



Hydropower Generation Prof. Dr. Edson C. Bortoni, L.D.

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Agenda

• Hydropower plants

- Common design
- Available power
- Hydro turbines runners
- Hydro generators
- Historical Costs

• Energy transition

- Worldwide numbers
- Variable-speed
- Pumped-storage
- Variable-speed pumped-storage



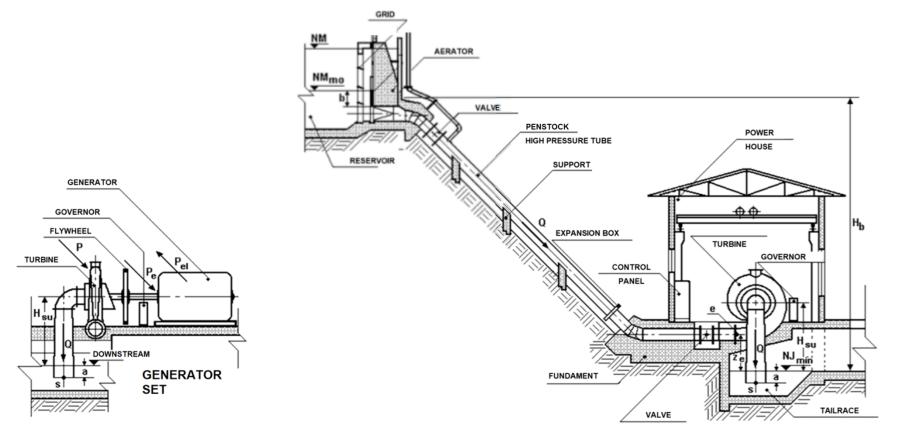


Hydropower plants



Common design

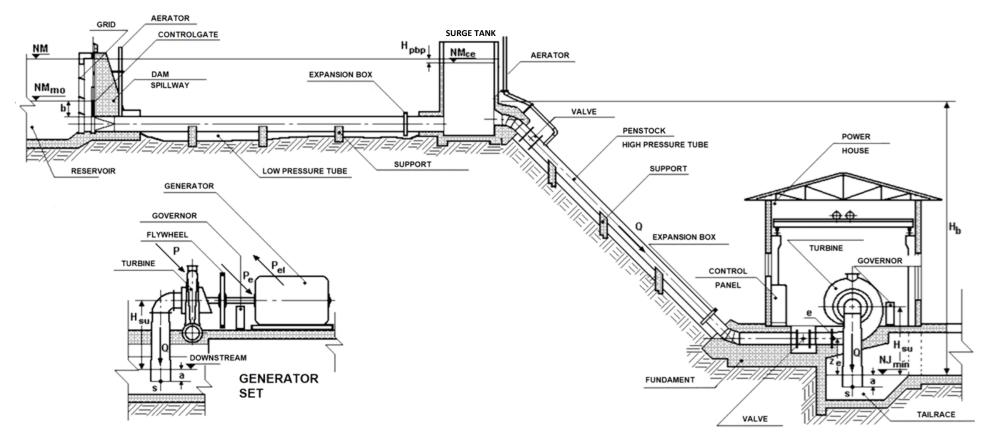
Dam hydropower plant





Common design

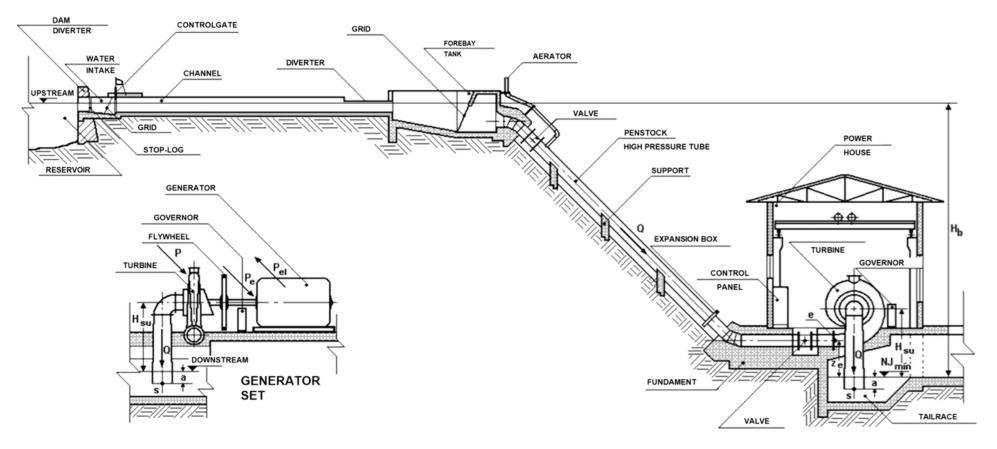
Deviation hydropower plant





Common design

Deviation hydropower plant

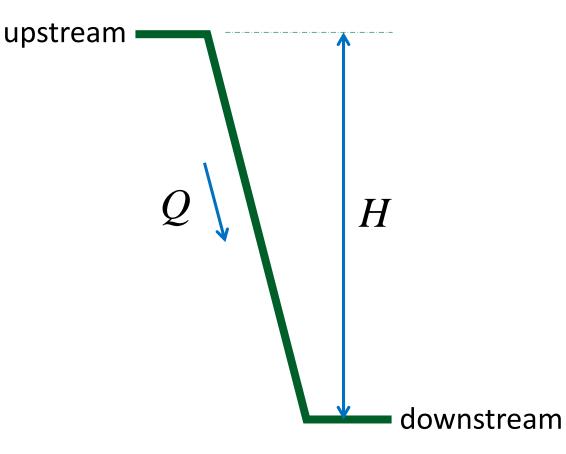




Calculation

$P = \rho g Q H \eta_T$

 $\eta_T = \eta_{SA} \, \eta_{TH} \, \eta_{GE}$



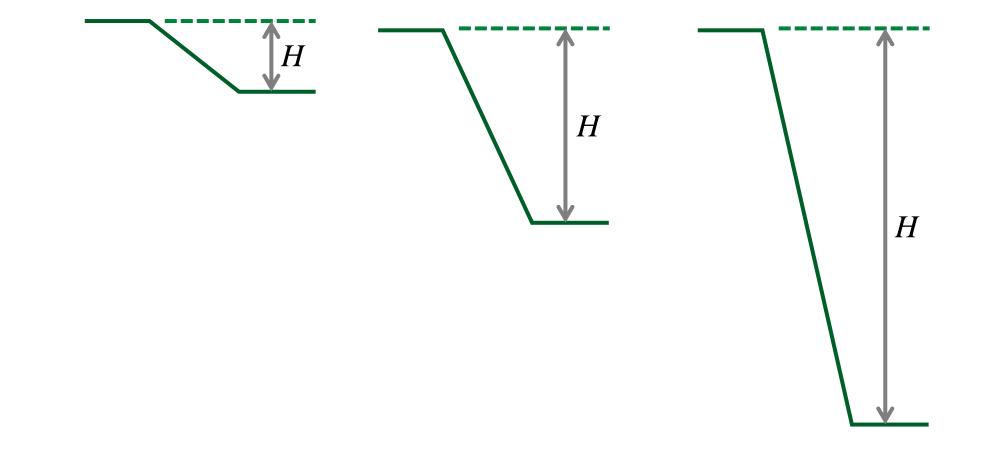


Alternatives

SIZE	FLOW	HEAD	POWER
MICRO	SMALL	SMALL	SMALL
SMALL	SMALL	AVERAGE	AVERAGE
SMALL	AVERAGE	SMALL	AVERAGE
SMALL	AVERAGE	AVERAGE	AVERAGE
LARGE	AVERAGE	HIGH	HIGH
LARGE	HIGH	AVERAGE	HIGH



