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LIMIT CYCLES IN NONLINEAR SYSTEMS OF STABILIZATION

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**Abstract.** The conditions of appearing of periodic damped oscillations in nonlinear systems of stabilization have been considered.

**Keywords:** stability, stiffness, damping, linearization, a limit cycle, the frequency transfer function.

**Introduction and statement of the problem.** Many systems contains elements, which are described by nonlinear equations and have essentially nonlinear characteristics. Examples are the elements with characteristics such as insensibility zone, saturation (limitation), the ideal relay, the hysteresis loop, the relay with hysteresis, etc. The system, which includes at least one such element is a nonlinear.

Fig. 1 shows a block diagram of a nonlinear system of stabilization.

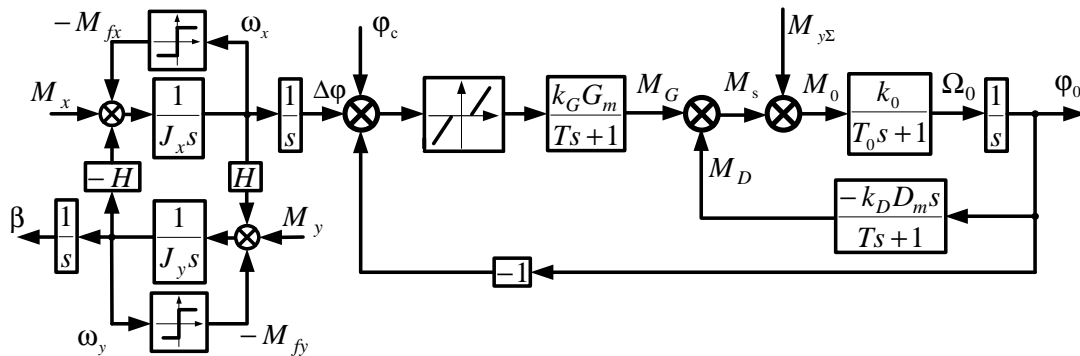


Fig. 1. Block diagram of nonlinear system of stabilization

The moment of stabilization is formed through the sensor channel of angular deviation and through the speed sensor of angular deviation of control object

$$\bar{M}_s = \bar{M}_G + \bar{M}_D \equiv k_G G_m + k_D D_m,$$

where  $G_m, D_m$  – structural stiffness and damping of the system, respectively;  $0 \leq k_G \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq k_D \leq 1$  – coefficients of regulating the stiffness and damping. The system regulator has a linear characteristic with insensibility zone. The friction in the frame pillar of gyroscopic angle sensor – a “dry”

$$M_{fx} = -M_{fm} \text{sign} \omega_x ;$$

$$M_{fy} = -M_{fm} \text{sign} \omega_y .$$

Thus, the nonlinear system of stabilization consists of both linear and nonlinear elements.

The main feature of nonlinear systems should be consider the appearing possibility of limit cycles in them – periodic undamped oscillations. Thus, amplitude of those undamped oscillations is independent of external influence as well as of initial conditions. In general, the limit cycle may be not sinusoidal.

In this regard in researching of appearing possibility of limit cycles in nonlinear systems of stabilization, determination of their parameters and stability analysis, synthesis of corrective devices, which eliminating the appearance in nonlinear system limit cycle, present considerable interest.

**Problem solving.** Consider the system of stabilization, angle sensor which has not error  $\Delta\varphi$ , caused by the action of perturbing moments  $M_x, M_y$  on the frame of three-stage gyro. If necessary, angle sensor, as a nonlinear element, can be investigated separately for checking the appearance of limit cycles in it.

The principle of superposition does not apply to nonlinear systems, so, we will consider the system that is only under the action of the control signal  $\varphi_c$ . Because of adopted limitations, the block diagram of a nonlinear system of stabilization acquire a typical kind.

After the convolution of contour I and the transition to the frequency domain, we obtain an equivalent of frequency transfer function of the linear part of the stabilization system

$$W(j\omega) = \frac{k_G k_0 G_m}{\left[ -(T_0 + T)\omega + j(1 + k_D k_0 D_m - T_0 T \omega^2) \right] \omega}. \quad (1)$$

We will apply to the nonlinear element method of harmonic linearization and will find in the handbook on automation the function which describe it [1,2]

$$W_f(a_m, \omega) = \frac{N_1 + jC_1}{a_m} = k - \frac{2k}{\pi} \left( \arcsin \frac{b}{a_m} + \frac{b}{a_m} \sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{a_m^2}} \right), \quad (2)$$

where  $b$  – width of the insensibility zone;  $k$  – the gain coefficient in the linear regime.

