



*LABORATORY OF THERMAL TURBOMACHINES*  
*NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS*

---

# **Moisture Condensation Effect on Turbine Performance Tests**

**I. Roumeliotis**  
Research Assistant

**K. Mathioudakis**  
Associate Professor

**Laboratory of Thermal Turbomachines**  
**National Technical University of Athens**





## **Moisture Condensation Effect on Turbine Performance Tests**

**§Ambient Humidity and Condensation**

**§Test Rig Model**

**§Test Case**

**§Condensation Prediction**

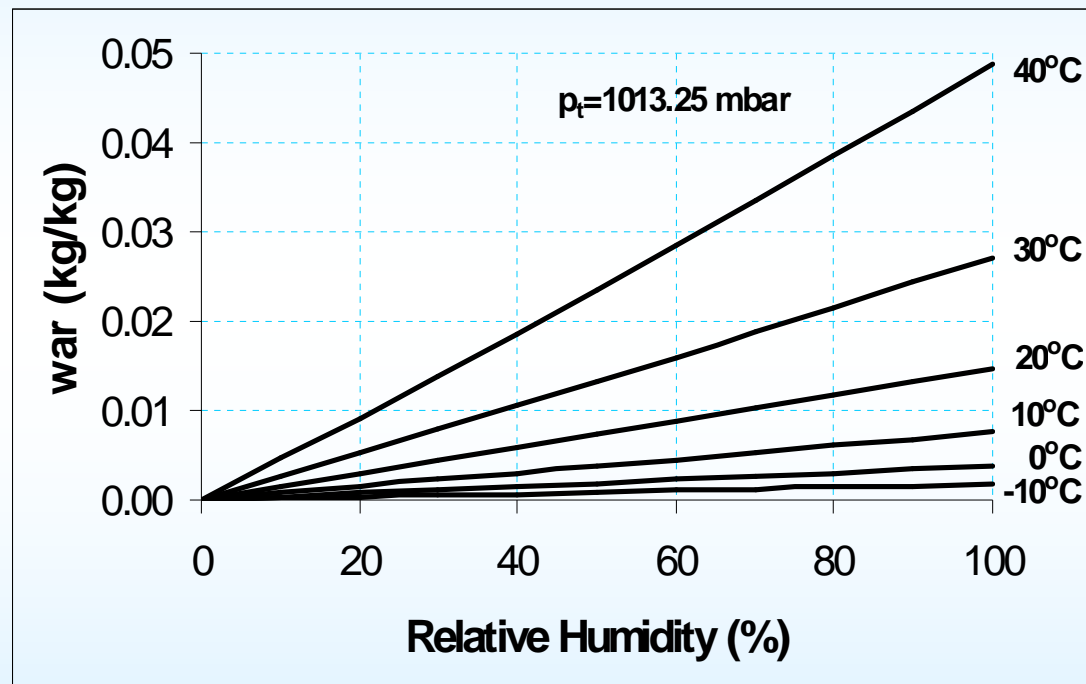
**§Measurements Correction**

**§Condensation Avoidance**

**§Conclusions**



## Ambient Humidity



Moisture fraction is a function of ambient pressure, temperature and relative humidity



## **Humidity, Condensation and Temperature Rise**

**§Homogeneous and Heterogeneous Condensation**

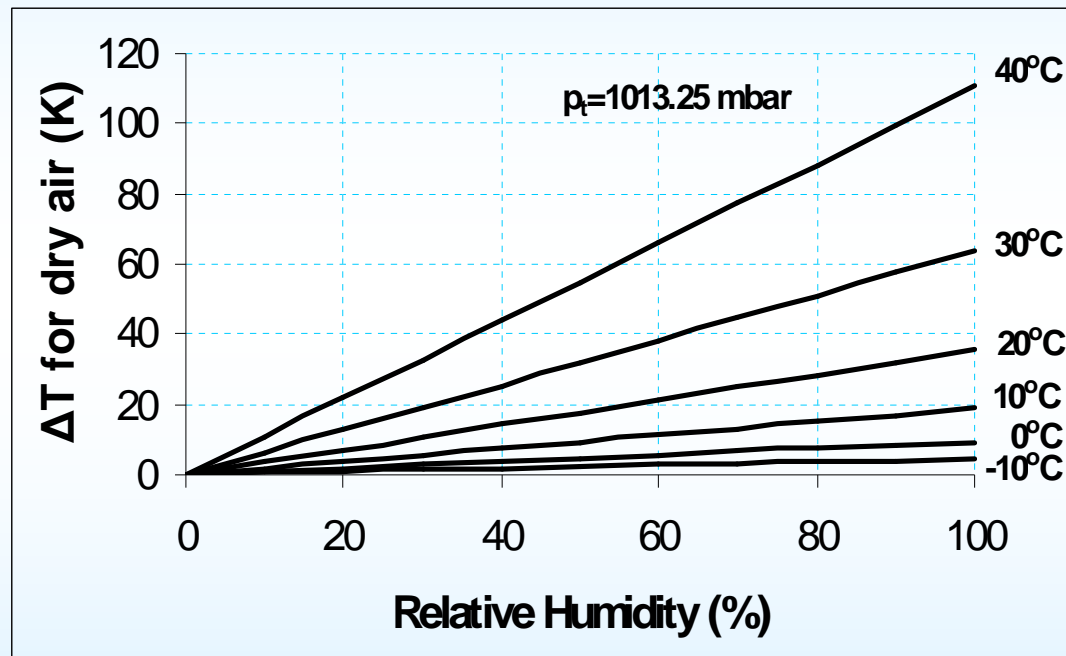
**§Water droplets appear and two – phase flow with heat and mass transfer between water and the gas mixture occur**

