

University of British Columbia  
Department of Mechanical Engineering

MECH366 Modeling of Mechatronic Systems  
Final exam

Examiner: Dr. Ryoze Nagamune  
December 10 (Monday), 2018, 3:30-6pm

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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: laptop, calculator.
- Write all your answers on this booklet. No extra sheet will be provided.
- Motivate your answers properly. (No chance to defend your answers orally.)
- 50 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 ...**

- If you would like to leave the room **before 5:50pm, raise your hand with this booklet**, and **wait at your seat** until an invigilator comes to you and collects your exam booklet.

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

Problem #	Mark	Full mark
1		10
2		10
3		10
4		10
5		10
Total		50

1. Answer the following questions concisely.

(2pt each)

- (a) Explain what the “model validation” is.

Write your answer here.

- (b) Using the constitutive relation for the thermal capacitor, prove that the thermal energy is  $C_t T$ , where  $C_t$  is the thermal capacitance and  $T$  is the temperature.

Write your answer here.

- (c) Obtain the Laplace transform of the function  $y(t) = e^{-t+1}u(t-2)$ . Here,  $u(t)$  is the unit step function. (Hint: No complicated calculations are necessary.)

Write your answer here.

- (d) Is the following statement true or false? Motivate your answer (i.e., ‘true’ or ‘false’) properly.

“For an  $s$ -domain function  $Y(s) = \frac{-1}{s(s-1)}$ , its corresponding time-domain function  $y(t)$  will converge to 1 due to the Final Value Theorem.”

**Write your answer here.**

- (e) Suppose that a state-space model is represented as

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= Ax + Bu, \\ y &= Cx + Du,\end{aligned}$$

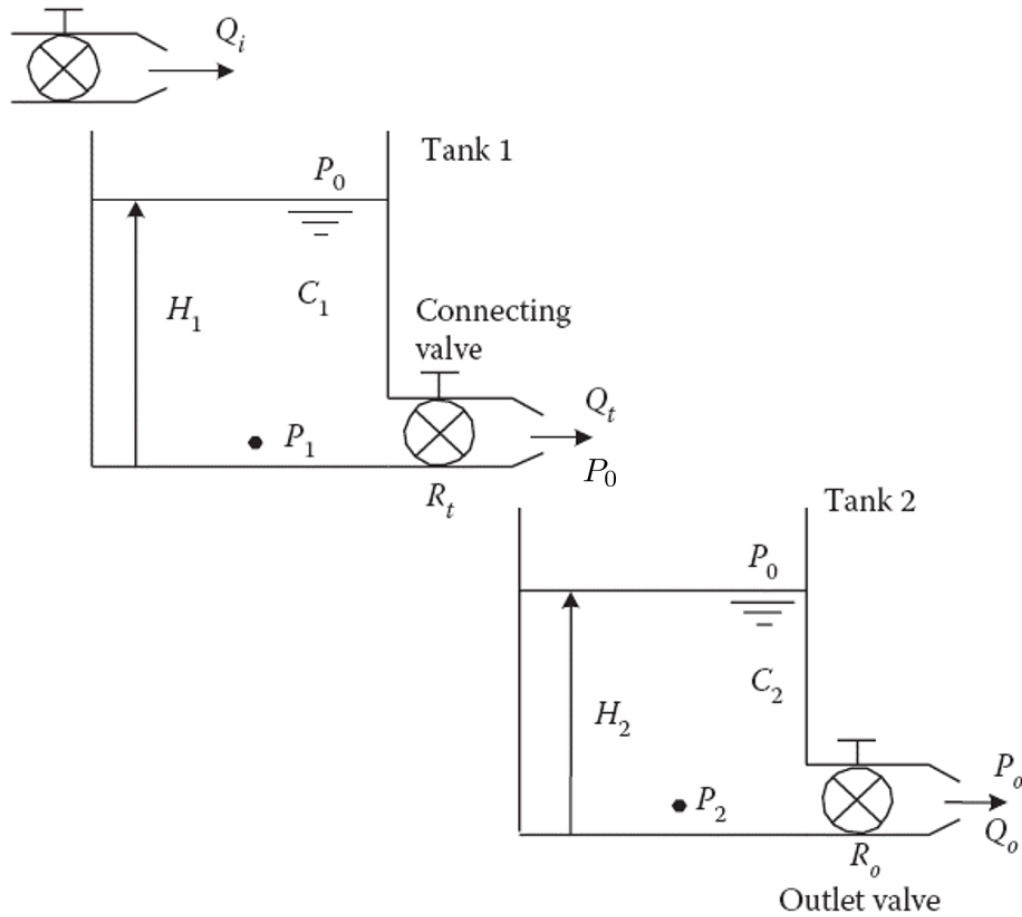
where

- the number of states  $x$  is four (4),
- the number of inputs  $u$  is three (3), and
- the number of outputs  $y$  is two (2).

