

# AE4301 Automatic Flight Control System Design Part I: Control Theory

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Lecture 1

# Main objectives

- Being able to determine transfer function of linear time-invariant (LTI) systems
- Being able to analyze (transient and steady-state) response of 1st & 2nd-order LTI systems

# Overview of today's lecture

- Laplace transform
- Transfer function
  - how output and input of a system are related
  - poles and zeros & response to external stimuli
- First and second-order systems
- Time-domain transient response

# Material

- Slides on Brightspace
- Homework assignments on Brightspace
- Discussions during lectures

# Laplace transform

- To analyze real-life systems and to design controllers for them these systems are modeled mathematically
- Dynamics of real-life systems evolves in time thus corresponding mathematical models appear as a set of differential equations
- With Laplace transform LTI systems can be analyzed within frequency domain instead of time domain
- With Laplace transform ordinary differential equations are transformed into algebraic equations
- With Laplace transform convolution integral is transformed into multiplication

# Laplace transform

- Laplace transform  $F(s)$  of function  $f(t)$ :

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s) = \int_0^{\infty} f(t)e^{-st}dt$$

- Laplace transform of function  $f(t)$  exists if Laplace integral converges
- See next slide for table of Laplace transforms you will frequently need
- Solve enough examples to remember simple Laplace transforms by heart

# Table of Laplace transforms

Unit step function $1(t)$	$\frac{1}{s}$
Unit impulse (Dirac delta) function $\delta(t)$	1
$e^{-at}$	$\frac{1}{s + a}$
$\sin(\omega t)$	$\frac{\omega}{s^2 + \omega^2}$
$\cos(\omega t)$	$\frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2}$
$t^n$	$\frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$
$e^{-at} \sin \omega t$	$\frac{\omega}{(s + a)^2 + \omega^2}$
$e^{-at} \cos \omega t$	$\frac{s + a}{(s + a)^2 + \omega^2}$

# Two **important** rules about Laplace transform

- Multiplication of  $f(t)$  by  $e^{-at}$ :

If  $f(t)$  is Laplace transformable with Laplace transform  $F(s)$  then

$$\mathcal{L} \{ e^{-at} f(t) \} = F(s + a)$$

- Change of time scale:

If  $f(t)$  is Laplace transformable with Laplace transform  $F(s)$  then

$$\mathcal{L} \left\{ f \left( \frac{t}{a} \right) \right\} = a F(as)$$

- with these 2 rules you can find Laplace transform of many different functions



# Differentiation theorem

For function  $f(t)$  of exponential order:

- For 1st order derivative we have:

$$\mathcal{L} \left\{ \frac{df(t)}{dt} \right\} = sF(s) - f(0)$$

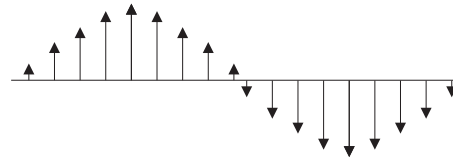
- For 2nd order derivative we have:

$$\mathcal{L} \left\{ \frac{d^2 f(t)}{dt^2} \right\} = s^2 F(s) - sf(0) - \frac{df}{dt}(0)$$

**Note:** Partial integration:  $\int_{v_0}^{v_f} u dv = u_f v_f - u_0 v_0 - \int_{u_0}^{u_f} v du$

# Convolution integral

For linear systems input functions can be formulated as a sum of impulses of proper strength:



If the unit impulse response of a linear system is  $h(t)$  the response of the linear system to input function  $u(t)$  is:

$$y(t) \approx \sum_{n=0}^{n=t/(\Delta t)} u(n\Delta t)h(t - n\Delta t)\Delta t$$

