





UtahState Mechanical & Flarospece Engineering UNIVERSITY Example III: Measurement and Control System lote - Sky Blue wires represent white wires Parker AC DuraValve AC Omega DC iolenoid (1x) Solenoid (2x) Solenoid (2x) Relay (2x) UltraVolt Ignitor Solid-State Relay (2x) 7 14 010 6 13 High Voltage Lead Ground 12 5 Volt Supply 16 15 Ground 11 4 Solenoids, Relays 3 10 _ L N GRND +24V -12V +12V COM +5V 2 9 8



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Example IV: Complex Remote Sensing System





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Sensors/Transducers (1)

A sensor is something that is sensitive to some phenomenon that we are interested in. It needs to respond to the phenomenon is some way that we can see or measure.

Examples: Mercury thermometer

Wind Sock

Thermocouple

A transducer is a sensor tied to stuff (very often electronics) that makes the output of the sensor readable. Most transducers output a voltage or a current. ... typically this is an element of a sensor



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Sensors/Transducers (2)

A transducer is a device that converts a physical phenomenon into a measurable electrical signal, such as voltage or current. The ability of a DAQ system to measure different phenomena depends on the transducers to convert the physical phenomena into signals measurable by the DAQ hardware. Transducers are synonymous with sensors in DAQ systems. There are specific transducers for many different applications, such as measuring temperature, pressure, or fluid flow. Figure shows a short list of some common transducers and the phenomena they can measure.

Phenomena	Trans ducer	
Temperature	Thermocouples Resistive Temperature Devices (RTDs) Thermistors	
Light	Vacuum Tube Photo Sensors	
Sound	Microphone	
Force and Pressure	Strain Gauges Piezoelectric Transducers	
Position and Displacement	Potentiometers Linear Voltage Differential Transformer Optical Encoder	
Fluid	Head Meters Rotational Flowmeters	
pН	pH Electrodes	

Phenomena and Existing Transducers



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Transducer Example

• Transducers convert the physical phenomenon being sensed Into an alternative signal (usually electrical or digital) that can be more easily sensed







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Measurement Error

All measurements contain error. This may be difficult for you perfectionist types to come to grips with, but you will have error, and it is not a sin. The sin is not knowing how big your error can be. Or as Clint Eastwood says "A man's got to know his limitations," or something like that.

In this chapter, we will learn how to estimate the size of the error in a given measurement. The theory is obtuse, but important, and will be clarified with hands-on examples in the lab.

This is an extremely important topic (perhaps the most important topic in the course). It is also one that many people, including many experimentalists, do not fully understand.

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Classification of Measurement Errors

1) Bias or systematic error

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- Calibration Error
- Recurring Human Errors
- Defective Equipment Errors
- Loading Errors
- Resolution Limitations

2) Precision or random errors

a) Human errors

b) Equipment disturbance errors

c) Fluctuating condition errors

d) Insufficient sensitivity errors.

e) Fundamental accuracy of sensor / Sampling Resolution

3) Illegitimate errors

a) Experimental mistakes

b) Computational errors

4) Errors that can appear as bias or precision

a) Backlash, friction, hysteresis

b) Calibration drift

c) Errors from variations in procedure among experimenters



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Instrument Performance Specs

- Accuracy The difference between the measured value and the actual value, reported as a maximum.
- PrecisionThe difference between the instrument's reported
values during repeated measurements of the same quantity.
- **Resolution** The smallest increment of change in the measured value that can be determined from the instruments read out. Usually similar or smaller than precision.
- **Sensitivity** The change in the output of an instrument per unit change in the input.
- **Hysterysis** As a general term, hysteresis means a lag between input and output in a system upon a change in direction.



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Precision versus Accuracy

- Precision is the smallest number that can be Repeatedly reproduced by a measurement System
- Precision and Accuracy are NOT! The same





- Continuous analog measurand is represented by discretely sampled "bits" using a Data Acquisition (DAQ) system
- "Sampling" introduces resolution error



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Measurement and Data Sampling

• When perform a measurement ... a *transducer* converts the *measurand* into an electrical signal ... and this signal is *"sampled"* using a digital computer





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Discrete Signals (1)

More times than not, modern measurements are made using digital data acquisition equipment (DAQ). Most real processes are analog in nature. As such, we need to be able to move freely between these two ways of thinking.





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Measurement Resolution (1)

• **Resolution** determines the ability to see fine details in the **measurement**.

