

NOTES FOR LECTURES 5B & 6A: CONTROLLABILITY AND FEEDBACK

Controllability: DISCRETE-TIME SYSTEMS

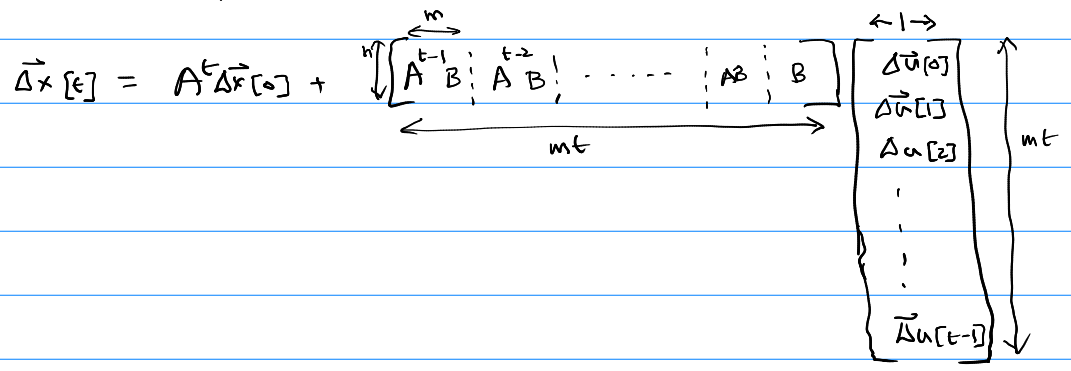
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$$\Delta \vec{x}[t] = A \Delta \vec{x}[t-1] + B \Delta \vec{u}[t], \text{ with } \Delta \vec{x}[0] \text{ IC}$$

$$\Delta \vec{x}[1] = A \Delta \vec{x}[0] + B \Delta \vec{u}[0]$$

$$\Delta \vec{x}[2] = A \Delta \vec{x}[1] + B \Delta \vec{u}[1] = A^2 \Delta \vec{x}[0] + AB \Delta \vec{u}[0] + B \Delta \vec{u}[1]$$

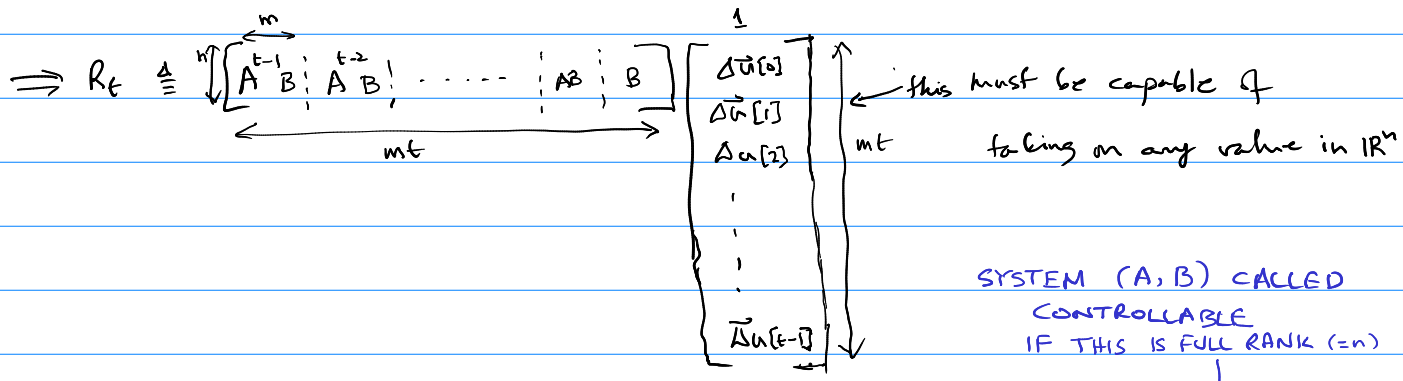
$$\Delta \vec{x}[t] = A^t \Delta \vec{x}[0] + \sum_{i=1}^t A^{t-i} B \Delta \vec{u}[i-1]$$



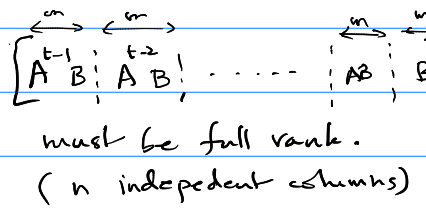
— Goal: given some IC $\Delta \vec{x}[0]$, to drive the system (via a sequence of inputs) to anything you like.

