

## 4-linearization-and-linearity

goal: qualitative & quantitative  
analysis of linear system behavior  
& relation to nonlinear system behavior

topics:

1°. linear systems

1°. linearization

[Nv7 ch 2.11] [AMv2 ch 6.4]

1°. linearity

[Nv7 ch 2.10, 3] [AMv2 ch 6.1]

1°. matrix exponential

[AMv2 ch 6.2]

1°. input/output response

[AMv2 ch 6.3]

1°. frequency response

[Nv7 ch 10]

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1°. linear systems

*Few physical elements display truly linear characteristics. For example the relation between force on a spring and displacement of the spring is always nonlinear to some degree. The relation between current through a resistor and voltage drop across it also deviates from a straight-line relation. However, if in each case the relation is reasonably linear, then it will be found that the system behavior will be very close to that obtained by assuming an ideal, linear physical element, and the analytical simplification is so enormous that we make linear assumptions wherever we can possibly do so in good conscience.*

Robert H. Cannon, *Dynamics of Physical Systems*, 1967 [Can03].

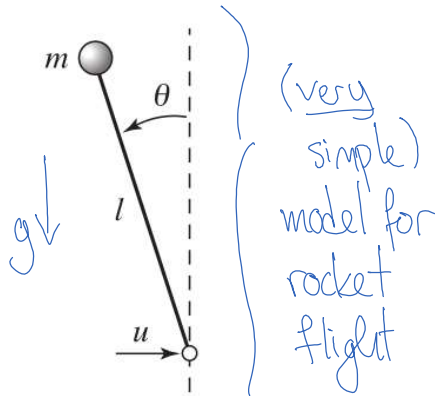
↳ so the important question is not  
"is my system linear?" but rather  
"is linearity a useful approximation?"  
\* if it is, you're almost always better  
off making use of linearity

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1! linearization

• we'll now see how to relate linear to nonlinear systems via linearization

ex: inverted pendulum



– previously determined dynamics

$$ml^2 \ddot{\theta} = mgl \sin \theta - \gamma \dot{\theta} + l u \cos \theta$$

have equilibria at:

$$\dot{\theta}_e = 0, \quad \theta_e = k \cdot \pi, \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

→ compute first-order Taylor series about equilibrium  $(\theta_e, \dot{\theta}_e) = (k\pi, 0)$

$$\begin{aligned} -ml^2 \ddot{\theta} &= mgl \sin \theta \quad \simeq mgl \cdot (\theta - \overset{k\pi}{\cancel{\theta_e}}) \\ &\quad - \gamma \dot{\theta} \quad \quad - \gamma \cdot (\dot{\theta} - \overset{0}{\cancel{\dot{\theta}_e}}) \\ &\quad + l u \cos \theta \quad + 0 \cdot (\theta - \overset{k\pi}{\cancel{\theta_e}}) \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \cos \theta \Big|_{\theta=k\pi} \right] = 0 \\ &\quad \quad \quad + l \cdot (u - \overset{0}{\cancel{u_e}}) \\ &\simeq mgl \cdot (\theta - k\pi) - \gamma \dot{\theta} + l u \end{aligned}$$

- more generally, consider nonlinear system

$$(NL) \quad \dot{x} = f(x, u), \quad y = h(x, u)$$

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad u \in \mathbb{R}^p, \quad y \in \mathbb{R}^q$$

- assume  $f, h$  smooth so we can take derivatives w.r.t.  $x, u$

- assume there is an equilibrium

$$f(x_e, u_e) = 0$$

and consider the (Jacobian) derivatives

$$A = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \Big|_{(x_e, u_e)}, \quad B = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \Big|_{(x_e, u_e)}$$

$$C = \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \Big|_{(x_e, u_e)}, \quad D = \frac{\partial h}{\partial u} \Big|_{(x_e, u_e)}$$

$\rightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$  is the matrix of partial derivatives:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \left[ \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j} \right]_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \dots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \dots & \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}$$

- then trajectories of the LTI system

$$(L) \quad \dot{\xi} = A\xi + B\mu, \quad \eta = C\xi + D\mu$$

approximate tr's of (NL) near  $(x_e, u_e)$ :

if  $\|x(s) - x_e\|, \|u(s) - u_e\|$  small

$\xi \mu(s) = u(s) - u_e$  for all  $s \in [0, t]$ ,

then  $\xi(s) \simeq x(s) - x_e$

fact: (L) is stable      (NL) is stable  
(locally near  $(x_e, u_e)$ )

