



# Thermochemical Cycle of a Mixed Metal Oxide for Augmentation of Thermal Energy Storage in Solid Particles

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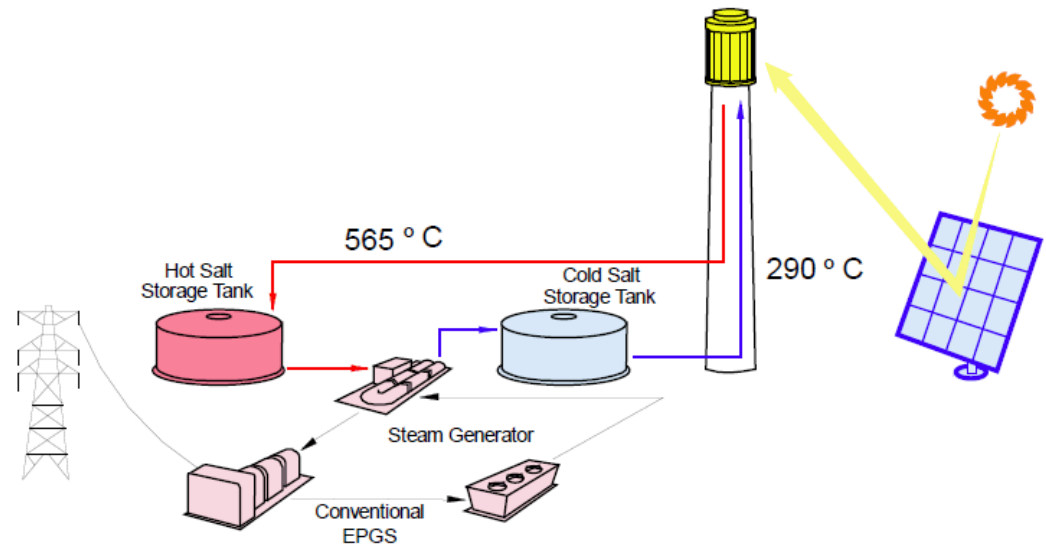


# Outline

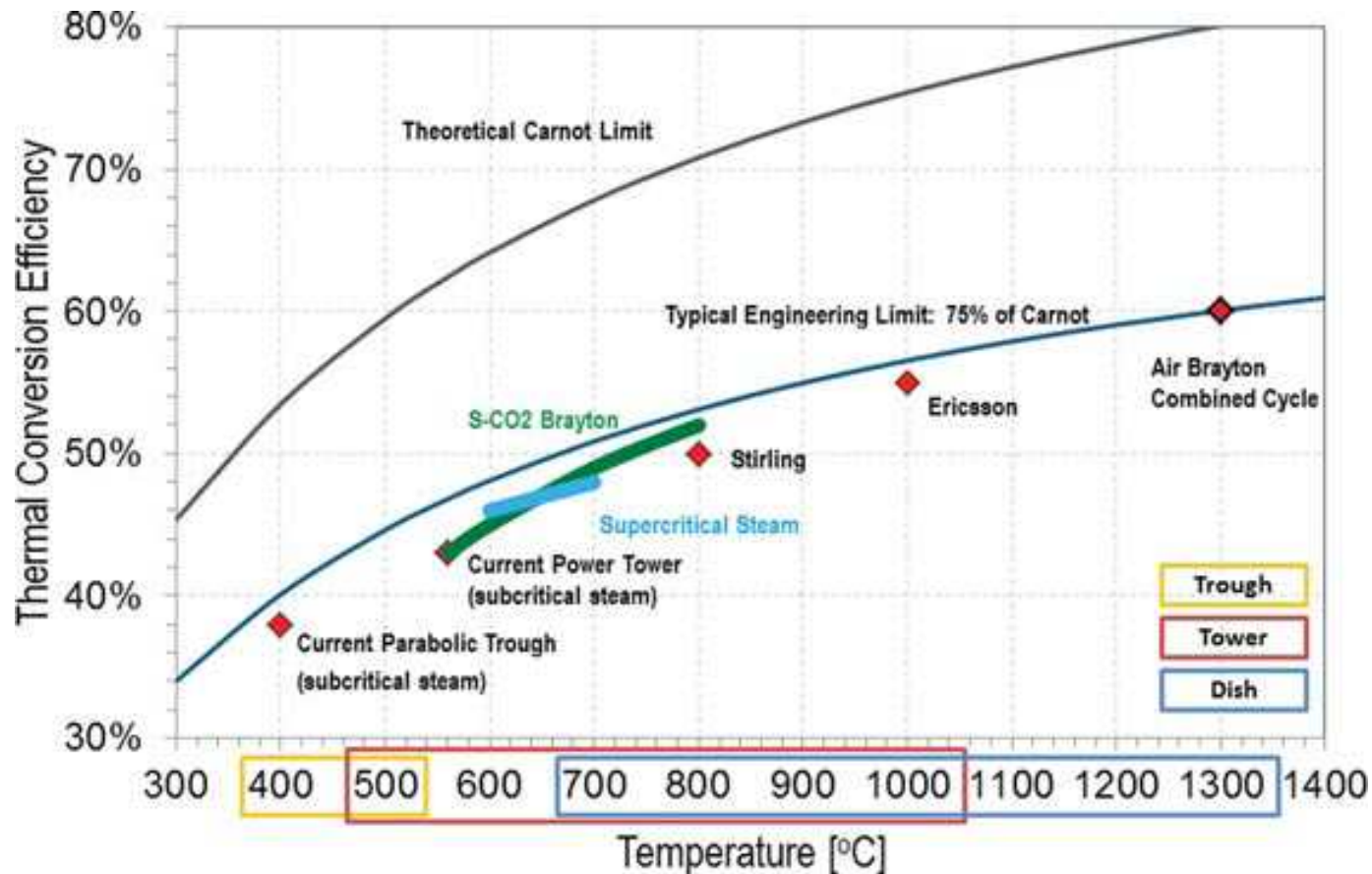
- Description of CSP/TES
  - Description of thermochemical energy storage
- Description of “Boosting”
  - Possible concepts
- Hercynite Reaction
  - Thermodynamic predictions
  - Experimental data
- Conclusion
- Suggestions for Future Work

# Concentrated Solar Power

- Solar Thermal Power
- Thermal Energy Storage
- Central Receiver
  - Heliostats ~50% of Plant Capital Costs
- Parabolic Dish
  - No Storage, Space Limitations



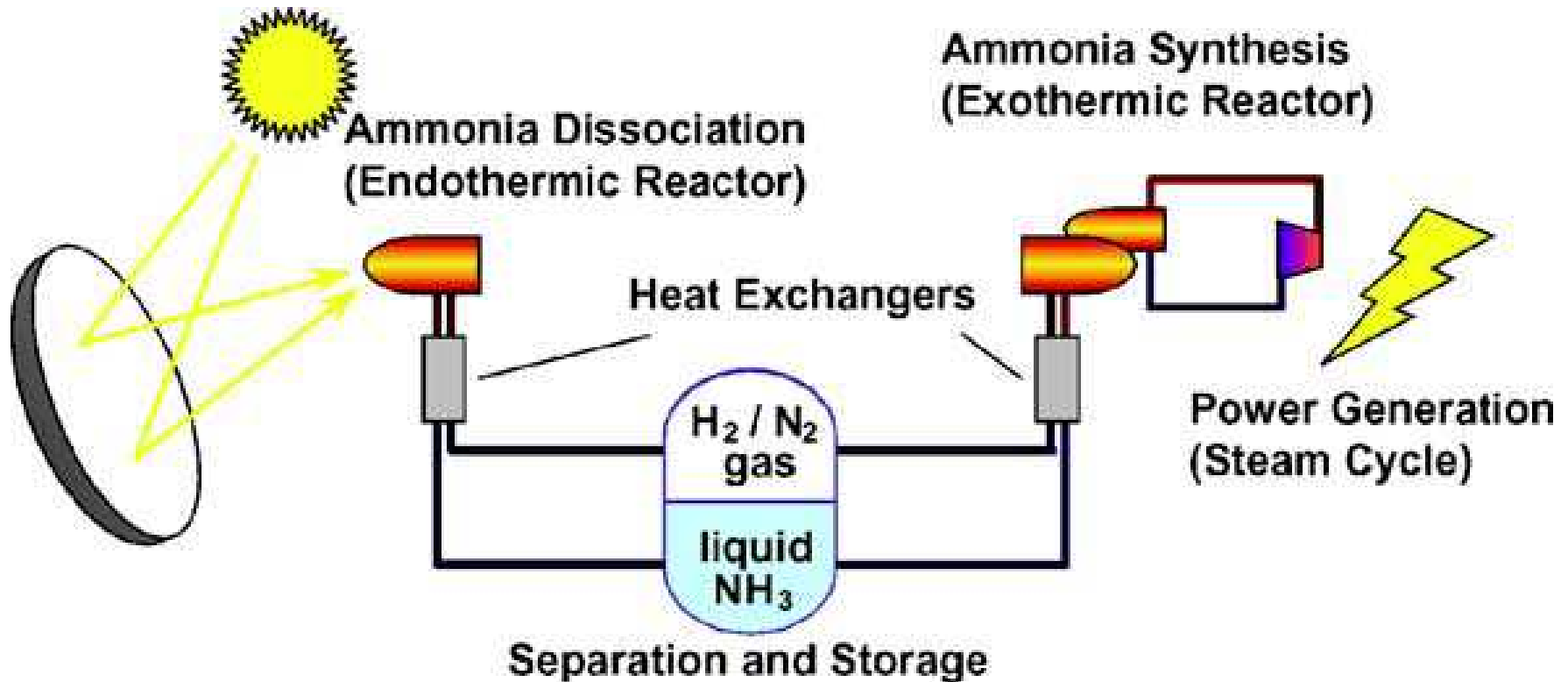
# High Temperature Operation



- More efficient thermal-to-electric conversion
- Higher thermal losses

# Thermochemical Energy Storage

- Ammonia Synthesis



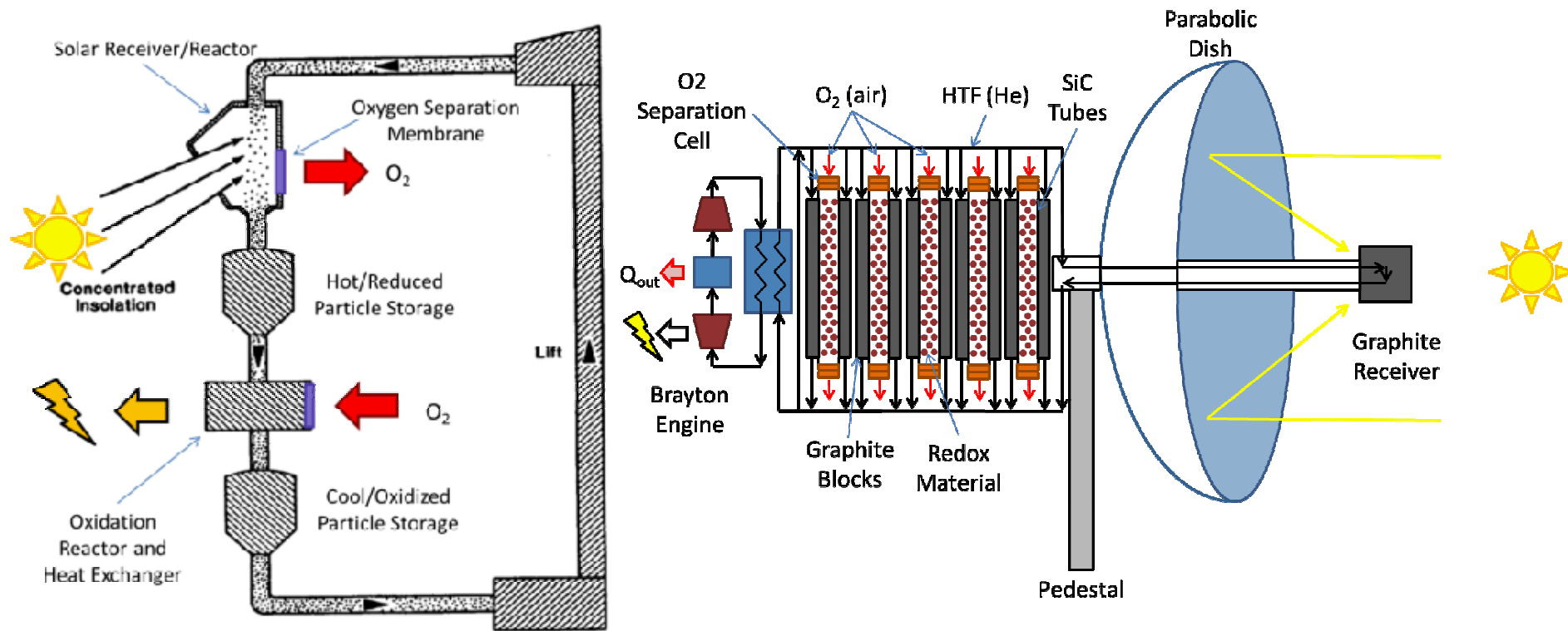


# Thermochemical “Boosting”

- Sensible AND Thermochemical Energy Storage
  - $Q_{sensible}(T) = \int_{T_0}^T C_p(T') dT'$
  - $Q_{thermochem}(T, [O_2]) = \Delta H_{rxn}(T, [O_2]) \cdot x$
- Augmenting effective heat capacity
  - Increased energy storage density
- Increased exergetic efficiency ( $Ex = \left(1 - \frac{T_0}{T}\right) Q$ )
  - Keeping reactants at temperature
  - Higher upper limit of exergetic efficiency

	$T_{high}$	$T_{low}$	Exergy Loss
<b>Ammonia Cycle</b>	700°C	500°C	11.26%
<b>“Hercynite Cycle”</b>	1200°C	1150°C	0.90%

# Potential Systems





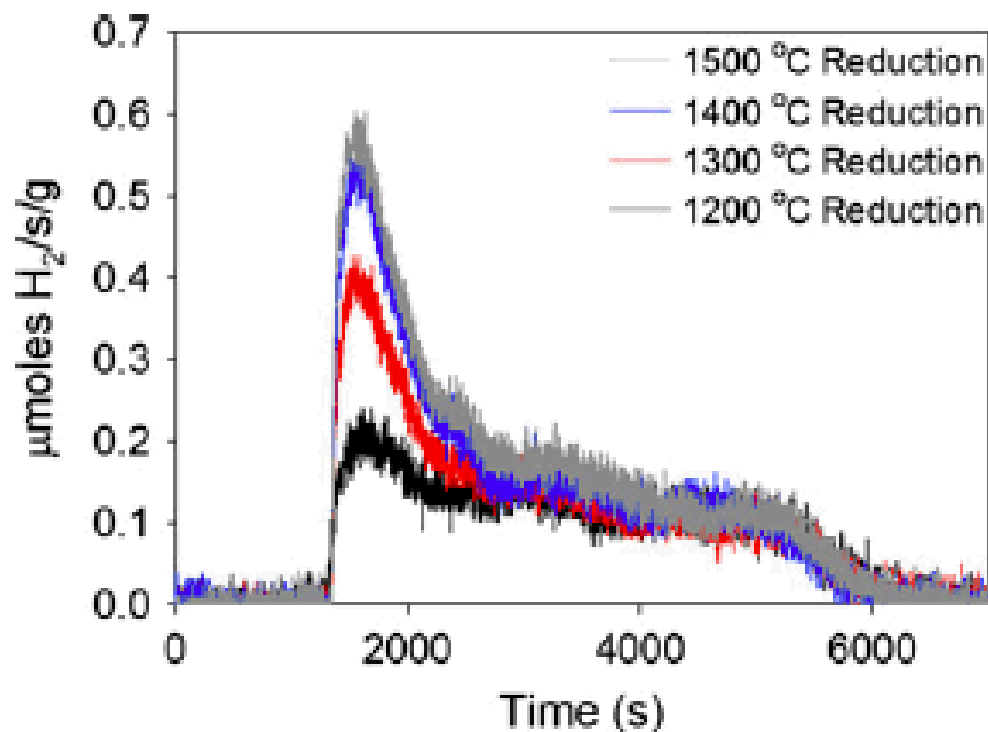
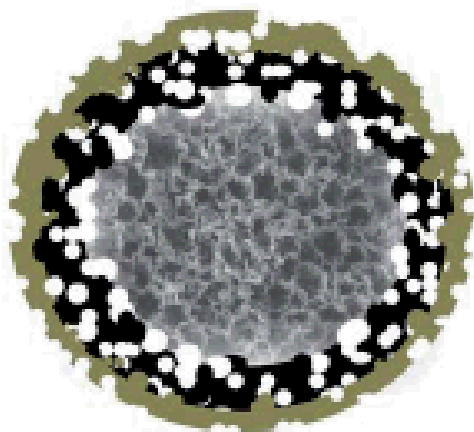
- Moving or Stationary Solid Media
  - Direct vs Indirect Storage
  - Pros and Cons to each

# Hercynite Reaction



- Water/CO<sub>2</sub> Splitting

 CoFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (Fe<sup>3+</sup>)  
 Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>







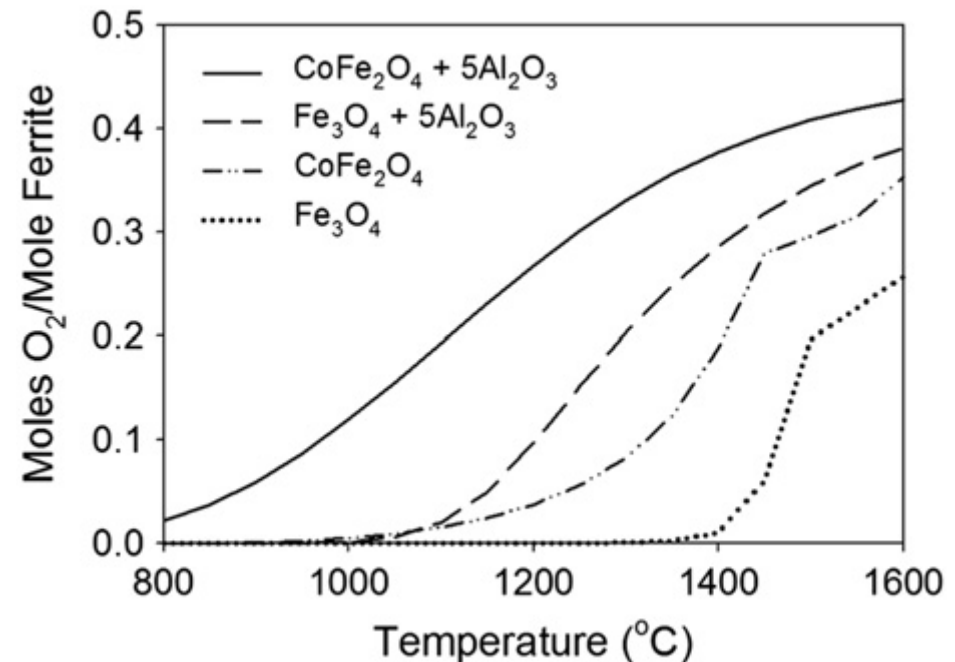
# Hercynite Cycle for Boosting

- Why Hercynite Cycle?
- Chemical Components
- Reaction Temperatures

CarboHSP Composition	wt-%
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	83
SiO <sub>2</sub>	5
TiO <sub>2</sub>	3.5
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	7.0
Other	1.5

