

# Die Rolle präziser Durchflussmesstechnik für die Effizienzsteigerung beim Betrieb von Kraftwerken und Fernheiznetzen

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1



Staff: 1800 Employees  
600 staff scientists,  
200 third party  
funded scientists

Budget: 130 M€ / a

Sites: Braunschweig + Berlin

Founded: 1887  
Hermann v. Helmholtz and  
Werner v. Siemens

6 scientific sections in Braunschweig  
2 scientific sections in Berlin

Department "Heat"

2

**Legal Metrology**

Conformity assessment / pattern approval for heat meters according to

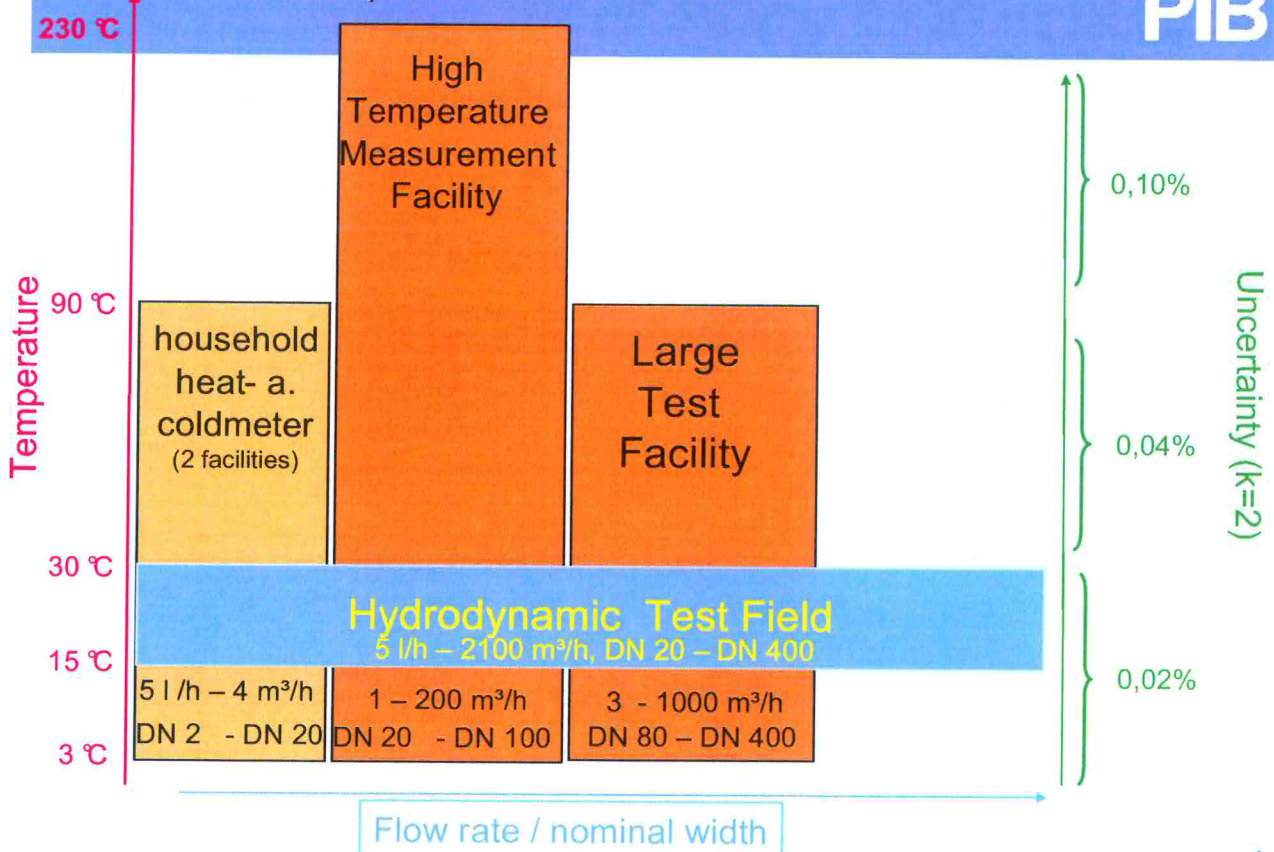
- Measurement Instruments Directive / EichG / EO
- EN 1434
- OIML R75

