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# Surface Protection by Diffusion Barrier?

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- Motivation
  - Electricity production and environment
  - Next generation power plants
  - Corrosion in flue gases containing overwhelming CO<sub>2</sub>
- Protection Systems
  - Requirements for steam power plant protective coatings
  - TBC or Cr-rich metallic coatings
  - Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> Coatings
- Conclusions & Outlook

Reliable electricity production and distribution is necessary for an industrialised country

- Part of the infrastructure
- Electricity is the main form of energy for all technical machines.

Accidents caused by cracking steam pipes are known from chemical plants, waste incinerators and power plants.

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Combustion of carbon containing fuels produces CO<sub>2</sub>

Typical CO<sub>2</sub> values for different types of fuel

1 kg mineral oil for heating results in 3,1428 kg CO<sub>2</sub> and 4,4 MJ heat.

1 kg hard coal results in 3,6164 kg CO<sub>2</sub> and 28,8 MJ

1 m<sup>3</sup> natural gas produces 2.2 kg CO<sub>2</sub> and 38,4 MJ

In Germany and world wide coal will remain an important fuel for electricity production.

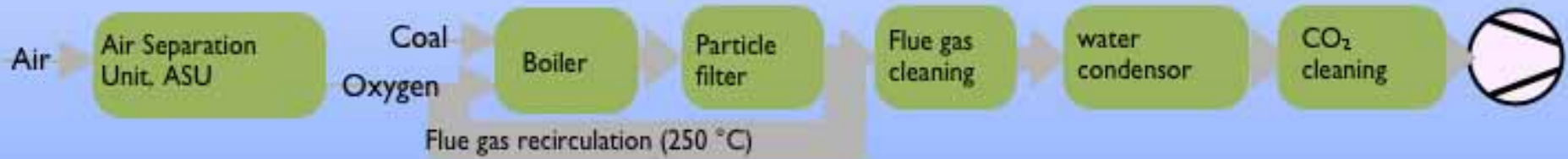
Integration of CO<sub>2</sub> capture in the flue gas path of combustion steam power plants might be a potential technical route to avoid further CO<sub>2</sub> emission from electricity production.

3 cycles are in the focus of the German COORETEC Research Program.

Post-capture of CO<sub>2</sub>



Oxyfuel Process



Integrated (Coal) Gasification and Combined Cycle Power Plant, IGCC



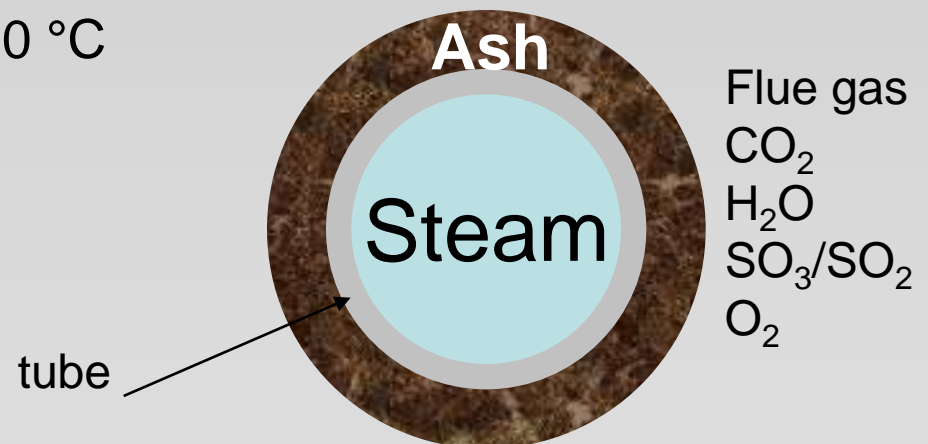
CO<sub>2</sub> cleaning

The effort to clean the CO<sub>2</sub> will increase investment cost end energy consumption within the plant.

- Any process has to be payed.
- The total efficiency will decrease
- The percentage of efficiency to pay cannot be calculated exactly but will not exceed 10 %
- A Capture Plant should offer a total efficiency of more than 42 % which is a typical level of efficiency for today technology.

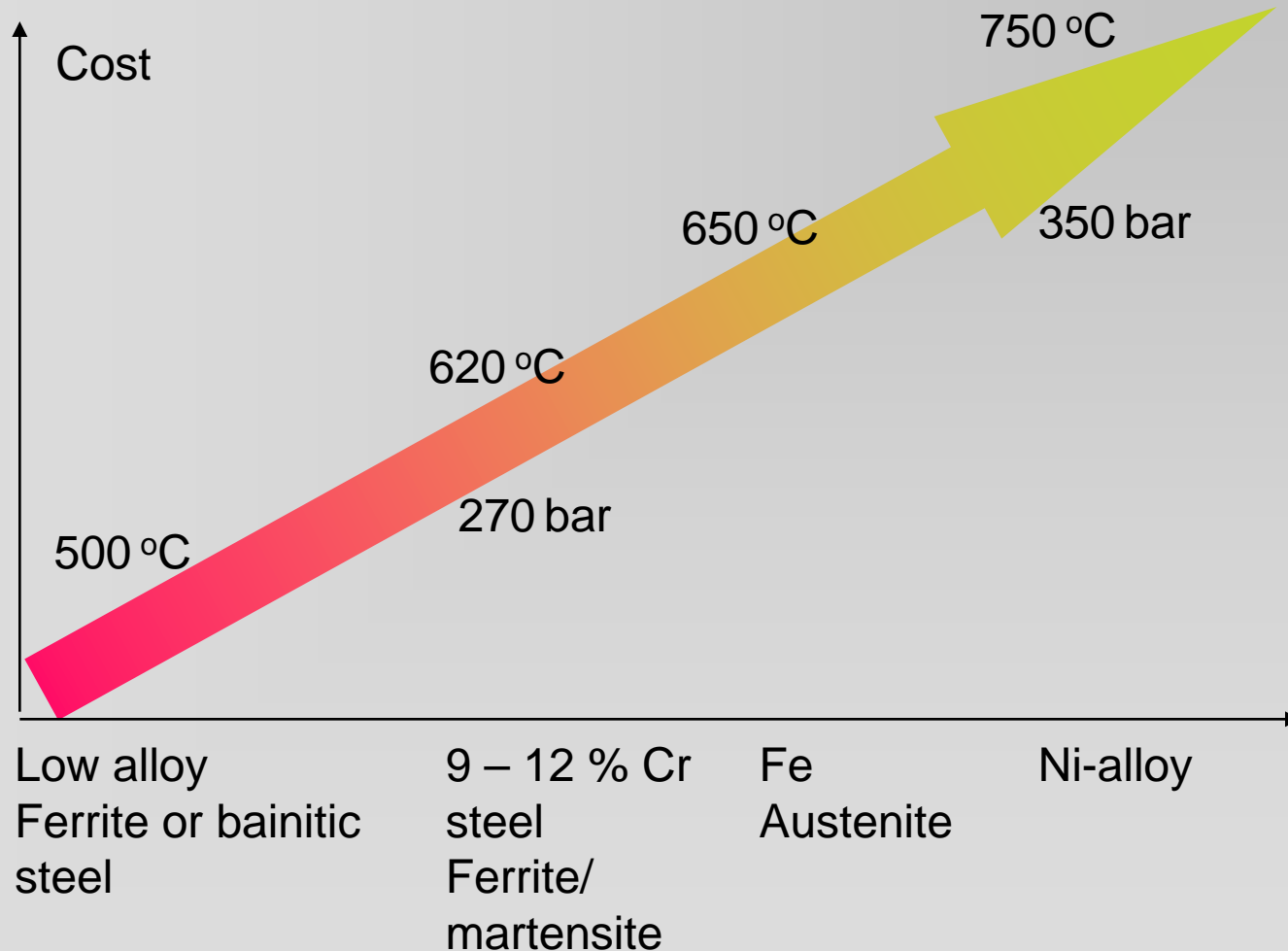
## Expectation for superheater tubes and water walls

- $10^5$  hours service life
  - $650^\circ\text{C}$  steam temperature
  - 300 bar pressure
  - Good heat transfer between flue gas and the water/steam inside
  - Weldability (construction and maintenance&repair)
  - Inspection (Typically ultrasonic thickness measurement)
- Next generation steam power plants or steam cycles
    - + Steam temperature up to  $750^\circ\text{C}$
    - + Pressure 350 bar



