# DEPOSITION, EROSION AND CORROSION OF BIOMASS PYROLYSIS FUELS FOR INDUSTRIAL GAS TURBINES

by

Henry L. Bernstein, Ph.D.

for

Gas Turbine Materials and Component Lifing
Challenges and Opportunities in Future Gas Turbine
Development and Operation

#### **National Research Council Canada**

Ottawa, Ontario

October 21, 2008

#### GAS TURBINE MATERIALS ASSOCIATES

401 Isom Road, #570, San Antonio, TX 78216

voice: 210-342-8866 -- fax: 210-342-8935 -- e-mail: gtma@texas.net

#### OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Erosion
- Deposition
- Corrosion Hot Corrosion
- Fuel Requirements and Alternate Fuels
- Materials and Coatings
- Life Prediction
- Summary

## INTRODUCTION

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- Background of DEC -- Deposition, Erosion and Corrosion
- Discuss Fuel Requirements and Alternate Fuels
- Discuss Impact of Corrosion on Materials and Coatings
- Briefly Discuss Life Prediction for DEC and Life Management Systems

#### TALK BASED UPON

"Impact Study on the Use of Biomass-Derived Fuels in Gas Turbines for Power Generation," Final Report prepared for the National Renewable Energy Laboratory under Contract AV-2-12148-1, June 1993

"Fuel-Specification Considerations For Biomass Pyrolysis Liquids to be Used in Stationary Gas Turbines" ASME Paper 96-GT-406

Co-Author Dr. Clifford A. Moses

## **EROSION**

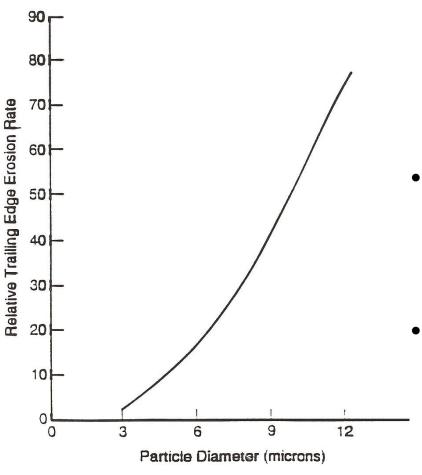
#### **EROSION**

# Erosion is the Removal of Metal by Abrasive Particles in the Gas Stream.

#### It is Controlled by:

- Hardness of Abrasive Particles
- Size and Shape of Abrasive Particles
- Number of Abrasive Particles
- Angle of Attack
  - Have all angles of interest in the turbine section

#### EROSION OF A TRAILING EDGE VANE



#### 50 MW Gas Turbine

- Can Reduce Performance by Enlarging the Flow Path
- Can Lead to Cracking Due to Thinning and Grooving

#### **EROSION OF COATINGS**

#### **Erosion Can Remove Protective Coatings**

Corrosion – Oxidation Coatings

Thermal Barrier Coatings

Results in Loss of Protection

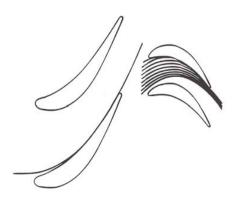
## Deposition Is the Buildup of Foreign Material on the Airfoils

It is Controlled by:

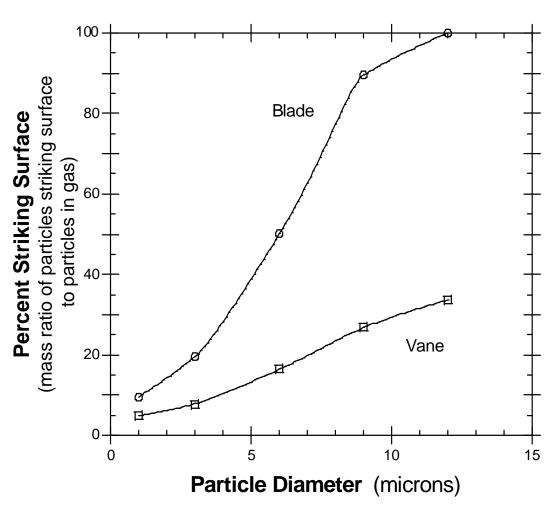
- Stickiness of Particles
- Size of Particles
- Number of Particles
- Angle of Attack
  - Have all angles of interest in the turbine section

