

ASEN 5044, Fall 2024

# Statistical Estimation for Dynamical Systems

Lecture 07:

Nyquist Rate, Linear System Stability;  
DT LTI Observability, Deterministic State Estimation

Prof. Nisar Ahmed ([Nisar.Ahmed@Colorado.edu](mailto:Nisar.Ahmed@Colorado.edu))

Tuesday 09/17/2024



Ann and H.J. Smead  
Aerospace Engineering Sciences  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER



# Announcements

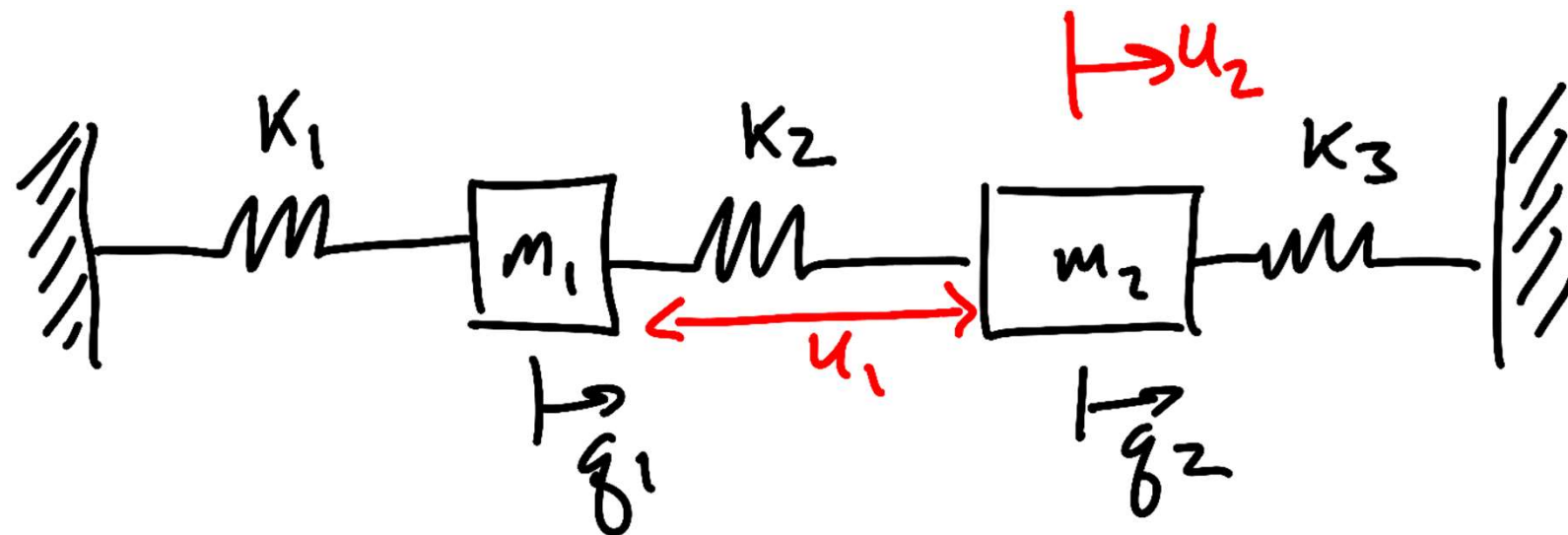
- **Prof. Ahmed out of country this week (SPIE Defense & Security Conference in UK)**
  - **No live classes Tues 09/17 or Thurs 09/19, BUT pre-recorded Lecture Videos to be posted – WATCH THEM!! (will need them for HW 2)**
  - **TF Aidan to cover Prof. Ahmed's hours next Wed 09/18 4:30-6 pm, AERO N353**
  - **Regular in-person lectures to resume Tues 09/24**
- **HW 2 due tomorrow Fri 9/20 at 11:59 pm**
- **HW 3 to be posted this Thurs 09/19**
- **NO QUIZ THIS WEEK**
- **MIDTERM 1 – TO BE RELEASED Thurs 10/03, DUE Thurs 10/10**
  - **Take home exam, to focus on material covered in HWs1-4 + quizzes up to that point**

# Last Time...

- Conversion of Continuous Time (CT) LTI SS  $\rightarrow$  DT LTI SS
- Computing the DT G matrix
  - Go through spring-mass example one more time...
  - How does choice of time discretization step size  $\Delta t$  affect results?
- (Also covered CT to DT example + Nyquist rate last time in 2024 lecture/notes [should also be in pending 2024 Lec 06 video], but it will be covered again in this video...)

