# **Transfer Functions**

- Convenient representation of a *linear*, dynamic model.
- A transfer function (TF) relates *one* input and *one* output:

$$\begin{array}{c} x(t) \\ X(s) \end{array} \rightarrow \overbrace{\text{system}} \xrightarrow{y(t)} Y(s) \end{array}$$

#### The following terminology is used:

 $\underline{x}$  $\underline{y}$ inputoutputforcing functionresponse"cause""effect"

1

## **Definition of the transfer function:**

Let G(s) denote the transfer function between an input, x, and an output, y. Then, by definition

$$G(s) \triangleq \frac{Y(s)}{X(s)}$$

where:

Chapter 4

$$Y(s) \triangleq \mathfrak{L}[y(t)]$$
$$X(s) \triangleq \mathfrak{L}[x(t)]$$

## **Development of Transfer Functions**

## **Example: Stirred Tank Heating System**

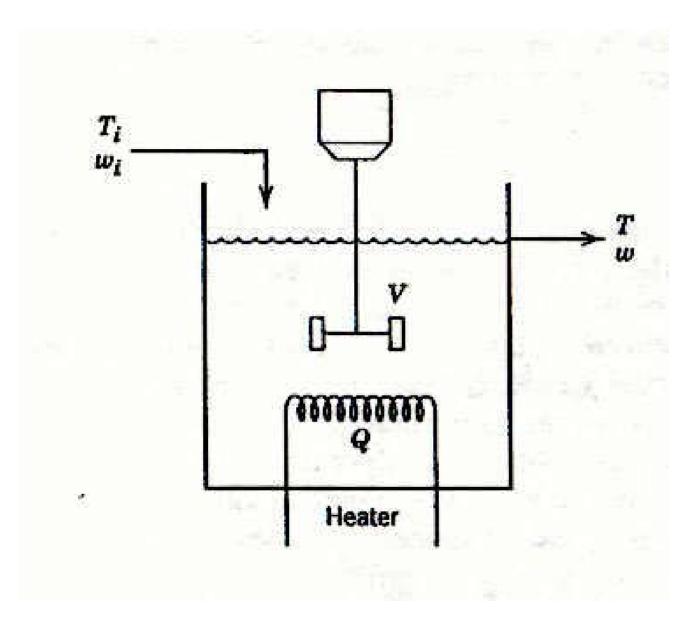


Figure 2.3 Stirred-tank heating process with constant holdup, V.

Recall the previous dynamic model, assuming constant liquid holdup and flow rates:

$$V\rho C\frac{dT}{dt} = wC(T_i - T) + Q \tag{1}$$

Suppose the process is initially at steady state:

$$T(0) = \overline{T}, \ T_i(0) = \overline{T}_i, \ Q(0) = \overline{Q}$$
(2)

where  $\overline{T} \triangleq$  steady-state value of *T*, etc. For steady-state conditions:

$$0 = wC\left(\overline{T_i} - \overline{T}\right) + \overline{Q} \tag{3}$$

Subtract (3) from (1):

$$V\rho C\frac{dT}{dt} = wC\left[\left(T_i - \overline{T}_i\right) - \left(T - \overline{T}\right)\right] + \left(Q - \overline{Q}\right)$$
(4)

But,

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = \frac{d\left(T - \overline{T}\right)}{dt} \text{ because } \overline{T} \text{ is a constant}$$
(5)

Thus we can substitute into (4-2) to get,

$$V\rho C\frac{dT'}{dt} = wC(T'_i - T') + Q'$$
(6)

where we have introduced the following "*deviation variables*", also called "perturbation variables":

$$T' \triangleq T - \overline{T}, \quad T'_i \triangleq T_i - \overline{T}_i, \quad Q' \triangleq Q - \overline{Q}$$
(7)

Take  $\mathfrak{L}$  of (6):

$$V\rho C\left[sT'(s) - T'(t=0)\right] = wC\left[T'_i(s) - T'(s)\right] - Q'(s) \quad (8)$$

Evaluate T'(t=0).