Head

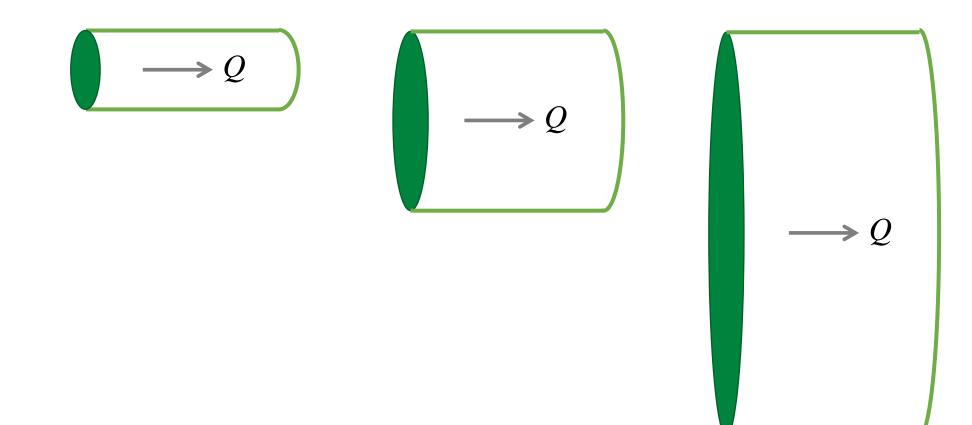








Flow



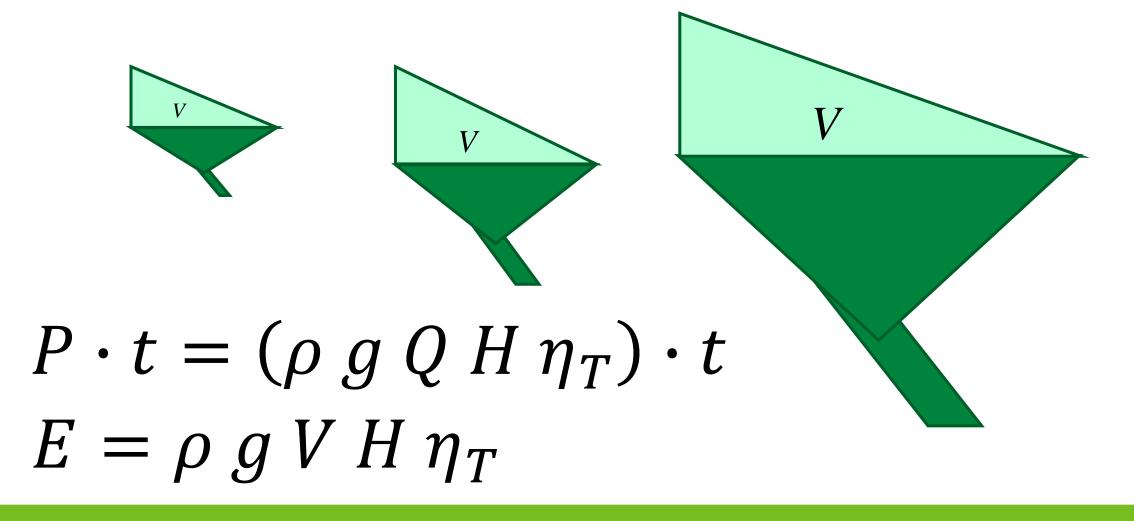






Characterization

Volume







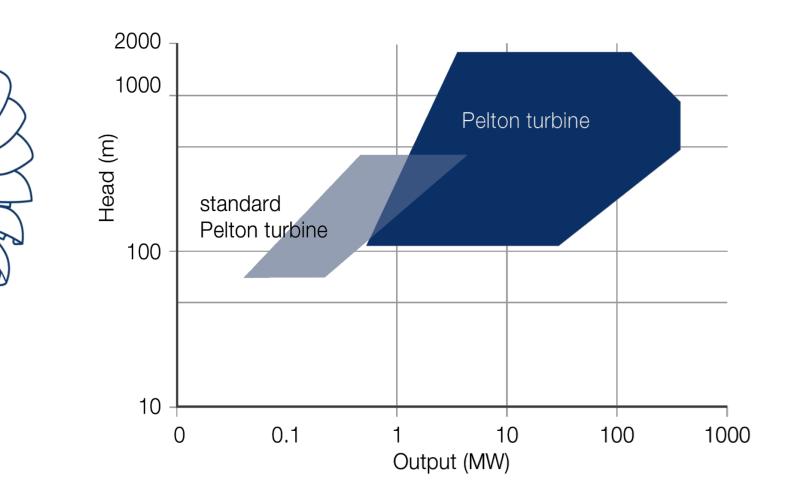


Pelton

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Low Flow

High Head



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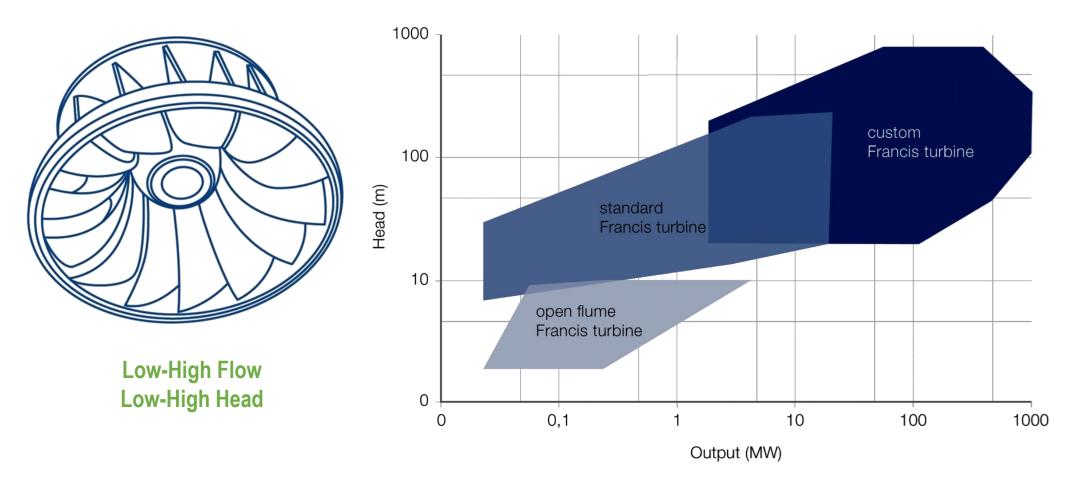
PES

