

Transient Introduction

R504B – Chapter 5

Objectives

1. Given a transient curve:
 - At selected points, explain what caused the parameter to change.
 - At selected areas of the curve, explain why the parameter is trending in that area.
 - State the cause of the transient (initiating event).
2. Given a plant transient scenario, explain the behavior of selected parameters, control systems, and equipment for the time designated in the scenario.

Types of Transients Presented

Anticipated Operational Occurrences (10 CFR 50 Appendix A):

Those conditions of normal operation which are expected to occur one or more times during the life of the plant

All start at 100% power with NO Operator Action

NO Design Basis Accidents

- LOCAs
- MSLBs
- Rod Drop
- ATWS

AOO EXAMPLES

INCREASE IN HEAT REMOVAL BY THE SECONDARY SYSTEM

- EHC system failure that results in increased steam flow
- Turbine bypass valves fail open
- Safety relief valve lifting

DECREASE IN HEAT REMOVAL BY THE SECONDARY SYSTEM

- EHC system malfunction that results in decreased steam flow
- Generator load reject/Loss of off-site power
- Turbine trip
- Loss of condenser vacuum or condenser cooling
- MSIV closure

DECREASE IN RCS FLOW RATE

- Recirculation pump trip (single and dual)
- Recirculation pump runbacks
- Recirculation Flow Control system failure that results in decreased flow

AOO EXAMPLES

INCREASE IN REACTOR COOLANT INVENTORY

- HPCI Initiation
- FWC failure that results in increased feedwater flow

DECREASE IN REACTOR COOLANT INVENTORY

- FWC failure that results in decreased feedwater flow
- SRV opening
- Loss of normal feedwater (total or partial loss)

REACTIVITY AND POWER DISTRIBUTION ANOMALIES

- Inadvertent control rod withdrawal or insertion
- Recirculation Flow Control system failure that results in increased flow
- Startup of an idle recirculation pump in a cold loop
- Loss of feedwater heating
- Operation with a fuel assembly in an improper position

Types of Transients Presented

These transients are a snapshot of a specific point in core life, power history and core design.

FSAR Chapter 15 analysis and accompanying transient graphs are based on worst case conditions.

Post-Trip reviews are required (Salem event) and each will depend on the specific circumstances involved (power history, time in life, equipment OOS etc...).

Strip Chart Protocol

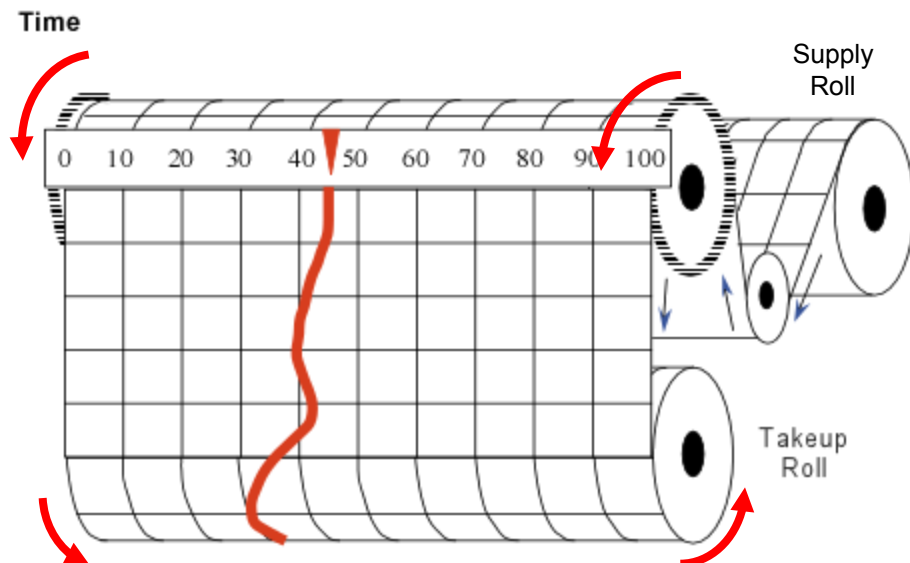
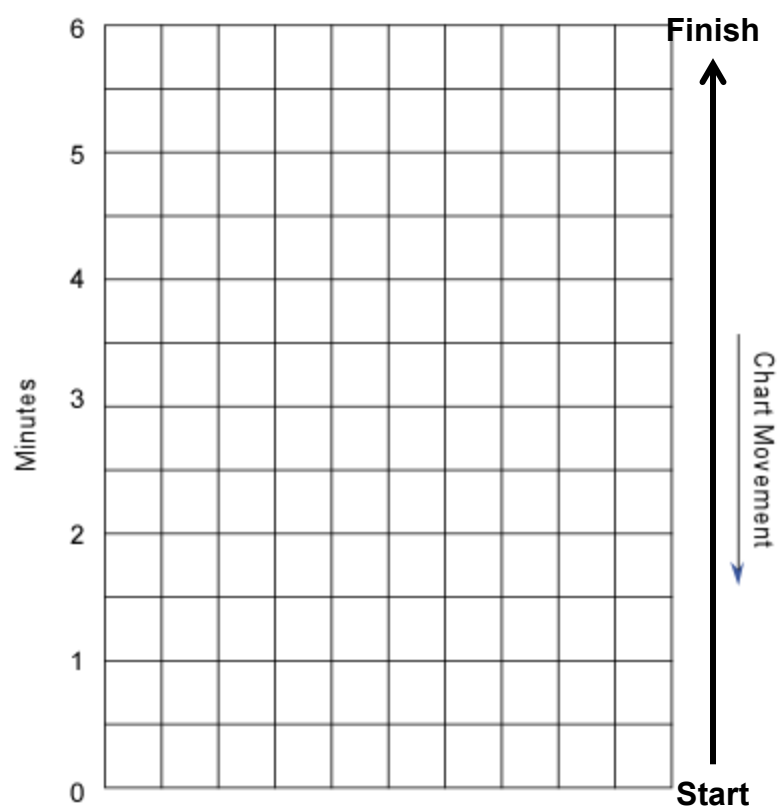


Chart Recorder



Digital Recorder

Transient Parameters Recorded

Average Power Range Monitor (APRM) 'A'

Reactor Pressure (PSIG)

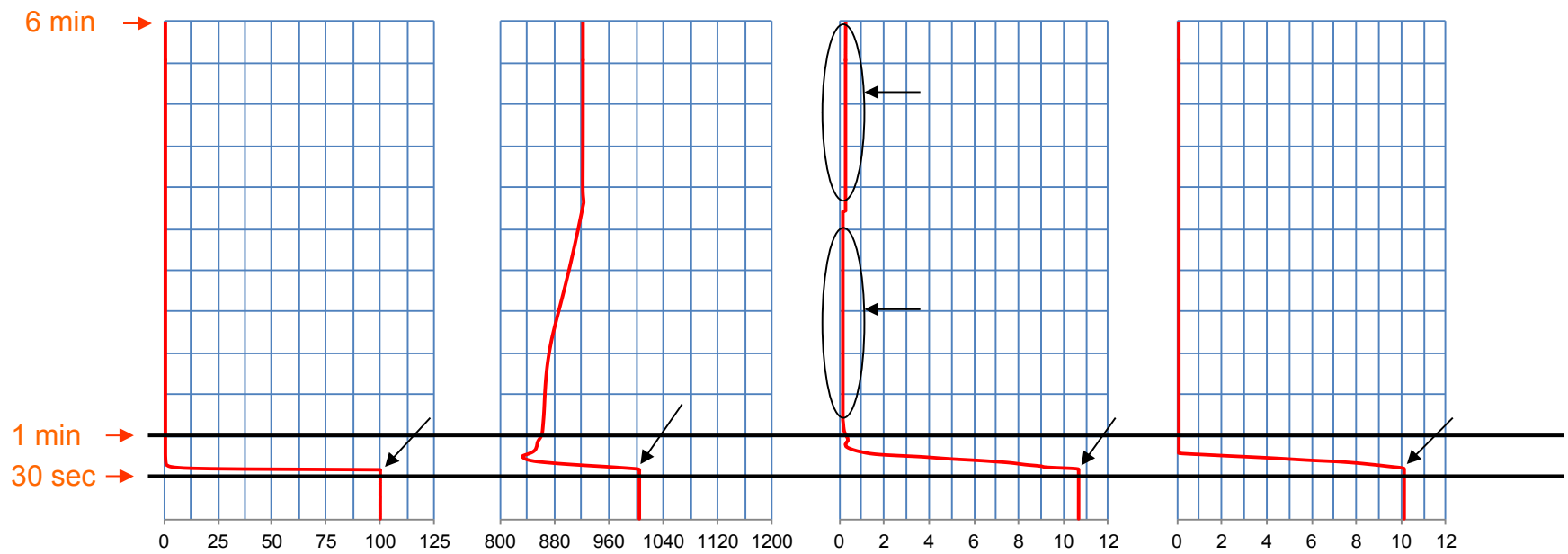
Total Reactor Steam Flow (Mlbm/hr)

Turbine Steam Flow (Mlbm/hr)

Total Feedwater Flow (Mlbm/hr)

Narrow Range Reactor Water Level (in)

Total Core Flow (Mlbm/hr)

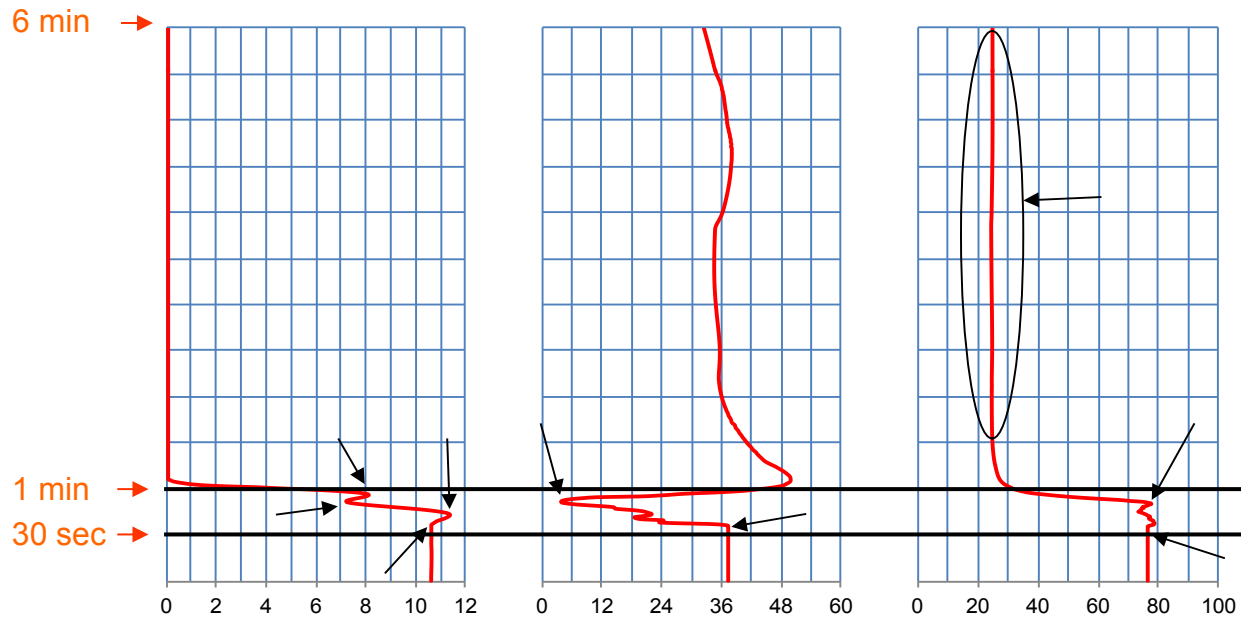


Power

Pressure

Rx Steam Flow

Turbine Steam Flow



Feed Flow

Level

Core Flow

Typical Transient
Need to know what is causing the parameter to change at the arrows

