



# CO<sub>2</sub> gasification of biogenic fuels in a dual fluidized bed reactor system

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## Abstract

A 100 kW<sub>th</sub> dual fluidized bed steam gasification pilot plant has been developed at TU Wien to convert different types of biogenic fuels into a valuable product gas. In this paper, the conversion of different biogenic fuels in combination with the utilization of CO<sub>2</sub> as alternative gasification agent was investigated in the mentioned pilot plant. For this purpose, five experimental campaigns were carried out aiming at the investigation of softwood as reference fuel, and rapeseed cake, bark and lignin as alternative fuels. Pure olivine as well as a mixture (90/10 wt%) of olivine and limestone were used as bed materials. The product gas compositions of the different biogenic fuels changed depending on the elemental composition of the biogenic fuels. Thus, a high amount of carbon in the fuel enhanced CO formation, whereas an increased content of oxygen led to higher CO<sub>2</sub> contents. Additionally, the presence of alkali metals in the biomass ash favoured the production of CO. The addition of limestone enhanced the H<sub>2</sub> and CO contents via the water gas shift reaction as well as steam and dry reforming reactions, but had no significant effect on tar contents. Overall, this paper presents the feasibility of the dual-fluidized bed gasification process of different biogenic fuels with CO<sub>2</sub> as gasification agent.

**Keywords** CO<sub>2</sub> gasification · Biomass · Biogenic residue · 100 kW<sub>th</sub> pilot plant · CO<sub>2</sub> conversion · Hydrogen balance

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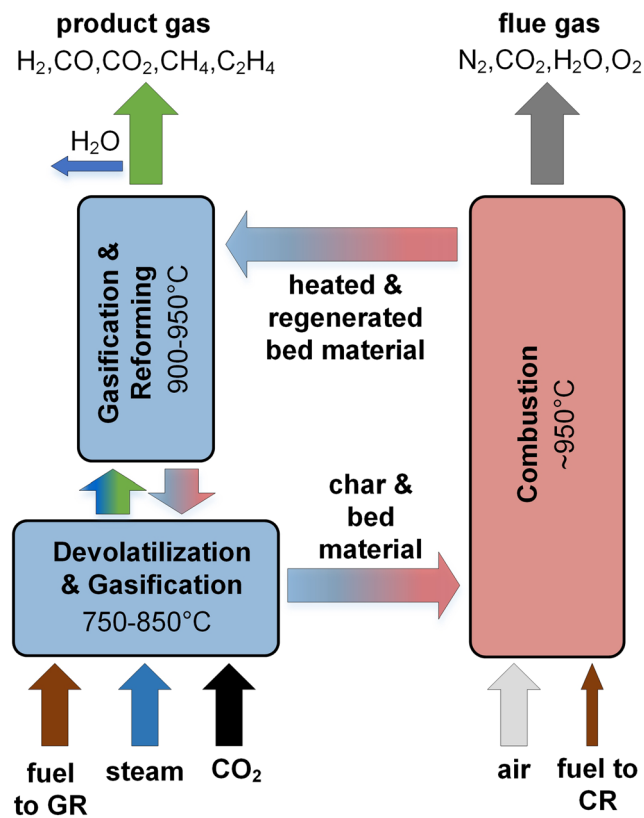
## 1 Introduction

In November 2016, the European Union published a recast of the Renewable Energy Directive–Recast to 2030 (RED II) to strengthen the awareness of the countries regarding the mitigation of the effects of the climate change. RED II targets the renewable energy consumption in Europe up to 32% by 2030. Additionally, fuel supply companies have to replace a minimum of 14% of the energy consumed in road and rail transport by renewable energy carriers until 2030. Fuels used in the aviation and maritime sectors can contribute to the 14% transport target but are not obliged [1]. Based on early estimates carried out by Eurostat, the global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions increased by 1.4% to 32.5 Gt in 2017 [2]. Due to the fact that CO<sub>2</sub> emissions account for about 80% of the overall greenhouse gas emissions [3], negative values of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are required to mitigate the climate change effects. This was also reported by IPCC in 2014 [4]. For this purpose, the development of efficient technologies with the aim of recycling CO<sub>2</sub> within the processes is necessary. In this way, it is possible to influence the closing of the overall carbon cycle in a positive way and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at the same time. This idea of a closed carbon cycle with CO<sub>2</sub> reuse within the process can be traced back to the 1970s. At that time Steinberg et al. already investigated the use of nuclear power-generated electrolytic hydrogen and oxygen to convert CO and CO<sub>2</sub> recovered from industrial processes to synthetic methanol [5]. Nowadays, the thermochemical process “biomass gasification” could be a renewable option for realizing the idea mentioned above. Through the gasification of biomass and the recycling of produced CO<sub>2</sub> within the process, a high-valuable product gas can be generated, which could be further upgraded to synthetic fuels. This work focuses on the dual fluidized bed (DFB) CO<sub>2</sub>/steam biomass gasification (see Fig. 1), which has a great potential in this field and is therefore a main research topic at TU Wien since many years. So far, only steam was used as gasification agent in the DFB pilot plant at TU Wien. Therefore, the use of CO<sub>2</sub> instead of steam presents a novel possibility of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions within the DFB process and producing a CO-rich product gas. The following points make the use of CO<sub>2</sub> as

gasification agent in the DFB biomass gasification process attractive:

- a) The recycling and reuse of CO<sub>2</sub> within the process.
- b) The decrease of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at the same time.
- c) The positive influence on the overall carbon cycle.
- d) No heat and water requirement, which would be needed for the generation of steam [6, 7].

Besides the opportunity to recycle CO<sub>2</sub> within the DFB gasification process, it is also possible to convert alternative, low-grade fuels in the DFB pilot plant. In this way, the conventional biomass gasification of wood can be shifted to a sustainable gasification process and contribute to a sustainable energy engineering. By the use of alternative, low-grade fuels, the life cycle of these materials can be increased and the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduced. Therefore, this research focuses on the reuse of alternative, residual materials and the conversion to high-valuable products by reusing CO<sub>2</sub> within the process. Extensive investigations dealing with fuel variations in the DFB gasification system using steam as gasification agent were already carried out successfully at TU Wien [8–10]. However, the gasification of biogenic, low-grade fuels with the use of CO<sub>2</sub>/steam mixtures as gasification agent has not been investigated so far in the DFB reactor system. Therefore, investigations dealing with the influence of CO<sub>2</sub>/steam gasification of bark, rapeseed cake and lignin on the product gas (PG) composition are presented within this paper. Softwood was used as reference fuel. In Figs. 1 and 2, the DFB gasification system, which was used for the test campaigns, is shown. It consists of a gasification reactor (GR; blue rectangle) and a combustion reactor (CR; red rectangle). The two reactors are connected by loop seals (horizontal arrows). A bed material circulates between the GR and the CR across the loop seals. On the one hand, the bed material serves as a heat transport agent, which transports the produced heat by burning residual char from the CR to the GR. In this way, the endothermic gasification reactions can take place. On the other hand, it acts as a catalytically active material to enhance the ongoing chemical reactions. The GR is visually divided in (i) a lower part, where devolatilization and gasification takes place and (ii) an upper part, where gasification and reforming reactions occur. In the GR, the solid fuel and the gasification

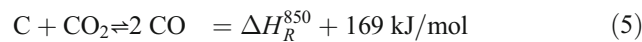
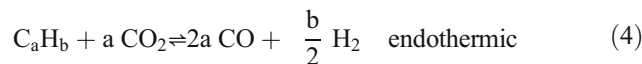
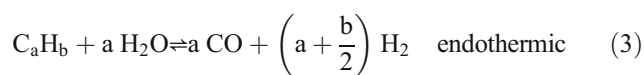


**Fig. 1** Basic principle of the advanced dual fluidized bed CO<sub>2</sub>/steam gasification system

agents such as CO<sub>2</sub> and steam are introduced. In the CR, air and optional additional fuel are introduced. The optional additional fuel compensates the heat losses in the pilot plant and enables temperature control during the experiments. The main product of the GR named product gas is composed of carbon monoxide (CO), hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), ethylene (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), steam (H<sub>2</sub>O) and other minor components. The flue gas of the CR contains mainly CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, N<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub>. The product gas of the GR can further be used in different syntheses to produce fuels such as FT fuels [12, 13], chemicals or mixed alcohols [14].



$$p\delta_{\text{eq,WGS}} = \log_{10} \left[ \frac{\prod_i p_i^{\nu_i}}{K_{p,\text{WGS}}(T)} \right] \quad (2)$$



$$p\delta_{\text{eq,BOU}} = \log_{10} \left[ \frac{\prod_i p_i^{\nu_i}}{K_{p,\text{BOU}}(T)} \right] \quad (6)$$



