



NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

CONTROL ENGINEERING

EEE3241

Examination Paper

March 2025

This examination paper consists of 6 pages

Time Allowed : 3 hours
Special Requirements : Laplace Transform Tables
Examiner's Name : Dr. L. Matindife
External Examiners :

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES.

1. In **Section A**- attempt all **four** questions each **fifteen** marks.
2. In **Section-B** attempt any **two** questions each **twenty** marks.
3. Start the answers for each question on a fresh page.
4. Marks will only be awarded for answers that directly relate to the questions asked.

MARK ALLOCATION

	QUESTION	MARKS
SECTION-A	1.	15
	2.	15
	3.	15
	4.	15
SECTION-B	5	20
	6	20
	7	20
TOTAL	6	100

Section A

Question 1

- 1) What do you mean by a transfer function? Write an example of a typical transfer function.
- 2) Derive the amplitude ratio and phase angle for a simple first order system.
- 3) Compare between Feedback control and Feed forward control.
- 4) Elucidate critically damped and undamped system.
- 5) Define offset with respect to a controller.
- 6) Explain adaptive control scheme.
- 7) Differentiate between discrete and continuous systems.

Two [2] marks each, except for 2) with three [3] marks

Question 2

- (a) Apply the Routh-Hurwitz criterion to the characteristic equation

$$s^5 + 2s^4 + 6s^3 + 12s^2 + 8s + 16 = 0 \quad [6]$$

- (b) Obtain the value of K for which the system characterized by the following characteristic equation exhibits pure oscillations. What is the frequency of these oscillations?

$$s^3 + 22s^2 + 9s + K = 0 \quad [9]$$

Question 3

Sketch the root loci of the system in Figure 3. The gain K is assumed positive. [15]

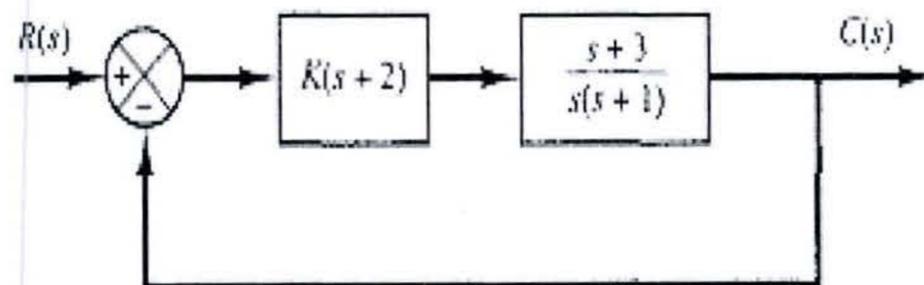


Figure 3

Question 4

From the block diagram shown in Figure 4, determine the overall transfer function. [15]

