

**OLLSCOIL NA hÉIREANN, CORCAIGH**  
THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, CORK

COLÁISTE NA hOLLSCOILE, CORCAIGH  
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, CORK

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**SUMMER EXAMINATIONS, 2008**

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**B.E. DEGREE (ELECTRICAL)**

CONTROL ENGINEERING  
EE4002

Professor C. Delabie  
Professor P. Murphy  
Dr. G. Lightbody

Time allowed: *3 hours*

Answer *four* questions  
All questions carry equal marks

The use of departmental approved non-programmable calculators is permitted

**1.**

- (a) Consider the following unit impulse response from a discrete time process:

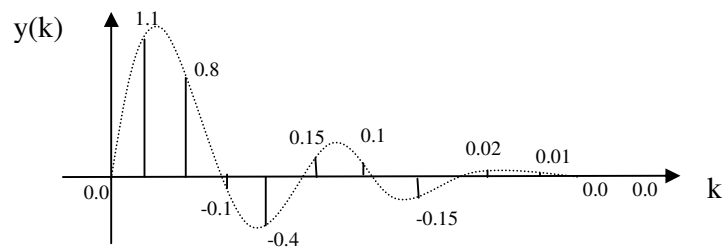


Fig. 1.1 Unit impulse response

Is this process stable?

Sketch the unit step response for this process.

[5 Marks]

- (b) Derive Tustin's transform.

Use Tustin's method, with sample time  $T$ , to develop a discrete-time difference equation representation for the PID compensator,

$$m(t) = K_p \left( e(t) + \frac{1}{T_i} \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau + T_d \frac{de(t)}{dt} \right)$$

What problems do you expect in implementing this discrete PID controller?

[8 Marks]

- (c) Consider the following closed-loop digital control scheme:

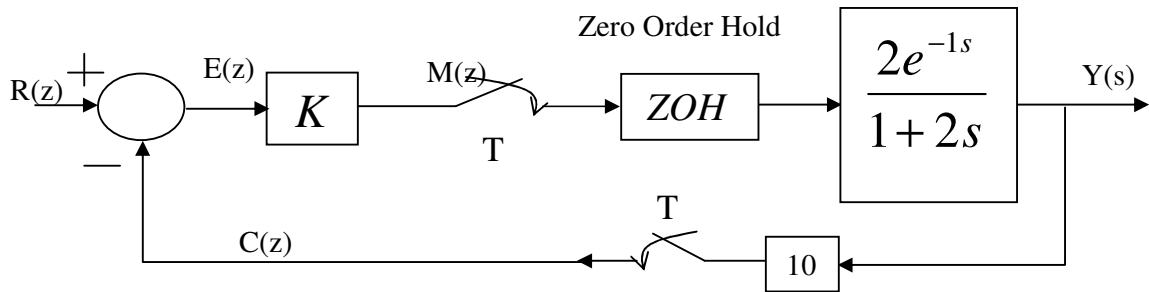


Fig. 1.2 Closed loop digital control system

The sample time  $T=1$  second.

Sketch the root locus diagram for this process, on the  $Z$  plane template, and use it to explain how the closed-loop dynamics depend on the choice of the controller gain  $K$ .

What is the range of  $K$  for stability?

[12 Marks]

2.

- (a) Derive the following deadbeat controller, from a basic prescription of the shape of the desired closed-loop step response,

$$D(z) = \frac{1}{G_m(z)} \frac{1}{z^N - 1}$$

Here  $G_m(z) = C(z)/U(z)$  is the discrete-time transfer function model of the process, with  $N$  representing a tuning parameter, used to determine the desired closed-loop response.

Consider the following discrete-time closed-loop system.

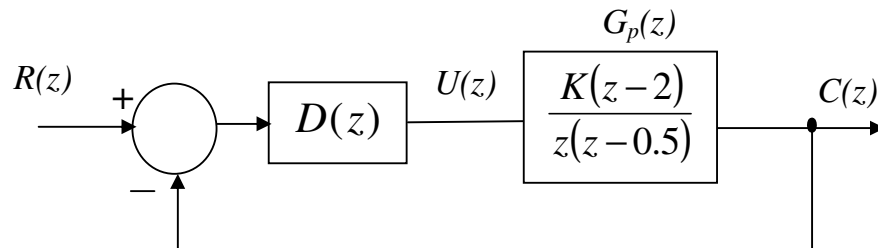


Fig. 2.1 Closed-loop, Discrete-time Process

Show by use of a root-locus plot, why a deadbeat controller will provide unsatisfactory closed-loop performance.

