

Chapter 5: Continuous time systems

July 10, 2015

- 1 Linear differential equations
- 2 Laplace transform
- 3 Solving LDEs with the Laplace transform
- 4 Properties of state-space representation
- 5 Transfer functions
 - Impulse response and time constant
 - Relationship between state space and transfer functions
- 6 Transient response analysis of first order and second order systems
 - First order systems
 - Second order systems

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Linear differential equations: definitions 1/2

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The **order of a LDE** is the index of the highest derivative of y .

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 \rightarrow solutions are called **complementary functions**
- if $A_{0:n}(t)$ are constants (ie. not functions of time), the LDE is said to have **constant coefficients**

Example: radioactive decay 1/2

Let $N(t)$ be the number of radioactive atoms at time t , then:

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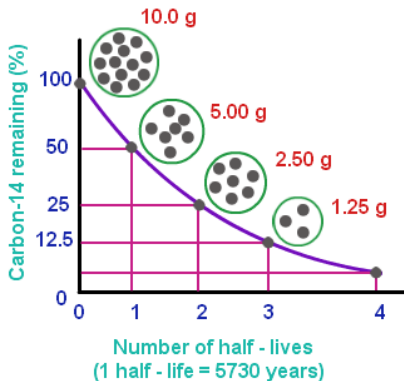
$$\frac{dN(t)}{dt} = -kN(t),$$

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This is a first order homogeneous LDE with constant coefficients.

Example: radioactive decay 2/2

Decay of Carbon - 14



Solving homogeneous LDEs with constant coefficients 1/3

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Dividing by e^{zt} yields the n th order **characteristic polynomial**:

$$F(z) = \sum_{i=0}^n A_i z^{n-i} = 0.$$

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The specific linear combination depends on initial conditions.

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$$y^{(4)}(t) - 2y^{(3)}(t) + 2y^{(2)}(t) - 2y^{(1)}(t) + y(t) = 0.$$

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These zeros correspond to the following basis functions t :

$$e^{jt}, \quad e^{-jt}, \quad e^t, \quad te^t.$$

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The Laplace transform

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The final value theorem states $f(\infty) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} sF(s)$,
if all poles of $sF(s)$ are in the left half plane (ie. real part < 0).

Important properties of the Laplace transform

property	time domain	s-domain
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with $u(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t \delta(\tau)d\tau$ (Heaviside) and $\delta(t)$ the Dirac delta.

Inverse Laplace transform

The inverse Laplace transform converts s-domain to time domain:

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Practically, the inverse Laplace transform takes two steps:

- 1 write $F(s)$ in terms of partial fractions
- 2 transform each term in the partial fraction based on tables of s/t -domain pairs (course notes p 4.32-4.33)

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- 5 Transfer functions
 - Impulse response and time constant
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Via induction, the Laplace transform of the n th order derivative:

$$\mathcal{L}\{f^{(n)}\} = s^n F(s) - \sum_{i=1}^n s^{n-i} f^{(n-i)}(0)$$

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Expanding Eq. (2) into (1) yields:

$$Y(s) \sum_{i=0}^n A_i s^i - \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^i A_i s^{i-j} y^{j-1}(0) = F(s)$$

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The solution in the time domain is obtained via the inverse Laplace transform: $y(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{Y(s)\}$.

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- 3 Solving LDEs with the Laplace transform
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This holds for linear, time-invariant systems with n states if:

$$\text{rank}(\mathcal{O}) = n, \quad \mathcal{O} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C} \\ \mathbf{CA} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{CA}^{n-1} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{O} : \text{observability matrix}$$

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A linear, time-invariant system with n states is controllable if:

$$\text{rank}(\mathcal{C}) = n, \quad \mathcal{C} = [\mathbf{B} \quad \mathbf{AB} \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{A}^{n-1}\mathbf{B}],$$

where \mathcal{C} is called the **controllability matrix**.

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Transfer function

The transfer function of input i to output j is defined as:

$$H_{i,j}(s) = \frac{Y_j(s)}{U_i(s)}, \quad \mathbf{U}(s) = \mathcal{L}\{u(t)\}, \quad \mathbf{Y}(s) = \mathcal{L}\{y(t)\}.$$

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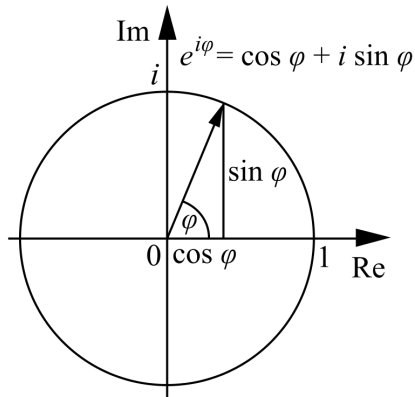
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The complex Laplace variable can be rewritten: $s = \sigma + j\omega$.