$\Rightarrow \Delta \vec{x}[t]$ can be any vector (say \vec{z})

$\Rightarrow \Delta \vec{x}[t] - A^t \Delta \vec{x}[0]$ can be any vector ($\vec{z} + A^t \Delta \vec{x}[0]$)



\Rightarrow (result from linear algebra):



Q: Just choose t s.t. $mt \geq n$, then there are at least n columns.

Won't it be full rank?

THE CONTROLLABILITY MATRIX

A: not necessarily. Example:

$$\rightarrow A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad A^k B = B \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(B) = \begin{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{2t} & & & \\ B & B & B & \dots & B \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{rank} = 1 < 2. \quad = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow A\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(2) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \underline{\text{rank } 1}$$

- Consider B, AB, A^2B, \dots , in sequence

- when does this sequence start running out of linearly indep. vectors?

- Thm. For some $m \leq n$, ^{size of the $n \times n$ matrix A} $A^m B$ will not add any more lin. indep. vectors to $[B, AB, A^2B, \dots, A^{m-1}B]$

\rightarrow moreover, for all $p > m$, $A^p B$ will not have any indep. vectors, either.

- Consequence of the minimal polynomial theorem: ^{related to the Cayley-Hamilton theorem.}

$$\rightarrow \text{for some } k \leq n, A^k + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} c_i A^i = 0 \Leftrightarrow \text{i.e., } A^k = -(c_{k-1}A^{k-1} + c_{k-2}A^{k-2} + \dots + c_0 I)$$

- note $k=n$ if $\lambda_i \neq \lambda_j \neq i \neq j$
 $\rightarrow m \leq k \leq n$
some specific scalars

$$\rightarrow \text{Proof: } A^k B = -(c_{k-1}A^{k-1}B + c_{k-2}A^{k-2}B + \dots + c_0 B)$$


linear combination of all previous columns

Example: use the above A & \vec{b} in discrete time system:

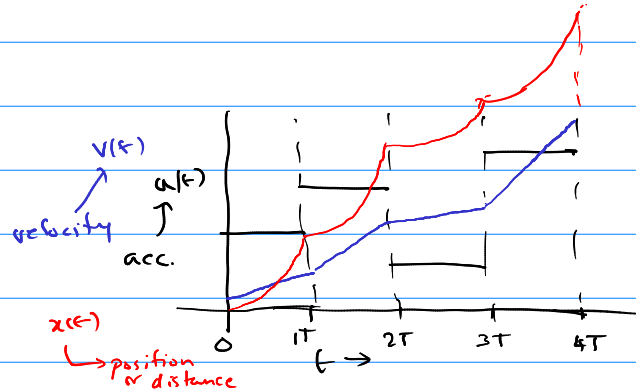
$$\rightarrow \vec{x}[t+1] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}[t] + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} u[t]$$

\rightarrow NOT CONTROLLABLE

\rightarrow Insight: the 2nd eqn. is: $x_2[t+1] = 2x_2[t]$ \leftarrow no way $u[t]$ can influence this

→ Another example: 

- pedal changes acceleration - but only every T seconds:



$$a(t) = \frac{dv(t)}{dt} \Rightarrow \int_0^t a(z) dz :$$

$$\rightarrow a(z) = a(t) \quad tT < z < (t+1)T$$

↑ discrete

$$v(tT+T) - v(tT) = \int_{tT}^{(t+1)T} a(z) dz = Ta(t)$$

↑ discrete

$$\Rightarrow v(tT+T) = v(tT) + Ta(t)$$

- also $v(tT+z) = v(tT) + za(t) \quad 0 \leq z \leq T$

→ position $x(t) = \int_0^t v(z) dz$

$$x(tT+T) - x(tT) = \int_{tT}^{(t+1)T} v(z) dz = \int_{tT}^{(t+1)T} v(tT) dz + a(t) \int_0^T z dz$$

$$= Tv(tT) + \frac{a(t)T^2}{2}$$

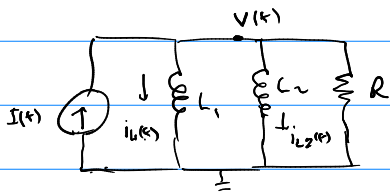
$$\begin{bmatrix} x((t+1)T) \\ v((t+1)T) \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & T \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_A \begin{bmatrix} x(tT) \\ v(tT) \end{bmatrix} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}T^2 \\ T \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{b}} a(t)$$

