

- Overview of what you should know.
- What we will be studying.
- A taxonomy of systems.
- Why study linear systems.
- Some examples.

- Exposure to linear algebra.
- Laplace transform and differential equations (EEE 35 and ES 21).
- Not necessarily needed, but might be helpful.
  - control systems (EEE 101).
  - circuits and systems (EEE 31)
  - dynamics (ES 12)

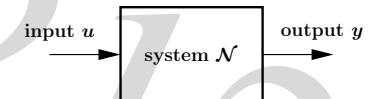
Major Topics

- Linear algebra and applications.
- Introduction to linear systems.
- Solution of system equations.
- Stability, controllability, observability and minimality.

Systems

- The term system can refer to a wide variety of situations.
  - stock market
  - populations
  - airplanes

- In this class, we will use system to mean a mathematical model of a physical system.



- We use  $N$  to also denote the input-output mapping, thus

$$y = \mathcal{N}(u)$$

- The input  $u$  is generally a real vector-valued function over a time index  $I$ .

$$u : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

where

- $I \in \mathbb{R}$  for continuous-time inputs.
  - $I \in \mathbb{Z}$  for discrete-time inputs.
- For tractability, further technical restrictions will be imposed on inputs.  
Make them admissible.

- A continuous-time input is admissible if
  - it is piecewise continuous.
  - it has a finite past, i.e. there is some  $t_0$  such that  $u(t) = 0$  for  $t < t_0$ .
  - it is exponentially bounded, i.e. there exists  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  such that for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\|u(t)\| < c_1 e^{c_2|t|}$ .
- A discrete-time input is admissible if
  - it has a finite past, i.e. there is some  $t_0$  such that  $u(t) = 0$  for  $t < t_0$ .
  - it is exponentially bounded, i.e. there exists  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  such that for all  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\|u(t)\| < c_1 e^{c_2|t|}$ .

- Properties of admissible inputs.

Let  $\mathcal{U}$  denote admissible inputs. Then note that

- If  $u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{U}$ , then for every  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2 \in \mathcal{U}$ .
  - If  $u(\cdot) \in \mathcal{U}$ , then for every  $T \in I$ ,  $u(\cdot - T) \in \mathcal{U}$ .
- Math properties (such as the ones above) will be used extensively in course.
  - Although we have lots of math to deal with, we will relate the math to physical systems.

- Depending on  $u$  and  $\mathcal{N}$ , possible classes are
  - continuous-time or discrete-time
  - linear or nonlinear
  - time-invariant or time-varying
  - causal or noncausal
  - lumped or distributed
- Definition. A continuous-time system is one where  $u$  and  $y$  are continuous-time signals.

Definition. A discrete-time system is one where  $u$  and  $y$  are discrete-time signals.

## Linearity

- Definition. A system  $\mathcal{N}$  is linear if for all  $u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{U}$  and  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathcal{R}$

$$\mathcal{N}(c_1u_1 + c_2u_2) = c_1\mathcal{N}(u_1) + c_2\mathcal{N}(u_2)$$

Principles of homogeneity and superposition hold.

- Definition. A system  $\mathcal{N}$  is nonlinear if it is not linear.

- Examples.

- $y(t) = 5tu(t)$  is linear.
- $y(t) = [u(t)]^2$  is not linear.

## Time-invariance

- Definition. A system  $\mathcal{N}$  is time-invariant if for all  $u \in \mathcal{U}$  and  $T \in I$ , we have

$$y = \mathcal{N}(u) \Rightarrow y(\cdot - T) = \mathcal{N}[u(\cdot - T)]$$

Time-shifted inputs give correspondingly time-shifted outputs.

- Definition. The system  $\mathcal{N}$  is time-varying if it is not time-invariant.

- Examples.

- $y(t) = 5u(t)$  is time-invariant.
- $y(t) = 5tu(t)$  is time-varying.

