Advanced Regulatory Control of a 10 MWe Supercritical CO_2 Recompression Brayton Cycle towards Improving Power Ramp Rates

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6th International Supercritical CO_2 Power Cycles Symposium, Pittsburgh, PA, Mar 27–29, 2018

Presentation Overview

- **Introduction**
- **Control Methodology**
  - Steady-State and Dynamic Simulation Framework
  - Control Objectives
  - Control Architecture
- **Control Response Results**
  - Ramp down and up in MW demand
- **Conclusions and Future Work**

Introduction

- **Motivation**
  - Understand control-related challenges of a MW scale sCO_2 Recompression Closed Brayton Cycle (RCBC). Limited previous studies (see paper for references)
    - **Load changes**, Startup, Shutdown, Trips
    - Maintain turbine inlet temperature during load changes (high efficiency)
    - Maintain main compressor inlet temperature close to sCO_2 critical point
    - Other operational constraints, e.g. surge/stonewall limits
  - Applicable to 10 MWe RCBC facility within Supercritical Transformational Electric Power (STEP) program
- **Rigorous simulation-based pressure-driven dynamic model†**

† Zitney, S.E. and Liese, E.A., "Dynamic Modeling and Simulation of a 10MWe Supercritical CO_2 Recompression Closed Brayton Cycle for Off-design, Part-Load, and Control Analysis," 6th International sCO_2 Power Cycles Symposium, Pittsburgh PA, Mar 27-29, 2018.

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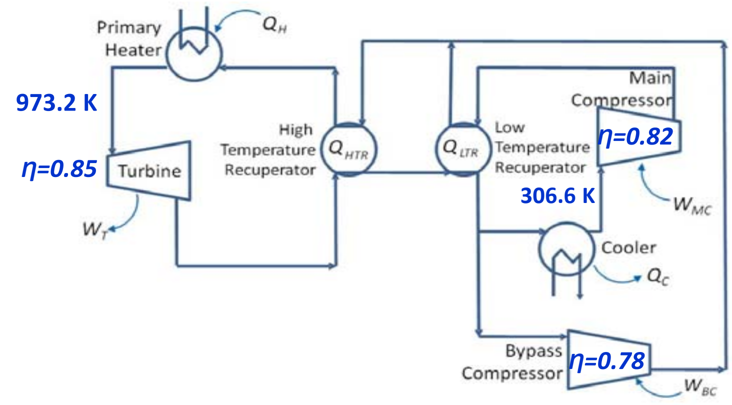
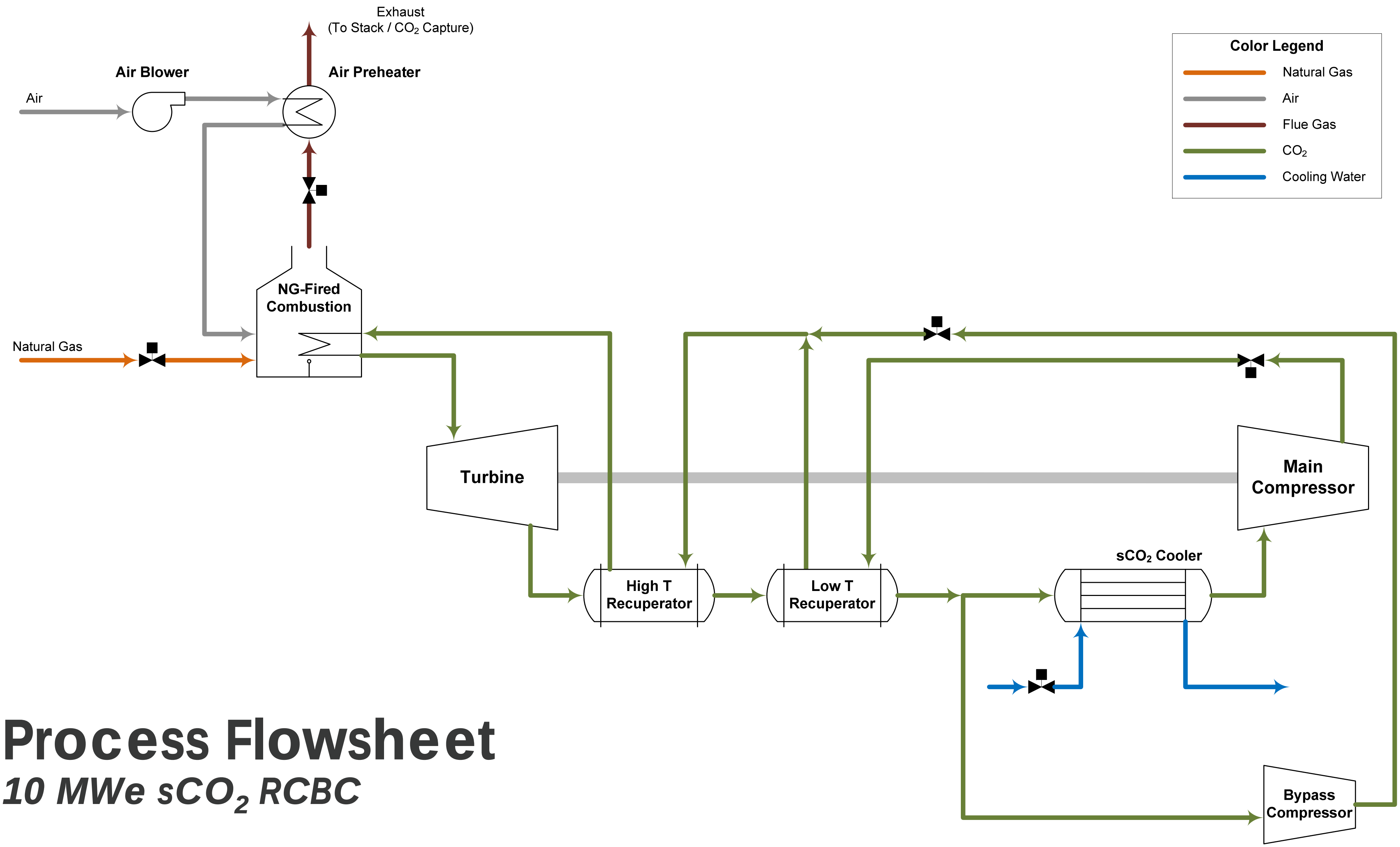
Control Methodology

Steady-State and Dynamic Simulation Framework

- **Software Tools**
  - Aspen Plus/Dynamics v8.8
- **Property Method**
  - NIST REFPROP
- **Unit Operation Models†**
  - Turbomachinery
  - Piping
  - Heat Exchangers†† - custom microtube-based recuperator models
- **Dynamic Model of 10 MWe sCO_2 RCBC Pilot Plant†††**



