

REINHOLD ENVIRONMENTAL Ltd.



# 2017 NO<sub>x</sub>-Combustion-CCR Round Table Presentation

February 27 & 28, 2017, in Cleveland, OH / Hosted by FirstEnergy

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# **SCR: Troubleshooting SCR NO<sub>x</sub> Control in Gas Turbine Systems**

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**Laguna Hills, CA**

**2017 Reinhold NO<sub>x</sub>-Combustion-CCR Round Table**

**February 27, 2017**

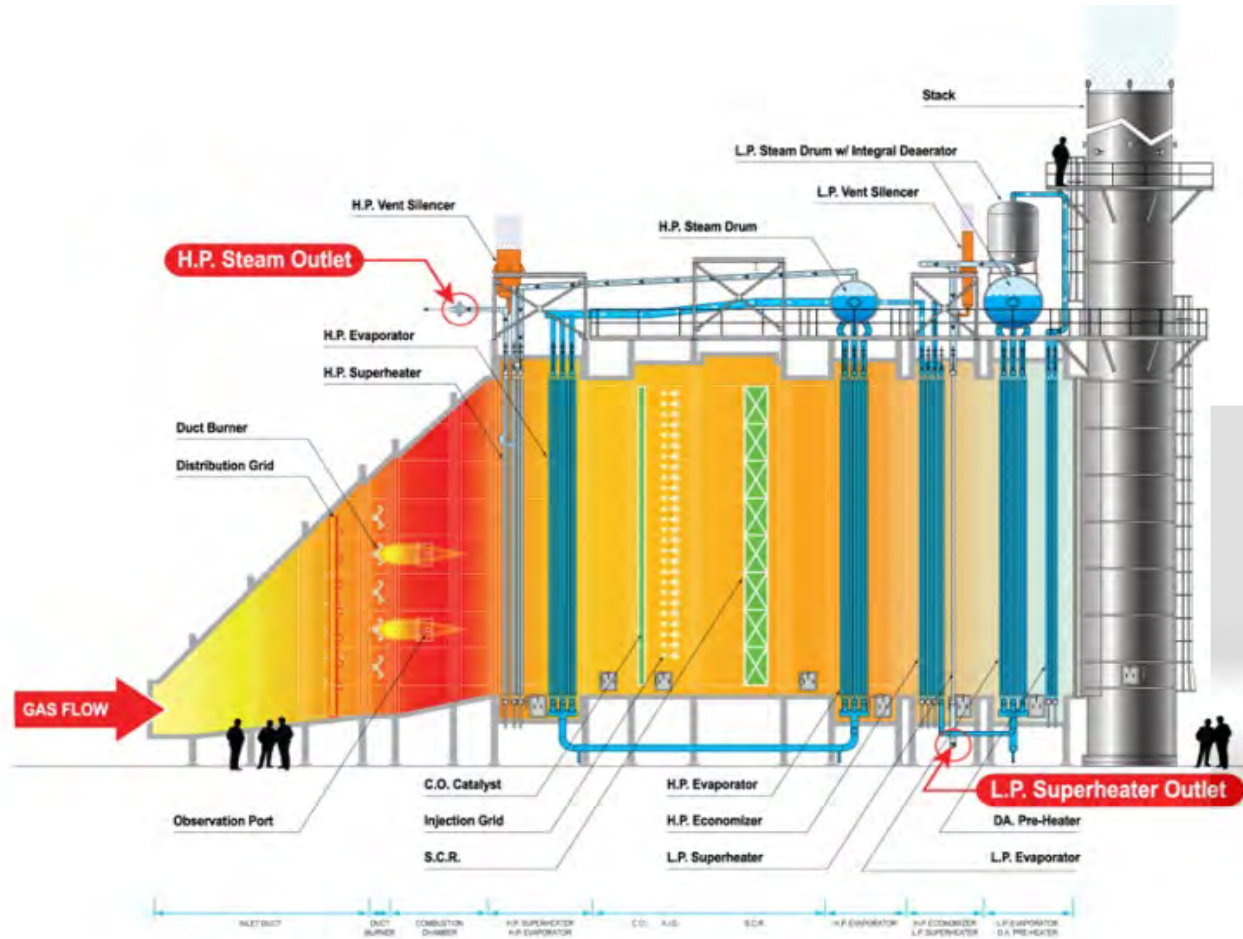
**Cleveland, OH**

# Troubleshooting Gas Turbine SCR Performance

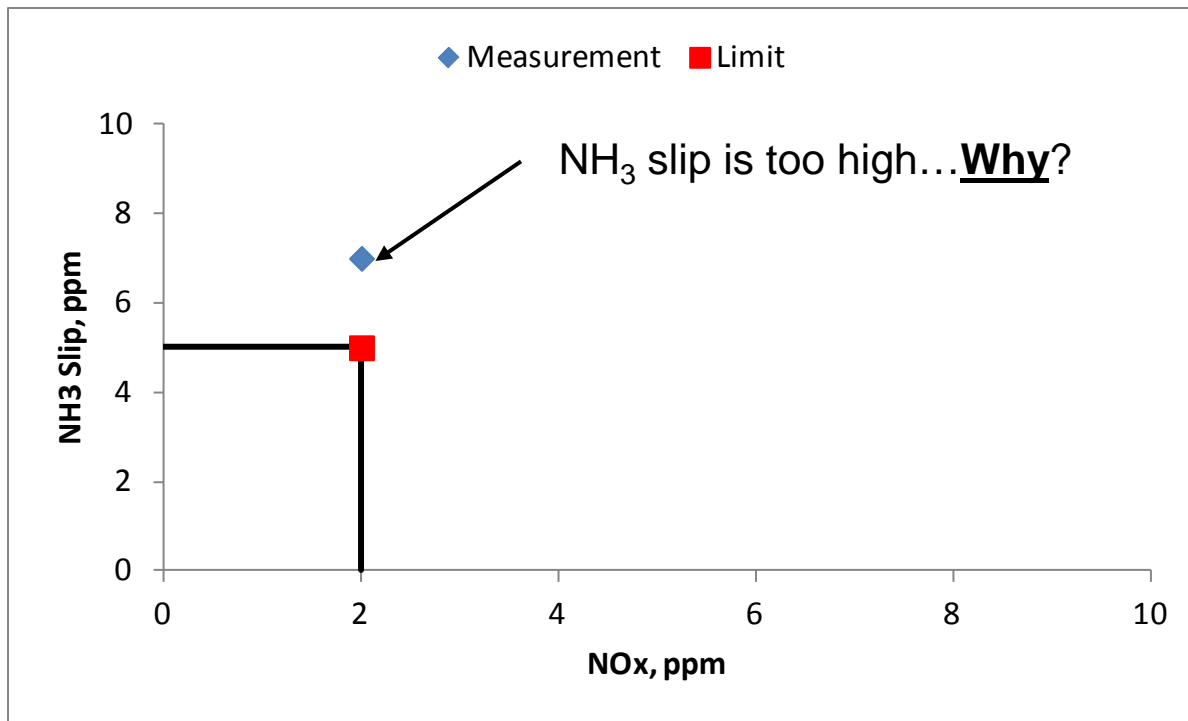
## Topics

- **Troubleshooting - How to Distinguish  $\text{NH}_3$  Maldistribution from Bypass**
- **AIG Tuning - Catalyst Inlet  $\text{NH}_3/\text{NO}_x$  Distribution**
- **Identifying Flue Gas Bypass**
- **Measuring SCR Velocity**

# Combined Cycle Gas Turbine SCR



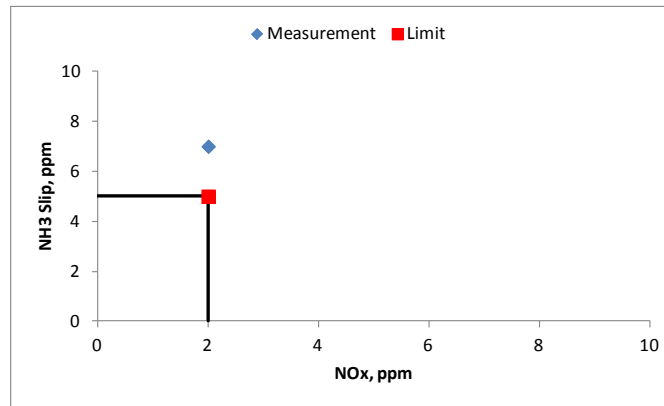
# Troubleshooting



# Why?

## Catalyst Activity (K)?

- How active the material is in reducing NO<sub>x</sub>
- $f(\text{material, geometry})$



## Poor NH<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> Distribution?

- Want NH<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> uniform across the catalyst
- Local NH<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> > 1 = NH<sub>3</sub> slip
- **Was the AIG designed properly?**
- **Was the AIG tuned?**

## Reactor Potential?

- Ability of the catalyst bed to reduce NO<sub>x</sub>
- $RP = K \cdot A_{sp} \cdot V_{cat} / Q_{fg}$
- **Was enough catalyst installed?**

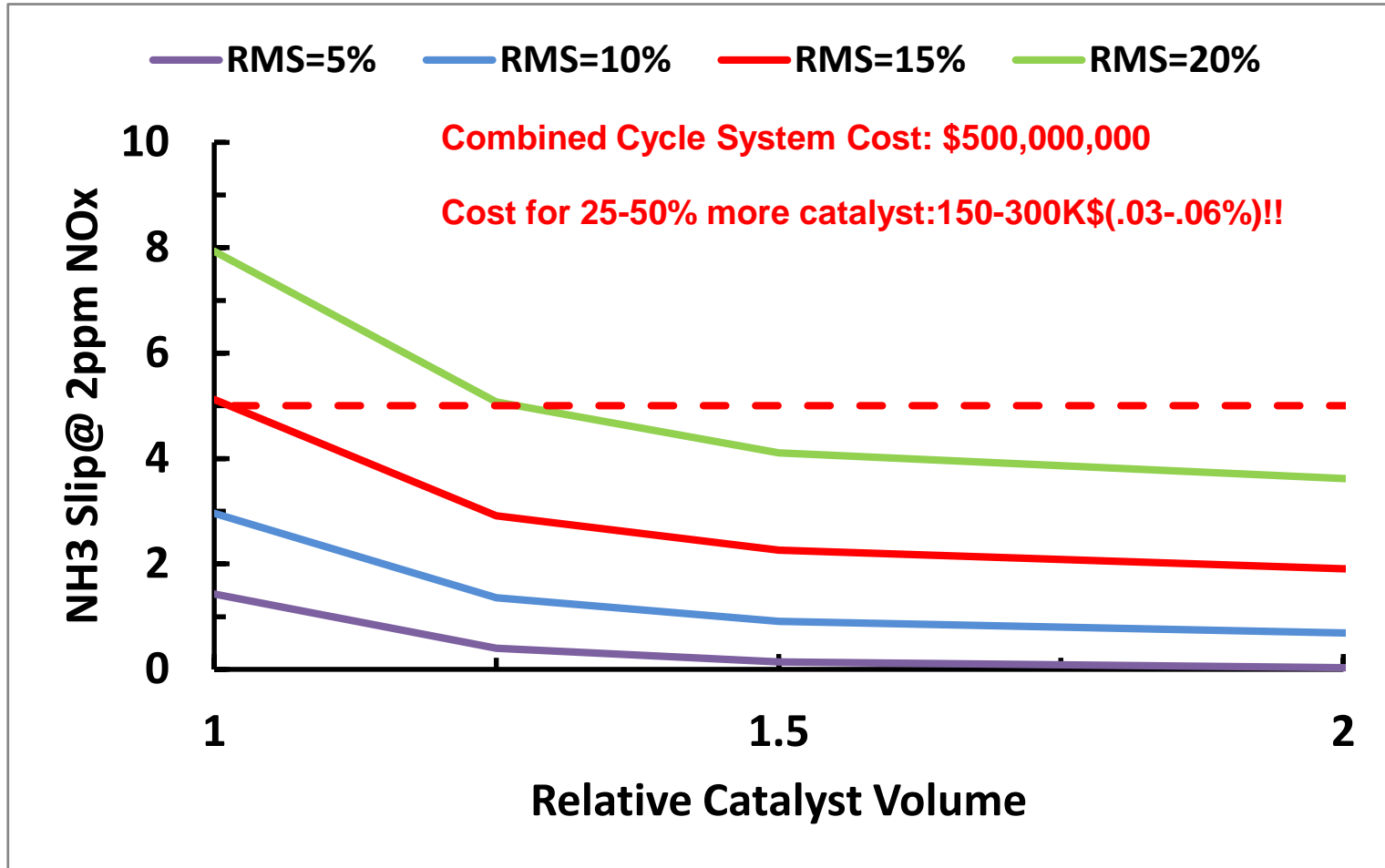
## Flue Gas Bypass?

