

Filterdesign for the APCI-8001 for the regulation of speed controlled drive systems

The present Application Note shows how you can determine the PID filterparameter for the contouring control APCI-8001 / APCI-8401 when using current controlled (speed-controlled) drive systems. In speed controlled drive systems the determination of filter parameters can be calculated experimentally quite simple, as the parameters K_p and k_{fcv} can be set independent from each other experimentally and afterwards can be composed. And later, an integral part (K_i) can be added. This value is determined also experimentally, without changing the previously determined values for K_p and k_{fcv} . The parameters K_d , k_{pl} and k_{fca} are not required and stay on the value 0.

However, in a current-controlled system this procedure is not so simple. For the regulation of a current-controlled drive system at least one controller with PD characteristics is required. Especially, K_p and K_d influence each other. In practice, the acceleration pre-control (k_{fca}) and an integral part (K_i) are required. By the alternating influence from K_p on K_d and vice versa, the single parameters cannot be determined experimentally in such a simple manner. In order to simplify the setting of the bearing control loop in current-controlled drive systems, the program *mcfg.exe* was equipped with the respecting functionalities.

Version notes and requirements

The following described procedure is only valid under use of the following software versions:

<i>mcfg.exe</i>	V2.5.3.36
<i>rwmos.elf</i>	V2.5.3.31
<i>mcug3.dll</i>	V2.5.3.23

For the successful comprehension of the following description, it is required that the user knows to handle the program *mcfg*. He shall know to realise the following points:

- How to realise a set value jump onto the drive system with the "Motion-Tool-Window".
- How to start a traversing profile
- How to indicate a traversing movement with the window „Graphic Analysis“

Furthermore, the user shall be aware of, that sometimes axes are traversed not regulated and that therefore it is possible at any time, that, e.g. due to a wrong entry, unexpected traversing movements occur. Therefore it must be proved, that the respecting motor can turn freely and that a "Stop" is possible at any time via emergency stop or other devices.

What is a current-controlled drive system?

In a current-controlled drive system the current amplifier has the function of a current controller (no speed controller). Therefore here no returns of the speed real value is required (no tacho signal).

The set value input of the power electronics is like an armature current. As in servo motors the turning moment is proportional to the armature current, a system controlled in this way is also called speed controlled drive system.

In order to apply the following described procedure, it must be ensured completely, that you have a current-controlled drive system. In speed-controlled drive systems this method of filter parameter determination may be not applied.

Recording a step response of a drive system

The filter parameter calculation for current-controlled drive systems is based on the evaluation of the step response of the drive system. The step response marks the behaviour of the drive, if this is controlled by a jump of the manipulated variable (e.g. 1 Volt for 1 second).

In order to record the step response, a „Graphic Analysis Window“ and a „Motion Tools Window“ must be opened for the corresponding axis, e.g. according to Figure 01. The axis may be not locked by missing amplifier release, emergency stop conditions or other I/O conditions. Now the output jump is defined in the „Motion-Tools“ window (in Figure 01 e.g. 1 V for 1s).

