

TTK4225 - Systems Theory, Autumn 2020

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Course Overview

welcome to TTK4225!

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## Instructors

- main teacher: Damiano Varagnolo, [damiano.varagnolo@ntnu.no](mailto:damiano.varagnolo@ntnu.no), room D233
- theaching assistant: Iver Andreas Ugelvik, [iverau@stud.ntnu.no](mailto:iverau@stud.ntnu.no)

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## Where is the information?

- Blackboard
- study guide
- GitHub repository
- mediasite.ntnu.no

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## Reference group – VERY IMPORTANT

- at least 3 students
- will do 4 meetings (1 after the exam)
- shall represent the whole class  $\implies$  you will have meetings among yourselves too
- shall lead to a referansegrupperapport containing suggestions for improvements

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## Expectations, teacher side

- be proactive
- be respectful
- be collaborative
- eventually, learn stuff

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## Prerequisites

- basic physics
  - basic linear algebra
  - basic analysis
- 
- better if you can Matlab and Python

this course teaches the foundations of automatic control. Not mastering this course  $\implies$  failing to understand all the next courses

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## Expectations, learners side

?

## Implementation leitmotif

*maximize the interactions among us*

$\implies$  things that you can do by yourself you do by yourself

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## Recommendations

- read the study guide
- do the assignments in the suggested order & times
- signal bugs / imprecisions in the material
- charge the phone + bring pen and paper + bring your laptop

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## Structure of each lesson

- 1 frontal guidance
- 2 peer instructions
- 3 Jupyter coding

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## Peer instructions

- purpose = be active
- algorithm = for each question:
  - 1 first time, answer individually
  - 2 then form groups, discuss, try to convince each other, but eventually answer individually
  - 3 then I show the solution
  - 4 after that you pose questions

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## Peer instructions - test

<https://play.kahoot.it/v2/lobby?quizId=bef23121-b1a6-4cce-8565-b9631387bbbf>

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## Jupyter notebooks

`http://localhost:  
8888/notebooks/GitHub/TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/odeint-example.ipynb`

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## Jupyter notebooks - instructions for the next lesson

- ❶ download the notebooks in <https://github.com/damianovar/TTK4225-2020>
- ❷ install *Jupyter notebooks* or *Anaconda*
- ❸ launch and test TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/odeint-example.ipynb

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## “At-home” self-assessment activities

- ❶ contents mapping
- ❷ Blackboard questionnaires

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## Contents mapping

**why:** enable you visually assess if you got the logical structure of the course contents  
**what:** gamified mapping of the content units in the course  
**how:** python script downloadable from Blackboard TODO  
**when:** whenever you prefer – this is a self assessment activity!

*More info in the study guide!*

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## Blackboard questionnaires

**why:** enable the continuous quantitative collection of how much the class is learning / adapt the course pace

**what:** private Blackboard questionnaires

**how:** set of questions indexed in terms of “what is asked” and “how difficult the question is”

**when:** whenever you prefer – this is a self assessment activity!

*More info in the study guide!*

leitmotif: we want to help you, but we need you to help us

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## What about the CoVid-19?

Cornerstones:

- we may need to switch to fully digital teaching as in this past spring
- independently of this, who must be at home in quarantine is entitled to good teaching

self-assessments, peer-instructions, Jupiter notebooks,  
videotaping, etc = all elements to account for this

tips are most welcome

Course overview

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## Aim of the course

learn a language for describing phenomena  
in an abstract and formal way,  
that will be used later on  
to design feedback and feedforward control schemes

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## What is control?

- adjusting the temperature in the shower
- riding a bike

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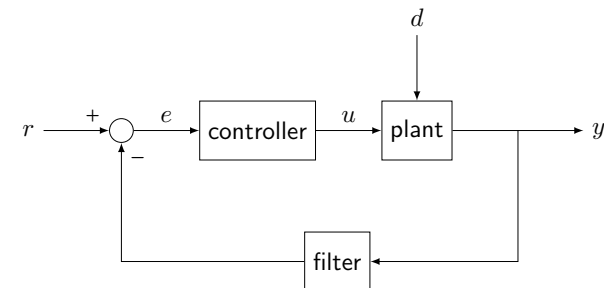
## What is automatic control?

applying mechanisms so to operate processes automatically,  
so they don't need continuous direct human intervention

“remove the man from the loop”

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## What is (feedback) control?

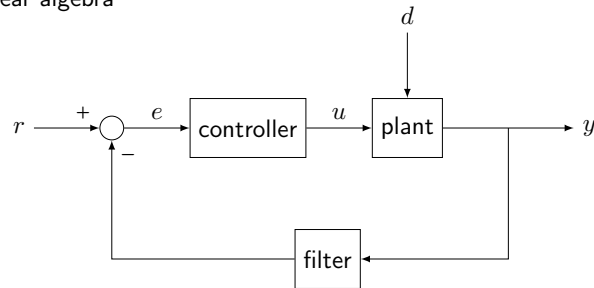


*PS: this is not the only type of automatic control!*

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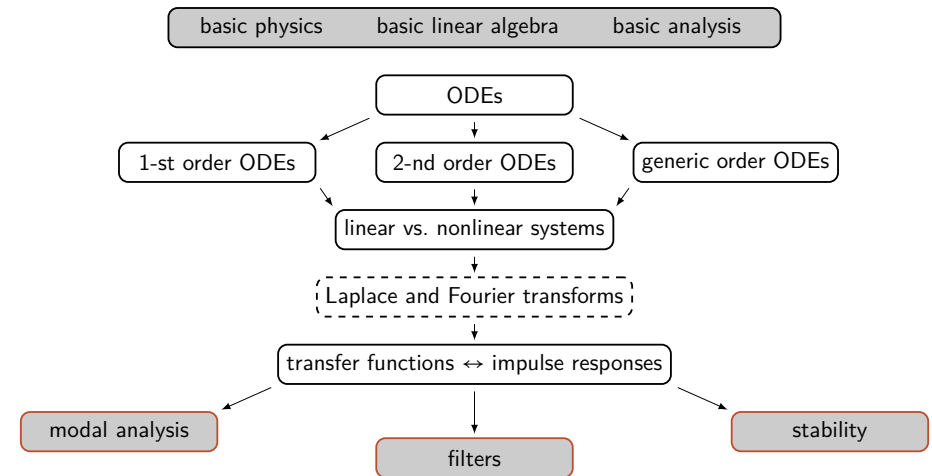
## Intended Learning Outcomes, in brief:

- use differential equations to model continuous-time plants
- analyse the models in time and frequency domains
- learn to characterise important structural properties of these models
- learn a little bit about filters
- refresh linear algebra



*why?* need all these ingredients to do advanced control!