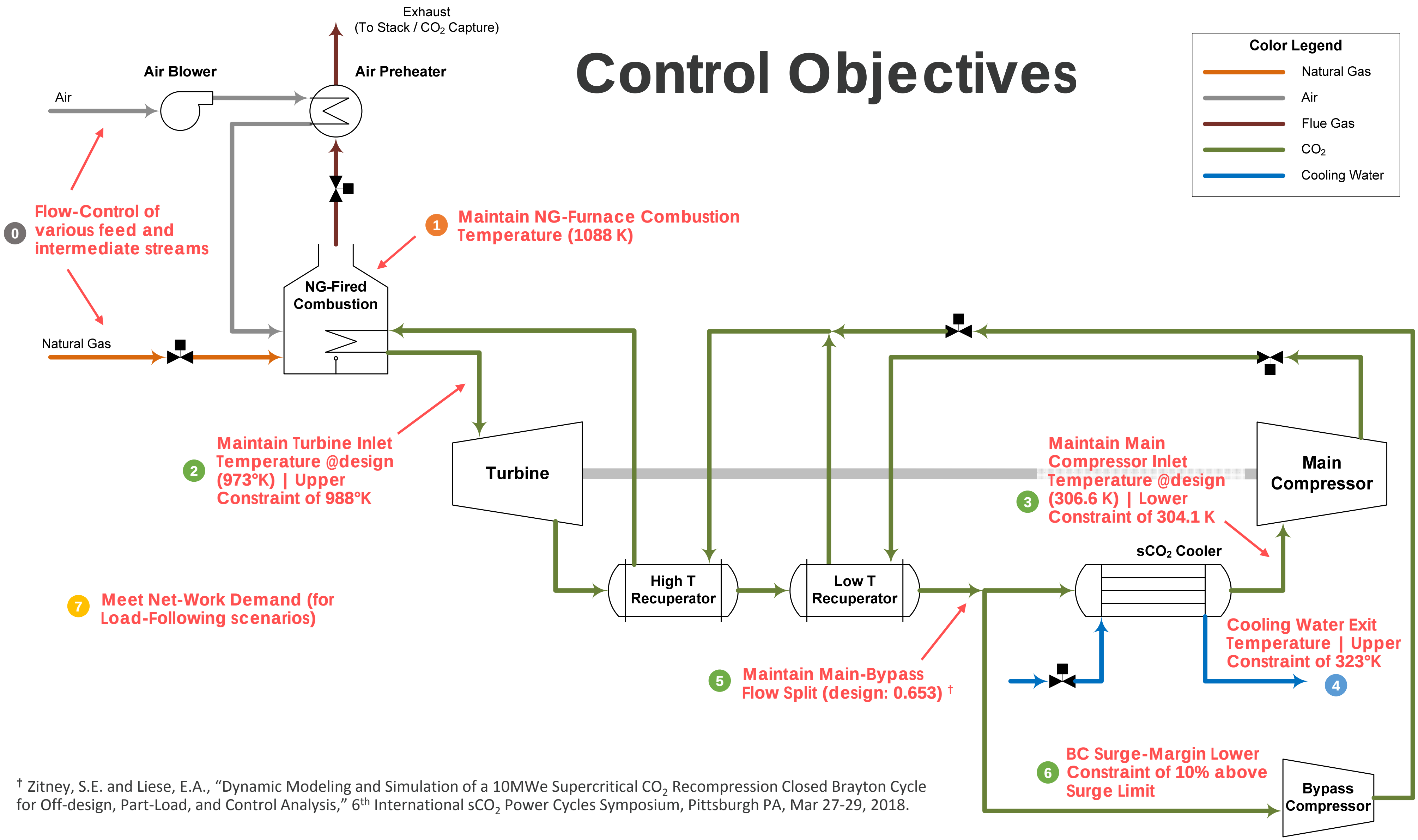
† Zitney, S.E. and Liese, E.A., "Design and Operation of a 10MWe Supercritical CO_2 Recompression Brayton Cycle," 2016 AIChE Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, Nov 13-18, 2018.
†† Jiang, Y., Liese, E.L., Zitney, S.E., and Bhattacharyya, D., "Optimal design of microtube recuperators for an indirect supercritical CO_2 recompression closed Brayton cycle," Applied Energy, 216, 634-648, 2018.
††† Zitney, S.E. and Liese, E.A., "Dynamic Modeling and Simulation of a 10MWe Supercritical CO_2 Recompression Closed Brayton Cycle for Off-design, Part-Load, and Control Analysis," 6th International sCO_2 Power Cycles Symposium, Pittsburgh PA, Mar 27-29, 2018.



