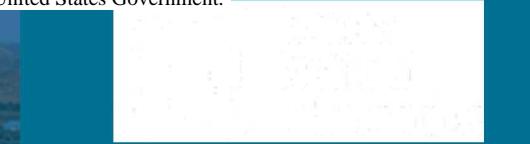
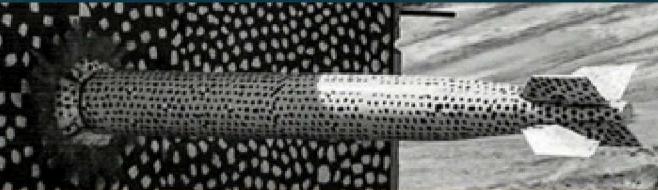


# Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Energy Conversion and Heat Exchanger Research



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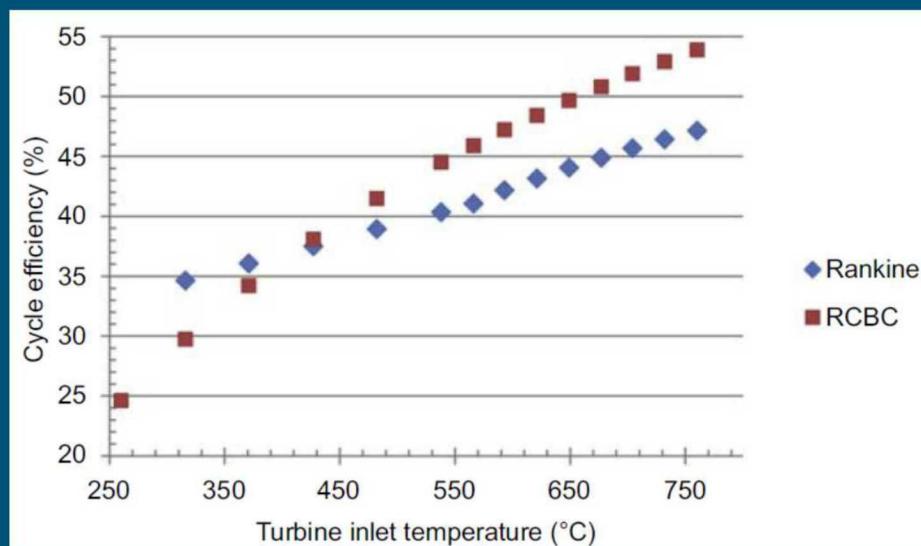
Blake Lance, Ph.D.

