Revisiting the Hidden Technology

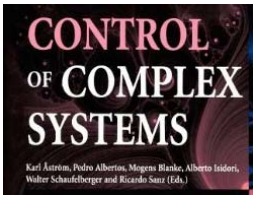
K. J. Åström
Department of Automatic Control LTH
Lund University

Pedro Albertos Celebration Sept 5 2014

Congratulations

Very Successful Career

- The control department at University of Valencia – A world class establishment
- President of IFAC
- Very successful IFAC World Congress
- Students, books, papers
- The ESF COSY program
- There is more to come!



A Broad Picture

There are examples of control from ancient time but control became widely used in the industries that emerged in the 19th and 20th centuries: steam power, electric power, ships, aircrafts, chemicals, telecommunication. Control was sometimes an enabling technology (aircraft, telecom). Similarities between different applications were not recognized.

Control became a separate engineering discipline in the 1940s and it has developed rapidly ever since. Today there are applications expanding everywhere and there are great new research challenges.

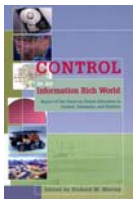
IEEE NAE AFOSR IFAC

The Impact of Control Technology

Overview, Success Stories and Research Challenges

Tariq Samad and Anuradha Annaswamy (editors)

http://ieeecss.org/general/impact-control-technology



The Royal Insurance buliding Montreal 1861-1951

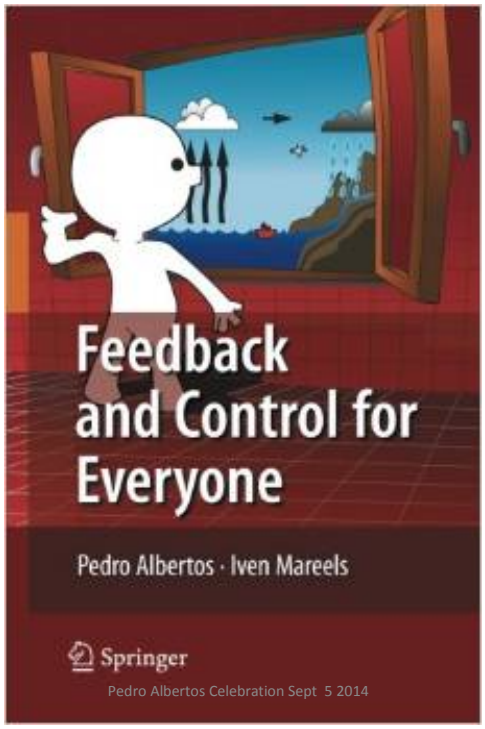
Solid foundations has been a hallmark of the control community

The Hidden Technology

- ☺ Widely used
- ☺ Very successful
- ☹ Seldom talked about
- 😐 Except when there is a disaster
- 😐 Why?

Easier to talk about devices than ideas.

The ideas and accomplishments of control have not been well presented to our collegues in science and to the general public … until recently!



What is Controls?

- Requirements: Specifications
- Architecture: System structure, sensors, actuators, computers, communication, HMI
- Modeling and simulation: Physics and data
- Control Design: Models, algorithms and logic
- Implementation: Verification and validation
- Commissioning and tuning
- Operation: Diagnostics, assessment, fault detection
- Reconfiguration and upgrading

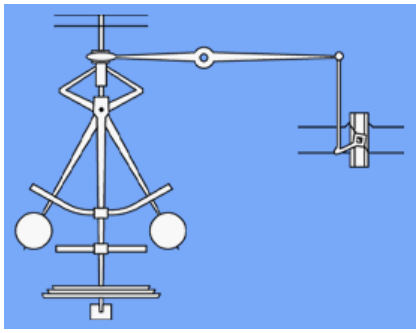
1. Introduction
2. A Brief History
3. Accomplishments
4. Challenges
5. Conclusions

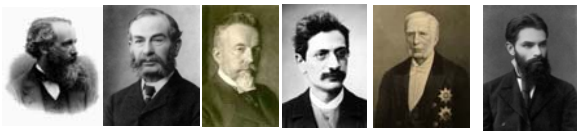
A Brief History

- A young field
- Early use in many fields
  - Governors
  - Process control
  - Vehicle control
  - Communication
- Servomechanism Theory
- Consequences
- The Second Phase
- The Third Phase?