• Defined as the smallest incremental value that can be Discerned by a system

• Typically a consequence of *data sampling*



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Measurement Resolution (4)

• Example: 8-bit word encoding

- Full scale range of Sensor: ... <u>0-10</u> volts
- Range divided unto 2⁸=256 parts or "*counts*"
- *Least significant bit* = $10_{volts}/256 = 0.039$ volts/count

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Measurement Resolution (5)

• Example: 16-bit word encoding

- Full scale range of Sensor: ... <u>0-10</u> volts
- Range divided unto 2¹⁶=65536 parts or "counts"
- *Least significant bit* = $10_{volts}/65536 = 0.000153$ volts/count
- --> Analog output from sensor ... 2.3575 volts

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Measurement Sensitivity (1)

• Example: unamplified Load cell ... 3mv/volt output

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Measurement Sensitivity (2)

• Example: amplified Load cell output ...gain = 100

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Hysteresis (1)

Many sensors have the undesirable characteristic of giving a different value when the input is increasing than when it is decreasing. This is called hysteresis.

As a general term, hysteresis means a lag between input and output in a system upon a change in direction.

Anyone who's ever driven an old automobile with "loose" steering knows what hysteresis is:

to change from turning left to turning right (or visa-versa), you have to rotate the steering wheel an additional amount to overcome the built-in "lag" in the mechanical linkage system between the steering wheel and the front wheels of the car.

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Hysteresis (2)

Example: Aviation Magnetometer (Compass) Lag

• In a magnetic system, hysteresis is seen in a ferromagnetic material that tends to stay magnetized after an applied field force has been removed.

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Hysteresis (3)

$$u_{hysteresis} = |y_{upscale} - y_{downscale}|$$

$$\rightarrow (\%u_{hysteresis})_{max} = 100 \times \frac{|y_{upscale} - y_{downscale}|}{r_0}$$

$$r_0 = f \ ull \ scale \ range \ of \ measurement \ / \ senso.$$

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Linearity

Many types of sensors have linear input/ output behavior, along a defined range of inputs. The sensor thus follows an input/ output relation like

 $y_L(x) = a_0 + a_1 x.$

These will often be marketed as linear, and the only calibration data you get is the slope of the input/output relation (a_1) and the zero input value (a_0) . For these types of sensors, the deviation from linear behavior is reported in the specifications. This deviation can be calculated: $e_L(x) = y(x) - y_L(x)$. The spec is usually the percentage error relative to full scale, or

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Zero-shift and Sensitivity errors

Variations in the trend parameters a_0 and a_1 are called zero errors and sensitivity errors, respectively. Zero errors are handled rather easily by measuring the zero input response before measurements are started. These two errors are often sensitive to temperature fluctuations in electronic equipment.

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The Measurement Process: Using Calibrated System

•Using a "Calibrated System"

Example I: How do you measure the length of a "Big" Snake

"Hold still ... will ya!"

-- Naturalists measure length of the animal using in a string following a imaginary middle line of the body from head to tail.

- -- then the length of the string is measured by laying it on a ruler
- -- allows recording of the actual length of the animal regardless of its position and without having to stretch the snake.

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• ... 1-6 *Vdc* range ... 3.50 *Vdc* balance

For <u>+1</u> psid Transducer (PX143-01BD5V)

$$P_{psid} = a \cdot V + b \rightarrow \begin{vmatrix} +1psid = a \cdot 6_V + b \\ -0psid = a \cdot 0_V + b \\ -1psid = a \cdot 1_V + b \end{vmatrix}$$
 Linear Calibration

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Pressure Transducer Calibration (4)

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UtahState UNIVERSITY Calibration Example III (1)

• Hot-wire anemometer is a device that heats a wire by pumping current through it and keeps its resistance (and thus its temperature) constant.

• When air blows on the wire the current required to keep the wire hot goes up. instrument is sensitive to velocity. Requires calibration against a known velocity.

• A_1 is 100 times larger than A_2 , so V_1^2 is negligible (10⁻⁴) compared to V_2^2 .

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^a Bernoulli Law ...

 $\frac{P_1}{\rho} + \frac{V_1^2}{2} = \frac{P_2}{\rho} + \frac{V_2^2}{2}$ $V_2 = \sqrt{2(P_1 - P_2)/\rho}$

Use Pressure Transducer Calibrated in previous step To sense velocity

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Example of Measurement Calibration Error (1)

• Rate Gyro calibration

±150°/s Single Chip Yaw Rate Gyro with Signal Conditioning ADXRS150

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RATE SENSITIVE AXIS

This is a Z-axis rate-sensing device that is also called a yaw rate sensing device. It produces a positive going output voltage for clockwise rotation about the axis normal to the package top, i.e., clockwise when looking down at the package lid.