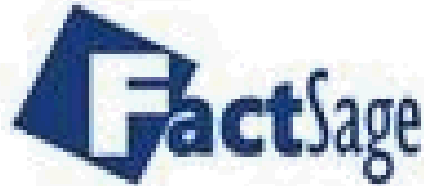
<http://www.carboceramics.com/CARBO-HSP/>

N. P. Siegel, et al., *Journal of Solar Energy Engineering*, vol. 132, p. 021008, 2010.



J. R. Scheffe, et al., *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, vol. 35, pp. 3333-3340, 2010.

# Thermodynamic Predictions

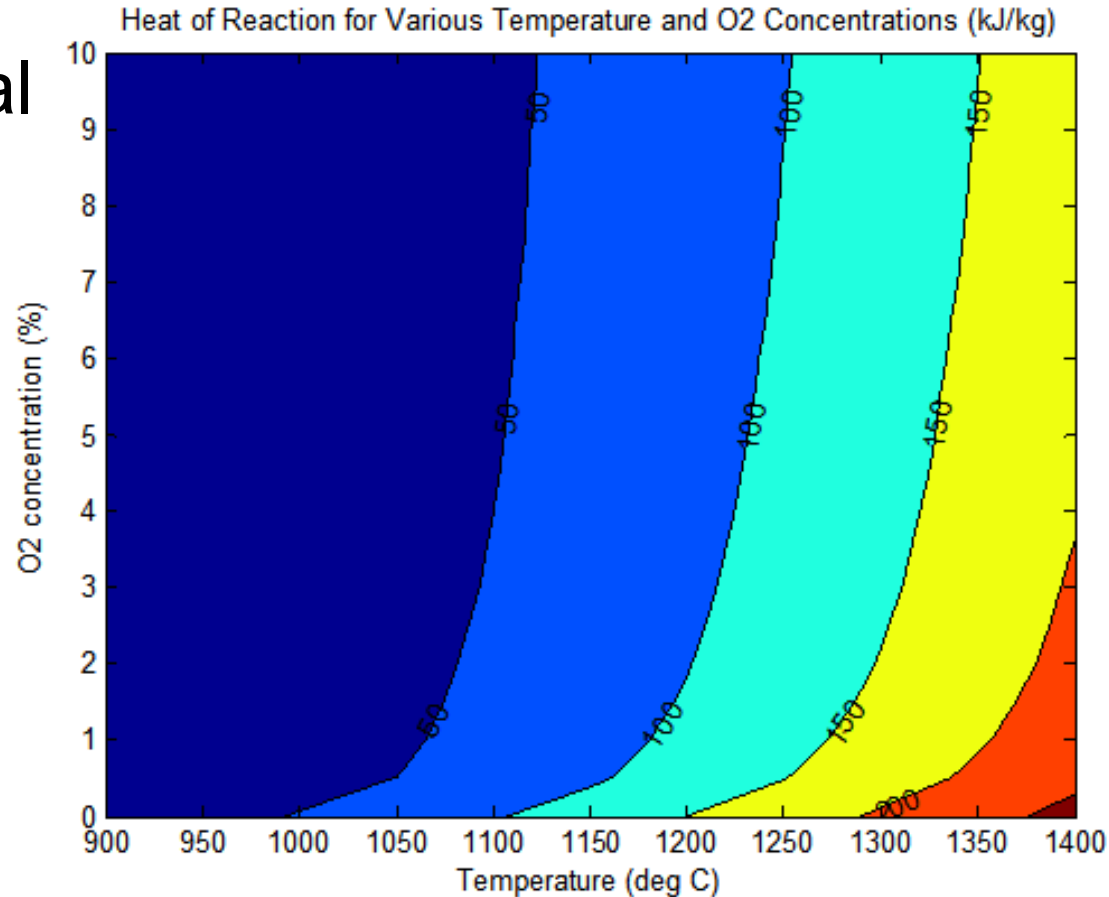


- FACTSage™ Proprietary Software
- Gibbs free energy minimization
- Specific initial materials and conditions
- Software calculates composition and state of material at thermodynamic equilibrium
  - Also calculates changes from initial conditions



# FACT – Temperature and O<sub>2</sub> Study

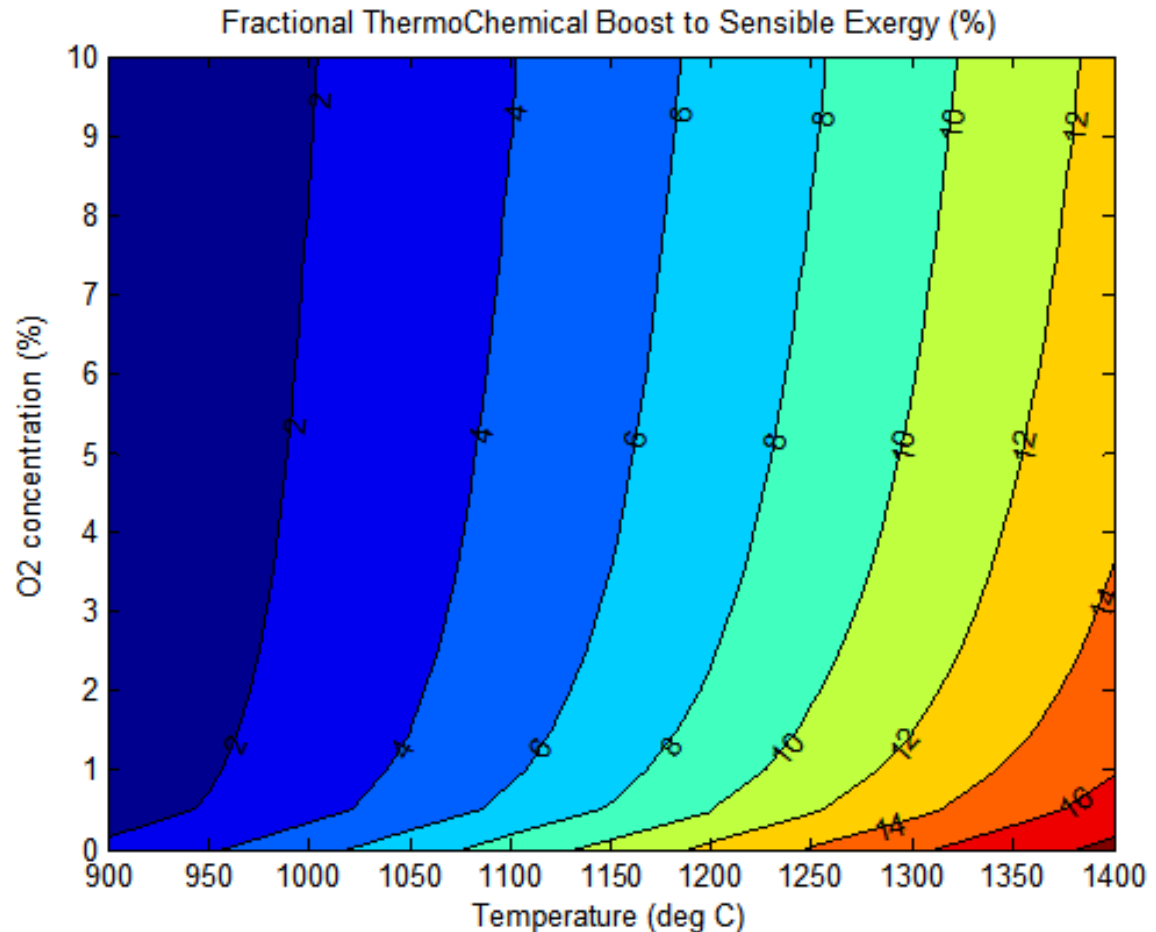
- Calculated reaction enthalpy in isothermal cycling
- Solid Material with Argon (reduction) or Oxygen (oxidation)
- Normalized per unit mass
- Corrected for any enthalpy changes in gas phase





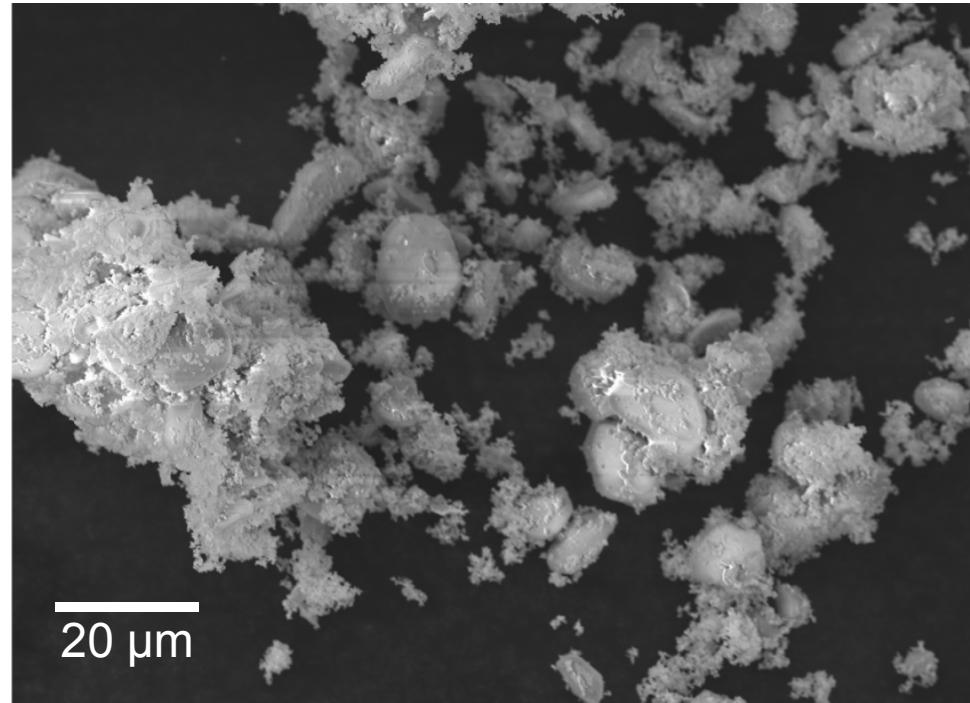
# FACT – Comparison to Exergy

- Sensible energy calculated from ambient (23°C)
- Sensible energy calculated in Excel
- Calculated thermochemical fraction of sensible energy
- Maximum is 18.5%



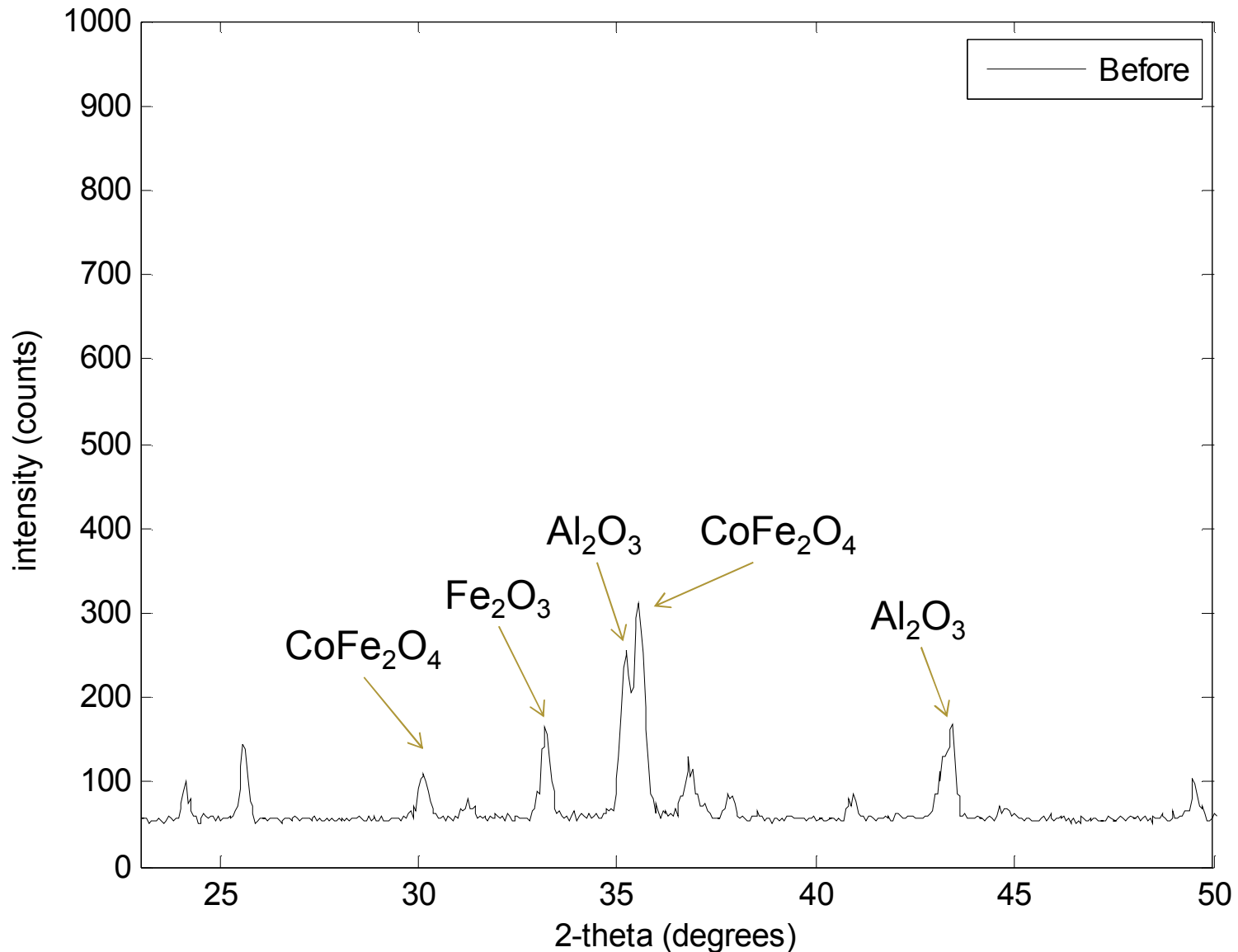
# Experimental Set Up

- Physically Mixed Powders
  - “Base Powder”
    - 1:1:3 Molar Ratio  
 $\text{CoO}:\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4:\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$
  - “Alumina-6 and -9”
    - 1:1:6 and 1:1:9 Molar Ratio  
 $\text{CoO}:\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$
  - Calcined at 850°C
- HT-XRD in-situ
- NETZSCH STA 409 CD TGA/DSC