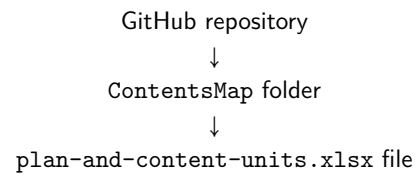
## Summary / Roadmap of TTK4225



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## Tentative time line



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Introduction to modelling and dynamics

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## Roadmap

- what do we mean with
  - “dynamics”?
  - “modelling a dynamical system”?
  - “control-oriented modelling”?

## What do we mean with “dynamics”? Historical origins

### From mechanics

dynamics = physics concerned with the effects of forces on the motion of bodies

Example:

$$F = ma = m \frac{dv}{dt} = m\dot{v} \quad (1)$$

Even better:

$$\dot{v} = \frac{F}{m} \quad (2)$$

this is an ODE

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## What do we mean with “dynamics”? More in general

### Our acception

dynamics = the study of the motion (i.e., temporal evolution) of the variables that characterize a system

Example: Lotka-Volterra:

- $y_{\text{prey}} := \text{prey}$
- $y_{\text{pred}} := \text{predator}$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{y}_{\text{prey}} &= \alpha y_{\text{prey}} - \beta y_{\text{prey}} y_{\text{pred}} \\ \dot{y}_{\text{pred}} &= -\gamma y_{\text{pred}} + \delta y_{\text{prey}} y_{\text{pred}} \end{cases}$$

[GitHub/TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/Lotka-Volterra-introduction.ipynb](https://github.com/TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/Lotka-Volterra-introduction.ipynb)

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## What do we mean with “modelling a dynamical system”?

Example of a system from before:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{y}_{\text{prey}} &= \alpha y_{\text{prey}} - \beta y_{\text{prey}} y_{\text{pred}} \\ \dot{y}_{\text{pred}} &= -\gamma y_{\text{pred}} + \delta y_{\text{prey}} y_{\text{pred}} \end{cases}$$

More generic definition: modelling a dynamical system = defining

$$\dot{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\theta}),$$

thus defining:

- the variables
  - $\mathbf{u}$  = inputs
  - $\mathbf{y}$  = outputs
- the structure of the function  $\mathbf{f}$
- the value of the parameters  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$

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## What do we mean with “modelling a dynamical system”?

Even more generic definition: defining a *state-space system*:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = f(x, u, \theta) \\ y = g(x, u, \theta) \end{cases}$$

thus defining:

- the variables
  - $u$  = inputs
  - $x$  = state
  - $y$  = measured outputs
- the structure of the functions  $f$  and  $g$
- the value of the parameters  $\theta$

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## Discussion: did we model the Lotka-Volterra dynamical system here?

```
def myModel(y, t):  
    #  
    # parameters  
    alpha = 1.1  
    beta = 0.4  
    gamma = 0.4  
    delta = 0.1  
    #  
    # get the individual variables - for readability  
    yPrey = y[0]  
    yPred = y[1]  
    #  
    # individual derivatives  
    dyPreydt = alpha * yPrey - beta * yPrey * yPred  
    dyPrededt = - gamma * yPred + delta * yPrey * yPred  
    #  
    return [ dyPreydt, dyPrededt ]
```

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## Discussion: do we need something else to simulate this system?

$$\begin{cases} \dot{y}_{\text{prey}} = 1.2y_{\text{prey}} - 0.1y_{\text{prey}}y_{\text{pred}} \\ \dot{y}_{\text{pred}} = -0.6y_{\text{pred}} + 0.2y_{\text{prey}}y_{\text{pred}} \end{cases}$$

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## Connecting with next courses

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = f(x, u, \theta) \\ y = g(x, u, \theta) \end{cases}$$

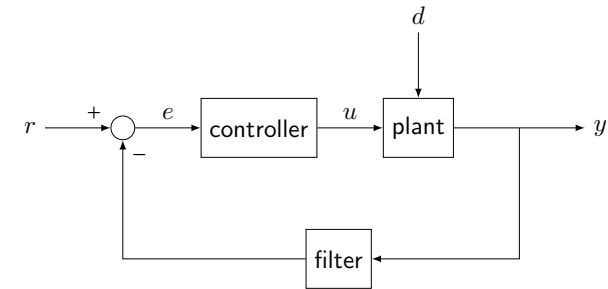
- how to estimate the structure of  $f$ ,  $g$  and the values of  $\theta$  = system identification
- how to estimate  $x(0)$  from  $y$  = state observers

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Caveat: static  $\neq$  dynamic

$$y = f(u, \theta) \quad \neq \quad \dot{y} = f(y, u, \theta)$$

The workflow to control a dynamical system

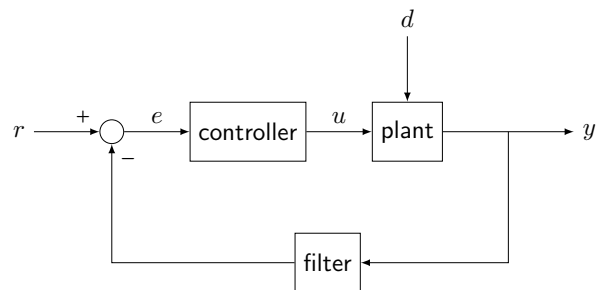


- 1 model the process
- 2 identify it *(sometimes not strictly necessary)*
- 3 design the controller

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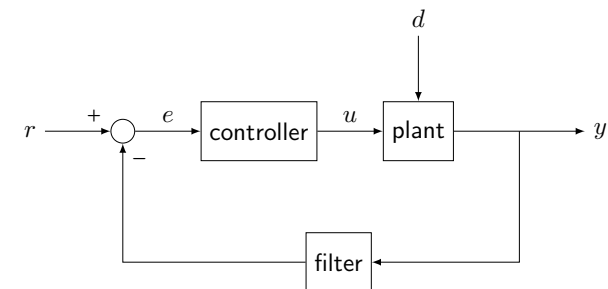
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What does it mean to design a controller?



*task:* complete the following sentence: "In this case, the controller is  $u = h(\text{____})$ , and it shall be designed so that \_\_\_\_ is as desired, independently of \_\_\_\_"

What does it mean to control a dynamical system?

