



**Narrow-Channel, Fluidized Beds for Effective
Particle Thermal Energy Transport and
Storage**

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Acknowledgements of Collaborators and Funding

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Faculty at Mines currently contribute to particle-sCO₂ HX development:

Current Contributors – Research Assoc. **Jesse Fosheim**, Prof. Ivar Reimanis, Students: Winfred Arthur-Arhin, Azariah Thompson, Yahya Bokhary, Julia Billman

Current Collaborators on particle-sCO₂ HX development

Sandia National Laboratories – **Kevin Albrecht**, Chris Cowen, Andrea Ambrosini

CARBON Ceramics – Brett Wilson

Previous collaborations

REL– Zhiwen Ma, Janna Martinek, Judy Netter

Raytheon Energy – Bill Caruso, Megan Kirschmeier

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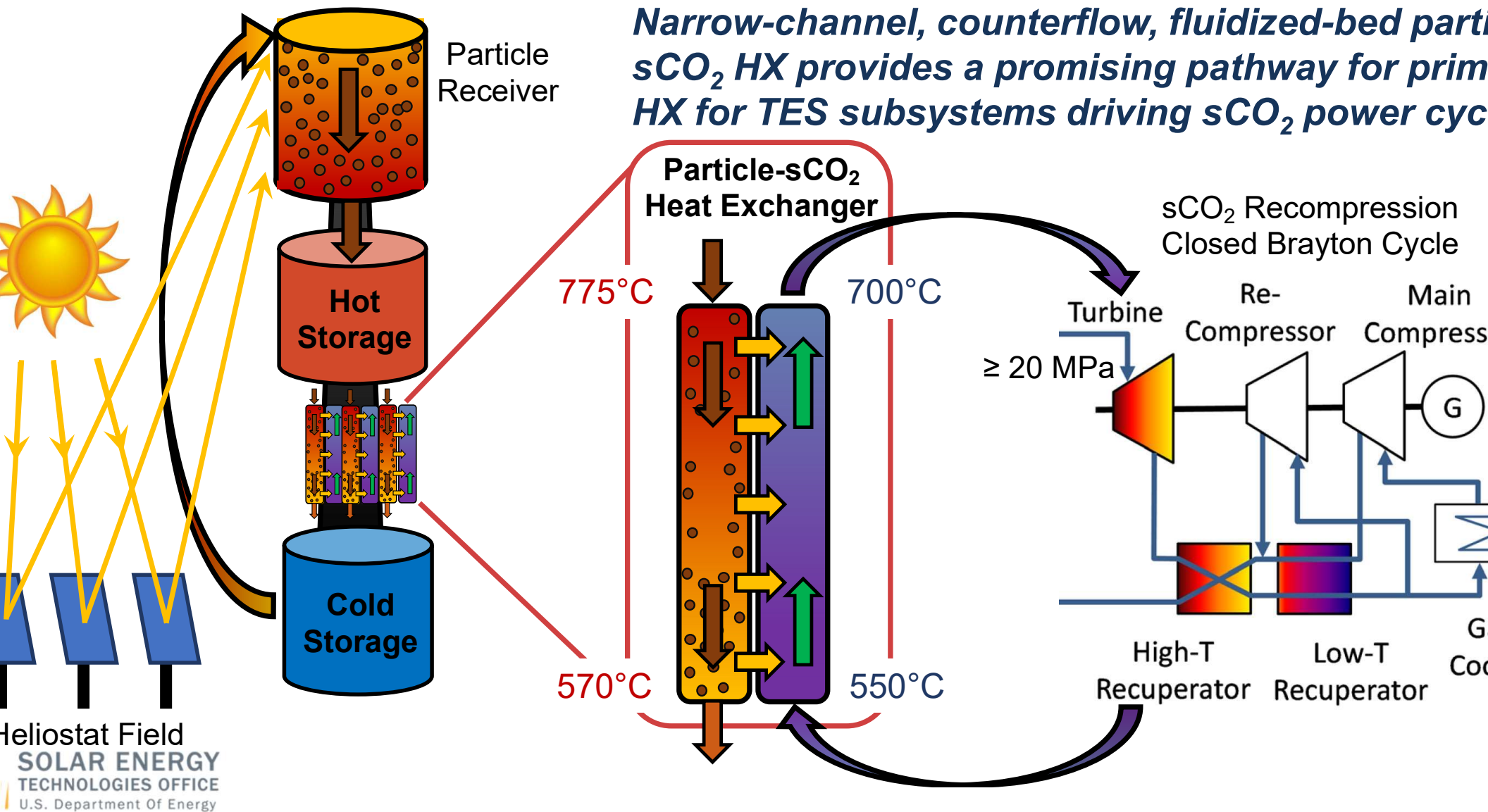
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CARBO[®]

