

# Analysis of Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Brayton Cycle Recuperative Heat Exchanger Size and Capital Cost with Variation of Layout Design

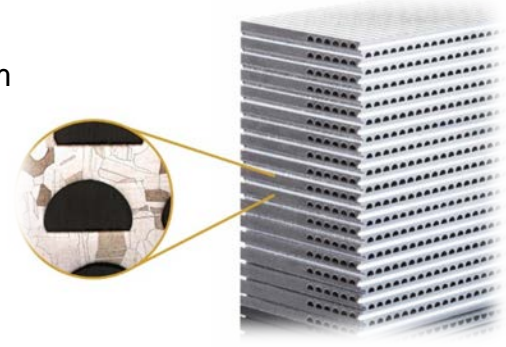
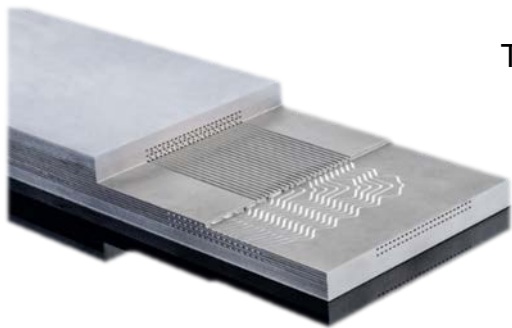
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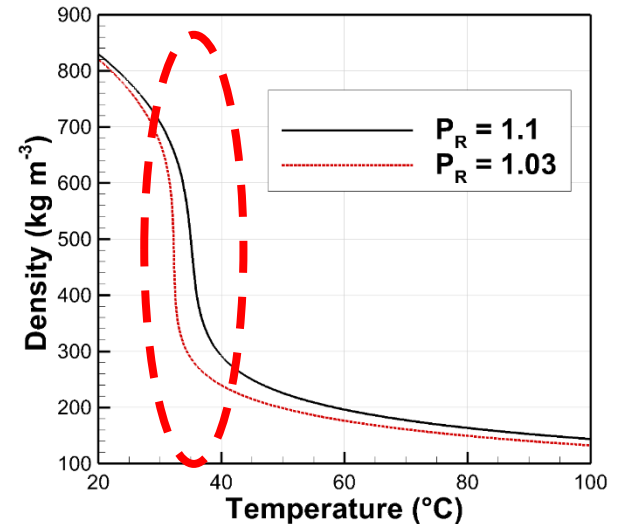
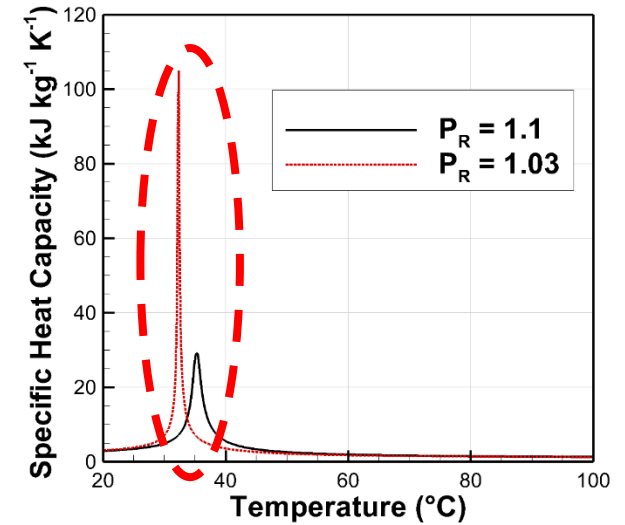
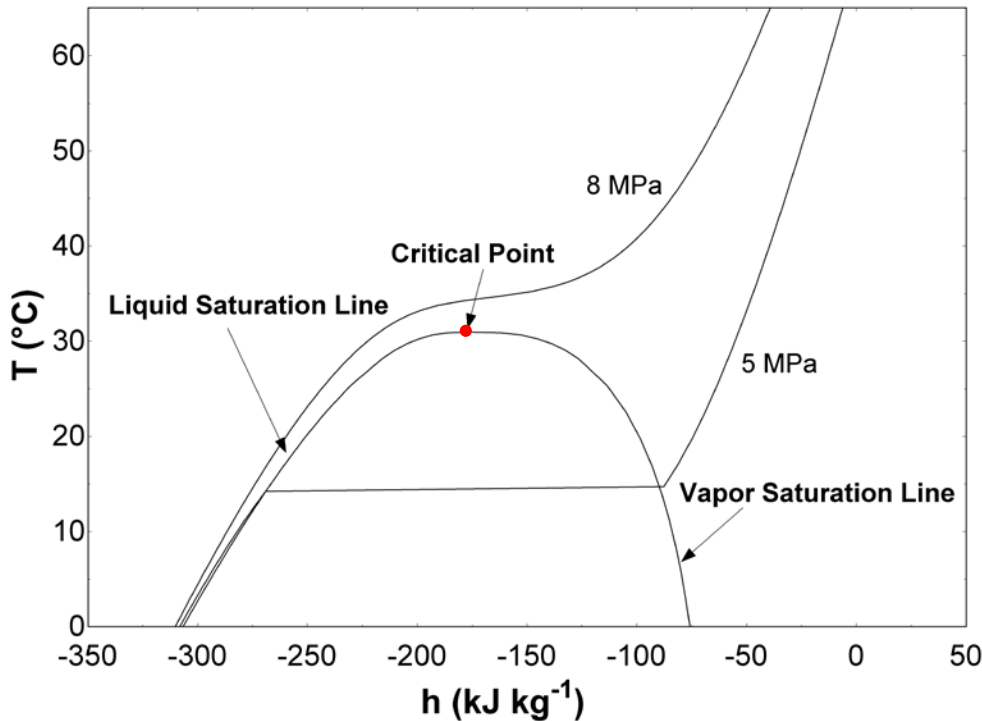
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The 6<sup>th</sup> International Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Power Cycles Symposium  
March 27 – 29  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



# What is Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>?

$T_{\text{critical}}$ (°C/°F)	$P_{\text{critical}}$ (MPa/kPSI)
31.0 / 87.9	7.4 / 1.1



