

Relax Controller :

Relaxc



- Change of paradigm:** In contrast with the other approaches, Relaxc is an implicit algebraic controller. The control U is evaluated by numerical convergence. This is why U does not depend of the mathematical structure of the process, so that we can apply it for tuning (almost) all the kind of processes, without modification or complex parameter rules.
- Thus by his mathematical nature, Relaxc allows to control **effortless and without overshoot** complex processes including Non minimal phase, small and large pure delay, unstable processes, variable static gain, strongly non-linearities, constraints on U, speed saturations, discontinuities, load disturbances, etc. **while minimizing the operational costs, the energy peaks of U with a more reliable control.**
- Plug and control:** Relaxc is available in Unity Pro software (Schneider Electric). It can be embedded in small controllers with less than 10 arithmetic operations by cycle. **The tracking mode** functionality is available too and allows to switch in confidence your controller to Relaxc.

$$U_n = \Re(U_{n-1}, \tau_{re}) + k_s(\tau_g \dot{e} + e)$$

Relaxc Equation : \Re the reactivity function, $e=(y_{ref}-y_m)$ with y_{ref} the reference trajectory and y_m the process



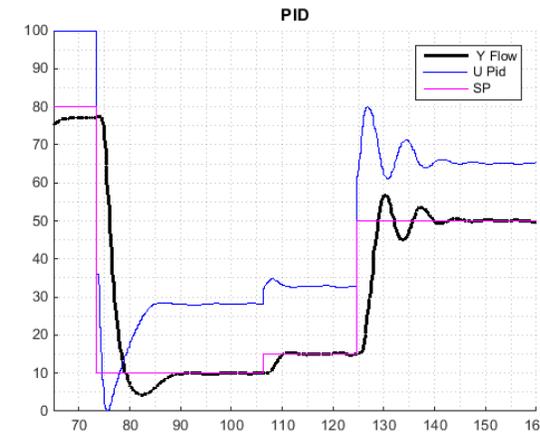
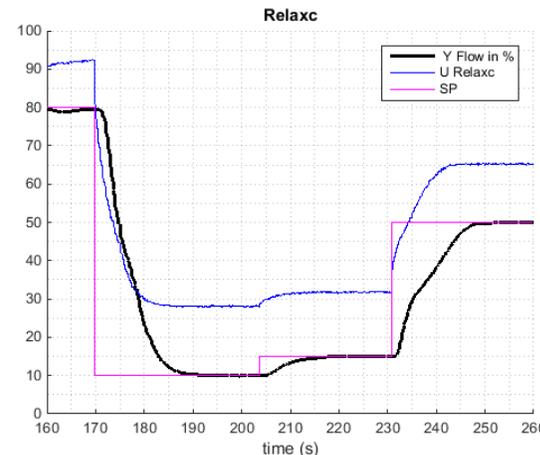
• A Few words about Relaxc tuning.

To work with Relaxc, you have to identify the pure delay and the “reactivity” time(1) of the process to build τ_{re} (named relax time too) and the max speed of your process (v). With this information, we deduce the time constant of the reference trajectory τ_g to get the best dynamic that the process can secure. Then , we just use the k_s pretty formula to compute it. $k_s = \frac{1}{v * \tau_g * (\frac{t_d}{\tau_{re}} + 1)}$. This methodology seems close to that of

Ziegler & Nichols. But Relaxc is **not a PID** and in particular all its parameters have a physical meaning, are **clearly discernable and easily identifiable** in the mathematical structure of Relaxc with respect to open-loop or impulse response or by auto-tuning identification. For this reason, the parameters of **Relaxc predict directly** the response time in closed-loop and the time response of the active disturbance rejection(2) without involving numerous trial-and-error tests or complicated calculus

• Example : Split range with pneumatic valves

It is a strongly non-linear process (Cavitation phenomenon , 5000 liter/h). From scratch, in only 15 minutes after two open-loop responses, we estimates $\tau_{re} = \frac{t_d}{3} = 0.8s$, $\tau_g = 1.5s = 1/v$ and $k_s = 0.25$. We obtain an adequate closed-loop response for different operating ranges. Notice how Relaxc follows the variation of the process dynamic with robustness. It is not the case for the PID ($Kp=0.8$ and $Ti=2s$). There are excessive oscillations and overshoots even if the response seems better for a step between 10% and 15%.



More information about Relaxc:

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/335652545> Relaxc vs Real processes

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/326649670> RelaxC and the other controllers

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/321918636> RelaxC Controller The Ultimate controller The origin

(1) “reactivity” time(1) of the process is not exactly the “apparent” time delay that we see in the literature.

(2) Relaxc provides a better rejection behavior than many other controllers.

Relaxc technology can be used in all sectors of the industry where processes control is needed: chemistry, aerospace, drone, pharmaceutical, automotive, petrochemical, electric or combustion or rocket engine, etc



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