

Some Studies on the Conversion of Carbon Dioxide into Useful Chemical from the Cement Industry

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Abstract— Global warming is one of the crucial issues of 21st century and it is the result of environmental degradation. The gradual increase of carbon dioxide due to natural and man-made activities have resulted in number of obstacles in the natural cycles of ecosystems. Carbon dioxide reduction and its conversion into other byproduct is the need of this century. Conversion of Carbon dioxide into useful product can increase the feasibility of the product. This paper aims to review the past work that has been explored to reduce the CO₂ emissions in the atmosphere and alternative methods to increase the economic value of the product formed. The main focus will be on CO₂ emissions coming from the cement industry.

Keywords: Global Warming, Cement Industry, CO₂ Conversion, CO₂ Mitigation, CCS, CCU, Climate Change

I. INTRODUCTION

Since mid of the 20th century energy and environment have been classified as the top of mankind challenges. This is due to the fact that manmade activities gradually increasing the CO₂ emissions, which is a big threat to climate change. The outcome of increase in CO₂ emissions globally is global warming. In the starting of the industrial revolution global atmosphere contained 278 ppm (Parts per million) of CO₂, and now after more than two and half centuries of CO₂ emissions, the figure is approximately 419 ppm (the latest measurement, Feb 2022). If the amount of CO₂ emissions continue at this rate, by 2060 it will have passed 560 ppm, which would be more than double the level of pre industrial times.

Burning of fossil fuels like coal, natural gas and oil contribute approximately 87% of human made CO₂ emissions, remaining is the result of deforestation and other land use changes (9%), as well as some industrial processes such as cement manufacturing (4%).

Cement is an important building construction material. For the production of concrete, it is much needed part. Concrete is the combination of Sand, crushed stone, gravel and cement. The production of Cement is directly related to the construction activities. As the worldwide need of Cement as a construction material is increasing and also the main raw material, lime stone is being readily available, cement is being produced in almost all the countries mainly in China, India and the United States.

Production process of Cement is highly energy intensive. Around 5% of total global energy consumption is estimated from the cement industry. The cement industry is major source of CO₂ emissions because of its dominant use of carbon intensive fuels such as coal and lime stone in clinker making. In Calcination process 1 Kg of CaCO₃ produces 440 grams of CO₂. Thus, this industry can be seen as a major contributor in the CO₂ emissions and it requires

keen attention in the assessment of ways to carbon emissions reduction.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Cement industry emits on an average 4 billion tons of carbon each year, mostly in the form of Carbon dioxide. Many research works are in progress to mitigate the emissions of Carbon dioxide from the cement industry. The area of study includes selecting alternate raw materials, blending of cement, using some different processes, incorporating modern technologies etc. Some of the works focuses on the conversion of carbon dioxide into useful chemical also.

In the year (2021), Paolo P. et al studied synthesis of cyclic carbonate from CO₂. The outline for the study includes cycloaddition of CO₂ to epoxides. In this study, it was found that cyclic carbonates that prepared from CO₂ are sustainable alternative to toxic compounds, used in the synthesis of polymers such as polycarbonate, polyurethanes.

In the year (2020), F.N.Costa et al studied reduction in CO₂ emissions during production of cement, with partial replacement of traditional raw materials by civil construction waste (CCW). The parameter of study was that traditional raw material Limestone is the main source of CO₂ emissions in clinker production, thus it was replaced with CCW. In this study, it was observed that emissions of CO₂ was reduced up to 8.1% by partially substituting the mixture of limestone-Clay, as CCW can be considered as a Calcium source in the raw mixture.

In the year (2020), S.E.Lyumibov et al studied a simple synthesis of ethylene carbonate. The parameter of the study was synthesis of ethylene carbonate from 2-chloroethanol using silica gel as a catalyst.

It was found that a simple, economic and environment friendly process using 2-chloroethanol, CO₂ as raw material and K₂CO₃ as base while silica gel act as catalyst can be utilized to produce ethylene carbonate, which is highly valuable. The process requires mild reaction conditions. The industrial applicability of this process is still under testing phase.

In the year (2020), Emad Benhelal et al studied Challenges against CO₂ abatement strategies in cement industry. The outline for the study includes studying about different strategies to mitigate CO₂ from cement plant and to identify the challenges and find out solutions for them. It was noted that the strategies were mainly divided into four groups of CCUS (carbon capture usage and storage), energy saving, utilizing ARMF (Alternative raw material and fuels) and clinker substitution. In that CCUS is one of the technologies that has great potential to mitigate CO₂ emissions from cement industry. Although, due to some technical, Financial and policy barriers it has not implemented at large scale.

