



Course of "Industrial Automation"
2024/25

Discrete equivalents – Digital control design

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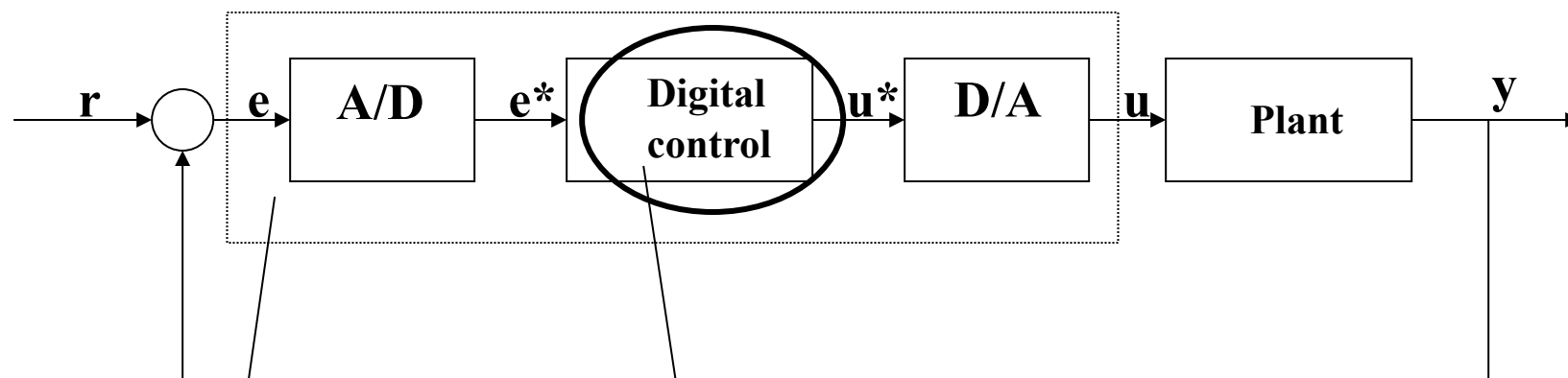
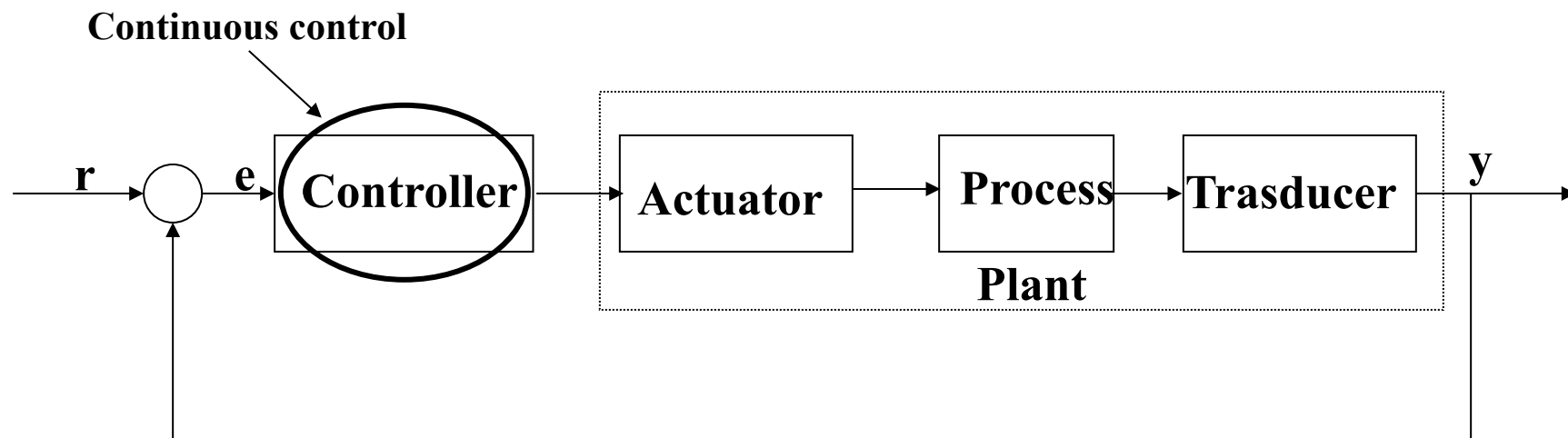
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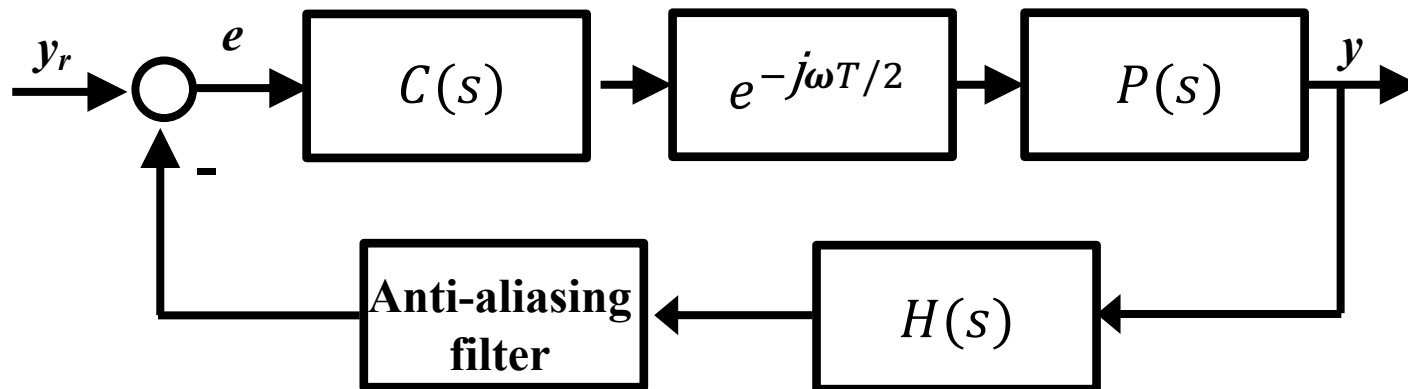
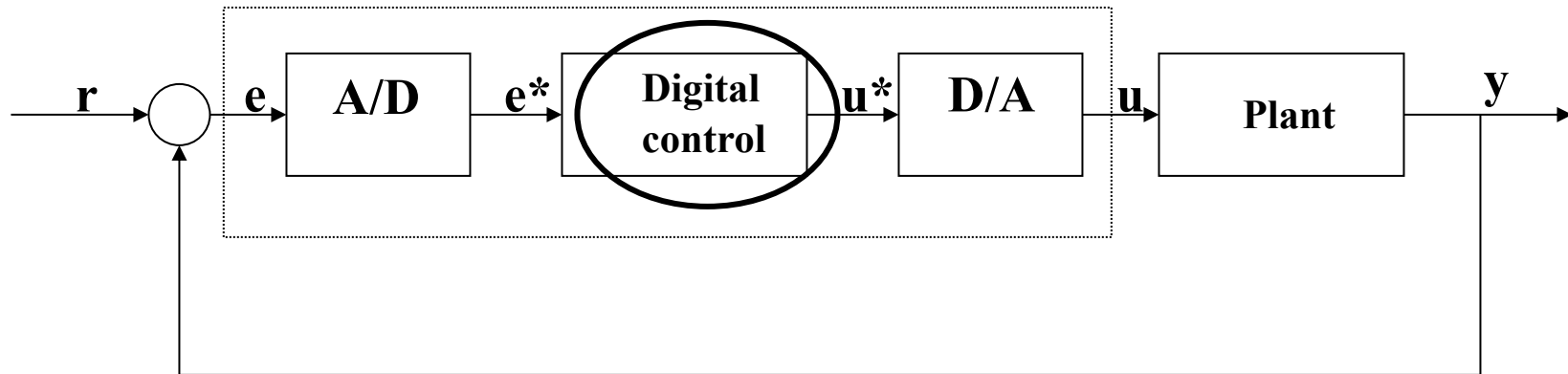
Continuous vs. digital



