

Solution Suggestion  
Exam - TTK4115 Linear System Theory  
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**Problem 1**

A first order low-pass filter and a first order high-pass filter are given respectively by

$$g_l(s) = \frac{1}{\tau s + 1}, \quad g_h(s) = \frac{\tau s}{\tau s + 1}$$

The filters are driven by a common input signal  $u(s)$ , but produce the two outputs  $y_l(s) = g_l(s)u(s)$  and  $y_h(s) = g_h(s)u(s)$ .

- a) A state-space realization for the transfer function  $g_l(s)$  is to be found. Since the plant is first order, the realization must be on the general form

$$\dot{x} = ax + bu, \quad y = cx + du \tag{1}$$

A Laplace transform here gives

$$\frac{y}{u}(s) = \frac{ds + (bc - da)}{s - a} \tag{2}$$

Comparison leads to the equations

$$a = -\frac{1}{\tau}, \quad d = 0, \quad bc = \frac{1}{\tau} \tag{3}$$

Setting  $c = 1$ , a state-space realization follows as

$$\dot{x} = -\frac{1}{\tau}x + \frac{1}{\tau}u, \quad y = x \tag{4}$$

Recall that state-space realizations are not unique!

- b) Proceeding in a similar manner, for  $g_h(s)$  one must have

$$a = -\frac{1}{\tau}, \quad d = 1, \quad bc - da = 0 \tag{5}$$

Setting  $c = -1$ , one has  $b = 1/\tau$  and hence

$$\dot{x} = -\frac{1}{\tau}x + \frac{1}{\tau}u, \quad y = u - x \tag{6}$$

c) This question asks for a realization of  $g_l(s) + g_h(s)$ . Now verify that

$$g_l(s) + g_h(s) = \frac{1}{\tau s + 1} + \frac{\tau s}{\tau s + 1} = 1 \quad (7)$$

Our realization is thus

$$y = u \quad (8)$$

d) We are asked to find a minimal state-space realization for the transfer-function

$$\begin{bmatrix} g_l(s) \\ g_h(s) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\tau s + 1} \\ \frac{\tau s}{\tau s + 1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (9)$$

It is seen that this transfer-function is first-order, and one state will suffice. (Using two would render the model non-minimal). A general description for the state-space realization is thus

$$\dot{x} = ax + bu, \quad \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{c}x + \mathbf{d}u \quad (10)$$

where  $\mathbf{c}$  and  $\mathbf{d}$  are  $2 \times 1$  vectors. Taking a Laplace-transform leads to

$$\mathbf{y}(s) = \frac{\mathbf{d}s + (\mathbf{c}b - \mathbf{d}a)}{s - a} \quad (11)$$

Clearly,  $a = -1/\tau$  and hence

$$\mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (12)$$

Since  $\tau(\mathbf{c}b - \mathbf{d}a) = [1, 0]^\top$  it must hold that  $\tau\mathbf{c}b = [1, -1]^\top$ . Choosing  $b = 1/\tau$  leads to  $\mathbf{c} = [1, -1]^\top$  and the realization

$$\dot{x} = -\frac{1}{\tau}x + \frac{1}{\tau}u, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u \quad (13)$$

e) This task asks for the transfer-function of the following state-space model

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}u, \quad \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{d}u$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\omega_b^2 & -2\omega_b \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_b^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2\omega_b \\ -\omega_b^2 & -2\omega_b \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

It is well known that the general formula reads as  $\mathbf{g}(s) = \mathbf{C}(s\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{d}$ . Here, one finds that

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{bmatrix} \omega_b^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2\omega_b \\ -\omega_b^2 & -2\omega_b \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s & -1 \\ \omega_b^2 & s + 2\omega_b \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{s^2 + 2\omega_b s + \omega_b^2} \begin{bmatrix} \omega_b^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2\omega_b \\ -\omega_b^2 & -2\omega_b \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s + 2\omega_b & 1 \\ -\omega_b^2 & s \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{s^2 + 2\omega_b s + \omega_b^2} \begin{bmatrix} \omega_b^2 & 0 \\ 2\omega_b s & 0 \\ -(2\omega_b s + \omega_b^2) & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{s^2 + 2\omega_b s + \omega_b^2} \begin{bmatrix} \omega_b^2 \\ 2\omega_b s \\ s^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (14) \end{aligned}$$

It is seen that the outputs  $\mathbf{y}$  represent, in descending order, a low-pass filter, a band-pass filter and finally a high-pass filter.

