



**SECURE SCALABLE MICROGRIDS**  
It's the end of the grid as we know it

SAND2013-8123C

# Electromechanical Emulation of Hydrokinetic Generators for Renewable Energy Research

Jason C. Neely, Kelley M. Ruehl, Richard A. Jepsen, Jesse D. Roberts, Steven F. Glover, Forest E. White, Michael L. Horry

**Sandia National Laboratories**  
**September 25, 2013**



Sandia National Laboratories is a multi program laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000. SAND2011-6823C



# Renewable Energy Integration

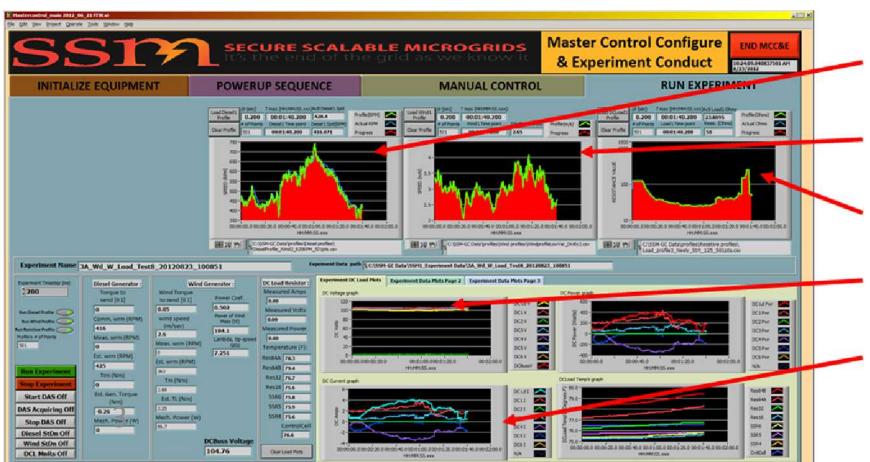
- Stochastic/variable generation is integral to Microgrid research
- Advancing the technology readiness of new and advanced controls requires results in hardware
- Unfortunately ... hydrokinetic (and other renewable) generators don't fit in a conventional laboratory



# Hydrokinetic Emulators are Key Components of the Secure Scalable Microgrid (SSM) Testbed



- Testbed includes
  - Programmable Loads
  - Programmable Generators/Emulators
  - Reconfigurable Bus
  - Power Electronic Converters
  - Networked Control
  - Automated Experiment Orchestration

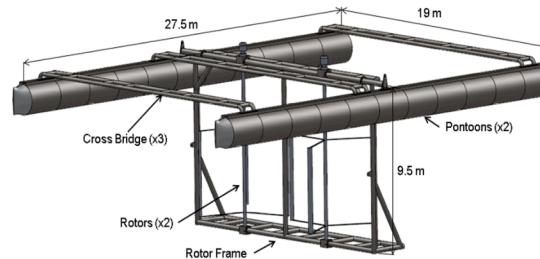


- Emulator Profile 1
- Emulator Profile 2 (m/s)
- Digital Resistor ( $\Omega$ )
- Bus voltage (V)
- Currents into bus (A)

- Master Controller controls load profiles, system settings and the “weather”

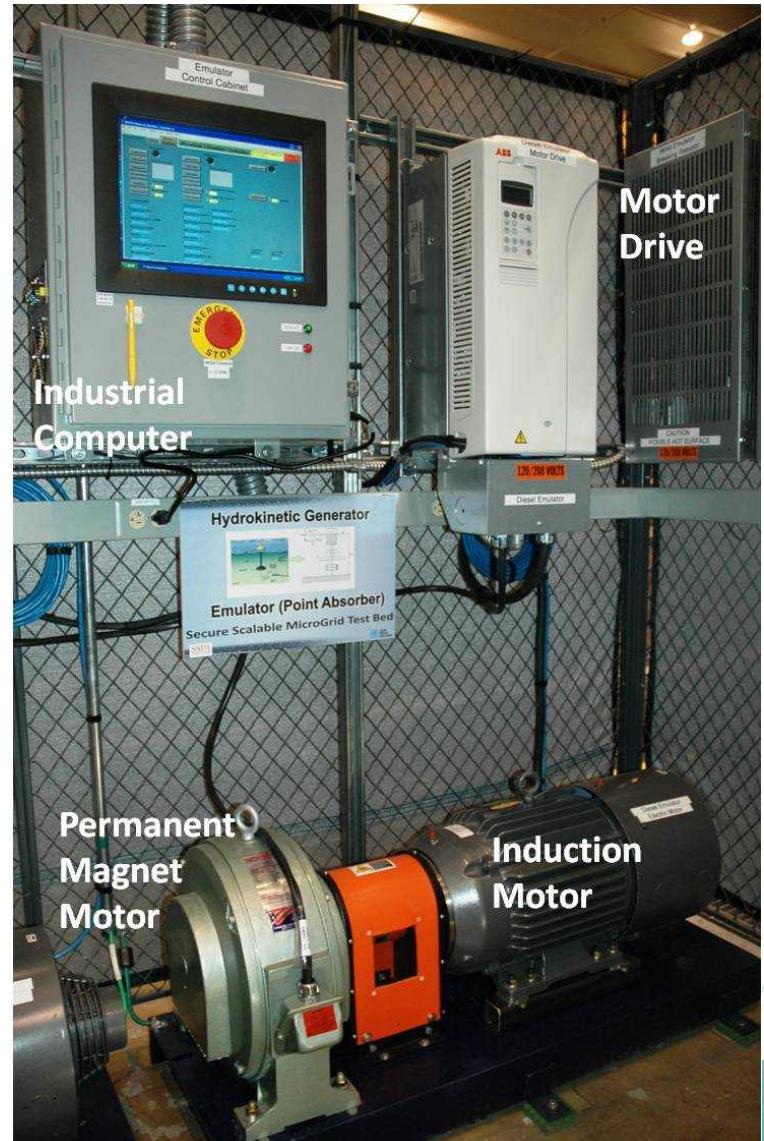
# System Presented Herein can Emulate two Types of Hydrokinetic Generation

- Emulator Hardware and Software Description
- River Turbine Emulation
- Wave Energy Converter (Point Absorber) Emulation
- Conclusions

