

Process Control Assignment

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Variables of Process Examples

1. Lime Mud Filter

- **PV:** Moisture content in the filtered mud
- **MV:** Drum speed / Vacuum pressure / Wash water flow rate
- **Load disturbance:** Incoming mud consistency or feed rate

2. Paper Machine Basis Weight

- **PV:** Basis weight (mass of paper per unit area, e.g., g/m²)
- **MV:** Flow rate of pulp to the headbox / Jet-to-wire speed ratio
- **Load disturbance:** Pulp consistency or stock composition

3. Boiler Combustion Pressure

- **PV:** Furnace/combustion chamber pressure
- **MV:** Air/fuel ratio (air or fuel flow)
- **Load disturbance:** Changes in steam demand or fuel quality

4. Steam Drum Water Level

- **PV:** Water level in the steam drum
- **MV:** Feedwater flow rate
- **Load disturbance:** Steam flow rate (which affects how fast water is leaving)

5. Distillate Composition in a Distillation Column

- **PV:** Mole fraction or percentage of a key component in distillate
- **MV:** Reflux ratio or distillate flow rate
- **Load disturbance:** Feed composition or feed flow rate

6. Ammonia Plant Hydrogen-to-Nitrogen Ratio

- **PV:** $\text{H}_2:\text{N}_2$ molar ratio
- **MV:** Control valve position on hydrogen or nitrogen feed lines
- **Load disturbance:** Upstream changes in hydrogen or nitrogen supply purity or flow

Relative Gain Array (RGA)

Why do rows/columns sum to 1?

The RGA matrix Λ is defined as:

$$\Lambda = G \circ (G^{-1})^T$$

Where:

- G is the steady-state gain matrix,
- \circ is the element-wise (Hadamard) product,
- $(G^{-1})^T$ is the transpose of the inverse of the gain matrix.

Because of this specific mathematical structure, **each element λ_{ij}** measures the effect of MV j on CV i , **relative to the system as a whole**.

Row and column sums

- **Each row sums to 1:** You're looking at how each controlled variable (CV) is influenced across all MVs. Total influence must account for 100% — hence, the sum is 1.
- **Each column sums to 1:** Similarly, each MV distributes its influence among all CVs. Again, total relative influence = 100%.