

State Space Modeling

Key Terms:

- **State:** The set of variables for which knowledge of the variables at $t=0$ and the inputs at t completely determines the behavior of the system
- **State Variables:** The variables that determine the dynamic state of a system. These are the minimum set required to completely describe the behavior of a dynamic system.
- **State Vector:** A vector of the state variables.
- **State space:** The n -dimensional space made from the axes of the state variables
- **State-space equations:** The set of equations relating the input variables, state variables, and output variables for a dynamic system. For a linear, time-invariant system, these take the form

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= Ax + Bu &< \text{state equation} \\ y &= Cx + Du &< \text{output equation}\end{aligned}$$

x : state vector

u : input/control vector

y : output vector

A : state matrix

B : input/control matrix

C : output matrix

D : direct transmission matrix

} matrix of constants (linear)

Often referred to as "modern" or "time domain" approach
Can also be used on time varying systems

Hopefully you've had a strong introduction to state space models in AE 3530, but we will review briefly

What does each term represent?

natural dynamics of system the input added to the system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= Ax + Bu \\ y &= Cx + Du\end{aligned}$$

↑
the output of the system
as a result of the natural
dynamics in response to the
input

← the direct (feedforward)
effect on the output
as a result of the
input, regardless of
the natural dynamics

↑ since we are often concerned
with position & velocity of
mechanical systems, this is
often zero

Criteria for selecting state vector

1) The minimum set of variables needed to fully capture the state of the system

2) The components of the state vector should be linearly independent

⇒ linearly independent → knowledge of a subset of the variables does not lead to knowledge of another

⇒ ex: if $x_3 = 4x_1 + 2x_2$, x_1 and x_2 are linearly independent, but x_3 is not because its state can be determined if the states of x_1 and x_2 are known

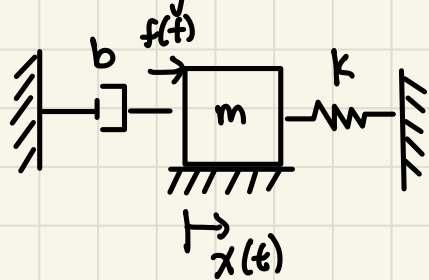
How do we determine the minimum number of variables?

⇒ in general, minimum variables = order of diff eq.

⇒ ex: if a third order differential equation describes a system, the state space model will include:

- 3 simultaneous first order diff eqns
- 3 state variables

Let's go back to our simple harmonic oscillator



in response to forcing function $f(t)$, the block is displaced $x(t)$

$$\sum F = ma \Rightarrow f(t) - kx(t) - b\dot{x}(t) = m\ddot{x}(t)$$

$$f(t) = m\ddot{x}(t) + b\dot{x}(t) + kx(t)$$

1) Define state variables

$$x_1 = x$$

$$x_2 = \dot{x}$$

2) Write differential equations for each state variable

$$\dot{x}_1 = x_2$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = -\frac{b}{m}x_2 - \frac{k}{m}x_1 + \frac{1}{m}f(t)$$

3) Put in Matrix form

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & -\frac{b}{m} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{m} \end{bmatrix} f(t)$$

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + 0 f(t)$$

Let's use Matlab to look at the response, and compare to our response using the TF

$t = 0:0.01:10$
 $k = 5$
 $b = 4$
 $m = 1$ } recall these are the inputs we used before

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -k/m & -b/m \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1/m \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D = 0$$

