



Institute of Low-Carbon  
Industrial Processes

# NEXT GENERATION HIGH TEMPERATURE HEAT PUMPS

Panagiotis Stathopoulos

Institute for low carbon industrial processes

Department of high temperature heat pumps



DLR

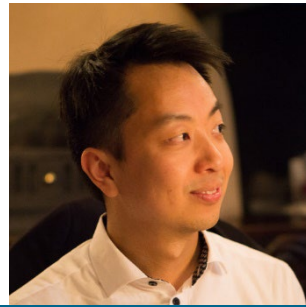
# The presented work is a result of collaboration with...



**Johannes Oehler**



**Phong Tran**



**Matteo Pettinari**



**Lorenzo Ferrari**





## Research Organisation

8.350 employees



## Project Management Agency

1.400 employees



## Space Administration

250 employees



- 10.000 Total number of employees
- 35 Locations nationwide with 55 institutes and facilities
- 4 international offices
- Turnover 2020 Research facilities: approx 1,2 Mrd. €



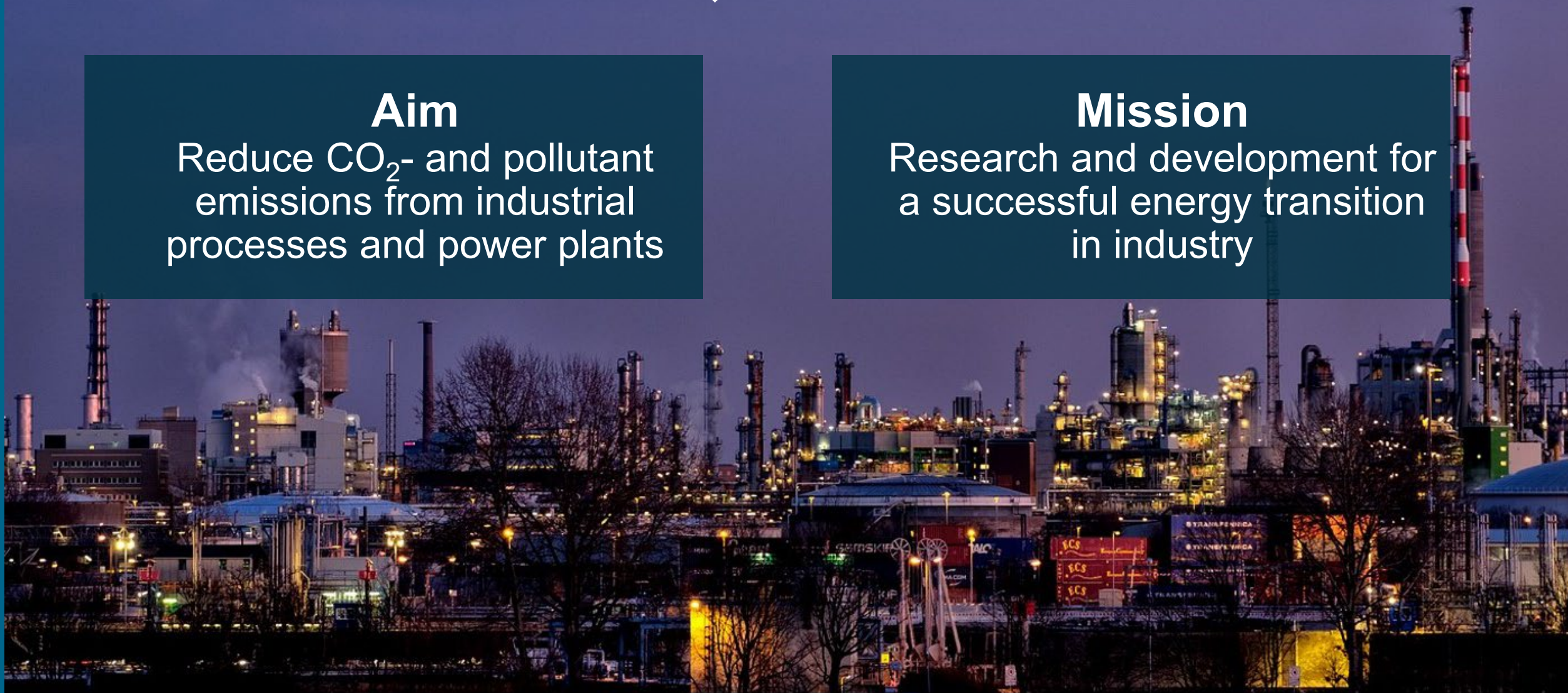


## Aim

Reduce CO<sub>2</sub>- and pollutant emissions from industrial processes and power plants

## Mission

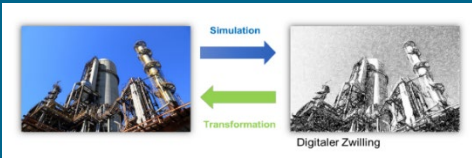
Research and development for a successful energy transition in industry



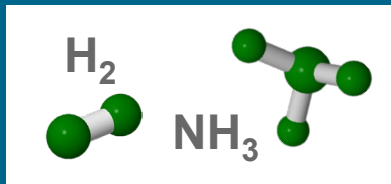
# DLR-Institute of Low-Carbon Industrial Processes



High-Temperature Heat Pumps



Simulation and Virtual Design



Low Carbon Reducing Agents



University Library Cottbus



City Center Zittau



# From the Pilot to the Demonstration

## **Pilot Plant CoBra (Cottbus Brayton)**

- Working fluid: Air
- Axial (and radial) turbomachines
- Electric Power : ca.120 kW
- Heat: ca. 180kW @ 250-300°C
- Cooling: ca. 60kW @ -40,-70°C

## **Next generations of HTHPs**

- Compact HTWP
- Electric Power : ca.1 MW
- Heat: ca. 1.5-2MW @ 250-300°C
- Waste heat sources between 60-100°C