This turns into “convolution integral” for  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ :

$$y(t) = \int_0^t u(\tau)h(t - \tau)d\tau$$

# Laplace transform of convolution

Laplace transform of convolution integral is multiplication of the Laplace transforms of the two functions:

$$\mathcal{L} \left\{ \int_0^t u(\tau) h(t - \tau) d\tau \right\} = U(s) H(s)$$

# Transfer function

- Transfer function characterizes systems that are linear & time-invariant
- Transfer function: ratio of Laplace transform of output  $Y(s)$  and Laplace transform of input  $U(s)$  **assuming all initial conditions are zero**. Thus Transfer function is Laplace transform of unit impulse response
- For input  $U(s)$  the output in Laplace domain is  $Y(s) = H(s)U(s)$  and in time domain is

$$y(t) = \int_0^t u(\tau)h(t - \tau)d\tau$$

(Multiplication in Laplace domain - Convolution integral in time domain)

# Converting a differential equation

$$\ddot{y}(t) + a_1\dot{y}(t) + a_0y(t) = b_1\dot{u}(t) + b_0u(t)$$

- Input:  $u(t)$
- Laplace transform of input:  $U(s)$
- Output:  $y(t)$
- Laplace transform of output:  $Y(s)$
- Assuming zero initial conditions:  $y(0) = 0, \dot{y}(0) = 0, u(0) = 0$
- Laplace transform of derivatives:  
 $\mathcal{L}\{\ddot{y}(t)\} = s^2Y(s), \mathcal{L}\{\dot{y}(t)\} = sY(s), \mathcal{L}\{\dot{u}(t)\} = sU(s)$
- In Laplace domain:

$$s^2Y(s) + a_1sY(s) + a_0Y(s) = b_1sU(s) + b_0U(s)$$

$$Y(s)(s^2 + a_1s + a_0) = U(s)(b_1s + b_0)$$

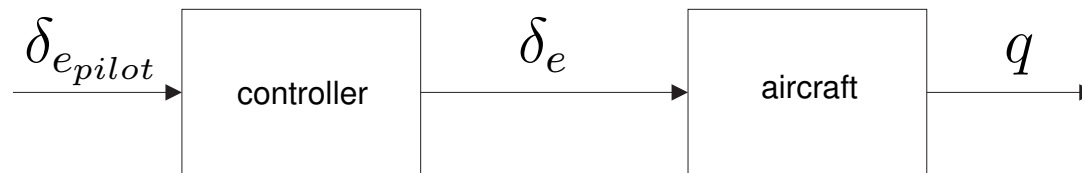
- Transfer function:  $H(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{U(s)} = \frac{b_1s + b_0}{s^2 + a_1s + a_0}$

# Exercise

- Consider the differential equation  $\ddot{y} + 4\dot{y} + 3y = u$
- Convert this into a transfer function
- Determine the output (in Laplace domain) to an impulse input with size 2
- Determine the response in the time domain (**Hint:** Use partial fraction expansion)

