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DESIGN OF A PITCH ORIENTATIONAL  
FLIGHT CONTROL SYSTEM

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January, 1969

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By

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## ABSTRACT

This thesis presents two designs for a pitch orientational flight control system. Both designs employ control techniques based on Liapunov's direct method which are used in conjunction with system state estimation. One design yields a non-linear control law and the other a linear control law, with a linear estimation technique being used in both cases.

The designs are developed using approximate models of the system components, and very satisfactory experimental results are obtained using these approximations. A stability problem arises, however, when the higher order dynamics of the system are considered. This problem is overcome in the linear design by including proper compensation in the controller.

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## LIST OF MAJOR SYMBOLS

$A_i$	$i = 1, 4$ - Coefficients used in control law
$A_{ij}$	$i = 1, 2 ; j = 1, 2$ - Integral terms in estimation error variance equations
$\bar{A}$	$A_{11} + A_{21}$
$a_1(t)$	$-\omega_a^2$
$a_2(t)$	$-2\zeta_a \omega_a$
$a_{01}$	$-\omega_0^2$
$a_{02}$	$-2\zeta_0 \omega_0$
$a_{ni}$	$i = 1, 2$ - Nominal estimator parameters
$b_1(t)$	$K_a/T_a$
$b_2(t)$	$K_a(1/T_a - 1/T_h)$
$B$	A 2x2 positive definite, symmetric matrix
$C_n$	Amplitude of noise spectral density
$D(t)$	Disturbance Input
$\underline{e}(t)$	System 2x1 error vector
$\hat{\underline{e}}(t)$	Estimated system 2x1 error vector
$\tilde{\underline{e}}(t)$	A 2x1 vector of estimation errors
$\tilde{\underline{e}}_f$	Estimation error caused by $f_2$
$\tilde{\underline{e}}_n$	Estimation error caused by $n$
$f_2$	Forcing term in estimation equation



$f_{2ss}$	The value of $f_2$ for steady-state step response
$G_i$	$i = 1, 2$ - Estimator gains
$\overline{G_1}$	$G_1 - a_{n2}$
$\overline{G_2}$	$G_2 - G_1 a_{n2} - a_{n1}$
$G_h(S)$	Servo actuator transfer function
$G_g(S)$	Gyro transfer function
$G_a(S)$	Aircraft transfer function
$G_c(S)$	Compensator transfer function
$H(S)$	A transfer function in the linear system loop-gain function
$h$	A scalar variable
$K_a(t)$	Unknown aircraft parameter
$K_d(t)$	Unknown aircraft parameter
$K(t)$	Controlled plant gain
$K_{an}$	Estimator parameter
$(K_a/T_a)_{an}$	Estimator parameter
$K_{ss}$	$(K_a/T_a) / (-a_1)$
$L(S)$	Linear system open loop transfer function
$L(\underline{x}, t)$	A scalar variable
$L^*$	A scalar constant
$\overline{L}$	A scalar constant
$M$	Non-linear function
$\overline{M}$	A scalar constant
$M^*$	$L^* B_{12}$

$n(t)$	An additive noise term
$P$	A 2x2 estimator gain matrix
$Q$	A positive definite, symmetric matrix
$\overline{Q}$	Estimator weighting matrix
$r(t)$	System input
$S$	Laplace transform variable
$T_a(t)$	Unknown aircraft parameter
$T_h$	Servo actuator time constant
$T(S)$	A 2x2 transfer function matrix
$u(t)$	Signal generated by controller
$v(t)$	Input to servo actuator
$V$	Liapunov function
$W$	A 2x2 estimator weighting matrix
$\underline{x}(t)$	A 2x1 system vector
$\underline{x}_d(t)$	A 2x1 model reference vector
$\hat{\underline{x}}(t)$	Estimated 2x1 system vector
$y(t)$	Aircraft angular rate
$y_g$	Gyro output signal
$\alpha(t)$	An unknown scalar
$\delta$	Elevator angle
$\Delta a_{ci}$	$a_i - a_{oi}$ , $i = 1, 2$
$\Delta a_{ni}$	$a_i - a_{ni}$ , $i = 1, 2$

$\Delta K_a$	$K_a - K_{an}$
$\Delta(K_a/T_a)$	$K_a/T_a - (K_a/T_a)_n$
$\gamma$	Switching function
$\hat{\gamma}$	Estimated switching function
$\tilde{\gamma}$	$\hat{\gamma} - \gamma$
$\Phi_{iif}$	Spectral density of $\tilde{e}_{if}$ , $i = 1, 2$
$\Phi_{ff}$	Spectral density of $f_2$
$\sigma_{if}$	Standard deviation of $\tilde{e}_{if}$ , $i = 1, 2$
$\sigma_{in}$	Standard deviation of $\tilde{e}_{in}$ , $i = 1, 2$
$\dot{\theta}$	Pitch rate of aircraft
$\omega_o$	Model reference parameter
$\omega_a(t)$	Unknown aircraft parameter
$\zeta_o$	Model reference parameter
$\zeta_a(t)$	Unknown aircraft parameter

## INTRODUCTION

One of the well known and major phenomena encountered in the design of aircraft flight control systems is that the transient response of the aircraft changes considerably for different flight conditions. With the advent of the high-performance, variable-geometry type of aircraft, this variation is becoming even more pronounced due to the expanding environment in which the aircraft may operate. In many of the earlier flight control designs, the dynamics of the control system was a function of air data measurements so that satisfactory handling qualities over the entire flight regime could be obtained. This entailed extensive wind tunnel analyses and in-flight calibration to determine optimum parameter settings for various conditions. To overcome these difficulties and to eliminate the need for air-data measurements, adaptive control systems are now in use in many high-performance aircraft. Most of the adaptive techniques are based on the principle of maintaining a constant damping ratio of the closed loop system by varying the system gain. This is done by sensing the system response to either pulse inputs or gusts, determining the damping ratio from this response, and varying the gain accordingly.

In the following report a new flight control system design is presented. The design concentrates only on a pitch orientational flight control using the appropriate longitudinal transfer function for the aircraft. The main advantages of this design over the adaptive techniques mentioned previously is that the system

response does not have to be monitored and a variable gain does not have to be implemented. The design is based on a control technique which combines Liapunov's direct method with system state estimation. A model reference is employed in the system, and the object of the control is to force the aircraft to behave as the model through an input initiated by the controller. Two controller designs are presented, one yields a non-linear control law and the other a linear control law. Both designs employ a linear estimator to obtain estimates of quantities required by the controller.

The designs are developed using approximate representations of the servo actuator and the rate gyro. Using these approximations in an analog simulation of the system, the pitch rate of the aircraft follows the output of the model with less than 5% error over the range of parameter variations assumed. It is found, however, that the system is unstable if the higher order dynamics of the actuator and gyro are considered. A compensator is then included in the linear design to overcome this stability problem.

CHAPTER 1  
SYSTEM FORMULATION

A block diagram of the control system is shown in Figure 1. The objective of the system is to force the aircraft to behave like the model reference, which in turn is driven by the pitch rate command signal,  $r$ . To accomplish this, the pitch rate of the aircraft,  $\dot{\theta}$ , corrupted by measurement and vibration noise,  $n$ , is fed into an estimator along with the elevator position,  $\delta$ . The purpose of the estimator is to obtain an estimate of  $\dot{\theta}$  and its derivative, the estimated values of these quantities being denoted by the vector  $\hat{\underline{x}}$ . The vector  $\hat{\underline{x}}$  is then compared with the output and output derivative of the model reference, which are denoted by  $\underline{x}_d$ , resulting in the error vector,  $\hat{\underline{e}}$ . The quantities  $\hat{\underline{e}}$ ,  $\hat{\underline{x}}$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $r$  are then fed into the controller. The control law produces the signal  $u$  which drives the system in a manner such that  $\hat{\underline{e}}$  is driven toward zero, thus causing the aircraft to behave like the model.

The aircraft is represented by the pitch axis short-period mode transfer function with parameters which vary with time in an unknown manner. This transfer function is

$$Y(S) = \frac{K_a \left( S + \frac{1}{T_a} \right) \delta(S) + K_d S D(S)}{S^2 + 2 \zeta_a \omega_a S + \omega_a^2} \quad (1-1)$$

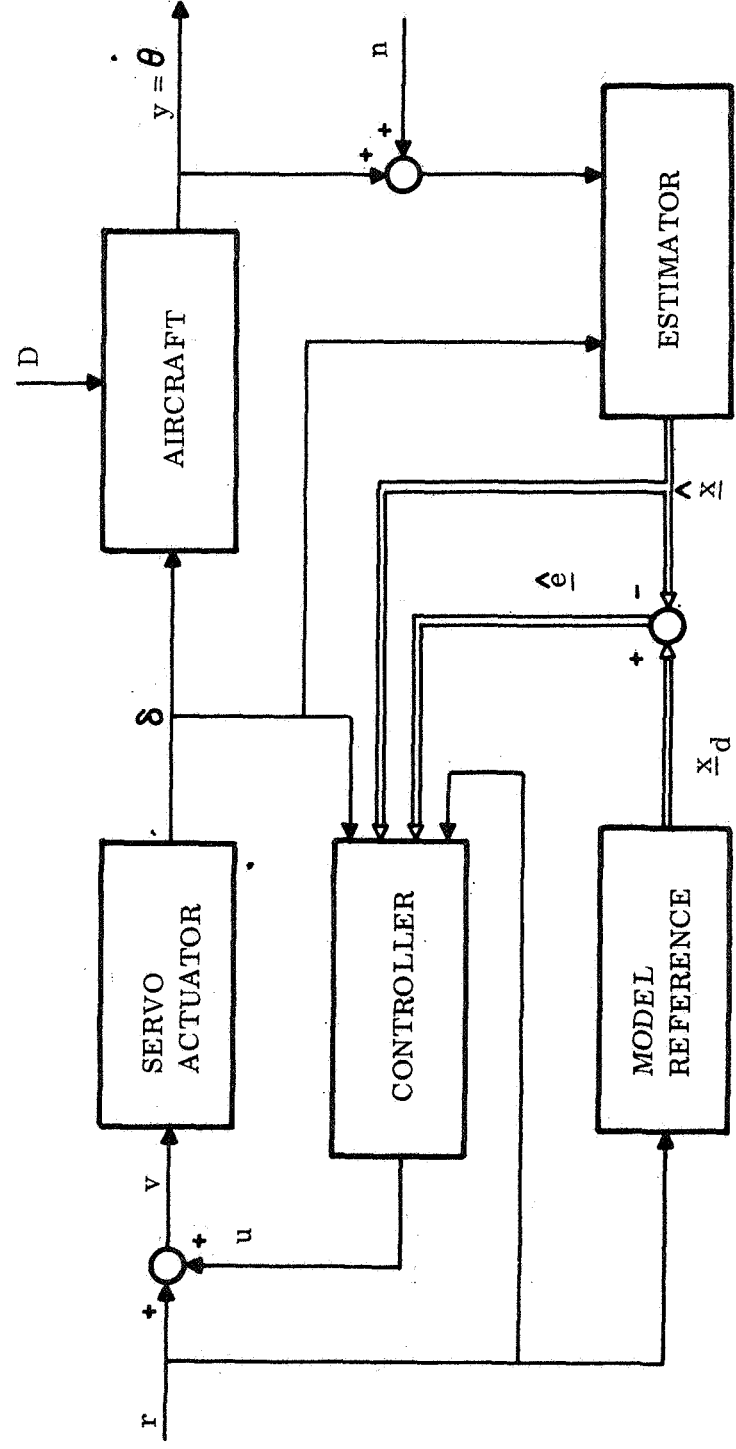


Figure 1 Pitch Orientational Control System

where  $K_a$ ,  $K_d$ ,  $T_a$ ,  $\zeta_a$ ,  $\omega_a$  are unknown, time-varying parameters of the aircraft and  $D$  is a disturbance input. Typical parameter values for a fighter-type aircraft for different flight conditions are given in Table I. It is assumed in the design that this table contains the full range of parameter variations encountered in the aircraft's performance envelope.

To reduce the order of the system for analysis purposes, the transfer function for the servo actuator will be taken as

$$\delta(s) = \frac{1}{T_h s + 1} V(s) \quad (1-2)$$

where  $T_h$  is the actuator time constant. The dynamics of the gyro are presently ignored, with the gyro dynamics and higher-order actuator dynamics being considered in later chapters.



Table I  
Aircraft Parameter Variations

CASE	$K_a$	$\frac{1}{T_a}$	$\zeta_a$	$\omega_a$	$K_D$
1	2.52	.368	.634	1.10	2.05
2	15.7	1.17	.556	2.82	13.5
3	7.08	.523	.432	1.54	6.23
4	76.2	1.18	.462	7.80	50.9
5	35.9	.452	.155	6.41	32.6
6	13.1	.152	.075	3.90	10.1
7	18.7	.235	.106	4.78	19.5
8	45.2	.846	.532	4.67	30.3
9	11.7	.255	.282	2.47	12.0
10	37.7	2.38	.430	5.10	36.5

CHAPTER II  
CONTROLLER DESIGN

A - Non-linear Controller

The non-linear control technique used in the design is outlined in Appendix A. To obtain the system equations in the form required by this technique, (1-1) and (1-2) are converted to the time domain differential equations (2-1) and (2-2).

$$\ddot{y} + 2 \zeta_a \omega_a \dot{y} + \omega_a^2 y = K_a \dot{\delta} + \frac{K_a}{T_a} \delta + K_d \dot{D} \quad (2-1)$$

$$T_h \dot{\delta} + \delta = v \quad (2-2)$$

where

$$v = u + r$$

Solving for  $\dot{\delta}$  from (2-2) and substituting into (2-1) yields

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{y} + 2 \zeta_a \omega_a \dot{y} + \omega_a^2 y &= \frac{K_a}{T_h} (u + r) + K_a \left( \frac{1}{T_a} - \frac{1}{T_h} \right) \delta \\ &+ K_d \dot{D} \end{aligned} \quad (2-3)$$

Equation (2-3) may be written in the vector form of (A-1). This yields the set of vector differential equations (2-4).

