

A 3D illustration of a wind farm. In the foreground, a large white wind turbine is partially visible, showing its nacelle and a platform with railings. In the background, several other wind turbines are scattered across a green field under a blue sky with light clouds. A tall red lattice tower stands on the right side of the image.

# COMPARISON AND OPTIMIZING WIND TURBINE LOAD REDUCTION: TRADE-OFFS INCLUDING BLADE ANGLE DEVIATION IN PID INDIVIDUAL PITCH CONTROL AND MPC COLLECTIVE PITCH CONTROL

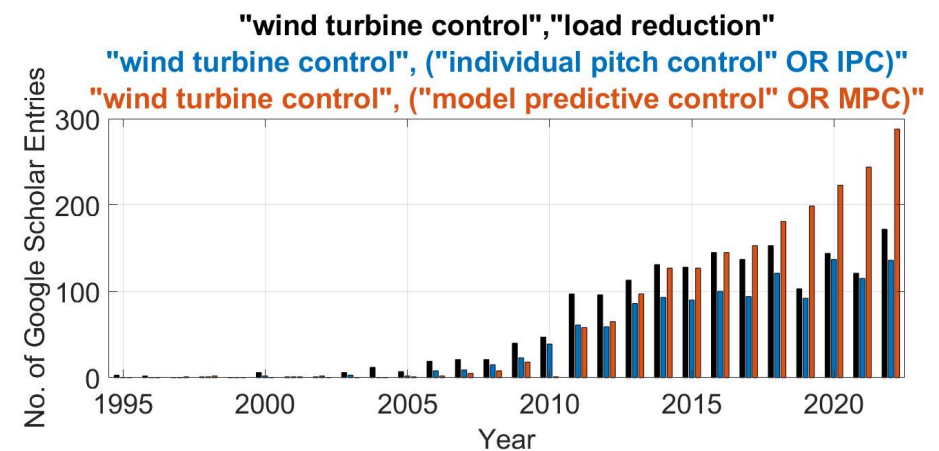
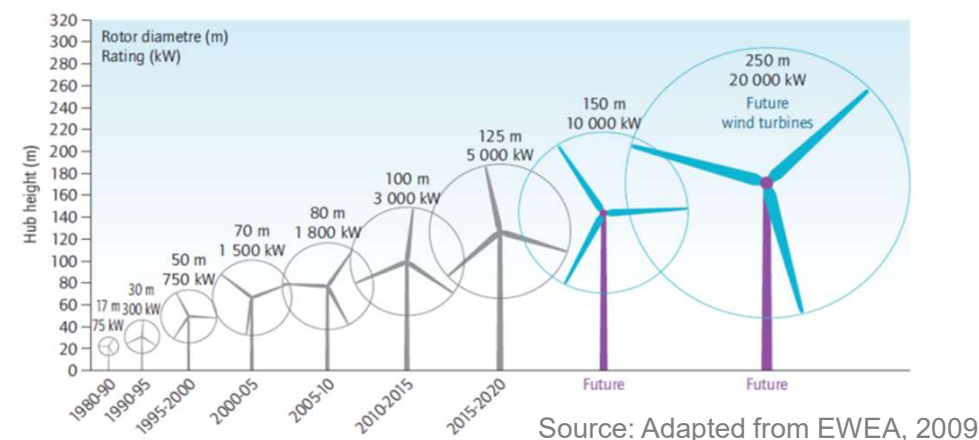
ANTJE DITTMER

# Motivation: Wind Turbine Control



Motivation > Controller > Eval. Criteria > Results IPC > Comparison IPC/MPC > Summary

- Wind turbine control
  - Maximize generated power
  - Minimize damage equivalent loads (DEL) and minimize actuator activity
  - Modern control algorithm: Decrease DEL tower and blade roots, often increase in pitch actuator activity
- Individual Pitch Control (IPC)
  - Multi-objective PI [Hoffmann and Weiß 2016], LQG [Selvam et al. 2009], H-inf [Ossmann et al. 2021], RL for controller tuning [Coquelet et al. 2022]
- Model Predictive Control (MPC)
  - Collective Pitch Control (CPC) [Schlipf et al. 2013], CPC vs IPC [Sinner et al. 2018], constrained IPC-MPC [Petrovic et al. 2020], economic MPC [Pamososuryo et al. 2022b]
- Very active research area, but **little literature on constraints for blade angle deviations → limits in angle deviation result in robust designs with regards to sensor errors**



# Motivation: Constraint on Blade Pitch Deviation



Motivation

Controller

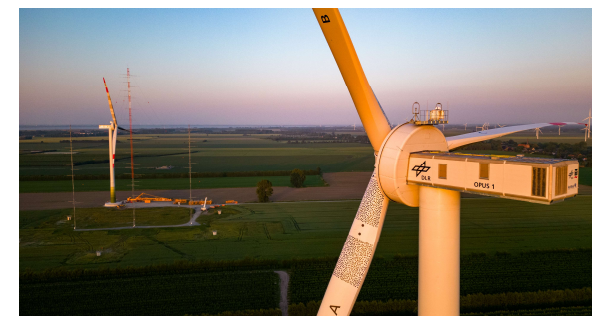
Eval. Criteria

Results IPC

Comparison IPC/MPC

Summary

- Work on wind turbine and farm control at German Aerospace Center
  - Proof-of-Concept FAST NREL 5MW and WFSim wind farm simulations
  - Actuation limited control in preparation for field tests in WiValdi:  
<https://windenergy-researchfarm.com/>
- Previous work on wind turbine control:
  - Investigation of Pareto front for different rate limits ( $4^\circ/\text{s}$ ,  $8^\circ/\text{s}$ , and  $13^\circ/\text{s}$ ): DEL reduction vs actuator power, for IPC and MPC (Dittmer, WESC presentation 2021)
  - Power variance and tower DEL decrease with velocity-based quasi Linear Parameter Varying MPC (qLMPC) [Dittmer et al. 2021]
- Current work:
  - How do IPC results change if constraints on blade pitch angle deviation are included?
  - How can we still achieve significant DEL reduction with tight limits on blade pitch angle deviation?



Credit: DLR (CC-BY 3.0)

# Motivation: Previous Work IPC-PI Control

Motivation > Controller > Eval. Criteria > Results IPC > Comparison IPC/MPC > Summary

- [Hoffmann16]: Augmentation of CPC-PI with IPC-PI for DTU 10 MW, IPC-PI offline parameter optimization
- Controller configurations
  - Base: Torque and CPC
  - Base and IPC
  - Base, IPC, tower damper (TD)
  - Base, IPC, TD, tuned manually
- Minimization criteria
  - **Blade** damage
  - **Tower** damage
  - **Actuator** activity
  - Power tracking error
  - and **standard deviation**

