



UNIVERSITY *of* LIMERICK  
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

Faculty of Science and Engineering  
Department of Mathematics & Statistics

**END OF SEMESTER ASSESSMENT PAPER**

MODULE CODE: MS4328

SEMESTER: Spring 2015

MODULE TITLE: Mathematical Control Theory

DURATION OF EXAMINATION: 2 1/2 hours

LECTURER: Dr. M. Burke

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL MARKS: 80 %

EXTERNAL EXAMINER: Prof. J. King

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES: Full marks for correct answers to 5 questions.  
There are notes & formulae supplied.**

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Unless otherwise stated, the following notation is used throughout:  $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  are the  $n \times 1$  state,  $r \times 1$  input and  $m \times 1$  output vectors respectively, whose components are real functions of time.  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  and  $\mathbf{g}_i(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$  are  $n \times 1$   $C^1$  vector fields.  $A$  is a  $n \times n$  state matrix,  $B$  a  $n \times r$  input matrix and  $C$  a  $m \times n$  output matrix, all of whose elements are real numbers. LTI is an acronym for linear time invariant.

1. (a) Define complete controllability and complete observability for the LTI continuous-time system

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u}, \quad \mathbf{y} = C\mathbf{x}.$$

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- (b) By using the *Popov-Belevitch-Hautus* (PBH) tests determine whether the system with

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad C = (1 \ 1 \ 0)$$

is completely controllable and/or completely observable.

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- (c) State the *Kalman* canonical structure theorem. Classify the modes of the system of part (b) according to the theorem.

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- (d) Define stabilisability and detectability. Is the system of part (b) stabilisable, detectable?

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2. (a) State *La Salle's* Invariance Principle and discuss how it may be used to establish asymptotic stability of the origin for the continuous-time system

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{0}).$$

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- (b) Using the Invariance Principle or otherwise, determine whether the origin of

$$\dot{x}_1 = x_2, \quad \dot{x}_2 = -x_2^3 - c(x_1)$$

where

$$c(x_1) = \begin{cases} -1 + e^{x_1}, & \text{if } x_1 \leq 0, \\ 1 - e^{-x_1}, & \text{if } 0 < x_1 \end{cases}$$

is an asymptotically stable fixed point. Is it globally asymptotically stable?

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- (c) Can the control  $u$  be chosen to globally stabilise the origin of the uncertain system

$$\ddot{x} + \beta\dot{x}^2 + \alpha \sinh x = u$$

where  $|\beta| < 2$  and  $1 < \alpha < 2$ ? If so, suggest a possible control; if not, prove it.

8

3. (a) State the pole placement problem for the LTI continuous-time system

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u}$$

with linear state feedback

$$\mathbf{u} = K\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{v}$$

and give a sufficient condition under which it can be solved.

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- (b) Find a linear state feedback controller that places the unstable pole(s) of the open loop system with

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

at  $\lambda = -1$  in the complex plane.

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- (c) If the complete state variable is not available for measurement but only the output  $y = x_2 = (0 \ 1 \ 0) \mathbf{x}$ , prove that it is possible to design a *Luenberger* observer to estimate the state variables. What is the minimum possible order of such an observer?

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4. (a) For the affine control system

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^r \mathbf{g}_i(\mathbf{x})u_i, \quad \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{0}),$$

define what is meant by a *control-Lyapunov function*.

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- (b) For what range of values of  $\alpha$  is

$$V(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^2 + 2\alpha x_1 x_2 + x_2^2$$

a *control-Lyapunov function* for the system

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ x_1 \cosh x_1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} u.$$

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- (c) State *Artstein's Theorem*, and use the equivalent *Sontag's formula* to find a stabilising control for the system and *control-Lyapunov function* of part (b) using an admissible value for  $\alpha$ .

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5. For the nonlinear continuous-time system

$$\dot{x} = x \cos x + u$$

- (a) by using the *Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman* equation, show that the stabilising feedback control that minimises the cost functional

$$J(u) = \int_0^{\infty} x^2 + \frac{1}{3}u^2 dt$$

for the system is given by

$$u = u^* \triangleq -x \cos x - x \sqrt{\cos^2 x + 3}.$$

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- (b) For the system, design a control by feedback linearisation (cancellation of nonlinearities) which transforms the system to the linear system

$$\dot{x} = -kx$$

and then places the closed-loop pole of this linear system at  $\lambda = -2$ .

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- (c) Comment on the designs and how they are related.

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6. The controlled *Rössler* prototype-4 system of a chemical reaction with three reactants of concentrations  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$  and  $x_3$  respectively is described by

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= -x_2 - x_3 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= x_1 \\ \dot{x}_3 &= a(x_2 - x_2^2) - bx_3 + u \end{aligned}$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are positive parameters and  $u$  is the scalar control.

- (a) For the single input-single output affine control system

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})u, \quad y = h(\mathbf{x})$$

define the relative degree at  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_0$ . What is a global relative degree ?

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- (b) Show that the *Rössler* system has a global relative degree of 3 if  $y = x_2$  and hence find the corresponding state transformation and linearising control that transforms the system to *normal form*.

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- (c) If  $a = 0.5 = b$  find the feedback control that places the poles of the exact linearised system at  $-1, -1, -1$ .

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