

# Optimized field balancing using Model Based Balancing (MBB) Application to Ringhals 32

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# Introduction & Motivation



## Balancing of flexible Rotors with MBB

Why is site balancing needed ?

- In the life time of a machine train, rotor balancing usually cannot be avoided to meet vibration criteria which ensure long term integrity of the different components including shafts and bearings
- Typical site balancing
  - > is conducted using the Influence Coefficients (IC's) method
  - has two main drawbacks





## Balancing of flexible Rotors with MBB

Influence coefficients method drawbacks



#### Because...

- Test runs are needed to gather IC's  $\rightarrow$  1 test run per plane
- Unit needs to be stopped/cooled down/restarted → ranges from time consuming to very time consuming when hot sections (i.e. HP) or H2-filled generators need to be accessed

#### Because...

- Usually on the critical path (end of inspection or forced outage) → last step before the unit goes back to commercial operation
  - Not all required test runs always performed («one plane approach»)
  - Compromises regarding selection of balancing planes
- High customer expectations





#### Balancing of flexible Rotors with MBB

Why MBB will help ?

Idea supporting the new approach

Replace all field test runs required for final balancing of the unit by model-based run-ups

→ virtual influence vectors generated via digital twin

**Expected key benefits** 

Maximized availability on the balanced unit (shorter inspections/outages)

Cost reduction of the balancing activity

No compromise on the balancing quality

#### Preconditions

OEM knowledge for accurate calculation models including all significant effects

Tight collaboration between R&D and execution teams

**System linearity** as for any balancing activity



# Balancing of flexible Rotors using influence coefficients



Theoretical approach...

• IC's are output / input ratios.... compensation plane 3 measurement plane 2 Influence Coefficient compensation plane 2 measurement plane 1 compensation plane 1  $\alpha_{ik}(\Omega) = \frac{x_i(\Omega)}{1 - 1}$  $(\mathbf{K} + j\Omega \mathbf{D} - \Omega^2 \mathbf{M}) \mathbf{x}(\Omega)$  $(\Omega)$  $\boldsymbol{F}(\Omega) = \boldsymbol{U} \cdot \Omega^2$ System parameters  $U_k = m_k \cdot e_k$ 

Influence Coefficients: complex ratio of the response  $x_i$  to a given unbalance  $U_k$  (the testweight)



Practical approach... a simple example









Practical approach... a simple example







# Replacing measured IC's by virtual ones



#### How MBB replaces measurements





#### How MBB replaces measurements



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#### How to produce model-based virtual IC's





#### Inputs for balancing actions

**Example of Generator rotor balancing** 



Presentation Title

0

Ò

at

**1kg Unbalance Mass** 

at 0°

**1kg Unbalance Mass** 

=:

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## Previous experiences with MBB



#### **MBB** experience

Benefits seen on every occasions

- Applied to > 8 power plants
- Typical reduction around 30...50% of the total balancing time

• Success rate: 100 %





#### Feedbacks from the field

Benefits seen on every occasions

"The customer could return the machine to the load dispatcher two days earlier, which was a huge benefit for them"



660MW fossil plant UK "The customer was satisfied with the success of the balancing.

Especially considering the fact that two years ago a third party needed 5 balancing runs for LP balancing and had less success with the reached vibration level"

**"U**sing the calculated influence coefficients it was possible to balance with one balancing run. The customer was very satisfied! Normally three balance runs would be necessary for a comparable task."

550MW fossil plant <sub>Germany</sub>









# MBB for Ringhals 32



#### Ringhals 32 - shaft line configuration

**Required information** 





#### Ringhals 32 - IC's calculation

Example case – LP1.1 / relative shaft vibration (plane 3 & 4)





#### Ringhals 32 - results validation

**Calculation vs measurement** 



#### Ringhals 32 - results validation

**Calculation vs measurement** 



#### **Good matching!**

Assumptions taken still need to be validated













Influence of OIL GRADE on IC's at nominal speed



# Conclusion



#### Conclusions

MBB principles and applicability to RINGHALS 32

- MBB aims at replacing measured IC's by calculated IC's produced via digital twin → time and costs benefits
- Relevance has been demonstrated by various successful applications on the field confirming expected savings
- Applicability to **Ringhals 32** is confirmed
- More results to come...



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# Back up



#### MBB workflow

**X-business collaboration** 

#### R&D and service collaboration for solving field balancing issue in a **timely manner**





## Critical review of balancing by using IC's

#### **Advantages**

- Test runs automatically contain in-situ conditions (rotor, bearings, pedestals, foundations)
- Very well suited for "off-resonance" balancing i.e. operating speed
- Need little system knowledge
- Typically only a few balancing planes

#### Disadvantages

- Test runs very time consuming, esp. for generator & HP balancing planes (>12h per run)
- No a-priori knowledge about most suitable BP's



## Dynamic behavior of flexible Rotors

- All rotors have a unknown, residual unbalance distribution
- During runup, several critical speeds are passed.
  → eigenforms are excited by the suitable «modal» part of the unbalance → vibration shape and effective unbalance is speed dependent
- At operating speed, rotors are typically offresonance
  - $\rightarrow$  vibration shape is composed out of numerous eigenforms  $\rightarrow$  accurate models needed









#### Extension to multiple BP's