**§Release of the latent heat of vaporization produces a temperature rise of the gas mixture**

**§Condensation is a thermodynamically irreversible process, resulting in loss of stagnation pressure**



## Temperature Rise



Heating of dry air by the latent heat of vapour.

Vapour quantity corresponding to various ambient conditions



## Turbine Efficiency Determination

### Thermodynamic Method

$$n_{T,is} = \frac{T_{t1} - T_{t3}}{T_{t1} \cdot \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{p_{t3}}{p_{t1}} \right)^{\frac{g-1}{g}} \right]}$$

§Temperature Measurement

§Pressure Measurement

§Gas Composition

### Mechanical Method

$$n_{T,is} = \frac{t \cdot N}{c_p \cdot \dot{m} \cdot T_{t1} \cdot \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{p_{t3}}{p_{t1}} \right)^{\frac{g-1}{g}} \right]}$$

§Flow Measurement

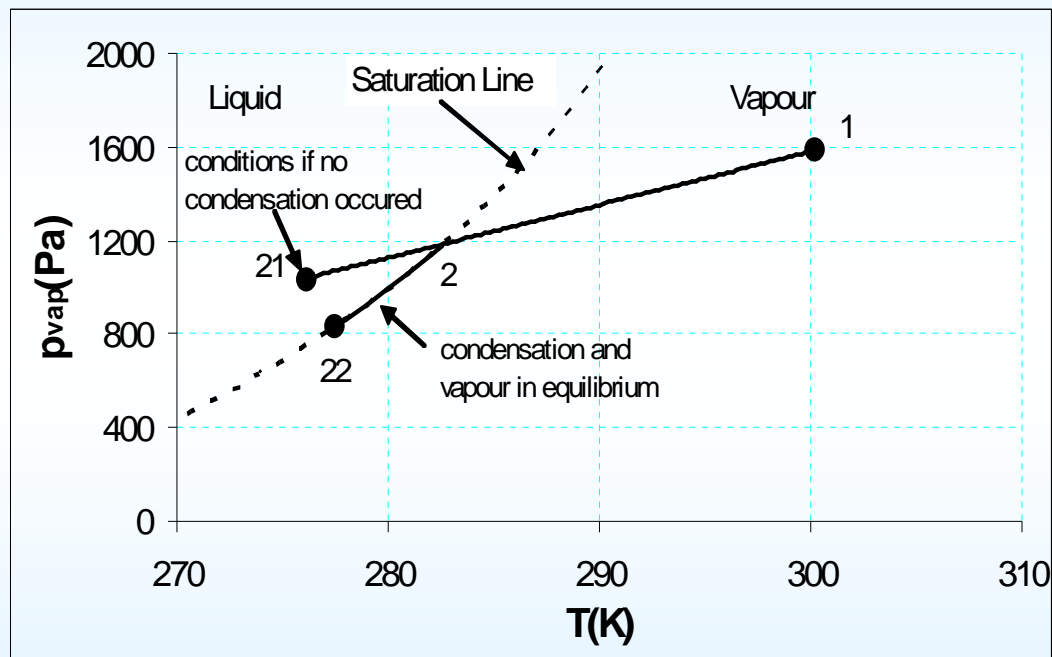
§Torque Measurement

§Shaft Speed Measurement