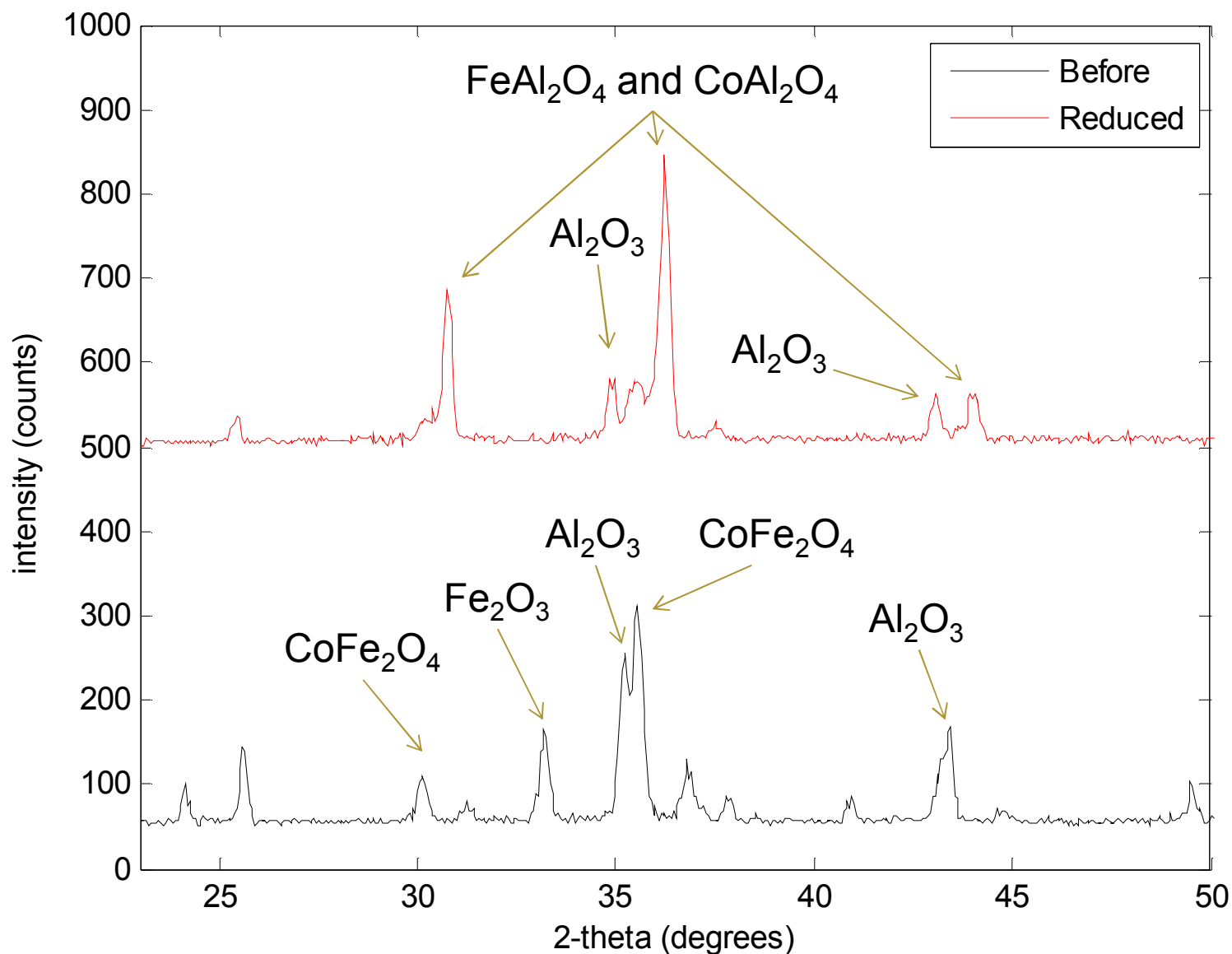




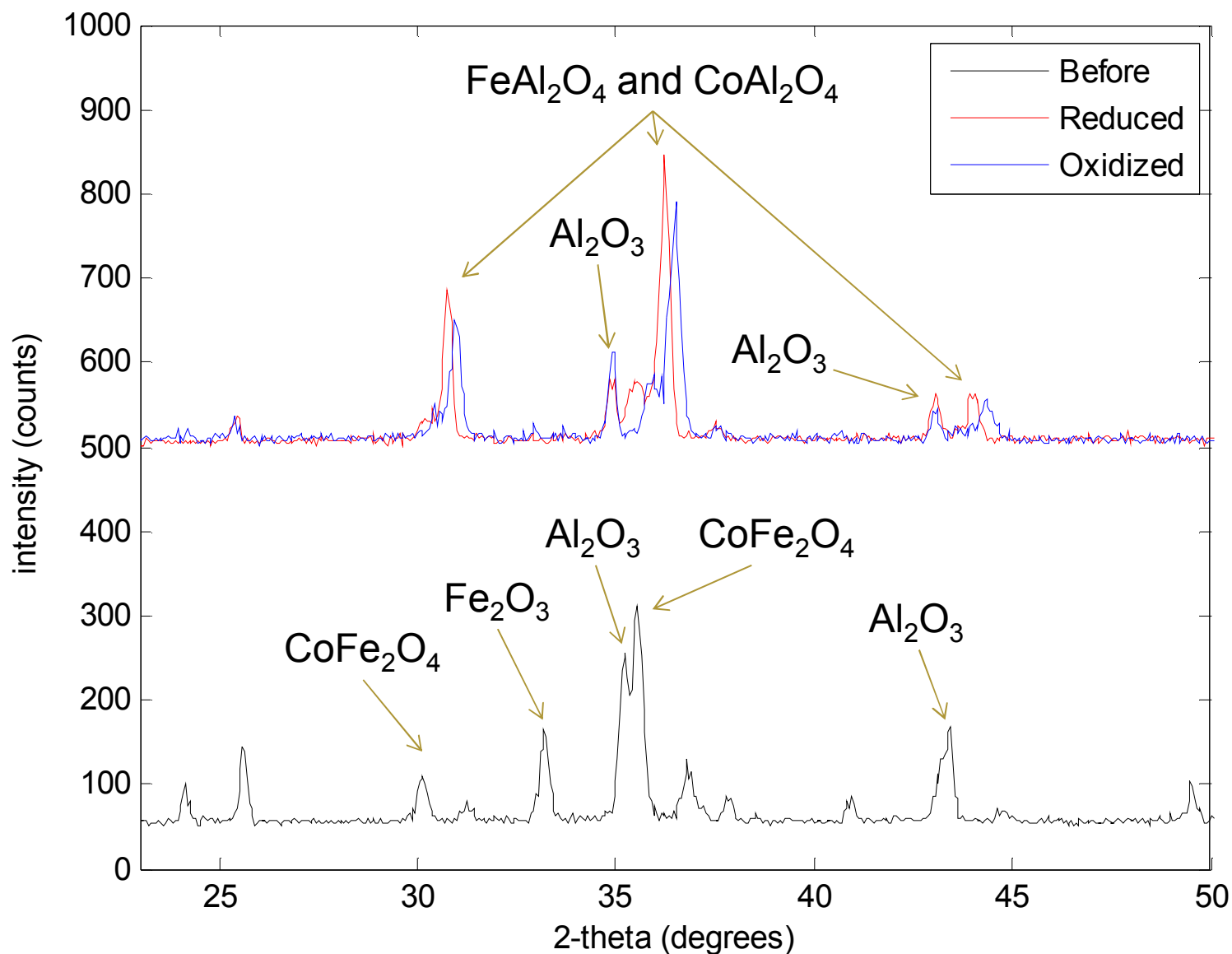
# Selected Peaks - HT-XRD *in-situ*



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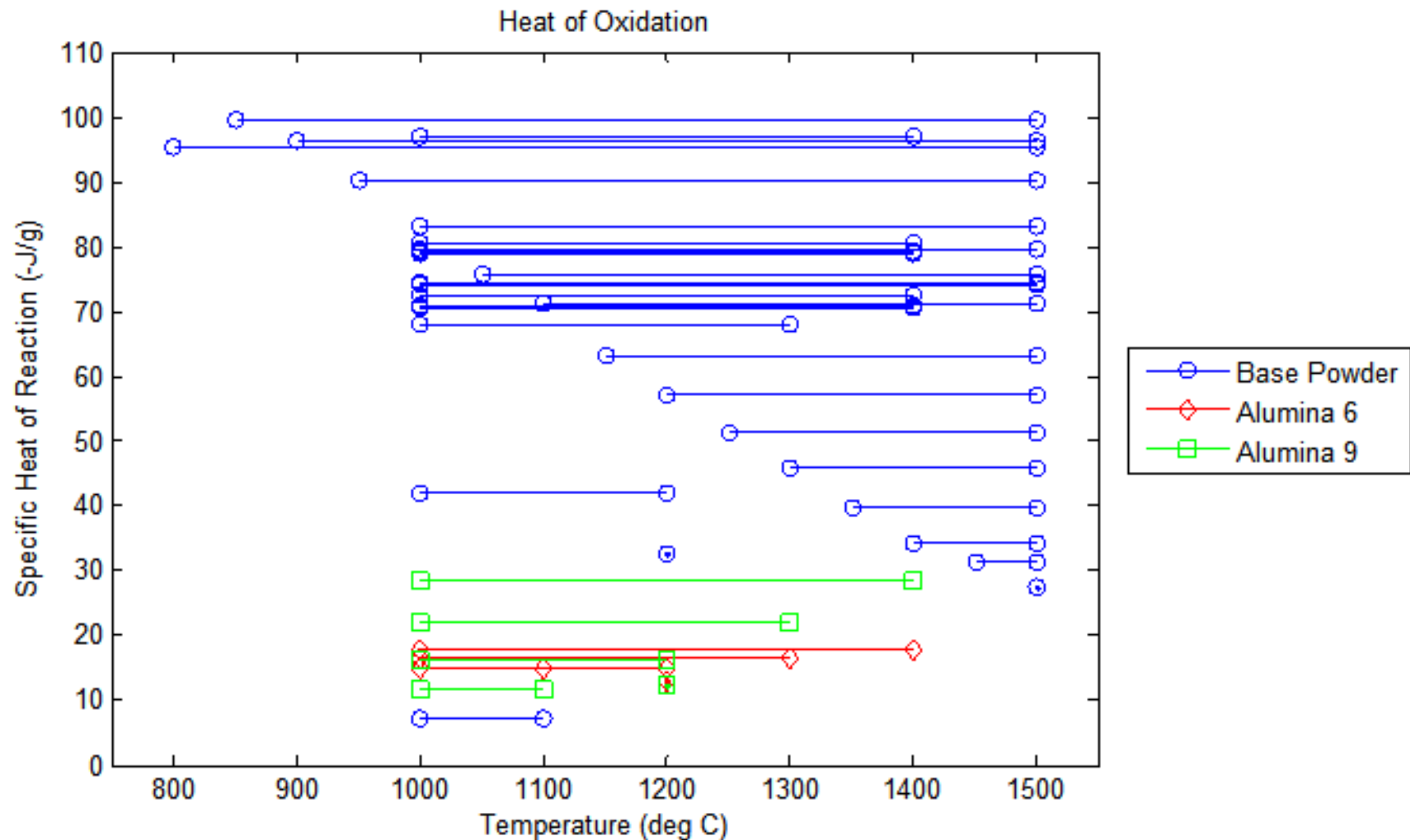
# Selected Peaks - HT-XRD *in-situ*



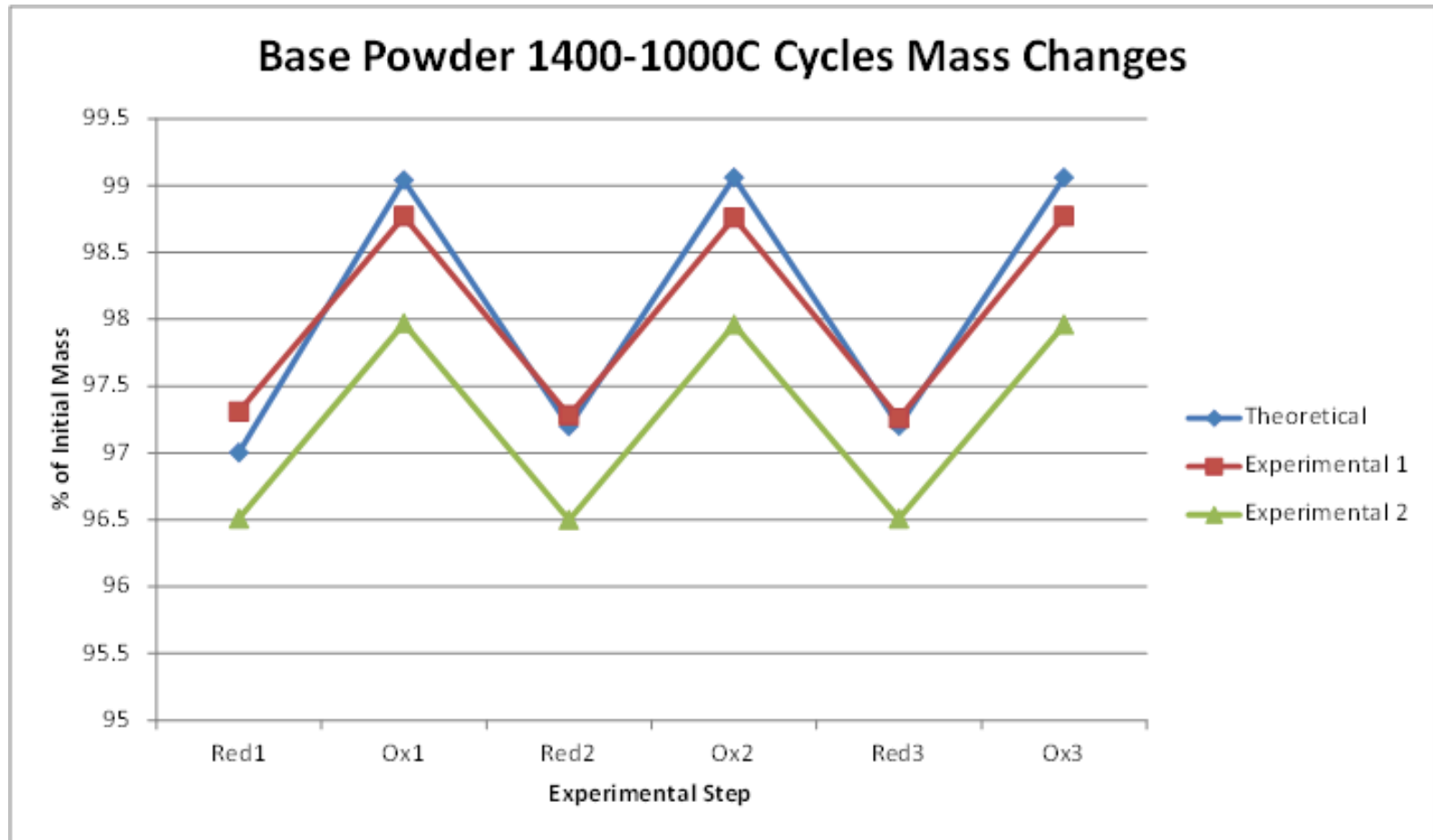




# DSC Data Summary

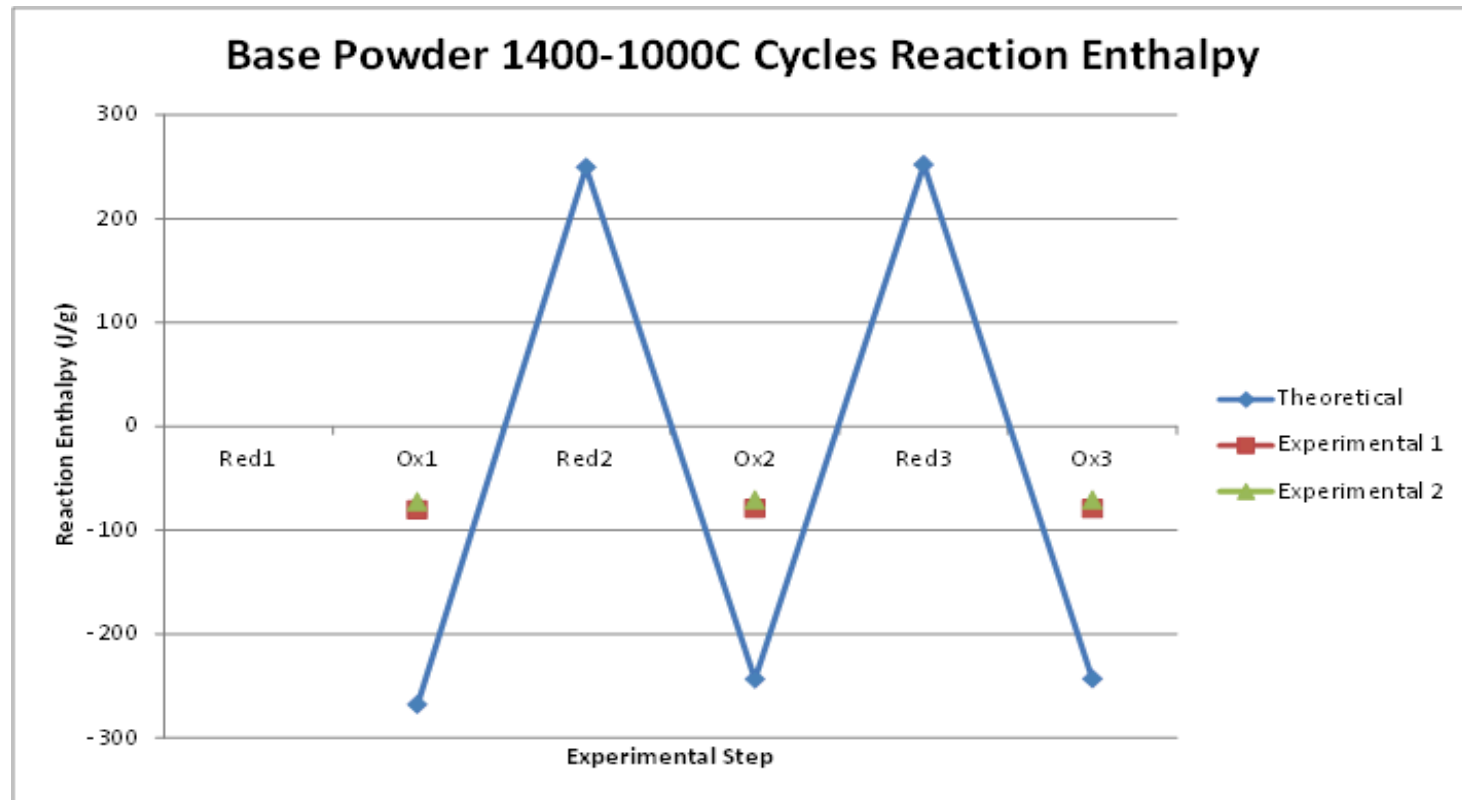


# Theoretical-Experimental Comparisons



- Theoretical calculations done with FACTSage™
- “Base Powder” Material Formulation

# Predictions for Reaction Enthalpy



- Not necessarily due to material formulation
- Probably not kinetic limitations
- Difference most likely due to:
  - Experimental error
  - Reactant contact



# Conclusions

- Thermochemical energy storage “boost” from Hercynite cycle can be up to ~19% of sensible
  - Will be lower due to kinetic/reactivity limitations and parasitic loads
  - This is probably not enough to be useful
- Preliminary results are informative
  - Matching cycle to sensible energy ranges
  - High specific reaction enthalpy is critical
  - Demonstration of isothermal energy storage
  - Additional experimental verification needed



# Suggestions for Future Work

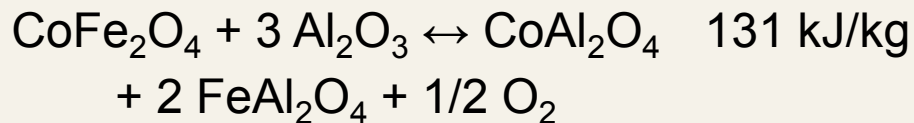
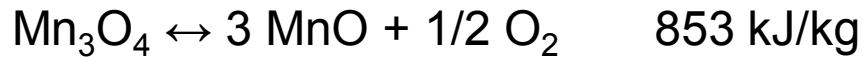
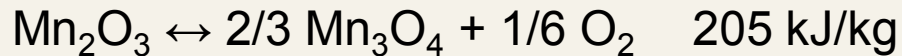
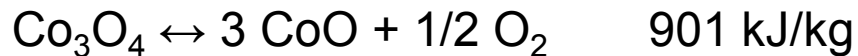
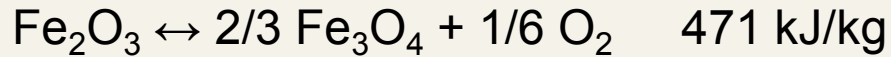
- Better exploration of “design space” for thermochemical boost
  - Thermodynamic and experimental
  - Other materials are promising
- Mass and Energy system model for more in-depth energy and exergy analysis
  - Explore potential improvements to cycle process and chemistry
  - Evaluate thermochemical benefit vs parasitic losses



# New Materials

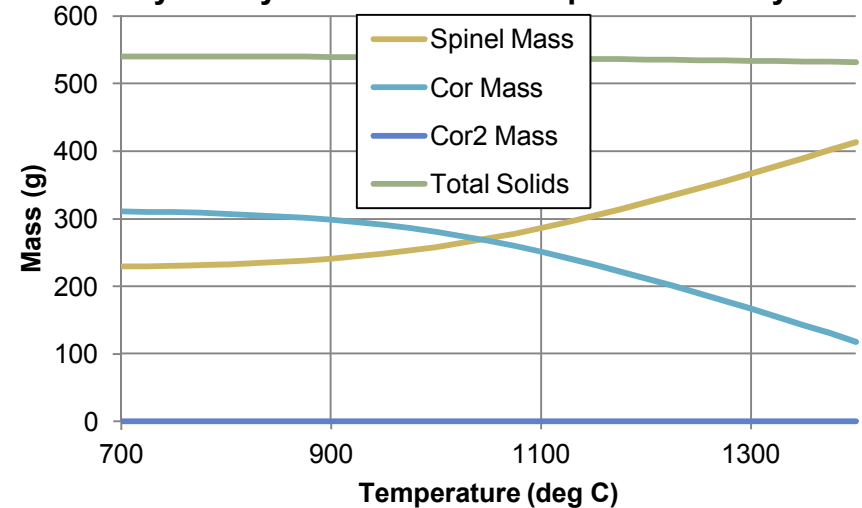
## Reaction

$\Delta H_{\text{red}}$

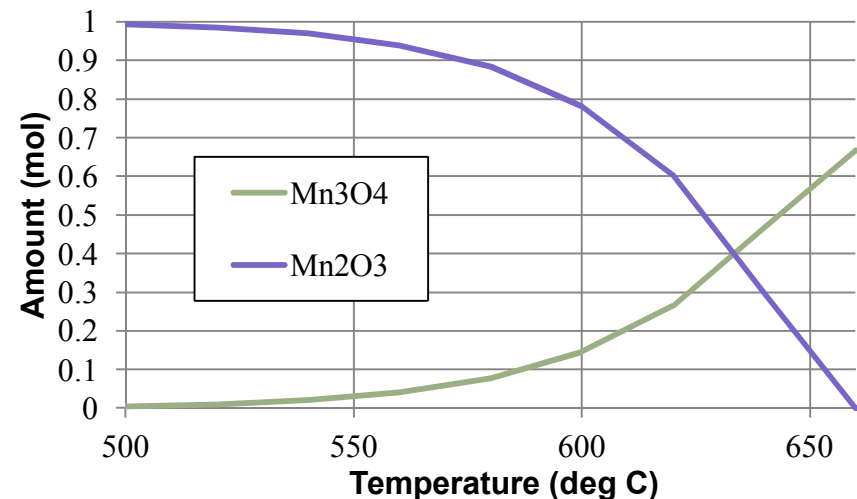


- Cobalt and manganese oxide look promising
  - High energy density
- Manganese oxide lower cost

## Hercynite Cycle Reduction Composition Study



## Manganese Oxide Reduction Composition Study



# Acknowledgements



## Sandia National Laboratories



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



- Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.

