



Artificial Intelligence for Next-Generation  
Power Electronics (AI-Power)

## “Application of Statistical Model Checking for Robustness Comparison of Power Electronics Controllers”

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## ► Outline

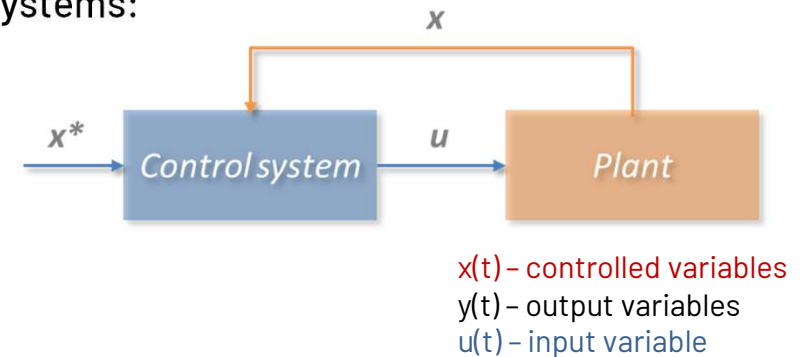
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- ☐ Introduction
- ☐ Modeling formalism
- ☐ Statistical Model Checking (SMC)
- ☐ Controller structures (PI controller, FS-MPC controller, NN controller)
- ☐ Controller performance validation
- ☐ Conclusion

## ► Introduction

### ❑ Requirements for control algorithms in power electronics systems:

- Accurate reference tracking
- Fast transient response
- Verified robustness and stability
- Low computational burden



### ❑ Control algorithms used in power electronics applications

- Linear control (P, PI, PR)
- Direct torque control
- Model predictive control
- Fuzzy-logic control
- Sliding mode control
- Neural networks
- ....



How to verify the requirements for all control algorithms?

How to perform it simultaneously for all control algorithms?

**Hypothesis:** Our power electronics system is deterministic  
Is that true?

## ► Introduction

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### ❑ Reality:

#### ❑ Power electronics systems **don't operate in deterministic** operating conditions

- How do we select **which conditions** to compare?
- **How many iterations** are needed for obtaining performance certainty?

#### ❑ System **components degrade** over time

- It will influence performance over time – how do we adapt our control?

**Problem:** Deterministic validation of robustness might miss potential critical scenarios

### ❑ Proposed solution:

- Model the stochasticity of components
- Define the confidence level
- Obtain statistical guarantee of the desired performance

Statistical Model  
Checking (SMC)

## ► Statistical Model Checking (SMC)

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- ❑ Formal method which uses techniques from mathematics for checking the system behavior
  - Applies statistical instead of exact analysis of the models

Every system that has states and transitions between the states is suitable for SMC application

- ❑ Well known technique used in:
  - Aeronautics, embedded automotive systems, sensor networks, communication systems
- ❑ UPPAAL toolbox(<https://uppaal.org/>)
  - integrated tool environment for modeling, validation and verification of real-time systems
  - free for non-commercial applications in academia

## ► Statistical Model Checking (SMC)

Define a hypothesis about the system



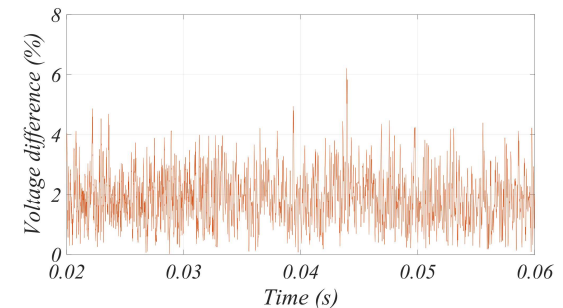
Run multiple simulations and perform Monte-Carlo analysis