# (Last Time) Example: Convert CT SS model to DT SS model

- System of 2 masses and 3 springs: 2 actuator inputs  $u$  and 2 sensor outputs  $y$



$$x = [q_1(t), \dot{q}_1(t), q_2(t), \dot{q}_2(t)]^T$$

$$u = [u_1(t), u_2(t)]^T$$

$$y = [q_1(t), q_2(t)]^T$$

For  $k_1 = k_2 = k_3 = 1$  N/m and  $m_1 = m_2 = 1$  kg, use simple physics to get CT linear SS model

$$\dot{x} = Ax(t) + Bu(t)$$

$$y(t) = Cx(t) + Du(t)$$

Two characteristic oscillatory motion “modes” (eigenvectors) corresponding to eigenvalues of  $A$  with natural frequencies:

$$\text{eig}(A) = \lambda_{1,2} = \pm j1.73, \quad \lambda_{3,4} = \pm j1.00$$

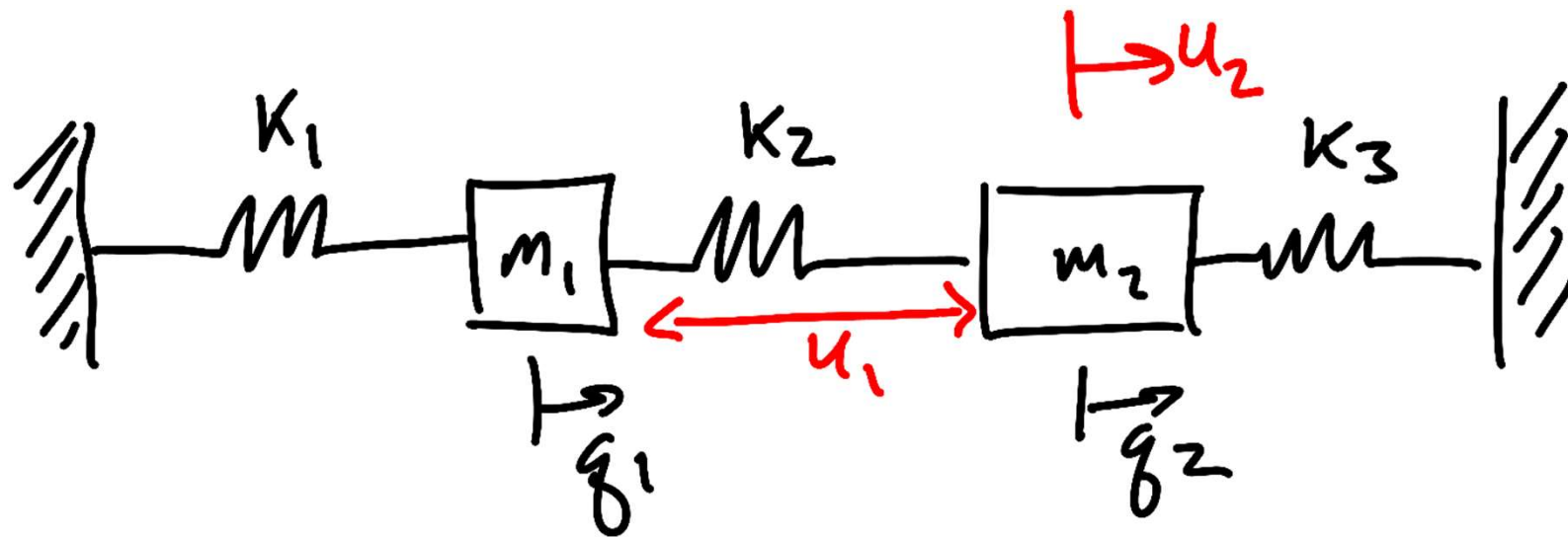
$$\rightarrow \omega_{n,1,2} = 1.73 \text{ rad/s}, \quad \omega_{n,3,4} = 1.00 \text{ rad/s}$$

[2.72 Hz and 1.57 Hz, resp.]

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1.0 & 0 & 0 \\ -2.0 & 0 & 1.0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1.0 \\ 1.0 & 0 & -2.0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \rightarrow \hat{A} = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

## (Last Time) Ex: Convert CT SS model to DT SS model (cont'd)

- System of 2 masses and 3 springs: 2 actuator inputs  $u$  and 2 sensor outputs  $y$



$$x = [q_1(t), \dot{q}_1(t), q_2(t), \dot{q}_2(t)]^T$$

$$u = [u_1(t), u_2(t)]^T$$

$$y = [q_1(t), q_2(t)]^T$$

Converted to DT SS model using the same state variables with ZOH and sample rate  $\Delta t = 0.2$  sec

$$x_{k+1} = Fx_k + Gu_k, \quad x_k = [q_1(k), \dot{q}_1(k), q_2(k), \dot{q}_2(k)]^T$$

$$y_k = Hx_k + Mu_k, \quad u_k = [u_1(k), u_2(k)]^T$$

$$y_k = [q_1(k), q_2(k)]^T$$

$$\hat{A} = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow e^{\hat{A}\Delta t} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{F}{0} & \frac{G}{I} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$F = \begin{bmatrix} 9.6033e-01 & 1.9735e-01 & 1.9734e-02 & 1.3227e-03 \\ -3.9337e-01 & 9.6033e-01 & 1.9470e-01 & 1.9734e-02 \\ 1.9734e-02 & 1.3227e-03 & 9.6033e-01 & 1.9735e-01 \\ 1.9470e-01 & 1.9734e-02 & -3.9337e-01 & 9.6033e-01 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} -1.9801e-02 & 6.6312e-05 \\ -1.9602e-01 & 1.3227e-03 \\ 1.9801e-02 & 1.9867e-02 \\ 1.9602e-01 & 1.9735e-01 \end{bmatrix}$$

