



# Unit 18 - Week 12 Describing functions

## Course outline

How to access the portal

Prerequisite Assignment

MATLAB Download and Introduction

MATLAB Learning Modules

Week 1: Linear System Theory, Fourier and Laplace Transforms

Week 2: Introduction to feedback control, Nyquist stability theory

Week 3 : Bode plots, Steps for performing control design, General controllers

Week 4: Bode-plot and root-locus based control design

Week 5: Control of systems with some known parameters, Introduction to 2-degree of freedom control

Week 6: 2-Degree of freedom control

## Week 12 Assessment

The due date for submitting this assignment has passed. **Due on 2018-10-24, 23:59 IST**  
As per our records you have not submitted this assignment.

1) The relationship between input  $r$  and output  $x$  for a system is shown below:

1 point

Identify the correct type of nonlinearity:

- ☐ Quantization
- ☐ Hysteresis
- ☐ Saturation
- ☐ Deadzone

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*Hysteresis*

2) The most appropriate signal for characterizing a non-linear system is a sinusoidal signal because:

1 point

- ☐ By sweeping the frequency of the sinusoidal signal we can determine the frequency after which the system becomes unstable.
- ☐ The response of a non-linear system to sinusoidal input is a sinusoidal output itself.
- ☐ If a system is on the verge of instability its response is a slowly decaying sinusoidal signal.
- ☐ A non-linear system behaves like a linear system for sinusoidal input.

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*If a system is on the verge of instability its response is a slowly decaying sinusoidal signal.*

3) The response  $x(t)$  of a non-linear system to a sinusoidal input  $r(t) = A \sin \omega_0 t$ , where  $\omega_0$  is close to gain cross-over frequency of the system is a periodic signal. However, in order to characterize the non-linear system, we consider only the first harmonic component because

1 point

- ☐ The higher harmonic components are rejected because their magnitudes are attenuated.
- ☐ The higher harmonic components are rejected because their magnitudes are amplified.
- ☐ The higher harmonic components are rejected because their magnitudes are linearly dependent on the first harmonic component.
- ☐ The higher harmonic components are rejected because their magnitudes are linearly independent on the first harmonic component.

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*The higher harmonic components are rejected because their magnitudes are attenuated.*

## design for robustness

Week 7:  
Quantitative  
feedback theory  
(Part 1/2)Week 8 :  
Quantitative  
feedback theory  
(Part 2/2)Lecture  
Notes(Week 1 -  
8)Week 9:  
Fundamental  
properties of  
feedback  
systemsWeek 10  
:Nonminimum  
phase systemWeek 11:  
Unstable  
systemsWeek 12  
Describing  
functions

- ☐ Describing functions (Part 1/2)
- ☐ Describing functions (Part 2/2)
- ☐ Quiz : Week 12 Assessment
- ☐ Week 12 Lecture Notes

Assignment  
solutions

4) The response of a non-linear system to a sinusoidal input signal  $r(t) = A \sin \omega t$  is given by a periodic signal  $x(t)$ . Further, the sinusoidal input describing function for the non-linear system is given as  $DF(\omega, A) = \frac{j}{\pi A} \int_0^{2\pi} x(\theta) e^{-j\theta} d\theta$ . Identify the correct statement from below which describes the describing function

- ☐ The ratio of output signal  $x(t)$  to input signal  $r(t)$ .
- ☐ The ratio of maximum magnitude of output signal  $x(t)$  to the magnitude of input signal  $r(t)$ .
- ☐ The ratio of phase of output signal  $x(t)$  to magnitude of input signal  $r(t)$
- ☐ The ratio of first harmonic component of  $x(t)$  to the amplitude of the input signal  $r(t)$

No, the answer is incorrect.

Score: 0

Accepted Answers:

The ratio of first harmonic component of  $x(t)$  to the amplitude of the input signal  $r(t)$

5) The describing function for a system with static non-linearity dependent only on:

- ☐ Frequency of input sinusoidal signal
- ☐ The amplitude of the input sinusoidal signal.
- ☐ Phase of the input sinusoidal signal.
- ☐ Polarity of the input sinusoidal signal.

No, the answer is incorrect.

