

Improved Ramp rates of steam power plant

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Imagine you are in 1950s

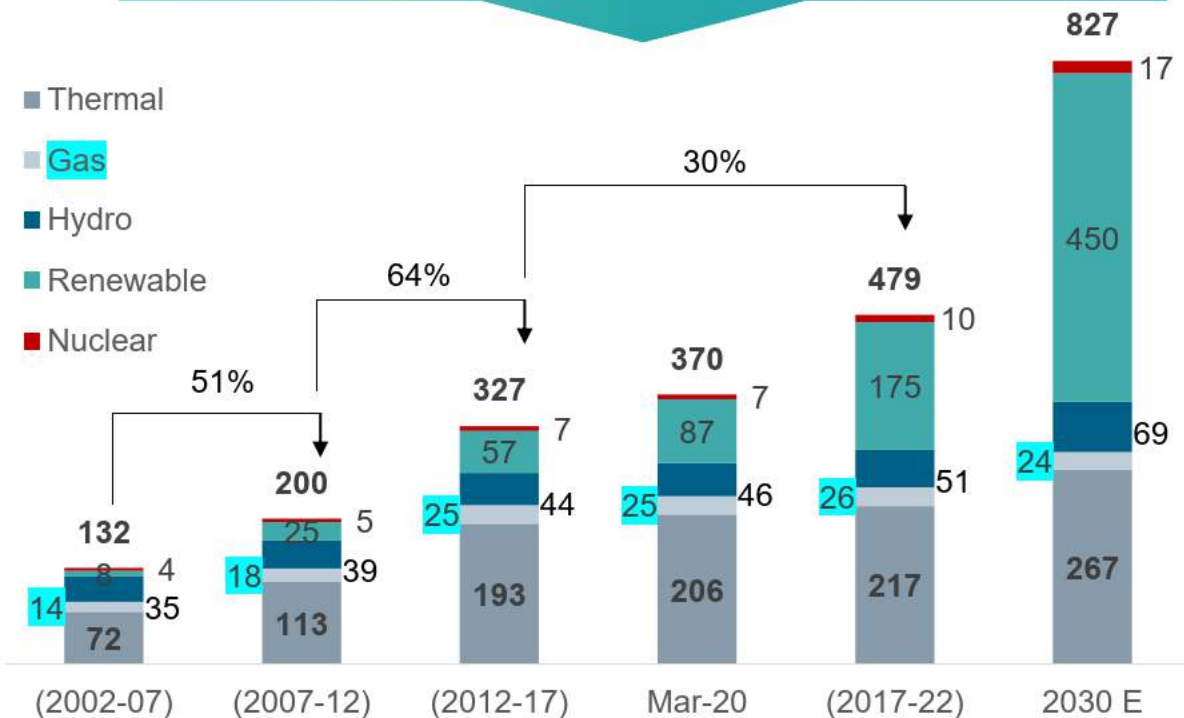
- **If you were required to bring the fuel from thousands of kilometers to produce power**
- **If the quality and quantity of fuel was uncertain**
- **Scarce resource like water, land would have been must to generate power**
- **You needed proven material to operate at 3000 rpm with less than a tenth of a millimeter clearance**
- **You would have to build hundreds of meters high stack to avoid pollution in local community**
- **You needed trained staff to operate such machinery and required regulatory hurdles to cross**

Yet we build Steam power plants

Market requirements

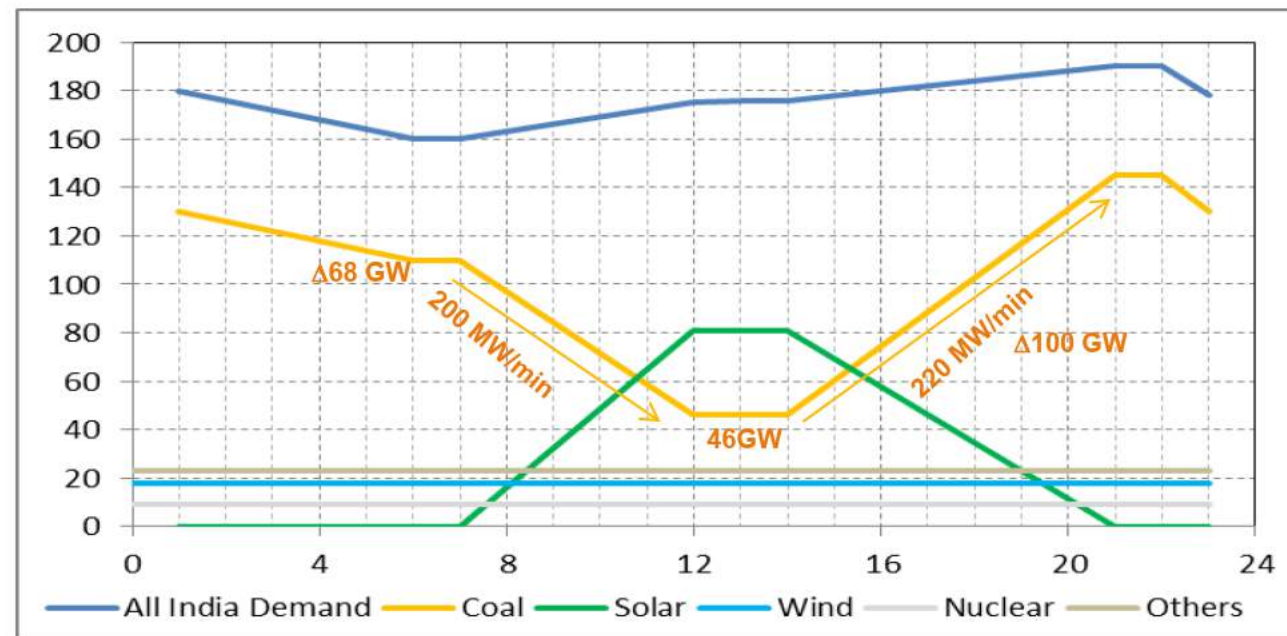
Generation scenario in India

Installed Generation Capacity India (GW)



Capacity installed upto March 20 indicates thermal capacity target for 2022 is practical to achieve but 175 GW of renewable is likely to get missed.

Generation Scenario on a typical day of 2022



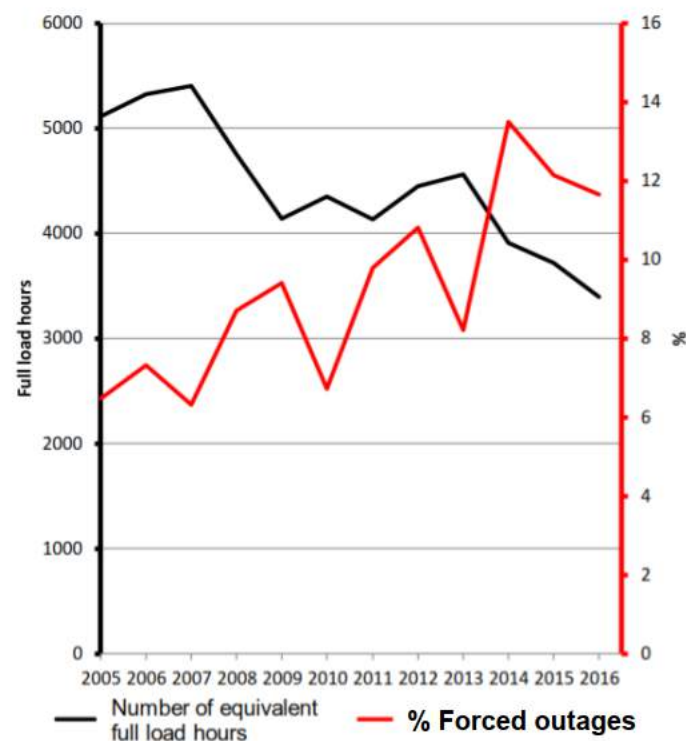
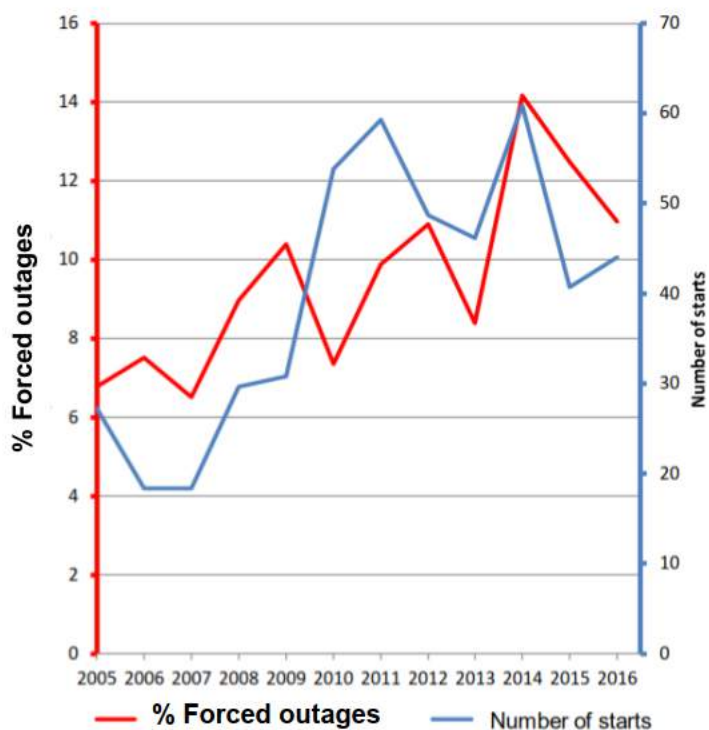
Lower Technical Minimum

