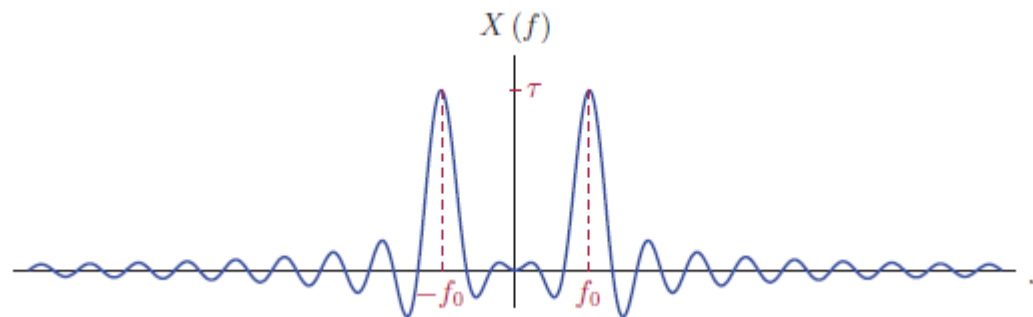


CECC507: Signals and Systems

Lecture Notes 3: Analyzing Continuous Time Systems in the Time Domain



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Chapter 2

Analyzing Continuous Time Systems in the Time Domain

1 Introduction

2 Linearity and Time Invariance

3 Differential Equations for Continuous-Time Systems

4 Constant-Coefficient Ordinary Differential Equations

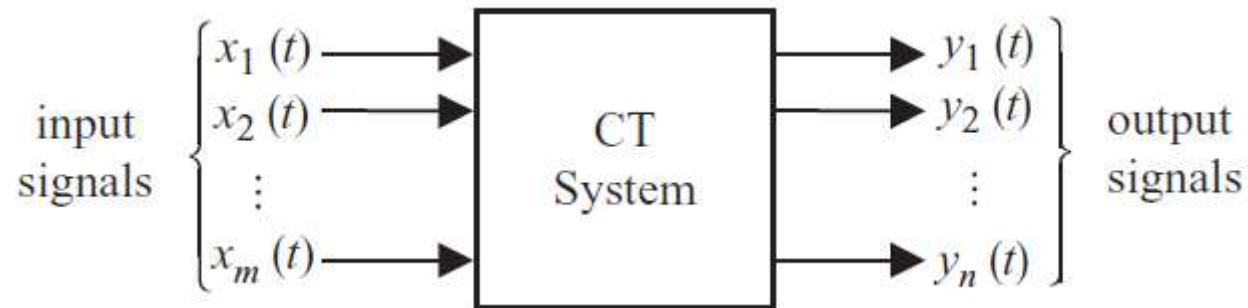
5 Block Diagram Representation of Continuous-Time Systems

6 Impulse Response and Convolution

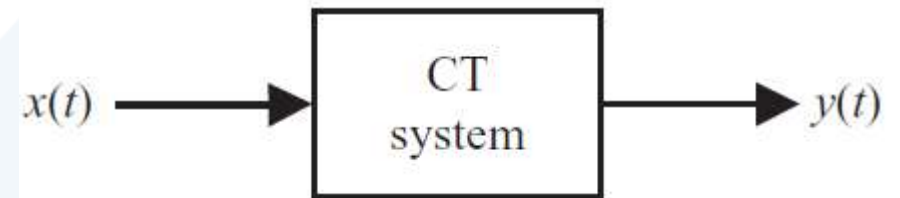
7 Causality and Stability in Continuous-Time Systems

1. Introduction

- In general, a **system** is any **physical entity** that takes in a set of one or more physical signals and, in response, produces a new set of one or more physical signals.
- One representation of a general system is by a **block diagram**.

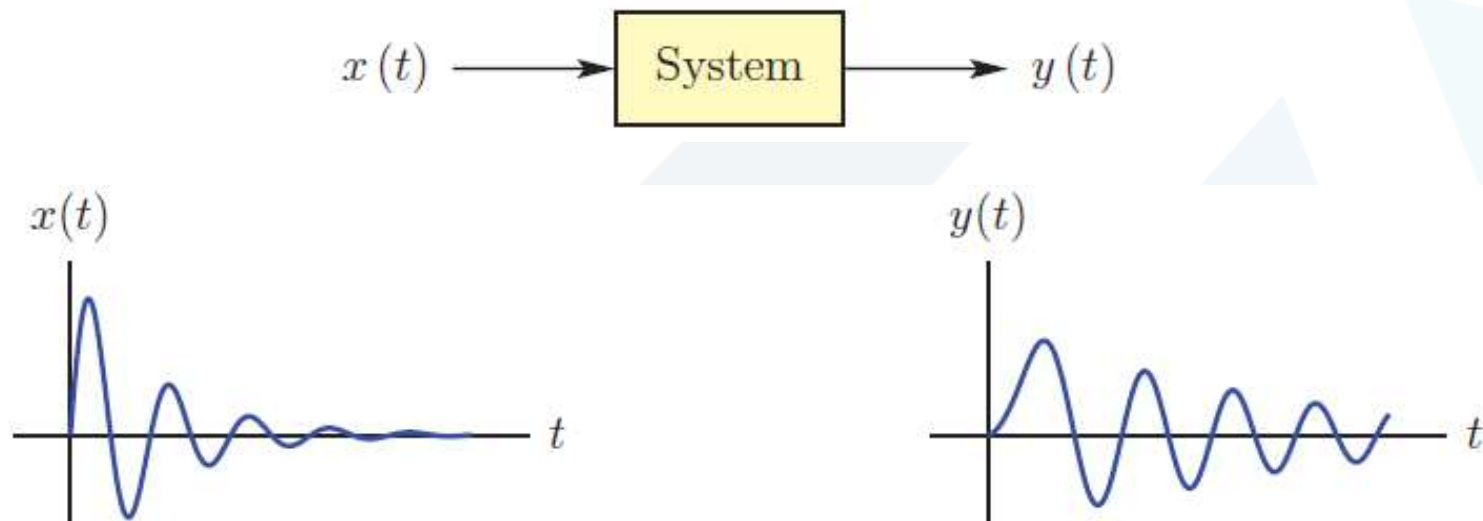


Multiple-input, multiple-output (MIMO) CT system



Single-input, single-output CT system

- If we focus our attention on **single-input/single-output** systems, the interplay between the system and its input and output signals can be graphically illustrated as:

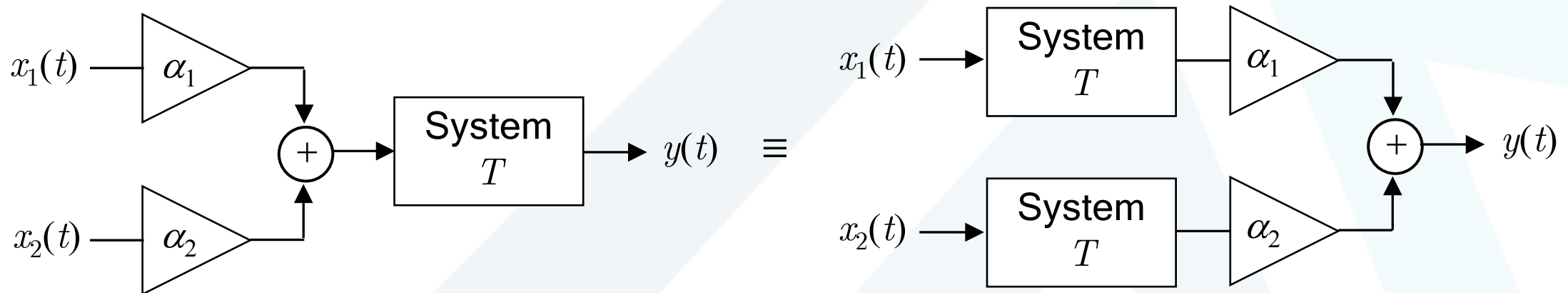


- The input signal is $x(t)$, and the output signal is $y(t)$. The system may be denoted by the equation $y(t) = T\{x(t)\}$, where $T\{.}$ indicates a **transformation**.

2. Linearity and Time Invariance

Linearity in continuous-time systems

- A system T is **linear**, if for all functions x_1 and x_2 and all constants α_1 and α_2 , the following condition holds: $T\{\alpha_1 x_1(t) + \alpha_2 x_2(t)\} = \alpha_1 T\{x_1(t)\} + \alpha_2 T\{x_2(t)\}$.



