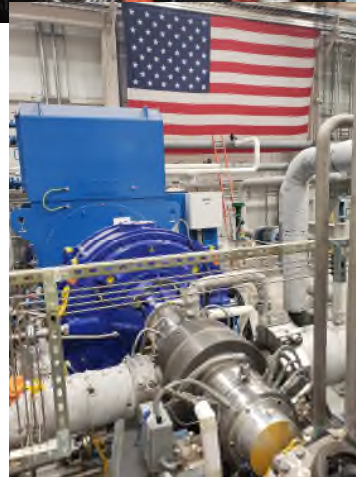
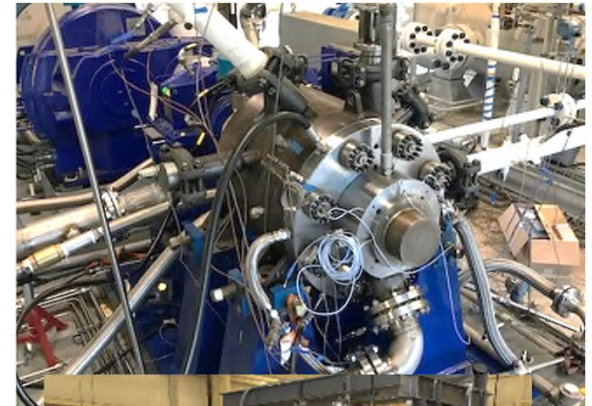
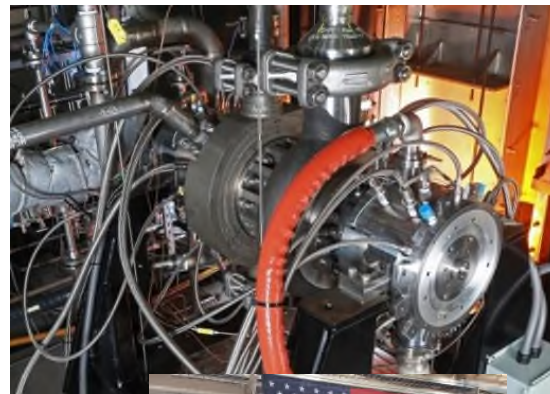


# Tutorial: Turbomachinery Design and Operation for Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Applications

Jeff Moore, Ph.D.

Southwest Research Institute



# Abstract

Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> (sCO<sub>2</sub>) power cycles offer high efficiency and power density relative to the incumbent Steam Rankine and Air Brayton cycles for power generation over a wide range of applications, including waste heat recovery, concentrating solar power, nuclear, and fossil energy. One significant advantage of sCO<sub>2</sub> cycles over other Brayton cycles is that the high fluid density results in very compact turbomachinery for compression and expansion. This compactness reduces material costs and is also beneficial in low-space and potentially low-weight applications. The combinations of pressure, temperature, and density in sCO<sub>2</sub> power cycles are outside the experience base of existing turbomachines such as gas turbines, steam turbines, and even high-pressure gas compressors, and sCO<sub>2</sub> turbomachinery design is a significant challenge for realizing these cycles. This tutorial provides a brief overview of sCO<sub>2</sub> cycles and describes the resulting operating requirements and design concepts for the pumps, compressors, and expanders required for various cycle configurations. An overview of existing prototype turbomachinery in various laboratory facilities is provided along with a review of turbomachinery configurations and designs in the literature for various applications. Details regarding challenges common to most sCO<sub>2</sub> turbomachines including rotordynamics, pressure containment, sealing, and transient/off-design operation are presented with a description of specific components including bearings and seals. Turbine- and compressor-specific challenges including thermal management, overspeed risk, aerodynamic performance, and range requirements are also discussed.

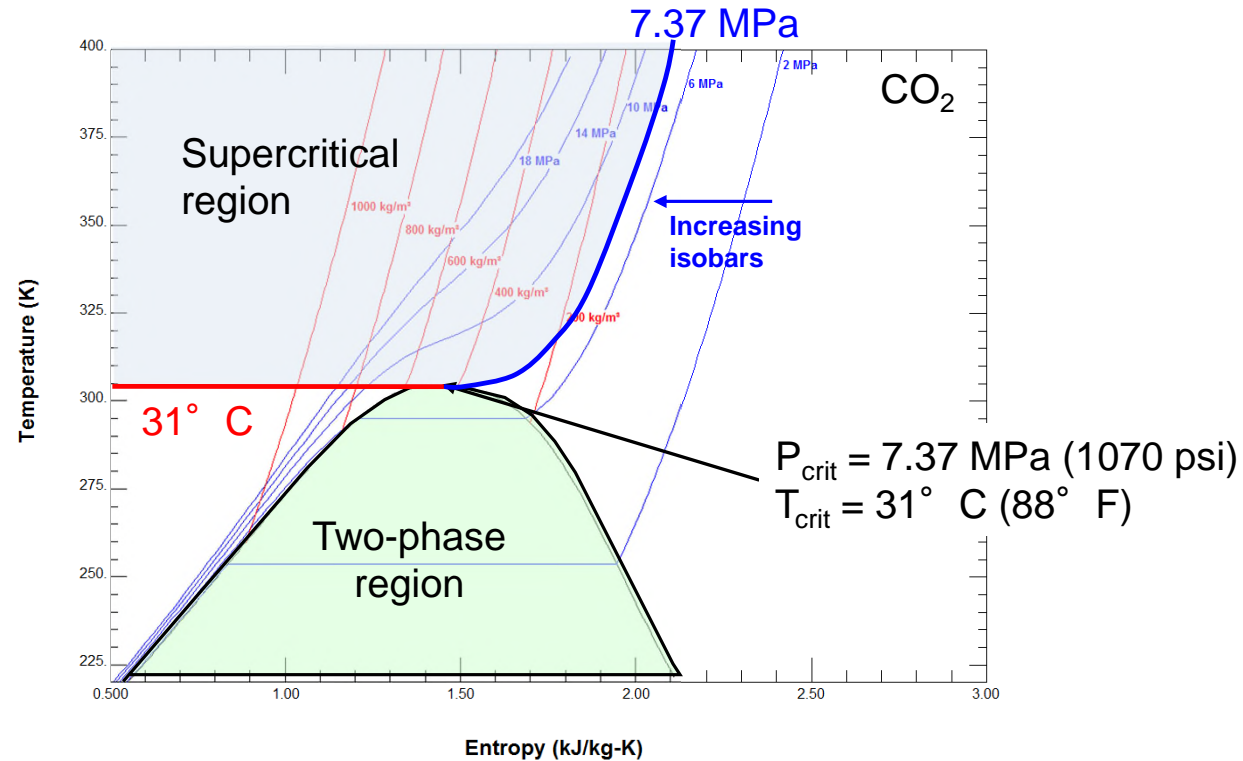
The aim of this course is to provide a basic understanding of the technologies and concepts that affect the design and operation of machinery with supercritical carbon dioxide as a working fluid. The participants will learn about the application requirements, working principles and commercial maturity of sCO<sub>2</sub> turbomachinery, and what technical research is needed to advance the state of the art in this emerging industry.

# Outline

- Introduction to Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>
- sCO<sub>2</sub> Cycles
- Machinery Types and Layouts
- Existing Machinery
- Aerodynamic Requirements & Design
- Seals and Bearings
- Rotordynamics and Blade Dynamics
- Thermal Management
- Materials and Pressure Containment
- Test Facilities

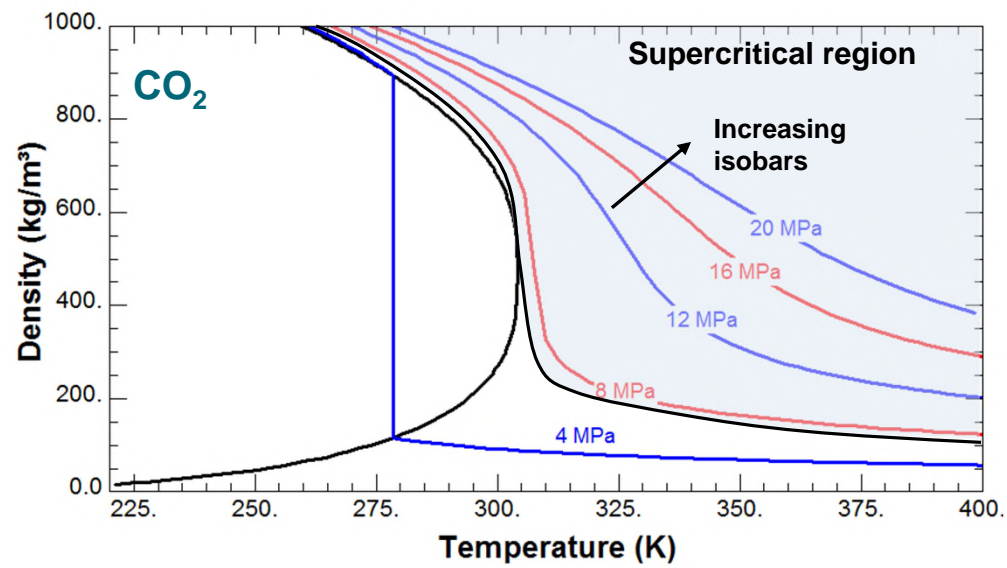
# Introduction to sCO<sub>2</sub>

**A fluid is supercritical if the pressure and temperature are greater than the critical values**



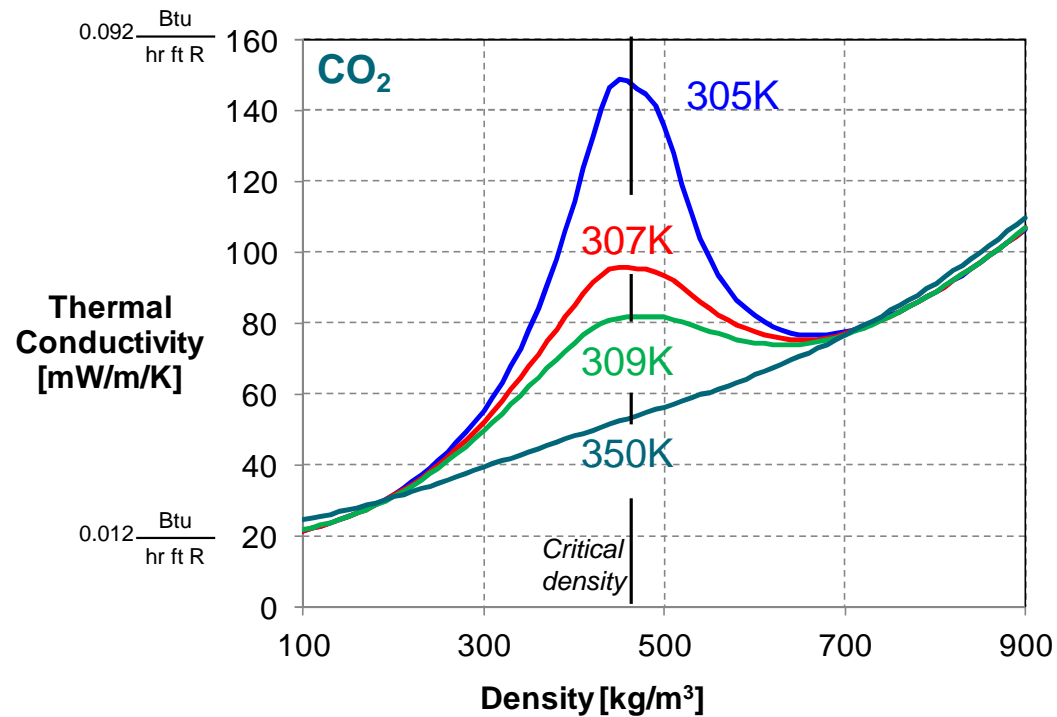
REFPROP (2007), EOS CO<sub>2</sub>: Span & Wagner (1996)

## Fluid density sharply decreases near the critical point



REFPROP (2007)

# Fluid thermal conductivity is enhanced near the critical region

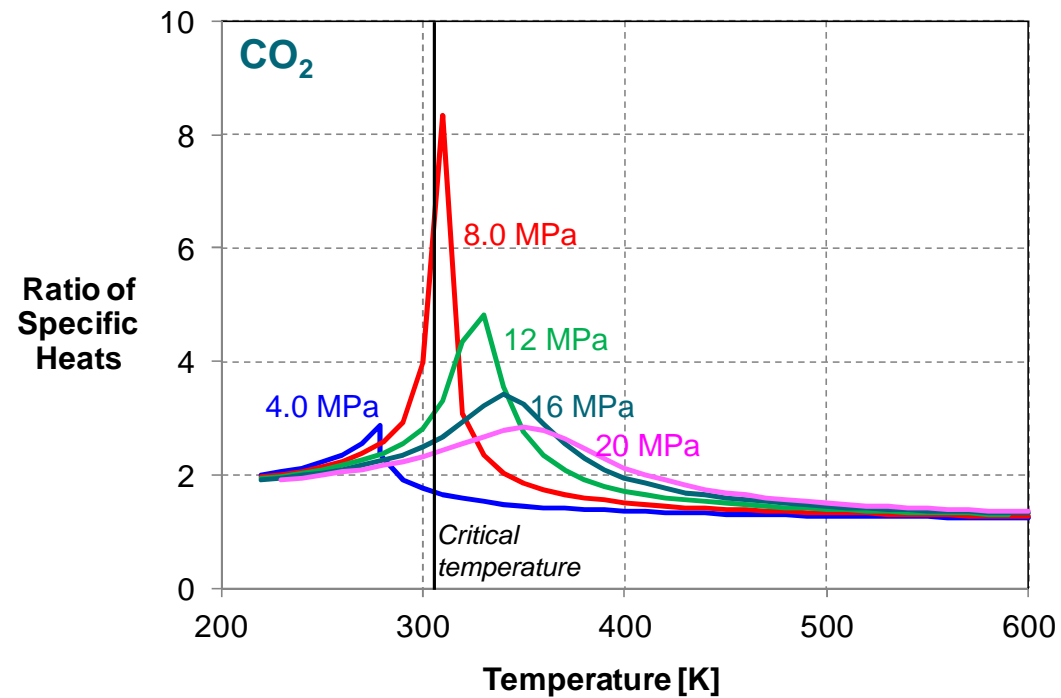


REFPROP (2007)

Water @ 304K = 620 mW/m/K

Atmospheric Air @ 304K = 26 mW/m/K

# The ratio of specific heats peaks near the critical region

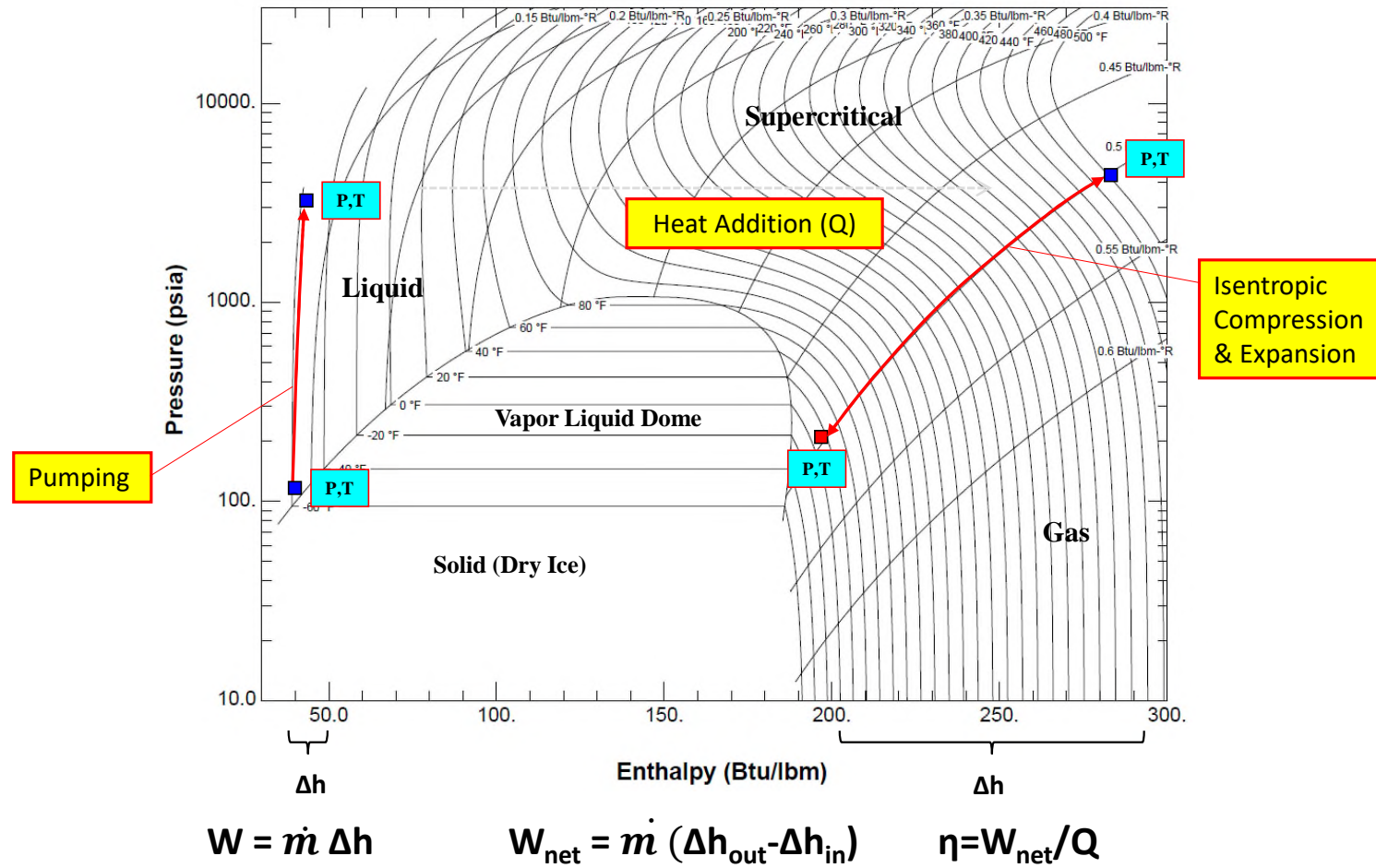


REFPROP (2007)

Air = 1.4

# **sCO<sub>2</sub> Cycle Overview**

# Power Cycles: *Compression, Heating, Expansion*



# Applications

## Primary Power

- High grade heat
- Optimized for system efficiency



Concentrating Solar Power



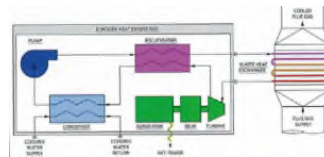
Fossil Fuel



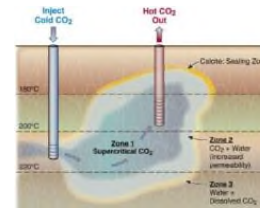
Nuclear

## Bottoming Cycles

- Low grade heat
- Optimized for net power



Waste Heat Recovery



Geothermal

# Primary Power

## Primary Power

- High grade heat
- Optimized for system efficiency



Concentrating  
Solar Power

### Heat Source

- Solar collector
- Thermal Energy Storage System

### Advantages

- Dry cooling for arid climates
- Compact power block for modular, in tower installation
- Higher efficiency than steam for  $T > 600^\circ\text{C}$



Fossil Fuel

### Heat Source

- Coal or Natural Gas “Boiler” (indirect)
- Oxy-combustion (direct)

### Advantages

- Higher efficiency than steam for  $T > 600^\circ\text{C}$



Nuclear

### Heat Source

- Nuclear reactor

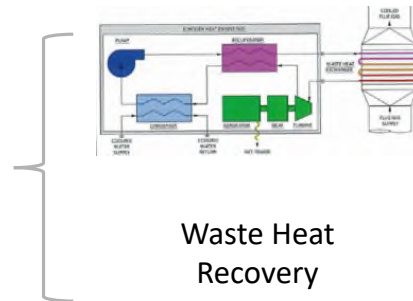
### Advantages

- Higher efficiency than steam for  $T > 600^\circ\text{C}$
- Compact power block for SMR
- Direct cycles using  $\text{CO}_2$  are possible

# Bottoming Cycles

## Bottoming Cycles

- Low grade heat
- Optimized for net power



## Heat Source

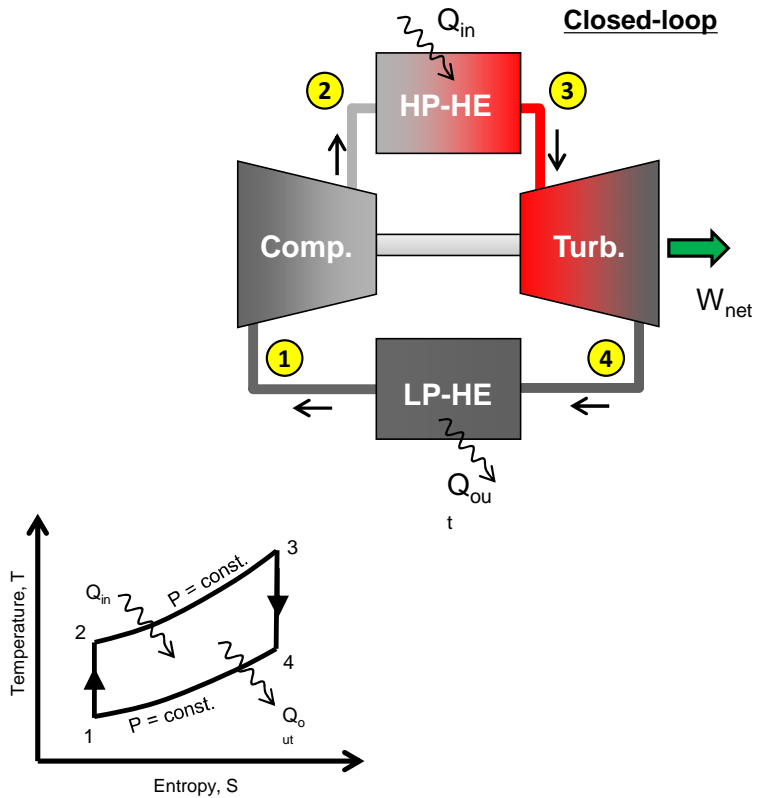
- Gas Turbine Exhaust
- Industrial Flue Gas

## Advantages

- Dry cooling for arid climates
- Compact power block for modular installation
- Non-flammable working fluid (compared to ORC)
- Higher efficiency than 2 Pressure Non-reheat (2PNRH) steam cycles (GT Bottoming)
- Compact turbomachinery provides faster response to load transients than Steam Cycles

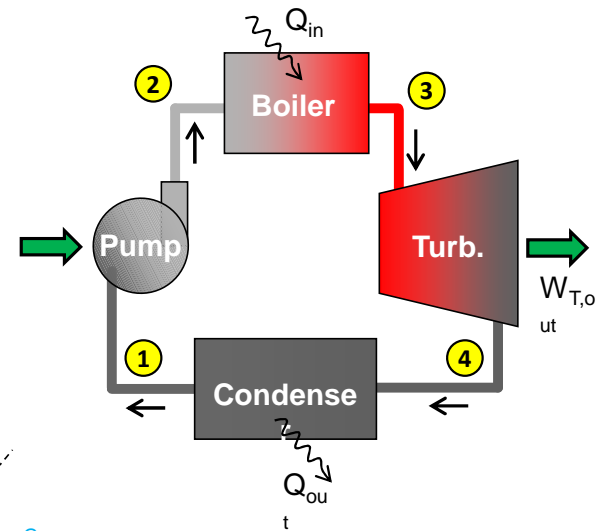
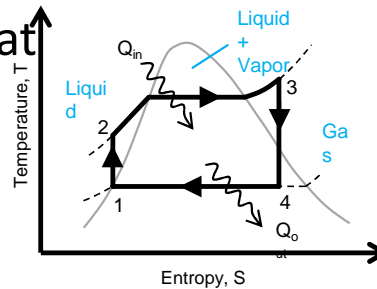
# Brayton Cycle (Ideal)

- Processes
  - (1-2) Isentropic compression
  - (2-3) Const. pres. heat addition
  - (3-4) Isentropic expansion
  - (4-1) Const. pres. heat reject.
- Open- or closed-loop



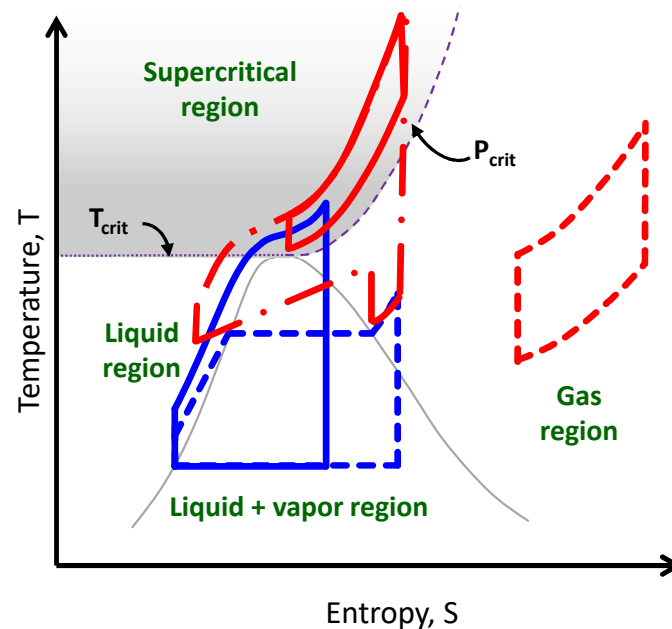
# Rankine Cycle (Ideal)

- Processes
  - (1-2) Isentropic compression
  - (2-3) Const. pres. heat addition
  - (3-4) Isentropic expansion
  - (4-1) Const. pres. heat reject.
- Same processes as Brayton; different hardware

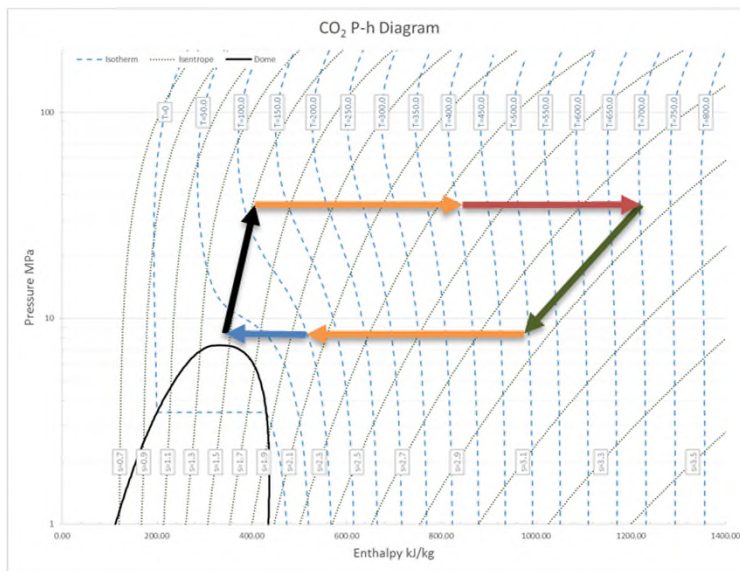


# So what do we mean by Supercritical Carbon Dioxide (sCO<sub>2</sub>) Power Cycles?

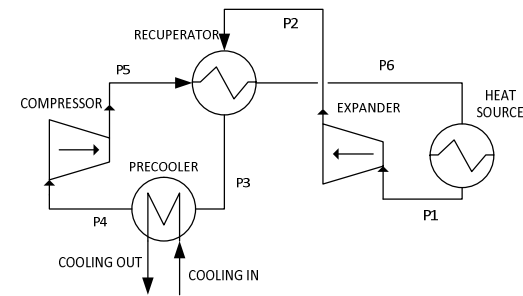
- CO<sub>2</sub> cycles come in multiple flavors
  - Supercritical vs Transcritical
  - Brayton vs. Rankine
  - Simple
  - Recuperated
  - “Compound” cycles



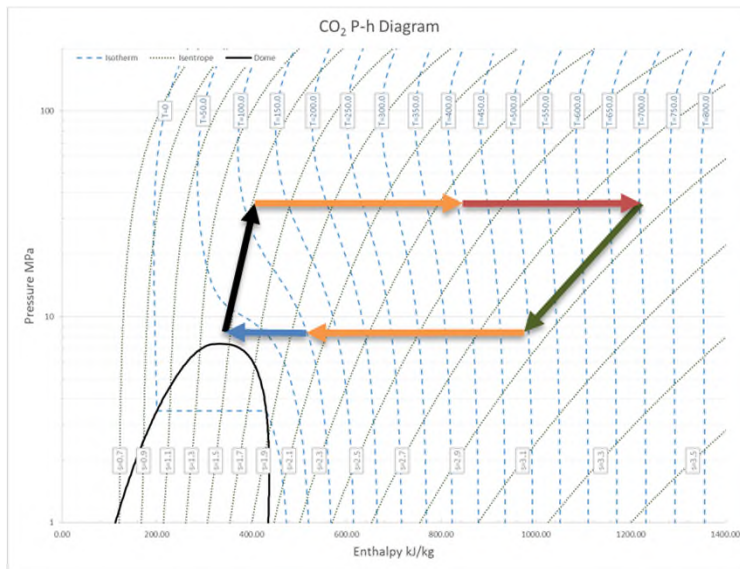
# Simple Recuperated Cycle



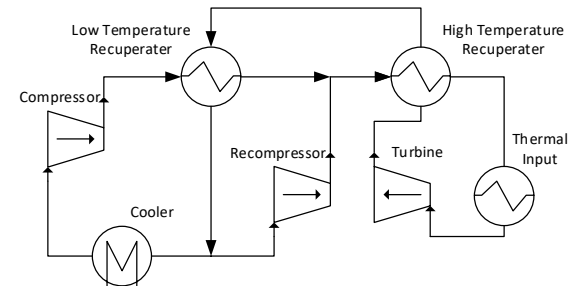
- Recuperated closed Brayton cycle
- Thermal efficiency limited by pinch point in the recuperator



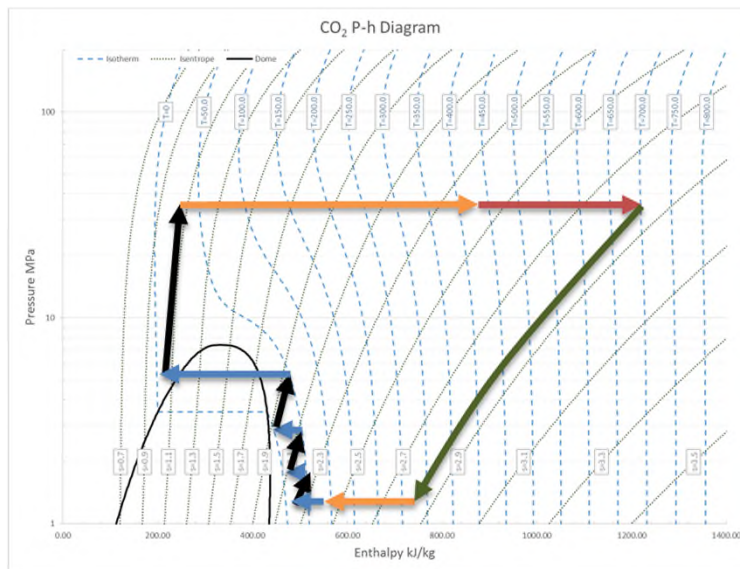
# Recompression Cycle



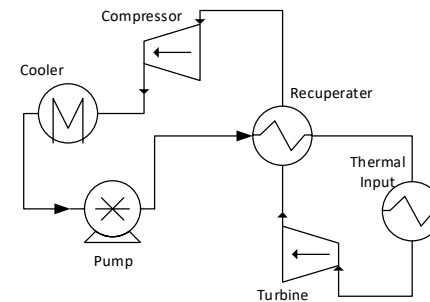
- Flow split used to minimize impact of pinch point in the low temperature recuperator
- Highly recuperated cycle achieves high cycle efficiencies
- Current benchmark cycle for CSP and Nuclear applications



