

POSSIBILITY OF THE HE-COOLED SiC-COMPOSITE DIVERTOR

X.R. Wang¹, S. Malang², M. S. Tillack¹

¹University of California, San Diego, CA

²Fusion Nuclear Technology Consulting, Germany

ARIES-Pathways Project Meeting

Gaithersburg, MD

July 27-28, 2011

OUTLINE

- **Review of the ARIES SiC-composite divertor designs**
 - ✓ Helium-cooled small SiC-composite tube divertor for ARIES-I (1991)
 - ✓ LiPb-cooled SiC-composite plate divertor for ARIES-AT (2000)

- **Update on the SiC composite properties and design window since ARIES-AT**

- **Possibility of using SiC composite as divertor structural material with an impinging-jet-cooling scheme**
 - ✓ an ARIES-finger with modifications (semi-circular thimble)
 - ✓ an original ARIES-finger (W thimble/channel replaced by SiC-composite)
 - ✓ a larger SiC-composite tube with impinging cooling method

- **Summary**



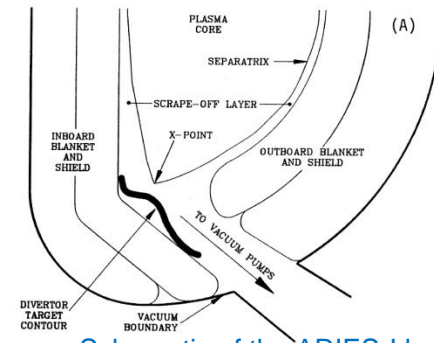
HE-COOLED SiC/SiC DIVERTOR OF ARIES-I WAS DESIGNED TO REMOVE A HF UP TO 4.5 MW/M²*

➤ Attractiveness of SiC/SiC in fusion application:

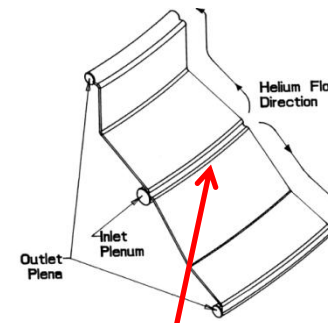
- ✓ elevated temperature strength,
- ✓ chemical stability,
- ✓ low activation / low decay heat
- ✓ low thermal expansion

➤ Issues

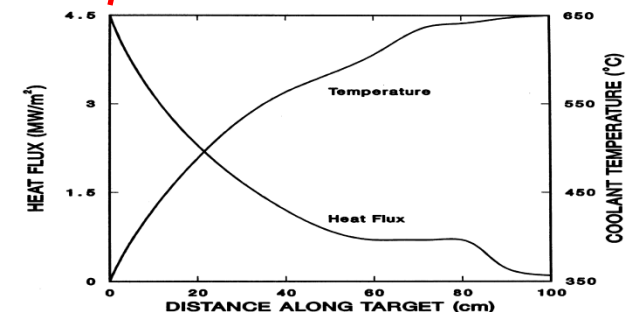
- ✓ swelling under irradiation,
- ✓ fabrication and joints,
- ✓ stress limit