The frequency response of a system can be analyzed via $\mathbf{H}(j\omega)$:

$$e^{\sigma+j\omega} = e^{\sigma}(\cos \omega + j \sin \omega).$$

Illustration of Euler's formula



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Poles and zeros may cancel, ie. if $D(s) = N(s) = 0$ for some s .

Steady state response

The output of a linear time-invariant system yields consists of:

- a steady-state output $y_{ss}(t)$, which similar periodicity to $u(t)$
→ y_{ss} comprises the same frequencies as $u(t)$
- a transient output $y_{tr}(t)$
→ if the system is stable, then $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y_{tr}(t) = 0$
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The steady-state output $y_{ss}(t)$ of a linear time invariant system:

- consists of signals of same frequencies as the input signal $u(t)$
- which may have been magnified and/or phase changed

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For stable continuous time systems the impulse response always converges to 0:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} h(t) = 0, \text{ because } \mathbf{D} = 0 \text{ and } \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}(t) = 0.$$

Impulse response

The impulse response $h(t)$ of input i to output j is the output $y_j(t)$ of a system when an impulse $\delta(t)$ is applied at input $u_i(t)$.

The impulse response is the inverse Laplace transform of the transfer function $h(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{H(s)\}$.

For stable continuous time systems the impulse response always converges to 0:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} h(t) = 0, \text{ because } \mathbf{D} = 0 \text{ and } \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}(t) = 0.$$

The speed of convergence depends on the position of the poles.

The transfer function of first order systems can be written as:

$$H(s) = \frac{K}{\tau s + 1} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad h(t) = \frac{K}{\tau} e^{-t/\tau},$$

where τ is called the system's **time constant**.

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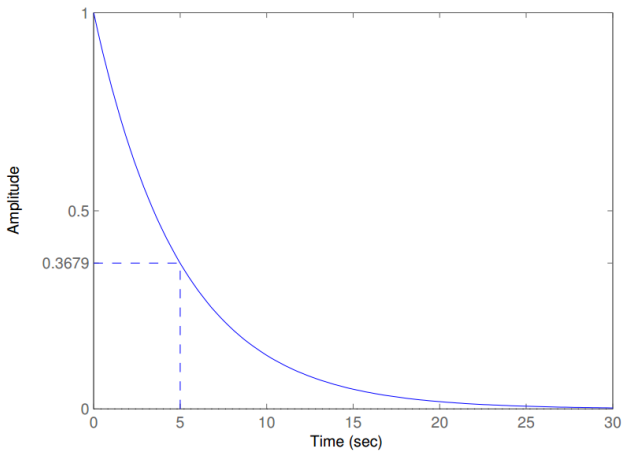
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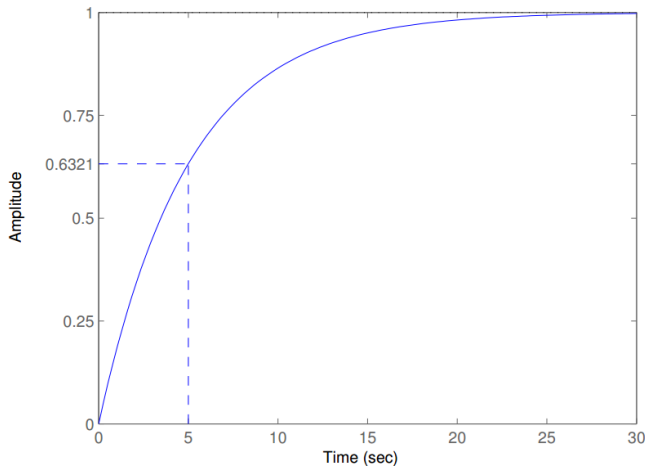
The time constant summarizes the speed of a system's dynamics:

- after τ seconds, the impulse response reaches $h(0)/e$.
- after τ seconds, the step response has reached $1 - e^{-1} \approx 63\%$ of its regime value.

