

Active Suspension System with a Cascaded controlled Actuator



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*This is a continuation of my former post([here](#))
where I modelled an active suspension
system with an ideal actuator*

*A brief operational principle of the actuator is
discussed in the next slide*

The ElectroHydraulic Actuator

- The actuator's control unit receives the sensor signals.
- The signals are used to adjust the hydraulic pressure within the cylinder.
- The pressure is adjusted by changing the flow to and from the cylinder.
- The flow is adjusted by adjusting the servo valve's displacement
- The valve is displaced by electronically adjusting the spool's position

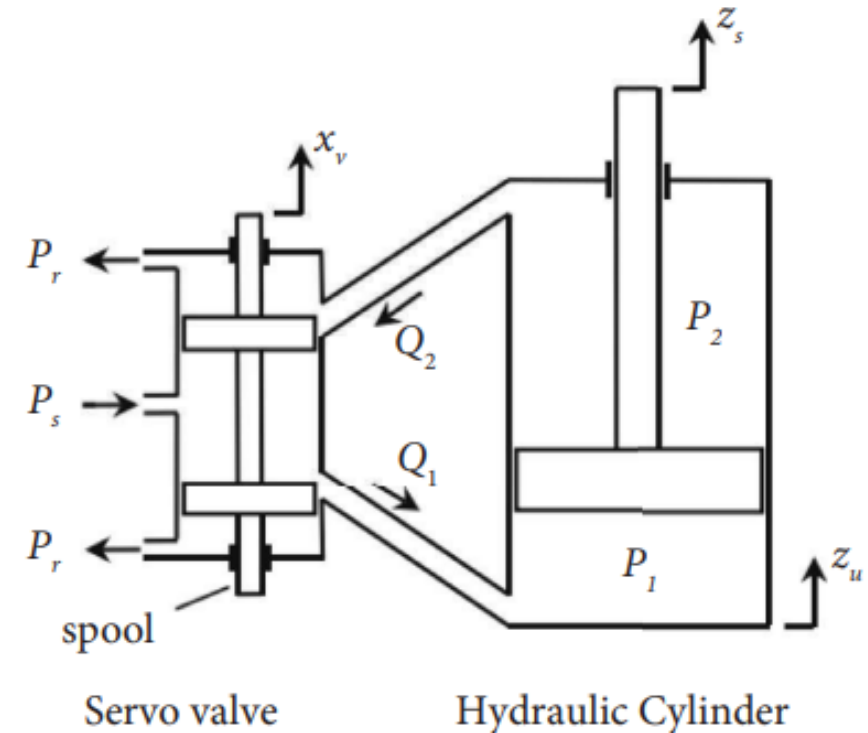


Illustration of the actuator[1]

So, this means that the actuator can regulate the sprung mass displacement as illustrated below

