

Joshua Schmitt (Southwest Research Institute)

DEVELOPMENT OF AN ADVANCED HYDROGEN ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM USING AEROGEL IN A CRYOGENIC FLUX CAPACITOR (CFC)



Acknowledgement and Disclaimer

Acknowledgment: "This material is based upon work supported by the Department of Energy Award Number DE-FE0032003."

Disclaimer: "This report was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the United States Government. Neither the United States Government nor any agency thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government or any agency thereof."



Target Test Metrics

- Goal is to pair the technology with an electrolyzer to demonstrate system dynamics
- Physisorption performance will be demonstrated between 80K and 120K
- Estimated storage size is 100 kWth of hydrogen, which is approximately 3 kg
- Current estimated size of the electrolyzer is 5 kW of electric power which supplies approximately 1,000 normal l/hr
- Tests will charge and store at atmospheric pressure and discharge at pressures between atmospheric and 25 bar
- Pure hydrogen will be demonstrated from an electrolyzer. Natural gas and blends will come from compressed gas storage



Improvements over the State of the Art

- Hydrogen storage is currently low-pressure cryogenic liquid or high-pressure gas
- Cryogenic liquids can provide high energy and volume densities but require complex storage systems to limit boil-off, are not well suited for overly dynamic situations where the tank orientation can change suddenly
- Cryogenic liquid tanks are complex and need vacuum jackets and suspension systems between inner and outer vessels to enable the storage of liquid with reasonably low boil-off losses
- High-pressure gas storage bottles are less complex, are unaffected by orientation, and can be kept at room temperature. However, they require thick walls to withstand the high pressure, which makes them considerably heavy
- The energy densities associated with gas storage are dramatically lower than for cryogenic liquids, even at high pressures (up to 700 bar)



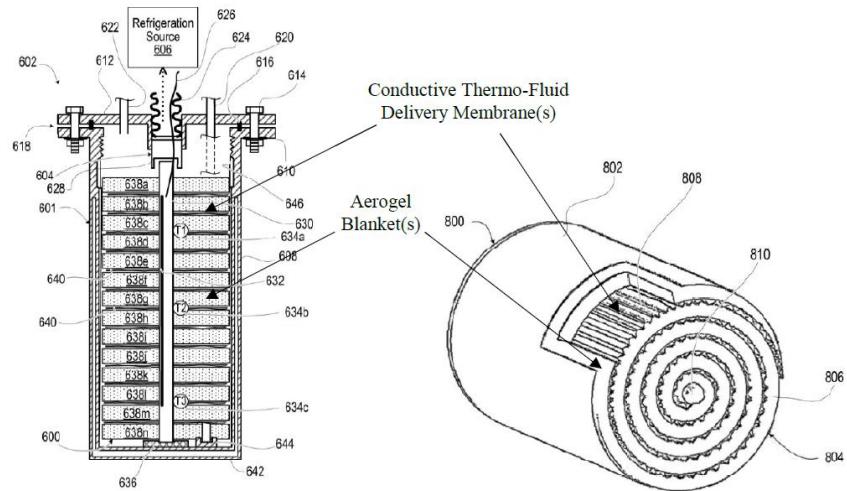
Advancement of Technology Readiness Level (TRL)

- The CFC development for Oxygen, Air, Nitrogen, and Argon is TRL-4 because the components have been tested for storage on these fluids
- For fuels, including natural gas and hydrogen, is TRL-3 because the proof of concept has been demonstrated but the component has not been tested
- Project seeks to first mitigate risk by repeating NASA tests on hydrogen and methane, bringing the TRL on these fuels to 4
- The project will pair with an electrolyzer for hydrogen storage in a lab environment, bringing the TRL to 5 by the end of project



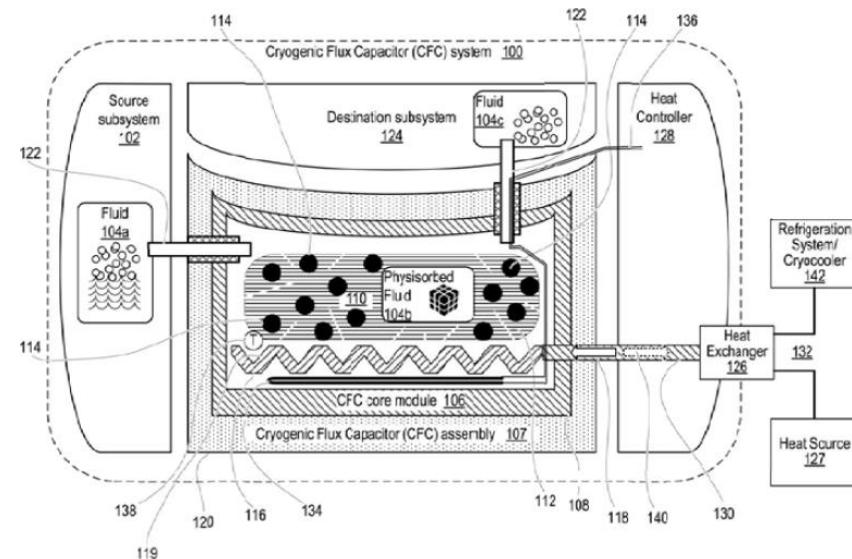
Commercialization Potential

- Aerogels are currently commercially available, so there is no barrier to production
- Scalability of materials is not an issue like lithium ion battery
- CFC is high density and could support monthly cycling, which corresponds to 10 to 100 hours of storage duration
- For a reference plant of 100 MW power output with a 50% net thermal-to-electric efficiency, 100 hours of duration would require 9,090 m³
- A module size will be defined to optimize the techno-economic performance for achieving this volume of storage



Future Integration with Target Fossil Application

- Primary target asset is ground-based gas turbines used for electricity generation
- Currently, hydrogen can be blended with natural gas from 15-50%
- OEM's project new turbines by 2030 that can operate on 100% hydrogen
- CFC is intended to be modular and mounted on racks, like cells in a battery
- Land-based generation should be able to provide adequate space to accommodate racks of CFC in sufficient quantities



Thank You

Contact:

Joshua Schmitt

Joshua.Schmitt@swri.org

210-522-6777