Obtain probability of the hypothesis  
or estimate the value

Example

$$\Delta v = (v_{ref} - v_{meas})^2 < 5\% \\ \text{or} \\ \max(\Delta v)$$



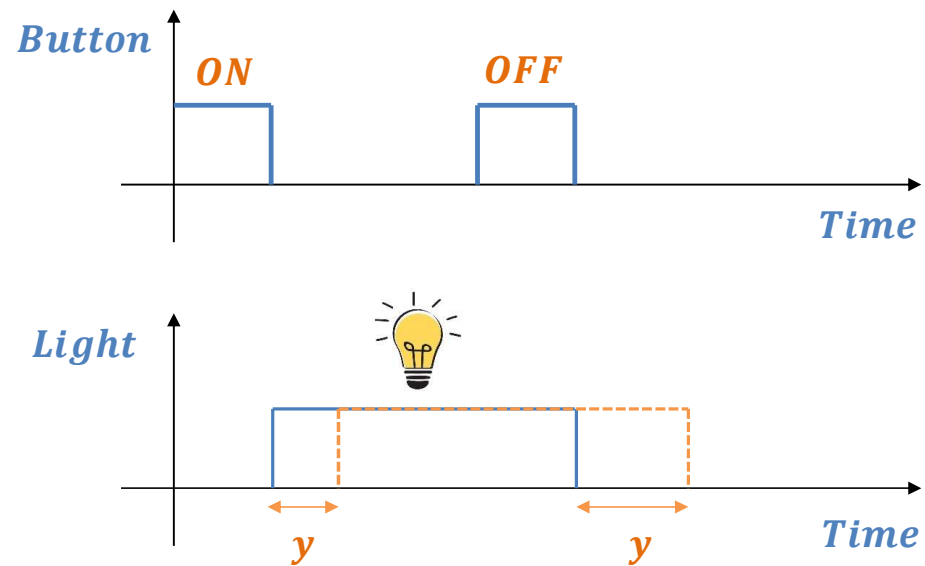
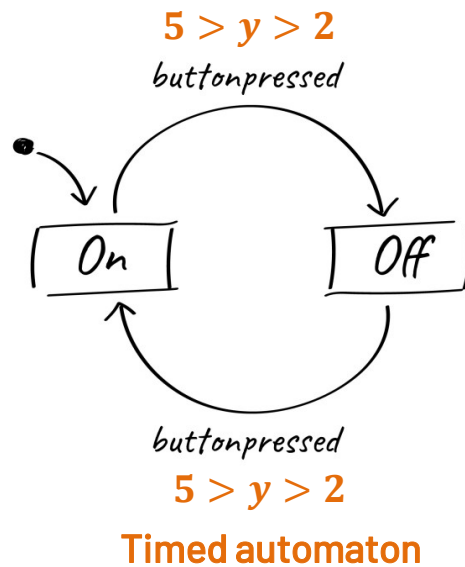
$$P(\Delta v < 5\%) = 0.907 - 1 \\ \text{No. runs} = 36 \\ \text{or} \\ E(\max(\Delta v)) = 7.5V$$

## ► Modeling formalism

### □ Hybrid timed automata

- Can model deterministic dynamics (e.g., control algorithm, modulator)
- Can model stochastic dynamics (e.g., grid sags, load changes)