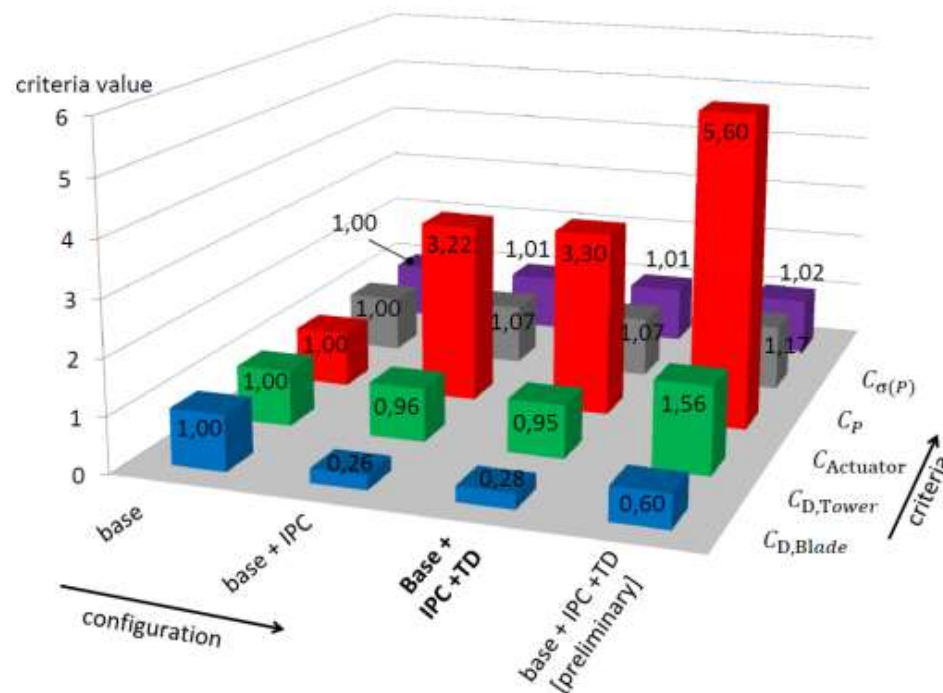
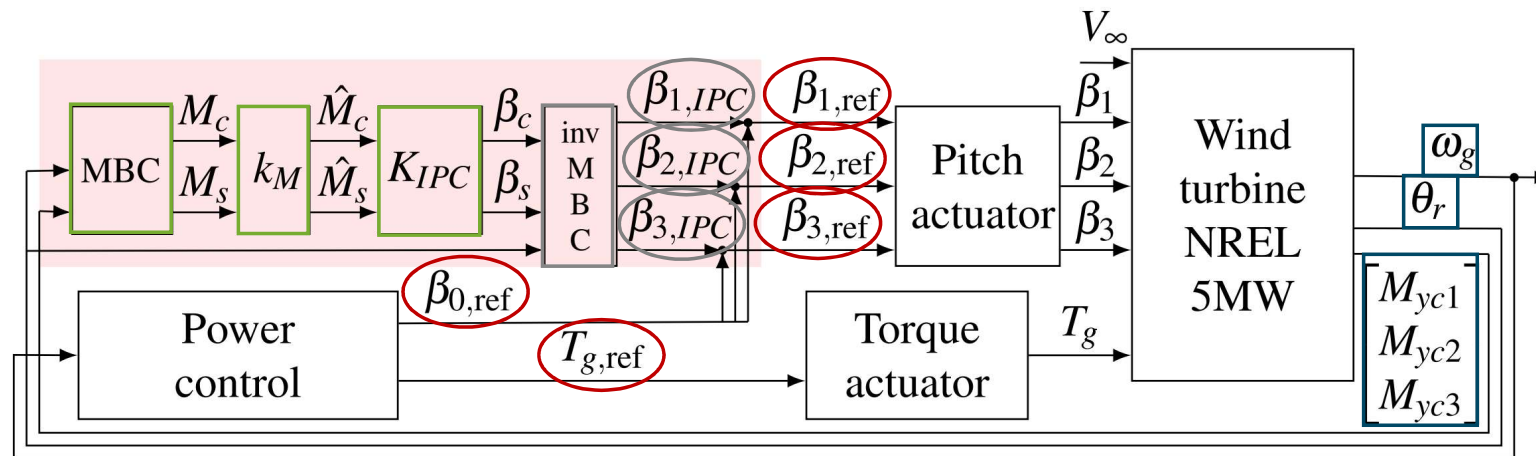


Figure 6. Fulfilment of criteria for different controller configurations

# IPC Design



- Power baseline controller from FASTTool [Mulders et al. 2020]: Feedback signal generator speed  $\omega_g$ 
  - Generator torque  $T_{g,ref}$  set via  $k \cdot \omega^2$  law, collective blade pitch  $\beta_{0,ref}$  set via gain-scheduled PI controller
- IPC**: Feedback signals rotor position  $\theta_r$  and three out-of-plane blade root moments  $M_{yci}$  for blades  $i = 1, 2, 3$ 
  - Moments multiplied with Multi-Blade Coordinate (MBC) matrix, scaled ( $k_M = 10^{-5}$ ), and processed through two Single Input Single Output (SISO) PI controllers
  - Resulting blade tilt and yaw signals  $\beta_c$  and  $\beta_s$  transformed back with inverse MBC to additional individual blade pitch signals and added to collective pitch command to form individual blade pitch commands  $\beta_{i,ref}$



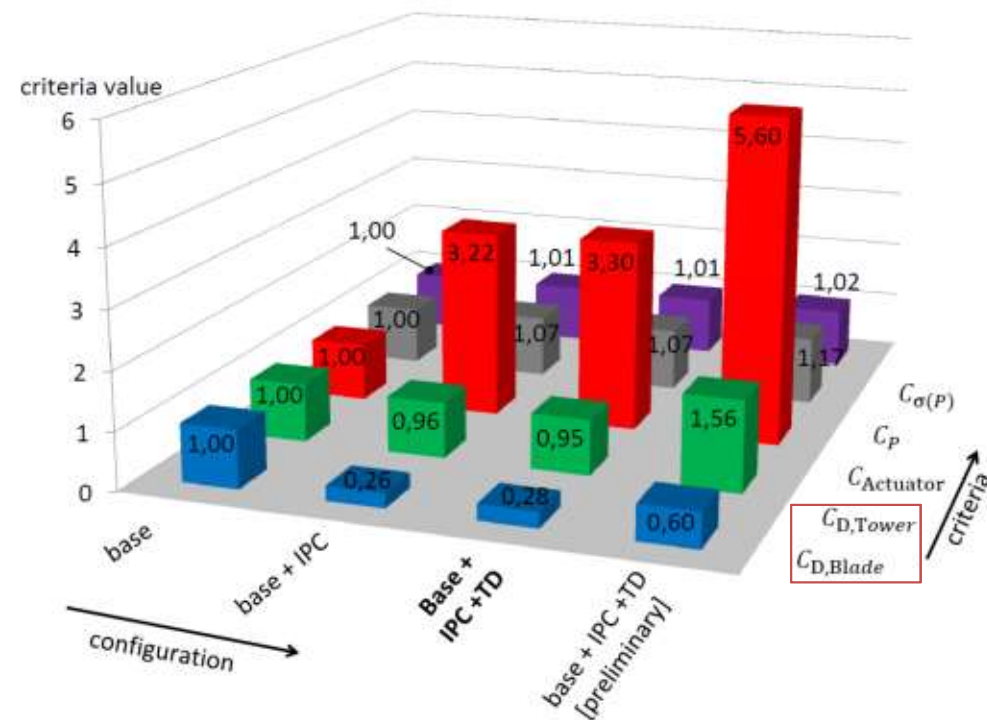
# Controller Evaluation Criteria 1 & 2: Blade and Tower DEL

Motivation > Controller > Eval. Criteria > Results IPC > Comparison IPC/MPC > Summary

- Criteria 1 and 2: Miner's rule

$$D = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{l_i}{L_i} = \sum_{i=1}^k \left[ \frac{l_i}{L_D} \left( \frac{\sigma_i}{\sigma_D} \right)^m \right]$$

- D: Damage fraction
- k: Different stress levels
- $l_i$ : observed cycles at stress  $S_i$
- $L_i$ : Mean number of cycles to failure at stress  $S_i$
- $\sigma_i$ : Amplitude of stress
- m: Wöhler coefficient



$$C_{D,Blade} = \frac{1}{\tilde{D}_{Blade,ref}} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \sum_{b=1}^3 \sum_{i=1}^{k_b} (l_{b,i} \cdot M_{flap,b,i}^{m_{CFK}})$$

$$C_{D,Tower} = \frac{1}{\tilde{D}_{Tower,ref}} \cdot \max \left[ \sum_{b=1}^{k_{long}} (l_{b,i} \cdot M_{long,i}^{m_{Steel}}), \sum_{b=1}^{k_{lat}} (l_{b,i} \cdot M_{lat,i}^{m_{Steel}}) \right]$$

