



Energy Systems  
Innovation Center

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

# Power Electronics for Integration of Renewables

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Based on the work of current and former graduate students: Mehrdad Yazdanian, Chris Stone, Younes Sangsefidi, Saleh Ziaeinejad, and Hooman Ghaffarzadeh

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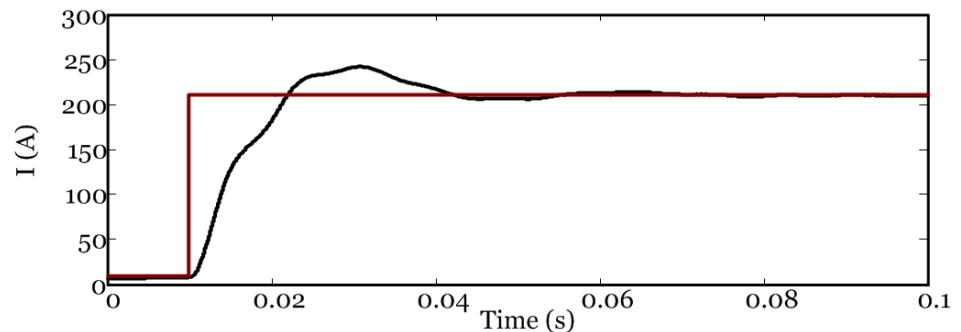


# Challenge

- 👉 Controllers are designed for a prespecified configuration and their performance deteriorates when the host system, which is also part of the plant, varies significantly from what was used for the original design.

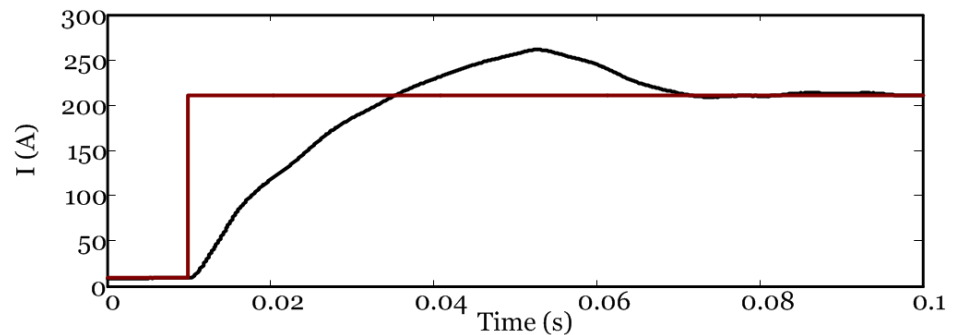
## Original System

Overshoot: 15%  
Settling time: 32 ms



## Load Disconnected

Overshoot: 26%  
Settling time: 67 ms



# Background

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- **One of the grand energy challenges is to enable integration of large amounts of renewable energy resources at a competitive cost in the power grid (in the US, 80% by 2050 per NREL).**
- **What is missing is a flexible system that accommodates the unique characteristics of renewable resources:**
  - Intermittency
  - Lack of inertia
  - Susceptibility to violation of operational limits
- **Our work addresses the latter:**
  - How can we make sure our units are “tightly” controlled and do not violate their limits even when the host system changes significantly?

# Controller Design: Existing Approaches

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## ➤ Existing approaches to ensure dynamics of the system are handled design controllers based on

- Analytical formulation and model-based tuning (Astrom's work)
- Optimization (Gole's work)

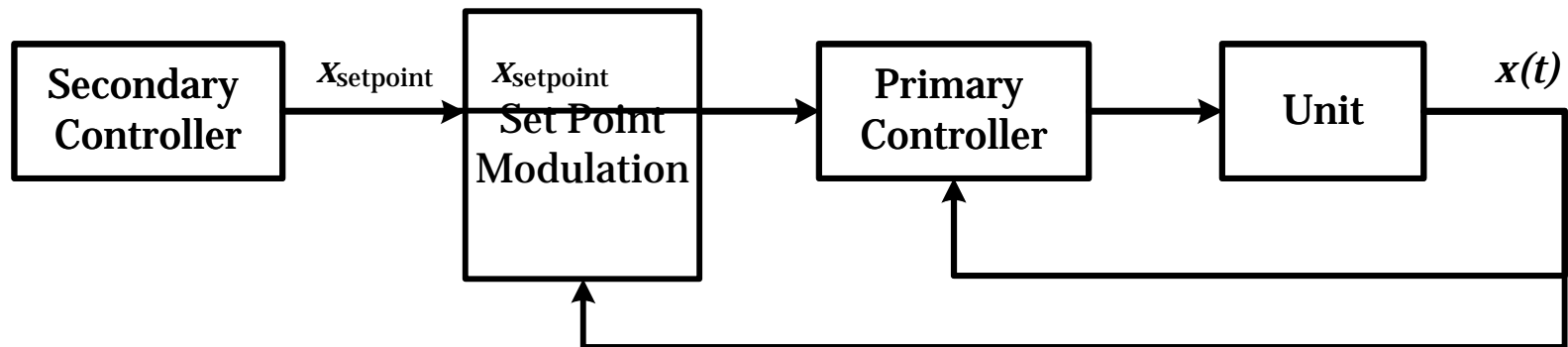
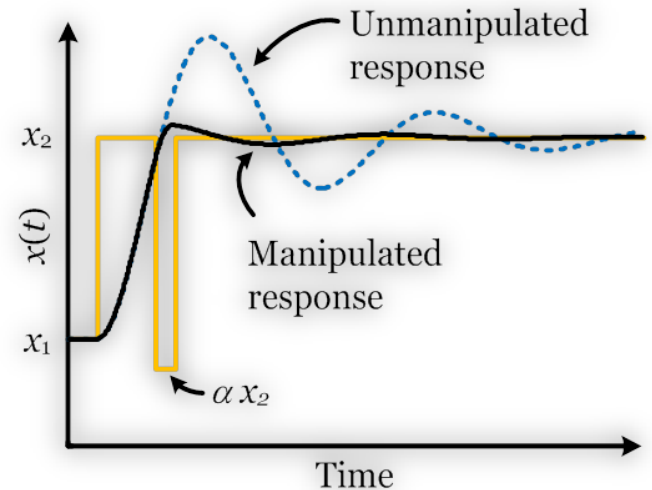
## ➤ Why not just redesign?

- Need updated system models
- Need a computational infrastructure to allow redesign
- Need access to the internal parameters of the controller
- New design will again have limited robustness to topology, operating point, and system parameters

Approach	Model-Independent	Unintrusive	Parameter-Independent
PI scaling	✓	✓	X
Ramp	✓	✓	✓
MPC	X	✓	X
PID	X	✓	X
ES/IFL	✓	X	X
Posicast	X	✓	✓
SPAACE	✓	✓	✓

# Proposed Solution

- Improving the response by temporarily manipulating the set point without changing the original controller.
- Features:
  - Robust to topological changes
  - Independent of the system model
  - Requires little information about unit