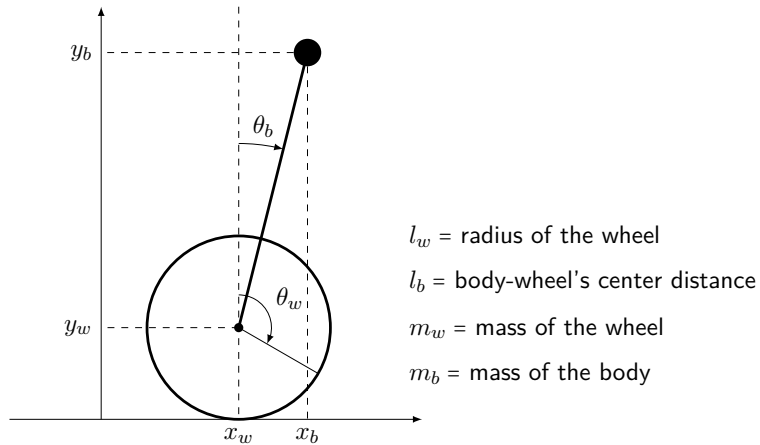


*= designing a controller = designing a function*

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Another example: balancing robot; what are  $u$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  in this case?



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Modelling - simplest example: speed of a cart

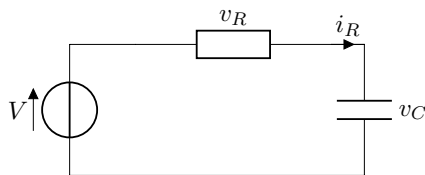
- speed  $v(t)$
- friction  $F_f(t) = -kv(t)$
- force from the engine  $F(t)$  (this is our  $u$ !)
- Newton's second law:  $\sum \text{forces} = ma(t)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 ma(t) &= F_t(t) + F(t) \\
 m\dot{v} &= -kv(t) + F(t) \\
 \implies \dot{v} &= -\frac{k}{m}v(t) + \frac{1}{m}F(t)
 \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

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Modelling - another example: RC-circuit

Example 2.2 in Balchen's book



**Question:** what do we mean with dynamics in this case?

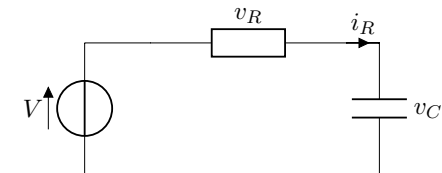
**Remember our acception**

dynamics = the study of the motion (i.e., temporal evolution) of the variables that characterize a system  $\implies$  modelling how tensions and currents evolve in time

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Modelling - another example: RC-circuit

Example 2.2 in Balchen's book



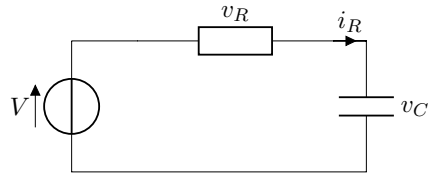
**Question:** what do we mean with modelling the dynamics in this case? We mean defining:

- the variables
  - $u$  = inputs
  - $x$  = state
  - $y$  = measured outputs
- the structure of the functions  $f$  and  $g$
- the value of the parameters  $\theta$

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## Modelling - another example: RC-circuit

Example 2.2 in Balchen's book



How to obtain a dynamical model = use Kirchhoff's laws (the sum of the voltages in a circuit is zero)

$$\frac{v_R}{R} = i_R = i_C = C \frac{dv_C}{dt} \quad (4)$$

$$V(t) = v_R + v_C \Rightarrow v_R = V(t) - v_C \quad \Rightarrow \quad C \dot{v}_C = \frac{V(t) - v_C}{R} \quad (5)$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{v}_C = -\frac{1}{RC} v_C + \frac{1}{RC} V(t) \quad (6)$$

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## Standing examples

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## Roadmap

Summary of the standing examples in this course:

- exponential growth
- RC-circuits
- RCL-circuits
- spring-mass system
- Lotka-Volterra
- Van-der-Pol oscillator
- balancing robot
- insuline concentration

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## Exponential growth

Generalization of "speed of a cart" and "RC circuit"

Scalar version:

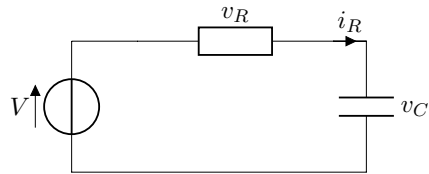
$$\dot{y} = \alpha y + \beta u \quad (7)$$

Matricial version:

$$\dot{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{B}u \quad (8)$$

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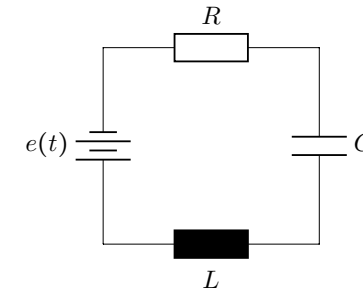
## RC-circuit



$$\dot{v}_C = -\frac{1}{RC}v_C + \frac{1}{RC}V(t) \quad (9)$$

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## RCL-circuit



EOM: Kirkhoff laws

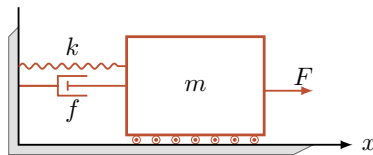
$$v_L(t) = L \frac{di(t)}{dt} \quad v_R(t) = Ri(t) \quad v_C(t) = \frac{1}{C} \int_0^t i(\tau) d\tau$$

$$e(t) = v_L(t) + v_R(t) + v_C(t) \quad \mapsto \quad e(t) = L \frac{di(t)}{dt} + Ri(t) + \frac{1}{C} \int_0^t i(\tau) d\tau \quad (10)$$

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## Spring-mass systems

E.g., position of a cart fastened with a spring to a wall and subject to friction



EOM:

- force from the spring:  $F_x(t) = -kx(t)$
  - friction:  $F_f(t) = -f\dot{x}(t)$
  - applied force:  $F(t)$
  - Newton's second law:  $\sum F = m\ddot{x}(t)$
- $$m\ddot{x}(t) = F_x(t) + F_f(t) + F(t) \quad \mapsto \quad m\ddot{x}(t) = -kx(t) - f\dot{x}(t) + F(t)$$

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## Lotka-Volterra

- $y_{\text{prey}} := \text{prey}$
- $y_{\text{pred}} := \text{predator}$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{y}_{\text{prey}} &= \alpha y_{\text{prey}} - \beta y_{\text{prey}} y_{\text{pred}} \\ \dot{y}_{\text{pred}} &= -\gamma y_{\text{pred}} + \delta y_{\text{prey}} y_{\text{pred}} \end{cases}$$

[GitHub/TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/Lotka-Volterra-introduction.ipynb](https://github.com/TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/Lotka-Volterra-introduction.ipynb)