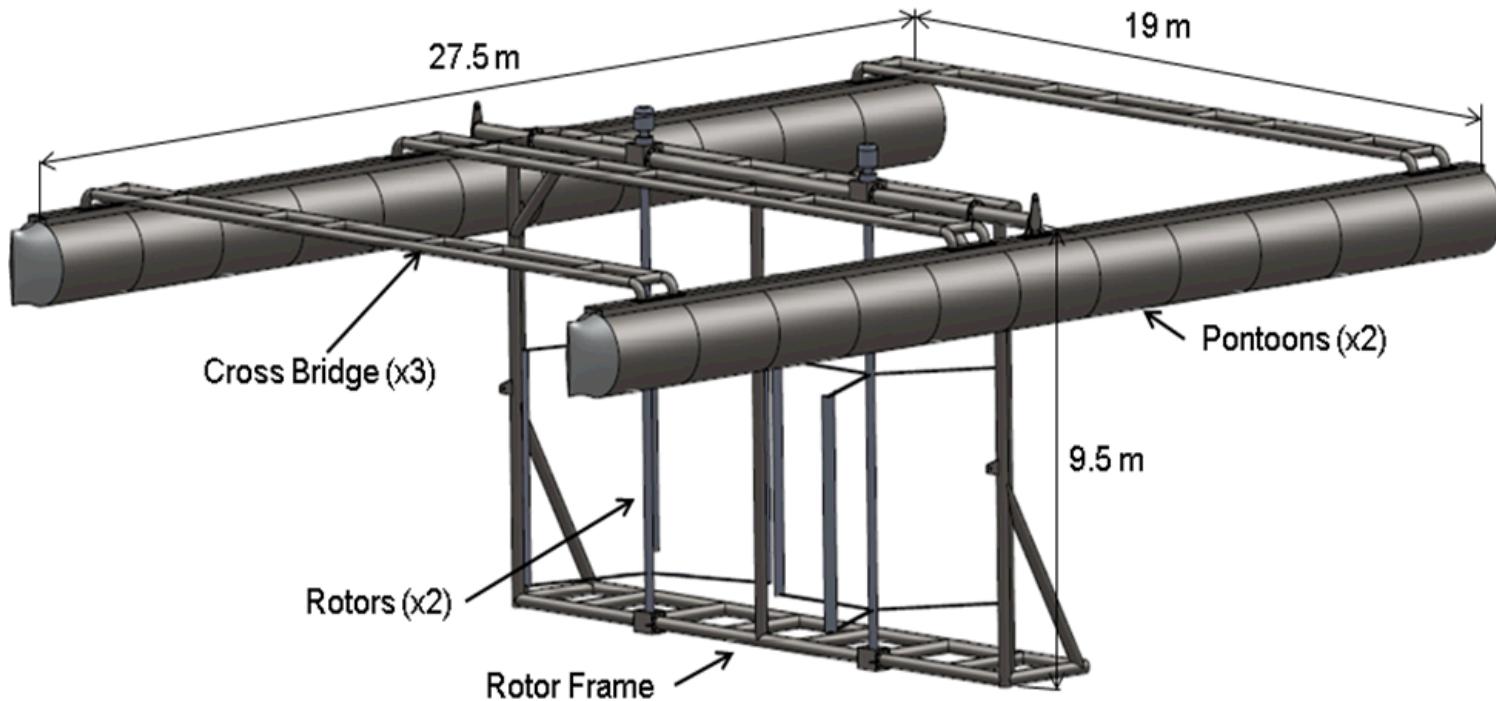


# The Emulator is Constructed of Commercial Hardware

- Baldor 15 HP Induction Motor with speed encoder
- ACS800 30HP ABB drive
  - DTC with 1% error when used with speed encoder
  - 24 msec timestep
  - 5 msec delay after register read
  - Brake Resistor
- 10 kW Georator 36-013-1 Permanent magnet alternator
- Computer runs LabVIEW 2011 with Mathscript RT toolkit



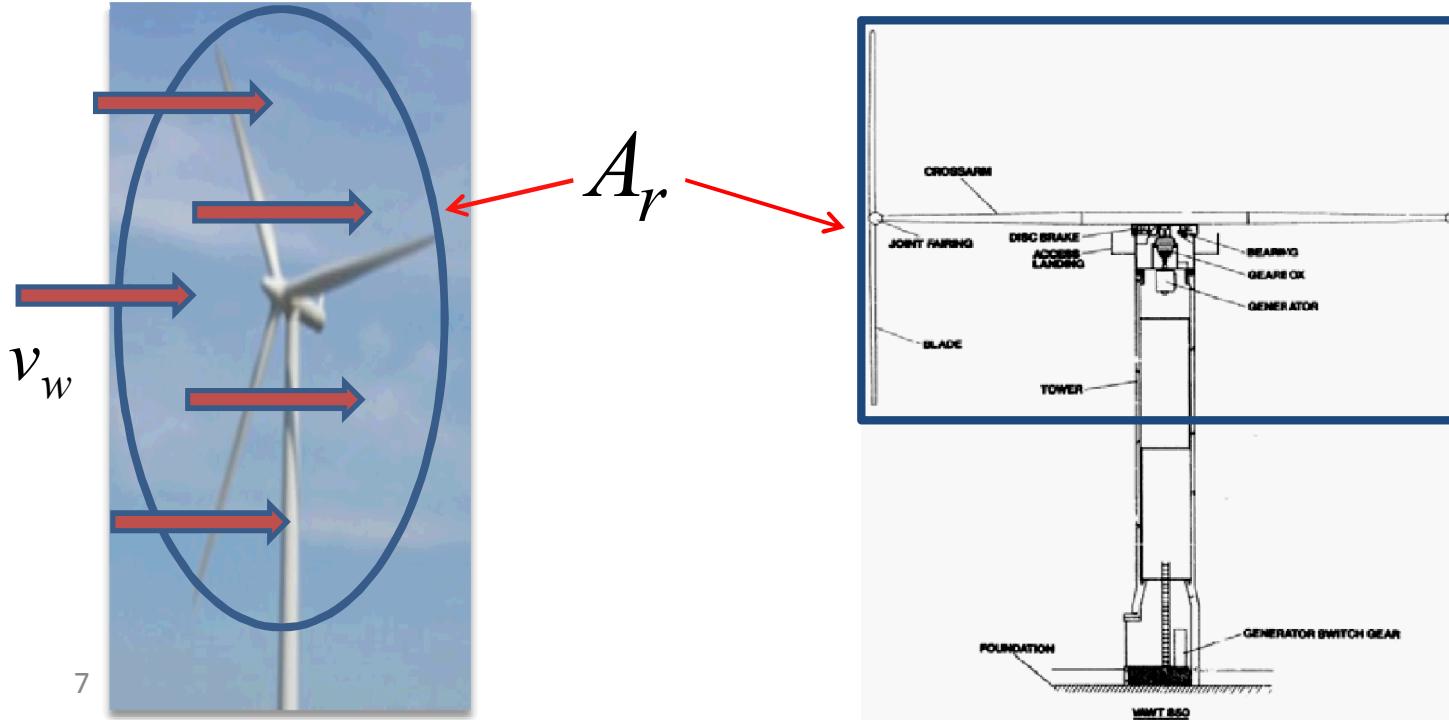
# River Turbine Emulator



# The River Turbine Mechanical Power Calculation is Equivalent to that of the Wind Turbine

- Average Power Equation is derived from the kinetic energy of the fluid flow and the power coefficient of the turbine

$$P_{turb} = \frac{1}{2} C_p (\lambda) \rho_w A_r v_w^3$$



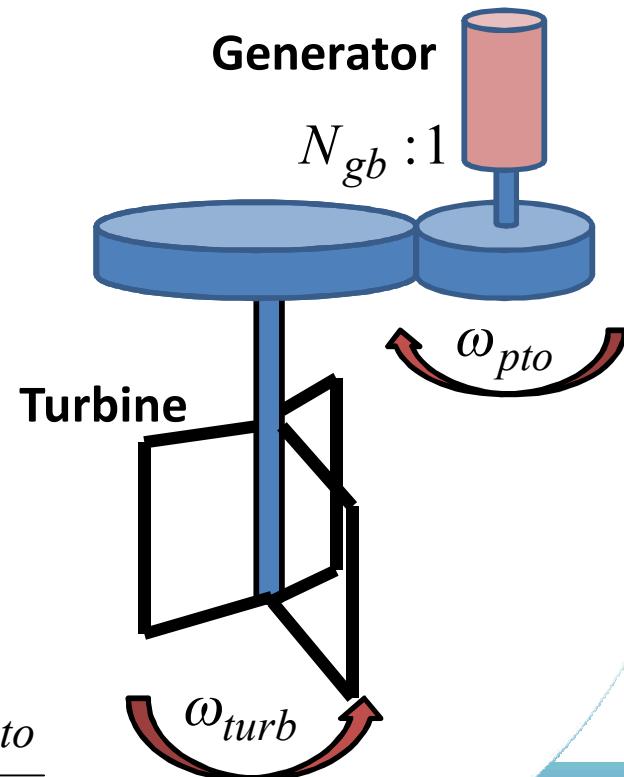
# River Turbine Dynamical Model requires Greater Detail about System Components

