



**UNIVERSITY**  
OF APPLIED SCIENCES

# BASIC CONTROL SYSTEMS

## 6 PID CONTROL

.....

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NOVEMBER 2025



WHERE STUDENTS MATTER

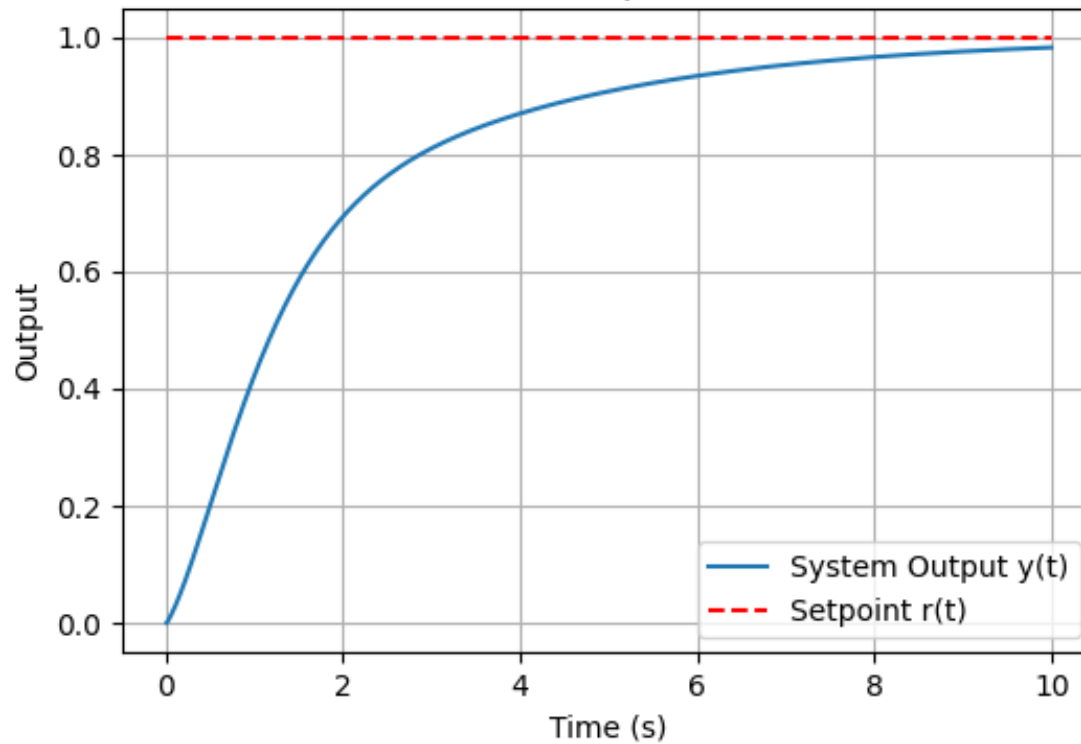
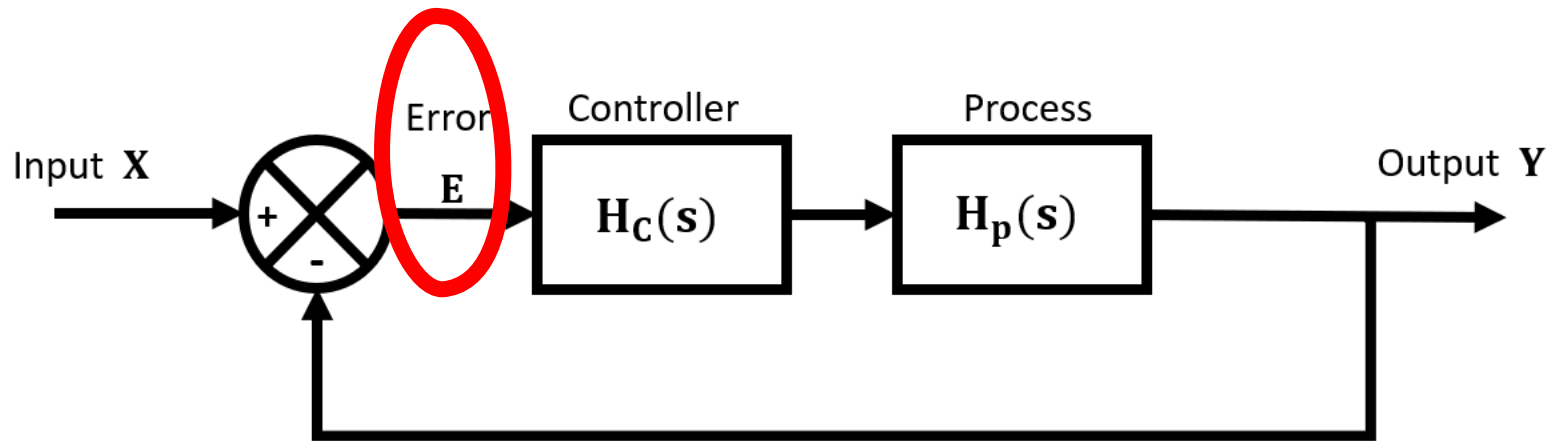
# Introduction

- The PI(D)-type is the most popular controller in process control (over 80%)
- Good for linear process control
- Relatively easy to understand (important reason for wide popularity)
- But still, in reality many of the PID-control loops are poorly tuned...

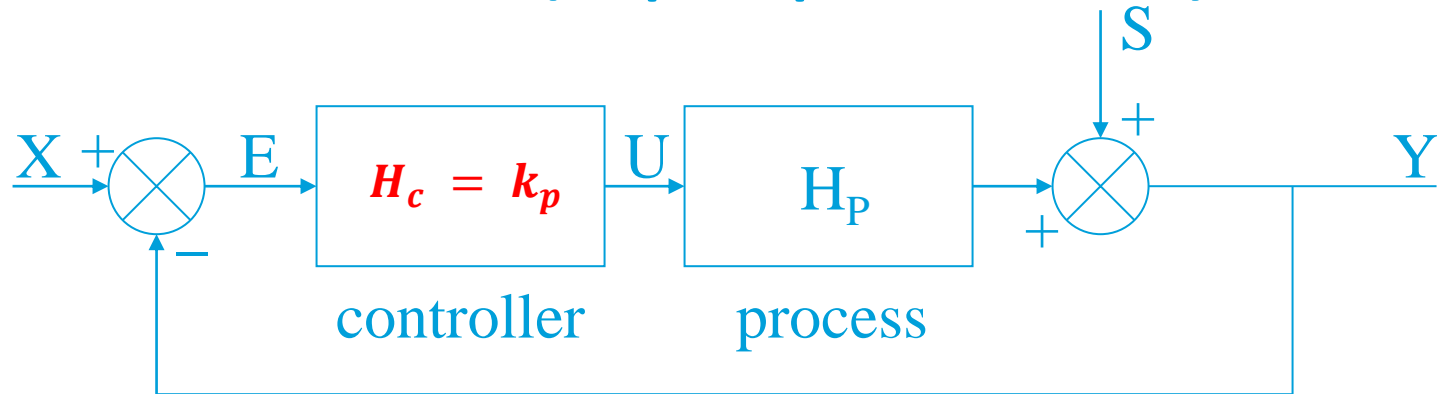
...in this lecture we will study the design and tuning of a PID-controller



