

University of British Columbia  
Department of Mechanical Engineering

**MECH366 Modeling of Mechatronic Systems**  
**Midterm exam**

**Examiner: Dr. Ryoze Nagamune**  
**October 11 (Friday), 2019, 3pm-3:50pm**

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Last name, First name

Name:

Student #:

Signature:

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**Exam policies**

- Allowed: One-page letter-size hand-written cheat-sheet (both sides).
- Not-allowed: PC, calculators.
- Write all your answers on this booklet. No extra sheet will be provided.
- Motivate your answers properly. (No chance to defend your answers orally.)
- 20 points in total.

**Before you start ...**

- Use washroom before the exam.
- Turn off your mobile phone.
- No eating.
- Questions are NOT allowed.

**If you finish early ...**

- Please stay at your seat until the end of exam, i.e., 3:50pm. (You are not allowed to leave the room before the end of exam, except going to washroom.)

**To be filled in by the instructor/marker**

Problem #	Mark	Full mark
1		5
2		5
3		10
Total		20

1. Answer the following questions **concisely, by a few sentences and/or equations, or even by one-word or two-words if appropriate.**

- (a) For what purposes can a mathematical model of a physical system be used? Give **exactly two** such purposes. (If you write more than two purposes, you will lose some mark.) (1pt)

Write your answer here.

- (b) Explain why ‘voltage’ in electrical systems is called ‘across variable’. (1pt)

Write your answer here.

- (c) Explain the ‘model validation’ step in the modeling procedure. (1pt)

Write your answer here.

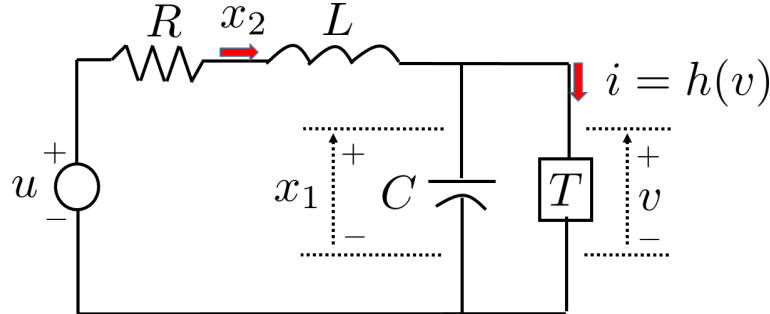
- (d) Give the **definition** of a linear system, by using the notations  $u$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  as the input, the state and the output of the system, respectively.  
(**Hint:** ‘State-space model’ representation is NOT the definition of a linear system.) (1pt)

Write your answer here.

- (e) Using the relation between the energy and the power, derive the **energy formula** for the electrical **inductor** element. (1pt)

Write your answer here.

2. Consider the electric circuit depicted below. Here, the notations  $R$ ,  $L$  and  $C$  respectively denote the resistance, inductance and capacitance, and  $u$  is the voltage source. An electrical element  $T$  has the characteristic  $i = h(v)$ , where  $i$  is the current through  $T$  and  $v$  is the voltage across  $T$ , and  $h$  is a nonlinear function which is differentiable with respect to  $v$  (i.e.,  $h'(v)$  exists).



- (a) Let  $x_1$  be the voltage across the capacitance, and  $x_2$  be the current through the inductance. Prove that the state equation for this system is described as follows. (You don't need to use the linear graph.) (2pt)

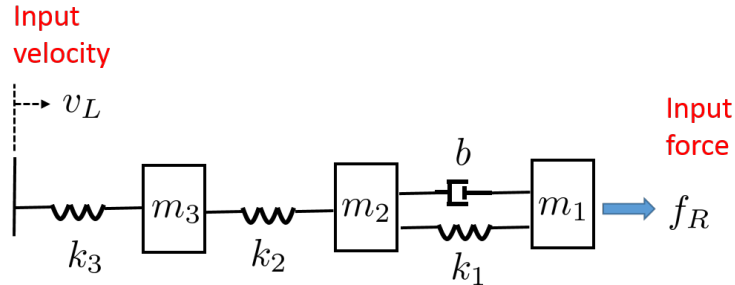
$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1(t) &= -\frac{1}{C}h(x_1(t)) + \frac{1}{C}x_2(t) \\ \dot{x}_2(t) &= -\frac{1}{L}x_1(t) - \frac{R}{L}x_2(t) + \frac{1}{L}u(t)\end{aligned}$$

- (b) Linearize the state equation above around the operating point  $(x_1, x_2, u) = (x_{10}, x_{20}, u_0)$ . (2pt)
- (c) Express  $x_{20}$  and  $u_0$  as functions of  $x_{10}$ . (1pt)

**Write your answer here.**

Write your answer here.

3. Consider a 3-DOF mass-spring-damper system in the figure below. Here,  $m$ ,  $b$ , and  $k$  (with subscripts) are respectively mass, viscous damping constant, and spring constant. Two inputs are the velocity  $v_L$  and the force  $f_R$  as indicated in the figure, and the outputs are the **displacement and acceleration** of  $m_1$  (i.e., right-most mass in the figure).



- Draw a linear graph, by introducing notations appropriately. (2pt)
- Select the state variables. (1pt)
- Write the constitutive equations for the passive elements in the linear graph. (1pt)

Write your answer here.

- (d) By using the linear graph, derive a state-space model in a matrix-vector form, i.e., in the form of ' $\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$ ' and ' $y = Cx + Du$ '. (There is no need to write down the loop and node equations.) (3pt)

———— (Continue to the next page) ————

**Write your answer here.**

- (e) Make an analogous electrical circuit for this mechanical system. (2pt)
- (f) Instead of the input velocity  $v_L$ , when the input force  $f_L$  is applied at the same location as  $v_L$ , explain the reason why  $k_3$  is not necessary in the state-space model. (1pt)

———— (End of Midterm Exam) ————

**Write your answer here.**



Extra page. Write the problem number before writing your answer.

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