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# Control System Synthesis - Basics

PHD CLASS - FALL 2020

FACULTY OF  
SCIENCE



## Representation of feedback systems

Block diagrams  
System description

## Feedback fundamentals

Static analysis  
Design issues  
The Gang of Four  
Stability and Nyquist plots  
Performances and Bode plots

## About feedforward

## Conclusions

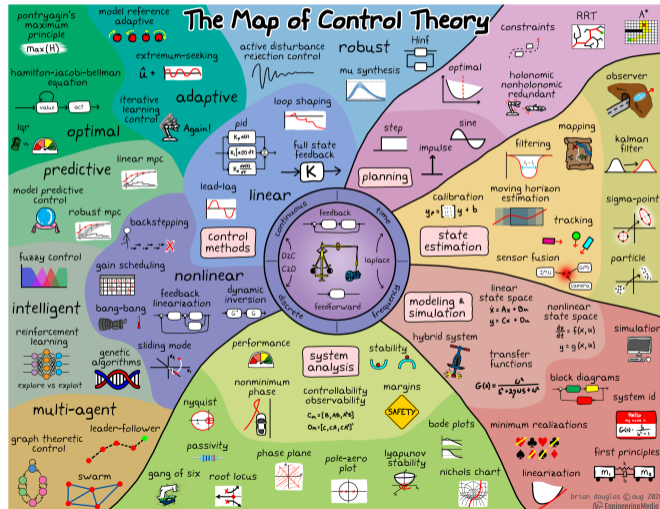
- 1 Introduction
- 2 Fundamentals: problem formulation
  - System representation and feedback basics
  - Specifications and performance limitations
- 3 Design techniques

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# Content overview

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# Representation of feedback systems

## Block diagrams

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- graphical tool, essential due to the multidisciplinary aspect of control
- emphasize flow information and hide technological details
- causality

## Two very different systems

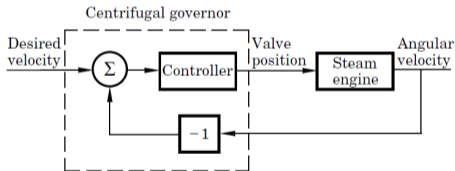


Figure: Centrifugal governor

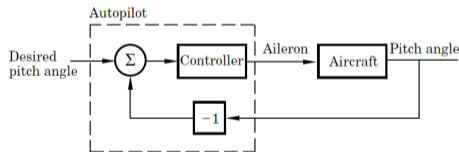


Figure: Autopilot

# Representation of feedback systems

## Block diagrams

- graphical tool, essential due to the multidisciplinary aspect of control
- emphasize flow information and hide technological details
- causality

**Two very different systems, one block diagram!**

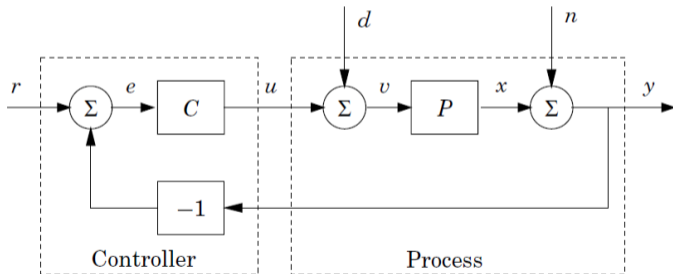


Figure: Generic problem

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- need to describe the process to be controlled
- model-based/data-driven design
- importance of LTI systems = linear and time-invariant
  - homogeneity:  $g(au) = ag(u)$
  - superposition:  $g(u_1 + u_2) = g(u_1) + g(u_2)$
  - time-invariance:  $g(u(t - T)) = y(t - T)$
  - allowed operations:  $ax(t)$ ,  $\int x(t)dt$ ,  $\frac{dx}{dt}$ ,  $x_1(t) \pm x_2(t)$
- do not represent most real-world systems
- “Linear systems are important because we can solve them”, Richard Feynman
- possibility to approximate a real-world system as LTI over a region

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## Time-domain State-space model

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t) \\ y(t) = Cx(t) + Du(t) \end{cases}$$

## Frequency-domain Transfer function

$$G(s) = \frac{b_1 s^{n-1} + \dots + b_{n-1} s + b_n}{s^n + a_1 s^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1} s + a_n}$$