Primary and Secondary frequency Control

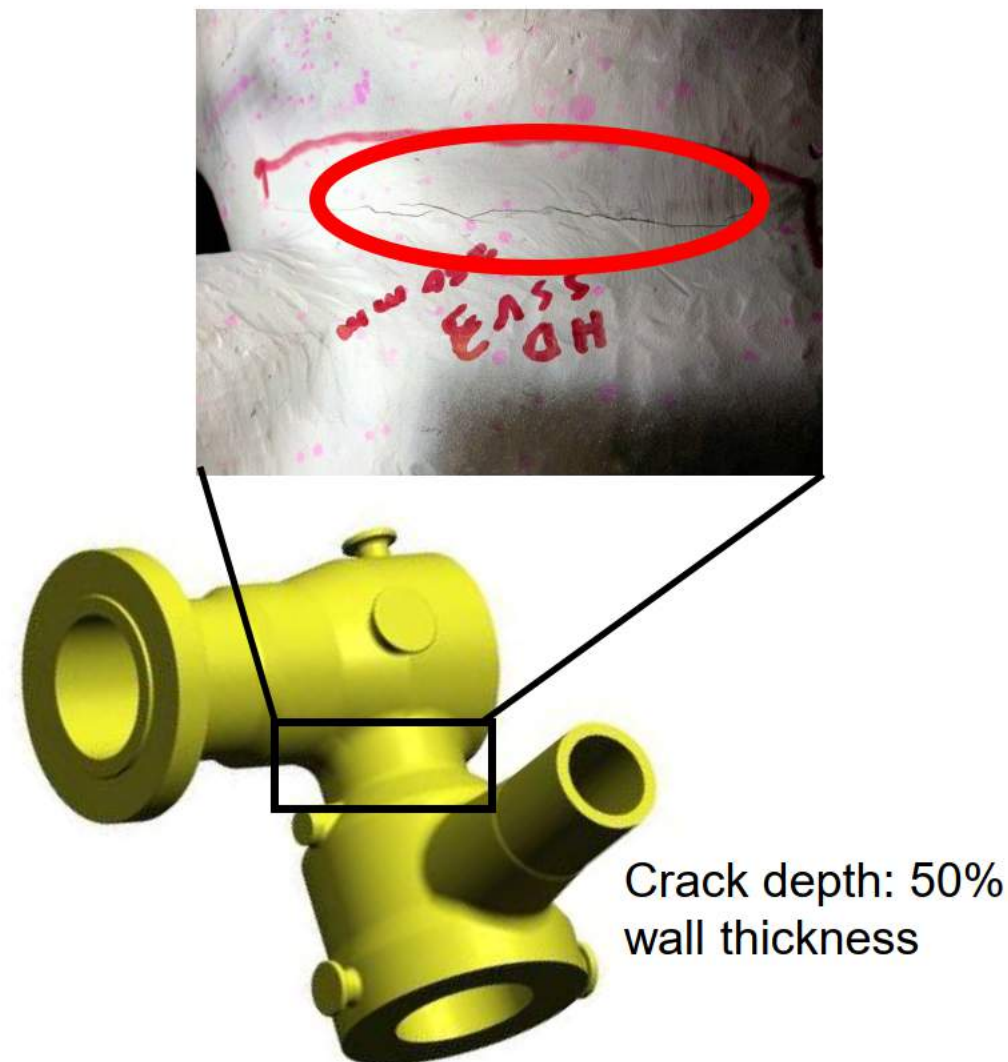
Faster Ramp up

Faster Ramp down

Increased forced outages



Source: VGB study for flexible operation



Crack depth: 50%
wall thickness

Lower technical minimum is better than two shift operation

Comparison of life consumption based on cold, warm and hot start

Start	Life Consumption	IEC 45	VGB R105M
Cold Start	23 – 75 hours	100	200
Warm Start	15 -17 hours	700	400
Hot Start	<u>10 -12 hours</u>	3000	1600
Load Change	3 hours	-	

Plant Optimization

Flexibility is the new efficiency

Reduced Electricity Production Cost and Increased Competitiveness *



Reducing technical
minimum plant
load

Down to **30%**

Improved I&C and
combustion for stable
operation at lower loads



Increasing
Efficiency and
Performance (MW)

16 MW more

@ 75% load, including
aging recovery effects by
new hardware in HP and
LP turbine at constant
coal consumption



Improved
Ramp Rates

3x higher

Higher ramp rates up to
15MW/min



Reducing CO₂
Emissions

Up to **5%** lower

An improved efficiency
leads to lower CO₂
emissions!



Reduced Costs for
Starting and earlier
Power Production

>60min earlier

Reduced startup-times
and earlier power
productions by improved
I&C and hardware
measures

A Balance of Plant (BoP) Optimization makes a significant contribution to economic values

Plant Optimization

Total Plant Evaluation is key for successful operation in deep part load

Plant Assessment for Boiler, Condenser, Steam Turbine & Auxiliaries

Boiler

Fuel Supply (Mills/Pulverizer)
Instrumentation & Controls
Combustion (Burner) & Operation
Thermal Design (Pressure Part)
Air Preheater/ Fans / Pumps



Turbine

Blading
Operation
Steam Seal
Drains

Condenser

Temperature
Termial Difference
(TTD)

Condensate Pump

**Boiler Feed Pump
(incl. Motor or
turbine drive)**

**Feed Water
Heaters**

**Steam Piping
System**

**Cooling Water
System**

Part Load Technical Issues

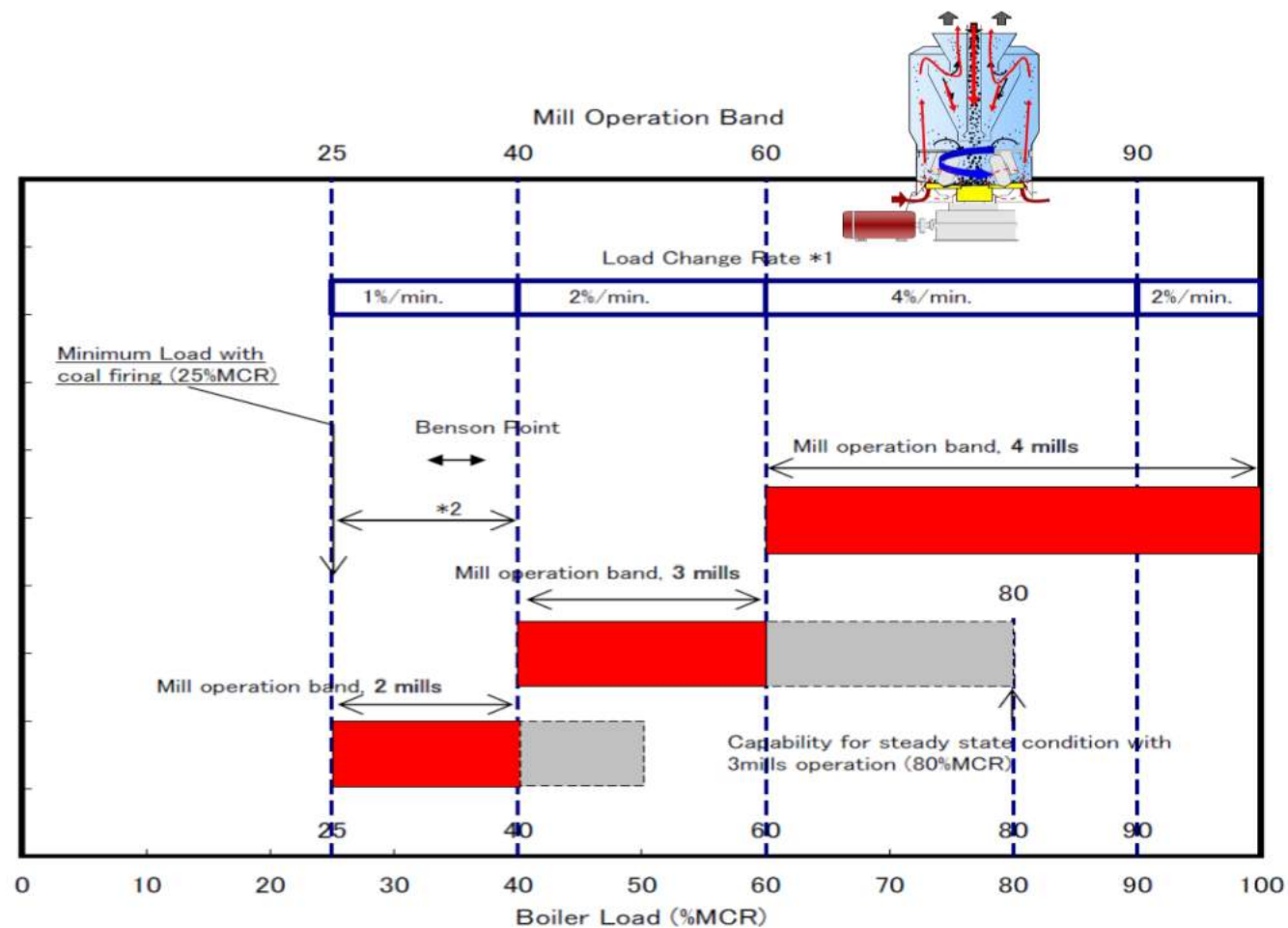
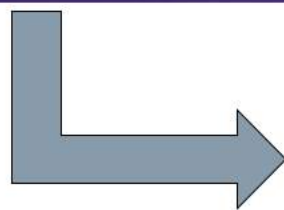
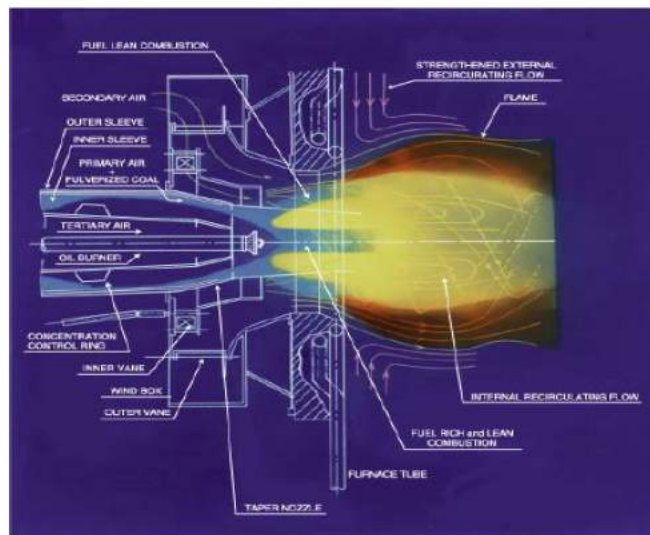
Part Load Challenges:

1. Fuel Composition (knowledge of the fuel composition and of the fuel properties incl. ash is very important for the steam generator design)
2. Fuel supply system (Mill diagram & operation concept, Pressure drop, Air bypass flap, Control system, Mechanical restrictions of mill etc.)
3. Combustion (Fuel composition stability, Temperature/O₂/Concentration inturbulances, Symmetry of flame, Aerodynamics, Combustion efficiency, Emissivity, Support fuel)