- The linearity property is also referred to as the **superposition** property.
- Linear systems are much easier to **design and analyze than nonlinear systems**.

- **Example 1:** Testing linearity of continuous-time systems

For each, determine if the system is linear or not:

a. $y(t) = 5x(t)$ ✓

b. $y(t) = 5x(t) + 3$ ✗

c. $y(t) = 3[x(t)]^2$ ✗

d. $y(t) = \cos(x(t))$ ✗

Time Invariance in continuous-time systems

- A system T is said to be **time invariant** (TI) if, for every function x and every real constant τ , the following condition holds: $T\{x(t)\} = y(t) \Rightarrow T\{x(t - \tau)\} = y(t - \tau)$.

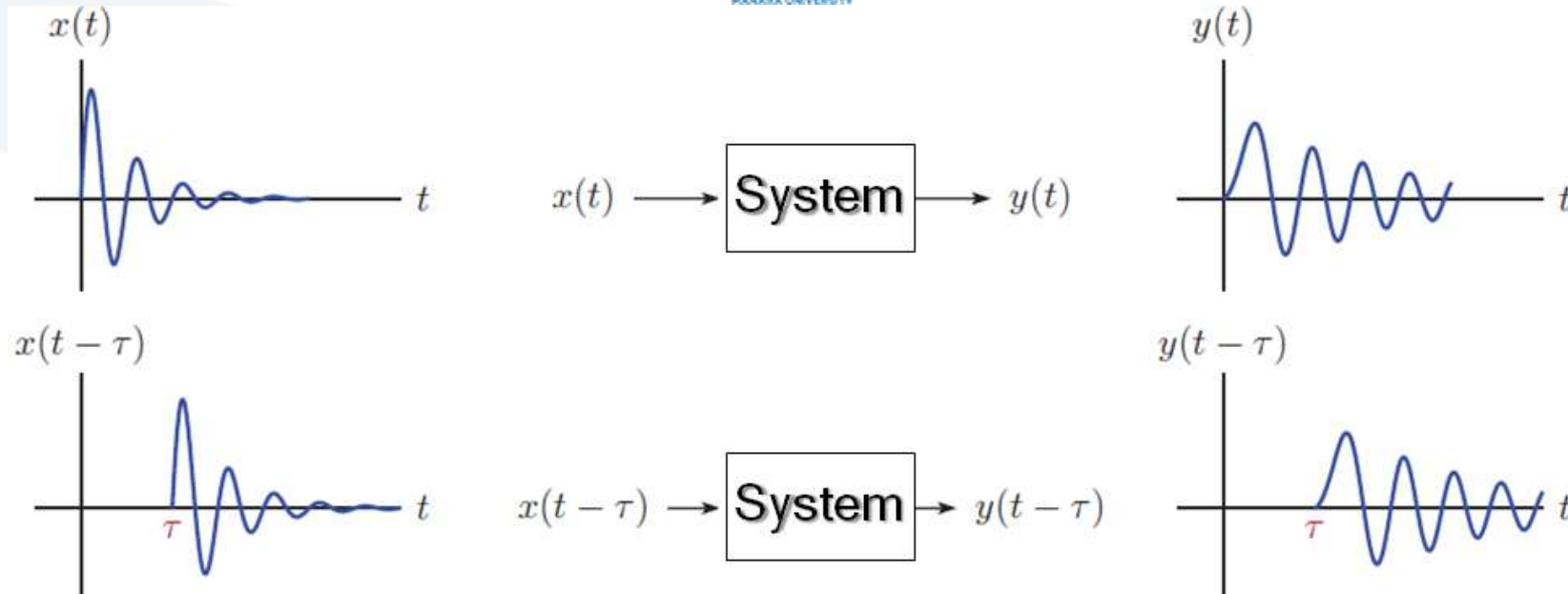
- **Example 2:** Testing time invariance of continuous-time systems

For each, determine whether the system is time-invariant or not:

a. $y(t) = 5x(t)$ ✓

b. $y(t) = 3\cos(x(t))$ ✓

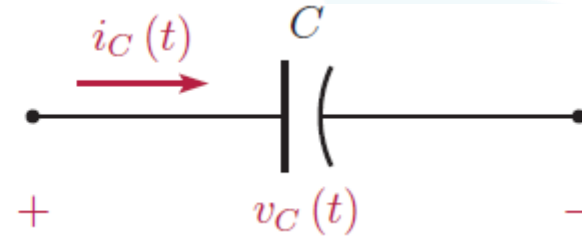
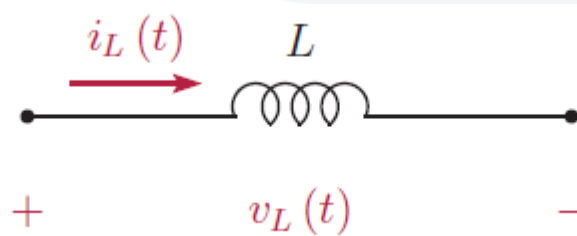
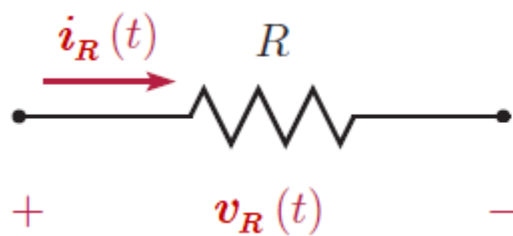
c. $y(t) = 3\cos(t)x(t)$ ✗



3. Differential Equations for Continuous-Time Systems

- One method of representing the relationship established by a system between its input and output signals is a **differential equation**.
- model for an **ideal resistor** is: $v_R(t) = Ri_R(t)$

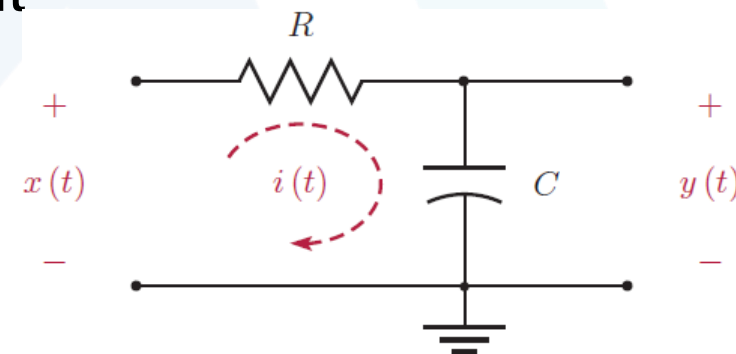
- model for an **ideal inductor** is: $v_L(t) = L \frac{di_L(t)}{dt}$
- model for an **ideal capacitor** is: $i_C(t) = C \frac{dv_C(t)}{dt}$



- **Example 3:** Differential equation for simple RC circuit

$$v_R(t) = Ri(t), \quad i(t) = C \frac{dy(t)}{dt}$$

$$RC \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + y(t) = x(t) \Rightarrow \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + \frac{1}{RC} y(t) = \frac{1}{RC} x(t)$$

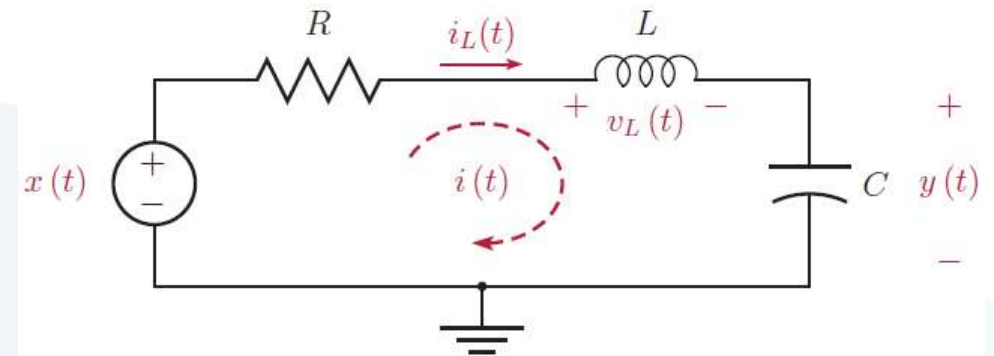


- Example 4:** Differential equation for RLC circuit

$$v_L(t) = L \frac{di(t)}{dt}, \quad i(t) = C \frac{dy(t)}{dt}$$

$$-x(t) + Ri(t) + v_L(t) + y(t) = 0$$

$$\frac{d^2y(t)}{dt^2} + \frac{R}{L} \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + \frac{1}{LC} y(t) = \frac{1}{LC} x(t)$$



