

# Automation and Process Control

## ISS0080-Automatiseerimine ja protsessijuhtimine

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TALLINNA TEHNIKAÜLIKOOL  
TALLINN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



**Control Lab**  
[www.a-lab.ee](http://www.a-lab.ee)

**School of Information Technologies**  
Department of Computer Systems  
Centre for Intelligent Systems  
Alpha Control Laboratory

## Lecturer

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Automation and Process Control      2-1-1    5 ECTS    E  
<http://www.a-lab.ee/edu/courses>

- Tests: 2 ( $2 \times 20$  points);
- Labs: 6 with report. Deadline for report is in 2 weeks.
  - On time 2 points,
  - With delay 1 point.
- Exam: written.

## Exam prerequisites:

- Both tests should be written at least on 5 points.

## Final grade:

- 1 Tests + reports give max 50+ points
- 2 Written exam gives max 50 points.

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Wednesday 10:00–11:30    ICT-A1    2 academic hours/week

+

## Exercises

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## Practical works

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There are two different approaches in automation: different skills, terminology and culture.

## Technological approach

- Equipment, instrumentation
  - controllers, PLCs, computers, sensors, actuators, etc.
- Connecting devices: signals, networks, protocols;
- Tuning, programming, operation;
- Safety.

## Control Instrumentation

Dates: Autumn 2018



## Approach based on the process

- Old ones: boilers, petrochemical, polymers, etc [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
- New ones: bio-tech, pharmaceuticals, nanotechnology, etc;
- Knowledge of the characteristics of the process
  - chemistry, physics, thermal engineering, etc;
- Problems: cost, product cost, quality, environment, etc.
- Control algorithms, process safety [6, 7].

ISS0080 Automation and Process Control

Dates: Now

Industrial processes should be designed to meet business needs.

- Technical conditions description
  - Specify the elements of the system
    - Who is the target customer?
    - What is considered "value" to the customer?
    - What is the geographic scope of the business?
    - Which skills and capabilities should be developed within the firm?
    - How can the firm grow, through both its base business and new business?
- Terminology
- Communication Skills /verbal, written/
- Formation of the Contracts

- Decomposition of the system into subsystems
  - description of the elements, models
- Realizability
- Choice of the technology
- System behavior and the environment
- At least one specialty
  - good knowledge of the given field

New systems are implemented by the [projects](#).

Project consists of:

- Requirements (specifications)
  - Problem Statement. **What** should we do.
  - Additional Terms and **Conditions**.
  - Does **not** include requirements **how** to do.
- Volume of work (time, costs)
- Contract
  - What work? Who does? How much?
  - Quality requirements?
  - According to what criteria?

## Large projects

- Duration: years;
- Description: rockets, tunnels, weapon systems, etc.

## Small projects

- Duration: weeks;
- Description: thermometer, door automation, etc.

Problems in the design of systems:

- Select the **right technical solution**.
- Knowing the **environment** where the project is working.
- **Team work**, relationships between people.
- Communication skills (verbal, written).
- **Risks** estimation
  - money, time, manpower, additional costs.

The course aim: [automation](#).

Works in the field:

- Process control;
- Power production, distribution;
- Machinery control;
- Building automation.

Control task formulation and solving

- Object identification
  - Is it possible?
  - Which way?
- Simulations
- Realization (ISS0065)

Student knows how to

- 1 Describe a dynamic system.
  - Understanding steady-state behavior,
  - Transfer functions,
  - State-space models and their conversion;
- 2 Analyze the control problem and choose the appropriate controller;
- 3 Understand and describe mathematical models of the dynamical systems;
- 4 Use MATLAB to design a system and to do simulation tests;
- 5 Present the results on paper and orally;
- 6 Create simple protection circuits to reduce the risks.

## Problems in the field of automation

- Articles <http://www.controlglobal.com>,
- Articles <http://www.controldesign.com>.

## Automation at the nearest universities

- Aalto university: <http://autsys.aalto.fi/Automation>,
- Lunds University: <http://www.control.lth.se/>,
- University of Oulu: <http://www.oulu.fi/pyosaaen/>.