- Any bypass by the catalyst increases stack NO<sub>x</sub> & NH<sub>3</sub>
- **How can you tell if and where the bypass is?**

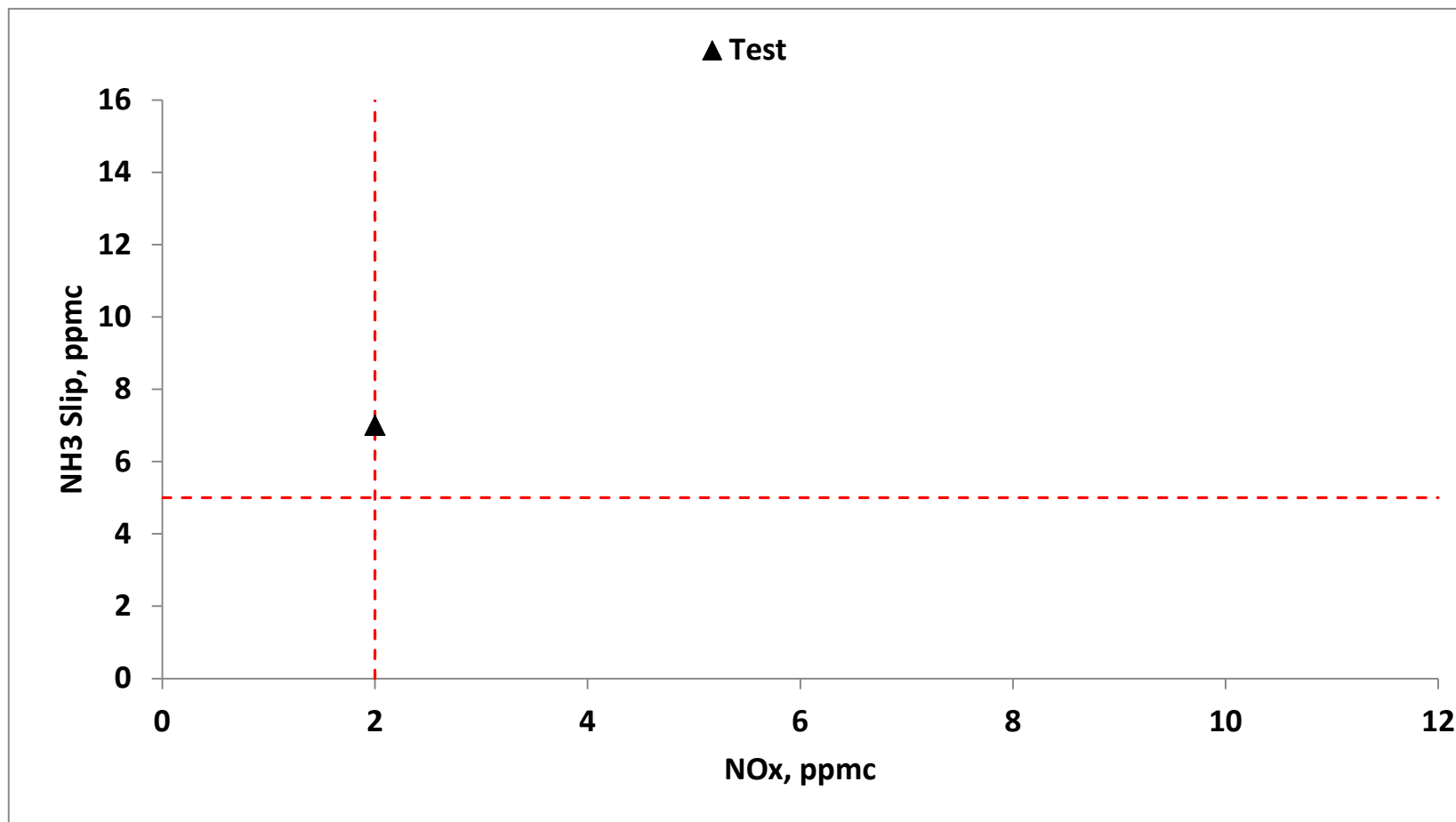
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# Was Enough Catalyst Installed?