Schematic of the ARIES-I layout



ARIES-Divertor target Configuration

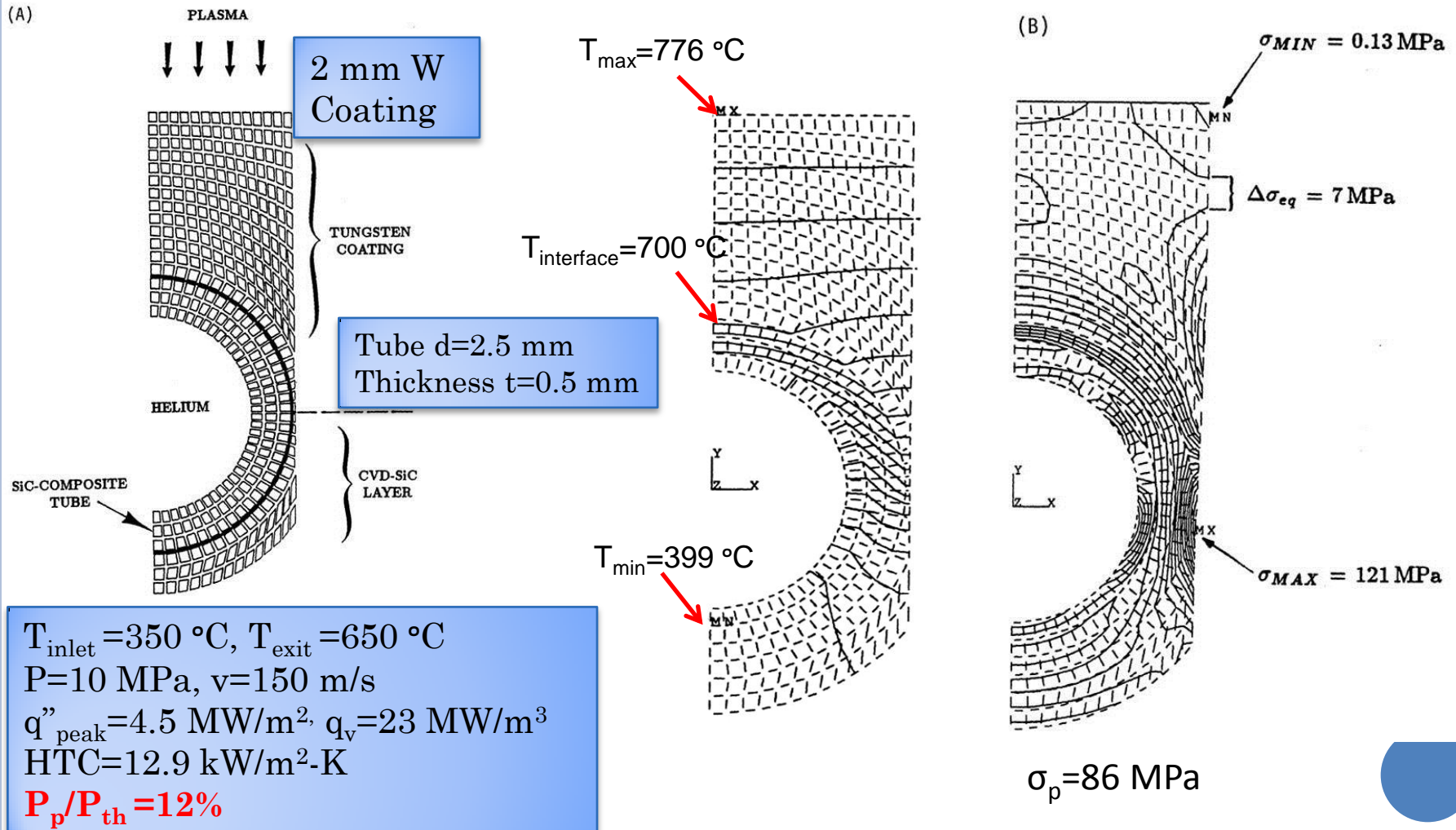


Material Properties Used in Thermostructural Analyses of the ARIES-I Divertor^(a)

	SiC Composite	Tungsten
Density (kg/m ³)	3,000	19,000
Young's modulus (GPa)		
E_x	364	370
E_y	360	370
Poisson's ratio, ν	0.16	0.20
Thermal-expansion coefficient (10 ⁻⁶ /K)		
α_x	4.4	4.5
α_y	4.3	4.5
Thermal conductivity (W/K-m)		
k_x	15	113
k_y	12	113
Allowable stress (MPa)	190	200
Maximum temperature (°C)	1,100	1,200 ^(b)

*F. Najmabadi et al., "The ARIES-I Tokamak Reactor Study", Final Report, 1991.

PUMPING POWER WAS LARGER THAN 10% IN ORDER TO MEET TEMPERATURE AND STRESS LIMITS



CVD: chemical vapor deposition
CVI: chemical vapor infiltration

$T_s < 1000\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

$\sigma_{p+th} < 190\text{ MPa}$

STRESS LIMIT OF THE SiC/SiC USED IN ARIES-I & AT IS VERY CONSERVATIVE ASSUMPTION

Properties were Used in ARIES-AT*

Density	3.2 g/cm ³
Young's modulus	200-300 GPa
Poisson's Ratio	0.16~0.18
Thermal expansion coefficient	4.0x10 ⁻⁶ /K
Thermal conductivity, in-plane	20 W/K-m
Thermal conductivity, through thickness	20 W/K-m
Minimum operating Temp (based on degradation of k under irradiation)	600 °C
Maximum operating Temp (based on void swelling)	1000 °C
Maximum allowable combined stresses	190 MPa

Stress limits for using in FEM analysis:

- Conventional stress limits ($3 S_m$) can not be directly applied to ceramics.
- The SiC/SiC stress limits should take into account for the non-linear elastic behavior associated with **matrix micro-cracking** and **matrix-fiber debonding**.
- Based on the summary of the ARIES Town Meeting, it was recommended to limit the total combined stress to ~190 MPa. **It might be too conservative.**

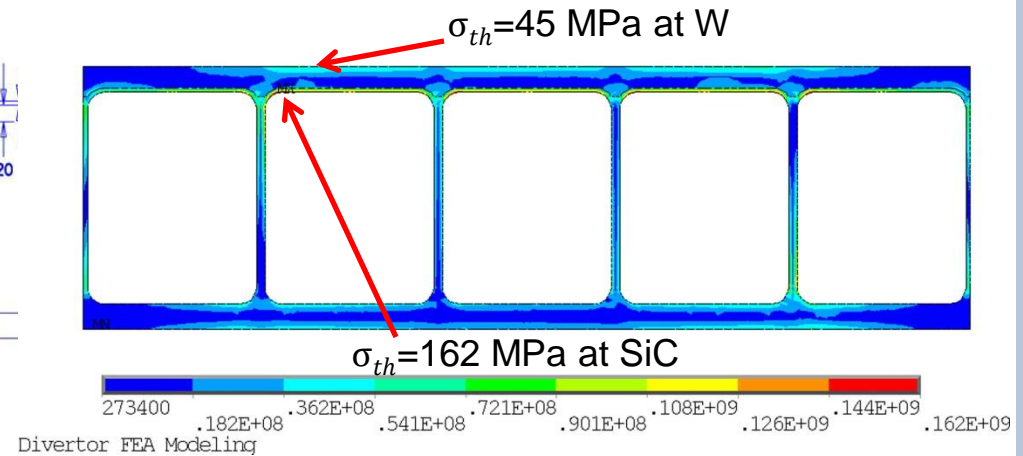
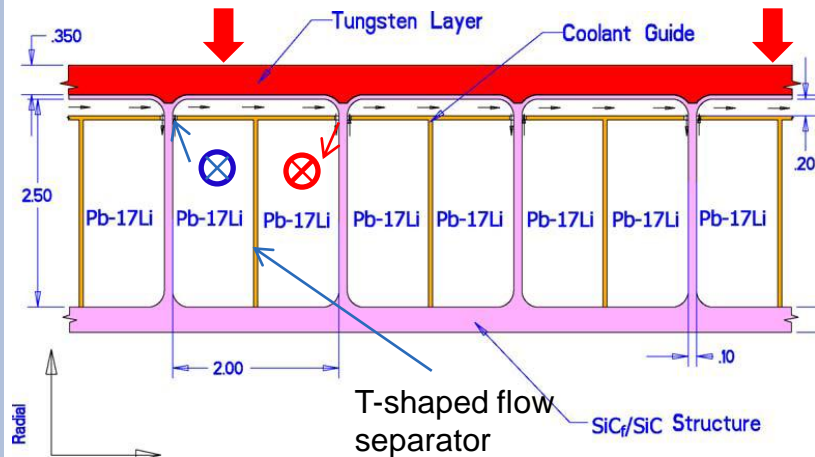
*Summary, SiC/SiC Town Meeting , ORNL, January 18-19, 2000.