# Controlled processes



# Controller: P (= proportional)



For convenience we assume  $S = 0$

$$E = X - Y ; \quad U = EH_c ; \quad Y = UH_p$$

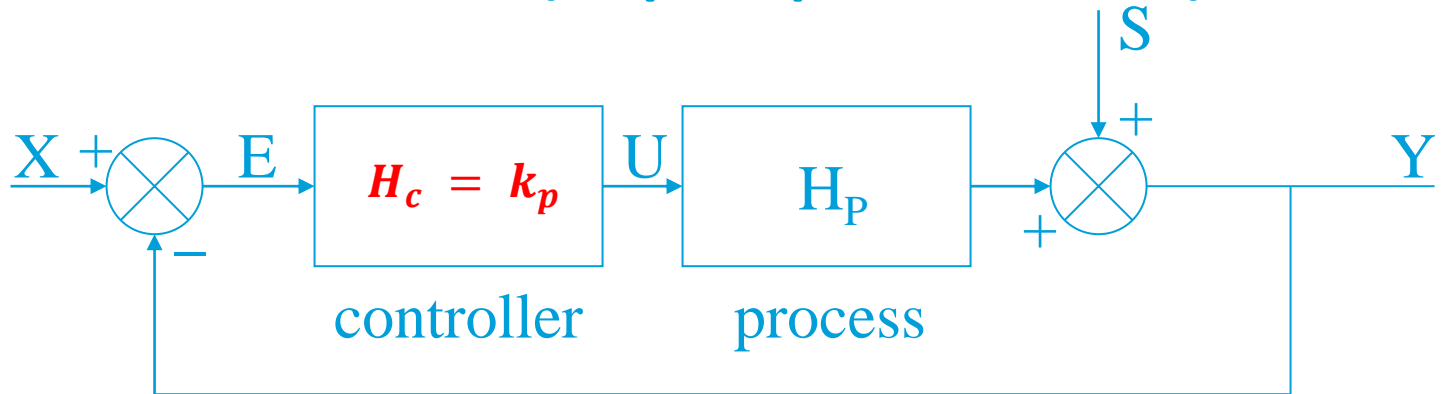
Together we get:

$$E = X - EH_cH_p$$

$$E = \frac{X}{1 + k_pH_p}$$

If  $X \neq 0$ , then the only thing that the controller can do to make  $E \rightarrow 0$  is to make  $k_p \rightarrow \infty$

# Controller: P (= proportional)



This controller gives the basic control feedback loop.

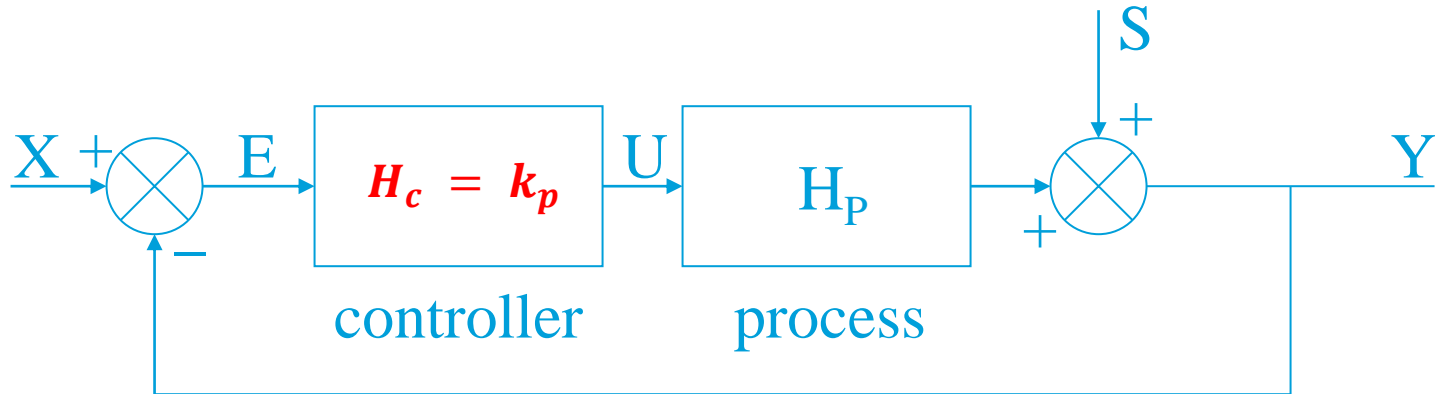
## Advantage:

- The system reacts faster on deviations (faster than open loop)

## Disadvantages:

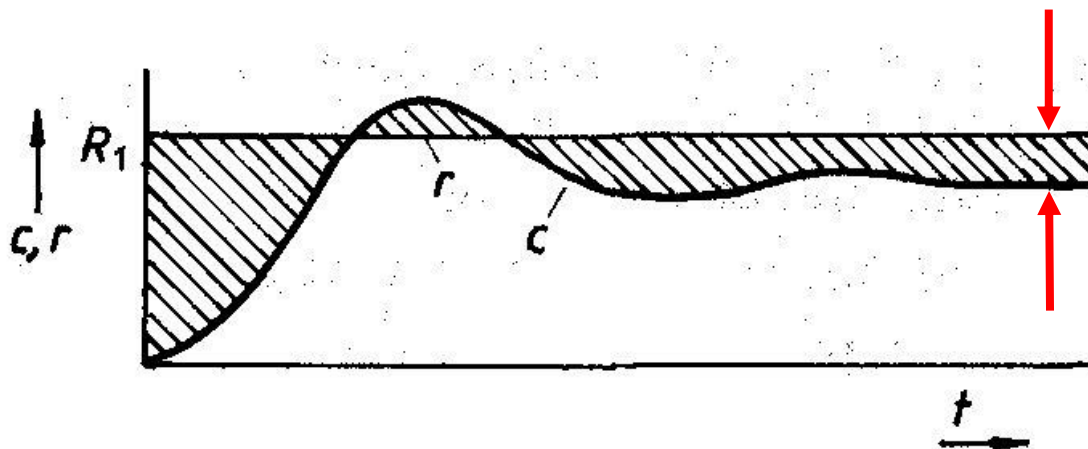
- A possible instability at too high K-values
- An overshoot which is too large
- Steady-state error

# Controller: P & steady-state error



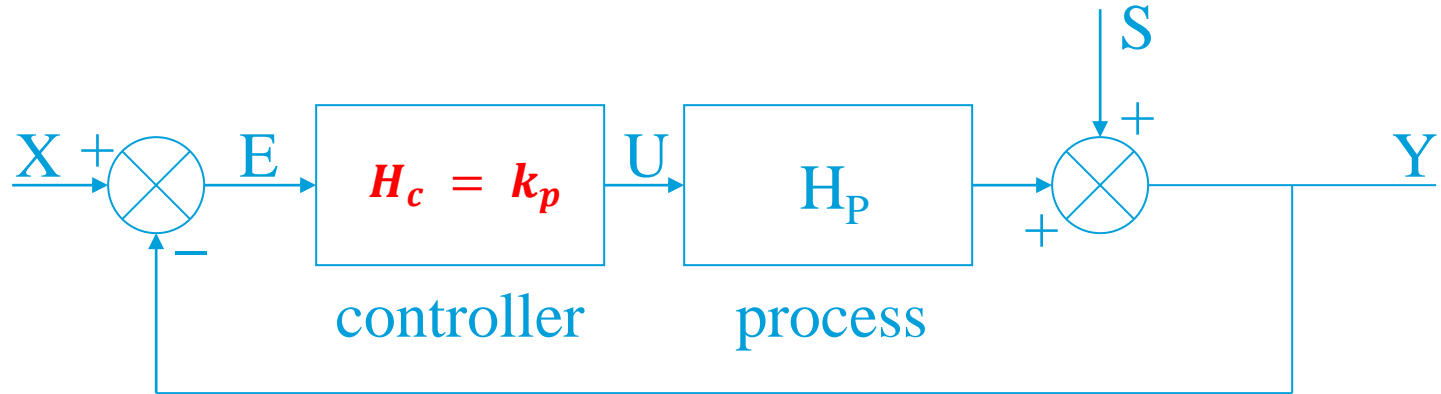
What happens with only a P-controller (or gain) and a step input?

**Steady state error!**



**desired output  $R$**   
 is different from  
 the measured  
 output  $C$

# Controller: P & steady-state error



Steady-state error! How big is the error?