# Penny Wise and Pound Foolish!!

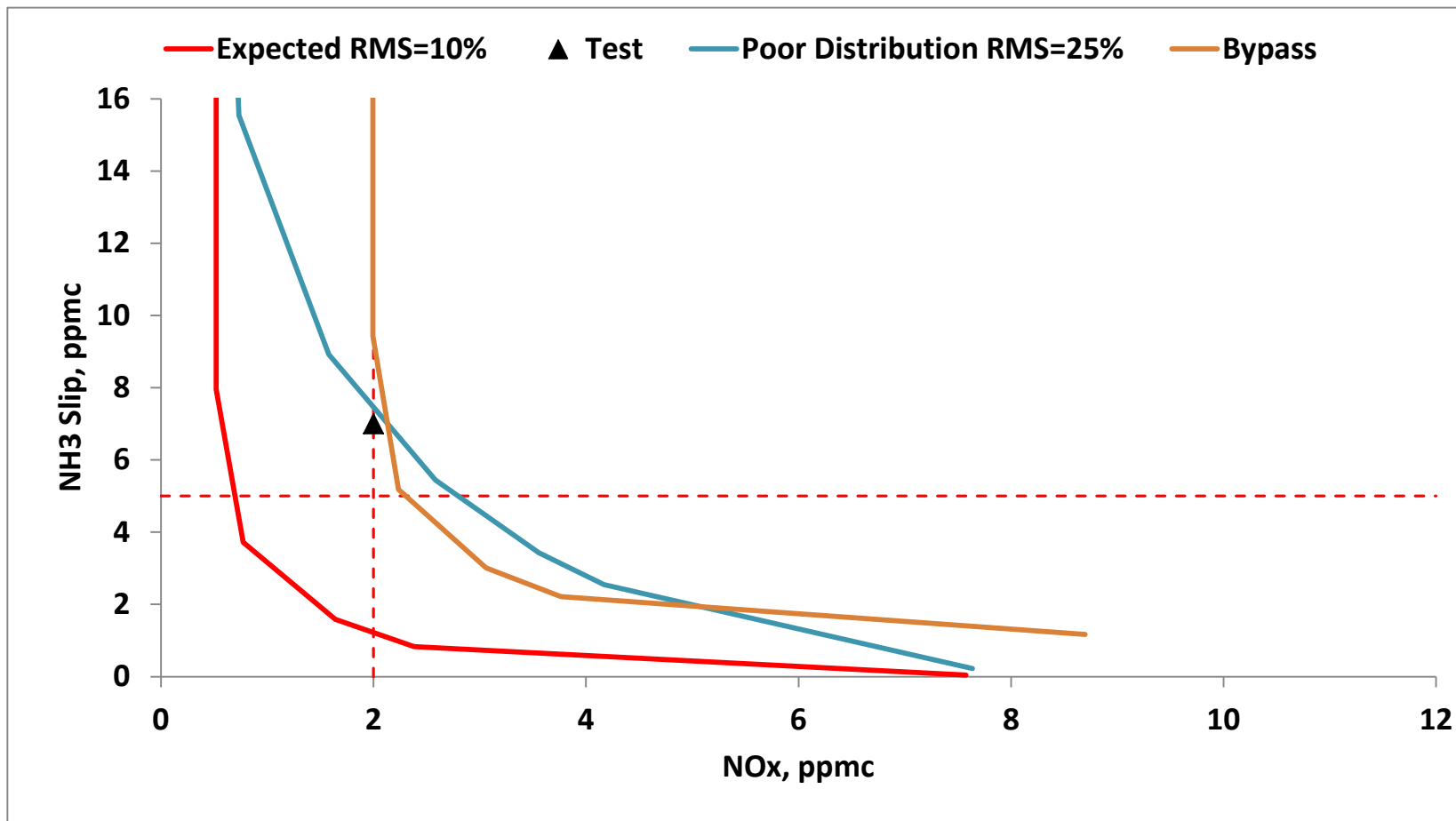


# Is it a Poor NH<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> Distribution or Bypass?

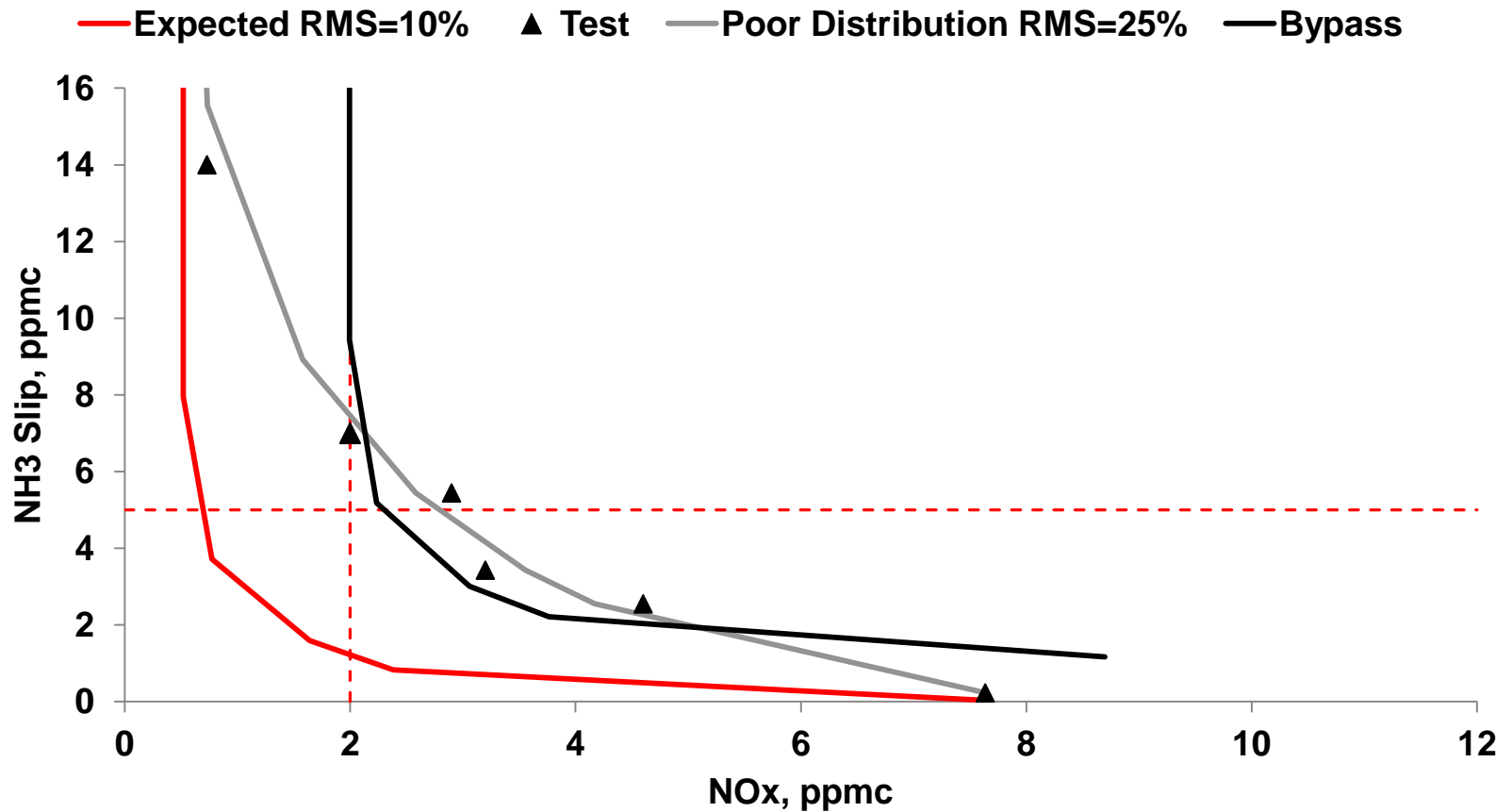


# Is it a Poor NH3/NOx Distribution or Bypass?

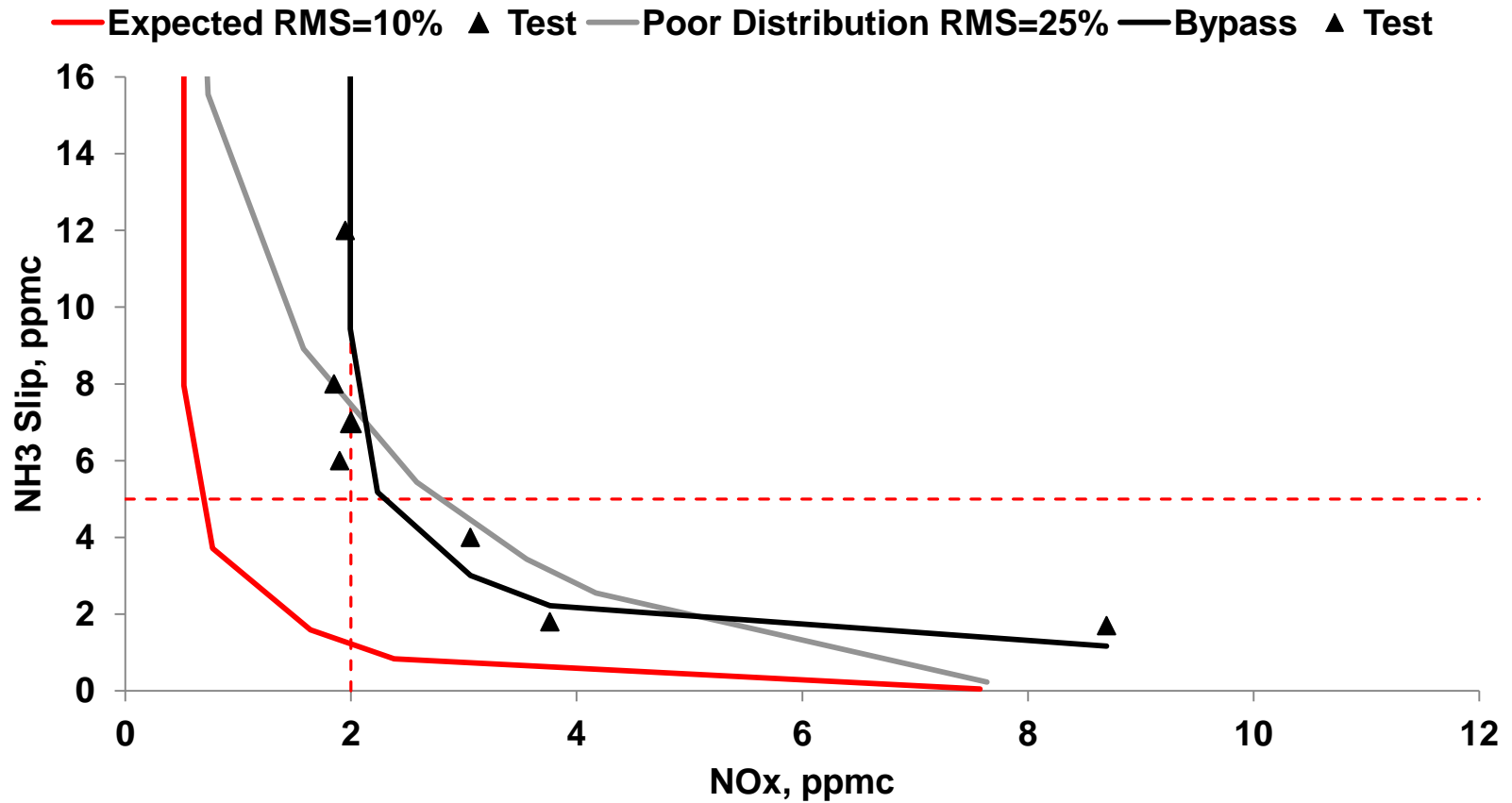
Difficult to tell with only one test



# Conduct More Tests: Scenario 1



# Conduct More Tests: Scenario 2

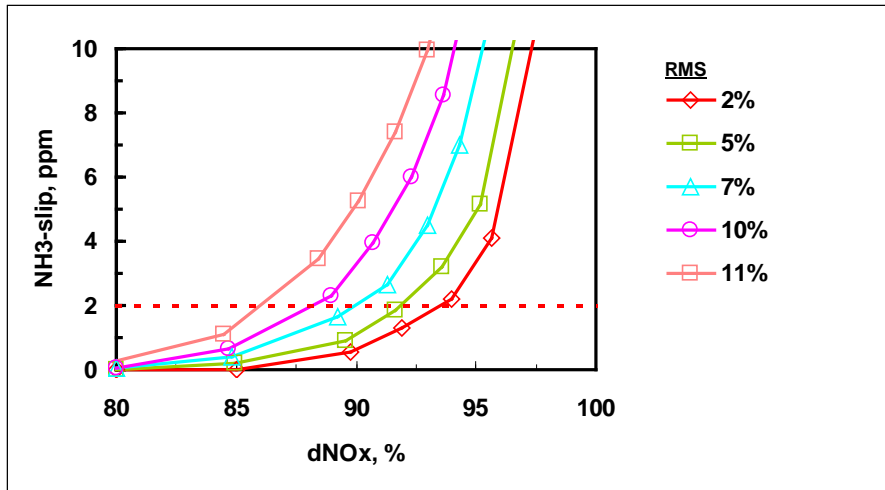


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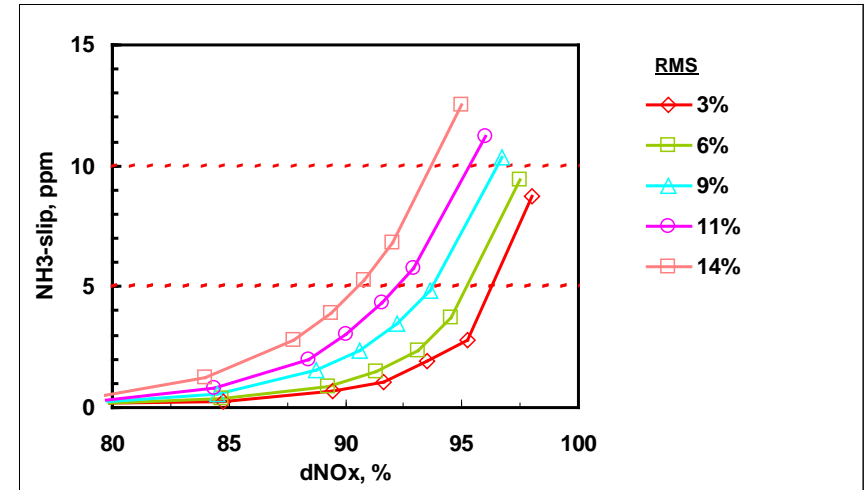
# AIG Tuning

# EFFECT OF NH<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> MALDISTRIBUTIONS ON SCR PERFORMANCE

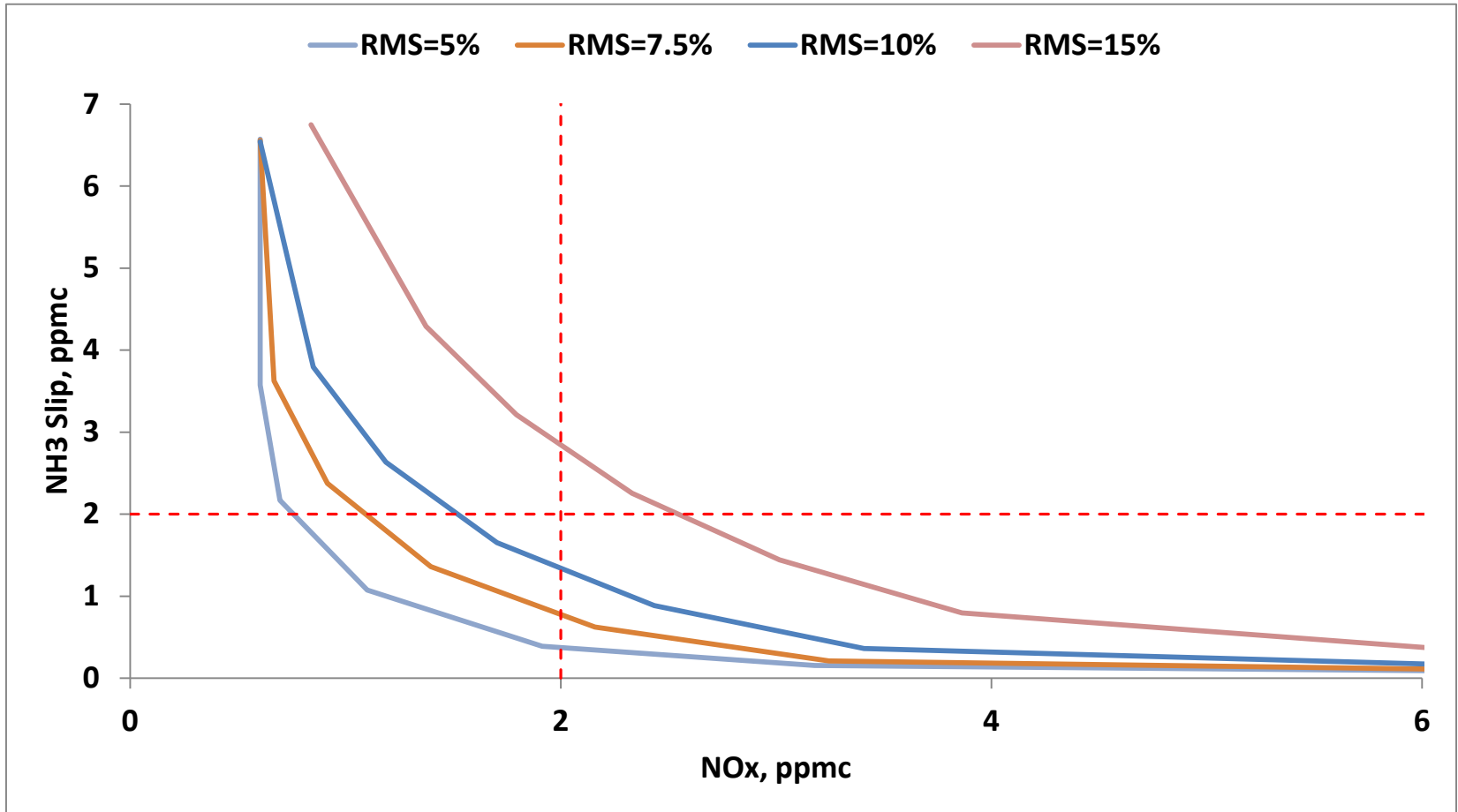
## Coal-fired SCR (NO<sub>x,in</sub>=300 ppm)



## Gas Turbine SCR (NO<sub>x,in</sub>=25 ppm)

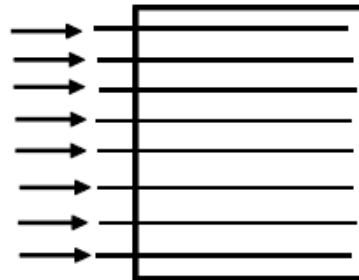


# What Happens if (or when!) NH3 Slip Limits Reduced to 2ppm?



# AIG Design Affects Tuning

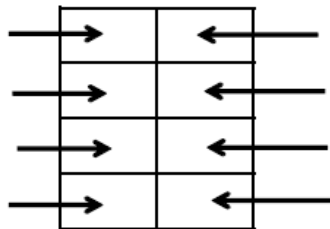
- **No Adjustments**: Some systems have no adjustment valves- **Bad Idea !!!**
- **1-D**: Commonly used design



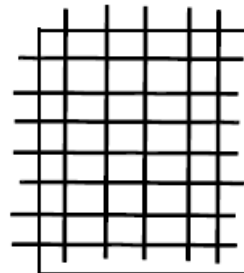
AIG Lance need to be properly designed to insure equal NH<sub>3</sub> distribution along the lance:

$$AR = A_{\text{lance}} / A_{\text{holes}} > 5$$

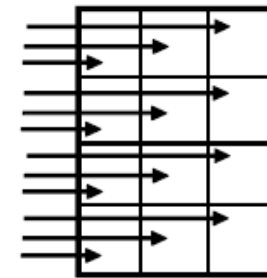
- **Multi Zone**: Better



Two Horizontal Zones



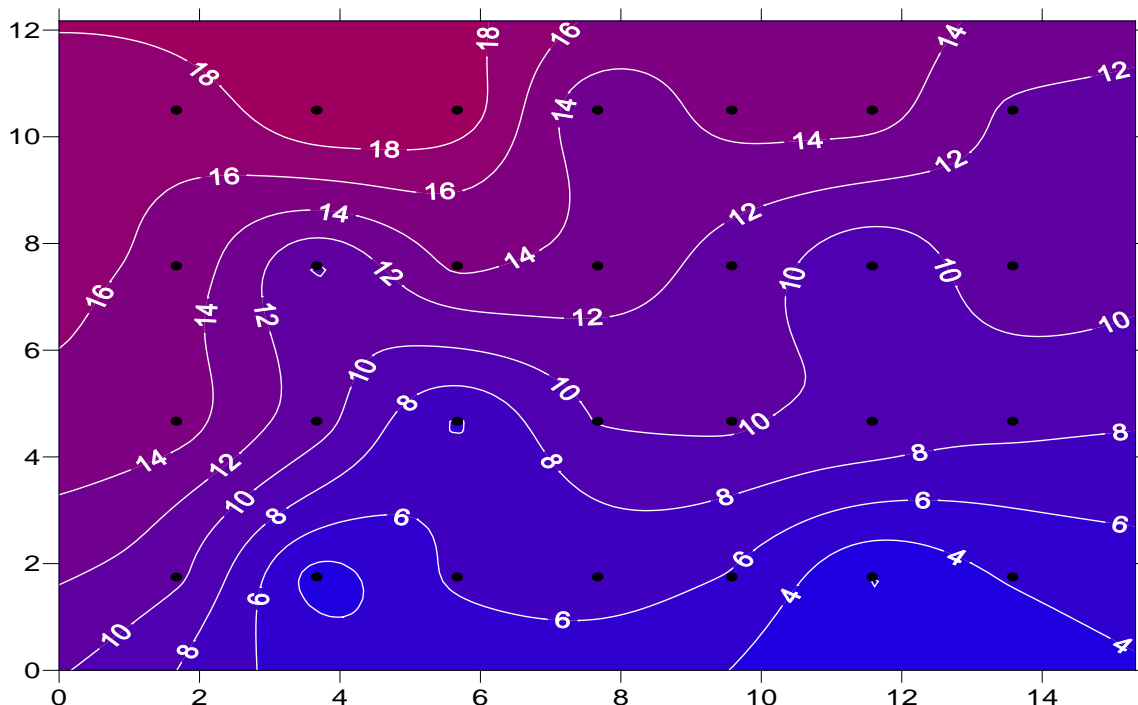
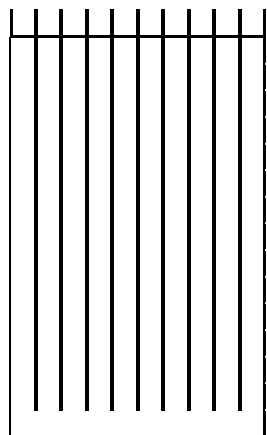
Horizontal and Vertical Lances



Three Horizontal Zones

# Case 1: AIG- Improper Design

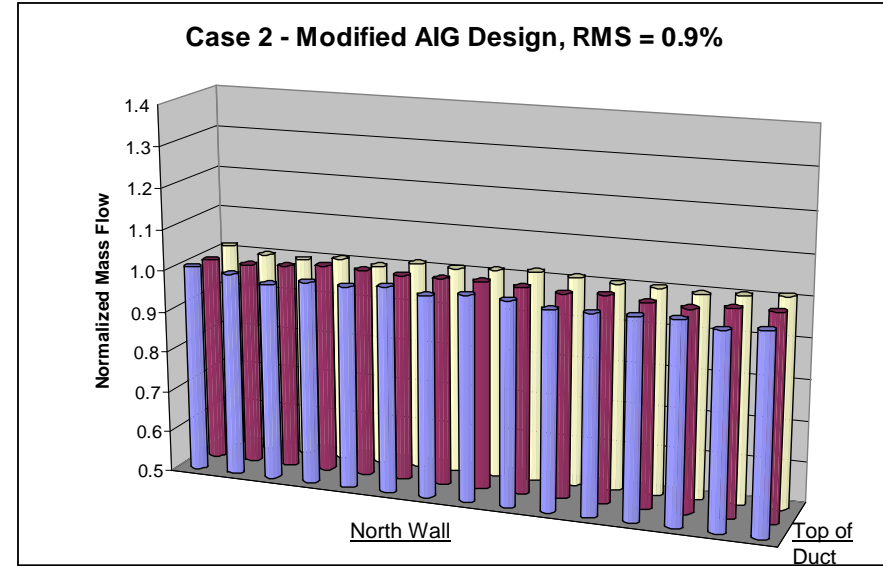
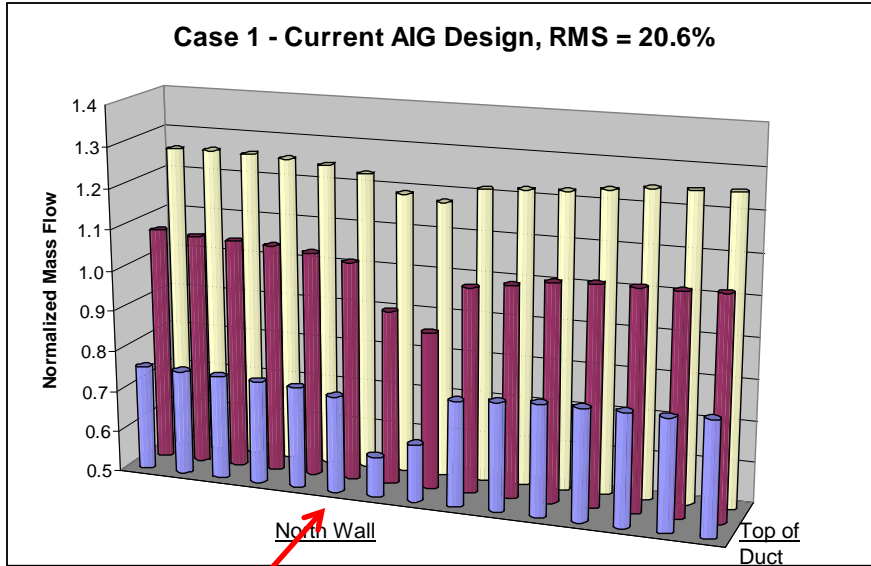
NOx gradient due to NH3 bias from lances( injection hole area too large)



