

SEDIMENT EROSION IN HYDRAULIC TURBINES

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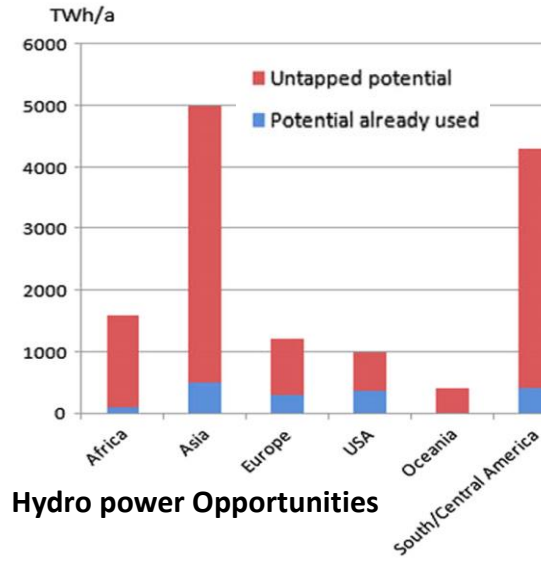
Prof. Bhola Thapa (KU)



Beauty Comes With Hidden Price!



23 MW*2 Francis runner at Chawa Power plant, Chile



48 MW*3 Francis runner at Kaligandaki Power plant, Nepal



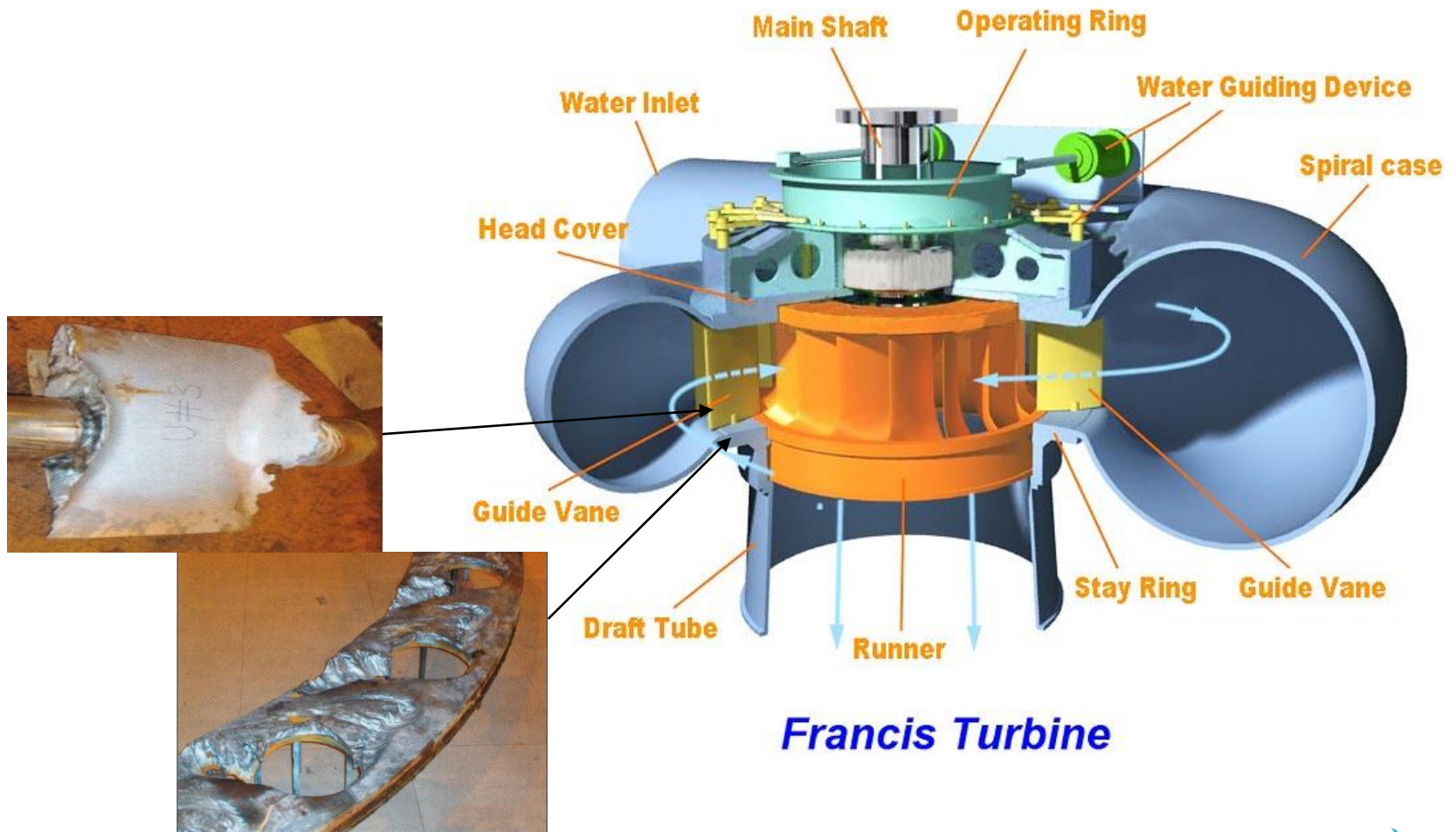
Sediment erosion in guide vanes and facing plates