Controllability: $\begin{bmatrix} \vec{1} \\ \vec{b} \end{bmatrix}, A\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{T^2}{2} & \frac{3}{2}T^2 \\ T & T \end{bmatrix} = T \begin{bmatrix} \frac{T}{2} & \frac{3}{2}T \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\det = T \left(\frac{T}{2} - \frac{3}{2}T \right) = -T^2 \neq 0 \quad \forall T \neq 0$$

Hence controllable: you can devise a $u(t)$ to achieve any position/velocity for $t \geq 2$

— RL ckt example



$$\frac{v(t)}{R} + i_{L1}(t) + i_{L2}(t) - I(t) = 0 \Rightarrow v(t) = (I(t) - i_{L1}(t) - i_{L2}(t))R$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} L_1 \frac{di_{L1}}{dt} &= v(t) = \frac{(I(t) - i_{L1}(t) - i_{L2}(t))R}{L_1} \\ L_2 \frac{di_{L2}}{dt} &= v(t) = \frac{(I(t) - i_{L1}(t) - i_{L2}(t))R}{L_2} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

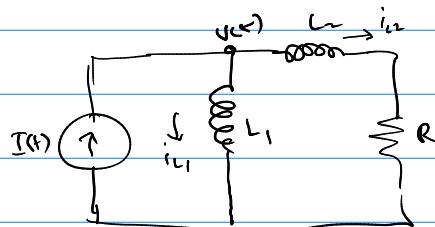
$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} i_{L1} \\ i_{L2} \end{bmatrix} = R \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{L_1} & -\frac{1}{L_2} \\ \frac{1}{L_2} & -\frac{1}{L_1} \end{bmatrix}}_A \begin{bmatrix} i_{L1} \\ i_{L2} \end{bmatrix} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{L_1} \\ \frac{1}{L_2} \end{bmatrix}}_b I(t)$$

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{L_1} & \frac{1}{L_2} \\ \frac{1}{L_2} & -\frac{1}{L_1} \end{bmatrix}}_{A\vec{b}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_b \leftarrow \text{rank} \Rightarrow \text{not controllable}$$

→ "Physical" reason: same voltage determines both currents, can't make both indep. of each other:

$$-\frac{d}{dt} [L_1 i_1 - L_2 i_2] = 0 \Rightarrow L_1 i_1 = L_2 i_2 + \text{constant}!$$

→ How about



FEEDBACK

→ CONTROLLABILITY IS NOT OF MUCH USE WITHOUT STABILITY

→ Suppose you have a controllable, but dynamically unstable, system.

→ Can you really control it, in a practical sense?

→ NO: the slightest error (e.g. in the input, or IC), will totally trash your control strategy.

→ Example: $\frac{dx}{dt} = x + u(t)$.

→ system is controllable; but it is ^{dynamically} UNSTABLE (eigenvalue = 1 > 0)

→ say we want to move $x(t)$ to 1 at $t=10$ (from 0 at 0)

$$\rightarrow x(10) = \int_0^{10} e^{10-z} u(z) dz = e^{10} \int_0^{10} e^{-z} u(z) dz$$

← don't need to go through this.

→ try $u(z) \equiv \text{constant} = b$

$$\Rightarrow x(10) = b e^{10} \int_0^{10} e^{-z} dz = b e^{10} \left[e^{-z} \right]_0^{10} = b e^{10} [1 - e^{-10}] = b [e^{10} - 1] \quad \sim 2.2 \times 10^4$$

$$\Rightarrow (\text{since } x(10) \text{ is } 1) \quad b = \frac{1}{e^{10} - 1} \approx 4.582 \times 10^{-5}$$

→ Suppose your initial condition is not exactly 0, but $= 10^{-3}$

→ what is the error in $x(10)$?

→ it is $10^{-3} e^{10} \approx 22$ ← totally wipes out desired value of 1.