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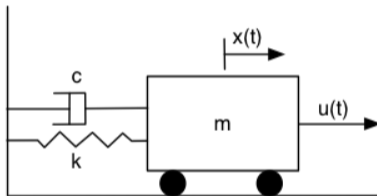
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$$m\ddot{x}(t) + c\dot{x} + kx(t) - u(t) = 0$$



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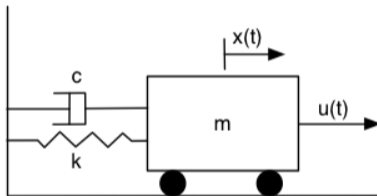
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$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ \dot{x} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\dot{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & -\frac{c}{m} \end{pmatrix} X + \frac{1}{m} u$$

$$m\ddot{x}(t) + c\dot{x} + kx(t) - u(t) = 0$$



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Time domain

Frequency domain

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} X(\omega) e^{j\omega t} d\omega \xleftarrow[\text{Inverse Fourier transform}]{\text{Fourier transform}} X(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x(t) e^{-j\omega t} dt$$



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## The Laplace transform and the s-plane

$$e^{st} = e^{(\sigma + j\omega)t} = e^{\sigma t} e^{j\omega t}$$

Time domain

s-plane

$$x(t) \xrightarrow{\text{Laplace transform}} X(s) = \int_0^{+\infty} x(t) e^{-st} dt$$

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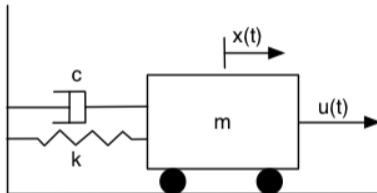
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$$m\ddot{x}(t) + c\dot{x} + kx(t) - u(t) = 0$$



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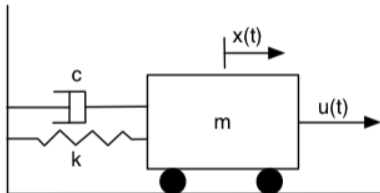
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$$\mathcal{L}(x) = X(s)$$

$$\mathcal{L}(\dot{x}) = sX(s) - x(0)$$

$$m\ddot{x}(t) + c\dot{x} + kx(t) - u(t) = 0$$



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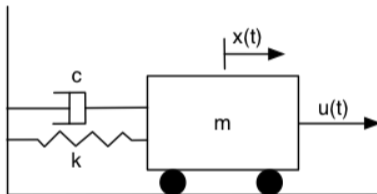
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$$m\ddot{x}(t) + c\dot{x} + kx(t) - u(t) = 0$$

$$\mathcal{L}(x) = X(s)$$

$$\mathcal{L}(\dot{x}) = sX(s) - x(0)$$

$$ms^2X(s) + csX(s) + kX(s) - U(s) = 0$$

$$G(s) = \frac{X(s)}{U(s)} = \frac{1}{ms^2 + cs + k}$$



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# Representation of feedback systems

## Other characterization of LTI systems

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## 1 Impulse response

$$\delta(t) = \begin{cases} +\infty & t = 0 \\ 0 & t \neq 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t) dt = 1$$

$$y(t) = (u * h)(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} u(t - \tau) h(\tau) d\tau$$

$\mathcal{L}(\delta(t)) = 1 \rightarrow$  the transfer function is the Laplace transform of the impulse response

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## Other characterization of LTI systems

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$\mathcal{L}(\delta(t)) = 1 \rightarrow$  the transfer function is the Laplace transform of the impulse response

## 2 Frequency response = $\{G(j\omega)\}$

A system's frequency response is the Fourier transform of its impulse response

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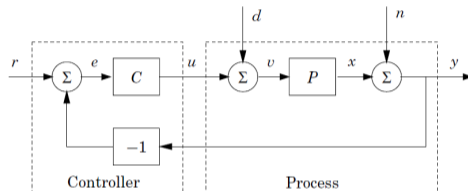
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## Static analysis