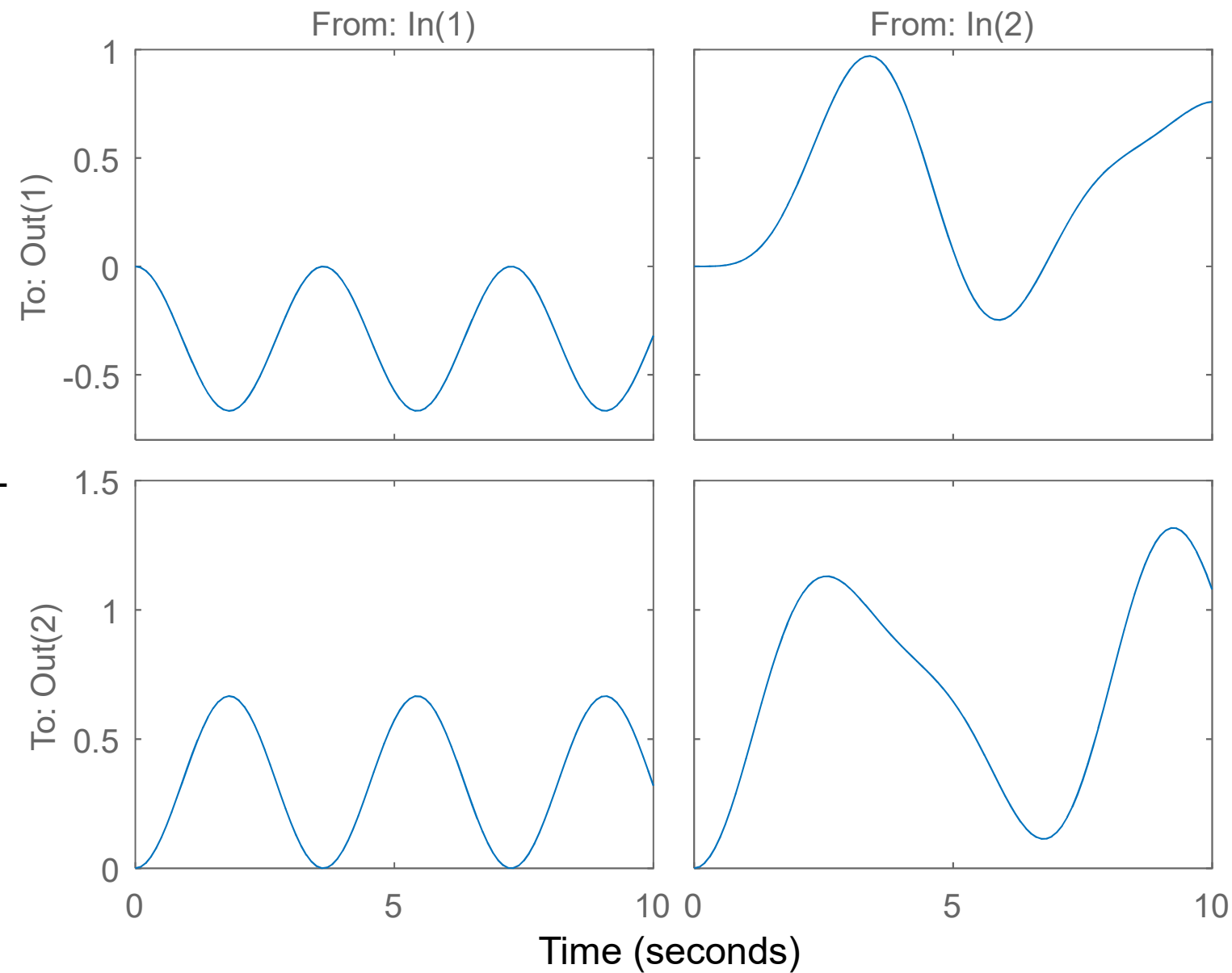
$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