### Relevant chemical reactions

On the left side of Fig. 1, relevant chemical reactions during CO<sub>2</sub>/steam gasification are displayed. The heterogeneous gas-solid reactions (Eqs. 5–7) are mainly dominant in the lower gasification reactor and the homogeneous gas-gas reactions (Eqs. 1–4) mainly prevail in the upper GR. Eq. 1 displays the water gas shift (WGS) reaction, which is considered as the most essential homogeneous gas-gas reaction in gasification processes. In Eq. 2, the deviation from WGS equilibrium  $p\delta_{\text{eq,WGS}}$  is presented. The equilibrium constant  $K_{p,\text{WGS}}(T)$  was calculated using the software tool HSC [15]. A value of zero of  $p\delta_{\text{eq,WGS}}$  would mean that the equilibrium state of the WGS reaction is reached, whereas a deviation from zero implies a deviation from the equilibrium state. A negative algebraic sign indicates that the actual state is on the side of the reactants. This means that a further reaction is thermodynamically possible. However, if the algebraic sign is positive, the actual state is on the side of the products. This state can thermodynamically not be reached via the WGS reaction alone, but by, e.g., intermediate products of the devolatilization of higher hydrocarbons. Kuba et al. found out that the WGS reaction is a follow-up reaction of the steam reforming reaction, where part of the produced CO during steam reforming is converted into H<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O. [16] Eq. 3 describes the endothermic steam reforming of hydrocarbons and is especially important for steam gasification. In contrast, Eq. 4 presents the endothermic dry reforming reaction, which decomposes hydrocarbons with CO<sub>2</sub> to CO and H<sub>2</sub>. When CO<sub>2</sub> is used as gasification agent, a second reaction, the endothermic Boudouard (BOU) reaction, plays a crucial role. This was also stated in literature [17]. The Boudouard reaction displayed in Eq. 5 is a heterogeneous solid-gas reaction and aims the production of CO via the reaction of char from pyrolysis with

CO<sub>2</sub>. In Eq. 6, the logarithmic deviation from the Boudouard (BOU) reaction  $p\delta_{\text{eq, BOU}}$  is shown. The equilibrium constant  $K_{p,\text{BOU}}(T)$  was calculated by the use of the software tool HSC [15] as well. When  $p\delta_{\text{eq, BOU}}$  is 0, the Boudouard reaction is in equilibrium. When  $p\delta_{\text{eq, BOU}} > 0$ , the state of equilibrium lies on the product side, whereas when  $p\delta_{\text{eq, BOU}} < 0$ , the equilibrium is located on the reactants side. The heterogeneous water gas reaction is shown in Eq. 7 and describes the production of CO and H<sub>2</sub>

The fact that there is limited or nearly no literature dealing with CO<sub>2</sub>/steam gasification of different biogenic residues makes the investigations presented in this publication unique. Most of the existing literature covers the reaction of char with CO<sub>2</sub> and steam through thermogravimetric analyses. For example, Butterman et al. found out that the carbon conversion was complete, when a mixture of 25/75 vol% of CO<sub>2</sub>/steam was used compared to a conversion of 90% when pure steam was introduced in a temperature range of 800–1000 °C. They assumed that CO<sub>2</sub> enhanced the pore structure, particularly the micropores of the residual carbon skeleton after drying and devolatilization. This facilitated the efficient CO<sub>2</sub> gasification of the solid [6]. Huang et al., Mitsuoka et al. and Habibi et al. reported that alkali metals in the biomass ash enhanced the reactivity of char for CO<sub>2</sub> gasification catalytically [18–20]. Zhang et al. also revealed that the critical factor for an improved char reactivity under mixed CO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O atmosphere was the catalytic activity of alkali metals like Na [21]. Cheng et al. discovered that the CO<sub>2</sub> amount in the gasification agent, the CO<sub>2</sub> to biomass ratio, the size of the woodchips as well as the moisture content of the woodchips had a great impact on the gasification behaviour. The cold gas efficiency as well as the CO<sub>2</sub> conversion rate were both decreased with increasing moisture content and particle size. [22] Another researcher, Ren et al., considered the gasification temperature as the most significant parameter which affects the gasification reactivity of char and controls the gasification rate [23]. These findings and hypothesis were used for comparison with the generated results within this publication.

## 2 Materials and methods

### 2.1 DFB CO<sub>2</sub>/steam gasification reactor system

The 100 kW<sub>th</sub> DFB biomass gasification pilot plant went into operation in 2014 [24]. The gasification reactor was designed as bubbling bed in the lower part and as counter-current column with turbulent fluidized bed

zones in the upper part. In the upper part of the gasification reactor constrictions were implemented (see Fig. 2). These constrictions enabled an increased hold-up of bed material along the height of the reactor. In this way, the interaction of catalytically active hot bed material particles with the product gas could be enhanced and residence time increased [25, 26]. At the same time, the high temperatures in the counter-current column had a positive effect on tar destruction [27]. Figure 3 displays the upper part of the DFB gasification pilot plant with two fuel hoppers. In Fig. 4, the lower part of the pilot plant with the fuel feeding screw and the ash removal containers is shown. Coarse ash, which accrues during test runs, can be withdrawn in the lower part of the system. The removal of coarse ash is particularly important, when ash-rich fuels are used for gasification [29]. More information about the DFB gasification system can be found in [24, 30].

### 2.2 Online measurement setup

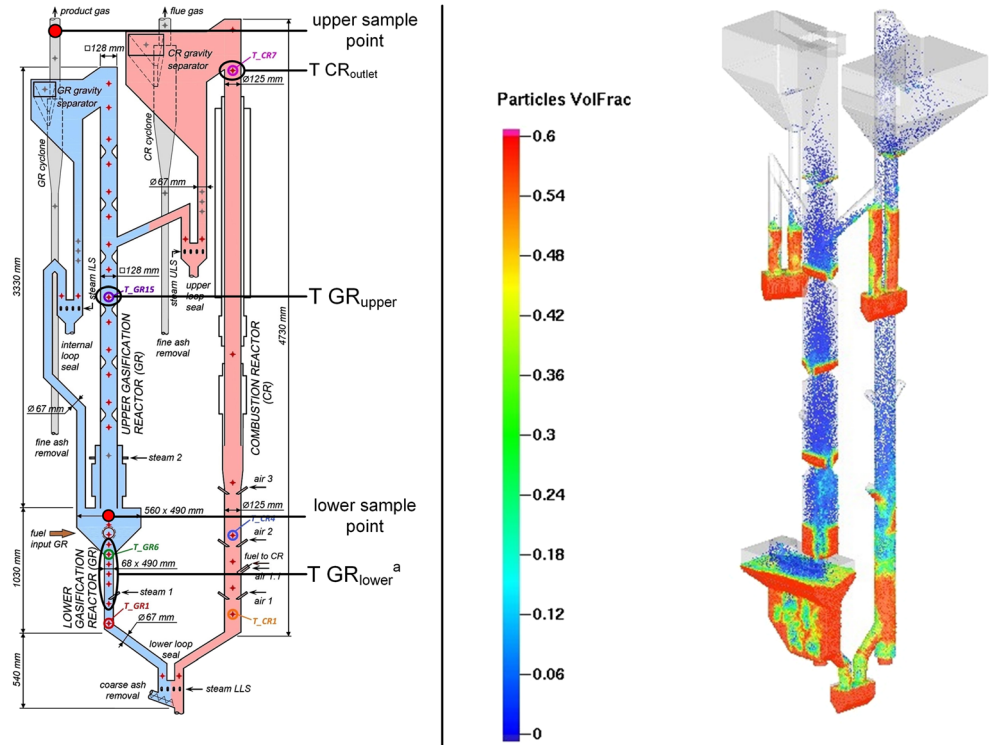
During the test campaigns, the pilot plant was controlled by a programmable logic controller (PLC). In this way, a continuous measurement and recoding of all relevant flow rates, temperatures, pressures and main gas components like H<sub>2</sub>, CO, CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> was possible. For the online measurement of the main gas components, a Rosemount NGA2000 measurement device was used. Ethylene (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), ethane (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>), propane (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>) and nitrogen (N<sub>2</sub>) were measured via a gas chromatograph (Perkin Elmer ARNEL–Clarus 500) every 12–15 min. Before to the online measurement, the product gas had to be cleaned to protect the devices from contaminants. Therefore, a glass wool filter and washing bottles filled with rapeseed methyl ester (RME) were used to eliminate condensable components like water and tar. A more detailed description of the measurement setup can be found in [10, 31].

### 2.3 Offline measurement setup

Tar, char and dust were measured isokinetically with impinger bottles to condense and dissolve hydrocarbons following the suggested procedure of the tar protocol [32]. Toluene was used as solvent in the impinger bottles. Thus, the simultaneous measurement of water was possible. Determined tar contents were divided into gravimetric tar and GC/MS tar. The measurement and analysis procedure is described in more detail in [33, 34]. All tar contents are presented without benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylene (BTEX). The amount of solid particles like char and dust were analysed by using a small cyclone with a quartz wool stuffed filter cartridge.