Particle-Based TES for CSP-sCO₂ Brayton Power Cycle

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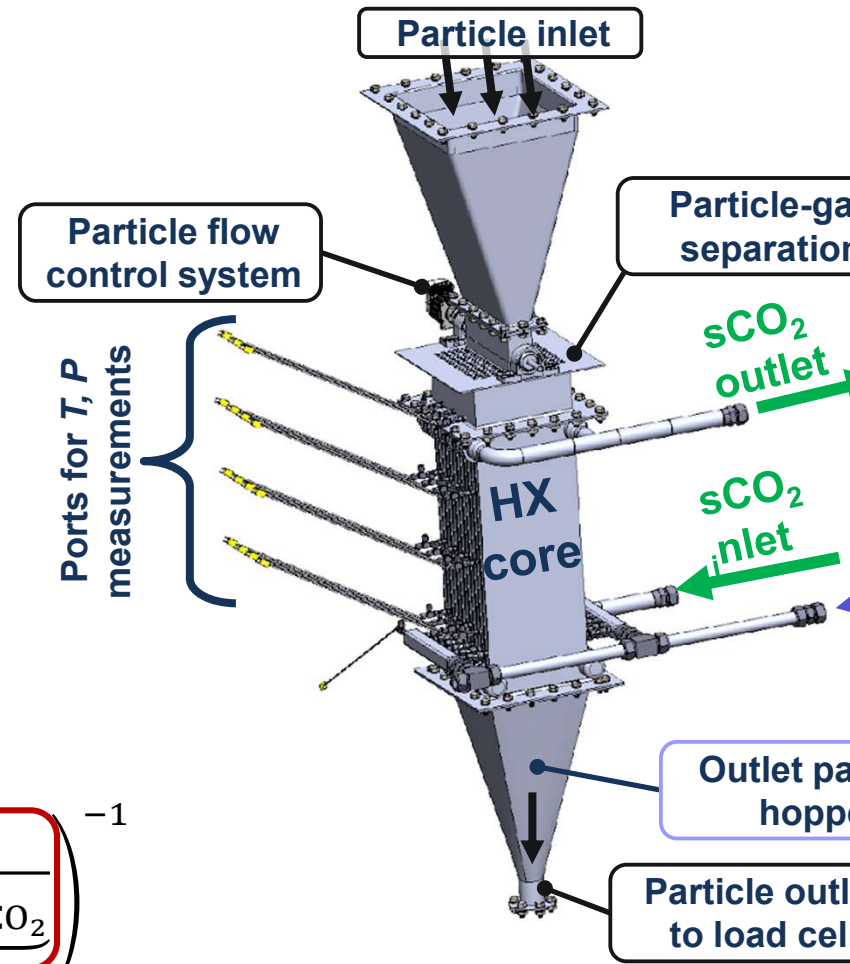
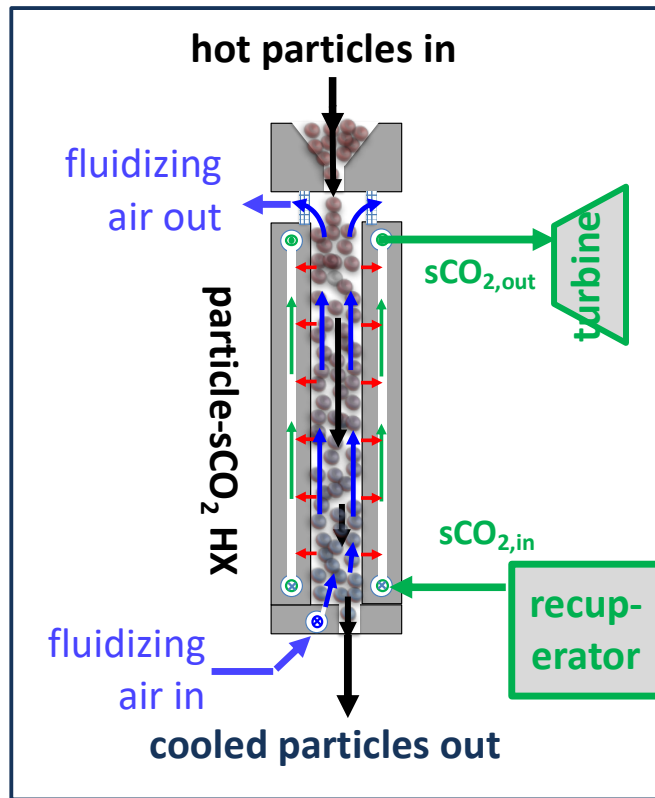
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Narrow-channel, fluidized bed particle-sCO₂ HX design

Narrow-channel fluidized bed particle-sCO₂ HX design with mild fluidization (low particle-wall friction associated with flux reduction due to micro-channel flow thermal resistance).
 (low particle-wall friction associated with flux reduction due to micro-channel flow thermal resistance).

fluidization $\frac{\dot{m}_g}{\dot{m}_p} < 2\%$
 achieves optimal $h_{T,w}$.



$$Q = UA_w(T_p - T_{sCO_2})_{lm}$$

$$U = \left(\frac{1}{h_{T,w}} + \frac{\Delta x_w}{\lambda_w} + \frac{A_w}{\eta_{fin} A_{fin} h_{T,sCO_2}} \right)^{-1}$$