<http://aries.ucsd.edu/Lib/PROPS/sic.html>

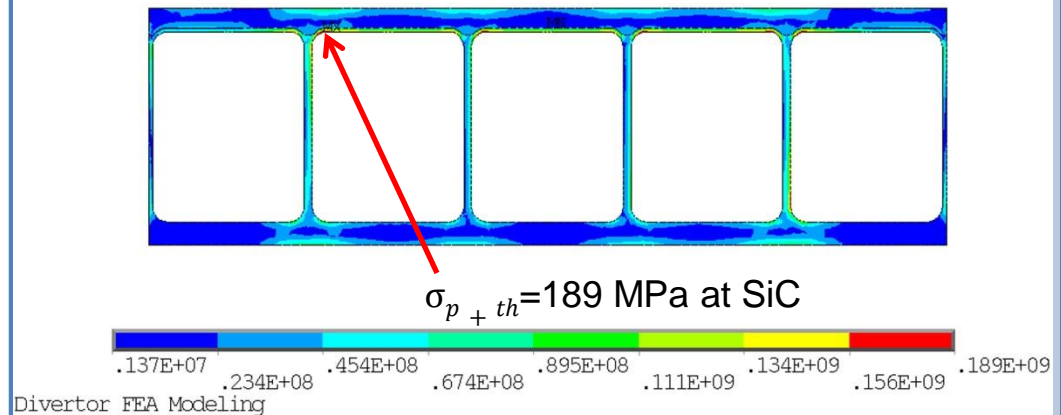
*A.R. Raffray et al., *Fusion Engineering and Design* 80 (2006)



ARIES-AT LiPb-COOLED SiC-COMPOSITE DIVERTOR COULD ACCOMMODATE A HF UP TO 5 MW/M²



Distribution of thermal stress



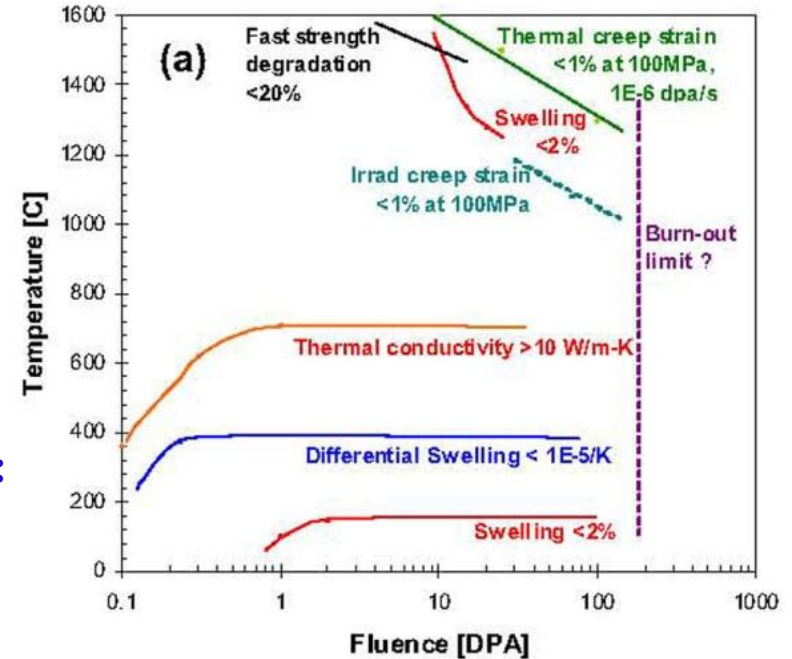
Distribution of combined stresses

Thickness of SiC front plate=0.5 mm
 Thickness of W armor=3.5 mm
 Cross-section of cooling channel=25x20 mm
 Operating pressure=1.8 MPa
 Peak heat flux=5 MW/m²
 Average heat flux=1.75 MW/m²
 Inlet /outlet temperature=654/764 °C
 Max. W temperature=~1150 °C
 Max. SiC temperature=~950 °C
 Pressure drop=~0.7 MPa
 Thermal stress at SiC=~162 MPa
 Primary stress at SiC=~25 MPa
 Combined stresses= 189 MPa

*A.R. Raffray et al., *Fusion Engineering and Design* 80 (2006)

UPDATE ON OPERATING TEMPERATURE WINDOW FOR SiC COMPOSITES SINCE ARIES-AT*

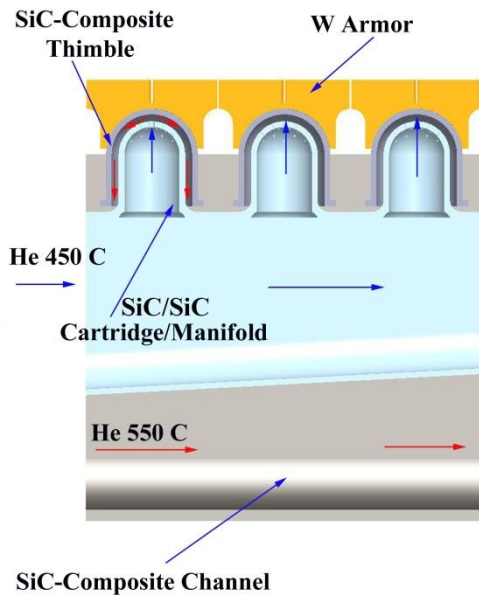
- Operating temperature of he-cooled SiC-composites mainly limited by:
 - ✓ High temperature swelling <2%,
 - ✓ Irradiation or thermal creep strain <1% at a uniaxial stress of 100 MPa,
 - ✓ Thermal conductivity through-thickness > 10 W/m-K
- Yutai Katoh and Lance Snead recommended:
 - ✓ Lower operating temperature > 700 °C (ARIES-AT, ~600 °C)
 - ✓ Upper operating temperature <~1200 °C (ARIES-AT, 1000 °C)
- **There is no update on the stress limit in literatures. The same allowable stress (190 MPa) as the ARIES-I and ARIES-AT will be assumed in FEM analysis.**



-Preliminary design windows for 3D balanced orthogonal CVI SiC/SiC for thermal structural application
-Dotted lines indicate lack of confidence and/or experimental substantiation.

