

Advanced Materials Issues for Supercritical CO₂ Cycles (FEAA123)

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Crosscutting Research Program (V. Cedro, project manager)

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Acknowledgments

sCO₂: Jim Keiser - autoclave design

Mike Howell - construction and operations

Robert Brese - UTenn PhD student

G. Garner, M. Stephens - oxidation experiments

T. Lowe - characterization; T. Jordan - metallography

D. W. Coffey - TEM specimen preparation, FIB

D. Leonard - EPMA

Alloys: Haynes, Special Metals, ATI, Sumitomo, Sandvik...

Research sponsored by: U. S. Department of Energy, Office of Fossil Energy, Crosscutting Research Program

Project is focused on studying materials in direct-fired supercritical CO₂

Goals and Objectives

Address materials issues for scaling up direct-fired sCO₂ Brayton cycle systems to higher temperatures for increased efficiency and larger size for commercial power production

Milestones

FY16

Data analysis on effect of temperature on reaction rates	6/2016 (done)
1 and 25 bar testing at three different impurity levels	2 of 3 complete
Complete construction of impurity effects test rig	in progress

FY17

Complete analysis of reaction products as a f(T,P,...)	3/2017
Complete 500h, 300 bar exposures at 3 impurity levels	6/2017
Complete 2,500 h sCO ₂ at a high H ₂ O content	9/2017

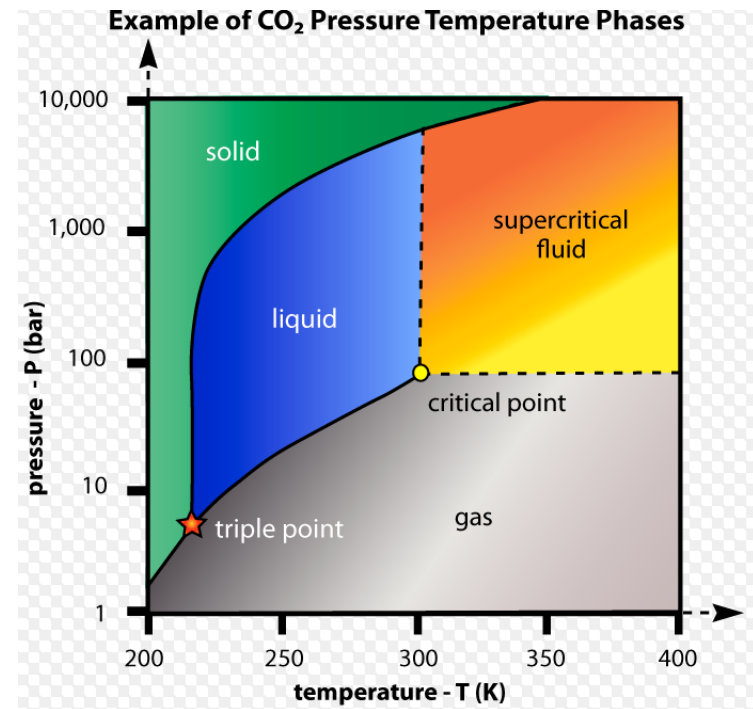
Why use supercritical CO₂?

Potential supercritical CO₂ (sCO₂) advantages:

- no phase changes
- high efficiency
- more compact turbine
- short heat up
- less complex
- lower cost (?)

Direct- and indirect-fired sCO₂ Brayton cycles for:

- fossil energy (coal or natural gas)
- concentrated solar power
- nuclear (paired with sodium for safety)
- waste heat recovery/bottoming cycle



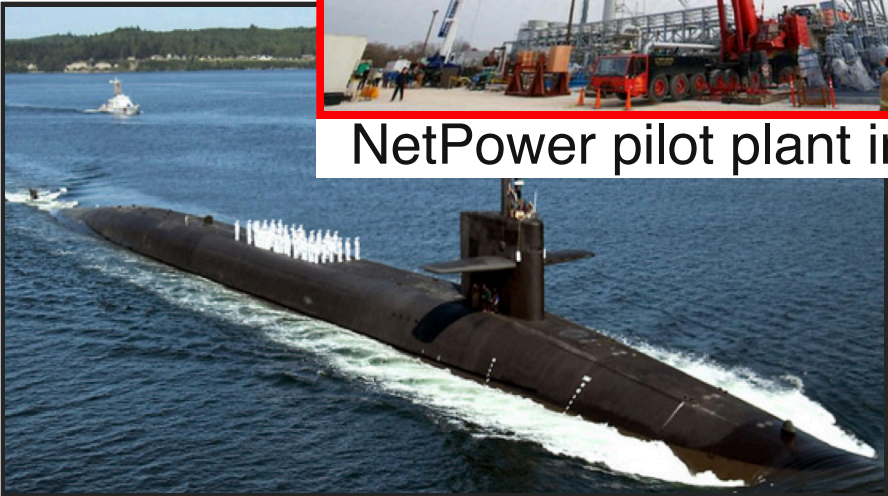
Many possible applications



Smaller fossil systems



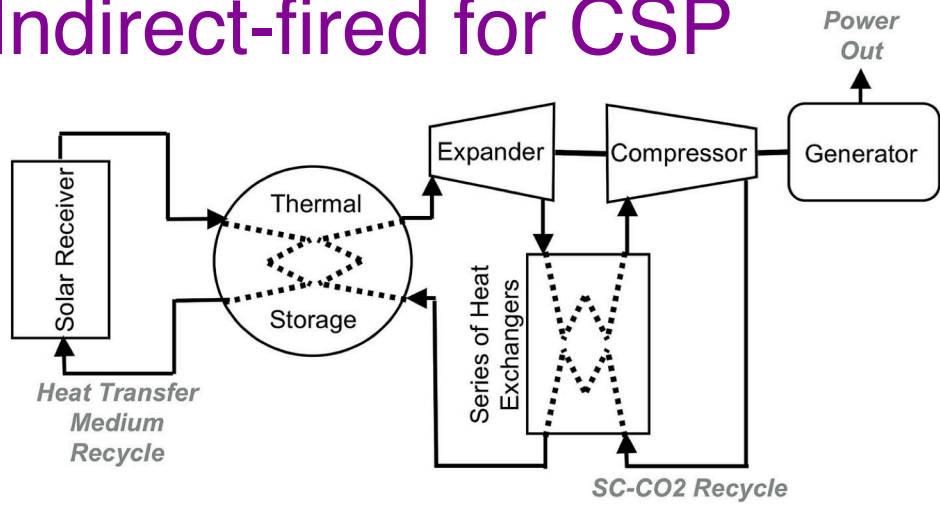
NetPower pilot plant in Texas



7MW Echogen, waste heat

Direct-fired system of special interest

Indirect-fired for CSP



Closed loop of relatively pure CO₂

- primary HX (>700°C)
- recuperators (<600°C)

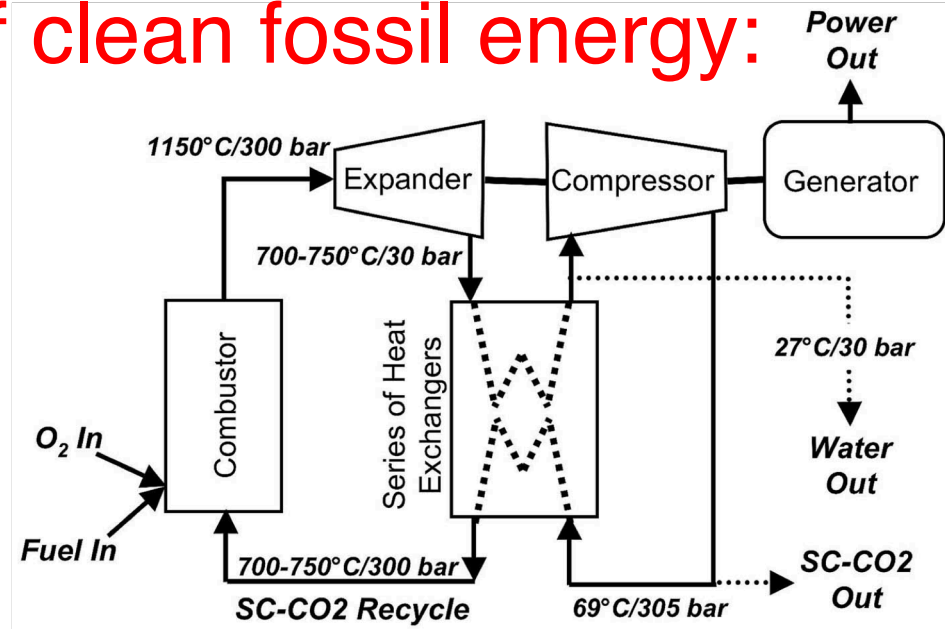
Also, waste heat recovery, bottoming cycle for Fossil

Direct-fired (e.g. Allam cycle by Netpower) offers the promise of clean fossil energy:

In: natural gas + O₂

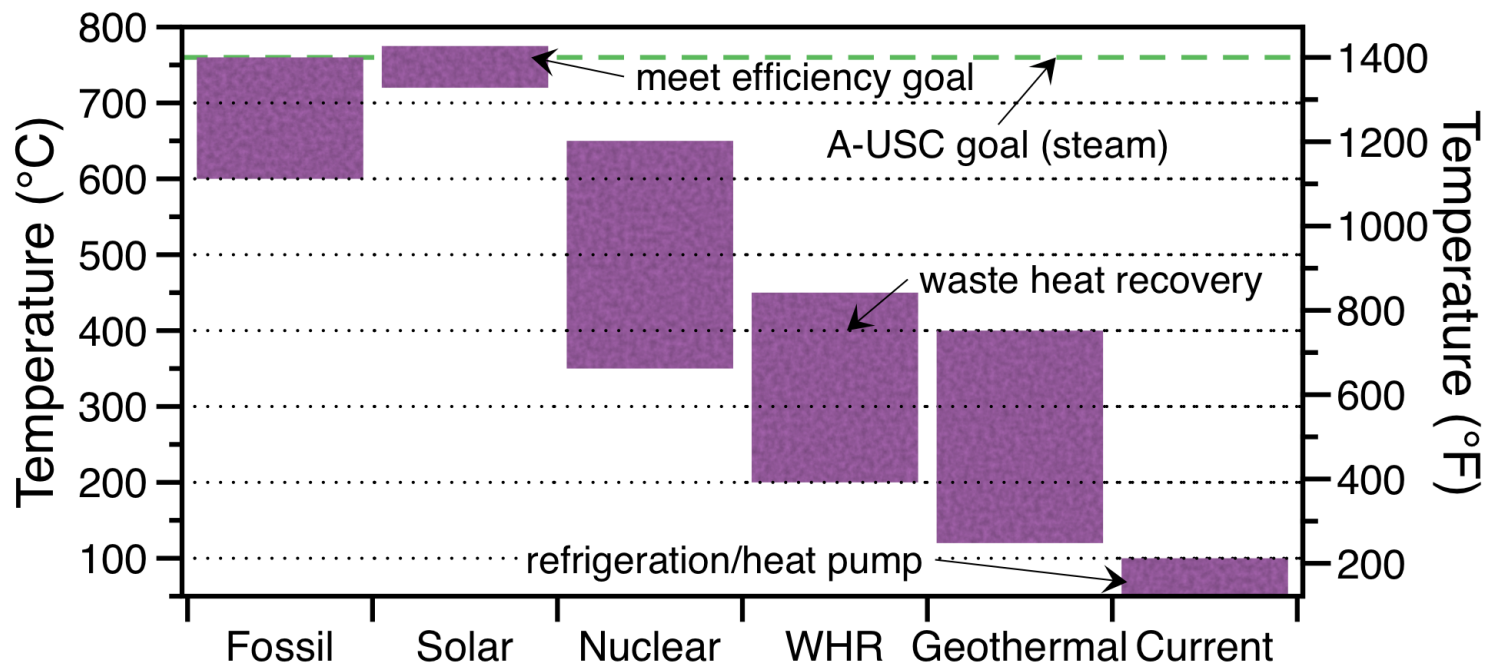
Impurities: ~10% H₂O
~1% O₂, CH₄?, SO₂?