→ Static model = instantaneous input-output relation



$$y = x + n$$

$$x = k_p(u + d)$$

$$u = k_c(r - y)$$

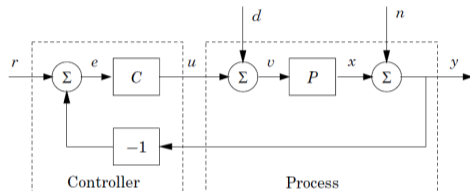


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# Feedback fundamentals

## Static analysis

→ Static model = instantaneous input-output relation



$$y = x + n$$

$$x = k_p(u + d)$$

$$u = k_c(r - y)$$

$$x = \frac{k_p}{1 + k_p k_c} d - \frac{k_p k_c}{1 + k_p k_c} n + \frac{k_p k_c}{1 + k_p k_c} r$$

$$y = \frac{k_p}{1 + k_p k_c} d + \frac{1}{1 + k_p k_c} n + \frac{k_p k_c}{1 + k_p k_c} r$$

$$u = -\frac{k_p k_c}{1 + k_p k_c} d - \frac{k_c}{1 + k_p k_c} n + \frac{k_c}{1 + k_p k_c} r$$



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- disturbance rejection ( $r = 0$  and  $n = 0$ ):  $x = \frac{k_p}{1+k_p k_c} d$



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- reference tracking ( $d = 0$  and  $n = 0$ ):  $x = \frac{k_p k_c}{1+k_p k_c} r$
- robustness to process variations ( $d = 0$  and  $n = 0$ ):  $\frac{dx}{dk_p} = \frac{x}{k_p} \frac{1}{1+k_p k_c}$



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- The loop gain  $k_p k_c$  should be high



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- The loop gain  $k_p k_c$  should be high
- Obtaining a linear behaviour through feedback:  $y = f(u)$  and  $u = k_c(r - y)$

$$y + \frac{1}{k_c} f^{-1}(y) = r$$

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■ **This does not consider the dynamics of the system and the controller!**

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$$y + \frac{1}{k_c} f^{-1}(y) = r$$

- **This does not consider the dynamics of the system and the controller!**
- **High loop gains lead to instability**

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## Design issues

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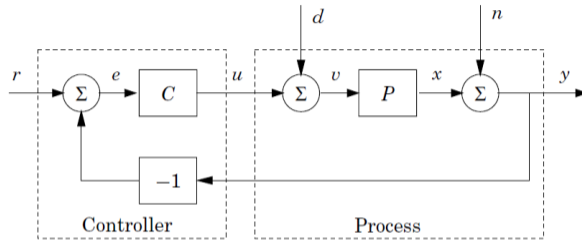
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## ■ Stability



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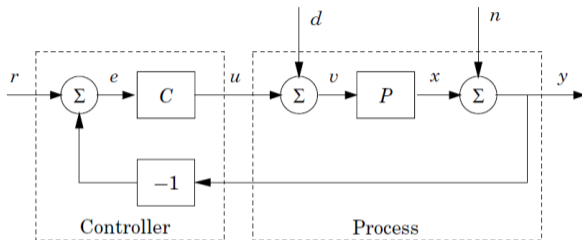
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- Stability
- Reference tracking



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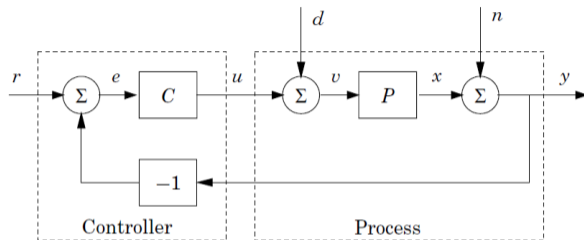
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- Disturbance rejection



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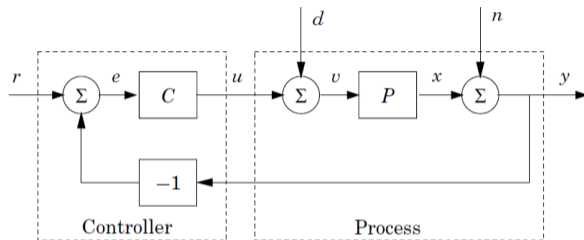
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- Disturbance rejection
- Noise attenuation



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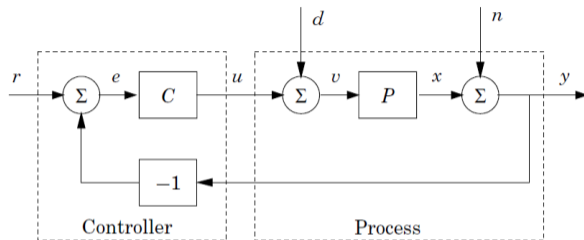
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- Disturbance rejection
- Noise attenuation
- Robustness to process variations



