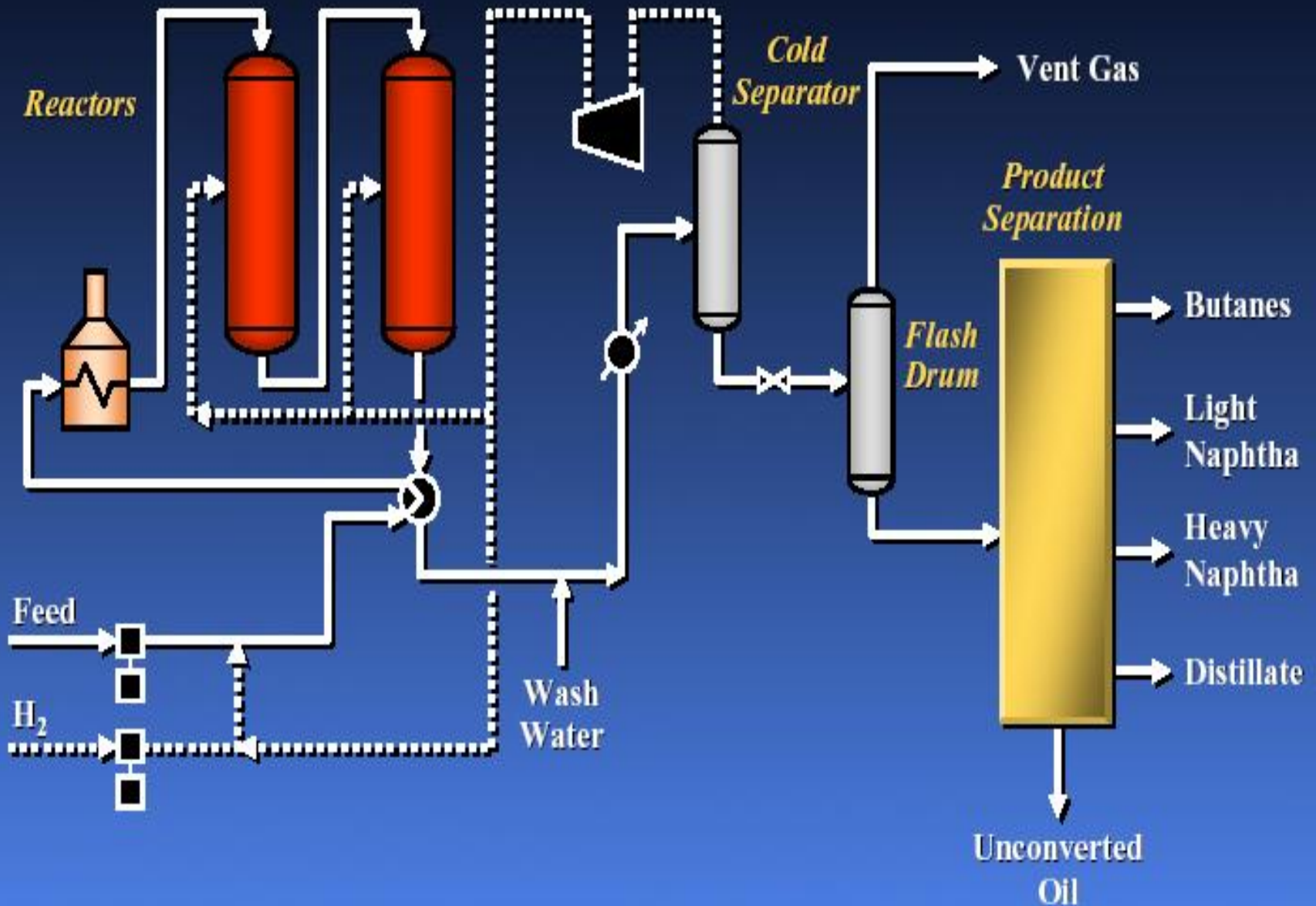
Flow Scheme



Hydrocracker could be classified according to its reactor section flow scheme as follows.

- Once-through
- Single Stage
- Two Stage
- Separate Hydrotreater

Once Through Flow Schemes



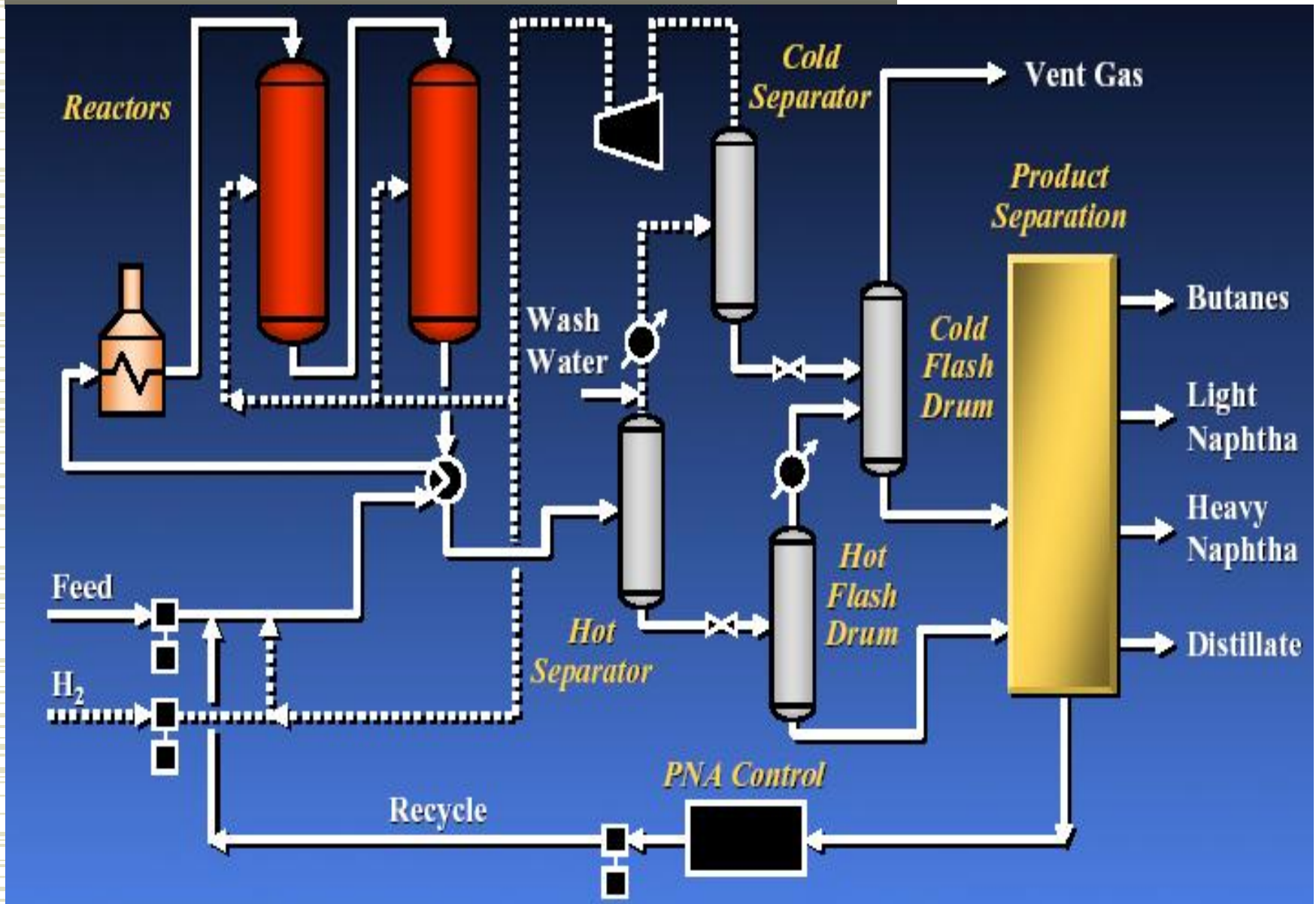


Once Through Flow Schemes Features



- Lowest cost.
- High feed rate.
- Process very high boiling feed stocks.
- Produces high value bottoms for FCC, and Lube oil.