**Fig. 2** Sketch indicating dimensions and positions of presented temperatures and Barracuda snapshot with particles movement (left) and Barracuda snapshot with particles movement (right) [11]



**Fig. 3** Upper part of the 100 kW<sub>th</sub> gasification pilot plant, TU Wien [28]

## 2.4 Investigated materials

The proximate and ultimate analyses as well as the main components of the biomass ashes of the investigated fuels softwood (SW), bark (BA), rapeseed cake (RSC) and straw-derived lignin (SLI) are given in Table 1. Bark originated from oak. It was found out that the ash of softwood and bark were very rich in calcium (Ca), the ash of rapeseed cake included a high content of phosphorus (P) and the ash of lignin contained



**Fig. 4** Lower part of the 100 kW<sub>th</sub> gasification pilot plant, TU Wien [28]

a high amount of sodium (Na). Additionally, four characteristic ash fusion temperatures, namely deformation (A), spherical (B), hemi-spherical (C) and flow (D) temperature are presented. These ash fusion temperatures are dependent on the composition of the ash. A further opportunity to predict the ash melting behaviour of biomass ashes is presented by the ternary diagram shown in Fig. 5. This ternary diagram presented by Vassilev et al. [35] predicts the initial ash deformation temperature (DT), which equals temperature A of Table 1. The areas of the DTs were established by Vassilev et al. based on 55 varieties of biomasses and are dependent on the chemical composition of the biomass ashes. In this ternary diagram,

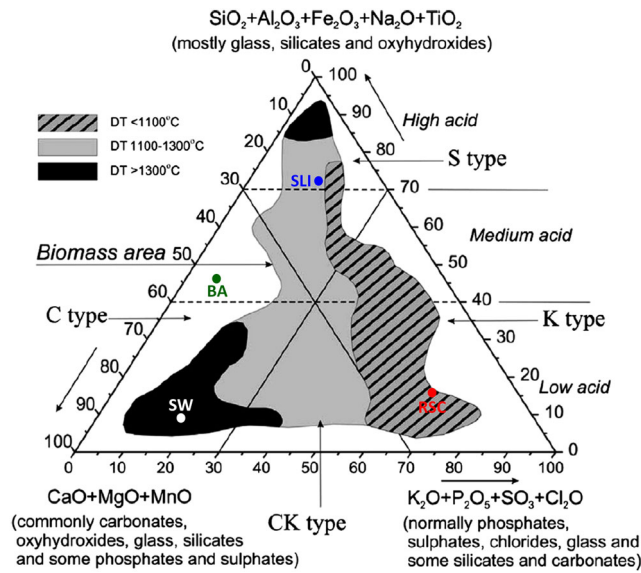
the DTs of the investigated fuels SW, BA, RSC and SLI were marked as well. It can be seen that the findings of Fig. 5 correspond to the results displayed in Table 1. However, the DT of bark is located outside of the proposed areas, but situated on the left side of the grey area (DT, 1100–1300 °C), which fits to the results of the ash analysis.

Olivine (oilv.) as well as mixtures of olivine and limestone (lime.) were used as bed materials in the presented test campaigns. Olivine was used because it is known as state-of-the-art bed material and typically used in industrial-sized gasification plants [36]. It exhibits a moderate catalytic activity and quite good attrition

**Table 1** Proximate and ultimate analysis of investigated fuels

Parameter	Unit	Softwood (SW)	Bark (BA)	Rapeseed cake (RSC)	Lignin (SLI)
Proximate analysis					
Water content	wt%	7.2	11.7	13.3	6.3
Volatiles	wt% <sub>db</sub>	85.4	69.9	74.3	66.5
Fixed carbon (C)	wt% <sub>db</sub>	14.6	30.1	25.7	33.5
Lower heating value (LHV) dry	MJ/kg <sub>db</sub>	18.9	20.3	18.4	21.3
Lower heating value (LHV) moist	MJ/kg	17.4	17.6	15.7	19.8
Ultimate analysis					
Ash content	wt% <sub>db</sub>	0.2	3.0	7.9	4.4
Carbon (C)	wt% <sub>db</sub>	50.7	55.7	48.7	55.5
Hydrogen (H)	wt% <sub>db</sub>	5.9	5.4	5.7	5.6
Oxygen (O)	wt% <sub>db</sub>	43.0	35.4	30.1	32.5
Nitrogen (N)	wt% <sub>db</sub>	0.2	0.4	6.8	1.5
Sulphur (S)	wt% <sub>db</sub>	0.005	0.034	0.705	0.202
Chloride (Cl)	wt% <sub>db</sub>	0.005	0.009	0.057	0.244
Ash analysis, main components (550 °C)					
Silicium oxide (SiO <sub>2</sub> )	wt% <sub>db</sub>	6.6	26.2	2.4	17.6
Aluminium oxide (Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	wt% <sub>db</sub>	1.6	6.9	1.6	5.7
Calcium oxide (CaO)	wt% <sub>db</sub>	55.2	40.0	14.5	9.2
Iron oxide (Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	wt% <sub>db</sub>	0.9	3.7	0.9	3.1
Potassium oxide (K <sub>2</sub> O)	wt% <sub>db</sub>	13.4	4.9	16.8	8.1
Sodium oxide (Na <sub>2</sub> O)	wt% <sub>db</sub>	1.1	5.1	0.6	33.5
Magnesium oxide (MgO)	wt% <sub>db</sub>	8.4	2.9	13.7	2.7
Phosphorus pentoxide (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	wt% <sub>db</sub>	3.1	3.6	39.7	6.4
Titanium oxide (TiO <sub>2</sub> )	wt% <sub>db</sub>	0.1	0.3	>0.1	0.2
Manganese oxide (MnO)	wt% <sub>db</sub>	5.4	0.8	0.1	0.1
Sulphur trioxide (SO <sub>3</sub> )	wt% <sub>db</sub>	2.9	4.5	9.2	11.0
Rest	wt% <sub>db</sub>	1.3	1.1	0.4	2.4
Ash melting behaviour					
Deformation temperature (A)	°C	1335	1230	1040	1210
Spherical temperature (B)	°C	n. o.	n. o.	1130	n. o.
Hemi-spherical temperature (C)	°C	n. o.	1350	1130	1310
Flow temperature (D)	°C	1438	1420	1140	1340

n. o. not occurred



**Fig. 5** Areas of initial ash deformation temperatures (DT) of investigated fuels based on investigations of Vassilev et al. [35]; SW softwood; BA bark; SLI straw-derived lignin; RSC rapeseed cake;

resistance [37]. Limestone was used due to its advantageous catalytic properties, which was also reported by Pfeifer et al. [38]. It was filled into the pilot plant as calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ). There,  $\text{CaCO}_3$  was converted to the catalytically active form calcium oxide ( $\text{CaO}$ ) due to the high temperatures in the reactor system [39].  $\text{CaO}$  showed high catalytic activity, which was advantageous for the ongoing gasification reaction. The composition of olivine and limestone is shown in Table 2. Pictures of the investigated fuel pellets are shown in Fig. 6.

**Table 2** Composition of olivine and limestone

Parameter	Unit	Olivine (oliv.)	Limestone (lime.)
Aluminium oxide ( $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ )	wt%	–	–
Calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ )	wt%	–	95–97
Iron oxide ( $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ )	wt%	8.0–10.5	–
Potassium oxide ( $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ )	wt%	–	–
Magnesium oxide ( $\text{MgO}$ )	wt%	48–50	–
Magnesium carbonate ( $\text{MgCO}_3$ )	–	–	1.5–4.0
Sodium oxide ( $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$ )	wt%	–	–
Silicium oxide ( $\text{SiO}_2$ )	wt%	39–42	0.4–0.6
Trace elements (<0.4 per element)	wt%	$\leq 5$	$\leq 3.1$
Hardness	Mohs	6–7	3
Sauter mean diameter	mm	0.243	0.382
Particle density	$\text{kg/m}^3$	2850	2650, 1500*

\*Particle density after full calcination

## 2.5 Validation of process data with IPSEpro

All measured data of the presented test campaigns were validated with the software simulation tool IPSEpro. IPSEpro was applied to calculate mass and energy balances by using a detailed model library, which was developed at TU Wien over many years. In this way, the results can be presented in a highly valuable and representative form. The following key figures were selected to describe the  $\text{CO}_2$ /steam gasification test campaigns: The steam to fuel ratio  $\varphi_{\text{SF}}$  is shown in Eq. 8. It describes the mass of steam as gasification agent and the mass of water in the fuel related to the mass of dry and ash-free fuel. Due to the use of steam as gasification agent to convert carbonic feedstock and to have the possibility to compare biomass gasification investigations in literature, the steam to carbon ratio  $\varphi_{\text{SC}}$  was introduced (Eq. 9). The steam-related water conversion  $X_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  is defined as the water consumed for, e.g.,  $\text{CO}$  and  $\text{H}_2$  production in relation to the sum of water, which is fed to the GR as gasification agent and fuel water (see Eq. 10). Furthermore, a fuel-related water conversion  $X_{\text{H}_2\text{O},\text{fuel}}$  is introduced. It expresses the amount of water consumed per mass unit of converted fuel during gasification (Eq. 11). In Eq. 12, the cold gas efficiency  $\eta_{\text{CG}}$ , is displayed, which is defined as the chemical energy content of gaseous components in the tar- and char-free product gas related to the chemical energy in the fuel. All values are based on the lower heating value (LHV). The overall cold gas efficiency  $\eta_{\text{CG},0}$  is presented in Eq. 13. It describes the amount of chemical energy in the product gas in relation to the fuel introduced into the gasification and combustion reactor minus appearing heat losses. The product gas yield PGY describes the ratio between dry product gas to dry and ash-free fuel, which is introduced into the GR (see Eq. 14). [40, 41]