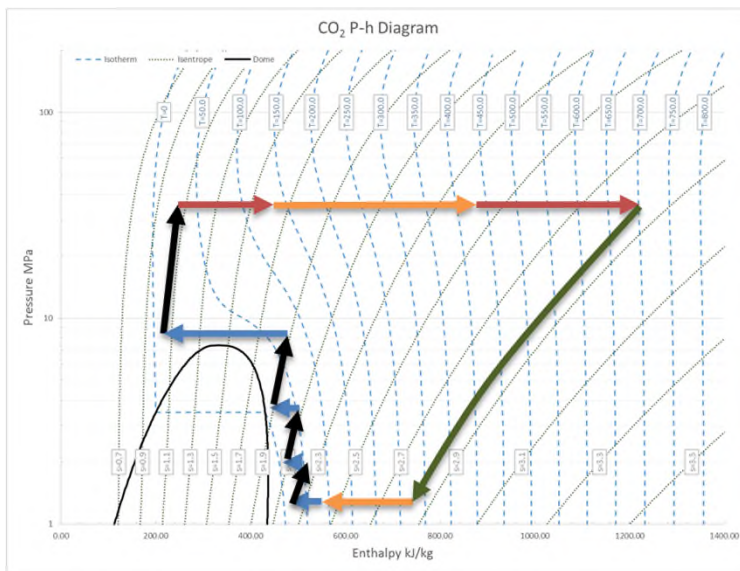
# Condensing Cycles



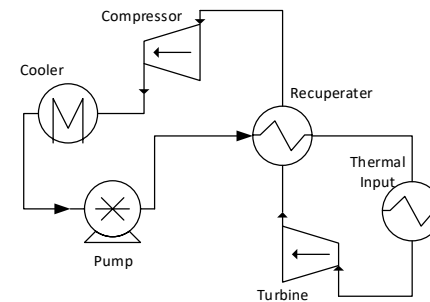
- Transcritical cycle
- Utilizes partial compression, condensation, and pumping to minimize compression work
- Must balance refrigeration / cooling requirements against compression requirements
- Can achieve efficiencies close to recompression cycle



# Allam-Fetvedt Cycle (Oxy-Combustion)

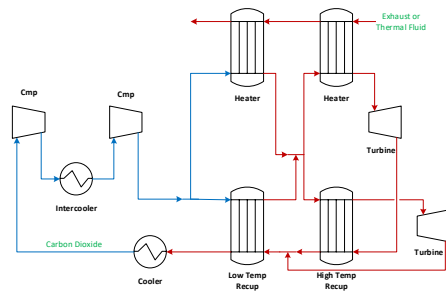


- Transcritical cycle
- Direct fired (oxy-combustion) cycle
- Uses iso-thermal compression to compress around the dome
- Recovers heat from integrated ASU

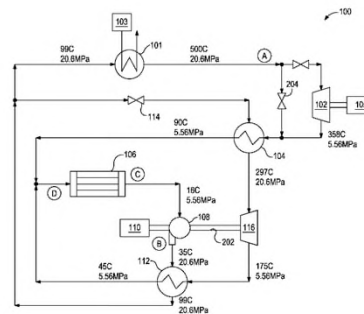


# Cascaded Cycles

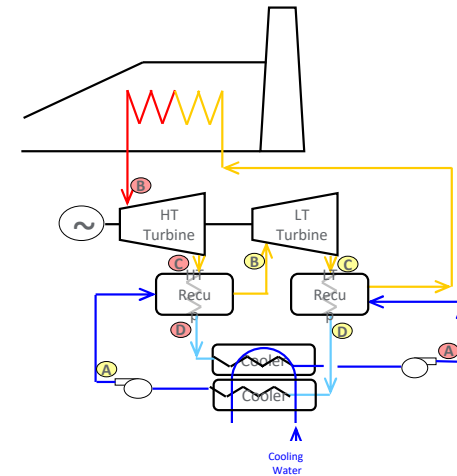
- Compound cycle configuration
- Designed to maximize thermal energy extraction from heat source (Large dT)
- Typically contain multiple turbomachinery trains
- Used for WHR and Fossil applications



“Fundamentals and Applications of Supercritical Carbon Dioxide Based Power Cycles”, 2017

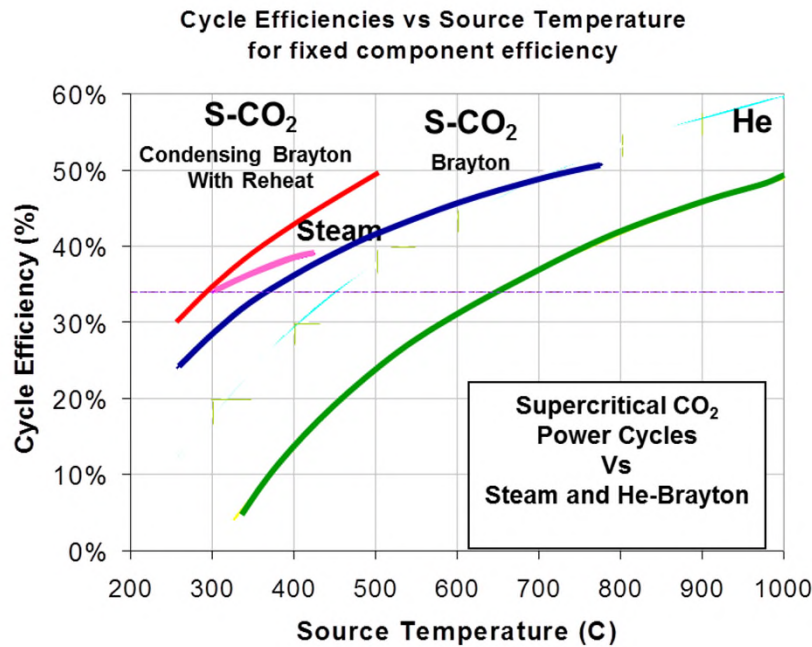


US Patent 20120131918 A1  
Echogen Power Systems

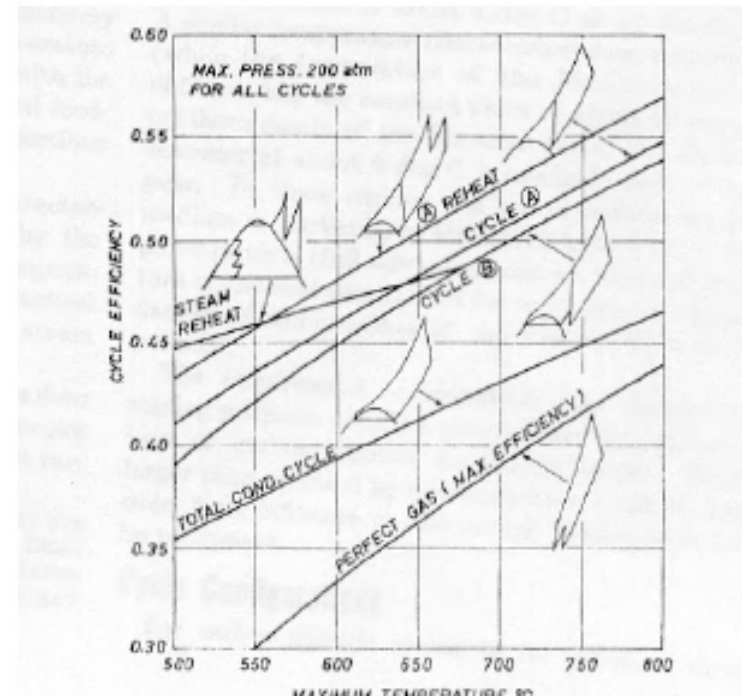


Courtesy GE Global Research

# Comparison of sCO<sub>2</sub> Cycles with Alternatives

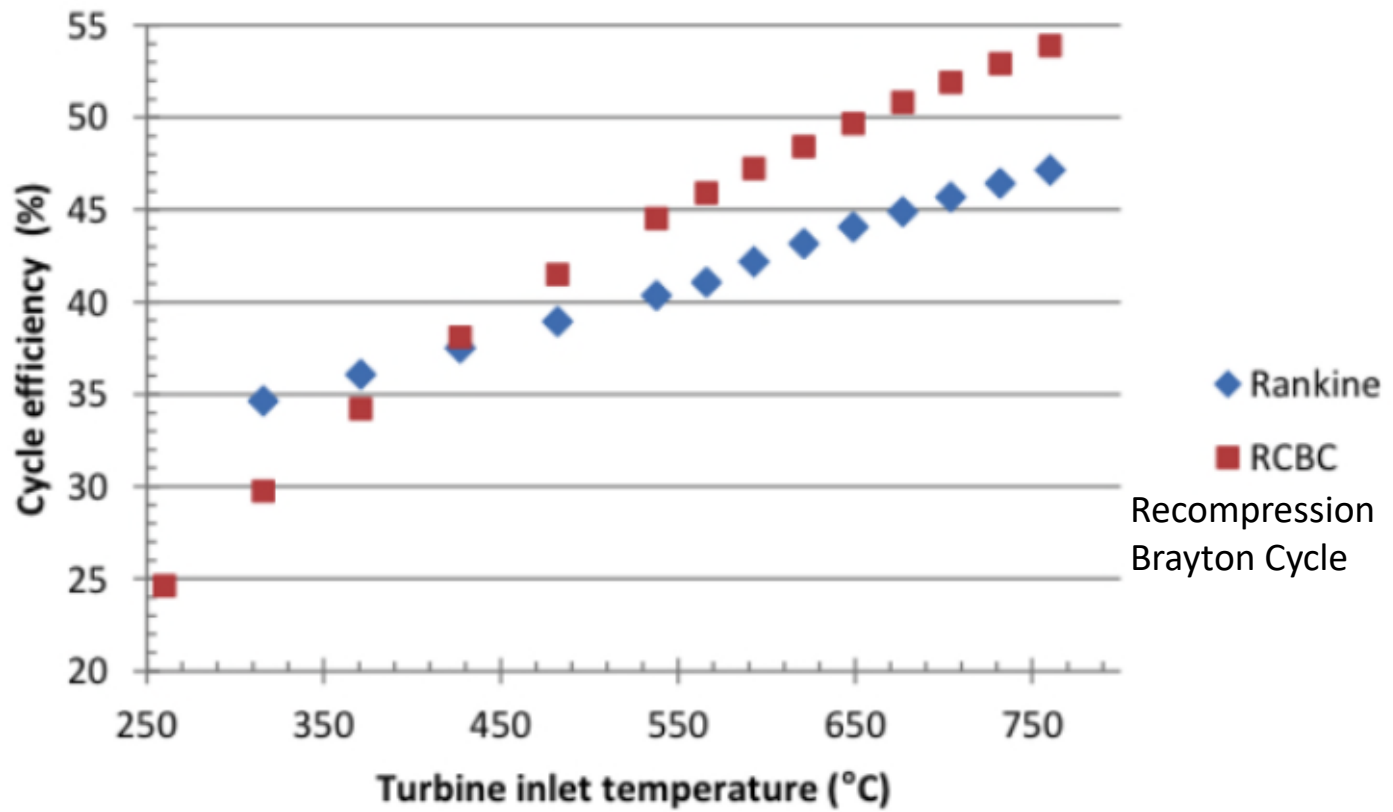


Wright, et. al. 2010



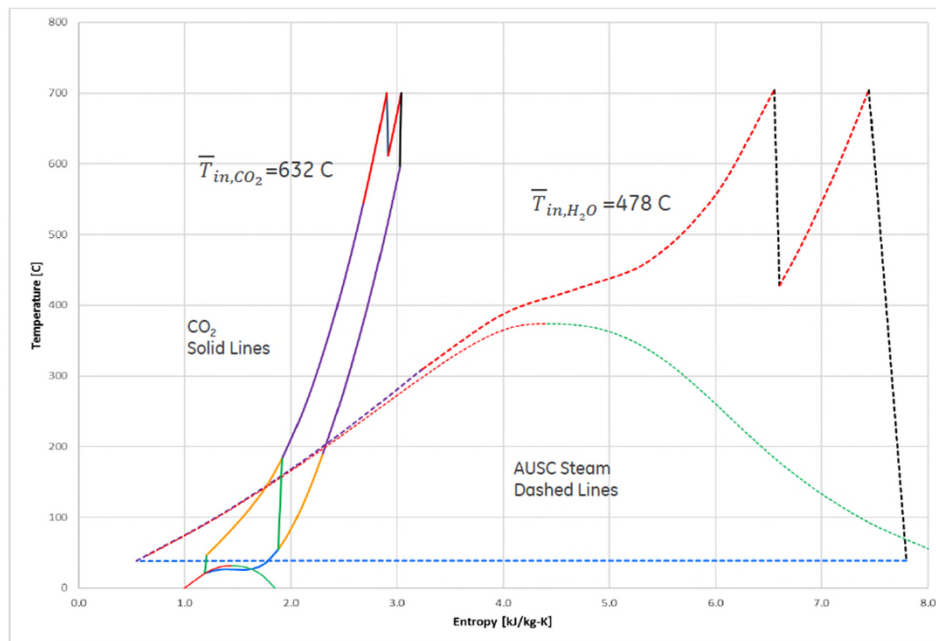
Angelino, 1969

# Cycle Efficiency



# sCO<sub>2</sub> vs. Steam – Why higher efficiency at high turbine temperatures?

## Fossil Cycle



Comparison of a reheat sCO<sub>2</sub> cycle to a reheat Advanced UltraSuperCritical (AUSC) steam cycle both with 700C turbine inlet temperatures

$$\eta = 1 - \frac{\overline{T}_{sink}}{\overline{T}_{srce}}$$

Carnot Cycle Efficiency depends on **AVERAGE** heat addition and rejection temperatures

AVERAGE  $T_{in}$  for CO<sub>2</sub> is about 150C higher than for steam

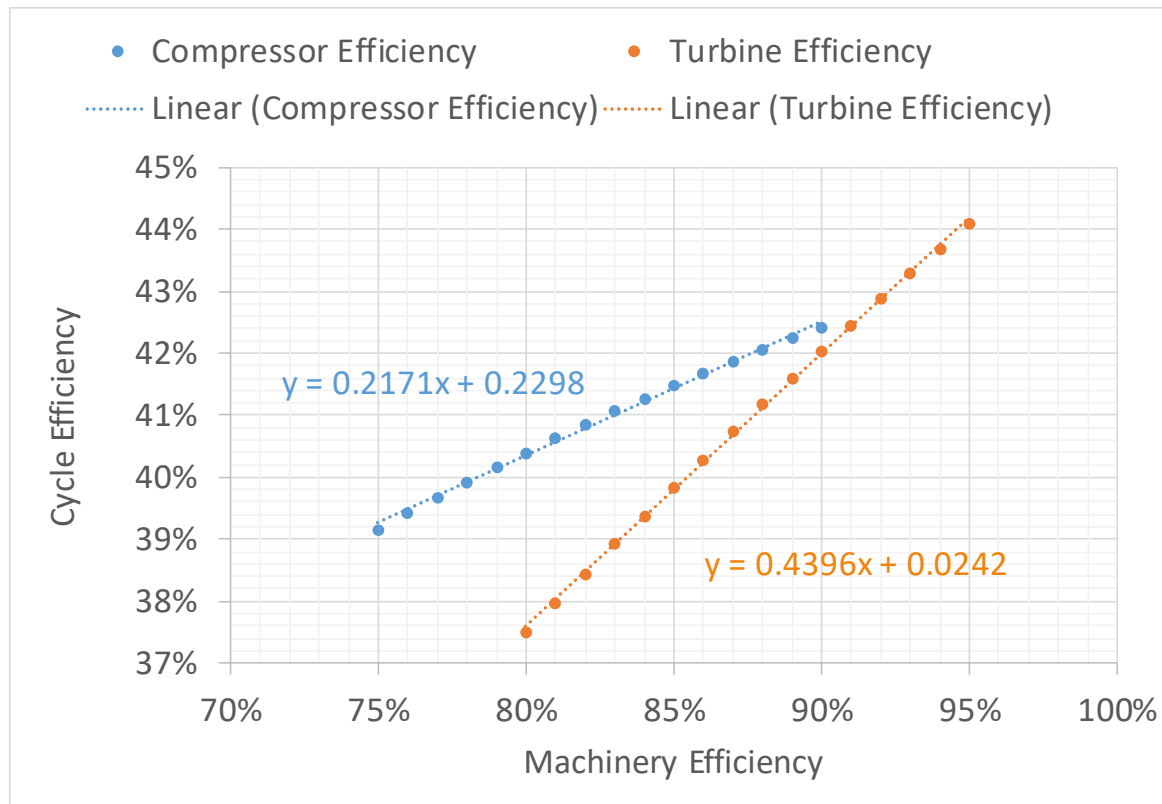
→ ~6.5 points higher Carnot

**That's Why**

Note: Steam cycle is advantaged at  $T_{cold}$  due to constant T heat rejection in condenser

The lines cross at lower turbine temperatures because sCO<sub>2</sub> heater inlet T floats with turbine exit T and steam boiler inlet T is fixed by feedwater heaters so  $T_{avg}$  comes down at ~1/2 the rate

# Dependence of Cycle Efficiency on Turbomachinery Efficiency (Simple Recuperated Brayton Cycle)



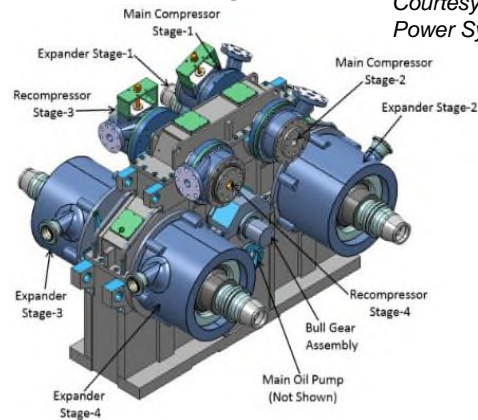
# **Layouts & Machinery Types**

# Turbomachines for Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Cycles

- Pumps
  - Low Speed Pumps
  - High Speed Pumps (Turbine Driven)
- Main Compressor
  - Much Like a Pump
  - May Operate Over Wide Inlet Density Range During Startup
- Re-Compressor
  - Standard Compressor Real Gas Compressor
- Expander
  - Radial
  - Axial

# Integrally Geared vs. Barrel Compressor

## Integrally Geared Isothermal Compressor

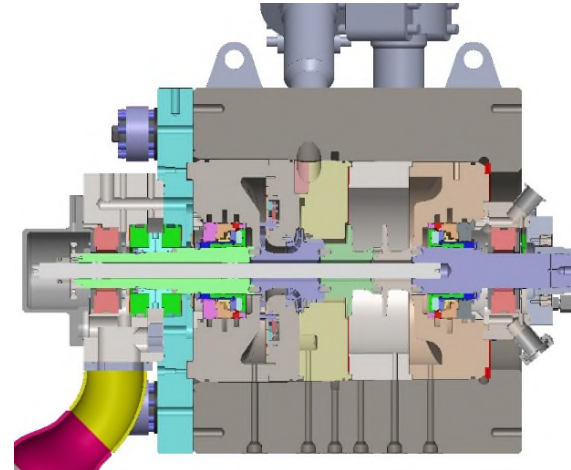


Courtesy of Hanwha Power Systems

Wilkes, J., Allison, T., Schmitt, J., Bennett, J., Wygant, K., Pelton, R., Bosen, W. (2016) "Application of an Integrally Geared Compressor to an sCO<sub>2</sub> Recompression Brayton Cycle," in *The 5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium - Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Power Cycles*, San Antonio, TX.

- Integrally geared can achieve near isothermal compression
- Can contain up to 12 bearings, 10 gas seals plus gearbox
- Typically driven by electric motor
- Impellers spin at different rates
  - Maintain optimum flow coef.
- Capable of 280 bar

## Single-Shaft Multi-stage Centrifugal Compressor



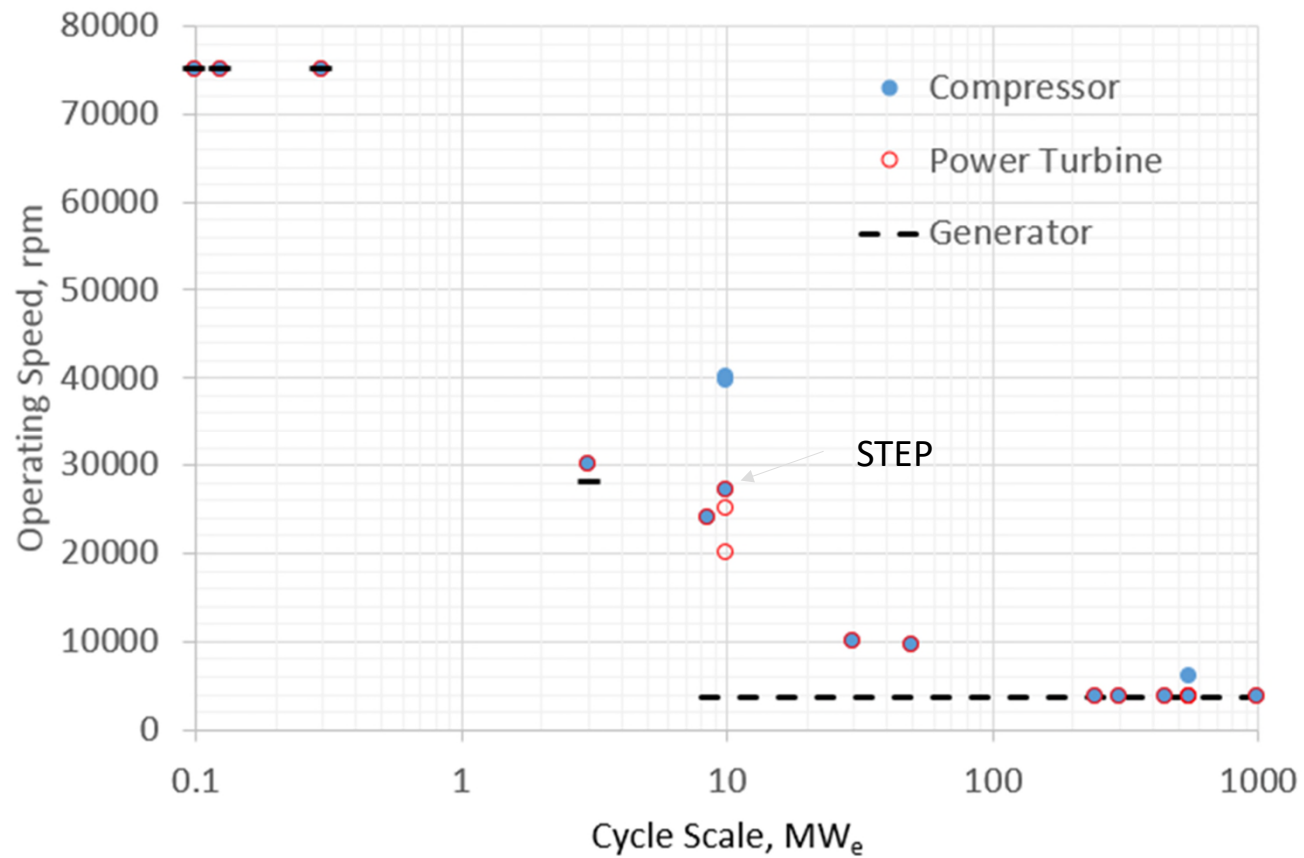
Cich, S., Moore, J., Kulhanek, C., Mortzheim, J., 2020, "Development and Testing of a Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Compressor Operating Near the Dome," Proceedings of 49th Turbomachinery Symposium, Houston, TX, September 2020, Turbomachinery Laboratory, Texas A & M University

- Multi-stage centrifugal proven reliable and used in many critical service applications currently (oil refining, LNG production, etc.)
- Fewer bearings and seals
- Highest reported pressure of 550 bar in CO<sub>2</sub> and 900 bar in natural gas service

# Generator Design

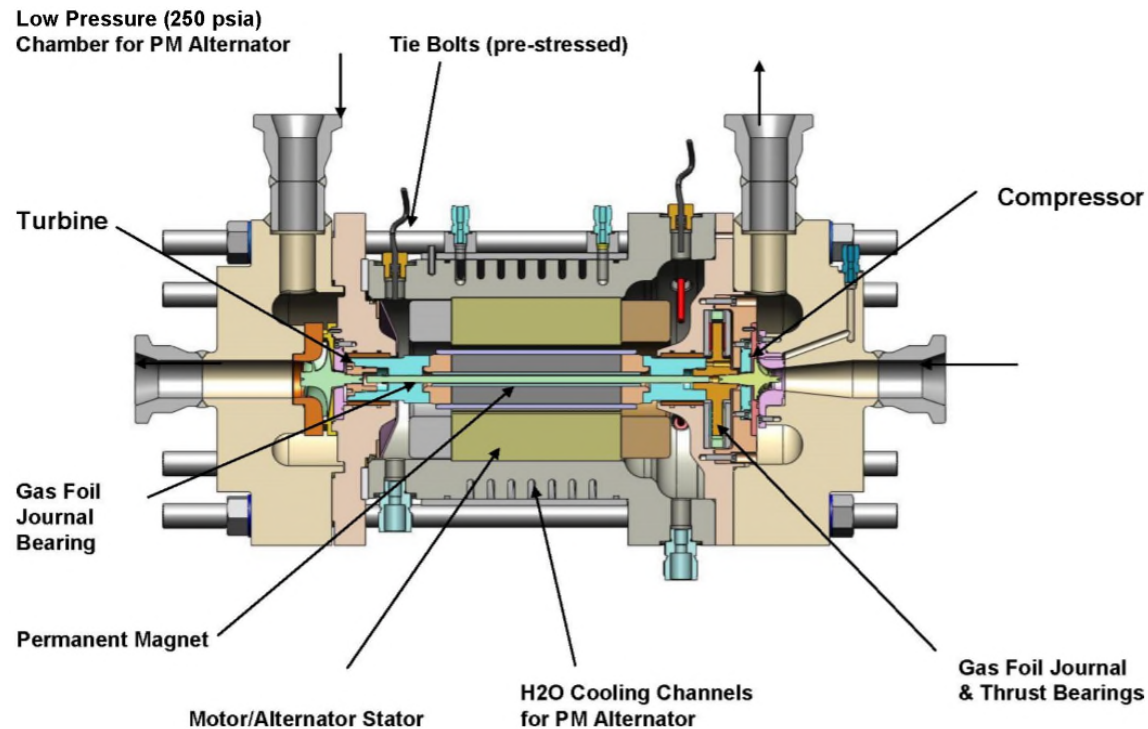
- Low-speed Synchronous
  - Low cost
  - Commercially available
  - Need to be combined with gearbox
- High-speed
  - May drive turbomachinery directly or use small gearbox if needed
  - Limited to 20,000 rpm
  - Lighter than low-speed option
  - More expensive

# sCO<sub>2</sub> Turbomachinery Speeds and Scales in Literature



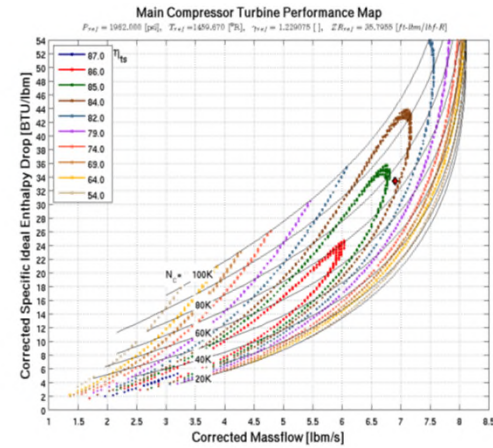
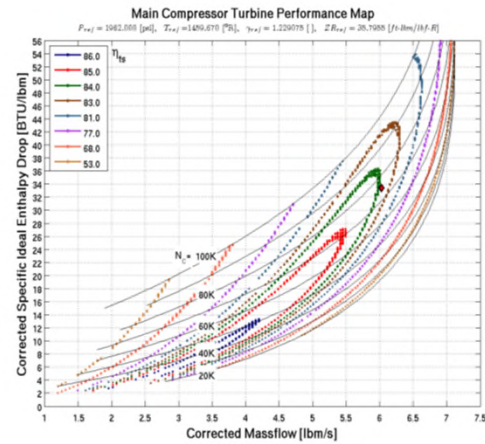
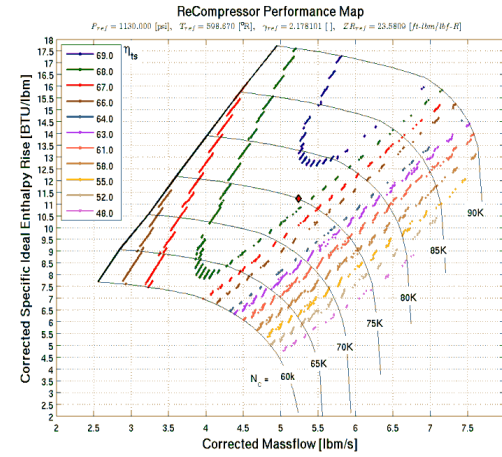
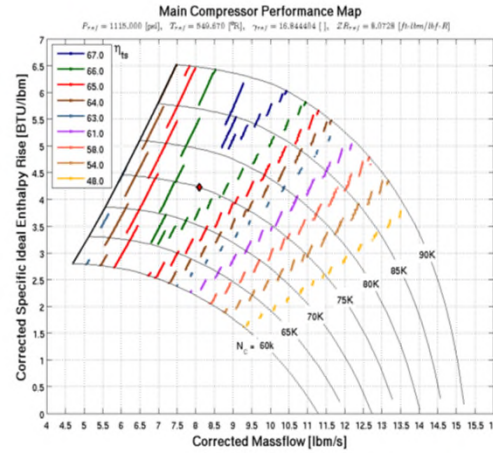
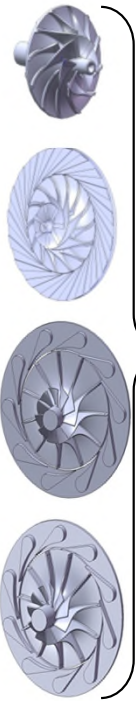
# Existing sCO<sub>2</sub> Machinery

# Barber-Nichols 100 kW Turbomachinery-Alternator-Compressor Typical of Sandia and IST Test Loops (Wright *et al.*, 2011)



Wright, S.A., Conboy, T.M. and Rochau, G.E. (2011) "Break-Even Power Transients for Two Simple Recuperated s-CO<sub>2</sub> Brayton Cycle Test Configurations", in *Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Power Cycle Symposium*, Boulder, CO.

