



TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MOMBASA

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Faculty of Engineering and Technology  
Department of Mechanical & Automotive Engineering  
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR:  
BSc. Mechanical Engineering  
EMG 2405 : Control Engineering I  
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION  
SERIES: DECEMBER 2016  
TIME: 2 HOURS  
DATE: 15 Dec 2016

**Instruction to Candidates:**

You should have the following for this examination

- Answer booklet
- Non-Programmable scientific calculator

This paper consists of **FIVE** questions. Attempt question **ONE** and any other **TWO** questions. Maximum marks for each part of a question are as shown.

**Do not write on the question paper.**

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**Question ONE (Compulsory)**

- a. Figure Q1a shows a process which is being controlled in a closed-loop system with unity feedback. The process can be modelled using a first-order model with system gain,  $K$ , and a system time constant,  $\tau$ . **(15 marks)**

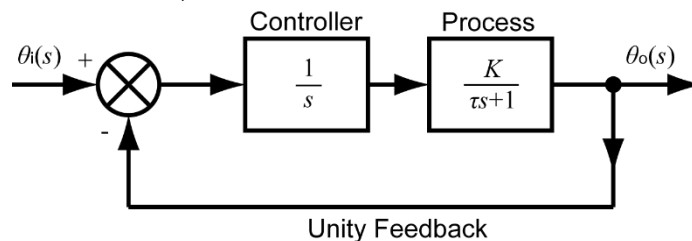


Figure Q1a

- Obtain the expression for the forward-path transfer function for the system,  $G_o(s)$ .
- Determine the system type number.
- Obtain the expression for the closed-loop transfer function for the system,  $G(s)$ .
- If this system was subject to a unit step reference input, what would be the steady-state error value? Use your knowledge of system types, controller effects or the final value theorem.

- v. If the system time constant,  $\tau$  is 0.1 seconds and the system gain  $K$  is 2.5, will the closed-loop system be underdamped, critically damped or over-damped?
- b. Consider the closed loop system with a unity feedback as shown in Figure Q1b.

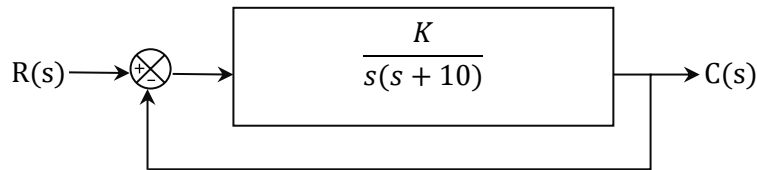


Figure Q1b

- I. Determine the gain  $K$  so that the system will have a damping ratio of 0.5.
  - II. For the obtained value of  $K$  determine the following for a unit step input:
    - i. Settling time,
    - ii. Rise time,
    - iii. Time to peak,
    - iv. Maximum overshoot
- (15 marks)**

**Question TWO**

- a. Consider a transfer function of a system as shown in Figure Q3a

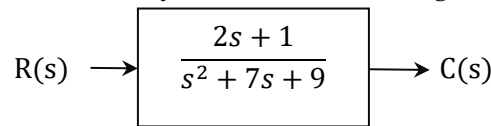


Figure Q3a

- i. Find the state equation and output equation for the phase variable representation of the transfer function.
  - ii. Draw an equivalent block diagram showing phase variables.
- (10 marks)**
- b. Consider an RLC network as shown in Figure Q3b. Determine,
- i. The transfer function  $G(s) = V_2(s)/V_1(s)$ , of the system.
  - ii. The state space model of the RLC network.
- (10 marks)**

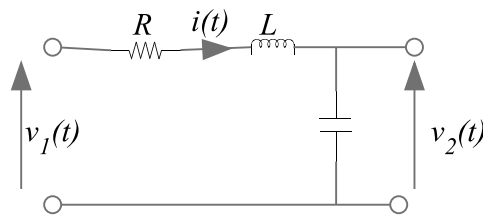


Figure Q3b

**Question THREE**

- a. State Routh-Hurwitz criteria for stability.
  - b. Define the terms:
    - i. Stable.
    - ii. Limitedly stable.
    - iii. Unstable.
- (6 marks)**
- c. Consider the closed loop system shown in Figure Q3a. Determine the range of values of  $K$  for which the system is stable. **(8 marks)**

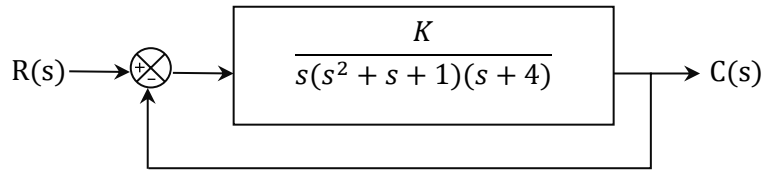


Figure Q3a

- d. Find the equivalent transfer function,  $T(s) = C(s)/R(s)$ , for the system shown in Figure Q3b. **(6 marks)**