Power Generation

- Problem: Generate AC at constant frequency
- Solution: Turbincontroller
- Side effects: stability theory
- Maxwell and Routh Stodola and Hurwitz Vyshnegradski, Lyapunov Tolle 1905





Process Control

- Problem: Keep pressure, temperature and concentration constant
- Solution: The PID controller
- Side effects: Industrial standard system, sensors, valves, controllers, communication.
- Ziegler-Nichols tuning rules 1942

Flight Control

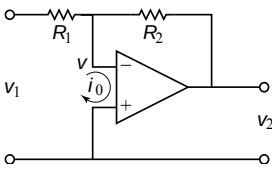
- Problem: How to fly?
- Solution: Understand dynamics. Wright Brothers: Focus on maneuverability, stabilize with manual control
- Side effects: Autopilots, flight dynamics

Sperry 1913

Autonomy 1947

Telecommunication

- Problem: Phone communication over long distances? How to make a good amplifier from bad components (vacuum tubes)
- Solution: The feedback amplifier
- Side effects: Stability and design theory (Nyquist, Bode)



$$\frac{v_2}{v_1} = -\frac{kR_2}{R_1 + R_2 + kR_1} \approx -\frac{R_2}{R_1}$$

The Power of Feedback

- Accurate systems from imprecise components
- Reduce effects of disturbances and component variations
- Regulate, stabilize and shape behavior
- Drawbacks
  - Risk of instability
  - Sensor noise is fed into the system

The Scene of 1940

Widespread use of control in many fields

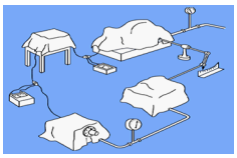
- Power generation and distribution
- Process control
- Autopilots for ships and aircrafts
- Telecommunications

The similarities were not recognized

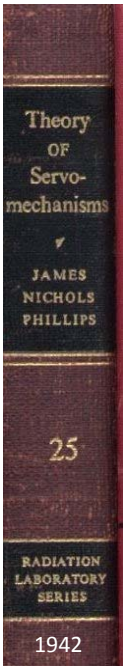
The Discipline Emerges

- Drivers: The war effort, gunsights, radar,..
- Concepts: Feedback, feedforward
- Design tools: Block diagrams, transfer functions
- Simulation: Analog computing
- Implementation: Analog computing
- Holistic view of theory and applications

Servomechanisms



- Theory
  - Complex variables
  - Laplace Transforms
- System Concepts
  - Feedback
  - Feedforward
- Design
  - Frequency Response
  - Graphical Methods
- Analog simulation
- Implementation



ServomechanismTheory

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

Office of Scientific Research and Development
National Defence Research Committee

Consequences

Education
Application
Industrialization

Organisation
Journals
Conferences

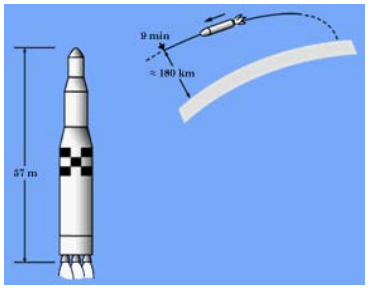
IFAC

The Second Phase

- Drivers: space, computer control, mathematics
- Rapid growth of subspecialities:
- Optimal, stochastic, nonlinear, ...
- Computational tools
- Impressive development of theory
- The holistic view was lost!

Optimal Control

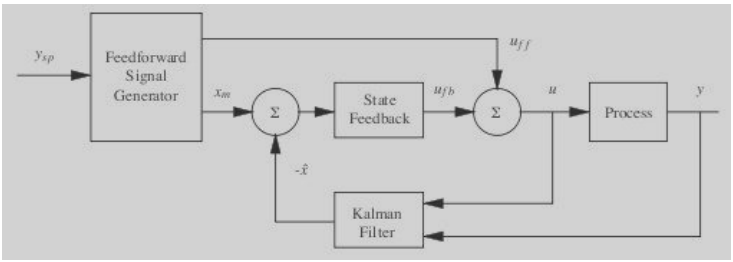
- Hamilton, Jacobi, Bellman 1957
- Euler, Lagrange, Pontryagin 1962
- Mo[illegible]tive [illegible]



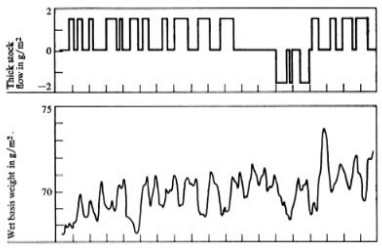
Kalman Filtering

Kalman 1961:

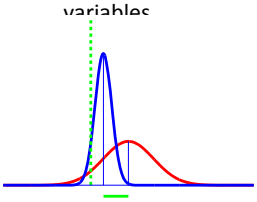
- Efficient way to filter signals
- Combine measurements and mathematical model to estimate process state
- New controller structure based on Kalman filter, state feedback and feedforward generator



