

Lab 8 Report

Coupled Tank System

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1 Experiment 1

1.1 Objective:

To study the characteristics and a control action of PID on the tank 1.

1.2 Apparatus:

COUPLED TANK SYSTEM (VCTS-01) unit, Computer with software, Data acquisition system (VDAS -01), Power chord, Loop cable, USB cable.

1.3 Analysis:

To calculate pump constant K_p , We calculate the inflow rate due to the pump and outflow rate is calculated using the Bernoulli equation for small orifices. At equilibrium (steady state), we know that both inflow and outflow rates would be equal and thus their difference would be zero.

Page No.
 Date

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Vol. inflow} &= K_p V_p \\ F_{i1} &= K_p V_p \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_p &= 180 \text{ V} \\ L_1 &= 5 \text{ cm} \\ a_{o1} &= 0.98 \text{ cm}^2 \\ a_{i1} &= 3.14 \text{ cm}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Vol. outflow rate} \\ F_{o1} &= \frac{a_{o1} \sqrt{2gL_1}}{L_1} \end{aligned}$$

↓ outlet area of tank 1

Flow rate through the tank

$$\begin{aligned} F_{i1} - F_{o1} &= K_p V_p - a_{o1} \sqrt{2gL_1} \\ a_{i1} \frac{d(L_1)}{dt} &= K_p V_p - a_{o1} \sqrt{2gL_1} \end{aligned}$$

At steady state, rate = 0.

$$\therefore \frac{d(L_1)}{dt} = 0$$

$$\therefore K_p V_p - a_{o1} \sqrt{2gL_1} = 0$$

$$K_p = \frac{a_{o1} \sqrt{2gL_1}}{V_p}$$

$$= \frac{0.98 \text{ cm}^2 \sqrt{2 \times 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \times 5 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}}}{180}$$

$$K_p = 4.32 \times 10^{-7}$$

Figure 1: Calculations for K_p

1.4 Observations and Optimization:

The initial values of the PID controller and the corresponding graph is as follows: Here the desired level of the tank is 5 cm