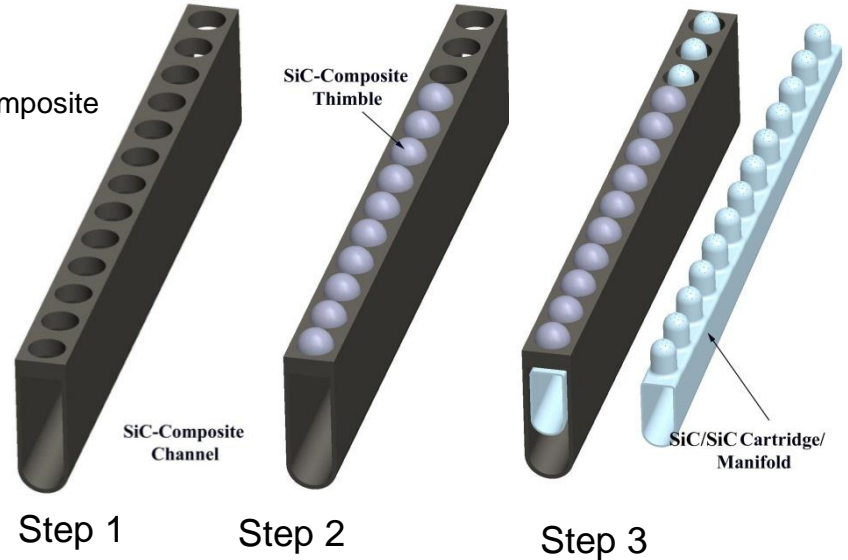
* Yutai Katoh and Lance Snead, *Fusion Science and Technology*, 56 (2009).

A SiC-COMPOSITE FINGER IS DESIGNED TO ACCOMMODATE A HF UP TO $\sim 5 \text{ MW/M}^2$



Width of Armor=26 mm
 Diameter of thimble=20 mm
 Thickness of thimble=1 mm
 Height of the plate=70 mm

SiC-composite tube

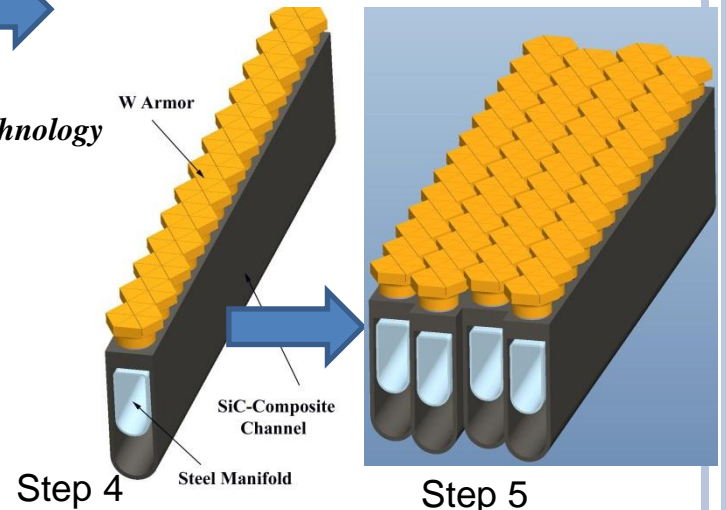


Fabrication Methods:



Joint techniques: *H. Kishimoto, A. Kohyama, *J. of Nuclear Materials*
 **B. Riccardi et al, *Int. J. Materials and Product Technology*

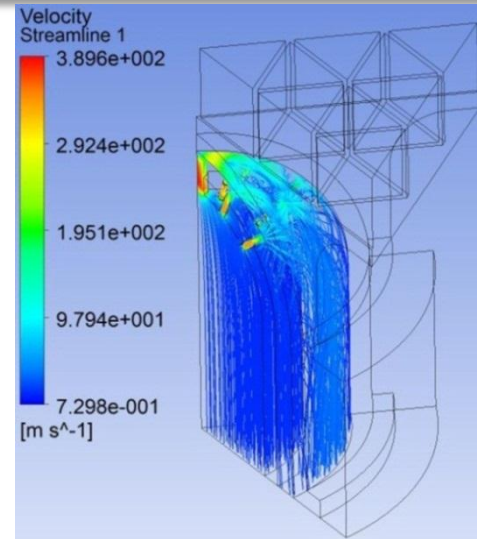
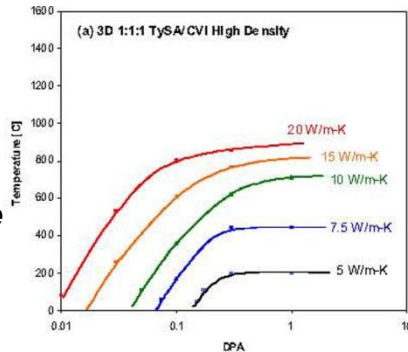
- W/SiC composite joints using **hot-pressing** technique*
 - ✓ Holding temperature of 1500 to 1800 °C
 - ✓ Joint shear strength as high as $\sim 90 \text{ MPa}$
 - SiC/SiC composite joints using **brazing** technique**
 - ✓ Si-16Ti (melting temperature $\sim 1330 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$)
 - ✓ Si-18Cr (melting temperature $\sim 1305 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$)
- or using silicone resin to joint them together at 1200 °C.