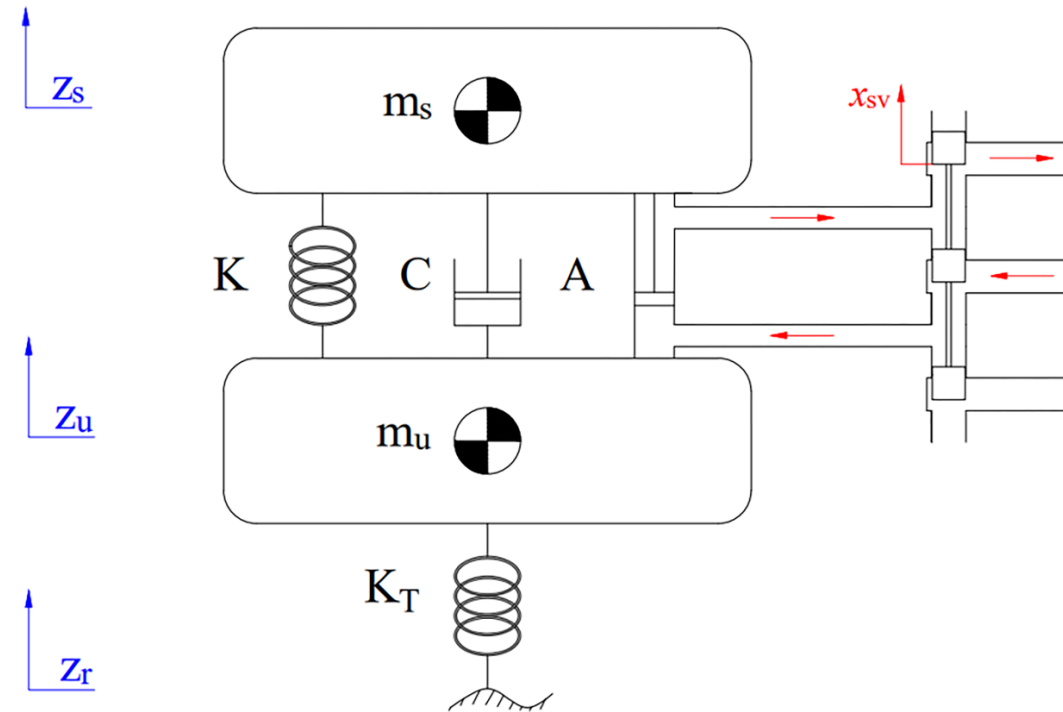


Illustration of actuated active Suspension System [2]

*Next, let's write up the actuator's
dynamic equation*

Dynamic Model of the Electrohydraulic Actuator

Displacement of the servo valve under the influence of an input voltage

$$x_{sv} = \frac{1}{\tau} \int (k_{sv} u(t) - x_{sv}) dt$$

Flow of hydraulic fluid through the valve

$$Q = \frac{\sigma_3}{\sigma_1} x_{sv} \sqrt{P_s - \text{sgn}(x_{sv}) \Delta P}$$

Change in pressure

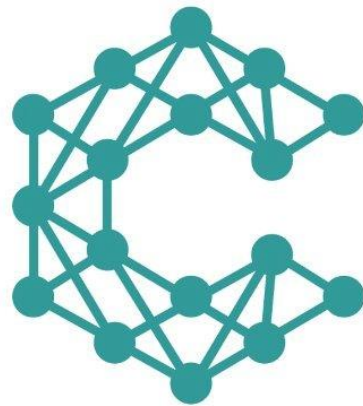
$$\Delta P = \sigma_1 \int \left(Q - \frac{\sigma_2}{\sigma_1} \Delta P - S_p \dot{x}_s \right) dt$$

The output force generated from the actuator

$$F_A = S_p \Delta P$$

Where, x_{sv} is the servo displacement, τ is the time constant, k_{sv} is the servo valve gain, $u(t)$ is the input voltage, Q is the hydraulic fluid flow rate; $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3$ are the actuator coefficients; P_s is the supply pressure, ΔP is the change in pressure, S_p is the piston's cross-sectional area.

*Next, let's incorporate the model into the overall quarter vehicle model using **THE COLLIMATOR SIMULATOR!!!***

