

# MECH468 : Modern Control Engineering MECH509 : Controls

## L4 : Linearization

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Zoom lecture to be recorded and posted on Canvas

# Review and today's topic

**Acronym**  
**SS: State-space**

**Physical system**  
Mech, Elec, Chem,  
Aero, Bio, Econ, etc.



**Modeling**



(Lecture 3)

**Nonlinear  
SS model**

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

**Linear  
SS model**

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

**Linearization**  
(Today's topic)

**Linear SS  
control theory**

- deals with linear SS models
- deals with various physical systems in a **UNIFIED** way.

# Linear system (review)

- A system having *Principle of Superposition*

- Assume  $\left. \begin{array}{l} x_i(t_0) \\ u_i(t), t \geq t_0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow y_i(t), t \geq t_0, \quad i = 1, 2$

- Then

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \alpha_1 x_1(t_0) + \alpha_2 x_2(t_0) \\ \alpha_1 u_1(t) + \alpha_2 u_2(t), t \geq t_0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \alpha_1 y_1(t) + \alpha_2 y_2(t), t \geq t_0$$

$$\forall \alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathbb{R}$$

- A nonlinear system is a system which does not satisfy the principle of superposition.

# Linear and nonlinear SS models

- Linear state-space model: Right-hand sides of the state-space model is linear with respect to  $x$  and  $u$ .

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

- Nonlinear state-space model: Right-hand sides of the state-space model has nonlinear terms with respect to  $x$  and  $u$ .

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} &= f(x, u) \\ y &= h(x, u) \end{cases} \quad \text{Examples of nonlinear terms} \quad x_1^2, x_1x_2, x_1u, \sin(x_1), \sqrt{x_1}$$



# Why linearization?

- Real systems are inherently nonlinear. (Linear systems do not exist!)
  - *Ex.  $f(t)=Kx(t)$  holds only around an operating range.*
- Nonlinear systems are difficult to deal with mathematically and theoretically.
- Many control analysis/design techniques are available for linear systems.
- Linear approximation is often good enough for control system analysis and design purposes.
- **How to linearize nonlinear systems?**



# Today's outline

- Examples of nonlinear systems
- Linearization of simple functions (1-dim, 2-dim)
- Linearization of nonlinear systems
- Examples revisited

# A pendulum

- Motion of the pendulum

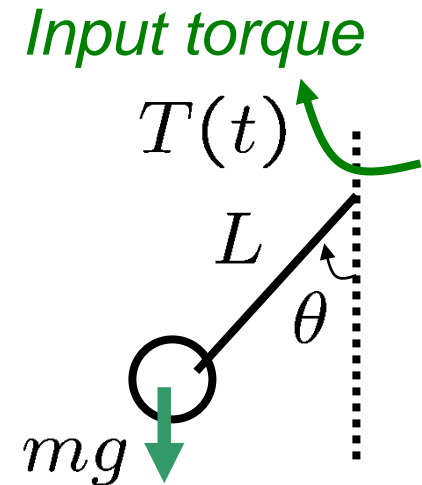
$$mL^2\ddot{\theta}(t) = T(t) - mgL \sin \theta(t)$$

- Define state variables

$$x_1(t) := \theta(t), \quad x_2(t) := \dot{\theta}(t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} x_2(t) \\ -\frac{g}{L} \sin x_1(t) + \frac{1}{mL^2} T(t) \end{bmatrix} \\ y(t) &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

