Open-Loop Step Response

Recall that the dynamic equations of motion for a DC motor (for low inductances) can be modeled as a 1st order system.

Modeling can be also be represented by Block Diagrams and Laplace Transforms

$$V(s) \longrightarrow \frac{b}{s+a} \longrightarrow \Omega(s)$$
motor command motor velocity

 $G_{OL}(s)$: called Open Loop Transfer Function

Mathematically, this becomes:

$$G_{OL}(s) = \frac{\Omega(s)}{V(s)} = \frac{b}{s+a} \tag{1}$$

or

$$(s+a)\Omega(s) = bV(s)$$

Method 1: Solve for $\omega(t)$ with Ordinary Differential Equations:

(1) becomes:
$$\dot{\omega}(t) + a\omega(t) = bv(t)$$
 (2)

Suppose one gives the motor a step input i.e. applies a velocity command

In time domain, step input is:

$$v(t) = \begin{cases} 0: t \le 0 \\ M: t > 0 \end{cases} \tag{3}$$

Subbing (3) into (2) yields

$$\dot{\omega}(t) + a\omega(t) = bM \tag{4}$$

This first-order differential equation is solved using an integrating factor

$$\mu(x) = exp \int_{-\infty}^{x} p(t)dt$$

when one has equations of the form:

$$\dot{\omega} + p(t)\omega = g(t) \tag{5}$$

Thus comparing (4) and (5), say:

$$p(t) \triangleq a$$

and using integrating factor, one creates the equation:

$$e^{at}\{\dot{\omega}+a\omega\}=e^{at}bM$$

or

$$\frac{d}{dt}\{e^{at}\omega\} = bMe^{at} \tag{6}$$

Integrating (6) yields

$$e^{at}\omega = Mb\int e^{at} dt = Mb\left\{\frac{1}{a}e^{at} + C\right\}$$
 where C is unknown constant (7)

Multiplying (7) with the exponent yields:

 $\omega(t) = e^{-at} \left\{ \frac{M}{a} b e^{at} + D \right\}$

or

$$\omega(t) = \frac{M}{a}b + De^{-at}$$
 where D is unknown constant (8)

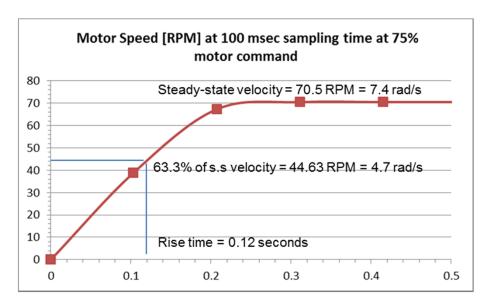
With initial conditions (IC), say that $\omega(0) = 0$ then (8) becomes

$$0 = \frac{Mb}{a} + D \qquad \text{or} \qquad D = -\frac{Mb}{a} \tag{9}$$

Subbing (9) into (8), one gets general solution form

$$\omega(t) = \frac{Mb}{a} - \frac{Mb}{a}e^{-at} = \frac{Mb}{a}(1 - e^{-at})$$
 (10)

From M=75 Suppose the step response of an NXT DC motor, looks like:



$$\omega(t) = \omega_{ss}(1 - e^{-at}) \tag{11}$$

If we say that $a \triangleq \frac{1}{\tau}$ then one has

$$\omega(t) = \omega_{ss} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} \right)$$

From graph, see $\omega_{ss} = 70.5 \text{ RPM}$

Brackets	ω	Error [V]
$1 - e^{-1} = 0.63$	70.5 * 0.63 = 44.4	70.5 – 44.4 = 26.1 or 37% (i.e. 63% of steady-state)
$1 - e^{-2} = 0.86$	60.6	70.5 – 60.6 = 9.9 or 14.0% (i.e. 86% of steady-state)
$1 - e^{-3} = 0.95$	67.0	70.5 – 67.0 = 3.5 or 5% (i.e. 95% of steady-state)
$1 - e^{-4} = 0.98$	69.1	70.5 – 69.1 = 1.4 or 2% (i.e. 98% of steady-state)
$1 - e^{-5} = 0.99$	69.8	70.5 – 69.8 = 0.7 or 1% (i.e. 99% of steady-state)