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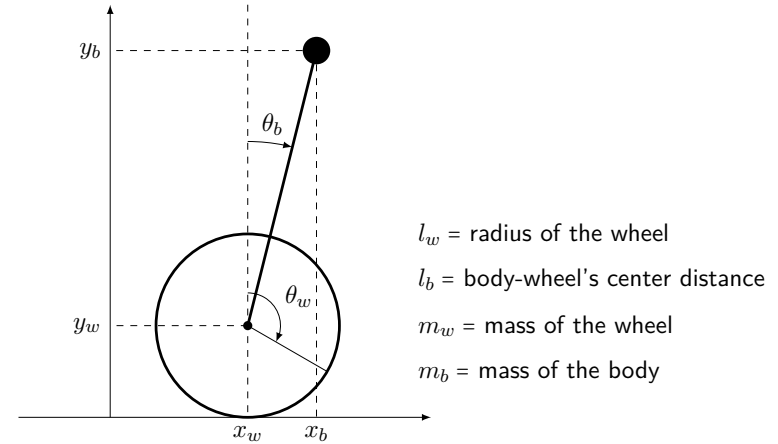
## Van-der-Pol oscillator

$$\begin{cases} \dot{y}_1 = \mu \left( y_1 - \frac{y_1^3}{3} - y_2 \right) \\ \dot{y}_2 = \frac{y_1}{\mu} \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

GitHub/TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/Van-der-Pol-introduction.ipynb

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## Balancing robot



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## Balancing robot

$$\begin{aligned} (I_b + m_b l_b^2) \ddot{\theta}_b &= +m_b l_b g \sin(\theta_b) - m_b l_b \ddot{x}_w \cos(\theta_b) - \frac{K_t}{R_m} v_m + \left( \frac{K_e K_t}{R_m} + b_f \right) \left( \frac{\dot{x}_w}{l_w} - \dot{\theta}_b \right) \\ \left( \frac{I_w}{l_w} + l_w m_b + l_w m_w \right) \ddot{x}_w &= -m_b l_b l_w \ddot{\theta}_b \cos(\theta_b) + m_b l_b l_w \dot{\theta}_b^2 \sin(\theta_b) + \frac{K_t}{R_m} v_m - \left( \frac{K_e K_t}{R_m} + b_f \right) \left( \frac{\dot{x}_w}{l_w} - \dot{\theta}_b \right) \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

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## Insulin concentration

- $x_1$  := sugar concentration
- $x_2$  := insulin concentration
- $u_1$  := food intake
- $u_2$  := insulin intake
- $c$  := sugar concentration in fasting

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_2 = a_{21}(x_1 - c) - a_{22}x_2 + b_2 u_2 & x_1 \geq c \\ \dot{x}_2 = -a_{22}x_2 + b_2 u_2 & x_1 < c \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = -a_{11}x_1 x_2 - a_{12}(x_1 - c) + b_1 u_1 & x_1 \geq c \\ \dot{x}_1 = -a_{11}x_1 x_2 + b_1 u_1 & x_1 < c \end{cases}$$

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Seeing this course as a first step towards model predictive control

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## Roadmap

- how can we do control?
- what does it mean to do model predictive control?
- why are we doing this course?

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control = to take out humans from the loop

*(and do not waste time in doing things that machines could do)*

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Remember: control = design a function

$$\dot{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

where

- $\mathbf{f}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  = the model
- $\mathbf{y}$  the outputs
- $\mathbf{u}$  the inputs

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## Two important paradigms

$$\dot{y} = f(y, u, \theta)$$

model free control:  $u$  is built without knowing  $f$  and  $\theta$

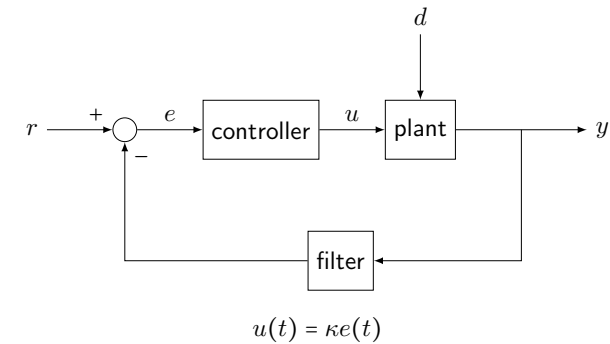
model based control:  $u$  is built through knowing  $f$  and/or  $\theta$

## $P$ controlling a steering wheel

GitHub/TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/  
first-order-system-introduction-with-P-controller.ipynb

*Discussion: what do you expect may happen if there is a spring somewhere?*

## The simplest controller: the $P$ control



*Discussion:* we want to automate the control of the steering wheel while driving in a curve with a  $P$  controller.

- ❶ What is  $u$ ? What is  $r$ ? What is  $e$ ?
- ❷ What does it imply to make  $\kappa$  bigger? And smaller?

important message: we can do 'model free' control

*(and actually something like 90% of the controllers in the world are model-free...)*

efficient, but kind of "dumb". We don't actually know what is happening!

Discussion: can we do something better if we know the model?

How can we do something better if we know the model?

- 1 if I know  $f$  and my current initial condition, I can plug in a tentative  $\hat{u}$ , and see what would be the corresponding  $\hat{y}$
- 2 if I have a  $y_{\text{desired}}$ , I may look for that tentative  $\hat{u}$  that will make  $\hat{y}$  as close as possible to  $y_{\text{desired}}$

$$u^* = \arg \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}, f(u) \in \mathcal{F}} \text{Cost}(f(u), u)$$

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What does this require?

$$u^* = \arg \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}, f(u) \in \mathcal{F}} \text{Cost}(f(u), u)$$

- define “Cost”
- be able to compute  $f(u)$  rapidly
- be sure that the model does not have “nasty” properties

the most important point: to do model-based control we need to be able to simulate

*this course* = understanding the properties of the system,  
& understanding how to simulate it with the purpose of doing advanced control

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## The control courses at NTNU ITK

- how do I compute explicitly  $u^*$  in special cases?
- how do I compute numerically  $u^*$  in general?
- how do I estimate  $f$  from data?
- how do I handle uncertainties?
- which properties can I guarantee?
- ...