Final value  
theorem

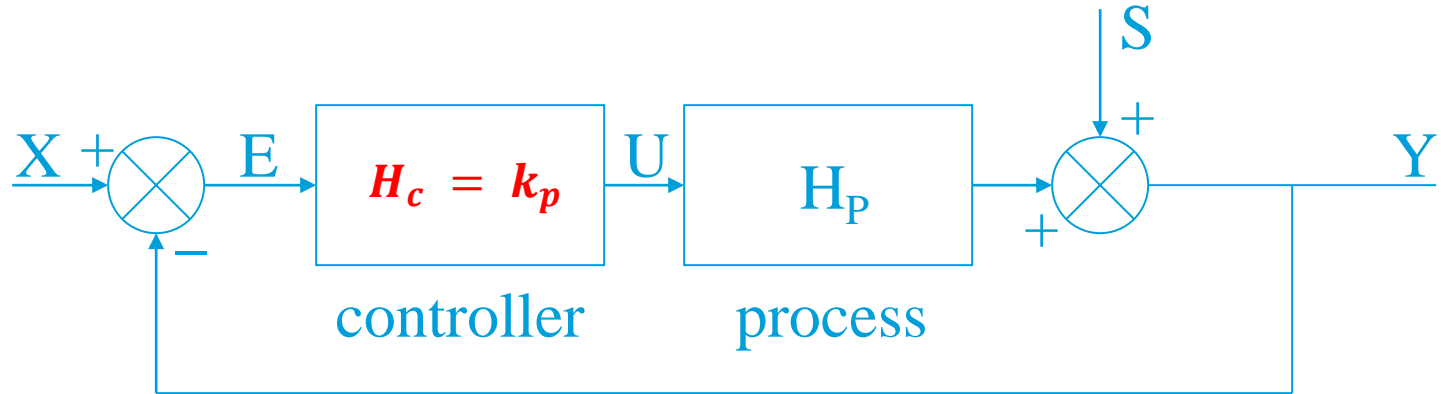
$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e(t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s E(s) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s \frac{X(s)}{1 + H_c(s)H_p(s)}$$

Assume  $X(s) = \frac{1}{s}$  (step input)

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s E(s) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{s \frac{1}{s}}{1 + k_p H_p(s)} = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{1 + k_p H_p(s)}$$

What do we do next????

# Controller: P & steady-state error



Steady-state error! How big is the error?

Let's take a look at  $H_p(s)$ .

Although we make no assumption to  $H_p(s)$  but we still can infer something...

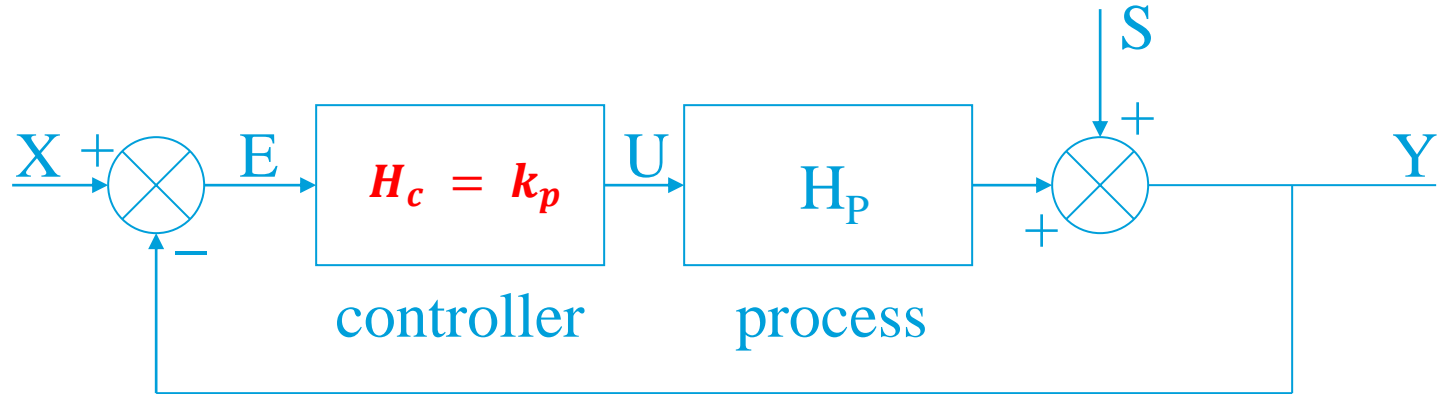
Recall that we can write  $H_p(s)$  in this format:

$$H_p(s) = K_{DC} \cdot \frac{(\frac{1}{z_1}s - 1)(\frac{1}{z_2}s - 1) \dots (\frac{1}{z_{m-1}}s - 1)(\frac{1}{z_m}s - 1)}{(\frac{1}{p_1}s - 1)(\frac{1}{p_2}s - 1) \dots (\frac{1}{p_{n-1}}s - 1)(\frac{1}{p_n}s - 1)}$$

$$K_{DC} = \frac{b_m \prod_{k=0}^m z_k}{a_n \prod_{q=0}^n p_q}$$



# Controller: P & steady-state error



Steady-state error! How big is the error?

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Although we make no assumption to  $H_p(s)$  but we still can infer something...

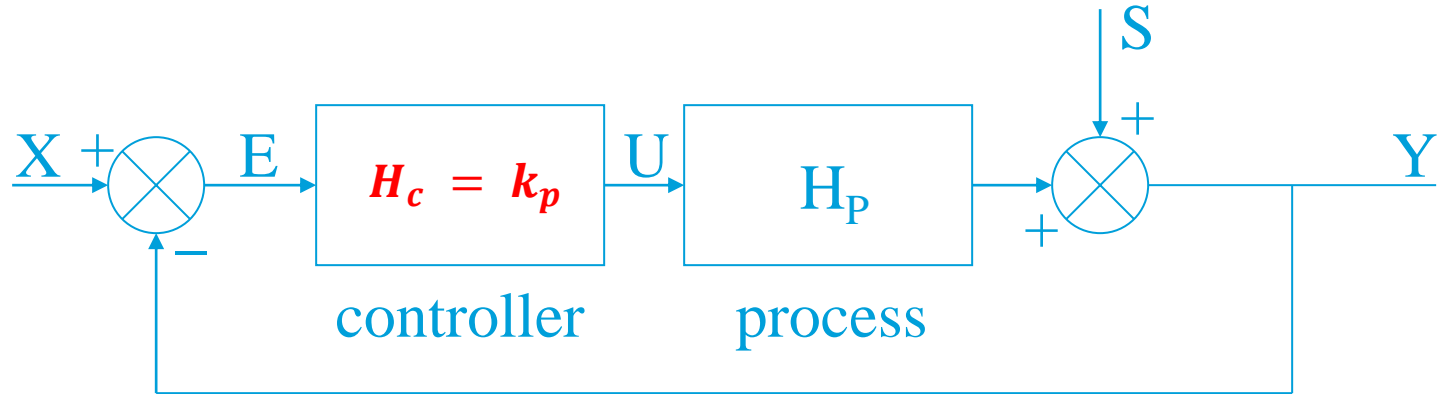
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$s \rightarrow 0$

$$K_{DC} = \frac{b_m \prod_{k=0}^m z_k}{a_n \prod_{q=0}^m p_q}$$

# Controller: P & steady-state error



Steady-state error! How big is the error?

