

CEER-PC-21

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?APROGRAM PROPOEAL TO

ESTABLISH THE FEASIBILITY OF
USING HIGH GRADIENT MAGNETIC SEPARATION,
FOR
EFFECTIVE TREATMENT OF MOSTOS
FROM PUERTO RICO'S RUM DISTILLERIES

DEPARTMENT OF PURE AND APPLIED PHYSICS
UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD

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CENTER FOR ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO ~ U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENEAGY

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Supplementary HGHS Literature

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PREFACE

The relatively recent technique of High Gradient Magnetic

Separation (NGMS) is proving more and more to be a powerful, rapid efficient and economical method for removing suspended matter from water effluents of large volume with minimum requirement for

Process power and space

NGMS utilizes "state of art" technology and its applications

now include:

+ Mineral Processing

* Effluent and Waste-Water Treatment

* chemical Processing

+ Biochemical Processing

* Pharmaceutical Processing

Organic waste waters all around the world have been shown to be potent sources of water pollution of immense dimensions. Various organic waste waters that have been the subject of complicated environmental investigations come from the manufacture of industrial Products we use every day. Some examples are distillery and brewery effluents, textile effluents, pulp and paper effluent, tannery effluents, pharmaceutical effluents.

Distillery waste water, for example, is highly charged with organic matter and its treatment before dumping has recently been

subject of intense investigations.

Although no hard evidence has been presented to prove that 'mostos' from rum distilleries is harmful to human health or to the ecosystems where they are discharged, environmental authorities have decided that the associated discoloring of shorelines and nearby waters and the nauseating odor of mostos make effective treatment mandatory in the shortest possible time.

Considerable work has been done on composition and treatment of distillery effluents. From the published results, however, it is apparent that none of the suggested treatment techniques has been found to resolve the problem satisfactorily.

On the basis that recent HGMS experiments at @ brewery in England have produced excellent results, we believe that HGMS will prove to be a viable technique to solve mostos problems in Puerto Rico.

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The purpose of this proposal is to obtain funding for a program to investigate the applicability of HGMS to the specific mostos types produced in Puerto Rico.

The proposed effort would be carried jointly out by CEER/UPR and the Department of Pure and Applied Physics of the University of Salford, near Manchester, England, a leader in the field of HONS research and development. It includes a four month experimental program at Salford to obtain preliminary data, for construction and operation of an experimental magnet a CEER/UPR for investigating Focal samples?

The cost of the program is estimated at \$90,000 over a period of 12 months beginning June 1, 1978, and ending May 31, 1979. Progress reports will be issued at least every four months and a final report will be issued not later than June 15, 1979.

The project would constitute a valuable addition to CEER's environmental program and an excellent vehicle for the training of environmental specialists and other scientific and technical personnel.

1.0 Principles of HGMS

A high gradient, high field magnetic separator (HGHS) con-

sists of a ferromagnetic wire wool matrix, of strand radius a , which is magnetized to the saturation field M , by a uniform applied magnetic field. - Particles of radius R and magnetic volume susceptibility χ can be extracted from a fluid, of viscosity η , which carries the particles into the separator with a velocity V ,. It has been found that a quantity V_j , called the magnetic velocity, is of great importance in the determination of the performance of these separators. V_j is given by

$$V_j = \frac{\chi R^2 M^2}{4 \eta \mu_0}$$

These separators have found application in the kaolin industry in the United States, in England and in Czechoslovakia. The separators have a matrix bed depth of about 20 in. with a channel diameter of 84 in. The applied magnetic field is produced by passing a DC current through water cooled copper coils, weighing about 50-60 tons, which are wound solenoidally around the matrix channel. The power required to maintain the field is between 400-600 KW. The magnetic return circuit is in the form of an iron box weighing approximately 200 tons. Although the impure kaolin particles to be extracted are only weakly magnetic and of colloidal size, it is still possible to pass about 1000 gall/min through the separator and obtain adequate beneficiation.

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Although not yet in commercial practice, it has been found that organic material, coliform bacteria, viruses, suspended solids and other colored matter, can be scavenged onto freshly precipitated Fe(OH)₃, or Fe(OH)₂. This is an electric charge effect that will be described in more detail in section 2. The scavenged material can be removed by extracting the Fe(OH)₃, or Fe(OH)₂ particles with a magnetic separator. This can be done at high velocity because of the favorable magnetic properties of the seed material. This method is cumbersome to apply in practice and suffers from the disadvantage that excess ions are added to the system in solution.

However, a large British chemical company has developed a scavenging material that can be used over a wide range of pH and which simply requires the addition of these particles with an in-line mixer. It is this method that we propose to use in the treatment of mostos.

In section 2 we present an outline of the theory so that the main experimental data required for the pilot plant configuration and parameters will be apparent. In section 3, we outline the experimental program.

2.0 The Theory of Magnetic Separation

The equations of motion of a diamagnetic or paramagnetic

particle moving with a viscous fluid in the neighborhood of a magnetized wire have been derived and solved. Thus, it is possible to show that only certain wire configurations are effective in capturing particles. Generally speaking, the velocity of the fluid can be at any angle to the axis of the wire; however, the magnetic field component perpendicular to the axis of the wire is the only component of field which is effective in the capturing process. In this section we will focus our attention on the case in which the magnetic field and the flow will be parallel to each other with both being perpendicular to the axis of the wire. (Reference 1).

From the equations of motion, it is clear the particle trajectories depend almost entirely on V_p/V_o , that is on the ratio of the magnetic velocity V_p , defined by Equation (1), to the velocity V_o of the fluid relative to the matrix. Consequently, the capture cross-section area/unit length of wire is $2R_{ca}$, where R_{ca} is, termed the capture radius which depends largely on & function of V_p/V_o . A reasonable approximation for R_{ca} when $V_p/V_o \ll 1$ is

$$R_{ca} = 0.5 (V_p / V_o) + K V_o \quad (2)$$

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Here T is the residence time given by e_0L/V_0 and A is a constant of such a value that when n is the number of canister volumes passed, is $n = 0$, then Equation (3) and Equation (4) are identical.