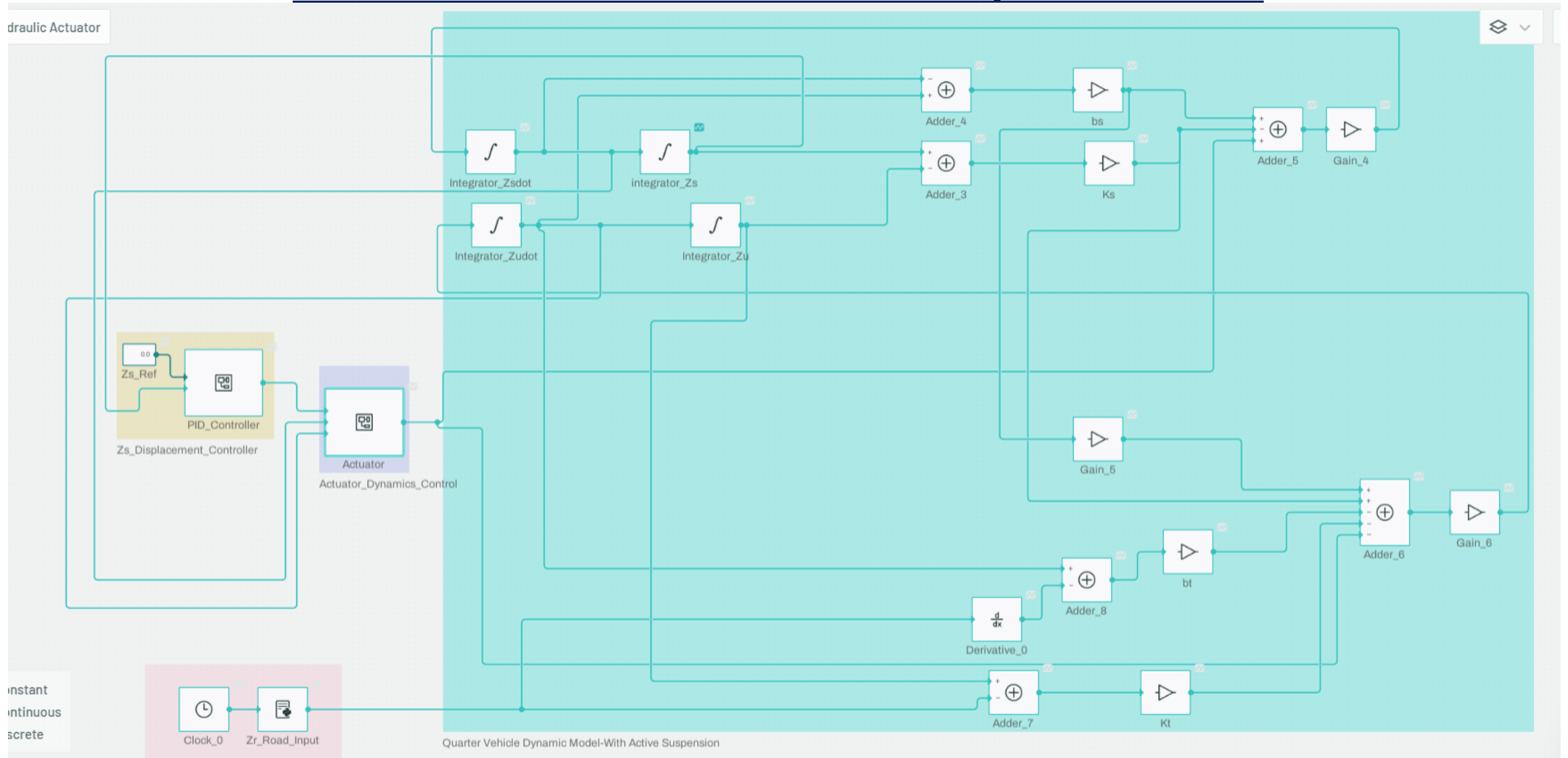


Simulation Parameters

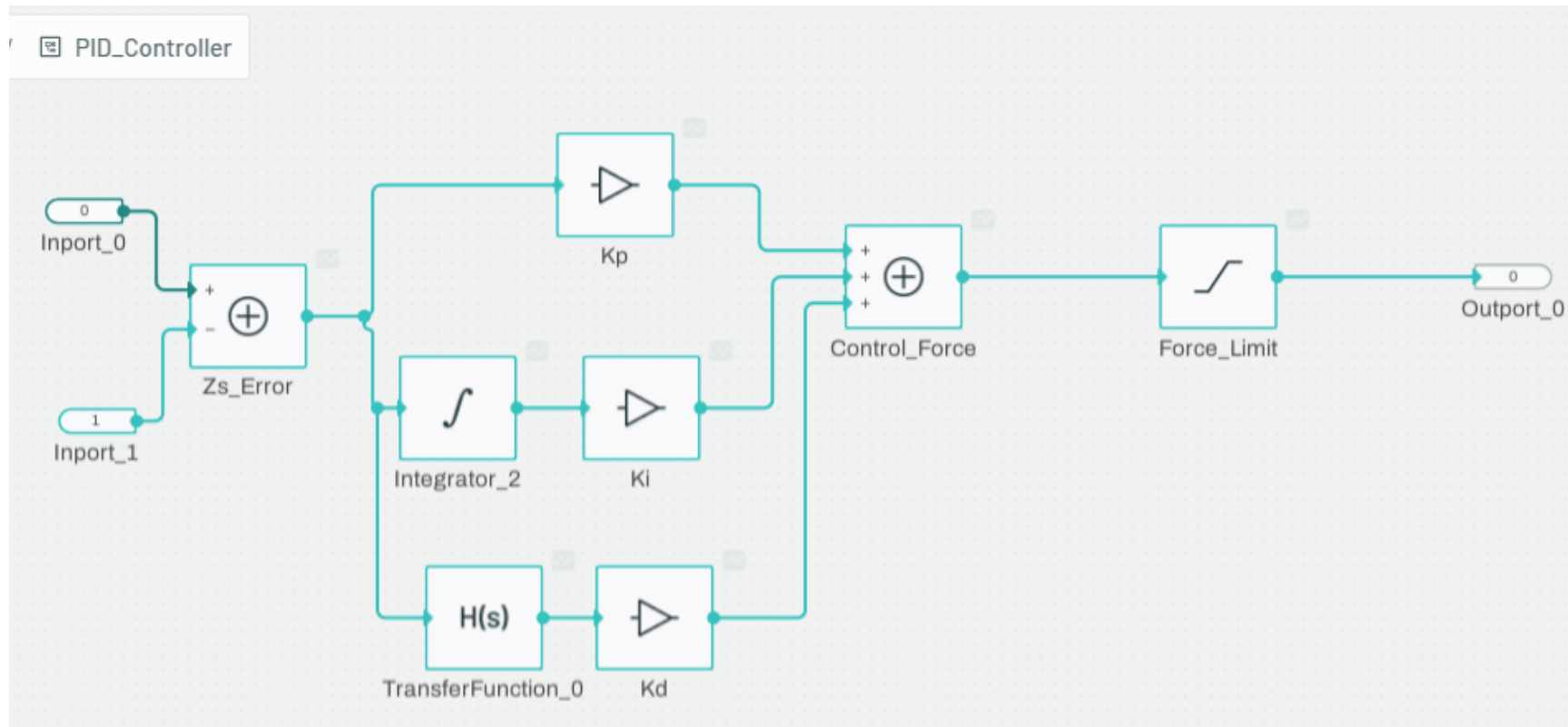
```
15  #Actuator Parameters
16  sigma1 = 4.5e13;#N/m^5 actuator coefficient
17  sigma2 = 1; #s^-1 actuator coefficient
18  sigma3 = 1.5e9;#N/kg^0.5m^2.5 actuator coefficient
19  tau = 2.5e-3;#s time constant
20  Sp = 3.5e-4;#m^2 Piston cross-sectional area
21  Ps = 1056240;#N/m^2 Supply Pressure
22  k_sv = 1e-3;#m/V Servo valve gain
23
24  #          ---->Controller parameters for the actuated system<-----
25  #The PID controller parameters for the Zs Displacement
26  kp_zs = 1e4; ki_zs = 1e1; kd_zs = 1e3; tau_zs = 1e-3
27  #Control force saturation limit is between (-Ms*g) to (+Ms*g)
28
29  #The outer PID controller parameters for the force produced by the actuator
30  kp_f = 1e-4; ki_f = 5e-5; kd_f = 1e-5; tau_f = 1e5
31
32  #The inner PID controller parameters for the servo displacement of actuator
33  kp_x = 2e4; ki_x = 2e4; kd_x = 1e3; tau_x = 1e2
34  #Input voltage limit is -24V to +24V
35
```

