



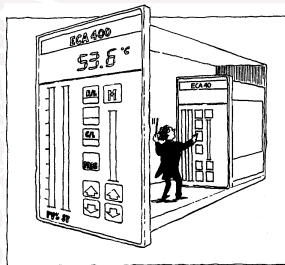
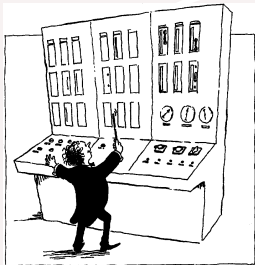
# MVC and MPC

**K. J. Astrom**

Department of Automatic Control, Lund University

# Congratulations to a Stellar Career!

- Points of tangency



- IFAC Teddington 1964
- IFAC Prague 1967 First Identification Symposium
- Generalized predictive control Automatica 1987
- A memorable semester as Douglas Holder Visiting Fellow Oxford in 1988
- Control is much more than algorithm design; diagnostics, fault detection and reconfiguration are also of prime significance.

# Introduction

## Minimum Variance Control

- Inspired by practice
- Åström 1966  
(IBM J R&D 1967)
- Model structure MISO
- Explicit disturbance modeling
- Minimize variance
- Identification
- Self-tuning
- Harris index

## Model Predictive Control

- Inspired by practice
- Richalet 1976  
(Automatica 1978)
- Cutler DMC  
(ACC 1980)
- Model structure MIMO-FIR
- Reference trajectory
- Captures saturation
- Widely used in industry

What can we learn?

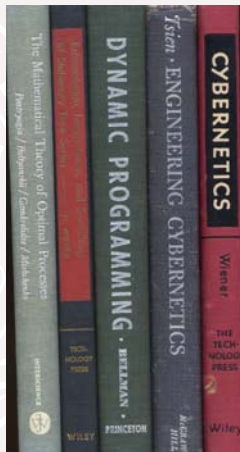
# Outline

- Introduction
- The IBM-Billerud Project
- Modeling
- Minimum Variance Control
- Adaptation
- Reflections



# The Scene of 1960

- Servomechanism theory 1945
- IFAC 1956 (50 year jubilee in 2006)
- Widespread education and industrial use of control
- The First IFAC World Congress Moscow 1960
- Exciting new ideas
  - Dynamic Programming Bellman 1957
  - Maximum Principle Pontryagin 1961
  - Kalman Filtering ASME 1960
- Exciting new development
  - The space race (Sputnik 1957)
  - Computer Control Port Arthur 1959
- IBM and Nordic Laboratory 1961



# The Role of Computing

- Vannevar Bush 1927. *Engineering can proceed no faster than the mathematical analysis on which it is based. Formal mathematics is frequently inadequate for numerous problems, a mechanical solution offers the most promise.*
- Herman Goldstine 1962: *When things change by two orders of magnitude it is revolution not evolution.*
- Gordon Moore 1965: *The number of transistors per square inch on integrated circuits has doubled approximately every 12 months.*
- Moore+Goldstine: *A revolution every 10 year!*
- Unfortunately software does keep up with hardware
- Roughly 10 years between MVC and MPC

# The Billerud-IBM Project

- Background
  - IBM and Computer Control
  - Billerud and Tryggve Bergek
- Goals
  - Billerud: Exploit computer control to improve quality and profit!
  - IBM: Gain experience in computer control, recover prestige and find a suitable computer architecture!
- Schedule
  - Start April 1963
  - Computer Installed December 1964
  - System identification and on-line control March 1965
  - Full operation September 1966
  - 40 many-years effort in about 3 years