#### Automaton (State machine)

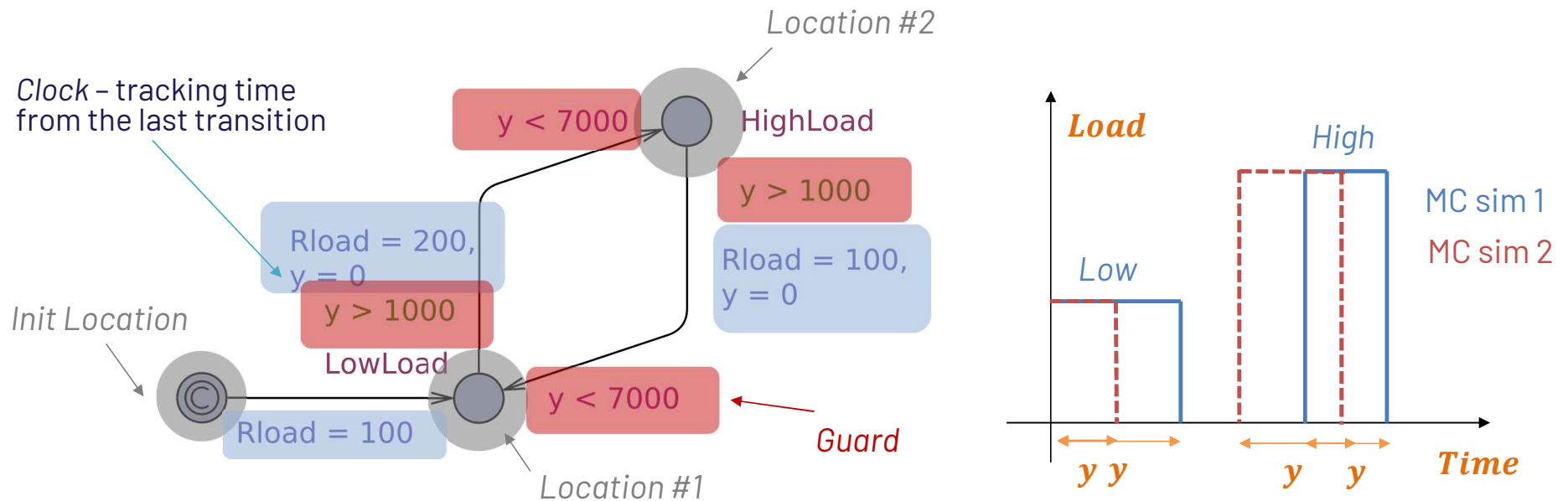


## ► Modeling formalism

### □ Hybrid timed automata

- Can model deterministic dynamics (e.g., control algorithm, modulator)
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#### Stochastic load modeled in UPPAAL