[10 Marks]

- (b) Consider in Figure 2.2, the block diagram of a control scheme designed to control a chemical reactor. Here  $Q_c(t)$  is the flow-rate of fluid in the heat exchanger jacket – it is manipulated by varying the pump voltage  $v(t)$ .  $Q_{in}(t)$  is the flow-rate of the ingredients.

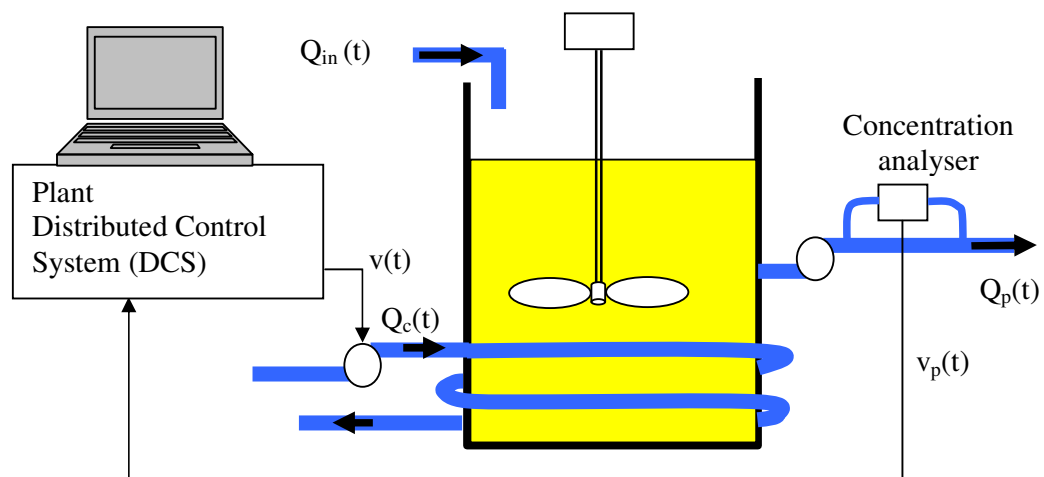


Fig. 2.2 Closed loop control of chemical concentration

The following open-loop transfer function model has been identified between the pump voltage  $v(t)$  and the analyser voltage  $v_p(t)$ :

$$\frac{V_p(s)}{V(s)} = \frac{2e^{-5s}}{1 + 30s}$$

The analyser has been calibrated to output a voltage of 2.0V/(mol l<sup>-1</sup>).

The sampling time for the DCS is 2.0 seconds, and a zero-order hold is assumed. Design a Dahlin's controller, to achieve a closed-loop time constant of 15 seconds.

Sketch the closed-loop time response for the pump voltage  $v(t)$ , for a unit step in the concentration set-point.

[15 marks]

3.

- (a) Derive in full, the following least-squares algorithm, for the identification of the parameters  $\hat{\underline{\theta}}(k)$ , of a discrete-time transfer function. Here  $\Phi(k)$  is a matrix of input and output data, and the vector  $\underline{y}(k)$  contains the sampled process output, up to the current  $k^{\text{th}}$  sample,  $y(k)$ .

$$\hat{\underline{\theta}}(k) = \left( \Phi(k)^T \Phi(k) \right)^{-1} \Phi(k)^T \underline{Y}(k)$$

If a square matrix  $P(k)$  is now defined as  $P(k) = \left( \Phi(k)^T \Phi(k) \right)^{-1}$ , derive the following update equation to obtain  $P(k+1)$  from process data up to the  $(k+1)^{\text{th}}$  sample,

$$P(k+1) = \left( P(k)^{-1} + \underline{\psi}(k+1)\underline{\psi}(k+1)^T \right)^{-1},$$

where vector  $\underline{\psi}(k+1)$  contains process input and output data sampled up to the  $(k+1)^{\text{th}}$  sample.

Show by application of Householder's Matrix Inversion Lemma,

$$(A + BCD)^{-1} = A^{-1} - A^{-1}B(C^{-1} + DA^{-1}B)^{-1}DA^{-1},$$

that the following update equation for the model parameter vector can be obtained:

$$\hat{\underline{\theta}}(k+1) = \left[ P(k) - \frac{P(k)\underline{\psi}(k+1)\underline{\psi}^T(k+1)P(k)}{1 + \underline{\psi}^T(k+1)P(k)\underline{\psi}(k+1)} \right] \left[ \Phi(k)^T \underline{Y}(k) + \underline{\psi}(k+1)y(k+1) \right].$$

[13 marks]

- (b) Consider the closed-loop scheme for the control of antenna angle  $\theta(t)$ ,

