



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

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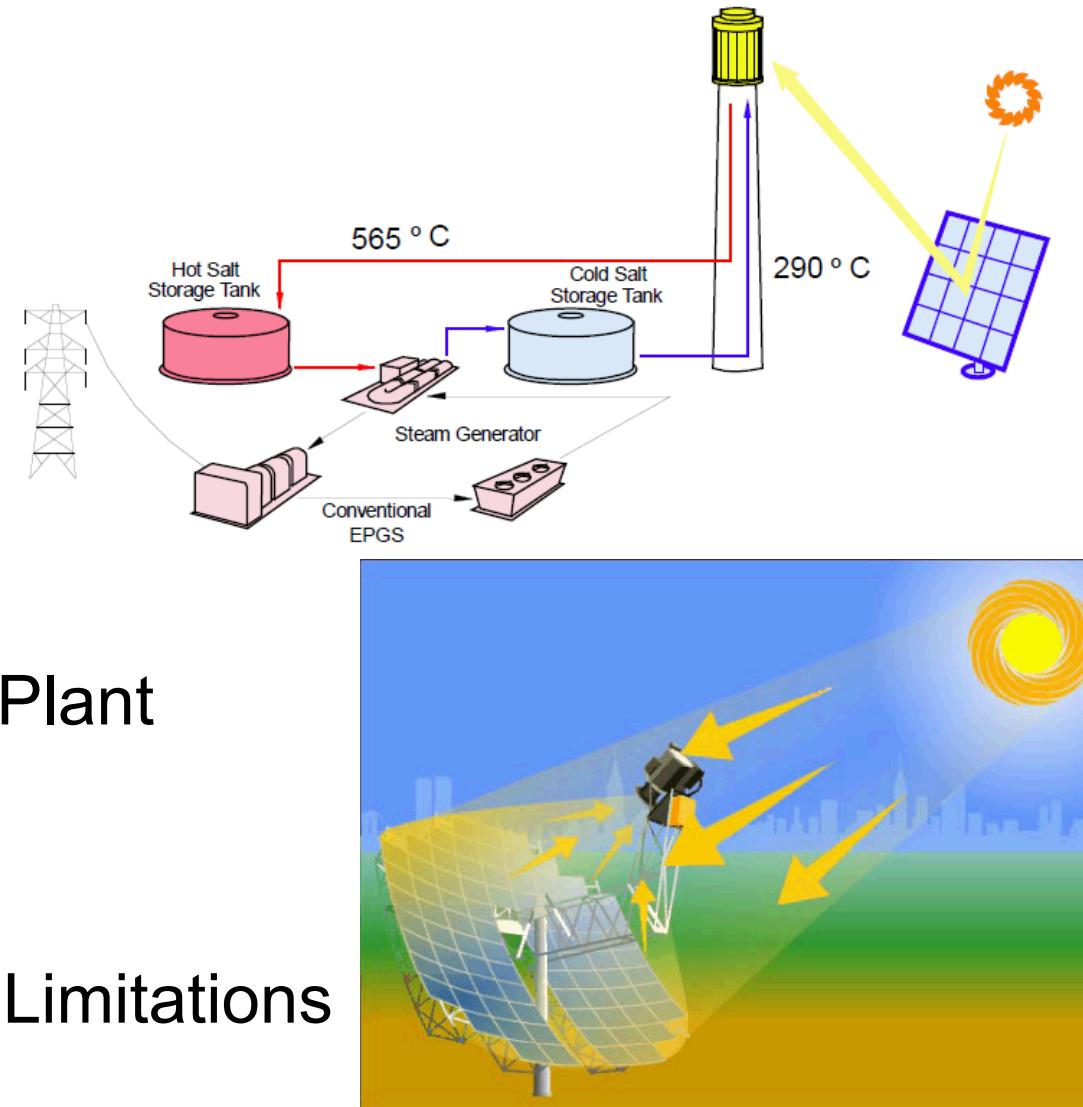


Outline

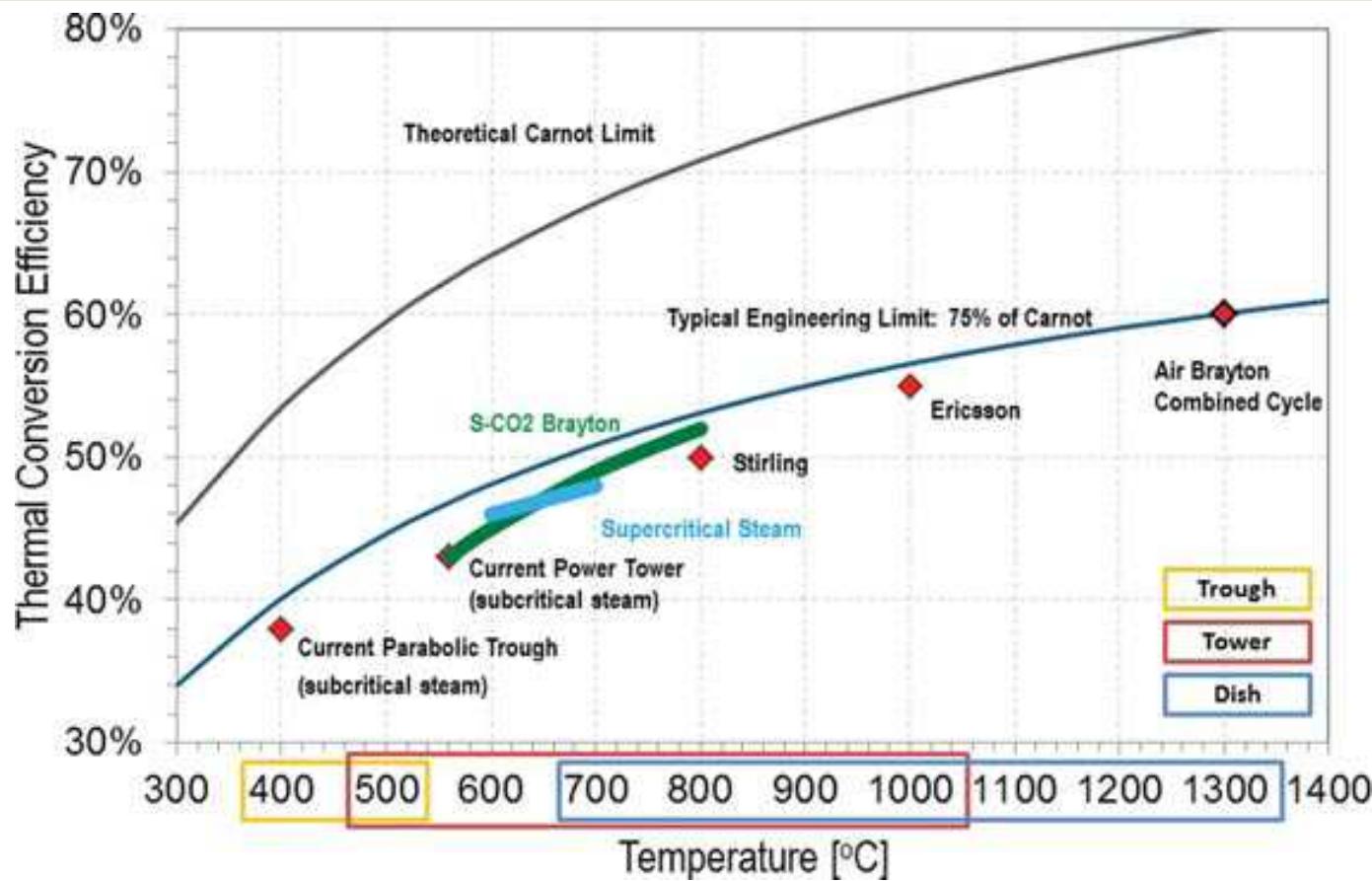
- Description of CSP/TES
 - Description of thermochemical energy storage
- Description of “Boosting”
 - Possible concepts
- Hercynite Reaction
 - Thermodynamic predictions
 - Experimental data
- Conclusion
- Suggestions for Future Work

Concentrated Solar Power

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



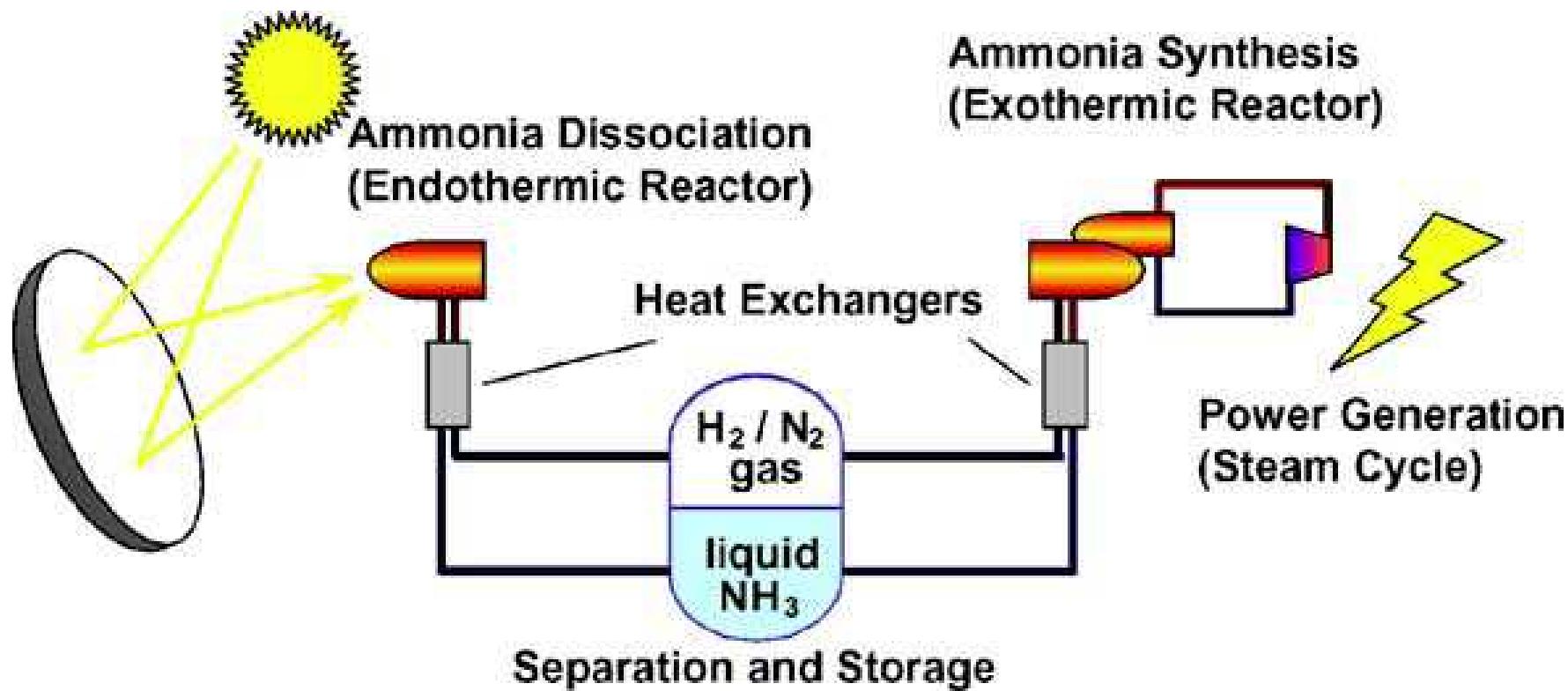
High Temperature Operation



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

Thermochemical Energy Storage

- Ammonia Synthesis

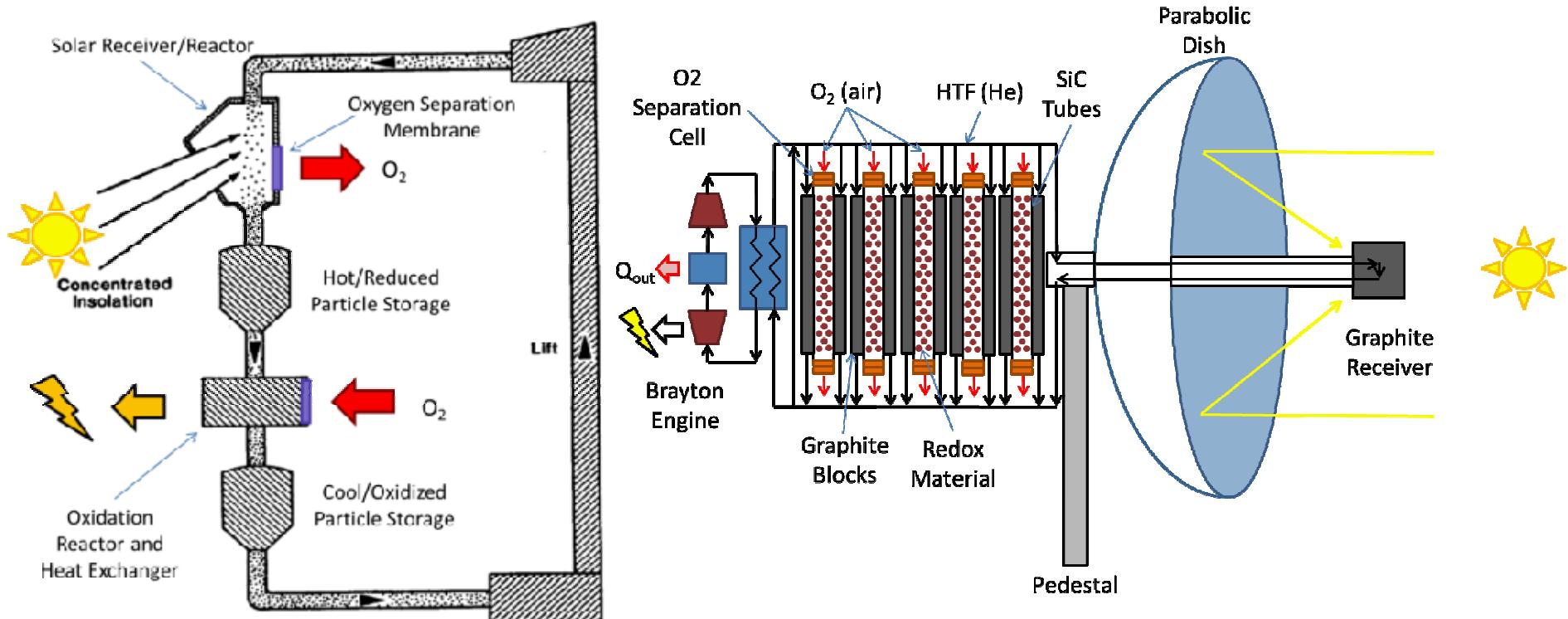


Thermochemical “Boosting”

- 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
Ammonia Cycle	700°C	500°C	11.26%
“Hercynite Cycle”	1200°C	1150°C	0.90%

Potential Systems



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

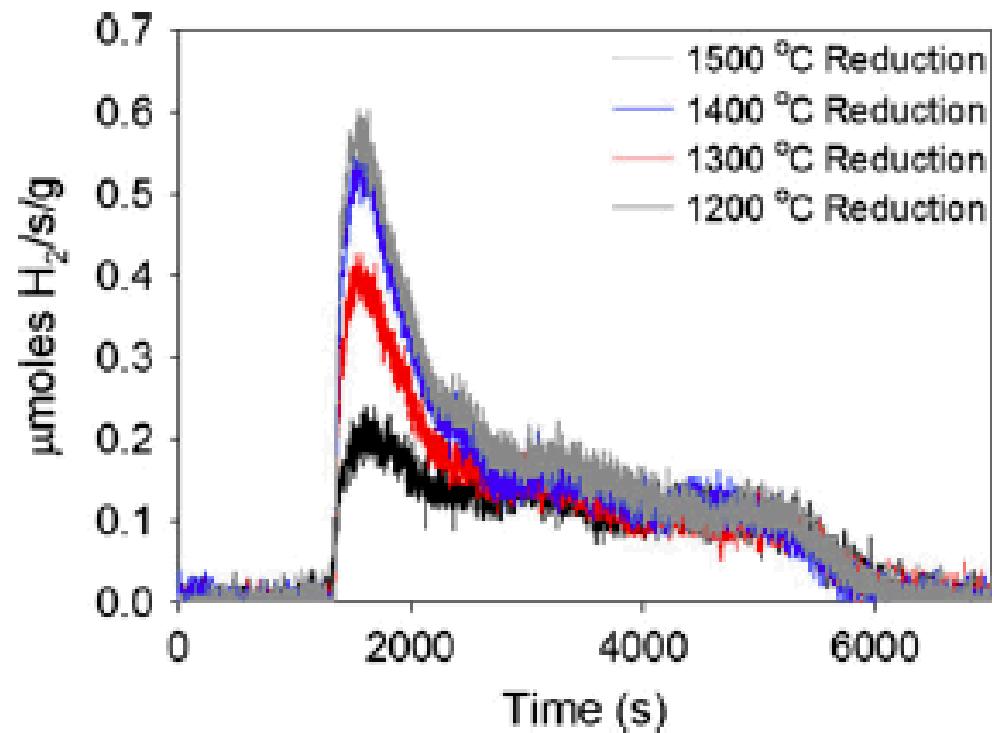
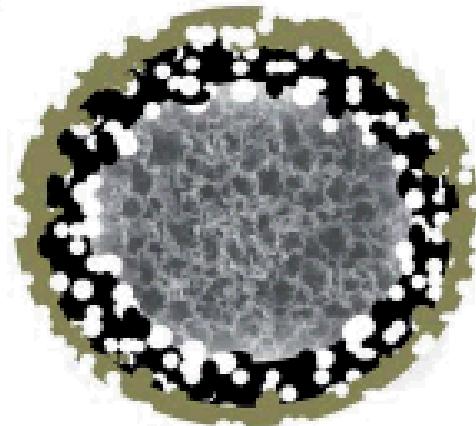
Hercynite Reaction



- Water/CO₂ Splitting

■ CoFe₂O₄ (Fe⁺³)

■ Al₂O₃



Hercynite Cycle for Boosting

- Why Hercynite Cycle?