80 % of all Heat Meters in Europe are approved by PTB

**R&D Projects: Enhancing Energy-Efficiency in Power Plants / District Heating&Cooling Networks**

- a) Establish Traceability / Calibration for Ultra-Sonic Flow Meters used in Power plants / District Heating
- b) Establish "On-Site" Fundamental Measurement methods in Power Plants / District Heating

Measurement capabilities: Flow



## Large Test Facility

PTB

volume flowrate:  
3 m<sup>3</sup>/h - 1000 m<sup>3</sup>/h  
temperature range:  
3 °C - 90 °C  
temperature drift:  
< 50 mK/h  
Reynold's number:  
< 5,5 · 10<sup>6</sup>  
measurement  
uncertainty (k=2):  
< 4 · 10<sup>-4</sup>

constant  
level tank  
h = 11 m  
 $\Delta h < 1 \text{ mm}$

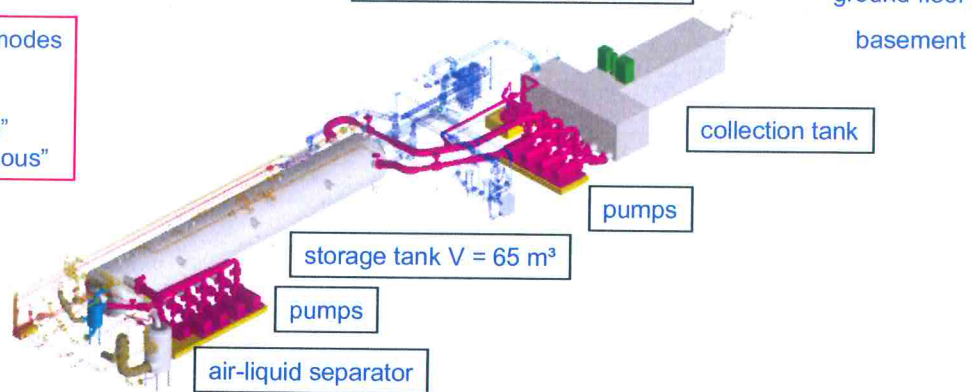
air conditioned weighing tank

diverters

static and dynamic  
weighing  
- 5000 kg - 20000 kg  
 $U < 1 \cdot 10^{-5}$   
calibration standards  
- 36 x 550 kg  
 $U < 5 \cdot 10^{-6}$

measuring sections  
- length = 25 m  
- corrugation < 1 mm / 25 m  
- roughness < 5  $\mu\text{m}$   
- flange mismatch < 50  $\mu\text{m}$

independent operation modes  
- pumps  
- constant level tank  
- pressure-based "single"  
- pressure based "continuous"



## Was wissen wir?

PTB

Durchfluss-Sensoren in Kraftwerken / Netzeinspeisungen /  
Übergabestationen

sind oft

steinalt (Drift, Ablagerungen,.....)

nicht wirklich kalibriert (z.B. 10 MW Grenze,  
Herstellerzertifikat / Prüfstellen: "kalte" Messung, "gute"  
Messbedingungen, ....)

gar nicht rekaliibriert

falsch ausgelegt

und weisen Messfehler  
im Prozentbereich auf.

Trotzdem werden gerade diese  
Messgeräte verwendet, um

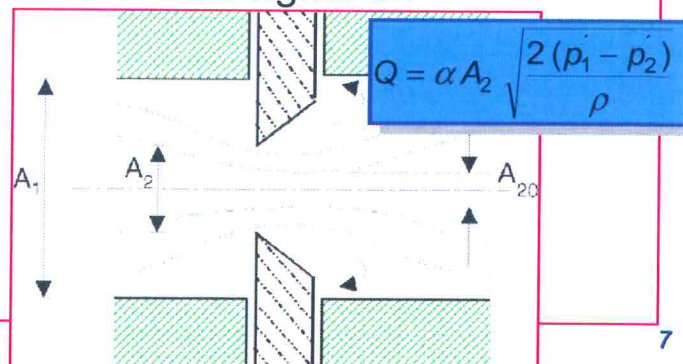
- Kraftwerke und Netze zu steuern
- KWK Förderung zu bekommen
- große Kunden abzurechnen

In Power Plants, mostly differential pressure devices used

- orifice plates
- ventouri tubes

Problems:

- **nonlinear** relation between measurement signal and flow - rate
- strong dependence of the measurement signal on
  - form
  - symmetry
  - turbulence of the flow
 (**installation effects**)
- drift (**fouling effects**)



## Experimental counter actions I: "calibration"

"calibration" - measurements of the devices using tube geometry identical to the installation in the power plant

idea: comparable fluid velocity distributions

but:

measurement performed at

- different temperatures (ambient instead of 280 °C)
- different pressures

correction / extrapolations necessary

- thermal and pressure related expansion
- viscosities, densities

(according to ISO-Standard 5167, based on Reynold's "law" and other commonly used simple model equations)

## Example: Axial velocity distribution in a swirl

## Method:

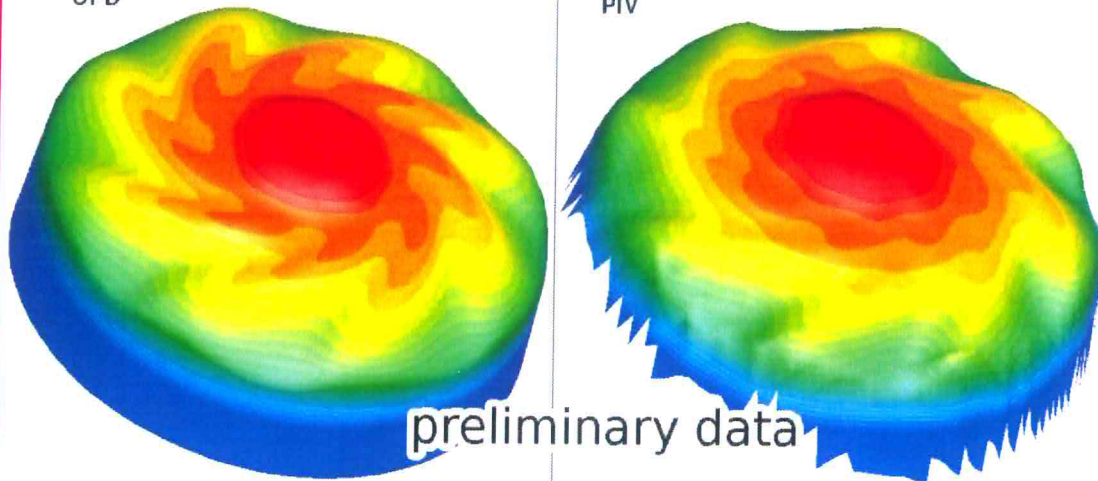
Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) simulations verified with laseroptical (Particle Image Velocimetry: PIV) Measurements

## Verification:

Closely behind the swirl Generator

CFD

PIV



9

## Example: Axial velocity distribution in a swirl

## Method:

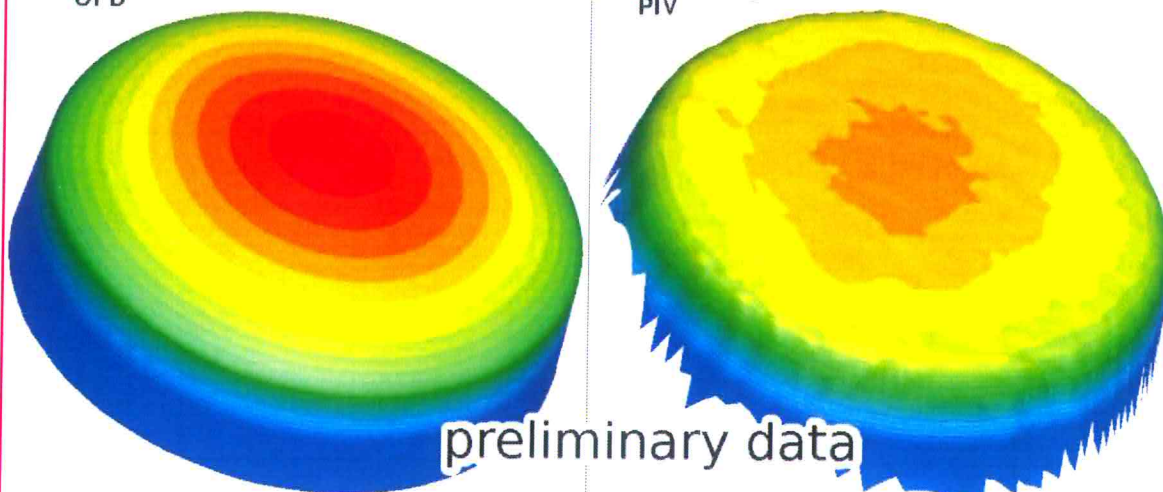
Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) simulations verified with laseroptical (Particle Image Velocimetry: PIV) Measurements