- CSMP
- Kristin Meyer
- Mark Rodriguez
- Kalvis Terauds

- Team Weimer





# Works Cited

- D. Arifin, V. J. Aston, X. Liang, A. H. McDaniel, and A. W. Weimer, "CoFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> on a porous Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanostructure for solar thermochemical CO<sub>2</sub> splitting," *Energy & Environmental Science*, vol. 5, pp. 9438-9443, 2012.
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- K. Lovegrove, "Developing ammonia based thermochemical energy storage for dish power plants," *Solar Energy*, vol. 76, pp. 331-337, 2004.
- J. R. Scheffe, J. Li, and A. W. Weimer, "A spinel ferrite/hercynite water-splitting redox cycle," *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, vol. 35, pp. 3333-3340, 2010.
- N. P. Siegel, "Thermal energy storage for solar power production," *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Energy and Environment*, vol. 1, pp. 119-131, 2012.



# Questions?





# Additional Slides



# High Temperature Operation

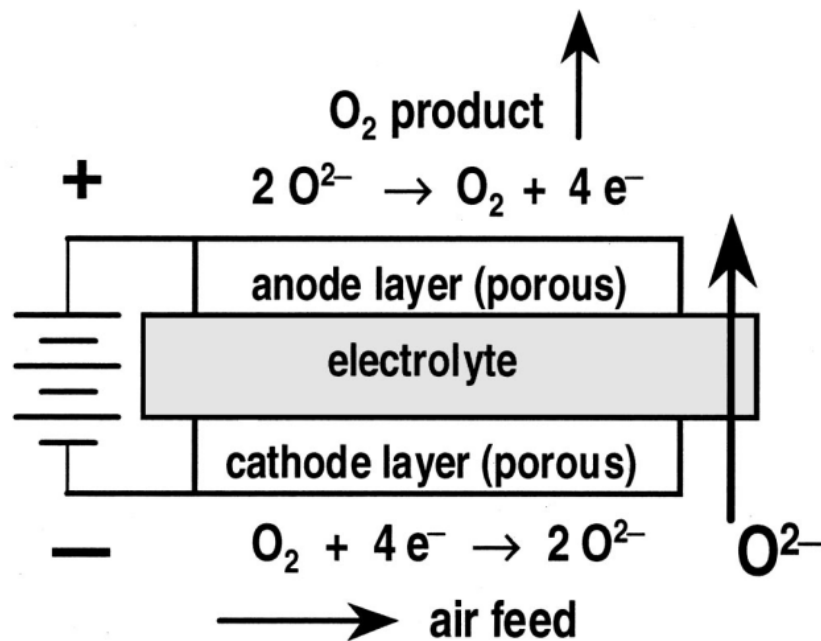
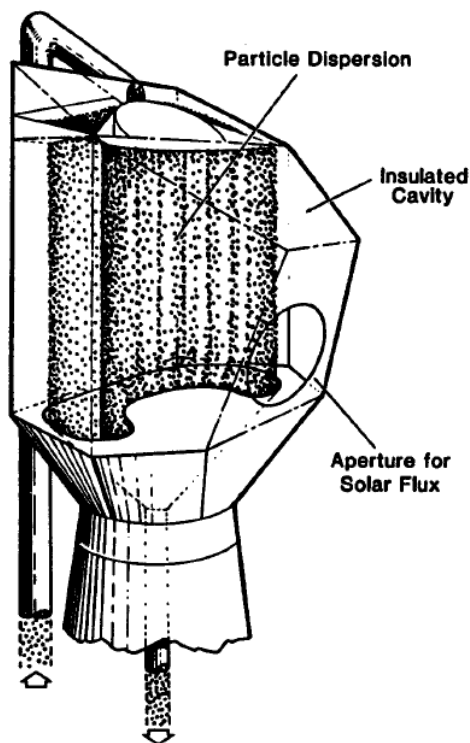
- Improvement of Power Cycle Efficiency
  - Carnot Efficiency  $\eta = 1 - \frac{T_{cool}}{T_{hot}}$
- Current materials do not operate at these temperatures

Alloy	Max. Operating Temp.
Inconel 625	982°C
Stainless 347	899°C

- Containment materials would need to be rated (or insulated) for higher temperatures
  - \$\$\$

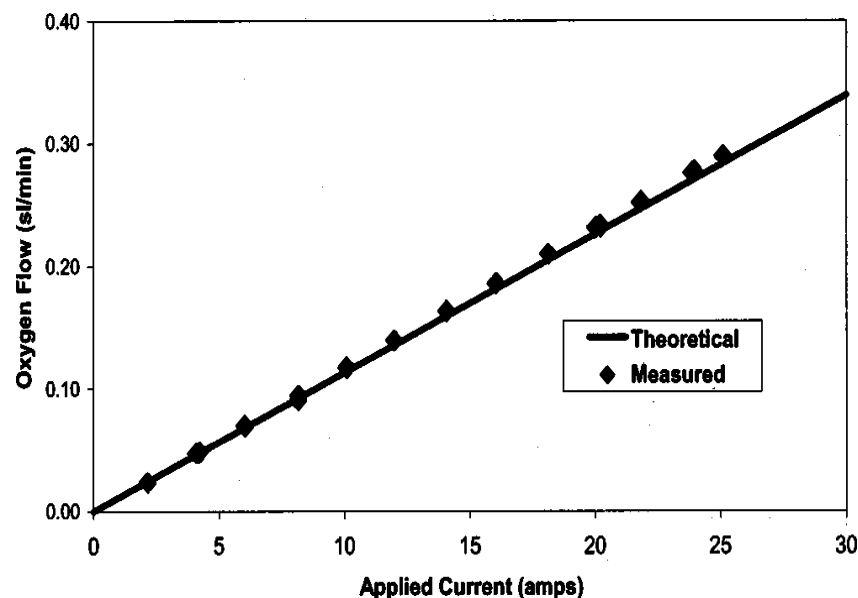
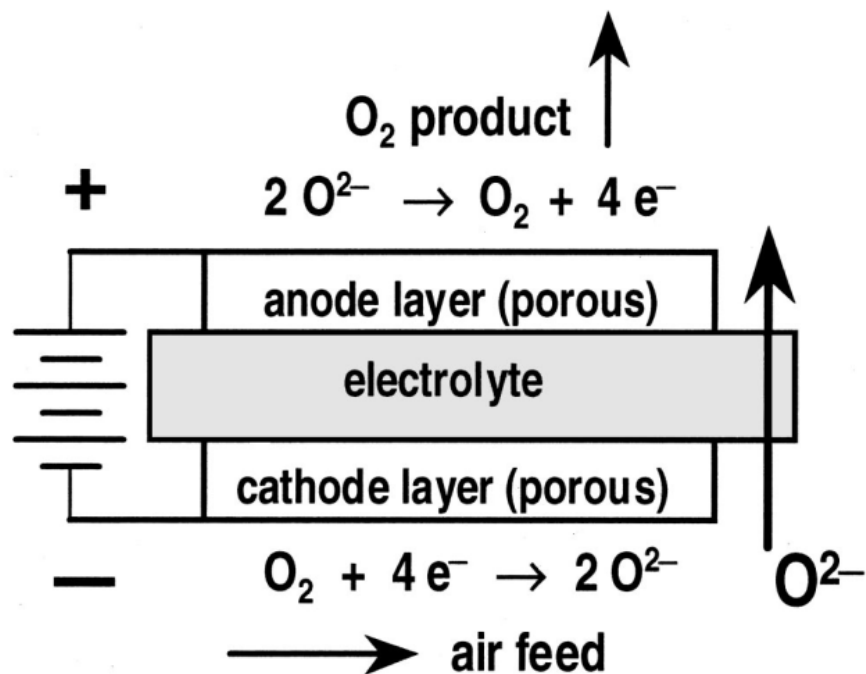
# Hercynite Cycle for Boosting