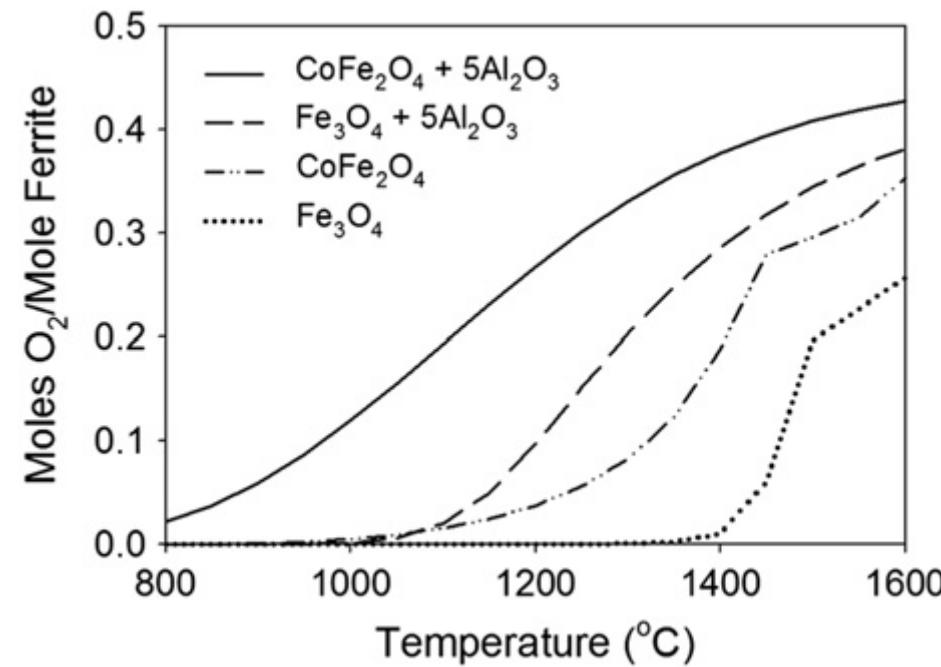
- Chemical Components

CarboHSP Composition	wt-%
Al ₂ O ₃	83
SiO ₂	5
TiO ₂	3.5
Fe ₂ O ₃	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.

- Reaction Temperatures



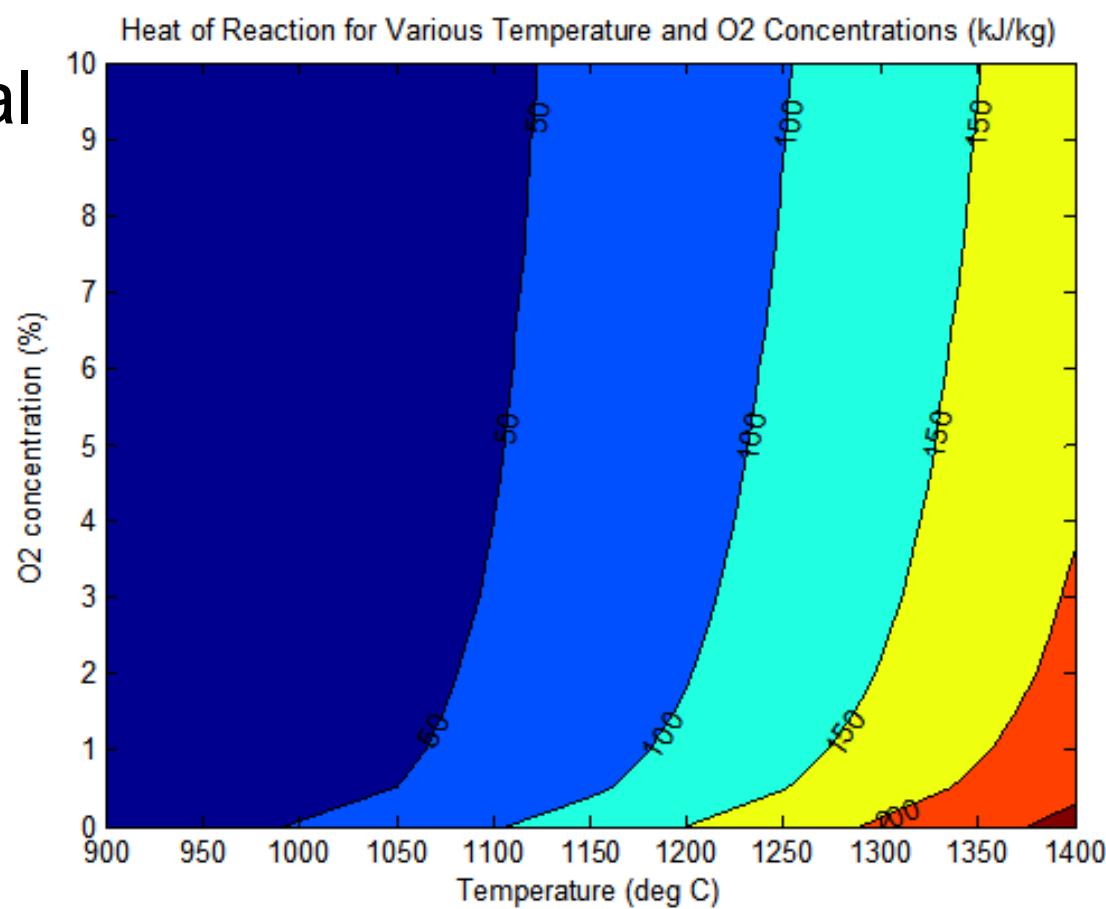
J. R. Scheffe, *et al.*, *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, vol. 35, pp. 3333-3340, 2010.

Thermodynamic Predictions



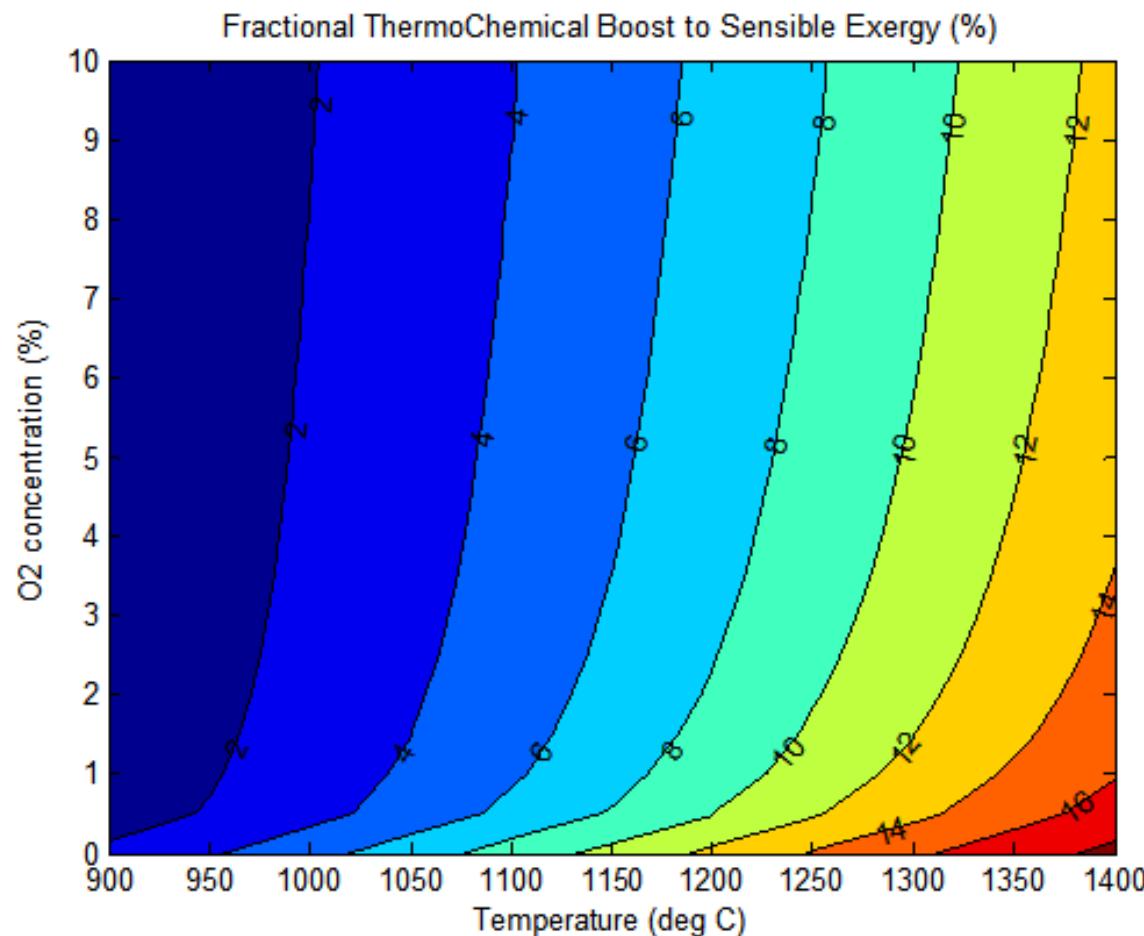
- FACTSage™ Proprietary Software
- Gibbs free energy minimization
- Specific initial materials and conditions
- Software calculates composition and state of material at thermodynamic equilibrium
 - Also calculates changes from initial conditions

- 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



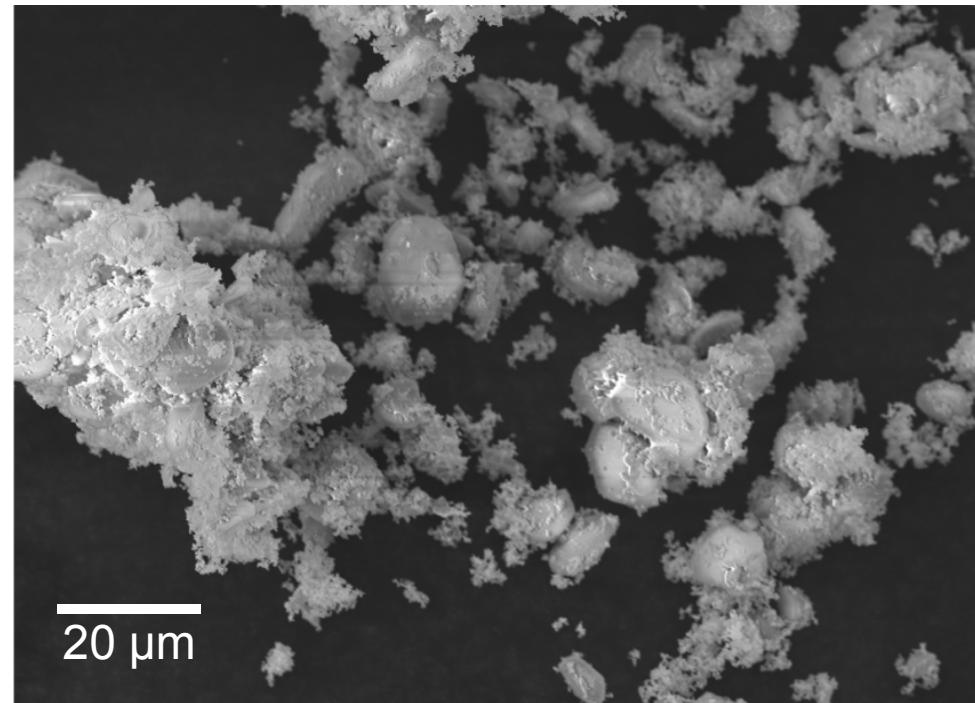
FACT – Comparison to Exergy

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

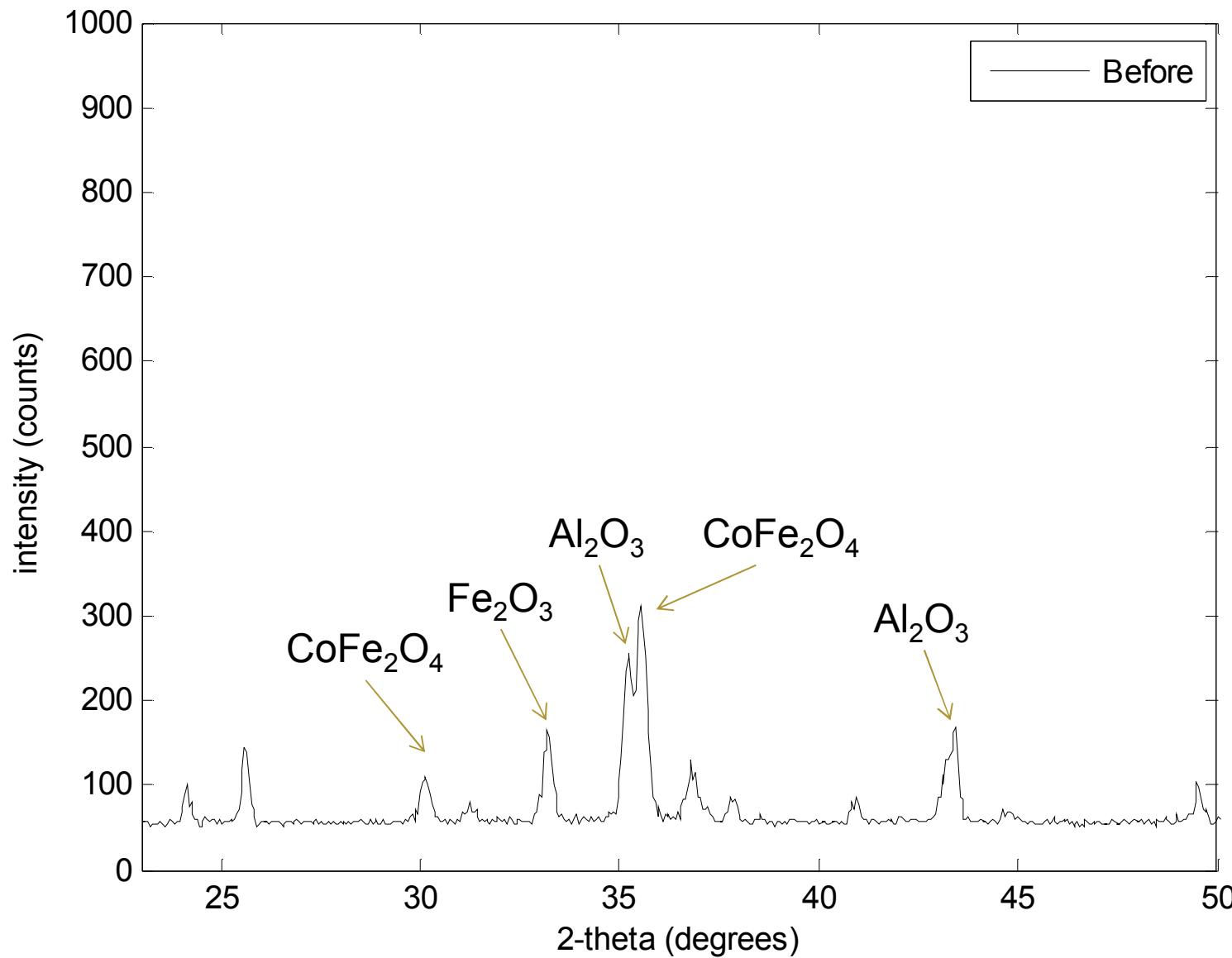


Experimental Set Up

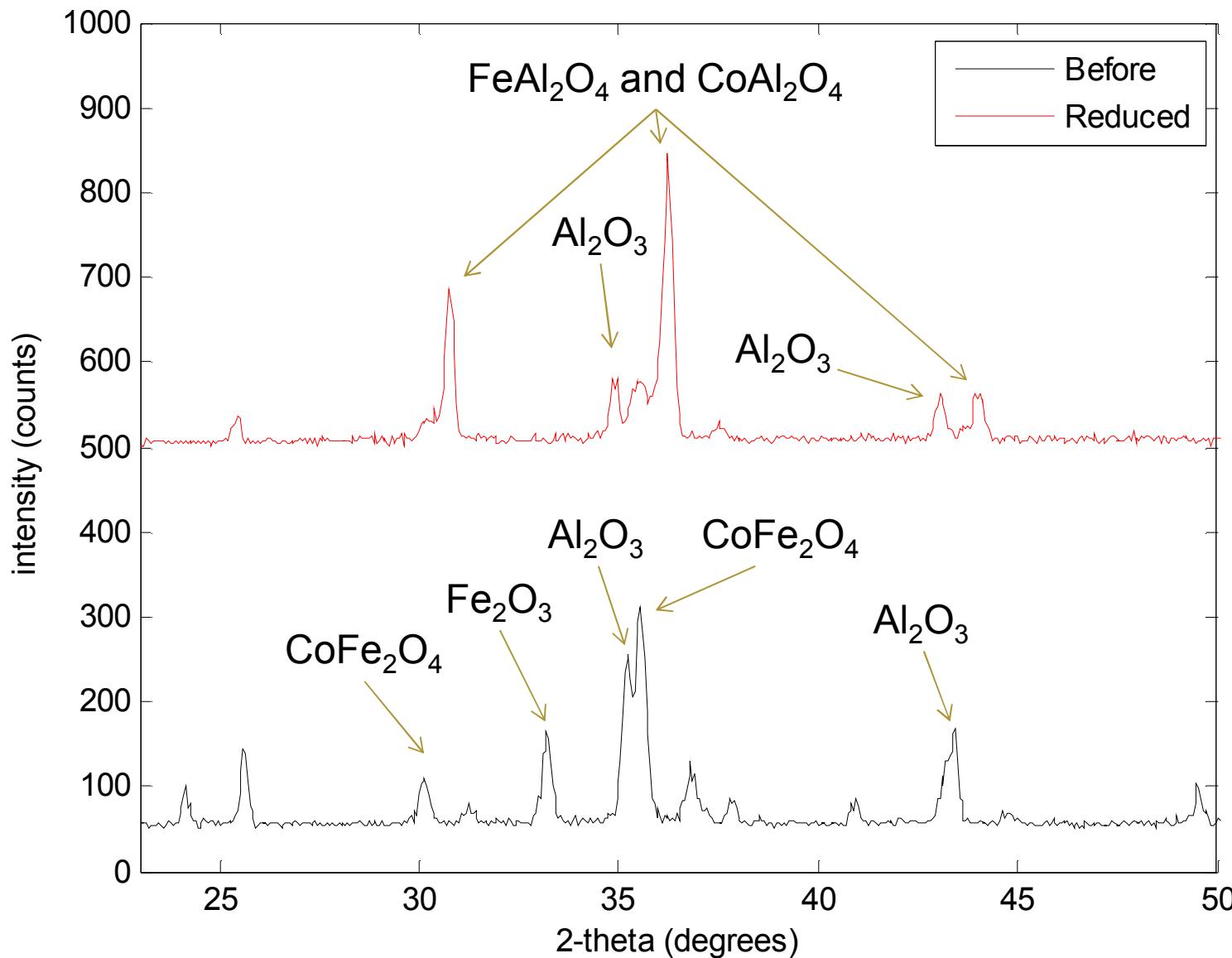
- Physically Mixed Powders
 - “Base Powder”
 - 1:1:3 Molar Ratio
 $\text{CoO}:\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4:\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$
 - “Alumina-6 and -9”
 - 1:1:6 and 1:1:9 Molar Ratio
 $\text{CoO}:\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$
 - Calcined at 850°C
- HT-XRD in-situ
- NETZSCH STA 409 CD TGA/DSC