AIAA SciTech Forum, 2019-01-07

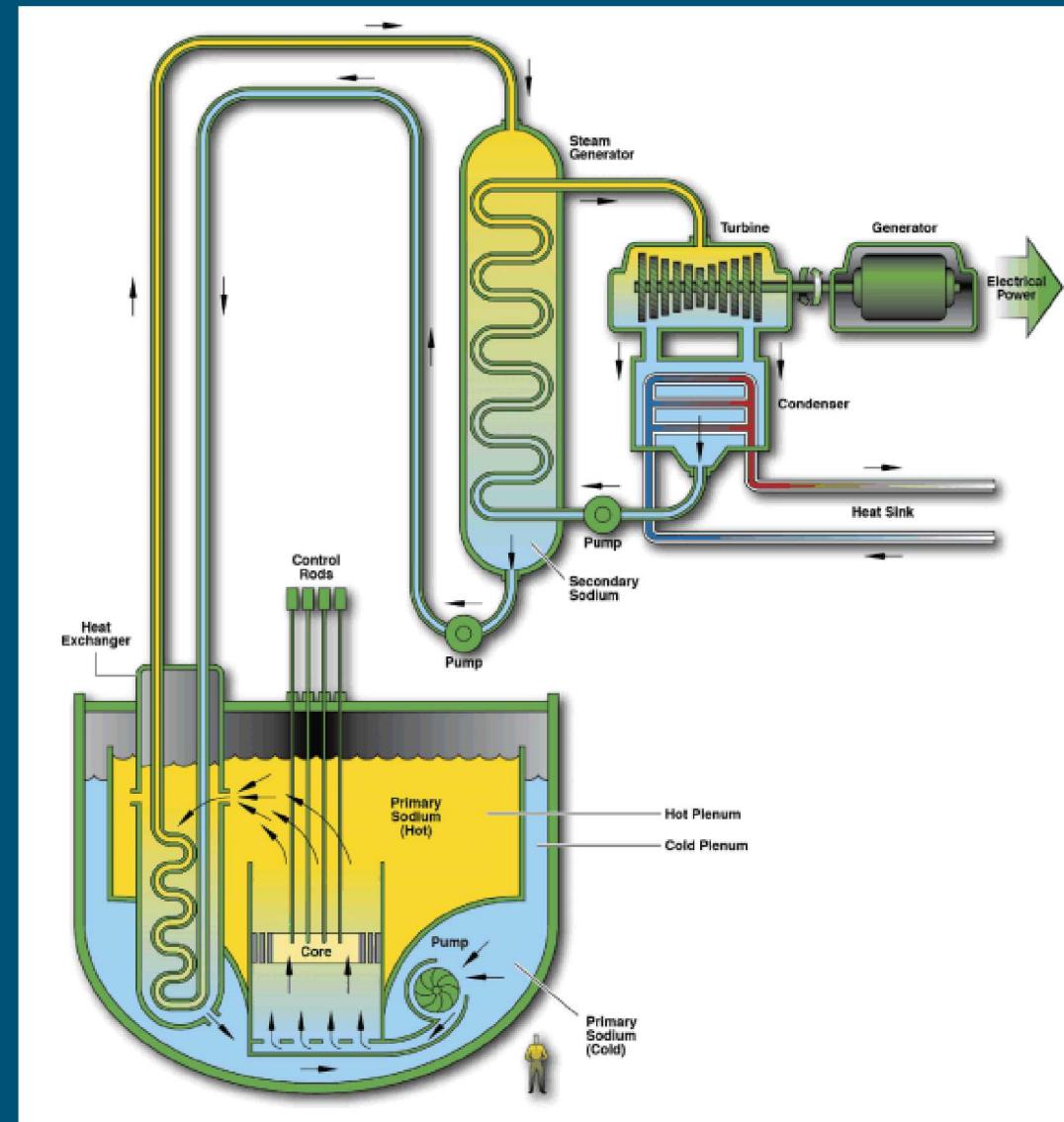
Systems, Components and Technology Development for Supercritical Carbon Dioxide Power Systems

## Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> power cycles have application in advanced nuclear

- sCO<sub>2</sub> power cycles are being investigated for advanced nuclear (sodium fast reactor initially), fossil (natural gas and coal), renewable (concentrated solar power), and waste heat recovery heat sources
- For the Sodium Fast Reactor (SFR), the use of sCO<sub>2</sub> as a substitute for steam eliminates the potential for water-sodium reaction, increases cycle efficiency, and can reduce capital cost and LCOE
- For the SFR, the high temperature is 500-550°C in a closed heat source, so a recompression closed Brayton cycle (RCBC) is a favorable configuration for efficiency

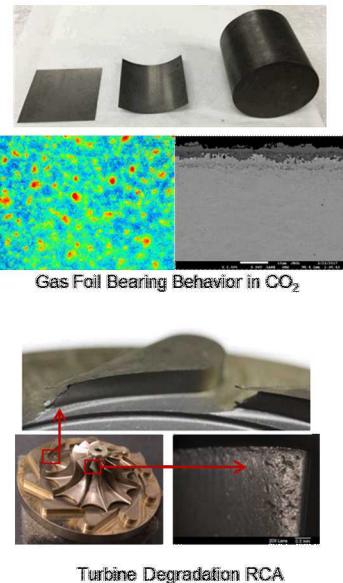


White, C., "Analysis of Brayton Cycles Utilizing Supercritical Carbon Dioxide - Revision 1", DOE/NETL-4001/070114.