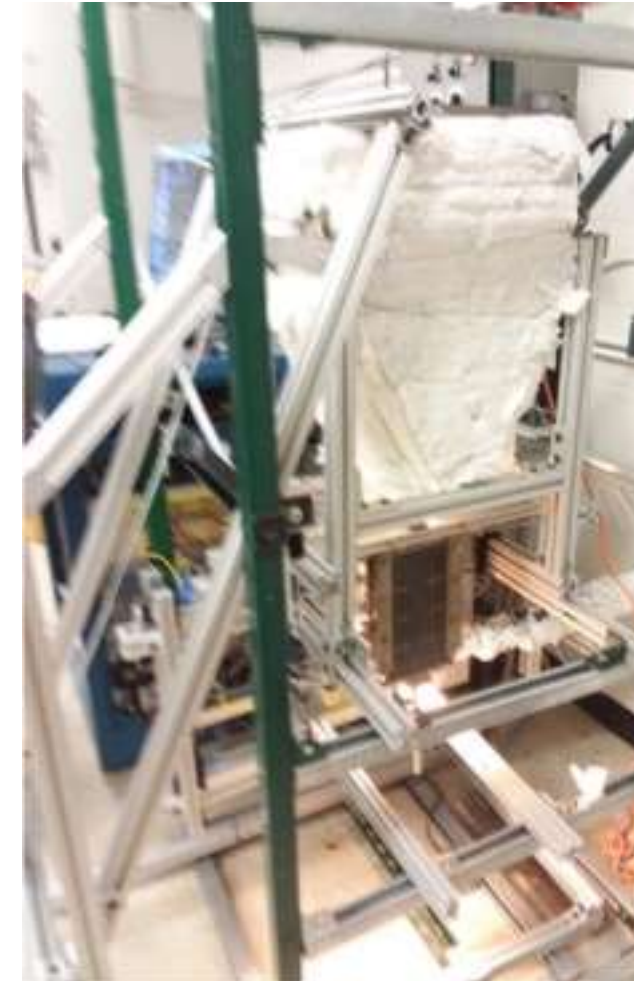
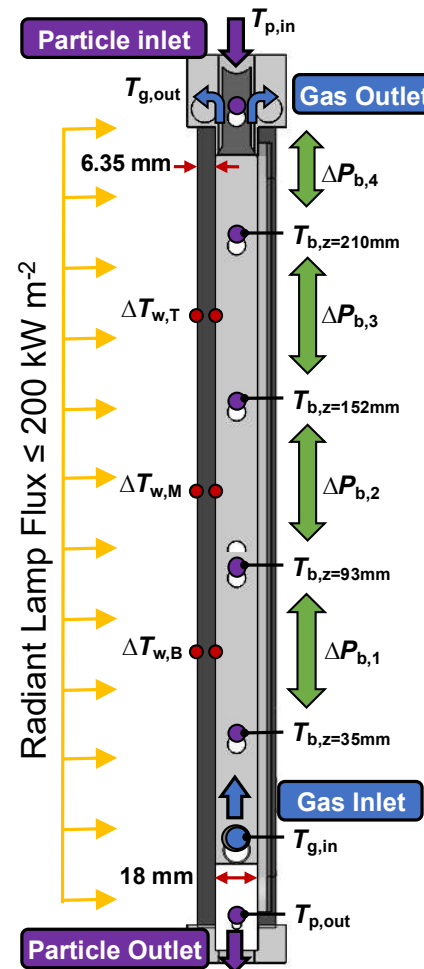
Narrow-Channel Fluidized Beds:
 $h_{T,w} \geq 1000 \text{ W m}^{-2}\text{K}^{-1}$

$\approx 2000 \text{ W m}^{-2}\text{K}^{-1}$

Single-channel Test Facility for Particle-Wall $h_{T,w}$ in Narrow-Channel Fluidized Beds

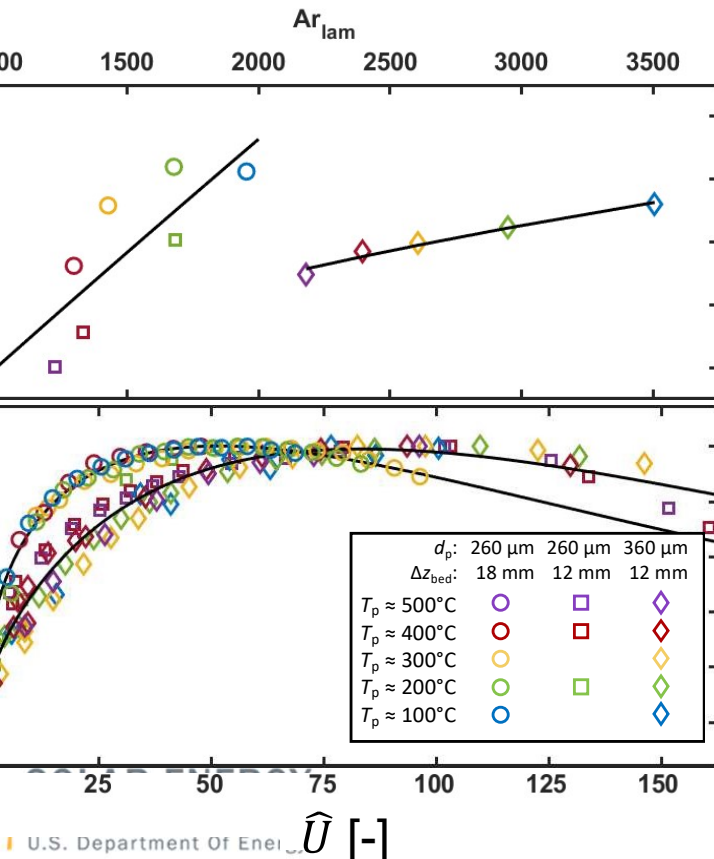
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Single-channel $h_{T,w}$ Measurements and Correlations

date, $h_{T,w}$ measurements at 6 locations in 0.25 m high bed for two channel depths (12 and 18 mm), mean particle diameters (260 and 360 μm CARBO HSP), and bed temperatures up to 500°C. The correlations based on Molerus (1992) approach with dependencies on Ar and \hat{U} for convective contribution combined with radiative contribution to provide reliable predictions of local $h_{T,w}$ in the bed.