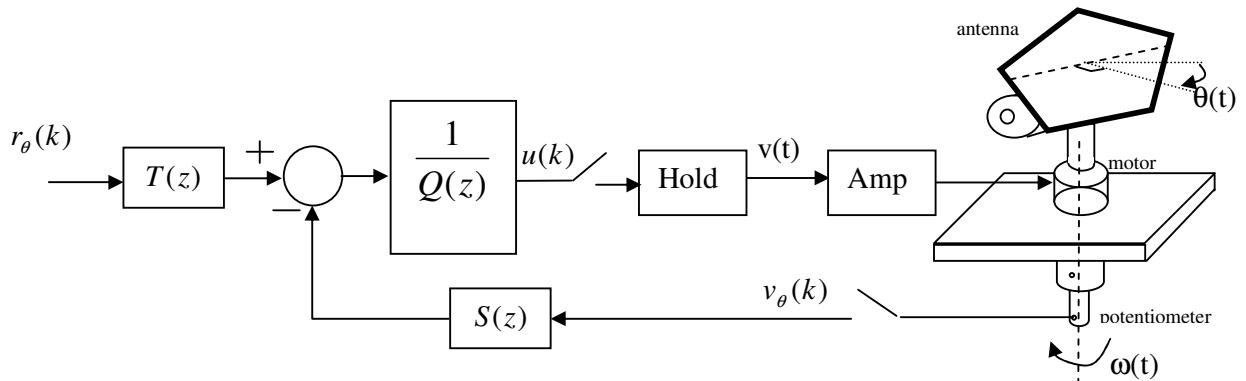


Figure 3.1 Computer control of an antenna positioning system

The following open-loop transfer function has been identified using the least squares technique:

$$\frac{V_{\theta}(z)}{U(z)} = \frac{0.019z^{-1} + 0.018z^{-2}}{1 - 1.82z^{-1} + 0.82z^{-2}}$$

Use the Diophantine pole-placement technique to design the controller polynomials S, Q and T to position the dominant second order poles at  $z = 0.7 \pm 0.3j$ . It is also desired that the resultant closed-loop system will achieve perfect steady-state tracking of step-like set-point signals.

[12 Marks]

4.

- (a) Consider the following second-order SISO process,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u(t)$$

$$y(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Determine the transfer function of this process,  $G(s)=Y(s)/U(s)$ .

Is this system representation controllable and observable?

Determine the transformation  $\underline{z}=T\underline{x}$ , which would transform this system into the control-canonical form.

[10 Marks]

- (b) Consider the following ball-on-beam apparatus consisting of a rigid beam, free to rotate in one plane about its central pivot. A servo-motor is used to rotate the beam. There are two parallel guide rails, on which a steel ball sits.

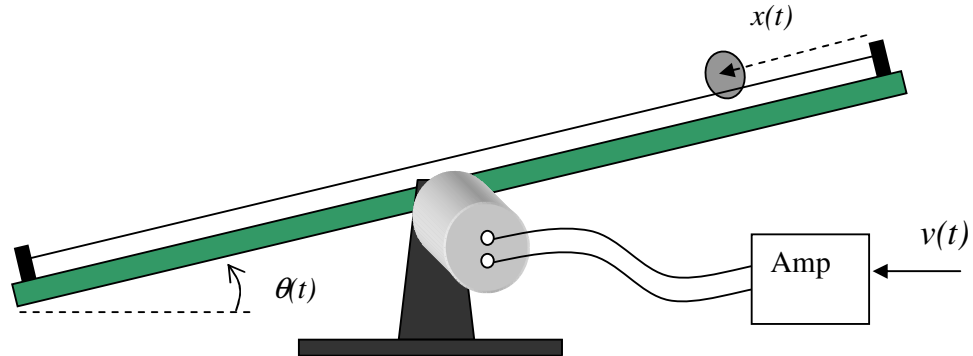


Fig.4.1: Ball-on-Beam Apparatus

Two sensors are available. The first is a simple rotary potentiometer that is used to provide a measure of the beam angle  $\theta(t)$ . The second sensor provides a measurement of the ball position  $x(t)$ , using the wire guide rails as a linear potentiometer.

The gains of the linear and rotary potentiometers are  $K_x$  and  $K_\theta$  respectively

The process can be modelled by the following state-space equations.

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ \dot{x}(t) \\ x(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 7 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ \dot{x}(t) \\ x(t) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} K \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} v(t)$$

With the output measurement equations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_{\theta}(t) \\ v_x(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} K_{\theta} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ \dot{x}(t) \\ x(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

- (i) Give a Simulink representation of this process based on three integrators.

