

# Exploring Materials Options for Ultra-High Temperature Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Applications

#### Bruce Pint and James Keiser

Corrosion Science & Technology Group Materials Science and Technology Division Oak Ridge National Laboratory Oak Ridge, TN 37831-6156 USA

February 2022

ORNL is managed by UT-Battelle, LLC for the US Department of Energy



# Acknowledgments

- Funding from DOE Fossil Energy and Carbon Management Program
  - Darren Mollot, DOE HQ
  - Edgar Lara-Curzio, ORNL
- ORNL technicians
  - Mike Howell and Brandon Johnston (CO<sub>2</sub> exposures)
  - Tracie Lowe (characterization)
  - Tyson Jordan, Victoria Cox (metallography)
- Discussions
  - Rishi Pillai, ORNL
  - Ken Sandhage, Purdue



# Recent project on cermet heat exchangers has pushed interest in sCO<sub>2</sub> above 800°C



CAK RIDGE

#### However, we can't do supercritical pressure above 800°C

#### Autoclave: 300 bar sCO<sub>2</sub> 500-h cycles





"Keiser" rig: 500-h cycles, 1-43 bar  $CO_2$ 



Study CO<sub>2</sub> at >800°C

4-5 cm<sup>2</sup> alloy coupons

Baseline of research grade (RG)  $CO_2$ :  $\leq 5$  ppm H<sub>2</sub>O and  $\leq 5$  ppm O<sub>2</sub> industrial grade (IG) CO<sub>2</sub>: 18±16 ppm H<sub>2</sub>O and  $\leq$  32 ppm O<sub>2</sub>

# Screening experiments: not a deep mechanistic study

### **Basic test matrix**

- 1-3 coupons of each material
  - Polished to 600 grit finish
- 20-500 h exposures to 20-1000 h
- 1000° and 1200°C
  - 900° & 1100°C for HITEMMP (ARPA-E)
- Flow ~0.1 cm/s RG CO<sub>2</sub>
- Mass change: ±0.04 mg
  - or ~0.01 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Characterization
  - Polished sections
  - SEM/EDS

**CAK RIDGE** National Laboratory Research grade (RG) CO<sub>2</sub>: 4.1±0.7 ppm H<sub>2</sub>O and  $\leq$  5 ppm O<sub>2</sub> industrial grade (IG) CO<sub>2</sub>: 18±16 ppm H<sub>2</sub>O and  $\leq$  32 ppm O<sub>2</sub>

1 bar CO<sub>2</sub> 20 bar CO<sub>2</sub>



"Keiser" rig: 500-h cycles, 1-43 bar CO<sub>2</sub>



# Prior conclusion: 700°-800°C Ni-based alloys are sCO<sub>2</sub> compatible–similar rates in air, ambient CO<sub>2</sub> and sCO<sub>2</sub>

500-h cycles: three different environments

Quantification of scale thickness in three environments:





Pint, et al. Oxid. Met. 94 (2020) 505 DOE SETO Final report: DOI: 10.2172/1515655

Ŭ

# 1200°C,1+20 bar: Metal specimens did not perform well





Two SiC reaction tubes: 1 and 20 bar RG CO<sub>2</sub>

- Mo and W as possible cermet matrices
- FeCrAIY & APMT (FeCrAIMo) Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-formers (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> good C barrier?)
  Did not test any Ni-based alumina-forming alloys at 1200°C

# Pressure effect: Higher mass losses for Mo and W with P But, reduced attack of FeCrAl with higher P (?)



Much thicker oxide forming in 1 bar CO<sub>2</sub>



# 1200°C/40 h: Significant pressure effect

#### bar $CO_2$ 1



#### 20 bar $CO_2$

- 20 bar: alumina scale with Fe-rich outer layer (no Fe layer in air)  $k_p \sim 3x10^{-11} g^2/cm^4 s \sim 10X$  higher than in air

  - 1 bar: very thick oxide with Fe and Cr incorporation

#### Silica-formers seem to be an option at 1200°C



# Light microscopy shows thin reaction products on CVD SiC



Figure 5. Light microscopy of CVD SiC specimens exposed at (a,b) 1200°C and (c,d) 1000°C in (a,c) 1 and (b,d) 20 bar RG CO<sub>2</sub>.



## 1000°C: 100h results show large mass changes for Mo/W



### Metallic specimens showed high mass changes



CAK RIDGE

13

# 1000°C/1000 h: comparison to laboratory air 20bar: high mass gain for most alloys & MoSi<sub>2</sub>



Typically, lower mass gain in laboratory air

CAK RIDGE

4

# MoSi<sub>2</sub>/Mo(Si,Al)<sub>2</sub> 500h/1000°C: no protective SiO<sub>2</sub> layer



Contrast to thin oxide formed on CVD SiC

# 1000°C/500 h: thicker scales forming at 20 bar

APMT: 69Fe-22Cr-**4.9AI**-2.8Mo 738: 61Ni-17Cr-8.6Co-**3.7AI-3.4Ti**-2.6W-**1.8Ta**-1.7Mo



• Increased scale thickness and internal oxidation with higher pressure

# 1000°C/1000 h: not forming thin alumina scale



• Thicker reaction products observed, especially at higher pressure

CAK RIDGE

17

### **EDS examples: Ni-based alloys: P effect observed**



• 214 in 0.1MPa  $CO_2$  was able to form alumina scale

CAK RIDGE

8

# Summary: assessment of sCO<sub>2</sub> compatibility

- High temperature sCO<sub>2</sub> (700°-800°C) appears achievable
  - Low C solubility in Ni-based alloys may be key to compatibility
- Challenges for conventional steels at 450°-650°C
  - Current focus of DOE FECM project (Thursday presentation)
- Higher temperatures (900°-1200°C) are challenging in CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Cermets will require coatings with Mo/W matrix
    - Sandhage (Cu coating with CO/CO<sub>2</sub> control)
    - Catastrophic attack concerning if coating fails
  - Alumina-forming FeCrAI alloys heavily attacked at 1200°C
    - More protective behavior at 900°-1100°C
  - SiC promising at ≤1200°C to 1000 h

• However, MoSi<sub>2</sub> and MoSiAl did not show protective behavior



# Questions?



# Accelerated attack, especially in 2 MPa CO<sub>2</sub>



500 h, 1000°C

- MoSiAl/2MPa spall at 1100°C hid the high attack
  - AI to inhibit pesting



# Pressure effect: Higher mass losses for Mo and W with P But, reduced attack of FeCrAl with higher P