At this point the criteria for effluent levels that are to be used must be specified. Suppose that the final particle level

Separation efficiency of the separator is given by η and A is a constant that determines the efficiency of the separator.

$\eta = \frac{C_0 - C_n}{C_0}$

When n^* has been determined, the total process rate P can be determined by

$P = \frac{C_0}{\tau}$

When

Here D is the dead time of the separator, that is the total time the separator is off during the cyclical cleaning process. (Reference 4)

Seeding and Scavenging Process

In a stable colloid, the particles have surface charges which have the effect of keeping the particles apart or dispersed, Electrical potential barriers are normally greater than $\approx 15 \frac{kT}{e}$ where k is the Boltzmann constant and T is the temperature in degrees Kelvin. If particles are introduced which have an opposite surface charge there can be a strong attractive force between the oppositely charged particles so that if the potential difference is $< 15 \frac{kT}{e}$ coagulation occurs. It is found that at normal pH, bacteria, cells, proteins, viruses and cell debris have a negative surface charge and can be scavenged by the addition of a material with positive surface charge. As noted in Section 2 a large chemical Company in England has developed a seed material which has a strong positive surface charge over wide range of pH values. These are treated particles of Fe₃O₄ and are consequently strongly magnetic so they can be effectively removed by the separator. The important element is the volume of seed necessary to scavenge the organic material most effectively.

The proposed experimental program is based on an evaluation of the above scavenging method. The effectiveness of the seed

and of organic removal will be tested using the theory laid out in this section.

3.0? Experimental Program

Microscopic Examination of Coagulation .

Using phase contrast microscopy an attempt will be made to examine the interaction between the seed and the mostos. This can

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be done by the preparation of slides which are frozen in such a way that Seed material can be placed adjacent to the mostos on a microscope slide. The slide is then warmed so that the resulting interaction can be observed when thawing occurs. This part of

the program will attempt to look at mostos-seed kinetics and more particularly seed to mostos concentration ratios and also the

Seed to organic ratio in the coagulate so that V_m can be determined.

Video recordings will be made if possible. Time spare for this part of the program is 6 man weeks.

Magnetic Separation Study

For this study it is proposed that only one matrix be used

to save time. This matrix will be an ordered knitted mesh of 50 microns diameter of ferromagnetic stainless steel occupying about 5% of space. The saturation magnetization is around 1.7.

It is also proposed that two magnetic fields, namely 1T and 2T, be used.

Based on the solids content of the mostos, various ratios of mostos solids volume to seed volume will be used ranging from 5 to 1 to 1, respectively. .

For each of the above combinations it will be necessary to do experiments at various values of V_m/V_o . In practice this will mean holding N_o and seed dose rate constant and running at various values of V_o .

In each case, starting with a clean separator, the output will be monitored in order to determine the effluent concentration versus the number of canister volumes passed. This will allow n' the required number of canister volumes for a various effluent criterion RL, to be determined. Also, by running the separator until it is completely ineffective, the value of N_y can be determined. The estimated time for this part of the program is 16 man weeks:

The assembly of the results and the plotting of graphs will

take approximately 2 man weeks.

The total time for the experimental program at the University
of Minnesota will be 36 man weeks to be accomplished during July -
October, 1978.

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MILESTONE CHART FOR MAGNETIC SEPARATION STUDIES

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BUDGET REQUIREMENTS FOR MAGNETIC SEPARATION PROGRAM

Direct Salaries plus Overhead \$ 42,000

Includes

Principal Investigator (50), 1 year

Technician (50%), 1 year

. Consultants

University of Salford \$ 14,000

Rose Magnetic Separation Consultant \$ 5,000

\$ 19,000

Travel

4 man trips \$ 4,000

San Juan - Salford

Subsistence \$ 2,000

\$500/man trip

\$ 6,000

Equipment

Test Magnet plus ?Associated \$ 23,000

Equipment

Subtotal Estimated Cost \$ 90,000

---Page Break---

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(2)

(3)

(4)

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N. O. Clark and W. Windle.

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J. H. P. Watson, Dept. of Pure and Applied Physics,
University of Salford, Salford M5 4NT, U.K.

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SUPPLEMENTARY HGMS LITERATURE

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The Use of Paramagnetic Materials for
Magnetic Separations?

By P. W. Riley and J. H. P. Watson

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JH. P. Watson

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Introduction

Within the last few years highly efficient magnetic separators have been developed that allow weakly paramagnetic materials to be extracted from a medium moving through the separator. These systems were developed by the pulp and paper industry [1, 3]. In 1960, a separator was developed in France by the Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières (BRGM) at the University of Nancy [8]. As yet, the main application of this technology is in the pulp and paper industry. The separator is being considered for use in the mining of iron ores and in the treatment of wastewater.

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the field increased proportionately with the magnetic field strength. The permeability of the separator material is a factor which has been shown by experiment up to 10 T. The production rate is proportional to the velocity of the material through the separator. The production rate can be increased by a factor of three when the field is increased from 2 T to 6 T.

Magnetic occultation

One of the advantages of high field separation is the possibility of magnetic occultation which can considerably aid the separation process. To accomplish effective magnetic separation of a mixture, it is necessary for the particles to be displaced, that the attractive London force between the poles must be overcome by the formation of an interfacial layer between the particles which produces net short range repulsion between them.

A theory of colloid stability has been presented by DeGroot and Landon [12] and by Veewey and Overbeck (13).

Methods of deflocculating many meal systems have been reviewed by Vincent {14}

In a well dispersed colloid the potential energy due to the

interparticle forces is small compared to the thermal energy

However, in this potential drops more rapidly with distance

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Conclusion

Magic separators using superconducting magnets have several distinct advantages over conventional magnetic separators. These advantages mainly come from the increase in processing velocity the superconducting field will bring together with the fact that the use of open slide separators allows for the slow tilting of the separator which puts a lot of material on the separator when the separator is cleaved. These factors have to do with their production etc. will be synthesized.