- Dynamic response of the turbine depends on the inertias, gearbox ratios and damping coefficients of the mechanical components

$$T_{turb} = \frac{P_{turb}}{\omega_{turb}} = \frac{C_p(\lambda) \rho_w A_r v_w^3}{2\omega_{turb}}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \omega_{turb} = \frac{T_{turb} - N_{gb} T_{pto} - B_{gb} \omega_{turb}}{J_{turb} + N_{gb}^2 J_{pto}}$$

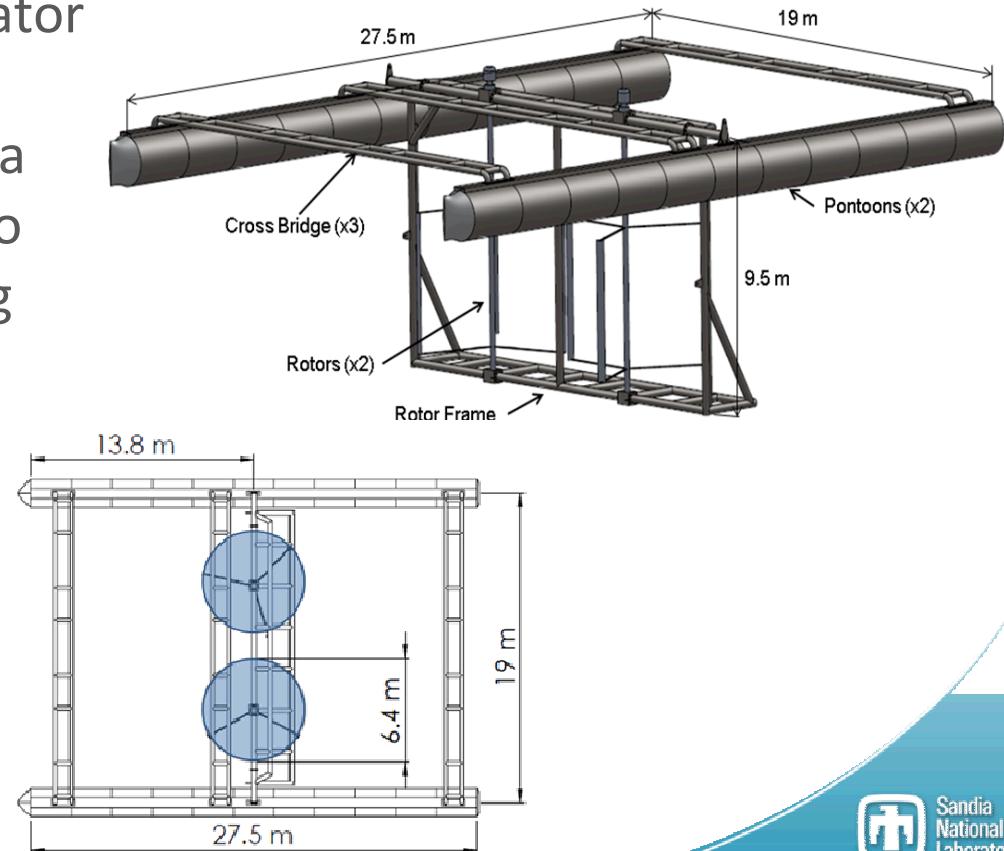
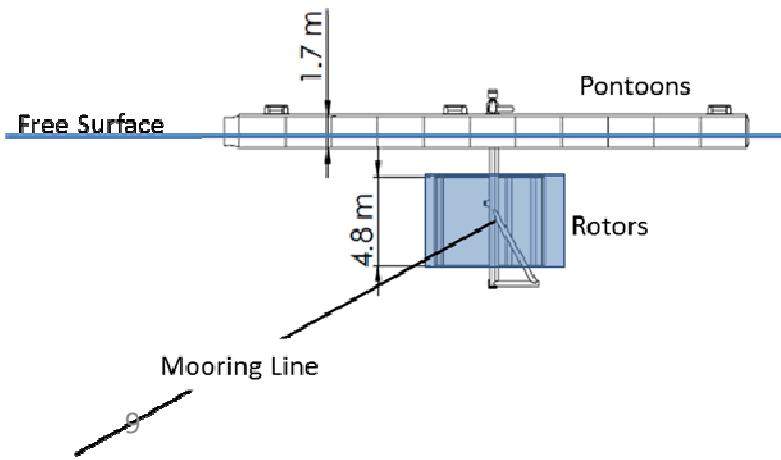
$$\frac{d}{dt} \omega_{pto} = \frac{\left(1/N_{gb}\right) T_{turb} - T_{pto} - \left(1/N_{gb}^2\right) B_{gb} \omega_{pto}}{\left(1/N_{gb}^2\right) J_{turb} + J_{pto}}$$



# River Turbine Model Parameters were Established from System Design

- **Reference Model 2, Cross-Flow River Turbine**

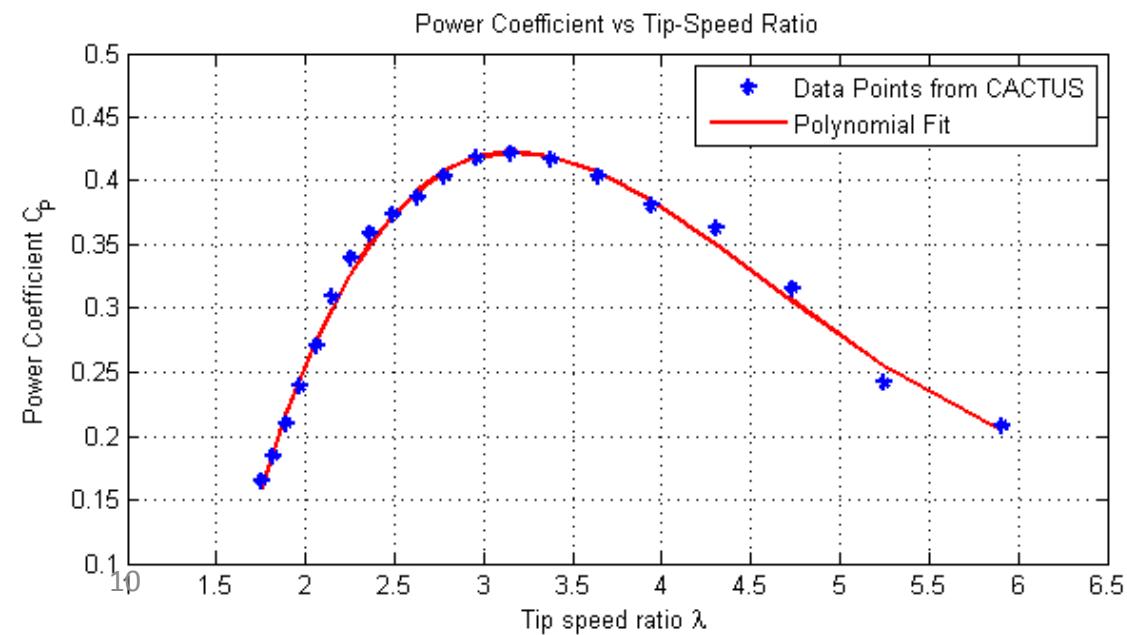
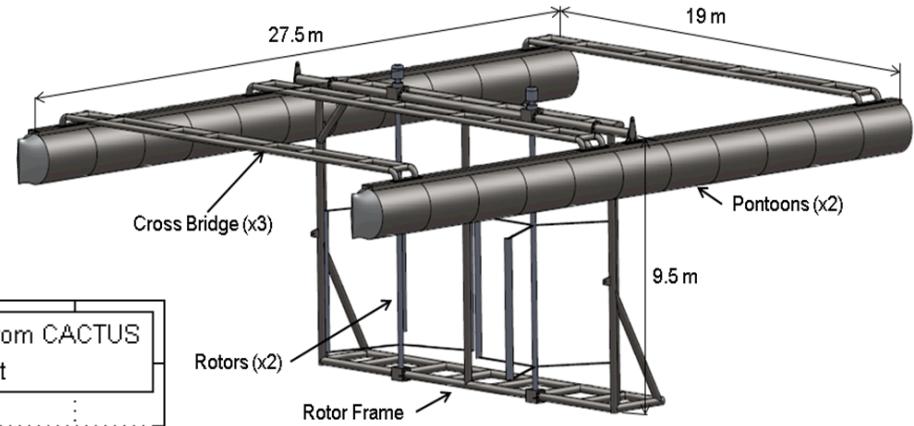
- Two 50 kW cross-flow turbines
- Each turbine is connected through a gearbox to a permanent magnet generator
- Turbine mass and dimensions used to estimate turbine inertia
- Gearbox published data used to determine inertia and damping