Single Stage Flow Schemes





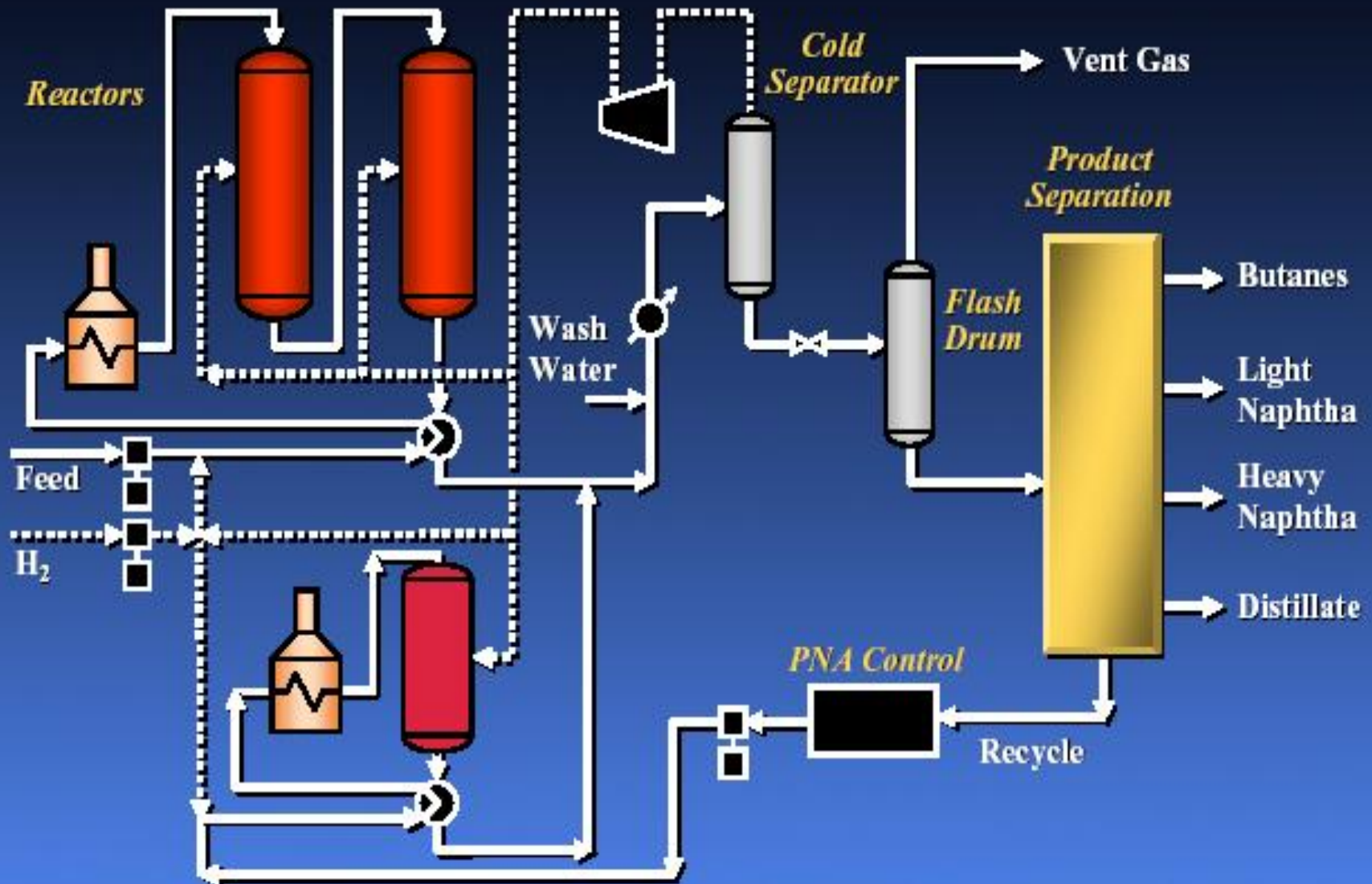
Single Stage Flow Schemes Features



- Moderate product slate and quality flexibility.
- Full conversion possible.
- PNA problem manageable.

