

Focus themes

Although contributions from all CAPE areas are welcomed, three timely themes were selected as focus:

1. From data to value in the chemical and life sciences industry.

Developments in measurement, communication and digitization are keys to the Internet of Things (IoT) and open huge opportunities in almost all aspects of daily life. This IoT is considered to empower the fourth industrial revolution, including a chemical and life science industry 4.0. The abundance of data requires modern data mining, data analytics and machine learning technologies which strongly change process modeling and engineering approaches. Together with traditional computer based approaches they share the aim to create value from available data.

- *What data and transfer modes are appropriate?*
- *How can data safely be generated, transported and stored?*
- *How can data mining and automatic control approaches complement each other?*
- *How can these techniques be integrated for automatic and robust process monitoring, control and optimization of real-life processes?*
- *How do the required competences change the profile of the chemical engineer?*

2. Sustainable chemistry for the Future

Environmental challenges are gaining importance everyday and chemical engineers need to support the effort towards more sustainable products and manufacturing processes. Life cycle assessment (LCA) has become an essential tool for eco-design, but its development is still underway.

- *How to further improve LCA methods?*
- *New applications and boundaries?*
- *How to combine LCA with economical and social impact assessment?*

3. New feedstock for chemical and energy processes

As part of the energy transition, new feedstocks are required to replace conventional fossil fuels. Biomass chemistry has gained attention, and CO₂ can also be considered as a useful carbon source. However, large challenges are still open:

- *What is needed to further enhance the deployment of biorefineries?*
- *What are the technical and economical potentials of CO₂-sourced fuels and chemicals?*
- *Recycling: are urban mines the new El Dorado?*

Guest speakers

- Jan Van Impe (KU Leuven, Belgium)
Modelling, control & optimization in (bio) chemical engineering: from theory to practice
- Sergio Lucia (TU Berlin, Germany)
Current developments and potential of digitalization in chemical engineering: from machine learning to the digital twin and the internet of things
- François Maréchal (EPFL, Switzerland)
Making a country carbon neutral : the use of CAPE tools for energy system design
- André Bardow (RWTH Aachen, Germany)
What to do with CO₂? A systems perspective on carbon dioxide utilization
- Dimitri Liquet (Prayon – SPIAPS, Belgium)
The P15 Insight Project at Prayon: production data analysis for an optimized process control
- Geert Gins (GlaxoSmithKline, Belgium)
Data analytics for human health: improving vaccine production at GSK.

Organising Committee

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