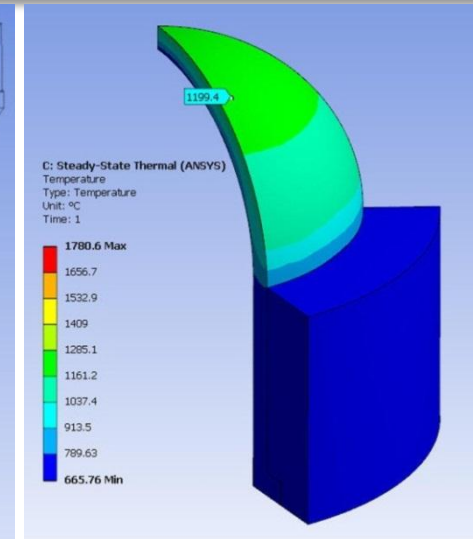
PUMPING POWER AND STRESS LIMITS ARE NOT SATISFIED FOR A HF OF 5 MW/M²

- Temperature-dependent properties of the W are used in the analysis
- Thermal conductivity of the SiC/SiC is dependent on both irradiation temperature and fluence. In analysis, the K(T) is shown in the figure.*

*Yutai Katoh and Lance Snead, Fusion Sci. and Tech., 56 (2009).

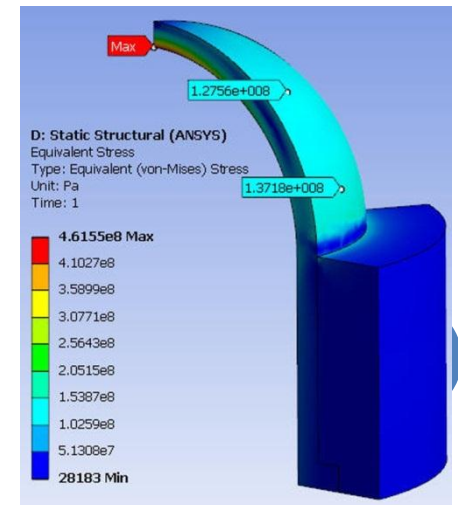


Velocity



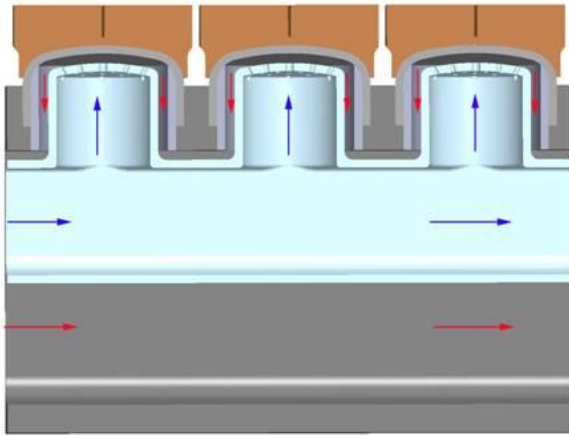
Temperature

- **Operating temperature for SiC/SiC: $700 < T_{SiC} < 1200$ °C**
- **Loads and cooling conditions**
 $q''=5$ MW/m² (uniform), $q_v'''=17.5$ MW/m³
 $P=10$ MPa, $T_{in}/T_{exit}=600/700$ °C (**450/550 °C for $T_{allow}=1000$ °C**)
- **CFX and FEM results(Not Optimized)**
 $V_{jet} \sim 390$ m/s, $HTC(Local)=9.78 \times 10^4$ W/m²-K
 $P_p \sim 15\%$ $P_{removed}$ (**$P_p \sim 12.5\%$ for $T_{allow}=1000$ °C**)
 $Max. T_{sic}=1199$ °C ($< T_{allow}=1200$ °C) (**$T_{sic}=999$ °C for $T_{allow}=1000$ °C**)
 $Max. \sigma_{p+th} \sim 462$ MPa ($> \sigma_{allow} \sim 190$ MPa) (**$\sigma_{p+th} \sim 475$ MPa for $T_{allow}=1000$ °C**)
- **Pumping power and stress limits are not satisfied.**