## Causality

- Let  $P_T$  denote the truncation operator, i.e.

$$P_T u(t) = \begin{cases} u(t), & t \leq T \\ 0, & t > T \end{cases}$$

Definition. A system  $\mathcal{N}$  is causal if for all  $u \in \mathcal{U}$

$$P_T \mathcal{N}(u) = \mathcal{N}(P_T u)$$

The output depends only on past inputs.

- Examples.

- $y(t) = 5u(t)$  is causal.
- $y(t) = 5tu(t + 2)$  is non-causal.

## Lumped Systems

- Definition. The system  $\mathcal{N}$  is lumped if the input-output relation satisfies an ordinary differential equation.

- Definition. The system  $\mathcal{N}$  is distributed if it is not lumped.

- Examples.

- $y(t) = u(t) \frac{d}{dt} u(t)$  is lumped.
- $y(t) = u(t - 2)$  is not lumped.

- A continuous-time linear dynamical system has the form

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = A(t)x(t) + B(t)u(t), \quad y(t) = C(t)x(t) + D(t)u(t)$$

where

- $t \in \mathcal{R}$  denotes time
- $x(t) \in \mathcal{R}^n$  is the state vector
- $u(t) \in \mathcal{R}^m$  is the input function
- $y(t) \in \mathcal{R}^p$  is the output
- $A(t) \in \mathcal{R}^{n \times n}$  is the dynamics or state matrix
- $B(t) \in \mathcal{R}^{n \times m}$  is the input matrix
- $C(t) \in \mathcal{R}^{p \times n}$  is the output or sensor matrix
- $D(t) \in \mathcal{R}^{p \times m}$  is the feedthrough matrix

- A discrete-time linear dynamical system has the form

$$\begin{aligned} x(k+1) &= A(k)x(k) + B(k)u(k) \\ y(k) &= C(k)x(k) + D(k)u(k) \end{aligned}$$

where

- $k \in \mathcal{Z}$  (integers).
  - signals  $x$ ,  $u$ ,  $y$  are number sequences.
- A continuous-time linear system is a first-order vector differential equation.
  - A discrete-time linear system is a first-order vector difference equation.

- For conciseness, the equations are often written as

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu, \quad y(t) = Cx + Du$$

- Most linear systems encountered are time-invariant.  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$  and  $D$  are constant, i.e., don't depend on  $t$ .
- When there is no input  $u$  (hence, no  $B$  or  $D$ ), the system is called autonomous.  
Very often there is no feedthrough, i.e.,  $D = 0$ .
- Sometimes called 'm-input, n-state, p-output' system.

- Applications arise in many areas.
  - automatic control systems
  - communications and signal processing
  - economics and finance
  - circuit analysis, simulation and design
  - mechanical systems
  - aeronautics
  - navigation and guidance
- Applications are only limited by the available computing power (for design and implementation).

## Why Study Linear Systems?

- Brief history of linear systems theory.
  - parts of theory can be traced to 19th century.
  - builds on classical circuits and systems (1920s), and
  - transfer functions, but with more emphasis on linear algebra.
  - first engineering application was in aerospace, 1960s.
- Many dynamical systems are nonlinear.  
Most techniques for nonlinear systems are based on linear methods.  
If you don't understand linear dynamical systems you certainly can't understand nonlinear dynamical systems.

## Concept of a State

- The state of a system at time  $t_0$  summarizes the past history i.e., over  $t < t_0$ .
- Typically denoted  $x(t_0)$ .
- For lumped systems, state  $x(t_0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .
- Once state  $x(t_0)$  is known, future states (evolution) of the system can be completely calculated for any given input.  
Thus,  $x(t_0)$  is often called the initial condition.