Final value  
theorem

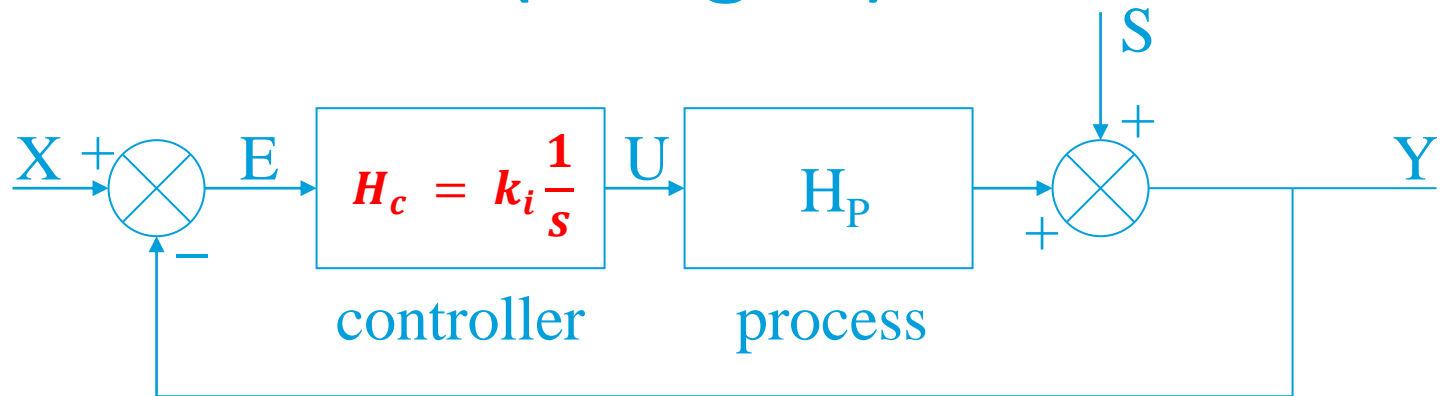
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Assume  $X(s) = \frac{1}{s}$  (step input)

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s E(s) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{s \frac{1}{s}}{1 + k_p H_p(s)} = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{1 + k_p H_p(s)}$$

**Steady state error**  $= \frac{1}{1 + k_p \cdot K_{DC}}$

# Controller: I (integral)



## Advantage:

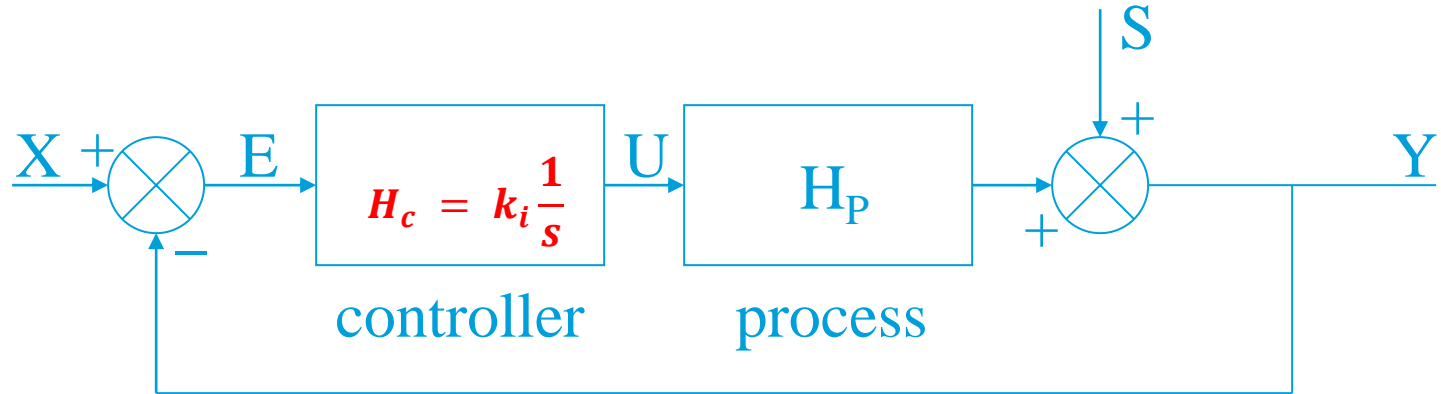
- eliminates the steady-state error of the P-controller

## Disadvantages:

- a possible instability at too large  $k_i$  -values
- too slow at too small  $k_i$  -values



# Controller: I & steady-state error



Steady state error? How big is the error?

Final value  
theorem

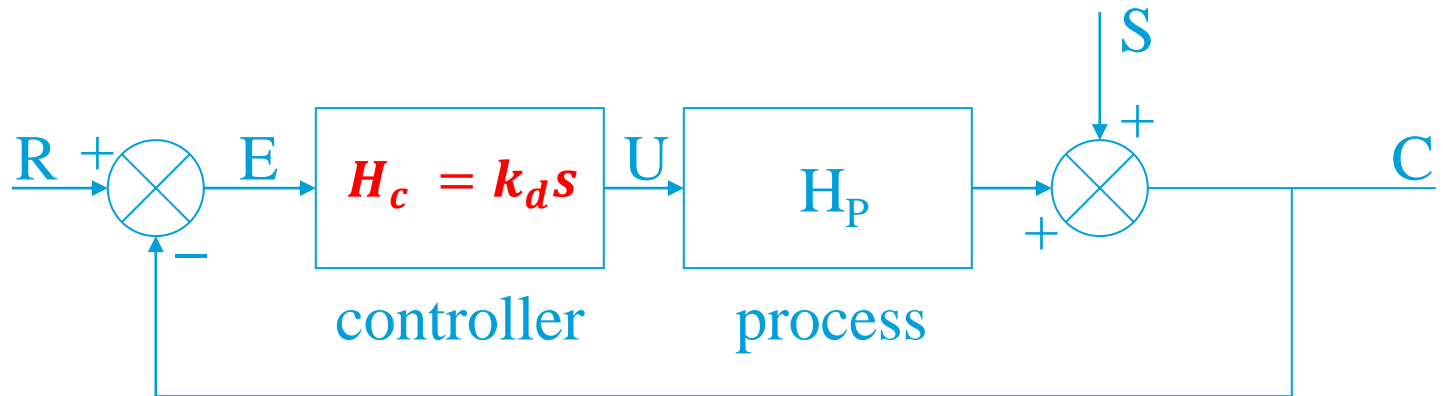
$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e(t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s E(s) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s \frac{X(s)}{1 + H_c(s)H_p(s)}$$

Assume  $X(s) = \frac{1}{s}$  step input

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s E(s) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{s \frac{1}{s}}{1 + \frac{k_i H_p(s)}{s}} = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{s}{s + k_i H_p(s)} = \frac{0}{0 + k_i K_{DC}} = 0$$

**Steady state error = 0**

# Controller: D (= derivative)



*This controller is never used alone...*

## Advantage:

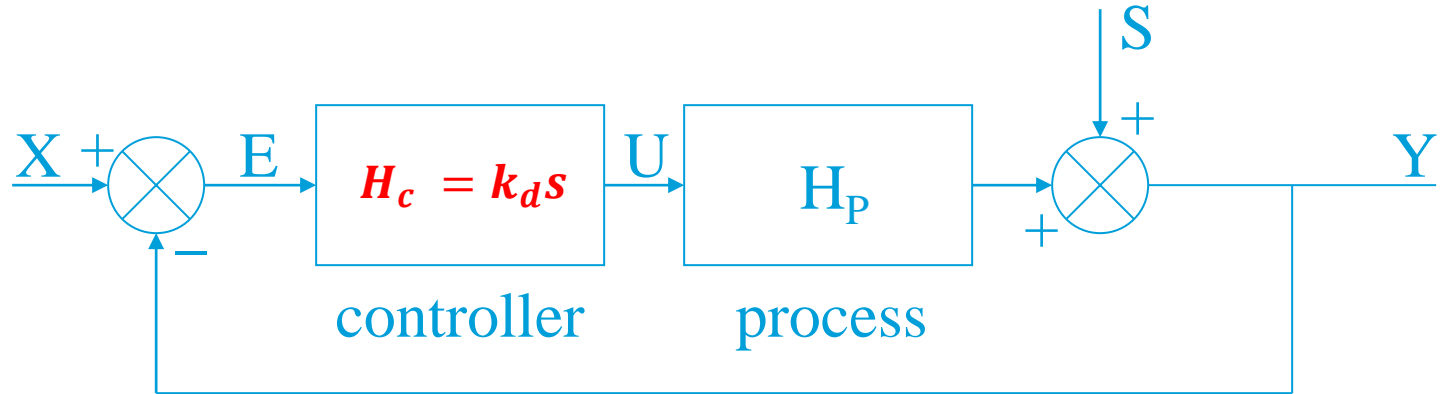
- a D-action has most of the time a stabilising effect on the control loop
- makes the dynamics of the response better (faster)

## Disadvantages:

- A possible unstable behaviour at too large  $k_d$  -values
- Vulnerable to noise



# Controller: D & steady-state error



Steady-state error! How big is the error?

