ZoloBOSS: Laser-based Sensor for Real-time Combustion Optimization



Better Measurements, Better Results



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Combustion Optimization Principles

- 1. Measure the right constituents, at the right place
- 2. Correlate constituent profiles to manipulated variables
- 3. Balance: manipulate variables to balance combustion
- 4. <u>Optimize</u>: safely lower excess O₂ to optimize combustion



Balanced Combustion -> Optimized Combustion

- Balanced combustion (Temp, O₂ & CO) is better combustion
- Balanced combustion permits safe operation at lower excess O₂
- Lower excess $O_2 \rightarrow$ increases efficiency (heat rate)
- Lower excess $O_2 \rightarrow$ lowers NOx rates
- Subject to constraints on CO and slagging



Maintaining Furnace Balance Is Difficult

Traditional measurement sensors/locations are not adequate

- "The right amount of ingredients don't make a good cake"
- Proper air/fuel at each burner is important but may not mean optimized combustion

Natural process variations will lead to local imbalances in furnace

- 80% of combustion problems occur in 20% of furnace but where??
- CO increases exponentially, Slag/fouling hot spots, NOx with high O₂

Permanent measurement is needed to maintain performance

- One-time tuning is only good for a short period
- Conditions change over time: loads, fuels, operators





The Solution: The ZoloBOSS System

§ Measure the Right Things

\$ Uses TDLAS to simultaneously measure Temperature, O₂, CO & H₂O

§ Measure in the Right Place

Fread-time measurement directly in the furnace

- **§** Measure all the time
- **§** Multiple measurement paths

Generate two-dimensional images or profiles







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Slotted Opening in Membrane



Port Rodder



SensAlign[™] Head



Typical ZoloBOSS Layouts





Combustion Optimization

Measure

- Plant data
- Furnace data

Develop Relationships

Results:

Improve Heat Rate
 Lower Emissions: NOx & CO₂
 Minimize Slag
 Increase Fuel Flexibility

Correlate

- Parametric Tests
- Model-based
- Rules-based
- Neural-net based

Manual Balancing

- Operator control
- Combustion Optimizer

Optimize

- Manipulate Air/Fuel bias
- Reduce Excess O₂

Operator control
 Combustion Optimizer

Center/Balance

- Balance/Center Temperature
- Balance O₂
- Balance CO



Center Combustion: Why?

Centered Combustion = Balanced combustion

- Goal = Centered Combustion (fireball)
 - Fireball center is a compass to direct combustion manipulations



Fireball Centering for T-Fired Furnace (1)

- 660 MW T-fired Furnace
- Supercritical conditions
- 6 x 6 ZoloBOSS Grid
- Parametric testing produced "rules" for centering fireball
- ZoloBOSS readings 180° out of phase of burner locations due to flame swirl.





Closed-loop Combustion Optimization (2)

Optimization	Operational	Performance				
Objective	Adjustments	Improvement	SOFA - V			
Fireball Centering	Fireball CenteringSecondary Auxiliary Air • Corner & levels (A-F)• Improved heat transfer • Reduced slagging					
		Improved boiler efficiency	SOFA - I			
O ₂ Balancing	SOFA • Corner & layers (I-IV)	 Improved boiler efficiency O₂ too high = efficiency loss O₂ too low = efficiency loss 	CCOFA - II CCOFA - I FII SECONDARY AIR			
Combustion Balancing (Temp, O ₂ and CO)	Secondary Boundary Air • Corner & levels (A-F)	Improved heat transfer	F PRIMARY AIR FI SECONDARY AIR EF OIL SECONDARY AIR EII SECONDARY AIR EII SECONDARY AIR E PRIMARY SECONDAR			
O ₂ Reduction	O ₂ Set Point	 Lower flue gas flow → Lower dry gas losses → Improved boiler efficiency 	EI SECONDARY AIR DE OIL SECONDARY AIR DI SECONDARY AIR D PRIMARY AIR DI SECONDARY AIR DI SECONDARY AIR CD OL SECONDARY AIR			
Fireball Centering	Corner 1 Corner 2 	Corner 3 Corner 4	CI SECONDARY AIR C PRIMARY AIR CI SECONDARY AIR BC OIL SECONDARY AIR BIL SECONDARY AIR			
By modifying ^C B Secondary Auxilary Air ^A	-1.48 % 5.12 % 0.00 % 0.60 % 0.00 % 0.00 %	1.45 % -5.12 % 0.00 % 0.00 % 0.00 % 0.00 % 0.00 % 0.00 %				
<u>O₂ Balancing</u>	Corner 1 Corner 2	Corner 3 Corner 4	BI SECONDARY AIR AB OIL SECONDARY AIR AII SECONDARY AIR			
By modifying	0.03 % 0.04 % 1.0.1 % 1.05 % 11.71 % 1.05 % 15.60 % 1.06 %	0.00 % 0.00 % -1.03 % -2.53 % -7.17 % -17.63 % -0.21 % -2.53 % -0.21 % -2.53 %	A PRIMARY AIR			
Combustion Balancing	Corner 1 Comer 2	Corner 3 Corner 4				
By modifying Secondary Boundary Air	-11.07 5 -12.07 5 -14.07 56 -11.07 5 -12.07 5 -14.07 56 -11.07 -10.07 5 -10.07 5 -10.07 56 -10.07 -10.07 5 -10.07 5 -10.07 56 -0.19 % -0.19 % -0.19 % 56	n 1 n 1 n 1 n				

Optimizer Control w/ Balancer



- Balancer Off
 - Optimizer can not lower $O_2 \rightarrow CO$ increases and hits limit
- Balancer On
 - Optimizer lowers O_2 from 3.6% to 2.85%
 - CO stays within limits
 - NOx Reduced by 14%
 - Efficiency Improvement = 0.49%



700MW Twin Tangential-fired Boiler

Plant Objectives:

Maintain NOx at <100ppm
Maintain CO at <200ppm
Maintain SH and RH temperatures at >1000 F

Problem:

•CO & NOx targets met with optimizer •Steam temps generally below 1000F

Solution:

In-furnace measurement with ZoloBOSSBalance furnace combustion



Basic Balancing Strategy

1. Equilibrate East and West Furnace.



2. Balance Combustion Within Each Furnace.





Overall Results

	Stack NOx	СО	Excess	Power	Superheat	SH Split	Reheat	RH Split	
	(ppm)	(ppm)	O2 (%)	(MW)	Temp (F)	W-E (F)	Temp (F)	W-E (F)	
Baseline - Optimizer Control	78.2	72	3.00	40.4	997.7	10.1	983.0	32.7	
Move air from East to West Furnace	73.0	630	2.24	37.4	997.3	14.2	995.0	14.7	
Balance CO within each Furance	74.3	175	2.24	38.0	1004.1	-0.1	1001.0	6.6	
Heat Rate Impact (Btu/kWh) * 24.2 34.4 11.6 - 22.7							22.7	-	
Total Heat Rate Reduction (Btu/kWh)									



- NO_x \downarrow by 5% (78 to 74ppm); Maintained CO limits < 200ppm
- Steam Temps:
- Auxiliary Power:
 - 🤸 2.4 MW
- Heat Rate:
 - Total Heat Rate Reduction ~0.9%



Summary

Balanced / Optimized combustion leads to: Improved heat rate (efficiency) Enhanced availability Greater fuel flexibility Decreased emissions Minimize slagging

Questions?

Please visit our website at www.zolotech.comThank you for your time and your interest!





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