

# EPICS Database Exercises

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Many slides from Andrew Johnson,  
APS/ANL

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# Extending “ramp\_with\_limit.db” further

```
# A ramp from 0 to 'limit', were limit
# can be configured via a separate record
record(ao, "$($):limit")
{
    field(DRVH, "100")
    field(DOL, "10")
    field(PINI, "YES")
}

record(calc, "$($):ramp")
{
    field(SCAN, "1 second")
    field(INPA, "$($):ramp")
    field(INPB, "$($):limit")
    field(CALC, "A<B ? A+1 : 0")
}
```

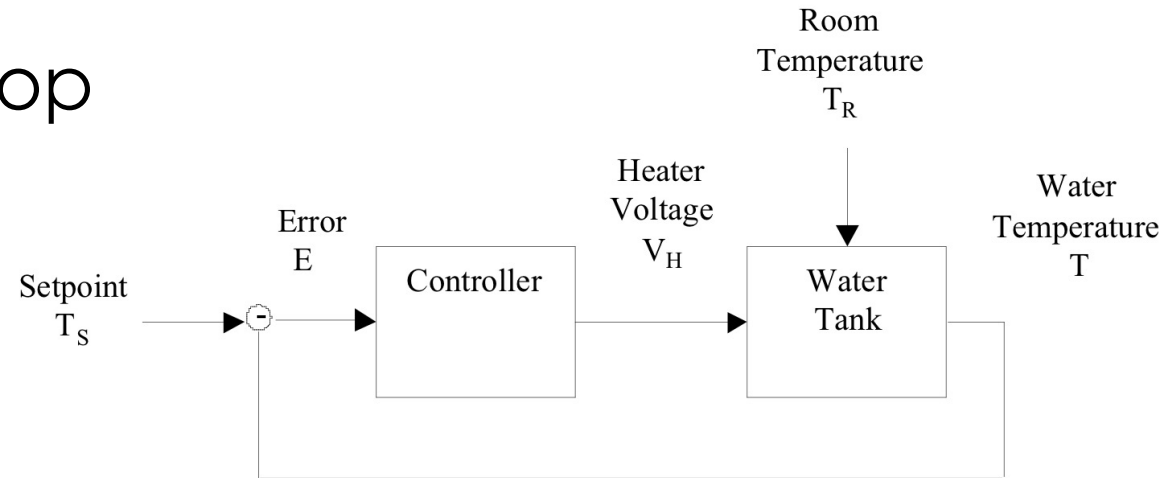
1. Add a “\$(S):step” record and use it in the CALC to allow stepping the ramp in increments between 0.1 and 5.
2. Create a display for all 3 records.
3. Make the “..ramp” display units of “a.u.” and have it show 2 digits after the decimal point
4. Add a widget to the display that allows controlling the rate at which the logic processes
5. Configure the “..ramp” to generate an alarm when the value is above 8
6. Configure the “..ramp” to only send values to an archive when the value changes by 2 or more
7. Add an analog output record which, when processed, resets the “.:limit” to 10. Add a button to the display which triggers this reset.

# Binary records

1. Create a BO with values “Normal” and “Doubled”, add to display
2. Use in the “...:ramp” to double the effective step size
3. Configure the BO such that when setting it to “Doubled”, it will revert to “Normal” after 5 seconds