# Controller Evaluation Criterion 3: Actuator Energy

Motivation > Controller > Eval. Criteria > Results IPC > Comparison IPC/MPC > Summary

- Criterion 3
  - Limit actuator usage

$$C_{Actuator} = \frac{1}{P_{act,ref}} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \sum_{b=1}^3 |\dot{\theta}_i \cdot M_{act,i}(t)|$$

with reference actuating power  
as mean of the product of

- blades' pitch rate and
- actuating pitch moments:

$$P_{act} = \dot{\theta}_i \cdot M_{act}$$

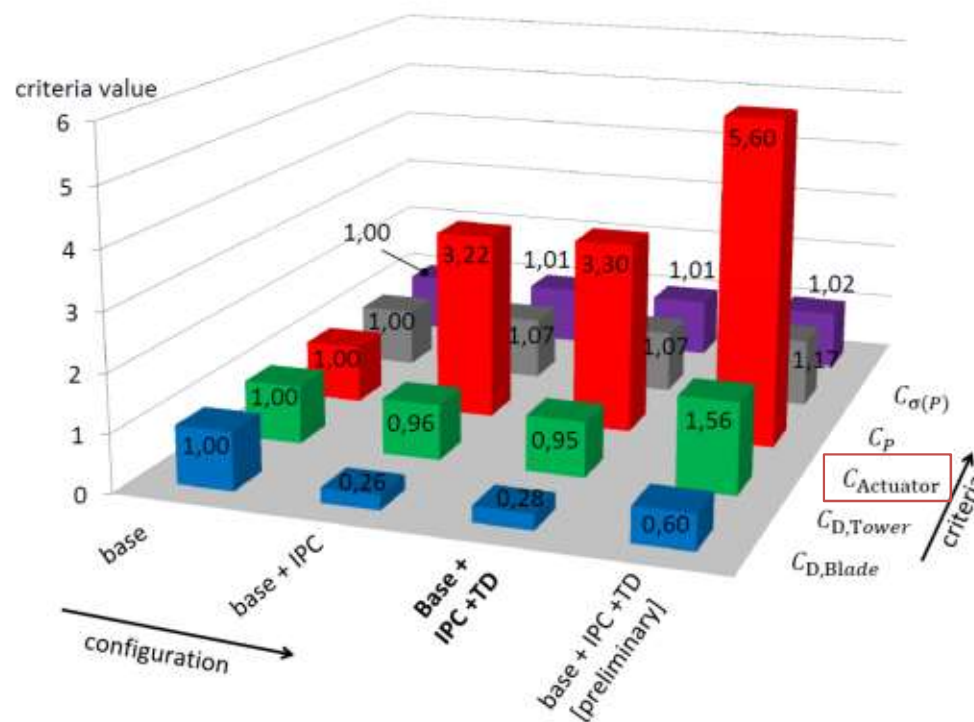


Figure 6. Fulfilment of criteria for different controller configurations

# Controller Evaluation Criteria 4 and 5: Power

Motivation

Controller

Eval. Criteria

Results IPC

Comparison IPC/MPC

Summary

- Criterion 4: Power reference tracking error

- ‚Quantity of Power‘

$$C_P = \left| \frac{P}{P_{ref}} - 1 \right|$$

$$P_{ref} = \begin{cases} \frac{\rho}{2} \pi R^2 c_p V^3 & V \leq 11 \text{ m/s} \\ P_0 & V > 11 \text{ m/s} \end{cases}$$

- Criterion 5: Standard deviation

- ‚Quality of Power‘
- Minimize standard deviation: Important in small networks

$$C_{\delta(P)} = \frac{\delta(P)}{\delta_{ref}(P)} \quad \text{with} \quad \delta(P) = \sqrt{\frac{t_s}{T} \sum_{i=1}^{T/t_s+1} (P_i - \bar{P})^2}$$

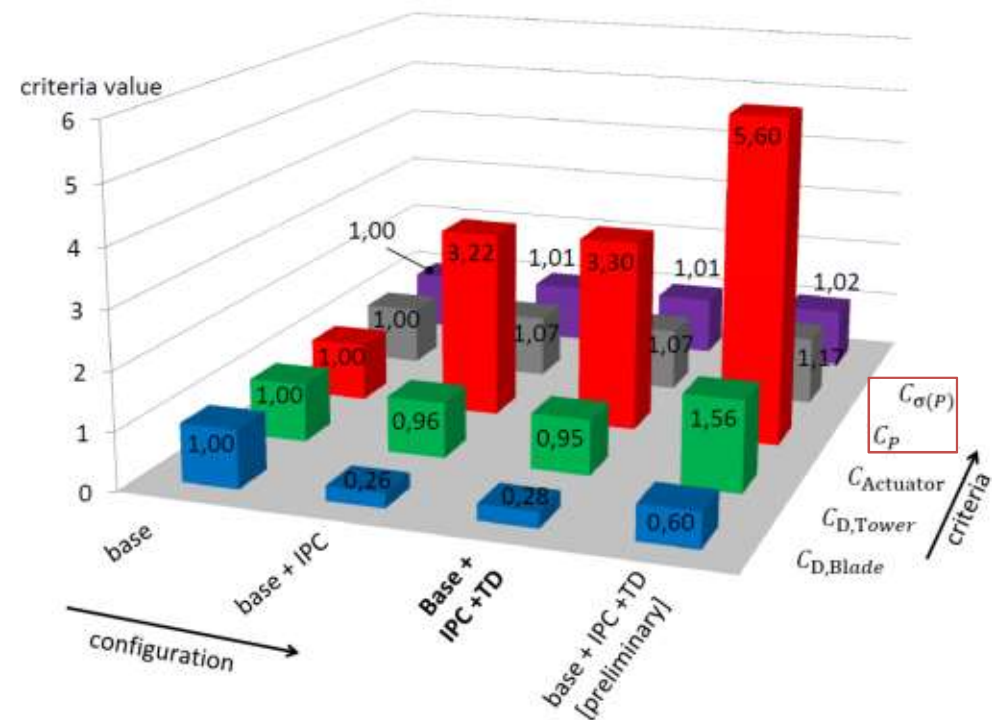


Figure 6. Fulfilment of criteria for different controller configurations



# Controller Evaluation Criterion 6: Pitch Deviation

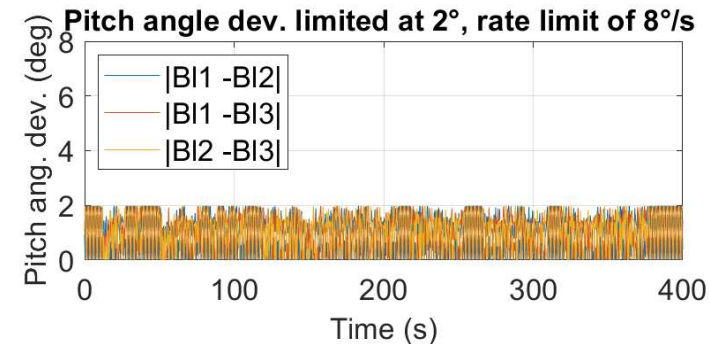
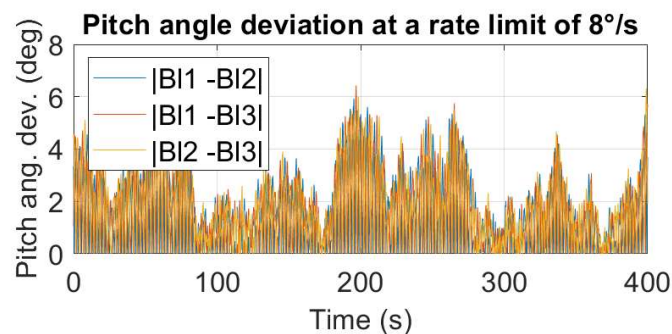
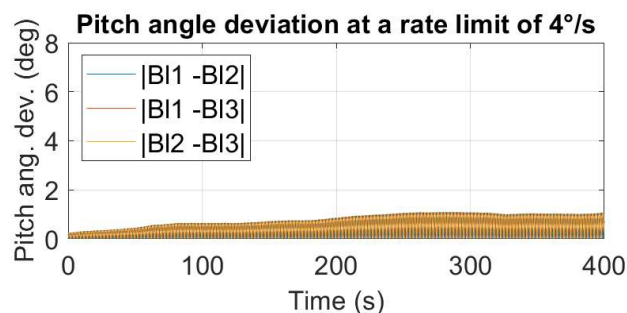