References

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Seeding Principles of

High Gradient

Magnetic Separation

Christopher de Latour

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the precipitation of A), Fett, Gut)

recipes, attr tne alton

?Te dscusion hat fellows andthe daa presented are based

4 prvi laboratory batch ter progr ha explored pec

?ion and congulation as they ser GMS. Thereore, Chores

River weer was abundoned sn favor of arial sampler, of

sed water with known additives The held and ow paeome
{eria wells the chemical concentrations ured ae not ages
?he opdonm parnmetes for commercial spplstion of HOM

August 1976

Precipit

fon on a Magnetite Seed

Precipitate adsorption onto Fe_3O_4 , was achieved experientally
ty exeeding the solubily iit ofthe Sonn question i te
pretence of the dopedes magnetite. Immediately wpon addon
?ofthe fone species to the Sltion, ionic hydrops prc are

Tamed which havea xr, pov or aepawe chugs, depending

arity on the ion concentration, the pH, and the presence of
other competing ions. These three factors emerge from
precipitation processes and will ultimately affect the formation
rates and the nature of the products.

The instantaneous hydrolysis products are soluble, because
the species are dispersed in the solution and must change coordination
through a condensation reaction while evolving toward
precipitation. For example, for iron(III) hydroxide, the species
must change coordination through condensation reactions while evolving toward
precipitation. For example, for iron(III) hydroxide, the species
must change coordination through condensation reactions while evolving toward
precipitation. For example, for iron(III) hydroxide, the species
must change coordination through condensation reactions while evolving toward
precipitation.

Colloidal hydroxide polyoxides emerge which are
kinetic intermediates in the precipitation. It has been shown that
evolving precipitates can begin to adsorb onto the solid present
in the solution. These colloidal particles have a
large surface area and some negative charge, due to the presence of
adsorbed species (ZPC). Above (below) the ZPC, the colloidal particles have
a positive (negative) surface charge. The transition from the
colloidal polymer to the solid precipitate depends strongly on
the surface charge and therefore the solution pH. For a given text
the ZPC formation depends on the pH value and the surface charge
influences the precipitation process.

During this evolution, the magnetite nodules act as a
catalyst for the precipitation which will be removed with the
feed in the magnet separation. Figures 2 and 9 show the
removal by the magnetite seed of the hydroxide (ZFC = 70.19
42) aluminum hydroxide (2PC = 6010 BO and cup oxide

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on or ke tae 0 3 en

ZAC = 95," In each case, the most efficient prepa removal

?cess np interval around the ZFC

Note in Fig. 1 the strong dependence on the Fe(I) content.

oc \$4 mg/L the instantaneous hydrolysis species dominate

even up to and gave off the form Fe(OH

{6 OH ions must be removed from the Fe(i coordination

pations, which requires precipitation. Near a pH of 4

over, Fe(OH), (which is the dominant hydrolysis species

?tic ven and precipitation and precipitation removals in

Fig. The precipitation increases improve as the content of the

Fe(i) ion increases in more precipitation time over the

Fe(i) removal efficiency as the precipitation contents will approach that

of 21.6 mg/L Alisa can precipitation show that

?These results indicate that the precipitate was present when

the precipitation was initiated. If the precipitate had been

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CoPreciptations

?The uihforward precipiation ofthe hydroxide ox onde of
anion furbe complested bythe presence of competing fot,

?hich in sunt gente wl fre the domain of net

The close co-ordination between Fe and

the removal of Fe implies that the free haat pepe

Increasingly dominates over the byron.

The second important coprecipitation is given in Fig. 5 when the

orthophosphate ion present as complex. As the

So, "concentration, the free phosphate predominates. If

the purification is to remove the orthophosphate species,

careful selection of the chemical used will have the

recipitation depends on the pH of the water sample. In Fig. 6

the PO₄ removal is achieved in two different ways

using Fe and Al

separation during in pan

time, Without the use of the magnetic treatment precipitations

It requires a large amount of magnetic material

Therefore, the magnetic seed very costly and inefficient

Removal of aqueous species produce

Solids Removal

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(nent NMC, she aie ah Eo HOM.

8 Sos Removal by FO, With Countct Caton

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?The ZFC for magnets aprosimaely 5 p>

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?rampl AIO, sis ae postive on apponimately 91,

Sedimentation expected in the presence of

20 and density

When a component is added to the system, the effect

?the paniculata has high surface charge character.

?Aluminum should therefore behave similarly to the resin of

? component Figure 8 shows the dependence of ζ on pH

for the case of 34 mg/L Fe(III) and 20 mg/L Al(III), The 20 mg/L of

Aluminum shows that of the negative charge which was

due to the Fe(III) and Al(III) removals may

Simultaneous solid separation may be observed in the

[decantation] case of the coagulation treatment of the water

?operation and the non-adsorptive mode

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Applications of and Improvements in

High Gradient Magnetic Separation

By JH. P. Watson

Magnetic separation has been in use for many years in the mineral processing industry for the removal of impurities from minerals. In order to produce this separation:

both magnetic field and electrical current are necessary.

The magnetic field has commonly been produced by electromagnets using iron in the magnetic circuit so that the field was limited to about 21 Tesla.

It is usually produced by shaping or by tapping of secondary poles. The material was either held onto the secondary pole or deflected mechanically to achieve separation.

These machines are well suited when the particles are large and the materials are strongly magnetic. It is not possible to separate colloidal suspensions with these

Within the last few years high intensity magnetic separators (HIMS) or high gradient magnetic separators (HGMS) have been developed that allow weakly paramagnetic colloidal particles to be extracted from a fluid moving through the separator. These systems were

developed by the kaolin industry in the United States) in co-operation with the French Biter National Magnet