— Now suppose you have $\dot{x} = -x + u(t)$

$$- x(10) = e^{-10} \int_0^{10} e^{+z} dz = (\text{for fixed } u(t) \equiv b) \quad b [e^{-10} - 1] \approx -b$$

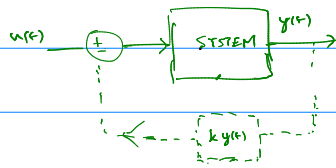
— now if $x(0) = 10^{-3}$, $\Delta x(10) = 10^{-3} e^{-10} \approx 0$ ← very accurate

→ I.e., an unstable system, even if controllable, is effectively not so in the presence of even tiny errors.

→ For a system to be practically controllable (and useful), IT MUST BE STABLE.

→ CAN ONE SOMEHOW MAKE AN UNSTABLE SYSTEM STABLE?

→ Yes: via feedback

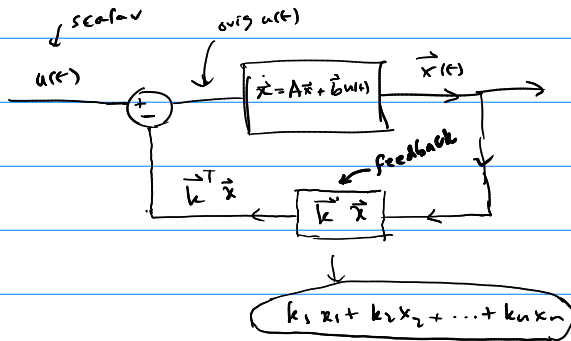


→ what is feedback?

→ Take some of the state and add/subtract it from the input.

→ Uses: less sensitive to errors/variations/noise

→ SYSTEM w scalar input:



$$\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = A\vec{x} + \vec{b}(u(t) - \vec{k}^T \vec{x}(t)) \Rightarrow \frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = \underbrace{(A - \vec{b}\vec{k}^T)}_{\downarrow} \vec{x} + \vec{b}u(t)$$

these determine stability

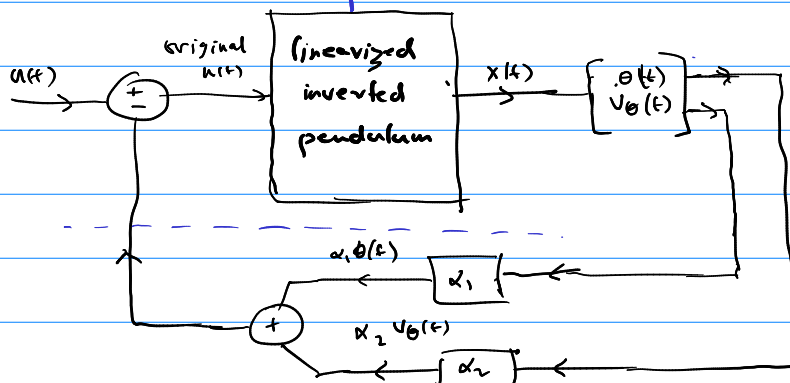
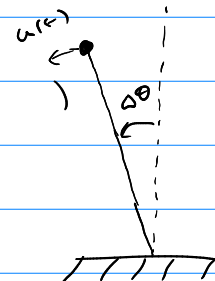
- how do the eigenvalues of this relate to those of A?

↳ no general analytical formula exists

— FEEDBACK CAN STABILIZE UNSTABLE SYSTEMS

— EXAMPLE: inverted pendulum

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ v_\theta(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ g/l & -k/m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ v_\theta(t) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1/m \end{bmatrix} u(t)$$



SYSTEM w feedback

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ v_b(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ g/l - k/m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ v_b(t) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1/m \end{bmatrix} (u(t) - \alpha_1 \theta(t) - \alpha_2 v_b(t))$$

due to feedback

$$+ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1/m \end{bmatrix} u(t) - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1/m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \theta \\ v_b \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ v_b(t) \end{bmatrix} = \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ g/l - k/m \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1/m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ v_b(t) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1/m \end{bmatrix} u(t)$$

new A for system w feedback

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ g/l - \frac{\alpha_1}{m} & -\frac{k}{m} - \frac{\alpha_2}{m} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ \frac{mg - \alpha_1}{ml} & \frac{-kl - d_2}{ml} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ v_b(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ \frac{mg - \alpha_1}{ml} & \frac{-kl - d_2}{ml} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ v_b(t) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1/m \end{bmatrix} u(t)$$