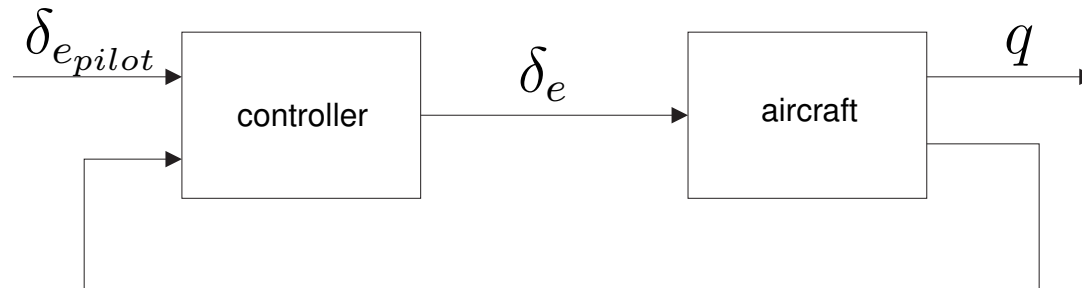
# Control: Modifying the response

## Open-loop control



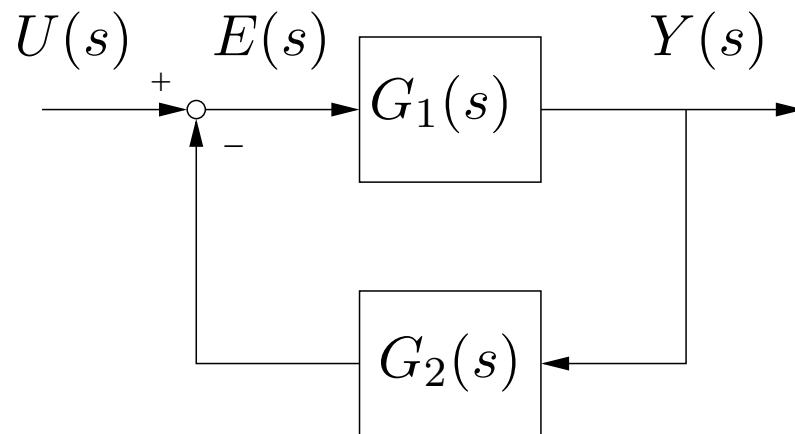
- Does not compensate for disturbances
- Cannot stabilize unstable systems

## Closed-loop control



- Uses output of the system for control
- Can stabilize unstable systems

# Closed-loop transfer function



- Equivalent transfer function for closed-loop system:

$$H(s) = \frac{G_1(s)}{1 + G_1(s)G_2(s)}$$

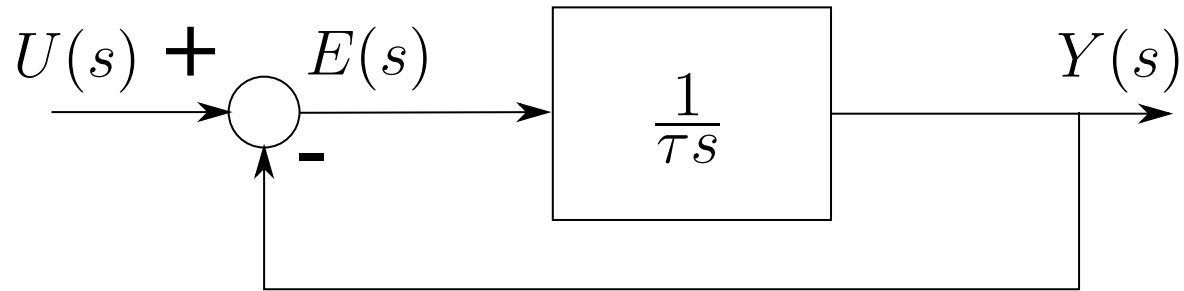
- *zeros*: roots of numerator
- *poles*: roots of denominator



# System's response

- First step for analyzing dynamical systems is to derive a mathematical model
- Next we can analyze the system's response to particular test input functions
- **Typical test input functions:** unit-step, unit-impulse, unit-ramp, sinusoidal functions, ...
- Generally the time response of a dynamical system consists of two components:  
(1) transient response (2) steady-state response

# First-order systems



Closed-loop transfer function (suppose that  $\tau \neq 0$ ):

$$H_c(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{U(s)} = \frac{\frac{1}{\tau s}}{1 + \frac{1}{\tau s}} = \frac{1}{\tau s + 1}$$

Closed-loop pole:  $s = -\frac{1}{\tau}$

# 1st-order system: Unit-step response

- Laplace transform of unit-step function:  $U(s) = \frac{1}{s}$
- Multiply the transfer function and the Laplace transform of input function to get the output:

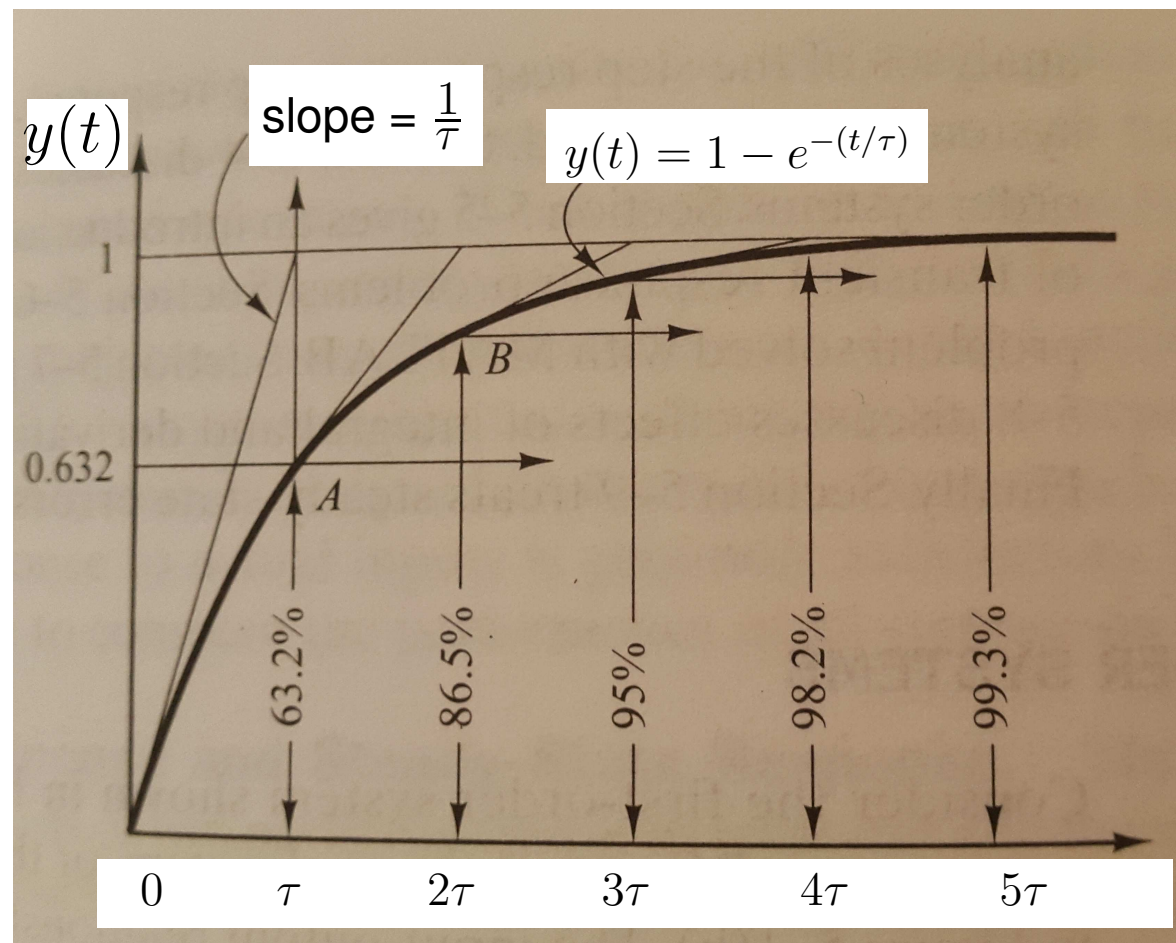
$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{\tau s + 1} \cdot \frac{1}{s}$$

- Perform partial fraction expansion and use Laplace table:

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s} - \frac{\tau}{\tau s + 1} = \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s + 1/\tau} \Rightarrow \boxed{y(t) = 1 - e^{-t/\tau}}$$

For  $t = 0$  output is 0

For  $t \rightarrow \infty$  output becomes 1 when  $\tau > 0$  and output goes to  $-\infty$  when  $\tau < 0$