In the year (2019), Qian zhu studied Developments on CO₂ utilization technologies. The outline for the study includes different kind of CO₂ conversion such as Electrochemical, Photocatalytic, Catalytic and Bioconversion. As well as it included copolymerization and mineral carbonation. It was observed that a number of catalysts have demonstrated the ability by converting CO₂ into various chemicals with high efficiency, selectivity and yield. Still a large scope of other materials needs to be investigated so as to develop technologically and economically viable process for conversion of CO₂.

In the year (2019), John Kilne et al studied CO₂ capture from cement manufacture and reuse in concrete. The outline for the study includes a technology which utilizes CO₂ in concrete so as to improve its properties. This process was used in the United States and Canada by more than 50 ready mix and concrete product sites. It was found that currently these companies are using commercial food grade CO₂ which is of high cost. Since cement industry itself produces large amount of CO₂, ways to use this CO₂ in some products needs to be investigated and employed.

In the year (2019), Atul A.Pawar et al studied about Greener synthesis of dimethyl carbonate from carbon dioxide and methanol using a tunable ionic liquid catalyst. The study involves synthesize efficient catalyst for the production of profitable fuel additives, as ionic liquid reversibly captures more CO₂ that is more efficient for mass transport of methanol at optimum reaction conditions which improve the Dimethyl carbonate yield in the process. Final results of this study showed that environment friendly ionic liquid can be used as substitute for metal oxides and as well as to minimize waste CO₂.

In the year (2019), Chaofeng Liang et al studied the utilization of CO₂ curing to enhance the properties of recycled aggregate and prepared concrete. The parameters for the study include properties of carbonated recycled aggregate (CRA), workability, mechanical properties and durability performance of concrete with CRA. It was observed that carbonation treatment of recycled aggregate absorbed a certain amount of CO₂ gas produced by cement and construction industry and also it was noted that concentration and pressure of CO₂, relative humidity and curing time all had the significant impact on the properties of CRA.

In the year (2018), Jihoon Kim et al in South Korea analyzed the process of proportioning for the production of environmentally-friendly recycled cement with the usage of inorganic construction waste.

It was found that various varieties of Portland cement can be produced by mixing inorganic construction waste, in which limestone content should be more than 85 weight%, in suitable proportion. This can be seen as an effort to make cement industry eco-friendly as well as to reduce environmental load.

In the year (2018), Esmail Koohestanian et al studied the process for CO₂ capture from the flue gases to produce Urea and Ammonia. The parameter of the study was Oxy-fuel combustion of flue gases. In this research, it was found that if the appropriate method used for the utilization of CO₂ then it will not only reduce environmental risks, but large quantity of urea can be produced by annual CO₂ removal.

In the year (2017), Sean Monkan et al studied carbon dioxide utilization as a means to improve the sustainability of ready mixed concrete. The outline for the study includes the detail analysis of effects of CO₂ utilized in the production of ready mixed concrete. The parameters of the study include mixing an optimal amount of CO₂ during batching. It was noted that when a three-way comparison was done between the reference batch, reduced binder batch and reduced binder batch with CO₂ addition, as result carbon dioxide allow for approximately 5 to 8% reduction in binder loading without compromising strength.

In the year (2017), S.R.Lingampalli et al studied recent progress in the Photocatalytic reduction of Carbon dioxide. The study involves Semiconductor based photocatalysts and Multicomponent Photocatalysts. It was observed that in the photoreduction of CO₂, CO was the prominent product which further require to be process to generate Methanol or other products.

In the year (2016), Shunjie Liu et al studied about manufacturing of polymers from carbon dioxide: Polycarbonates, Polyurethanes. The outline for the study includes process to form CO₂ based Polyurethanes, Polycarbonates and industrialization process of CO₂ polyols. It was noted that in development of di-nuclear and binary anchored catalyst system, in addition to high catalytic activities, high stereoregularity can achieved for CO₂ approxides copolymerization. However, some of the system has a toxic metal center and also lengthy synthesis route and thus are not industrially applicable.

