

Nonlinear Model Predictive Control of a Bubbling Fluidized Bed Adsorber for Post- Combustion Carbon Capture

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Outline



- Introduction
 - Bubbling fluidized bed (BFB) adsorber
- Model reduction of the BFB adsorber
 - Temporal model reduction
 - Spatial model reduction
- Nonlinear model predictive control (NMPC) of the BFB adsorber
 - NMPC using reduced model
 - NMPC with input and state blocking
 - Online-control of the BFB adsorber
- Conclusions and future work

Introduction

Bubbling Fluidized-Bed Adsorber



- Bubbling fluidized bed (BFB) adsorber
 - Solid-sorbent-based post-combustion carbon capture system
 - Optimal operation to improve environmental and economic performance
- One-dimensional three-region, non-isothermal BFB model [1]

- Differential equations

Mass and energy balances for 6 components in three regions

$$\frac{\partial n_{e,x}}{\partial t} A(1 - a_x \delta_x - \delta_x)(1 - \varepsilon_x) \rho_s = \frac{\partial J_x n_{e,x}}{\partial x} + K_{s,bulk,x} + A \delta_x \rho_s K_{ce,x} (n_{c,x} - n_{e,x}) + A(1 - a_x \delta_x - \delta_x)(1 - \varepsilon_x) r_{e,x}$$

- Algebraic equations

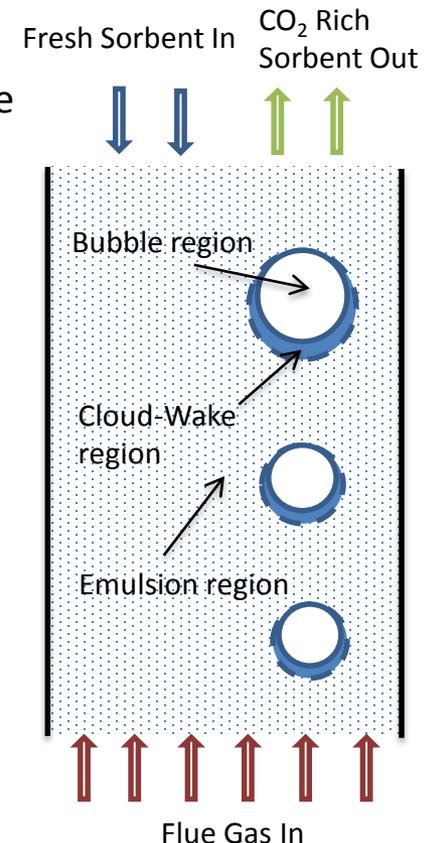
Hydrodynamic correlations

Mass and heat transfer coefficients

Gas phase properties

Heat exchanger tube correlations

$$\left(\frac{d_{b,u,x}^{0.5} - d_{b,e,x}^{0.5}}{d_{b,0}^{0.5} - d_{b,e,x}^{0.5}} \right)^{1-\gamma_1/\gamma_{3,x}} \left(\frac{d_{b,u,x}^{0.5} - \gamma_{2,x}^{0.5}}{d_{b,0}^{0.5} - \gamma_{2,x}^{0.5}} \right)^{1+\gamma_1/\gamma_{3,x}} = e^{-0.3x/D_i} \quad K_{ce,x} = 6.78 \left(\frac{\varepsilon_x^2 D_x v_{b,x}}{d_{b,x}} \right)^{0.5}$$



- Highly nonlinear, large-scale differential and algebraic equation system with **14187** equations (**1994** differential equations)

Introduction

Technology Roadmap



- BFB adsorber: spatially distributed first-principle model

+ **Accurate**

- **Computationally expensive**

- Possible reasons

Stiffness of DAE system

Huge number of equations

Temporal aspect

Spatial aspect

- Model reduction approaches

Time scale decomposition

Orthogonal collocation

- Dynamic reduced model

Temporally reduced model

Spatially reduced model

+ **Computationally efficient**

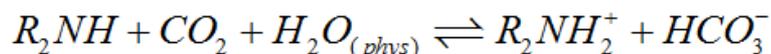
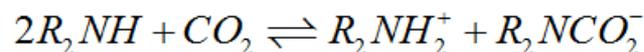
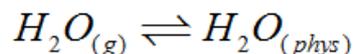
+ **Capture the dynamics of rigorous model**

Dynamic reduced models for BFB adsorber [2]



