11. Discrete-Time Control: Background^{1,2}

Discrete-time control system are hybrid: part continuous time and part continuous time.



In studying how to analyze such systems we'll visit:

- Impulse sampling and zero-order hold
- z transform
- Stability
- Design
- 1. Ogata, K., Discrete-Time Control Systems, Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1987.
- 2. Houpis, CH., and Rasmussen, SJ., *Quantitative Feedback Theory Fundamentals and Applications*, Marcel Dekker AG, 1999.

11.1. Sampling and Hold

An ideal sampler comprises of a switch that closes to admit an input signal every sampling period *T*. The finite duration of the sampling is assumed infinitesimal. This is called *analog-to-digital* (A/D) conversion. A *digital-to-analog* (A/D) conversion converts to sampled-data signal back to a continuous-time signal – typically via a *zero-order hold* (ZOH) circuit.



For a signal zero at t < 0, h(t) is related to x(t) as follows $h(t) = x(0) [1(t) - 1(t - T)] + x(T) [1(t - T) - 1(t - 2T)] + x(2T) [1(t - 2T) - 1(t - 3T)] + \dots$

The Laplace transform of a delayed step is

and for the ZOH we jave

$$\mathcal{L}[h(t)] = H(s) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x(kT) \frac{e^{-kTs} - e^{-(k+1)Ts}}{s}$$

The sampled signal is a train of impulses (the strength of each equals x(t) at kT)

where $\delta(t - kT) = 0$ unless t = kT.

Nyquist (Shannon's) sampling theorem says:

A function f(t) which contains no frequency components greater than ω_c (i.e., band limited) can be represented by x(kT) with T < π/ω_c .

We define

In addition to assuming no *aliasing*, we assume that *quantization*, *saturation*, and *conversion* errors in the A/D conversion are negligible.

11.2. The z Transform

Define

so we can write

The machinery developed for Laplace transform domain, such frequency response, root locus, and stability analysis is readily applicable in the z domain for discrete-time control system having sampling as discussed above.

Examples of z transforms:

$$x(t) = \delta(0) = \begin{cases} 1, & k = 0\\ 0, & k \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

SO

The unit step function

$$x(t) = \mathbf{1}(t)$$

has a z transform of



Inverse z transform.

- direct division
- partial fraction expansion
- other methods

Example. Find x(k) for
$$X(z) = \frac{10z+5}{(z-1)(z-.2)} = \frac{10z^{-1}+5z^{-2}}{1-1.2z^{-1}+0.2z^{-2}}$$
.
1-1.2z⁻¹+0.2z⁻² $\frac{10z^{-1}+17z^{-2}+18.4z^{-3}+16.86z^{-4}+...}{10z^{-1}+5z^{-2}}$
 $\frac{10z^{-1}-12z^{-2}+2z^{-3}}{17z^{-2}-2z^{-3}}$
 $\frac{17z^{-2}-20.4z^{-3}+3.4z^{-4}}{18.4z^{-3}-3.4z^{-4}}$
 $\frac{18.4z^{-3}-22.08z^{-4}+3.68z^{-5}}{18.68z^{-4}-3.68z^{-5}}$
 $\frac{18.68z^{-4}-22.416z^{-5}+3.736z^{-6}}{18.68z^{-4}-22.416z^{-5}+3.736z^{-6}}$



Note: if we did not divide by z, the expansion of x(z) would yield terms not appearing in the table.

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$$G(z) = \mathcal{Z}\left[\frac{1-e^{-Ts}}{s}\frac{1}{s(s+1)}\right] = (1-z^{-1})\mathcal{Z}\left[\frac{1}{s^2(s+1)}\right] = (1-z^{-1})\mathcal{Z}\left[\frac{1}{s^2}+\frac{1}{s}+\frac{1}{s+1}\right]$$
$$= (1-z^{-1})\left[\frac{Tz}{(1-z^{-1})^2}+\frac{1}{1-z^{-1}}+\frac{1}{1-e^{-T}z^{-1}}\right] = \frac{(T-1+e^{-T})z^{-1}+(1-e^{-T}-Te^{-T})z^{-2}}{(1-z^{-1})(1-e^{-T}z^{-1})}.$$

Example. Find the PTF of a closed-loop discrete-time control system shown below.