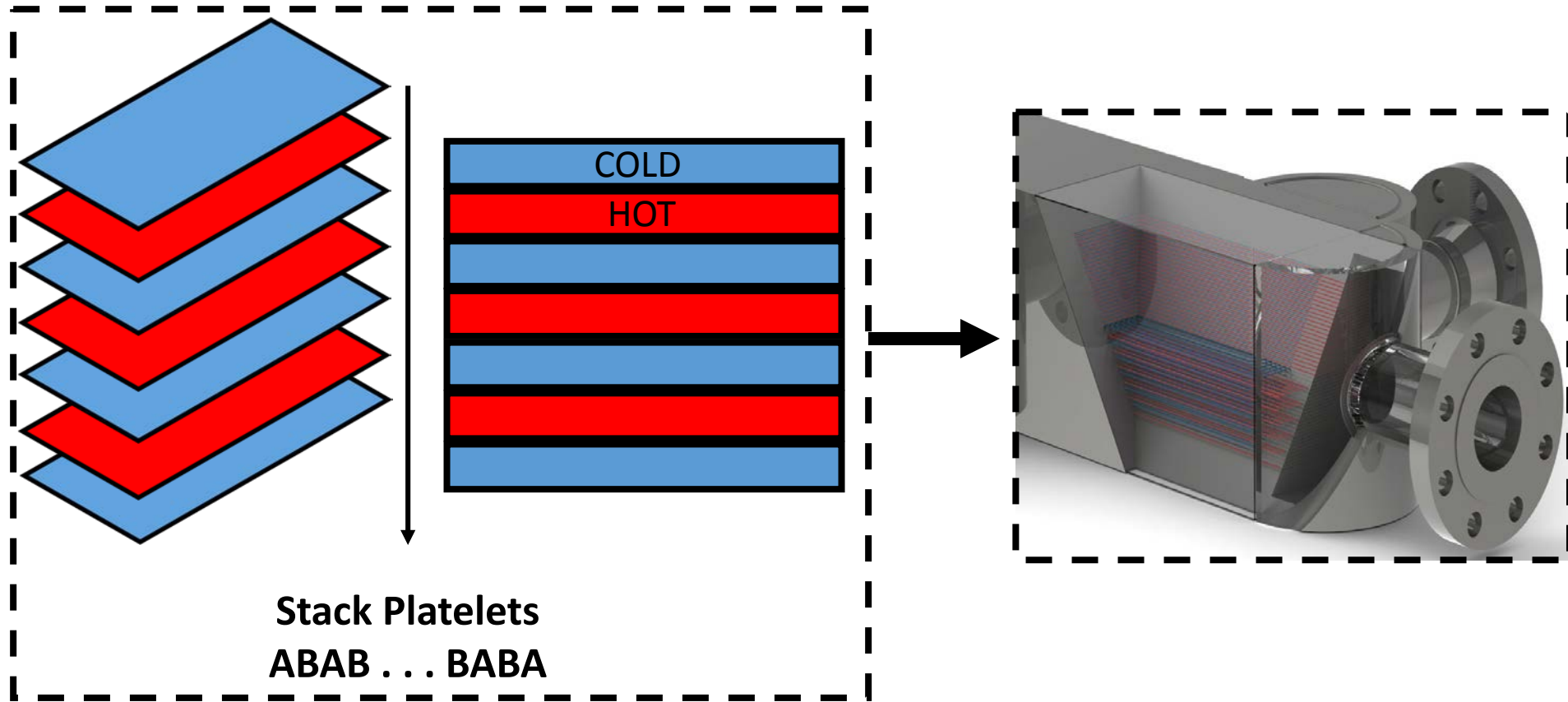
# Brayton Cycle Heat Exchangers

Cycle Type	Compressors	Turbines	Recuperators	Coolers	IHXs
Simple Recuperative	1	1	1	1	1
Pre-Compression	2	1	2	1	1
Partial Cooling w/Improved Regen.	3	1	3	1	1
Cascaded Reheat	1	2	2	1	1
Recompression	1	1	2	1	1

- Cycle layout variations can improve efficiency
- Can increase complexity and budget
- **Size and capital cost of recuperative heat exchangers**

Angelino (1969)  
 Dostal *et al.* (2004)  
 Wright *et al.* (2010)  
 Conboy *et al.* (2012)  
 Iverson *et al.* (2013)  
 Ahn *et al.* (2015)

# Printed-Circuit Heat Exchangers



# Diffusion Bonding Fabrication Technology

## What:

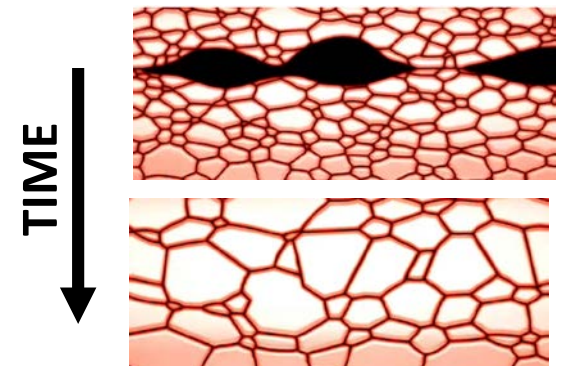
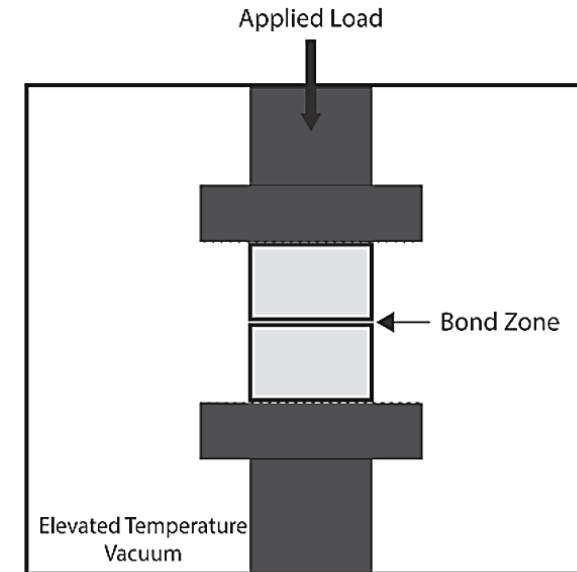
- Highly reliable, solid-state welding process
- No interface filler material needed

## How:

- Controlled environment furnace promotes grain growth
- Dynamic, time-dependent load applied

## Outcome:

- Achieved parent material strength
- 'Welds' all interfaces while preserving geometry