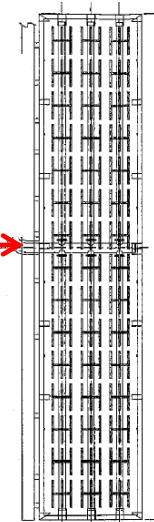
**AR < 5,**  
so NH<sub>3</sub> biased to  
bottom of the  
lance

Want  
 $AR = A_{\text{lance}} / A_{\text{holes}} > 5$

# Case 2: CFD RESULTS (AIG Holes Too Large)



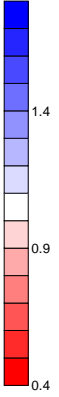
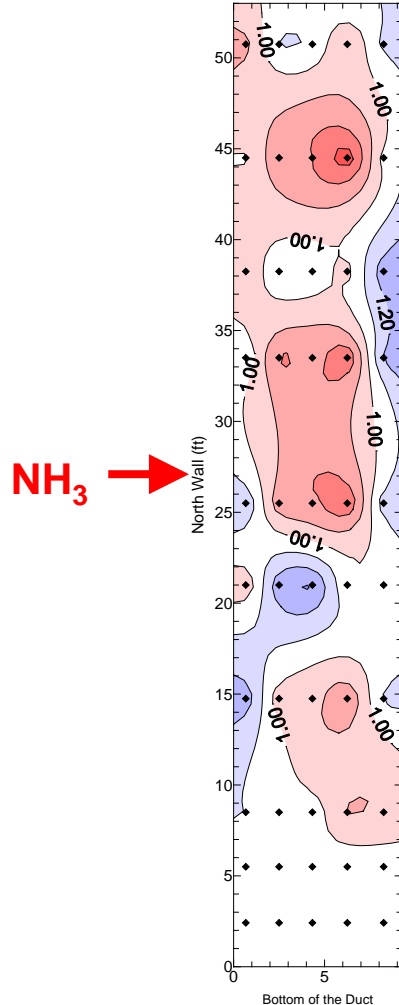
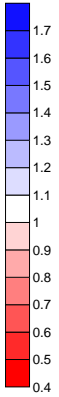
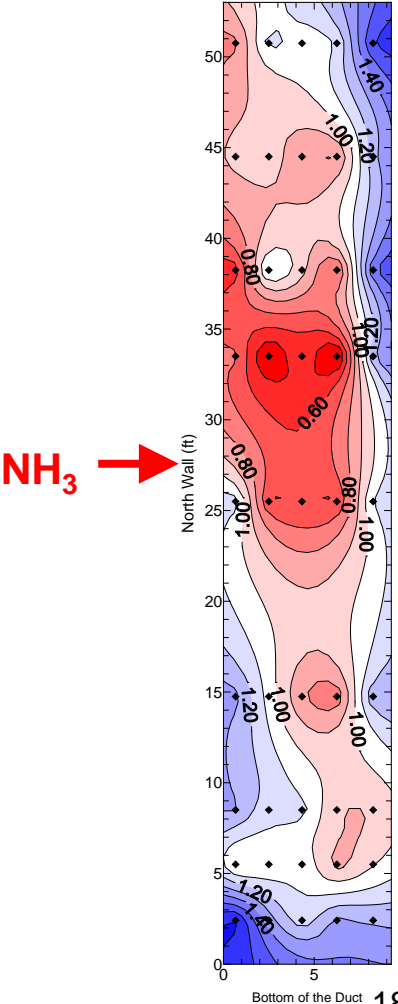
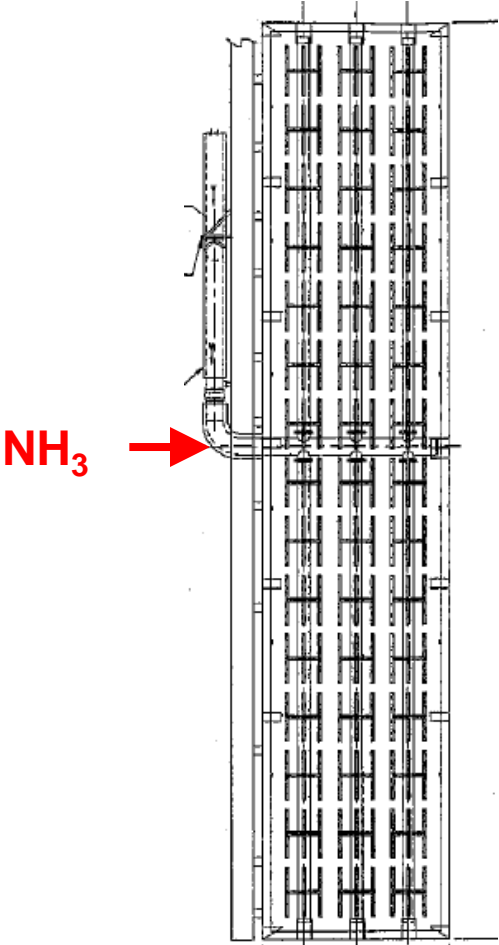
Ammonia Enters This Side



# Case 2- Injection Holes Resized

Orig. AIG RMS = 35%

All Holes Resized RMS = 16%



# AIG Tuning

## o Measure and Adjust the NH<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> Ratio

- Most precise
- May require turning off the NH<sub>3</sub>
- Is done by just measuring NO<sub>x</sub>

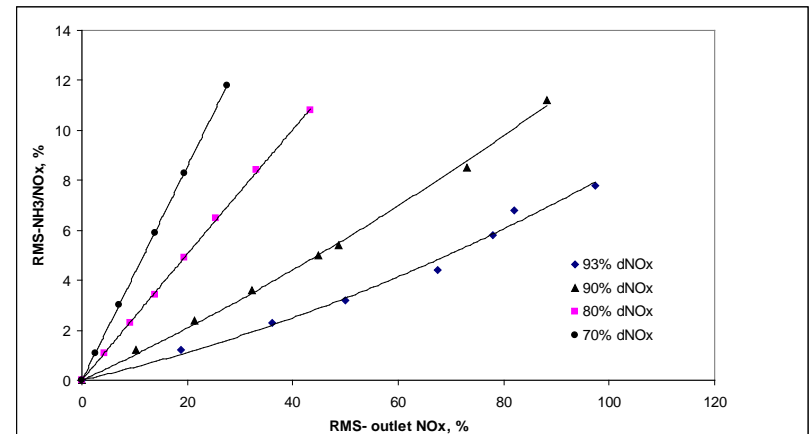
$$\text{NH}_{3\text{in}_i} = (\text{NO}_{\text{xin}_i} - \text{NO}_{\text{xout}_i}) + \text{NH}_{3\text{slip}_i}$$

$$\text{NH}_{3\text{in}_i} = (\text{NO}_{\text{xin}_i} - \text{NO}_{\text{xout}_i})$$

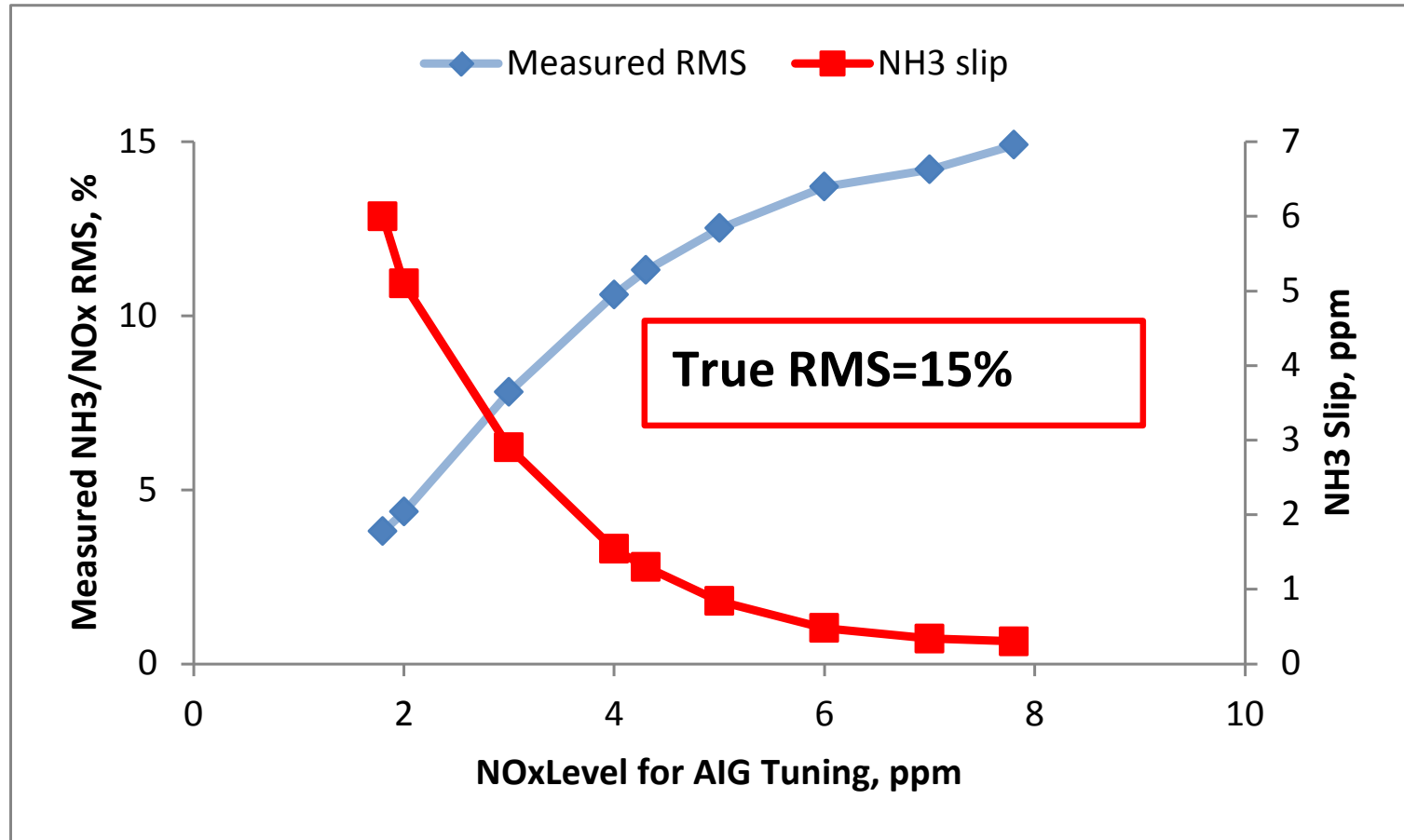
$$\left(\frac{\text{NH}_3}{\text{NO}_x}\right)_i = \left(1 - \frac{\text{NO}_{\text{xout}_i}}{\text{NO}_{\text{xin}_i}}\right)$$

## o Adjust to a Uniform Outlet NO<sub>x</sub> Distribution

- Easier
- Does not require that the NH<sub>3</sub> be turned off
- However, there is not a unique relationship between outlet NO<sub>x</sub> profile and NH<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> uniformity (if the inlet NO<sub>x</sub> varies)

