

ENGINEERING TRIPOS PART IIA

---

Tuesday 1 May 2012 9 to 10.30

---

Module 3F1

SIGNALS AND SYSTEMS

*Answer not more than **three** questions.*

*All questions carry the same number of marks.*

*The **approximate** percentage of marks allocated to each part of a question is indicated in the right margin.*

*There are no attachments.*

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

Single-sided script paper

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Engineering Data Book

CUED approved calculator allowed

**You may not start to read the questions  
printed on the subsequent pages of this  
question paper until instructed that you  
may do so by the Invigilator**

1 Consider the discrete-time system given by the following difference equation

$$y_{k+2} = y_{k+1} - \alpha y_k + x_k$$

where  $\alpha$  is a constant,  $x_k$  is the input and  $y_k$  is the output.

(a) Find the transfer function from  $X(z)$  to  $Y(z)$  as a function of  $\alpha$ . [10%]

(b) For each  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\alpha = 1/4$ ,  $\alpha = 1/2$  and  $\alpha = 2$ , find the poles of the system and conclude whether it is stable or unstable. [20%]

(c) For each  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\alpha = 1/4$  and  $\alpha = 1/2$ , calculate and sketch the pulse response of the system for all  $k \geq 0$ . [30%]

Hint: The data book and some of the following  $z$ -transforms may be helpful:

$$p^k \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{1 - pz^{-1}}, \quad k \leftrightarrow \frac{z^{-1}}{(1 - z^{-1})^2}, \quad kp^k \leftrightarrow \frac{pz^{-1}}{(1 - pz^{-1})^2}$$

(d) A controller is added to control the motion of the system, so that the following equation holds:

$$X(z) = K(R(z) - Y(z))$$

where  $R(z)$  is the reference signal and  $K$  is a constant.

(i) Calculate the closed-loop transfer function from  $R(z)$  to  $Y(z)$  in terms of  $\alpha$  and  $K$ . [15%]

(ii) For each  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\alpha = 1/4$ ,  $\alpha = 1/2$  and  $\alpha = 2$ , find a  $K$  that stabilises each closed loop system. Does there exist a single  $K$  that stabilises all four closed loop systems? [25%]

2 (a) In a discrete-time linear system:

(i) State the definition of stability for the system. [10%]

(ii) Using the definition of stability, show that the system

$$G(z) = \frac{1}{z-1}$$

is unstable. [30%]

Hint: Some of the following  $z$ -transforms may be helpful:

$$p^k \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{1-pz^{-1}}, \quad k \leftrightarrow \frac{z^{-1}}{(1-z^{-1})^2}, \quad kp^k \leftrightarrow \frac{pz^{-1}}{(1-pz^{-1})^2}$$

(b) Two independent random variables,  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , have pdfs  $f_1(x)$  and  $f_2(x)$ . A new process  $Y$  is formed from the sum of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ .

(i) Show that the conditional pdf of  $Y$ , given that  $X_1 = x_1$ , is given by

$$f(y|x_1) = f_2(y-x_1)$$

and hence obtain an expression for the pdf of  $Y$ ,  $f_Y(y)$ , in terms of  $f_1(x)$  and  $f_2(x)$ . [20%]

(ii) The characteristic function of a random variable  $X$  is given by

$$\Phi_X(u) = E[e^{juX}]$$

where  $E[\cdot]$  denotes expectation. Obtain an expression for  $\Phi_Y(u)$  in terms of  $\Phi_{X_1}$  and  $\Phi_{X_2}$  for the above process  $Y$ . [20%]

(iii) Explain why characteristic functions are helpful in probability analysis. [20%]

3 (a) How does the power spectral density (PSD) of an ergodic random signal relate to its auto-correlation function (ACF)? [10%]

(b) The ACF of an ergodic random signal  $X$  is

$$r_{XX}(\tau) = \begin{cases} P \left( 1 - \frac{|\tau|}{T_0} \right) & \text{if } |\tau| \leq T_0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Obtain an expression for  $S_X(\omega)$ , the PSD of  $X$ . [20%]

(c) The signal  $X$  is passed through a linear system with frequency response  $H(\omega)$  to produce a random output signal  $Y$ . Calculate  $S_Y(\omega)$ , the PSD of  $Y$ . [20%]