250 MW*6 Francis runner at Nathpa Jhakri Power plant, India

A view of November evening in Nepal

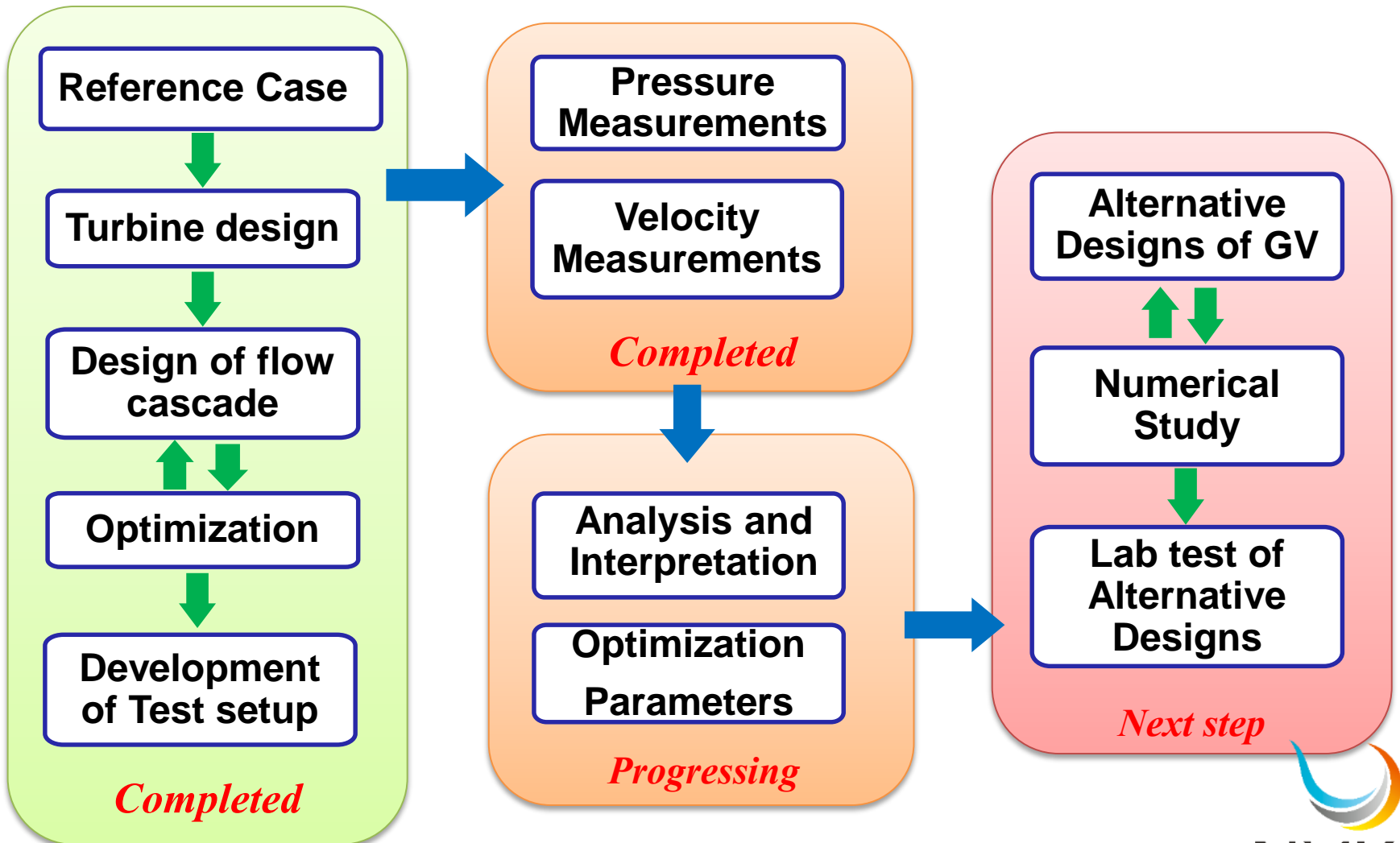
Research Problem



Francis Turbine

Sediment erosion damage in
guide vanes and facing plates

Research Methods



Design of Flow Cascade

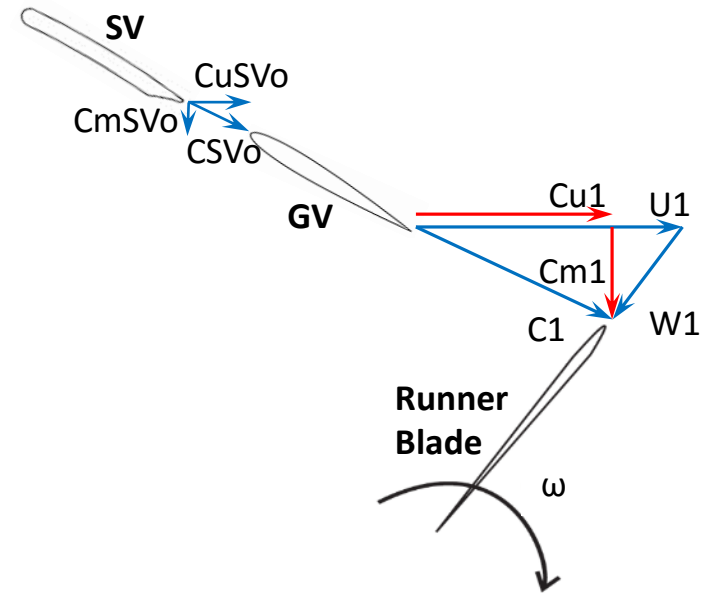
Section to optimize velocity components at SV outlet