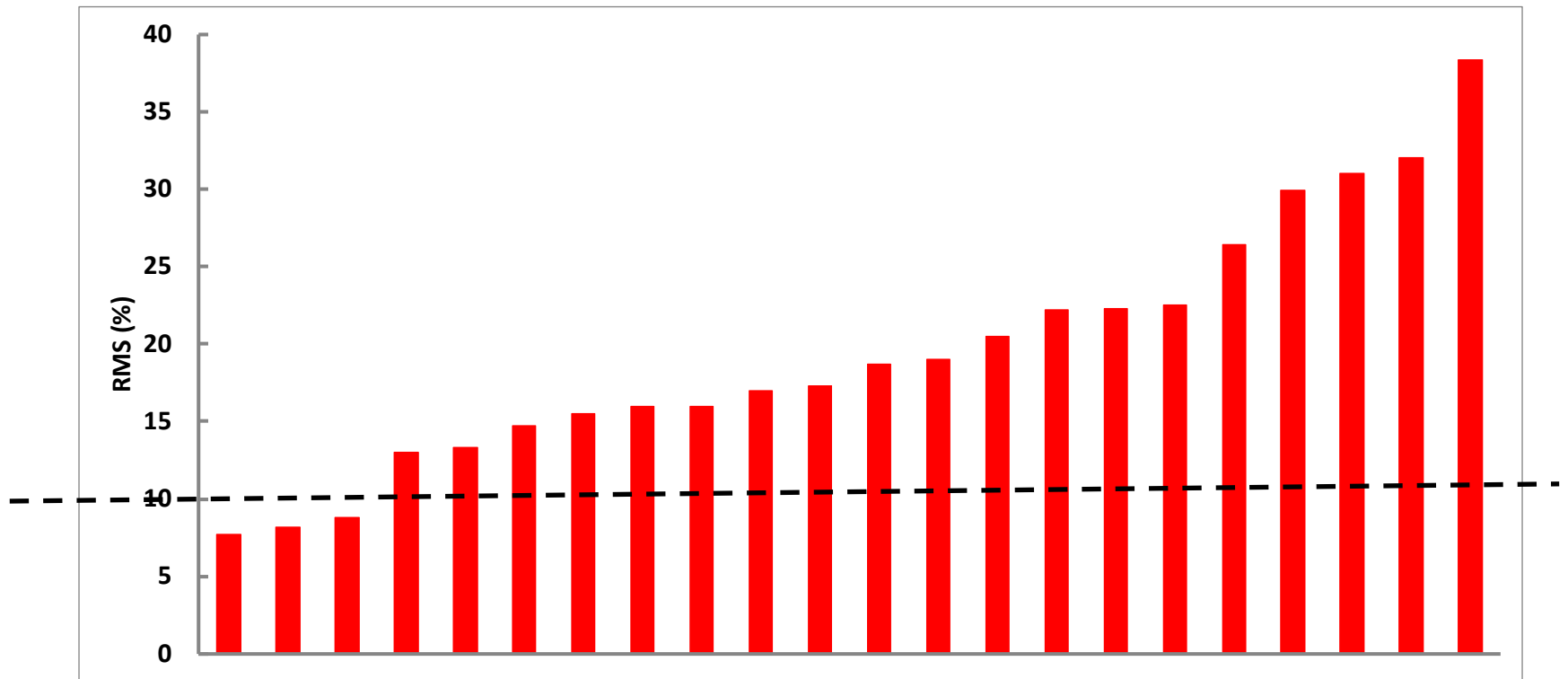


# Tune at Too Low a NOx Level ( Actual RMS=15%)



# How Well is a GT AIG Tuned? (As Found RMS Values)

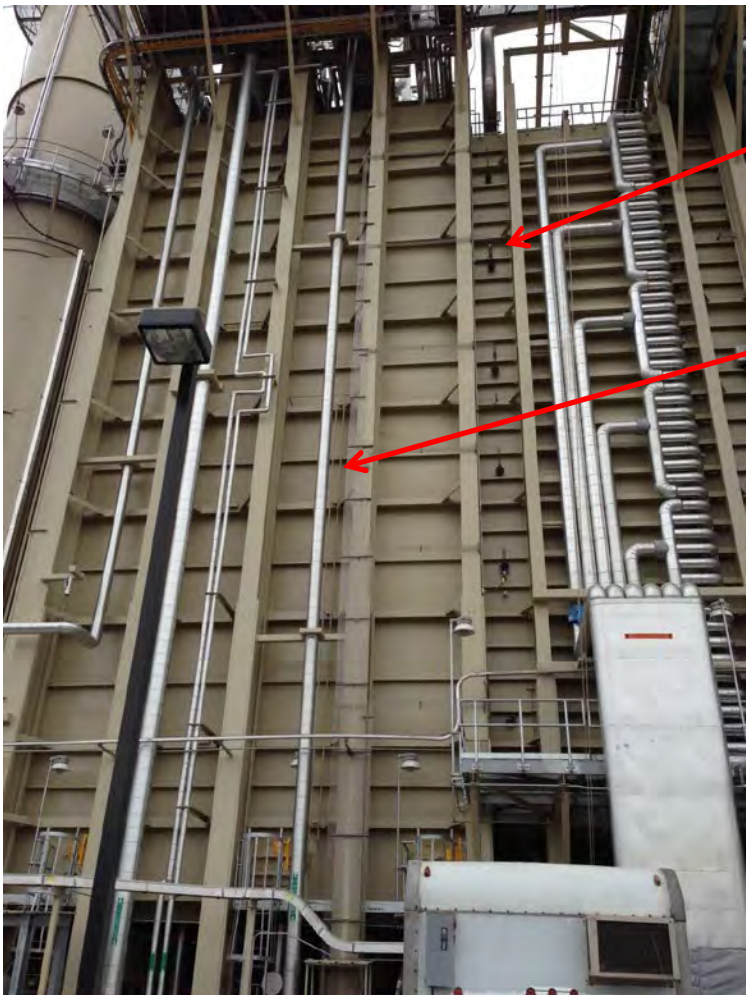
Most of the GT AIGs we encounter are not tuned very well!



# Gas Turbine SCR AIG Tuning

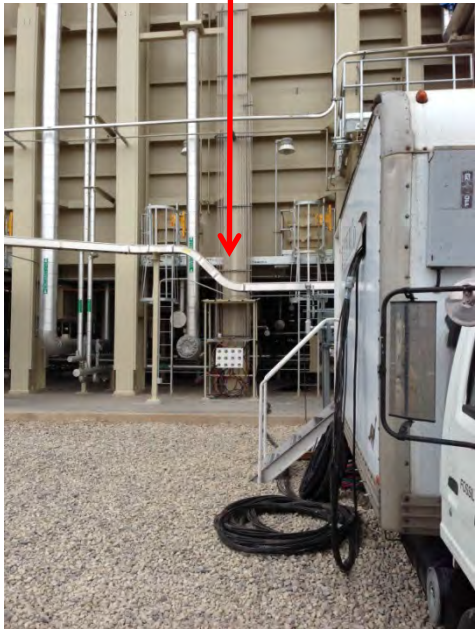
- **Tuning is Facilitated by Installing a Permanent Sample Grid at the Catalyst Exit:**
  - **Typically done on coal units but not Gas Turbines**
  - **Not feasible to manually traverse a large combined cycle system for AIG tuning**
  - **Typically need 36 to 60 probes depending on AIG design**
- **With Permanent Probes Tuning can Typically be done in One Day**
- **The NO<sub>x</sub> Profiles at the Exit of the Catalyst can also Help Identify Bypass**

# Outside View of a Permanent Sample Grid on a Large Combined Cycle



Sample probe exit ports

Sample probe lines brought down to grade



# Sample Probes Supported from Catalyst Frame



# FERCo's Multipoint Instrumentation

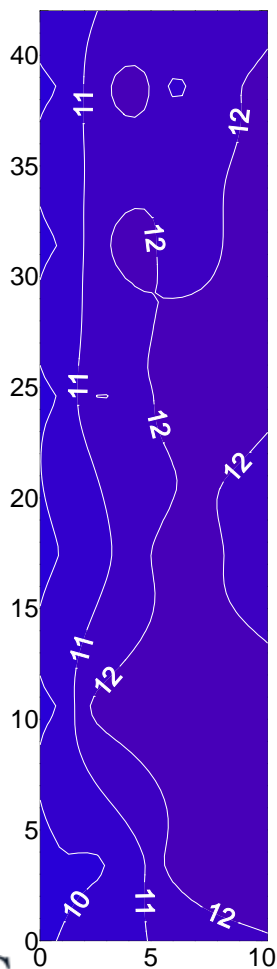


- Samples 48 points in 12-15 minutes (4 groups of 12)
- $\text{NO}_x$  and  $\text{O}_2$

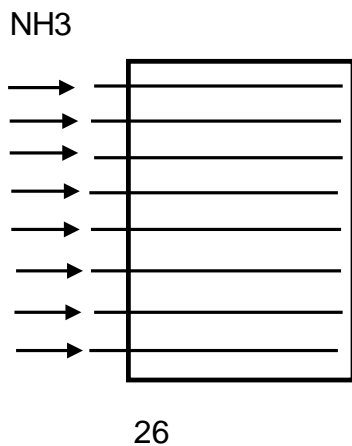


# Duct Burners Impact AIG Tuning

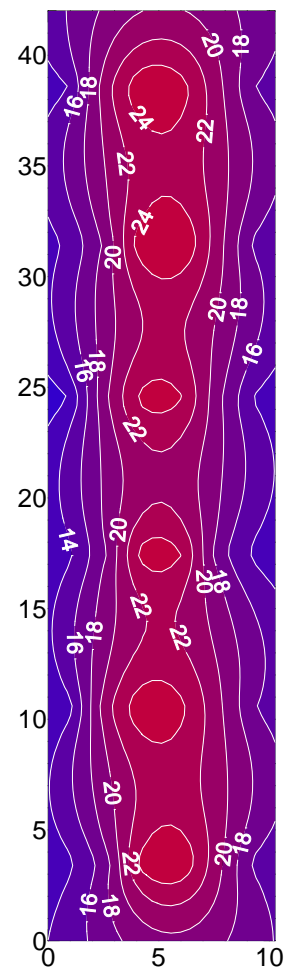
**Duct Burners Off**  
**(Inlet NO<sub>x</sub> ppm)**



**AIG Difficult to Tune**

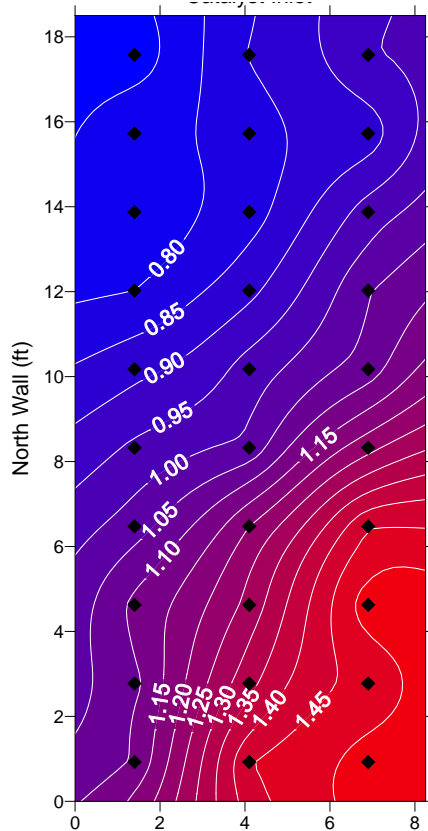


**Duct Burners On**  
**(Inlet NO<sub>x</sub> ppm)**

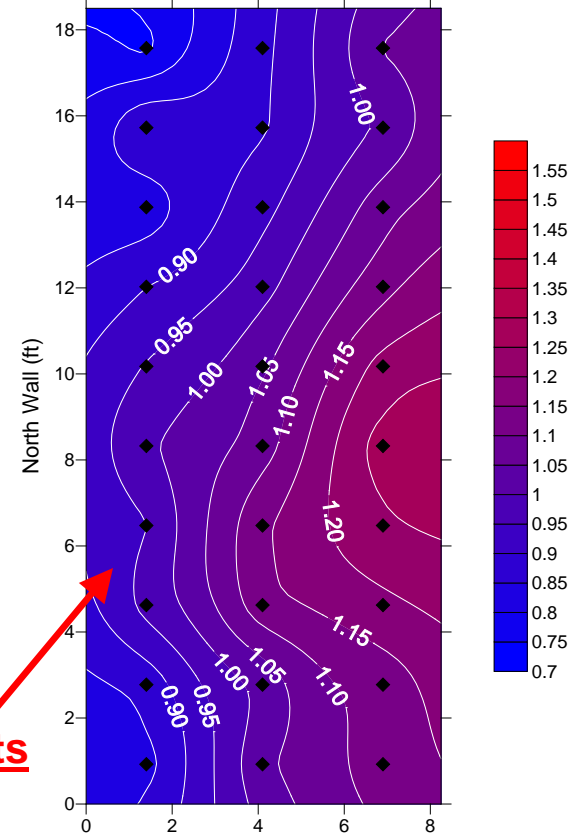


# AIG Tuning, 1-D AIG Design; NH<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub>

**As Found, RMS = 22%**



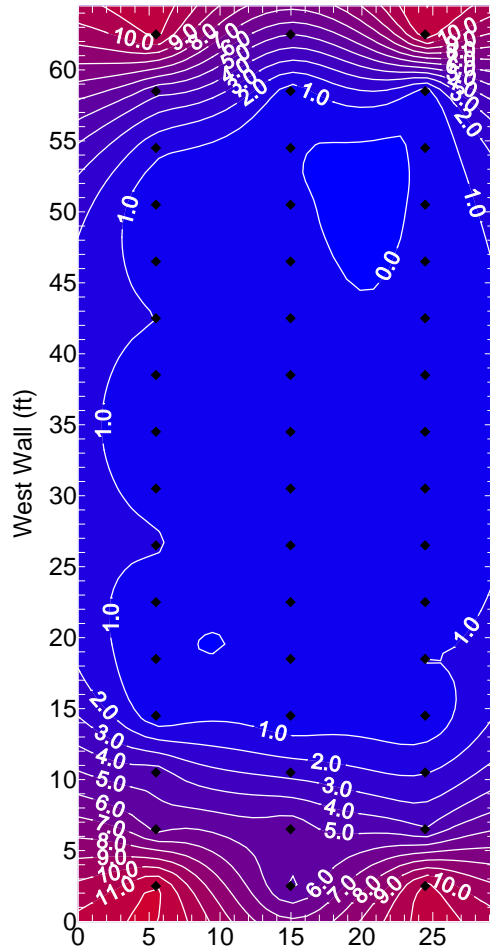
**Tuned, RMS = 13%**



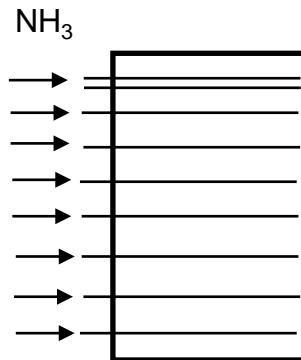
**Adjustments  
across the  
width  
not possible**