What are the sizes of the matrices  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$  and  $D$ ?

**Write your answer here.**

2. Consider the following non-interacting two-tank fluid system.



Notations in the figure are given in the table below. Fluid inertances are assumed to be negligible.

Symbol	Meaning
$C_1$ and $C_2$	fluid capacitances of Tank 1 and Tank 2
$R_t$ and $R_o$	fluid resistances at the outlets of Tank 1 and Tank 2
$P_0 = P_o$	ambient pressure
$Q_i$ and $Q_o$	input and output volume flow rates
$Q_t$	volume flow rate into Tank 2
$P_1$ and $P_2$	pressures at the bottom of Tank 1 and Tank 2
$\rho$	mass density of the fluid
$g$	acceleration due to the gravity
$H_1$ and $H_2$	fluid heights of Tank 1 and Tank 2

- (a) For Tank 1 (upper tank), with the volume flow rate  $Q_i$  as an input, derive the state equation **by using the linear graph**. Here, take the state variable as  $P_{10} := P_1 - P_0$ . (4pt)

Write your answer here.

- (b) For Tank 2 (lower tank), with the volume flow rate  $Q_t$  as an input, derive the state equation **by using the linear graph**. Here, take the state variable as  $P_{20} := P_2 - P_0$ . (4pt)

Write your answer here.

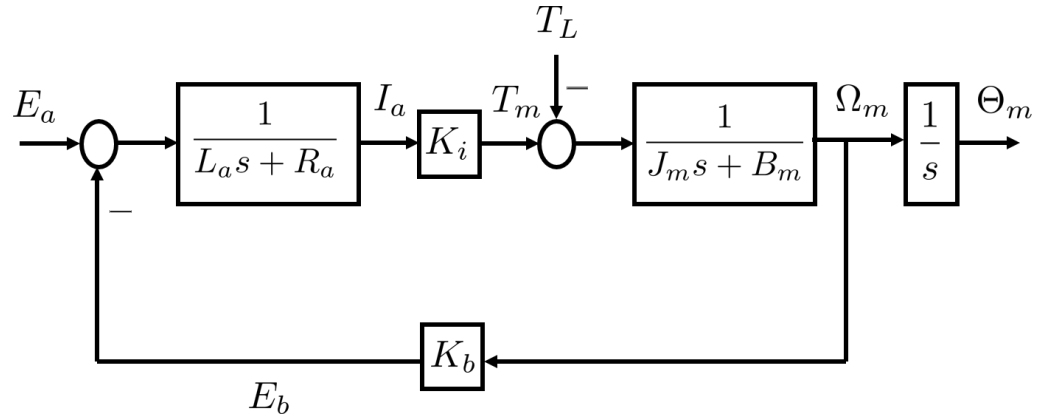
(c) Obtain the state-space model of the two-tank system with:

- **one input:** the volume flow rate  $Q_i$ , and
- **three outputs:** the heights  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ , and volume flow rate  $Q_o$ .

(In this question, you do not need to draw the linear graph.) (2pt)

Write your answer here.

3. Consider the DC motor block diagram below, where all the constants which appear in the blocks ( $L_a$ ,  $R_a$ ,  $K_i$ ,  $J_m$ ,  $B_m$  and  $K_b$ ) are positive.



(a) Obtain the following transfer functions:

- from the motor voltage  $E_a$  to the rotor speed  $\Omega_m$ . (2pt)
- from the motor current  $I_a$  to the rotor speed  $\Omega_m$ . (2pt)

Write your answer here.



