

Tutorial—Mathematical Modeling

Example 1. Simplify the block diagram shown in Figure 1.

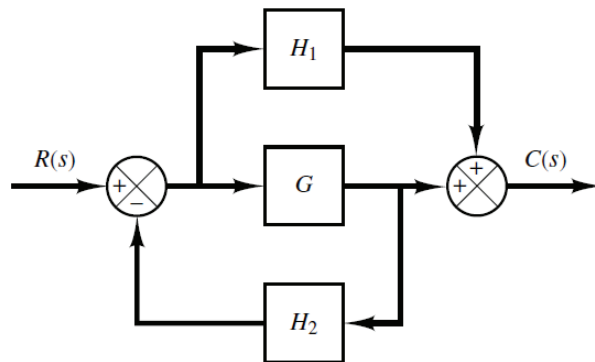


Figure 1: Block diagram of a system.

Example 2. Simplify the block diagram shown in Figure 2. Obtain the transfer function relating $C(s)$ and $R(s)$.

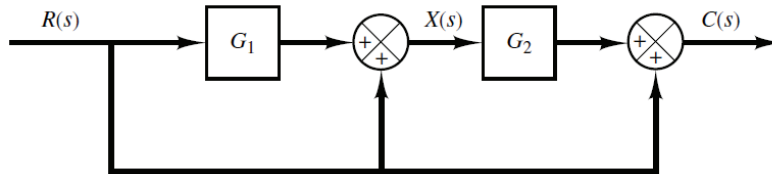


Figure 2: Block diagram of a system.

Example 3. Simplify the block diagram shown in Figure 3. Then obtain the closed-loop transfer function $C(s)/R(s)$.

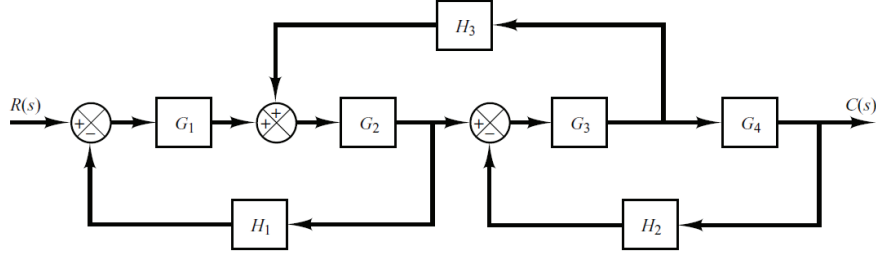


Figure 3: Block diagram of a system.

Example 4. Obtain transfer functions $C(s)/R(s)$ and $C(s)/D(s)$ of the system shown in Figure 4.

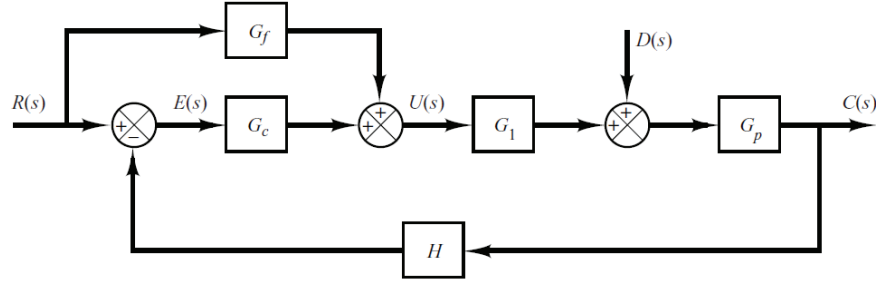


Figure 4: Control system with reference input and disturbance input.

Example 5. Linearize the nonlinear equation

$$z = x^2 + 4xy + 6y^2 \quad (1)$$

in the region defined by $8 \leq x \leq 10$, $2 \leq y \leq 4$.

Example 6. Find a linearized equation for

$$y = 0.2x^3 \quad (2)$$

about a point $x = 2$.