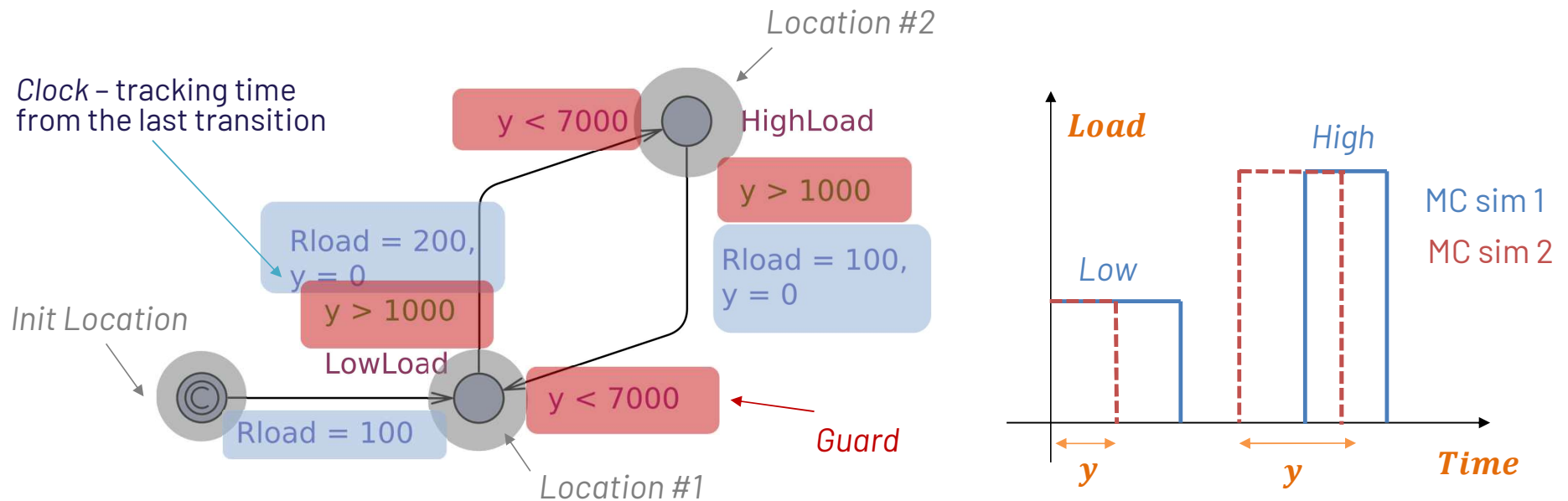


## ► Modeling formalism

### □ Hybrid timed automata

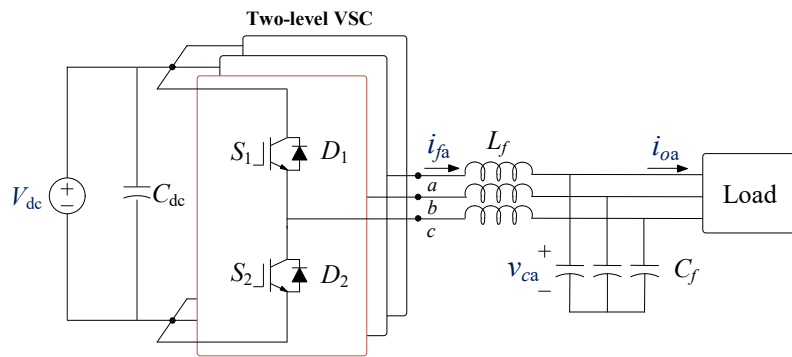
- Can model deterministic dynamics (e.g., control algorithm, modulator)
- Can model stochastic dynamics (e.g., grid sags, load changes)

#### Stochastic load modeled in UPPAAL



## ► Controller structures (PI controller, FS-MPC controller, NN controller)

- ❑ Two level voltage source converter with output LC filter and passive load



SYSTEM PARAMETERS.

Parameter	Value
DC link voltage ( $V_{dc}$ )	700 V
Filter inductance ( $L_f$ )	2.4 mH
Filter capacitance ( $C_f$ )	14 $\mu$ F
Reference voltage ( $V_{c\ rms}^*$ )	400 V
Reference freq. ( $f^*$ )	50 Hz

- ❑ System controllers

Linear  
controller

- Slower dynamics (cascade)
- Low model parameter dependency
- Low computation burden
- Fixed switching frequency

Model  
Predictive  
controller

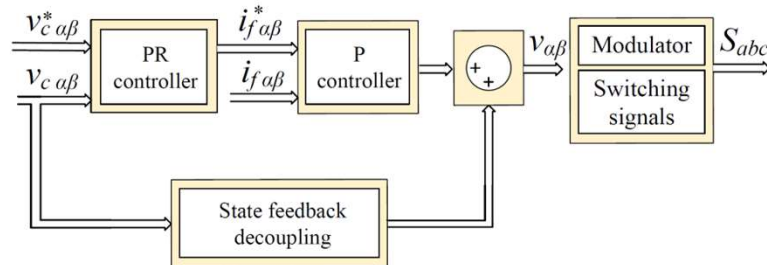
- Fast dynamics
- Model parameter dependency
- Highest computational burden
- Variable switching frequency

NN  
controller

- Fast dynamics
- Training data quality
- High computational burden
- Variable switching frequency

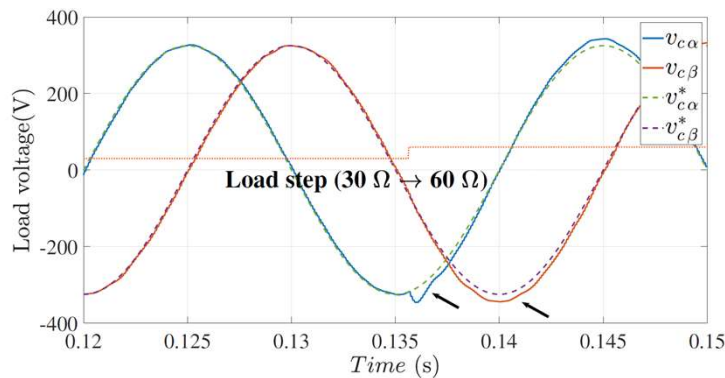
## ► Controller structures (PI controller, FS-MPC controller, NN controller)