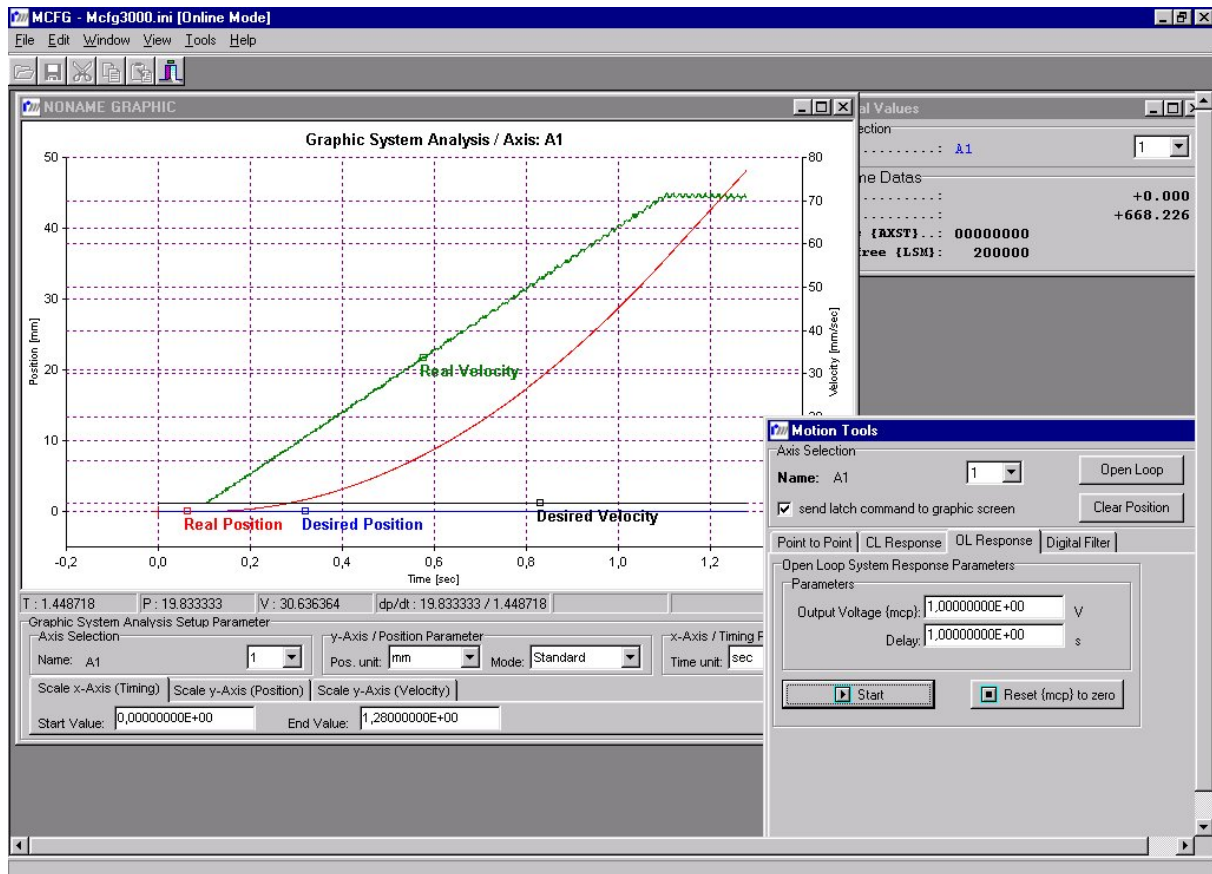


Figure 01: Step response of a current-controlled drive system in mcfg

- Click with the left mouse key on the start button in order to start the output and recording process.

Please note that when recording the step response (OL Response), firstly (at the time 0), the system sets possible defined outputs for the amplifier release (PAE). Firstly after 100 ms the control releases the predetermined voltage value for the predetermined period. Then the amplifier release is immediately withdrawn.

- Click with the right mouse key into the graphics window and select the menu "Update Screen" in order to make the recorded axis movement visible. can be shown by clicking with the r

In a current-controlled drive system a figure similar to Figure01 shall appear. One characteristic for the recorded step response is the linear increase of the real velocity and the parabolic increase of the real position. The range for the increase of the real velocity is limited by the duration of the set value output and by reaching the max.velocity of the drive.

Step response of a speed-controlled drive system

In order to inform the user more detailed about the difference between current-controlled and speed-controlled systems, the following figure shows the step response of a speed-controlled system.

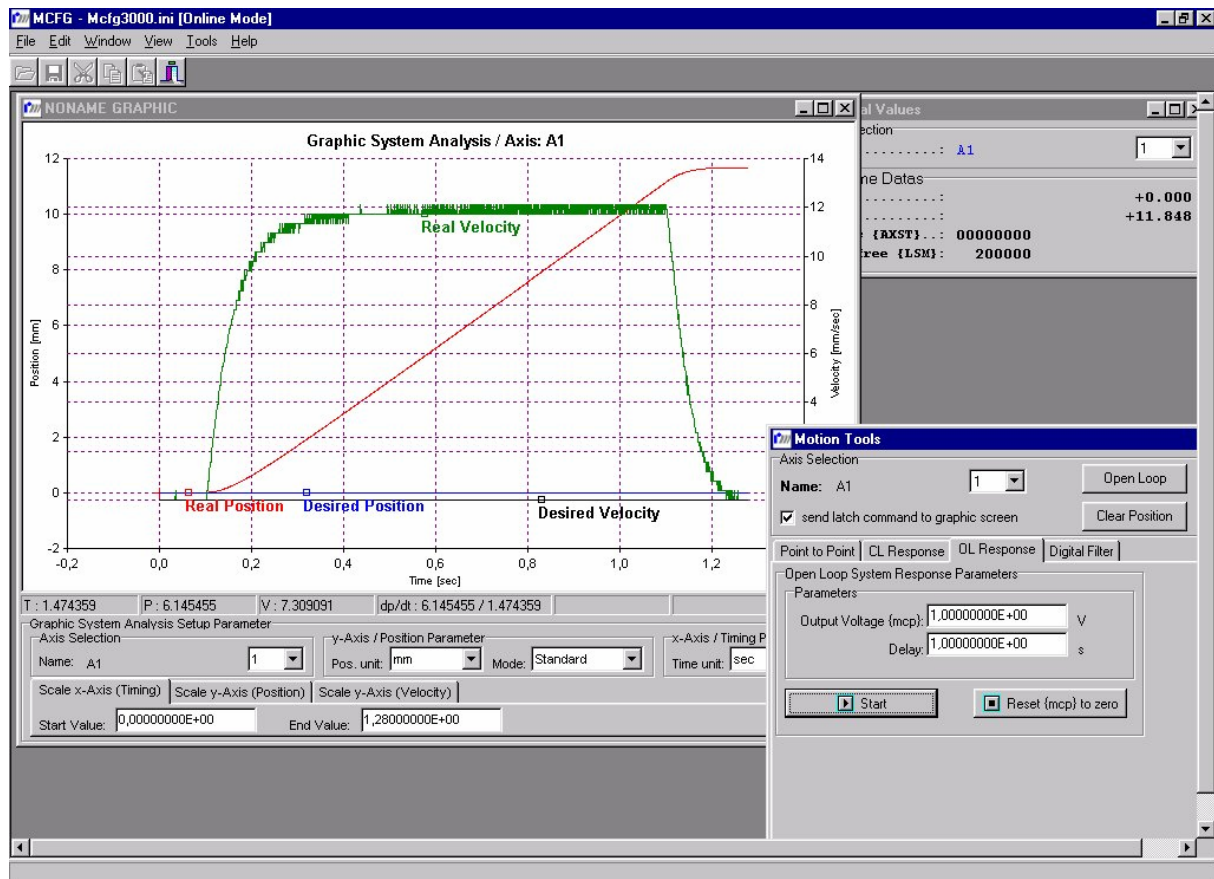


Figure 02: Step response of a speed-controlled drive system

One characteristic of such a drive system is the increase of the real velocity up to a max. value, which is proportional to the manipulated variable. In the optimal case, the increase is realised by an e-function. However, in practice also not so well-attenuated increase functions are possible.