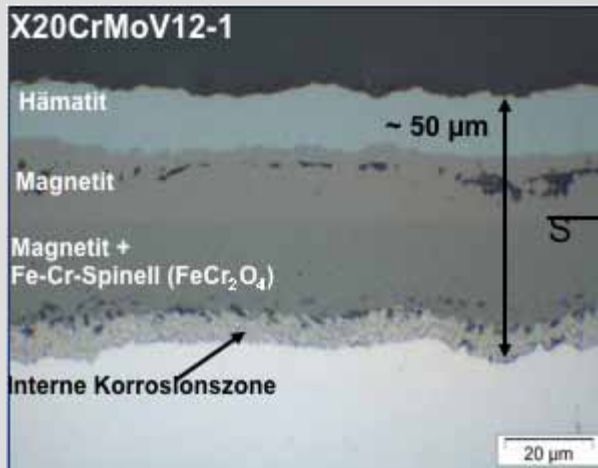


## Steels for steam power plants

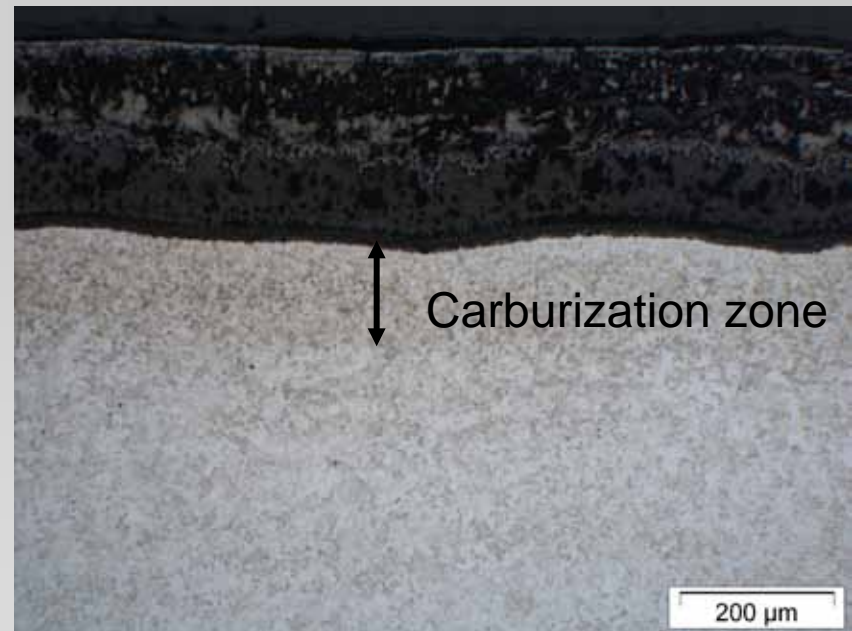


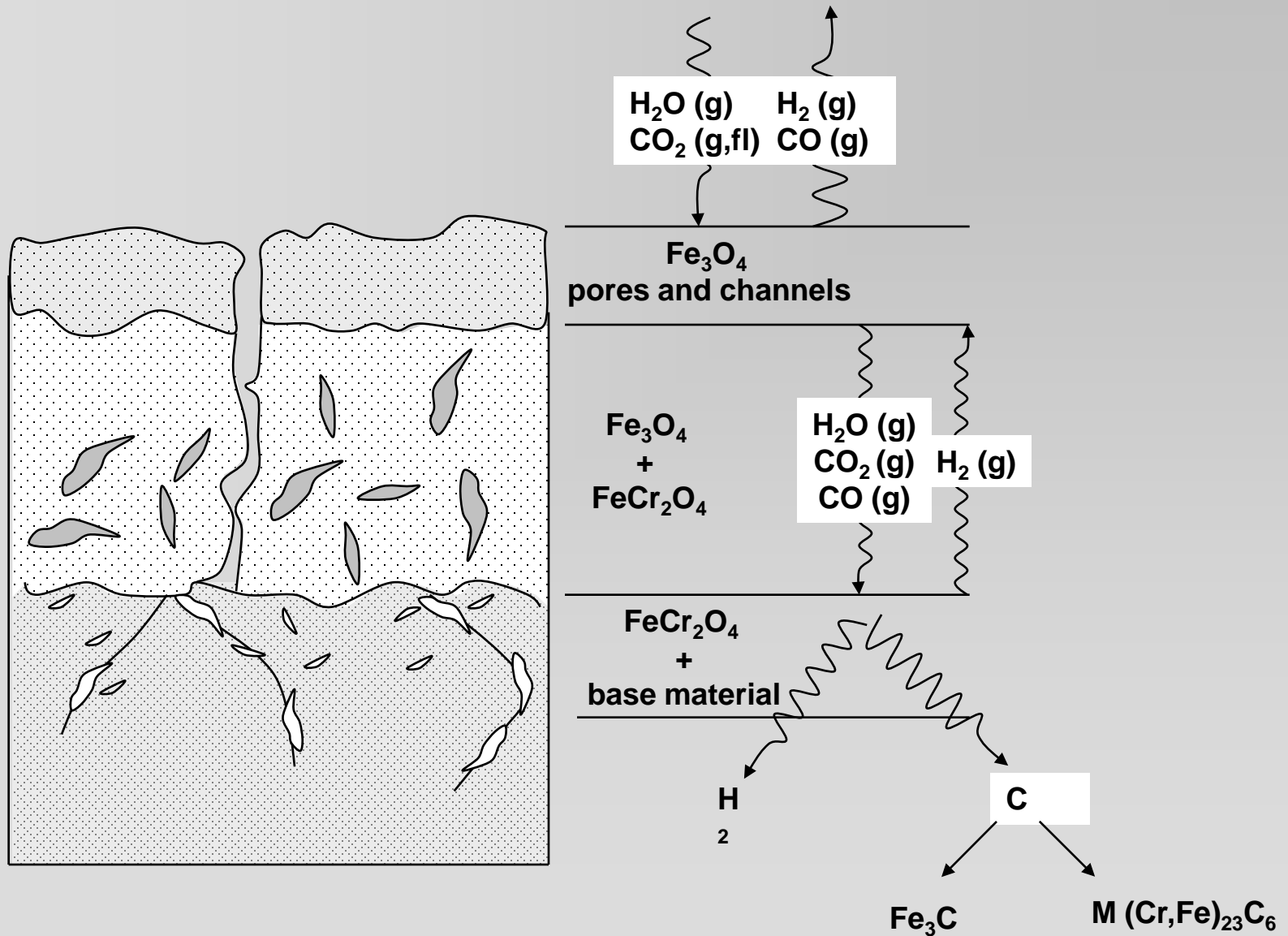
- The following discussion will focus on the conditions of the oxyfuel process
- Aim is to answer the question: Can current steels used in Oxyfuel Steam Power Plants? Only certified materials were included!
- How we have to adjust the working conditions to reach same lifetime as in conventional combustion systems?
- Flue gas
  - $68 \text{ CO}_2 - 30 \text{ H}_2\text{O} - 1 \text{ O}_2 - \text{SO}_2$
  - Experimental simulation of the Vattenfall test facility in “Schwarze Pumpe”
- Material temperature max.  $T = 620^\circ\text{C}$

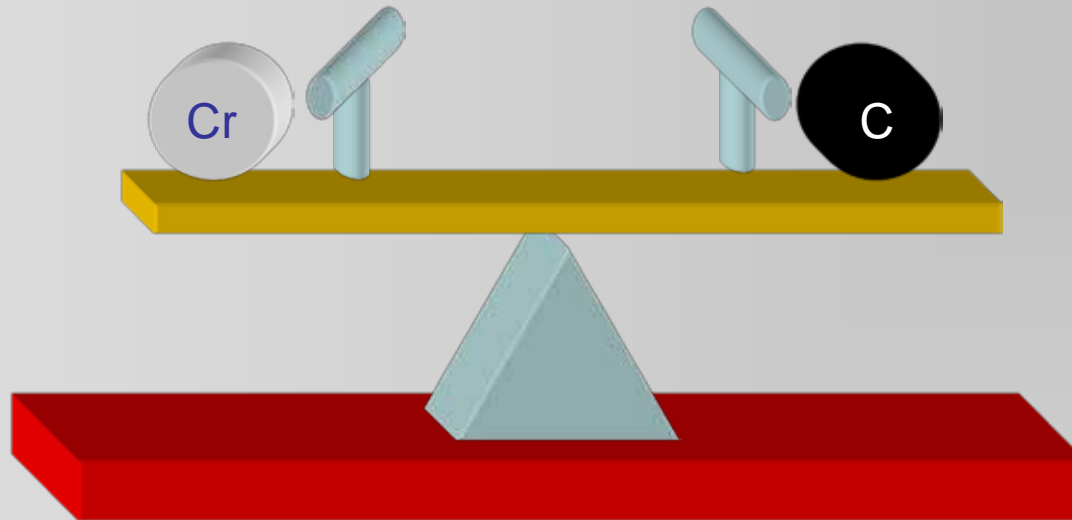
$\text{CO}_2\text{-H}_2\text{O-O}_2$ ,  $p_{\text{O}_2} = 9,94 \cdot 10^{-3}$  bar



T92: carburization







Chromium:

- $\text{FeCr}_2\text{O}_4$  /  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$  formation  
-> self protection
- Reduction of corrosion rate

Carbon:

Fixing chromium and preventing of  $\text{FeCr}_2\text{O}_4$  /  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$  formation  
-> Increasing of corrosion rate and carburization

## 3 Failure occurred in laboratory



Local overtemperature  $< 75\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$   
Internal load 270 bar steam  
Time to failure  $< 24$  hours