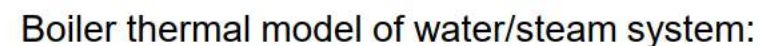
Combustion quality deteriorates at lower loads

4. Evaporator Stability (at first Benson Evaporator, Activated Burner Level) / ECO Stability for possible ECO outlet steaming
5. Boiler Outlet Parameters (HP/RH Temperature, Control system, Flue gas damper, Activated Burner Level, Attemperator)
6. APH (Water/Sulphur dew point), Flue gas pollution (ESP efficiency)
7. SCR (Operation temperature window)

Example of mill operation diagram (4 mills, Once-through boiler)



Boiler thermal model of flue gas segment:

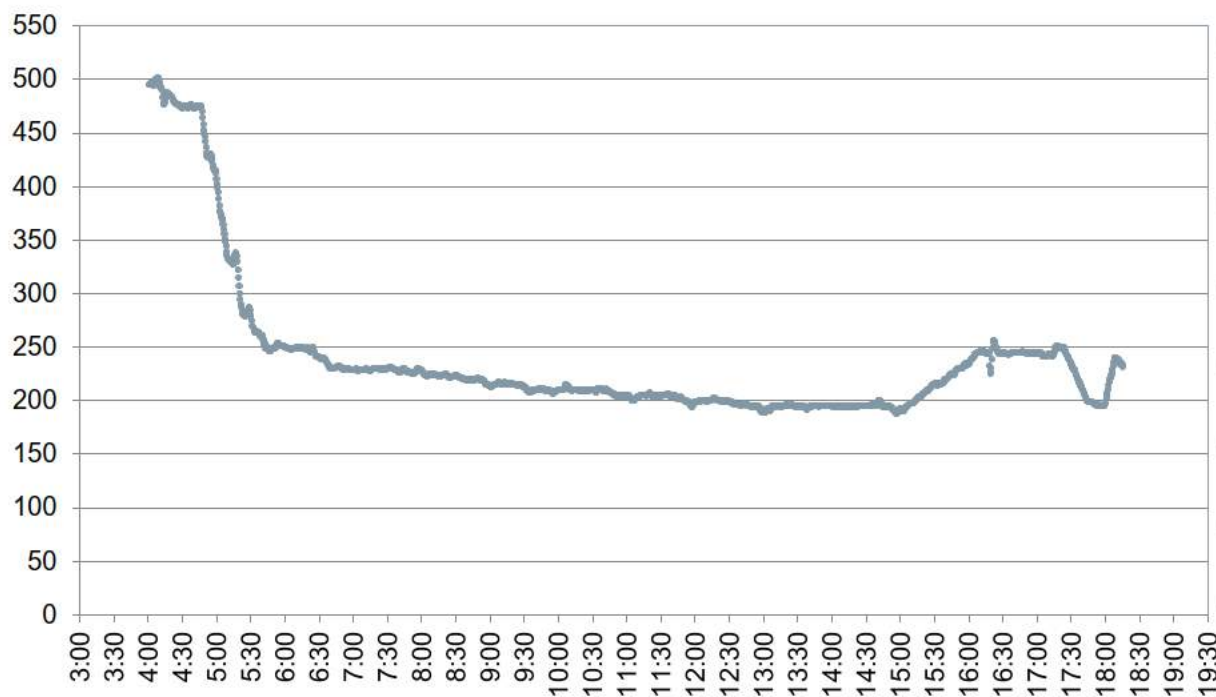


Test Results at NTPC Dadri

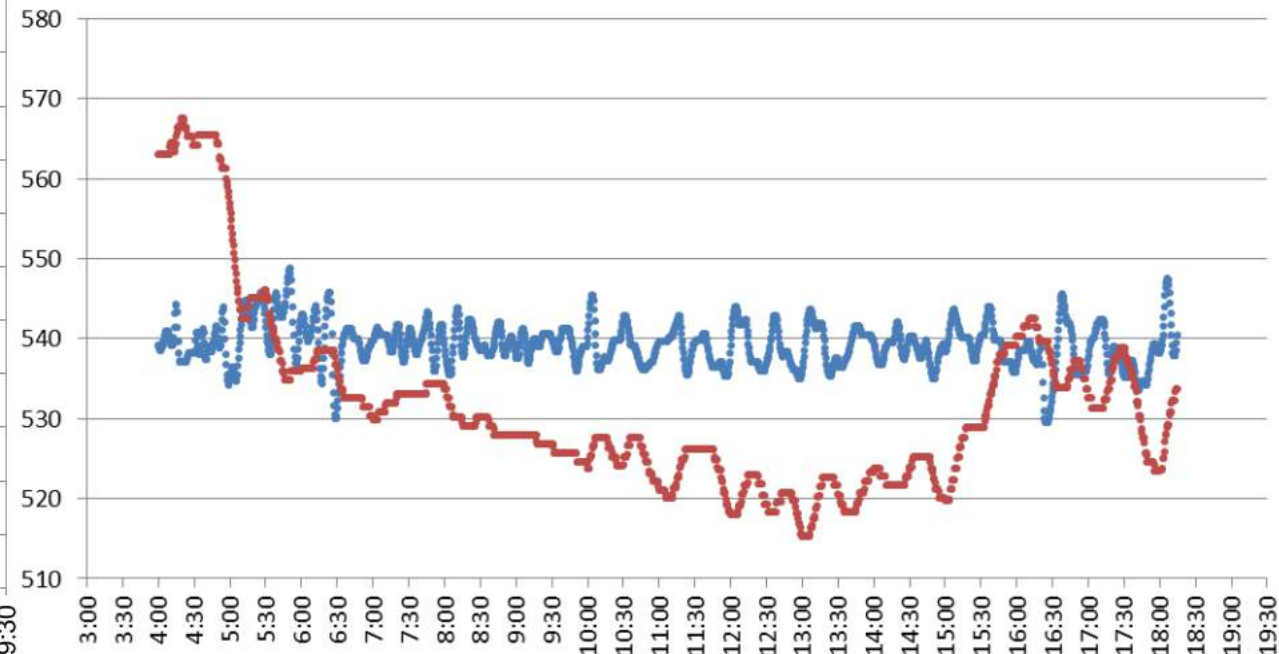


40% Technical Minimum is Possible

UNIT LOAD



MS TEMP & RH TEMP

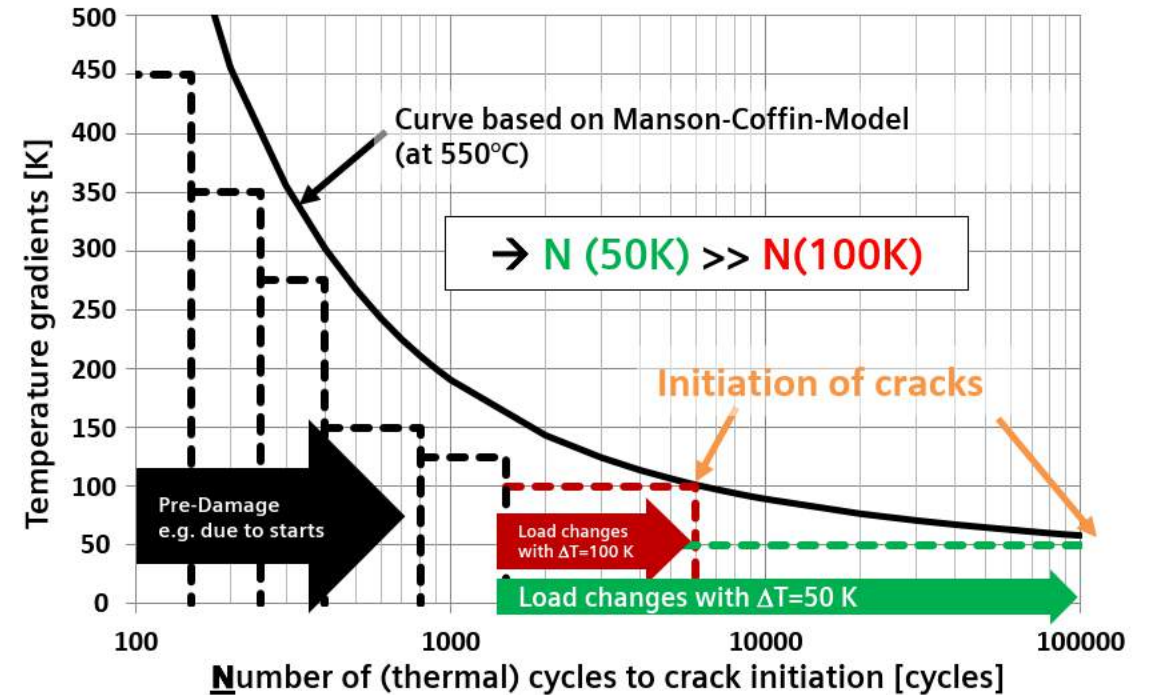
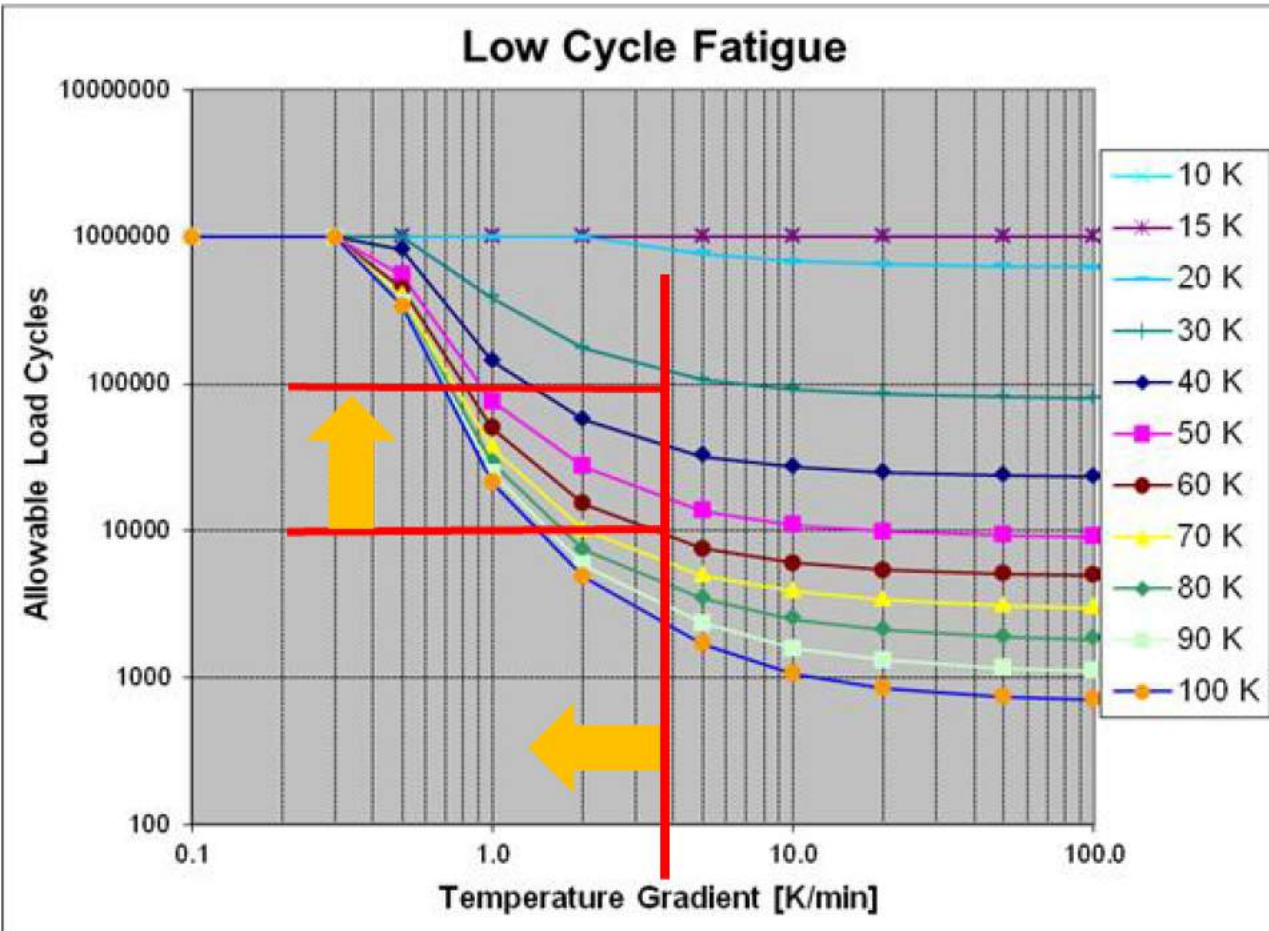