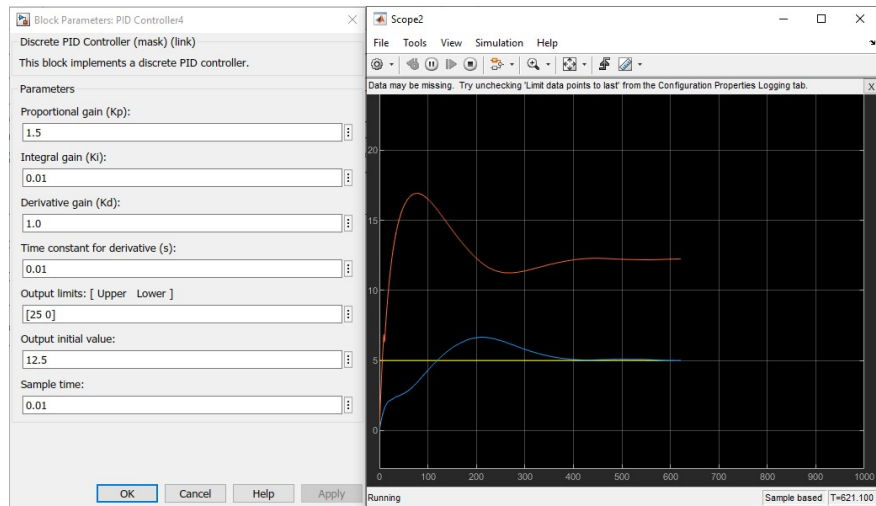


Figure 2: Initial values of the PID controller

1.4.1 Variation with Ki:

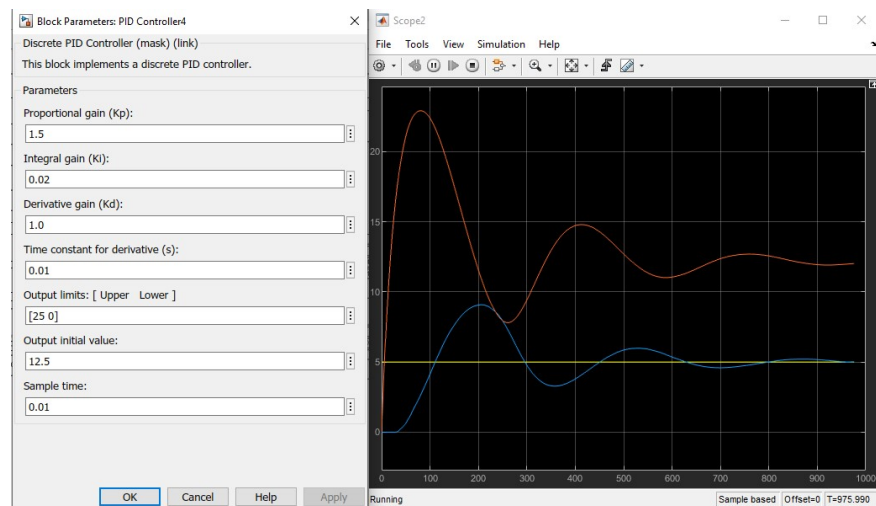


Figure 3: Increasing Ki

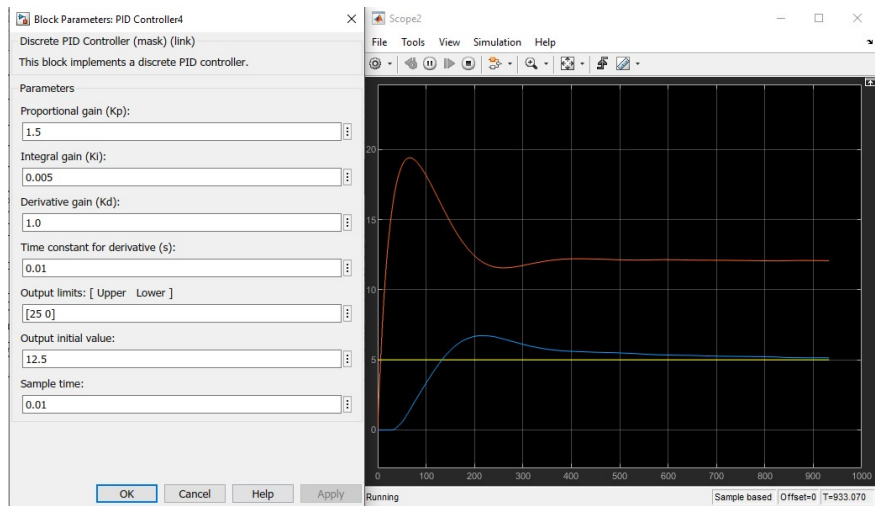


Figure 4: Decreasing K_i

By increasing the value of K_i , the rise time decreases but the overshoot and settling time increases to a great extent. We also observe that the oscillations are decreasing at a high rate, implying that the steady state error can be eliminated. The current also follows similar trend to that of the water level.

By decreasing the value of K_i , the rise time is higher but it leads to less overshoot and settling time, but the steady state error does not reduce to zero. The current also becomes steady after the settling time.

