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# The Role of Pinch Analysis for Industrial ORC Integration

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# Outline

- 1. What is pinch analysis?
- 2. Integration of ORCs with pinch analysis
- 3. Mineral Processing Industry Case study



## What is a **«Pinch Analysis»**?

- A different perspective on production plants and infrastructure
- A system orientated method for the determination of the optimal use of energy and plant design under the constraint of minimal cost (investment and operation)
- «Energy optimization based on a systematic approach instead of Trial-and-Error»



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#### Principle of Pinch Analysis: Composite Curves (CCs)





### **Benefits of a Pinch Analysis**

- Holistic optimization of
  - Plant design, utility system
  - Energy efficiency
  - Investment and operating costs
- Quantification of the *absolute* energy savings potential
- Strategic planning of proposed optimization measures
- Reduction of the energy demand typically 10-40%





#### **Special Characteristics of the Pinch Point**



The pinch divides the entire system typically into two subsystems with

heat deficit

above the pinch and

 heat surplus below the pinch.



#### The «3 Golden Rules» of Pinch Analysis



- No external cooling above the pinch
- No heat transfer over the pinch
- No external heating below the pinch

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#### Grand Composite Curve (GCC)



- Heat deficit and surplus are shown in relation to temperature
- Enables the determination of the amount of waste heat



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#### How does one integrate an ORC?

CU = Cold Utility

#### A first option:



# ORC operates over the pinch

#### «False» Integration:

The heat deficit is increased by the amount of electrical power generated and condenser heat. The heat surplus is increased by the amount of condenser heat. Both a higher heating and cooling requirement results.



#### How does one integrate an ORC?

#### A second option:



### ORC operates above the pinch

«Suboptimal» Integration:

The heat deficit is increased by the amount of electrical power generated leading to a higher heating requirement



#### How does one integrate an ORC?

A third option:



ORC operates below the pinch «Correct» Integration: The ORC reduces the cooling

demand of the process and the associated operating costs.

HU = Hot Utility CU = Cold Utility



#### How does one integrate an ORC?





Energy optimization project in European company:



- Mineral processing using furnances and after burners
- Heating a Cooling Requirements dominated by air and water streams
- Continuous operation (5500 h/y)







Integration of an ORC: combustion gases as source



- Integration of ORC produces 105 kW electrical energy
- Reduction of the CU demand to approx.
  6790 kW







Cost Analysis for ORC Integration

<b>ORC Installed Cost (special heat</b>	1'600'000 Euro
exchanger material)	
Maintenance Cost	40'000 Euro/y
Total Cost Savings	65'000 Euro/y

The results show more applied research and development is needed along with additional support to promote development and application of ORC technology in industry.

#### Conclusions

- «Correctly» integrated ORC operate below the pinch to produce electricity and reduce CU demand - Heat recovery measures to be considered first
- Mineral processing case study shows the proper integration of an ORC
- Over the last years, a dedicated engineering tool (PinCH 3.0) has been developed to support the application of the pinch method incl. ORC integration







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### Thank you for your attention!

