

# Control Systems

## Models

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# some concepts from the last lecture

- analysis & control of dynamical systems
- dynamics/motion
- models/mathematical models
- prediction/simulation
- linearity
- time-invariance
- feedback control scheme: principle and example

## this lecture

- models: from differential equations to state space representation
- input & output choice
- state
- similar transformations

# general mathematical model

$$\dot{x}(t) = A x(t) + B u(t)$$

$$y(t) = C x(t) + D u(t)$$

$$x(0) = x_0$$

**state space representation**

linear time invariant (LTI)

dynamical system (continuous time)

$x(t)$  **state**      $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$

$u(t)$  **input**      $u \in \mathbf{R}^m$

multi input (if  $m = 1$ , single input)

$y(t)$  **output**      $y \in \mathbf{R}^p$

multi output (if  $p = 1$ , single output)

$A$  dynamics matrix ( $n \times n$ )

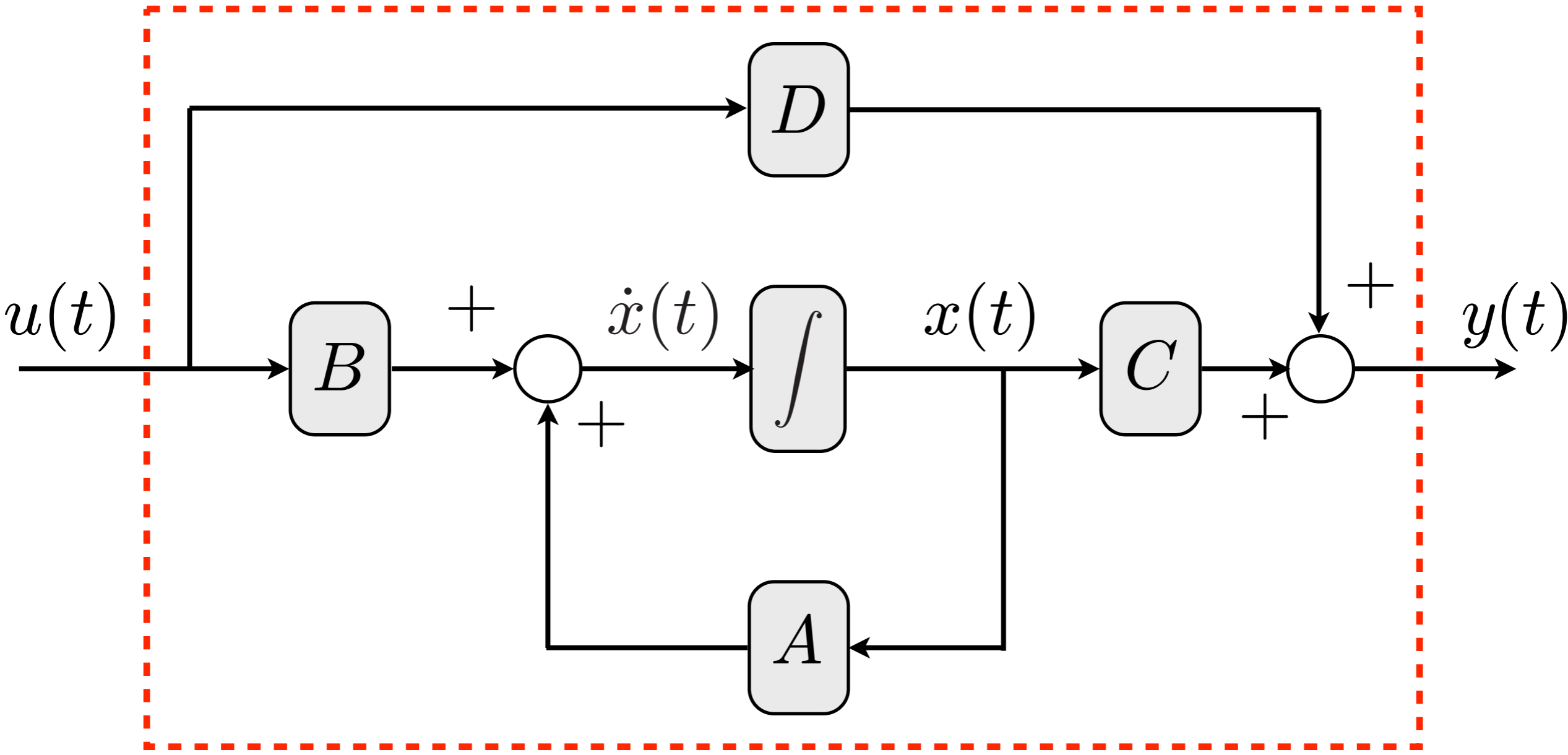
$B$  input matrix ( $n \times m$ )

$C$  output or sensor matrix ( $p \times n$ )

$D$  feedthrough matrix ( $p \times m$ )

SISO system:  $B$  ( $n \times 1$ ) and  $C$  ( $1 \times n$ )