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\underline{x}} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a_1 & a_2 \end{bmatrix} \underline{x} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ b_1 (u + r) + b_2 \delta + K_d \dot{D} \end{bmatrix} \\ y &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \underline{x} \end{aligned} \quad (2-4)$$

where

$$\underline{\dot{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\theta} \\ \ddots \\ \dot{\theta} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$a_1 = -\omega_a^2$$

$$a_2 = -2\zeta_a \omega_a$$

$$b_1 = K_a/T_h$$

$$b_2 = K_a \left( \frac{1}{T_a} - \frac{1}{T_h} \right)$$

The model reference is taken to be a second order system with a natural frequency  $\omega_0$  and a damping ratio  $\zeta_0$ . The model reference equation corresponding to (A-2) is therefore given by

$$\dot{\underline{x}}_d = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a_{01} & a_{02} \end{bmatrix} \underline{x}_d + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -a_{01} \end{bmatrix} r \quad (2-5)$$

where

$$a_{01} = -\omega_0^2$$

$$a_{02} = -2\zeta_0 \omega_0$$

The matrix Q is defined in (A-6) as

$$-Q = A_0^T B + B A_0$$

Taking Q as a positive definite diagonal matrix, (A-6) is written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} -Q_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & -Q_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a_{01} \\ 1 & a_{02} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a_{01} & a_{02} \end{bmatrix} \quad (2-6)$$

Solving (2-6) for the elements of B gives the following equations

$$B_{12} = -\frac{Q_{11}}{2a_{01}}$$

$$B_{22} = -\frac{2B_{12} + Q_{22}}{2a_{02}} \quad (2-7)$$

$$B_{11} = -a_{02} B_{12} - a_{01} B_{22}$$

$$B_{21} = B_{12}$$

If the output of the plant and its derivative were both available, the control signal  $u$  would be, in the form (A-10).

$$u = \left[ A_1 \left| x_1 \right| + A_2 \left| x_2 \right| + A_3 \left| r \right| + A_4 \left| \delta \right| + \left| \frac{K_d(t)}{b_1(t)} \dot{D} \right|_{\max} \right] \text{SIGN } \gamma \quad (2-8)$$

where

$$\gamma = B_{12} e_1 + B_{22} e_2$$

$$e_1 = x_{d1} - x_1$$

$$e_2 = x_{d2} - x_2$$

$$A_1 = \text{Max}_t \left| \frac{a_1(t) - a_{01}}{b_1(t)} \right|, \quad A_2 = \text{Max}_t \left| \frac{a_2(t) - a_{02}}{b_1(t)} \right|$$

$$A_3 = \text{Max}_t \left| \frac{b_1(t) + a_{01}}{b_1(t)} \right|, \quad A_4 = \text{Max}_t \left| \frac{b_2(t)}{b_1(t)} \right|$$

Since the vector  $\underline{x}$  is not available in an uncorrupted form for use in (2-8), its estimate,  $\hat{\underline{x}}$ , is used instead. This estimate, however, is not perfect and the difference between  $\underline{x}$  and  $\hat{\underline{x}}$  must be included in (2-8).

The error in estimation,  $\tilde{\underline{e}}$ , and the estimated system error,  $\hat{\underline{e}}$ , are defined as

$$\tilde{\underline{e}} = \underline{x} - \hat{\underline{x}} \quad (2-9)$$

$$\hat{\underline{e}} = \underline{x}_d - \hat{\underline{x}} \quad (2-10)$$

With (2-9) and (2-10) in (2-8), the result is

$$\begin{aligned} u = & \left[ A_1 \left| \hat{x}_1 \right| + A_2 \left| \hat{x}_2 \right| + A_1 \left| \tilde{e}_1 \right| + A_2 \left| \tilde{e}_2 \right| + A_3 \left| r \right| + A_4 \left| \delta \right| \right. \\ & \left. + \left| \frac{K_d(t)}{b_1(t)} \dot{D} \right|_{\max} \right] \text{SIGN} (\hat{\gamma} - \tilde{\gamma}) \end{aligned} \quad (2-11)$$

where

$$\hat{\gamma} = B_{12} \hat{e}_1 + B_{22} \hat{e}_2$$

$$\tilde{\gamma} = B_{12} \tilde{e}_1 + B_{22} \tilde{e}_2$$

Since the error in estimation is not a measurable signal, the control signal is taken as

$$u = M \text{SIGN} (\hat{\gamma}) \quad (2-12)$$

where M corresponds to the bracketed term in (2-11) with the effect of the unknown error  $\tilde{\underline{e}}$  taken into account. The term M will be derived in Section IV-B, and the effect of using the switching function  $\hat{\gamma}$  instead of  $\gamma$  will be discussed in Section II-C.

### B-Linear Controller

In the system under consideration, the physical nature of the plant will cause the elements of the vector  $\underline{x}$  to have some maximum bound. This fact

permits the use of a linear control law to generate  $u$ . This control law will be derived below.

The time derivative of the Liapunov function  $V$  in Appendix A is given by (A-6) as

$$\dot{v} = - e^T Q e + h$$

where  $h$  is expressed in (A-9) as

$$h = - 2\gamma \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta a_i(t) x_i + a_{01} r + K(t) (u + r) + K(t) \phi(t) \right]$$

This can be rewritten in the form

$$h = - 2\gamma K(t) \left[ \frac{L(\underline{x}, t)}{K(t)} + u \right] \quad (2-13)$$

where

$$L(\underline{x}, t) = \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta a_i(t) x_i + [a_{01} + K(t)] r + K(t) \phi(t)$$

The control signal  $u$  is taken as

$$u = L^* \gamma \quad (2-14)$$

where

$$L^* = \left| \frac{L(\underline{x}, t)}{K(t)} \right|_{\max}$$

The term  $h$  then becomes

$$h = - 2K(t) \left[ \frac{L(\underline{x}, t)}{K(t)} \gamma + L^* \gamma^2 \right] \quad (2-15)$$

The most positive  $h$  could become is defined as  $h_{\max}$ , given by

$$\begin{aligned} h_{\max} &= -2K(t) \left[ -L^* \left| \gamma \right| + L^* \gamma^2 \right] \\ &= -2K(t) L^* \left[ \gamma^2 - \left| \gamma \right| \right] \end{aligned} \quad (2-16)$$

Therefore if  $\left| \gamma \right| \geq 1$ ,  $V$  will always be negative and  $V$  will decrease. For the case where  $\left| \gamma \right| < 1$ , a region in vector space is defined where  $V$  may be positive, thus a decreasing  $V$  is not assured. This region will be investigated for a second order system.

In the second order case,  $\gamma$  is defined as in equation (2-8). The region in the  $e_1, e_2$  error phase plane where  $\left| \gamma \right| < 1$  is shown in Figure 2. This region can be made arbitrarily narrow by choosing a  $Q$  matrix which results in a large value of  $B_{12}$  and  $B_{22}$ .

For the system being considered,  $L^*$  as defined in (2-14) is written as

$$\begin{aligned} L^* &= A_1 \left| x_1 \right|_{\max} + A_2 \left| x_2 \right|_{\max} + A_3 \left| r \right|_{\max} \\ &\quad + A_4 \left| \delta \right|_{\max} + \frac{K_d(t)}{b_1(t)} \left| \dot{D} \right|_{\max} \end{aligned} \quad (2-17)$$

Placing bounds on  $x_1, x_2, r, \delta$ , and  $D$  gives  $L^*$  as a time-invariant gain acting on  $\gamma$ . Therefore the control signal  $u$  in (2-14) is a linear combination of the elements of  $\underline{e}$ . As explained previously, however,  $\underline{e}$  is not directly available, the control signal, therefore, is taken as a function of  $\hat{\underline{e}}$  as

$$u = L^* \hat{\gamma} \quad (2-18)$$

where  $\hat{\gamma}$  is defined as in (2-11). The effect of using  $\hat{\gamma}$  instead of  $\gamma$  is explained in the next section.

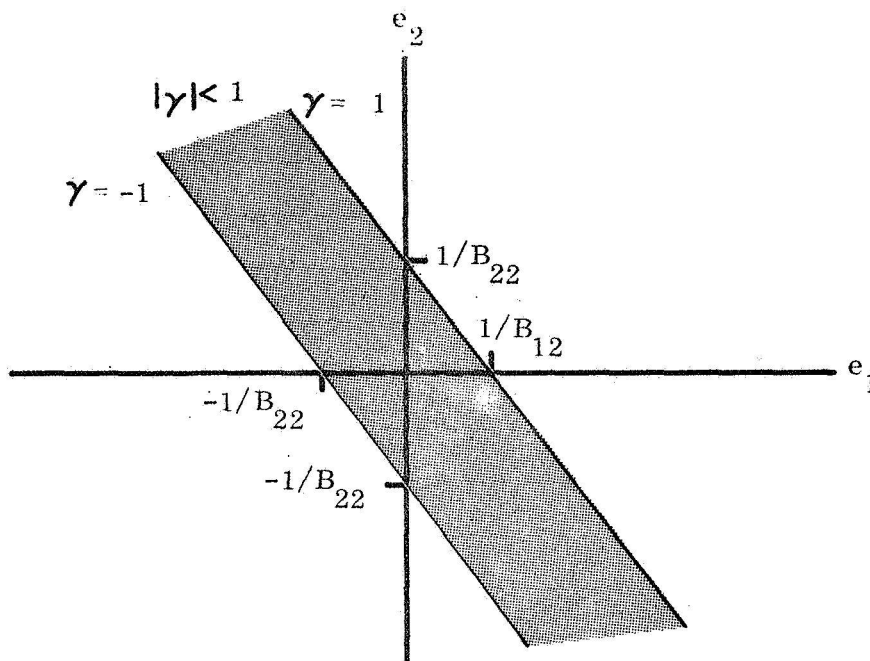


Figure 2 Region Where  $|\gamma| < 1$

### C - Effect of Estimation Errors

In the two previous sections it was pointed out that the errors in estimation effect the control equations. The main effect of these errors is that the control signal becomes a function of  $\hat{\gamma}$  instead of  $\gamma$ . This effect will be analyzed below.

For the non-linear controller, the control would ideally be taken as (2-8). The sign of  $u$  is equal to the sign of  $\gamma$ , which is a linear function of  $\underline{e}$ . The equation for  $\gamma = 0$  defines a line in the  $e_1, e_2$  phase plane referred to as the "switching line". This line divides the  $e_1, e_2$  plane into two regions where  $\gamma$  is less than or greater than zero as shown in Figure 3. The control signal, however, is actually taken as a function of  $\hat{\gamma}$  in (2-12). The equation for  $\hat{\gamma} = 0$  defines another switching line whose location is a function of the estimation



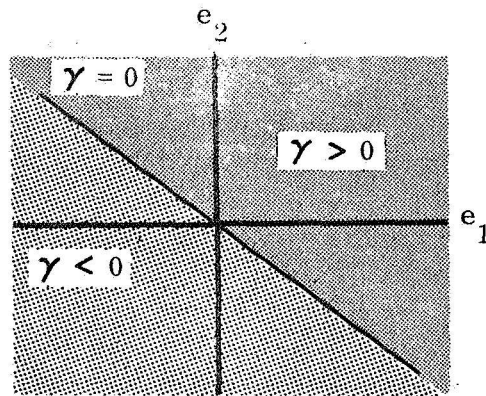
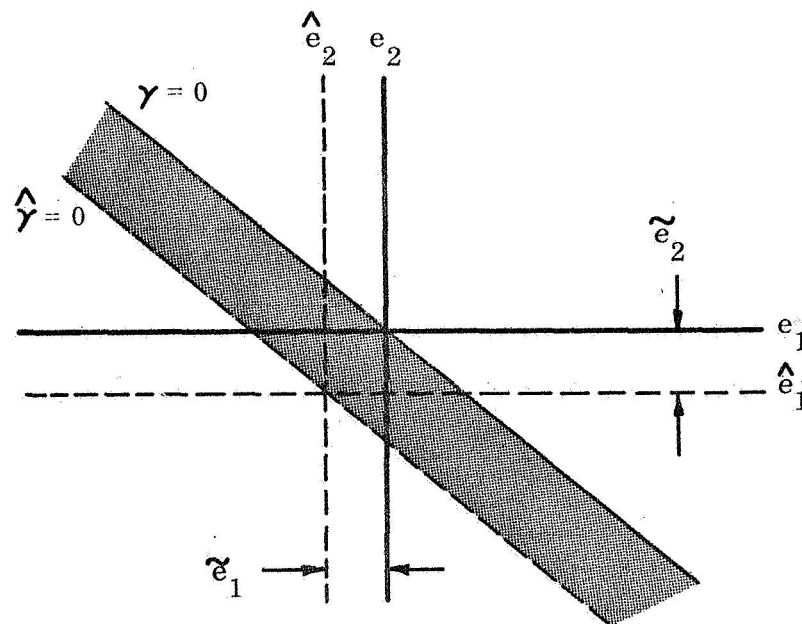


Figure 3 Switching Line

error. This relationship can be seen through (2-9) and (2-10) which yield (2-19).

$$\hat{\underline{e}} = \underline{e} + \tilde{\underline{e}} \quad (2-19)$$

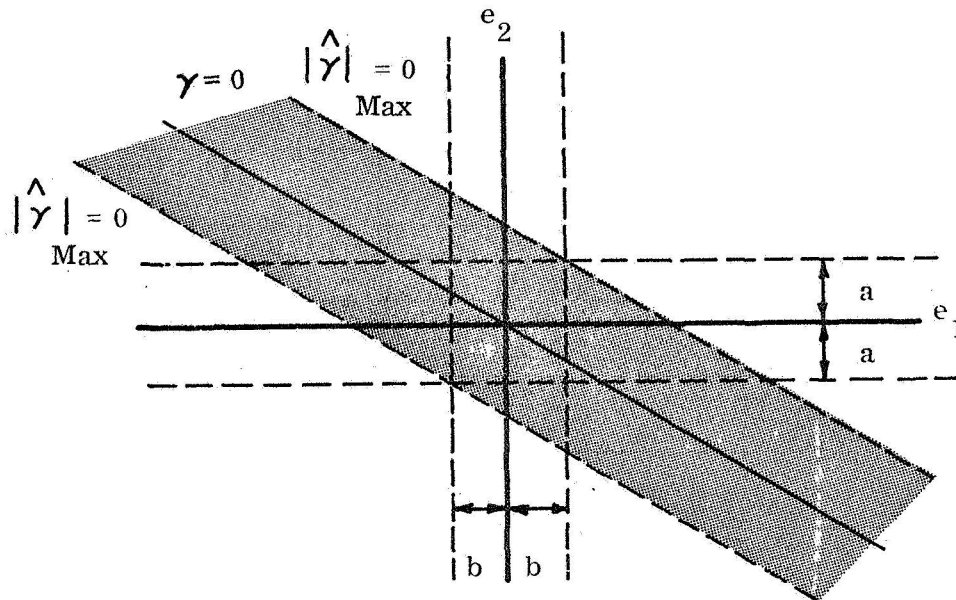
The  $\hat{\underline{e}}$  co-ordinates are therefore translated from the  $\underline{e}$  co-ordinates by the elements of  $\tilde{\underline{e}}$  as shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4 Effect of  $\tilde{\underline{e}}$

In the region between the switching lines, the sign of the control signal  $u$  will be opposite the sign needed for convergence. For the case where the estimation error  $\tilde{e}$  is unknown but bounded, a region which contains the switching line  $\hat{\gamma} = 0$  is defined as shown in Figure 5. In this region, which will be referred to as the "region of imperfect control", the sign of  $u$  may be either positive or negative and convergence of the error vector  $\underline{e}$  is not assured. A similar region also occurs for the linear controller as explained below.

For the linear controller, the effect of the estimator error can be found by substituting  $u$  as defined in (2-18) into (2-13). Following the previous development, equation (2-16) becomes

$$h_{\max} = -2K(t) L^* \left[ \gamma \hat{\gamma} - |\gamma| \right] \quad (2-20)$$



$$a = |\tilde{e}_2|_{\text{Max}}, \quad b = |\tilde{e}_1|_{\text{Max}}$$

$$|\hat{\gamma}|_{\text{Max}} = bB_{12} + aB_{22}$$

Figure 5 Region of Imperfect Control

From (2-20) it is seen that for  $h_{\max}$  to be negative,  $\hat{\gamma}$  has to be greater than one and  $\gamma$  and  $\hat{\gamma}$  must have the same sign. The region where this may not be true for the case where  $\tilde{e}$  is unknown but bounded is shown in Figure 6.

