

# Model-Based Controller Design

- **Direct Synthesis Method**
- **Internal Model Control**
- **Controllers With Two Degrees of Freedom**

# Controller Tuning

- PID controller settings can be determined by a number of alternative techniques:
  1. Direct Synthesis (DS) method
  2. Internal Model Control (IMC) method
  3. Controller tuning relations
  4. Frequency response techniques
  5. Computer simulation
  6. *On-line tuning* after the control system is installed.

# Direct Synthesis Method

- In the Direct Synthesis (DS) method, the controller design is based on a process model and a desired closed-loop transfer function.
- The latter is usually specified for set-point changes, but responses to disturbances can also be utilized (Chen and Seborg, 2002).
- Although these feedback controllers do not always have a PID structure, the DS method does produce PI or PID controllers for common process models.

- As a starting point for the analysis, consider the block diagram of a feedback control system in Figure 12.2. The closed-loop transfer function for set-point changes was derived in Section 11.2:

$$\frac{Y}{Y_{sp}} = \frac{G_c G_v G_p}{1 + G_c G_v G_p G_m} \quad (12-1)$$

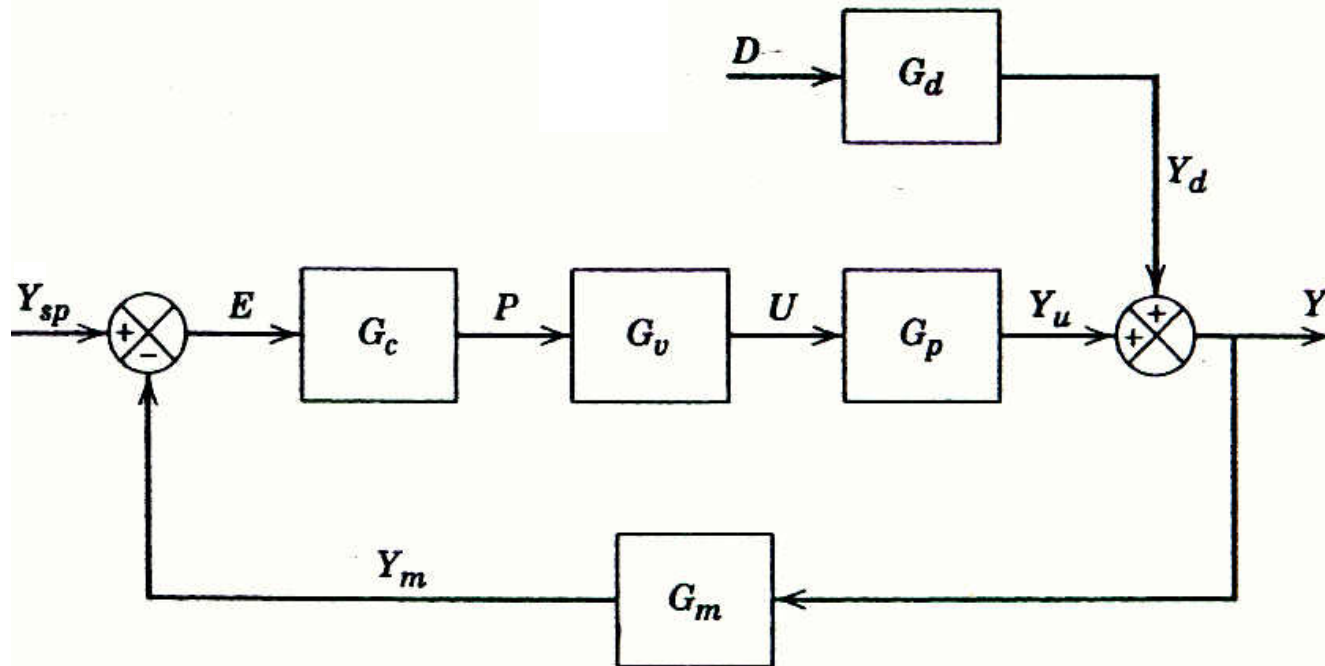


Fig. 12.2. Block diagram for a standard feedback control system.

For simplicity, let  $G \triangleq G_v G_p$  and assume that  $G_m = 1$ . Then Eq. 12-1 reduces to

$$\frac{Y}{Y_{sp}} = \frac{G_c G}{1 + G_c G} \quad (12-2)$$

Rearranging and solving for  $G_c$  gives an expression for the feedback controller:

$$G_c = \frac{1}{G} \left( \frac{Y / Y_{sp}}{1 - Y / Y_{sp}} \right) \quad (12-3a)$$

- Equation 12-3a cannot be used for controller design because the closed-loop transfer function  $Y/Y_{sp}$  is not known *a priori*.
- Also, it is useful to distinguish between the actual process  $G$  and the model,  $\tilde{G}$ , that provides an approximation of the process behavior.

- A practical design equation can be derived by replacing the unknown  $G$  by  $\tilde{G}$ , and  $Y/Y_{sp}$  by a *desired closed-loop transfer function*,  $(Y/Y_{sp})_d$ :

$$G_c = \frac{1}{\tilde{G}} \left[ \frac{(Y/Y_{sp})_d}{1 - (Y/Y_{sp})_d} \right] \quad (12-3b)$$

- The specification of  $(Y/Y_{sp})_d$  is the key design decision and will be considered later in this section.
- Note that the controller transfer function in (12-3b) contains the inverse of the process model owing to the  $1/\tilde{G}$  term.
- This feature is a distinguishing characteristic of model-based control.