Temporal model reduction

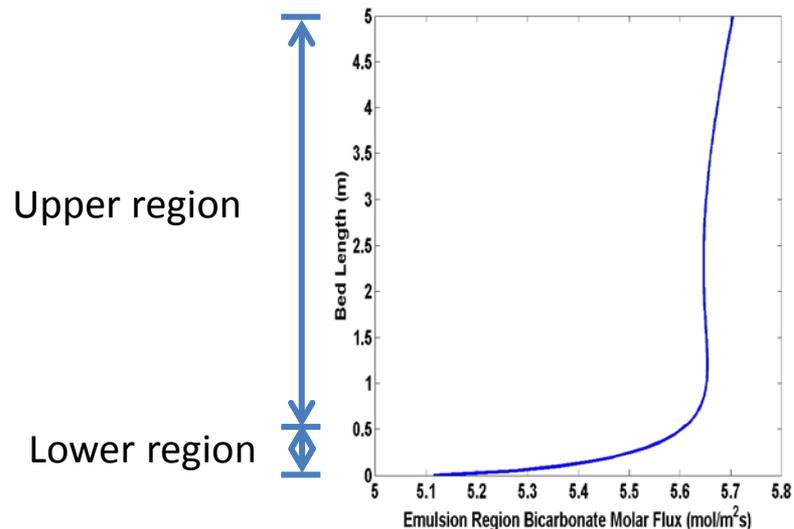
- Remove fast equilibrium reaction using nullspace projection method
- BFB model reaction kinetics



	r_f (mol/m ³ s)	r_b (mol/m ³ s)
Reaction 1	10 ⁶	10 ⁶
Reaction 2	10 ⁰	10 ⁰
Reaction 3	10 ⁻¹	10 ⁻¹

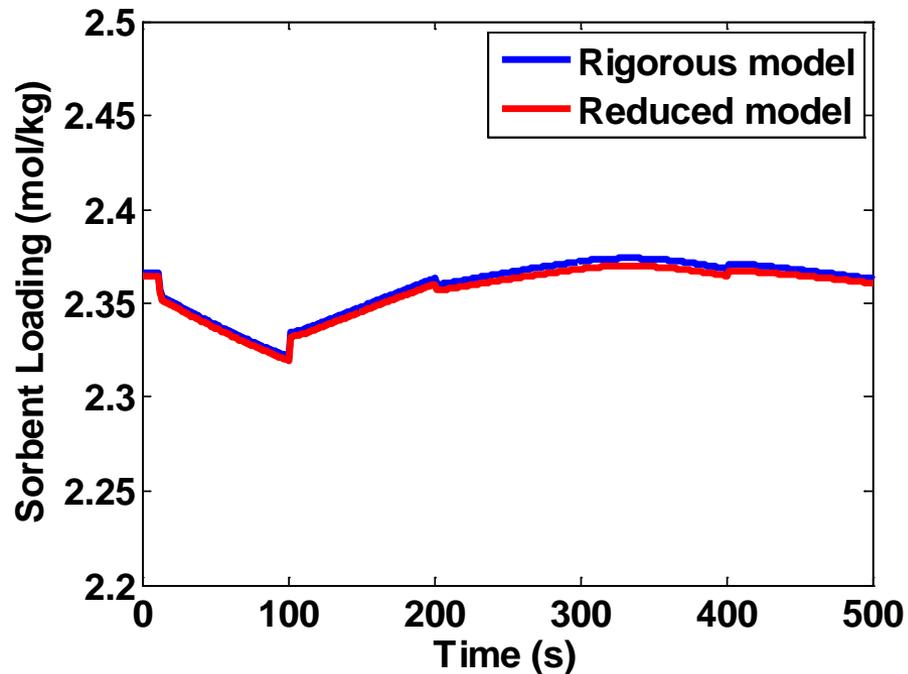
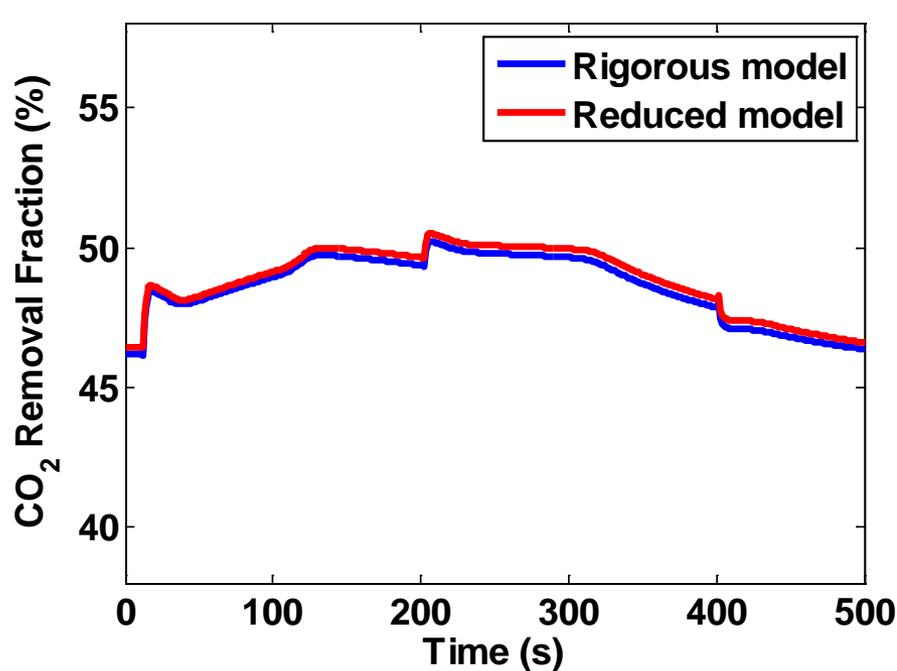
Spatial model reduction