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Hydro turbine runners

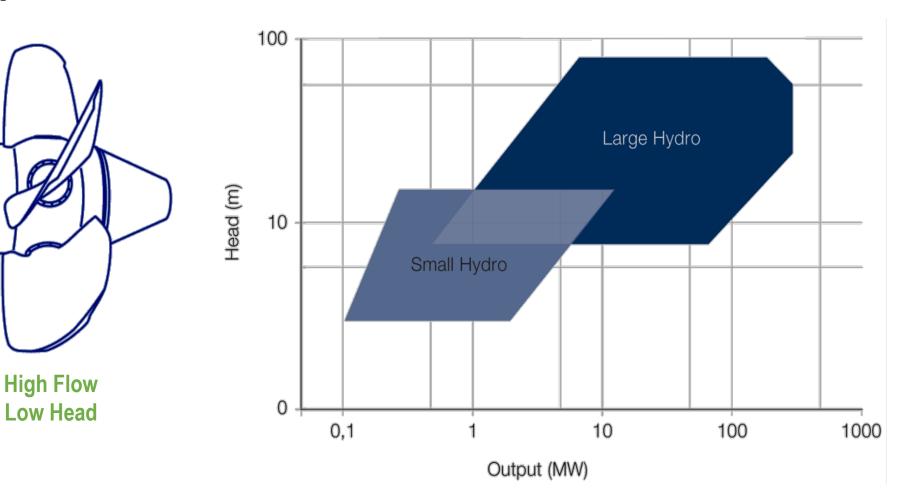
Francis





Hydro turbine runners

Kaplan

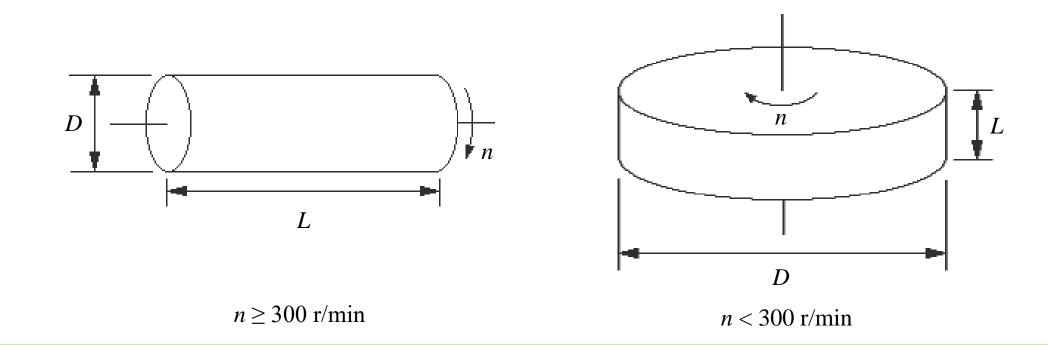




Hydro generators

Dimensional analysis

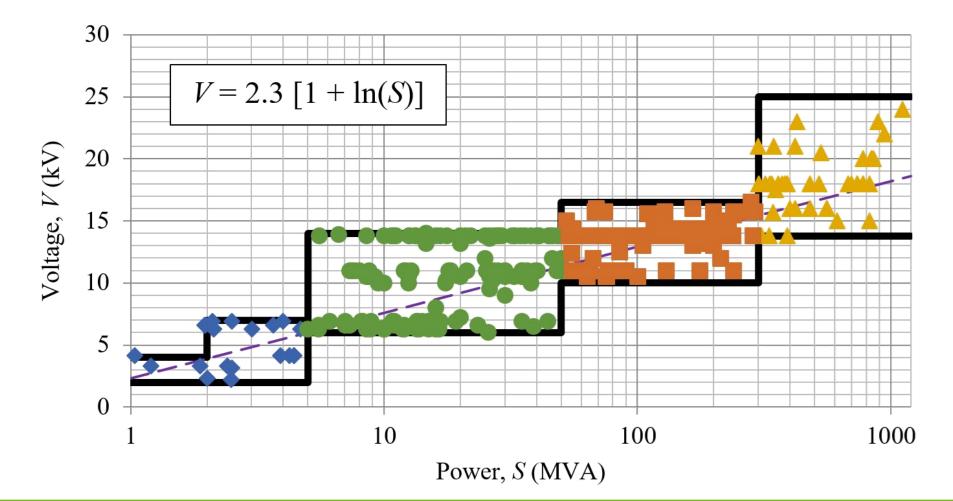
 $S = c D^2 L n$





Hydro generators

Voltage vs. Power





Micro hydro







Small hydro







Large hydro







Historic costs



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Source: IRENA Renewable Cost Database



Energy transition



Worldwide numbers

Hydropower currently provides over 15% of the world's electricity.

4,185 TWh

Electricity generated from hydropower in 2023

1,416 GW

Hydropower installed capacity reached in 2023

13.7 GW

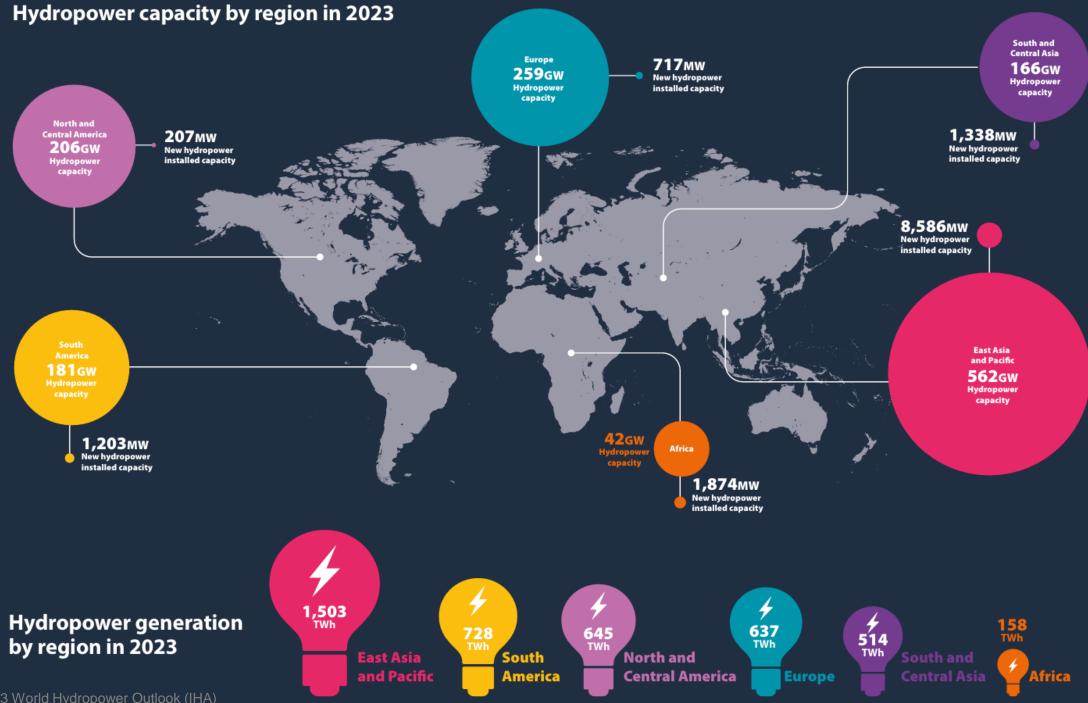
Capacity added in 2023, including pumped storage