The  $\text{CO}_2$  conversion ratio was introduced as a new key figure due to the use of  $\text{CO}_2$  as gasification agent. The  $\text{CO}_2$  conversion  $X_{\text{CO}_2}$  displayed in Eq. 15 gives the ratio of consumed  $\text{CO}_2$  in the product gas to the amount of introduced  $\text{CO}_2$  into the GR. Additionally, the fuel-related  $\text{CO}_2$  conversion,  $X_{\text{CO}_2,\text{fuel}}$  is introduced (Eq. 16), which is the amount of  $\text{CO}_2$  consumed per mass unit of converted fuel during gasification. For  $X_{\text{CO}_2}$  and  $X_{\text{CO}_2,\text{fuel}}$ , the amount of  $\text{CO}_2$ , which can be produced from carbon in the fuel is calculated based on investigations by Neves et al. [42]. For this purpose, the yield of gas, which can be produced via pyrolysis was multiplied with the yield of  $\text{CO}_2$  produced in the pyrolysis gas. Both yields are dependent on temperature. For simplification, the factor  $k_{\text{CO}_2}$  was introduced. It describes the above mentioned conversion of C of dry and ash-free fuel to  $\text{CO}_2$ . The temperature dependency of  $k_{\text{CO}_2}$  is displayed in Fig. 7. For the calculation of the factor  $k_{\text{CO}_2}$ , the “T GR<sub>lower</sub><sup>ab</sup>” (see Table 3) was used. The  $\text{CO}_2$  to fuel ratio  $\varphi_{\text{CO}_2\text{F}}$  describes the ratio of introduced  $\text{CO}_2$  as gasification agent to dry and ash-free fuel introduced into the gasification reactor (see Eq. 17). Eq. 18 presents the  $\text{CO}_2$  to carbon ratio  $\varphi_{\text{CO}_2\text{C}}$ , which is defined as the introduced  $\text{CO}_2$  as



**Fig. 6** Pictures of the investigated fuels

gasification agent to C in the dry and ash-free fuel. Eq. 19 shows the C to CO conversion  $X_{C \rightarrow CO}$ , which describes the amount of produced CO in the product gas to the amount of C in the fuel and C in  $CO_2$  as gasification agent.

$$\varphi_{SF} = \frac{\dot{m}_{\text{steam}} + X_{H_2O, \text{fuel}} \times \dot{m}_{\text{fuel}}}{\dot{m}_{\text{fuel}, \text{daf}}} \quad \text{steam to fuel ratio} \quad (8)$$

$$\varphi_{SC} = \frac{\dot{m}_{\text{steam}} + X_{H_2O, \text{fuel}} \times \dot{m}_{\text{fuel}}}{X_{C, \text{fuel}} \times \dot{m}_{\text{fuel}}} \quad \text{steam to carbon ratio} \quad (9)$$

$$X_{H_2O} = \frac{\dot{m}_{\text{steam}} + X_{H_2O, \text{fuel}} \times \dot{m}_{\text{fuel}} - X_{H_2O, \text{PG}} \times \dot{m}_{\text{PG}}}{\dot{m}_{\text{steam}} + X_{H_2O, \text{fuel}} \times \dot{m}_{\text{fuel}}} \quad \text{steam-related water conversion} \quad (10)$$

$$X_{H_2O, \text{fuel}} = \frac{\dot{m}_{\text{steam}} + X_{H_2O, \text{fuel}} \times \dot{m}_{\text{fuel}} - X_{H_2O, \text{PG}} \times \dot{m}_{\text{PG}}}{\dot{m}_{\text{fuel}, \text{daf}}} \quad \text{fuel-related water conversion} \quad (11)$$

$$\eta_{CG} = \frac{\dot{V}_{PG} \times LHV_{PG}}{\dot{m}_{\text{fuel}} \times LHV_{\text{fuel}}} \times 100 \quad \text{cold gas efficiency} \quad (12)$$

$$\eta_{CG, o} = \frac{\dot{V}_{PG} \times LHV_{PG}}{\dot{m}_{GR, \text{fuel}} \times LHV_{GR, \text{fuel}} + \dot{m}_{CR, \text{fuel}} \times LHV_{CR, \text{fuel}} - Q_{\text{loss}}} \cdot 100 \quad \text{overall cold gas efficiency} \quad (13)$$

$$PGY = \frac{\dot{V}_{PG}}{\dot{m}_{GR, \text{fuel}, \text{daf}}} \quad \text{product gas yield} \quad (14)$$

$$X_{CO_2} = \frac{\dot{m}_{CO_2, \text{fluid}} + k_{CO_2} \times \dot{m}_{\text{fuel}, \text{daf}} - X_{CO_2, \text{PG}} \times \dot{m}_{PG}}{\dot{m}_{CO_2, \text{fluid}} + \dot{m}_{\text{fuel}, \text{daf}} \times k_{CO_2}} \quad \text{CO}_2 \text{ conversion} \quad (15)$$

$$X_{CO_2, \text{fuel}} = \frac{\dot{m}_{CO_2, \text{fluid}} + k_{CO_2} \times \dot{m}_{\text{fuel}, \text{daf}} - X_{CO_2, \text{PG}} \times \dot{m}_{PG}}{\dot{m}_{\text{fuel}, \text{daf}}} \quad \text{fuel-related CO}_2 \text{ conversion} \quad (16)$$

$$\varphi_{CO_2 F} = \frac{\dot{m}_{CO_2, \text{fluid}}}{\dot{m}_{\text{fuel}, \text{daf}}} \quad \text{CO}_2 \text{ to fuel ratio} \quad (17)$$

$$\varphi_{CO_2 C} = \frac{\dot{m}_{CO_2, \text{fluid}}}{X_{C, \text{fuel}} \times \dot{m}_{\text{fuel}, \text{db}}} \quad \text{CO}_2 \text{ to carbon ratio} \quad (18)$$

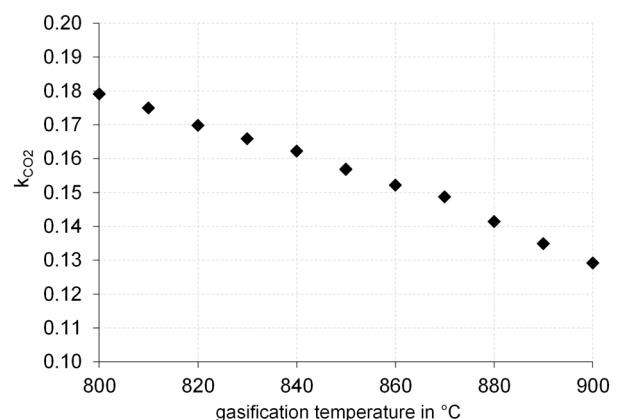
$$X_{C \rightarrow CO} = \frac{X_{CO, \text{PG}} \times \dot{m}_{PG}}{X_{C, \text{fuel}} \times \dot{m}_{\text{fuel}, \text{db}} + X_{C, \text{CO}_2 \text{ fluid}} \times \dot{m}_{CO_2, \text{fluid}}} \quad \text{C to CO conversion} \quad (19)$$

### 3 Results and discussion

Table 3 presents the main operational parameters for the steady state operation of the presented test campaigns 1 to 5. SW was gasified with pure olivine as well as a mixture of

olivine and limestone to have a reference case for the gasification of the biogenic fuels and to be able to compare the results to pure steam gasification tests. Olivine forms Ca-rich layers, which improve the catalytic activity, via the interaction of the bed material particles with the woody biomass ash on the surface of the particles after days of operation [43, 44]. Additionally, Wagner et al. [45] and Kuba et al. [16] found out that also the fuel ash has an impact on the product gas composition due to an increased catalytic activity caused by layer formation. However, for the presented test campaigns, it was not possible to run the pilot plant continuously for a few days to simulate the operation of an industrial-sized gasification plant. Therefore, limestone was added to olivine as bed material to simulate the bed material after days of operation for the biogenic fuels SLI and BA with low ash contents. For RSC, which showed a higher ash content, only olivine was used as bed material.