\* this is a deeply important fact  
that justifies application of  
linear control theory in the real world! ✓

1<sup>2</sup>. Linearity & time invariance

◦ a linear time-invariant (LTI) system  
has the state-space form

$$\dot{x} \text{ or } x^+ = Ax + Bu, \quad y = Cx + Du$$

where:  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$      $C \in \mathbb{R}^{g \times n}$   
 $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$      $D \in \mathbb{R}^{g \times p}$

– in a SISO system,  $p = g = 1$

so  $B$  is a column vector ( $n \times 1$  matrix)

$C$  is a row vector ( $1 \times n$  matrix)

$D$  is a scalar ( $1 \times 1$  matrix)

– given initial state  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$

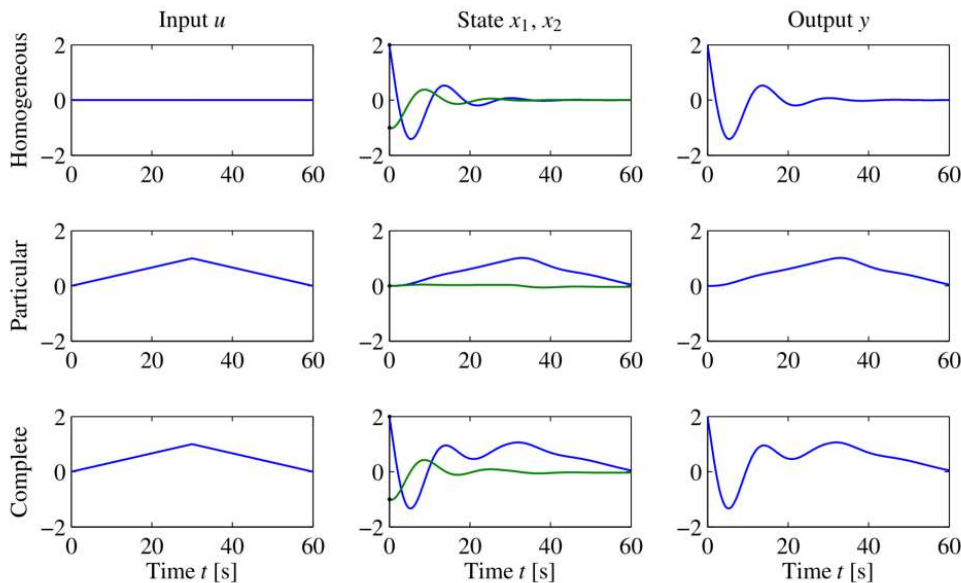
↓ control input  $u: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$ :

\*  $x_h: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is the homogeneous solution:

$$x_h(0) = x_0, \quad \frac{d}{dt} x_h(t) = A x_h(t)$$

\*  $x_p: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is the particular solution:

$$x_p(0) = 0, \quad \frac{d}{dt} x_p(t) = A x_p(t) + B u_p(t)$$



**Figure 6.1:** Superposition of homogeneous and particular solutions. The first row shows the input, state, and output corresponding to the initial condition response. The second row shows the same variables corresponding to zero initial condition but nonzero input. The third row is the complete solution, which is the sum of the two individual solutions.

ex: (scalar system)

• consider  $\dot{x} = ax + bu$ ,  $y = x$  (DE)

with  $x(0) = x_0$ ,  $u_1 = \alpha \sin \omega_1 t$ ,  $u_2 = \beta \cos \omega_2 t$

– homogeneous solution:  $x_h(t) = e^{at} x_0$

– particular solutions:

$$x_{p_1}(t) = -\frac{\alpha}{a^2 + \omega_1^2} (-\omega_1 e^{at} + \omega_1 \cos \omega_1 t + a \sin \omega_1 t)$$

$$x_{p_2}(t) = -\frac{\beta}{a^2 + \omega_2^2} (a e^{at} - a \cos \omega_2 t + \omega_2 \sin \omega_2 t)$$

$$a^2 + \omega_2^2$$

→ verify the homogeneous & particular solutions

- by linearity of (DE), applying input  $u = u_1 + u_2$  to initial state  $x_0$  yields

$$y(t) = x(t) = x_h(t) + x_{p_1}(t) + x_{p_2}(t)$$

→ express  $x(t)$  in terms of  $a, x_0, \omega_1, \omega_2, \alpha, \beta$   
& verify the expression satisfies (DE)