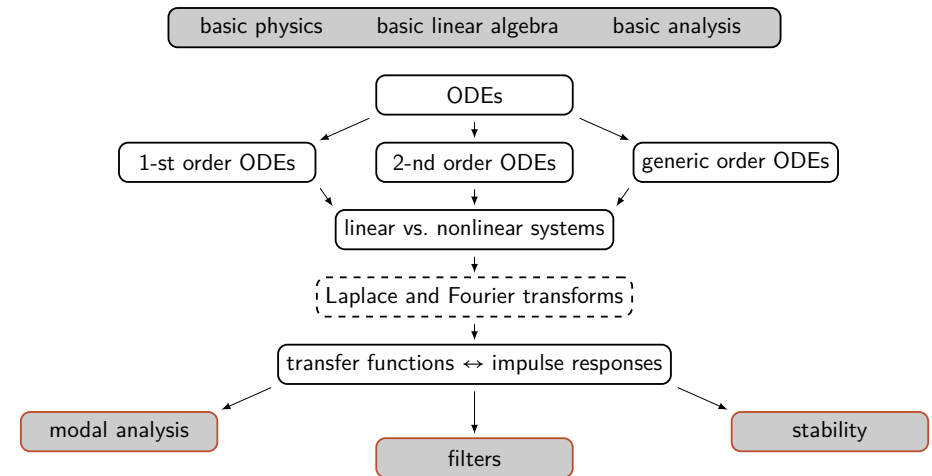
*Caveat!* Better doing MPC than data-driven control:

Benjamin Recht (UC Berkeley, USA)

*Reflections on the Learning-to-Control Renaissance*

(and also <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nF2-39a29Pw>)

## Summary / Roadmap of TTK4225



Introduction to first order systems - the concept of free evolution

## Roadmap

- generalization of our examples of first order systems
- the concept of free evolution
- introduction to stability
- free evolution  $\neq$  forced response

## First order dynamical models

- train velocity

$$\dot{v} = -\frac{k}{m}v(t) + \frac{k}{m}F(t) \quad (13)$$

- RC-circuit

$$\dot{v}_C = -\frac{1}{RC}v_C + \frac{1}{RC}V(t) \quad (14)$$

In general:

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu \quad (15)$$

GitHub/TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/  
first-order-system-introduction-with-P-controller.ipynb

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## Overarching question towards model-based control: how does $y$ evolve?

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu \quad (16)$$

### Qualitative discussions:

- what happens if  $u = 0$ ,  $y_0 = 0$ ?
- what happens if  $u = 0$ ,  $y_0 > 0$ , and  $a > 0$ ?
- what happens if  $u = 0$ ,  $y_0 < 0$ , and  $a > 0$ ?
- what happens if  $u = 0$ ,  $y_0 \neq 0$ , and  $a < 0$ ?
- what happens if  $u = 0$ , and  $a = 0$ ?

stability = extremely important topic!

will be analysed in more details later on in this course  
and much more extensively in others  
(feat. Lyapunov, Krasovskii, La-Salle among others)

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An important case: free evolution

$\dot{y} = ay$   ~~$y(0) = y_0 \neq 0$~~  (17)

Towards the solution of the free evolution starting from a simplified case

$\dot{y} = y$   $y(0) = y_0 \neq 0$  (18)

(in other words, which function is equal to its derivative?)

The solution of the free evolution in general

$\dot{y} = ay$   $y(0) = y_0 \neq 0$  (19)

Alternatively:

$\dot{y} = \frac{dy}{dt} = ay(t)$  (20)

$\frac{dy}{y(t)} = a dt$  (21)

$\int_0^t \frac{dy}{y(\tau)} = \int_0^t a d\tau$  (22)

$\left[ \ln y(\tau) \right]_0^t = a \left[ \tau \right]_0^t$  (23)

$\ln (v(t)) = \ln(y_0) + at$  (24)

$y(t) = e^{\ln(y_0)at} = e^{\ln(y_0)} e^{at}$  (25)

$y(t) = y_0 e^{at}$  (26)

And what about the vectorial generalization?

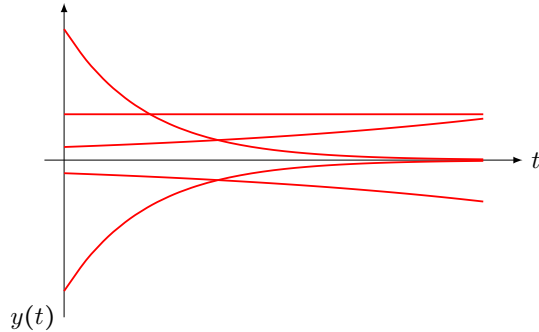
$\dot{\mathbf{y}} = A\mathbf{y}$

⇒ later in the course, and extensively!

## Analysis of first order systems in free evolution

$$\dot{y} = ay \quad y(0) = y_0 \neq 0 \quad \implies \quad y(t) = y_0 e^{at} \quad (27)$$

*Discussion:* which case is this one?



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## Introduction to stability

*stable system:*  $y(t) \rightarrow 0$  for  $t \rightarrow +\infty$

*unstable system:*  $|y(t)| \rightarrow +\infty$  for  $t \rightarrow +\infty$

*marginally stable system:*  $y(t) = y_0$  for every  $t$

*much more on stability both later on & in later courses!*

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## Are we done with studying the response of first order dynamical models?

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu \quad (28)$$

## Forced response

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu \quad y(0) = y_0 = 0 \quad (29)$$

(remember: free evolution = “ $u = 0, y_0 \neq 0$ ”)

*Discussion:* does  $y(0) = y_0 = 0$  imply that we should study  $\dot{y} = bu$ ?

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Try it yourself at home!

```
GitHub/TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/  
first-order-system-introduction-with-P-controller.ipynb
```

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Introduction to first order systems - the concept of forced response

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## Roadmap

- the concept of “forced response”
- the convolution operator
- some properties of convolution

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## First order dynamical models

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu \quad (30)$$

```
GitHub/TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/  
first-order-system-introduction-with-P-controller.ipynb
```

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Overarching question towards model-based control: how does  $y$  evolve?