System Identification



Billerud IBM Project 1962-66
Regulation of quality variables



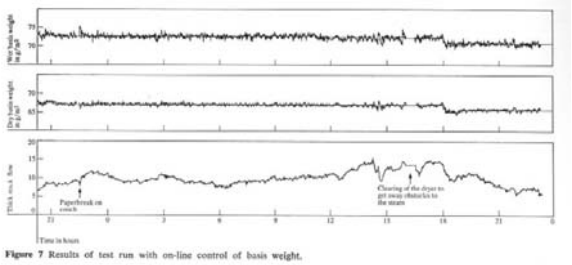
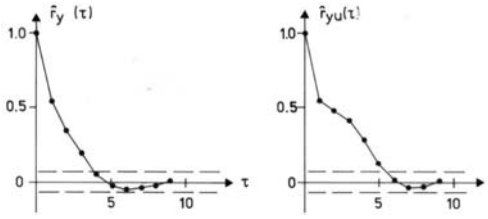


Figure 7 Results of test run with on-line control of basis weight.

Adaptive Control

- The self-tuning regulator
- Moving average control
- Theory (insight)
- Case studies
- Adaptive feedforward
- Industrial experience
- Harris index



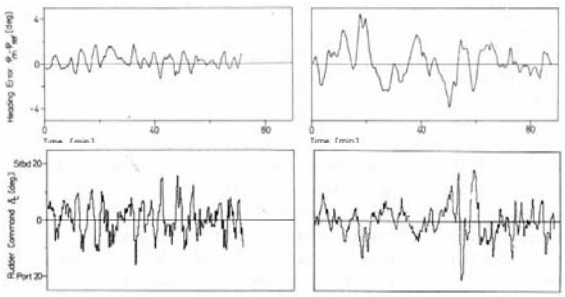
Borisson Syding 1975

NOVATUNE
Process Control with Adaptive Controllers
ASEA

1. Winner of IEEE CSS Control Technology Award
FIRST CONTROL SYSTEMS AB

Adaptive Control

Adaptive PID



- 3 % reduction in fuel consumption
- Physics based configuration

Robust Control

- Classic Bode: non-minimum phase is important
- State space: reachability and observabilty
  Robustness of state feedback $g_m = \infty$, $p_m = 60^o$
  Non-robustness of output feedback
- Robust Control: Youla, Zames, 4 author paper:
  Doyle, Glover, Khargonekar, Francis
- Fundamental limitations (back to Bode)
  Delays and RHP poles are important

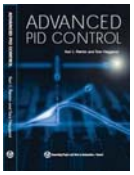
1. Introduction
2. A Brief History
3. **Control Everywhere**
4. Challenges
5. Conclusions

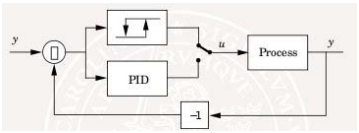
Applications

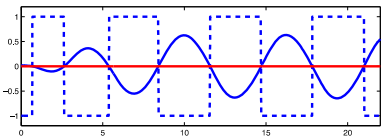
Traditional fields expanding and new fields emerging

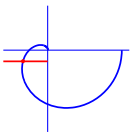
- Power Systems
- Process Control
- Aerospace
- Automotive
- Buildings
- Robotics
- Computer Systems
- Global enterprise control
- Advertising
- Mobile phones
- Art and games
- Physics and Biology

Relay Autotuning







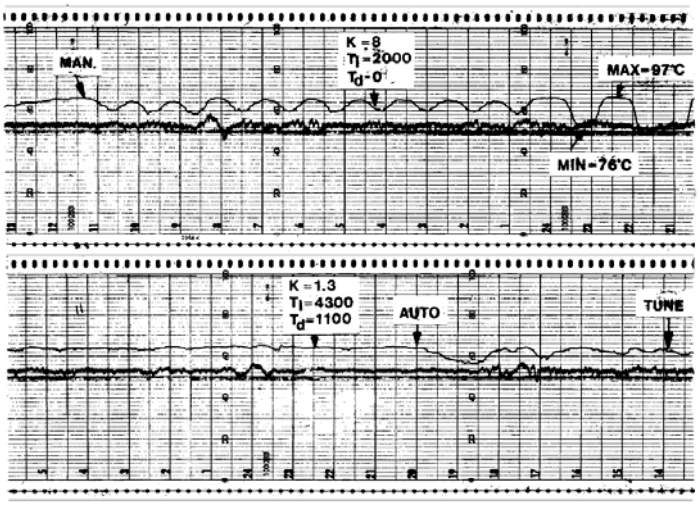


- Robust and easy to use
  - Well adapted to users
  - One-button tuning
  - Automatic generation of gain schedules + adaptation
- Many versions
  - Stand alone, DCS, PLC
- Large numbers
- Excellent industrial experience