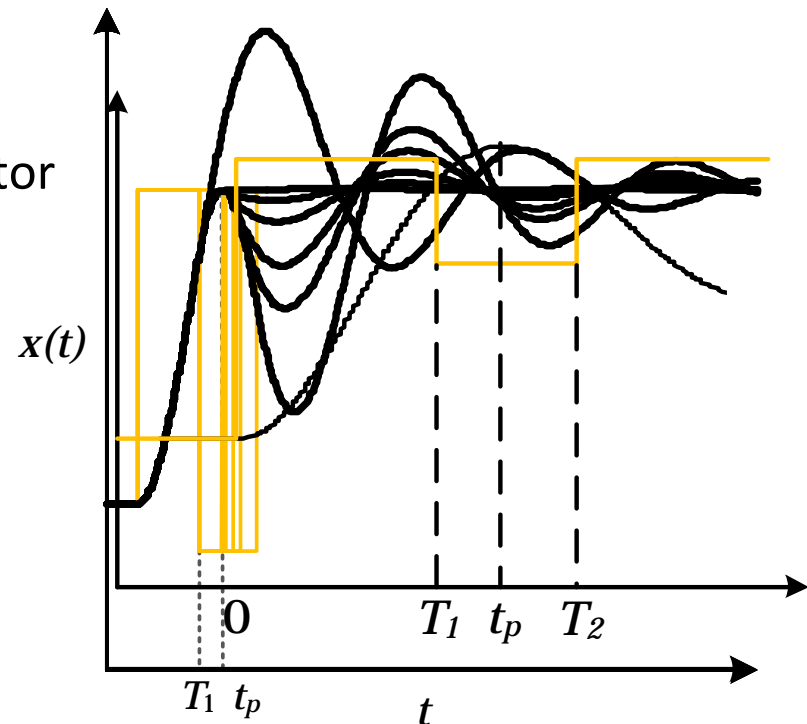
# Set Point Modulation

## ➤ Initial Idea

- Choose  $T_1$  so that the peak of the response equals the reference
- Choose  $T_2$  to be the time of this peak

## ➤ Not Implementable

- Faster-than-real-time simulator
- Closed-form solution
- System parameters

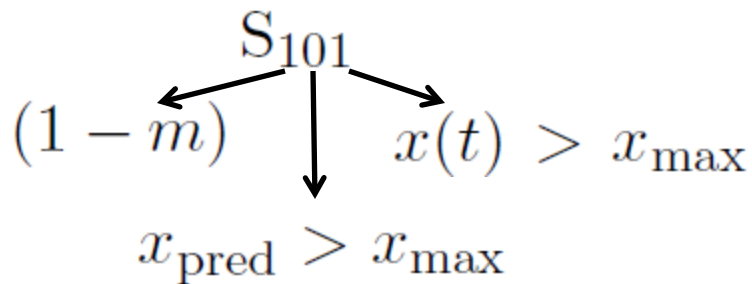




# Finite-State Machine

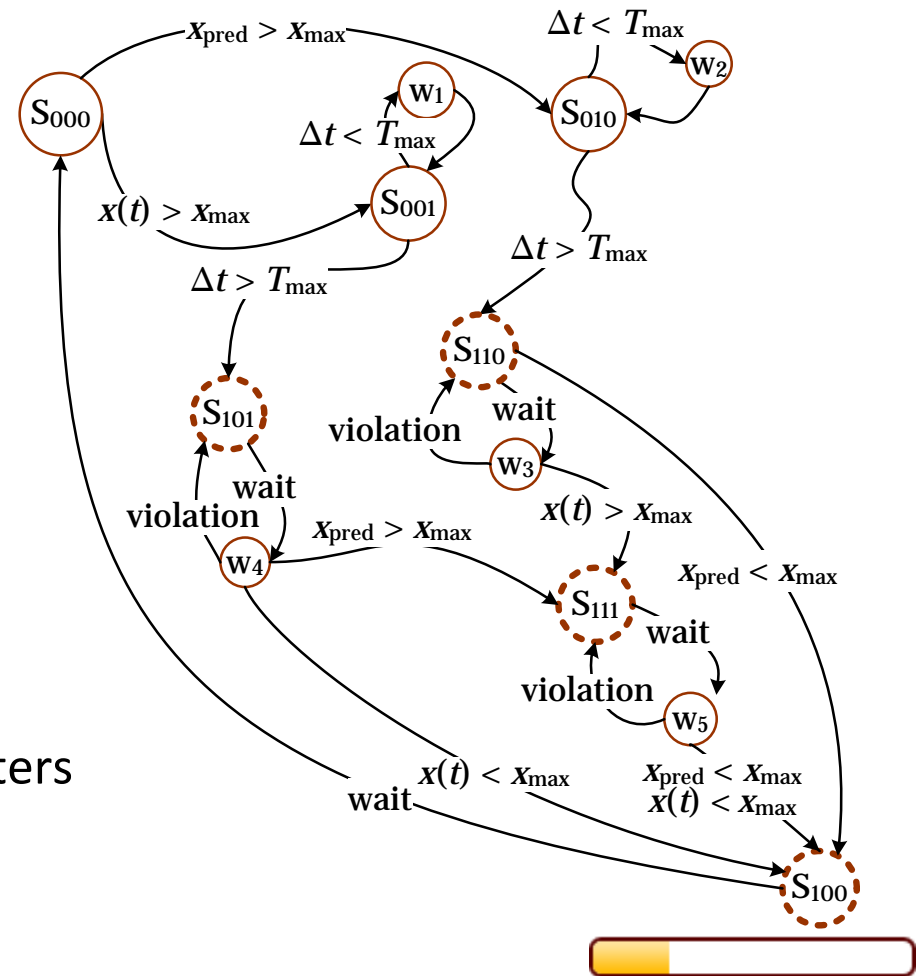
➤ **SPAACE /speɪs/: Set Point Automatic Adjustment with Correction Enabled**

➤ **State Numbering:**

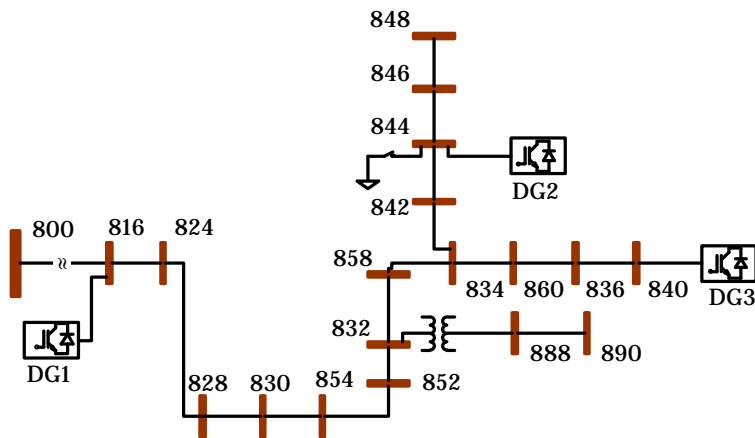


➤ **Salient Features:**

- Based on local signals
- Independent of model
- Robust to changes in parameters

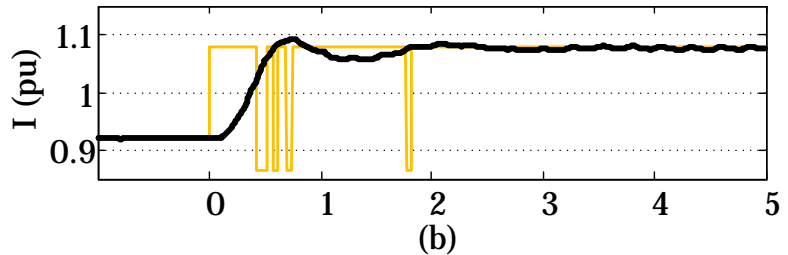
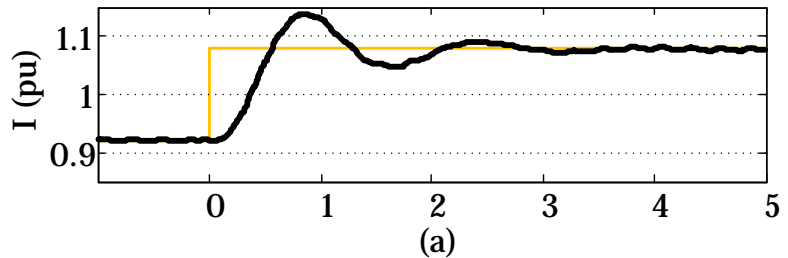