1.4.2 Variation with K_p :

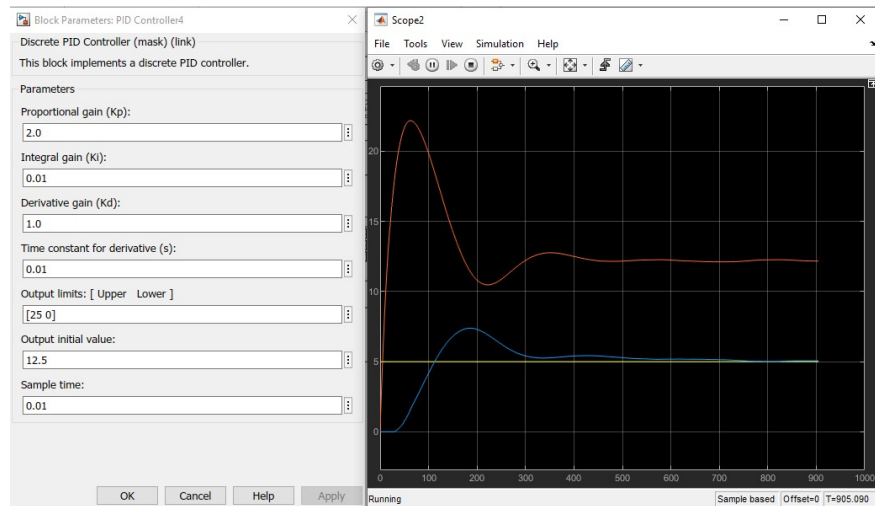


Figure 5: Increasing K_p

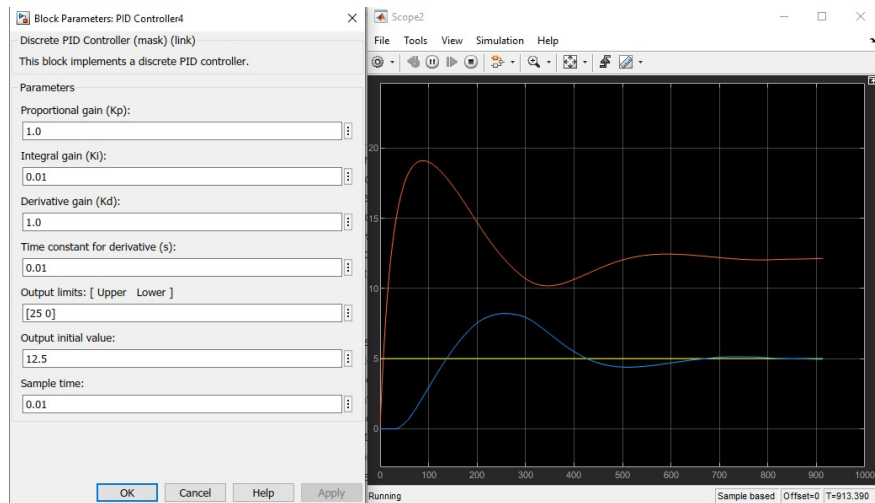


Figure 6: Decreasing K_p

By increasing the value of K_p , the rise time decreases at the cost of increasing peak overshoot. We observe that there is not much change in the settling time and steady state error.

By decreasing the value of K_p , the rise time as well as the peak overshoot is observed to be slightly higher. The current variation is steady compared to higher fluctuations observed when the value of K_p was increased.