Use this simulation diagram to determine  $G(s) = \frac{V_x(s)}{V(s)}$

If the initial states of the process are,

$$\theta(0) = \theta_0 \quad x(0) = x_0 \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{x}(0) = 0,$$

show that the zero-input response for the voltage  $v_x(t)$  is,

$$v_x(t) = K_x (3.5\theta_0 t^2 + x_0)$$

[8 marks]

- (ii) Show that the discrete-time state-space representation of the process could be approximated by,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \theta(k+1) \\ \dot{x}(k+1) \\ x(k+1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 7T & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & T & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \theta(k) \\ \dot{x}(k) \\ x(k) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} KT \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} v(k)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_{\theta}(k) \\ v_x(k) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} K_{\theta} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \theta(k) \\ \dot{x}(k) \\ x(k) \end{bmatrix}$$

where a zero-order hold is assumed and the sample time  $T$  is small.

Confirm that this discrete approximation has three equal poles at  $z=1$ .

[7 Marks]



5.

- (a) Consider the following  $N^{\text{th}}$  order open-loop process, with one input  $u(t)$  and a single output  $y(t)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt}\underline{x}(t) &= A\underline{x}(t) + Bu(t) \\ y(t) &= C\underline{x}(t)\end{aligned}$$

If this process is under the following state space control-law with integral action,

$$u(t) = -K\underline{x}(t) + K_I \int_0^t (r(\tau) - y(\tau)) d\tau$$

show that the closed-loop characteristic equation is:

$$\det \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} sI_N - A + BK & -BK_I \\ \hline C & s \end{array} \right] = 0$$

[8 Marks]

- (b) Consider the magnetic levitation system:

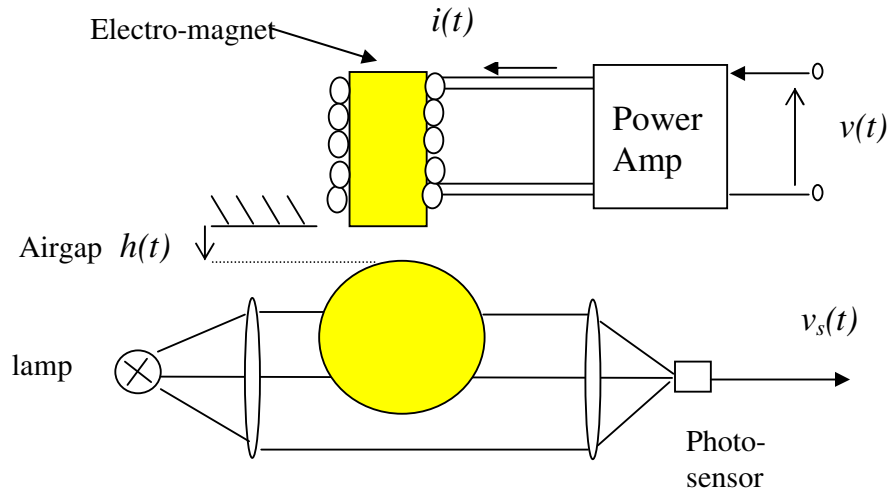


Fig. 5.1 Magnetic Levitation System

This could be modelled by the following differential equation:

$$m \frac{d^2 h}{dt^2} = mg - \frac{Kv^2(t)}{h(t)}$$

Here  $v(t)$  is the voltage applied to the power amplifier and  $h(t)$  the airgap.

The following sensor calibration curve has been obtained that relates the sensor output voltage  $v_s(t)$  to the airgap  $h(t)$