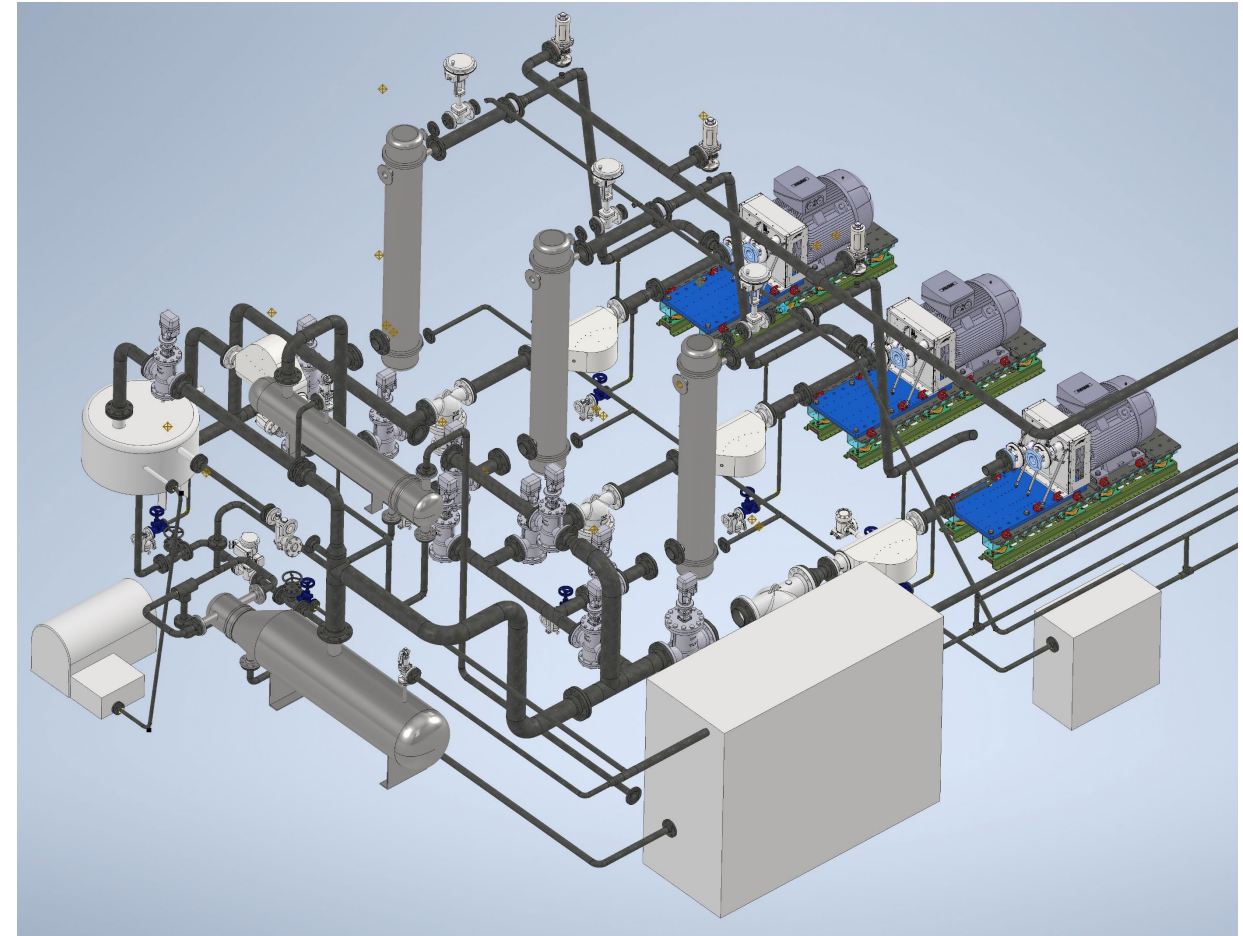
# From the Pilot to the Demonstration

## Pilot Plant ZiRa (Zittau Rankine)

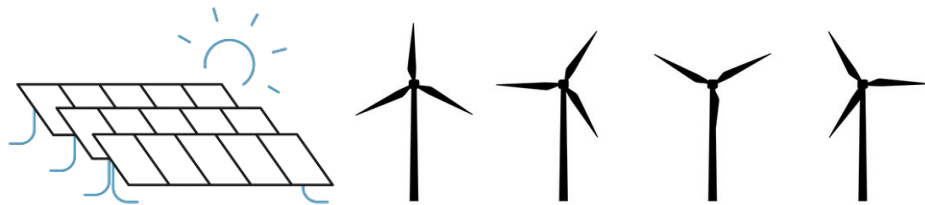
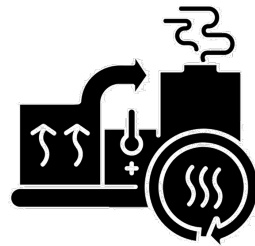
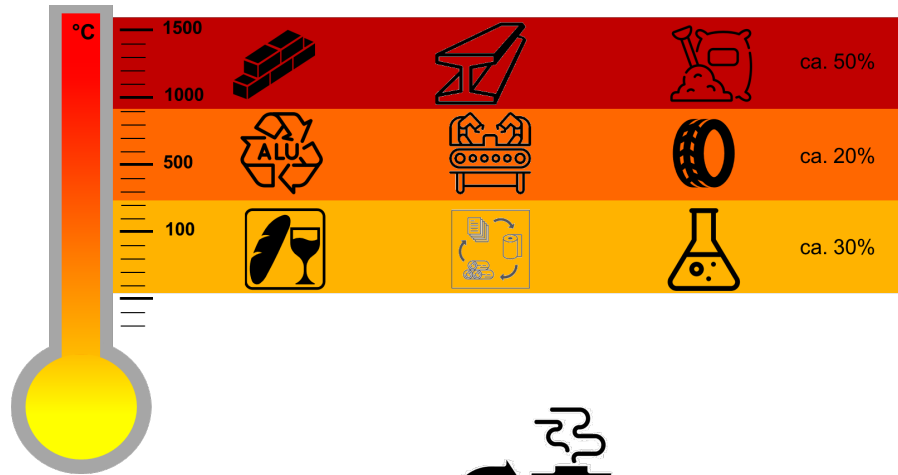
- Working fluid: Water-Steam
- Radial turbomachines
- Electric Power: ~ 240kW
- Heat: ~750 kW @~ 180-200 °C
- Heat source ~95-120°C

## Next steps

- Steam compressor development and scale up (up to 600kW per stage)
- Raise sink Temperature to 250 °C - 40 bar



# The scale of the challenge in Germany



In year 2020 the energy consumption for industrial heat in DE is estimated at 490TWh

Source:



Approximately 160TWh of this heat is consumed at temperatures below 300°C and can be potentially electrified with heat pumps

Source:



This will result in an additional renewable generation of 80-120 TWh. An increase of ~50% compared to renewable generation in 2020

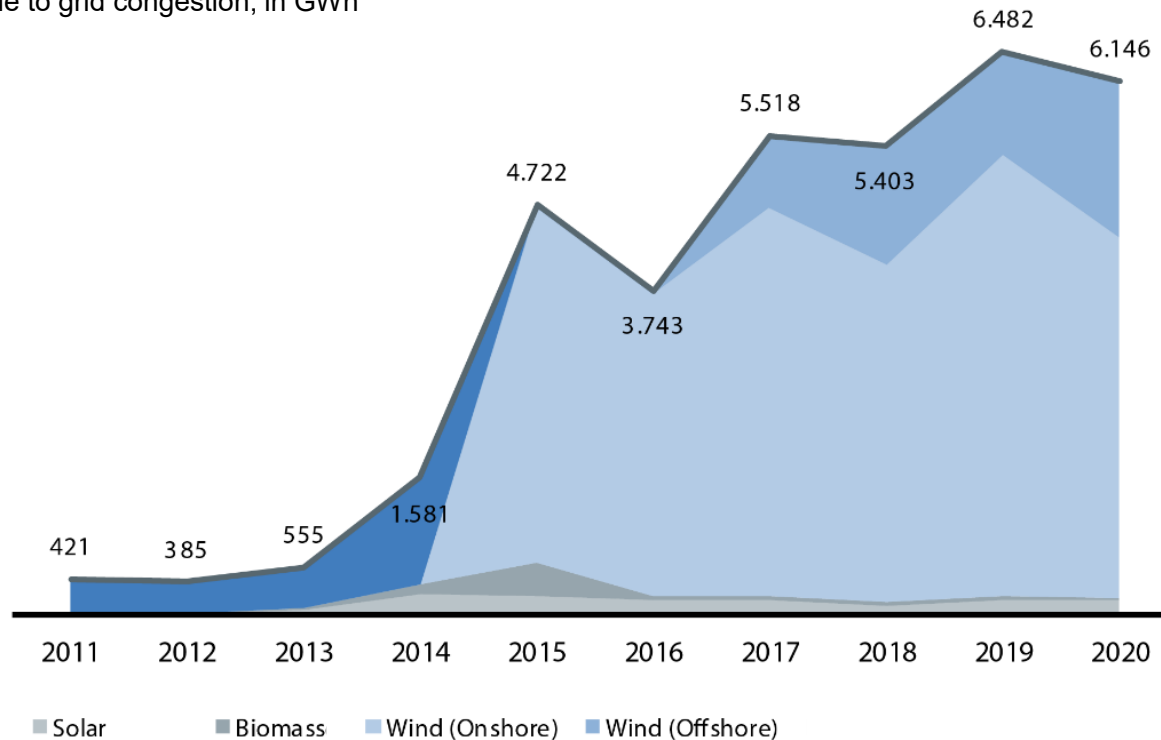
Source:





# What does the grid say about this?

Curtailment of renewable energy in Germany  
due to grid congestion, in GWh



Source:



## The Grid story

- Germany curtails every year around 6 TWh of renewable electricity
- The cost of this lost energy is around 1 billion € per year
- Industrial sites are often located at crucial grid points

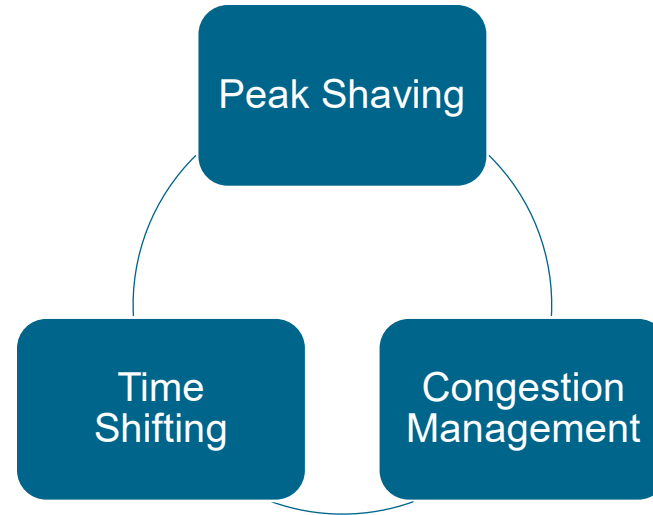
# What can flexible industrial heat pumps contribute?