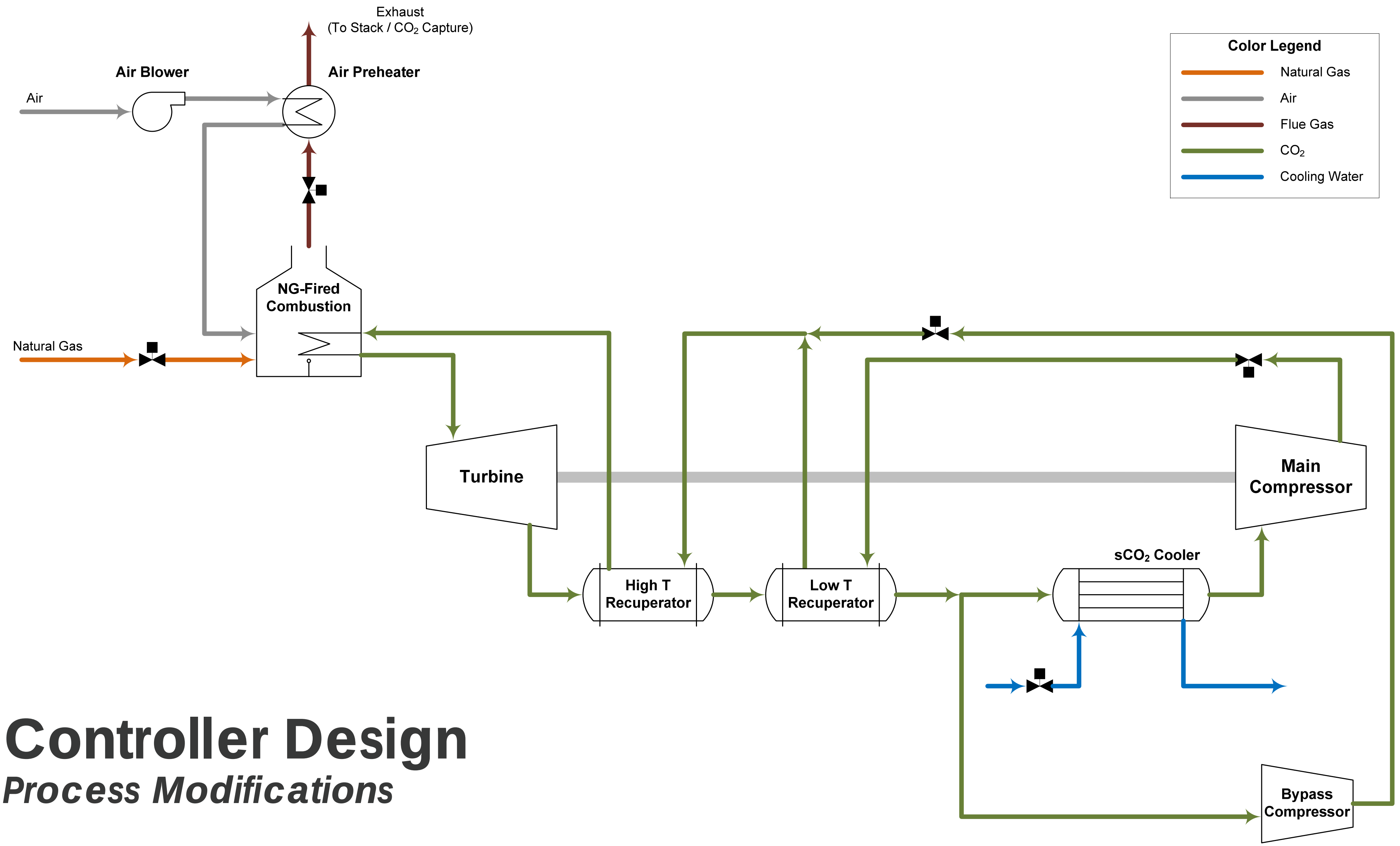
Process Flowsheet

10 MWe sCO_2 RCBC

Control Objectives

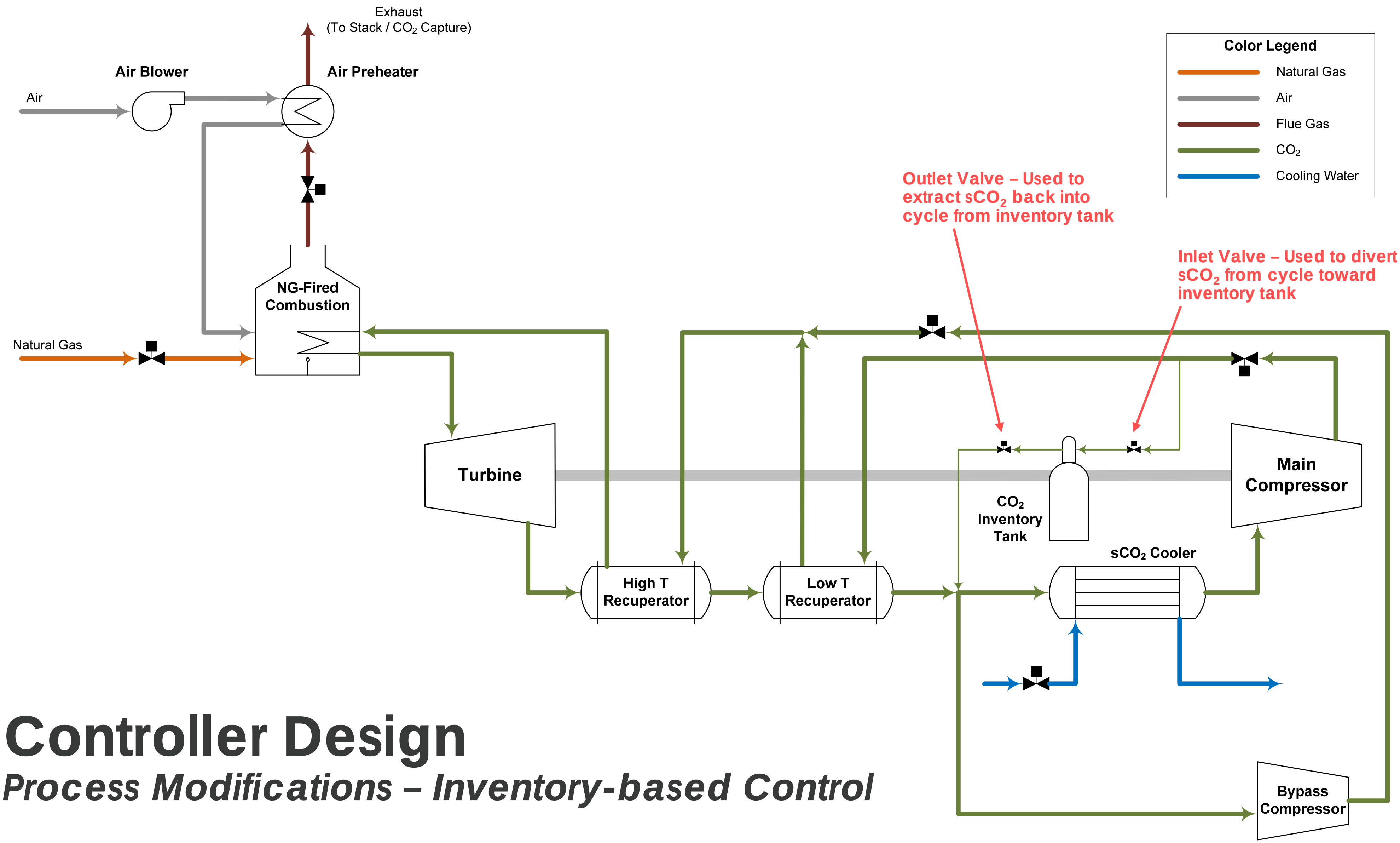


† Zitney, S.E. and Liese, E.A., "Dynamic Modeling and Simulation of a 10MWe Supercritical CO_2 Recompression Closed Brayton Cycle for Off-design, Part-Load, and Control Analysis," 6th International sCO_2 Power Cycles Symposium, Pittsburgh PA, Mar 27-29, 2018.