ABB

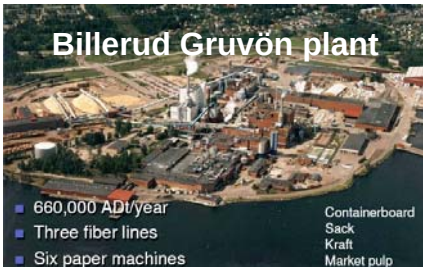
EMERSON Process Management

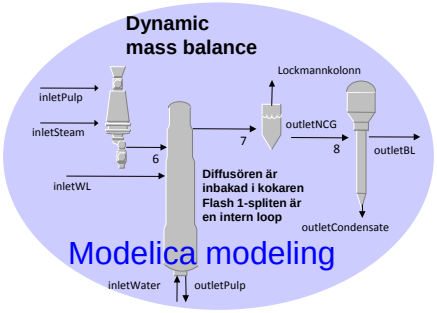
NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS



All controllers should have facilities for automatic tuning!

Mill Wide Control

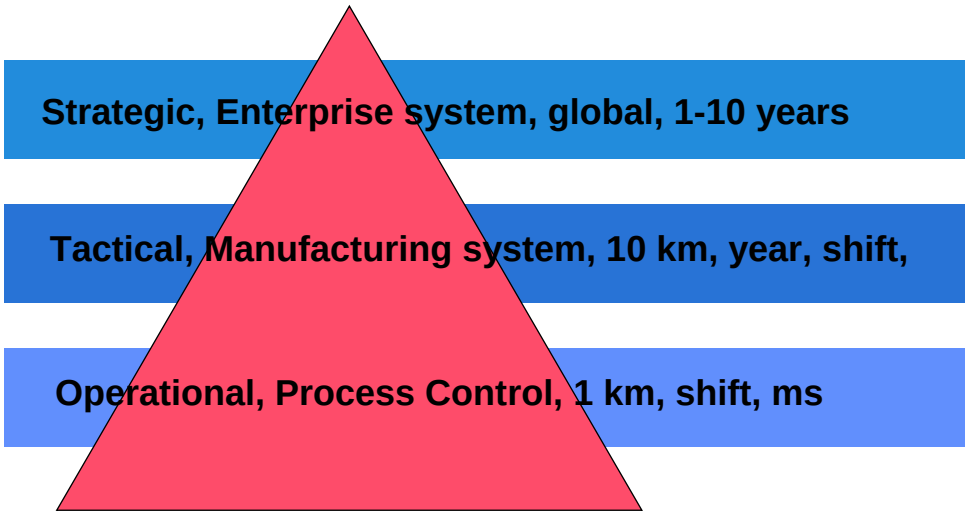




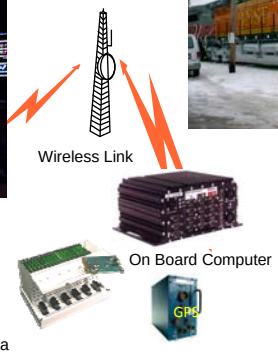
25 Production units
38 Buffer tanks
250 Streams
250 Measurements
2500 Variables

Slide from Alf Isaksson ABB

Global Enterprise Control

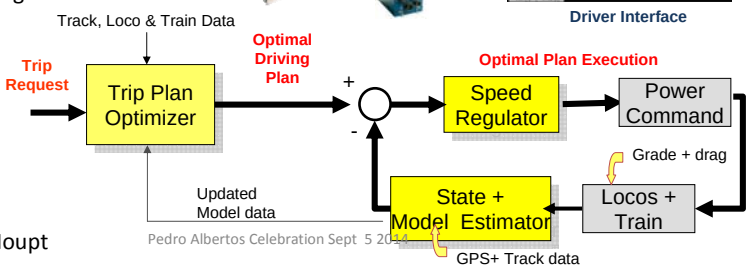


Trip Optimizer



Driver Interface

- Thousands of decision variables
- Thousands of constraints
- 10-30 second update rate
- 8-20% fuel saving