§Gas Composition



## Condensation during Expansion



Phase Diagram for Water



## Moisture Condensation Effect on Turbine Performance Tests

*§Ambient Humidity and Condensation*

**§Test Rig Model**

*§Test Case*

*§Condensation Prediction*

*§Measurements Correction*

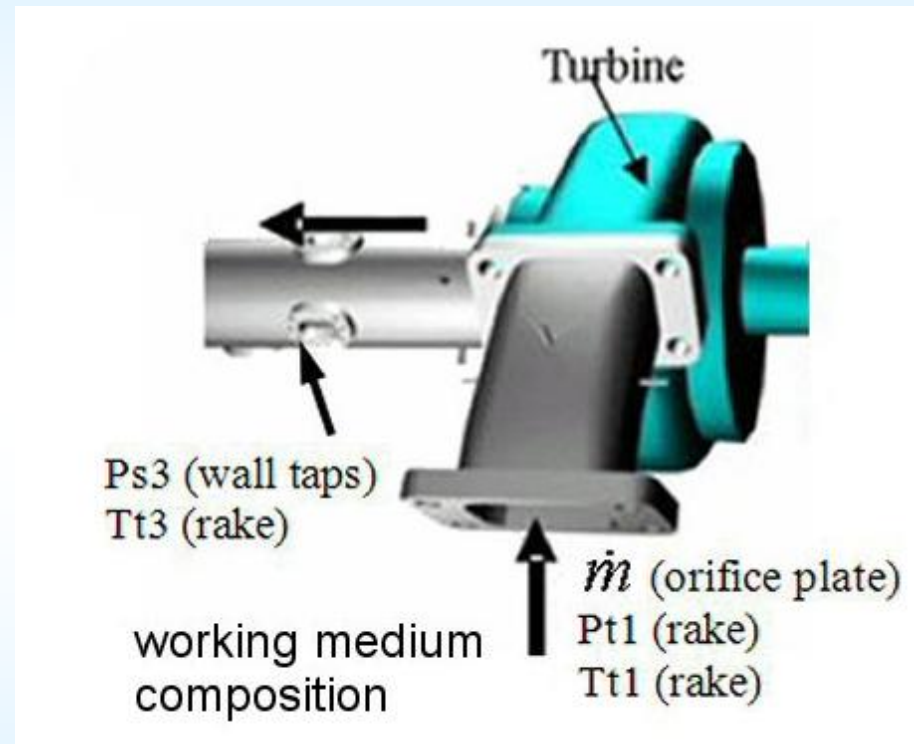
*§Condensation Avoidance*

*§Conclusions*





## Test Rig Model



### Typical Measurements



## Test Rig Model

### Objective

§Evaluation of isentropic efficiency as if no condensation occurs

### Steps

§Prediction of condensation

§Calculation of condensed water

§Calculation of the exit conditions as if no condensation occurs



## Test Rig Model

### Calculation of Condensed Water

§Assuming Equilibrium Saturation at Turbine Exit

§Condensate Quantity Calculated based on Static Conditions

§Conservation of enthalpy (total to static)

§Conservation of entropy (total to static)

