



2014 Purdue Conferences

Compressor Engineering

Refrigeration and Air Conditioning


High Performance Buildings

# **SCREW COMPRESSORS**

## **PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE**

Jack Sauls  
Ingersoll Rand / Trane  
Retired

# INTRODUCTION

- 
- What I learned from researching the history of screw compressors.
  - How that influenced this presentation.
  - The familiar and often repeated short historical narrative.



- Stories from some of the people involved.

# WHAT I LEARNED

It is too big to do it all

- Too much information
- Too long a time
- Too many participants
- Too broadly characterized

Google “screw compressor” to see what I mean

# WHAT I LEARNED

It has been done before



1965-66

Trends in Compressor Design



Henri  
Soumerai



N. Stosic  
A. Kovacevic  
I. Smith  
E. Mujic



Professor  
Ian Smith

2010

Three Decades of Modern Screw  
Compressor Practice



Professor Nikola  
Stosic



2014

Screw Compressors and Chillers  
A History of development

# APPROACH

## How I organized this talk...

~~The Unabridged Version~~

### **The Limited Scope Version**

- Twin screw only
- Follow personal experience
- Focus on technical development

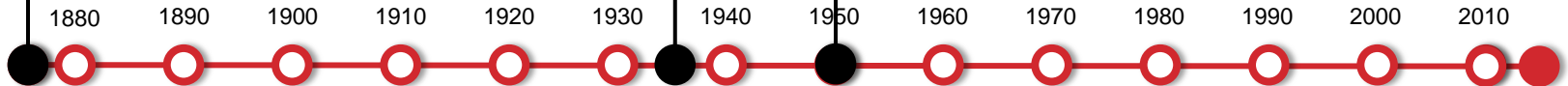
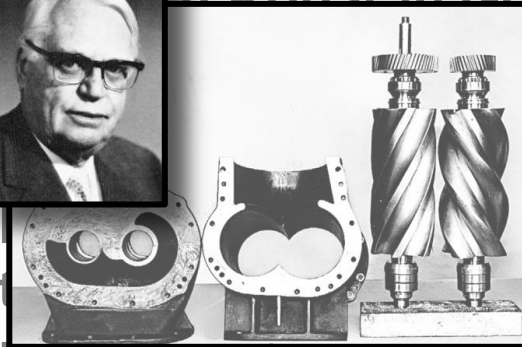
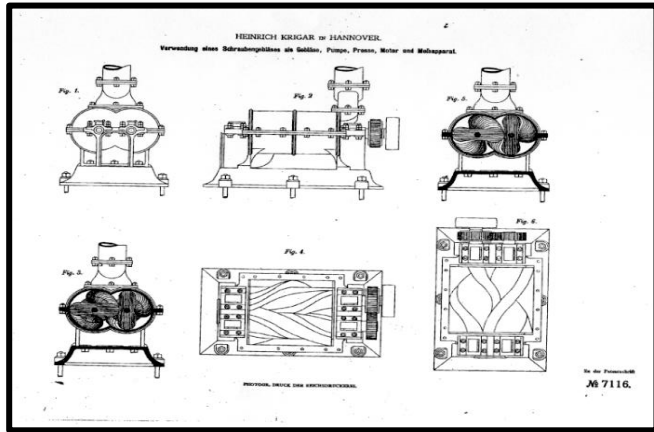
### **Divide Timeline into Phases**

- Beginnings
- Re-invention
- Growth and Development

### **End up with a Useful Result**

- How we got to where we are
- **How we will define the future**

# OVERVIEW



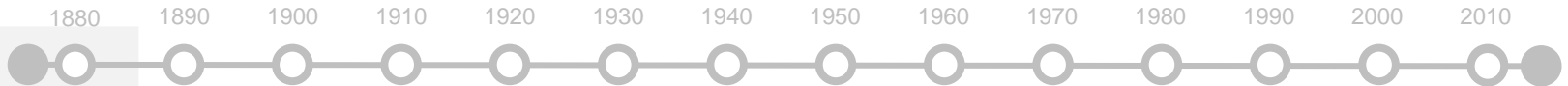
Beginnings

Reinvention

Growth and Development

# BEGINNINGS

- What was Heinrich Krigar known for?
- Why did he even need a screw compressor?
- What does a woolen mill in Connersville, Indiana have to do with this story?



# BEGINNINGS

5352

THE LONDON GAZETTE, OCTOBER 4, 1867.

2508. And to Gustav Adolph Buchholz, of Shepherd's Bush, in the county of Middlesex, Gentleman, for the invention of "improvements in machinery for hulling wheat and manufacturing semolina."

On their several petitions, recorded in the Office of the Commissioners on the 4th day of September, 1867.

2509. To Cooper county "improvements in machinery for hulling wheat and manufacturing semolina."

2510. To Charin Patent improvements in machinery for hulling wheat and manufacturing semolina."

2511. To terrace improvements in railway wheels."

2513. To Henry Carter and George Henry Edwards, both of Dempsey-street, Stepney, in the county of Middlesex, Gunmakers, for the invention of "improvements in breech loading fire arms."

2515. To John Ford, of Reading, in the county of Berks, Wheelwright, for the invention of "improvements in means for securing wheels, pulleys, cranks, and other articles on their shafts or axles."

2517. To George Henry Pierce, of Yotton, in the

of "improvements in means or apparatus employed for lighting gas and other jets or lamps, candles, cigars, and other articles."

2533. To John Smith, of Bradford, in the county of York, Engineer, for the invention of "improvements in machinery for combing or dressing silk, flax, China-grass, cotton, or other fibrous substances."

2553. To Jacob Eichhorn, of 7, Delahay-street, Westminster, for the invention of "improvements on furnaces for melting iron and other metals, and for smelting ores."—The result partly of a communication made to him from abroad by Heinrich Krigar, a person resident at Hanover, in the Kingdom of Prussia, and partly of invention of his own.

Iron Works, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, in the county of York, for the invention of "improvements in machinery for puddling, and in puddling and other furnaces."

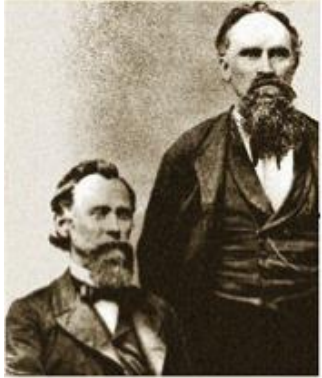
On their several petitions, recorded in the Office of the Commissioners on the 7th day of September, 1867.

2543. To Charles Burn, of 3, Middle Scotland-yard, in the city of Westminster, in the county of Middlesex, for the invention of "a new mode of propelling railway or other carriages."

1870 1880 1890

Heinrich Krigar  
(1867) (1878)

# BEGINNINGS



**Francis & Philander...**

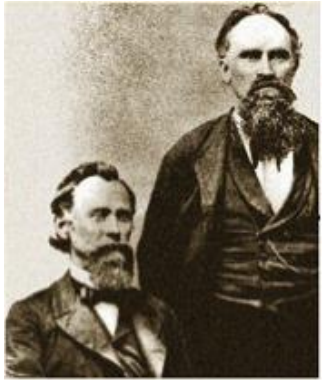


**...had a woolen mill in Connersville, Indiana...**



**...that was powered by flowing water.**

# BEGINNINGS



## THE CUPOLA FURNACE:

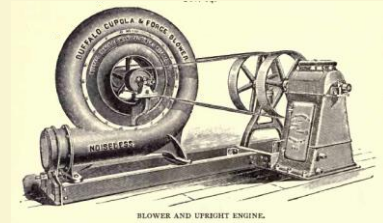
A PRACTICAL TREATISE ON THE  
CONSTRUCTION AND MANAGEMENT  
OF  
FOUNDRY CUPOLAS.

COMPRISING

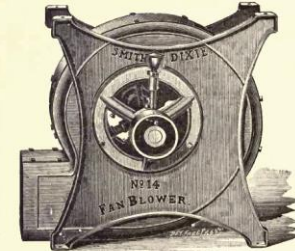
THE BEST METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION AND MANAGEMENT OF CUPOLAS; DIFFERENT  
SHAPED CUPOLAS; HEIGHT OF CUPOLA; PLACING TUYERES; SHAPES OF TUYERES;  
LINING; SPARK CATCHING DEVICES; BLOWERS; FLAST PIPES; AIR GAUGES;  
CHARGING; DIRECTIONS FOR THE MELTING OF IRON, TIN-PLATE SCRAP,  
AND OTHER METALS IN CUPOLAS; EXPERIMENTS IN MELTING;  
WHAT A CUPOLA WILL MELT; ETC.

The first application of  
the Roots blower was in  
iron foundry cupolas.

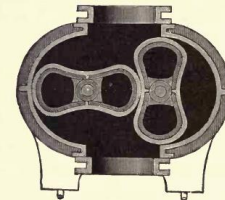
PHILADELPHIA:  
HENRY CAREY BAIRD & CO.,  
INDUSTRIAL PUBLISHERS, BOOKSELLERS AND IMPORTERS,  
810 WALNUT STREET.  
LONDON:  
E. & F. N. SPON, LTD.,  
125 STRAND.  
1899.



BLOWER AND UPRIGHT ENGINE.