Two Stage Flow Schemes

Two Stage Flow Scheme



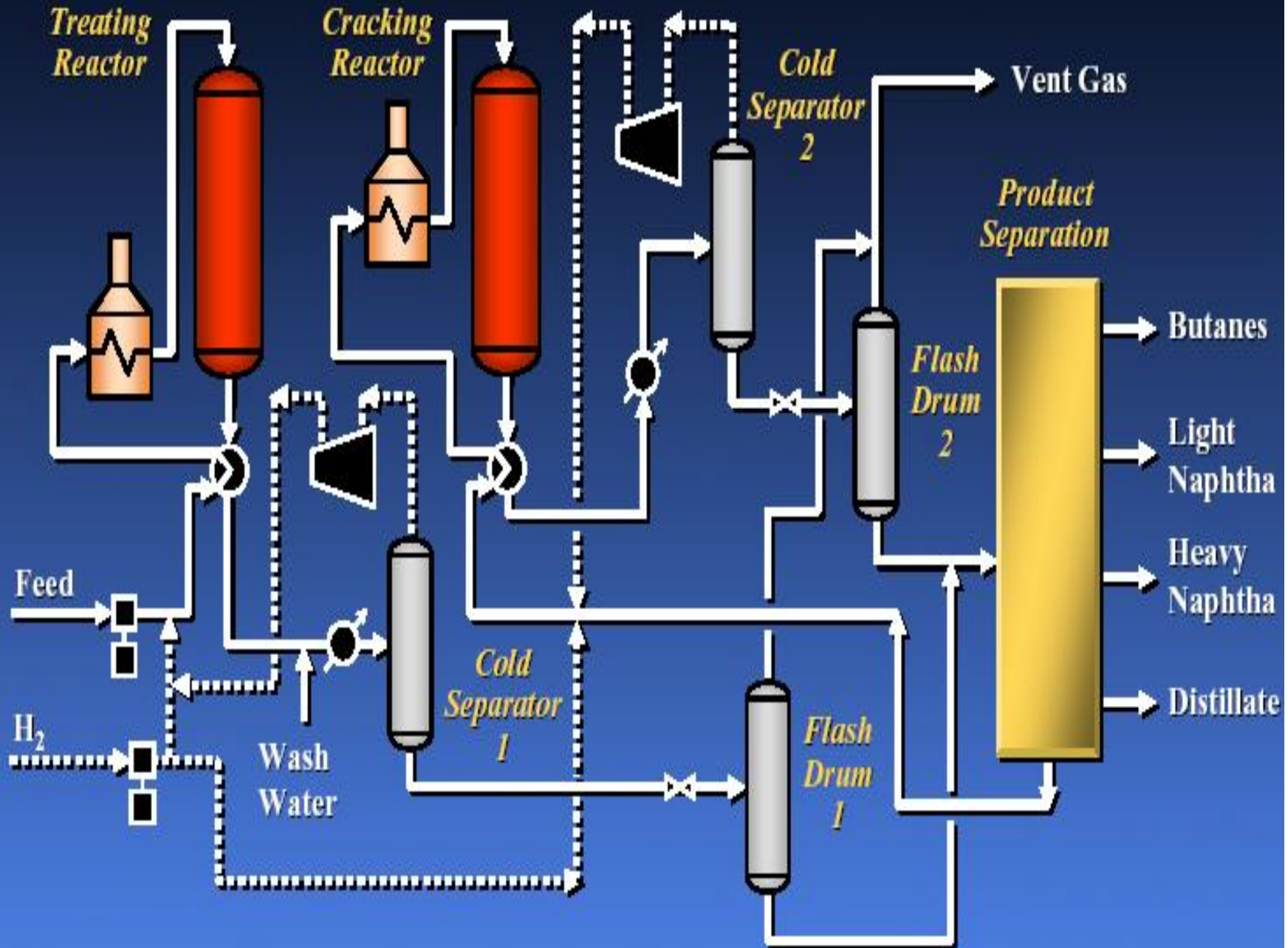


Two Stage Flow Schemes Features



- Most cost effective for large capacity units.
- High conversion with high throughputs.
- First stage is hydrotreating with some cracking while the second stage is only cracking.
- Provides high product quality and product slate flexibility as single stage.