Flex  
HTHP

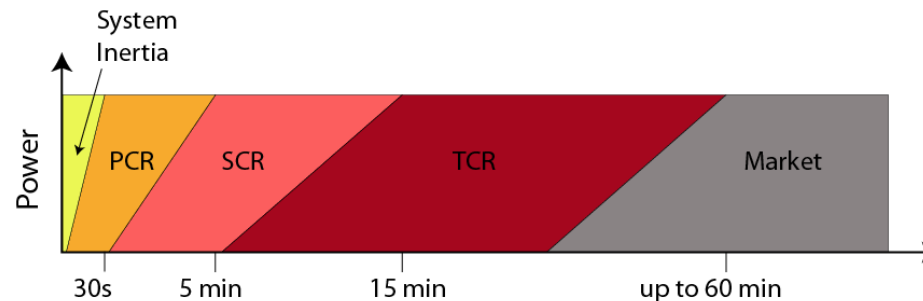
Industrial  
demand side  
management

Connection to  
renewable  
heat sources

Connection to  
renewable  
power  
sources



Source: 



Source: 

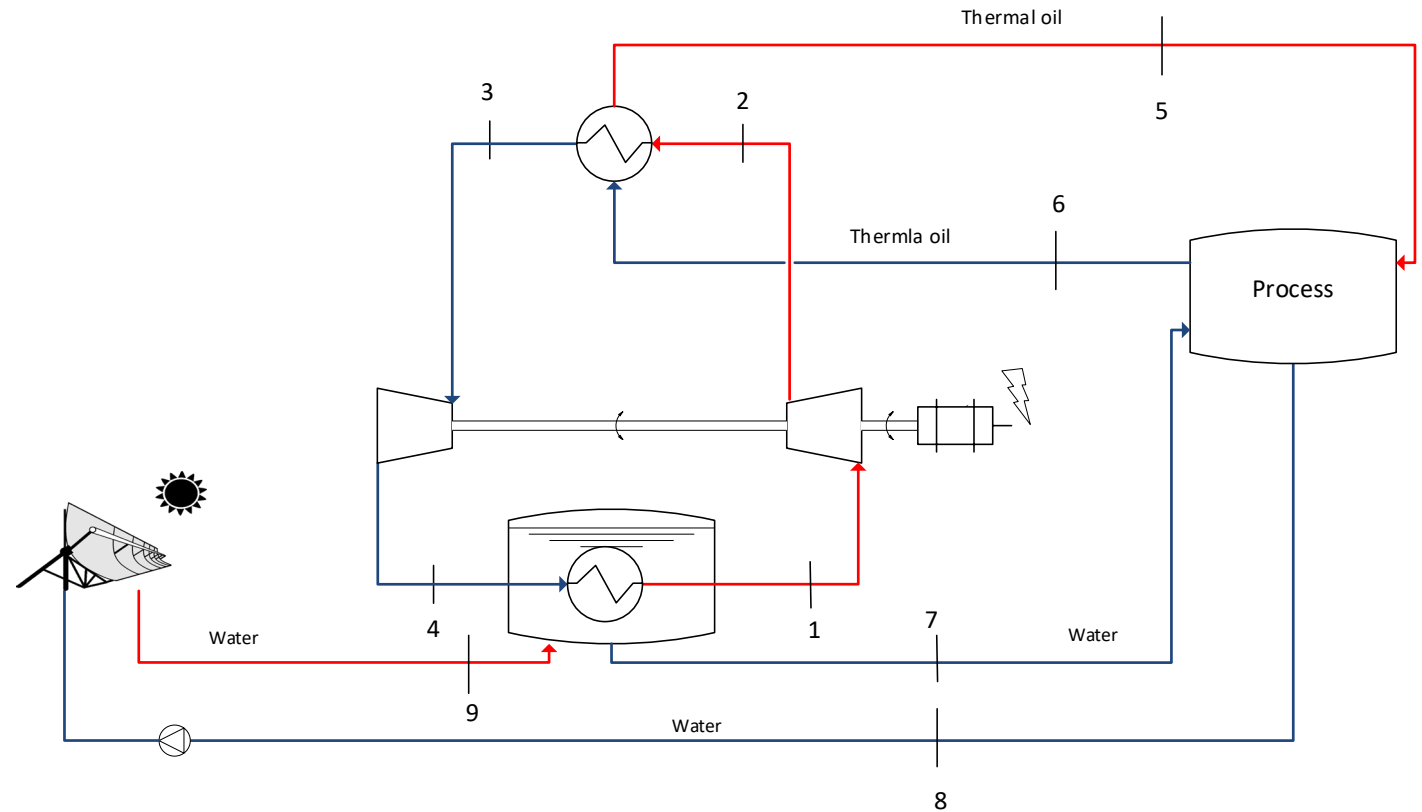
# What can flexible industrial heat pumps contribute?

**Flex  
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Industrial  
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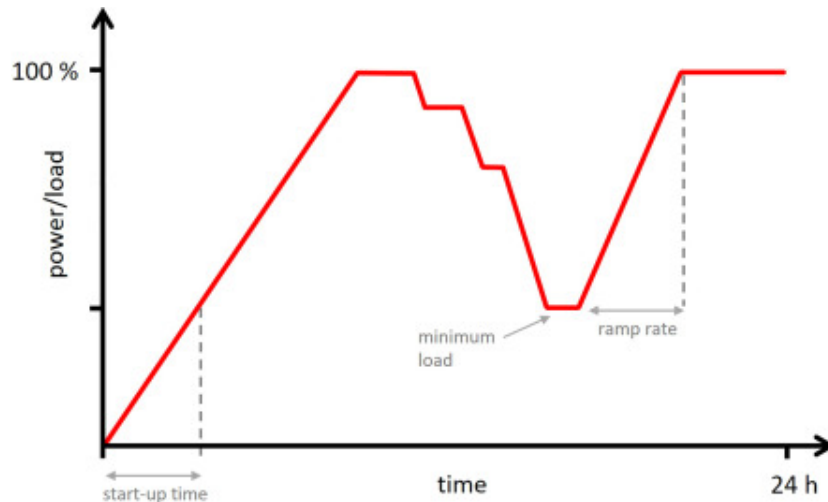


# HThP operational flexibility – two aspects



## Part load capability

How can we extend the operational envelope in a simple and cost effective way?



