# Control the Hidden Technology

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MIT Sept 2006



Electronic Stability Program (ESP) is a new safety system which guides cars through wet or icy bends with more safety....

The key is a yaw-rate sensor, which detects vehicle movement around its vertical axis, and software which recognizes critical driving conditions and responds accordingly.

# **The Hidden Technology**

- Widely used
- ③ Very successful
- Seldom talked about
- Except when disaster strikes
- ☺ Why?

Easier to talk about devices than ideas Not enough attention to popularization

# **A Broad Picture**

Control appeared in the industries that emerged in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries: steam power, electric power, ships, aircrafts, chemicals, telecommunication. Control was sometimes an enabling technology (aircraft, telecom).

In the 1940s it appeared as a separate engineering discipline and it has developed rapidly ever since. Academic positioning difficult since it fits poorly into the ME, EE, ChemE framework. Today applications everywhere.

1. Introduction 2. A Brief History 3. State of the Art 4. The Future 5. Conclusions

### **Industrial Process Control**

- The problem: Keep a machine running at constant speed in spite of disturbances
- Solution: PID control
- Side effect: Standards for control (PID) and communication



# Wilbur Wright 1901

We know how to construct airplanes. Men also know how to build engines. Inability 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

# **Flight Control**

The Wright Brothers	1903
Sperry's Autopilot	1912
Robert E. Lee	1947
V1 and V2 (A4)	1942
Sputnik	1957
Apollo	1969
Mars Pathfinder	1997
UAVs	2000



### **Flight Control**

 Problem 1: How to fly?
 Solution: Build maneuverable but unstable aircraft stabilize with manual control

Problem 2: Stabilization

Solution: Feedback

#### **Telecommunications**

Telephone Calls Over Long Distances
The problem: Build a good amplifier from bad components
Solution: The negative feedback amplifier.
Black 1928.
Side effect: Stability theory and systems theory from the input-output view

# The Magic of Feedback

- Make precise systems from imprecise components
- Keep variables constant
- Stabilize unstable system
- Reduce effects of disturbances and component variations
- New degrees of freedom for designers
- Main drawback Danger of Instability

#### Theory

**Stability Theory** Maxwell Routh 1887 Stodola Hurwitz 1895 Lyapunov 1892 Nyquist 1932 **Design and limitations** ♦ Bode 1940

### The Scene of 1940

#### Widespread use of control in many fields

- Power generation and distribution
- Process control
- Autopilots for ships and aircrafts
- Telecommunications

The similarities were not recognized Stability Theory

### **A Discipline Emerges**

Industrial Process Control Telecommunications Flight Control Mathematics Principles Theory Design Methodology Applications

### **The Black Box Concept**





Abstraction Information hiding Transfer functions

#### **Servomechanism Theory**

Foundations
 Complex variables
 Laplace Transforms

 Methodology Design Frequency Response Graphical Methods

System Concepts
 Feedback
 Feedforward

Analog Simulation

Implementation

### **Theory of Servomechanisms**

Hubert M. James Professor of Physics Purdue University Nathaniel B. Nichols Director of Research Taylor Instrument Companies Ralph S. Phillips Associate Professor of Mathematics University of Southern California

National Defence Research Committee

MIT Sept 2006

# Consequences



Organisation Journals Conferences

MIT Sept 2006

#### **The Second Wave**

**Driving Forces Space race Mathematics** Computers A New Paradigm **State Space Rapid Expansion Subspecialities**  **Optimal Control Nonlinear Control Computer Control Stochastic Control Robust Control** System Identification **Adaptive Control** CACE

# Inspiration

The Mathematical Theory of Optimal Processes Pontryagin / Boltyanskii / Gamkrelidze / Mishchenko

DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING · BELLMAN ·

INTERSCIENCE

McGRAW HILL

Tsien · ENGINEERING CYBERNETICS

Theory OF Servoservoservoservoservo-Micholds PHILLITIS Servo-Micholds Servo-Servo-Micholds Servo-Servo-Micholds Servo-Servo-Micholds Servo-Servo-Micholds Servo-Servo-Micholds Servo-Servo-Micholds Servo-Micholds Servo-Servo-Micholds Servo-Servo-Servo-Micholds Servo-Servo-Micholds Servo-Servo-Micholds Servo-Servo-Servo-Micholds Servo-Servo-Servo-Micholds Servo-S

### **Optimal Control**

Euler Lagrange Pontryagin Hamilton Jacobi Bellman 1707–1783 1736–1813 1908-1988 1805–1865 1804–1851 1925-1984



### **Kalman Filtering**



Gauss Wold Kolmogorov Wiener Kalman

**1810 least squares 1935 innovations 1941 discrete time 1941 spectral factorization 1961 recursive equations** 

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#### **Current Status**

A well established body of ideas, concepts, theory and design methods. Wide and growing application areas Still developing rapidly

# **Control a Commodity**

The MathWorks





Sensors, actuators, process interfaces

Computers, signal processors, FPGA

Tools for modeling, analysis, simulation and design

Operating systems, automatic code generation









#### **Perhaps Most Important**

A good group of very talented and creative young researchers.

# Applications

Energy generation Energy transmission Process control Discrete manufacturing Communication Transportation Buildings Entertainment Instrumentation Mechatronics Materials Physics Biology Economics









# **Unmanned Air Vehicles**

UASV



MIT 0001 2000








# **Consumer Electronics**





### A Dilemma

Automatic control is a collection of ideas, concepts and theories with very wide applications areas. How to cope with: Coupling to hardware Coupling to industries Specific domain knowledge Academic positioning

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### **The Future of Control**

#### Natural science

- Devices and ideas in physics, quantum systems.
- Strong systems orientation in biology
- Many previous attempts. Will it work this time?