*Nonlinear!*



# Water level control

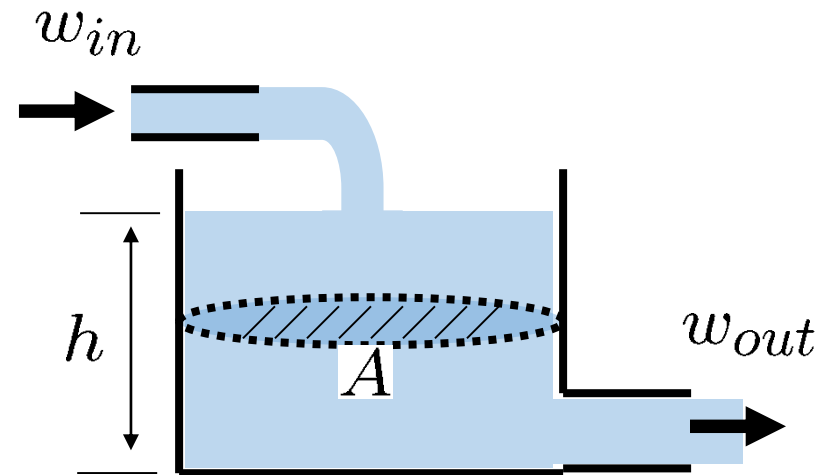
- Mass flow equation

$$\begin{aligned}\rho A \dot{h}(t) &= -w_{out}(t) + w_{in}(t) \\ &= -\frac{(\rho g)^{1/\alpha}}{R} h(t)^{1/\alpha} + w_{in}(t)\end{aligned}$$

➔ 
$$\begin{cases} \dot{h}(t) = -\frac{(\rho g)^{1/\alpha}}{\rho A R} h(t)^{1/\alpha} + \frac{1}{\rho A} w_{in}(t) \\ y(t) = h(t) \end{cases}$$

$\alpha = 1 \Rightarrow$  linear

$\alpha \neq 1 \Rightarrow$  nonlinear



$w_{in}, w_{out}$  : mass flow rate

$h$  : water height

$A$  : tank area

$\rho$  : liquid density

$R, \alpha$  : constant depending on restriction.  $1 \leq \alpha \leq 2$



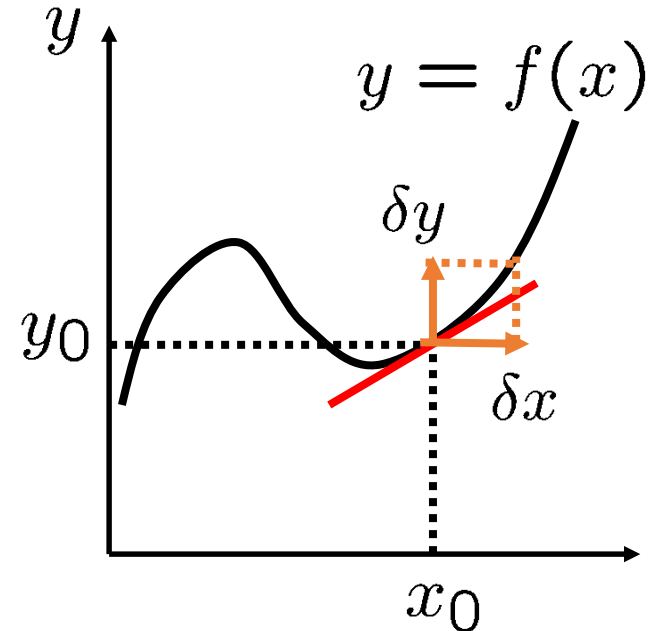


# Today's outline

- Examples of nonlinear systems
- Linearization of simple functions (1-dim, 2-dim)
- Linearization of nonlinear systems
- Examples revisited

# Linearization: 1-dim case

- Linearize a function  $y=f(x)$  around  $x=x_0$  (scalar)
  - Consider a solution  $(x_0, y_0)$   
 $y_0 = f(x_0)$
  - If  $x$  perturbs from  $x_0$ , then  $y$  also perturbs from  $y_0$ .



$$\begin{aligned}
 \cancel{y_0} + \delta y &= f(x_0 + \delta x) \\
 &= \cancel{f(x_0)} + \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x=x_0} \delta x + \underline{H.O.T.}
 \end{aligned}$$