↳ inverted pendulum w feedback

→ STABILITY: determined by the eigenvalues of $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ \frac{mg - \alpha_1}{ml} & \frac{-kl - d_2}{ml} \end{bmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow \det(A - \lambda I) = 0 \Rightarrow \det \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ \frac{mg - \alpha_1}{ml} & \frac{-kl - d_2 - ml\lambda}{ml} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\lambda(kl + d_2 + ml\lambda) - (mg - \alpha_1)}{ml} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow ml\lambda^2 + (kl + d_2)\lambda - (mg - \alpha_1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_{1,2} = \frac{-(\alpha_2 + kl) \pm \sqrt{(\alpha_2 + kl)^2 + 4ml(mg - \alpha_1)}}{2ml}$$

$$= \frac{-(kl + d_2)}{2ml} \pm \frac{1}{2ml} \sqrt{(kl + d_2)^2 + 4ml(mg - \alpha_1)}$$

- want both eigenvalues to have -ve real parts

- $\left| \sqrt{(kl + \alpha_2)^2 + 4ml(mg - \alpha_1)} \right|$ real & $< \underbrace{-(kl + \alpha_2)}_{\text{and this is negative}}$

1. $\alpha_2 > -kl \Rightarrow (kl + \alpha_2)$ positive $\Rightarrow \frac{-(kl + \alpha_2)}{2ml}$ is negative

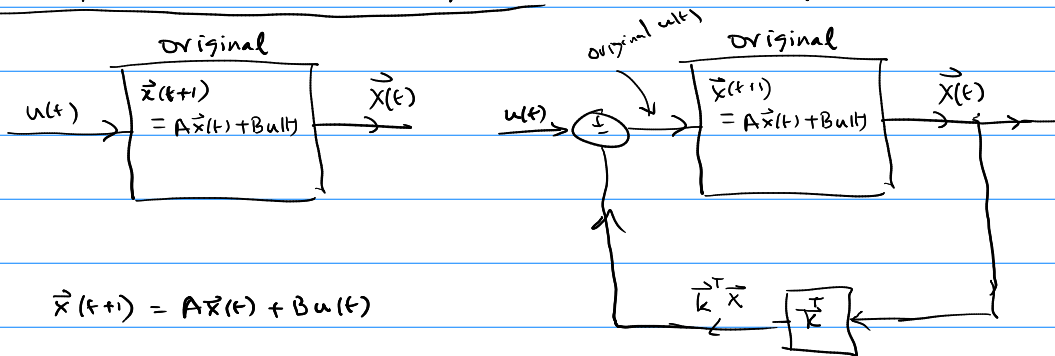
2. $4ml(mg - \alpha_1)$ should be negative $\Rightarrow \alpha_1 > mg$

[inverted_pendulum_w_feedback_root_locus.m](#)

- plot root-locus wrt α_1 & α_2

- see transient time-domain simulations for various α_1 & α_2

→ Feedback for discrete-time systems: VERY SIMILAR



$$\vec{x}(t+1) = A\vec{x}(t) + Bu(t)$$

$$\vec{x}(t+1) = (A - B\vec{k}^T) \vec{x}(t) + Bu(t)$$

→ Stability: find the eigenvalues of $(A + B\vec{k}^T)$, choose \vec{k} to stabilize as needed

ONLY DIFFERENCE: ^{for discrete} stability means $|\lambda| < 1$ (not $\text{Re}\{\lambda\} < 0$)

$$\rightarrow \text{Example: } \vec{x}[k+1] = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a_1 & a_2 \end{bmatrix}}_A \vec{x}[k] + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u[k]$$

given by

$$\rightarrow \text{original eigenvalues: } \det(\lambda - \lambda I) = 0 \Rightarrow -\lambda(a_2 - \lambda) - a_1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^2 - a_2\lambda - a_1 = 0$$

↪ roots of this

$$\rightarrow \text{feedback: } u \mapsto u - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} [k_1 \ k_2] \vec{x}$$

$$\Rightarrow A \mapsto A - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ k_1 & k_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a_1 - k_1 & a_2 - k_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{new eigenvalues: } \tilde{\lambda}^2 - (a_2 - k_2)\tilde{\lambda} - (a_1 - k_1) = 0$$

$$\tilde{\lambda}_{1,2} = \frac{(a_2 - k_2) \pm \sqrt{(a_2 - k_2)^2 + 4(a_1 - k_1)}}{2}$$

$$\tilde{\lambda}_1 + \tilde{\lambda}_2 = (a_2 - k_2) \Rightarrow k_2 = a_2 - \tilde{\lambda}_1 - \tilde{\lambda}_2$$

$$\tilde{\lambda}_1 - \tilde{\lambda}_2 = \sqrt{(\tilde{\lambda}_1 + \tilde{\lambda}_2)^2 + 4(a_1 - k_1)} \Rightarrow (\tilde{\lambda}_1 - \tilde{\lambda}_2)^2 = (\tilde{\lambda}_1 + \tilde{\lambda}_2)^2 + 4(a_1 - k_1)$$