### □ Linear controller



- P inner current loop control
- PR outer voltage loop control (5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> harmonics)
- State-feedback decoupling – system delay compensation
- Switching frequency 10 kHz
- Tuning: Nyquist criterion

### □ Load step response



PR voltage controller

$$G_v = k_{pV} + \sum_{h=1,5,7} k_{iV,h} \frac{s \cos(\phi_h) - h\omega_1 \sin(\phi_h)}{s^2 + (h\omega_1)^2}$$

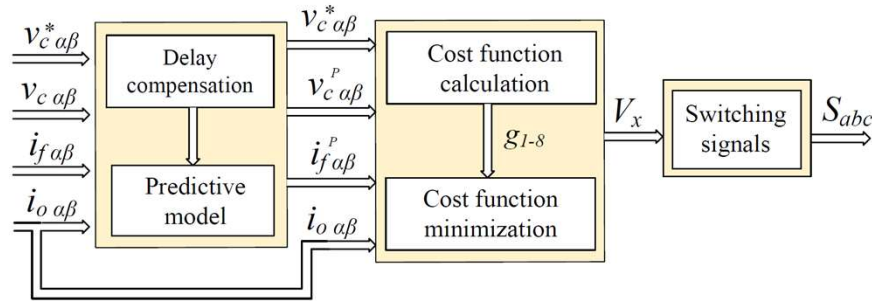
State-feedback decoupling with low pass filter

$$G_{dec} = \frac{1 + \tau_z s}{1 + \tau_p s} \cdot G_{LPF}$$

Reference: F. de Bosio, L. A. de Souza Ribeiro, F. D. Freijedo, M. Pastorelli, and J. M. Guerrero, "Effect of state feedback coupling and system delays on the transient performance of stand-alone VSI with LC output filter," IEEE Trans. Ind. Electron., vol. 63, no. 8, pp. 4909–4918, 2016.

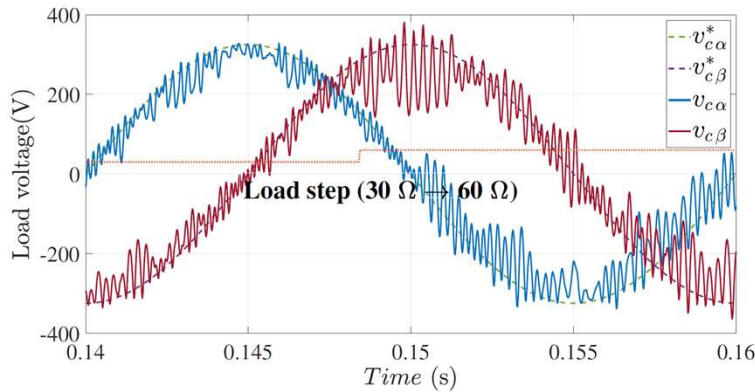
## ► Controller structures (PI controller, FS-MPC controller, NN controller)

### □ Finite Control Set Model Predictive Controller (FS-MPC)



- Predictive model is used to obtain voltage and current predictions
- Cost function defined for low distortion of voltage
- No modulator (1 voltage vector applied to whole  $T_s$ )
- Computational delay compensated with two step prediction

### □ Load step response with 50% error in the model parameters



#### System model

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} i_{f\alpha\beta} \\ v_{c\alpha\beta} \\ i_{o\alpha\beta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\frac{1}{L_f} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{C_f} & 0 & -\frac{1}{C_f} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i_{f\alpha\beta} \\ v_{c\alpha\beta} \\ i_{o\alpha\beta} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{L_f} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} v_{i\alpha\beta}$$