Setpoint Sheet Provided

Reactor Level

- Level 1 (-132.5)** Initiate CS **AND** LPCI, Start EDG, ADS signal, **AND** Isolate MSIVs
- Level 2 (-38)** Initiate RCIC and HPCI, RWCU **and** other selected system isolations **AND** ATWS-ARI **AND** ATWS-RPT
- Level 3 (12.5)** Reactor scram, Recirc pump runback to 30%, ADS signal **AND** RHR Isolation signal
- Level 4 (33.5)** Low level alarm, **AND** permissive for Recirc pump runback to 40%
- Level 7 (40.5)** High level alarm
- Level 8 (56.5)** Trip of main turbine, RFP, RCIC, **AND** HPCI

Setpoint Sheet Provided

Reactor Pressure (psig)

50 & 100	RCIC & HPCI Isolations
125	RHR SDC Isolation
310	Reactor Recirculation loop discharge valves close during LOCA
338 & 465	Permissive for LPCI AND CS injection valve opening on a LOCA
1025	High Pressure Alarm
1043	High Pressure Reactor Scram
1115/1125/1135	4/4/3 SRVs Safety Mode Opening Pressures
1120	ATWS-RPT AND ATWS-ARI

Main Steam Line Pressure (psig)

825	Closes MSIVs in RUN Mode
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Setpoint Sheet Provided

Condenser Vacuum (inches of Hg vacuum)

- 25.0** Low Condenser Vacuum alarm
- 22.5** Turbine trip
- 20.0** RFP trip
- 8.5** MSIV closure
- 7** BPV closure

Turbine First Stage Pressure (%)

- 30%** Bypass EOC-RPT **AND** Reactor Scrams (due to TSV closure & TCV fast closure) if <30% power as sensed by first stage pressure

Setpoint Sheet Provided

Drywell Pressure (psig)

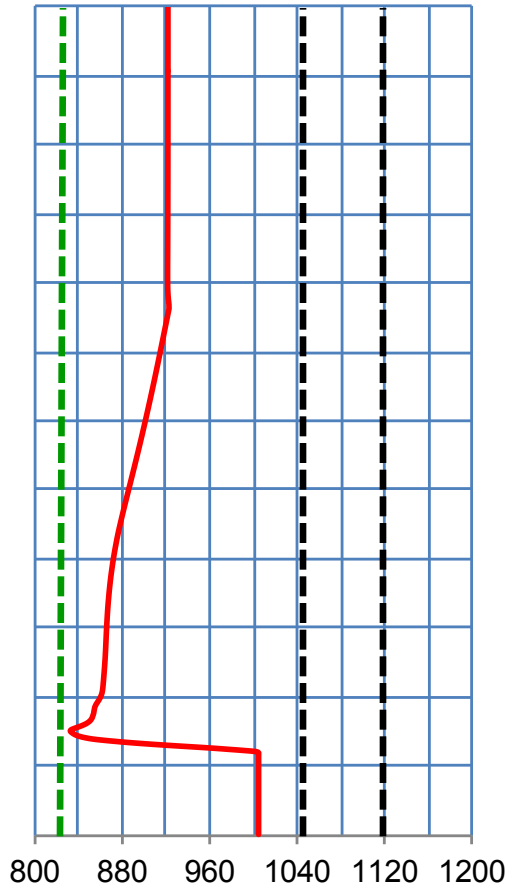
- 0.75** High pressure alarm
- 1.69** LOCA Signal: Initiate HPCI, CS **AND** RHR, Start D/G and RBSVS, **AND** isolation signal for selected plant systems

FWCS Steam Flow (%)

- 20%** RWM rod blocks bypassed at > 20% power as sensed by steam flow
- 30%** RWM Alarms bypassed at > 30% power as sensed by steam flow

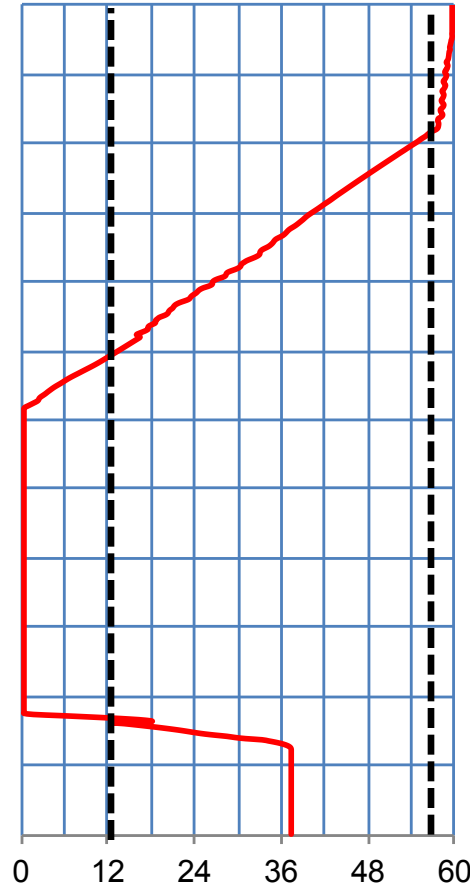
Setpoints Available on Graphs

Pressure



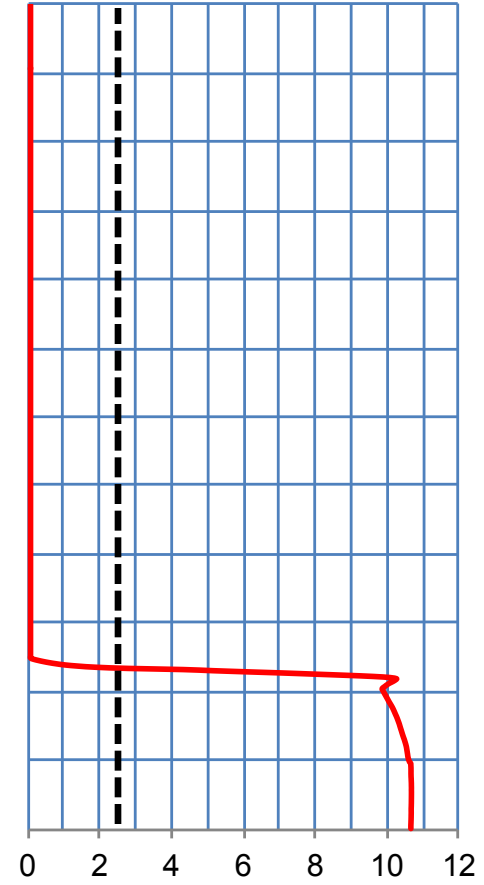
1120 psig – ATWS-RPT
1043 psig – RPS Trip
825 psig – Group 1 Isol
(Header Pressure)

Level



Level 8 – Turb trip, RFP Trip
Level 3 – RPS Trip, 30%
Limiter
Level 2 – ATWS-RPT, HPCI Init
(Off the Chart)

Feed Flow



20% FW Flow – Recirc
Pump 30% Limiter

What Affects These Parameters?

Average Power Range Monitor (APRM) 'A'

Reactor Pressure (PSIG)

Total Reactor Steam Flow (Mlbm/hr)

Turbine Steam Flow (Mlbm/hr)

Total Feedwater Flow (Mlbm/hr)

Narrow Range Reactor Water Level (in)

Total Core Flow (Mlbm/hr)

Power (APRM)

Power: Changes with Reactivity Changes

- Rods: Scram, RMCS, Rod Drift in or out
- Voids:
 - Recirc Flow
 - Pressure changes
- FTC: Fuel Time Constant
- Core Inlet Subcooling
- Poison: SLC

Power (APRM)

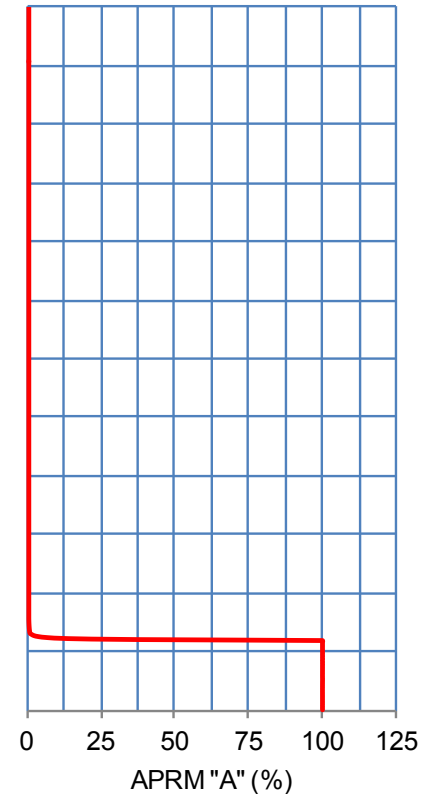
Control Rods

- Rapid change
- Insertion adds negative reactivity
- Scram causes power to rapidly go to zero

Power (APRM)

Power: Scram (RPS Setpoints in TS)

- Hi Power (APRM)
- Hi Pressure (1043 psig)
- Low Level (Level 3)
- Turbine Trip (manual, lo vacuum, Level 8)
- MSIV Closure (manual, low MS press, lo vacuum)
- High Drywell Pressure (not an AOO)
- Other (manual, High SDV level, ARI actuation)



Power (APRM)

Voids

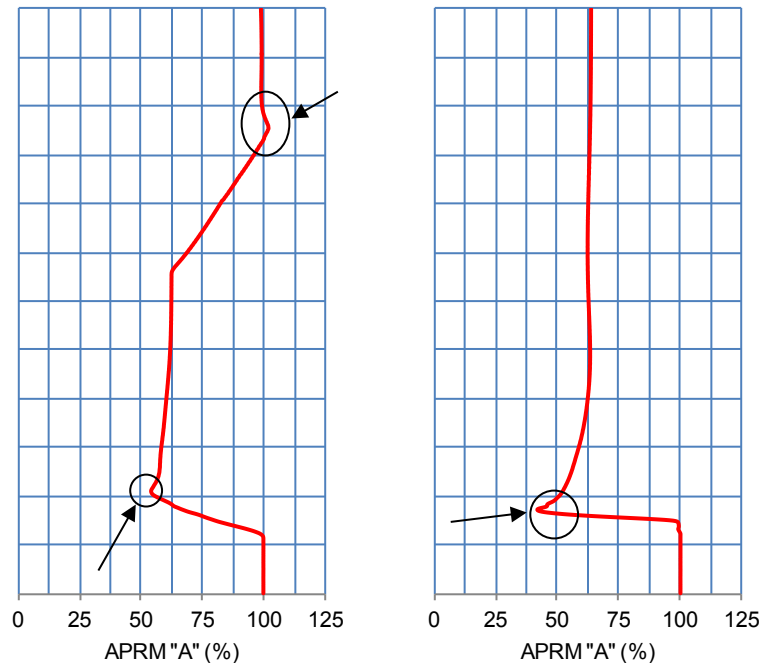
- Affect moderator density: reactivity
- Increased voids adds negative reactivity
 - Reduced core flow
 - Pressure drop
- Void reduction adds positive reactivity
 - Increase in core flow
 - Pressure increase

Power (APRM)

Fuel Time Constant (power overshoot if critical)

On downpower, fuel temp takes some time to cool which will add positive reactivity and increase power

On power increase, fuel temp takes some time to heat up which will add negative reactivity and decrease power.