$$h_{T,w} = h_{T,w,pc} + h_{T,w,rad}$$

$$h_{T,w,rad} = \frac{\sigma(T_b^2 + T_w^2)(T_b + T_w)}{\varepsilon_w^{-1} + \varepsilon_p^{-1} - 1}$$

Molerus (1992)

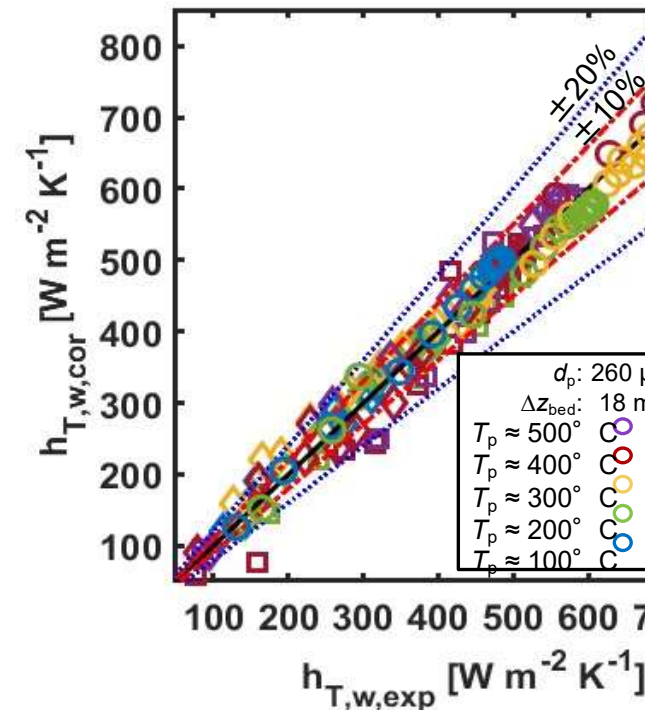
$$Nu_{pc}(1 + Pr_{fl}^{-1}) = f(Ar_{lam})f(\hat{U})$$

$$Nu_{pc} = \frac{h_{T,w,pc}\lambda_g}{d_p}$$

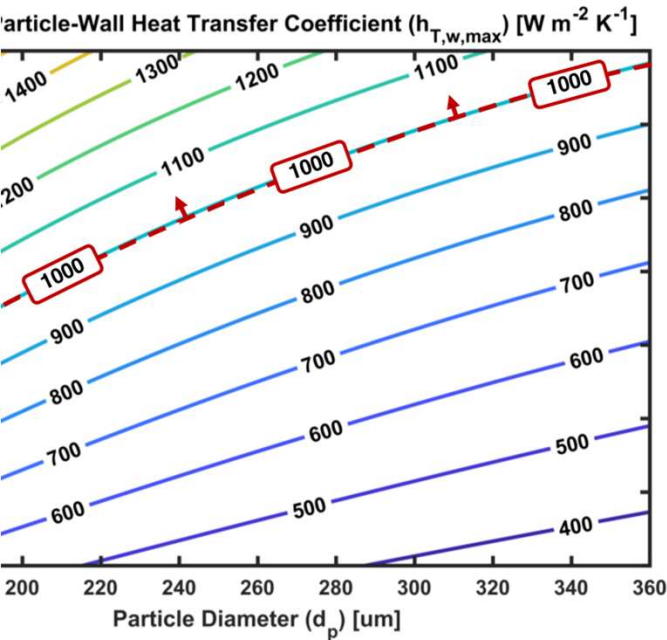
$$\hat{U} = (U_g - U_{mf}) \left(\frac{\rho_p c_{p,p}}{\lambda_g g} \right)^{1/3}$$