- Why Hercynite Cycle?
- Direct Heating
- Oxygen Control



D. L. Meixner, et al., *Journal of the Electrochemical Society*, vol. 149, pp. D132-D132, 2002.

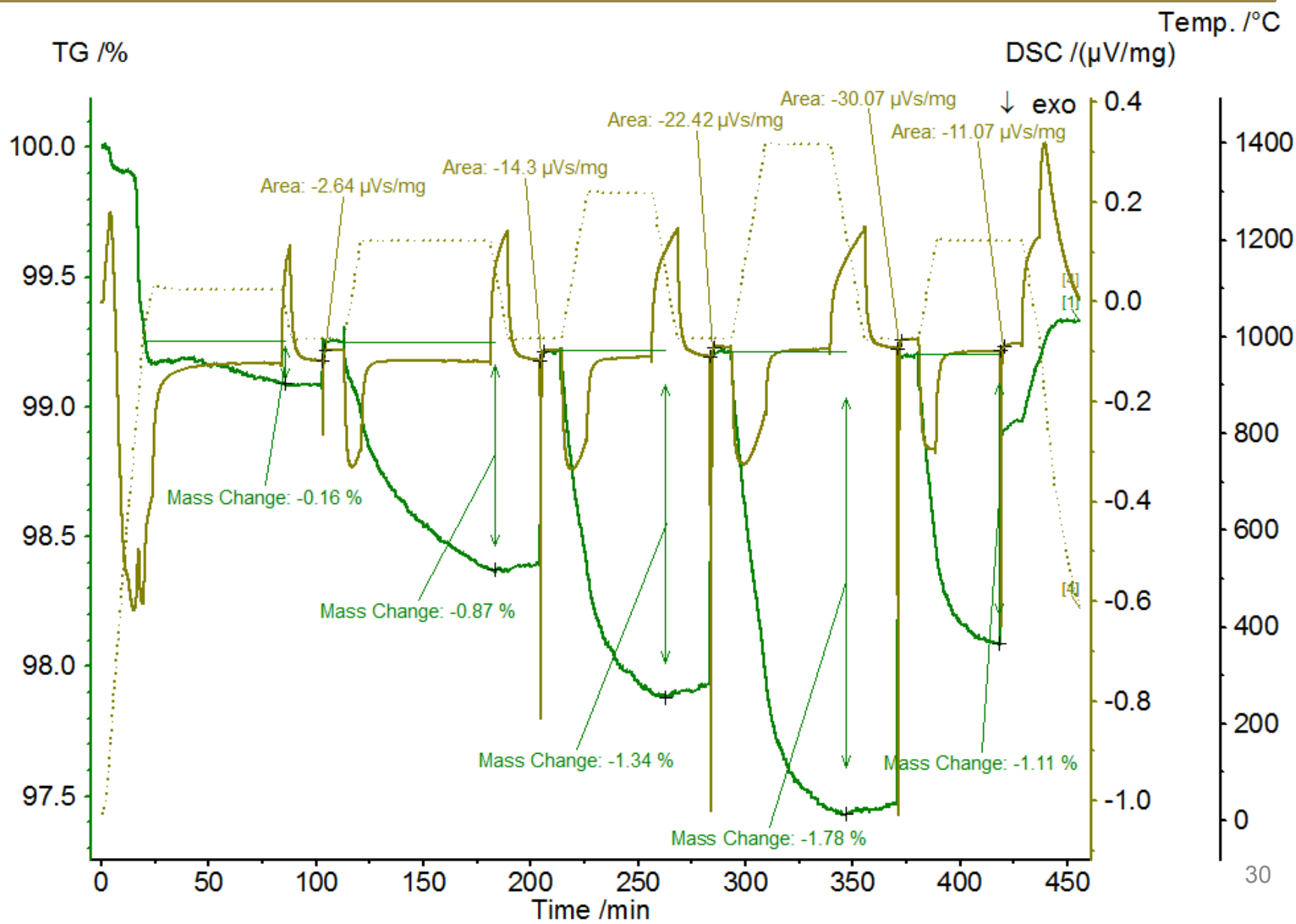
# Oxygen Control



$$Q_{\text{O}_2} = \frac{I}{4F} N_{\text{cells}}$$



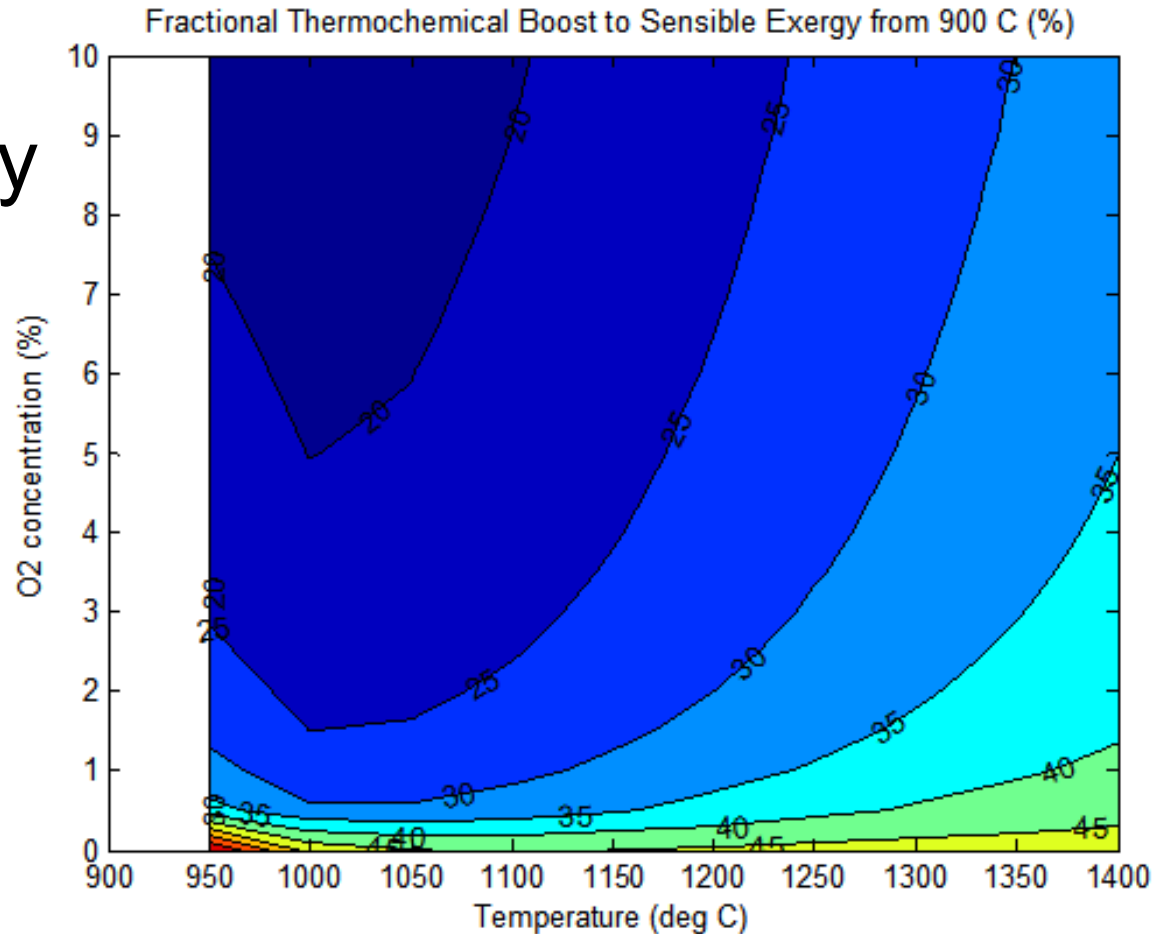
# TGA/DSC Data - Energy Flows





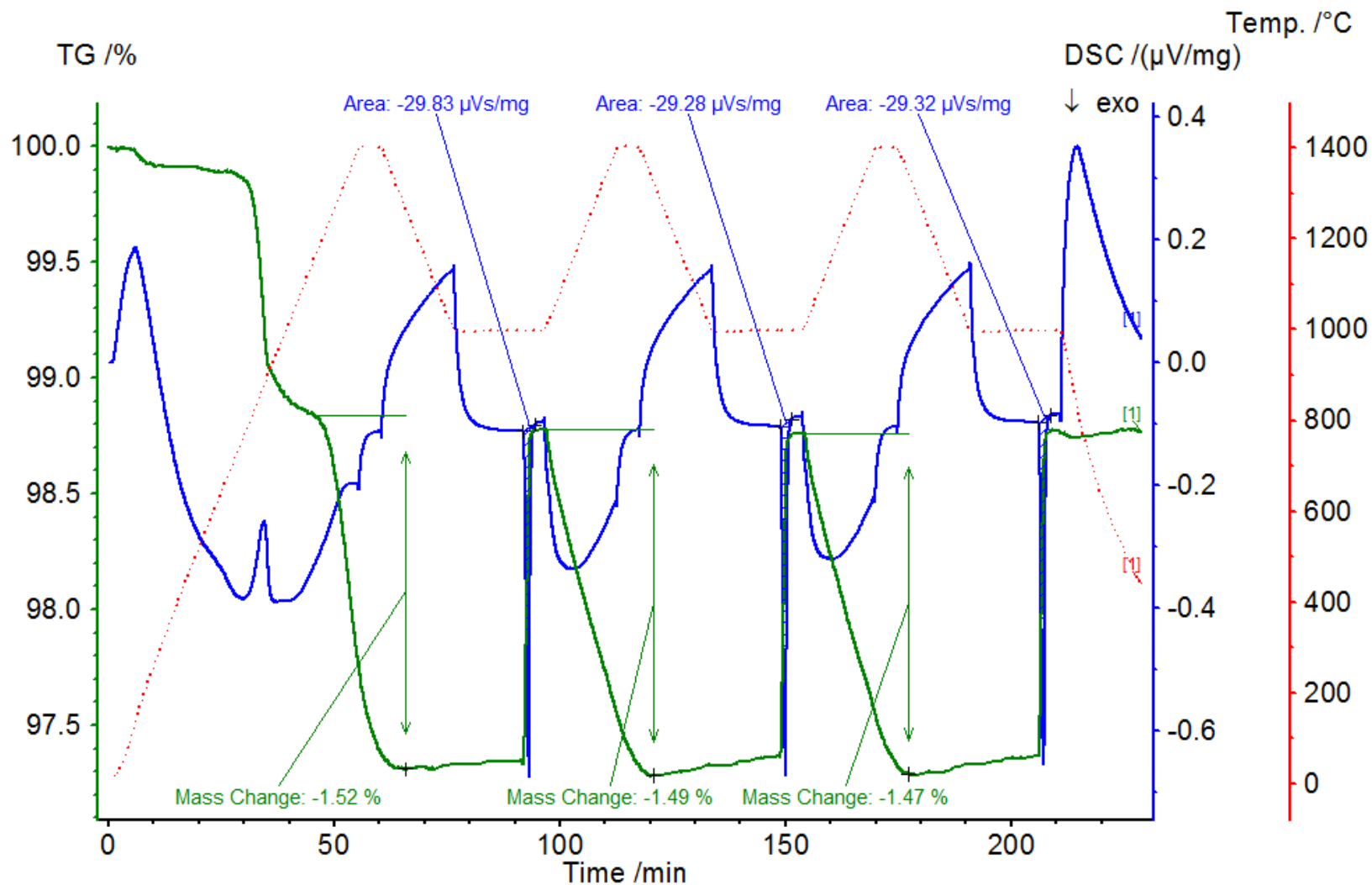
# FACT – Comparison to Limited Exergy

- Reaction enthalpy compared to exergy from 900°C
  - Not very realistic
- Maximum is 66.1%



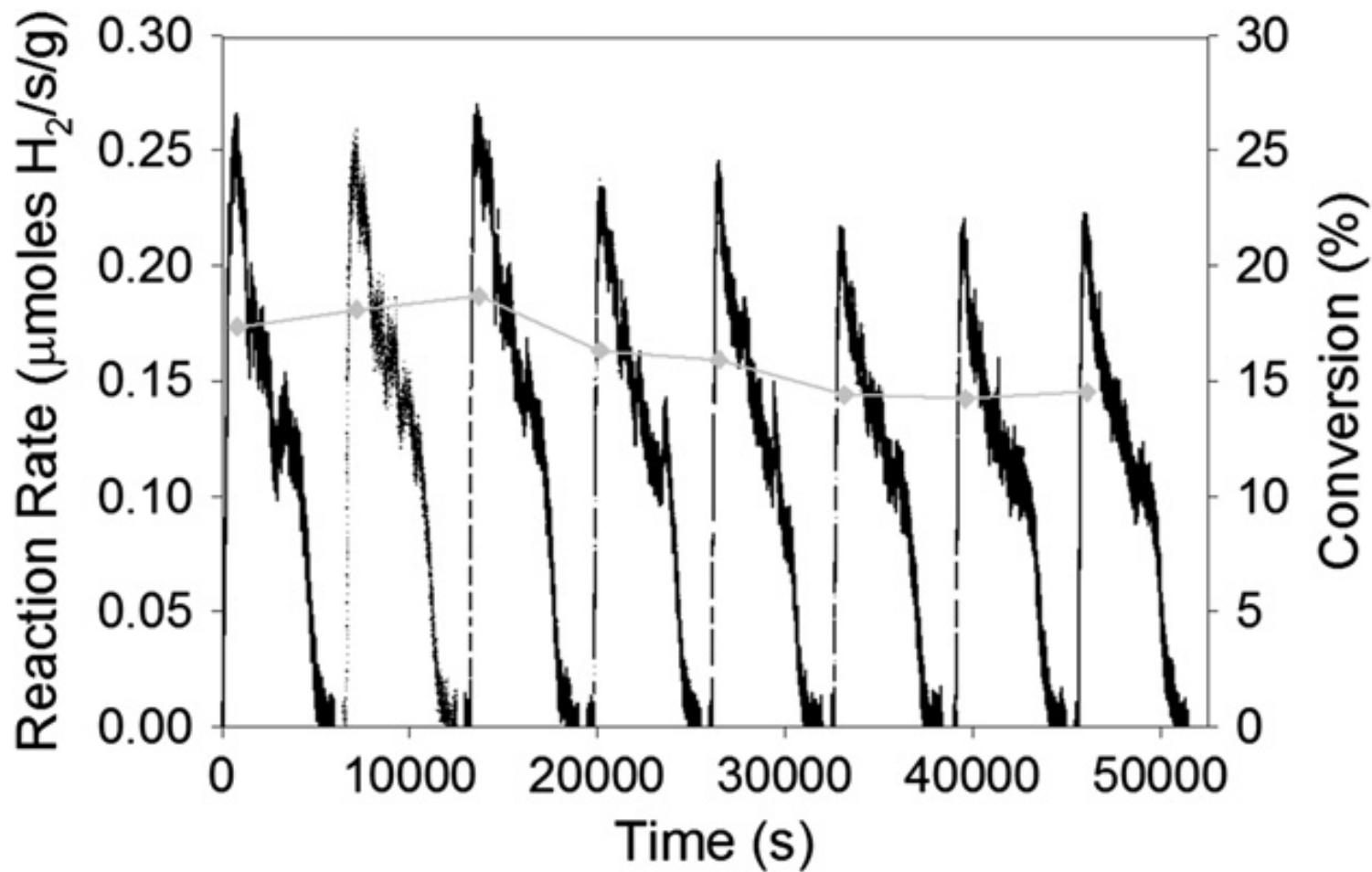


# Repeatable Cycles





# Repeatable Cycles



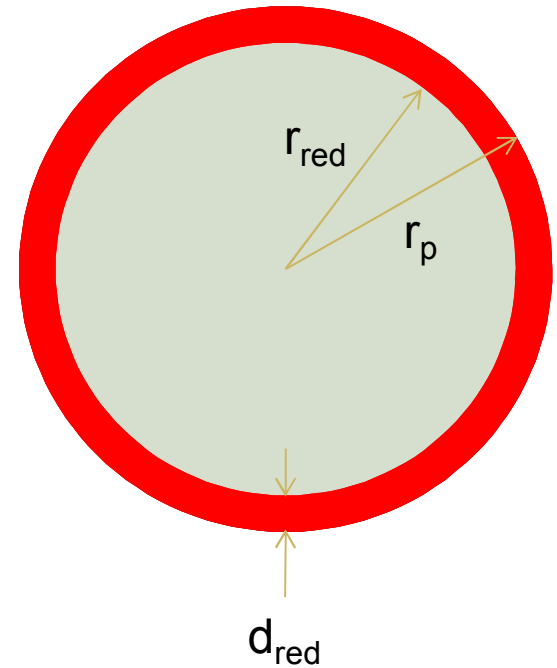
# Reaction Extent

- Volume Reduced:

$$V_{\text{red}} = \frac{4}{3} \pi (r_p^2 - r_{\text{red}}^2)$$

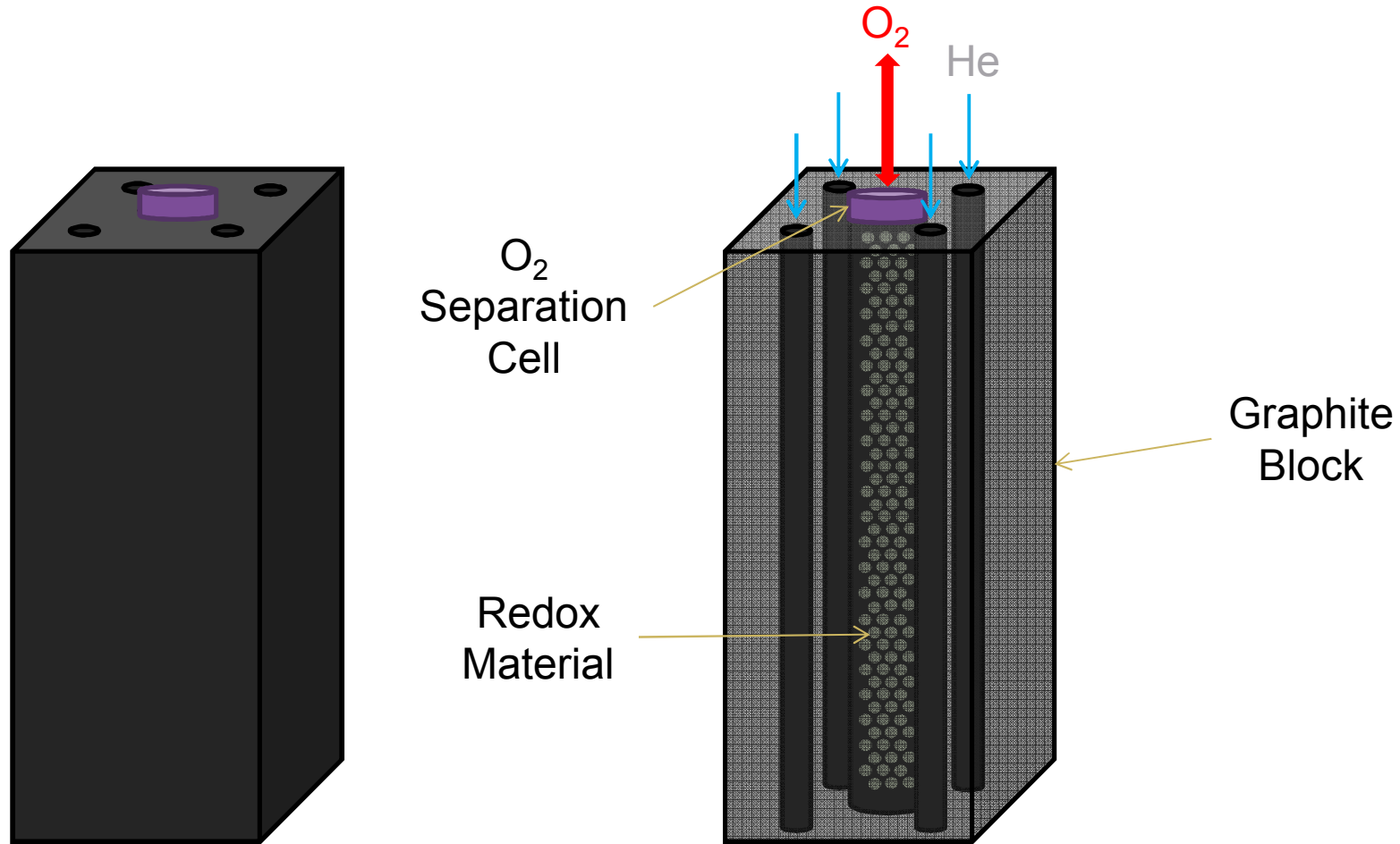
- Particle diameter = 100  $\mu\text{m}$
- Reduction Depth = 6.69  $\mu\text{m}$
- Volume fraction reduced:

**35%**





# Thermochemical/Thermal Storage Unit (SUN-TSU)



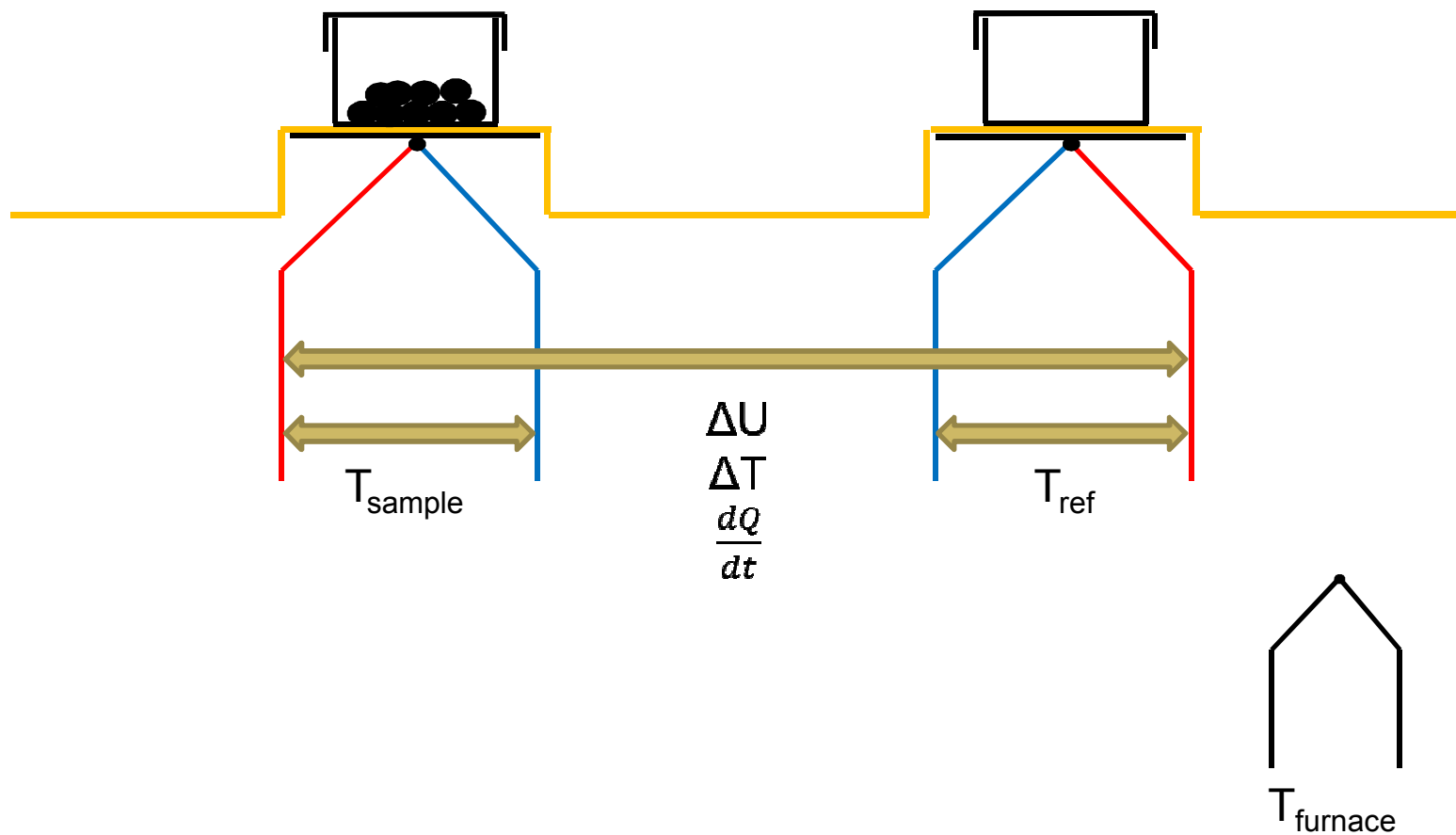


# Issues with TGA-DSC Data

- $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  crucible used for previous runs
- $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  becomes “heat transparent” at high temperatures
  - $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  is transparent in far-infrared and part of the mid-infrared spectrum
  - Radiative heat travels through crucible to sample
  - Gives false exotherms and/or exothermic shift
- Very little (any?) information available in the literature