- Orthogonal collocation on finite elements
- Unevenly distributed finite elements based on system's characteristics



Simulation results

Comparison between rigorous and reduced model



	Model size	Simulation time	MRE1	MSE1	MRE2	MSE2
Rigorous model	14187	193s				
Reduced model	5338	64s	0.68%	0.072	0.18%	9.91e-6

- Tested on an Intel i7-3770 3.40 GHz PC

MRE – Maximum Relative Error

MSE – Mean Squared Error

1 – CO₂ Removal Percent

2 – Sorbent Loading

~65% reduction in simulation time

NMPC using dynamic reduced model

- Nonlinear model predictive control (NMPC) formulation

$$\min_v \Psi(z_N) + \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} \psi(z_l, v_l)$$

$$s.t. \quad z_{l+1} = f(z_l, v_l)$$

$$c_l \leq C(z_l, v_l) \leq c_u$$

$$z_0 = x(t_k)$$

→ Nonlinear process model

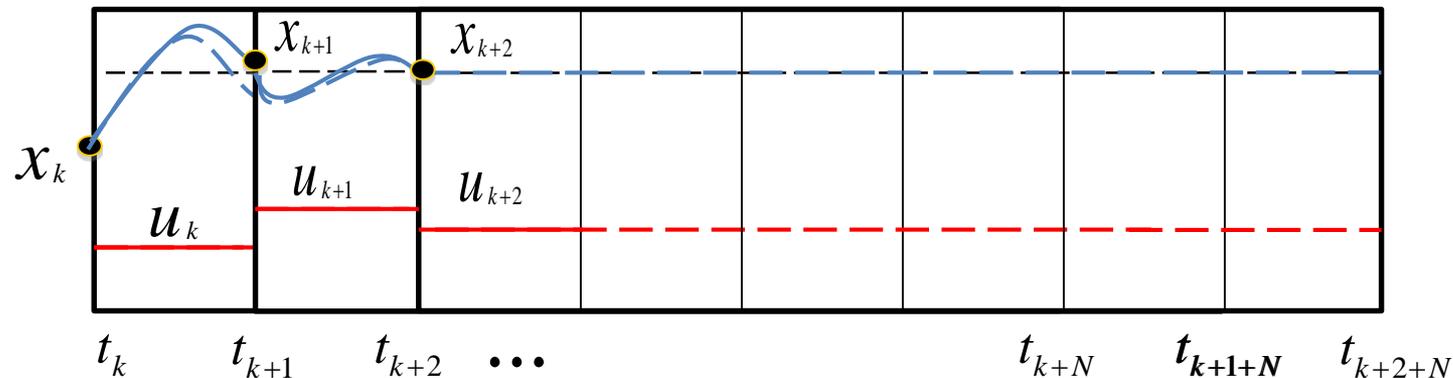
→ Process constraints

Nonlinear reduced process model

Model mismatch

Real process/rigorous model

- Output additive correction is used to achieve offset-free control performance



NMPC with nonuniform grids

- NMPC formulation

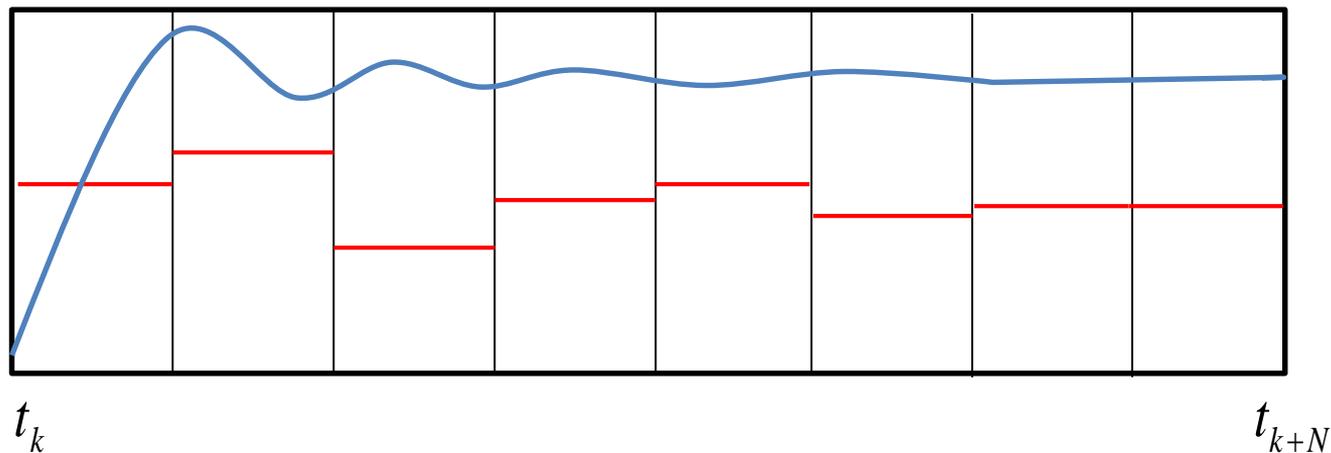
$$\min_v \Psi(z_N) + \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} \psi(z_l, v_l)$$