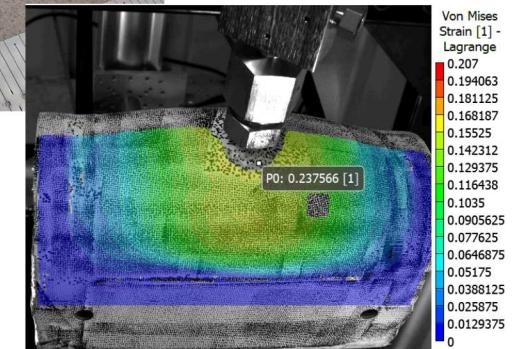
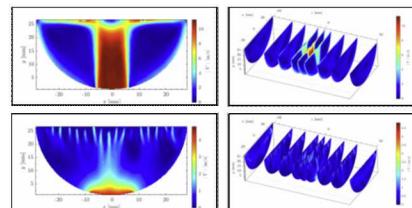
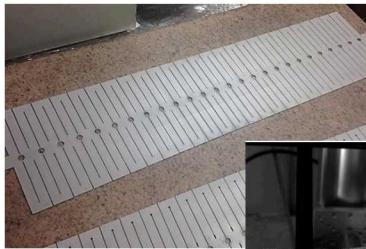
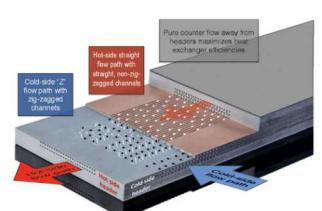


<https://www.energy.gov/ne/articles/3-advanced-reactor-systems-watch-2030>

# Sandia National Labs' sCO<sub>2</sub> research covers many areas



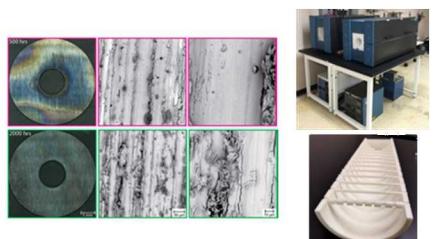
## Turbomachinery



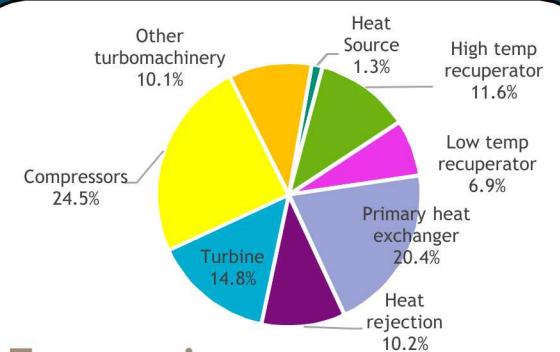
Semi-circular header burst test with optical strain measurement

## Heat Exchangers

## Materials



## Economics



<sup>1</sup>Stapp, David, "sCO<sub>2</sub> Symposium WHR Panel", 6<sup>th</sup> International sCO<sub>2</sub> Power Cycles Symposium, March 27-29, 2018, Pittsburgh, PA.

<sup>2</sup>Fleming, Darryn, "Seal Development Platform", sCO<sub>2</sub> Power Cycles Summit, November 14-16, 2017, Albuquerque, NM.

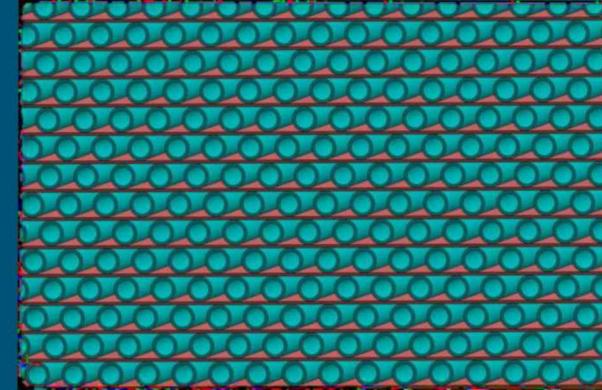
# Heat exchangers for sCO<sub>2</sub> cycles must handle high pressure

- sCO<sub>2</sub> power cycles typically have pressures of 300 bar and temperatures 550-750°C
- There are only a handful of heat exchanger designs that can handle the pressure



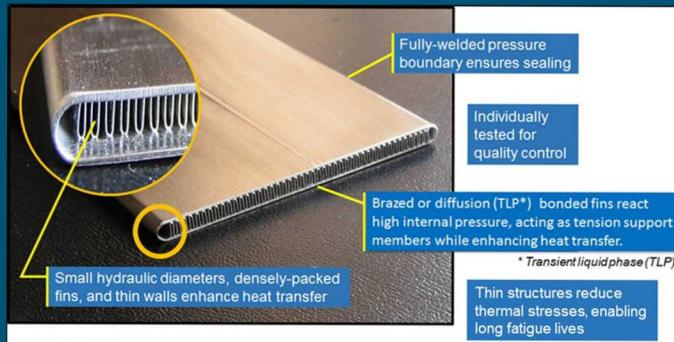
## Shell & Tube

SPX, 2016-08-03, *Shell & Tube Heat Exchangers*,  
<http://spxheattransfer.com/products/detail/shell-tube-heat-exchangers>



