



CHUKA

UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING

EENG 475: CONTROL ENGINEERING 1

STREAMS:

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: TUESDAY 15/04/2025

8.30 A.M – 10.30 A.M

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions.

Do not write on the question paper.

**QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

(a) Define the following terms:

- **State Variables:** State variables are a set of variables that describe the smallest possible subset of system variables such that the knowledge of these variables at any time  $t_0$ , together with the input for  $t \geq t_0$ , completely determines the behavior of the system for all future times  $t \geq t_0$ .
- **State Vector:** A state vector is a column vector that contains all the state variables of a system. It represents the complete state of the system at a given time and is typically denoted as  $\mathbf{x}(t)$ .
- **State Space:** State space is a mathematical model of a physical system expressed as a set of input, output, and state variables related by first-order differential (or difference) equations. It provides a framework to model and analyze systems using a set of equations in matrix form.

[3 marks]

(b) What are the key advantages of state-space representation over classical control techniques? List and briefly explain three advantages. [3 marks]

(c) Define the following terms in the context of digital control systems:

- Sampling

- Zero-order hold
- Quantization

[2 marks]

- (d) What are eigenvalues and eigenvectors, and how are they used in state-space analysis? [3 marks]
- (e) Define controllability and observability. Provide the criteria for testing them. [3 marks]
- (f) Describe the difference between continuous-time and discrete-time systems in control. [2 marks]

## Question Two

(20 Marks)

- (a) **Test the controllability and observability of the system below:** [4 marks]

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Solution:**

The controllability matrix is:

$$C = [B \quad AB] = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since  $\text{rank}(C) = 1 < 2$ , the system is **not controllable**.

The observability matrix is:

$$O = \begin{bmatrix} C \\ CA \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(O) = (1)(2) - (1)(1) = 1 \neq 0$$

Therefore, the system is **observable**.

- (b) **For the state-space system:**

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} u, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix} x$$

- (i) **Calculate the state transition matrix  $\Phi(t)$ .**

[4 marks]

**Solution:**

**(i) State Transition Matrix  $\Phi(t)$**

The state transition matrix is:

$$\Phi(t) = e^{At} \quad \text{where} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since  $A$  is upper triangular, the eigenvalues are 2 and  $-3$ .

Thus:

$$\Phi(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{2t} & f(t) \\ 0 & e^{-3t} \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $f(t)$  satisfies:

$$\frac{d}{dt}f(t) = 1 \times e^{-3t} + 2f(t)$$

Using integrating factor  $e^{-2t}$ :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( e^{-2t} f(t) \right) = e^{-5t}$$

Integrating:

$$e^{-2t} f(t) = \frac{e^{-5t}}{-5} + C$$
$$f(t) = e^{2t} \left( \frac{1}{5} (1 - e^{-5t}) \right)$$

Thus:

$$\Phi(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{2t} & \frac{1}{5} e^{2t} (1 - e^{-5t}) \\ 0 & e^{-3t} \end{bmatrix}$$

**(ii) Find the zero-input response for the initial condition  $x(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}^T$ . [3 marks]**

**Solution:**

The zero-input response is:

$$x(t) = \Phi(t)x(0) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{4}{5}e^{2t} + \frac{1}{5}e^{-3t} \\ -e^{-3t} \end{bmatrix}$$

**(c) For the continuous-time system:**

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x$$

**Design a state feedback controller  $u = -Kx$  to place the eigenvalues at  $s = -1$  and  $s = -2$ . [7 marks]**

**(d) Explain the concepts of reliability and redundancy in digital control systems. [2 marks]**

## Question b

For the state-space system:

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} u, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix} x$$

(i) Calculate the state transition matrix  $\Phi(t)$ .

(ii) Find the zero-input response for the initial condition  $x(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

## solution

### (i) State Transition Matrix $\Phi(t)$

The state transition matrix is:

$$\Phi(t) = e^{At} \quad \text{where} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since  $A$  is upper triangular, the eigenvalues are 2 and  $-3$ .