1.3 matrix exponential

(i.e. the homogeneous solution)

• recall the homogeneous solution to scalar LTI DE  $\dot{x} = ax$

$$\text{is } x(t) = e^{at} x(0)$$

where  $e: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} e^z &= 1 + z + \frac{1}{2} z^2 + \frac{1}{3!} z^3 + \dots \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} z^k \quad \underbrace{(k! = k \cdot (k-1) \cdot (k-2) \dots 2 \cdot 1)}_{\text{read as "k factorial"}} \end{aligned}$$

- this power series converges for every complex number  $z \in \mathbb{C}$

- amazingly, this power series makes sense & converges for  $X \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ :

$$e^X = I + X + \frac{1}{2} X^2 + \frac{1}{3!} X^3 + \dots$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} X^k \quad (X^0 = I, X^2 = X \cdot X, \\ X^{k+1} = X \cdot X^k = X^k \cdot X)$$

→ noting scalar  $t$  commutes with matrix  $A$

$At = tA$ , show that  $e^{At} = e^{tA}$

— even more amazingly, the derivative rule  $\frac{d}{dt} e^{at} = a e^{at}$  generalizes:

→ using definition of  $e^{At}$ ,  
show that  $\frac{d}{dt} e^{At} = A e^{At}$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} e^{At} &= \frac{d}{dt} \left( I + At + \frac{1}{2} A^2 t^2 + \frac{1}{3!} A^3 t^3 + \dots \right) \\ &= A + A^2 t + \frac{1}{2} A^3 t^2 + \dots \\ &= A \cdot \left( I + At + \frac{1}{2} A^2 t^2 + \frac{1}{3!} A^3 t^3 + \dots \right) \\ &= A \cdot \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} A^k t^k = A e^{At} \quad \nabla \end{aligned}$$

\*  $x(t) = e^{At} x_0$  is the solution to  $\dot{x} = Ax$

w/ initial state  $x(0) = e^{A \cdot 0} x_0 = I \cdot x_0 = x_0$

↳ unlike scalar case, order is important:

$e^{At} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$ , so  $[e^{At} x_0] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$

whereas  $[x_0 e^{At}]$  doesn't make sense...

— the solution is obviously linear in  $x_0$

(since multiplication by matrix  $e^{At}$  is linear)

ex: 6.2 (double integrator)

• consider  $\ddot{g} = u$ ,  $y = g$

• with  $x = (g, \dot{g})$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt} x &= \begin{bmatrix} \dot{g} \\ \ddot{g} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} g \\ \dot{g} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u \\ &= Ax + b\end{aligned}$$

• noting  $A^2 = 0$  (so  $A^k = 0$  for  $k \geq 2$ )

we compute 
$$e^{At} = I + At = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & t \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and conclude homogeneous solution is

$$\begin{aligned}x_h(t) &= \begin{bmatrix} g(t) \\ \dot{g}(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & t \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} g(0) \\ \dot{g}(0) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} g(0) + t \dot{g}(0) \\ \dot{g}(0) \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

↳ agrees with intuition from physics: in the absence of forcing, a mass will continue at constant speed

ex: 6.3 (mechanical oscillator)

• somewhat more generally, consider a spring-mass with no damping:



$$\ddot{g} + \omega_0^2 g = u$$

• with  $x = (g, \dot{g}/\omega_0)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} x &= \begin{bmatrix} \dot{g} \\ \ddot{g} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \omega_0 \\ -\omega_0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} g \\ \dot{g} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u \\ &= Ax + b \end{aligned}$$

$$e^{At} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \omega_0 t & \sin \omega_0 t \\ -\sin \omega_0 t & \cos \omega_0 t \end{bmatrix}$$

→ verify this formula via differentiation

[bobs: verify this formula by substituting power series expressions for  $\sin$  &  $\cos$ ]

• including damping,

$$\ddot{g} + 2\zeta\omega_0\dot{g} + \omega_0^2 g = u$$

$$\text{we have } A = \begin{bmatrix} -\zeta\omega_0 & \omega_d \\ -\omega_d & -\zeta\omega_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

• assuming  $|\zeta| < 1$  yields

$$e^{At} = e^{-\zeta\omega_0 t} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \omega_d t & \sin \omega_d t \\ -\sin \omega_d t & \cos \omega_d t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{where } \omega_d = \omega_0 \sqrt{1 - \zeta^2}$$

→ verify this formula via differentiation

→ read [AMv2 "Eigenvalues and Modes"]