Starring both sides

$$\frac{E^*}{R^*} = \frac{1}{1 + [HG]^*}$$



Note: we have assumed all samples have same sampling period and are synchronized.

Some systems do not have a PTF. This occurs when the input signal dynamics cannot be decoupled from the dynamics of the system.



Example.

$$R \xrightarrow{E} T \xrightarrow{E'} K \xrightarrow{ZOH(s)} 1$$

$$R \xrightarrow{F} T \xrightarrow{F'} K \xrightarrow{F'} ZOH(s) \xrightarrow{F'} 1$$

$$R \xrightarrow{F'} F \xrightarrow{F'} F \xrightarrow{F'} F \xrightarrow{F'} ZOH(s) \xrightarrow{F'} 1$$

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$$R \xrightarrow{F'} F \xrightarrow{F'} X \xrightarrow{F'} ZOH(s) \xrightarrow{F'} 1$$

$$R \xrightarrow{F'} F \xrightarrow{F'} X \xrightarrow{F'} ZOH(s) \xrightarrow{F'} 1$$

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$$R \xrightarrow{F'} X \xrightarrow{F'} X$$

$$R \xrightarrow{F'} X \xrightarrow{F'}$$

Example.

$$R = E = T = PID = ZOH(s) = \frac{1}{s(s+1)} = C$$

$$PID(s) = K_p + K_i^{-1} \frac{1}{s} + K_d s \implies PID(z) = K_p + \frac{T}{K_i} \frac{1}{1 - z^{-1}} + \frac{K_d}{T} (1 - z^{-1})$$

$$G(z) = Z[ZOH(s)G(s)] = (1 - z^{-1})Z\left[\frac{1}{s^2(s+1)}\right] = \frac{.3697 z^{-1} + .2642 z^{-2}}{(1 - .3697 z^{-1})(1 - z^{-1})}.$$
Let $K_d = K_i^{-1} = 0, K_p = 1.$

$$\frac{C}{R}(z) = \frac{K_pG(z)}{1 + K_pG(z)} = \frac{.3697 z^{-1} + .2642 z^{-2}}{1 - z^{-1} + .6321 z^{-2}} = \frac{.3697 z^1 + .2642}{z^2 - z^1 + .6321}.$$



For a unit step

$$C(z) = \frac{.3697 z^{-1} + .2642 z^{-2}}{1 - z^{-1} + .6321 z^{-2}} \frac{1}{1 - z^{-1}}$$

= .3679 z^{-1} + z^{-2} + 1.3996 z^{-3} + 1.3996 z^{-4} + 1.1469 z^{-5} + .8944 z^{-6} + ...

Since z⁻¹ implies time shift by one sampling period, taking inverse z transform gives

Note: it is possible to compute the response between sampling instances.

11.4. s-plane to z-plane Mapping

Stability and performance of continuous-time (CT) systems depends on pole location. Since *s* and *z* are related by $z = e^{Ts}$, we can study these discrete-time properties of a PTF by related *z* domain pole location via the map.

Poles and zeros in the s plane are mapped to the z plane via $z = e^{Ts}$. Denote the complex number $s = \sigma + j\omega$ so

$$z = e^{T(\sigma + j\omega)} = e^{T\sigma}e^{jT\omega} = e^{T\sigma}e^{j(T\omega + 2\pi k)}, \ k = 0, \pm 1, \dots$$

Note that s plane frequencies with integer multiple of ω_s difference are mapped into the same z plane location.

Stable systems have all their poles in the open left-half s plane, or in the z plane

The $j\omega$ -axis in the *s* plane maps into |z| = 1 circle.

The phase of z, ωT , varies from $-\infty$ to ∞ as ω varies from $-\infty$ to ∞ . In particular, along the $j\omega$ axis, as ω varies from $-\frac{1}{2}\omega_s$ to $-\frac{1}{2}\omega_s$ we have |z|=1 and $\angle z$ varies CCW from $-\pi$ to π . From $-\frac{1}{2}\omega_s$ to $-\frac{1}{2}\omega_s$ the phase $\angle z$ varies again CCW from $-\pi$ to π . This is depicted below.







11.4. Stability Analysis

Discrete-time stability is determined from the roots of the characteristic equation 1+L(z)=0.

11.4.1 Stability tests

• Jury Stability Test an algebraic test using the characteristic equation.

• Routh test via bilinear transformation.