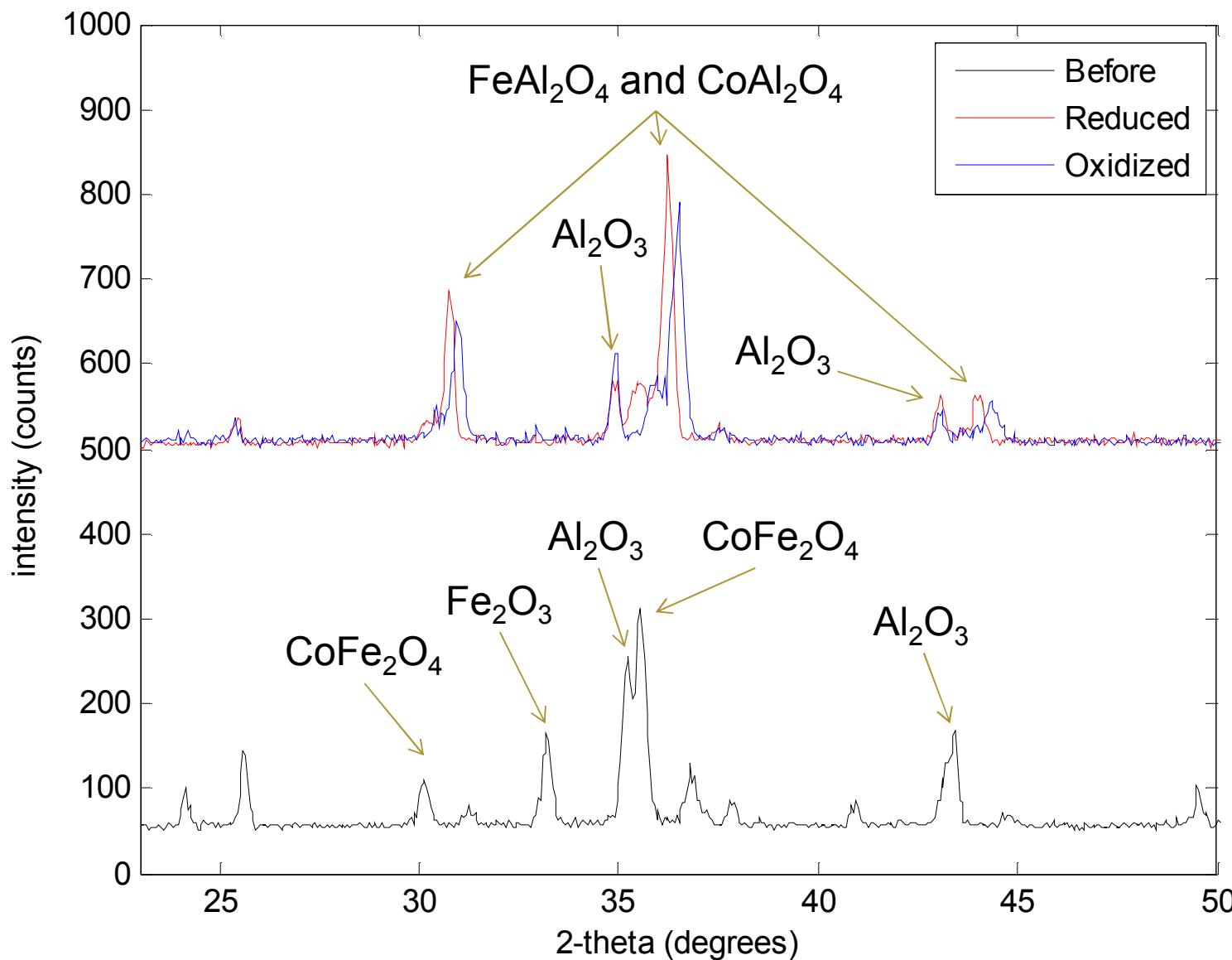
Selected Peaks - HT-XRD *in-situ*



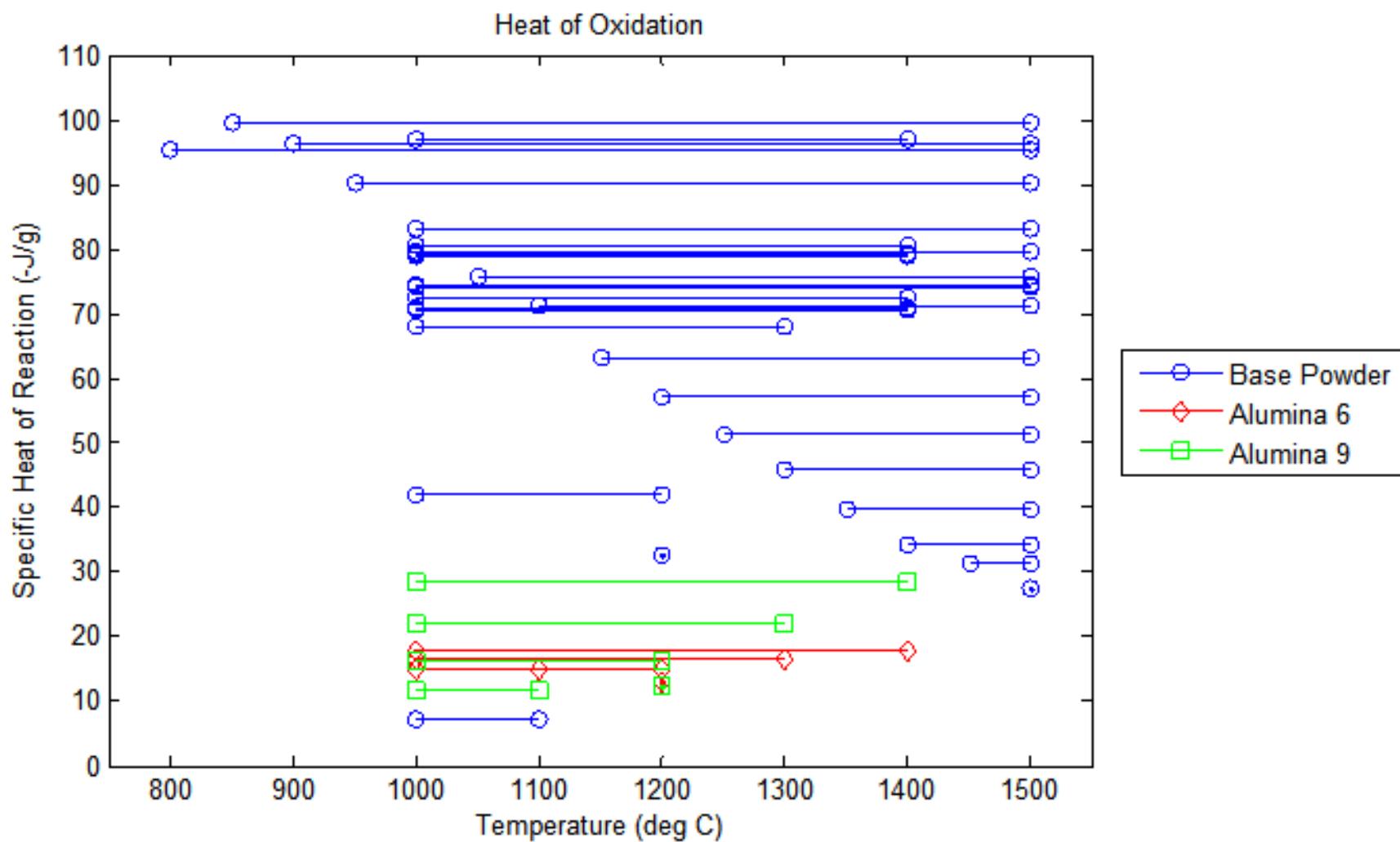
Selected Peaks - HT-XRD *in-situ*



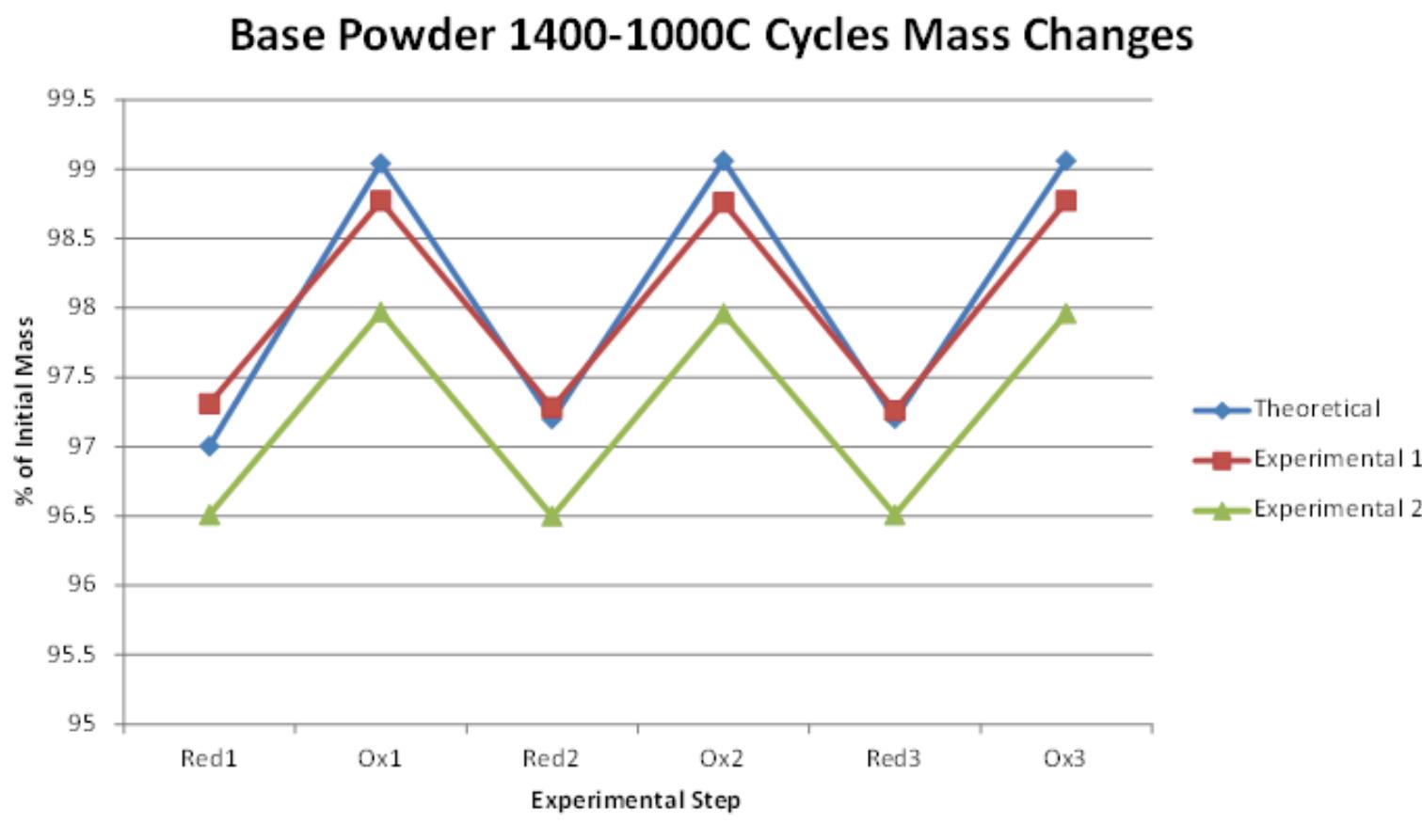
Selected Peaks - HT-XRD *in-situ*



DSC Data Summary

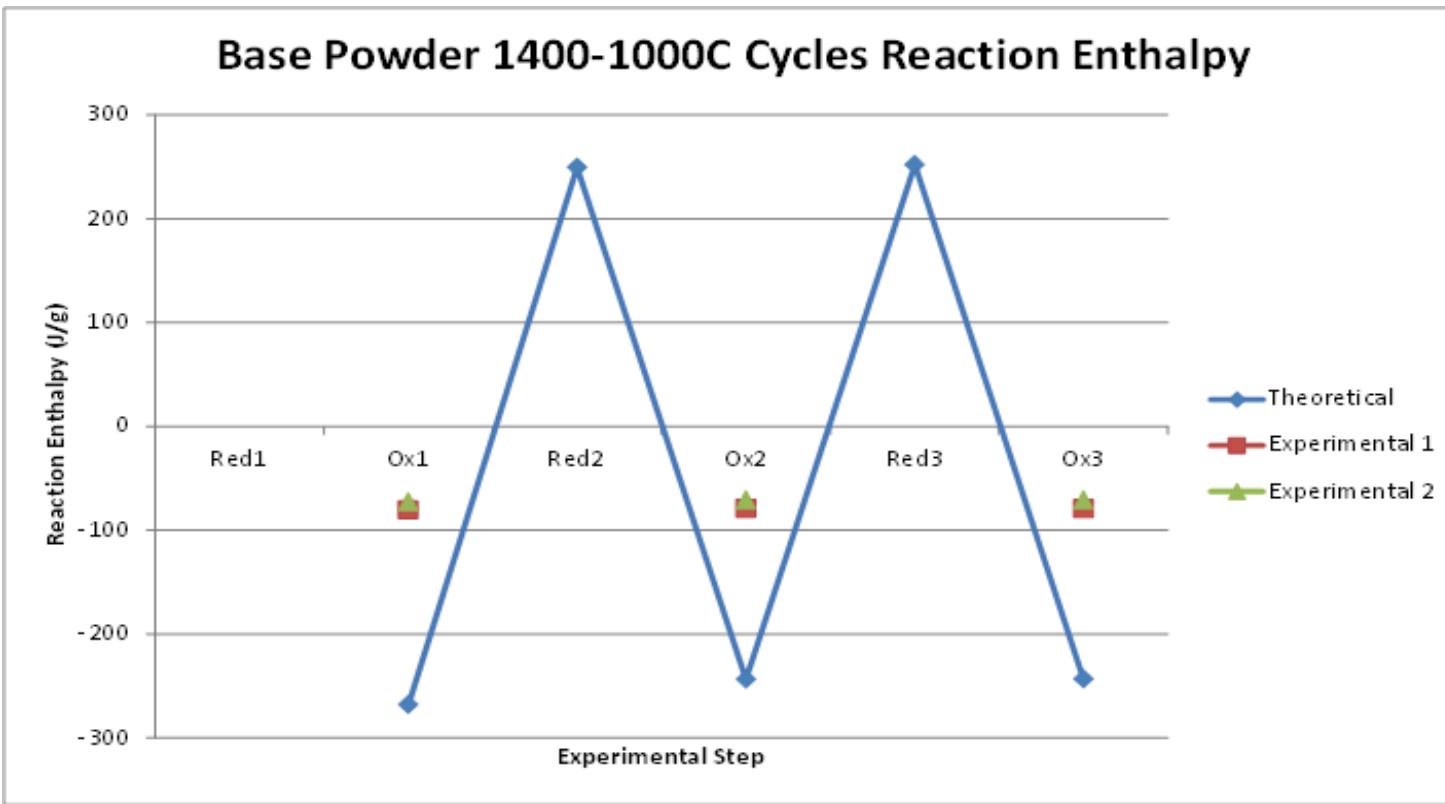


Theoretical-Experimental Comparisons



- 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



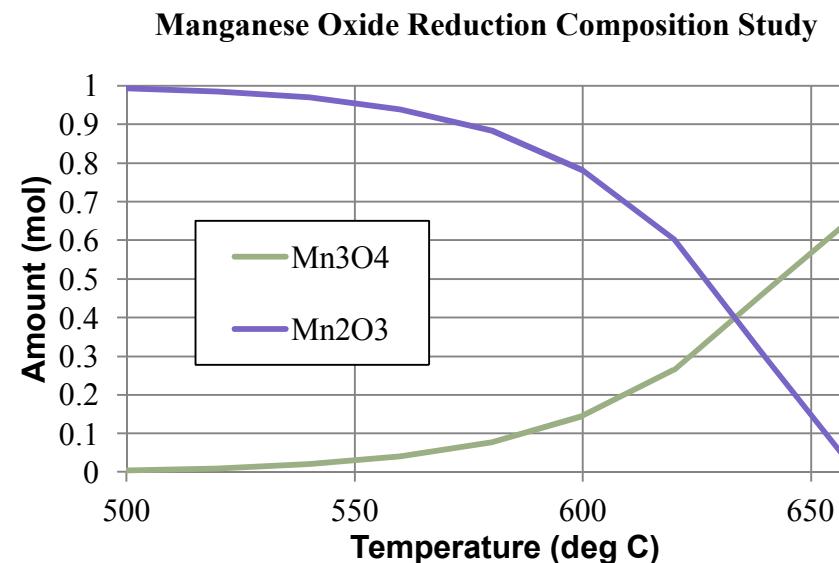
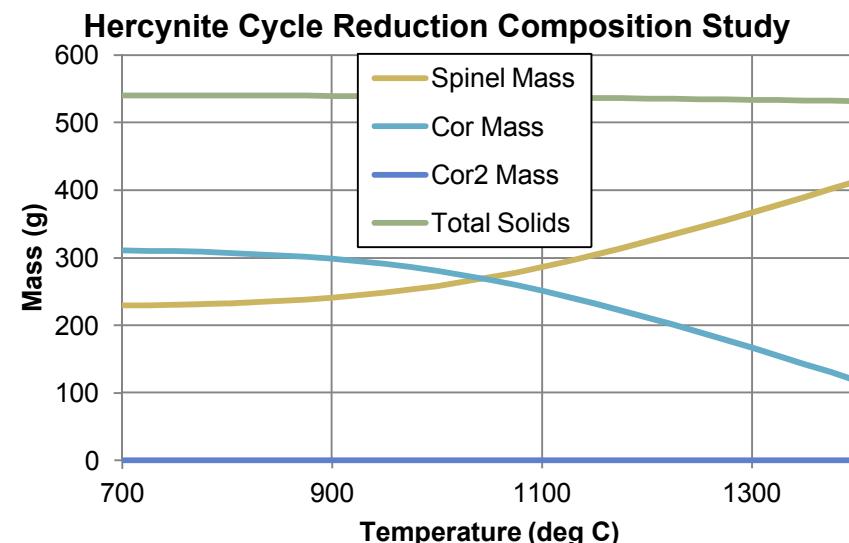
Suggestions for Future Work