# AIG Tuning, 1-D AIG Design; Outlet NO<sub>x</sub>

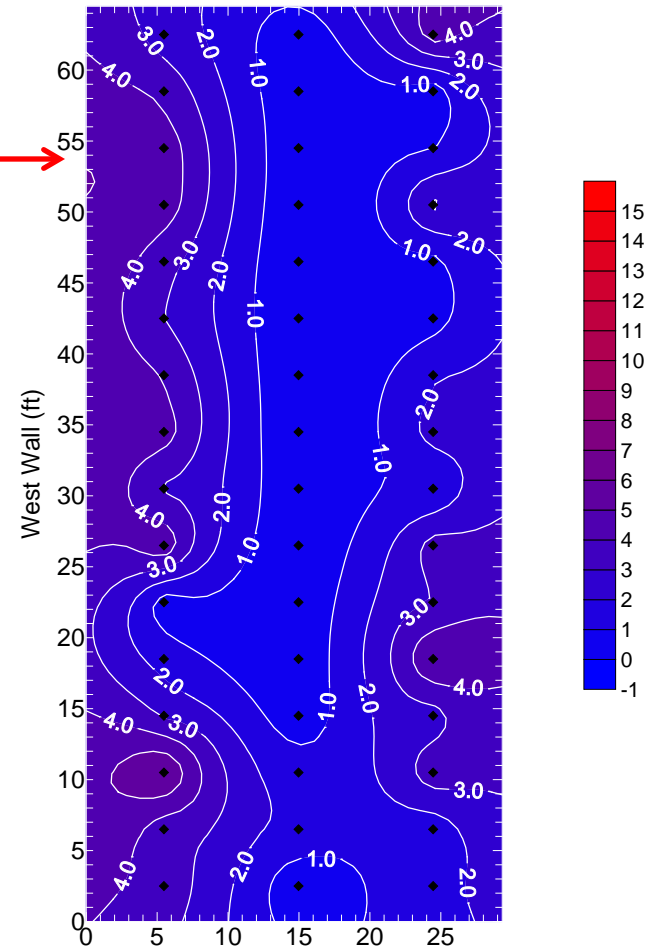
As Found



Reagent  
consumption  
reduced 5%

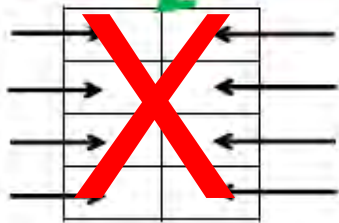


Tuned

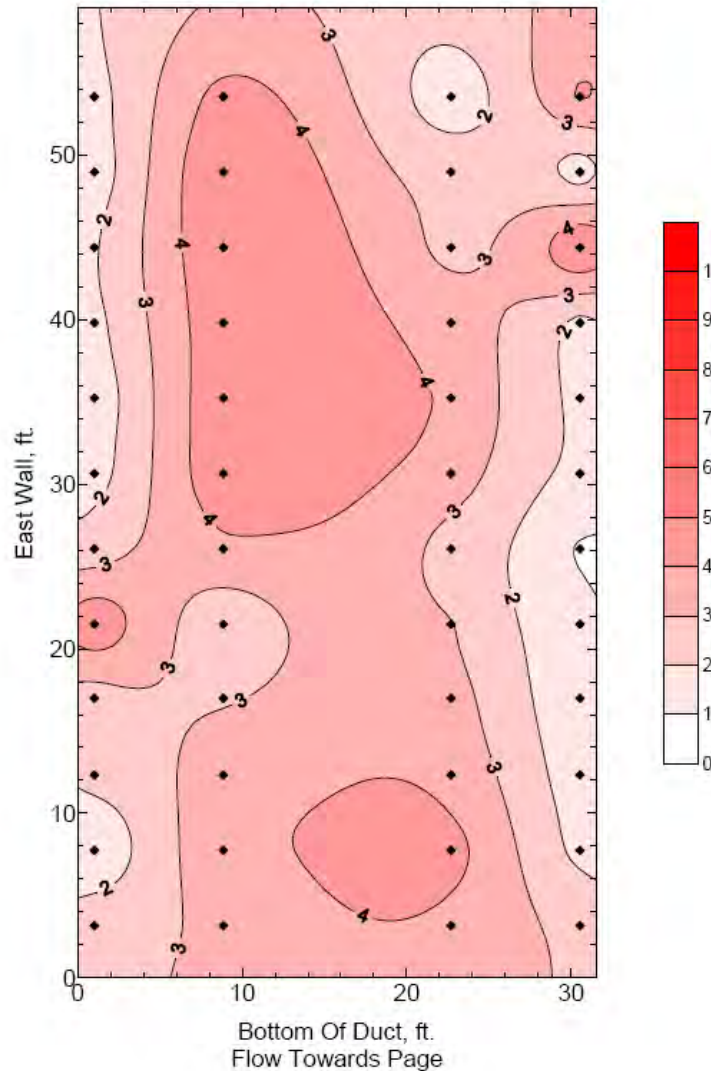
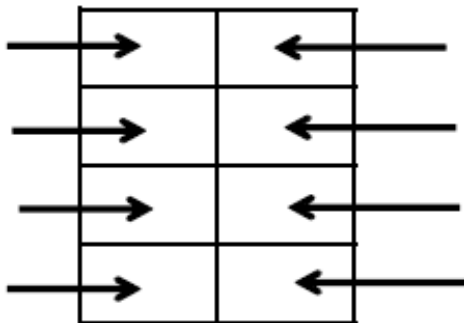


# AIG Tuning, 2-D AIG Design; Outlet NO<sub>x</sub>

Represents most responsive balancing approach, easy to adjust and fastest response, does require additional piping, valves and manifolds



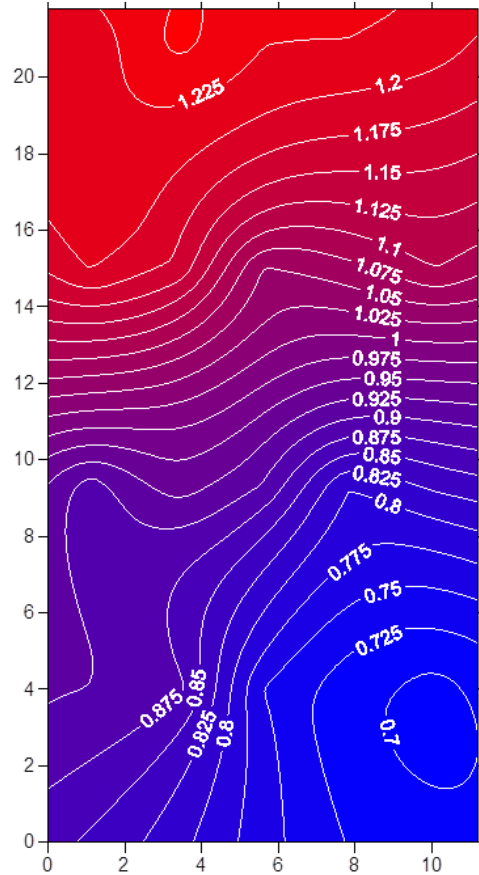
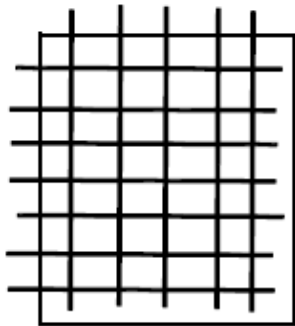
AIG Design: 2-Zones Horizontally



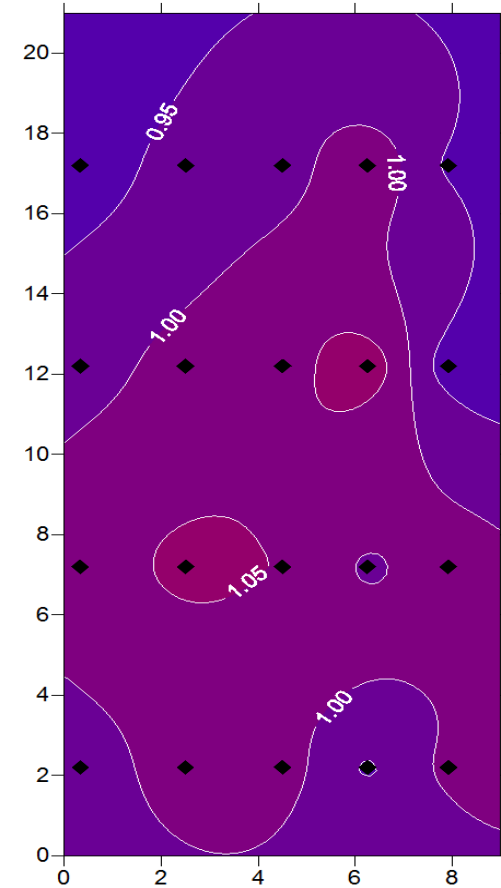
In most Gas turbine SCR reactors you need to make an adjustment in the center. This two zone design does not allow this

# AIG Tuning, Multi Zone AIG Design; NH<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub>

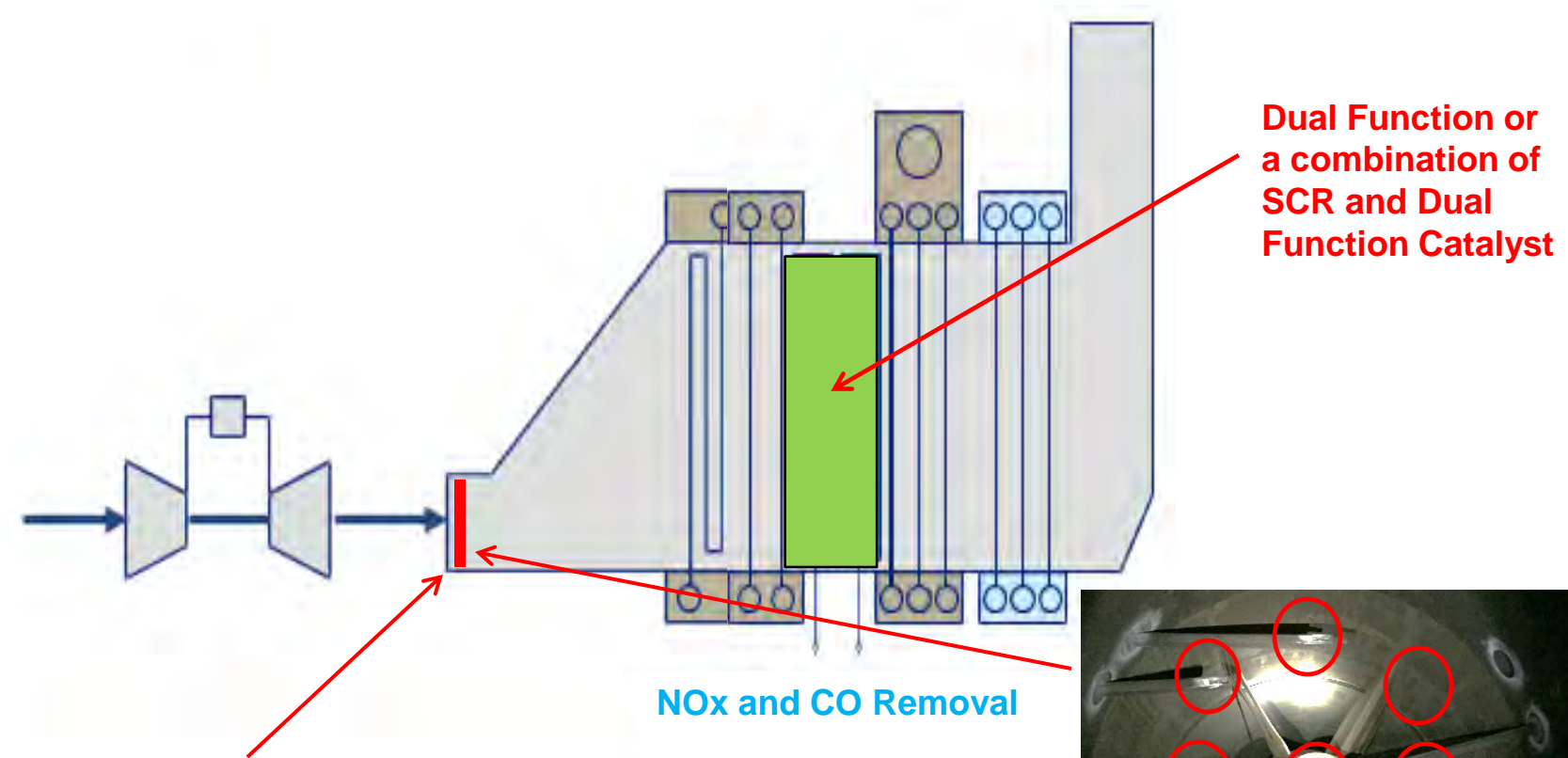
**As Found, RMS = 19%**



**Tuned, RMS = 5%**



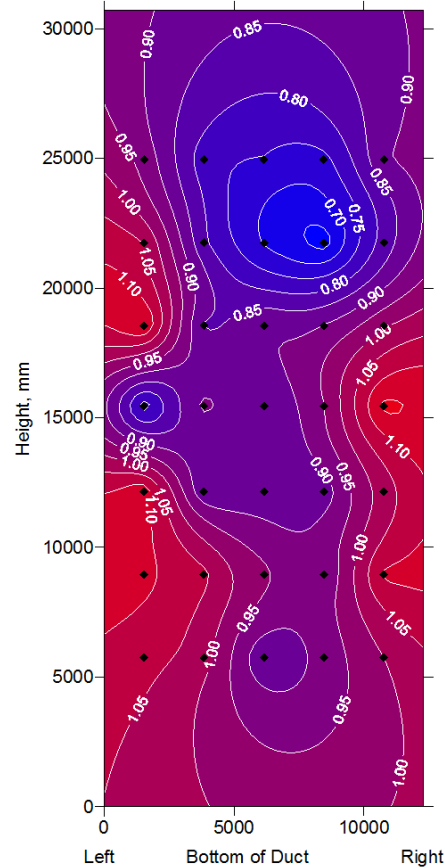
# Direct Injection/Dual Function Catalyst



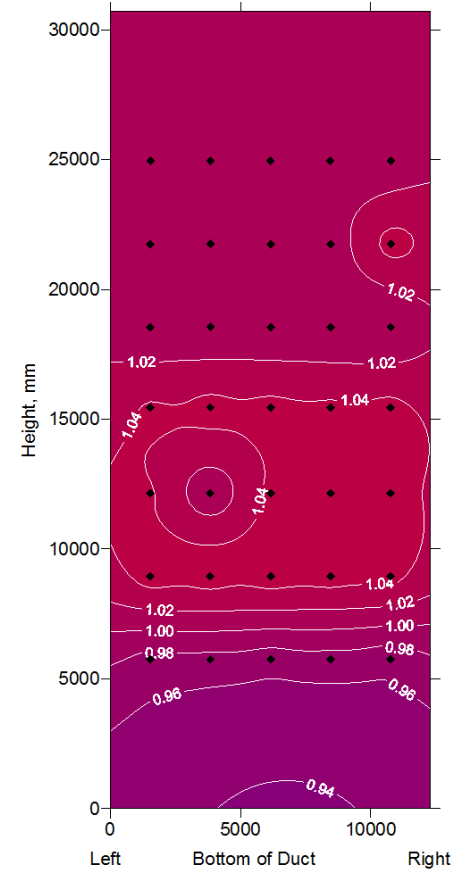
# Direct Injection of Aqueous Ammonia@ Turbine exhaust