Separate Hydrotreat Flow Schemes



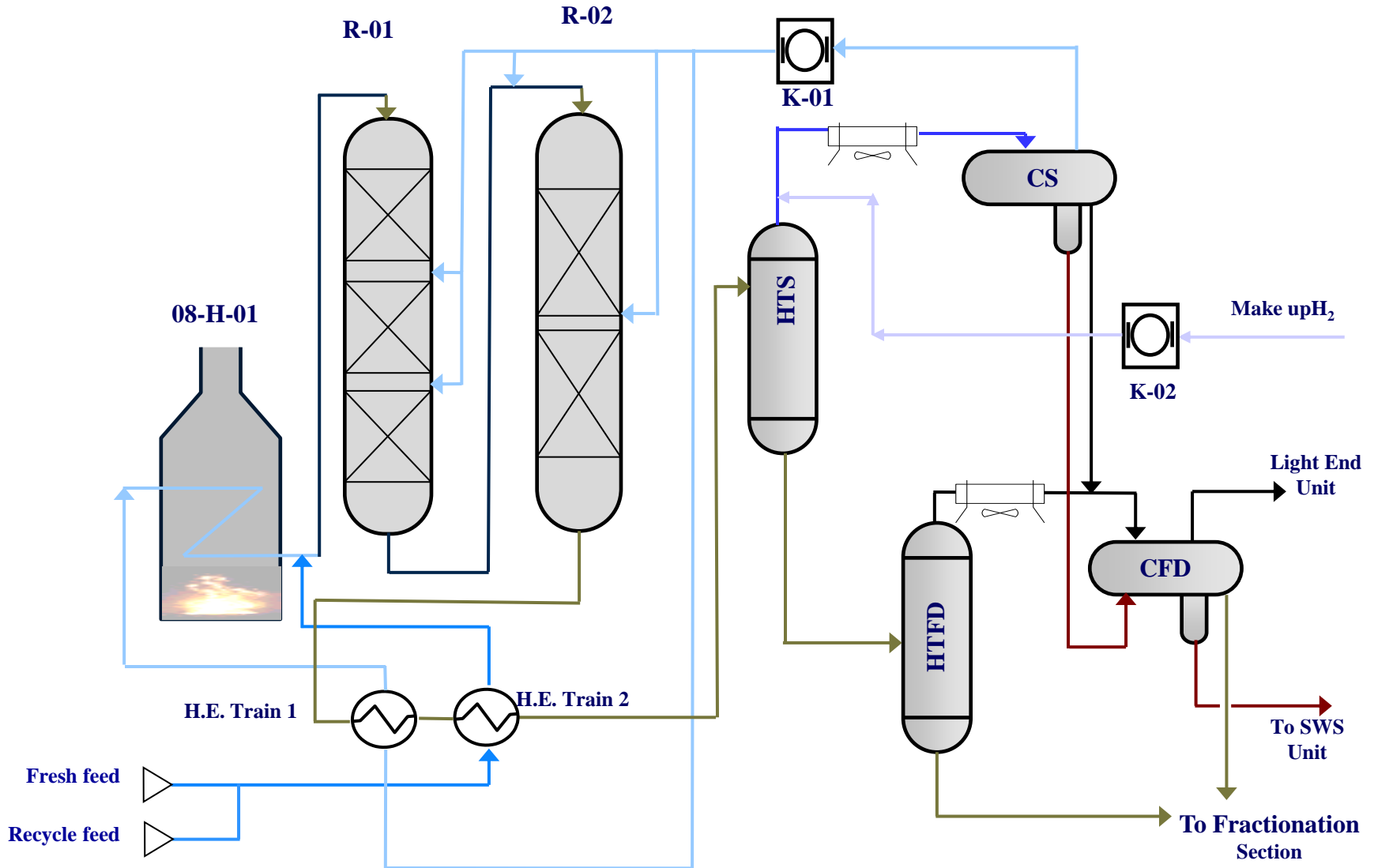


Separate Hydrotreat Flow Schemes Features

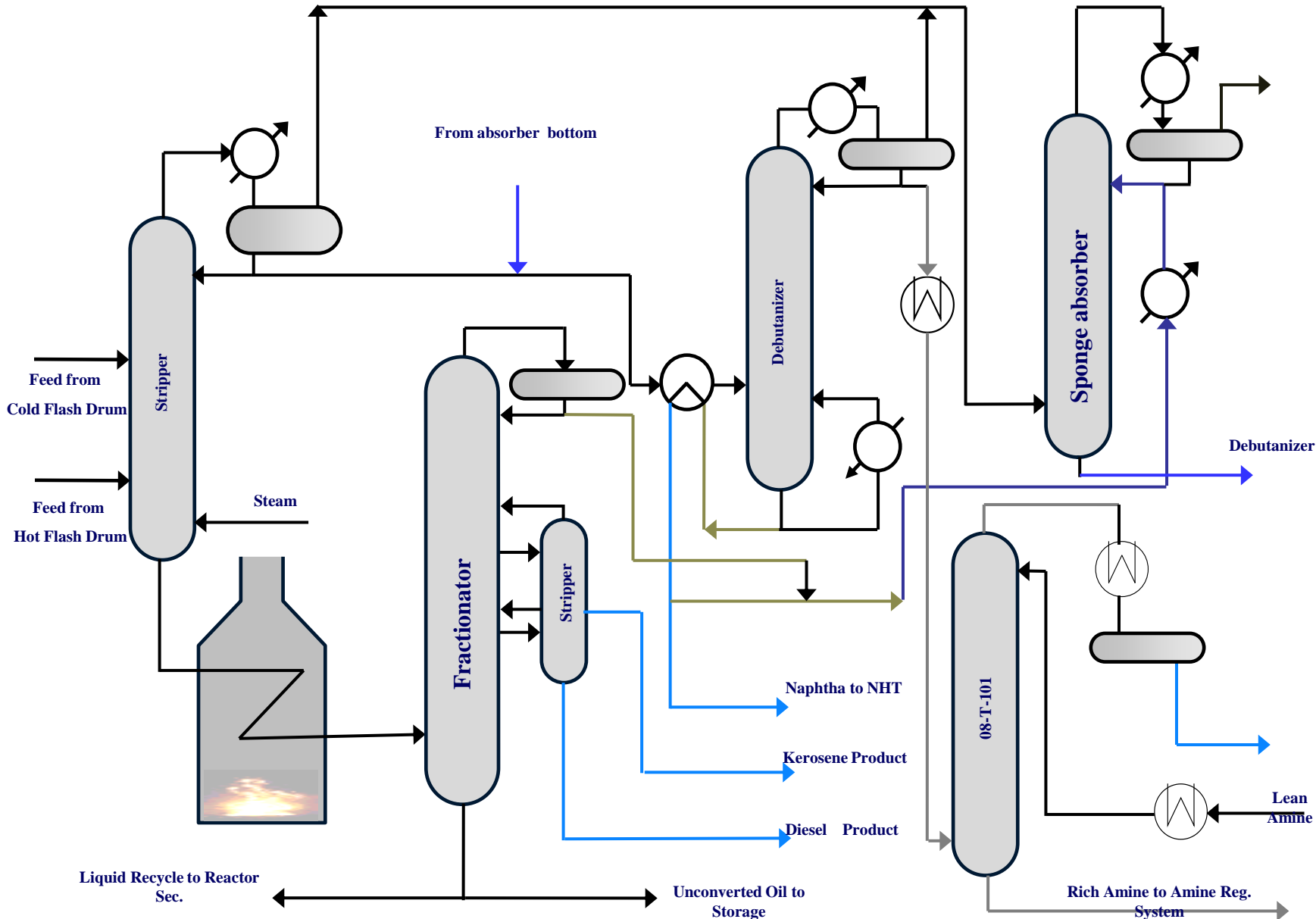


- Used when large amount of light hydrocarbons in feed.
- Used for high nitrogen in feed.
- Stage for hydrotreating only and another stage for cracking
- Used for special product quality or product slate requirement.

REACTION SECTION



FRACTIONATION SECTION



Hydrocracker Catalyst





Catalyst-What Is It?



- Catalyst is a substance that changes the rate of a reaction without itself being changed
- Enables a reaction to proceed at a faster rate.
- Can selectively favor certain reaction mechanisms over others



Keys of catalyst selection?



Initial activity

Stability

Selectivity

Product quality

Catalyst Deactivation





Catalyst Poisons



Permanent

Metals entrainment

Temporary

Coke formation

HPNA fouling

NH₃



Catalyst deactivation prediction



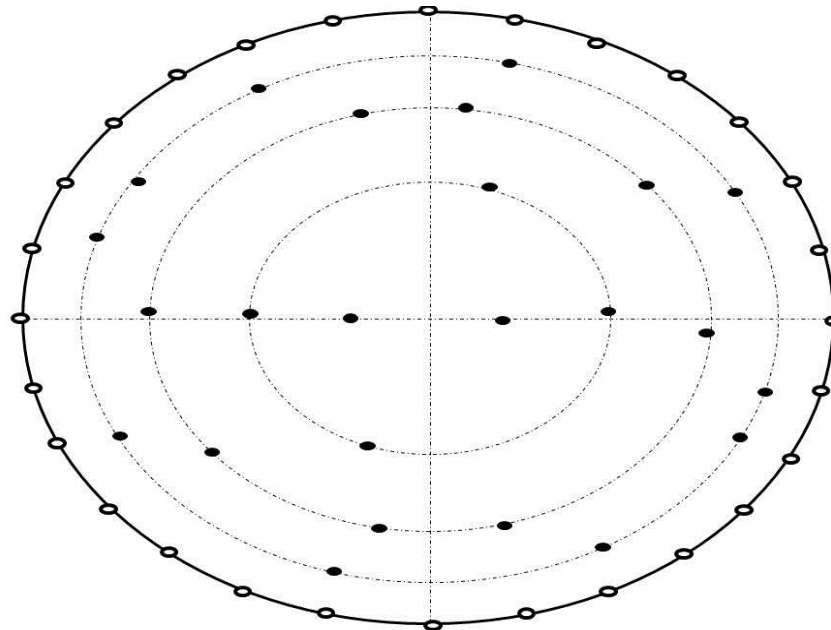
The rate of catalyst deactivation can be followed by plotting the average catalyst temperature required for conversion at daily conditions of charge rate, conversion and feed quality versus catalyst life or operating days-on-stream.



Temperature Monitoring



- Top and bottom of each bed
- Additional point in middle of long beds





Temperature Monitoring



- **Peak temperatures**
- **Radial Temperatures**
- **WABT**



Reactor Temperatures



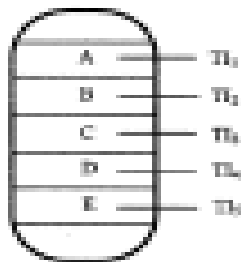
Weight Average Bed Temperature

Catalyst activity correlates to average bed temperature

SOR/EOR: 397 / 438 C

Attribute A Weight Fraction Of The Catalyst Bed To Each TI

For Example



A = 10% Catalyst Weight

B = 25% Catalyst Weight

C = 30% Catalyst Weight

D = 25% Catalyst Weight

E = 10% Catalyst Weight

Sum = 100% Catalyst Weight

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} & 0.10 \times T1 \\ & + 0.25 \times T2 \\ & + 0.30 \times T3 \\ & + 0.25 \times T4 \\ & + 0.10 \times T5 \\ \hline \text{WABT} & = 397^\circ\text{C} \end{aligned}$$

T1 = 385°C

T2 = 391

T3 = 398

T4 = 402

T5 = 407

Provides Common Variable For
Deactivation and Operating Conditions

Hydrocracker Process Variables



Reactor Temperatures



Reactor Inlet

Controlled to adjust the amount of conversion

Peak Temperatures

Maximum temperature on each bed

Temperature Rise

Represent Exothermic heat generated from each bed

Bed Radial Temperature

Measure the temperature difference in one elevation of the bed



Unit Conversion



Volume Percentage of feed that is converted to products in the unit

(All material boiling above 370 C converted to materials boiling below 370 C).

$$\text{Conversion} = \frac{\text{Fresh Feed} - \text{UCO}}{\text{Fresh Feed}} \times 100$$



Liquid Recycle



Recycle increases mass flow without increasing temperature rise, reducing reactor severity

$$CFR = \frac{\text{Feed Rate} + \text{Liquid Recycle Rate}}{\text{Feed Rate}} \times 100$$



Liquid Hour Space Velocity



Catalyst is designed for specific hydrocarbon flow

$$LHSV = \frac{\textit{Volumetric feed rate}}{\textit{Catalyst volume}}$$



Hydrogen Partial Pressure



- Promote saturation of olefin and aromatics
- Saturate the cracked hydrocarbons
- Prevents coke formation