# Heater Control Simulation

- Typical control loop



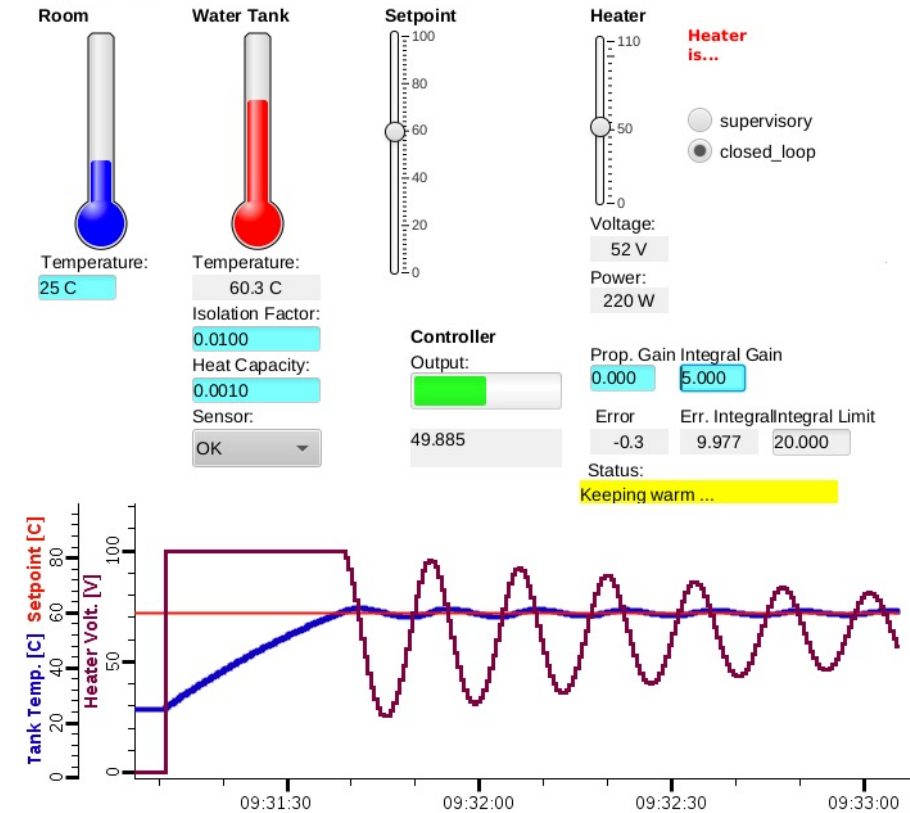
- PID Controller

$$O(n) = K_P E(n) + K_I \sum_i E(i) dT + K_D [E(n) - E(n-1)] / dT$$

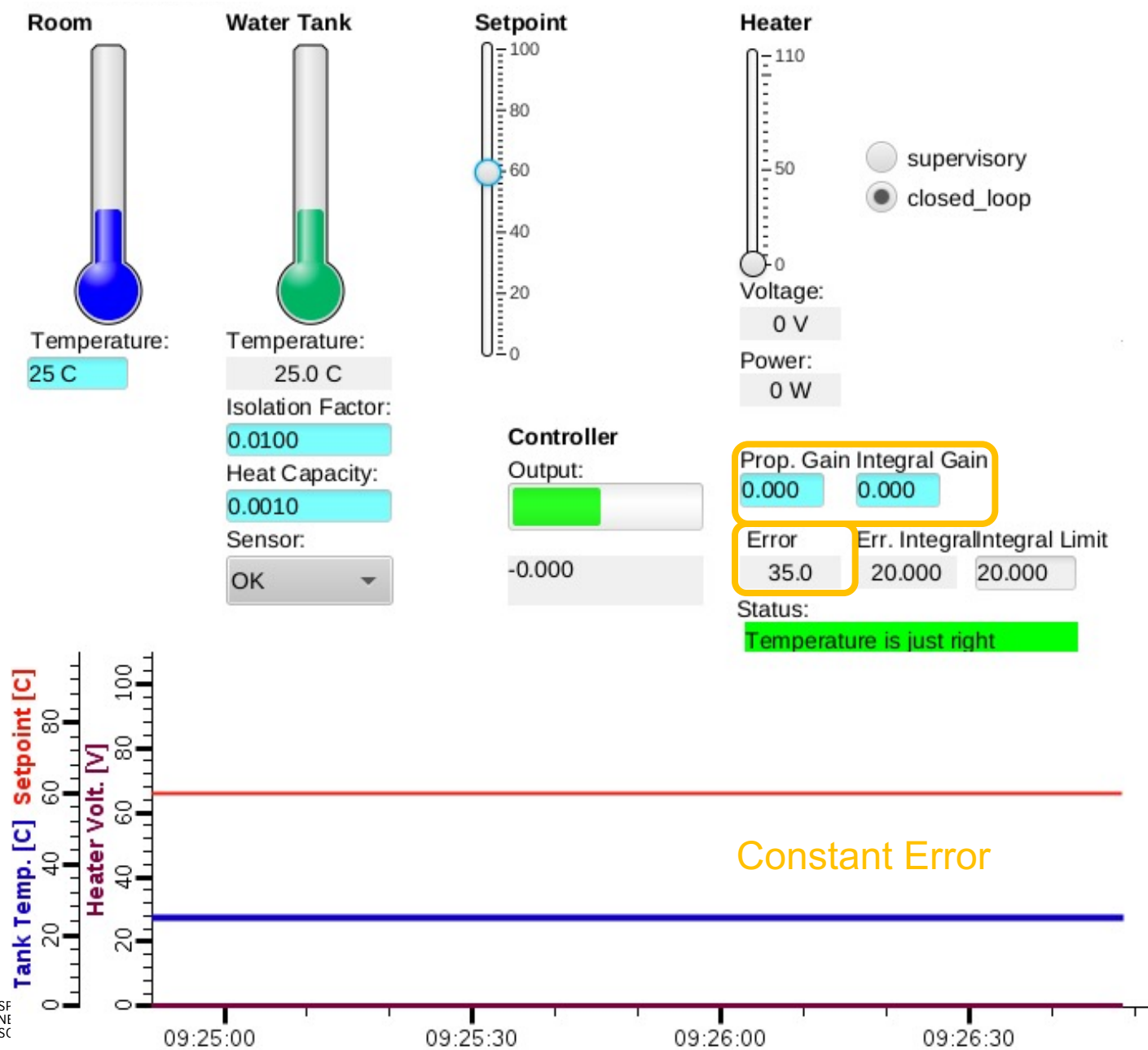
- Update period  $dT$
- Error readings  $E(n)$
- Output  $O(n)$
- Proportional Gain  $K_P$ , Integral  $K_I$ , Derivative  $K_D$