# Designs for Turbines and Compressors and Performance Maps



Courtesy of Barber-Nichols

# TAC Operating Conditions

Component	Diameter [mm]	Design Inlet / Exit Pressure [bara]	Design Inlet Temperature [°C]	Design Flow Rate [kg/s]	Design Efficiency (t-s)	Design Isentropic Head [kJ/kg]
Sandia Main Compressor	37.3	76.9 / 141.1	32.2	3.67	66.5%	10.1
Sandia Re-compressor	57.9	77.9 / 140.1	59.4	2.27	70.1%	26.9
Sandia Main Compressor Turbine	68.1	135.8 / 83.4	538	2.47	85%	72.6
Sandia Re-compressor Turbine	68.3	136.8 / 83.3	538	2.88	85%	74.1
IST Main Compressor	38	92.4 / 166.7	36	5.5	61%	10.7
IST Compress-Turbine	53	164.5 / 95.8	299	2.5	80%	52.8
IST Power Turbine	53	164.5 / 95.8	299	2.8	80%	52.8

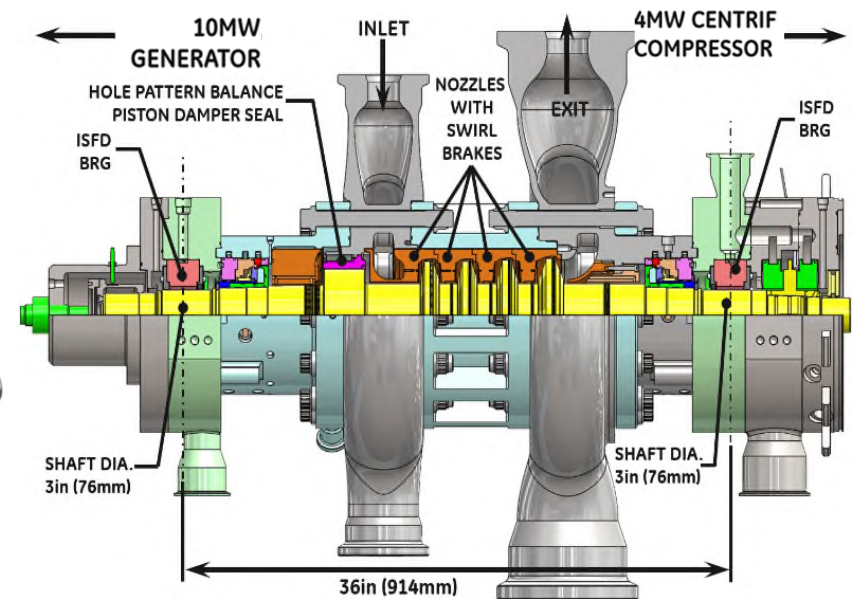
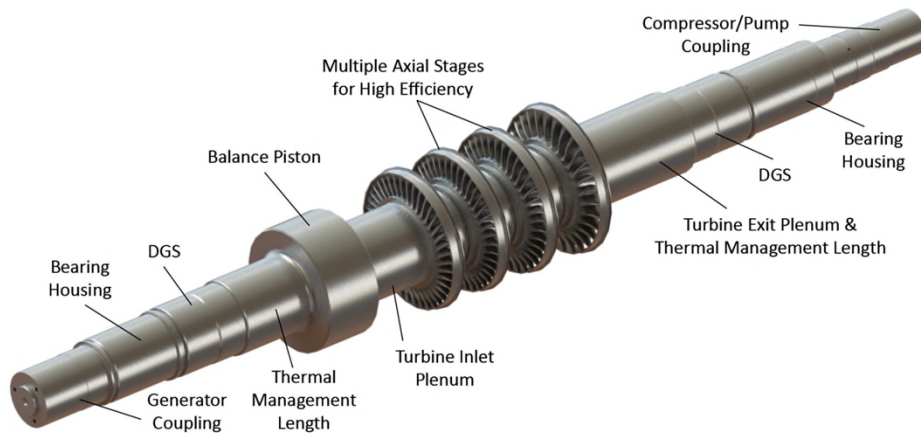
# Experience with TAC Units

(Wright *et al.*, 2011)

- Generally meet aerodynamic performance predictions
  - Low efficiency due to high relative tip clearances
- Integral design leads to high windage losses and evacuation power
- Modifications (turbine wheel cutouts and compressor pump out vanes) added for thrust balance
- Fouling and erosion (e.g., turbine nozzles)
- Motor controller challenges limit speed
- Gas bearing failures
- Thermal growth induced rubs

# GE/SwRI SunShot 10 MWe sCO<sub>2</sub> Turbine (Moore *et al.*, 2015)

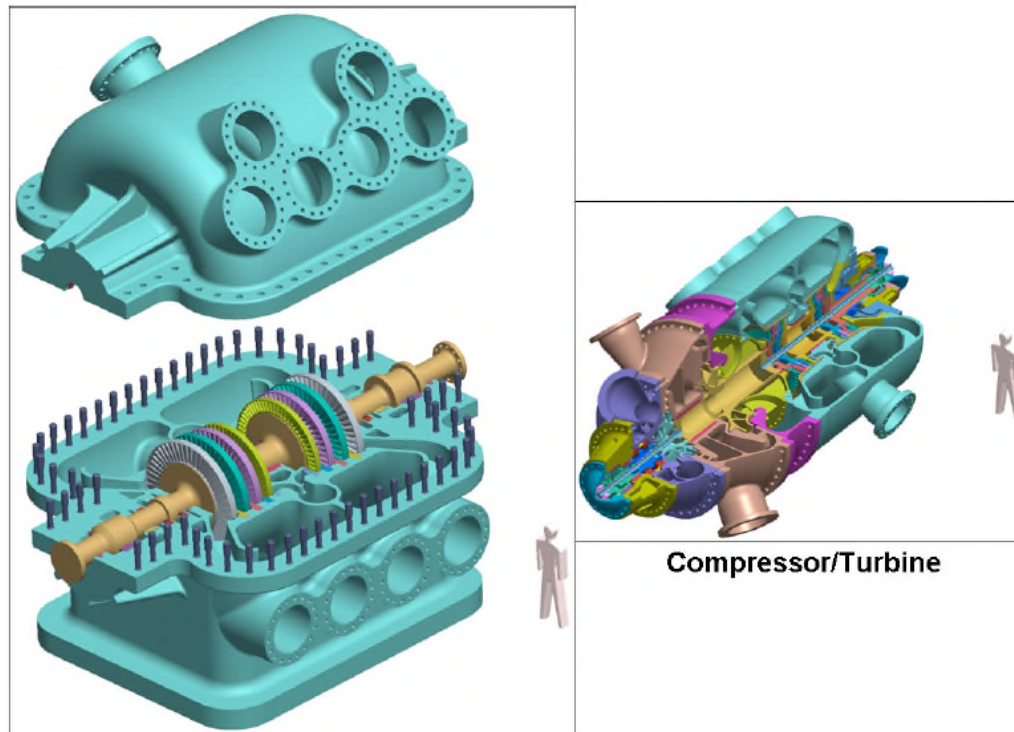
- 14 MW sCO<sub>2</sub> Turbine Frame Size
- Tested to < 1 MW at 27,000 rpm
- 715C Turbine Inlet Temperature
- 280 bar case rating



Ertas, B. Delgado, A., Moore, J., 2017, "Dynamic Characterization Of An Integral Squeeze Film Bearing Support Damper For A Supercritical Co<sub>2</sub> Expander", Gt2017-63448, ASME Turbo Expo, Charlotte, NC

Moore, J.J., Cich, S., Day-Towler, M., Hofer, D., Mortzheim, J., 2018, "Testing of a 10 MWe Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Turbine," Proceedings of 47th Turbomachinery Symposium, Houston, TX, September 2018

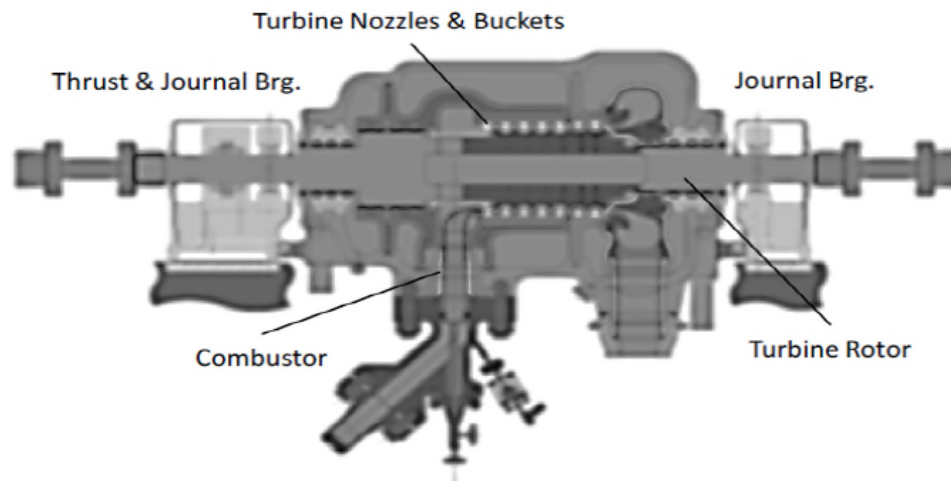
# Gas Technology Institute (GTI) Dual-Shaft Turbomachinery Layout for a 1,000 MWe Recompression Cycle (Johnson *et al.*, 2012)



Johnson, G.A., McDowell, M.W., O'Connor, G.M., Sonwane, C.G., and Subbaraman, G. (2012) "Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Cycle Development at Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne", *Proc. ASME Turbo Expo GT2012-68204*, Copenhagen, Denmark.

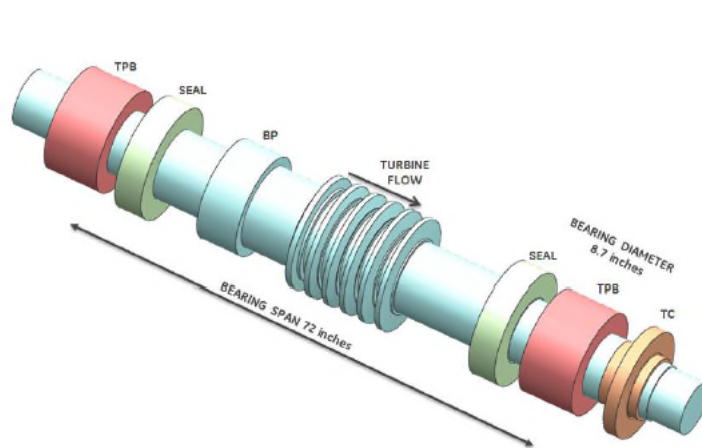
# Toshiba Direct-Fired 25 MW sCO<sub>2</sub> Turbine Cross-Section for an Allam Cycle Demonstration (Iwai *et al.*, 2015)

- Turbine Inlet: 300 bara, 1150 C
- Cooled Rotor/Stator

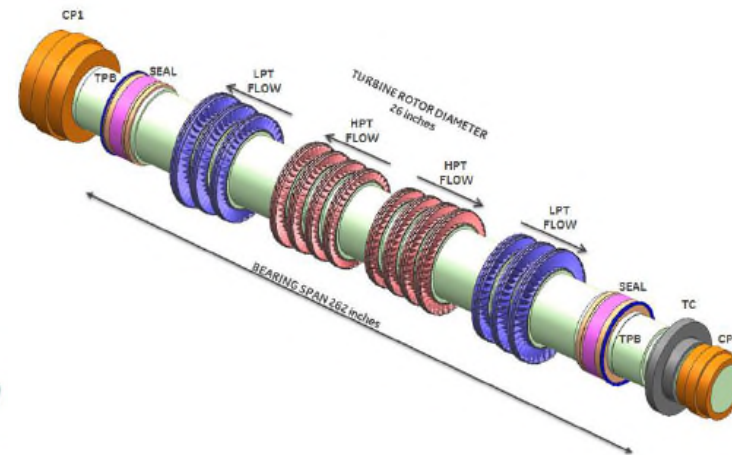


Iwai, Y., Ito, M., Morisawa, Y., Suzuki, S., Cusano, D., and Harris, M. (2015) "Development Approach to the Combustor of Gas Turbine for Oxy-Fuel, Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Cycle", *Proc. ASME Turbo Expo GT2015-43160*, Montreal, Canada.

# GE / SwRI 50 and 450 MWe Trains



**Single-Shaft Turbine Layout for a 50 MWe Recompression Cycle (Bidkar et al., 2016a)**

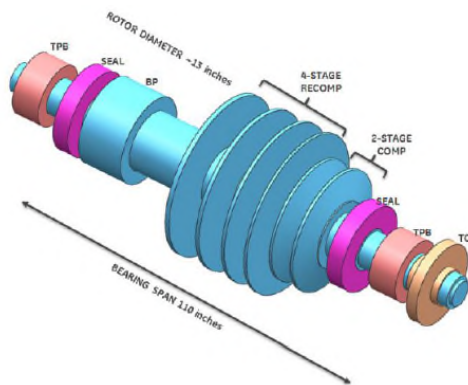


**Single-Shaft Turbine Layout for a 450 MWe Recompression Cycle (Bidkar et al., 2016a)**

Bidkar, R.A., Musgrove, G., Day, M., Kulhanek, C.D., Allison, T., Peter, A.M., Hofer, D., and Moore, J. (2016) "Conceptual Designs of 50MWe-450MWe Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Turbomachinery Trains for Power Generation from Coal. Part 2: Compressors," in *The 5th International Symposium - Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Power Cycles*, San Antonio, TX, 2016.

# 450 MWe sCO<sub>2</sub> Power Cycle Compression Application

**Single-Shaft Compressor Layout for a 450 MWe Recompression Cycle (Bidkar *et al.*, 2016b)**

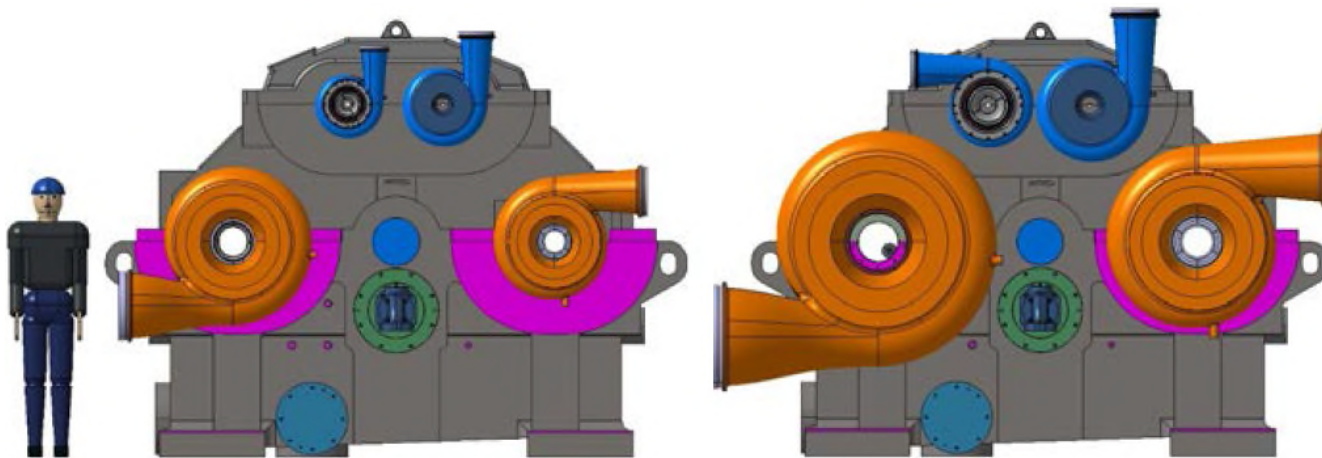


**Compressor Design Details for a 450 MWe Recompression Cycle**

Component	450 MWe Main Compressor	450 MWe Recompressor
Speed [rpm]	3,600	
Configuration	Centrifugal (back-to-back)	
End Seal Type	Dry Gas Seal	
Balance Piston Seal Type	Hole-Pattern	
Journal Bearing Type	Tilt-Pad Oil Bearing with Squeeze Film Damper	
Mass Flow [kg/s]	2134	1282
Inlet Temperature [°C]	21.5	54.8
Inlet Pressure [bara]	65.9	67.1
Number of Stages	2	4
Cycle Pressure Ratio	3.77	3.80
Isentropic Efficiency [%]	83.0	80.1
First Stage Specific Speed [-]	0.523	0.66
First Stage Specific Diameter [-]	5.28	4.46
Nominal Rotor Diameter [m]	0.33	
Bearing Span [m]	2.79	

# Hanwha Techwin / SwRI Integrally-Geared Compressor

**Integrally-Geared sCO<sub>2</sub> Compressor Layout for 5 MWe (left) and 25 MWe (right) Recompression Cycles (Wilkes *et al.*, 2016)**



Wilkes, J., Allison, T., Schmitt, J., Bennett, J., Wygant, K., Pelton, R., Bosen, W. (2016) "Application of an Integrally Geared Compressor to an sCO<sub>2</sub> Recompression Brayton Cycle," in *The 5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium - Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Power Cycles*, San Antonio, TX.

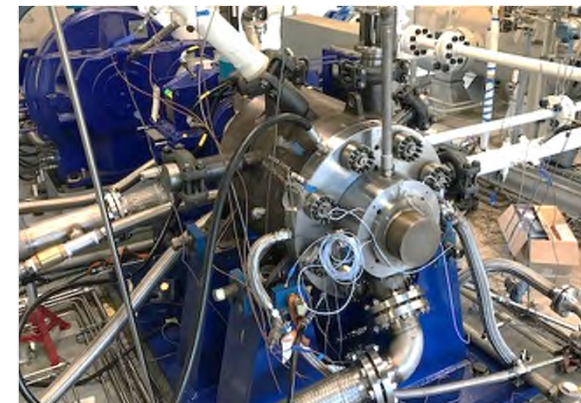
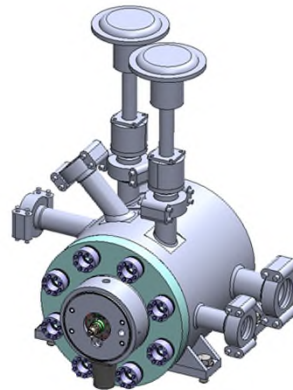
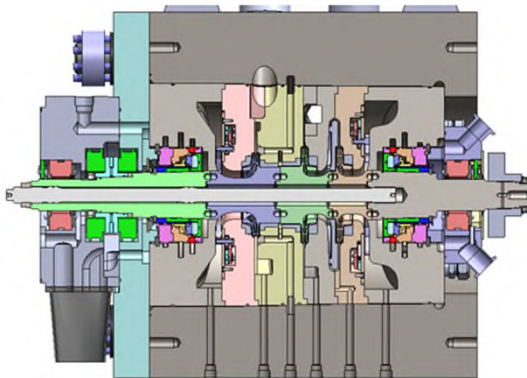
# SwRI/GE-Apollo High-Efficiency sCO<sub>2</sub> Centrifugal Compressor Development

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Develop high-efficiency sCO<sub>2</sub> compression system
  - Main Compressor Efficiency of 80%
  - Preliminary Design completion June 2016
- High efficiency centrifugal impeller
- Variable inlet guide vanes (IGV)
- Advanced aerodynamic design provided by GE implemented into the detail compressor design provided by SwRI.

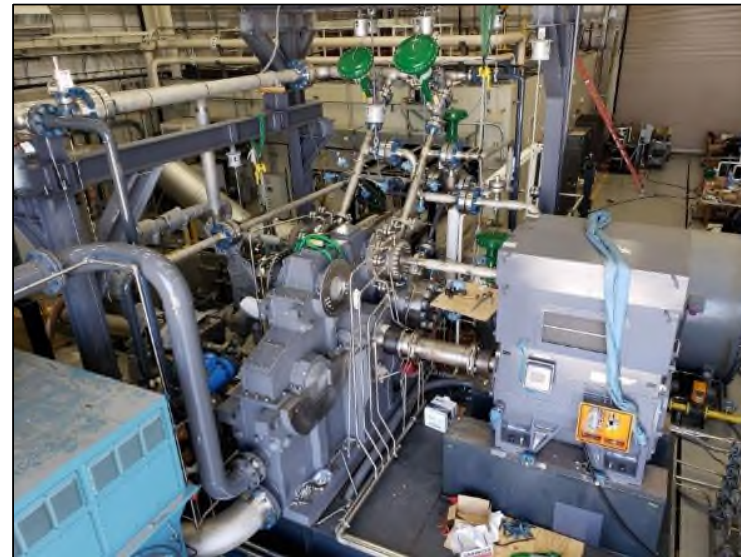
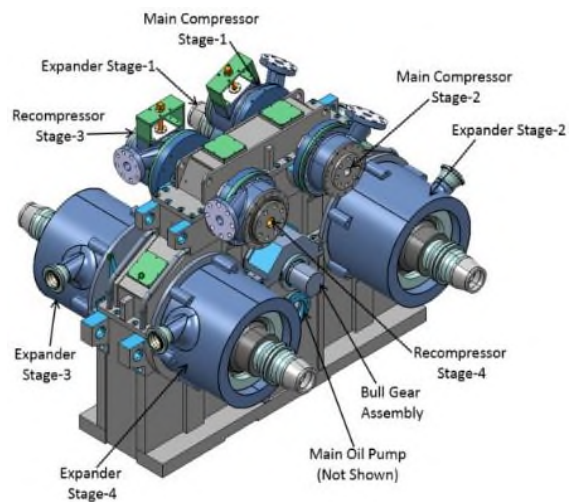
## KEY RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

- Full scale testing of a 10 MWe sCO<sub>2</sub> Compressors
- Extended flow range to accommodate swings in ambient temperature
- SwRI sCO<sub>2</sub> Test Facility will verify compressor mechanical and aerodynamic performance over a range of operating conditions
- Testing completed October 2020



# Hanwha Techwin / SwRI Integrally-Geared Compressor

- Compressor tested at SwRI 1 MWe SCO<sub>2</sub> Test Loop (Wilkes *et al.*, 2016)
- Achieved 720C at 280 bar



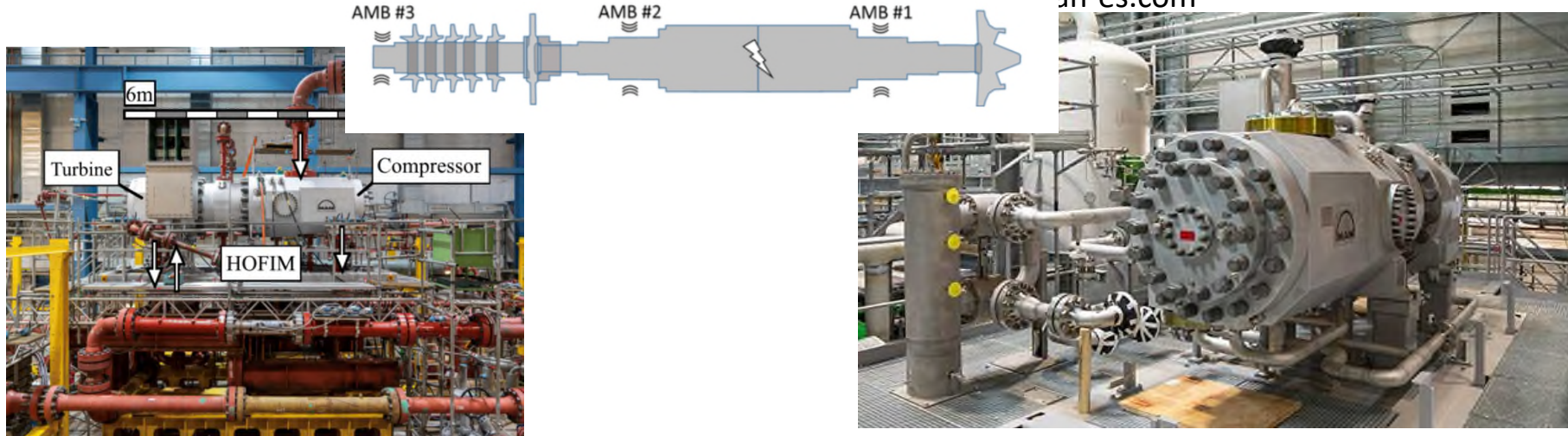
Wilkes, J., Allison, T., Schmitt, J., Bennett, J., Wygant, K., Pelton, R., Bosen, W. (2016) "Application of an Integrally Geared Compressor to an sCO<sub>2</sub> Recompression Brayton Cycle," in *The 5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium - Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Power Cycles*, San Antonio, TX.

# MAN-ES Heat Pump

- Uses SCO<sub>2</sub> in a heat pump cycle
- Provides industrial and district heating up to 35 MWt
- Utilizes hermetically sealed motor/compressor and multiphase expander at 10 MW on magnetic bearings (based on HOFIM product)
- COP in 4 range



an-es.com



# Echogen Waste Heat Recovery

- SCO<sub>2</sub> waste heat recovery power cycle
- Utilizes dense phase
- Power turbine electrical output up to 3.1 MWe for 330 hours

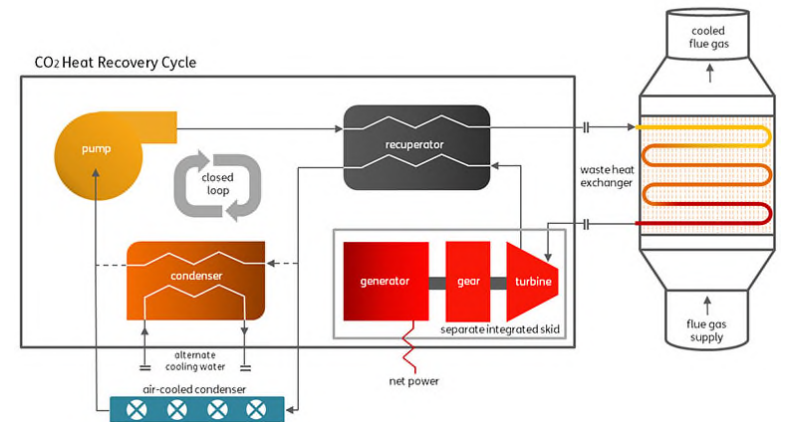
(max power at test stand conditions, limited by steam available)



10 MWe  
SUPERCRITICAL CO<sub>2</sub>  
POWER TURBINE



echogen.com



<https://www.netl.doe.gov/sites/default/files/netl-file/FE0031585-Kickoff.pdf>

# Supercritical Transformational Electric Power (STEP Demo) Project



Demonstrate an integrated electricity generating power plant using transformational sCO<sub>2</sub>-based power cycle technology

Demonstrate pathway to efficiency > 50%

Demonstrate cycle operability at >700°C turbine inlet temperature and 10 MWe net power generation

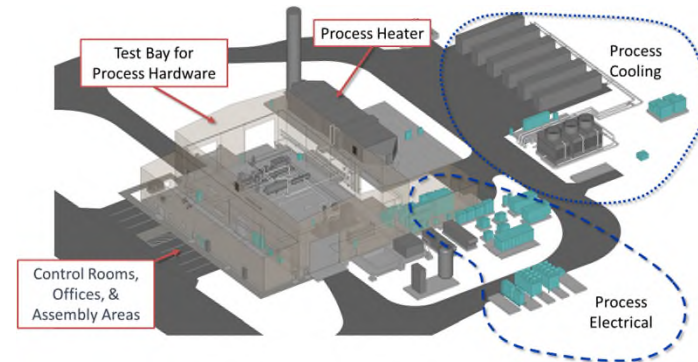
## Quantify performance benefits:

- 2-5% point net plant efficiency improvement
- 3-4% reduction in LCOE
- Reduced emissions, fuel, and water usage

Develop a **reconfigurable and flexible test facility**

- Available for Testing future sCO<sub>2</sub> equipment & systems

Achieved **mechanical completion** October 2023

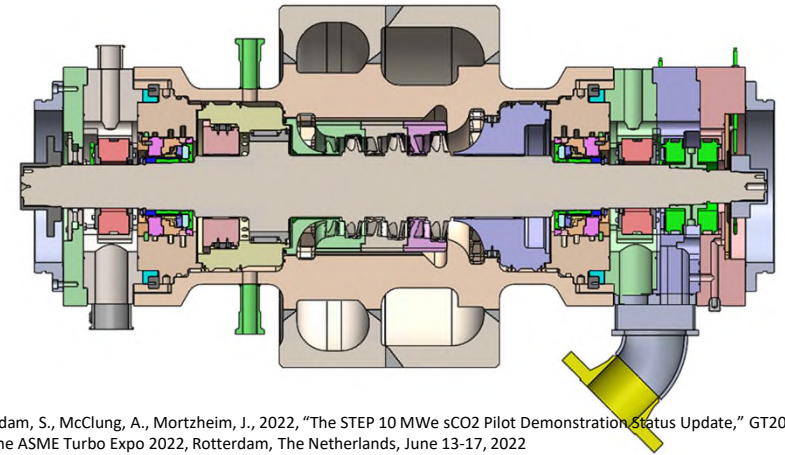


Marion, J., Macadam, S., McClung, A., Mortzheim, J., 2022, "The STEP 10 MWe sCO<sub>2</sub> Pilot Demonstration Status Update," GT2022-83588, Proceedings of the ASME Turbo Expo 2022, Rotterdam, The Netherlands, June 13-17, 2022



# STEP Demo Turbine

- Advance Turbine from TRL 6 (Engineering Prototype) to TRL 7 (Full Scale Prototype)
- Based on Sunshot Design
- 3 stages, monolithic nickel alloy blade/shaft
- Full flow path, 16 MWsh gross power
- 26,650 rpm design speed
- Rotor weight = 85 kg
- Highest power density of any industrial turbine
- Inlet conditions: 250 bar, 715°C
- Fluid film bearings with SFD
- Dry gas seals
- Single Inlet / Single Outlet connections
- Fabricated Inconel 625 barrel style casing
- Assembled and first spin achieved December 2023
- 27,000 rpm at 280C turbine inlet conditions achieved to date
- Completed Simple Cycle Testing at 500°C in October, 2024



Marion, J., Macadam, S., McClung, A., Mortzheim, J., 2022, "The STEP 10 MWe sCO<sub>2</sub> Pilot Demonstration Status Update," GT2022-83588, Proceedings of the ASME Turbo Expo 2022, Rotterdam, The Netherlands, June 13-17, 2022



# STEP Simple Cycle Test Program

- Test program of increasing speed, temperature, and power

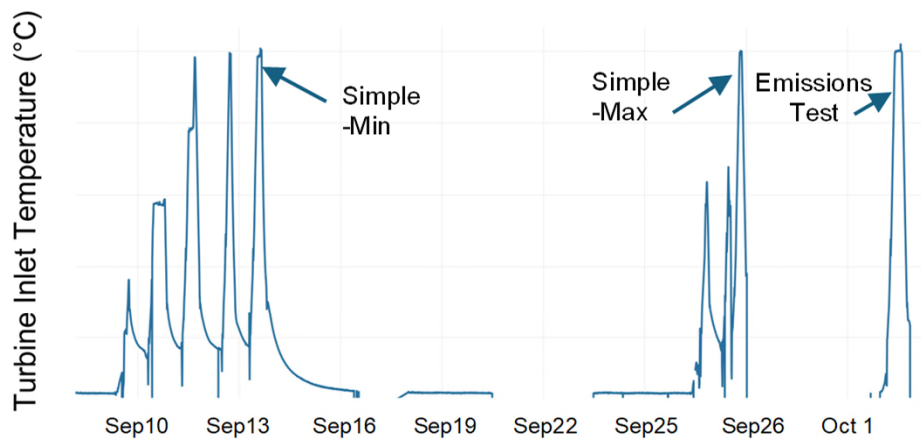
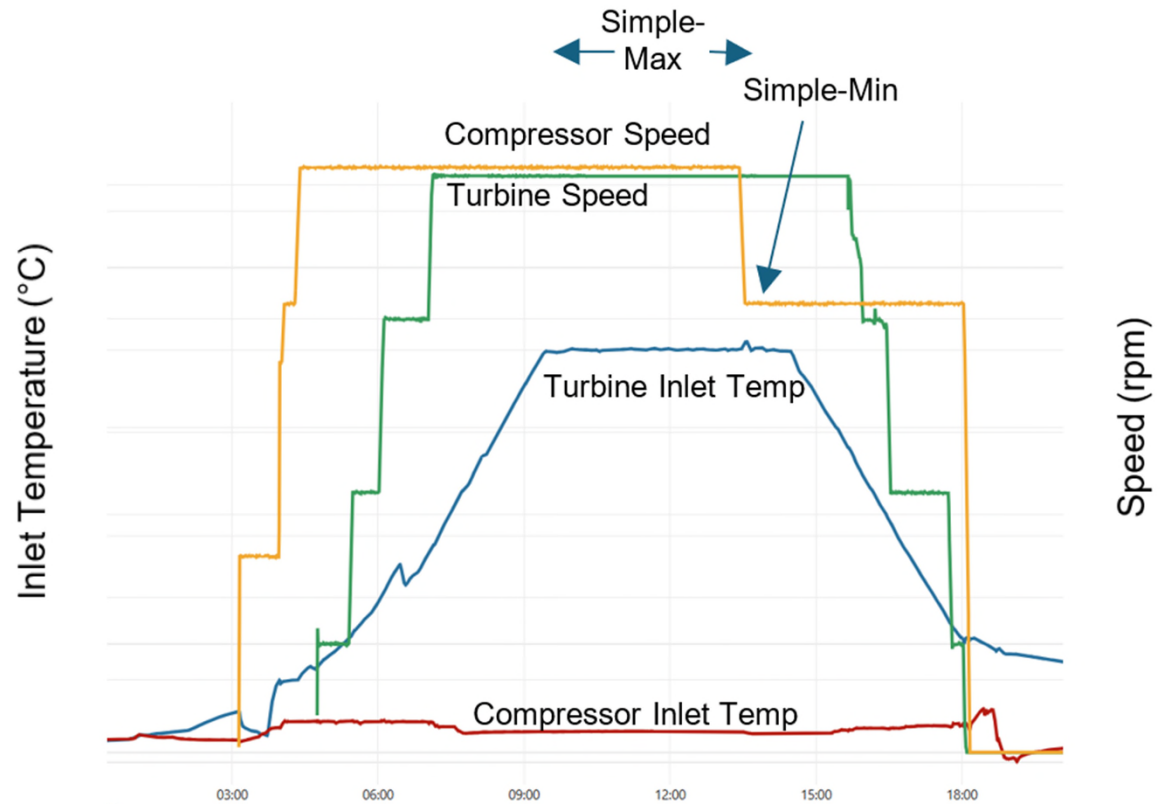


Figure 1. STEP Test Campaign Reaching 500 °C Turbine Inlet Temperature for Simple-Min, Simple-Max, and Emissions Test

Goal	Max Power	Trip
Verify turbine at full speed and high temperature with low load to check performance	100 kW on Load Banks	N/A
500°C TIT with Load Banks	150 kW on Load Banks	N/A
Ammonia injection in the heater for emissions reduction	290 kW on Load Banks	Turbine Gearbox vibrations
Achieve Simple Min	2.6 MW on Load Banks	Overvoltage resulting on a turbine overspeed
Grid synchronize	1.1 MW to Grid	No current measured on breaker bus
Achieve Simple Max	8.3 MW aero 7.4 MW generator 3.9 MW to Grid	N/A
Emission Testing at Simple Max, Repeat Simple Min	3.9 MW gross power to Grid	N/A

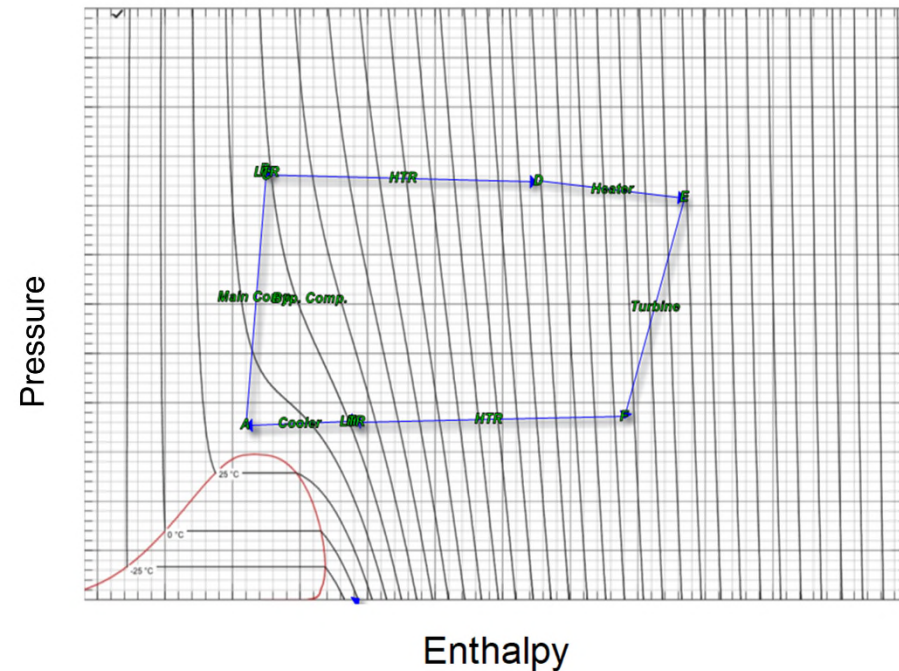
# 6-hour Emissions Test

- A 6-hour emissions test required to verify natural gas heater emissions test
- Both Simple Cycle maximum and minimum power conditions demonstrated



# Simple Cycle Power Cycle

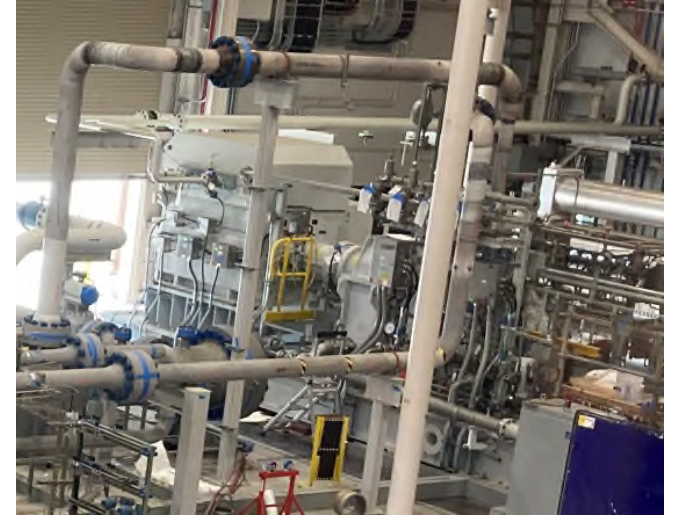
- Real-time pressure-enthalpy diagram measured and compared to predictions
- Turbine, compressor, and heat exchangers demonstrated good performance close to prediction



A - Main Compressor Inlet  
B - Main Compressor Outlet  
C - HT Recup HP Inlet  
D - Heater Inlet  
E - Turbine Inlet  
F - Turbine Outlet  
G - LT Recup LP Inlet  
H - MC Cooler Inlet

# Baker Hughes SCO<sub>2</sub> STEP Compressor

- Supplied main and bypass compressors for STEP facility
- Equipped with variable inlet guide vanes for greater flow turn-down
- Driven by motor with VFD
- Commissioned in 2023
- Have achieved 275 bar maximum discharge pressure
- Discharge density 750 kg/m<sup>3</sup>



# Conclusions

- sCO<sub>2</sub> systems have progressed through many component and now system development activities to increase technology readiness level
- Low- and medium-temperature systems are commercially available and have active commercial projects via companies like GE Vernova, Baker Hughes, Hanwha, MAN Energy Systems, Echogen Power Systems, and others for waste heat recovery, heat pumps, and energy storage
- STEP 10 MWe demonstration has advanced simple recuperated sCO<sub>2</sub> cycles up to 500°C through full-scale pilot testing
- More hours of operation needed to fully validate the technology.