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu \quad (31)$$

Free evolution vs. forced response

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu \quad (32)$$

free evolution:  $u = 0, y_0 \neq 0$

forced response:  $u \neq 0, y_0 = 0$

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## Solution to the forced response

(actual solution through equations (2.11)–(2.17) in Balchen's book)

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu, \quad y(0) = y_0 = 0 \quad \implies \quad y(t) = \int_0^t e^{a(t-\tau)} bu(\tau) d\tau \quad (33)$$

extremely important generalization:

$$h(t) = e^{at} \quad \implies \quad y(t) = \int_0^t h(t-\tau) u(\tau) d\tau$$

extremely important definition:

$$\text{convolution} := h * u(t) := \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} h(t-\tau) u(\tau) d\tau$$

Visualizing  $h * u(t) := \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} h(\tau) u(t-\tau) d\tau$

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## Discussions

$$h * u(t) := \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} h(\tau) u(t - \tau) d\tau$$

- ❶ is  $h * u(t) = u * h(t)$ ?
- ❷ is  $(\alpha h_1 + \beta h_2) * u(t) = \alpha (h_1 * u(t)) + \beta (h_2 * u(t))$ ?
- ❸ why is it that  $\dot{y} = ay + bu$ ,  $y(0) = y_0 = 0$  implies

$$y(t) = \int_0^{+\infty} e^{a(\tau)} bu(t - \tau) d\tau$$

and *not*

$$y(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{a(\tau)} bu(t - \tau) d\tau \quad ?$$

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## Example

$$y(t) = \int_0^{+\infty} h(\tau) u(t - \tau) d\tau,$$

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } t \in [1, 2] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad h(t) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{for } t \in [0, 1) \\ 1 & \text{for } t \in [1, 2] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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## Discussion:

What is  $y(t) = h * u(t)$  for the case

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } t \in [1, 2] \text{ and } t \in [2, 3] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad h(t) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{for } t \in [0, 2) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad ?$$

## TODO

`GitHub/TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/TOD0.ipynb`

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## Summary

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu \quad (34)$$

**free evolution:**  $u = 0, y_0 \neq 0$ ; implies  $y(t) = y_{\text{free}}(t) = y_0 e^{at}$

**forced response:**  $u \neq 0, y_0 = 0$ ; implies  $y(t) = y_{\text{forced}}(t) = h * u(t)$  with  $h(t) = e^{at}$

$e^{at}$  = "impulse response"

*yet another pillar concept for automatic control  
→ will be discussed better in a dedicated module  
and re-discussed in **every** control-oriented course*

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## General response

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu \quad (35)$$

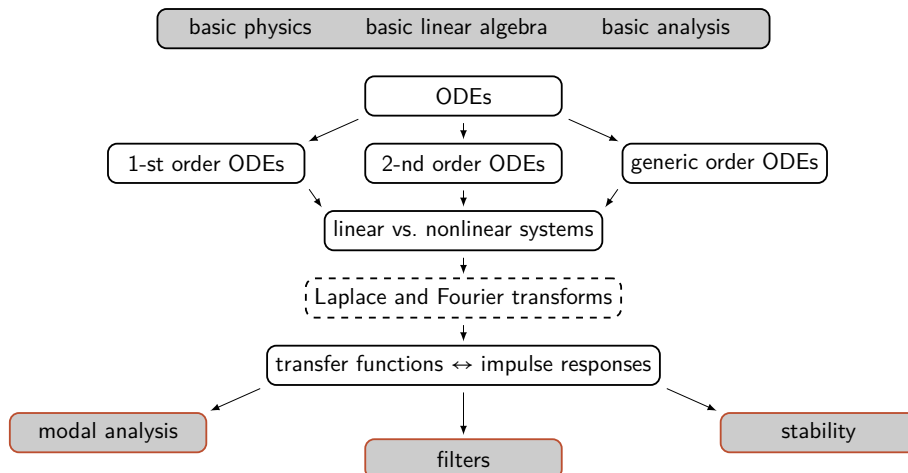
**free evolution:**  $u = 0, y_0 \neq 0$ ; implies  $y(t) = y_{\text{free}}(t) = y_0 e^{at}$

**forced response:**  $u \neq 0, y_0 = 0$ ; implies  $y(t) = y_{\text{forced}}(t) = h * u(t)$  with  $h(t) = e^{at}$

**general response:**  $u \neq 0, y_0 \neq 0$ ; implies  $y(t) = y_{\text{free}}(t) + y_{\text{forced}}(t)$  thanks to the fact that the model is **linear** (will be seen in more details later on)

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## Summary / Roadmap of TTK4225



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Introduction to first order systems - visualizing the system through a block scheme

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## Roadmap

- the most common block schemes
- first order systems as block schemes

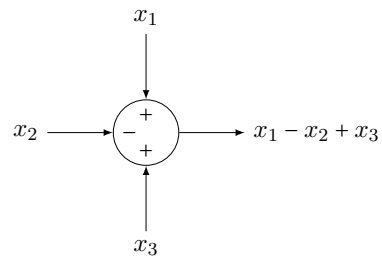
## Block diagrams - why?

- used very often in companies
- aid visualization (*until a certain complexity is reached. . .*)
- enable “drag & drop” way of programming
- in this course, primarily used for interpretations

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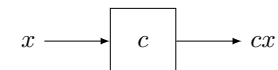
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## Most common block diagrams - sum of $n$ signals



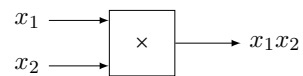
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## Most common block diagrams - multiplication for a constant

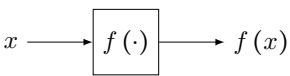


108

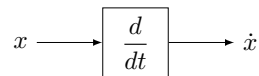
Most common block diagrams - multiplication of two signals



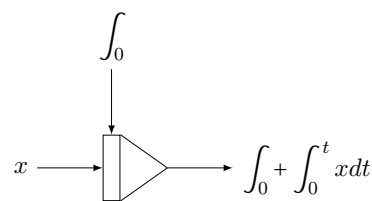
Most common block diagrams - generic functions



Most common block diagrams - derivatives



Most common block diagrams - integrals

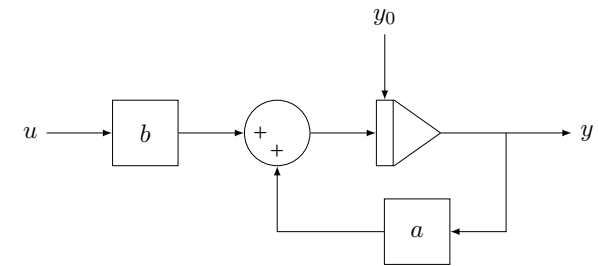


Discussion: how do we represent a first order DE with a block scheme?

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu$$

The solution

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu$$



*Discussion:* do you note the presence of a feedback loop?