# Study the "fishtank" example

1. Go to examples/\*fishtank
2. Start IOC: `./st.cmd`
3. Open heater.bob

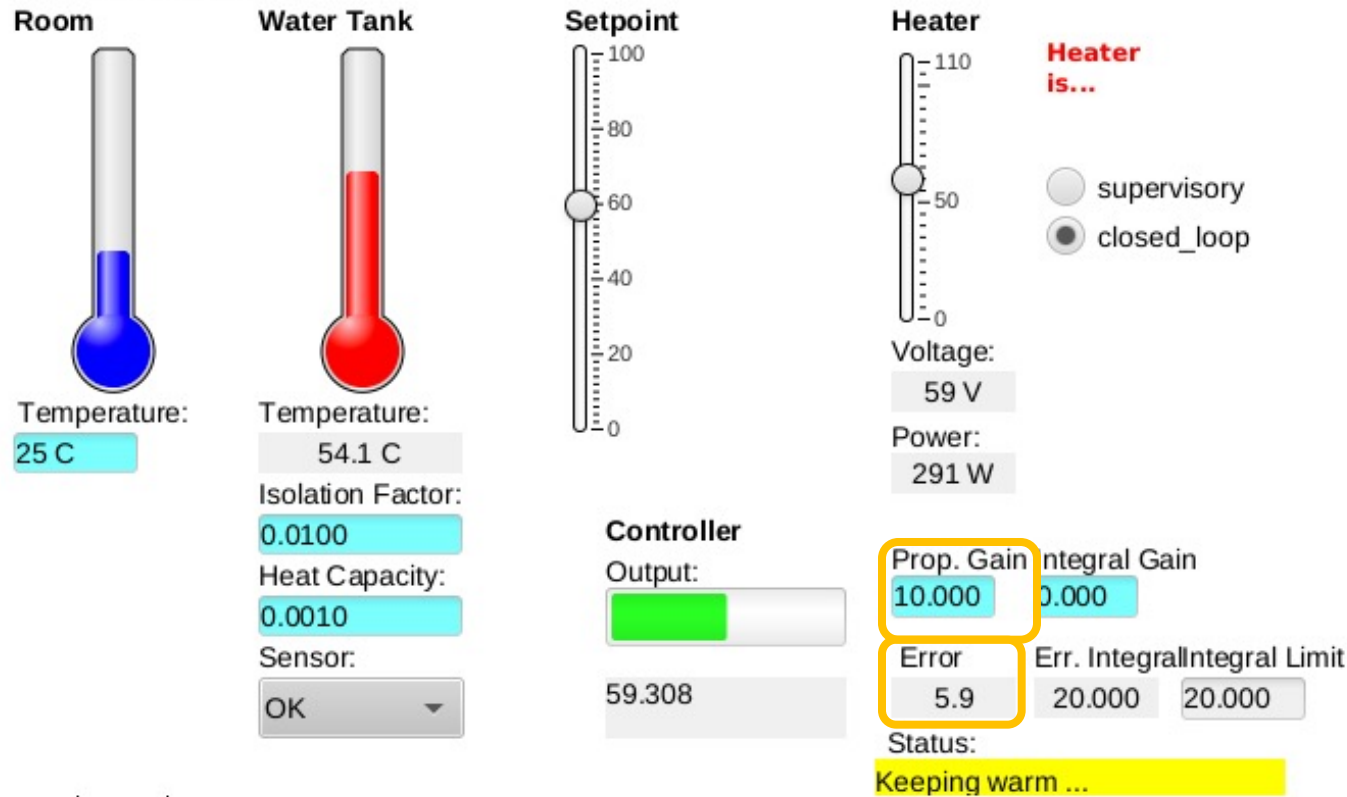


# No Control

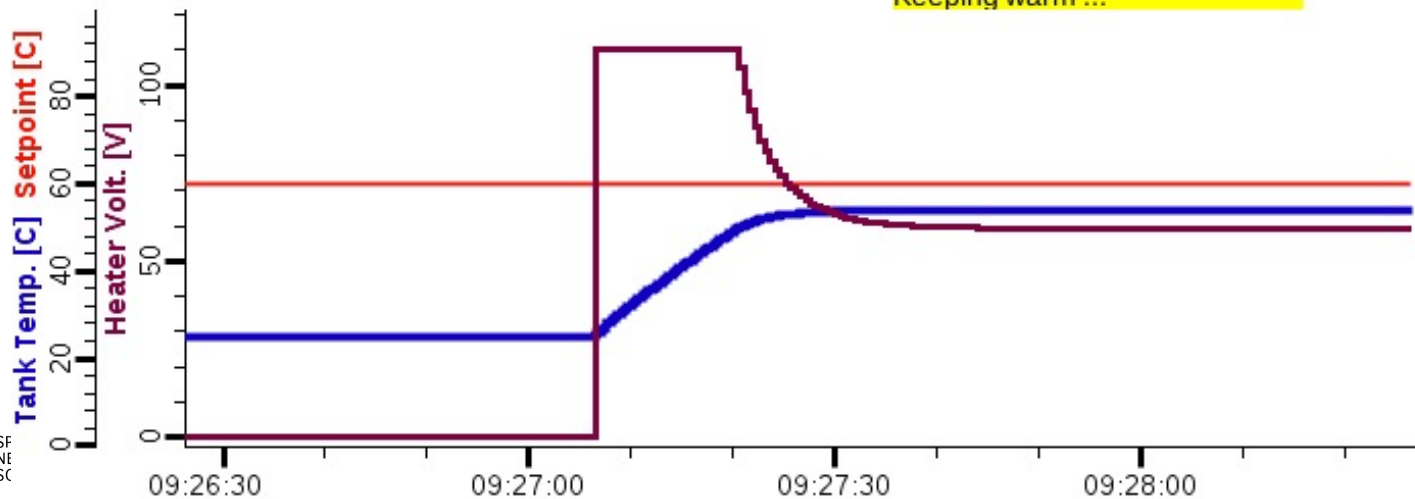


1. Set the Prop and Int. gain to zero