Cond.	M %	Ash%	C %	H %	N %	S %	O %
Air dried	4.03	37.29	43.63	3.26	1.01	0.35	10.43

GCV (kcal/kg)	VM%	Ash %
3000	22%	35%

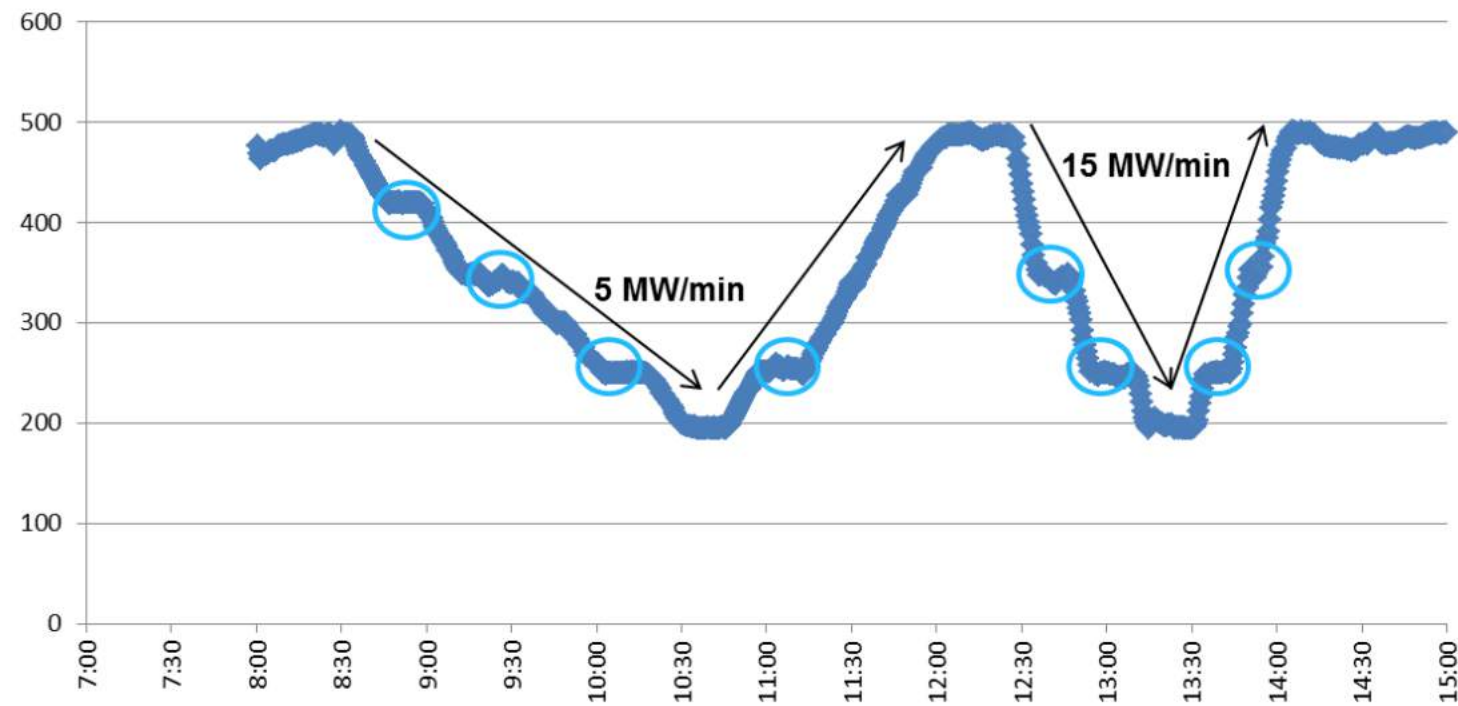
Transient Operation (Ramp Up / Ramp Down)