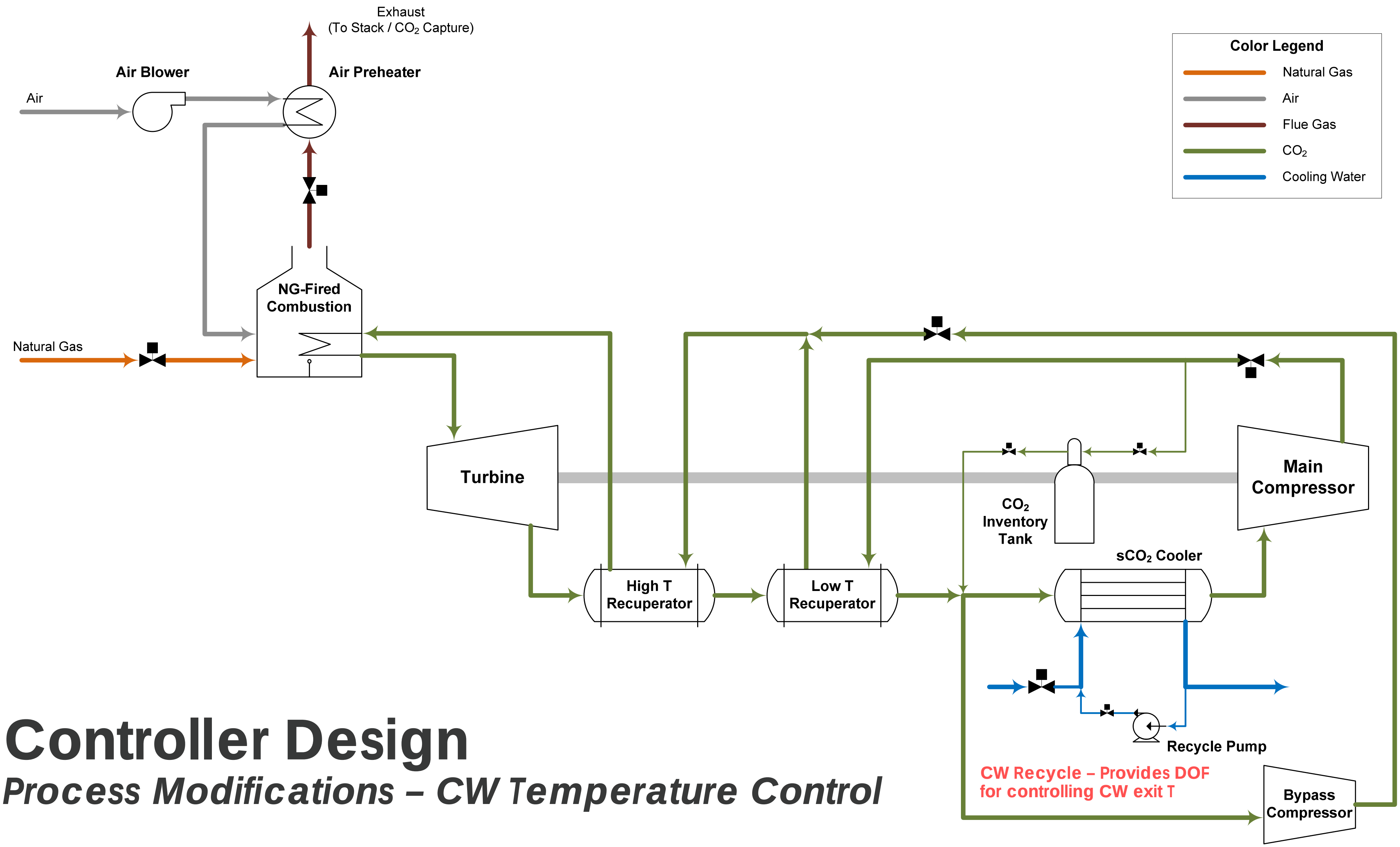
Controller Design

Process Modifications



Controller Design

Process Modifications – Inventory-based Control

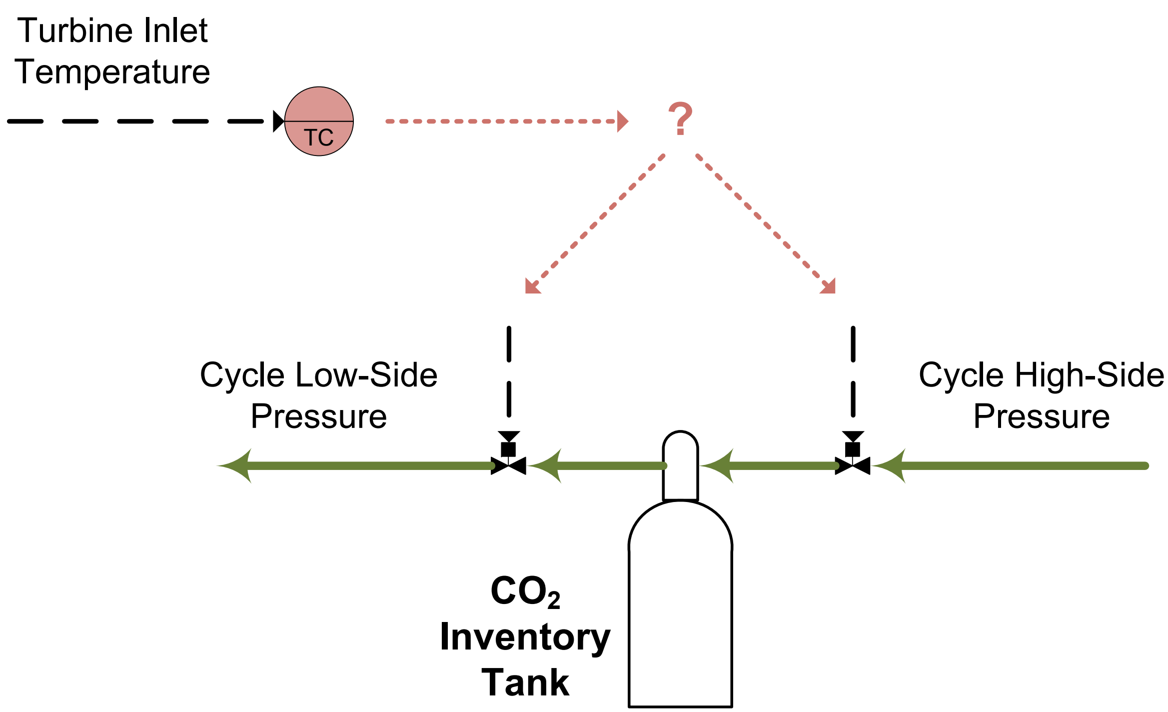


Controller Design

Process Modifications – CW Temperature Control

Controller Design