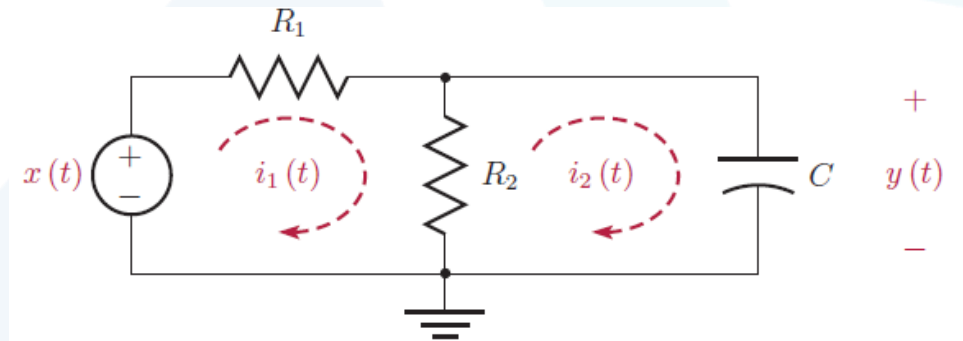
- Example 5:** Another RC circuit

$$-x(t) + R_1 i_1(t) + R_2 [i_1(t) - i_2(t)] = 0$$

$$R_2 [i_2(t) - i_1(t)] + y(t) = 0$$

$$i_2(t) = C \frac{dy(t)}{dt} \Rightarrow i_1(t) = C \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + \frac{1}{R_2} y(t)$$

$$-x(t) + R_1 C \frac{dy(t)}{dt} - \frac{R_1 + R_2}{R_2} y(t) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + \frac{R_1 + R_2}{R_1 R_2 C} y(t) = \frac{1}{R_1 C} x(t)$$



4. Constant-Coefficient Ordinary Differential Equations

- In general, CTLTI systems can be modeled with ordinary differential equations that have constant coefficients.

$$a_N \frac{d^N y(t)}{dt^N} + a_{N-1} \frac{d^{N-1} y(t)}{dt^{N-1}} + \dots + a_1 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + a_0 y(t) = b_M \frac{d^M x(t)}{dt^M} + b_{M-1} \frac{d^{M-1} x(t)}{dt^{M-1}} + \dots + b_1 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + b_0 x(t)$$

or it can be expressed in the form:
$$\sum_{k=0}^N a_k \frac{d^k y(t)}{dt^k} = \sum_{k=0}^M b_k \frac{d^k x(t)}{dt^k}$$

- In general, a constant-coefficient ODE has a **family of solutions**. In order to find a **unique solution** for $y(t)$, initial values of the output signal and its first $N - 1$ derivatives need to be specified at a time instant $t = t_0$. We need to know:

$$y(t_0), \left. \frac{dy(t)}{dt} \right|_{t=t_0}, \dots, \left. \frac{d^{N-1} y(t)}{dt^{N-1}} \right|_{t=t_0} \text{ to find the solution for } t > t_0$$

- The differential equation
$$\sum_{k=0}^N a_k \frac{d^k y(t)}{dt^k} = \sum_{k=0}^M b_k \frac{d^k x(t)}{dt^k}$$

represents a linear system provided that all initial conditions are equal to zero:

$$y(t_0) = 0, \quad \left. \frac{dy(t)}{dt} \right|_{t=t_0} = 0, \dots, \quad \left. \frac{d^{N-1}y(t)}{dt^{N-1}} \right|_{t=t_0} = 0$$

and represents a time invariance system.

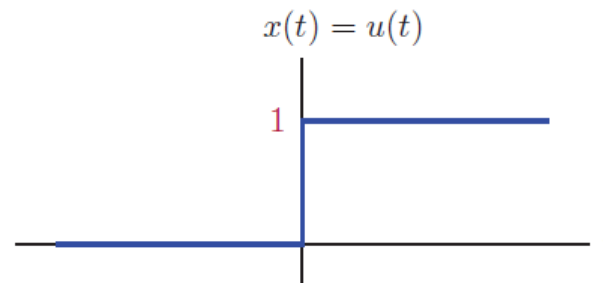
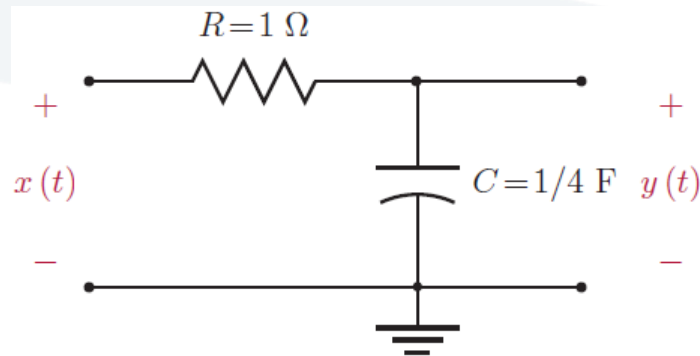
Solving Differential Equations

Solution of the first-order differential equation

- The differential equation
$$\frac{dy(t)}{dt} + \alpha y(t) = r(t), \quad y(t_0): \text{specified}$$

is solved as
$$y(t) = e^{-\alpha(t-t_0)} y(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t e^{-\alpha(t-\tau)} r(\tau) d\tau$$

- **Example 5:** Unit-step response of the simple RC circuit ($y(0) = 0$)

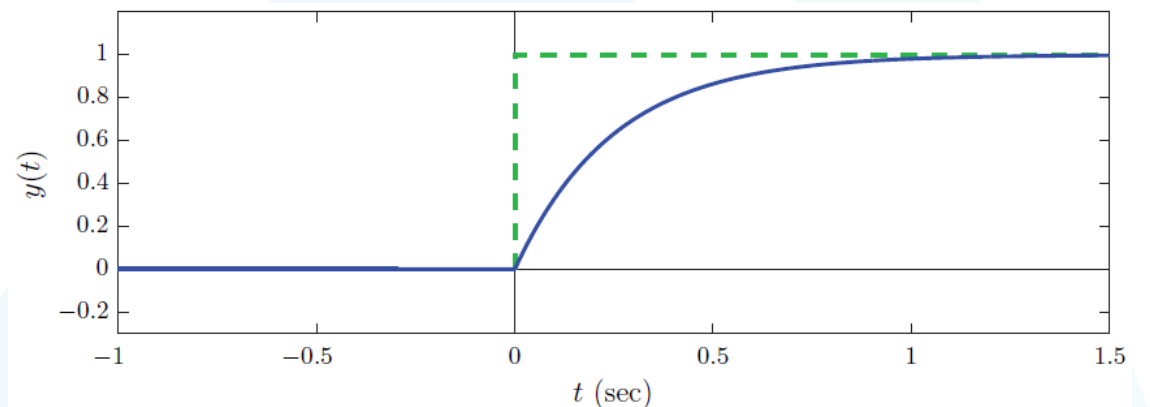


The DE of the circuit is: $\frac{dy(t)}{dt} + \frac{1}{RC} y(t) = \frac{1}{RC} u(t) \Rightarrow \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 4y(t) = 4u(t)$

$$y(t) = \int_0^t e^{-(t-\tau)/RC} \frac{1}{RC} u(\tau) d\tau$$

$$= \frac{e^{-t/RC}}{RC} \int_0^t e^{\tau/RC} d\tau = 1 - e^{-t/RC}, \quad t \geq 0$$