Tablet

High gradient magnetic separators, in practice, consist of ferromagnetic wire wool mat Secupying \$105 of Shace magnetized by 2 uniform magnetic Id 40 tht Mogretie eid gradients? high at T klogaus/nion ar be achieved. ?The matrix tr usually helm constr fino which the slurry ts Ted. paris are captured ?he ability of the mai to extract pails reduced. ?At any point the fiter can be cleandd by fst semoving the magnetic iekt and then Mashing the: matrix. wilh wale which cally "removes the captured mater Keiviig" clean matrix When the tagnetic Bel it ?estore the magnete separation coa beg agin, Fig sows a small hgh gradient magnetic separator bul by lutereaional Research and Development Co, Lid. of NewcastleuponsTyae and. Fig. 2 tows the interal rangement and the external plumbing for a typical ?GNIS system ofthe type in tae in the kala inet. seth helt indy a te only comer "pplication af tis technology which uses lero magaets AUST. However, because of is ability to Tapily recess ?Stems, in comparison to other technologies, ine of applications in mineral procesing. ih waist and waste treatment, chemizal and biochemical gineering and in pollution contol have been suggested tnd have been he sehct of various experimen sedis

?These are various ways the high radical magnetic separators can be used,

1. When there exists a difference in magnetic susceptibility between two paramagnetic minerals they can be differentially separated even though they are of different sizes

3. When the particles to be collected are diamagnetic they can be separated by scavenging or coating them with a paramagnetic material which can then be removed with the separator.

Gitar

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3. When a dissolve species cum be precipitated on to
a magaetc carrer of mapnetic sell Hea be

removed by the para

The purpose of this paper first to give a brief review

of some of the applications of high gradient magnetron

operation, secondly, to outline the theory of magnetic

comparators and third, to show how by using the theory

Significant improvements of the technology have been

achieved.

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See also

the electron beam

electron beam

electron beam

electron beam

field of 21 kilogauss) applied parallel to the surface

electron beam

Electron beam

electron beam

etc

Research has been carried out by Kelland) at the

electron beam

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removal of lignine and ash from solventsehned. euch

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Stier newer methods that are being considered

(sludge tank, bacteria digest the nutrient and

large flocs which grow in the To» stage where they

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?Separation can be enormously speeded as a

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fn the separator?. if not enough supended sds are

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Yast water treatnent had been reviewed by Oder and

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Process that removes heavy metal impurities from

water from by-product of processes 10 made here

By Minamata, Thaha said

?Nippon Electric Company and the process

Cu, Ni, Sn, Bi, Cr, Fe and Hg were reduced to the

level of gamma down to 0.1 mCi While much of the

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Supports i immobilized enzyme reactor?) pom

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Separation rom the Higuor is ckan and the active

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Ing andi the pharmaceutical Induty.

{GMS technology has bern ued experimentally for

the separation of red cals from whole ood" and the

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described by Timbre?) as part of method to estimate

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Theory

?A theory of capture of paramagnetic particles has

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improving productivity, lowering costs

now appropriate to consider features that are

esirable in a separator in Order to give 4 Tow cost)

roaased unit

Tigh duty ete

Z High production rate with high benefcstion.

3 Adequate time to clean the mattress low magnetic.

fa

4. Low power requirements,

5 Low capital cost

6 Simple maintenance and operation.

Many of these conditions are interlinked so that in order to understand the process it is worth examining the conventional HGMS that typically operate in the pulp and paper industry using a magnetic field of 21. For a matrix material and for a polymer material to be processed and the system operates at 27; then the

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(Gado very low duty eye or an inadeguste time for

?AS oalined above, the extaction of materi by

separator depends lsrgey on Vale and the amount of

rl fe the Hopton At shown howe the

?rodvetion rate of such « machine & roughy propor:

oma tal extation of mater & Foy

Proportional te $1/V_o$. Thi menns tha in order ta" get

Seo ede natn V_a ty ea

Some vue, ay a. In order to lneese te prodstion

Fic, V_o must be increased and itis to be done with

For lowering the electron, V_u must be increased 20

the W_a : any of one of the

high atactic field that superconducting materials can

provide to increase V_w ? Another way than this could be

Also 1 allow the magnetic fields to move to be

Stably with the field moves slowly S_w

ward on the wire with a small average velocity V_o but

Has high forward speed V_e relative to that of the wire

Under these conditions the extraction is determined by

fb. but the production rate is roughly proportional

1.5 V_{en} can be made larger we say

teociy i Ve the foal length of

Kast L'-WVir- Once out of the Feld the wires can easily

fe washed. Vi can be made?

order to make VaVoee only a small value

£2Vp it ceded and this can be Considerably sa

VaraaVe The requirement of larger value of Vinca

erefore be relaad so that & ow vue of applied eld

?ean be used. Im practic this Held can be at

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"These two methods are discused in the next two

sections and both have disunet advantages over the

peesent HOMS stem operating near 20 KG.

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which is superconducting when held at 4.2 K the boiling
Temperature of liquid Helium at 1 atmosphere pressure
As shown in Fig. 1 the superconducting coil is placed
inside a helium container. The helium level of the container
varies and leaks into the stem and part of the stem
is used to cool the electrical leads which have
resistance. In a commercial system liquid helium would
be supplied continuously by an external helium

which ligule. the gas leaving the. cyt The
fae hy cone whith hss the eon
ting col 18 surrounded by m shield cooled by Ta
Fiosen at 77K although in 3 commercial machine ths
Shih ay also be eoled by Blum gus escaping rom
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?Expcrimenul work with a superconduesing séparator
tas confirmed thatthe erfgrmance of piven separator
depends only on V_e/V_{e2} (2%). This icons thatthe
Drodeetion rate ean Be ncreased due fo the fac thot Ve
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?Toe ether pnt way in wih te we oa
superconducting solenoid with epen ends can be eed
{orinrese he prodocion rated thats By ?sng
Soubie canister system.?"One canister is inthe held
proccsing material and when the appropriate number
Srcinifers ny have Been pasted hen the clot 1
pulled for che eld and ie epited by clean one. ?The
Edniter ean now be cleaned gut ofthe Bld und te much
times the Ferd and nse time can be then. tn practice
the conventional HOMS tytem has a detd tine D of
berwven 100-200 sec whereas the canister replacement
can wanly be accomplished within 10 see. ?These two
Fis lead to appreciable diferences in the production

rate P_y of « superconducting machine relative 10 the
rate F_{ol} a conventional machine of the same matric
Snir dimension