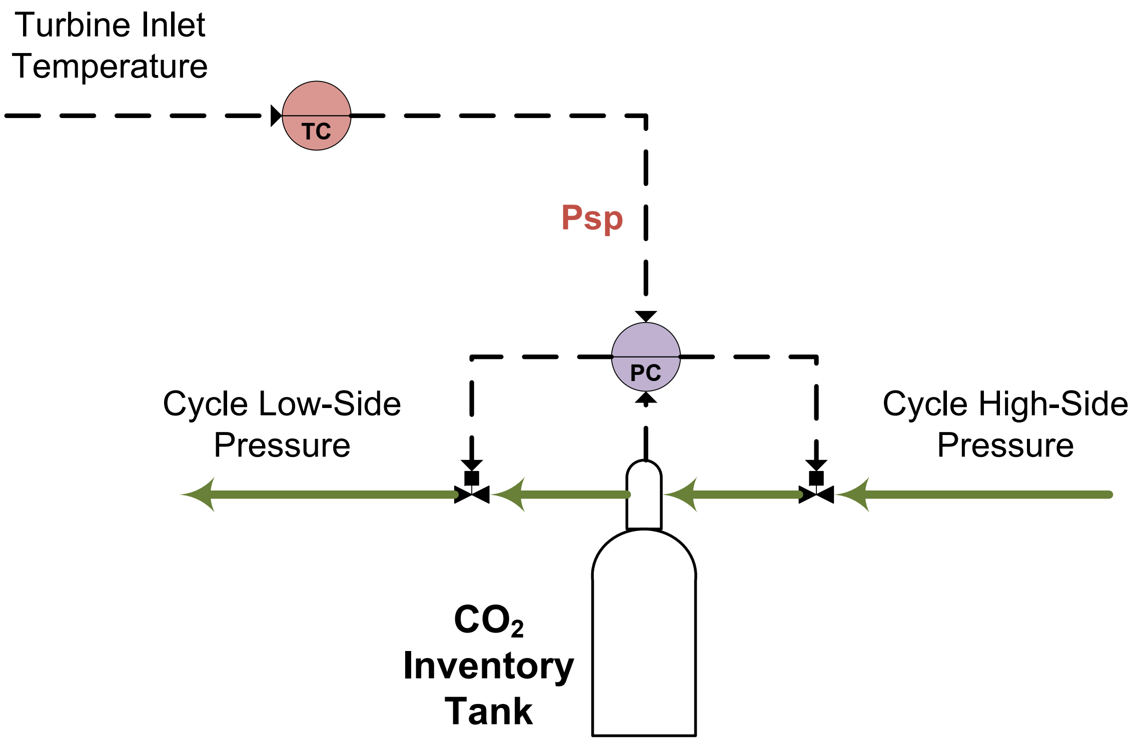
Inventory-based Control for Turbine Inlet Temperature



How to correlate inventory tank inlet-outlet valve actuations with TIT?

Controller Design

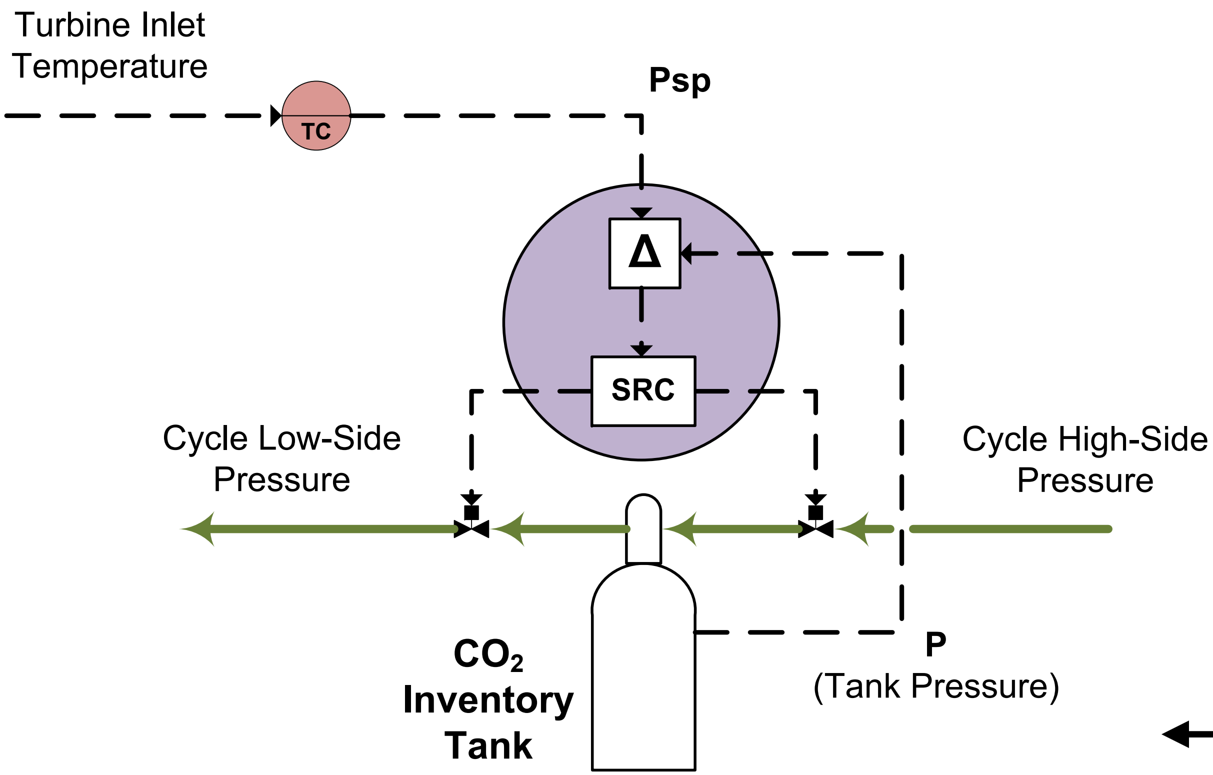
Inventory-based Control for Turbine Inlet Temperature