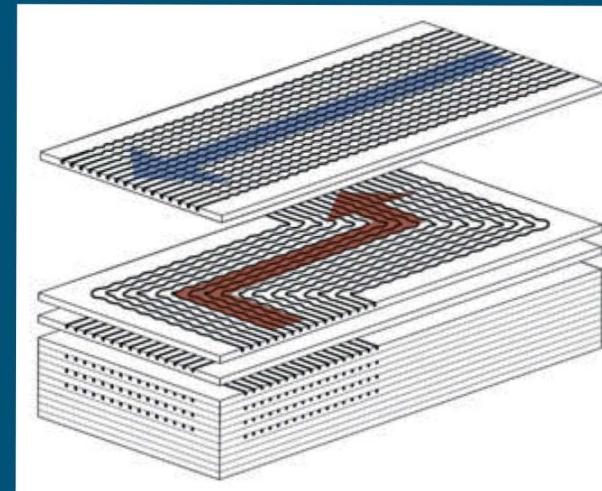
## Micro Shell and Tube

Chordia, Lalit and Portnoff, Marc, "Development of Modular, Low-Cost, High-Temperature Recuperators for the sCO<sub>2</sub> Power Cycles - Project Update", 2017 University Turbine Systems Research Project Review Meeting, November 2, 2017, Pittsburgh, PA.

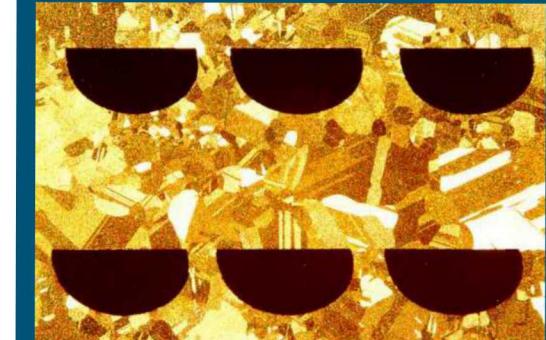


## Plate-fin

EERE. (2016, 2016/08/01). EERE Success Story—Solar Receiver Redesign Enables CSP to Beam Ahead. Available: <http://energy.gov/eere/success-stories/articles/eere-success-story-solar-receiver-redesign-enables-csp-beam-ahead>