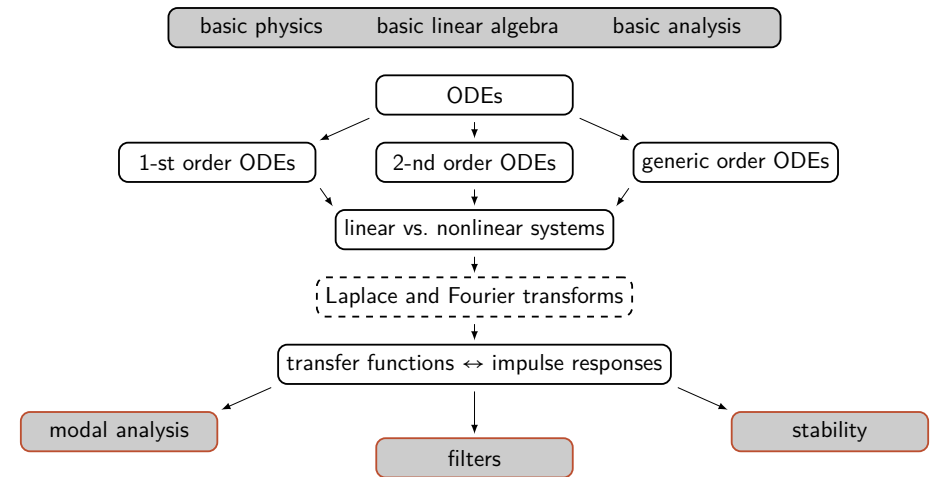
Introduction to Simulink

Introduction to generic order systems

## Roadmap

- from first order to second order
- generic orders
- classification of the different types of ODEs

## Summary / Roadmap of TTK4225



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## From first order to second order, third order

*Discussion:* if we can write

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu,$$

can we also write

$$\ddot{y} = a_1\dot{y} + a_0y + bu?$$

And at this point also

$$\ddot{y} = a_2\ddot{y} + a_1\dot{y} + a_0y + bu?$$

And why not

$$\ddot{y} = a_2\ddot{y} + a_1\dot{y} + a_0y + b_1\dot{u} + b_0u?$$

## ARMA models

$$y^{(n)} = a_{n-1}y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_0y + b_mu^{(m)} + \dots + b_0u?$$

*Discussion:* and why don't we have  $a_ny^{(n)}$ , instead of only  $y^{(n)}$  on the LHS?

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Discussion: can we generalize even more?

$$y^{(n)} = a_{n-1}y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_0y + b_m u^{(m)} + \dots b_0 u ?$$

non-homogeneous:  $\dot{y} = a(t)y + b(t)u + c$

time-varying:  $\dot{y} = a(t)y + b(t)u$

non-linear:  $\dot{y} = a\sqrt{y} + bu^{2/3}$

Discussion: can we make this linear again?

$$\dot{y} = ay + bu^{2/3}$$

*Another discussion:* can we apply the same “linearization trick” to  $\dot{y} = a\sqrt{y} + bu$ ?

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main focus in this course:  
linear, time invariant, homogeneous (LTI)

why?

Remember: predictive control of the type

$$\mathbf{u}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}, \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{u}) \in \mathcal{F}} \text{Cost}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{u}), \mathbf{u})$$

requires to be able to:

- define “Cost”
- compute  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{u})$  rapidly
- be sure that the model does not have “nasty” properties

from the previous lessons:  
1-st order LTI models  $\mapsto$  impulse responses;  
as will be clear later generic order LTI models  $\mapsto$  also impulse responses

The question we are trying to answer in this first part of the course

*“What will be the solution  $y(t)$  to a generic-order LTI ODE starting from a generic initial condition  $y(0) = y_0$  and generic input signal  $u(t)$ ?”*

*(our hope: the solution will be structurally easy,  
and fast to compute)*

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## What is what?

(i.e., a small quiz to see if we are aligned)

	autonomous	linear	homogeneous	time constant
$\frac{\dot{x}}{x} = 1$				
$\pi = \dot{x}x$				
$2\dot{x} + \sin t = 0$				
$\sin(t\dot{x}) - x = 0$				
$t\dot{x} = x \sin t$				
$x - e^{-t} = \ddot{x} + \dot{x}$				

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## Introduction to generic order systems

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## Roadmap

- state space representations
- from  $n$ -th order to vectorial first order

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## State space representations - Definition

mathematical model (typically but not limited to of a physical system) as a finite set of inputs, outputs and state variables related by first-order differential equations satisfying the separation principle

### Ingredients

- finite number of inputs, outputs and state variables
- first-order differential equations
- *satisfies the separation principle*: the current value of states contains all the information necessary to forecast the future evolution of the outputs and of the states given the inputs

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## State space representations - Facts

- the future output depends only on the current state and the future input
- the future output depends on the past input only through the current state
- the state summarizes the effect of past inputs on future output  
(sort of a “memory” of the system)

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## Example

Rechargeable flashlight:

- state = level of charge of the battery & on / off button
- output = how much light the device is producing

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## State space representations - Notation

$u_1, \dots, u_m$  = inputs

$x_1, \dots, x_n$  = states

$y_1, \dots, y_p$  = outputs

## State space representations - Notation

$$\dot{x}_1 = f_1(x_1, \dots, x_n, u_1, \dots, u_m)$$

$\vdots$

$$\dot{x}_n = f_n(x_1, \dots, x_n, u_1, \dots, u_m)$$

$$y_1 = g_1(x_1, \dots, x_n, u_1, \dots, u_m)$$

$\vdots$

$$y_p = g_p(x_1, \dots, x_n, u_1, \dots, u_m)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})$$

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})$$

- $\mathbf{f}$  = state transition map
- $\mathbf{g}$  = output map

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Discussion: is any  $f$  and  $g$  ok?

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= f(x, u) \\ y &= g(x, u)\end{aligned}$$

*No:* for every given  $x_0$  and  $u$  the solution must be:

- unique
- guaranteed to exist for  $t \in [0, \bar{t})$  for some  $\bar{t} > 0$

(check “existence and uniqueness of solutions of ODEs”)

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State space representations - Example

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = -x^2 \\ y = x \end{cases} \cup x_0 = -1 \implies x(t) = \frac{1}{t-1}$$

*Discussion:* (a bit outside of the current flow of concepts on ODEs, but still relevant and very important) what happens as  $t \rightarrow 1$ ?

*there is a finite escape time!*

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Discussion: can every physical system be described with a state space representation?

