Automatic Control Laboratory ETH Zurich Prof. J. Lygeros D-ITET Spring Semester 2021 31.08.2021

# Signal and System Theory II

This sheet is provided to you for ease of reference only. *Do not* write your solutions here.

Exercise 1	1	<b>2</b>	3	4	5	Exercise
	3	5	5	4	8	25 Points

A solar panel system can be modelled as the equivalent circuit shown in Figure 1, where the panel outputs a current  $i_s(t)$  and a power converter extracts a current  $i_p(t)$  from the circuit to transfer the power into a power grid.



Figure 1: Equivalent circuit of a solar panel.

1. Show that the solar panel can be modelled by a state space system of the form

$$\dot{u}_C(t) = -\frac{u_C(t)}{CR} + \frac{i_s(t)}{C} - \frac{i_p(t)}{C}.$$

2. A controller with transfer function  $G(s) = K_{\rm P} + \frac{K_{\rm I}}{s}$  is used to control the value of  $i_p(t)$  to regulate the capacitor voltage  $u_C(t)$  to a desired reference value  $u_{\rm ref}(t)$ , as shown in Figure 2;  $K_{\rm P}$  and  $K_{\rm I}$  are constant gains. Show that the controller can be modelled in state space form by

$$\dot{z}(t) = u_C(t) - u_{\text{ref}}(t)$$
$$i_p(t) = K_P(u_C(t) - u_{\text{ref}}(t)) + K_I z(t)$$

where  $z(t) \in \mathbb{R}$  (with z(0) = 0) plays the role of the controller state,  $u_C(t) - u_{ref}(t)$  the controller input and  $i_p(t)$  the controller output.

**Hint:** For a signal h(t)  $(t \ge 0)$ ,  $\frac{1}{s}L\{h(t)\} = L\{\int_0^t h(\tau)d\tau\}$ , where  $L\{\cdot\}$  denotes the Laplace transform.



Figure 2: Equivalent circuit of a solar panel with a PI controller.

3. Derive the matrices A, B, C, and D for the state space model

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t), 
y(t) = Cx(t) + Du(t),$$
(1)

of the closed-loop system in Figure 2, where  $x(t) = \begin{bmatrix} u_C(t) \\ z(t) \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $u(t) = \begin{bmatrix} u_{ref}(t) \\ i_s(t) \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $y(t) = u_C(t)$ .

- 4. Assuming that both the reference voltage  $u_{ref}(t) = u_0$  and the solar panel current  $i_s(t) = i_0$  are constant, determine the equilibrium  $\hat{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{u}_C \\ \hat{z} \end{bmatrix}$  of system (1).
- 5. Assuming C > 0 and R > 0, derive conditions for  $K_{\rm P}$  and  $K_{\rm I}$  such that the equilibrium in part 4 is asymptotically stable.

## Exercise 2

1	2	3	4	5	Exercise
4	4	4	7	6	25 Points

Consider the block diagram in Figure 3.



Figure 3: Representation of a parametric block diagram.

1. Using  $x(t) = (x_1(t), x_2(t), x_3(t)) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , derive the state space matrices A, B, C, and D for the state space model represented by the block diagram in Figure 3:

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t),$$
  
$$y(t) = Cx(t) + Du(t),$$

Hint: The input to an integrator is the derivative of its output.

2. For which values of  $\alpha$  is the system asymptotically stable?

For the rest of the exercises, consider the following system:

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 1 & 0\\ 0 & -1 & 2\\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} \gamma\\ 0\\ \beta \end{bmatrix} u$$
$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \delta \end{bmatrix} x$$

- 3. For which value of  $\delta$  is the system observable?
- 4. Because actuators are expensive you can only afford to inject the input in the dynamics of one of the states, either  $x_1$  (corresponding to  $\gamma = 1$ ,  $\beta = 0$ ), or  $x_3$  ( $\gamma = 0, \beta = 1$ ). Compute the reachable space for the two choices. Hence argue which is the better choice.

5. Due to miscommunication, the procurement department of your employer bought an actuator for  $x_1$  so now you have to work with  $\gamma = 1$  and  $\beta = 0$ . Is it possible to select a feedback gain  $K = \begin{bmatrix} k_1 & k_2 & k_3 \end{bmatrix}$  such that the closed loop system with state feedback u(t) = Kx(t) has poles at -5, -1 and 0? Will the closed loop system be stable?