- 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	ΔH_{red}
$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 \leftrightarrow 2/3 \text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4 + 1/6 \text{O}_2$	471 kJ/kg
$\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4 \leftrightarrow 3 \text{CoO} + 1/2 \text{O}_2$	901 kJ/kg
$\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_3 \leftrightarrow 2/3 \text{Mn}_3\text{O}_4 + 1/6 \text{O}_2$	205 kJ/kg
$\text{Mn}_3\text{O}_4 \leftrightarrow 3 \text{MnO} + 1/2 \text{O}_2$	853 kJ/kg
$\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4 + 3 \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \leftrightarrow \text{CoAl}_2\text{O}_4 + 2 \text{FeAl}_2\text{O}_4 + 1/2 \text{O}_2$	131 kJ/kg

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



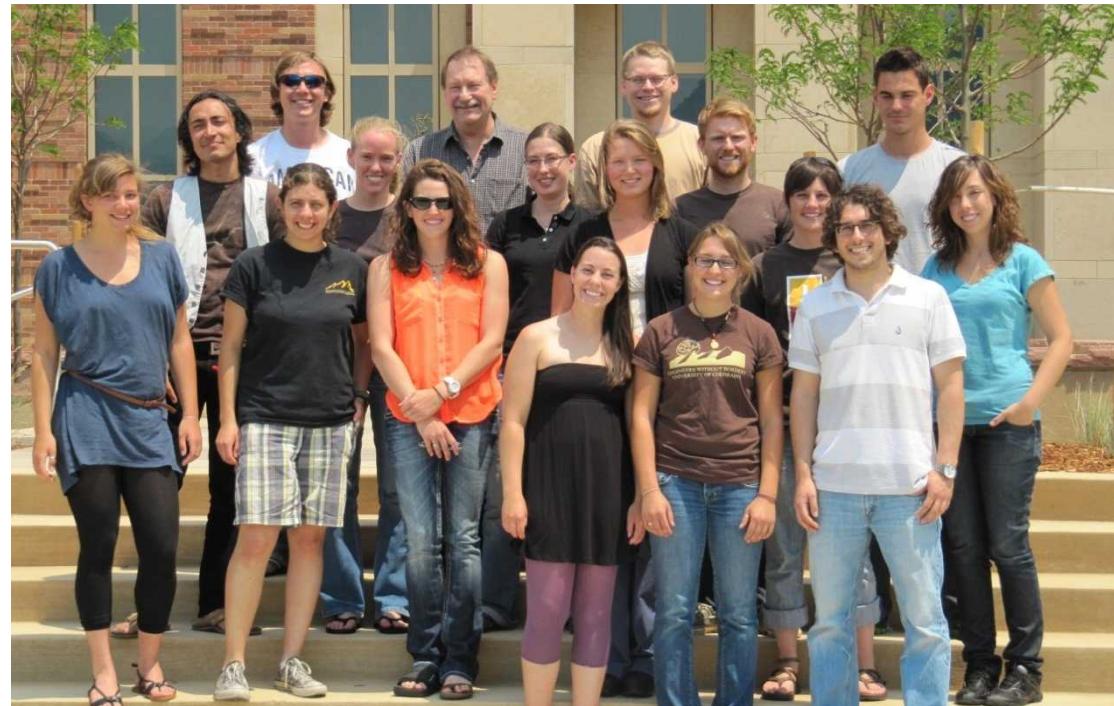
Acknowledgements



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- Kristin Meyer
- Mark Rodriguez
- Kalvis Terauds
- Team Weimer





Works Cited

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- 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?



University of Colorado **Boulder**



Additional Slides

High Temperature Operation

- Improvement of Power Cycle Efficiency

- Carnot Efficiency $\eta = 1 - \frac{T_{cool}}{T_{hot}}$

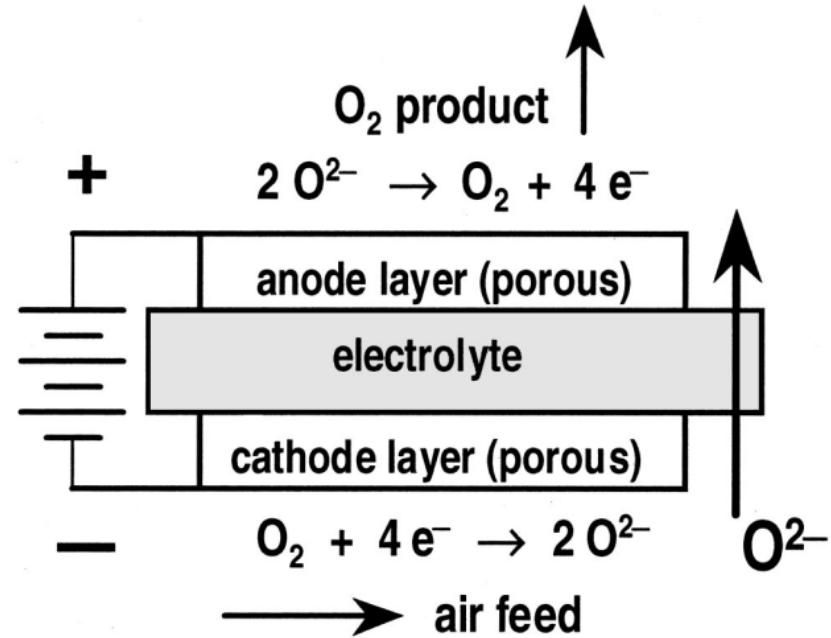
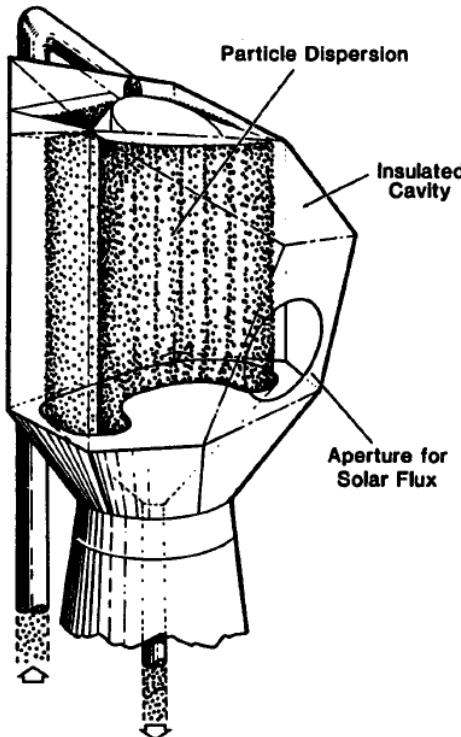
- Current materials do not operate at these temperatures

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

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

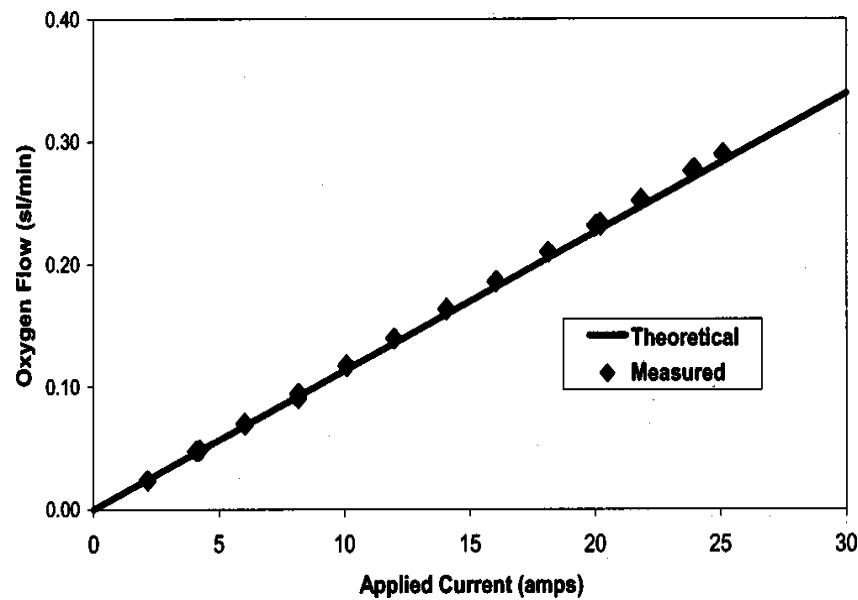
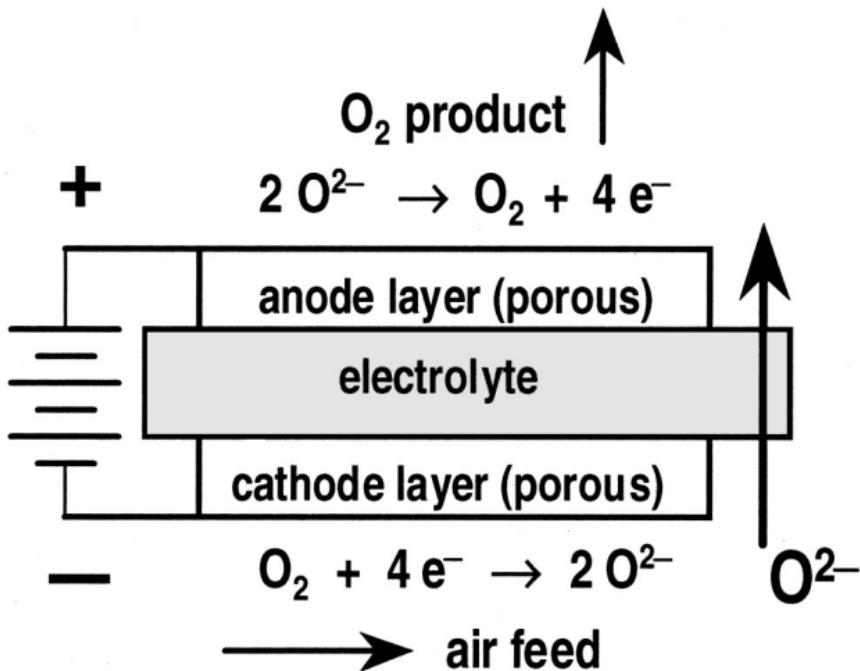
Hercynite Cycle for Boosting

- Why Hercynite Cycle?
- Direct Heating
- Oxygen Control



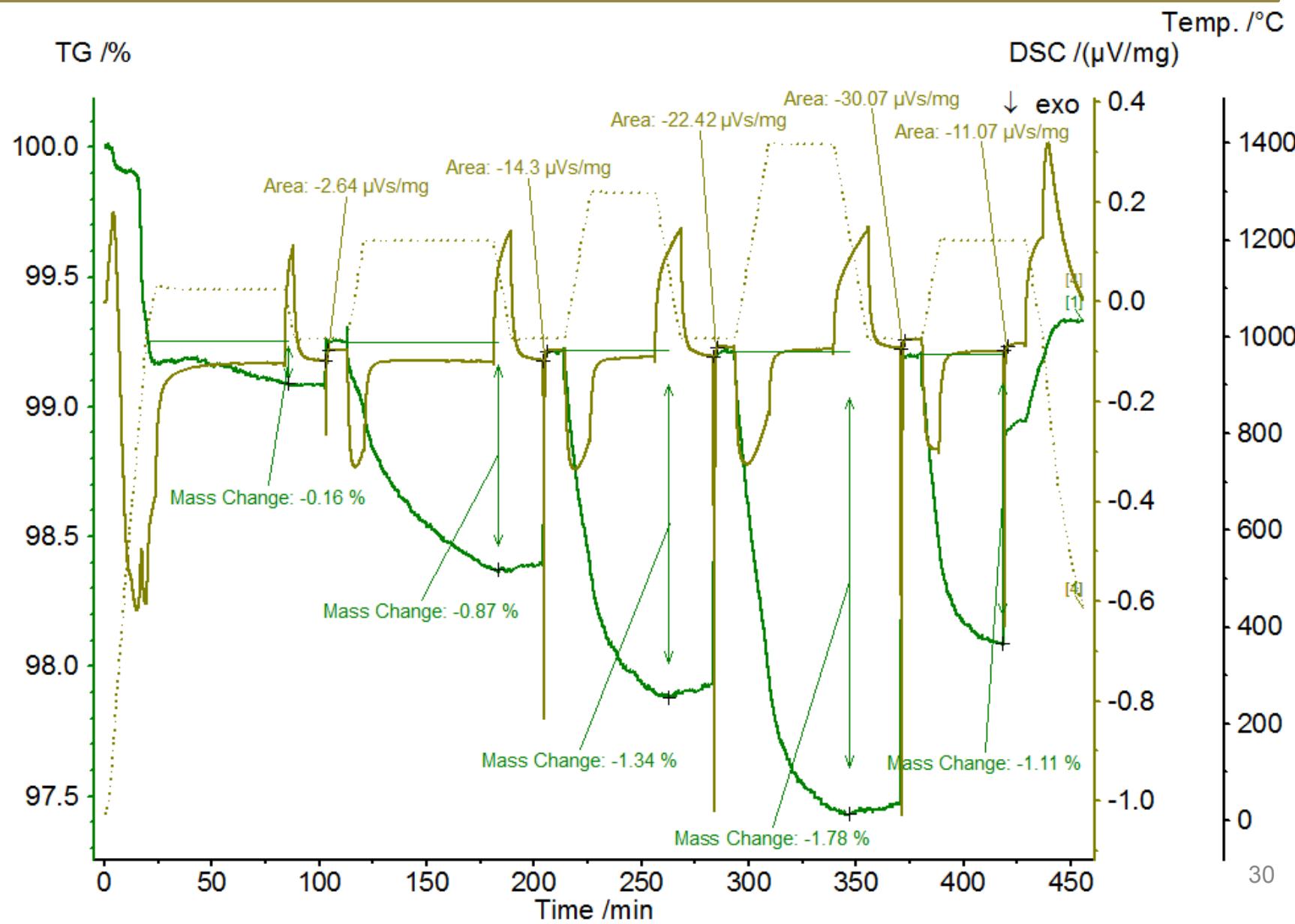
D. L. Meixner, *et al.*, *Journal of the Electrochemical Society*, vol. 149, pp. D132-D132, 2002.