$$Ar_{lam} = \frac{\sqrt{d_p^3 g (\rho_p - \rho_g)}}{\mu_g}$$

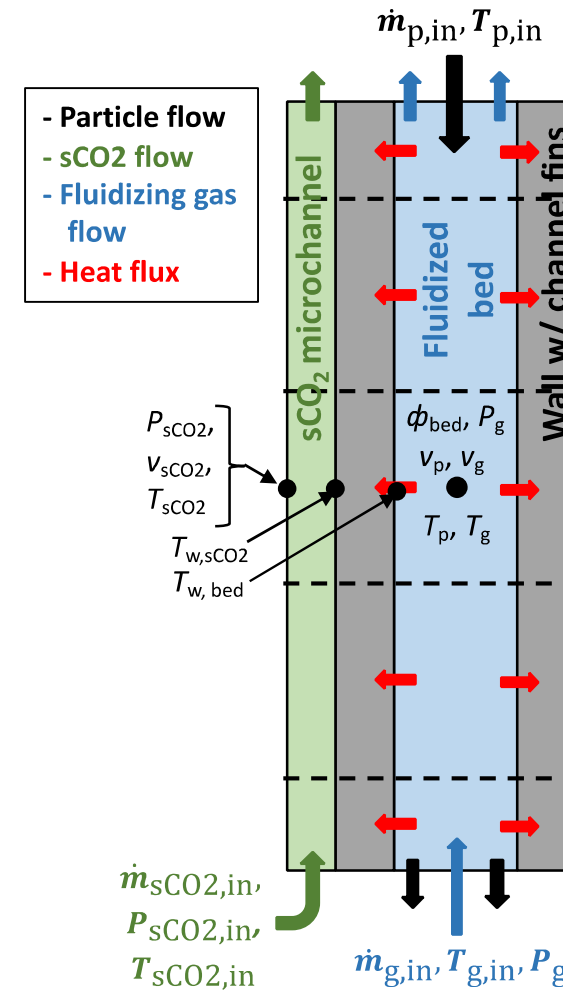
$$Pr_{fl} = 2c_{p,p}\mu_g/\lambda_g$$



Inverting Experimental Results into Heat Exchanger Sizes and Responses

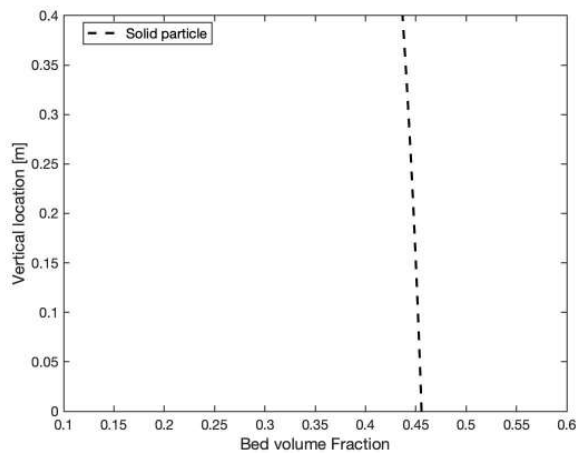
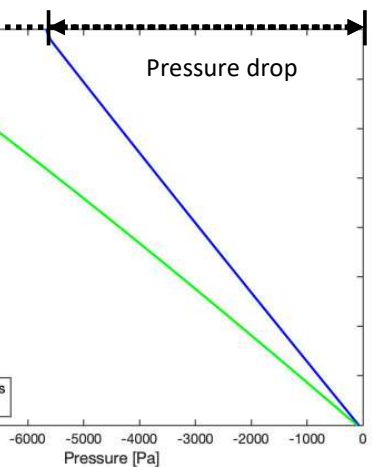
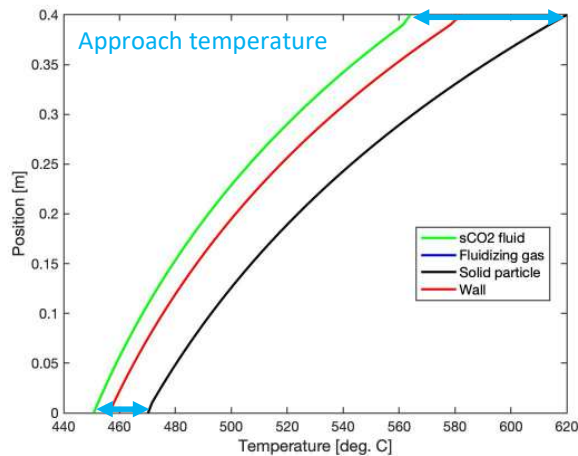
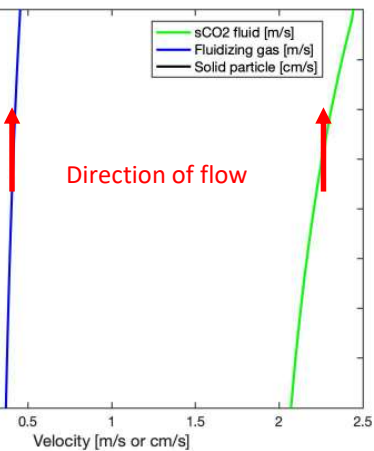


- $h_{T,w}$ correlations are integrated into vertically discretized 1-D model (MATLAB) of narrow-channel, counterflow fluidized-bed particle-sCO₂ HX to design demonstration HX geometry and assess performance at test conditions.
- The 1-D model employs a two-phase mass, momentum, and energy, fluidized bed sub-model coupled to a mass, momentum, and energy, plug-flow, microchannel sCO₂ sub-model.