Final value  
theorem

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e(t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s E(s) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s \frac{X(s)}{1 + H_c(s)H_p(s)}$$

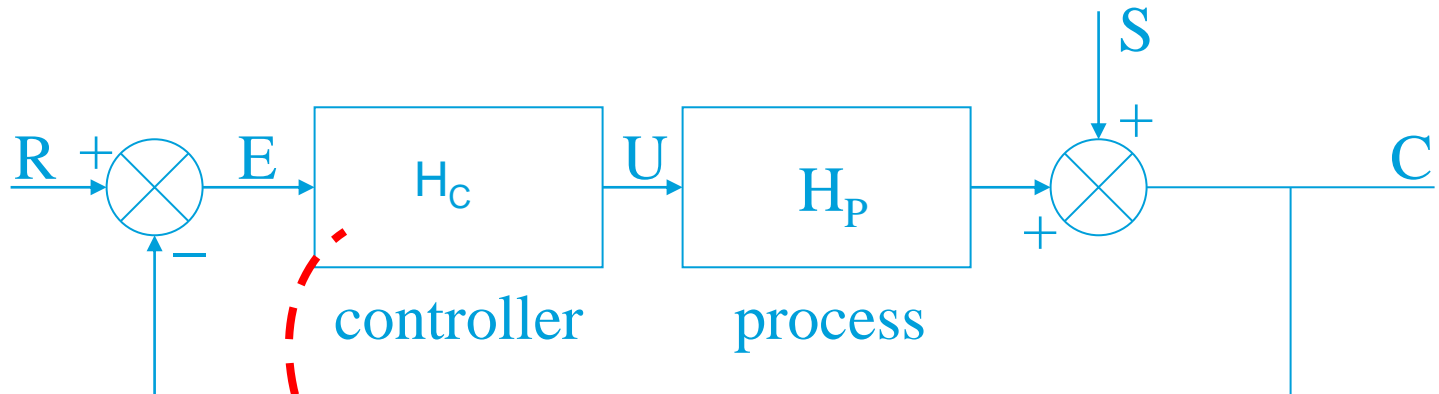
Assume  $X(s) = \frac{1}{s}$  (step input)

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s E(s) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{s \frac{1}{s}}{1 + k_d s H_p(s)} = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{1 + k_d s H_p(s)}$$

$$\text{Steady state error} = \frac{1}{1 + 0} = 1$$



# Controller: PI (proportional + integral)

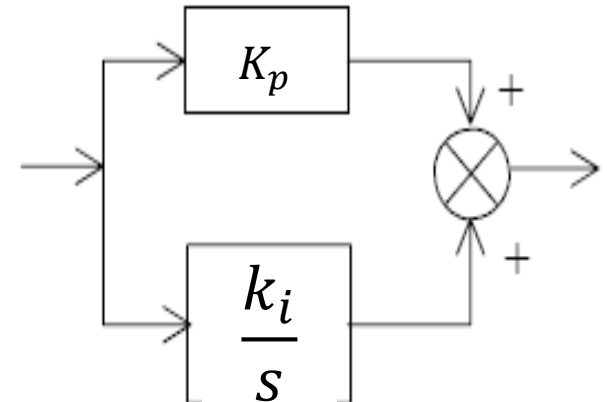
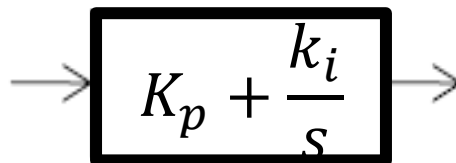


$$H_c = k_p + \frac{k_i}{s}$$

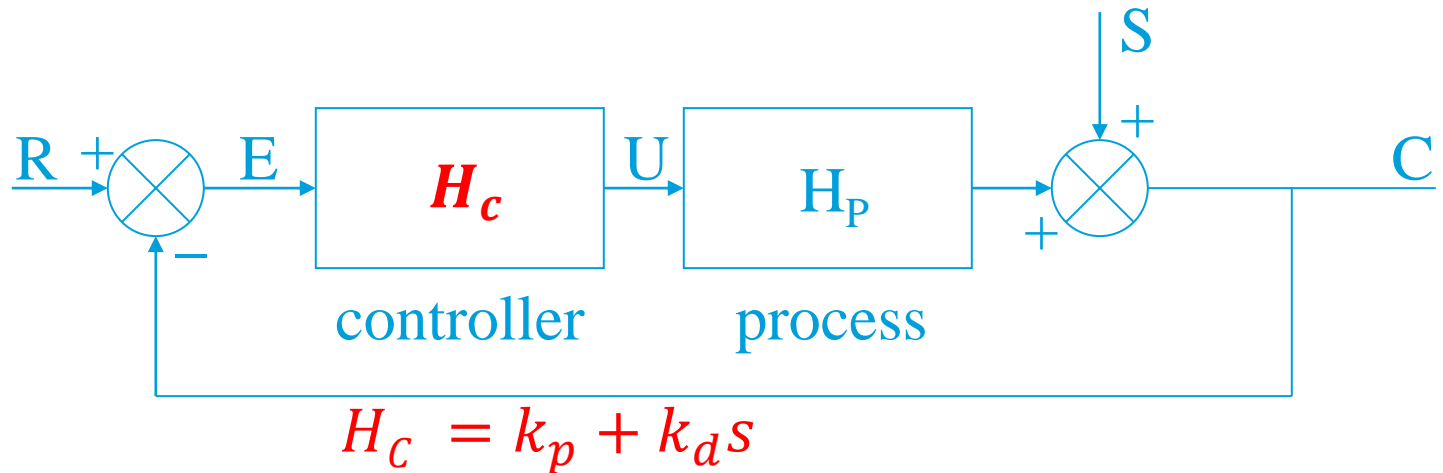
P-action

I-action

Parallel  
Structure



# Controller: PD (proportional + derivative)



## Advantage:

- combination of P-action and D-action

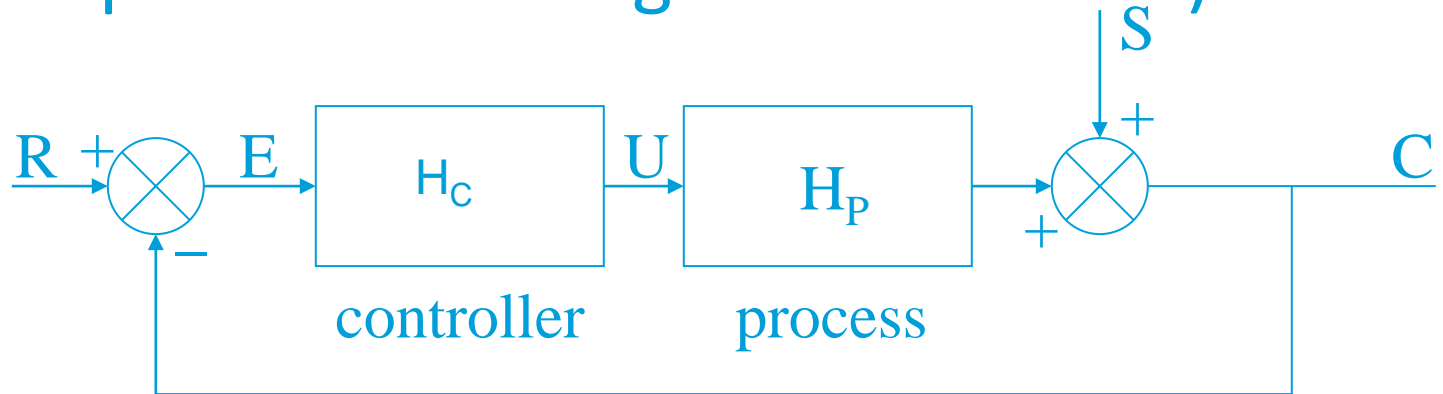
## Disadvantages:

- Steady state error



# Controller: PID

(proportional + integral + derivative)



$$H_c = k_p + \frac{k_i}{s} + k_d s$$

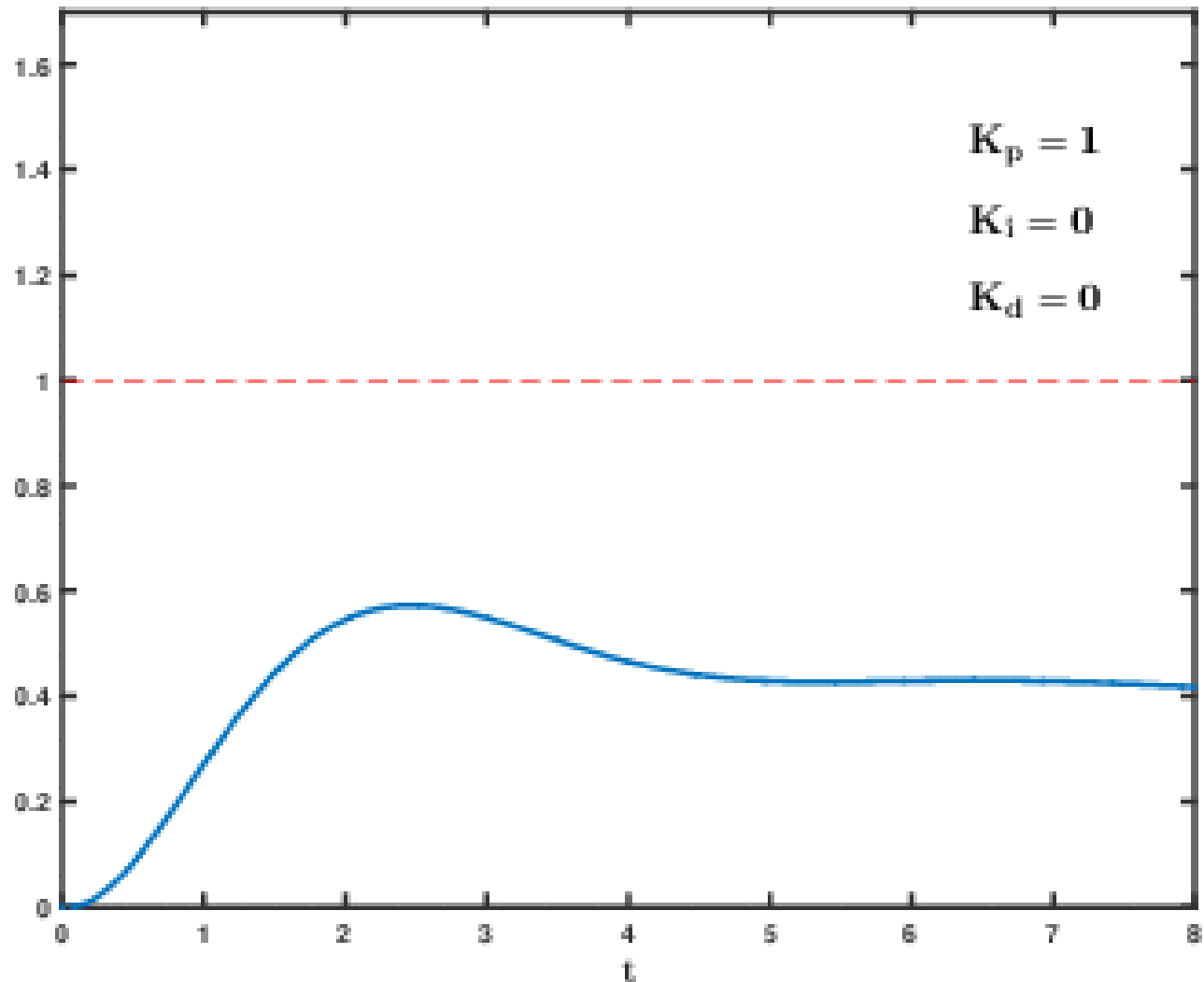
## Advantage:

- combination of P-action, I-action and D-action
- this is the most flexible controller

*However, it is always better to use an easier controller (like P, PI or PD) if you do not need a certain action.*



# PID actions



## Attention!

## Different implementations of the PID-controller

1. We use the parallel controller (Ziegler)

$$\begin{aligned} H_C(s) &= k_p + \frac{k_i}{s} + k_d s \\ &= K_c \left( 1 + \tau_d s + \frac{1}{\tau_i s} \right) \end{aligned} \quad K_c \frac{(1 + \tau_d)s + \frac{1}{\tau_i}}{\tau_i s}$$

2. However, other implementations also exists, for example:

$$H_C(s) = K_c \left( \frac{\tau_d s + 1}{\frac{\tau_d}{5} s + 1} + \frac{1}{\tau_i s} \right)$$

