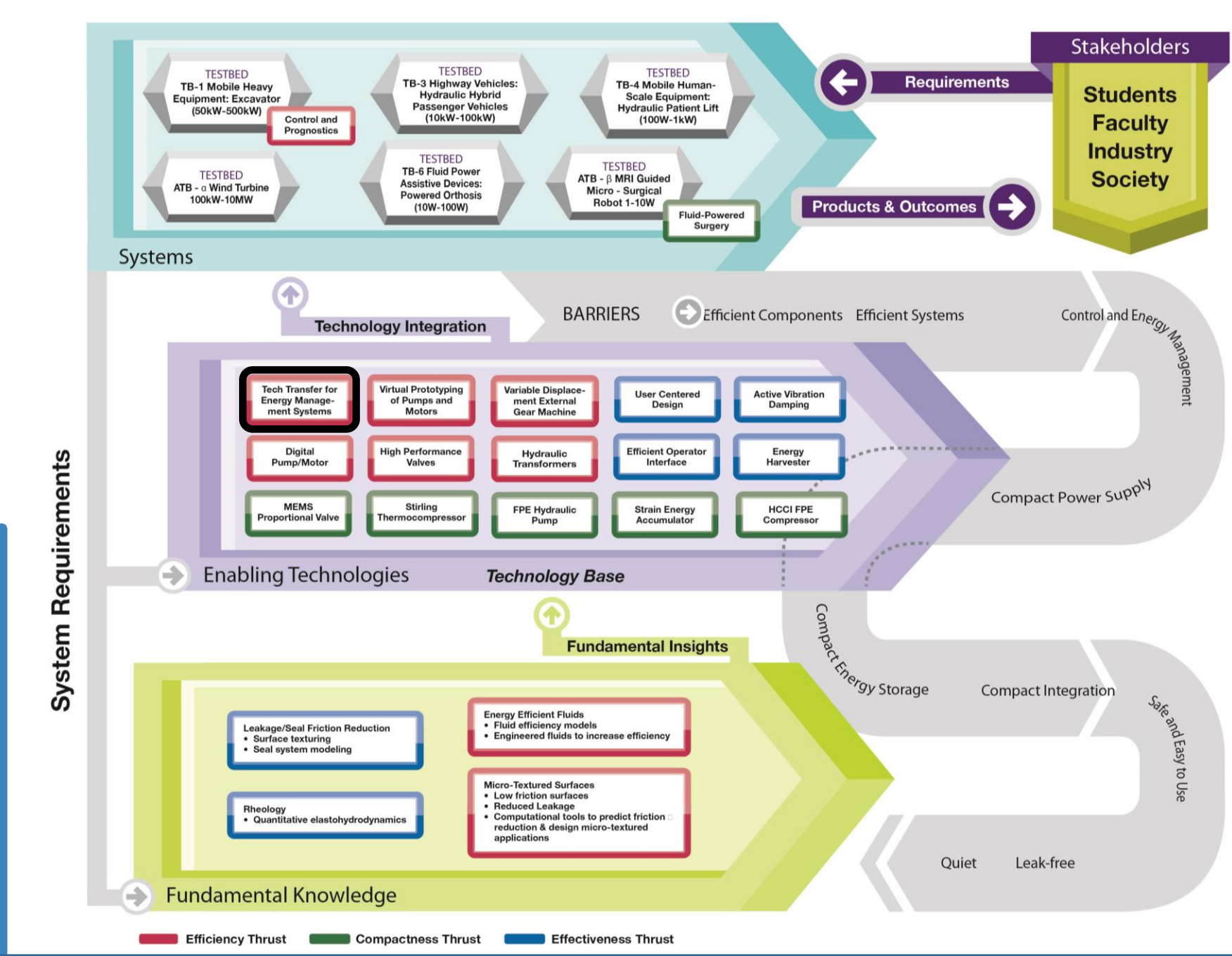


Hybridizing Wind Turbine Transmissions: Continued simulation and Experimentation

Investigator: Eric Mohr, University of Minnesota

Faculty: Prof. Kim A. Stelson



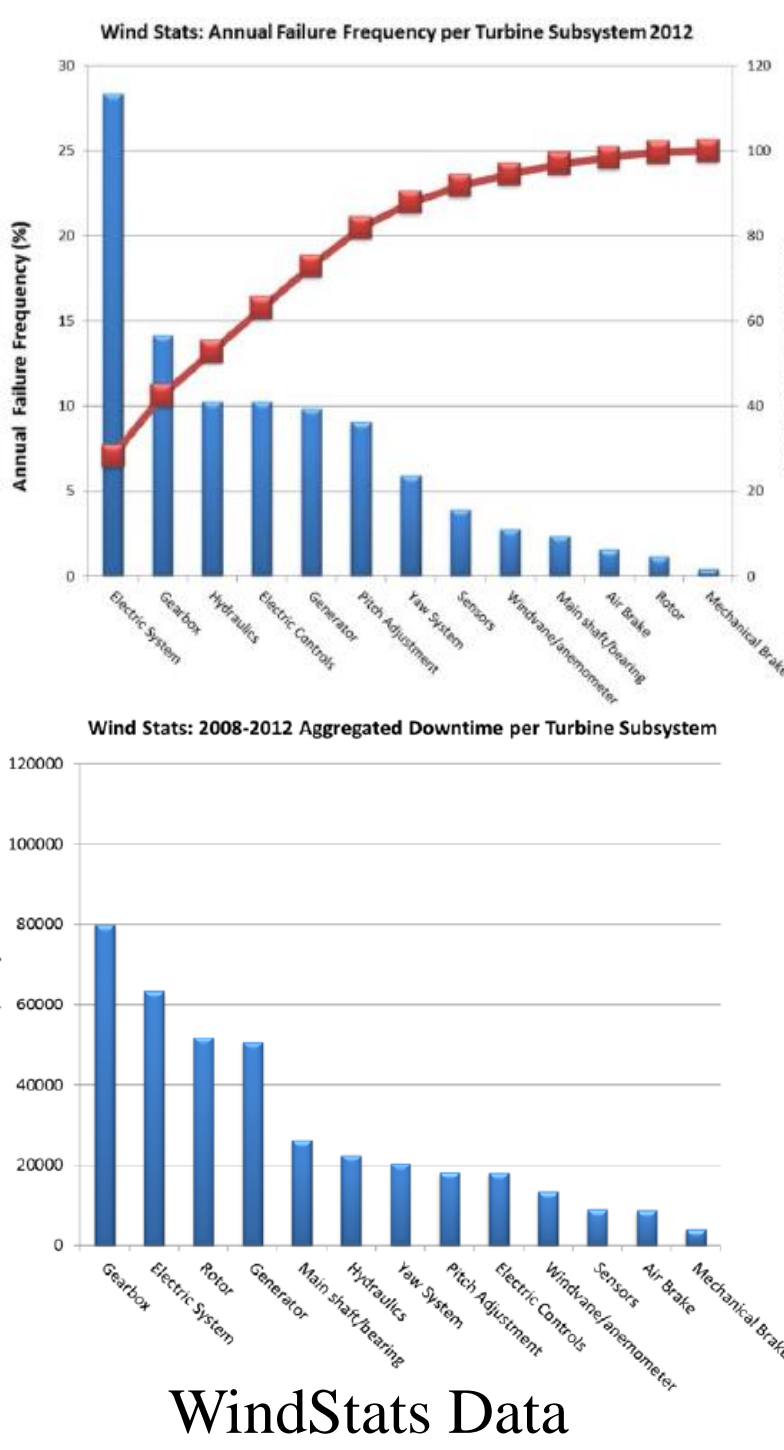
Background

Mid-size wind (100 kW-1 MW)

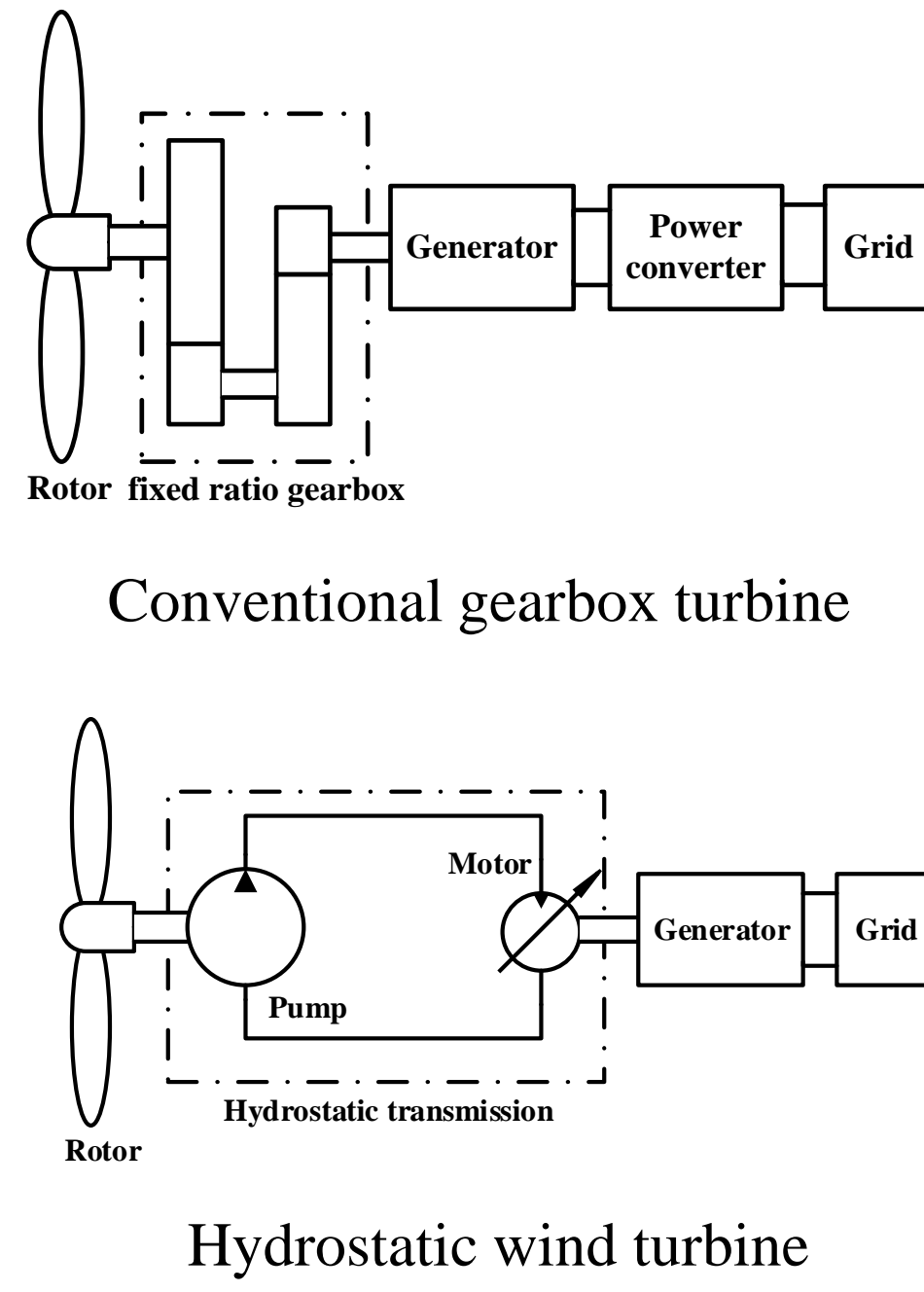
- Community wind - cost-effective for farms, communities, factories and rural electric cooperatives.
- Relatively easy permitting process
- Mid-size turbines can be operated in local niches, eliminating the need for costly electric power transmission upgrades.
- Distributed wind makes the power grid more stable and reliable.
- Few midsize turbines in the market today
- Commercially hydrostatic units are available in required size.