Note: The Actuator parameters are gotten from [3]. The Vehicle Parameters are not shown in the figure above but can be found in the previous post [here](#).

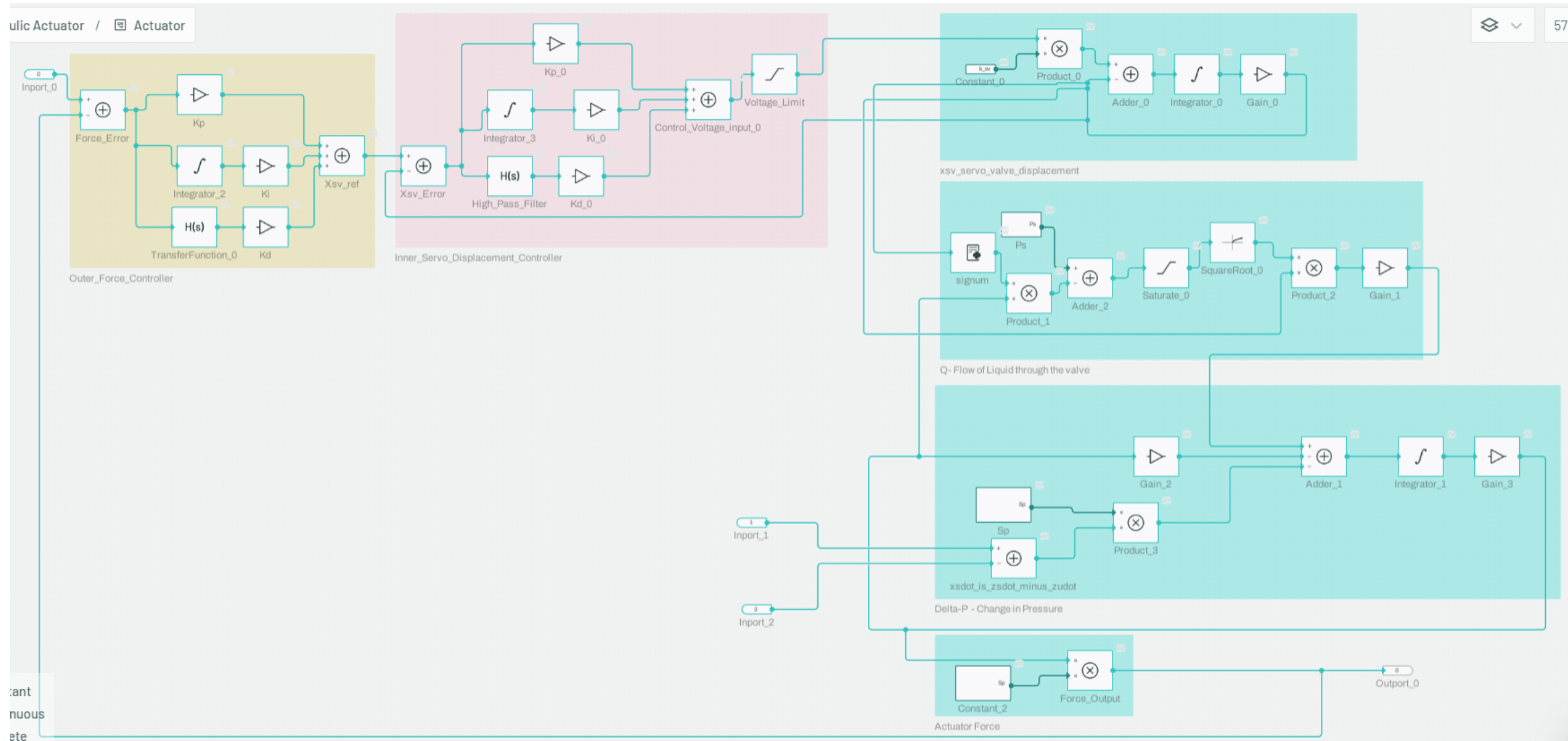
Collimator Model—Overall System view



View of the Sprung Mass Displacement Controller



View of the Actuator Subsystem



Good, let's view our simulation results

Collimator Results

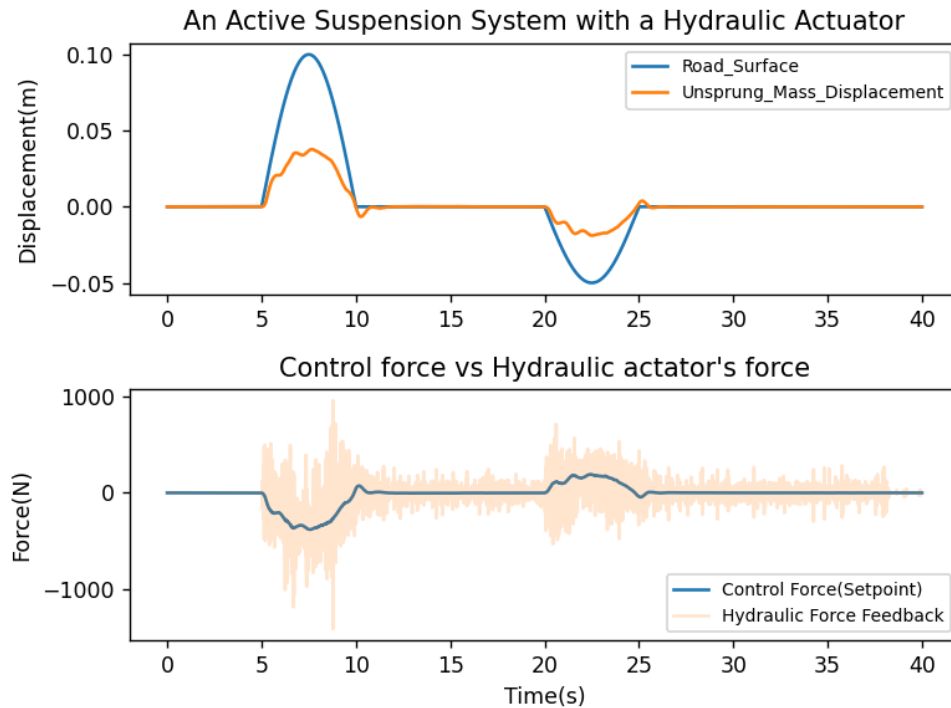


Fig A: The plot shows the displacement and the force response from the actuator subsystem

