



**UNIVERSITI TUN HUSSEIN ONN MALAYSIA**

**FINAL EXAMINATION  
(TAKE HOME)  
SEMESTER I  
SESSION 2020/2021**

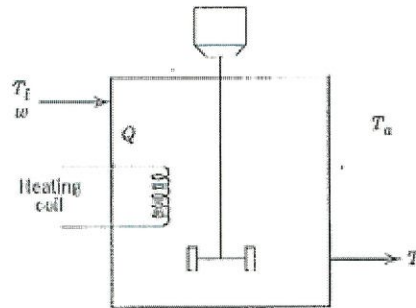
COURSE NAME : PROCESS CONTROL  
COURSE CODE : BNQ 30703  
PROGRAMME : BNN  
EXAMINATION DATE : JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021  
DURATION : 3 HOURS  
INSTRUCTION : ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS  
OPEN BOOK EXAMINATION

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF SEVEN (7) PAGES

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- Q1 (a)** Figure Q1(a) shows a completely enclosed stirred-tank heating process is used to heat an incoming stream whose flow rate varies. The heating rate from this coil and the volume are both constant.



**Figure Q1(a): Completely enclosed CSTR**

Given:

$\rho$  and  $C_p$  are constants

$U$  – overall heat transfer coefficient, constant

$A_s$  = surface area for heat losses to ambient

$T_i > T_a$  (inlet temperature is higher than ambient temperature)

- (i) Based on **Figure Q1(a)**, develop a mathematical model (differential and algebraic equations) that describes the exit temperature if heat losses to the ambient occur and if the ambient temperature ( $T_a$ ) and the incoming stream's temperature ( $T_i$ ) both can vary. (6 marks)
- (ii) Discuss qualitatively your expectation when  $T_i$  and  $w$  increase (or decrease). Justify by reference to your model. (4 marks)
- (b) The liquid storage tank shown in **Figure Q1 (b)** has two inlet streams with mass flow rates  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  and an exit stream with flow rate  $w_3$ . The cylindrical tank is 2.5 m tall and 2 m in diameter. The liquid has a density of  $800 \text{ kg/m}^3$ . Normal operating procedure is to fill the tank until the liquid level reaches a nominal value of 1.75 m using constant flow rates:  $w^1 = 120 \text{ kg/min}$ ,  $w^2 = 100 \text{ kg/min}$ , and  $w^3 = 200 \text{ kg/min}$ . At that point, inlet flow rate  $w_1$  is adjusted so that the level remains constant. However, on this particular day, corrosion of the tank has open up a hole in the wall at a height of 1 m, producing a leak whose volumetric flow rate  $q_4$  ( $\text{m}^3/\text{min}$ ) can be approximate by

$$q_4 = 0.025\sqrt{h - 1}$$

where  $h$  is height in meters.

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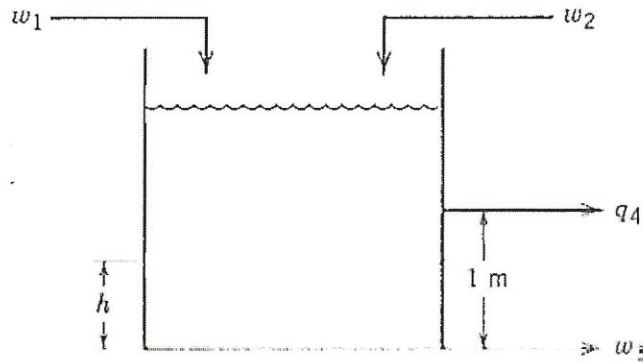


Figure Q1 (b): Leaking Surge Tank

- (i) If the tank is initially empty, calculate the time it takes for the liquid level to reach the corrosion point. (4 marks)
- (ii) If mass flow rates  $w_1$ ,  $w_2$ , and  $w_3$  are kept constant indefinitely, determine if the tank will eventually overflow. Justify your reason. (4 marks)
- (c) (i) Define control configuration known as ‘SISO’ and ‘MIMO’. (3 marks)
- (ii) With reference to question Q1(c)(i), recognize each control configuration by giving examples of both using a heated tank system. (4 marks)