§Conservation of mass



## Test Rig Model

### Calculation of “Dry” Exit Conditions

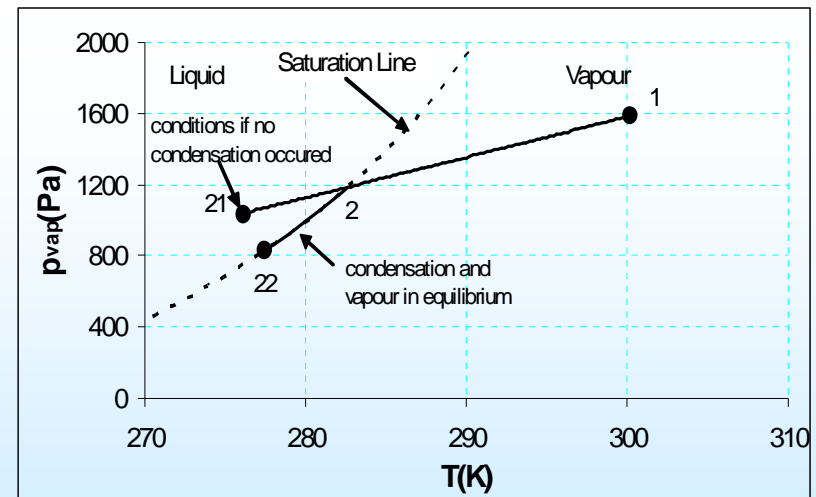
§Assuming Instant Condensation

§Calculation of Exit Conditions as if no Condensation had Occurred

§Conservation of Energy

§Conservation of Momentum

§Conservation of Mass





## **Moisture Condensation Effect on Turbine Performance Tests**

*§Ambient Humidity and Condensation*