1. 13CrMo4-5 -> corrosion & carburization and volume expansion causes tensile stresses and crack growth from the outer surface towards the inside.
2. 9% Cr-steel.-> Corrosion and creep
3. 12% Cr steel. -> Corrosion

- Can current steels used in Oxyfuel Steam Power Plants? **Only with shorter life in the temperature window between 500 and 620 °C.**

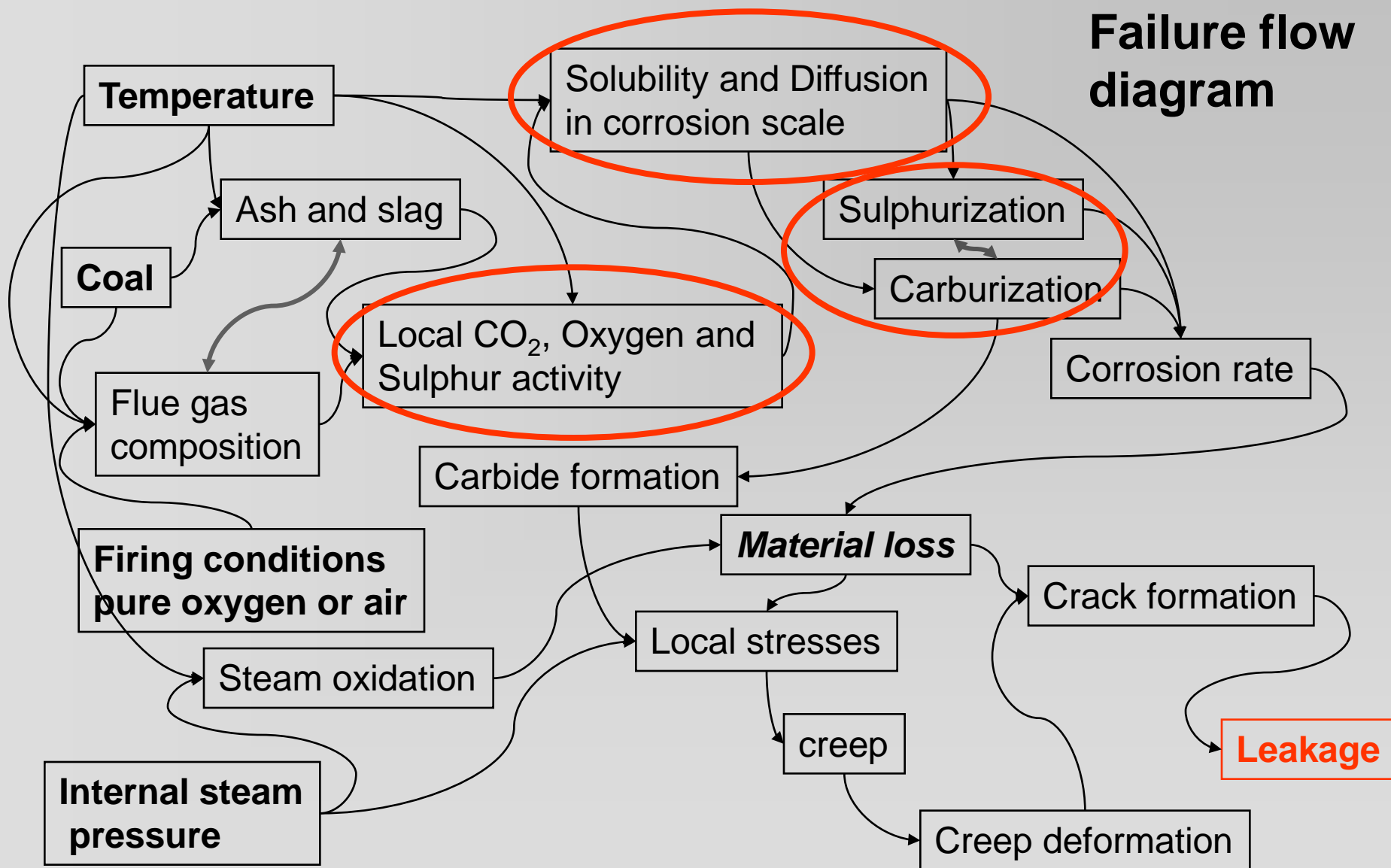
W. Schulz et al., "Comparison of the corrosion behaviour of 9-12 % Cr steels in H<sub>2</sub>O, H<sub>2</sub>O-O<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O-CO<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>2</sub>", NACE Corrosion, Atlanta, 2009 Paper No. 09264.

A.Kranzmann et al.: Reactions at the interface between steel and oxide scale in wet CO<sub>2</sub> containing atmospheres, NACE Corrosion, Atlanta, 2009 , Paper No. 09265.

D. Hünert et al., "Corrosion behaviour of ferritic and martensitic power plant steels under conditions of dual atmospheres", NACE Corrosion, Atlanta, 2009 , Paper No. 09263.

- How we have to adjust the working conditions to reach same lifetime as in conventional combustion systems? -> **Coating!**

# Failure flow diagram





## Requirements on a protective coating

- Chemical compatibility to metallic component
- Diffusion barrier for  $O_2$ ,  $CO_2$ ,  $CO$ ,  $SO_2$ , S
- Low solubility of  $O_2$ ,  $H_2O$ ,  $CO_2$ ,  $CO$ , C,  $SO_2$ , S
- Low wetting by slag
- Chemical stability in  $SiO_2$ - $CaO$ - $Fe_3O_4$  lignite slag
- Chemical stability against  $SO_2$  and S
- Heat transfer equal or better than steel
- Easy to apply on boiler components
  - Spray technology or a paint
  - Atmospheric plasma spraying
- Repair and maintenance

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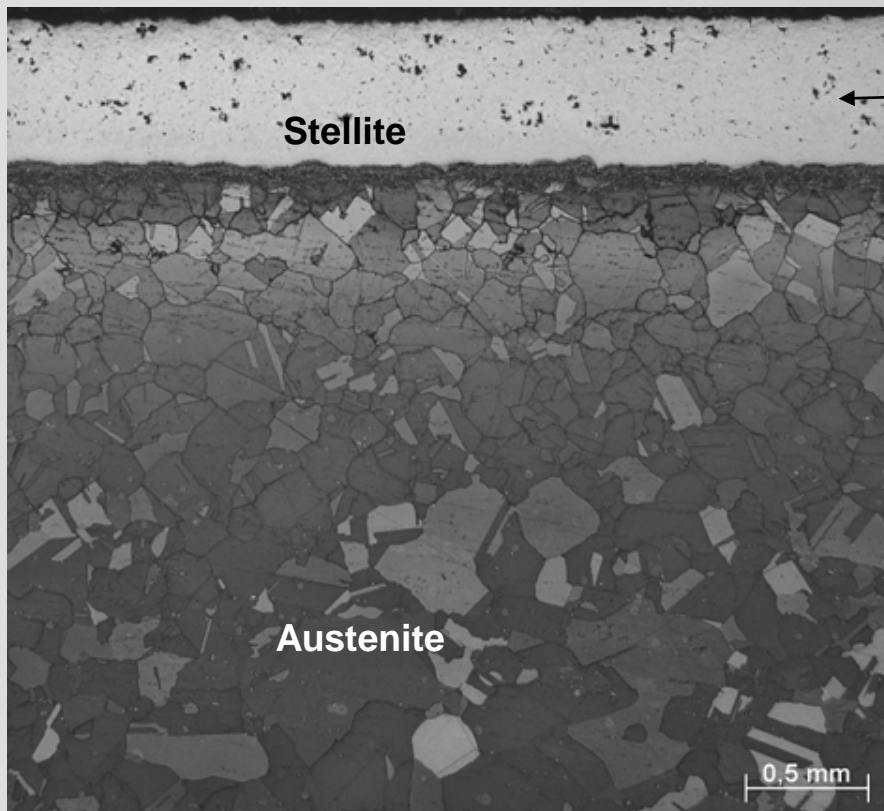
In power industry coatings are already applied

- Thermal protection -> Zirconia plasma sprayed ceramic
- Corrosion of Ni-base alloys -> MeCrAlY-coatings, Me - (Ni, Co)
- Steam corrosion protection -> Stellite

1.  $\text{ZrO}_2$  used in gas turbine combustion atmosphere for component protection
  - In contrast to EB PVD or CVD techniques it can be applied outside of special chambers.
  - Proven technology
  - Several players on the market -> competition
  - No post heat treatment
2. Thermodynamic stability -> lowest eutectic temperature in important systems
  - $\text{ZrO}_2\text{-SiO}_2$ ,  $T_{\text{Emin}} = 1685 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$
  - $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3\text{-SiO}_2\text{-ZrO}_2$ ,  $T_{\text{Emin}} = 1556 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$
  - $\text{ZrO}_2\text{-CaO}$ ,  $T_{\text{Emin}} = 2141$
3. Oxide Ion conductor -> **No diffusion barrier for oxygen**
4. Need for a bond layer
5. **Low thermal conductivity 3.2 W/mK** for dense material - Typical use for **thermal insulation!**
6. Good wettability for  $\text{CaO-SiO}_2\text{-Fe}_3\text{O}_4$  based slags

