

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE TATI (UC TATI)****FINAL EXAMINATION QUESTION BOOKLET**

COURSE CODE	: BCE 3234
COURSE	: PROCESS CONTROL
SEMESTER/SESSION	: 1-2023/2024
DURATION	: 3 HOURS

**Instructions:**

1. This booklet contains 4 questions. Answer **ALL** questions.
2. All answers should be written in answer booklet.
3. Write legibly and draw sketches wherever required.
4. If in doubt, raise your hands and ask the invigilator.

**DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO  
YOU ARE ALLOWED TO BRING ONE (1) A4 PAPER**

**THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS 8 PRINTED PAGES INCLUDING COVER PAGE**

**QUESTION 1**

a) Classify TRUE or FALSE of the following statement:

- i) A measured variable is essential for both feedback and feedforward control.
- ii) In feedback control, the measured variable is the process variable to be controlled.
- iii) In theory, feedforward control can achieve perfection as the controller can act through the manipulated variable even when the controlled variable stays at its desired value.
- iv) Feedforward control has the capability to achieve perfect control, that is the output can be maintained at its desired value even when using an imperfect process model.
- v) Feedback control will consistently take corrective action, irrespective of the precision of the employed process model or the origin of a disturbance.

(5 marks)

b)

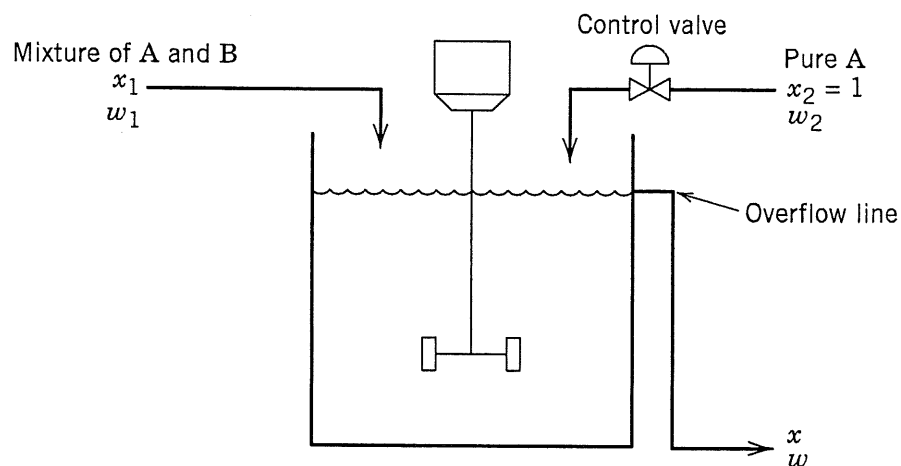


Figure 1

In Figure 1, a continuous stirred-tank blending system is depicted. It is assumed that the mass flow rate,  $w_1$ , remains constant, while the mass fraction of component

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A, denoted as  $x_1$ , undergoes variations over time. Stream 2 contains pure A, resulting in  $x_2$  being equal to 1. The mass flow rate of Stream 2 is represented by  $w_2$ . The fraction of A in the exit stream is indicated by  $x$ , and the desired value, or set point, is denoted as  $X_{sp}$ .

- i) Diagnose:
  - a. Manipulated variable.
  - b. Control objective
  - c. Disturbance
  - d. How is the composition of the tank measured?
  - e. How is the conversion of the controller output (an electrical signal ranging from 4 to 20 mA) to an equivalent pneumatic signal  $P_t$  (3 to 15 psig) achieved?
  - f. How does the utilization of the transducer output signal contribute to the adjustment of the valve in the system?

(10 marks)
- ii) Illustrate how the composition control system is employed in Figure 1 (Hint: Include electrical signal and pneumatic signal)

(5 marks)
- iii) Illustrate complete qualitative block diagram for the process in (ii)

(5 marks)

**QUESTION 2**

a) Consider the stirred-tank blending process in Figure 1 (Page 2). If the nominal steady-state conditions are  $w_1 = 600$  kg/min,  $w_2 = 2$  kg/min,  $x_1 = 0.050$ , and  $x_2 = 1$  (for pure solute). Also, the liquid volume and density are constant:  $V = 2$  m<sup>3</sup> and  $\rho = 900$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. Given:

$$\frac{X'(s)}{X_1'(s)} = G(s) = \frac{K_1}{\tau s + 1} \text{ where } K_1 = \frac{w_1}{w} \text{ and } \tau = \frac{\rho V}{w}$$

