

Mechanical Engineering 478: Intermediate Control Systems

Designation: Elective course

Course Description: 3 CR. U/G. State space and frequency domain methods of modeling, analysis and design of multivariate control systems with emphasis on mechanical systems, applications and case studies. Prereq: sr st; MechEng 474 (P).

Textbook: Control System Design: An Introduction to State Space Methods, by Bernard Friedland, McGraw Hill, 1983.

Prerequisites by Topics:

- Modeling of systems
- Root locus method
- Bode diagram

Course Objectives:

- Students will learn the fundamental concepts of state space and multivariable control.
- Students will learn the fundamentals of digital control.
- Students will learn the fundamentals of model reference adaptive (MRA) control.
- Students will learn the fundamentals of linear quadratic regulators (LQR).
- Students will learn the fundamentals of quantitative feedback theory (QFT).

Topics Covered:

- Shaping the dynamic response,
- pole placement techniques,
- model reference adaptive (MRA) control,
- controllability and observability,
- linear observers, kalman filters: Optimum observers,
- quadratic optimal control,
- frequency domain control techniques,
- effect of sampling, digital controllers and
- Quantitative feedback theory (QFT).

Written Communications

The students turn in a laboratory report for an extensive project that they work in teams. The project revolves around the design and implementation of a controller (LQR, MRA, or QFT) on one of three platforms: inverted pendulum, ball and beam or a master/slave apparatus.

Class/Laboratory Schedule:

Three hours lecture per week

Contribution of Course to Meeting the Professional Component:

Category: Engineering topics with design, 3 credits.

- Students understand the fundamental concepts of multivariable control.
- Students understand the fundamental concepts of designing and implementing digital controllers.

- Students can design LQR, MRA and QFT controllers to enhance the performance of systems in both the frequency domain and the time domain.
- Students understand how to implement controllers and are aware of standard industrial practices.

Relationship of Course to Program Outcomes:

- i, iii Students design and implement controllers to enhance the performance of dynamical systems.
- v The students use MATLAB extensively to validate controllers and expected system performance.
- vi The students use data acquisition systems and AD/DA boards to gather, analyze and transform experimental data.
- vii The students design and implement controllers to enhance the performance of systems. Often times, the performance guidelines are ill defined.
- ix The students use knowledge from introduction to control systems to analyze dynamical systems.
- xi The students hone their written communication skills by writing a project report.
- xii The students work as a team on a project.
- xiii The students synthesize information that they gather to solve open ended problems and to design controllers with ill defined performance guidelines.

Prepared by: Ronald A. Perez, September 23, 2001

Methods of Assessment:

- Prerequisite exam
- Course evaluations by students
- Graded homework assignments
- Graded examinations
- Graded project
- Instructor judgment

Resources Commonly Available:

- Instructor
- Internet
- Professional software on CAE computers
- Laboratory and associated hardware in room PHY-B47

Desirable Student Competencies:

- Ability to use personal computers
- Ability to use the internet
- Good analytical skills
- Good writing skills