↳ interaction discussion of eigenvalues

→ interesting discussion of eigenvalues, eigenvectors, and coordinate choice

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#### 14. input/output response

• considers the state-space LTI system

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$$

fact: given initial state  $x(0)$ , input  $u$ :

$$x(t) = e^{At} x(0) + \int_0^t e^{A(t-\tau)} B u(\tau) d\tau$$

→ termed the convolution equation

→ verify this formula via differentiation

• if  $y = Cx + Du$  then  $y(t)$  has 2 parts:

$$y(t) = C e^{At} x(0) + \int_0^t C e^{A(t-\tau)} B u(\tau) d\tau$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{homogeneous response to initial condition}} + \underbrace{Du(t)}_{\text{particular response to input}}$

– let's examine the response to unit step

$\sigma(t) = [t \geq 0]$ , termed step response,

assuming  $x(0) = 0$ ,  $A$  invertible:

→ use the convolution formula to compute

step response (evaluate the integral)

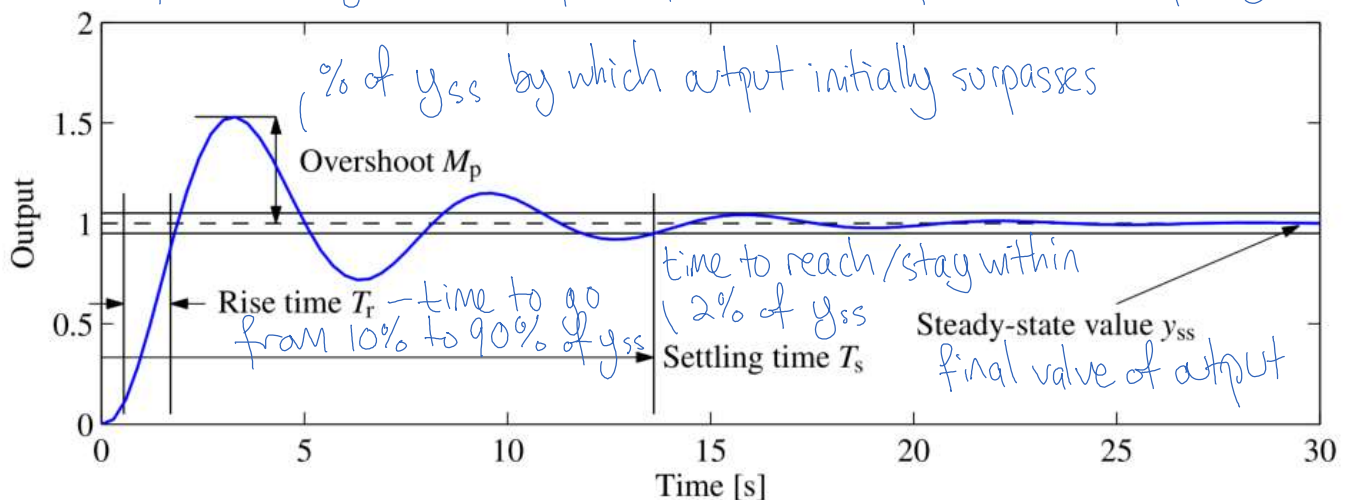
$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_0^t C e^{A(t-\tau)} B \sigma(\tau) d\tau + D \sigma(t) \\
 &= C \left[ \int_0^t e^{A(t-\tau)} d\tau \right] B + D \quad \text{for } t \geq 0 \\
 &= C \left[ -A^{-1} e^{A(t-\tau)} \right]_{\tau=0}^{\tau=t} B + D \\
 &= C \left[ -A^{-1} e^{A \cdot 0} + A^{-1} e^{At} \right] B + D \\
 &= \underbrace{C A^{-1} e^{At} B}_{\text{transient input response}} - \underbrace{C A^{-1} B + D}_{\text{steady-state input response}} \quad e^{A \cdot 0} = I
 \end{aligned}$$

- note: if  $A$  is stable

(i.e. all eigenvalues have negative real part)

then transient  $\rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

note: for LTI systems,  $M_p, T_r, T_s$  are independent of step size



**Figure 6.9:** Sample step response. The rise time, overshoot, settling time, and steady-state value give the key performance properties of the signal.

