

Biogas Infrastructure from Farm-Scale to Regional  
Level, Line-pack Storage in a Biogas grid.

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## Title and Co-authors

# Biogas Infrastructure from Farm-Scale to Regional Level, **Line-pack Storage in a Biogas Grid.**

Co-authors

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Flexigas  
project:



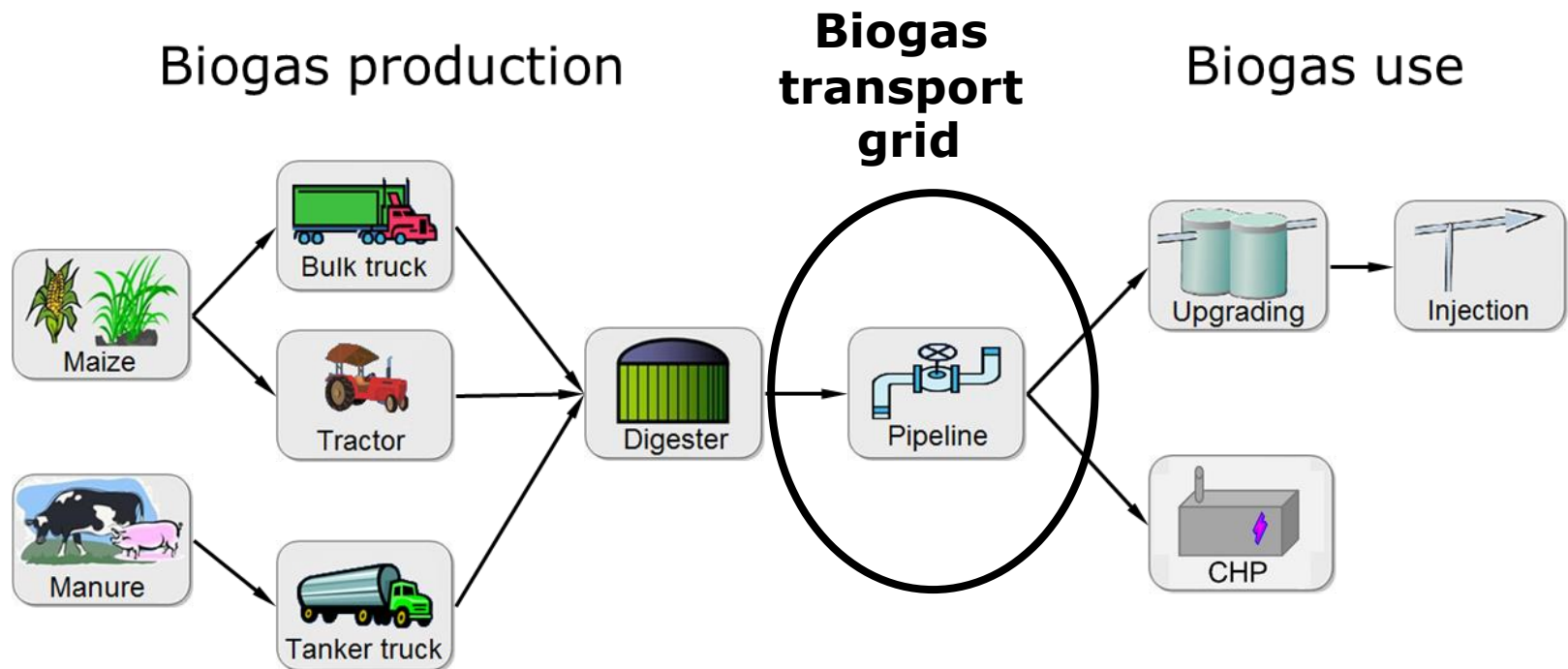
This presentation:

- \* Introduction
- \* Biogas transport grid
- \* Model of line-pack storage
- \* Results
- \* Conclusions



# Introduction

A chain model of biogas production and use to estimate costs and energy use.



## Recent work:

Biogas infrastructures from farm to regional scale,  
prospects of biogas transport grids.

(E.J. Hengeveld c.s., Biomass & Bioenergy, 2016).