Thus:

$$\Phi(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{2t} & f(t) \\ 0 & e^{-3t} \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $f(t)$  satisfies:

$$\frac{d}{dt}f(t) = 1 \times e^{-3t} + 2f(t)$$

Using integrating factor  $e^{-2t}$ :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( e^{-2t} f(t) \right) = e^{-5t}$$

Integrating:

$$e^{-2t} f(t) = \frac{e^{-5t}}{-5} + C$$

$$f(t) = e^{2t} \left( \frac{1}{5} (1 - e^{-5t}) \right)$$

Thus:

$$\Phi(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{2t} & \frac{1}{5} e^{2t} (1 - e^{-5t}) \\ 0 & e^{-3t} \end{bmatrix}$$

## (ii) Zero-input Response

The zero-input response is:

$$x(t) = \Phi(t)x(0)$$

Substituting:

$$x(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{2t} & \frac{1}{5}e^{2t}(1 - e^{-5t}) \\ 0 & e^{-3t} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

First component:

$$e^{2t}(1) + \frac{1}{5}e^{2t}(1 - e^{-5t})(-1) = e^{2t} \left( \frac{4}{5} + \frac{1}{5}e^{-5t} \right)$$

Second component:

$$0(1) + e^{-3t}(-1) = -e^{-3t}$$

Thus:

$$x(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{2t} \left( \frac{4}{5} + \frac{1}{5}e^{-5t} \right) \\ -e^{-3t} \end{bmatrix}$$

## Question c

For the continuous-time system:

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x$$

Design a state feedback controller  $u = -Kx$  to place the eigenvalues at  $s = -1$  and  $s = -2$ .

## solution

The closed-loop system is:

$$\dot{x} = (A - BK)x$$

where:

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad K = \begin{bmatrix} k_1 & k_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus:

$$A - BK = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -2 - k_1 & -3 - k_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

The characteristic equation:

$$\det(sI - (A - BK)) = 0$$

Expanding:

$$\det \left( \begin{bmatrix} s & -1 \\ 2 + k_1 & s + 3 + k_2 \end{bmatrix} \right) = 0$$

Thus:

$$s^2 + (3 + k_2)s + (2 + k_1) = 0$$

The desired characteristic equation is:

$$(s + 1)(s + 2) = s^2 + 3s + 2$$

Comparing:

$$3 + k_2 = 3 \quad \Rightarrow \quad k_2 = 0$$

$$2 + k_1 = 2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad k_1 = 0$$

Thus:

$$\boxed{K = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}$$

### Question Three

(20 Marks)

- (a) Convert the continuous transfer function

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{s+2}$$

to z-domain using  $T = 0.1$  seconds.

[3 marks]

- (b) Convert the following transfer function to state-space representation in controllable canonical form:

$$G(s) = \frac{5s+3}{s^2+4s-0.5}$$

[3 marks]

- (c) Consider a continuous-time system:

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x$$

- (i) Convert this system to a discrete-time system with a sampling period of  $T = 0.1$  seconds.

[4 marks]

- (ii) Determine whether the discrete-time system is stable.

[1 mark]

- (d) Consider the discrete-time system:

$$x(k+1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix} x(k) + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u(k), \quad y(k) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x(k)$$

- (i) Design a state feedback controller  $u(k) = -Kx(k)$  to place the eigenvalues of the closed-loop system at  $z = 0.3$  and  $z = 0.4$ .

[6 marks]

- (ii) Verify that the designed controller achieves the desired eigenvalue placement. [3 marks]

### Question Four

(20 Marks)

- (a) Consider a temperature control system for an industrial furnace. The continuous-time plant model is:

$$G(s) = \frac{2}{5s+1}$$

You need to implement a digital controller with a sampling time of  $T = 0.5$  seconds.

- (i) Find the discrete-time plant model  $G(z)$ .

[4 marks]

- (ii) Design a digital PID controller in the form:

$$C(z) = K_p + K_i \left( \frac{Tz}{z-1} \right) + \frac{K_d(z-1)}{Tz}$$

with parameters  $K_p = 1.2$ ,  $K_i = 0.5$ , and  $K_d = 0.1$ .

[4 marks]

- (iii) Write the difference equation for the controller implementation.

[3 marks]

(b) A discrete-time control system has the following state-space representation:

$$x(k+1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.8 & 0.1 \\ 0 & 0.9 \end{bmatrix} x(k) + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u(k) \quad , \quad y(k) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x(k)$$

- (i) Design a full-order observer to estimate the states with observer poles at  $z = 0.2$  and  $z = 0.3$ . [4 marks]
- (ii) Write the observer equations. [3 marks]
- (iii) Discuss the trade-off in selecting observer pole locations. [2 marks]