## Other sources

- Online Resource <http://www.controlguru.com/>,
- Technical Aspects of Process Control and Simulation  
<http://modelingandcontrol.com/>,
- Basic Information for Engineering and Design  
<http://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/>.



## Main literature

- *Process Control. Modeling, Design, Simulation.* B.Wane Bequette.
- *Process Control. A First Course with Matlab.* Pao C. Chau
- *Introduction to Process Control.* J.A. Ramagnoli, A.Palazoglu.
- *Process Control. Designing Process and Control Systems for Dynamic Performance.* Thomas E. Marlin.

## Additional literature

- *Advanced PID Control.* K. Åström, T. Hägglund,
- *Control Theory.* T.Glad, L.Ljung.

Engineering activities are intended to create a **system / process / component** what **we want / need** and as the result

- Concept (necessity, requirements, functions) — **documentation**;
- Realization (design, tests, production).

In the course Automation and Process Control (A&PC) we will discuss

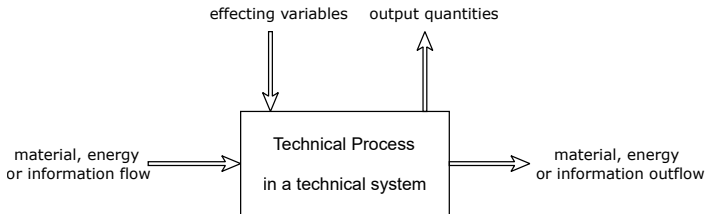
- Control /objects, aims, etc./ including
- Automatic control and industry control systems, where

Control system

- Implements control algorithms (process interface),
- Provides situation (user interface),
- Analyzes and estimates situation (alarms).

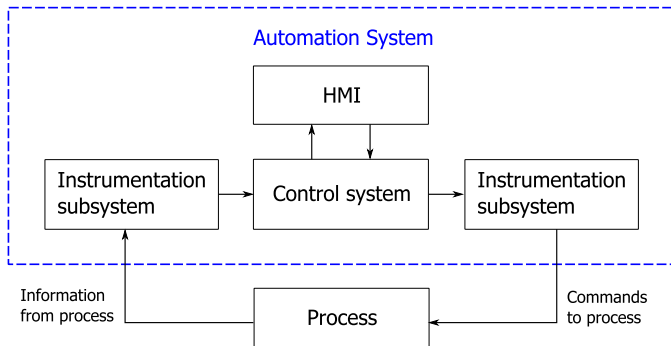
**Process** is the entirety of all interacting process within a system that transforms and stores material, energy of information.

**Technical process** is a process in which its physical parameters are recorded and influenced by technical means.



**Figure:** Technical Process

The Technical process runs on technical system.



**Figure:** Basic structure of Automation System

**Instrumentation** acquires information from the process. Sends the information to the process to change its behavior.

**Human interface** allows operator manually interact with the process.

## Industrial Automation System

**Goal** is the automation of operations in the technical process with the help of appropriate information processing units.

**Human operators** only place requests on the operating results.

Automation of the technical process in the foreground

## Process Control System

**Goal** is management of the procedure of a technical process by human operators, supported by the automation of individual operations.

Operation in the foreground

Control system is the heart of automation systems and coordinates and controls the functions of other systems.

The control system is an essential mechanism for manipulating of the output of a specific process to achieve the desired result.

Control system consists of

- Basic control (PID, blocking);
- State-flow;
- Tracking control (set points);
- Specific situations (errors, emergency, startup, etc.);
- User interfaces (alarms, trends).

Regardless of the application automation has similar goals, algorithms, devices.

Control system will be integrated with business management.

Manufacturing is a process of transforming inputs into final goods and products.

Company is a business unit

- Working with the purpose, owns assets;
- Located somewhere: Transport, Logistics;
- Consists of units: structure;
- Manufacturing activities: processing materials → product
  - processes: chemical, mechanical, thermal, etc.

## Production Activities

The overall purpose of any business is **profit**.

Manufacturing adds value to the product, which is produced in order to sell at a higher price than the cost is.

