



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

(An Autonomous Institution)
COIMBATORE – 641035



23MCT203 - Theory of Control Engineering

Transfer Function

The transfer function of a system is defined as the ratio of Laplace transform of output to the Laplace transform of input where all the initial conditions are zero.



$$\text{Transfer function} = \frac{\text{Laplace transform of output variable}}{\text{Laplace transform of input variable}}$$



$$T(S) = \frac{C(S)}{R(S)} = G(S)$$

Where,

1. $T(S)$ = Transfer function of the system.
2. $C(S)$ = output.
3. $R(S)$ = Reference output.
4. $G(S)$ = Gain.

Steps to obtain transfer function -

Step-1 Write the differential equation.

Step-2 Find out Laplace transform of the equation assuming 'zero' as an initial condition.

Step-3 Take the ratio of output to input.

Step-4 Write down the equation of $G(S)$ as follows -

$$G(S) = \frac{C(S)}{R(S)}$$

$$= \frac{b_m S^m + b_{m-1} S^{m-1} + \dots + b_1 S + b_0}{a_n S^n + a_{n-1} S^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 S + a_0} \quad \text{-----Eq. 1}$$

Here, a and b are constant, and S is a complex variable

Characteristic equation of a transfer function -

Here, the characteristic equation of a linear system can be obtained by equating the denominator to the polynomial of a transfer function is zero. Thus the characteristic equation of the transfer function of Eq.1 will be:

$$a_n s^n + a_{(n-1)} s^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1 s + a_0 = 0$$