- Q2** (a) Interpret and choose one of the following “short statement(s)” that is correct:
- (i) A transfer function can be used to provide information about how a process will respond to a single input. For a particular input change, it provides:
    - (v) Only steady-state information about the resulting output change.
    - (w) Only dynamic information about the output change
    - (x) Both steady-state and dynamic information about the output change. (2 marks)
  - (ii) Laplace transform methods that form the basis for the development of transfer functions are only applicable, strictly speaking, when the process model is linear. If a process model is nonlinear:
    - (v) A transfer function cannot be obtained.
    - (w) A transfer function that describes the process operation exactly can be obtained
    - (x) A transfer function that describes the process operation approximately can be obtained. (2 marks)

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(2 marks)

- (iii) Three functions of the Laplace operator  $s$  are denoted by  $M(s)$ ,  $U(s)$  and  $Y(s)$ . These represent:
- (v) Transfer Functions
  - (w) Process inputs that have been transformed
  - (x) Process outputs that have been transformed
  - (y) None of (v to x)
  - (z) Any of (v to x)

(2 marks)

- (b) A jacketed vessel is used to cool a process stream as shown in **Figure Q2 (b)**. The following information is available:
- (i) The volume of liquid in the tank  $V$  and the volume of coolant in the jacket  $V_j$  remain constant. Volumetric flow rate  $q_F$  is constant, but  $q_J$  varies with time.
  - (ii) Heat losses from the jacketed vessel are negligible.
  - (iii) Both the tank contents and the jacket contents are well mixed and have significant thermal capacitances.
  - (iv) The thermal capacitances of the tank wall and the jacket wall are negligible.
  - (v) The overall heat transfer coefficient for transfer between the tank liquid and the coolant varies with coolant flow rate:

$$\text{Overall heat transfer coefficient, } U = Kq_J^{0.8}$$

Where,  $U = \text{BTU/h ft}^2\text{°F}$

$$q_J = ft^3/h$$

$K = \text{constant}$

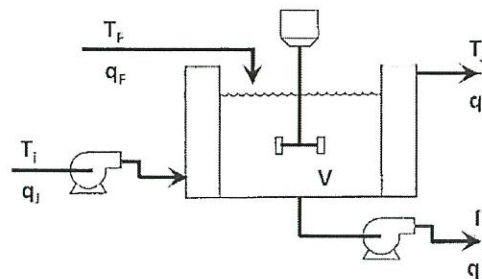


Figure Q2 (b): Jacketed vessel

Derive a dynamic model for this system (state any additional assumptions that is made).

(8 marks)

- (c) For the process modelled by the following equations:

$$2 \frac{dy_1}{dt} = -2y_1 - 3y_2 + 2u_1$$

$$\frac{dy_2}{dt} = 4y_1 - 6y_2 + 2u_1 + 4u_2$$

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Construct the four transfer functions relating the outputs ( $y_1, y_2$ ) to the inputs ( $u_1, u_2$ ). The  $u$  and  $y$  are deviation variables.

(8 marks)

- (d) **Figure Q2(d)** shows two flow control loops. Recognize whether each system is either a feedback or a feedforward control system. Justify your answer. It can be assumed that the distance between the flow transmitter (FT) and the control valve is quite small in each system.