As Found, RMS = 14%



Tuned, RMS = 3%



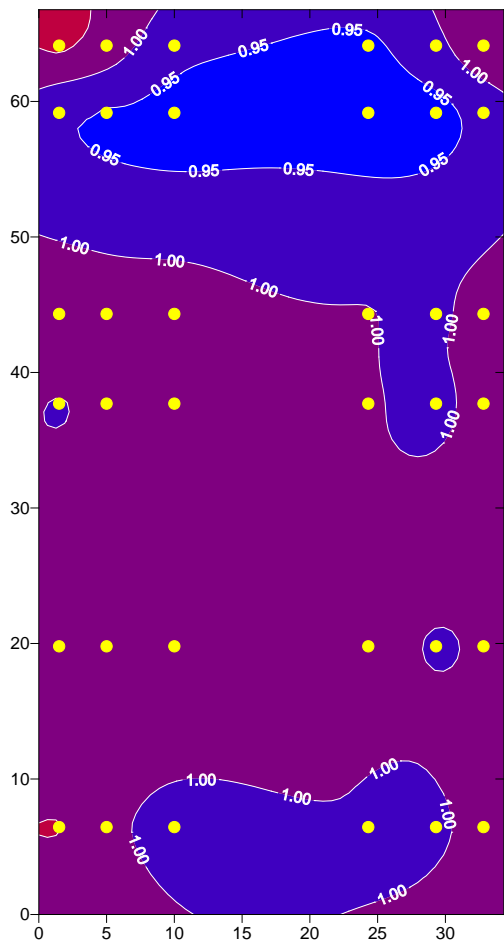
# Probe Grid Does Not Always Tell The Entire Story

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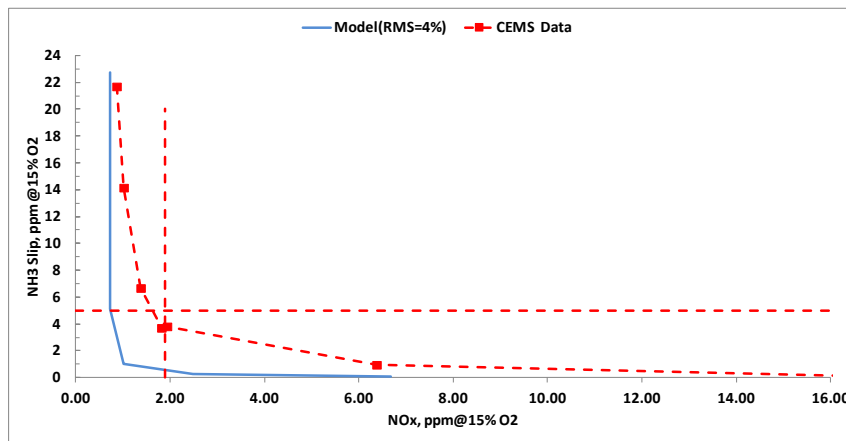
- **May not be able to tune at a reduced ammonia injection rate (RMS not accurately determined)**
- **Probe locations may not sample problem areas**

# Probe Grid Does Not Always Tell The Entire Story

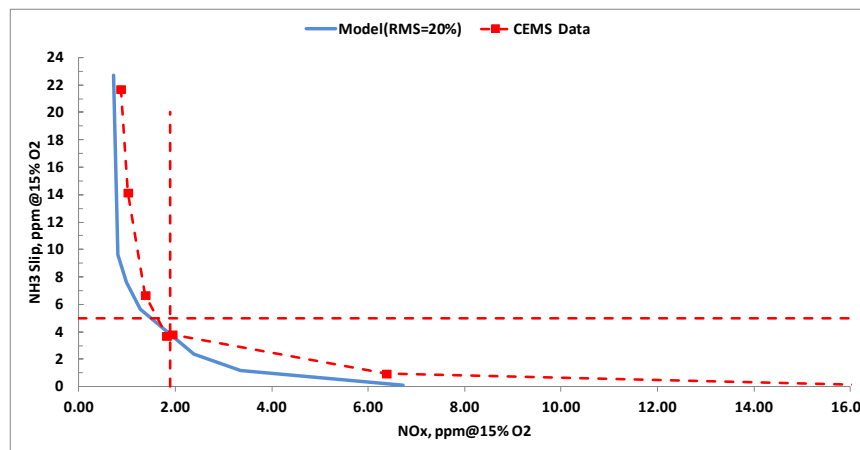
**Tuned, RMS = 4%**



**Blue: Process Model: 4% RMS    Red: CEMs Data**



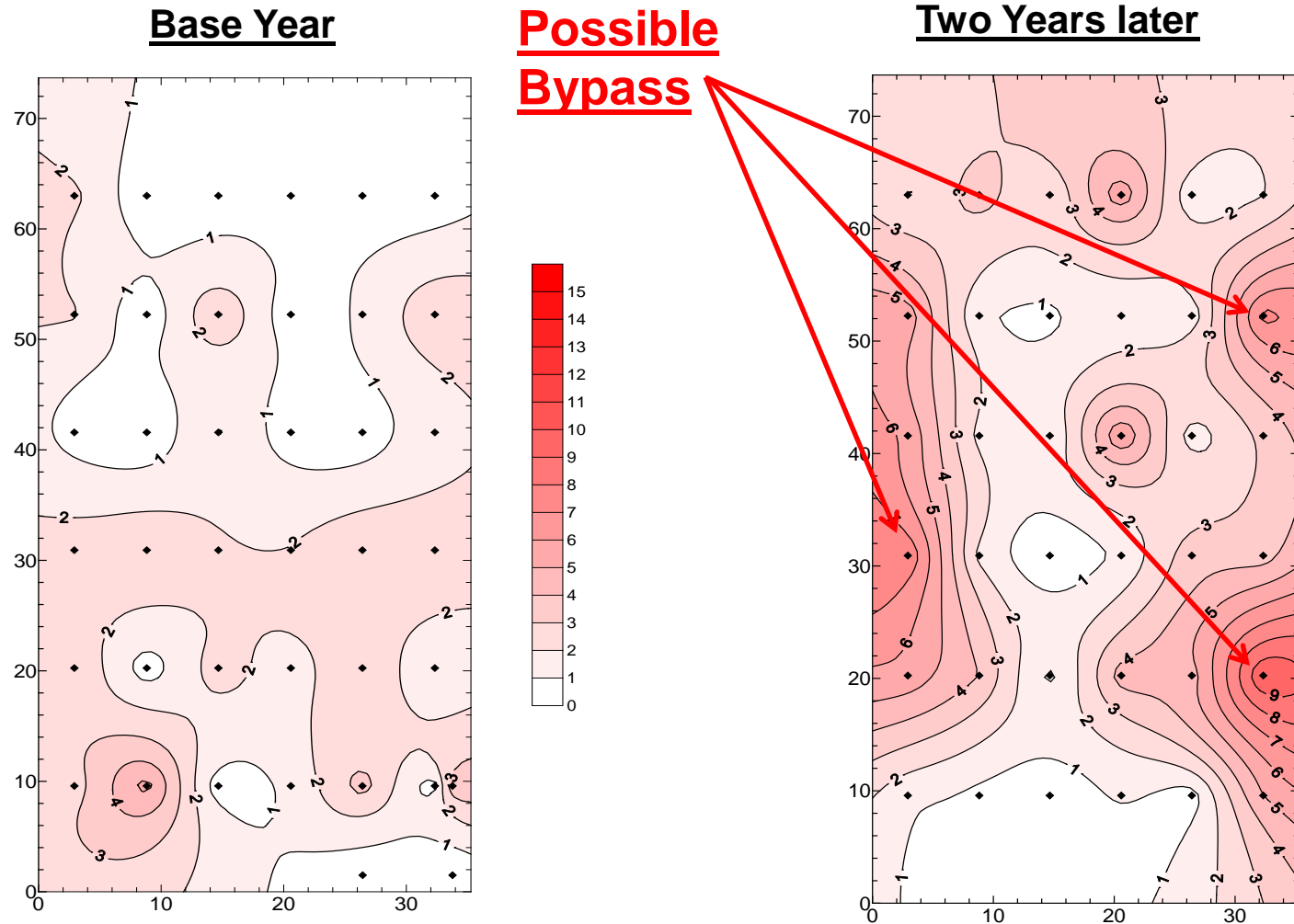
**Blue: Process Model: 20% RMS    Red: CEMs Data**



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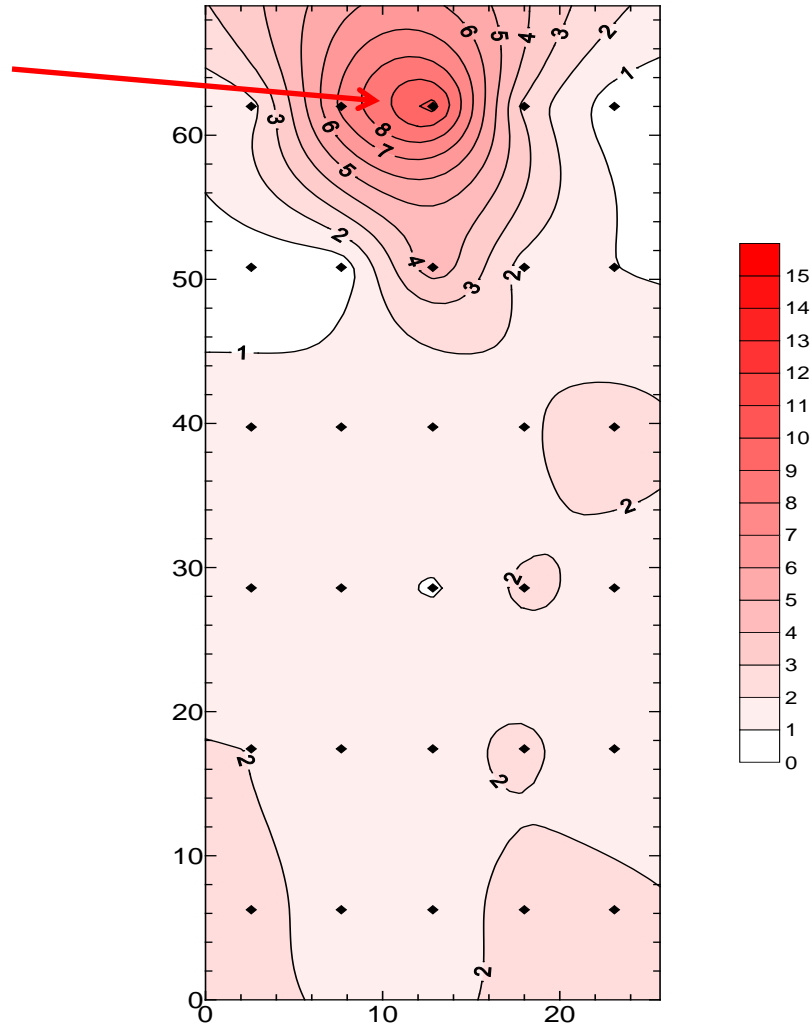
# Bypass

# NO<sub>x</sub> Profiles Can Also Help Detect Bypass



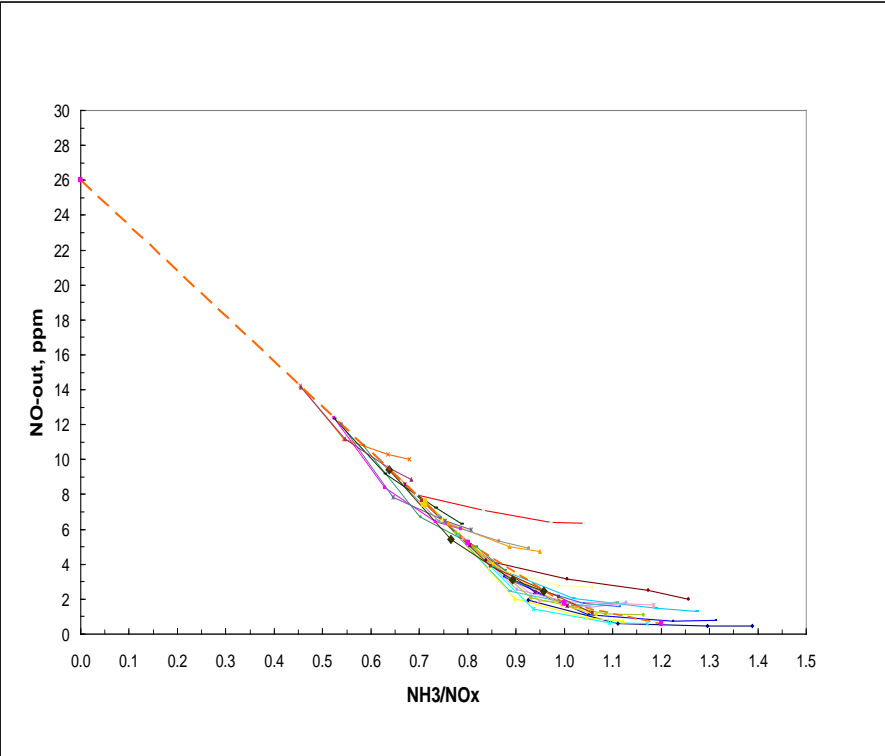
# NO<sub>x</sub> Profiles Can Also Help Detect Bypass

Possible Bypass

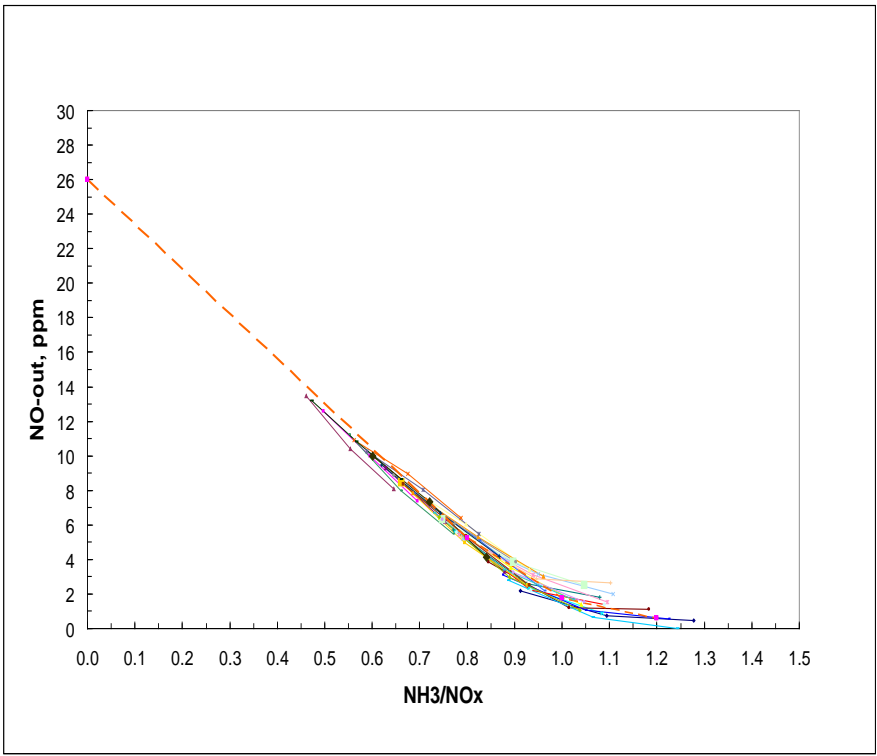


# Gas Bypass

As-Found



Repaired



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# SCR Velocity Measurements

# APPROACHES TO MEASURING VELOCITY MALDISTRIBUTIONS

## Traditional

- Rely on Physical Cold Flow, or CFD Model Results
  - > May not be totally representative
  - > Doesn't test full scale operational issues
- Use High Temperature Thermal Anemometer or Pitot Probe