## Verification:

1m behind the swirl generator

CFD

PIV



0

## Example: Axial velocity distribution in a swirl

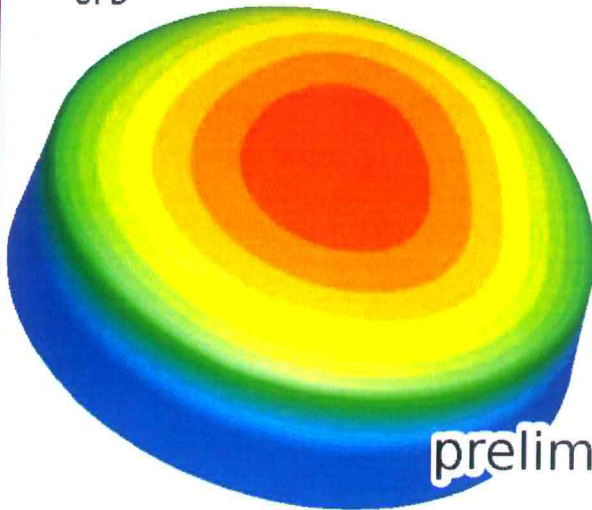
## Method:

Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) simulations verified with laseroptical (Particle Image Velocimetry: PIV) Measurements

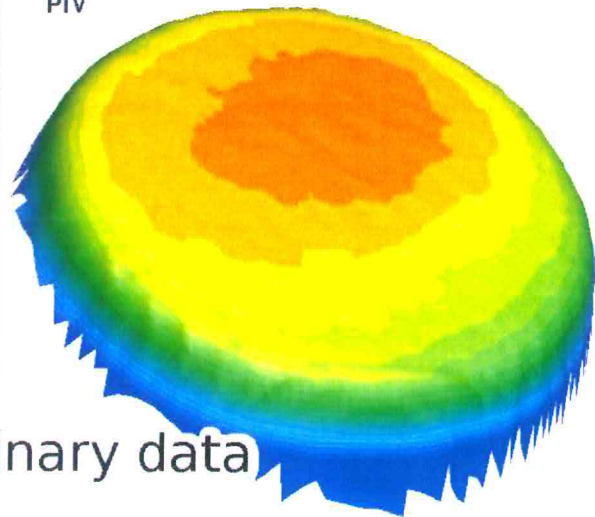
## Verification:

2m behind the swirl generator

CFD



PIV



preliminary data

1

## Example: Axial velocity distribution in a swirl

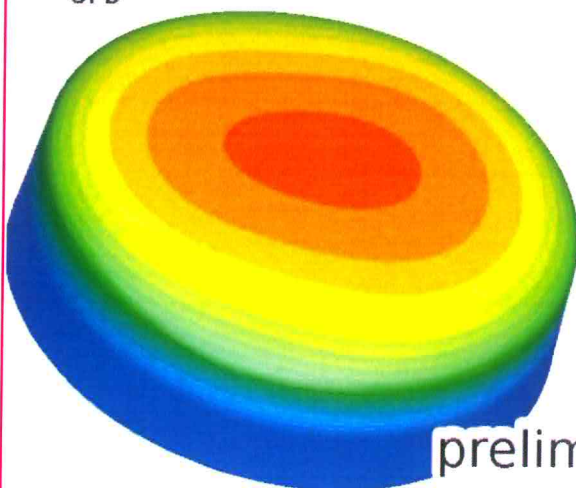
## Method:

Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) simulations verified with laseroptical (Particle Image Velocimetry: PIV) Measurements