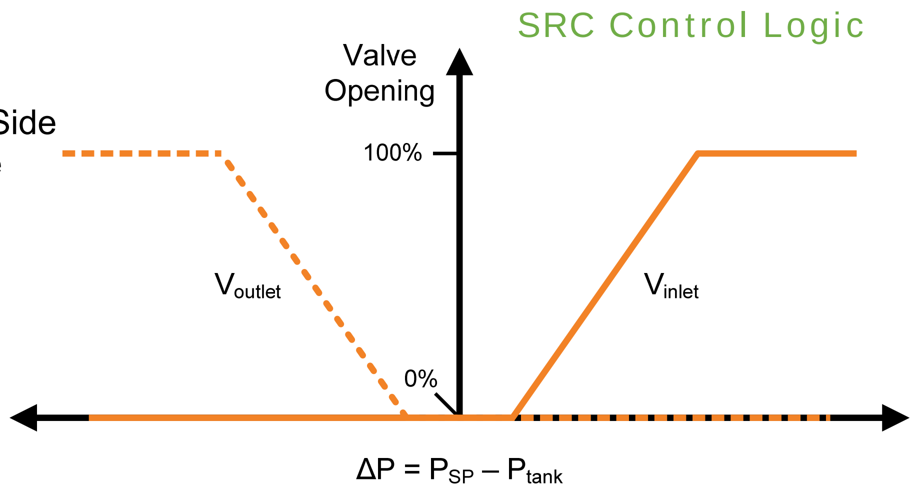
- **Inventory Tank Pressure**
  - Monotonic relationship with TIT
- **Control challenges**
  - For a given P both valves may remain open – unnecessary recycle and efficiency loss
  - May involve jittering effect – inlet/outlet valves may open/close at high frequency

Controller Design

Inventory-based Control for Turbine Inlet Temperature

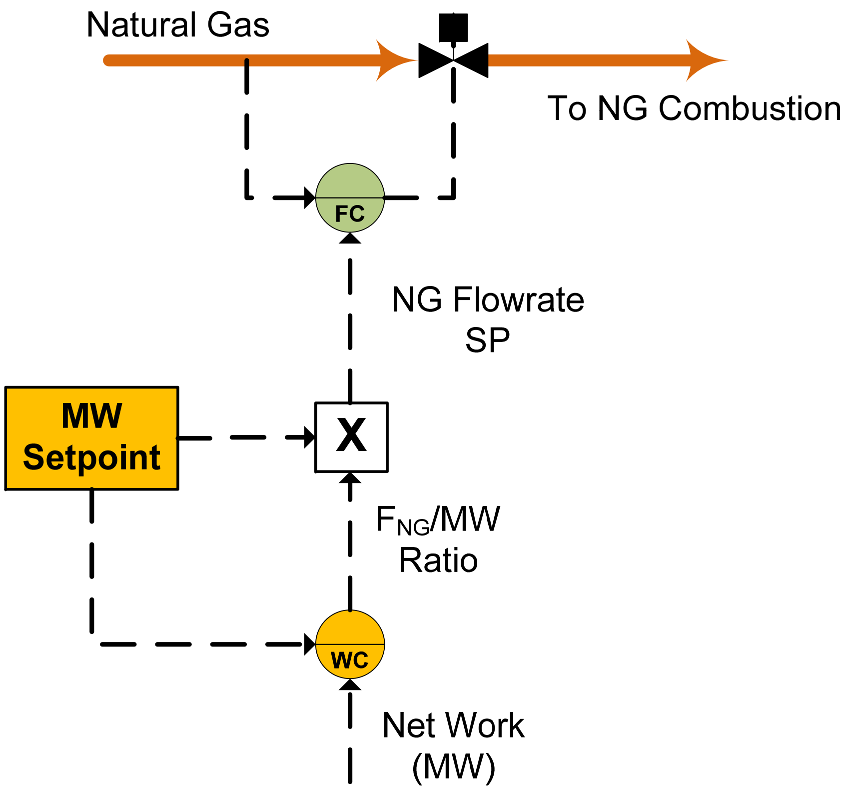


- **Split Range Control (SRC)**
  - Pressure dead-band to prevent jittering



Controller Design

Work Controller (Ratio control augmented w/ feedback trim)

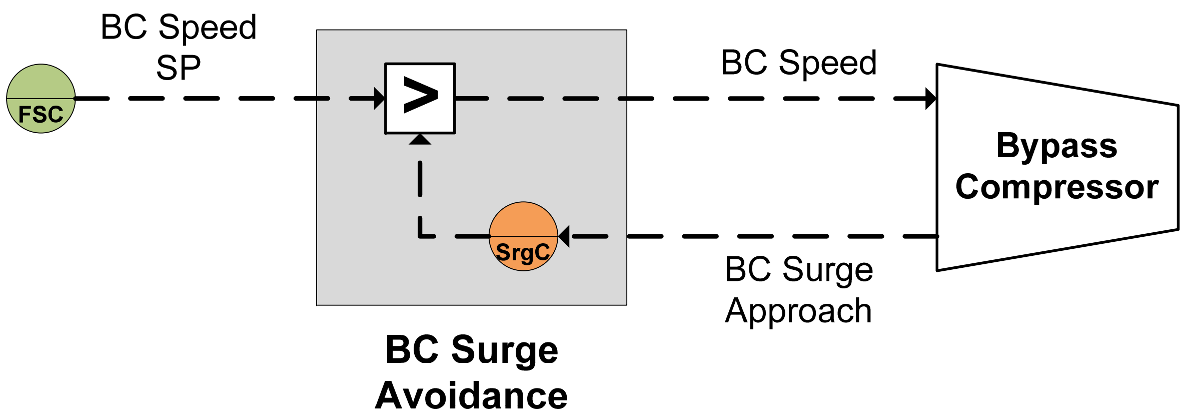


- F_{NG}/MW ratio block acts as a fast feedforward-type control
- WC controller provides feedback from actual net MW measurement – offset-free load following

