

Lecture 1

A Motivating Case Study

Consider

- a **practical** temperature control of this LT
- with most simple **first-order dynamics**

Go through

- continuous-time control
- discrete-time control

To show

- similarity and difference between them
- and elements of the latter

To motivate further study of

- general systems and
- general tools for analysis and design

2.1 The Problem Description

The Plant: A Lecture Theater:



The plant is the object to be controlled--- LT.

What to be really controlled is some variable, called *the output (variable)* --- the temperature.

To control needs to manipulate some **input**.

Control Problem

Design a temperature control system

- which consists of the plant and controller
- which has “good” performance

Since the plant is given and usually can not be changed, control engineering is actually to deal with measurement, actuator, **controller design** and implementation to have “good” performance

Good Performance

- Stability
the temperature will not go colder and colder or hotter and hotter or cycles between extremes
- Steady state accuracy
At the steady state, the temperature should reach the desired temperature
- Transient Response
the temperature has fast response, little overshoots

Robust: Performs well under uncertainties

- To disturbances
On a hot day, is it too warm or on a cold day, is it too cold?
- To errors in modelling
Suppose our parameters are wrong, does the system still work?
- To partial equipment failure
If a thermocouple malfunctions, does the whole system collapse?

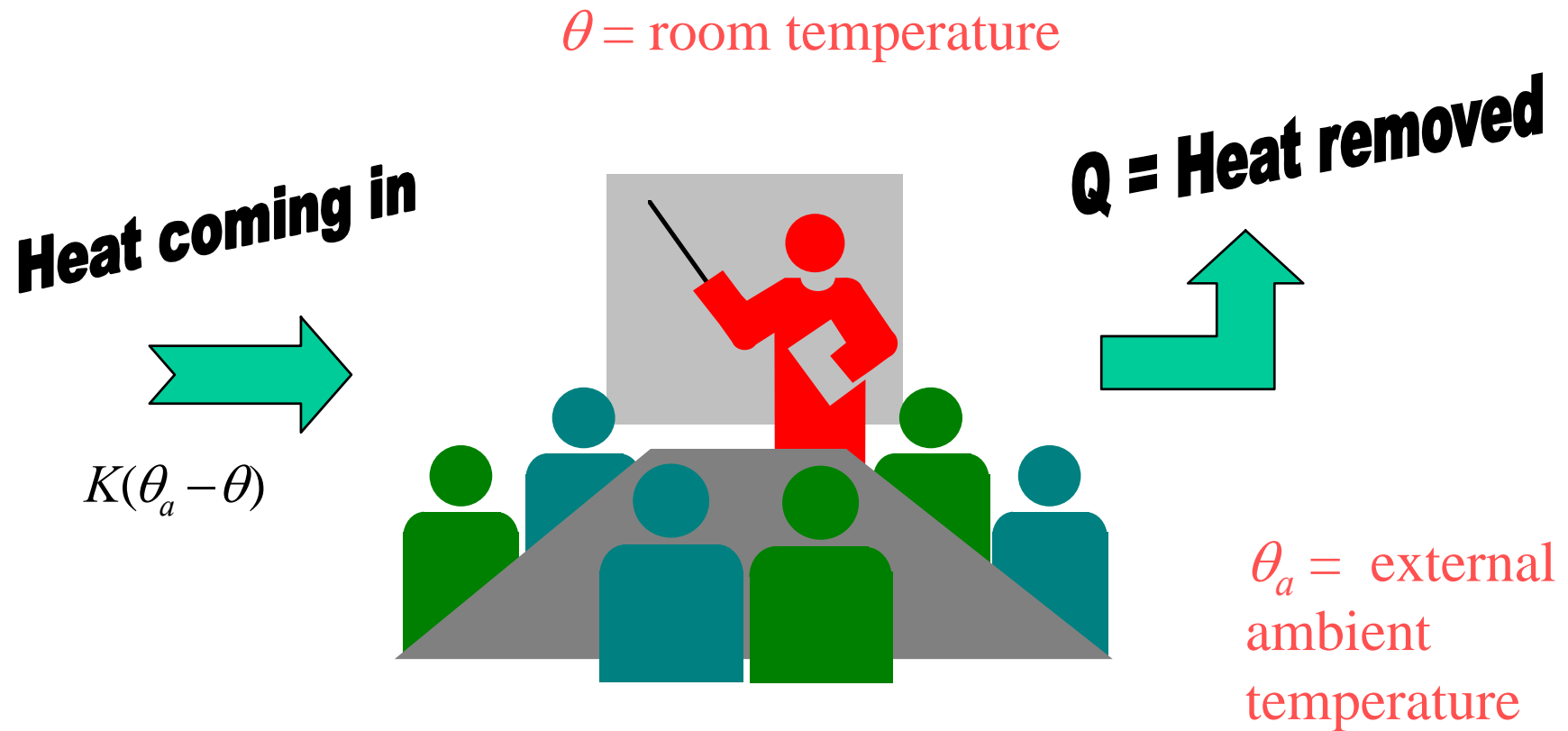
Need a solution for controller design!