2. Verify that tank temperature ignores the Setpoint

# Only Proportional Control

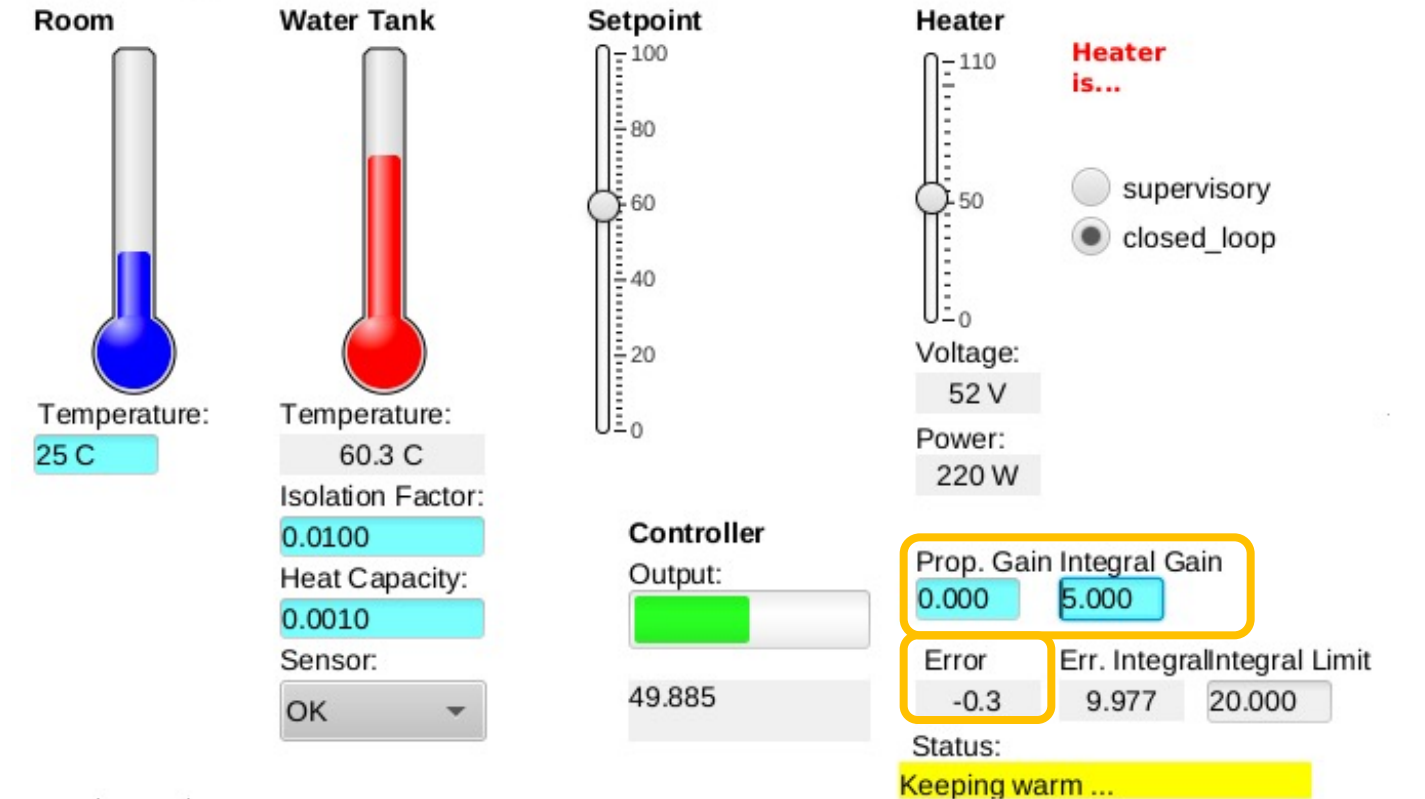


1. Set the Prop. gain
2. Verify that tank temperature reacts to setpoint, but doesn't quite reach it