Continuous-time system

Discrete-time system

Scheme of the digital control system in continuous-time



- From $C(s)$ we want to find a discrete equivalent $D(z)$:
- A transformation ($\mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{z}$) allows the transition from continuous time to discrete time such that

same static and dynamic performance

- Same static performance:

$$\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{z})|_{\mathbf{z}=1} \cong \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{s})|_{\mathbf{s}=0}$$

- Same dynamic performance, i.e., $\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{z})$ with same frequency behavior of $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{s})$ in a given range of ω :

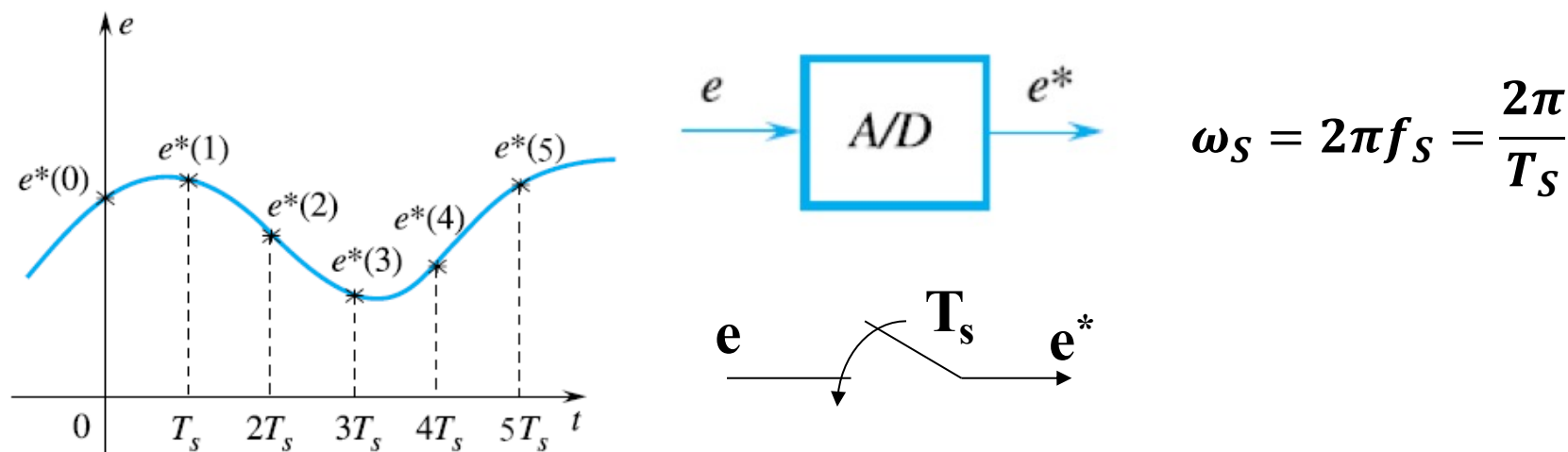
$$\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{z})|_{\mathbf{z}=e^{j\omega T}} \cong \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{s})|_{\mathbf{s}=j\omega}$$

Introduction - 2

The transformation from continuous to discrete time domain is given by

$$z = e^{sT}$$

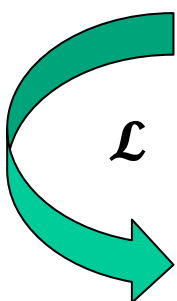
Indeed, we use the impulse modulation as the mathematical representation of the sampling operation as it follows:



$$e_s(t) = e(t) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \delta(t - kT_s) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} e(kT_s) \delta(t - kT_s)$$

Then, assuming $x_s(t)$ the sampled representation of a continuous-time signal $x(t)$:

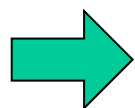
$$x_s(t) = x(t) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \delta(t - kT_s) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x(kT_s) \delta(t - kT_s)$$



$$\mathcal{L}(x_s(t)) = \int_0^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x(kT_s) \delta(\tau - kT_s) e^{-s\tau} d\tau$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} x(kT_s) \delta(\tau - kT_s) e^{-s\tau} d\tau =$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x(kT_s) e^{-skT_s} = X(z)|_{z=e^{sT_s}}$$



$$X_s(s) = X(z)|_{z=e^{sT_s}}$$



Introduction - 4

Therefore, we could assume the inverse transformation

$$s = \frac{1}{T} \ln z,$$

But we get:

- a function **$D(z)$** which is not rational, and cannot be associated with a finite-dimensional discrete-time system

Basically, design of discrete equivalents via **numerical integration**



Numerical Integration - 1

Let us consider a continuous Linear Time Invariant (LTI) system in the form:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) &= \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{B}u(t) \\ y(t) &= \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{D}u(t)\end{aligned}$$

By integrating the state equation between kT and $(k+1)T$ and denoting with $\mathbf{x}^*(k) = \mathbf{x}(kT)$ the state vector at the instant time kT :

$$\mathbf{x}^*(k+1) - \mathbf{x}^*(k) = \mathbf{A} \int_{kT}^{(k+1)T} \mathbf{x}(t) dt + \mathbf{B} \int_{kT}^{(k+1)T} u(t) dt.$$