The fuel power introduced into the GR ( $P_{GR}$ ) for all test campaigns was in a relatively similar range of 81 to 93 kW. The amount of additional fuel, which was introduced into the CR ( $P_{CR}$ ) to control the gasification temperature and to compensate the relatively high heat losses of the pilot plant was about 55 kW with a maximum for test campaign 3 of 71 kW. To enable a comparison of these test campaigns with test campaigns, where pure steam was used as gasification agent, a ratio between  $P_{CR}$  and  $P_{GR}$  was calculated. For pure steam gasification test campaigns, a  $P_{CR}/P_{GR}$  ratio of around 0.5 is a typical value, but it depends on the type of fuel introduced into the GR as well as the operating parameters [8, 28]. For the

**Fig. 7** Factor  $k_{CO_2}$  depending on temperature based on Neves et al. [42]



**Table 3** Main operating parameters for the CO<sub>2</sub> gasification test campaigns. GR gasification reactor; CR combustion reactor;

Parameter	Unit	Test campaigns				
		1	2	3	4	5
Fuel type to GR	–	RSC	SW	SW	BA	SLI
Fuel power to GR	kW	93	87	81	88	84
Fuel power to CR	kW	52	53	71	53	58
P <sub>CR</sub> /P <sub>GR</sub> ratio <sup>c</sup>	–	0.56	0.61	0.88	0.60	0.69
Bed material	wt%	oliv. (100)	oliv. (100)	oliv./lime. (90/10)	oliv./lime (90/10)	oliv./lime (90/10)
CO <sub>2</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> O fluidization	vol%	68/32	68/32	65/35	65/35	65/35
T GR <sub>lower</sub> <sup>a</sup>	°C	840	822	805	846	871
T GR <sub>upper</sub>	°C	936	934	943	974	989
ΔT <sub>GR</sub> <sup>d</sup>	°C	96	112	138	128	118
T CR <sub>outlet</sub>	°C	938	941	951	983	994
φ <sub>CO2F</sub>	kg <sub>CO2</sub> /kg <sub>fuel</sub>	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3
φ <sub>CO2C</sub>	kg <sub>CO2</sub> /kg <sub>C</sub>	2.0	2.0	2.1	1.8	2.1
φ <sub>SF</sub>	kg <sub>H2O</sub> /kg <sub>fuel</sub>	0.5 <sup>b</sup>	0.3 <sup>b</sup>	0.4 <sup>b</sup>	0.5 <sup>b</sup>	0.4 <sup>b</sup>
φ <sub>SC</sub>	kg <sub>H2O</sub> /kg <sub>C</sub>	0.9 <sup>b</sup>	0.6 <sup>b</sup>	0.7 <sup>b</sup>	0.8 <sup>b</sup>	0.7 <sup>b</sup>
H/C ratio	–	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.09	0.10
O/C ratio	–	0.62	0.85	0.85	0.64	0.59

<sup>a</sup> Mean temperature in the bubbling bed of the lower gasification reactor

<sup>b</sup> Due to the fluidization of the lower loop seal with steam

<sup>c</sup> Describes the ratio between fuel power to CR to fuel power to GR

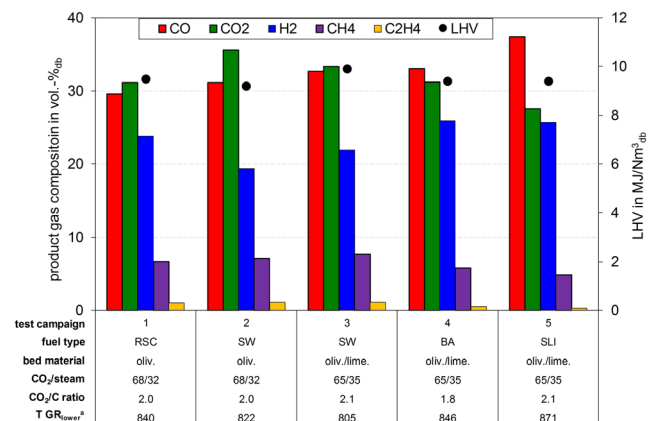
<sup>d</sup> Describes the temperature difference between T GR<sub>lower</sub><sup>a</sup> and T GR<sub>upper</sub>

presented test campaigns, where a mixture of CO<sub>2</sub> and steam was used as gasification agent, increased P<sub>CR</sub>/P<sub>GR</sub> ratios were calculated. This implies that the CO<sub>2</sub> gasification requires more heat (see Eq. 14) than pure steam gasification (see, Eq. 15). The CO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O ratios of the gasification agent introduced into the GR were kept quite similar for all test campaigns. The temperatures in the lower GR, “T GR<sub>lower</sub><sup>a</sup>”, the temperatures in the upper GR, “T GR<sub>upper</sub>”, and the temperatures at the outlet of the CR, “T CR<sub>outlet</sub>”, are displayed in Table 3 for all test campaigns. The measurement positions of the temperatures are shown in Fig. 2. The CO<sub>2</sub> to fuel ratios φ<sub>CO2F</sub> as well as the CO<sub>2</sub> to carbon ratios φ<sub>CO2C</sub> were in a range of 1.1 to 1.3 kg<sub>CO2</sub>/kg<sub>fuel</sub> and 1.8–2.1 kg<sub>CO2</sub>/kg<sub>C</sub>. The steam to fuel ratios φ<sub>SF</sub> were between 0.3 and 0.5 kg<sub>H2O</sub>/kg<sub>fuel</sub> and the steam to carbon ratios φ<sub>SC</sub> ranged between 0.6 and 0.9 kg<sub>H2O</sub>/kg<sub>C</sub>. These values account for the fluidization of the loop seals with steam. The H/C ratios were 0.09 and 0.10 for the fuels BA and SLI due to their high amount of C. For SW and RSC, a similar H/C ratio of 0.12 was calculated. The O/C ratios were in the same range for SLI, BA and RSC, but higher for SW, because SW exhibited the highest share of O.

### 3.1 Change of product gas composition

Figure 8 displays the product gas composition at the upper sample point (see Fig. 2) of the CO<sub>2</sub>/steam

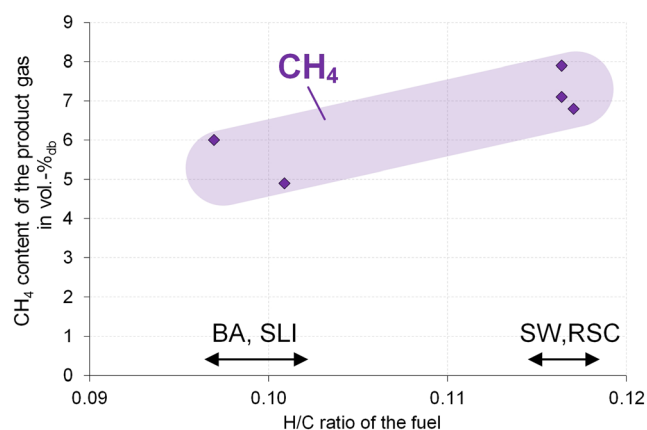
gasification test campaigns 1 to 5. The lowest contents of CO and CO<sub>2</sub> were reached for test campaign 1. Due to the low amounts of O and C in the fuel RSC, a limited production of CO and CO<sub>2</sub> was possible. The highest value of CO was generated in test campaign 5. SLI had a quite high amount of C and a low amount of O in the fuel, which resulted in the lowest O/C ratio (see Table 3). This as well as the higher temperatures could have affected the ongoing chemical reactions in a positive way. Additionally, the quite high amount of Na in the biomass



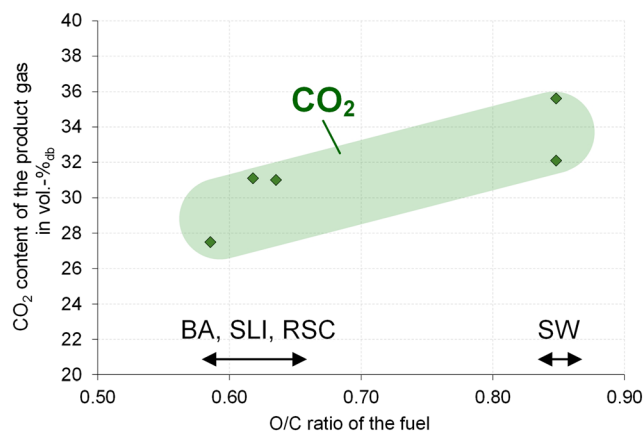
**Fig. 8** Product gas composition at the upper sample point of test campaigns 1–5. SW softwood; BA bark; SLI straw-derived lignin; RSC rapeseed cake; LHV lower heating value;

ash of SLI could have also been a promoting factor to enhance CO formation. The promoting effect of alkali metals like Na on CO<sub>2</sub> gasification was also found out by Huang et al. [18] and Mitsuoka et al. [7, 19]. The relatively high amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> for test campaigns 2 and 3, where SW was used as fuel can be justified by the quite high O/C ratios in the fuel. Additionally, the increased values of CH<sub>4</sub> for test campaigns 2 and 3 originate from a high H/C ratio in the fuel SW. The same phenomenon was described by Benedikt et al. [8] for steam gasification of different fuels. In contrast to that, test campaign 4 showed a low CH<sub>4</sub> content due to a low H/C ratio. The addition of the catalytically active bed material limestone enhanced the formation of CO and H<sub>2</sub> for test campaigns 3, 4 and 5. Low C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> values were reached for test campaigns 4 and 5, which could be due to the high temperatures as well as the addition of limestone to the bed material mixture. The lower heating values (LHV) were in the same range for all test campaigns between 9.2 and 9.9 MJ/m<sup>3</sup><sub>stp,db</sub> (see Table 4). In Figs. 9 and 10, the correlation between the CH<sub>4</sub> content and the H/C ratio and the correlation between the CO<sub>2</sub> content and the O/C ratio is displayed. A higher H/C ratio in the fuel enhanced the production of CH<sub>4</sub>. The same trend was seen for the O/C ratio and the CO<sub>2</sub> content in the product gas.