Power (APRM)

Core Inlet Subcooling

Some of the power generated in the core has to be used to heat the incoming water to saturation:

- The colder the water (the greater the subcooling), the higher the power needed to generate the same amount of steam.
- The warmer the water (the lower the subcooling), the less reactor power needed to generate the same amount of steam.

Power (APRM)

Core Inlet Subcooling

Core inlet temperature is determined by the amount of subcooled feedwater and its temperature and the amount of saturated water returning to the annulus from the moisture separator drains and steam dryer drains.

$$\dot{m}_{fw} T_{fw} + \dot{m}_{drains} T_{sat} = \dot{m}_{core\ inlet} T_{core\ inlet}$$

Where the ratio of drain flow (\dot{m}_{drains}) to feed flow (\dot{m}_{fw}) is approximately 6 to 1

Power (APRM)

Core Inlet Subcooling

If $\dot{m}_{fw} \uparrow$ or $T_{fw} \downarrow$, $T_{core\ inlet} \downarrow$ and subcooling \uparrow : power \uparrow

- Reducing Turbine Steam Flow (lower power level):
Less extraction steam to FW heaters and more condensate depression resulting in lower feedwater temperature and increasing power gradually over several minutes.
- HPCI or RCIC initiation causes feed temperature to lower (cold CST water mixes in) causing a more rapid increase in power.

Power (APRM)

Core Inlet Subcooling

If $\dot{m}_{fw} \downarrow$ or $T_{fw} \uparrow$, $T_{core\ inlet} \uparrow$ and subcooling \downarrow : power \downarrow

- Rising Turbine Steam Flow (higher power level):
More extraction steam to FW heaters and less condensate depression resulting in higher feedwater temperature and lowering power gradually over several minutes.
- Single or Dual Feed Pump trip causes feedwater flow to drop significantly (less subcooled feedwater mixing with drains in annulus) causing a more rapid decrease in power.

Pressure

Pressure: changes with change in steam production rate (power) or steam demand

- Steam Production = Steam Demand,
Pressure is constant
- Steam Production > Steam Demand ,
Pressure ↑
- Steam Production < Steam Demand,
Pressure ↓

Pressure

Increase Steam Production rate, Pressure ↑

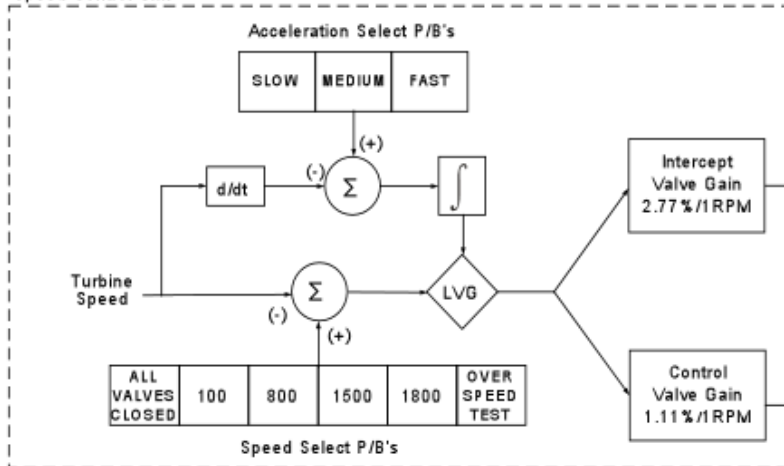
- Power ↑,
- Steam Production > Steam Demand ,
- Reactor Pressure ↑,
- Steam Header Pressure ↑,
- EHC system throttles TCVs open to match turbine load (steam demand) with reactor power (steam production)
- Pressure stabilizes at higher pressure

Pressure

Decrease Steam Production rate, Pressure ↓

- Power ↓,
- Steam Production < Steam Demand ,
- Reactor Pressure ↓,
- Steam Line Pressure ↓,
- EHC system throttles TCVs closed to match turbine load (steam demand) with reactor power (steam production)
- Pressure stabilizes at lower pressure

Speed Control Unit



100 % Opening Bias

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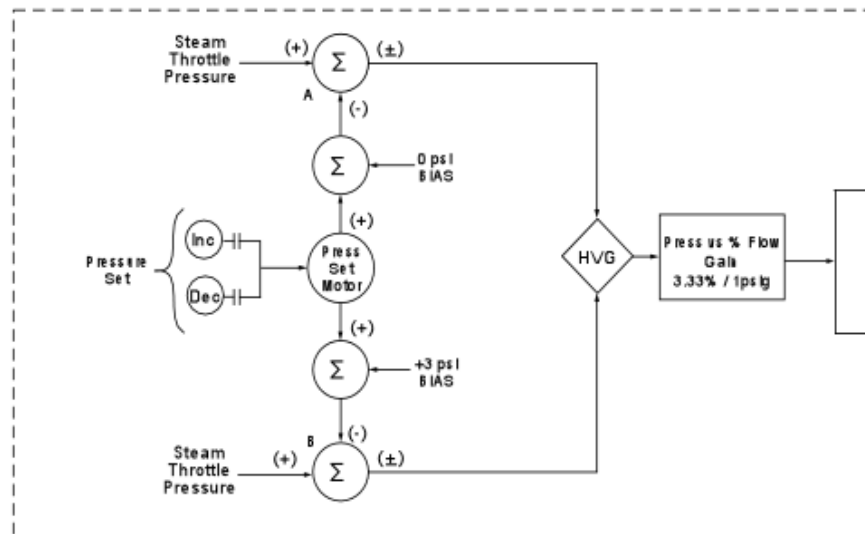
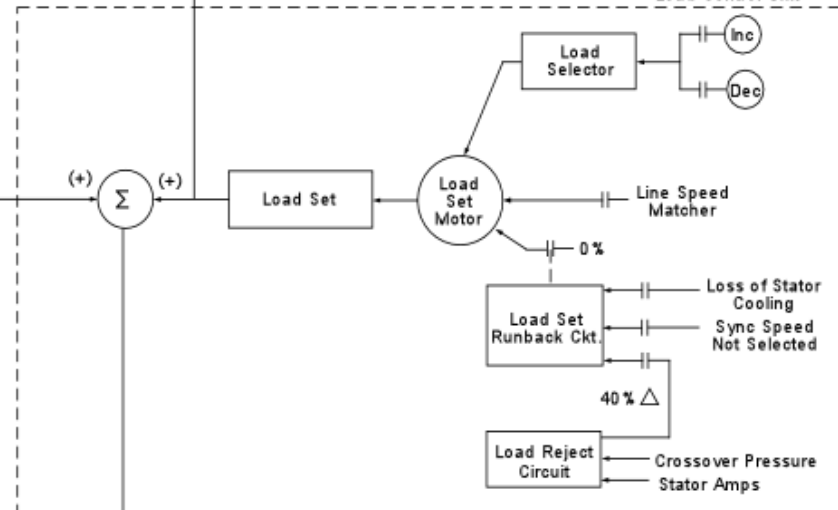
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Intercept Valve Demand