*§Test Rig Model*

**§Test Case**

**§Condensation Prediction**

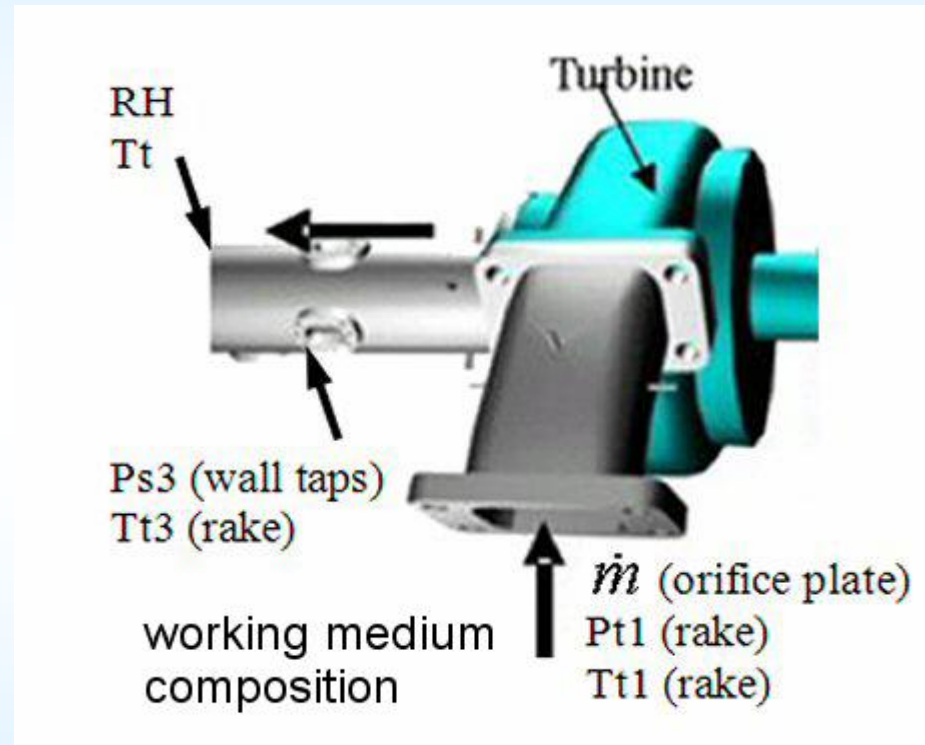
**§Measurements Correction**

*§Condensation Avoidance*

*§Conclusions*



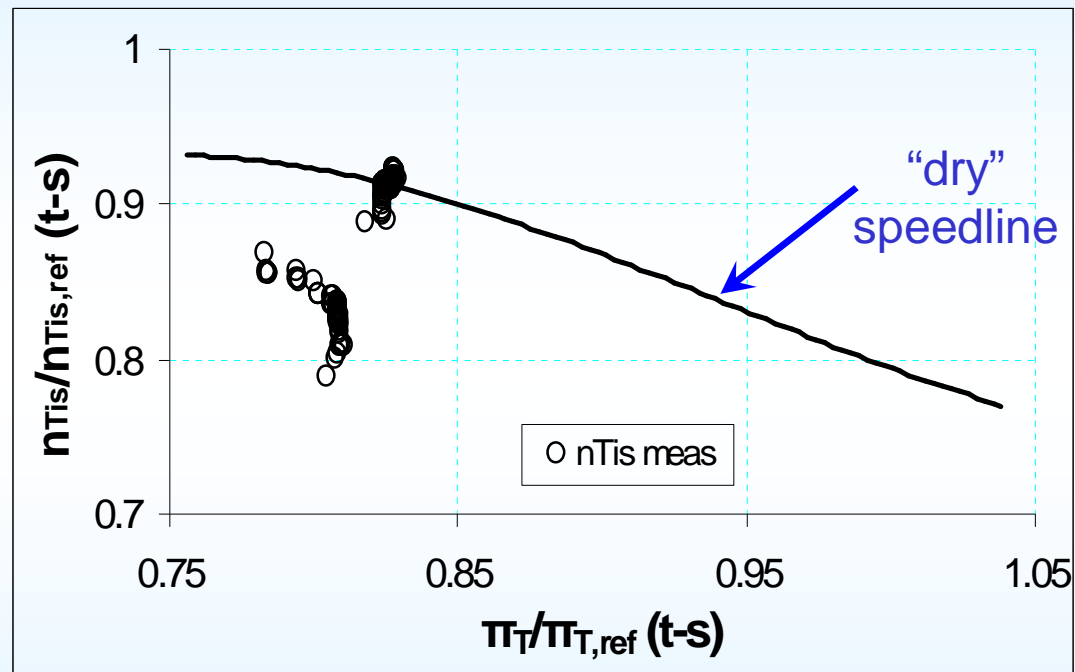
## Test Facility



**Typical Test Rig with two additional measurements at duct exit (RH, Tt)**



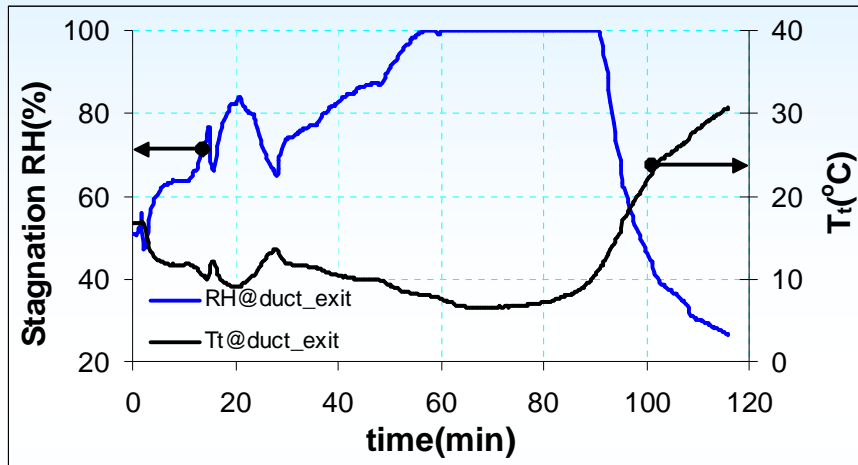