## Desired Closed-Loop Transfer Function

For processes without time delays, the first-order model in Eq. 12-4 is a reasonable choice,

$$\left( \frac{Y}{Y_{sp}} \right)_d = \frac{1}{\tau_c s + 1} \quad (12-4)$$

- The model has a settling time of  $\sim 5\tau_c$ , as shown in Section 5. 2.
- Because the steady-state gain is one, no offset occurs for set-point changes.
- By substituting (12-4) into (12-3b) and solving for  $G_c$ , the controller design equation becomes:

$$G_c = \frac{1}{\tilde{G}} \frac{1}{\tau_c s} \quad (12-5)$$

- The  $1/\tau_c s$  term provides integral control action and thus eliminates offset.
- Design parameter  $\tau_c$  provides a convenient controller tuning parameter that can be used to make the controller more aggressive (small  $\tau_c$ ) or less aggressive (large  $\tau_c$ ).
- If the process transfer function contains a known time delay  $\theta$ , a reasonable choice for the desired closed-loop transfer function is:

$$\left( \frac{Y}{Y_{sp}} \right)_d = \frac{e^{-\theta s}}{\tau_c s + 1} \quad (12-6)$$

- The time-delay term in (12-6) is essential because it is physically impossible for the controlled variable to respond to a set-point change at  $t = 0$ , before  $t = \theta$ .



- If the time delay is unknown,  $\theta$  must be replaced by an estimate.
- Combining Eqs. 12-6 and 12-3b gives:

$$G_c = \frac{1}{\tilde{G}} \frac{e^{-\theta s}}{\tau_c s + 1 - e^{-\theta s}} \quad (12-7)$$

- Although this controller is not in a standard PID form, it is physically realizable.
- Next, we show that the design equation in Eq. 12-7 can be used to derive PID controllers for simple process models.
- The following derivation is based on approximating the time-delay term in the denominator of (12-7) with a truncated Taylor series expansion:

$$e^{-\theta s} \approx 1 - \theta s \quad (12-8)$$

Substituting (12-8) into the denominator of Eq. 12-7 and rearranging gives

$$G_c = \frac{1}{\tilde{G}} \frac{e^{-\theta s}}{(\tau_c + \theta)s} \quad (12-9)$$

Note that this controller also contains integral control action.

## First-Order-plus-Time-Delay (FOPTD) Model

Consider the standard FOPTD model,

$$\tilde{G}(s) = \frac{Ke^{-\theta s}}{\tau s + 1} \quad (12-10)$$

Substituting Eq. 12-10 into Eq. 12-9 and rearranging gives a PI controller,  $G_c = K_c (1 + 1/\tau_I s)$ , with the following controller settings:

$$K_c = \frac{1}{K} \frac{\tau}{\theta + \tau_c}, \quad \tau_I = \tau \quad (12-11)$$

## Second-Order-plus-Time-Delay (SOPTD) Model

Consider a SOPTD model,

$$\tilde{G}(s) = \frac{K e^{-\theta s}}{(\tau_1 s + 1)(\tau_2 s + 1)} \quad (12-12)$$

Substitution into Eq. 12-9 and rearrangement gives a PID controller in parallel form,

$$G_c = K_c \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\tau_I s} + \tau_D s \right) \quad (12-13)$$

where:

$$K_c = \frac{1}{K} \frac{\tau_1 + \tau_2}{\tau_c + \theta}, \quad \tau_I = \tau_1 + \tau_2, \quad \tau_D = \frac{\tau_1 \tau_2}{\tau_1 + \tau_2} \quad (12-14)$$

## Example 12.1

Use the DS design method to calculate PID controller settings for the process:

$$G = \frac{2e^{-s}}{(10s+1)(5s+1)}$$

Consider three values of the desired closed-loop time constant:  $\tau_c = 1, 3$ , and  $10$ . Evaluate the controllers for unit step changes in both the set point and the disturbance, assuming that  $G_d = G$ . Repeat the evaluation for two cases:

- The process model is perfect ( $\tilde{G} = G$ ).
- The model gain is  $\tilde{K} = 0.9$ , instead of the actual value,  $K = 2$ .  
Thus,

$$\tilde{G} = \frac{0.9e^{-s}}{(10s+1)(5s+1)}$$

The controller settings for this example are:

	$\tau_c = 1$	$\tau_c = 3$	$\tau_c = 10$
$K_c (\tilde{K} = 2)$	3.75	1.88	0.682
$K_c (\tilde{K} = 0.9)$	8.33	4.17	1.51
$\tau_I$	15	15	15
$\tau_D$	3.33	3.33	3.33

The values of  $K_c$  decrease as  $\tau_c$  increases, but the values of  $\tau_I$  and  $\tau_D$  do not change, as indicated by Eq. 12-14.