#### Sticking vs. Particle Diameter

#### Particle Trajectories



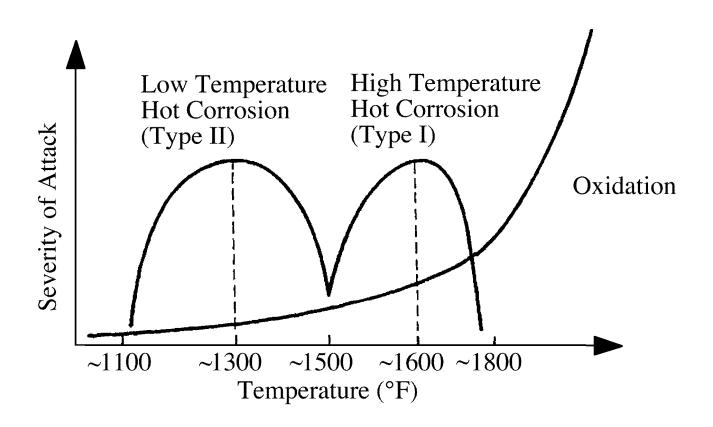
Vane Blade



- Reduces Performance Can Be Drastic
- Can Reduce Blade Creep Life by Increasing Blade Weight (i.e. Stress)

# CORROSION HOT CORROSION

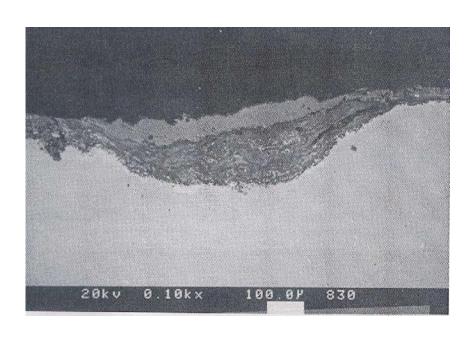
# TEMPERATURE REGIMES OF HIGH TEMPERATURE ATTACK

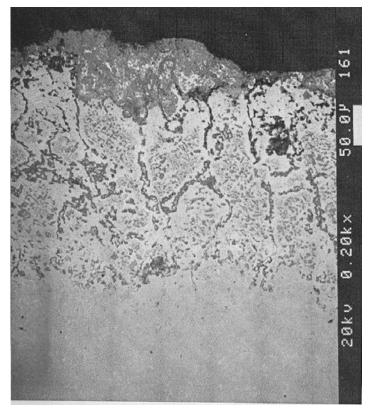


#### HOT CORROSION (1 of 4)

#### LOW TEMPERATURE HOT CORROSION (TYPE II)

#### HIGH TEMPERATURE HOT CORROSION (TYPE I)





#### HOT CORROSION (2 of 4)

- High Temperature Hot Corrosion (Type I)
  - 1500 to 1750°F (815 to 955°C)
  - Maximum Between 1550 to 1700°F (845 to 925°C)
  - Due to Molten Alkali Sulfates Reacting with Protective Oxide Scale
  - Broad, Relatively Uniform Attack of the Metal (and Coating)
- Low Temperature Hot Corrosion (Type II)
  - 1100 to 1500°F (675 to 815°C)
  - Maximum Between 1259 to 1350°F (675 to 730°C)
  - Due to Molten Alkali Sulfates Reacting with Protective Oxide Scale
  - Need High Amounts of SO<sub>3</sub> to Occur at Low Temperatures
  - Non-Uniform, Pitting Attack of the Metal (and Coating)

