



(University of Choice)

**MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
(MMUST)**

**MAIN CAMPUS**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**FIFTH YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS**

**FOR THE DEGREE  
OF  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL AND  
COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING**

**COURSE CODE: ECE 513**

**COURSE TITLE: NON-LINEAR AND MULTIVARIABLE  
CONTROL**

**DATE: THURSDAY 14/12/2023 TIME: 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS.  
QUESTION ONE CARRIES 30 MARKS AND ALL OTHERS 20 MARKS EACH.

TIME: 2 Hours

MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

This Paper Consists of 4 Printed Pages. Please Turn Over.

**QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)**

a) Consider the function given below.

$$Y[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{n^2} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}k\right) x[k]$$

b) Test whether the system is linear or nonlinear

[4 Marks]

c) Briefly highlight on the at least three essentially nonlinear phenomena

[6 Marks]

d) List at least six methods of analyzing nonlinear systems

[3 Marks]

e) What is an optimal control system and list the necessary information required to formulate the problem of optimization of a control system.

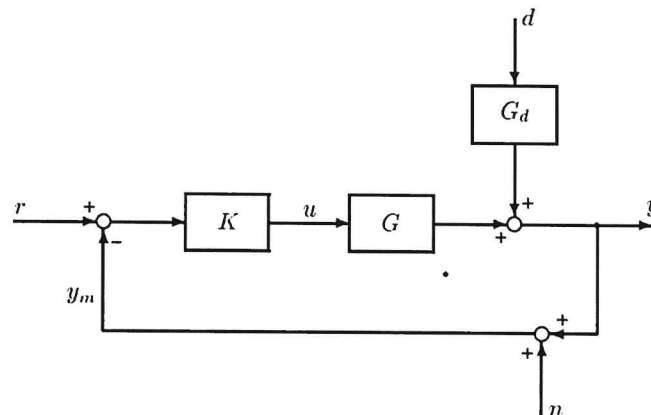
[3 Marks]

f) Differentiate the following techniques as architectures of nonlinear control

- i. Feedback Linearization and Backstepping
- ii. Bounding Control and Sliding Mode Control
- iii. Gain Scheduling and Adaptive Bounding Control

[9 Marks]

g) Consider one degree of freedom feedback control system below, Compute the following



- i. The closed loop response
- ii. The control error
- iii. The corresponding plant input signal

[5 Marks]

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

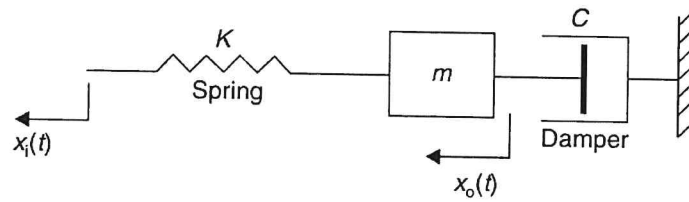
a) Consider a nonlinear system given by equation

$$3x + 4y = z$$

- i. Linearize the nonlinear equation in the region  $6 \leq x \leq 8, 9 \leq y \leq 11$ .
- ii. Find the error if the linearized equation is used to calculate the value of  $z$  when  $x = 6, y = 9$

[8 Marks]

- b) Consider the spring-mass-damper system as shown in the Figure below. If  $x_i(t)$  and  $x_o(t)$  represents the input and output displacements; while  $K$  is the spring constant,  $C$  is the damping coefficient and  $m$  is the mass.

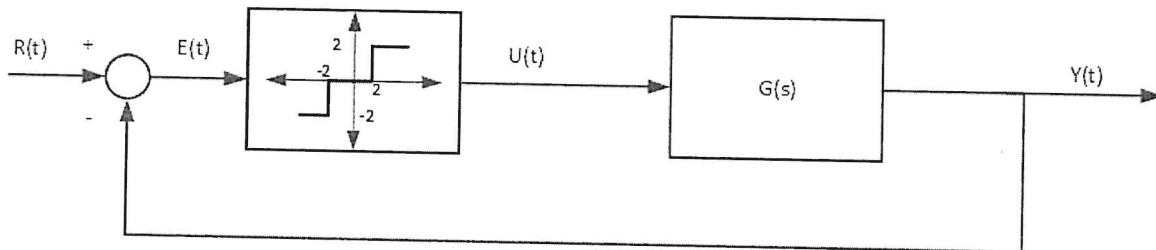


- Obtain the mathematical model of this system.
- Determine if the system is stable or unstable in the sense of Lyapunov

[12 Marks]

### QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Consider a nonlinear element in a closed loop control system below. If  $G(s) = \frac{1}{s(s+1)(s+5)}$



- Derive the describing function of the nonlinear element
- Obtain the state equations
- Obtain the equations for state trajectories phase plane
- Does limit cycle exist
- if so determine if the limit cycle is a sustained oscillation
- If the limit cycle exists, find the amplitude and frequency of the limit cycle.

[18 Marks]

- b) List two assumptions made in the describing function analysis

[2 Marks]

### QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Consider the nonlinear differential equation

$$\ddot{y} - \left(0.2 - \frac{20}{6}y^2\right)\dot{y} + y + y^2 = 0$$

- Find all the singularities of the system
- Classify all singularities
- Sketch the phase portrait in the neighborhood of the equilibrium points

[12 Marks]

- b) Consider the nonlinear differential equation below

$$\ddot{x} + \dot{x} + 4 \cos(x)\dot{x} + 3 \sin(x) = 0$$

- Determine the linearized system of equation in the phase plane

- ii. Determine the location of the eigenvalues for the linearized system of equations

[8 Marks]

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Given a scalar function  $V(x) = 10x_1^2 + 4x_2^2 + x_3^2 + 2x_1x_2 - 2x_2x_3 - 4x_3x_1$
- Represent the scalar function  $V(x)$  in quadratic form
  - Determine the definiteness of (ii) based on Sylvester theorem

[6 Marks]

- b) Consider a system described by

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -x_1 + x_2(x_1^2 + x_2^2) \\ x_2 + x_1(x_1^2 + x_2^2) \end{bmatrix}$$

Check for stability using Lyapunov's 2<sup>nd</sup> method apply both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> theorem.

[6 Marks]

- c) Consider a system defined by

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k+1) \\ x_2(k+1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} u$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(0) \\ x_2(0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

If the performance index is given by

$$J = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} [\mathbf{x}^*(k) \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}(k) + u(k) R u(k)]$$

Where  $Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $R = 1$ .

- Determine the optimal control law to minimize the performance index
- Compute the minimum value of  $J$ .

[8 Marks]