# Case Study I: Set Point Change



## IEEE 34-Bus System

Added 3 DG units and a load  
Operates in grid-connected mode

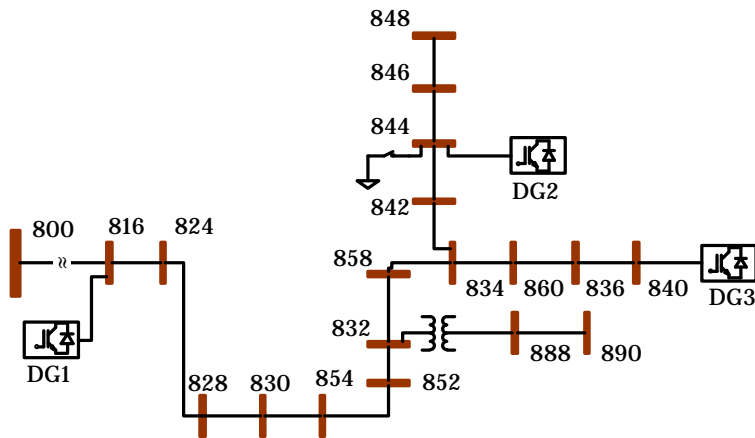


Time (ms)

## System Response

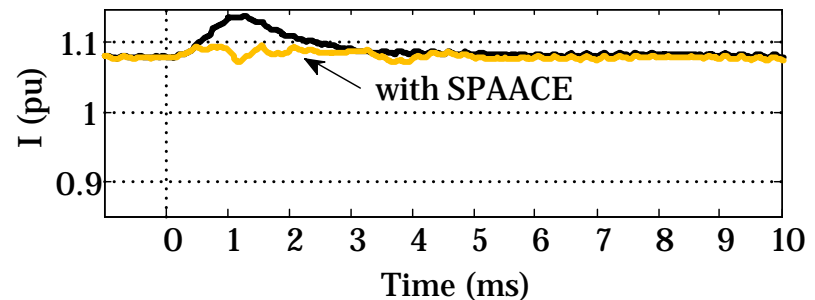
DG2 step change from 0.91 pu to 1.09 pu  
DG1 and DG3 unchanged  
(40% overshoot)

# Case Study II: Load Disconnection



## IEEE 34-Bus System

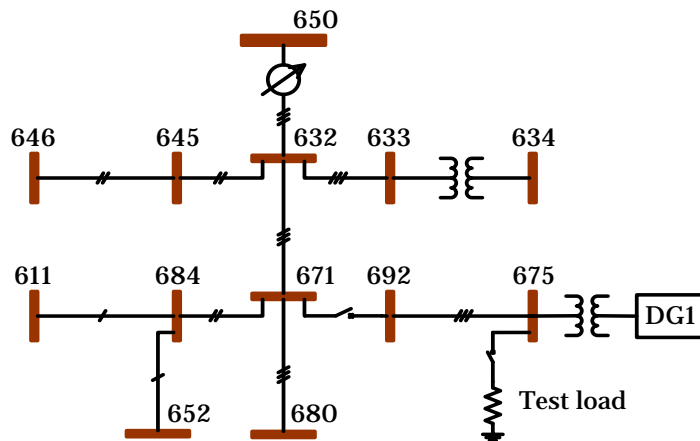
Added 3 DG units and a load  
Operates in grid-connected mode



## System Response

Resistive 0.5 pu load disconnected  
(15% overshoot)