Oxygen Control



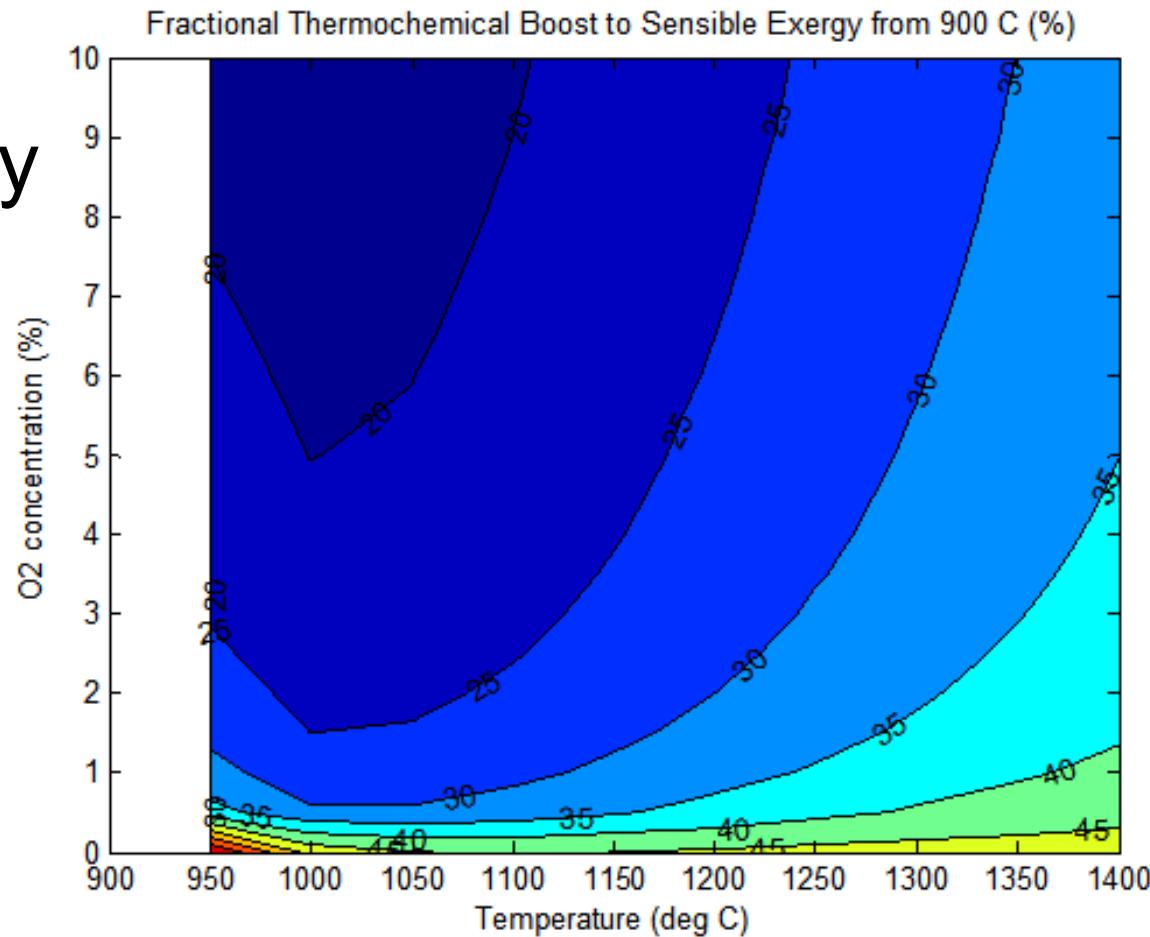
$$Q_{\text{O}_2} = \frac{I}{4F} N_{\text{cells}}$$

TGA/DSC Data - Energy Flows

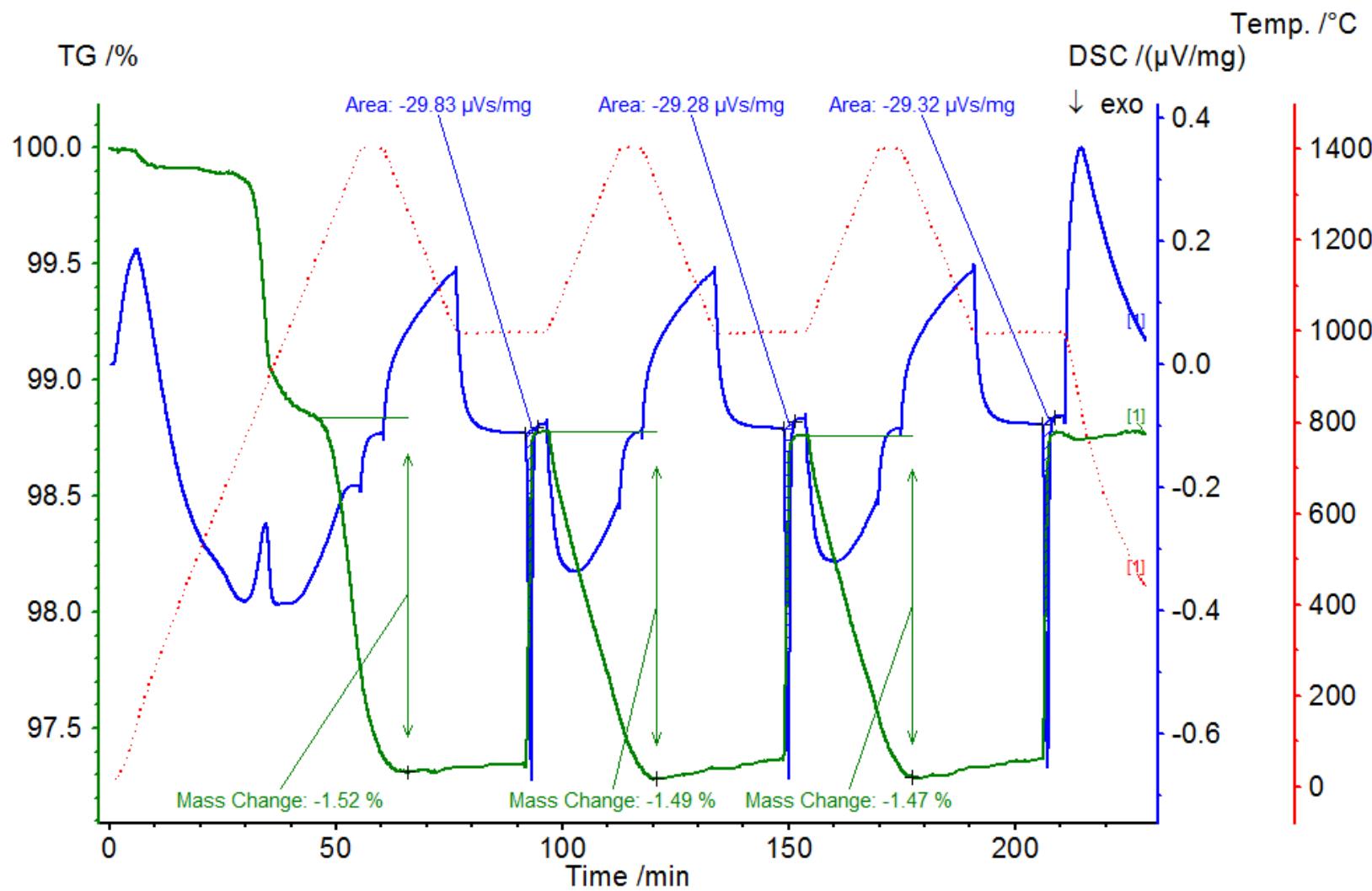


FACT – Comparison to Limited Exergy

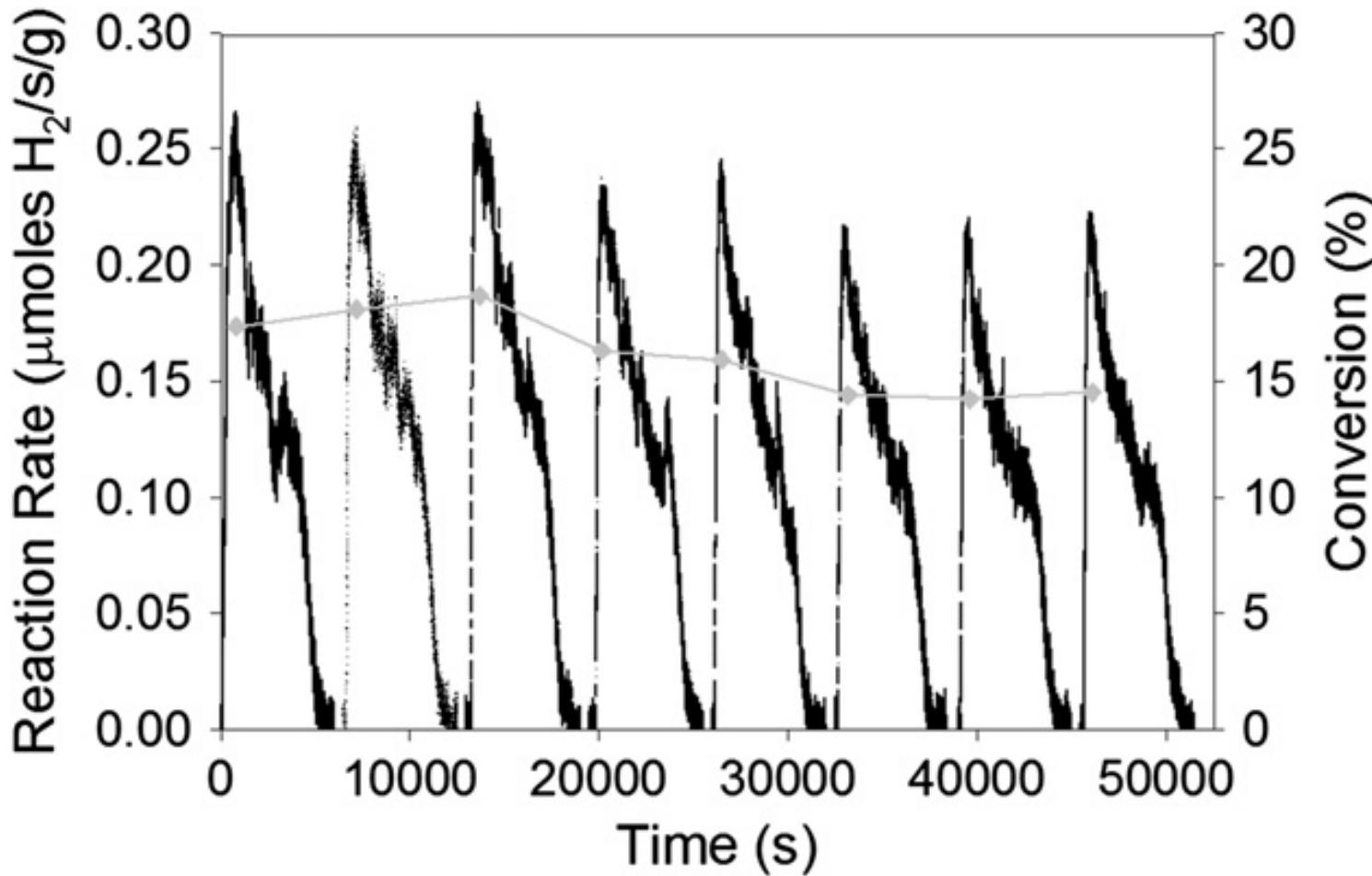
- Reaction enthalpy compared to exergy from 900°C
 - Not very realistic
- Maximum is 66.1%



Repeatable Cycles



Repeatable Cycles



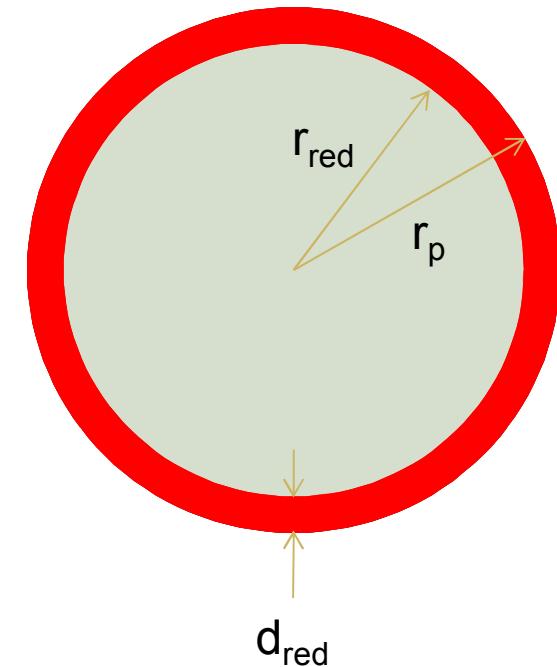
Reaction Extent

- Volume Reduced:

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

- Particle diameter = 100 μm
- Reduction Depth = 6.69 μm
- Volume fraction reduced:

35%



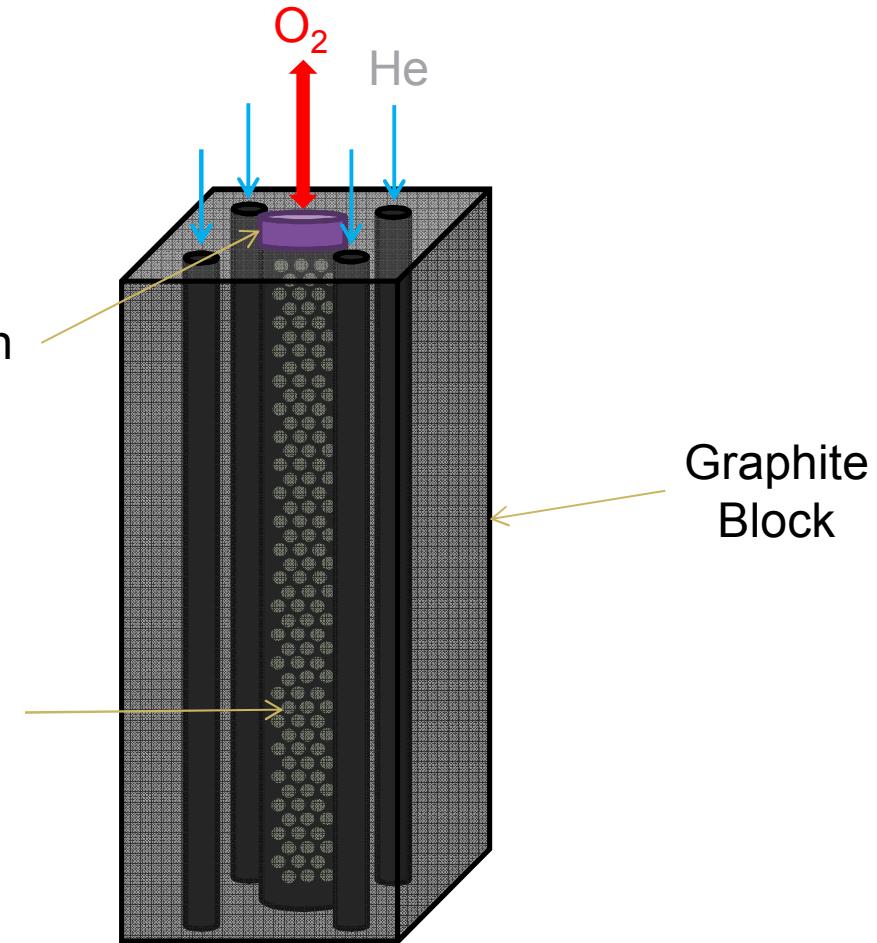


Thermochemical/Thermal Storage Unit (SUN-TSU)