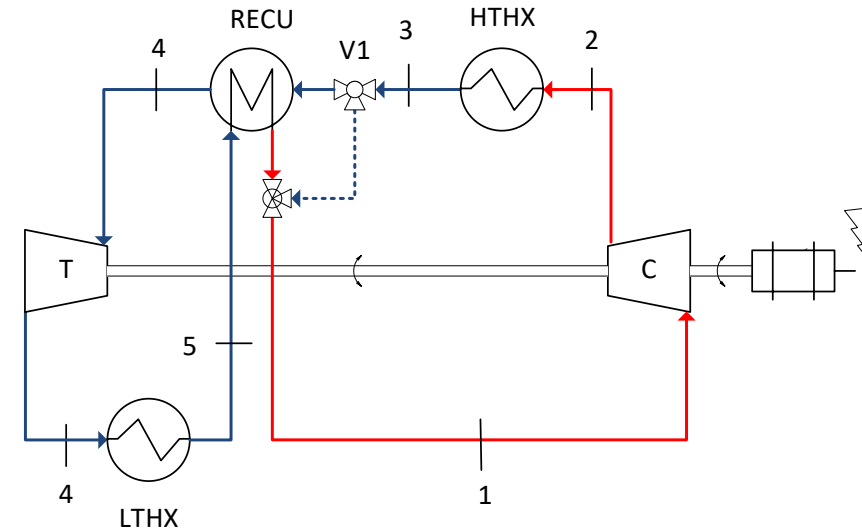
## Dynamic operation

Adapt to intraday changes in production processes

Deliver network services like primary and secondary control reserve.

Facilitate direct hybridization with renewable heat and power sources?

# Part load capability – classical approach

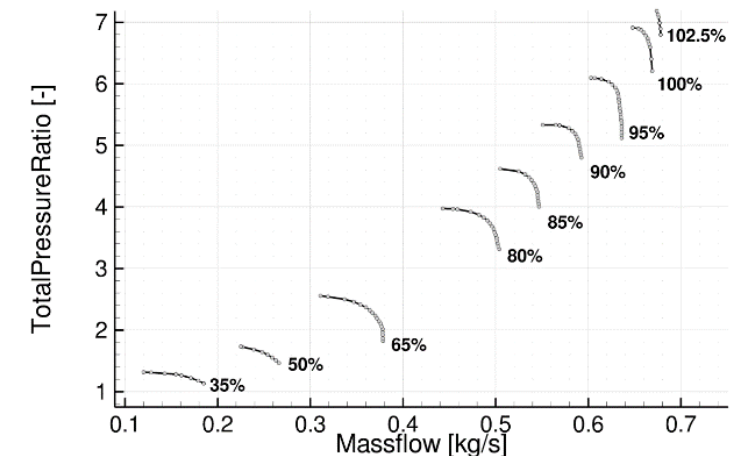
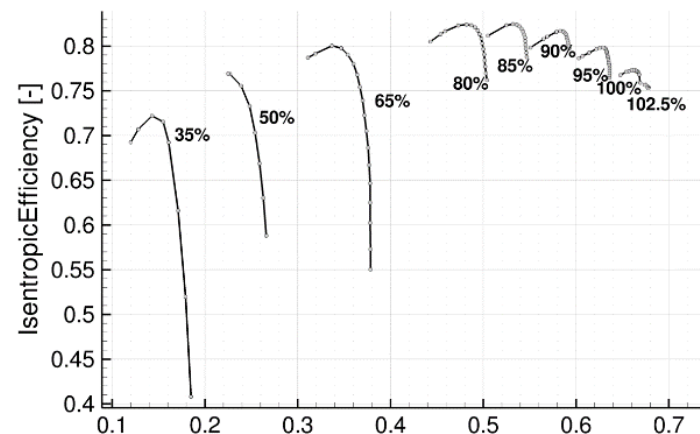


## Control options/tools

- Compressor rotational speed
- Degree of recuperation
- Variable vanes in turbomachines

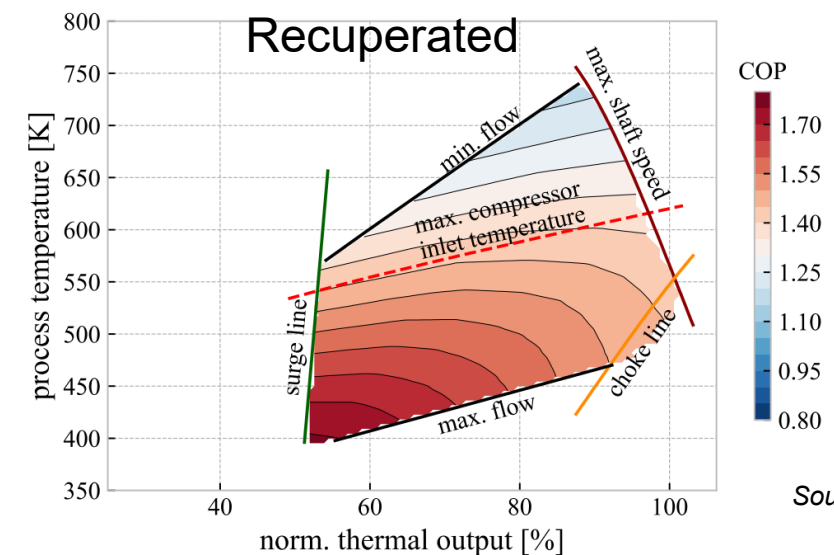
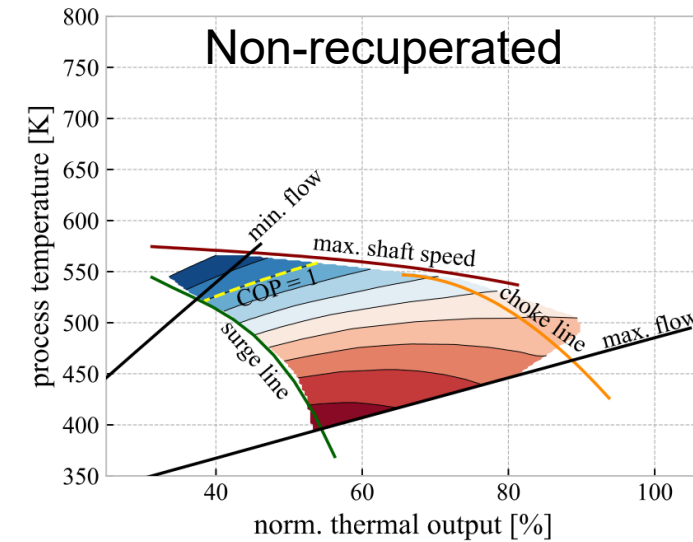
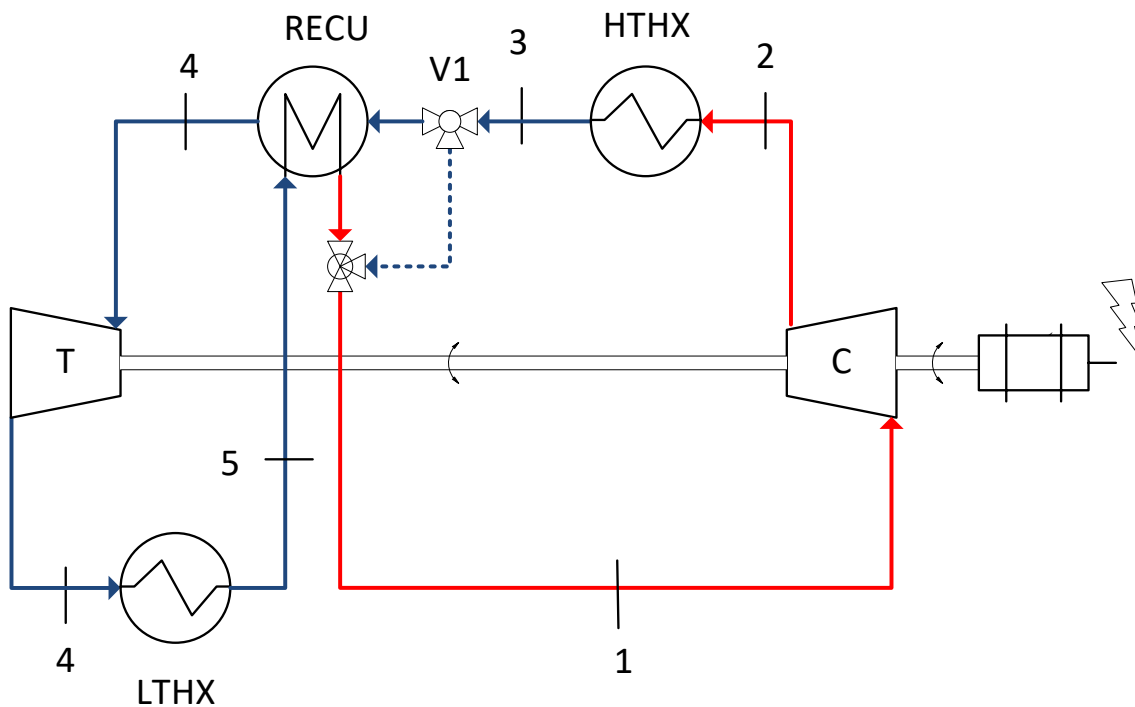
## Constraints