`sys = ss(A, B, C, D)`

`opt = stepDataOptions('Step Amplitude', 5)` ← from before

`y = step(sys, t, opt)`

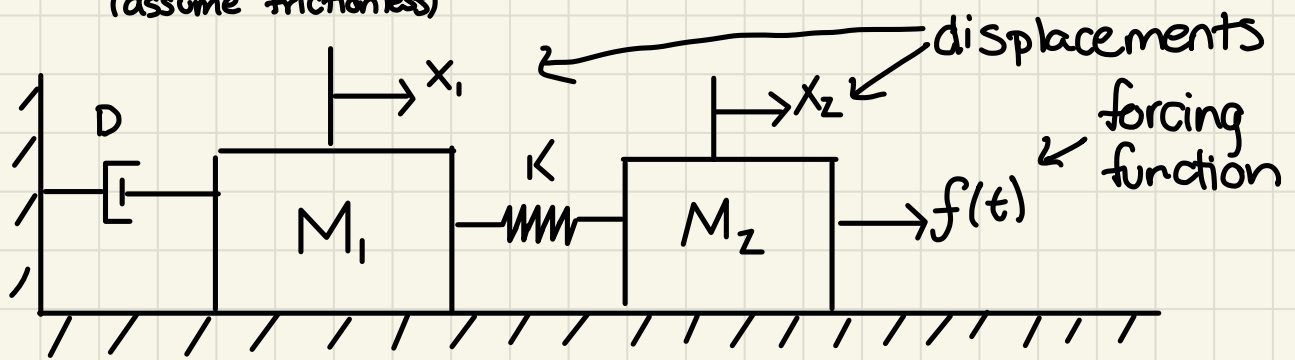
`plot(t, y)`

`grid`

note that this is identical to TF representation
but now we could look at velocity

like before, we now can play with our model

Example: Find the state equations for this system
(assume frictionless)



1) Write the differential equations for each mass, assume zero initial conditions

$$M_1: M_1 \ddot{x}_1 + D \dot{x}_1 + Kx_1 - Kx_2 = 0$$

$$M_2: -Kx_1 + M_2 \ddot{x}_2 + Kx_2 = f(t)$$

we have 2 2nd order equations \Rightarrow 4 state variables (2 per mass)

2) Select state variables (we'll use position & velocity for each mass)

$$\begin{array}{ll} x_1 & v_1 = \dot{x}_1 \\ x_2 & v_2 = \dot{x}_2 \end{array}$$

3) Write the state equations \Rightarrow each diff eqn \Rightarrow 2 state eqns

from M_1 equations: $\dot{x}_1 = v_1$

$$\dot{v}_1 = -\frac{K}{M_1} x_1 - \frac{D}{M_1} v_1 + \frac{K}{M_1} x_2$$

from M_2 equations: $\dot{x}_2 = v_2$

$$\dot{v}_2 = \frac{K}{M_2} x_1 - \frac{K}{M_2} x_2 + \frac{1}{M_2} f(t)$$

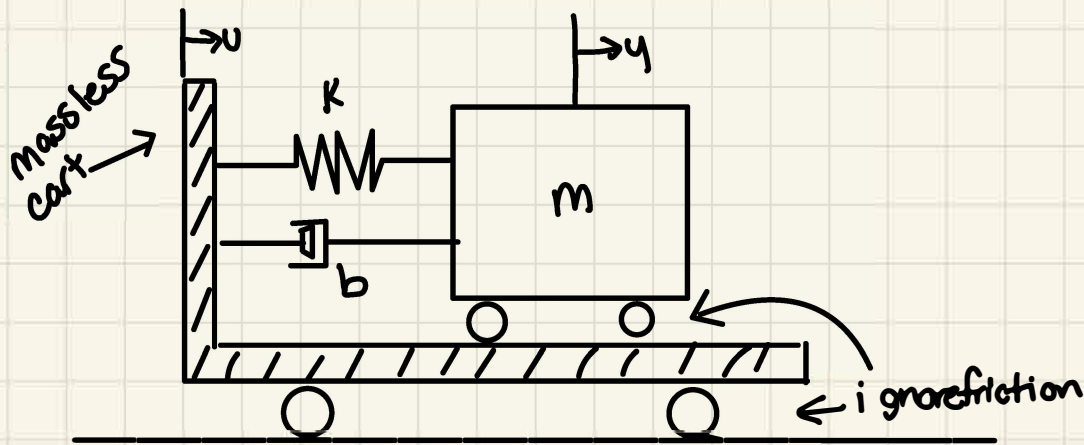
4) Put it in matrix form $\dot{X} = Ax + Bu$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{v}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \\ \dot{v}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -K/M_1 & -D/M_1 & K/M_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ K/M_2 & 0 & -K/M_2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ v_1 \\ x_2 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1/M_2 \end{bmatrix} f(t)$$

since position is our desired output

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ v_1 \\ x_2 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Another Example This time, let's make a transfer function model using Laplace and a state-space model