In the year (2016), Erdogan Alper et al studied CO₂ utilization: Development in conversion processes. The outline for the study includes processes to convert CO₂ into Urea, Methanol, Salicylic acid, Formaldehyde, Formic acid, cyclic carbonates and copolymers. On the basis of various processes, it was found that being a suitable source of carbon, CO₂ can potentially replace many oil and gases in synthesis applications and also it can replace toxic building blocks like CO and Phosgene in many commercial processes such as Methanol and Polyurethane manufacturing.

In the year (2016), Vaclav Kosie et al studied application of waste ceramic dust as replacement of cement, using experimental approaches. The outline of the study includes mechanical and durability properties of concrete blocks with addition of different dusty wastes. In this study, it was observed that compressive strength of ceramics containing plasters was up to 3 times higher as compared with the cement plaster but it was also noted that the thermal conductivity of ceramic containing plasters was also higher.

In the year (2014), Da-young oh et al studied about CO₂ emissions reduction by reuse of building material waste in the Japanese cement industry. In this study DIBMs (Demolished inorganic building material) and WCP (Waste construction powder) were used in the manufacturing of cement, resulting in various benefits such as substitution of limestone, decreasing the quantity of disposed waste and reduction in CO₂ emissions. This method can also be considered as a recycling method for the cement in the building material waste. It was noted that sharp reduction of CO₂ emissions was approximately about 0.06 million tons to 0.72 million tons from that of 29.4 million tons recorded annual CO₂ from cement production.

In the year (2014), Rosa M. et al studied about carbon capture, storage and utilization technologies. The outline for the study includes a comprehensive comparison of impacts on environment by carbon capture and storage (CCS) and carbon capture and utilization (CCU) technologies. It was noted that according to the CCS studies the global warming potential (GWP) from power plants can be reduced by 63-82%, while for CCU, the GWP varies widely depending upon the utilization.

In the year (2014), Udara S.P.R. et al studied waste heat utilization for CO₂ capture in cement industry. In this study high temperature flue gas from the cement kiln were used to produce steam in waste heat boiler. The parameter for the study includes required surface area for heat exchange, cost of installing the area and payback time of the installation. It was observed that to implement amine-based carbon capture process in the cement industry, heat integration with the cement kiln system by installing a waste heat boiler can be an economical option for the industries.

In the year (2014), Roozbeh Feiz et al studied about improvement of Carbon dioxide performance of cement industry. The study has done in two parts, the first part gives a general structured overview of the options for improvement for the cement industry and the second part of the study provides the information about the feasibility for the different categories of measures that can reduce the CO₂ emissions. It was found that a framework was developed which can be applied and facilitated strategic discussions for decision making, many different measures can be assessed on it and best one can be identified which can be applied in cement industry.

In the year (2014), Mar-Perwez et al studied CO₂ capture and utilization in cement, Iron and steel industries. The outline for the study includes a comparative study of the implementation of CCS, CCU and CCUS technology among Cement, Iron and Steel industries, it can be concluded that in future at large scale it will be feasible to retrofit Carbon capture technologies in these industries.

In the year (2014), Matteo C. Romano et al studied the calcium looping process for low carbon dioxide emission cement plants. The outline of the study includes analysis of the application of the Calcium looping process in cement plants with CO₂ capture. The result shows that the reduction in CO₂ emissions was decreased by 94% in comparison to the plant which lacks CO₂ capture.

In the year (2014), A.A. Aliabdo et al studied Re-use of waste marble dust in production of cement and concrete. The outline for the study includes properties of modified cement with marble dust and properties of concrete contained marble dust as sand replacement. In the study, it was found that the use of marble dust in concrete production gradually increases the mechanical and physical properties of concrete with the lower water/cement ratio.

In the year (2013), Yufei Wang et al studied about CO₂ reduction technologies in China's cement industry on different parameters. On analyzing these technologies, it was found that among these technologies energy efficiency improvements and use of alternative fuels will be some of the best options to reduce the emission from cement industry. Clinker substitution, which is used to reduce clinker-cement

ratio and energy intensity, can result in significant cost benefit.

In the year (2013), Amin Tehari et al studied about CO₂ chemical conversion to useful products. The outline for the study includes conversion of CO₂ to carbonaceous fuels, energy constraints and catalytic reduction of CO₂. It was noted that CO₂ can be converted into wide variety of useful products such as fuels to chemical commodities and polymers, with the latest advancements in CO₂ chemical transformation has presented, with the emphasis on the energy constraints, materials and process design.