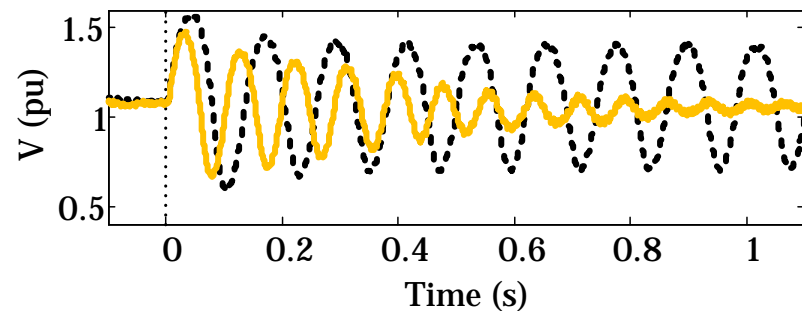
# Case Study III: Unbalanced System



## IEEE 13-Bus Unbalanced System

Added a DG unit and a test load

Operates in islanded mode



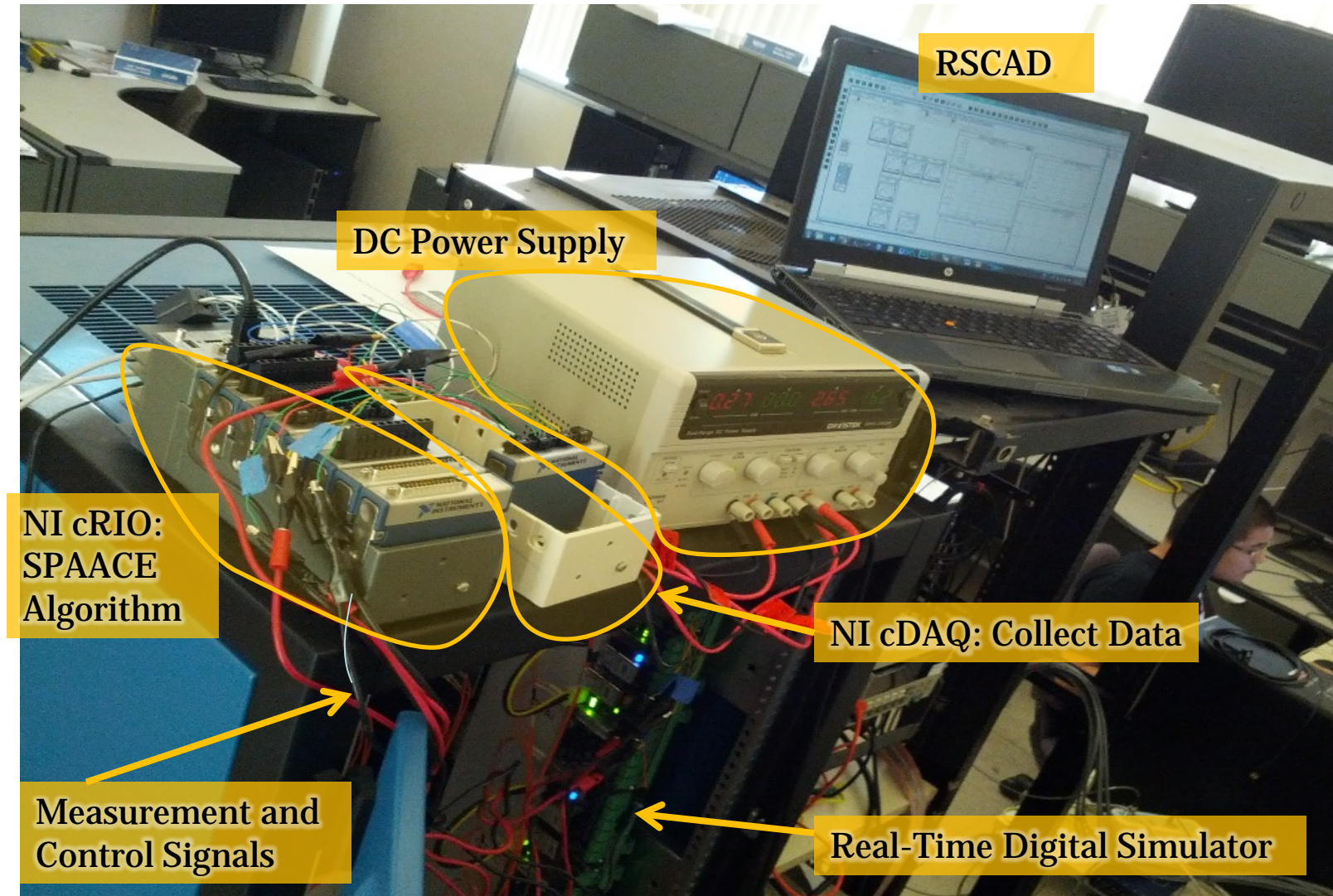
## System Response

Resistive 1 pu load switched off

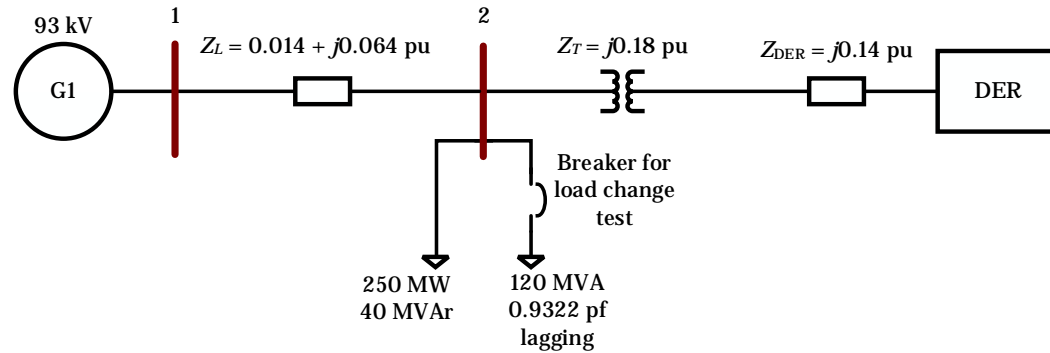
Unstable system to stable system



# Experimental Implementation

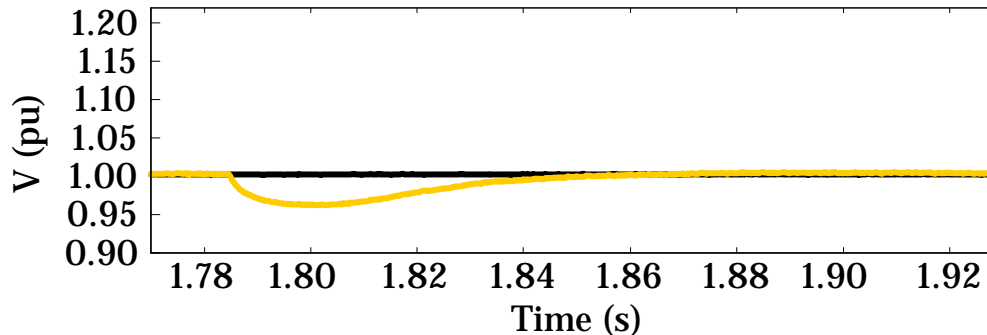


# Case I: Load Energization (1.2 pu)



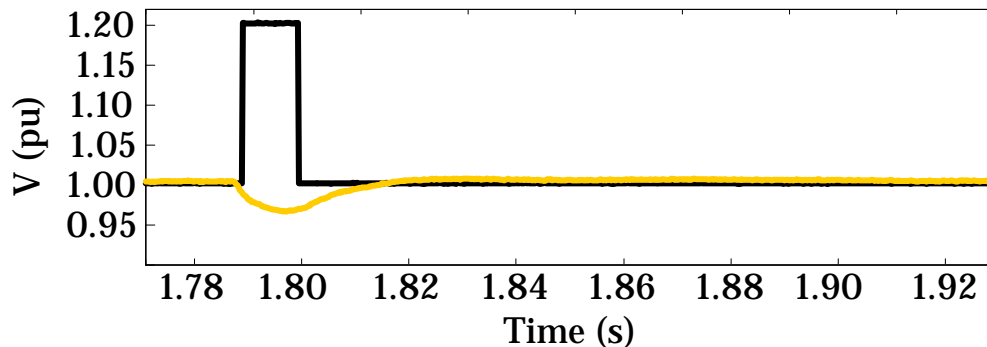
## Without SPAACE

$M_p$ : 5%  
 $t_{settling}$ : 60 ms



## With SPAACE

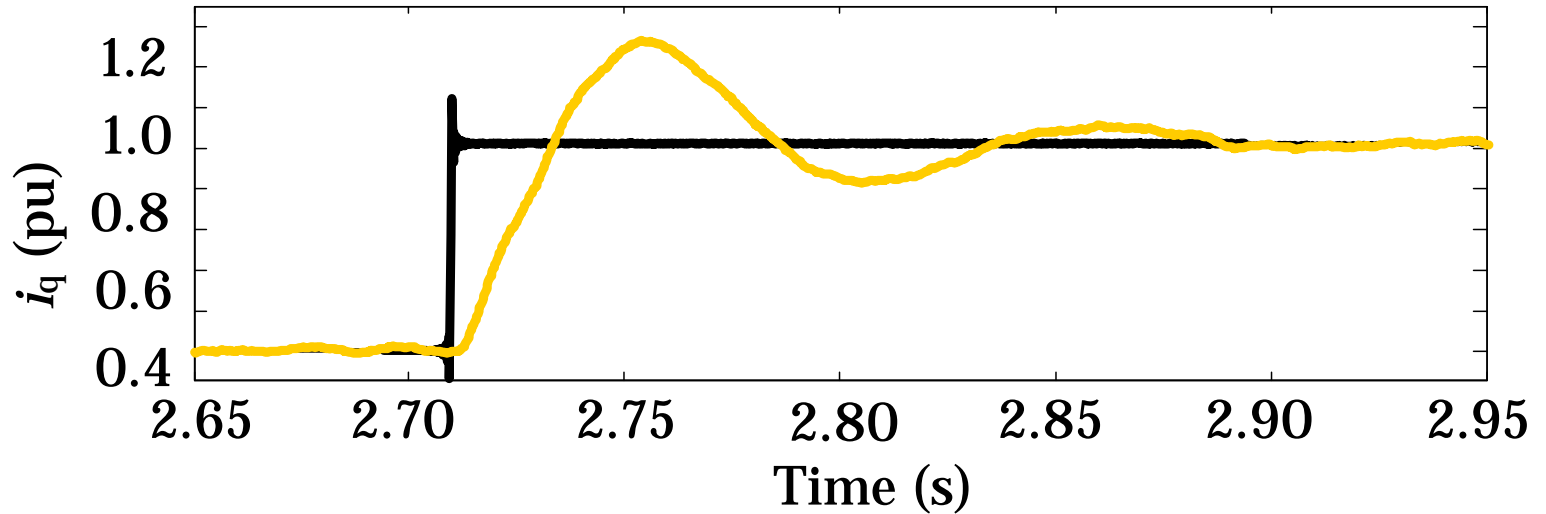
$M_p$ : 4%  
 $t_{settling}$ : 30 ms



# Case II: Step Change in $i_q$

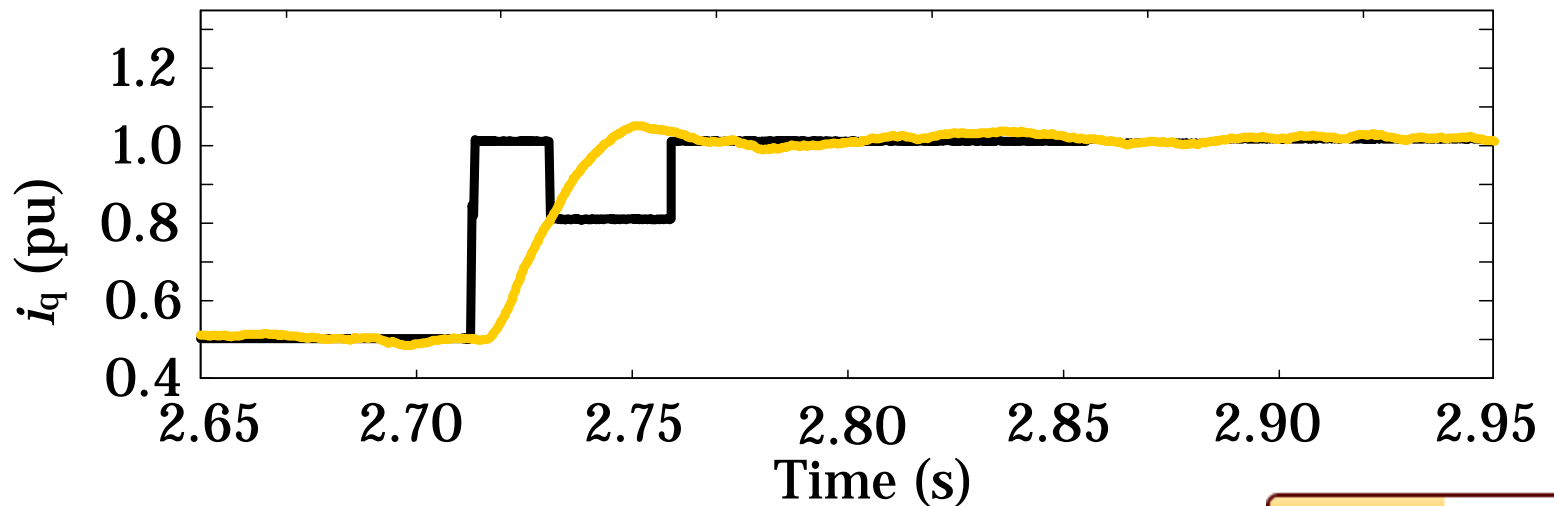
Without  
SPAACE

$M_p$ : 30%  
 $t_{\text{settling}}$ : 150 ms



With  
SPAACE

$M_p$ : 0%  
 $t_{\text{settling}}$ : 50 ms