3. The structure of the 'default' controller in Matlab/Simulink is again different

# “IDEAL” CONTROLLER

*What do you want for all these specifications?*

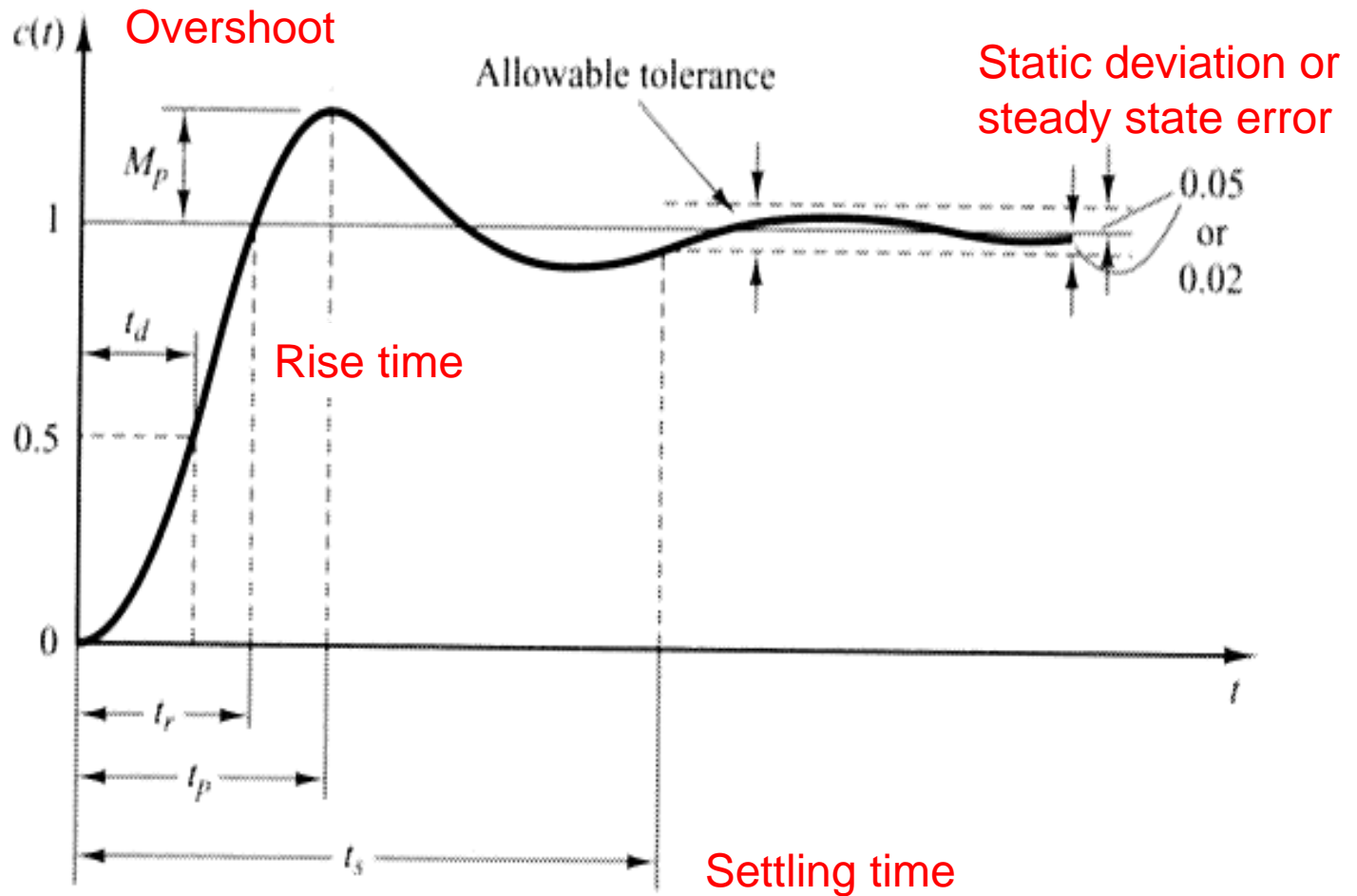


Figure 5-8 from Ogata

# “Ideal” controller

The “ideal” controlled system will have:

1. rise time: short
2. settling time: short
3. overshoot:
  - no undershoot or
  - else a certain maximum value, for example 10%
4. steady state error
  - none (preferable) or
  - else as little as possible

*It is possible to specify these parameters to tune a controller.  
However, in this course we will use practical tuning rules...*

# Practical tuning rules for a PID-controller

## 1. Step response method of Ziegler and Nichols

- to be used after process analysis of the step input response
- based upon a delayed 1<sup>st</sup> order process description

$$H_P(s) = \frac{a}{\tau s} e^{-\tau s}$$

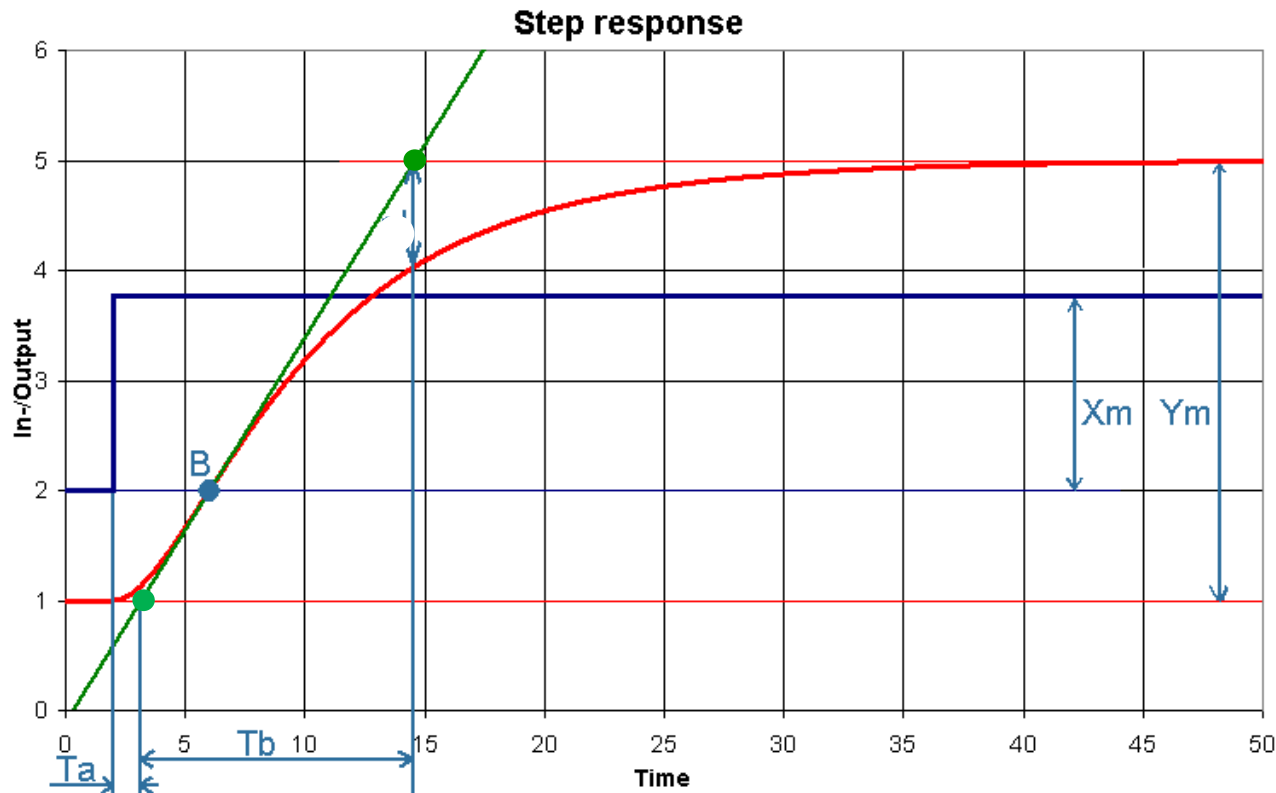
## 2. Oscillation method of Ziegler and Nichols

- oscillate the process by a proportional feed-back
- not directly based on a process discussed in the presentation about process analysis but it can be used for every process which is at least of the second order

## 2. Delayed first order process

Method of approximation

1. Determine the point of inflection  $B$
2. Draw tangent through the point of inflection
3. Determine  $X_m$ ,  $Y_m$ ,  $T_a$ ,  $T_b$



$$\text{steady state gain } K_p = \frac{Y_m}{X_m}$$

$$\tau_P = T_b$$

$$\tau_v = T_a$$

$$H_p(s) = \frac{K_p e^{-\tau_v s}}{\tau_p s + 1}$$



# Step response by Ziegler & Nichols



$$H_C(s) = K_c \left( 1 + \tau_d s + \frac{1}{\tau_i s} \right)$$

Delayed 1st order process and parallel controller

	$K_c$	$\tau_i$	$\tau_d$
P-Controller	$\frac{T_b}{K_p T_a}$		
PI-Controller	$\frac{0.9 T_b}{K_p T_a}$	$3.3 T_a$	
PID-Controller	$\frac{1.2 T_b}{K_p T_a}$	$2 T_a$	$0.5 T_a$



# Step response by Ziegler & Nichols

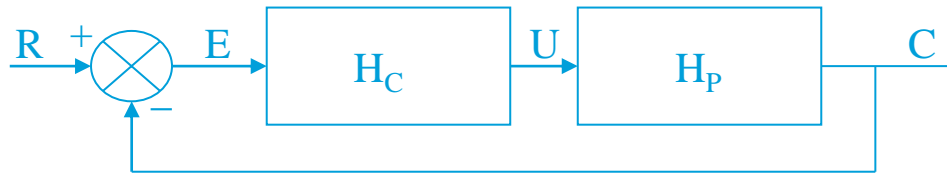
Pros:

- Simple and effective.