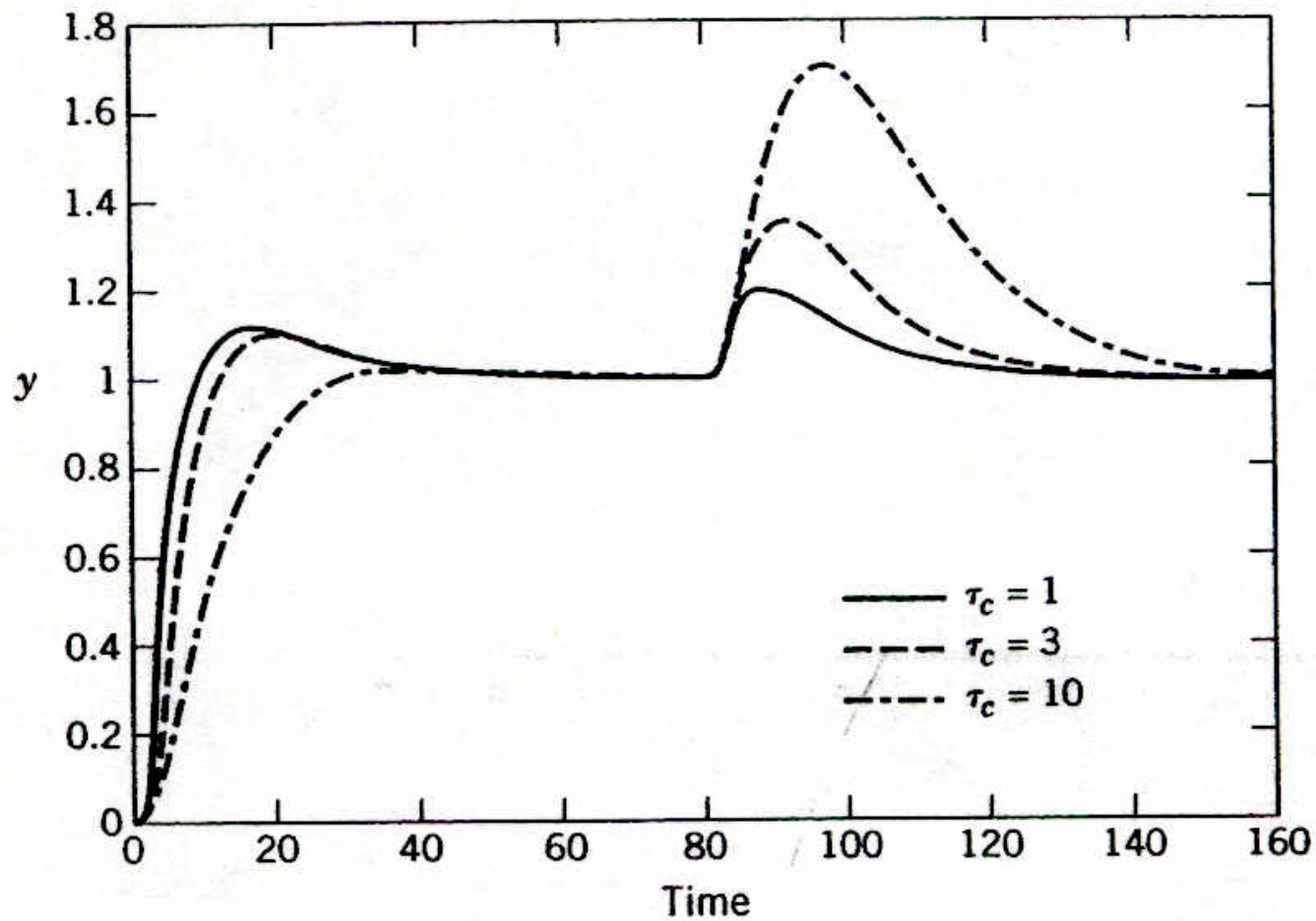


Figure 12.3 Simulation results for Example 12.1 (a): correct model gain.