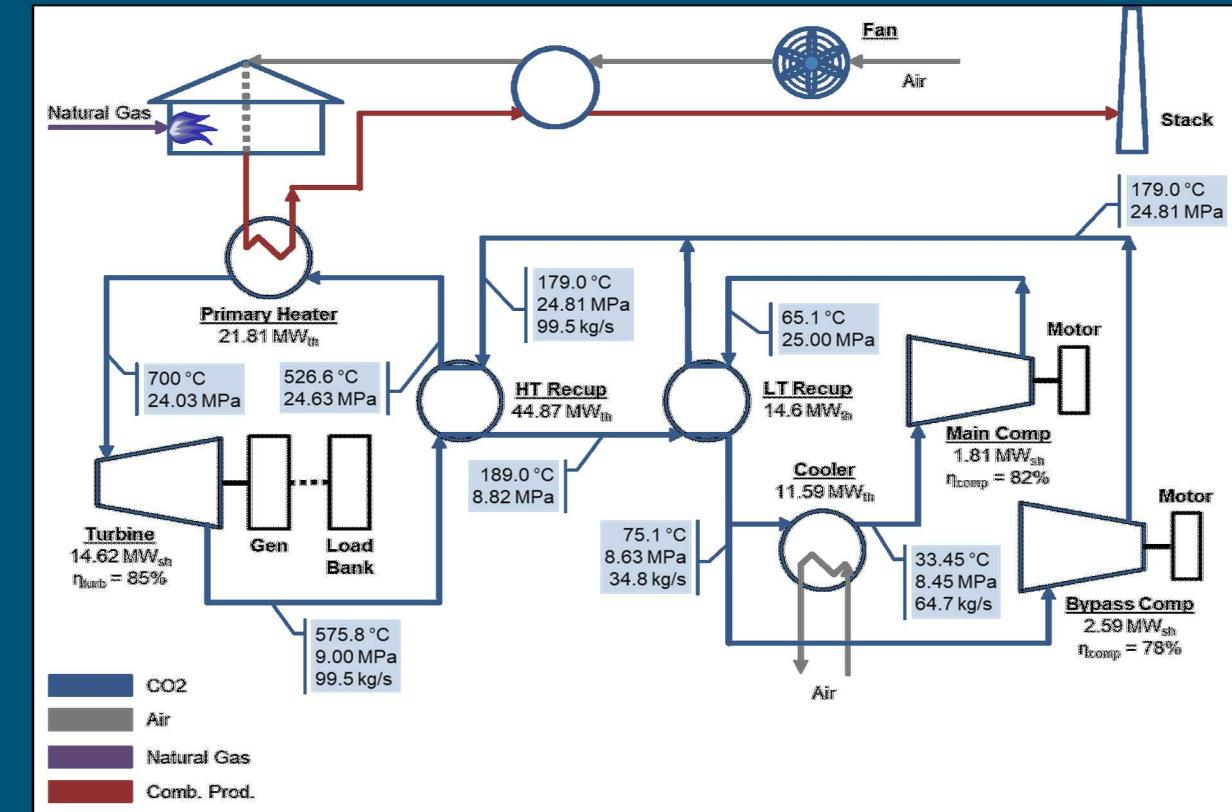
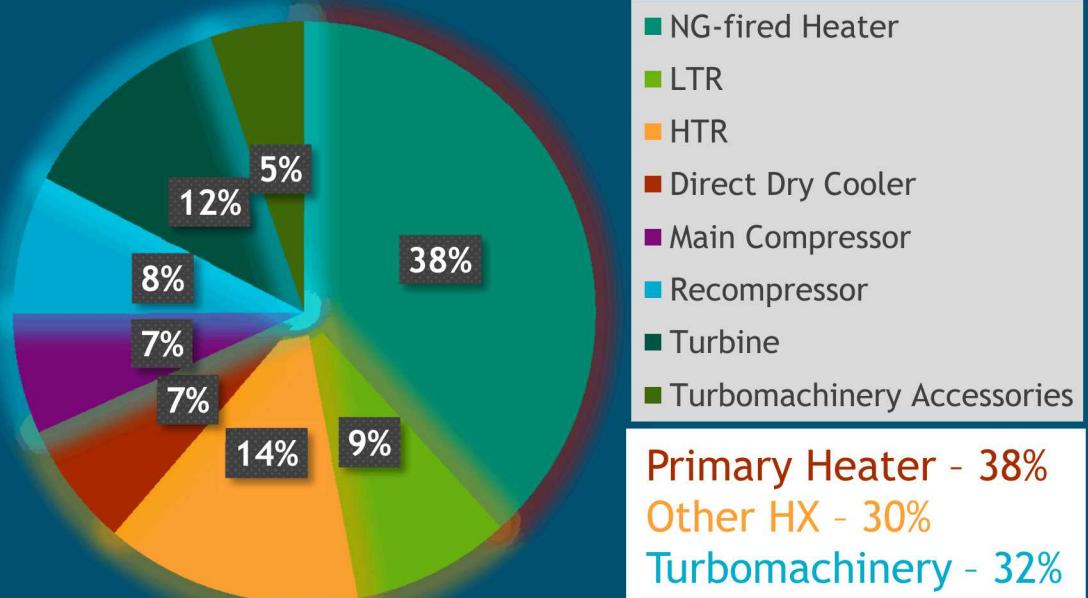
## Printed Circuit Heat Exchanger (PCHE)



- The traditional shell and tube design is 3-5x more expensive at high pressure

# Heat exchangers in sCO<sub>2</sub> power cycles are a sizeable portion of component costs

- The heat duties of the recuperators is larger than the net power output
  - 10.2 MWe net power
  - 21.8 MWth Primary Heater
  - 44.9 MWth High Temperature Recuperator
  - 14.6 MWth Low Temperature Recuperator
  - 11.6 MWth Cooler