Phase angle of the drive system

For the successful filter design it is required, that the phase angle of the system is set correctly, i.e. the output of a positive manipulated variable (voltage) must cause a traversing of the drive system to positive counter values. Figure03 shows the step response of a drive system with angle rotation.

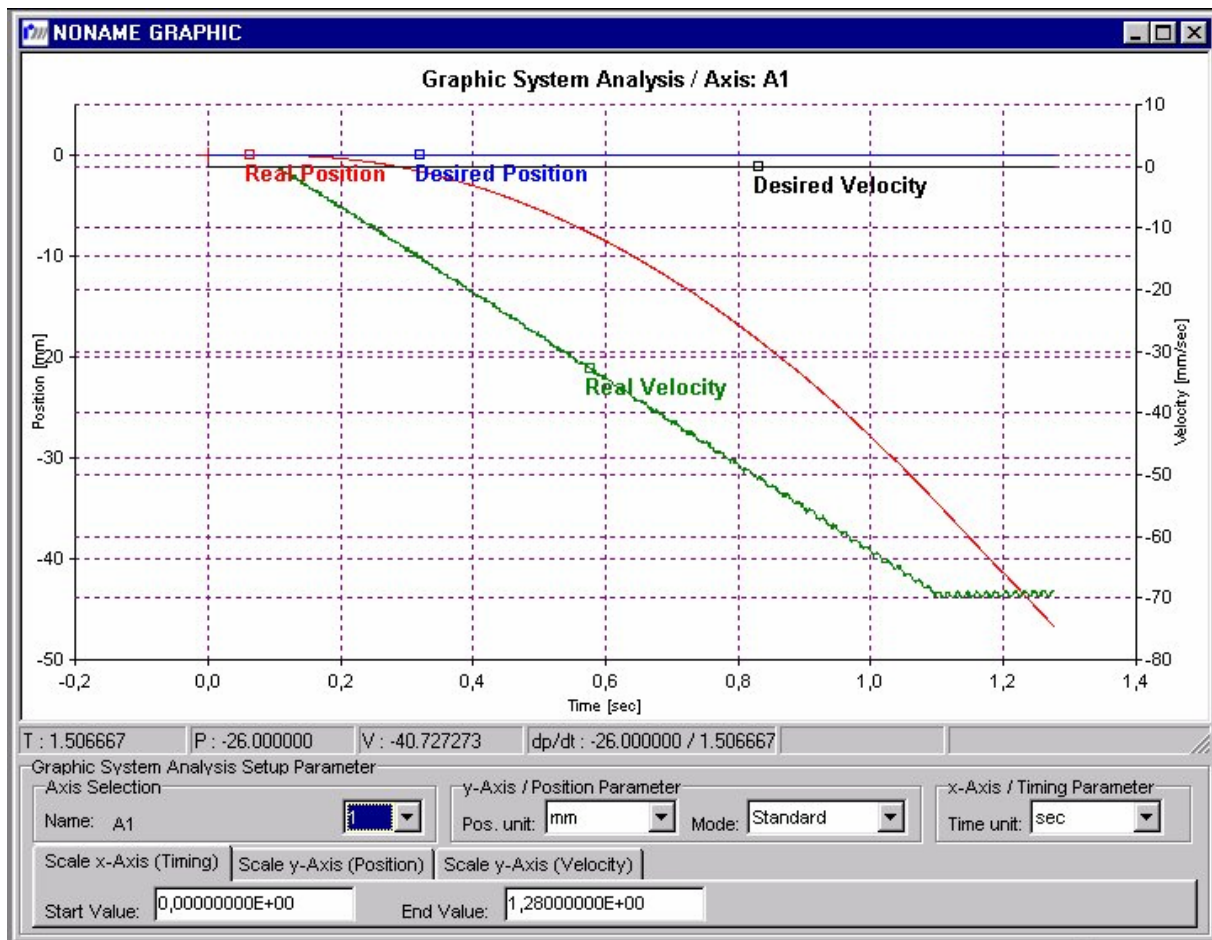


Figure 03: Step response of a current-controlled drive system with turned phase angle

Also this figure was recorded by the output of a set value voltage of +1 V. This figure may only appear, when a negative set value voltage is put out. However, a positive voltage was put out, here a system with angle rotation is shown. When during the recording of the step response an angle rotation is detected, firstly the phase angle must be corrected. This can be realised through software configuration in mcfg, through changes in wiring or through the respecting configuration of the current amplifier.

Filterdesign with the program mcfg.exe

After step response of the drive system is recorded, i.e. according to Figure01, the actual filterdesign can be realised.

- Enable the graphic window by pressing the ALT key (keep it pressed continuously)

The cursor in the graphic window turns to a cross hairs. Now the cursor is positioned for example on the starting point of the increase of the real velocity (Figure 04).