By exploiting the following formula for the numerical integration $\mathbf{f}(t)$:

$$\int_{kT}^{(k+1)T} \mathbf{f}(t) dt \cong [(\mathbf{1} - \alpha)\mathbf{f}(kT) + \alpha\mathbf{f}((k+1)T)]T$$

with $\mathbf{0} \leq \alpha \leq \mathbf{1}$



Numerical Integration - 2

We obtain:

$$\mathbf{x}^*(k+1) - \mathbf{x}^*(k) = A[(1-\alpha)\mathbf{x}^*(k) + \alpha\mathbf{x}^*(k+1)]T \\ + B[(1-\alpha)\mathbf{u}^*(k) + \alpha\mathbf{u}^*(k+1)]T$$

$$\mathbf{y}^*(k) = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x}^*(k) + \mathbf{D}\mathbf{u}^*(k).$$

where $\mathbf{u}^*(k) = \mathbf{u}(kT)$

By applying zeta-Transform:

$$\left[\frac{1}{T} \frac{z-1}{\alpha z + 1 - \alpha} I - A \right] \mathbf{X}^*(z) = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{U}^*(z)$$

and

$$\frac{\mathbf{Y}^*(z)}{\mathbf{U}^*(z)} = \mathbf{G}^*(z) = \mathbf{C} \left[\frac{1}{T} \frac{z-1}{\alpha z + 1 - \alpha} I - A \right]^{-1} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{D}$$



Numerical Integration - 3

Recall the tf of a continuous LTI a tempo continuo,

$$G(s) = C(sI - A)^{-1}B + D,$$

the discrete equivalent tf $G^*(z)$,

$$G^*(z) = C \left[\frac{1}{T} \frac{z-1}{\alpha z + 1 - \alpha} I - A \right]^{-1} B + D$$

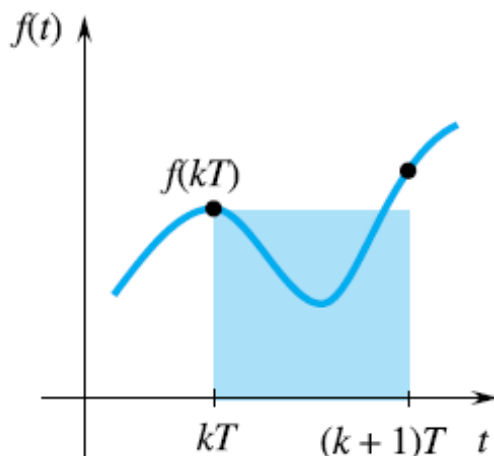
is given by

$$G^*(z) = G \left(\frac{1}{T} \frac{z-1}{\alpha z + 1 - \alpha} \right)$$

by exploiting the following transformation

$$s = \frac{1}{T} \frac{z-1}{\alpha z + 1 - \alpha}$$

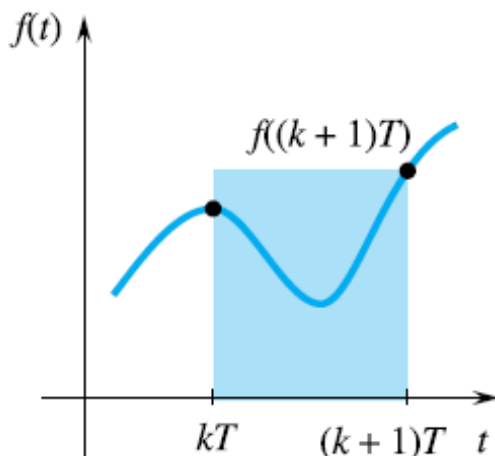
Geometric interpretation



a)

Forward rule
(Euler's method, $\alpha=0$)

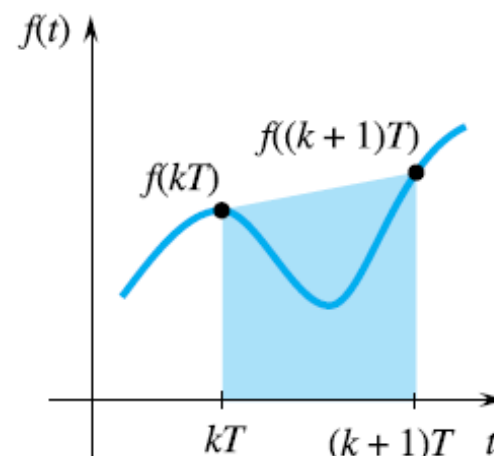
$$s = \frac{z - 1}{T}$$



b)

Backward rule
($\alpha=1$)

$$s = \frac{z - 1}{zT}$$



c)

Trapezoid rule
(Tustin, $\alpha=0.5$)

$$s = \frac{T}{2} \frac{z + 1}{z - 1}$$

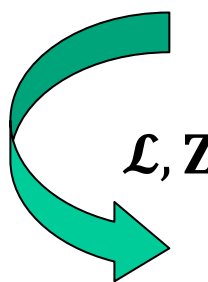


By approximating the differential equation via difference equation – Euler's method

From the definition of a derivative

$$\dot{y} = \lim_{\delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta y}{\delta t}$$

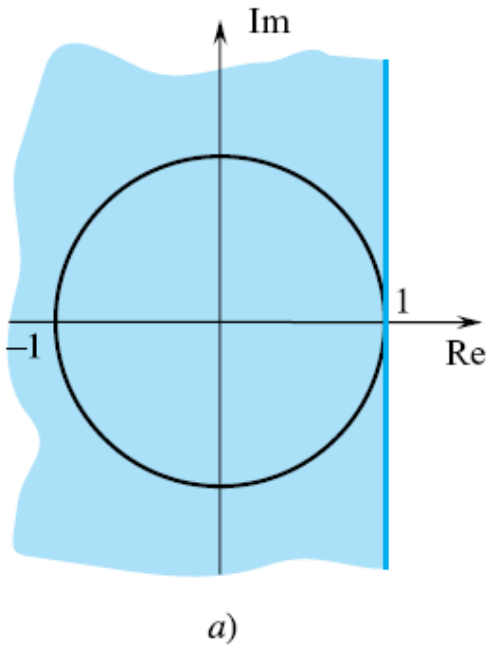
Even if δt is not quite equal to zero


$$\dot{y}(k) = \dot{y}(kT) \cong \frac{y((k+1)T) - y(kT)}{(k+1)T - kT} = \frac{y(k+1) - y(k)}{T}$$