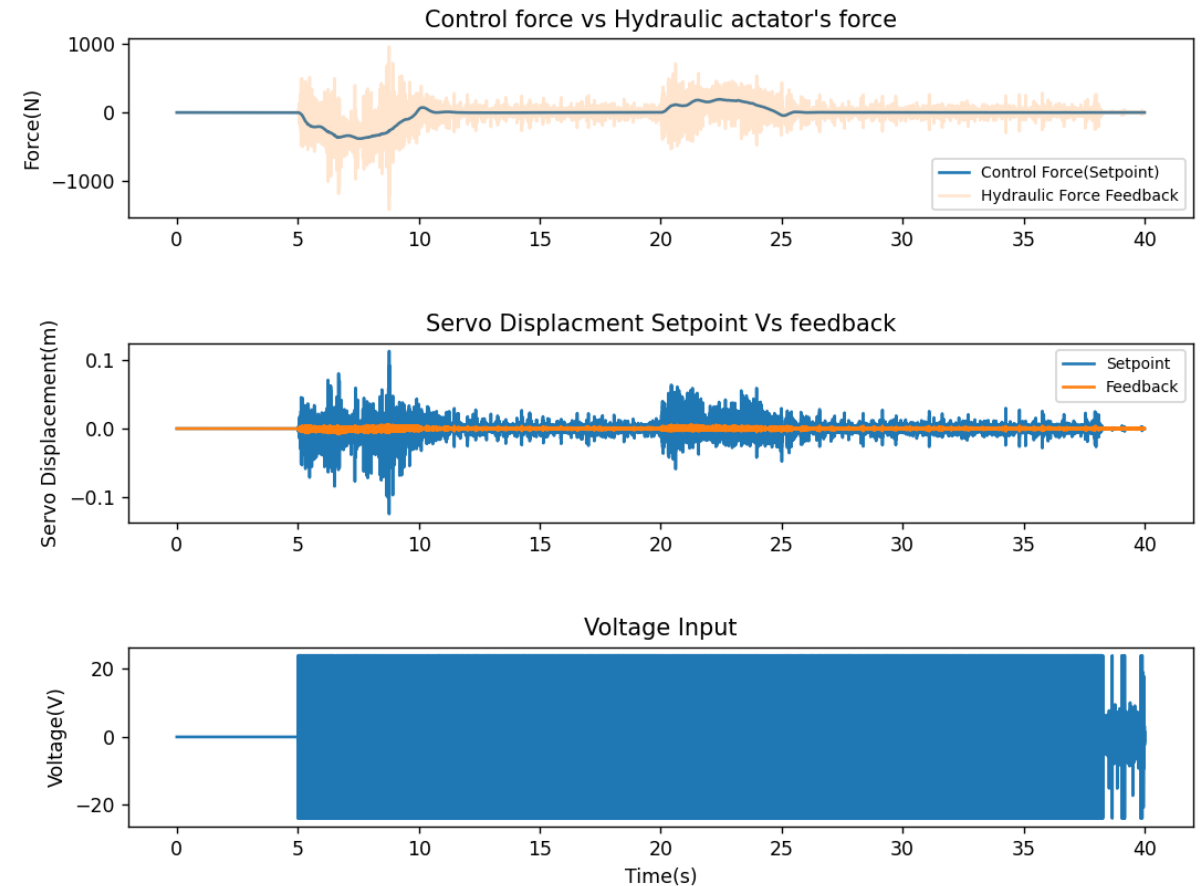


Fig B: The plot shows the internal dynamics of the actuator subsystem(its force response, servo-displacement response, and voltage input)