10 MWe STEP Project Conditions, NETL

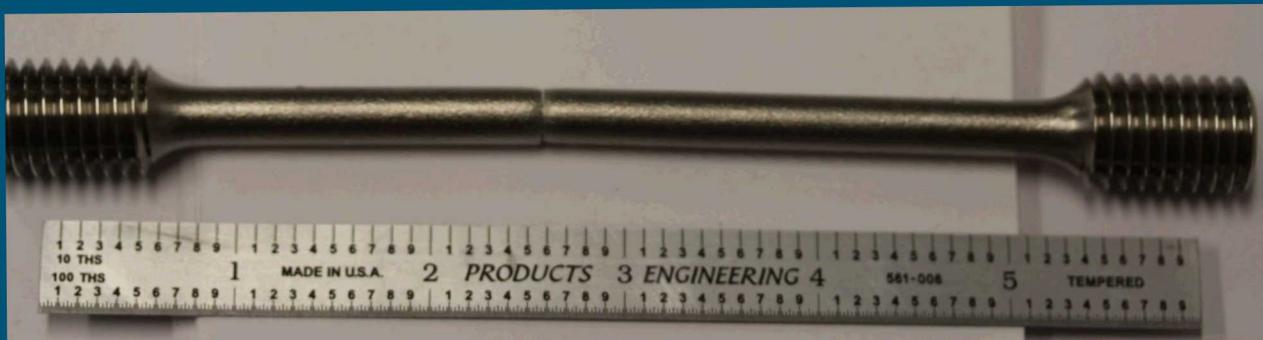
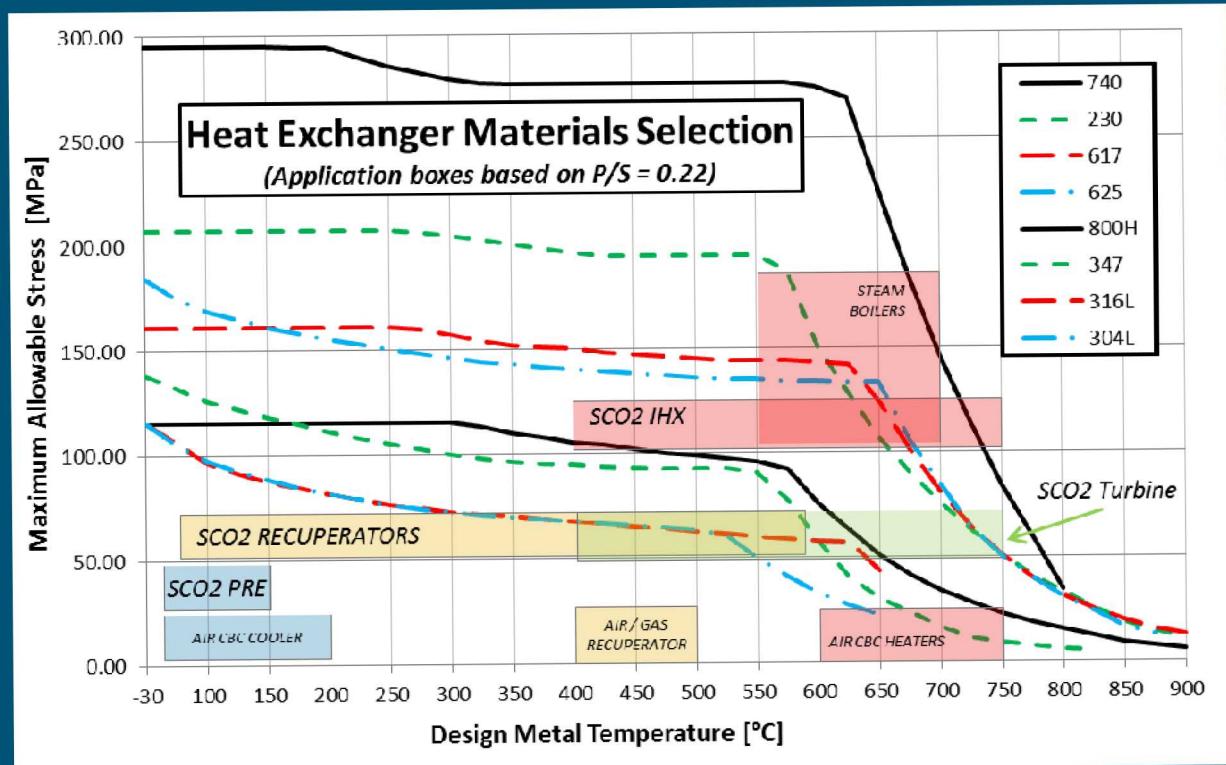
Weiland, Nathan T., Lance, Blake W., and Pidaparti, Sandeep R., "sCO<sub>2</sub> Power Cycle Component Cost Correlations from DOE Data Spanning Multiple Scales and Applications", 2019 ASME Turbo Expo, June 17-21, 2019, Phoenix, AZ.