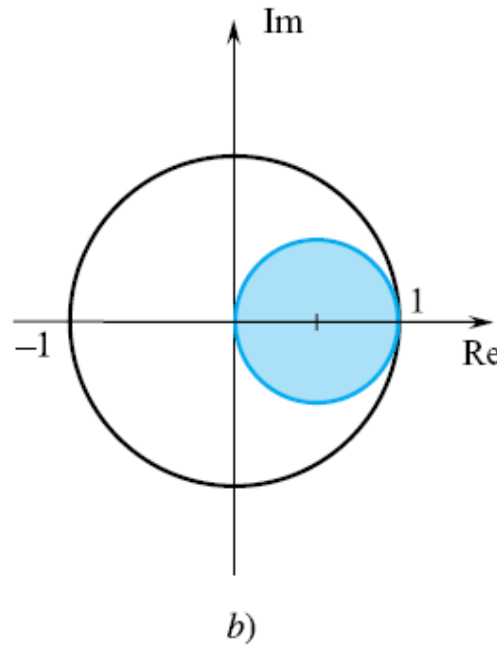
$$sY(s) \cong \frac{z-1}{T} Y(z)$$

$$s = \frac{z-1}{T}$$

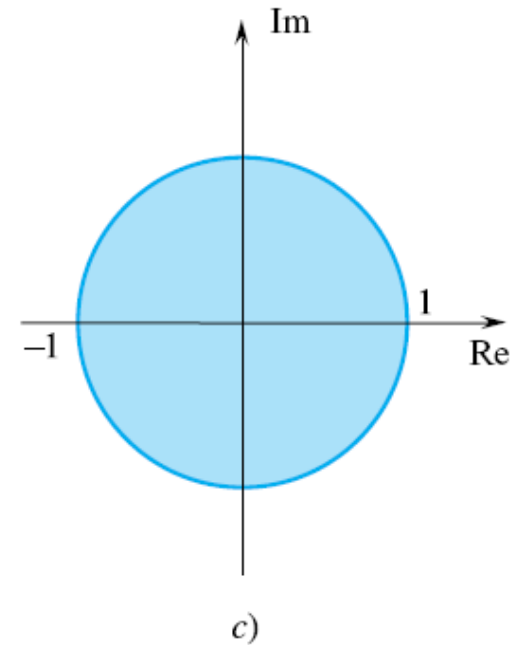
A map from the left-half of the s-plane ($s < 0$) to the z-plane



Forward rule
(Euler's method, $\alpha=0$)



Backward rule
($\alpha=1$)



Trapezoid rule
(Tustin, $\alpha=0.5$)

**Inverse
transformation:**

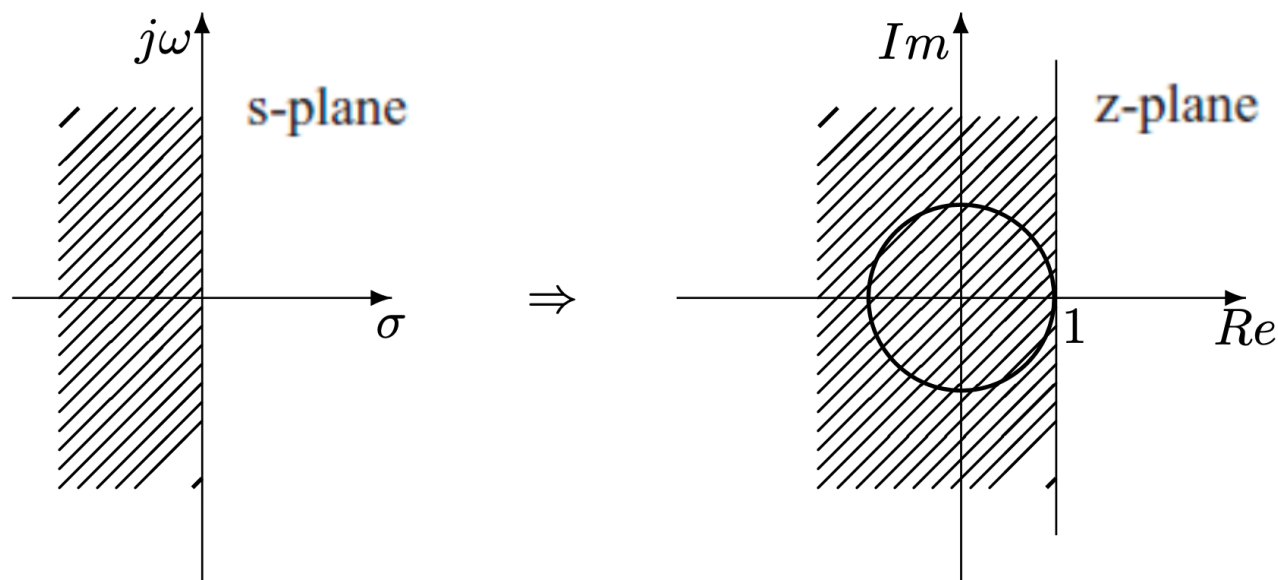
$$z = \frac{1 + (1 - \alpha) Ts}{1 - \alpha Ts}$$

Map from s to z: $s < 0$ for forward rule

Forward rule: $z = 1 + sT \leftrightarrow s = \frac{z-1}{T}$

By approximating $z = e^{sT}$

$$z = e^{sT} \cong 1 + sT$$



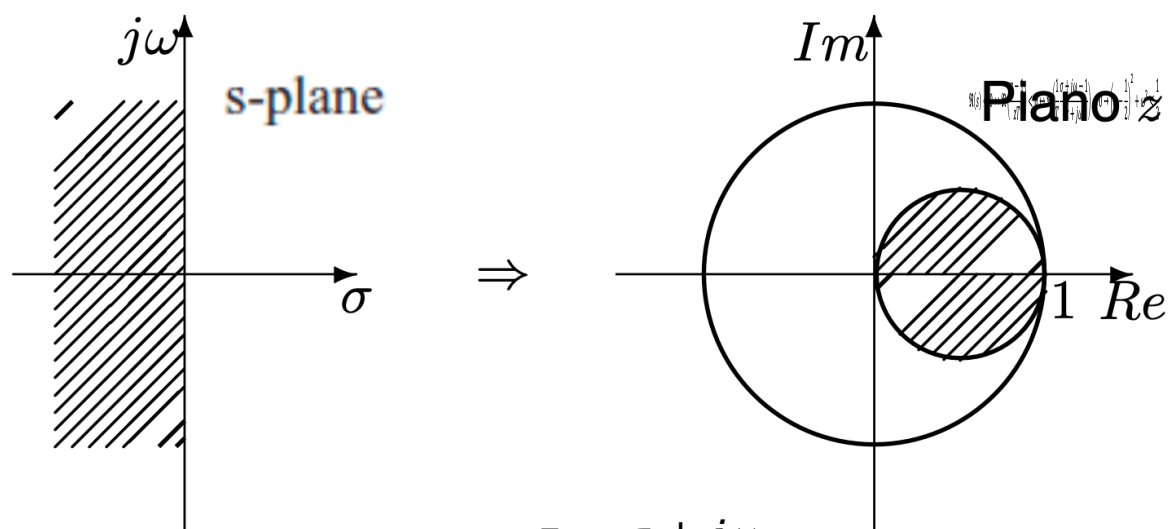
$$\Re(s) < 0 \leftrightarrow \Re\left(\frac{z-1}{T}\right) < 0 \leftrightarrow \Re(z) < 1$$

