

Regenerators for Super Critical CO₂ Brayton Cycles

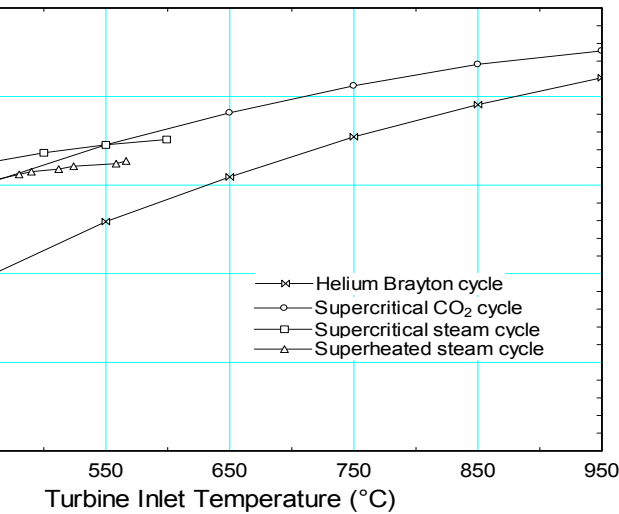


Jack Hinze

PhD Student



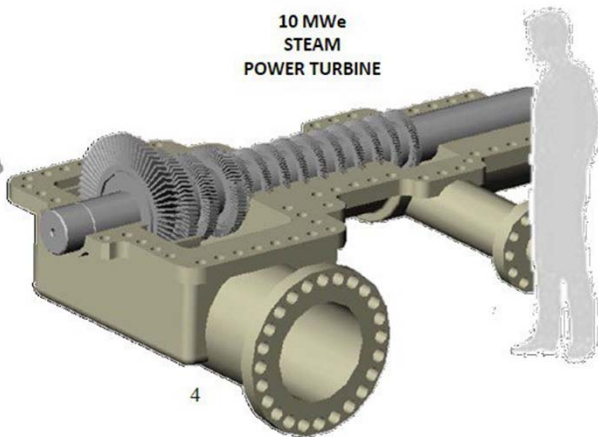
Supercritical CO₂ Brayton Cycle



At high temperatures the sCO₂ cycle can achieve very high efficiency



High efficiency, compact operation means the sCO₂ is ideal for concentrating solar nuclear, and ship power



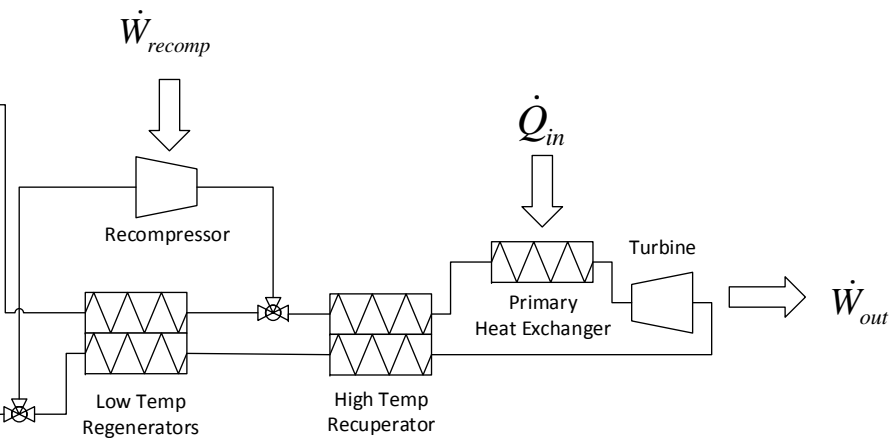
Supercritical CO₂ cycle turbo machinery is much smaller than steam turbomachinery