Therefore, the effect of the estimation errors in both controllers is to cause a region around the line defined by  $\gamma = 0$  where the sign of  $\dot{V}$ , the Liapunov function derivative, may be positive. There is a bounded region around the origin of the error plane, however, in which the error vector will ultimately be contained. This region will be investigated in the next section.

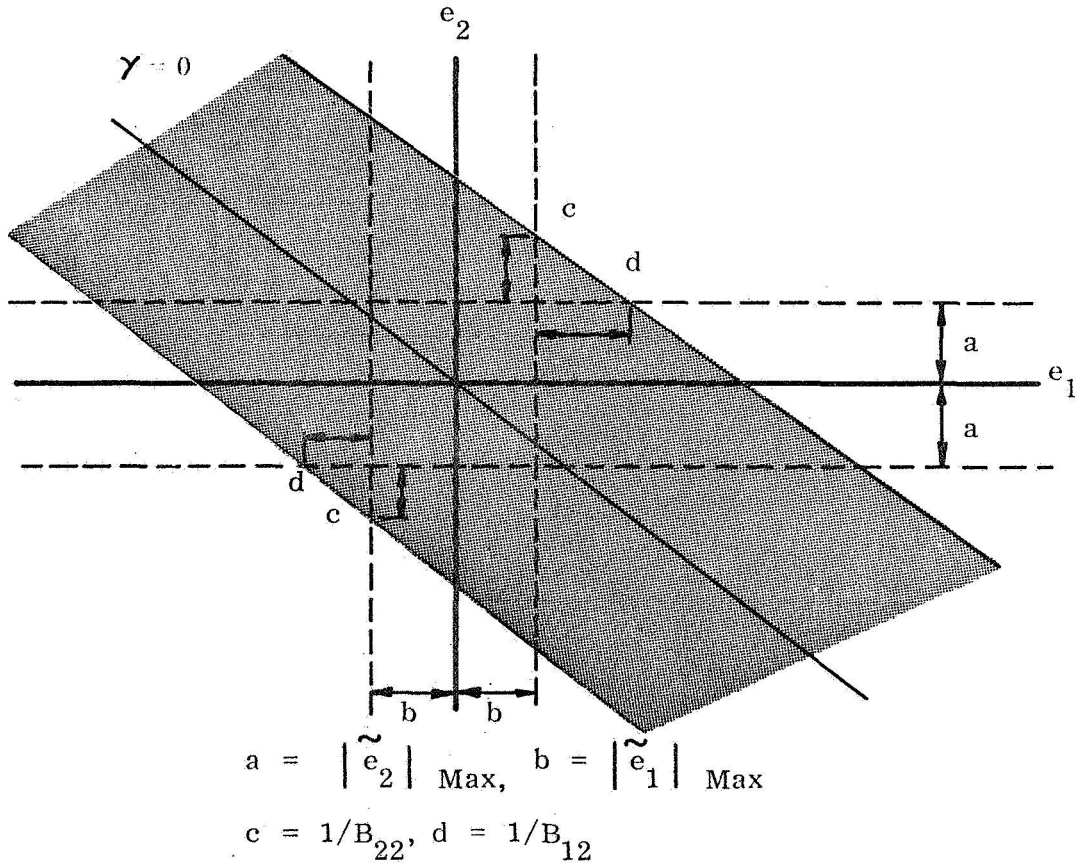


Figure 6 Region of Imperfect Control for Linear Controller

### D - System Error Bound

A bound on the system error  $\underline{e}$  can be found using a technique developed in Reference 2. This technique will be used below to obtain maximum values of the estimation error  $\tilde{\underline{e}}$ .

It is seen from Figure 5 that the region of imperfect control for the non-linear controller can be described by the equation

$$|\gamma| < \bar{L} \quad (2-21)$$

where

$$\bar{L} = B_{12} \left| \tilde{e}_1 \right|_{\max} + B_{22} \left| \tilde{e}_2 \right|_{\max}$$

If  $B_{12}$  and  $B_{22}$  are large, (2-21) will also approximate the region of imperfect control for the linear controller as shown in Figure 6. Substituting for the definition of  $\gamma$ , (2-21) can be written as

$$-\bar{L} < B_{12} e_1 + B_{22} e_2 < \bar{L} \quad (2-22)$$

Rewriting (2-22) as a constraint on  $e_2$  yields

$$-\frac{B_{12}}{B_{22}} e_1 - \frac{\bar{L}}{B_{22}} < e_2 < -\frac{B_{12}}{B_{22}} e_1 + \frac{\bar{L}}{B_{22}} \quad (2-23)$$

If  $e_2$  is taken as in (2-24) the inequality constraint (2-23) is satisfied.

$$e_2 = -\frac{B_{12}}{B_{22}} e_1 + \alpha(t) \quad (2-24)$$

where

$$|\alpha(t)| < \frac{\bar{L}}{B_{22}}$$

Since  $e_2$  is the derivative of  $e_1$ , however, (2-24) is a differential equation in  $e_1$  with  $\alpha(t)$  acting as an unknown forcing function. The solution of (2-24) can be expressed as a constraint on  $e_1$  as

$$\begin{aligned} |e_1|_{\max} &\leq \frac{B_{22}}{B_{12}} |\alpha(t)|_{\max} \\ &< \frac{\bar{L}}{B_{12}} \\ &< |\tilde{e}_1|_{\max} + \frac{B_{22}}{B_{12}} |\tilde{e}_2|_{\max} \end{aligned} \quad (2-25)$$

Using (2-25) in conjunction with (2-24) gives the constraint on  $e_2$  as

$$|e_2|_{\max} < 2 \left[ \frac{B_{12}}{B_{22}} |\tilde{e}_1|_{\max} + |\tilde{e}_2|_{\max} \right] \quad (2-26)$$

Equations (2-25) and (2-26) define a bounded region in the error phase plane shown in Figure 7 in which the system error vector will ultimately be contained.

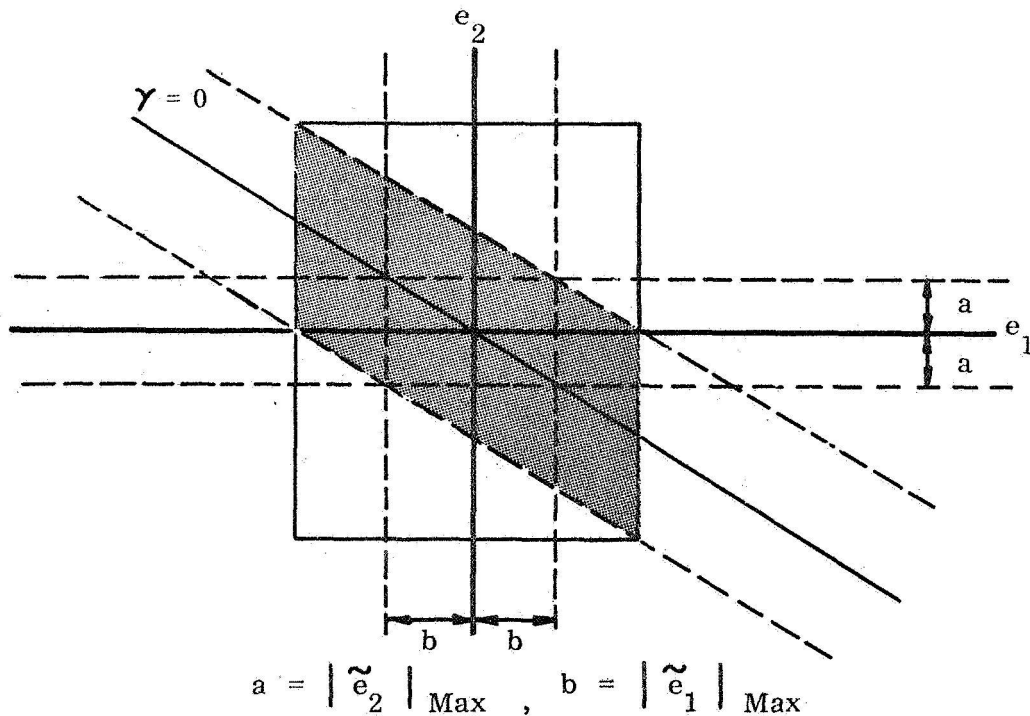


Figure 7 System Error Bound

## CHAPTER III

### ESTIMATOR DESIGN

#### A - Estimator Equations

Both controller techniques described in Chapter II require the aircraft's angular rate about the pitch axis and pitch axis angular acceleration. A rate gyro is used to measure the angular rate of the aircraft, but the angular acceleration is not directly measureable. Due to structural vibration and measurement noise, the use of a differentiation circuit to obtain the angular acceleration from the output of the gyro is impractical. An estimate of this signal, however, can be obtained by applying the estimation technique described in Appendix B. This technique yields a linear filter acting on the gyro output. The gyro output signal consists of the actual aircraft rate plus noise. The output of the filter is an estimate of the angular rate and acceleration of the aircraft about the pitch axis. These estimates are used as inputs to the controller as described in Chapter II. The filter equations resulting from this technique will be described below.

The response of the aircraft to elevator inputs and gust disturbances is described by the differential equation (2-1). This is written in vector form as the set of equations (3-1).

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a_1 & a_2 \end{bmatrix} \underline{x} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ K_a \dot{\delta} + \frac{K_a}{T_a} \delta + K_d \dot{D} \end{bmatrix}$$

(3-1)

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \underline{x}$$

where  $\underline{x}$ ,  $a_1$ , and  $a_2$  are defined as in (2-4). The first equation is now separated into nominal terms and a term consisting of variations about the nominal as shown in (3-2).

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} \end{bmatrix} \underline{x} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ K_{an} \dot{\delta} + \left(\frac{K_a}{T_a}\right)_n \delta \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ f_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (3-2)$$

where

$$f_2 = \Delta a_{n1} x_1 + \Delta a_{n2} x_2 + \Delta K_a \dot{\delta} + \Delta \frac{K_a}{T_a} \delta + K_d \dot{D}$$

$$\Delta a_{ni} = a_i - a_{ni} \quad i = 1, 2$$

$$\Delta K_a = K_a - K_{an}$$

$$\Delta \frac{K_a}{T_a} = \frac{K_a}{T_a} - \left(\frac{K_a}{T_a}\right)_n$$

The first two terms in (3-2) are taken as a nominal vector function whose parameters are time-invariant. The third term is a vector function which accounts for parameter variations about the nominal and also accounts for the unknown

disturbance input  $\dot{D}$ . The gyro output is written as  $y_g$  defined by

$$y_g = y + n$$

$$y_g = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \underline{x} + n \quad (3-3)$$

where  $n$  is an additive noise term.

Equations (3-2) and (3-3) are now in the form of the set of equations (B-1).

Application of (B-4) yields the desired estimator equation shown below.

$$\dot{\hat{\underline{x}}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} \end{bmatrix} \hat{\underline{x}} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ K_n \delta \end{bmatrix} + \left( \frac{K_a}{T_a} \right)_n \delta + \begin{bmatrix} G_1 \\ G_2 \end{bmatrix} (y_g - \hat{x}_1) \quad (3-4)$$

where

$$G_1 = 2\bar{Q} P_{11}$$

$$G_2 = 2\bar{Q} P_{21}$$

and where  $P_{11}$  and  $P_{21}$  are elements of the matrix defined by the solution of the matrix Riccati equation

$$\dot{P} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} \end{bmatrix} P + P \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a_{n1} \\ 1 & a_{n2} \end{bmatrix} + 2QP \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} P + \frac{1}{2} W^{-1} \quad (3-5)$$

The term  $f_2$  has not been included in (3-4) since nothing is known about it which would improve the estimation.



The matrix equation (3-5) yields a set of non-linear differential equations for the elements of P. These equations have constant coefficients and the initial conditions of the P matrix may be chosen such that  $\dot{P} \equiv 0$ . Thus, P is constant, and the first column of P is used in the definition for  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , resulting in constant estimator gains. The problem of choosing the weighting matrices Q and W, however, still remains. Since this choice is somewhat arbitrary, the estimator performance will be evaluated directly as a function of the gains  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . These gains will then be chosen on the basis of this evaluation.

### B - Frequency Domain Error Analysis

As shown in Section II-C, the errors in estimation directly affect the total system error. Therefore it is desirable to choose the estimator parameters so that these errors will be as small as possible. A measure of the estimator error is also needed for the nonlinear controller in equation (2-11). For these reasons the equations describing the errors in estimation will be derived below.

A vector differential equation for the estimation error  $\tilde{e}$  as defined in (2-9) can be obtained by subtracting (3-4) from (3-2). This yields

$$\dot{\tilde{e}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} \end{bmatrix} \tilde{e} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ f_2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} G_1 \\ G_2 \end{bmatrix} (y_g - \hat{x}_1) \quad (3-6)$$

Substituting  $y_g$  as defined in (3-3) into (3-6) and combining terms gives

$$\dot{\tilde{e}} = \begin{bmatrix} -G_1 & & 1 \\ -G_2 & + a_{n1} & a_{n2} \end{bmatrix} \tilde{e} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ f_2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} G_1 \\ G_2 \end{bmatrix} n \quad (3-7)$$

Equation (3-7) represents a linear system driven by the forcing terms  $f_2$  and  $n$ .

The eigenvalues of the system are given by

$$\lambda = -\frac{\overline{G}_1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\overline{G}_1^2 - 4\overline{G}_2} \quad (3-8)$$

where

$$\overline{G}_1 = G_1 - a_{n2}$$

$$\overline{G}_2 = G_2 - G_1 a_{n2} - a_{n1}$$

It is seen that for a stable estimator, both  $\overline{G}_1$  and  $\overline{G}_2$  must be positive. The frequency domain transition matrix of the system is given by

$$\Phi(S) = \frac{1}{S^2 + \overline{G}_1 S + \overline{G}_2} \begin{bmatrix} S - a_{n2} & 1 \\ a_{n1} - G_2 & S + G_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (3-9)$$

Assuming  $\tilde{e}(0) = 0$ ,  $\tilde{E}(S)$  is given by

$$\tilde{E}(S) = \Phi(S) \begin{bmatrix} -G_1 N(S) \\ F_2(S) - G_2 N(S) \end{bmatrix} \quad (3-10)$$

Equation (3-10) can be rewritten in the form of (3-11).

$$\tilde{E}(S) = T(S) \begin{bmatrix} F_2(S) \\ N(S) \end{bmatrix} \quad (3-11)$$

where

$$T(S) = \frac{1}{S^2 + \overline{G}_1 S + \overline{G}_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -G_1 S + G_1 a_{n2} & -G_2 \\ S + G_1 & -G_2 S - G_1 a_{n1} & \end{bmatrix}$$

The error in estimation, therefore, is expressed in frequency domain terms by equation (3-11). The transfer function matrix  $T(S)$  is a function of the estimator gains  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . The effect of these gains on the estimation error will be investigated in the next section.

### C - Determination of Estimator Gains

The estimator gains  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  will be chosen on the basis of their effect on the estimator error. As seen in (3-1), these gains affect the transfer functions relating the forcing terms  $f_2$  and  $n$  to  $\tilde{e}$ . Since the measurement noise  $n$  is usually kept at a minimal value, the term  $f_2$ , which contains the effect of parameter variations, will be treated as the primary source of the estimation error. This term is an unknown quantity and it will be assumed that it may contain frequencies up to and beyond the bandwidth of the terms of the transfer function matrix  $T(S)$ . The term  $f_2$  will therefore be treated as a white noise input to the system with  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  being chosen to minimize the output error variance.