Then it is possible to achieve unstable $G^*(z)$ from stable $G(s)$.

Map from s to z: $s < 0$ for backward rule

Backward rule: $z = \frac{1}{1-sT} \leftrightarrow s = \frac{z-1}{zT}$

By approximating: $z = e^{sT} = \frac{1}{e^{-sT}} \cong \frac{1}{1-sT}$



$$\Re(s) < 0 \leftrightarrow \Re\left(\frac{z-1}{zT}\right) < 0 \leftrightarrow \Re\left(\frac{1}{T} \frac{\sigma + j\omega - 1}{\sigma + j\omega}\right) < 0 \rightarrow \left(\sigma - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \omega^2 < \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2$$

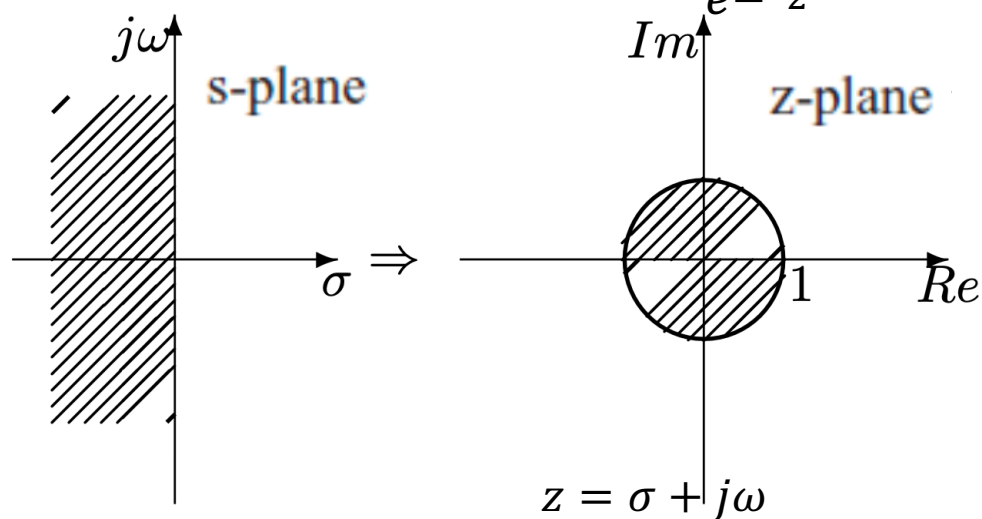
➡ All z points inside the radius circle with $r=1/2$ and center $(1/2, 0)$.

Stable $G(s)$ systems correspond to stable $G^*(z)$ system. However, there is the chance to achieve stable $G^*(z)$ systems from unstable $G(s)$.

Map from s to z: $s < 0$ for Tustin

Tustin: $z = \frac{1+s\frac{T}{2}}{1-s\frac{T}{2}} \leftrightarrow s = \frac{2}{T} \frac{z-1}{z+1}$

By approximating: $z = e^{sT} = \frac{e^{s\frac{T}{2}}}{e^{-s\frac{T}{2}}} \cong \frac{1+s\frac{T}{2}}{1-s\frac{T}{2}}$



$$z = e^{j\omega T} \Big|_{\omega=\frac{\omega_s}{2}} = -1$$

$$z \cong \frac{2j\omega - 1}{2j\omega + 1} \Big|_{\omega=\frac{\omega_s}{2}}$$

$$= \begin{cases} |z| = 1 \\ \arg(z) = 115^\circ \end{cases}$$

i.e. frequency compression

$$\Re(s) < 0 \leftrightarrow \Re\left(\frac{2}{T} \frac{z-1}{z+1}\right) < 0 \leftrightarrow \Re\left(\frac{2\sigma + j\omega - 1}{T\sigma + j\omega + 1}\right) < 0 \rightarrow \sigma^2 + \omega^2 < 1$$

➡ All z points inside the radius circle with $r=1$ and center $(0, 0)$.

The stability of the system is preserved: stable systems $G(s)$ in continuous time are transformed into stable systems $G^*(z)$ in discrete time (and vice versa)



Frequency behavior– Tustin

$$\mathbf{G}^*(\mathbf{z})|_{\mathbf{z}=e^{j\omega T}} \cong \mathbf{G}(s)|_{s=j\omega}$$

By using **Tustin**:

$$\mathbf{G}^*(\mathbf{z}) \cong \mathbf{G}(s)|_{s=\frac{2z-1}{Tz+1}}$$

In terms of frequency:

$$\mathbf{G}^*(\mathbf{z} = e^{j\omega T}) \cong \mathbf{G}\left(\frac{2}{T} \frac{e^{j\omega T} - 1}{e^{j\omega T} + 1}\right) = \mathbf{G}\left(j \frac{2}{T} \tan \frac{\omega T}{2}\right)$$

Then

$$\mathbf{G}^*(e^{j\omega T}) \cong \mathbf{G}(j\omega) \leftrightarrow j \frac{2}{T} \tan \frac{\omega T}{2} = j\omega \text{ iff } \frac{\omega T}{2} \ll 1 \leftrightarrow \omega \ll \frac{\omega_s}{8}$$

with $\omega_s = \frac{2\pi}{T}$

Tustin/ bilinear transformation with prewarping

If we want that at a given frequency ω_1

$$\mathbf{G}^*(e^{j\omega_1 T}) = G(j\omega_1),$$

then it is sufficient to employ this transformation

$$\mathbf{G}^*(e^{j\omega_1 T}) = G\left(\frac{\omega_1}{\tan \frac{\omega_1 T}{2}} \frac{z-1}{z+1}\right)$$

where

$$s = \frac{\omega_1}{\tan \frac{\omega_1 T}{2}} \frac{z-1}{z+1}$$

represents the bilinear transformation with prewarping.

zeta-Transform method: hold equivalent – impulse invariant discretization

This discretization method allows maintaining unchanged the impulse response of the discrete equivalent $\mathbf{G}^*(\mathbf{z})$ of the continuous-time system $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{s})$.