$$y(t) = (1 - e^{-t/RC})u(t) = (1 - e^{-4t})u(t)$$



■ **Example 6:** Pulse response of the simple RC circuit

Response of the RC circuit to a rectangular pulse

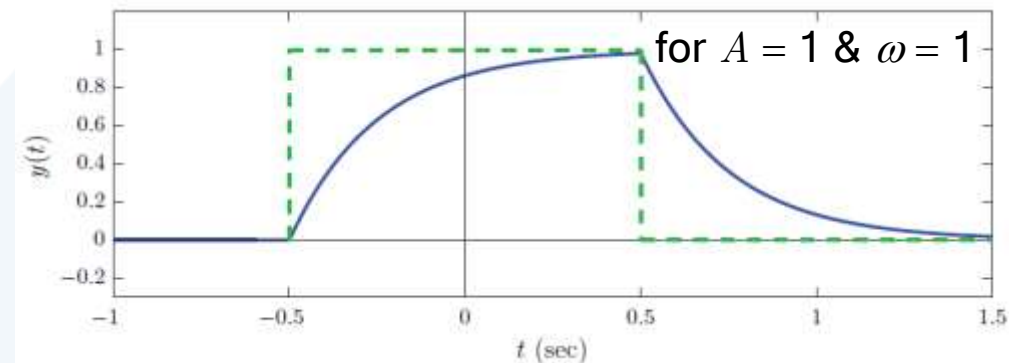
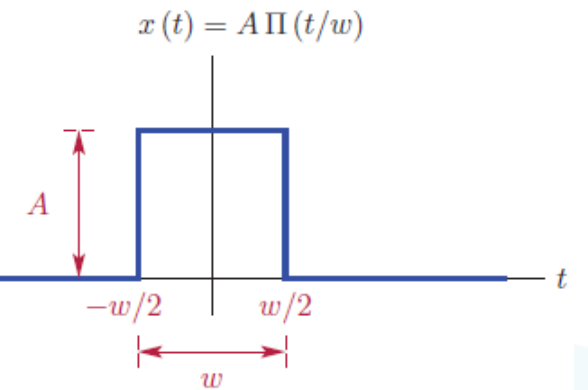
$$\frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 4y(t) = 4\Pi(t/\omega) \Rightarrow y(t) = \int_{-\omega/2}^t e^{-4(t-\tau)} 4A\Pi(\tau/\omega) d\tau$$

Case 1: $t \leq -\omega/2$, $y(t) = 0$

Case 2: $-\omega/2 < t \leq \omega/2$, $y(t) = 4A \int_{-\omega/2}^t e^{-4(t-\tau)} d\tau = A[1 - e^{-2\omega} e^{-4t}]$

Case 3: $t > \omega/2$, $y(t) = 4A \int_{-\omega/2}^{\omega/2} e^{-4(t-\tau)} d\tau = A e^{-4t} [e^{2\omega} - e^{-2\omega}]$

$$y(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t < -\frac{\omega}{2} \\ A[1 - e^{-2\omega} e^{-4t}], & -\frac{\omega}{2} < t \leq \frac{\omega}{2} \\ A e^{-4t} [e^{2\omega} - e^{-2\omega}], & t > \frac{\omega}{2} \end{cases}$$



Solution of the general differential equation

- To solve the general constant-coefficient DE in the form below we will consider two separate components of the output signal $y(t)$ as follows:

$$y(t) = y_h(t) + y_p(t).$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^N a_k \frac{d^k y(t)}{dt^k} = \sum_{k=0}^M b_k \frac{d^k x(t)}{dt^k}$$

- The first term, $y_h(t)$, is the solution of the **homogeneous DE** found by ignoring the input signal, that is, by setting $x(t)$ and all of its derivatives equal to zero.

- $y_h(t)$ is called the **natural response** of the system.

$$\sum_{k=0}^N a_k \frac{d^k y(t)}{dt^k} = 0$$

- $y_h(t)$ depends on the **structure of the system** as well as the **initial state of the system**. It does not depend, on the input signal.

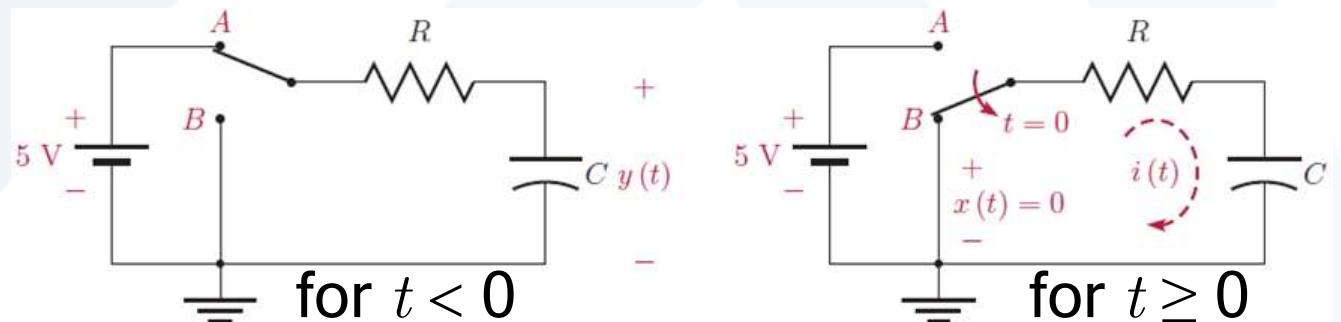
- $y_h(t)$ is the part of the response that is produced by the system due to a **release** of the **energy stored** within the system.
- For a stable system, $y_h(t)$ tends to gradually disappear in time. Because of this, it is also referred to as the **transient response** of the system.
- The second term $y_p(t)$ is part of the solution that is due to the input signal $x(t)$ being applied to the system. It is referred to as the **particular solution** of the differential equation.
- $y_p(t)$ depends on the input signal $x(t)$ and the **internal structure** of the system, but it does not depend on the initial state of the system.
- $y_p(t)$ is the part of the response that remains **active** after the homogeneous solution gradually becomes smaller and disappears.

- $y_p(t)$ will be linked to the **steady-state response** of the system, that is, the response to an input signal that has been applied for a long enough time for the transient terms to die out.

Finding the natural response of a continuous-time system

- **Example 7:** Natural response of the simple RC circuit

Consider the RC circuit with $R = 1 \Omega$ and $C = 1/4 \text{ F}$. Let the input terminals of the circuit be connected to a battery that supplies the circuit with an input voltage of 5 V up to the time instant $t = 0$.

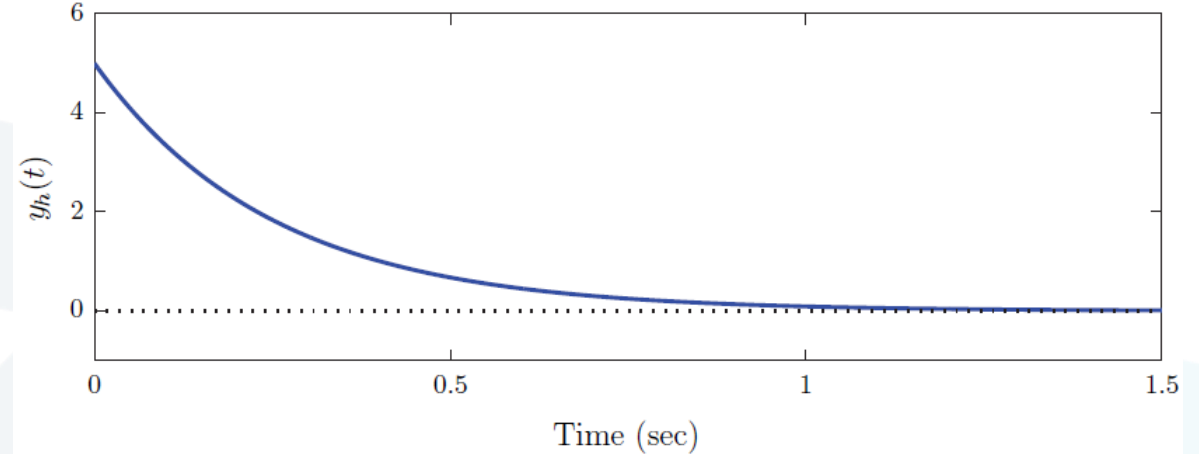


$$\frac{dy(t)}{dt} + \frac{1}{RC} y(t) = 0$$

$$\frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 4y(t) = 0, y_h(t) = ce^{-4t}, t \geq 0$$

$$y_h(0) = 5 \Rightarrow c = 5$$

$$y_h(t) = 5e^{-4t}u(t)$$



- **Example 8:** Natural response of a second-order system (RLC circuit)

At time $t = 0$, the initial inductor current is $i(0) = 0.5$ A and the initial capacitor voltage is $y(0) = 2$ V. $x(t) = 0$. Determine the output voltage $y(t)$ if

- the element values are $R = 2 \Omega$, $L = 1$ H and $C = 1/26$ F,
- the element values are $R = 6 \Omega$, $L = 1$ H and $C = 1/9$ F.

