

GATE.CH.61

EE23BTECH11062 - V MANAS

Question:

The outlet concentration C_A of a plug flow reactor (PFR) is controlled by manipulating the inlet concentration C_{A0} . The following transfer function describes the dynamics of this PFR.

$$\frac{C_A(s)}{C_{A0}(s)} = e^{-\left(\frac{V}{F}\right)(k+s)}$$

In the above question, $V=1m^3$, $F=0.1m^3min^{-1}$ and $k=0.5min^{-1}$. The measurement and valve transfer functions are both equal to 1. The ultimate gain, defined as the proportional controller gain that produces sustained oscillations, for this system is (GATE 2023 CH 61)

Solution:

Variable	Description	Values
G_o	overall transfer function	1
G_p	process transfer function	
G_c	proportional controller transfer function	
K_c	gain of the proportional controller	

TABLE I
VARIABLES USED

$$G(s) = \frac{C_A(s)}{C_{A0}(s)} = e^{-\left(\frac{V}{F}\right)(k+s)} \quad (1)$$

$$G(s) = e^{-\left(\frac{1}{0.1}\right)(0.5+s)} \quad (2)$$

$$G(s) = e^{-(10s+5)} \quad (3)$$

The transfer function of a proportional controller is K_c so we can take, $G_c=K_c$

Given that the measurement and valve transfer functions are both equal to 1, we can take $G_p=G(s)$

$$G_o = G_p \times G_c \quad (4)$$

$$G_o = G(s) \times K_c \quad (5)$$

$$1 = e^{-(10s+5)} \times K_c \quad (6)$$

$$1 = 1 \times \frac{K_c}{e^5} \quad (7)$$

$$\therefore K_c = e^5 = 148.11$$