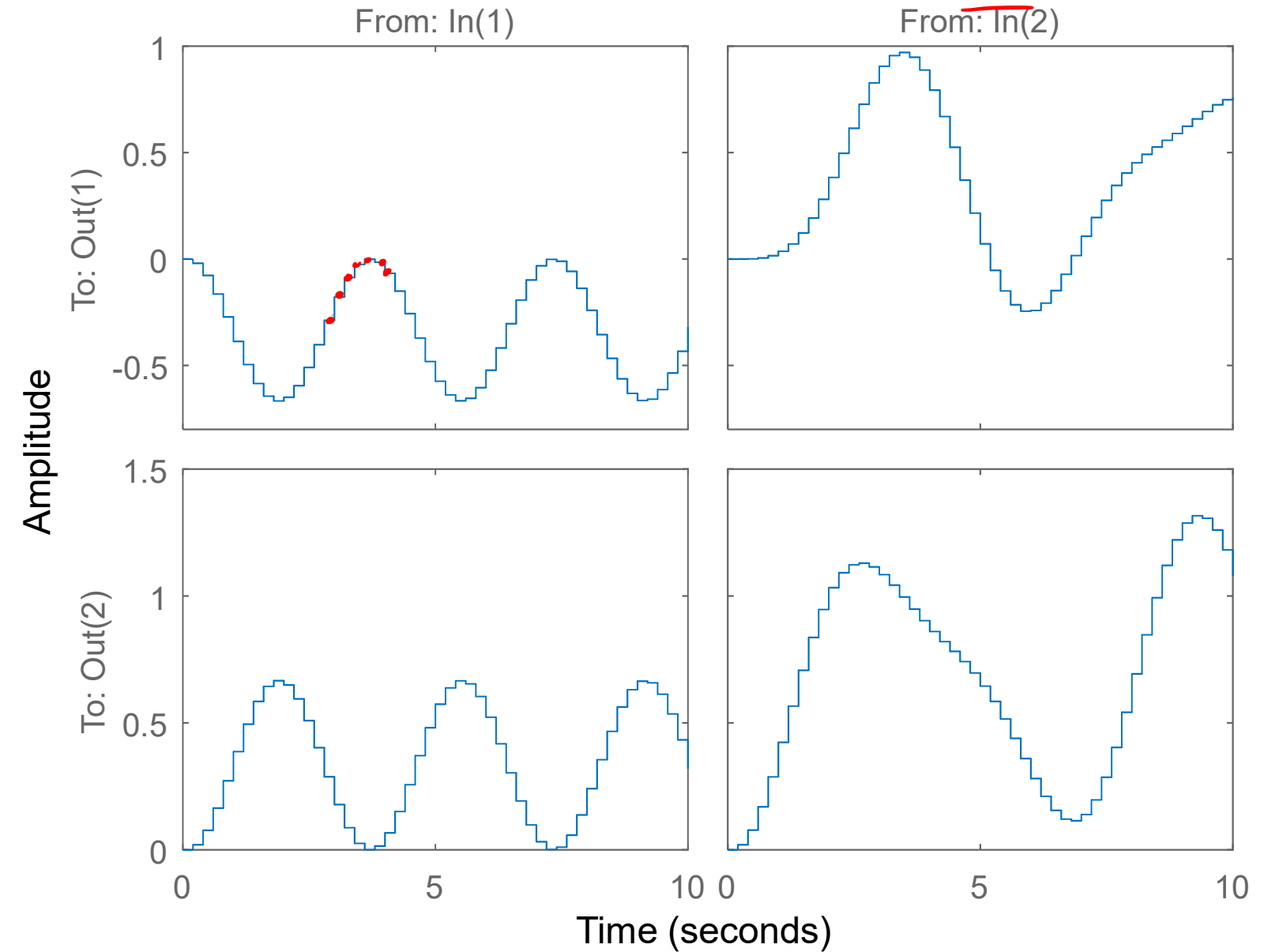
# (Last Time) Sample Input Step Response Output from DT vs CT