increased temperature gradient results increased life consumption

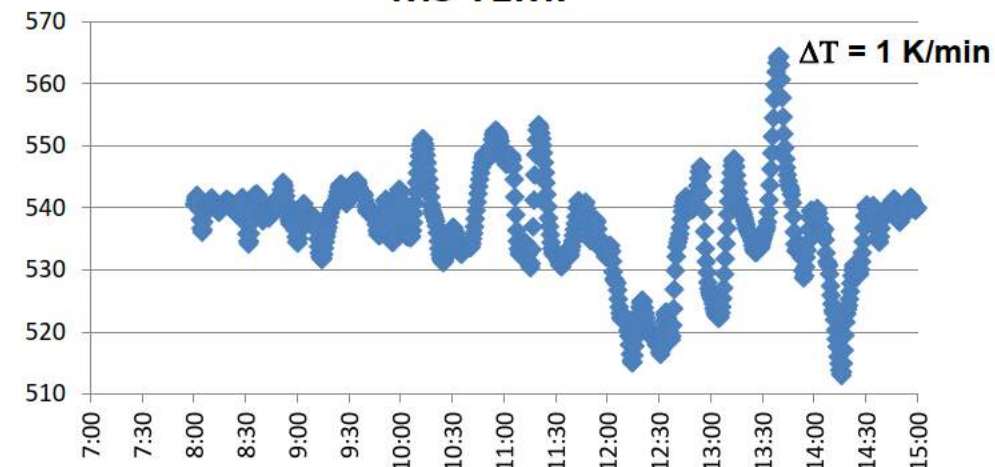


Influence on Ramps on Temperature Transient

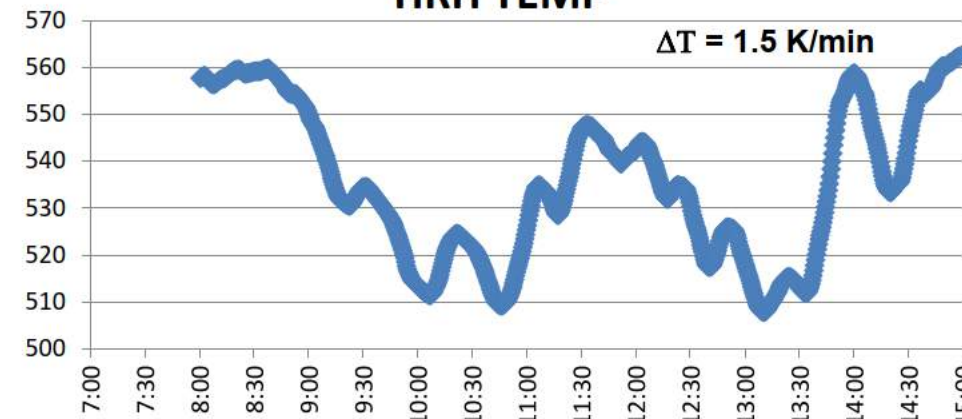
UNIT LOAD



MS TEMP



HRH TEMP



SPPA-P3000 Temperature Optimizer

Increased steam temperatures

Task

To achieve maximum steam temperature without violation of material limits

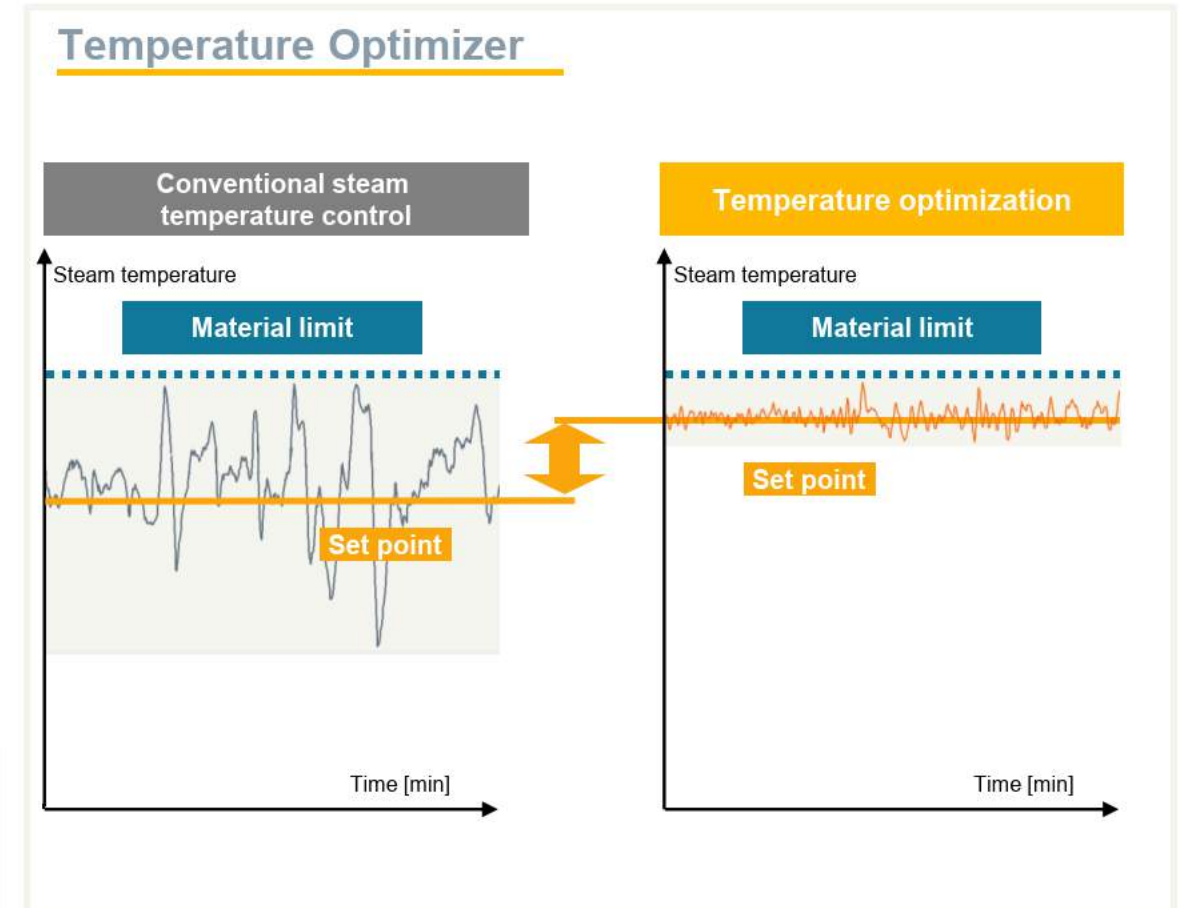
Solution

- Robust, easy to parameterize and adaptive state space controller with observer
- Where needed, use of entire control range through to injection into saturated steam
- Use on startup/shutdown and over the entire load range
- Use of flue gas recirculation and biflux or triflux valves to control reheat steam temperature

Benefit, e.g. 180,000 €/a → Benefit calculation

Increased efficiency thanks to

- Higher steam temperatures
- Reduction in reheater attemperation



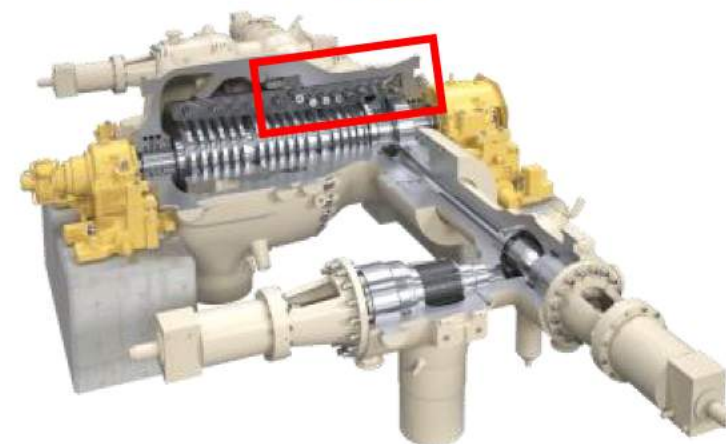
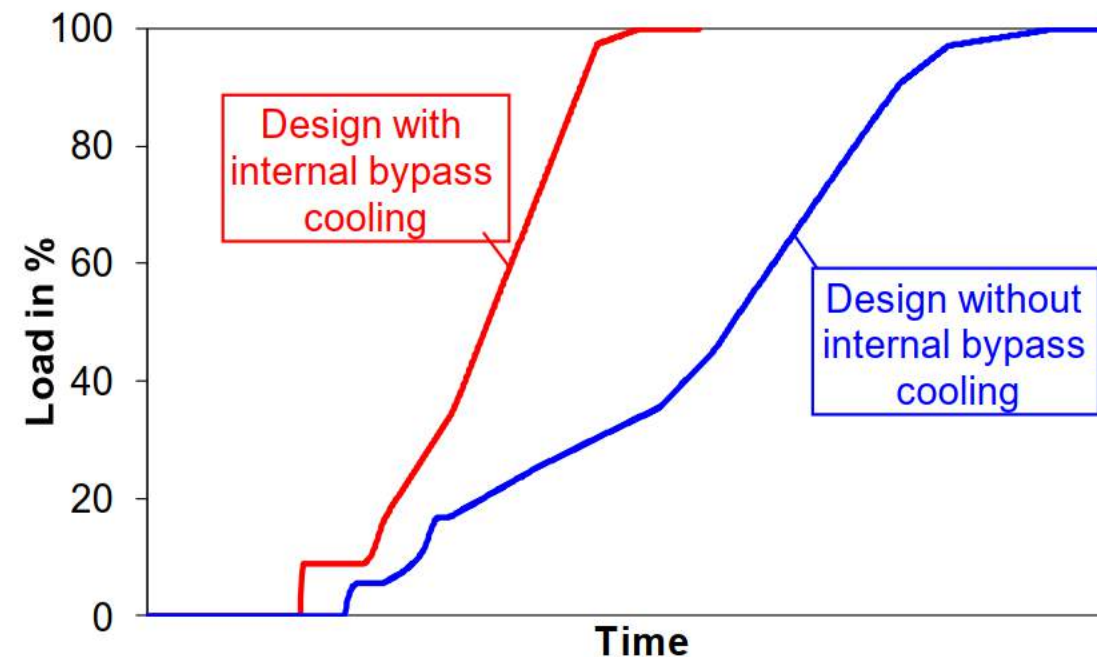
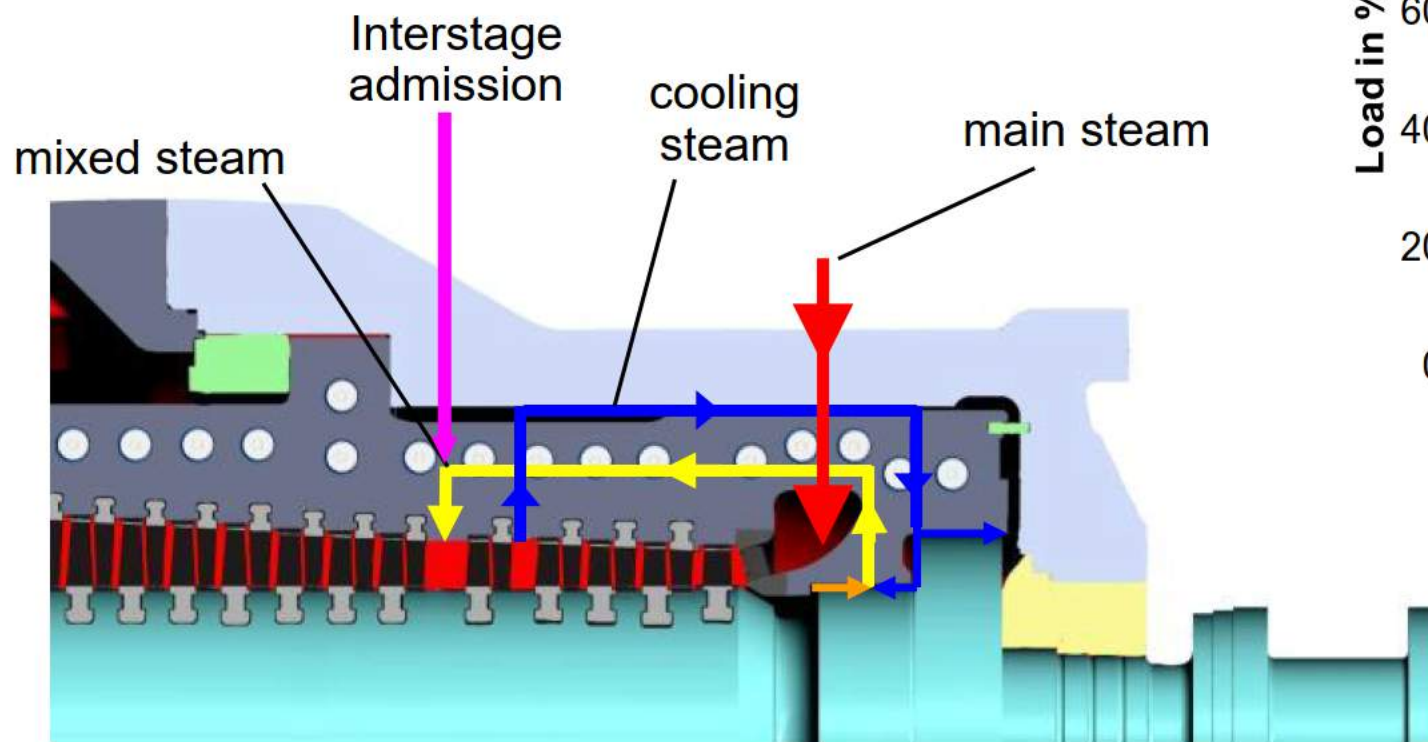
The Temperature Optimizer solution increases the efficiency through higher steam temperatures and the use of appropriate control elements for reheater temperature.