## Co-Cr based coating alloys for steam oxidation prevention

- Easy high velocity flame spraying is possible
- Typically need laser or thermal post-treatment to get a dense surface



Porosity

Example

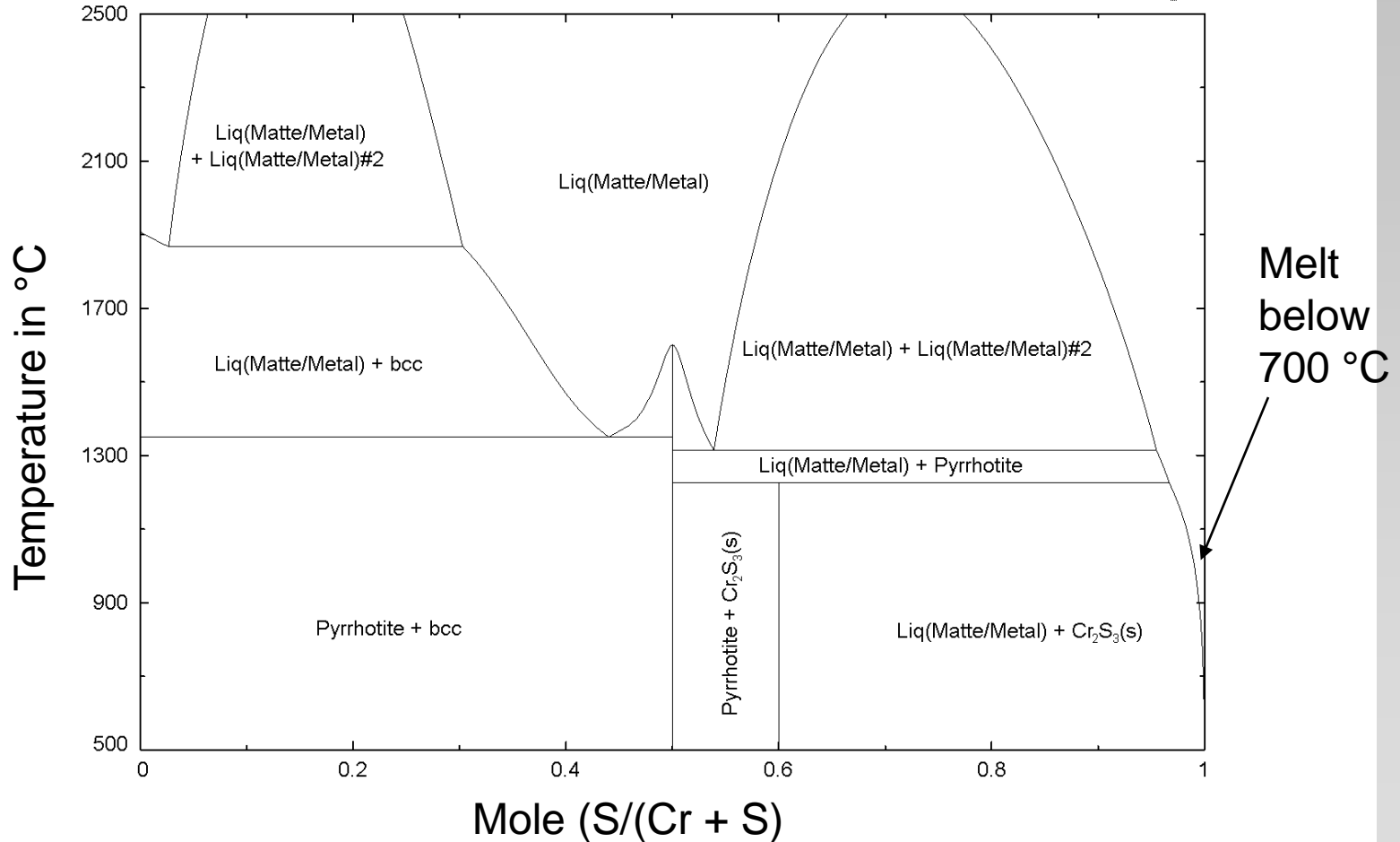
Stellite SF 6

52.3Co - 19 Cr – 13 Ni – 3 Fe – 8 W

– 2.5 Si – 1.5 B – 0.7 C

Cr can form a melt at low temperatures with sulphur

FactSage™



# Corrosion of Cr-alloys in CO<sub>2</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O-SO<sub>3</sub>/SO<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>2</sub> environment

Melt formation with S below 750°C -> sulphur corrosion

Potential carbide formation and growth

Further Carbide growth from preexisting carbides M<sub>7</sub>C<sub>3</sub>, M<sub>23</sub>C<sub>7</sub> and Co<sub>6</sub>W<sub>4</sub>C,

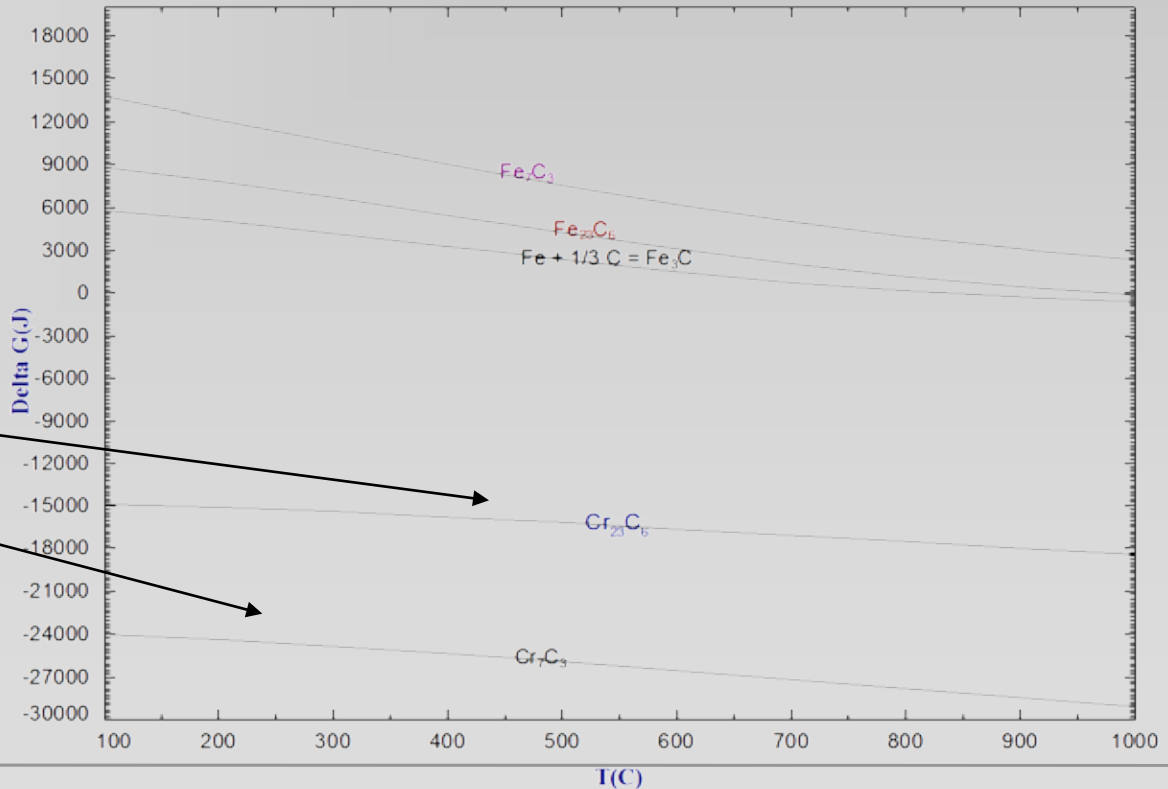
U. De Oliveira et al., Surface & Coatings Technology (2006)

D. Hünert, A.Kranzmann, Corrosion (2011)

REACTION



Stable Cr<sub>23</sub>C<sub>6</sub>  
and Cr<sub>7</sub>C<sub>3</sub>



## Alumina

Low vacancy density on the oxygen sublattice -> good diffusion barrier for oxygen

Low Al selfdiffusion

Good resistance against aggressive gases

Thermal conductivity (30 W/mK) little better than alloyed steels at 700 °C.