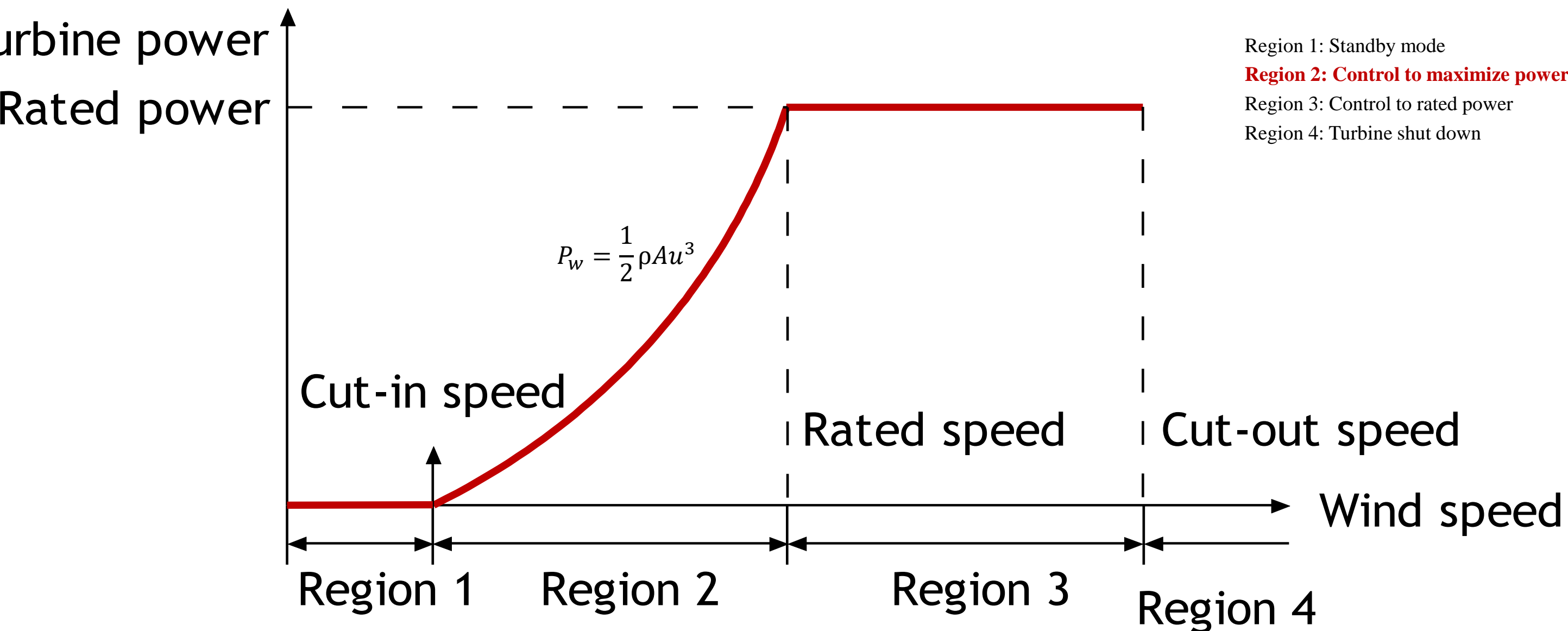
Hydrostatic Wind Turbine



- Electrical system has highest failure rate and Gear Box has longest downtime per failure
- Performance Objective**
 - Maximize power capture
 - Minimize loads
 - Reduce downtime
 - Reduce maintenance cost
- Hydrostatic transmission (HST):**
 - Simple system structure
 - Continuous variable transmission ratio
 - No need of power converter
 - All power transmitted through a fluid link; hence less stiff
 - Improves reliability and reduce cost



