



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

Basilisk Technical Memorandum

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REACTION WHEEL VOLTAGE TO TORQUE CONVERTER

Prepared by	S. Carnahan
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Status: Tested
Scope/Contents
The RW Voltage Interface converts commanded voltages to generated reaction wheel torques via a gain factor (perfect conversion), a scale factor (error in conversion), and bias.

Rev	Change Description	By	Date
1.0	First draft	S. Carnahan	20180316

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1 Model 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

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

where γ is constant value gain. SF is the scale factor error (i.e. a constant 1% gain error $SF = 1.01$). b is the bias term (i.e. a constant 1 Nm error on torque $b = 1$.) 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 Model Functions

The functions of the voltage to torque model are:

- **Voltage to Torque:** Converts given voltage to a torque command.

3 Model Assumptions and Limitations

This code makes assumptions which are common to IMU modeling.

- **No noise:** There is no random noise input when making the voltage to torque conversion.
- **All wheels the same:** All reaction wheels utilize the same gain, scale factor, and bias. No wheel can be singled out to have higher scale factor or bias, etc.

4 Test Description and Success Criteria

A series of unit tests are performed to check the validity of this module's operation. The expected outcome is calculated independently in python and the results are seen to be correct to machine error.

5 Test Parameters

Three base voltages V_0 are tested where $V_0 \in (5.0, -7.5, 0.0)$. The input voltages are then setup as

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

Other inputs to the module are:

```
testModule.voltage2TorqueGain = 1.32      # [Nm/V] conversion gain
testModule.scaleFactor = 1.01 #[unitless] scale factor
testModule.bias = 0.05 # [Nm] bias
```

6 Test Results

The unit test results are 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	$u_{u,3}$ (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 motoor torque output for Base Voltaget = -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 motoor torque output for Base Voltaget = 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

All tests pass:

Table 5: Test results

Voltage Test	Pass/Fail
5.0	PASSED
-7.5	PASSED
0.0	PASSED

7 User Guide

This section contains conceptual overviews of the code and clear examples for the prospective user.

7.1 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 γ . This is done using

```
testModule.voltage2TorqueGain = 1.32          # [Nm/V] conversion gain  
testModule.scaleFactor = 1.01 #[unitless] scale factor  
testModule.bias = 0.05 # [Nm] bias
```