Title Automatic Control of Crossflow Grain Dryers, Part 3: Field Testing of a Model-Predictive Controller

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Abstract

In Part 3 of the paper on automatic control of crossflow grain dryers, the field testing of newly developed model-predictive controller is described. The system showed excellence in accuracy, stability and robustness. The moisture content of maize was controlled to be within $\pm 0.7\%$ w.b. of the moisture content to the set-point, at inlet-moisture contents ranging from 21 to 32% w.b. and drying-air temperatures from 85 to 120°C. The controller also displayed excellent compensation characteristics to changes in the drying-air temperature.