Model-based 40-kW_{th} Particle-sCO₂ HX Design

Counterflow Fluidized Bed Model Profiles



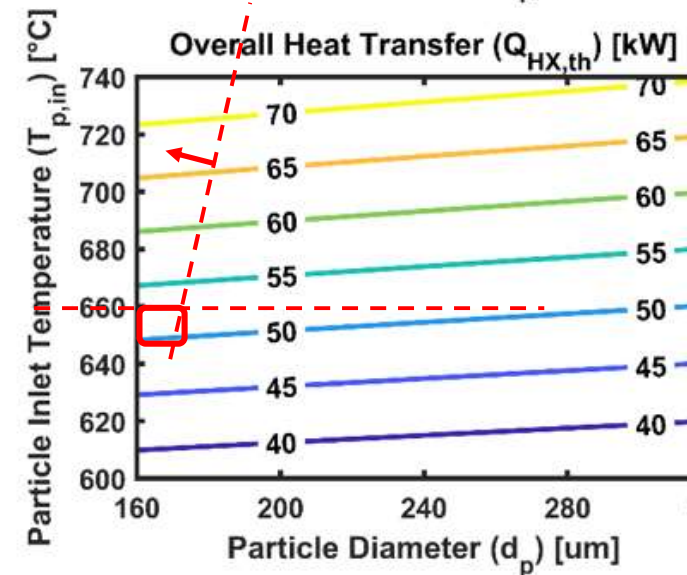
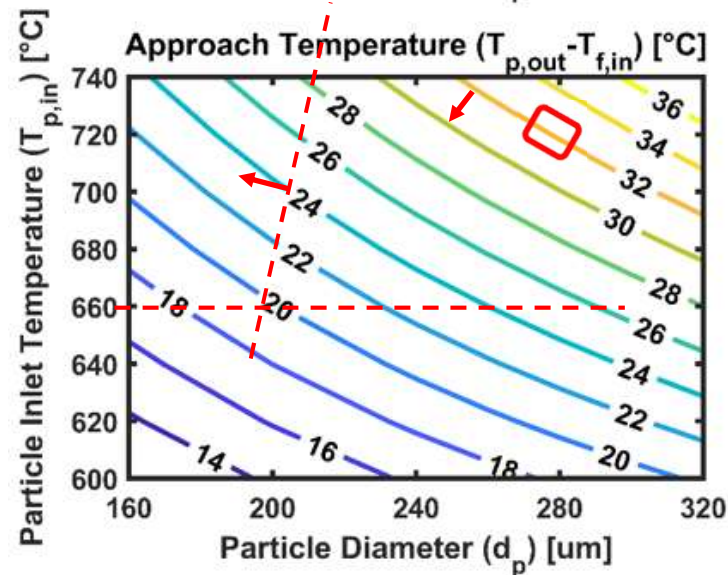
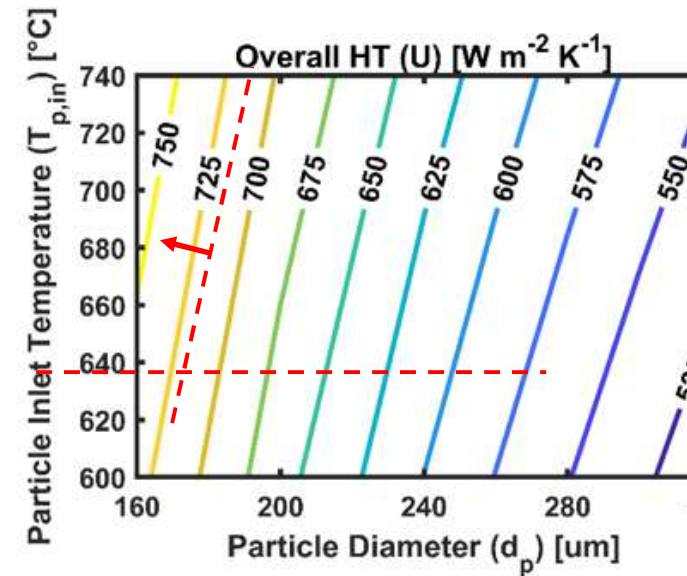
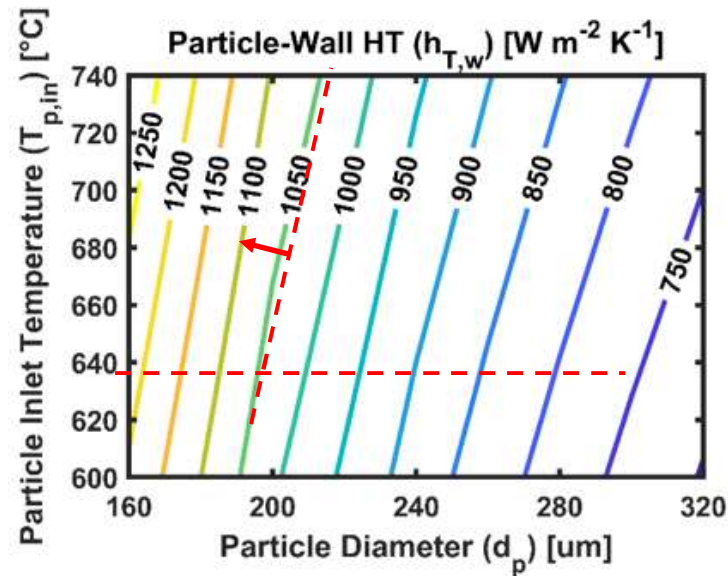
Parameter	Baseline
$\dot{m}_{p,in,bed}$, particle flow rate per bed	18.7 g
$T_{p,in}$, particle inlet temperature	620°C
d_p , particle diameter	260 μ
$\dot{m}_{g,in,bed}$, fluidizing air flow rate per bed	0.281 g
$T_{g,in}$, fluidizing air inlet temperature	450°C
$\dot{m}_{sCO_2,in,bed}$, sCO ₂ flow rate per bed	22.4 g
$T_{sCO_2,in}$, sCO ₂ inlet temperature	450°C
$\Delta y_{bed,tot}$, bed height	0.4 m
Δx_{bed} , bed width	0.2 m
Δz_{bed} , bed depth	0.015 m
# of beds	13
$n_{channel,bed}$, sCO ₂ microchannels per bed	130
$d_{h,channel}$, sCO ₂ channel hydraulic diameter	0.75 m

Performance of Particle-sCO₂ HX Design Space to Evaluate Costs per kW

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Parameter	Value
$\dot{m}_{p,in,bed}$	18.7 g s ⁻¹
$\dot{m}_{g,in,bed}$	0.281 g s ⁻¹
$T_{g,in}$	450°C
$\dot{m}_{sCO_2,in,bed}$	22.4 g s ⁻¹
$T_{sCO_2,in}$	450°C
ΔZ_{bed}	0.015 m
# of beds	13
$n_{channel,bed}$	130
$D_{h,channel}$	0.75 mm