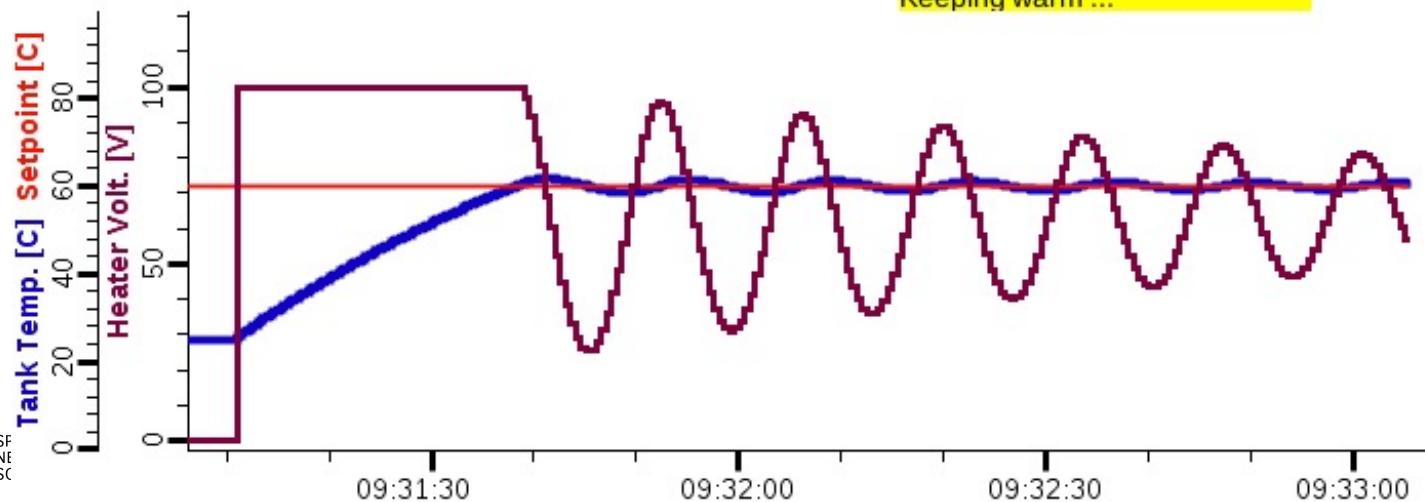


Small residual Error

# Only Integral Control



1. Set only the Integral gain
2. Verify that tank temperature reacts to setpoint. Can you find a good value for the int. gain?