## Problem 2

A diesel engine model is supplied as

$$\tau \dot{x} + x = u - d \quad (15)$$

- a) This task examines the response of the diesel engine under LQR control. The following functional is minimized with state-feedback

$$J = \int_0^\infty \{qx^2 + ru^2\} dt$$

A number of different tunings are considered.

**A**  $q = 1$  and  $r = 1$ .

**B**  $q = 100$  and  $r = 1$ .

**C**  $q = 1$  and  $r = 100$ .

**D**  $q = 100$  and  $r = 100$ .

The response will be on the form  $x(t) = e^{-at}x_0$ . It is seen that A and D will result in similar responses. Tuning C will imply a slower decay of  $x$  compared to A and D, whereas B will result in a faster decay.

- b) In order to use the LQR with the cost objective given below, a state-space description of the error-state  $\tilde{x} = x - x_r$  and its integral  $\tilde{x}_i = x - x_r$  must be found.

$$J = \int_0^\infty \left\{ q_p(x - x_r)^2 + q_i \int_0^t (x - x_r)^2 dt' + u^2 \right\} dt \quad (16)$$

One now has

$$J = \int_0^\infty \left\{ q_p \tilde{x}^2 + q_i \tilde{x}_i^2 + u^2 \right\} dt \quad (17)$$

Since  $x_r$  is constant, the error state  $\tilde{x}$  can be modeled by

$$\tau \dot{\tilde{x}} + \tilde{x} = u - d - x_r \quad (18)$$

The integral effect follows as

$$\dot{\tilde{x}}_i = \tilde{x} \Rightarrow \tilde{x}_i = \int_0^t (x - x_r) dt' \quad (19)$$

Gathering definitions leads to an augmented state-space model

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\tilde{x}} \\ \dot{\tilde{x}}_i \end{bmatrix} = \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\tau} & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{A}} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{x} \\ \tilde{x}_i \end{bmatrix} + \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\tau} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{B}} u - \frac{1}{\tau} \begin{bmatrix} d + x_r \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (20)$$

The associated cost-matrices are found as

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} q_p & 0 \\ 0 & q_i \end{bmatrix}, \quad R = 1 \quad (21)$$

- c) In this task, the trick is to define

$$\dot{u} = v \quad (22)$$

Using the error-state from the previous task leads to the cost-function

$$J = \int_0^\infty \left\{ q_p \tilde{x}^2 + v^2 \right\} dt \quad (23)$$

The associated state-space model reads as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\tilde{x}} \\ \dot{u} \end{bmatrix} = \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\tau} & \frac{1}{\tau} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{A}} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{x} \\ u \end{bmatrix} + \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{B}} v - \frac{1}{\tau} \begin{bmatrix} d + x_r \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (24)$$

The associated cost-matrices are found as

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} q_p & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad R = 1 \quad (25)$$

### Problem 3

The following state-space model is to be examined

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix} u, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \beta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

a) The controllability matrix is readily computed as

$$\mathcal{C} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{A}\mathbf{b} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \alpha \\ \alpha & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (26)$$

When  $\det(\mathcal{C}) = 0$ , the matrix ceases to have full rank. Verify that

$$\det(\mathcal{C}) = 1 - \alpha^2 \quad (27)$$

Therefore; the system is controllable for all  $\beta$  and  $\alpha \neq \pm 1$ .

b) The observability matrix is readily computed as

$$\mathcal{O} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{c} \\ \mathbf{c}\mathbf{A} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \beta \\ \beta & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (28)$$

When  $\det(\mathcal{O}) = 0$ , the matrix ceases to have full rank. Verify that

$$\det(\mathcal{O}) = 1 - \beta^2 \quad (29)$$

Therefore; the system is observable for all  $\alpha$  and  $\beta \neq \pm 1$ .

c) With  $\alpha = 0$  the state dynamics read as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} u$$

In order to place poles, define  $\mathbf{k} = [k_1, k_2]$ . With  $u = -\mathbf{k}\mathbf{x}$  one has

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{b}\mathbf{k})\mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{b}\mathbf{k} = \begin{bmatrix} -k_1 & 1 - k_2 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (30)$$

The eigenvalues of the closed-loop system matrix may be found as solutions to the characteristic equation

$$|\lambda \mathbf{I} - (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{b}\mathbf{k})| = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda + k_1 & k_2 - 1 \\ -1 & \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 + \lambda k_1 + 1 - k_2 = 0 \quad (31)$$

Comparison to the desired result  $(\lambda + 1)^2 = \lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 1 = 0$  implies that  $k_1 = 2$  and  $k_2 = 2$ .