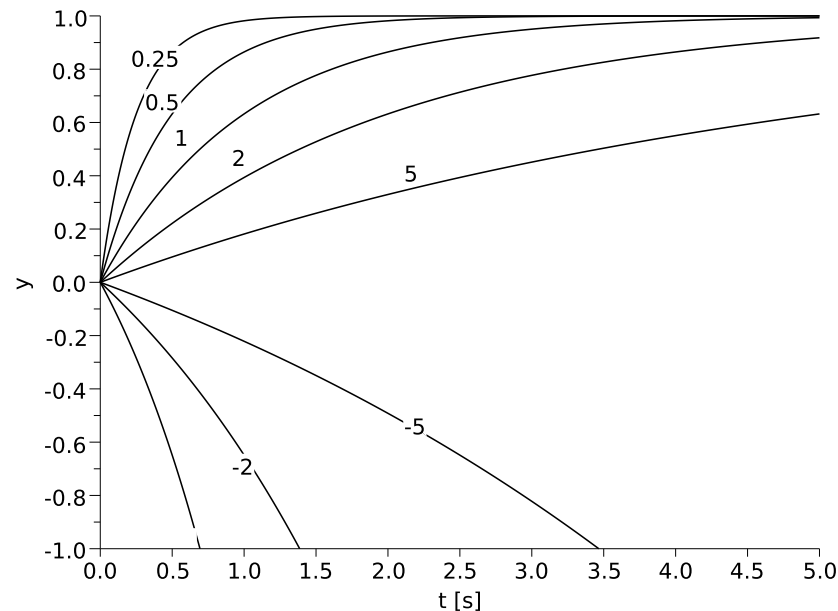


For  $t = \tau$  the output is  $y(t) = 1 - e^{-1} = 0.632$

**Characteristic 1.** At  $t = \tau$  the response of the system independent of  $\tau$  is 0.632

**Characteristic 2.**  $\frac{dy(t)}{dt} = \frac{1}{\tau} e^{-t/\tau}$ ; at  $t = 0$ : slope =  $\frac{1}{\tau}$

**Characteristic 3.** Time constant  $\tau$  determines the speed of the response: the smaller the value of  $\tau$ , the faster the response



- A negative pole close to 0 (corresponding to **large positive**  $\tau$ ) results in **slow** response
- A negative pole far from 0 (corresponding to **small positive**  $\tau$ ) results in **fast** response
- A positive pole (corresponding to **negative**  $\tau$ ) results in **unstable** behavior

# 1st-order system: Unit-ramp response

- Unit-ramp function:  $f(t) = t$  for  $t \geq 0$
- Laplace transform of unit-ramp function:  $F(s) = \frac{1}{s^2}$
- Multiply the transfer function and the Laplace transform of input function to get the output:

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{\tau s + 1} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2}$$

- Perform partial fraction expansion and use Laplace table:

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s^2} - \frac{\tau}{s} - \frac{\tau^2}{\tau s + 1} \Rightarrow \boxed{y(t) = t - \tau + \tau e^{-t/\tau}}$$

# 1st-order system: Unit-impulse response

- Laplace transform of unit-impulse function:  $F(s) = 1$
- Multiply the transfer function and the Laplace transform of input function to get the output:

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{\tau s + 1} = \frac{1}{\tau} \cdot \frac{1}{s + 1/\tau}$$

- Use Laplace table:

$$y(t) = \frac{1}{\tau} e^{-t/\tau}$$

# 1st-order systems: recap

- Unit-ramp response:  $y(t) = t - \tau + \tau e^{-t/\tau}$
- Unit-step response:  $y(t) = 1 - e^{-t/\tau}$
- Unit-impulse response:  $y(t) = \frac{1}{\tau} e^{-t/\tau}$
- **Note:**  
Unit-step function is the derivative of unit-ramp function  
Unit-impulse function is the derivative of unit-step function
- **Important characteristic of linear time-invariant systems:**  
Response of the system to the derivative of an input function is the same as the derivative of the response of the system to the input function itself



# Second-order system

$$H_c(s) = \frac{\omega_n^2}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2}$$

$\omega_n = \sqrt{k/m}$ : undamped natural frequency,  $\zeta = \frac{c}{2\sqrt{km}}$ : damping ratio

No zeros and 2 poles:

$$p_1 = -\zeta\omega_n + \omega_n\sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1}, \quad p_2 = -\zeta\omega_n - \omega_n\sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1}$$

- $0 < \zeta < 1$  (under-damped): closed-loop poles are complex conjugates in left-hand  $s$ -plane
- $\zeta = 1$  (critically damped): closed-loop poles lie on each other in left-hand  $s$ -plane
- $\zeta > 1$  (over-damped): closed-loop poles are real negative values in the  $s$ -plane

# 2nd-order system: Unit-step response

Case 1: Under-damped  $0 < \zeta < 1$ :