Note: Combustion TC utilizes similar Ratio/FB-trim Control

Controller Design

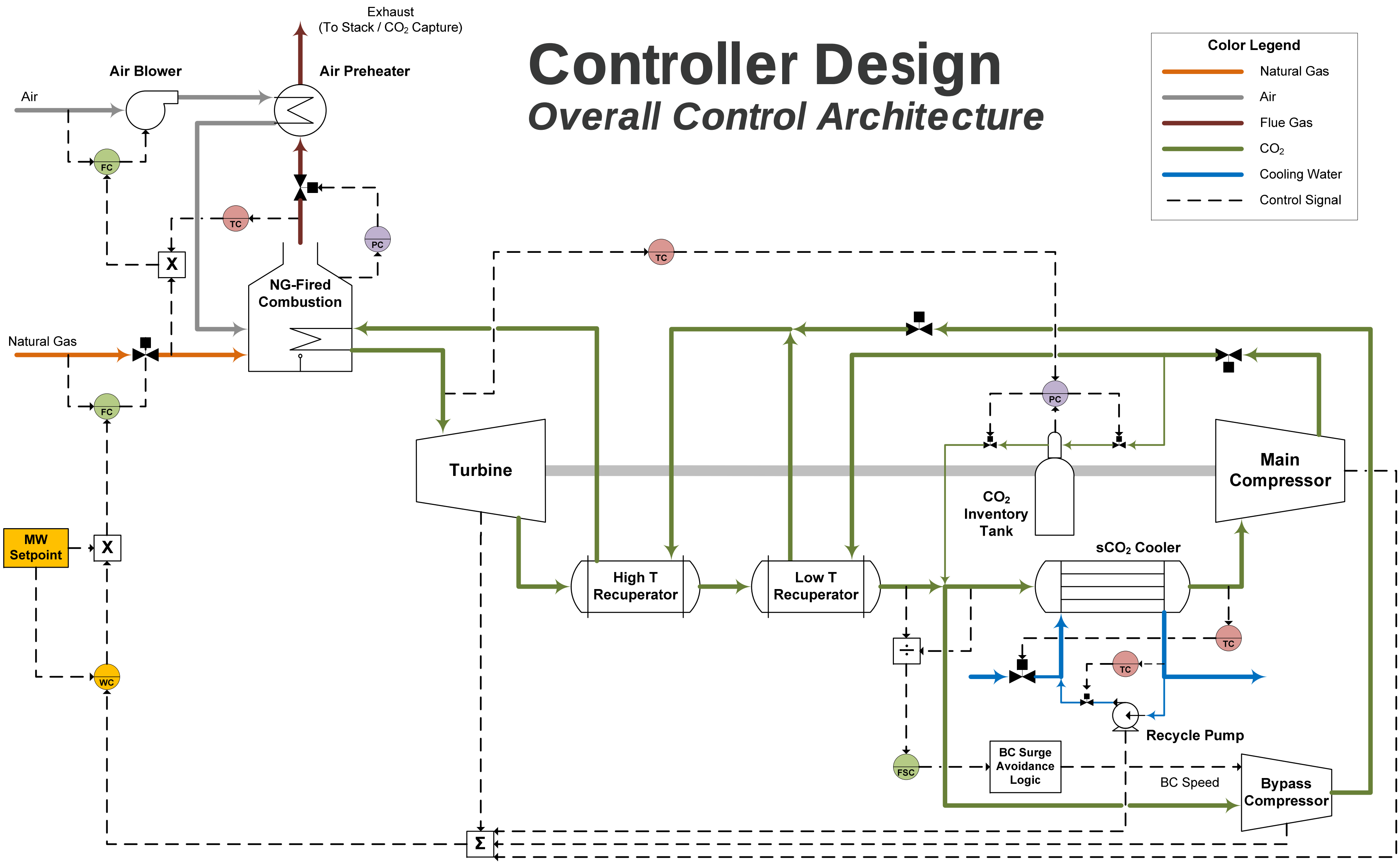
Bypass-Compressor Surge Avoidance



- Disable FSC once BC Surge approaches 10%
- Aggressive controller tuning for SrgC

Controller Design

Overall Control Architecture



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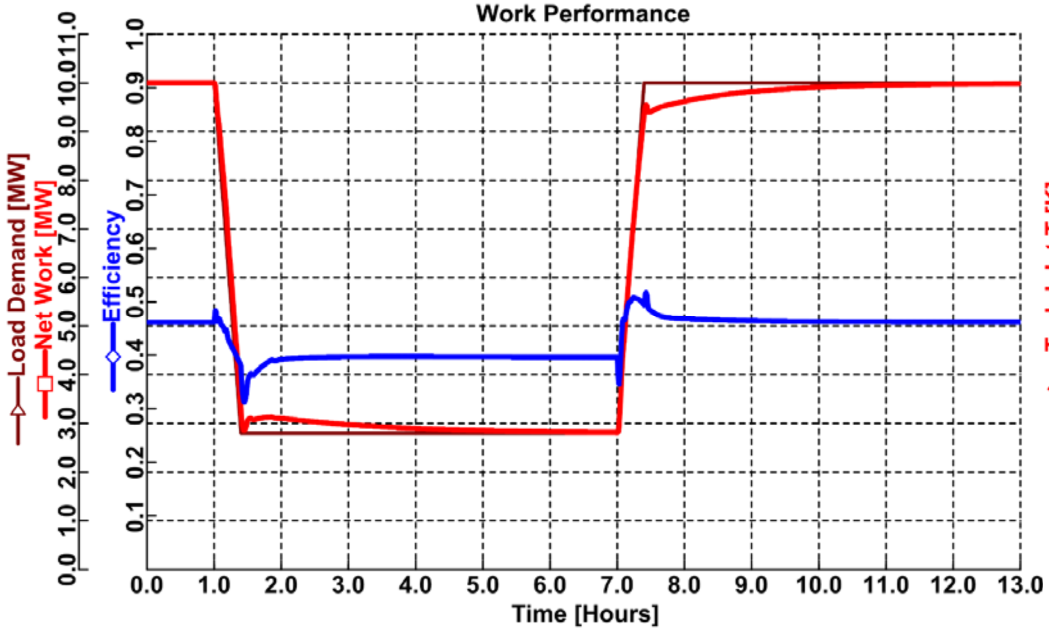
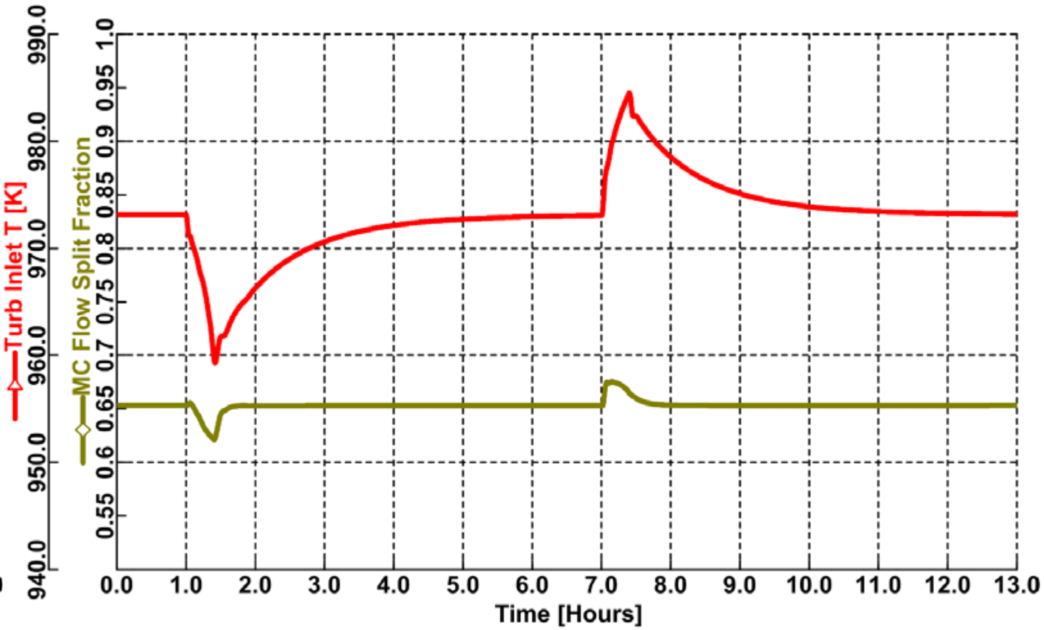
Control Response – Results

