

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
FACULTY OF SCIENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING**

**MAIN EXAMINATION MAY 2007**

**TITLE OF PAPER: LINEAR SYSTEMS**

**COURSE CODE: E352**

**TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Answer question **one** and any other **three** questions.
2. Question one carries 40 marks.
3. Questions 2, 3, 4, and 5 carry 20 marks each.
4. Marks for different sections are shown in the right-hand margin

This paper has 7 pages including this page.

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BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

**Question 1**

(a) For a diode, the equation relating current  $I_D$  and the potential difference  $V_D$  may be

written as 
$$\log I_D = \log I_s + 0.43 \frac{V_D}{\eta V_T}$$
 where  $I_s$  and  $\eta$  are constants,

$V_D$  is the input and  $I_D$  is the output.

Find out whether this equation represent the input-output relation of a linear system.

(5 marks)

(b) A thermistor has its response to temperature represented by  $R = R_0 e^{-0.1T}$

where  $R$  = resistance,  $R_0 = 10 \text{ k } \Omega$ , and  $T$  = temperature in degrees Celsius,

Find the linear model for the thermistor suitable for a small range of variation of temperature when operating at  $T=20^\circ\text{C}$

(6 marks)

(c) Obtain a differential equation relating the output current  $i_o(t)$  to the input voltage  $v_i(t)$  in the circuit shown in Figure 1(c). No other variable should appear in your expression.

(6 marks)

(d) The output of a linear system for a spacecraft platform is governed by the following equations:

$$\frac{d^2 p}{dt^2} + 2 \frac{dp}{dt} + 4p = \theta$$

$$v_1 = r - p$$

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = 0.6v_2$$

$$v_2 = 7v_1$$

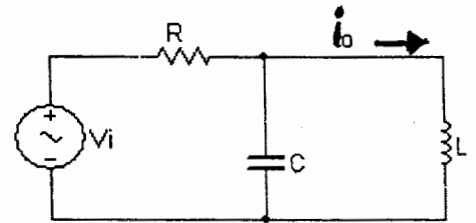


Figure 1(c)

The variables involved are as follows:  $r(t)$ = desired platform position;  
 $p(t)$ =actual platform position;  $v_1(t)$ = amplifier input voltage;  
 $v_2(t)$ =amplifier output voltage; and  $\theta(t)$ = motor shaft position

The initial conditions are all zero.

(i) Sketch a signal-flow diagram of the system, identifying the components parts and their transmittances.

(6 marks)

(ii) Determine the system transfer function  $\frac{P(s)}{R(s)}$

(5 marks)

(e) A system is described by the two differential equations

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + y - 2u + aw = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dw}{dt} - 0.5y + 4u = 0$$

where  $w$  and  $y$  are functions of time, and  $u$  is an input.

(i) Select a set of state variables

(2 marks)

(ii) write the matrix differential equation specifying the elements of the matrices.

(5 marks)

(iii) solve for the parameter  $a$  if the characteristic roots of the system are

$$s = 0.5 \pm j3$$

(5 marks)

**Question 2**

Two cars with negligible friction are connected as shown in Figure 2. An input force is  $u(t)$ . The output is the position of the cart 2, that is  $y(t) = q(t)$ . Determine a state space representation of the system.

(20 marks)

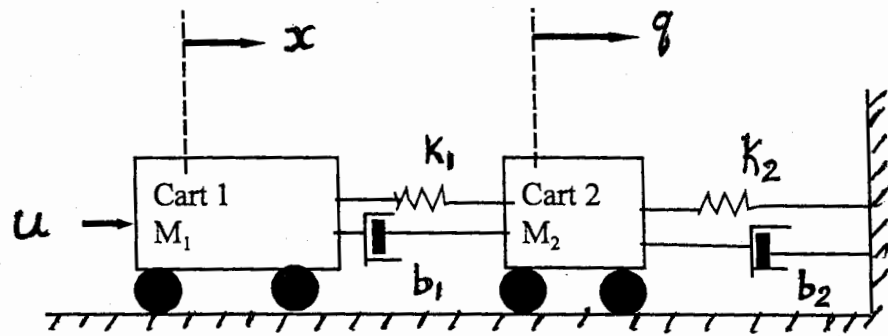


Figure 2

**Question 3**

For a linear system represented by the block diagram in Figure 3 the input is step of amplitude 2.4, find the following

- (a) the output steady state value and the steady state error, (9 marks)
- (b) the frequency of the damped oscillations, (4 marks)
- (c) the percentage peak overshoot, and (4 marks)
- (d) the settling time within 2% of the steady state value. (3 marks)