## Goals

Dense layer

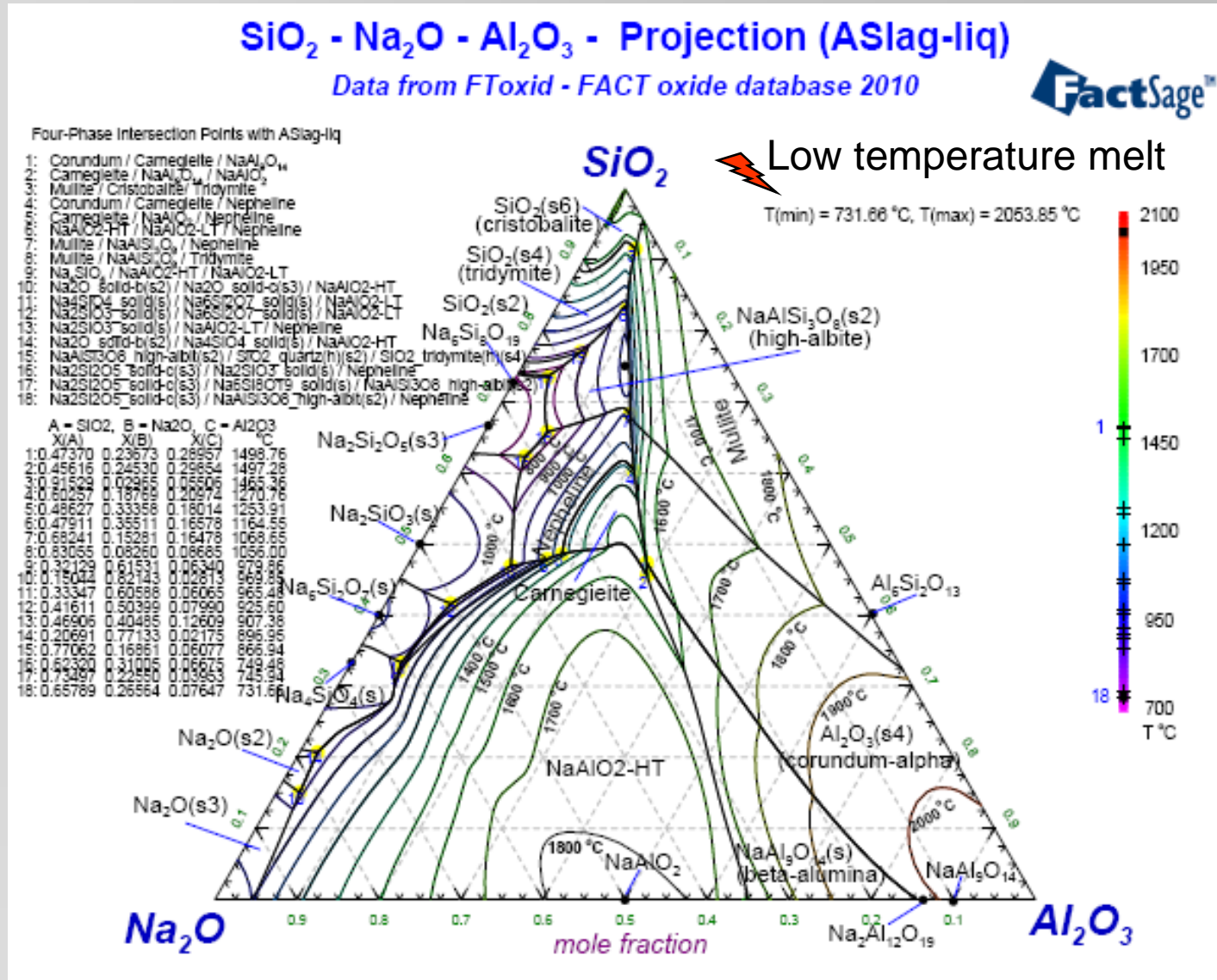
Crack free

Only very small (< 0.1 nm) or better no local defects

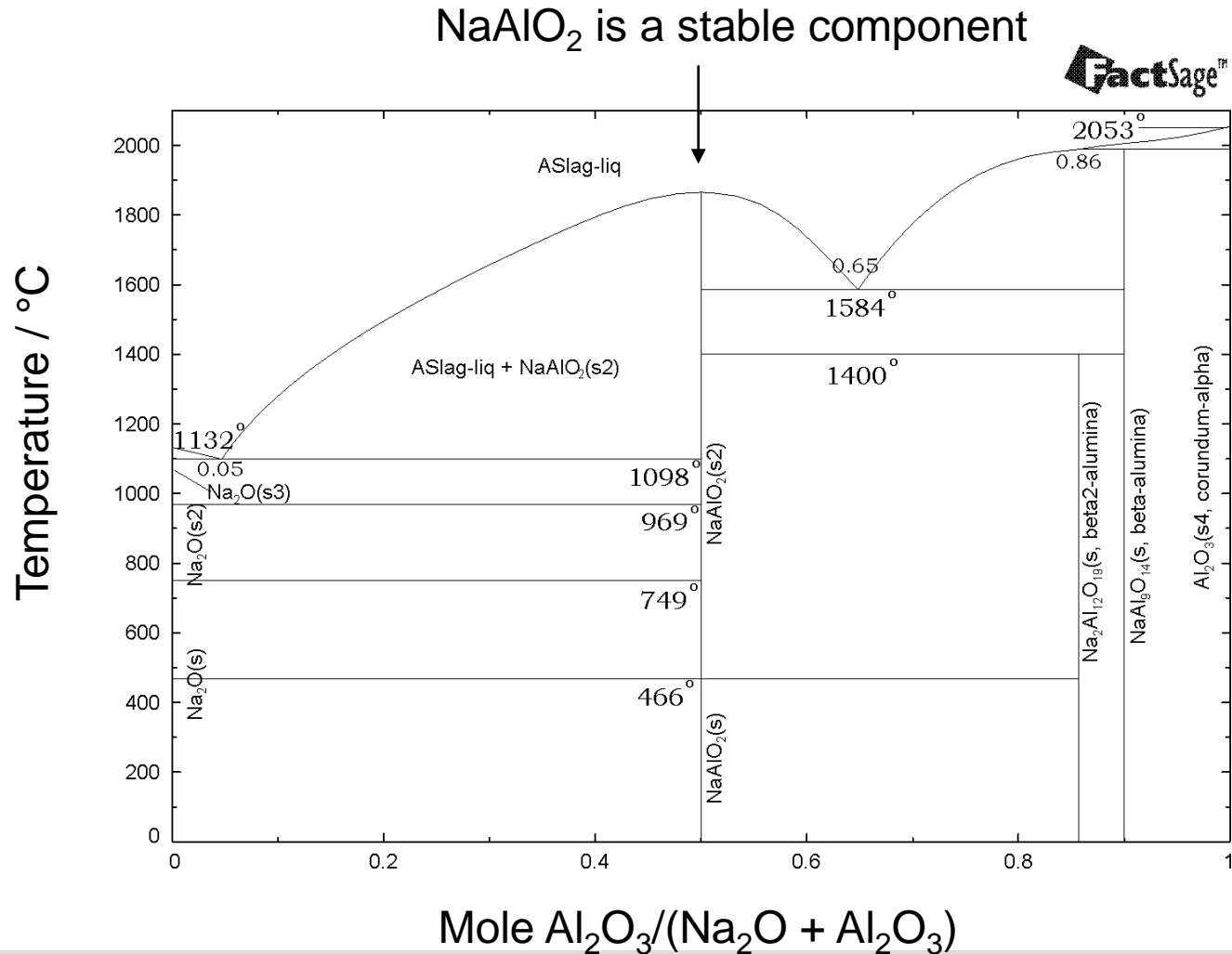
Applicable at low temperatures on technical surfaces

Disadvantage

Less stable  
in Sodium rich  
ashes and  
slags







## Alumina fullfills the chemical requirements

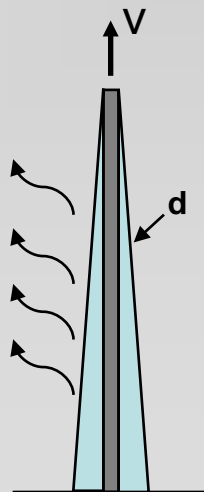
-> Two tasks

- Demonstrate the protective function!
- Think about a manufacturing technology!

