

SUMMARY REPORT

TEACHING OF UNDERGRADUATE  
PROCESS DYNAMICS AND CONTROL

A Mini-session Presented at the  
Annual Meeting

Chicago, Illinois

November 12, 1985



It is interesting to note the dominance of a single textbook in a given field. Surveys conducted in the

fields of such subjects as chemical engineering

TABLE 1

NUMBER OF COURSES

	SEMESTER BASIS REPLIES	QUARTER BASIS REPLIES	1985 PERCENT	(1975) (PERCENT)
Two	17	9	23	(26)
Three	1	1	2	( 2)
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	86	24		

REPLIES

Is the course required?

Yes	92
No	18

TABLE 2

PLACEMENT IN THE CURRICULUM

	<u>REPLIES</u>	<u>1985 PERCENT</u>	<u>1975 PERCENT</u>
<u>Semester Basis</u>			
Junior, 1st Semester	1	1	(13)
Junior, 2nd Semester	12	14	
Senior, 1st Semester	30	35	(87)
Senior, 2nd Semester	43	50	
	—		
	86		
<u>Quarter Basis</u>			
Junior, 3rd Quarter	3	13	(13)
Senior, 1st Quarter	7	29	

TABLE 4

## CLASS DATA

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Sections offered (1984-85)	Replies
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0	2
1	63
2	16
3	3
4	3

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87

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Enrollment per Section

15-	15
16-20	12
21-25	13
26-30	19
31-35	9
36-40	12
41-45	4
46-50	9
51-55	3
56-60	2
61-65	4
66-70	2
71-75	1
76-80	2
81+	3

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110

Average	34.1
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	<u>REPLIES</u>	<u>1985 PERCENT</u>	<u>(1975) (PERCENT)</u>
Course emphasis			
Math modeling-analytical	90	82	(78)
Math modeling-empirical	54	49	(33)
Control	108	98	(88)
Instrumentation	33	30	(27)
Others			
Simulation	4	4	( 8)
Stability	4	4	
"Others"	16	15	

Lectures are reinforced with:

Classroom demonstrations	44	40	(33)
Audio-Visual Aids	45	41	(33)
Lab Experiments	75	68	(75)
None of the Above	13	12	
Others			
Computer simulations	8	7	

OBJECTIVES

Modeling real processes  
Realize need for control  
Jargon of process control

EXPERIMENTS

Liquid level in two tanks  
Measuring dynamics of unknown  
transfer function set up on  
analog computer

EXPERIMENTS

Direct digital control analog

Using the PDP11/04 Computer

computer

First-order Process Dynamics  
Impulse testing of a mixing tank  
Real-time Program on the PDP 11/04  
~~Second-order process dynamics~~

Supervisory control of two reactor  
batterys - Apple IIe and Isaac  
91A interface

Electronic Analog controllers

Pneumatic Analog controllers  
Derivative control  
Dynamics of a heat exchanger

UNIVERSITY OF BUCKNELL  
Process Control

Feedback

OBJECTIVES

Model or transfer function  
development

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS

Linearization  
Deviation variable analysis  
Block diagram

Controller tuning methods

OBJECTIVES

Control concepts



EXPERIMENTS

Microprocessor control  
Optimum adjustment of PID controller  
Behavioral system dynamics

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Process Dynamics

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS

Block diagrams and instrumentation

EXPERIMENTS

Dynamic behavior of interacting and non-interacting tank systems  
Level controller tuning

MANHATTAN COLLEGE

Process Control

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS

Unsteady-state mass and energy

Relationship of steady-state to problem variables  
Linear/nonlinear differential