(b) **By finding the poles of the transfer functions**, discuss the stability of the following transfer functions:

i. from the motor voltage  $E_a$  to the rotor speed  $\Omega_m$ . (2pt)

ii. from the motor voltage  $E_a$  to the rotor position  $\Theta_m$ . (2pt)

**Write your answer here.**

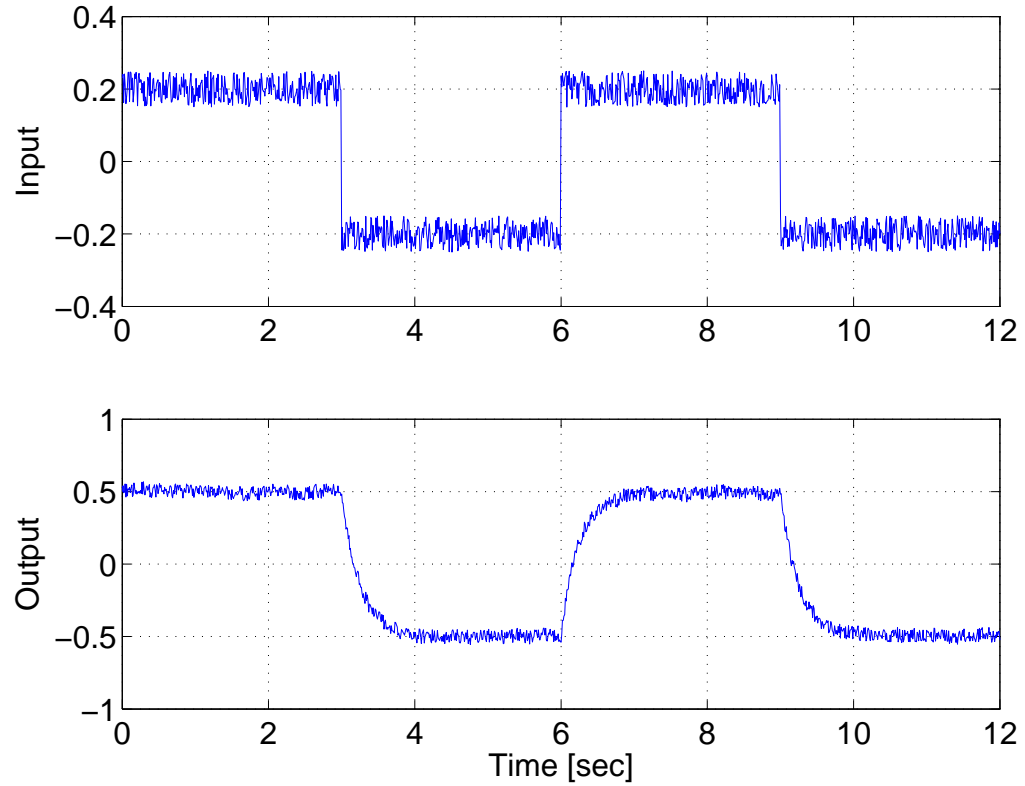
- (c) When we apply the unit step voltage  $E_a$  and the unit step load torque  $T_L$  simultaneously, what value does the rotor speed converge? In other words, what is  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \omega_m(t)$ ? (Here,  $\omega_m(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{\Omega_m(s)\}$ .) (2pt)

**Write your answer here.**

Write your answer here.