# **Aero Requirements & Design**

# sCO<sub>2</sub> Turbomachinery Aero Design

- Main compressor is primary challenge due to strong real gas properties near dome
  - Equations of state yield errors near dome, particularly for mixtures
  - Computational challenges with CFD
- Inlet flow can vary by factor of **five** near dome due to ambient temperature changes (from 0 to 60°C) for a given mass flow
- Potential for condensation/cavitation at compressor inlet

# Axial/Radial Designs

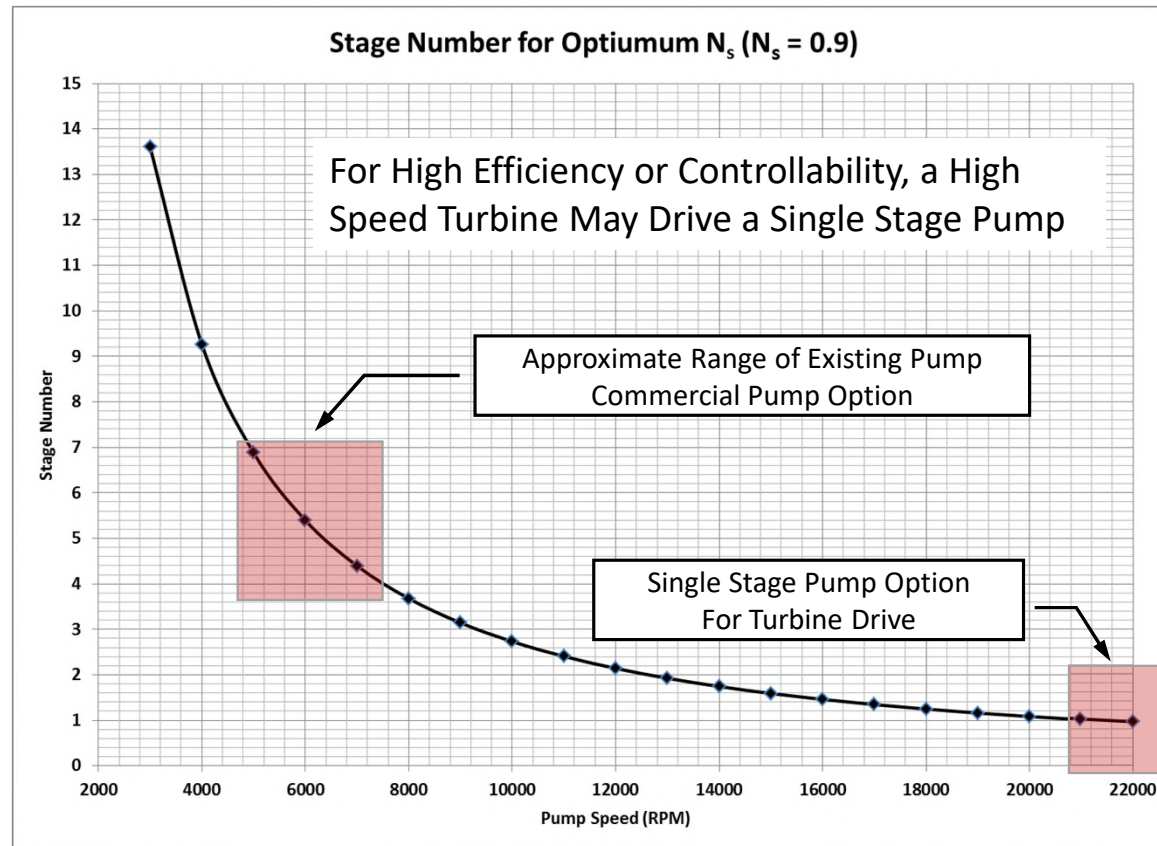
- Selection made based on optimal specific speed
- Compressors typically radial, even up to ~1,000 MW scale. Axial compressors possible at higher volume flows. Radial compressor have higher off-design efficiency and turn-down.
- Turbine transition from radial to axial in 10-30 MW range
- Above comments are general, specifics will change based on operating conditions and cycle configuration.

# Compressor Design

- Centrifugal compressor impellers typically closed
  - Mechanically robust
  - Insensitive to axial motion
  - Low head requirement

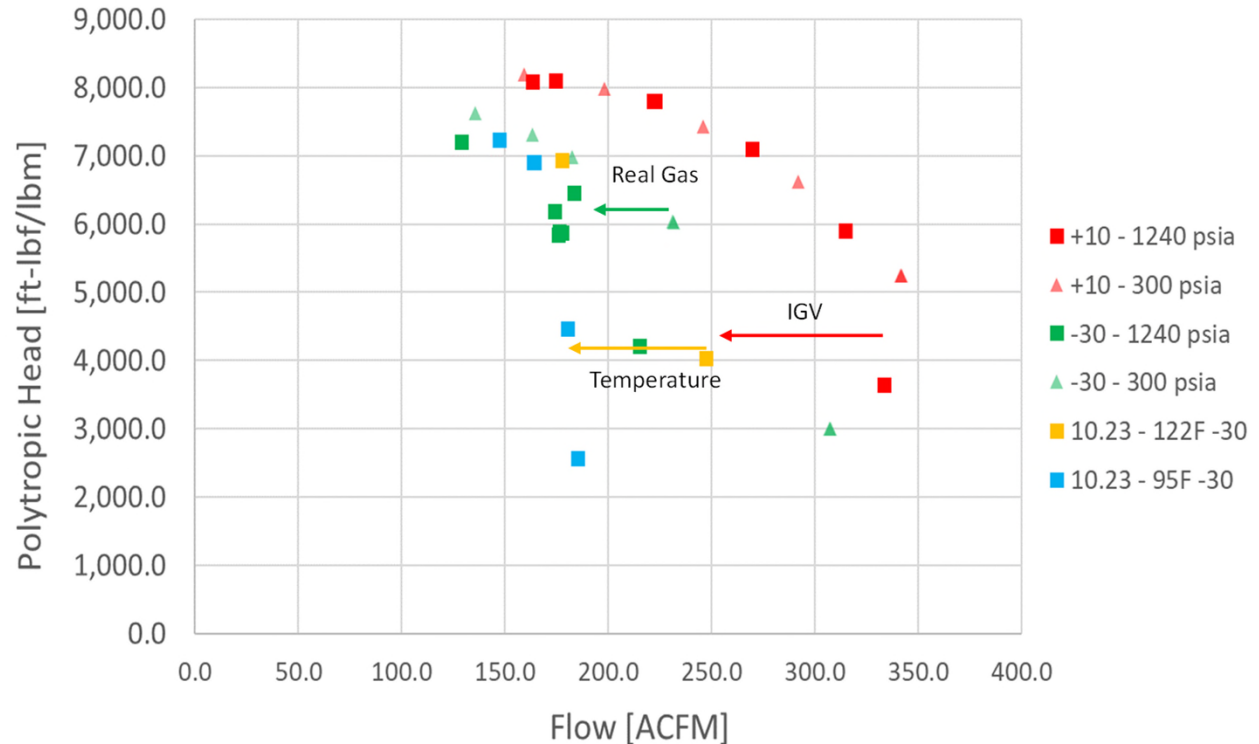


# Optimum Single Stage Pump Requires $N = 22,000$ rpm, 2.4MW CO<sub>2</sub> Pump



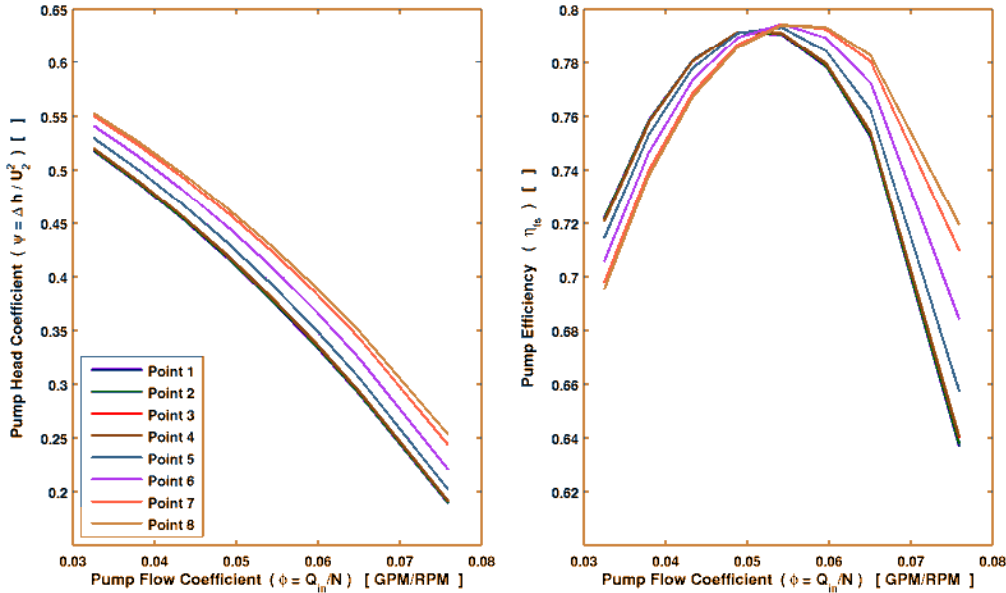
# SCO2 Compressor Test Results

- After break-in, testing performed at medium and full pressure
  - 300 and 1240 psi suction pressure
  - +10° and -30° IGV setting angles
  - 95° and 122°F suction temperature
- Both speed of sound and IGV setting has strong effect on the flow capacity of the compressor



Moore, J., Cich, S., Neveu, J., Klaerner, J., Mortzheim, 2022, "Mechanical and Rotordynamic Test Results of a Supercritical CO2 Compressor Operating Near the Critical Point," The 7th International Supercritical CO2 Power Cycles Symposium February 21 – 24, 2022, San Antonio, Texas, Paper # 164

High Speed Pump Head and Flow Coefficients for CO<sub>2</sub>  
Over Wide Inlet Condition Range  
Changes Due to Density Range

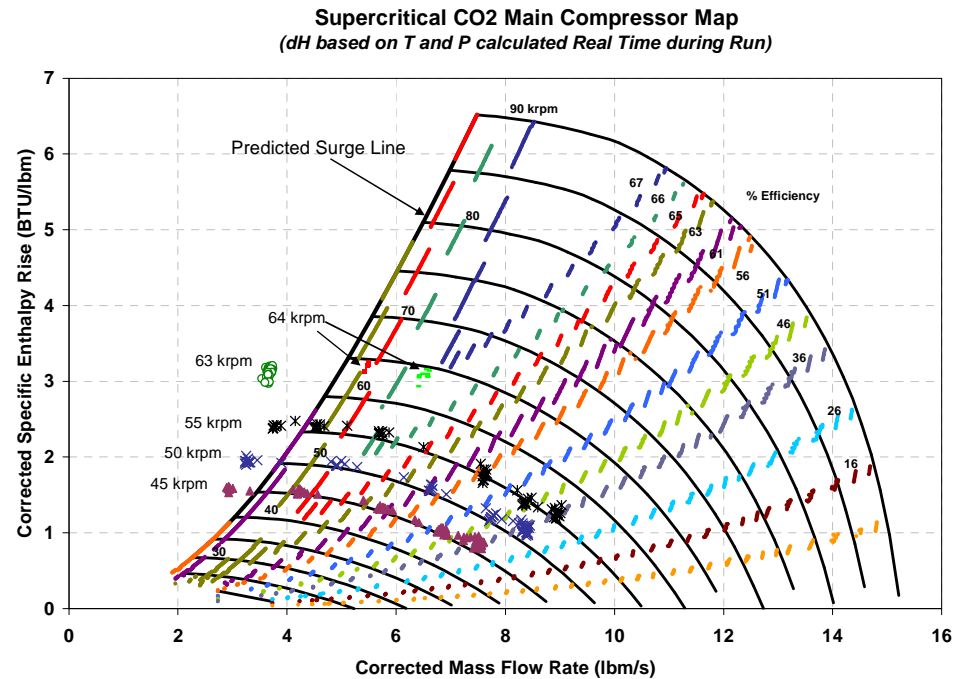


# Main Compressor Example

Must Work Over a Wide Inlet Density Range (Depending on Control Strategy)



37mm  
Wheel  
Diameter  
30-50 BAR Pressure Rise



Courtesy of Barber-Nichols

# Main Compressor Testing Design Point

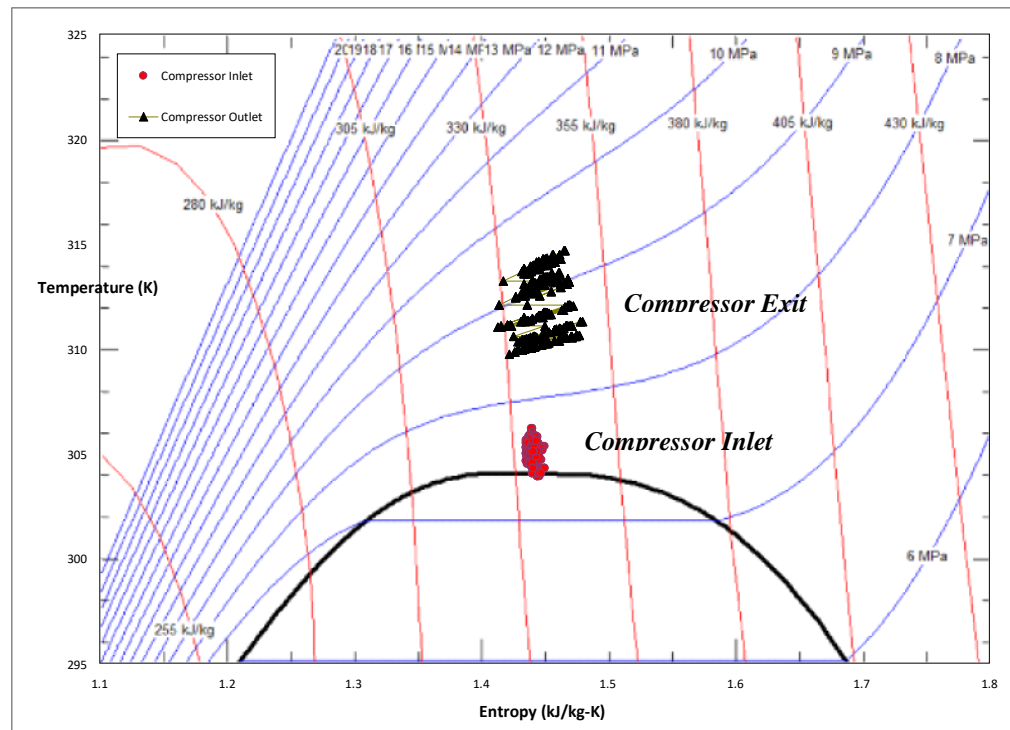
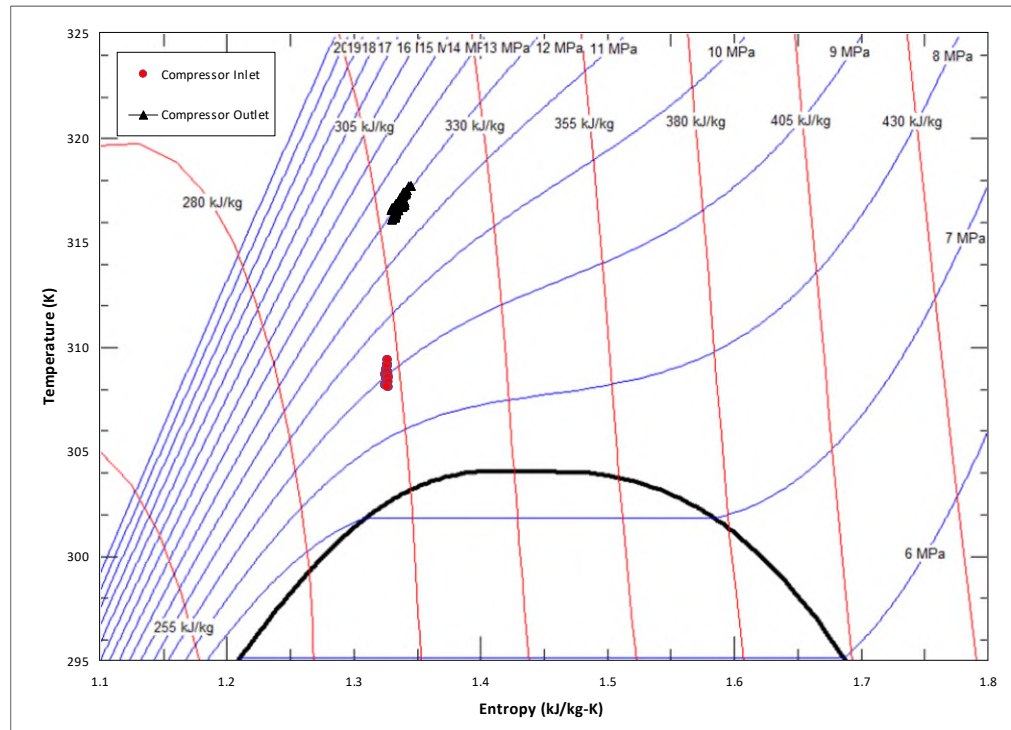


Figure 4a-Design Operating Condition Compressor Inlet and Exit Points

Courtesy of Barber-Nichols

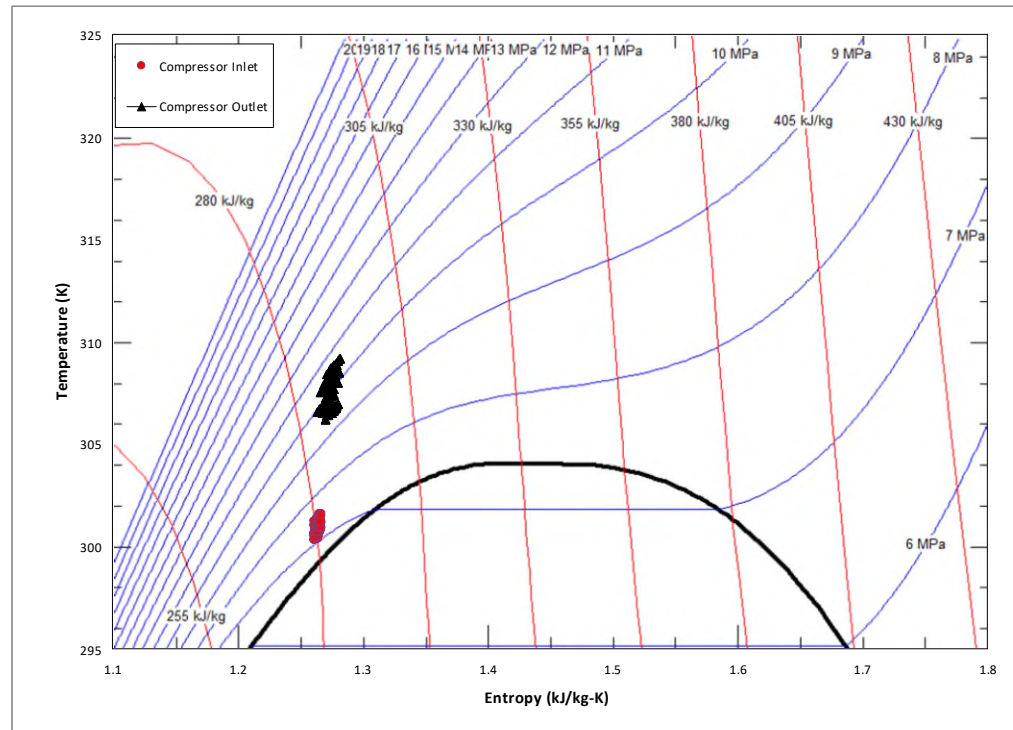
# Main Compressor Test

## High Pressure, Raised Inlet Temperature



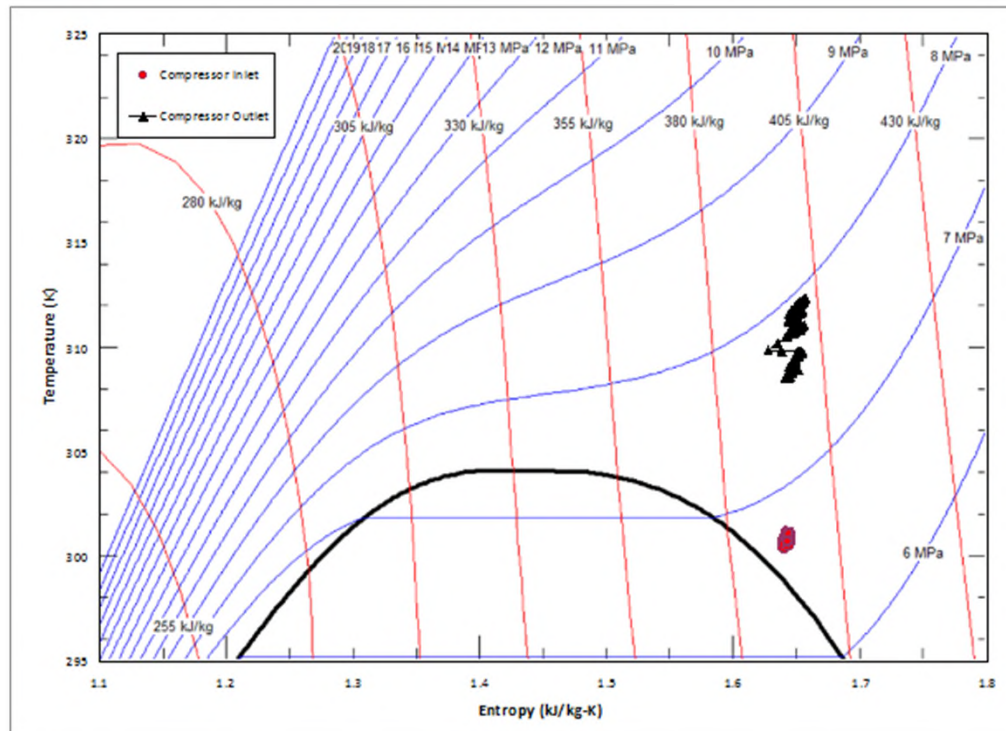
Courtesy of Barber-Nichols

# Main Compressor Testing High Density Inlet



Courtesy of Barber-Nichols

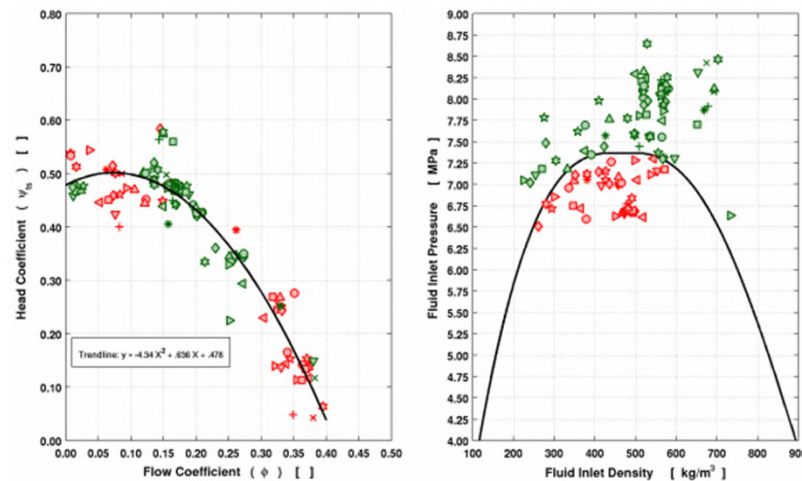
# Main Compressor Testing Low Density Inlet (Startup)



Courtesy of Barber-Nichols

# Suction Conditions Near the Dome

- Liquid droplet erosion may occur
- sCO<sub>2</sub> compressor tested at inlet pressures both above and below the saturation line (Noall and Pasch, 2014) without significant notable problems
- Nucleation timing also a factor



# **Seals: Internal and Shaft End**

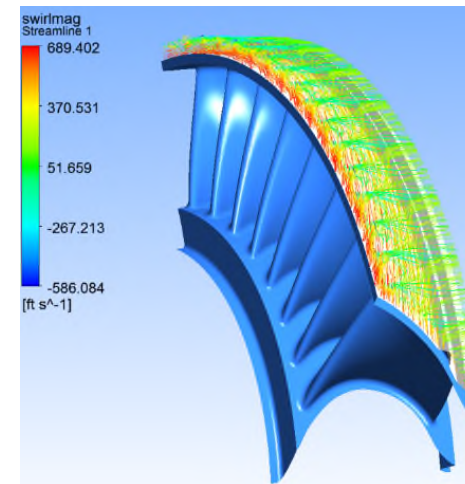
# Seals

## Labyrinth:

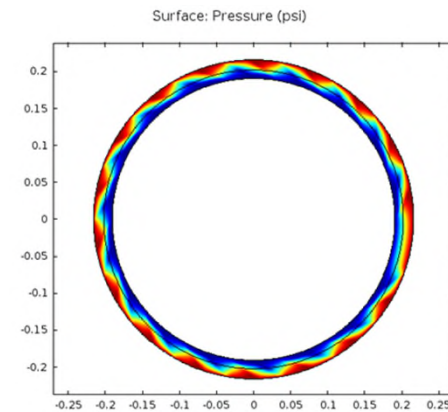
- Labyrinth seals used at blade tip and interstage locations
- Swirl brakes used to minimize swirl entering seal
  - CFD used to optimize and evaluate swirl brake performance

## Dry Gas Seals

- Commercially available at the required pressure but limited to low temperature and smaller diameter.
- Requires clean, dry, filtered CO<sub>2</sub> for seal buffer gas
  - Superheat required to prevent liquid and dry ice formation during expansion across face



CFD analysis of interstage laby seal flow in CO<sub>2</sub>



DGS Face Pressure Distribution from CFD

# Annular Gas Seals in Compressor

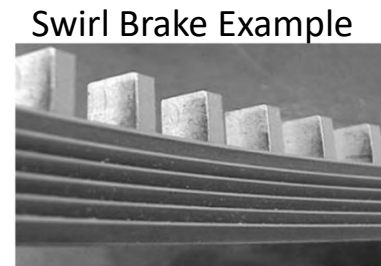
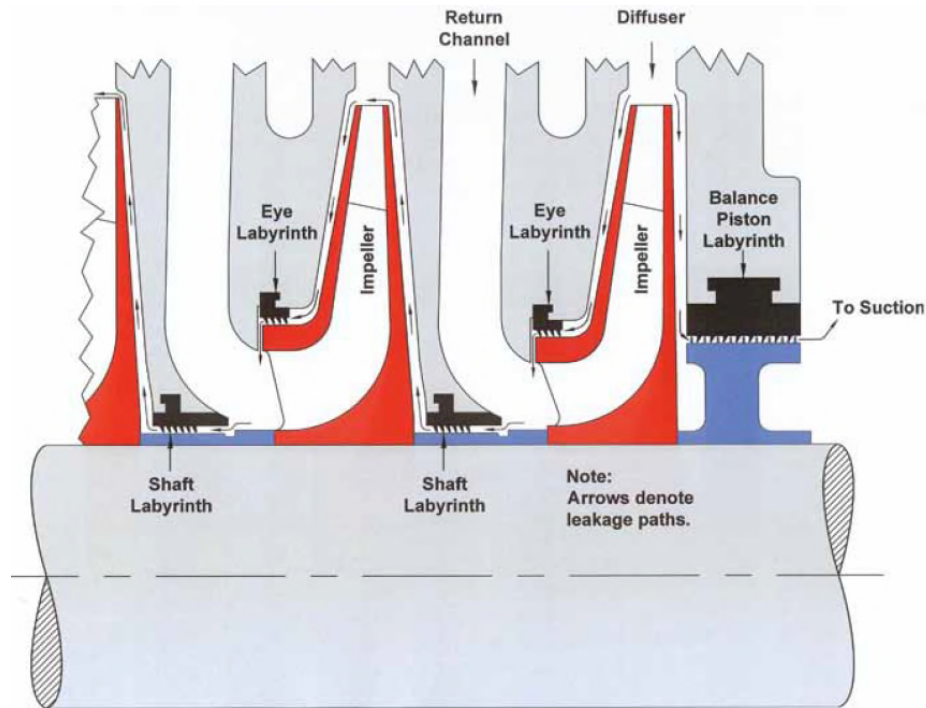


Image source [7-1]