Relevant Issues:

- Performance specifications
speed of response, accuracy, robustness
- Model of the lecture theatre
Parameters: size of LT, wall insulation properties,
ambient temperature
- Digital or analog control
digital – choose sampling time
- Controller Structure – PI, PID, adaptive, lead, lag, etc
- Controller parameters
- Simulation and implementation

1.2 Continuous time control

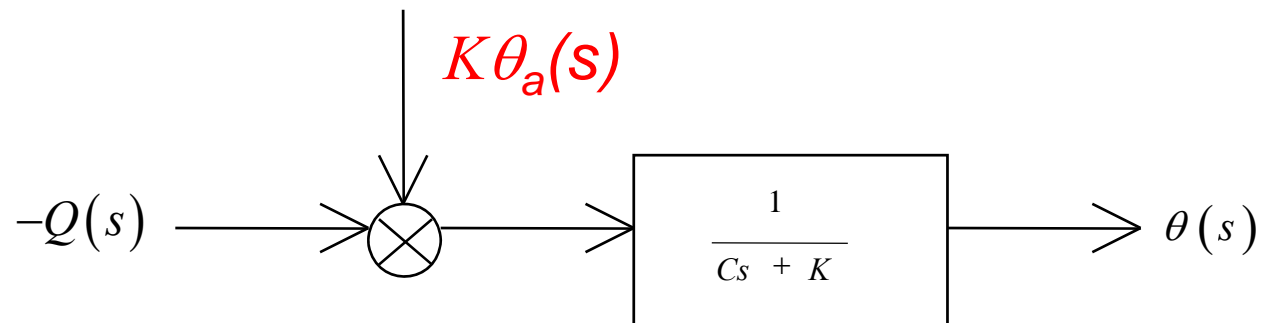
A Plant Model



$$C \frac{d\theta}{dt} = K(\theta_a - \theta) - Q$$

$$Cs \theta(s) = K[\theta_a(s) - \theta(s)] - Q(s)$$

$$\theta(s) = \frac{1}{Cs + K} [K\theta_a(s) - Q(s)]$$



Plant Characteristics

Plant Time domain model :

$$C \frac{d\theta}{dt} = K (\theta_a - \theta) - Q$$

Plant s-domain model :

$$\theta(s) = \frac{1}{Cs + K} [K\theta_a(s) - Q(s)]$$

Plant pole at $s = -K/C$, hence stable if $K > 0$, $C > 0$.