- Model of a dedicated biogas grid
- Collection of biogas to a hub, using pipelines
- Costs and energy use of biogas transport to a hub
- Two different lay-outs of the grid;  
    a star lay-out and a fishbone layout
- Different digester scales and region sizes



# Introduction

Line-pack storage in a biogas transport grid:

The main function of the grid is biogas transport.

Additionally pipelines may serve as a storage facility by means of line-pack storage, *i.e.* a surplus of biogas can be stored in the grid by controlling the pressures

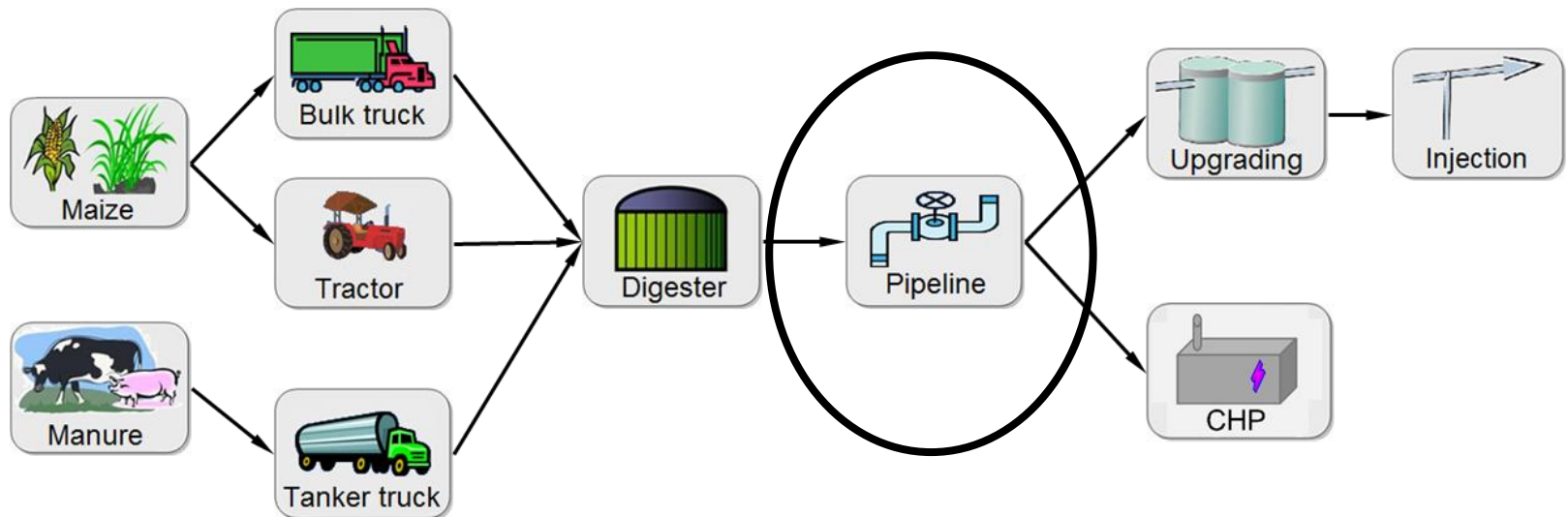


# Introduction

## Research question:

For a grid with lowest transport costs in the transport model.

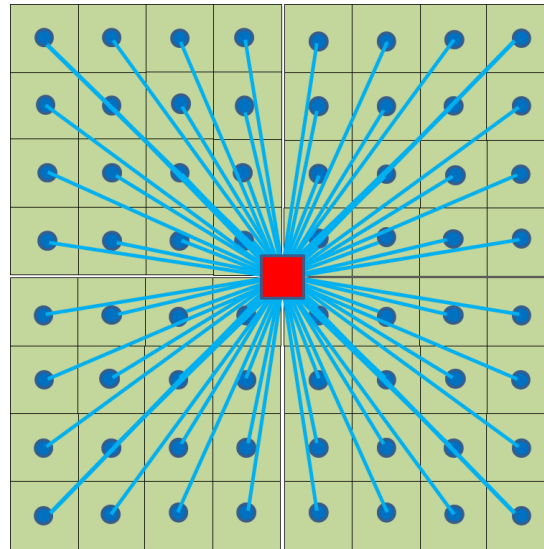
- What volume of line-pack storage is available in the biogas grid?
- How do costs of line-pack storage depend on grid lay-out and region and digester scale?
- How do line-pack storage costs compare with costs of other types of biogas storage?