Power on Demand

Reduction of Wall Thickness to Improve Start Up & Cycling Capabilities

Example: Reduced Casing thickness & reduced thermal piston loading by HP bypass cooling

Significant improvement in LCF



Reduced Startup-times: Heating blankets

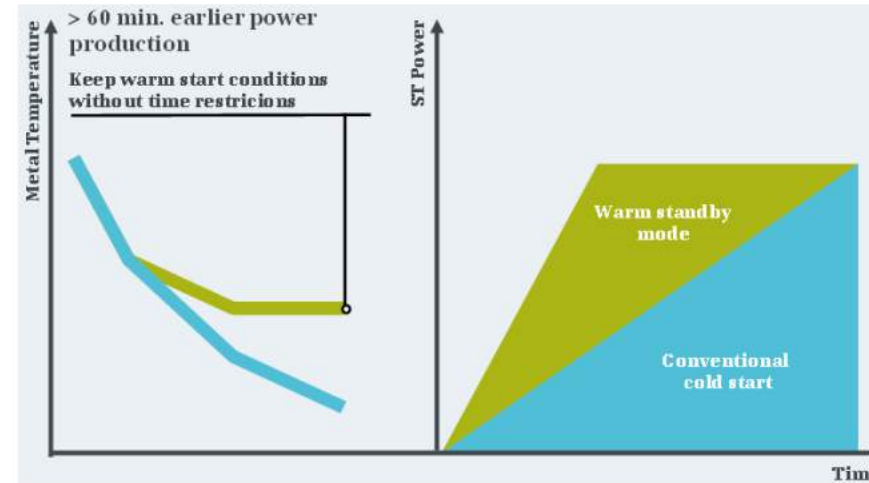
ST Warm Standby Operation to prepare for fast start-up

Technology

- Electrical heating system for ST in turning gear
- Maintains rotor shaft temperature at warm startup conditions

Benefit

- Significant reduction of startup time
 - > 60 min. earlier power production
- Reduction of EOH consumption per start
- Less energy is bypassed to condenser
 - Reduced costs per start up



Electric heating coils to keep HP/ IP Turbine casing and shaft in warm start conditions

Power on Demand

Monitoring of flexibility consequences: steam turbine EOH counter 4.0

Task

- Part load may lead to steam temperature changes, especially hot reheat temperature
- Thermal stresses during operation are not considered in standard counting of equivalent operating hours (EOH counter)
- Maintenance needs may not be recognized

Solution

- Evaluation of operational history
- Implementation of a state of the art EOH counter considering load changes

Benefits

- More accurate EOH counting
- Improved outage planning
- Enhanced operational flexibility

IV. Generation

EOH counting also considering load changes

III. Generation

EOH consumption is a function of actual thermal stress

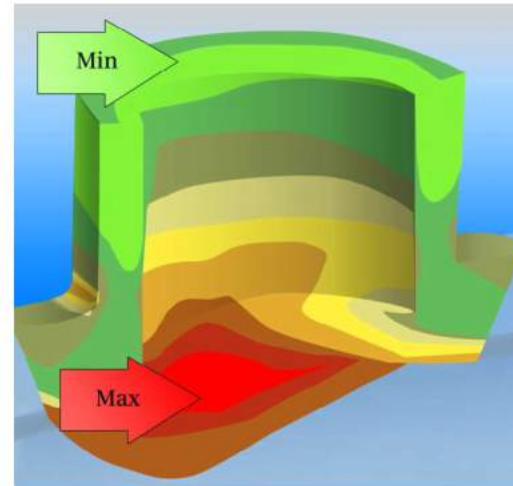
II. Generation

Introduction of three start-up modes with fixed EOH consumption

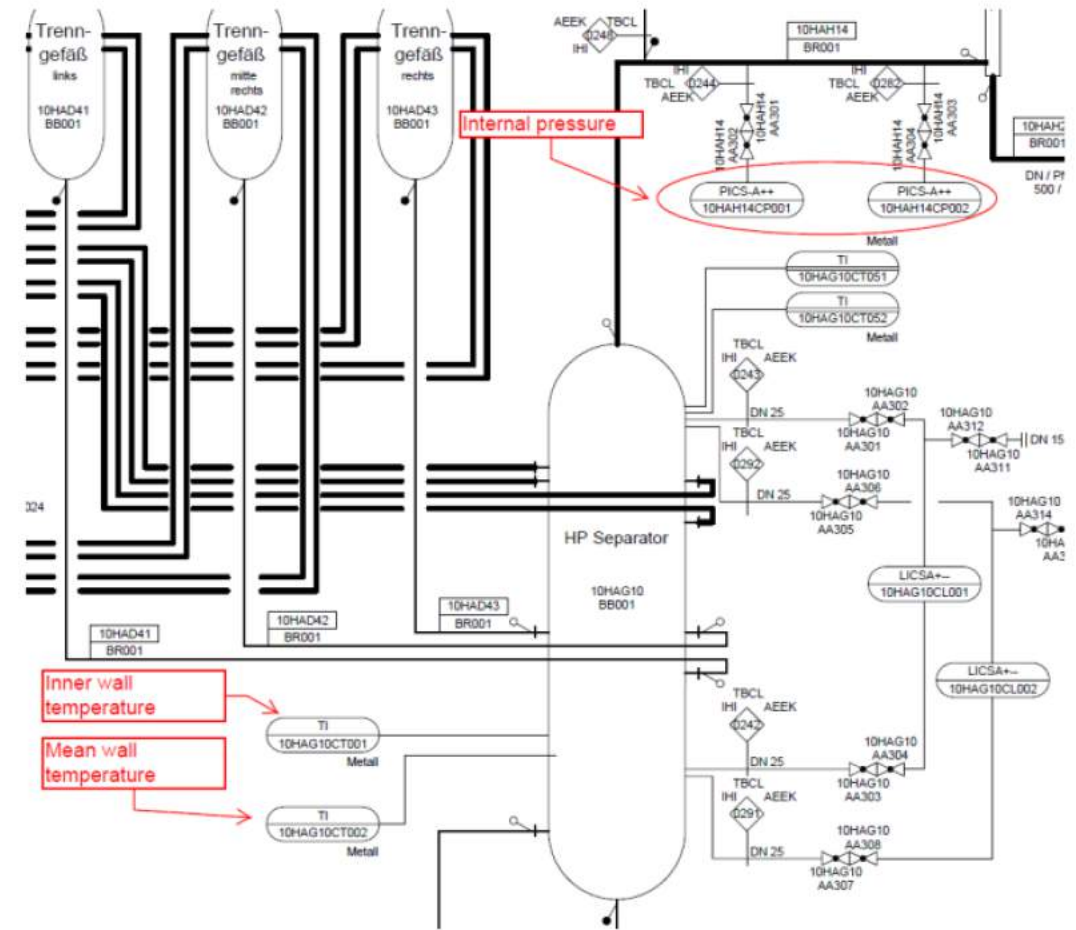
I. Generation

Maintenance interval defined by operating hours and number of starts

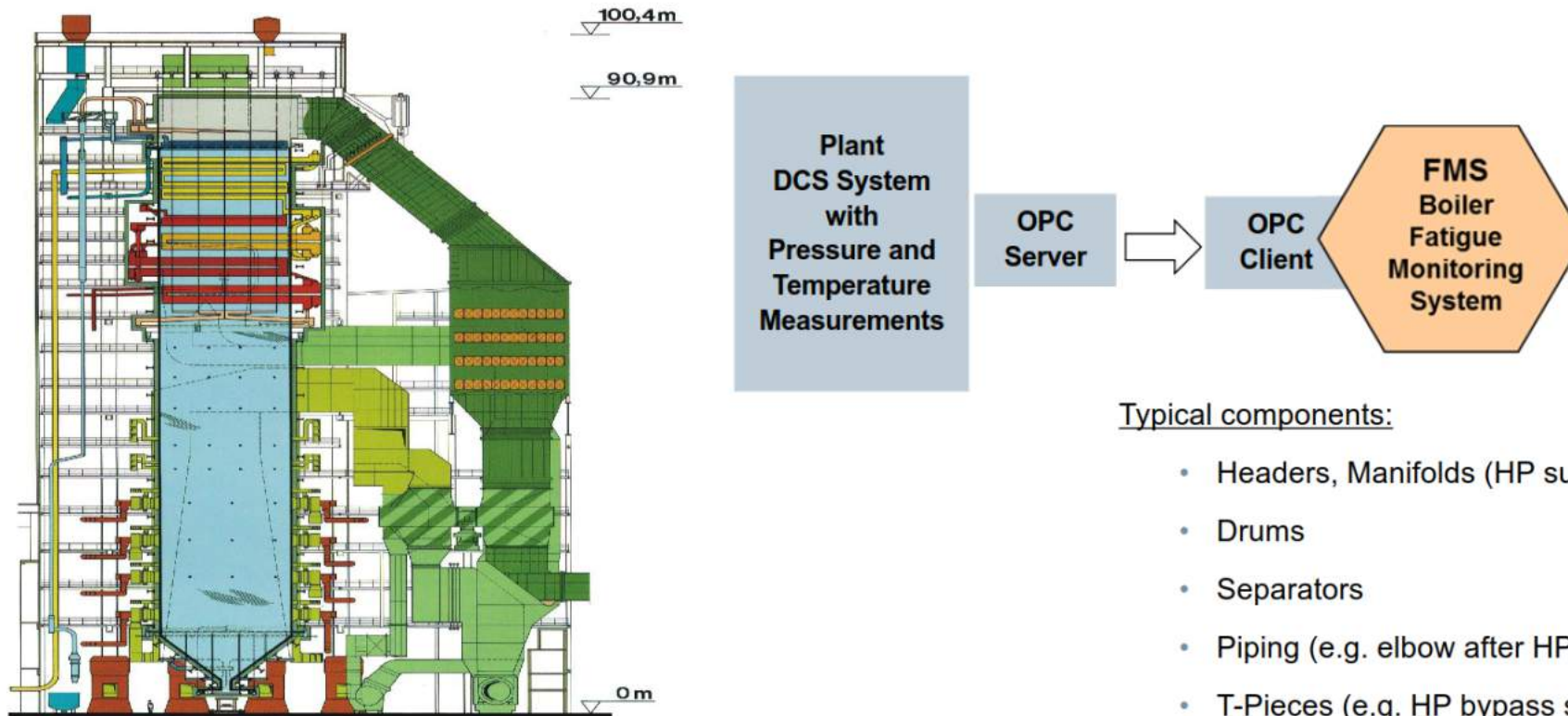
SIEMENS
Ingenuity for life



Don't Guess when you can actually measure it



Maintenance Flexibility Fatigue Monitoring System



Typical components:

- Headers, Manifolds (HP superheater, Reheater)
- Drums
- Separators
- Piping (e.g. elbow after HP / HRH final stage attemperator)
- T-Pieces (e.g. HP bypass station)
- Y-Piece (e.g. before HP turbine)

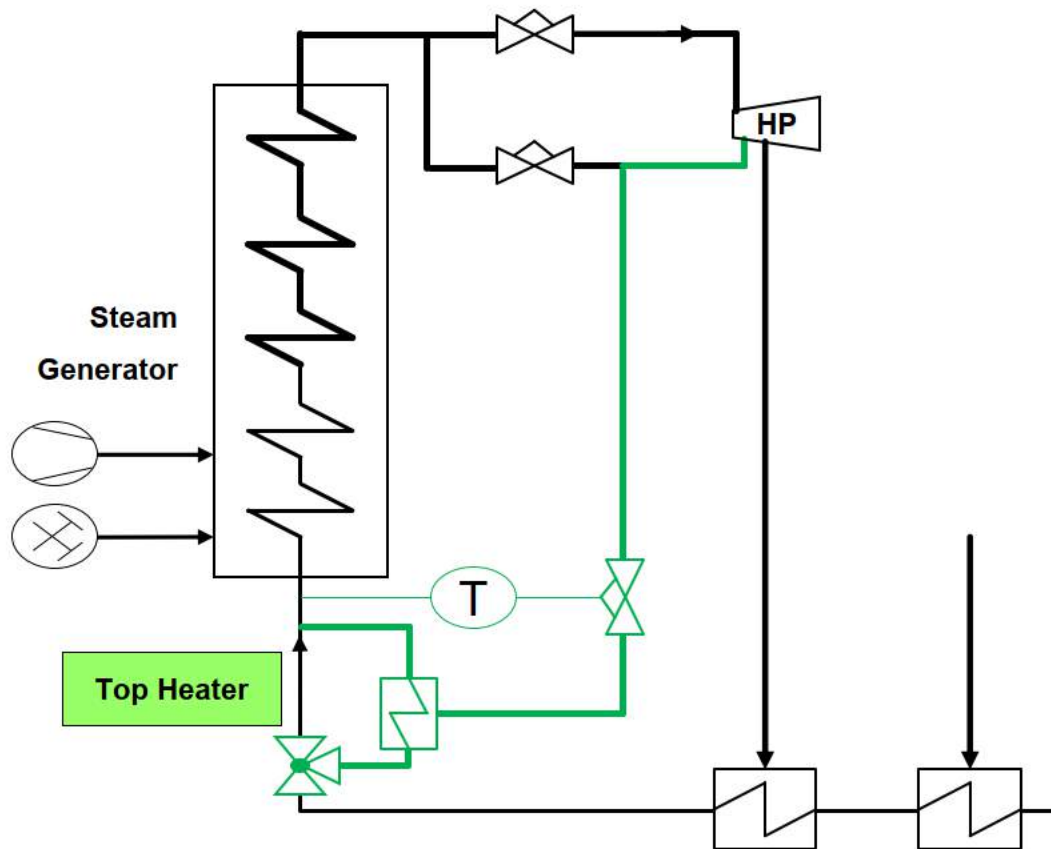
Online calculation of Boiler Fatigue Components is possible

Both Creep Fatigue and Low cycle fatigue calculated

Depending upon the actual operating mode, residual life of critical components is determined

Part Load: Efficiency improvement

Top heater for improved heat rate and lower NOx emissions



- a. Steam from stage bypass connection
- b. Is activated at part load
- c. Final feed water temperature vs. load constant or even increasing
- d. HR improvement of ~ 0.6% @ 50% load

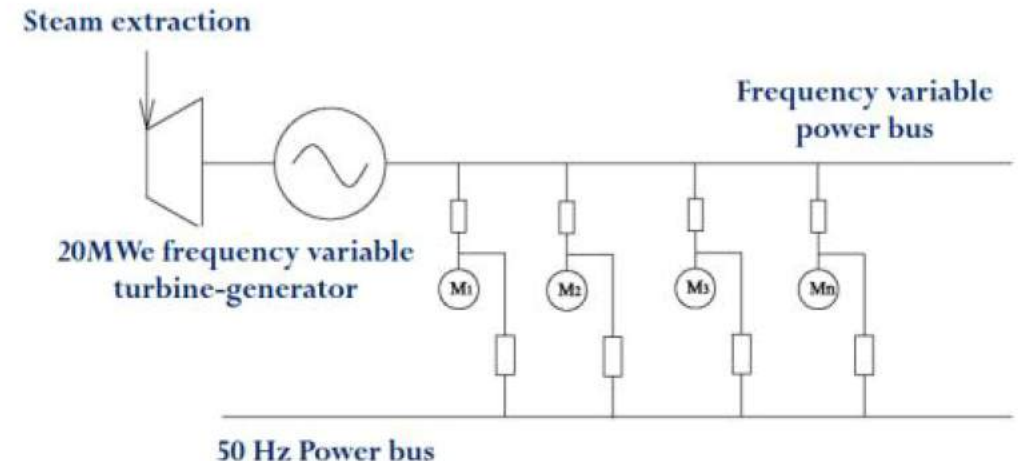


Wai Gao Qiao 3, China 2008, 1040MW

Increased Auxiliary Power Consumption: Centralized frequency variable power system

Solution: feed frequency variable turbine from main turbine extractions, supply frequency variable power to motors of fans and pumps.

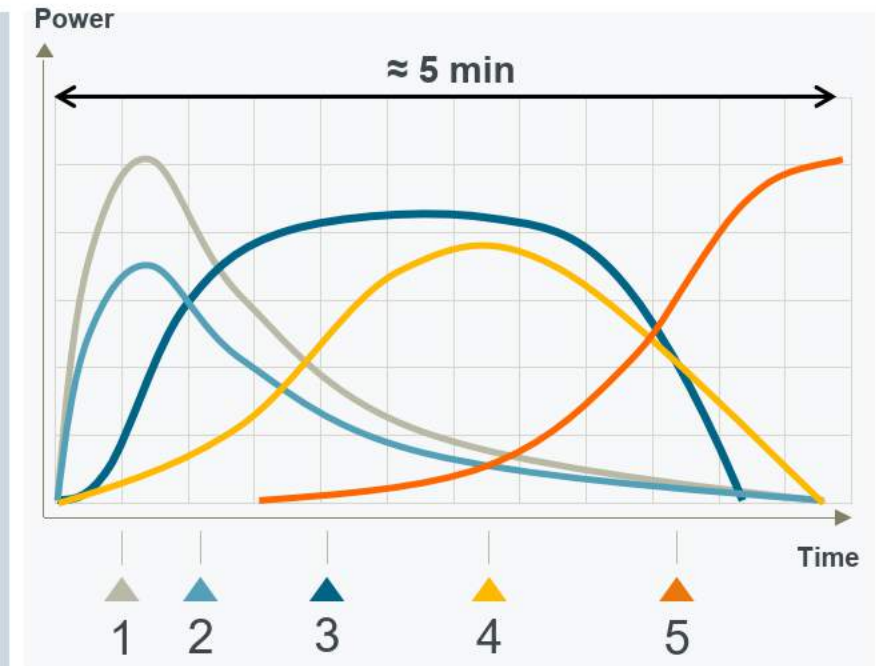
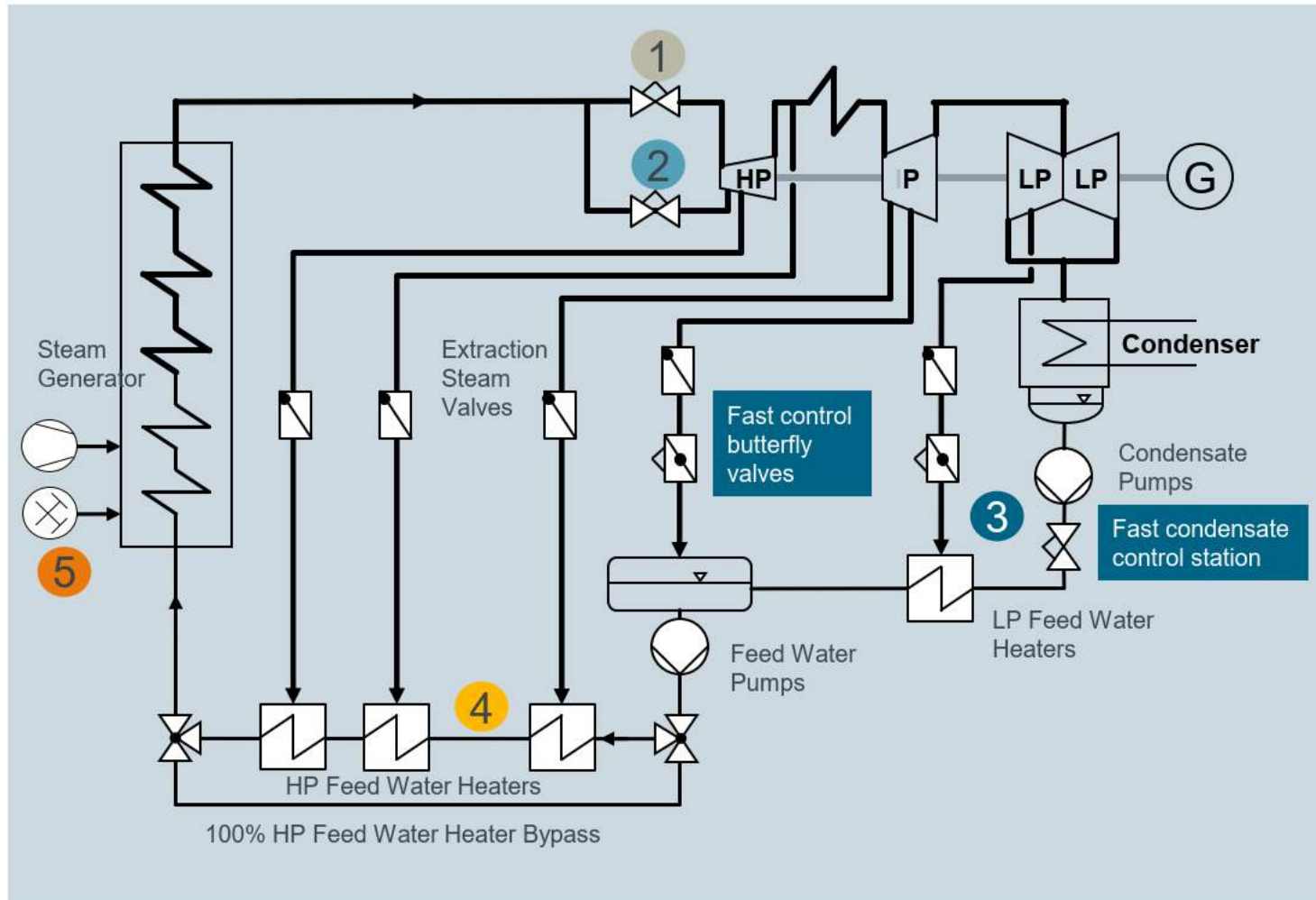
- House power rate has been reduced from 3.5% to less than 2% (SCR and FGD included)
- Higher reliability compared to conventional electronic frequency convertors



