

# 6.241 Dynamic Systems and Control

## Lecture 9: Transfer Functions

Readings: DDV, Chapters 10, 11, 12

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# Asymptotic Stability (Preview)

- We have seen that the unforced state response ( $u = 0$ ) of a LTI system is easily computed using the “ $A$ ” matrix in the state-space model:

$$x[k] = A^k x[0], \quad \text{or} \quad x(t) = e^{At} x(0).$$

- A system is **asymptotically stable** if  $\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} x(t) = 0$ , for all  $x_0$ .
- Assume  $A$  is diagonalizable, i.e.,  $V^{-1}AV = \Lambda$ , and let  $r = Vx$  be the vector of model coordinates. Then,

$$r_i[k] = \lambda_i^k r_i[0], \quad \text{or} \quad r_i(t) = e^{\lambda_i t} r_i(0), \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

- Clearly, for the system to be asymptotically stable,  $|\lambda_i| < 1$  (DT) or  $\text{Re}(\lambda_i) < 0$  (CT) for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .
- It turns out that this condition extends to the general (non-diagonalizable) case. More on this later in the course.

# (Time-domain) Response of LTI systems — summary

- Based on the discussion in previous lectures, the solution of initial value problems (i.e., the response) for LTI systems can be written in the form:

$$y[k] = CA^k x[0] + C \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (A^{k-i-1} Bu[i]) + Du[t]$$

or

$$y(t) = C \exp(At)x(0) + C \int_0^t \exp(A(t - \tau))Bu(\tau) d\tau + Du(t).$$

- However, the convolution integral (CT) and the sum in the DT equation are hard to interpret, and do not offer much insight.
- In order to gain a better understanding, we will study the response to elementary inputs of a form that is
  - particularly easy to analyze: the output has the same form as the input.
  - very rich and descriptive: most signals/sequences can be written as linear combinations of such inputs.
- Then, using the superposition principle, we will recover the response to general inputs, written as linear combinations of the “easy inputs.”

# The continuous-time case: elementary inputs

- Let us choose as elementary input  $u(t) = u_0 e^{st}$ , where  $s \in \mathbb{C}$  is a **complex number**.
- If  $s$  is real, then  $u$  is a simple exponential.
- If  $s = j\omega$  is imaginary, then the elementary input must always be accompanied by the “conjugate,” i.e.,

$$u(t) + u^*(t) = u_0 e^{j\omega t} + u_0 e^{-j\omega t} = 2u_0 \cos(\omega t);$$

in other words, if  $s$  is imaginary, then  $u(t) = e^{st}$  must be understood as a “half” of a sinusoidal signal.

- if  $s = \sigma + j\omega$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} u(t) + u^*(t) &= u_0 (e^{\sigma t} e^{j\omega t} + u_0 e^{\sigma t} e^{-j\omega t}) \\ &= u_0 (e^{\sigma t} (e^{j\omega t} + e^{-j\omega t})) = 2u_0 e^{\sigma t} \cos(\omega t), \end{aligned}$$

and the input  $u$  is a “half” of a sinusoid with exponentially-changing amplitude.

# Output response to elementary inputs (1/2)

- Recall that,

$$y(t) = Ce^{At}x(0) + C \int_0^t e^{A(t-\tau)} Bu(\tau) d\tau + Du(t).$$

- Plug in  $u(t) = u_0 e^{st}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= Ce^{At}x(0) + C \int_0^t e^{A(t-\tau)} Bu_0 e^{s\tau} d\tau + Du_0 e^{st} \\ &= Ce^{At}x(0) + C \left( \int_0^t e^{(sI-A)\tau} d\tau \right) e^{At} Bu_0 + Du_0 e^{st} \end{aligned}$$

- If  $(sI - A)$  is invertible (i.e.,  $s$  is not an eigenvalue of  $A$ ), then

$$y(t) = Ce^{At}x(0) + C(sI - A)^{-1} \left[ e^{(sI-A)t} - I \right] e^{At} Bu_0 + Du_0 e^{st}.$$

## Output response to elementary inputs (2/2)

- Rearranging:

$$y(t) = \underbrace{Ce^{At}x(0) - C(sI - A)^{-1}e^{At}Bu_0}_{\text{Transient response}} + \underbrace{[C(sI - A)^{-1}B + D]u_0e^{st}}_{\text{Steady-state response}}.$$

- If the system is asymptotically stable,  $e^{At} \rightarrow 0$ , and the transient response will converge to zero.
- The steady state response can be written as:

$$y_{ss} = G(s)e^{st}, \quad G(s) \in \mathbb{C}^{n_y \times n_u},$$

where  $G(s) = C(sI - A)^{-1}B + D$  is a complex matrix.

