

University of British Columbia  
Department of Mechanical Engineering

MECH468 Modern Control Engineering  
MECH522 Foundations in Control Engineering  
Final exam

Examiner: Dr. Ryoze Nagamune  
December 11 (Friday), 2015, 8:30-11am

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Last name, First name

Name:

Student #:

Signature:

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**Exam policies**

- Allowed: Lecture note print-outs, hand-written notes, homework, books.
- Not-allowed: PC, calculators, mobile phones.
- Write all your answers on this booklet. No extra sheet will be provided.
- Motivate your answers properly. (No chance to defend your answers orally.)
- 100 points in total. Mark will be scaled later.

**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 10:50am**, **raise your hand with this booklet**, and **wait at your seat** until the invigilator comes to you and collects your exam booklet.

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

Problem #	Mark	Full mark
1		20
2		30
3		25
4		25
Total		100

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

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1. Answer the following true-or-false questions. Write (T) (meaning *true*) or (F) (meaning *false*). **No need to motivate your answers.** (2pt each)

Below, consider the continuous-time linear time-invariant system

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) &= Ax(t) + Bu(t), \\ y(t) &= Cx(t) + Du(t), \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $x$ ,  $u$  and  $y$  denote respectively state, input and output vectors. By applying the state coordinate transformation  $z = Tx$  with a nonsingular matrix  $T$ , we can obtain a system:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{z}(t) &= TAT^{-1}z(t) + TBu(t), \\ y(t) &= CT^{-1}z(t) + Du(t). \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

- (a) If the system (1) is asymptotically stable, then it is always observable.
- (b) If the system (1) is observable, then it is always asymptotically stable.
- (c) If the system (1) is observable, then it is always detectable.
- (d) If the system (1) is detectable, then it is always observable.
- (e) If the system (1) is detectable, then it is always asymptotically stable.
- (f) If the system (1) is asymptotically stable, then it is always detectable.
- (g) If the system (1) is stabilizable, then it is always detectable.
- (h) If the system (1) is detectable, then it is always stabilizable.
- (i) If the system (1) is observable, then the system (2) is always observable.
- (j) If the system (1) is detectable, then the system (2) is always detectable.

Question	Write your answer here
(a)	
(b)	
(c)	
(d)	
(e)	
(f)	
(g)	
(h)	
(i)	
(j)	

2. Select **only one** correct statement, by **circling one of the numbers i, ii, iii or iv**, for the following sentences. **No need to motivate your answers.** (3pt each)

- (a) If we linearize the state equation  $\dot{x}(t) = -\sin x(t) + \cos u(t)$  around an input  $u_0 = \frac{\pi}{2}$ , then the corresponding equilibrium input  $x_0$  and the linearized state equation will be ( $\delta x(t) := x(t) - x_0$ ,  $\delta u(t) := u(t) - u_0$ ):
- i.  $x_0 = \frac{\pi}{2}$  and  $\delta \dot{x}(t) = -\delta x(t) + \delta u(t)$ .
  - ii.  $x_0 = -\frac{\pi}{2}$  and  $\delta \dot{x}(t) = -\delta x(t) + \delta u(t)$ .
  - iii.  $x_0 = \frac{\pi}{2}$  and  $\delta \dot{x}(t) = \delta x(t) - \delta u(t)$ .
  - iv. None of i, ii, iii is correct.
- (b) If we discretize (with the zero-order-hold method) a continuous-time linear time-invariant system which is controllable, observable and asymptotically stable, then the discretized system for any sampling time is:
- i. always controllable, observable and asymptotically stable.
  - ii. always controllable and observable, but not necessarily asymptotically stable.
  - iii. always observable and asymptotically stable, but not necessarily controllable.
  - iv. None of i, ii, iii is correct.
- (c) For a state equation  $x[k+1] = -x[k] + 2w[k]$  where the expected value and variance of  $w$  and given by  $E\{w\} = 1$  and  $R_w = 1$ , respectively, the prediction step of the Kalman filter will be:
- i.  $\hat{x}[k+1|k] = -\hat{x}[k|k] + 2$  and  $P[k+1|k] = P[k|k] + 2$ .
  - ii.  $\hat{x}[k+1|k] = -\hat{x}[k|k] + 2$  and  $P[k+1|k] = P[k|k] + 4$ .
  - iii.  $\hat{x}[k+1|k] = -\hat{x}[k|k]$  and  $P[k+1|k] = P[k|k] + 2$ .
  - iv.  $\hat{x}[k+1|k] = -\hat{x}[k|k]$  and  $P[k+1|k] = P[k|k] + 4$ .
- (d) For an output equation  $y[k] = x[k] + v[k]$  where the expected value and variance of  $v$  and given by  $E\{v\} = 1$  and  $R_v = 1$ , respectively, the correction step of the Kalman filter will be:
- i. 
$$\begin{cases} \hat{x}[k|k] = \hat{x}[k|k-1] + P[k|k](y[k] - \hat{x}[k|k-1] - 1), \\ P[k|k] = \frac{P[k|k-1]+1}{P[k|k-1]}. \end{cases}$$
  - ii. 
$$\begin{cases} \hat{x}[k|k] = \hat{x}[k|k-1] + P[k|k](y[k] - \hat{x}[k|k-1] - 1), \\ P[k|k] = \frac{P[k|k-1]}{P[k|k-1]+1}. \end{cases}$$
  - iii. 
$$\begin{cases} \hat{x}[k|k] = \hat{x}[k|k-1] + P[k|k](y[k] - \hat{x}[k|k-1]), \\ P[k|k] = \frac{P[k|k-1]+1}{P[k|k-1]}. \end{cases}$$
  - iv. 
$$\begin{cases} \hat{x}[k|k] = \hat{x}[k|k-1] + P[k|k](y[k] - \hat{x}[k|k-1]), \\ P[k|k] = \frac{P[k|k-1]}{P[k|k-1]+1}. \end{cases}$$