The estimation error  $\tilde{e}$  as given in equation (3-11) can be written as

$$\tilde{e} = \tilde{e}_f + \tilde{e}_n \quad (3-12)$$

where  $\tilde{e}_f$  is the error caused by the term  $f_2$  and  $\tilde{e}_n$  is that caused by the noise  $n$ .

The spectral densities of  $\tilde{e}_{1f}$  and  $\tilde{e}_{2f}$  can be written as

$$\Phi_{11f} = |T_{11}(j\omega)|^2 \Phi_{ff} \quad (3-13)$$

$$\Phi_{22f} = |T_{21}(j\omega)|^2 \Phi_{ff} \quad (3-14)$$

where  $\Phi_{11f}$  and  $\Phi_{22f}$  are the spectral densities of  $\tilde{e}_{1f}$  and  $\tilde{e}_{2f}$ ,  $\Phi_{ff}$  is the

spectral density of  $f_2$ , and  $T_{11}(j\omega)$  and  $T_{21}(j\omega)$  are the elements of the first column of  $T(S)$ . Since  $f_2$  is taken as white noise, its spectral density is constant.

The variance of  $\tilde{e}_{1f}$  and  $\tilde{e}_{2f}$  can be written as

$$\sigma_{1f}^2 = C_f \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |T_{11}(j\omega)|^2 d\omega \quad (3-15)$$

$$\sigma_{2f}^2 = C_f \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |T_{21}(j\omega)|^2 d\omega \quad (3-16)$$

where  $\sigma_{1f}^2$  and  $\sigma_{2f}^2$  are the variance of  $\tilde{e}_{1f}$  and  $\tilde{e}_{2f}$  and  $C_f$  is the amplitude of the spectral density of  $f_2$ .

The gains  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  will now be chosen to minimize the sum of the two integrals in (3-15) and (3-16). Let these integrals be defined by  $A_{11}$  and  $A_{21}$

where

$$A_{11} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |T_{11}(j\omega)|^2 d\omega \quad (3-17)$$

$$A_{21} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |T_{21}(j\omega)|^2 d\omega \quad (3-18)$$

Equations (3-17) and (3-18) can be evaluated by residues giving  $A_{11}$  and  $A_{21}$  as

$$A_{11} = \frac{\pi}{\overline{G_1} \overline{G_2}} \quad (3-19)$$

$$A_{21} = \frac{\pi (G_1^2 + \overline{G_2})}{\overline{G_1} \overline{G_2}} \quad (3-20)$$

Defining  $\bar{A}$  as the sum of  $A_{11}$  and  $A_{21}$ , then from (3-19) and (3-20)  $\bar{A}$  is found as

$$\bar{A} = \frac{\pi (1 + G_1^2 + \bar{G}_2)}{\bar{G}_1 \bar{G}_2} \quad (3-21)$$

$$\bar{A} = \frac{\pi (1 + G_1^2)}{\bar{G}_1 \bar{G}_2} + \frac{\pi}{\bar{G}_1}$$

As seen from (3-21),  $\bar{A}$  will be minimized with respect to  $G_2$  when  $G_2$  approaches infinity. Setting the partial derivative of  $\bar{A}$  with respect to  $G_1$  equal to zero yields

$$\bar{G}_1 \bar{G}_2 (2G_1 - a_{n2}) = (1 + G_1^2 + \bar{G}_2) (\bar{G}_2 - a_{n2} \bar{G}_1) \quad (3-22)$$

Assuming that the terms  $a_{n1}$  and  $a_{n2}$  are small compared to  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , equation (3-22) gives an approximate relationship between  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  as

$$G_1 \approx \sqrt{G_2} \quad (3-23)$$

Therefore if  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  were chosen on the basis of minimizing the error caused by  $f_2$  alone,  $G_2$  would be chosen as large as possible and  $G_1$  would be chosen as the square-root of  $G_2$ . The values of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , however, also affect the noise transmitted. Assuming that  $n$  is white noise, the variance of the estimation error caused by this noise is given by

$$\sigma_{1n}^2 = C_n \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |T_{12}(j\omega)|^2 d\omega \quad (3-24)$$

$$\sigma_{2n}^2 = C_n \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |T_{22}(j\omega)|^2 d\omega \quad (3-25)$$

where  $\sigma_{1n}^2$  and  $\sigma_{2n}^2$  are the variance of  $\tilde{e}_{1n}$  and  $\tilde{e}_{2n}$  and  $C_n$  is the amplitude

of the noise spectral density. As before, the integrals in equations (3-24) and (3-25) are defined as  $A_{12}$  and  $A_{22}$ . Evaluation of these integrals yields

$$A_{12} = \frac{\pi}{G_1} \left[ G_1^2 + \frac{1}{G_2} + 2 a_{n1} + \frac{a_{n1}^2}{G_2} \right] \quad (3-26)$$

$$A_{22} = \frac{\pi}{G_1} \left[ G_2^2 + \frac{G_1^2 a_{n1}^2}{G_2} \right] \quad (3-27)$$

As seen from the above equations,  $A_{12}$  and  $A_{22}$  increase with increasing  $G_2$ . Thus  $G_2$  cannot be arbitrarily large since the noise transmitted may be unreasonable. The estimator gains, therefore, will be chosen by selecting a large value of  $G_2$ , taking  $G_1$  according to (3-23), and then evaluating (3-24) and (3-25) to see if the noise transmitted is acceptable.

#### D - Choice of Nominal Parameter Values

The estimator parameters  $a_{n1}$ ,  $a_{n2}$ ,  $K_{an}$  and  $(K_a/T_{an})$  still remain to be chosen. The values of these parameters affect the estimation error through the forcing term  $f_2$  defined in (3-2). These parameters should be chosen to minimize this term, although it is not immediately apparent how to do so. The parameters  $a_{n2}$  and  $K_{an}$  will simply be chosen to minimize the maximum values of  $\Delta a_{n2}$  and  $\Delta K_{an}$ . The terms  $a_{n1}$  and  $(K_a/T_{an})$ , however, can be chosen on the basis of reducing the steady state error for a step input to the system as shown below.

In the case where the reference signal  $r$  is a step input to the system with no disturbances present, the steady state value of  $f_2$  is denoted by  $f_{2SS}$  where

$$f_{2SS} = \Delta a_{n1} x_1 + \Delta \frac{K_a}{T_a} \delta \quad (3-28)$$

Also the steady state value of  $\delta$  is given by

$$\delta = \frac{x_1}{K_{SS}} \quad (3-29)$$

where

$$K_{SS} = \frac{(K_a/T_a)}{-a_1}$$

Substituting  $\delta$  from (3-29) into (3-28) along with the definitions of  $\Delta a_{n1}$  and  $\Delta(K_a/T_a)$  yields

$$f_{2SS} = \left[ -a_{n1} - \frac{(K_a/T_a)}{K_{SS}} \right] x_1 \quad (3-30)$$

The terms  $a_{n1}$  and  $(K_a/T_a)$  can then be chosen on the basis of keeping (3-30) small over the range of values of  $K_{SS}$ .

CHAPTER IV  
FINAL SYSTEM EQUATIONS

A - The Estimator

The form of the estimator equation is given by (3-4) and the method of choosing the estimator parameters is given in Sections III-C and III-D. In this section the final numerical values of the estimator parameters will be given.

The estimator parameters  $a_{n1}$ ,  $a_{n2}$ ,  $K_{an}$  and  $(K_a/T_a)_n$  are chosen as explained in Section III-D. The values of  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $K_a/T_a$ , and  $K_{ss}$  for the ten cases in Table I are shown in Table II.

Table II

Case	$a_1$	$a_2$	$K_a/T_a$	$K_{ss}$
1	- 1.21	-1.40	.927	.766
2	- 7.95	-3.14	18.4	2.31
3	- 2.37	-1.33	3.70	1.56
4	-60.8	-7.21	89.9	1.48
5	-41.1	-1.99	16.2	.395
6	-15.2	- .585	1.99	.131
7	-22.8	-1.01	4.40	.192
8	-21.8	-4.97	38.2	1.75
9	- 6.10	-1.42	2.98	.489
10	-26.0	-4.39	89.7	3.45



The parameters  $a_{n2}$  and  $K_{an}$  are chosen to minimize the maximum values of  $\Delta a_{n2}$  and  $\Delta K_{an}$ . The parameter  $a_2$  given in Table II varies approximately from 0 to 7, therefore  $a_{n2}$  is taken as 3.5. Similarly from Table I,  $K_a$  is seen to vary from 3 to 76. The nominal estimator parameter  $K_{an}$  is therefore taken as 40.

The parameters  $a_{n1}$  and  $(K_a/T_{an})$  are chosen on the basis of keeping the bracketed term in (3-29) small over the range of  $K_{ss}$ . From Table II it is seen that  $K_{ss}$  varies from .13 to 3.5. If  $(K_a/T_{an})$  is chosen as .5, then the term  $(K_a/T_{an})/K_{ss}$  varies from .14 to 3.8. The parameter  $a_{n1}$  is then taken as -2.0 to give the least variation of  $f_{2ss}$ .

As explained in Section III-C, the gains  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  should be as large as possible without resulting in an unreasonable amount of noise being transmitted. If  $G_1$  is chosen as 1000, then the value of  $G_2$  is taken as 32 from equation (3-23). These values and the values of  $a_{n1}$  and  $a_{n2}$  above give the natural frequency and damping ratio of the second order denominator of the elements of the transfer function matrix  $T(S)$ . These are defined as  $\omega_n$  and  $\zeta_n$  and are found as  $\omega_n = 33.5$  rad./sec. and  $\zeta_n = .53$ .

The additive noise term  $n$  taken as bandlimited white noise with a standard deviation of .03 deg./sec. and a bandwidth of 750 rad./sec. The bandwidth of the noise is large enough so that the estimation error due to noise can be found from (3-24) and (3-25). The amplitude of the noise spectral density is  $C_n = .762(10^{-6})$  and the terms  $A_{12}$  and  $A_{22}$  are found from (3-26) and (3-27) as  $A_{12} = 188$ ,  $A_{22} = 89(10^3)$ . This gives the standard deviation of the estimation

error as  $\sigma_{1n} = .012 \text{ deg./sec.}$  and  $\sigma_{2n} = .26 \text{ deg./sec.}^2$ . If the  $3\sigma$  value of the error is taken as the maximum, then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \tilde{e}_{1n} \right|_{\max} &= .036 \text{ deg./sec.} \\ \left| \tilde{e}_{2n} \right|_{\max} &= .78 \text{ deg./sec.}^2 \end{aligned} \quad (4-1)$$

Since these are acceptable errors due to noise, the estimator parameter values are taken as above.

The final estimator equation is then given by (4-2).

$$\dot{\hat{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -2 & -3.5 \end{bmatrix} \hat{x} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 40\delta + .5\delta \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 32 \\ 1000 \end{bmatrix} (y_g - \hat{x}_1) \quad (4-2)$$

### B - The Non-Linear Controller

The non-linear control equation was derived in Section II-A and is given by equation (2-12). To obtain the quantity M, bounds on the terms containing  $\tilde{e}_1$ ,  $\tilde{e}_2$ , and  $D_{\max}$  are needed. The method for obtaining these bounds is given below.

The estimator error caused by  $f_2$  is given by (3-11) as

$$\begin{aligned} E_{1f}(S) &= T_{11}(S) F_2(S) \\ E_{2f}(S) &= T_{21}(S) F_2(S) \end{aligned} \quad (4-3)$$

The natural frequency and damping ratio of the second order denominator of the elements of T(S) were found to be  $\omega_n = 33.5 \text{ rad./sec.}$  and  $\zeta_n = .53$ . The term  $T_{11}(S)$  does not have any zeros and the term  $T_{21}(S)$  has a first order numerator with a "break" frequency of  $32 \text{ rad./sec.}$  Examining the gain vs. frequency curves, a bound on the steady-state sinusoidal gain of  $T_{11}(S)$  and  $T_{21}(S)$  can be

taken as 1.5x (transfer function d. c. gain). A constraint equation for  $\tilde{e}_f$  can therefore be taken as

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{e}_{1f}(t) &\leq \frac{1.5}{\bar{G}_2} f_2(t) \\ \tilde{e}_{2f}(t) &\leq \frac{1.5G_1}{\bar{G}_2} f_2(t)\end{aligned}\tag{4-4}$$

The term  $M$  defined in (2-12) is now written as

$$M = \left[ A_1 \left| \hat{x}_1 \right| + A_2 \left| \hat{x}_2 \right| + A_3 \left| r \right| + A_4 \left| \delta \right| + \bar{M} \right]\tag{4-5}$$

where

$$\bar{M} = \left| \frac{(a_1 - a_{01})}{b_1} \tilde{e}_1 \right|_{\max} + \left| \frac{(a_2 - a_{02})}{b_1} \tilde{e}_2 \right|_{\max} + \left| \frac{K_d D}{b_1} \right|_{\max}$$

Using (3-12) in conjunction with (4-4) and the definition of  $f_2$  given in (3-2), the term  $\bar{M}$  can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{M} &= \left\{ \frac{1.5}{\bar{G}_2 b_1} \left[ \left| \Delta a_{c1} \right| + G_1 \left| \Delta a_{c2} \right| \right] \left[ \left| \Delta a_{n1} \right| \left| x_1 \right|_{\max} \right. \right. \\ &+ \left. \left| \Delta a_{n2} \right| \left| x_2 \right|_{\max} + \left| \Delta K a \right| \left| \delta \right|_{\max} + \left| \Delta \frac{K a}{T a} \right| \left| \delta \right|_{\max} \right] \\ &+ \left| \frac{\Delta a_{c1}}{b_1} \right| \left| \tilde{e}_{1n} \right|_{\max} + \left| \frac{\Delta a_{c2}}{b_1} \right| \left| \tilde{e}_{2n} \right|_{\max} + \left| \frac{K d}{b_1} \left( \frac{1.5}{\bar{G}_2} \right. \right. \\ &\left. \left. + 1 \right) \right| \left| \dot{D} \right|_{\max} \left. \right\}\end{aligned}\tag{4-6}$$

where

$$\Delta a_{ci} = a_i - a_{oi} \quad i = 1, 2$$

To evaluate  $M$ , the following bounds are assumed.

$$\left| x_1 \right|_{\max} = 50 \text{ deg./sec.}, \quad \left| x_2 \right|_{\max} = 100 \text{ deg./sec.}^2$$

$$\left| \delta \right|_{\max} = 50 \text{ deg.}, \quad \left| \dot{\delta} \right|_{\max} = 50 \text{ deg./sec.}$$

The disturbance term  $D$  is a perturbation of the angle of attack of the aircraft due to wind gusts. The rate of change of  $D$  will be assumed to have a maximum value of  $\left| \dot{D} \right|_{\max} = 100 \text{ deg./sec.}$  The maximum values of  $\tilde{e}_{1n}$  and  $\tilde{e}_{2n}$  are given in (4-1) as  $.036 \text{ deg./sec.}$  and  $.78 \text{ deg./sec.}$ <sup>2</sup>.

