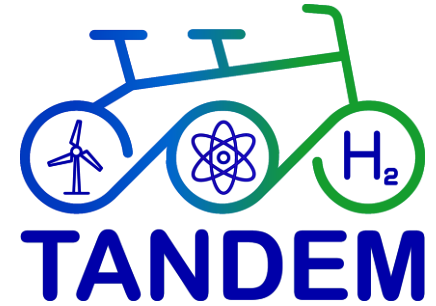


# Coupling Strategy Between CATHARE and MODELICA

TANDEM Technical Workshop – 20 / 21 February 2025

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- **CATHARE 3 Introduction**
- **Model Coupling – What do we need?**
- **Coupling Strategy**
  - Main Idea adopted to perform the coupling
  - Coupling Supervision
- **Example – SMR/BOP Coupled Analysis**



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# CATHARE 3 - Introduction

# CATHARE 3 – Introduction

CATHARE 3 is a well-assessed French thermal-hydraulic system code used for nuclear safety analyses

The CATHARE 3 development started with the NEPTUNE project [1] in 2002

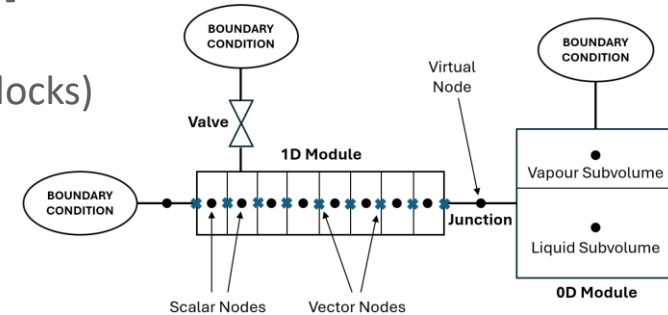
Object-oriented modelling strategy (models made by different blocks)

Different type of blocks available (0D, 1D, 3D, Valves...)

Two-phase model used by default

Each block comes with its heat structure model

Other modules can be enabled (e.g., core neutronics)



1D vapour – liquid continuity eqs.

$$A \frac{\partial \alpha_v \rho_v}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial A \alpha_v \rho_v w_{x,v}}{\partial x} - A \Gamma_v = 0$$

$$A \frac{\partial \alpha_l \rho_l}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial A \alpha_l \rho_l w_{x,l}}{\partial x} + A \Gamma_v = 0$$

# CATHARE 3 – Transient Analyses

CATHARE 3 adopts a fully implicit discretization scheme for Thermal Hydraulic equations and semi-implicit scheme for heat transfer phenomena.

Transient calculation is divided into 3 different steps:

## 1) Steady-state

Time derivatives are not considered and a steady-state condition is searched by the solver

## 2) Stabilized transient

Steady-state condition is used to initialize a transient calculation to reach a stationary point

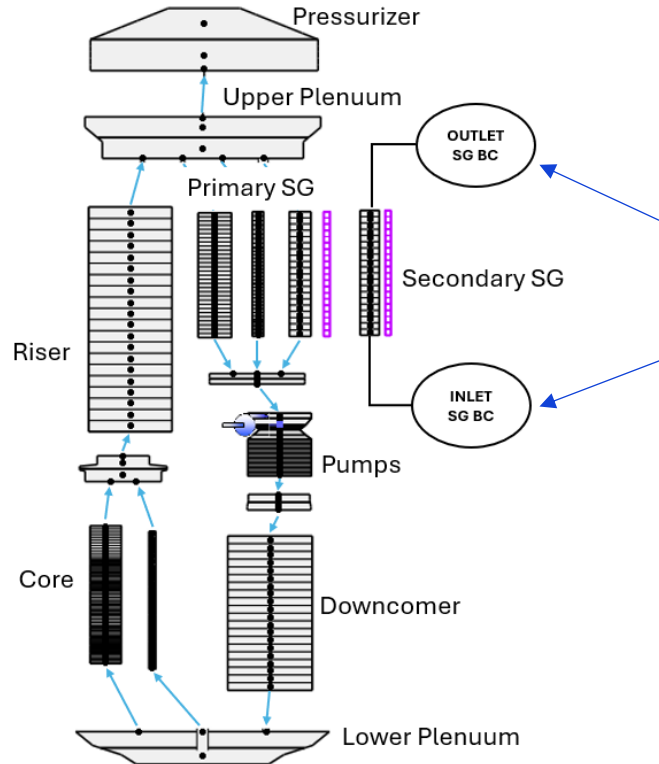
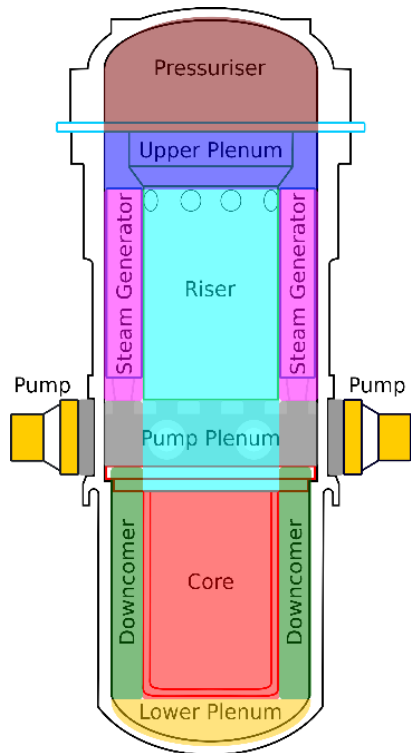
The achieved stationary point is used to initialize other modules, e.g., core neutronics

## 3) Transient

Starting from the achieved stationary point, a transient is induced in the system