# Variant: Smooth SPAACE

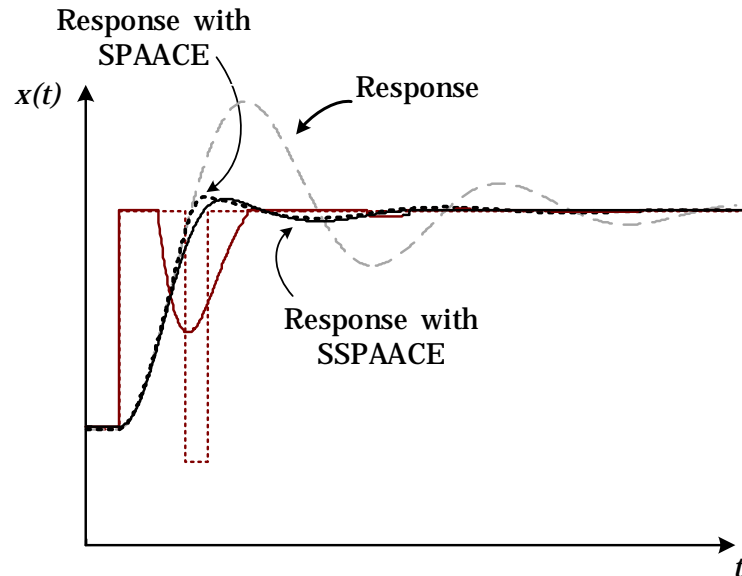
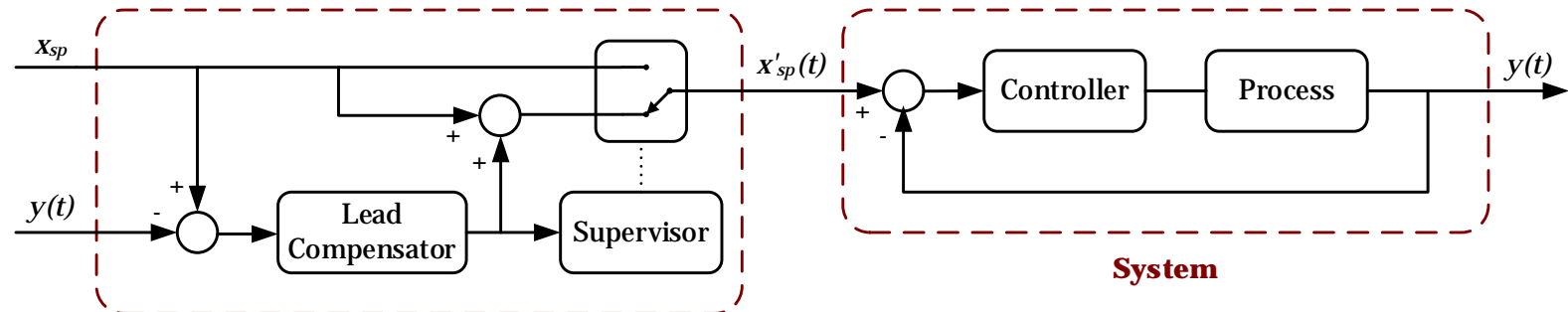
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- SPAACE is not directly applicable to applications such as drive systems because the step changes introduced in the set point may cause torque pulsation, mechanical fatigue, and stress.
- A “smooth” variant of SPAACE (SSPAACE) is proposed to modify the set point more gracefully than SPAACE; that is, it introduces a smooth change as opposed to a step change.



# SSPAACE with a Hybrid Structure

- SSPAACE utilizes a supervisory switching scheme based on observing the set point and the predicted error.



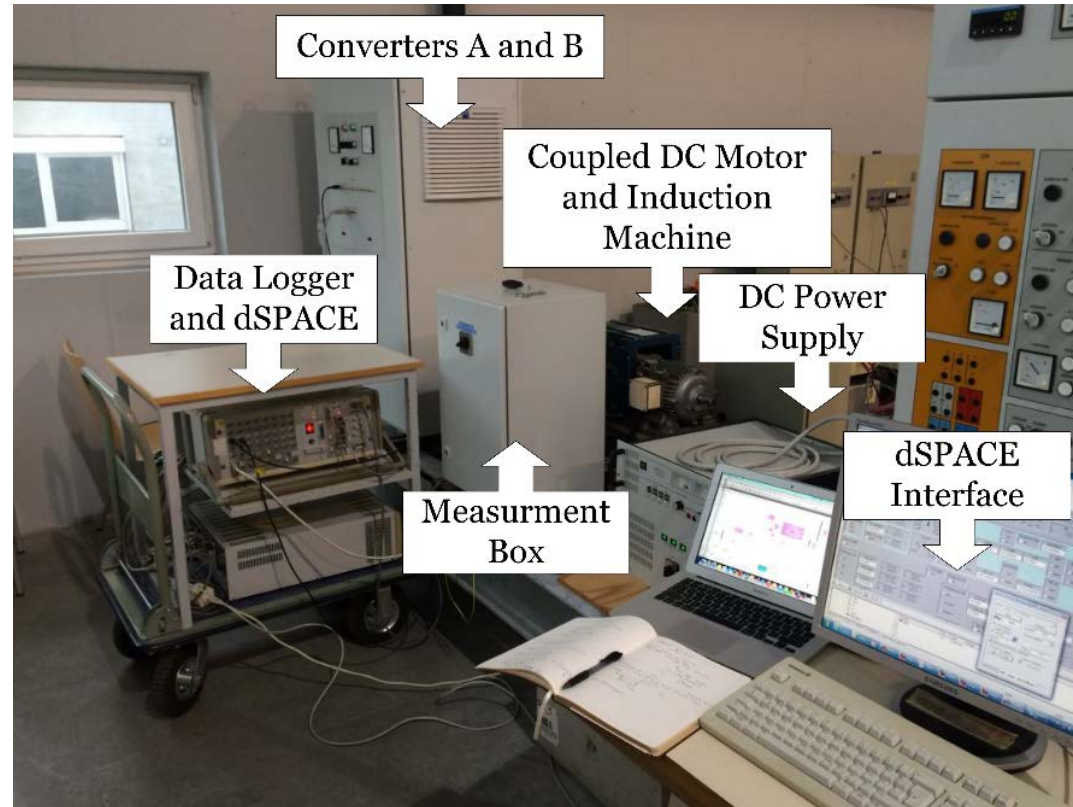
$$x'_{sp}(t) = \begin{cases} x_{sp}, & e_{\min} \leq e_{\text{pred}}(t) \leq e_{\max} \\ x_{sp} + m(t), & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$m(t) = m \times e_{\text{pred}}(t)$$