$$s.t. \quad z_{l+1} = f(z_l, v_l)$$

$$c_l \leq C(z_l, v_l) \leq c_u$$

$$z_0 = x(t_k)$$

- NMPC temporal discretization



NMPC with nonuniform grids

- NMPC formulation

$$\min_v \Psi(z_N) + \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} \psi(z_l, v_l)$$

$$s.t. \quad z_{l+1} = f(z_l, v_l)$$

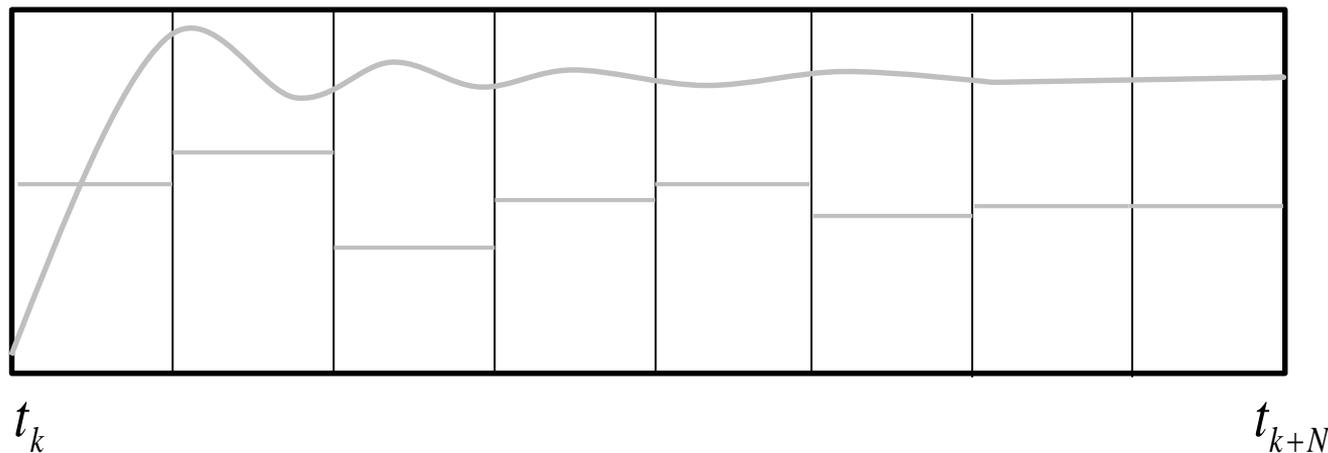
$$c_l \leq C(z_l, v_l) \leq c_u$$

$$z_0 = x(t_k)$$

Uniform grids:

Larger optimization problem

- NMPC temporal discretization



NMPC with nonuniform grids

■ NMPC formulation

$$V(x(t_k)) = \min_v \Psi(z_N) + \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} \psi(z_l, v_l)$$

$$s.t. \quad z_{l+1} = f(z_l, v_l), \quad l = 0, \dots, N_0 - 1$$

$$z_{l+1} = f^j(z_l, v_l), \quad j = 1 \dots n_b \quad \rightarrow \text{State blocking}$$

$$l = \sum_{j=0}^{j-1} N_j \dots \sum_{j=0}^j N_j$$

$$v = Mq \quad \rightarrow \text{Input blocking}$$

$$c_l \leq C(z_l, v_l) \leq c_u, \quad z_0 = x(t_k)$$

■ NMPC temporal discretization

Uniform grids:

Larger optimization problem

Nonuniform grids [3]:

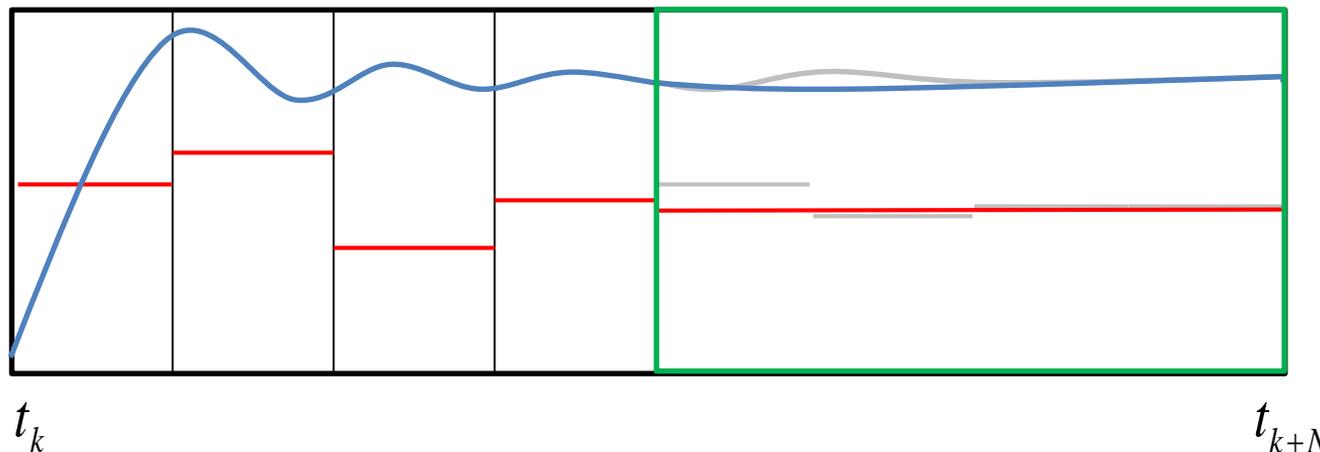
Smaller optimization problem

Not recursively feasible

Errors in state approximation

Stability constraint:

$$V(x(t_{k+1})) \leq V(x(t_k)) - (1 - \rho)\psi(x(t_k), u(t_k)) + \varepsilon_w$$



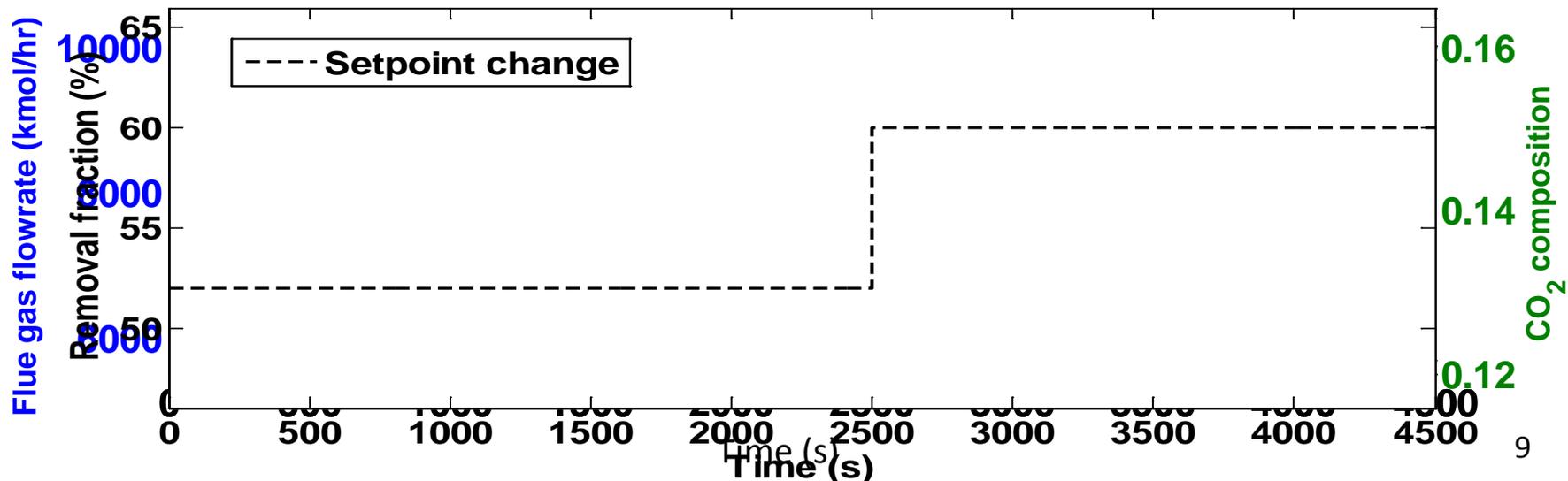
Case study setting

- Control case study

Disturbances: Flowrate and composition variations in flue gas
 Controlled variable: CO₂ removal fraction
 Manipulated variable: Solid sorbent flow

