Interim Project
Presentation

DSL 810 : Project Proposal

Real Time Thermocouple Data Driven Fatigue Life Evaluation of Coke Drum

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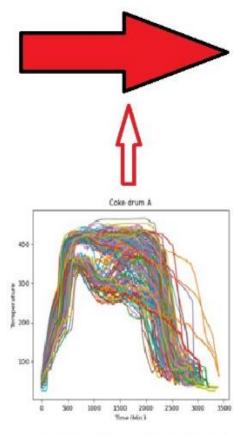
Introduction

Coke drums, are thin-walled pressure vessels that experience severe thermal cycling in normal operation, which consists of heating, filling and rapidly cooling the drum in a short period of time. After some years of operation cracks occur in the coke drum, especially at high stress concentration areas such as the skirt to bottom head attachment, as a result of thermo-mechanical loads experienced during each operating cycle. The attachment is subjected to large variations on the strain field during the entire cycle. In case of unplanned shutting down of coke drum operation in refinery incurs major loss of up to 30-40% of capital, which is never accepted. From the actual data-based investigation of coke drum fatigue life, the appropriate & in-line prediction of crack initiation shall be estimated. Study also helps in investigating the performances of each stages of coke drum process, which indirectly leads to inspection of efficiency of ancillary equipment(heat exchanger, columns, pumps etc..) connected to coke drum.

Actual Problem



REAL COKEDRUM



Random Operating Process Temperature Cycle

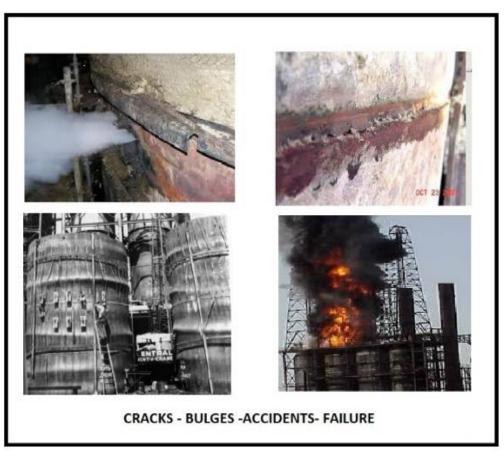
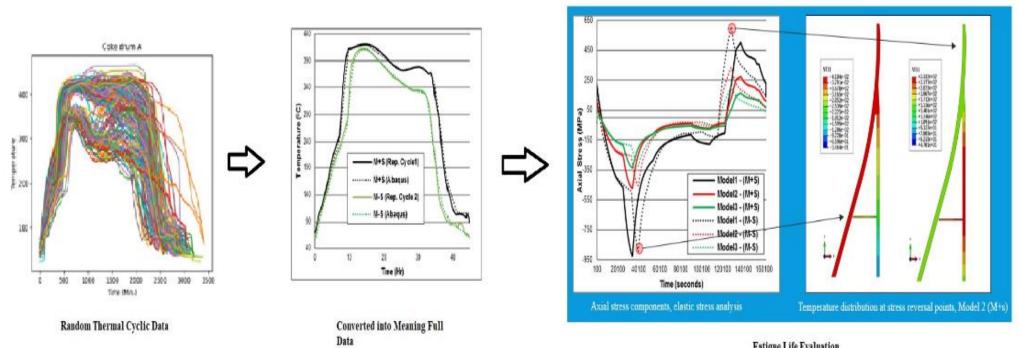


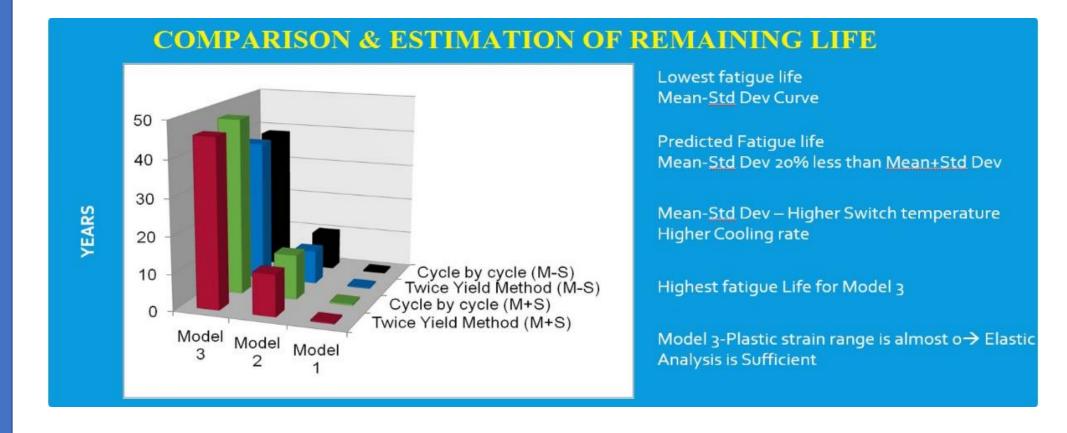
Image Courtesy: Coking.com; refiningcommunity.com; google.com

Solution Approach



Fatigue Life Evaluation

Output till now



By predicting the appropriate fatigue life, the inspection schedules shall be well planned well ahead of failure and appropriate cautionary steps shall be taken to avert unexpected shutdowns and major losses.

Timeline

| 1st Nov | 1st Nov - 30 Nov | 1st Dec - 15 Dec | 15 Dec - 7 Jan | 7 Jan - After |
|--------------------------------|--|--|---|---------------------|
| Project Proposal Submission | 1st Spiral | 2nd Spiral | 3rd Spiral | 4th Spiral |
| | we will take 1 week of data and evaluate the life | 100 days data + visual representation + comparison with actual data | Digital prototype + improvement is visual representation + accuracy | Expand the data set |