Motivation > Controller > **Eval. Criteria** > Results IPC > Comparison IPC/MPC > Summary

- Additional evaluation criterion blade pitch deviation

$$\Delta\beta = \max_{i,j} |\beta_i - \beta_j|, \quad i, j \in \{1,2,3\}$$

- Limits wrong control decision due to errors in blade root moment signals
- Helps limit IPC pitch rate
- Reduces potentially higher loads during emergency shutdowns due to blades stopping at different angles



# Results Timeseries with 4°/s and 8°/s Rate Limit



Motivation

Controller

Eval. Criteria

Results IPC

Comparison IPC/MPC

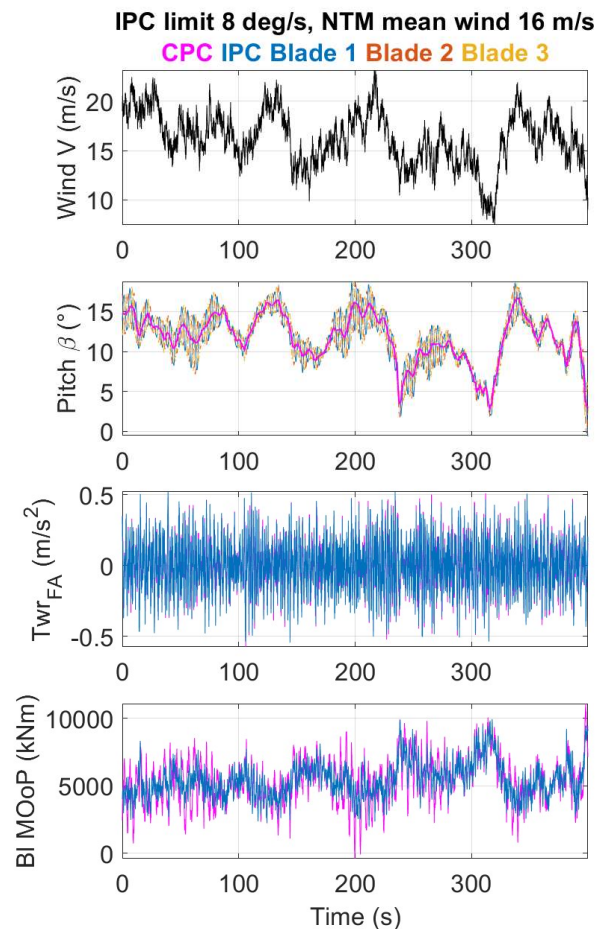
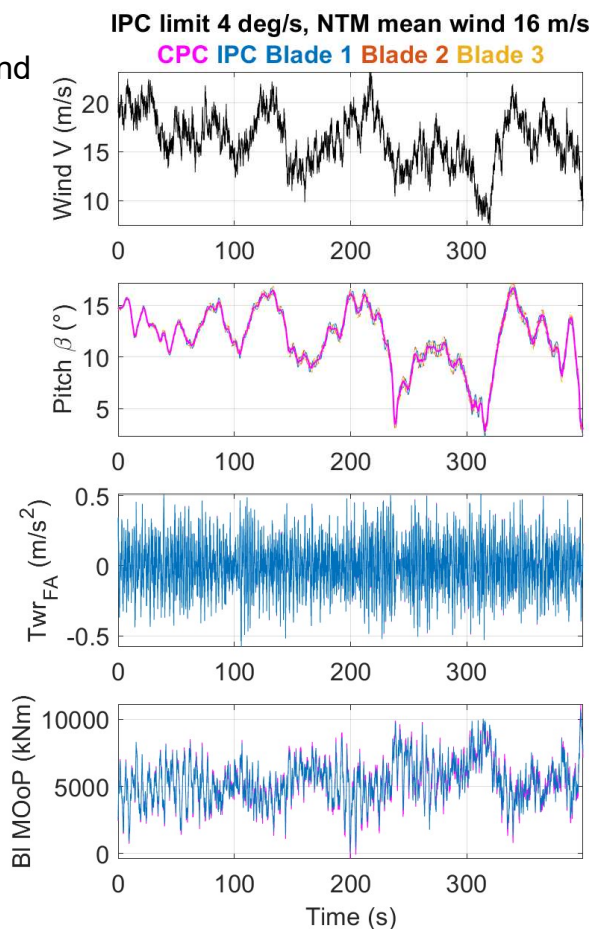
Summary

Test Case: Normal Turbulent Wind  
Class A, mean speed 16 m/s

IPC rate limit 4°/s: Only very  
small increase in pitch activity

No change in variance  
of tower fore-aft  
acceleration visible

Only small decrease in variance  
of blade moments visible



IPC rate limit 8°/s:  
Considerable increase  
in pitch activity

Small decrease in  
tower fore-aft  
acceleration visible

Considerable  
decrease in tower  
fore-aft acceleration  
visible

# Results Timeseries with 4°/s and 13°/s Rate Limit



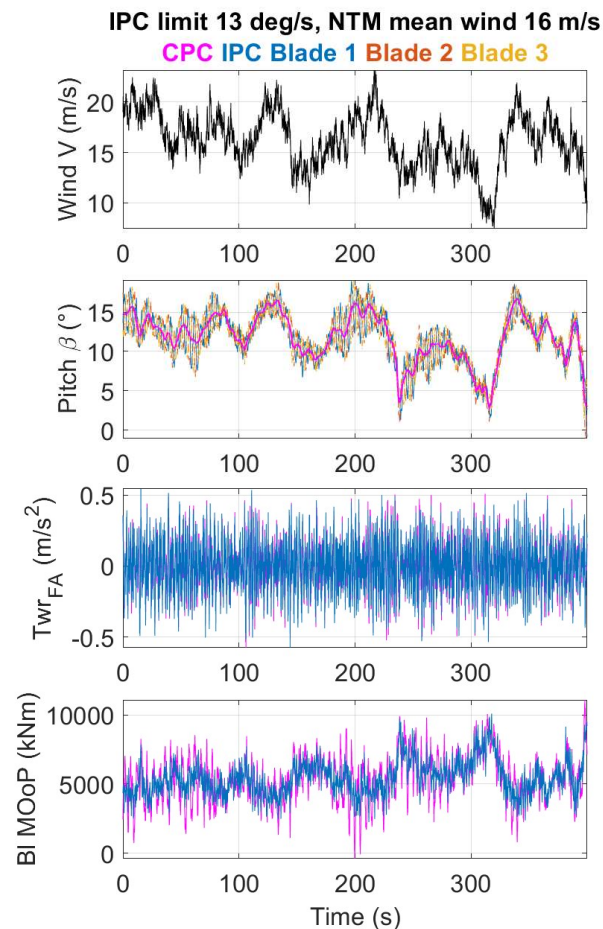
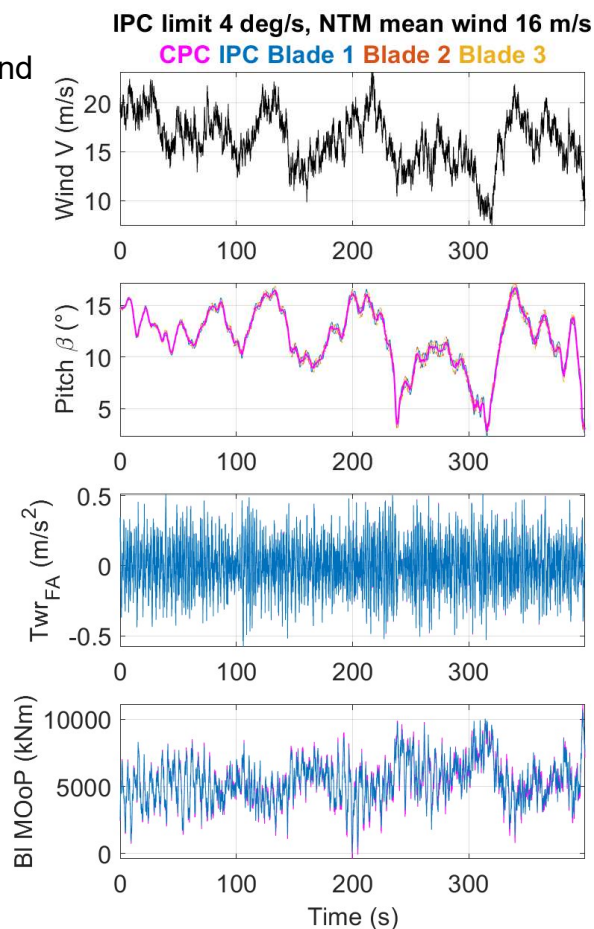
Motivation > Controller > Eval. Criteria > **Results IPC** > Comparison IPC/MPC > Summary