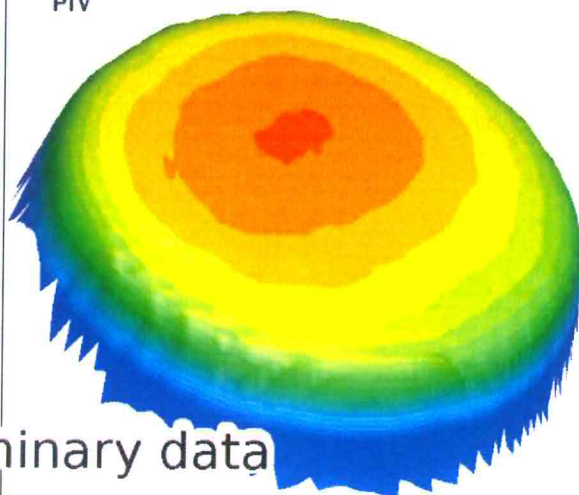
## Verification:

4 m behind the swirl generator

CFD



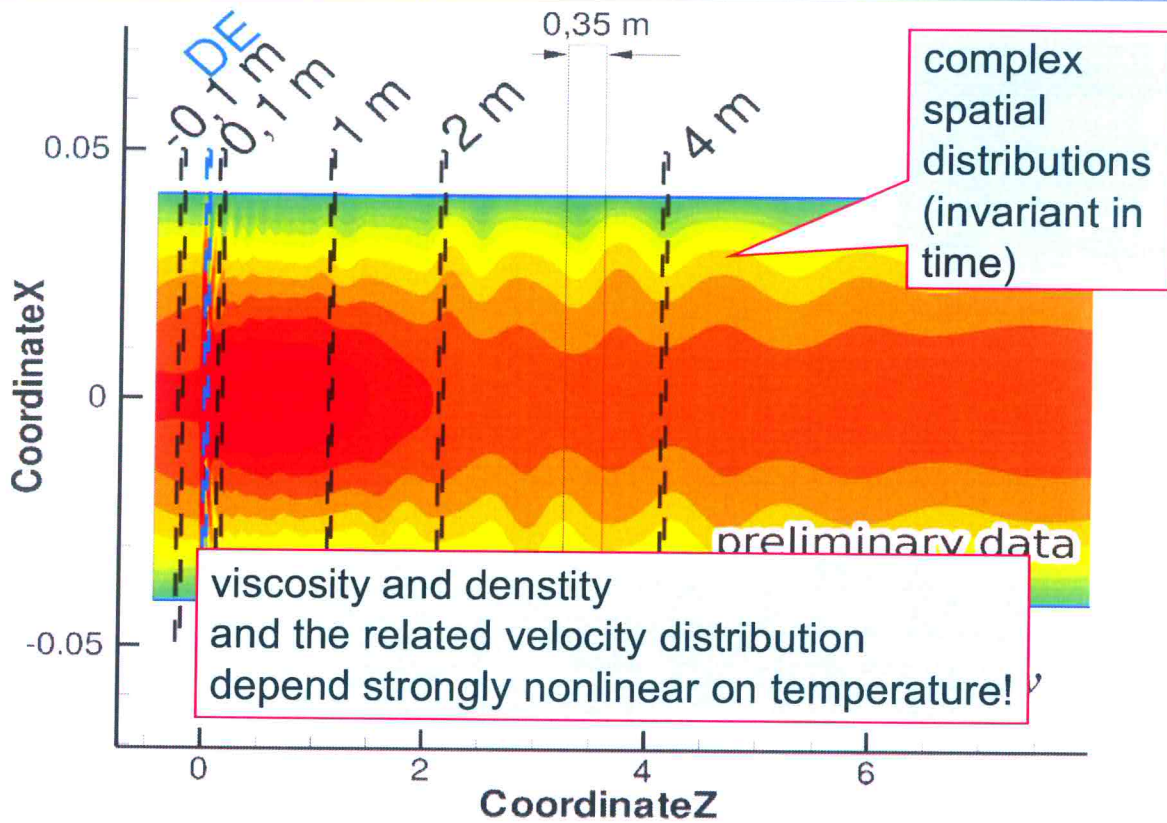
PIV



preliminary data

2

Example: Axial velocity distribution in a swirl



Experimental counter actions II: Clamp-on US

Use of US clamp-on sensors to generate additional monitoring signals and then correct the drift (fouling) of the process meter

Idea: repeatability and long term stability of clamp-on US meters is "very good" (manufacturer's opinion)

Best marketing idea

PTB's experimental experiences with clamp-On US meters do not support manufacturer's opinion

Additionally:  
Uncertainty of clamp-on systems much larger than the process meter

Therefore:  
Metrologically questionable

data monitoring / data reconciliation / retrofit models based on VDI 2048:

„Uncertainties of measurements during acceptance tests on energy-conversion and power plants“

basic idea:

describe the power plant as a simple set of correlated mass and energy balancing equations

all the (mass) flow rate measurements correlate

all the measurements can be used:  
better statistic → lower uncertainty ?