#### Increased use in engineering

- Control of/over communications networks
- Autonomous systems
- Learning and reasoning

# The Systems Perspective

In the past steady increases in knowledge has spawned new microdisciplines within engineering. However, contemporary challenges – from biomedical devices to complex manufacturing designs to large systems of networked devices – increasingly require a systems perspective

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## C<sup>3</sup>BMP

#### Computing

#### Mathematics

Control

Physics Biology

#### Communication

# The Systems Perspective

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**Natural and Engineering Sciences Understand Nature vs Man-made Systems Equally Challenging Extensive use of Mathematics Design and Operation of Systems Physical Laws vs System Principles Isolation vs Interaction Reductionism vs Systems Theoretical Physics vs System Theory** 

## **The Physics Barrier**

#### Control

#### **Physics**

Blockdiagrams ODEs

Mass, energy, momentum

Block diagrams unsuitable for serious physical modeling MIT Sept 2006

### **Physics**

 Devices and ideas Particle Accelerators The 1984 Nobel Prize Van Der Meer Adaptive Optics Atomic Force Microscope Quantum and Molecular Systems Turbulence

# **A Phycicist View**

The obvious places to learn about control theory – introductory engineering textbooks ... - are not very satisfactory places for a phycisist to start. They are long - 800 pages is typical - with the relevant information often scattered in different sections.... They often cloak concepts familiar to the physicist inunfamiliar language and notation. ... The main alternative, more mathematical texts, ..., are terse but assume that the reader already has an intuitive understanding of the subject. John Beckhoefer Rev. Mod. Phys. July 2005

### Biology

Feedback is a central feature of life. The process of feedback governs how we grow, respond to stress and challenge, and regulate factors such as body temperature, blood pressure, and cholesterol level. The mechanisms operate at every level, from the interaction of proteins in cells to the interaction of organisms in complex ecologies.

Mahlon B Hoagland and B Dodson The Way Life Works Times Books 1995

# Biology

#### A long tradition - will it fly this time around?

- Schrödinger 1944
- Wiener 1948
- von Neumann 1958



- > Bellman Mathematical Biosciences
- Understanding dynamics and control crucial
- > What is new?

# **Systems Biology**

Leading biologists have recognized that new systems-level knowledge is urgently required in order to conceptualize an organize the revolutionary developments taking place in the biological sciences, and new academic departments and educational programs are being established at major universities, particularly in Europe and in the **United States** 

Eduardo Sontag 2006

#### **Charles Darwin**

It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, it is the one that is most adaptable to change.

# **The Computing Barrier**



#### Control

Feedback,Stability, ODE, PDE Moderate complexity Robustness

Logic, languages, DES,FSM High complexity, abstractions Architecture

Computing

Networked embedded systems

# **Control and Computing**

Vannevar Bush 1927. Engineering can progress 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 in approximately 10 months.

Software has unfortunately not kept up!

### **Control and Computing**

- Software issues increasingly important
- Object oriented modeling
- Feedback scheduling
- Control of servers and nets
- Vision Feedback and haptics
- High level control principles
- Learning systems

### **Embedded Computing**

- It has been predicted that by the year 2010 about 90% of all program code will be implemented for embedded systems.
- Embedded systems have sensing and/or actuation
- Compelling reason to combine control and computing

**Engine control Power trains Cruise control** Adaptive cruise control **Traction control** Lane guidance assistance Platooning



Strongly enhanced performance Strong technology driver Large numbers (microcontroller) > Low costs Safe design and operation of networked embedded systems













Industry structure Common sensors Interaction Safe design

### **Dramatic Increase of Complexity**



# Safe Design

Much more than automatic code generation
 System architecture
 Integration of subsystems
 Modification, upgrade
 Formal specification, design, verification, validation

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### Conclusions

- An exciting field
- Use of feedback often revolutionary
- Rapid growth of applications
- Streamline available knowledge
- Education is a key issue
- Many new challenging problems

## **Entering the Third Phase?**

- Drivers: embedded system, networks, biology, physics, ...
- > Autonomy, distribution
- Exploding applications
- Hardware and software platforms
- Will the holistic view be recovered?

#### **Examples of New Problems**

Sensor-rich control
Actuation-rich control
High level control principles
Architecture and design of embedded systems


#### **Recipe for Success**

- Good ideas and demanding problems
- Solid theory
- Good engineering
- Examples

Servomechanisms, Optimal control Robust control, Computer control

#### **Computing and Control**



### **Feedback Scheduling**



- Adjust sampling period of controllers
- Adjust priorities
- Adjust dead-lines

### Modelica (www.modelica.org)

- Mimics how an engineer builds a real system
- Object oriented, component-based, multi-domain
- Efficient engineering through reuse
- Model libraries (free and commercial)
- Simulator Dymola (Dynasim)
- Extensive symbolic manipulation, automatic inversion, ...
- > Efficient real-time code
- Syntax and semantics formally defined



## **Modeling and Simulation**

There will be growth in areas of simulation and modeling around the creation of new engineering "structures". Computer-based design-build engineering ... will become the norm for most product designs, accelerating the creation of complex structures for which multiple subsystems combine to form a final product.

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### Modelica (www.modelica.org)

Block diagrams and ODEs not suited for physical modeling – the control/physics barrier

- Behavior based (declarative) modeling is a good alternative
- European activity based on industry/university collaboration
- Groups with broad competence and experience



# **Automotive Climate Control**



Audi, BMW, DaimlerCrysler, Volkswagen and their suppliers have standardized on Modelica

Suppliers provide components and validated Modelica models based on the AirConditioning library from Modelon

Car manufacturers evaluate complete system by simulation

IP protected by extensive encryption



Picture courtesy of Behr GmbH & Co.

### Computing Control and Communication