Recycle Gas Rate



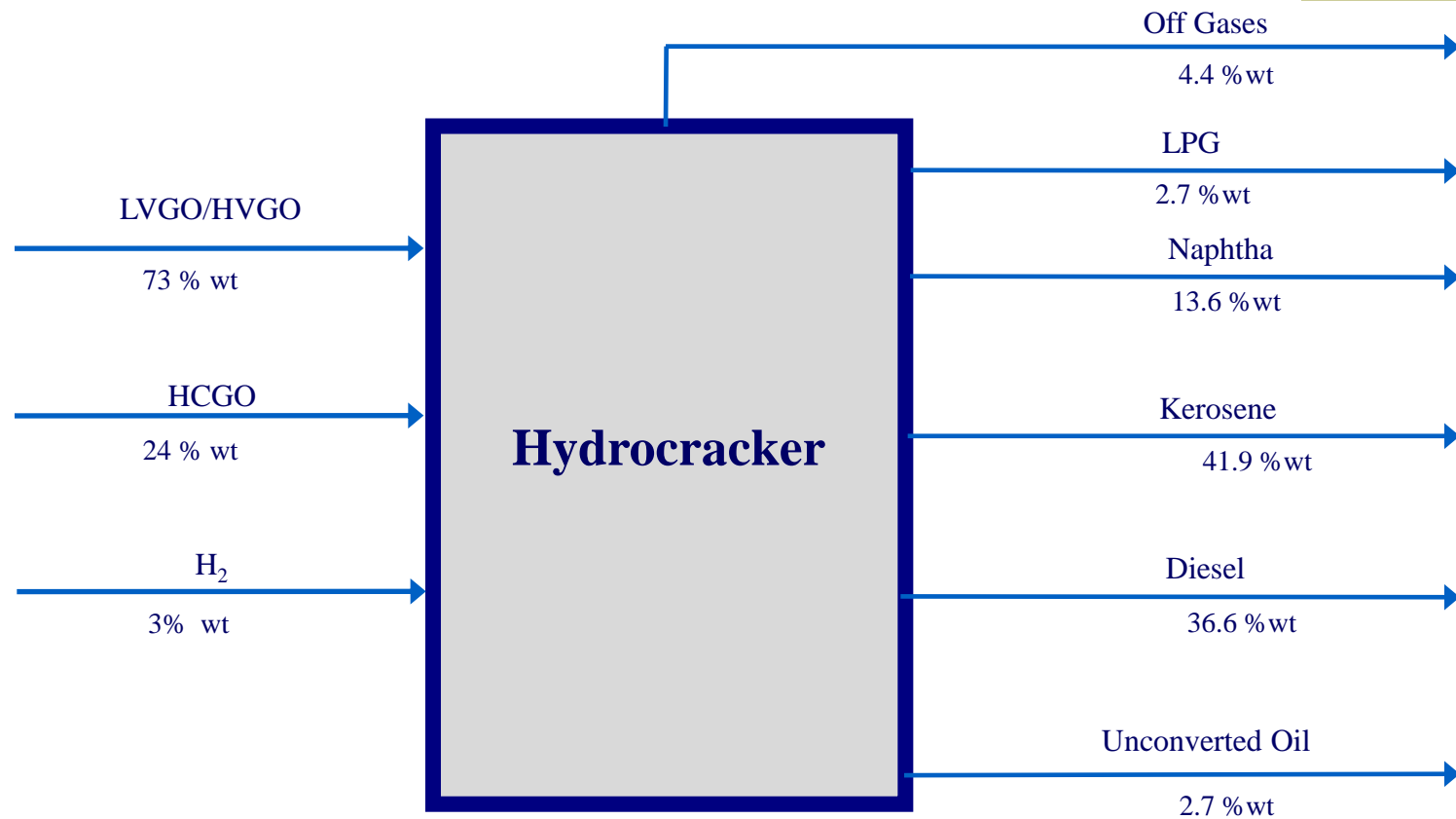
- Required to maintain physical contact of the hydrogen with the catalyst and hydrocarbons
- Saturate the cracked hydrocarbon
- Provide heat sink

$$\text{H}_2/\text{HC Ratio} = \frac{\text{RG Purity} \times \text{Recycle Gas Rate, Nm}^3/\text{hr}}{\text{Fresh Feed, m}^3/\text{hr}}$$

Material Balance



Process Material Balance



Main Equipments

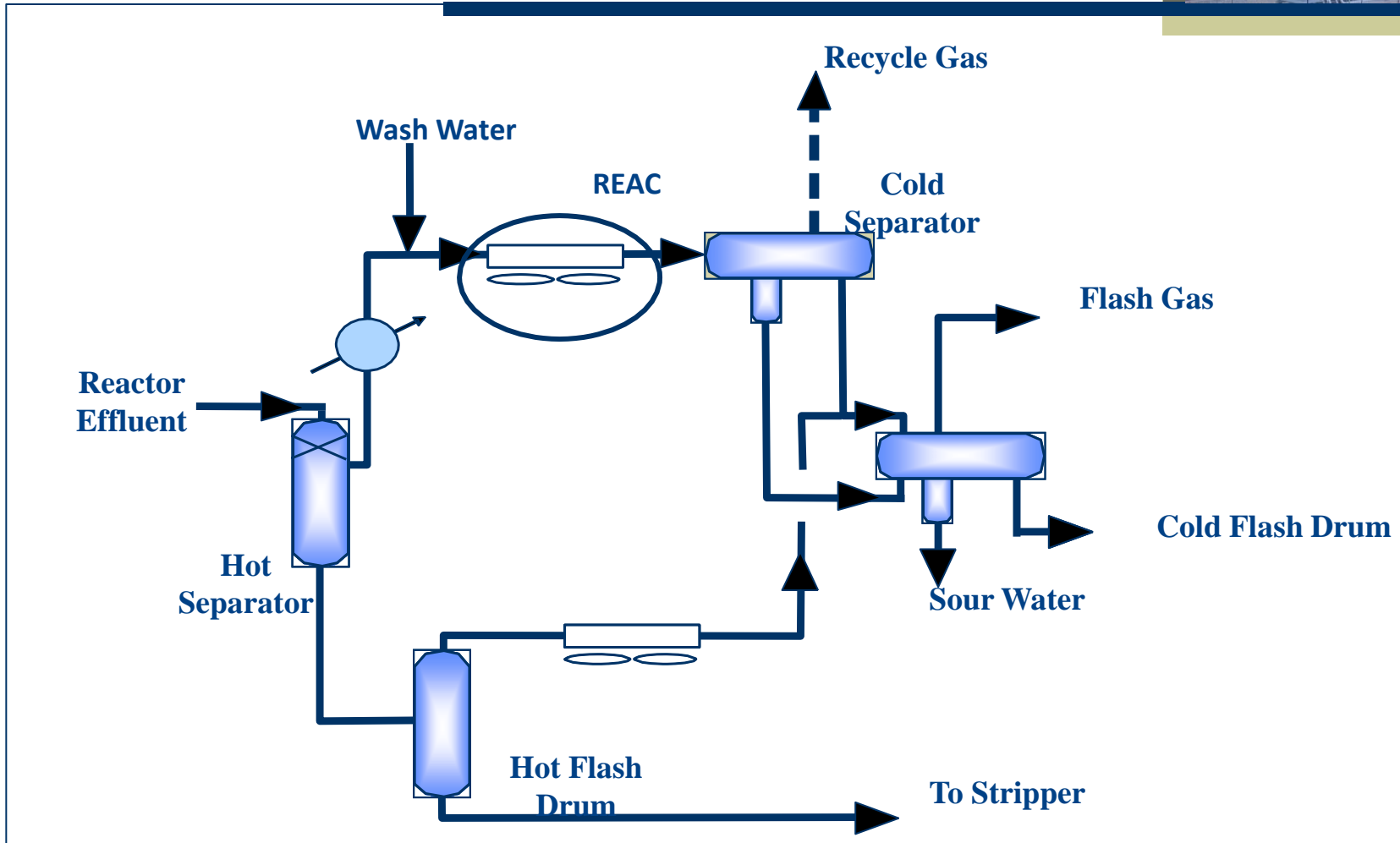
Reactor Effluent Air Cooler



REAC



REAC Location





Factors Affecting REAC Performance



Material

Carbon steel which is easily affected by corrosion OR alloy

Sulfur & Nitrogen Concentration in Feed

High concentration of S & N₂ in feed leading to excess NH₄HS production which accelerate the corrosion-erosion. NH₄HS should be < 8 % wt in sour water