# Different Seal Geometries

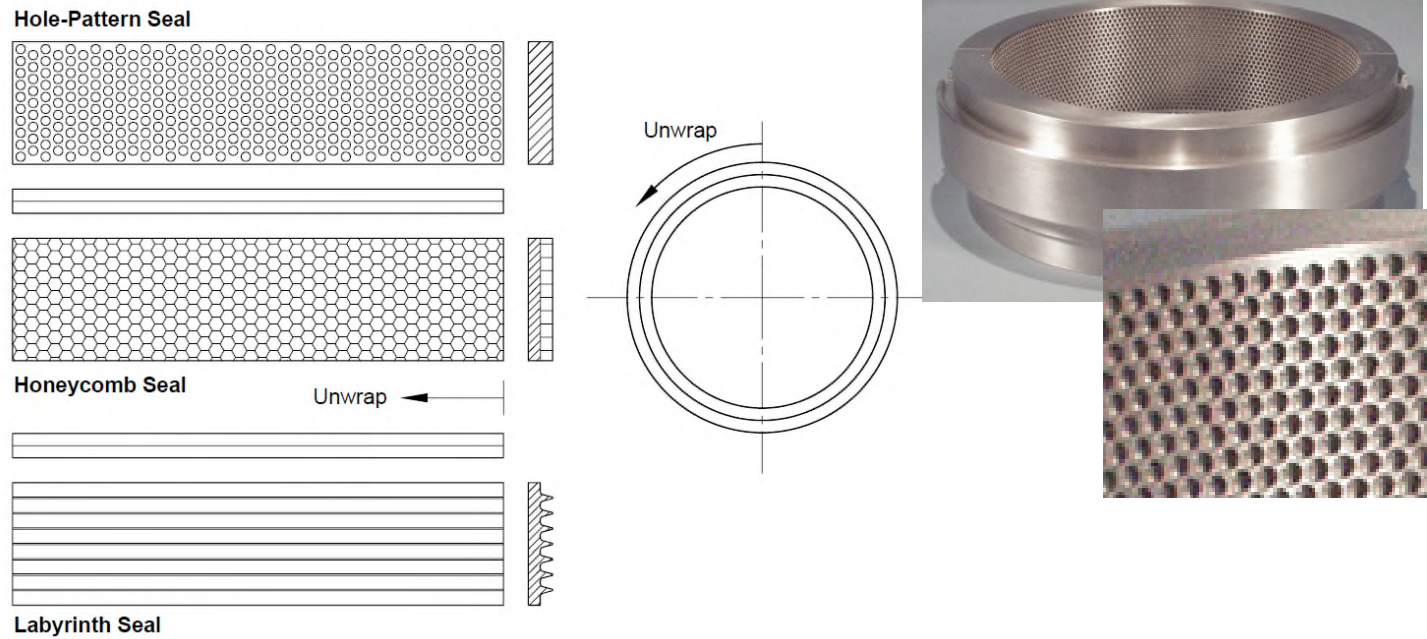
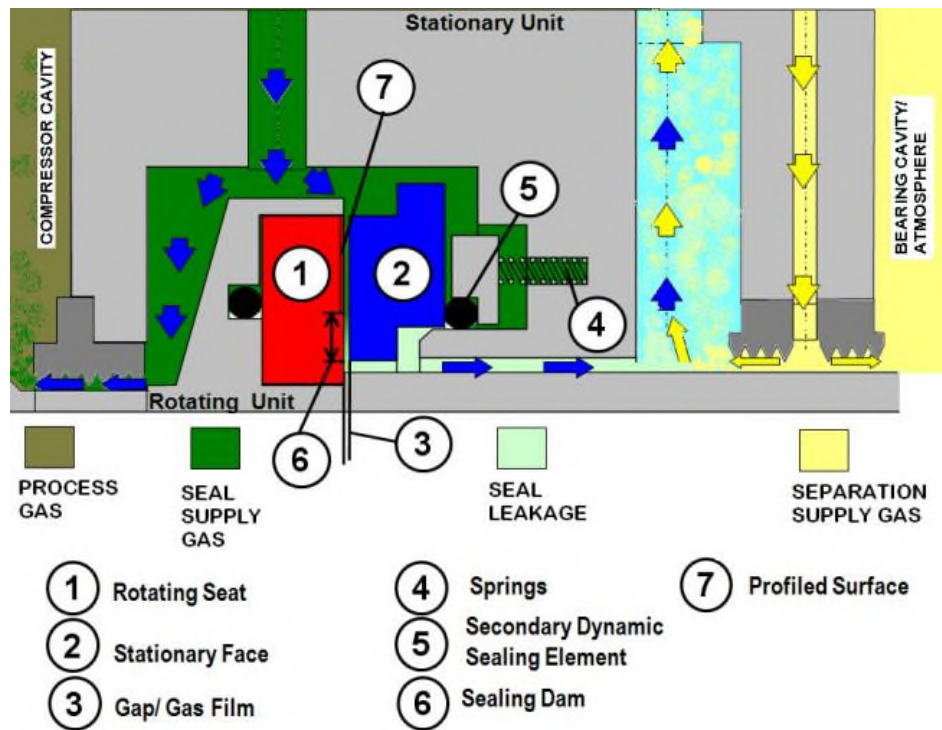


Image source [7-2]

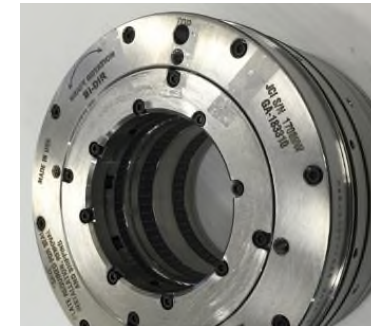
# Dry Gas Seals



## Rotating seal surface...



Image source [7-4]

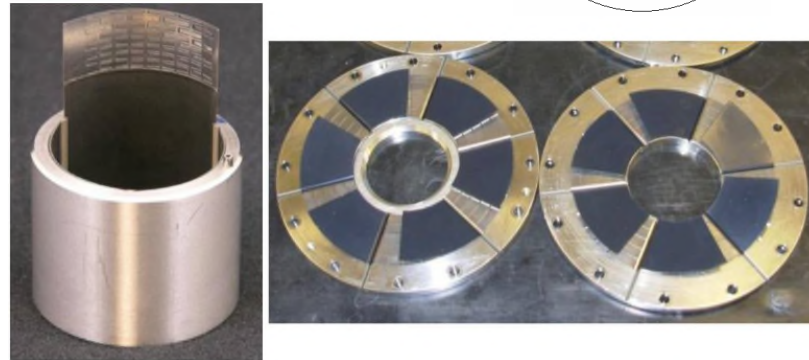
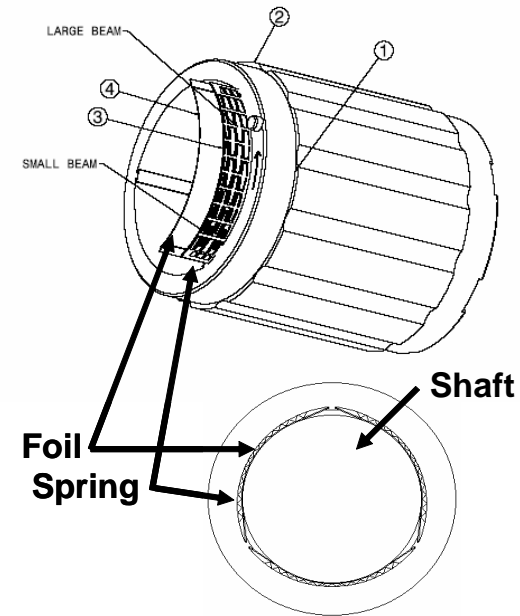


SCO<sub>2</sub> requires clean, dry, warm gas to be supplied to seal  
 For expanders, this seal gas provides necessary cooling for the seal  
 Must supply gas during pressurized holds  
 Many seal failures have been experienced in SCO<sub>2</sub>

# Bearings

# Gas Foil Bearings

- Thrust or radial bearing
- Working fluid as lubricant
  - Do not require separate lube system, seals, etc.
- Lower viscosity than typical oil lube
  - Lower load capacity
  - Less damping
- Limited to smaller machinery



Gas Foil Journal (left) and Thrust (right) Bearings (Wright *et al.*, 2010)

# Hydrodynamic Oil-Lubricated Bearings

- Thrust or radial bearing
- Oil-lubrication must be separated from dry gas seals
- Good load capacity
  - Used with larger machinery

## □ Types

- Fixed geometry (low performance)
- Tilting pad (high performance)

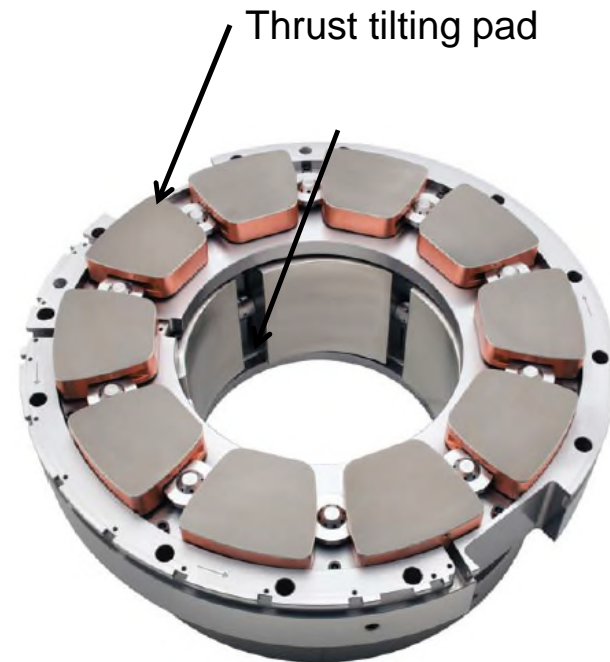


Image source [7-6]

## Radial tilting pad

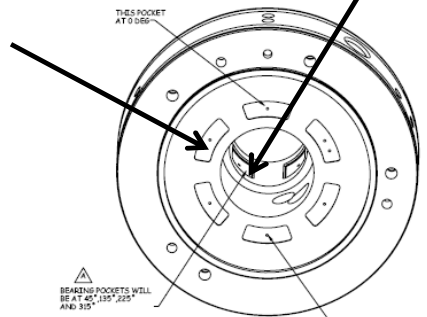


# CO<sub>2</sub> Hydrostatic Bearings

Thrust Pocket

Journal Pocket

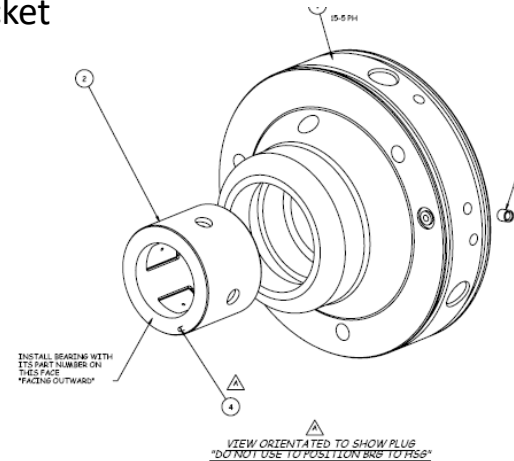
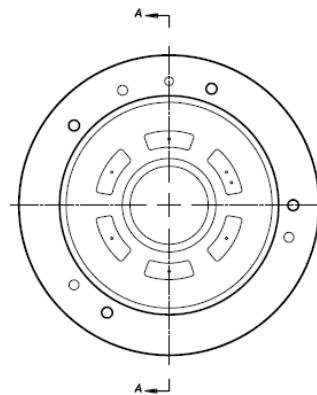
NOTES:  
1. GENERAL MACHINING NOTES PER US-703.  
2. HEAT STEW #1 TO 450 DEG F TO ASSEMBLE ITEM #2.



BEARING POCKETS WILL BE AT 45°, 135°, 225° AND 315°

THIS POCKET AT 180 DEGS "BOTTOM DEAD CENTER"

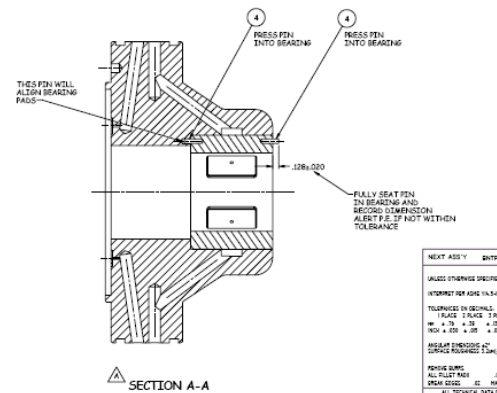
THIS VIEW TO SHOWS BEARING TO PROUSING ALIGNMENT



INSTALL BEARINGS WITH ITS PART NUMBER ON THIS FACE "FACING OUTWARD"

VIEW ORIENTATED TO SHOW PLUS "DO NOT USE TO POSITION BRG TO HSG"

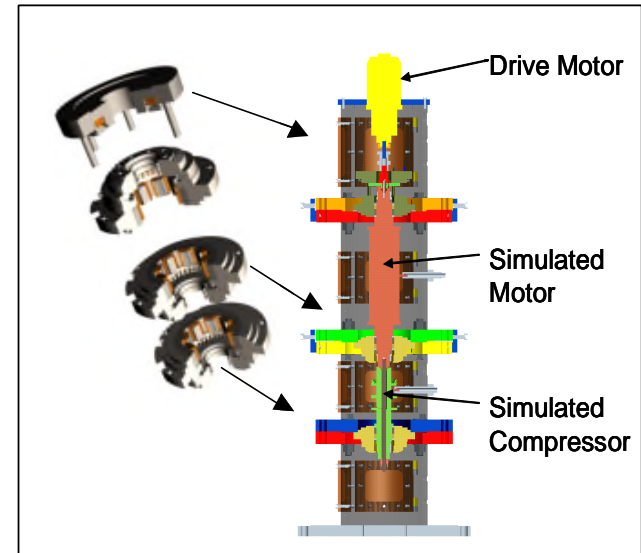
- Combined Thrust/Radial Bearing
- High Damping
- Good load capacity
- Hermetic Machine
- Moderate CO<sub>2</sub> Flow Rates
- Self Supplied By Pump



NEXT ASSY 02TR-10  
UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED  
INTERPRET PER ASME Y14.5-2009  
TOLERANCES IN DECIMALS  
FINISHES IN DECIMALS  
H = HOLE, P = PIN  
H9/D9 = H9/D9 + .005  
H8/D8 = H8/D8 + .003  
H7/D7 = H7/D7 + .002  
H6/D6 = H6/D6 + .001  
H5/D5 = H5/D5 + .0005  
H4/D4 = H4/D4 + .0002  
H3/D3 = H3/D3 + .0001  
H2/D2 = H2/D2 + .00005  
H1/D1 = H1/D1 + .00002  
ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES  
UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

# Magnetic Bearings

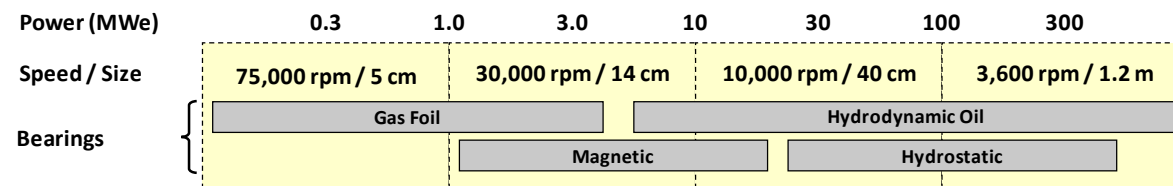
- Provides levitation in radial and axial direction
- Requires active feedback control, position sensors, power amplifiers and electromagnetic actuators
- Can operate in working fluid eliminating shaft end seals
- Thermal management of heat generated from windage and resistive heating required
- Auxiliary Bearings required when de-levitated and as a back-up if levitation is lost
  - Pre-loaded pairs of angular contact bearings
  - Mechanical damper between roller bearings and housing
- Rotor can rotate about mass center minimizing dynamic loads transmitted to casing (auto balancing)
- Expensive but cost can be offset by eliminating lube oil and shaft end seals
- Research underway to develop 500C+ bearings



Ransom, D.L., Masala, A., Moore, J.J., Vannini, G., Camatti, M., 2009, **Development of a Vertical High Speed Motor-Compressor Simulator for Rotor Drop onto Auxiliary Bearings**, Presented at the 38<sup>th</sup> Turbomachinery Symposium, September 2009, Houston, TX.

# Bearing Type Summary

	Rolling Element	Sliding Element	Fluid-Film	Magnetic
Working medium	Gas/oil	Working fluid	Gas/oil	Working fluid
Shaft support	Rolling contact/ hydrodynamic lift	Sliding contact	Hydrodynamic/ Hydrostatic lift	Electromagnetic fields
Stiffness	High	Low	High	Medium
Damping	Low	Low	High	High
Load capacity	Medium	Low	High	Medium
Control	Passive	Passive	Passive	Active
Contacting	At low speed & Excursions	Always	At low speed	Never
Cost	Low	Low	Medium	High
Drag torque	Low	Medium	Low-medium	Very low



Bearing type as a function of rotor power [adapted from (Seinicki *et al.*, 2011)]

# Rotordynamics

# Rotordynamics

## Challenges

- High gas density
- High operating speed
- Low critical speed (large L/D)
- Similar design methodology as high pressure turbocompressors

## Interstage laby seals

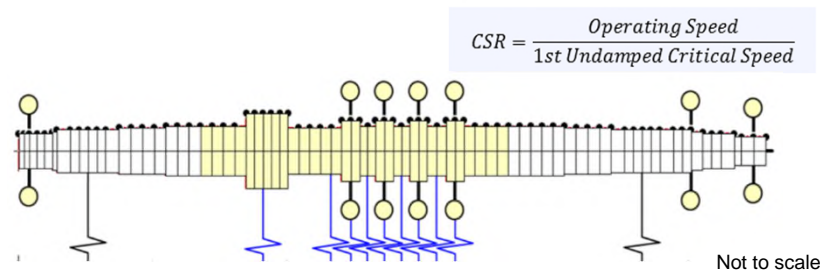
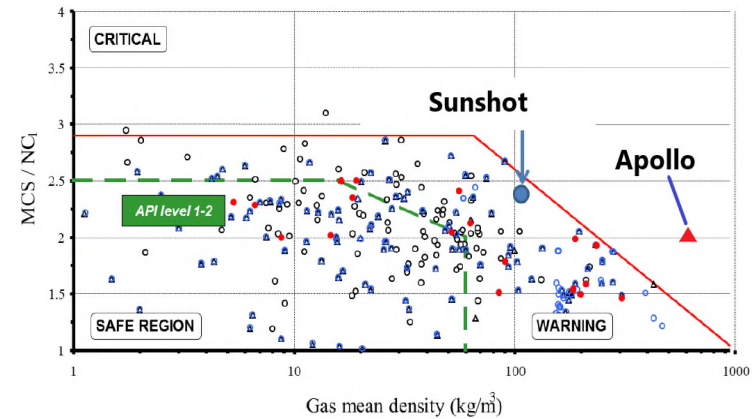
- Texas A&M XLTRC code
- Real gas CO<sub>2</sub> properties

## Balance piston seal

- Texas A&M code
- Perfect gas properties

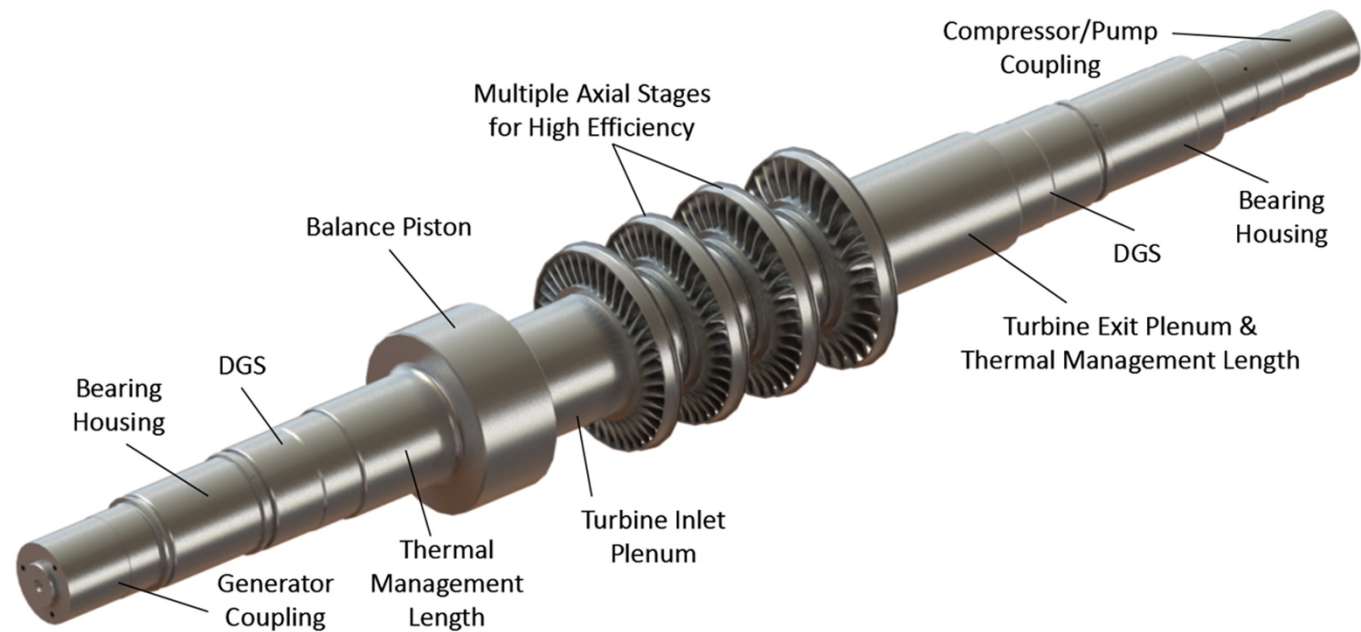
## Result

- Due to uncertainty in seal damping, we used a factor of safety 10x API level II minimum (final logdec > 1.0)



# sCO<sub>2</sub> Turbine Rotor Features

- Typical rotor components

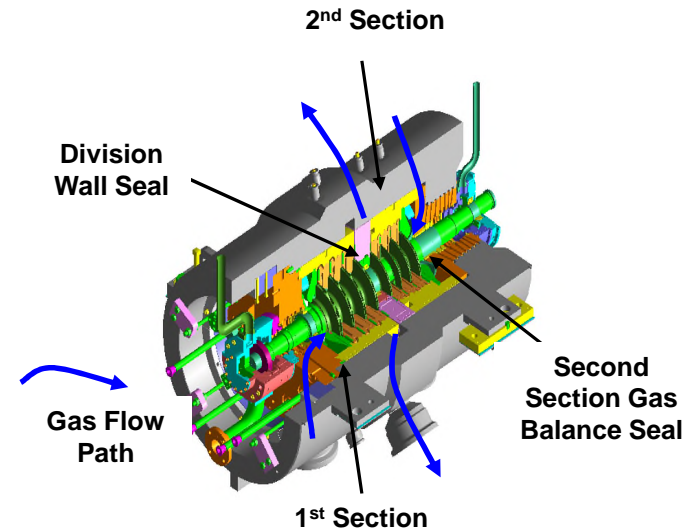
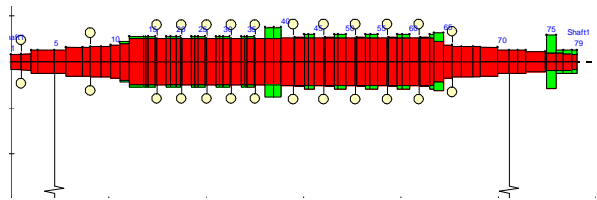


# Rotordynamic Modeling

## Rotordynamic Modeling

- Similar to other rotors
- Break the series of smaller segments at diameter steps
- Components like impellers, couplings, thrust disks do not add shaft stiffness are modeled as added mass
- Stations added at bearings centerlines

## Sample 10-Stage Compressor Model



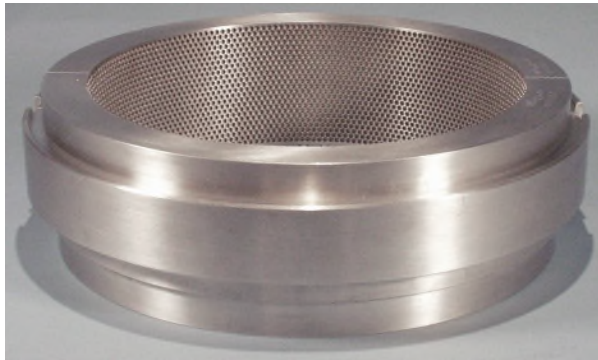
## Typical High Pressure Centrifugal Compressor

Reference: Moore, J.J., Soulas, T.S., 2003, "Damper Seal Comparison in a High-Pressure Re-Injection Centrifugal Compressor During Full-Load, Full-Pressure Factory Testing Using Direct Rotordynamic Stability Measurement," Proceedings of the DETC '03 ASME 2003 Design Engineering Technical Conference, Chicago, IL, Sept. 2-6, 2003

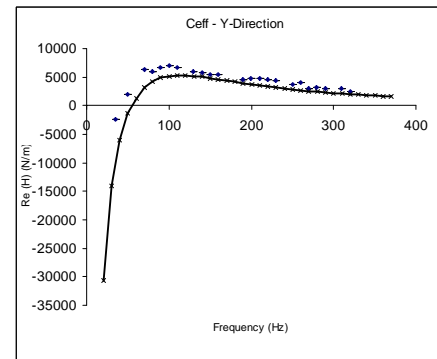
# Rotordynamic Modeling

## Damper Seal Damping Test Data vs. Predictions

- Damper seals like honeycomb seals provide substantial damping
- Damping increases with increasing pressure differential

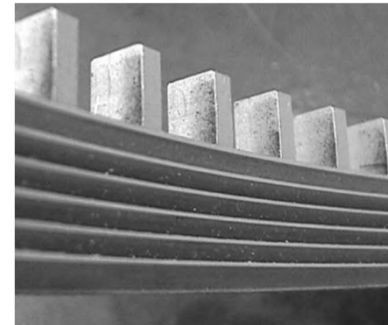


[http://www.dresser-rand.com/insight/v9no1/art\\_6.asp](http://www.dresser-rand.com/insight/v9no1/art_6.asp)



Reference: Camatti, M., Vannini, G., Fulton, J.W., Hopenwasser, F., 2003, "Instability of a High Pressure Compressor Equipped with Honeycomb Seals," *Proc. of the Thirty-Second Turbomachinery Symposium*, Turbomachinery Laboratory, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.

Swirl Brake Installation at  
Impeller Eye Location  
(Moore *et al.*, 2002)



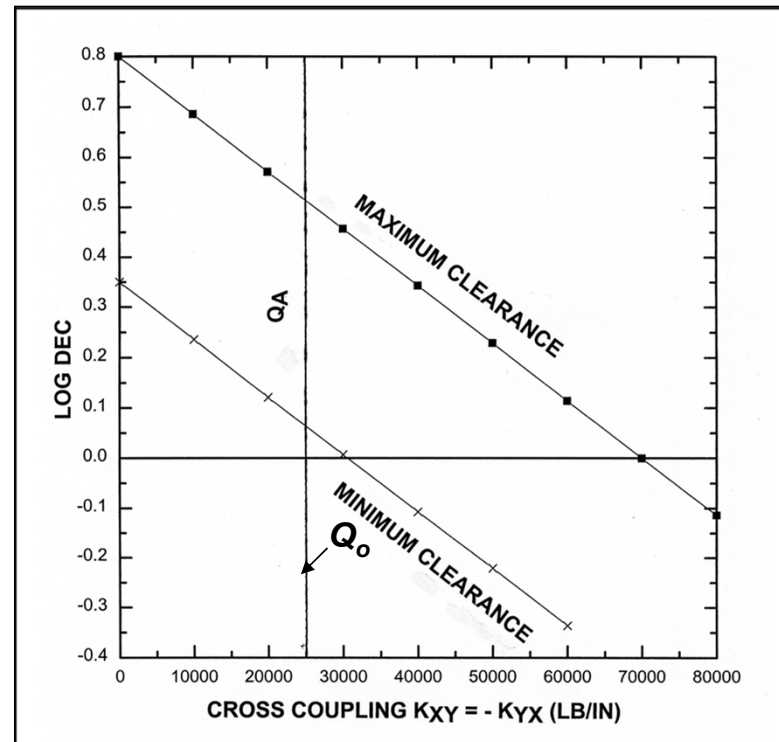
# API 617 Requirements

- Stability Plot
  - Plots log dec vs. applied  $K_{XY}$
  - Ratio of zero crossing ( $Q_o$ ) to  $Q_A$  defines stability margin

$$SM = \frac{Q_o}{Q_A}$$

$$Q_A = \frac{189,000 \times HP \rho_d}{D_c \times H_c \times N \rho_s}$$

$$K_{XY} = \frac{C_{mr} \rho_d U^2 L_{shr}}{Q/Q_{design}}$$



# Physics Based Impeller Kxy Prediction

Alternative to API  $Q_A$  prediction

$$K_{xy} = \frac{C_{mr} \rho_d U^2 L_{shr}}{Q / Q_{design}}$$

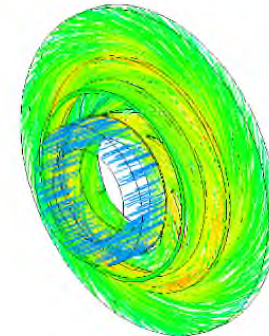
$C_{mr}$  = CFD-determined coefficient

$U$  = wheel tip speed,

$L_{shr}$  = axial length of the shroud

$Q/Q_{design}$  = is the ratio of flow relative to design flow

Refined equation based on CFD for Centrifugal Compressors



▪ Moore, J.J. and Ransom, D. "Centrifugal Compressor Stability Prediction Using a New Physics Based Approach," Proceedings of ASME Turbo Expo 2009: Power for Land, Sea and Air, June 8-12, 2009 in Orlando, Florida.