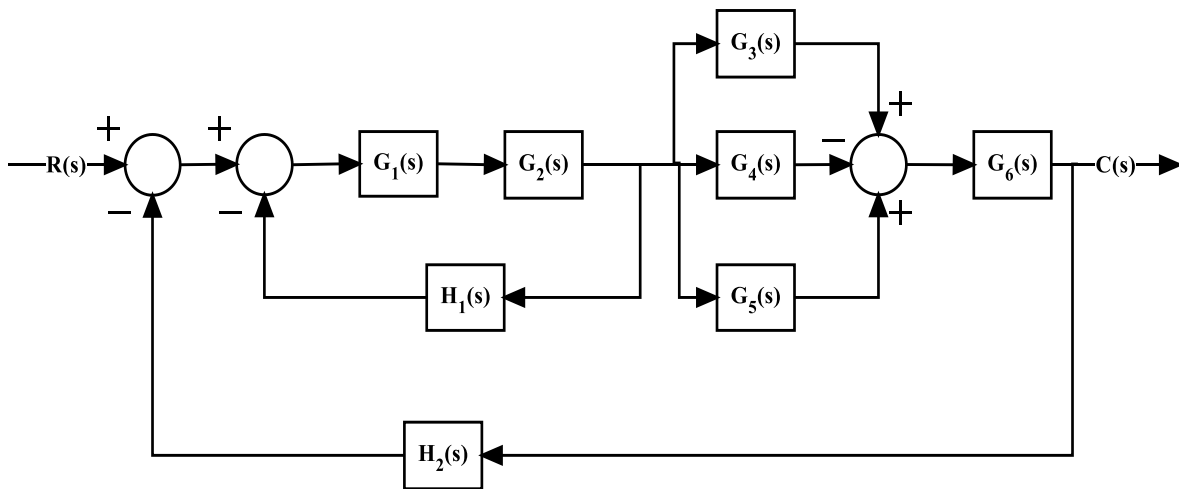


Figure Q3b

**Question FOUR**

- a. Consider a rotational mass-spring-damper system as shown in figure Q4a. Find the values of  $J$  and  $c$  to yield a response with 20% overshoot and a settling time of 2 seconds for a unit step input of torque  $T(t)$ . Given  $k = 5\text{Nm/rad}$  **(10 marks)**

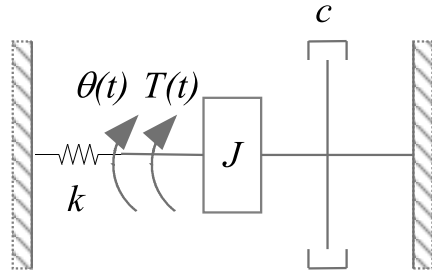


Figure Q4a

- b. Figure Q4b shows a schematic of an armature-controlled d.c. motor which essentially consists of an armature coil in a magnetic field. The armature consists of a resistance,  $R$ , and an inductance,  $L$ , in series. When current,  $i$ , flows through the armature, the coil rotates generating a torque,  $T$ , which is proportional to the current, so that  $T = K_m i$ . Since the armature is rotating in a magnetic field, a voltage, known as the back e.m.f. ( $e$ ) will be induced in it. The back e.m.f. is proportional to the armature rotation speed,  $\omega$ , so that  $e = K_b \omega$ . The motor drives a mechanical load with moment of inertia,  $I$ , and with a rotary viscous damping coefficient,  $c$ .

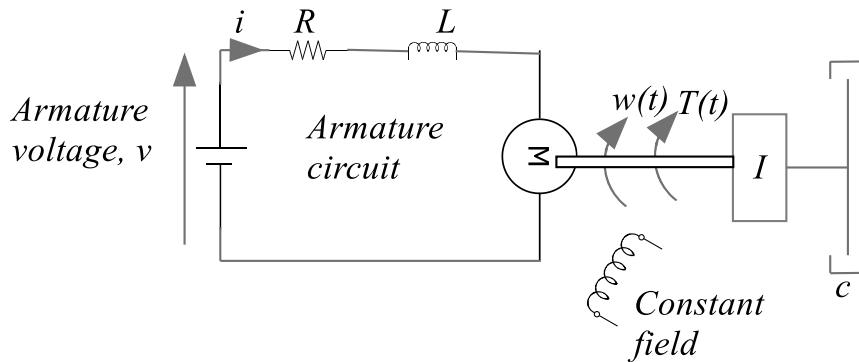


Figure Q4b

Show that the transfer function which relates  $\Omega(s)$ , the Laplace transform of the armature rotation speed,  $\omega(t)$ , to  $V(s)$ , the Laplace transform of the armature voltage,  $v(t)$ , is given by the following expression: **(10 marks)**

$$G(s) = \frac{\Omega(s)}{V(s)} = \frac{K_m}{(LIs^2 + (RI + cL)s + (Rc + K_b K_m))}$$

### Question FIVE

- a. State the effect of introducing feedback on the stability of control systems. **(2 marks)**
- State the Nyquist criterion.
  - Explain how the stability of a control system may be determined from a Nyquist plot.

- iii. State the disadvantages of the Nyquist plot over the Bode plot. **(9 marks)**

b. A control system has an open loop transfer function

$$G(s) = \frac{14}{(s + 1)(s + 2)}$$

Determine,

- i. Resonant frequency,  $\omega_r$ .
- ii. Resonant peak,  $M_r$ .
- iii. Deduce whether the system is stable or not. **(9 marks)**