# CATHARE 3 – Example of SMR CATHARE 3 Model

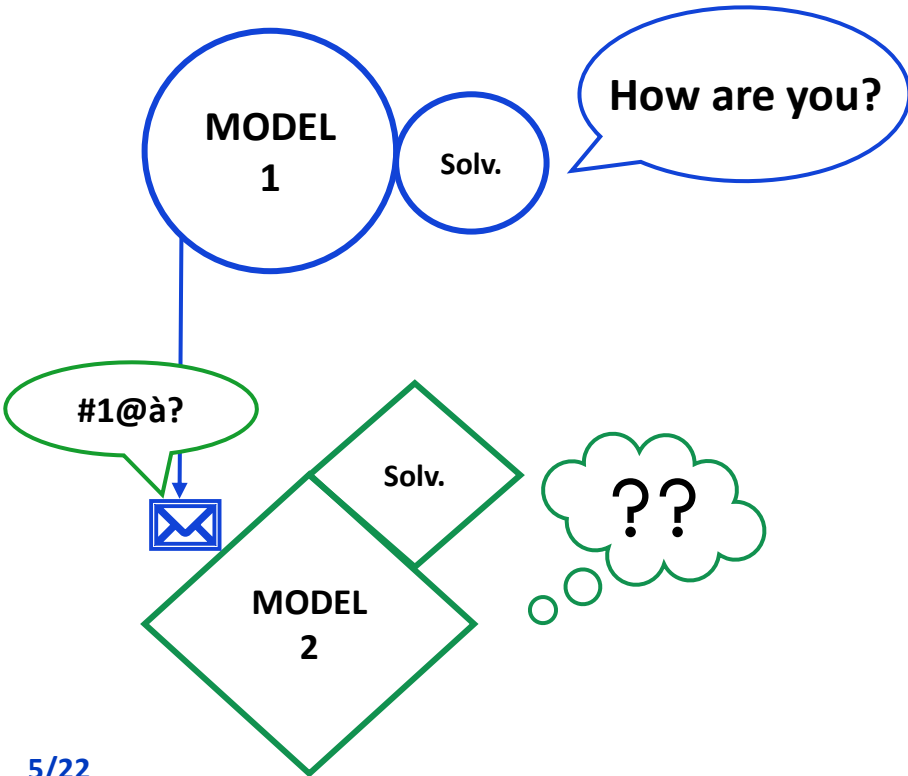


Will be used to perform the coupling with MODELICA

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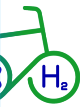
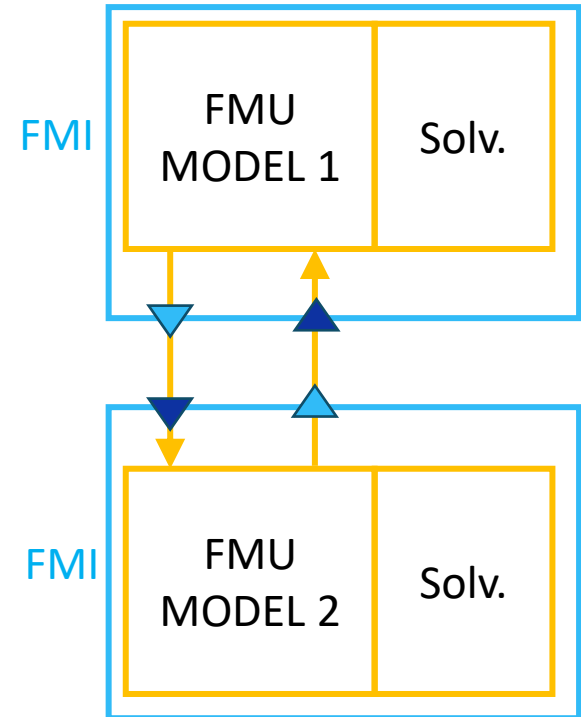
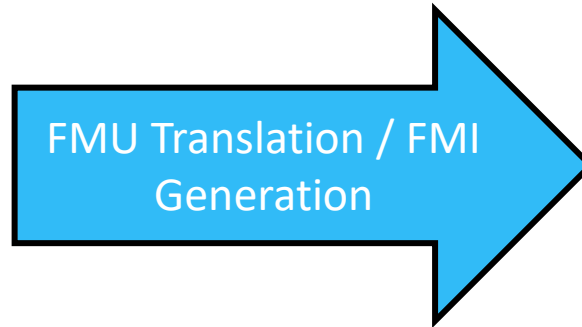
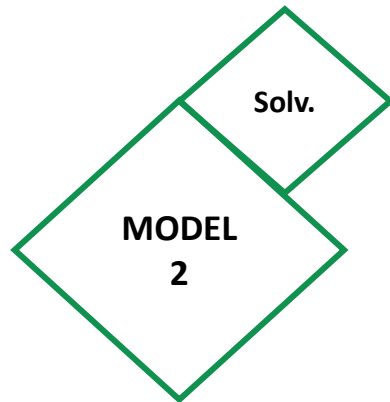
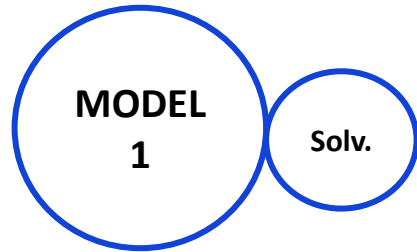
# Model Coupling – What do We Need?

# Coupling of Different Models - Background





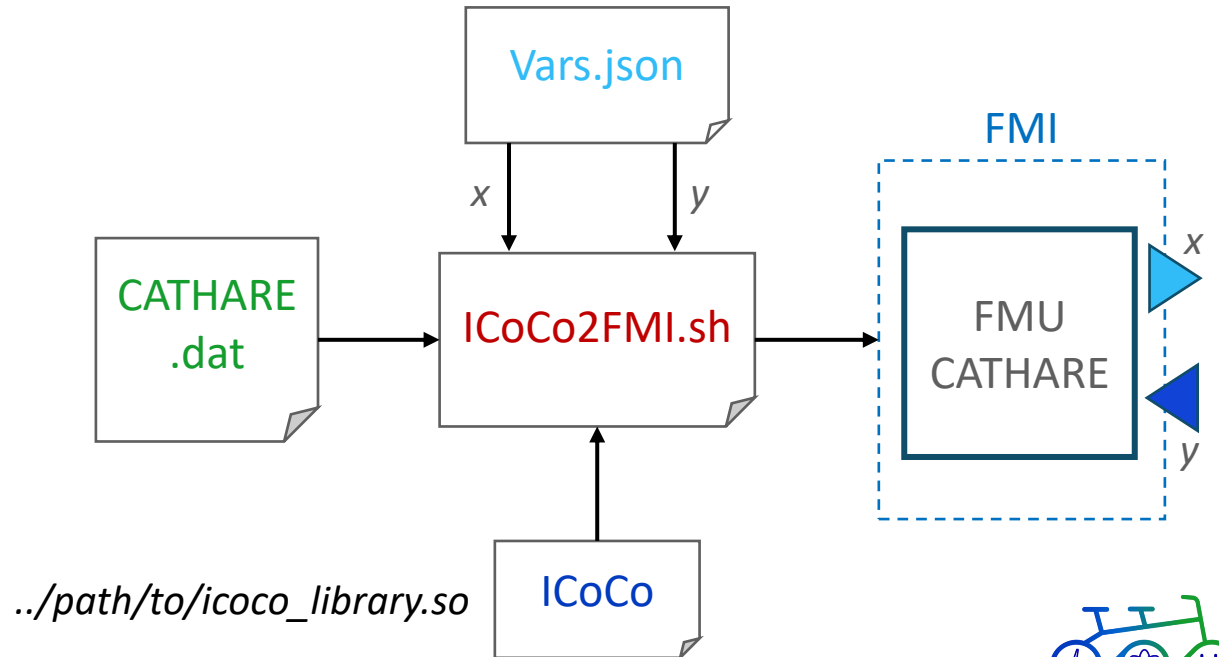
# Coupling of Different Models - Background



# FMI Generation – CATHARE 3 Models

What do we need?