With the above bounds substituted into (4-6), and with the servo time constant taken as  $T_h = .05$  and the model reference parameters taken as  $\zeta_o = .8$  and  $\omega_o = 3$ , the values of  $\bar{M}$  can be computed for the ten cases in Table I. Computing these values, the maximum value of  $\bar{M}$  is found to be 10.6 degrees. Similarly, the values for  $A_1, A_2, A_3,$  and  $A_4$  as defined in (2-8) were computed for the ten cases as .2, .1, 1.0 and 1.0 respectively. The final form of  $M$  can now be found from (4-5).

The only remaining parameters to be chosen in (2-12) are the terms  $B_{12}$  and  $B_{22}$  appearing in the definition of  $\hat{\gamma}$ . The effect of these terms on the system error can be seen from equations (2-25) and (2-26). For a given estimation error, as the ratio of  $B_{22}$  to  $B_{12}$  increases,  $\left| e_1 \right|_{\max}$  increases and  $\left| e_2 \right|_{\max}$  decreases. Since the purpose of the control technique is to control  $x_1$  or the rate of the aircraft,  $e_1$  is of primary interest and therefore the ratio of  $B_{22}$  to  $B_{12}$  should be taken as small as possible. Substituting the values of

$a_{01}$  and  $a_{02}$  into the first two equations in (2-7), the ratio  $B_{22}/B_{12}$  can be found as given below.

$$\frac{B_{22}}{B_{12}} = .208 + 1.88 \frac{Q_{22}}{Q_{11}} \quad (4-7)$$

If the ratio  $Q_{22}/Q_{11}$  is kept very small, then  $B_{22}/B_{12}$  will be close to its minimum value of .208. Choosing  $Q_{11} = 9.6$  and  $Q_{22} = .22$  gives the values of  $B_{12}$  and  $B_{22}$  as  $B_{12} = 1.0$ ,  $B_{22} = .25$ .

Substituting the expression for  $M$  and  $\hat{\gamma}$  in (2-12) using the above parameters, the final form of the control signal for the non-linear controller is as follows.

$$u = \left[ .2 \left| \hat{x}_1 \right| + .1 \left| \hat{x}_2 \right| + \left| r \right| + \left| \delta \right| + 10.6 \right] \text{SIGN} (\hat{e}_1 + .25 \hat{e}_2) \quad (4-8)$$

### C - The Linear Controller

The linear control equation was derived in Section II-C and is given by (2-18). Substituting for  $\hat{\gamma}$ , this equation is written as

$$u = L^* (B_{12} \hat{e}_1 + B_{22} \hat{e}_2) \quad (4-9)$$

If, as in the previous section,  $B_{22}/B_{12} = .25$ , (4-9) becomes

$$u = M^* (\hat{e}_1 + .25 \hat{e}_2) \quad (4-10)$$

where

$$M^* = L^* B_{12}$$

The term  $L^*$  is defined in (2-17). The bounds on  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $D$  are the same as in the previous section and the bound on  $r$  is taken as 50 deg./sec.

The term  $L^*$  is then found by taking its maximum value for the ten cases in Table I. The resultant value is found to be 108 degrees. If the gain  $M^*$  is taken as 1000,  $B_{12}$  is then equal to 9.3. Therefore, as shown in Figure 2, the region of imperfect control due to the controller is narrow even for this extreme case. Hence, the system error depends mainly on the estimation error as shown in Figure 7.

The final control equation for the linear controller is then taken as

$$u = 1000 (\hat{e}_1 + .25 \hat{e}_2) \quad (4-11)$$

## CHAPTER V

### EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

The system was simulated on an analog computer using the estimator described by equation (4-2) and using both the non-linear and linear controllers given in equations (4-8) and (4-11). The ten cases of parameter variations given in Table I were run for both step and sinusoidal reference inputs. The disturbance response was simulated using an impulsive gust input and also a turbulence input consisting of bandlimited random noise. In all cases the results of the non-linear and linear controllers was almost identical, and therefore only one set of results is shown.

The uncontrolled plant step responses are shown in Figures 8 and 9 for the ten cases to illustrate the wide variation caused by the plant's changing parameters. Figures 10 and 11 show the controlled plant response to a step input and Figures 12 and 13 show the response to a sinusoidal input. It is seen that in both cases the plant output follows the model reference output very closely. The disturbance response is shown in Figures 14 and 15. Figure 14 shows the response to an approximate impulse disturbance modeled by the disturbance input

$$D = \alpha_0 (1 - e^{-t}) \quad (5-1)$$

where  $\alpha_0$  is the initial angle of attack of the aircraft which was taken as 5 degrees. Figure 15 shows the response to an air turbulence type disturbance