## Issues

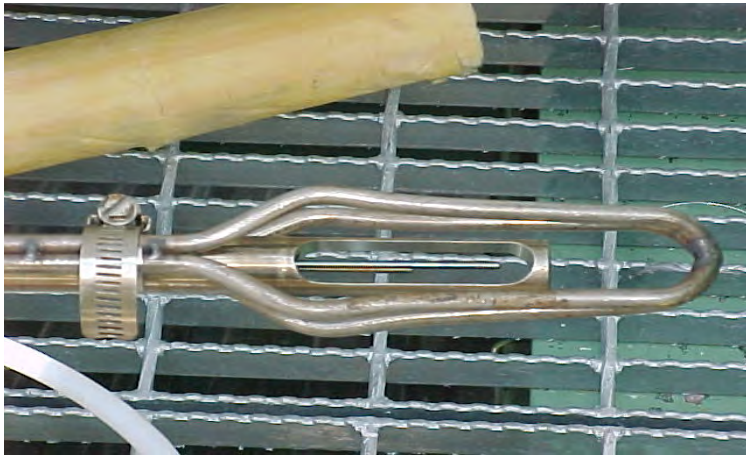
- Long Probes
- Pitot Probes: Low  $\Delta P$  readings (0.01 – 0.04 “H<sub>2</sub>O)
- Flow Disturbances (support structure, etc)

## Alternate Approach

- Based on NO<sub>x</sub> Measurements at the Catalyst Exit

# APPROACHES TO MEASURING VELOCITY MALDISTRIBUTIONS

High Temperature Thermal Anemometer

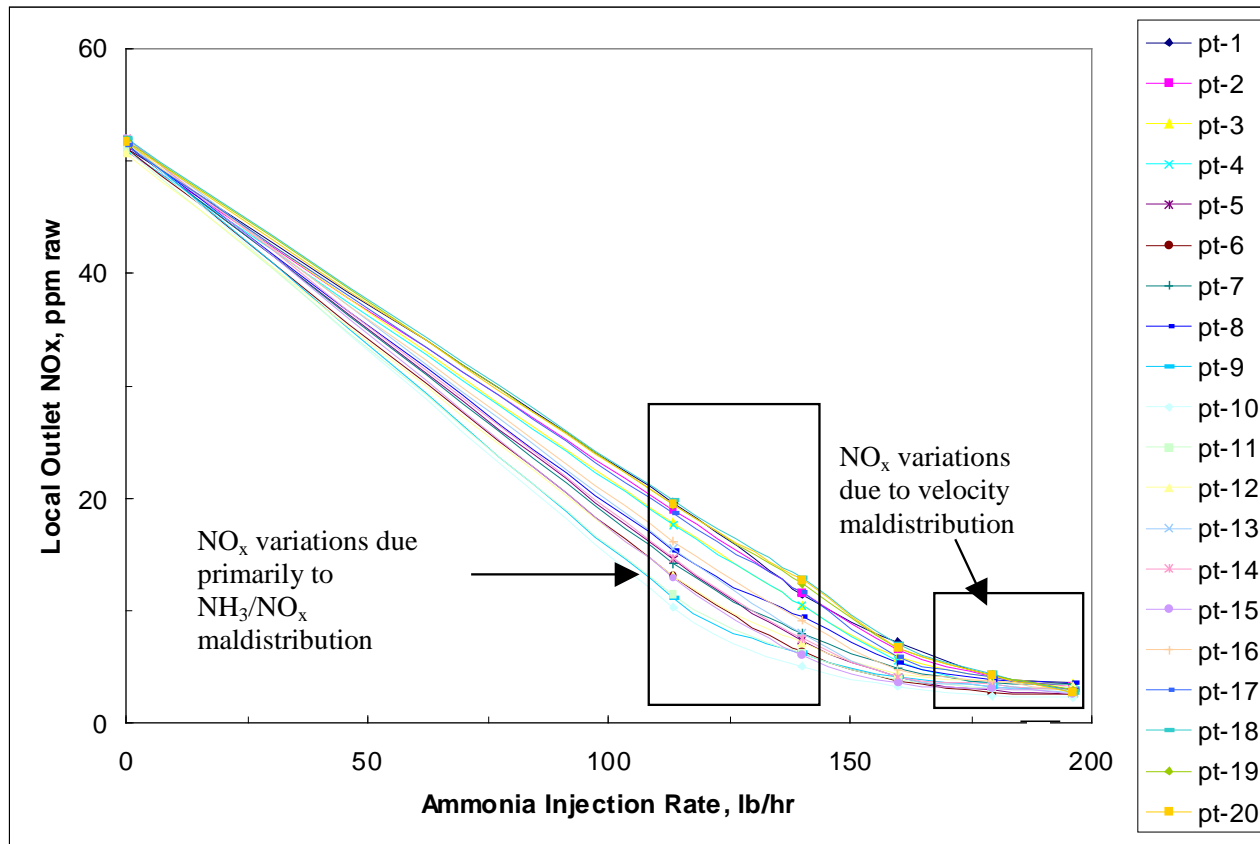


S-Type Pitot Probe



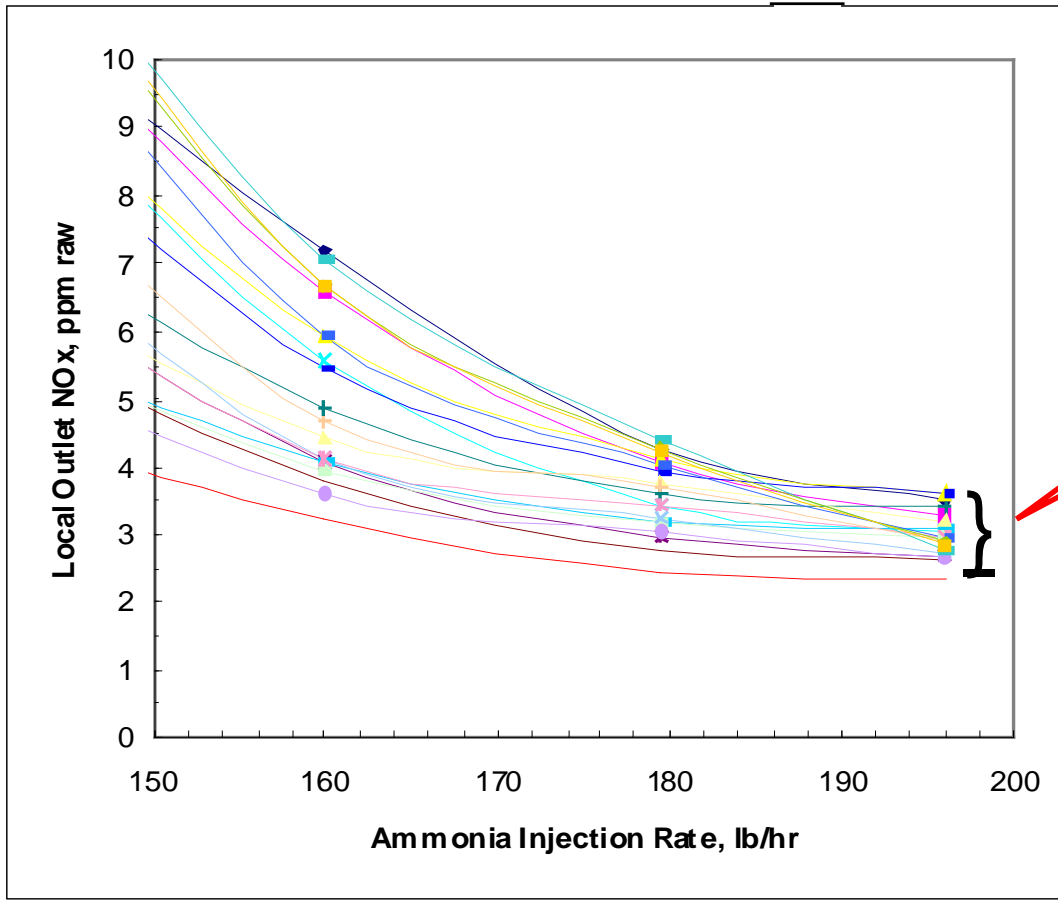
	N.G. SCR (30' x 45')	Coal SCR (45' x 47')
	Velocity RMS, %	
Cold Flow Model	13	6
Anemometer	30	32
S-Type Pitot	20	26

# LOCAL OUTLET NO<sub>x</sub> VS. NH<sub>3</sub> INJECTION RATE



# LOCAL NO<sub>x</sub> VS. NH<sub>3</sub> INJECTION RATE

## High NH<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> Ratio



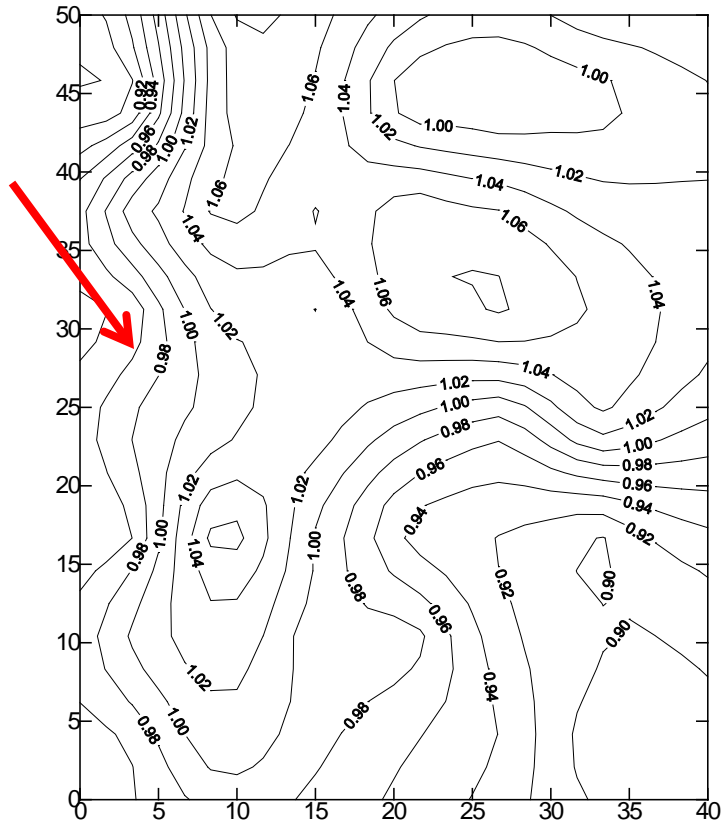
Variation=f(K/Av)

$$K = -A_v \ln(1 - \Delta NO_x)$$

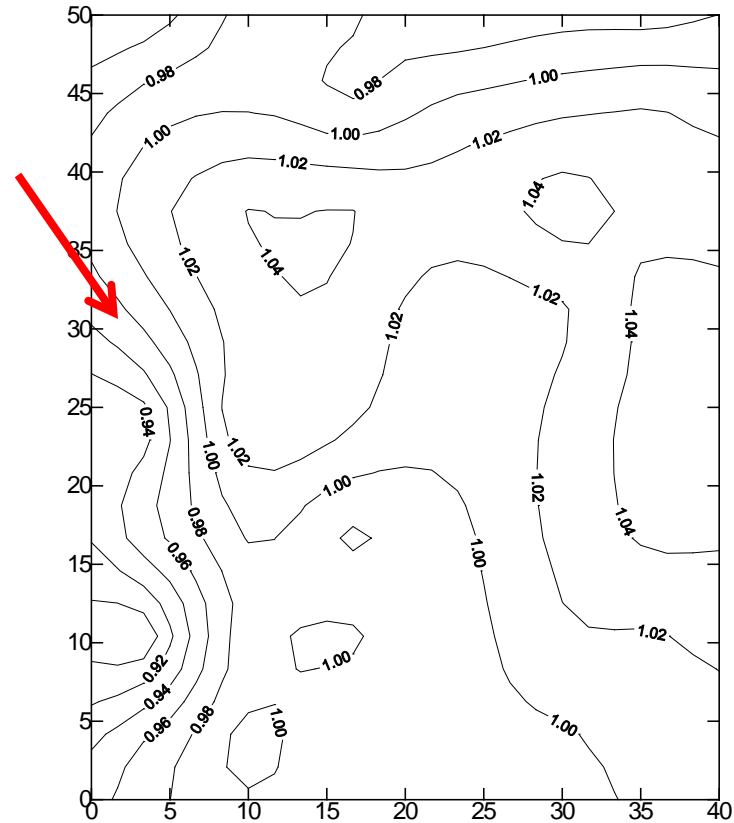
$$Vel_i \sim Q_i = K A_{sp} V_{cat} / \ln(1 - \Delta NO_x)$$

# VELOCITY PROFILE FOR A COAL-FIRED SCR

**Cold Flow (RMS = 5.8%)**



**Full Scale (RMS = 3.6%)**



# Summary

- Simple stack measurements ( $\text{NH}_3$  vs  $\text{NO}_x$ ) can distinguish **Gas Bypass** from  **$\text{NH}_3/\text{NO}_x$  maldistribution**
  - Facilitated by using a continuous TDL analyzer to make the  $\text{NH}_3$  measurements
- **ALG tuning facilitated using a permanent probe grid at the catalyst exit**
  - With a probe grid and multipoint sampling, ALG tuning completed in one day
- **ALG Design affects how well a unit can be tuned**
- **$\text{NO}_x$  profiles at the SCR outlet can also help diagnose areas of Gas Bypass**
- **Velocity Profiles**
  - Difficult to measure directly at full scale
  - SCR outlet  $\text{NO}_x$  measurements can be used to infer velocity profiles