# Goals and Tasks

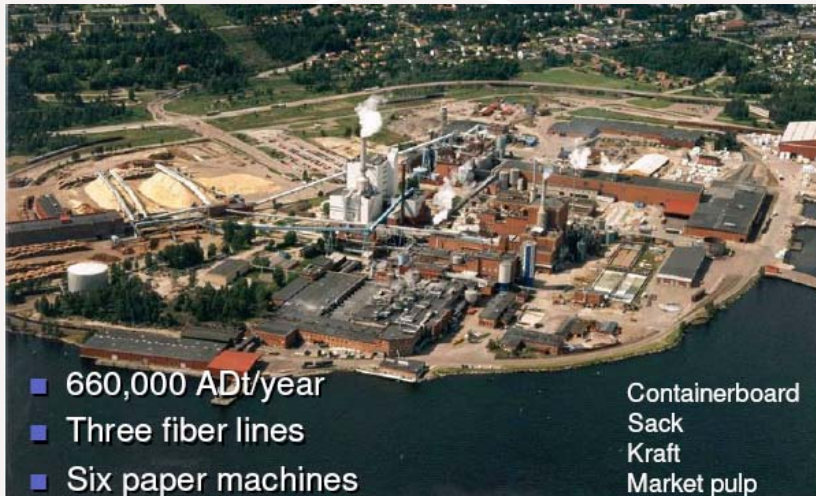
- Goals
  - What can be achieved by computer control?
  - Find an architecture of a process control computer!
- Philosophy
  - Cram as much as possible into the system!
- Tasks
  - Production Planning
  - Production Supervision
  - Process Control
  - Quality Control
  - Reporting
- Later 1969
  - Millwide control



# Computer Resources

- IBM 1720 (special version of 1620 decimal architecture)
- Core Memory 40k words (decimal digits)
- Disk 2 M decimal digits
- 80 Analog Inputs
- 22 Pulse Counts
- 100 Digital Inputs
- 45 Analog Outputs (Pulse width)
- 14 Digital Outputs
- Fastest sampling rate 3.6 s
- One hardware interrupt (special engineering)
- Home brew operating system

# The Billerud Plant



- 660,000 ADt/year
- Three fiber lines
- Six paper machines

Containerboard  
Sack  
Kraft  
Market pulp

# Summary

## Industrial

- A successful installation
- Computer achitecture for process control  
IBM 1800, IBM 360

## Methodology

- Method for identification of stochastic models
- Basic theory, consistency, efficiency, persistent excitation
- Minimum variance control

## What we missed

- Project was well documented in IBM reports and a few papers but we should have written a book

# Outline

- Introduction
- The IBM-Billerud Project
- **Modeling**
- Minimum Variance Control
- Adaptation
- Reflections



# Process Modeling

- Process understanding and modifications (mixing tanks)
- Physical modeling
- Logging difficulties
- Drastic change in attitude when computer was installed
- Good support from management Kai Kinberg:
  - “This is a show-case project! Don't hesitate to do something new if you believe that you can pull it off and finish it on time.”
- The beginning of system identification
- Wasted a lot of time on historical data
- Big struggle to do real plant experiments
- Identifications requires a great range of skills

# Basis Weight and Moisture Control

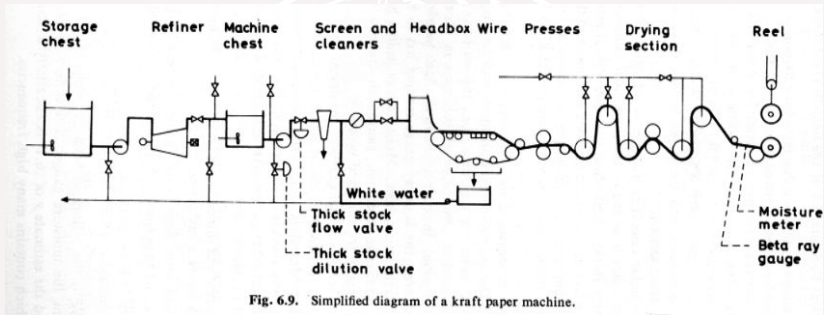


Fig. 6.9. Simplified diagram of a kraft paper machine.

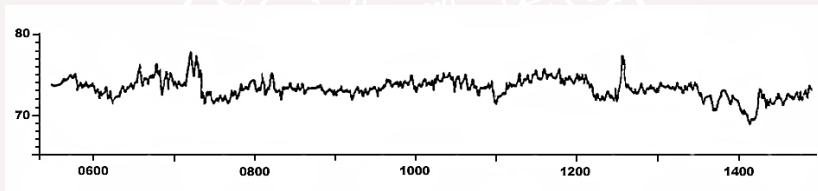
- Two important loops
- Triangular coupling MISO works

# Modeling for Control

- Modeling by frequency response key for success of classical control
- Stochastic control theory is a natural formulation of industrial regulation problems
- State space models for process dynamics and disturbances
- Physical models may give dynamics
- Process data necessary to model disturbances
- Can we find something similar to frequency response for state space systems?