Our group has discussed heat exchanger R&D needs by application

Technology	Readiness Levels	sCO <sub>2</sub> Heating from Various Sources																		TIT / °C
		from Direct Gas Combustion	from Exhaust Gas	from 3 MPa Helium	from Steam	from fluoride molten salts	from nitrate molten salts	from liquid sodium	from liquid lead-bismuth	from Heat Transfer Oil	from Combusting Particles	from Inert Solid Particles	from Geothermal Resources	Yet To Be Identified Materials	Advanced Nickel Alloys	Conventional Nickel Alloys	Austenitic Stainless Steels	to Water	to Humidified Air	
Molten Salt Reactor	NE				3									4-5	6-8	6-8	2	2-4		700 to 850
Sodium Fast Reactor (SFR)	NE					3									6-8	6-8	2	2-4		550
Lead Fast Reactor (LFR)	NE						3							4-5	6-8	6-8	2	2-4		550 to 800
Helium Gas Reactor (GFR, VHTR)	NE		4-5									2	3	4-5	6-8	6-8	2	2-4		700 to 1000
Nuclear Shipboard Propulsion	NE													6-8	6-8					200 to 300
Direct CSP Tower	EE									4				4-5	6-8	6-8	2	2-4		500 to 1000
CSP Tower with Thermal Storage	EE					8	2	2	4	4				4-5	6-8	6-8	2	2-4		500 to 1000
CSP Trough with Thermal Storage	EE					8		2							6-8	6-8	2	2-4		300 to 600
CSP Dish Generator	EE						2	2			4-5			4-5	6-8			2-4		500 to 1000
Direct Geothermal Plant	GT									2					6-8	6-8	2	2-4		100 to 300
Indirect Geothermal Plant	GT			4-5											6-8	6-8	2	2-4		100 to 300
Direct Natural Gas Combustion	FE	3-5	4									2	3	4-5	6-8	6-8	2	2-4		1100 to 1500
Integrated Gasification Coal	FE	3-5										2	3	4-5	6-8	6-8	2	2-4		1100 to 1500
Pulverized Coal Fluidized Bed	FE							4					3	4-5	6-8	6-8	2	2-4		550 to 900
Waste Heat Recovery	FE		4-5												6-8	6-8	2	2-4		230 to 650
Gas Turbine Bottoming	FE		4-5												6-8	6-8	2	2-4		230 to 650
Municipal waste to energy	FE		4-5												6-8	6-8	2	2-4		230 to 650
10 MWe Pilot	FE		4-5											4-5	6-8	6-8	2	2-4		550 to 700
50 MWe Demonstration	FE		4-5											4-5	6-8	6-8	2	2-4		550 to 700