Out: CO₂ for EOR
(enhanced oil recovery)



Different temperature targets

- Uncertainty about peak T for sCO₂ applications
- Fossil energy interest for power generation
coal/natural gas: replace steam with closed cycle
- Direct-fired system may have very high peak T's:
1150°C combustor
750°C/300 bar turbine exit
- Indirect-fired: Primary HX operating at higher T



Materials for sCO₂ ~ A-USC steam

Temperatures (600°-750+°C) and pressures:
challenge for strength

limited number of materials available

! Adv. Ultra-supercritical (steam) same T range

Limited materials choices:

- capability

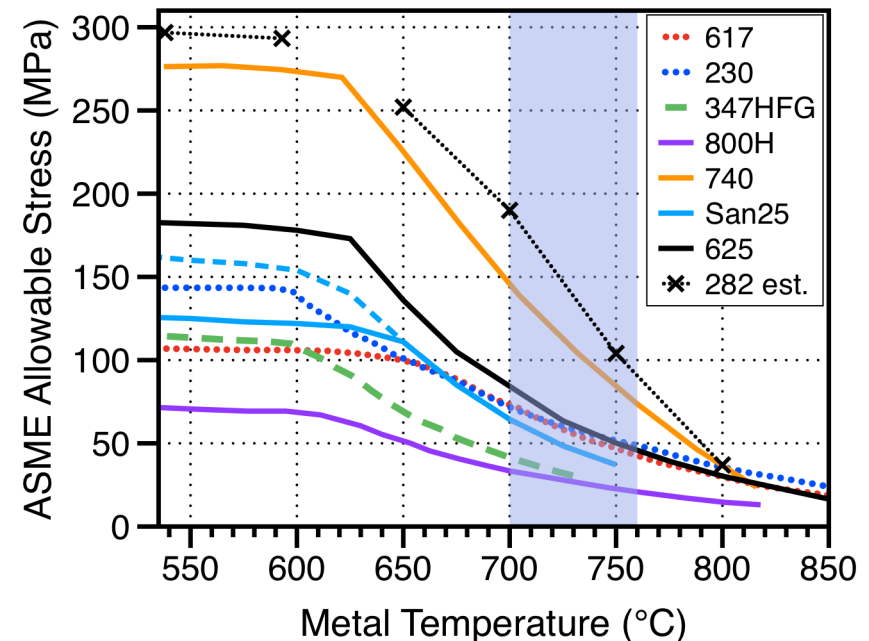
- ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code:

Materials are key to:

- reliability

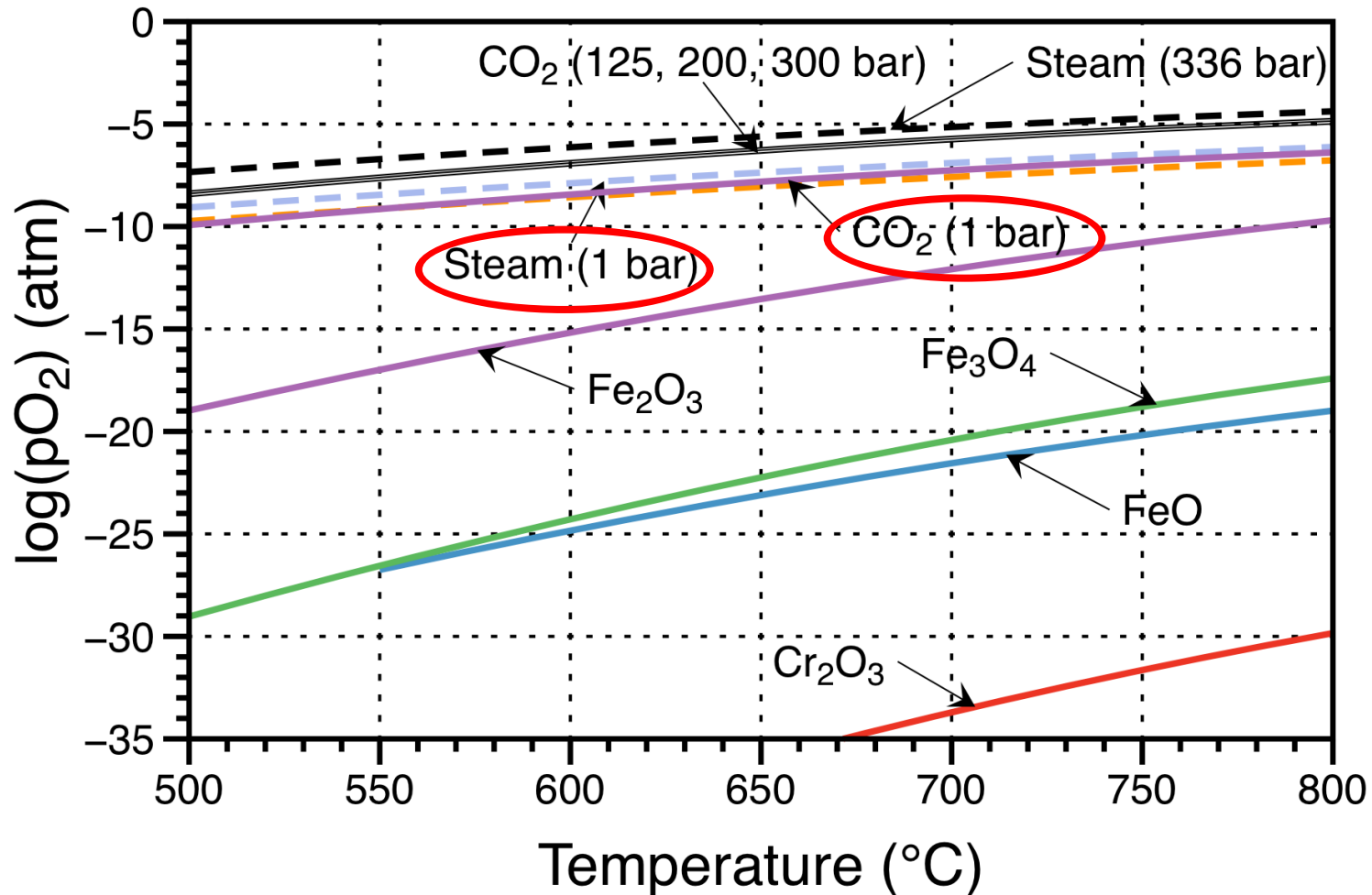
- availability

- maintainability



Oxygen levels similar in steam/CO₂

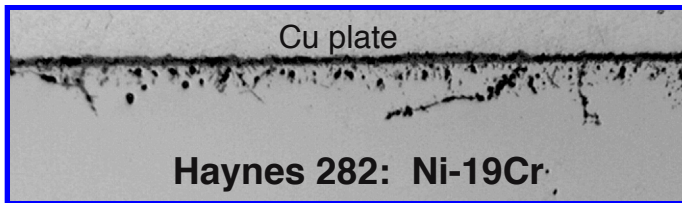
Factsage calculations: $\text{CO}_2 \leftrightarrow 1/2\text{O}_2 + \text{CO}$



Similar $p\text{O}_2$ levels in steam & CO₂, higher at 200bar
All oxides of interest are stable

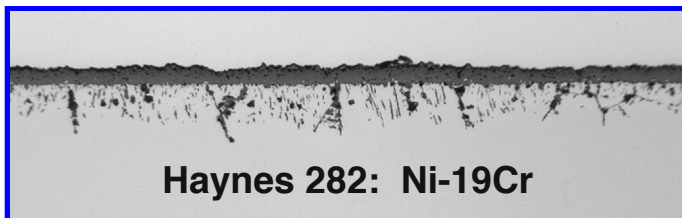
Why worry about 740/282?

5-10kh at 800°C still form thin reaction product in air



800°C, 5,000h in air+10%H₂O

10 μm

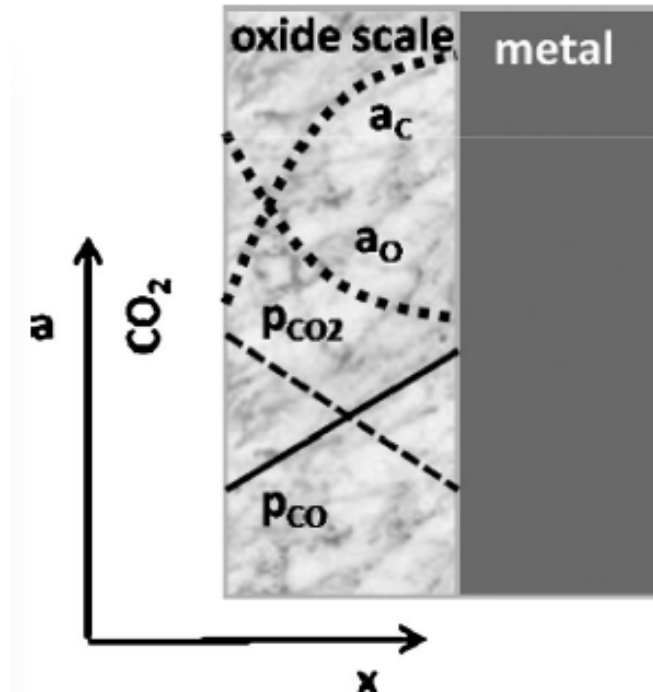


800°C, 10,000h in dry air

both exposures: 500h cycles

Al+Ti internally oxidize beneath

Cr₂O₃ oxide scale



from Young, et al. 2011

Gas only: C activity (a_c) relatively low, favors oxidation

C in alloy ties up Cr, not available to form protective scale

McCoy 1965: 600 & 18Cr-8Ni SS internally carburized in 1bar CO₂

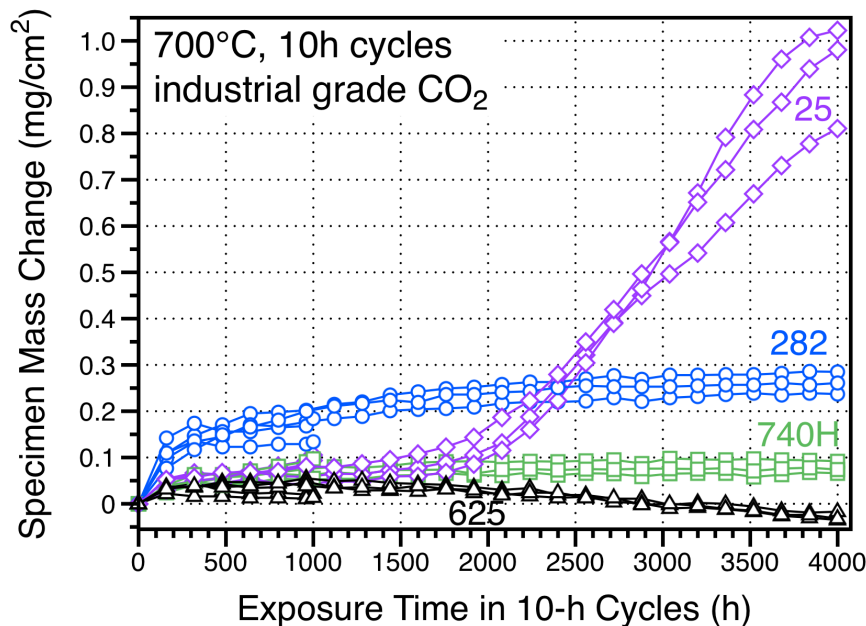
High a_c predicted - what about NiCr in sCO₂ + 1%H₂O?

Maybe we should be worried

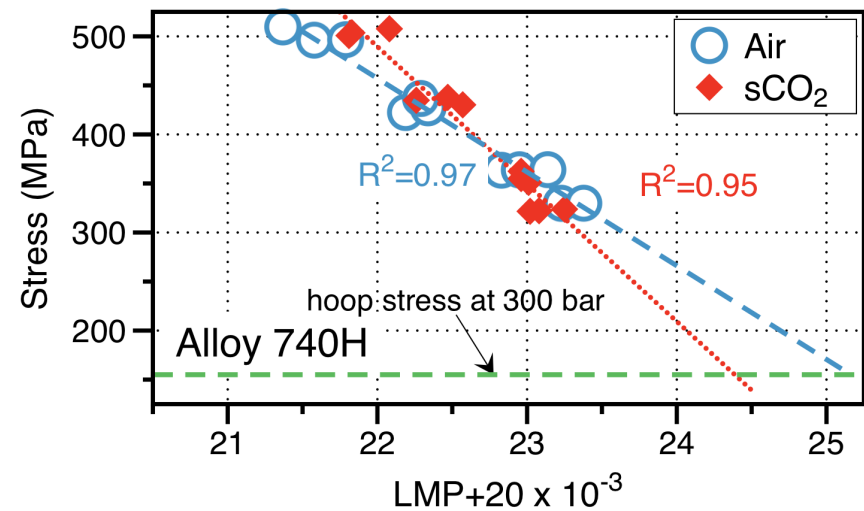
Year 1 results from concentrated solar power study

Laboratory simulation of CSP duty cycle (700°C, 1 bar)

Tube creep rupture testing in supercritical CO₂



Sanicro 25 (Fe-22Cr-25Ni-3W-3Cu) showed accelerated mass gain (Fe₂O₃) after ~1500 h in 10-h cycles in industrial grade CO₂

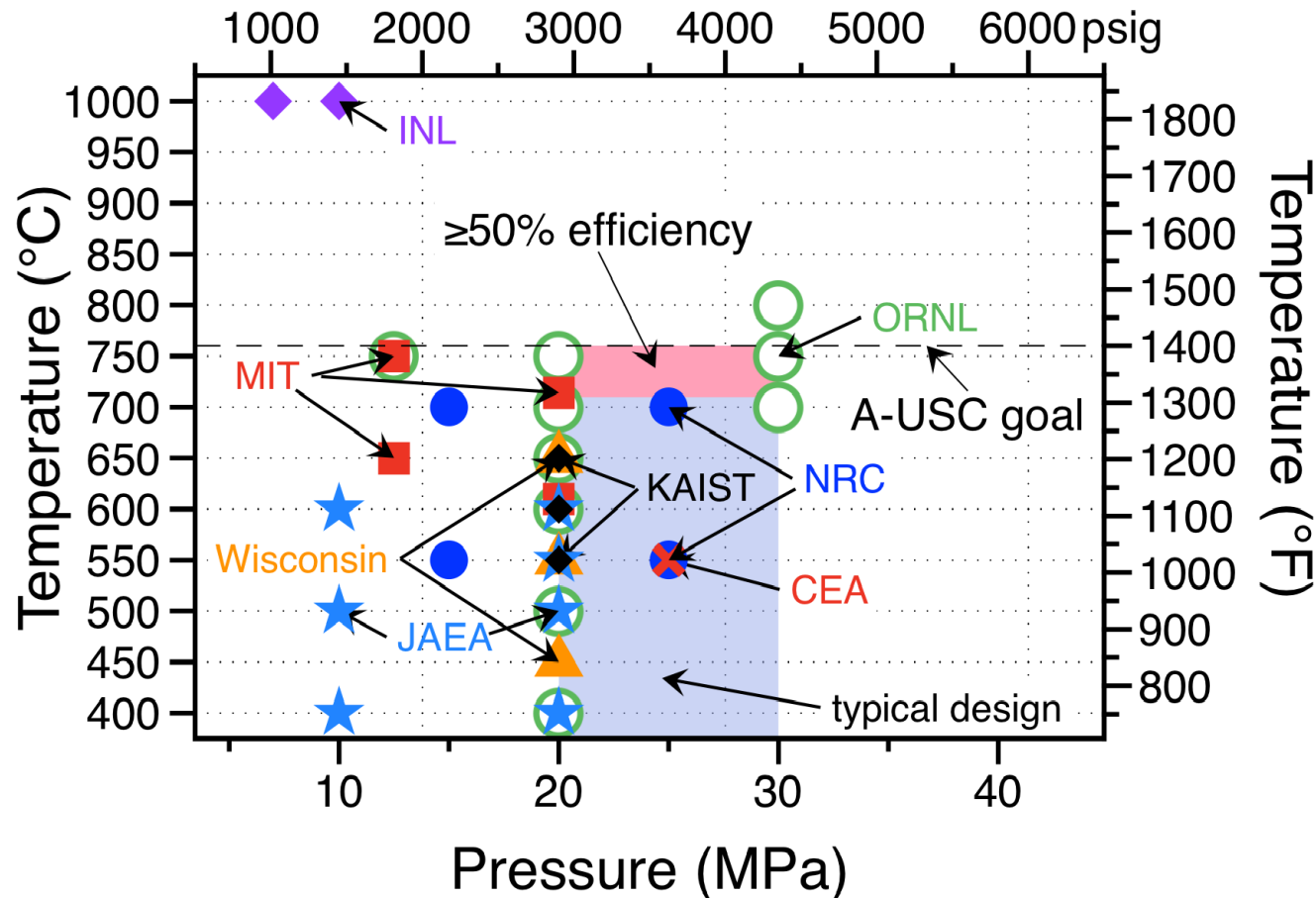


$LMP = T(\text{in K}) (20 + \log(\text{time in h}))$

Ni-base 740H showed decreased creep rupture lifetime at 750°C at longest exposure time in sCO₂ compared to high pressure air