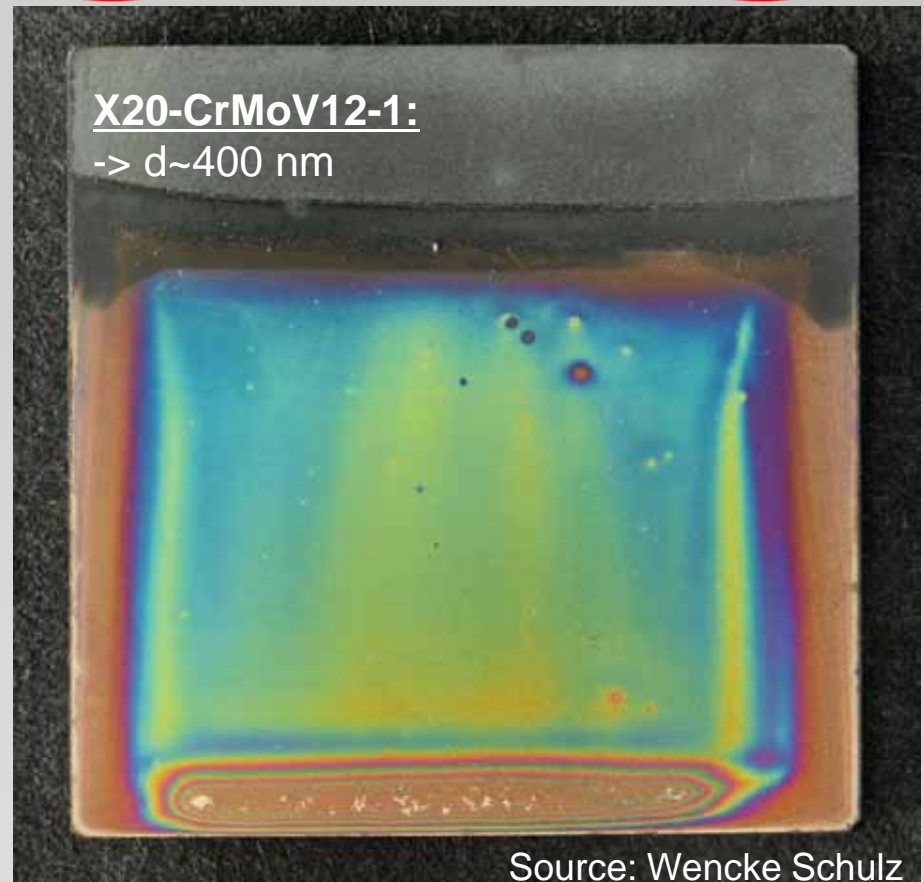
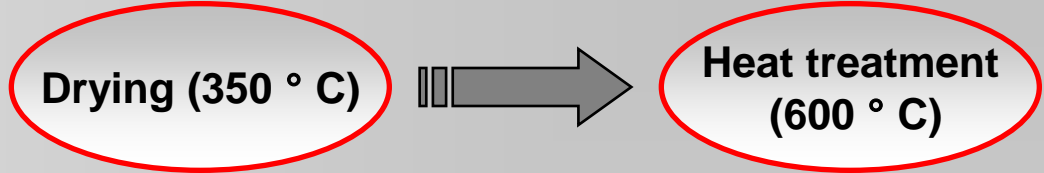
# Prozess technology (tube manufacturer)



Evaporation

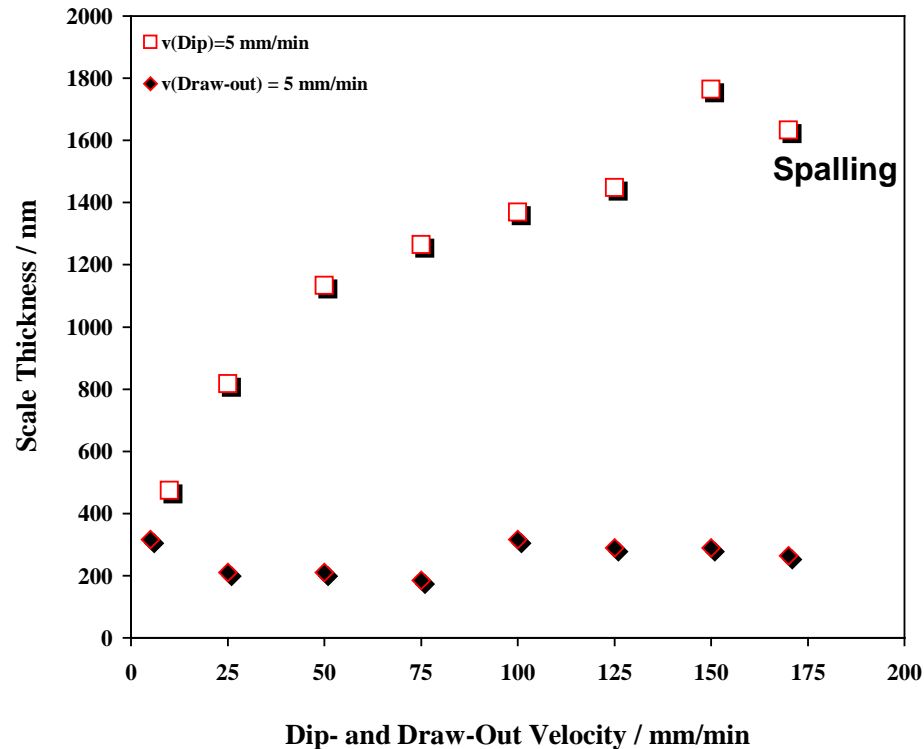


v...velocity  
d...coating thickness



**Scale thickness of glass substrates after drying and heat treatment**

$$d = \frac{Dm}{(2 \times G \times r)}$$



Source: Wencke Schulz

Low Dip Velocity  
Increasing Draw-Out Velocity



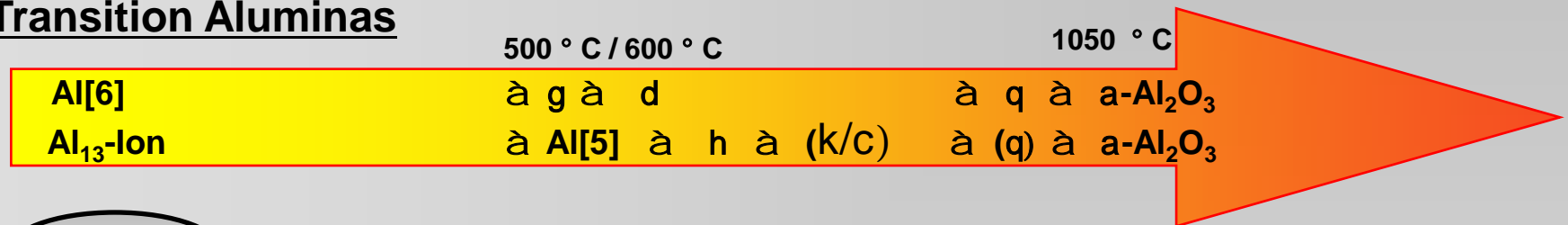
Increasing Scale Thickness  
(Cracks after Drying)

**Homogeneous  
Coating Thickness**

- Advantage of thin coatings
  - Higher tolerance against strains than thick coatings
  - Lower interface stresses, less risk of spallation
  - Higher impact tolerance
  - Less lateral shrinkage in case of sintering effects
- Disadvantage
  - For a barrier against diffusion thicker is better
  - If reacts with slag or ashes fast dissolution expected

## Current process

### Transition Aluminas



Goal

Xerogel

Sol -> 120 ° C

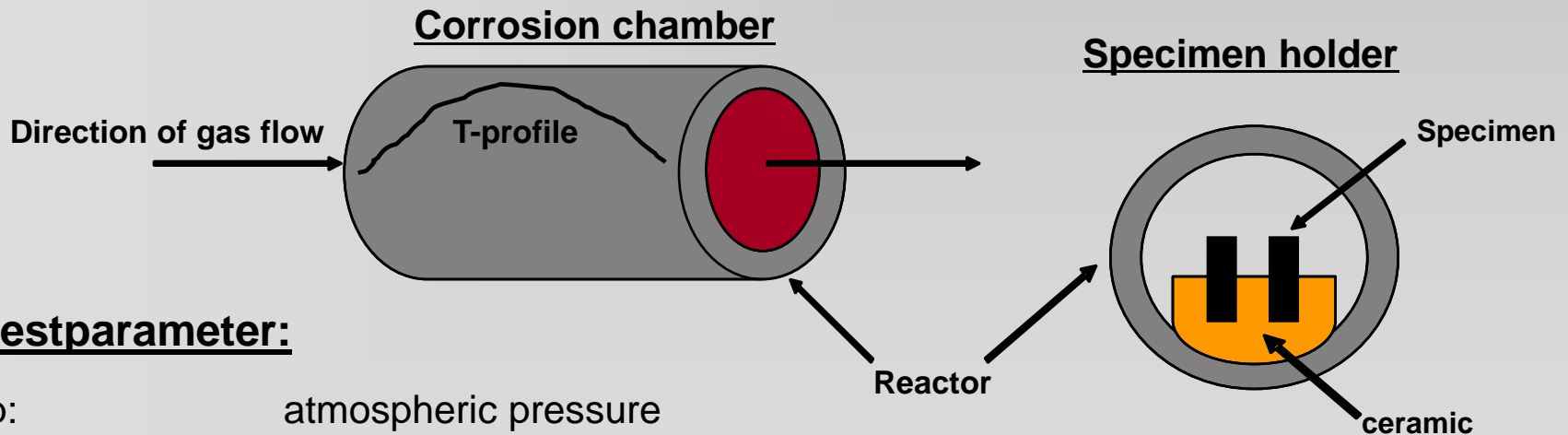
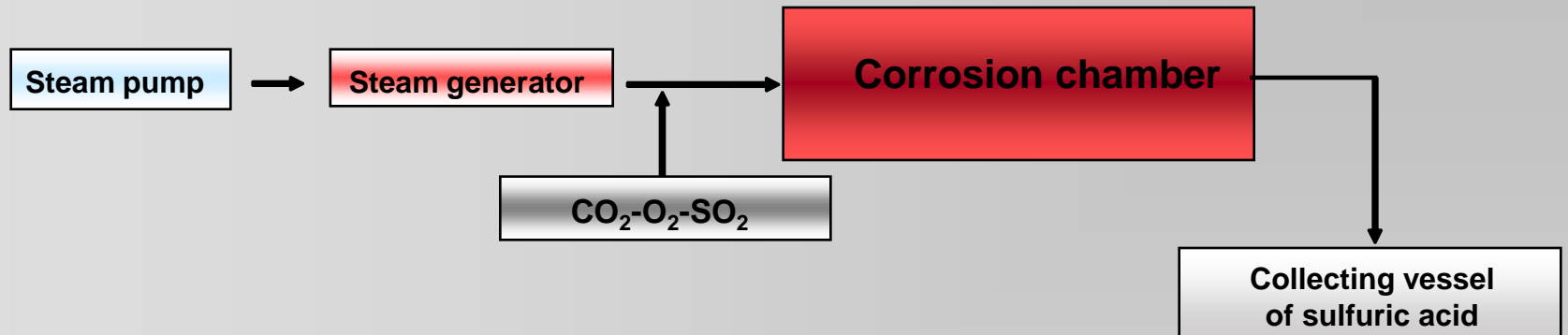
Heat treatment of steels offers to low temperatures to form α-Alumina