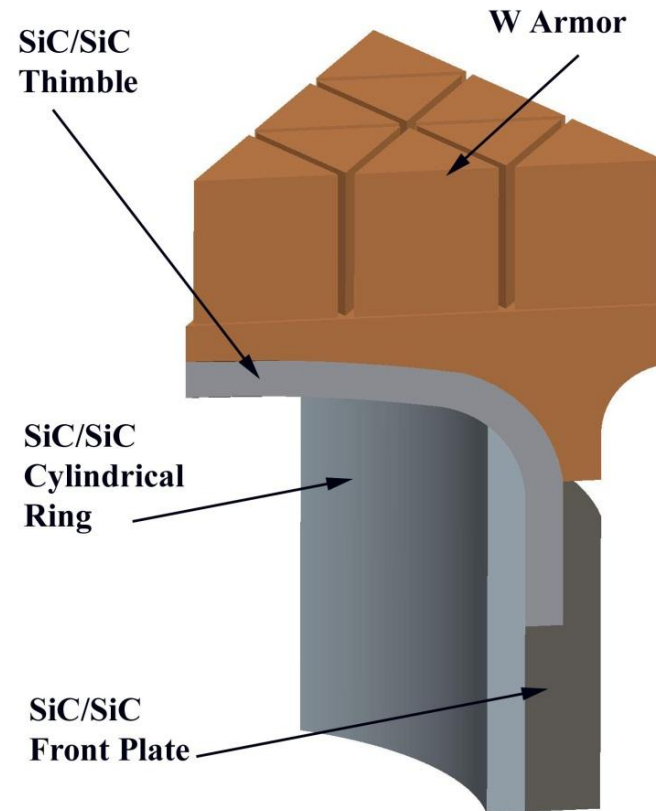
Stress

ORIGINAL ARIES-FINGER CONFIGURATION IS APPLIED IN THE SiC/SiC DIVERTOR

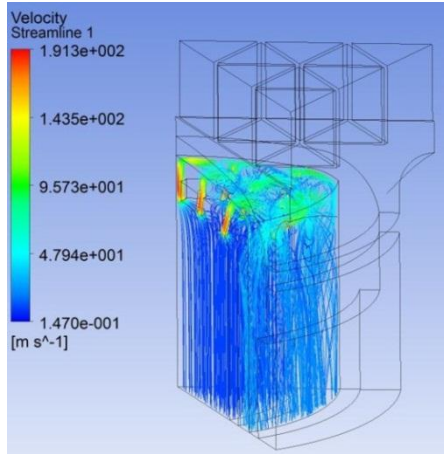


SiC-Composite Finger

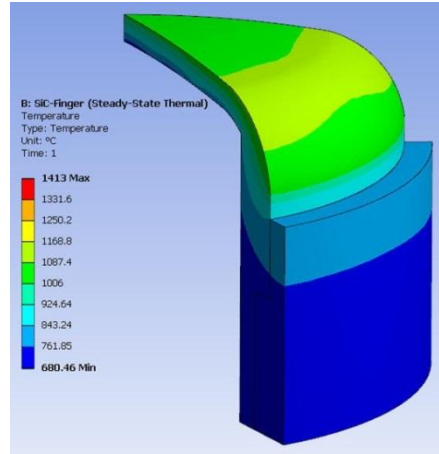
- Using the original ARIES finger configuration
 - ✓ VM-W thimble, cylindrical ring and W channel replaced by SiC/SiC
 - ✓ ODS steel cartridge replaced by SiC/SiC cartridge
 - ✓ 1 mm thick SiC-composite thimble
 - ✓ 1 mm thick SiC-composite cylindrical ring
 - ✓ 2 mm thick SiC-composite front plate
 - ✓ 5 mm W armor
- W armor and SiC composite jointed together by **hot-pressing method**
- SiC-composite thimble, cylindrical ring and front plate jointed together by **brazing method**



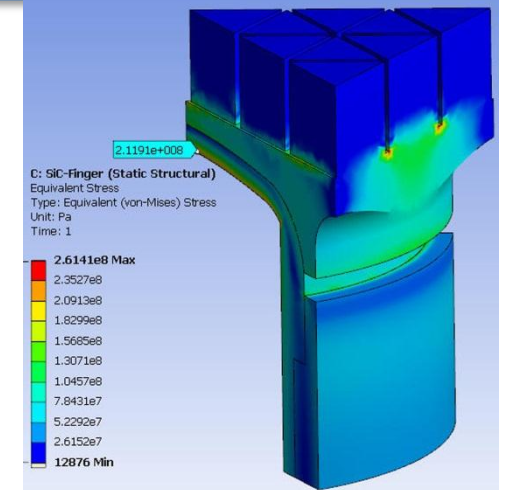
TEMPERATURE AND PUMPING POWER LIMITS ARE SATISFIED



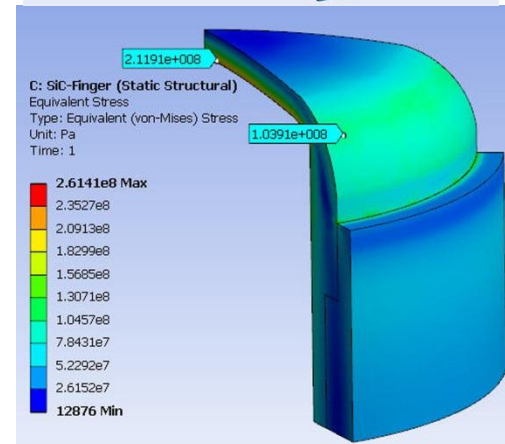
Velocity



Temperature



Stress



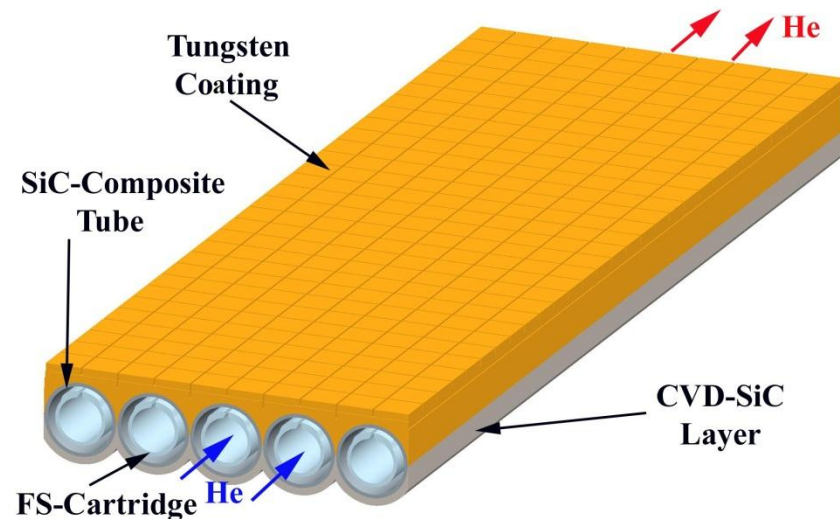
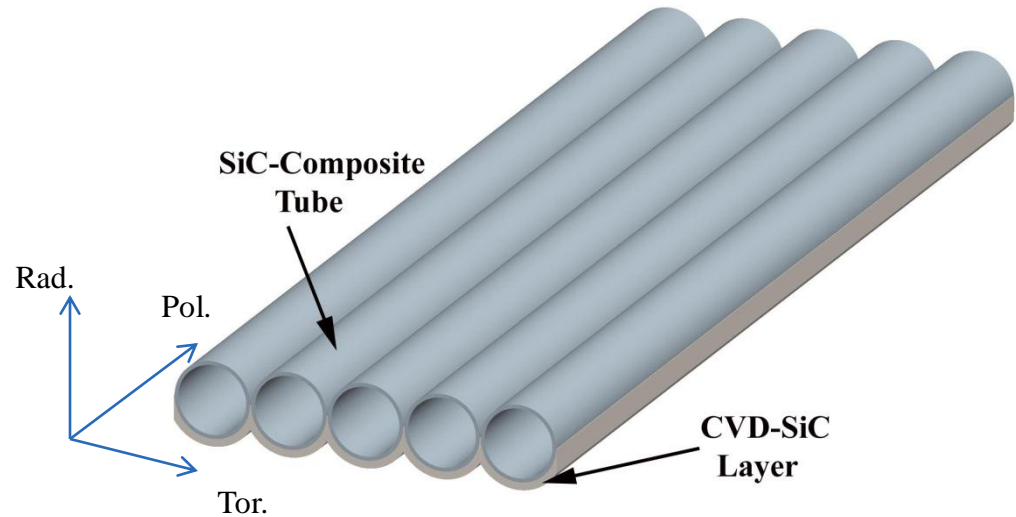
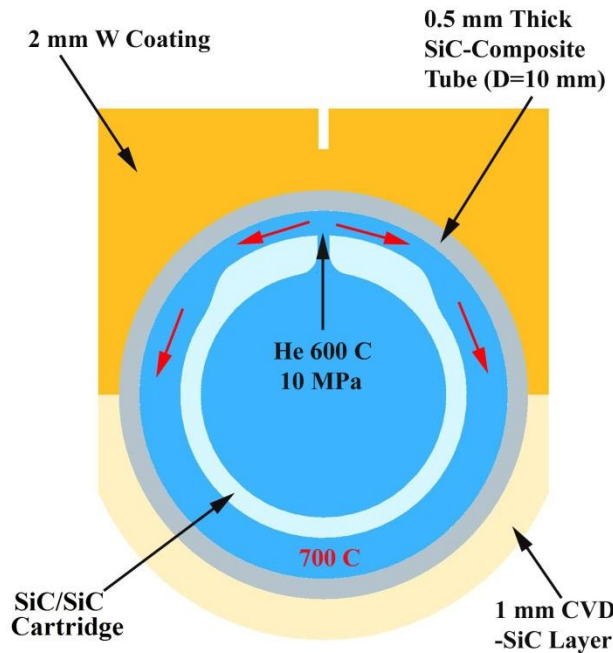
- **Operating temperature for SiC/SiC: $700 < T_{SiC} < 1200$ °C**
- **Loads and cooling conditions**
 $q'' = 5$ MW/m²(uniform), $q_v''' = 17.5$ MW/m³
 $P = 10$ MPa, $T_{in}/T_{exit} = 600/700$ °C (**450/550 °C for $T_{allow} = 1000$ °C**)