## Raw measurements



Deviation of measured efficiency from no condensation speedline

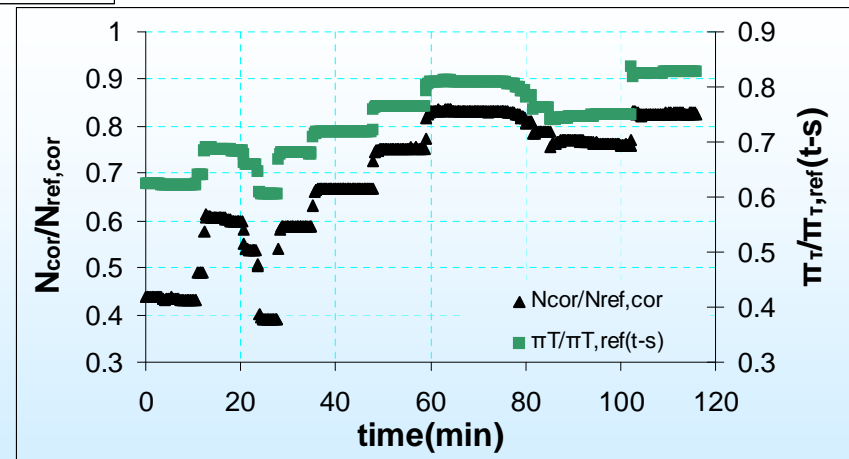


## Test Case



Variation of Measured Temperature and Relative Humidity at duct exit

Operating point variation during test

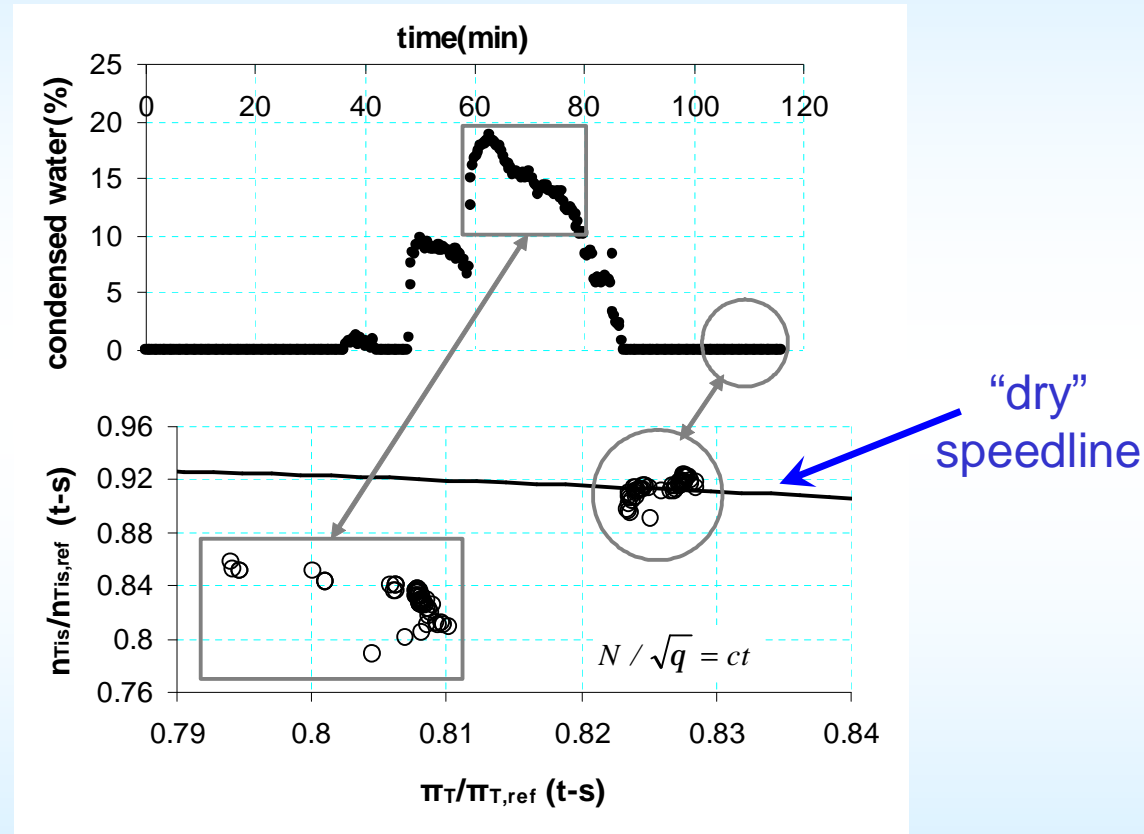






## Condensation Prediction

F Speedline 1

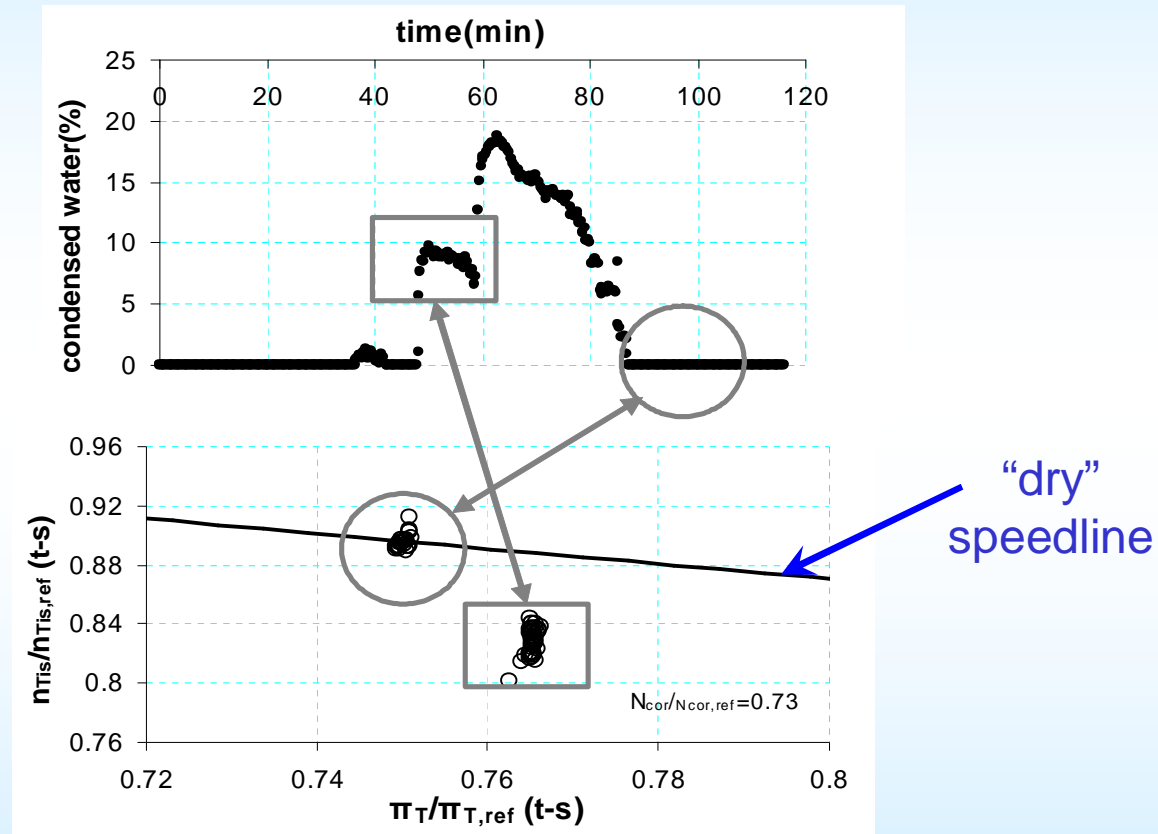