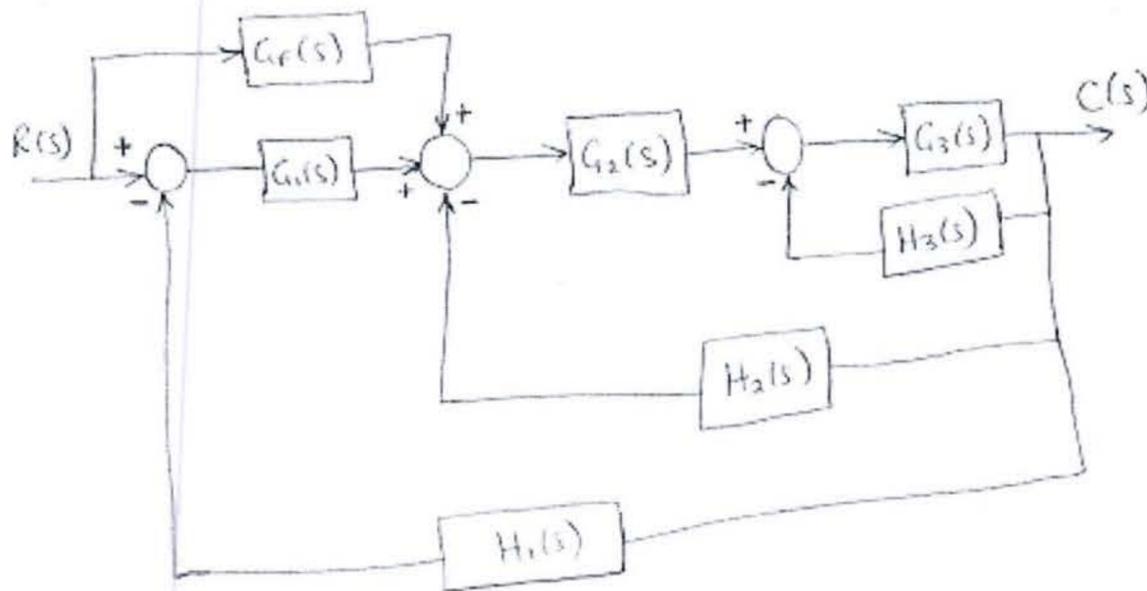


Figure 4

Section B

Question 5

- Derive the transfer function for a single tank liquid level system [10]
- Level control systems of the type shown in Figure 5 are commonly used in many processes and chemical industries. In this system the level, h , is measured by the level transducer and its output is used to control a servo motor controlling the valve position which in turn adjusts the inlet flow rate. Determine the equations of motion for the system and determine the dynamic behavior. [10]

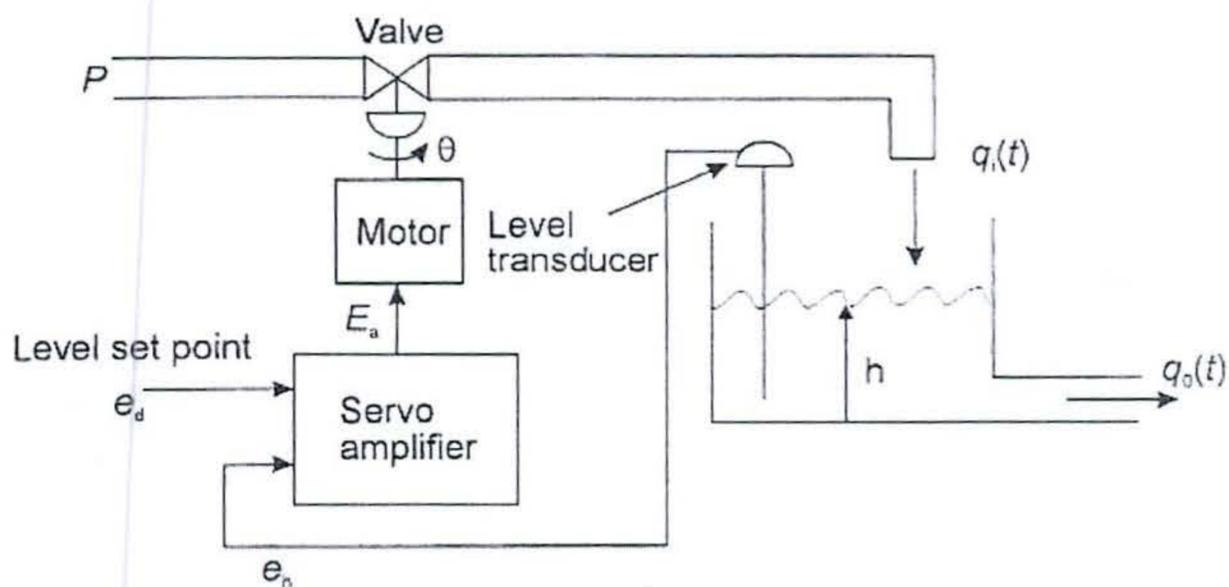


Figure 3.

Question 6

- a) Derive the dynamic response of first order system to a sinusoidal input. [8]
- b) Differentiate between proportional, proportional integral and proportional integral derivative controllers. Also plot the response of these controllers to a unit step change in error. [12]

Question 7

A spring-mass-damper system has a mass of 20kg, a spring stiffness 8000N/m and a damper with a damping coefficient of 80Ns/m. The system is excited by a constant amplitude harmonic forcing function of the form $F(t) = 160 \sin \omega t$.