- The function  $G : s \rightarrow G(s)$  is also known as the **transfer function**: it describes how the system transforms an input  $e^{st}$  into the output  $G(s)e^{st}$ .

# Laplace Transform

- The (one-sided) Laplace transform  $F : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  of a sequence  $f : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined as

$$F(s) = \int_0^{+\infty} f(t)e^{-st} dt,$$

for all  $s$  such that the series converges (region of convergence).

- Given the above definition, and the previous discussion,

$$Y(s) = G(s)U(s).$$

$$U(s)e^{st} \Rightarrow Y(s)e^{st} = G(s)U(s)e^{st}$$

- Also,  $G(s)$  is the Laplace transform of the “impulse” response.

# The discrete-time case: elementary inputs

- Let us choose as elementary input  $u[k] = u_0 z^k$ , where  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  is a **complex number**.
- If  $z$  is real, then  $u$  is a simple geometric sequence.
- Recall

$$y[k] = CA^k x[0] + C \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} A^{k-i-1} B u[i] + D u[k].$$

- Plug in  $u[k] = u_0 z^k$ , and substitute  $l = k - i - 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} y[k] &= CA^k x[0] + C \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} A^l B u_0 z^{k-l-1} + D u_0 z^k \\ &= CA^k x[0] + C z^{k-1} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (A z^{-1})^i \right) B u_0 + D u_0 z^k. \end{aligned}$$

# Matrix geometric series

- Recall the formula for the sum of a geometric series:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} m^i = \frac{1 - m^k}{1 - m}.$$

- For a matrix:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} M^i = I + M + M^2 + \dots + M^{k-1}.$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} M^i (I - M) = (I + M + M^2 + \dots + M^{k-1})(I - M) = I - M^k.$$

i.e.,

$$\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} M^i = (I - M^k)(I - M)^{-1}.$$

# Discrete Transfer Function

- Using the result in the previous slide, we get

$$\begin{aligned}y[k] &= CA^k x[0] + Cz^{k-1}(I - A^k z^{-k})(I - Az^{-1})^{-1}Bu_0 + Du_0 z^k \\ &= CA^k x[0] + C(z^k I - A^k)(zI - A)^{-1}Bu_0 + Du_0 z^k.\end{aligned}$$

- Rearranging:

$$y[k] = \underbrace{CA^k (x[0] - (zI - A)^{-1}Bu_0)}_{\text{Transient response}} + \underbrace{(C(zI - A)^{-1}B + D) u_0 z^k}_{\text{Steady-state response}}.$$

- If the system is asymptotically stable, the transient response will converge to zero.
- The steady state response can be written as:

$$y_{\text{ss}}[k] = G(z)z^k, \quad G(z) \in \mathbb{C},$$

where  $G(z) = C(zI - A)^{-1}B + D$  is a complex number.

- The function  $G : z \rightarrow G(z)$  is also known as the (pulse, or discrete) transfer function: it describes how the system transforms an input  $z^k$  into the output  $G(z)z^k$ .

# Z-Transform

- The (one-sided) z-transform  $F : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  of a sequence  $f : \mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined as

$$F(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{+\infty} f[k]z^{-k},$$

for all  $z$  such that the series converges (region of convergence).

- Given the above definition, and the previous discussion,

$$Y(z) = G(z)U(z).$$

$$U(z)z^k \Rightarrow Y(z)z^k = G(z)U(z)z^k$$

$$Y(z) = G(z)U(z)$$

- Also,  $G(z)$  is the z transform of the “impulse” response, i.e., the response to the sequence  $u = (1, 0, 0, \dots)$ .

# Models of continuous-time systems



$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}(t) &= Ax(t) + Bu(t) \\ y(t) &= Cx(t) + Du(t)\end{aligned}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 1 & 0 \\ -a_0 & -a_1 & \dots & -a_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \dots \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C = [b_0 \quad b_1 \quad \dots \quad b_{n-1}] \quad D = d$$

$$G(s) = C(sI - A)^{-1}B + D$$

$$G(s) = \frac{b_{n-1}s^{n-1} + \dots + b_0}{s^n + a_{n-1}s^{n-1} + \dots + a_0} + d$$

# Models of discrete-time systems



$$\begin{aligned}x[k+1] &= Ax[k] + Bu[k] \\ y[k] &= Cx[k] + Du[k]\end{aligned}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 1 & 0 \\ -a_0 & -a_1 & \dots & -a_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \dots \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C = [b_0 \quad b_1 \quad \dots \quad b_{n-1}] \quad D = d$$

$$G(z) = C(zI - A)^{-1}B + D$$

$$G(z) = \frac{b_{n-1}z^{n-1} + \dots + b_0}{z^n + a_{n-1}z^{n-1} + \dots + a_0} + d$$

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