(Taylor expansion) Negligible for small  $\delta x$

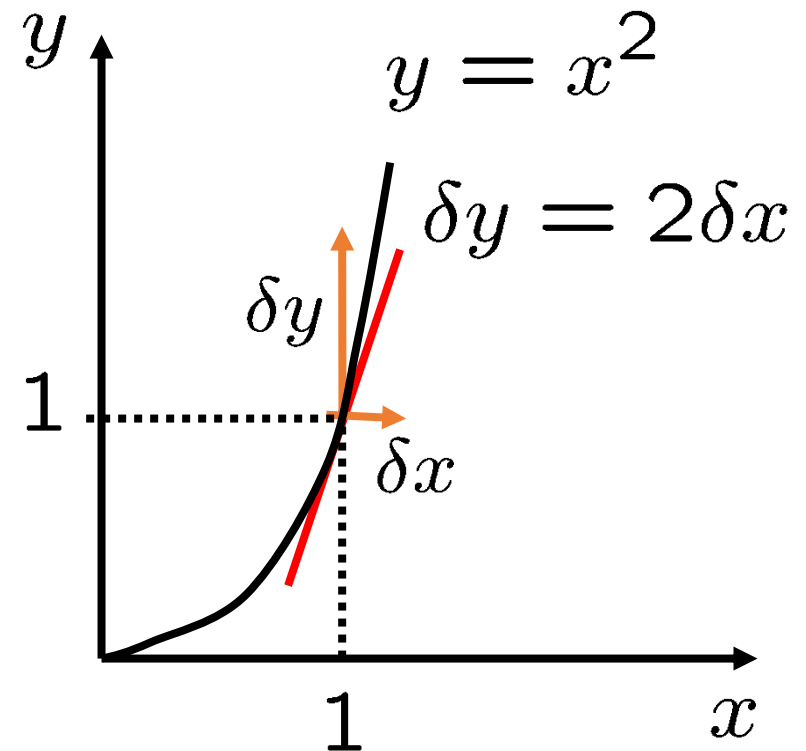
➔  $\delta y = \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x=x_0} \delta x$

# Example: 1-dim case

- Linearization of a function  $y=x^2$  around  $x=1$ .

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta y = \frac{df}{dx} \Big|_{x=x_0} \delta x \\ \frac{df}{dx} \Big|_{x=1} = 2x \Big|_{x=1} = 2 \end{array} \right.$$

→  $\delta y = 2\delta x$



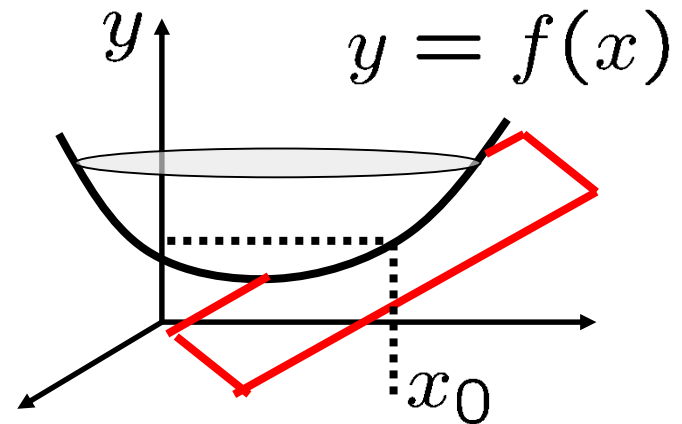
# Linearization: 2-dim case

- Linearize a function  $y=f(x)$  around  $x=x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^2$

- Consider a solution

$$y_0 = f(x_0)$$

- If  $x$  perturbs from  $x_0$ , then  $y$  also perturbs from  $y_0$ .



$$\begin{aligned}
 y_0 + \delta y &= f(x_0 + \delta x) \\
 &= \cancel{f(x_0)} + \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \right|_{x=x_0} \delta x_1 + \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \right|_{x=x_0} \delta x_2 + \text{H.O.T.}
 \end{aligned}$$

Negligible for small  $\delta x$

$$\rightarrow \delta y = \begin{bmatrix} \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \right|_{x=x_0} & \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \right|_{x=x_0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \delta x_1 \\ \delta x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{x=x_0} \delta x$$

**Jacobian**

# Example: 2-dim case

- Linearize a function below around  $x_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$y = x_1^2 + \sin(x_1 x_2^2)$$

- Linearized equation  $\delta y = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{x=x_0} \delta x$

- **Jacobian computation**

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{x=x_0} &= \left[ 2x_1 + x_2^2 \cos(x_1 x_2^2) \quad 2x_1 x_2 \cos(x_1 x_2^2) \right] \Big|_{x=x_0} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 4 + \cos 2 & 4 \cos 2 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

# Today's outline

- Examples of nonlinear systems
- Linearization of simple functions (1-dim, 2-dim)
- **Linearization of nonlinear systems**
- Examples revisited



