A servo system is usually defined as a system whereby the motion and position of a mechanism are controlled using a feedback device, by which the system can detect errors and act to correct them. The corrective action can be performed using electric motors, or pneumatic or hydraulic cylinders.

This is a course of instruction about how electric servo systems work and in the optimal choice of servo motors and drives (amplifiers) to achieve a specified performance at minimum cost. Nevertheless, much of the content applies to all servo systems irrespective of the type. It is designed to help both those with little knowledge of the subject to become conversant and those with existing knowledge to appreciate the finer points of the subject. The content is modularized and covers everything from fundamentals to sophisticated applications. This allows users to skip subjects they are already comfortable with. As will become apparent, it is tedious and time consuming to manually calculate all possible permutations of a proposed system so the course content is accompanied by the Cosmatt sizing software tool, a basic sizing tool which combines the methods and widgets from the course to provide a rapid sizing environment.