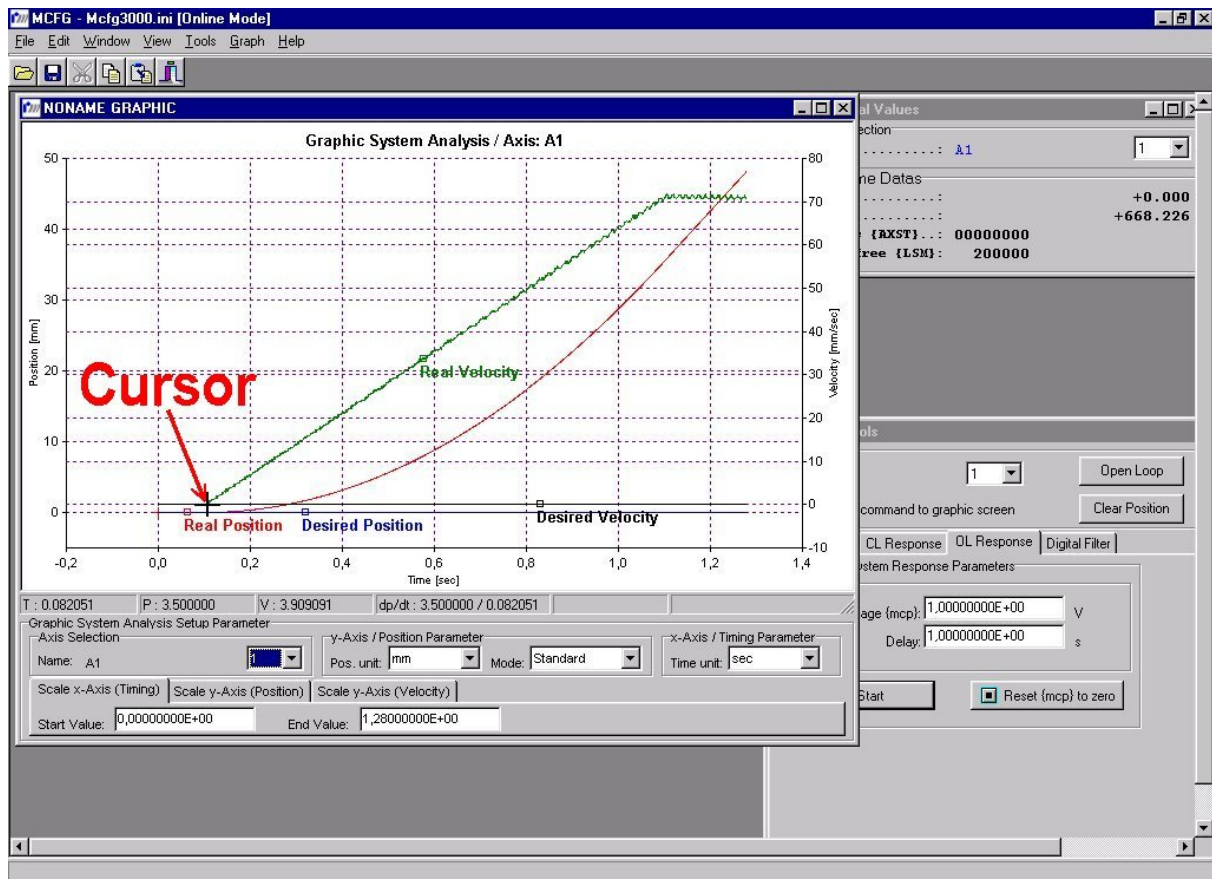


Figure 04: Positioning the cursor on the starting point

- Press the left mouse key, to get a broken straight line out from this point. Keep the Alt-key pressed during this procedure.