# Linearization of nonlinear systems

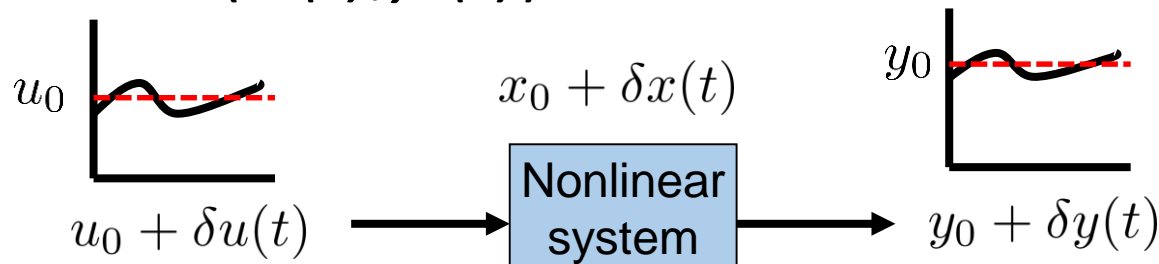
$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} &= f(x, u) \\ y &= h(x, u) \end{cases}$$

- Suppose that  $(x_0(t), u_0(t), y_0(t))$  satisfies

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_0(t) &= f(x_0(t), u_0(t)) \\ y_0(t) &= h(x_0(t), u_0(t)) \end{cases}$$

Such trajectories (or points if  $x_0$  and  $u_0$  are constants) are called **equilibrium trajectories (equilibrium points)**.

- If  $u(t)$  perturbs from  $u_0(t)$ , then  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  also perturb from  $(x_0(t), y_0(t))$ .



# Linearization of state equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d}{dt}(\cancel{x_0(t)} + \delta x(t)) &= f(x_0(t) + \delta x(t), u_0(t) + \delta u(t)) \\
 &= \cancel{f(x_0(t), u_0(t))} \\
 &\quad + \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{(x_0(t), u_0(t))} \delta x(t) + \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \right|_{(x_0(t), u_0(t))} \delta u(t) + \underline{H.O.T.}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Negligible for small  $\delta x(t)$  &  $\delta u(t)$**

➔

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\delta x(t)) = \underbrace{\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{(x_0(t), u_0(t))}}_{\mathbf{A}(t)} \delta x(t) + \underbrace{\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \right|_{(x_0(t), u_0(t))}}_{\mathbf{B}(t)} \delta u(t)$$