179_{GW}

Pumped storage installed capacity reached in 2023

6.5 GW

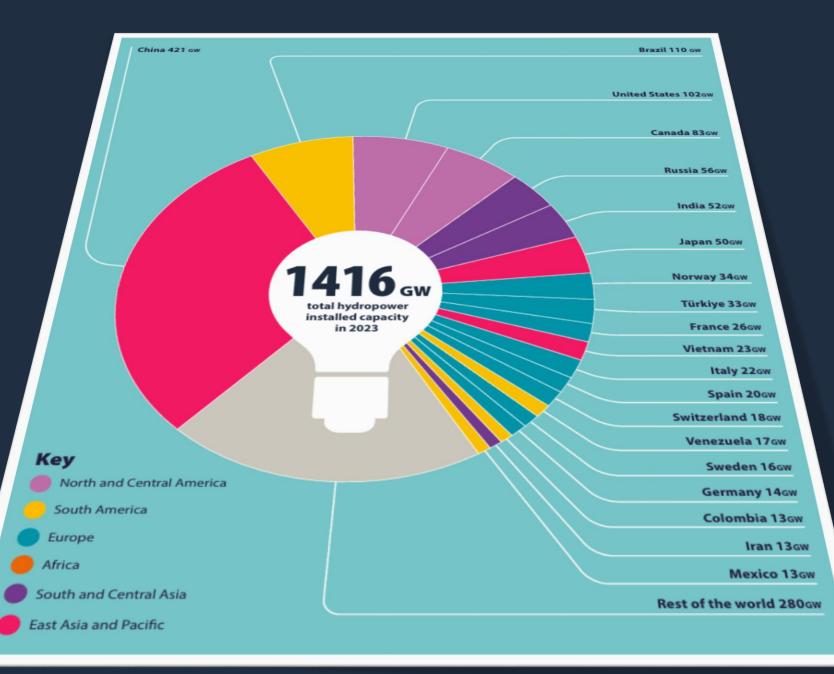
Pumped storage capacity added in 2023

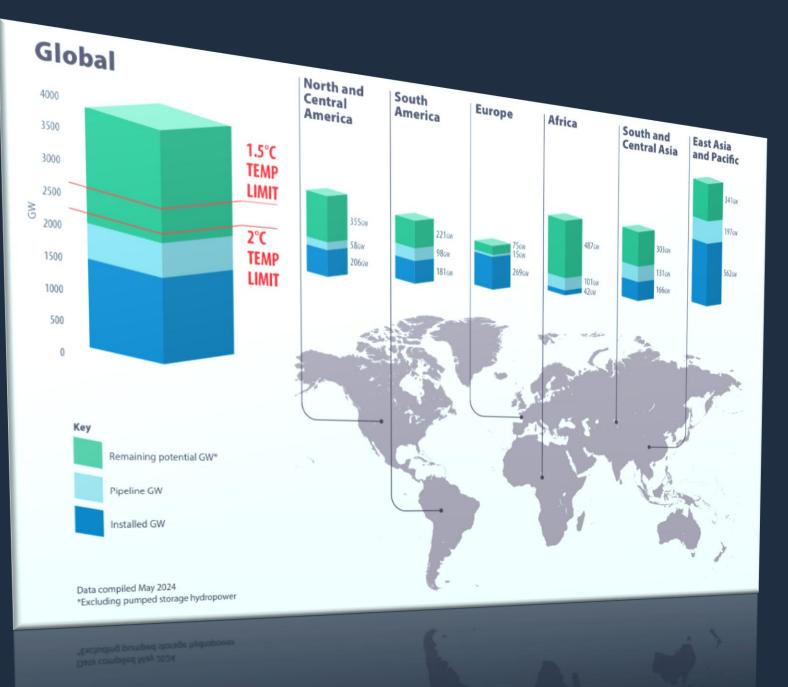


Source: 2023 World Hydropower Outlook (IHA)

HYDROPOWER CAPACITY BY COUNTRY

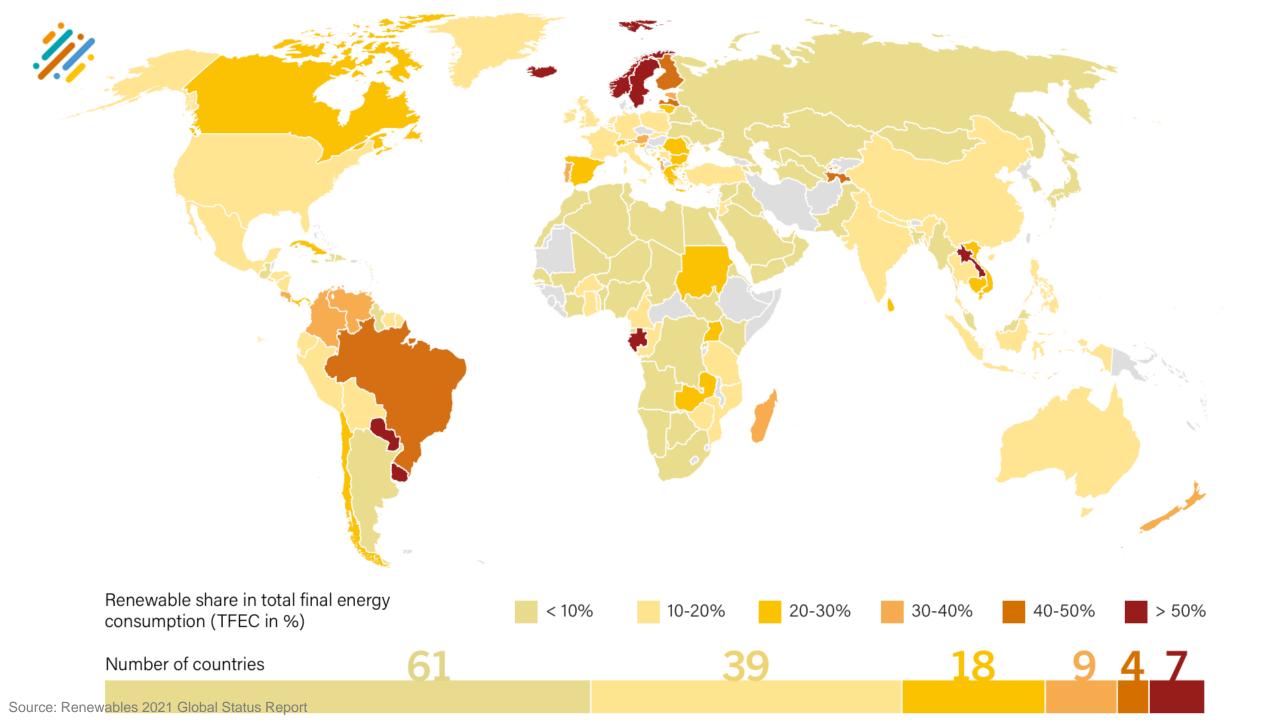
Hydropower installed capacity (GW) of top 20 hydropower producers and the rest of the world, including pumped.



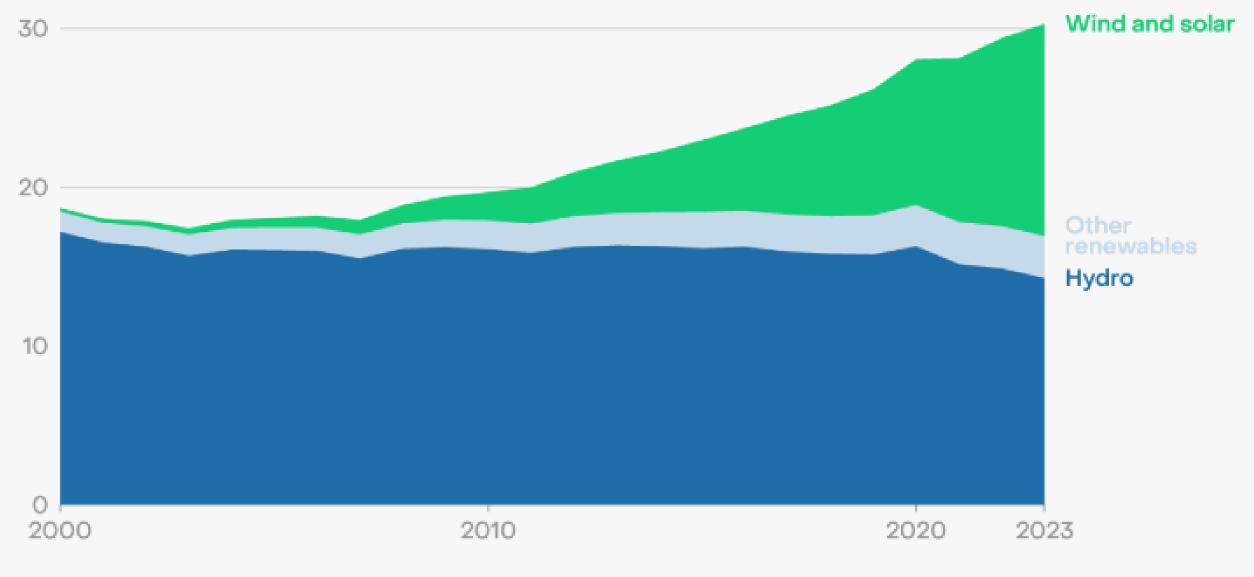


Potentials

- New projects
- Uprating (repowering)
- Includes dams
- Includes run-of-river
- Excludes pumped storage