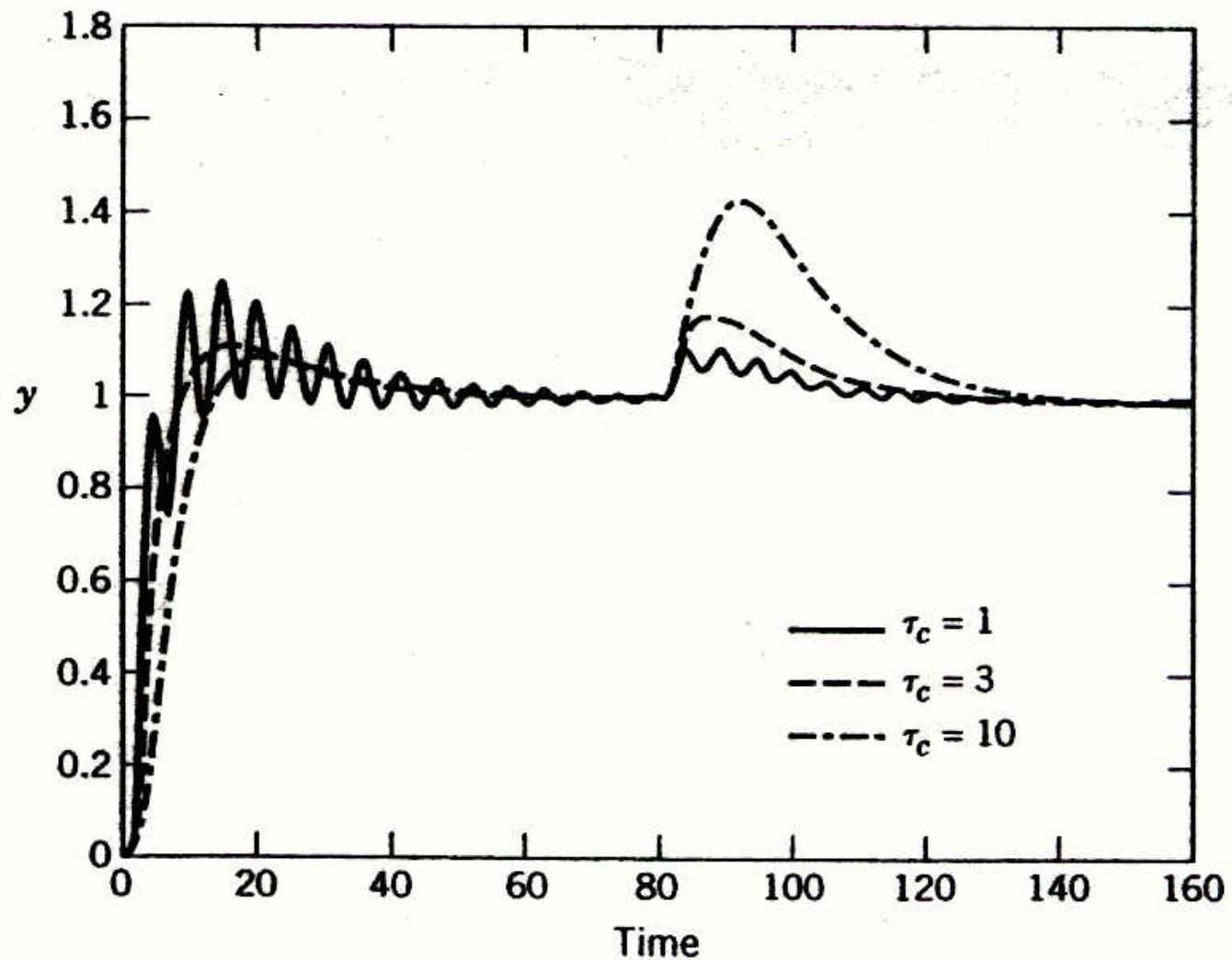


Fig. 12.4 Simulation results for Example 12.1 (b): incorrect model gain.



## DS - Remark

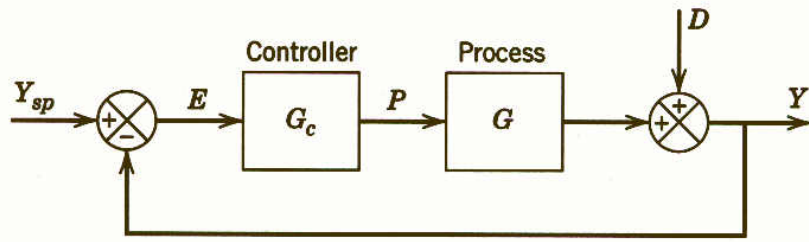
- The specification of the desired closed-loop transfer function,  $(Y/Y_{sp})_d$ , should be based on the assumed process model, as well as the desired set-point response.
  - The FOPTD model is a reasonable choice for many processes but not all.
  - For example, if the process model contains a RHP zero  $(1 - \tau_a s)$ , we must specify

$$\left( \frac{Y}{Y_{sp}} \right)_d = \frac{(1 - \tau_a s) e^{-\theta s}}{\tau_c s + 1} \quad (12-15)$$

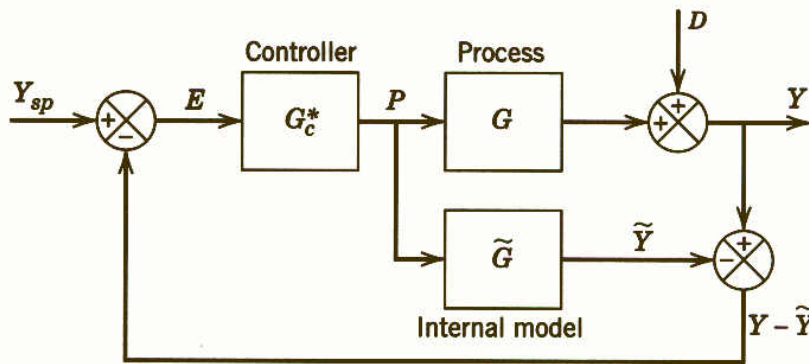
- The DS approach should not be used directly for process models with unstable poles.

# Internal Model Control (IMC)

- A more comprehensive model-based design method, *Internal Model Control (IMC)*, was developed by Morari and coworkers (Garcia and Morari, 1982; Rivera et al., 1986).
- The IMC method, like the DS method, is based on an assumed process model and leads to analytical expressions for the controller settings.
- These two design methods are closely related and produce identical controllers if the design parameters are specified in a consistent manner.
- The IMC method is based on the simplified block diagram shown in Fig. 12.6b. A process model  $\tilde{G}$  and the controller output  $P$  are used to calculate the model response,  $\tilde{Y}$ .



(a) Classical feedback control



(b) Internal model control

Figure 12.6.  
Feedback control  
strategies

- The model response is subtracted from the actual response  $Y$ , and the difference,  $Y - \tilde{Y}$  is used as the input signal to the IMC controller,  $G_c^*$ .
- In general,  $Y \neq \tilde{Y}$  due to modeling errors ( $\tilde{G} \neq G$ ) and unknown disturbances ( $D \neq 0$ ) that are not accounted for in the model.
- The block diagrams for conventional feedback control and IMC are compared in Fig. 12.6.

- It can be shown that the two block diagrams are identical if controllers  $G_c$  and  $G_c^*$  satisfy the relation

$$G_c = \frac{G_c^*}{1 - G_c^* \tilde{G}} \quad (12-16)$$

- Thus, any IMC controller  $G_c^*$  is equivalent to a standard feedback controller  $G_c$ , and vice versa.
- The following closed-loop relation for IMC can be derived from Fig. 12.6b using the block diagram algebra:

$$Y = \frac{G_c^* G}{1 + G_c^* (G - \tilde{G})} Y_{sp} + \frac{1 - G_c^* \tilde{G}}{1 + G_c^* (G - \tilde{G})} D \quad (12-17)$$

For the special case of a perfect model,  $\tilde{G} = G$ , (12-17) reduces to

$$Y = G_c^* G Y_{sp} + (1 - G_c^* G) D \quad (12-18)$$

The IMC controller is designed in two steps:

**Step 1.** The process model is factored as

$$\tilde{G} = \tilde{G}_+ \tilde{G}_- \quad (12-19)$$

where  $\tilde{G}_+$  contains any time delays and right-half plane zeros.

- In addition,  $\tilde{G}_+$  is required to have a steady-state gain equal to one in order to ensure that the two factors in Eq. 12-19 are unique.