But

Formation of α-Alumina from natural Al-Hydroxide Minerals is possible.

Source: Wencke Schulz

**Corrosion test facility testing plates in a reactor**



**testparameter:**

p: atmospheric pressure  
 t: 1000 h  
 T: 600°C  
 gas: H<sub>2</sub>O/CO<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>/(SO<sub>2</sub>)  
 (30 mol % / 67 mol % / 2mol % / 1 mol %)

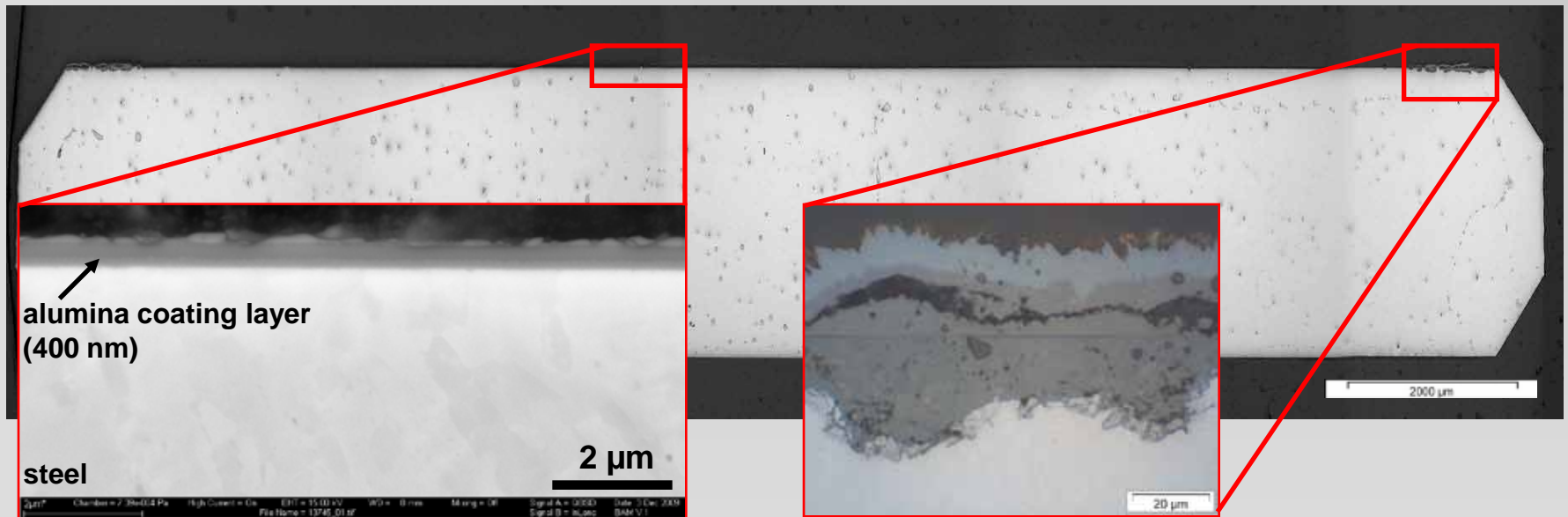
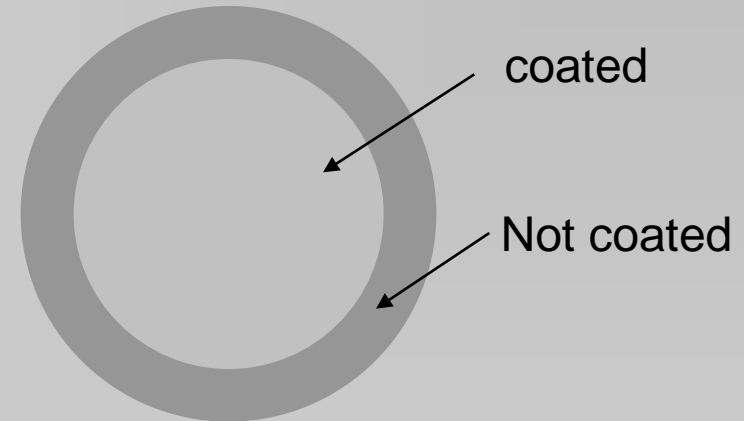
Source: Wencke Schulz

## Carburization protection

Alumina layer tested in

->  $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2-\text{O}_2$  / 1000 h / 600 ° C

X20-CrMoV12-1 / coated and uncoated

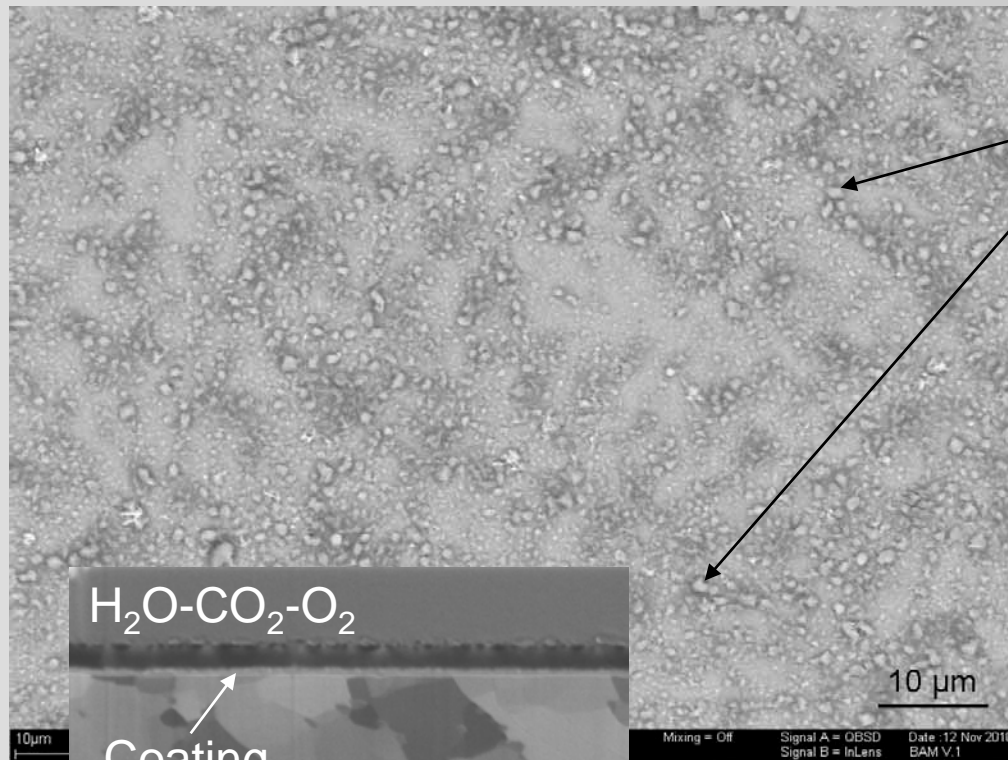


Below the  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  layer carburization was not observed!