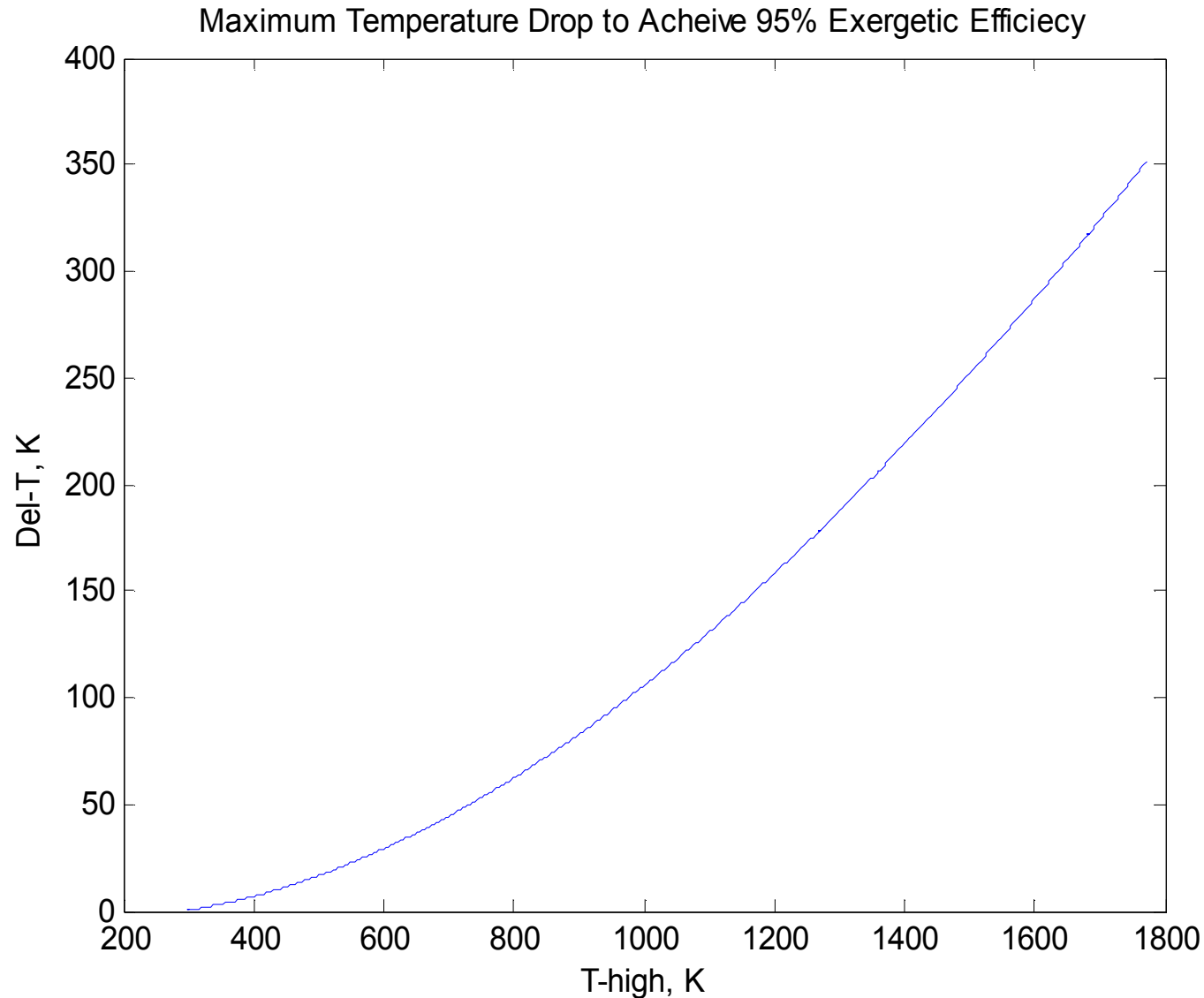


# TGA-DSC Setup

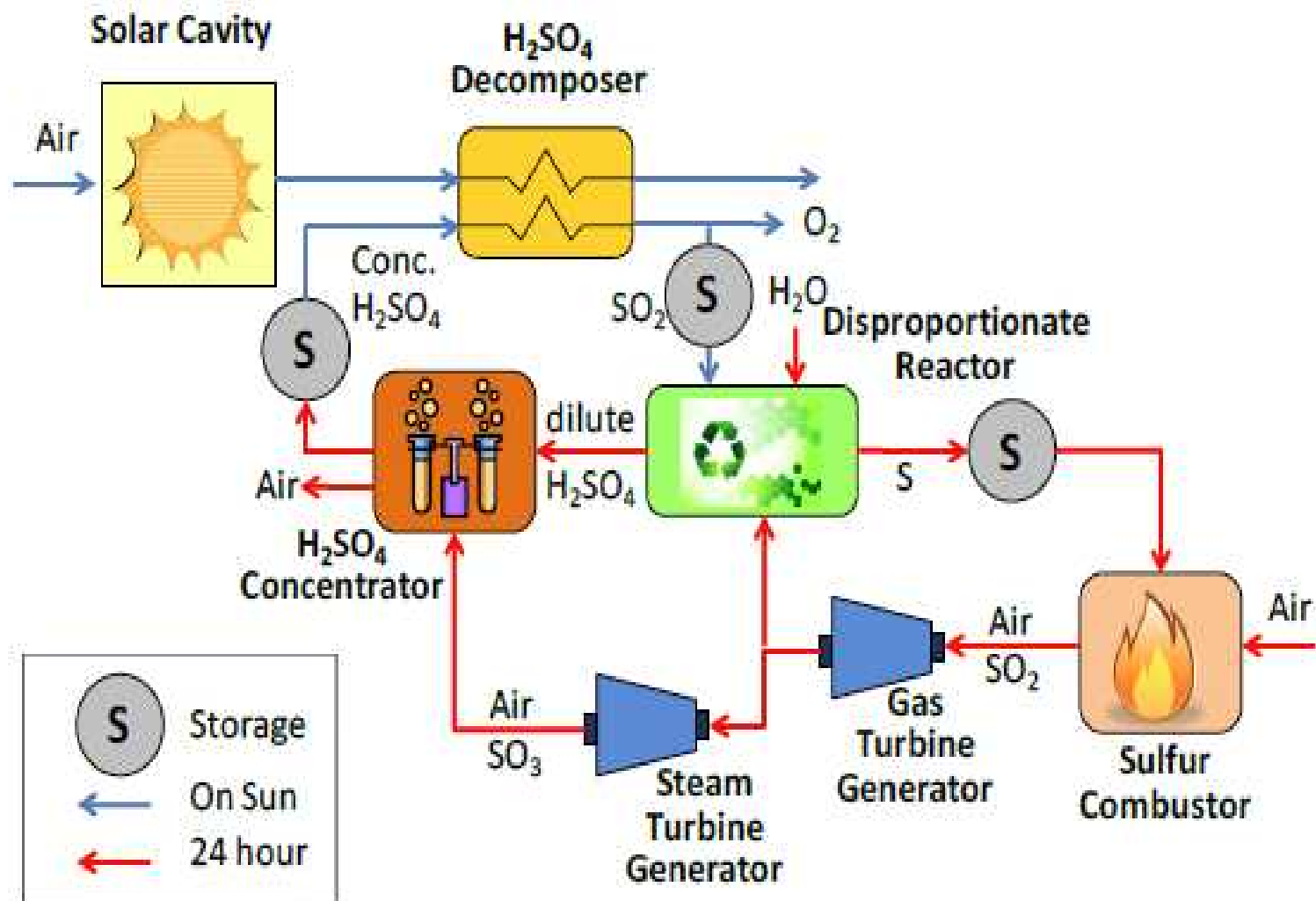




# 95% Exergetic Efficiency



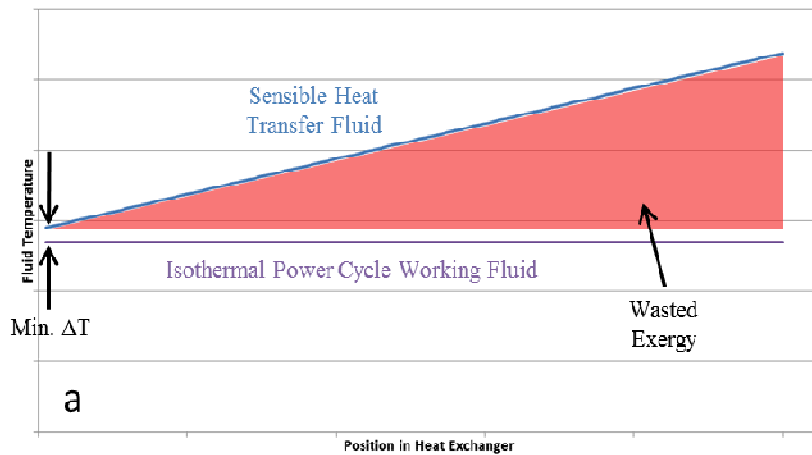
# Sulfur Process



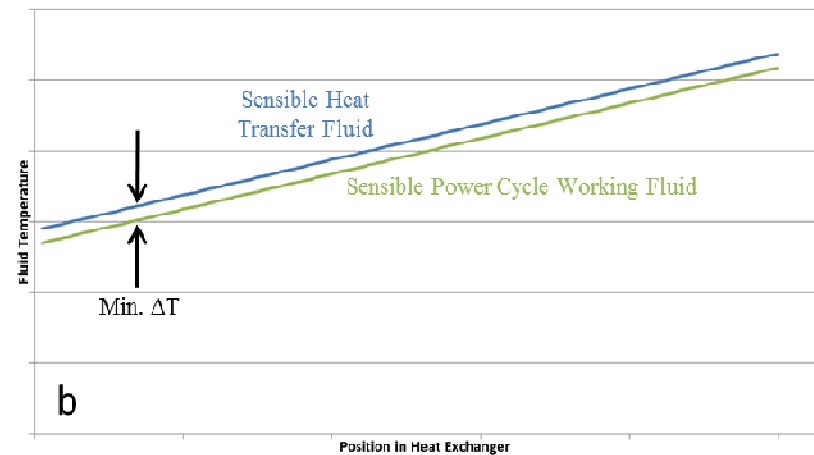


# Power Cycle Matching

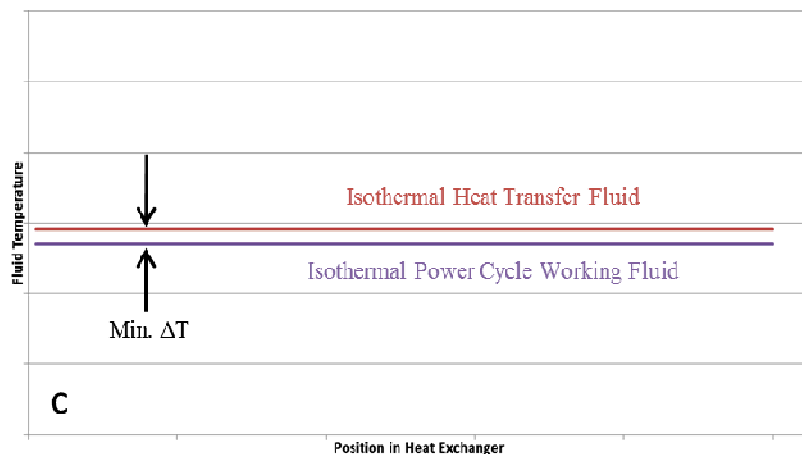
Sensible HTF - Isothermal Cycle



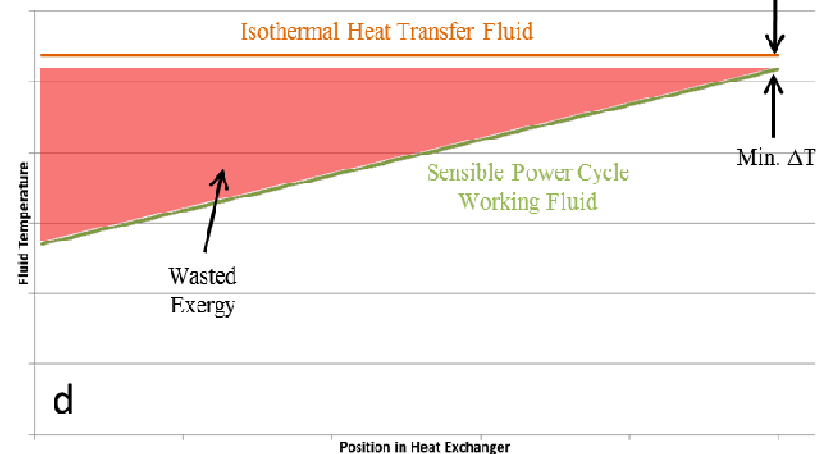
Sensible HTF - Sensible Cycle



Isothermal HTF - Isothermal Cycle

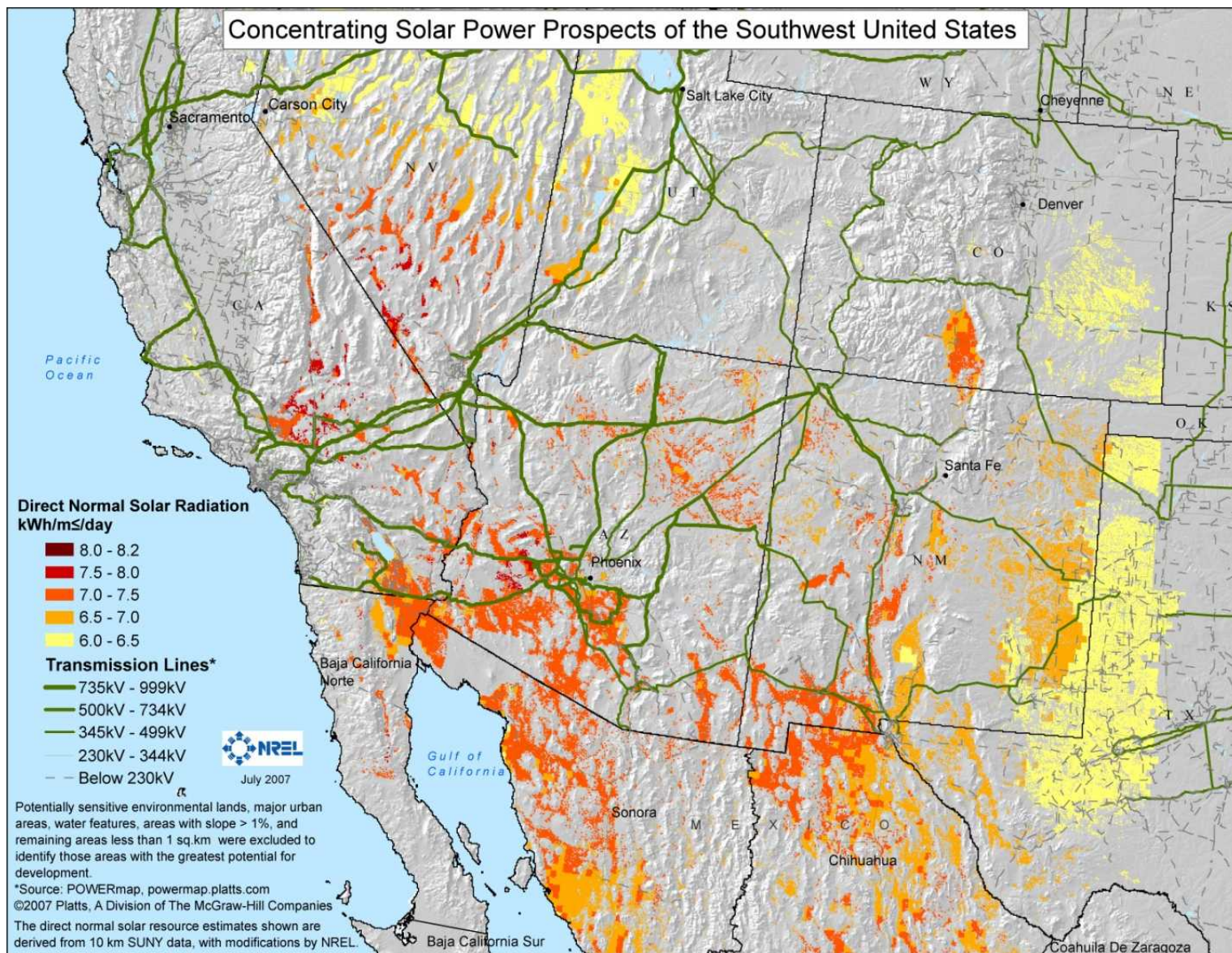


Isothermal HTF - Sensible Cycle

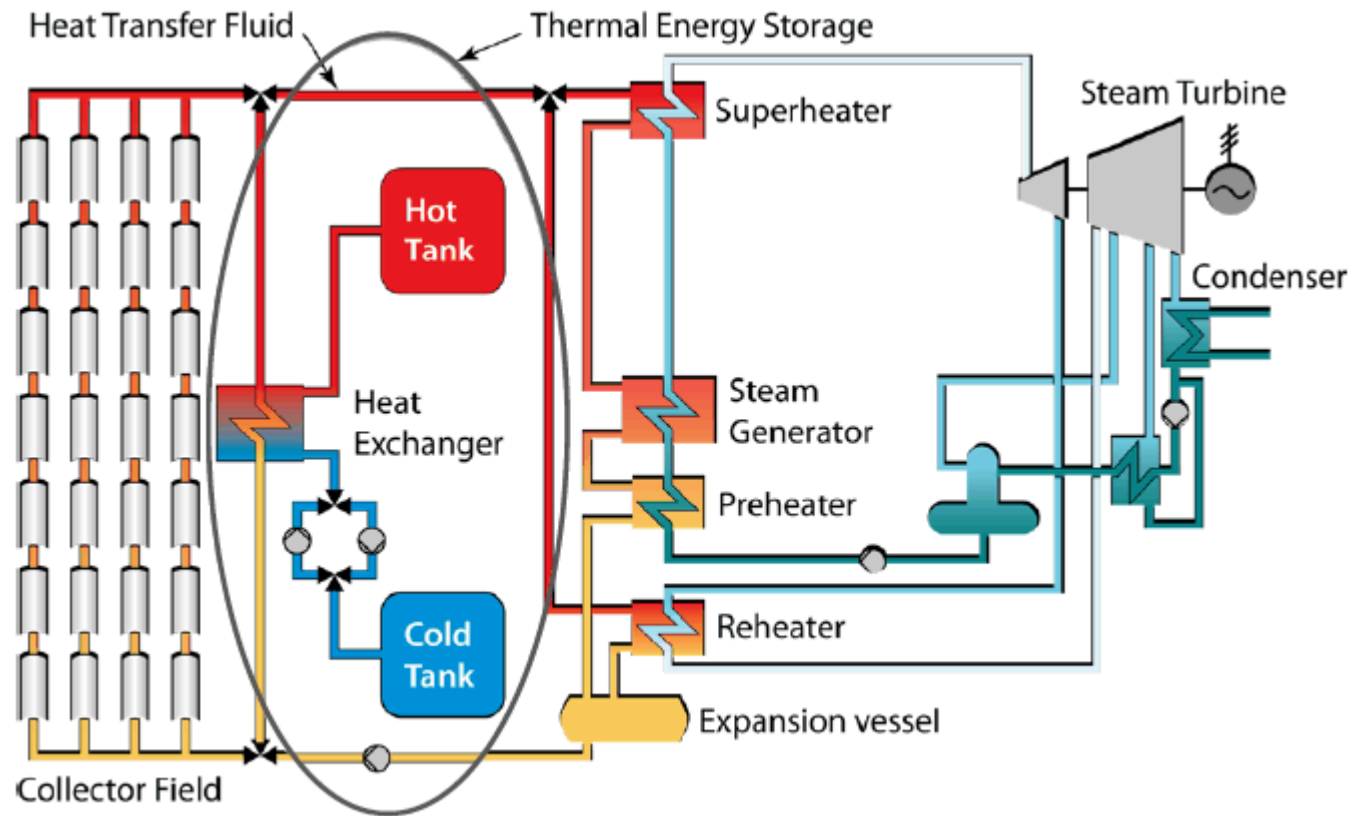