# River Turbine Model Parameters were Established from System Design

- **Reference Model 2, Cross-Flow River Turbine**

- The power coefficient was determined by performing CACTUS (Code for the Analysis of Cross- and axial-flow TURbine Simulation) simulations



# Emulator Dynamics must “Match” River Turbine Dynamics

- Emulator Dynamics are given by

$$\frac{d}{dt} \omega_{em} = \frac{T_{im} - T_{gen} - B_{em} \omega_{em}}{J_{em}}$$

- Two scale factors are defined

$$P_{em} = k_{sc} P_{turb} , \quad n_{em} = \frac{n_{pto} R_{turb} \max(\omega_{em})}{N_{gb} \lambda^* \max(v_w)}$$

- To avoid the use of a torque sensor, a generator torque estimator is developed using the measured shaft speed

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\omega}_{em} \\ \hat{T}_{gen} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-B_{em}}{J_{em}} & \frac{-1}{J_{em}} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\omega}_{em} \\ \hat{T}_{gen} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{J_{em}} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} T_{im} + \begin{bmatrix} \kappa_\omega \\ \kappa_T \end{bmatrix} \Delta \omega_{em}$$

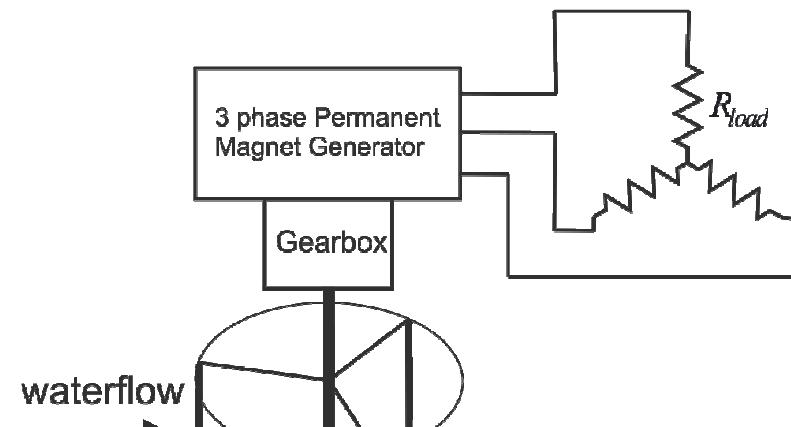
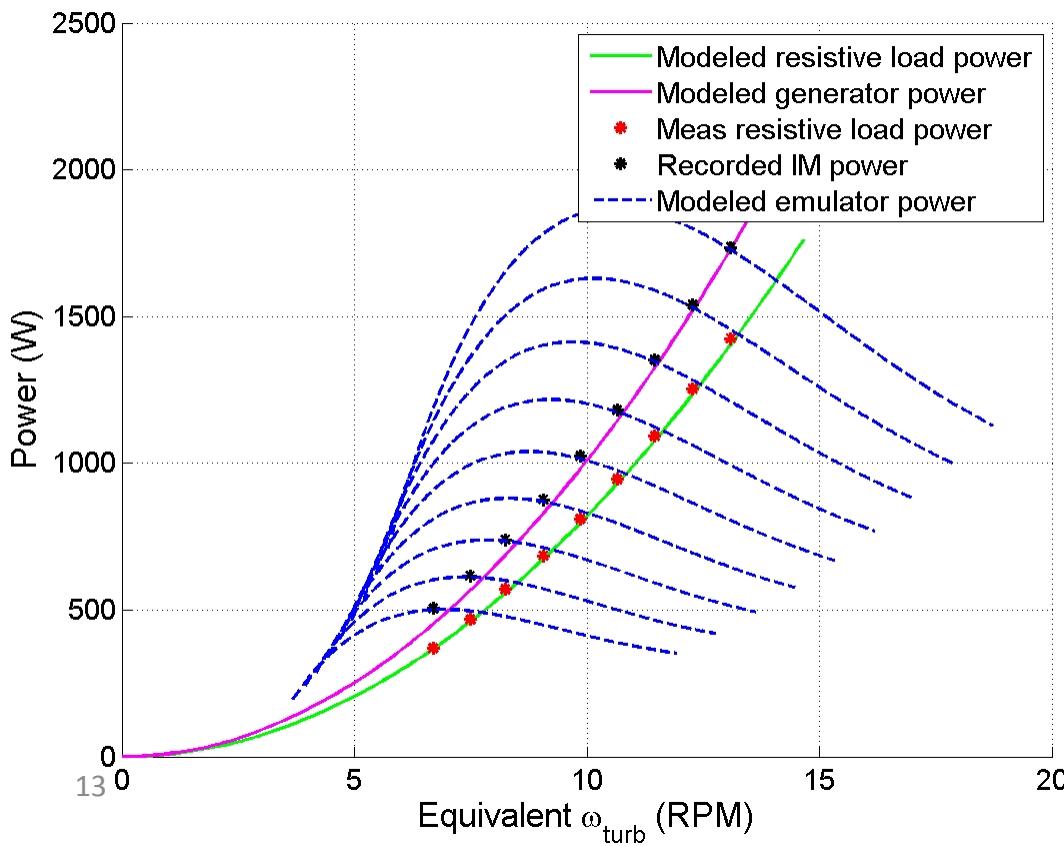
# Emulator Dynamics must “Match” River Turbine Dynamics

- Emulator Parameters, Turbine Parameters, estimated generator torque and two scale factors are used to compute the torque command
- However, key system characteristics, including time constants are preserved

$$T_{im}^* = \left( \frac{n_{em}}{n_{pto}} \cdot \frac{\left(1 / N_{gb}\right) J_{em}}{\left(1 / N_{gb}^2\right) J_{turb} + J_{pto}} \right) T_{turb}$$
$$+ \left( 1 - \left( \frac{n_{em}}{n_{pto}} \right)^2 \frac{J_{em}}{k_{sc} \left( \left(1 / N_{gb}^2\right) J_{turb} + J_{pto} \right)} \right) \hat{T}_{gen}$$
$$+ \left( B_{em} - \frac{\left(1 / N_{gb}^2\right) B_{gb} J_{em}}{\left(1 / N_{gb}^2\right) J_{turb} + J_{pto}} \right) \omega_{em}$$