Share of global electricity generation from renewable sources (%)



Source: Annual electricity data, Ember





	Total installed costs			Ca	apacity fact	tor	Levelised cost of electricity			
	(2023 USD/kW)			(%)			(2023 USD/kWh)			
	2010	2023	Percent change	2010	2023	Percent change	2010	2023	Percent change	
Bioenergy	3 010	2 730	-9%	72	72	0%	0.084	0.072	-14%	
Geothermal	3 011	4 589	52%	87	82	-6%	0.054	0.071	31%	
Hydropower	1 459	2 806	92%	44	53	20%	0.043	0.057	33%	
Solar PV	5 310	758	-86%	14	16	14%	0.460	0.044	-90%	
CSP	10 453	6 589	-37%	30	55	83%	0.393	0.117	-70%	
Onshore wind	2 272	1 160	-49%	27	36	33%	0.111	0.033	-70%	
Offshore wind	5 409	2 800	-48%	38	41	8%	0.203	0.075	-63%	

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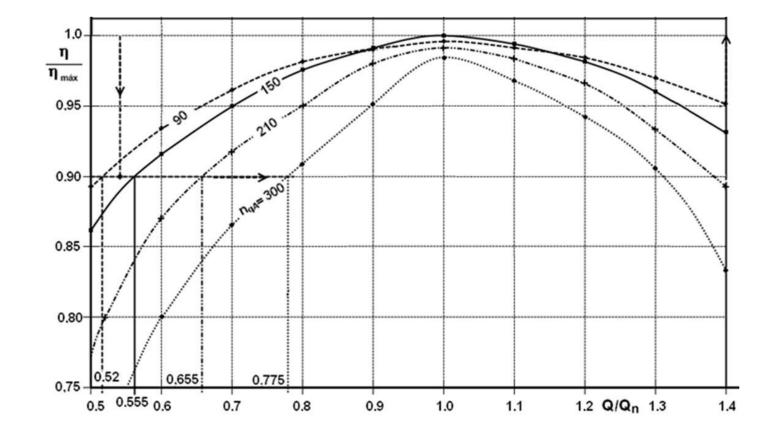


Variable-speed



Specific-speed

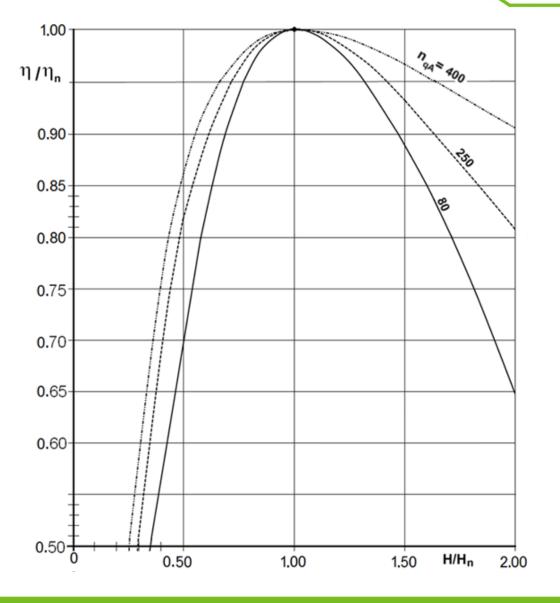
$$n_{qA} = 3 \ n \ \frac{Q^{0.50}}{H^{0.75}}$$





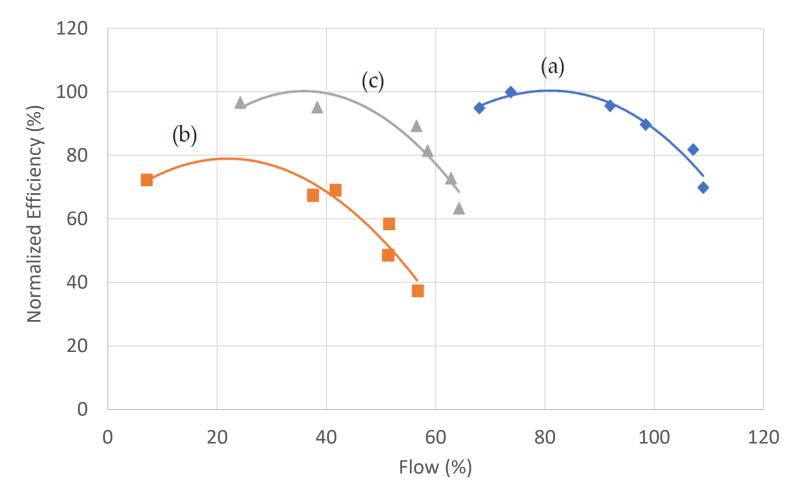
Specific-speed

$$n_{qA} = 3 \ n \ \frac{Q^{0.50}}{H^{0.75}}$$





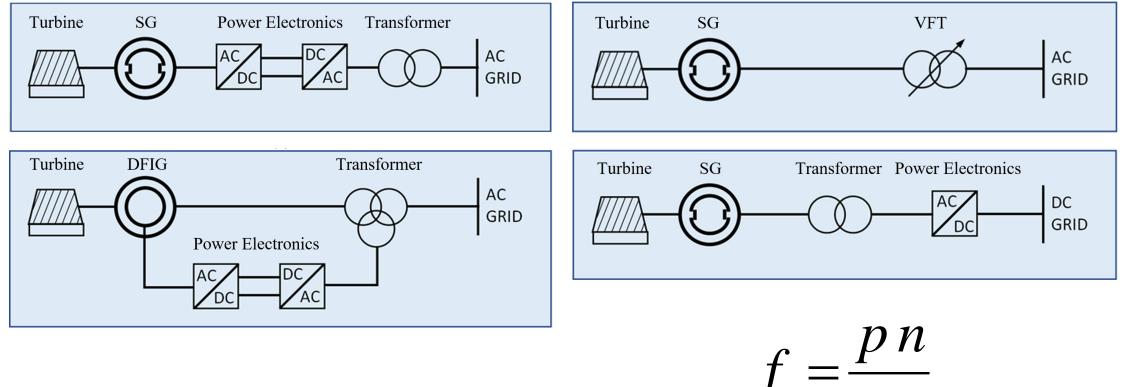
Efficiency benefits

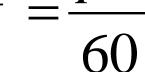


- a) Rated head, rated speed
- b) Reduced head, rated speed
- c) Reduced head, reduced speed



