

# Modelling and control summaries



by Anthony Rossiter

## MATLAB GUIs – cruise control

**CONTEXT:** A cruise control law needs to maintain the speed of a car notwithstanding changes in the slope of the road, car mass and engine power.



A simplified model of the speed of a car mass  $M$  is a mass-damper system; this assumes that resistance to motion  $Bv$  is proportional to speed  $v$ . Moreover, the slope of the road  $\theta$  will affect acceleration through gravity  $g$  so a simple model is given as:

$$M \frac{dv}{dt} + Bv = Kf - Mg \sin \theta; \quad 0 \leq f \leq 1$$

For simplicity we use a normalised engine force on the road of  $f$ , so that more powerful engines have a larger  $K$ .

For simplicity, we assume the cruise control law selects  $f$  rather than fuel flow. The value is selected by a PI compensator so:

$$f = K_p (r - v) + K_i \int_0^t (r - v) dt$$

The GUI allows the user to investigate the impact of changes to a number of parameters:

1. Simple changes in the PI parameters.
2. Changes in car mass (for example with a fixed engine size).
3. Changes in engine (essentially  $K$ ) with a fixed car mass.
4. The impact of changes in slope on behaviour.

All the parameters are listed in the GUI except for  $B$  which is 300. Mass is in kg.

**ILLUSTRATIONS – the simulation runs fast compared to real time and students will see the car moving faster and slower relative to the background as well as going up or down.**

**FILENAMES are** `cruisecontrolgui.p`, `crusiecontrolgui.fig`

SIMULATION WILL KEEP RUNNING BUT ANY CHANGES IN PARAMETERS ARE ONLY ACCEPTED WHEN USER SELECTS 'UPDATE PARAMETERS'

Select PI parameters

ROAD SLOPE

MASS (kg)

Engine size

Desired speed m/s

Value of f

Actual speed