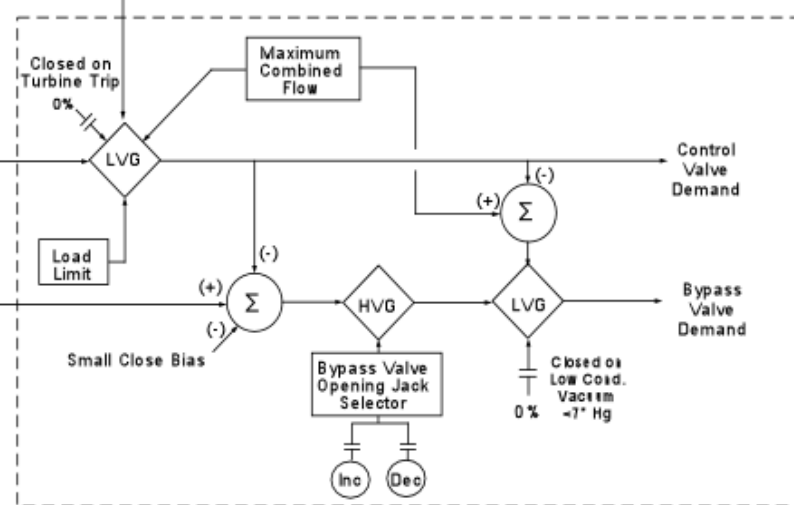
0 %

Closed on Turbine Trip

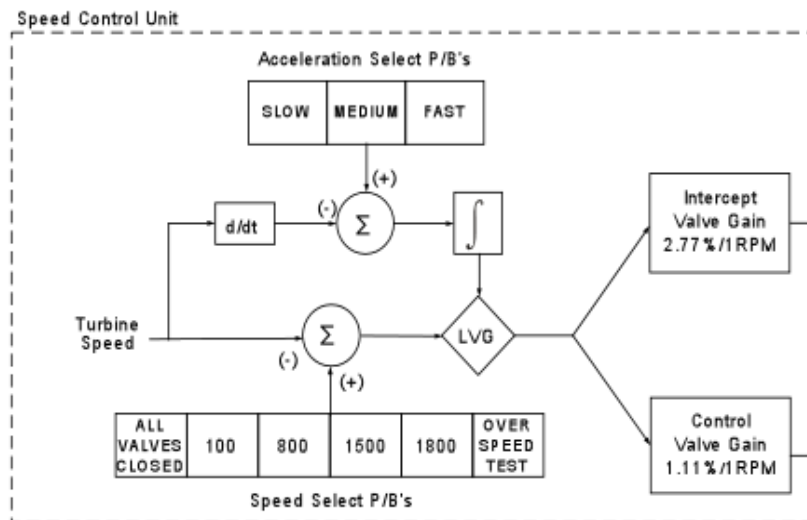
Load Control Unit



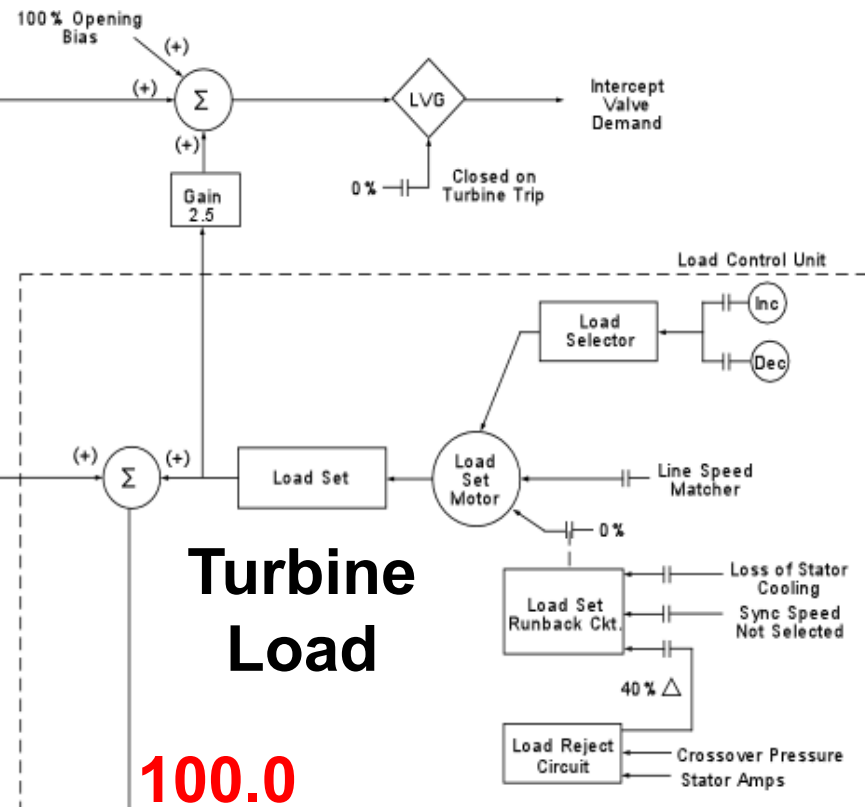
Pressure Control Unit



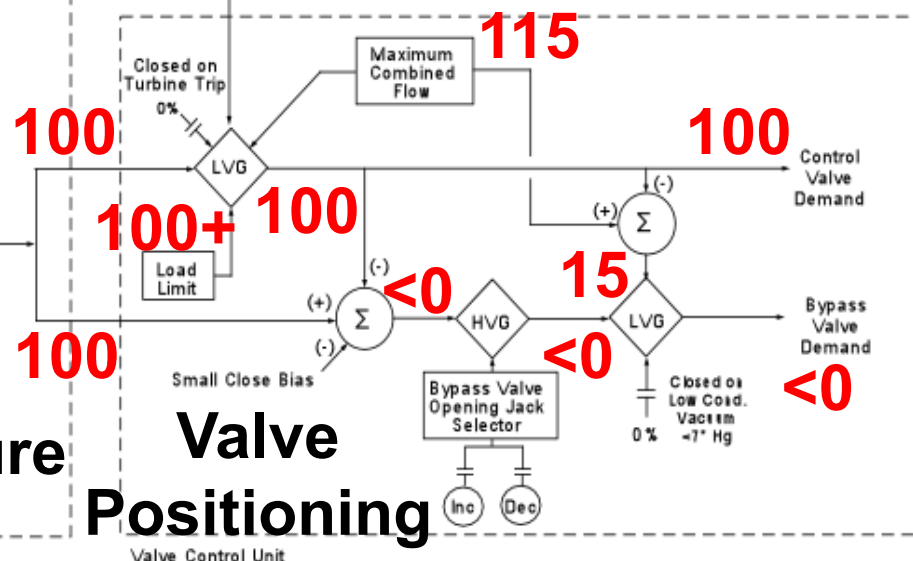
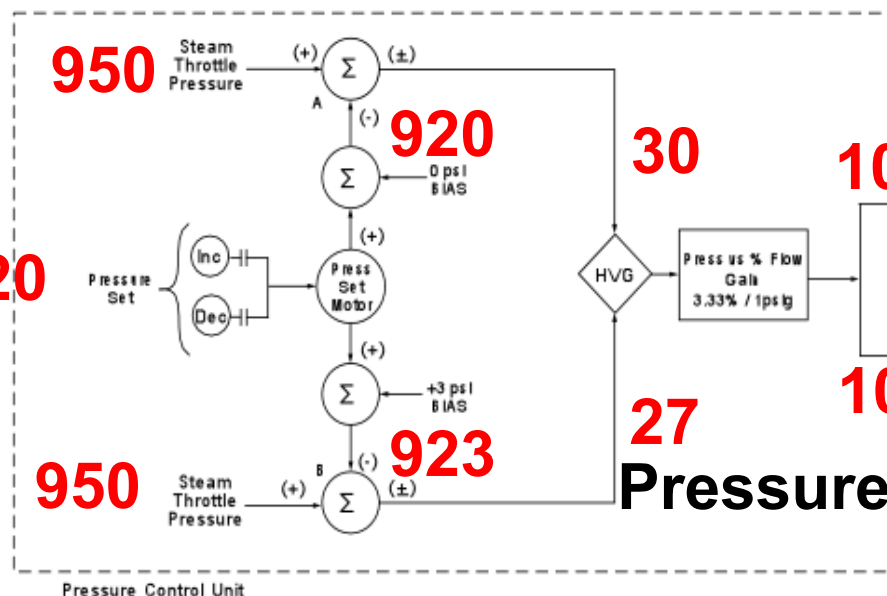
Valve Control Unit



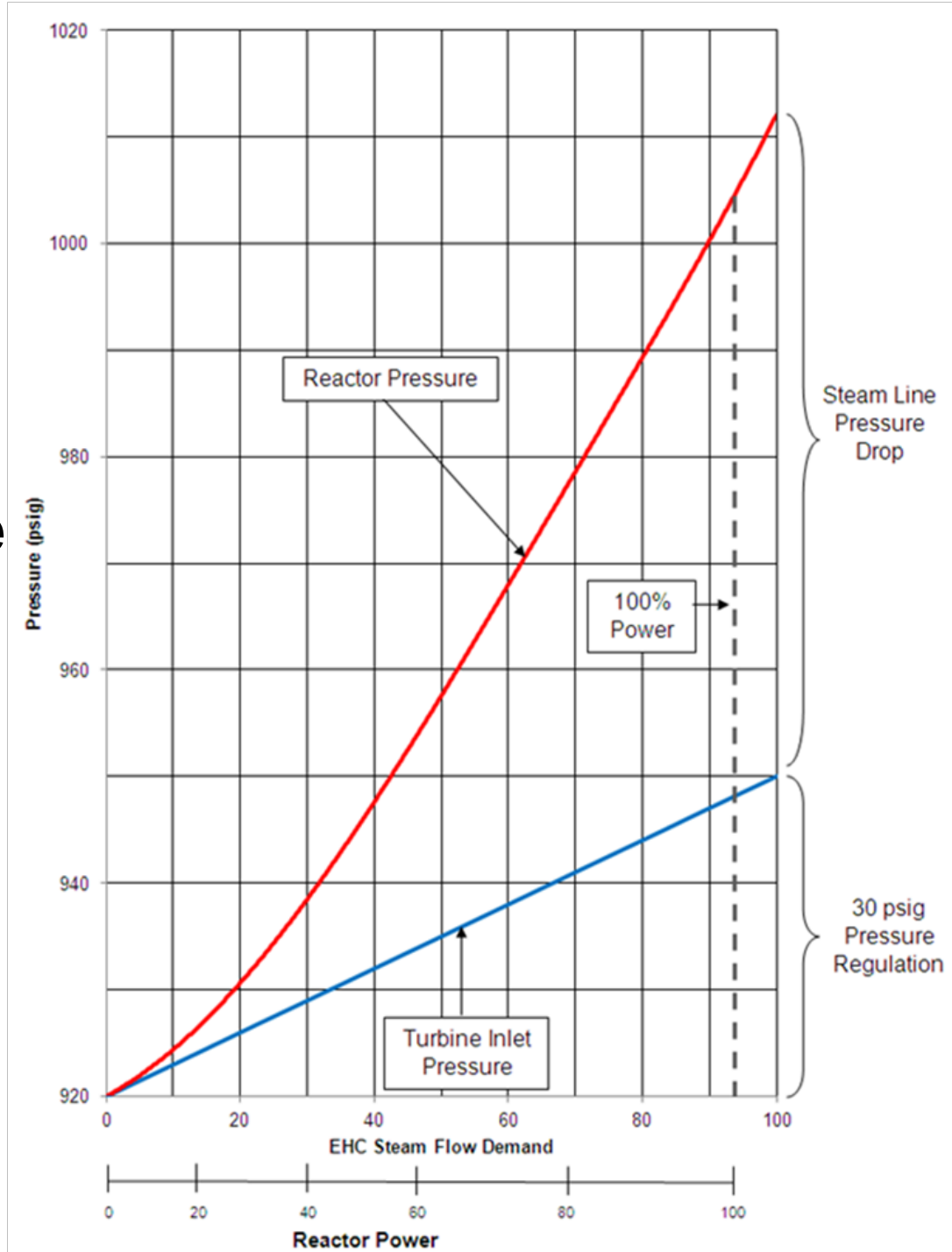
Speed and Acceleration



100.0



Reactor Pressure
VS
Steam Line Pressure
as a function of
Steam Flow
as controlled by
EHC Regulators