(d) If  $r_{XX}(\tau)$  is known and  $r_{YY}(\tau)$  can be measured in a large safety-critical linear system, arranged as in part (c), explain what aspects of  $H(\omega)$  may be computed for the system while it is operating normally, and how this can be done. [30%]

(e) If the cross-correlation function  $r_{XY}(\tau)$  of the above system can also be measured during normal operation, discuss how an improved estimate of  $H(\omega)$  may be obtained. [20%]

4 (a) Consider the following three lists of binary codeword lengths:

(i) 1, 2, 2, 3

(ii) 2, 2, 2, 3

(iii) 1, 2, 3, 3

For each of the three lists:

(i) Does there exist a prefix-free code with this codeword length? [15%]

(ii) And if so, could this be a Huffman code? [15%]

(b) Let two binary random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  be such that:

$$P_X(0) = p, \quad P_{Y|X}(1|1) = 1, \quad P_{Y|X}(1|0) = \frac{1}{2}$$

(i) Express as functions of  $p$  and in units of bits, the following entropies and mutual information:

$$H(X), \quad H(Y|X), \quad H(XY), \quad H(Y), \quad H(X|Y), \quad I(X;Y)$$

[30%]

(ii) Describe the channel between  $X$  and  $Y$  as a matrix or in graphical form.

[15%]

(iii) What is the capacity of this channel?

[25%]

*Note:* In part (b), you may express all your answers using the binary entropy function

$$h(x) = -x \log_b(x) - (1-x) \log_b(1-x)$$

You may also need its derivative

$$h'(x) = \log_b \left( \frac{1-x}{x} \right)$$

where the logarithmic base  $b$  must match the base that you chose for entropy in your calculations.

**END OF PAPER**

ENGINEERING TRIPOS PART IIA  
 Tuesday 1 May 2012 9 to 10.30  
 Module 3F1 SIGNALS AND SYSTEMS  
 Short answers

1. (a)  $\frac{1}{z^2 - z + \alpha}$ ;  
 (b)  $z = 0, z = 1$ , unstable;  $z = \frac{1}{2}, z = \frac{1}{2}$ , stable;  
 $z = \frac{1 \pm i}{2}$ , stable;  $z = \frac{1 \pm i\sqrt{7}}{2}$ , unstable.  
 (c)  $y_k = \{0, 0, 1, 1, 1, \dots\}$ ;  
 $y_k = 0$  for  $k = 0, 1$ ,  $y_k = 2(1-k)(1/2)^{k-1}$  for  $k \geq 2$ ;  
 $y_k = 0$  for  $k = 0, 1$ ,  $y_k = (1/\sqrt{2})^{k-3} \sin(\frac{\pi}{4}(k-1))$  for  $k \geq 2$ .  
 (d) (i)  $\frac{K}{z^2 - z + \alpha + K}$ ;  
 (ii)  $0 < K < 1$ ;  $-\frac{1}{4} < K < \frac{3}{4}$ ;  $-\frac{1}{2} < K < \frac{1}{2}$ ;  $-2 < K < -1$ ; No.
2. (b) (i)  $f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_2(y-x_1) f_1(x_1) dx$  (convolution)  
 (ii)  $\Phi_Y(u) = \Phi_{X_2}(u) \Phi_{X_1}(u)$
3. (b)  $S_X(\omega) = P T_0 \text{sinc}^2\left(\frac{\omega T_0}{2}\right) = \frac{2P}{T_0} \left(\frac{1 - \cos(\omega T_0)}{\omega^2}\right)$   
 (c)  $S_Y(\omega) = |H(\omega)|^2 P T_0 \text{sinc}^2\left(\frac{\omega T_0}{2}\right)$   
 (d)  $|H(\omega)| = \sqrt{\frac{S_Y(\omega)}{S_X(\omega)}}$   
 (e)  $H(\omega) = \frac{S_{XY}(\omega)}{S_X(\omega)}$
4. (a) (i) no, yes, yes; (ii) Huffman only for third code.  
 (b) (i)  $H(X) = h(p)$ ;  $H(Y|X) = p$ ;  $H(XY) = h(p) + p$ ;  $H(Y) = h(p/2)$ ;  
 $H(X|Y) = h\left(\frac{p}{2-p}\right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{p}{2}\right) = h(p) + p - h(p/2)$   
 $I(X;Y) = h(p/2) - p$   
 (iii)  $p_{\max} = 0.4$ ;  $I_{\max}(X;Y) = 0.3219$  bit per use.