**Note:**  $\omega_d = \omega_n \sqrt{1 - \zeta^2} > 0$ : *damped natural frequency*

- Multiply  $H_c(s)$  and  $U(s) = \frac{1}{s}$  to obtain  $Y(s)$ :

$$Y(s) = \frac{\omega_n^2}{s(s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2)}$$

- Use partial fraction expansion:

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s} - \frac{s + 2\zeta\omega_n}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2}$$

## ... use Laplace table

- First rewrite the output as:

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s} - \frac{s + 2\zeta\omega_n}{(s - p_1)(s - p_2)}$$

- Recall  $p_1 = -\zeta\omega_n + j\omega_d$  and  $p_2 = -\zeta\omega_n - j\omega_d$ :

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s} - \frac{s + 2\zeta\omega_n}{(s + \zeta\omega_n)^2 + \omega_d^2}$$

- Following final reformulation allows direct use of Laplace table:

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s} - \frac{s + \zeta\omega_n}{(s + \zeta\omega_n)^2 + \omega_d^2} - \frac{\zeta\omega_n}{(s + \zeta\omega_n)^2 + \omega_d^2}$$

# Unit-step response of 2nd-order system in time domain

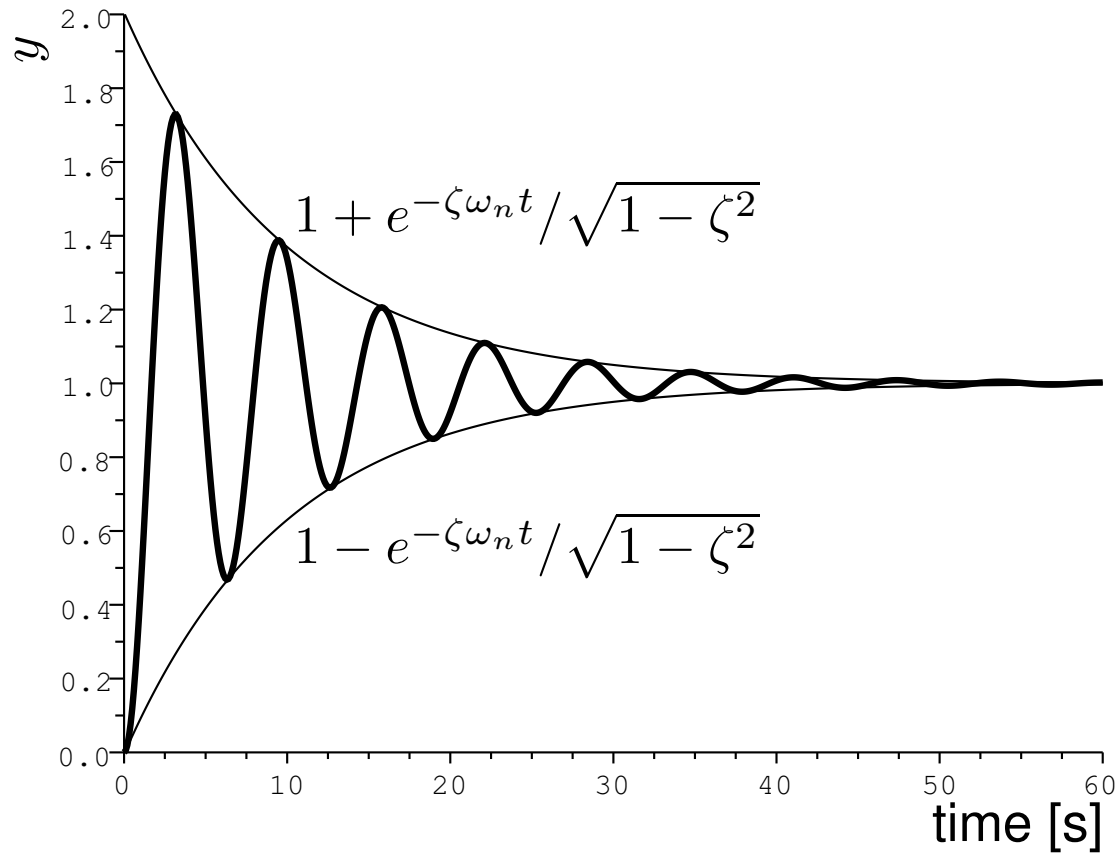
$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{Y(s)\} = y(t) = 1 - e^{-\zeta\omega_n t} \left( \cos(\omega_d t) + \frac{\zeta}{\sqrt{1-\zeta^2}} \sin(\omega_d t) \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow y(t) = 1 - \frac{e^{-\zeta\omega_n t}}{\sqrt{1-\zeta^2}} \sin \left( \omega_d t + \arctan \frac{\sqrt{1-\zeta^2}}{\zeta} \right)$$