Plant Time constant = C/K

Steady state output when $\frac{d\theta}{dt} \rightarrow 0$, is

$$\theta_{ss} = \theta_a - \frac{Q}{K}$$

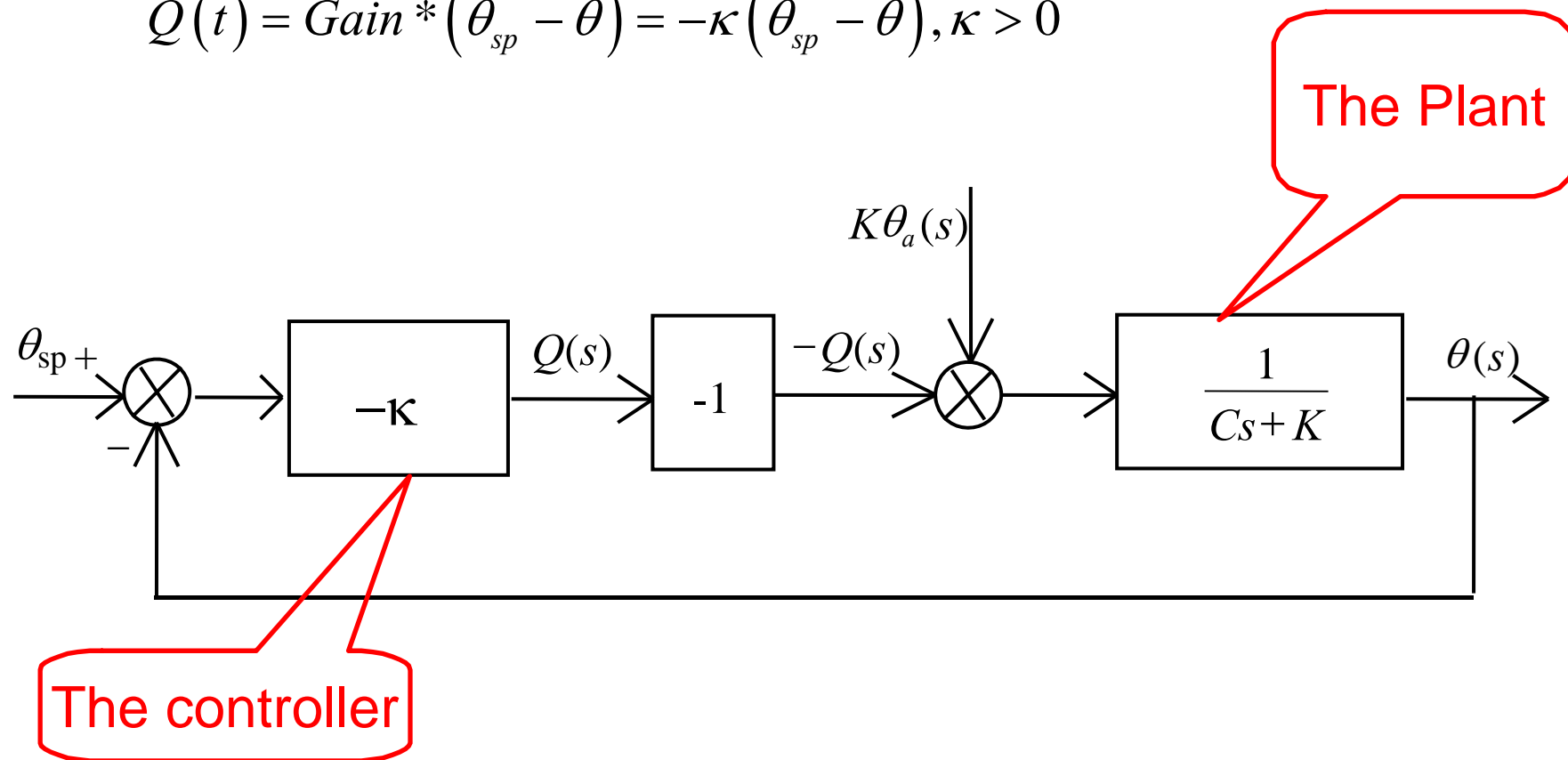
Notice that output depends on Q , K and ambient temp, θ_a

Q is the rate of heat energy that the air conditioner is able to remove

Question : What happens when K and θ_a change?

Closed-Loop Proportional Control

$$Q(t) = \text{Gain} * (\theta_{sp} - \theta) = -\kappa (\theta_{sp} - \theta), \kappa > 0$$



Closed-Loop Control Equation

Plant: $C \frac{d\theta}{dt} = K(\theta_a - \theta) - Q$

Controller: $Q(t) = -\kappa(\theta_{sp} - \theta)$

CL: $C \frac{d\theta}{dt} = \kappa(\theta_{sp} - \theta) + K(\theta_a - \theta)$

$$C \frac{d\theta}{dt} + (K + \kappa)\theta = \kappa\theta_{sp} + K\theta_a$$



Set point
Variable



Disturbance
Variable

Steady state analysis

$$C \frac{d\theta}{dt} + (K + \kappa)\theta = \kappa\theta_{sp} + K\theta_a$$

It is always stable. Suppose that θ_{sp} and θ_a are constant,

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \theta_{ss} = \frac{\kappa}{K + \kappa}\theta_{sp} + \frac{K}{K + \kappa}\theta_a$$

- θ_{ss} is not equal to θ_{sp} . There is an offset – not a good design
- A change in the ambient temperature would also change the steady state output temperature.
- But if κ is very large, we get better steady state accuracy,

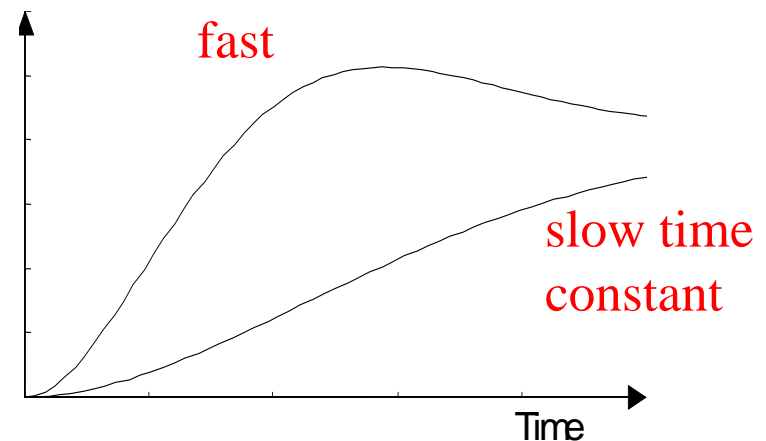
$$\theta_{ss} \approx \theta_{sp} \text{ for}$$

$$\frac{\kappa}{K + \kappa} \rightarrow 1 \text{ and } \frac{K}{K + \kappa} \rightarrow 0$$

Transient analysis

Suppose $K, \kappa, C > 0$.