Factors Affecting REAC Performance





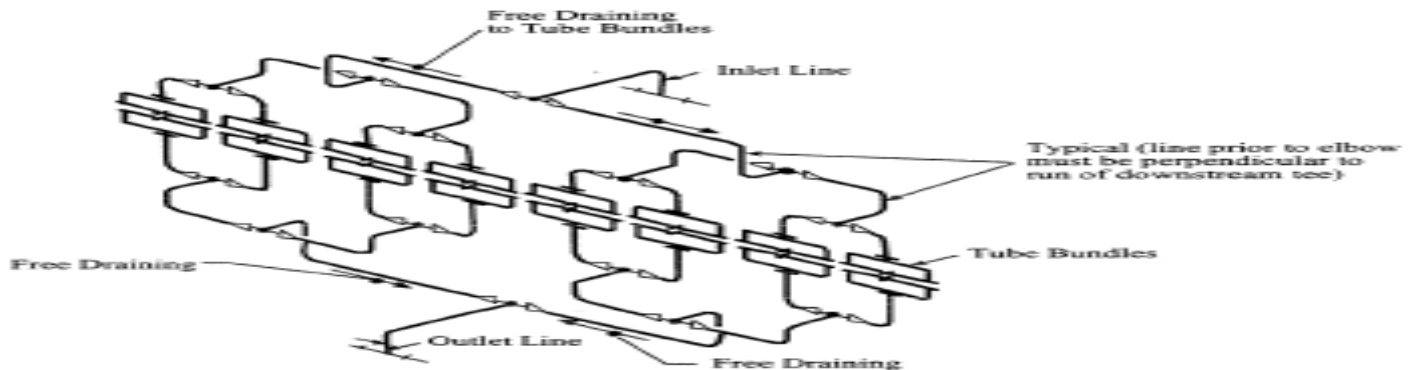
Factors Affecting REAC Performance



Piping Symmetry

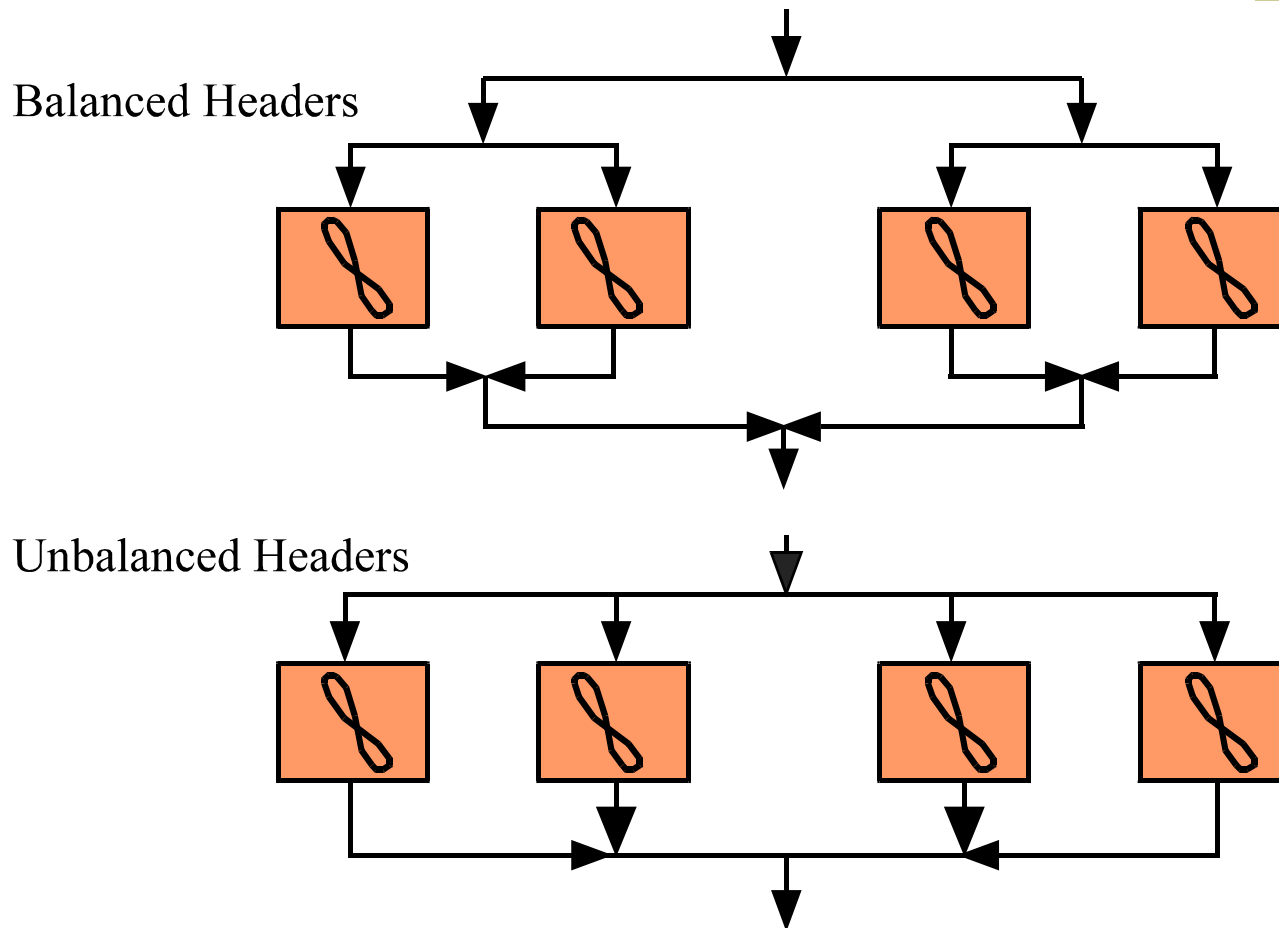
The intent of the balanced design is to achieve equal distribution of oil, water and vapour phases between bundles and to minimize differences in fluid velocity from one bundle to another.

Recommended Unicracking REAC Layout





Header Arrangement





Factors Affecting REAC Performance



Wash Water Injection (more than 5%)

Temperature (Higher than the sublimation temperature)