**Step 2.** The controller is specified as

$$G_c^* = \frac{1}{\tilde{G}_-} f \quad (12-20)$$

where  $f$  is a *low-pass filter* with a steady-state gain of one. It typically has the form:

$$f = \frac{1}{(\tau_c s + 1)^r} \quad (12-21)$$

In analogy with the DS method,  $\tau_c$  is the desired closed-loop time constant. Parameter  $r$  is a positive integer. The usual choice is  $r = 1$ .

For the ideal situation where the process model is perfect ( $\tilde{G} = G$ ), substituting Eq. 12-20 into (12-18) gives the closed-loop expression

$$Y = \tilde{G}_+ f Y_{sp} + (1 - f \tilde{G}_+) D \quad (12-22)$$

Thus, the closed-loop transfer function for set-point changes is

$$\frac{Y}{Y_{sp}} = \tilde{G}_+ f \quad (12-23)$$

## Example 12.2

Use the IMC design method to design two controllers for the FOPDT model. Consider two approximations for the time delay term:

(a) 1/1 Pade approximation:  $e^{-\theta s} \cong \frac{1-0.5\theta s}{1+0.5\theta s}$

(b) 1st-order Taylor series approximation:  $e^{-\theta s} \cong 1-\theta s$

### Solution:

(a) 
$$\tilde{G} = \frac{K(1-0.5\theta s)}{(1+0.5\theta s)(\tau s+1)}$$

Factor this model as  $\tilde{G} = \tilde{G}_+ \tilde{G}_-$  where

$$\tilde{G}_+ = (1-0.5\theta s)$$

$$\tilde{G}_- = \frac{K}{(1+0.5\theta s)(\tau s+1)}$$



Setting  $r = 1$  gives

$$G_c^* = \frac{(1 + 0.5\theta s)(\tau s + 1)}{K(\tau_c s + 1)}$$

The equivalent controller  $G_c$  can be obtained from Eq. 12-16

$$G_c = \frac{(1 + 0.5\theta s)(\tau s + 1)}{K(\tau_c + 0.5\theta)s}$$

And rearranged into the PID controller of (12-13) with:

$$K_c = \frac{1}{K} \frac{2\left(\frac{\tau}{\theta}\right) + 1}{2\left(\frac{\tau_c}{\theta}\right) + 1}, \quad \tau_I = \frac{\theta}{2} + \tau, \quad \tau_D = \frac{\tau}{2\left(\frac{\tau}{\theta}\right) + 1}$$

(b) The IMC controller is identical to the DS controller for a FOPTD model

## *Selection of $\tau_c$*

- The choice of design parameter  $\tau_c$  is a key decision in both the DS and IMC design methods.
- In general, increasing  $\tau_c$  produces a more conservative controller because  $K_c$  decreases while  $\tau_I$  increases.
- Several IMC guidelines for  $\tau_c$  have been published for the FOPDT model in Eq. 12-10:
  1.  $\tau_c / \theta > 0.8$  and  $\tau_c > 0.1\tau$  (Rivera et al., 1986)
  2.  $\tau > \tau_c > \theta$  (Chien and Fruehauf, 1990)
  3.  $\tau_c = \theta$  (Skogestad, 2003)

## IMC Tuning Relations

The IMC method can be used to derive PID controller settings for a variety of transfer function models.

Table 12.1 IMC-Based PID (**parallel form**) Controller Settings for  $G_c(s)$  (Chien and Fruehauf, 1990).

Case	Model	$K_c K$	$\tau_I$	$\tau_D$
A	$\frac{K}{\tau s + 1}$	$\frac{\tau}{\tau_c}$	$\tau$	—
B	$\frac{K}{(\tau_1 s + 1)(\tau_2 s + 1)}$	$\frac{\tau_1 + \tau_2}{\tau_c}$	$\tau_1 + \tau_2$	$\frac{\tau_1 \tau_2}{\tau_1 + \tau_2}$
C	$\frac{K}{\tau^2 s^2 + 2\zeta \tau s + 1}$	$\frac{2\zeta \tau}{\tau_c}$	$2\zeta \tau$	$\frac{\tau}{2\zeta}$
D	$\frac{K(-\beta s + 1)}{\tau^2 s^2 + 2\zeta \tau s + 1}, \beta > 0$	$\frac{2\zeta \tau}{\tau_c + \beta}$	$2\zeta \tau$	$\frac{\tau}{2\zeta}$
E	$\frac{K}{s}$	$\frac{2}{\tau_c}$	$2\tau_c$	—
F	$\frac{K}{s(\tau s + 1)}$	$\frac{2\tau_c + \tau}{\tau_c^2}$	$2\tau_c + \tau$	$\frac{2\tau_c \tau}{2\tau_c + \tau}$
G	$\frac{K e^{-\theta s}}{\tau s + 1}$	$\frac{\tau}{\tau_c + \theta}$	$\tau$	—
H	$\frac{K e^{-\theta s}}{\tau s + 1}$	$\frac{\tau + \frac{\theta}{2}}{\tau_c + \frac{\theta}{2}}$	$\tau + \frac{\theta}{2}$	$\frac{\tau \theta}{2\tau + \theta}$

Table 12.1 (Continued).