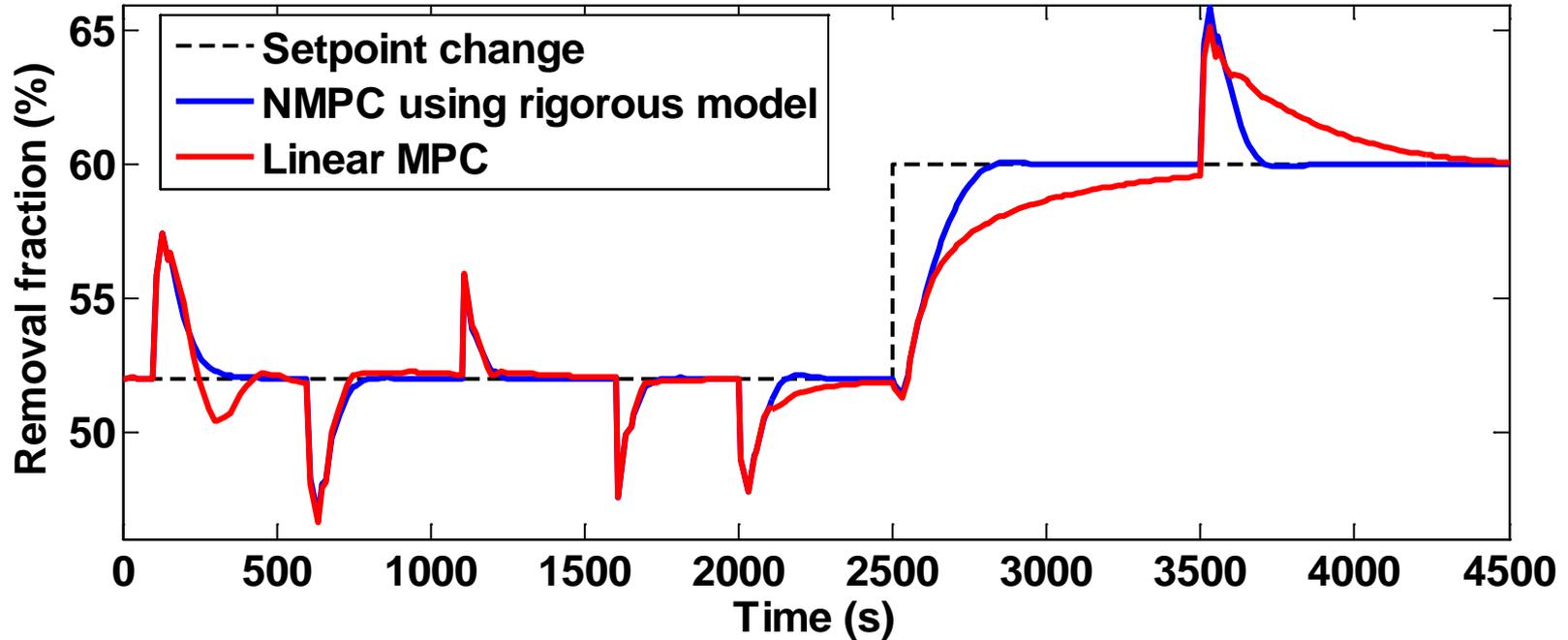
- Temporal discretization with nonuniform grids

Prediction horizon = 400 sec
 Sampling time = 50 sec
 3 finite elements with length = 50 sec
 1 finite element with length = 250 sec