Relatively little prior sCO₂ work

Especially at >650°C and >200 bar



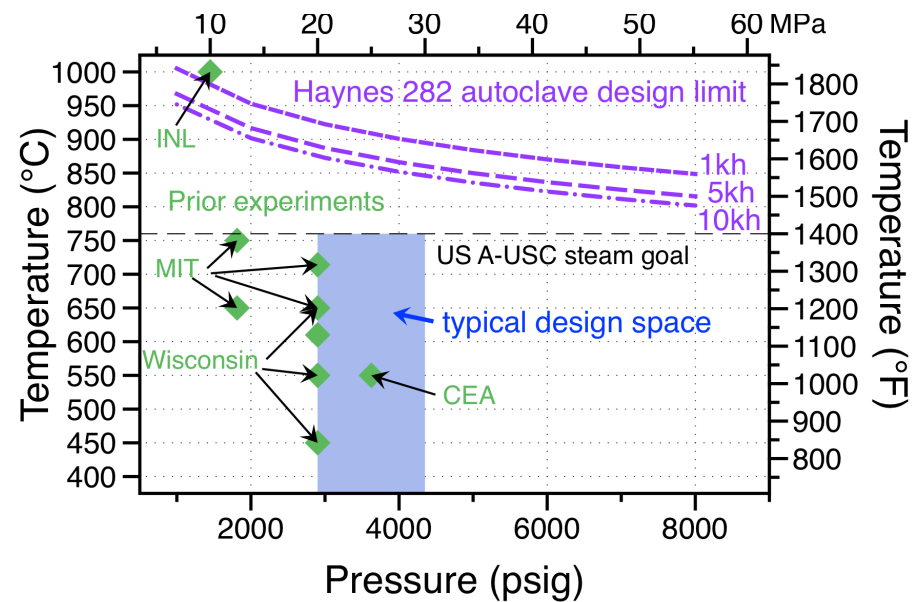
Several groups active in the past 10 years

U. Wisconsin group has published the most results

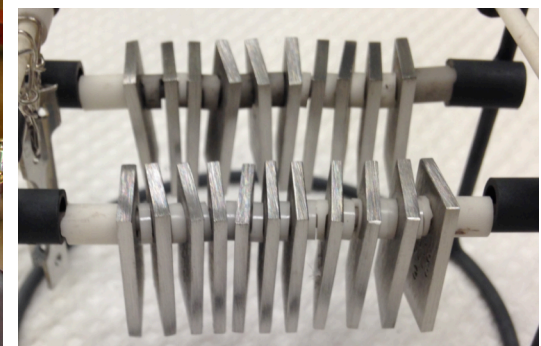
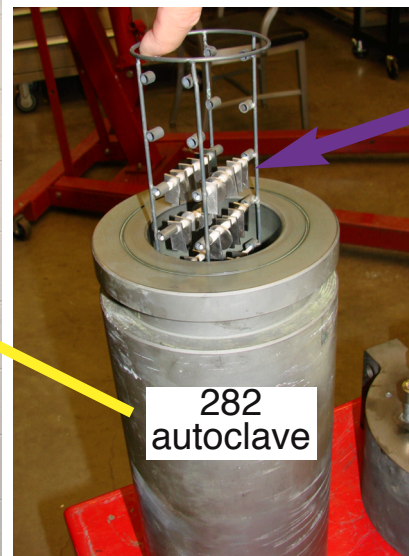
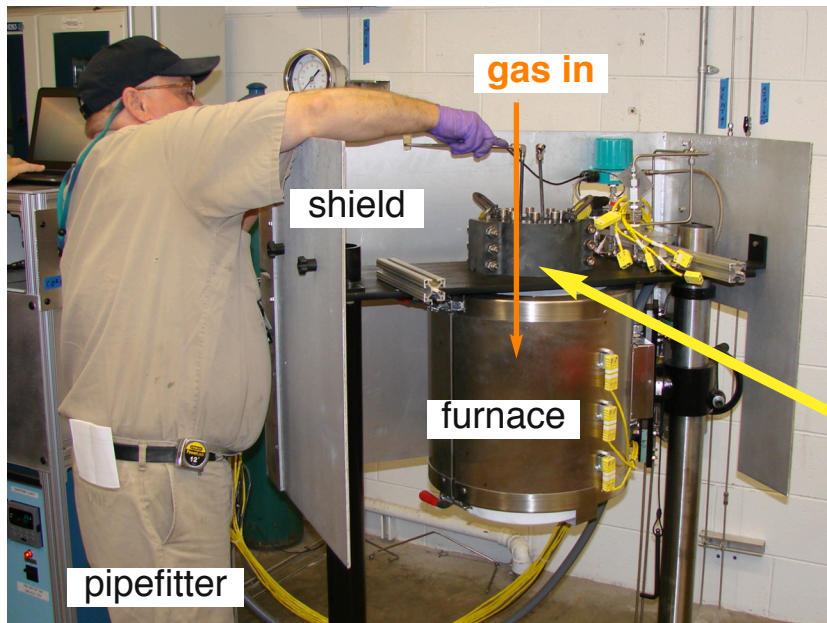
Temperature/pressure limited by autoclave design

ORNL sCO₂ rig finished in 2014

- ORNL design team: 100+ years of experience
- Haynes 282 autoclave
152mm (6") dia.
1 ml/min flow

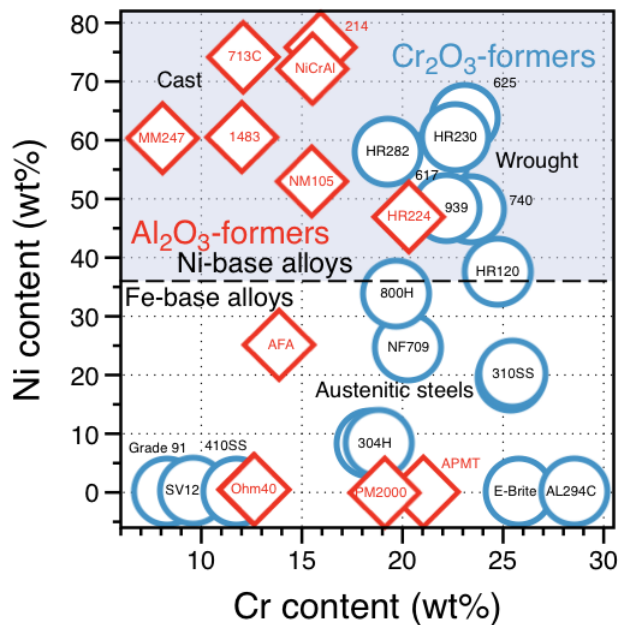


ORNL sCO₂ rig:



Range of alloys exposed

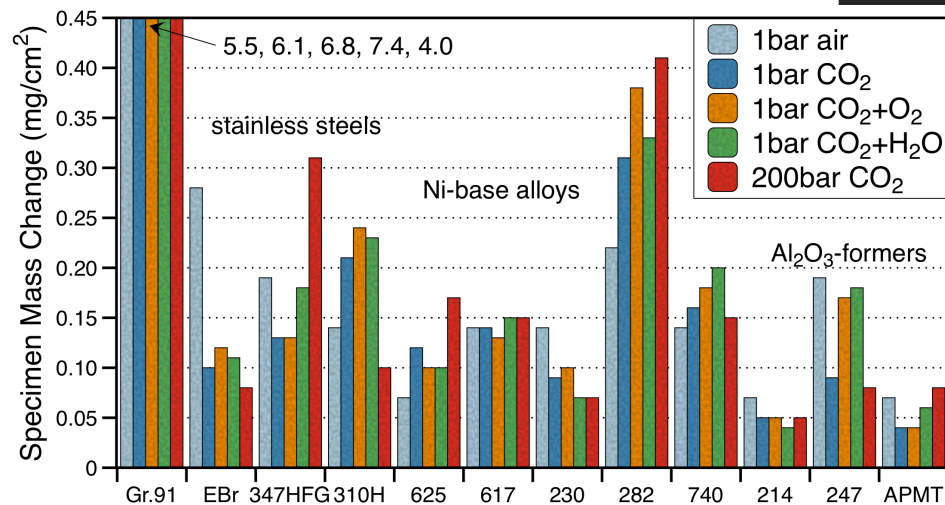
Narrowing scope as project progresses



2016-17:
6 alloys:
310HCbN
617
230
740H
282
247

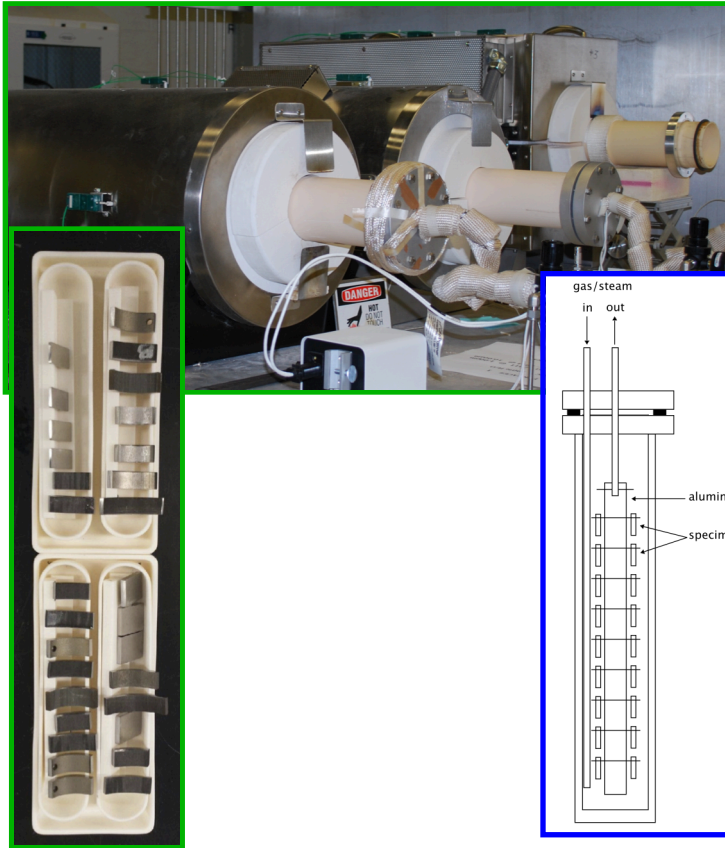
2015: 12 alloys studied

2014: 30 alloys screened



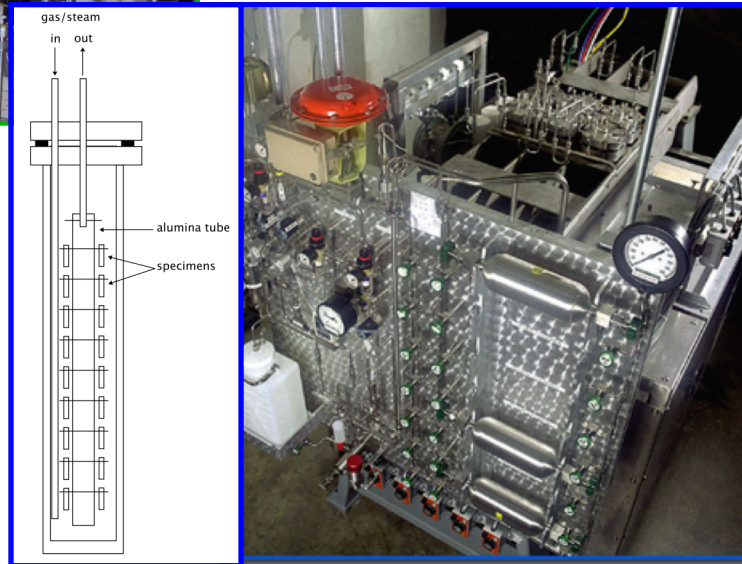
Several testing options

High temperature exposure in controlled gas environment
3-zone tube furnace



1 bar
500°-1200°C
500 h cycles

“Keiser” rig



1 + 25 bar
500°-1300°C
500 h cycles

282 autoclave



300 bar
200°-800°C
500 h cycles

Want to study sCO₂ impurity effects

Goal: study effect of H₂O & O₂ on sCO₂ corrosion

BUT, we can't pump impurities into sCO₂ gas

AND can't monitor H₂O or O₂ level at pressure

(1) 1 bar dry air, CO₂(99.995%), CO₂+0.15%O₂, CO₂+10%H₂O

2014-2015 results

(2) Constructing rig for 300 bar/750°C testing

Pumping system and detector being built

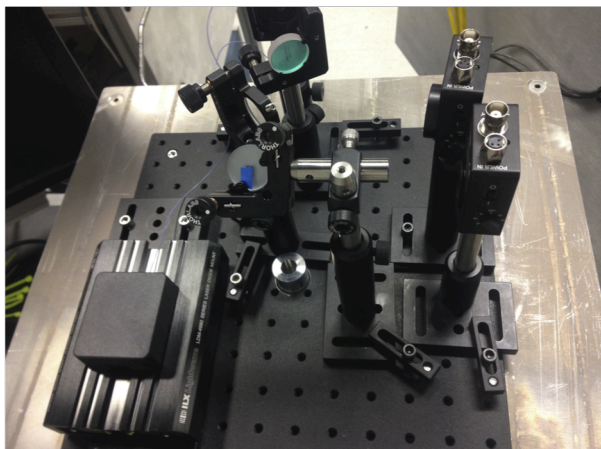
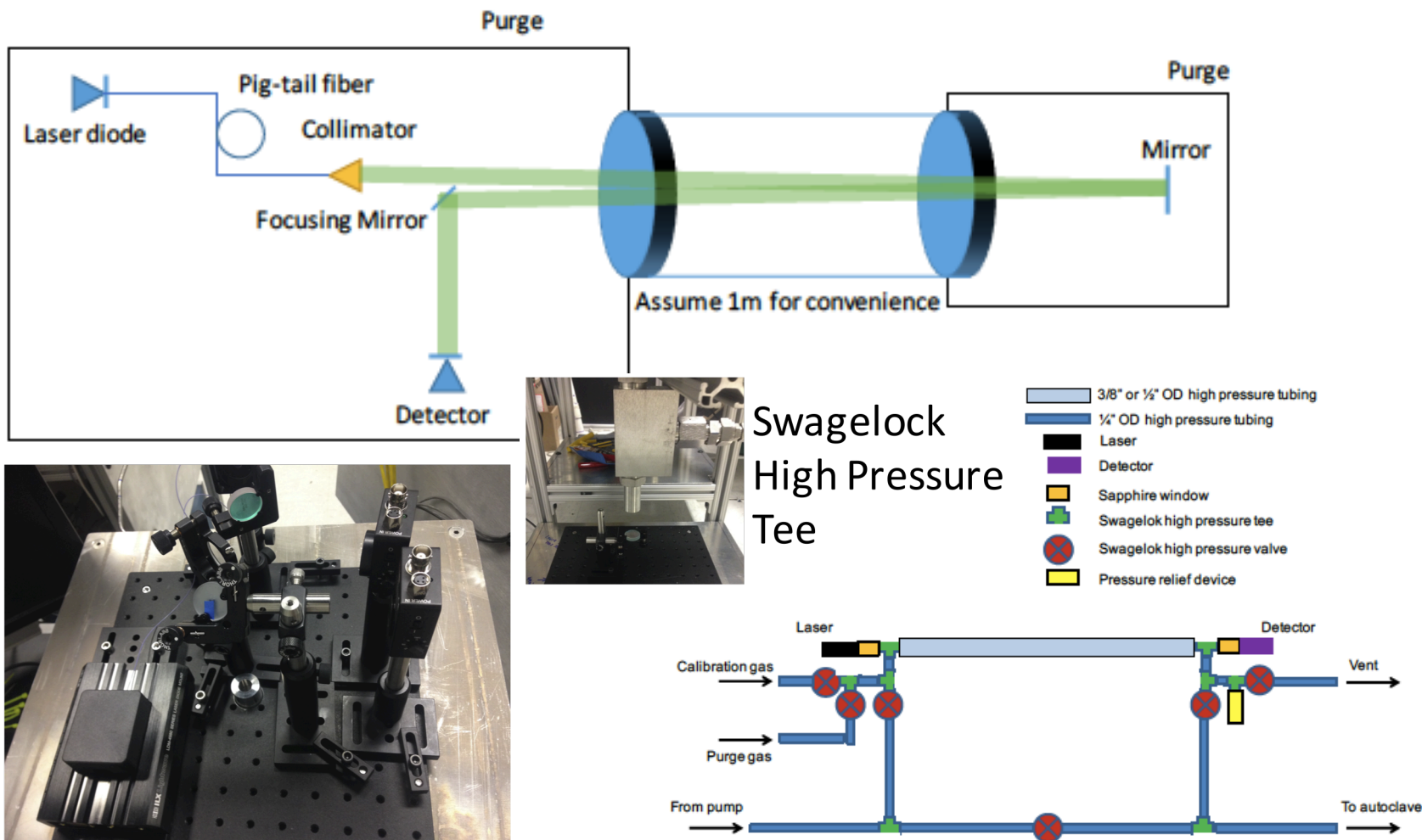
(3) 1 & 300 bar: industrial vs. research grade CO₂

Starting experiments (IG sCO₂ for SunShot project)

(4) 1 & 25 bar CO₂ vs. CO₂+H₂O vs. +SO₂?

Test matrix in progress

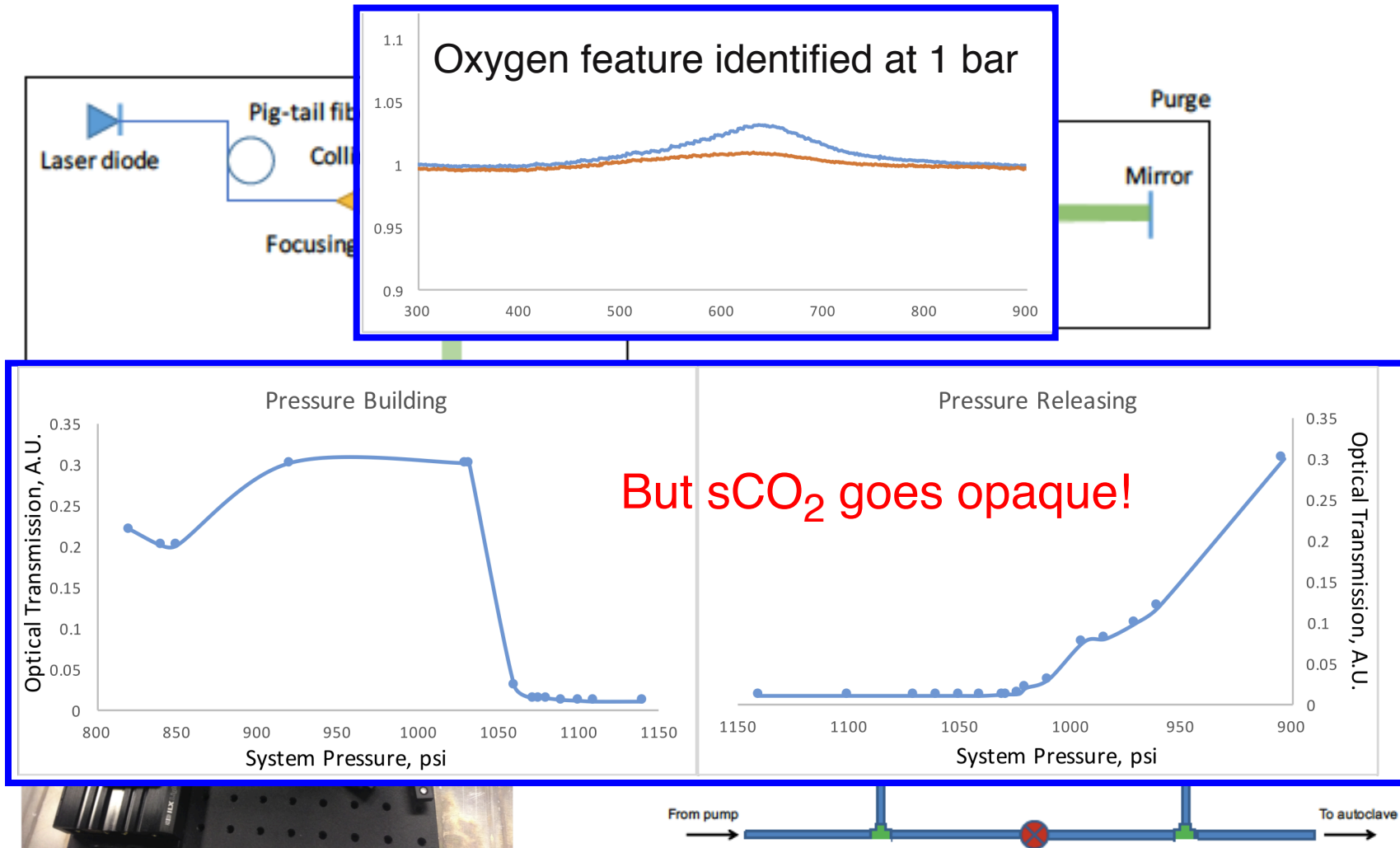
New system under construction



Optical Detection Set-Up

Laser-based system to detect O₂ and H₂O in CO₂ at pressure (200-300 bar)

New system under construction

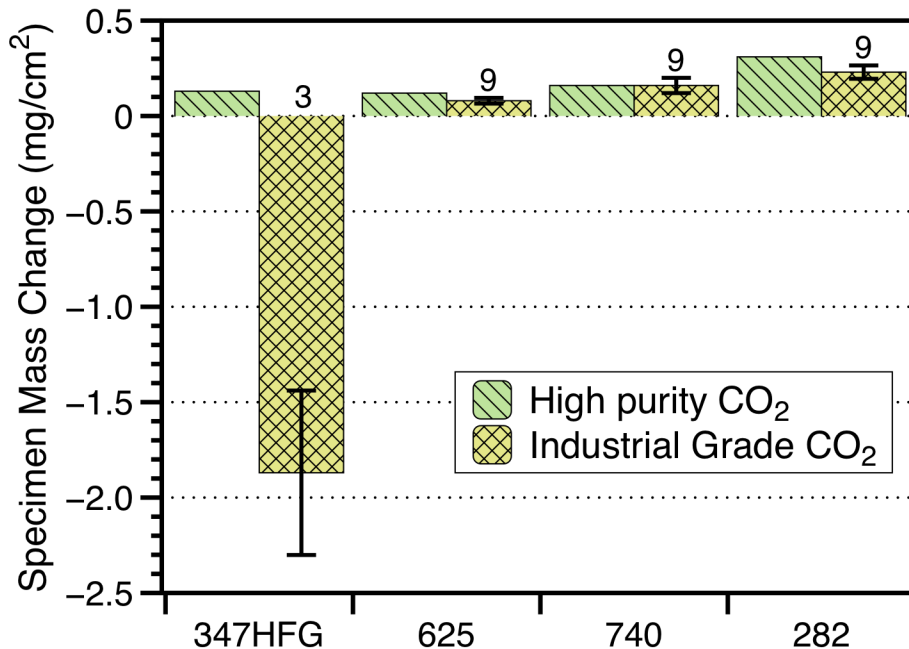


Optical Detection Set-Up

Laser-based system to detect O₂ and H₂O in CO₂ at pressure (200-300 bar)

RG vs. IG CO₂: initial comparison

FE/CSP collaboration: 750°C: 500 h cycles



Pressure	FE: RG CO ₂	CSP: IG CO ₂
1 bar	5,000 h	5,000 h
300 bar	5,000 h	5,000 h

test matrix

Initial results: 1 bar

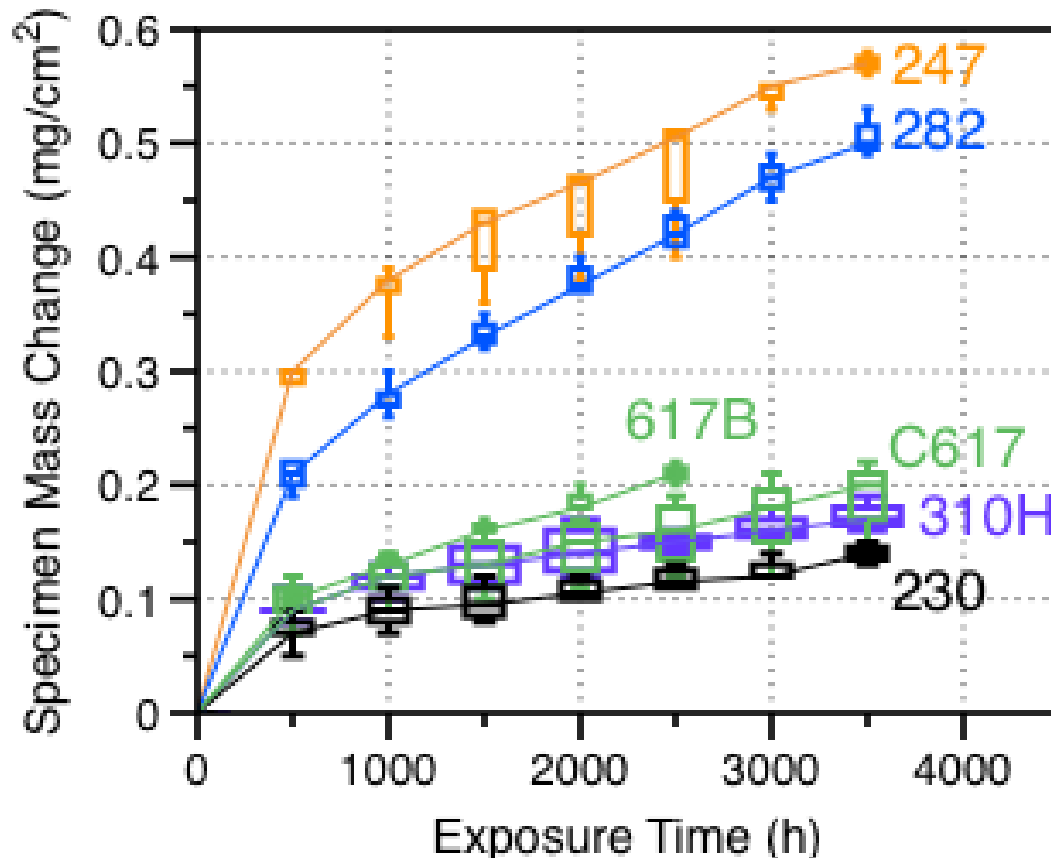
1 sample of each in first RG 200 bar exposures