O₂
Separation
Cell

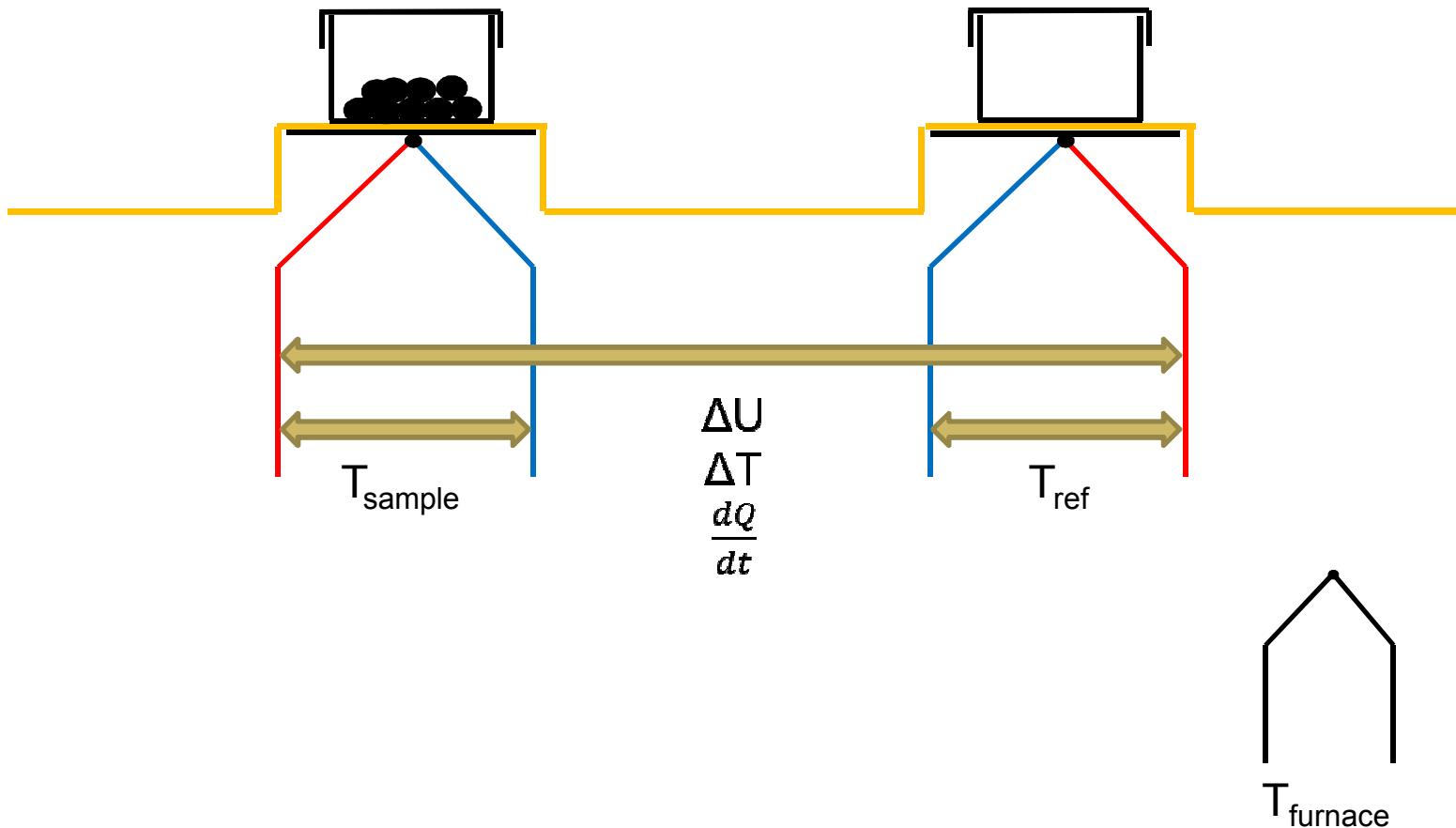
Redox
Material



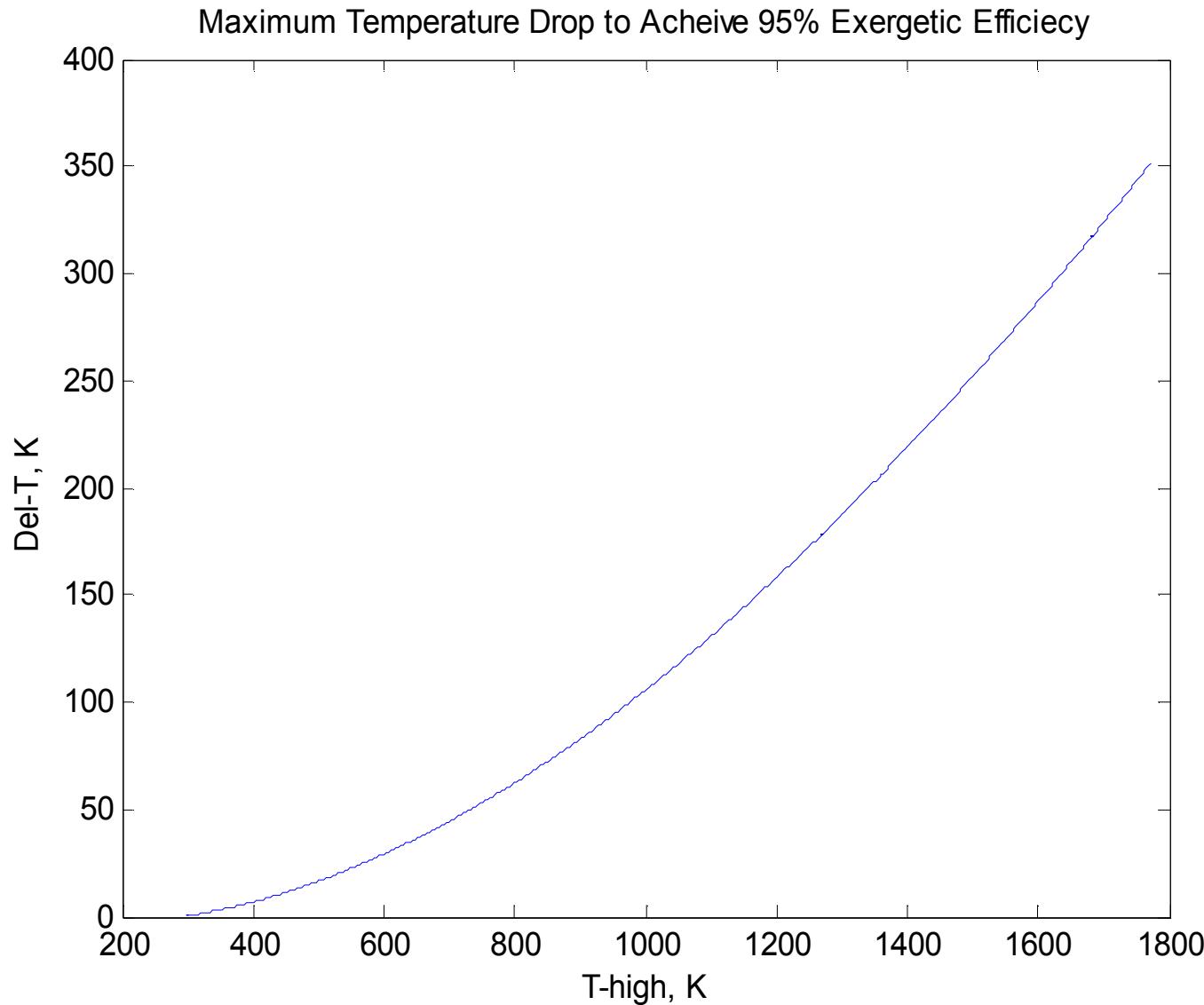
Issues with TGA-DSC Data

- Al_2O_3 crucible used for previous runs
- Al_2O_3 becomes “heat transparent” at high temperatures
 - Al_2O_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

