

Watt's fly ball governor



This photograph shows a flyball governor used on a steam engine in a cotton factory near Manchester in the United Kingdom.

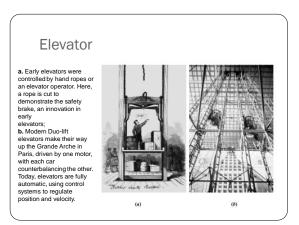
Of course, Manchester was at the centre of the industrial revolution. Actually, this cotton factory is still running today.

Watt's fly ball governor



This flyball governor is in the same cotton factory in Manchester.

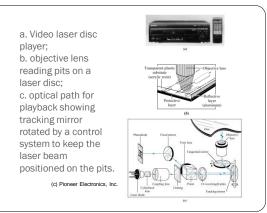
However, this particular governor was used to regulate the speed of a water wheel driven by the flow of the river. The governor is quite large as can be gauged by the outline of the door frame behind the governor.

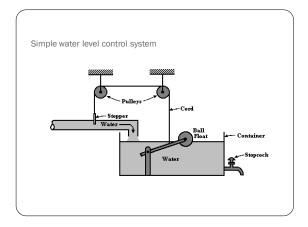


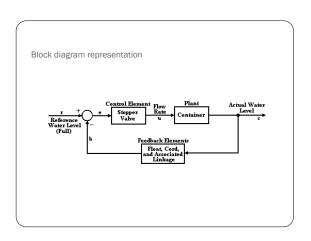
Rover was built to work in contaminated areas at Three Mile Island in Middleton, PA, where a nuclear accident occurred in 1979. The remote controlled robot's long arm can be seen at the front of the vehicle.



Photo © Hank Morgan/Rainbow/PNI.







Control system integration

Success in control engineering needs to examine the following issues:

- plant, i.e. the process to be controlled
- objectives
- sensors
- actuators
- communications
- computing
- architectures and interfacing
- algorithms
- accounting for disturbances and uncertainty

Plant: The process to be controlled

The physical layout of a plant is an intrinsic part of control problems. Thus a control engineer needs to be familiar with the "physics" of the process under study.

This includes a rudimentary knowledge of the basic energy balance, mass balance and material flows in the system.

Control design objectives

Before selecting sensors, actuators or controller architectures, it is important to know the goal of the closed-loop control system: for example,

- what does one want to achieve (energy reduction, yield increase,...)
- what variables need to be controlled to achieve these objectives
- what level of performance is necessary (accuracy, speed,...)

Sensors

Sensors are the eyes of control enabling one to see what is going on.

Indeed, one statement that is sometimes made about control is:

If you can measure it, you may be able to control it.

Actuators

Once sensors are in place to report on the *state* of a process, then the next issue is the ability to affect, or actuate, the system in order to move the process from the current state to a desired state.

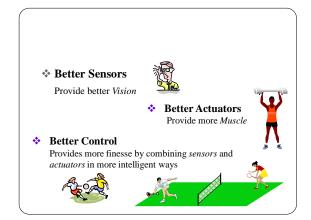
Controller architecture and algorithm

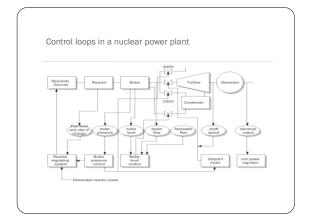
Finally, we come to the real *heart* of control engineering i.e. the algorithms that connect the sensors to the actuators. One should never underestimate this final aspect of the problem.

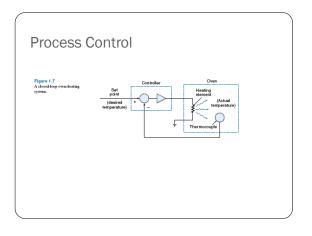
As a simple example from our everyday experience, consider the problem of playing tennis at top international level. One can readily accept that one needs good eye sight (sensors) and strong muscles (actuators) to play tennis at this level, but these attributes are not sufficient. Indeed eye-hand coordination (i.e. control) is also crucial to success.

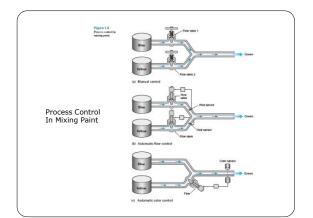
Overall control systems In summary, one can say that:

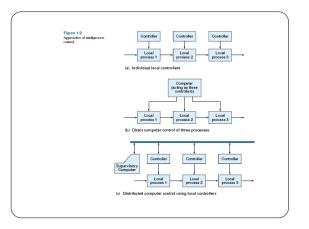
Sensors provide the eyes and actuators the muscle, but control science provides the finesse.

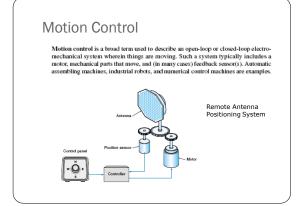




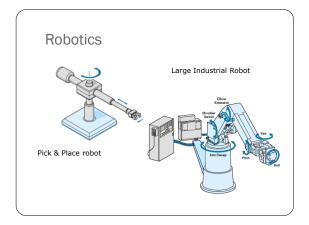








Numerical Control • Numerical control (NC) is the type of digital control used on machine tools such as milling machines. NC in milling machine NC in milling machine



Perkataan Wilbur Wright

ke Western Society of Engineers th 1901 , yang mengilustrasikan peran teknik kontrol dalam pengembangan pesawat terbang

Men already know how to construct wings or airplanes, which when driven through the air at sufficient speed, will not only sustain the weight of the wings themselves, but also that of the engine, and of the engineer as well. Men also know how to build engines and screws of sufficient lightness and power to drive these planes at sustaining speed....hability to balance and steer still confronts students of the flying problem ... When this one feature has been worked out, the age of flying will have arrived, for all other difficulties are of minor importance