- Compressor stability limits
- Maximum compressor speed
- Maximum compressor  $T_{in}$
- Load limits – secondary circuit



Source: Compressor manufacturer – AeroDesignWorks

# Part load capability – classical approach



Source:



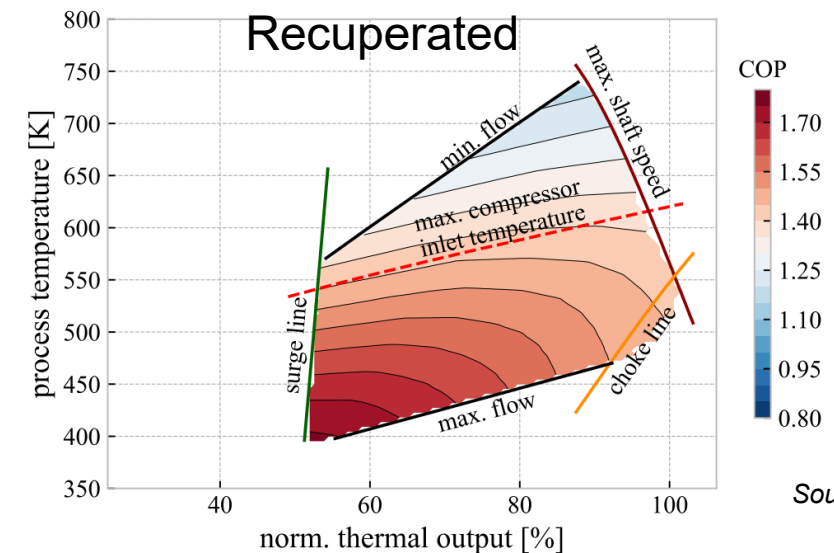
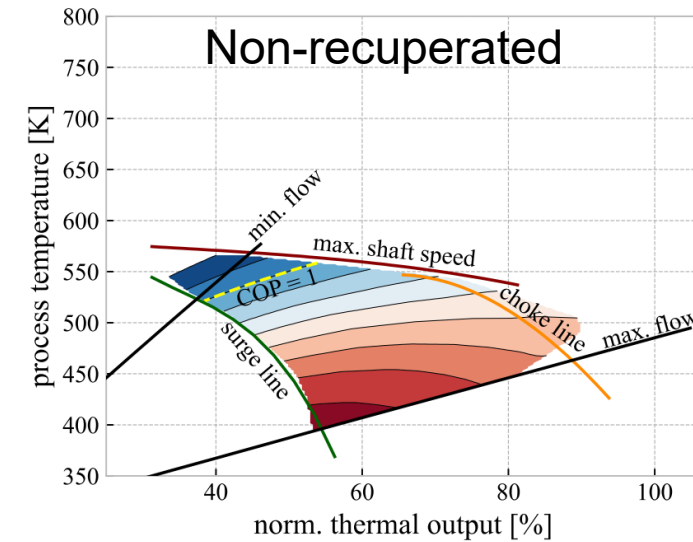


# Part load capability – classical approach



## Shortcomings

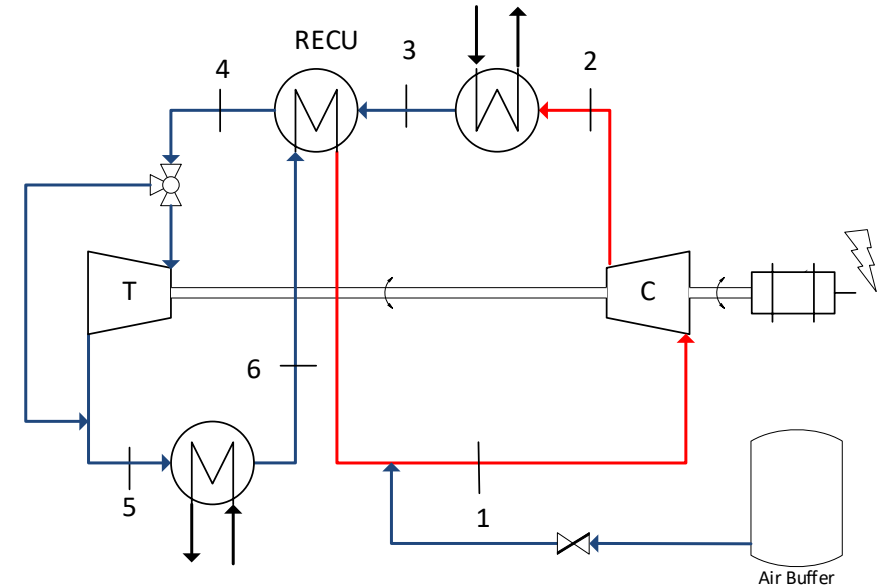
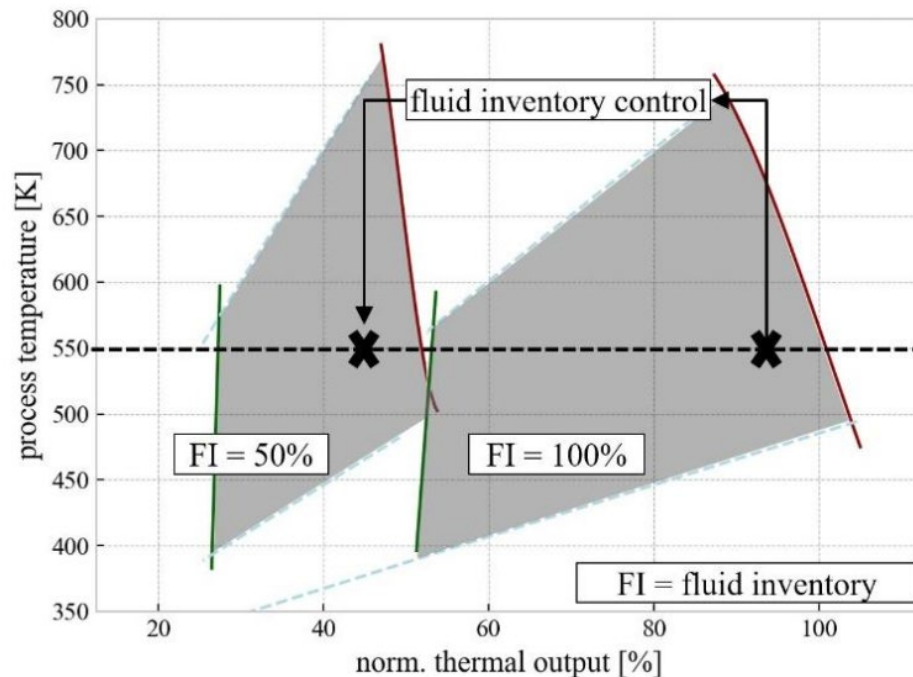
- **Limited Part load capability – 50-55%**  
Strong variation of demand will require the installation of more than one unit to cover it
- **Heating capacity, COP and delivery temperature are interconnected**



Source:



# Part load capability – fluid inventory control



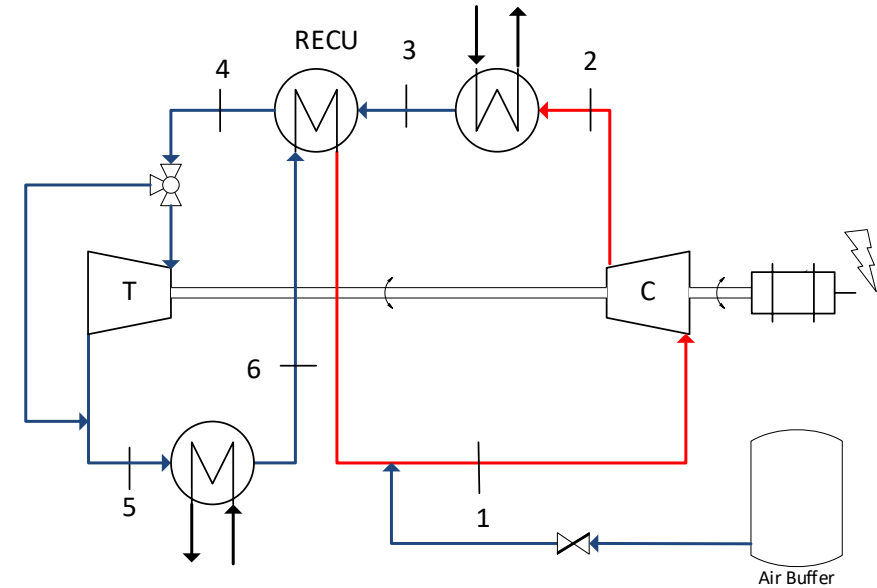
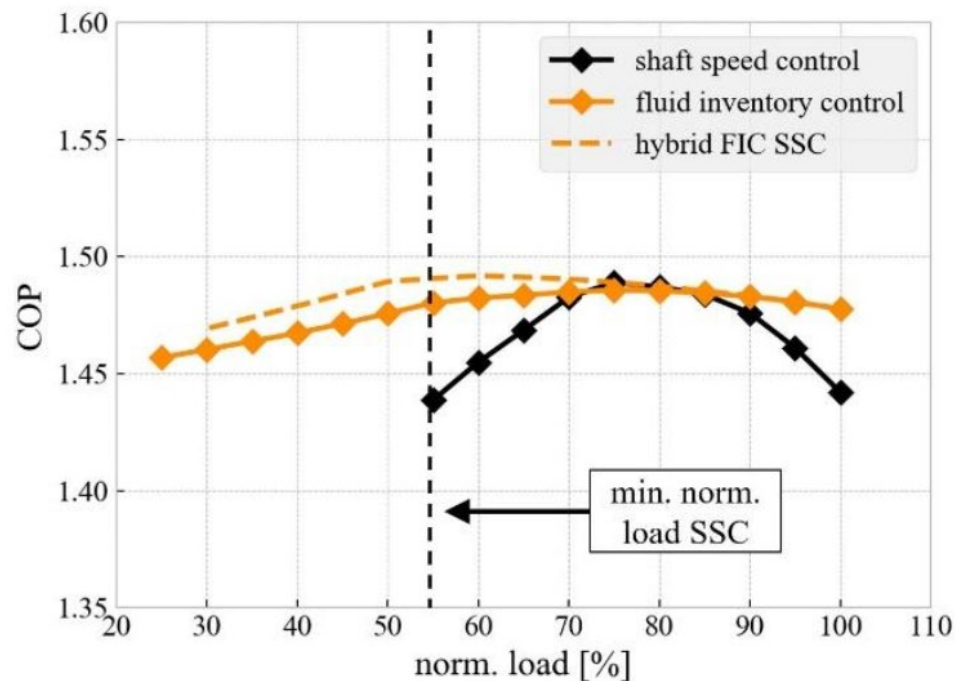
## Control Variables

- Mass of fluid in the closed cycle – Fluid inventory

## Constraints

- Lower bound of compressor operation – inlet density and pressure

# Part load capability – fluid inventory control



## Challenges

- Optimal fluid injection and extraction points
- Transient requirements and stability issues
- Combine part load methods for optimum operation

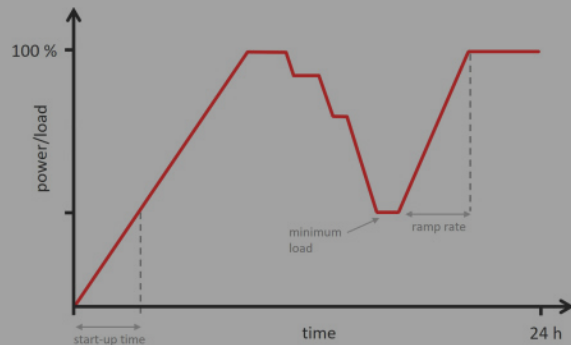


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Deliver network services like primary and secondary control reserve

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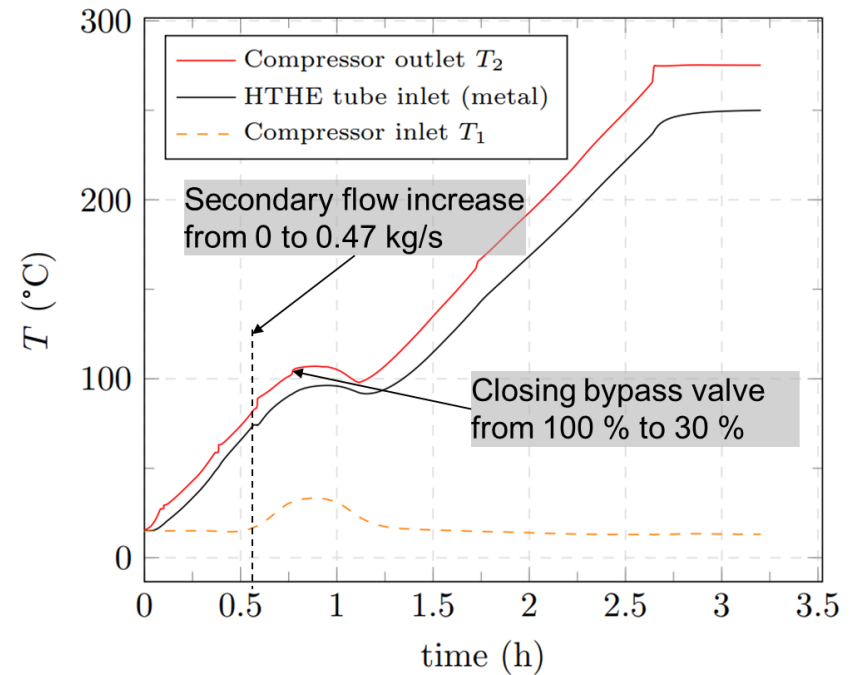
# Dynamic operation – Physical constraints

## Constraints

- Physical limitations and dimensions
- Eigenmodes to be crossed as fast as possible
- Temperature gradient limitations
- Limit step changes in temperature and pressure
- Compressor stability – Maintain surge margin