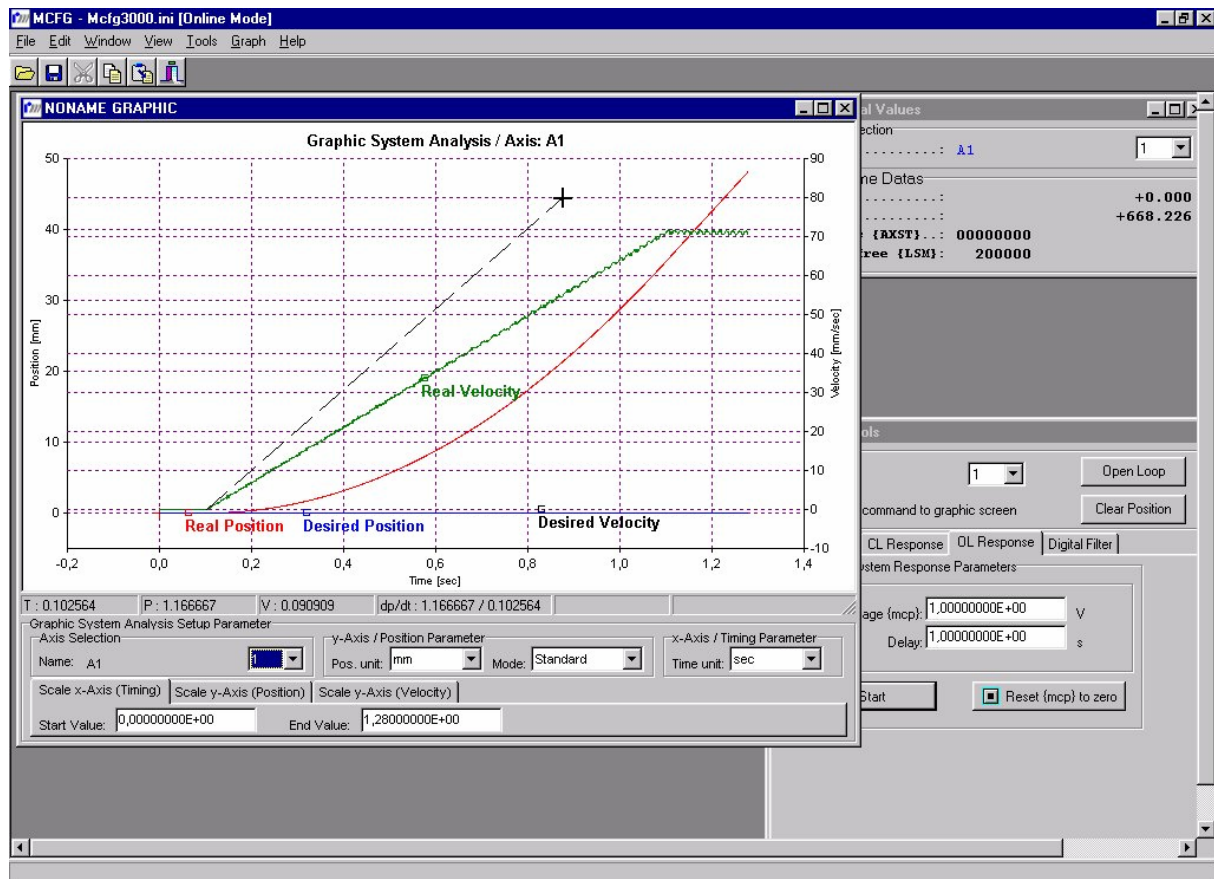


Figure 05: Drawing a straight line out of the starting point

This straight line is positioned in the way that it covers with the Real Velocity. So the increase of the velocity shall be calculated. Thus, it is of no importance where starting and end points are placed, but it is important that the inclination of the drawn line corresponds with the inclination of the real velocity.

Zooming in the graphic window

If the increase of the real velocity cannot be recognized so clearly as in this example, because the increase is nearly vertical, firstly, the increase line must be zoomed out so that the determination of the increase can be realised with sufficient precision. Hereto follow the steps below:

- Position the cursor on the edge of the window you want show zoomed out, for example left below.
- Confirm the Shift-key and draw with the left mouse key a field window (keeping the Shift-key pressed)
- After releasing the mouse key, the selected window is shown zoomed.

If needed, the zoom procedure can be repeated various times. In order to return to the original presentation mode:

- Click with the left mouse key and pressed Shift-key into the graphics window.

Starting the parameter calculation

After positioning the increase straight line in the way that it corresponds with the inclination of the real velocity, release the left mouse key (and afterwards also the Alt-key). Now a screen window opens, like in Figure 06.

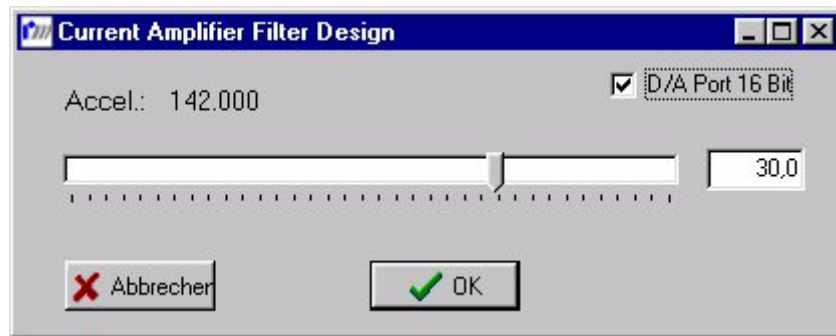


Figure 06: Filterparameter calculation

This figure shows the measured acceleration in digits/second. Furthermore, the required bandwidth (between 0.1 and approx. 300 kHz) can be selected with the shift option.

The bandwidth of the controller is a measurement for the hardness of the closed bearing control loop, but cannot be selected in any size because of the stability of the closed control loop. After confirming the OK-button the calculation is started with the indicated values. The determined values will be registered in the window "Motion Tools" on the register board "digital filter".

Important: The calculated controller parameters are only valid if the recording of the step response was realised in the *linear operation range*. You can check if you are in the linear operation range, if you double or half the output value. In these cases the indicated acceleration also must be doubled or halved (approx.). If for example the acceleration value does not change at doubling the output voltage, the system is within the limitation. The here calculated controller parameters are not valid.

