

# ENR355 Robotics and Sensors

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# For control, we need to talk about PID

HOME / SHOP / WHAT IS NI LABVIEW? / THE PID CONTROLLER & THEORY EXPLAINED

## The PID Controller & Theory Explained

Updated Mar 7, 2025



### Overview

Proportional-Integral-Derivative (PID) control is the most common control algorithm used in industry and has been universally accepted in industrial control. The popularity of PID controllers can be attributed partly to their robust performance in a wide range of operating conditions and partly to their functional simplicity, which allows engineers to operate them in a simple, straightforward manner.

As the name suggests, PID algorithm consists of three basic coefficients; proportional, integral and derivative which are varied to get optimal response. Closed loop systems, the theory of classical PID and the effects of tuning a closed loop control system are discussed in this paper. The PID toolset in LabVIEW and the ease of use of these VIs is also discussed.



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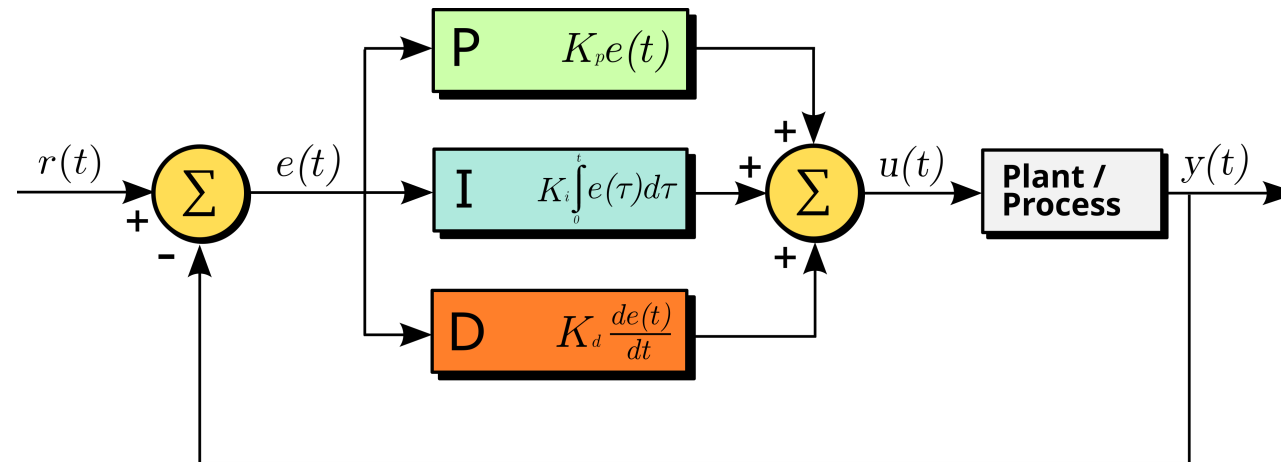
# For control, we need to talk about PID

## Control function [\[ edit \]](#)

The overall control function is

$$u(t) = K_p e(t) + K_i \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau + K_d \frac{de(t)}{dt},$$

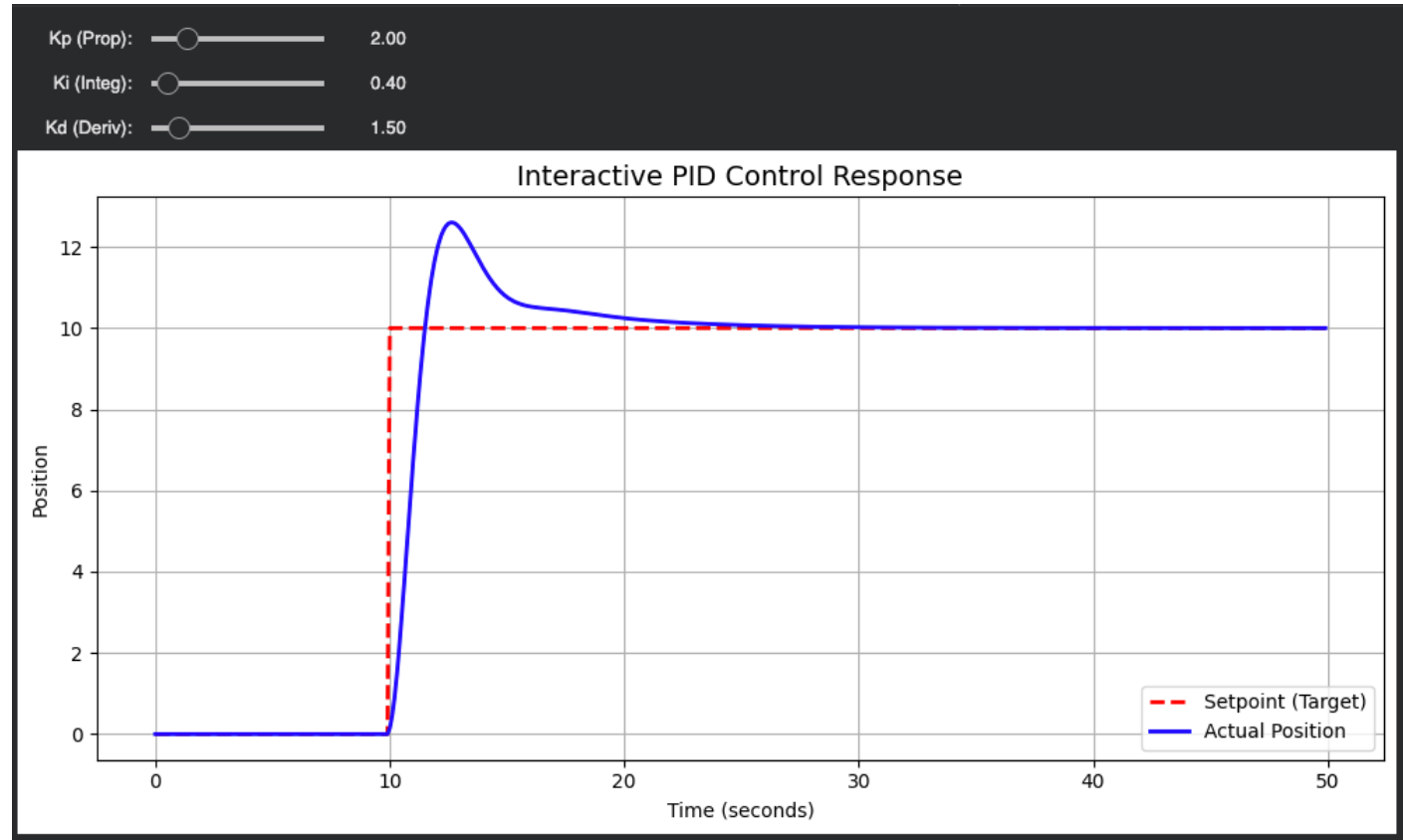
where  $K_p$ ,  $K_i$ , and  $K_d$ , all non-negative, denote the coefficients for the proportional, integral, and derivative terms respectively (sometimes denoted  $P$ ,  $I$ , and  $D$ ).



