

# Lecture 4: System response and transfer function

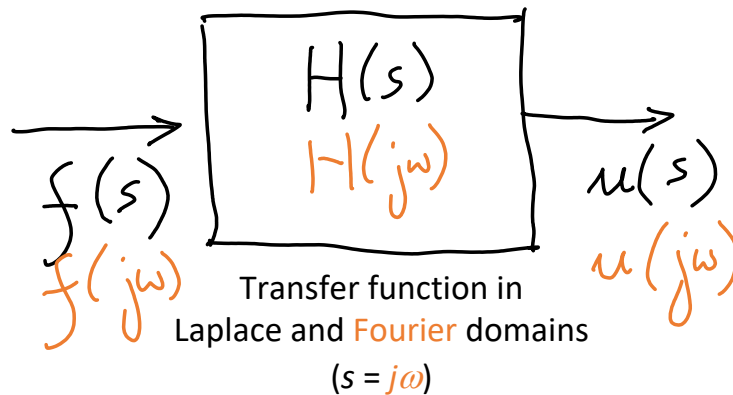
Tuesday, October 13, 2020

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## References:

Tranquillo JV. *Biomedical Signals and Systems*, Morgan & Claypool Publishers, Dec. 2013. Ch. 8 (Sec. 8.2 - 8.6).

Transfer function (see Lecture 3):

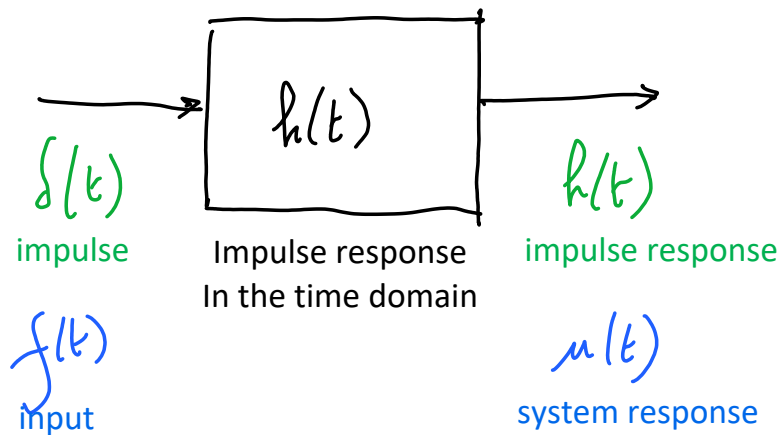


$$\text{I.C.} = 0 \Rightarrow u(j\omega) = H(j\omega) \cdot f(j\omega)$$

For zero initial conditions (I.C.), the system response  $u$  to an input  $f$  is directly proportional to the input.

The *transfer function*, in the Laplace/*Fourier* domain, is the relative strength of that linear response.

Impulse response:

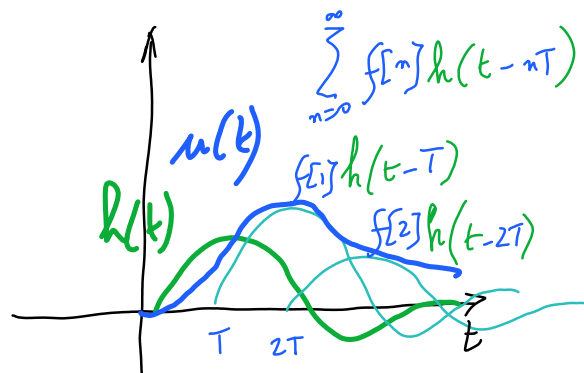
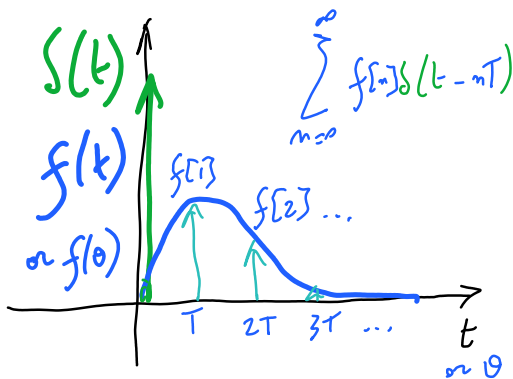