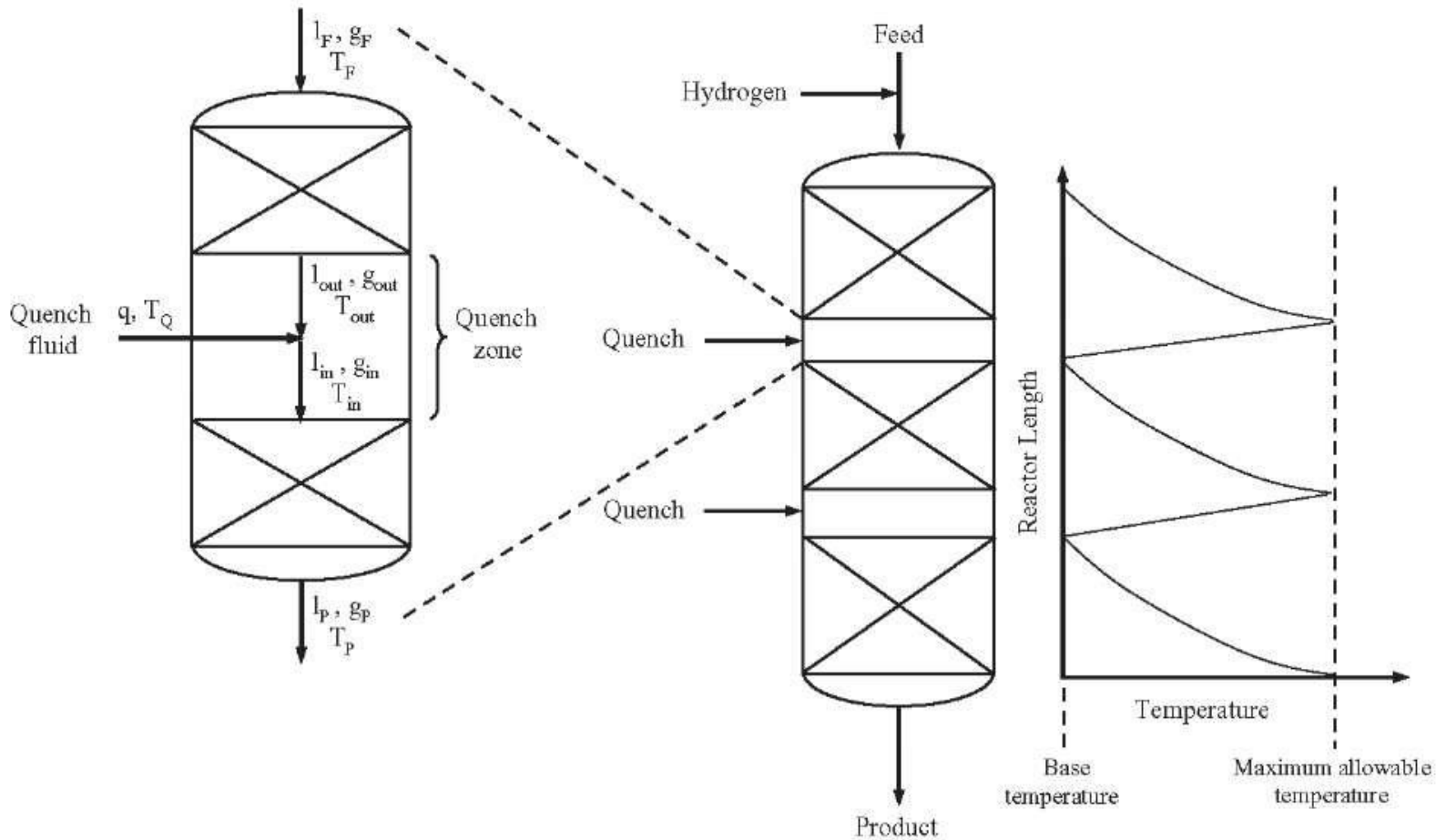
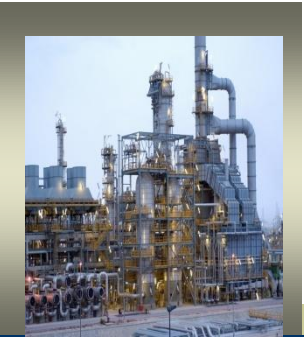
Velocity (3- 6 m/s max. for c.s and 3-9 m/s for alloy tubes)