I	$\frac{K(\tau_3 s + 1)e^{-\theta s}}{(\tau_1 s + 1)(\tau_2 s + 1)}$	$\frac{\tau_1 + \tau_2 - \tau_3}{\tau_c + \theta}$	$\tau_1 + \tau_2 - \tau_3$	$\frac{\tau_1 \tau_2 - (\tau_1 + \tau_2 - \tau_3)\tau_3}{\tau_1 + \tau_2 - \tau_3}$
J	$\frac{K(\tau_3 s + 1)e^{-\theta s}}{\tau^2 s^2 + 2\zeta \tau s + 1}$	$\frac{2\zeta \tau - \tau_3}{\tau_c + \theta}$	$2\zeta \tau - \tau_3$	$\frac{\tau^2 - (2\zeta \tau - \tau_3)\tau_3}{2\zeta \tau - \tau_3}$
K	$\frac{K(-\tau_3 s + 1)e^{-\theta s}}{(\tau_1 s + 1)(\tau_2 s + 1)}$	$\frac{\tau_1 + \tau_2 + \frac{\tau_3 \theta}{\tau_c + \tau_3 + \theta}}{\tau_c + \tau_3 + \theta}$	$\tau_1 + \tau_2 + \frac{\tau_3 \theta}{\tau_c + \tau_3 + \theta}$	$\frac{\tau_3 \theta}{\tau_c + \tau_3 + \theta} + \frac{\tau_1 \tau_2}{\tau_1 + \tau_2 + \frac{\tau_3 \theta}{\tau_c + \tau_3 + \theta}}$
L	$\frac{K(-\tau_3 s + 1)e^{-\theta s}}{\tau^2 s^2 + 2\zeta \tau s + 1}$	$\frac{2\zeta \tau + \frac{\tau_3 \theta}{\tau_c + \tau_3 + \theta}}{\tau_c + \tau_e + \theta}$	$2\zeta \tau + \frac{\tau_3 \theta}{\tau_c + \tau_3 + \theta}$	$\frac{\tau_3 \theta}{\tau_c + \tau_3 + \theta} + \frac{\tau^2}{2\zeta \tau + \frac{\tau_3 \theta}{\tau_c + \tau_3 + \theta}}$
M	$\frac{K e^{-\theta s}}{s}$	$\frac{2\tau_c + \theta}{(\tau_c + \theta)^2}$	$2\tau_c + \theta$	—
N	$\frac{K e^{-\theta s}}{s}$	$\frac{2\tau_c + \theta}{\left(\tau_c + \frac{\theta}{2}\right)^2}$	$2\tau_c + \theta$	$\frac{\tau_c \theta + \frac{\theta^2}{4}}{2\tau_c + \theta}$
O	$\frac{K e^{-\theta s}}{s(\tau s + 1)}$	$\frac{2\tau_c + \tau + \theta}{(\tau_c + \theta)^2}$	$2\tau_c + \tau + \theta$	$\frac{(2\tau_c + \theta)\tau}{2\tau_c + \tau + \theta}$

**Table 12.2** Equivalent PID Controller Settings  
for the Parallel and Series Forms

Parallel Form	Series Form
$G_c(s) = K_c \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\tau_I s} + \tau_D s \right)$	$G_c(s) = K'_c \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\tau'_I s} \right) (1 + \tau'_D s)^\dagger$
$K_c = K'_c \left( 1 + \frac{\tau'_D}{\tau'_I} \right)$	$K'_c = \frac{K_c}{2} (1 + \sqrt{1 - 4\tau_D/\tau_I})$
$\tau_I = \tau'_I + \tau'_D$	$\tau'_I = \frac{\tau_I}{2} (1 + \sqrt{1 - 4\tau_D/\tau_I})$
$\tau_D = \frac{\tau'_D \tau'_I}{\tau'_I + \tau'_D}$	$\tau'_D = \frac{\tau_I}{2} (1 - \sqrt{1 - 4\tau_D/\tau_I})$

<sup>†</sup>These conversion equations are only valid if  $\tau_D/\tau_I \leq 0.25$ .

## Tuning for Lag-Dominant Models

- First- or second-order models with relatively small time delays ( $\theta / \tau \ll 1$ ) are referred to as *lag-dominant models*.
- The IMC and DS methods provide satisfactory set-point responses, but very slow disturbance responses, because the value of  $\tau_I$  is very large.
- Fortunately, this problem can be solved in three different ways.

### Method 1: Integrator approximation

$$\text{Approximate } \tilde{G}(s) = \frac{Ke^{-\theta s}}{\tau s + 1} \text{ by } \tilde{G}(s) = \frac{K^* e^{-\theta s}}{s}$$

$$\text{where } K^* \triangleq K / \tau.$$

- Then can use the IMC tuning rules (Rule M or N) to specify the controller settings.

## Method 2. Limit the value of $\tau_I$

- For lag-dominant models, the standard IMC controllers for first-order and second-order models provide sluggish disturbance responses because  $\tau_I$  is very large.
- For example, controller  $G$  in Table 12.1 has  $\tau_I = \tau$  where  $\tau$  is very large.
- As a remedy, Skogestad (2003) has proposed limiting the value of  $\tau_I$ :

$$\tau_I = \min \{ \tau_1, 4(\tau_c + \theta) \} \quad (12-34)$$

where  $\tau_1$  is the largest time constant (if there are two).

## Method 3. Design the controller for disturbances, rather than set-point changes

- The desired CLTF is expressed in terms of  $(Y/D)_{\text{des}}$ , rather than  $(Y/Y_{sp})_{\text{des}}$
- *Reference:* Chen & Seborg (2002)

## Example 12.4

Consider a lag-dominant model with  $\theta / \tau = 0.01$ :

$$\tilde{G}(s) = \frac{100}{100s + 1} e^{-s}$$

**Design four PI controllers:**

- a) IMC ( $\tau_c = 1$ )
- b) IMC ( $\tau_c = 2$ ) based on the integrator approximation
- c) IMC ( $\tau_c = 1$ ) with Skogestad's modification (Eq. 12-34)
- d) Direct Synthesis method for disturbance rejection (Chen and Seborg, 2002): The controller settings are  $K_c = 0.551$  and  $\tau_I = 4.91$ .



Evaluate the four controllers by comparing their performance for unit step changes in both set point and disturbance. Assume that the model is perfect and that  $G_d(s) = G(s)$ .

