



Embedded Optical Sensors for Extreme Temperatures and Harsh Environments



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF

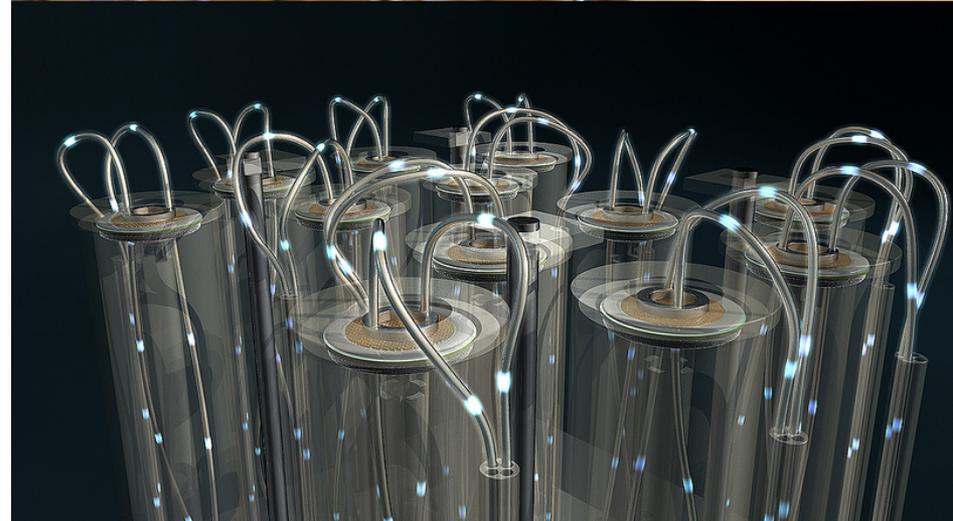
ENERGY

National Energy
Technology Laboratory

the ENERGY lab

The Need

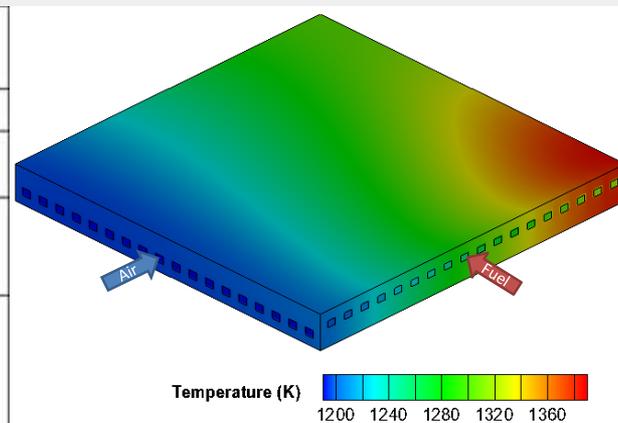
- Harsh environment sensing in energy applications such as gas composition in gasification, natural gas processing, fuel cells, gas turbines, and other energy conversion systems can help **improve efficiency** and **reduce emissions**.



The Problem

- These systems are becoming increasingly complex and are subject to **harsher environments** (higher temperatures and pressures) as energy efficiency is improved and emissions and safety regulations are implemented.
- However, there are **no commercial solutions available for embedded sensors** capable of both chemical and temperature sensing **above 500°C**.

	Coal Gasifiers	Combustion Turbines	Solid Oxide Fuel Cells	Advanced Boiler Systems
Temperatures	Up to 1600°C	Up to 1300°C	Up to 900°C	Up to 1000°C
Pressures	Up to 1000psi	Pressure Ratios 30:1	Atmospheric	Atmospheric
Atmosphere(s)	Highly Reducing, Erosive, Corrosive	Oxidizing	Oxidizing and Reducing	Oxidizing
Examples of Important Gas Species	H ₂ , O ₂ , CO, CO ₂ , H ₂ O, H ₂ S, CH ₄	O ₂ , Gaseous Fuels (Natural Gas to High Hydrogen), CO, CO ₂ , NO _x , SO _x	Hydrogen from Gaseous Fuels and Oxygen from Air	Steam, CO, CO ₂ , NO _x , SO _x



Solid Oxide Fuel Cell internal gas and temperature distribution

The Competition

Traditional Electrical Sensors:

- prohibitively costly and intrusive
- require stable wiring, insulation, electronic components