REACTORS



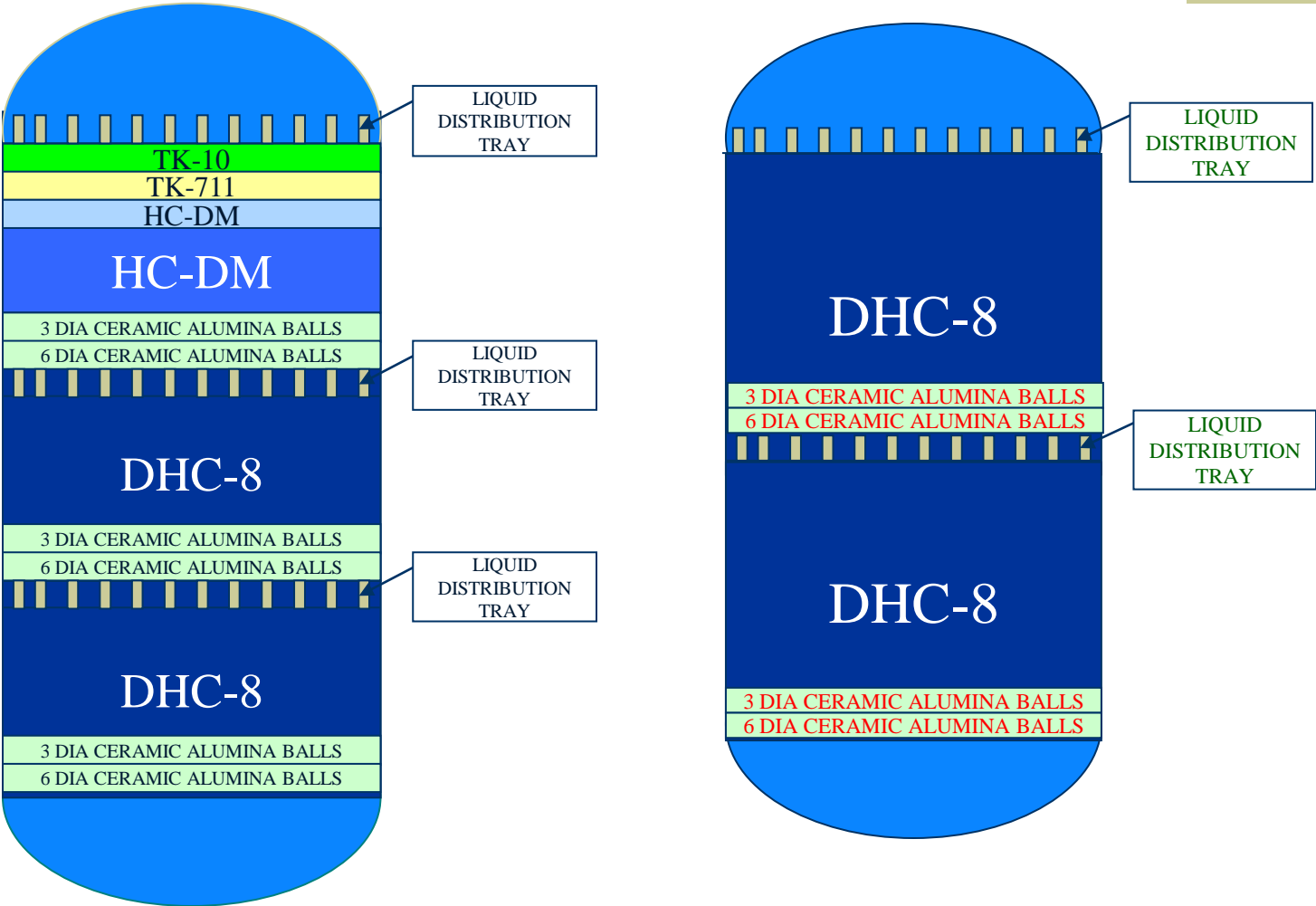


Reactors Temp profile





Reactors internal



Feed Pump

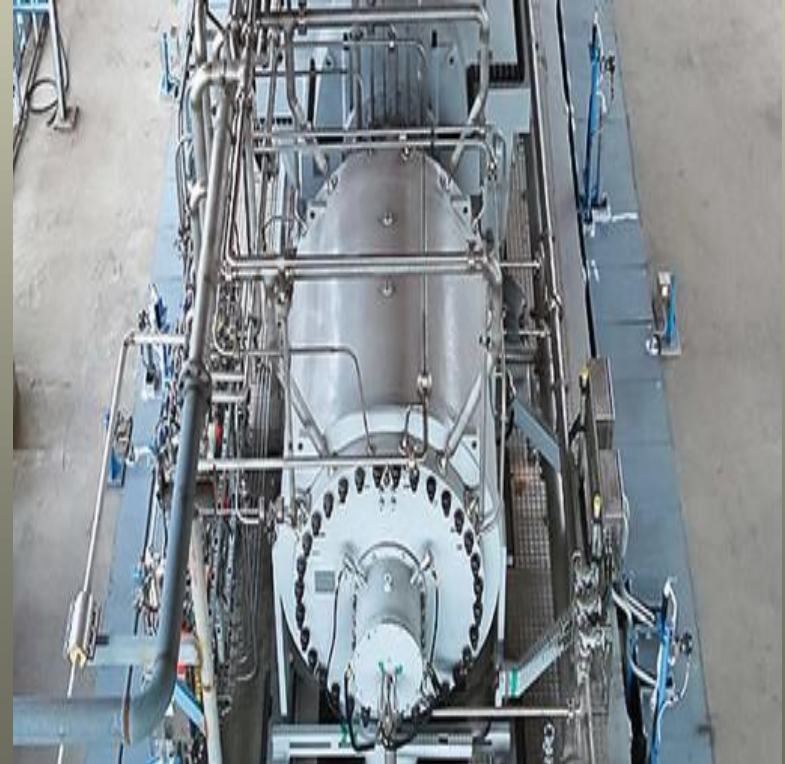
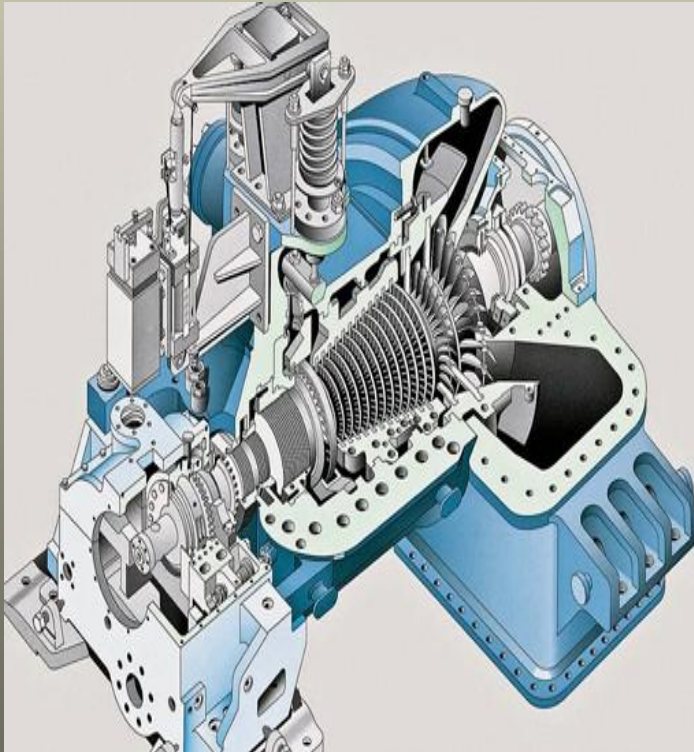


Feed pump



- Feed pump is required to increase hydrocracker feed to the required pressure for reactions.
- Normally a multistage centrifugal pump is utilized for this issue.
- Pressure drop across this pump is about 190 barg
- Motor or power recover turbine

Recycle gas compressor



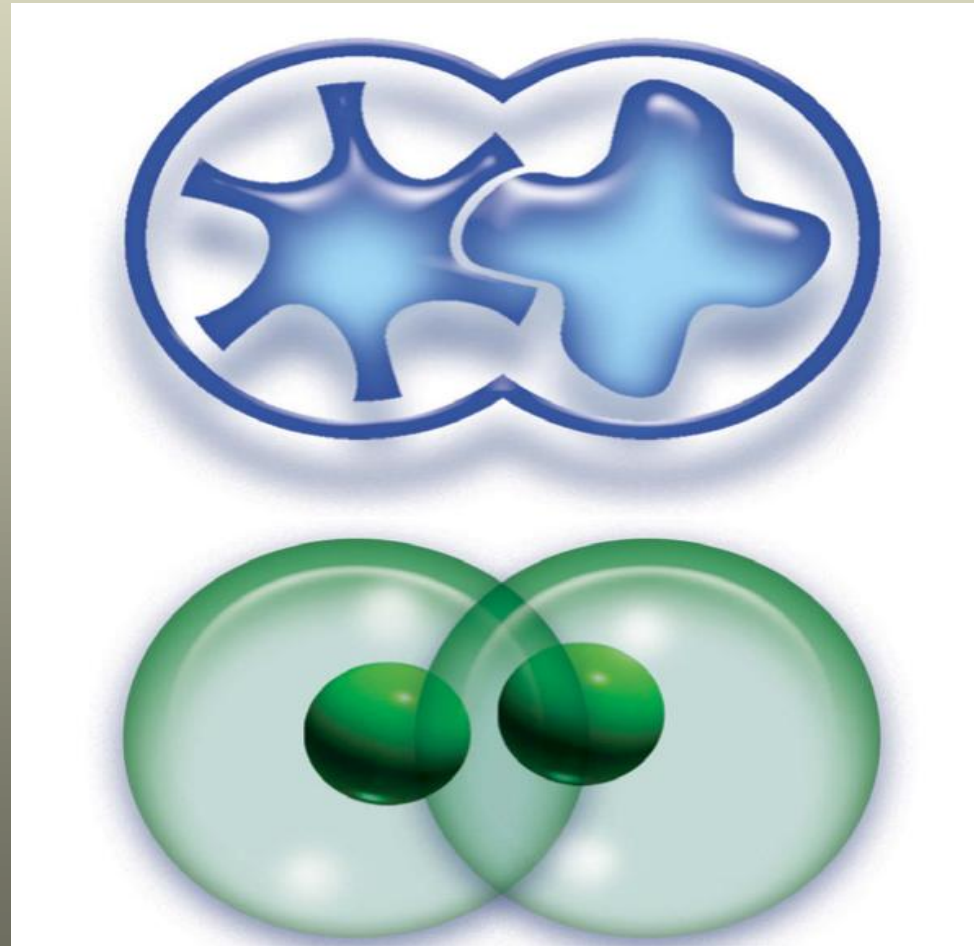


Recycle gas compressor



- Centrifugal compressor for re-circulate H₂ in reaction section.
- Motor driven or steam turbine driven.
- Large volume of gas at a relatively low compression ratio.
(500000 nm³/hr)
- Very complex multi stage machine, used in a critical service

Makeup compressor





Makeup compressor



- Rereciprocating compressors used in increasing pressure from 19 to about 165 bar g.
- Each stage of the compressor is protected and controlled by a separate spillback control system.
- spillback gases are cooled down using inter-stage air and trim coolers.

Special Notes



Depressurization system



The Unicracking unit is equipped with two reactor section depressuring systems to remove the reactants from the catalyst and stop further reactions in case of emergency.

Low rate 7 bar/min depressurize to flare within 20 minutes

High rate 21 bar/min depressurize to flare within 8 minutes

Thank You

Any Question