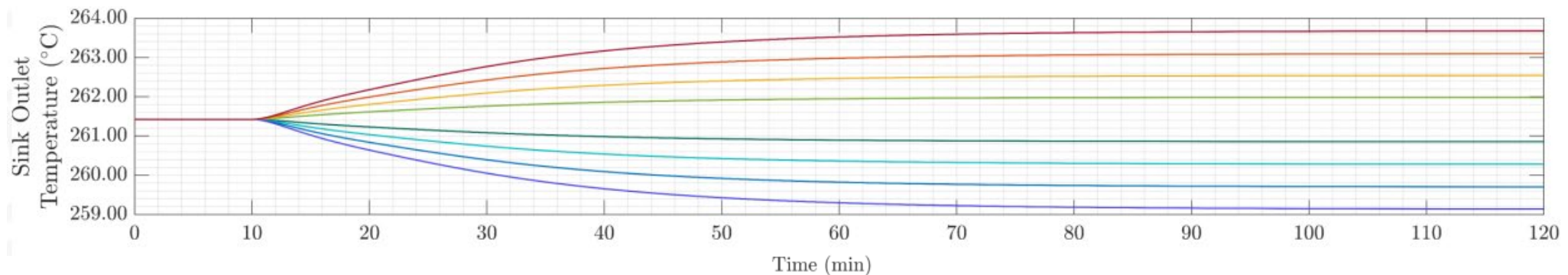
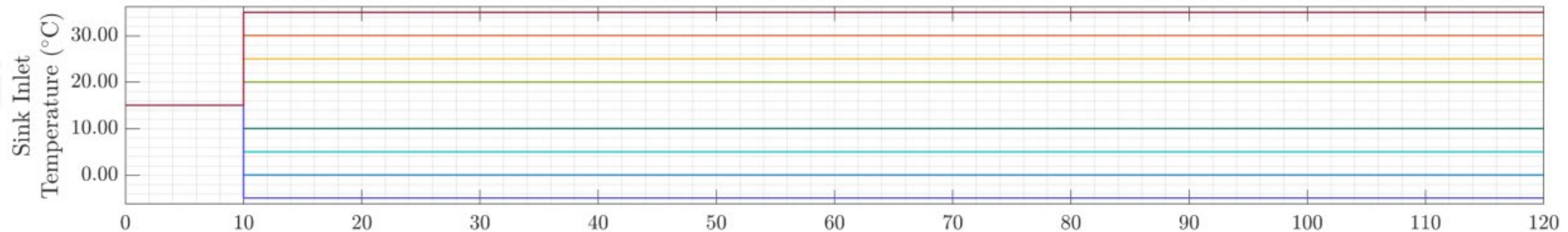
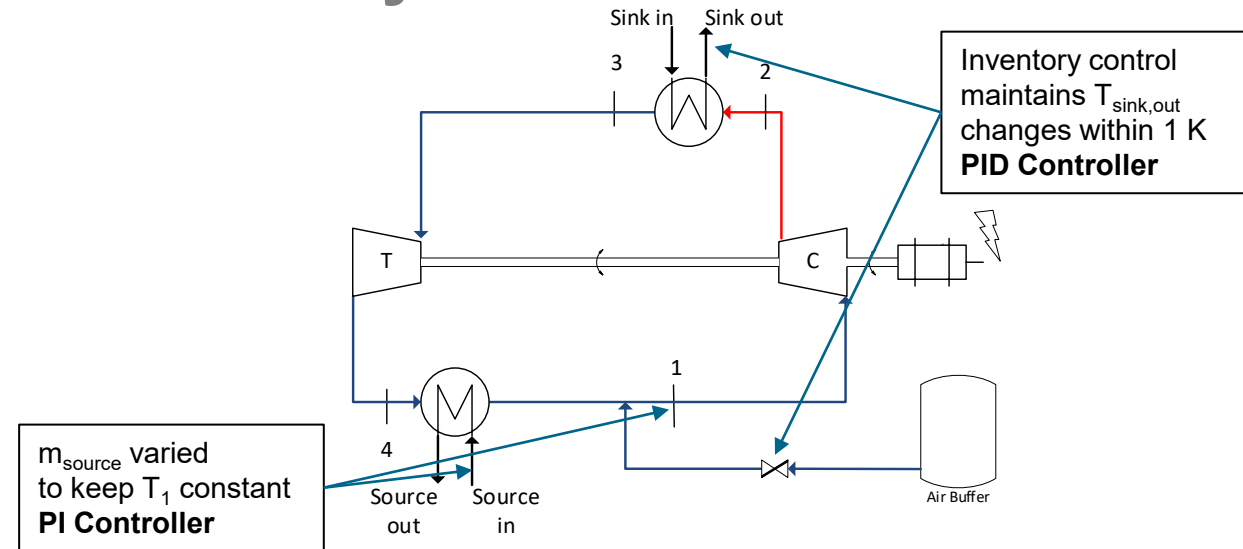


Source:



# Dynamic operation – Fluid inventory control reloaded

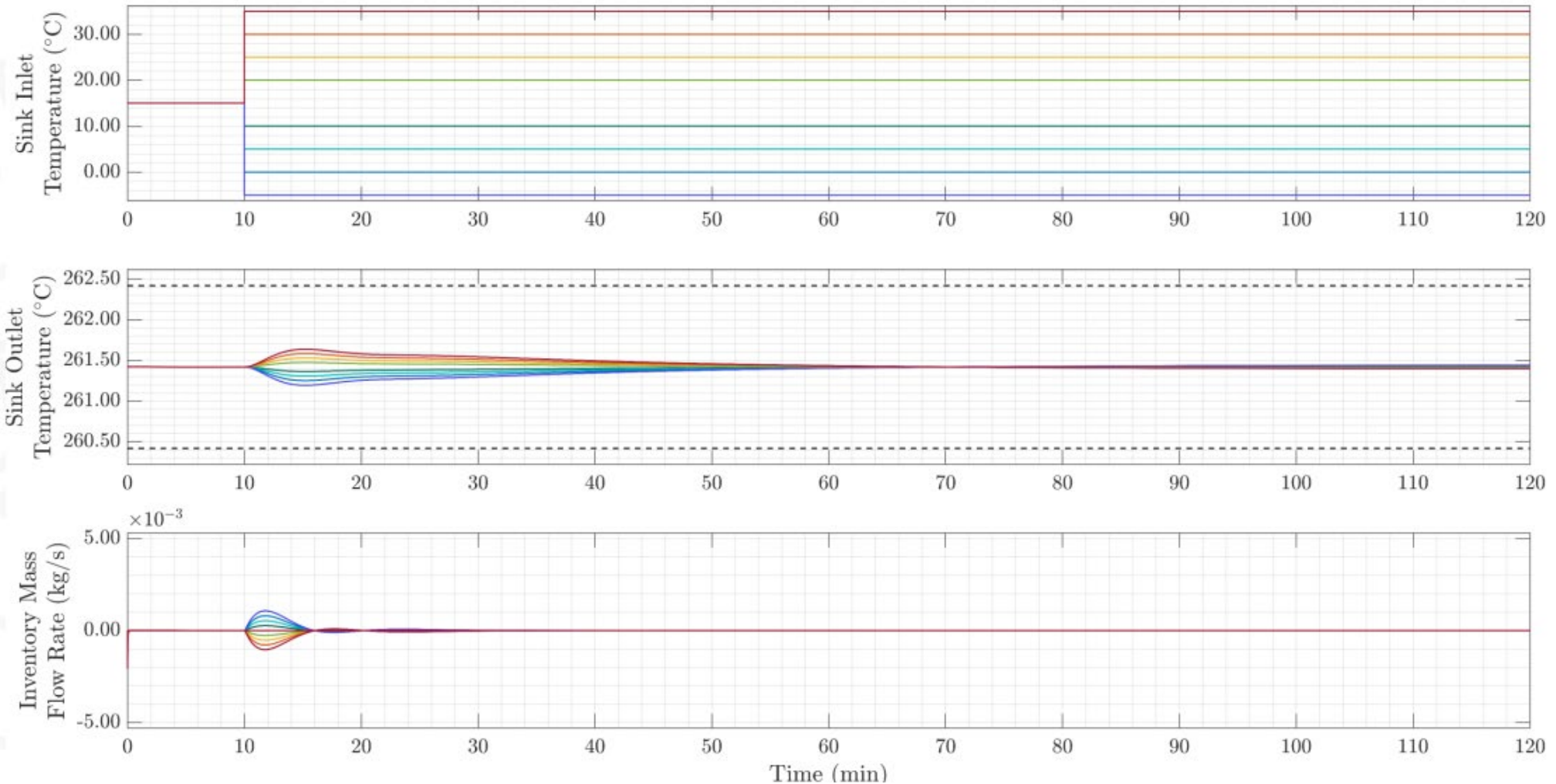
- Step change in sink inlet temperature/mass flow rate
- Natural response of system
- Is it possible to make this faster, despite the specified dimensions?