# Why PID is great:

Try out the interactive tool at Google Colab:

```
COE PID theory demo.ipynb ☆ ☁  
PRO File Edit View Insert Runtime Tools Help  
Q Commands + Code + Text ▶ Run all  
[3] ▶ import numpy as np  
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt  
from ipywidgets import interact, FloatSlider  
  
# PID simulation and plotting  
def run_pid_simulation(Kp, Ki, Kd):
```





# How to find the Colab notebook



## ENR 145: Computational Methods for Physicists and Engineers

Department of Engineering Physics, Coe College | Cedar Rapids, Iowa

 Download Syllabus

 Upload to Moodle


### Module 1: Codes, Visuals, and Algos (4 weeks)

**Week 2:**  Google Sheets helper file

 Slides #3



**Week 3:**  Hamming python 101(right click and "save link as" to download)

 Assignment #4

**Week 4:**  Slides #4  Traffic control 201(right click and "save link as" to download)

**Week 5:**



 traffic\_control\_201\_class.ipynb  

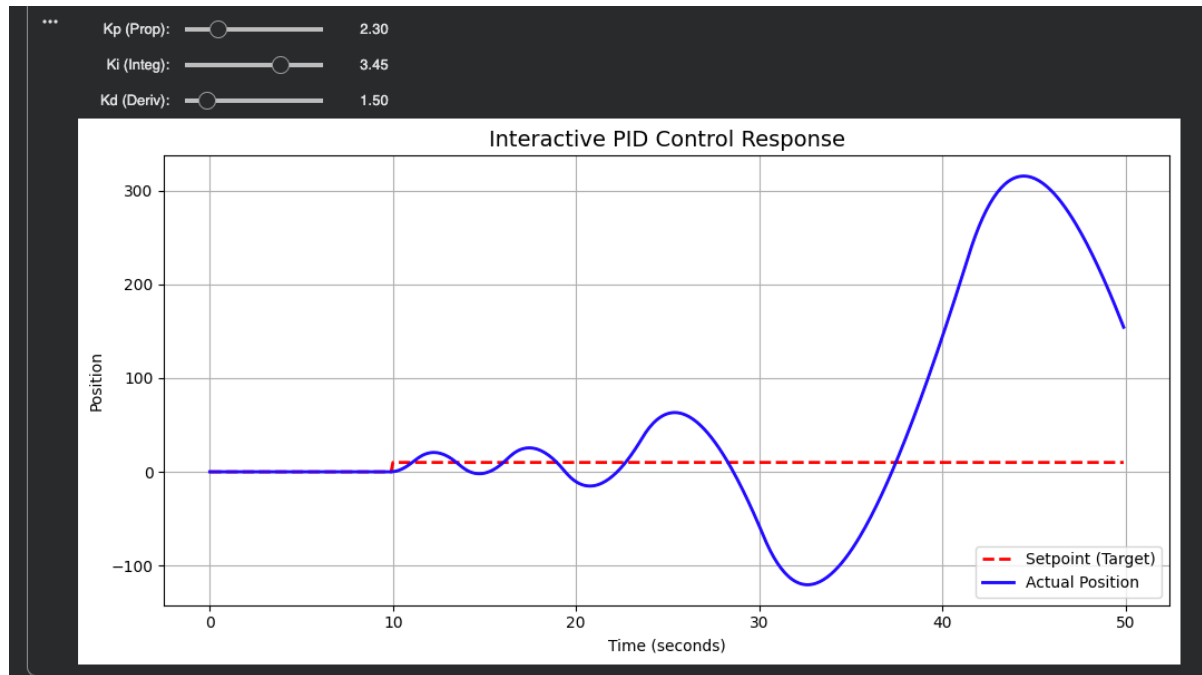
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# Why PID is great:

Mess up the setting, un-stable system



When you kick a robot, how does it recover?