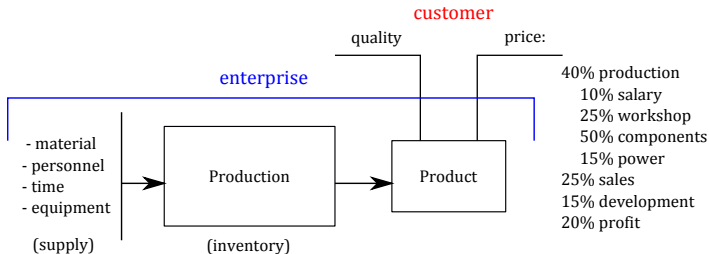


Figure: Production price

The technical and organizational level of production (capability).

Product has a life cycle

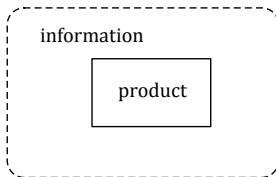
- Design devices configuration.
- Production PLC programming.
- Support HMI design.



Market becomes more global.

Number of customers and manufactures has increased

- Products have a lot of modifications;
- Orders are smaller but more frequent;
- Requires more information about the product and order.



Product is delivered to the final customer with information which should be collected, saved, stored, processed, etc.

## Production process is changing

- Production volumes are changing
- Raw materials are changing
- Quality requirements increase
- Shorter deadlines
- Market is changing
- Safety, environmental requirements

Can be solved by: [automation](#) and [data processing](#).

Equipment: computing hardware and networks.

In industry the knowledge of different fields is needed including knowledge of automation:

- Control systems;
- Computer science;
- Electricity, mechanics.

There are two environments:

**Industry environment** workshop, workers (blue-collar), control of the equipment, machinery, power, water, compressed air, PLC, regulators, fast networks, short messages.

**Business** office, staff (white-collar), business plan, production planning and management, orders, Internet, files (enterprise infrastructure), etc.

In industry we simultaneously have: production, design of the new products, construction, maintenance, market research, logistics.

The production process is part of a long chain of economic activities.

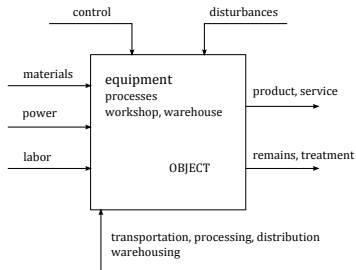


Figure: Production

Among continuous processes in world dominate

- Chemical and petrochemical;
- Biotechnology;
- Boilers, thermal processes;
- Waste water treatment, etc.

Production process:

- Distributed in space;
- Running in time;
- Influenced by the disturbance.

Equipment and process states:



**Process** is a change of indicator

- Number of activities  
development process, manufacturing process,  
the training process, etc.
- Human, technical
- Changes properties, can be controlled
- Requires: time, space, resources, skills, etc.

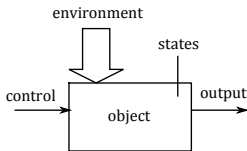
Industrial processes are systematic series of physical, mechanical, chemical, etc of operations that produce a result.

- ✓ Manufacture goods  
food, chemicals, etc.
- ✓ Provide services  
supply electricity, water, gas, etc.

Some processes are reversible.

**Control** purposeful activity (has the goal!)  
Process should be affected to meet the goal

**Controlled object** equipment, process



**Automated control** control without human aid

**System** components, transformations: inputs  $\rightarrow$  outputs

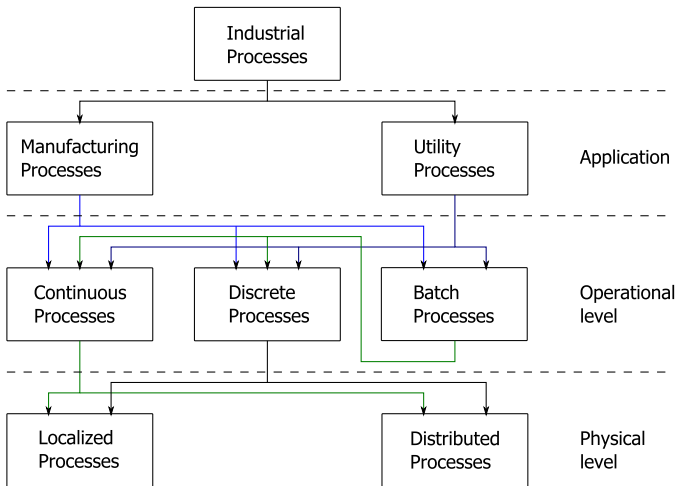


Figure: Industrial processes



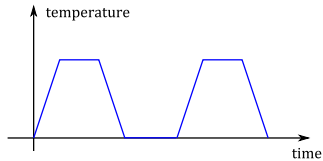
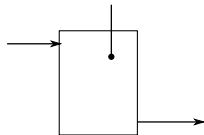
## Continuous processes