By definition $\mathbf{G}^*(\mathbf{z})$ is the zeta-Transform of output sequence y_δ^* in response to the unit pulse $\delta(k)$.

$$\mathbf{G}^*(\mathbf{z}) = Z(y_\delta^*) = Z\left(\mathcal{L}^{-1}(G(s))\Big|_{t=KT}\right)$$

$\mathbf{G}^*(\mathbf{z})$ is given by the the zeta-Transform of the response to the ideal pulse $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{s})$ ($y_\delta(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}(G(s))$) sampled at multiple instants of the sampling period T , $y_\delta^*(k) = y_\delta(KT)$.



zeta-Transform method: hold equivalent – impulse invariant discretization

Given the continuous LTI system defined by the transfer function $\mathbf{G}(s)$,

$$\mathbf{G}(s) = \frac{1}{s(s+1)}$$

determine the discrete equivalent $\mathbf{G}^*(z)$ by using zeta-Transform method

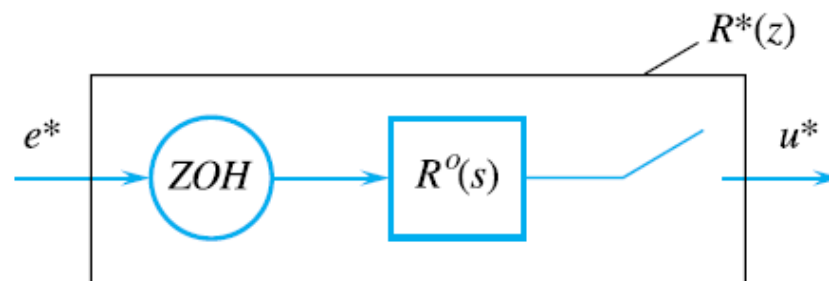
Solution:

$$1. \quad y_{\delta}(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}(G(s)) = 1(t) - e^{-t}1(t) = (1 - e^{-t})1(t)$$

$$2. \quad y_{\delta}^*(kT) = (1 - e^{-kT})1(kT)$$

$$3. \quad G^*(z) = Z(y_{\delta}^*) = \frac{z}{z-1} - \frac{z}{z-e^{-T}} = \frac{z(1-e^{-T})}{(z-1)(z-e^{-T})}$$

Sampled-data system (ZOH equivalent)

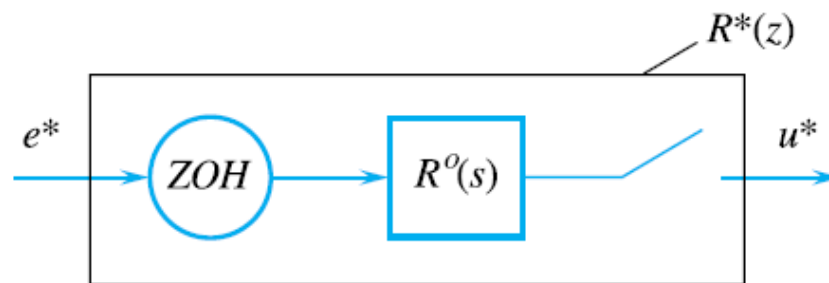


$$R^*(z) = U_{\delta}^*(z) = \frac{z-1}{z} U(z) = \frac{z-1}{z} Z \left(\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left(\frac{R^o(s)}{s} \right) \Big|_{t=KT} \right)$$

Summarizing, by this procedure it is possible to obtain the discrete tf of the digital controller, $R^*(z)$:

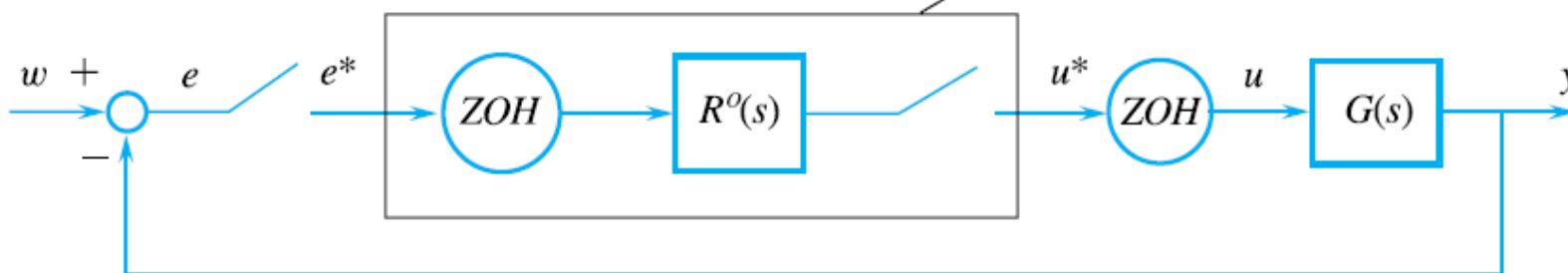
1. Determine the step response of the continuous controller in the Laplace domain, $U_s(s) = \frac{R^o(s)}{s}$.
2. Antitransform $U_s(s)$ thereby determining the samples of the controller output $u_s(kT)$.
3. Compute the z-transform of the output samples $u_s(kT)$: $Z(u_s(kT))$
4. Determine the tf of $R^*(z) = \frac{z-1}{z} Z(u_s(kT))$

Sampled-data system (ZOH equivalent)



$R^o(s)$, analog controller - $R^*(z)$, digital controller by sampled-data model (ZOH method)

$$R^*(z)|_{z=e^{j\omega T}} \cong R^*(s)e^{-\frac{sT}{2}}|_{s=j\omega}$$



i.e., double pair of sampler and hold devices



Zero-pole matching equivalents

The technique consists of a set of heuristic rules for locating the zeros and poles according to the sampling transformation

The discrete equivalent $G^*(z)$ can be obtained as it follows:

1. the transformation of the individual poles and zeros is carried out using the sampling transformation $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{e}^{sT}$;
2. introduce as many zeros into $\mathbf{z} = -\mathbf{1}$ as there are poles of $G(s)$ in excess of the finite zeros;
3. the static gain is compensated.