- a) Determine the system transfer function relating $F(t)$ and $x(t)$ and calculate values of ω_n and ζ .
- b) What are the amplitudes of the vibration when ω has values of 1.0, 20 and 50rad/s?
- c) Find the value of damping coefficient to give critical damping and hence, with this value, determine the amplitudes of vibration for the angular frequencies specified in part (b). [20]

Table of Laplace Transforms

$f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\}$	$F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$	$f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\}$	$F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$
1. 1	$\frac{1}{s}$	2. e^{at}	$\frac{1}{s-a}$
3. $t^n, n=1,2,3,\dots$	$\frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$	4. $t^p, p > -1$	$\frac{\Gamma(p+1)}{s^{p+1}}$
5. \sqrt{t}	$\frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2s^{3/2}}$	6. $t^{n-1/2}, n=1,2,3,\dots$	$\frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n-1)\sqrt{\pi}}{2^n s^{n+1/2}}$
7. $\sin(at)$	$\frac{a}{s^2+a^2}$	8. $\cos(at)$	$\frac{s}{s^2+a^2}$
9. $t \sin(at)$	$\frac{2as}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$	10. $t \cos(at)$	$\frac{s^2-a^2}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$
11. $\sin(at) - at \cos(at)$	$\frac{2a^3}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$	12. $\sin(at) + at \cos(at)$	$\frac{2as^2}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$
13. $\cos(at) - at \sin(at)$	$\frac{s(s^2-a^2)}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$	14. $\cos(at) + at \sin(at)$	$\frac{s(s^2+3a^2)}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$
15. $\sin(at+b)$	$\frac{s \sin(b) + a \cos(b)}{s^2+a^2}$	16. $\cos(at+b)$	$\frac{s \cos(b) - a \sin(b)}{s^2+a^2}$
17. $\sinh(at)$	$\frac{a}{s^2-a^2}$	18. $\cosh(at)$	$\frac{s}{s^2-a^2}$
19. $e^{at} \sin(bt)$	$\frac{b}{(s-a)^2+b^2}$	20. $e^{at} \cos(bt)$	$\frac{s-a}{(s-a)^2+b^2}$
21. $e^{at} \sinh(bt)$	$\frac{b}{(s-a)^2-b^2}$	22. $e^{at} \cosh(bt)$	$\frac{s-a}{(s-a)^2-b^2}$
23. $t^n e^{at}, n=1,2,3,\dots$	$\frac{n!}{(s-a)^{n+1}}$	24. $f(ct)$	$\frac{1}{c} F\left(\frac{s}{c}\right)$
25. $u_c(t) = u(t-c)$ Heaviside Function	$\frac{e^{-cs}}{s}$	26. $\delta(t-c)$ Dirac Delta Function	e^{-cs}
27. $u_c(t) f(t-c)$	$e^{-cs} F(s)$	28. $u_c(t) g(t)$	$e^{-cs} \mathcal{L}\{g(t+c)\}$
29. $e^{ct} f(t)$	$F(s-c)$	30. $t^n f(t), n=1,2,3,\dots$	$(-1)^n F^{(n)}(s)$
31. $\frac{1}{t} f(t)$	$\int_s^\infty F(u) du$	32. $\int_0^t f(v) dv$	$\frac{F(s)}{s}$
33. $\int_0^t f(t-\tau) g(\tau) d\tau$	$F(s)G(s)$	34. $f(t+T) = f(t)$	$\frac{\int_0^T e^{-st} f(t) dt}{1-e^{-sT}}$
35. $f'(t)$	$sF(s) - f(0)$	36. $f''(t)$	$s^2F(s) - sf(0) - f'(0)$
37. $f^{(n)}(t)$	$s^n F(s) - s^{n-1} f(0) - s^{n-2} f'(0) \cdots - sf^{(n-2)}(0) - f^{(n-1)}(0)$		

Table Notes

1. This list is not a complete listing of Laplace transforms and only contains some of the more commonly used Laplace transforms and formulas.
2. Recall the definition of hyperbolic functions.

$$\cosh(t) = \frac{e^t + e^{-t}}{2} \qquad \sinh(t) = \frac{e^t - e^{-t}}{2}$$

3. Be careful when using “normal” trig function vs. hyperbolic functions. The only difference in the formulas is the “+ a²” for the “normal” trig functions becomes a “- a²” for the hyperbolic functions!
4. Formula #4 uses the Gamma function which is defined as

$$\Gamma(t) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} x^{t-1} dx$$

If n is a positive integer then,

$$\Gamma(n+1) = n!$$

The Gamma function is an extension of the normal factorial function. Here are a couple of quick facts for the Gamma function

$$\Gamma(p+1) = p\Gamma(p)$$

$$p(p+1)(p+2)\cdots(p+n-1) = \frac{\Gamma(p+n)}{\Gamma(p)}$$

$$\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}$$