# API 617 Requirements Applied

- Severity of the Application defined by location on “Fulton” chart
- CSR = Critical speed ratio which is the ratio of running speed and first critical speed
- Horizontal axis is average gas density
  - Average of suction and discharge density
- The greater the CSR and density, the more severe the application
  - Region A – Less severe
  - Region B – More severe

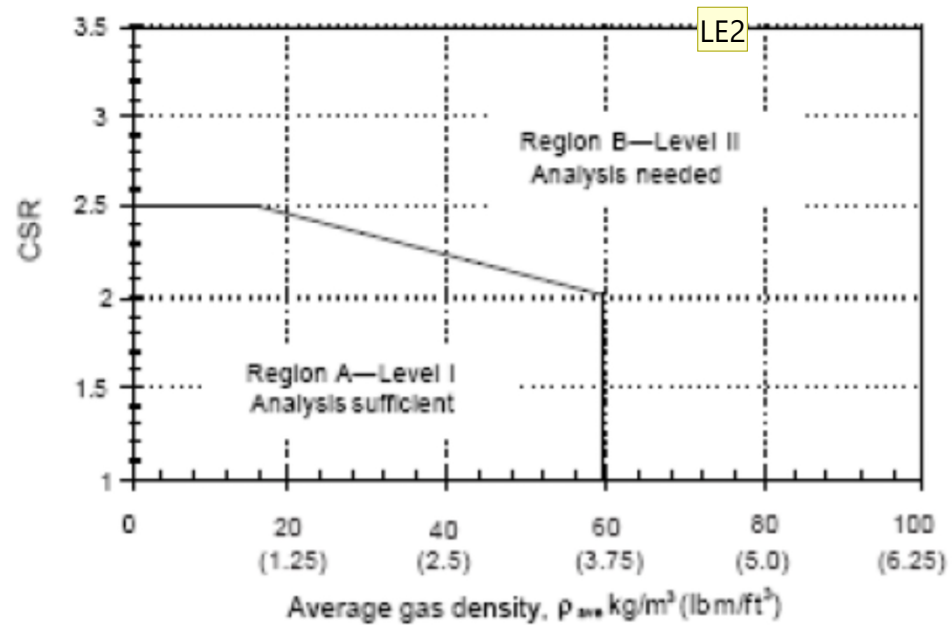


Figure 1.2-5—Level I Screening Criteria

## Slide 84

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**LE2** Do we have a clearer figure we could use for this slide?  
Linda Estes, 8/25/2017

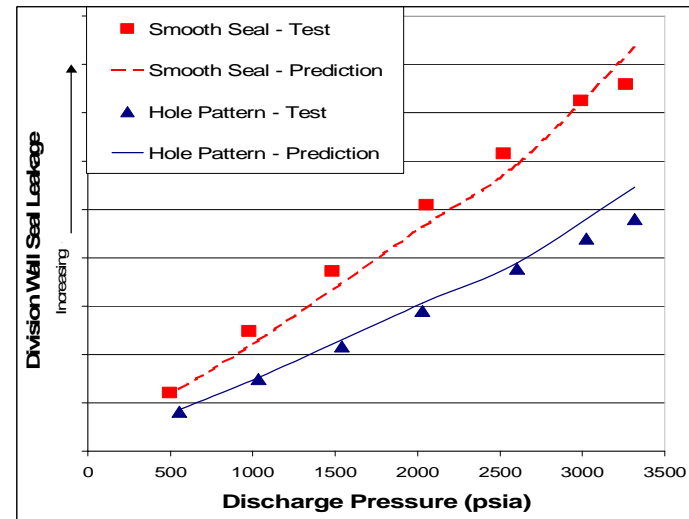
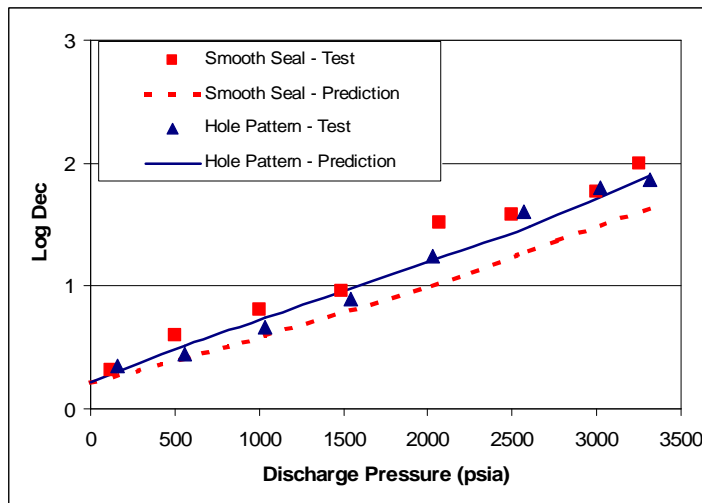
# API 617 Requirements

- If any of the following is not met, then a Level 2 analysis is required
  - $SM < 2.0$
  - $\delta_A < 0.1$
  - $2.0 < SM < 10$  if in Region B
- Level 2 Analysis includes the effect of:
  - All labyrinth/damper seals
  - Balance piston seals
  - Impeller/blade row (some believe that only labyrinths are important)
  - Shrink fits
  - Shaft material hysteresis
- Resulting log dec must be greater than 0.1
- Meeting API requirements does not guarantee a stable rotor
- Author's suggested requirements using Level 2 analysis:
  - $\delta_A > 0.3$
  - $SM > 3.0$

# Rotordynamic Model Validation

## Measured Log Decrement in Centrifugal Compressor

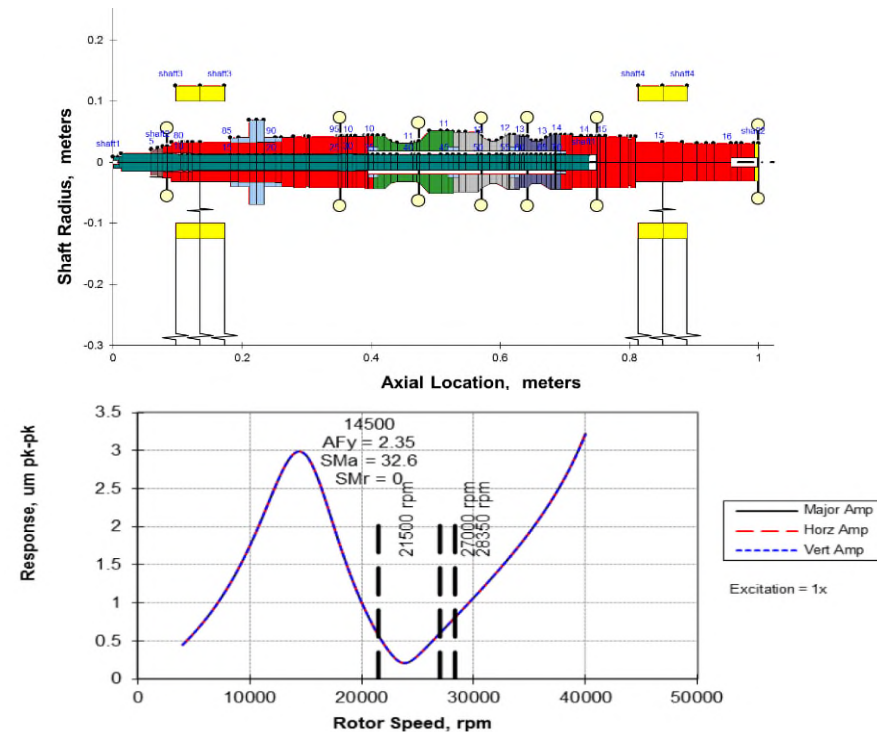
- Similar operating pressure
- Shows damper seal effectiveness
- Log Dec increases as discharge pressure increases
- A smooth seal was tested to simulate a “plugged-up” seal



Reference: Moore, J.J., Soulas, T.S., 2003, "Damper Seal Comparison in a High-Pressure Re-Injection Centrifugal Compressor During Full-Load, Full-Pressure Factory Testing Using Direct Rotordynamic Stability Measurement," Proceedings of the DETC '03 ASME 2003 Design Engineering Technical Conference, Chicago, IL, Sept. 2-6, 2003.

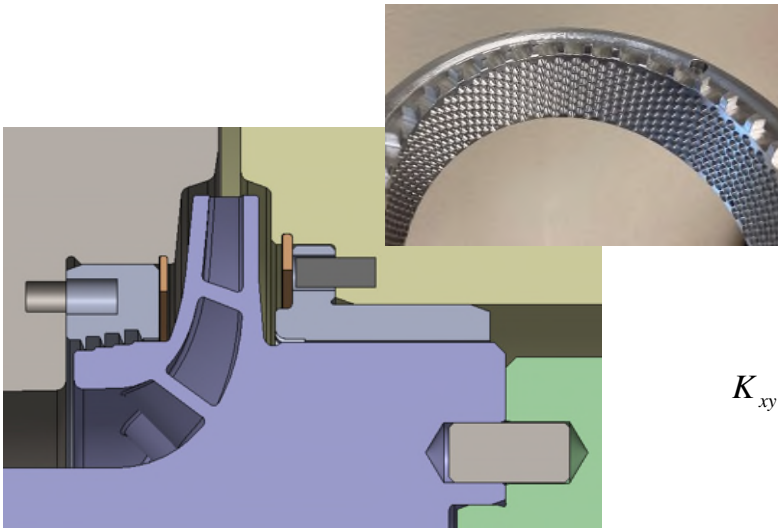
# SCO2 Compressor Rotordynamic Analysis

- Final rotor configuration used inboard thrust bearing to provide better control of the bending mode
- Critical speed is well damped with good separation margin from the running speed
- Bending critical well above running speed

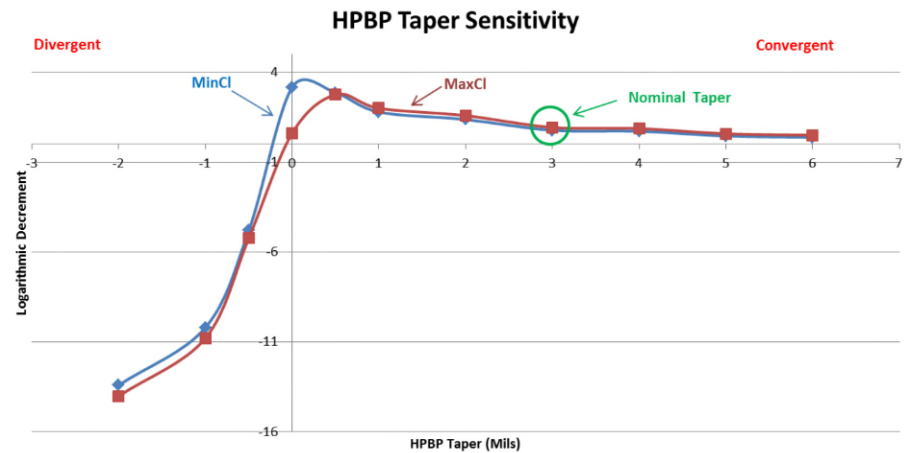
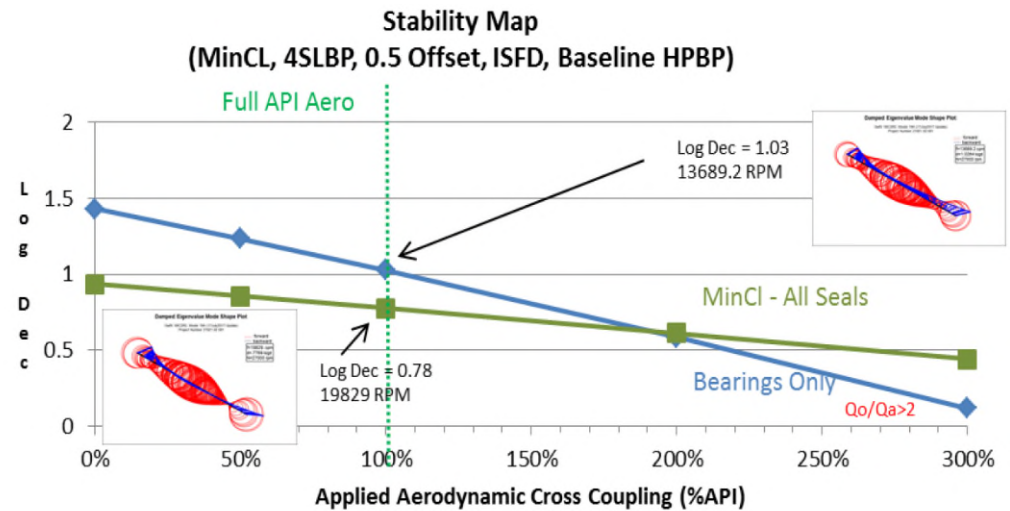


# Rotordynamic Analysis

- Rotodynamic forces amplified by high density fluid
- Swirl brakes and damper seals
- Damper seal carrier design to minimize coning of the seal clearance



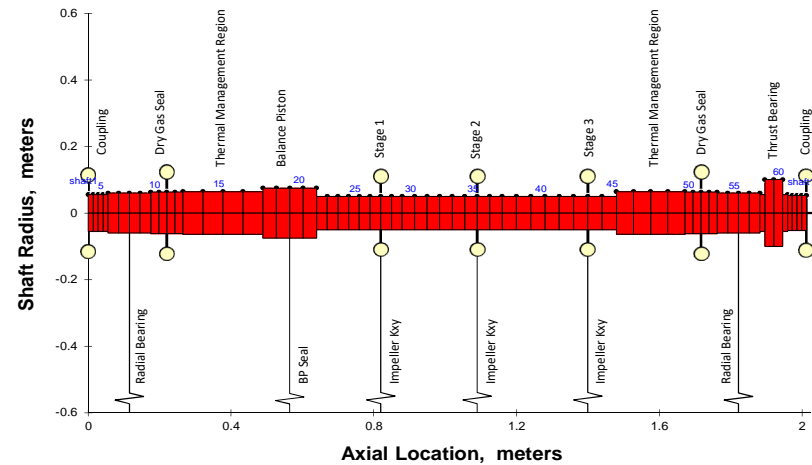
$$K_{xy} = \frac{C_{mr} \rho_{dis} U^2 L_{shr}}{Q/Q_{design}}$$



## Turbine Design Details for 20 MWe Case Study

Parameter	Symbol	Units	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
Inlet Mass Flow Rate	$m$	kg/s	210	210	210
Inlet Total Pressure	$P_{00}$	kPa	23720	17370.0	12548.8
Inlet Total Temperature	$T_{00}$	K	973.15	932.32	890.62
Discharge Total Pressure	$P_{08}$	kPa	17370	12549	8960
Specific Speed	$N_s$	-	0.395	0.453	0.526
Pinion Speed	$N$	rpm	10800	10800	10800
Exit Flow Coeff. (Cm6/U4)	$\varphi$	-	0.263	0.286	0.313
U/C	$U_4/C_s$	-	0.695	0.701	0.709
Stage Pressure Ratio	$PR$	-	1.366	1.384	1.401
Isentropic Eff.	$\eta_{TT,s}$	-	84.22%	85.85%	86.04%

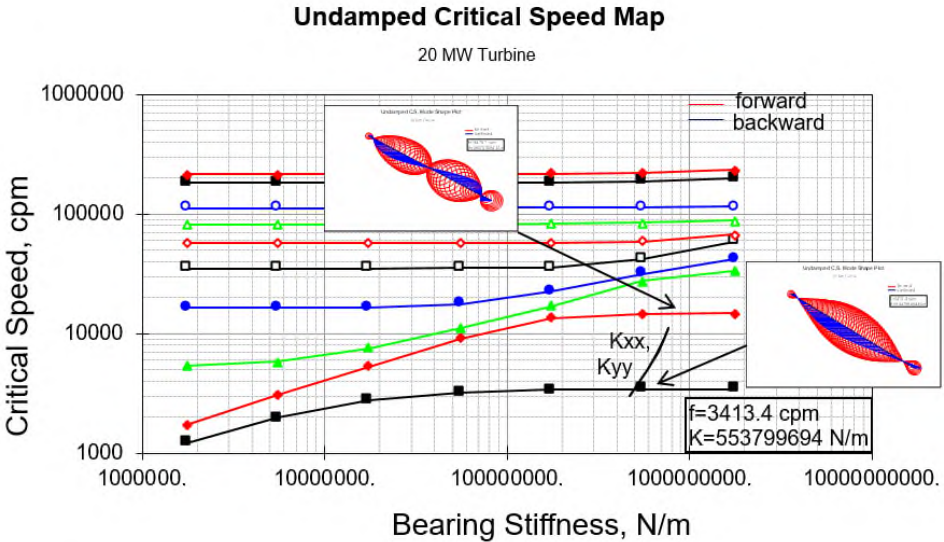
20 MW Turbine



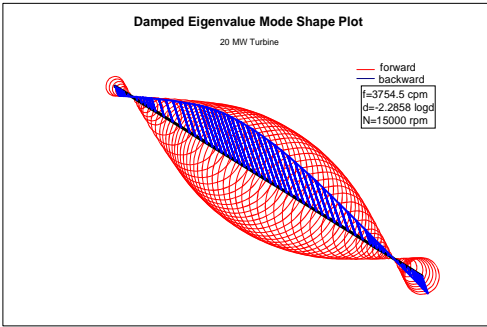
# Rotordynamic Results for 20 MWe Case Study

- Rotordynamically challenging due to long slender rotor
- Rotor is unstable without stability enhancing features like damper seals and swirl brakes.

	$K_{XY} \cdot 1e6$ [N/m]
<b>Stage 1</b>	4.02
<b>Stage 2</b>	3.38
<b>Stage 3</b>	2.77

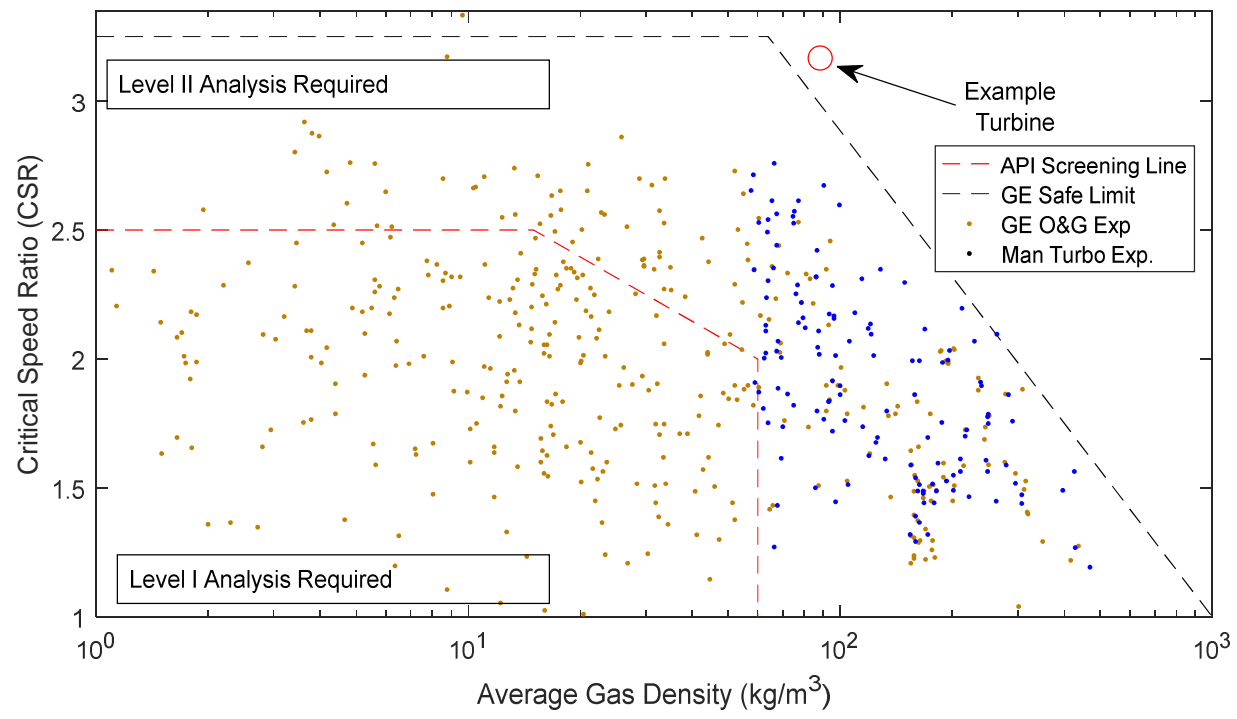


Log Dec = -2.2 without damping devices



# Fulton Experience Chart

Example Turbine = 20 MW sample turbine



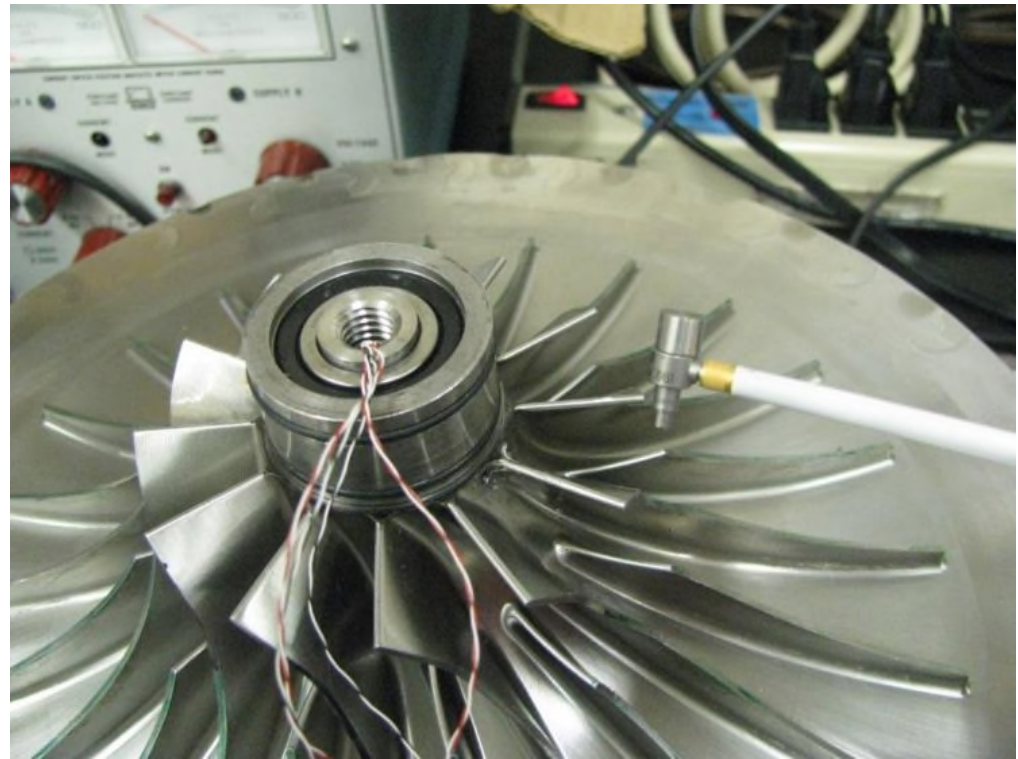
# Blade Dynamics

# Blade Loading and Dynamics

- High gas density and machine power density results in large blade loading
  - Gas forces need to be considered in addition to centrifugal loads
  - Blade-to-disk attachment requires special consideration
- High gas density also amplifies unsteady wake interaction forces on blades
  - Critical to avoid resonance
  - Non-harmonic excitation from gas separation should be avoided

## Modal Test Validation

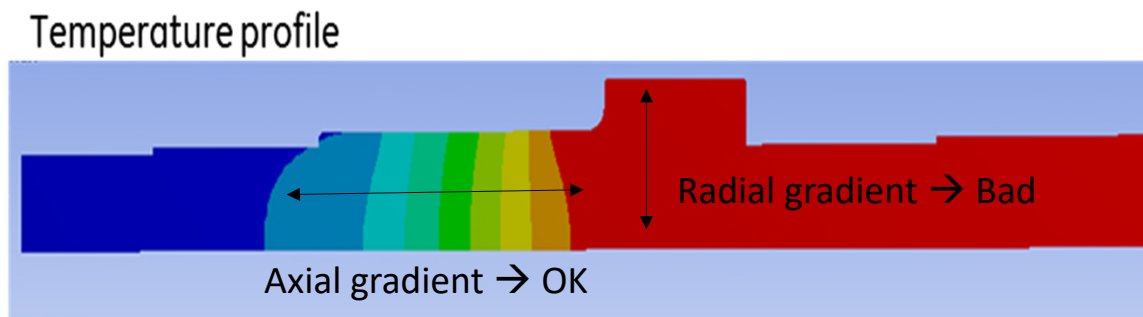
- Modal testing used to validate design
- Effect of gas density and temperature dependent material properties must be considered for accurate natural frequency prediction



# **Thermal Management**

# Thermal Management

- Temperature between hot inlet (up to 700°C) and dry gas seal (~100°C) requires smooth temperature gradient to avoid excessive thermal stresses
  - In both casing and shaft
  - Radial temperature gradients should be avoided
  - Heat sink provided by seal buffer gas



Kalra, C., Hofer, D., Sevincer, E., Moore, J., Brun, K., 2014, "Development of High Efficiency Hot Gas Turbo-Expander for Optimized CSP Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Power Block Operation," 4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium – Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Power Cycles, Sept. 9-10, 2014, Pittsburgh, PA

- Large thermal gradient coupled to pressure containment including transients is challenging
- May result in life limited designs due to LCF and creep

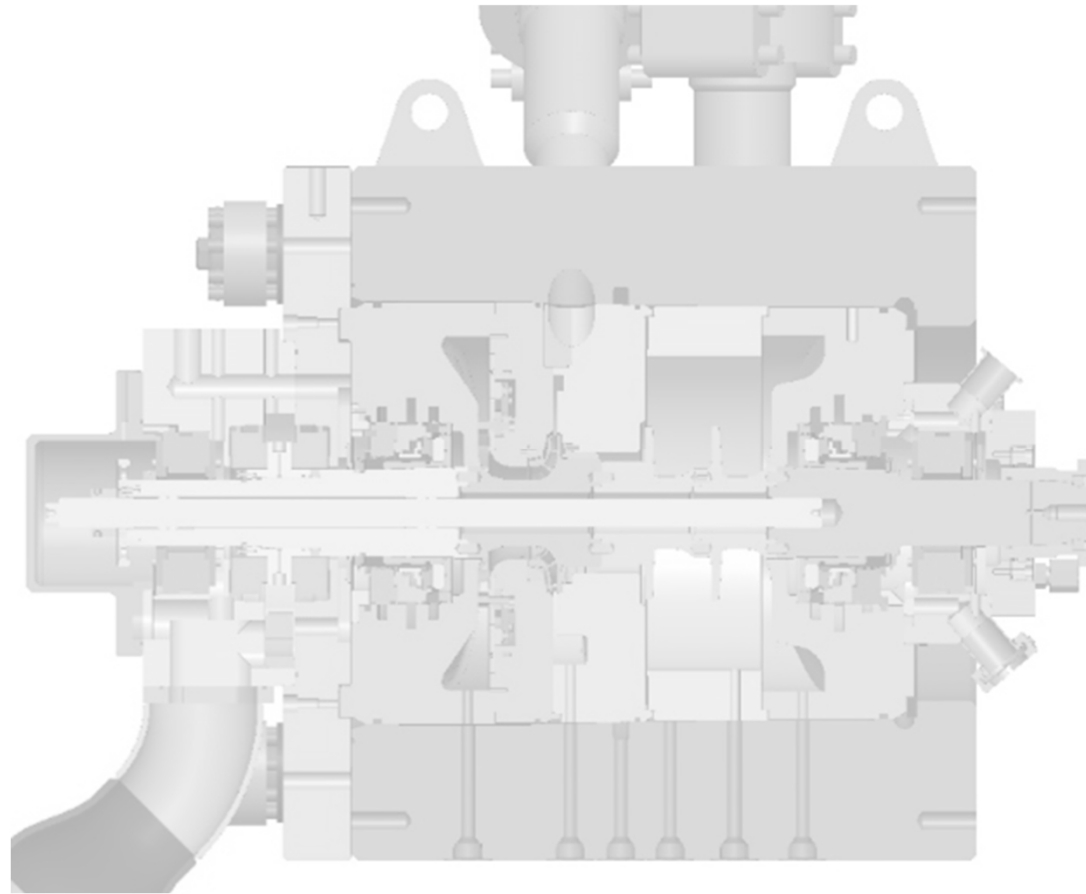
# **sCO<sub>2</sub> Turbomachinery Mechanical Design**

# sCO<sub>2</sub> Turbomachinery Mechanical Design Challenges

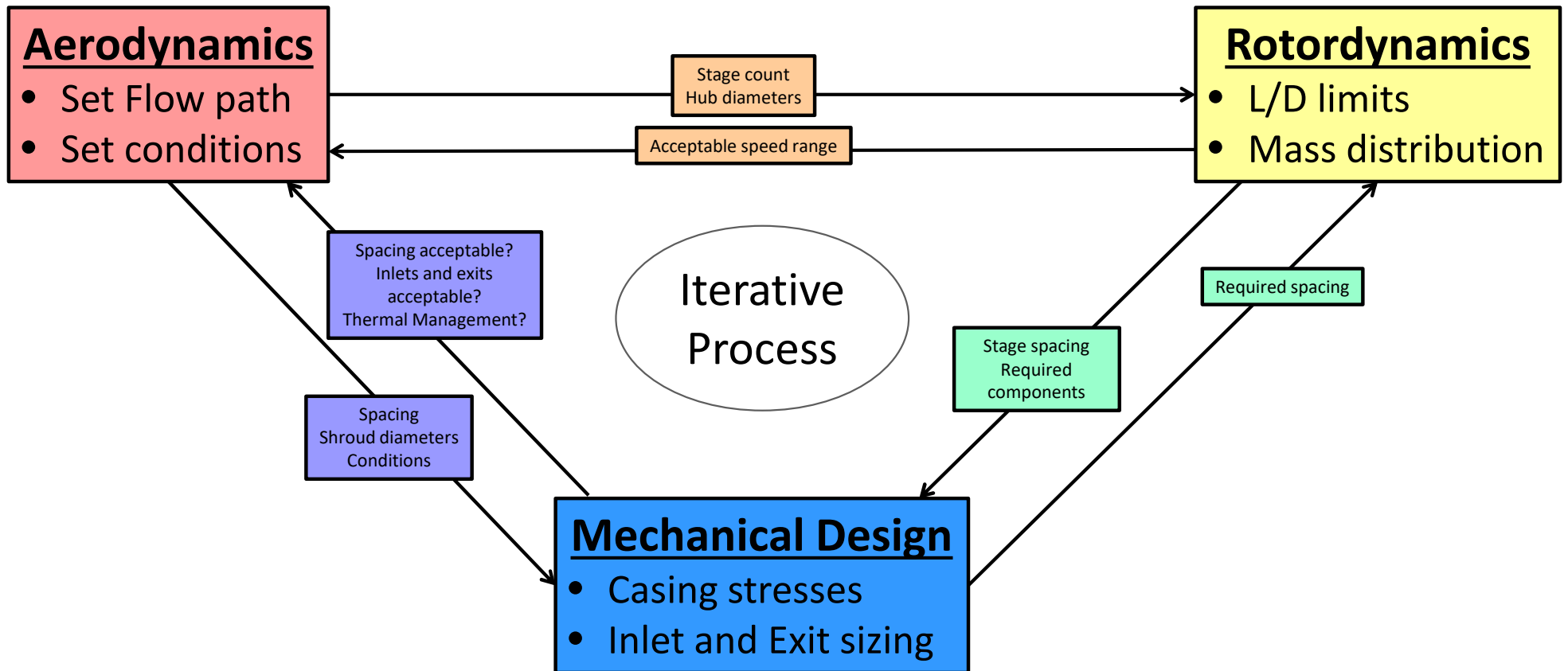
- High molecular weight, high density results in compact machinery
  - Density near the dome and at high pressure approach that of water
- Amplifies rotordynamic forces on rotor
- Excitation forces acting on blades amplified
- High torque transmission from shaft ends
  - Requires larger seals, bearings, and couplings
- High stage delta-P load impellers and diaphragms
- Explosive decompression in elastomers
- Water in CO<sub>2</sub> is corrosive
- Relatively low peripheral speeds
- High blade loading
- High thrust loads
- High shaft speeds
- High critical speed ratios
- Challenging stability
- Flow unsteadiness can cause significant vibration (flow separation, rotating stall, surge, etc.)
- Wide flow range requirement for compressor
- High exhaust pressure requires mechanical face seals
- Pressure containment requires temperature gradients

# Example sCO<sub>2</sub> Compressor

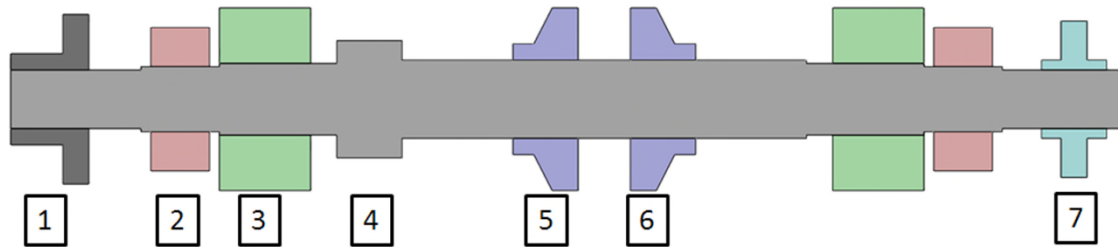
- Design a sCO<sub>2</sub> compressor for use in a closed loop Recompression Brayton Cycle (RCBC) to achieve thermal efficiencies > 50% with both MAIN and BYPASS compressor wheels in the same body
- Design considerations:
  - High-pressure
  - High-density
  - High-speed
  - Large swings in volume flow
  - Packaging



# Example SCO2 Compressor



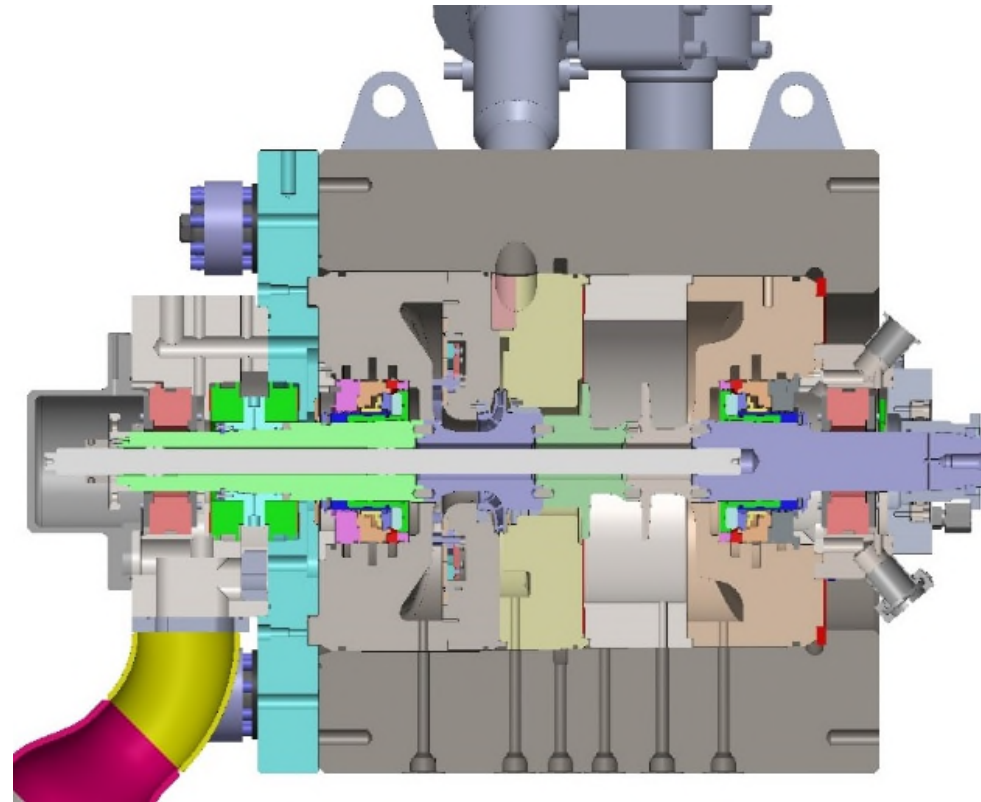
# Example SCO2 Compressor



1. High speed coupling [Min Shaft Diameter Limit]
2. Tilting pad journal bearings [Max Shaft Diameter Limit]
3. End Seal (Dry Gas Seals)
4. Balance Piston [Thrust + Damping]
5. Main Compressor [Min Hub Diameter]
6. Bypass Compressor
7. Thrust Runner

