

# Motivating Transfer Functions

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**Process Dynamics and Control**

## Laplace-transformed output in original variables are hard to find

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**Ex.** Find the Laplace-transformed output  $Y(s)$  of the ODE

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = x - y$$

where  $x$  is the input and  $y$  is the output.

## Deviation variables have vanishing initial condition at steady-state in $\mathcal{L}$ space

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**Ex.** Find the Laplace-transformed output deviation  $Y'(s)$  of the ODE

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = x - y$$

where  $x$  is the input and  $y$  is the output, by defining deviation variable of  $y' = y - \bar{y}$ .

- Derive governing ODE
- Identify variables
  - Input variable (cause)
  - Output variable (effect)
- Derive steady-state expression
- Derive ODE in deviation variables
- Get transfer function in  $\mathcal{L}$  space

## Deviation variables have vanishing initial condition at steady-state in $\mathcal{L}$ space

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# Transfer function maps input-output relationship in the $\mathcal{L}$ space

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- **Transfer function** - characterizes dynamic relationship of input and output variables in the Laplace space

$$G(s) = \frac{\mathcal{L}[\text{output}]}{\mathcal{L}[\text{input}]}$$

- **Deviation variable** - deviation from a nominal steady-state
  - Have vanishing initial condition at steady-state in  $\mathcal{L}$  space

# Laplace transform of multivariable ODE show linearity of transfer function

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**Ex.** Find the Laplace-transformed output deviation  $Z'(s)$  of the ODE

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = x - y - z$$

where  $x$  and  $y$  are the inputs and  $z$  is the output.

## Transfer function can predict step change

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**Ex.** Determine the response  $y(t)$  to a step change in  $x$  of magnitude  $M$  at  $t = 0$  using the transfer function

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{s + 1}$$

- Rearrange for  $Y'(s)$
- Determine  $X'(s)$  from  $x'(t)$
- Get deviation in time space
- Get response in time space

## Obtaining transfer function from ODE

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**Seborg Ex. 4.1a** Find the transfer function model between liquid level  $h$  and inlet flow rate  $q_i$  in deviation variables with governing ODE of

$$A \frac{dh}{dt} = q_i - \frac{1}{R_v} h$$

- Derive steady-state expression
- Derive ODE in deviation variables



# Obtaining transfer function from ODE

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**Seborg Ex. 4.1a** Find the transfer function model between liquid level  $h$  and inlet flow rate  $q_i$  in deviation variables with governing ODE of

$$A \frac{dh}{dt} = q_i - \frac{1}{R_v} h$$

- Know ODE in deviation variables

$$A \frac{dh'}{dt} = q_i' - \frac{1}{R_v} h'$$

- Get transfer function in  $\mathcal{L}$  space
  - Initial condition

## Use transfer function to predict step change

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**Seborg Ex. 4.1b** Determine the response  $h(t)$  to a step change in  $q_i$  of magnitude  $M$  at  $t = 0$  using the transfer function

$$G(s) = \frac{H'(s)}{Q'_i(s)} = \frac{R_v}{AR_v s + 1}$$

- Rearrange for  $H'(s)$
- Determine  $Q'_i(s)$  from  $q'_i(t)$
- Get deviation response in time space
- Get response in time space