Noticeable exceptions:

- non-lumped parameters model (i.e., PDEs)
- continuous-time systems with delays  
(will be discussed better later on)

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Example: dynamics of sugar and insulin concentrations in blood

- $x_1$  := sugar concentration
- $x_2$  := insulin concentration
- $u_1$  := food intake
- $u_2$  := insulin intake
- $c$  := sugar concentration in fasting

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_2 = a_{21}(x_1 - c) - a_{22}x_2 + b_2u_2 & x_1 \geq c \\ \dot{x}_2 = -a_{22}x_2 + b_2u_2 & x_1 < c \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = -a_{11}x_1x_2 + a_{12}(c - x_1) + b_1u_1 & x_1 \geq c \\ \dot{x}_1 = -a_{11}x_1x_2 + b_1u_1 & x_1 < c \end{cases}$$

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How can I transform a generic-order ODE into a state space representation (that requires first order DEs)?

$$\ddot{y} = \phi(\ddot{y}, \dot{y}, y, \ddot{u}, \dot{u}, u);$$

*change of variables:*

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{y} \\ \dot{y} \\ y \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{u} \\ \dot{u} \\ u \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{y} \\ \dot{y} \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \phi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) \\ [1 \ 0 \ 0] \mathbf{x} \\ [0 \ 1 \ 0] \mathbf{x} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})$$

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Thus, how do I transform a generic order LTI system into a first order LTI system?

$$\ddot{y} = 2\dot{y} + 3y + 4\ddot{u} + 5\dot{u} + 6u$$

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Transforming ARMA models

$$y^{(n)} = a_{n-1}y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_0y + b_mu^{(m)} + \dots b_0u ?$$

Discussion: but then any LTI system is a first order vectorial system?

$$\dot{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}$$

YES, AND THIS IS WHY  
LINEAR ALGEBRA IS ESSENTIAL  
FOR CONTROL!

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## Second order systems

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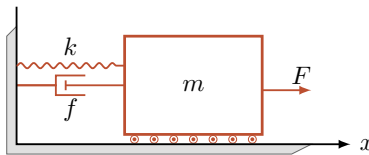
## Roadmap

- interesting examples
- interesting responses
- differences between 1st order and 2nd order

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### Example 1: spring-mass systems

Position of a cart fastened with a spring to a wall and subject to friction:



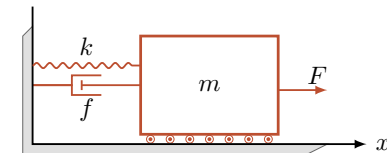
EOM:

- force from the spring:  $F_x(t) = -kx(t)$
  - friction:  $F_f(t) = -f\dot{x}(t)$
  - applied force:  $F(t)$
  - Newton's second law:  $\sum F = m\ddot{x}(t)$
- $$m\ddot{x}(t) = F_x(t) + F_f(t) + F(t) \quad \mapsto \quad m\ddot{x}(t) = -kx(t) - f\dot{x}(t) + F(t)$$

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### Example 1: spring-mass systems

Position of a cart fastened with a spring to a wall and subject to friction:



$$\ddot{x}(t) + \frac{f}{m}\dot{x}(t) + \frac{k}{m}x(t) = \frac{1}{m}F(t) \quad (36)$$

Generalizing:

$$\ddot{x} = a_1\dot{x} + a_0x + b_0u \quad (37)$$

**Discussion:** may we write this dynamics using a vectorial first order DE?

**Discussion:** may we write this dynamics using a scalar first order DE?

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## Example 1: spring-mass systems

<https://youtu.be/1ZPtFDXYQRU?t=31>

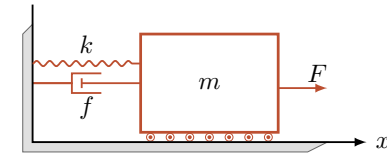
(here there is very little friction, though)

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## Example 1: spring-mass systems - stability analysis from intuitive perspectives

*Discussion:*  $\dot{x} = a_0x + b_0u$  unstable if ... ? And What about, from intuitive perspectives, when considering

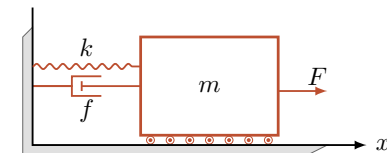
$$\ddot{x} = a_1\dot{x} + a_0x + b_0u ? \quad (38)$$



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Intuition: asymptotic stability  $\leftrightarrow$  dissipation of energy

[GitHub/TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/spring-mass-systems-introduction.ipynb](https://github.com/TTK4225/trunk/Jupyter/spring-mass-systems-introduction.ipynb)

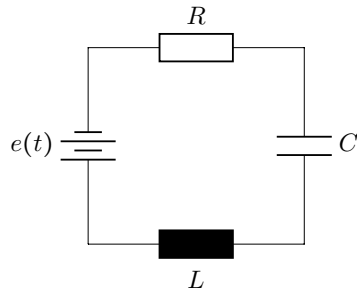


will see this MUCH better in later on courses  
when discussing about Lyapunov stability

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## Example 2: RCL-circuit



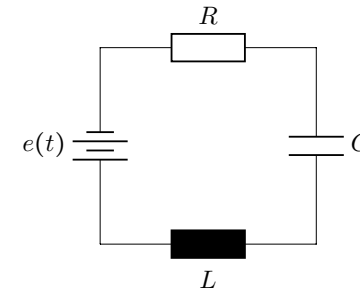
EOM: Kirkhoff laws

$$v_L(t) = L \frac{di(t)}{dt} \quad v_R(t) = Ri(t) \quad v_C(t) = \frac{1}{C} \int_0^t i(\tau) d\tau$$

$$e(t) = v_L(t) + v_R(t) + v_C(t) \quad \mapsto \quad e(t) = L \frac{di(t)}{dt} + Ri(t) + \frac{1}{C} \int_0^t i(\tau) d\tau \quad (39)$$

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## Example 2: RCL-circuit



$$e(t) = L \frac{di(t)}{dt} + Ri(t) + \frac{1}{C} \int_0^t i(\tau) d\tau$$

*Discussion:* how do we write it in terms of  $x, \dot{x}, \dots$ ?

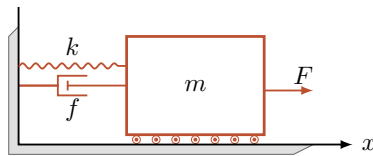
$$x(t) = i(t), \quad u(t) = \dot{e}(t) \quad \implies \quad \ddot{x} = -\frac{R}{L} \dot{x} - \frac{1}{LC} x + \frac{1}{L} u \quad (40)$$

Generalizing:

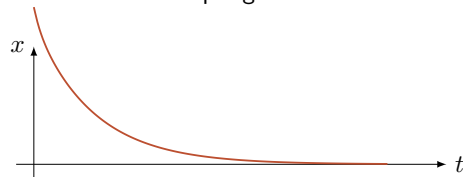
$$\ddot{x} = a_1 \dot{x} + a_0 x + b_0 u \quad (41)$$

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Discussion: what are the potential different ways the cart may move back to its equilibrium?



very big friction w.r.t. the spring stiffness  $\implies$  overdamping:



very small friction w.r.t. the spring stiffness  $\implies$  underdamping:



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How do the free evolutions and forced responses look like numerically?

*we will solve this problem with the aid of Laplace transforms*

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Summary / Roadmap of TTK4225