- Steady state is an equilibrium point of the process  
Lasts a long time due to big time constants
  - Dynamics of the process does not change (possible to use linearized model)
  - Small disturbances, fixed
- 
- Boilers (heat, steam)
  - Chemical industry (polymers, paints, etc.)
  - Petrochemical - quality, production volumes, profits
  - Baking



## Batch processes

- Process depends on the quantity, composition and material
  - Time constants change ( $10\times$ )
  - Purposes are changing
  - Errors can damage the product or equipment
  - Controlled from the beginning till the end, changes are drastic
- 
- Dough, concrete
  - Pharmaceutical products
  - Food, beverages
  - Paints, varnishes



	Activities	Objectives
Business management	Strategic management (business plan) Orders, Logistics Resources Income/expenses	Economic optimization  min $\sum$ expenses (max profit) limitations
Workshops production	Tactical management (plan) Optimization, plan Monitoring Failure treatment Repair	Process optimization (max) -quantity, speed quality (min) -price, cost ✓ plan execution
Process control by equipment	Efficient control control state-flow interlocks, safety behavior	Implementation of the control and safety regulations

Goal of the control is not to obtain the maximal but the **optimal** result.

Purpose is to do:

- ✓ Cheaper;
- ✓ Better;
- ✓ Faster;
- ✓ More safe.

Automation tasks arise in business environment where the production goal is the profit (build something - make money). The role of **management** is to produce using people and equipment. Management must set out the challenges so that technical staff can understand it.

**Technical staff:** production facilities are specified by the equipment.

Action: plan, build, tune, ...

What we want to achieve with automatics? It is used to

✓ to solve *specific* tasks

✓ to obtain process with *standard* (safe) features

The basic need of any process is to produce the goods or to provide the services that maintain

- Consistency,
- Quality,
- Cost-effectiveness.

Much attention is devoted to:

What is the result?

How do you measure results? Expenses? Risks?

What to do? What not to do? How much to do?

*Good, necessary, fashionable, important, etc.* ← **meaningless!**

*Reduction of disturbances, increasing the  
speed, increase the quality, reliability, safety,  
etc.* ← **important content**

## Automation Steps

- 1 Information Acquisition
- 2 Information Analysis and Decision Making
- 3 Control Execution

- ✓ Profit - is the main purpose!
  - Recoupment of investments
- ✓ Effective production
  - Schedule work
    - orders, resources
  - Availability
    - unit failure shall not cause the process shutdown (heating, power, water, etc.)
    - monitoring of the equipment work and protection
    - goal: reservation, automated switching, scheduled repair, diagnostics, emergency notifications
  - Materials and energy savings
    - monitoring: consumption

- ✓ Quality - customer satisfaction
  - Stable production, quality monitoring
- ✓ Standards, regulations and laws satisfaction
  - Safety - avoid the risk to the staff and environment
    - achieved by: monitoring parameters, human activities testing, failures localization, operator assistance
  - Meet the environmental pollution standards
    - wastewater, gases, dust, etc.
- ✓ Flexibility
  - Products, raw materials, requirements, market, etc.



Automation level should be appropriate:  
too much / too little automation.