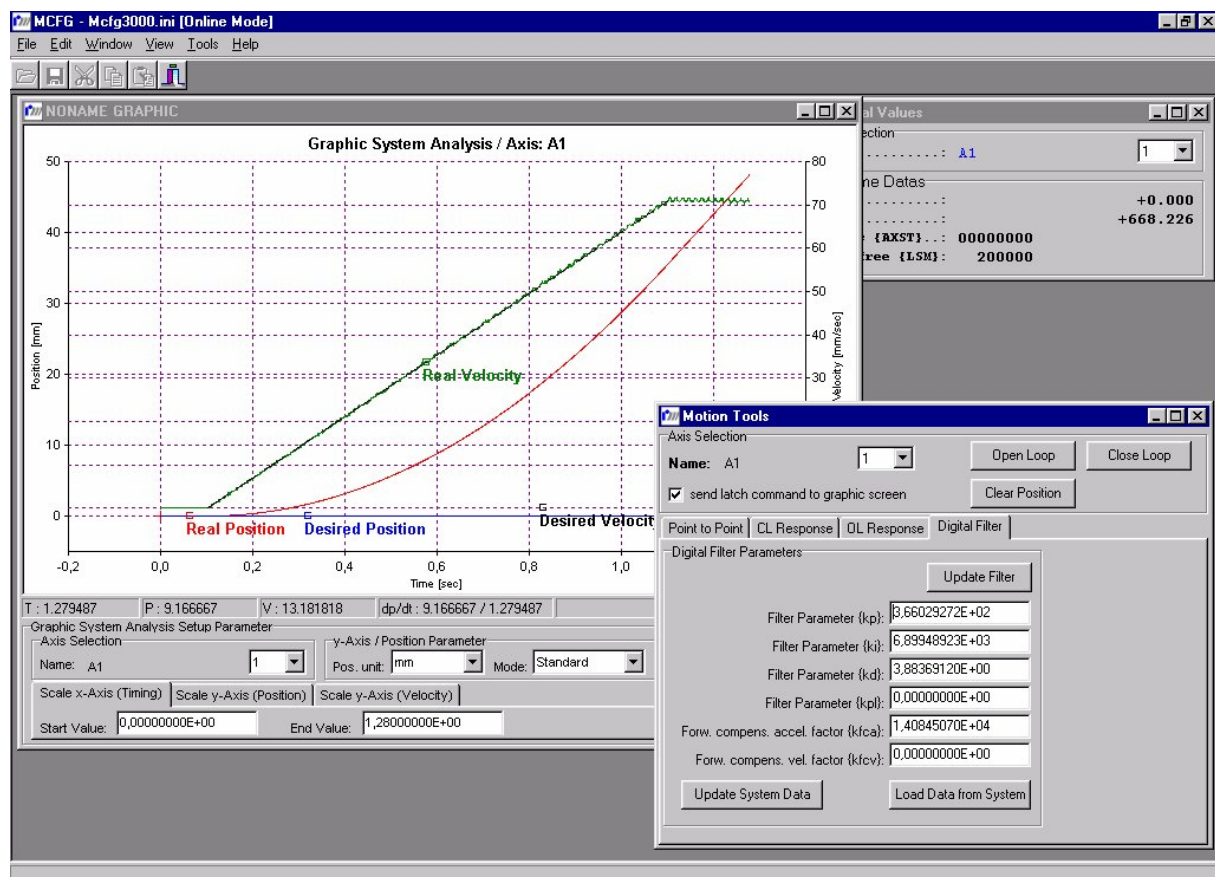


Figure 07: The calculated filterparameter were entered in the „Motion-Tools” window

- Click on the buttons “Update Filter”, “Clear Position” and “Close Loop” to close the bearing control loop with the now calculated values. Now check the behaviour of the bearing controller in respect of precision and stability.

When the measurement of the system acceleration at a system with angle rotation was realised, appears instead of the window acc. Figure 06 firstly the following message:



Figure 06a: Drive system with angle rotation

- Confirm the button

After confirming the button, the window “Current Amplifier Filter Design” appears, but with disabled OK-key. In this case firstly the phase rotation must be corrected or the increase straight line must be set correctly.

Recording a traversing movement

After selecting the register board “Point to Point”, you can define a traverse profile. One example hereto is shown in Figure 08.