*) Huaibei Shenergy Power Generation Co.,Ltd

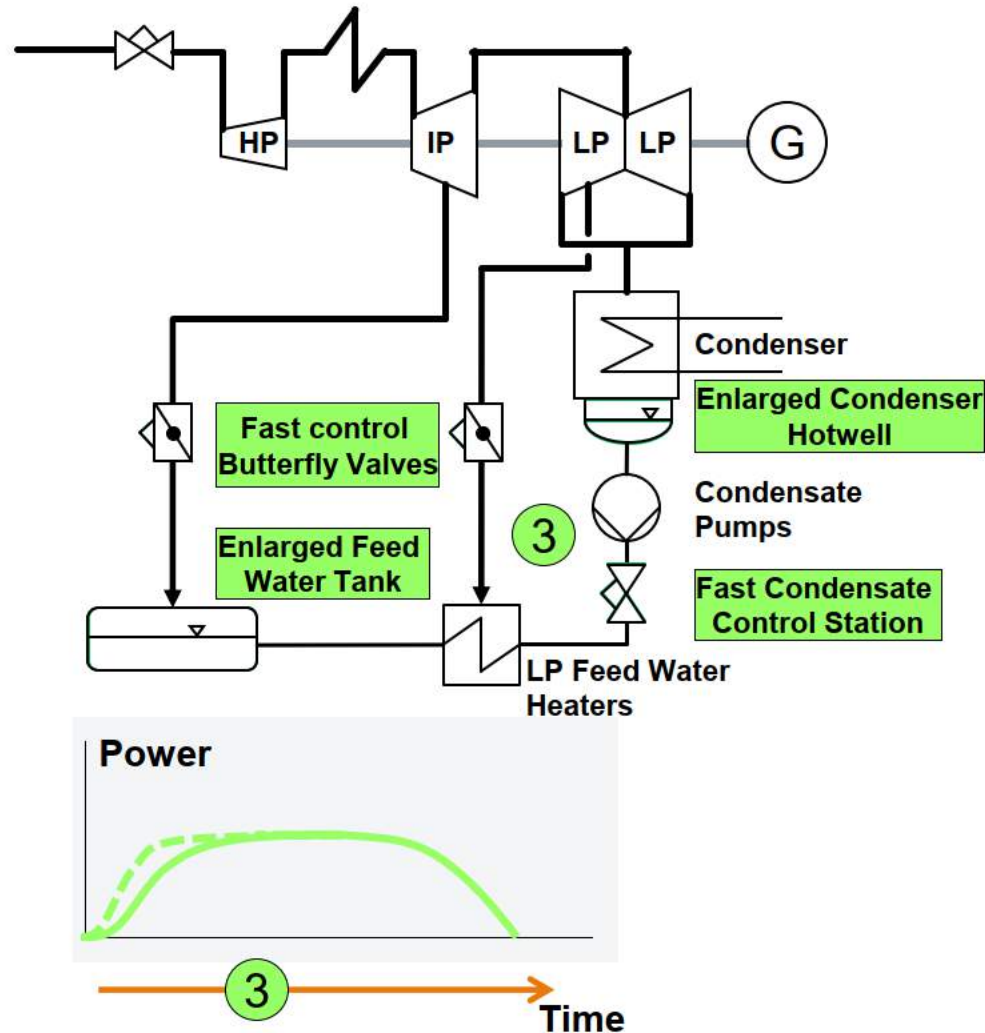
Measures for fast load ramping

Overview



- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1 Throttling | 4 HP heater |
| 2 Additional valve | 5 Fuel increase |
| 3 Condensate stop | |

“Condensate throttling” controls storages in the water steam cycle to increase ramp rates



Iskenderun,
Neurath, Luenen
and NTPC Dadri

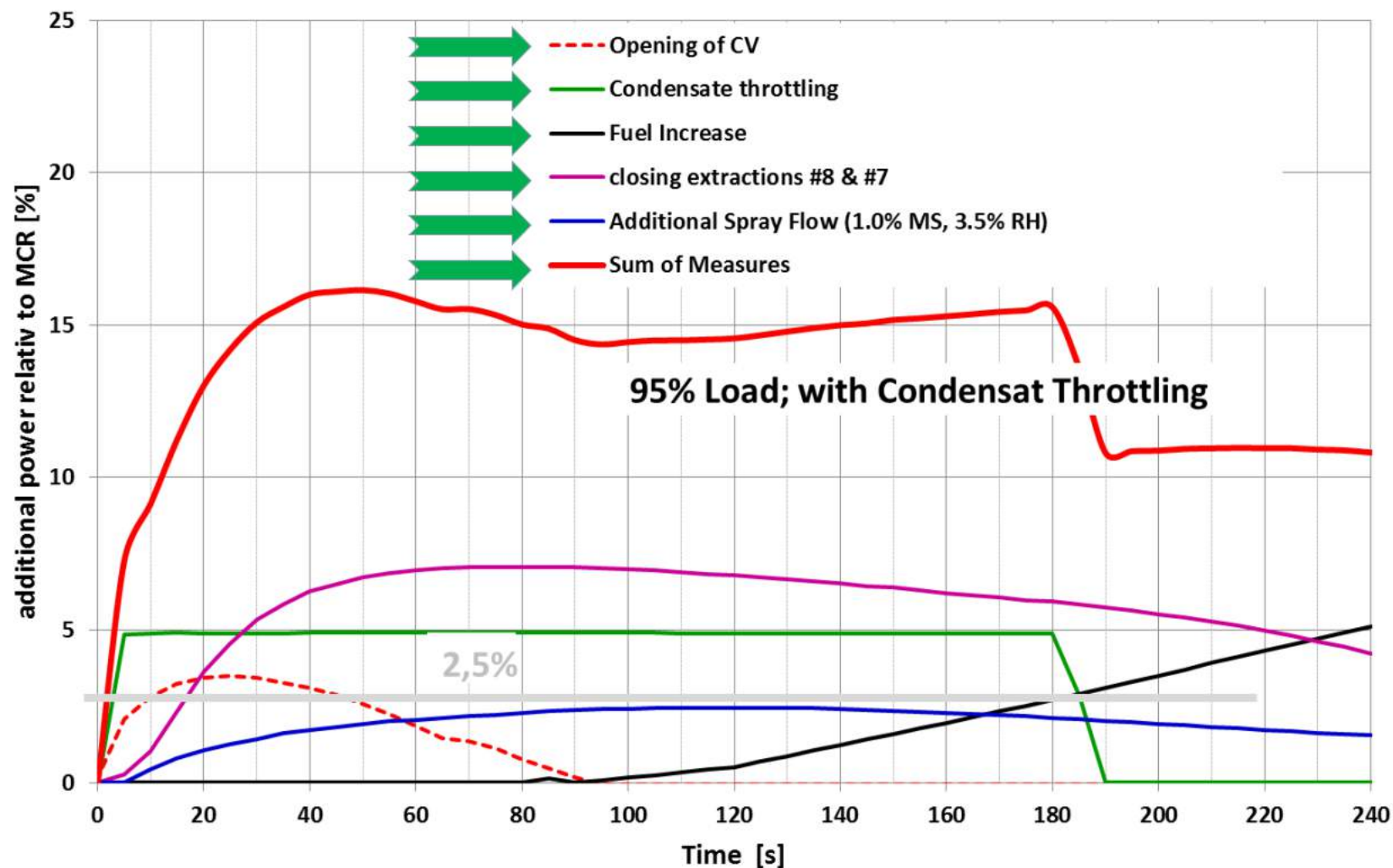
- Enlarge storage volume
- Fast condensate control valve
- Fast control valves in LP extractions



NTPC Dadri Stage II – Unit #6 490 MW

Grid Services

Example for grid code compliance



Key Takeaway

- Lower Technical Minimum is better operation than two shift operation
- Subcritical fleet is more suitable for flexible operation with respect to loss in performance
- Lower Technical Minimum with advanced control systems is possible, unit specific changes needs to be applied
- Means of improving part load efficiency by upto 1% are available
- Maintenance planning is to be adapted based on actual life consumption during flexible operation
- Thermal power utilities will play a key role in Indian grid for renewable grid



Further I&C solutions for flexible operation

Selected references

Frequency & Dispatch Control



Altbach, Germany

420 MW, hard coal:
5% in 30 s up to 100% load
(with turbine & condensate throttling +
partial deactivation of HP preheaters)



Dingzhou, China

600 MW, hard coal:
Boiler delay reduced from 180s to 40s for
load ramps up to 4%/min (with throttling)



Dadri, India

490 MW
35 MW (~7%) in 20 s
(with condensate throttling + HP reserve)

Reliable and efficient start-ups



Franken I, Germany

383MW, gas, built 1973:
20% reduction of start-up costs

Reduced minimum load



Steag Voerde, Germany

700 MW, hard coal, built 1985:
Minimum sustainable load w/o oil support
and bypass reduced
from 280 (40%) to 140 MW (20 %)

Increased Maximum Load



Callide, Australia

420 MW, hard coal:
Max. load +10 %
1,400 h/year max. load through
controlled HP bypass deactivation

Contact information



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