Solution 1. Let

$$C = B + D, \quad D = AH_1, \quad B = AG \quad (3)$$

then

$$C = AG + AH_1 = AG \left(1 + \frac{H_1}{G} \right) \quad (4)$$

First, move the branch point of the path involving H_1 outside the loop involving H_2 , as shown in Figure 5(a). Also let

$$A = R - E, \quad E = BH_2, \quad B = AE \quad (5)$$

then

$$B = RG - EG = RG - BGH_2, \Rightarrow B(1 + GH_2) = RG, \Rightarrow B = \frac{G}{1 + GH_2} R \quad (6)$$

Then eliminating two loops results in Figure 5(b). Combining two blocks into one gives Figure 5(c). \square

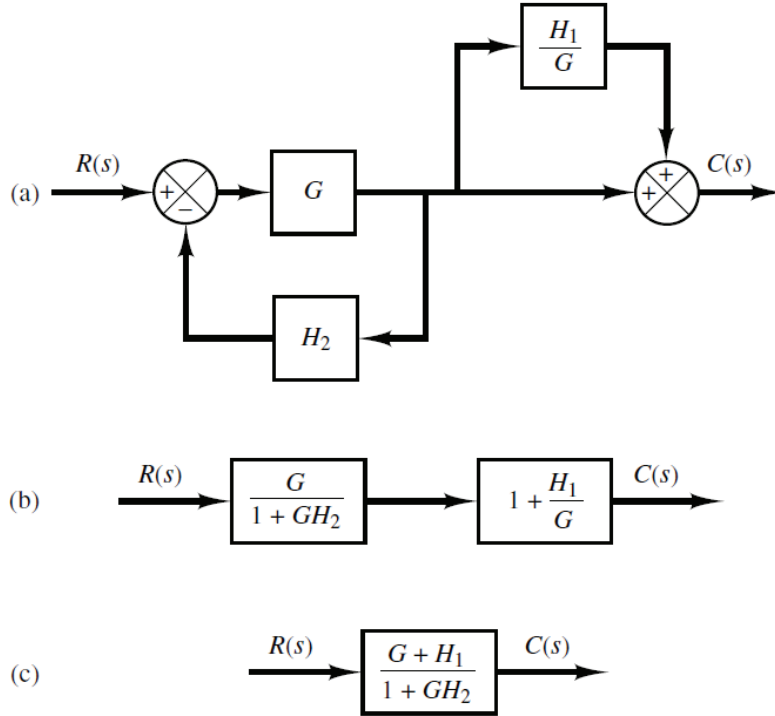


Figure 5: Simplified block diagrams for the system shown in Figure 1.

Solution 2. The block diagram of Figure 2 can be modified to that shown in Figure 6(a). Eliminating the minor feedforward path, we obtain Figure 6(b), which can be simplified to Figure 6(c).

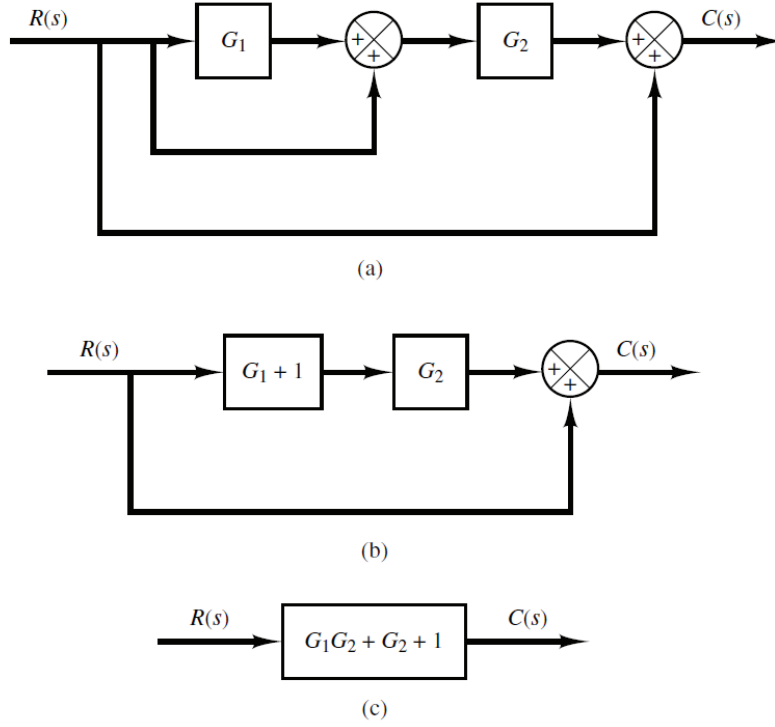


Figure 6: Simplified block diagrams for the system shown in Figure 2.

