

Draw A Unit Step Response For The Following Transfer Function; $\alpha:2.5\beta=5y=(1-\exp(-t/1000))(2.5 \times 10^6$

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Understanding the dynamic response of systems is fundamental in control engineering and signal processing. Among the various responses studied, the unit step response is particularly significant because it reveals how a system reacts to a sudden change from zero to a steady input. In this article, we will explore how to draw the unit step response for a specific transfer function involving exponential terms and parameters, specifically:

$$y(t) = (1 - \exp(-t/1000)) (2.5 \times 10^6)$$

with the ratio $\alpha:\beta = 2.5:5$.

This detailed guide will help you understand the process from the theoretical foundation to practical plotting, ensuring a comprehensive grasp of the topic.

Understanding the Transfer Function and Its Components

Before diving into the response analysis, it's crucial to understand the transfer function's structure and parameters involved.

The Given Transfer Function

The provided function appears as:

$$y(t) = (1 - e^{-t/1000}) \times 2.5 \times 10^6$$

Additionally, the mention of $\alpha:\beta = 2.5:5$ suggests a ratio of parameters that could relate to system poles, zeros, or gain factors. Although the explicit transfer function $H(s)$ is not fully specified, the expression indicates a first-order system with exponential behavior.

Key Components:

- Exponential Term: $(e^{-t/1000})$ indicates a first-order response with a time constant related to 1000 units, likely milliseconds.
- Steady-State Gain: The multiplier (2.5×10^6) scales the response.
- Time Constant: The denominator 1000 in the exponential typically corresponds to the system's time constant (τ) , as in $(e^{-t/\tau})$.

Interpretation of Parameters:

- Time constant (τ) : 1000 ms (or seconds, depending on units).
- Steady-State Value: As $(t \rightarrow \infty)$, $(e^{-t/1000} \rightarrow 0)$ and the response approaches (2.5×10^6) .

Step-by-Step Process to Draw the Unit Step Response

Drawing the response involves understanding the system's behavior, calculating key points, and plotting the curve. Here's a structured approach.

1. Recognize the System as a First-Order Response

The structure:

$$y(t) = K (1 - e^{-t/\tau})$$

where:

- $K = 2.5 \times 10^6$ (steady-state gain),
- $\tau = 1000$ ms (time constant).

This is the standard form of a first-order system's step response.

2. Determine Steady-State Response

As $t \rightarrow \infty$:

$$y(\infty) = K (1 - 0) = 2.5 \times 10^6$$

This is the final value the response approaches.

3. Calculate Response at Key Time Points

To accurately plot the response, compute $y(t)$ at specific times, especially at multiples of τ :

- At $t = 0$:

$$y(0) = (1 - e^{\{0\}}) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 = 0$$

- At $t = \tau = 1000$ ms:

$$y(1000) = (1 - e^{-1}) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 \approx (1 - 0.368) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 \approx 0.632 \times 2.5 \times 10^6$$

$$\approx 1.58 \times 10^6$$

- At $(t = 3\tau = 3000)$ ms:

$$y(3000) \approx (1 - e^{-3}) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 \approx (1 - 0.05) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 \approx 0.95 \times 2.5 \times 10^6$$

$$\approx 2.375 \times 10^6$$

- At $(t = 5\tau = 5000)$ ms:

$$y(5000) \approx (1 - e^{-5}) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 \approx (1 - 0.0067) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 \approx 0.9933 \times 2.5 \times 10^6$$

$$\approx 2.48 \times 10^6$$

4. Plotting the Response

Use these calculated points to sketch the response curve:

- Start at 0 at $(t=0)$.
- Rapidly increase, approaching the steady-state value.
- The curve follows an exponential asymptote, approaching (2.5×10^6) .

5. Drawing the Response Curve

- Draw axes: time on the horizontal axis, response $(y(t))$ on the vertical.
- Mark key points: $(0,0)$, $(\tau, 1.58 \text{ million})$, $(3\tau, 2.375 \text{ million})$, $(5\tau, 2.48 \text{ million})$.

- Sketch an exponential curve that starts at zero and approaches the steady-state value smoothly, passing through these points.

Understanding the Physical Meaning and Applications

Significance of the Response

- The response characterizes how quickly the system reaches near its steady-state.
- The time constant ($\tau = 1000$ ms) indicates the speed of the system's reaction.
- The high gain (2.5×10^6) suggests the system amplifies input signals significantly.

Practical Applications

- Control System Design: Ensuring the system stabilizes within desired timeframes.
- Signal Processing: Analyzing transient behaviors in filters.
- Electrical Engineering: Understanding RC circuits' charging responses.

Additional Considerations and Variations

Effects of Changing Parameters

- Increasing τ results in a slower response.
- Decreasing τ makes the system respond faster.
- Adjusting the gain K affects the magnitude of the response but not the speed.