In order to illustrate these factors the relative production rate PP , versus t_y is shown in Fig. 5. These
curves are calculated for a dead time of 1 sec for the
Superconducting system and of 100 and 20 Sec for the
Conventional system. The residence time is taken to
be 100 sec for the conventional system at 2T (20 KC).
The number of residence times $e^{-\lambda}$ is shown in
Fig. the relative production is greater than 9 when
 t_y is 30

Another important factor is the electrical power
ratio the superconducting system will need only the
power required to compress the hydrogen, for example
5000 W for BOCOOTIGUEFER will produce 1000000

Viqui hetiam for 80 kW and thi amount i quite ade-
{guste for a sytem the same order Of size 8 Tage
omentona! HOMS such at" operates inthe cay

dutty. "The conventional magnet requires etwech
400-608 LW 0 thi the power consumption also ges
the superconducting system consserable wdvantages:

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where F is the faction ofthe canister volume occupied

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The overall configuration of this separator is shown in Fig. In operation the canisters, moving with a constant slant velocity, are alternately filled with slurry and water. Just prior to the canister entering the magnetic field, draining commences as the canister enters the field. The draining rate and the velocity V_p are adjusted so that a particular product concentration can be reached in the time taken to completely drain the canister of the slurry and the water, which must be done in the magnetic field. When the canister leaves the magnetic field the material formerly held magnetically can easily be washed

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The production rate of the system is given by P

$P = W \cdot V_p \cdot C \cdot \eta$

where W is the weight of clay/unit volume. C is the

Fraction of clay, which is the theoretical arcs of the

unit. Shown in Fig 7 and V_p is the forward velocity

V_p is chosen to be 9 given magnetic length L . The design

time T_0 , which determines the product concentration,

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large area over which slow draining takes place and the

benefit is high because the relative velocity between,

the slurry and the matrix is small. The production rate

can be increased in this system by either making the

system longer or by making the system higher

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?System together with an order of magnitude Tower

Pores consumption. If permanent magnets can be used
the power consumption will of course be zero.

?This low magnetic field drive: therefore, has the
several advantages outlined above. But also permanent
magnets can be used in "low technology machines

?using only moving buckets, which are very well established
in the mineral processing industry. This system,

however, has the advantage that cost per unit of processed

material is low even for small tonnage, which compares

favorably with the superconducting machine which

requires a low temperature environment which makes it

low tonnage drive relatively more expensive.

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HIGH-GRADIEN! MAGNETIC SEP/

Scientific American 252, 46 (1175)

A recent advance in the generation of strong magnetic fields opens the way to removing very weakly magnetic particles from mixtures,

One novel application of the new process is purifying wastewater

by Henry Kolm, Iola O'erteul Devid Kelland

major activity of modern industry is largely by the old that will be divided to be separated soon

the separation of parts for practical, economic reasons. On these sales the fundamental industry was

of the tested parts a large portion of the mineral industry in which mixes of

Accepted and the unwanted ones are discarded with the separation of fatty Sealy does this must be paired by

carded. Many different techniques of video are indeed the fact but of removing unwanted component

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the separation of 1 because the mats are too thin the parts saved in these

have proved economically practical. A

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material discarded in the extraction of
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methods such as the removal of
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flotation still contain appreciable amounts of
these metals in the form of oxides that
are paramagnetic. It is estimated that
pyrometallurgical methods could extract from the
tailings an average of about 10% of

vanadium or tungsten oxide per barrel
of feed material processed,

?There is a close, «wise economic
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Feed Systeas for Solenoidel High-Gradient

Magnetic Saperators

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* Supported by the Science Research Council, UK

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Introduction

High gradient magnetic separators consist of a ferro-magnetic wool matrix situated in a uniform background magnetic field, magnetic particles can be extracted, onto the matrix from a fluid carrying them through the matrix. These magnetic separators have found commercial application in the clay industry [1]. Usually, these separators are in the form of iron-bound solenoids. The fluid passes through the pole cap and into a canister containing the matrix. The fluid passes through the canister in a direction parallel to the applied magnetic field. In this type of separator, the power consumption is reduced by reducing L , the length of the solenoid. An increase in A , the cross-sectional area of the

solenoid, does not affect the power consumption

as strongly as an increase in the length and has the advantage that the volume of material processed is proportional to A . Consequently, iron-bound solenoids, used for magnetic separation have the solenoidal diameter greater than the length. The production rate P of such a system is given by

$$P = \rho V_0 E A_0 / (L_f + L_p) a$$

where ρ is the mass of solids/unit volume of slurry, L_f is the fraction of the solids entering the separator retained on the matrix, V_p is the velocity of fluid entering the matrix. The matrix occupies a volume $1 - \epsilon$ of the space in the canister, as the

fluid velocity through the matrix is V_{avg} and for a canister length L , the residence time of the fluid in the canister, T , is $T = L/V_{avg}$. The free volume in the canister, V_f , called the canister volume, is a convenient unit in which to express the volume of slurry entering the separator; in equation (1), V_f is the number of canister volumes, processed before cleaning the matrix becomes necessary. V_w is the number of canister volumes of water, if any, used to displace the slurry from the canister, at the same velocity V_{avg} prior to switching off the magnetic field. T_{off} is the lead time, that is the time taken to switch off the magnetic field, clean the matrix and restore the field to the value at which the process can be re-started.

If $TD \ll 1$, the production rate P becomes $P \approx \frac{1}{4} \frac{I^2 \mu_0}{\pi D T}$ (My*Hlg)

that is P is largely independent of T . In these

circumstances, μ_0 , I , D and L being governed by

the details of the process, P can be increased by

increasing I , provided $TD \ll 1$ is maintained. As suggested

above, this consideration has led to the design of

long-bound solenoids, with the diameter greater

than the length. On the other hand, if $TD \gg 1$,

$P = \frac{1}{4} \frac{I^2 \mu_0}{\pi D T}$, then the production rate can be increased

by increasing L or A .