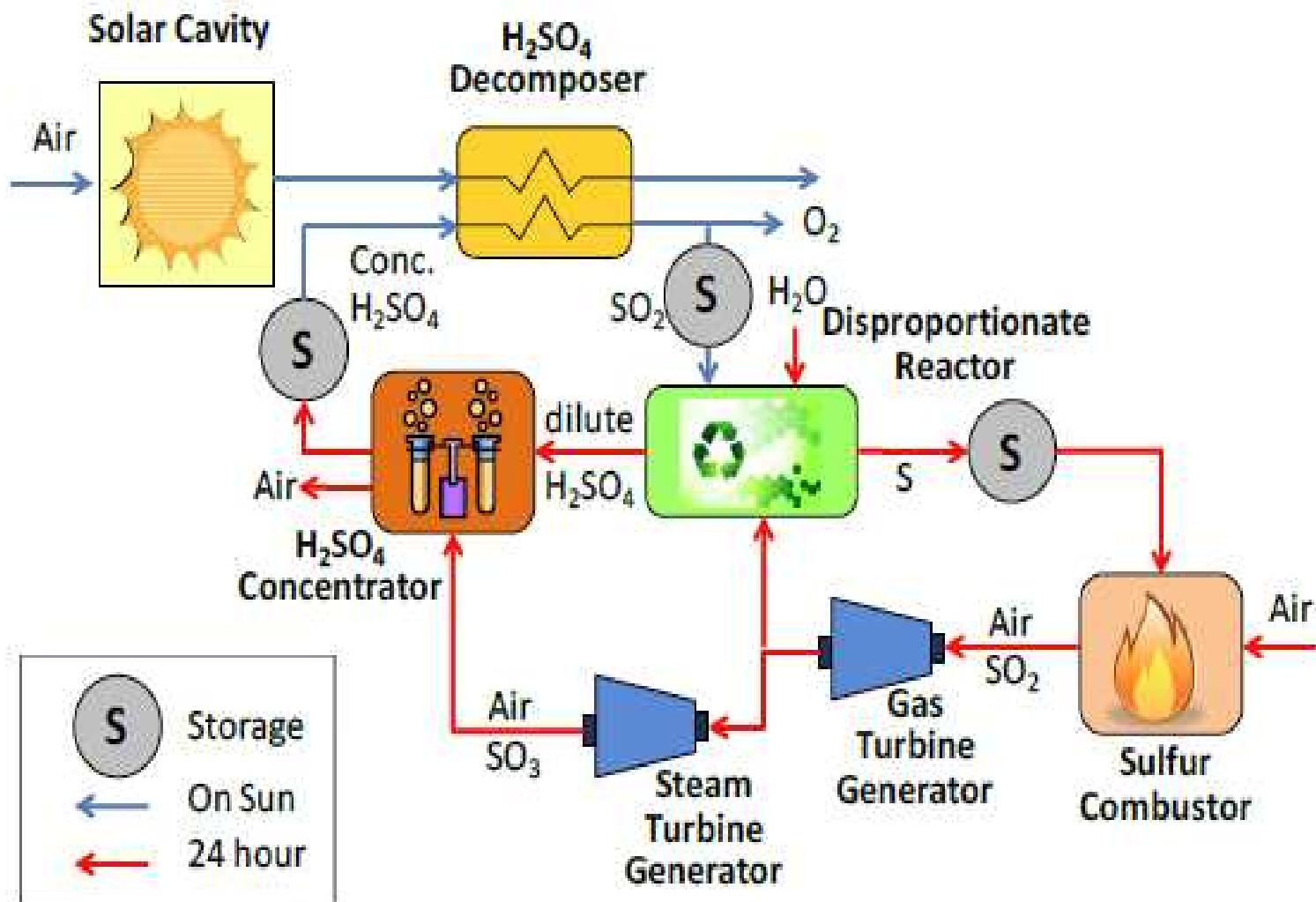
TGA-DSC Setup



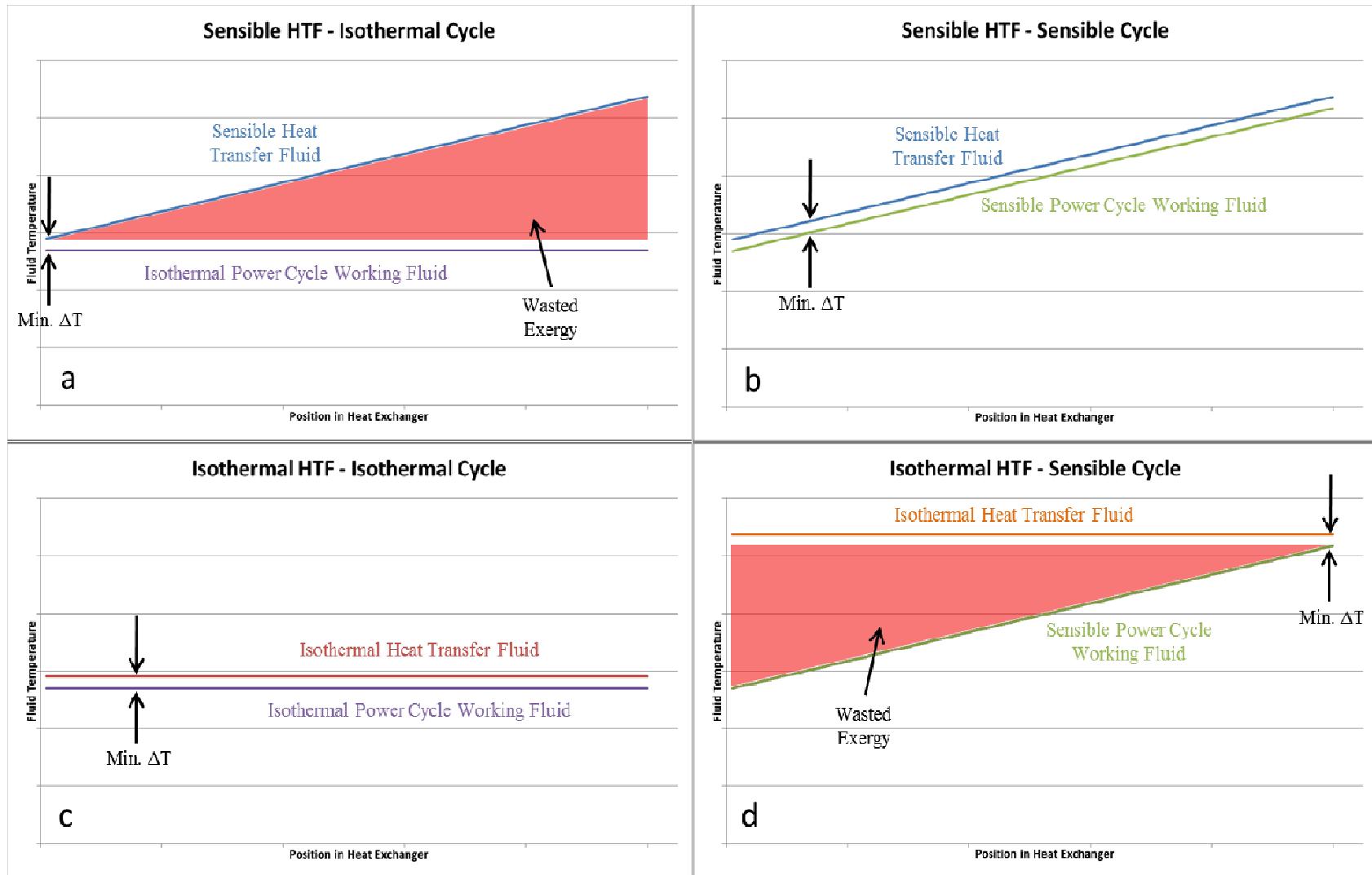
95% Exergetic Efficiency



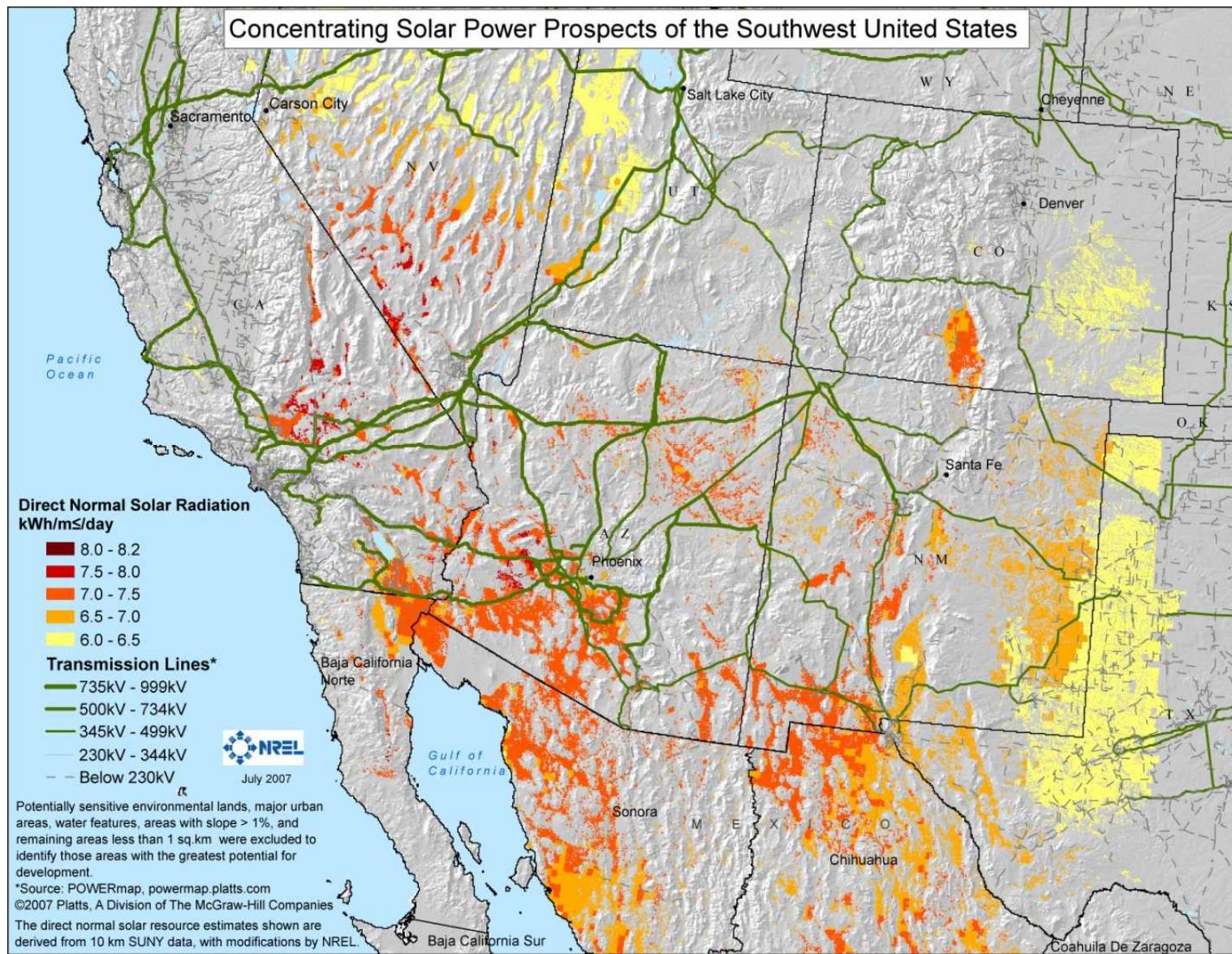
Sulfur Process



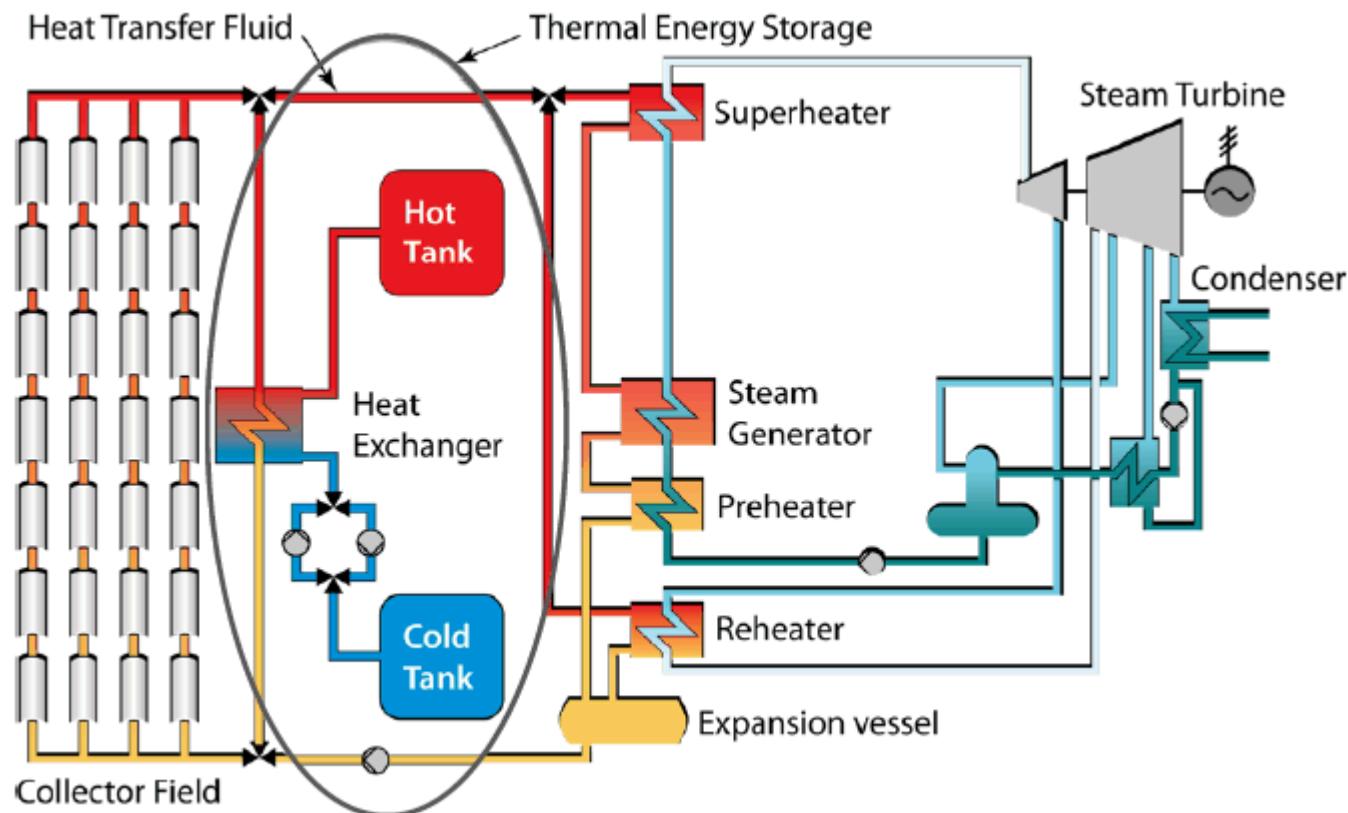
Power Cycle Matching



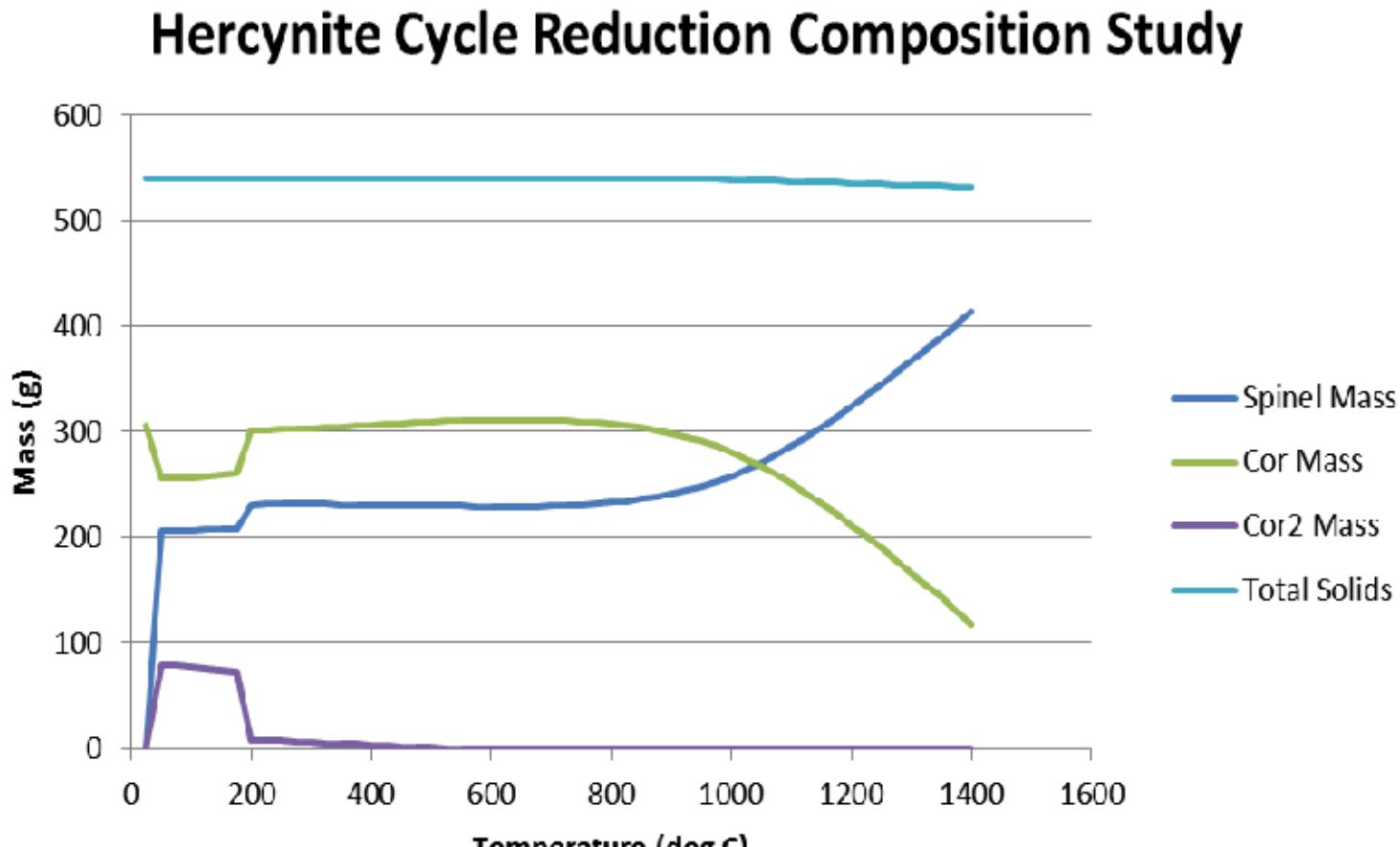
Desirable Solar Resource



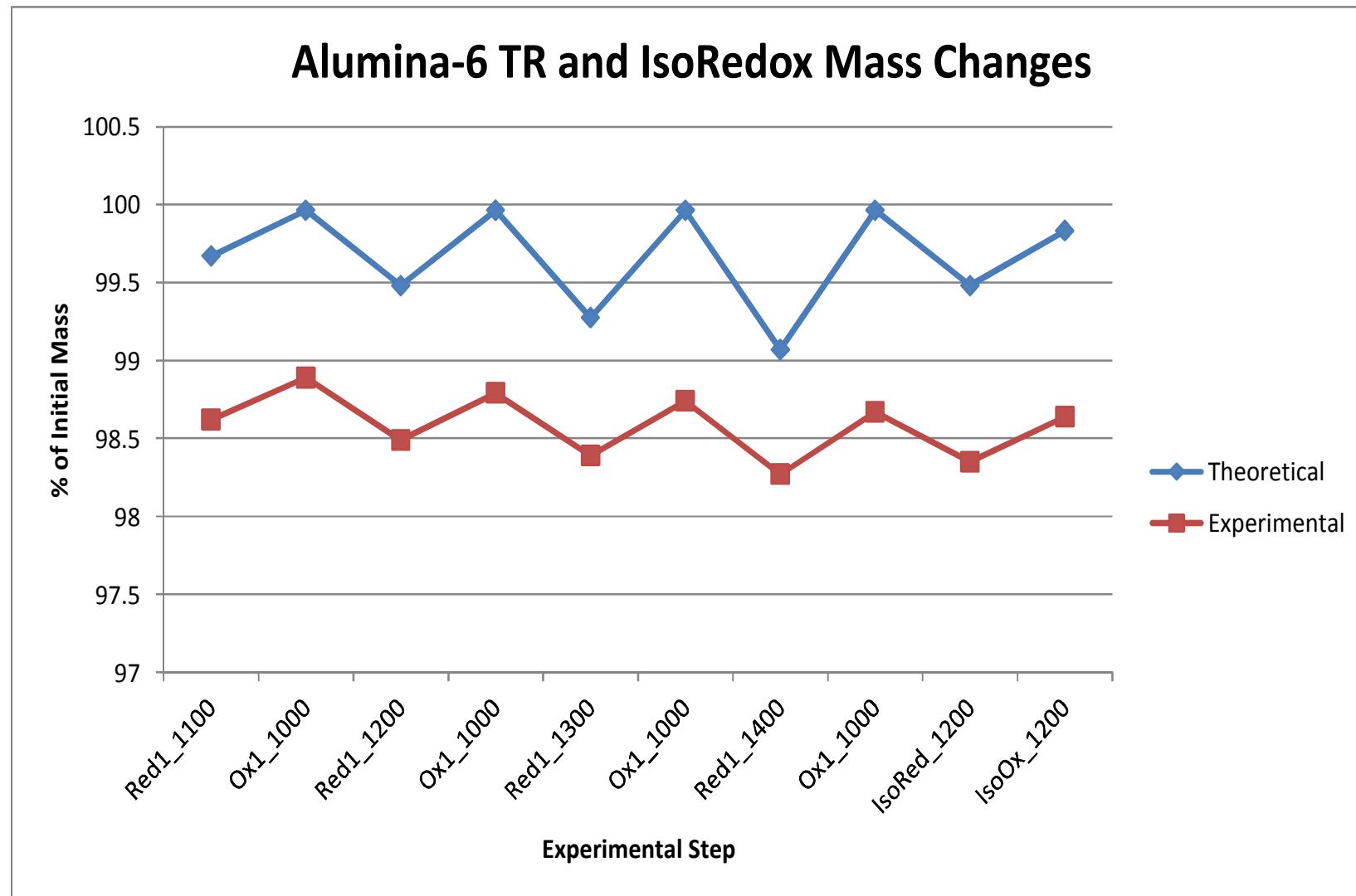
Parabolic Trough



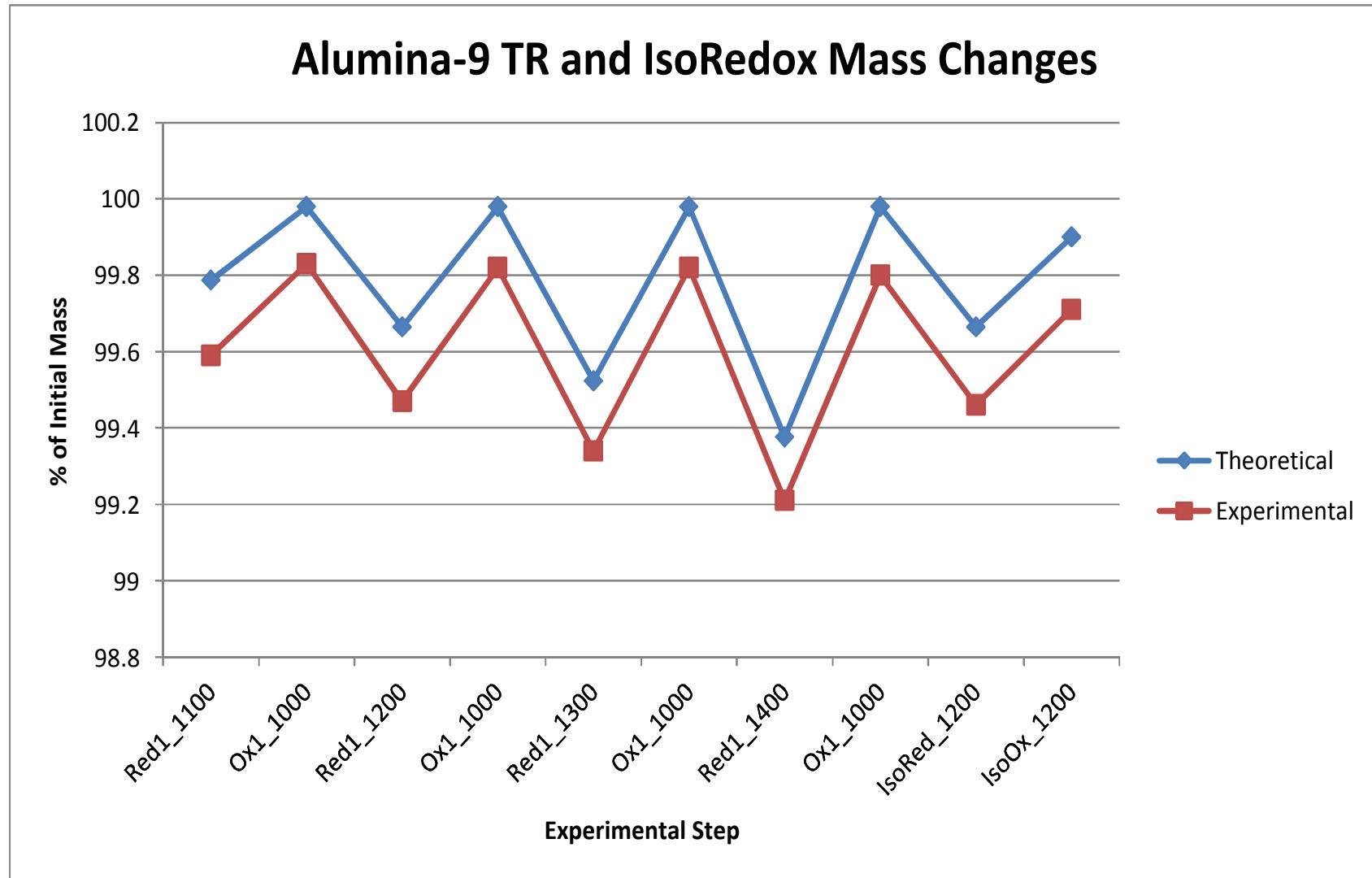
Hercynite Cycle Composition



Alumina-6 Experimental Comparisons

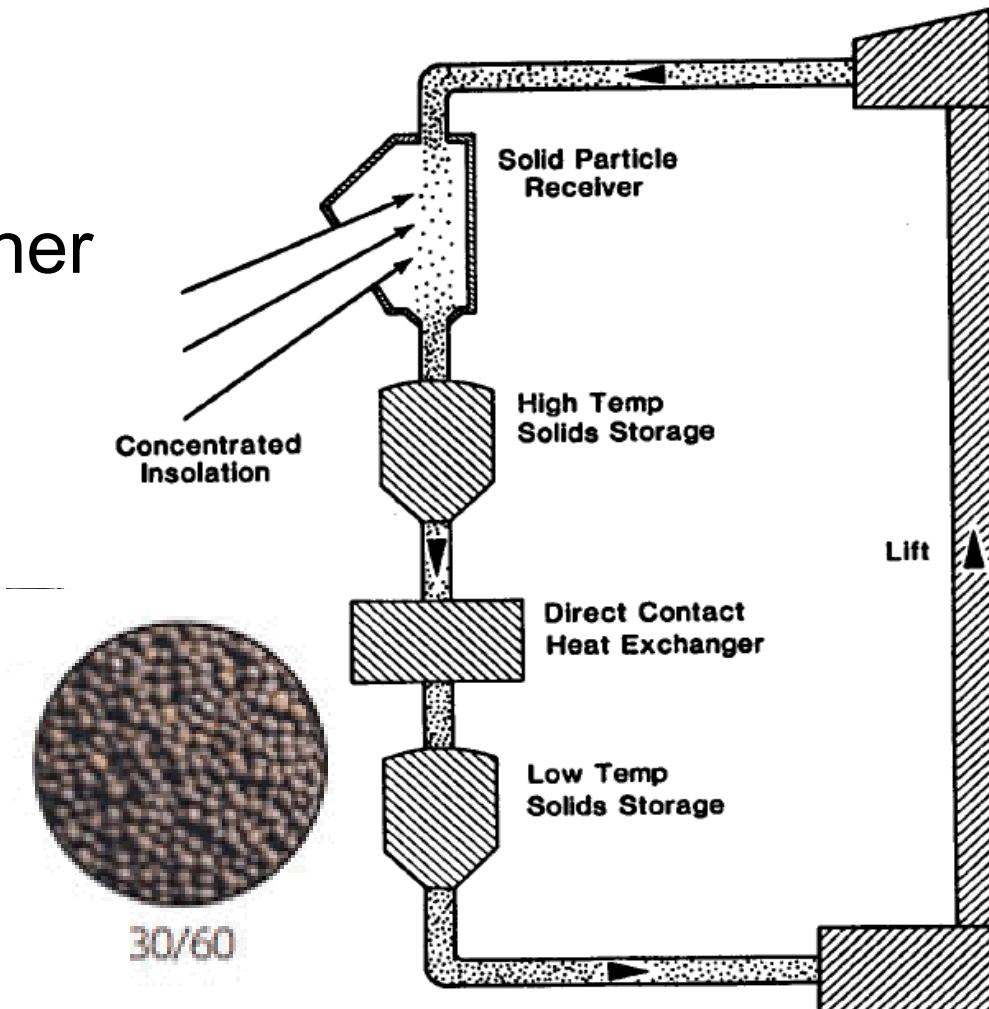


Alumina-9 Experimental Comparisons



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

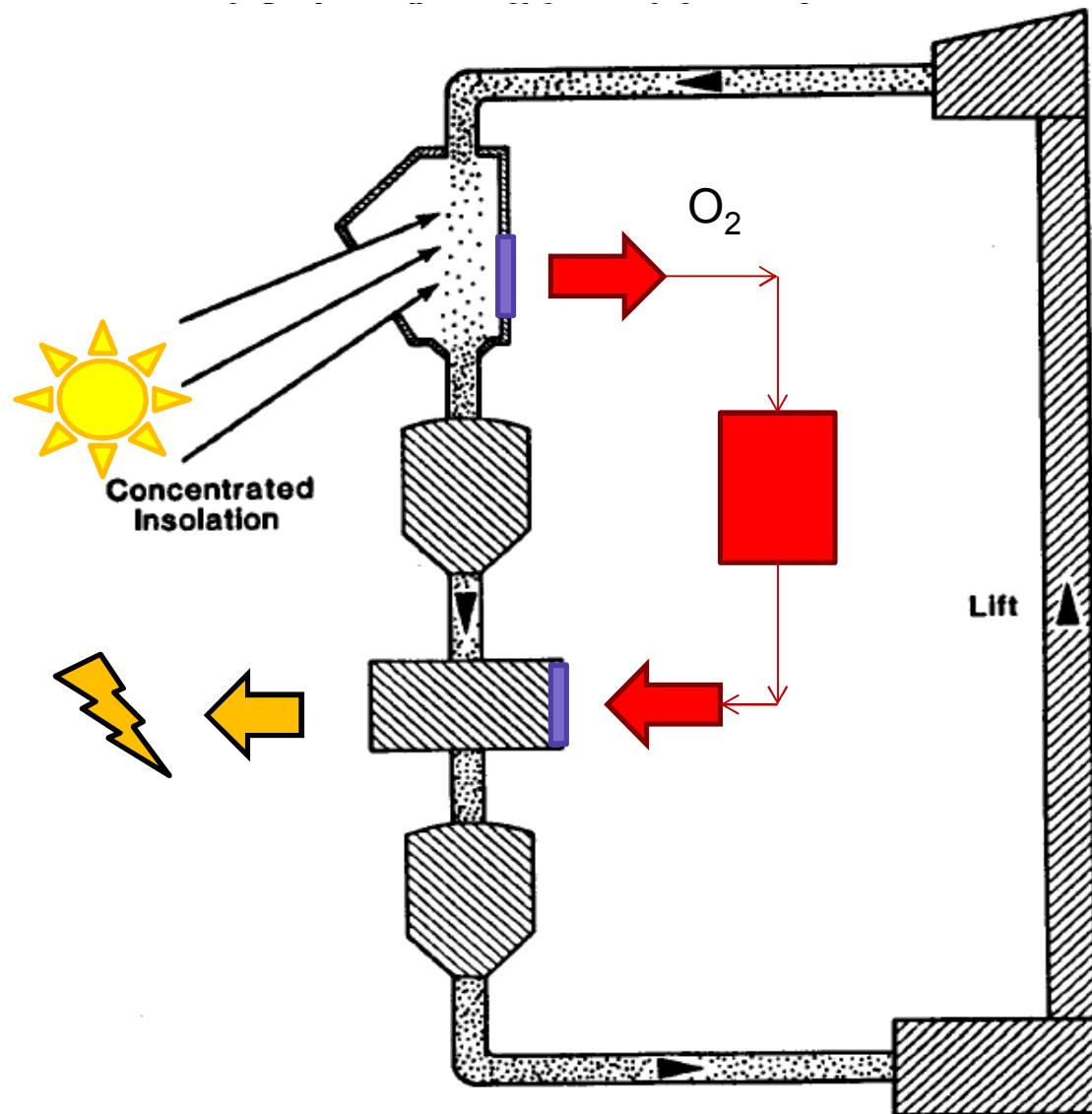


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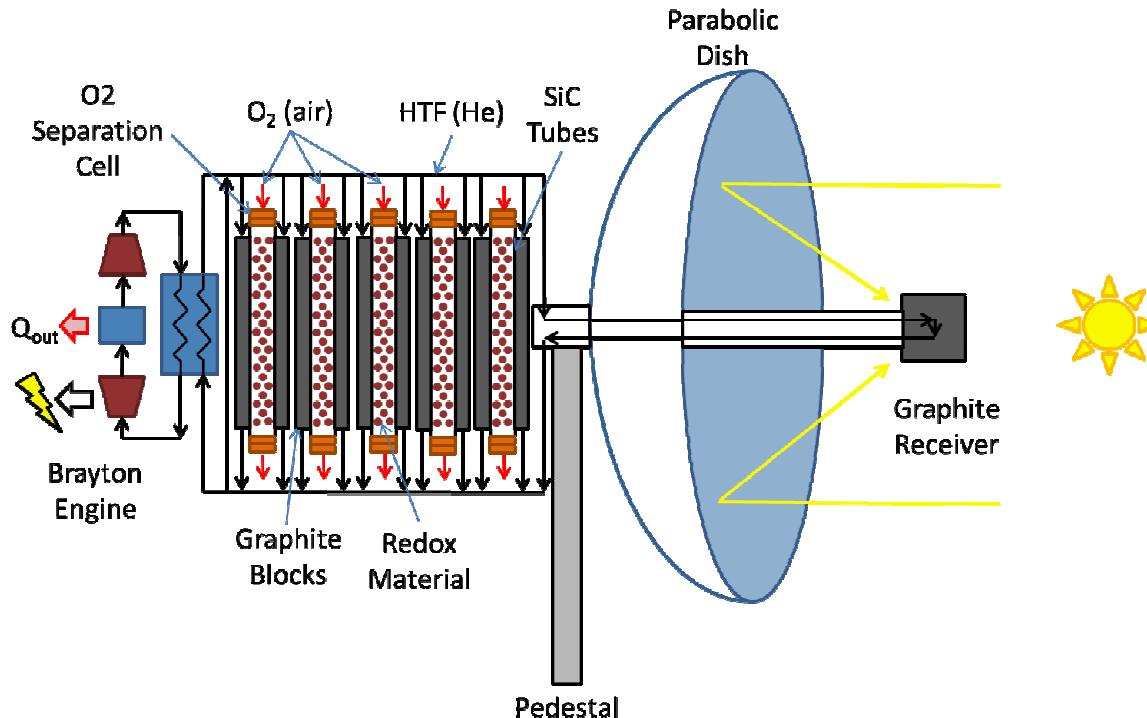
<http://www.carboceramics.com/CARBO-HSP/>