# Operating Conditions

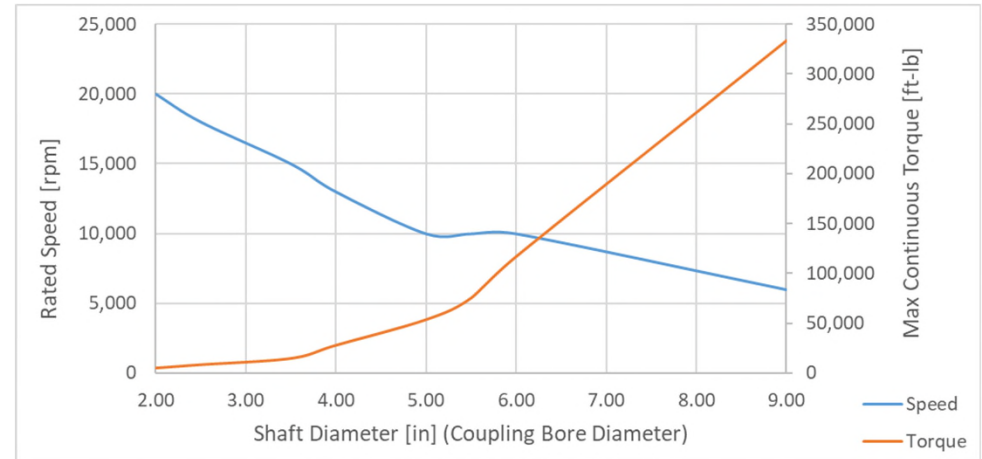
- Power: 6,570 hp (4.9 MW)
- Max Discharge Pressure: 4,850 psia (334 bar)
- Max Temperature: 400°F (200°C)
- Max Speed: 28,350 rpm (match turbine) [5% over Nominal]
- 2X swing in volume flow
- Suction Densities up to 51 lbm/ft<sup>3</sup> (817 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)



Cich, S., Moore, J., Kulhanek, C., Mortzheim, J., 2020, "Development and Testing of a Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Compressor Operating Near the Dome, Proceedings of 49th Turbomachinery Symposium, Houston, TX, September 2020, Turbomachinery Laboratory, Texas A & M University

# Mechanical Design

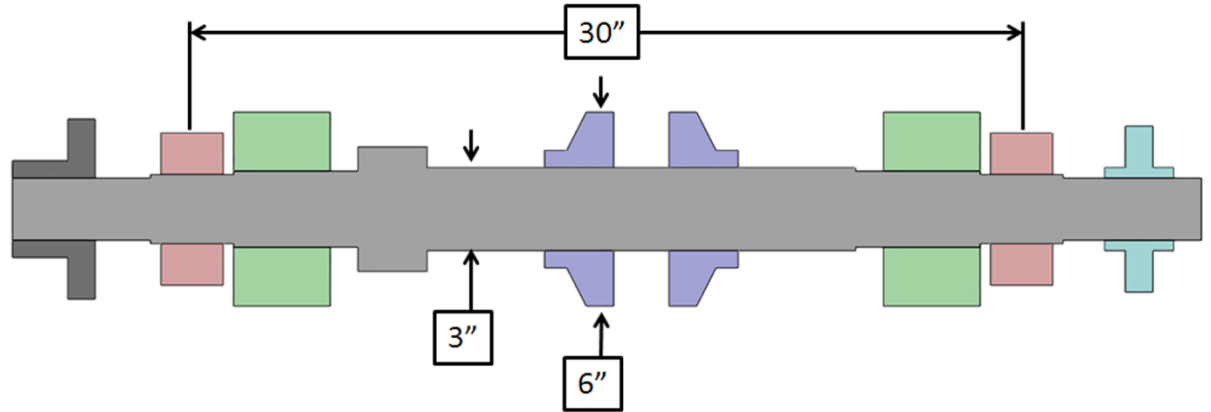
- While aero flow paths are smaller, support equipment (bearings, seals, shaft ends) must support high-power, high-pressure, and high-loads
- Design starts with shafts to look at max diameter based on surface speed and min diameter based on torque



[3]

$T = 63,025 \frac{P}{w} = 63,025 \frac{6570}{27000} = 15,336$	$T = \text{Torque, in-lb}$ $P = \text{Power, hp}$ $w = \text{Speed, rpm}$
$\tau = \frac{Tr}{J} = \frac{15336 \times 1.125}{2.52} = 6,857 \text{ psi}$	$\tau = \text{Shear Stress, psi}$ $r = \text{radius, in}$ $J = \text{Polar moment of inertia, in}^4$
$J = \frac{\pi r^4}{2} = 2.52 \text{ in}^4$	

# Mechanical Design

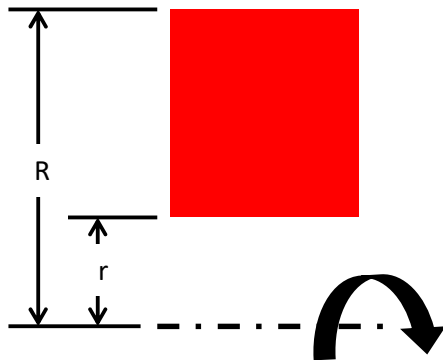


- **Design Limit Considerations**

- Surface speed limits at Journal Bearings
- Coupling speed limits
- Peak tip speeds at impellers based on peak stresses in hub or blades
- Torsional limits at shaft ends from torque and torsional modes
- Bearings Span vs Hub Diameter

# Mechanical Design – Rotor Stress Considerations

- Larger diameters → More head, more rotating weight, higher hub stress
- Smaller Inner Diameters → reduced tie bolt diameter, more rotating weight, reduced stresses
- Solid shafts have the lowest stresses but required monolithic shafts or more complicated joints
- Aero hub diameter may be smaller than shaft ends requiring special rotor construction



$$\sigma = \frac{3 + \nu}{8} \rho \omega^2 \left[ r^2 + 2R^2 - \frac{1 + 3\nu}{3 + \nu} r^2 \right]$$

$\sigma$  is peak stress at the smallest diameter, psi

$\nu$  is Poisson's ratio

$\rho$  is material density, lbm/in<sup>3</sup>

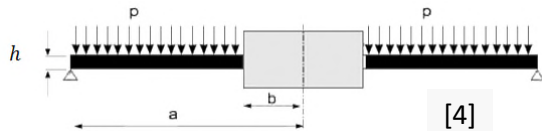
$\omega$  is rotating speed, rps

$r$  is the inner diameter, in

$R$  is the outer diameter, in

# Mechanical Design – Stator Considerations

- Consider stator components impact on rotor layout, especially for high pressure machines
- Look at diaphragm stresses and deflection
- Peak deflection limited by max opening at exit diffuser



a/b	Simply Supported		Fixed Support	
	k1	k2	k1	k2
1.25	0.592	0.184	0.105	0.002
1.50	0.976	0.414	0.259	0.014
2.00	1.440	0.664	0.480	0.058
3.00	1.880	0.824	0.657	0.130
4.00	2.080	0.830	0.710	0.162
5.00	2.190	0.813	0.730	0.175

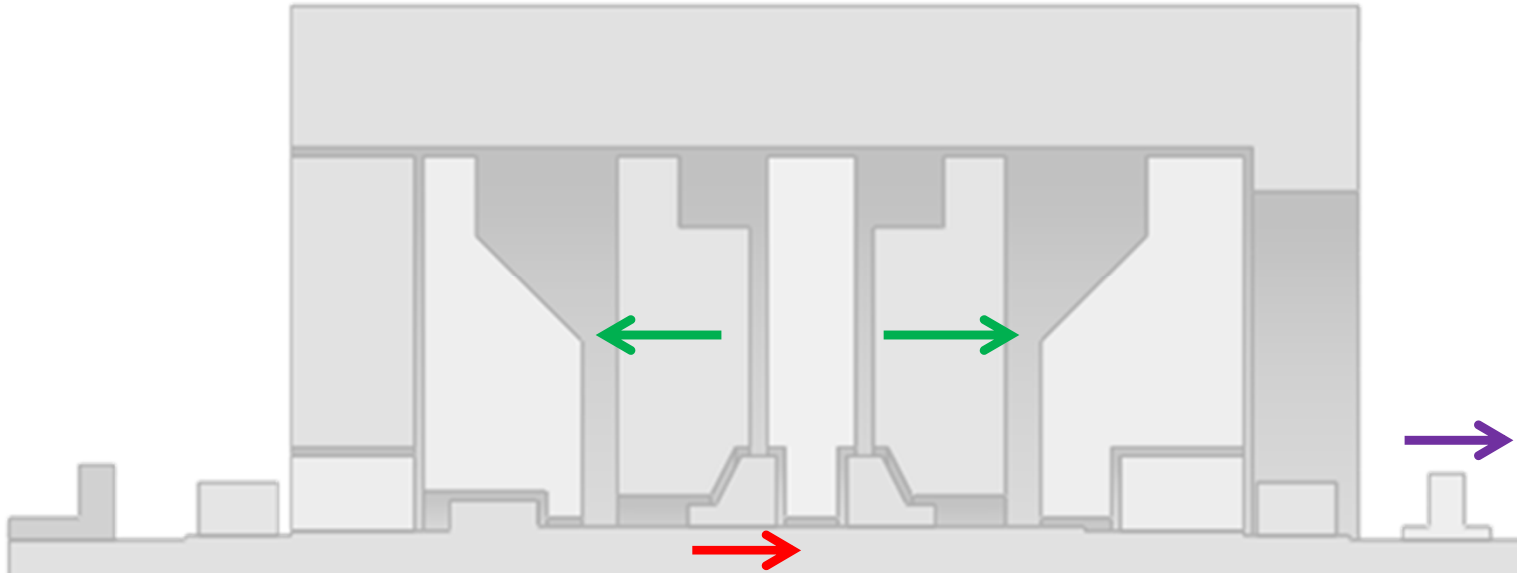
$$\sigma_{max} = \frac{k_1 P a^2}{h^2}$$

$$w_{max} = \frac{k_2 P a^4}{E h^3}$$

$\sigma_{max}$  is the peak stress in the diaphragm, psi  
 $w_{max}$  is the max displacement at the ID of the diaphragm, in  
 $a$  is the outer radius, in

$b$  is the inner radius, in  
 $P$  is the pressure, psi  
 $h$  is thickness, in  
 $E$  is modulus of elasticity, psi

# Mechanical Design

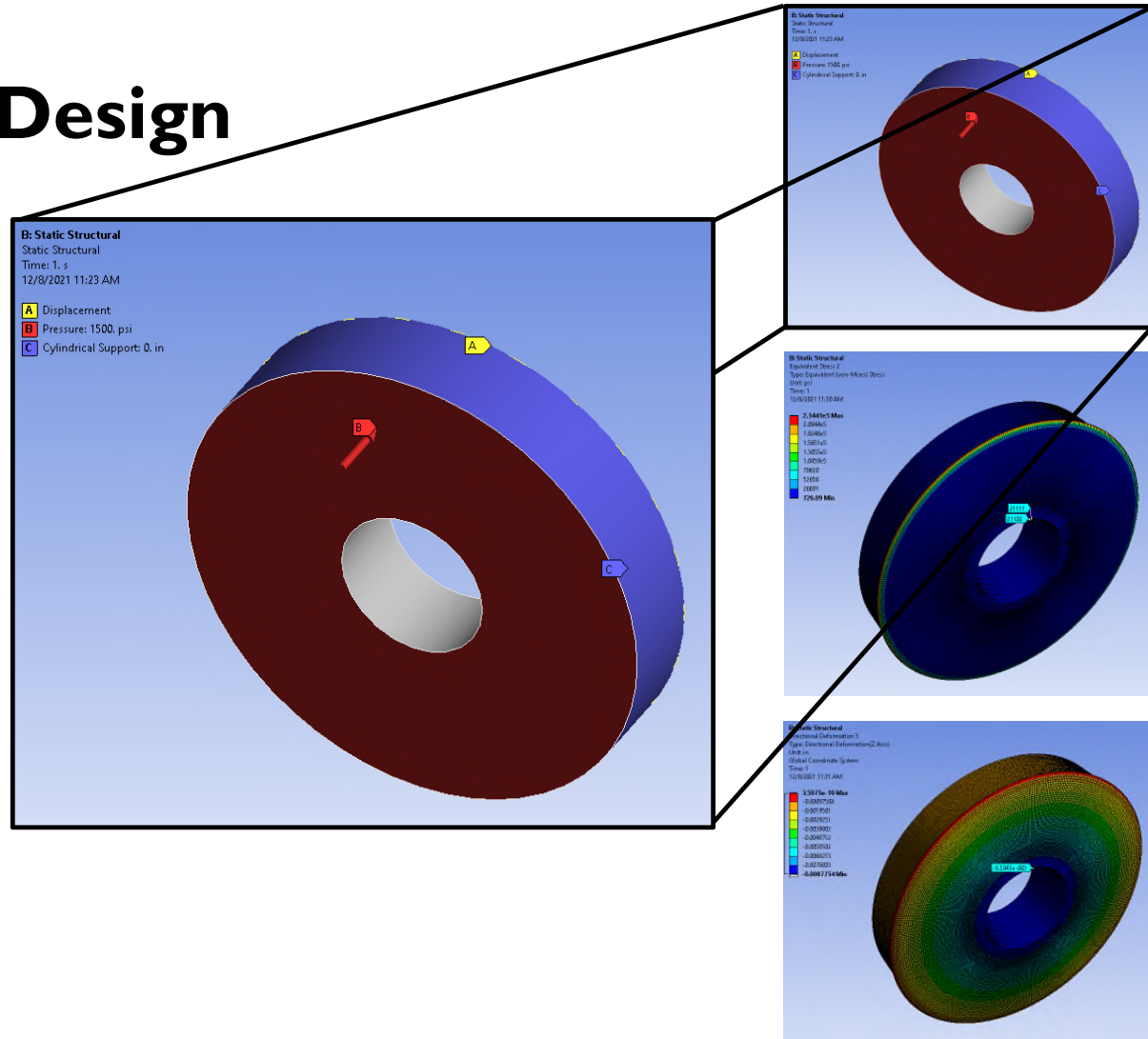


As Pressure Increases from Start Up:

- **Housings and Heads Deflect Away from High Pressure – Opening of Diffuser**
- **Housing Deflection Pulls Rotor at Thrust Bearing**
- **Impeller Move to the Right**

# Mechanical Design

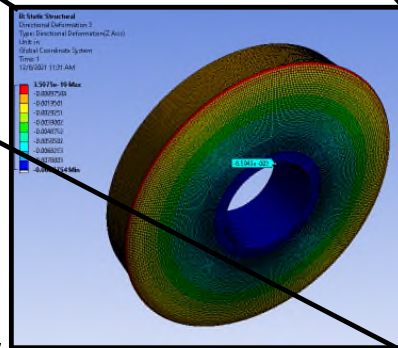
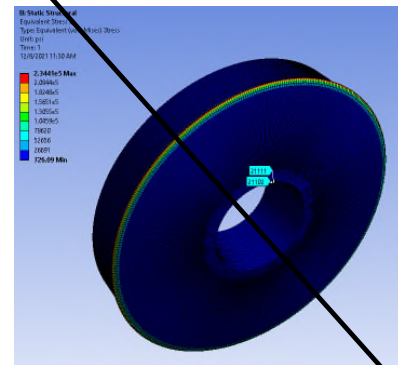
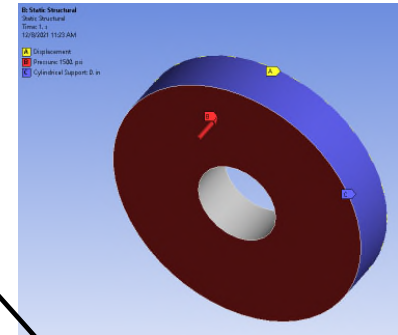
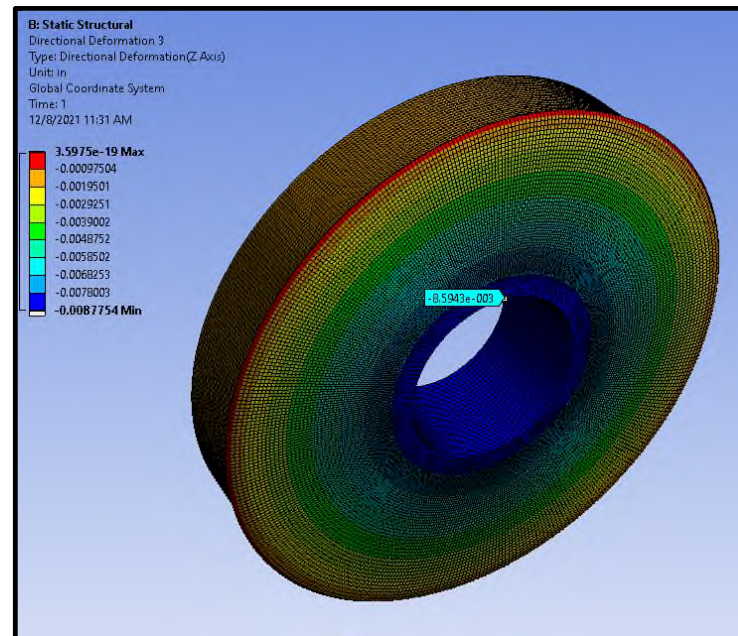
- Example Calculation
  - OD (2a): 16"; ID (2b): 5"
  - Pressure: 1,500 psi
  - Modulus: 29,000,000 psi
  - Simply Supported
- Plate Thickness (h): 3"
  - Hand Calcs: 20,550 psi & 0.0065"
  - FEA: 21,100 psi & 0.0086"
- Plate Thickness (h): 2"
  - Hand Calcs: 46,234 psi & 0.0219"
  - FEA: 46,839 psi & 0.0241"





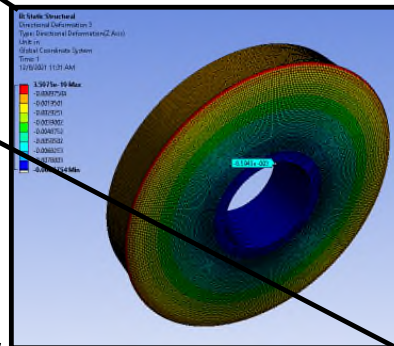
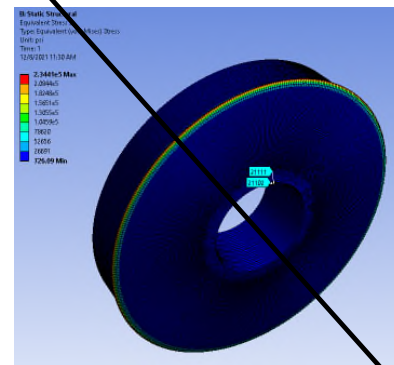
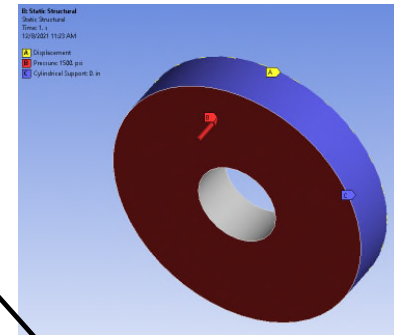
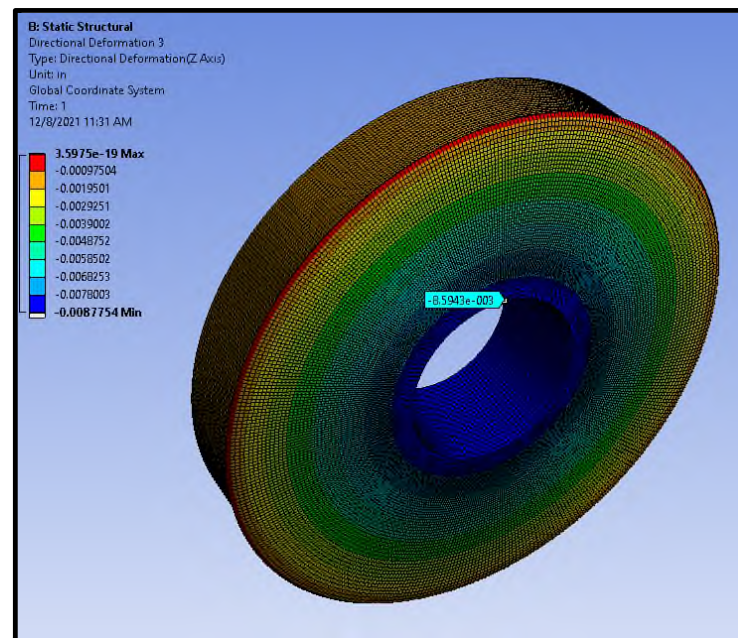
# Mechanical Design

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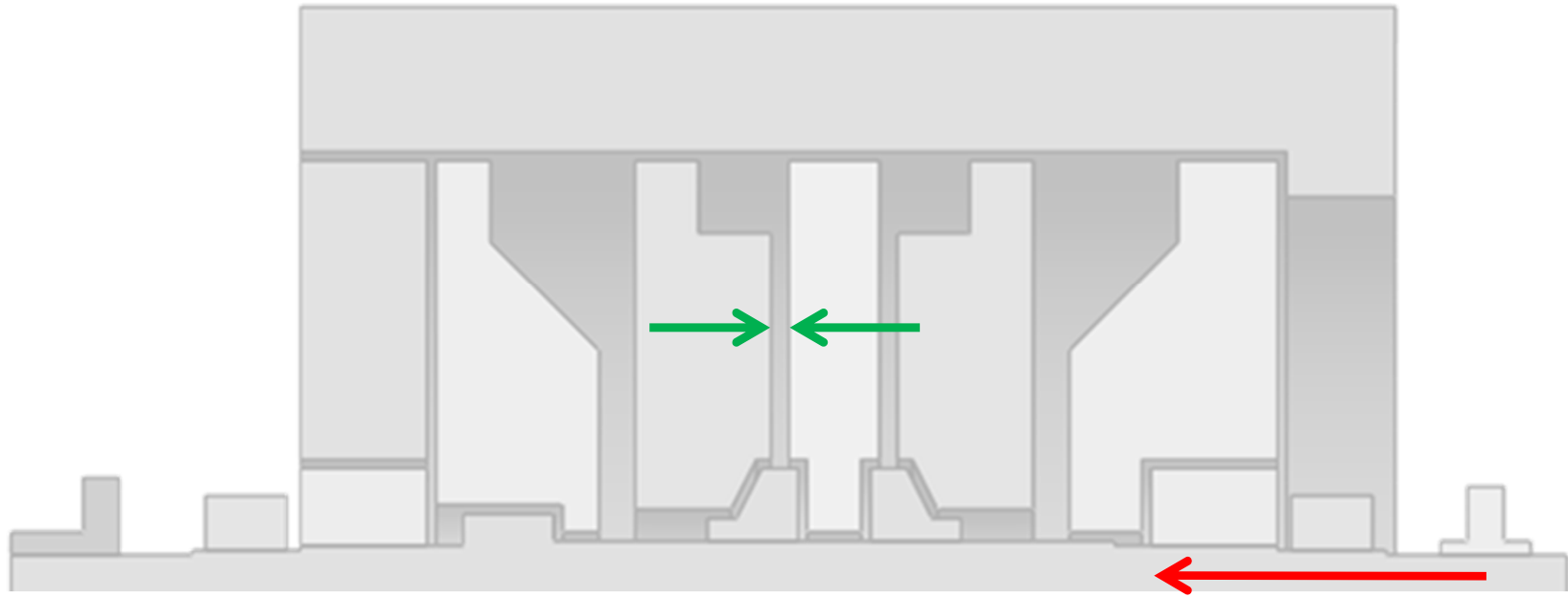


# Mechanical Design

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  - FEA: 46,839 psi & 0.0241"



# Mechanical Design



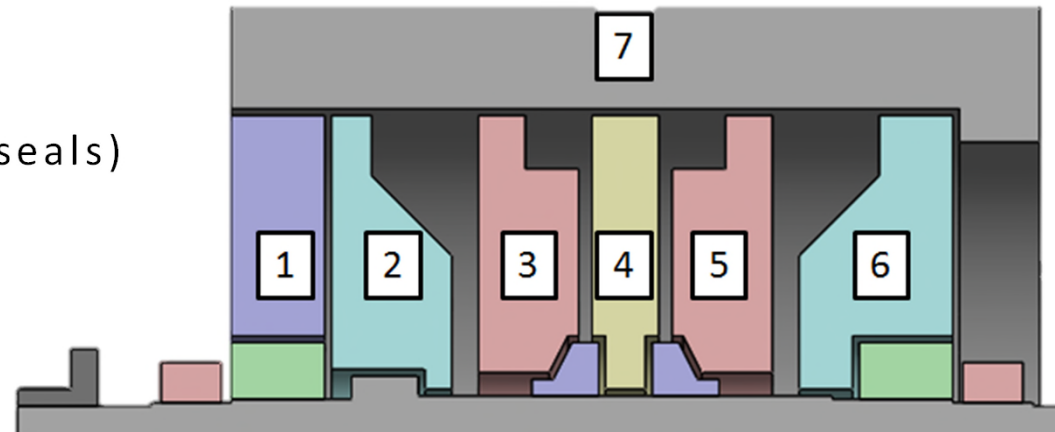
As Temperature Increases from Start Up:

- Diffuser Closes Up at Designed Thermal Gap
- Rotor Grows Away from Thrust Bearing and Moves Impeller to the Left

# Mechanical Design

## Design considerations for diaphragms

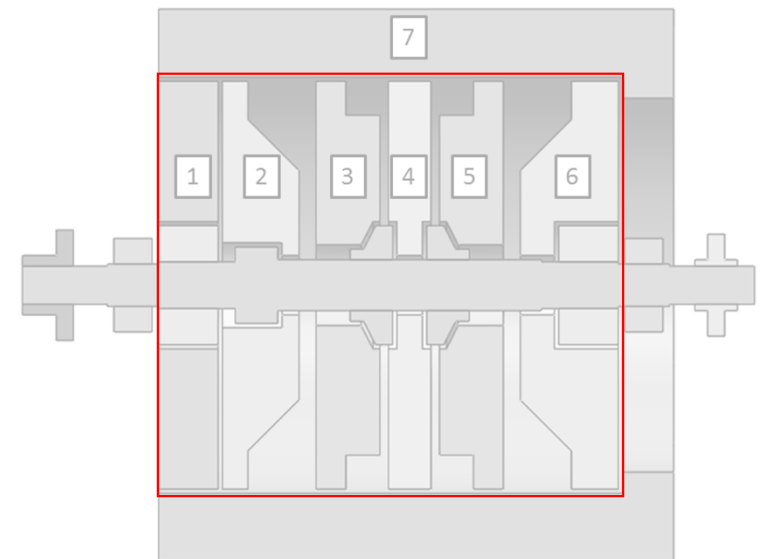
- If designing for MAX Displacement / Stress
  - Larger OD  $\rightarrow$  Increased Thickness  $\rightarrow$  Longer Bearing Span  $\rightarrow$  Reduced Rotor Modes
  - Higher Pressure  $\rightarrow$  Increased Thickness  $\rightarrow$  etc.
- Features that will impact OD
  - End Seal Diameter
  - Impeller Diameter
  - Diffuser Length
  - Exit Plenum flow area
  - Assembly features (bundle bolts, face seals)
  - Pilot fits



# Mechanical Design

- Material Selection and Sizing
- Larger Bundle OD and lower Design stresses → Longer Rotor Span

OD in	Material (Allowable Stress)			
	20 ksi	30 ksi	40 ksi	50 ksi
10	11.13	9.15	7.98	7.21
12	14.92	12.27	10.69	9.77
14	18.54	15.25	13.29	12.27
16	22.06	18.15	15.81	14.72
18	25.54	21.01	18.36	17.16
20	29.01	23.87	21.00	19.63
22	32.49	26.73	23.67	22.13
24	35.89	29.53	26.33	24.63
26	39.06	32.14	28.85	26.99
28	41.67	34.29	30.96	28.96
30	43.15	35.50	32.09	29.98

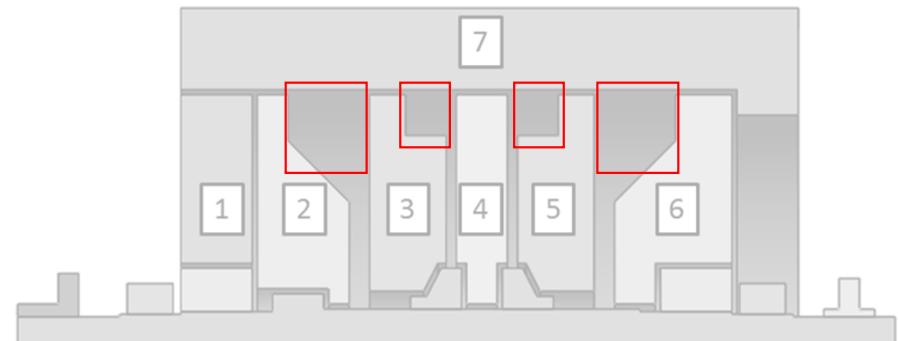


# Mechanical Design

## Flow path Sizing

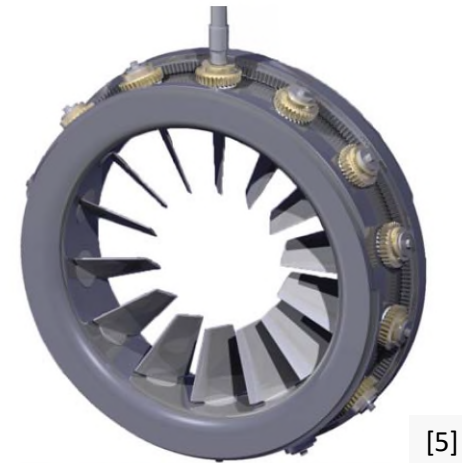
- Lower velocity limits → larger flow areas → Increase bundle diameter (or case complexity) → reduced pressure losses
- Higher velocity limits → smaller flow areas → Reduced bundle diameter → erosion concerns & increased pressure loss

Section		Pressure		Temperature		Density	Mass Flow		Max Vel.	Min Dia.
		Mpa	psi	C	F	lbm/in <sup>3</sup>	kg/s	lbm/s	ft/s	in
Main	Inlet	8.55	1,240	35	95	0.0224	70.3	155.0	80	3.03
	Exit	24.13	3,500	78	172	0.0247	70.3	155.0	80	2.88
Bypass	Inlet	8.69	1,260	88	190	0.0061	34.2	75.4	80	4.04
	Exit	23.99	3,479	194	381	0.0116	34.2	75.4	80	2.94
Main	Inlet	8.55	1,240	35	95	0.0224	70.3	155.0	150	2.21
	Exit	24.13	3,500	78	172	0.0247	70.3	155.0	150	2.11
Bypass	Inlet	8.69	1,260	88	190	0.0061	34.2	75.4	150	2.95
	Exit	23.99	3,479	194	381	0.0116	34.2	75.4	150	2.15

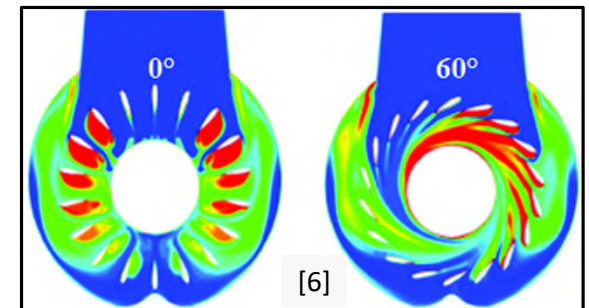


# Mechanical Design

- How to manage large swings in suction density?
- Case Treatment (Passive)
  - Internal recirculation to maintain discharge flow
- Chilling / Heating (Active with Increased Power)
  - Reduce or Increase fluid density to match design
- Variable Inlet Guide Vanes (Active / Control Logic)
  - Increasing inlet swirl to reduce volume flow
  - Radial or Axial (typical for overhung)