Courtesy of Paul Houpt

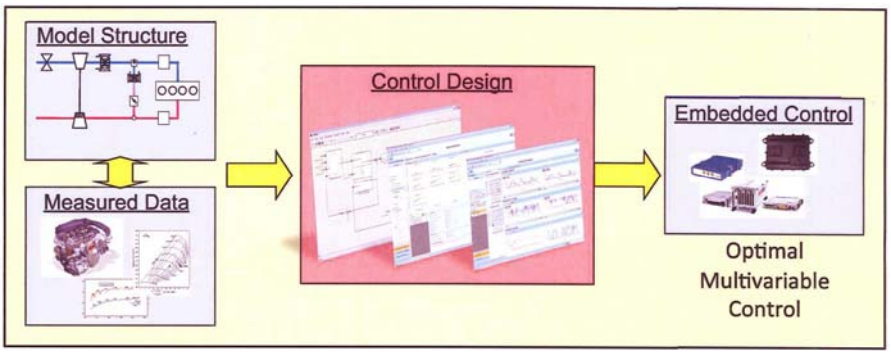
Automotive

- Strong technology driver

  Microcontroller, Autosar
- Power trains
- Adaptive cruise control
- Collision avoidance
- Traction control
- Lane guidance assistance
- Traffic flow control
- Platooning

KTH & Scania

Automotive Powertrain Control



- Explicit MPC control (Morari, Borelli)
- Robust to engine variability and aging
- Automatic generation of models and code for embedded systems
- Human-machine interface tailored to skill set of users

Courtesy of Honeywell OnRAMP team

Honeywell

Mobile Phones – Billions of Loops

1980 2010

Ericsson Hotline 900 Pocket
Price: 5000 $
Weight: 4kg resp 630 g
Talk time: 30 min
Affordable for few

Vodafone150
Price: 700 rupies ~ 13 $
Weight: 60g
Talk time: 5hours
Affordable for most

10 control loops * 10^9phones/year = 10^{10} loops

Frequency control – temperature, voltage, aging, Doppler effect
Without feedback: frequency error ~ 10 parts per million
With feedback: frequency error ~ 0.01 parts per million => 1000 times improvement

Power control and gain control – components with large dynamic range are costly
Receive power range 10^{-14}W – 10^{-5}W
Transmit power range 10^{-8}W – 1W (compare lamp versus nuclear power plant)

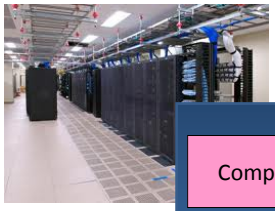
PI(D) , anti-windup, feedforward, scheduling

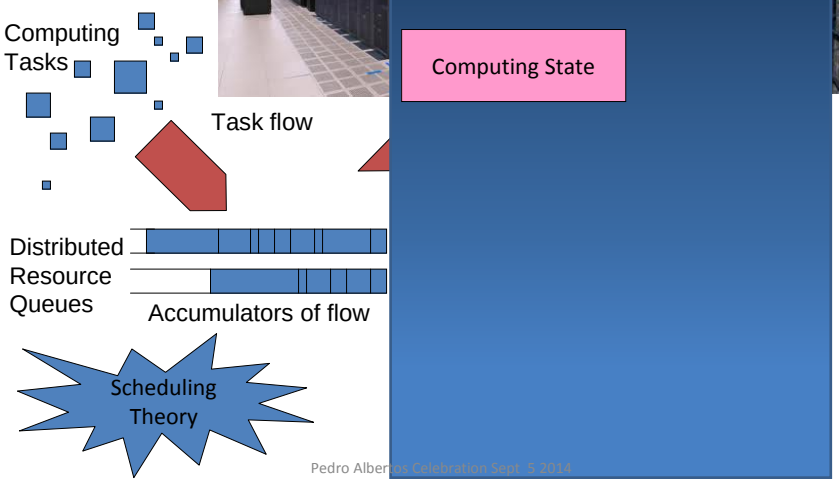
Thanks to Bo Bernhardsson

ERICSSON
TAKING YOU FORWARD

Control of Computing Systems

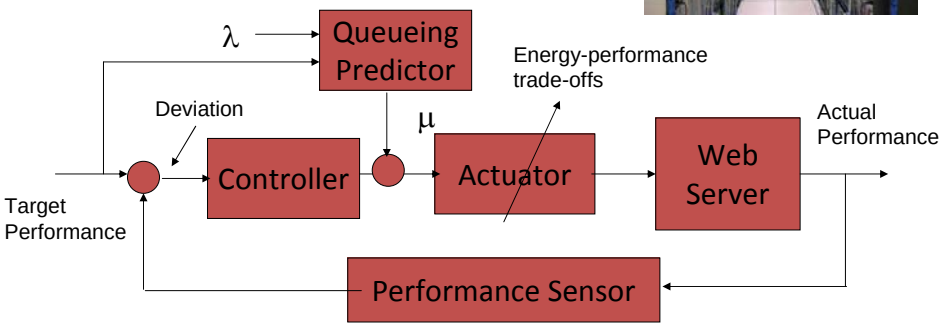
(Data centers, Server clusters, Data fusion)