By definition, 
$$T' \triangleq T - \overline{T}$$
. Thus at time,  $t = 0$ ,  
 $T'(0) = T(0) - \overline{T}$  (9)

But since our assumed initial condition was that the process was initially at steady state, i.e.,  $T(0) = \overline{T}$  it follows from (9) that T'(0) = 0.

<u>Note</u>: The advantage of using deviation variables is that the initial condition term becomes zero. This simplifies the later analysis.

Rearrange (8) to solve for T'(s):

$$T'(s) = \left(\frac{K}{\tau s + 1}\right)Q'(s) + \left(\frac{1}{\tau s + 1}\right)T'_i(s) \quad (10)$$

where two new symbols are defined:

$$K \triangleq \frac{1}{wC} \text{ and } \tau \triangleq \frac{V\rho}{w}$$
 (11)

## **Transfer Function Between** Q' and T'

Suppose  $T_i$  is constant at the steady-state value. Then,  $T_i(t) = \overline{T_i} \Rightarrow T'_i(t) = 0 \Rightarrow T'_i(s) = 0$ . Then we can substitute into (10) and rearrange to get the desired TF:

$$\frac{T'(s)}{Q'(s)} = \frac{K}{\tau s + 1}$$

(12)

## **Transfer Function Between** T'and $T'_i$ :

Suppose that *Q* is constant at its steady-state value:

$$Q(t) = \overline{Q} \Longrightarrow Q'(t) = 0 \Longrightarrow Q'(s) = 0$$

Thus, rearranging

$$\frac{T'(s)}{T'_i(s)} = \frac{1}{\tau s + 1}$$
(13)

#### Comments:

1. The TFs in (12) and (13) show the *individual* effects of Q and  $T_i$  on T. What about *simultaneous* changes in both Q and  $T_i$ ?

Chapter 4

• <u>Answer</u>: See (10). The same TFs are valid for simultaneous changes.

• Note that (10) shows that the effects of changes in both Q and  $T_i$  are *additive*. This always occurs for linear, dynamic models (like TFs) because the Principle of Superposition is valid.

- 2. The TF model enables us to determine the output response to any change in an input.
- 3. Use deviation variables to eliminate initial conditions for TF models.

## **Properties of Transfer Function Models**

#### 1. Steady-State Gain

The steady-state of a TF can be used to calculate the steadystate change in an output due to a steady-state change in the input. For example, suppose we know two steady states for an input, u, and an output, y. Then we can calculate the steadystate gain, K, from:

$$K = \frac{\overline{y}_2 - \overline{y}_1}{\overline{u}_2 - \overline{u}_1} \tag{4-38}$$

For a linear system, *K* is a constant. But for a nonlinear system, *K* will depend on the operating condition  $(\overline{u}, \overline{y})$ .

#### Calculation of K from the TF Model:

If a TF model has a steady-state gain, then:

$$K = \lim_{s \to 0} G(s) \tag{14}$$

• This important result is a consequence of the Final Value Theorem

• *Note*: Some TF models do *not* have a steady-state gain (e.g., integrating process in Ch. 5)

#### 2. Order of a TF Model

Consider a general n-th order, linear ODE:

$$a_{n} \frac{d^{n} y}{dt^{n}} + a_{n-1} \frac{dy^{n-1}}{dt^{n-1}} + \dots + a_{1} \frac{dy}{dt} + a_{0} y = b_{m} \frac{d^{m} u}{dt^{m}} + b_{m-1} \frac{d^{m-1} u}{dt^{m-1}} + \dots + b_{1} \frac{du}{dt} + b_{0} u$$

$$(4-39)$$

Take  $\mathfrak{L}$ , assuming the initial conditions are all zero. Rearranging gives the TF:

$$G(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{U(s)} = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{m} b_i s^i}{\sum_{i=0}^{n} a_i s^i}$$
(4-40)

## **Definition:**

The order of the TF is defined to be the order of the denominator polynomial.

Note: The order of the TF is equal to the order of the ODE.