Note that the fundamental difference between harmonic linearization and usual linearization is that if we have harmonic linearization, the nonlinear characteristic we will change to linear, the slope of which depends on the amplitude of the signal at the input of the nonlinear element.

In a closed system can predict the existence of a limit cycle, if for some values of the amplitudes  $a_{m0}$  and frequencies  $\omega_0$  of the signal at the input of the nonlinear element the amplitude and phase of the frequency response characteristic (APFRC) of open circuit will be equal to

$$1 + W(j\omega)W_f(a_m, \omega) = 0. \quad (3)$$

Let rewrite equation (3) as

$$W(j\omega) = -\frac{1}{W_f(a_m, \omega)}. \quad (4)$$

The left-hand side of equation (4) is APFRC of linear component of stabilization system. The right-hand side – reverse APFRC of nonlinear element, taken with opposite sign. The parameters  $W(j\omega)$  are determined only by the frequency of input signal and does not depend on its amplitude.

But parameters like  $\frac{-1}{W_f(a_m, \omega)}$ , are on the contrary, determined only by the amplitude of the signal at the input of the nonlinear element and does not depend on its frequency.

Therefore, if it build graphical images on complex plane  $W(j\omega)$  and  $\frac{-1}{W_f(a_m, \omega)}$ , then the point of its intersection will satisfy the expression (4). The obtained values of the amplitude  $a_{m0}$  and frequency  $\omega_0$  determine the changing law of the limit cycle.

When plotting the inverse APFRC of nonlinear element, we take into account the particular cases of calculation its describing function

$$W_f(a_m = b) = k - \frac{2k}{\pi} \left( \arcsin 1 + 1\sqrt{0} \right) = k - \frac{2k}{\pi} \frac{\pi}{2} = 0;$$

$$W_f(a_m \rightarrow \infty) = k - \frac{2k}{\pi} \left( \arcsin 0 + 0\sqrt{1} \right) = k.$$

Graphical representation of  $\frac{-1}{W_f(a_m, \omega)}$  in the complex plane (fig. 2) is a straight line coinciding with the negative direction of the  $x$ -axis. The maximum value equal to  $\frac{-1}{k}$  the inverse APFRC reaches with  $a_m \rightarrow \infty$ .

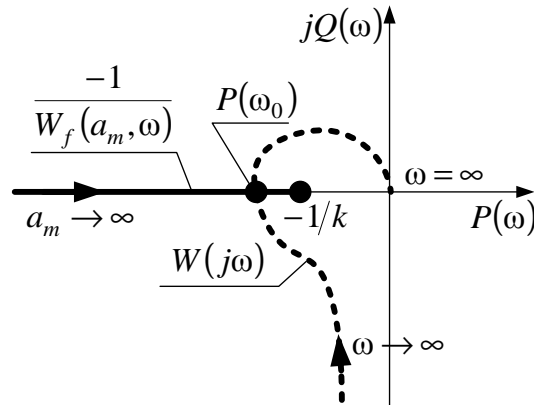


Fig. 2. Parameters of the limit cycle

On the basis of the frequency transfer function (1) of the linear component of the system, we find an algorithm calculating its APFRC

$$W(j\omega) = \frac{-k_G k_0 G_m (T_0 + T)}{(T_0 + T)^2 \omega^2 + (1 + k_D k_0 D_m - T_0 T \omega^2)^2} - j \frac{k_G k_0 G_m (1 + k_D k_0 D_m - T_0 T \omega^2)}{\left[ (T_0 + T)^2 \omega^2 + (1 + k_D k_0 D_m - T_0 T \omega^2)^2 \right] \omega}. \quad (5)$$

Amplitude and phase of the frequency response characteristic graph  $W(j\omega)$  on the complex plane, when the frequency  $\omega$  signal is changes from 0 to  $\infty$  is presented in fig. 2 by dotted line.

Let find the coordinate of the point of intersection  $W(j\omega)$  and  $\frac{-1}{W_f(a_m, \omega)}$ .