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Now consider the case of superconducting magnetic

separators operating at 4.2 K. The performance of

separators at 4.2 K will be the same as a separator

operating at a lower field if the velocity V_g and

the applied field H_y are increased in the same

ratio). This increased velocity reduces the

residence time T appreciably and the point where

D/T becomes Large can only be offset by a reduction of θ , It is proposed that this be done by alternately using two separate canister systems in conjunction with a superconducting solenoid, so that one is in the magnet processing slurry while the second canister system is, being cleaned, out of the field, D becomes approximately equal to the time taken to shift the canisters 4

In order to increase the production rate of the superconducting separator the Length can be increased until an optimum processing cost/processed volume is reached, There is an optimum because the cost roughly scales with the Length

but the production rate finally becomes independent of Length when $N_0 \gg D/T$. The production can also be increased by increasing the cross-sectional area, unfortunately this is a much more costly approach than @ increased length,

?There is then a need to have feed systems for a superconducting solenoids where the production rate increases with the length.

In this paper a radial feed system with this property will be examined. As shown in Fig.2, the slurry is fed down a perforated tube centered along the axis of the solenoid. The slurry flows radially outwards through the holes in the tube, and into the region containing the matrix. After passing through the matrix radially, the slurry returns, flowing parallel to the solenoidal axis, in an outer cylindrical annulus. :

In the next section the differential equations describing the behaviour of particles in a radial system will be examined and various approximate solutions will be considered. In the final section, the axial feed and the radial feed systems will be compared.

---Page Break---

T1_theory,

The development of the theory of separator
closely parallel that for the axial feed system discussed
previously %

In Fig. a sector of the cross-section through a radial
canister system is shown. The slurry is fed
at radius r_i and leaves at radius r_j . $N(r,t)$ is defined

the number of particles per unit volume of the separator
that are present as captured particles at radius r at time t .

$R(r,t)$ is the number of particles per unit volume of the
slurry. The number of suspended particles per unit volume
of the separator is $\epsilon N(r,t)$ where ϵ is the porosity of the
separator.

ete - Bw @

ϵ_0 is the porosity of the clean bed and if the particles have volume v and a packing factor δ , the volume occupied by N particles is $\delta N v$. For high gradient separators the porosity is ϵ_0 high that $\delta N v$ can be neglected.

If entrance velocity at radius r , is V ; and at radius r the superficial velocity $V(r)$ is given by,

$$V_e = \epsilon_0 V$$

By considering the particle and fluid balance, at radius r , at time t in an element of thickness dr , it can be shown,

If diffusion is neglected, @

$$\delta \frac{dN}{dt} + \epsilon_0 \frac{dV}{dt} + \epsilon_0 V \frac{d\delta}{dr} = 0$$

This equation has been derived previously by Ives and Horner «

If t is kept constant, an element of the suspension can be

followed through the separator. On changing variables

equation (3) becomes,

$$8 \frac{GUE}{DI} + c, VE) GRE, D/2), = 0 \quad (5)$$

The rate of capture of particles is also equal to the

product of the total capture cross-section presented

to the slurry per unit Volume of matrix and the flux

of particles. In deriving this equation in the axial

case, it is assumed that 2/3 of the matrix wire is in

the longitudinal configuration; that is, field and

flow parallel and perpendicular to the axis of the wire.

The value of R_c , the capture radius

The radial feed system is so complex, a 1/3 of the matrix is in the transverse configuration, other of these configurations can be represented by a capture radius, which behave physically the cross-sections can be added, Watson has shown the capture radius for the longitudinal and the transverse configurations are almost identical. The axial cross-section is somewhat lower than the transverse configuration. In this work, the capture radius R_e is taken to be the average of the capture

in the same way, so

SFiGion the wolung Of captured astersal ren anit erie

Satceierar ϕ ee in ear" wy Gr eae

hen NGL) =O; Gwe Le ae he wae eeay Ae

then from equation (5), (6) and (7) ve get, ?

$$(\frac{R}{E})^2, \# \sim \frac{4BCHEQ}{O CH/nVCE}) RCE, x)/3ea (8)$$

For the clean separator $G = 1$, so equation (8) can be integrated and gives, between r and 1),

$$Y_o (RE21D/RQ)^* = (4BC1 \sim ?,)0/ 38a) K (eg-r1) \ll$$

where R_y is the slurry concentration at the entrance to the separator and where

$$K_e f_e, Inv) 8691 (ear) (a0)$$

Equation (9) has exactly the same mathematical form as in the axial case), except that $1/V(c)$ has been averaged between f_y and $\forall a$ and $rg-r_y$ replaces the length of the separator L .

Introducing the residence time T and using equations (3)

and (10)

$T_e = 2 / \epsilon \mu$, an

$T_H = H$, (egnry), equation (9) becomes

$18 (R_{EE}^2 / R_g) = 48 O / 3e0 \text{ meg) } HT \ a^2$

This type of relationship has been observed in the case of axial separators 10.

In the strong-coupling limit, it is

found that

$(4 \text{ } \$0 / 3ra) (1-c.)_{H,T} \gg 1$ which often arises

when $V_a \gg V_{ge}$

The captured material can be regarded as having a sharp interface. On the front side of the interface it is assumed that the filter has captured the maximum number of particles N_y and on the exit side of the interface no particles have been captured. This model has been discussed previously in connection with the conventional feed system,

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In calculating the position of the interface it is assumed that

that

$N_y = N_0 \exp(-c/r)$. The number of particles

eatering the? separator In tine Lis '2erjVjRot. Assuming that

the position the interface is at r, at filter tine + then number

Particles which have entered and been captured {

$$2 \text{ My Bolt} = Gr, " ryDegt /2eqVy)$$

?he manor of capeced pertices can alto be writes

Bf ae ae = amy eg alr

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comparison with the nunber captured that ia if Rceity

then ac time +

RCE) (Egle? = Mey + G2) LEASED le a»

This equation must be solved simultaneously with equation (12)

duc with T replaced by 7,

2

Tyo ey (ey? = FD /eyhy an

IE (y42)(Vy/ey) (e/g) e <1 equation (13) can be approximated

by

Fo TEL YY, (Ryftipe as)

With equations (12) and (14) this gives .

$$Y_n (ReEgyrD/R.) = = (6B(A-cQ)D/lnadELT-ey m Ry/My) (16)$$

Here n is the sunber of canister volumes slurry which have

left the canister. This equation is identical in fore to

the conventional feed system *=

I11__comparison between the convention, the radial syats

TE (#2) (Vy/ry) (RoMMy)e <1 the approximation which leads to
gauation (15) can not be'mde and equation (13) and (14) mst

be solved simultaneously. Movever dt can be argued that for aa
axial system and @ radial system, vchich have equal performance
when the separator is clean, then the separator having the
largest particle storage capacity will perform better as the
separator starts to collect material. If the separator parameters
are the sane then the conventional and the radial systems vill
have equal performance provided that HoT is the same in both
cases, This condition can be written

An HL

Hoey?