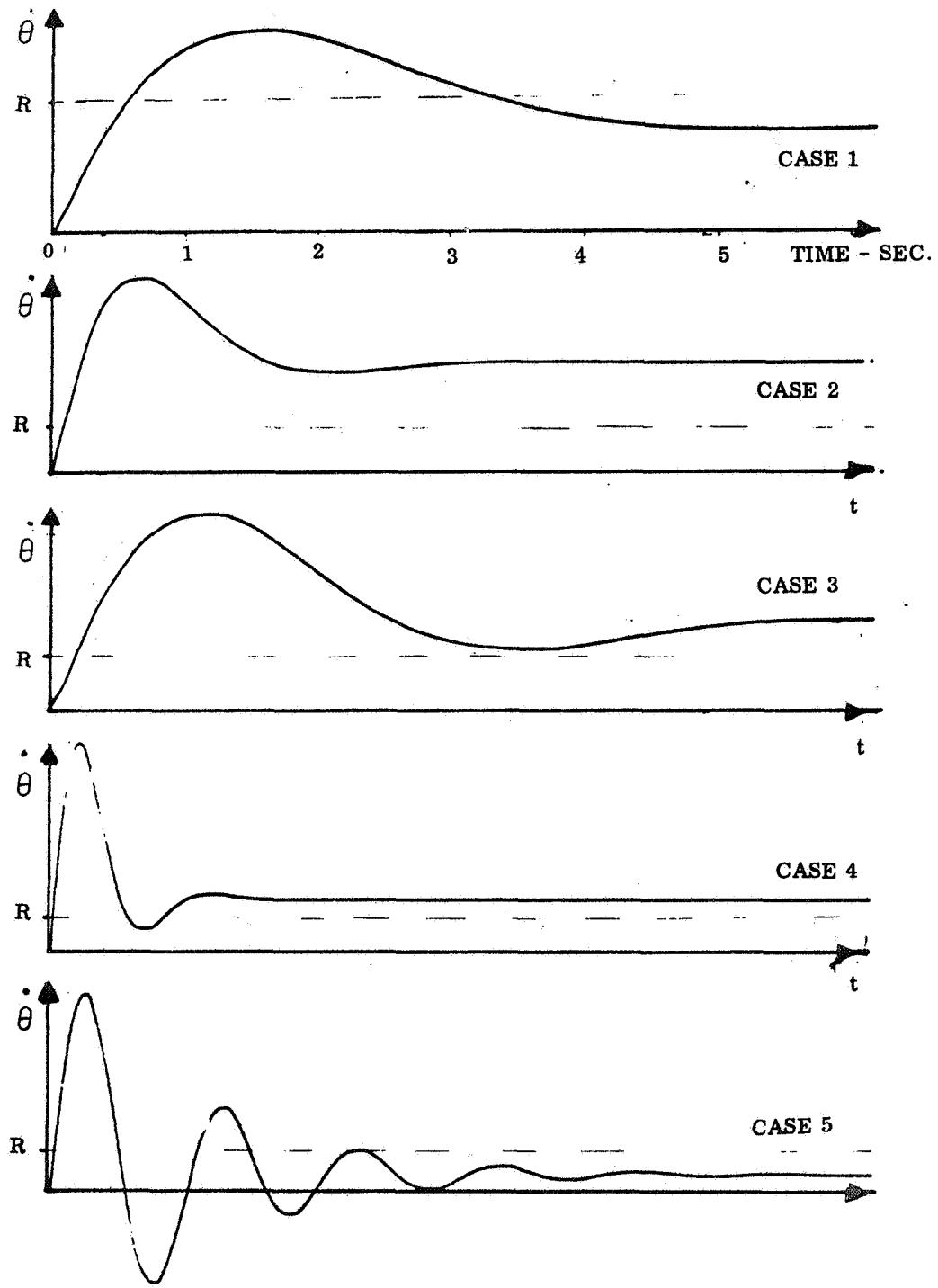


Figure 8 Uncontrolled Plant Response



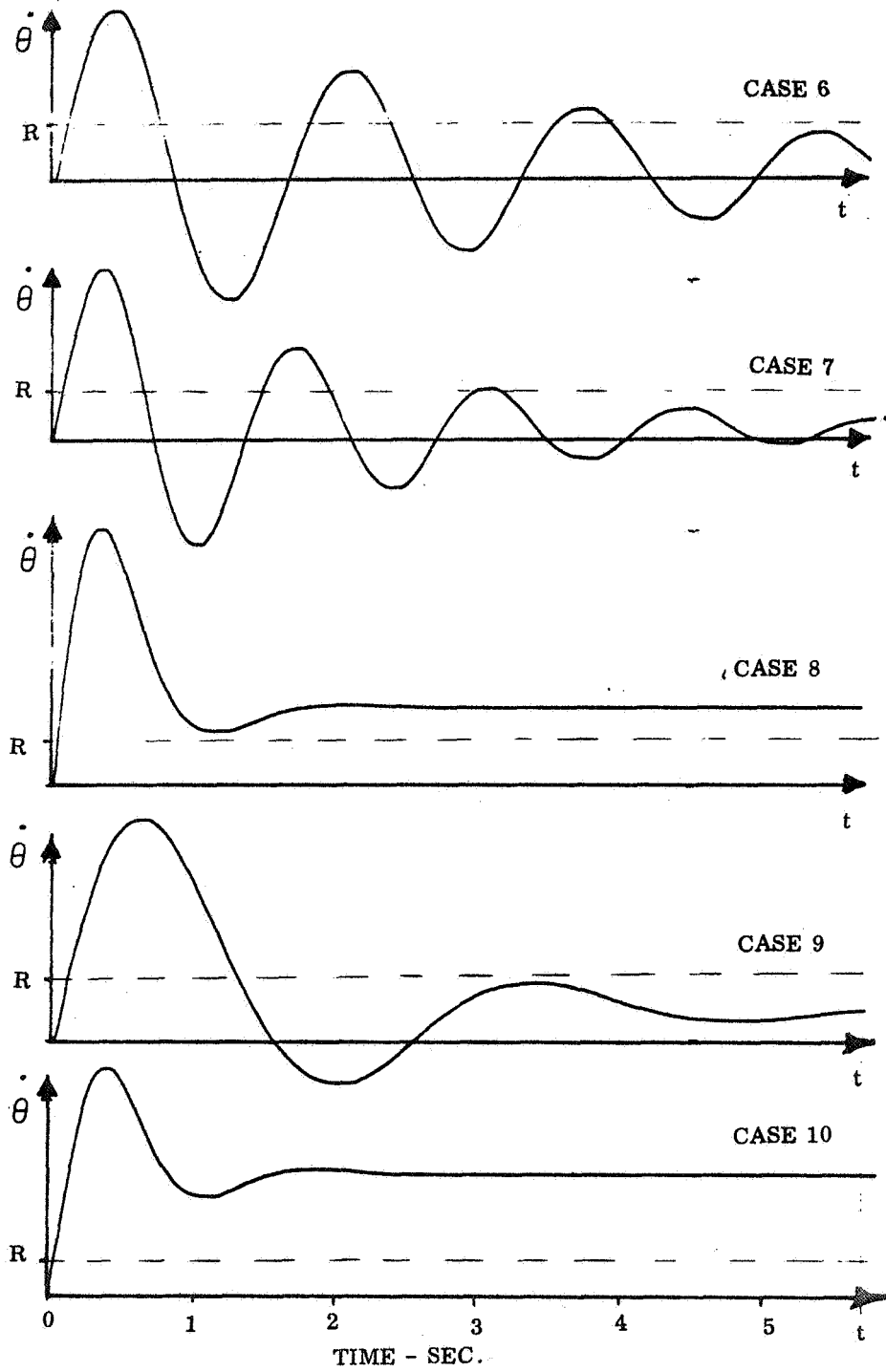


Figure 9 Uncontrolled Plant Response

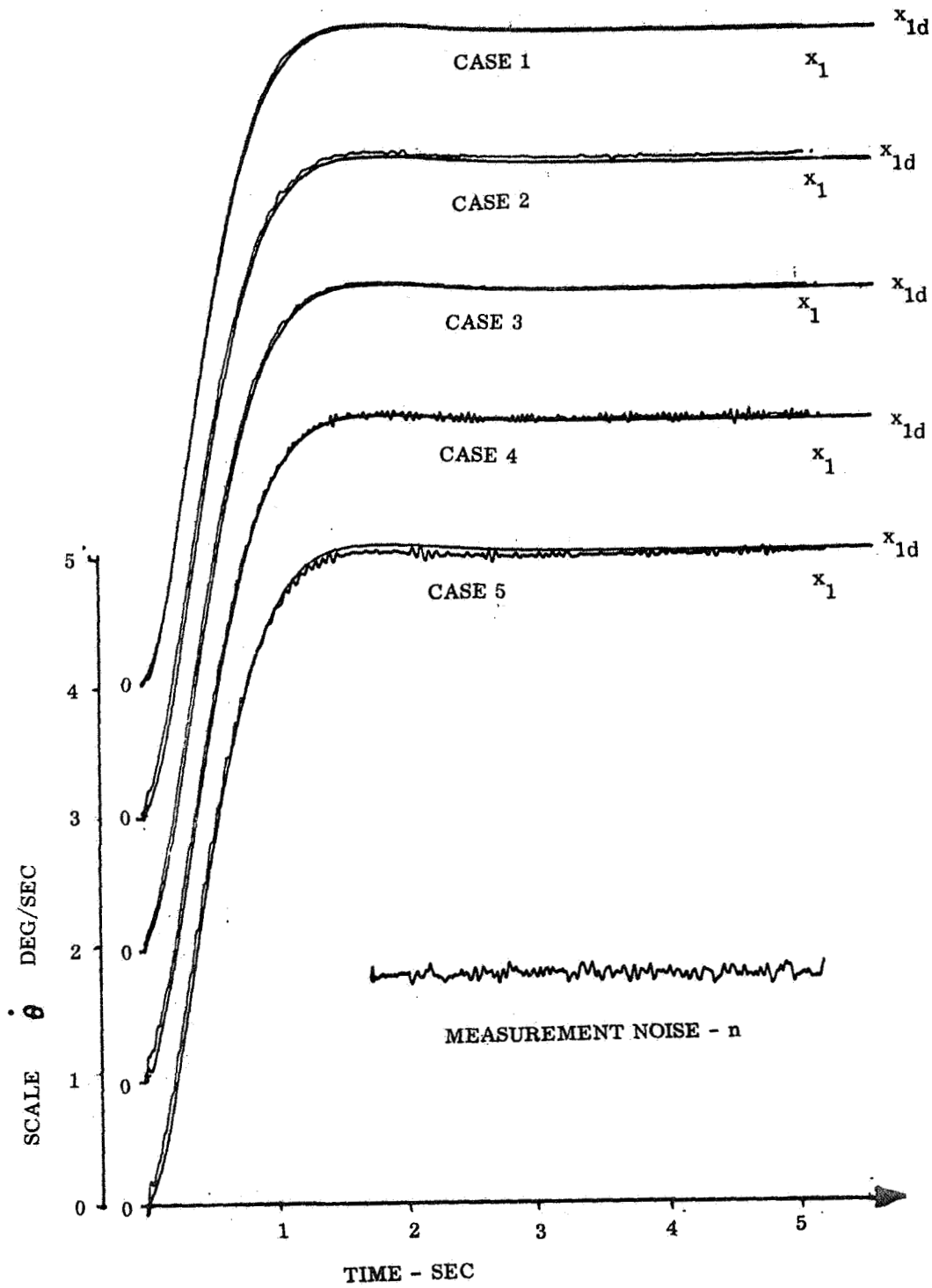


Figure 10 Controlled Plant Response - Step Input

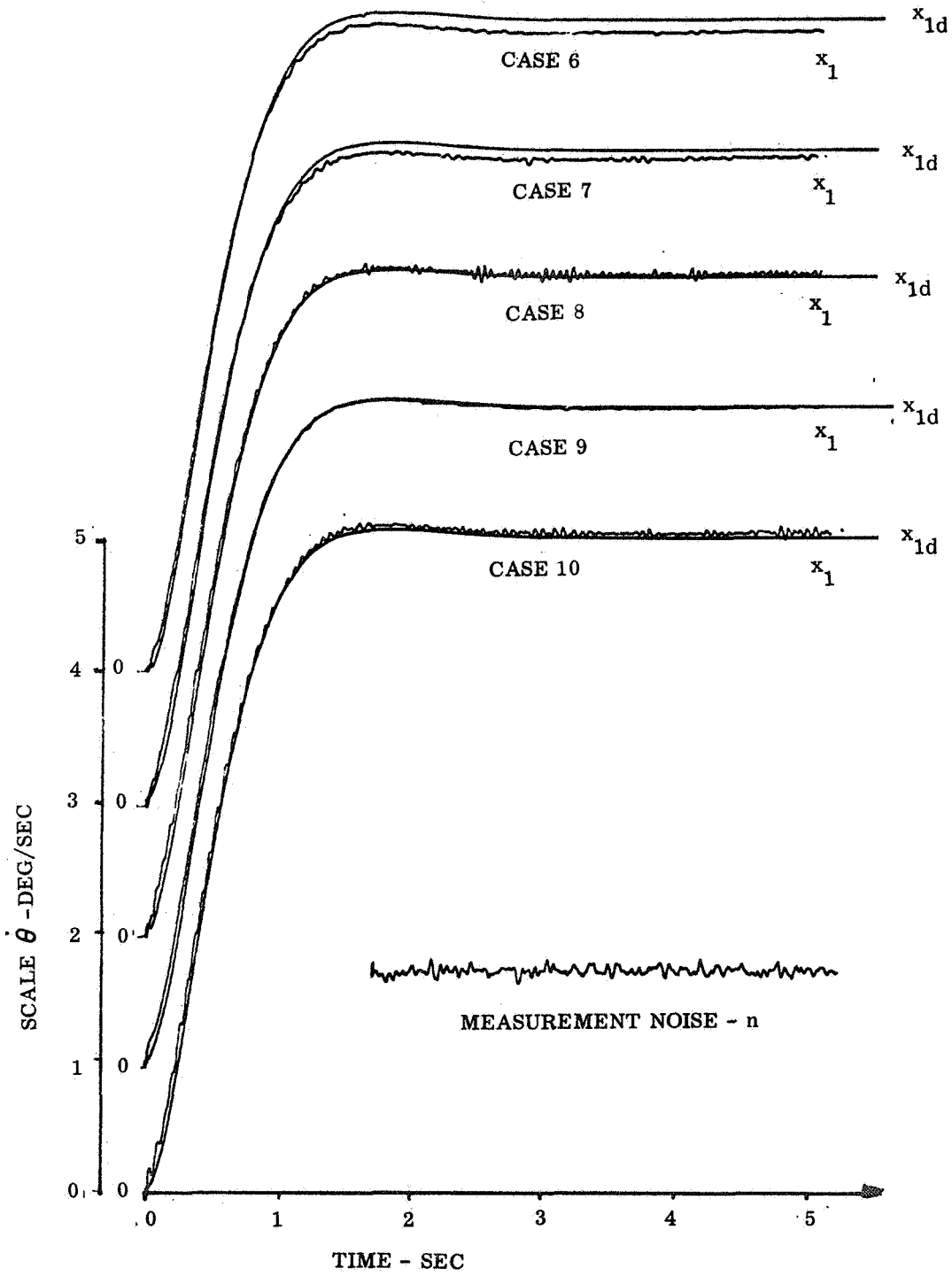


Figure 11 Controlled Plant Response - Step Input

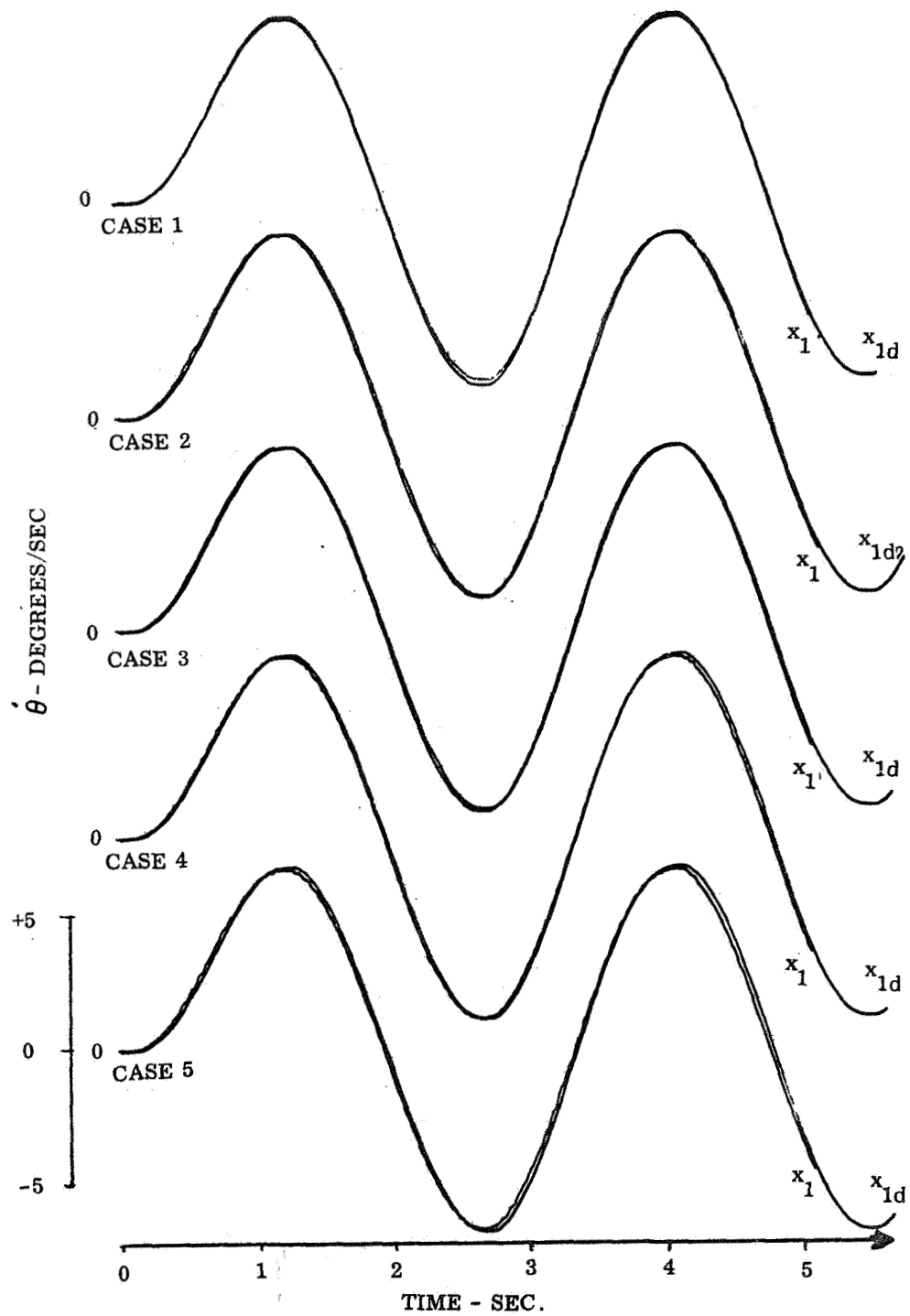


Figure 12 Controlled Plant Response - Sinusoidal Input

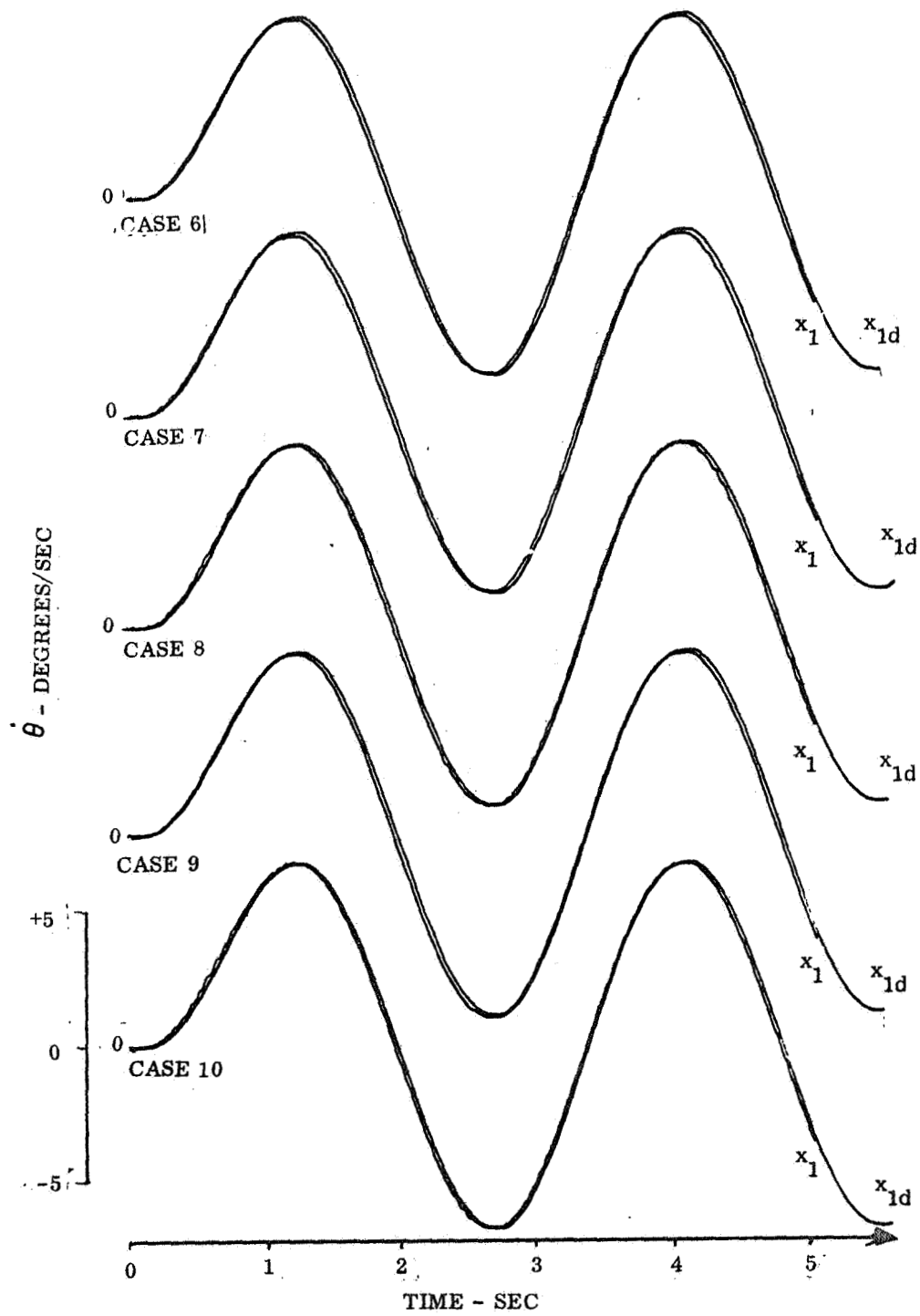


Figure 13 Controlled Plant Response = Sinusoidal Input

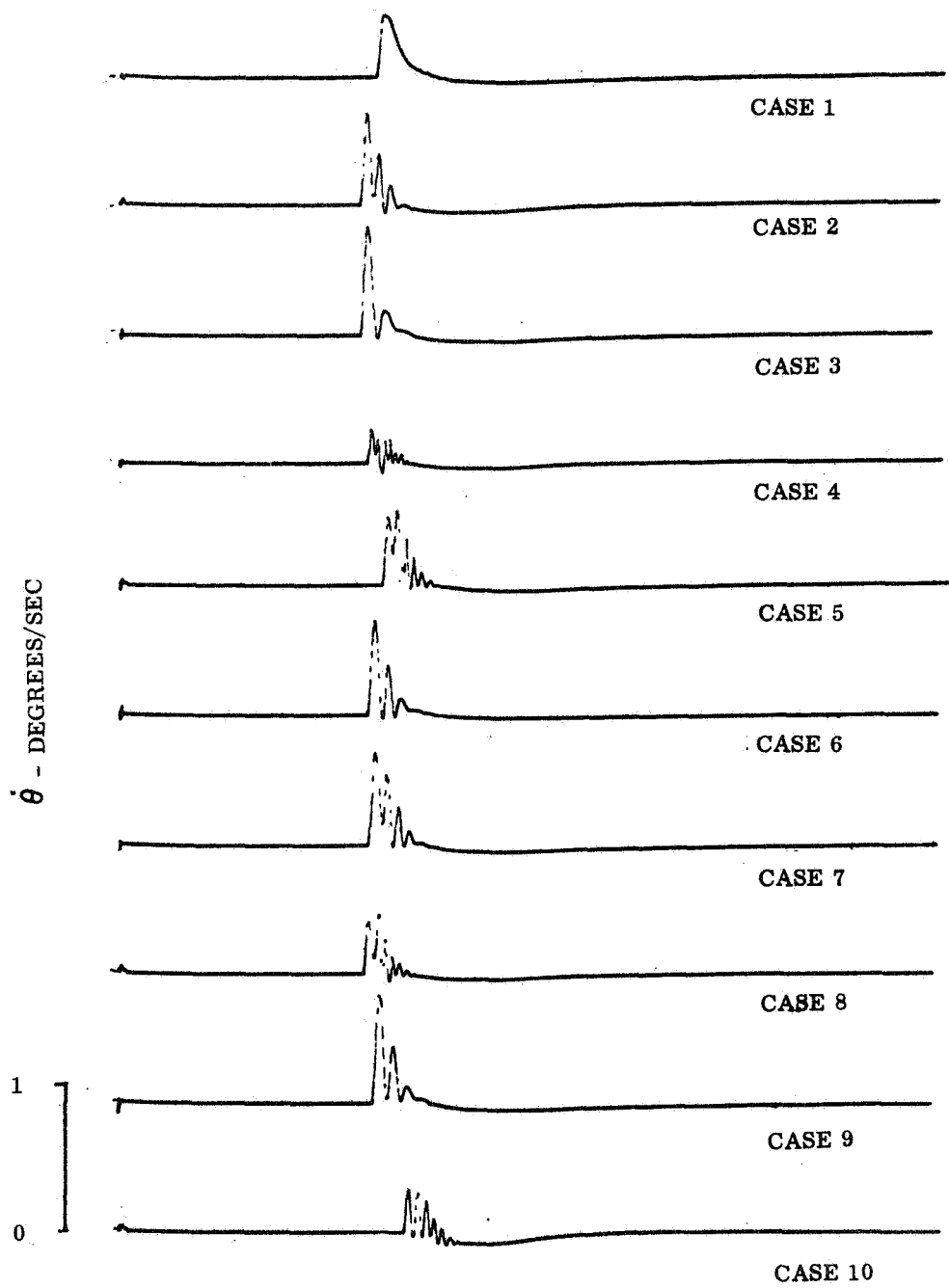


Figure 14 Impulsive Disturbance Response

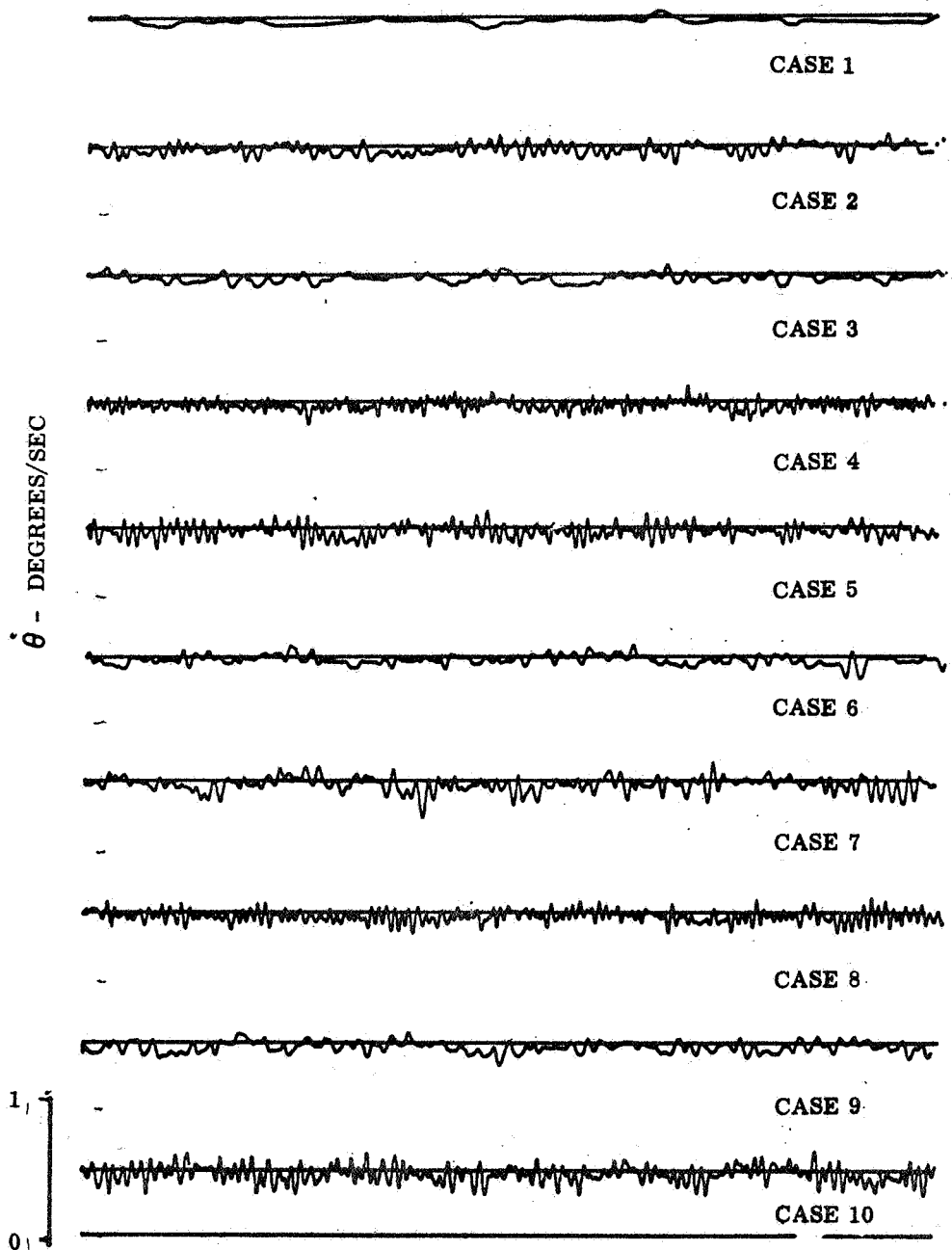


Figure 15 Turbulence Response

which was modeled as band-limited white noise with a standard deviation of 1 degree and a bandwidth of 1 rad./sec. The results show that in all cases the disturbances are quickly damped and there is no excessive response due to turbulence.



CHAPTER VI  
EFFECT OF HIGHER ORDER DYNAMICS

In the system as formulated in Chapter I, the servo actuator was represented as a first-order system and the dynamics of the rate gyro were ignored. These approximations are valid for low gain systems where any higher order dynamics will not affect system stability. However, as seen by the linear control law given by (4-11), the linear system as designed incorporates a high gain feedback. This results in stability problems if the higher order effects are included in the system model and it requires that additional compensation be included in the system. To determine this compensation, the system using the linear control law will be analyzed in the frequency domain using higher order models of the actuator and gyro.

The system using the linear control law can be represented in block diagram form as shown in Figure 16, where  $G_h(s)$ ,  $G_g(s)$ , and  $G_a(s)$  are the servo actuator, gyro, and aircraft transfer function respectively. To determine the estimator transfer function, the time domain estimator equation is transformed into the frequency domain. The matrix equation (4-2) yields

$$\dot{\hat{x}}_1 = \hat{x}_2 + 32 (y_g - \hat{x}_1) \quad (6-1)$$

$$\dot{\hat{x}}_2 = -2\hat{x}_1 - 3.5\hat{x}_2 + 40 \dot{\delta} + .5\delta + 1000 (y_g - \hat{x}_1) \quad (6-2)$$

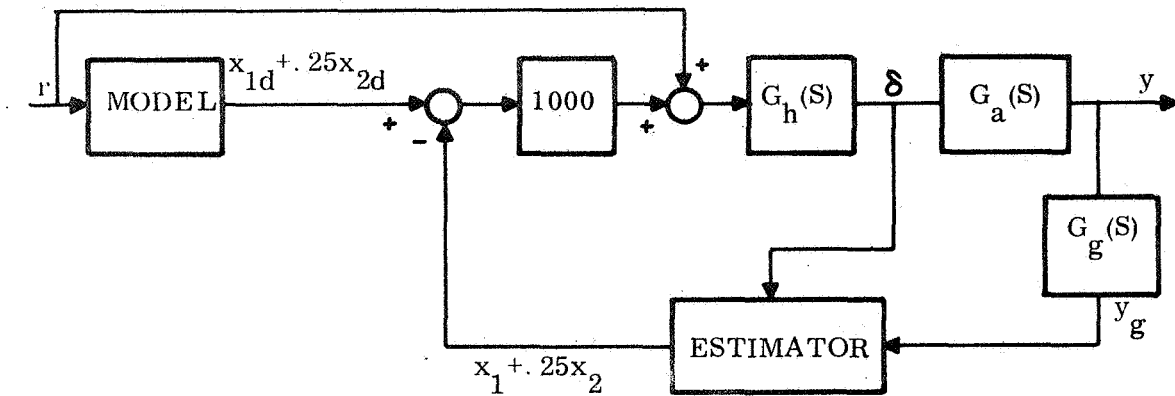


Figure 16 Linear System

Conversion of (6-1) and (6-2) from the time domain into the frequency domain gives the transfer functions relating  $\hat{\underline{x}}$  to  $y_g$  and  $\delta$  as

$$\hat{x}_1(S) = \frac{(32S + 1112) Y_g(S) + (40S + .5) \delta(S)}{S^2 + 35.5S + 1114} \quad (6-3)$$

$$\hat{x}_2(S) = \frac{(1000S - 64) Y_g(S) + (40S^2 + 1280S + 16) \delta(S)}{S^2 + 35.5S + 1114} \quad (6-4)$$