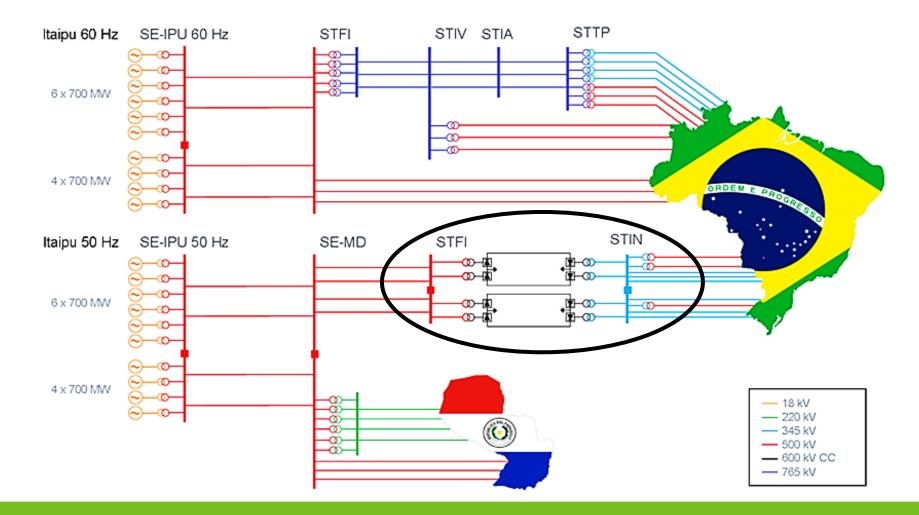
Connection to the power system







Connection using a HVDC





Connection using a full-converter



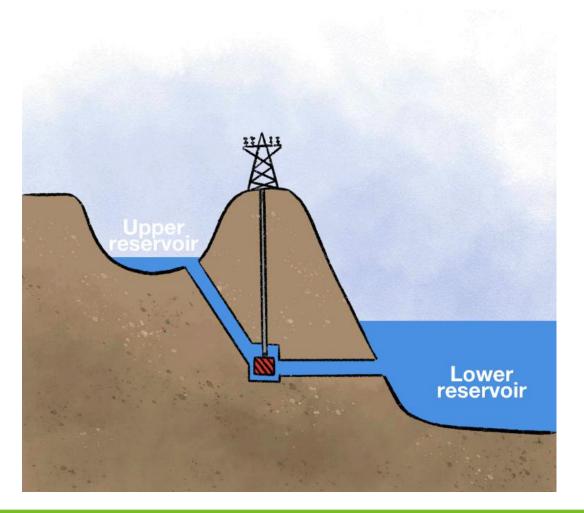
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Pumped-storage

Pumped-Storage

Advantages



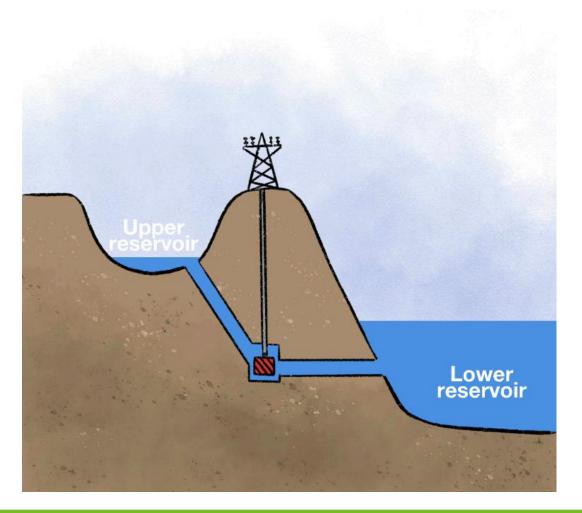
• Established technology with high technical maturity and extensive operational experience;

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- Very low self-discharge;
- High round-trip efficiency;
- Large volume storage;
- Long storage periods;
- Good start/stop flexibility;
- Long life and low costs of storage.

Pumped-Storage

Disadvantages

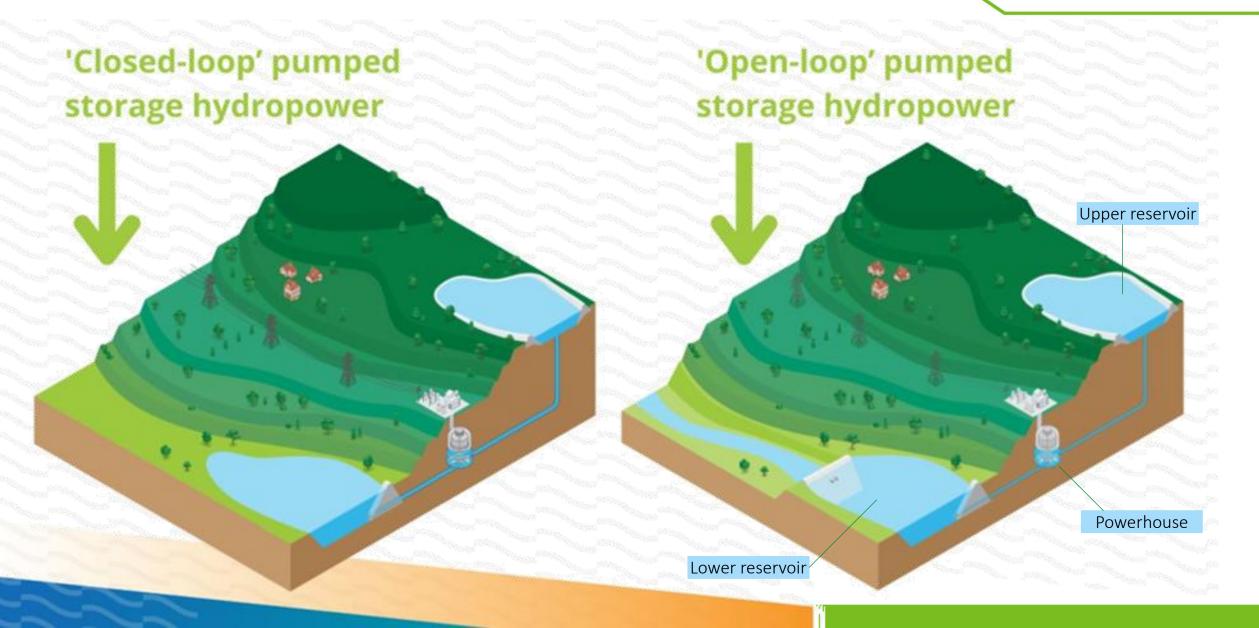


- Geographic restrictions, since a suitable site with large land use is needed;
- Low energy density (large footprint);

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- High initial investment costs;
- Long construction period;
- Long time to recover investment;
- Environmental concerns.





