

# **Ball and Plate Control System**









## Description

Imagine throwing a ball onto a plate and it being stabilised exactly in the centre within two seconds. The remarkable response of this control system is due to the implementation of advanced control techniques which are now prevalent in modern industrial processes.

Feedback Instrument's Ball and Plate Control System is controlled by NI LabVIEW using a NI interface card and demonstrates a classic control problem of balancing a sphere on a flat surface and maintaining its position. It can then be programmed to make the ball describe a circular or any other shaped path around the plate. The unique electromagnetic table actuation enables the study of this unstable system in real-time using sophisticated controllers in NI LabVIEW.

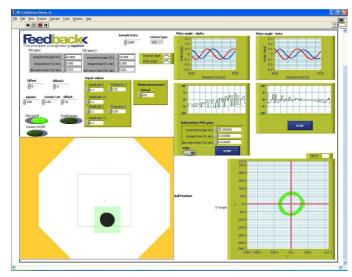
The progressive nature of the student exercises enables the study of the problem from first principles to more advanced control concepts. The product provides a useful insight into control engineering at all levels of undergraduate study and enables advanced users to model and control the Ball and Plate using their own strategy.

#### **Features**

- Intriguing control experiment featuring extensive courseware
- Progressive student exercises
- Enables study of real-time control of a non-linear and unstable process
- Implementation of digital control techniques using NI LabVIEW
- Ball position sensing and image processing using USB camera
- Open and closed loop configurations
- Fully assembled plant with integral power supply
- Open architecture, design-orientated system, suitable for undergraduate courses in electrical, electronic and mechanical engineering









Screen showing the LabVIEW operating environment, enabling the student to learn the principles of the subject by means of a graphical user interface.

## **Curriculum Coverage**

#### Ball and Plate Model

Non-linear Ball and Plate model Non-linear model simplification Non-linear model testing Model linearization Linear model

#### Ball and Plate model identification

Model identification
Plate model identification
Ball on plate model identification

#### Ball and Plate setup control

Plant control
PID controllers
Plate orientation control
PID control of plate orientation
Real-time PID control

#### 1-D Ball Control

1-D PID control of ball position Real-time 1-D PID control of ball position

#### 2-D Ball Control

2-D PID control of ball position Real-time 2-D PID control of ball position

#### **Trajectory Tracking**

Trajectory tracking with ball Real-time trajectory tracking with ball





## **Ordering Information**

33-052 - Ball & Plate Control System complete with student software, NI LabVIEW PCI-6221 interface card and cable.

33-052E – Ball & Plate Control System complete with student software, NI LabVIEW PCIe-6321 interface card and cable.

33-240 - Ball & Plate Control System with student software (NI LabVIEW interface card and cable **not** include).

## **Specification**

#### Dimensions and Weight

Overall dimensions of instrument:

Height: 730 mm x Width: 460 mm x Depth: 390 mm. Weight 15 kg.

## **Services Required**

Power Supply included. 230 V ac operation. Dual core PC with one spare full height PCI or PCIe slot depending on version chosen. Windows XP or higher operating system. NI LabVIEW software version 9.0.1 or above.

## **Tender Specification**

- (1) A self-contained positional control training instrument utilising electro-magnetic actuators.
- (2) To be used for the teaching of the principles of position control.
- (3) The system operates in real-time when connected to a PC via a USB connection.
- (4) Supplied with teaching manual and student exercises.
- (5) Operates within NI LabVIEW environment.



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Feedback reserves the right to change these specifications without notice.

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