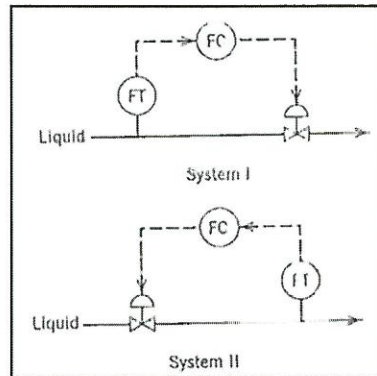


Figure Q2(d): Two flow control loops

(3 marks)

- Q3** (a) Consider the following transfer function:

$$G(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{U(s)} = \frac{5}{10s + 1}$$

- (i) State the steady-state gain and the time constant. (4 marks)
- (ii) If  $U(s) = 2/s$ , determine the value of the output  $y(t)$  when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . (2 marks)
- (iii) If  $U(s) = 2/s$ , determine the value of the output when  $t = 10$ . (2 marks)
- (iv) If  $U(s) = (1 - e^{-s})/s$ , that is the unit rectangular pulse, determine the output when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . (2 marks)

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- (b) A heated process is used to heat a semiconductor wafer operates with first-order dynamics, that is, the transfer function relating changes in temperature T to changes in the heater input power level P given in **equation Q3(b)**.

$$\frac{T'(s)}{P'(s)} = \frac{K}{\tau s + 1} \dots\dots\dots \text{equation Q3(b)}$$

Where K has units [ $^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{Kw}$ ] and  $\tau$  has units [minutes]. The process is at steady state when an engineer changes the power input stepwise from 1 to 1.5 Kw. Determine K and  $\tau$  in the process transfer function.

- Given: \* The process temperature initially is 80  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .  
 \* Four minutes after changing the power input, the temperature is 230  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .  
 \* Thirty minutes later the temperature is 280  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

(6 marks)

- (c) 'Ratio control (RC) is the most elementary form of feed forward control. These control systems are almost exclusively applied to flow rate controls.'

Based on the statement above, list **THREE (3)** advantages and **THREE (3)** disadvantages of ratio control in the context of chemical engineering.

(6 marks)

- (d) Relate **Figure Q3(d)** with the 1<sup>st</sup> order system characteristic

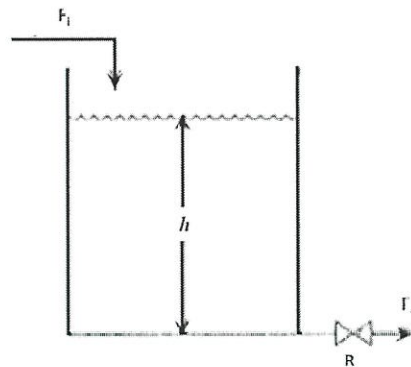


Figure Q3(d)

(3 marks)

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- Q4 (a) Differentiate between response time and rise time (8 marks)
- (b) Explain **THREE (3)** categories of which a second order system can occur. (6 marks)
- (c)

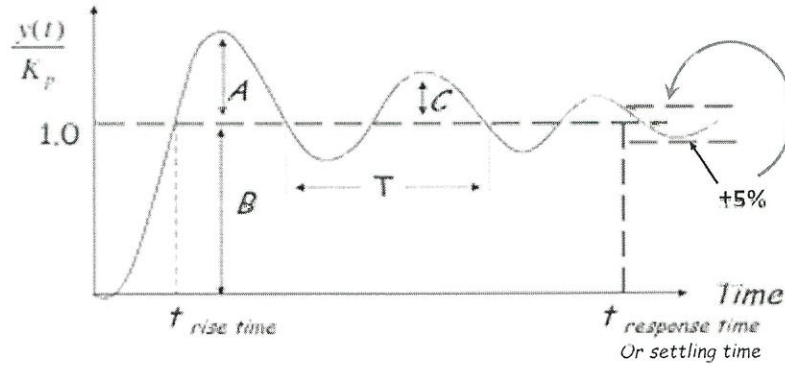


Figure Q4(c): Characteristics for the step response of an underdamped process.

With reference to **Figure Q4(c)**, interpret the meaning of the followings complete with relevant equations :

- (i) Overshoot,
  - (ii) Decay ratio (4 marks)
- (d) (i) Compare the basic concepts of feedforward and feedback control system. (4 marks)
- (ii) Recommend the configuration of feedforward-feedback control system where the feedforward controller affect the stability of the feedback control system. (3 marks)

-END OF QUESTIONS-

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