Eventually,  
no Error!

.. but Ringing



# Study database: User Inputs to Simulation

- Note use of Macros
- Note use of *Analog Output* for user *Input* because of DRVL/DRVH

```
record(ao, "$(user):room")
{
  field(DESC, "Room Temperature")
  field(EGU, "C")
  field(HOPR, "40")
  field(LOPR, "0")
  field(DRVL, "0")
  field(DRVH, "40")
  field(DOL, "25")
  field(PINI, "YES")
}
```

```
record(ao, "$(user):setpoint")
{
  field(DESC, "Temperature Setpoint")
  field(EGU, "C")
  field(HOPR, "0")
  field(LOPR, "100")
  field(DRVL, "0")
  field(DRVH, "100")
  field(PREC, "1")
  field(DOL, "30")
  field(PINI, "YES")
}
```

# Simulated Tank Temperature

```
# supervisory: user can adjust voltage
# closed_loop: PID (in separate control.db) sets voltage
# When PID is INVALID, go back to 0 voltage
record(ao, "$(user):heat_v")
{
    field(DESC, "Heater Voltage")
    field(EGU, "V")
    field(DRVL, "0")
    field(DRVH, "110")
    field(DOL, "$(user):PID MS")
    field(OMSL, "closed_loop")
    field(IVOA, "Set output to IVOV")
    field(IVOV, "0")
}

# ~1100 Watt heater when run with 110V:
# P = U I = U^2 / R, R~12 Ohm
record(calc, "$(user):heat_Pwr")
{
    field(DESC, "Heater Power")
    field(EGU, "W")
    field(INPA, "$(user):heat_v PP NMS")
    field(CALC, "A*A/12.1")
}

# Every second, calculate new temperature
# based on current temperature,
# room temperature and heater
#
# A - current temperature
# B - room temperature
# C - heater power
# D - isolation factor (water <-> room)
# E - heat capacity (would really depend on water volume)
#
# Very roughly with
# T(n+1) = T(n) + [Troom-T(n)]*Isolation_factor
#           + heater_pwr * heat_capacity
record(calc, "$(user):tank_clc")
{
    field(DESC, "Water Tank Simulation")
    field(SCAN, "1 second")
    field(INPA, "$(user):tank_clc.VAL")
    field(INPB, "$(user):room")
    field(INPC, "$(user):heat_Pwr PP NMS")
    field(INPD, "0.01")
    field(INPE, "0.001")
    field(CALC, "A+(B-A)*D+C*E")
    field(FLNK, "$(user):tank")
}
```

- What causes all these records to process?

# PID (without D) Computation

```
# Error computation's SCAN drives the rest
record(calc, "$(user):error")
{
    field(DESC, "Temperature Error")
    field(SCAN, "1 second")
    field(INPA, "$(user):setpoint")
    field(INPB, "$(user):tank MS")
    field(CALC, "A-B")
    field(PREC, "1")
    field(FLNK, "$(user):integral")
}
# Integrate error (A) but assert that
# it stays within limits (C)
record(calc, "$(user):integral")
{
    field(DESC, "Integrate Error for PID")
    field(PREC, "3")
    field(INPA, "$(user):error PP MS")
    field(INPB, "$(user):integral")
    field(INPC, "20.0")
    field(CALC, "(B+A>C)?C:(B+A<-C)?(-C):(B+A)")
    field(FLNK, "$(user):PID")
}
}
```

```
# PID (PI) computation of new output
# A - Kp
# B - error
# C - Ki
# D - error integral
record(calc, "$(user):PID")
{
    field(DESC, "Water Tank PID")
    field(PREC, "3")
    field(LOPR, "0")
    field(HOPR, "110")
    field(INPA, "10.0")
    field(INPB, "$(user):error MS")
    field(INPC, "5.0")
    field(INPD, "$(user):integral MS")
    field(CALC, "A*B+C*D")
}
}
```