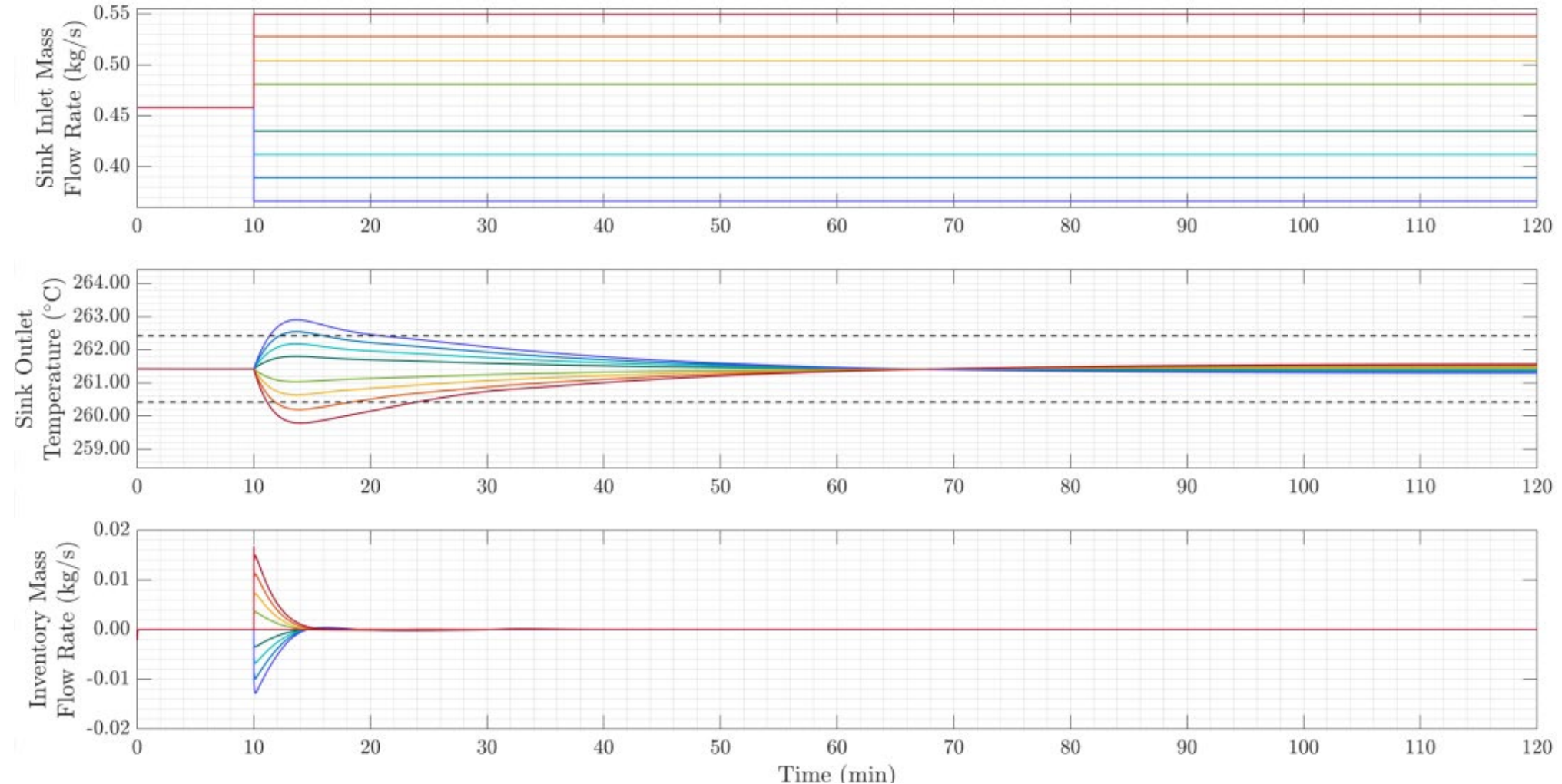
# Dynamic operation – Fluid Inventory control reloaded

- Change in the sink inlet temperature
- Use fluid inventory control to keep the sink outlet temperature within  $\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$



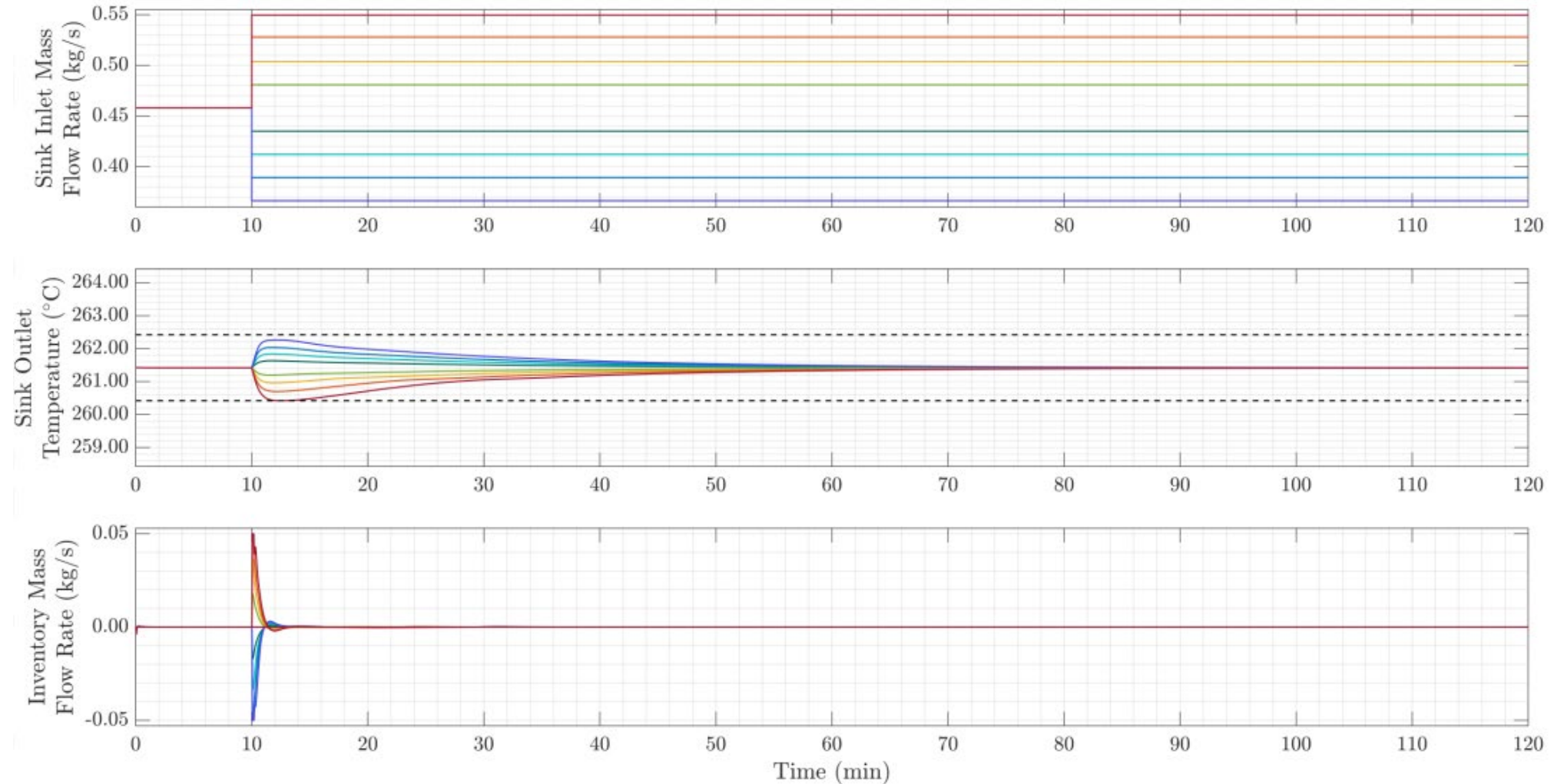
# Dynamic operation – Fluid Inventory control reloaded

- Change in the sink flow rate
- Use fluid inventory control to keep the sink outlet temperature within  $\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$



# Dynamic operation – Fluid Inventory control reloaded

- Change in the sink flow rate
- Internal model controller for fluid inventory control



# A flexible outlook...

...up  
next

Experimental  
demonstration of fluid  
inventory control

Hybrid industrial heat  
supply systems

Control optimization  
with machine learning  
(models and  
experiments)