Figure 11 shows the product gas compositions at the lower sample point (see Fig. 2) for test campaigns 1 to 4. The product gas composition at the lower sample point was not measured for test campaign 5 due to blockage problems of the measurement point, which were most probably caused by the increased ash content of the fuel SLI. For test campaigns 2, 3 and 4, the H<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> contents were lower at the lower sample point and increased along the counter-current column to the upper sample point. Test campaign 3 showed the highest content of CO and the lowest content of CO<sub>2</sub> at the lower

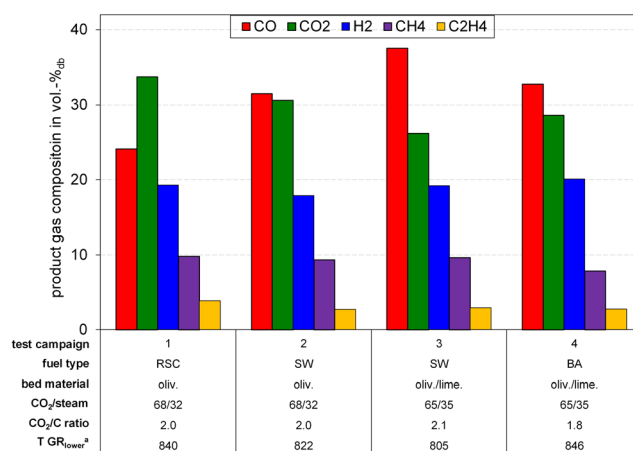


**Fig. 9** Correlation between the CH<sub>4</sub> content in the product gas and the H/C ratio in the fuel. SW softwood; BA bark; SLI straw-derived lignin; RSC rapeseed cake;



**Fig. 10** Correlation between the CO<sub>2</sub> content in the product gas and the O/C ratio in the fuel. SW softwood; BA bark; SLI straw-derived lignin; RSC rapeseed cake;

sample point, which could be traced back to the quite low temperature in the lower GR compared to the other test campaigns (see Table 3). However, at the upper sample point, test campaign 3 showed a CO/CO<sub>2</sub> ratio of almost 1/1. This could indicate that the WGS reaction was the dominant reaction in the upper GR, because according to Eq. 1 CO is converted to CO<sub>2</sub> with a stoichiometric ratio of 1. Test campaign 1 showed lower H<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub> and CO contents at the lower sample point compared to the upper sample point. The CH<sub>4</sub> contents were higher for all test campaigns 1 to 4 at the lower sample point. The C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> contents of all test campaigns were quite similar at the lower sample point but higher compared to the upper sample point. The higher CH<sub>4</sub> and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> contents at the lower sample point compared to the upper one for all test campaigns could be explained by steam and dry reforming reactions along the upper GR (see Eqs. 3 and 4).



**Fig. 11** Product gas composition at the lower sample point of test campaigns 1–5. SW softwood; BA bark; RSC rapeseed cake; oliv olive; lime limestone;

### 3.2 Tar evolution of different biogenic fuels

In Fig. 12, the tar concentrations and calculated tar dew points (TDP) of test campaigns 1 to 5 are presented. The tar contents of test campaigns 1, 2, 3 and 5 were very similar. GC/MS tar concentrations of 8.5–9.0 g/m<sup>3</sup><sub>stp,db</sub> and gravimetric tar concentrations between 4.1 and 5.8 g/m<sup>3</sup><sub>stp,db</sub> were generated. For pure steam gasification of SW with olivine as bed material presented in [28], tar concentrations of 11.2 g/m<sup>3</sup><sub>stp,db</sub> and 6.7 g/m<sup>3</sup><sub>stp,db</sub> were generated. Hence, the tar contents of the presented test campaigns displayed in Fig. 12 were positively influenced by the use of CO<sub>2</sub> and steam as gasification agent. This can be explained by dry reforming as well as steam reforming reactions (see Eqs. 3 and 4). As shown in Table 3, for test campaigns 3, 4 and 5, limestone was added to olivine as bed material. Typically, for pure steam gasification test campaigns, tar concentrations decreased when a catalytically active bed material like limestone was added [28, 30]. However, this effect was not observed for test campaigns 3 and 5. In these cases, the addition of catalytically active bed material limestone had no significant influence on tar concentrations. For test campaign 4, quite low tar concentrations could be achieved. This could have been caused through the CaO of the bed material limestone or the high amount of CaO in the biomass ash of bark, whereby the latter being the more likely one. Kuba et al. found out that Ca-containing feedstocks could lead to a substitution of the catalytic activity of the original particle, in our case, limestone as bed material, thanks to their ability to develop particle layers [46]. These layers could have been formed through the interaction of biomass ash with the bed material particles in fluidized beds. This layer formation through the interaction of the bed material particles with inorganic compounds of the biomass ash

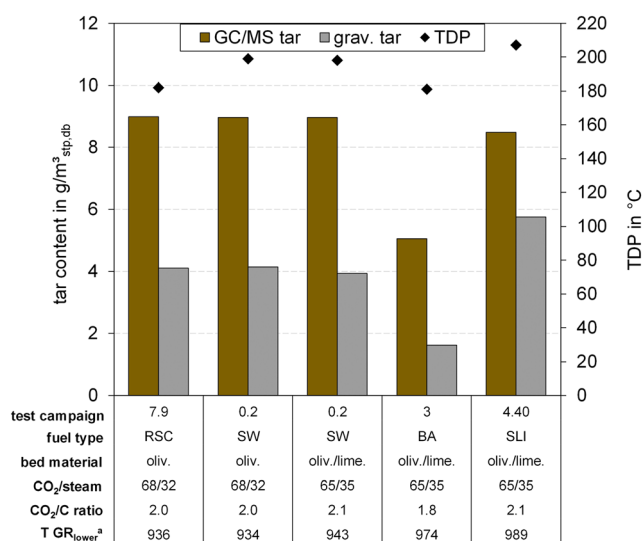


Fig. 12 Product gas composition of test campaigns 1–5. SW softwood; BA bark; SLI straw-derived lignin; RSC rapeseed cake; oliv olivine; lime limestone; TDP tar dew point;

could explain the reduced tar concentrations of test campaign 4. Kirnbauer et al. found out that Ca-rich layers lead to an increased catalytic activity regarding tar decomposition [44, 47]. The tar dew points were similar for all test campaigns and ranged between 180 and 210 °C.

### 3.3 Hydrogen balance around the GR

For the gasification test campaigns, where a mixture of steam and CO<sub>2</sub> is used as gasification agent, the question arises, if the WGS reaction plays an as important role as during pure steam gasification. Researches from Poland, France and Czech Republic are of the opinion that the WGS reaction is a central part during CO<sub>2</sub> gasification [48–50]. To examine this topic, H balances were set up around the GR for a pure steam gasification test campaign (Fig. 13) as reference case and for the presented test campaigns 1 to 5 (see Fig. 14) based on validated data with IPSEpro. H in the fuel (H in fuel), H in H<sub>2</sub>O in the fuel (H<sub>H2O</sub> in fuel) as well as H in steam as gasification agent (H in steam) are regarded as input streams. H in H<sub>2</sub>O in the PG (H in H<sub>2</sub>O), H in H<sub>2</sub> in the PG (H in H<sub>2</sub>), H in higher hydrocarbons in the PG (H in C<sub>x</sub>H<sub>y</sub>), H in tar and char in the PG (H in tar&char) as well as H transported to the CR via char together with the bed material (H to CR) are considered as output streams. For the interpretation of the H balances, only the WGS reaction was taken into account. It was assumed that when H in H<sub>2</sub>O was