Signal decomposition into discrete-sample impulses (see Lecture 3):

$$f(t) \approx \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f[n] \delta(t - nT)$$

$$u(t) \approx \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f[n] h(t - nT)$$

System response owing to superposition  
*linearity* and *time-invariance* in the  
impulse response



Continuous-time limit:

(sum over  $n$  becomes integral over  $\theta$ )

$$f(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\theta) \delta(t - \theta) d\theta$$

$$u(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\theta) h(t - \theta) d\theta$$

System response is the **convolution** of  
the input and the impulse response, in  
the time domain.

Convolution in the time domain maps to multiplication in the Laplace/Fourier domain:  $u(s) = H(s) \cdot f(s)$

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Correspondingly, the *transfer function* is the Laplace/Fourier transform of the impulse response.

$$H(s) = \mathcal{L}(h(t))$$

$$H(j\omega) = F(h(t))$$

Proof-- convolution in time maps to multiplication in the Laplace/Fourier domain:

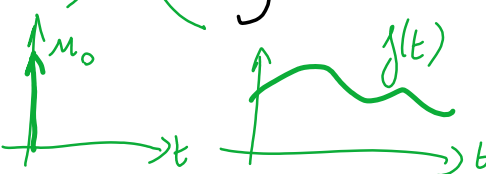
$$\begin{aligned} \bar{L}(u(t)) &= L\left(\int_0^{+\infty} f(\theta) h(t-\theta) d\theta\right) = L(f * h) \\ &= \int_0^{+\infty} \int_0^{+\infty} \underbrace{f(\theta) h(t-\theta)}_{t'} e^{-st} dt \\ &\quad e^{-st'} e^{-s\theta} dt' \quad t = t' + \theta \\ &= \underbrace{\int_0^{+\infty} f(\theta) e^{-s\theta} d\theta}_{L(f(\theta))} \cdot \underbrace{\int_0^{+\infty} h(t') e^{-st'} dt'}_{L(h(t'))} \\ &= f(s) \cdot h(s) \end{aligned}$$

First-order system:

$$\frac{d^{(\rightarrow)} u}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\tau} u + f(t) \quad \begin{matrix} A = -\frac{1}{\tau} \\ b = 1 \end{matrix}$$

$$\left[ \frac{U}{s} \right] \quad \left[ \frac{F}{U_s} \right] [F]$$

$$s u(s) - u_0 \underset{(I.C.)}{=} -\frac{1}{\tau} u(s) + f(s)$$

$$\left( s + \frac{1}{\tau} \right) u(s) = \cancel{u_0} + f(s)$$


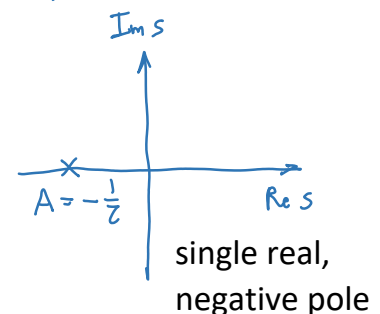
A non-zero I.C.  $u(0) = u_0$  is equivalent to an additional driving force  $f(t) = u_0 \delta(t)$ .

For purposes of defining the system response and transfer function, we ignore I.C.s, and consider the system were activated with a driving force  $f(t)$  at all times, starting well before  $t = 0$ .

Transfer functions in Laplace/Fourier:

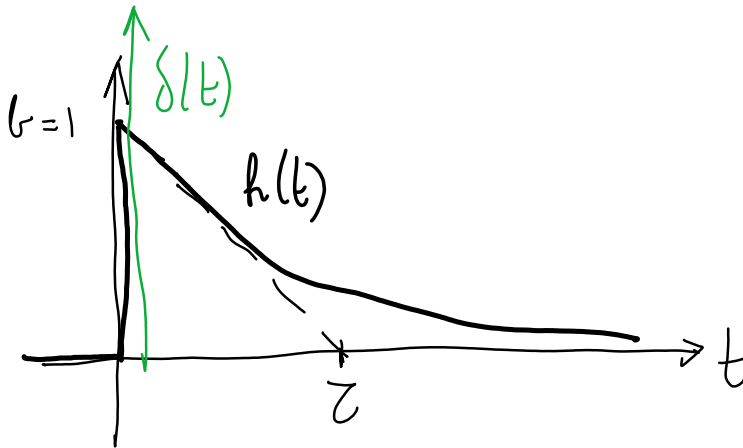
$$H(s) = \frac{u(s)}{f(s)} = \frac{1}{s + \frac{1}{\tau}} = \frac{b}{s - A} \quad \begin{matrix} A = -\frac{1}{\tau} \\ b = 1 \end{matrix}$$

$$H(j\omega) = \frac{u(j\omega)}{f(j\omega)} = \frac{1}{j\omega + \frac{1}{\tau}}$$

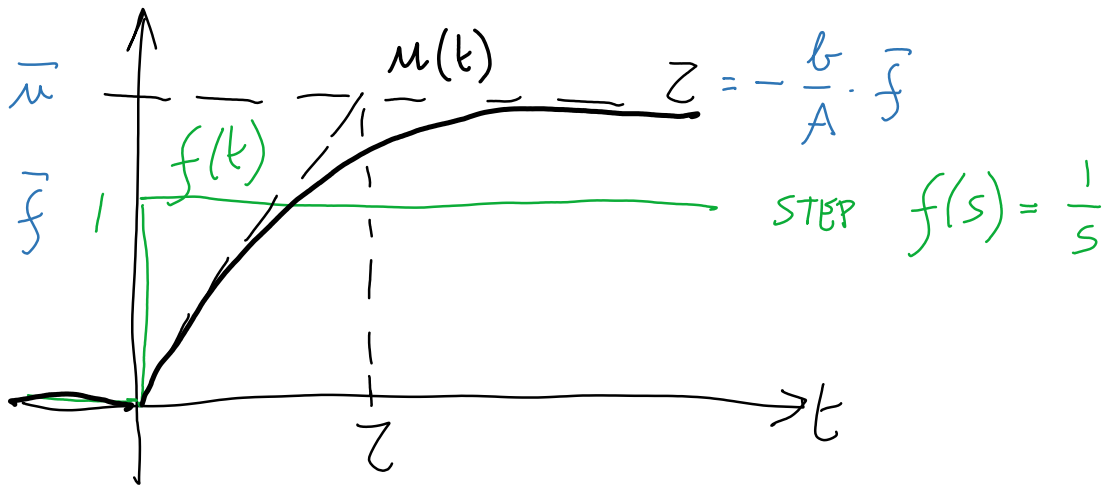


Impulse response (inverse Laplace of transfer function):

$$h(t) = e^{-t/\tau} = b e^{At}$$



Step response:



$$m(s) = \frac{b}{s-A} f(s) = b \frac{1}{s(s-A)} = b \frac{1}{A} \left( -\frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s-A} \right)$$

$$m(s) = \tau \left( \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s+\frac{1}{\tau}} \right)$$

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} 2 \left( 1 - e^{-t/2} \right) & \text{for } t > 0 \\ 0 & \text{for } t \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

S.S. :  $\bar{u} = u(\infty) = - \frac{b}{A} \cdot \underbrace{\bar{f}}_{H(j\omega=0)}$

Steady-state

Note: step response is integral of impulse response, since  $u(s) = 1/s \cdot h(s)$ .

Transfer function at zero frequency (DC)

Second-order system:

Canonical form (2 coupled LTI ODEs in  $u$  and  $v$ ):

$$\begin{cases} \frac{du}{dt} = v \\ \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{f_{total}}{m} = \frac{1}{m} \left( -\gamma v - k u + f(t) \right) \end{cases}$$

$$I.C. = 0: \quad \begin{aligned} u_0 &= 0 \\ v_0 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Explicit form (Second-order ODE in  $u$ , substituting  $v$  and its derivative):

$$\mathcal{L} \left( m \frac{d^2 u}{dt^2} + \gamma \frac{du}{dt} + k u = f(t) \right)$$

$$I.C. = 0: \quad \begin{aligned} u(0) &= u_0 = 0 \\ \frac{du}{dt}(0) &= v_0 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Transfer function:

$$(m s^2 + \gamma s + k) u(s) = f(s)$$

$$H(s) = \frac{u(s)}{f(s)} = \frac{1}{m s^2 + \gamma s + k}$$

$$= \frac{1}{m(s - \alpha_1)(s - \alpha_2)} \quad \alpha_{1,2} = -\frac{\gamma}{2m} \pm \frac{\sqrt{\gamma^2 - 4km}}{2m}$$

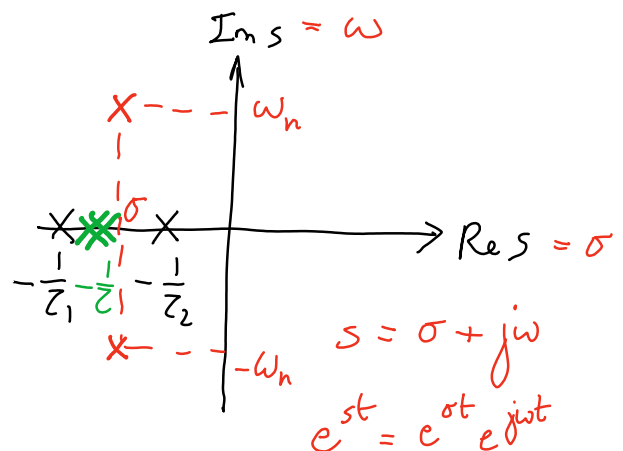
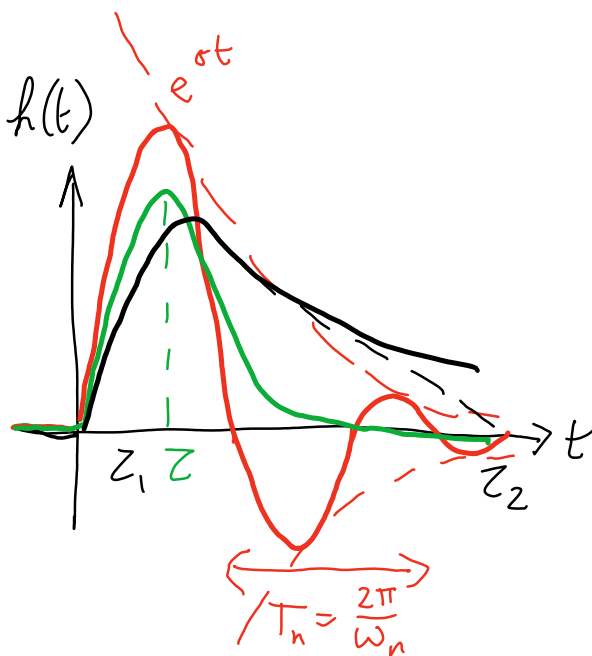
$$= \frac{1}{m(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)} \left( \frac{1}{s - \alpha_1} - \frac{1}{s - \alpha_2} \right)$$

Impulse response (inverse Laplace of transfer function):

$$h(t) = \frac{1}{m(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)} (e^{\alpha_1 t} - e^{\alpha_2 t}) \quad \alpha_1 = -\frac{1}{\tau_1}, \quad \alpha_2 = -\frac{1}{\tau_2} \quad \text{for } \gamma > 2\sqrt{km} \quad \text{overdamped}$$

$$= \frac{1}{m} t e^{\alpha t} \quad \alpha = \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 \quad \gamma = 2\sqrt{km} \quad \text{critically damped}$$

$$= \frac{1}{m(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)} (e^{\alpha_1 t} - e^{\alpha_2 t}) \quad \alpha_1 = \sigma + j\omega_n, \quad \alpha_2 = \sigma - j\omega_n \quad \gamma < 2\sqrt{km} \quad \text{underdamped}$$



$$s = \sigma + j\omega$$

$$e^{st} = e^{\sigma t} e^{j\omega t}$$

Step response (integral of impulse response):