Test Case: Normal Turbulent Wind  
Class B, mean speed 16 m/s

IPC rate limit 4°/s: Only very  
small increase in pitch activity

No change in variance  
of tower fore-aft  
acceleration visible

Only small decrease in variance  
of blade moments visible



IPC rate limit 13°/s:  
Further increase in  
pitch activity  
compared to 8°/s

Slightly more  
decrease in tower  
fore-aft acceleration  
visible

Further decrease in  
tower fore-aft  
acceleration visible

# Power spectral density, Pitch rate and Pitch deviation



Motivation

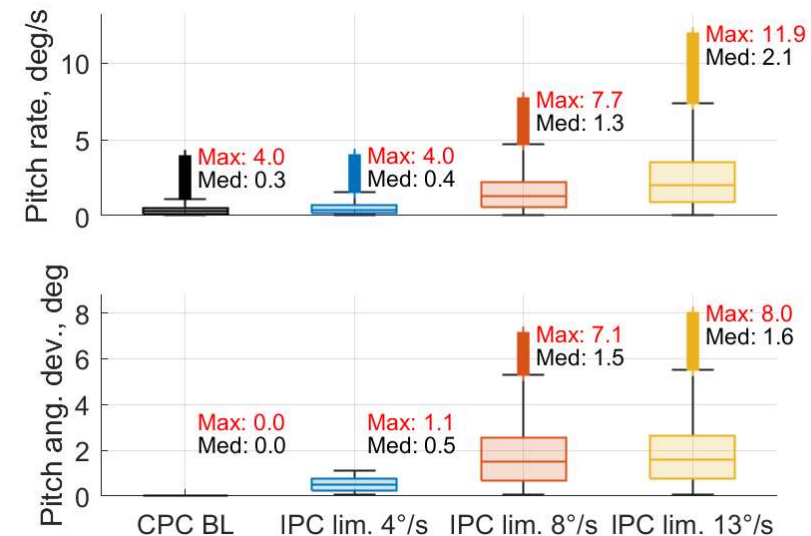
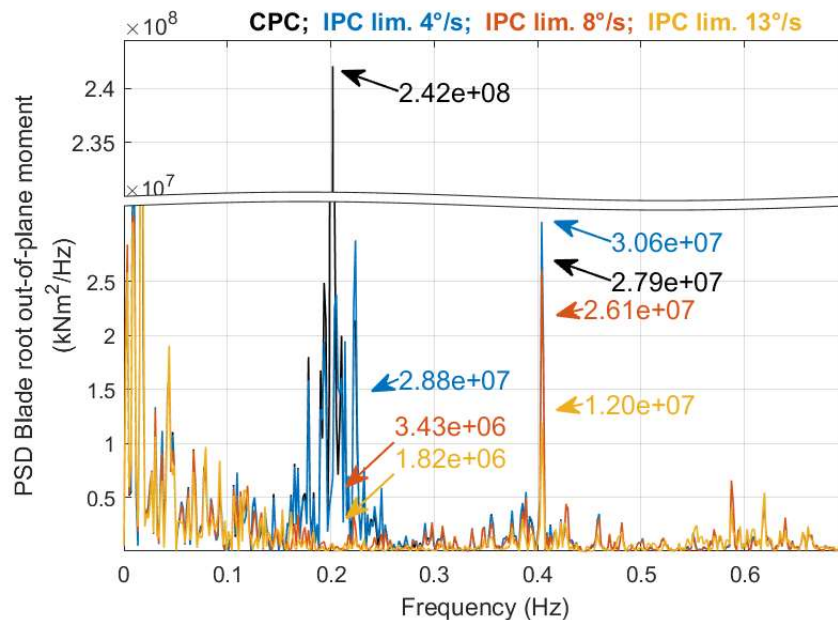
Controller

Eval. Criteria

Results IPC

Comparison IPC/MPC

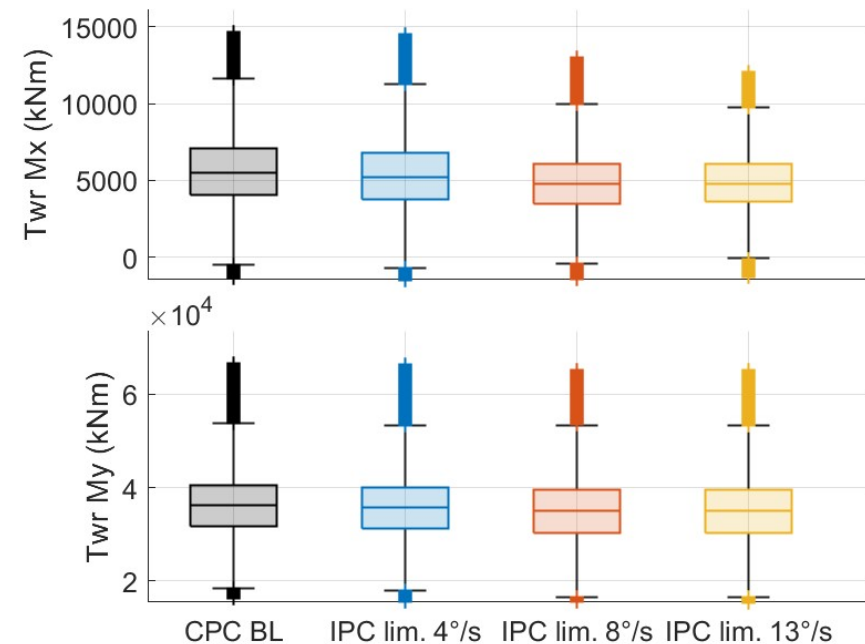
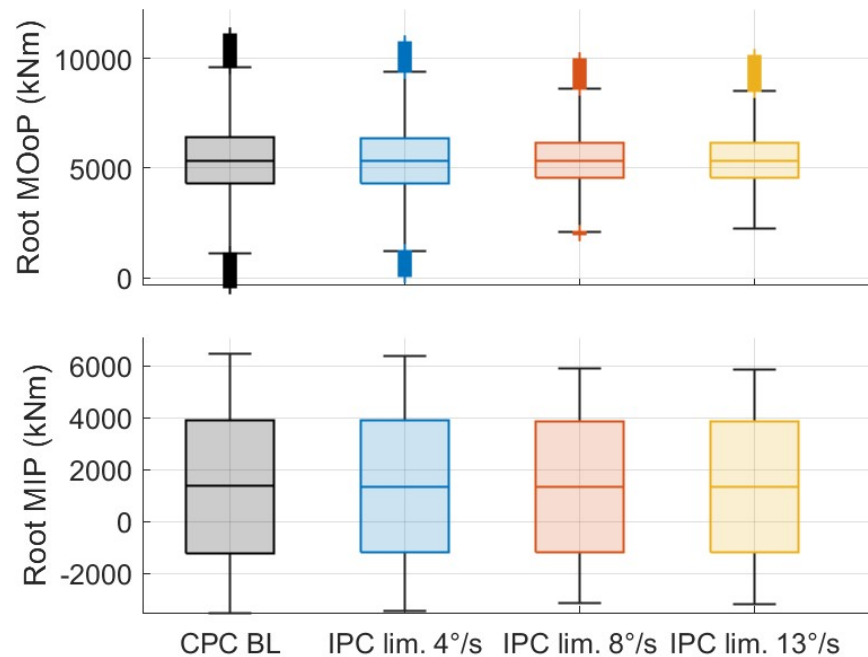
Summary



