

# Review of Automatic Control

Poles, stability and more

Per Mattsson

`per.mattsson@hig.se`

# Introduction

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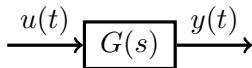
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- ▶ In control, the concept of stability is very important.
- ▶ **Bounded-input/bounded-output (BIBO):** We say that a system is BIBO-stable if a bounded input  $u(t)$  results in a bounded output  $y(t)$ .

# Poles, zeros, stability

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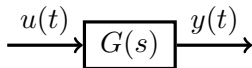


Consider a linear SISO-system

$$G(s) = \frac{b_1 s^{n-1} + b_2 s^{n-2} + \dots + b_{n-1} s + b_n}{s^n + a_1 s^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1} s + a_n}.$$

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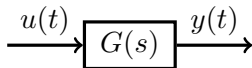
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- **Poles:** The poles of  $G(s)$  are given by the zeros of the denominator, i.e., the solutions to

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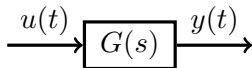
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- **Stability:**  $G(s)$  is stable if and only if all poles have strictly negative real part (lie in the left half-plane).

# State space models

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Consider the state-space model

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t)$$

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- ▶ **Solution to the state equation:**

$$x(t) = e^{A(t-t_o)}x(t_o) + \int_{t_o}^t e^{A(t-\tau)}Bu(\tau)d\tau,$$

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- ▶ If all eigenvalues of  $A$  have strictly negative real-part, then

$$e^{At} \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty.$$

# The matrix exponential

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- ▶ The matrix exponential  $e^{At}$  is defined as

$$e^{At} = I + At + \frac{1}{2}(At)^2 + \cdots + \frac{1}{k!}(At)^k + \cdots$$

and can be computed using

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- ▶ Note that the eigenvalues of  $e^{At}$  goes to 0 as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  if and only if they have strictly negative real-part.

# Diagonal form

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If  $A$  is a diagonal matrix,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}, \text{ then } e^{At} = \begin{bmatrix} e^{\lambda_1 t} & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & e^{\lambda_n t} \end{bmatrix}.$$



# Example

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Consider the system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}(t) &= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} x(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u(t) \\ y(t) &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x(t).\end{aligned}$$

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Hence, if the system is stable (all poles in the left half-plane), then  $y(t) \rightarrow 0$  if  $u(t) = 0$ . But if at least one pole is in the right half-plane, then  $|y(t)| \rightarrow \infty$ .