# Desirable Solar Resource

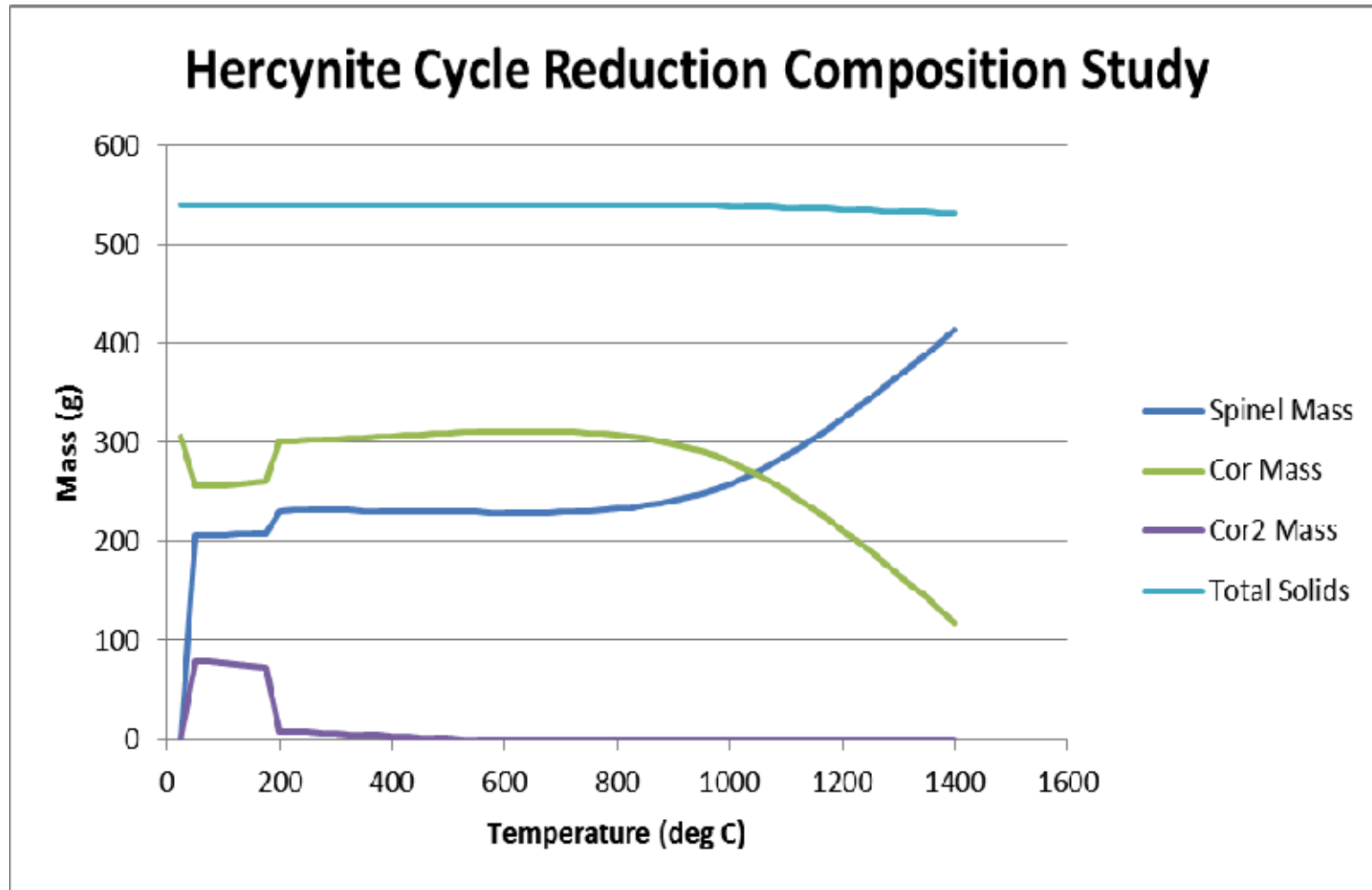


# Parabolic Trough



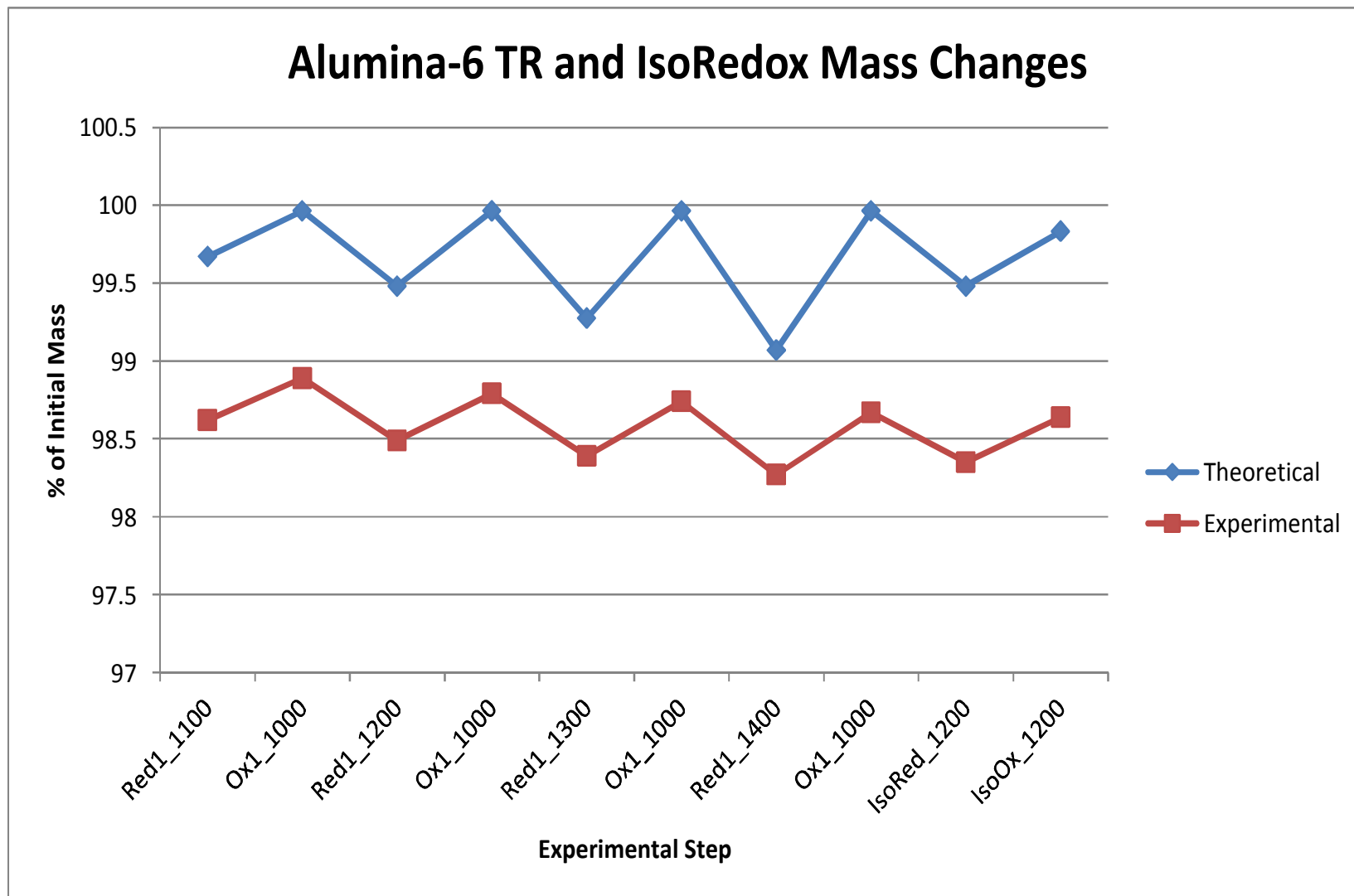


# Hercynite Cycle Composition



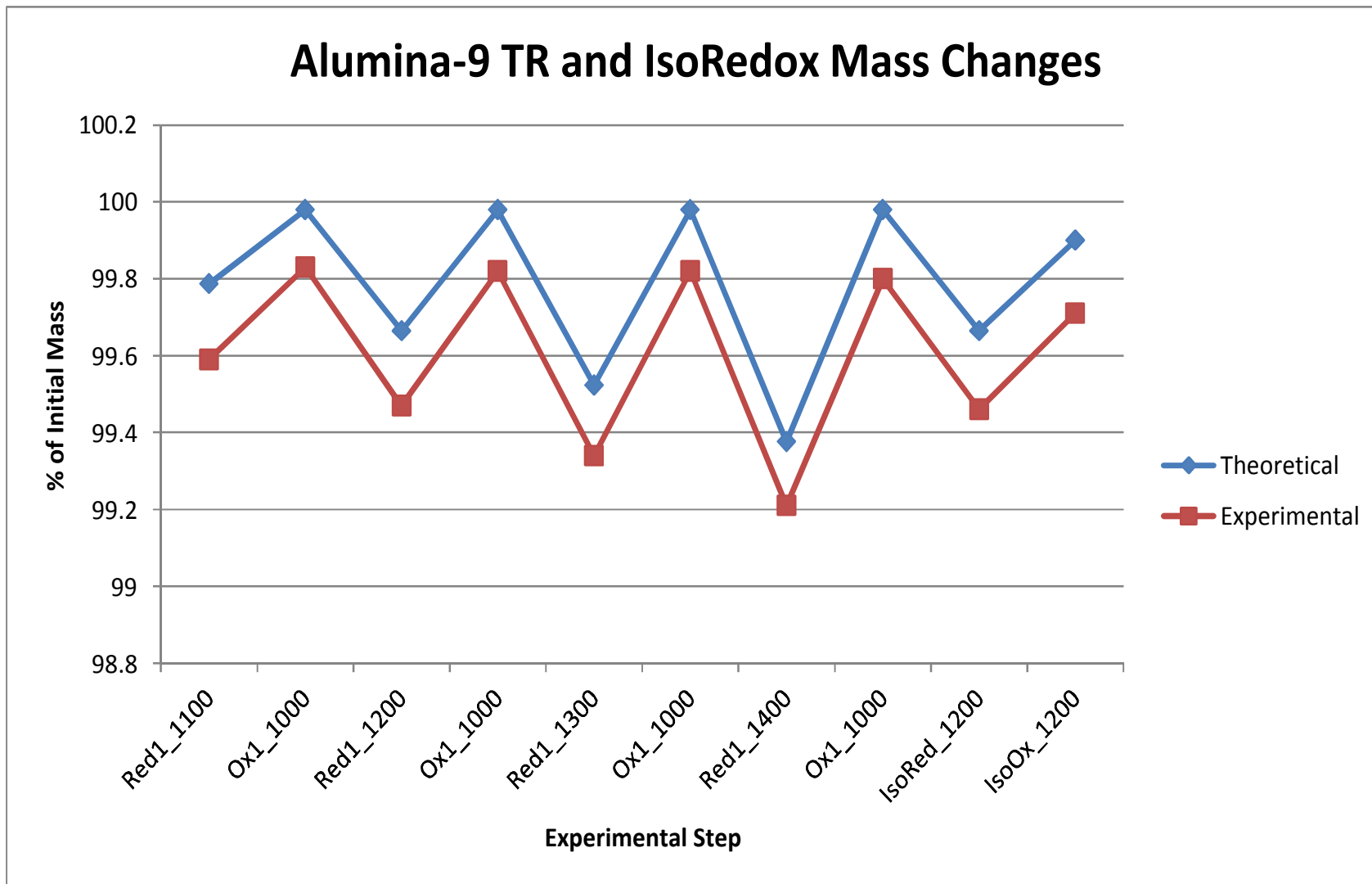


# Alumina-6 Experimental Comparisons





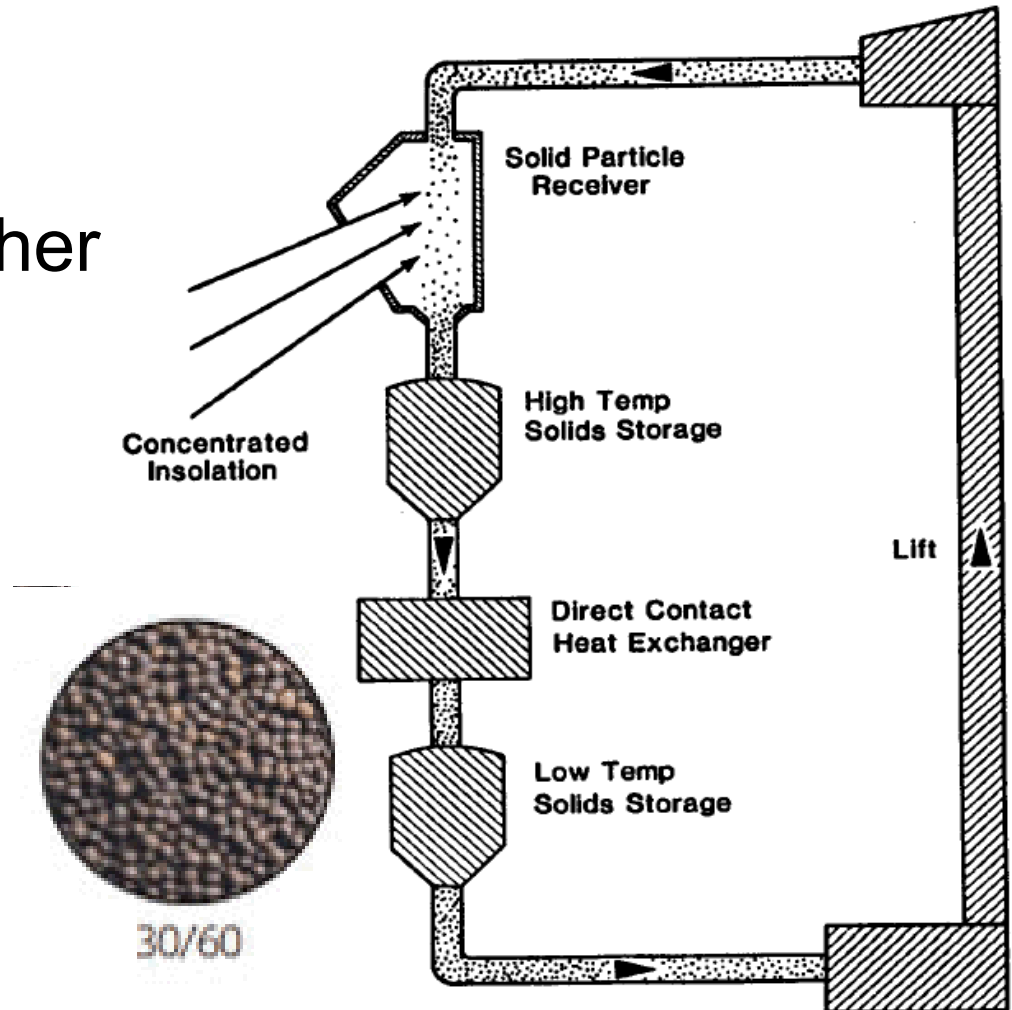
# Alumina-9 Experimental Comparisons





# Solid Particle Receivers

- Solid Particle “Heat Transfer Fluid”
- Operation at much higher temperatures
- Moving particles is a challenge
- Initially studied in late 1970’s to mid-1980’s
  - Currently being studied again