Exercise 3	1(a)	1(b)	1(c)	1(d)	<b>2</b> (a)	2(b)	2(c)	Exercise
	8	3	4	4	2	2	2	25 Points

1. Consider the following transfer functions of observable and controllable systems.

i 
$$G_1(s) = \frac{-10^3}{(s+10)^2(s^2+s+1)}$$

ii 
$$G_2(s) = \frac{-10}{(s+10)(s-10)(s^2+s+1)}$$

iii 
$$G_3(s) = \frac{-10^3}{s^2(s+10)(s^2+s+1)}$$

- in  $G_3(s) = \frac{10}{s^2(s+10)(s^2+s+1)}$ iv  $G_4(s) = \frac{-10^3}{s(s+10)(s^2+s+1)}$
- (a) Compute the poles of all four transfer functions. Hence, whenever possible, determine whether the corresponding system is asymptotically stable, marginally stable or unstable. Justify your answers.
- (b) The Nyquist plot of  $G_1(s)$  is shown in Figure 4.



Figure 4: Nyquist plot of  $G_1(s)$ .

 $G_1(s)$  is inserted in a negative feedback loop with gain K, leading to the closedloop transfer function  $H(s) = \frac{KG_1(s)}{1+KG_1(s)}$ . For which of the following values of K is the closed-loop stable? For  $K = \frac{1}{5}$  or for  $K = -\frac{1}{5}$ ? Justify your answer.

(c) For  $G_1(s)$  and  $G_2(s)$  compute, whenever possible, the steady-state response to a sinusoidal input with amplitude 2 and frequency 10 [rad/sec].

**Hint**: You may assume that  $\sqrt{99^2 + 10^2} \approx 99$  and that  $\tan^{-1}(99/10) \approx 84^\circ$ and  $\tan^{-1}(10/-99) \approx -5.77^{\circ}$ . In addition, recall the following

$$\angle a + ib = \begin{cases} -\pi + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{b}{a}\right) & \text{if } a < 0 \text{ and } b < 0, \\ \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{b}{a}\right) & \text{if } a > 0, \\ \pi + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{b}{a}\right) & \text{if } a < 0 \text{ and } b \ge 0. \end{cases}$$

(d) Which of the Bode plots in Figure 5 corresponds to the transfer function  $G_2(s)$ ? Is there resonance? Justify your answers.



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Figure 5: Candidate Bode plots for  $G_2(s)$ .

#### 2. Consider the following system in state-space form

$$\dot{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} x(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u(t) , \qquad (2)$$

$$y(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x(t), \tag{3}$$

with  $x(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$ .

- (a) Show that the transfer function of the system is  $G(s) = \frac{1}{s+2}$ .
- (b) Can we infer whether the system is asymptotically stable, marginally stable or unstable from the transfer function? Justify your answer.
- (c) What can you conclude about the observability and controllability of the system without computing the observability and controllability matrices?

Exercise 4	1	<b>2</b>	3	4	Exercise
	3	8	9	5	25 Points

For  $x(t) = (x_1(t), x_2(t)) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $t \ge 0$ , a non-linear system is described by the following dynamics

$$\frac{d}{dt}x_1(t) = -4x_1(t) + 4x_1(t)^3 - \frac{x_2(t)}{1 + x_2(t)^2},$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}x_2(t) = \frac{x_1(t)}{1 + x_2(t)^2}.$$
(4)

- 1. Show that  $\hat{x} = (0,0)$  is the only equilibrium of system (4).
- 2. Using Lyapunov's direct method with the Lyapunov function  $V(x) = x_1^2 + x_2^2$ , determine whether the equilibrium  $\hat{x}$  is stable. Can you also determine whether it is asymptotically stable using the same method and Lyapunov function?

**Hint:** You may assume that the set  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 + x_2^2 < 1\}$  is open.

3. Using the same Lyapunov function, argue that the set

$$\Omega := \{ (x(t)) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1(t)^2 + x_2(t)^2 \le 1 \}$$

is invariant. Using LaSalle's theorem show that all trajectories starting in  $\Omega$  converge to  $\hat{x}$ . Show that  $\Omega$  is the largest region of attraction that can be estimated using level sets of V(x).

**Hint:** You may assume  $\Omega$  is compact. The level sets of V(x) are  $\mathcal{L}(l) = \{x | V(x) \le l\}$ .

4. Figure 6 shows a phase plane plot of the system (4) with its vector field and trajectories for various values of the state. Argue that  $\Omega$  is not the maximal region of attraction.

**Hint:** Identify initial states indicated in Figure 6 that are in the region of attraction, but not in  $\Omega$ .



Figure 6: The phase portrait of the system (4) with vector field, and trajectories for various values of the initial state.