# Typical Fluctuations

First measurement of fluctuations in basis weight 1963



Availability of sensor crucial!  
A lot of effort to obtain this curve!



# Stochastic Control Theory

Kalman filtering, quadratic control, separation theorem

Process model

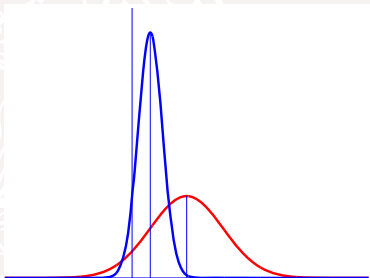
$$dx = Axdt + Budt + dv$$

$$dy = Cxdt + de$$

Controller

$$d\hat{x} = A\hat{x} + Bu + K(dy - C\hat{x}dt)$$

$$u = L(x_m - \hat{x}) + u_{ff}$$



A natural approach for regulation of industrial processes.

# Model Structures

Process model

$$dx = Axdt + Budt + dv$$

$$dy = Cxdt + de$$

Much redundancy  $z = Tx + \text{noise model}$ . The innovation representation reduces redundancy of stochastics and **filter gains appear explicitly** in the model

$$dx = Axdt + Budt + Kd\epsilon$$

$$= (A - KC)xdt + Budt + Kdy$$

$$dy = Cxdt + d\epsilon$$

Canonical form for MISO system removes remaining redundancy, discretization gives ( $C$  filter dynamics)

$$A(q^{-1})y(t) = B(q^{-1})u(t) + C(q^{-1})e(t)$$

# Modeling from Data (Identification)

The Likelihood function (Bayes rule)

$$p(\mathcal{Y}_t, \theta) = p(y(t)|\mathcal{Y}_{t-1}, \theta) = \dots = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_1^N \frac{\epsilon^2(t)}{\sigma^2} - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi\sigma^2$$

$$\theta = (a_1, \dots, a_n, b_1, \dots, b_n, c_1, \dots, c_n, \epsilon(1), \dots)$$

$$Ay(t) = Bu(t) + Ce(t) \quad C\epsilon(t) = Ay(t) - Bu(t)$$

$\epsilon$  = one step ahead prediction error

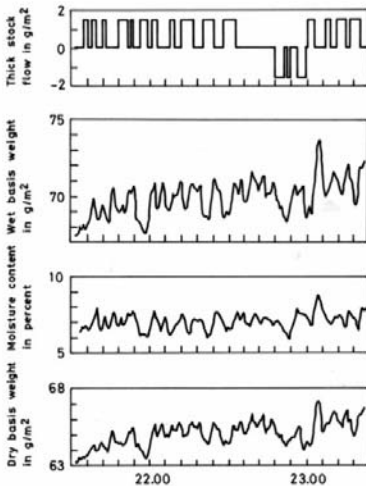
Efficient computations

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial a_k} = \sum_1^N \epsilon(t) \frac{\partial \epsilon(t)}{\partial a_k} \quad C \frac{\partial \epsilon(t)}{\partial a_k} = q_k y(t)$$

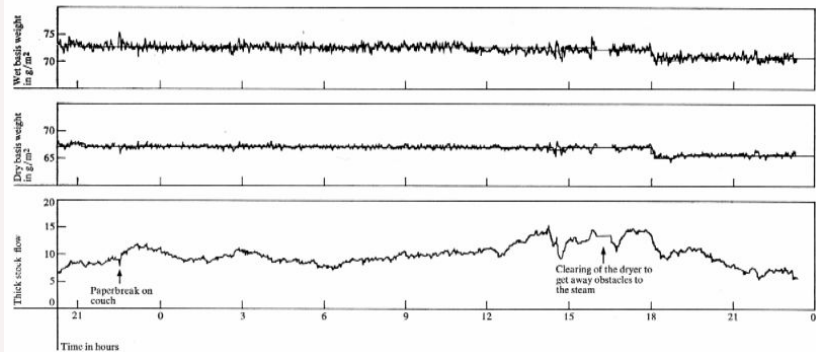
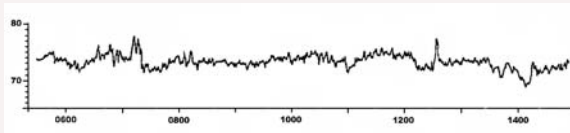
- Estimate has nice properties Åström and Bohlin 1965
- Good match identification and control. Prediction error is minimized in both cases! Cleaned up by Lennart Ljung ...