- The time constant is $\tau = \frac{C}{K + \kappa}$
- Characteristic equation: $\tau s + 1 = 0$
- The pole is at $s = -\frac{1}{\tau} < 0$, stable
- If κ is very large, then the time constant is small
- High gain gives us a faster response and better accuracy.
So why not use a very large gain?



Problems with Excessive Gain

- A very small change in θ results in a large change in Q . We may get **large** changes from noisy measurements.
- Our actuator may not be able to deliver large changes in Q .
- System may approach instability. Suppose we have dead time in our plant. We may end up with an unstable system.

$$Q(t) = -\kappa [\theta_{sp} - \theta]$$

$$\Delta Q(t) = \kappa [\Delta \theta]$$



Absolute or rate of change

Simulation: Set-point Response

Suppose $\theta(0)=23\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, $\theta_a=23^{\circ}\text{C}$, $\theta_{sp}=24\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$,
 $C=1$, $K=1$, $\kappa=1$

The CL equation is

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} + 2\theta = \theta_{sp} + \theta_a$$

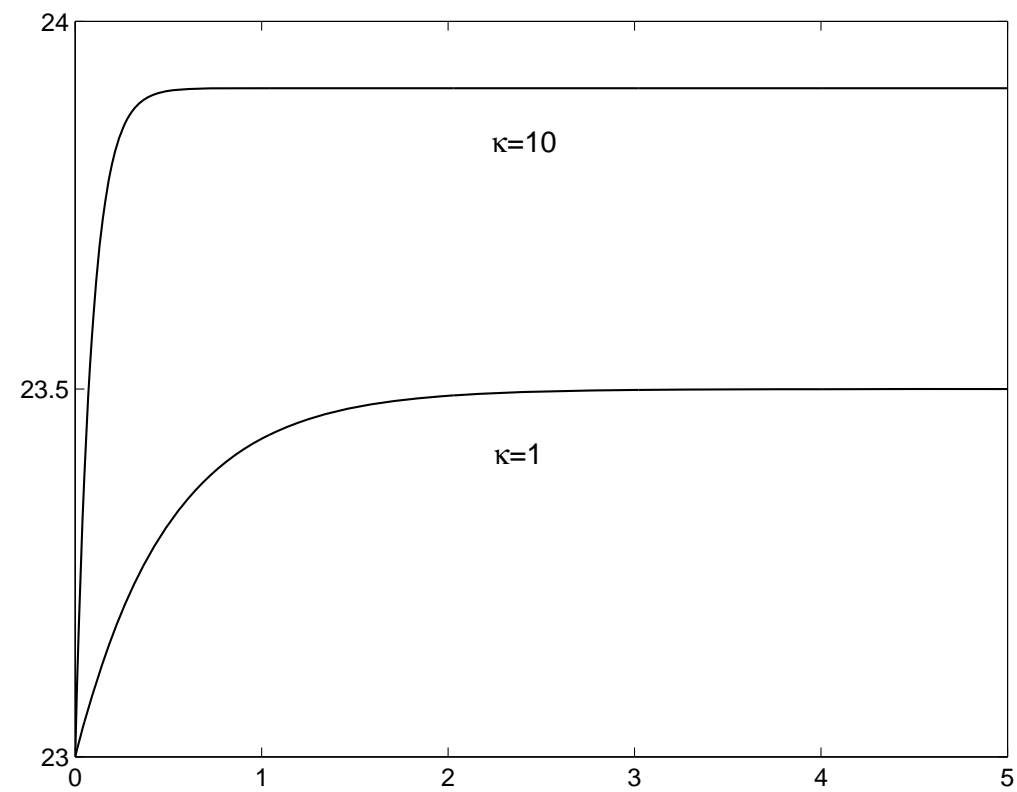
The solution is

$$\theta(t) = 23.5 - 0.5e^{-2t}$$

Let now $\kappa=10$, the solution changes to

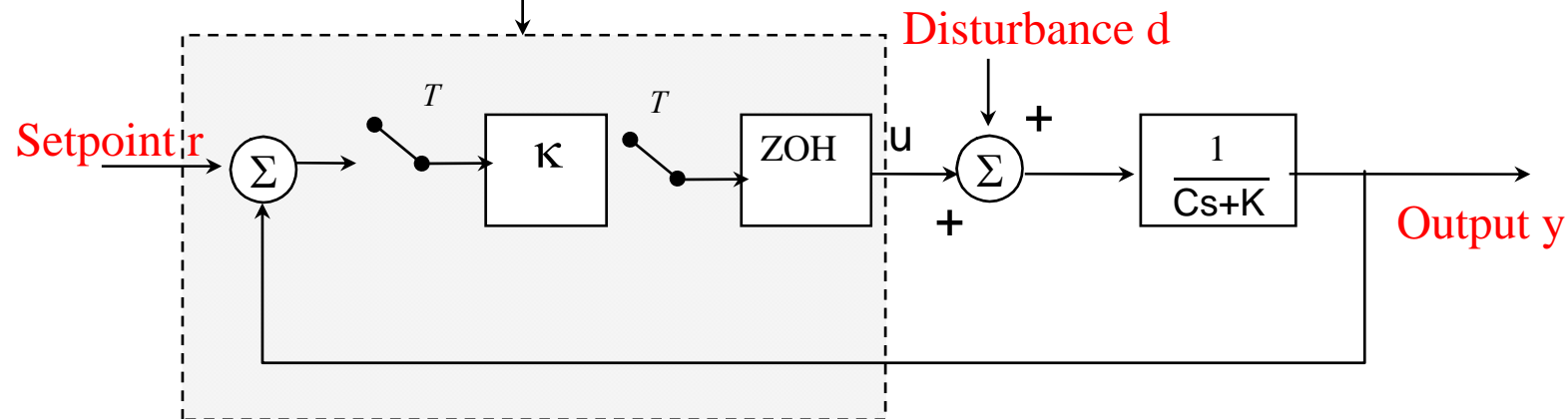
$$\theta(t) = 23.91 - 0.91e^{-11t}$$

Simulation results





1.3 A Digital Version



Suppose we choose to implement the controller in a computer.
 Need to consider sampling of the plant output (temperature).
 Then the controller only has information at the sampling instants
 Input to the plant is only updated at the sampling instants
 What are the consequences? For analysis, we need a digital model!

Digital model of plant

$$C \frac{d\theta}{dt} = K(\theta_a - \theta) - Q$$

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} \approx \frac{\theta(t+T) - \theta(t)}{T}$$

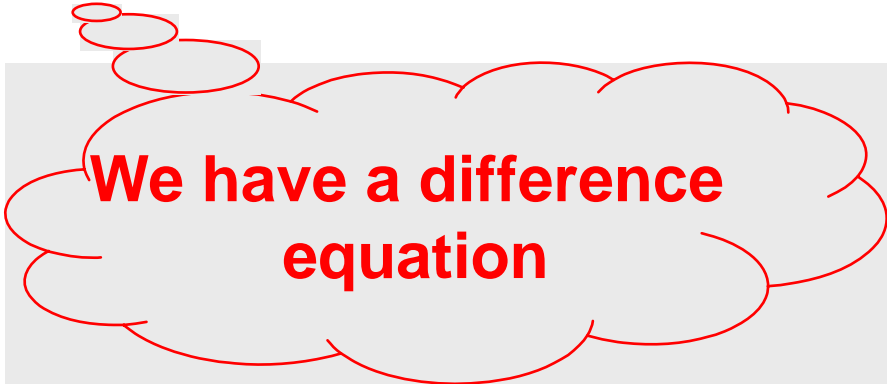
$$C \frac{\theta(t+T) - \theta(t)}{T} = K(\theta_a - \theta) - Q$$

$$\theta(t+T) + \left[\frac{KT}{C} - 1 \right] \theta(t) = \frac{KT}{C} \theta_a(t) - \frac{T}{C} Q(t)$$