- ICoCo2FMI.sh [3]
- CATHARE 3 model
- Interface for Codes Coupling (ICoCo Library) [4]
- JSON for variable definition



# FMI Generation – MODELICA Models

Different ways

Commercial Codes  
(Dymola)



Open Source Codes  
(OpenModelica)

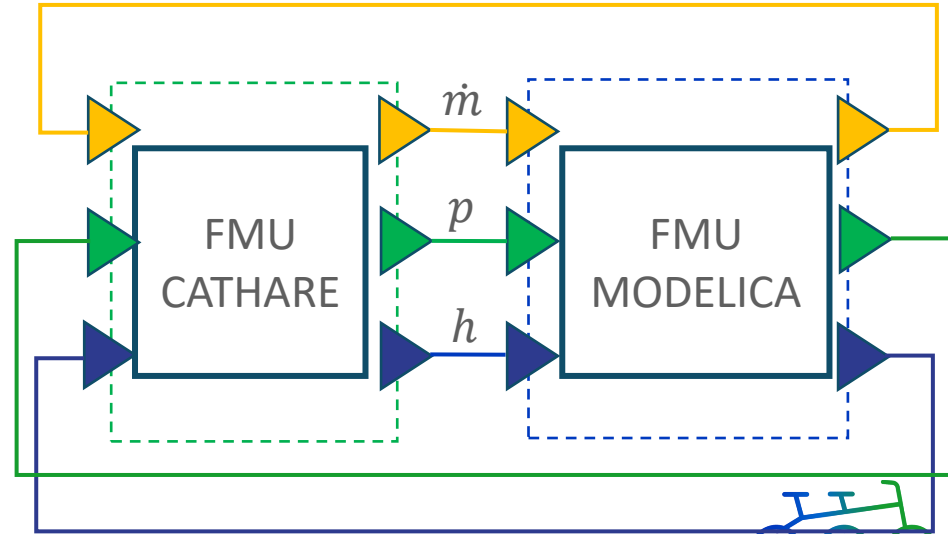
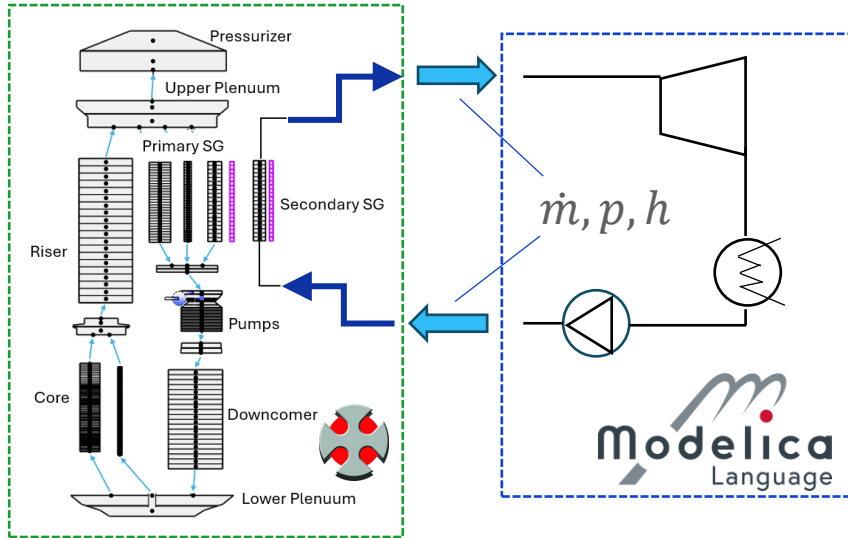
A screenshot of a simulation software interface showing the 'fmi Export FMU' dialog box. The dialog box is open over a model diagram. The 'Type' section has 'Model exchange and Co-simulation' selected. The 'Algorithm' is set to 'Cvode'. The 'Version' is set to '2.0'. The 'Binaries' section has '32-bit' and '64-bit' checked. The 'Model description filters' section has 'Exclude protected variables', 'Exclude auxiliary variables', and 'Only black box' unchecked. The 'Model identifier' field is empty. A warning message at the bottom states: 'Code export (Binary Model Export or Source Code Generation) is not available. The exported FMU will require a Dymola license at run-time.' The 'Evaluate parameters is not set. This option is recommended for large models.' message is also visible. The 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons are at the bottom right. In the background, the software's 'Tools' menu is open, and the 'Translate' option is highlighted with a red box. A blue box highlights the 'fmi FMU' button and the 'Ctrl+F9' shortcut.

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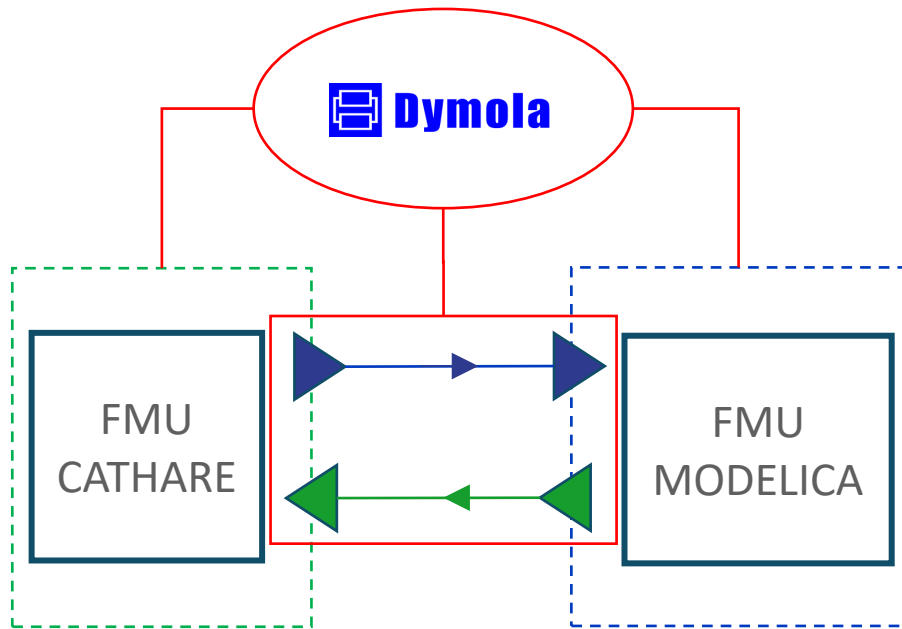
# Coupling Strategy

# Coupling Strategy – Main Idea

## Fluid Coupling between Primary Side (CATHARE 3) and Balance of Plant (MODELICA)



# Coupling Strategy – Co-simulation Supervision



Master controls the co-simulation:

- Time-step advancement of the models
- Control of the time-step (e.g., time-step threshold)
- Collection of the outputs
- Imposition of inputs
- Simulation Environments or Python 3 coded interfaces (FMPy [4]) can be used