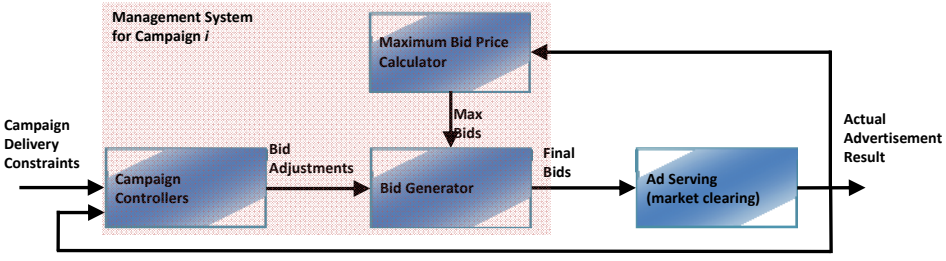


Energy Management in Data Centers

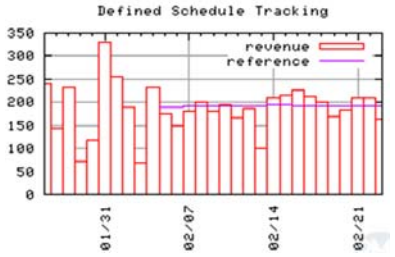
- Total consumption: 2% of energy spent (US EPA estimate)
- Energy bill 20-50% of total profit
- Energy-performance trade-offs managed by optimization and feedback



Internet Advertisement



- Decentralized control
- Auction bidding



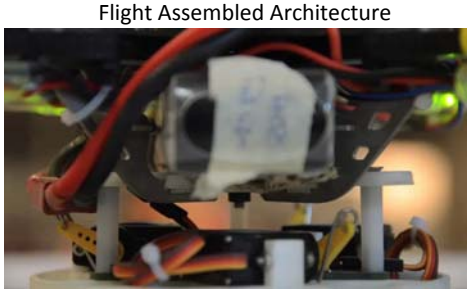
Courtesy of Niklas Karlsson

Art and Games ++

Robotic Chair

RoboCup

Flight Assembled Architecture



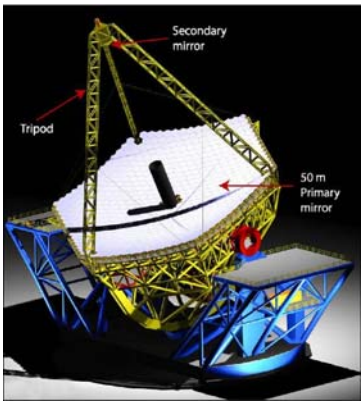
Kiva Systems

Physics

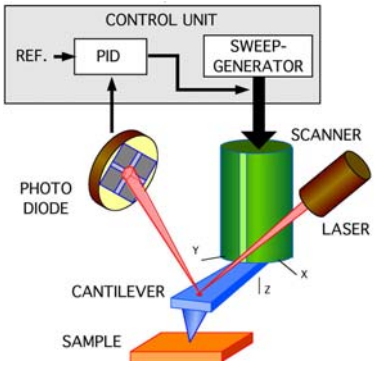
- Nobel prizes in physics
  - Gustaf Dalén 1912
  - Simon van der Meer 1984
  - (stochastic cooling)
- Quantum and molecular systems
- Shear flow turbulence (gain not instability)

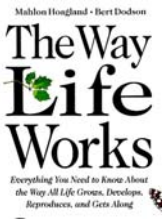
Instruments Giga to Nano

Adaptive Optics

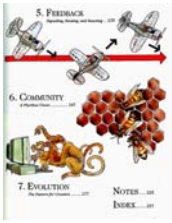


Atomic Force Microscope





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 Three Rivers Press 1998

Birds

advantages of instability

The earliest birds pterosaurs, and flying insects were stable. This is believed to be because in the absence of a highly evolved sensory and nervous system they would have been unable to fly if they were not. To a flying animal there are great advantages to be gained by instability. Among the most obvious is manoeuvrability. it is of equal importance to an animal which catches its food in the air and to the animals upon which it preys. It appears that in the birds and at least in some insects the evolution of the sensory and nervous systems rendered the stability found in earlier forms no longer necessary.

John Maynard Smith The Importance of the nervous sytem in the evolution of aimal flight. *Evolution*, 6 ,(1952) 127-9.