- Power spectral density (PSD): 1P reduction all rate limits, 2P reduction for 8°/s and 13°/s limit
- Increase on pitch rate and blade angle deviation distributions for PID IPC with increased different rate limits

# Statistics Blade Root and Tower Base Moments

Motivation > Controller > Eval. Criteria > **Results IPC** > Comparison IPC/MPC > Summary



- Decrease in blade root moments with increasing pitch rate limits
- Decrease in tower base moments with increasing pitch rate limits
- Less difference between 8°/s and 13°/s than between 4°/s and 8°/s

# Statistics Power Output and Actuator Energy

Motivation

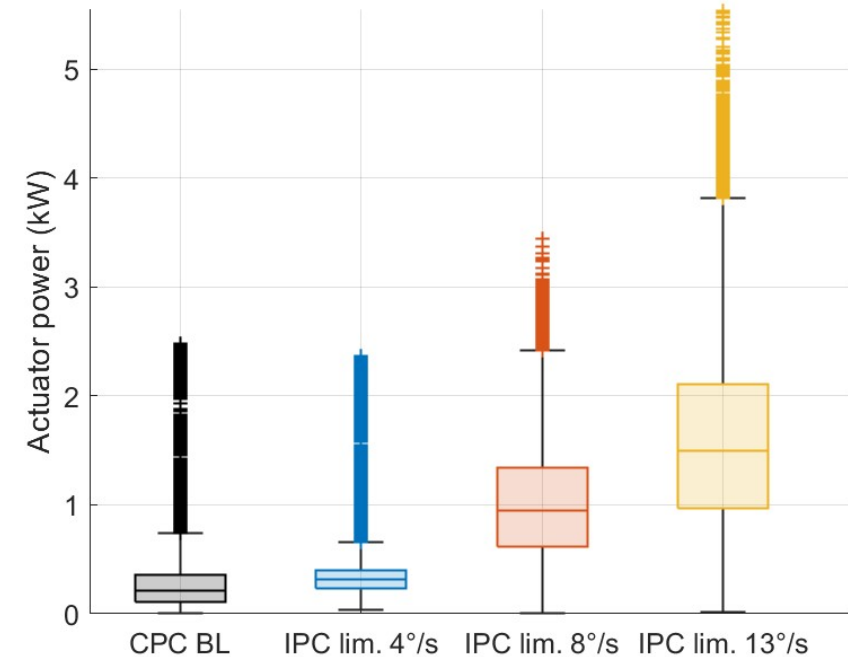
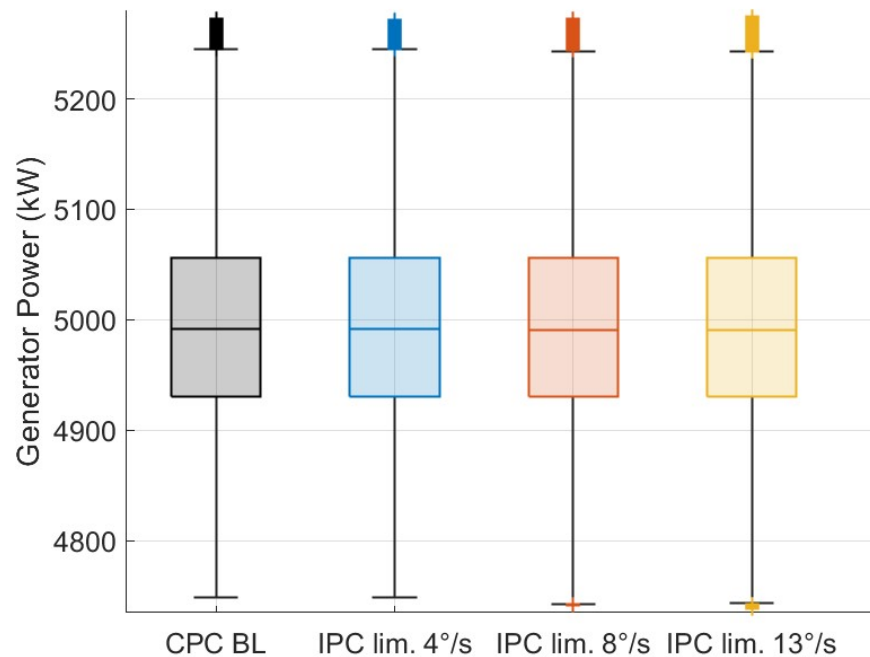
Controller

Eval. Criteria

Results IPC

Comparison IPC/MPC

Summary



- Power quantity and power variance remain unchanged
- Increase Actuator power with increasing rate limits



# Influence Blade Deviation Limit on Objectives



Motivation

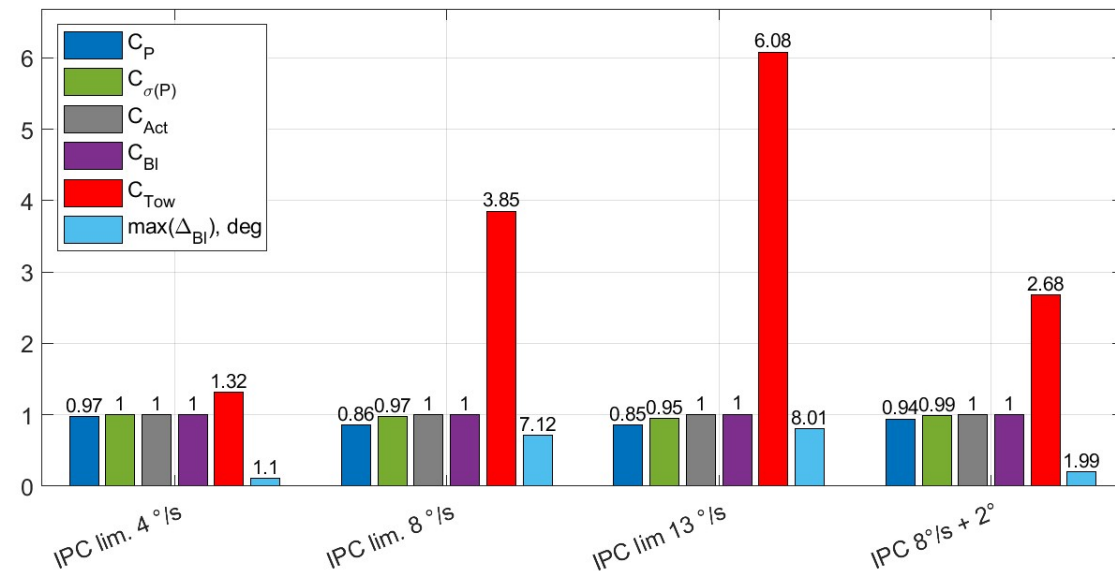
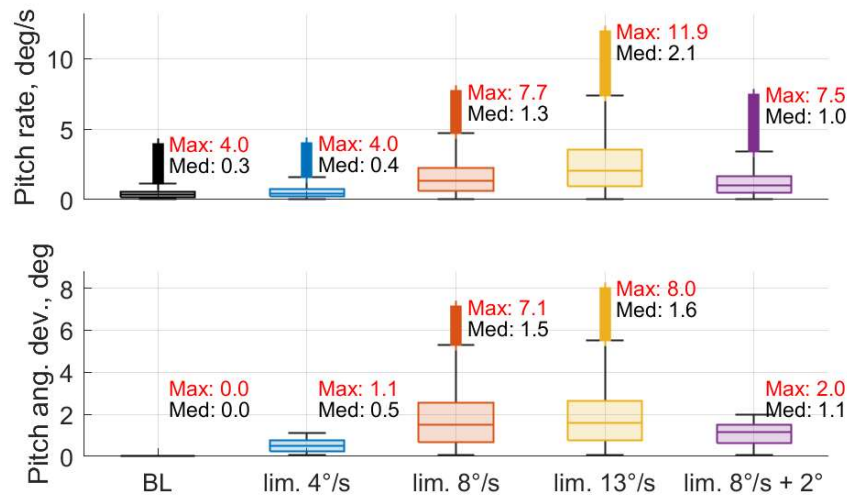
Controller