## 15. frequency response

• let's consider system response to

$$u(t) = \cos \omega t = \frac{1}{2} (e^{j\omega t} - e^{-j\omega t})$$

- since system is linear, consider  $e^{st}$ ,  $s = \pm j\omega$

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= C e^{At} x(0) + \int_0^t C e^{A(t-\tau)} B e^{s\tau} d\tau + D e^{st} \\ &= C e^{At} x(0) + C e^{At} \int_0^t e^{(sI-A)\tau} B d\tau + D e^{st} \end{aligned}$$

- so long as  $s = \pm j\omega \notin \lambda(A)$ ,  
 $sI - A$  is invertible

→ why is this true?

(Hint: recall  $\lambda(A) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \det(zI - A) = 0\}$ )

so we can re-use calculation from (15):

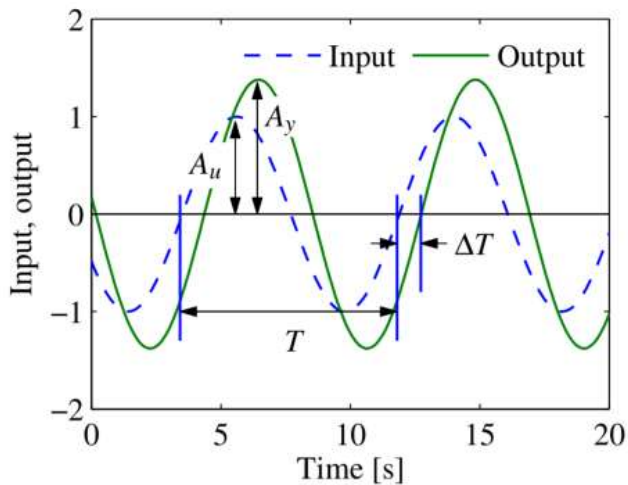
$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= C e^{At} x(0) + C (sI - A)^{-1} e^{st} B - C e^{At} (sI - A)^{-1} B + D e^{st} \\ &= \underbrace{C e^{At} (x(0) - (sI - A)^{-1} B)}_{\text{transient} \rightarrow 0 \text{ if } A \text{ stable}} + \underbrace{(C (sI - A)^{-1} B + D) e^{st}}_{\text{steady-state}} \end{aligned}$$

- representing steady-state response as

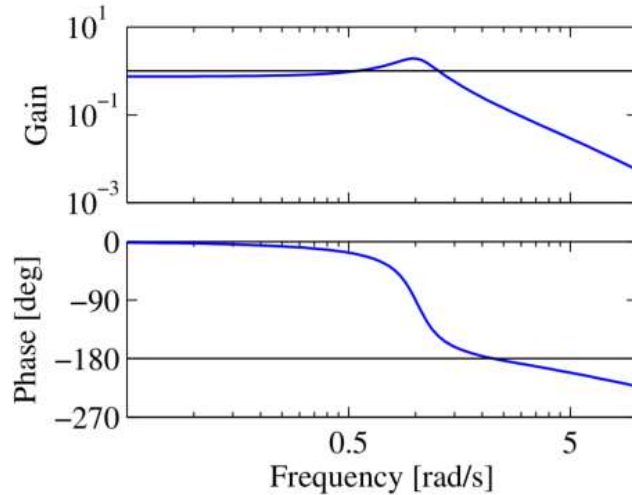
$$\begin{aligned} y_{ss}(t) &= (C (sI - A)^{-1} B + D) e^{st} \\ &= G(s) e^{st} \end{aligned}$$

\* this is the LTI system's transfer function! ▽

- recall: magnitude  $|G(s)|$  termed gain  
angle  $\angle G(s)$  termed phase
- if  $\angle G(s)$  positive  $\rightarrow$  output leads input  
" " negative  $\rightarrow$  " lags "

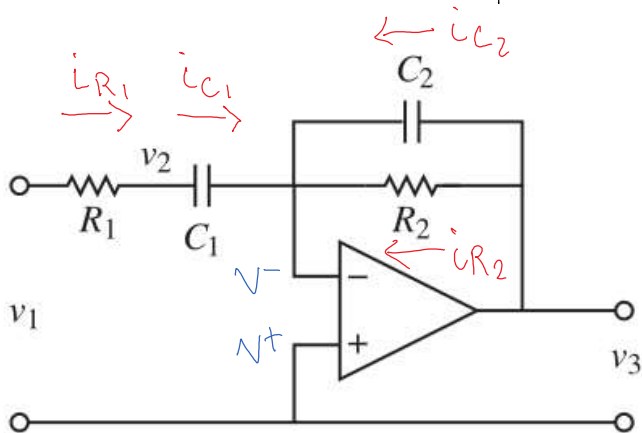


(a) Input/output response



(b) Frequency response

ex: 6.8 active band-pass filter



\* recall: sum of currents at any node must be zero

$\rightarrow$  derive two DE involving  $\dot{v}_2, \dot{v}_3$   
assuming  $v^+ = v^-$