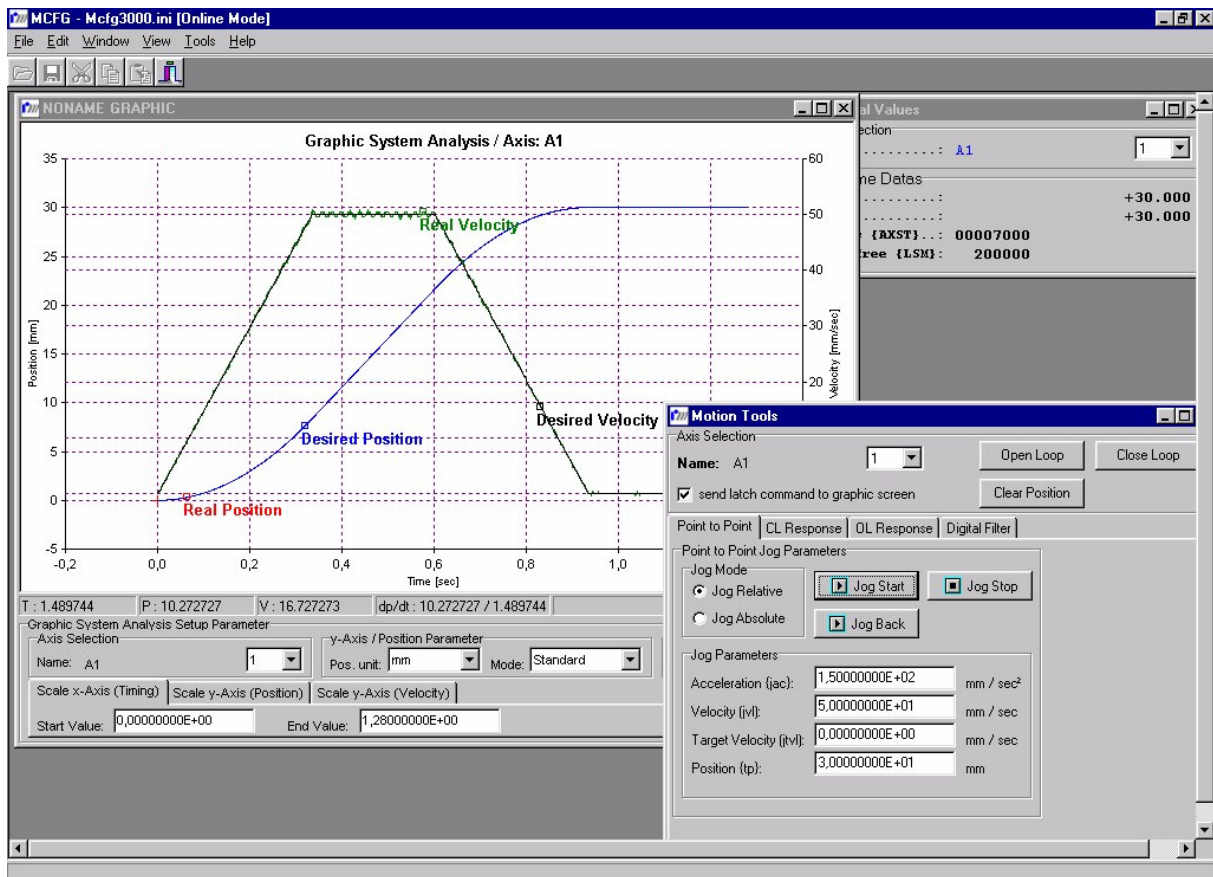


Figure 08: Trapezoid speed profile realised

Here, please note that a profile target velocity (jtv) is entered from 0, as otherwise the axis would not stop at the profile end.

- Click on the button “Jog Start” to start the traverse profile and the recording process.

It is recommended to return the profile after the ending immediately with “Jog Back”, so that the traversing range will not be left over the time.

- Press the right mouse key and “Update Screen” (see above) to update the graphic window.

Now the traversed traversing profile will be shown in the graphic window and now can be evaluated regarding stability and precision.

In order to improve the presentation, for example for reaching the target position, the respecting area can be zoomed.

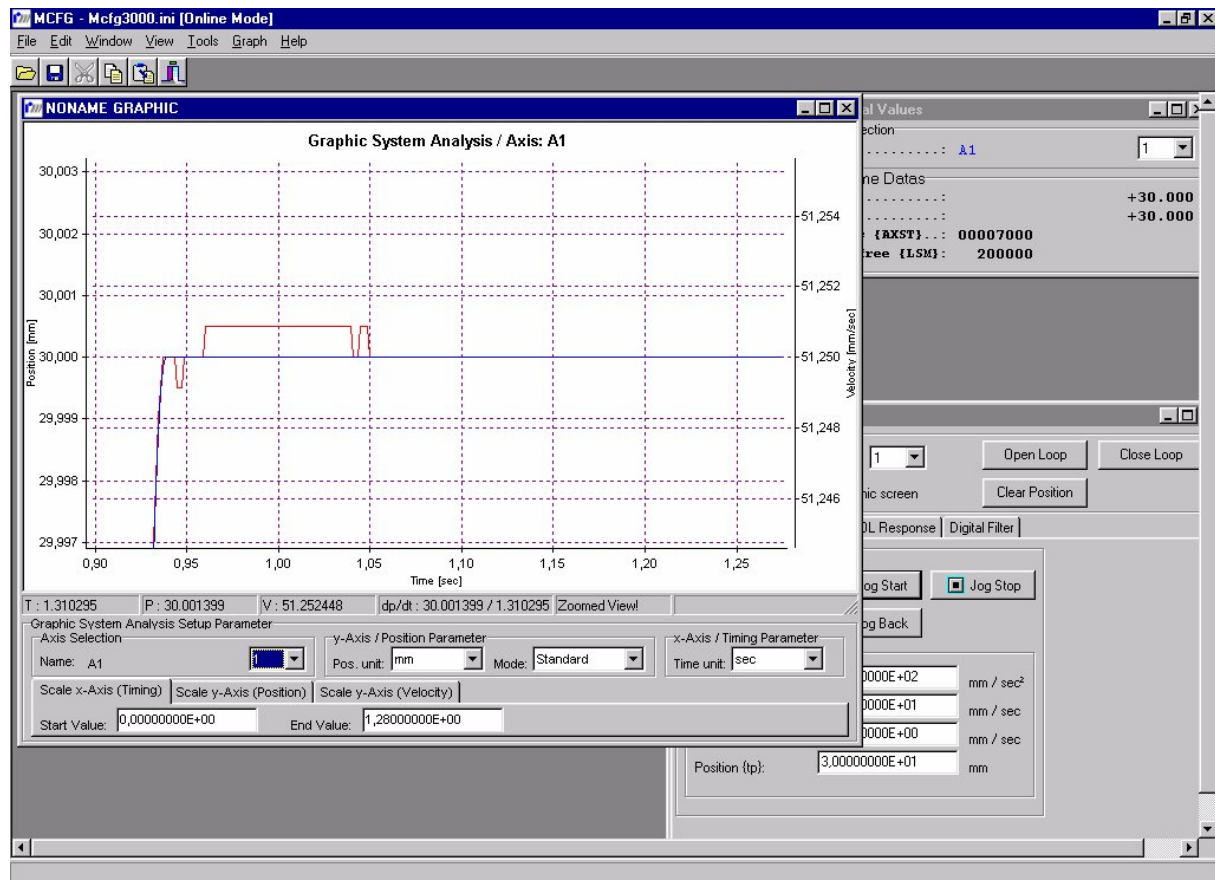


Figure 09: Reaching the target from figure 08 (zoomed out)