Complex Optical Sensors

- expensive
- inherent temperature instability issues



Thermocouples



Chemi-resistive Sensors



OMEGA's F2020, 100 Ω , Class "A" thin-film element, see page C

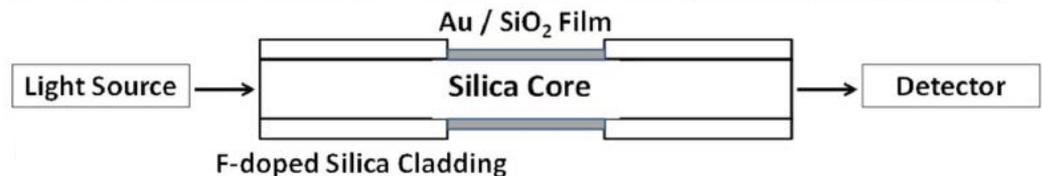
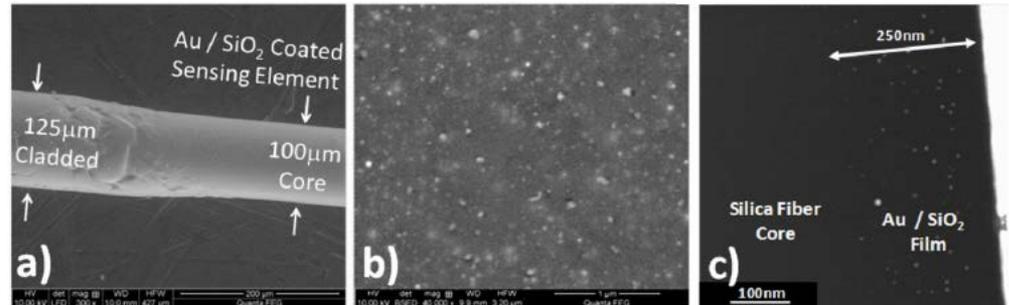
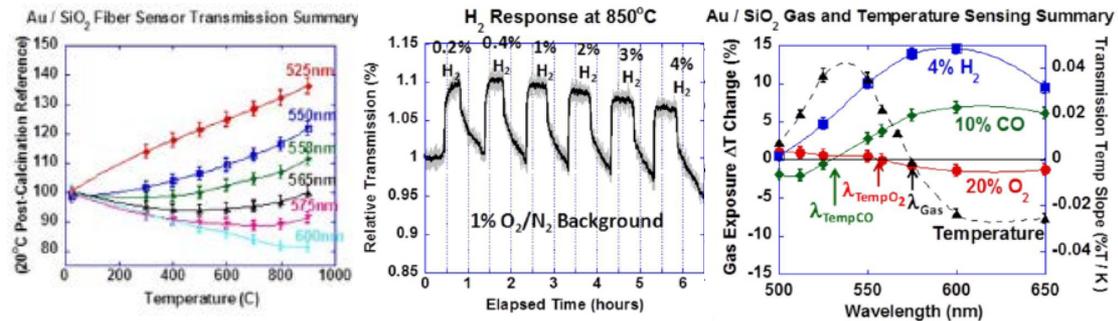
RTDs

Commercially Available Sensors

The Technology Solution

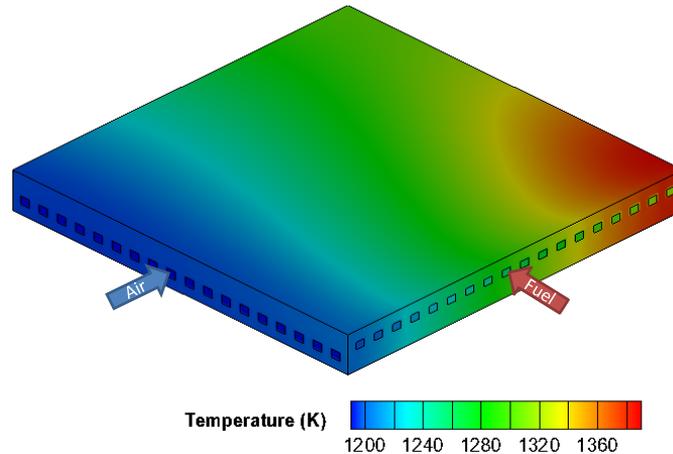
Optical sensors enabled by advanced sensing materials for the embedded sensing of temperature and gas composition in extreme, high temperature environments:

- Potentially capable of operation in temperatures **approaching 900°C**
- Minimize or eliminate wires and electrical contacts at the sensing location
- Stable, reliable, safe, and cost-effective
- Multi-function capability (gas and temperature)
- **No comparable commercial sensor on the market!**



The Applications

- Fossil and Nuclear Power Generation
- Oil & Gas
- Fuel Cells
- Industrial Manufacturing
- Aviation
- Aerospace
- Automotive
- Military



These sensors would enable unprecedented access to new information in real time

Partnership Opportunity

These technologies are available for licensing and/or further collaborative research from the U.S. Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory.

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