1.4.3 Variation with K_d :

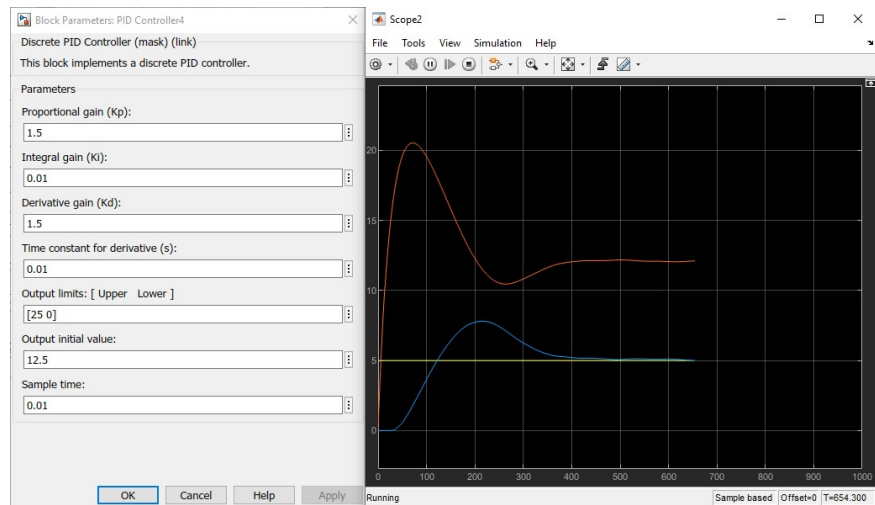


Figure 7: Increasing K_d

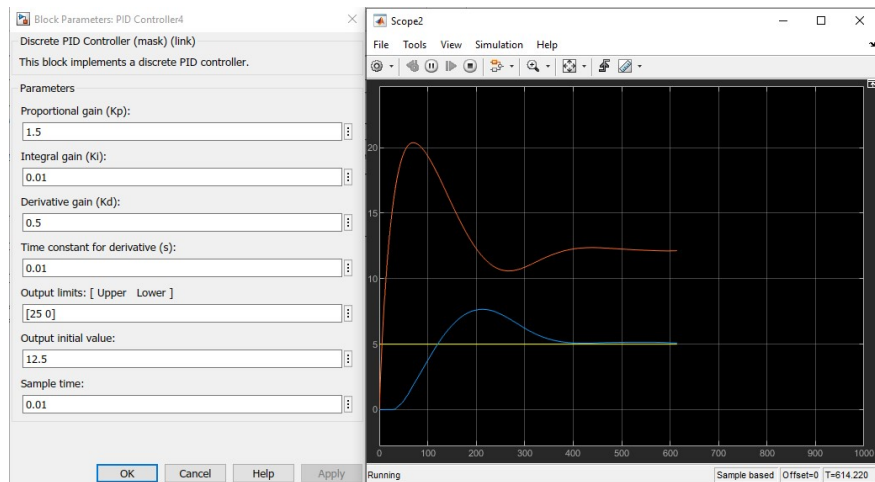


Figure 8: Decreasing K_d

By increasing the value of K_d , peak overshoot and settling time values decrease slightly. No visible effect is observed on the steady state error.

By decreasing the value of K_d , peak overshoot and settling time values increase slightly. No visible effect is observed on the steady state error. The current profile also does not change much.

2 Experiment 2

2.1 Objective:

To study the characteristics of coupled tank system in interaction.

2.2 Apparatus:

COUPLED TANK SYSTEM (VCTS-01) unit, Computer with software, Data acquisition system (VDAS -01), Power chord, Loop cable, USB cable.

2.3 Observations and Analysis:

The initial values of the PID controllers are as follows: Here the desired level of the tank1 is 5 cm and that of tank2 is 10 cm. The water can only flow from tank1 to tank2.