First of all we determine from (5) the frequency of possible limit cycle

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{1 + k_D k_0 D_m}{T_0 T}}.$$

Substituting the value  $\omega_0$  into the real component of equation (5), we find

$$P(\omega_0) = \frac{-k_G k_0 G_m T_0 T}{(T_0 + T)(1 + k_D k_0 D_m)}.$$

A limit cycle will be possible if  $\left| \frac{1}{k} \right| < P(\omega_0)$ , so  $k > \frac{(T_0 + T)(1 + k_D k_0 D_m)}{k_G k_0 G_m T_0 T}$ .

The amplitude of a possible limit cycle  $a_{m0}$  we find, in accordance with equation (4), after the substitution of values in it for  $W(j\omega_0)$  and  $W_f(a_m, \omega)$

$$\frac{-k_G k_0 G_m T_0 T}{(T_0 + T)(1 + k_D k_0 D_m)} = \frac{-1}{k - \frac{2k}{\pi} \left( \arcsin \frac{b}{a_m} + \frac{b}{a_m} \sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{a_m^2}} \right)}. \quad (6)$$

In practice, the amplitude is determined by the tables function  $W_f(a_m, \omega)$  for found value of left-hand side of equation (6) if there is information about the parameter  $b$  of the nonlinear element. According to the received data we write the variation law of possible limit cycle

$$\varphi_0(t) = -\varphi(t) = -a_{m0} \sin \omega_0 t.$$

In the stable limit cycle the oscillation amplitude returned to its previous value after its change, that is caused by this or any other perturbation. Otherwise, the limit cycle is unstable. If, for example, in a nonlinear system of stabilization an unstable limit cycle is possible, then with amplitude decreasing, due to any factor, these oscillations are damped with time. Conversely, if the oscillation amplitude increases, then it will increase without limit or in system a new limit cycle will arise with another amplitude or with another frequency.

Stability of limit cycle can be estimated, for example, using the criterion of Goldfarb [3]. In accordance with fig. 2 we make a conclusion about the unstable limit cycle in the considering nonlinear system.

In any case, it is desirable to avoid the occurrence of limit cycles. This issue can be resolved by introducing into the nonlinear system the correction circuits.

We denote the transfer function of the corrective circuit  $W_{cc}(s)$ . Applying to the corrected nonlinear system of stabilization method of describing functions we can be write

$$W_{cc}(j\omega)W(j\omega) = -\frac{1}{W_f(a_m, \omega)}.$$

Thus, the frequency transfer function of the linear part of the corrected system is determined by the product of the frequency transfer functions of the corrective circuit and of linear component. Therefore, APFRC of the linear part of the corrected system will be a scaled APFRC of its linear component.

Corrective circuit should be chosen with such frequency transfer function  $W_{cc}(j\omega)$ , to prevent the crossing in the complex plane of inverse APFRC of nonlinear element and of APFRC of linear part of corrected system.

Let introduce into the nonlinear system of stabilization a corrective circuit with gain coefficient  $k_{cc}$ .

Limit cycle will be excluded if the coordinate of the point of intersection of the corrected APFRC of the linear part of the system of stabilization  $k_{cc}P(\omega_0)$  will not exceed the maximum

value of the inverse APFRC of nonlinear element  $\left|\frac{1}{k}\right|$

$$\left|\frac{1}{k}\right| > \frac{k_{cc}k_Gk_0G_mT_0T}{(T_0+T)(1+k_Dk_0D_m)}.$$

From the last inequality we find the value of the gain coefficient of the corrective circuit

$$k_{cc} < \frac{(T_0+T)(1+k_Dk_0D_m)}{kk_Gk_0G_mT_0T},$$

which ensures the exclusion of occurrence of the limit cycle.

**Conclusions.** The presence of nonlinearities in the system of stabilization leads to the possibility of occurrence in the system periodic undamped oscillations – limit cycles.

The existence of a limit cycle and its parameters can be predicted based on the analysis of APFRC of linear component of the system and of inverse APFRC of nonlinear element, taken with the sign “minus”.

The introduction into the nonlinear system of stabilization corrective circuits will eliminate the possibility of occurrence of limit cycle in the system.

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#### **Граничні цикли у нелінійних системах стабілізації**

Розглянуто умови виникнення періодичних незгасаючих коливань в нелінійних системах стабілізації.

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#### **Предельные циклы в нелинейных системах стабилизации**

Рассмотрены условия возникновения периодических незатухающих колебаний в нелинейных системах стабилизации.