Simulation results

Comparison between nonlinear and linear MPC

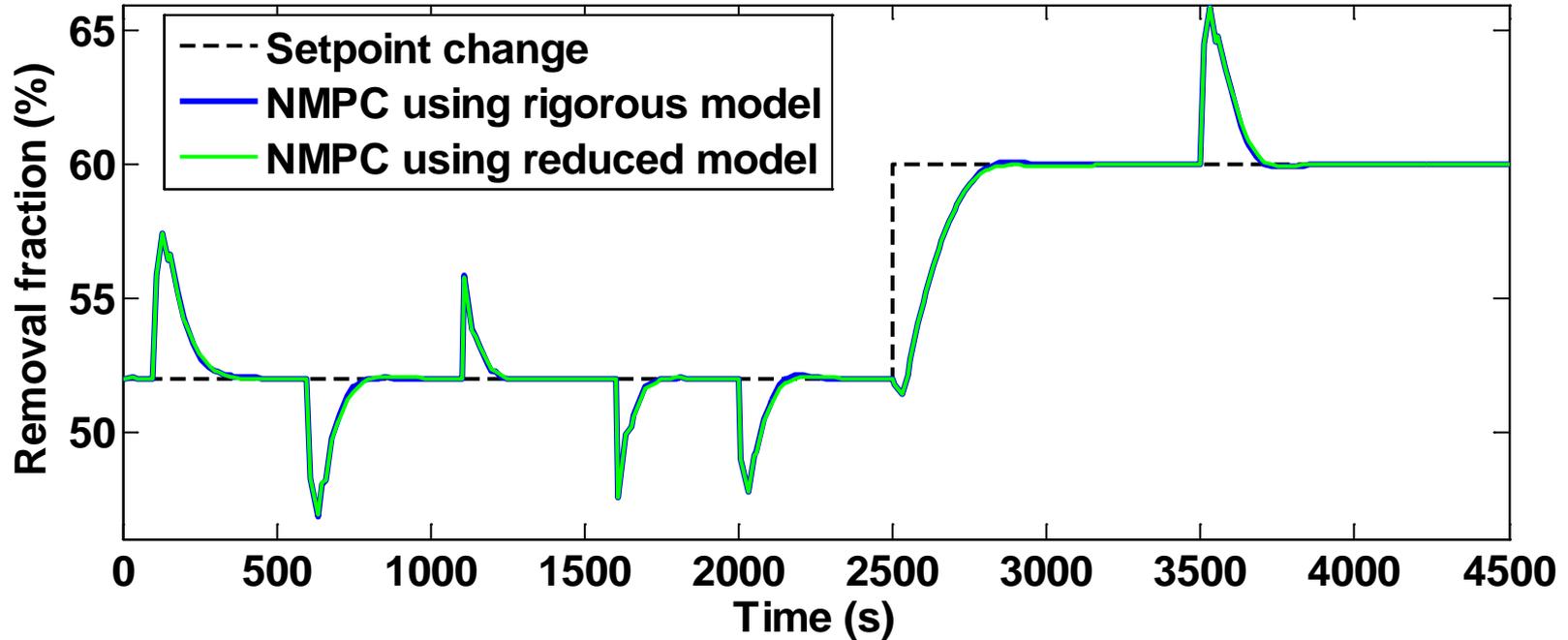


Nonlinear MPC: better tracking performance, but computationally expensive

Linear MPC: valid in small range, but computationally cheap

Simulation results

Comparison between NMPC using rigorous and reduced model



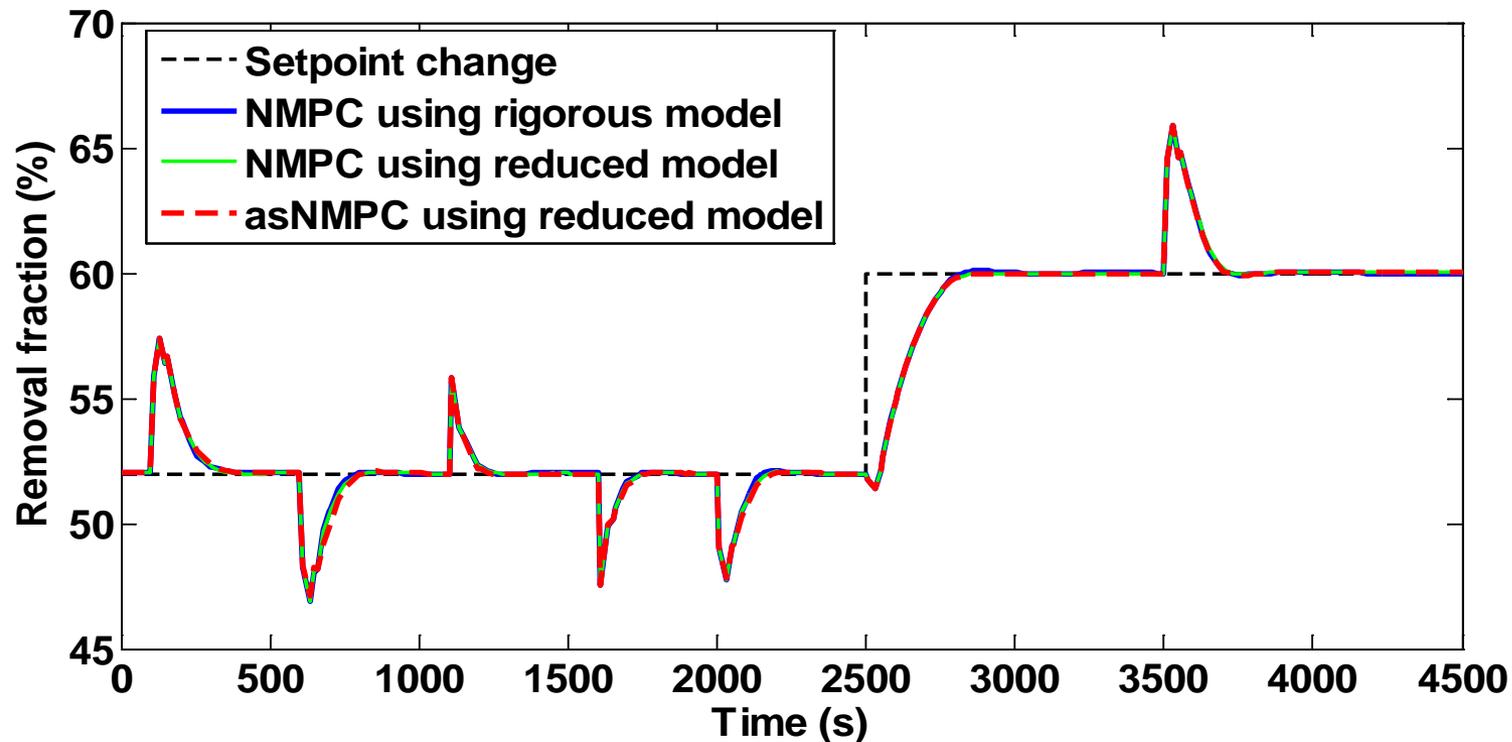
	Model size	Average time (sec)	Maximum time (sec)
NMPC w/ rigorous model	166745	56.74	256.09
NMPC w/ reduced model	64229	23.86	39.36