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## The Gang of Four

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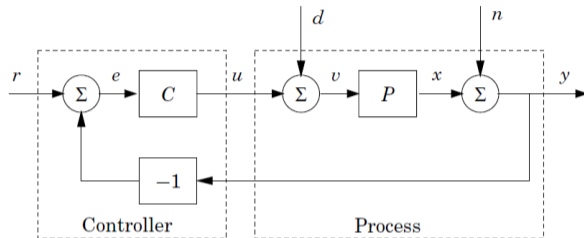
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$$X(s) = \frac{P}{1 + PC} D(s) - \frac{PC}{1 + PC} N(s) + \frac{PC}{1 + PC} R(s)$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{P}{1 + PC} D(s) + \frac{1}{1 + PC} N(s) + \frac{PC}{1 + PC} R(s)$$

$$U(s) = -\frac{PC}{1 + PC} D(s) - \frac{C}{1 + PC} N(s) + \frac{C}{1 + PC} R(s)$$



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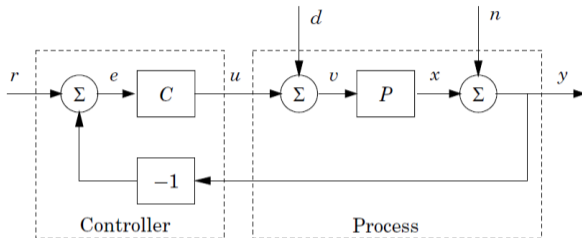
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- The sensitivity function :  $S(s) = \frac{1}{1+PC}$
  - The complementary sensitivity function :  $T(s) = \frac{PC}{1+PC}$
- $S(s) + T(s) = 1$
- The noise sensitivity function  $\frac{C}{1+PC}$
  - The disturbance sensitivity function  $\frac{P}{1+PC}$



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## Stability and Nyquist plots

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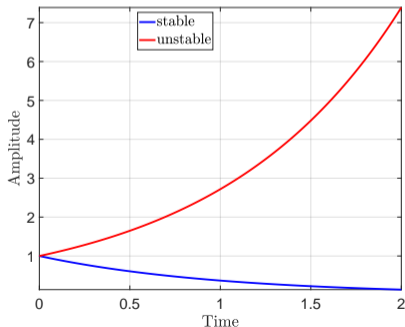
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### BIBO stability

$G(s)$  stable  $\iff$  poles in the LHP (transfer function)



$$G_1(s) = \frac{1}{s+1}$$

$$G_2(s) = \frac{1}{s-1}$$

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## Stability and Nyquist plots

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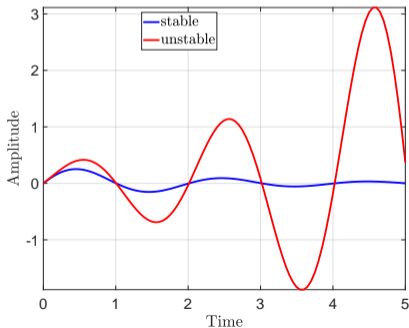
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## BIBO stability

$G(s)$  stable  $\iff$  poles in the LHP (transfer function)



$$G_3(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + s + 10}$$

$$G_4(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 - s + 10}$$

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## Stability and Nyquist plots

### Representation of feedback systems

- Block diagrams
- System description

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- Design issues
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## BIBO stability

$G(s)$  stable  $\iff$  poles in the LHP (transfer function)  
 $\iff$  eigenvalues of  $A$  in the LHP (state-space model)

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## BIBO stability

$G(s)$  stable  $\iff$  poles in the LHP (transfer function)  
 $\iff$  eigenvalues of  $A$  in the LHP (state-space model)  
 $\iff$  roots of the characteristic polynomial in the LHP (ODE)