Economics

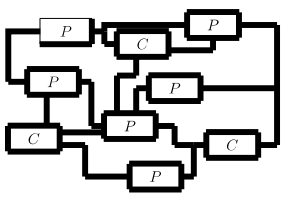
We have magneto trouble, said John Maynard Keynes at the start of the Great Depression: most of the economic engine was in good shape, but a crucial component, the financial system, wasn't working. He also said this "We have involved ourselves in a collossal muddle, having blundered in the control of a delicate machine, the working of which we do not understand" Both statemste are as true now as they were then

Paul Krugman The Return of Depression Economics. Penguin 2008

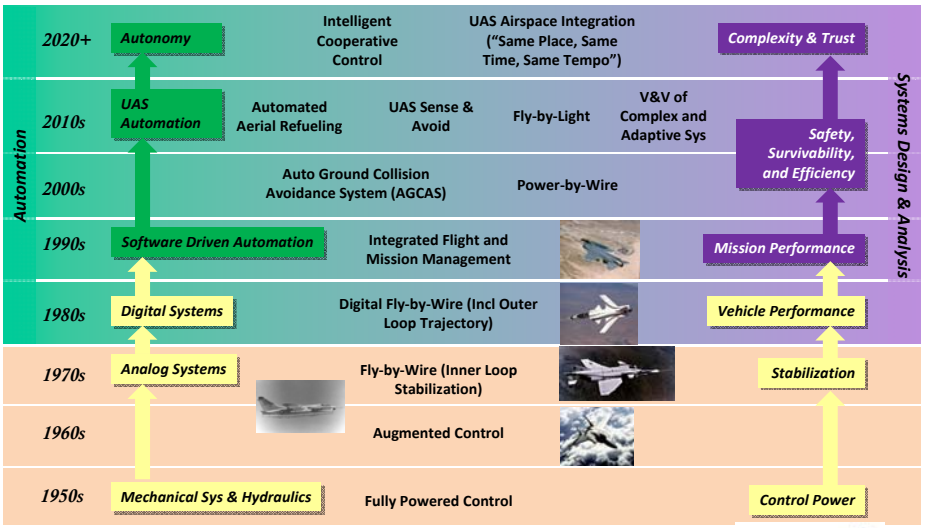
1. Introduction
2. A Brief History
3. Control Everywhere
4. **Challenges**
5. Conclusions

Challenges

- Complex networked systems
- Sensor and actuator rich systems
- Safe design of embedded systems
- Autonomy
- Adaptation, learning, reasoning,cognition
- High level control principles
- Biology



Flight Control – An Evolution of Automation To Enable Greater Air Vehicle Capability



Approved for Public Release – 88ABW-2011-6472

Autonomous Systems

- Adaptation
- Learning
- Cognition
- Safety
- Diagnostics
- Maintenance
- Reconfiguration

Darpa Urban Challenge

Dickmanns 1995 - 95% autonomi

Google driverless car

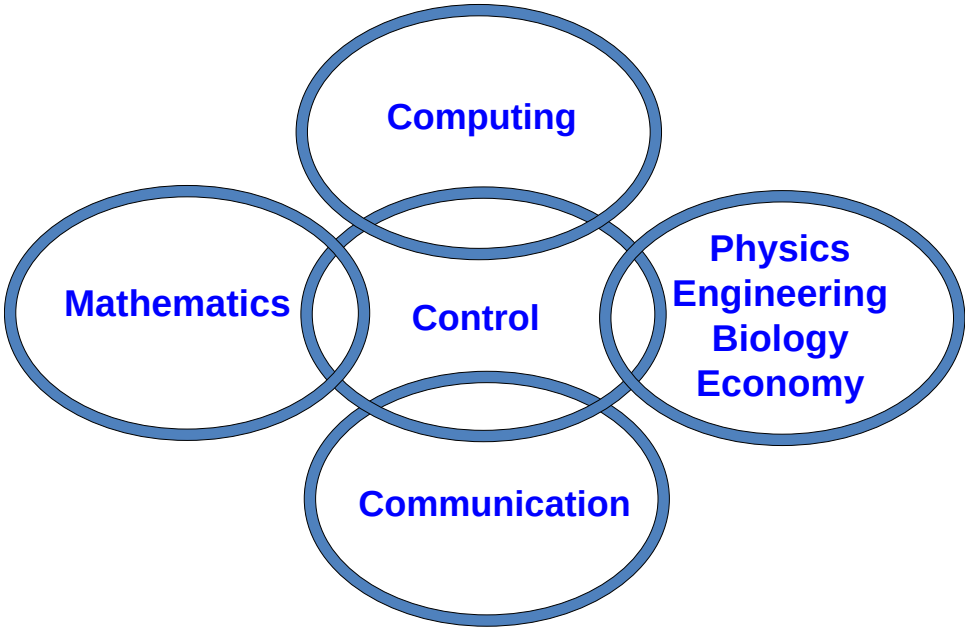
A Third Phase?

