



**KENYATTA UNIVERSITY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2011/2012**

**FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**  
**SET 410: SYSTEMS AND CONTROL ENGINEERING**

**DATE:** Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2011

**TIME:** 8.00 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.

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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- (i) There are a total of **Five** Questions.
  - (ii) Select any **Three** Questions, each of which carries **20 Marks**.
  - (iii) Define all symbols used.
  - (iv) Marks will be awarded for procedure, methodologies used and not necessarily the final answer.
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- Q.1. (a) Fig. Q1 is a translational system consisting of a mass  $M$  attached to a spring of stiffness  $K$  and a dash pot of viscous friction coefficient  $f$ , on which a force  $F$  acts to cause a positive displacement  $x$ .
- (i) Draw the free body diagram and its equivalent mechanical network. (7-Marks)
  - (ii) Obtain the Transfer Function of the Mechanical System (5 Marks)

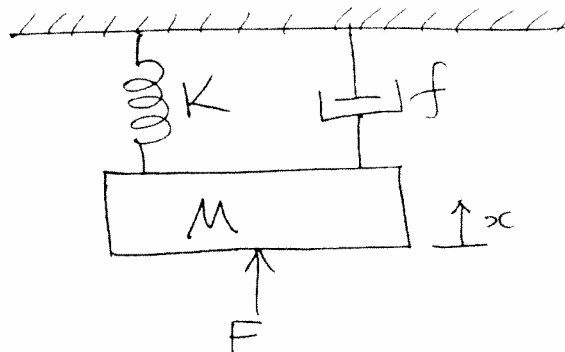


fig Q 1

(b) With the help of suitable diagrams outline the Control System's performance specifications to a unit step input in the following domains:-

(i) Frequency. (4-Marks)

(ii) Time. (4-Marks)

Q.2. (a) Given a system  $H(s)$  whose Transfer Function is  $H(s) = \frac{K}{s^2 s + 6s + 1}$ .

(i) What value of  $K$  should be chosen to have a steady state error of 0.5 to a unit ramp input. (5-Marks)

(ii) Determine the minimum value of steady state error to a ramp which can be achieved with this system. (5-Marks)

(b) (i) Give the value of  $K$  for which the closed loop system will have approximately 15% overshoot to a step input. (5-Marks)

(ii) Determine the frequency of possible sustained oscillations and the corresponding value of  $K$ . (5-Marks)

Q.3. (a) (i) Discuss the Nyquist Stability Criterion. (5-Marks)

(ii) How can the Routh Stability Criterion be applied to Transfer Functions which contain pure time delays i.e. functions of the form  $e^{-sT}$ ? (5-Marks)

(b) A system has poles in the s-plane located at -1, -3, and -5; and zeros at +1, -2, and -4.

(i) Is the system stable? (3-Marks)

(ii) Give correct reasons for your conclusions. (7-Marks)

Q.4. A unity feedback control system has the following open loop transfer function:-

$$H(s) = \frac{100}{s^2 s + 100}$$

(a) Plot the asymptotic Bode diagrams for the:-

(i) Open loop transfer function. (5-Marks)

(ii) Close loop system. (5-Marks)

(b) Determine the:-

- (i) Bandwidth of the closed loop system. (5-Marks)
- (ii) The rise time for a step input. (5-Marks)
- Q5. (a) (i) Deduce from first principles the parametric equations for the M-Circles on an M-N diagram. (7-Marks)
- (ii) Explain the significance of the circles in (i) above. (3-Marks)
- (b) Sketch the Nyquist diagrams for the following open loop transfer functions in the frequency range  $0 < \omega < \infty$ .
- (i)  $H(s) = \frac{1}{s^2}$  (2-Marks)
- (ii)  $H(s) = \frac{s+10}{s^2}$  (3-Marks)
- (iii)  $H(s) = \frac{1}{s(s+7)(s+10)}$  (3-Marks)
- (iv)  $H(s) = e^{-s}$  (2-Marks)