(using $a^2 - b^2 = (a+b)(a-b)$)

$$\Rightarrow k_1 = \frac{(\tilde{\lambda}_1 + \tilde{\lambda}_2)^2 - (\tilde{\lambda}_1 - \tilde{\lambda}_2)^2}{4} + a_1$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{i.e., } \begin{cases} k_1 = \tilde{\lambda}_1 \tilde{\lambda}_2 + a_1 \\ k_2 = a_2 - \tilde{\lambda}_1 - \tilde{\lambda}_2 \end{cases}$$

k_1 & k_2

↪ choose n to place the eigenvalues wherever you like!

→ Another discrete-time example

$$\rightarrow A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{Note: not controllable!}$$

$$\rightarrow A - \vec{b} \vec{k}^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - k_1 & 1 - k_2 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Intuition: 2nd eqn is uncontrollable \Rightarrow cannot influence it by feedback

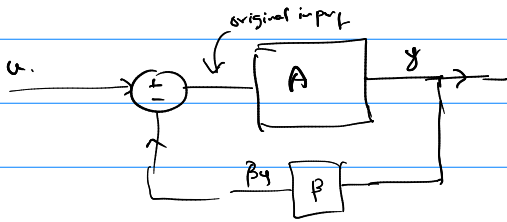
$$\rightarrow \text{eigenvalues: } (1 - k_1 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda) =$$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda_1 = 2), \lambda_2 = (1 - k_1)$$

↪ does not depend on k_1 or $k_2 \Rightarrow$ can't change this eigenvalue

SIMPLER (BUT ILLUMINATING) VIEWS OF FEEDBACK AND ITS USES

— these are often used by circuit designers.



: Orig. xfer fn.: $y = Au$

New " " : $A(u - \beta y) = y$

$\Rightarrow (1 + \beta A)y = Au$

$\Rightarrow y = \frac{A}{1 + \beta A} u$

→ note: if $\beta A \gg 1$

→ then $y \approx \frac{1}{\beta} u$

→ this happens in op-amps: A is very large, but its value can be very "noisy": eg: $10^5 - 10^6$

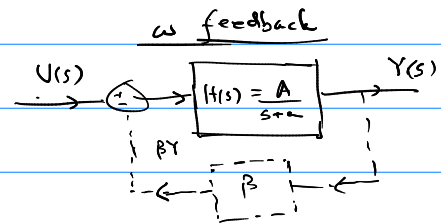
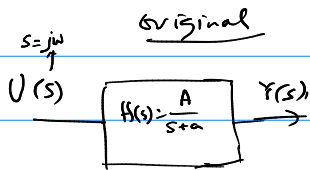
→ Suppose you want a gain of 10^3 , but reasonably precisely.

→ set $\beta = 10^3$ precisely (using a resistor/capacitor)

→ then if $A = 10^5$, gain = $\frac{10^5}{10^3 + 1} \approx 10^3$

if $A = 10^6$, gain = $\frac{10^6}{10^3 + 1} \approx 10^3$

→ Feedback in the phasor domain:



$$Y(s) = \frac{\frac{A}{s+a}}{1 + \frac{\beta A}{s+a}} U(s) = \frac{A}{s+a + \beta A} U(s)$$

→ now suppose the original pole a was dynamically unstable $\Rightarrow a < 0$

→ you can FIX it by adding βA

— and if $|\beta A| \gg |a|$, then $H(s) \approx \frac{A}{s + \beta A}$

— at DC: $\frac{1}{\beta}$

— at $s = j\omega$, $\approx \frac{1}{2}$ of DC gain

THESE CAN BE EASILY DERIVED FROM THE STATE SPACE FORM - eg, BY REPRESENTING $\vec{x}(t), \vec{x}(t)$, etc. AS PHASORS