40-kW_{th} Particle-sCO₂ HX for Test at Sandia Natl. Labs

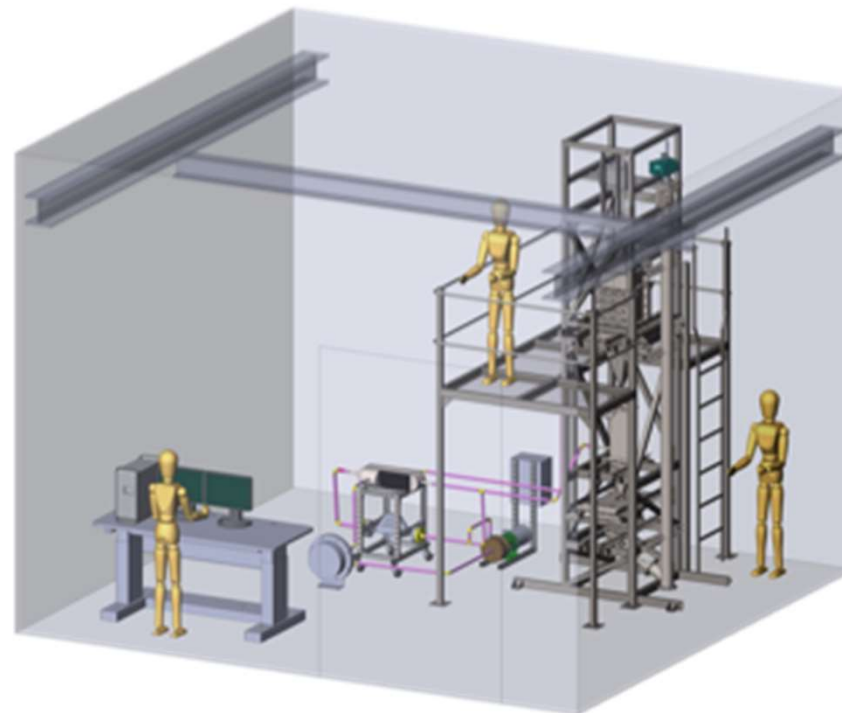
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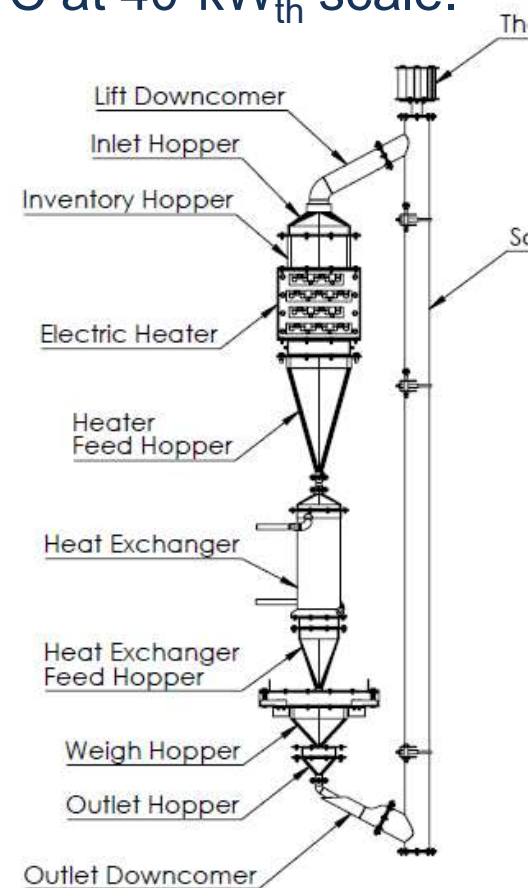
Collaboration with Sandia (Kevin Albrecht and Chris Bowen) has supported the design and construction of multi-channel SS diffusion bonded 12-parallel bed HX with microchannel-sCO₂ flow. At Sandia this fall will explore particle heat transfer at $T_{p,in}$ up to 600°C at 40-kW_{th} scale.