Multiple samples in future for better statistics

Industrial grade: ≤ 50 ppm H₂O and ≤ 32 ppm O₂

Research grade: < 5 ppm H₂O and < 5 ppm hydrocarbons

300 bar IG sCO₂: complete June 10 x 500 h cycles at 750°C w/SunShot



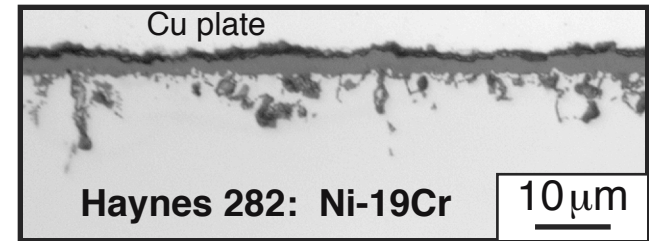
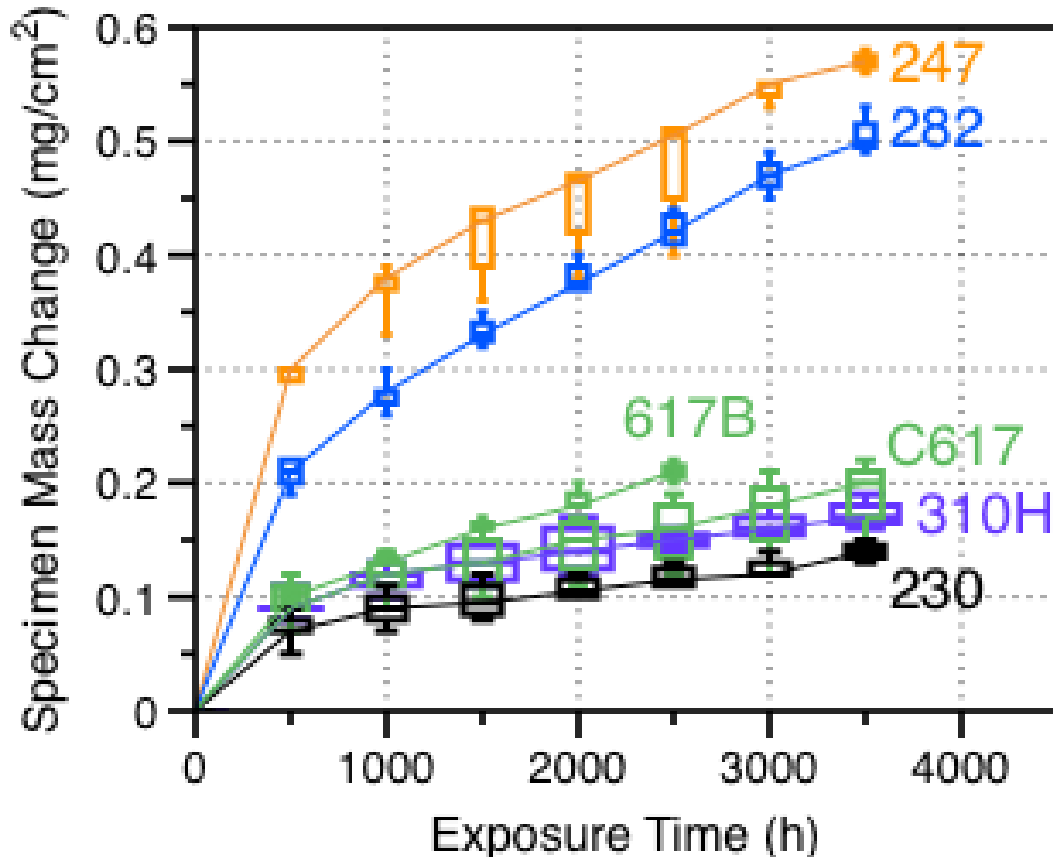
High mass gain for 282 and 247

617: both CCA617 and VDM 617B in test

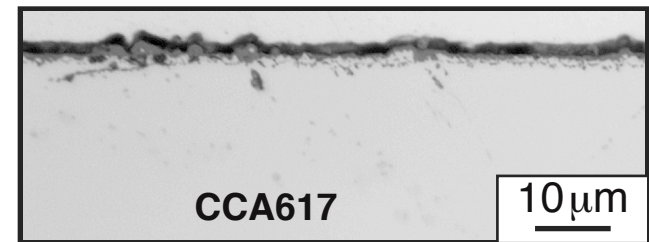
Industrial grade: ≤ 50 ppm H₂O and ≤ 32 ppm O₂

300 bar IG sCO₂: next RG sCO₂

10 x 500 h cycles at 750°C w/SunShot



750°C 300 bar 2,500 h



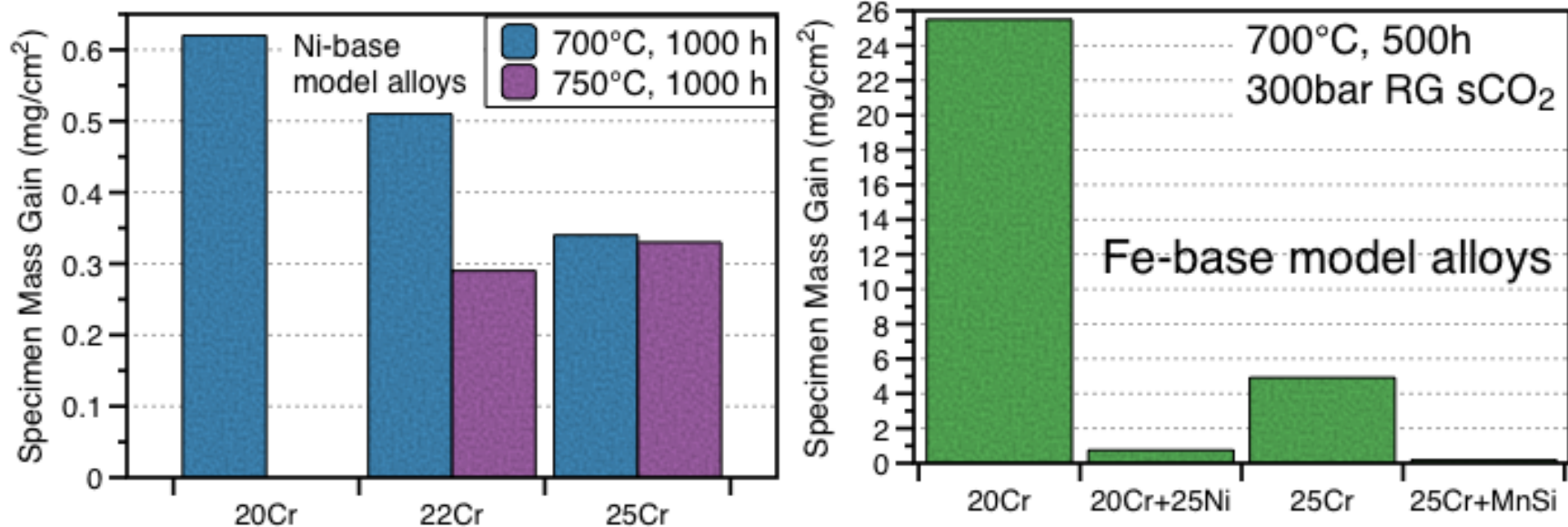
High mass gain for 282 and 247

617: both CCA617 and VDM 617B in test

Industrial grade: ≤ 50 ppm H₂O and ≤ 32 ppm O₂

Also exposing model alloys

500-1000 h exposures, 300 bar 700°+750°C



Cast and rolled M-Cr alloys

Ni-Cr alloys more protective

Several Fe-base alloys stopped at 500h

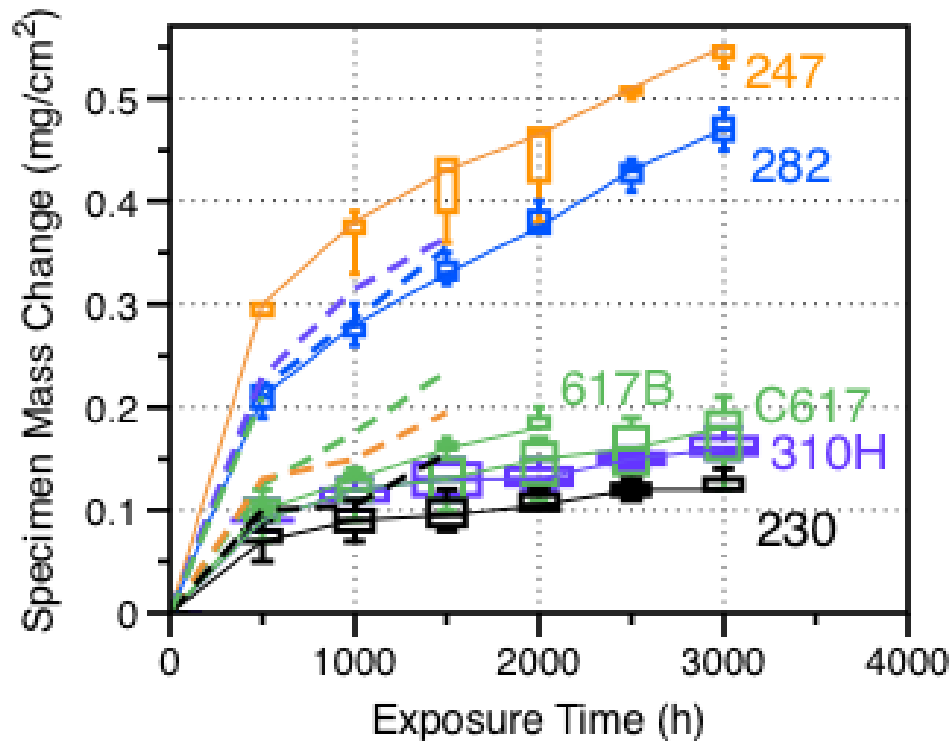
Fe-20Cr-25Ni - protective (FCC slower D_{Cr})

Fe-25Cr+Mn,Si - protective

Characterization in progress

Comparing 1 + 300 bar IG sCO₂

If P not important, large 1 bar database!



Dashed lines - median value of 4-5 1 bar specimens

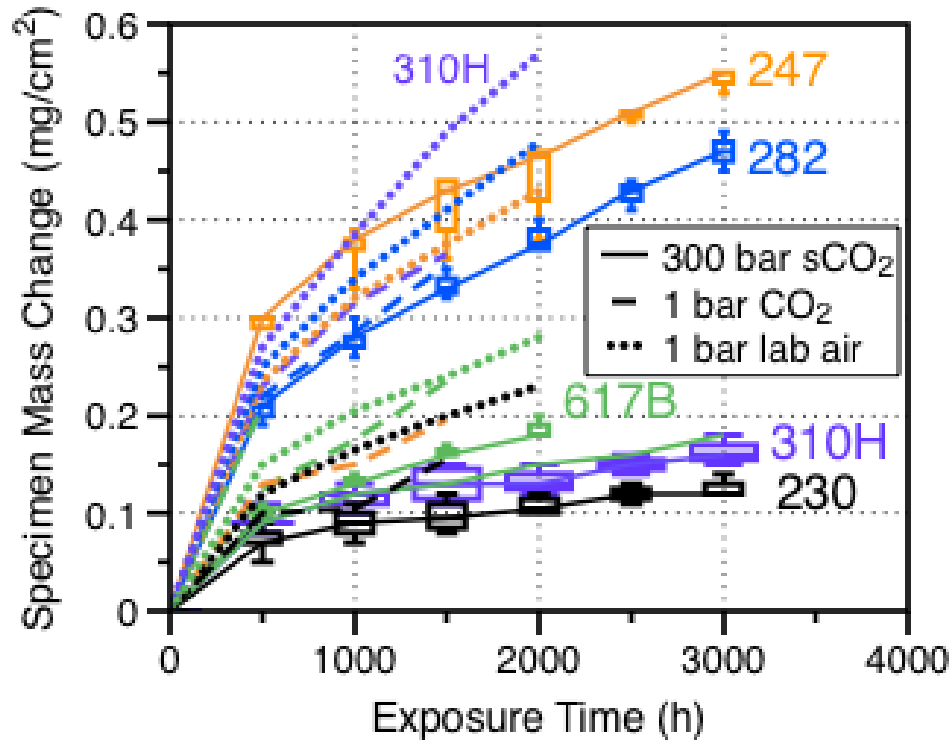
Initial results: slightly different ordering (310,247)

Now starting 1 bar RG CO₂

Industrial grade: ≤ 50 ppm H₂O and ≤ 32 ppm O₂

Baseline of laboratory air

500 h cycles at 750°C



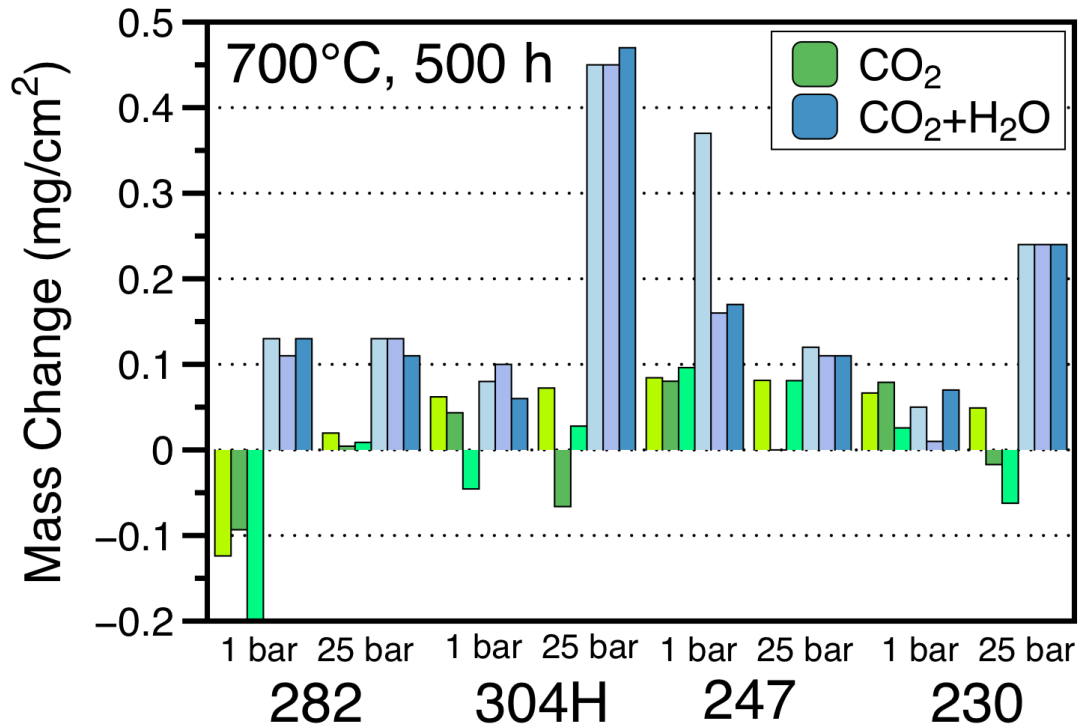
Dotted lines - median value of 4-5 1 bar specimens