Section fixed by free vortex flow

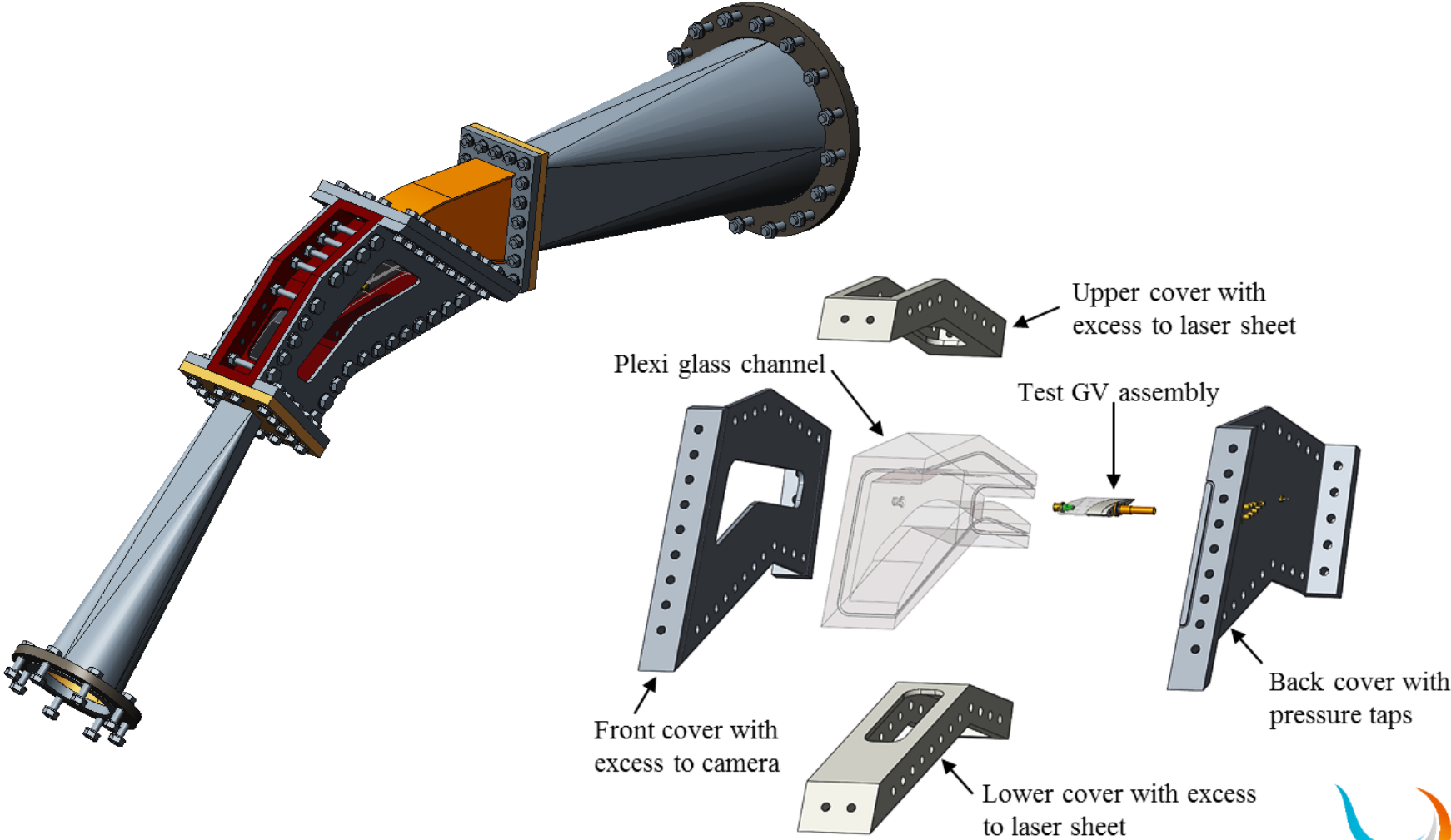
Section to optimize velocity components at inlet of runner