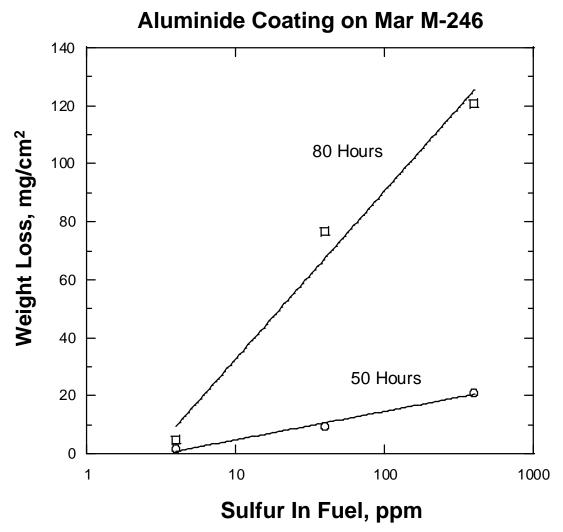
#### HOT CORROSION (3 of 4)

- Caused by Contaminants
  - Sulfur PLUS
  - Sodium and/or Potassium
  - Form Sodium and Potassium Sulfates
- Contaminants Come from
  - Fuel
  - Air
  - Water / Steam
    - NO<sub>x</sub> Control
    - Power Augmentation

#### HOT CORROSION (4 of 4)

- Lead Induced Hot Corrosion (Lead Oxides)
- Vanadium Induced Hot Corrosion (Vanadium Pentoxide)
- Mixed Hot Corrosion (Chemical Soup)

#### EFFECT OF SULFUR ON CORROSION



# FUEL REQUIREMENTS and ALTERNATE FUELS

#### TYPICAL FUEL REQUIREMENTS

Fuel Property	Frame	Aeroderivative	Purpose	
Ash, % mass, max	0.01%	NS	Deposition	
Particulates, mg/l	NS	2.6	Deposition and Erosion	
Sulfur, %mass, max	0.3%	1.0%	Emissions	
Sulfur, ppm	3,000	10,000	LIIIISSIUIIS	
Trace Metals	ppr	n wt, max	Hot Corrosion	
Na + K	0.5	0.2		
Ca	0.5	2.0		
Pb	0.5	1.0		
V	0.5	0.5		

#### TRACE METALS

## Amount of Trace Metals Allowed Is the Sum from All Sources

Fuel + Air + Water/Steam

#### ALTERNATE FUELS

#### Biomass Pyrolysis Oils:

- Switchgrass Oils
- Oakwood Oils
- Pine Oils
- Hawker Siddley Pyrolysis Oils

#### **BIOMASS PYROLYSIS OILS**

I Property I	Typical #2	Switchgrass	Oakwood	Pine	Hawker Siddley	
	Fuel				Α	В
Sulfur, wt%	0.1-0.3	0.03-0.04	0.01-0.03		0.01	0.01
Sulfur, ppm	1000-3000	300-400	100-300		100	100
Alkali, ppm						
Na	<0.5	20-40	10-52	10	39.5	74.8
K	<0.5	580-1380	<10-40	<10	8.0	4.2
Ca	<0.5	490-660	23-80	60	36.0	15.1
Ash, wt%	0.01	0.12-0.95	<0.05-0.05	0.05	0.1	
LHV, MJ/kg	~ 42	21.9-23.1	19.6-28.7	21.4		

#### BIOMASS PYROLYSIS OILS

- Sulfur: ~10x Lower than Typical Fuel
- Alkali: 10 to 1000x Greater than Typical Fuel
- Ash: 5 to 100x Greater than Typical Fuel
- LHV (Lower Heating Valve): ~2x Lower than Typical Fuel
  - Need more fuel for same power
  - Therefore, allowable contaminates must be lower