### Solution

The PI controller settings are:

Controller	$K_c$	$\tau_I$
(a) IMC	0.5	100
(b) Integrator approximation	0.556	5
(c) Skogestad	0.5	8
(d) DS-d	0.551	4.91

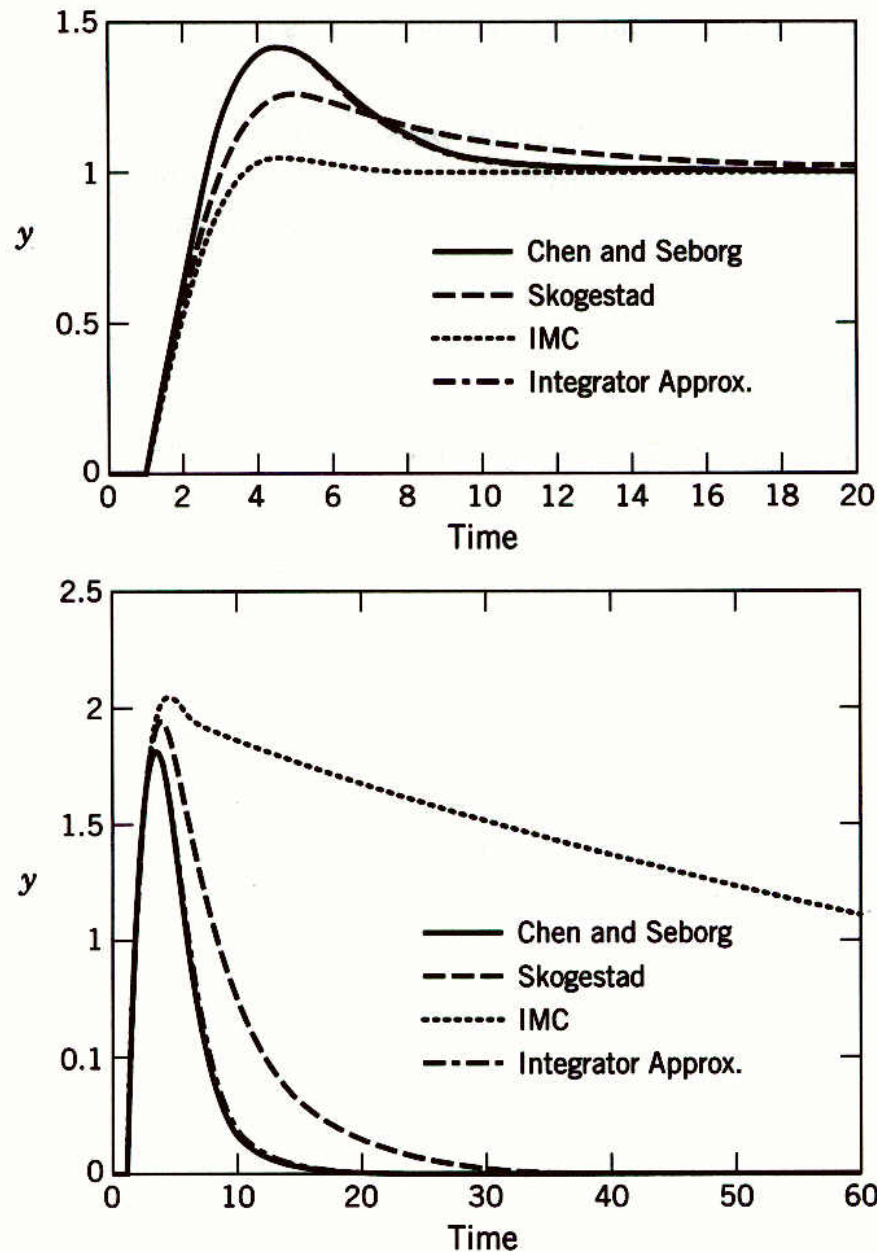


Figure 12.8. Comparison of set-point responses (top) and disturbance responses (bottom) for Example 12.4. The responses for the Chen and Seborg and integrator approximation methods are essentially identical.

# Controllers With Two Degrees of Freedom

- The specification of controller settings for a standard PID controller typically requires a tradeoff between set-point tracking and disturbance rejection.
- The strategies which can be used to adjust the set-point and disturbance independently are referred to as *controllers with two-degrees-of-freedom*.
- The first strategy is very simple. Set-point changes are introduced gradually rather than as abrupt step changes.
- For example, the set point can be ramped as shown in Fig. 12.10 or “filtered” by passing it through a first-order transfer function,

$$\frac{Y_{sp}^*}{Y_{sp}} = \frac{1}{\tau_f s + 1} \quad (12-38)$$

where  $Y_{sp}^*$  denotes the *filtered set point* that is used in the control calculations.

- The filter time constant,  $\tau_f$  determines how quickly the filtered set point will attain the new value, as shown in Fig. 12.10.
- This strategy can significantly reduce overshoot for set-point changes.