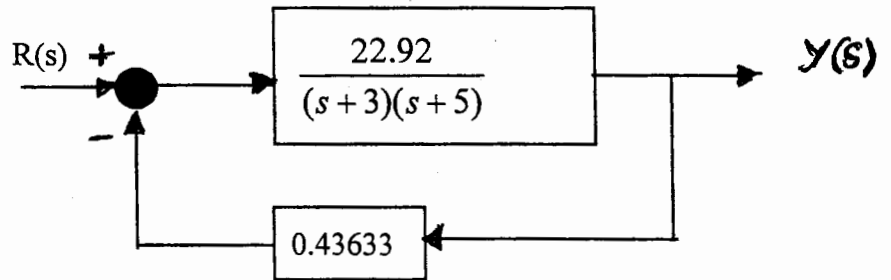


Figure 3

**Question 4**

Determine a state-space representation for the system shown in Figure 4. The motor inductance is negligible, the motor constant is  $K_m = 10$ , the back electromagnetic force constant is  $K_b = 0.0706$ . The motor and valve inertia is  $J = 0.006$ , and the capacitance of the tank is  $C = 50\text{m}^2$ . Note that the motor is controlled by the armature current  $i_a$ .

Let  $x_1 = h$ ,  $x_2 = \theta$  and  $x_3 = \frac{d\theta}{dt}$ . Assume that  $q_i = 80\theta$  and  $Cdh = (q_i - q_o)dt$

where  $\theta$  is the shaft angle. The output flow is  $q_o = 50h(t)$  (20 marks)

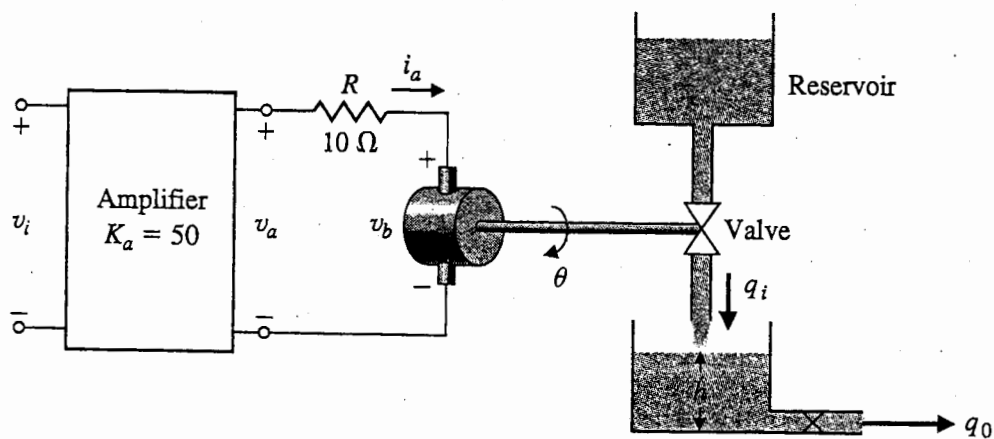


Figure 4

**Question 5**

A two-transistor series voltage feedback amplifier is shown in Figure 5A. The AC equivalent circuit neglects the bias resistors and the shunt capacitors. A block diagram representing the AC equivalent circuit is shown in Figure 5B. With the circuit shown in Figure 5B do the following:

- (a) Using Mason signal-flow gain formula determine the voltage gain,  $\frac{v_o}{v_{in}}$  (12 marks)
- (b) Determine the input impedance,  $\frac{v_{in}}{i_{b1}}$  (8 marks)