$VV 2Evyn = Regn) a7$

If the slurry flow rates are considered for the conventional
eyaten F and for the radical system F,. it can be

$$P_{rel} = \frac{C_{rel}}{C_{conv}} = \frac{V_{o,rel}}{V_{o,conv}} + \frac{r_{y,rel}}{r_{y,conv}}$$

---Page Break---

If the quality of equation (17) is satisfied then $F_{rel}/F_{conv} > 1$.
 That is, if the initial performance is the same, the flow rate to the conventional system is higher, although the difference is small if $L_{v,rel} \gg TV$,

The relative holding capacity of the two systems can be determined if it is assumed that the total capacities for the conventional and radial systems are N_z and t_p respectively, then as)

$$N_{rel} = \frac{C_{rel}}{C_{conv}} = \frac{N_{z,rel}}{N_{z,conv}} + \frac{t_{p,rel}}{t_{p,conv}}$$

where $S = \frac{r_p}{z_y}$. Experimentally it has been shown that

$Y = 1/2$ and? for the two systems to have the same initial

Performance equation (17) must be satisfied. Also» when

the two systems are to have equal capacity when $N_e/M_p = L_e$

Under these conditions equation (19) gives the re

in Table I.

(Lee show

Table I. Parameters at equal capacity

y_l, w_{ey}

2 2.70

3 2.96

? 3.53

5 4.20

From Table 1, if $r_p/r_y = 2$, $M_y > N_e S_f L_{ey} > 2.7$. The Liry

ratio is increased, the storage capacity of the radial canister

becomes relatively better for the condition where the initial

performances are identical. However, the flow rate through

The conventional system is higher, but the difference decreases as L/r_9 becomes larger.

In the case of English clays the conditions are different those described

It has been found that if the brightness gain is considered at equal numbers of canister volume then the gain depends on the value of A. The condition for equal performance is simply

then 3

and 20)

Putting this condition into equation (19) gives

$$N_{\text{eff}} = (5/67) (8741) 4ST 1489/1) \text{ ay}$$

with $N_0/Mg \#1$ then $\$ = 5.76$ which means if $r_9/r_9 > 5.74$

L_0/N and independent of the Length. Also when $K = A$ then

$V, \phi, \text{ and } 80$ equation (18) shows $P_{\text{eff}}/Fq = r_2/L$. This means the

radial canister has a much greater throughput than the conventional canister if $L \gg r_0$.

---Page Break---

Fig. Captions

Fig.1

Fig.2

Fig.3

Conventional Feed system #1] V,

Radial Feed system $x^2 = r^2 + x^2$

Field is

applied parallel to the axis.

Section through radial canister. Matrix is

between r_1 and x_3 .

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ROPROVENENTS OF A LOW-PTELD, HIGH-INTENSITY MATRIX SEPARATOR **

Je, P, waTSON *

DEPARTMENT OF PURE AND APPLIED PHYSICS

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD

SALFORD MS GWT, U.K.

we Brit. Pat. App. Nos. 36476/77 and 46291/77

?+ Supported by the Science Research Council, U.K.

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1. Bergonuerzox

Avhigh gradient, lov field magnetic separator has been described

?and analysed previously 4, this machine consisted of a series of

ers, holding a ferromagnetic wire wool matrix, which moved through a low magnetic field and from which a slurry was slowly drained, The containers were filled before they entered the field. In this process, paramagnetic particles can be captured from the slurry and held on the ferromagnetic matrix, the relative velocity,

between the slurry and the matrix being or, The particles are released when the containers leave the field, It was shown that the fraction of particles extracted depended on the ratio of the canister draining time t_1 , to the characteristic magnetic time τ ,

$t_1 = \frac{4a^2}{\mu_0 \chi H}$, a

where a is the radius of the ferromagnetic matrix wire of magnetization

A. P is the fraction of space occupied by the matrix wire and V_y ,
the magnetic velocity is given by:

$\tan^{-1} \frac{m}{c}$

c

χ is the susceptibility of the paramagnetic particles of radius R ,

summed in the analysis

H , is the applied magnetic field. It was also

that R , the capture radius 2 depends linearly on Y_a/μ so that:~

$a_0 \propto \omega @$

V is the velocity the fluid would have far away from a single wire

actual

and, for the case of the canister described here, it is the
velocity of the slurry surface as draining proceeds. -

ω is a parameter which depends on $k = M/2u, fhy$. To practice for

fields greater than 27, C is practically independent of applied

field, but below 17, the increase in R , with $M/2\mu_0 H$, increases the

efficiency of separators

---Page Break---

A high-intensity magnetic separator, which employs a ferromagnetic wire matrix in a low magnetic field, has been described and analysed, previously. In this paper, the improvement in performance with the

reduction in magnetic field is shown to be limited to the field H

where k ($+ H/2\mu_0$) becomes equal to unity, M being the magnetization

of the matrix strand: ble to

However, it is shown that it is possible

to obtain further improvements in performance, at magnetic fields lower than

the critical field. This involves first

magnetizing the matrix by the use of a high

magnetic field before reducing the field to a low

operating value, which may even be zero. The captured material is removed

after the matrix is demagnetized.

---Page Break---

However, the largest value of k that can normally be obtained with

soft ferromagnetic stainless steel is $k = 1$, due to the large

denagnetizing factor of vires of circular or almost circular cro

factor Limits

section magnetized perpendicular to th

the maximus efficiency of the moving watrix separator to approximately

the field at which the matrix becomes saturated. It is the purpose

of this paper co investigate, in more detail, the behaviour of R, at low

magnetic field and to suggest, that the use of materiale with high

coercive force can move the maximum efficiency of the moving matrix

separator to very much lover applied fields.