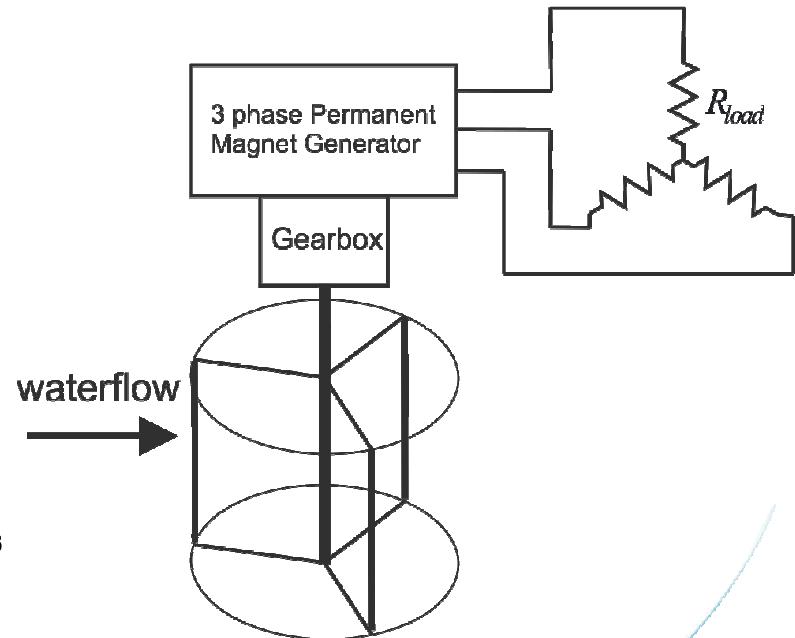
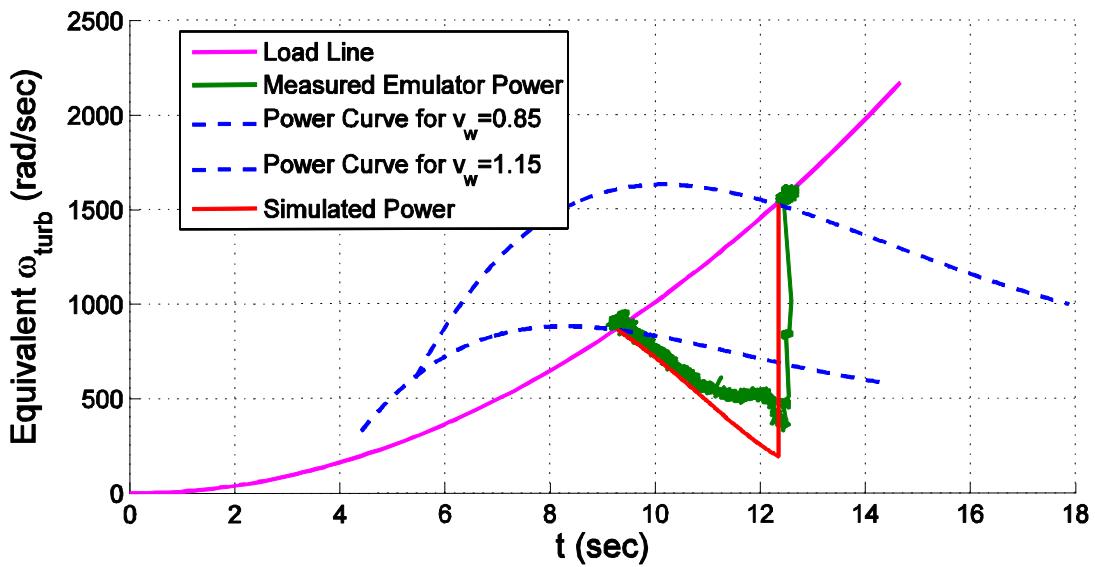
# River Turbine Emulator Static Hardware Test Agrees with Analysis

- The 3-Φ load resistance is fixed, and the emulator is allowed to reach steady-state for several water velocities between 0.7 and 1.1 m/sec
- The mechanical power reported by the drive and the measured electrical power are compared to those predicted in analysis



# River Turbine Emulator Dynamic Hardware Test Agrees with Simulation

- The 3-Φ load resistance is fixed, and the water velocity is stepped from 1.15 to 0.85 m/sec
- The rotor speed and measured mechanical power are compared to that predicted in Matlab simulation