In the year (2012), F. Gabriel Acien Fernandez et al studied the conversion of CO₂ into biomass by microalgae. The outline for the study includes the efficiency of CO₂ use in microalgae culture, production of biofuels from microalgae, reduction of CO₂ emission by producing commodities. In these studies, it was observed that microalgae can't reduce the emissions of CO₂ because the produced biomass does not offer long term CO₂ storage but it can be used in the improvement of wastewater treatment processes that reduce the energy consumption and allow the reuse of nutrients contained in the waste.

In the year (2012), Emad et al studied a novel design for green and economical cement manufacturing. The outline for the study includes the introduction of a new design of pyro-processing unit in a cement industry. Due to these, the decomposition reactions that produce pure carbon dioxide were separated from other reactions. Without any fuel consumption, decomposition reaction takes place in a calciner by utilizing hot CO₂ stream as heat carrier. It was noted that by this new process 66% of CO₂ emissions can be reduced and also 2.3% energy consumption can be reduced to the already existing processes.

In the year (2012), Young Jic et al studied utilization of waste concrete powder as a substitution material for cement. The outline for the study includes waste concrete powder that was manufactured from high quality recycled aggregate, whose particles were angular similar to cement and had hydrated product attached to them. This powder was mixed with mortar and was analyzed. It was noted that it is desirable to keep WCP (waste concrete powder) replacement below 15% in mortar because higher the level of WCP used, lower the compressive strength becomes.

In the year (2011), Mauricio Naranjo et al studied about CO₂ sequestration from the cement industry. The outline for the study includes development of CO₂ capture and sequestration technologies at commercial scale in U.S. cement plant. It was found that various factors such as lack of proper CO₂ capture technology also misfit of the equipment, unreliability in the CO₂ product on transportation and storage regarding the effect of impurities are need improvement to get better results from this technology.

In the year (2011), Christoph Gebald et al studied Amine-based Nano fibrillated cellulose as adsorbent for CO₂ capture from air. In this study an amine-based adsorbent to capture CO₂ was developed. The Parameter for the study was CO₂ adsorption and CO₂ desorption measurements. It was found that under proper condition cyclic CO₂ absorption can be observed.

In the year (2010), S. Kent Hoekman et al studied about recycling of carbon dioxide by reaction with renewably

generated hydrogen to produce Methane. In this study, to determine the most effective operating conditions for the process and to examine the recycling CO₂ in combustion exhaust to methane, a series of experiments was conducted. The experiments covered testing the effects of the reactant gas mixing ratios of H₂ to CO₂, space velocity and the temperature of catalyst. It was noted that approximately 60% conversion of CO₂ can be achieved in the 300-350°C temperature range.

In the year (2010), J. Blamey studied the calcium looping cycle for large scale CO₂ capture. The outline for the study includes reversible reaction between CaO and CO₂ for removal of CO₂ from power station exhaust and to generate pure stream of CO₂ for geological sequestration. This technology is attracting attention as it has excellent opportunity for integration with cement industry and also for its extremely cheap sorbent crushed limestone. It was found that the sorbent derived from natural limestone decreases its reactivity over a number of cycles of reaction with CO₂. Therefore, a number of different methods to either reduce the rate of decay to reactivity, increase reactivity or to reactivate the sorbent, must be employed to run the process efficiently.

In the year (2009), George A.Olah studied on chemical recycling of carbon dioxide to Methanol and Dimethyl Ether. The outline for the study includes chemical conversion to methanol and Dimethyl ether, Catalytic hydrogenative conversion of CO₂ to methanol and Electrochemical production of Methanol from CO₂ and H₂O. It was observed that the chemical recycling of carbon dioxide to Dimethyl ether and methanol provides a carbon neutral, renewable and inexhaustible source for efficient transportation fuels for strong and transporting energy.

In the year (2009), V.Nikulshina et al studied CO₂ capture from atmospheric air. The parameter of the study includes continuous removal of CO₂ from atmospheric air through Carbonation and Calcination process using concentrated solar energy as the source of high temperature process heat. It was found that the process was highly efficient for the removal of CO₂ from atmospheric air however it is not economical for large scale projects.

In the year (2009), Deborah N. et al studied Carbon dioxide sequestration in cement kiln dust through mineral carbonation. The parameter of the study includes mass change, thermal analysis and X-ray diffraction. In this study carbonation reaction were performed through the reaction of CO₂ with Ca(OH)₂. It was found that the reuse of Cement kiln dust for CO₂ sequestration has the potential for meeting future emission reduction goals.