# High temperature heat exchangers still need development

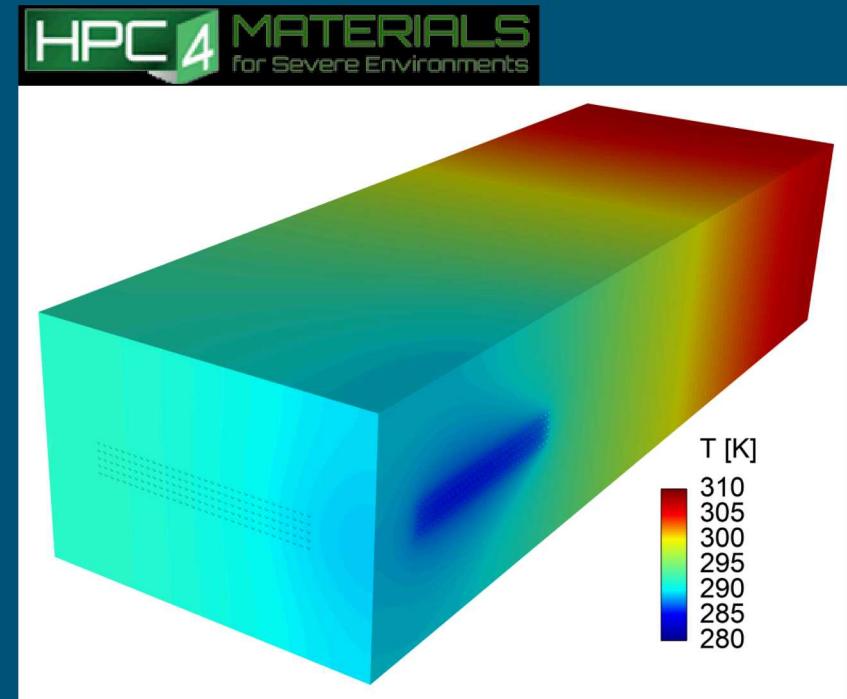
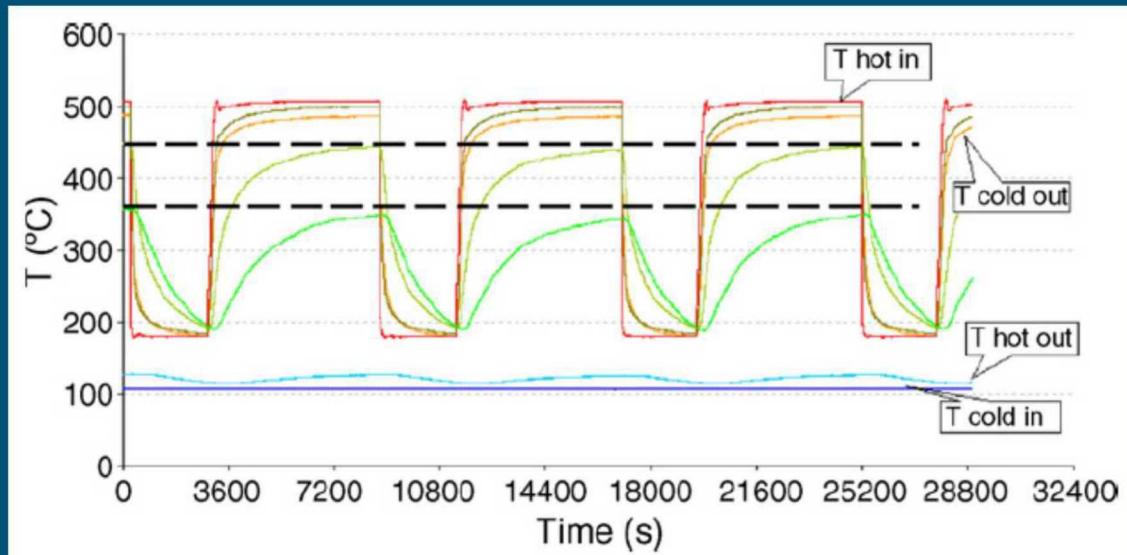
- Heat exchangers made from 300 series stainless steels typically work up to 550-600°C
  - Limit primarily due to corrosion and secondarily allowable stress
- Nickel-based alloys can handle higher temperatures, but diffusion bonding still needs to be developed for PCHEs
- Ongoing research:
  - NEUP IRP: ASME BPV code materials for nuclear service (800H, 316H SS)
  - SuNLaMP: Development of Inconel 625 bonds



Vacuum Process  
Engineering Bonding  
Process Certification

## Thermal transient and fatigue limits are unknown in PCHEs

- Heat exchanger vendors typically certify steady-state use without cycling
- In the modern grid with increasing renewable penetration, sCO<sub>2</sub> power cycles will need to be flexible
- We are simulating thermal transients for an understanding of limits
- We are seeking funding for complementary experiments



F. Pra, P. Tochon, C. Mauget, J. Fokkens, and S. Willemsen, "Promising designs of compact heat exchangers for modular HTRs using the Brayton cycle," *Nuclear Engineering and Design*, vol. 238, no. 11, pp. 3160-3173, Nov. 2008.