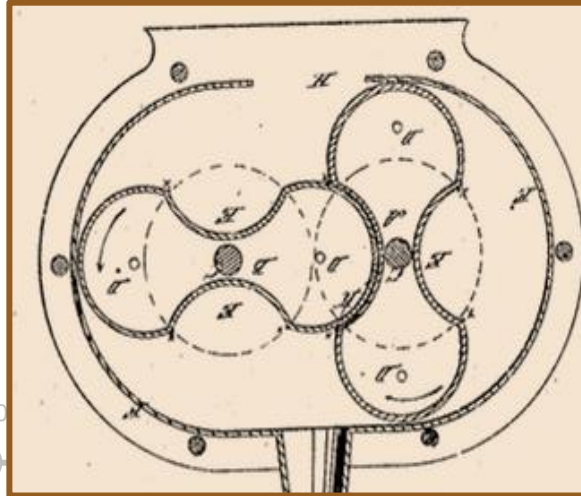
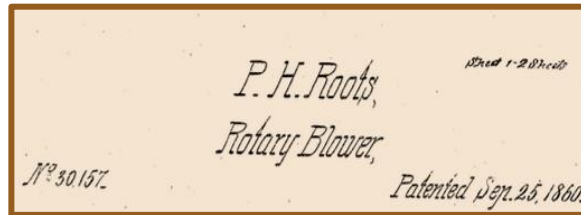
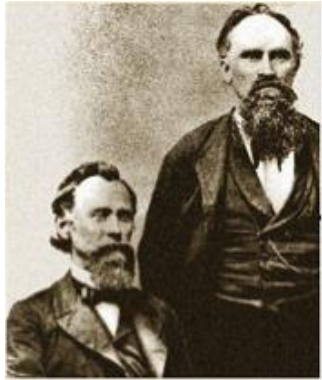


Bottom Horizontal Discharge.  
SMITH'S DIXIE FAN BLOWER.

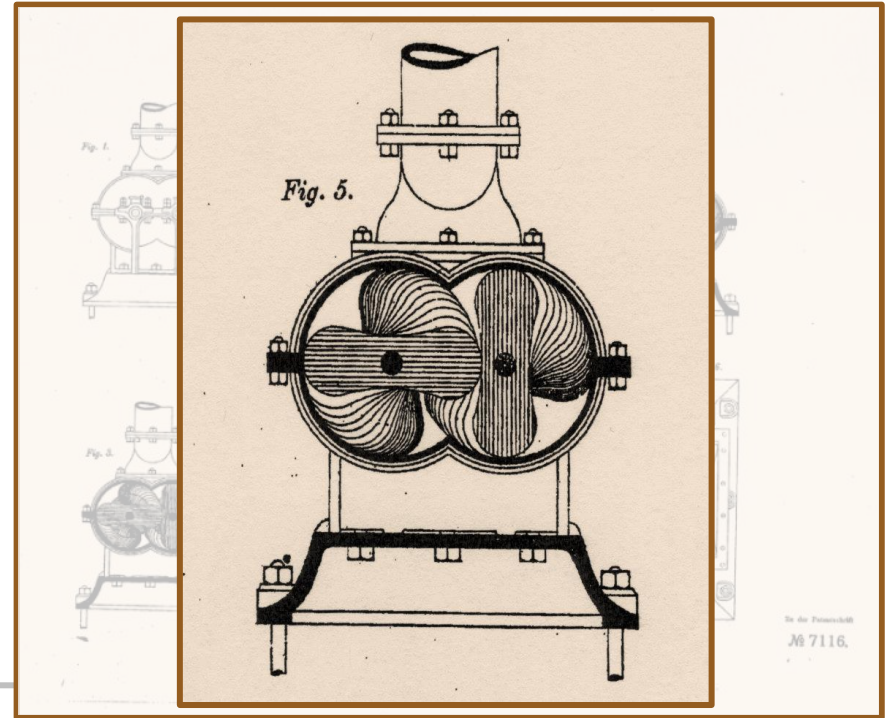


SECTIONAL VIEW OF CONNORSVILLE CYCLOIDAL BLOWER.

# BEGINNINGS



**Roots  
1860**

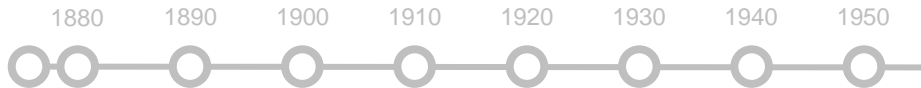


**Krigar  
1878**

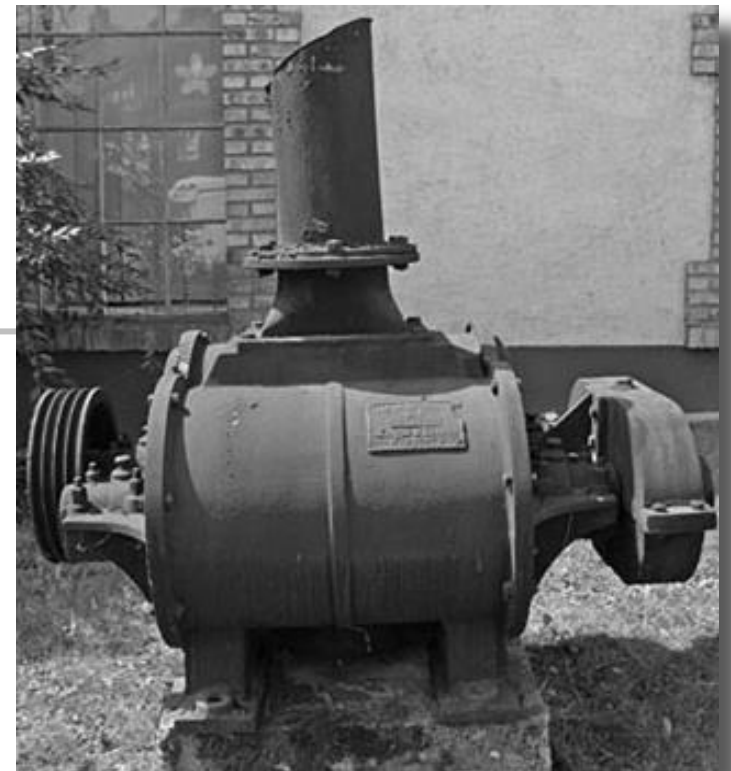
**Putting these pieces together...**

# BEGINNINGS

- Krigar was an expert in foundry furnace design.
- New furnaces needed more flow and pressure.
- He modified the Roots brothers' invention to satisfy requirements.
- Success...



**A Krigar “helical screw blower”  
at a Foundry in Ettelbrück,  
Luxembourg.**

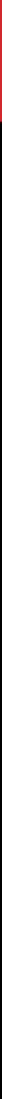


# REINVENTION

- **Gustav de Laval plants a seed.**
- **Two brothers from Sweden build a business.**
- **Alf Lysholm enters the picture.**

3





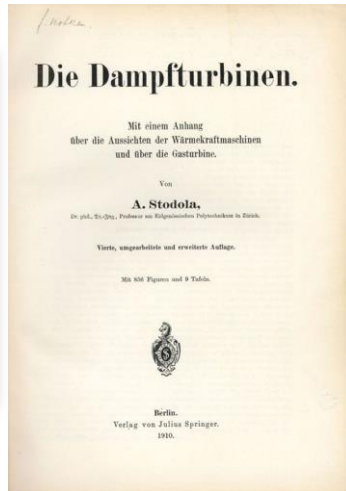
Birger & Fredrick  
Ljungström

Francis & Philander  
Roots

# REINVENTION



Aurel Stodola



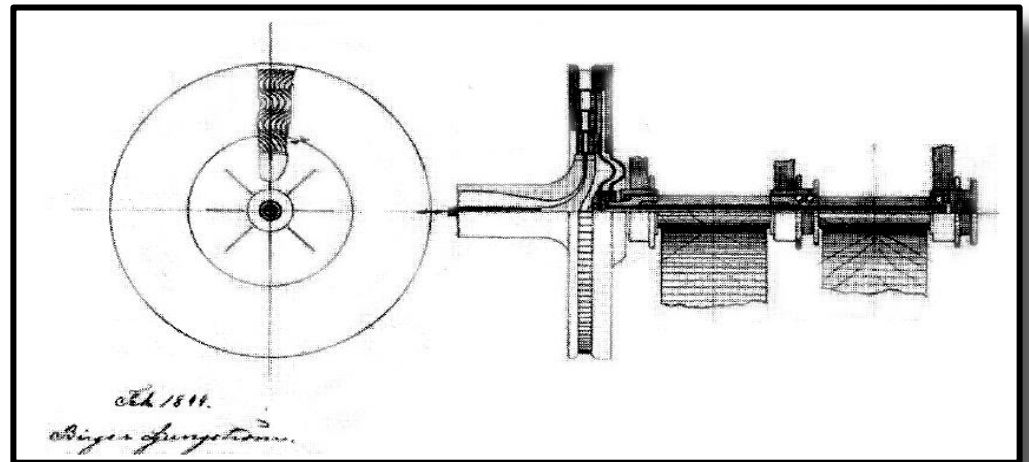
AB Ljungströms Ångturbin (ALÅ)

1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010

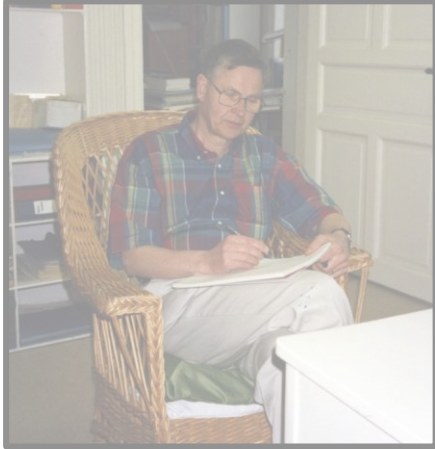
Heinrich  
Krigar

Francis & Philander  
Roots

Birger & Fredrick  
Ljungström



# REINVENTION



Soren Edström



Alf Lysholm

**Krigar's concept has gone from cupolas to gas turbines.**

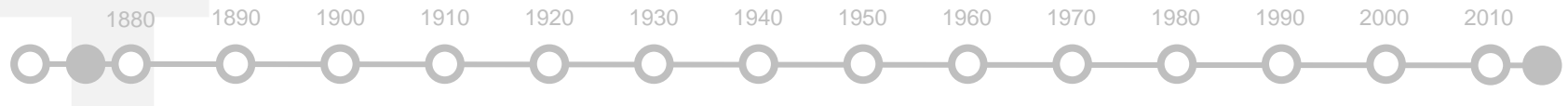
# REINVENTION

- Ljungströms' interest in steam engineering led to the foundation of ALÅ and hiring of Alf Lysholm.
- Lysholm became an expert in steam turbines.
- He helped develop ALÅ's gas turbine concept.
- To avoid surge, he proposed using a positive displacement compressor.
- Success....

