Advancement of Supercritical Carbon Dioxide Technology through Round Robin Testing and Fundamental Modeling

PI: Julie Tucker, Oregon State University

Collaborators:
- Líney Árnadóttir - Oregon State University
- Mark Anderson - University of Wisconsin, Madison
- Bruce Pint - Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- Ömer Doğan - National Energy Technology Laboratory
- Henry Saari - Carleton University, Canada
- Changheui Jang - Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
- John Shingledecker - Electric Power Research Institute

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ABSTRACT:

Growing interest in supercritical carbon dioxide (S-CO₂) cycles for advanced reactors is driving the need for corrosion data on candidate plant materials. The S-CO₂ Brayton cycle is being considered for power conversion systems for a number of nuclear reactor concepts including the sodium fast reactor, fluoride salt-cooled high temperature reactor, high temperature gas reactor, and several types of small modular reactors. Multiple organizations have developed test facilities to address the corrosion data knowledge gap in high temperature, high pressure S-CO₂ environments but to date, there has been no formal test program among these organizations to validate the consistency of the data they produce. A demonstration of comparable and reproducible results enables a coordinated effort to explore the S-CO₂ parameter space relevant to advanced reactor technology. This proposal establishes a round robin test plan for S-CO₂ corrosion testing and the organization of a S-CO₂ Materials Group to guide future materials testing directions. Furthermore, this proposal outlines efforts to elucidate the mechanisms of S-CO₂ corrosion by performing identical tests in supercritical steam, testing model alloys with various composition and environmental conditions, accompanied by modeling efforts to study rate controlling mechanisms of corrosion and to help understanding the effects of impurities.