Preconditions

1. Use of variances: statistical and **unknown** systematic contributions are treated identical
2. model equation exists , linearization possible

Model Equation:

$$y = f(x_1, x_2)$$

$$R = \frac{U}{i}$$

Combined Variance:

$$u_c^2(y) = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}\right)^2 u^2(x_1) + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2}\right)^2 u^2(x_2) + 2 \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} u(x_1, x_2)$$

Using sensitivity coefficients

$$u^2(y) = c_1^2 u_1^2 + c_2^2 u_2^2 + 2c_1 c_2 u(x_1, x_2)$$

$$u(x_1, x_2) = u(x_1) u(x_2) r(x_1, x_2)$$

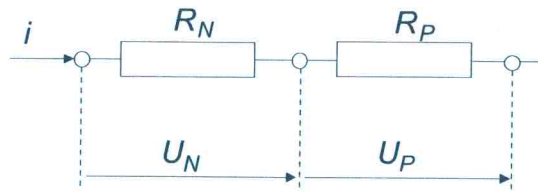
Covariance

Correlation coefficient  
-1 < r < 1



Example

Measurement Setup



Model equation:

$$R_P = \frac{U_P}{i} = \frac{U_P}{U_N} R_N$$

Repeated Measurements →

$U_{P,0}$  ... Mean value: Voltage Resistance under Test = 0,1025 V

$U_{N,0}$  ... Mean value : Voltage Normal-Resistance = 0,1011 V

Combined Variance:

$$u_c^2(R_P) = c_{U_N}^2 u^2(U_N) + c_{U_P}^2 u^2(U_P) + c_{R_N}^2 u^2(R_N) + 2 c_{U_N} c_{U_P} u(U_N, U_P)$$

Example

Relative combined variance:

$$\frac{u_c^2(R_P)}{R_P^2} \approx \frac{u^2(U_N)}{U_N^2} + \frac{u^2(U_P)}{U_P^2} + \frac{u^2(R_N)}{R_N^2} - \frac{2 u(U_N) u(U_P) r(U_N, U_P)}{U_N U_P}$$

Uncertainties

$$u(U_P)/U_P = 1.10^{-5} \text{ und } u(U_N)/U_N = 1.10^{-5}$$

Normal-resistance: → calibration certificate:

$$u(R_N)/R_N = 2.10^{-6}$$

Mean value of the unknown resistance:

$$R_{P,0} = 101,385 \Omega$$

Results:

Relative uncertainty maximal for  $r = -1$ :

$$\frac{u_c(R_P)}{R_P} = 2,0 \cdot 10^{-5}$$

No correlation taken into account:

$$\frac{u_c(R_P)}{R_P} = 1,4 \cdot 10^{-5}$$

Minimum Value for  $r = +1$

$$\frac{u_c(R_P)}{R_P} = 2 \cdot 10^{-6}$$

# How large is the correlation coefficient $r$ in this special case ?

Empiric Covariance of  $x_1$  und  $x_2$ :

$$u(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_{1i} - x_{10})(x_{2i} - x_{20})$$