# Coupling Strategy – Co-simulation Supervision

The screenshot displays the Dymola software interface with the Simulation Setup dialog box open. The 'Stop' time is set to 1000, highlighted with a red box. The 'Algorithm' is set to 'Dassl'. The 'Simulation Setup' dialog box is configured with the following settings:

- Experiment: TANDEM.SMR.BOP.BOP\_TSPro.FMU\_4Export.WorkingDirectory.FMU\_BOP\_4Boiler.TestCase\_HybridIP.CheckFMUCoupling
- Result: CheckFMUCoupling
- Max simulation run time: Not set
- Simulation interval: Start time 0, Stop time 1000
- Output interval: Number of intervals 500
- Integration: Algorithm Dassl, Tolerance 0.0001, Fixed Integrator Step 0

The background shows a variable browser with a list of variables and a plot area. The plot area displays a graph with a y-axis from 0.0 to 1.0 and an x-axis from 0.00 to 1.0. The graph shows a step function that transitions from 0.0 to 1.0 at approximately x=0.5. The plot area also contains a diagram with a box labeled 'fmi' and 'FMI 2' and arrows pointing to it from the left. The text 'CATH' is visible above the 'fmi' box.



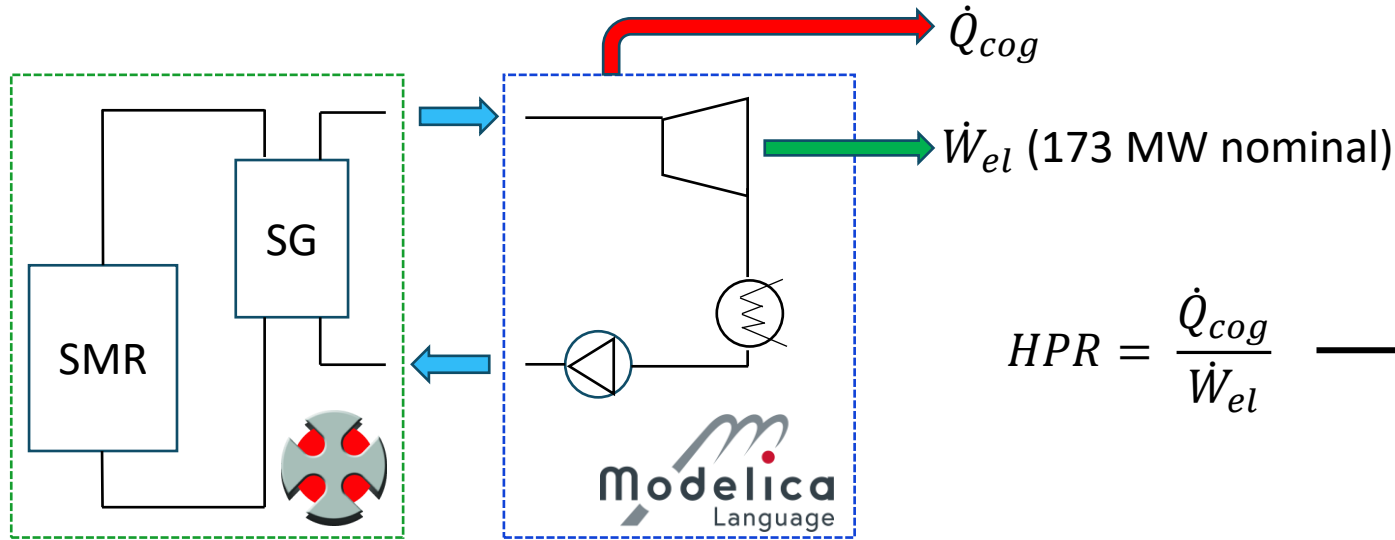
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# Example – SMR/BOP Coupling



# Definition of the Problem

Transition between full-electric operation to cogeneration (Heat to Power ratio 50%)

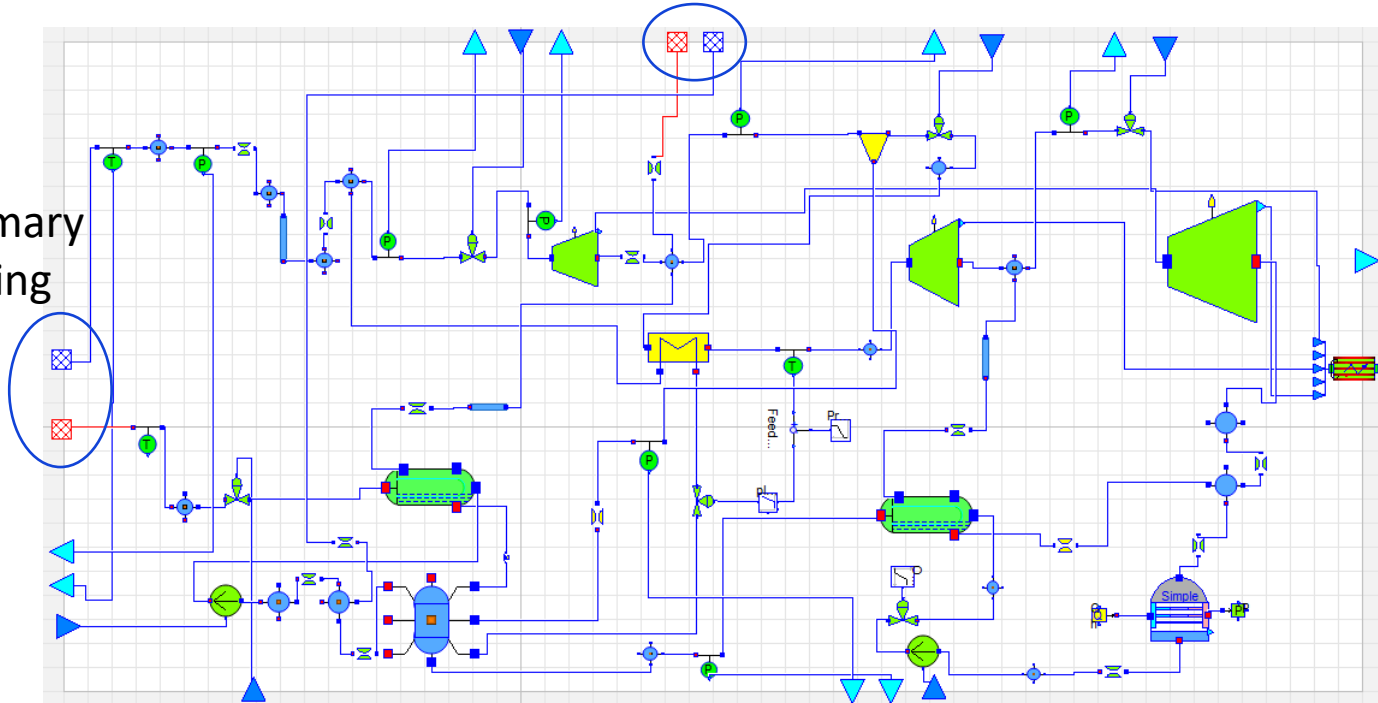


$$HPR = \frac{\dot{Q}_{cog}}{\dot{W}_{el}} \longrightarrow \dot{Q}_{cog} = 86.5 \text{ MW}$$