Figure 2. RATEOUT Signal Increases with Clockwise Rotation

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Example of Measurement Calibration Error (2)

Three different
Sensors
of same make were
tested using
Same spin table
as the reference

Variability Of each is *Nearly identical*

Offsets are *Very different*

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Quantification of Error

• Whenever possible, systematic errors are taken out Of a measurement system using trend lines and calibration Curves ...

• The remaining errors are unknown and must be quantified Using statistical means

Our best tools for this quantification are the *Mean and Standard deviation*

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Mean Value of a Random Sample

• The mean value (μ) of a random population is what is commonly Referred to as the "average" ... *it is the most likely value to occur* ... more on this in the next section

... for a sample of *n* members, selected at random from the population we can Represent the *mean* by the *"Sample mean"*

$$\mu \approx \overline{x} = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots x_n}{n} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_i}{n}$$

• For error quantification ... mean error can be considered as bias MAE 3340 INSTRUMENTATION SYSTEMS 43

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Standard Deviation of a Random Sample

• A random sample will always vary about the mean .. And a Quantification of this variability is referred to as the "*standard Deviation*" ... *the square of the standard deviation is called the* "*variance*"

... for a sample of *n* members, selected at random from the population we can true variance by the "sample variance"

$$\sigma \approx S_x = \sqrt{\frac{\left(x_1 - \bar{x}\right)^2 + \left(x_2 - \bar{x}\right)^2 + \dots \left(x_n - \bar{x}\right)^2}{n - 1}} = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\left(x_i - \bar{x}\right)^2}{n - 1}}$$

• ... standard deviation is used to quantify the random error In a measurement

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Mean and Standard Deviation of a Random Sample

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Error Propagation (1)

More often then not, the quantity we are interested in measuring is a function of a several other independent sensed variables .. And the end result is calculated from these independent variables .. How do we account for the errors in the independent variable measurements?

example $\rightarrow z = f(x, y)...x, y$ are noisy measurements ...what can we say about error in z?

$$U_{z}^{2} \approx U_{x}^{2} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)^{2} + U_{y}^{2} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right)^{2} + U_{u}^{2} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}\right)^{2} + U_{v}^{2} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial v}\right)^{2} + \cdots$$

Eqn. 3.35 in B.M.L.

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Error Propagation Example (2)

The book cites the example of estimating volume flow rate by measuring the time it takes to fill a bucket of known volume. Q = V/t If you knew the uncertainty of *V* and the uncertainty of *t*, how do you find the uncertainty of *Q*?

• LOOK AT CHAIN RULE FOR DIFFERENTIATION

$$\partial \mathbf{Q} = \partial \left(\mathbf{V}/t \right) = \frac{\partial \mathbf{Q}}{\partial V} \cdot \partial V + \frac{\partial \mathbf{Q}}{\partial t} \cdot \partial t \rightarrow \left[\left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{Q}}{\partial V} \right) = \left(\frac{1}{t} \right) \right] \rightarrow \left[\left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{Q}}{\partial t} \right) = -\left(\frac{V}{t^2} \right) \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \left[\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial V} \right)^2 = \left(\frac{1}{t} \right)^2 \right] \rightarrow \left[\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} \right)^2 = \left(\frac{V}{t^2} \right)^2 \right]$$

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Error Propagation Example (3)

Assuming unbiased measurements of *V* and *t*, and that errors in these measurements are *uncorrelated*

$$v_r^2 t = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_t^2 = \sum (\delta t)^2 \\ \sigma_v^2 = \sum (\delta V)^2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \sum (\delta t \delta V) \approx 0 \qquad \qquad \Rightarrow \boxed{\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial V}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{1}{t}\right)^2} \rightarrow \boxed{\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial t}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{V}{t^2}\right)^2}$$

$$\sigma_Q^2 = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial V}\right)^2 \sigma_V^2 + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial t}\right)^2 \sigma_t^2 = \left(\frac{1}{t}\right)^2 \cdot \sigma_V^2 + \left(\frac{V}{t^2}\right)^2 \cdot \sigma_t^2$$

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Overall Measurement Uncertainty

• The overall uncertainty of a measurement will be a combination of the bias uncertainty and the precision uncertainty

• If we can account for the bias we take it out ... otherwise bias is modeled as an uncertainly

• The overall uncertainty is the Root-sum-square (RSS) of the Bias and random uncertainty + other classifiable errors like hysterysis, calibration, etc.