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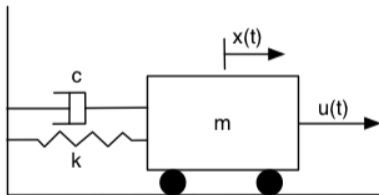
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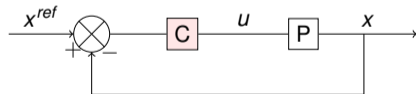
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## Nyquist criteria

$$L(s) = C(s)P(s)$$



$$m\ddot{x}(t) + c\dot{x} + kx(t) - u(t) = 0$$



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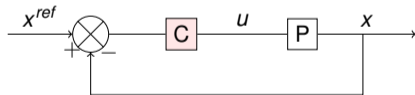
## Nyquist criteria

$$L(s) = C(s)P(s)$$

$$P(s) = \frac{1}{ms^2 + cs + k}$$

$$C(s) = k_c$$

$$H(s) = \frac{k_c}{ms^2 + cs + k + k_c}$$



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## Nyquist criteria

$$P(s) = \frac{1}{ms^2 + cs + k}$$

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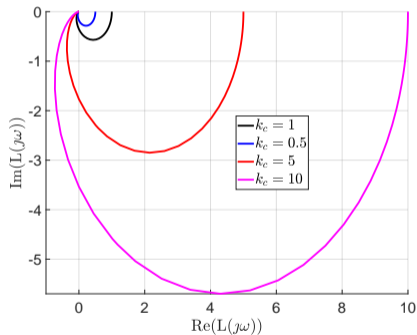


Figure: Nyquist plot.

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## Nyquist criteria

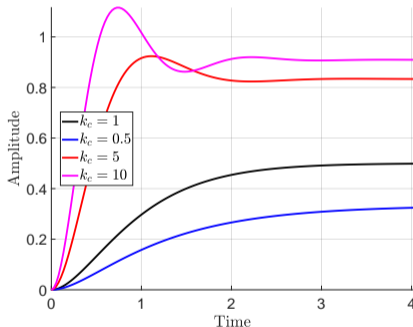


Figure: Step response.

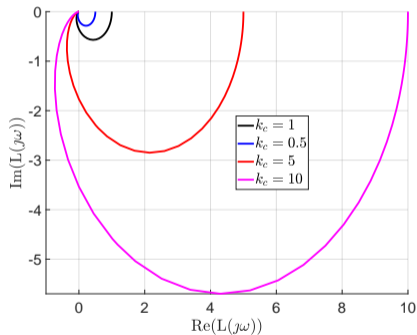


Figure: Nyquist plot.

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Nyquist criteria  $C(s) = \frac{k_c}{s}$

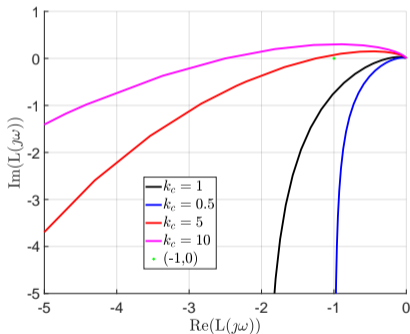


Figure: Nyquist plot.

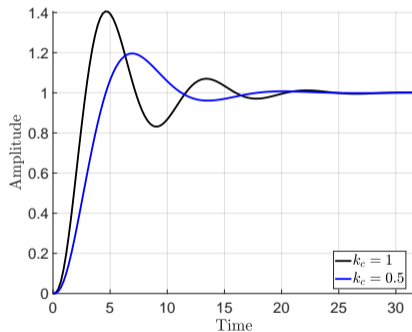


Figure: Step response.

# Feedback fundamentals

## Stability and Nyquist plots: introducing margins

### Nyquist criteria

- the open-loop is simpler to understand (causal reasoning)

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# Feedback fundamentals

## Stability and Nyquist plots: introducing margins

### Nyquist criteria

- the open-loop is simpler to understand (causal reasoning)
- easier to understand the influence of the controller on stability

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# Feedback fundamentals

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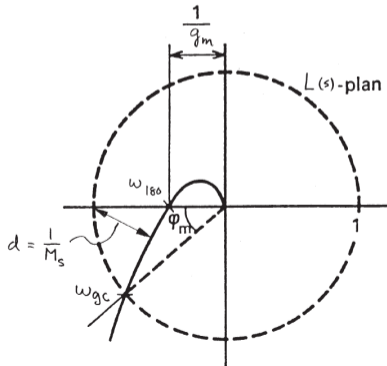
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## Nyquist criteria