#### SW + oliv. + 100 vol.-% steam

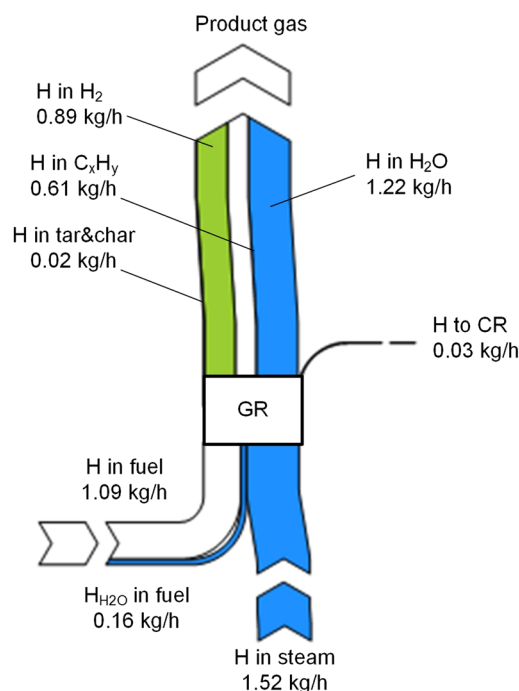
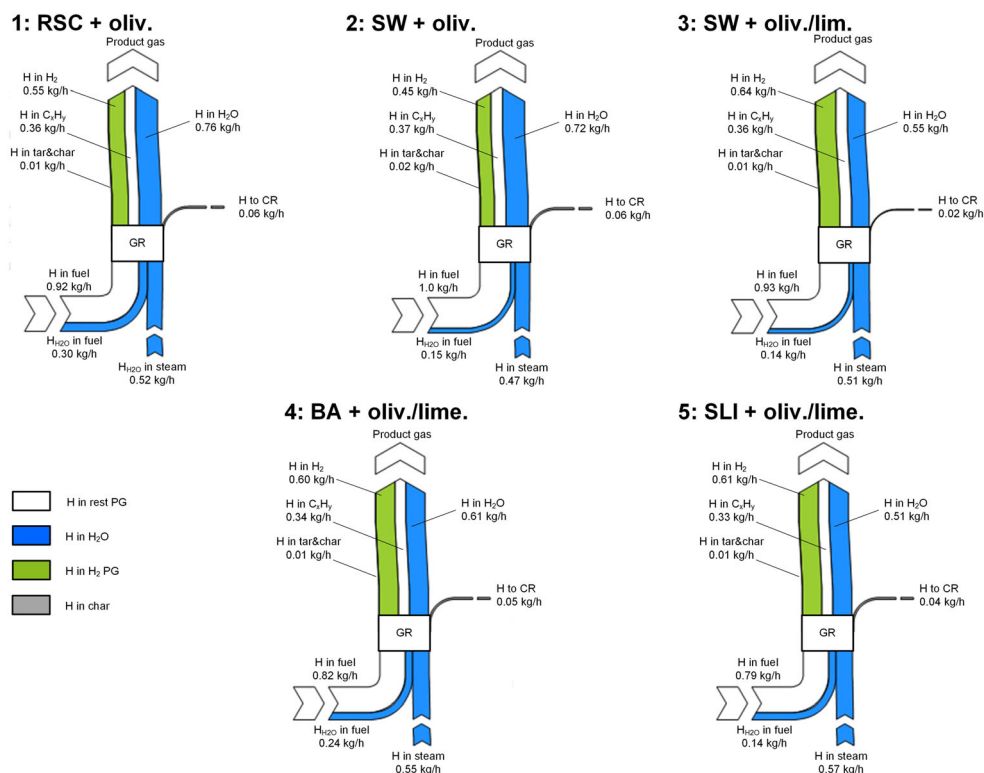


Fig. 13 Hydrogen balance of a pure steam gasification test campaign with SW as fuel and olivine as bed material. SW softwood; oliv olivine; GR gasification reactor;

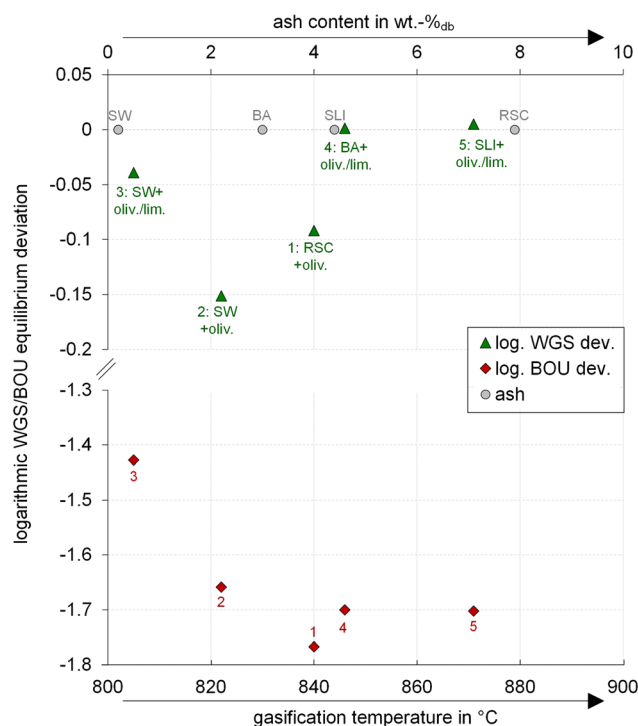
**Fig. 14** Hydrogen balance of  $\text{CO}_2$ /steam gasification test campaigns 1–5. SW softwood; BA bark; SLI straw-derived lignin; RSC rapeseed cake; oliv olivine; lime limestone; GR gasification reactor;



lower than the sum of  $\text{H}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  in fuel and  $\text{H}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  in steam, the introduced water into the GR was consumed to produce  $\text{H}_2$ . For the reference case displayed in Fig. 13, the sum of H in steam and  $\text{H}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  in fuel is higher than the amount of H in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in the PG. This could be explained by the WGS reaction (Eq. 1) because steam is consumed to produce  $\text{H}_2$ .

However, when H in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was higher than the sum of  $\text{H}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  in fuel and  $\text{H}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  in steam, more water was produced than supplied to the GR. This would indicate that the WGS reaction took place in the opposite direction. For test campaigns 1, 3, 4 and 5, H in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was lower than the sum of  $\text{H}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  in fuel and  $\text{H}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  in steam. So, in these test campaigns, the WGS reaction took place. However, for test campaign 2, H in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was higher than the sum of  $\text{H}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  in fuel and  $\text{H}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  in steam, which indicates that the reverse WGS reaction took place. This finding can be linked to the negative water conversions for test campaign 2 displayed in Table 4. Negative water conversions are an indicator that  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was produced during the test campaign. It is apparent that the content of H in  $\text{C}_x\text{H}_y$  was lower for  $\text{CO}_2$ /steam gasification test campaigns (see Fig. 14) compared to that of the pure steam gasification test campaign (see Fig. 13). This could have been an effect of the dry reforming reaction (Eq. 4) and the resulting production of  $\text{CO}$  and  $\text{H}_2$ . To sum up, these hydrogen balances present a first attempt to investigate the behaviour of the WGS reaction for  $\text{CO}_2$ /steam gasification test campaigns. However, further investigations are recommended to prove these approaches.

To investigate the behaviour of the WGS reaction during  $\text{CO}_2$ /steam gasification in more detail, the deviation from the



**Fig. 15** Logarithmic deviation from water gas shift (WGS) and Boudouard (BOU) equilibrium depending on gasification temperature and ash content. SW softwood; BA bark; SLI straw-derived lignin; RSC rapeseed cake; oliv olivine; lime limestone;



WGS equilibrium was calculated (see Eq. 2 and Fig. 15) based on the product gas composition at the upper sample point depending on the gasification temperature “ $T_{GR_{lower}^{ab}}$ ”. For test campaigns 3, 4 and 5, where catalytically active limestone/CaO was added to the bed material mixture, the deviation from the WGS reaction was lower compared to test campaigns 1 and 2, where pure olivine was used as bed material. This means that the catalytically active CaO had a positive effect on the WGS reaction. Additionally, increasing ash contents as well as increasing temperatures were beneficial to reach the WGS equilibrium state for all test campaigns. For test campaign 2, the highest deviation from the WGS equilibrium was calculated. This high negative value of  $p\delta_{eq, WGS}$  indicates that the equilibrium was located on the side of the reactants, which fits to the finding of the H balance that the reverse water gas shift reaction took place for this test campaign (see Fig. 14). Additionally, the deviation from the BOU equilibrium  $p\delta_{eq, BOU}$  (see Eq. 8 and Fig. 15) was calculated for all test campaigns as well. It is obvious that the deviations from BOU equilibrium were much higher than the deviations from the WGS equilibrium for all test campaigns. This points out that the WGS reaction could be the predominant gasification reaction for the presented test campaigns.