#### Cost function

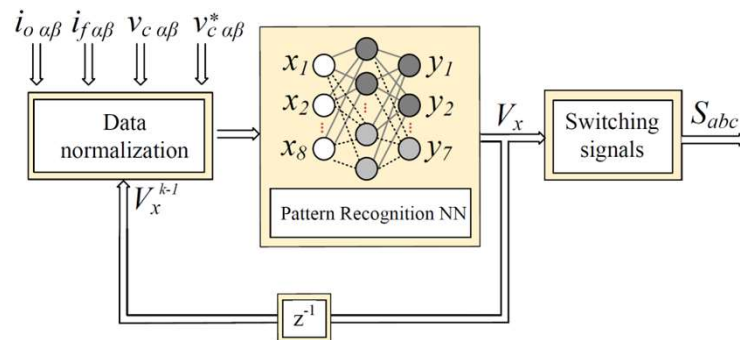
$$g = (v_{c\alpha}^* - v_{c\alpha}^P)^2 + (v_{c\beta}^* - v_{c\beta}^P)^2 + \lambda_d \cdot g_d$$

$$g_d = (i_{f\alpha}^P - i_{o\alpha}^P + C_f \omega v_{c\beta}^*)^2 + (i_{f\beta}^P - i_{o\beta}^P + C_f \omega v_{c\alpha}^*)^2$$

Reference: T. Dragicevic, "Model predictive control of power converters for robust and fast operation of ac microgrids," IEEE Trans. Power Electron., vol. 33, no. 7, pp. 6304–6317, 2018.

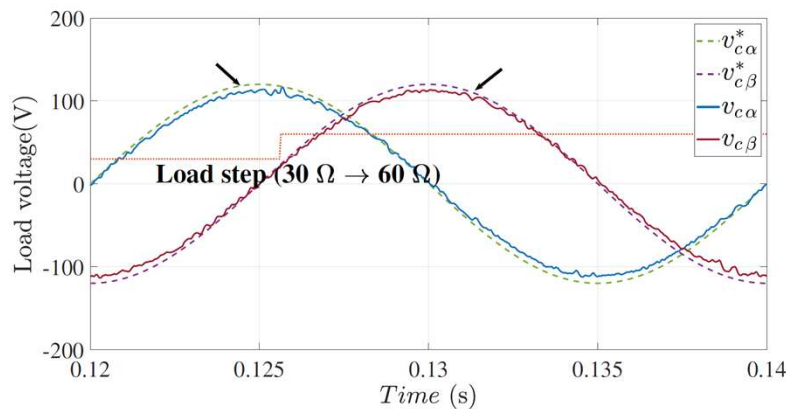
## ► Controller structures (PI controller, FS-MPC controller, NN controller)

### □ Neural networks controller (trained on FS-MPC data)



- Data from FS-MPC algorithm are used for training the NN
- NN structure: 8 inputs, 15 hidden neurons, 7 outputs
- Adam optimization algorithm used in training
- No modulator (1 voltage vector applied to whole T<sub>s</sub>)

### □ Load step response with 50% reduced $V_{dc}$



Output of the n-th neuron in the hidden layer

$$h_n = f_1(b_{n1} + \sum_{j=1}^8 w_{nj}^{(1)} \cdot x_n)$$

Output of the y-th neuron in output layer

$$y_m = f_2(b_{n2} + \sum_{k=1}^{15} w_{nk}^{(2)} \cdot h_n)$$

Source: M. Novak and T. Dragicevic, "Supervised imitation learning of finite set model predictive control systems for power electronics," IEEE Trans. Ind. Electron., vol. 68, no. 2, pp. 1717–1723, 2021