Collimator Results

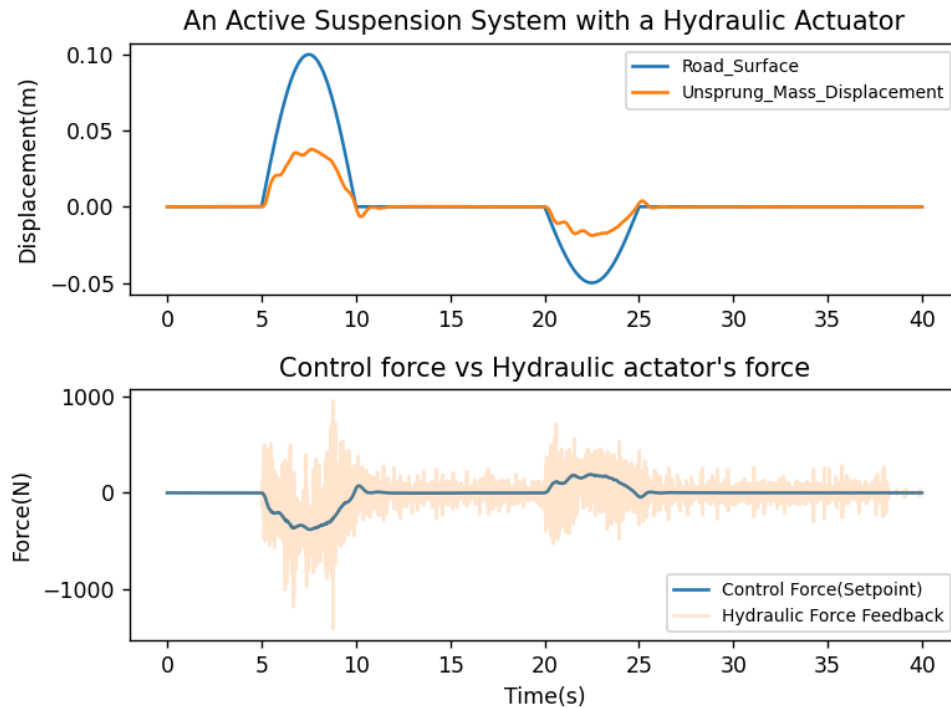


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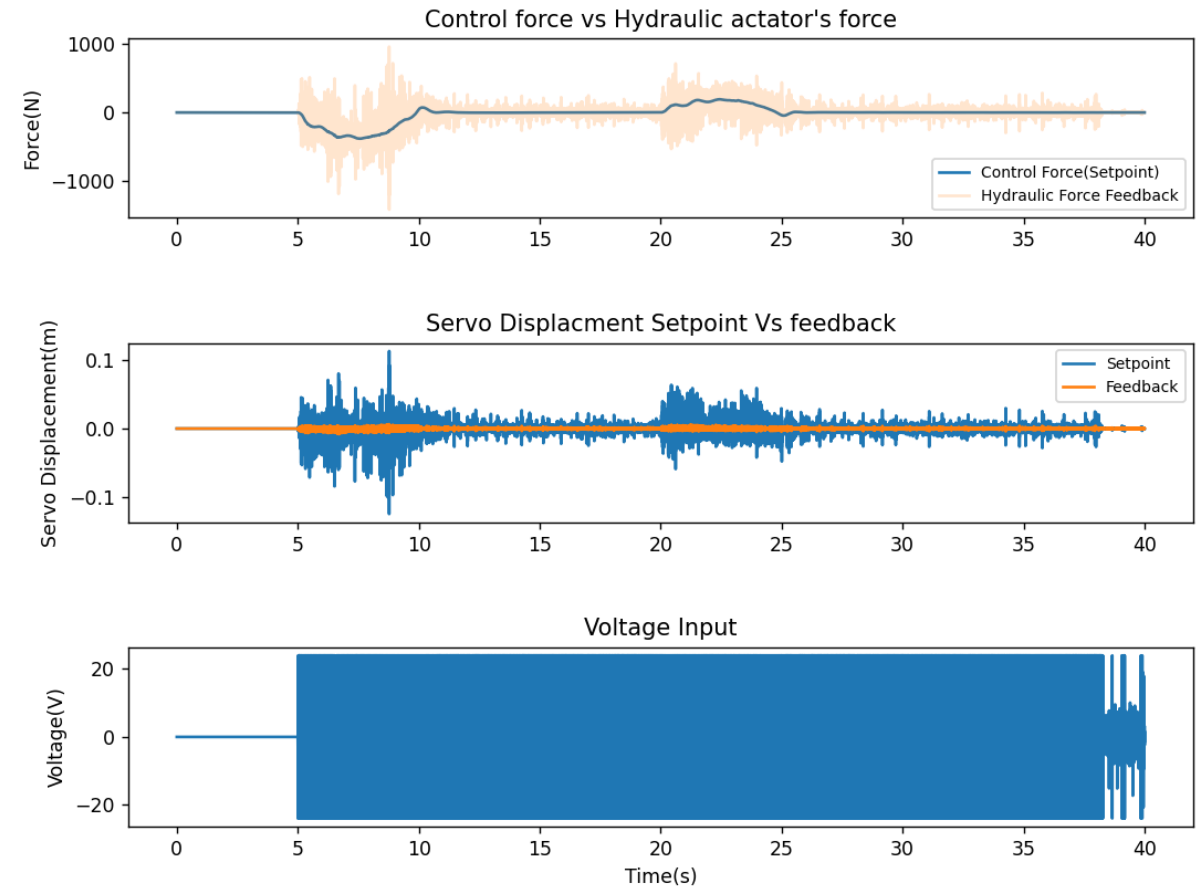


Fig B: The plot shows the internal dynamics of the actuator subsystem(its force response, servo-displacement response, and voltage input)

Discussion of Results

- For a road bump of height 0.1m, the sprung mass max displacement is 0.0404m, and the control force's setpoint is -380N
- For a pothole of depth 0.05m, the sprung mass max displacement is 0.0170, and the control force's setpoint is 230N.
- In contrast, as shown in the figure, the active suspension system with an ideal actuator with a max bump displacement of 0.0056m and control force of -568N
- Likewise, the ideal actuated system has a pothole displacement of 0.00286m and control force of 285N.