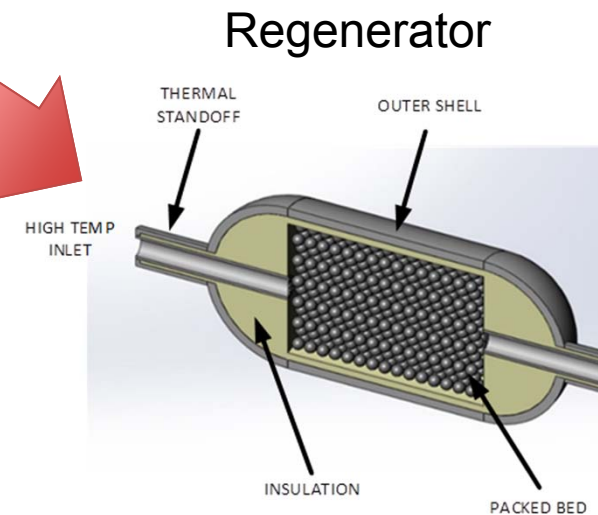
The sCO₂ power turbine compared to a 10 MWe steam turbine.



sCO₂ Brayton cycle recuperation



Recuperator

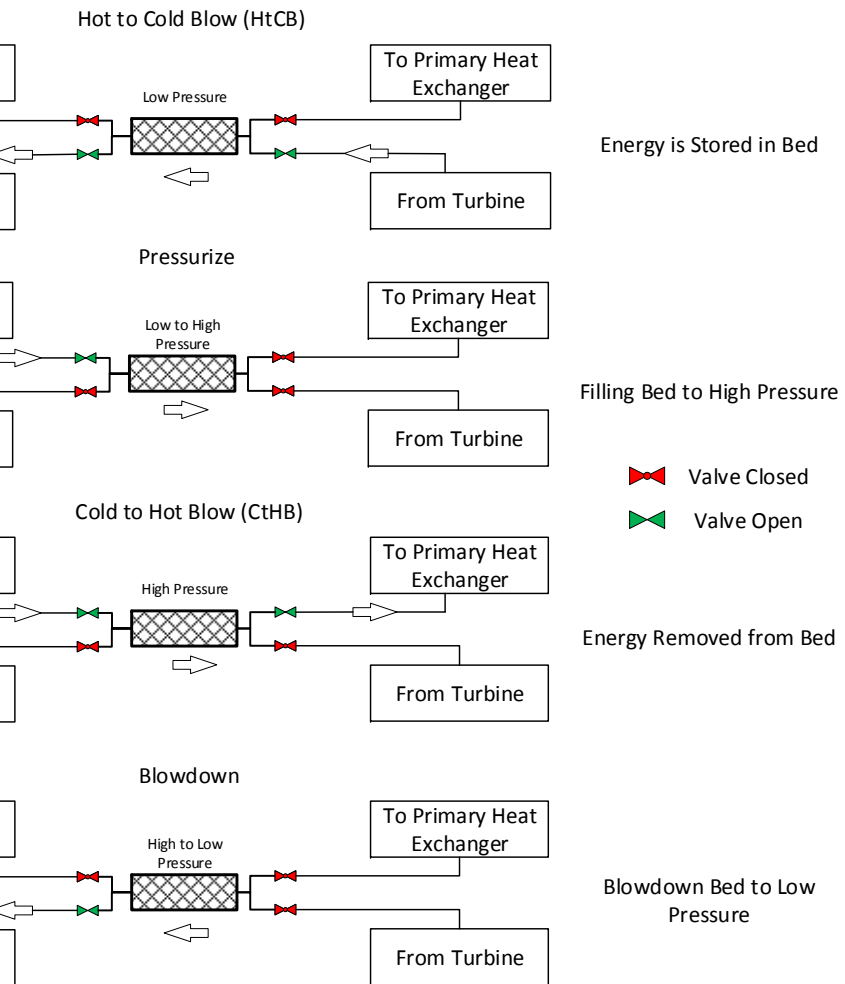


Regenerator

High effectiveness (>90%) recuperation required for efficient operation
Current state of the art are high cost Printed Circuit Heat Exchangers (PCHE)
This research looks at replacing the PCHEs with periodic flow regenerators



Current Regenerator experimental and cost results



	Thermal Efficiency	LCoE (\$/kWh)	Recuperator/regenerator + valves cost (k\$)
Recuperators	51.76%	0.01957	4177
Regenerators	52.27%	0.01542	1897

- Cost analysis shows a $\approx 20\%$ reduction in LCoE by switching to regenerators
- Regenerator effectiveness model matches within 10% experimental results
- Future tests will increase the temperature and pressure of the regenerator