Power Generation & Conventional Controls



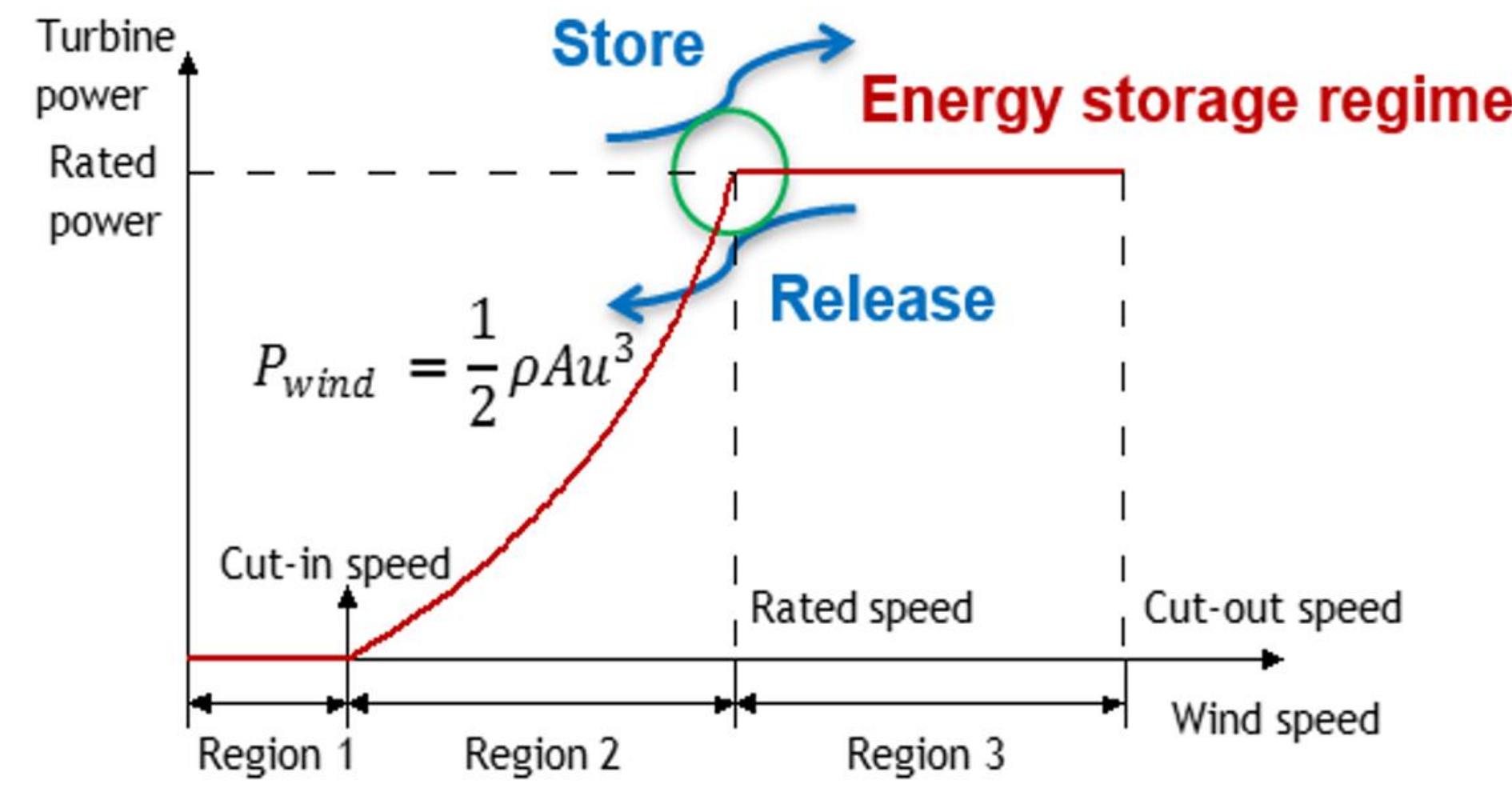
- Objective: Maximize power captured
- Strategy: Constant pitch angle β and use τ_g to operate turbine at optimum point
- Rotor power coefficient (Cp)** is the fraction of wind power captured by the rotor:

$$C_p = \frac{P_r}{P_w} = C_p(\lambda, \beta)$$
- Rotor tip speed ratio:**

$$\lambda = \frac{\omega_r R}{u}$$
- According to Betz Law, the maximum energy that can be captured by the rotor is 59.3% of the kinetic energy of the wind