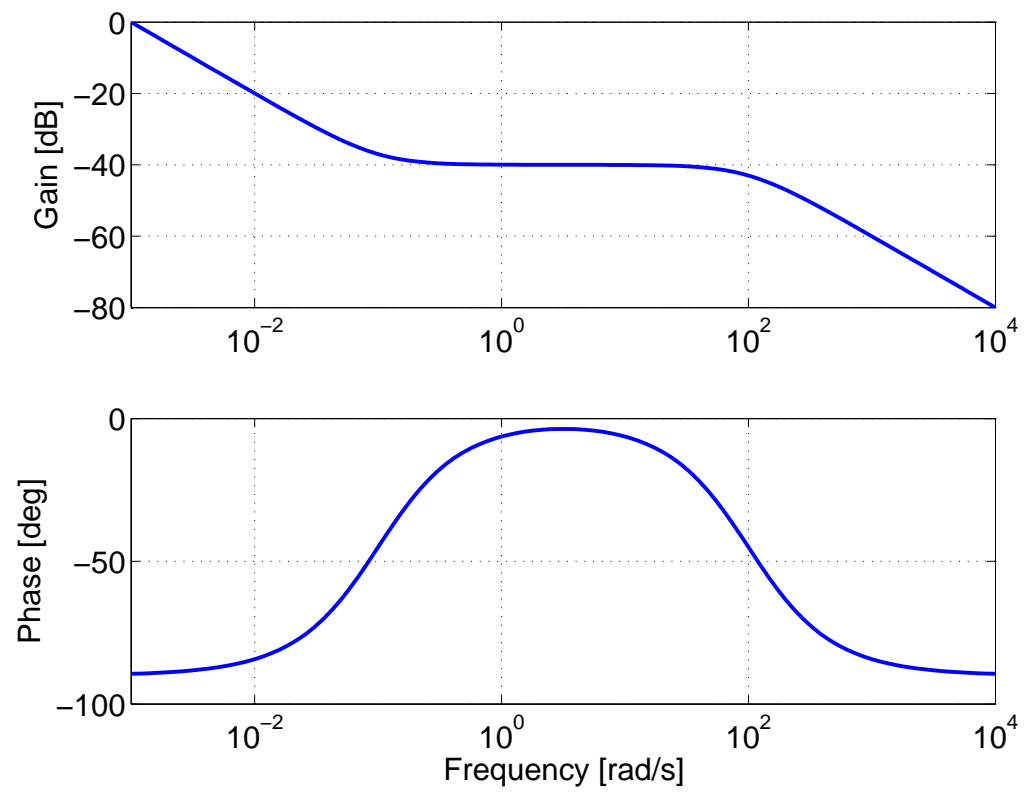
4. Answer the following modeling questions based on experimental data.

- (a) For an unknown system, we applied a noisy square-wave input signal with the period 6 seconds, and obtained a noisy output signal, as shown below. Estimate the transfer function of the system. (5pt)



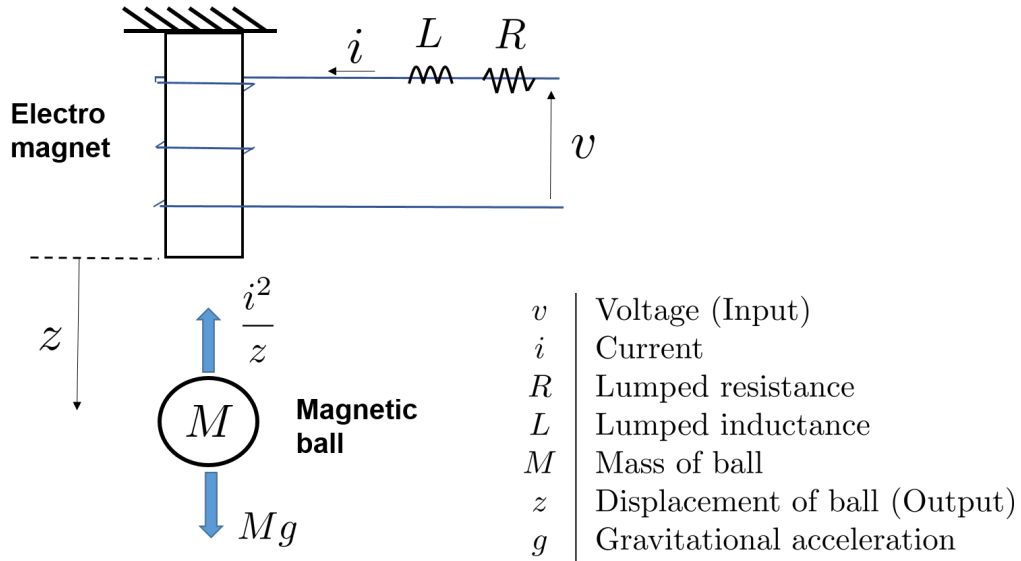
Write your answer here.

- (b) For an unknown system, we took the experimental frequency response and plotted the Bode plot as below. Estimate the transfer function of the system. (5pt)



Write your answer here.

5. Consider the magnetic-ball suspension system in the figure below. Here, the **input** is the applied voltage  $v$ , and the **output** is the displacement  $z$  of the ball, as indicated in the figure.



Forces applied to the magnetic ball are indicated in the figure, where  $Mg$  is the gravitational force (downward force) and  $i^2/z$  is the electromagnetic force (upward force).

- (a) Obtain the state-space model. (6pt)
- (b) Around the equilibrium point  $z = z_0$  (positive constant displacement), obtain the linearized state-space model. (4pt)

— End of Exam Questions —

Write your answer here.

Write your answer here.

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



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