Source: Wencke Schulz

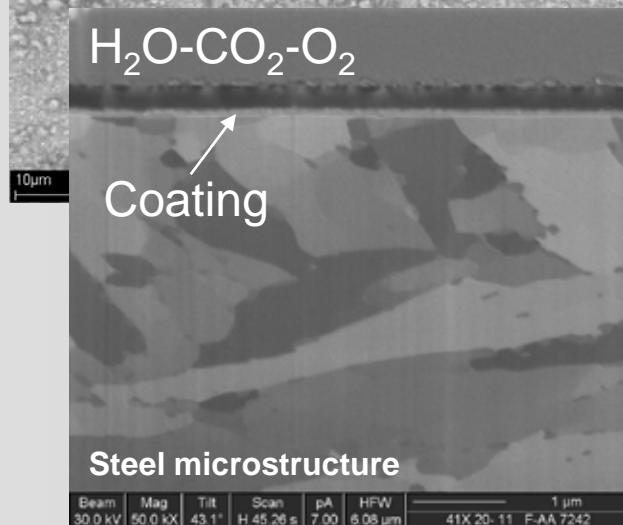


**Dip coated X20 after the corrosion in H<sub>2</sub>O-CO<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>2</sub>-SO<sub>2</sub> for 1000 h at 600 ° C**

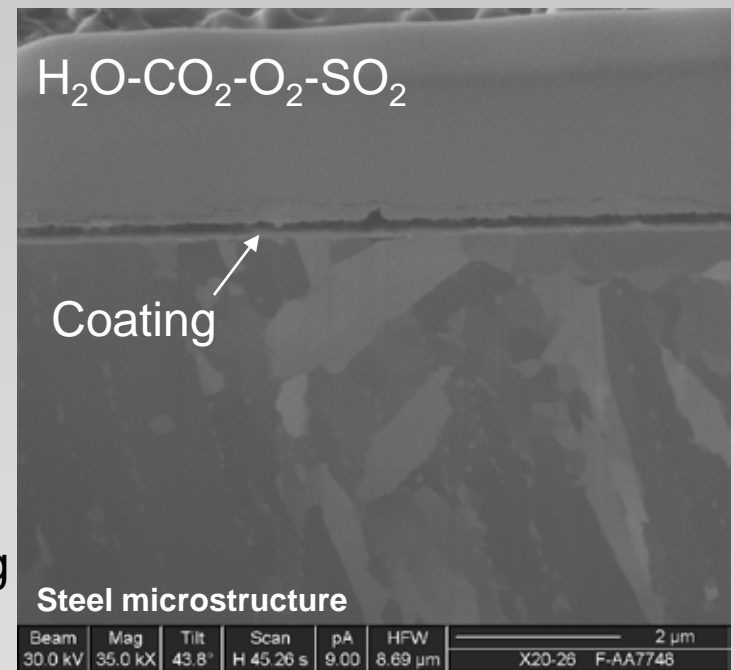


Sulfur, Manganese, Oxygen  
 -> manganese sulphur phase

Only on the outer surface

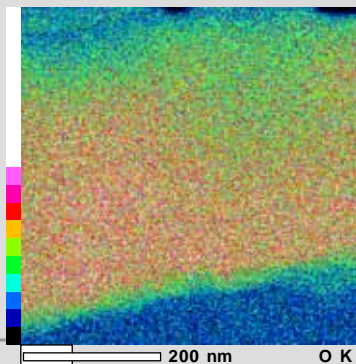
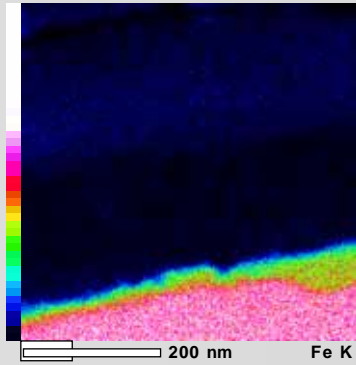
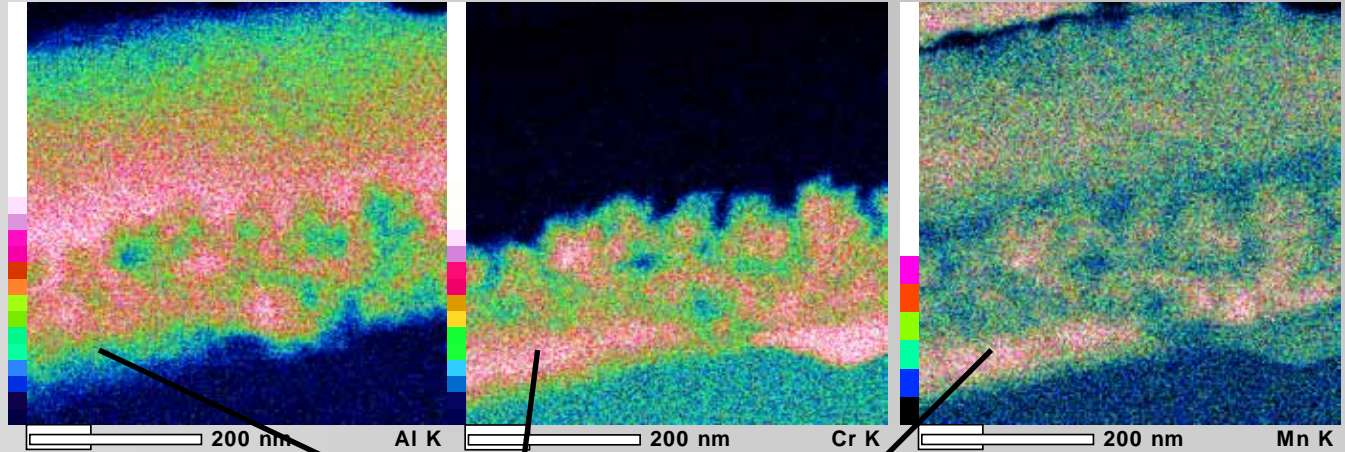
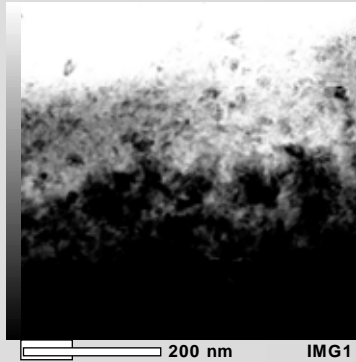


No Sulphur  
 In the bulk coating  
 material.

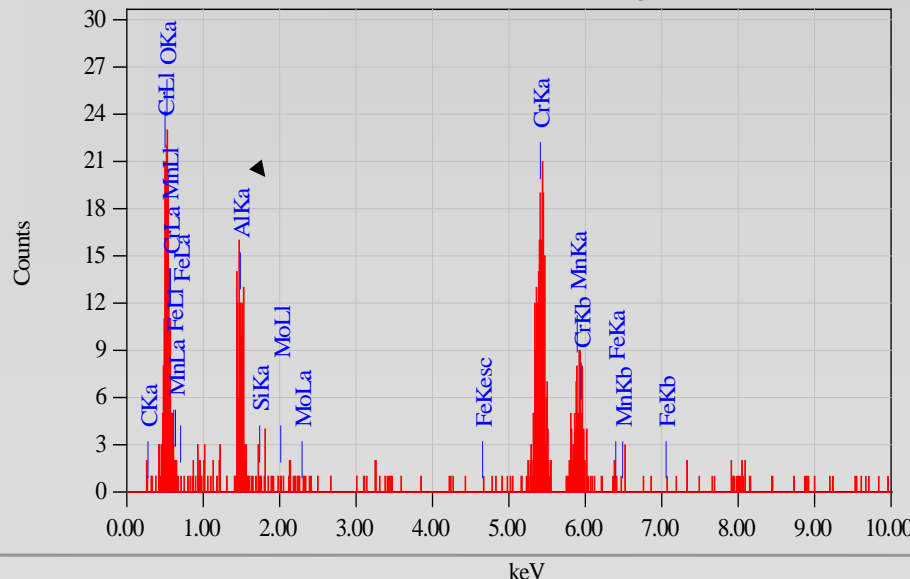


Source: Wencke Schulz

**Corrosion tests in H<sub>2</sub>O-CO<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>2</sub> of a spin coated X20 after 1000 h at 600 ° C**



**Potentially a spinel layer**



**Possible phases:**

- $\delta$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>
- $\delta$ -(Al,Cr)<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>
- $\delta$ -(Al,Mn)<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>
- $\delta$ -(Al,Cr,Mn)<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>
- Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>

Source:  
Ilona Dörfel,  
Wencke Schulz

## Alumina coating in SO<sub>2</sub> containing oxyfuel atmosphere

1. No degradation or reaction because of SO<sub>2</sub> influence
2. Again no carburization
3. Some development of the coating microstructure indicated by the distribution of Al, Cr, Mn were observed. The consequences on the long term reliability are not clear now.

- Alumina coatings were tested in an Oxyfuel Coal Power Plant Flue gas test.
- As expected alumina coatings produced at BAM by Dr. Nofz and Wencke Schulz demonstrated high resistance against reaction with  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{SO}_2$  in combination with high water vapour partial pressure.

- DIP coating is a method qualified for industrial processes
- Self-healing effects will be part of the next development step.

## Acknowledgement

### Our coating team

- Wencke Schulz, PhD student
  - Dr. Marianne Nofz, coating chemistry
  - Dr. Ilona Dörfel, TEM work
  - Romeo Saliwan Neumann, SEM
- 
- This work is supported by industrial partners and the BAM PhD program.