*lsim [matlab]*

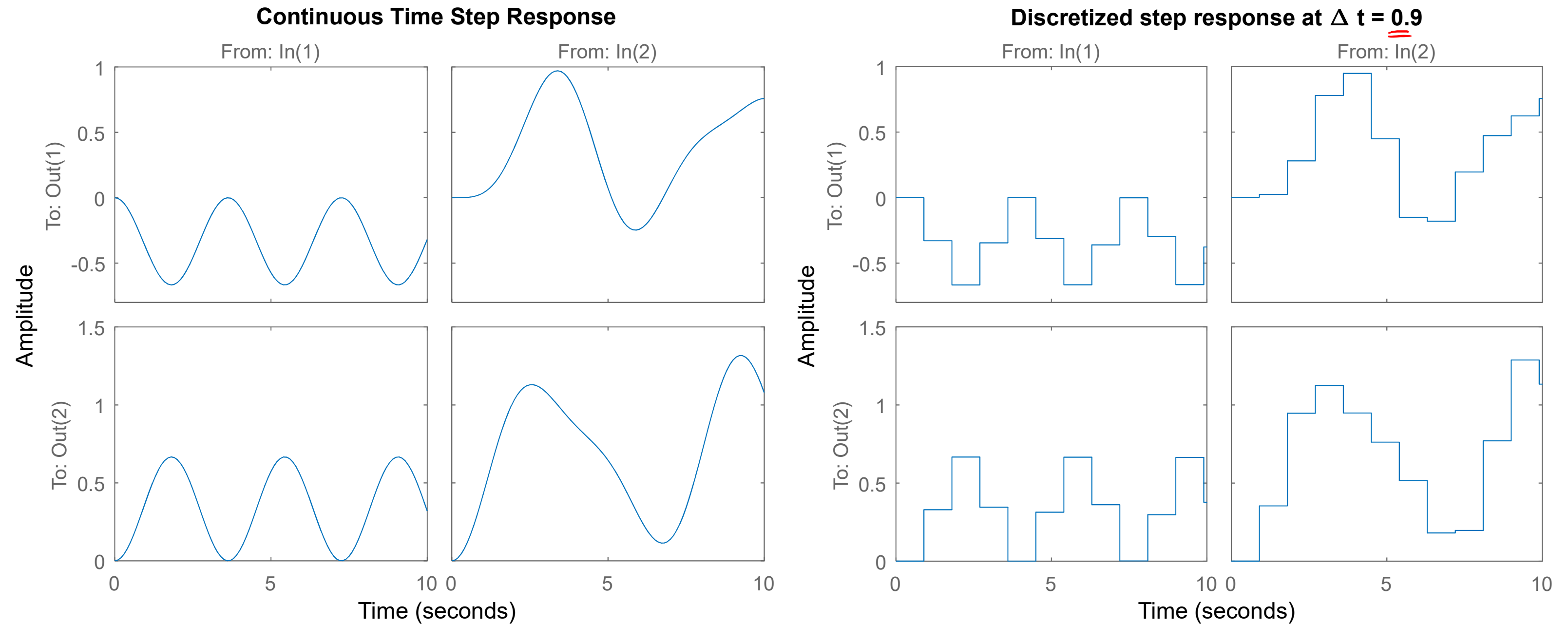
**Continuous Time Step Response**



**Discretized step response at  $\Delta t = 0.2$**

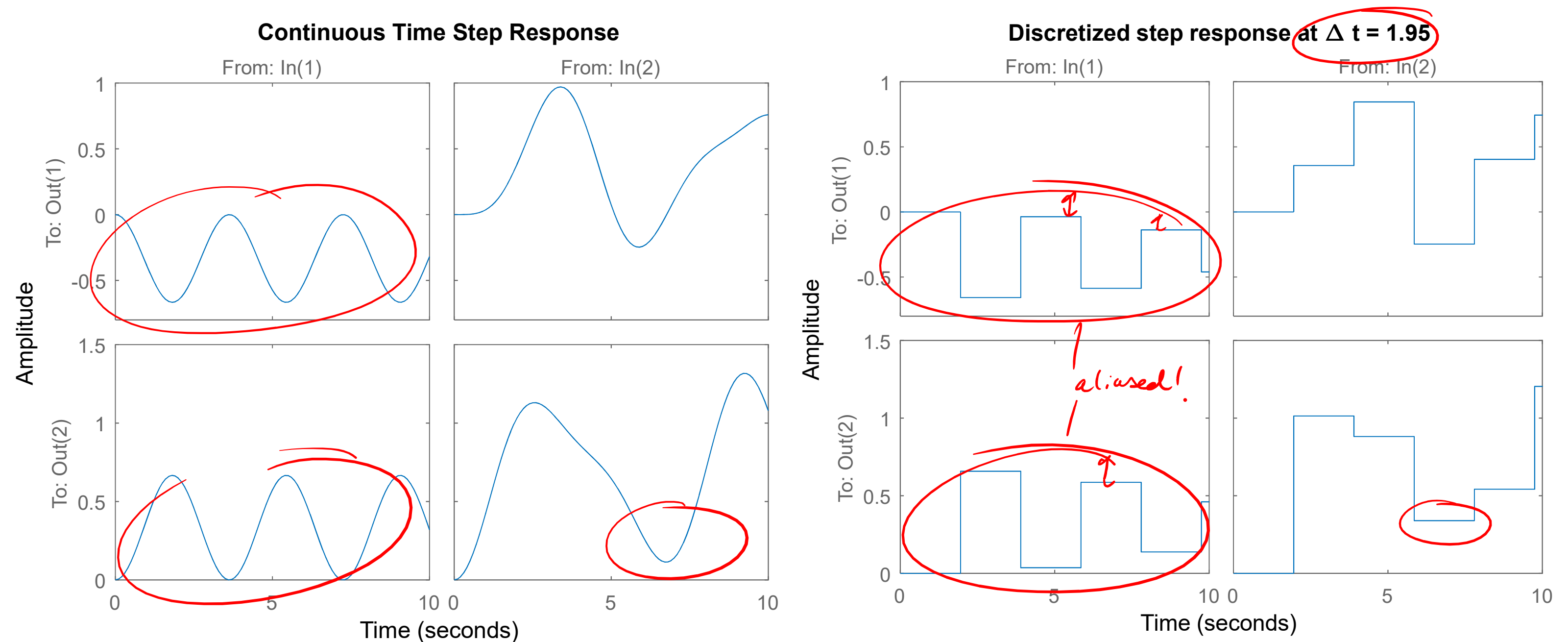


# (Last Time) Sample Input Step Response Output from DT vs CT





# (Last Time) Sample Input Step Response Output from DT vs CT





# Nyquist Rate and CT System Natural Frequencies

- **WARNING FOR CT  $\rightarrow$  DT conversions: cannot just pick any old  $\Delta t$  !!!**
- For LTI systems: fundamental upper bound on how large  $\Delta t$  should be
- Nyquist Sampling Criterion: if sample rate (in rad/s) is  $\omega_{sample} = \frac{2\pi}{\Delta t}$ ,

$$\text{need } \omega_{sample} > 2\omega_{sys,max} \Rightarrow \Delta t < \frac{\pi}{|\lambda_{A,max}|}$$

where  $|\lambda_{A,max}|$  is largest complex magnitude among all eigenvalues of  $A$   
(natural freq./ time constant)

(e.g. max  $\Delta t$  for 2 mass/3 spring example system is  $\sim 1.82$  sec  $\rightarrow \Delta t$  larger than this leads to aliasing...)