$$e_{\text{pred}}(t) = \frac{sT + 1}{\alpha sT + 1} e(t), \quad [\alpha < 1]$$

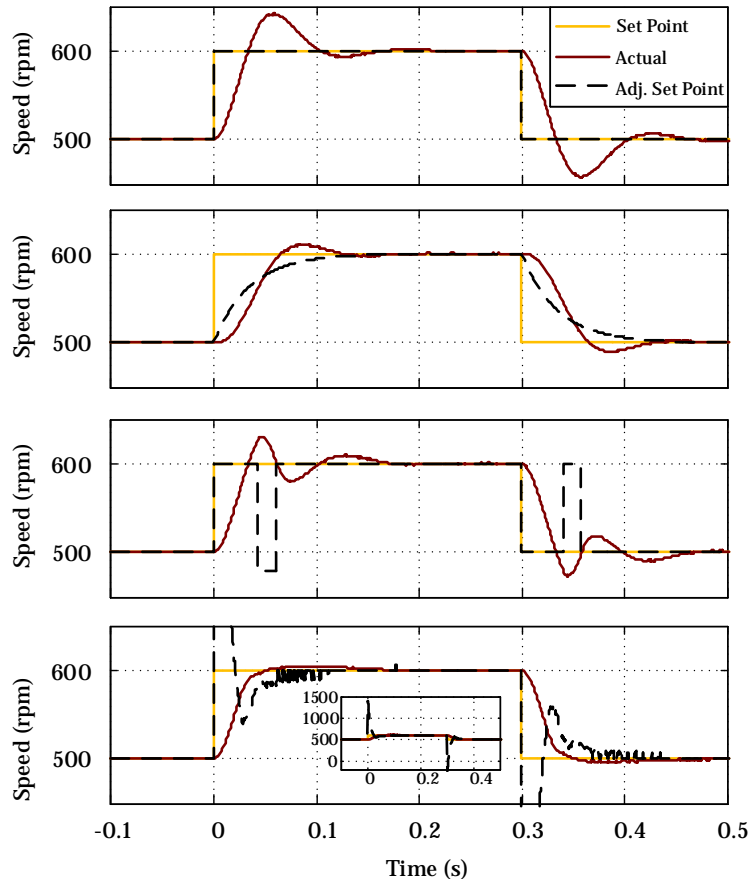
# Study System

Parameter	Value
GENERAL PARAMETERS	
Incremental encoder resolution, $R$	10 kPPR
Sampling frequency, $f_s$	5 kHz
Switching frequency, $f_{sw}$	5 kHz
DC MACHINE	
Rated power, $P_{rated}$	3.5 kW
Rated armature voltage, $V_{a,rated}$	120 V
Rated armature current, $I_{a,rated}$	35.5 A
Rated excitation voltage, $V_{e,rated}$	120 V
Rated excitation current, $I_{e,rated}$	0.79 A
Rated speed, $\omega_{rated}$	3780 rpm
Armature resistance, $R_a$	389 m $\Omega$
Armature inductance, $L_a$	1.389 mH
Excitation resistance, $R_e$	117.14 $\Omega$
Moment of inertia, $J_{dc}$	0.013 26 kgm <sup>2</sup>
INDUCTION MACHINE	
Rated power, $P_{rated}$	3 kW
Rated voltage, $V_{rated}$	72 V
Rated current, $I_{rated}$	37 A
Number of poles, $P$	4
Rated frequency, $f_{rated}$	150 Hz
Rated speed, $\omega_{rated}$	4278 rpm
Stator resistance, $R_s$	170.62 m $\Omega$
Stator leakage inductance, $L_{l,s}$	0.339 mH
Rotor resistance, $R_r$	116.29 m $\Omega$
Rotor leakage inductance, $L_{l,r}$	0.339 mH
Magnetizing inductance, $L_m$	7.3 mH
Moment of inertia, $J_{im}$	0.003 74 kgm <sup>2</sup>



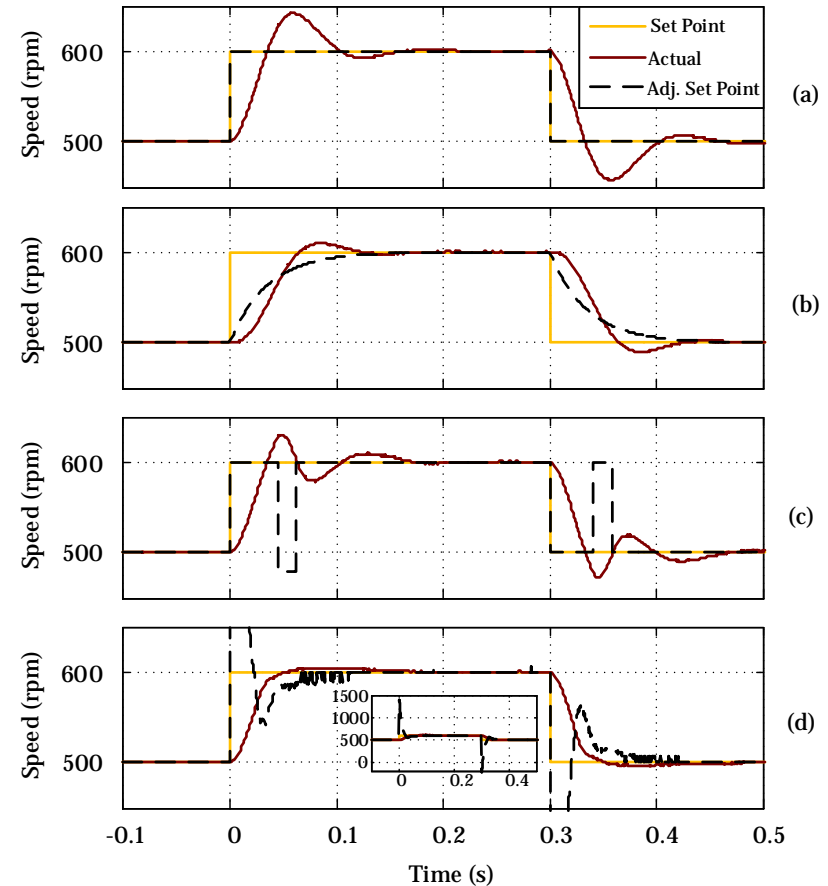
Setup at Graz University of Technology, Austria