Outlet of Cascade

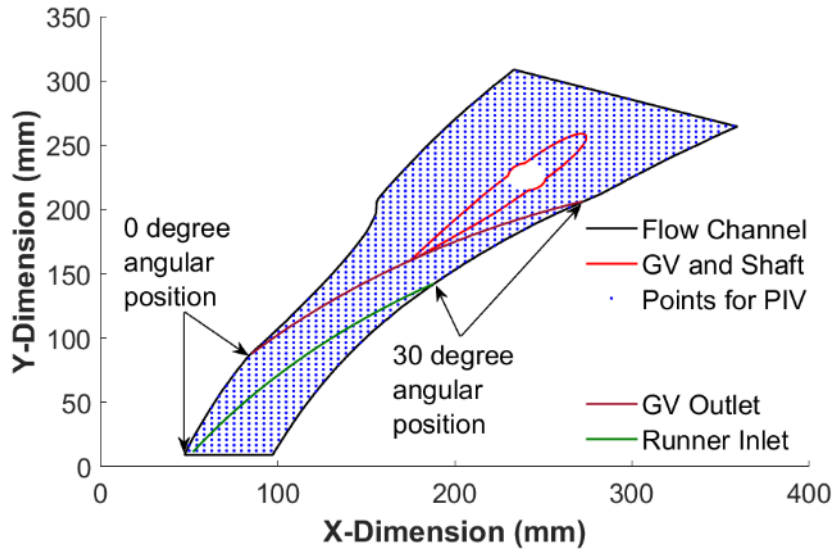
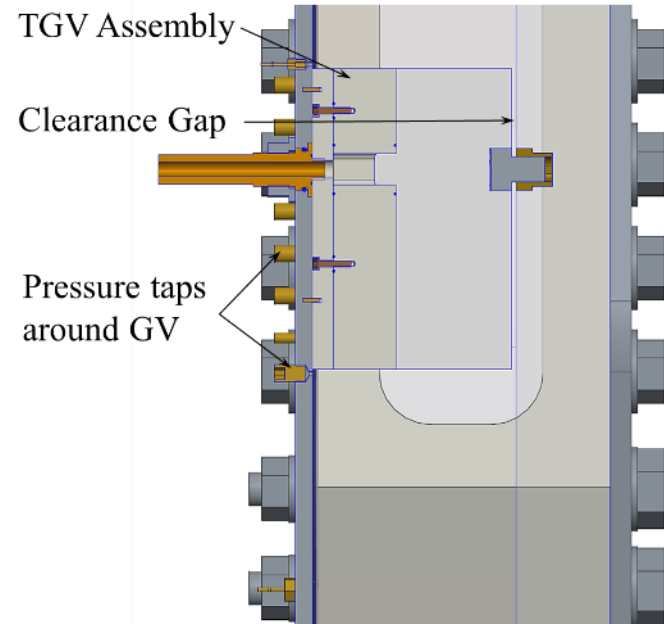
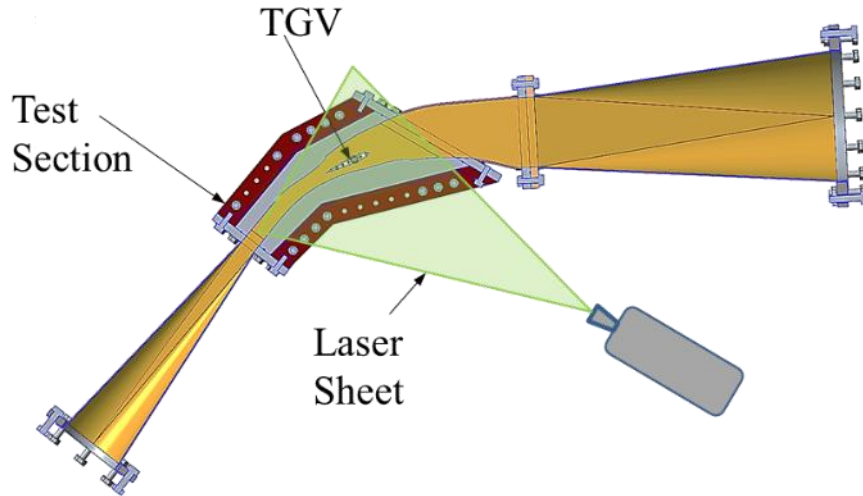
Inlet of Cascade