# Model of biogas transport grid


Star  
lay-out

Individual  
pipelines to  
connect each  
digester to  
the hub.



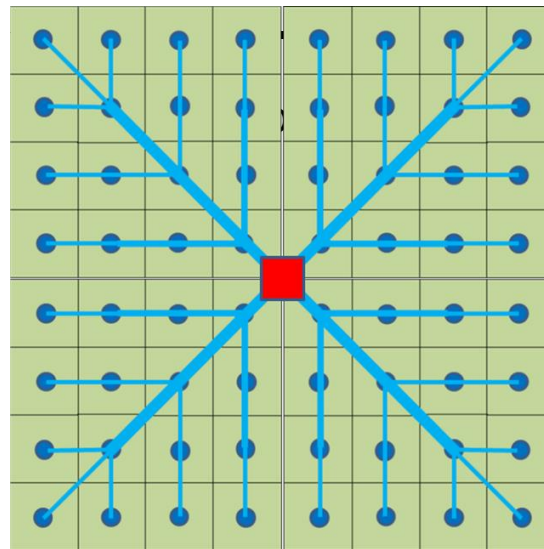
Biomass source area  
for one digester 


Compressor at the  
digester sites. 

Hub at the centre of  
the region 

Fishbone  
lay-out

Biogas  
collected in a  
main pipeline  
that leads to  
the hub.



 Minimize biogas  
transport costs  
(€ct m<sup>-3</sup>)  
by choosing the  
diameter of the  
pipeline-segments.





Determine the grid with lowest transport costs

Pressure in the transport grid:  $< 0.9 \text{ MPa}$

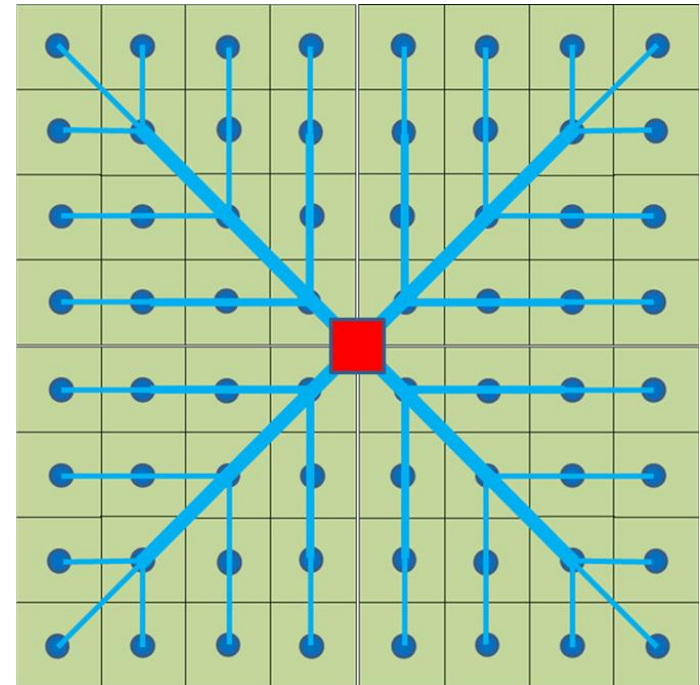
Increase pressure in the grid up to the maximum:  
 $= 0.9 \text{ MPa}$

Line-pack storage is additional biogas volume in the grid.

Extra energy costs for compression determine line-pack storage costs.

## Line-pack storage model

Example dimensions:  
Digester scale  $300 \text{ m}^3\text{h}^{-1}$



6.8 km



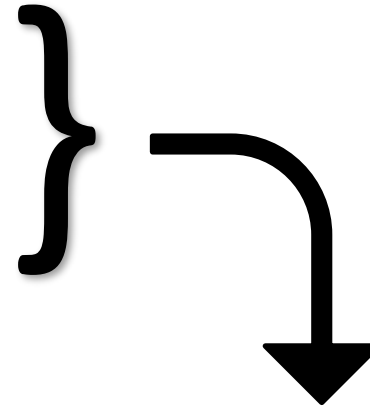
Region side = 54.3 km

Total:  $19.2 \cdot 10^3 \text{ m}^3\text{h}^{-1}$  biogas

# Line-pack storage model

Pressure in the transport grid:  $< 0.9$  MPa

Increase pressure in the grid up to the maximum:  $= 0.9$  MPa



Line-pack storage volume depends on the *pressure increase*  $\Delta P$ .