The figure above shows the optimal reaching of the target position. In practice, this firstly will not occur. The parameter calculation often must be repeated various times. In order not to record each time the step response of the system, for the concerned axis two windows can be opened. The recording of the step response can be realised for example in the first window only once. The evaluation of the traversing profiles can be realised in the second graphic window. If the calculation shall be started newly, in order to determine another parameter set with changed controller bandwidth, then the increase straight line is drawn newly in the first graphic window.

For the fine adjustment, afterwards, the single parameters can be adjusted manually.

- In the window "Motion Tools", enable the button "Update Filter" in order to overtake changed parameters.

The practice shows that for example the calculated integral part K_i often can be selected double or four times higher than the calculated value.

Saving the calculated values

After finding the optimal filterparameter, these must be saved in SYSTEM.DAT:

- Hereto enable the button "Update System Data" (window "Motion Tools" register board "Digital Filter").
- Afterwards, open the window "System Data".

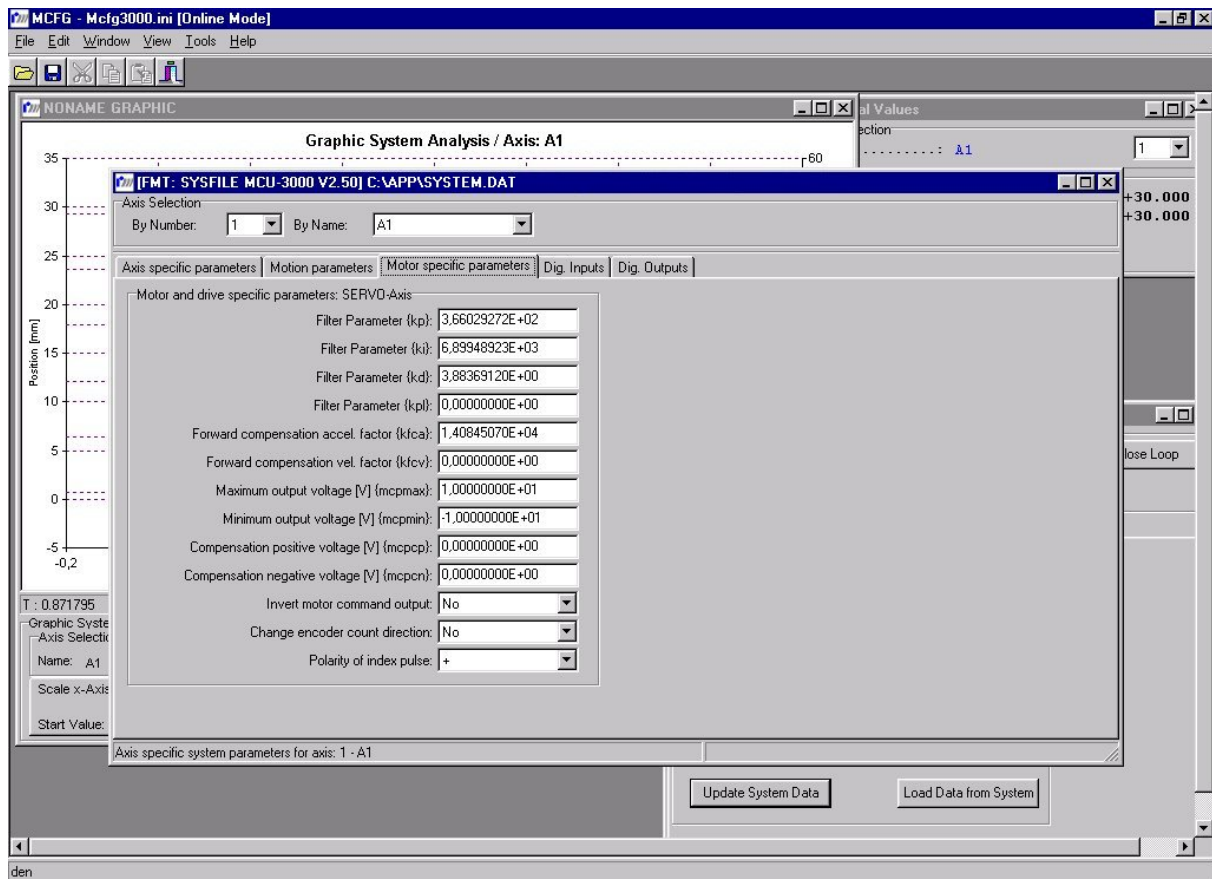


Figure 10: Window „System Data“

The filterparameters were entered at the respecting axis on the register board “Motor specific Parameters”. By saving this system data (e.g. Click on the button “Save” at booted system), the following mask appears:



Figure 11: Warning when saving

- Click on OK to confirm the message.

After confirming the message, the filterparameters will be saved in the file SYSTEM.DAT and are automatically available at the next system start with this system file.