Test Setup

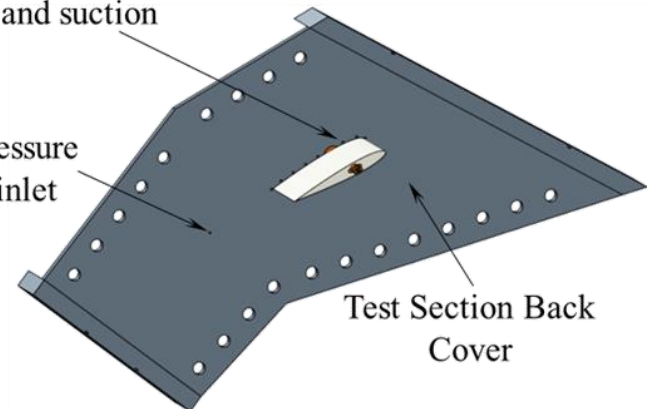


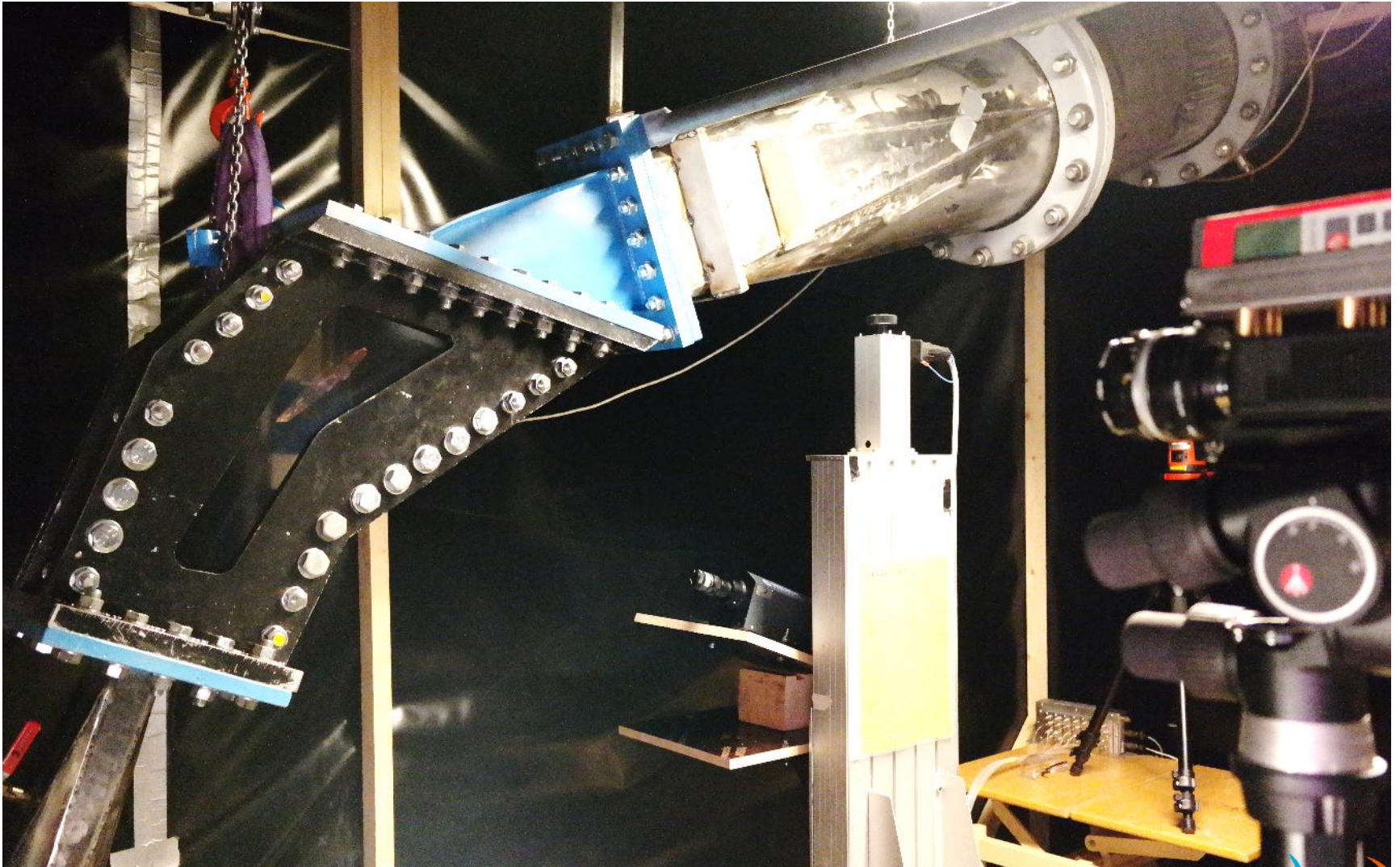
Measurement Sections