**Not in gas turbines, but Lysholm's implementation of Krigar's 60 year old idea was the beginning of our screw compressor industry.**

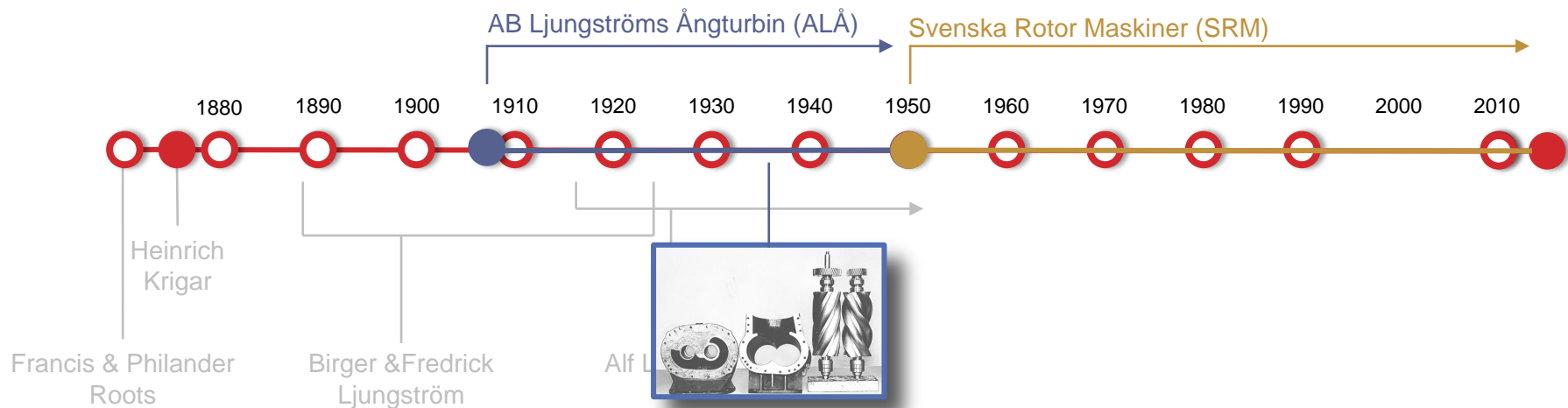
# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- The appearance and growth of SRM.
- Seeds of commercialization.
- Building and using the body of knowledge.
- Manufacturing technology evolves.
- Success.



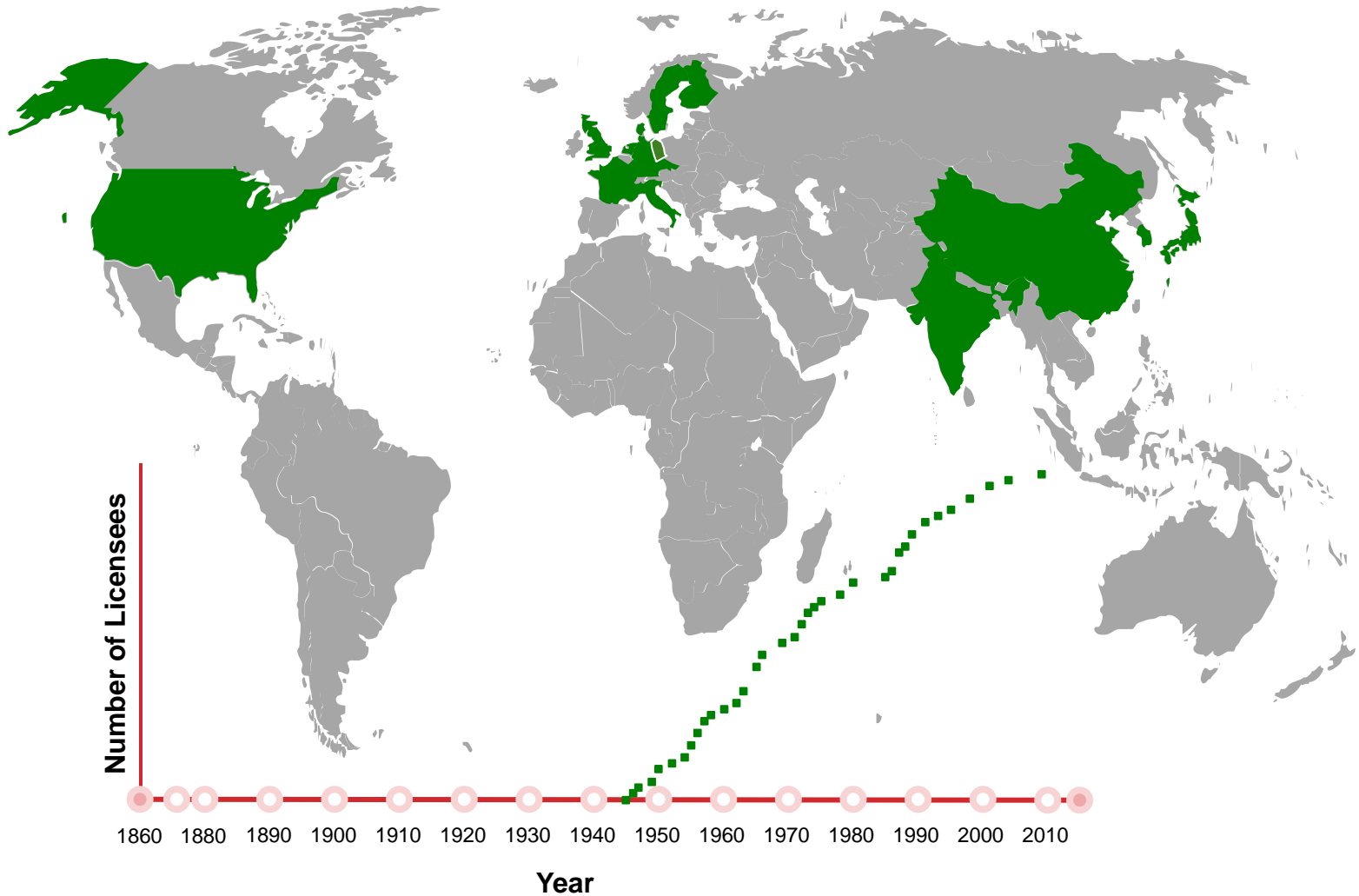
# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Turbines to screw compressors & the appearance of SRM



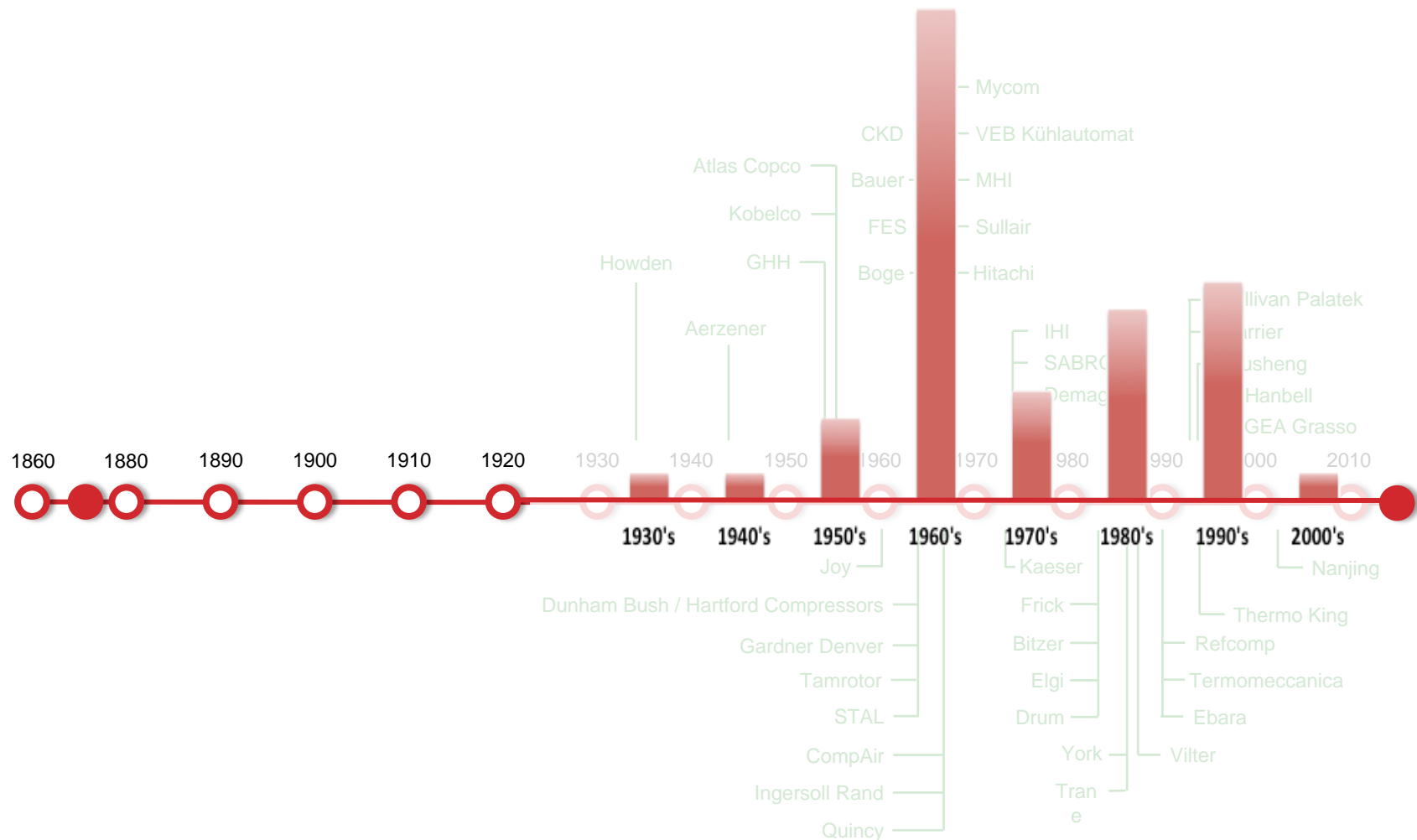
# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Building up of SRM licensee involvement



# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

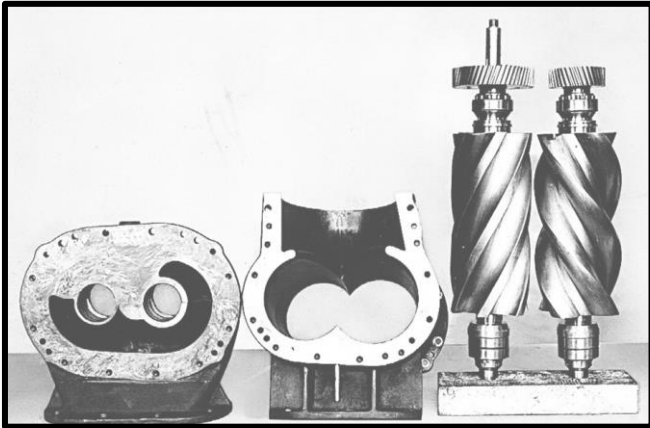
## Commercial enterprises



**Rapid Expansion in the 1960's**

# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

1935 to 1950

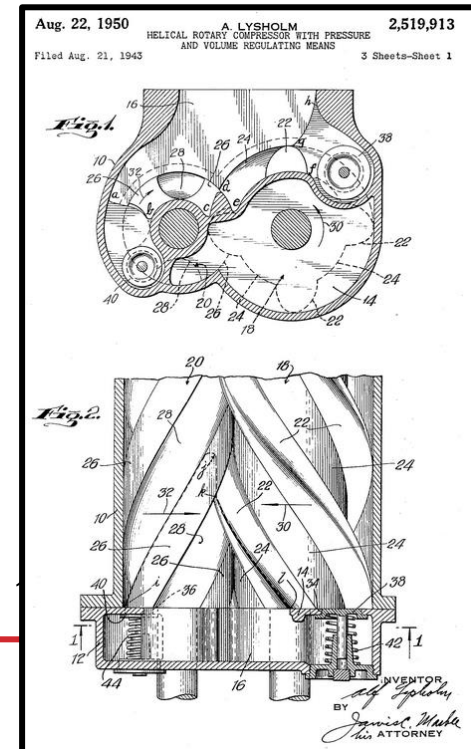


Prototype dry  
running screw  
tests

70 options 25 options

1860 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960

Port type  
displacement  
and volume ratio  
control



Alf Lysholm

010

# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Building up the body of knowledge

Prototype dry  
running screw  
tests

70  
options      25  
options



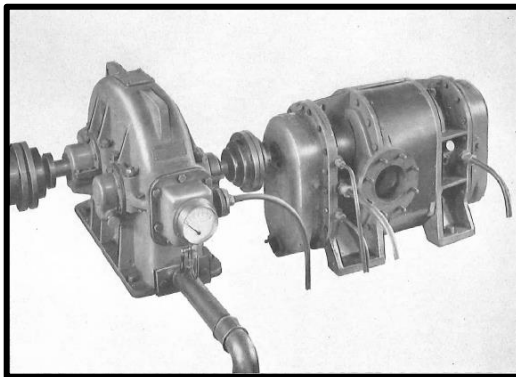
SRM begins  
publishing screw  
compressor reports

# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

## Using the body of knowledge – Early adopters



“James Howden & Co Ltd ...  
first company to commercialise the  
technology.”  
[Howden.com](http://Howden.com)



type dry  
ing screw  
ests

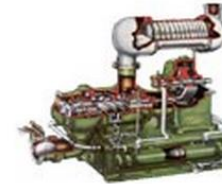
25  
options options

### Guttehofnungshütte (GHH)



**1952**

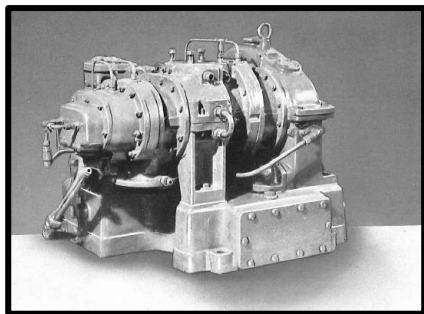
“First oil-free screw  
compressor stage.”



**1953**

“First two stage oil-free  
industrial compressor  
module.”

[ghhrand.com](http://ghhrand.com)



**1943**

“Production start for screw  
compressors.”

[Aerzen.com](http://Aerzen.com)

### KOBELCO

**1955**

“Completed Japan’s first oil-free  
screw compressor.”

[kobelco.co.jp](http://kobelco.co.jp)



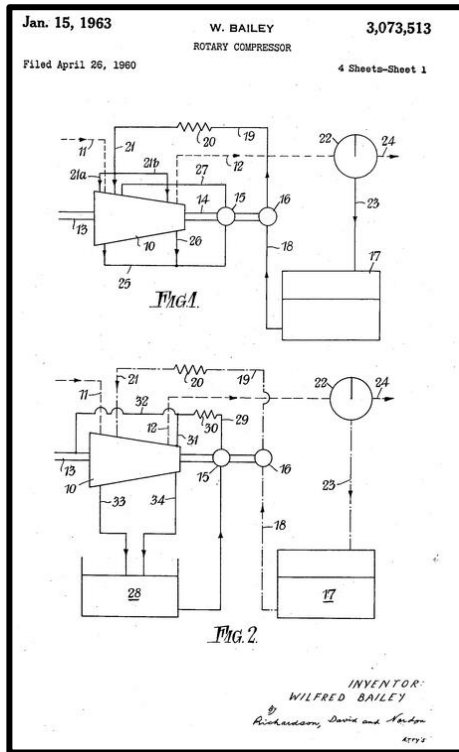
**1955**

“The first screw compressor is  
delivered.”

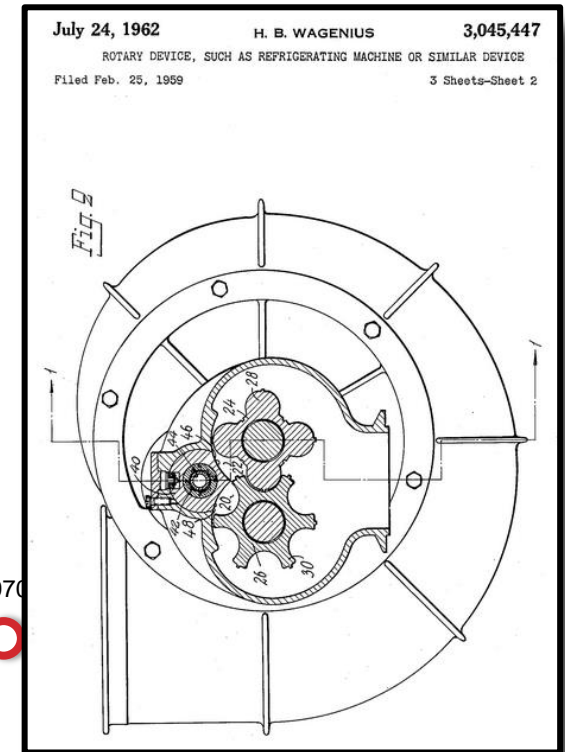
[atlascopco.com](http://atlascopco.com)

# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

## Building a body of knowledge



W. Bailey



H. B. Wagenius

Oil flooded  
compressors

Prototype dry  
running screw  
tests

70 options  
25 options

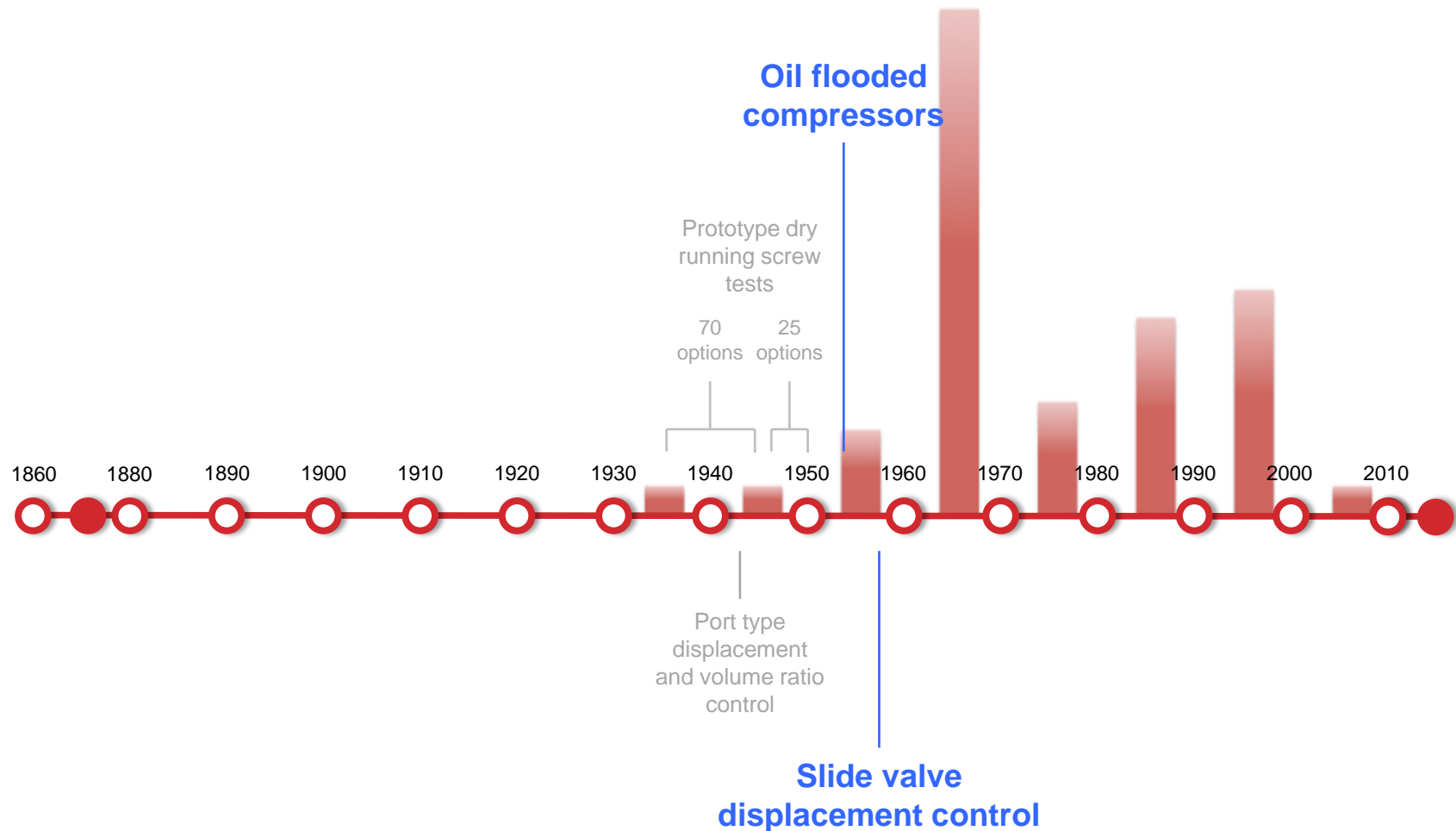
Port type  
displacement  
and volume ratio  
control

Slide valve  
displacement control



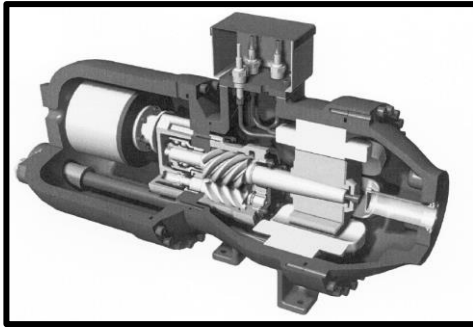
# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Significant effect of developments in the 1950's



# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

1950's



SRM Refrigerant Compressor



Oil flooded  
compressors

Prototype dry  
running screw  
tests

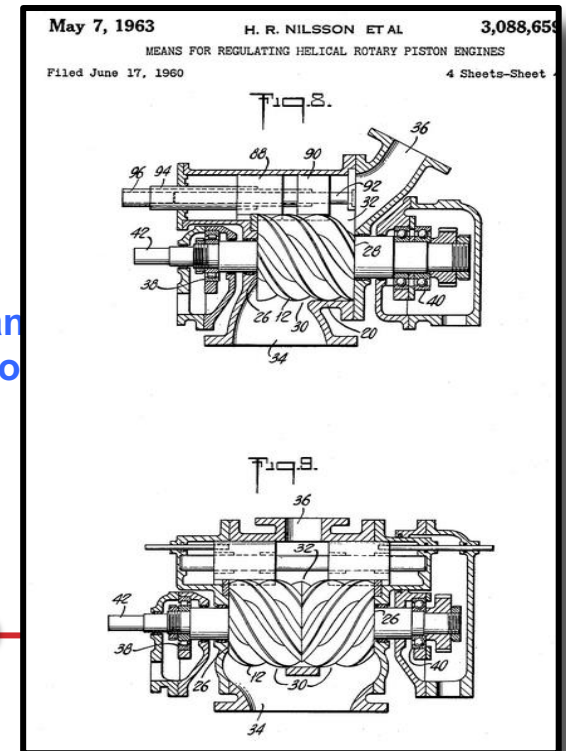
70 options 25 options

Refrigerant  
compressor

Port type  
displacement  
and volume ratio  
control

Slide valve  
volume ratio  
control

Slide valve  
displacement control

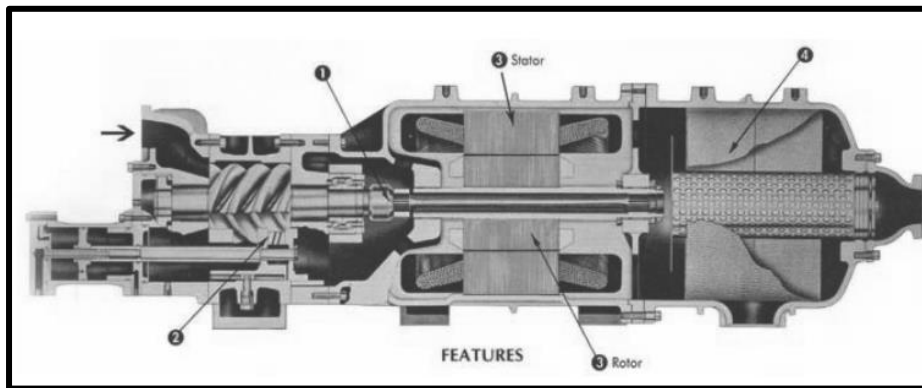


H. R. Nilsson

# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

1960's

## Dunham Bush First Semi-Hermetic Screw Compressor For Air Conditioning Chillers



Port type  
displacement  
and volume ratio  
control

Slide valve  
displacement control

Slide valve  
volume ratio  
control

Asymmetric  
profile  
reintroduced

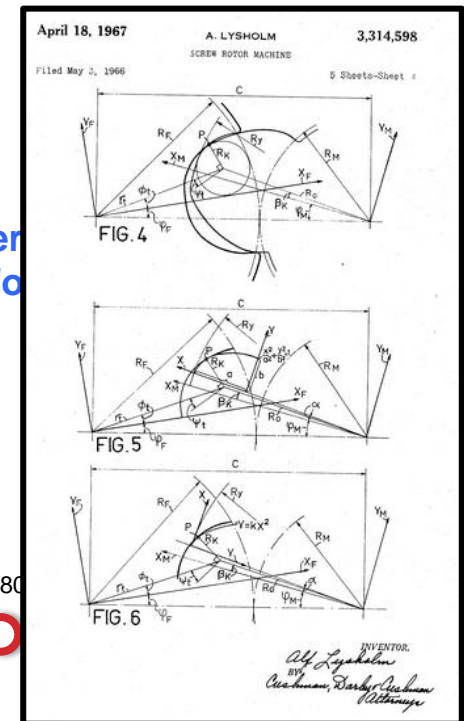
oded  
assors

dry  
screw

25  
tions

Refrigerant  
compressors

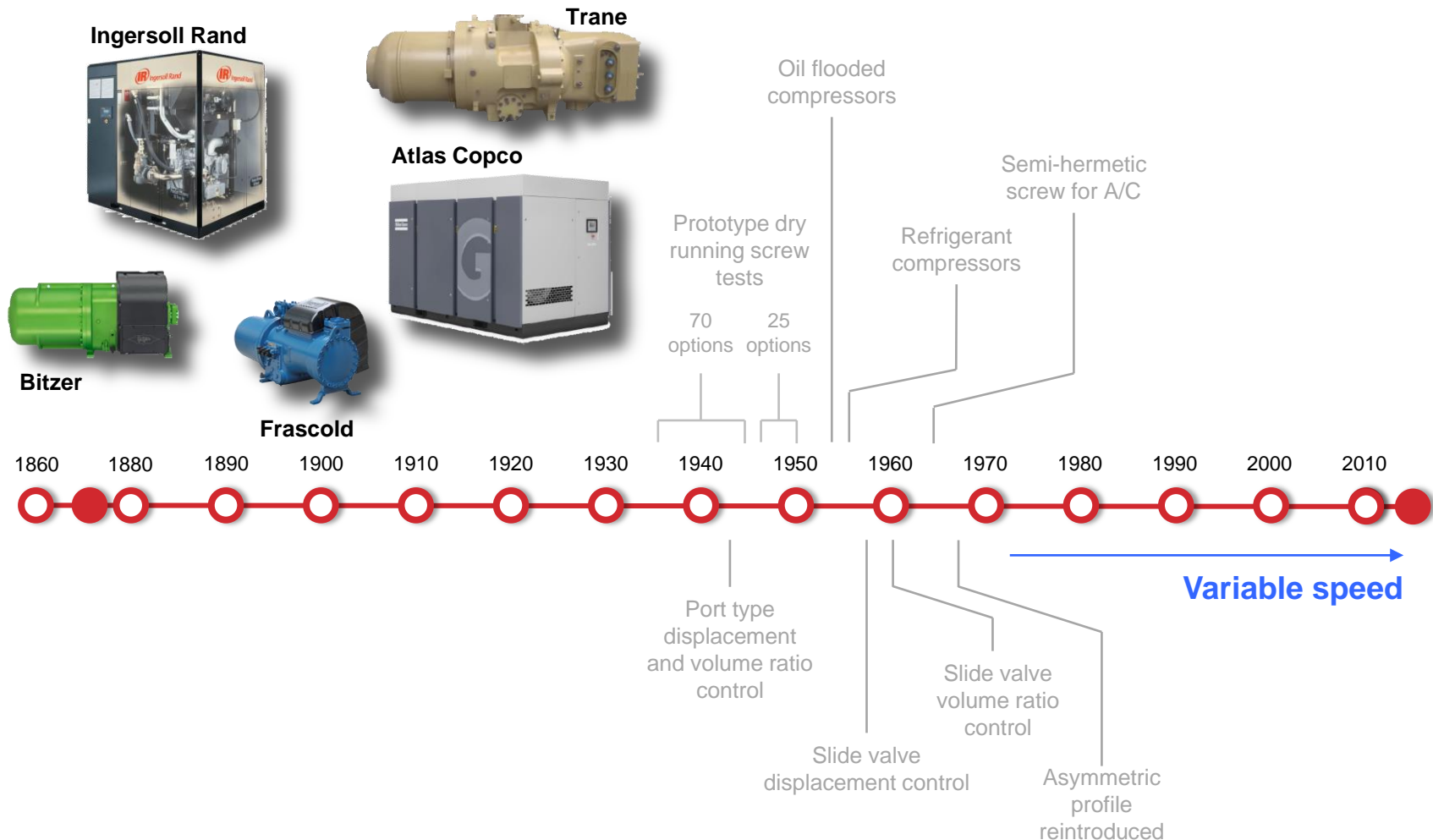
Semi-her  
screw fo



Alf Lysholm

# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

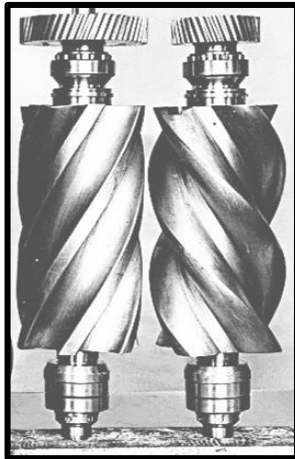
1970's and onward



# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

## Manufacturing

Early SRM  
Prototype Rotors



Holroyd 2A Profile Milling



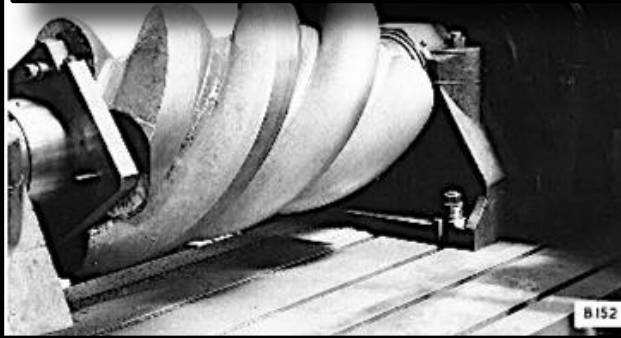
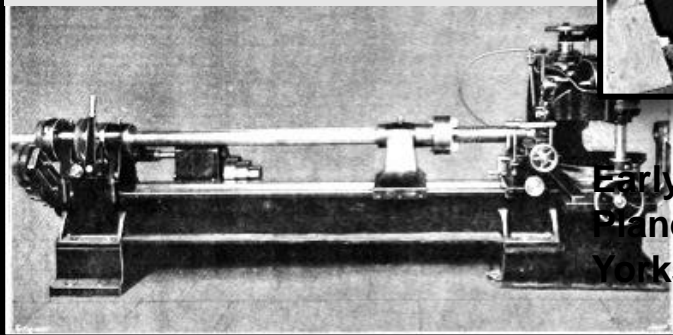
1860 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920



1980 1990 2000 2010 2020



LIEBERTS SCREW MILLING MACHINE  
JOHN HOLROYD AND CO. LTD, MILNROW, ENGINEERS



Holroyd delivers its first  
milling machine to Howden  
Early attempt at rotor manufacture.  
Planer made by Swift-Summerskill,  
Yorkshire, England.

WORM GRINDING MACHINE  
HOLROYD

Circa 1950  
Holroyd

# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

## Manufacturing

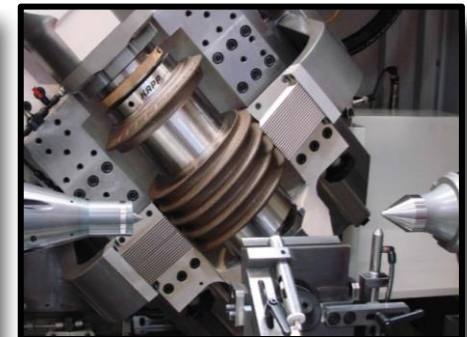
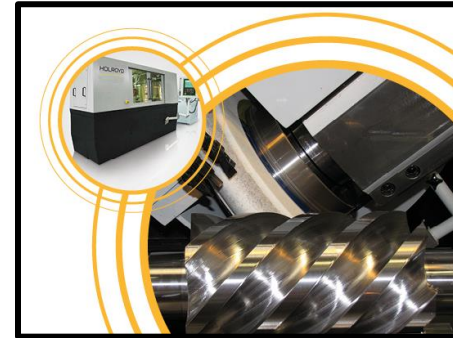
**Holroyd 2A  
Profile Milling**



**1993  
Holroyd EX  
Profile Milling**



**2011  
Holroyd TG  
Dressable Wheel Grinding**



# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- SRM begins building body of knowledge.
- Early adopters use the information, take risks, demonstrate viability and identify shortcomings.
- Technical solutions lead to acceptance.
- Manufacturing technology advances.
- Success...



**The number of firms engaged in commercial activity more than triples in the 1960's.**

**More than 3 million compressors manufactured by SRM licensees since the mid 1940's.**

**Over 400,000 compressors produced in 2013.**

# GETTING MEANINGFUL RESULTS

- Examples of the body of knowledge available today.
- Development of screw compressor simulations.