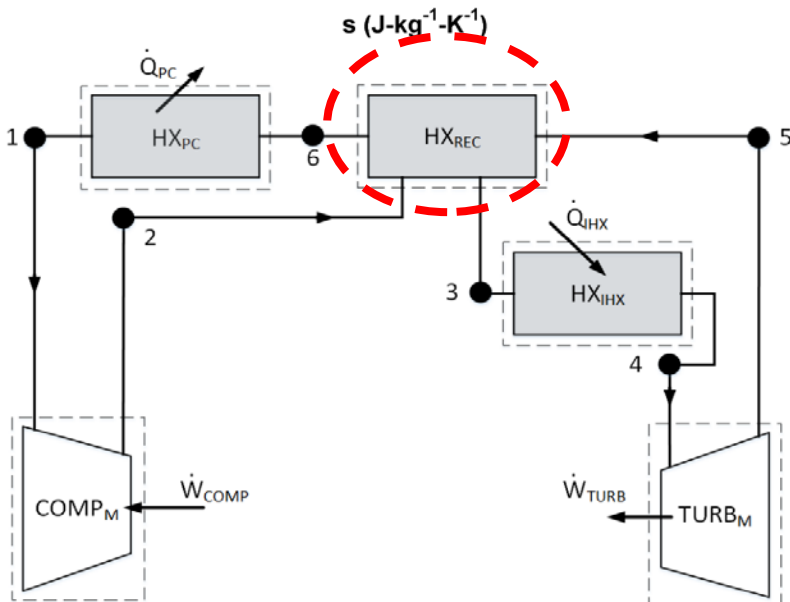
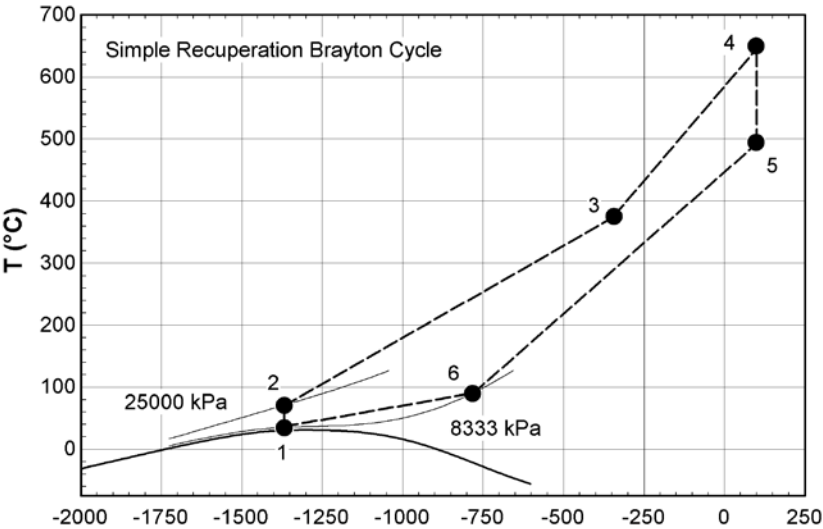


# Agenda

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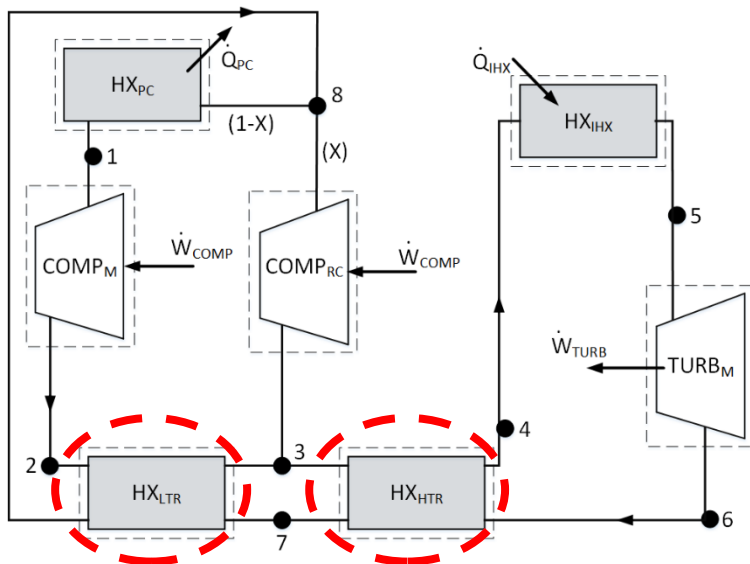
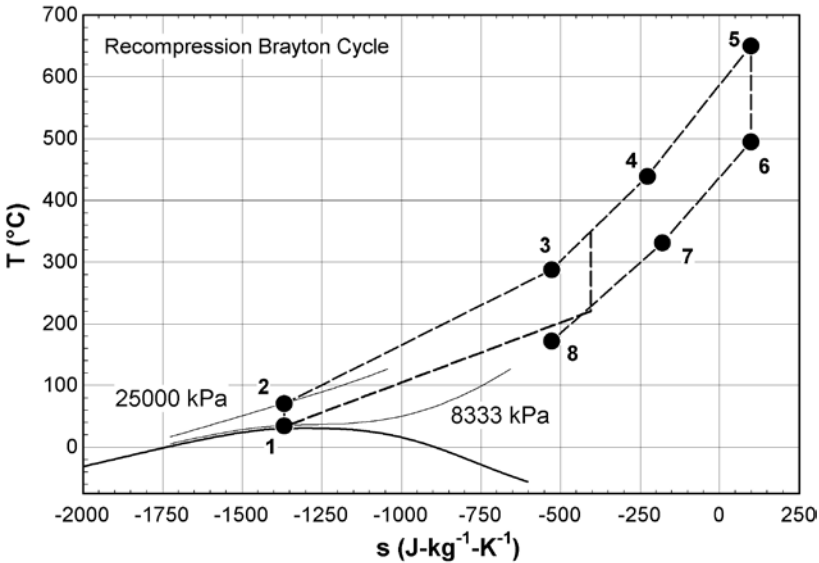
1. Introduction
2. Power Cycle Layouts
3. Modeling Approach and Methodology
4. Recuperative Heat Exchanger Cost Variables
5. Results and Discussion
6. Conclusions and Future Work

# Simple Recuperative Brayton Cycle



- Simple layout
- Single recuperator
- Latent heat energy sources or heat flux sources

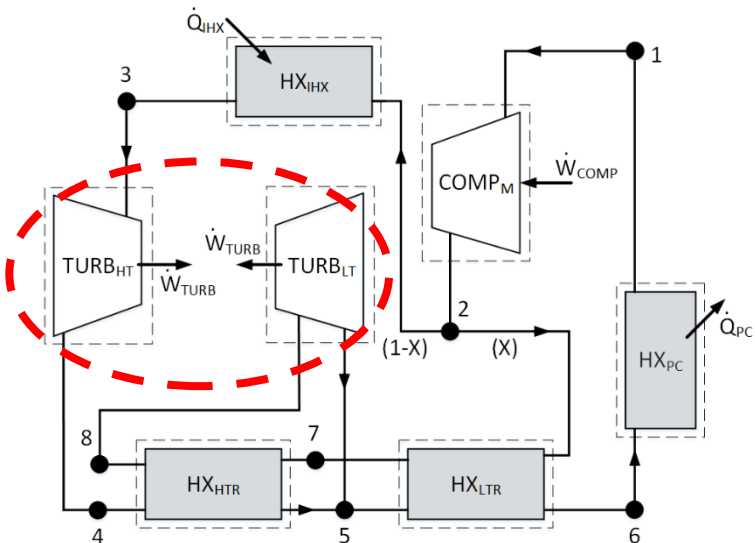
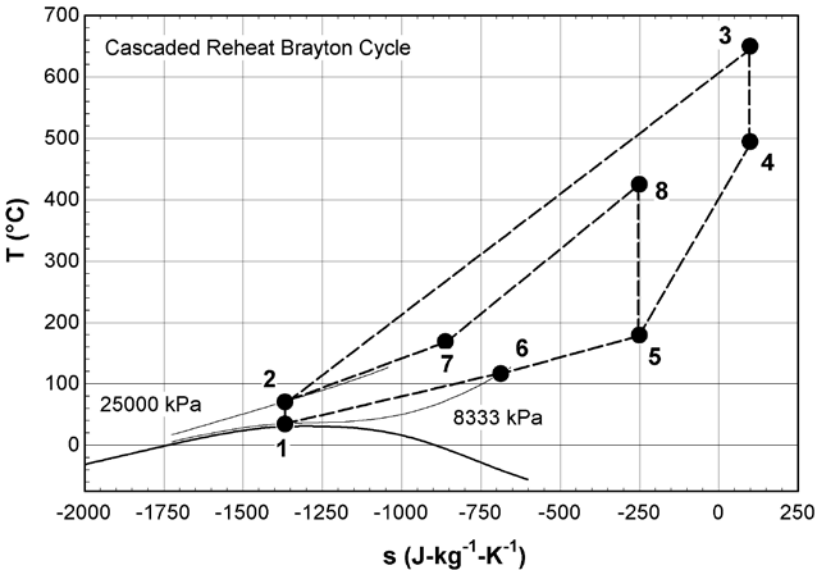
# Recompression Brayton Cycle