Points for 14 pressure taps along GV pressure and suction surfaces

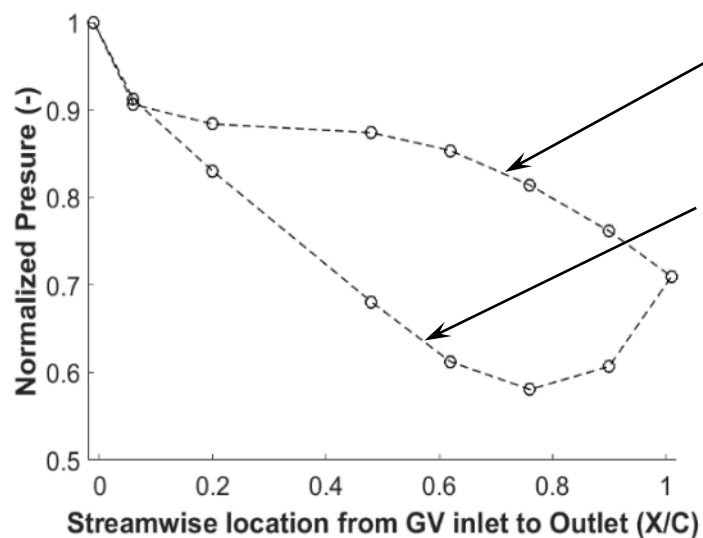
Point for a pressure tap at runner inlet position