5



# GETTING MEANINGFUL RESULTS

## The body of knowledge

Sakun

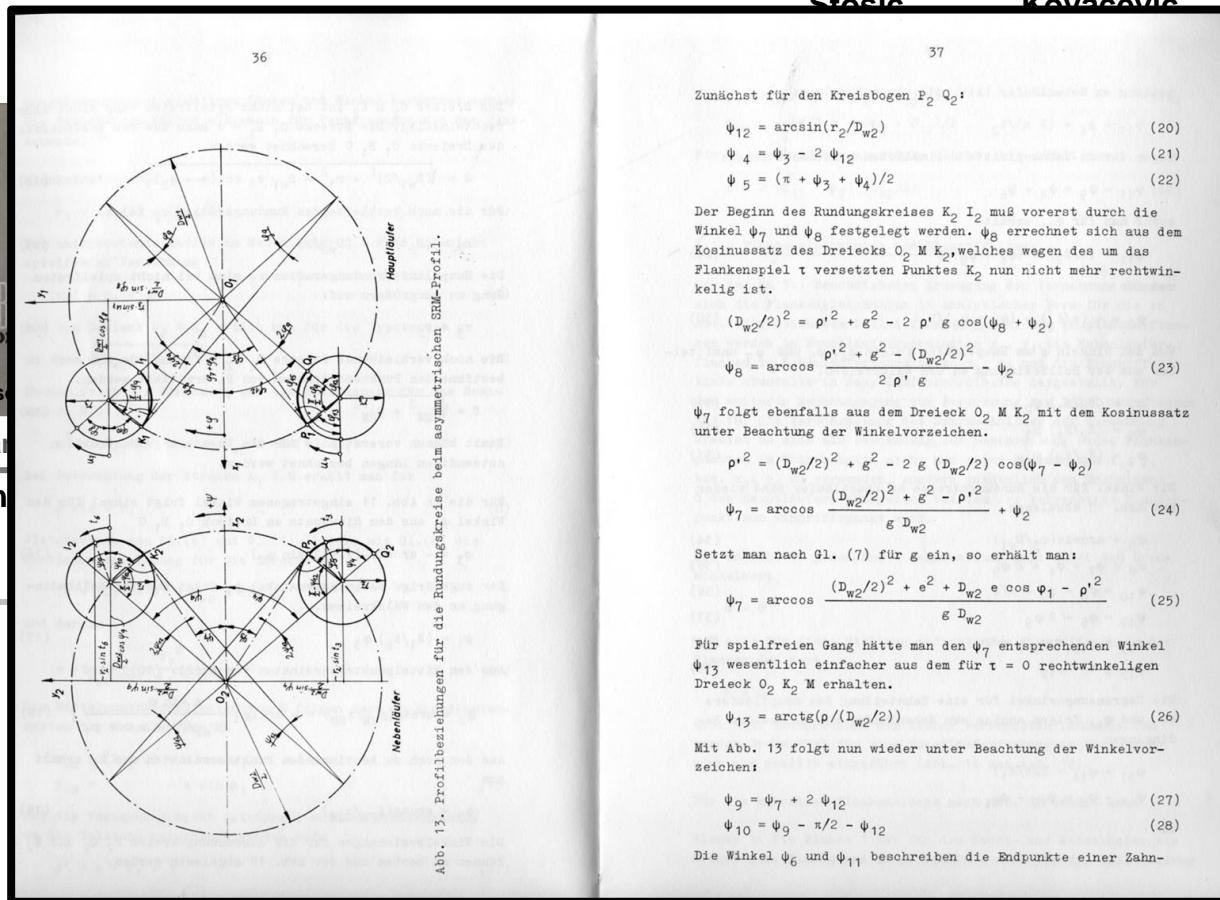
1960

СВИТОР  
КОМПРЕССОР  
Screw  
Compressor

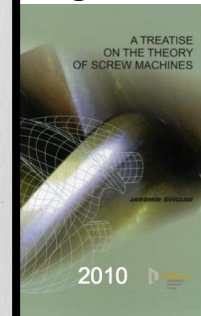
Russian

Compreh

1880



Svigler



Extensive  
geometrical  
analyses

2000 2010



# GETTING MEANINGFUL RESULTS

The body of knowledge

Sakun



Russian

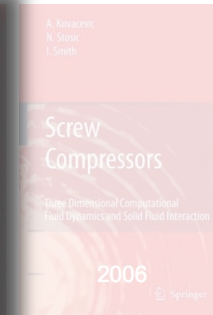
Amosov



Russian

Stosic,  
Smith,

Kovacevic,  
Stosic,  
Smith



Computational  
fluid dynamics

Svigler



Extensive  
geometrical  
analyses



Professor Laurenz Rinder



# GETTING MEANINGFUL RESULTS

The body of knowledge



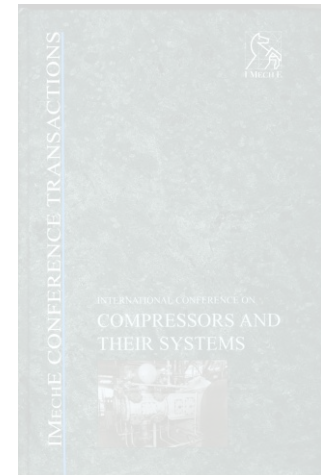
**Purdue  
1972**

21 Conferences  
158 screw papers



**Professor Andreas  
Brümmer**

8 Conferences  
212 screw papers



**IMechE / CU London  
1999**

8 Conferences  
95 screw papers

**37 Conference Events Offered Since 1972**  
**465 Screw Compressor Papers Now Contained in the Proceedings**

# GETTING MEANINGFUL RESULTS

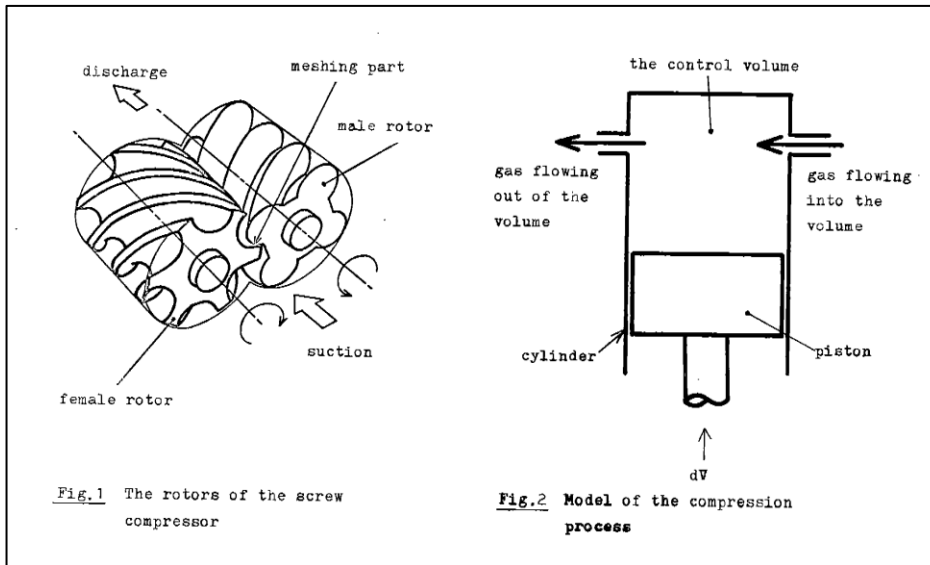
## Building and using the body of knowledge



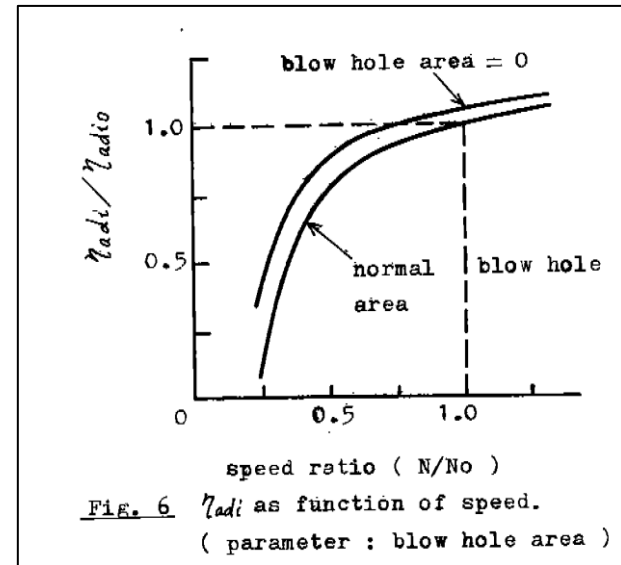
### PREDICTION OF THE OIL-FREE SCREW COMPRESSOR PERFORMANCE USING DIGITAL COMPUTER

M. Fujiwara, H. Mori and T. Suwama  
Mechanical Engineering Research Laboratory, Hitachi Ltd., Japan

Well developed reciprocating compressor simulations provide model for screw



Simulation provides insights into screw-specific issues



# GETTING MEANINGFUL RESULTS

## Building and using the body of knowledge



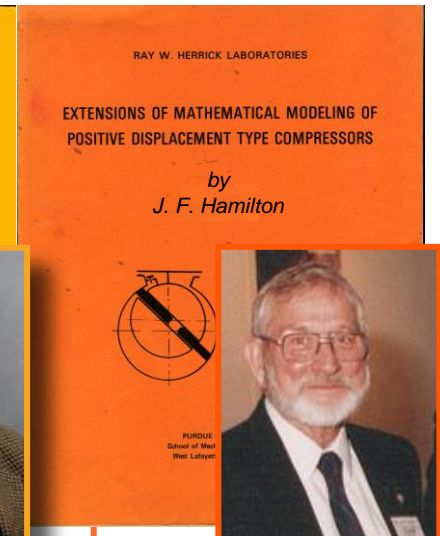
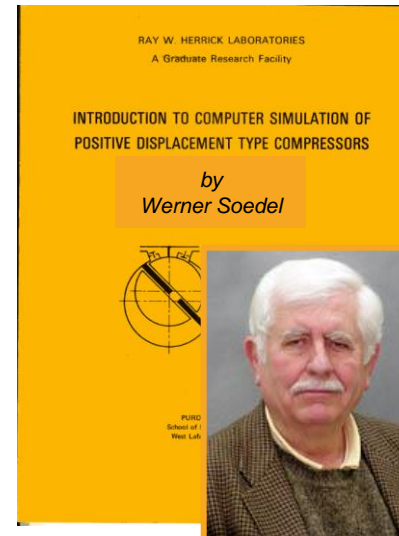
### MODELING AND SIMULATION OF ROTARY SCREW COMPRESSORS

Mark A. Firnhaber  
Industrial Division, Joy Machinery Company  
900 Woodland Avenue, Michigan City, Indiana

Donald S. Szarkowicz, Ph.D.

#### REFERENCES

1. Coates, D.A., "Design Technique for the Performance Optimization of a Small Rotary Vane Compressor", Ph.D. Thesis, Ray W. Herrick Laboratories, School of Mechanical Engineering, Purdue University, January, 1970.
2. Hamilton, J.F., "Extensions of Mathematical Modeling of Positive Displacement Type Compressors", Ray W. Herrick Laboratories, Purdue University, July, 1974.
3. Schwerzler, D.D., "Mathematical Modeling of a Multiple Cylinder Refrigeration Compressor", Ph.D. Thesis, Ray W. Herrick Laboratories, School of Mechanical Engineering, Purdue University, June, 1971.
4. Soedel, W., "Introduction to the Computer Simulation of Positive Displacement Compressors", Short Course Test, Ray W. Herrick Laboratories, Purdue University, July, 1972.
5. Stevenson, M.J., "A Computer Simulation of a Rotary Vane Compressor", M.S.M.E. Thesis, Ray W. Herrick Laboratories, School of Mechanical Engineering, Purdue University, August, 1969.
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### MATHEMATICAL MODELING AND DESIGN EVALUATION OF HIGH-SPEED RECIPROCATING COMPRESSORS

A Thesis  
Submitted to the Faculty  
of  
Purdue University

by

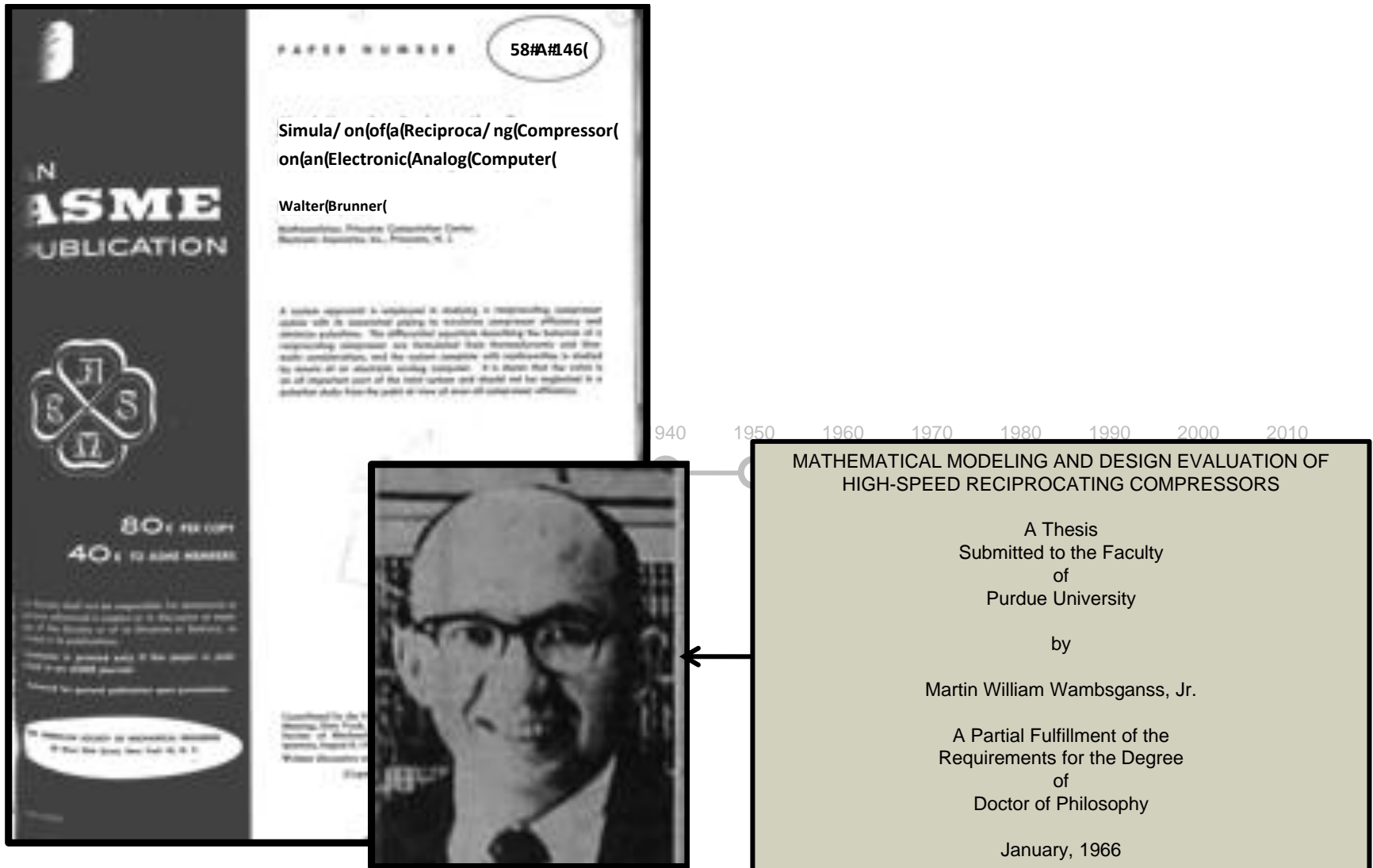
Martin William Wambsganass, Jr.

