

**Topic 9: Engineering language: input, gain, phase lag (day 1 of 3)**  
 Jeremy Orloff

# 1 Agenda

- Input
- Naming the parts of solutions
- Tomorrow: gain and resonance

# 2 Setup: stable systems

We'll assume all our systems are stable.

- Since  $x_h(t) \rightarrow 0$ , we will focus on particular solutions.
- We will only consider sinusoidal input:  $B \cos(\omega t)$ .

# 3 Input

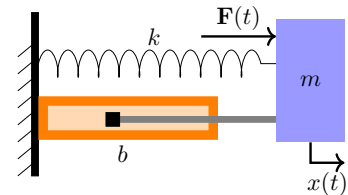
**Input** is an engineering term. It is up to the engineer to tell us what we should call the input.

**Examples:**

1. External force on the mass in a spring-mass-damper system.

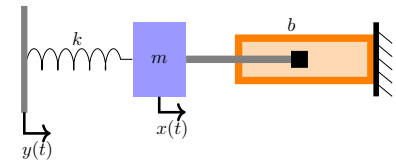
Model:  $mx'' + bx' + kx = F(t)$ .

Input: It's natural to call the force  $F(t)$  the input.



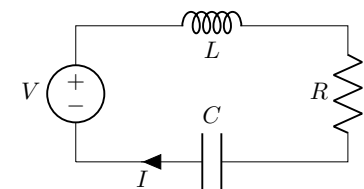
2. Drive the mass by pushing on the end of the spring.  $y(t)$  is the position of the end of the spring.

Model:  $mx'' + bx' + kx = ky$ . Natural to call  $y(t)$  the input.



3. Voltage  $V$  driving a circuit with current  $I$ .

Model:  $LI'' + RI' + \frac{1}{C}I = V'$ . Call  $V$  the input.



## 4 Naming the parts of solutions

**Example 1.** Consider the system  $2x'' + 5x' + 3x = 3B \cos(\omega t)$ , where the engineer has told us that  $B \cos(\omega t)$  is considered the input.

Solve the DE for the general real-valued solution.

Name the pieces of the solution.

**Solution:**  $P(r) = 2r^2 + 5r + 3$ . So,  $P(i\omega) = 3 - 2\omega^2 + 5i\omega$ .

Sinusoidal solution: (SRF)  $x_p(t) = \frac{3B \cos(\omega t - \phi(\omega))}{|P(i\omega)|}$ ,  $\phi(\omega) = \text{Arg}(P(i\omega))$ . (We won't bother computing  $\phi(\omega)$  and  $|P(i\omega)|$ .)

Homogeneous solution: Roots  $-3/2, -1 \rightarrow x_h(t) = c_1 e^{-\frac{3}{2}t} + c_2 e^{-t}$ .

General solution:  $x(t) = \underbrace{\frac{3B \cos(\omega t - \phi(\omega))}{|P(i\omega)|}}_{\text{periodic or sinusoidal response}} + \underbrace{c_1 e^{-\frac{3}{2}t} + c_2 e^{-t}}_{\text{transient (goes to 0)}}$

Input features:

$$\begin{aligned} B \cos(\omega t) &= \text{input (given to us)} \\ B &= \text{input amplitude} \\ \omega &= \text{input frequency (angular frequency in radians/time)} \end{aligned}$$

Solution (output/response) features:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{3B \cos(\omega t - \phi(\omega))}{|P(i\omega)|} &= \text{output (depends on } \omega \text{.)} \\ \frac{3B}{|P(i\omega)|} &= \text{output amplitude (depends on } \omega \text{.)} \\ \phi(\omega) &= \text{phase lag in radians (depends on } \omega \text{.)} \\ g(\omega) = \frac{\text{output amplitude}}{\text{input amplitude}} = \frac{3}{|P(i\omega)|} &= \text{gain (depends on } \omega \text{.)} \end{aligned}$$

(If output and input have the same dimension, then  $g$  is dimensionless,

e.g., if input and output are both voltages, then  $g$  is called the voltage gain.)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\phi(\omega)}{\omega} &= \text{time lag (units of time).} \\ \frac{3}{P(i\omega)} &= \text{complex gain} = \frac{3}{|P(i\omega)|} e^{-i\phi} = g e^{-i\phi} \end{aligned}$$

### 4.1 Gain and phase lag determine the output

Key: For sinusoidal input, the gain and phase lag determine the output.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Input} &= B \cos(\omega t) \\ \text{Output} &= g(\omega) B \cos(\omega t - \phi(\omega)) = gB \cos(\omega t - \phi) \end{aligned}$$

Together gain and phase lag is called the **frequency response** of the system.

See mathlet: <https://web.mit.edu/jorloff/www/OCW-ES1803/gainPhase.html>

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ES.1803 Differential Equations

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