Reactor Pressure

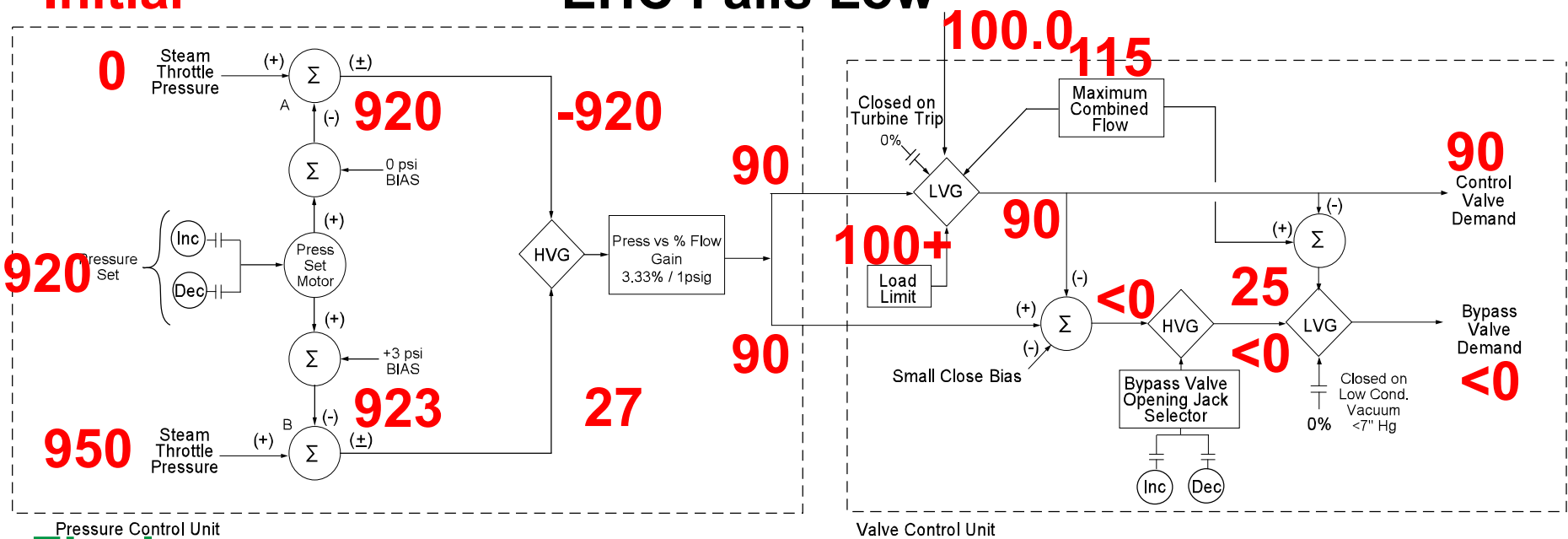
Decrease Steam Demand, Pressure ↑

- MSIV Closure
- Turbine Trip
- EHC Fails Low

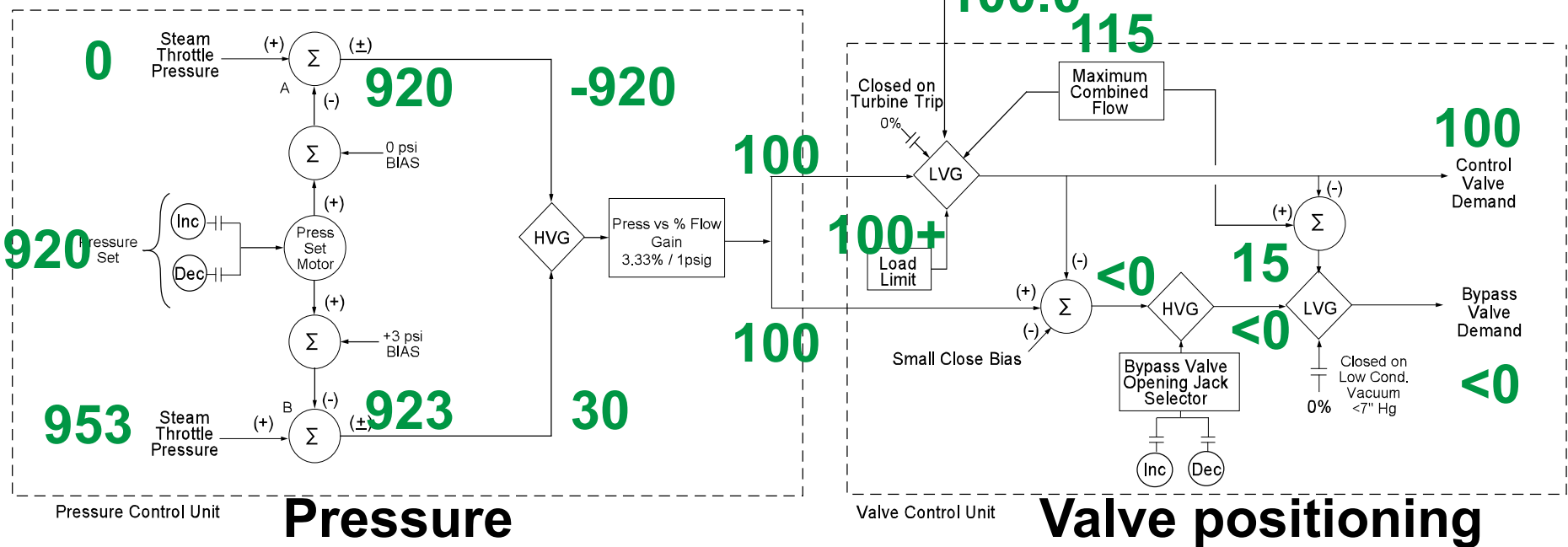
Increase Steam Demand, Pressure ↓

- SRV open
- BPV open
- EHC Fails High

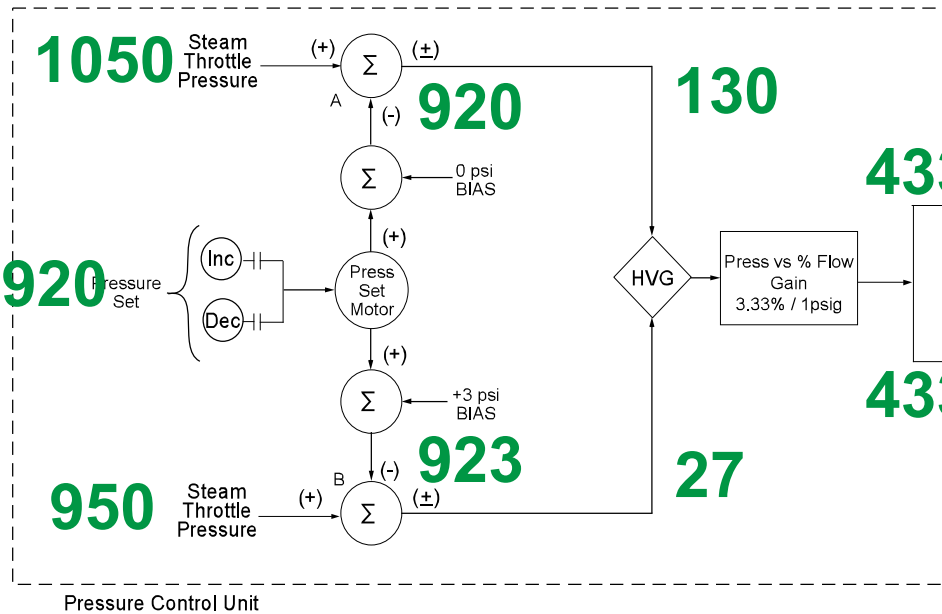
EHC Fails Low



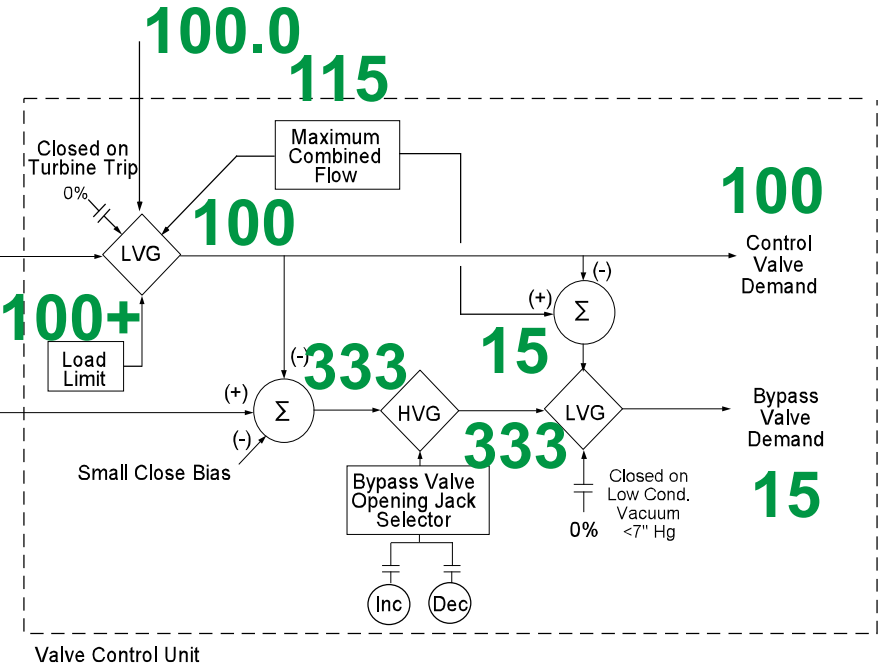
Final



EHC Fails High



Pressure



Valve positioning

Steam Flow

Turbine Steam Flow:

- EHC controls TCV position in response to Main Steam Line Pressure

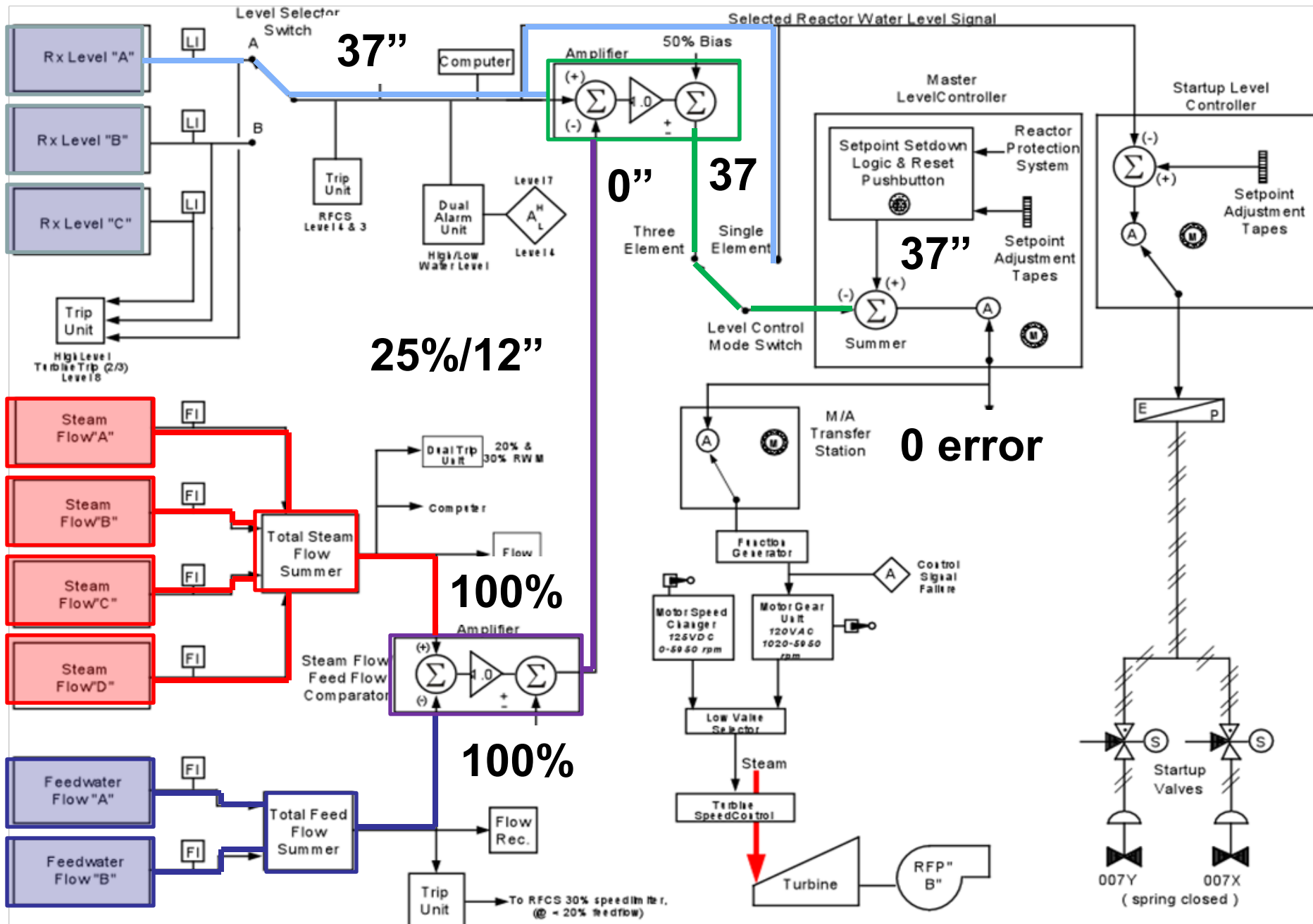
Reactor Steam Flow:

- Turbine Steam Flow + Bypass Valves (also controlled by EHC) + House Loads
 - Should follow turbine steam flow at power
 - Bypass and house loads post trip
 - Only stabilizes at zero if MSIVs shut