Often, remove “ $\delta$ ”. Then,  $\dot{x}(t) = A(t)x(t) + B(t)u(t)$



# Linearization of output equation

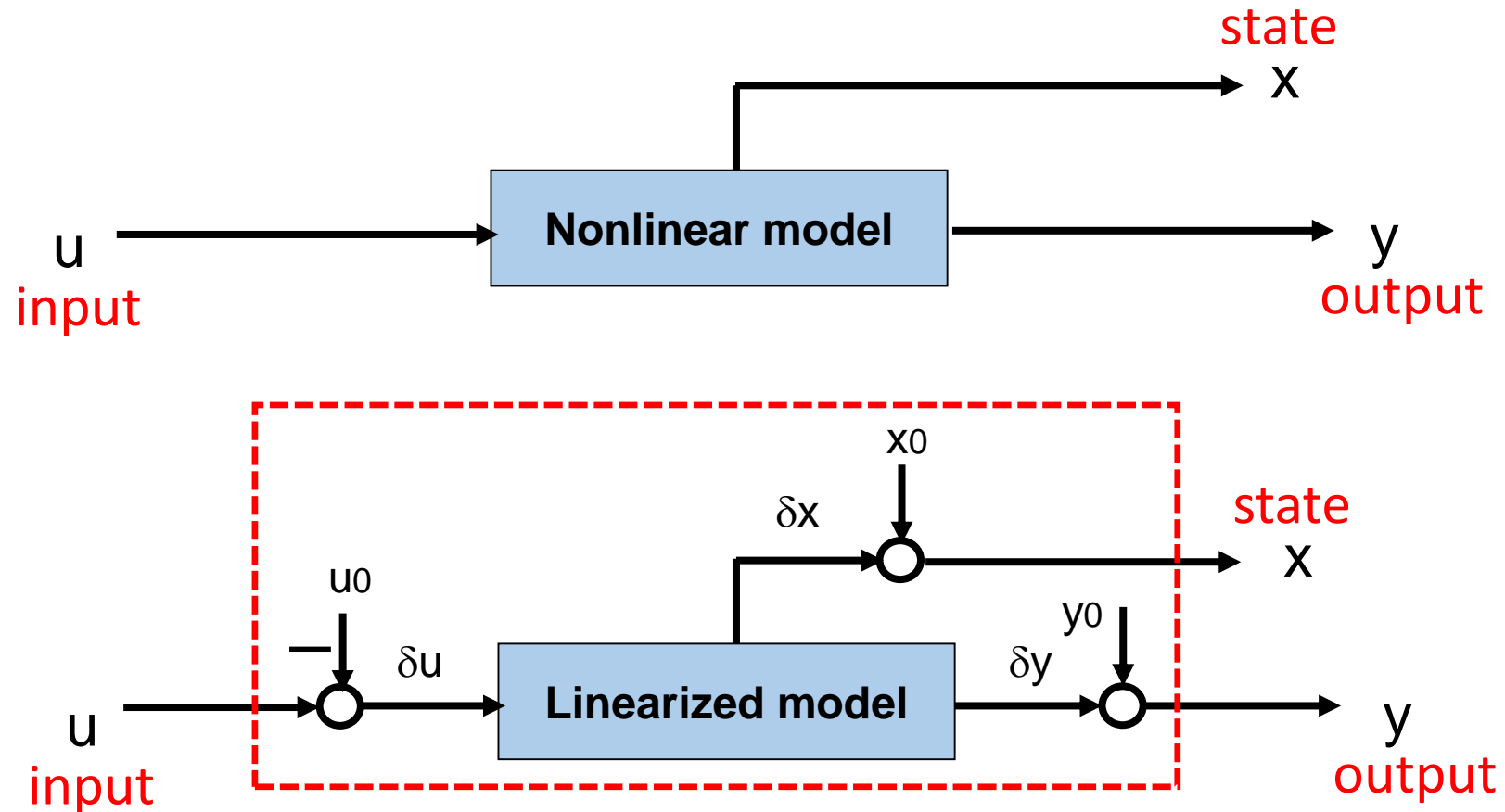
$$\begin{aligned}
 \cancel{y_0(t)} + \delta y(t) &= h(x_0(t) + \delta x(t), u_0(t) + \delta u(t)) \\
 &= \cancel{h(x_0(t), u_0(t))} \\
 &\quad + \left. \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \right|_{(x_0(t), u_0(t))} \delta x(t) + \left. \frac{\partial h}{\partial u} \right|_{(x_0(t), u_0(t))} \delta u(t) + \underline{H.O.T.}
 \end{aligned}$$

Negligible for small  $\delta x(t)$  &  $\delta u(t)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \xrightarrow{\text{green arrow}} \delta y(t) &= \underbrace{\left. \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \right|_{(x_0(t), u_0(t))}}_{\mathbf{C}(t)} \delta x(t) + \underbrace{\left. \frac{\partial h}{\partial u} \right|_{(x_0(t), u_0(t))}}_{\mathbf{D}(t)} \delta u(t)
 \end{aligned}$$

Often, remove “ $\delta$ ”. Then,  $y(t) = C(t)x(t) + D(t)u(t)$

# Comparison between nonlinear and its linearized models





# Today's outline

- Examples of nonlinear systems
- Linearization of simple functions (1-dim, 2-dim)
- Linearization of nonlinear systems
- Examples revisited

# A pendulum revisited

- Nonlinear model 
$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2(t) \\ -\frac{g}{L} \sin x_1(t) + \frac{1}{mL^2} u(t) \end{bmatrix} \\ y(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix} \end{cases}$$

- Linearization around  $(x_1(t), x_2(t), u(t)) = 0$

*Note that these trajectories (points) satisfies state-space model.*

$$f(x, u) = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ -\frac{g}{L} \sin x_1 + \frac{1}{mL^2} u \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{g}{L} \cos x_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{mL^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow \dot{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{g}{L} & 0 \end{bmatrix} x(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{mL^2} \end{bmatrix} u(t)$$