## **Physical Realizability:**

For any physical system,  $n \ge m$  in (4-38). Otherwise, the system response to a step input will be an impulse. This can't happen.

## Example:

$$a_0 y = b_1 \frac{du}{dt} + b_0 u$$
 and step change in  $u$  (4-41)

### 3. Additive Property

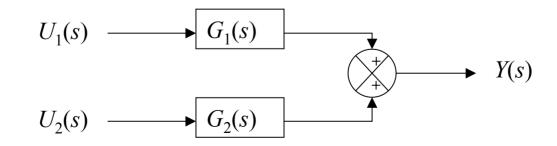
Suppose that an output is influenced by two inputs and that the transfer functions are known:

$$\frac{Y(s)}{U_1(s)} = G_1(s) \text{ and } \frac{Y(s)}{U_2(s)} = G_2(s)$$

Then the response to changes in both  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  can be written as:

$$Y(s) = G_1(s)U_1(s) + G_2(s)U_2(s)$$

The graphical representation (or *block diagram*) is:



Suppose that,

$$\frac{Y(s)}{U_2(s)} = G_2(s) \text{ and } \frac{U_2(s)}{U_3(s)} = G_3(s)$$

Then,

$$Y(s) = G_2(s)U_2(s)$$
 and  $U_2(s) = G_3(s)U_3(s)$ 

Substitute,

$$Y(s) = G_2(s)G_3(s)U_3(s)$$

Or,

$$\frac{Y(s)}{U_3(s)} = G_2(s)G_3(s) \qquad U_3(s) \rightarrow G_2(s) \rightarrow G_3(s) \rightarrow Y(s)$$

## **Linearization of Nonlinear Models**

- So far, we have emphasized linear models which can be transformed into TF models.
- But most physical processes and physical models are nonlinear.
  - But over a small range of operating conditions, the behavior may be approximately linear.
  - *Conclude*: Linear approximations can be useful, especially for purpose of analysis.
- Approximate linear models can be obtained analytically by a method called "linearization". It is based on a Taylor Series Expansion of a nonlinear function about a specified operating point.

• Consider a nonlinear, dynamic model relating two process variables, *u* and *y*:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f\left(y,u\right) \tag{4-60}$$

Perform a Taylor Series Expansion about  $u = \overline{u}$  and  $y = \overline{y}$  and truncate after the first order terms,

$$f(u, y) = f(\overline{u}, \overline{y}) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \bigg|_{\overline{y}} u' + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \bigg|_{\overline{y}} y' \qquad (4-61)$$

where  $u' = u - \overline{u}$  and  $y' = y - \overline{y}$ . Note that the partial derivative terms are actually constants because they have been evaluated at the nominal operating point,  $(\overline{u}, \overline{y})$ .

Substitute (4-61) into (4-60) gives:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f\left(\overline{u}, \overline{y}\right) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \bigg|_{\overline{y}} u' + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \bigg|_{\overline{y}} y'$$

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The steady-state version of (4-60) is:

$$0 = f\left(\overline{u}, \overline{y}\right)$$

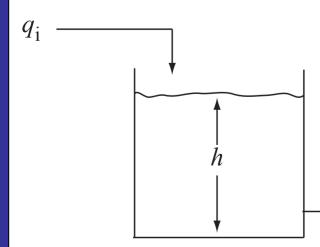
Substitute into (7) and recall that

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{dy'}{dt},$$

$$= \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \bigg|_{\overline{y}} u' + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \bigg|_{\overline{y}} y' \bigg| \qquad (4-62)$$
  
Linearized model

## **Example: Liquid Storage System**

 $\frac{dy'}{dt}$ 



Chapter 4

Mass balance:  $A\frac{dh}{dt} = q_i - q$  (1) Valve relation:  $q = C_v \sqrt{h}$  (2)  $A = \text{area}, C_v = \text{constant}$  Combine (1) and (2),

$$A\frac{dh}{dt} = q_i - C_v \sqrt{h} \tag{3}$$

Linearize  $\sqrt{\text{term}}$ ,

$$\sqrt{h} \approx \sqrt{\overline{h}} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\overline{h}}} \left( h - \overline{h} \right) \tag{4}$$