Correlation of erroneous efficiency calculations with condensation



## Condensation Prediction

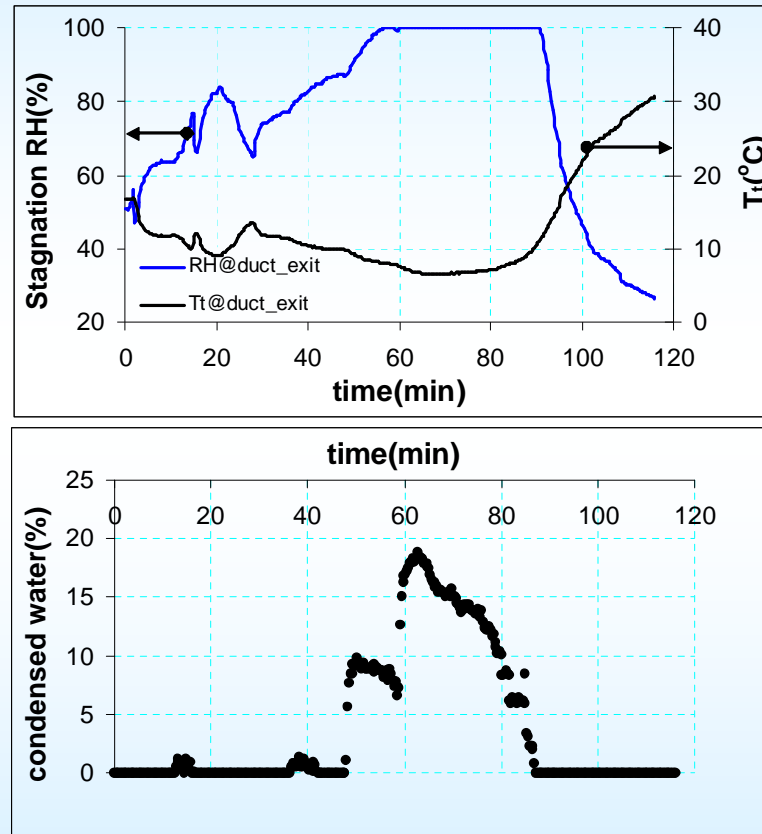
F Speedline 2



Correlation of erroneous efficiency calculations with condensation



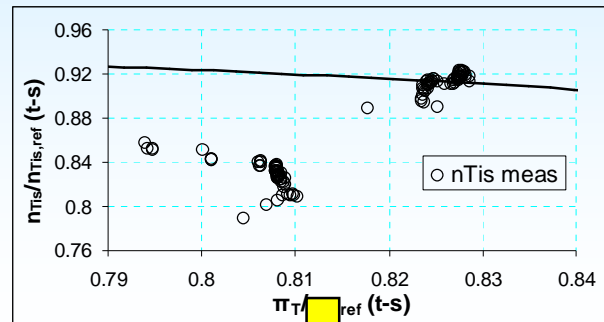
## Condensation Prediction



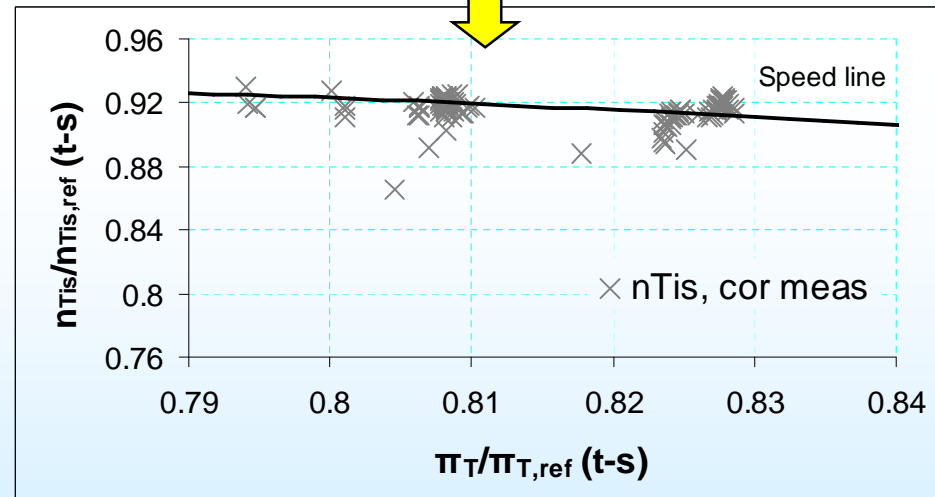
**Correlation of measured Relative Humidity with Condensation**