The transfer function $C(s)/R(s)$ is thus given by

$$\frac{C(s)}{R(s)} = G_1G_2 + G_2 + 1 \quad (7)$$

The same result can also be obtained by proceeding as follows: Since signal $X(s)$ is the sum of two signals $G_1R(s)$ and $R(s)$, we have

$$X(s) = G_1(s)R(s) + R(s) \quad (8)$$

The output signal $C(s)$ is the sum of $G_2X(s)$ and $R(s)$. Hence

$$C(s) = G_2(s)X(s) + R(s) = G_2(s)[G_1(s)R(s) + R(s)] + R(s) \quad (9)$$

And we have the same result as before:

$$\frac{C(s)}{R(s)} = G_1G_2 + G_2 + 1 \quad (10)$$

□

Solution 3. First move the branch point between G_3 and G_4 to the right-hand side of the loop containing G_3 , G_4 , and H_2 . Then move the summing point

between G_1 and G_2 to the left-hand side of the first summing point. See Figure 7(a). By simplifying each loop, the block diagram can be modified as shown in Figure 7(b).

The two blocks between the summation, let it be denoted as B , and $C(s)$ can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} C &= \frac{G_1 G_2 G_3 G_4}{(1 + G_1 G_1 H_1)(1 + G_3 G_4 H_2)} B \\ &= \frac{G_1 G_2 G_3 G_4}{1 + G_1 G_2 H_1 + G_3 G_4 H_2 + G_1 G_2 G_3 G_4 H_1 H_2} B \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Further, let $B = R + A$, where $A = H_3 C / (G_1 G_4)$, then $B = R + CH_3 / (G_1 G_4)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} C &\left[\frac{1 + G_1 G_2 H_1 + G_3 G_4 H_2 + G_1 G_2 G_3 G_4 H_1 H_2}{G_1 G_2 G_3 G_4} - \frac{H_3}{G_1 G_4} \right] \\ &= C \left[\frac{1 + G_1 G_2 H_1 + G_3 G_4 H_2 + G_1 G_2 G_3 G_4 H_1 H_2 - G_2 G_3 H_1}{G_1 G_2 G_3 G_4} \right] = R \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Further simplification results in Figure 7(c).

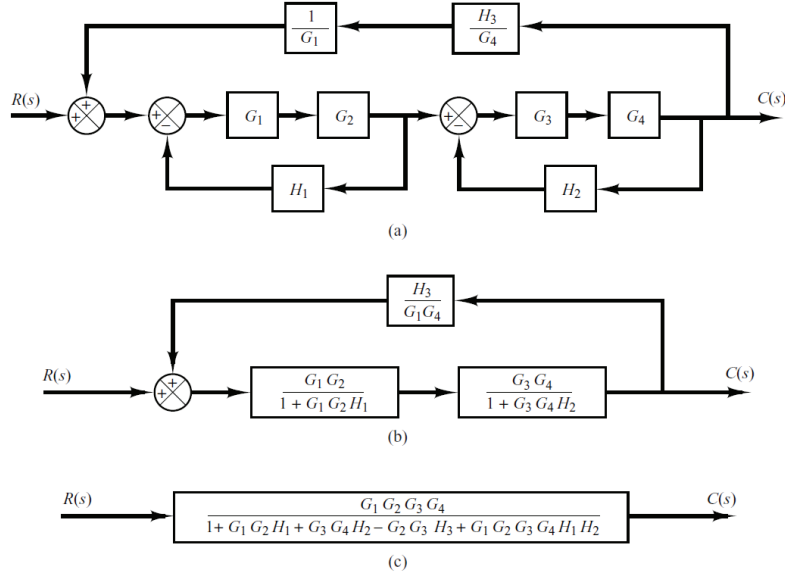


Figure 7: Simplified block diagrams for the system shown in Figure 3.