### MATERIALS AND COATINGS

#### **SUPERALLOYS**

#### Nickel Base

- Higher Strength
- Blades, Vanes and Combustor Hardware
- Chromium Hot Corrosion and Oxidation Protection
- Aluminum Oxidation Protection
- Normally Coated for Corrosion and Oxidation Protection
- Frame GT's Higher Cr and Greater Corrosion Resistance
- Aeroderivative GTs' Lower Cr and Higher Strength

#### Cobalt Base

- Greater Corrosion Resistance
- Vanes
- Chromium Hot Corrosion and Oxidation Protection
- May or May Not Be Coated
- Same Alloys for Frame and Aeroderivative

#### COATINGS (1 OF 2)

#### Surface Layer on Blades and Vanes Enriched in :

- Chromium
- Aluminum
- Other Elements Added to Improve Resistance to Attack
  - Silicon Resists Type II Hot Corrosion
  - Platinum Resists Type I Hot Corrosion

## Provides Increased Resistance to Hot Corrosion and Oxidation

#### COATINGS (2 OF 2)

#### Separate Metallurgical System

#### Many Different Types of Coatings and Application Methods

#### <u>Aluminides</u>

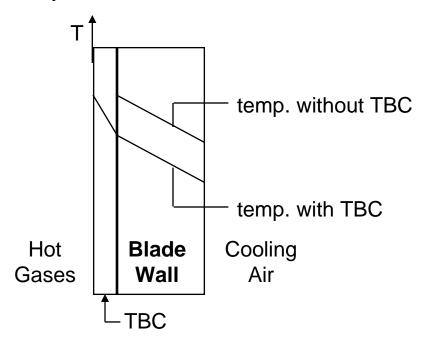
- Simple Aluminides
  - Ni-Aluminides
  - CoAl
- Platinum Aluminides
  - 2 Phase
  - 1 Phase
- Silicon Modified Aluminides
- Other Modified Aluminides
- Usually applied by pack,
   CVD or slurry methods

#### <u>Overlays</u>

- MCrAlY's
- M = Ni, Co or Ni+Co
- Cr
- Al
- Y ties up sulfur, increasing scale adherence
- Other elements sometimes added
- Usually applied by thermal spray

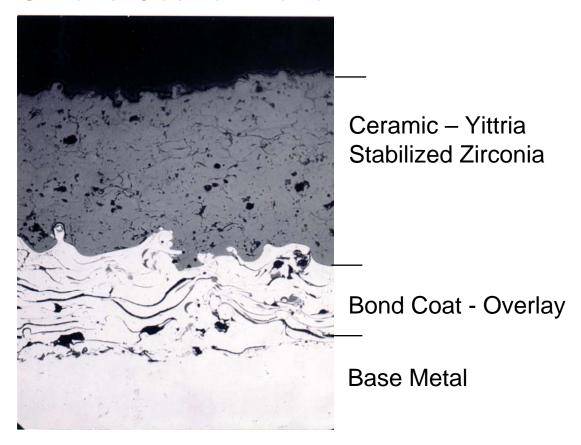
#### THERMAL BARRIER COATINGS

- Ceramic Layer on the Outside of the Blade or Vane
- Ceramic Layer Is an Insulator
  - Lowers the Metal Temperature
  - Requires a Heat Sink
- Lower Temperature Increases the Blade Life



## AIR PLASMA SPRAY THERMAL BARRIER COATING

#### Ceramic Layer of TBC on Top APS Bond Coat on Bottom



## LIFE PREDICTION

## LIFE PREDICTION FOR EROSION AND DEPOSITION IN IGT's

- Erosion Is Typically Not Lifed
- Source(s) of Erosion Are Eliminated
- Deposition Is a Performance Issue and Not a Lifing Issue
- Deposition is Typically Handled by Either:
  - Removing the Source(s) of Deposition
  - Empirically Determining Appropriate
     Cleaning Intervals