Energy Storage

- Temporarily store excess energy due to turbulent wind
- Release energy once wind speed drops
- Use a simple hydraulic accumulator to add a method of energy storage
- Hybridization technique produces usable energy normally wasted

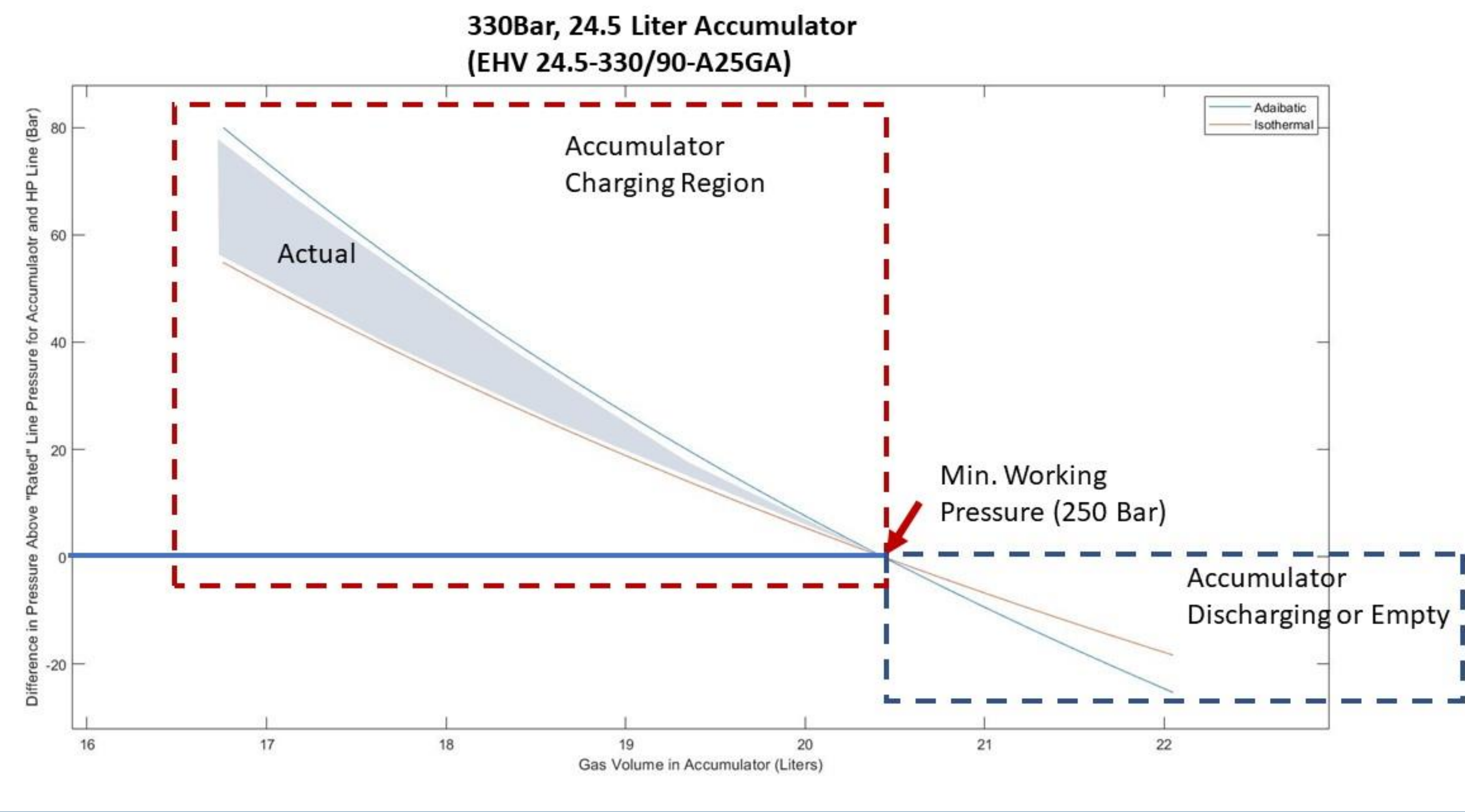


Accumulator Dynamics

Adiabatic Assumption: (Fast Charging)
 $P_0 V_0^{1.4} = P_1 V_1^{1.4} = P_2 V_2^{1.4} = P V^{1.4}$