?The next section discusses the behaviour of the particle-wire

interaction at fields mich less than the field required to saturate

the matzix. The introduction wire vith a high coercive force is

considered and then an atteapt to evaluate the performance of Likely

structure of machines

materiale is made. In the final section, the

which use this technique is considered,

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2. TuoRy

?A theory of capture of paramagnetic particles has been developed

152) 4 5+ © based on the interaction between a paramagnetic particle carried by a fluid past a ferromagnetic wire magnetized by a uniform applied magnetic field H_0 . By studying the equations of motion, the particle trajectories striking the wire can be found, which allows the

capture cross:

section $2R$ e/unit length of the wire to be determined.

The capture radius R , was found to depend on k and on V/V_0

Cowan et al have found that, provided $V < V_0$?2

R can be written

= $aD \text{ OWN} + \text{AID } o$

?As shown in Equation (4), when $V_1/V_2 < 1$ and V_1/V_2 decreases in

value, the term kW_1/V_1 , becomes the dominant term, especially when k

is large. For example, when $V_1/V_2 = .1$ and $k = 1$, the second term in

Equation (4) is a factor of 3 greater than the first. In the magnetic processing of

clay, the values of V_1/V_2 are usually much less than .1. In the following

simple analysis therefore, equation (4) is approximated by:

Equation (2) ATT ©

When a cylinder of circular cross-section

is magnetized by an

applied field H , then the actual internal field H_i is appreciably

different From the applied field H , due to the presence of the
de-magnetizing field H_d , so that

$$B = \mu_0 (H + M)$$

where M is the magnetization of the cylinder. If the wire has a
permeability $\mu = \mu_0 \mu_r$, then the magnetization M is given by

$$M = \chi H = (\mu_r - 1) H$$

or 1. At low field H , the magnetization is therefore determined

where x

by the reciprocal of the de-magnetizing factor and k has the value $k = 1$.

If the material is hysteretic, with a coercive field H_c , the

$M = 0$

magnetization on the de-magnetizing part of the cycle

$M = 0$ at $H = H_c$, so that at low applied field

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Bee Ak wa BY ay

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A= 9) xR y,/nay/? » constant

?An examination of equation (11) reveals & vay in which the operation

of the lov field system can be done, The quantity V,/i,? {a a measure, for =

siven value of B., of the voluse of material processed per mit pover

cont, T_{als} is because the volume of material processed/sec is

proportional to V , and the power cost is proportional to $\frac{V}{H}$?

equation (1) we have,

a2)

As W , S_e reduced, but $\frac{V}{H}$ is kept constant, then, in the absence of hysteresis, X and consequently B , slowly increase with

decreasing field, until k reaches the maximum value of k .
At this point, there is no increase in B produced by lowering

Beyond

values of k , at constant power/unit volume of processed material.

This point is determined by the details of the magnetization curve

and is determined by the value of the demagnetizing factor and is 1

2 than, but

approximately equal to, $\frac{M_y}{3y}$, where M_y is the saturation magnetization.

In contrast if the de-magnetization branch of the curve is ~

considered, then k increases with decreasing H_y , as shown by Biquas

(9). If the power/processed unit volume is held constant, while B_y

is

decreased, then H_e increases and consequently, at constant

power/processed unit volume, the performance of the separator can be

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appreciably increased as E is reduced. For example, if $E = Re$,

and if we compare the magnetization branch with the de-magnetization

branch then the values of k are 1 and 2 respectively, From Equation

and, we

that μ_r is increased by a factor of 8 on the de-magnetization branch relative to the magnetization branch. It seems likely therefore, that the field B , can be reduced so that permanent magnets can be used to supply B , and perhaps H , can even be reduced to zero.

It is interesting to compare

the properties decided in a matrix

for operation in a separator. As we have seen, the most important requirement is a large coercivity H_c . The second most important property is a large permeability near the operating field

So, this ensures that the magnetization has the maximum value allowed

by the demagnetizing factor.

?The eird factor is mechanical one, the material must be ductile
eo that the matrix can be formed into wires or sbeete, A List
containing suitable alloys {2 given in Table 1.

Table, 1 - Alloys suitable for lov field separation® .

Nese Couposition * coercivity? | orep. [eat pach.

Teese. Presse

Vicatloy 2 [60 14v sto pone h

Dusit, | p,2600 1)

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Gatgeceotten)|20ni60ce sso Rasmta

: * pooch >

unico 1 _|2aniascesocs | 700} >

at 0.2% and if hysteresis is used,

then for Viealloy 2, Gunit 1 and Gunico 1, the values of k are 1.25, 1.3 and 1.35, respectively. If the processing is done without using

hysteresis then $k = 1$. If hysteresis is used, then from Equation (22),

if R , and H are held constant, then the processing velocity can be

increased by a factor of $1/k$. These factors are 2, 2.2 and 2.5 for the

three alloys, respectively. This leads directly to a change in the

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power cost per unit volume which varies inversely with k° only,

0.5, 0.45 and 0.4, respectively.

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3. Magnetic Separators

In order to take advantage of the low power cost/unit volume

processed, it is necessary to use a hysteretic matrix material. In

the moving matrix system 1, the following procedure may be adopted.

The canister, which is one of a large number, containing a hysteretic

matrix is filled with slurry. The container is moved into a high magnetic

field region and slow draining of the slurry commenced. The container

then moves between the poles of a low field magnet in which mat of

the draining is done, The low magnetic field may in some cases be

Reduced to zero, When draining is completed, the canister passes

into a section where the matrix is de-magnetized by an alternating

magnetic field of decreasing magnitude, The retained particles can then be washed from the matrix. This machine consists of a chain of containers, consequently the operation is continuous.

It should be pointed out that an hysteretic matrix can be used

with any magnetic separators however, in many cases, the gain in

processing velocity or performance, resulting from the increase in

k , may be so small that it does not warrant the extra complication,

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