Large-ramps in MW demand (72% turn-down @3%/min)





- Actual Net-Work closely following MW Demand throughout ramp
- TIT well controlled (± 15K) within limits
- Minor offshoots in efficiency adherent to TIT response
- Main-Bypass flow-split tightly controlled

Control Response – Results

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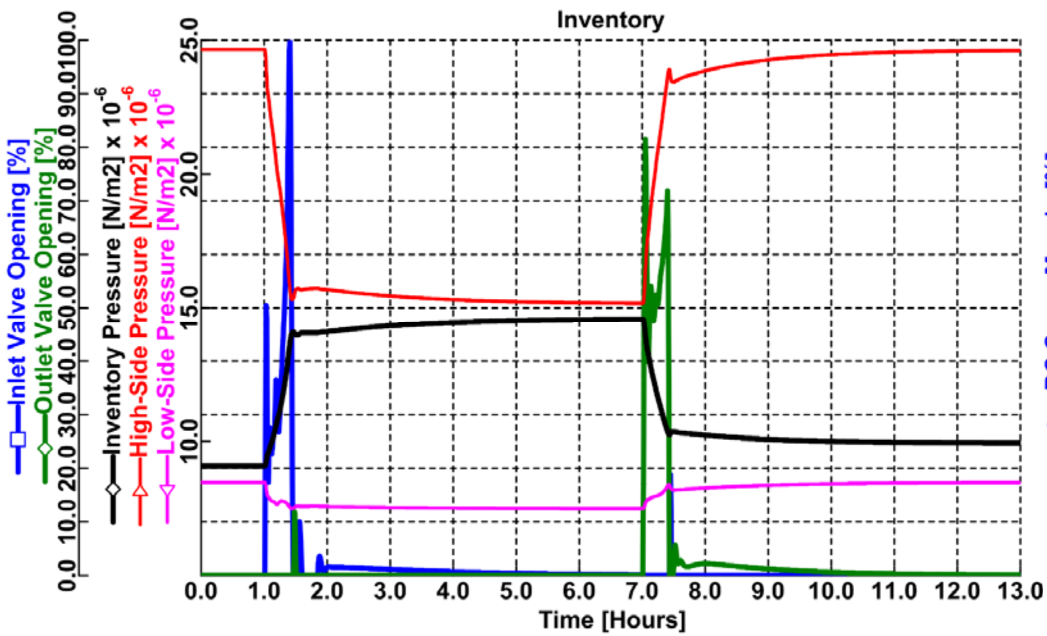

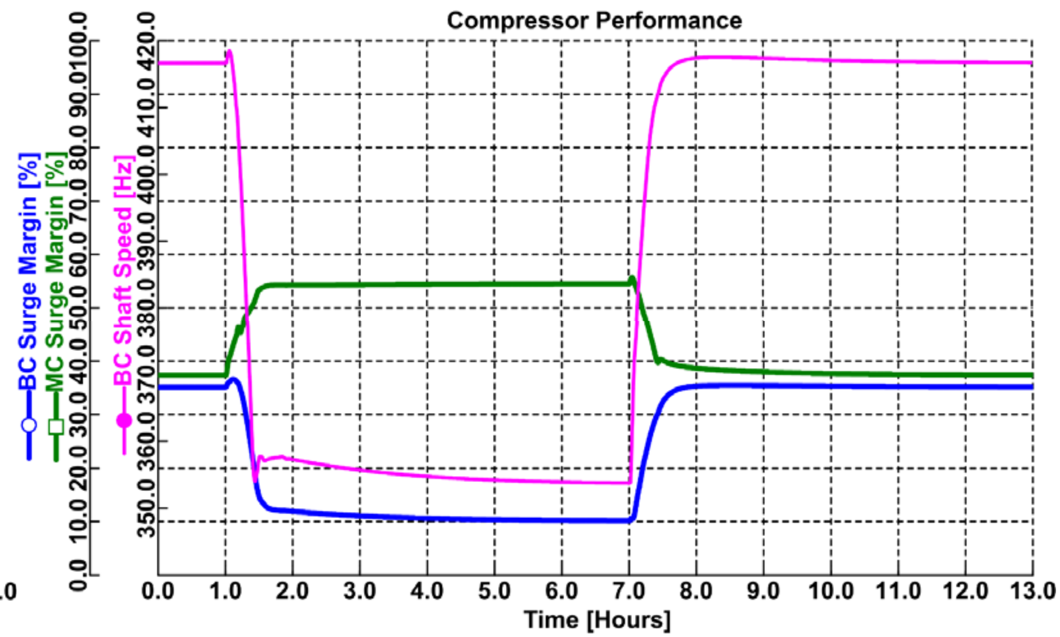

- Bypass Compressor remains above 10% surge-limit
- BC Shaft Speed decreases to maintain flow-split

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Conclusions

- Identified primary control objectives for "fast" and efficient control performance during rapid transients
- Developed advanced regulatory control-strategies to meet control objectives

Future Work
10MWe sCO_2 Recompression Brayton Cycle

- **Numerous scenarios to investigate**
  - Startup, Shutdown, Trips…
  - Simple cycle
- **Numerous control approaches to try**
  - E.g., Switch TIT and load control signals
  - More advanced control approaches
- **Dedicated compressor surge-control for complete shutdown**
  - Spill-back streams on main & bypass controllers
- **Non-grid connected operation**
  - Agent-based control compared to PID control for turbine speed control
- **Improve simulation robustness**

Websites and Contact Information

Office of Fossil Energy: www.energy.gov/fe/office-fossil-energy

NETL: www.netl.doe.gov/

sCO_2 Technology
Program: www.netl.doe.gov/research/coal/energy-systems/sco2-technology