Initial results: air similar to 1 bar CO₂

Need to compare rates & ignore transient effects

Initial results in 1 & 25 bar

Three specimens of each alloy per condition



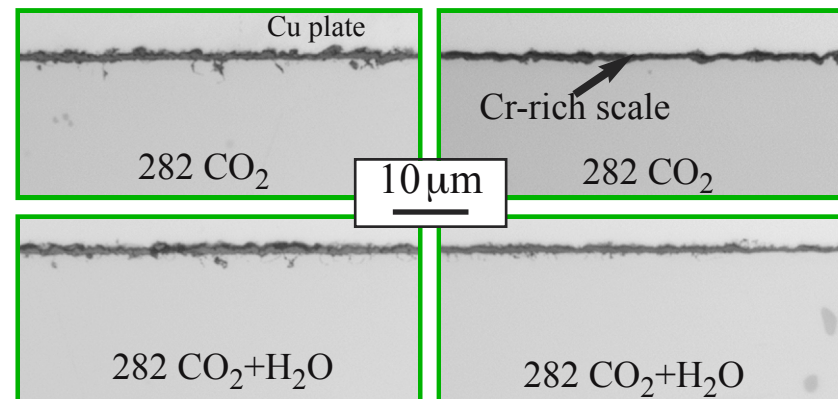
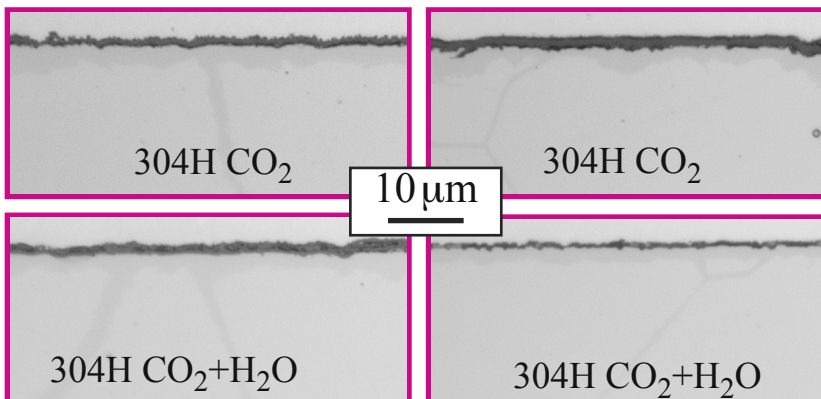
700°C, 1292°F
RG CO₂±10%H₂O
500 h exposure

700°C 1bar

700°C 25 bar

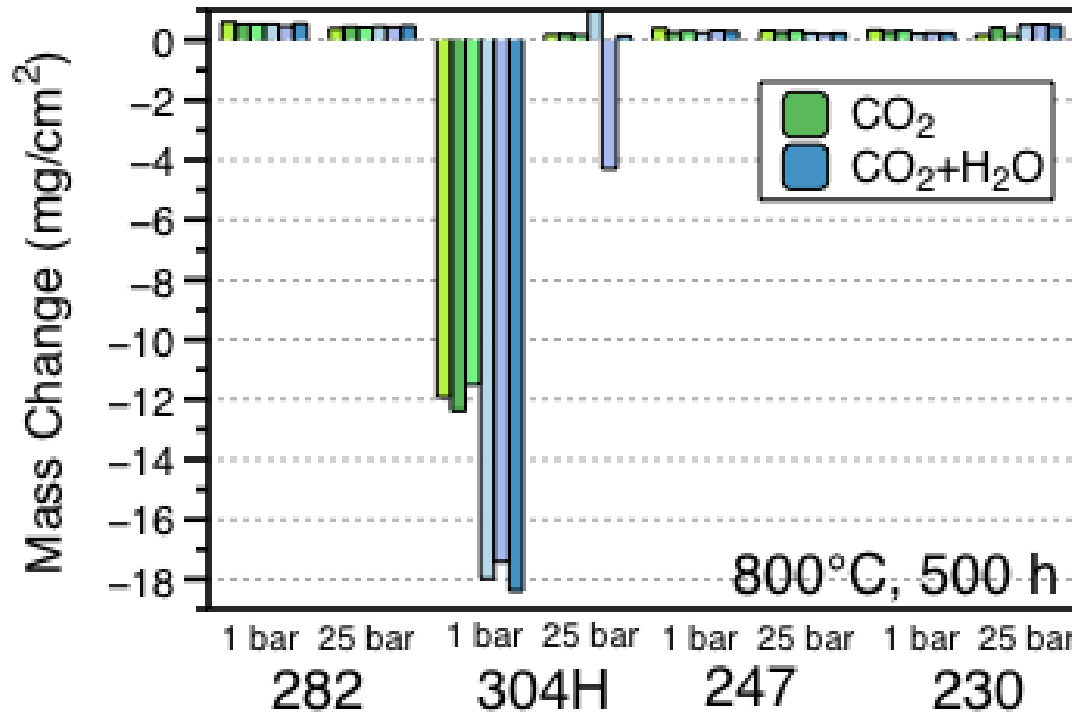
700°C 1bar

700°C 25 bar



800°C: only 304H showed P effect

Odd that higher pressure showed less attack



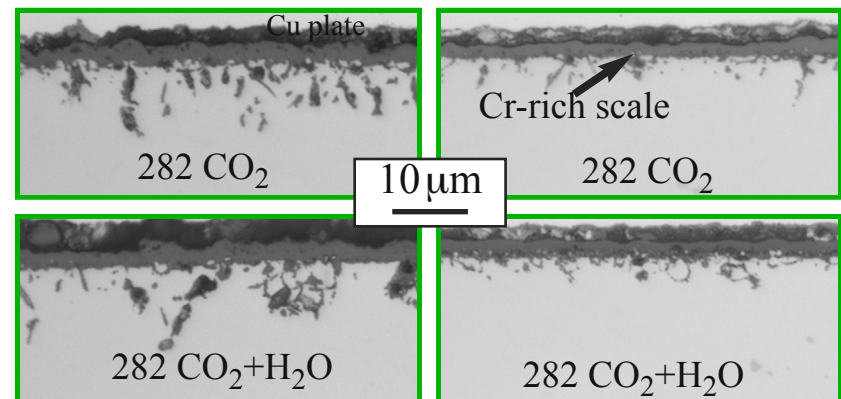
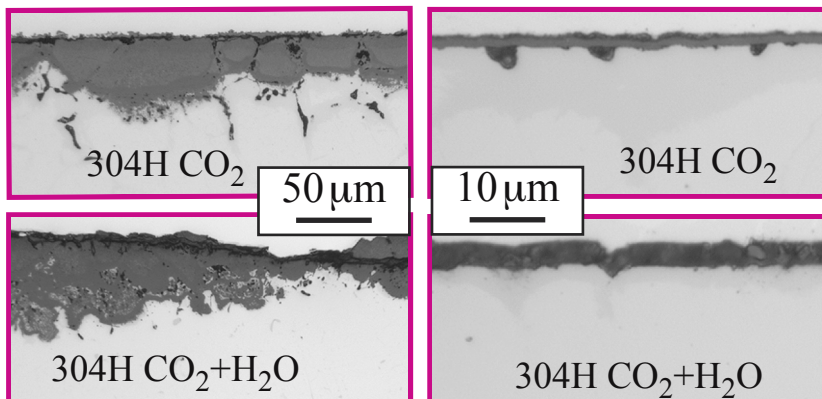
800°C, 1472°F
RG CO₂±10%H₂O
500 h exposure

800°C 1bar

800°C 25 bar

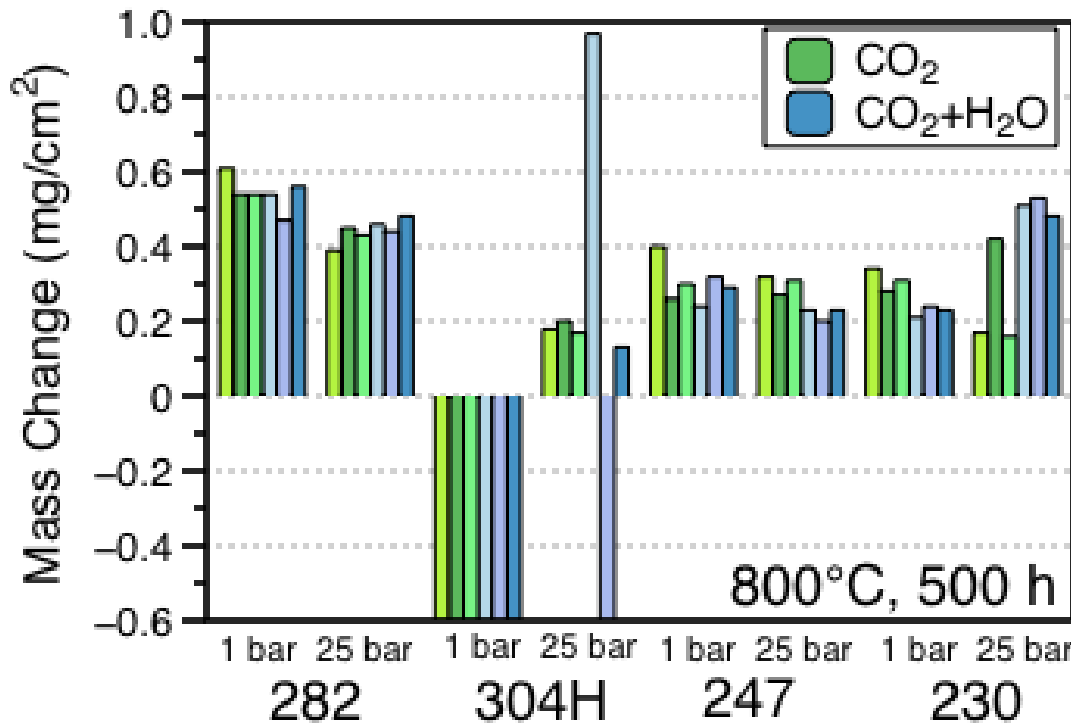
800°C 1bar

800°C 25 bar



800°C: only 304H showed P effect

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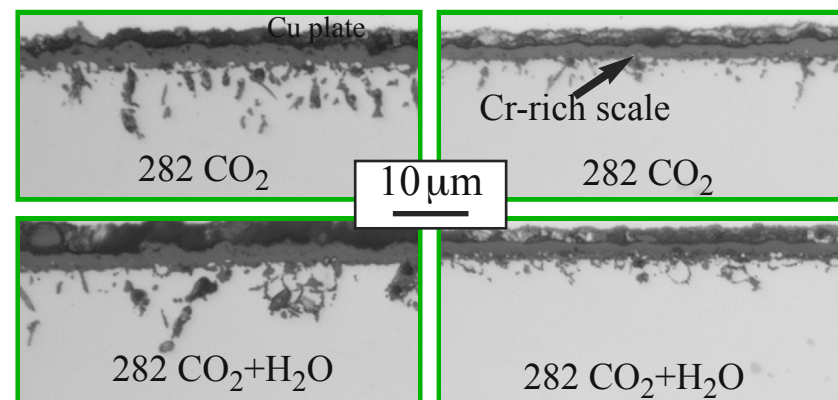
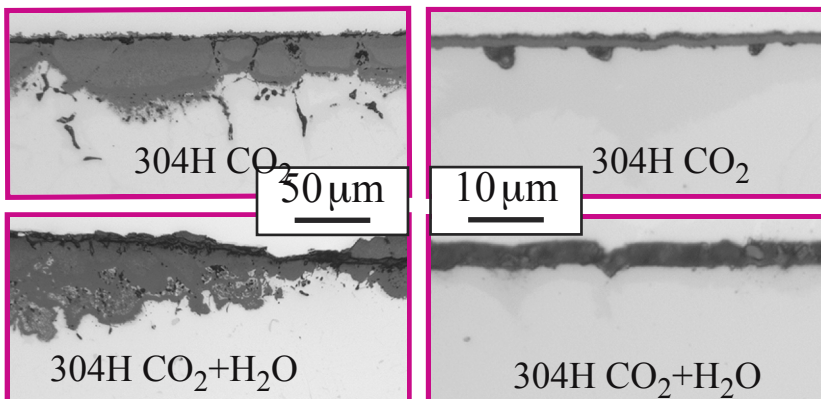
800°C, 1472°F
RG CO₂±10%H₂O
500 h exposure