- Compression through two stages of compressors
- HTR and LTR heat recovery by splitting vastly different  $C_p$
- Nuclear or solar thermal based heat flux sources



# Cascaded Reheat Brayton Cycle



- Expansion through two stages of turbines
- Attempts to utilize all heat source energy
- Fossil fuel or waste heat

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# Summary of Cycle Conditions and Assumptions

Variable	Simple	Recomp.	Casc. Reheat
Power Output ( $MW_{th}$ )			50 $MW_{th}$
Turbine Power Percentage (%)		100%	Split & Varied
Thermal Efficiency (%)			Calc., 45%
sCO <sub>2</sub> Flow Rate ( $kg\cdot s^{-1}$ )			Calculated
Turbine Inlet Temperature ( $^{\circ}C$ )			650 $^{\circ}C$
Compressor Inlet Temperature ( $^{\circ}C$ )			35 $^{\circ}C$
Compressor Outlet Pressure (MPa)			25 MPa
Compressor Ratio (-)			3.0

- *Engineering Equation Solver* (EES) platform V.10.295-3D (Klein 2017)
- EOS for CO<sub>2</sub> as developed by Span and Wagner (1996)
- Negligible:  $\Delta P$ ,  $PE$ ,  $KE$
- Isentropic efficiency = 100% (ideal)

# Methodology

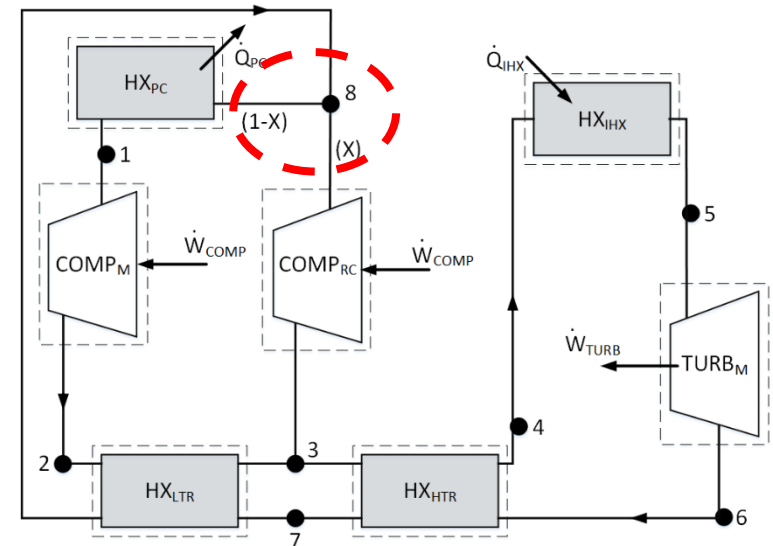
$$\eta_{cycle} = 100 \times \left( \frac{\sum \dot{W}_{TURB} - \sum \dot{W}_{COMP}}{\dot{Q}_{IHX}} \right)$$

~~$$\frac{dE_{CV}}{dt} = \dot{Q}_{CV} - \dot{W}_{CV} + \sum \dot{m} \left( h_i + \frac{V_i^2}{2} + gZ_i \right) - \sum \dot{m} \left( h_o + \frac{V_o^2}{2} + gZ_o \right)$$~~

$$\dot{W}_{TURB} = \dot{m} \times (h_i - h_o)$$

$$\dot{W}_{COMP} = \dot{m} \times (h_o - h_i)$$

$$\dot{Q}_{IHX} = \dot{m} \times (h_o - h_i)$$



# Methodology Cont'd

$$\dot{Q}_{REC,h} = \dot{m} \times (h_i - h_o)$$

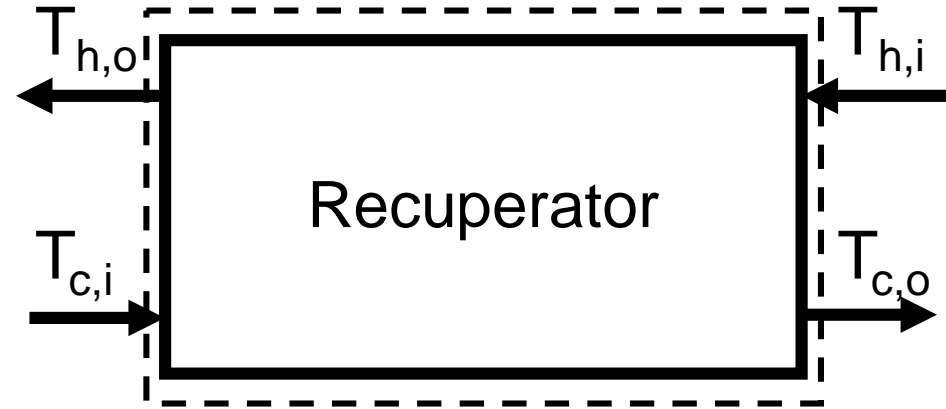
$$\dot{Q}_{REC,c} = \dot{m} \times (h_o - h_i)$$

$$\dot{Q}_{REC,h} = \dot{Q}_{REC,c}$$

$$\dot{Q}_{REC} = UA_{REC} \times LMTD$$

$$\dot{Q}_{REC} = UA_{REC} \times \left( \frac{(T_{h,o} - T_{c,i}) - (T_{h,i} - T_{c,o})}{\ln \left( \frac{(T_{h,o} - T_{c,i})}{(T_{h,i} - T_{c,o})} \right)} \right)$$

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\dot{Q}_{actual}}{\dot{Q}_{maximum}} = \frac{h_{h,i} - h_{h,o}}{h_{h,i} - h_{c,i}^*} \longrightarrow h_{c,i}^* = f(T_{c,i}, P_h)$$