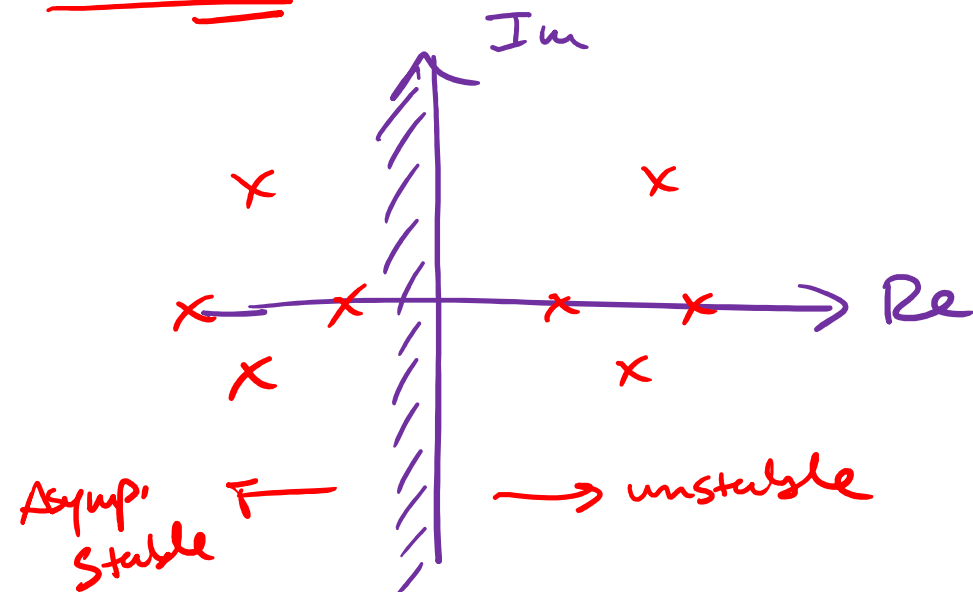
# Today...

- Nyquist rate (done) ✓
- Rest of lecture:
  - Stability of CT/DT linear systems
  - Observability of DT linear systems and deterministic state estimation: how to find  $x(k=0)$  from *some* finite sequence of measurements  $y(0), y(1), \dots, y(K)$ ?

**READ: Chapter 2.1-2.2 in Simon book (probability)**

# Asymptotic Stability for CT LTI Systems

- Necessary & sufficient condition for **CT LTI asymptotic stability**: e'vals of A matrix must all lie strictly in the left half plane (e'vals must have strictly negative real part)



$$\text{eig}(A) = \{\lambda_i\}_{i=1}^n \quad [n \# \text{ states}]$$

$$\lambda_i = \underbrace{\sigma_i}_{\text{Re}(\lambda_i)} \pm j \underbrace{\omega_i}_{\text{Im}(\lambda_i)}, \quad i=1, \dots, n$$

→ If  $\sigma_i < 0 \forall \lambda_i$ , Then A a.s. (asympt. stable)

Intuition: if A were diagonalizable (for instance) &  $\dot{x} = Ax$ ,  $x(0) = x_0$

$$\rightarrow x(t) = e^{At} x(0) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \cdot v_i \cdot \underline{\underline{e^{\lambda_i t}}}$$

where  $\alpha_i$  = some scalar constants

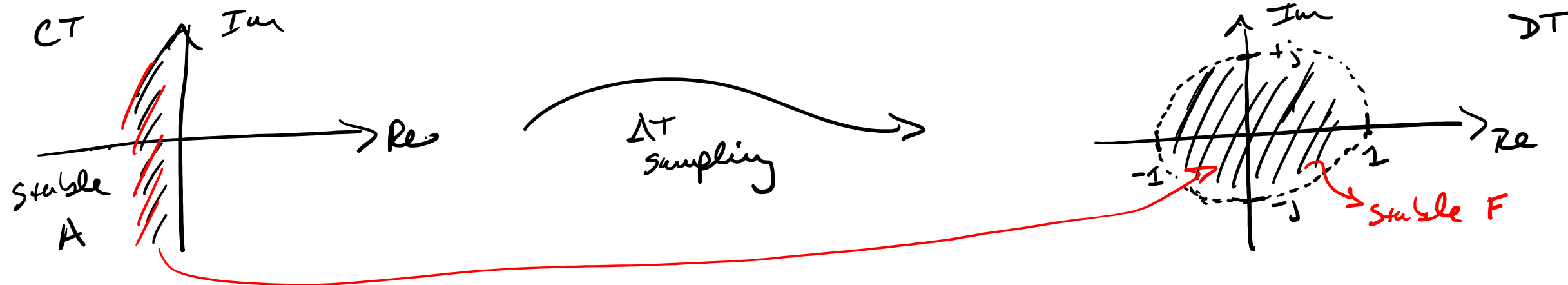
$v_i$  = e'vec of A for  $\lambda_i$  e'val

superposition of modal responses

gives some insight about Nyquist rate:  
have to sample "fast enough" in time to reconstruct the fastest modes!