## Measurements Correction



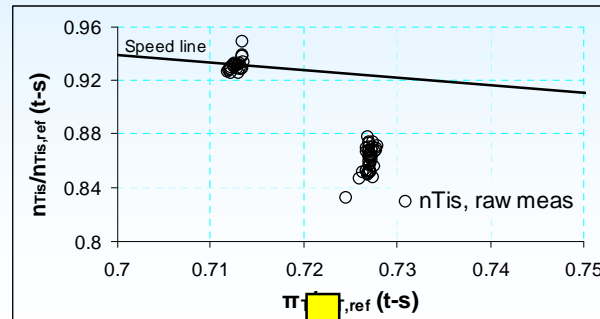
F Speedline 1



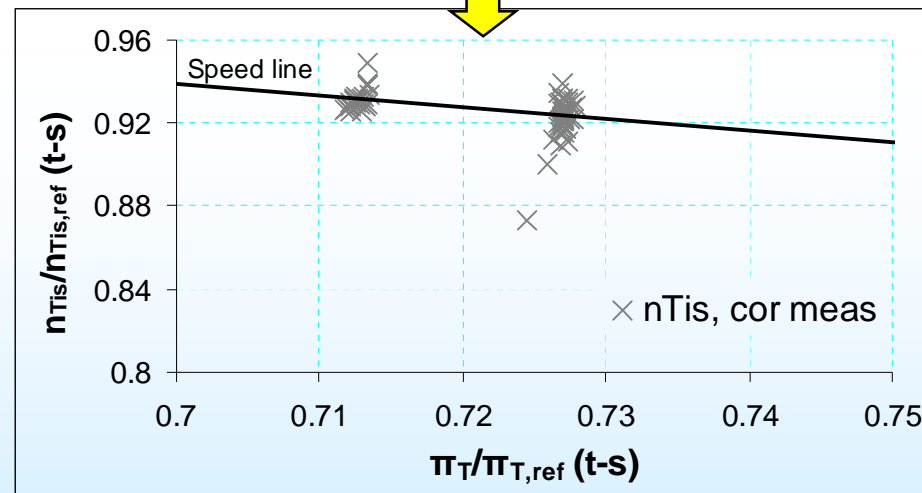
Calculated Isentropic Efficiency corrected for Condensation



## Measurements Correction



F Speedline 2



Calculated Isentropic Efficiency corrected for Condensation



# **Moisture Condensation Effect on Turbine Performance Tests**

*§Ambient Humidity and Condensation*

*§Test Rig Model*

*§Test Case*

*§Condensation Prediction*

*§Measurements Correction*

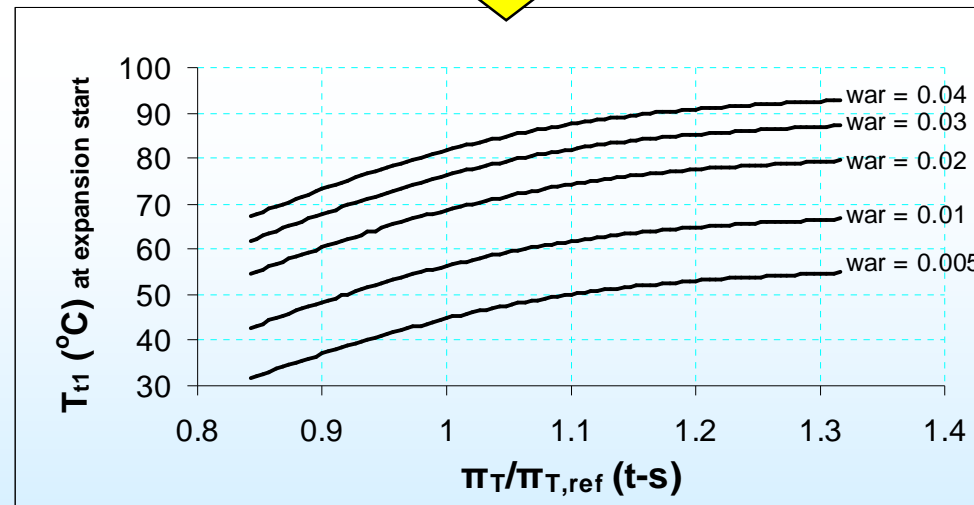
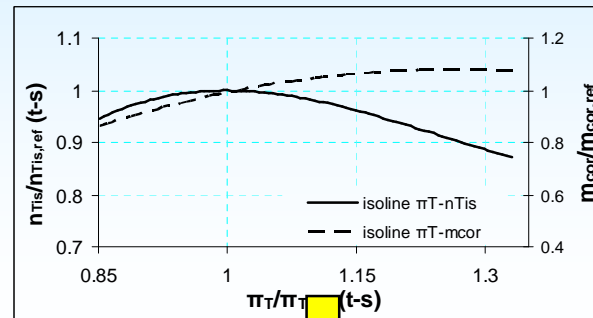
**§Condensation Avoidance**

*§Conclusions*



## Condensation Avoidance

Test case used isolines



Minimum Temperature at Expansion Start



## **Conclusions**

**§Condensation in cold flow turbine testing alters significant the measurements**

**§Condensation regions may be predicted accurately without additional measurements**

**§The efficiency corrected for condensation is consistent with the efficiency calculated from dry measurements**

**§The implementation of the method is possible to assure condensation free tests**