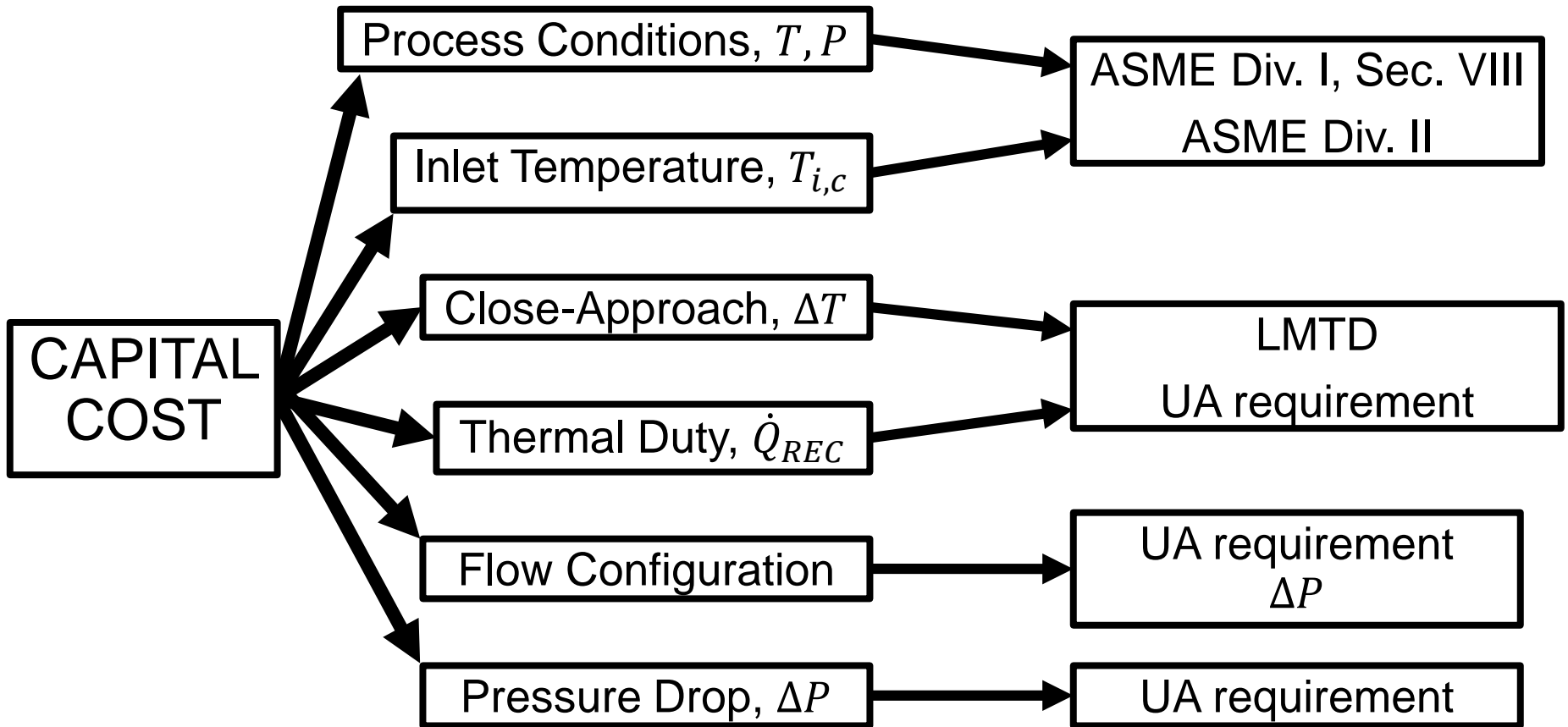


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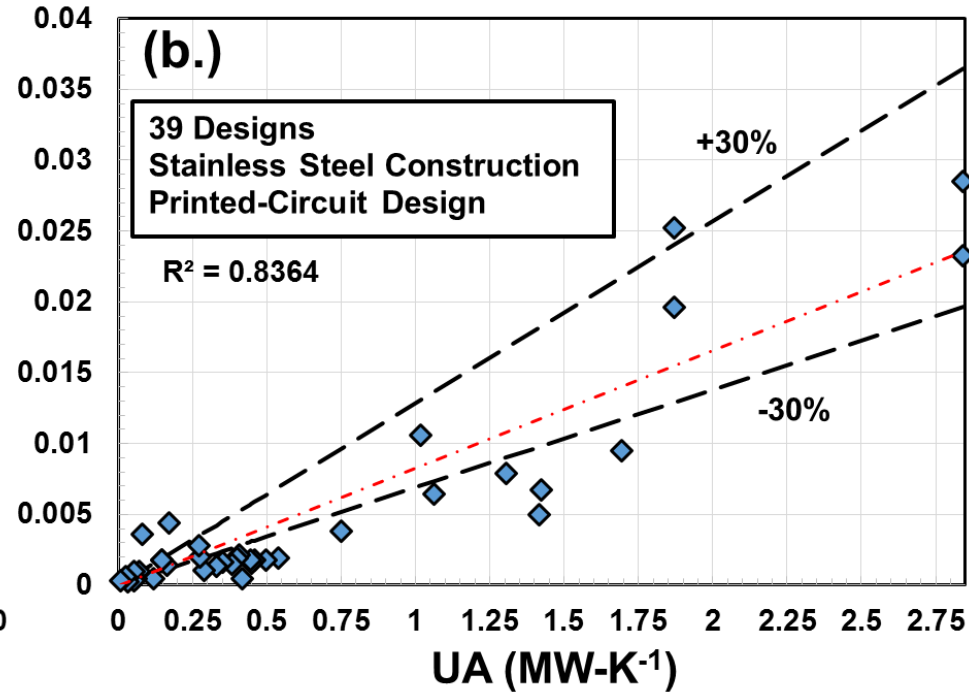
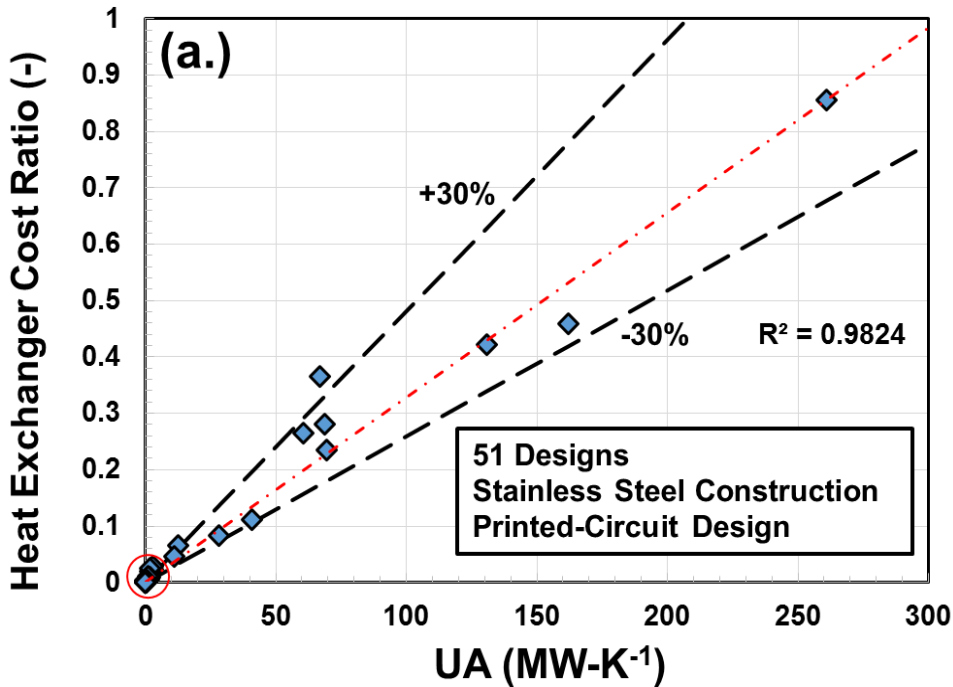
# Heat Exchanger Capital Cost Variables