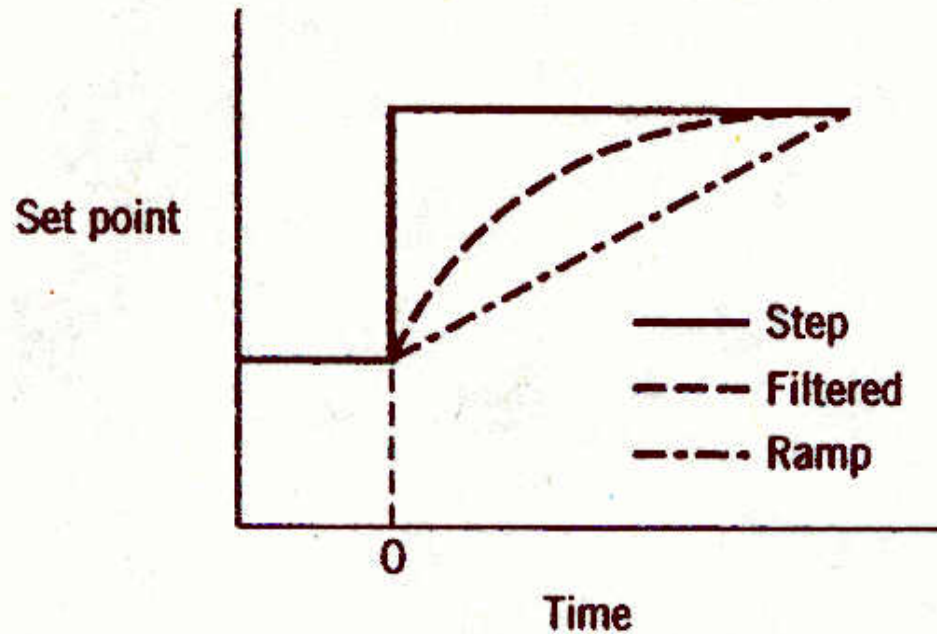


Figure 12.10 Implementation of set-point changes.

- A second strategy for independently adjusting the set-point response is based on a simple modification of the PID control law,

$$p(t) = \bar{p} + K_c \left[ e(t) + \frac{1}{\tau_I} \int_0^t e(t^*) dt^* + \tau_D \frac{de(t)}{dt} \right]$$

where  $y_m$  is the measured value of  $y$  and  $e$  is the error signal.  
 $e \triangleq y_{sp} - y_m$

- The control law modification consists of multiplying the set point in the proportional term by a *set-point weighting factor*,  $\beta$  :

$$p(t) = \bar{p} + K_c \left[ \beta y_{sp}(t) - y_m(t) \right] + K_c \left[ \frac{1}{\tau_I} \int_0^t e(t^*) dt^* + \tau_D \frac{de(t)}{dt} \right] \quad (12-39)$$

The set-point weighting factor is bounded,  $0 < \beta < 1$ , and serves as a convenient tuning factor.

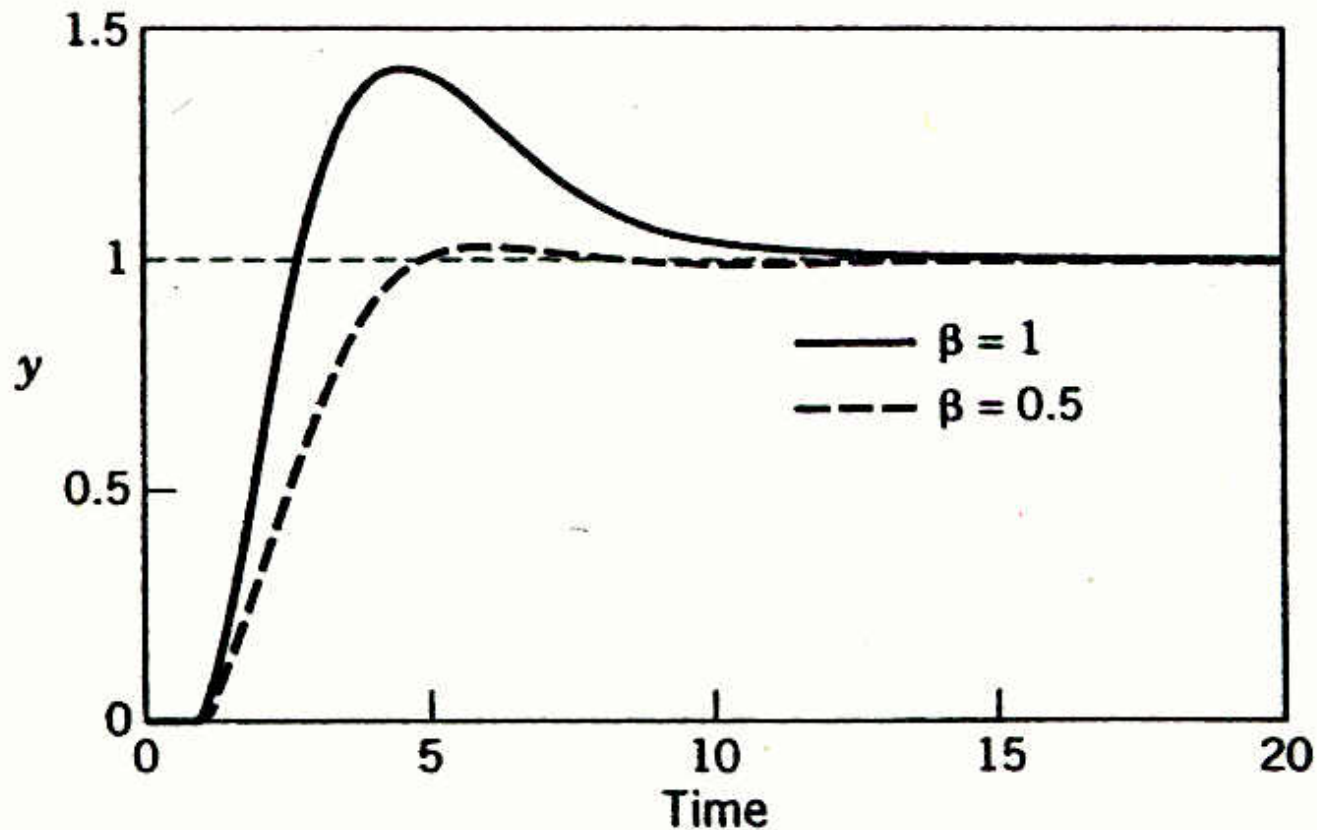


Figure 12.11 Influence of set-point weighting on closed-loop responses for Example 12.6.