# Practical Issues

- Sampling period
- To perturb or not to perturb
- Open or closed loop experiments
- Model validation
- 20 min for two-pass compilation of Fortran program!
- Control design
- Skills and experiences



# Results



# Outline

- Introduction
- The IBM-Billerud Project
- Modeling
- **Minimum Variance Control**
- Adaptation
- Reflections



# Control

- Conventional PI(D) at lower level
- Simple digital control for non-critical loops
- Limited computational capacities
- Time delay dynamics stochastic fluctuations dominating
- Mild coupling basis weight and moisture control
- Minimum variance control and moving average control
- Robustness performance trade-offs

# Minimum Variance (Moving Average Control)

Process model

$$Ay(t) = Bu(t) + Ce(t)$$

Factor  $B = B^+B^-$ , solve (minimum  $G$ -degree solution)

$$AF + B^-G = C$$

$$Cy = AFy + B^-Gy = F(Bu + Ce) + B^-Gy = CF e + B^-(B^+Fu + Gy)$$

Control law and output are given by

$$B^+Fu(t) = -Gy(t), \quad y(t) = Fe(t)$$

where  $\deg F \geq$  pole excess of  $B/A$

$$\text{True minimum variance control } V = E \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T y^2(t) dt$$



# Properties of Minimum Variance Control

- The output is a moving average

$$y = Fe, \quad \deg F \leq \deg A - \deg B^+.$$

Easy to validate!

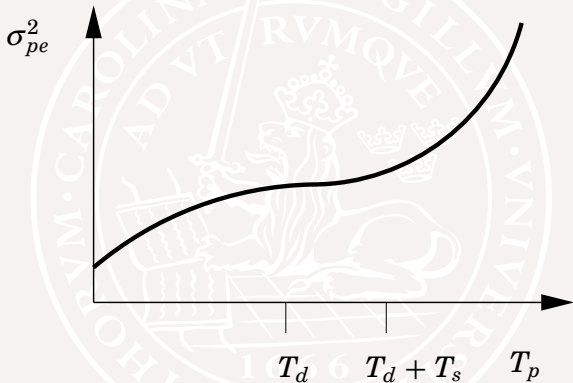
- Interpretation for  $B^- = 1$  (all process zeros canceled),  $y$  is a moving average of degree  $n_{pz} = \deg A - \deg B$ . It is equal to the error in predicting the output  $n_{pz}$  step ahead.
- Closed loop characteristic polynomial is

$$B^+ C z^{\deg A - \deg B^+} = B^+ C z^{\deg A - \deg B + \deg B^-}.$$

- The sampling period an important design variable!
- Sampled zeros depend on sampling period. For a stable system all zeros are stable for sufficiently long sampling periods.

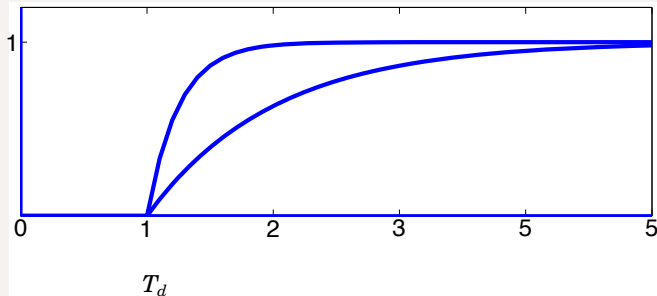
# Performance ( $B^- = 1$ ) and Sampling Period

Plot prediction error as a function of prediction horizon  $T_p$



$T_d$  is the time delay and  $T_s$  is the sampling period. Decreasing  $T_s$  reduces the variance but decreases the response time.

# Performance and Robustness



- Strong similarity between all controller for systems with time delays, minimum variance, moving average and Smith predictor.

*It is dangerous to be greedy!*

- Rule of thumb: no more than 1-4 samples per dead time motivated by simulation.