$$\dot{Q}_{REC} = UA_{REC} \times LMTD$$

$$\Delta P = Lf \frac{\rho}{2} \frac{V}{D_H} + \sum K_{minor}$$

# Recuperative Heat Exchanger Capital Cost



**\$1.49 – \$2.21/UA for HTR**  
**\$1.19 – \$1.77/UA for LTR**

NOTE: cost metrics are a function of a limited range of process conditions and should not be universally applied to all heat exchangers

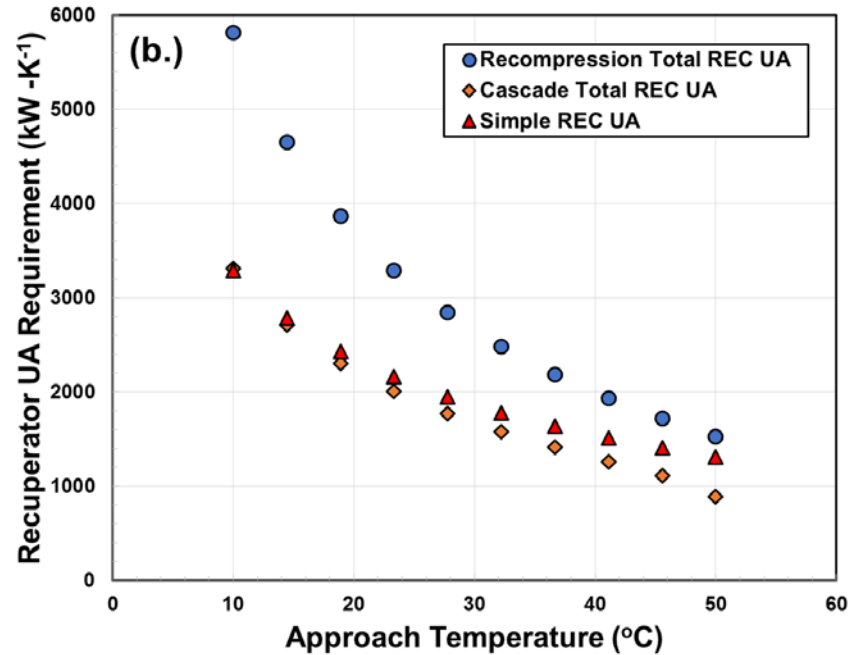
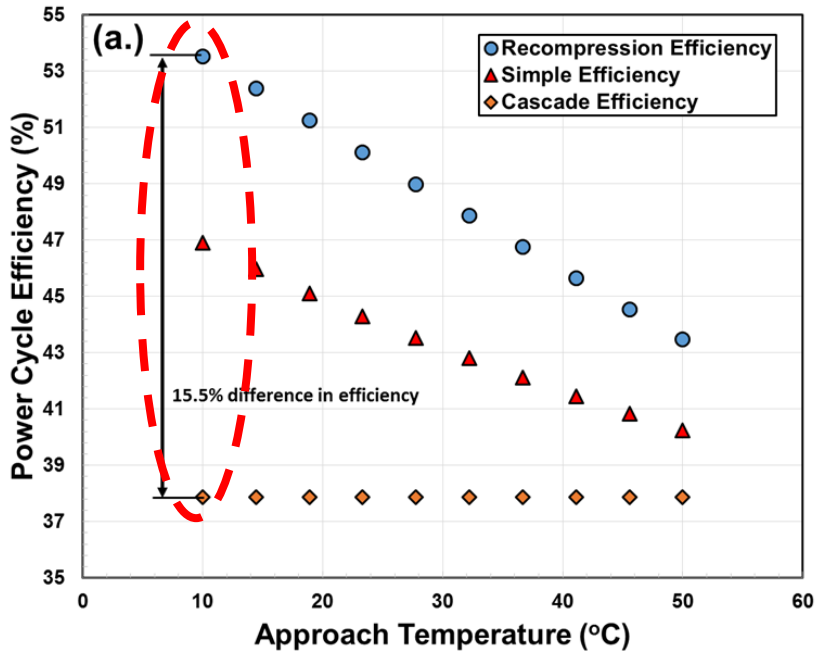


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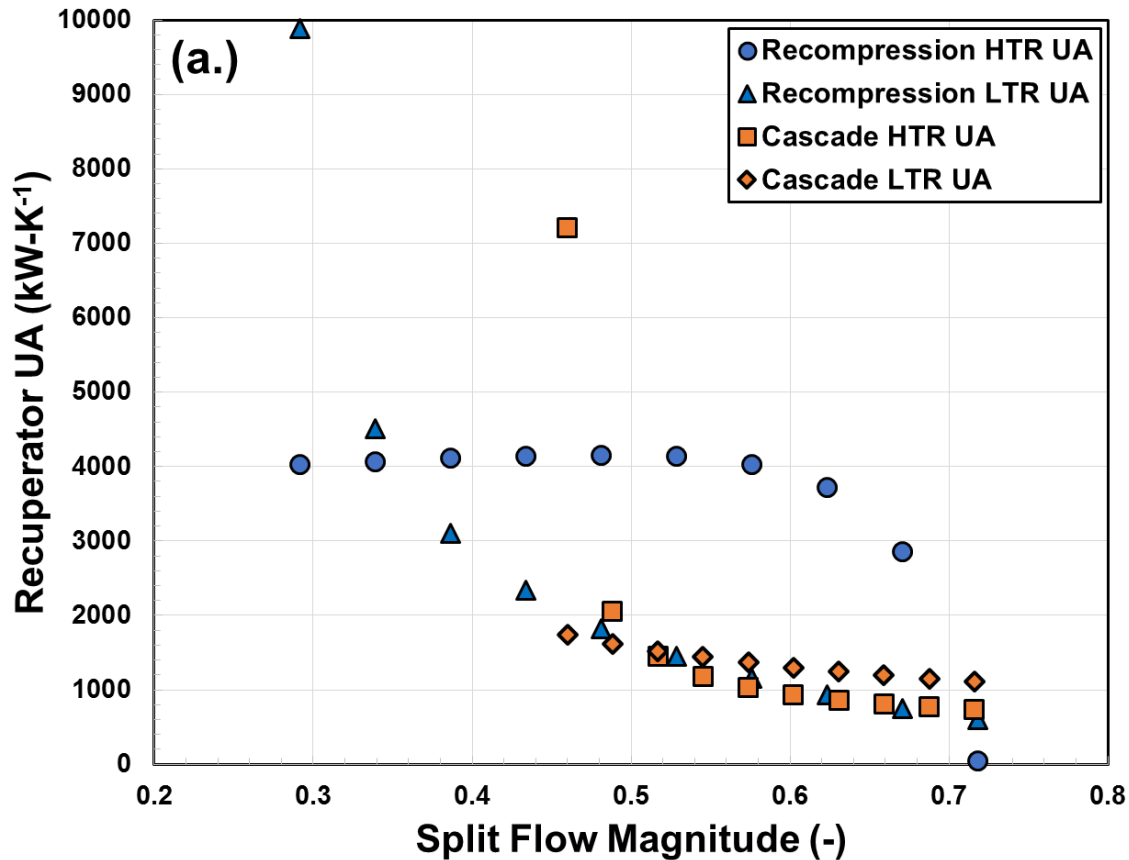
# Results and Discussion