# Water level control revisited

- Nonlinear model 
$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = \tilde{A}x(t)^{1/\alpha} + \tilde{B}u(t) \\ y(t) = x(t) \end{cases} \quad 1 \leq \alpha \leq 2$$
- Linearization around  $(x(t), u(t)) = \left(x_0, -\frac{\tilde{A}}{\tilde{B}}x_0^{1/\alpha}\right)$

*Note that these trajectories (points) satisfies state-space model.*

$$f(x, u) = \tilde{A}x^{1/\alpha} + \tilde{B}u \quad \longrightarrow \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\tilde{A}}{\alpha}x^{(1-\alpha)/\alpha}$$

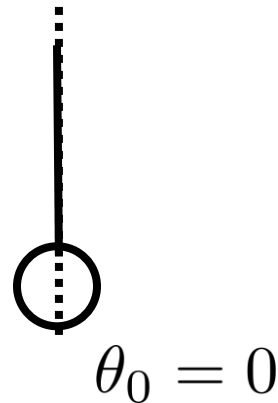
$$\quad \longrightarrow \quad \dot{x}(t) = \frac{\tilde{A}}{\alpha}x_0^{(1-\alpha)/\alpha}x(t) + \tilde{B}u(t)$$

*Note that (x,u) are deviations from linearization points.*

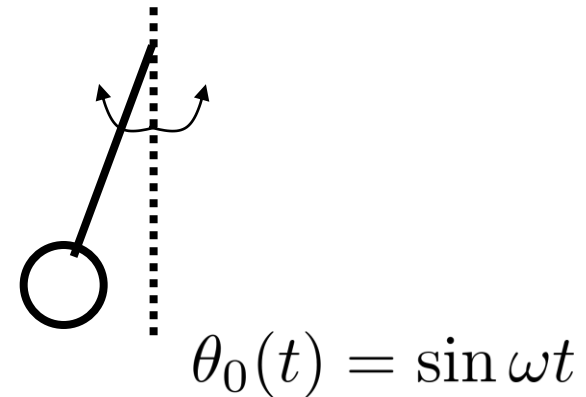
# Equilibrium trajectory/point selection

- Select an equilibrium trajectory/point around which:
  - you want to analyze the system, and
  - you want to design a feedback controller.
- To consider a regulation problem at:

Ex.  $\theta = 0$



Ex.  $\theta(t) = \sin \omega t$



# Summary

- Linearization of nonlinear systems
- Examples
  - Pendulum
  - Water level control
  - Inverted pendulum (Appendix)
- Next, solution to state-space models

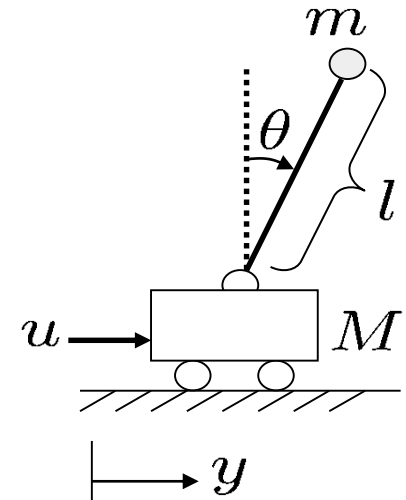
$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx(t)}{dt} = A(t)x(t) + B(t)u(t) \\ y(t) = C(t)x(t) + D(t)u(t) \end{cases} \rightarrow \text{How to compute } x(t) \text{ \& } y(t)?$$

# Nonlinear system example

## Cart with an inverted pendulum

- Equation of motion

$$\begin{cases} M\ddot{y}(t) = u(t) - m\frac{d^2}{dt^2}(y(t) + l\sin\theta(t)) \\ ml^2\ddot{\theta}(t) = mgl\sin\theta(t) - ml\ddot{y}(t)\cos\theta(t) \end{cases}$$



- Define state variables  $x(t) := \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ \dot{\theta}(t) \\ y(t) \\ \dot{y}(t) \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) \\ \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ y(t) \end{bmatrix} \end{cases} &= \begin{bmatrix} f(x(t), u(t)) \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x(t) \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Nonlinear!