( see [AMv2 Ch 4.3] for discussion  
of when this is a valid assumption )

$$(i_{R_1} - i_{C_1} = 0) \quad \frac{V_1 - V_2}{R_1} - C_1 \dot{V}_2 = 0$$

$$(i_{C_1} + i_{C_2} + i_{R_2} = 0) \quad C_2 \dot{V}_3 + C_1 \dot{V}_2 + \frac{V_3}{R_2} = 0$$

- with  $V_2, V_3$  as states:

$$\dot{V}_2 = \frac{V_1 - V_2}{R_1 C_1} \quad \dot{V}_3 = \frac{-V_3}{R_2 C_2} - \frac{V_1 - V_2}{R_1 C_2}$$

- with  $x = (V_2, V_3)$ ,  $u = V_1$ ,  $y = V_3$ :

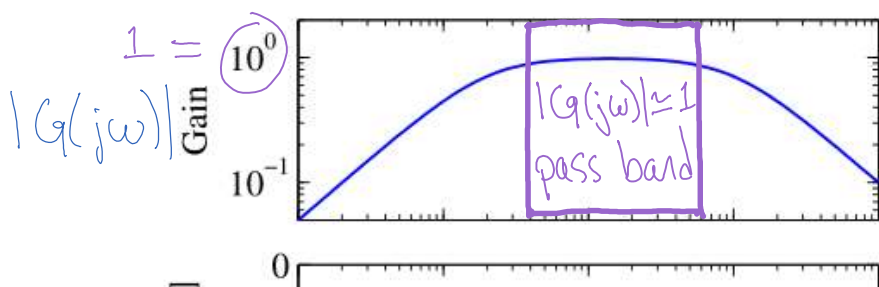
$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -1/R_1 C_1 & 0 \\ 1/R_1 C_2 & -1/R_2 C_2 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 1/R_1 C_1 \\ -1/R_1 C_2 \end{bmatrix} u$$

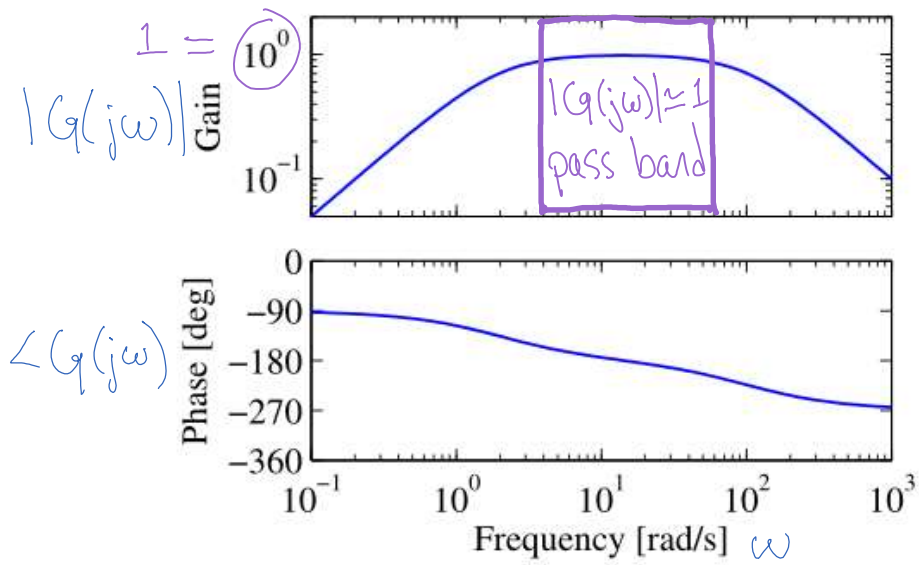
$$= A x + b u$$

$$y = [0 \ 1] x = C x \quad (D=0)$$

- computing the frequency response:

$$G(s) = C(sI - A)^{-1}b + D = -\frac{R_2}{R_1} \frac{R_1 C_1 s}{(1 + R_1 C_1 s)(1 + R_2 C_2 s)}$$





(b) Frequency response