#### LIFE PREDICTION FOR HOT CORROSION

- Hot Corrosion Is Typically Not Lifed
- Source(s) of Hot Corrosion Are Eliminated
- Base Metals and Coatings Typically Can Withstand Hot Corrosion Conditions for Only a Short Time
  - 2,000 to 8,000 Hours Before Parts Begin to Fail

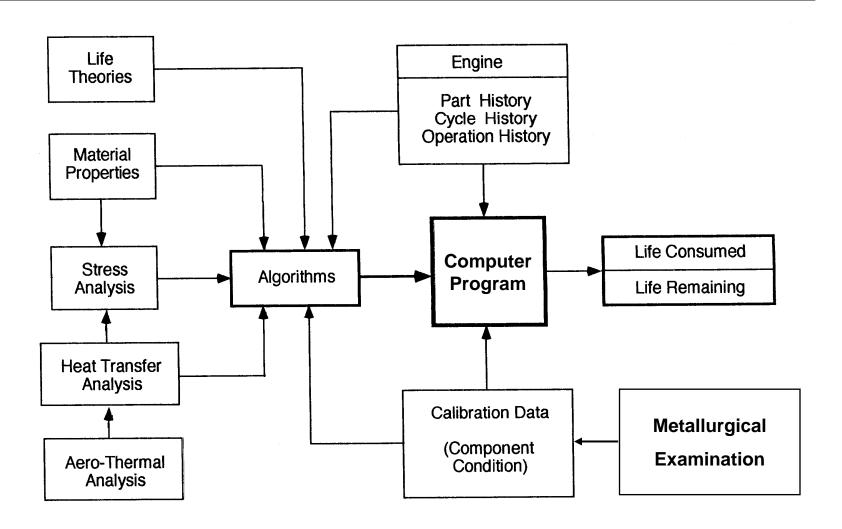
#### TBC's AND HOT CORROSION

- TBC's Can Not Tolerate Hot Corrosion Conditions
- The Liquid Sulfates Wick into the Ceramic, Causing It to Spall Off
  - Difference in Thermal Expansion
     Between Sulfate and Ceramic

#### LIFE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

- First Stage Nozzle
  - Cracking
- First Stage Bucket / Blade
  - Creep
  - TMF
- GE MS7001 Gas Turbine Models B, E & EA
- RB211-24C HPT Blade TMF
- Compute Life Consumed and Life Remaining Based Upon Engine Operation / Metallurgical Exam

# STRUCTURE OF THE LIFE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



#### RESULTS of LIFE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

#### First Stage Nozzle

Cracking Predicted to Within a Factor of 2 – Material Variation

#### First Stage Bucket

- Creep Predicted, but No Creep Failures or Cracks / Voids
- TMF Crack Initiation Predicted to Within a Factor of 2 Mat'l Var

#### Has Saved Operators Millions of Dollars

- Longer Operation of Engine & Components Direct Benefit
- Improved Knowledge of Components and Engines Indirect Benefit

### **SUMMARY**

#### THE KEY IS TO KEEP DEC MANAGABLE

- Deposition and Erosion
  - Keep Ash and Particulates Very Low
- Corrosion
  - Keep Alkali Sulfates, Lead and Vanadium Very, Very Low
  - Lower Sulfur in Alternate Fuels May Allow Higher Alkali Metals
  - Mix Higher Alkali Fuels into Fuels with few Alkalis
- NO Magical Material Solutions
- NO Real Life Prediction Solutions for DEC

#### COMPONENT LIFE PREDICTION

- Feasible
  - Nozzles
  - Blades
  - Creep
  - Thermal Mechanical Fatigue
- Has Been Used
  - Saved Millions of Dollars

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Can alkali levels be raised if sulfur is lowered?
- 2. Does the future use of alternate fuels require significant improvements in base metals and coatings? These may not occur!
- 3. Can TBC's be developed to resist hot corrosion?
- 4. What is the value of accurate component life prediction for gas turbine operators?
  - Industrial
  - Civil Aviation
  - Military Aviation
  - Marine Military (Civil)