# Definition of the Problem – BOP Model

Quasi-static model, i.e., component dynamics is neglected

Ports for primary  
side coupling

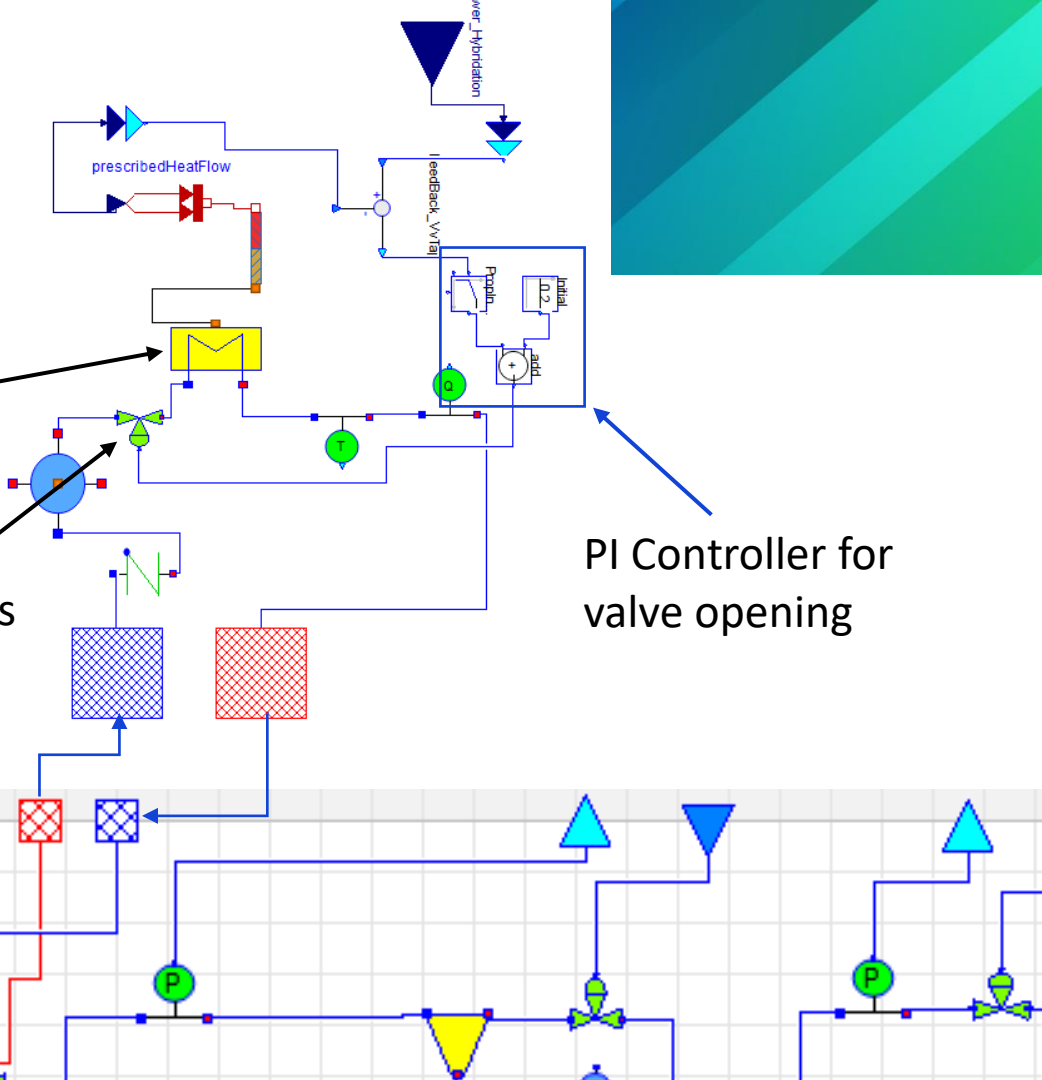


# Definition of the Problem

Cogeneration Heat Exchanger  
(ideal condenser)

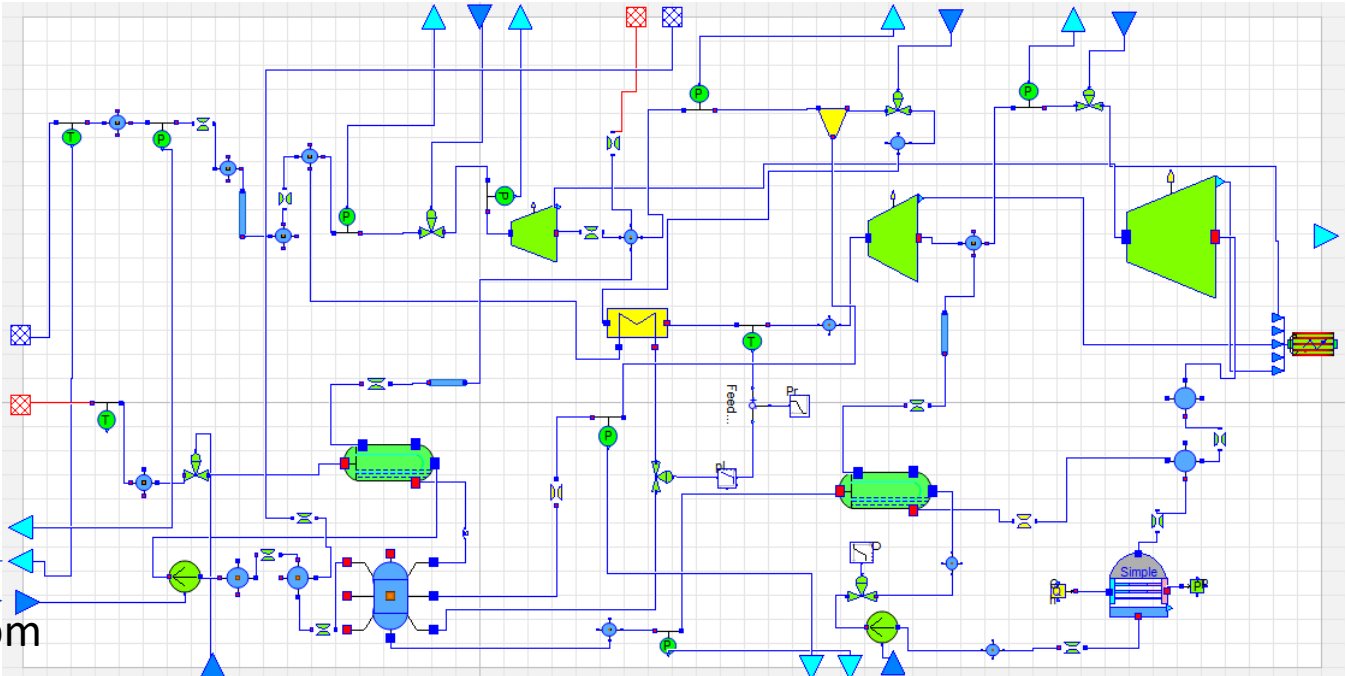
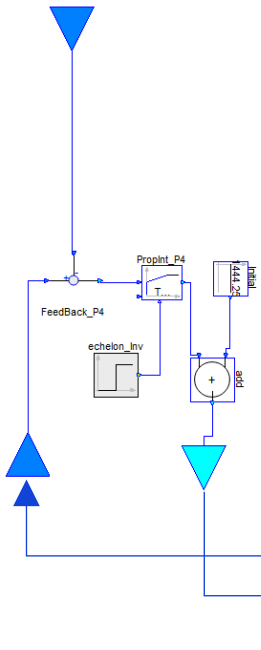
Valve for steam bypass