## Concept of a State

- Definition. The state of a system  $\mathcal{N}$  at  $t_0$  is a set of internal variables sufficient to calculate system output for  $t > t_0$ .
- Example. Series RL circuit with voltage source  $u(t)$ .

$$u(t) = Ri(t) + L\frac{d}{dt}i(t)$$

Given  $i(t_0)$  and  $u(t)$ ,  $t \geq t_0$ ,  
we can solve for  $i(t)$ ,  $t \geq t_0$ .

## Concept of a State

- Why is the state useful?
  - at any time  $t_0$ , we do not need the entire history of the system input, just the state would do.
  - state variables often arise naturally from models of physical systems (e.g. series RL circuit).
  - state variables lead to models which are numerically easy to manipulate.
- We may depict input-output relation as



where  $u$  and  $y$  are defined over  $[t_0, \infty)$ .

## Modified Definition of Linearity

- Recall earlier definitions of linearity and time invariance were based only on the input and output.

With the state at  $t_0$ , summarizing the effect of the input over  $t < t_0$ , we need to modify definitions of linearity and time invariance.

- Definition.** System  $\mathcal{N}$  with state  $x(t_0)$  is linear if for all admissible  $u_1, u_2$  defined over  $[t_0, \infty)$  and  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\mathcal{N}(c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2, 0) = c_1 \mathcal{N}(u_1, 0) + c_2 \mathcal{N}(u_2, 0)$$

With zero initial condition at  $t = T_0$ , system is linear for inputs that start after  $t_0$ .

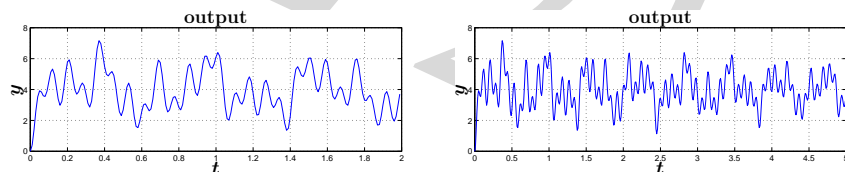
## Consider the Following Scenarios

- Let us consider an 8 state and single output system.

$$\dot{x} = Ax, \quad y = Cx$$

with  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^8$  and  $y(t) \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- Typical output.



Complicated output waveform. No clear pattern.

## Modified Definition of Time-invariance

- Let  $\mathcal{N}_T$  denote the system with state  $x(t_0 + T)$ . Thus the input and output of this system are defined only over  $[t_0 + T, \infty)$ .

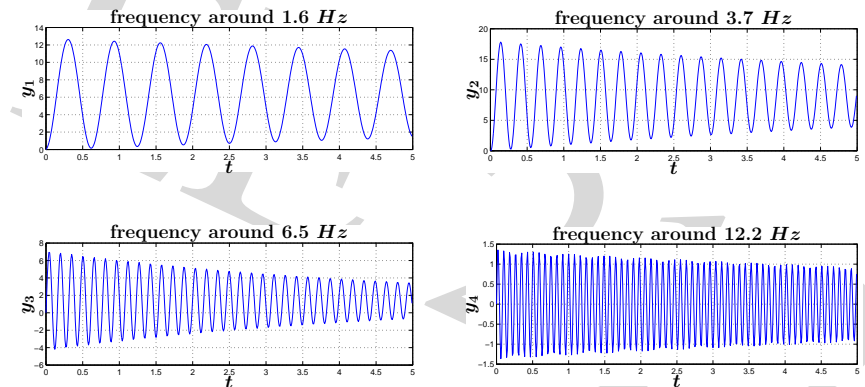
- Definition.** A system  $\mathcal{N}$  is time-invariant if for all admissible  $u$  defined over  $[t_0, \infty)$ , and for every  $T \in I, T \geq 0$ , we have

$$y = \mathcal{N}(u, 0) \Rightarrow y(\cdot - T) = \mathcal{N}[u(\cdot - T), 0]$$

With zero initial condition at  $t = t_0$ , the system is time-invariant after time  $t_0$ .