Considering Alpha and Beta Parameters

Although the explicit transfer function isn't fully specified, the ratio $(\alpha : \beta = 2.5 : 5)$ may relate to system poles, zeros, or gain factors influencing the response shape. If these parameters correspond to system poles, they could modify the exponential decay rate or introduce additional dynamics.

Extending to Second-Order Responses

While this example involves a first-order response, real systems may be second-order, leading to oscillations or overshoot. Drawing such responses requires analyzing damping ratios and natural frequencies.

Conclusion

Drawing the unit step response for a transfer function like $(y(t) = (1 - e^{-t/1000}) \times 2.5 \times 10^6)$ involves understanding the exponential behavior characteristic of first-order systems. By identifying key parameters such as the steady-state value and time constant, calculating response points, and sketching the curve, engineers can visualize how systems react to sudden inputs. This process is essential in designing stable, responsive control systems and analyzing signal behaviors across various engineering disciplines.

Summary of Key Points

- The response is a standard first-order system characterized by an exponential rise towards a steady-state value.
- The time constant $(\tau = 1000)$ ms determines the speed of the response.
- Steady-state value is (2.5×10^6) .
- Calculating responses at multiples of (τ) helps in accurate plotting.
- Understanding these concepts aids in system design, analysis, and troubleshooting.

By mastering the process of plotting and analyzing unit step responses, engineers can better predict system behaviors and optimize performance for a variety of applications.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the transfer function given in the problem?

The transfer function is not explicitly provided, but based on the response $y = (1 - \exp(-t/1000)) (2.5 \times 10^6)$, it suggests a system with a unit step input and a first-order transfer function with a time constant of 1000 ms.

How do you determine the unit step response of a first-order transfer function?

The unit step response of a first-order transfer function $G(s) = K / (\tau s + 1)$ is obtained by taking the inverse Laplace transform of $K / (s(\tau s + 1))$, resulting in $y(t) = K (1 - \exp(-t/\tau)) u(t)$.

What does the exponential term $\exp(-t/1000)$ signify in the response?

It indicates the system's exponential decay with a time constant $\tau = 1000$ ms, representing how quickly the system responds to a step input.

What is the significance of the coefficient 2.5×10^6 in the response?

It represents the system's steady-state gain (K), indicating the final value the output approaches as t approaches infinity, which is 2.5 million.

How do you draw the unit step response from the given formula?

Plot $y(t) = (1 - \exp(-t/1000)) 2.5 \times 10^6$ for $t \geq 0$, starting from 0 at $t=0$ and asymptotically approaching 2.5×10^6 as t increases.

What is the initial value of the response at $t=0$?

At $t=0$, $y(0) = (1 - \exp(0)) 2.5 \times 10^6 = 0$, indicating the response starts at zero.

How does changing the time constant τ affect the response?

Increasing τ makes the response slower, delaying the approach to the steady-state value, while decreasing τ makes it faster.

What practical systems could be modeled by this transfer function and response?

This response models first-order systems like RC or RL circuits, temperature control systems, or any system with exponential settling behavior.

What tools can be used to plot this response visually?

Tools like MATLAB, Python (with matplotlib), or online graph plotters can be used to generate the step response from the formula for better visualization.

Additional Resources

Draw a Unit Step Response for the Following Transfer Function: $\alpha:2.5\beta=5$ $y = (1 - \exp(-t/1000))$
(2.5×10^6)

Understanding how a system responds to a step input is fundamental in control systems engineering. The unit step response for the transfer function provides vital insights into the dynamic characteristics of the system, such as stability, speed of response, and steady-state behavior. In this comprehensive guide, we'll delve into how to analyze, interpret, and graph the unit step response for the provided transfer function, ensuring you can confidently approach similar problems in your studies or projects.

1. Introduction to Step Response and Transfer Function

Before diving into specific calculations, it's crucial to understand what a transfer function and a step response are.

Transfer Function:

A mathematical representation that relates the output of a system to its input, typically expressed in the Laplace domain as $H(s) = Y(s)/X(s)$. It encapsulates the system's dynamics, including poles and zeros, which influence its response characteristics.

Step Response:

The output of a system when the input is a unit step function, $u(t)$. It reveals how quickly and effectively the system responds to sudden changes.

2. Clarifying the Given Data

The original statement provides a transfer function or a response expression:

$$y = (1 - \exp(-t/1000))(2.5 \times 10^6)$$

and mentions parameters $\alpha=2.5$ and $\beta=5$.

However, for clarity, let's interpret and reconstruct the likely scenario:

- The response $y(t)$ is expressed as a function of time t .
- The exponential term suggests a first-order system, which is common in many control applications.
- The coefficient (2.5×10^6) scales the response, possibly representing system gain or steady-state value.