# Robustness Analysis

Consider a system with time delay  $T_d$  design for a closed loop time constant  $T_{cl}$ . The main system functions are:

$$G_t(s) = \frac{e^{-sT_d}}{1 + sT_{cl}}$$

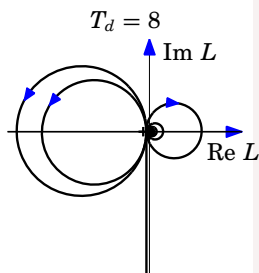
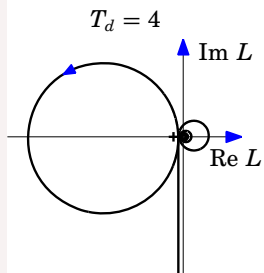
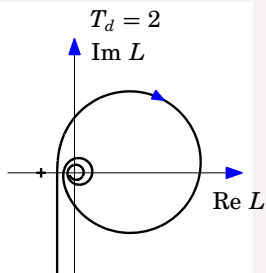
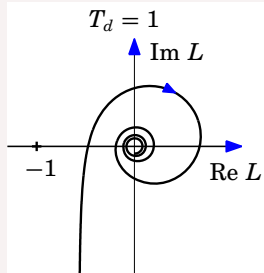
$$G_s(s) = 1 - G_{cl}(s) = 1 - \frac{e^{-sT_d}}{1 + sT_{cl}}$$

$$G_\ell(s) = \frac{e^{-sT_d}}{1 + sT_{cl} - e^{-sT_d}}$$

Sensitivity and complementary sensitivity functions are always less than 2! So things look good!

**BUT Look at the delay margins!**

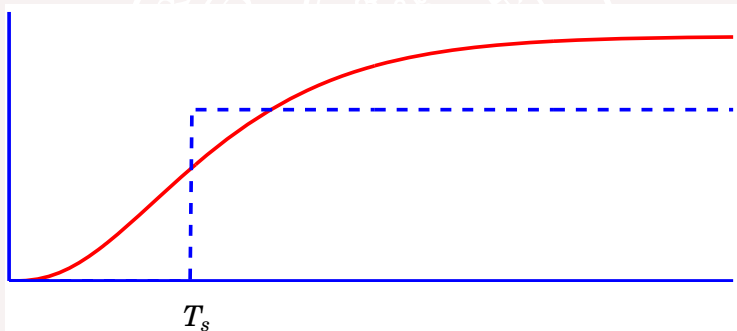
# Nyquist Plots for Smith Predictors $T_{cl} = 1$



## Another Robustness Result

A simple digital controller for systems with **monotone** step response (design based on the model  $y(k+1) = bu(k)$ )

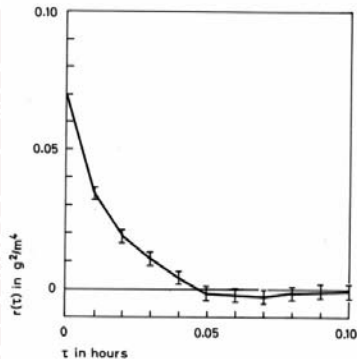
$$u_k = k(y_{sp} - y_k) + u_{k-1}, \quad k < \frac{2}{g(\infty)}$$



Stable if  $g(T_s) > \frac{g(\infty)}{2}$  Kjå: Automatica **16** 1980, pp 313–315.

# Summary

- Regulation can be done effectively by minimum variance control
- Easy to validate
- Sampling period is the **design variable!**
- Robustness depends critically on the sampling period
- The Harris Index and related criteria
- OK to assess but why not adapt?



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- [Adaptation](#)
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# Drawbacks with System Identification

- Experiment planning requires prior knowledge
- Process perturbations required
- Time consuming
- Requires competence
- Adaptation is an alternative

# The Self-tuning Regulator

- Process model:  $Ay(t) = Bu(t - k) + B_{ff}u_{ff}(t) + Ce(t)$
- Select sampling period and time delay  $k$ , rules for stable systems
- Estimate parameters in the model

$$y(t + k) = Sy(t) + Ru(t) + R_{ff}u_{ff}(t)$$

- If estimate converge

$$r_y(\tau) = 0, \tau = k, k + 1, \dots, k + \deg(S)$$

$$r_{yu}(\tau) = 0, \tau = k, k + 1, \dots, k + \deg(R)$$

If degrees sufficiently large  $r_y(\tau) = 0, \forall \tau \geq k$

- Convergence conditions

KJÅ+BW Automatica **9**(1973),185-199

# Convergence Analysis

## Analysis of Recursive Stochastic Algorithms

LENNART LJUNG, MEMBER, IEEE

IEEE Trans AC-22 (1977) 551–575

Markov processes and differential equations

$$dx = f(x)dt + g(x)dw, \quad \frac{\partial p}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\partial f p}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} g^2 f = 0$$