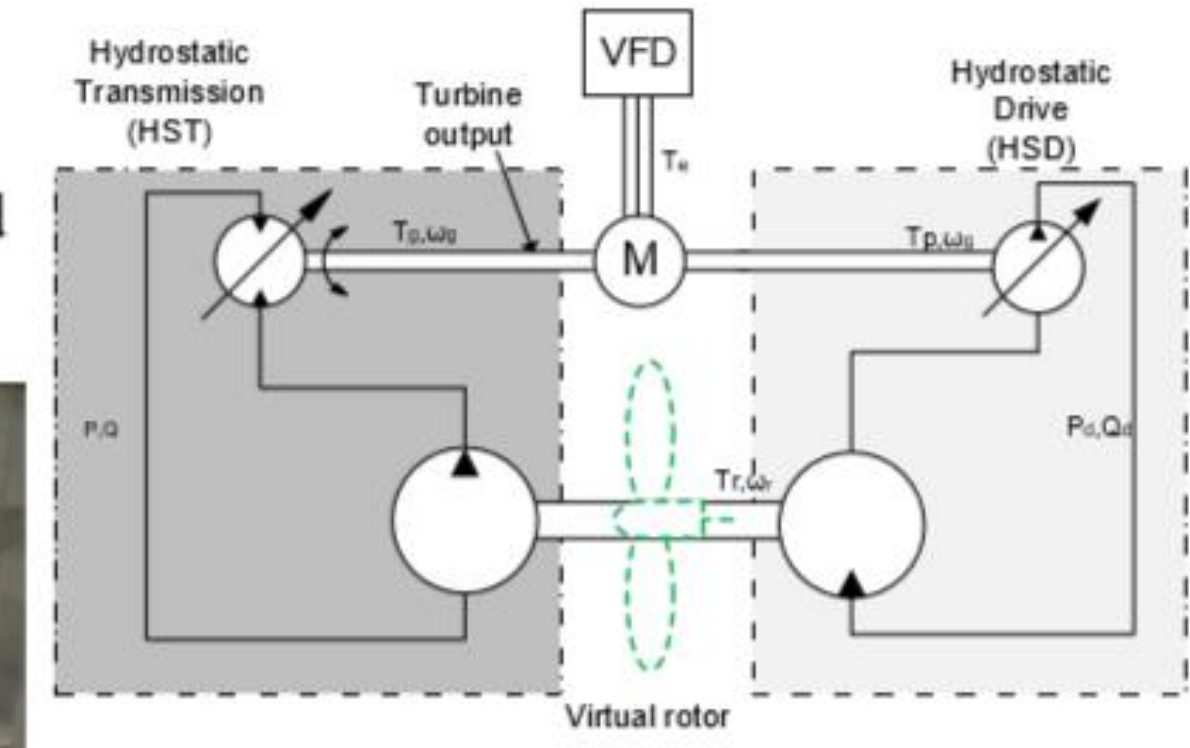
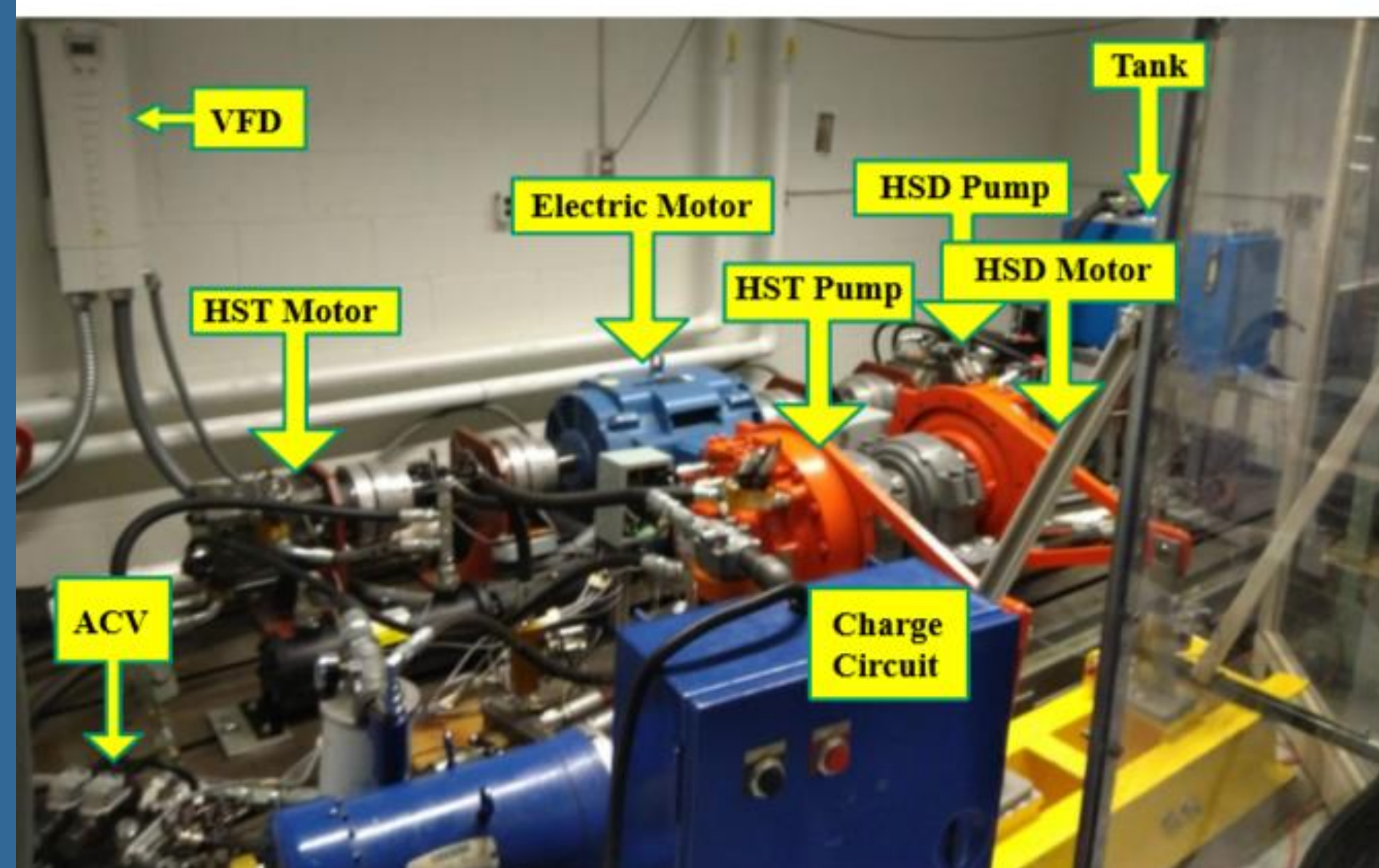
Isothermal Assumption: (Slow Charging)
 $P_0 V_0 = P_1 V_1 = P_2 V_2 = P V$