The closed-loop transfer function $C(s)/R(s)$ is obtained as

$$\frac{C(s)}{R(s)} = \frac{G_1 G_2 G_3 G_4}{1 + G_1 G_1 H_1 + G_3 G_4 H_2 - G_2 G_3 H_3 + G_1 G_2 G_3 G_4 H_1 H_2} \quad (13)$$

□

Solution 4. From Figure 4 we have

$$U(s) = G_f(s)R(s) + G_c(s)E(s) \quad (14)$$

$$C(s) = G_p(s) [D(s) + G_1(s)U(s)] \quad (15)$$

$$E(s) = R(s) - HC(s) \quad (16)$$

By substituting Equation (14) into Equation (15), we get

$$C(s) = G_p(s)D(s) + G_1(s)G_p(s) [G_f(s)R(s) + G_c(s)E(s)] \quad (17)$$

By substituting Equation (16) into Equation (17), we obtain

$$C(s) = G_pD(s) + G_1G_p \{G_fR(s) + G_c[R(s) - HC(s)]\} \quad (18)$$

Solving this last equation for $C(s)$, we get

$$C(s) + G_1G_pG_cHC(s) = G_pD(s) + G_1G_p(G_f + G_c)R(s) \quad (19)$$

Hence

$$C(s) = \frac{G_pD(s) + G_1G_p(G_f + G_c)R(s)}{1 + G_1G_pG_cH} \quad (20)$$

Note that Equation (20) gives the response $C(s)$ when both reference input $R(s)$ and disturbance input $D(s)$ are present. To find transfer function $C(s)/R(s)$, we let $D(s) = 0$ in Equation (20). Then we obtain

$$\frac{C(s)}{R(s)} = \frac{G_1G_p(G_f + G_c)}{1 + G_1G_pG_cH} \quad (21)$$

Similarly, to obtain transfer function $C(s)/D(s)$, we let $R(s) = 0$ in Equation (20). Then $C(s)/D(s)$ can be given by

$$\frac{C(s)}{D(s)} = \frac{G_p}{1 + G_1G_pG_cH} \quad (22)$$

□

Solution 5. Define $f(x, y) = z = x^2 + 4xy + 6y^2$, then

$$z = f(x, y) = f(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) + \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x - \bar{x}) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(y - \bar{y}) \right]_{x=\bar{x}, y=\bar{y}} + \dots \quad (23)$$

where we choose $\bar{x} = 9$, $\bar{y} = 3$. Since the higher-order terms in the expanded equation are small, neglecting these higher-order terms, we obtain

$$z = \bar{z} + K_1(x - \bar{x}) + K_2(y - \bar{y}) \quad (24)$$

where

$$K_1 = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{x=\bar{x}, y=\bar{y}} = 2\bar{x} + 4\bar{y} = 30 \quad (25)$$

$$K_2 = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right|_{x=\bar{x}, y=\bar{y}} = 4\bar{x} + 12\bar{y} = 72 \quad (26)$$

$$\bar{z} = \bar{x}^2 + 4\bar{x}\bar{y} + 6\bar{y}^2 = 243 \quad (27)$$

thus

$$z = 243 + 30(x - 9) + 72(y - 3) \quad (28)$$

□

Solution 6. Define $y = 0.2x^3 = f(x)$, $\bar{x} = 2$. Then

$$y = f(x) = f(\bar{x}) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x - \bar{x}) + \dots \quad (29)$$

Since the higher-order terms in this equation are small, neglecting these terms, we obtain

$$y - f(\bar{x}) = 0.6\bar{x}^2(x - \bar{x}), \Rightarrow y - 0.2 \times 2^3 = 0.6 \times 2^2(x - 2) \quad (30)$$

Thus, linear approximation of the given nonlinear equation near the operating point is

$$y = 2.4x - 3.2 \quad (31)$$

□