- d) • State-feedback can be implemented with an observer  $\dot{\hat{\mathbf{x}}} = \mathbf{A}\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{b}u + \mathbf{l}(y - \hat{y})$  generating an estimate of the state  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  based on the measurement  $y$ . This requires that the plant is observable.
- With  $\beta = 1$ , the plant is unobservable. This implies that one cannot identify  $\mathbf{x}$  using an observer. State-feedback is therefore difficult.
- The plant is now

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix} u, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Inserting  $u = -ky$  leads to the closed-loop dynamics

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}ky = (\mathbf{A} - k\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c})\mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{A} - k\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} -k & 1-k \\ 1-k\alpha & -k\alpha \end{bmatrix} \quad (32)$$

The eigenvalues of the matrix  $\mathbf{A} - k\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c}$  solve

$$\begin{vmatrix} \lambda + k & k-1 \\ k\alpha - 1 & \lambda + k\alpha \end{vmatrix} = (\lambda + k)(\lambda + k\alpha) - (k-1)(k\alpha - 1) = \lambda^2 + \lambda k(\alpha + 1) + k(\alpha + 1) - 1 = 0 \quad (33)$$

Yet again comparing to the desired polynomial  $(\lambda + 1)^2 = \lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 1 = 0$  implies

$$k(\alpha + 1) = 2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad k = \frac{2}{\alpha + 1} \quad (34)$$

Verify that this also gives

$$k(\alpha + 1) - 1 = \frac{2(\alpha + 1)}{\alpha + 1} - 1 = 1 \quad (35)$$

Sometimes, one can proceed without observability!

## Problem 4

The measurement problem given below is considered.

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{v}$$

- a) The estimate  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  is indeed unbiased. The estimation error  $\mathbf{e}$  is given by

$$\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{x} - (\mathbf{m} + \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{C}\mathbf{m})) = (\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m}) - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{v}$$

With  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}] = \mathbf{m}$ , one finds that

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{e}] = (\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m}] - \mathbf{K}\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{v}] = \mathbf{0} \quad (36)$$

- b) The covariance matrix of  $\mathbf{e}$  is found as follows: first identify the outer product

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{e}\mathbf{e}^\top &= [(\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m}) - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{v}][(\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m}) - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{v}]^\top \\ &= (\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})^\top (\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})^\top - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})^\top (\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})^\top - (\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})\mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{K}^\top + \mathbf{K}\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{K}^\top \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

The expectancy of the outer product follows as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{e}\mathbf{e}^\top] &= (\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})\mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})^\top] (\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})^\top + \mathbf{K}\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^\top] \mathbf{K}^\top \\ &\quad - \mathbf{K}\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})^\top] (\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})^\top - (\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})\mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})\mathbf{v}^\top] \mathbf{K}^\top \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

Since  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  are uncorrelated and  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{v}] = \mathbf{0}$  it follows that

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})^\top] = \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m})\mathbf{v}^\top] = \mathbf{0} \quad (39)$$

Using the supplied data, one is left with

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{e}\mathbf{e}^\top] = (\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})\mathbf{Q}(\mathbb{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})^\top + \mathbf{K}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{K}^\top \quad (40)$$

c) The mean-square error is to be minimized. This is achieved by solving

$$\frac{\partial \text{tr}(\mathbf{P})}{\partial \mathbf{K}} = 0 \quad (41)$$

Expanding and rearranging  $\mathbf{P}$  gives

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{Q} - (\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{C}^\top\mathbf{K}^\top + \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C}\mathbf{Q}) + \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{C}\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{C}^\top + \mathbf{R})\mathbf{K}^\top \quad (42)$$

Differentiating the trace with respect to  $\mathbf{K}$  gives

$$\frac{\partial \text{tr}(\mathbf{P})}{\partial \mathbf{K}} = -2\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{C}^\top + 2\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{C}\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{C}^\top + \mathbf{R}) \quad (43)$$

Setting the derivative equal to zero one finds that

$$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{C}^\top(\mathbf{C}\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{C}^\top + \mathbf{R})^{-1} \quad (44)$$

d) A simple measurement model is given by

$$\mathbf{y} = \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{c}} x + \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (45)$$

The blending matrix follows from

$$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{C}^\top(\mathbf{C}\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{C}^\top + \mathbf{R})^{-1} \quad (46)$$

In this case,

$$\mathbf{Q} = \sigma^2, \quad \mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (47)$$

Therefore

$$\mathbf{K} = \sigma^2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \left( \sigma^2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} = \frac{\sigma^2}{2 + 3\sigma^2} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (48)$$

It is seen that the first element in  $\mathbf{y}$  contributes more to the estimate  $\hat{x}$ . This is natural since the second element is more noisy! The optimal estimator can be said to "trust" the better measurement more.