PI Controller for  
valve opening



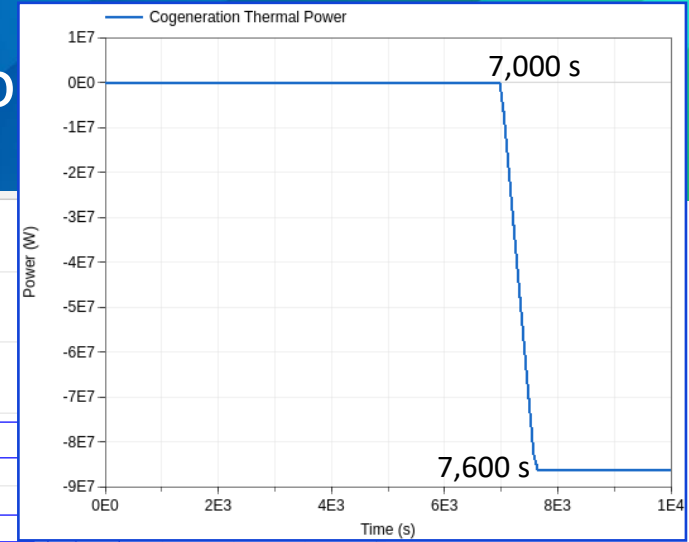
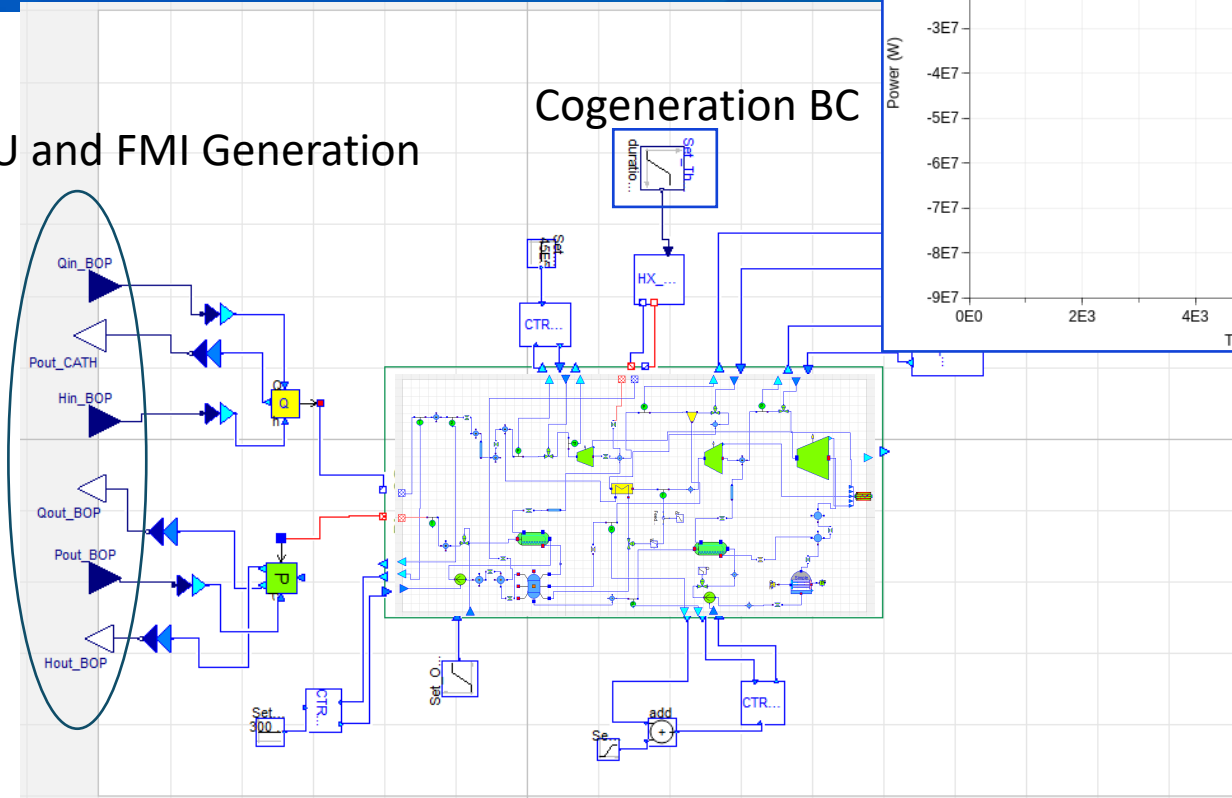
# Definition of the Problem – BOP Model

Set-point 300 °C



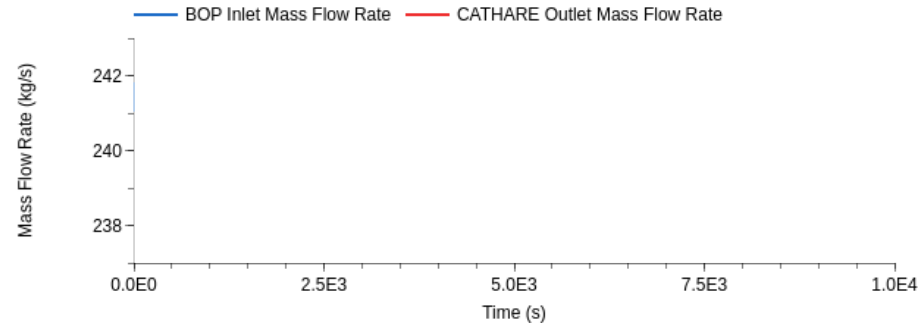
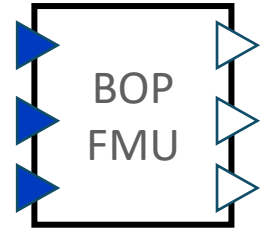
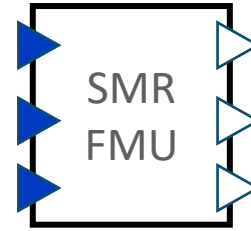
# Transient Definition and Boundary Co