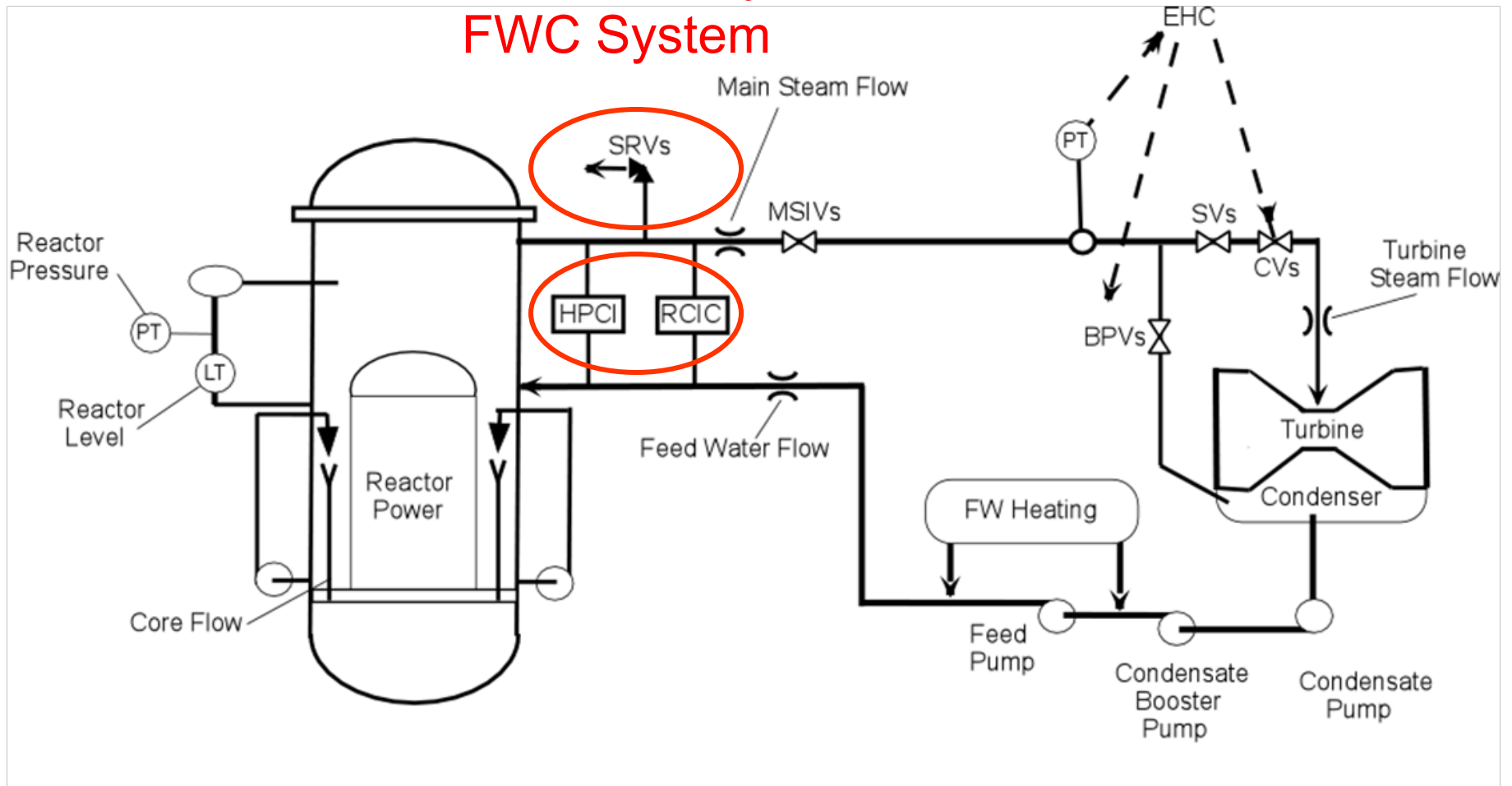
Feedwater Flow

Feedwater Flow:

- Controlled by FWC System based on:
 - Level Deviation from Setpoint, and
 - Steam Flow/Feed Flow Mismatch
- DP between RFP discharge and Vessel Pressure
 - Rapid change in vessel pressure impacts flow
- Setpoint Setdown post scram if Level 3 (18")



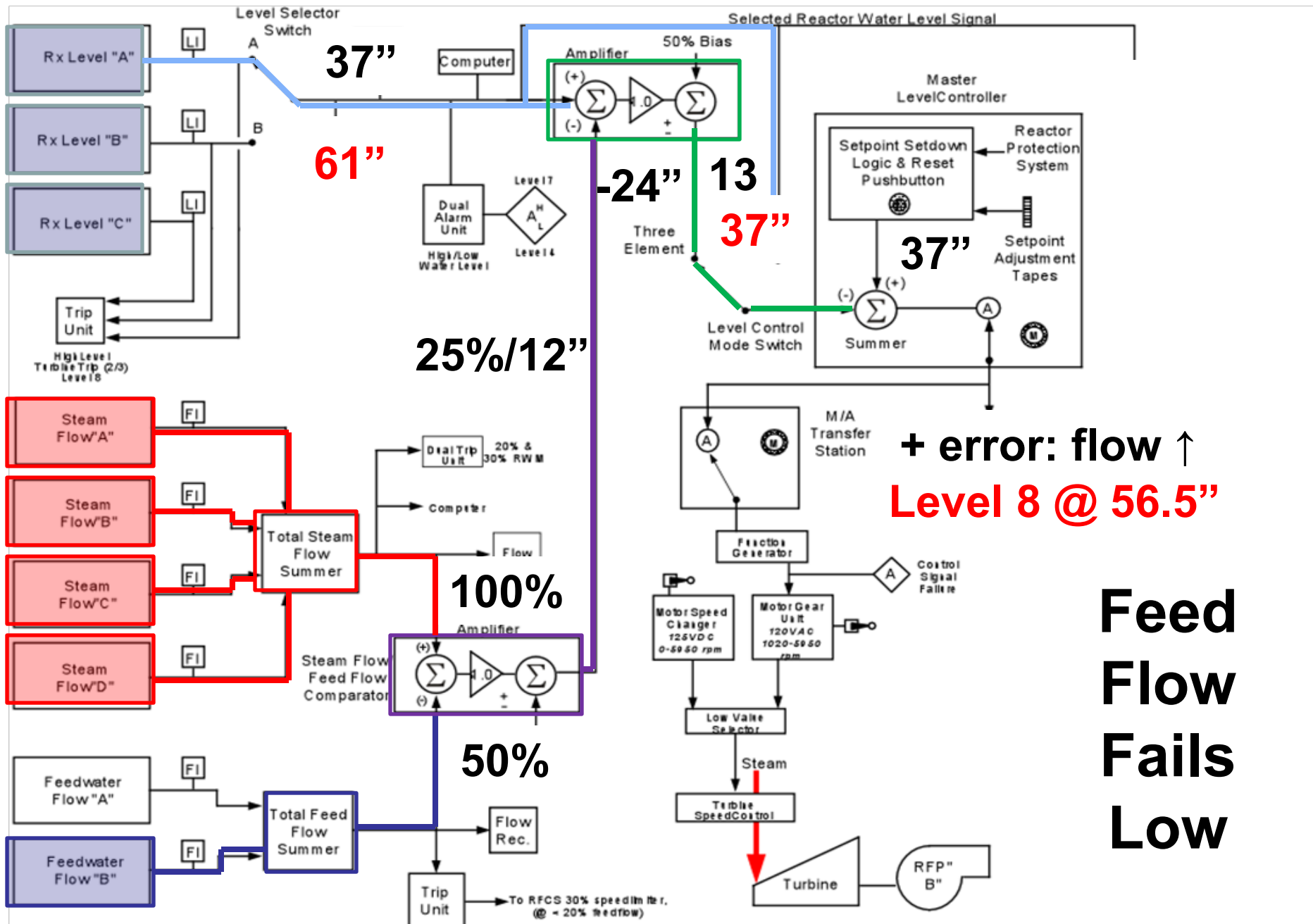
Steam and
Feed Flow
Not
Measured by
FWC System



Feedwater Flow

Increase in Inventory Events:

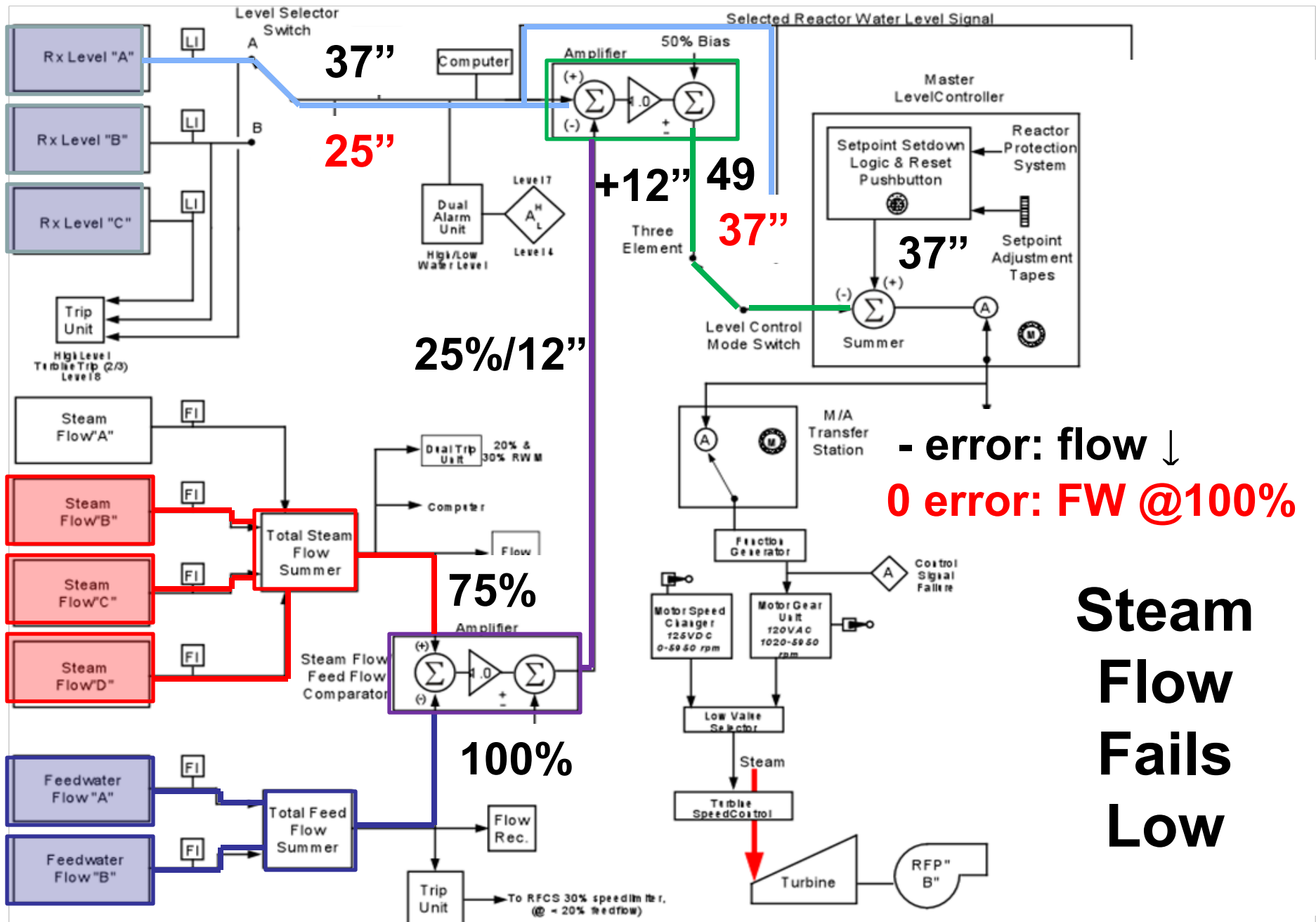
- HPCI/RCIC Initiation
- FWC System Failures
 - Level Detector Fails Low
 - Steam Flow detector Fails High
 - Feed Flow detector Fails Low



Feedwater Flow

Decreased Inventory Events:

- SRV Fails Open
- FWC System Failures
 - Level Detector Fails High
 - Steam Flow detector Fails Low
 - Feed Flow detector Fails High
- RFP Trips at Level 8 and on low vacuum
- RFPs need steam to operate (MSIV Closure)



Reactor level

Reactor Level: Actual Inventory Change

- Stable

Steam leaving vessel = Feed Coming In

- Decrease

Steam leaving > Feed coming in

- Increase

Steam leaving < Feed coming in

Reactor level

Reactor Level: Downcomer Inventory

- Feed coming in versus flow to core
- **Recirc Pump Speed**
 - Speed \uparrow , More flow from downcomer induced in jet pumps into core: Level \downarrow
 - Speed \downarrow , Less flow from downcomer into core: Level \uparrow
- **Voiding** impact 2-phase flow resistance: flow to core from downcomer
 - Voids \uparrow , Resistance to flow \uparrow , flow \downarrow , Level \uparrow
 - Voids \downarrow , Resistance to flow \downarrow , flow \uparrow , Level \downarrow