## ► Controller performance validation – steady state

- ❑ Controllers for 2L-VSC converter supplying a passive load were modeled using timed automata and simulated in UPPAL
- ❑ For each simulation run a calculation of root mean square difference of the load voltage is performed

$$RMSD = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{j=1}^N (v_j - v_j^*)^2}{N}}$$

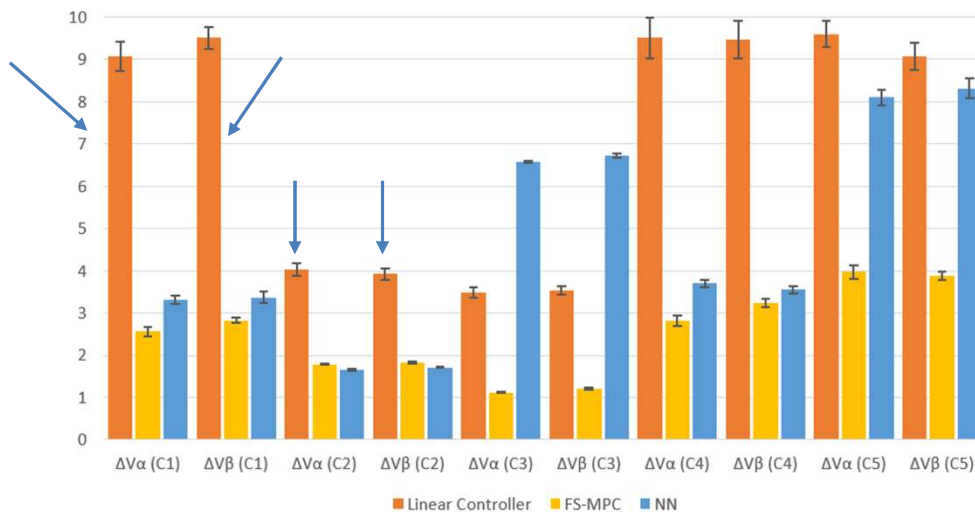
N – number of samples  
 $v_j$  – measured voltage  
 $v_j^*$  – reference voltage

- ❑ Results for estimation of max RMSD ( $\Delta v_{c\alpha}, \Delta v_{c\beta}$ ) for three controllers with constant load (steady state performance)

Load ( $\Omega$ )	L error	C error	Vref ampl. (V)	Vdc (V)	Linear Controller	FS-MPC	NN
30	0	0	325	700	$\Delta V_\alpha = 3.57$ $\Delta V_\beta = 3.41$	$\Delta V_\alpha = 2.39$ $\Delta V_\beta = 2.61$	$\Delta V_\alpha = 3.20$ $\Delta V_\beta = 3.20$
60	0	0	325	700	$\Delta V_\alpha = 2.26$ $\Delta V_\beta = 2.21$	$\Delta V_\alpha = 2.28$ $\Delta V_\beta = 2.47$	$\Delta V_\alpha = 3.10$ $\Delta V_\beta = 3.10$

## ► Controller performance validation – dynamics

- Confidence interval for MC simulations is set to 95%
- Results for estimation of max RMSD ( $\Delta v_{c\alpha}, \Delta v_{c\beta}$ ) for three controllers with variable load  $30\Omega \rightarrow 60\Omega$