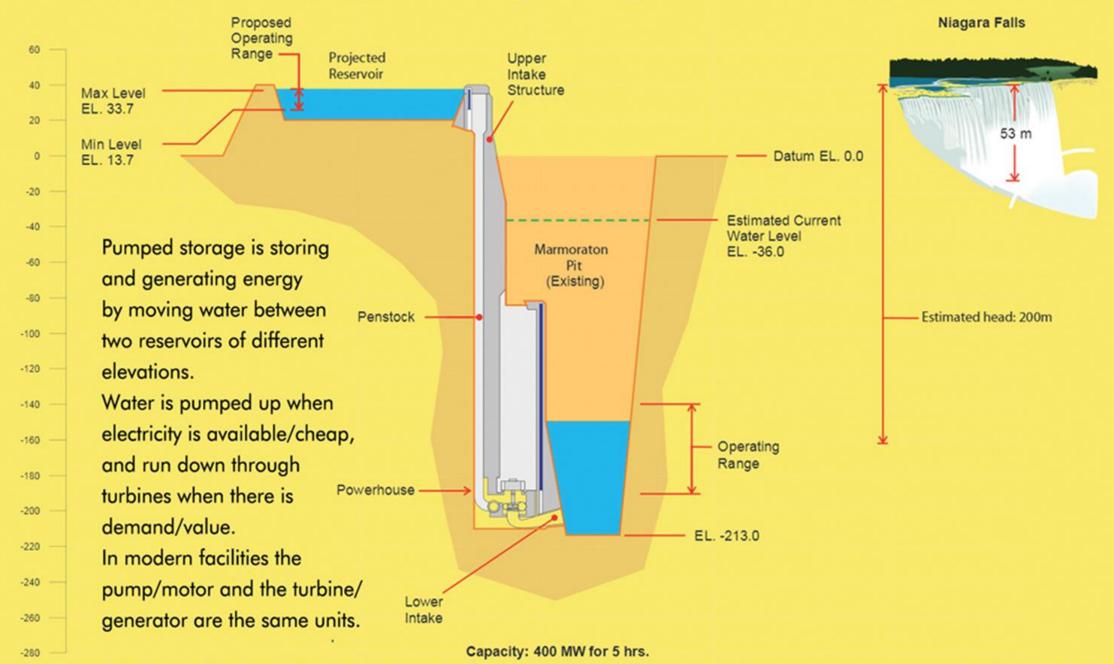








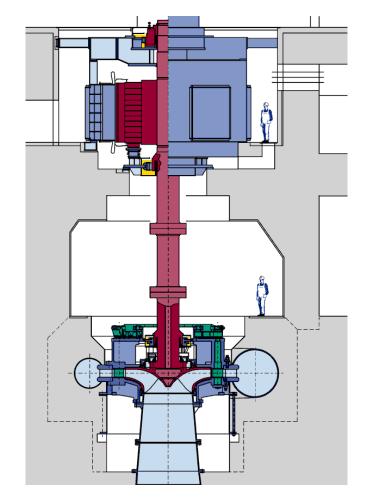
The Marmora Pumped Storage Design (CANADA)



Pumped-storage



Binary arrangement (pump-turbine)

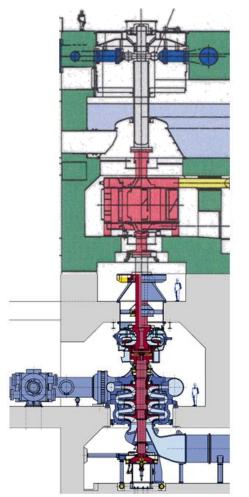


- Typical of existing fleet in the world today
- Two rotating directions
- Power control in turbine mode only
- Load range for generation: 50 -100 % power
- Proven technology

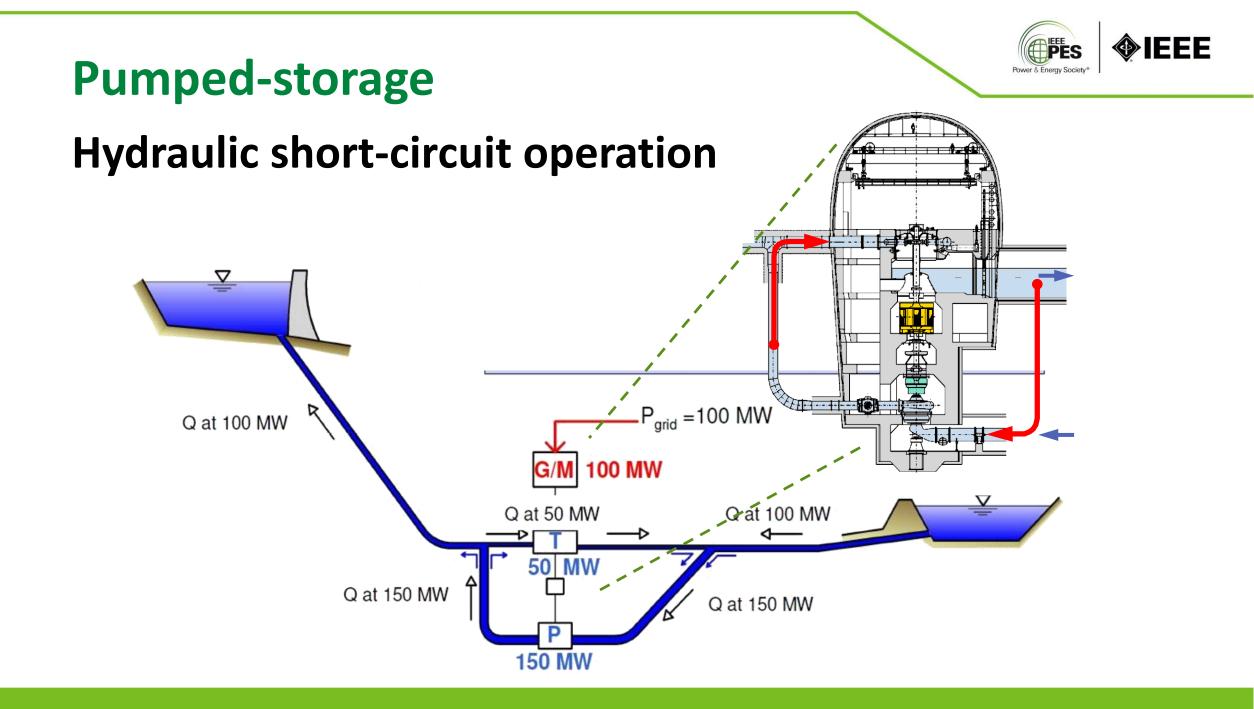
Pumped-storage



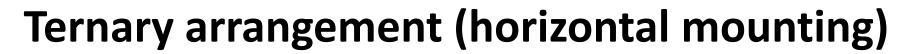
Ternary arrangement (pump+turbine)

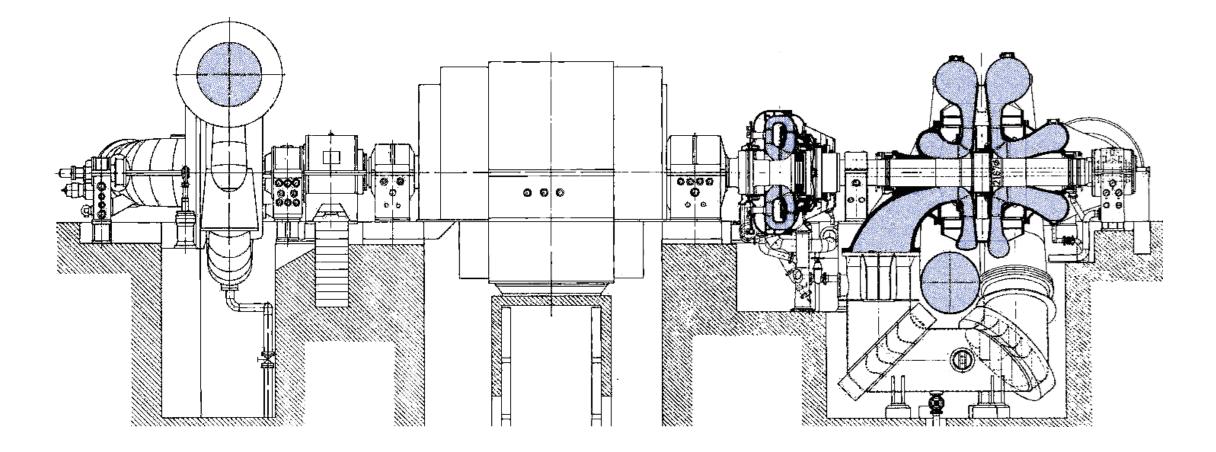


- Regulating in turbine and pump modes with hydraulic short circuit
- No change of rotation direction
- Enables steepest load ramp
- Quickest mode changes
- Lowest losses



Pumped-storage





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Variable-speed Pumped-storage