Cons:

- Further fine tuning needed.
- Settings are aggressive, might result in large overshoot and oscillatory behaviour.
- If the delay is dominant, then the performance is poor.
- Sensitive to parameter variation and relies on accuracy of the step response measurement, in reality often this is very noisy. Perfect measurements are often either impossible or too expensive.

# Oscillation method Ziegler & Nichols



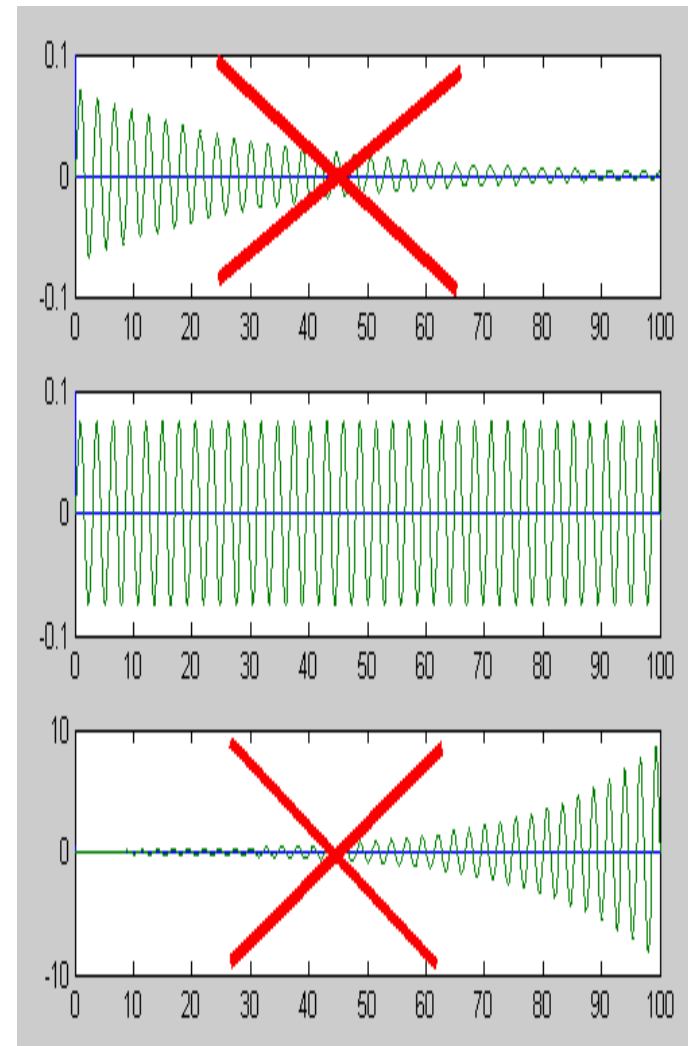
Calculate the controller in 4 steps:

1. Take only a gain  $K_c$  as controller;  
 $H_C(s) = K_c$
2. Increase  $K_c$  until the process starts oscillating

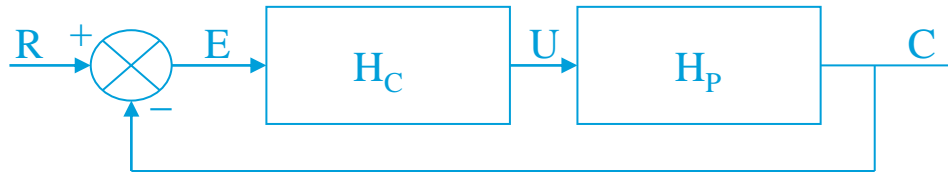
The output should not decrease (upper figure), nor increase (lower figure), but should have a constant amplitude and frequency (middle figure)

3. Read the  $K_c$  value, this is called  $K_b$  the boundary gain

4. Find the period  $T$  of the oscillation



# Oscillation method Ziegler & Nichols



$$H_C(s) = K_c \left( 1 + \tau_d s + \frac{1}{\tau_i s} \right)$$

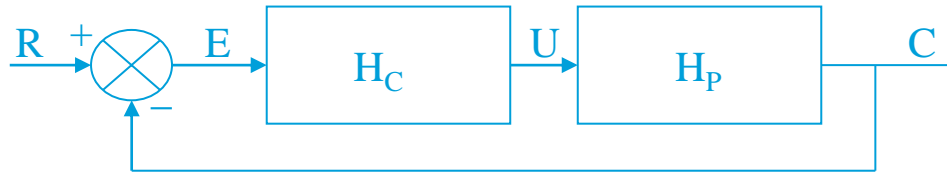
$K_b$  is the boundary gain

$T$  is the oscillation periodical time at  $K_b$

Second order process and parallel controller

	$K_c$	$\tau_i$	$\tau_d$
P-Controller	$0.5K_b$		
PI-Controller	$0.45K_b$	$\frac{T}{1.2}$	
PID-Controller	$0.6K_b$	$0.5T$	$0.125T$

# Oscillation method Ziegler & Nichols

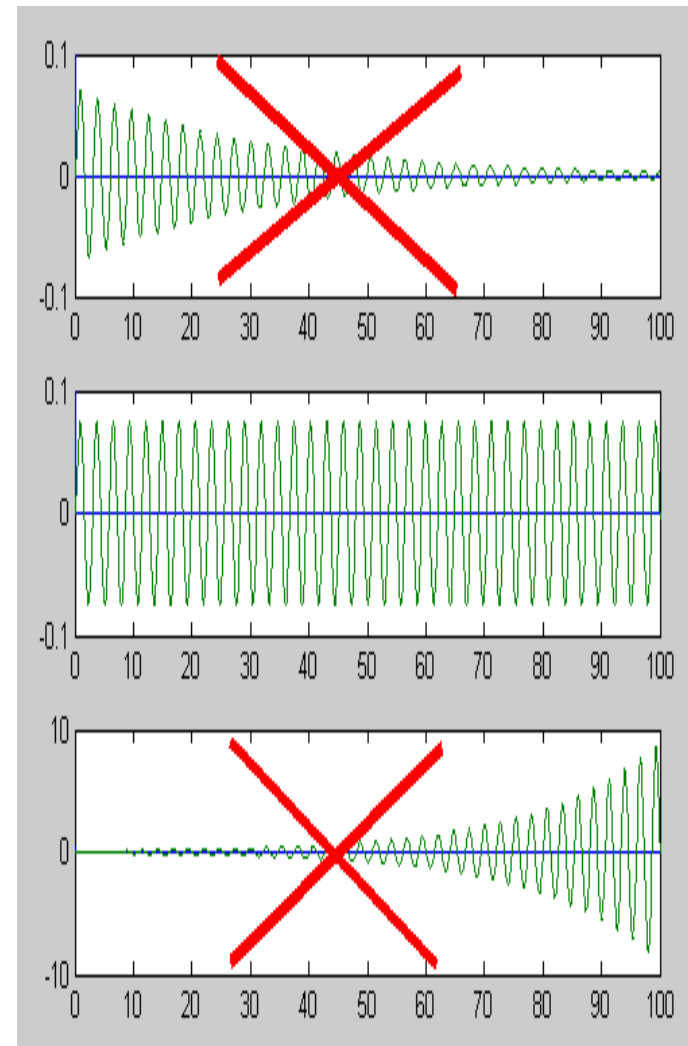


Pros:

Simple, convenient, effective, systematic!

Cons:

The system is driven towards instability, this is often dangerous and costly in practice. The resulting closed loop behavior can be very different depending on the actual process dynamics.



# Other practical tuning rules for a PID-controller

- Åström and Hägglund
  - Based on Nyquist curve (We will explore what Nyquist curve is next week.)
- Setpoint weighting
- Direct pole placement
- Dominant pole design
- Optimization based method
  - LQR
- ...

# SUMMARY

- The functionality, pros and cons of P, I, and D controllers
- Parallel structure of PID controller
- Ziegler-Nichols tuning method of PID controllers



# HOMEWORK

Stage ONE exercises:

- Problem 2
- Problem 3