Let $t=kT$, or index t by k



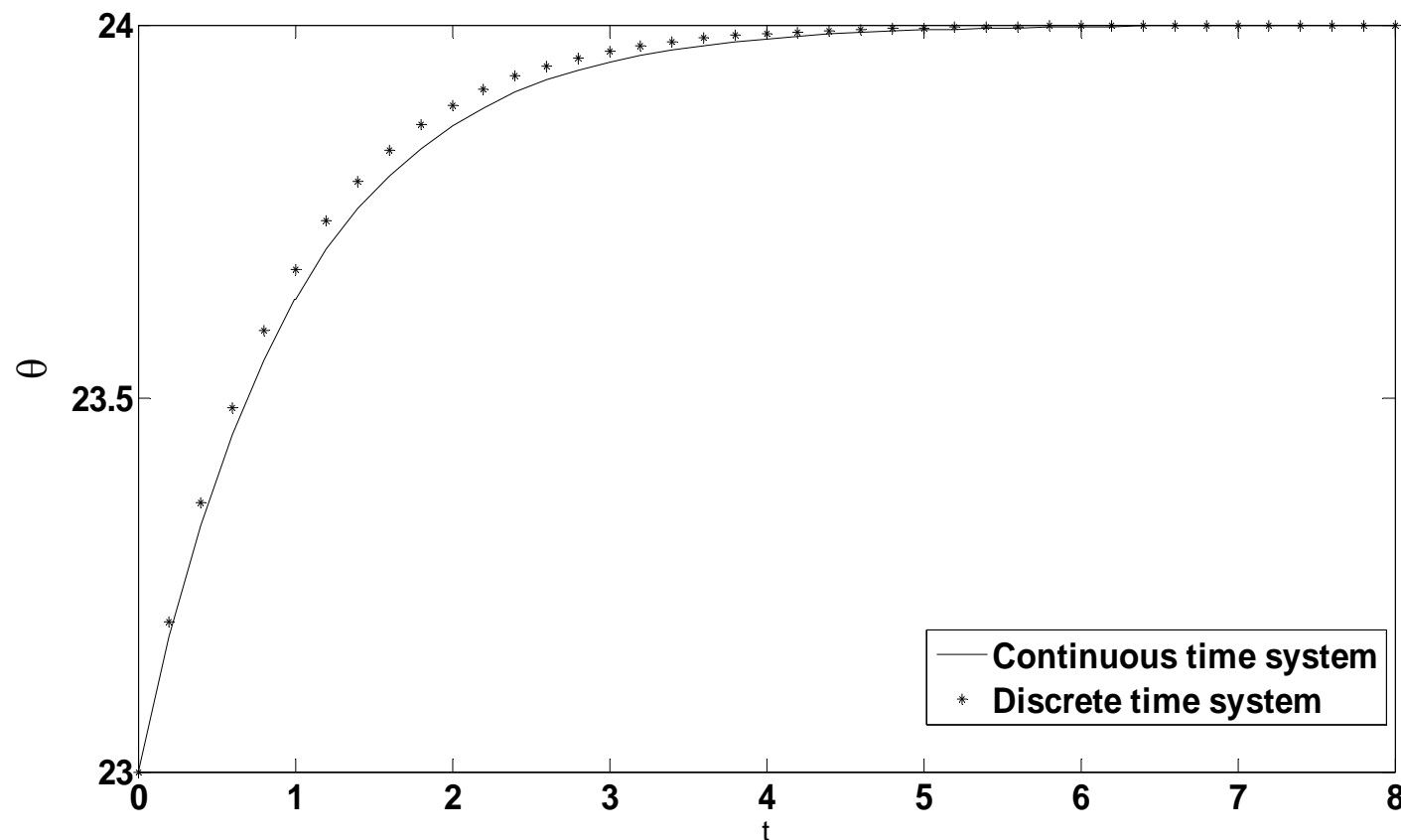
A crude approximation



We have a difference equation

Simulation comparison: continuous and discrete time system

- Let $Q=0$, $C=1$, $K=1$, $T=0.2$, $\theta_a=24^\circ\text{C}$, $\theta(0)=23^\circ\text{C}$,



The Closed-Loop Control

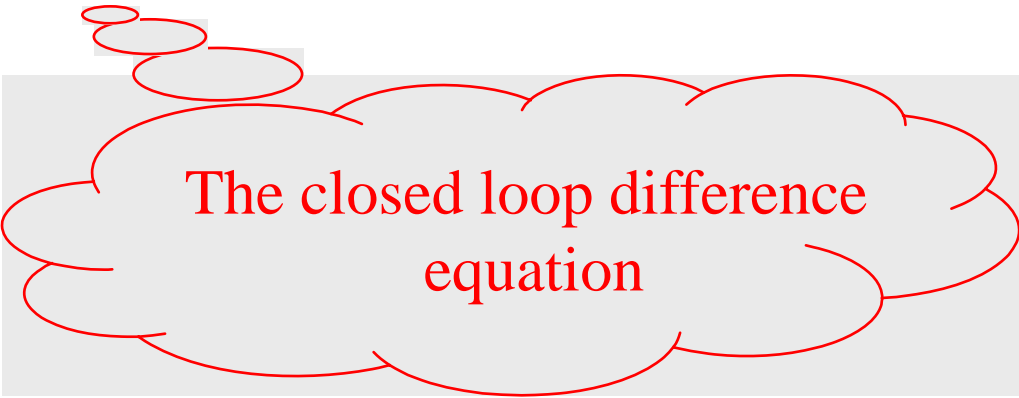
$$\theta(k+1) + \left[\frac{KT}{C} - 1 \right] \theta(k) = \frac{KT}{C} \theta_a(k) - \frac{T}{C} Q(k)$$

$$Q(k) = -\kappa [\theta_{sp}(k) - \theta(k)], \kappa > 0$$

$$\theta(k+1) + \left[\frac{KT}{C} - 1 \right] \theta(k) = \frac{T}{C} \kappa [\theta_{sp}(k) - \theta(k)] + \frac{KT}{C} \theta_a(k)$$

$$\theta(k+1) + \left[\frac{KT}{C} + \frac{\kappa T}{C} - 1 \right] \theta(k) = \frac{\kappa T}{C} \theta_{sp}(k) + \frac{KT}{C} \theta_a(k)$$

Notice how T
affects the closed
loop equations



The closed loop difference
equation

Closed-Loop steady state

$$\theta(k+1) + \left[\frac{KT}{C} + \frac{\kappa T}{C} - 1 \right] \theta(k) = \frac{\kappa T}{C} \theta_{sp}(k) + \frac{KT}{C} \theta_a(k)$$

If the inputs are constant and the system is stable, the output will reach some constant eventually, which does not depend on T .