# Step Change in the Speed Set Point



## Simulation Results

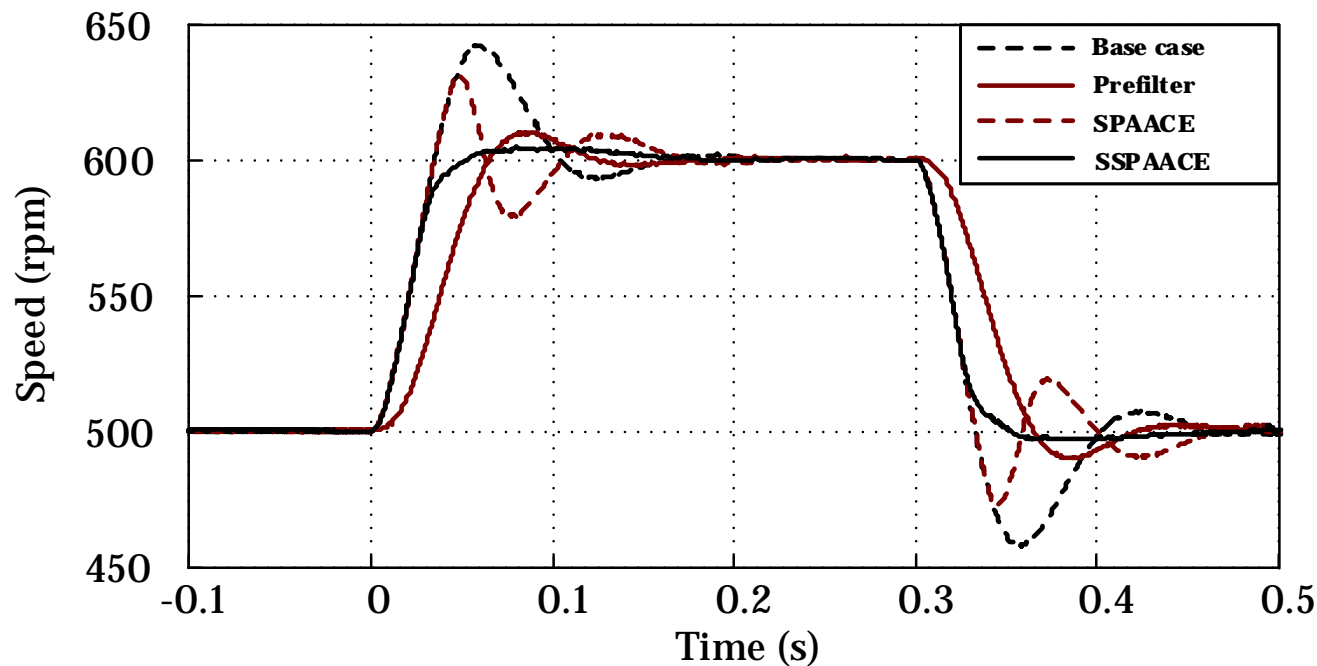
Step change in  $\omega_{\text{ref}}$  from 500 to 600 rpm: a) base case, b) prefilter, c) SPAACE, and d) SSPAACE.



## Experimental Results

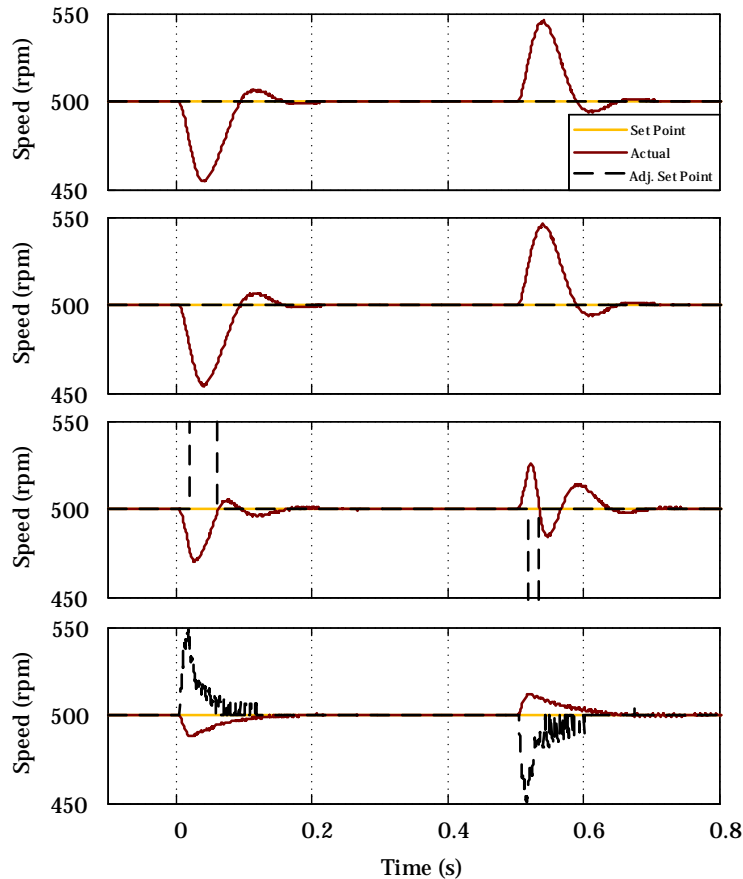
# Step Change in the Speed Set Point

Approach	Overshoot (%)	Rise time (ms)	Settling time (ms)
Base case	42	32	140
Prefilter	10	57	110
SPAACE	30	32	140
SSPAACE	4	35	42