The relation between  $Y_g(S)$  and  $\delta(S)$  is

$$Y_g(S) = \left[ G_a(S) G_g(S) \right] \delta(S) \quad (6-5)$$

Substituting (6-5) into (6-3) and (6-4), the output of the estimator as shown in

Figure 16 can be written as

$$\hat{x}_1(S) + .25\hat{x}_2(S) = H(S) \delta(S) \quad (6-6)$$

where

$$H(S) = \frac{(282S + 1096) G_g(S) G_a(S) + 10S^2 + 360S + 4.5}{S^2 + 35.5S + 1114}$$

The block diagram in Figure 16 is now rewritten as shown in Figure 17.

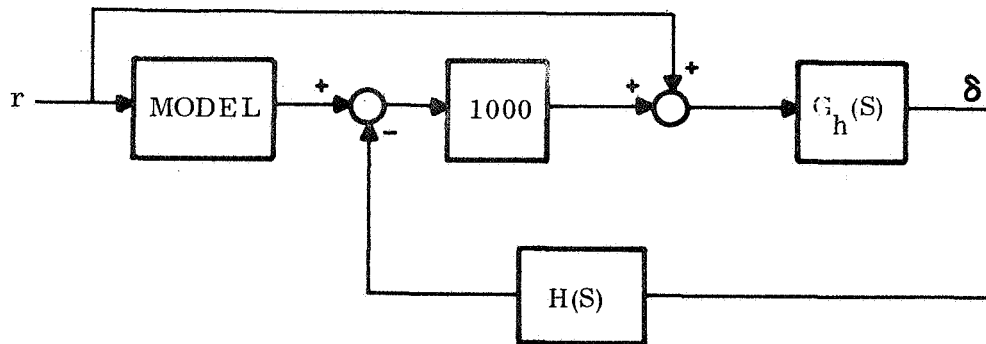


Figure 17 Linear System

The stability of the system shown in Figure 17 is determined by the loop gain function  $1000G_h(S)H(S)$ . The transfer functions for the actuator and gyro are taken as

$$G_h(S) = \frac{4900}{(.05S + 1)(S^2 + 70S + 4900)} \quad (6-7)$$

$$G_g(S) = \frac{22500}{S^2 + 150S + 22500} \quad (6-8)$$

The second order term of the actuator transfer function and the gyro transfer function were both obtained from a linear design technique presented in Reference [6]. Using (6-7), (6-8) and  $H(S)$  as defined in (6-6), the loop gain function is given by (6-9).

$$L(S) = 1000G_h(S)H(S)$$

$$L(S) = \frac{\left\{ (1000)(4900) \left[ (10S^2 + 360S + 4.5)(S^2 + 150S + 22500) \right. \right.}{\left. \left. (S^2 + 2\zeta_a \omega_a S + \omega_a^2) + (22500) K_a (S + 1/T_a)(282S + 1096) \right] \right\}}{\left\{ (.05S + 1)(S^2 + 70S + 4900)(S^2 + 150S + 22500) \right.} \quad (6-9)$$

$$\left. \left. (S^2 + 35.5S + 1114)(S^2 + 2\zeta_a \omega_a S + \omega_a^2) \right\}$$

where  $K_a$ ,  $T_a$ ,  $\omega_a$ ,  $\zeta_a$  are defined as in (1-1).

The magnitude and phase plots of  $L(S)$  for Cases 1 and 4 are shown in Figure 19. For frequencies above 10 rad. / sec., the phase plots for the other eight cases fall within the phase plots of the two cases shown. From this figure it is obvious that the system as it now stands is unstable. To remedy this situation, a compensator is included in the system as shown in Figure 18.

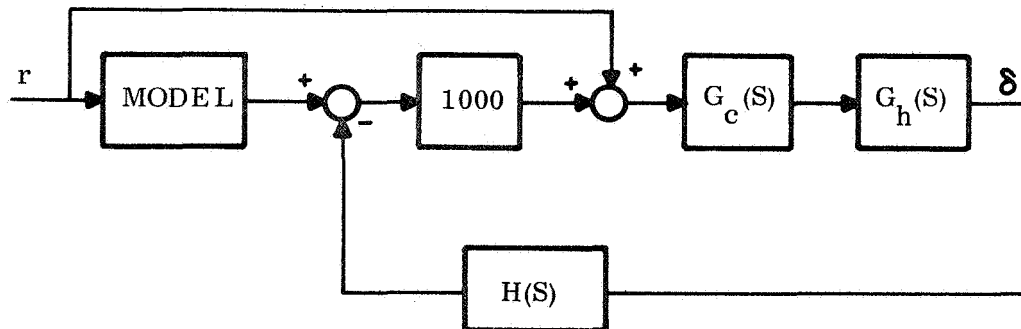


Figure 18 Compensated System

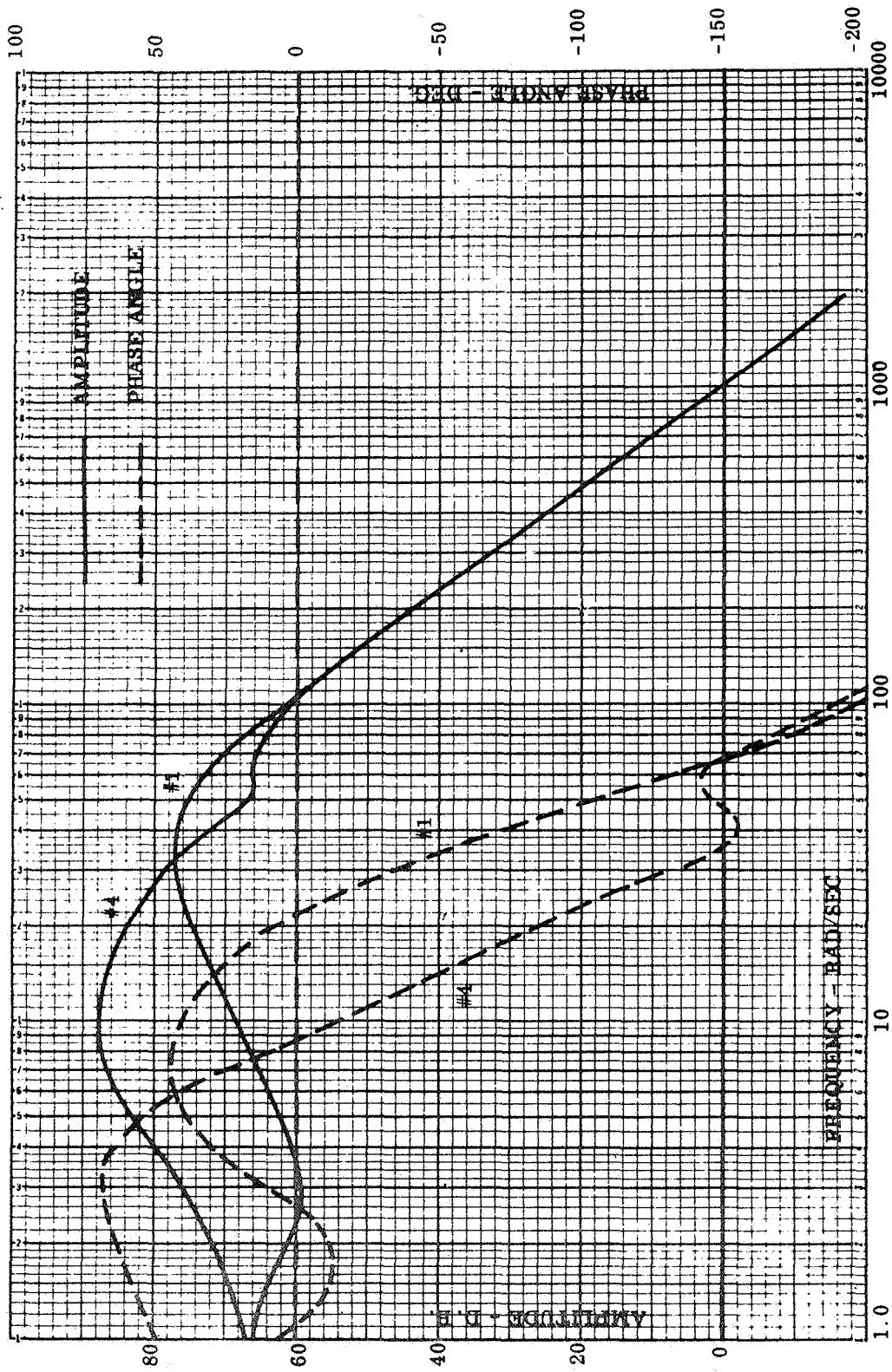


Figure 19. Magnitude and Phase For Uncompensated System

The compensator,  $G_c(S)$ , is taken as

$$G_c(S) = \frac{\left(\frac{S}{150} + 1\right)^2 \left(\frac{S}{5000} + 1\right)}{\left(\frac{S}{1200} + 1\right) \left[ \frac{S^2}{(30,000)^2} + \frac{2(.5)}{30,000} S + 1 \right]} \quad (6-10)$$

The gain and phase plots of the open loop compensated system are shown in Figure 20. It is seen that the system is now stable with adequate phase margin. Also, since the gain and phase angle are hardly affected below 50 rad., this additional compensation should not appreciably affect the response of the system.