Ports for FMU and FMI Generation



# Setting up the Transient and Results Achieved

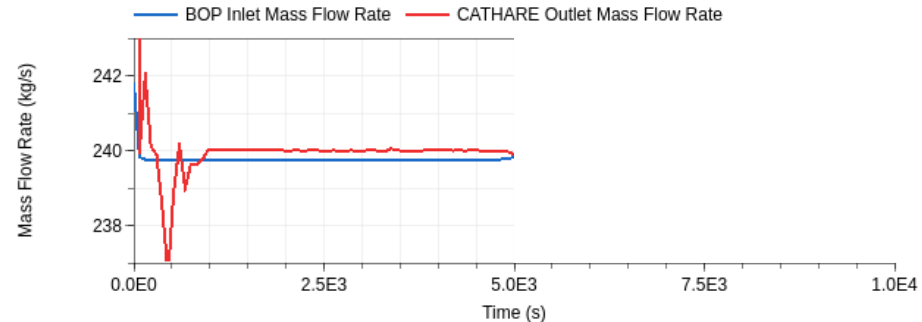
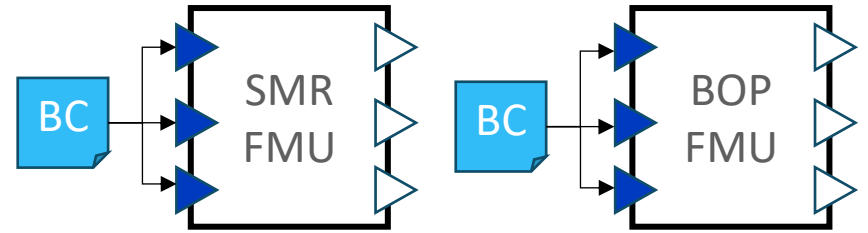
Whole transient is divided into different steps:



# Setting up the Transient and Results Achieved

Whole transient is divided into different steps:

- 1) Stand alone run of models to reach stabilization  
Constant BCs externally provided



# Setting up the Transient and Results Achieved

Whole transient is divided into different steps:

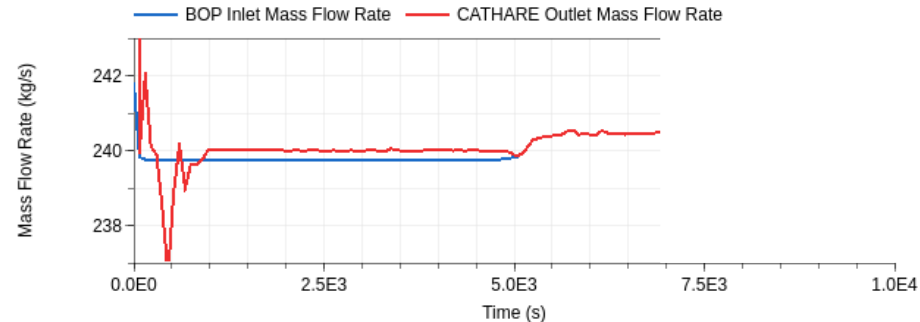
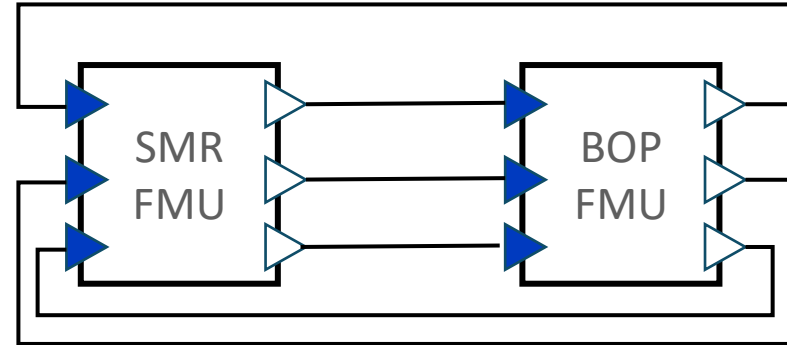
## 1) Stand alone run of models to reach stabilization

Constant BCs externally provided

## 2) Coupling at 5,000 seconds

Models start to exchange information

New steady state is achieved





# Setting up the Transient

Whole transient is divided into different steps:

## 1) Stand alone run of models to reach stabilization

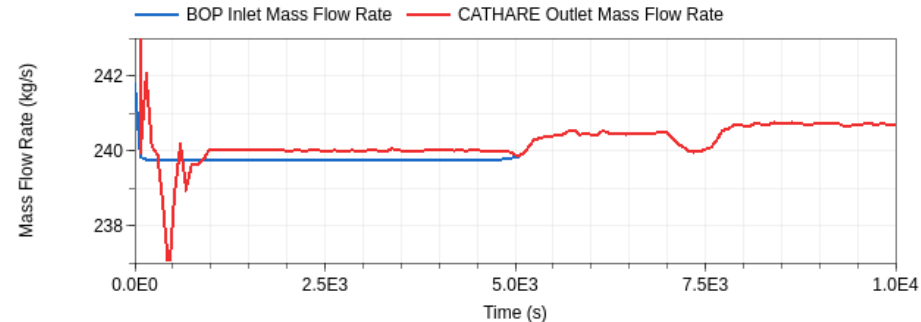
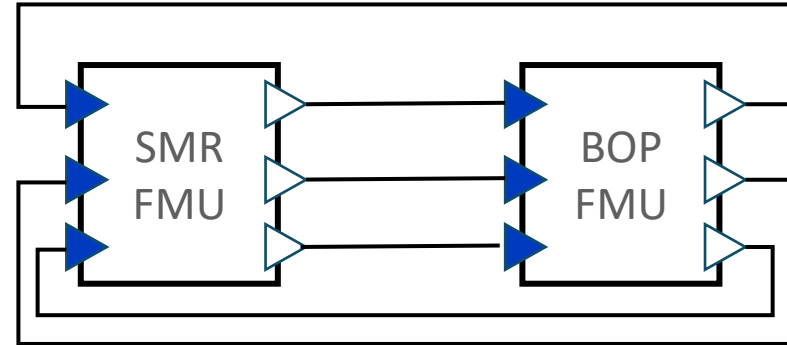
Constant BCs externally provided