# Asymptotic Stability for DT LTI Systems

- FACT: DT linear system **asymptotically stable** if & only if **eigenvalues of the F matrix lie in the unit circle**



- Idea:  $x(k+1) = F \cdot x(k)$  only “settles down” if F does not force magnitude of  $x(k)$  to grow as  $k \rightarrow \infty$
- Simple example: consider if F is diagonal – each iteration through k scales elements of the state vectors:

$$F_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad y \quad x(k) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{aligned} x(k+1) &= F x(k) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \\ x(k+2) &= F x(k+1) = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix} \\ x(k+3) &= F x(k+2) = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 27 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\vdots \rightarrow x(k+N) \text{ blows up as } N \rightarrow \infty! \end{aligned}$$
  

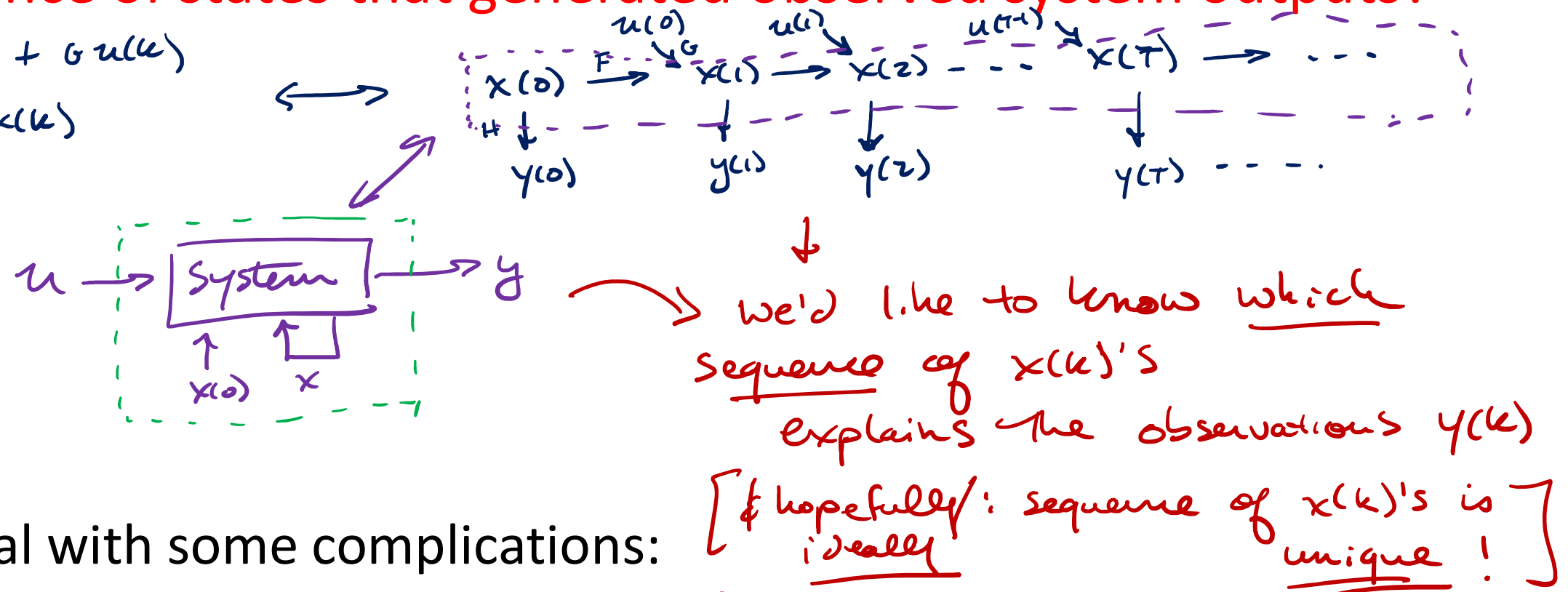
$$F_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.3 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{aligned} x(k+1) &= \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} \\ x(k+2) &= \begin{bmatrix} 0.04 \\ 0.09 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\vdots \rightarrow \text{eventually goes to } 0 \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

# Deterministic DT LTI State Estimation

How to recover sequence of states that generated observed system outputs?

If 
$$x(k+1) = Fx(k) + Gu(k)$$
  

$$y(k) = Hx(k)$$



In practice, we must deal with some complications:

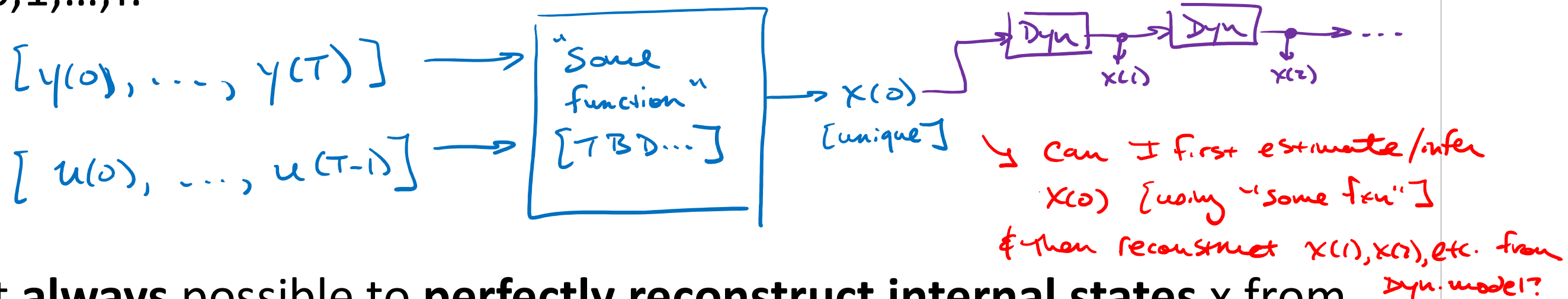
- model errors, nonlinearities
- sensor noise and state disturbances
- ○ ability of states to “reveal” themselves via measurements and dynamics

} starting next lec (8)

- For now, assume LTI models and ignore random noise/state/model errors...
- When is it actually possible to uniquely compute internal state sequence?