Note

$$\text{As } k \rightarrow \infty, \quad \theta(k+1) = \theta(k) = \theta_{ss}$$

$$\theta_{ss} + \left[\frac{KT}{C} + \frac{\kappa T}{C} - 1 \right] \theta_{ss} = \frac{\kappa T}{C} \theta_{sp} + \frac{KT}{C} \theta_a$$

What happened to T ?
Is this reasonable?



$$\theta_{ss} = \frac{\kappa}{K + \kappa} \theta_{sp} + \frac{K}{K + \kappa} \theta_a$$

looks familiar?

Closed-Loop transient

- CL characteristic equation: $z + \left[\frac{KT}{C} + \frac{\kappa T}{C} - 1 \right] = 0$
- CL pole at $z = 1 - \left[\frac{KT}{C} + \frac{\kappa T}{C} \right]$
- Suppose $K=1$, $C=1$, $\kappa=1$: $z=1-2T$. When $0 < T < 1$, the magnitude of pole, $|z| < 1$, hence closed-loop is stable.
- Transient behaviour depends on pole position (κ , T et. al)
- Note the special behaviour when the pole is at $z=0$.

Response with respect to κ

- Suppose $C=1$, $K=1$, $\kappa=1$
 $\theta(0)=23\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, $\theta_a=23^{\circ}\text{C}$, $\theta_{sp}=24\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
- The CL equation is

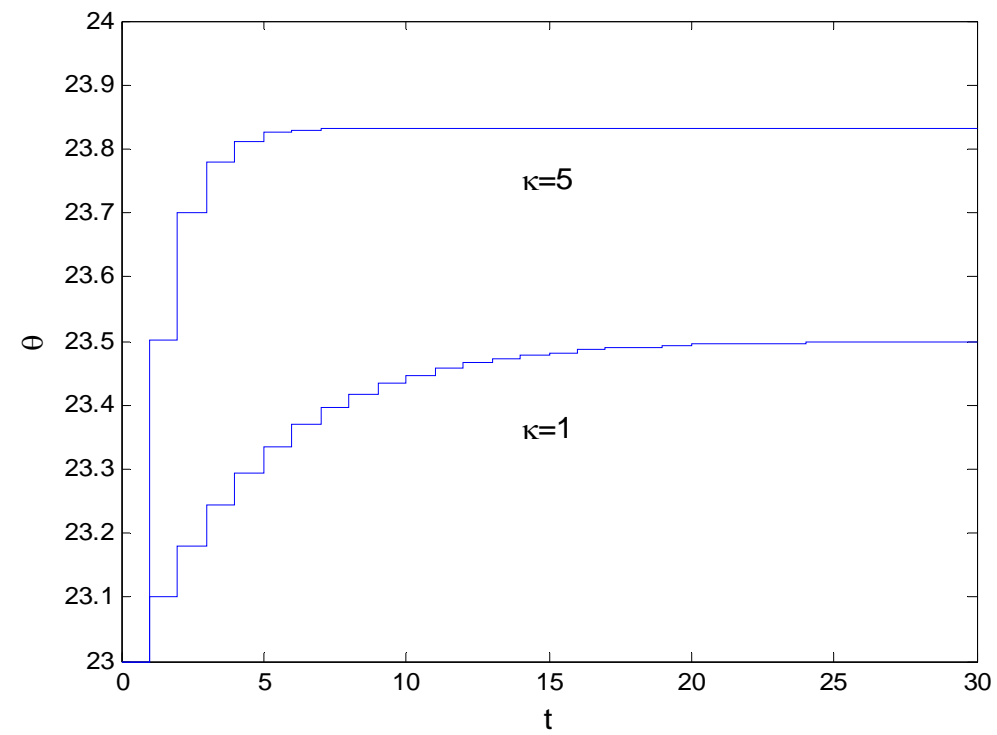
$$\theta(k+1) + (2T-1)\theta(k) = T\theta_{sp}(k) + T\theta_a(k)$$

$$\theta(k+1) = -(2T-1)\theta(k) + T\theta_{sp}(k) + T\theta_a(k)$$
- It can be solved recursively as follows, (for $T=0.1$)

$$k=0: \theta(1) = -(2 \times 0.1 - 1) \times 23 + 0.1 \times 24 + 0.1 \times 23 = 23.1$$