- i) Calculate the exit flowrate,  $w$ . (2 marks)
  - ii) Calculate the exit concentration,  $x$ . (2 marks)
  - iii) Compute  $K_1$  and  $\tau$ . (4 marks)
  - iv) Produce transfer function for  $\frac{X'(s)}{X_1'(s)}$  (2 marks)
  - v) Build a mathematical equation for the response,  $x(t)$ , to a sudden change in  $x_1$  from 0.050 to 0.075 that occurs at time,  $t = 0$ . (8 marks)
- b) Solve the differential equation below using Laplace Transform. (7 marks)

$$5 \frac{dy}{dt} + 4y = 2 \quad y(0) = 1$$

**QUESTION 3**

a) A stirred tank reactor incorporates an internal cooling coil to eliminate heat generated during the reaction. The regulation of coolant flow rate is managed by a proportional controller to maintain a reasonably constant reactor temperature. The controller is designed to exhibit typical underdamped second-order temperature response characteristics when disturbed, whether by changes in feed flow rate or coolant temperature. In response to a sudden change in feed flow rate from 0.5 to 0.6 kg/s, the reactor contents, initially at 110°C, eventually reach

temperatures of 112°C and 111.5°C at 1000 s and 3050 s, respectively, after the initiation of the change.

- i) Illustrate the characteristics of the step response of this process. (4 marks)
- ii) Determine gain of the transfer function (with units),  $\tau$  and  $\xi$  (8 marks)
- iii) Elucidate the transfer function in: (3 marks)

$$G(s) = \frac{Kp}{\tau^2 s^2 + 2\xi\tau s + 1}$$

- b) Figure 2 shows the standard notations contains in quantitative block diagram of feedback control for stirred-tank blending system. Analyse and define the notations:  $Y, U, D, P, E, Y_m, Y_{sp}, \tilde{Y}_{sp}, Y_u, Y_d$ . (10 marks)

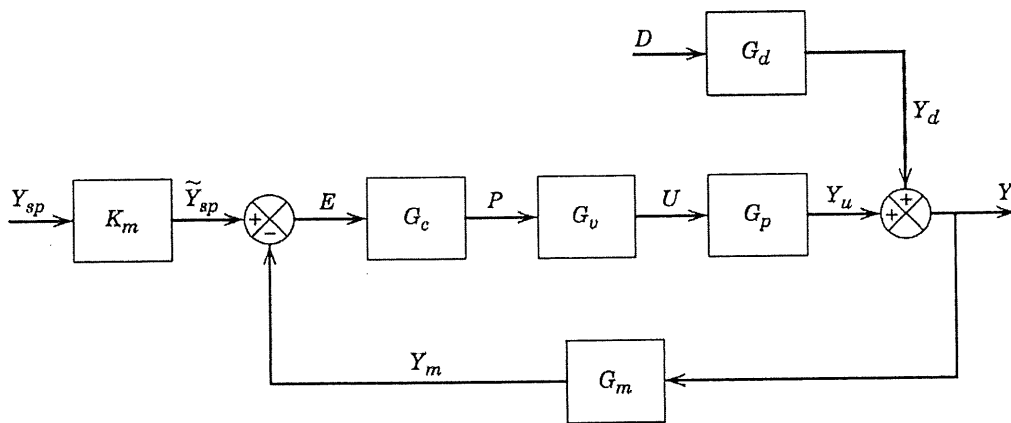


Figure 2

**QUESTION 4**

a) Considering a liquid-level P control system with given parameter values such as  $A = 3 \text{ ft}^2$ ,  $R = 1.0 \text{ min/ft}^2$ ,  $K_v = 0.2 \text{ ft}^3/\text{min psi}$ ,  $K_m = 4 \text{ mA/ft}$ ,  $K_c = 5.33$ ,  $K_{ip} = 0.75 \text{ psi/mA}$ , and  $\tau_I = 3 \text{ min}$ , and assuming the system is initially at the nominal steady state with a liquid level of 2 ft. If the set point is changed from 2 to 4 ft, calculate the time required for the system to reach 3 ft.

(15 marks)

b) Given the characteristics equation:

$$s^3 + 6s^2 + 11s + (6 + 4K_c) = 0$$

Determine the values of the controller gain,  $K_c$ , to ensure the stability of the feedback control system using Routh Array.

(10 marks)