# Observability: DT Definition

- A system is **observable** if for any initial state  $x(0)$  and *some* final time  $T$ , the initial state  $x(0)$  can be **uniquely determined** from knowledge of  $u(k)$  and  $y(k)$  alone for  $k=0,1,\dots,T$ .



- Key idea: is it **always** possible to **perfectly reconstruct internal states**  $x$  from only inputs  $u$  and sensed outputs  $y$  over some finite time interval? (i.e. can there ever be enough info to "invert" the state space model?)
- Since state  $x(k)$  at any time  $k$  is initial condition to  $x(k+1)$ , suffices to examine whether possible to recover any arbitrary  $x(0)$  for deterministic state estimation

# DT Observability: Another View

Suppose  $u(k) = 0$  for all  $k > 0$  (ignore inputs for now). *[Simplification, but not strictly necessary]*

A state  $x(0) = \underline{x}$  is *unobservable* for the system  $(\underline{F}, \underline{H})$  if

$$y(k) = HF^k x(0) = \underline{HF^k x} = \underline{0} \text{ for every } k \geq 0.$$

Let  $R_{\bar{o}}$  = set of all unobservable states  $x$  = *unobservable subspace* of  $(F, H)$ .

System  $(F, H)$  is *observable* if  $x = 0$  is only unobservable state, i.e. if  $R_{\bar{o}} = \underline{\{0\}}$ .

→ How do we know if a given  $(F, H)$  is observable?

→ How does this help us recover  $x(0)$ ?

→ If  $(F, H)$  unobservable, how to know what  $R_{\bar{o}}$  is?



# Assessing DT Observability

- Consider zero input case for finding  $x(0)$  from  $y(0), \dots, y(\underline{n}-1)$  [ $n$  sequential  $p \times 1$  measurements]

Start w/  $y(0) = Hx(0)$  & fact that  $x(k+1) = Fx(k)$

→ since  $x(k=1) = Fx(0)$ , we have that

$$y(1) = Hx(1) = HFx(0)$$

→ likewise:  $y(2) = Hx(2) = H[Fx(1)]$

but we know that  $x(1) = Fx(0)$ , so it follows that

$$y(2) = HF \cdot Fx(0) = \underbrace{HF^2}_{n \times n \text{ sq. matrix!}} x(0)$$

→ using similar reasoning, easy to show that:

$$y(3) = HF^3 x(0)$$

⋮

$$y(n-1) = H \underbrace{F^{n-1}}_{n \times n \text{ sq. matrix!}} x(0)$$

# of states



# Solution to Deterministic State Estimation Problem

- Now, stack up all the (linear) equations for observed  $y(0), \dots, y(n-1)$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} y(0) \\ y(1) \\ \vdots \\ y(n-1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} H x(0) \\ HF x(0) \\ \vdots \\ HF^{n-1} x(0) \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \underline{Y} = \begin{bmatrix} y(0) \\ \vdots \\ y(n-1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} H \\ HF \\ \vdots \\ HF^{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \underbrace{x(0)}_{n \times 1}$$

$\swarrow$  actual observed data  
 $\nwarrow$  Model/prediction of observations based on unknown  $x(0)$   
 $\searrow$   $(n \cdot p \times 1)$   
 $\swarrow$   $(n \cdot p) \times n$

$\longrightarrow$  looks like an overdetermined sys. of linear equations! [generally more eqs. than unknowns  $\rightarrow$  see lec #2]

$\longrightarrow$  Rewrite as:  $\underline{Y} = \mathcal{O} \cdot x(0)$ , where  $\mathcal{O} = \begin{bmatrix} H \\ HF \\ \vdots \\ HF^{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{np \times n}$

$\longrightarrow$  Recall: that unique solution to  $x(0)$  is possible if  $\text{rank } \mathcal{O} = n$  [full col. rank]

$\longrightarrow$  If this is the case, then  $\underline{x(0)} = (\mathcal{O}^T \mathcal{O})^{-1} \mathcal{O}^T \underline{Y}$

$\underbrace{x(0)}_{n \times 1}$      $\underbrace{(\mathcal{O}^T \mathcal{O})^{-1}}_{[n \times p][p \times n]} \underbrace{\mathcal{O}^T}_{[n \times p]} \underbrace{\underline{Y}}_{p \times 1}$

(if Gram matrix  $\mathcal{O}^T \mathcal{O}$  non singular)

$\text{null space}(\mathcal{O}) = \mathbb{R} \vec{0}$  (trivial subspace of  $F, H$ )

$\longrightarrow$  If  $\text{rank}(\mathcal{O}) < n$ , then Null space  $(\mathcal{O})$  is non-trivial, i.e.  $\exists x \neq 0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  s.t.  $\mathcal{O}x = 0$