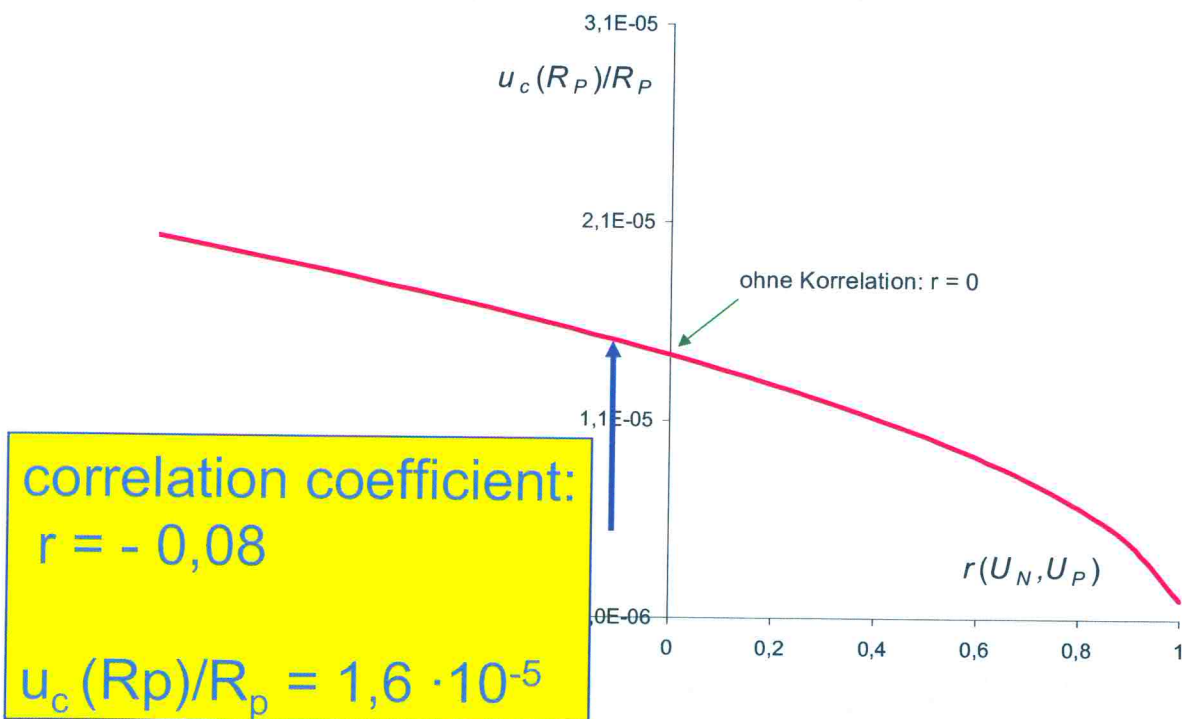
Example:

$$x_1 = U_P$$

$$x_2 = U_N$$

Measur.	$x_1$	$x_2$	$(x_{1i} - x_{1,0})$	$(x_{2i} - x_{2,0})$	$(x_{1i} - x_{1,0}) \cdot (x_{2i} - x_{2,0})$
1	0,1025	0,1008	2,0E-05	-2,9E-04	-5,8E-09
2	0,1023	0,1014	-1,8E-04	3,1E-04	-5,6E-08
3	0,1025	0,1009	2,0E-05	-1,9E-04	-3,8E-09
4	0,1029	0,1009	4,2E-04	-1,9E-04	-8,0E-08
5	0,1032	0,1008	7,2E-04	-2,9E-04	-2,1E-07
6	0,1026	0,1010	1,2E-04	-9,0E-05	-1,1E-08
7	0,1023	0,1012	-1,8E-04	1,1E-04	-2,0E-08
8	0,1022	0,1012	-2,8E-04	1,1E-04	-3,1E-08
9	0,1021	0,1013	-3,8E-04	2,1E-04	-8,0E-08
10	0,1022	0,1014	-2,8E-04	3,1E-04	-8,7E-08
<b>MeanVal</b>	<b>0,1025</b>	<b>0,1011</b>	<b>1,1E-17</b>	<b>3,1E-17</b>	
<b>Variance</b>	<b>1,2E-07</b>	<b>5,7E-08</b>			
<b>StandDev.</b>	<b>3,5E-04</b>	<b>2,4E-04</b>			
Summe =					-5,82E-07
$u(x_1, x_2) = \text{Kovarianz} =$					-6,47E-09
Korrelationskoeffizient =					-0,08

# combined uncertainty including real correlation



## Conclusions:

covariances contribute to measurement uncertainty

depending on the correlation coefficient  
the combined measurement uncertainty is  
**enhanced or lowered**

the statement:  
more measurements → better statistic → lower uncertainty  
is **not always valid**, if correlation is taken into account.