$$a. \frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + \frac{R}{L} \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + \frac{1}{LC} y(t) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 2 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 26y(t) = 0$$

$$y_h(t) = c_1 e^{-t} \cos(5t) + c_2 e^{-t} \sin(5t), t \geq 0$$

$$y_h(0) = 2, \quad i(0) = C \frac{dy_h}{dt}(0) = 0.5 \Rightarrow c_1 = 2, \quad c_2 = 3$$

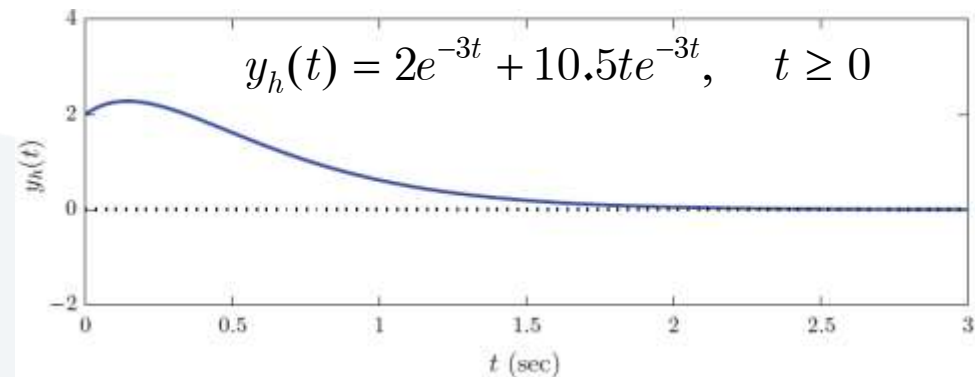
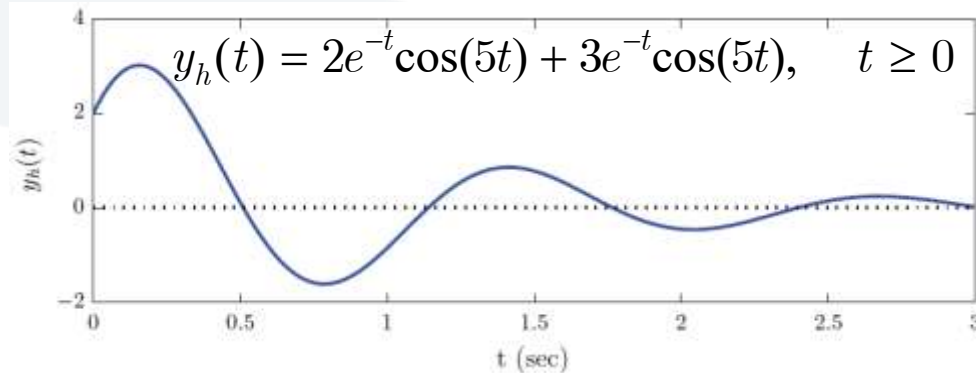
$$y_h(t) = (2e^{-t} \cos(5t) + 3e^{-t} \sin(5t))u(t)$$

$$b. \frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + \frac{R}{L} \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + \frac{1}{LC} y(t) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 6 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 9y(t) = 0$$

$$y_h(t) = c_1 e^{-3t} + c_2 t e^{-3t}, t \geq 0$$

$$y_h(0) = 2, \quad i(0) = C \frac{dy_h}{dt}(0) = 0.5 \Rightarrow c_1 = 2, \quad c_2 = 10.5$$

$$y_h(t) = (2e^{-3t} + 10.5t e^{-3t})u(t)$$



Finding the forced response of a continuous-time system

- Example 9:** Forced response of the first-order system for sinusoidal input
 The initial value of the output signal is $y(0) = 5$. Determine the output signal in response to a sinusoidal input signal in the form $x(t) = 5\cos(8t)$.

$$\frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 4y(t) = 4x(t) \qquad y_h(t) = ce^{-4t}, \quad t \geq 0$$

$$y_p(t) = a\cos(8t) + b\sin(8t) \Rightarrow \frac{dy_p(t)}{dt} = -8a\sin(8t) + 8b\cos(8t)$$

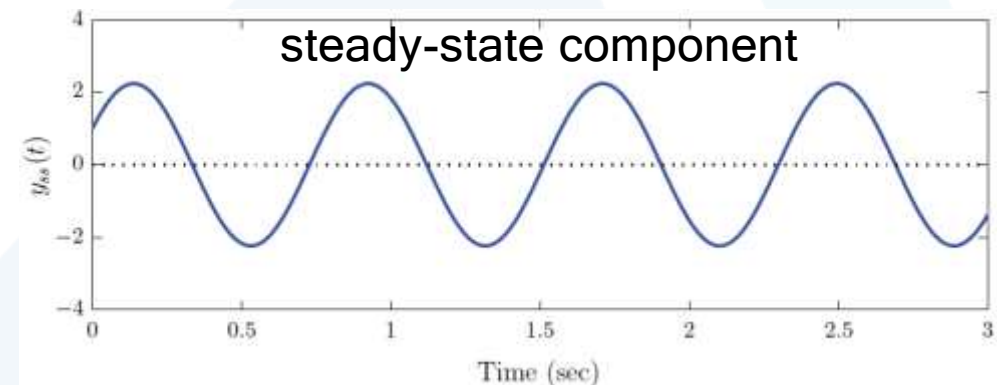
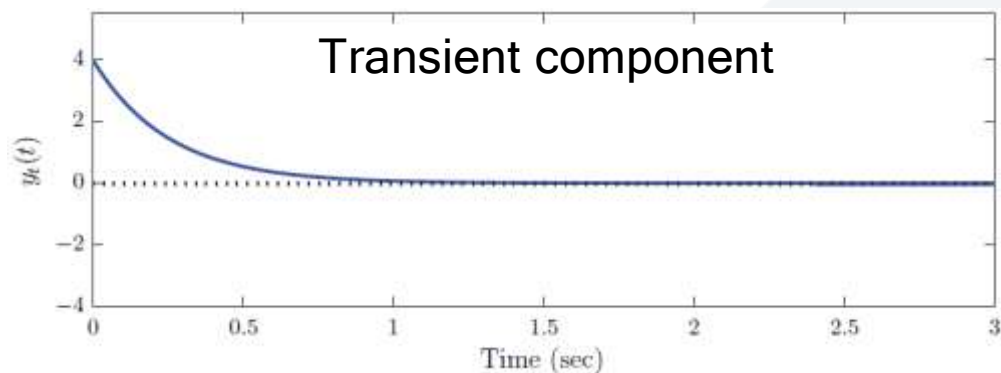
$$-8a\sin(8t) + 8b\cos(8t) + 4a\cos(8t) + 4b\sin(8t) = 20\cos(8t) \Rightarrow a = 1, b = 2$$

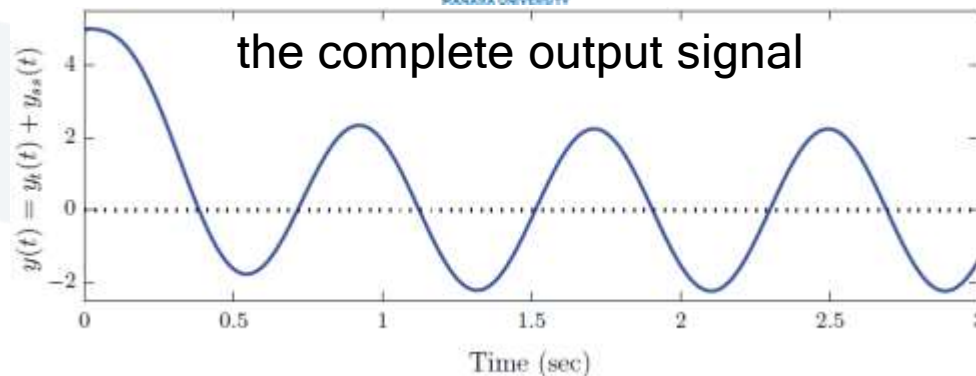
$$y(t) = ce^{-4t} + \cos(8t) + 2\sin(8t), t \geq 0$$

$$y(0) = 5 \Rightarrow c = 4 \Rightarrow y(t) = \underbrace{4e^{-4t}}_{y_t(t)} + \underbrace{\cos(8t) + 2\sin(8t)}_{y_{ss}(t)}, t \geq 0$$

$$y_t(t) = 4e^{-4t}, \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \{y_t(t)\} = 0 \quad y_t(t): \text{transient response of the system}$$