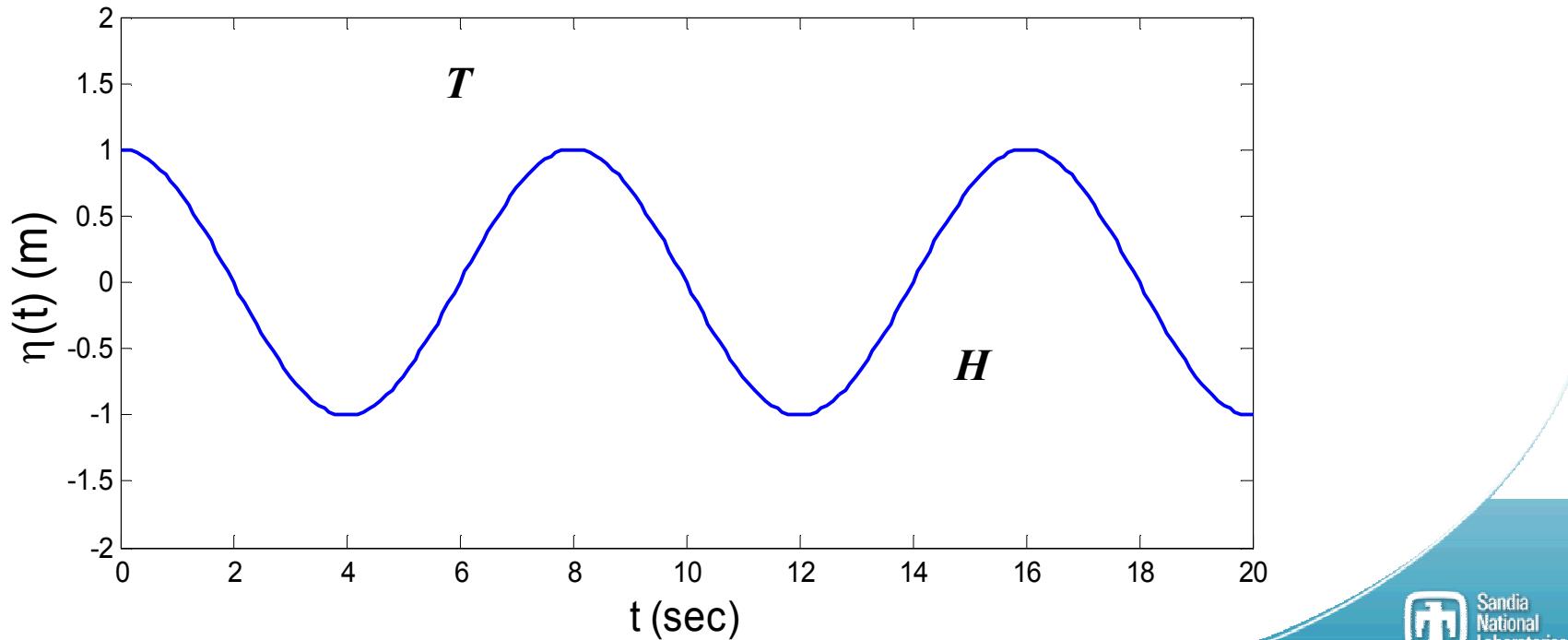
# Point Absorber (WEC) Emulator



# Ocean Wave Energy Depends on both the Potential and Kinetic Energy of the Water

- Power is given by the product of the wave energy flux and the capture width

$$P_{wave} = \frac{\rho_{sw} g^2 H^2 T}{32\pi} CW$$



# The Point Absorber Dynamical Model Resembles a Mass-Spring-Damper system

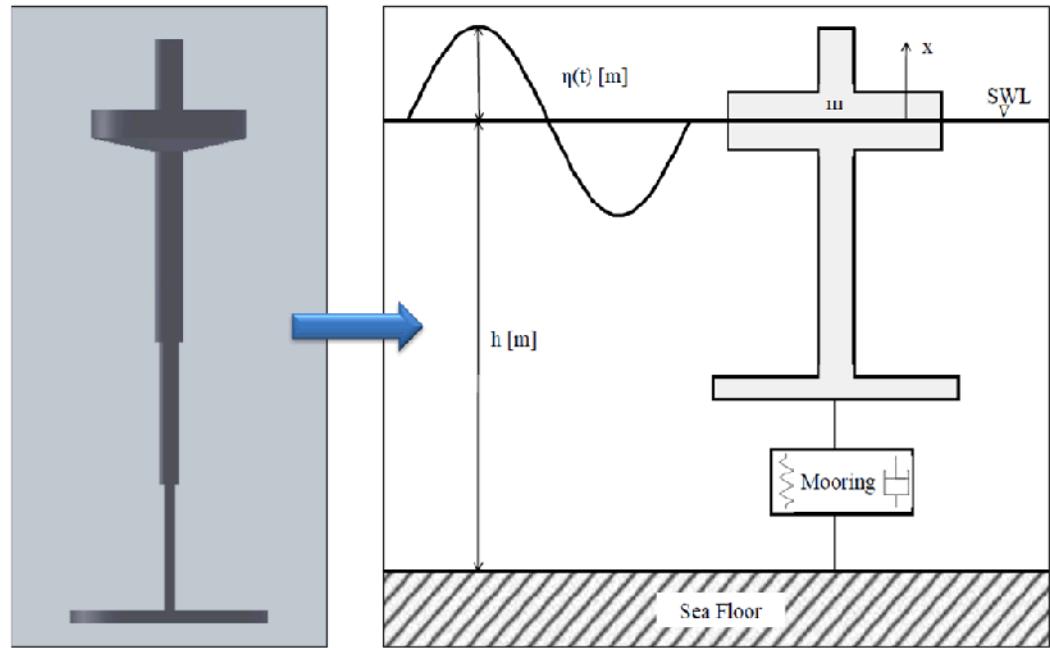
- Single Body Point Absorber is represented as a second order nonlinear noncausal system

$$(m + A(\infty))\ddot{x} = -B_{pto}\dot{x} - K_{hs}x + F_e - F_r - F_m$$

$$F_e(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \eta(\tau) f_e(t - \tau) d\tau$$

$$F_r(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t \dot{x}(\tau) f_r(t - \tau) d\tau$$

$$F_m(t) = 8k_m x \left( 1 - \frac{l_m}{\left( l_m^2 + x^2 \right)^{1/2}} \right)$$



# The Point Absorber Dynamical Model Resembles a Mass-Spring-Damper system

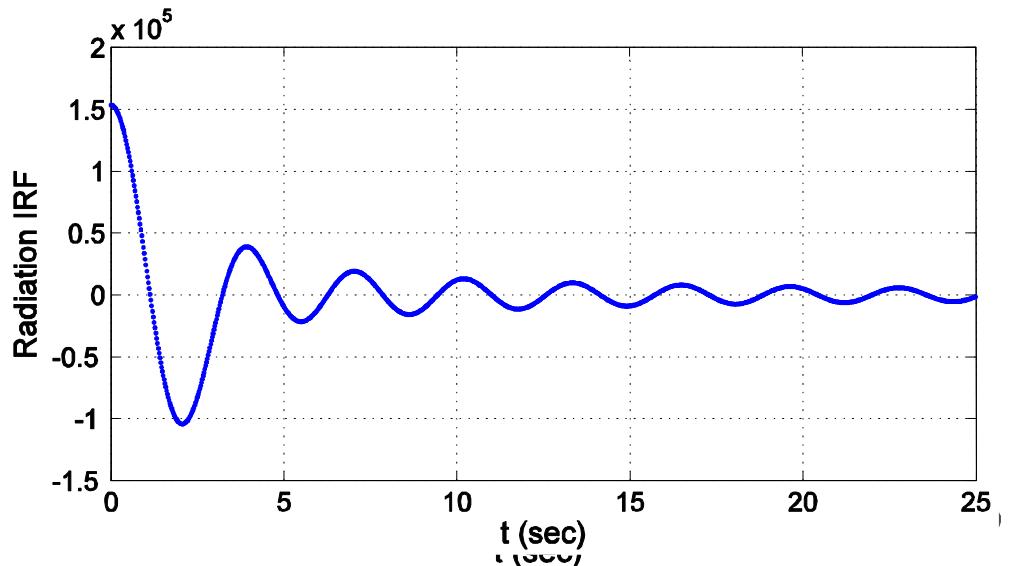
- Impulse Response is identified experimentally using wave tank testing

$$(m + A(\infty))\ddot{x} = -B_{pto}\dot{x} - K_{hs}x + F_e - F_r - F_m$$

$$F_e(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \eta(\tau) f_e(t - \tau) d\tau$$

$$F_r(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t \dot{x}(\tau) f_r(t - \tau) d\tau$$

$$F_m(t) = 8k_m x \left( 1 - \frac{l_m}{(l_m^2 + x^2)^{1/2}} \right)$$



# The Point Absorber Linear Motion must be Converted to Rotational Power

- The equations of motion are expressed as two ODEs and solved numerically using trapezoidal integration (Mooring force neglected)

$$\frac{d}{dt} v_m = -\frac{B_{pto}}{(m + A(\infty))} v_m - \frac{K_{hs}}{(m + A(\infty))} x + \frac{F_e - F_r - F_m}{(m + A(\infty))}$$

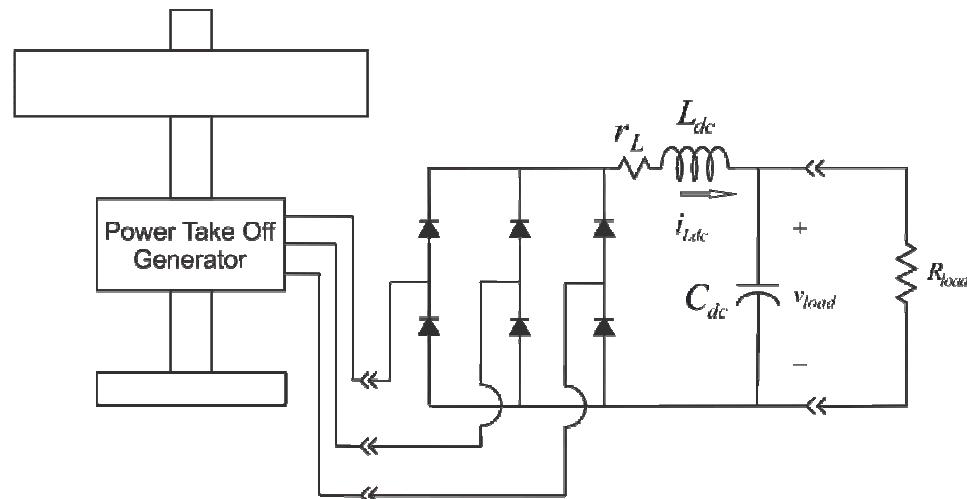
$$\frac{d}{dt} x = v_m$$

- An idealized (loss-less) power take-off is considered that appears as additional viscous damping to the point absorber