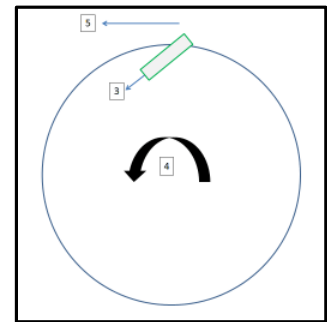
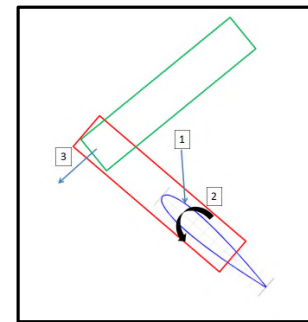
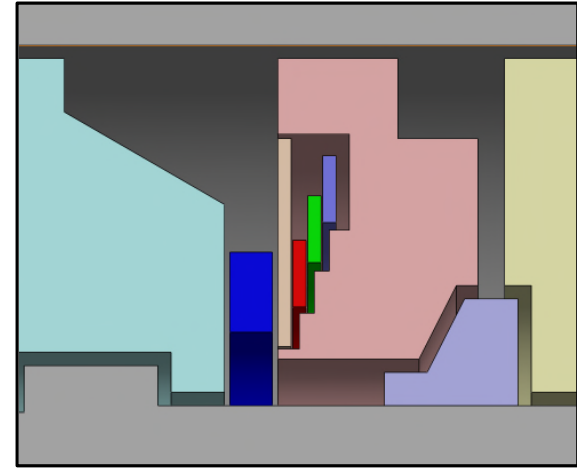
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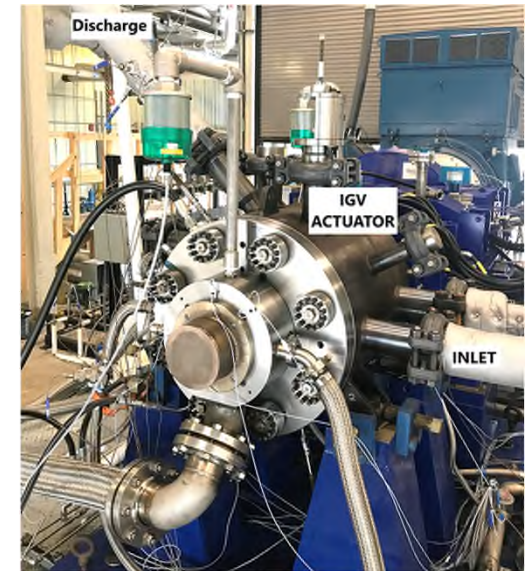
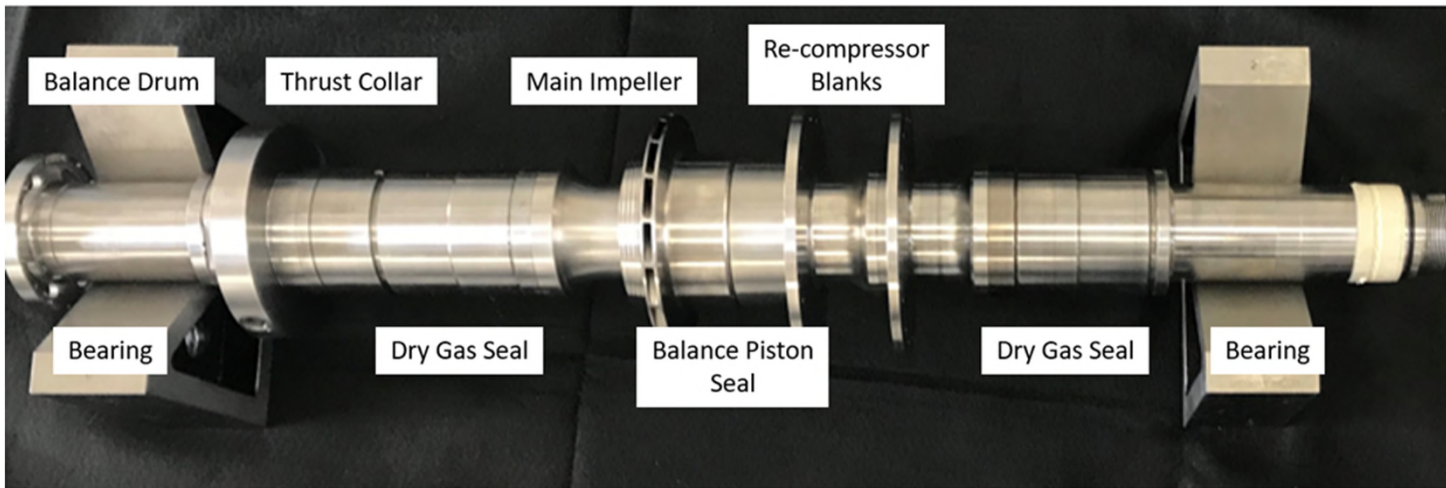
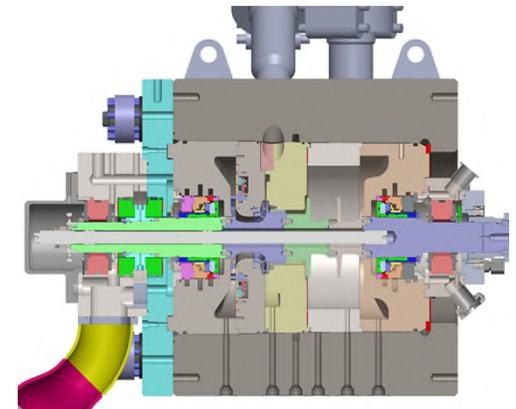
# Mechanical Design

- Variable IGVs Selected
- How to Package an IGV System?
- Important to consider where the IGV mechanisms are housed and impact on diaphragm design
- Extra case penetrations and need to quantify loads on actuator control rod



# Final Embodiment – SwRI/GE Apollo Compressor

- Integrated main and bypass compressor in back-to-back arrangement
- Built-up rotor construction
- Variable IGVs
- Tested to full load, speed, and pressure
- One of highest density compressor in literature (720 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)



Cich, S., Moore, J., Kulhanek, C., Mortzheim, J., 2020, "Development and Testing of a Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Compressor Operating Near the Dome", Proceedings of 49th Turbomachinery Symposium, Houston, TX, September 2020, Turbomachinery Laboratory, Texas A & M University



Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy



GE Global Research

# **Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Cycles Pressure Containment**

# Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Pressure Containment

## Pressure Safety Specifications for Power Plant and Rotating Machinery

- ASME Section 8, Div 1, 2, 3
- API 610, “Centrifugal Pumps for Petroleum, Petrochemical, and Natural Gas Industries”
  - References to ASME Section 8
- API 617, “Axial and Centrifugal Compressors and Expander-compressors for Petroleum, Chemical and Gas Industry Service”
  - Elements Regarding to Pressure Safety
  - Does not Cover Hot Gas Expanders Over 300°C
  - References to ASME Section 8
- EN 13445 “Unfired Pressure Vessels” and Pressure Equipment Directive 97/23/EC

# ASME Section 8 Summary

## A BRIEF DISCUSSION ON ASME SECTION VIII DIVISIONS 1 AND 2 AND THE NEW DIVISION 3

K.T.Lau, Ph.D., P.Eng., 3rd Annual Pressure Industry Conference, Banff, Alberta, Canada, February 1999.  
Last Update - October, 2000

	Section VIII Division 1	Section VIII Division 2	Section VIII Division 3
	"Unfired" Pressure Vessel Rules	Alternative Rules	Alternative Rules for High Pressure
<b>Published</b>	< 1940	1968	1997
<b>Pressure Limits</b>	Normally up to 3000 psig	No limits either way, usually 600+ psig	No limit; Normally from 10,000 psig
<b>Organization</b>	General, Construction Type & Material U, UG, UW, UF, UB, UCS, UNF, UCI, UCL, UCD, UHT, ULT	General, Material, Design, Fabrication and others AG, AM, AD, AF, AR, AI, AT, AS	Similar to Division 2 KG, KM, KD, KF, KR, KE, KT, KS
<b>Design Factor</b>	Design Factor 3.5 on tensile (4* used previously) and other yield and temperature considerations	Design Factor of 3 on tensile (lower factor under reviewed) and other yield and temperature considerations	Yield based with reduction factor for yield to tensile ratio less than 0.7
<b>Design Rules</b>	Membrane - Maximum stress Generally Elastic analysis Very detailed design rules with Quality (joint efficiency) Factors. Little stress analysis required; pure membrane without consideration of discontinuities controlling stress concentration to a safety factor of 3.5 or higher	Shell of Revolution - Max. shear stress Generally Elastic analysis Membrane + Bending. Fairly detailed design rules. In addition to the design rules, discontinuities, fatigue and other stress analysis considerations may be required unless exempted and guidance provided for in Appendix 4, 5 and 6	Maximum shear stress Elastic/Plastic Analyses and more. Some design rules provided; Fatigue analysis required; Fracture mechanics evaluation required unless proven leak- before-burst, Residual stresses become significant and maybe positive factors (e.g. autofrettage)
<b>Experimental Stress Analysis</b>	Normally not required	Introduced and may be required	Experimental design verification but may be exempted
<b>Material and Impact Testing</b>	Few restrictions on materials; Impact required unless exempted; extensive exemptions under UG-20, UCS 66/67	More restrictions on materials; impact required in general with similar rules as Division 1	Even more restrictive than Division 2 with different requirements. Fracture toughness testing requirement for fracture mechanics evaluation Crack tip opening displacement (CTOD) testing and establishment of K <sub>Ic</sub> and/or J <sub>Ic</sub> values
<b>NDE Requirements</b>	NDE requirements may be exempted through increased design factor	More stringent NDE requirements; extensive use of RT as well as UT, MT and PT.	Even more restrictive than Division 2; UT used for all butt welds, RT otherwise, extensive use of PT and MT
<b>Welding and fabrication</b>	Different types with butt welds and others	Extensive use/requirement of butt welds and full penetration welds including non- pressure attachment welds	Butt Welds and extensive use of other construction methods such as threaded, layered, wire-wound, interlocking strip- wound and others

KTL - 3rd Annual Pressure Equipment Conference, 1999  
Last Update - October, 2000

## ASME SECTION VIII-For Rotating Machinery

- Useful for Defining Safety Margins
  - 1.5X on Yield Strength, 3.5X on Ultimate Tensile Strength
- Useful for Defining Hydrostatic Test Requirements
  - 1.3X MAWP (Temperature Rated)
- Useful for Material Selection and Temperature/Stress De-rating
- Not Cognizant of Complicated Geometry Found in Turbomachinery (Can use Div 2 or 3 for FEA)
- Transient Thermal Stresses

*U-1(c)(1)* The scope of this Division has been established to identify the components and parameters considered in formulating the rules given in this Division. Laws or regulations issued by municipality, state, provincial, federal, or other enforcement or regulatory bodies having jurisdiction at the location of an installation establish the mandatory applicability of the Code rules, in whole or in part, within their jurisdiction. Those laws or regulations may require the use of this Division of the Code for vessels or components not considered to be within its Scope. These laws or regulations should be reviewed to determine size or service limitations of the coverage which may be different or more restrictive than those given here.

*U-1(c)(2)* Based on the Committee's consideration, the following classes of vessels are not included in the scope of this Division; however, any pressure vessel which meets all the applicable requirements of this Division may be stamped with the Code U Symbol:

(a) those within the scope of other Sections;

(b) fired process tubular heaters;

(c) pressure containers which are integral parts or components of rotating or reciprocating mechanical devices, such as pumps, compressors, turbines, generators, engines, and hydraulic or pneumatic cylinders where the primary design considerations and/or stresses are derived from the functional requirements of the device;

# SunShot Casing Example

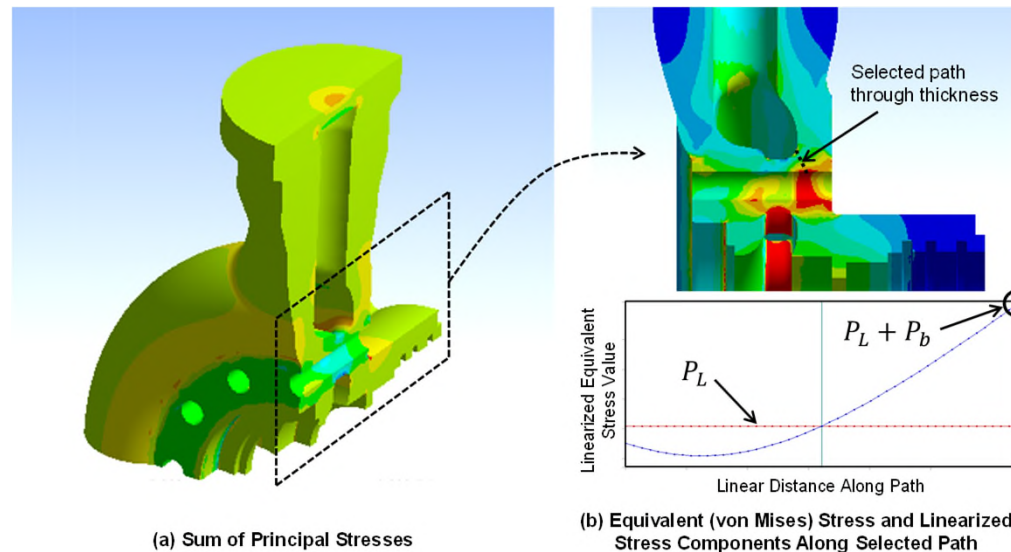
- $P_m$  is the general primary membrane equivalent stress, equal to the average value through the section
- $P_L$  is the local primary membrane equivalent stress.
- $P_b$  is the primary bending equivalent stress. The value of  $P_L + P_b$  is equal to the highest value through the section, excluding secondary and peak stresses.
- $\sigma_1$ ,  $\sigma_2$ , and  $\sigma_3$  are the calculated principal stresses at each point

$$P_m \leq S$$

$$P_L \leq 1.5S$$

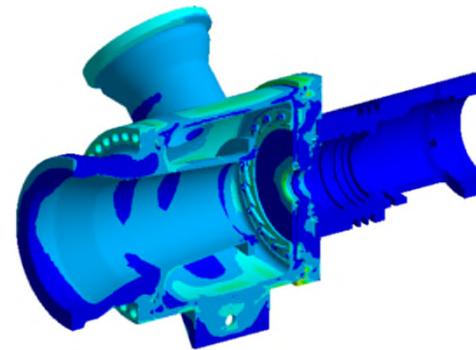
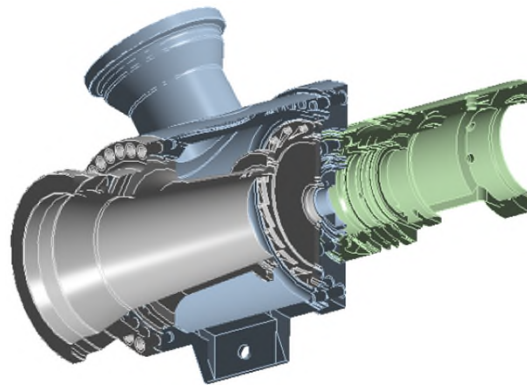
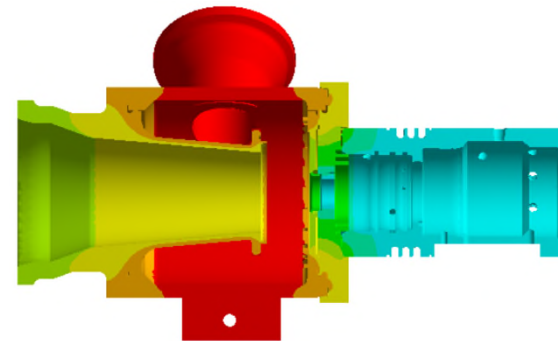
$$P_L + P_b \leq 1.5S$$

$$\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3 \leq 4S$$



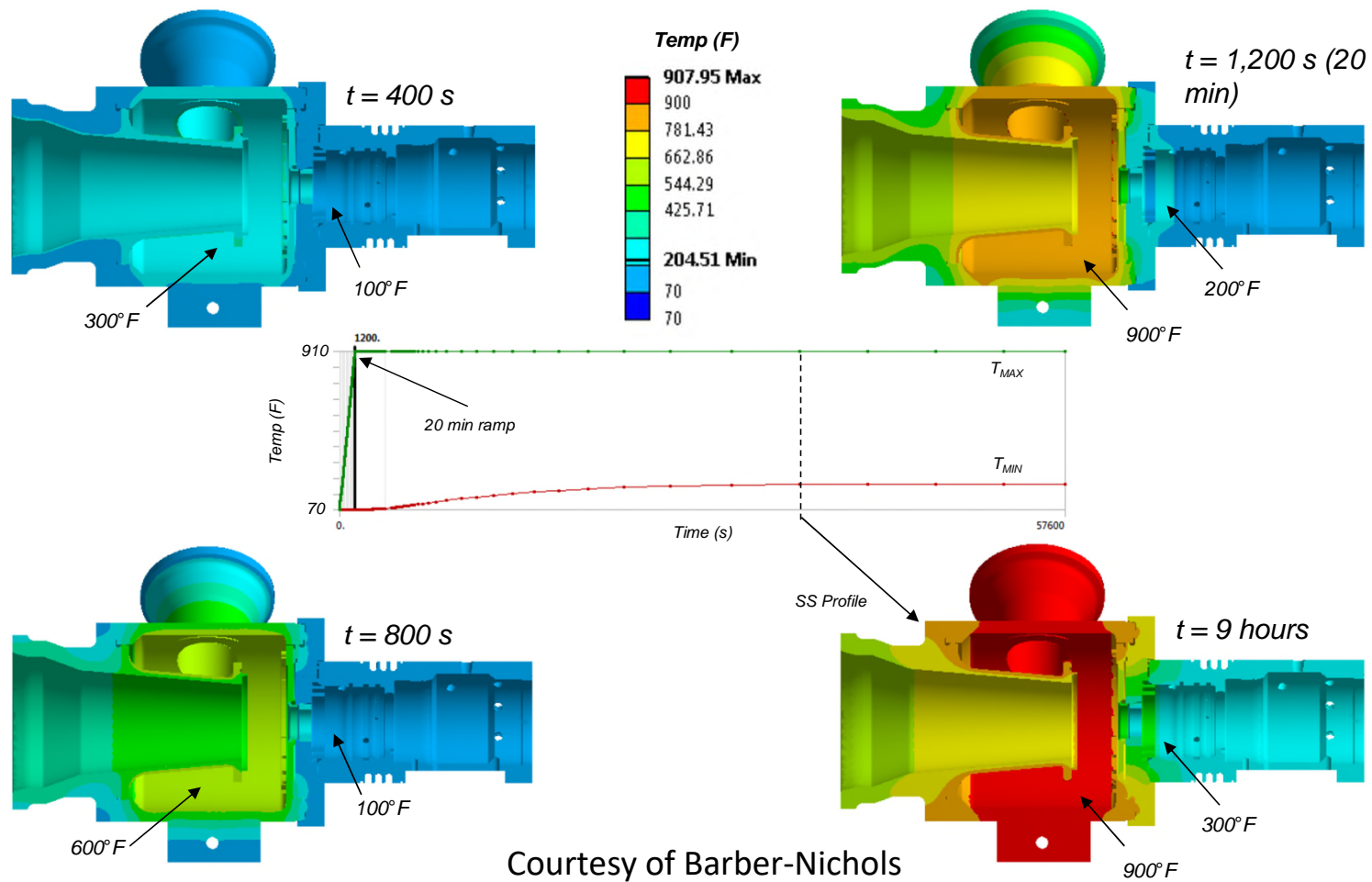
## Radial Turbine Housing – Operating Stress Example

- Use FEA for operating temperature
  - Use appropriate film coefficients
- Use FEA for operating stresses
  - Pressures
  - Nozzle Loads
- Define limits using material allowable stresses
  - ASME Allowable Stresses or Other
- Iterate the Design to Satisfy Requirements



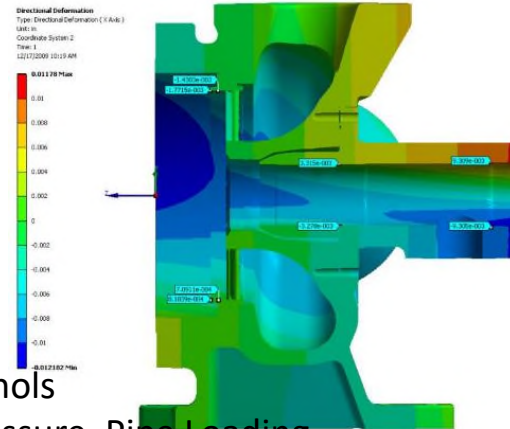
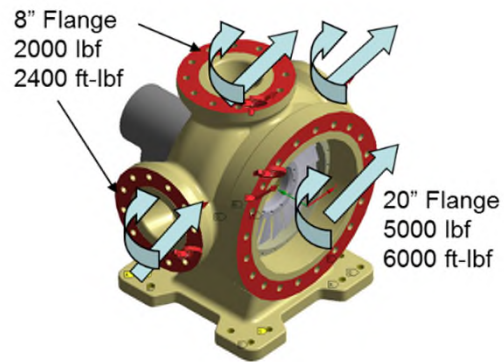
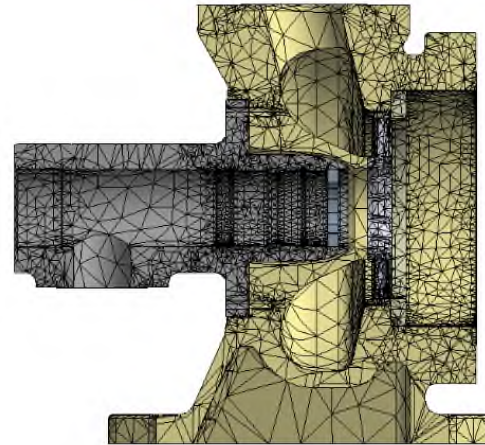
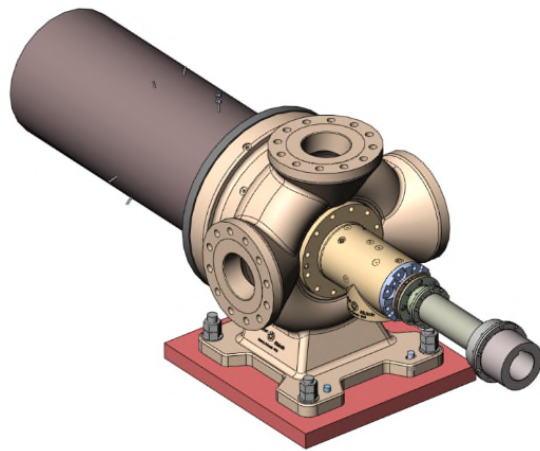
Courtesy of Barber-Nichols

# Radial Turbine Housing – Transient Thermal Profile



Courtesy of Barber-Nichols  
Thermally Induced Stresses Can Limit Startup Time

# Single Stage Axial Turbine Example



Courtesy of Barber-Nichols  
Combined Thermal, Pressure, Pipe Loading

# **sCO<sub>2</sub> Turbomachinery Materials**

# Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Cycles Material Selection

- CO<sub>2</sub> Metal Compatibility/Corrosion
  - Low Temperature -40°C to 150°C
    - Medium Chrome Steels
  - Medium Temperature 150°C to 300°C
  - High Temperature 300°C+
- CO<sub>2</sub> Seal Material Compatibility
  - Elastomeric
  - Rotating Shaft Seals
  - High Temperature Seals

# Material Selection CO<sub>2</sub> Corrosion

- Oil Business
  - Pipeline Corrosion
    - Usually due to water or other constituents
- Specific to sCO<sub>2</sub> Power
  - MIT
  - Oakridge NL
  - Sandia NL
  - University of Wisconsin

# Material Selection CO<sub>2</sub> Corrosion

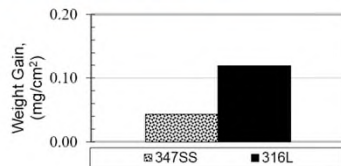
Gibbs, MIT 2010, for Nuclear Reactor Use

- 610C and 20 MPa, 3,000 hour test
- F91, HcM12A, 316SS, 310SS, AL-6XN, Haynes 230, Alloy 625, PE-16, PM2000
- Highest Chromium and Nickel Content are Best

## Alloy Corrosion Tests (UW-Madison)

Alloy	C	Fe	Cr	Ni	Mn	Nb	Mo	Si	Cu	Co
316L	0.045	64.3	17.4	13.3	1.7	-	2.7	0.43	-	-
347ss	0.051	68.5	17.7	9.62	1.66	0.72	0.38	0.77	0.38	0.20

200 hours exposure to CO<sub>2</sub> at 650C and 200 bar:



- Oxide Formation Increases
- Material Spalls (Corrosion and Erosion)

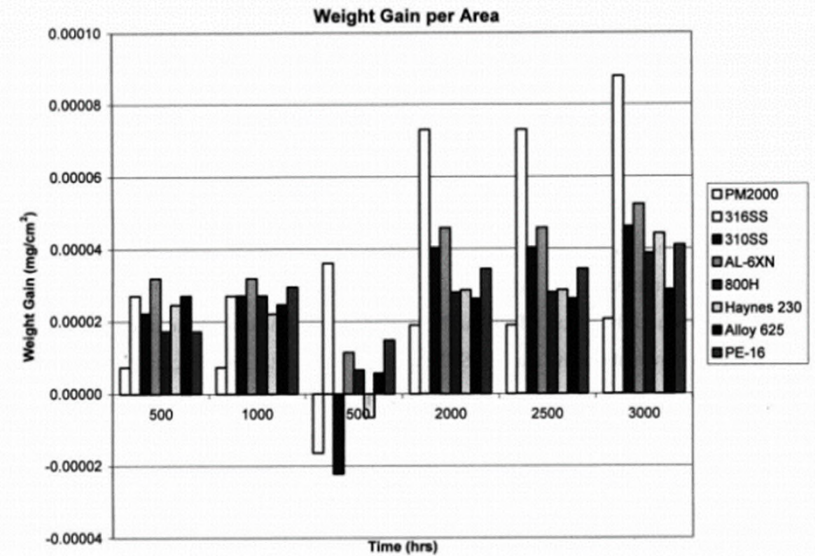


Figure 3.8: Weight gain per area, Alloys F91 and HCM12A not present

Table 3-2: 3000 hr weight gain

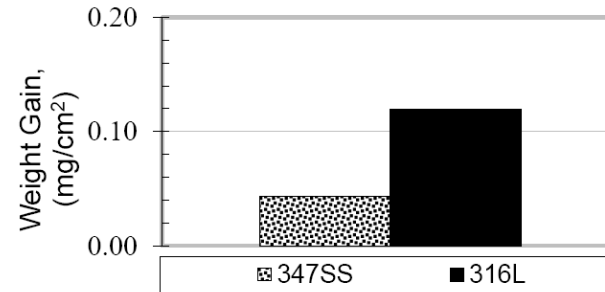
Alloy	Weight gain at 3000 hours (mg/cm <sup>2</sup> )
F91	4.1x10 <sup>-3</sup>
HCM12A	5.5x10 <sup>-3</sup>
PM2000	2.1x10 <sup>-5</sup>
316SS	8.7x10 <sup>-5</sup>
310SS	4.6x10 <sup>-5</sup>
AL-6XN	5.2x10 <sup>-5</sup>
800H	3.9x10 <sup>-5</sup>
Haynes 230	4.4x10 <sup>-5</sup>
Alloy 625	2.9x10 <sup>-5</sup>
PE-16	4.1x10 <sup>-5</sup>

## Alloy Corrosion Tests (UW-Madison)

---

Alloy	C	Fe	Cr	Ni	Mn	Nb	Mo	Si	Cu	Co
316L	0.045	64.3	17.4	13.3	1.7	-	2.7	0.43	-	-
347ss	0.051	68.5	17.7	9.62	1.66	0.72	0.38	0.77	0.38	0.20

200 hours exposure to CO<sub>2</sub> at 650C and 200 bar:



# Materials Selection CO<sub>2</sub> Seals

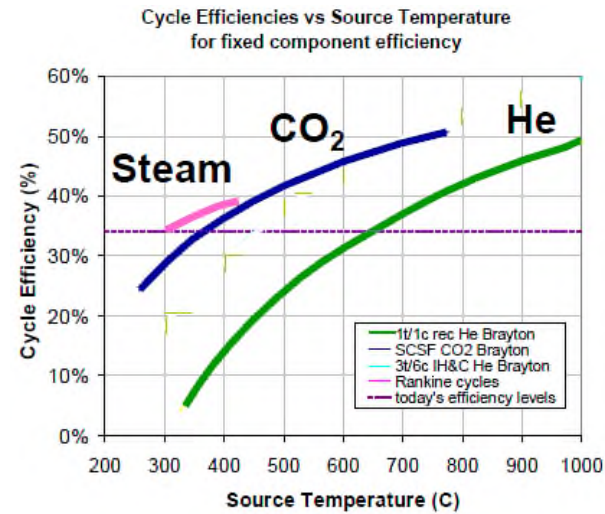
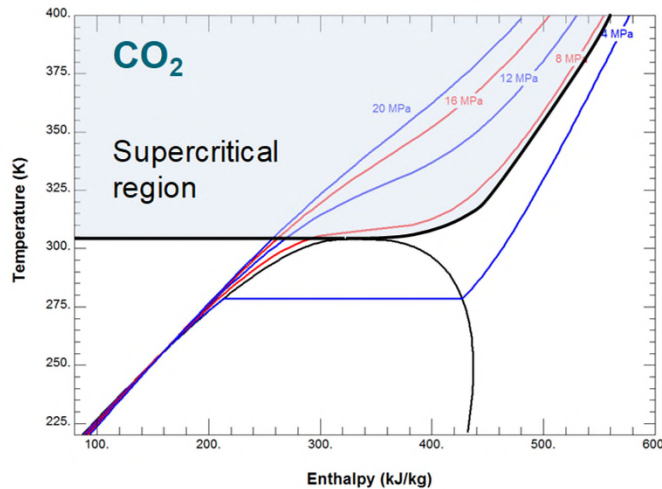
- **Static Seals, Elastomeric Seals Can Absorb High Pressure CO<sub>2</sub>. Rapid Depressurization Can Then Destroy the Seals**
  - XNBR, HNBR, Available Bulk Purchase Only
  - EPDM, Widely Available, less suitable
  - Kalrez
- **Rotating Shaft Seals**
  - Aluminum, Teflon, PEEK, Graphite for Labyrinth Seals
  - Graphite, Si-Carbide, and Si-Nitride Lift-off Gas Seals
- **High Temperature Static Seals**
  - Silver Plated Inconel "C" Seals
- **Electric Machines (rapid decompression testing)**
  - Most Common Insulation Materials withstand sCO<sub>2</sub> Operation
  - MW35C wire insulation tested
  - Epoxy Type Varnish Works Best



# Summary

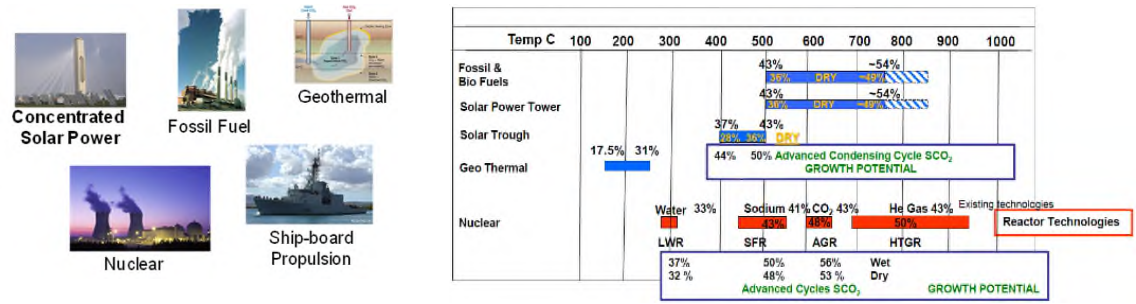
# Both supercritical power cycles and the use of sCO<sub>2</sub> are not new concepts

sCO<sub>2</sub> is desirable for power cycles because of its near-critical fluid properties

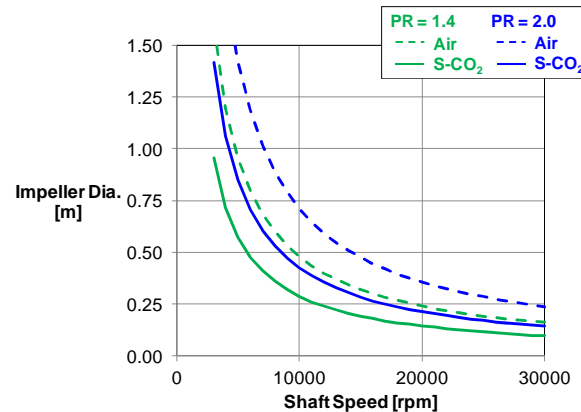
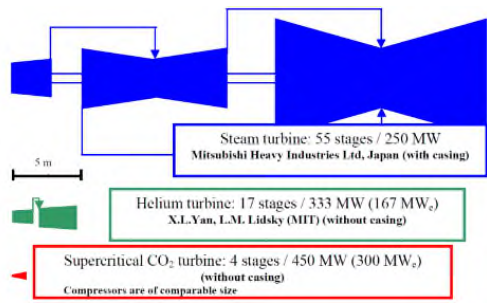


# sCO<sub>2</sub> power cycles can be applied to many heat sources and have a small footprint

The near ambient critical temperature of CO<sub>2</sub> allows it to be matched with a variety of thermal heat sources



The combination of favorable property variation and high fluid density of sCO<sub>2</sub> allows small footprint of machinery



SunShot is helping to achieve these goals.

# Summary

- sCO<sub>2</sub> Cycle can provide over 50% thermal efficiency
- sCO<sub>2</sub> Turbomachinery Require many additional considerations
- Real gas properties important for aero prediction and rotordynamics
- Gas density high – rotordynamics and blade dynamics
- High heat transfer – thermal management and pressure containment
- Material compatibility – high temperature and seals
- Requires design that can accommodate high thermal gradients with high pressure containment
- High power density results in challenges in packaging and driven equipment matching