**Note:** Assume  $\sin \theta = \sqrt{1-\zeta^2}$  and  $\cos \theta = \zeta$ .

**Question:** What happens for  $\zeta = 0$ ?

# Under-damped transient response



# 2nd-order system: Unit-step response

Case 2: Critically damped  $\zeta = 1$ :

$$y(t) = 1 - e^{-\omega_n t} (1 + \omega_n t)$$

# 2nd-order system: Unit-step response

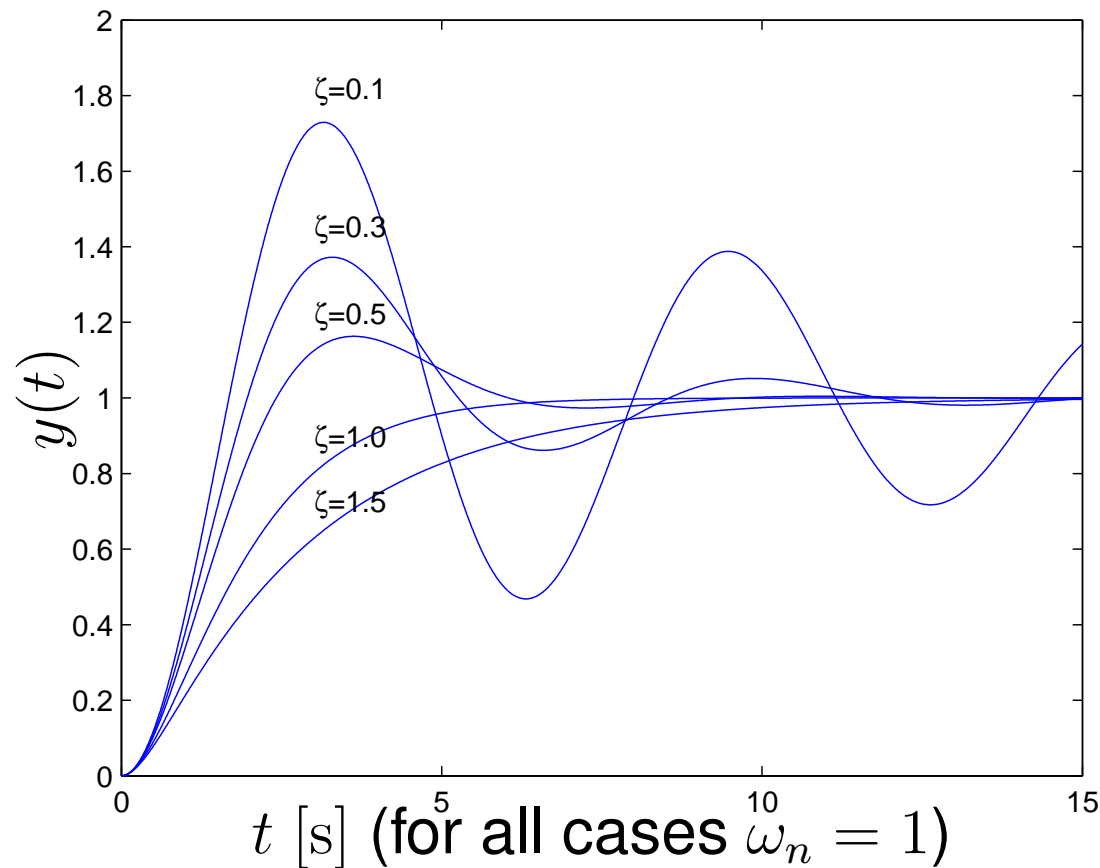
Case 3: Over-damped  $\zeta > 1$ :

$$y(t) = 1 + \frac{\omega_n}{2\sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1}} \left( \frac{e^{-s_1 t}}{s_1} - \frac{e^{-s_2 t}}{s_2} \right)$$