Parameters
 P_0 = Precharge Pressure
 V_0 = Precharge Volume (N2 Gas) (90-95% of Accumulator Volume)
 P_1 = Working Pressure (Pressure to charge)
 V_1 = Working Volume (N2)
 P_2 = Max Working Pressure
 V_2 = Min Volume (N2)



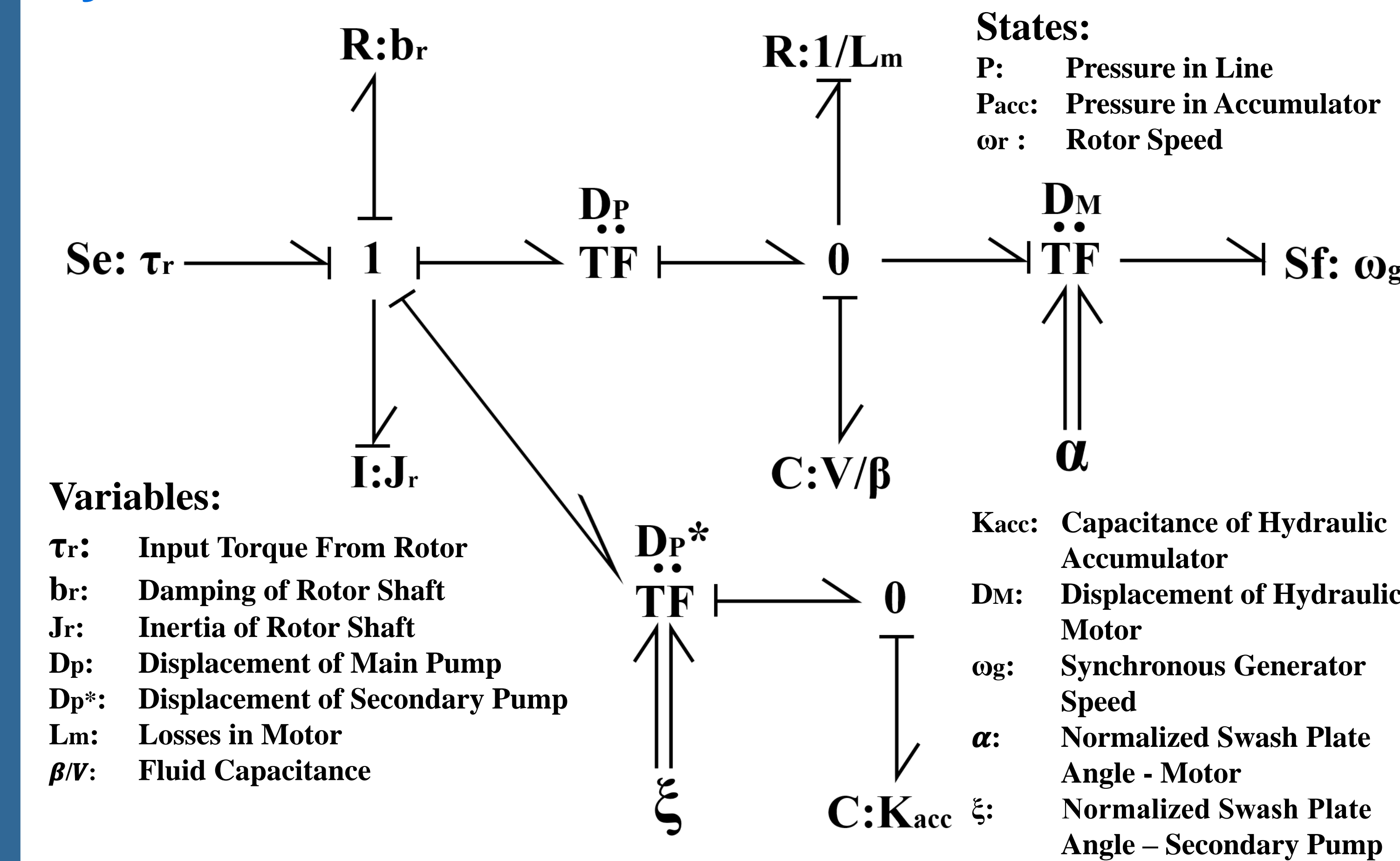
Power Regenerative Test Bed

A Power regenerative test bed has been built, characterized, and calibrated at the University of Minnesota



- A HydroStatic Drive (HSD) with Hardware-in-the-loop simulation is capable of creating turbulent wind simulations with real-life torque
- VFD powered electric motor supplements system to keep full operation
- Goal: Perform experiments with installed accumulator

Dynamics of HST With Accumulator



High-Fidelity Dynamic Equations

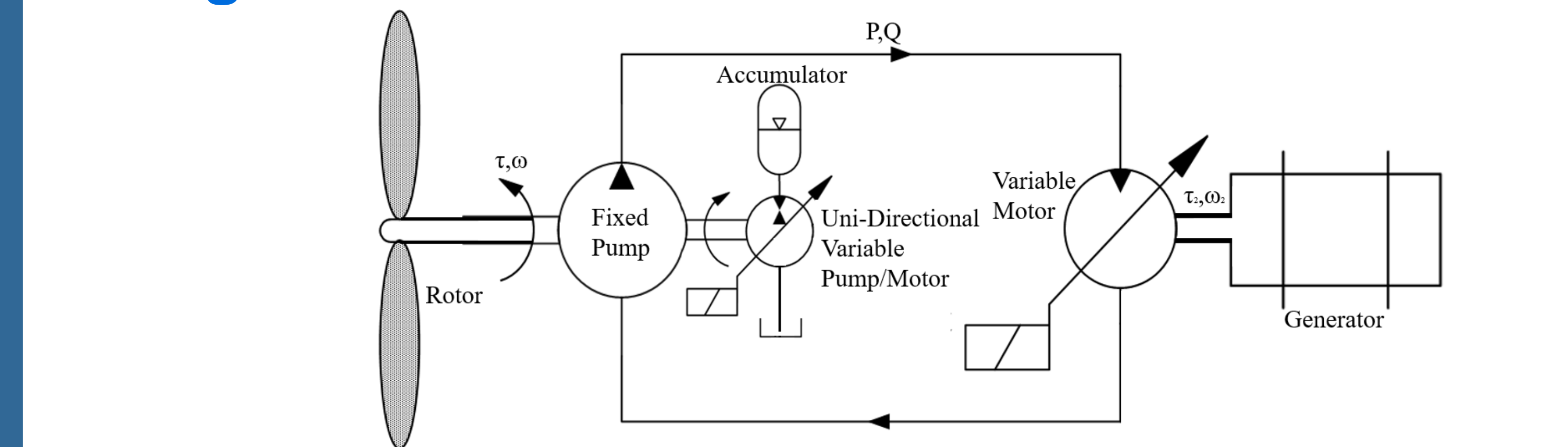
$$J_r \dot{\omega}_r + b_r \omega_r = \tau_r - D_p P - D_p^* P_{acc}$$

$$\frac{V}{\beta} \dot{P} = D_p \omega_r - L_m P - \alpha D_m \omega_g$$

$$K_{acc} \dot{P} = \xi D_p^* \omega_r$$

$$K_{acc} = \frac{P}{\gamma P_{min} V \gamma_{max}}$$

Design & Results



- In simulation, the above design showed preliminary results of an additional 130 kJ of energy were captured in a specific five-minute period.
- Outside of the extent of this UROP project, the experiments are underway, as well as additional optimization methods in simulation

Conclusions, References, Acknowledgements

- Hydrostatic transmissions are a more cost-effective and reliable solution for midsize wind applications.
- Short-term energy storage with a hydraulic accumulator can improve the turbine energy production
- The power regenerative wind turbine test platform provides a powerful tool to simulate real world HST turbine behavior, and has experimental potential for validation of simulation

- R. Dutta, F. Wang, B. Bohlmann, and K. Stelson, "Analysis of short-term energy storage for mid-size hydrostatic wind turbine," Trans. ASME, J. Dyn. Syst., Meas., Control, vol.136, no.1, 2014.
- F. Wang, B. Trietch, and K. A. Stelson, "Mid-sized wind turbine with hydro-mechanical transmission demonstrates improved energy production," in Proc. 8th Int. Conf. Fluid Power Transmission and Control, Hangzhou, China, 2013.
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