21

## Application to measurements in power plants (according to VDI 2048)

### same preconditions:

- concept of variances
- linearisation possible
- the model-equation exists and is true

### additionally:

- steady state
- no periodic variation of measurement values in time

### same procedure

more than 2 variables => use matrix calculation

### results are valid

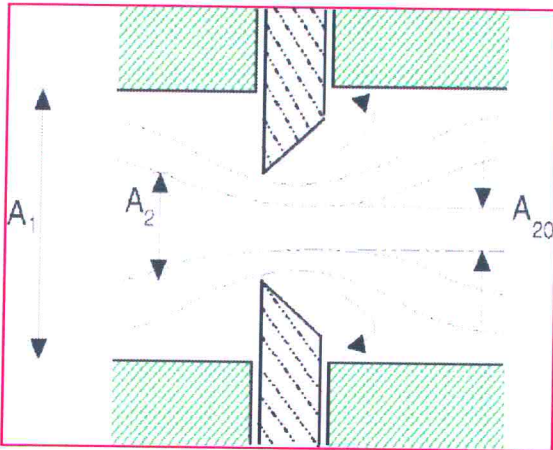
(however: uncertainty will be enhanced or lowered )

**What about the the preconditions?**

22

**Concept of covariances:** we dont have anything better

**Linearization:** the orifice plate as an example



**Volume-Flowrate (m³/h)**

$$Q = \alpha A_2 \sqrt{\frac{2(p_1 - p_2)}{\rho}}$$

- not linear
- large dynamic range for  $\Delta p$ -measurement
- large temperature dependence of viscosity, density
- strong installation effects

**Model equation:**

no full thermodynamic model of the measurement processes exist  
only a set of simple equations related with mass- and energy conservation

Correlation methods give correct results (lower or enhance uncertainty) if:

- model of process correct
- preconditions are met

**Effectiveness for data monitoring :**

Final remarks of the VDI 2048:

„ ... it has been shown, how serious errors can be revealed by correction calculation and how contradictions can be eliminated... “

leakage

drift of a sensor

**Effectiveness for data reconciliation / retrofit measures**

method is overstressed: dangerous (personal opinion)

Prozess-Messgeräte bei „richtigen“ Durchflüssen und Geometrien, aber bei „falschen“ Temperaturen und Drücken „kalibrieren“

gute Idee, Extrapolation auf Prozessbedingungen aber sehr viel komplexer als in den Normen vorgeschlagen

Clamp-On Sensoren als Monitorsignal oder zur „Vor-Ort-Kalibrierung“ einsetzen

Metrologisch fragwürdig

Fehler „wegrechnen“

Geht nicht

- Kraftwerke und Netze effizient steuern
- KWK Förderung einfordern
- Abrechnungen korrekt durchführen

erfordert Messgeräte,

die unter Prozessbedingungen kalibriert bzw. rückgeführt sind

Kalibrierung auf „passendem“ Prüfstand (Durchfluss, Temperatur Geometrie)

Kalibrierung komponentenweise auf „fast passenden“ Prüfständen, metrologisch valide Extrapolation

Kalibrierung vor Ort Durchfluss, Temperatur Geometrie)

Plan A

Plan B

**Plan A: Direct calibration (at least for feedwater flow meters)**

Build up test facility (international primary standard):

volume flow-rate range:  $3000 \text{ m}^3/\text{h} < Q < 7000 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$ ,temperature:  $T \sim 300 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ pressure:  $p \sim 200 \text{ bar}$ traceable to SI: optical methods ( $U < 0,1 \%$ )

operation model: public private partnership

investment: 20 Mio. €

business plan: exists

rentability: yes

New High Temperature test facility  
( $Q=200 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$ ,  $T = 3 \text{ }^\circ\text{C} \dots 230^\circ\text{C}$ )**Selected input-variable traceability in PTB-Labs:**

- metrological secured extrapolation methods

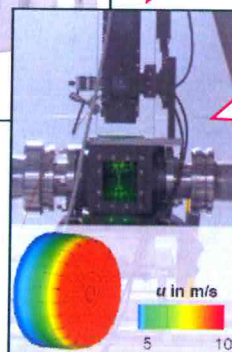
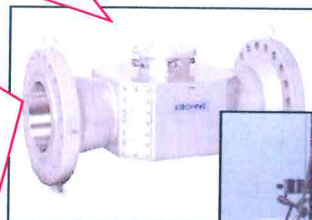
**fundamental measurements in situ**

- laser measurement techniques

**R&D Projects**

flow profile measurement and simulation in US-sensors

temperature-effect measurement and modelling in US-Sensors

**R&D Projects**

- Laser Flow measurement without service interruption
- combination laser and process-measurement techniques