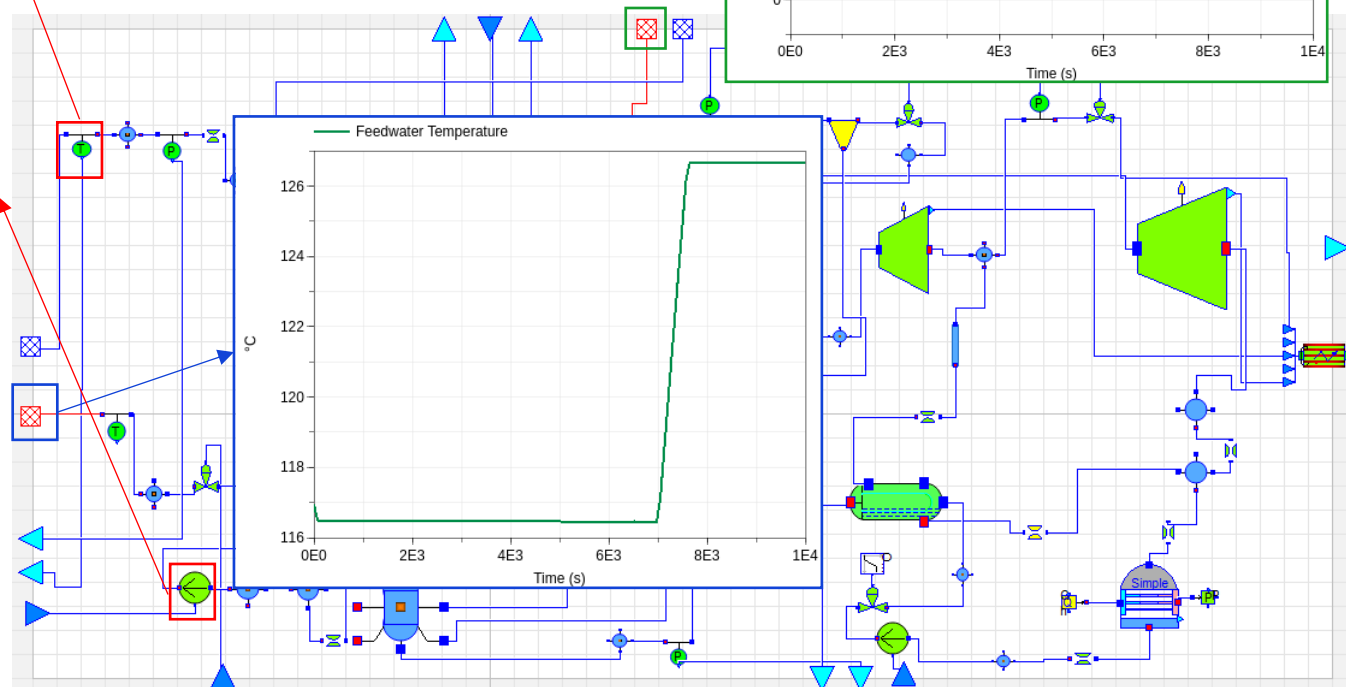
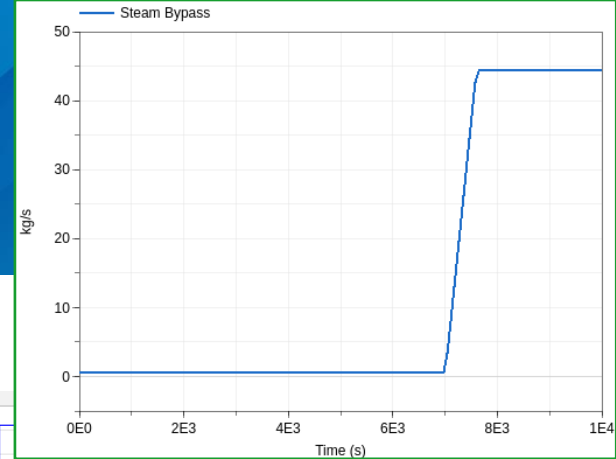
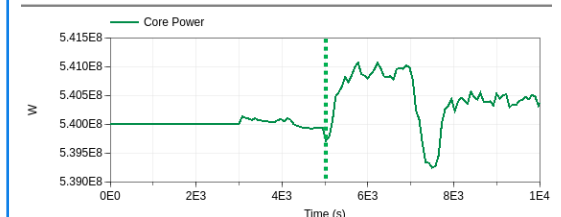
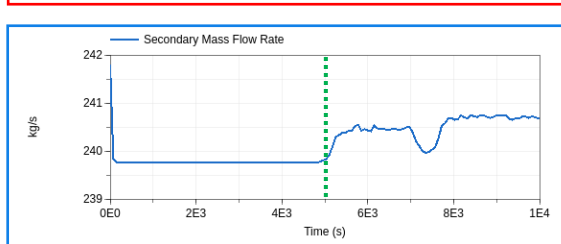
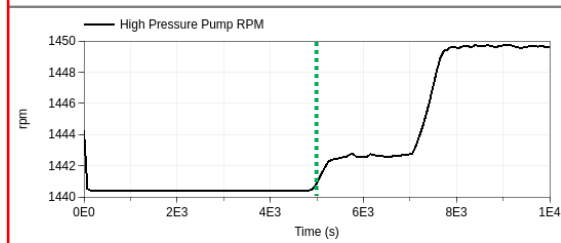
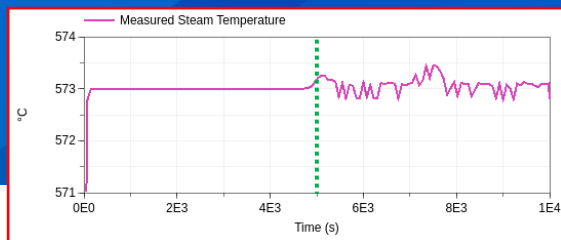
## 2) Coupling at 5,000 seconds

Models start to exchange information

New steady state is achieved

## 3) Cogeneration transient





# Conclusions

## The following conclusions can be drawn:

- 1) The coupling works (good news!)
- 2) The co-simulation was able to handle transient scenarios
- 3) Impact of cogeneration transient on the primary side was found to be mild
- 4) Results provide interesting hints and highlight the potentialities of the code coupling

## Nevertheless, there are points that must be reminded:

- 1) BOP model is quasi-static: introduction of dynamics may give different results
- 2) Controllers designed for a quasi-static BOP, in reality they may be different with different outcomes

---

# References

# References

- [1] Emonot, P., Souyri, A., Gandrille, J.L., and Barré, F., (2011), CATHARE-3: A new system code for thermal-hydraulic in the context of the NEPTUNE project, Nuclear Engineering and Design 231, pp. 4476-4481, doi:10.1016/j.nucengdes.2011.04.049
- [2] Davelaar, F., Bakouta, N., Bersano, A., Bittan, J., Bucholz, S., Lombardo, C., Kaliatka, A., Liegeard, C., Lorenzi, S., Nikitin, K., Ricotti, M., Szogradi, M., and Valinčius, M., (2024), E-SMR Dataset Description, ELSMOR Work Package 5 Public Report.
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- [4] Deville, E. and Perdu, F., (2012), Documentation of the Interface for Code Coupling : ICoCo, Commissariat à l'énergie atomique et aux énergies alternatives DEN/DANS/DM2S/STMF/LMES, [https://docs.salome-platform.org/latest/extra/Interface\\_for\\_Code\\_Coupling.pdf](https://docs.salome-platform.org/latest/extra/Interface_for_Code_Coupling.pdf).

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**Publications on Works and Updates about FMI:** <https://fmi-standard.org/literature/>

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