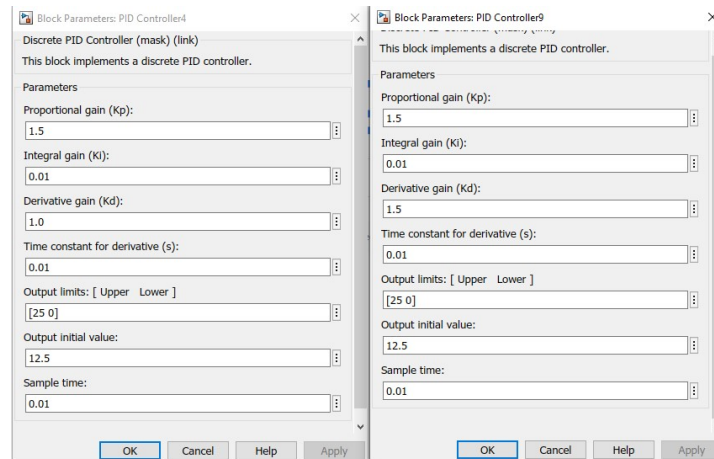


Figure 9: Initial values of the PID controller

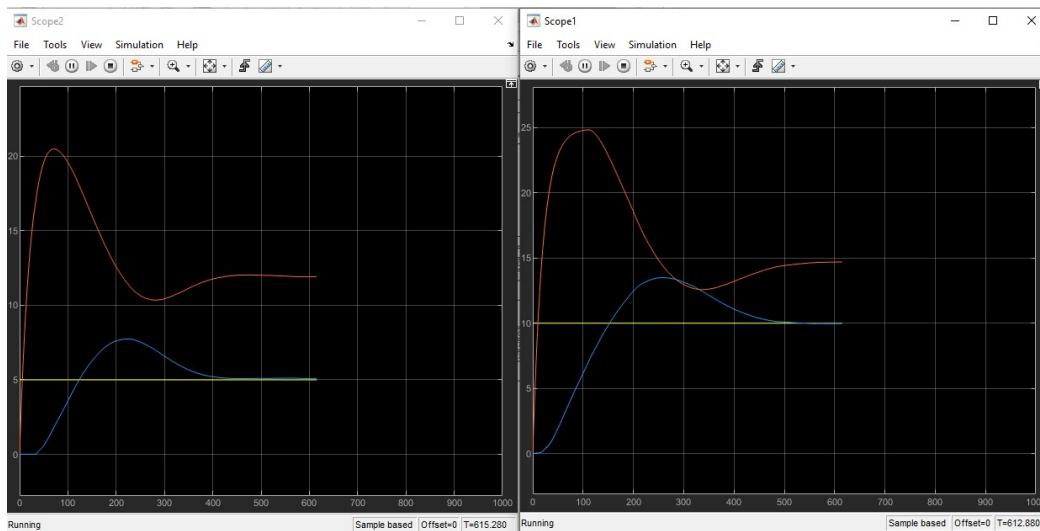


Figure 10: Initial variation between desired and observed levels.

2.3.1 Increasing the value of K_p for tank1:

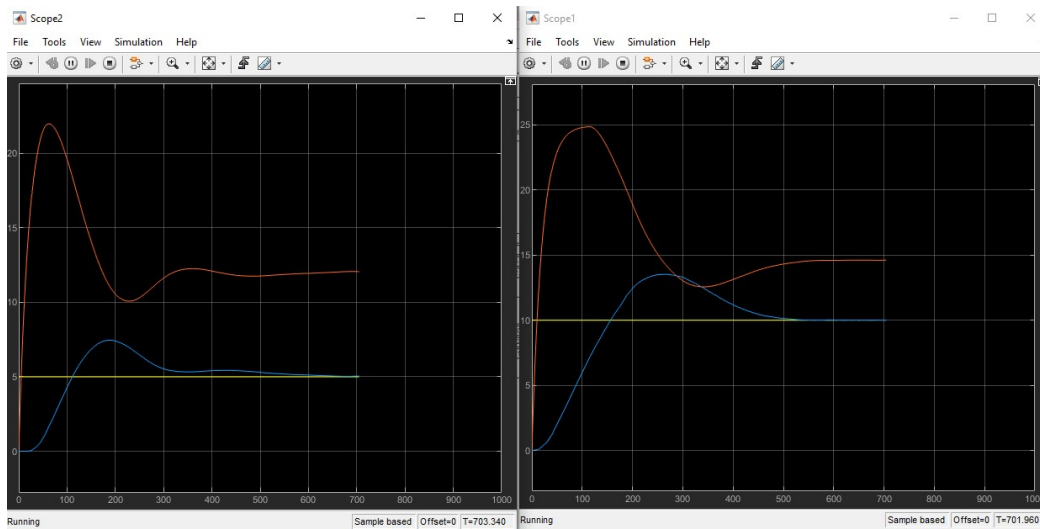


Figure 11: Increasing K_p for tank1

By increasing the value of K_p , the rise time decreases at the cost of increasing peak overshoot. We observe that there is not much change in the settling time. The steady state error is observed to be reduced slightly from the graphs.