➤ CFX and FEM results

- ✓ $V_{jet} \sim 191$ m/s, $HTC(Local) = 6.52 \times 10^4$ W/m²-K
- ✓ $P_{pumping} \sim 6.5\%$ of the $P_{removed}$ thermal (<10%) (**$P_p \sim 5.7\%$ for $T_{allow} = 1000$ °C**)
- ✓ Max. $T_{sic} = 1120$ °C (< $T_{allow} \sim 1200$ °C) (**$T_{SiC} = 980$ °C for $T_{allow} = 1000$ °C**)
- ✓ Max. $\sigma_{p+th} \sim 212$ MPa (> $\sigma_{allow} \sim 190$ MPa) (**$\sigma_{p+th} \sim 223$ MPa for $T_{allow} = 1000$ °C**)
- ✓ Max. shear stress at the W/SiC interface $\sigma_{shear} \sim 58$ MPa

- **The SiC thimble (1 mm thick) could be thinned to $\sim 0.5-08$ mm to meet the stress limit. However, there are too many brazing joints required.**

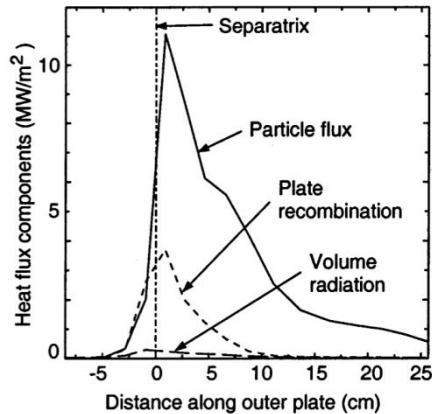
SiC/SiC TUBE TARGET-PLATE COOLED BY JET-IMPINGING SCHEME IS PROPOSED



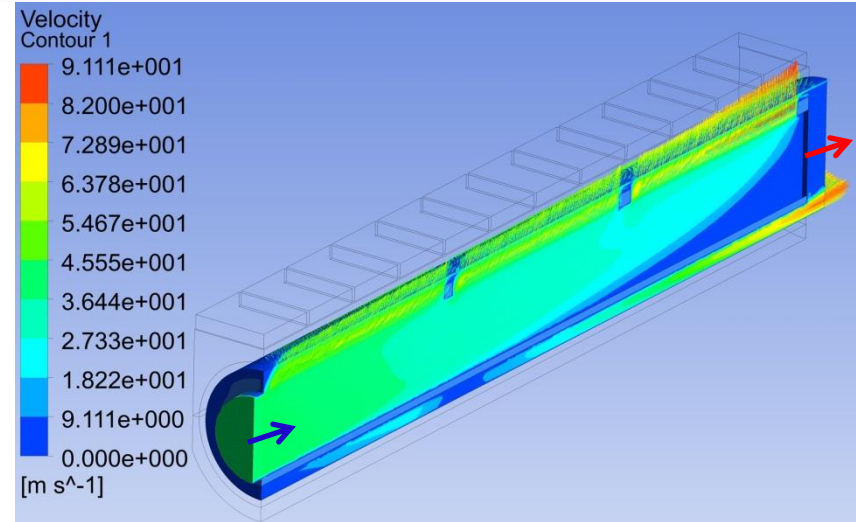
Cross-section of SiC/SiC tube with impinging cooling scheme

- 10 mm diameter tube (~4 times larger than ARIES-I tube)
- ½ mm thick tube
- 1 mm SVD-SiC layer
- SiC/SiC cartridge or ODS-steel cartridge
- Impinging-jet cooling scheme