Impulse response $H(s) = 5/(5s + 1) \leftrightarrow h(t) = \exp(-t/5)$



Step response $H(s) = 5/(5s + 1) \leftrightarrow h(t) = \exp(-t/5)$



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From state-space to transfer functions

We start from the linear state-space representation:

time domain

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}(t) \\ \mathbf{y}(t) = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{D}\mathbf{u}(t) \end{cases}$$

\leftrightarrow

Laplace domain

$$\begin{cases} s\mathbf{X}(s) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}(s) + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{U}(s) \\ \mathbf{Y}(s) = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{X}(s) + \mathbf{D}\mathbf{U}(s) \end{cases}$$

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$$(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})\mathbf{X}(s) = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{U}(s)$$

$$\mathbf{X}(s) = (s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{U}(s)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{Y}(s) = \mathbf{C}(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{U}(s) + \mathbf{D}\mathbf{U}(s)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{H}(s) = \mathbf{C}(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{D}$$

Relationship between poles and eigenvalues of **A** 1/2

Poles are zeros of the denominator of $\mathbf{H}(s)$, e.g. those values of s for which $\mathbf{H}(s)$ is singular.

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Consider the following SISO system with 2 states:

$$\begin{bmatrix} sX_1(s) \\ sX_2(s) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0.2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_1(s) \\ X_2(s) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \beta \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} U(s)$$
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The transfer function $H(s) = \frac{\beta}{s-\alpha}$ has only one pole ($s_1 = \alpha$).

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Transient Response

The time response of a control system may be written as:

$$y(t) = y_{tr}(t) + y_{ss}(t)$$

Where $y_{tr}(t)$ is the transient response and $y_{ss}(t)$ is the steady state response. Most important characteristic of dynamic system is absolute stability.

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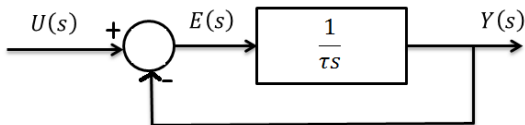
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Transient response: when input of system changes, output does not change immediately but takes time to go to steady state

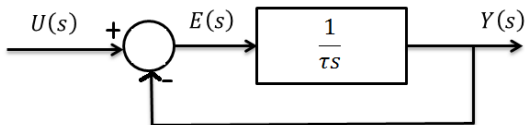
First order systems

E.g. RC circuit, thermal system, ...



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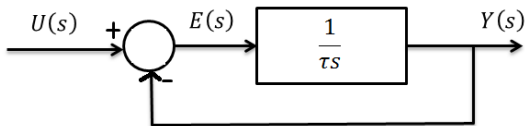
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Unit step response

- Laplace of unit-step is $\frac{1}{s} \rightarrow$ substituting $U(s) = \frac{1}{s}$ into equation $Y(s) = \frac{1}{s} \frac{1}{\tau s + 1}$
- Expanding into partial fractions gives

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

Unit step transient response

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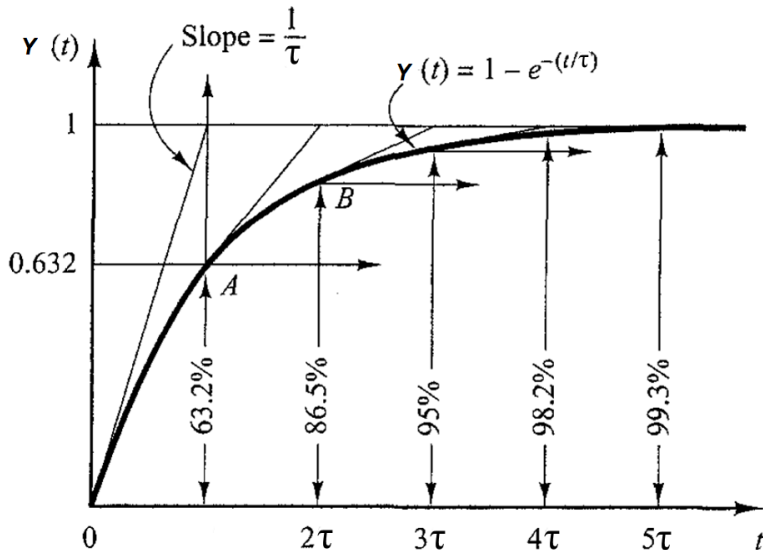
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⑤ Slope at time $t = 0$ is $\frac{1}{\tau}$

$$\left. \frac{dy}{dt} \right|_{t=0} = \left. \frac{1}{\tau} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} \right|_{t=0} = \frac{1}{\tau}$$