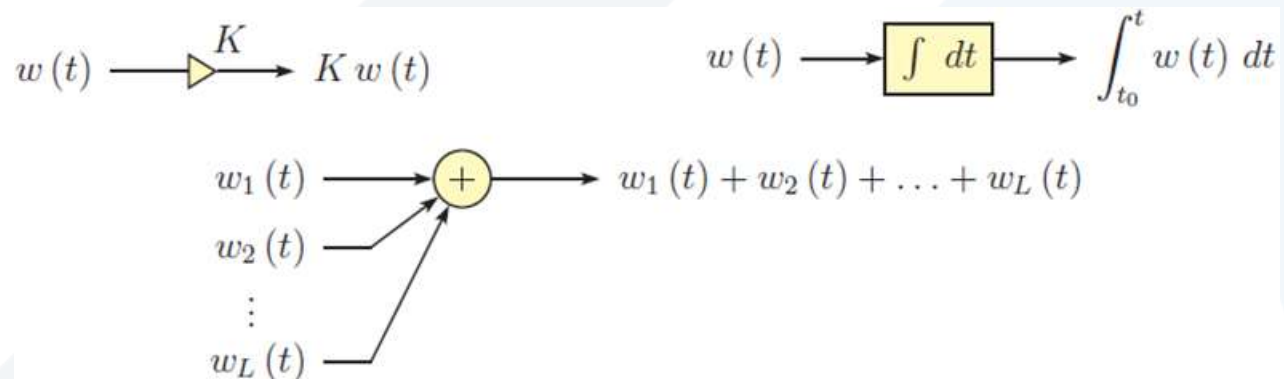
$$y_{ss}(t) = \cos(8t) + 2\sin(8t) \quad y_{ss}(t): \text{steady-state response of the system}$$





5. Block Diagram Representation of Continuous-Time Systems

- Block diagrams for CT systems are constructed using three types of components, namely **constant-gain amplifiers**, **signal adders** and **integrators**.

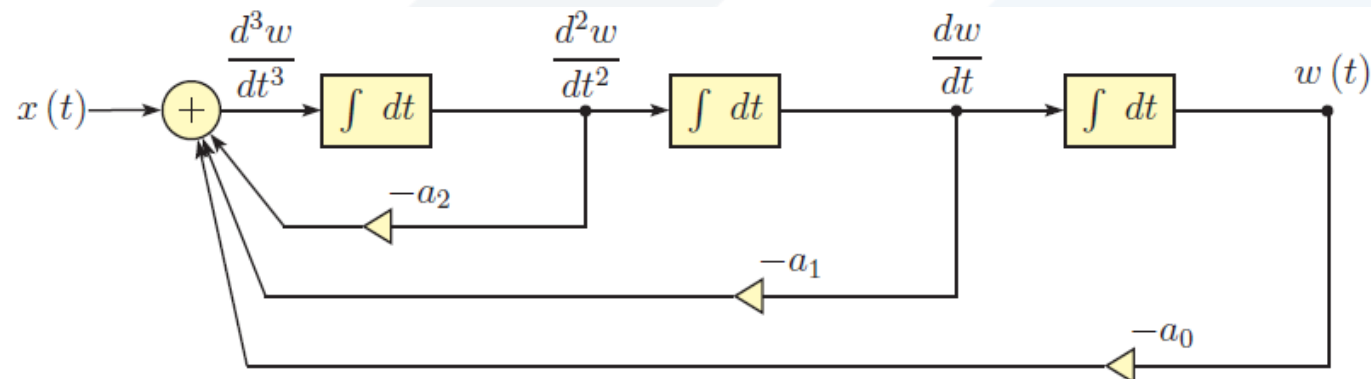


- The technique for finding a block diagram from a differential equation is best explained with an example.

$$\frac{d^3 y}{dt^3} + a_2 \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + a_1 \frac{dy}{dt} + a_0 y = b_2 \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + b_1 \frac{dx}{dt} + b_0 x$$

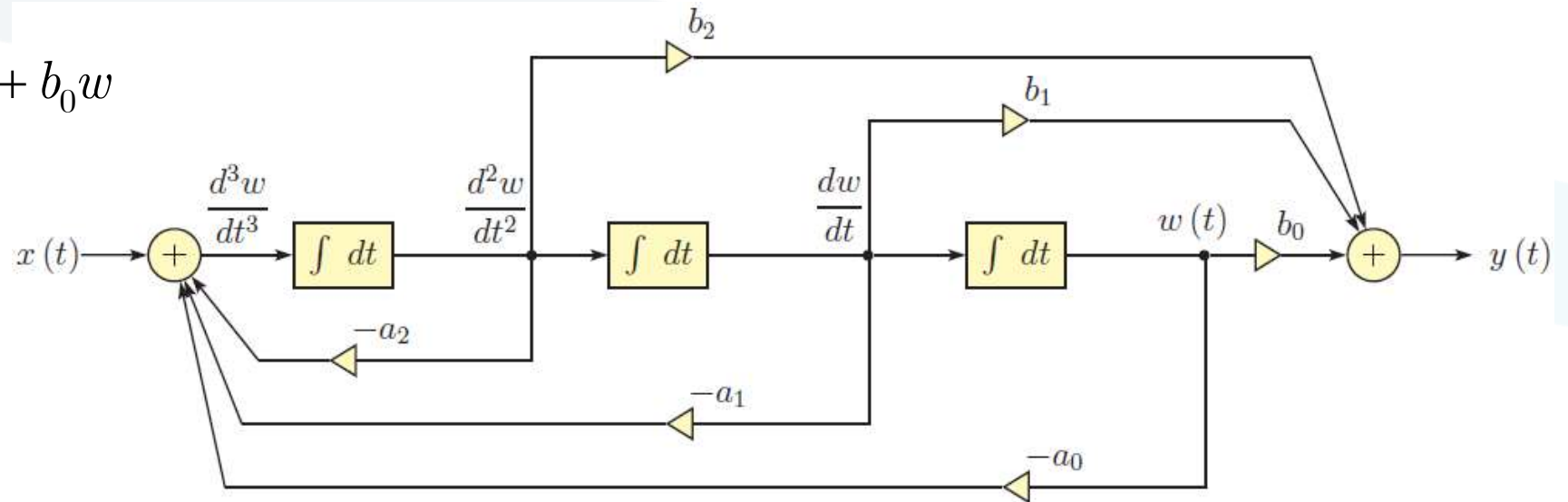
- we will introduce an intermediate variable $w(t)$

$$\frac{d^3 w}{dt^3} + a_2 \frac{d^2 w}{dt^2} + a_1 \frac{dw}{dt} + a_0 w = x \Rightarrow \frac{d^3 w}{dt^3} = x - a_2 \frac{d^2 w}{dt^2} - a_1 \frac{dw}{dt} - a_0 w$$



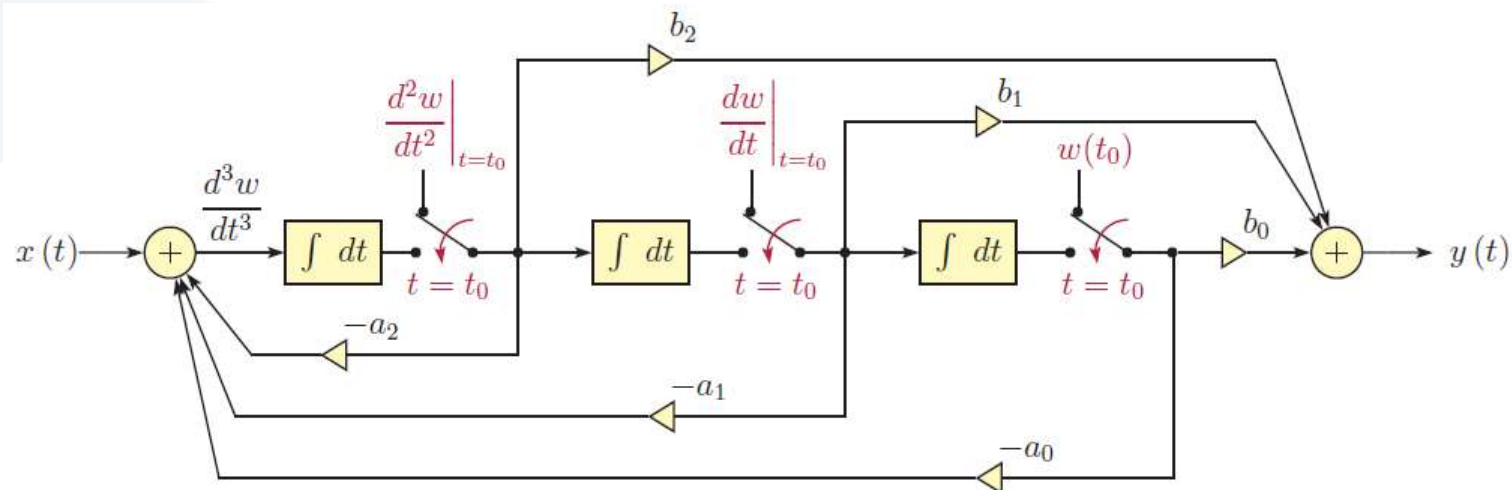
- The output signal $y(t)$ can be expressed in terms of the intermediate variable $w(t)$ as:

$$y = b_2 \frac{d^2 w}{dt^2} + b_1 \frac{dw}{dt} + b_0 w$$



Imposing initial conditions

- Initial values of $y(t)$ and its first $N - 1$ derivatives need to be converted to corresponding initial values of $w(t)$ and its first $N - 1$ derivatives.



- **Example 10:** Block diagram for continuous-time system

$$\frac{d^3y}{dt^3} + 5 \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 17 \frac{dy}{dt} + 13y = x + 2 \frac{dx}{dt}$$

with the input signal $x(t) = \cos(20\pi t)$ and subject to initial conditions:

$$y(0) = 1, \quad \left. \frac{dy}{dt} \right|_{t=0} = 2, \quad \left. \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} \right|_{t=0} = -4$$

$$\frac{d^3w}{dt^3} + 5\frac{d^2w}{dt^2} + 17\frac{dw}{dt} + 13w = x, \quad y = w + 2\frac{dw}{dt}$$

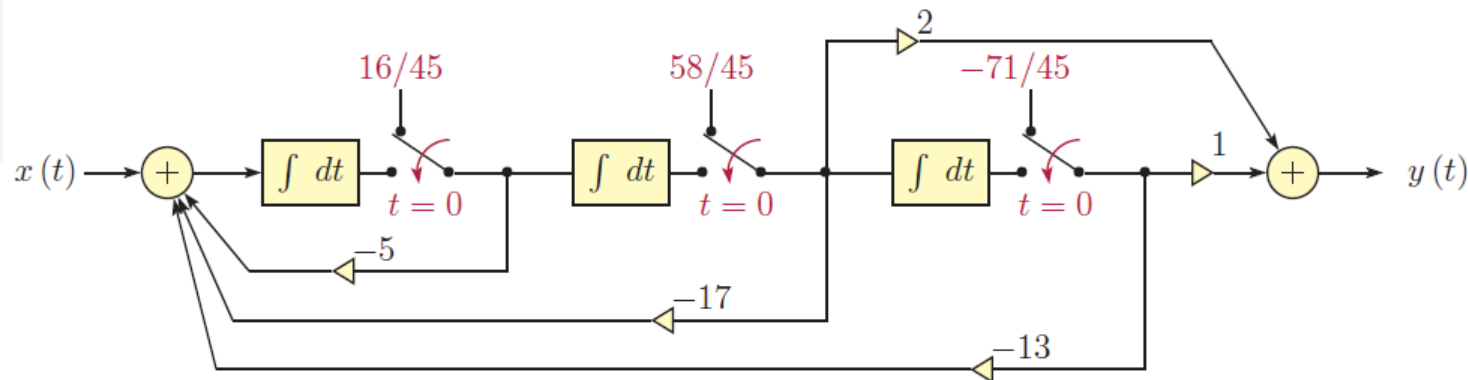
$$y(0) = 1 = w(0) + 2\left.\frac{dw}{dt}\right|_{t=0}, \quad \left.\frac{dy}{dt}\right|_{t=0} = 2 = \left.\frac{dw}{dt}\right|_{t=0} + 2\left.\frac{d^2w}{dt^2}\right|_{t=0},$$

$$\left.\frac{d^2y}{dt^2}\right|_{t=0} = -4 = \left.\frac{d^2w}{dt^2}\right|_{t=0} + 2\left.\frac{d^3w}{dt^3}\right|_{t=0}$$

$$\left.\frac{d^3w}{dt^3}\right|_{t=0} = x(0) - 5\left.\frac{d^2w}{dt^2}\right|_{t=0} - 17\left.\frac{dw}{dt}\right|_{t=0} - 13w(0)$$

$x(0) = 1$. Solving Equations, the initial values of integrator outputs are:

$$w(0) = \frac{-71}{45}, \quad \left.\frac{dw}{dt}\right|_{t=0} = \frac{58}{45}, \quad \left.\frac{d^2w}{dt^2}\right|_{t=0} = \frac{16}{45}$$



6. Impulse Response and Convolution

Convolution operation for CT LTI systems

- The (CT) **convolution** of the functions x and h , denoted $x * h$, is defined as the function:

$$x(t) * h(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(\tau)h(t - \tau)d\tau$$

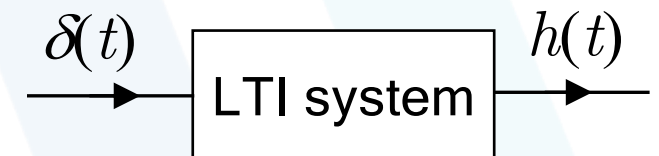
Properties of Convolution

- Is **commutative**. For any two functions x and h , $x * h = h * x$.

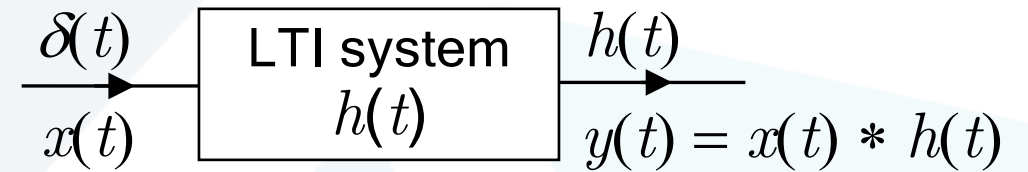
- Is **associative**. For any functions x , h_1 , and h_2 , $(x * h_1) * h_2 = x * (h_1 * h_2)$.
- Is **distributive** with respect to addition. For any functions x , h_1 , and h_2 , $x * (h_1 + h_2) = x * h_1 + x * h_2$.
- For any function x , $x(t) * \delta(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(\tau) \delta(t - \tau) d\tau = x(t)$
- Moreover, δ is the **convolutional identity**. That is, for any function x , $x * \delta = x$.

Impulse response of a CTLTI system

- The response h of a system T to the input δ is called the **impulse response** of the system (i.e., $h = T\delta$).
- For any LTI system with input x , output y , and impulse response h , the following relationship holds: $y = x * h$.



- LTI system is **completely characterized** by its impulse response.
- That is, if the impulse response of a LTI system is known, we can determine the response of the system to any input.



Step Response of a CTLTI system

- The response $s(t)$ of a system T to the input $u(t)$ is called the **step response** of the system.

$$s(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(\tau)h(t - \tau)d\tau = \int_0^{\infty} h(t - \tau)d\tau$$

- The impulse response h and step response s of a LTI system are related as

$$h(t) = \frac{ds(t)}{dt}$$

- **Example 11:** Impulse response of the simple RC circuit

Consider the RC circuit. Let the element values be $R = 1 \Omega$ and $C = 1/4 \text{ F}$. Assume the initial value of the output at time $t = 0$ is $y(0) = 0$. Determine the impulse response of the system.