Score: 0

Accepted Answers:

The amplitude of the input sinusoidal signal.

6) Obtain the describing function of a system whose input-output relationship is given below. Consider the applied sinusoidal input to be  $x(t) = A \sin \omega t$ . (Given  $A > s$ )

- ☐  $\frac{2K}{\pi} \left[ \sin^{-1} \frac{s}{A} + \frac{s}{A} \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{s}{A}\right)^2} \right]$
- ☐  $\frac{2K}{\pi} \left[ \cos^{-1} \frac{s}{A} + \frac{s}{A} \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{s}{A}\right)^2} \right]$
- ☐  $\frac{2K}{\pi} \left[ \sin^{-1} \frac{s}{A} + \frac{s}{A} \sqrt{\left(\frac{s}{A}\right)^2 - 1} \right]$
- ☐ K

No, the answer is incorrect.

Score: 0

Accepted Answers:

$$\frac{2K}{\pi} \left[ \sin^{-1} \frac{s}{A} + \frac{s}{A} \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{s}{A}\right)^2} \right]$$

7) A linear plant whose input ( $u_1$ ) is related to its output ( $x_1$ ) is related as  $x_1' + x_1 = u_1$  is actuated by an ON-OFF controller whose input ( $u$ ) is related to its output ( $u_1$ ) as shown below. Given that the applied sinusoidal input is  $u(t) = 0.5 \sin t$ , the describing function of the overall system (actuator and plant combination) at the frequency of the applied input is



- ☐  $\frac{4\sqrt{2}}{\pi}$
- ☐  $\frac{8}{\pi\sqrt{2}}$



$$\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi}$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}$$

No, the answer is incorrect.

Score: 0

Accepted Answers:

$$\frac{8}{\pi\sqrt{2}}$$

8) How is Clegg integrator better than regular integrator?

- ☐ It does not affect the magnitude of a plant after a certain frequency.
- ☐ It does not affect the phase of a plant after a certain frequency.
- ☐ It adds a lower negative phase compared to a regular integrator.
- ☐ It does not affect the phase of a plant at any frequency.

No, the answer is incorrect.

Score: 0

Accepted Answers:

*It adds a lower negative phase compared to a regular integrator.*

9) If  $G(j\omega)$  is the open-loop transfer function of the system and  $DF(A, \omega)$  is the describing function of a single nonlinearity in the forward path. Then the condition under which we would have sustained oscillations in the system will be: **1 point**

- ☐  $G(j\omega) \geq DF(A, \omega)$
- ☐  $G(j\omega)DF(A, \omega) = -1$
- ☐  $G(j\omega)DF(A, \omega) = 0$
- ☐  $G(j\omega)DF(A, \omega) = 1$

No, the answer is incorrect.

Score: 0

Accepted Answers:

$$G(j\omega)DF(A, \omega) = -1$$

10) How does one go about control system design in presence of non-linearity cascaded with the loop gain  $L(s)$ ? **1 point**

- ☐ Identify the describing function of the non-linear system, calculate the set of values of describing function ( $DF(A, \omega)$ ). Then design  $DF(A, \omega)L(j\omega)$  such that the open-loop system possesses adequate phase margin even for the worst case.
- ☐ Identify the describing function of the non-linear system, calculate the value of describing function  $DF(A, \omega)$  for the least expected swing  $A$ . Then design  $DF(A, \omega)L(j\omega)$  such that the open-loop system possesses adequate phase margin for this case.
- ☐ Identify the describing function of the non-linear system, calculate the value of describing function  $DF(A, \omega)$  for the largest swing  $A$ . Then design  $DF(A, \omega)L(j\omega)DF(A, \omega)L(j\omega)$  such that the open-loop system possesses adequate phase margin for this case.
- ☐ Design  $L(j\omega)$  such that the open-loop system possesses adequate phase margin regardless of the effect of nonlinearity.

No, the answer is incorrect.

Score: 0

Accepted Answers:



*Identify the describing function of the non-linear system, calculate the set of values of describing function ( $DF(A, \omega)$ ). Then design  $DF(A, \omega)L(j\omega)$  such that the open-loop system possesses adequate phase margin even for the worst case.*

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