Where τ is called the system time constant

Unit step transient response



Unit ramp transient response

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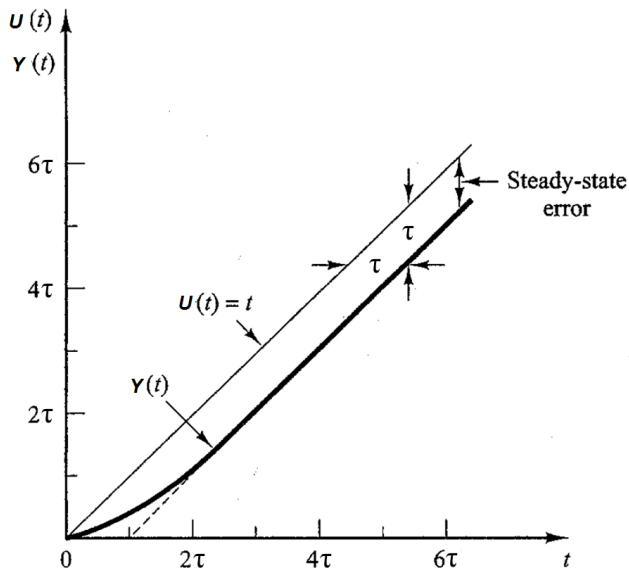
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- ⑤ For t approaching infinity, $e(t)$ approaches τ

$$e(\infty) = \tau$$

Unit ramp transient response



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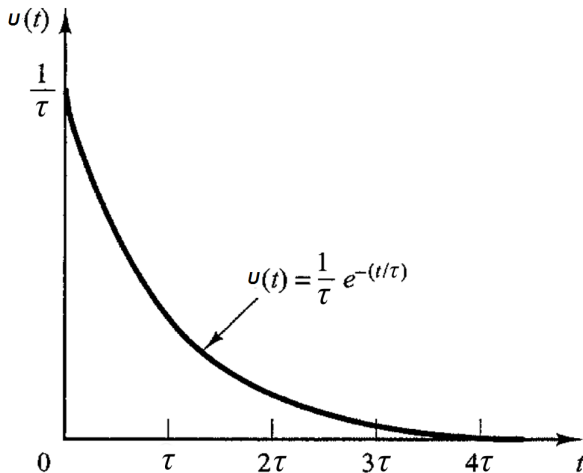
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For $t \rightarrow +\infty$, $y(t) \rightarrow 0$

Unit-Impulse Response



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Second order systems

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If the transfer function has two real poles, the frequency response can be found by combining the effects of both poles

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In order to study the transient behaviour, let us first consider the following simplified example of a second order system

$$H(s) = \frac{c}{ds^2 + es + c}$$

Step response second order system

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Step response second order system

① $H(s) = \frac{c}{ds^2 + es + c}$

② The transfer function can be rewritten as:

$$\begin{aligned} H(s) &= \frac{\frac{c}{d}}{s^2 + \frac{e}{d}s + \frac{c}{d}} \\ &= \frac{\frac{c}{d}}{\left[s + \frac{e}{2d} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{e}{2d}\right)^2 - \frac{c}{d}}\right]\left[s + \frac{e}{2d} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{e}{2d}\right)^2 - \frac{c}{d}}\right]} \end{aligned}$$

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④ The poles are real if

$$e^2 - dc \geq 0$$

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To simplify the transient analysis, it is convenient to write

$$\frac{f}{d} = \omega_n^2, \quad \frac{e}{d} = 2\zeta\omega_n = 2\sigma$$

Where

σ is the attenuation

ω_n is the natural frequency

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

Which is called the standard form of the second-order system.

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The dynamic behavior of the second-order system can then be described in terms of only two parameters ζ and ω_n .

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- The system is then called **underdamped**
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If $\zeta > 1$, the system is called **overdamped**

We will now look at the unit step response for each of these cases

Underdamped system

For the underdamped case ($0 < \zeta < 1$), the transfer function can be written as:

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

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For a unit-step input we can write

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

Underdamped system

Which can be rewritten as partial fractions

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

Underdamped system

Which can be rewritten as partial fractions

$$\begin{aligned} Y(s) &= \frac{1}{s} - \frac{s + 2\zeta\omega_n}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_ns + \omega_n^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{s} - \frac{s + \zeta\omega_n}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_ns + \omega_n^2} - \frac{\zeta\omega_n}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_ns + \omega_n^2} \end{aligned}$$