**C1:**  $L_{\text{error}} = 0, C_{\text{error}} = 0, V_{\text{ref}} = 325 \text{ V}, V_{\text{dc}} = 700 \text{ V}$

**C2:**  $L_{\text{error}} = 0, C_{\text{error}} = 0, V_{\text{ref}} = 120 \text{ V}, V_{\text{dc}} = 700 \text{ V}$

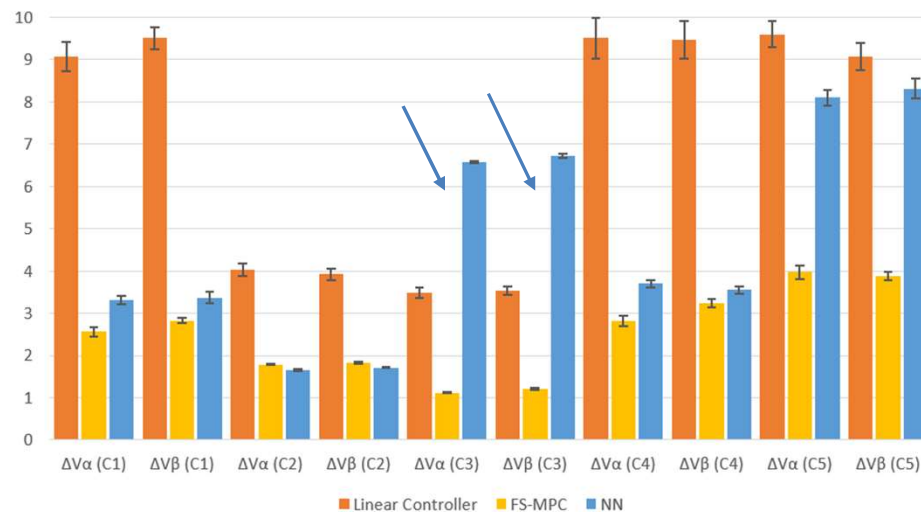
Linear Controller	FS-MPC	NN
$\Delta V_\alpha = 9.07 \pm 0.34$	$\Delta V_\alpha = 2.56 \pm 0.11$	$\Delta V_\alpha = 3.31 \pm 0.10$
$\Delta V_\beta = 9.50 \pm 0.26$	$\Delta V_\beta = 2.83 \pm 0.07$	$\Delta V_\beta = 3.37 \pm 0.14$
$\Delta V_\alpha = 4.03 \pm 0.15$	$\Delta V_\alpha = 1.79 \pm 0.02$	$\Delta V_\alpha = 1.65 \pm 0.02$
$\Delta V_\beta = 3.92 \pm 0.14$	$\Delta V_\beta = 1.83 \pm 0.02$	$\Delta V_\beta = 1.72 \pm 0.02$

### □ Observations:

- Load changes have the highest effect on PI controller performance (no effect of parameter mismatch)

## ► Controller performance validation - dynamics

- Confidence interval for MC simulations is set to 95%
- Results for estimation of max RMSD ( $\Delta v_{c\alpha}, \Delta v_{c\beta}$ ) for three controllers with variable load  $30\Omega \rightarrow 60\Omega$



**C3:**  $L_{\text{error}} = +25\%$ ,  $C_{\text{error}} = +25\%$ ,  $V_{\text{ref}} = 120 \text{ V}$ ,  $V_{\text{dc}} = 300 \text{ V}$

**C4:**  $L_{\text{error}} = +25\%$ ,  $C_{\text{error}} = +25\%$ ,  $V_{\text{ref}} = 325 \text{ V}$ ,  $V_{\text{dc}} = 700 \text{ V}$

**C5:**  $L_{\text{error}} = -25\%$ ,  $C_{\text{error}} = -25\%$ ,  $V_{\text{ref}} = 325 \text{ V}$ ,  $V_{\text{dc}} = 700 \text{ V}$

System parameters are smaller than in the model

### □ Observations:

- Changing the DC-link voltage effected the performance of NN controller (missing training data)
- Negative parameter mismatch effects the performance of NN controller



## ► Conclusion

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- Application of SMC for comparative controller robustness verification
  - can show in **which conditions** controllers are **underperforming and need retuning**
    - e.g., parameter adjustment (PI, FS-MPC), obtain missing training data (NN)
  - is **applicable** for **different power electronics systems applications**
    - e.g., grid-connected systems (voltage dips and harmonic pollution)
- Future development
  - Incorporate stability validation in automated SMC test to find a set of controller parameters that can provide stable response in a system with stochastic elements

## ► Acknowledgement

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Thank you for your attention!

Questions?

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