$$U_x = (B_x^2 + R_x^2 + \dots)^{1/2}$$

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Uncertainty Analysis Procedure (1)

- 1) Find the functional form of what you will measure (e.g. Re = Ud/v)
- 2) Identify all variables to be measured (U, d, v)
- 3) For each of these quantities, determine the bias error based on instrument specs and calibration information
 - E.G., the velocity probe has an accuracy of 2% of reading (0.02U) or perhaps 1% of full scale. The diameter is known to the resolution of the measuring caliper, which is 0.001".
- 4) For each of the quantities, if repeated measurements produce different results, sample the quantity until the desired precision uncertainty is obtained. ENSURE ALL SAMPLES ARE INDEPENDENT. If not, your precision error is larger than you have estimated. A desirable precision uncertainty is similar to the bias uncertainty.

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Propagate the uncertainty. If component uncertainties are provided as 6) percentages (relative uncertainties, as opposed to absolute uncertainties), and if the functional form is multiplications, divisions and powers, it may be convenient to write the propagation equation in terms of relative uncertainties by dividing through by the function.

Uncertainty Analysis Procedure (2)

Root sum square the bias and precision uncertainty for each 5) and Resolution **Errors** quantity.

 $Re = U \cdot d/v$ $u_{\rm Re}^2 = u_U^2 \left(\frac{\partial \rm Re}{\partial II}\right)^2 + u_d^2 \left(\frac{\partial \rm Re}{\partial d}\right)^2 + u_v^2 \left(\frac{\partial \rm Re}{\partial v}\right)^2$ $u_{\rm Re}^{2} = u_{U}^{2} \left(\frac{d}{v}\right)^{2} + u_{d}^{2} \left(\frac{U}{v}\right)^{2} + u_{v}^{2} \left(-\frac{dU}{v^{2}}\right)^{2}$

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• Compute total error

$$U_x = (B_x^2 + R_x^2)^{1/2}$$

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Experimental Design Tips

- 1) Avoid approaches that require two large numbers to be measured in order to determine the small difference between them. For example, large uncertainty is likely when measuring $\delta = (x_1 x_2)$ if $\delta \ll x_1$.
- 2) Design experiments that amplify the signal strength to improve sensitivity.
- 3) Build "null designs" in which the output is measured as a change from zero rather than a change in a non-zero value. This reduces both bias and precision errors. Such designs often make the output proportional to the difference of two sensors.
- 4) Avoid experiments where large correction factors are applied
- 5) Attempt to minimize loading errors
- 6) Calibrate the entire system rather than the individual components.

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Graphical Presentation of Data (1)

A graph should be used when it will convey information and portray significant features more efficiently than words or tabulations.

Graphs should:

- 1) Require minimal effort from the reader in understanding and interpreting the information it conveys
- 2) The axes should have clear labels that name the quantity plotted, its units, and its symbol
- 3) Axes should be clearly numbered and should have tick marks for significant numerical divisions. Typically, ticks should appear in increments of 1, 2, or 5 units. Not every tick need be numbered. Too many will clutter the axis.
- 4) Use scientific notation to avoid placing too many digits on the graph.

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Graphical Presentation of Data (2)

- 5) When plotting on logarithm axes, place ticks at powers of 10 and minor ticks at 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, etc.
- 6) Axes should usually include 0.
- 7) The choice in scales and proportions should be commensurate with the relative importance of the variations shown in the results.
- 8) Use symbols, Not dots, for data points. Open symbols should be used before closed. *When allowed USE COLOR!*
- 9) Either place error bars on the plot that indicate uncertainty or use symbols that are the size of the uncertainty.
- 10) When several curves appear on the same plot, use different line styles to distinguish them. Avoid using colors.

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Graphical Presentation of Data (3)

- 11) Minimize lettering on graphs
- 12) Labels on the axes and curves should be oriented to be read from the bottom or from the right. Avoid forcing the reader to rotate the figure to read it.
- 13) The graph should have a descriptive but concise title.
- 14) When plotting points collected from multiple trials use "error bars" to show the accuracy range for each sample.
- Bottom Line- You want to communicate information to your reader. The burden to get your point across falls to you. The chances of successfully communicating your point are improved considerably when you make it easy on the reader. Never think of your plot as pretty graphics. If that is all it is, you should remove it.

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Graphical Presentation of Data (5)

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Graphical Presentation of Data (6)

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Graphical Presentation of Data (7)

Steel Rule, Mean Dimension (in)