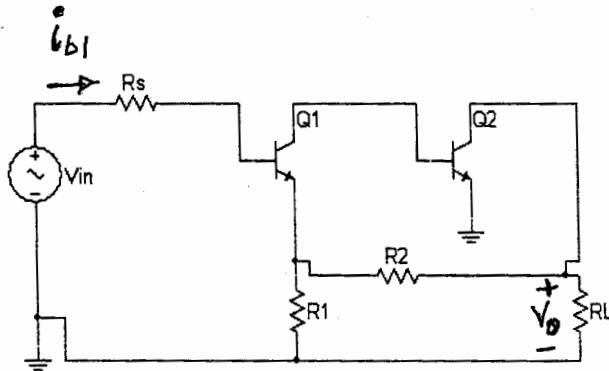


Figure 5A

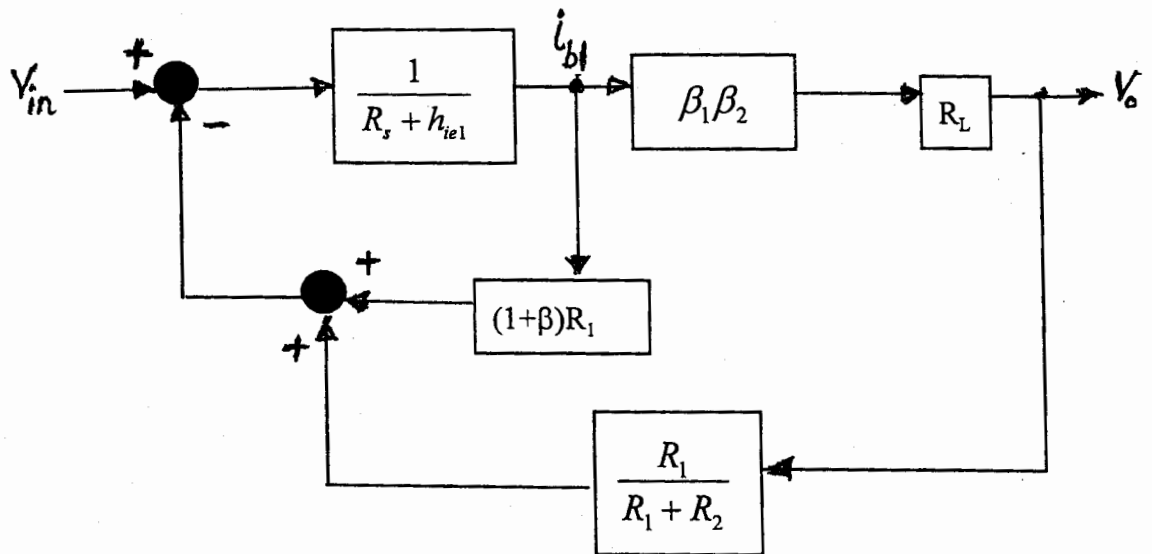


Figure 5B

Partial Table of z- and s-Transforms

$f(t)$	$F(s)$	$F(z)$	$f(kt)$
$u(t)$	$\frac{1}{s}$	$\frac{z}{z-1}$	$u(kT)$
$t$	$\frac{1}{s^2}$	$\frac{Tz}{(z-1)^2}$	$kT$
$t^n$	$\frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$	$\lim_{a \rightarrow 0} (-1)^n \frac{d^n}{da^n} \left[ \frac{z}{z - e^{-aT}} \right]$	$(kT)^n$
$e^{-at}$	$\frac{1}{s+a}$	$\frac{z}{z - e^{-aT}}$	$e^{-akt}$
$t^n e^{-at}$	$\frac{n!}{(s+a)^{n+1}}$	$(-1)^n \frac{d^n}{da^n} \left[ \frac{z}{z - e^{-aT}} \right]$	$(kT)^n e^{-akt}$
$\sin \omega t$	$\frac{\omega}{s^2 + \omega^2}$	$\frac{z \sin \omega T}{z^2 - 2z \cos \omega T + 1}$	$\sin \omega kT$
$\cos \omega t$	$\frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2}$	$\frac{z(z - \cos \omega T)}{z^2 - 2z \cos \omega T + 1}$	$\cos \omega kT$
$e^{-at} \sin \omega t$	$\frac{\omega}{(s+a)^2 + \omega^2}$	$\frac{ze^{-aT} \sin \omega T}{z^2 - 2ze^{-aT} \cos \omega T + e^{-2aT}}$	$e^{-akt} \sin \omega kT$
$e^{-at} \cos \omega t$	$\frac{s+a}{(s+a)^2 + \omega^2}$	$\frac{z^2 - ze^{-aT} \cos \omega T}{z^2 - 2ze^{-aT} \cos \omega T + e^{-2aT}}$	$e^{-akt} \cos \omega kT$
		$\frac{z}{z+a}$	$a^k \cos k\pi$

z-Transform Theorems

Theorem	Name
1. $z\{af(t)\} = aF(z)$	Linearity theorem
2. $z\{f_1(t) + f_2(t)\} = F_1(z) + F_2(z)$	Linearity theorem
3. $z\{e^{-at} f(t)\} = F(e^{aT} z)$	Complex differentiation
4. $z\{f(t - nT)\} = z^{-n} F(z)$	Real translation
5. $z\{t f(t)\} = -T z \frac{dF(z)}{dz}$	Complex differentiation
6. $f(0) = \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} F(z)$	Initial value theorem
7. $f(\infty) = \lim_{z \rightarrow 1} (1 - z^{-1}) F(z)$	Final value theorem