800°C 1bar

800°C 25 bar

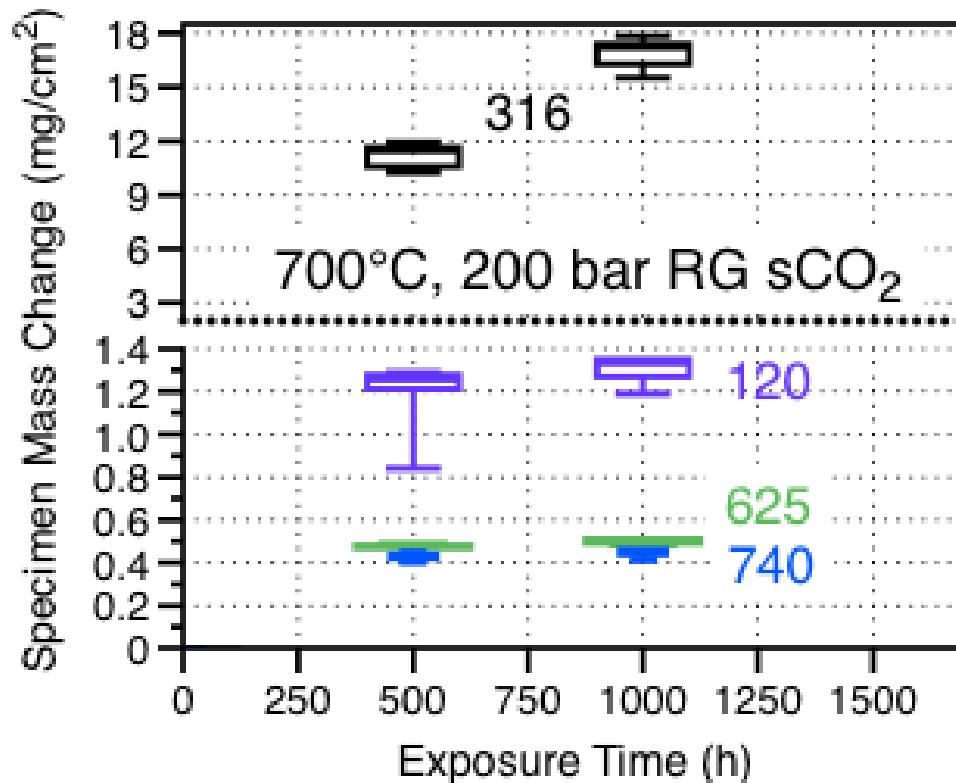
800°C 1bar

800°C 25 bar



Round robin testing starting

Project led by Oregon State, including NETL + UW



200 bar RG sCO₂
550° and 700°C
3 x 500 h cycles
4 alloys each
6 specimens

Two cycles complete at 700°C

specimens removed at 500 and 1000 h

high mass gain for 316SS

550°C: IN740 replaced by T91

Summary: direct-fired sCO₂ project

Several experiments planned to study H₂O and O₂ effects in supercritical CO₂, need a system that:

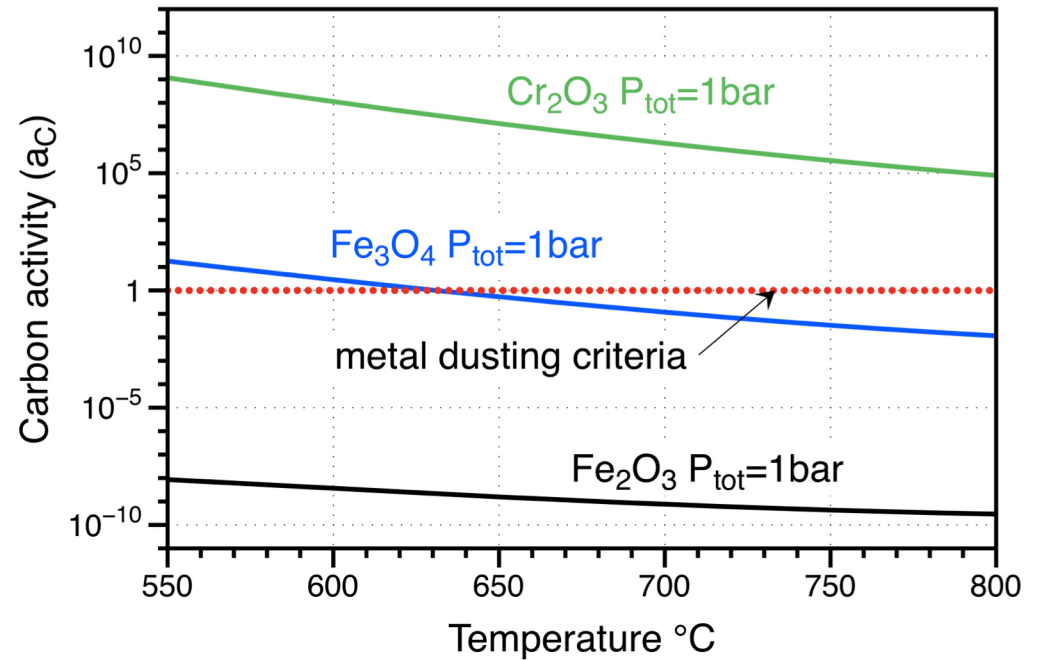
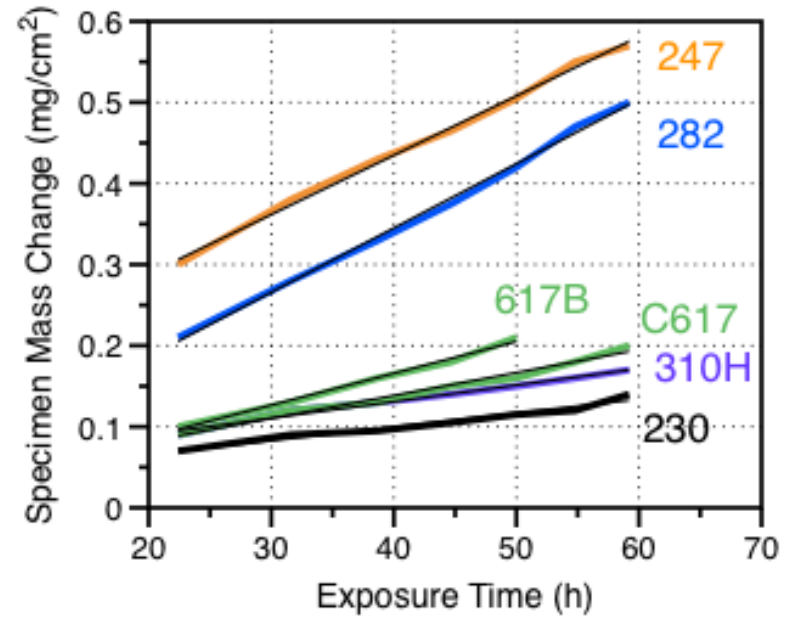
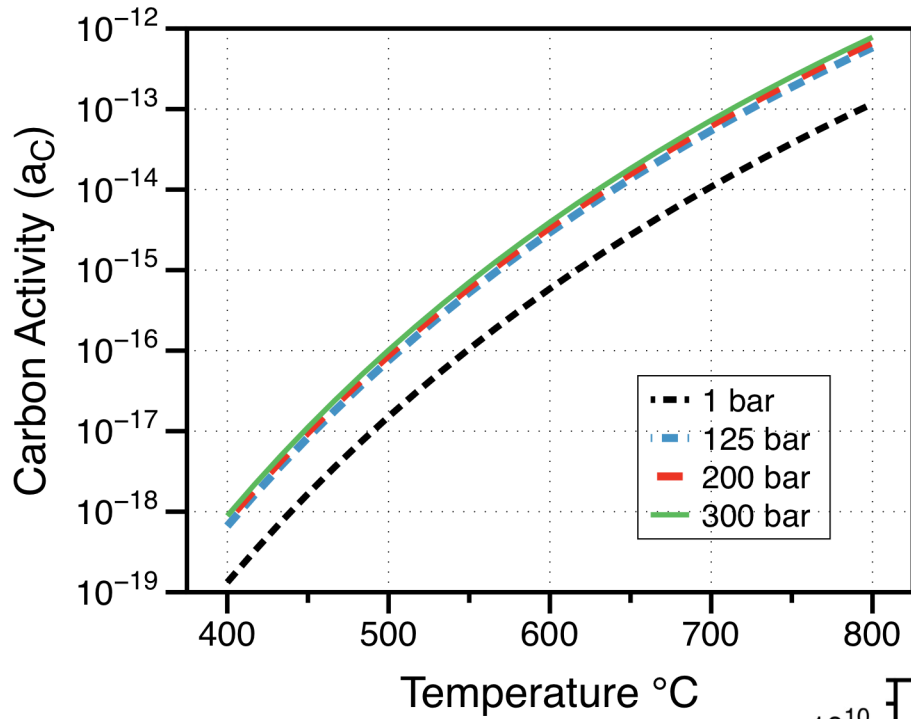
- can pump control impurity levels at 300 bar?
- detect levels entering and leaving autoclave to study conditions relevant to direct-fired cycles

Additional experiments:

- (1) comparing industrial and research grade CO₂
 - 1 and 300 bar
 - collaboration with DOE SunShot-funded project
- (2) comparing 1 & 25 bar CO₂ & CO₂+10%H₂O
 - thin oxides formed on higher-alloyed materials
 - no clear effect of impurities from this data
 - last condition to be run CO₂+10%H₂O+0.1%SO₂