Reactor level

Scram: Voids collapse, Level goes down

Recirc Flow:

- Recirc Flow (Core Flow) ↓, flow from annulus to core ↓
- Water entering core has more contact time with fuel, voiding ↑, resistance to 2-phase flow ↑, flow from annulus to core ↓
- Both cause level to rise

Pressure :

Increase: Voids collapse, more core flow, Level ↓

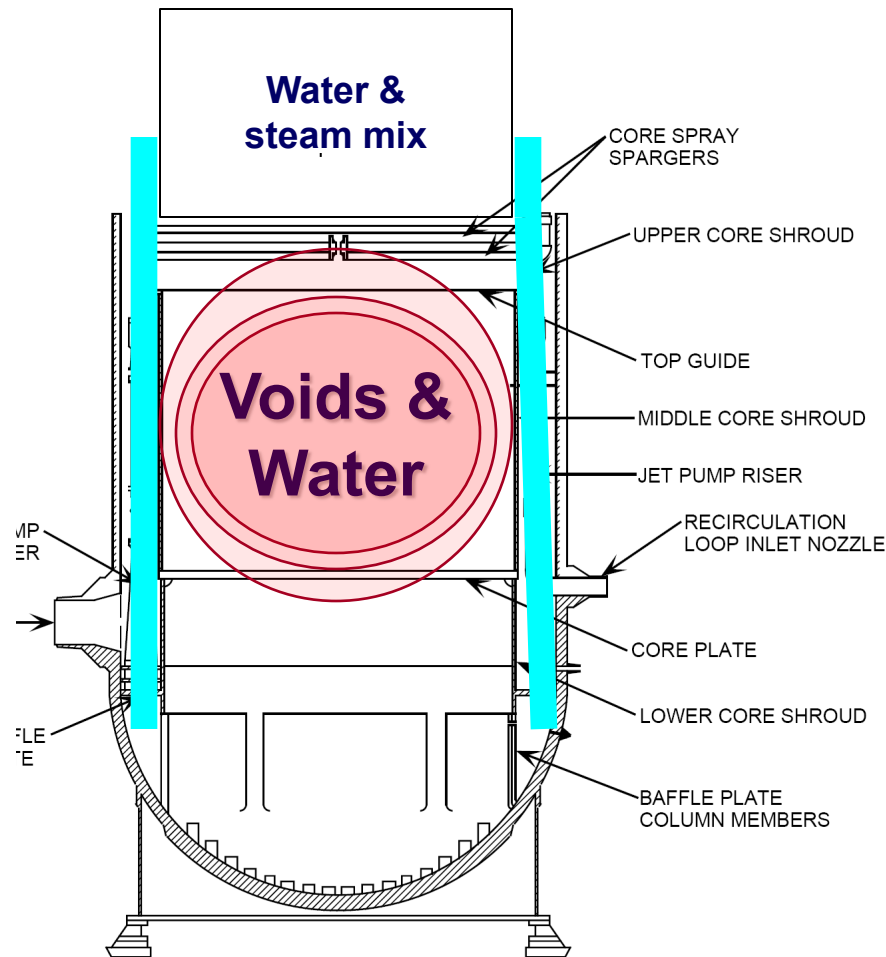
Decrease: Voids get bigger, less core flow, Level ↑

I have a Void in my head

NR and WR
level are
measured in the
annulus.

Voids go up,
less flow from
annulus to core,
level “backs up”
in annulus

Voids go down,
more water
leaves annulus,
level goes down



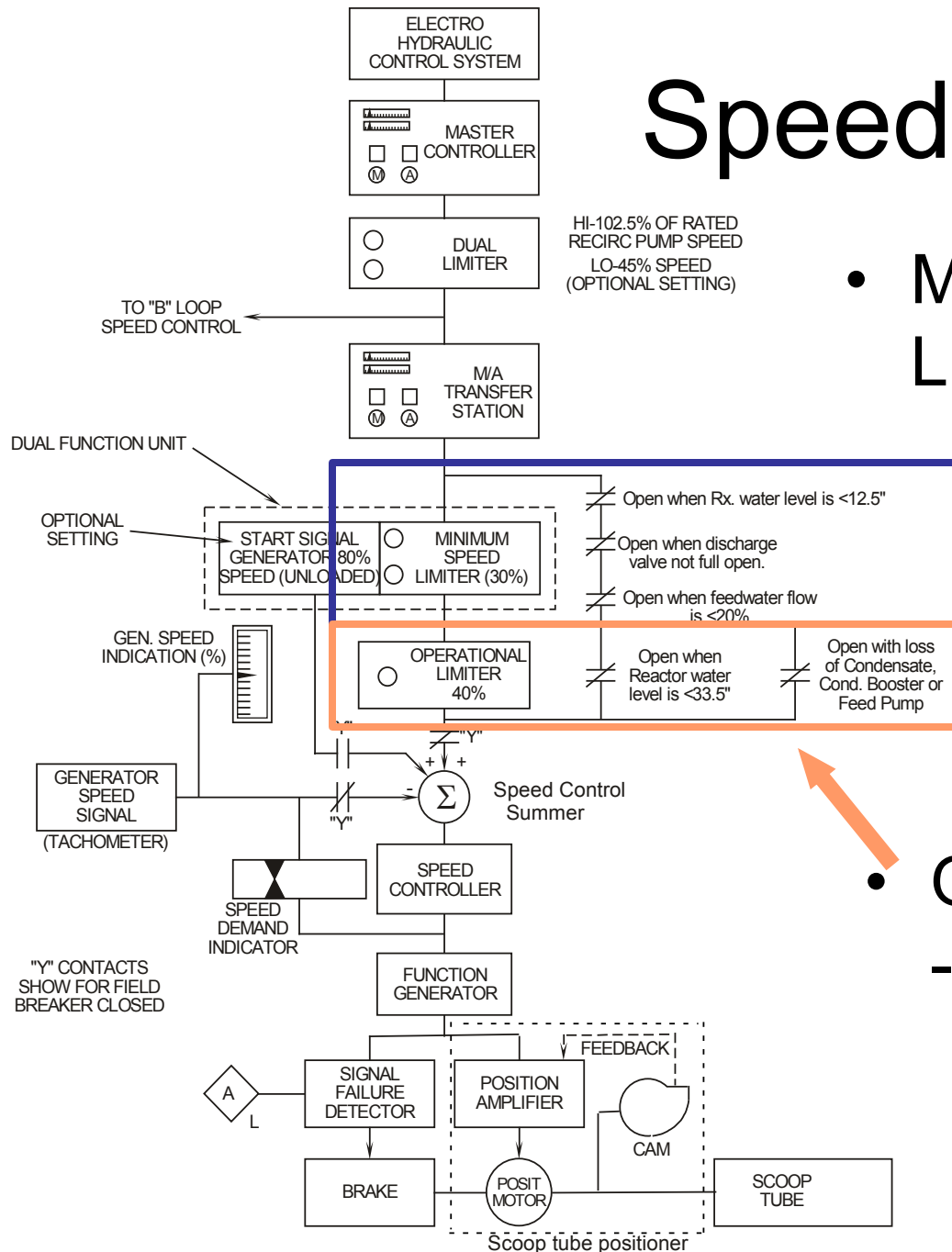
Total Core Flow

Forced Circulation:

- Recirculation Pump Speed Changes (dominates)
 - Intentional power maneuver
 - Single Pump Trip
 - Operating Limiter
 - Minimum Speed Limiter
 - Dual Pump Trip (EOC-RPT, ATWS-RPT, other)
- Resistance to 2-Phase Flow (at same speed):
 - Void Increase: Pressure drop
 - Void Decrease: Pressure rise and/or scram