Eval. Criteria

Results IPC

Comparison IPC/MPC

Summary



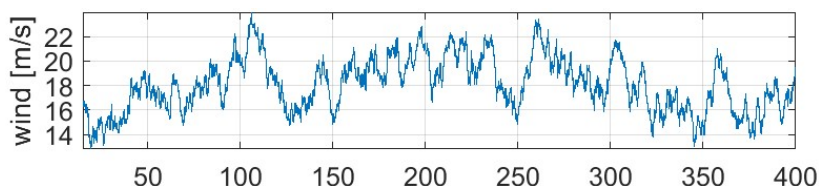
- Constraint on blade pitch deviation limits pitch angle
- Trade-off: Smaller blade and tower DEL reduction

# Motivation Model Predictive Control (MPC)

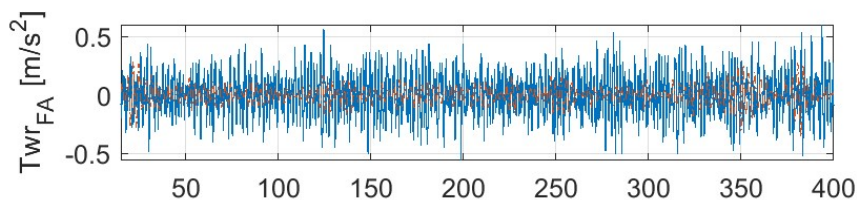


Motivation > Controller > Eval. Criteria > Results IPC > Comparison IPC/MPC > Summary

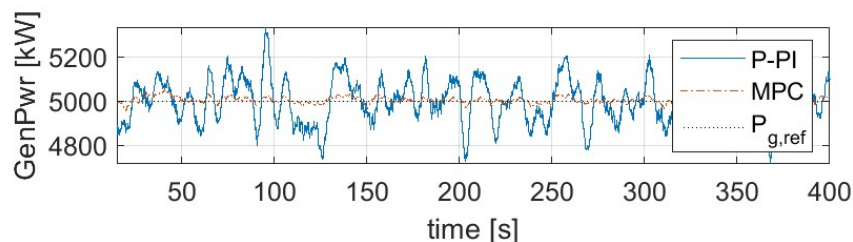
- Previous work [Cisneros and Werner 2019]: Velocity-based quasi-linear parameter-varying (qLPV) MPC
- Previous work [Mulders et. al 2020]: Wind turbine SISO torque controller
- Wind turbine MIMO pitch and torque qLPV MPC control [Dittmer et al. 2021]



Normal turbulent wind (FASTTool) mean speed 18 m/s



Baseline P-PI (FASTTool, proportional torque ( $K \cdot \omega^2$ ), gain-scheduled PI pitch control) vs. **qLPV MPC** → **ratio 4.6**

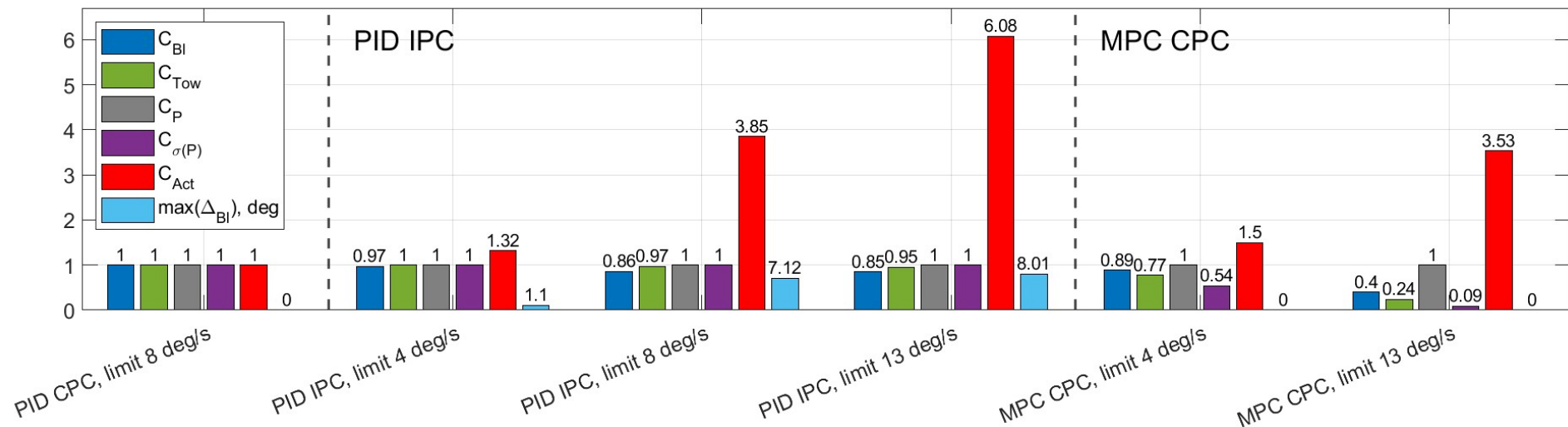


P-PI, **qLPV MPC**, power reference → **ratio 28**

MPC online optimization: 2ms CPU time

# Comparison PID IPC and MPC CPC

Motivation > Controller > Eval. Criteria > Results IPC > Comparison IPC/MPC > Summary



- MPC generally outperforms PID IPC: Greater **blade** and **tower** DEL reduction, at **smaller power variance**, smaller additional **actuator power**, and no **blade deviation**
- **Blade** DELs decrease for all controllers, **tower** DELs for all but IPC with a limit of 4°/s
- Power output unchanged for all controllers, **power variance** unchanged for IPC and decreased for MPC
- **Actuator power** as well as **blade deviation** increases significantly for high rate limits, highlighting the trade-off for DEL reduction.

# Summary



- Investigate trade-offs in DEL reduction vs. pitch actuator activity
  - Trade-off between DEL reduction on the one hand and actuator energy and blade deviation on the other
  - Constraint on blade deviation reduces risk, but also decrease DEL reduction
- Controller comparison
  - IPC with tighter rate limits: Limited DEL reduction, minimal increase in actuator energy
  - IPC with looser limits: Greater DEL reduction, but higher actuator energy and blade deviation
  - MPC: Superior DEL reduction with minimal power variance and no blade deviation
- Outlook
  - Take coupling between blade tilt and yaw in the non-rotating system into account by using shift in MBC angle or MIMO controller
  - Combine MPC and IPC

Thank you very much for your attention!