In the year (2009), D.J.Barker studied use of CCS technology in cement plant. The study outlines the various factors, such as technology for CO₂ capture, its cost and its limitations that are to be assessed during the use of any CCS technology in the plant. It was found that the process of oxy combustion is considered to offer the cheapest cost solution in cement plant for capturing CO₂.

In the year (2008), The-vhe Nguyen et al studied Photoreduction of CO₂ to fuels under sunlight using optical fiber reactor. The outline for the study includes gel derived TiO₂-SiO₂ mixed oxide based photocatalysts to reduce CO₂ with H₂O to fuels under sunlight by using a solar concentrator. It was observed that an efficient photoreactor

with high photoactivity catalyst is an essential step for commercial scale applications to produce renewable fuels.

In the year (2008), N.Rodriguez et al studied process for capturing carbon dioxide from the calcinations of CaCO₃ used in cement manufacturing. The outline for the study includes the process that was based on the use of hot CaO particles to flow heat from a circulating fluidized bed combustor to a calciner. It was noted that with the use of this process CO₂ emission of a cement plant can be reduce around 60%.

In the year (2007), Kari Skjanes et al studied a multidisciplinary, biological approach using solar energy to capture CO₂ while producing H₂ and high value products. The outline for the study includes the methodology that capture CO₂ in photobioreactors, using microalgae to convert industrially produced CO₂ and solar energy into algae biomass by photosynthesis. It was observed that method was quite efficient but the algae required are obtained by identifying wild type strains with optimal capabilities thus making it less feasible.

In the year (2006), Chritos et al studied the use of construction and demolition wastes as raw materials in cement clinker production. The aim of this study was to investigate the use of construction and demolition wastes as substitute of raw material of Portland cement. In this study, the relativity of generated mixtures was evaluated on the basis of free lime content. The results showed that without affecting negatively the cement clinker properties, recycled aggregates enhanced the burn ability of the cement.

In the year (2003), C.A. Hendriks et al studied emission reduction of greenhouse gases from the cement industry. The outline for the study includes the detailed analysis of cement production process to identify the ways to reduce GHG emissions. It was observed that by some of the ways such as, improving energy efficiency, shifting to more energy efficient process, shifting to lower clinker/cement ratio, shifting to lower carbon fuels, emission of CO₂ can be reduced.

In the year (2002), S.Kaneco et al studied high efficiency electrochemical CO₂ to Methane conversion method using methanol with lithium supporting electrolysis. In this study, for various lithium supporting salts the electrochemical reduction of CO₂ with a Cu electrode in methanol was investigated. As methanol is widely used in industries as CO₂ adsorbent at low temperature. Thus, electrochemical reduction of CO₂ can be widely used to produce fuel, for storage of solar energy and production of intermediate material for petrochemical industry.

In the year (2002), Daniel. J.et al studied carbon sequestration utilizing industrial solid residues. The outline for the study includes reaction of CO₂ with non-carbonated minerals. It was found that the sequestration of non-carbonated materials is comparatively low with other materials, if the industries effectively process such streams, it will lead to cost effective direct aqueous carbonation technology.

In the year (2000), Nuran et al studied the use of waste ceramic tile in cement production. The parameter of the study includes pozzolanic properties of waste tile, setting time, stability, particle size, density, specific surface area and strength of cement after mixing the powder of waste ceramic

tile. It was noted that waste tile can be used as pozzolan and up to 35% weight ratio waste tile can be added in cement.

III. CONCLUSIONS

From the literature it has been observed that increase in industrial activities has resulted gradual increase of CO₂ emissions in the atmosphere. The major sector where CO₂ reduction is urgently required is the cement industries. These industries are located near the raw material site's location. In general, nearly 440 grams of CO₂ emissions is observed during the calcinations of 1 kilogram of calcium carbonate. As observed from the literature, alternative methods to convert CO₂ into polymeric products, substitution of the raw material with civil construction waste, conversion of CO₂ into value added products like Ethylene Carbonate, Dimethyl carbonate, Methanol, Urea, Ammonia, Bioplastic, Biofuels and other products like this are possible. Calcium looping technology is one of the promising technologies that can reduce CO₂ emissions from the cement industry nearly by 90%. Some of the technologies are under pilot scale and some are commercialized. Techno economic feasibility is an important part that has to be considered by working in this area. Each technology has got its own limitation and benefits. The future work in this area is related to experimental work and collection of data to reduce CO₂ emissions from the Cement plant sites.

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