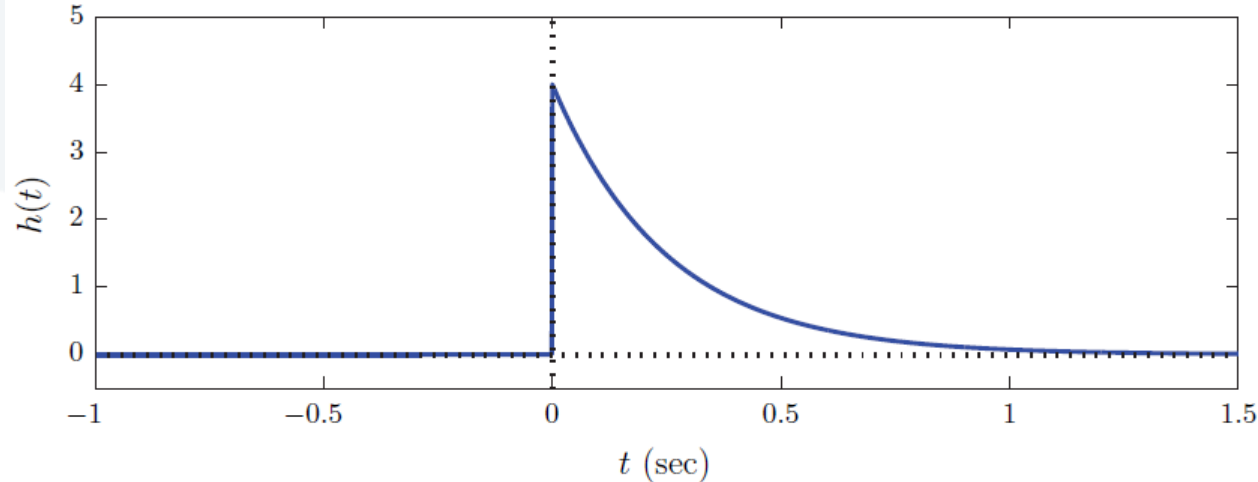
First method: using differential equation

$$y(t) = \int_0^t e^{-(t-\tau)/RC} \frac{1}{RC} x(\tau) d\tau$$

Setting $x(t) = \delta(t)$ $h(t) = \int_0^t e^{-(t-\tau)/RC} \frac{1}{RC} \delta(\tau) d\tau = \frac{1}{RC} e^{-t/RC} u(t)$

Second method: unit-step response of the system

$$s(t) = (1 - e^{-t/RC})u(t) \Rightarrow h(t) = \frac{ds(t)}{dt} = \frac{1}{RC} e^{-t/RC} u(t) = 4e^{-4t}u(t)$$



- **Example 12:** Impulse response of a second-order system (*RLC* circuit)

Determine the impulse response of the *RLC* circuit that was used in Example 4. Use $R = 2 \Omega$, $L = 1 \text{ H}$ and $C = 1/26 \text{ F}$.

First: find the unit-step response

$$\frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 2 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 26y(t) = 26x(t)$$

$$y_h(t) = c_1 e^{-t} \cos(5t) + c_2 e^{-t} \sin(5t), \quad y_p(t) = 1$$

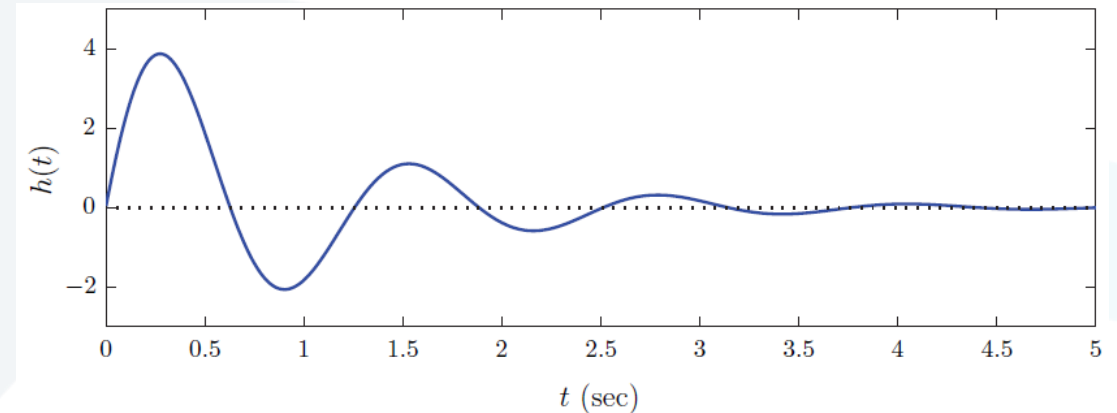
$$y(t) = y_h(t) + y_p(t) = c_1 e^{-t} \cos(5t) + c_2 e^{-t} \sin(5t) + 1$$

Assume that the system is CTLTI, and is therefore initially relaxed.

$$y(0) = 0 = c_1 + 1 \Rightarrow c_1 = -1, \quad \frac{dy}{dt}(0) = 0 = -c_1 + 5c_2 \Rightarrow c_2 = -0.2$$

$$s(t) = -e^{-t} \cos(5t) - 0.2e^{-t} \sin(5t) + 1, \quad t \geq 0$$

$$h(t) = \frac{ds(t)}{dt} = 5.2e^{-t} \sin(5t)u(t)$$



7. Causality and Stability in Continuous-Time Systems

- A system T is said to be **causal** if, for every real constant t_0 , $T\{x(t_0)\}$ does not depend on $x(t)$ for some $t > t_0$.
- Acausal system is such that the value of its output at any given point in time can depend on the value of its input at only the **same or earlier points** in time.

- For CTLTI systems the causality property can be related to the impulse response of the system $h(t) = 0$ for all $t < 0$.

$$y(t) = h(t) * x(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\tau)x(t - \tau)d\tau = \int_0^{\infty} h(\tau)x(t - \tau)d\tau$$

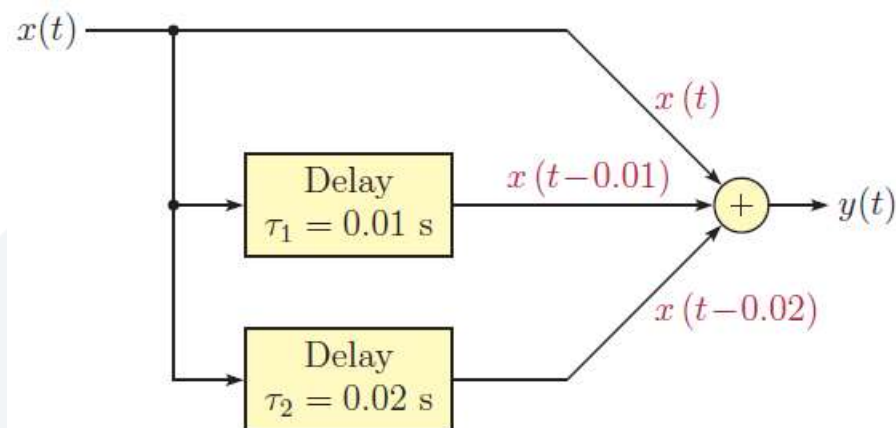
- Example 13:** causal and non causal systems

a. CT time-delay system $y(t) = x(t) + x(t - 0.01) + x(t - 0.02)$

✓

b. CT time-forward system $y(t) = x(t) + x(t + 0.1)$

✗



- **Note:** A system must be causal in order to be **physically realizable**.
- A system is said to be stable in the **bounded-input bounded-output** sense if any bounded input signal is guaranteed to produce a bounded output signal.
- An input signal $x(t)$ is said to be **bounded** if an upper bound B_x exists such that $x(t) < B_x < \infty$ for all values of t .
- For stability of a continuous-time system: $x(t) < B_x < \infty \Rightarrow y(t) < B_y < \infty$
- For a CTLTI system to be **stable**, its impulse response must be **absolute integrable**.

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |h(\tau)| d\tau < \infty$$

- **Example 14:** Stability of a first-order continuous-time system
Evaluate the stability of the first-order CTLTI system described by the DE:

$$\frac{dy(t)}{dt} + ay(t) = x(t)$$

The step response of the system is when $x(t) = u(t)$

$$\frac{dy(t)}{dt} + ay(t) = u(t) \Rightarrow y(t) = ce^{-at} + \frac{1}{a}$$

$y(0) = 0$. (We take the initial value to be zero since the system is specified to be CTLTI. Non-zero initial conditions cannot be linear: Based on a zero input signal must produce a zero output signal).

$$y(0) = 0 \Rightarrow 0 = c + 1/a \Rightarrow c = -1/a$$

$$s(t) = \frac{1}{a} (1 - e^{-at}) u(t)$$

$$h(t) = \frac{ds(t)}{dt} = s(t) = e^{-at} u(t)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |h(t)| dt = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-at} dt = \frac{1}{a}$$

Thus the system is stable if $a > 0$.