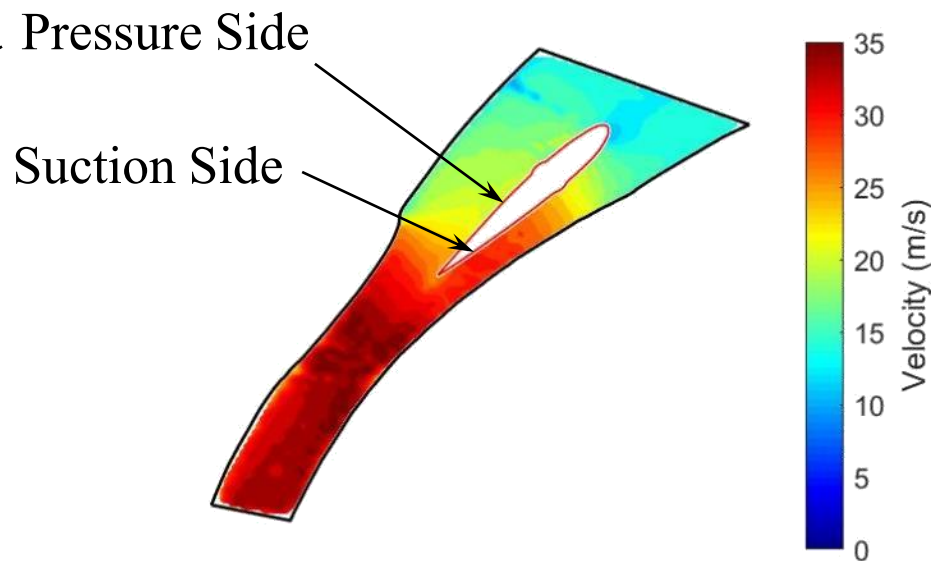


Waterpower Laboratory
NTNU

Measurement Along GV Mid Span



Pressure along GV surface

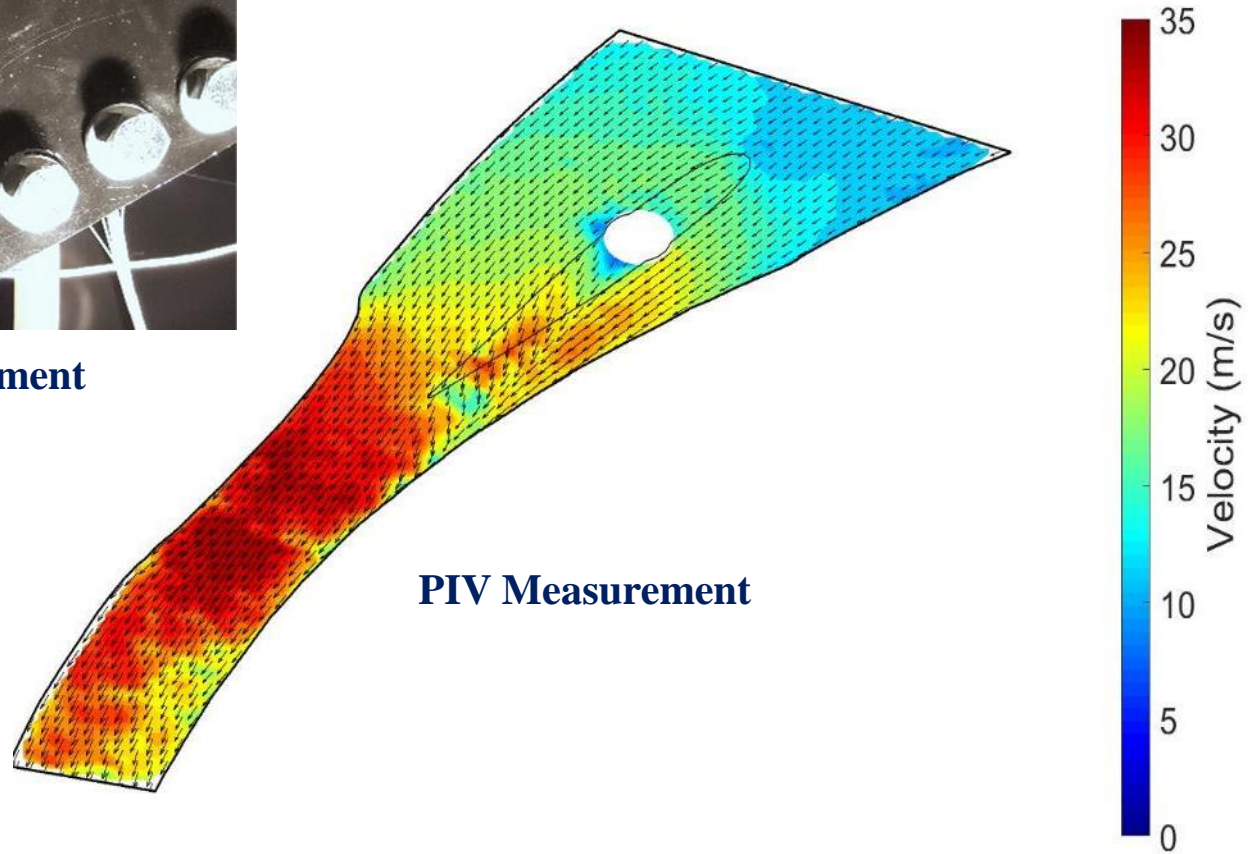


Contour plot of velocity (PIV)

Flow Along Clearance Gap



Observation of vortex filament



Correlating with Observations

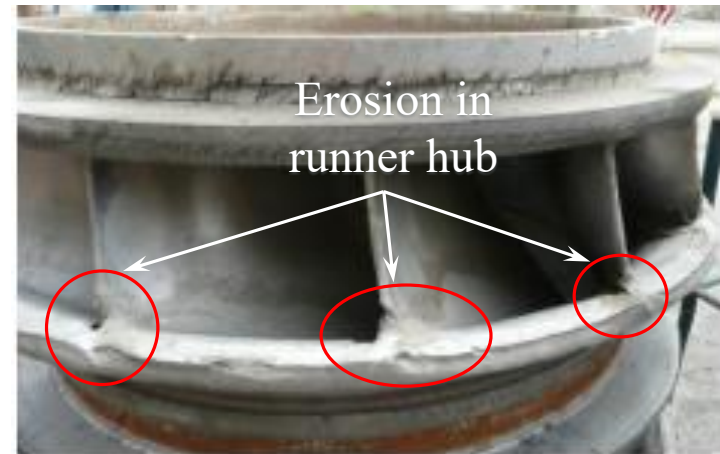


Photo Source: Ole G. Dahlhaug

- **NACA 0012 Profile used for guide vanes**
 - **High Pressure difference towards trailing edge**
 - **More erosion in trailing edge walls due to high velocities and secondary flows**
 - **Formation of clearance gap, inducing strong crossflow**
 - **Increases relative velocity and reduces radial velocity at runner inlet towards hub and shroud**
 - **Thus higher erosion in runner hub and shroud at inlet and lowered runner efficiency**
- Other factors as RSI, Blade leaning design and operational parameters are equally important**

Thank You!!!

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