Fabricated SS particle-sCO₂ HX



Schematic of Sandia particle-sCO₂ HX test facility

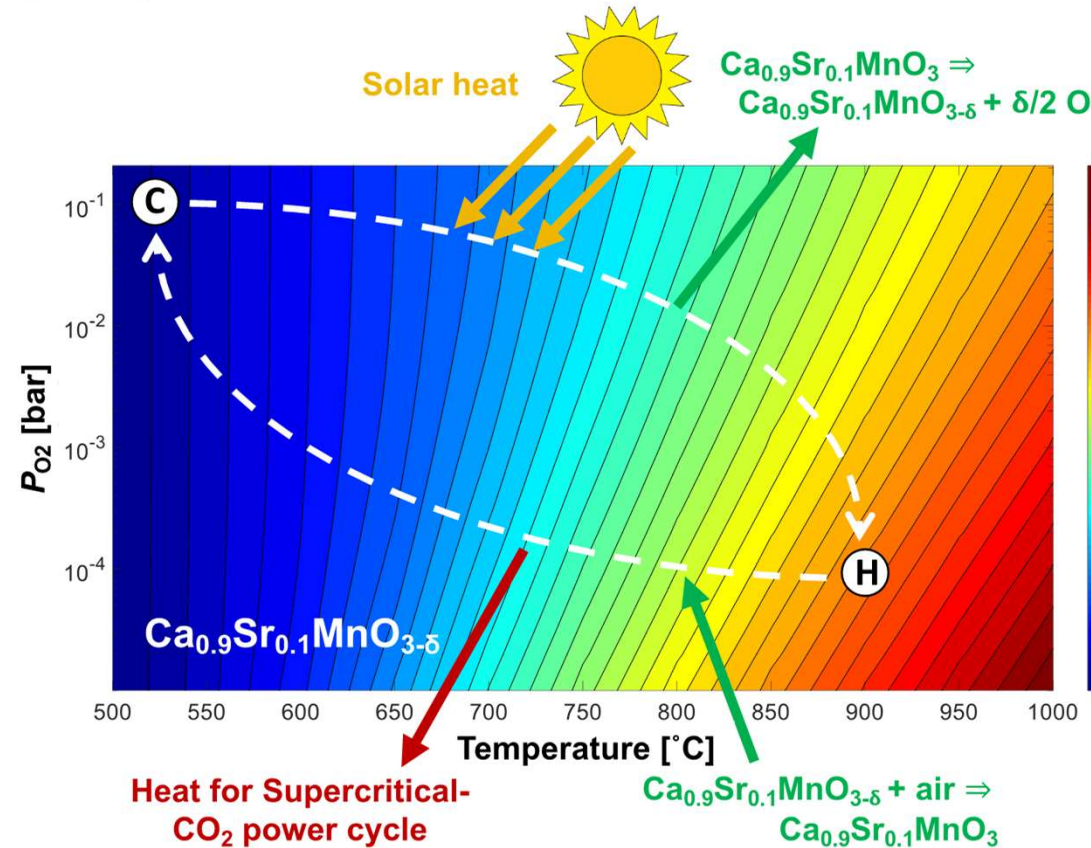
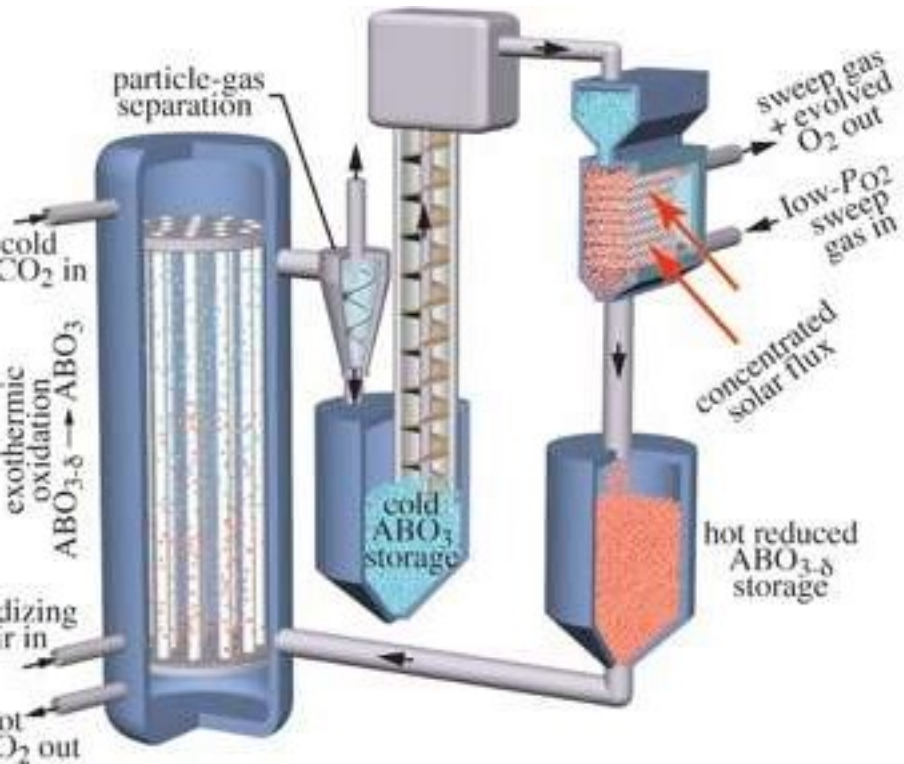


Counterflow Fluidized Beds Can Support Thermochemical Energy Storage (TCES) for CSP

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Completed Mines-led CSP-ELEMENTS program with NREL collaboration
 Colored fluidized bed design for redox active perovskites (doped $\text{CaMnO}_{3-\delta}$) to
 more than double energy storage density of particles.



Including Remarks and Path Forward

$h_{T,w}$ correlation developed from single channel rig for narrow-channel fluidized beds to include new data obtained at 100–500°C with 260 and 360 μm particles in 12 & 18 mm deep beds for a range of gas-to-particle mass flow ratios.

3D discretized models using $h_{T,w}$ correlation enabled assessment of geometric parameters and operating conditions to design a 40-kW_{th} prototype HX fabricated in VPE for testing at Sandia National Labs this fall.

Average $h_{T,w} \approx 700 \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-1}$, overall $U \approx 500 \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-1}$, $\epsilon_{\text{HX}} \approx 0.80$, $q''_{w,\text{avg}} \approx 24 \text{ kW m}^{-2}$ predicted with CARBOBEAD HSP40/70 at planned test conditions.

Heat transfer models can be utilized for scale-up and for exploring more complex system designs for other applications such as thermochemical energy storage