- Tested on an Intel i7-930 2.80 GHz PC

NMPC w/ reduced model: less than a sampling time, possible for online control

Simulation results

Advanced step NMPC using reduced model



■ Advanced step NMPC [4]

Background calculation: using predicted state $z(k+1)$ as initial condition, solve NMPC in advance to calculate control for next sampling time $u(k+1)$

Online update: once obtain true state $x(k+1)$, update $u(k+1)$ based on NLP sensitivity

Average online computational time: 1.04 sec (similar to Linear MPC)

Conclusions & Future work



■ Conclusions

- Developed computationally efficient and accurate dynamic reduced models for BFB adsorber using temporal and spatial model reduction methods
- Incorporated the dynamic reduced model into NMPC and enabled online control of the BFB adsorber
- NMPC using reduced model achieved the same control performance as rigorous model, with improved computational efficiency

■ Future work

- Integrate moving horizon estimation to improve control performance
- Study economic NMPC problem for integrated carbon capture system

Thank you for your attention

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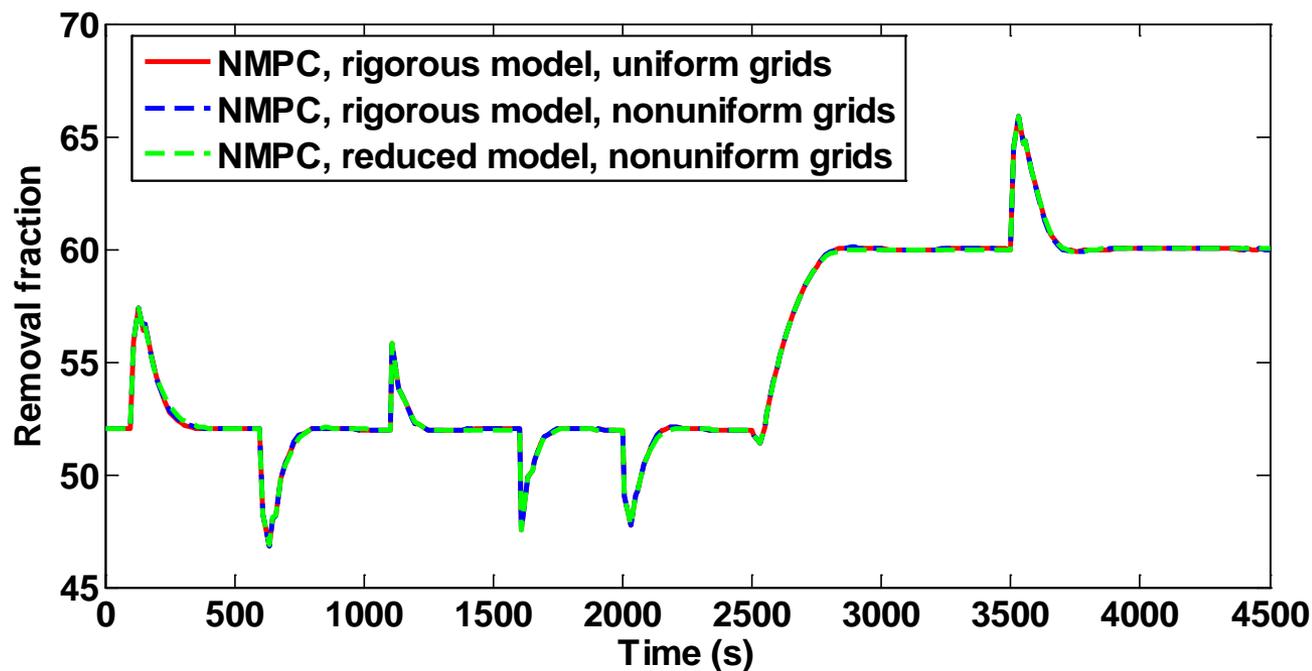
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Simulation results

Comparison between NMPC w/ uniform and nonuniform grids



	Model size	Average time (sec)	Maximum time (sec)
NMPC w/uniform grids	319136	260.67	906.34
NMPC w/ rigorous model	166745	56.74	256.09
NMPC w/ reduced model	64229	23.86	39.36