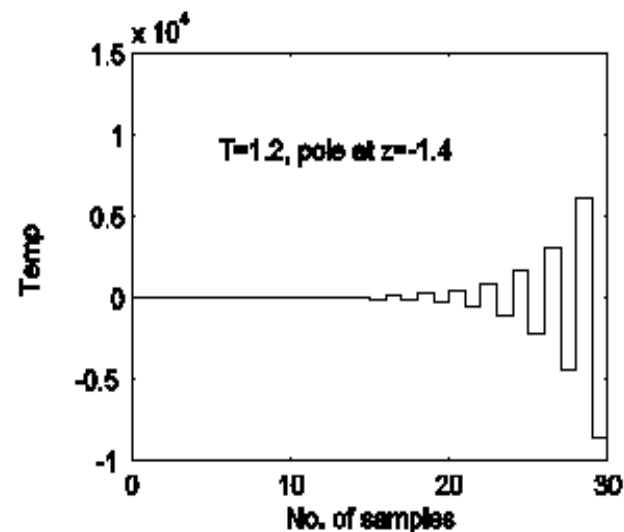
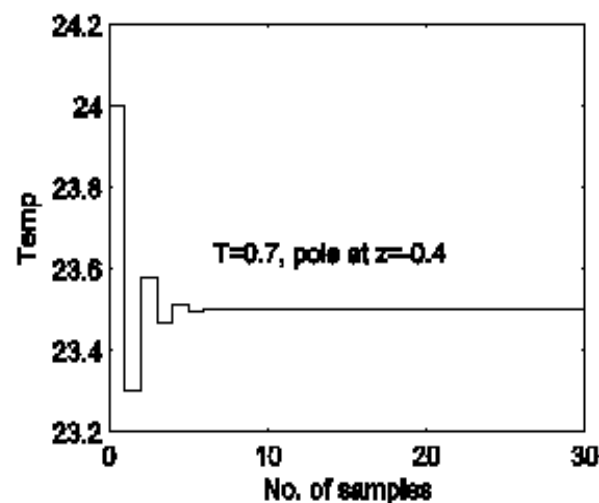
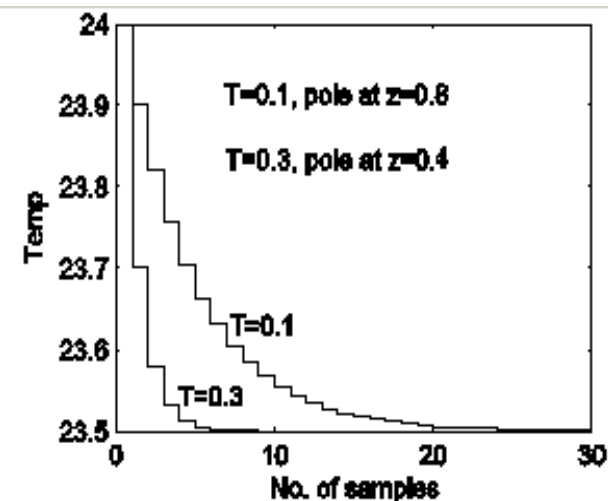
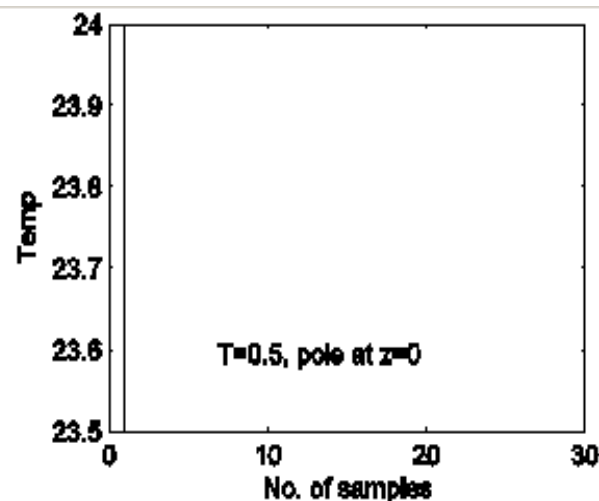
$$k=1: \theta(2) = -(2 \times 0.1 - 1) \times 23.1 + 0.1 \times 24 + 0.1 \times 23 = 23.18$$
- Repeat the above procedure for $\kappa=5$

Simulation results



Responses with Respect to T

$C=1$,
 $K=1$,
 $\kappa=1$,
 $\theta_a=23^\circ\text{C}$,
 $\theta_{sp}=23^\circ\text{C}$,
 $\theta(0)=24^\circ\text{C}$,



Note the different behaviours due to the sampling interval.