At $t=0$, the cart is moved at a constant speed \dot{u}

$u(t)$ is the cart displacement and is the system input

we assume the friction force from the dashpot is proportional to $(\dot{y} - \dot{u})$ and the spring is linear and proportional to $(y - u)$

$y(t)$ is the output, the mass displacement

Let's write the differential equation for the mass

$$m\ddot{y} = -b(\dot{y} - \dot{u}) - k(y - u)$$

$$\text{or } m\ddot{y} + b\dot{y} + ky = b\dot{u} + ku$$

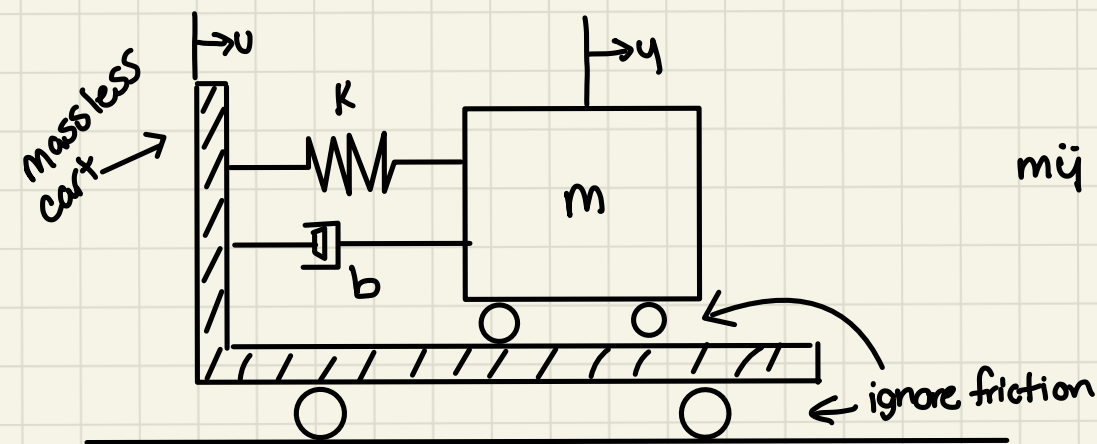
the Laplace w/ zero initial condition gives

$$(ms^2 + bs + k)Y(s) = (bs + k)U(s)$$

so our transfer function is:

$$\frac{Y(s)}{U(s)} = \frac{bs + k}{ms^2 + bs + k}$$

This is one way we can mathematically represent this system



$$m\ddot{y} + by + ky = b\dot{u} + ku$$

Now let's do a state space model

$$\ddot{y} + \frac{b}{m}\dot{y} + \frac{k}{m}y = \frac{b}{m}\dot{u} + \frac{k}{m}u$$

↑ There is a derivative of the input u !

In this case, we can use the equations presented in Ch 5.

Eg (5.21-5.31) to define our state variables and build our state space representation

→ These tell us that if we have a system of the form:

$$\ddot{y} + a_1\dot{y} + a_2y = b_0\ddot{u} + b_1\dot{u} + b_2u$$

we can choose state variables

$$x_1 = y - \beta_0 u$$

$$x_2 = \dot{x}_1 - \beta_1 u$$

$$\text{where } \beta_0 = b_0$$

$$\beta_1 = b_1 - a_1 \beta_0$$

$$\beta_2 = b_2 - a_1 \beta_1 - a_2 \beta_0$$

such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -a_2 & -a_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \end{bmatrix} u$$

$$\text{and } y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \beta_0 u$$

For our problem

$$\ddot{y} + \underbrace{\frac{b}{m}}_{a_1} \dot{y} + \underbrace{\frac{k}{m}}_{a_2} y = \underbrace{\frac{b}{m}}_{b_1} \dot{u} + \underbrace{\frac{k}{m}}_{b_2} u$$

$b_0 = 0$

$$\text{so } \beta_0 = b_0 = 0$$

$$\beta_1 = b_1 - a_1 \beta_0 = \frac{b}{m}$$

$$\beta_2 = b_2 - a_1 \beta_1 - a_2 \beta_0 = \frac{k}{m} - \left(\frac{b}{m}\right)^2$$

and our state variables are

$$x_1 = y - \beta_0 u = y$$

$$x_2 = \dot{x}_1 - \beta_1 u = \dot{x}_1 - \frac{b}{m} u$$

and

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & -\frac{b}{m} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{b}{m} \\ \frac{k}{m} - \left(\frac{b}{m}\right)^2 \end{bmatrix} u$$
$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

This is equivalent way to model the system

This example is implemented in Matlab. Please refer to `mass_on_cart.m`.