$\dot{W}_{TURB}$	$\dot{m}_{SCO2}$	$T_{TURB,i}$	$T_{COMP,i}$	Split-Flow	$R_{COMP}$
50 MW <sub>th</sub>	278.1 kg·s <sup>-1</sup>	650 °C	35 °C	0.50 (-)	3.0 (-)

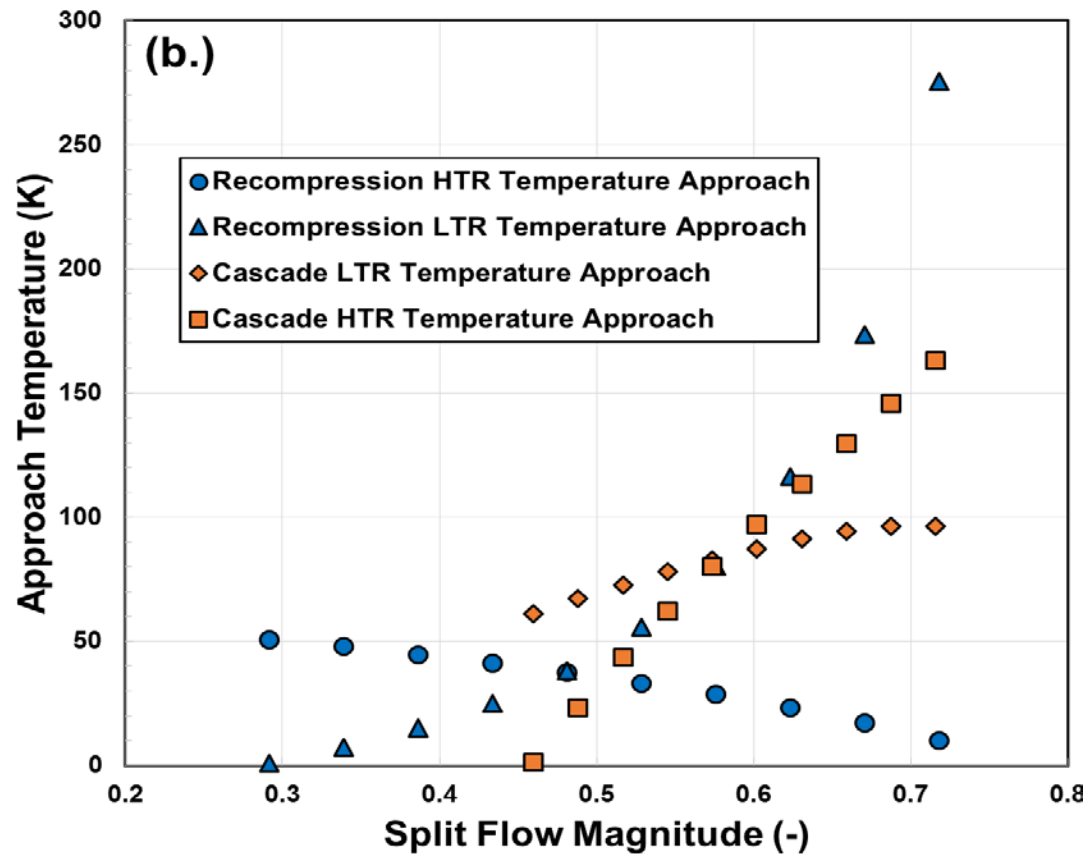
# Results and Discussion Cont'd

$\dot{W}_{TURB}$	$T_{TURB,i}$	$T_{COMP,i}$	$R_{COMP}$	$\Delta T_{HTR/LTR}$
50 MW <sub>th</sub>	650 °C	35 °C	3.0 (-)	10 K