## Consider the Following Scenarios

- We can decompose the output into modal components.



Simpler to analyze.

## Consider the Following Scenarios

- Input design. Consider

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu, \quad y = Cx$$

with  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^8$ ,  $y(t) \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $u(t) \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Determine the appropriate input  $u : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $y(t) \rightarrow y_d = 10$ . Assume  $x(0) = 0_{8 \times 1}$ .

- If we have a stable system, we can simply determine the input based on static conditions (i.e.,  $u$ ,  $x$ , and  $y$  are constants).

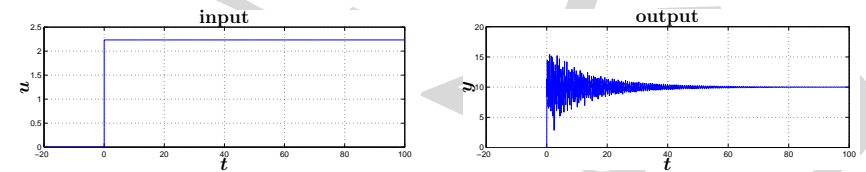
$$\dot{x} = 0 = Ax + Bu_{static}, \quad y = y_d = Cx$$

## Consider the Following Scenarios

- Solving for  $u_{static}$ ,

$$u_{static} = (-CA^{-1}B)^{-1}y_d = 2.2328$$

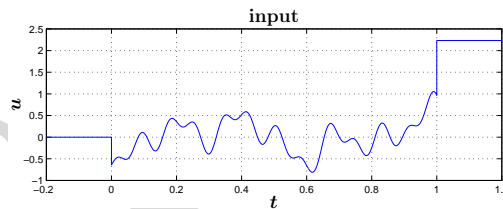
- Applying  $u(t) = u_{static}$  for  $t > 0$ .



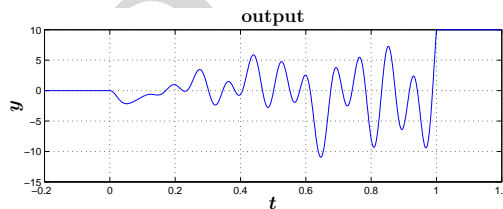
It takes about 60 s for the system output to settle and converge to  $y_d$ .

## Consider the Following Scenarios

- We can do better by applying following input.



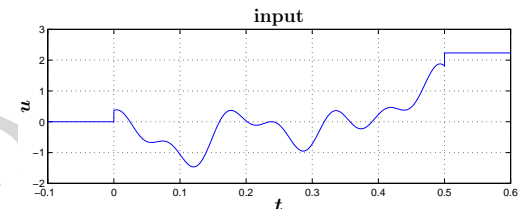
- The output converges to  $y_d$  in exactly 1 s.



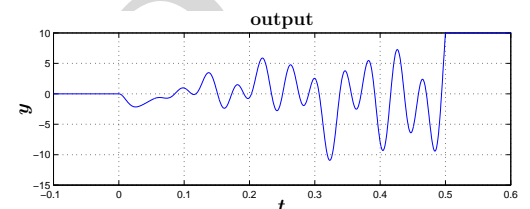
- How do we generate the above input?

## Consider the Following Scenarios

- We can tweak the input a little bit. Applying a larger input.



- The output converges to  $y_d$  in exactly 0.5 s.



- Larger inputs will make the system converge faster.

- We looked at linearity, time-invariance and causality.
- What is a state?
- In EE 212, some of the things will learn are
  - computing solutions to state equations,
  - how to look at the system output,
  - how to generate appropriate inputs,
  - tradeoff between control effort and convergence time.
- Look forward to more math (linear algebra) stuff.

- Sources
  - <http://ee263.stanford.edu/lectures/overview.pdf>
  - [http://ee263.stanford.edu/lectures/input\\_design.pdf](http://ee263.stanford.edu/lectures/input_design.pdf)