-----End of question-----

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**ATTACHMENTS**

Table 1: Laplace transform for various time domain function

$f(t)$	$F(s)$
1. $\delta(t)$ (unit impulse)	$1$
2. $S(t)$ (unit step)	$\frac{1}{s}$
3. $t$ (ramp)	$\frac{1}{s^2}$
4. $t^{n-1}$	$\frac{(n-1)!}{s^n}$
5. $e^{-bt}$	$\frac{1}{s+b}$
6. $\frac{1}{\tau} e^{-t/\tau}$	$\frac{1}{\tau s + 1}$
7. $\frac{t^{n-1} e^{-bt}}{(n-1)!}$ ( $n > 0$ )	$\frac{1}{(s+b)^n}$
8. $\frac{1}{\tau^n (n-1)!} t^{n-1} e^{-t/\tau}$	$\frac{1}{(\tau s + 1)^n}$
9. $\frac{1}{b_1 - b_2} (e^{-b_2 t} - e^{-b_1 t})$	$\frac{1}{(s+b_1)(s+b_2)}$
10. $\frac{1}{\tau_1 - \tau_2} (e^{-t/\tau_1} - e^{-t/\tau_2})$	$\frac{1}{(\tau_1 s + 1)(\tau_2 s + 1)}$
11. $\frac{b_3 - b_1}{b_2 - b_1} e^{-b_1 t} + \frac{b_3 - b_2}{b_1 - b_2} e^{-b_2 t}$	$\frac{s + b_3}{(s+b_1)(s+b_2)}$
12. $\frac{1}{\tau_1} \frac{\tau_1 - \tau_3}{\tau_1 - \tau_2} e^{-t/\tau_1} + \frac{1}{\tau_2} \frac{\tau_2 - \tau_3}{\tau_2 - \tau_1} e^{-t/\tau_2}$	$\frac{\tau_3 s + 1}{(\tau_1 s + 1)(\tau_2 s + 1)}$
13. $1 - e^{-t/\tau}$	$\frac{1}{s(\tau s + 1)}$
14. $\sin \omega t$	$\frac{\omega}{s^2 + \omega^2}$

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15. $\cos \omega t$		$\frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2}$
16. $\sin(\omega t + \phi)$		$\frac{\omega \cos \phi + s \sin \phi}{s^2 + \omega^2}$
17. $e^{-bt} \sin \omega t$	} $b, \omega$ real	$\frac{\omega}{(s + b)^2 + \omega^2}$
18. $e^{-bt} \cos \omega t$		$\frac{s + b}{(s + b)^2 + \omega^2}$
19. $\frac{1}{\tau \sqrt{1 - \zeta^2}} e^{-\zeta t/\tau} \sin(\sqrt{1 - \zeta^2} t/\tau)$ ( $0 \leq  \zeta  < 1$ )		$\frac{1}{\tau^2 s^2 + 2\zeta \tau s + 1}$
20. $1 + \frac{1}{\tau_2 - \tau_1} (\tau_1 e^{-t/\tau_1} - \tau_2 e^{-t/\tau_2})$ ( $\tau_1 \neq \tau_2$ )		$\frac{1}{s(\tau_1 s + 1)(\tau_2 s + 1)}$
21. $1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \zeta^2}} e^{-\zeta t/\tau} \sin[\sqrt{1 - \zeta^2} t/\tau + \psi]$ $\psi = \tan^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{1 - \zeta^2}}{\zeta}$ , ( $0 \leq  \zeta  < 1$ )		$\frac{1}{s(\tau^2 s^2 + 2\zeta \tau s + 1)}$
22. $1 - e^{-\zeta t/\tau} [\cos(\sqrt{1 - \zeta^2} t/\tau) + \frac{\zeta}{\sqrt{1 - \zeta^2}} \sin(\sqrt{1 - \zeta^2} t/\tau)]$ ( $0 \leq  \zeta  < 1$ )		$\frac{1}{s(\tau^2 s^2 + 2\zeta \tau s + 1)}$
23. $1 + \frac{\tau_3 - \tau_1}{\tau_1 - \tau_2} e^{-t/\tau_1} + \frac{\tau_3 - \tau_2}{\tau_2 - \tau_1} e^{-t/\tau_2}$ ( $\tau_1 \neq \tau_2$ )		$\frac{\tau_3 s + 1}{s(\tau_1 s + 1)(\tau_2 s + 1)}$
24. $\frac{df}{dt}$		$sF(s) - f(0)$
25. $\frac{d^n f}{dt^n}$		$s^n F(s) - s^{n-1} f(0) - s^{n-2} f^{(1)}(0) - \dots - s f^{(n-2)}(0) - f^{(n-1)}(0)$
26. $f(t - t_0)S(t - t_0)$		$e^{-t_0 s} F(s)$

<sup>a</sup>Note that  $f(t)$  and  $F(s)$  are defined for  $t \geq 0$  only.

Time to first peak:  $t_p = \pi\tau / \sqrt{1 - \zeta^2}$

Overshoot:  $OS = \exp\left(-\pi\zeta / \sqrt{1 - \zeta^2}\right)$   $OS = a/b$  (% overshoot is 100  $a/b$ ).

Decay ratio:  $DR = (OS)^2 = \exp(-2\pi\zeta / \sqrt{1 - \zeta^2})$

Period:  $P = \frac{2\pi\tau}{\sqrt{1 - \zeta^2}}$

$$\frac{H'(s)}{H'_{sp}(s)} = \frac{K_c K_{IP} K_v K_m / (\tau s + 1)}{1 + K_c K_{IP} K_v K_m / (\tau s + 1)}$$

$$\frac{H'(s)}{H'_{sp}(s)} = \frac{K_1}{\tau_1 s + 1}$$

$$K_1 = \frac{K_{OL}}{1 + K_{OL}}$$

$$\tau_1 = \frac{\tau}{1 + K_{OL}}$$

$$K_{OL} = K_c K_{IP} K_v K_p K_m$$