Comparing (10) and (11) we see that:

$$b = \frac{\omega_{SS}}{M\tau} \tag{12}$$

Subbing (11) and (12) into (1) yields:

$$G_{OL}(s) = \frac{\Omega(s)}{V(s)} = \frac{b}{s+a} = \frac{\omega_{ss}}{M\tau} \frac{1}{s+\frac{1}{\tau}}$$

$$\tag{13}$$

For $\tau = 0.12$ and $\omega_{ss} = 70.5$ RPM, and step input M = 75 (13) becomes:

$$G_{OL}(s) = \frac{70.5}{75(0.12)} \frac{1}{s + \frac{1}{0.12}} = \frac{7.83}{s + 8.33}$$
(14)

Method 2: Solve for $\omega(t)$ with Laplace Transforms:

Like before, and referring to (1), have

$$V(s) \longrightarrow \frac{b}{s+a} \longrightarrow \Omega(s)$$
 $G_{OL}(s) = \frac{\Omega(s)}{V(s)} = \frac{b}{s+a}$ from (1)

Like before, one has a step input i.e. velocity command, referring to (3)

$$v(t) = \begin{cases} 0: t \le 0 \\ M: t > 0 \end{cases}$$
 from (3)

The Laplace Transform for a step input signal is given by:

$$V(s) = \frac{M}{s} \tag{15}$$

Substituting (15) into (1) yields:

$$\Omega(s) = \frac{b}{s+a} \frac{M}{s} \tag{16}$$

The inverse Laplace of (16) yields response in time-domain:

$$\omega(t) = \frac{Mb}{a} (1 - e^{-at}) \tag{17}$$

If we define:

$$a \triangleq \frac{1}{\tau} \tag{18}$$

and from NXT motor plot that steady-state, have

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \omega(t) = \omega_{SS} \tag{19}$$

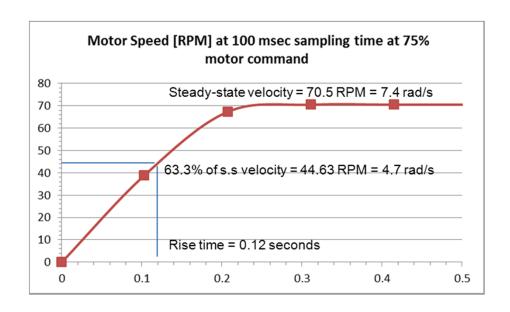
Then with (18) and (19), (17) yields:

$$\omega_{SS} = Mb\tau$$
 or $b = \frac{\omega_{SS}}{M\tau}$ (17)

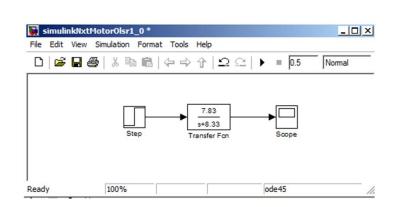
Hence, subbing values of a and b in (1), yields:

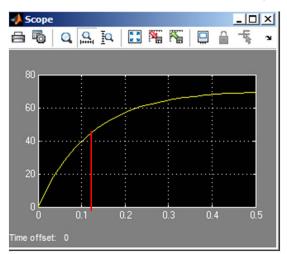
$$G_{OL}(s) = \frac{\Omega(s)}{V(s)} = \frac{b}{s+a} = \frac{\omega_{SS}}{M\tau} \frac{1}{s+\frac{1}{\tau}} = \frac{70.5}{75(0.12)} \frac{1}{s+\frac{1}{0.12}} = \frac{7.83}{s+8.33}$$
(18)

Same as (14); Laplace gives same Solution as ODE method



Simulink simulation of OLTF yields a plot similar to experimentally acquired one:





In Lab, will compare experimental and (Simulink) simulated OLTF step response