Note that

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ where}$$

$$x_1 = y \quad \text{and} \quad x_2 = \dot{x}_1 - \frac{b}{m} u$$

While $x_1 = y(t)$ corresponds to the displacement of the mass 'm', x_2 does not have an obvious meaningful ~~rep~~ physical quantity representation.

Hence, to obtain \dot{y} , i.e. the velocity of the mass 'm', we must do the following:

Differentiate the x_1 equation & substitute into the x_2 equation

$$\therefore \dot{x}_1 = \dot{y}$$

$$x_2 = \dot{x}_1 - \frac{b}{m} u = \dot{y} - \frac{b}{m} u$$

Now, on rearranging

$$\dot{y} = x_2 + \frac{b}{m} u$$

$$\therefore \boxed{\begin{aligned} y(t) &= x_1 \\ \dot{y}(t) &= x_2 + \frac{b}{m} u \end{aligned}}$$

Let's compare our models:

$$\frac{Y(s)}{U(s)} = \frac{bs + k}{ms^2 + bs + k}$$

$$m\ddot{y} + b\dot{y} + ky = b\dot{u} + ku$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -k/m & -b/m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} b/m \\ k/m - (b/m)^2 \end{bmatrix} u$$

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{where } x_1 = y \text{ and } x_2 = \dot{x}_1 - \frac{b}{m}u$$

Let's specifically consider the natural dynamics

$$\text{TF: poles: } -\frac{b}{2m} \pm \frac{\sqrt{(b/m)^2 - 4k/m}}{2}$$

Eigens of Matrix A:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 - \lambda & 1 \\ -k/m & -b/m - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (-\lambda)(-b/m - \lambda) + k/m$$
$$= \lambda^2 + b/m\lambda + k/m$$

$$\lambda = -\frac{b}{2m} \pm \frac{\sqrt{(b/m)^2 - 4k/m}}{2}$$

What do you notice?

These are equivalent ways to represent our system, but we need to keep in mind some differences in the approaches

Transfer Functions

"Classical" Approach

Applies to SISO LTI systems

I.C. are zero

enabler for Bode, Root Locus
generally easy to work with

no insight to internal variables

State Space

"Modern" Approach

Can apply linear & non-linear,
time-variant or invariant, and
SISO & MIMO system with
varying degrees of complexity

I.C. can be considered

enabler for more precise control
methods, more computationally expensive

gives insight to internal state

Converting SS to TF

Remember that I said a system could be represented equally in state-space or by a transfer function?

We can convert between these representations!

We do this by taking the Laplace transforms of our state space equations with zero initial conditions

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu \quad \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}} \quad sX(s) = AX(s) + BU(s)$$

$$y = Cx + Du \quad \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}} \quad Y(s) = CX(s) + DU(s)$$

the transfer function is $Y(s)/U(s)$, so we solve for $X(s)$ from our first equation and plug it into the second

$$(sI - A)X(s) = BU(s)$$

identity matrix

$$X(s) = (sI - A)^{-1} BU(s)$$

plug it in!

$$Y(s) = C(sI - A)^{-1} BU(s) + DU(s) \quad \text{and}$$

$$G(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{U(s)} = C(sI - A)^{-1} B + D$$

note: We can also do this in matlab with `ss2tf` functions
`tf2ss`

Up until this point, we have focused on modeling fairly simple systems.

In general, we are interested in deriving models for more complex systems.

Block diagrams are a technique to help us derive models for more complex systems from simple models of their components and their relationships

After we learn how to use block diagrams to represent and create transfer functions for more complex systems, we are going to revisit those poles/zeros/gains to start learning about controlling things!