Homework 6

Due May 17, 2019

This week there are more problems than usual this week, there is no lab.

1. Feedback Stabilization

We have a system we would like to control



The impulse response of the plant we are trying to control is

 $g(t) = e^t \sin(2t).$

This is unstable. To stabilize this system we add a controller to the forward system, and unity feedback,



Our goal is to produce a closed loop transfer function that is critically damped with poles at s = -2.

- a) Find the transfer function of the plant G(s) from the impulse response g(t) given above.
- b) Find the closed loop transfer function T(s) in terms of H(s).
- c) Choose H(s) to produce a critically damped closed loop transfer function, with poles at s = -2.
- d) Find the impulse response of the closed loop system (call it $\tau(t)$ to avoid confusion).

2. Balancing an Inverted Pendulum

We want to balance a stick with a mass at the end, mounted on a cart. We can control the acceleration of the cart a(t). The stick is attached to the cart with a hinge that pivots in the direction of cart motion. The angle $\theta(t)$ is measured from vertical, as illustrated below

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If we assume the stick to be massless, and equate forces perpendicular to the axis of the stick, we get

$$mL\theta''(t) = mg\sin\theta(t) - ma(t)\cos\theta(t).$$

If we assume that $\theta(t)$ is small, $\sin \theta(t) \approx \theta(t)$ and $\cos \theta(t) \approx 1$. Making these approximations, and dividing through by m,

$$L\theta''(t) = g\theta(t) - a(t).$$

If $\theta(0) \neq 0$ or $\theta'(0) \neq 0$, and we do nothing the stick falls over. We want to find a method to automatically determine the cart acceleration a(t) so that the stick is balanced, and $\theta(t)$ goes to zero. We will do this by using an input a(t) that is a function of the output $\theta(t)$ that we are trying to control. Let L = 1 m (the length of the stick) and assume the gravitational constant g is 10 m/s^2 for convenience.

Let the initial conditions be $\theta(0) = 0$, and $\theta'(0) = 1$. This means that the stick is vertical, but rotating.

(a) Proportional Control

For the first attempt, we let

$$a(t) = k_0 \theta(t).$$

The acceleration is proportional to the angle we are trying to control.

- i. Find a differential equation for $\theta(t)$.
- ii. Let $k_0 = 9$, and solve for $\theta(t)$. Is this system stable? (does $\theta(t)$ go to zero?)
- iii. Let $k_0 = 11$ solve for $\theta(t)$. Is this system stable?
- (b) Proportional Plus Derivative Control

For the next attempt, we let

$$a(t) = k_1 \theta'(t) + k_0 \theta(t).$$

- i. Find a differential equation for $\theta(t)$.
- ii. Find values of k_0 and k_1 so the system is critically damped, with a time constant of 1 s.

iii. Solve for $\theta(t)$. Is this system stable?

3. Feedback to Improve System Response

The response to a remote manipulator can be modeled by this system



x(t) is the position we request, and y(t) is the position of the manipulator. This has an impulse response that has a time constant of 1 s (i.e. the impulse response of the system is $e^{-t/T}$ where T = 1 s). This is too slow to be practically usable. In order for a manipulator to feel immediate and interactive, we would like the response time to be no more than 100 ms.

- (a) Find the step response of the system, and plot it.
- (b) To speed up the response, we add a feedback loop around the system, along with a gain stage



Find the transfer function of this system.

- (c) Choose *a* such that the time constant is 100 ms. Solve for the step response, and plot it on the same graph as part (a).
- (d) What is the steady state error between the position you request and the manipulator position?
- 4. Feedback and System Dynamics

In this problem we have two amplifiers we are going to connect in series. Each amplifier has a transfer function of

$$H(s) = \frac{100}{s+1}$$

We are going to use feedback for the reasons described in class (linearization, insensitivity to the actual gain of the amplifiers).

With two amplifiers, we can use a global feedback loop around both of them, or use local feedback around each individually.

a) The case where we use a single global feedback loop is shown here:



Find the constant gain a_g so that the DC gain (the transfer function at zero frequency) of the system is 100.

- b) Find the transfer function $T_g(s)$ of this system.
- c) Find the impulse response $\tau_g(t)$ of this system.
- d) The case where we use two local feedback loops is shown here:



Assume both feedback gains are the same, and find a_l so that the DC gain of the system is again 100.

- e) Find the transfer function $T_l(s)$ of this system.
- f) Find the impulse response $\tau_l(t)$ of this system.
- g) Describe the solutions for the global feedback and local feedback cases. Some possible answers are of the type "critically damped", "oscillatory", "lightly damped", "overdamped", or "unstable."
- h) Briefly describe which system you would recommend, and why.

For each of theses signals, estimate what the poles of the Laplace transform must be.



6. Pole-Zero Identification from a Bode Plot

Find the poles, zeros, and DC gain for this Bode plot.