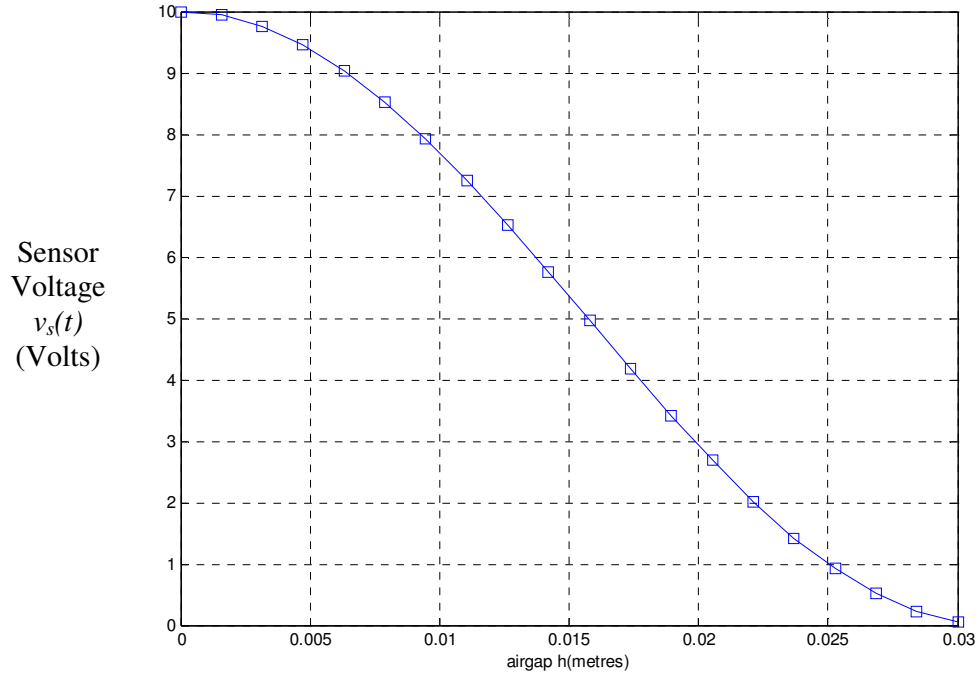


Fig. 5.2 Sensor calibration curve

The process parameters are:

$$m=0.02\text{Kg} \quad K=2.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ NmV}^{-2} \quad g=10 \text{ ms}^{-2}$$

Design a state-space controller to maintain a constant airgap of 15mm.

State clearly all the assumptions that you have made in your design.

[17 Marks]

6.

- (a) Consider the following  $N^{\text{th}}$  order open-loop process, with single input  $u(t)$ , single output  $y(t)$ , and state-vector  $\underline{x}(t)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt}\underline{x}(t) &= A\underline{x}(t) + B u(t) \\ y(t) &= C\underline{x}(t)\end{aligned}$$

This process is controlled using a state-space regulator, with gain matrix  $K$ . The state vector is not measured directly, but is estimated as  $\hat{\underline{x}}(t)$  using a full-state Luenberger observer with estimator gain matrix  $G$ .

- (i) Develop fully the following representation of the closed loop system,

$$\frac{d}{dt}\begin{bmatrix} \underline{x}(t) \\ \underline{e}(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A - BK & BK \\ 0 & A - GC \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \underline{x}(t) \\ \underline{e}(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

where the estimation error  $\underline{e}(t)$  is defined as,  $\underline{e}(t) = \underline{x}(t) - \hat{\underline{x}}(t)$

- (ii) Use this representation of the closed-loop process to explain the “Separation Principle”, and how this principle is applied in state-space control design.

[10 Marks]

- (b) A closed-loop control system for a single joint of a robotic manipulator can be represented by the following block diagram,

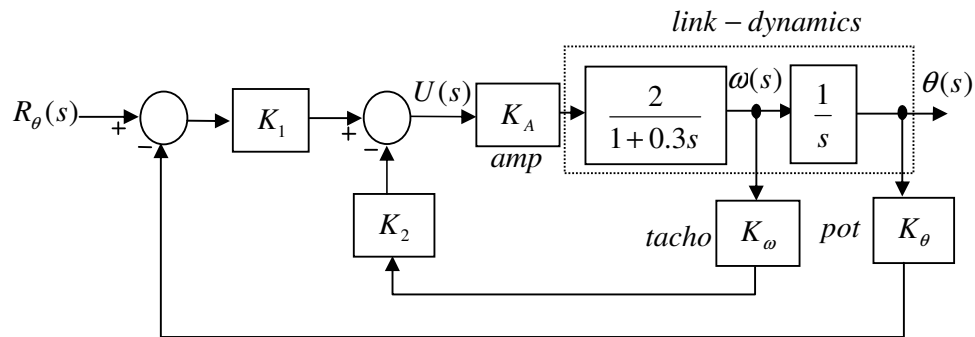


Fig. 6.1 Closed-loop control of a single robotic joint

Where  $u(t)$  is the input voltage and  $\theta(t)$  the angle of rotation in radians. The sensor gains are  $K_\theta = 5\text{volt/rad}$ , and  $K_\omega = 1\text{volt rad}^{-1}\text{s}$ . The power amplifier gain is  $K_A = 0.8$ .

- (i) Determine the controller gains  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ , to place both closed-loop poles at  $s = -10$ .
- (ii) It was decided that it was too expensive to employ a tachometer to measure the rotational speed.

Design a full-order Luenberger observer to provide estimates of the states of this process for use with the controller designed above.

Draw a simulation diagram representing the complete controller, incorporating the control-law and the observer.

[15 Marks]