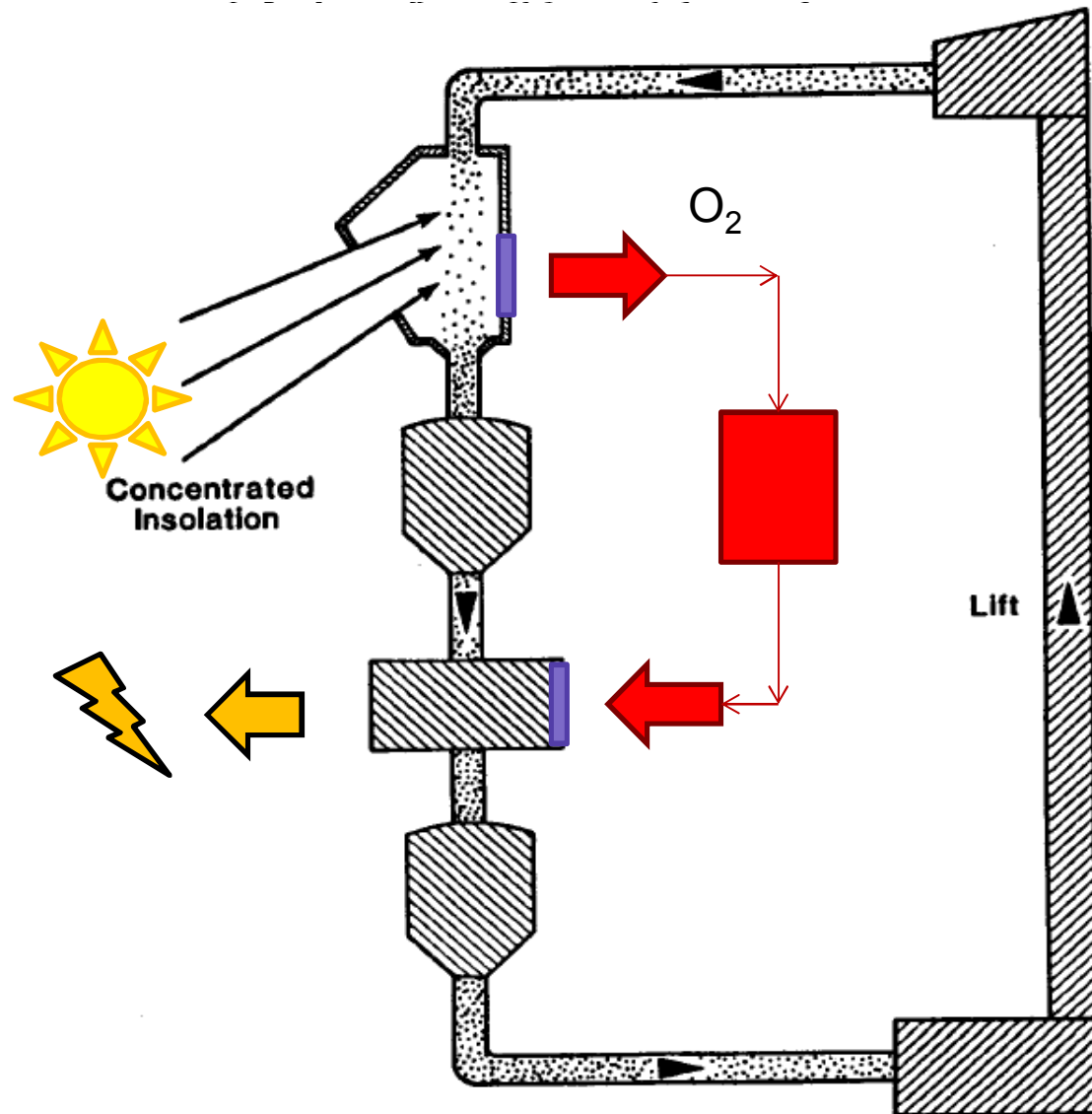


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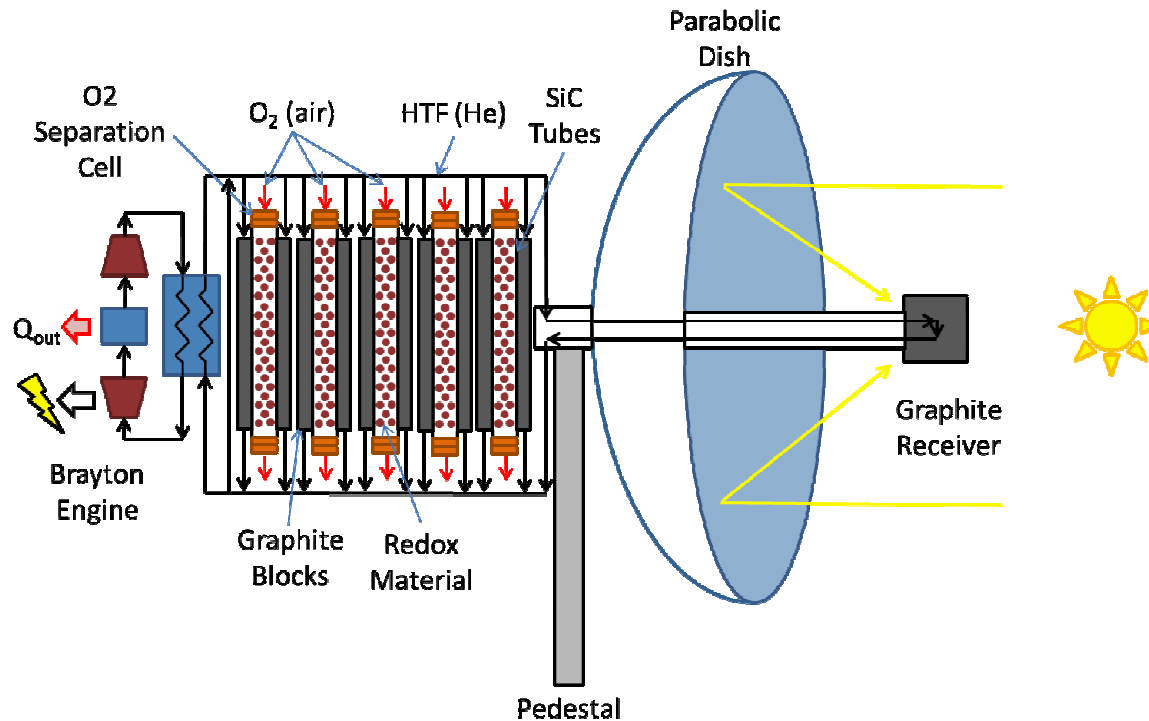
<http://www.carboceramics.com/CARBO-HSP/>

# Potential Systems - CASPR



- Chemically augmented solid particle receiver
- Benefits
  - Direct utilization of heat in particles
- Issues
  - Moving particles can be difficult at high temperatures
  - Controlling atmosphere can be difficult at large scale

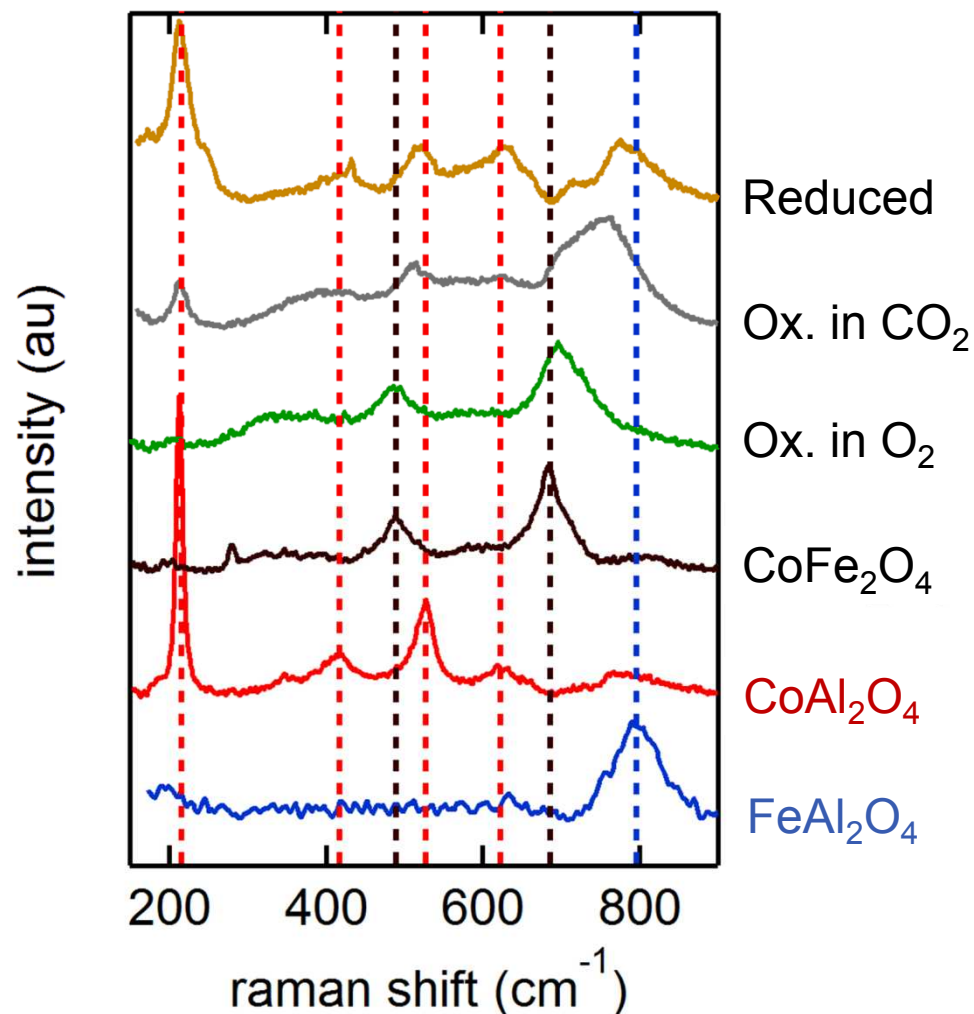
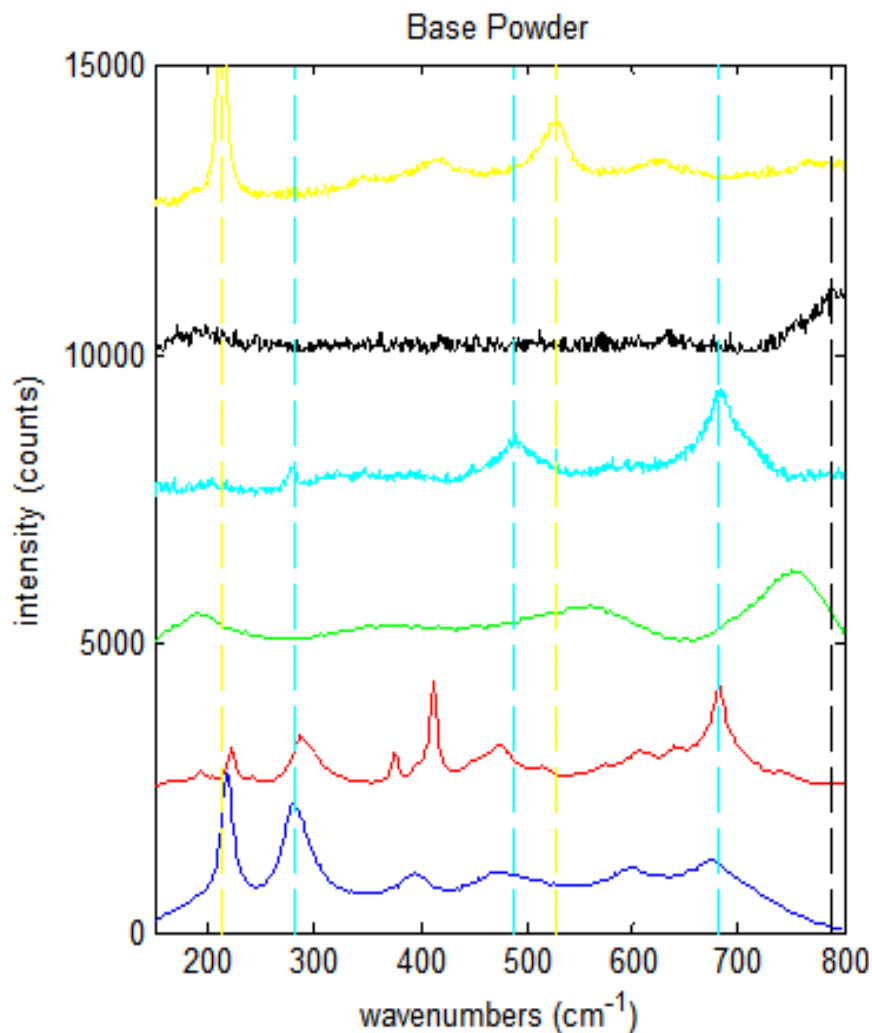
# Potential Systems - CASES



- Chemically Augmented Stationary-solid Energy Storage
- Benefits
  - No moving particles
  - Could help put useful storage on dishes
- Issues
  - Indirect storage can have efficiency losses

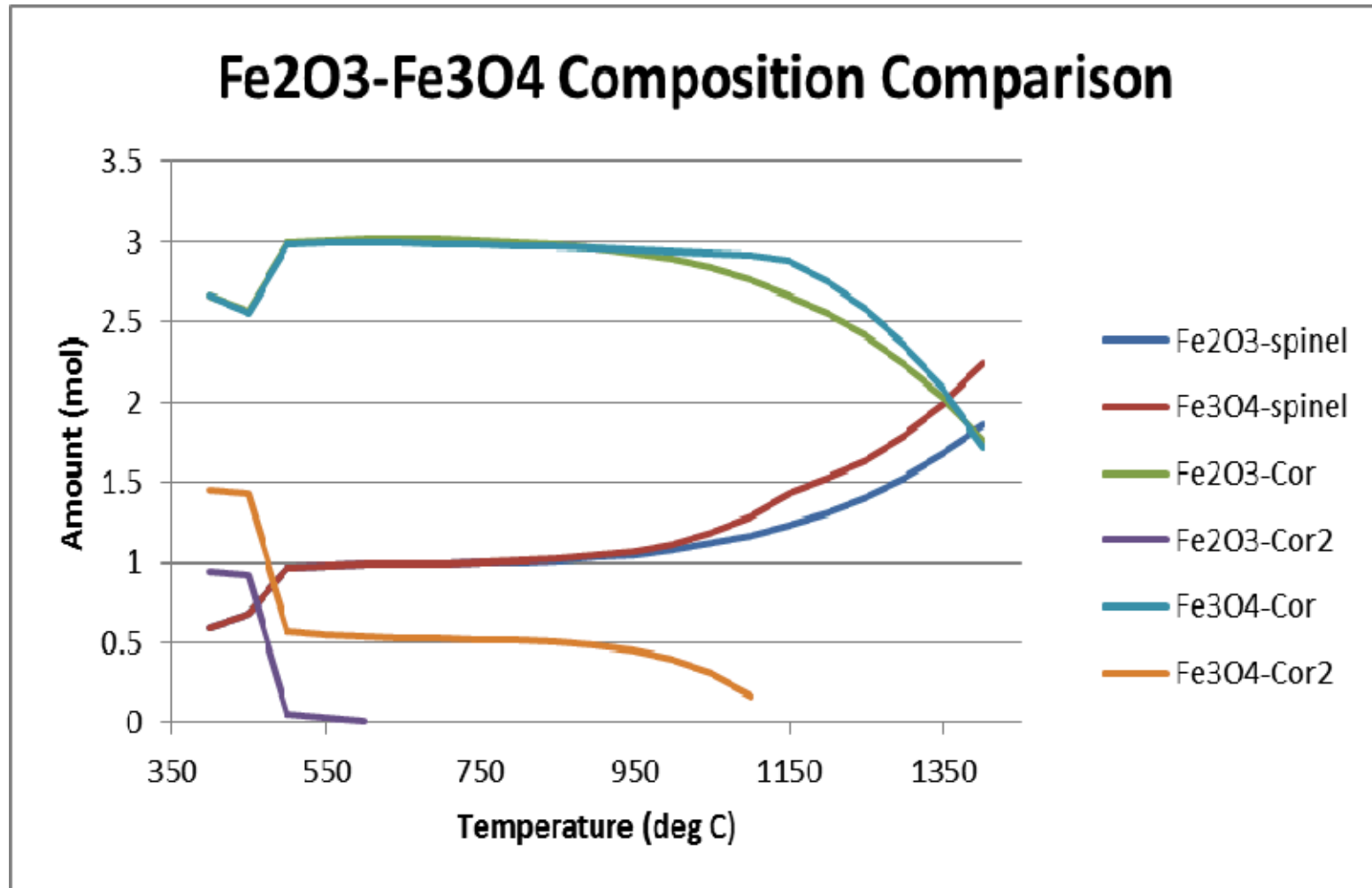


# Raman - ALD Samples



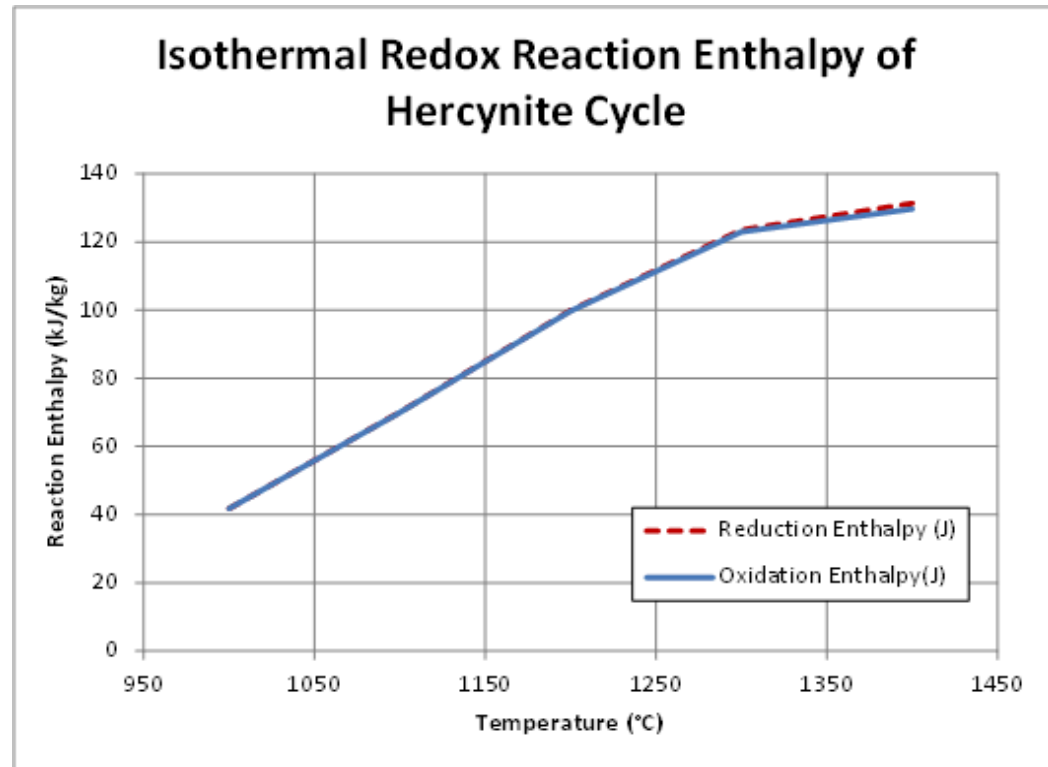


# $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ - $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$ Synthesis Comparison



# FACT – Isothermal Cycling

- Calculated reaction enthalpy in isothermal cycling
- Solid Material with Argon (reduction) or Oxygen (oxidation)
- Normalized per unit mass
- Corrected for any enthalpy changes in gas phase

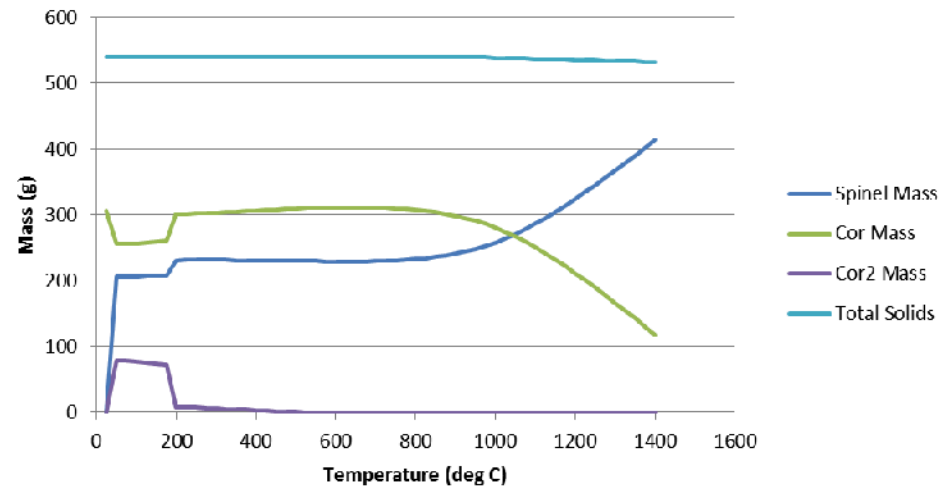




# Considerations for Other Materials

- Cobalt Oxide of interest
- Desirable Traits
  - High specific reaction enthalpy
    - 901 kJ/kg @ 800°C
    - 265 kJ/kg for hercynite
  - Small  $\Delta T$  for full reaction
- Potential Issues
  - Sintering
  - Toxicity

Hercynite Cycle Reduction Composition Study



Cobalt Oxide Reduction Composition Study