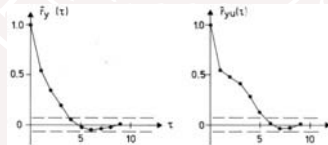
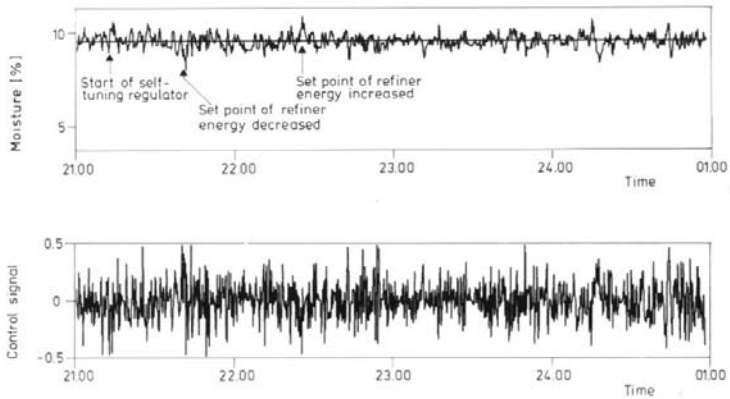
Lennarts idea

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t + \gamma_t \varphi e, \quad \frac{d\theta}{d\tau} = f(\theta) = E\varphi e$$

Convergence of recursive algorithms and STR ( $Ay=Bu+Ce$ )

Jan Holst: ODE locally stable if  $\operatorname{Re}C(z_k) > 0$  for  $B(z_k) = 0$

# Paper Machine Control



# Industrial Applications

- A number of applications in special areas
- Paper machine control
- Ship steering
- Rolling mills
- Semiconductor manufacturing
- Tuning of feedforward very successful
- The Novatune
- Process diagnostics Harris and similar indices



**1.** Winner of IEEE CSS Control Technology Award  
**FIRST CONTROL SYSTEMS AB**  
Ängsgårdsg 4, S-721 30 Västerås, Sweden Ph +46 21 417880 Fax +46 21 412810

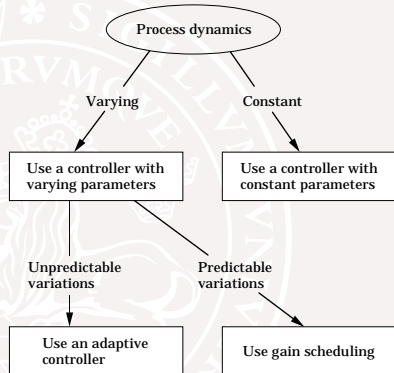
# Tuning and Adaptation

- Categories

- Automatic Tuning
- Gain Scheduling
- Adaptive feedback
- Adaptive feedforward

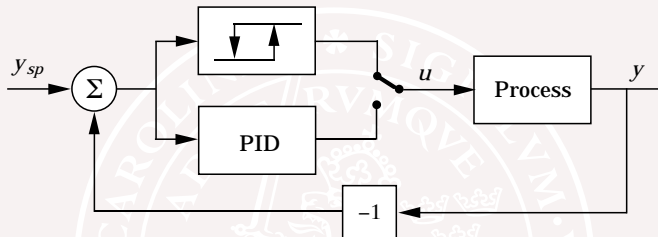
- Products

- Tuning tools
- PID controllers
- Tool boxes
- Special purpose systems built into instruments