Speed Limiters

- Minimum Speed Limiter - 30% Runback



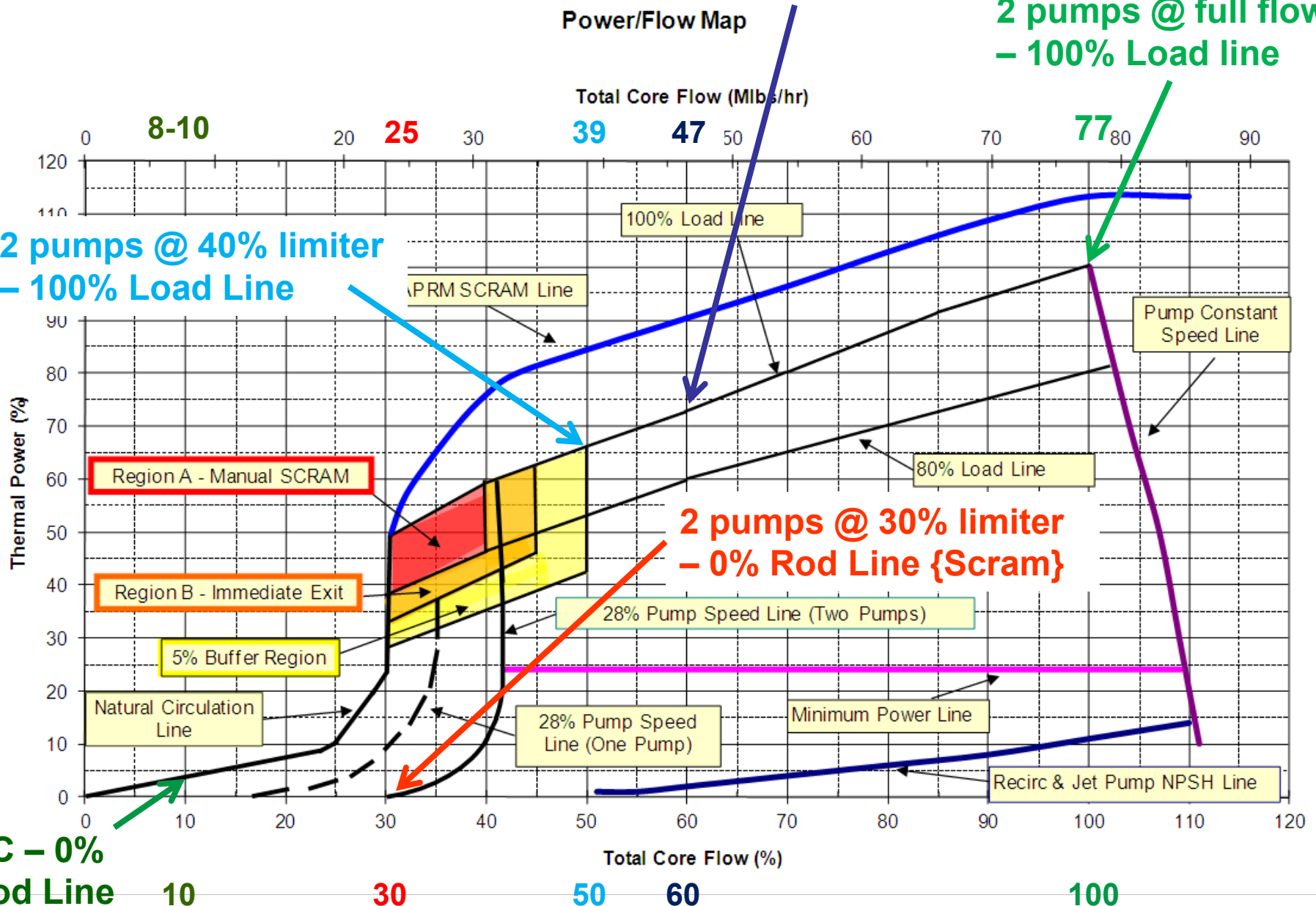
- Operational Limiter - 40% Runback

1 pump @ full flow –
100% Rod Line

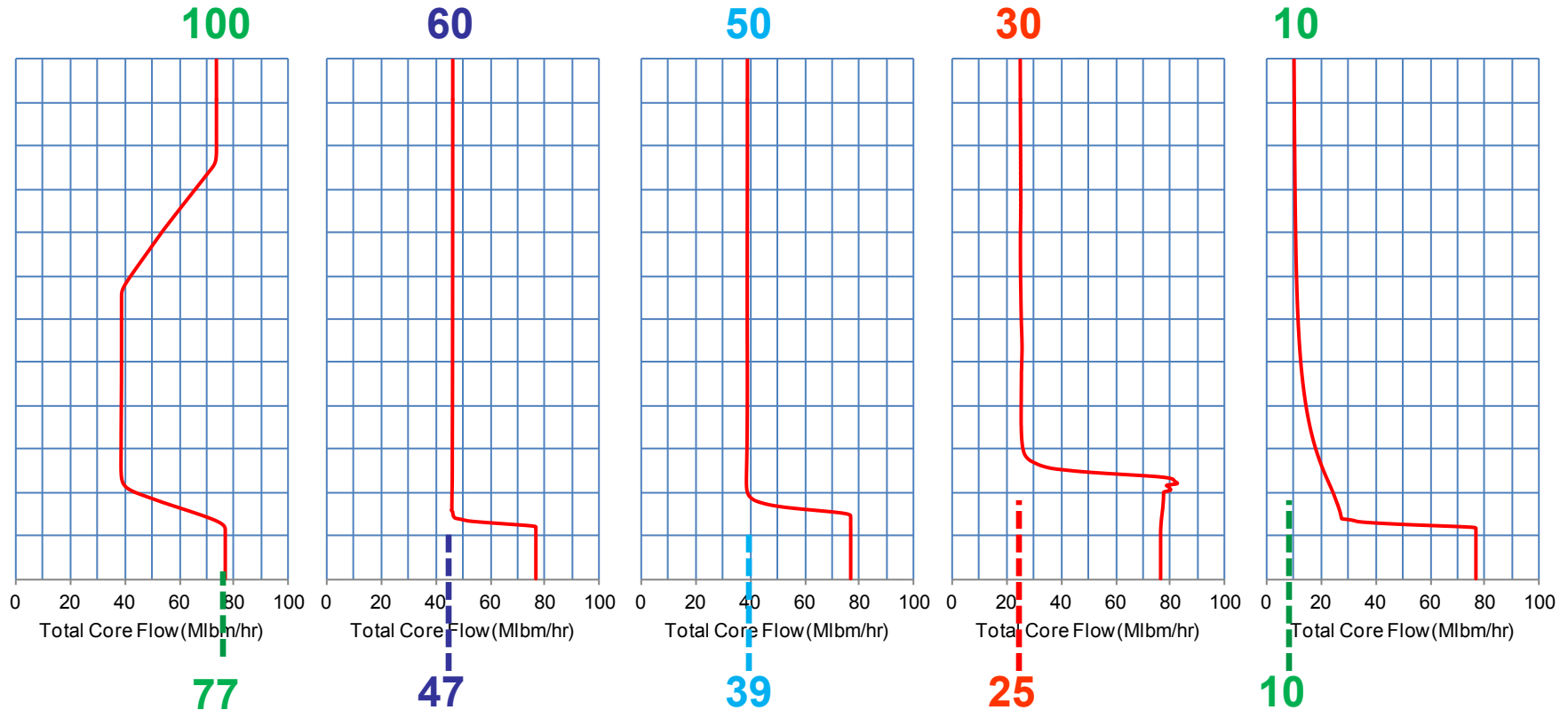
2 pumps @ full flow
– 100% Load line

2 pumps @ 40% limiter
– 100% Load Line

2 pumps @ 30% limiter
– 0% Rod Line {Scram}



Total Core Flow



Intentional -
Gradual
change, can
end up at
any flow

Single Pump
Trip

Operational
Limiter

Minimum
Speed
Limiter

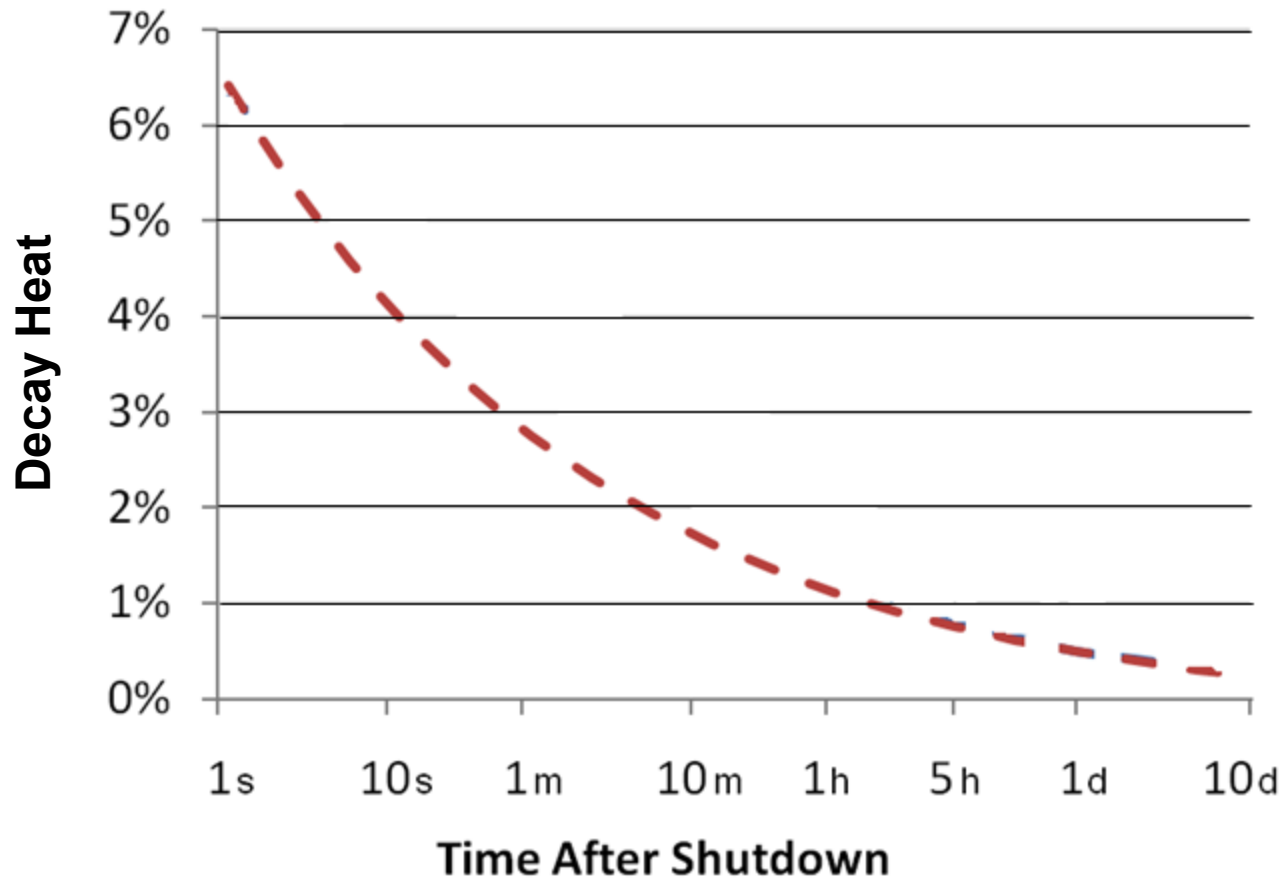
Dual Pump
Trip

Total Core Flow

Natural Circulation:

- 2-phase, open-loop system in BWR
- Multiple competing factors: Need complex computer models to predict flow
- Thermal Driving Head: weight of water in annulus versus density of water/steam mixture in core column
 - Decay heat is heat source which rapidly decays away
 - Height and/or density of water in annulus \uparrow , TDH \uparrow , flow \uparrow
 - Voids in core column \uparrow , density \downarrow , TDH \uparrow , flow \uparrow
 - Level in downcomer \downarrow , carry-under \uparrow , feed ring uncovered, annulus temp \uparrow , density \downarrow , TDH \downarrow , flow \downarrow

Decay Heat



Fundamental Rules

1. Do not try to identify the initiating event first.
2. Start with the parameter that begins to change first.
3. Start with the parameter you know the best.
- 4. Make a list of what would cause the parameter of interest to change.**
5. Start with the first item on the list and decide what direction and how much of a change to expect.
6. If expected response does not agree with parameter change or you are not sure, continue down the list.

Fundamental Rules

7. Stay in the same time frame, do not stay on the same parameter for the entire transient.
8. Go to the parameter that is affected by the one you have chosen (i.e. power effects pressure, pressure effects steam flow).
9. Test to see if all points agree with the initiating event.
10. Move to the next time frame and continue the process until all of the points are identified.
11. Use the “Rule of Arrows”

Make a list of what would cause the parameter of interest to change

Reactor power:

- Control rods (scram or individual rod movement)
- Change in voids due to recirculation pump speed change
- Change in voids due to pressure change
- Core inlet subcooling
- Fuel time constant
- Poisons

Reactor pressure:

- Change in steam production (change in power, EHC system)
- Increase in steam demand (SRV/BPV fails open, EHC fails high)
- Decrease in steam demand (turbine trip, MSIV closure, EHC fails low)

Make a list of what would cause the parameter of interest to change

Turbine steam flow:

- EHC throttling TCVs in response to steam line pressure
- Immediately goes to zero on a turbine trip
- Rapidly goes to zero on a scram or MSIV closure

Reactor steam flow:

- Sum of turbine steam flow, steam flow through the bypass valves, and house loads
- Only stabilizes at zero on a MSIV closure

Make a list of what would cause the parameter of interest to change

Feedwater flow:

- Response to FWC system inputs (reactor steam flow, feedwater flow and level) to maintain or restore modified level to setpoint.
- Lose feedwater flow on RFP trip (including level 8, and loss of vacuum) or loss of steam to drive the pumps (MSIV closure)

Reactor vessel level:

- Difference between makeup flow to the vessel and steam flow leaving the vessel.
- Normally restored to setpoint by FWC system (change in makeup flow rate)
- Rapid increase due to increasing voids (pressure reduction or recirculation pump trip or runback)
- Rapid decrease due to void collapse (scram or pressure increase)

Make a list of what would cause the parameter of interest to change

Total core flow:

- Recirculation pump speed changes (RFC system operation and RPTs)
 - Manual speed change (gradual)
 - Single recirculation pump trip (60% core flow)
 - Operational Limiter (50% core flow)
 - Minimum Speed Limiter (30% core flow)
 - Dual recirculation pump trip, including EOC-RPT or ATWS-RPT (8 to 10% core flow with natural circulation flow affected by a number of factors)
- Change in 2-phase flow resistance due to large void collapse or increase (without a speed change)

What to Expect

- Each transient will be presented individually during the course.
- Handouts describing each identified point will be distributed following the discussion.
- All figures and tables from this chapter will be provided during the exam.
- Only the transients presented will be on the exam.

Objectives

1. Given a transient curve:
 - At selected points, explain what caused the parameter to change.
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