- the open-loop is simpler to understand (causal reasoning)
- easier to understand the influence of the controller on stability
- stability becomes more than a binary property



## Margins visualisation on a Nyquist plot

- Gain margin  $g_m$  (2-5) and stability margin  $s_m$
- Phase margin  $\varphi_m$  (30-60°)
- Shortest distance  $d$  to  $(-1, 0)$  (0.5-0.8)

# Feedback fundamentals

## Performances and Bode plots

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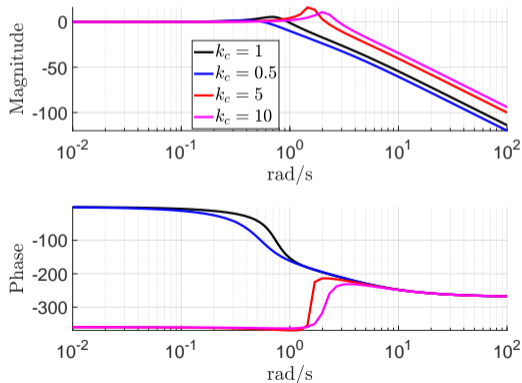
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## Bode plots

- good overview of performance and robustness of the feedback loop



# Feedback fundamentals

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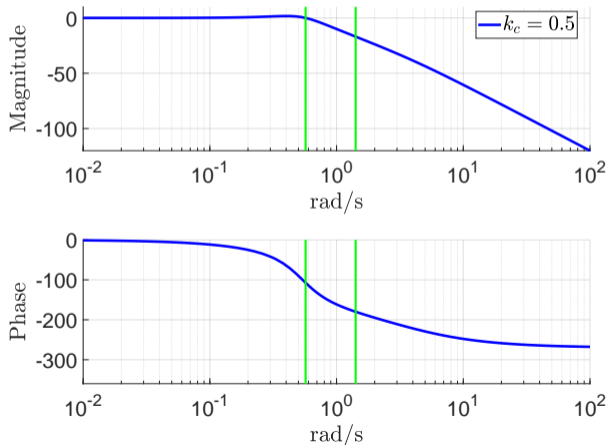
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### Bode plots



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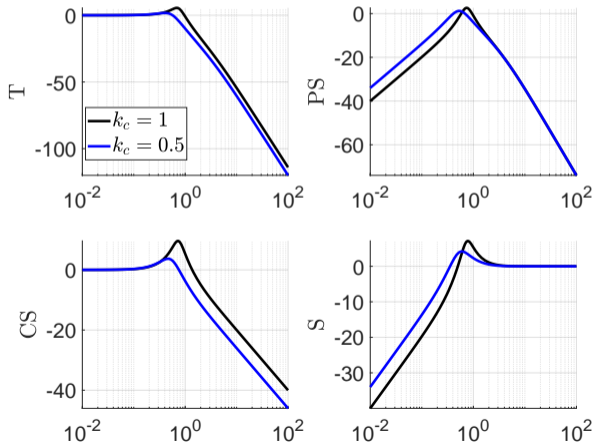
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## Bode plots



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## About feedforward

## Conclusions

- Limitations of feedback systems: waiting for an error to occur to take corrective actions



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# About feedforward

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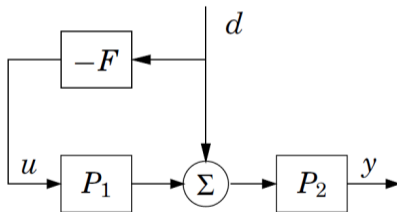
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- Limitations of feedback systems: waiting for an error to occur to take corrective actions
- Concept of feedforward: use the information about the disturbance to counteract it before it affects the system



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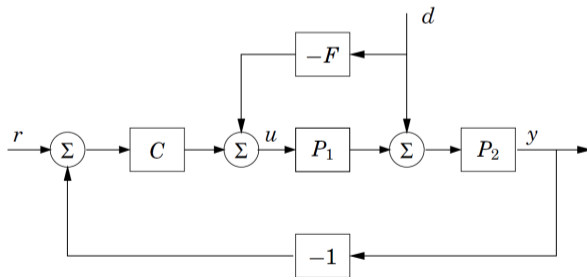
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## About feedforward