A Partial Fulfillment of the  
Requirements for the Degree  
of  
Doctor of Philosophy

January, 1966

# GETTING MEANINGFUL RESULTS

Building and using the body of knowledge



The image displays two documents side-by-side. On the left is the front cover of an ASME publication, featuring the ASME logo and technical details. On the right is the title page of a thesis, which includes a portrait of the author, Martin William Wambsganss, Jr., and the title 'MATHEMATICAL MODELING AND DESIGN EVALUATION OF HIGH-SPEED RECIPROCATING COMPRESSORS'. A timeline at the top of the right page spans from 1940 to 2010, with a circle highlighting the year 1966, corresponding to the thesis date. An arrow points from the portrait of the author to the year 1966 on the timeline.

**ASME PUBLICATION**

PAPER NUMBER **58#A#146**

Simula/on(of(a(Reciproca/ng(Compressor(  
on(an(Electronic(Analog(Computer(  
Walter(Brunner(  
Professor, Purdue University  
West Lafayette, IN, U.S.A.

A thesis report is prepared in studying a reciprocating compressor  
using its associated piping to determine compressor efficiency and  
design problems. The differential equations describing the behavior of a  
reciprocating compressor are formulated from thermodynamic and other  
design considerations, and the system is solved by means of an analog  
computer. It is shown that the system is an important part of the total  
system and should not be neglected in a  
design study from the point of view of design efficiency.

1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010

**MATHEMATICAL MODELING AND DESIGN EVALUATION OF  
HIGH-SPEED RECIPROCATING COMPRESSORS**

A Thesis  
Submitted to the Faculty  
of  
Purdue University  
by  
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A Partial Fulfillment of the  
Requirements for the Degree  
of  
Doctor of Philosophy  
January, 1966

# GETTING MEANINGFUL RESULTS

## Building and using the body of knowledge

1982

Analytical Modeling of Helical Screw Machine for Analysis and Performance Prediction

B. Sangfors

### REFERENCES

1. D.L. Margolis  
"Analytical Modeling of Helical Screw Turbines for Performance Prediction" ASME Journal of Engineering for Power, vol. 100, July 1978,

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Computer Simulation of the Oil Injected Screw Compressor

B. Sangfors

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pp 2263-2275 September 1975.

C. Rosenberg  
Unified Approach"  
York, 1975.

1998

Computer Simulation of Effects From Inj  
Different Liquids in Screw Compressors

B. Sangfors

Svenska Rotor Maskiner AB

2000

Modeling, Measurements and Analysis of Gas-  
Flow Generated Noise From Twin-Screw  
Compressors

B. Sangfors

Svenska Rotor Maskiner AB



**Bo Sångfors**



# GETTING MEANINGFUL RESULTS

- Large body of knowledge available.
- Contributions from academia, technology organizations, industrial firms.
- Various degrees of accessibility.
- Existing information used as basis for advances.
- Success illustrated in Purdue Conferences...



**24 papers on screw compressor simulation.**

**Based on my experience, this is a significant contribution to industry designers.**

# THE FUTURE DEFINED

- What I think we will see.
- What I **k**now it will happen.



**Professor Knut Kauder**

1880

1890

1900

1910

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

# THE FUTURE DEFINED

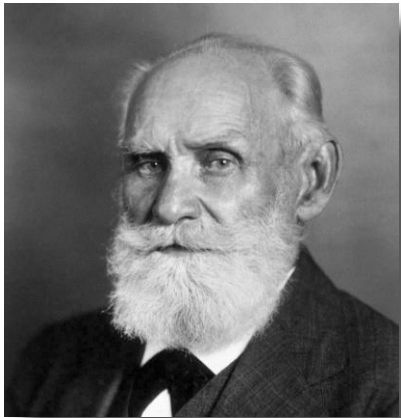
## What I think we will see

- **CFD for “everyday” design**
  - Multi-phase flow
  - Fluid-structure interaction
- **Full spectrum optimization**
  - System models to simulate application stress
  - Manufacturing models to include variation stress
- **Manufacturing process simulation**
  - Model variation in machine functions
- **Adaptable, tolerant designs and smart systems**
  - Adjustable or condition tolerant configurations
  - Sensors, controls and materials

**It's hard to make predictions, especially about the future**

# THE FUTURE DEFINED

What I know about how it will be done



“If you want new ideas, read old books.”

Ivan Petrovich Pavlov



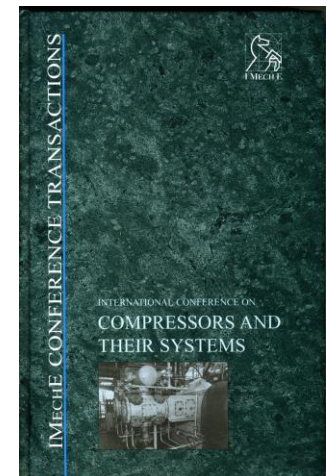
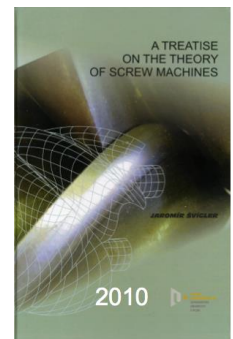
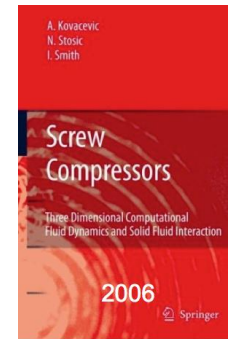
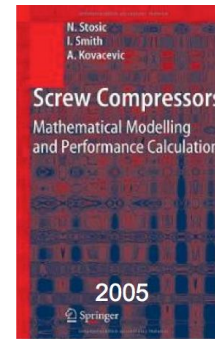
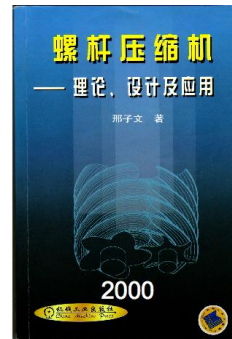
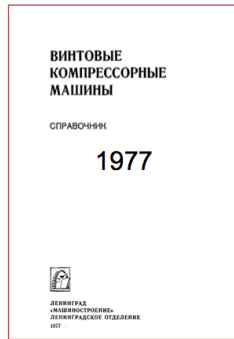
“If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.”

Isaac Newton

So, we should find the old books and giants...

# THE FUTURE DEFINED

Here are just a few of the old books...



Use and contribute to the body of knowledge

# THE FUTURE DEFINED

... and the giants are right here.



... that is exactly how the future of screw compressors will be determined.

Take the opportunity to share ideas and results with others



## 2014 Purdue Conferences

Compressor Engineering

Refrigeration and Air Conditioning

High Performance Buildings

# THANKS

### **Purdue / Herrick Labs**

Compressor Conference Organizing Committee

Professor Eckhard Groll

Kimberly Stockment

Christian Bach

Stephen Caskey

Donna Cackley

### **Ingersoll Rand (Trane, Thermo King)**

Matt Cambio

Drew Turner

Lars Sjöholm

John Crouse

Jeanne Harshaw

Joe Riemer

Gang Wang

Gordon Powell

Bright Wei Liang Sun

Jason Zhou

### **Kapp**

Hans Jürgen Heyder

### **Holroyd**

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### **City University London**

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Ahmed Kovacevic

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### **Atlas Copco**

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### **VDI**

Stefani Busch

### **Frascold**

Matteo Iobbi

### **TU Wien**

Professor Laurenz Rinder

### **Dresser Roots Connersville**

# QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?



## 2014 Purdue Conferences

Compressor Engineering  
Refrigeration and Air Conditioning  
High Performance Buildings

# SCREW COMPRESSORS

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Want to offer your opinions on going forward with screw compressor technology?

?

You can do so by completing a short survey using the link below. Results will be compiled for review by the conference organizing and advisory committees. Results will be shared as appropriate based on responses.

[https://purdue.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_88MJihtfoxk7e5](https://purdue.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_88MJihtfoxk7e5)

Survey closes on July 31, 2014



2014 Purdue Conferences

Compressor Engineering

Refrigeration and Air Conditioning

High Performance Buildings

# COFFEE BREAK

9:30 – 9:45

