

Qube-Servo 3

Proportional Control

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- 2014/30/EU; Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive (EMC)

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Qube-Servo 3 – Application Guide

Proportional Control

What is Proportional Control?

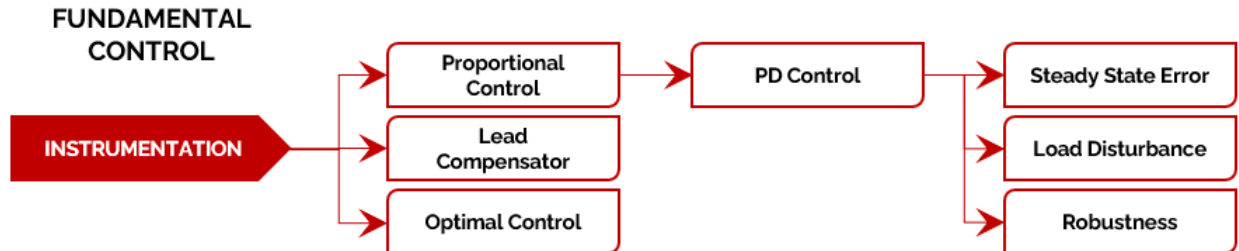
Proportional control is a control algorithm that adjusts the control variable in proportion to the error between the desired value and the measured current value. The goal of proportional control is to minimize the steady-state error between the system's output and the desired reference input.

The key benefit is its simplicity. By directly applying a control proportional to the error, the system can quickly react to changes and maintain the current value near the setpoint. This makes proportional control good for applications that require fast response times, such as temperature regulation or motor speed control. However, one limitation of proportional control is that it cannot completely eliminate steady-state error.

Background

This lab is part of the Fundamental Control skills progression of the Qube-Servo 3. This will give you hands-on experience in applying fundamental control techniques to a DC motor system. It will help you understand how different control strategies can be used to regulate the motor's speed and position, while also understanding the impact of load disturbances and the importance of system robustness.

The lab progression is as follows:



Prior to starting this lab, please review the following concept reviews (should be located in Documents/Quanser/4_concept_reviews/),

- Concept Review – Modeling & IO → Modeling (Step Response/Second Order Step Response section).
- Concept Review – Controls → PID Control (PID Control, Proportional Control and For Qube-Servo/Proportional Control sections).s

Second Order Systems

Second order systems in DC motor analysis characterize the dynamic behavior of the motor using second-order differential equations. These systems are defined by their natural frequency and damping ratio, which together determine important characteristics like settling time, overshoot, and rise time. Understanding these parameters is crucial for predicting how the motor will respond to various inputs and designing effective control systems.

This will help you describe how quickly your motor speeds up or slows down, and how it might oscillate before settling to its final speed. Useful information can be derived about the DC motor behaviour even before performing any physical experiment.

Final Value Theorem

The Final Value Theorem (FVT) can be used to determine the steady-state or final value of the system output $y(t)$ given its Laplace transform $Y(s)$. For a system with an unstable pole (i.e. a pole in the right half of the s -plane), the final value is unbounded.

If the system is marginally stable with a complex conjugate pole pair on the imaginary axis, the output of the system will be oscillatory, and the final value is not defined. For a stable

system response (i.e. all poles of the systems are strictly located in the left half of the s-plane), the following equation is:

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} sY(s) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t)$$

Steady – State Error

Steady-state error is the difference between the reference input and output signals after the system response has settled. Therefore, for a time t when the system is in steady-state, the steady-state error equals:

$$e_{ss} = r_{ss}(t) - y_{ss}(t)$$

Where $r_{ss}(t)$ is the value of the steady state input and $y_{ss}(t)$ is the steady state value of the output.

We can find the error transfer function in terms of reference $R(s)$, the plant $P(s)$, and the controller $C(s)$. The Laplace Transform of the error is:

$$E(s) = R(s) - Y(s)$$

Getting started

In this lab you will analyze the response of second order systems as well as learn how to create a proportional controller for speed and position of a DC motor. You will experiment with what the proportional gain does the output of the system.

Ensure you have completed the following labs

- **Hardware Interfacing Lab**
- **Filtering Lab**

Before you begin this lab, ensure that the following criteria are met.

- If using a physical Qube-Servo 3, make sure it has been setup and tested. See the Qube-Servo 3 Quick Start Guide for details on this step. Make sure the inertia disc load is attached to the Qube-Servo 3.
- If using the virtual Qube-Servo 3, make sure you have Quanser Interactive Labs open in the Qube 3 - DC Motor → Servo Workspace.
- You are familiar with the basics of Simulink. See the [Simulink Onramp](#) for more help with getting started with Simulink.