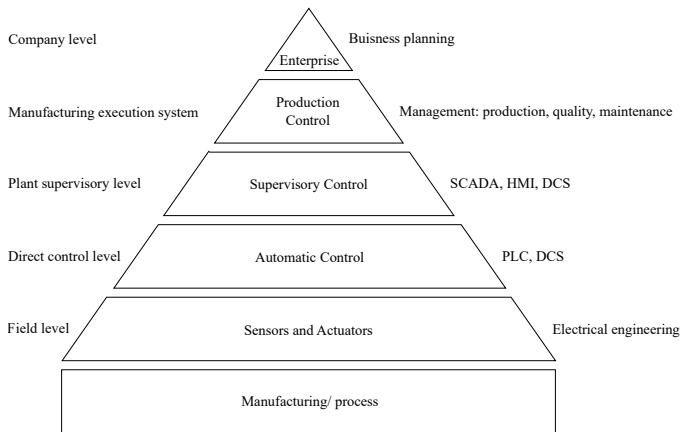
Management and decisions based on available information  
Data acquisition / processing / traffic is the same as  
in logistics industry or government (the same  
IT technology).

To control processes their knowledge (model), standards,  
limitations, accurate and flexible (and therefore complex)  
management are needed.

## (Control) activity classification by the complexity

	Human based	Automatics
Skill based (known situations)	reflexive actions fast routine	simple, fast algorithms
Rule-based (more complex situations)	follows the rules thinks as-makes	emergency interlocking reserve usage start/stop
Knowledge-based (unknown situations)	analyzes, calculates making plans model slow	identification fault-detection changes in the structure new algorithms

The classic automation pyramid model shows a series of well-defined layers structured in such a way that information flows upwards from devices to enterprise via all levels.



Early theory: 1932 amplifiers (Nyquist).

Practice: 1922- Control of ships' movements.

Two branches of automatic control applications:

## 1 Control of the movement/motion

- World War II (1939)
  - ✓ tracking systems (servo): gun pointing, ship steering

## 2 Process control

- chemical industry, food industry
  - ✓ terminology did not work, fixed operating point
  - ✓ large time constants, delays

before 1940 (materials, energy) controlled manually: valves /ventiilid /вентили;

- Large number of operators (knowledge of the process, experience);
- Warehouses for intermediate products storage (separates the process);
- Expensive labor, increased production, new equipment.

~ 1950 Controllers, feedback

- Rules and experience, process dynamics is not taken into account

~ 1960 optimal control (min \$)

- How to use the theory?

~ 1970 increase of the fuel price (to minimize energy costs)

- More complex process, more connections

~ 1980 MPC (Model Predictive Control), DCS (Distributed Control System / Hajusüsteemid)

Restrictions on the process: equipment, personnel, legislation, etc.

Process has restriction on the parameters values:

- law of physics, safety requirements, product quality, technical potential (max productivity).

Problems with existing control systems

- ✓ Some systems are important and have to work, halt can cause accidents.
- ✓ Many systems are integrated or embedded.
- ✓ Data traffic is huge.
- ✓ Functionality documentation is poor, user does not know the full functionality of the system.
- ✓ Information and "know-how" related to staff, critical knowledge and skills.
- ✓ The information is scattered in many systems, is it available in an appropriate format?
- ✓ The complexity, capability, flexibility.

## Goals can change

- ✓ The aim to produce more - goal of the past!
- ✓ To produce with a better quality - goals of the past!
- ✓ Recoupment of investments - max profit for the investment.

## Current situation in automation:

many unconnected (outdated) systems, which is an obstacle to the further integration.

## Automation development has two possible paths:

- 1** Evolution, continuous improvement. Reduces the risk to make step-by-step, minimize the risks.
- 2** Replacement to the new one.






## Additional features:

- Servers: heart of automation system
  - store the real-time data;
  - coordinate the activities of all subsystems;
  - have redundancy.
- Remote clients
  - operator stations.
- History server: alarm data, event data, process data
  - off-line analysis.
- Enterprise resource planing (ERP): arrangement for integration and management of information
  - business activities: accounting, sales;
  - manufacturing;
  - supply;
  - service.



- Closer to the process  
local PID controller in the sensor or actuator
- Remote control  
works on the parent company servers:  
orders, realization, scheduling (expensive software)
- Integration (control and IT)  
manufacturing optimization: smarter, safer.

Today	Almost there
Manufacturing centric	Customer centric
Forecast dependent (warehouses)	Demand dependent (orders)
Replenish stores	Direct to customers
Regulated yields	Optimized yields
Breakdown and preventive maintenance	Predictive and reliability-centered maintenance

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