Otapter 4

$$\sqrt{h} \approx \sqrt{\overline{h}} - \frac{1}{R}h' \tag{5}$$

where:

$$R \triangleq 2\sqrt{\overline{h}}$$
$$h' \triangleq h - \overline{h}$$

Substitute linearized expression (5) into (3):

$$A\frac{dh}{dt} = q_i - C_v \left(\sqrt{\overline{h}} - \frac{1}{R}h'\right) \tag{6}$$

The steady-state version of (3) is:

$$0 = \overline{q}_i - C_v \sqrt{\overline{h}} \tag{7}$$

Subtract (7) from (6) and let  $q'_i \triangleq q_i - \overline{q}_i$ , noting that  $\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{dh'}{dt}$  gives the linearized model:

$$A\frac{dh'}{dt} = q_i' - \frac{1}{R}h' \tag{8}$$

#### **Summary:**

In order to linearize a nonlinear, dynamic model:

- 1. Perform a Taylor Series Expansion of each nonlinear term and truncate after the first-order terms.
- 2. Subtract the steady-state version of the equation.
- 3. Introduce deviation variables.

## **State-Space Models**

- Dynamic models derived from physical principles typically consist of one or more ordinary differential equations (ODEs).
- In this section, we consider a general class of ODE models referred to as *state-space models*.

Consider standard form for a *linear state-space model*,

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{x}} = \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x} + \boldsymbol{B}\boldsymbol{u} + \boldsymbol{E}\boldsymbol{d} \tag{4-90}$$

$$y = Cx \tag{4-91}$$

where:

- x = the state vector
- *u* = the control *vector* of manipulated variables (also called *control variables*)
- d = the disturbance vector
- y = the *output vector* of measured variables. (We use
   boldface symbols to denote vector and matrices, and
   plain text to represent scalars.)
- The elements of *x* are referred to as *state variables*.
- The elements of *y* are typically a subset of *x*, namely, the state variables that are measured. In general, *x*, *u*, *d*, and *y* are functions of time.
- The time derivative of x is denoted by  $\dot{x} (= dx/dt)$ .
- Matrices *A*, *B*, *C*, and *E* are constant matrices.

## Example 4.9

Show that the linearized CSTR model of Example 4.8 can be written in the state-space form of Eqs. 4-90 and 4-91. Derive state-space models for two cases:

- (a) Both  $c_A$  and T are measured.
- (b) Only *T* is measured.

## Solution

The linearized CSTR model in Eqs. 4-84 and 4-85 can be written in vector-matrix form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{dc'_A}{dt} \\ \frac{dT'}{dt} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c'_A \\ \\ T' \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix} T'_s$$
(4-92)

Let  $x_1 \triangleq c'_A$  and  $x_2 \triangleq T'_A$ , and denote their time derivatives by  $\dot{x}_1$ and  $\dot{x}_2$ . Suppose that the steam temperature  $T_s$  can be manipulated. For this situation, there is a scalar control variable,  $u \triangleq T'_s$ , and no modeled disturbance. Substituting these definitions into (4-92) gives,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix} u$$
(4-93)  
$$\underbrace{A} \qquad B$$

which is in the form of Eq. 4-90 with  $x = col [x_1, x_2]$ . (The symbol "*col*" denotes a column vector.)

a) If both *T* and  $c_A$  are measured, then y = x, and C = I in Eq. 4-91, where *I* denotes the 2x2 identity matrix. *A* and *B* are defined in (4-93).

b) When only *T* is measured, output vector *y* is a scalar, y = T' and *C* is a row vector, C = [0,1].

Note that the state-space model for Example 4.9 has d = 0because disturbance variables were not included in (4-92). By contrast, suppose that the feed composition and feed temperature are considered to be disturbance variables in the original nonlinear CSTR model in Eqs. 2-60 and 2-64. Then the linearized model would include two additional deviation variables,  $c'_{Ai}$ and  $T'_i$ .