Given the notation, the key points are:

- The exponential decay term: $\exp(-t/1000)$
- The time constant: $\tau = 1000$ ms (or 1 second)
- Final steady-state value: As $t \rightarrow \infty$, $y(t) \rightarrow (2.5 \times 10^6)$

3. Interpreting the Response Function

The response:

$$y(t) = (1 - e^{-t/1000}) \times 2.5 \times 10^6$$

is characteristic of a first-order system subjected to a step input. Here's what it indicates:

- Initial condition ($t=0$):

$$y(0) = (1 - e^{\{0\}}) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 = (1 - 1) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 = 0$$

The system starts at zero, aligning with a typical step response where the initial output is zero.

- Steady-state ($t \rightarrow \infty$):

$$y(\infty) = (1 - 0) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 = 2.5 \times 10^6$$

The system settles at this value after sufficient time.

- Time constant:

$$\tau = 1000 \text{ ms, indicating how rapidly the system approaches steady state.}$$

4. Mathematical Representation and System Identification

Given the response function, the corresponding transfer function in the Laplace domain can be derived.

Step 1: Recognize the standard first-order response:

$$y(t) = K (1 - e^{-t/\tau})$$

where:

- K is the steady-state value (gain)

- τ is the time constant

Step 2: Derive the transfer function:

The Laplace transform of $y(t)$:

$$Y(s) = \frac{K}{s} \times \frac{1}{1 + s\tau}$$

This is because the step input $u(t)$ has Laplace transform $(1/s)$, and the transfer function of a first-order system:

$$H(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{U(s)} = \frac{K}{1 + s\tau}$$

Thus, the overall transfer function:

$$H(s) = \frac{2.5 \times 10^6}{1 + 1000s}$$

where the units are consistent with seconds ($\tau = 1s$).

5. Drawing the Unit Step Response: Step-by-Step Guide

Now, let's proceed step-by-step to draw the unit step response based on the transfer function and the response formula.

Step 1: Confirm the transfer function

$$H(s) = \frac{2.5 \times 10^6}{1 + 1000s}$$

- Poles: at $(s = -\frac{1}{1000})$ (i.e., -0.001)
- Gain: (2.5×10^6)

Step 2: Write the time-domain response

Using the inverse Laplace transform, the response to a unit step input:

$$y(t) = K (1 - e^{-t/\tau})$$

which aligns with the provided expression.

Step 3: Choose parameters and plot points

Select key points to plot:

- Initial point ($t=0$):

$$y(0) = 0$$

- At $t = \tau = 1000$ ms:

$$y(1000 \text{ ms}) = (1 - e^{-1}) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 \approx (1 - 0.368) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 \approx 0.632 \times 2.5 \times 10^6 \approx 1.58 \times 10^6$$

- At $t = 3\tau = 3000$ ms:

$$y(3000 \text{ ms}) \approx (1 - e^{-3}) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 \approx (1 - 0.0498) \times 2.5 \times 10^6 \approx 0.9502 \times 2.5 \times 10^6 \approx 2.375 \times 10^6$$

- Steady state ($t \rightarrow \infty$): $y \rightarrow 2.5 \times 10^6$

Plot these points and draw a smooth curve approaching the steady state.

Step 4: Sketch the response curve

- Begin at zero at $t=0$.

- Show a rapid increase around $t=0$ and approaching $t=\tau$.

- The curve asymptotically approaches the steady-state value of 2.5×10^6 .

- The response resembles an exponential rise characteristic of first-order systems.

6. Practical Insights and Interpretation

Time constant ($\tau = 1000$ ms):

It indicates that the system takes about 1 second to reach approximately 63.2% of its final value. This is a critical parameter in control system design, influencing how quickly the system responds to changes.

Steady-state value:

The value of 2.5 million units signifies the system's final output after a long duration, assuming the step input.

System stability:

Since the pole at $(s = -0.001)$ is in the left-half plane, the system is stable, and the response will settle at the steady-state value without oscillations.

7. Additional Considerations

- Effect of parameter variations:

Changing τ alters the speed of response. Smaller τ means faster response.

- Impact of gain (K):

Increasing K raises the final steady-state value, which could affect system performance depending on application requirements.

- Real-world applications:

Such responses are common in electrical circuits (RC filters), mechanical systems (mass-spring-damper), and chemical processes.

8. Summary

In this guide, we've:

- Interpreted the provided response function as a first-order system's step response.
- Derived the transfer function from the response.
- Explained how to plot the unit step response by identifying key points.
- Discussed the significance of the time constant and steady-state value.
- Provided practical insights into the system's behavior.

Drawing the unit step response for the given transfer function involves understanding the underlying first-order dynamics, constructing the response curve, and analyzing the system's behavior over time. Mastery of these steps enables control engineers and students to evaluate and design systems effectively for a variety of real-world applications.

References & Further Reading

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