It can be shown that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s + \zeta\omega_n}{(s + \zeta\omega_n)^2 + \omega_d^2}\right] &= e^{-\zeta\omega_nt} \cos(\omega_d t) \\ \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{\omega_d}{(s + \zeta\omega_n)^2 + \omega_d^2}\right] &= e^{-\zeta\omega_nt} \sin(\omega_d t) \end{aligned}$$

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Therefore:

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

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

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It can be seen that the frequency of the transient oscillation is the damped natural frequency ω_d and thus varies with the damping ratio ζ

Underdamped system

The error signal is the difference between input and output

$$\begin{aligned} e(t) &= y(t) - u(t) \\ &= e^{-\zeta\omega_n t} \left(\cos(\omega_d t) + \frac{\zeta}{\sqrt{1-\zeta^2}} \sin(\omega_d t) \right) \end{aligned}$$

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At steady state, or at $t = \infty$, the error goes to zero

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- ω_d is always lower than ω_n

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Where

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- In that case, $H(s)$ can be approximated by

$$H(s) = \frac{\zeta\omega_n - \omega_n\sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1}}{s + \zeta\omega_n - \omega_n\sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1}} = \frac{s_2}{s + s_2}$$

Overdamped system

With the approximate transfer function, the unit-step response becomes

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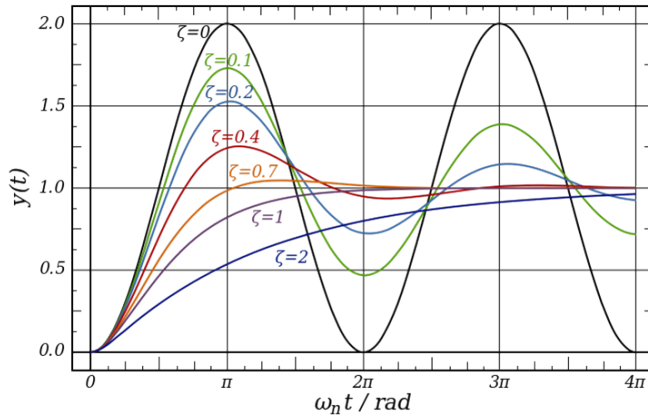
$$Y(s) = \frac{\zeta\omega_n - \omega_n\sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1}}{(s + \zeta\omega_n - \omega_n\sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1})s}$$

The time response for the approximate transfer function is then given as

$$y(t) = 1 - e^{-(\zeta - \sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1})\omega_n t}, \text{ for } t \geq 0$$

Second order systems unit step response curves

Response on a step function



Second order systems - characteristics

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$$M_p = e^{\frac{-\pi\zeta}{\sqrt{1-\zeta^2}}}$$

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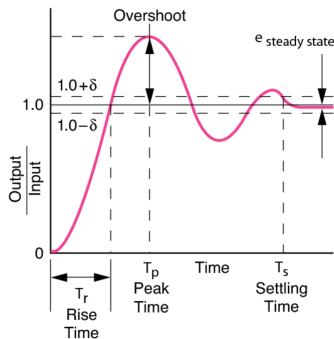
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Peak Time: Time to reach overshoot.

$$t_p = \frac{\pi}{\omega_d}$$



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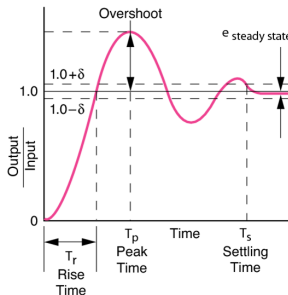
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We find:

$$e^{-\zeta \omega_n T_s} < 0.02$$

$$T_s = \frac{4}{\omega_n \zeta}$$



Second order systems - resonance

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A different view on the Tacoma bridge disaster:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ai2QFxStxo>

In fact the collapse was a result of a number of effects like Aerodynamic flutter and vortices. Read the full article here:

<http://www.ketchum.org/billah/Billah-Scanlan.pdf>

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Another phenomenon with bridges and resonance is that many people marching with the same rhythm can cause a bridge to start resonating like the Angers bridge in 1850. A more recent example is the Millennium bridge in London who started resonating.

Second order systems - damping

When we want a system with no resonance, we choose one with damping < 0.707 . This means a pole between 135° and 225° :

$$\arctan\left(\frac{\sqrt{1-\zeta^2}}{\zeta}\right) = +135^\circ$$

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We mostly want a short settling time ($< 4s$). This results in another restriction on the poles of the system:

$$\tau_n = \frac{4}{\omega\zeta} < 4s$$
$$\omega_n\zeta > 1$$

Second order systems - damping