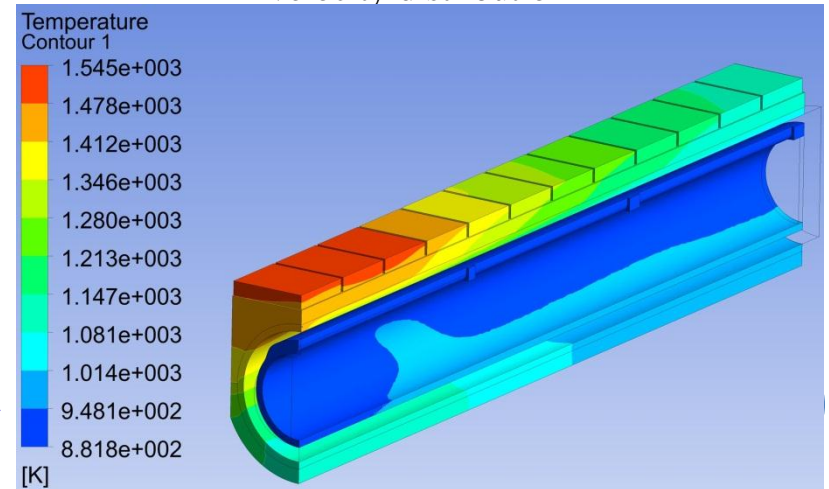
CFX RESULTS INDICATE THE TEMPERATURE AND PUMPING POWER LIMITS ARE SATISFIED



- ARIES-AT like heat-flux profile with a max. value of ~ 5 MW/m² and an average of ~ 1.75 MW/m² is assumed in the analysis
- $q_v = \sim 17.5$ MW/m³
- $T_{\text{inlet}}/T_{\text{outlet}} = 600/700$ °C based on SiC-composite operating temperature of $700 < T_{\text{SiC}} < 1200$ °C
- **CFX results (some optimizations):**
 - ✓ $V_{\text{jet}} \sim 91$ m/s, $T_{\text{max. SiC}} \sim 1180$ °C, $T_{\text{min. SiC}} \sim 710$ °C, $T_{\text{max. W}} = 1272$ °C
 - ✓ $HCT_{\text{local}} \sim 2.623 \times 10^4$ W/m²-K
 - ✓ $P_{\text{pumping}}/P_{\text{removed thermal}} \sim 3.5\%$
- There is a large room for the pumping power to push to a higher heat flux. The cartridge can be tapered along the poloidal direction to reduce the jet velocity and rise temperature at lower heat flux region.

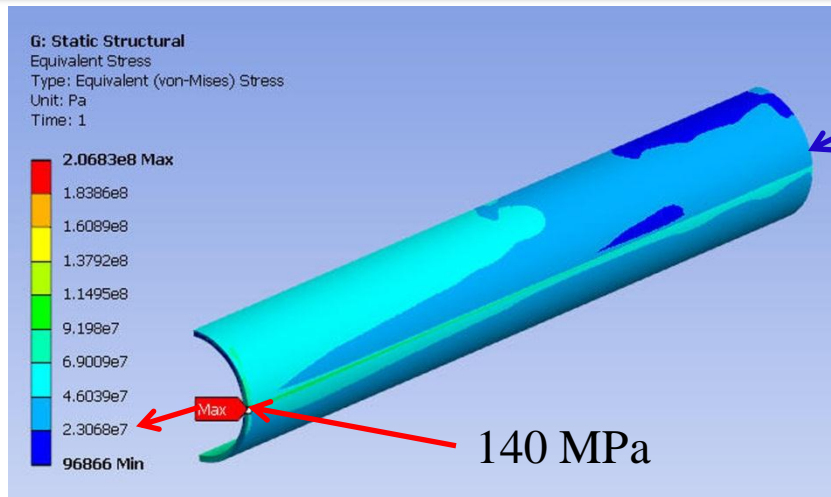


Velocity distribution



Temperature distribution

STRESS LIMIT IS ALSO SATISFIED ALTHOUGH IT IS VERY CONSERVATIVE

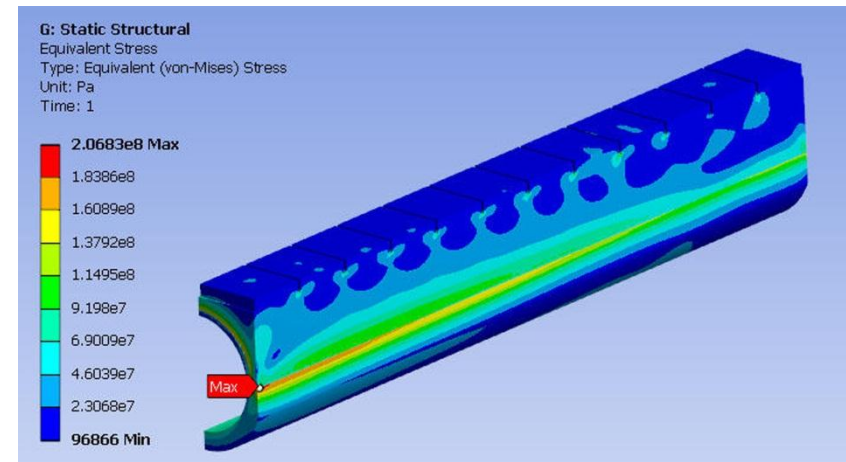


SiC composite tube



CVD-SiC layer

- Max. combined primary and secondary in SiC-composite tube is ~140 MPa ($< \sigma_{allow} = \sim 190$ MPa).
- Max. Combined primary and secondary stress in CVD-SiC layer (not a major structure) is ~207 MPa at low heat flux region where the temperature is the lower (~ 710 °C).
- Max. shear stress at interface is ~73 MPa
- Further optimization of the cartridge to rise temperature at the lower heat flux region can reduce thermal stress.



SiC composite tube with W coating

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- Three configurations of He-cooled SiC-composite divertor concepts have been investigated, including
 1. a modified finger
 2. an original ARIES-finger
 3. a tubular plate with impinging-jet cooling scheme
- CFX and FEM results indicate that both configuration 2 and 3 can possibly accommodate a non-uniform heat flux with a maximum value up to 5 MW/m^2 while satisfying the temperature, pumping power and stress limits.
- The tubular plate design (Configuration 3) has a better thermal performance, and it is easier to be fabricated, much less brazing required, and potentially have higher reliability.