Variable-speed pumped-storage

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Main characteristics

- Variable speed = motor generator adjusts turbine speed;
- Provides grid stabilization in turbine and pumping mode;
- Adjustable power in pump mode;
- Increased flexibility due to primary frequency control
- Wider operating range
- Faster power adjustment
- Increased overall efficiencies
- Improved network stability
- Synthetic inertia, not synchronous (passive)

Continuous power control band in hydraulic short circuit mode n Pump + Turbine **Turbine mode** One ternary set 0 One fixed-speed **Reversible PT set Turbine mode** 0 **One variable-speed Reversible PT set Turbine mode** Pu continuous power control band in pump mode due to variable speed

Variable-speed pumped-storage

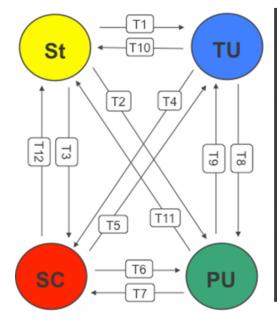




Variable-speed pumped-storage



Changing times



	Pump Turbine				time [seconds]						
Т	Mode change				В	C ₁	C ₂	D	E		
1	Standstill		TU-Mode	90	75	90	60	90	65		
2	Standstill		PU-Mode	340	160	230	60	85	80		
5	SC-Mode	>	TU-Mode	70	20	60	60	40	20		
6	SC-Mode	>	PU-Mode	70	50	70	60	30	25		
8	TU-Mode		PU-Mode	420	240	470	40	45	25		
9	PU-Mode	>	TU-Mode	190	90	280	40	60	25		

Reversible PT

A – conventional

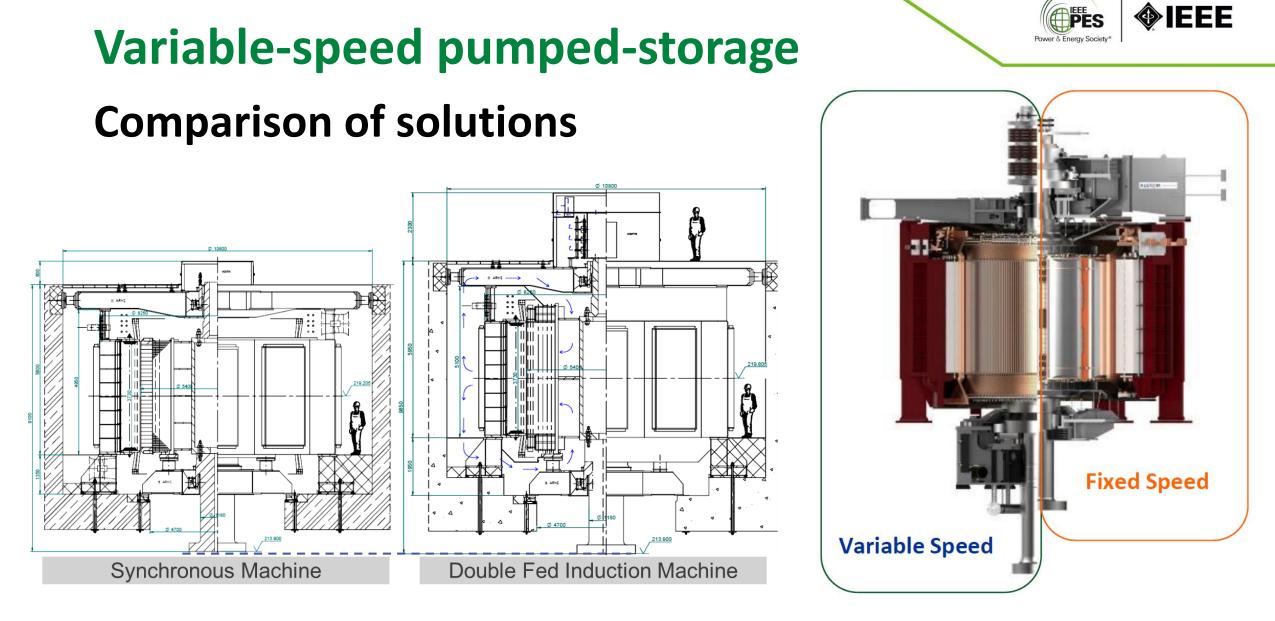
B – extra fast response conventional

C₁ – VarSpeed DFIM; C₂ – VarSpeed CFSM

Ternary set

D – with hydraulic torque converter + hydr. short circuit, horiz, with Francis Turbine

E – same as E but vertical with Pelton Turbine

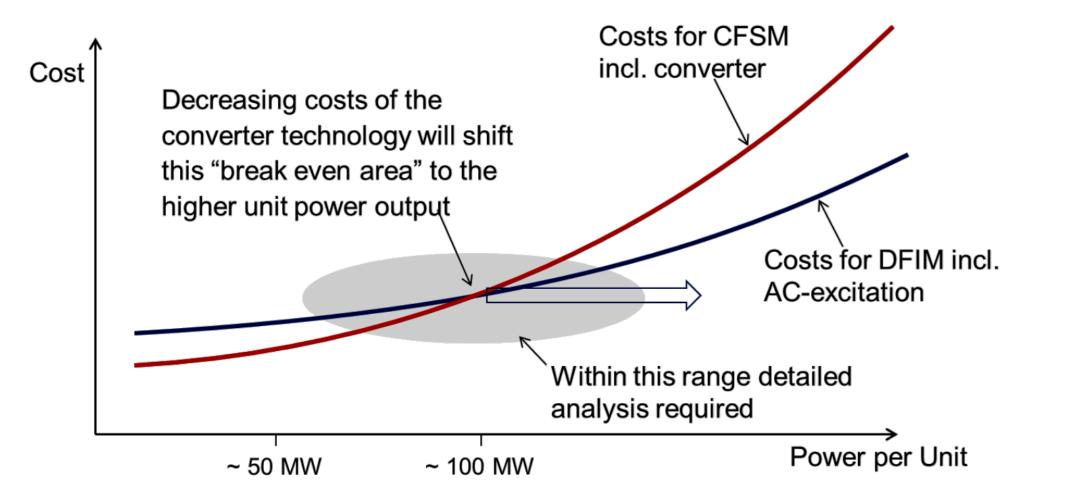


Voith

GE Vernova

Variable-speed pumped-storage

Comparison of solutions

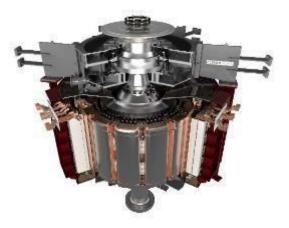


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Variable-speed pumped-storage

Fast power injections



Conventional PSP

• Reaction time driven by hydraulic time constant



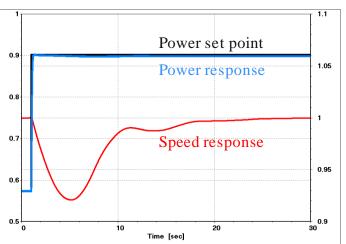
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Variable speed PSP

- Same reaction time as batteries
- Kinetic energy converted to electrical quasi instantaneous power injection
- Turbine-governor control makes the injection sustainable



References

• E. C. Bortoni et al., "The Benefits of Variable Speed Operation in Hydropower Plants Driven by Francis Turbines." Energies 2019, 12, 3719; doi:10.3390/en12193719

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- A. Schwery, J. MacDowell, S. D. Rao, "Enabling Resiliency with Variable Speed Pumped Hydro Storage for Transition to Tomorrow's Grid." IEEE PES General Meeting, Seattle, July 2024.



THE END

Thank you!