$$T_{im}^* = k_{sc} \frac{B_{pto} v_m^2}{\omega_{em} + \varepsilon}$$

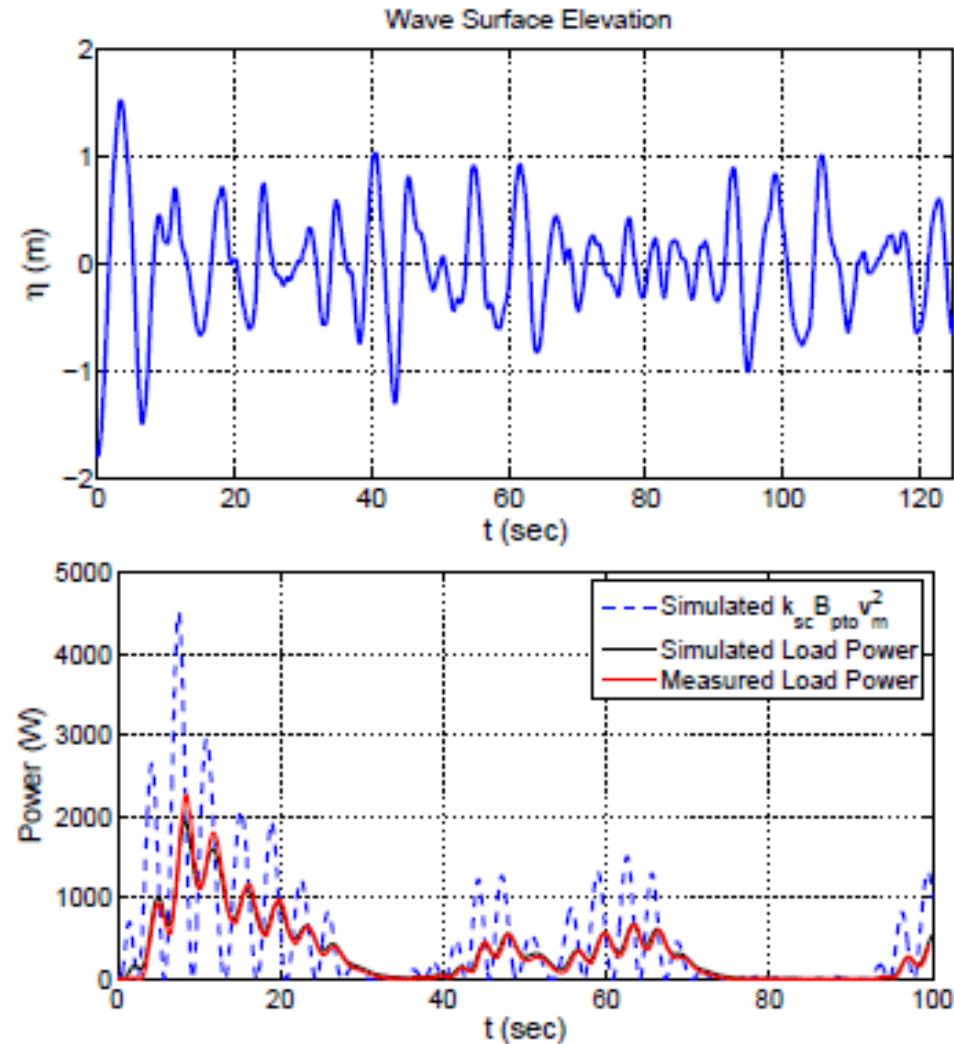
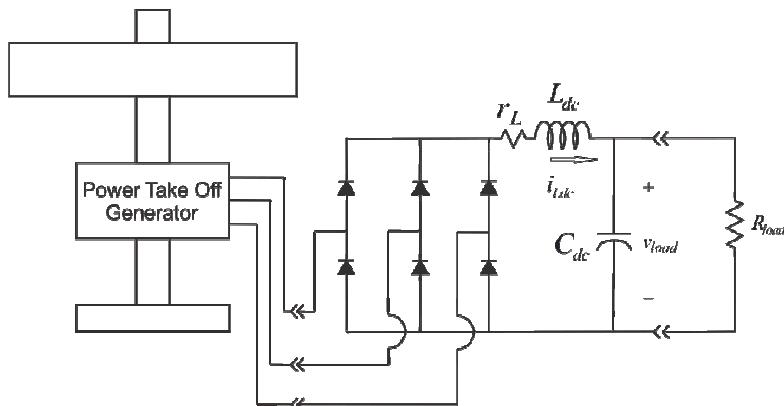
# Point Absorber Emulator Hardware Tests Agree with Simulation

- The emulator generator is connected to a rectifier with LC output filter and DC resistive load
- Measured electrical output power was compared to that obtained in Simulink simulation
- A 125 second wave profile was needed for a 100 second experiment due to the non-causal FIR filter



# Point Absorber Emulator Hardware Tests Agree with Simulation

- The emulator is tested for an irregular wave profile recorded from a data buoy time-series from Umpqua 46229 in June 2008



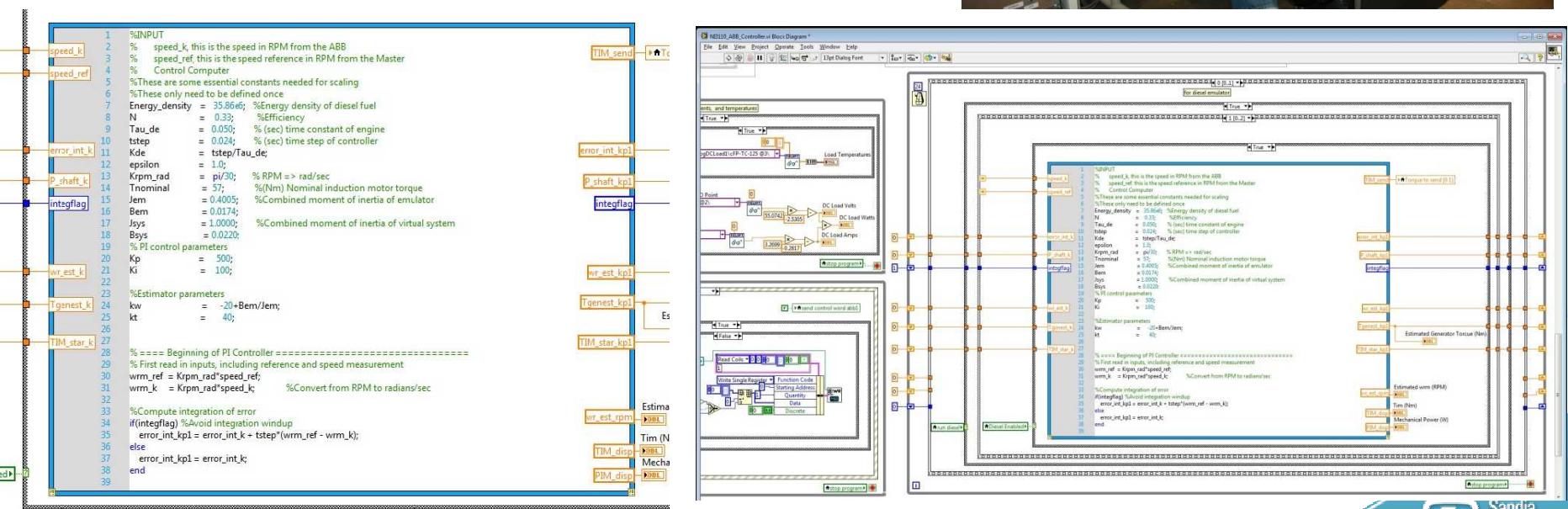
# Conclusions and Future Work

- A river turbine and a wave energy converter (point absorber) were emulated dynamically using a commercial motor drive
- These emulators are incorporated into a microgrid testbed that includes power converters, loads
- A patent application has been filed for this emulator method
- Future Work will includes
  - Implementation of a two-body WEC model
  - Incorporation of a detailed hydraulic power take-off model
  - Testing of hydrokinetic control methods using the testbed

