



**Autonomous Vehicle Simulation (AVS) Laboratory,  
University of Colorado**

**Basilisk Technical Memorandum**

Document ID: Basilisk-rwVoltageInterface

**MODULE TO CONVERT A RW VOLTAGE INPUT INTO A RW MOTOR TORQUE  
OUTPUT**

|             |           |
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| <b>Status:</b> First Draft   |
| <b>Scope/Contents</b>  |
| This module provides an analog voltage interface for the cluster of RW devices. An input voltage is converted to a RW motor torque message. This message is what drives the RW dynamics. |

| Rev:  | Change Description                | By        |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Draft | Initial cut at this documentation | H. Schaub |

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## 1 Description

This module is a simulation environment module which simulates the analog voltage interface of a RW cluster. The input is an array of voltages  $V_i$ . The Reaction Wheel (RW) motor torque  $u_{s_i}$  is evaluated using a linear mapping

$$u_{s_i} = V_i \gamma \quad (1)$$

where  $\gamma$  is constant value. The output of the module is an array of RW motor torques. The deadband and saturation behavior of the RW speed is modeled inside the RW dynamics model.

## 2 Module Setup

The interface module is created in python using:

```
testModule = rwVoltageInterface.RWVoltageInterface()
testModule.ModelTag = "rwVoltageInterface"
```

The only parameter that must be set is the voltage to torque conversion gain  $\gamma$ . This is done using

```
testModule.voltage2TorqueGain = 1.32          # [Nm/V] conversion gain
```

## 3 Unit Test Discussion

A series of unit tests are performed to check the validity of this module's operation. Three base voltages  $V_0$  are test where  $V_0 \in (5.0, 7.5, 0.0)$ . The input voltages are then setup as

$$\mathbf{V} = V_0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0.0 \\ 1.0 \\ 1.5 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

The unit test results are down in the following Tables.

**Table 2:** RW motoor torque output for Base Voltaget = 5.0V.

| time [s] | $u_{s,1}$ (Nm) | Error | $u_{s,2}$ (Nm) | Error | $u_{s,3}$ (Nm) | Error |
|----------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| 0        | 6.6            | 0     | 7.92           | 0     | 8.58           | 0     |
| 0.5      | 6.6            | 0     | 7.92           | 0     | 8.58           | 0     |
| 1        | 6.6            | 0     | 7.92           | 0     | 8.58           | 0     |

**Table 3:** RW motor torque output for Base Voltage = -7.5V.

| time [s] | $u_{s,1}$ (Nm) | Error | $u_{s,2}$ (Nm) | Error | $u_{u,3}$ (Nm) | Error |
|----------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| 0        | -9.9           | 0     | -8.58          | 0     | -7.92          | 0     |
| 0.5      | -9.9           | 0     | -8.58          | 0     | -7.92          | 0     |
| 1        | -9.9           | 0     | -8.58          | 0     | -7.92          | 0     |

**Table 4:** RW motor torque output for Base Voltage = 0.0V.

| time [s] | $u_{s,1}$ (Nm) | Error | $u_{s,2}$ (Nm) | Error | $u_{u,3}$ (Nm) | Error |
|----------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| 0        | 0              | 0     | 1.32           | 0     | 1.98           | 0     |
| 0.5      | 0              | 0     | 1.32           | 0     | 1.98           | 0     |
| 1        | 0              | 0     | 1.32           | 0     | 1.98           | 0     |