With

$$s_1 = \left( \zeta + \sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1} \right) \omega_n, \quad s_2 = \left( \zeta - \sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1} \right) \omega_n$$

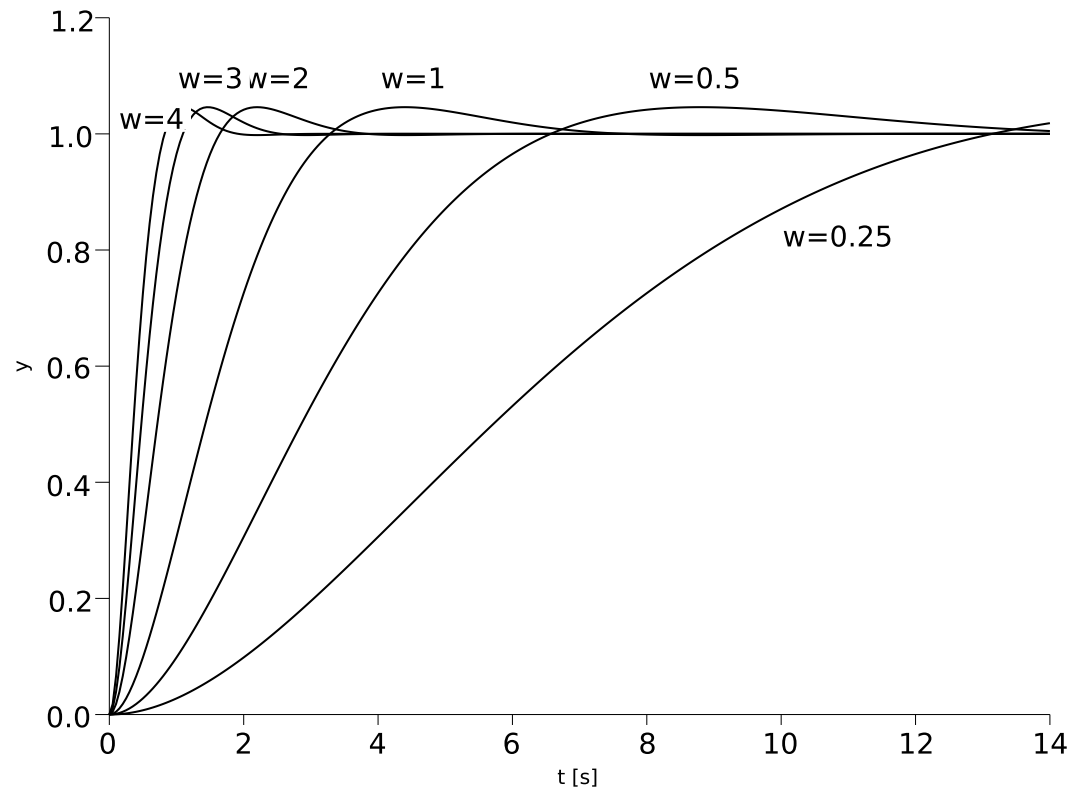
# 2nd-order system: Effect of $\zeta$ on unit-step response



Shape of the response function is determined by  $\zeta$ .



# 2nd-order system: Effect of $\omega_n$ on unit-step response



Speed of the response function is determined by  $\omega_n$  ( $\zeta = 0.7$ ).

# Summary

- Ordinary differential equations describe the behavior of linear time-invariant dynamic systems
- Using Laplace transform an ODE is represented by an algebraic function that for a system gives the transfer function
- We learned about 1st and 2nd-order dynamical systems & their response to various standard inputs

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