Zero-pole matching equivalents - Example

Example: $G(s) = \frac{10(s + 5)}{(1 + 10s)(s + 1)}$

For the zero in $s = -5$, $(s + 5) \rightarrow \left(1 - \frac{e^{-5T}}{z}\right)$

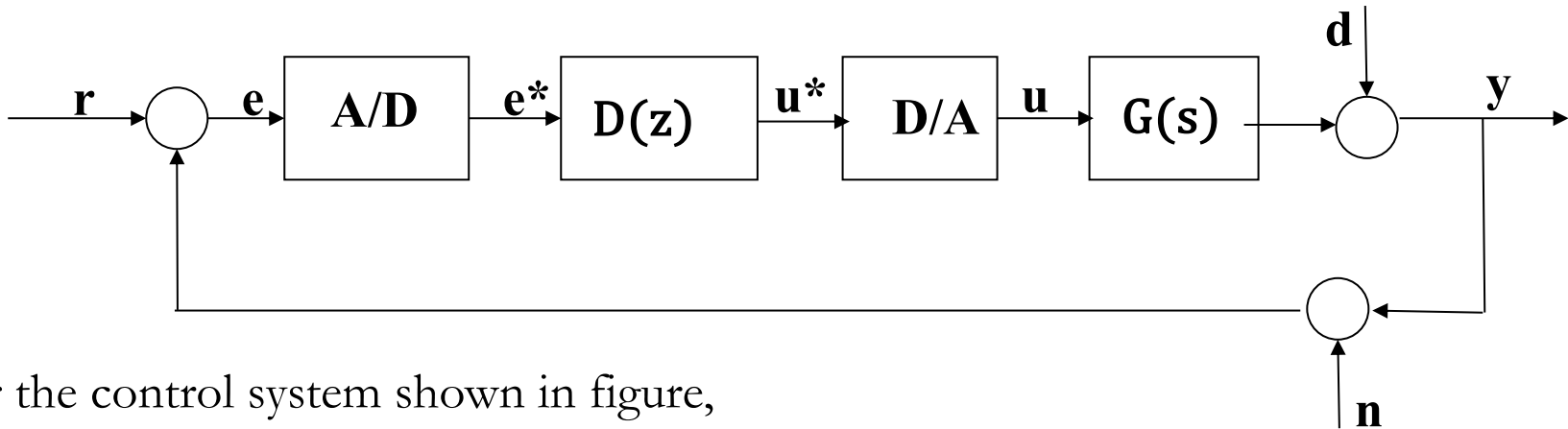
$n - m = 1 \rightarrow$ One zero in $z = -1$

$\rightarrow G^*(z) = k \frac{(z + 1)(z - e^{-5T})}{(z - e^{-T})(z - e^{-0.1T})}$

$$G^*(1) = 2k \frac{(1 - e^{-5T})}{(1 - e^{-T})(1 - e^{-0.1T})} = G(0) = 50$$

$$k = \frac{50}{2} \frac{(1 - e^{-T})(1 - e^{-0.1T})}{(1 - e^{-5T})}$$

Problem - 1



For the control system shown in figure,
where

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{s(s+1)},$$

design a digital control $D(z)$ by emulation of a continuous design (i.e. by computing the discrete equivalent using Tustin) in order to satisfy the following requirements

- $e_{\infty} = 0$ wrt to a step disturbance d
- $s \leq 15\%$
- $t_{a5\%} < 300$ ms
- $T = 30$ ms

Discuss the action to be implemented for reducing the effect of high-frequency noise n (i.e., $n_1(t) = 0.1\sin(400t)$, $n_2(t) = 0.1\sin(500t)$)

Problem - 1

- $e_{\infty} = 0$ wrt to a step disturbance d
 \Rightarrow one integrator in the open loop function $F(s)$ (i.e., one pole in zero)
- $s \leq 15\%$
 $\Rightarrow \zeta \geq 0.5$, where ζ is the damping factor of the closed-loop system ($\varphi_m > 50^\circ$)
- $t_{a5\%} < 300$ ms
 $\Rightarrow \frac{3}{\zeta\omega_n} < \frac{3}{10} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \zeta\omega_n > 10 \\ \omega_c \cong \omega_n \end{cases} \Rightarrow \omega_c > 20$ rad/s, where ω_c is the crossing frequency of the open-loop function, $F(s)$, and ω_n is the natural frequency of the second order approximation of the closed loop system.
- $T = 30$ ms ($\omega_s = \frac{2\pi}{T}$)
 \Rightarrow delay at $\omega_c \Rightarrow$ in terms of phase, $-\frac{\omega_c T}{2} \Rightarrow \varphi_m > 50^\circ + \left(\frac{\omega_c T}{2}\right)^\circ$
- See the relative Matlab code and the schemes implemented in Simulink (included in *Matlab_Simulink* folder):
 - design_control_system_analog_vs_digital.m
 - feedback_control_scheme_analog_vs_digital.slx

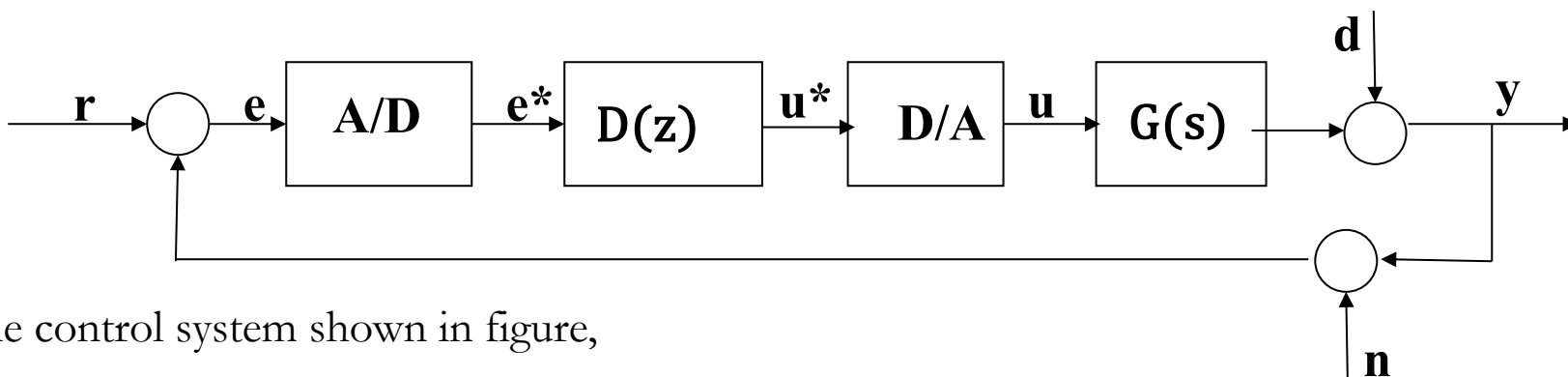


Problem - 1

Discuss the action to be implemented for reducing the effect of high-frequency noise n (i.e., $n_1(t) = 0.1\sin(400t)$, $n_2(t) = 0.1\sin(500t)$)