# BACK UP SLIDES

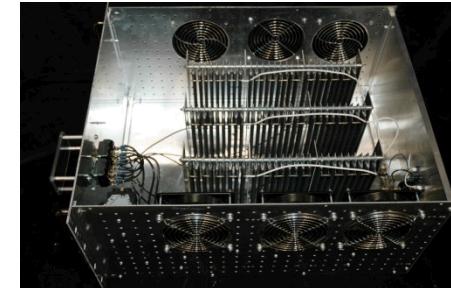
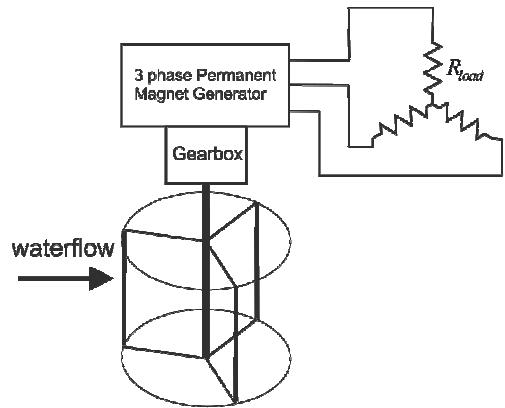
# Emulator Control Software is Developed using LabVIEW and Matlab

- LabVIEW 2011 with Mathscript RT toolkit
- River Turbine Emulator coded in Matlab
- Point Absorber Emulator implemented using Matlab and LabVIEW FIR filters
- LabVIEW manages the network interface with the ABB drive

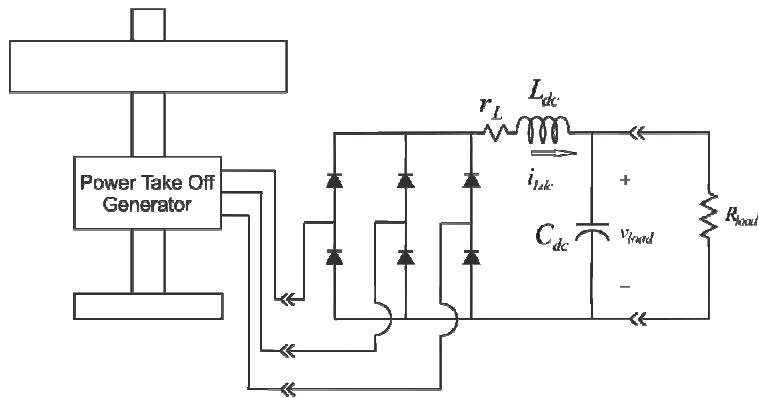


# Additional Testbed Components were Used

- 3 Phase Wye-Connected Resistive Load

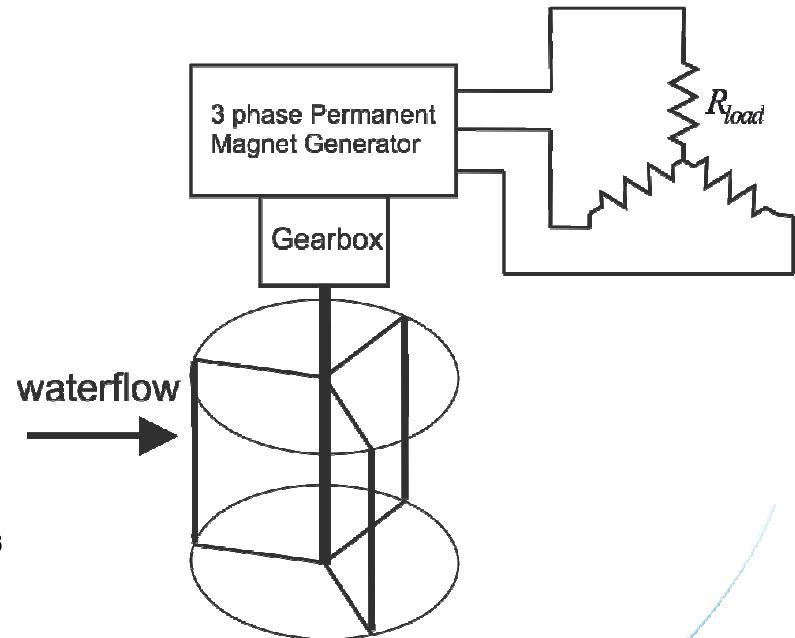
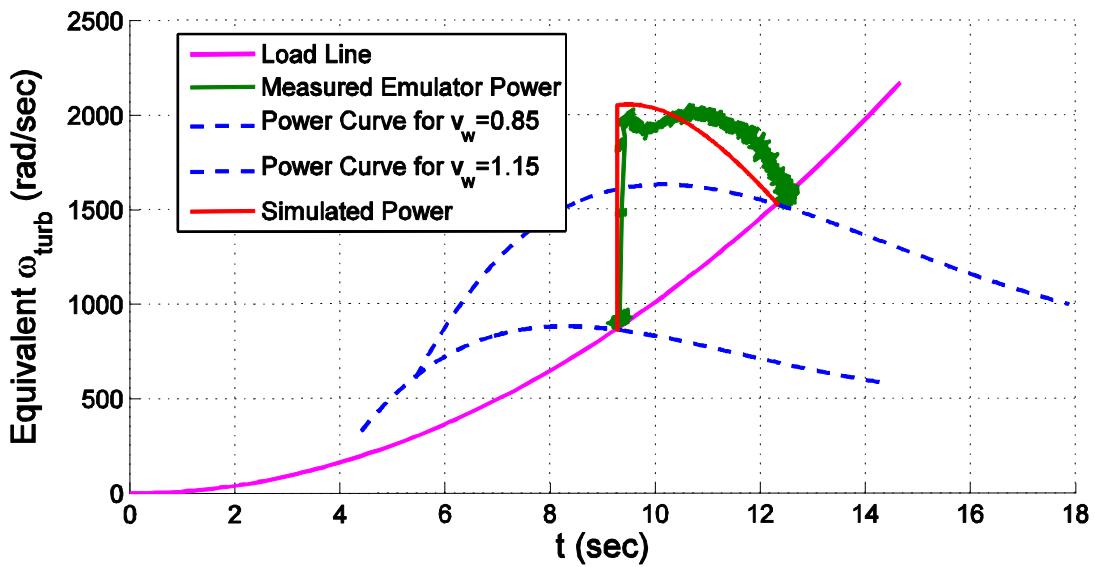


- Rectifier with LC filter



# River Turbine Emulator Dynamic Hardware Test Agrees with Simulation

- The 3-Φ load resistance is fixed, and the water velocity is stepped from 0.85 to 1.15 m/sec
- The rotor speed and measured mechanical power are compared to that predicted in Matlab simulation



# Point Absorber Emulator Hardware Tests Agree with Simulation

- The emulator is tested for a regular wave with a wave period of 6 seconds and a peak wave height of 1 meter