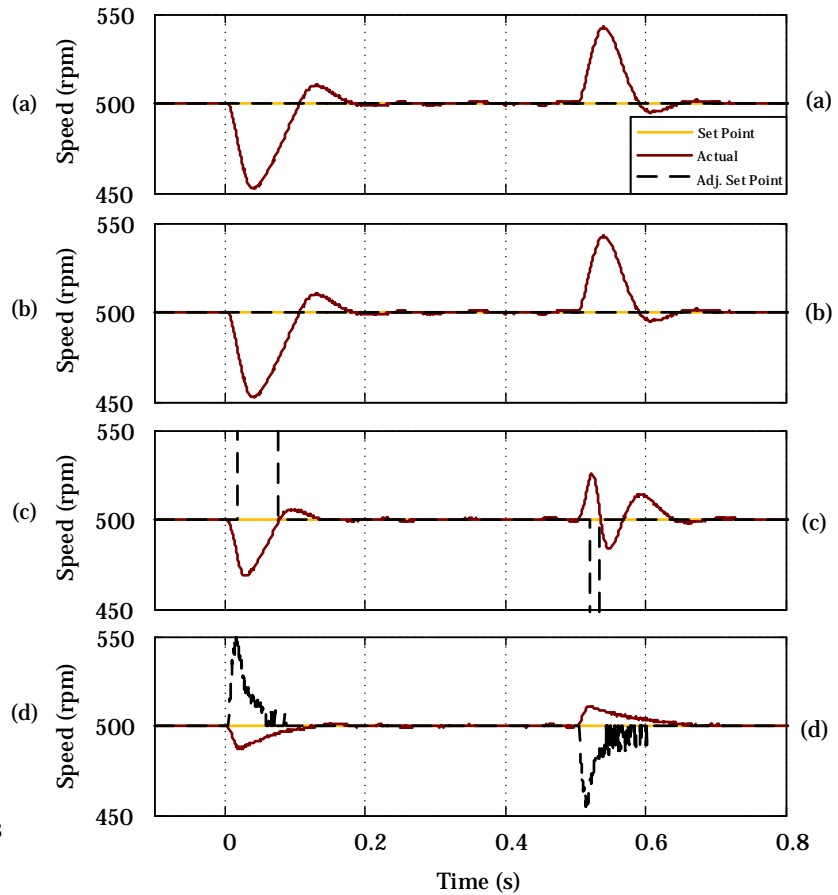


# External Disturbance: Load Change



## Simulation Results

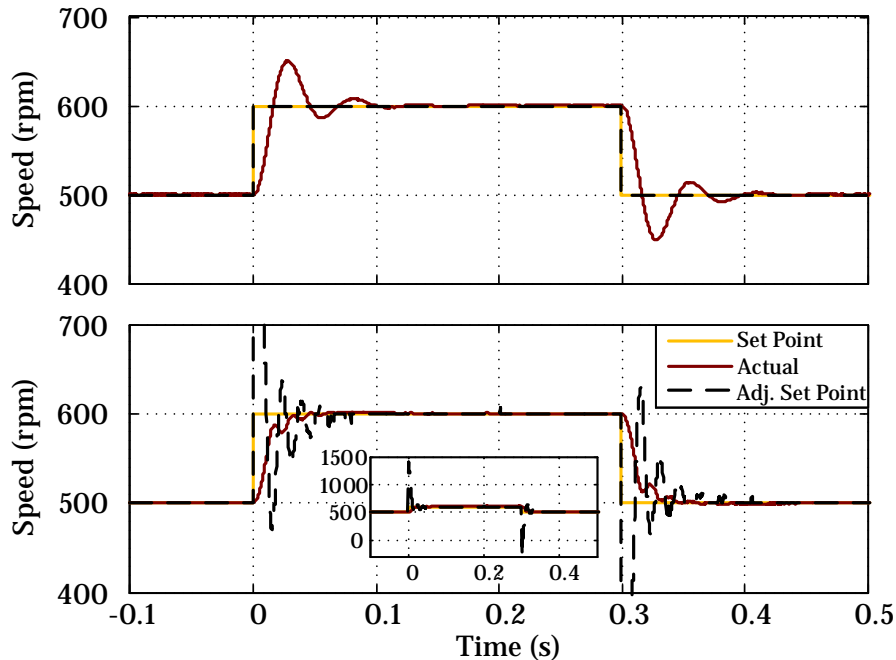
Step change in  $i_{sq}$  from 0 to -20 to 0 A: a) base case: 48 rpm, b) prefilter: 48, c) SPAACE: 42, and d) SSPAACE: 12.



## Experimental Results

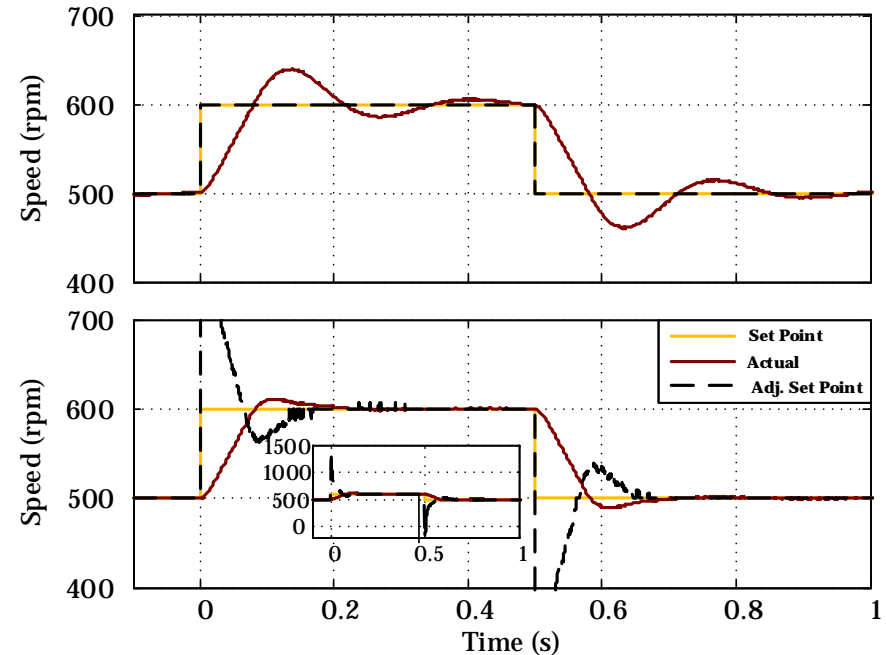
# Sensitivity to System Parameters

- ➡  $J$  is changed to (a) one-third and (b) three times the design value. Step change in  $\omega_{ref}$  from 500 to 600 to 500 rpm.



## Simulation Results: 1/3x

Base case— $M_p$ : 50%;  $t_{settling}$ : 80 ms  
SSPACE— $M_p$ : ~0%;  $t_{settling}$ : 50 ms



## Simulation Results: 3x

Base case— $M_p$ : 40%;  $t_{settling}$ : 0.4 s  
SSPACE— $M_p$ : 10%;  $t_{settling}$ : 0.2 s

# Conclusions

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- **By designing the trajectory to reduce overshoots, it is possible for a system to operate closer to its limits.**
- **Offline (PSCAD and MATLAB) and real-time (RTDS and Opal-RT) simulation studies as well as experimental results show that S/SPACE is effective in mitigating transients:**
  - Step change: Mitigating overshoots
  - Load energization: Eliminating peaks
  - Load disconnection in an unbalanced system: Stabilizing oscillatory behavior of voltage
- **The significance of this work is that it can reduce the need for overdesign and subsequently increase asset utilization.**

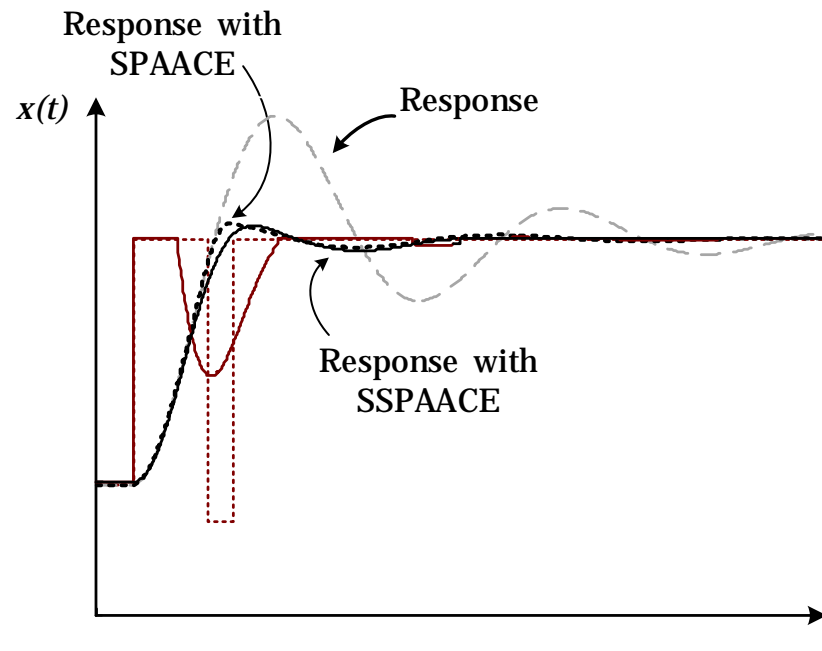
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$$m(t) = m \times e_{\text{pred}}(t)$$

$$e_{\text{pred}}(t) = \frac{sT + 1}{\alpha sT + 1} e(t),$$





# Thank You

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## Power Electronics for Integration of Renewables

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