\Rightarrow anti-aliasing filter with $\omega_f < \frac{\omega_s}{2}$ and $\omega_f \gg \omega_c$

Problem - 2



For the control system shown in figure,
where

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{(s + 10)},$$

the following continuous controller has been designed:

$$C(s) = \frac{10(s + 10)}{s(s/50 + 1)}$$

Then, a digital controller has been implemented by discretization using ZOH method with $T = 50$ ms.

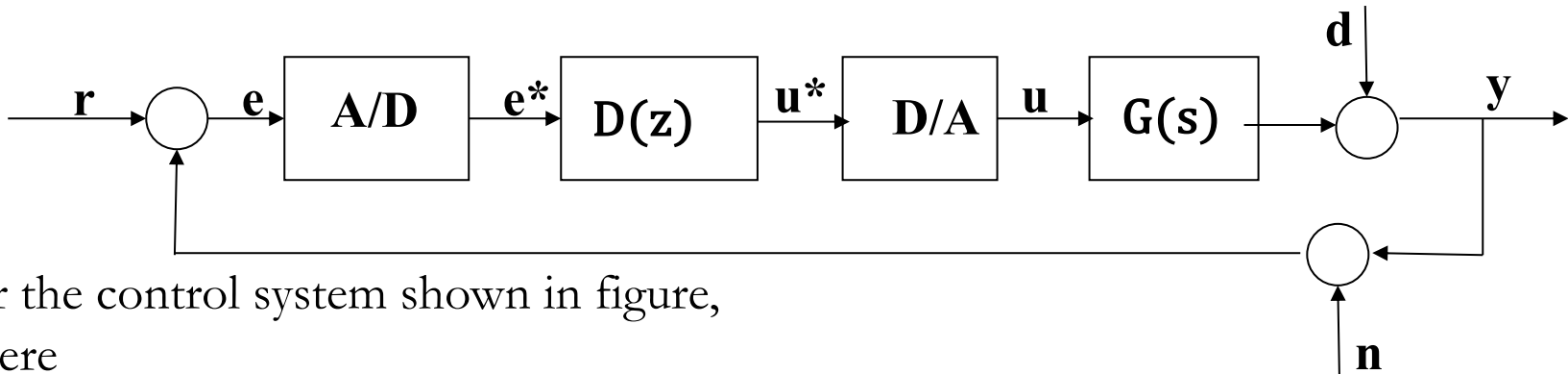
- Evaluate the performance achieved by the continuous controller
- Evaluate the performance achieved by the digital controller
- By assuming a high-frequency noise n (i.e., $n_1(t) = 0.5\sin(400t)$), compare the performance obtained by the analog and digital controllers
- For the digital controller discuss the action to be implemented for reducing the effect of n .
- Evaluate the performance of the digital controller by using $T = 25$ ms.



Problem - 2

- Implement the controller: give the difference equation that corresponds to $D(z)$ for both the values of T
- See the relative Matlab code and the schemes implemented in Simulink (included in *Matlab_Simulink* folder):
 - design_control_system_analog_vs_digital_pr2.m
 - feedback_control_scheme_analog_vs_digital.slx

Problem - 3



For the control system shown in figure,
where

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{(s + 2)},$$

- a. Design a digital control $D(z)$ by emulation of a continuous design (i.e. by computing the discrete equivalent using ZOH and/or Tustin)
- by setting opportunely the sampling time T ,
 - in order to satisfy the following requirements:
 - $e_{\infty} = 0$ to a step disturbance d
 - $e_{\infty} \leq 0.1$ wrt a reference ramp signal $r(t)$ of slope 0.5.
 - $s \leq 20\%$ to a step input r
 - $t_{a5\%} < 1s$
 - attenuation factor ≥ 20 dB for multi-frequency noise in the range $[50 + \infty]$ rad/s



Problem - 3

- b. Discuss the action to be implemented for reducing the effect of high-frequency noise n (i.e., $n_1(t) = 0.2\sin(50t)$, $n_2(t) = 0.2\sin(100t)$)
- c. Implement the controller: give the difference equation that corresponds to $D(z)$ for both cases (Tustin and ZOH)

Problem - 3

For the continuous design:

- $e_{\infty} = 0$ wrt to a step disturbance d
 \Rightarrow one integrator in the open loop function $F(s) = C(s)G(s)$ (i.e., one pole in zero)
 Then $C(s) = \frac{k_0}{s}$
- $e_{\infty} \leq 0.1$ to a ramp signal of slope R_0 equal to 0.5, $r(t) = 0.5t \cdot 1(t)$ ($R_0=0.5$)
 $\Rightarrow e_{\infty} = \frac{R_0}{F_0}$, with $F_0 = k_0 G(0) = \frac{k_0}{2} \Rightarrow e_{\infty} = \frac{R_0}{F_0} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{k_0}{2}} \leq \frac{1}{10} \Rightarrow k_0 \geq 10$
- $s \leq 20\%$
 $\Rightarrow \zeta \geq 0.45$, where ζ is the damping factor of the closed-loop system ($\varphi_m > 45^\circ$)
- $t_{a5\%} < 1 \text{ s}$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{3}{\zeta\omega_n} < 1 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \zeta\omega_n > 3 \\ \omega_c \cong \omega_n \end{cases} \Rightarrow \omega_c > 6.6 \text{ rad/s}$, where ω_c is the crossing frequency of the open-loop function, $F(s)$, and ω_n is the natural frequency of the second order approximation of the closed loop system $\Rightarrow C(s) = \frac{k_0}{s} \frac{(s+1)}{(\frac{s}{30}+1)}$
- attenuation factor $\geq 20\text{dB}$ for noise in the range $[50 + \infty] \text{ rad/s}$



Problem - 3

See the relative Matlab code and the schemes implemented in Simulink (included in *Matlab_Simulink* folder):

- design_control_system_analog_vs_digital_pr3.m
- feedback_control_scheme_analog_vs_digital_pr3.slx