Importance of temperature, level, and flow controllers to processes

equations

OBJECTIVES

Transfer functions, lags, dead-

OBJECTIVES

Control objectives and instrumentation requirements for typical processes

Feedback, feed forward, ratio and

Jargon of control and control

cascade control systems design

EXPERIMENTS

Manual and automatic operation of a process furnace  
Determination of gains and time

loops  
Analytical and empirical math solution methods  
Controller tuning

EXPERIMENTS

OBJECTIVES

Simple time constant  
Classic controller functions  
Feedback closed-loop control  
Determination of control constants

EXPERIMENTS

Double effect evaporation

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

Automatic Process Control and  
Laboratory

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS

EXPERIMENTS

Level control  
Pressure control (single capacity  
process)  
Use of digital controller in  
tuning

UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Process Dynamics and Control

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS

Unsteady-state analysis of other-  
wise well-understood systems  
Relating analytical theory to

Mathematical modeling of processes  
Experimental analysis of process  
dynamics  
Stability analysis  
Controller selection and tuning

EXPERIMENTS

Process Modeling, Analysis, and  
Control

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS

Qualitative understanding of com-  
plex variables and their appli-  
cation

Impulse response of stirred tank  
Sensing means and signal condi-  
tioning  
Air-operated controllers  
Frequency response - one and two  
stage RC filters  
Step response - stirred tank and  
heat exchanger

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA  
Chemical Process Dynamics

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS

Process modeling and simulation

OBJECTIVES

Linear dynamics  
Role of feedback  
Control design strategies

EXPERIMENTS

Process Simulator

OHIO UNIVERSITY

Process Control and Laboratory

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS

Modeling

OBJECTIVES

Identification

ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Process Control

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS

Behavior of 2nd-order systems

EXPERIMENTS

Step response of 1st and 2nd order

OBJECTIVES

Behavior of 1st and 2nd-order systems

Block diagrams

order system  
Controller tuning

THIETS UNIVERSITY

EXPERIMENTS

Level control (1st and 2nd order)

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control  
Step response transfer function  
measurement

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OBJECTIVES

Math modeling

Open and closed loop transfer

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Stability analysis  
Digital simulation and control

EXPERIMENTS

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Liquid level control

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EXPERIMENTS

- Air pressure regulation
- Pressure sensor calibration
- Temperature sensor response characteristics
- Flow metering and control valves
- Liquid level system dynamics

OBJECTIVES

- Understand need of process control
- Meaning and importance of dead-time, gain, time constant
- Setting a feedback controller and additional control techniques (ratio, cascade, FFC)

Thermal system dynamics  
 Pressure system dynamics

EXPERIMENTS

On-line tuning  
 Controller calibration

Tuning feedback controllers  
 Scale computing blocks  
 Ratio control and setting cascade

UNIVERSITY OF TULSA  
Process control

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS  
Linearization details

TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF NOVA SCOTIA  
Process Control I, II and III

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS  
Stability concept  
Translation of block diagram to  
actual working system

control  
Transfer functions (meaning)  
Dynamic behavior system  
Basic control elements

OBJECTIVES  
Understanding of control  
techniques in industry  
Clear idea of control logic and  
strategy

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
Process Control

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS  
Frequency domain stability

OBJECTIVES  
Introduction to dynamics of  
systems  
Controller design techniques  
Digital controller testing

ALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY  
POMONA

(introduction)

EXPERIMENTS  
Liquid level control  
Tanks in series  
Introduction to microcomputers

YALE UNIVERSITY  
Process Control

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS  
Stability, frequency response, z-  
transformer, Nyquist plots

OBJECTIVES



OBJECTIVES

System concepts  
Dynamics  
Concept or feedback control

Frequency response controller  
design  
Nyquist stability

EXPERIMENTS

Feedback control of tank heater  
Distillation column

OBJECTIVES

Time dependent response of chemical

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO

Process Analysis and Control

DIFFICULT CONCEPTS

Making students think in terms of  
dynamics of processes instead

engineering systems  
Math models  
Solving equations and making up  
model  
Control

EXPERIMENTS

Liquid level  
Process simulation - analog  
simulator - Conversion from