2.3.2 Increasing the value of K_d for tank2:

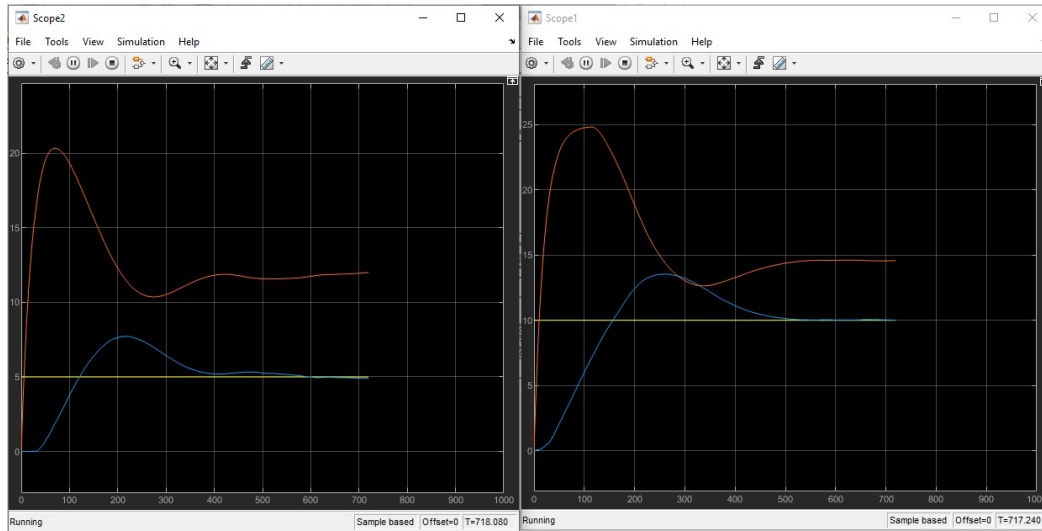


Figure 12: Increasing K_d for tank2

By increasing the value of K_d , peak overshoot and settling time values decrease slightly. No visible effect is observed on the steady state error.

2.3.3 Increasing the value of K_i for tank1:

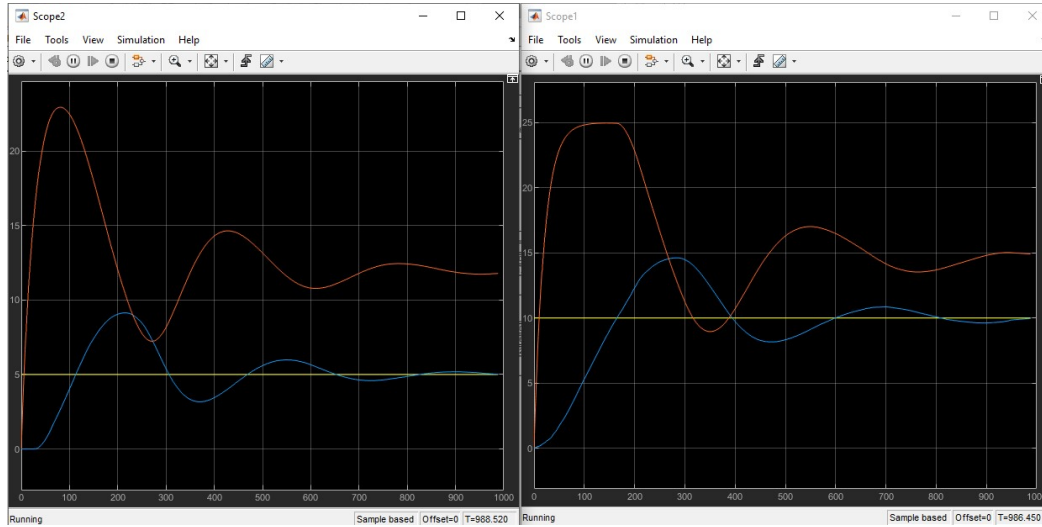


Figure 13: Increasing K_i for tank1

Increasing the value of K_i , there is a decrease in rise time, but it increases the overshoot as well as the settling time. The rapidly decreasing value of error implies that increasing K_i helps to eliminate the steady state error.

3 Conclusion:

In the above experiments, the most optimal behaviour is observed at the initial values of the PID controllers. We can also conclude that in the hit and trial process of determining the values of the PID controller, we can use K_p to decrease the rise time, K_i to reduce or eliminate steady state error and K_d to reduce overshoot and settling time.