

**EXPERIMENTAL STUDY ON THE CHARACTERISTICS OF CASCADE
CONTROL**

JOHAN ARIFF BIN ZA'BAR

**FACULTY OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA
SHAH ALAM**

2009

DECLARATION

“I hereby declare that this report is the result of my own work except for quotations and summaries which have been duly acknowledged.”



JOHAN ARIFF BIN ZA'BAR
2006213136

23TH DECEMBER 2009

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am deeply indebted to my supervisor En. Aziz Bin Ishak whose help, stimulating suggestions and encouragement helped me in all the time of research for and writing of this thesis.

My colleagues from the Faculty of Chemical Engineering supported me in my research work. I would like to thank them for all their help, support, interest and valuable hints. Especially, I am obliged to Dinah Fadhilah Binti Nasir for her ideas.

I also would like to thank Che Wan Riduan Asmadi Bin Che Wan Embong. My classmate Mohd Hisyamuddin Bin Zainal Abidin was of great help in difficult times. My friend, Mohd Adha Bin Saad looked closely at the final version of the thesis for English style and grammar, correcting both and offering suggestions for improvement.

Lastly, I would like to give my special thanks to Cik Norin Zamiah Binti Kassim Shaari for giving me permission to initiate my thesis writing.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
DECLARATION	iii
CERTIFICATION	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vi
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vii
LIST OF TABLES	x
LIST OF FIGURES	xi
LIST OF PLATES	xiii
ABSTRACT	xiv
CHAPTER 1	INTRODUCTION
1.1	Introduction 1
1.2	Problem Statement 2
1.3	Objective of Research 2
1.4	Outline of Thesis 2
CHAPTER 2	LITERATURE REVIEW
2.1	A Process Control System 3
2.2	The Importance of Process Control 6
2.2.1	To reduce variability 6
2.2.2	To increase efficiency 7
2.2.3	To ensure safety 7
2.3	Control Theory Basics 8
2.3.1	Process control terms 8
2.3.1.1	Process variable 8
2.3.1.2	Setpoint 8
2.3.1.3	Measured variables, process variables and manipulated variables 9
2.3.1.4	Manual and automatic control 10
2.3.1.5	Closed and open loop 10

ABSTRACT

In many manufacturing and chemical process industries, process control has been playing a major role as to assist human resources since the last century. Ever since machines had been created to mass-produce products for customers, PID controllers have evolved from pneumatic mechanical to digital electronic devices. As the evolution occurs, PID controllers have been developed and played an inevitable role in order to ensure stability and efficiency during the production. In a parallel manner, cascade control; an advanced control strategy, has been developed to fulfill industrial needs for the processes to perform better. In this experiment, characteristics of cascade control are to be examined in Water Level Flow Training System (WLF922) plant. Two controllers of flow process, also known as LIC31 and FIC31 are manipulated to observe the behaviour of cascade control. Others such as Reformulated Tangent Method and Numerical Technique are practical to analyze open loop test by determining dead time (T_d), time constant (T_c) and response rate (RR) as well. These parameters will be used in the next stage, in which cascade control modes involved in examining the behaviour of process variable (PV) towards setpoint. Furthermore, in order to analyze cascade control processes are categorized into three groups which are fast, medium and slow and PB,% and I,t are manipulated to achieve the results. Finally, the combination of fast, medium and slow processes are then analyzed in terms of settling time, steepness of the response curves and occurrences of significant oscillations at different PB,% and I,t.