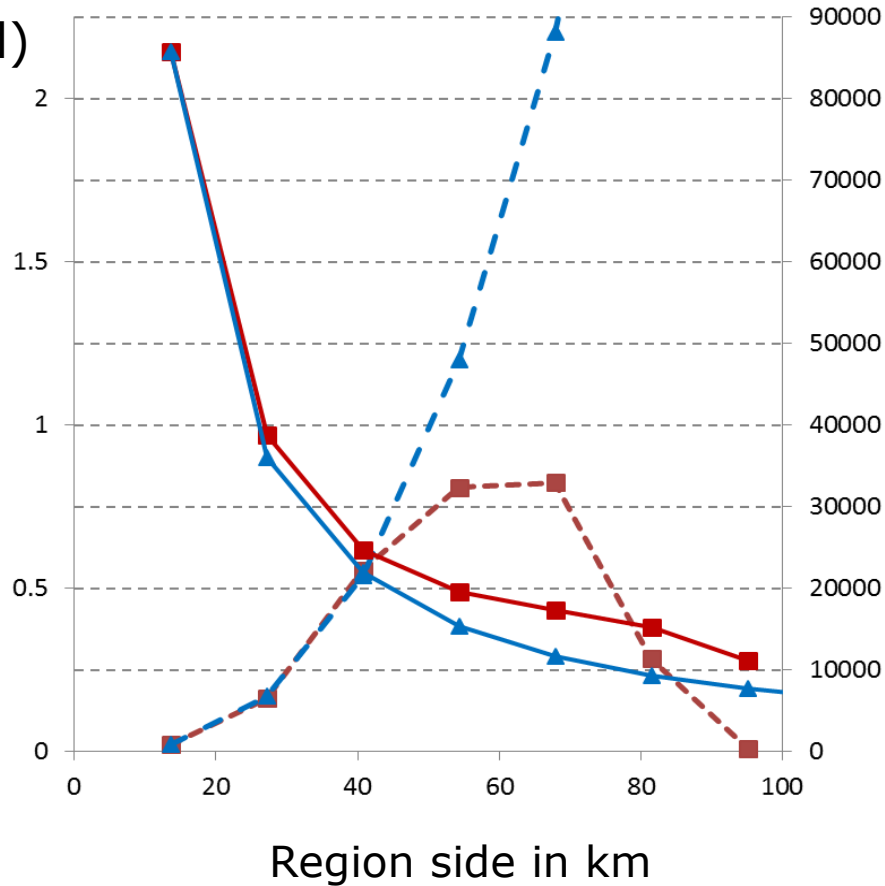
Line-pack storage volume depends on the *volume in the pipelines*.



# Results, Line-pack storage costs and volume

Costs in  
 $\text{€ct m}^{-3}\text{h}^{-1}$   
(solid)

Maximum storage  
volume in  $\text{m}^3$   
(dashed)



Digester scale is  
 $300 \text{ m}^3\text{h}^{-1}$

Star lay-out (blue)

Fishbone lay-out (red)



# Results, Line-pack storage costs

Cost structure for types of biogas storage

Biogas storage type	Variable costs	Investment costs
Pressureless storage	low to negligible	yes
Pressurized pipes	yes	yes
Line-pack storage	yes	no