# Model Predictive Control for Wind Farms



Motivation > Controller > Eval. Criteria > Results IPC > Comparison > **Farm Control** > Summary

- Objectives for wind farm MPC: Minimize **error**, **change in turbine controls**, and **yaw angle**

$$\min_{U_k} J(U_k) = E_k^T Q E_k + \Delta U_k^T R \Delta U_k + U_k^T R_\gamma U_k$$

s.t.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \zeta_{d,k+1} \\ P_{WF,k} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{\hat{K}} & B_{\hat{K}} \\ C_{\hat{K}} & D_{\hat{K}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \zeta_{d,k} \\ u_k \end{bmatrix}, \quad k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n_h - 1\}$$

$$e = P_{ref} - P_T = [e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{n_h}]^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n_h}$$

$$\Delta u = [u_1^T - c^T, u_2^T - u_1^T, \dots, u_{n_h}^T - u_{n_h-1}^T]^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n_h n_u}$$

- Use **Koopman wind farm models** to predict wind farm states over a **finite time horizon**
- Solve **optimization problem** to obtain **optimal control inputs** at **minimal yaw angle** for each turbine under input constraints
- Set the next control inputs and update predictions and optimisation problem at each time step



# Results Timeseries with 4 deg/s and 8 deg/s Rate Limit



Motivation > Controller > Eval. Criteria > **Results IPC** > Comparison IPC/MPC > Summary

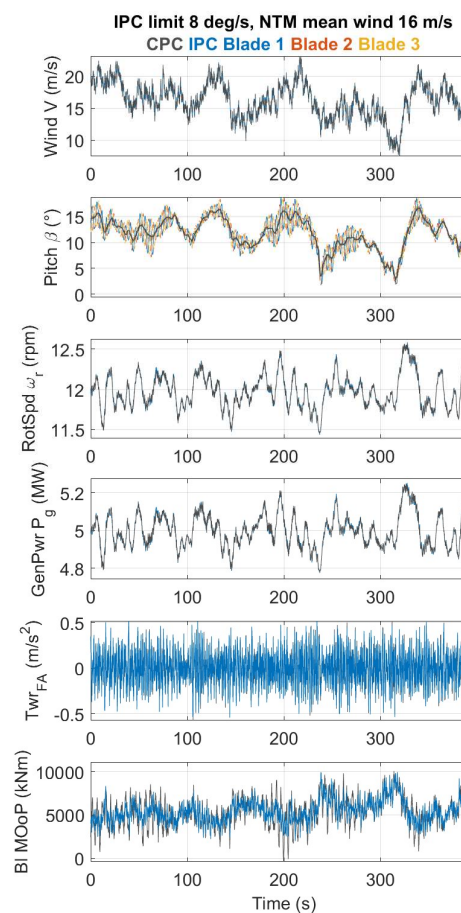
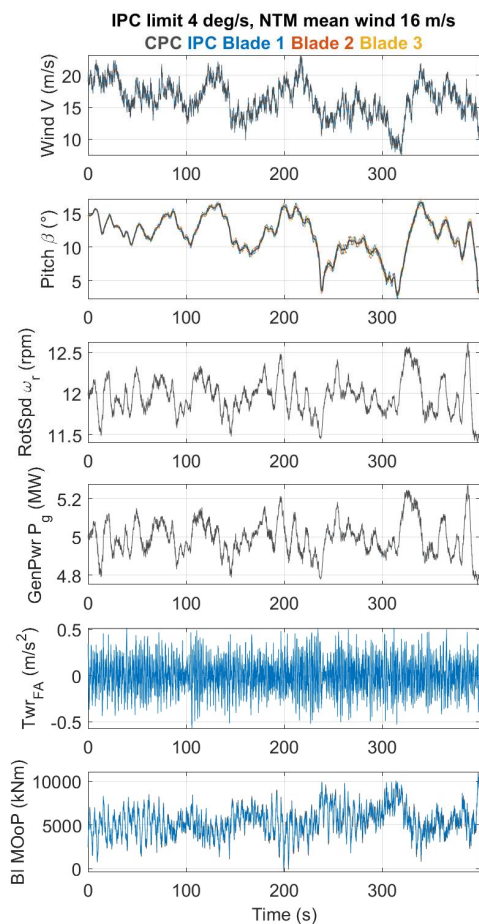
Test Case: Normal Turbulent  
Wind Class B, mean speed 16  
m/s

IPC rate limit 4 deg/s: Only very  
small increase in pitch activity

No visible change between CPC  
and IPC rotor speed and  
generator power

No change in variance of tower  
fore-aft acceleration visible

Only small decrease in variance  
of blade moments visible



IPC rate limit 8 deg/s:  
Considerable increase in pitch  
activity

Small decrease in tower fore-aft  
acceleration visible

Considerable decrease in tower  
fore-aft acceleration visible

# Results Timeseries with 4 deg/s and 13 deg/s Rate Limit



Motivation > Controller > Eval. Criteria > **Results IPC** > Comparison IPC/MPC > Summary

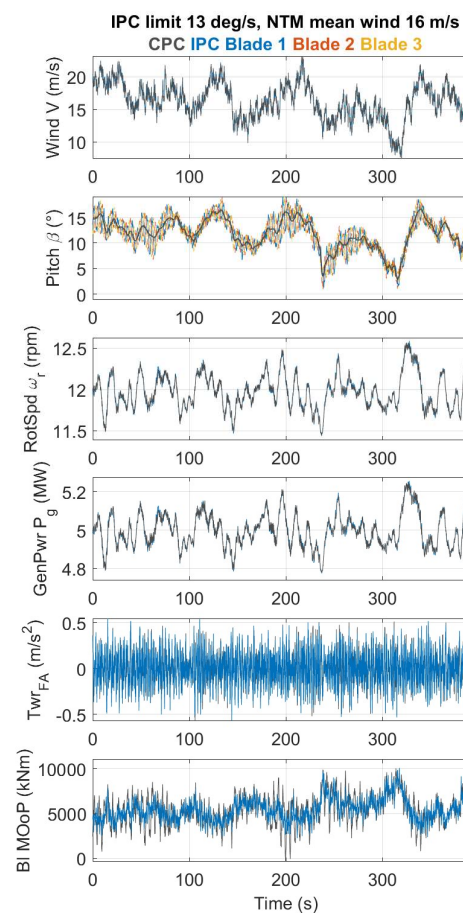
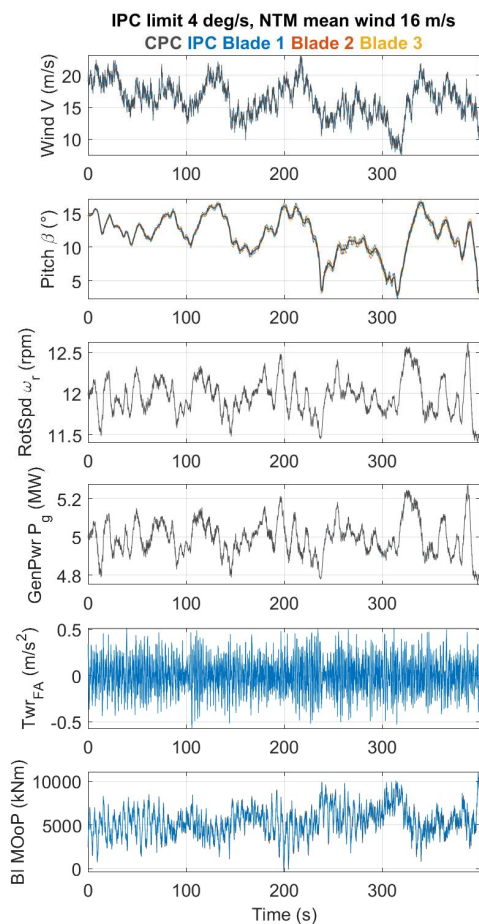
Test Case: Normal Turbulent  
Wind Class B, mean speed 16  
m/s

IPC rate limit 4 deg/s: Only very  
small increase in pitch activity

No visible change between CPC  
and IPC rotor speed and  
generator power

No change in variance of tower  
fore-aft acceleration visible

Only small decrease in variance  
of blade moments visible



IPC rate limit 13 deg/s: Further  
increase in pitch activity  
compared to 8 deg/s

Slightly more decrease in tower  
fore-aft acceleration visible

Further decrease in tower fore-aft  
acceleration visible