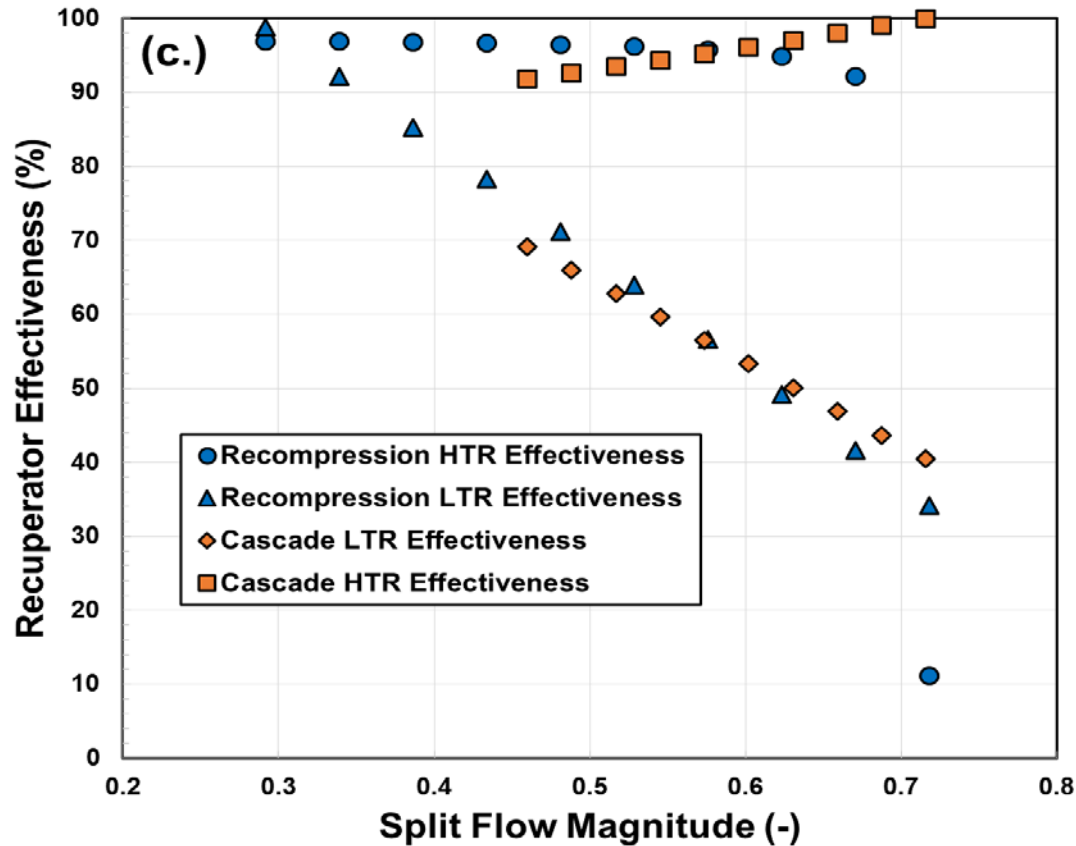
# Results and Discussion Cont'd

$\dot{W}_{TURB}$	$T_{TURB,i}$	$T_{COMP,i}$	$R_{COMP}$	$\Delta T_{HTR/LTR}$
50 MW <sub>th</sub>	650 °C	35 °C	3.0 (-)	10 K

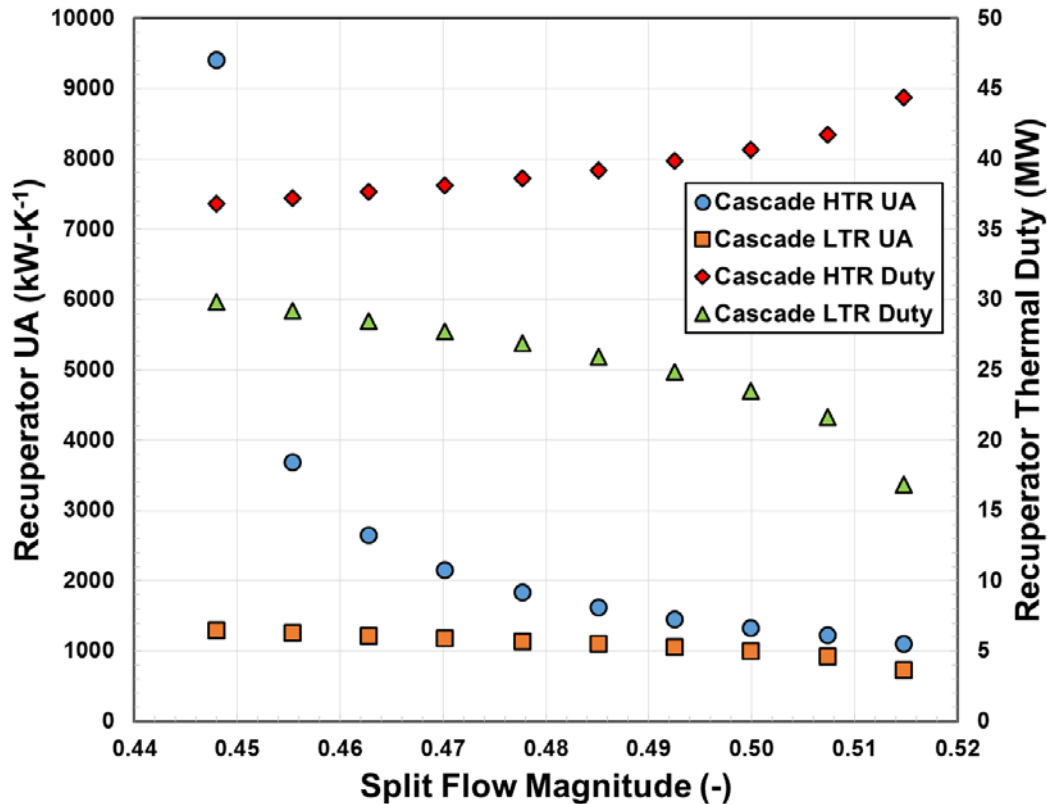


# Results and Discussion Cont'd

$\dot{W}_{TURB}$	$T_{TURB,i}$	$T_{COMP,i}$	$R_{COMP}$	$\Delta T_{HTR/LTR}$
50 MW <sub>th</sub>	650 °C	35 °C	3.0 (-)	10 K



# Results and Discussion Cont'd



$\dot{W}_{TURB}$	$\eta_{cycle}$	$T_{TURB,i}$	$T_{COMP,i}$	$R_{COMP}$	$\Delta T_{HTR/LTR}$
50 MW <sub>th</sub>	45 (%)	650 °C	35 °C	3.0 (-)	10 K

# Results and Discussion Cont'd

$\dot{W}_{TURB}$	$\eta_{cycle}$	$T_{TURB,i}$	$T_{COMP,i}$	$R_{COMP}$	$\Delta T_{HTR/LTR}$
50 MW <sub>th</sub>	45 (%)	650 °C	35 °C	3.0 (-)	10 K

Parameter	Recompression	Cascaded Reheat	Recomp. vs. Cascade
IHX Duty (MW)	60.9 MW	97.5 MW	+60%
Comp. Work (MW); MC, RC	-2.4 MW, -20.2 MW	-6.1 MW	-73%
Turb. Work (MW); HT, LT	50 MW	21.4 MW, 28.6 MW	0%
X (-)	0.6558	0.5148	-21.5%
Mass Flow (kg-s <sup>-1</sup> )	278.1 kg-s <sup>-1</sup>	245.7 kg-s <sup>-1</sup>	-11.7%
HTR Duty (MW)	45.4 MW	44.4 MW	-2.2%
HTR UA (kW-K <sup>-1</sup> )	3,235 kW-K <sup>-1</sup>	1,099 kW-K <sup>-1</sup>	-66%
HTR Effectiveness (%)	93.4%	90.2%	-3.4%
HTR LMTD (K)	14.0 K	40.4 K	+186%
HTR Cost Ratio (-)	1.00	0.34	-66%
LTR Duty (MW)	41.7 MW	16.8 MW	-59.7%
LTR UA (kW-K <sup>-1</sup> )	799 kW-K <sup>-1</sup>	734 kW-K <sup>-1</sup>	-8.1%
LTR Effectiveness (%)	44%	68%	+54.5%
LTR LMTD (K)	52.2 K	23.0 K	-56%
LTR Cost Ratio (-)	1.00	0.92	-8.1%

# Conclusions

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- Thermodynamic analysis of recuperative heat exchangers
  - Simple recuperative
  - Recompression
  - Cascaded reheat
- Variation of approach temperature shows limitation of cascaded reheat cycle
- Split flow magnitude show interesting difference in UA requirements between cycles
- Single cost metric will not provide accurate heat exchanger cost
  - Too many variables
  - Case-by-case basis



# Future Work

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- Discretize recuperative heat exchanger
- Evaluate different cycle parameter sets between cycle
- Complete full heat exchanger cost analysis
  - PCHE layout design
  - Mechanical design
  - Optimization of core blocks
  - Large vs. small furnace diffusion bonding

# References

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**Questions?**

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