### 3.4 Performance indicating key figures

In Table 4, the performance indicating key figures are presented for test campaigns 1 to 5. The steam-related as well as the fuel-related water conversions were higher, when limestone was added to olivine as bed material. This can be explained by the presence of the catalytically active CaO, which enhanced the WGS and steam reforming reactions (Eqs. 1 and 3). The negative water conversion of test campaign 2 can be

declared by the reverse water gas shift reaction, where  $H_2O$  was formed. This result can be compared to the finding of the H balance as well as the high negative deviation from the WGS equilibrium (see Fig. 15). The  $CO_2$  and fuel-related  $CO_2$  conversion rates were in a range of  $0.06 - 0.23 \text{ kg}_{CO_2}/\text{kg}_{CO_2}$  and  $0.08 - 0.31 \text{ kg}_{CO_2}/\text{kg}_{fuel,daf}$  respectively. The lowest values for the  $CO_2$  and the fuel-related  $CO_2$  conversion rates were generated for test campaign 3, which could have been affected by the low gasification temperature. The highest value was reached for test campaign 5, which means that the highest amount of  $CO_2$  was converted. The product gas yields ranged between  $1.5$  and  $1.9 \text{ m}^3_{stp,db}/\text{kg}_{fuel,daf}$ . The lowest value for the  $H_2/CO$  ratio was generated for test campaign 2 of  $0.63$  and the highest value for test campaign 1 of  $0.80$ . The highest LHV was reached for test campaign 3 due to the high amount of  $CO$  and  $CH_4$  in the product gas. Cold gas efficiencies between  $75$  and  $94\%$  could be reached.

## 4 Conclusions and outlook

The  $CO_2$ /steam gasification of biogenic fuels was conducted successfully in the  $100 \text{ kW}_{th}$  pilot plant at TU Wien. Five experimental campaigns were conducted using bark, lignin and rapeseed cake as fuel. Softwood was used as reference fuel. Pure olivine and mixtures (90/10 wt%) of olivine and limestone were used as bed material. The following results could be generated:

- The composition of the product gas depended on the amount of C, H and O in the fuel. High amounts of C favoured the production of  $CO$ , high contents of O in the fuel enhanced  $CO_2$  formation and an increased share of H

**Table 4** Process indicating key figures

Parameter	Unit	Test campaigns				
		1 RSC	2 SW	3 SW	4 BA	5 SLI
$X_{H_2O}$	$\text{kg}_{H_2O}/\text{kg}_{steam}$	0.05	-0.16	0.13	0.09	0.20
$X_{H_2O, fuel}$	$\text{kg}_{H_2O}/\text{kg}_{fuel,daf}$	0.02	-0.05	0.05	0.19	0.08
$X_{CO_2}$	$\text{kg}_{CO_2}/\text{kg}_{CO_2}$	0.16	0.10	0.06	0.11	0.23
$X_{CO_2, fuel}$	$\text{kg}_{CO_2}/\text{kg}_{fuel,daf}$	0.19	0.12	0.08	0.14	0.31
PG power	kW	70	66	76	69	70
$\eta_{CG}$	%	75	76	94	78	83
$\eta_{CG,o}$	%	65	66	66	65	64
PGY	$\text{m}^3_{stp,db}/\text{kg}_{fuel,daf}$	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.9
$H_2/CO$ ratio	-	0.80	0.63	0.67	0.78	0.69
$X_{C \rightarrow CO}$	$\text{kg}_{C,CO}/\text{kg}_{C, fuel \& fluid}$	0.32	0.32	0.38	0.36	0.43
LHV <sup>a</sup>	$\text{MJ}/\text{m}^3_{stp,db}$	9.5	9.2	9.9	9.4	9.4

<sup>a</sup> Free of char and tar; PG product gas; PGY product gas yield; LHV lower heating value; daf dry and ash-free; db dry basis;

in the fuel promoted CH<sub>4</sub> production. Additionally, the presence of alkali metals like K or Na in the biomass ash enhanced CO formation during CO<sub>2</sub> gasification, which was also reported by Huang et al. [18] and Lahijani et al. [7].

- The addition of the catalytically active bed material limestone to the bed material mixture as well as higher ash contents in the fuels favoured the ongoing chemical reactions, which resulted in higher CO and H<sub>2</sub> contents.
- Compared to tar concentrations of pure steam gasification test runs, the tar concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub>/steam gasification test campaigns were lower. The admixture of limestone to olivine showed no significant reduction of tar.
- The hydrogen balances as well as the calculation of the deviations from the WGS and the BOU equilibrium of the presented test campaigns indicated that the water gas shift reaction could be the dominant reaction during CO<sub>2</sub>/steam gasification processes.
- H<sub>2</sub>/CO ratios between 0.63 (test campaign 2) and 0.80 (test campaign 1) were generated.
- The heating values ranged between 9.2 and 9.9 MJ/m<sup>3</sup><sub>stp,db</sub>.

To sum up, for the formation of a high content of CO in the product gas, fuels with a high amount of C and increased contents of alkali metals in the biomass ash are recommended. Additionally, higher temperatures enhance the conversion efficiency. A possible application for a CO-enriched product gas could be the dimethyl ether (DME) synthesis to produce fuels and chemicals. Thereby, a H<sub>2</sub>/CO ratio of ~ 1 is necessary [51]. However, the synthesis gas can be used in other upgrading processes, where higher or lower H<sub>2</sub>/CO ratios are required, as well. The huge advantage of the DFB gasification reactor system is the possibility to adjust the H<sub>2</sub>/CO ratio in a broad range, which enables to use the synthesis gas in a lot different of applications. To investigate the CO<sub>2</sub> gasification in the DFB reactor system in more detail, future research should focus on the gasification using pure CO<sub>2</sub> as gasification agent and the influence of gasification temperature.

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### Abbreviations

BA	bark
BOU	Boudouard
Ca	calcium
CR	combustion reactor
DFB	dual fluidized bed
DME	dimethyl ether

ECN	Energy Research Centre of the Netherlands
GC/MS	gas chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry
GR	gasification reactor
grav. tar	gravimetric tar
Gt	gigatonne
K	potassium
LHV	lower heating value
lime	limestone
Na	sodium
oliv	olivine
PAH	polyaromatic hydrocarbons
P <sub>GR</sub>	fuel power introduced into GR
P <sub>CR</sub>	fuel power introduced into CR
PGY	product gas yield
P	phosphorus
RSC	rapeseed cake
SLI	straw-derived lignin
SW	softwood
TDP	tar dew point
vol%	volumetric percent
WGS	water gas shift
wt%	weight percent

### List of subscript

C	carbon
CR	combustion reactor
daf	dry and ash-free
db	dry basis
fuel	fuel to gasification reactor
GR	gasification reactor
H <sub>2</sub> O	water
PG	product gas
steam	steam introduced into the gasification reactor
stp	standard temperature and pressure
th	thermal

### List of symbols

a,b	stoichiometric factors (-)
m	mass flow (kg/s)
x	mass fraction (-)
k <sub>CO2</sub>	conversion factor of C to CO <sub>2</sub> of fuel introduced into GR (-)
$\dot{V}_{PG}$	dry volumetric product gas flow (m <sup>3</sup> /s)
X <sub>H2O</sub>	steam-related water conversion (kg <sub>H2O</sub> /kg <sub>H2O</sub> )
X <sub>H2O,fuel</sub>	fuel-related water conversion (kg <sub>H2O</sub> /kg <sub>fuel,daf</sub> )
X <sub>CO2</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> conversion (kg <sub>CO2</sub> /kg <sub>CO2</sub> )
X <sub>CO2,fuel</sub>	fuel-related CO <sub>2</sub> conversion (kg <sub>CO2</sub> /kg <sub>fuel,daf</sub> )
X <sub>C→CO</sub>	C to CO conversion (kg <sub>C,CO</sub> /kg <sub>C, fuel&amp;fluid</sub> )
φ <sub>SC</sub>	steam to carbon ratio (kg <sub>H2O</sub> /kg <sub>C</sub> )
φ <sub>SF</sub>	steam to fuel ratio (kg <sub>H2O</sub> /kg <sub>fuel,daf</sub> )
φ <sub>CO2C</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> to carbon ratio (kg <sub>CO2</sub> /kg <sub>C</sub> )
φ <sub>CO2F</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> to fuel ratio (kg <sub>CO2</sub> /kg <sub>fuel,daf</sub> )

$\eta_{CG}$	cold gas efficiency (%)
$\eta_{CG,o}$	overall cold gas efficiency (%)
$\dot{Q}_{loss}$	heat loss (kW)
LHV	lower heating value (MJ/kg)
PGY	product gas yield ( $m^3_{stp,db}/kg_{fuel,daf}$ )
H <sub>2</sub> /CO ratio	ratio of H <sub>2</sub> to CO of product gas (-)
P <sub>CR</sub> /P <sub>GR</sub> ratio	ratio of power introduced into CR to power introduced into GR (-)
H/C ratio	ratio of H to C of the fuel (-)
O/C ratio	ratio of O to C of the fuel (-)
$p\delta_{eq,BOU}$	deviation from Boudouard equilibrium (-)
$p\delta_{eq,WGS}$	deviation from water gas shift equilibrium (-)
$K_p(T)$	equilibrium constant of specific chemical reaction depending on temperature
$p_i$	partial pressure of component $i$
$\nu_i$	stoichiometric factor of component $i$

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