Potential Systems - CASPR



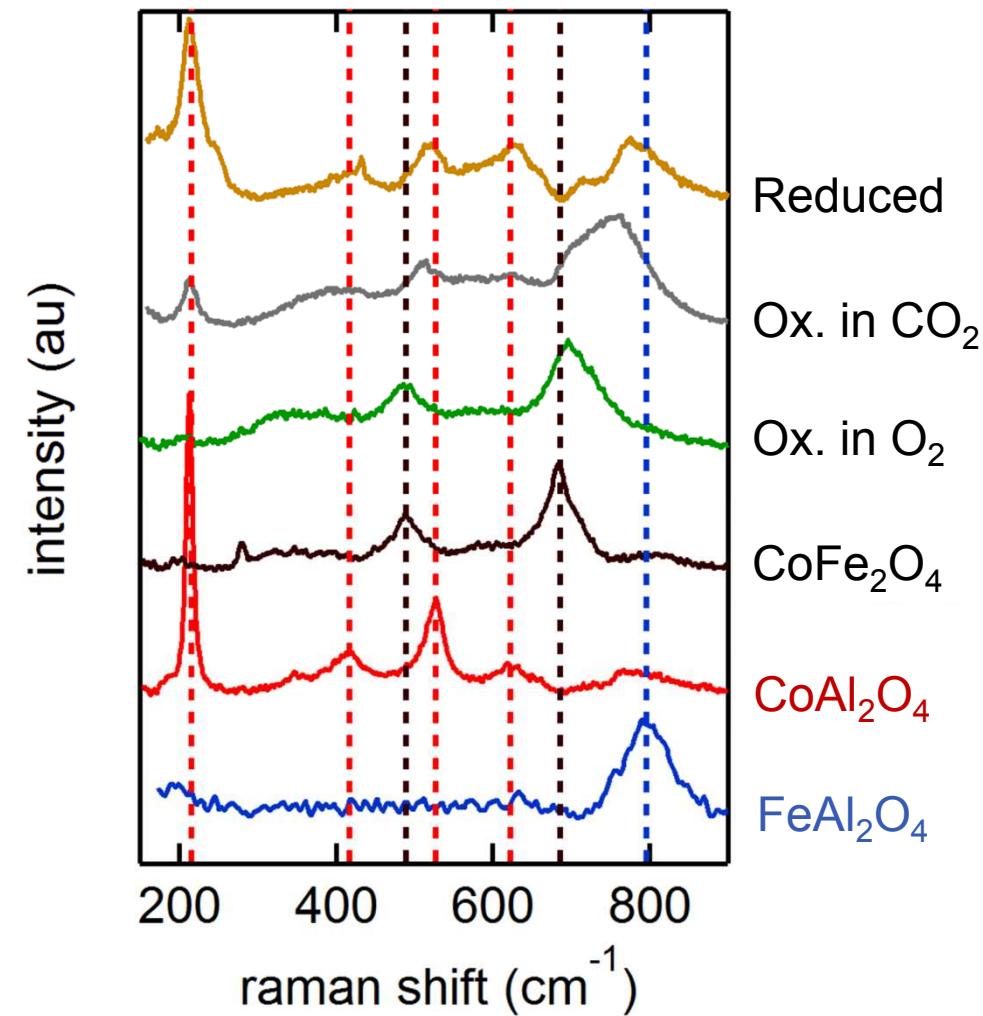
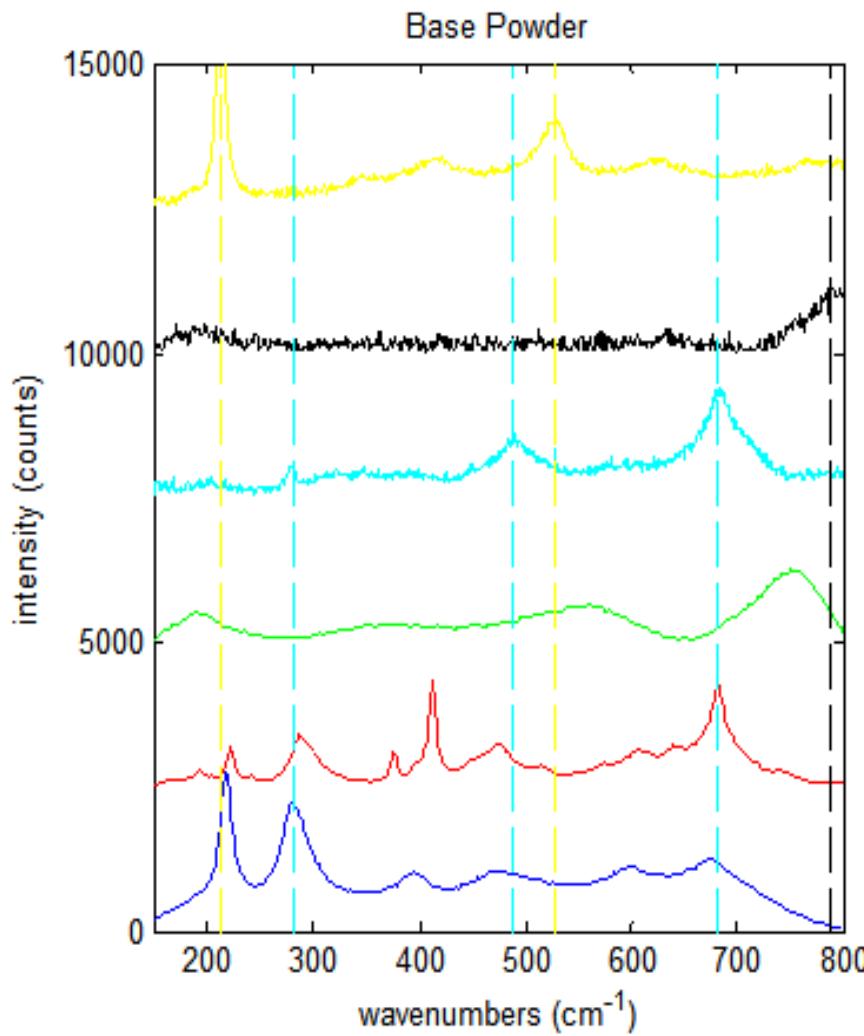
- Chemically augmented solid particle receiver
- Benefits
 - Direct utilization of heat in particles
- Issues
 - Moving particles can be difficult at high temperatures
 - Controlling atmosphere can be difficult at large scale

Potential Systems - CASES

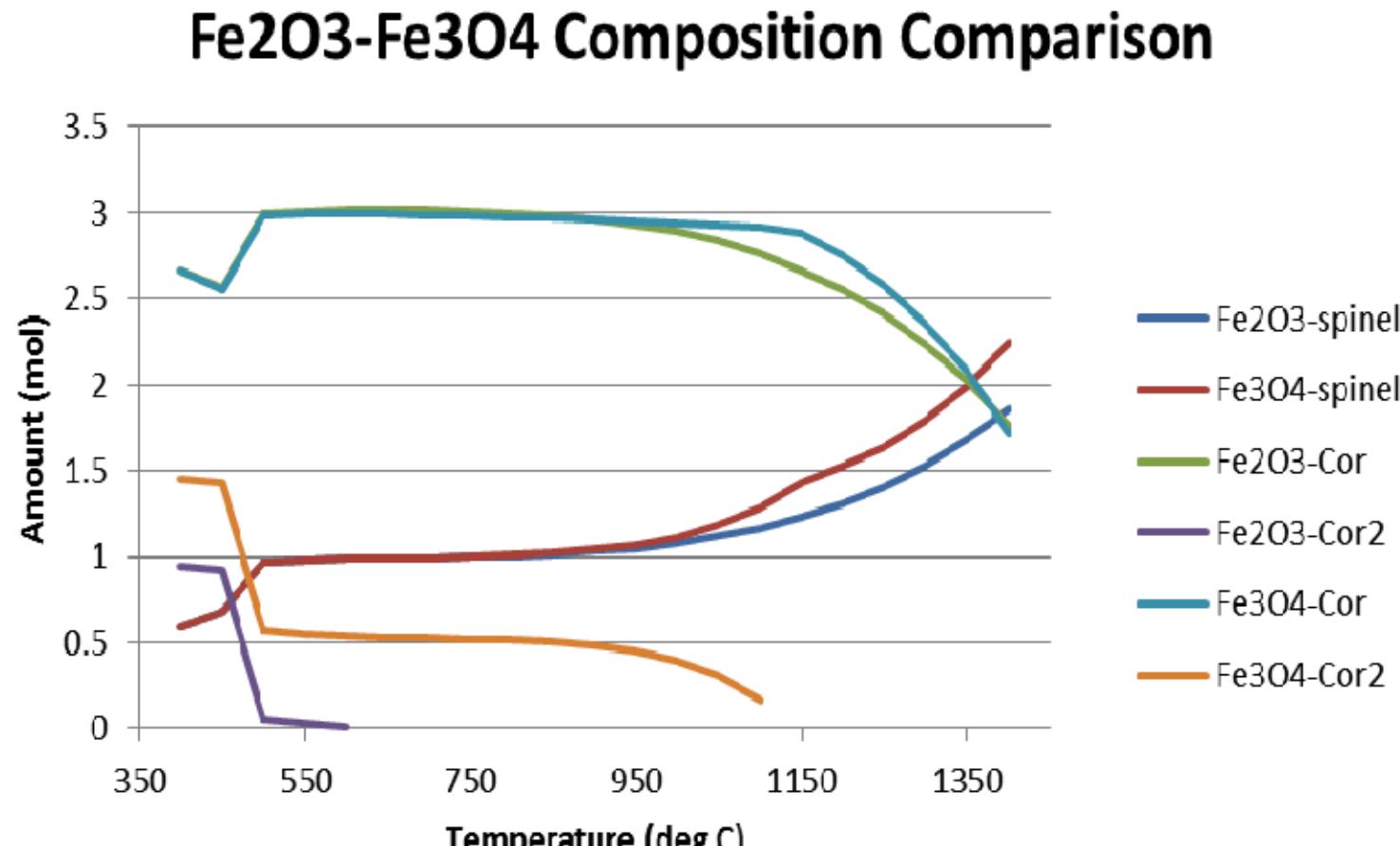


- Chemically Augmented Stationary-solid Energy Storage
- Benefits
 - No moving particles
 - Could help put useful storage on dishes
- Issues
 - Indirect storage can have efficiency losses

Raman - ALD Samples

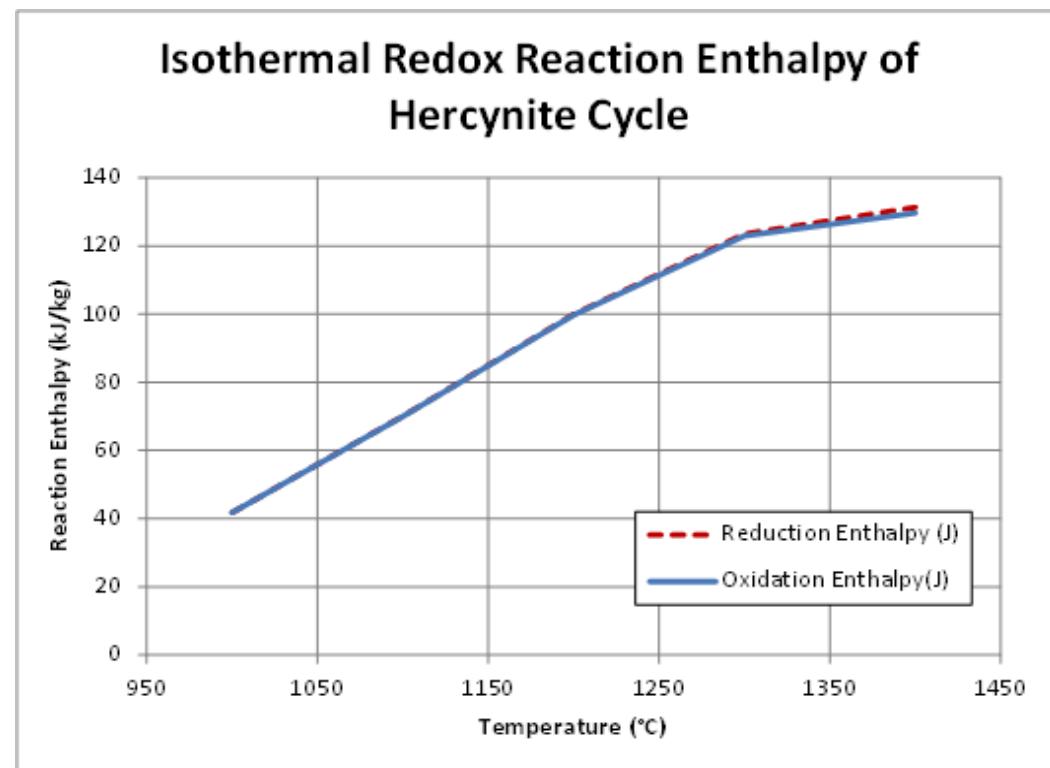


Fe₂O₃-Fe₃O₄ Synthesis Comparison



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 ΔT for full reaction
- Potential Issues
 - Sintering
 - Toxicity