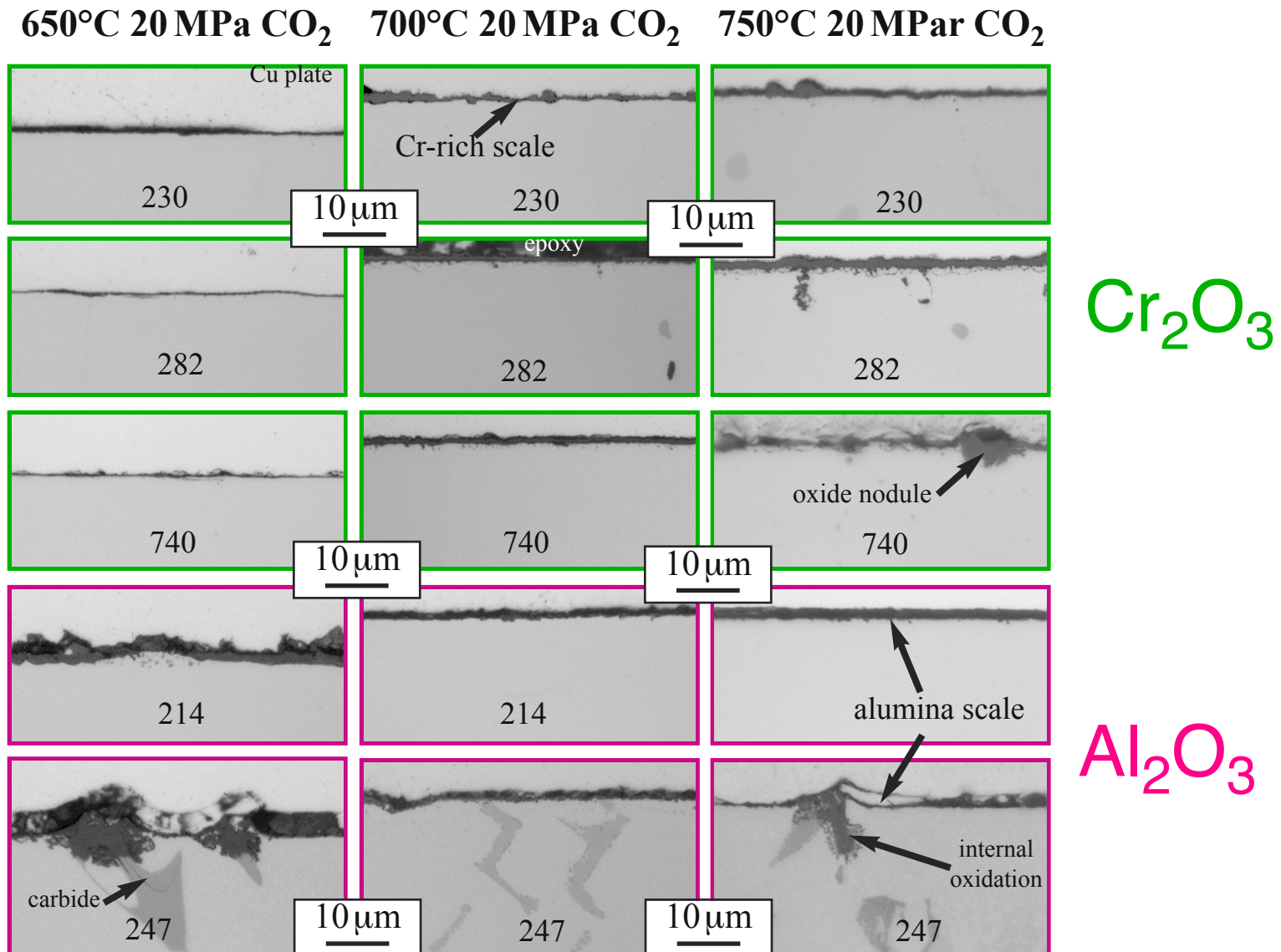
More characterization: TEM & GDOES

backup slides



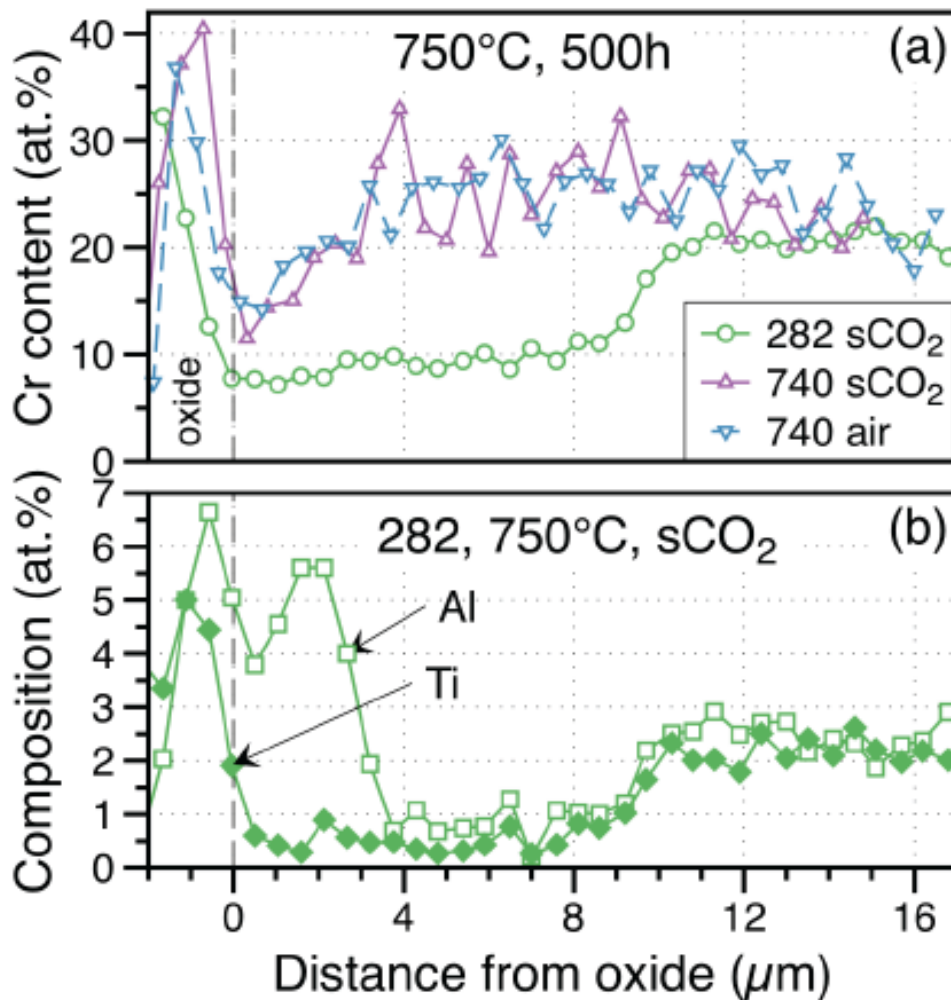
Ni-base alloys: thin scales

All thin Cr-rich or Al-rich scales in 20 MPa sCO₂

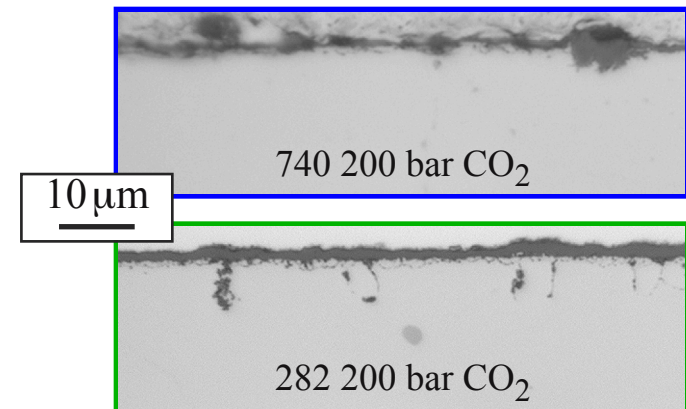


282 deeper Cr depletion than 740

EPMA depth profiles beneath scale at 750°C



1 bar air vs. 200bar CO₂

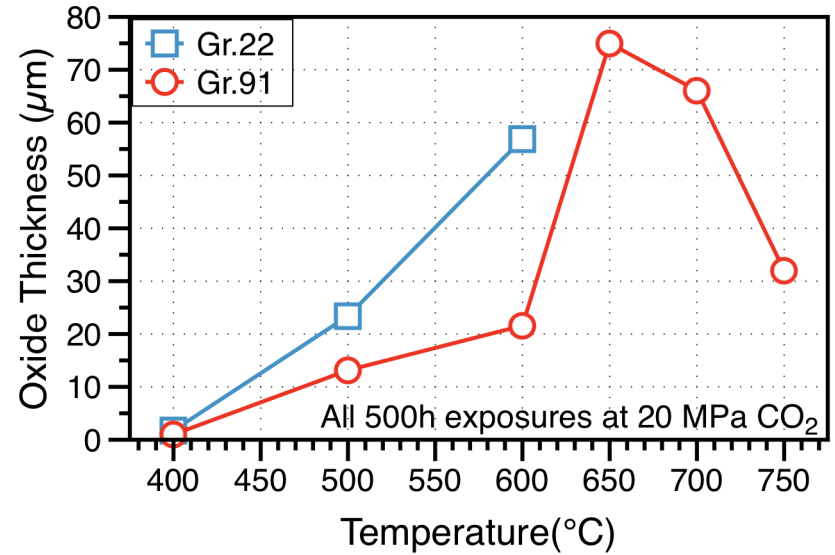
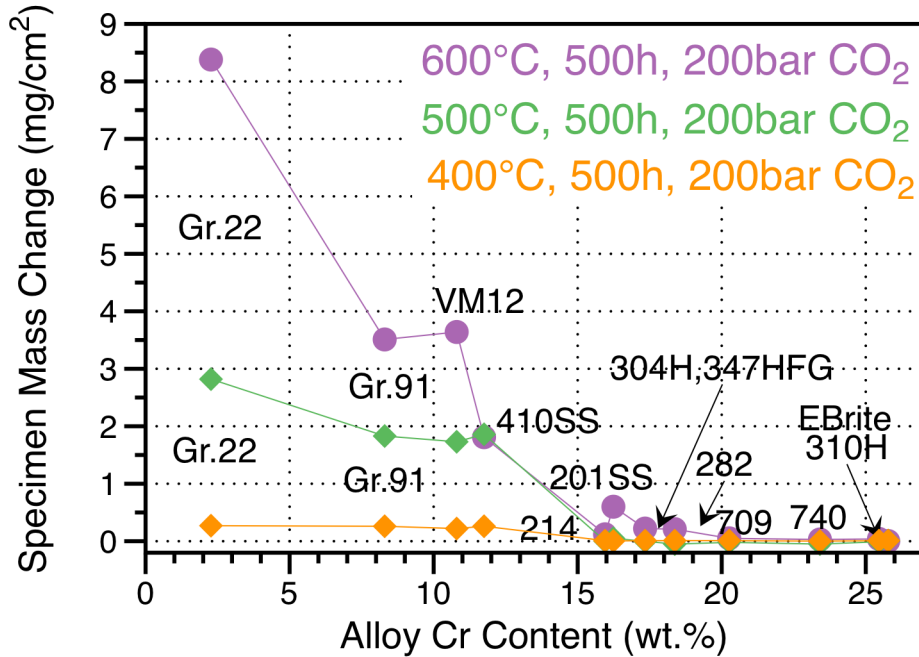


282: 58Ni-19Cr-10Co-8Mo-1.5Al-2.2Ti

740: 49Ni-24.6Cr-20Co-0.5Mo-1.3Al-1.5Ti

Steels exposed at 400°-600°C

500h exposures in 20 MPa CO₂

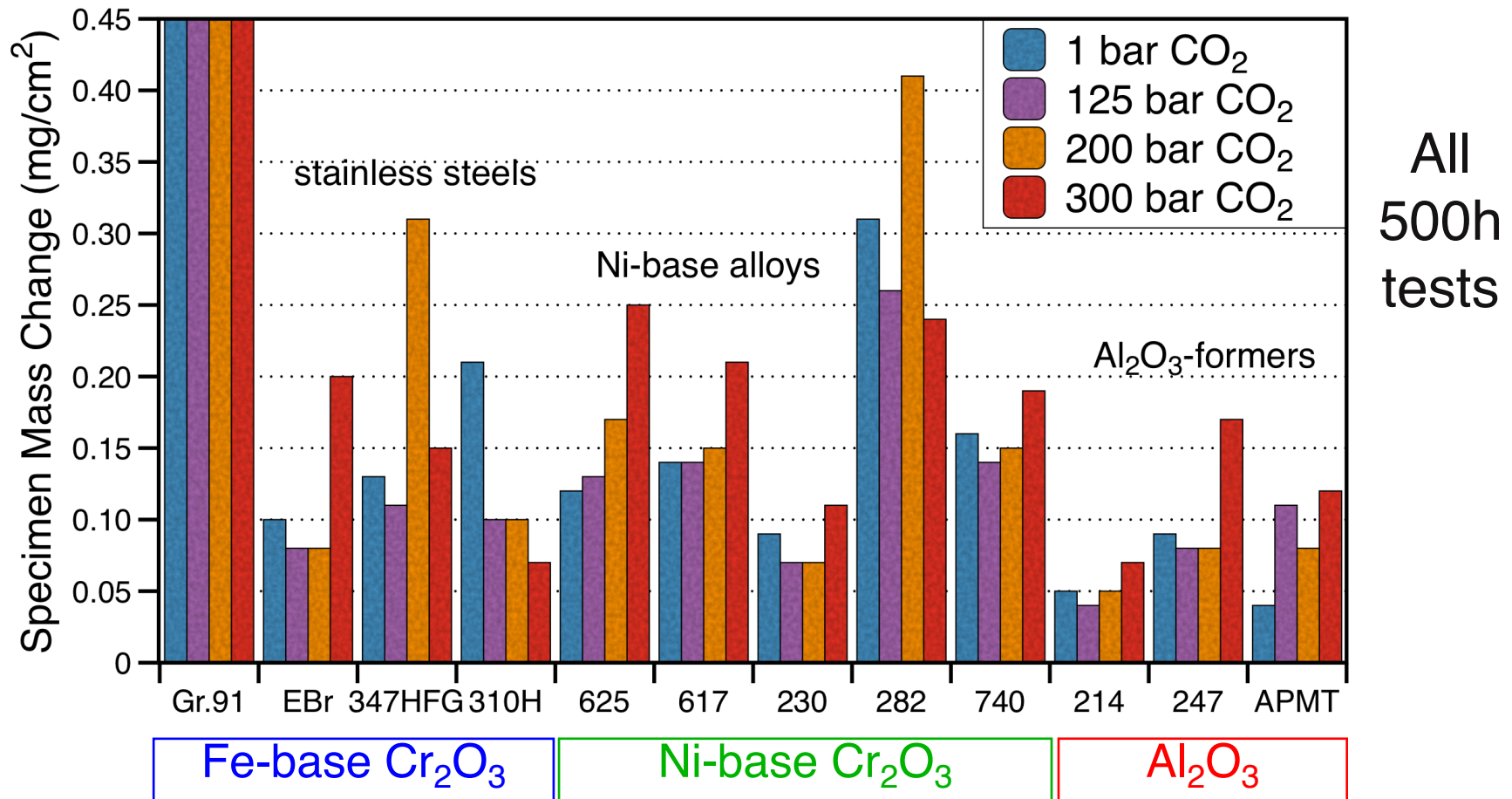


Industry interested in where low-cost alloys can be used

Little effect of pressure observed

500h exposures at 750°C

Core group of 12 alloys evaluated



0.1 mg/cm² ~ 0.5 μm surface oxide
10 mg/cm² ~ 50 μm (2 mils)

Typical Fe-rich oxide on Gr.91

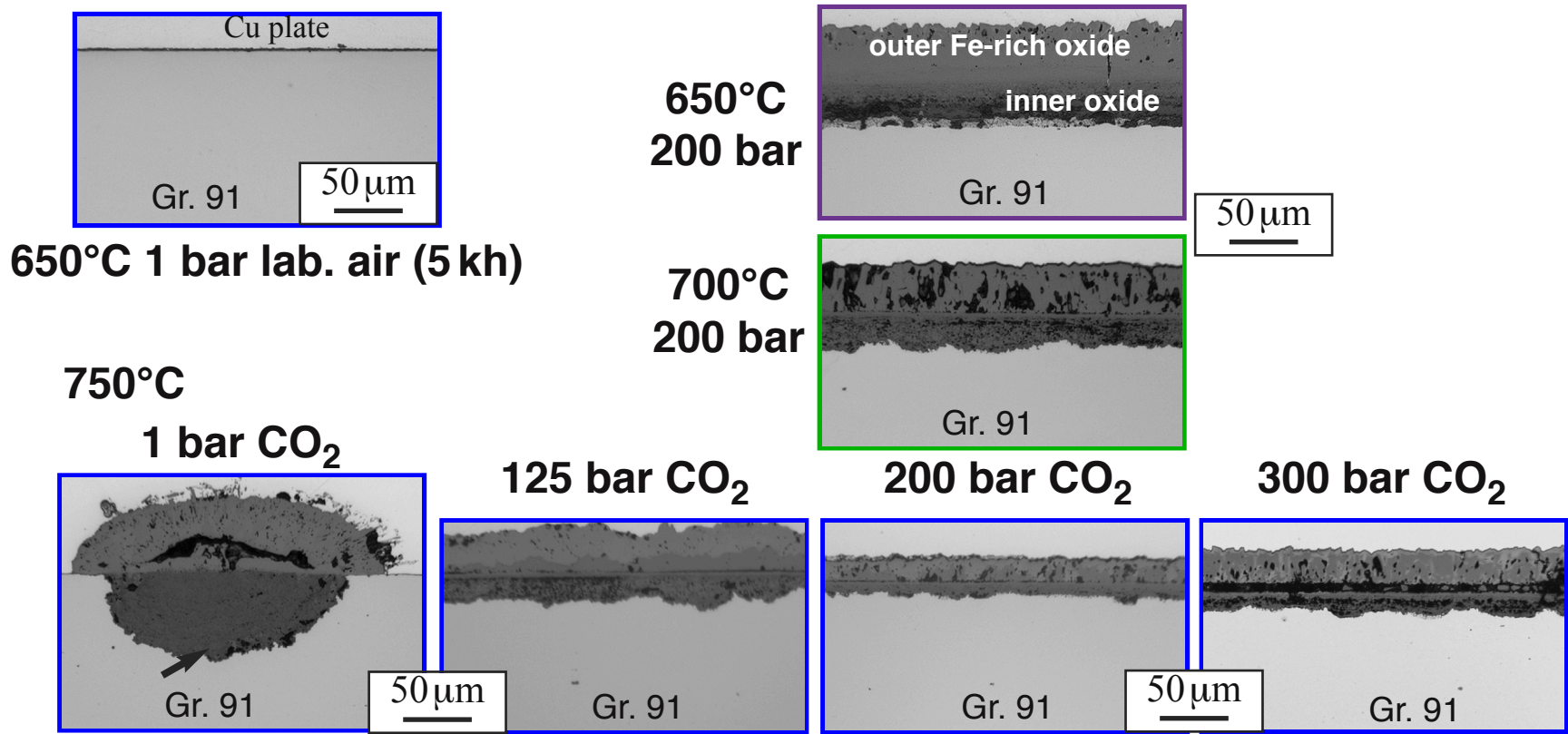
However, inner/outer ratio appears to change with P

Outer $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$ layer

Inner $(\text{Fe,Cr})_3\text{O}_4$ layer

Grade 91: Fe-9Cr-1Mo

Some thin-protective Cr-rich scale at 1 bar



light microscopy of polished cross-sections

750°C: initial tensile experiments showed little effect of sCO₂

25mm tensile bars exposed at each condition

Tensile test at room temperature: 10⁻³/s strain rate