As shown above, when higher order dynamics are considered, the system using the linear control law can be made stable by addition of proper compensation. In the case of the non-linear controller, however, the required compensation cannot be found through linear analysis. To determine the stability characteristics of the non-linear system, the system would probably have to be simulated with the higher order dynamics included in the simulation. Proper compensation would then be sought through experimental means.

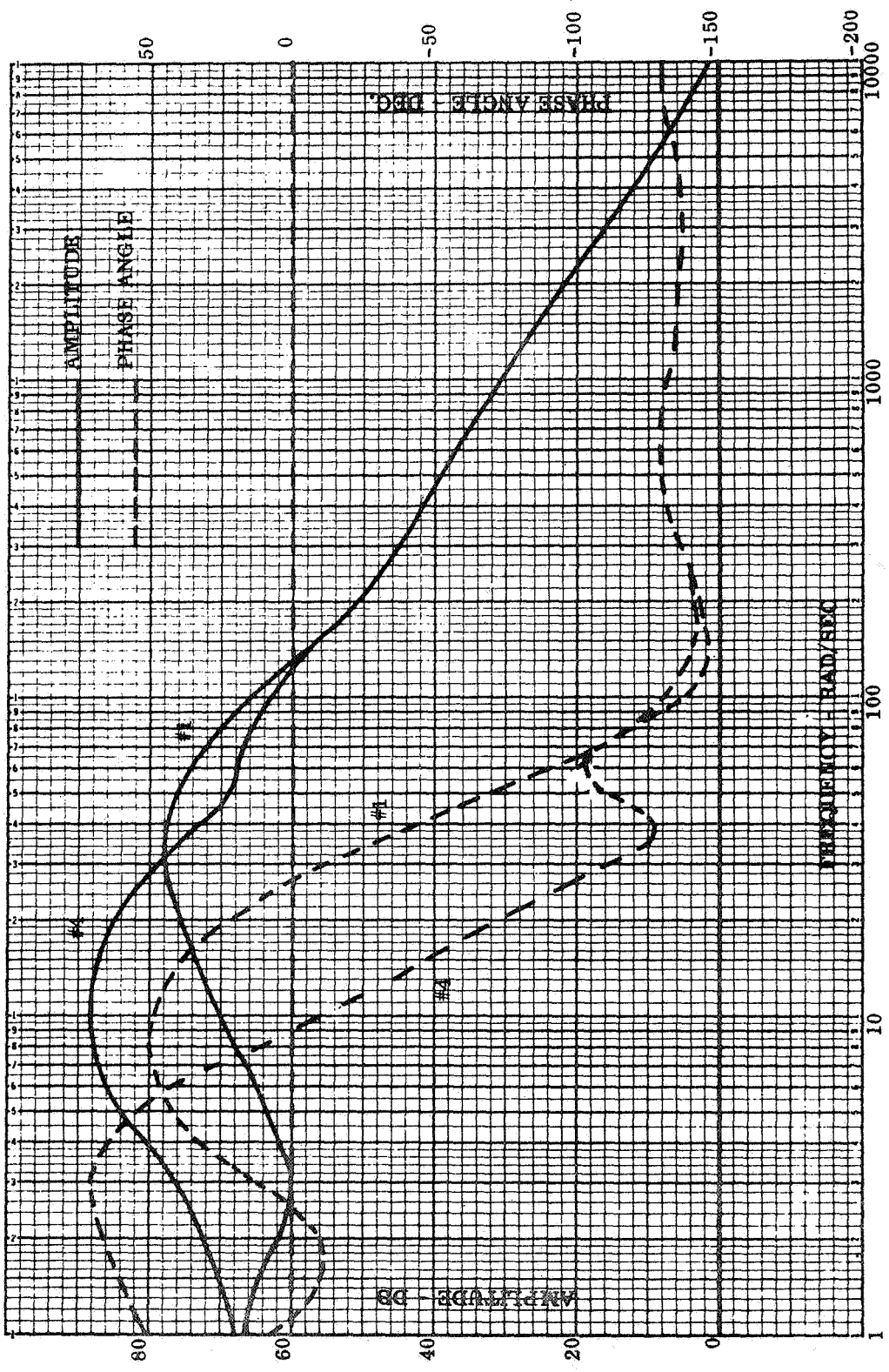


Figure 20. Magnitude and Phase for Compensated System

## CHAPTER VII

## CONCLUSIONS

In this report two designs for a flight control system were presented; one using a linear control law and the other using a non-linear control law. Both designs employ a linear estimator to obtain an estimate of pitch rate and its derivative for use in the control laws. Using approximate models for the actuator and gyro, both designs yielded excellent results. It was found, however, that stability problems existed if the higher order dynamics of the actuator and gyro were considered. In the case of the linear system, a compensator was included in the system to obtain stability. No stability analysis was performed on the non-linear system, however, and the system would have to be simulated to determine its stability characteristics. This stability problem necessitates that topics for further investigation include other higher order effects, such as aircraft bending modes, which could affect the stability of the system.



APPENDIX A

CONTROL TECHNIQUE EMPLOYING LIAPUNOV'S DIRECT METHOD

The control technique given in Reference [1] as applied to linear systems is outlined below.

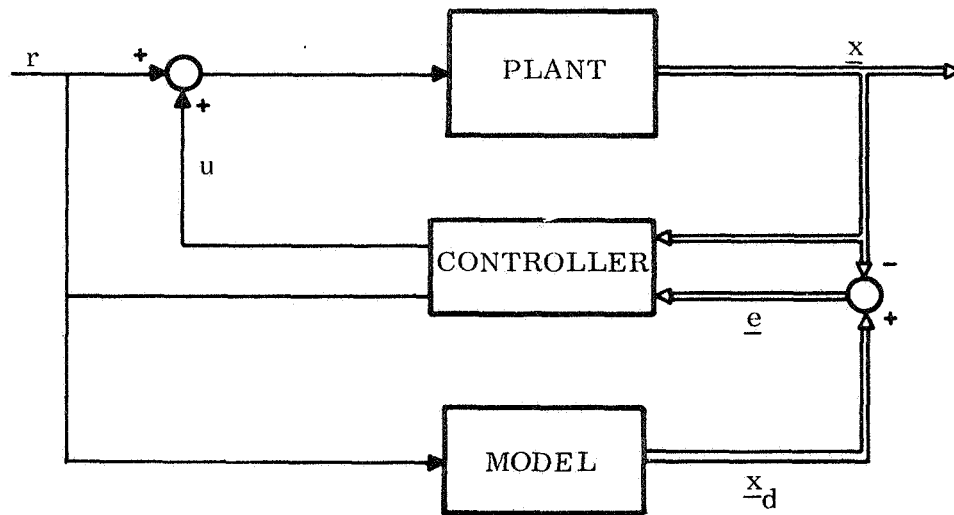


Figure A-1 Block Diagram of Control Technique

The plant in Figure A-1 is described by the vector differential equation

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = A(t)\underline{x} + \underline{b} f \quad (A-1)$$

where  $\underline{x}$  is an  $n$ -vector,  $f$  is a scalar function containing the control signal  $u$  and the reference signal  $r$ ,  $\underline{b}^T = [0, 0, \dots, 1]$ , and  $A(t)$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix of the form

$$A(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ a_1(t) & a_2(t) & a_3(t) & \cdot & \cdot & a_n(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

The control objective is to force the plant to behave like the model, which is in turn described by the n-vector differential equation

$$\dot{\underline{x}}_d = A_o \underline{x}_d + \underline{b}_o r \quad (A-2)$$

where  $A_o$  is a time-invariant nxn stability matrix of the same form as  $A(t)$  with the last row consisting of elements  $a_{o1}, a_{o2}, \dots, a_{on}$  and where  $\underline{b}_o^T = [0, 0, \dots, -a_{o1}]$ .

An error vector is defined as

$$\underline{e} = \underline{x}_d - \underline{x} \quad (A-3)$$

Equation (A-3) along with (A-1) and (A-2) yields the error vector differential equation

$$\dot{\underline{e}} = A_o \underline{e} - \Delta A(t) \underline{x} + \underline{b}_o r - \underline{b} f \quad (A-4)$$

where

$$\Delta A(t) = A(t) - A_o$$

The Liapunov function

$$V = \underline{e}^T B \underline{e} \quad (A-5)$$

is associated with (A-4). The time derivative of  $V$  is found to be

$$\dot{V} = -\underline{e}^T Q \underline{e} + h \quad (A-6)$$

where

$$-Q = A_o^T B + B A_o$$

$$h = 2\underline{e}^T B \left[ -\Delta A(t) \underline{x} + \underline{b}_o r + \underline{b} f \right]$$

If  $A_o$  is a stable matrix, and if  $Q$  is chosen as a positive matrix, then  $B$  is also positive definite. This makes  $V$  a positive definite function; thus if  $h$  can

be maintained nonpositive by the choice of  $u$ ,  $V$  will be negative definite and  $e$  will approach zero. The term  $h$  can be expressed as

$$h = -2\gamma \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta a_i(t)x_i + a_{01}r + f \right] \quad (A-7)$$

where

$$\Delta a_i(t) = a_i(t) - a_{oi}$$

$$\gamma = \sum_{i=1}^n B_{in} e_i$$

Also, for plants with linear gains, the function  $f$  may be written in the form

$$f = K(t) \left[ (u + r) + \phi(t) \right] \quad (A-8)$$

where  $K(t)$  is a time varying gain and  $\phi(t)$  is a generalized function which includes the remaining terms in  $f$ . Substituting for  $f$  in (A-7)

$$h = -2\gamma \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta a_i(t)x_i + a_{01}r + K(t)(u + r) + K(t)\phi(t) \right] \quad (A-9)$$

The term  $h$  can be maintained non-positive if  $u$  is taken as

$$u = \left[ X_1 + X_2 + X_3 \right] \text{ SIGN } \gamma$$

where

$$X_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \frac{\Delta a_i(t)}{K(t)} \right|_{\text{Max}} \left| x_i \right|$$

$$X_2 = \left| \frac{K(t) + a}{K(t)} \right|_{\text{Max}} \left| r \right|$$

$$X_3 = \left| \phi(t) \right|_{\text{Max}}$$

APPENDIX B

SEQUENTIAL LEAST SQUARES ESTIMATION TECHNIQUE

The estimation technique reported in Ref. [ 3 ] and extended in Ref. [ 4 ] and [ 5 ] is outlined below.

Given a system described by the vector differential equations

$$\dot{x} = g_0(t, x) + \Delta g(t, x) + K(t, x) u(t) \quad (B-1)$$

$$y(t) = h(t, x) + v(t)$$

where  $x$  is an  $n$ -vector

$g_0(t, x)$  is a nominal vector function

$\Delta g(t, x)$  is a vector function whose variation with time is unknown

$u(t)$  is a  $p$ -vector unknown input

$K(t, x)$  is an  $n \times p$  vector function whose variation with time is unknown

$y(t)$  is an  $m$ -vector output

$h(t, x)$  is an  $m$ -vector function

$v(t)$  is an  $m$ -vector of measurement errors

The problem is to obtain an optimum estimate of the  $n$ -vector  $x$ . The estimator is chosen to satisfy the equation

$$\dot{\hat{x}} = g_0(t, \hat{x}) + w(t, \hat{x}, y) \quad (B-2)$$

where  $\hat{x}$  is an optimum estimate of  $x$  and  $w$  is the estimator input to be determined. The vector  $\hat{x}$  is optimum in the sense that it minimizes the cost functional

$$J = \int_0^{t_f} (e_1^T \bar{Q} e_1 + e_2^T W e_2) dt \quad (B-3)$$

where

$$e_1(t) = y - h(t, \hat{x})$$

$$e_2(t) = f(t, \hat{x}) - w(t, \hat{x}, y)$$

$$f(t, \hat{x}) = \Delta g(t, \hat{x}) + K(t, \hat{x}) u(t)$$

and where  $\bar{Q}$  and  $W$  are weighting matrices. The problem now is to minimize  $J$  with respect to  $w$ , subject to the estimator constraint equation. This variational problem is solved using Pontryagin's maximum principle where a Hamiltonian is maximized with respect to  $w$ . This results in a two-point boundary value problem which is solved using invariant imbedding. This technique yields the solution

$$\dot{\hat{x}}(t) = g_0(t, \hat{x}) + 2P(t) H(t, \hat{x}) Q \left[ y(t) - h(t, \hat{x}) \right] + f(t, \hat{x}) \quad (B-4)$$

where

$$H(t, \hat{x}) = \left[ \frac{\partial h(t, \hat{x})}{\partial \hat{x}} \right]^T$$

and where  $P(t)$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix defined by the matrix Riccati equation

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{P} = & g_0, \hat{x}(t, \hat{x}) P + P g_0^T, \hat{x}(t, \hat{x}) + \\ & 2P \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left\{ H(t, \hat{x}) Q \left[ y(t) - h(t, \hat{x}) \right] \right\} P + \frac{1}{2} W^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$g_{0, \hat{x}}(t, \hat{x}) = \frac{\partial g_0(t, \hat{x})}{\partial \hat{x}}$$

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