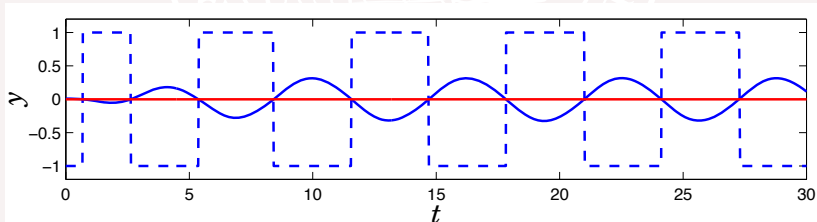


Åström Hägglund Advanced PID Control, 2004

# Relay Auto-tuning

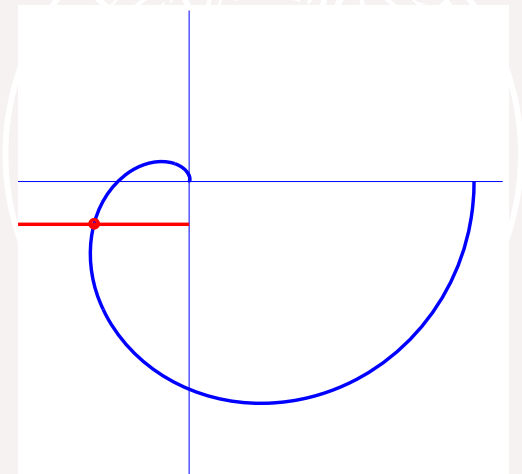


What happens when relay feedback is applied to a system with dynamics? Think about a thermostat?



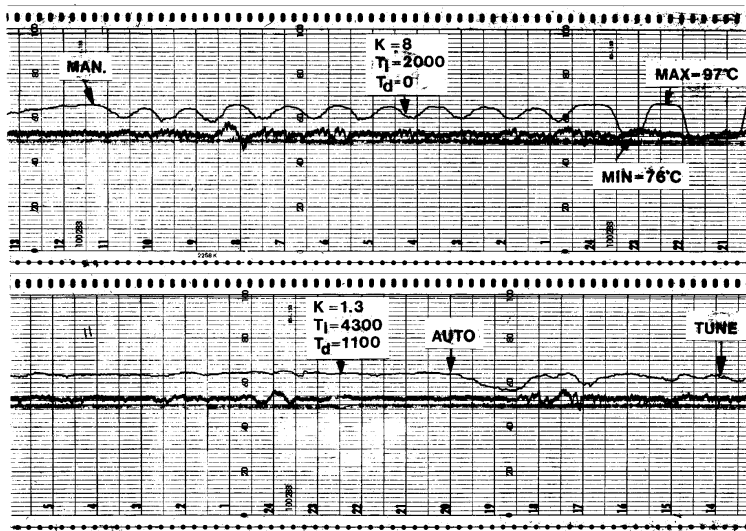
# The Excitation Signal

- Relay feedback automatically generates an excitation signal with good frequency content!
- The transient is also useful





# Temperature Control of Distillation Column



# Commercial Auto-Tuners

- Easy to use
  - One-button tuning
  - Semi-automatic generation of gain schedules
  - Adaptation of feedback and feedforward gains
- Robust
- Many versions
  - Stand alone
  - DCS systems
- Large numbers
- Excellent industrial experience



# Properties of Relay Auto-tuning

- Safe for stable systems
- Close to industrial practice
  - Compare manual Ziegler-Nichols tuning
  - Easy to explain
- Little prior information. Relay amplitude
- One-button tuning
- Automatic generation of test signal
  - Automatically injects much energy at  $\omega_{180}$  without for knowing  $\omega_{180}$  a priori
- Good for pre-tuning of adaptive algorithms
- Good industrial experience for more than 25 years. Basic patents are running out.



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# Interaction with Industry


- Contact with real problems is very healthy for research in engineering
- Both MVC and MPC emerged in this way
- Applied industrial projects can inspire research, provided that they have enlightened management
- New problems may appear
- Challenges with publications; importance of good Editors
- Necessary to look deeper and to fill in the gaps, even if it takes a lot of effort and a lot of time - a long range view is necessary to get real insight
- Useful for a project to exchange people between academia and industry
- The Oxford model, the SupAero model, the Lund model

# The Knowledge Gap

- Richalet Automatica 1963: MPC requires technical staff with training in:
  - modeling, identification, digital control,...
- The Novatune experience
  - Projects 73-74
  - Bengtsson Cold rolling 79
  - ASEA Innovation 81
  - 30 persons 50M
  - Transfer to ASEA Master
- Relay auto-tuning Hägglund kjå 1981
  - One button tuning
- Can relay auto-tuning be useful for MPC modeling?



NOVATUNE



Process Control  
with  
Adaptive Controllers

NOVATUNE

ASEA