## Conclusions

- Limitations of feedback systems: waiting for an error to occur to take corrective actions
- Concept of feedforward: use the information about the disturbance to counteract it before it affects the system
- Usually combined with feedback



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## About feedforward

## Conclusions

- Limitations of feedback systems: waiting for an error to occur to take corrective actions
- Concept of feedforward: use the information about the disturbance to counteract it before it affects the system
- Usually combined with feedback
- Requires to invert the system (impossible for RHP zeros and time delays)



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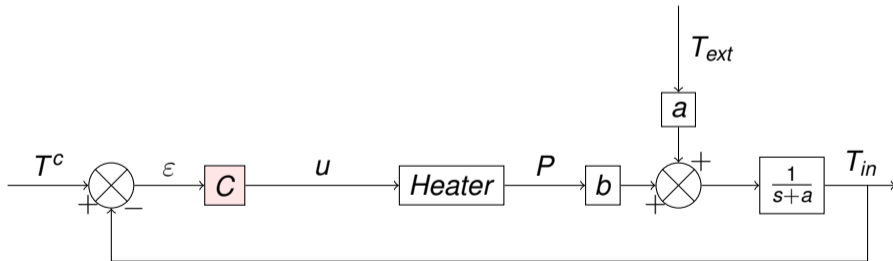
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## Example: building temperature control

$$\frac{dT_{in}}{dt} = -a(T_{in} - T_{ext}) + bP$$



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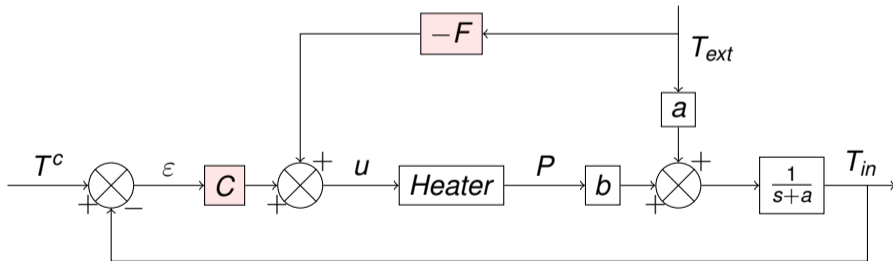
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## Example: building temperature control

$$\frac{dT_{in}}{dt} = -a(T_{in} - T_{ext}) + bP$$



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### **Feedback**

Closed-loop

Reactive

Robust to modeling errors

Risk of instability

### **Feedforward**

Open-loop

Planning

Sensitive to modelling errors

No risk of instability

# About feedforward

## Other architectures

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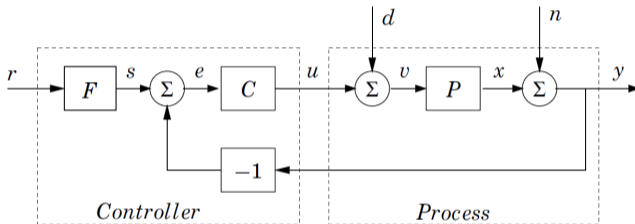
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## Two Degrees of Freedom architecture



- The feedforward  $F$  is designed for reference tracking
- $C$  handles disturbance rejection, noise attenuation, robustness



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# About feedforward

## Other architectures

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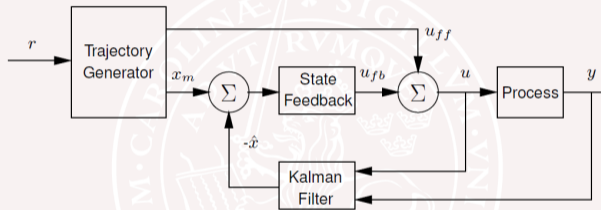
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## State Feedback - Kalman Filter Architecture



- A nice separation of the different functions
- The signals  $x_m$  and  $u_{ff}$  can be generated from  $r$  in real time or from stored tables (robotics)

# Conclusions

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- About the system
  - Different descriptions: physical models or experimental data
  - The system should not be taken for granted
- Requirements: stability, performance and robustness
- properties of the Gang of Four
  - Limit of actuators: rate and saturation
  - Measurement noise: importance of filtering, sampling

### Next week:

- More on process uncertainties and robustness
- Dynamic limitations