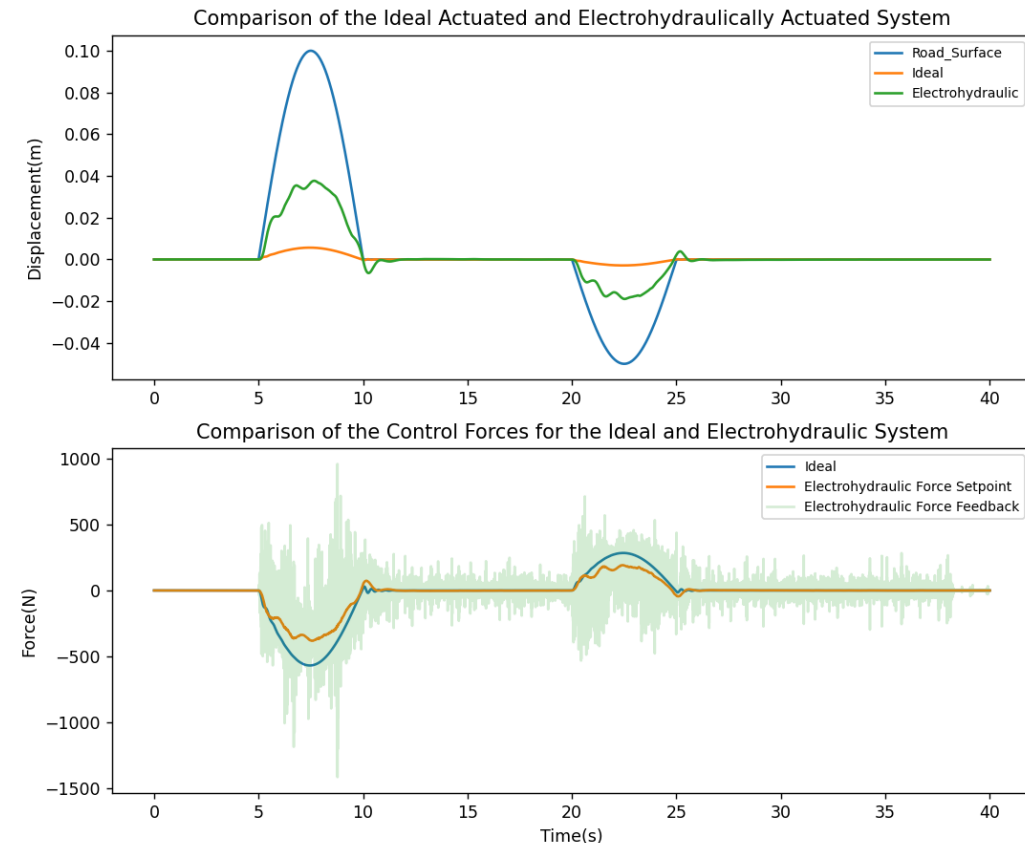


Fig C: Comparison of the performance of between the active suspension system with an ideal actuator and that of an electrohydraulic actuator

So, it is obvious that the electro-hydraulically actuated system has a much larger sprung mass displacement in comparison to the ideally actuated system.

The electro-hydraulically driven system could have a better performance if its controller design is improved.

Presently the controllers are PID controllers, so a next step in this project could be to design a non-linear controller for the actuator subsystem and compare its performance to the PID controller

References

- [1] Duc Ngoc Nguyen, Tuan Anh Nguyen, "The Dynamic Model and Control Algorithm for the Active Suspension System", Mathematical Problems in Engineering, vol. 2023, Article ID 2889435, 9 pages, 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2023/2889435>
- [2] <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article/figure?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0278387.g001>
- [3] Tuan Anh Nguyen, "Improving the Comfort of the Vehicle Based on Using the Active Suspension System Controlled by the Double-Integrated Controller", Shock and Vibration, vol. 2021, Article ID 1426003, 11 pages, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2021/1426003>