(e) By infinite-horizon LQR optimal control with weighting matrices  $Q \geq 0$  and  $R > 0$  and controllable  $(A, B)$  and observable  $(A, Q)$ , the closed-loop system becomes:

- i. always asymptotically stable.
- ii. always marginally stable.
- iii. always unstable.
- iv. None of i, ii, iii is correct.

(f) For a system  $\dot{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u(t)$ , by selecting an appropriate control input  $u(t)$ , it is possible to transfer state:

- i. from  $x(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}^T$  to  $x(1) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}^T$ .
- ii. from  $x(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}^T$  to  $x(1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}^T$ .
- iii. from  $x(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}^T$  to  $x(1) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}^T$ .
- iv. All of i, ii, iii are correct.

(g) In the infinite-horizon LQR problem with a cost function

$$\min_{u(\cdot)} \int_0^\infty (Qx(t)^2 + Ru(t)^2) dt, \quad Q > 0, \quad R > 0,$$

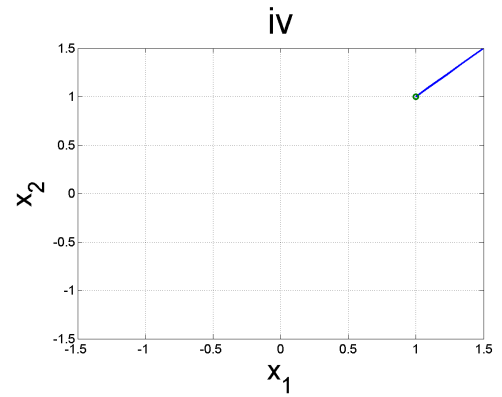
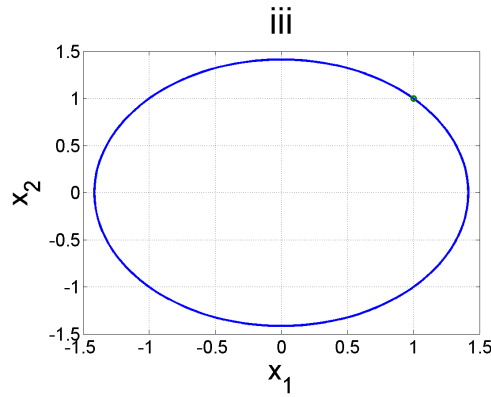
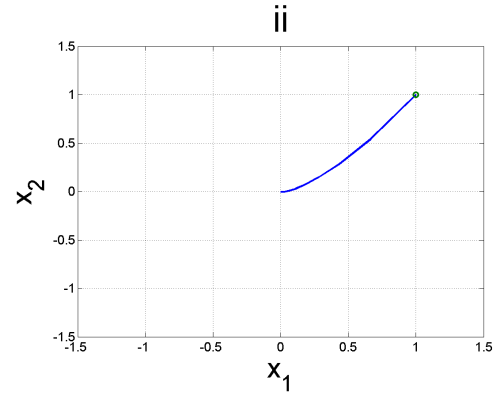
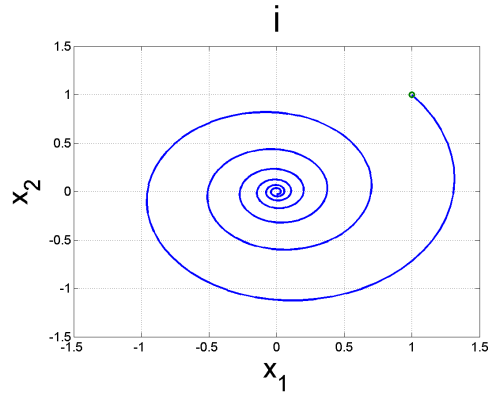
with a state equation (for example,  $\dot{x}(t) = -x(t) + u(t)$ ), during the design iteration while searching for appropriate  $Q$  and  $R$ , if we would like to reduce the input amplitude, then we should:

- i. Increase  $Q$  without changing  $R$ .
- ii. Increase  $R$  without changing  $Q$ .
- iii. Increase  $Q$  and  $R$  by the same multiple (for example,  $2Q$  and  $2R$ ).
- iv. None of i, ii, iii is correct.

(h) In the observer-based state-feedback controller design using pole-placement technique, there are two types of poles, that is, the eigenvalues of  $A - BK$ , denoted by  $\sigma(A - BK)$  and the eigenvalues of  $A - LC$ , denoted by  $\sigma(A - LC)$ . As a rule of thumb, we should place the poles so that:

- i.  $\sigma(A - BK)$  and  $\sigma(A - LC)$  are located in similar distances from the origin.
- ii.  $\sigma(A - BK)$  are located far left, compared to  $\sigma(A - LC)$ .
- iii.  $\sigma(A - LC)$  are located far left, compared to  $\sigma(A - BK)$ .
- iv. None of i, ii, iii is correct.

- (i) A state equation  $\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$  with an initial condition  $x(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  has the following phase plot (small 'o'-mark at  $(x_1, x_2) = (1, 1)$  indicates the initial condition):



- (j) A continuous-time linear state-space model

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u(t), \\ y(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x(t), \end{cases}$$

is:

- i. stabilizable and detectable.
- ii. stabilizable but not detectable.
- iii. detectable but not stabilizable.
- iv. neither stabilizable nor detectable.

3. Consider a system expressed by a transfer function:

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{0.5s + \alpha}.$$

- (a) Obtain one minimal realization of  $G(s)$ . (5pt)
- (b) For the obtained realization of  $G(s)$ , with  $\alpha = 1$ , design a state feedback controller with an integrator (i.e., state feedback gain  $K$  and integrator gain  $K_a$ ) such that the closed-loop poles are  $s = -1, -2$ . (10pt)
- (c) Suppose that our modelling is inaccurate and that the actual  $\alpha$  is not 1. For the designed controller in (b), what is the range of the parameter  $\alpha$  that results in zero steady-state tracking error for any step reference input? (In this question, we are checking how robust the controller designed in (b) is against the uncertainty of  $\alpha$ -value.) (10pt)

**Write your answer here for Problem 3.**



Write your answer here for Problem 3.

4. Consider the following continuous-time infinite-horizon optimal control problem:

$$\min_{u(\cdot)} \int_0^\infty \{2y(t)^2 + u(t)^2\} dt$$

subject to

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} x(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} u(t), \\ y(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x(t). \end{cases}$$

- (a) Is the system above controllable? (3pt)
- (b) Is the system above observable? (3pt)
- (c) Obtain the Algebraic Riccati Equation (ARE) associated with the infinite-horizon optimal control problem above, by explicitly showing what the matrices  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $Q$  and  $R$  are. (3pt)
- (d) Find the positive definite solution to the ARE obtained in (c). (10pt)
- (e) Determine the optimal control law  $u(t)$ . (3pt)
- (f) Verify that the closed-loop system with the optimal control law obtained in (e) is asymptotically stable. (3pt)

**Write your answer here for Problem 4.**

Write your answer here for Problem 4.

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