- Drivers: Complex networked systems, physics biology
- Autonomy (Adaptation, Learning, Cognition)
- Sensor and actuator rich systems
- Provable safe design and reconfiguration
- Recover the holistic view

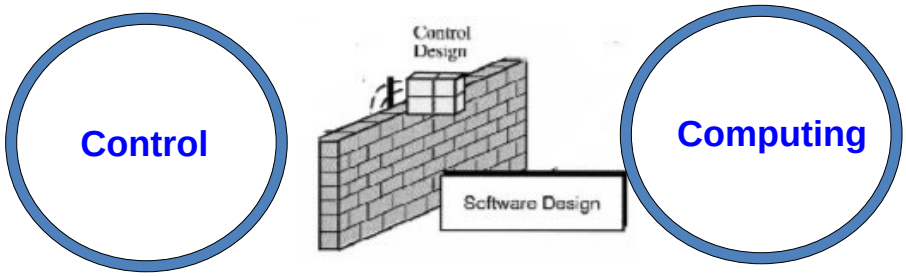
The Systems Perspective

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

NAE The Engineer of 2020



The CS Barrier



Feedback,Stability, ODE, PDE
Moderate complexity
Robustness

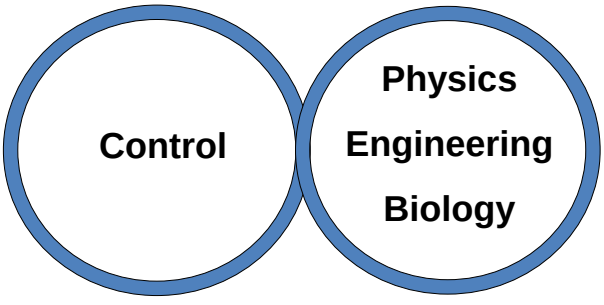
Logic, languages, DES,FSM
Formal methods, abstractions
Architecture

The controller

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 18 months. A revolution every 10 years!
- Strong potential, but so far algorithms and software have not delivered corresponding productivity increases!

The Physics Barrier



Blockdiagrams ODEs Mass, energy, momentum

Block diagrams unsuitable for serious physical modeling

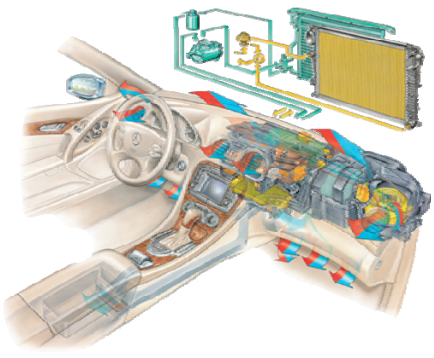
Modeling for control

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.

NAE The Engineer of 2020

Automotive Climate Control



- *Audi, BMW, Daimler, Ford, Volvo, VW and their suppliers have standardized MBD based on Modelica*
- *Suppliers provide components and validated Modelica*
- *Car manufacturers evaluate complete system by simulation*
- *IP protected by extensive encryption*
- *Substantial reduction of road & climate chamber testing*

Picture courtesy of Behr GmbH & Co.

Modelon

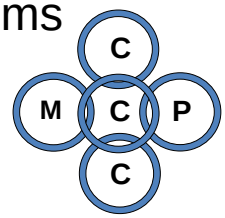
Educational Challenges

- Educating the future engineers
- Education of physicists and biologist
- The dilemma of emerging fields
- Filter out the fundamentals and exploit advances in computing
- Deep knowledge in specific areas
- Broad knowledge of neighboring fields
- Ability to communicate and to work in teams

1. Introduction
2. A Brief History
3. Control Everywhere
4. Challenges
5. Conclusions

Conclusions

- Control is a vital dynamic field
- Networked embedded systems
- Autonomy and safety
- The educational challenge



- Continue to take care of the foundations and develop the holistic view

What is Controls?

- Requirements: Specifications
- Architecture: System structure, sensors, actuators, computers, communication, HMI
- Modeling and simulation: Physics and data
- Control Design: Models, algorithms and logic
- Implementation: Verification and validation
- Commissioning and tuning
- Operation: Diagnostics, assessment, fault detection
- Reconfiguration and upgrading

Congratulations

- Eminent researcher
- Excellent educator
- Great leader

and a Jolly Good Fellow