Comparison of types of biogas storage

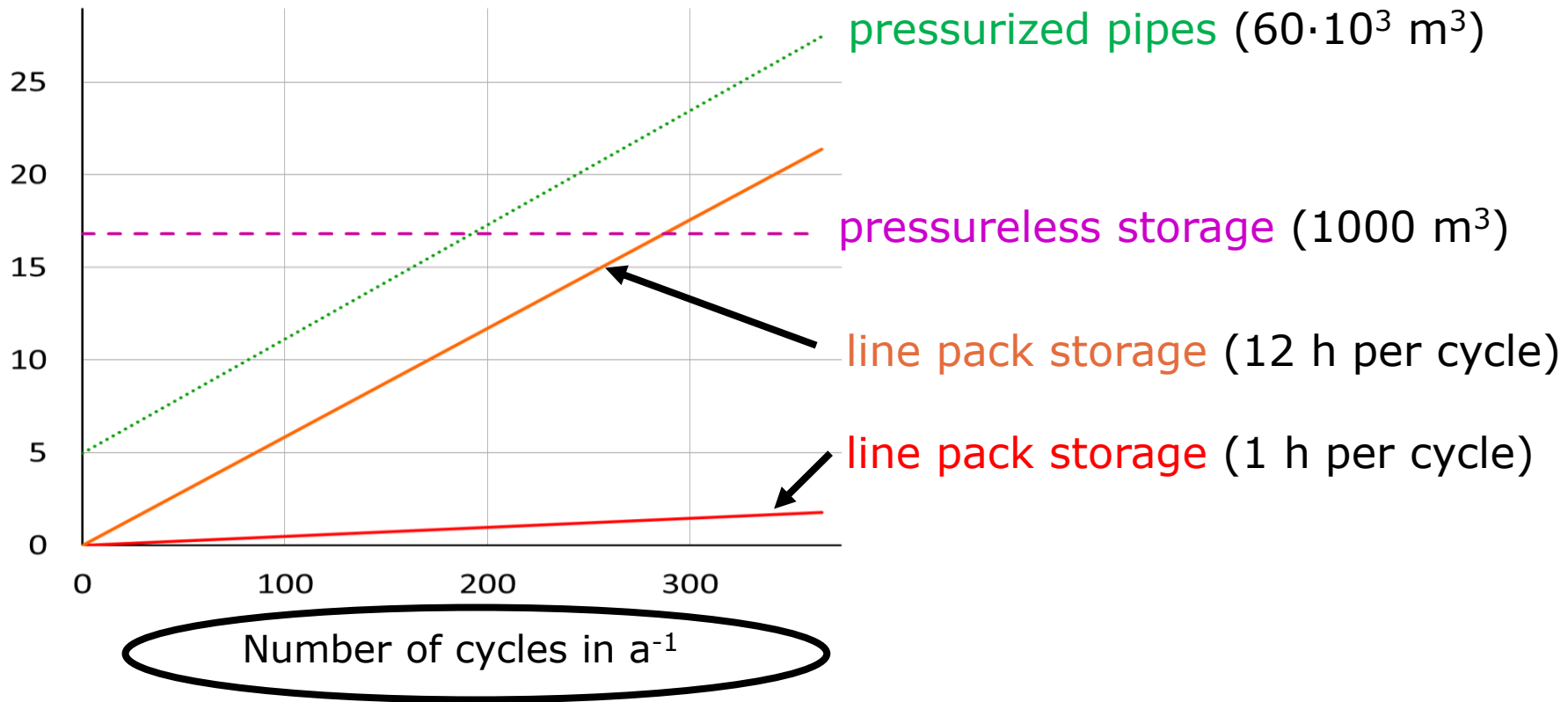
- Pressureless storage ( $1000 \text{ m}^3$ )
- Pressurized pipes ( $60 \cdot 10^3 \text{ m}^3$ )
- Line-pack storage ( $32.4 \cdot 10^3 \text{ m}^3$ )  
as in a fishbone grid with digester scale  $300 \text{ m}^3\text{h}^{-1}$   
and total biogas production  $19.2 \cdot 10^3 \text{ m}^3\text{h}^{-1}$



# Results, Line-pack storage costs

## Comparison with other biogas storage methods

Annual storage costs in € m<sup>-3</sup>



line-pack storage (32.4·10<sup>3</sup> m<sup>3</sup>)



# Conclusions

- Biogas line-pack storage costs are roughly between  $0.3 \text{ €ct m}^{-3} \text{ h}^{-1}$  and  $1.5 \text{ €ct m}^{-3} \text{ h}^{-1}$  (costs of the transport grid not included)
- Line-pack storage costs depend on the duration of the storage; so not specifically on the number of charge/discharge cycles  
Not suitable for seasonal storage
- Line-pack storage can compete with pressureless storage for short term storage

## Further research ...

- Dynamic aspects of charge/discharge of line-pack storage
- Simulation of use of line-pack storage in order to supply flexibility in electricity production.



Thank you for your attention.



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