# Add Differential Control

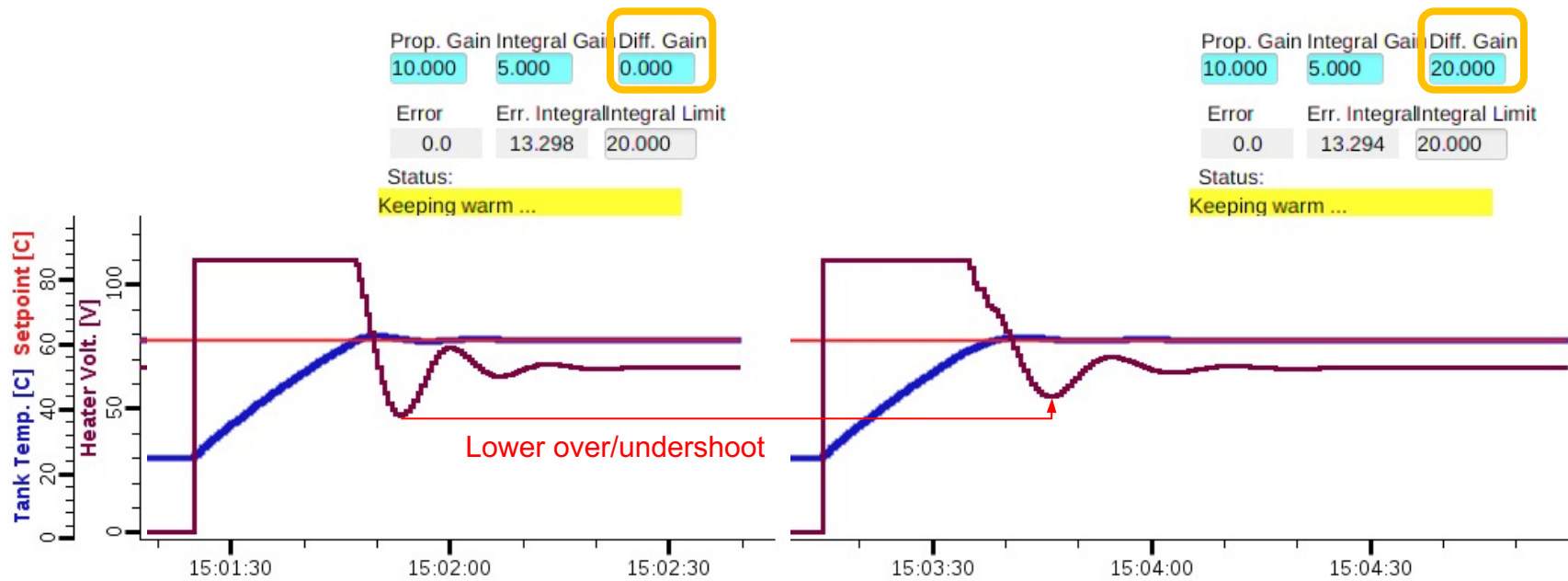
- "Patch" database
- How does it change the processing of records?

```
# Update 'error':
# Make passive (now triggered by new 'error_diff'
record(calc, "$(user):error")
{
    field(SCAN, "Passive")
}

# New computation of change in error triggers
# the error computation
record(calc, "$(user):error_diff")
{
    field(DESC, "Temperature Difference")
    field(SCAN, ".5 second")
    field(INPA, "$(user):error")
    field(INPB, "$(user):error MS PP")
    field(CALC, "(B-A)/0.5")
}

# Every second, calculate new heater voltage via PID (PI)
# A - Kp
# B - error
# C - Ki
# D - error integral
# E - Kd
# F - error differential
record(calc, "$(user):PID")
{
    field(INPE, "0.0")
    field(INPF, "$(user):error_diff MS")
    field(CALC, "A*B+C*D+E*F")
}
```

# Adding Differential Control



# Things to try

- Build a simple on/off fish tank controller
  - Simulate the heater
    - ‘bo’ record to turn on/off
  - Simulate the water temperature
    - ‘calc’ record(s):
      - Temperature rises when heater is on
      - Temperature drops to room temperature when heater is off
  - Add controller
    - ‘ao’ record to allow entering the desired temperature
    - ‘calc’ record(s) to turn heater on/off, automatically keeping water temp. close to setpoint

OK to take inspiration from Heater Control Simulation example

- But don't copy anything without understanding it
- Compare behavior of the P-I controller with on/off controller