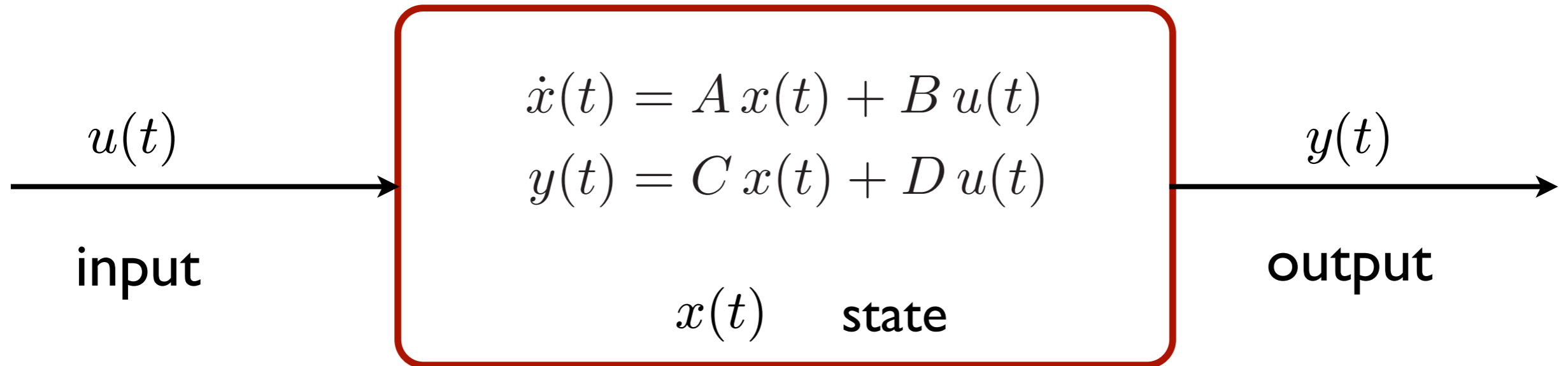
# block diagram representation



simulation model

# mathematical model

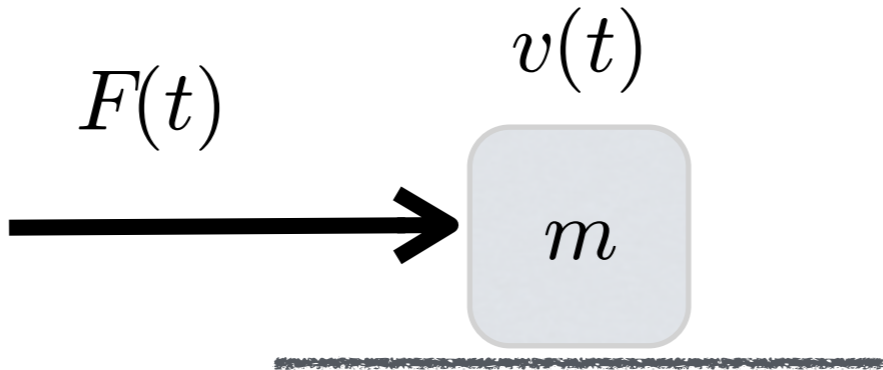
system



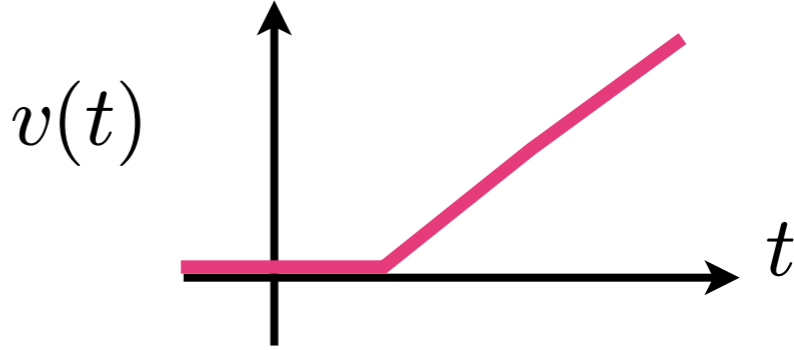
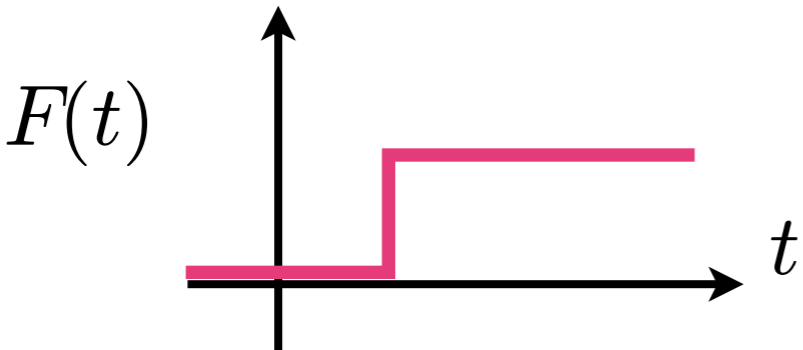
- the state evolution is influenced by the initial condition and the input
- the output displays the measurable effect of such state evolution (and potentially may also depend directly on the input when  $D$  is non-zero)

the **system** transforms an **input** signal into an **output** signal

# system as a signal transformer



no friction case  
and  $v_0 = 0$



model  
(system representation)

$$\dot{v}(t) = \frac{1}{m} F(t)$$

no friction

# mass model with viscous friction



we add a viscous friction force  $F_d(t)$ , acting on the mass, which can be considered proportional to the velocity and acts in the opposite direction

$$F_d(t) = \mu v(t)$$

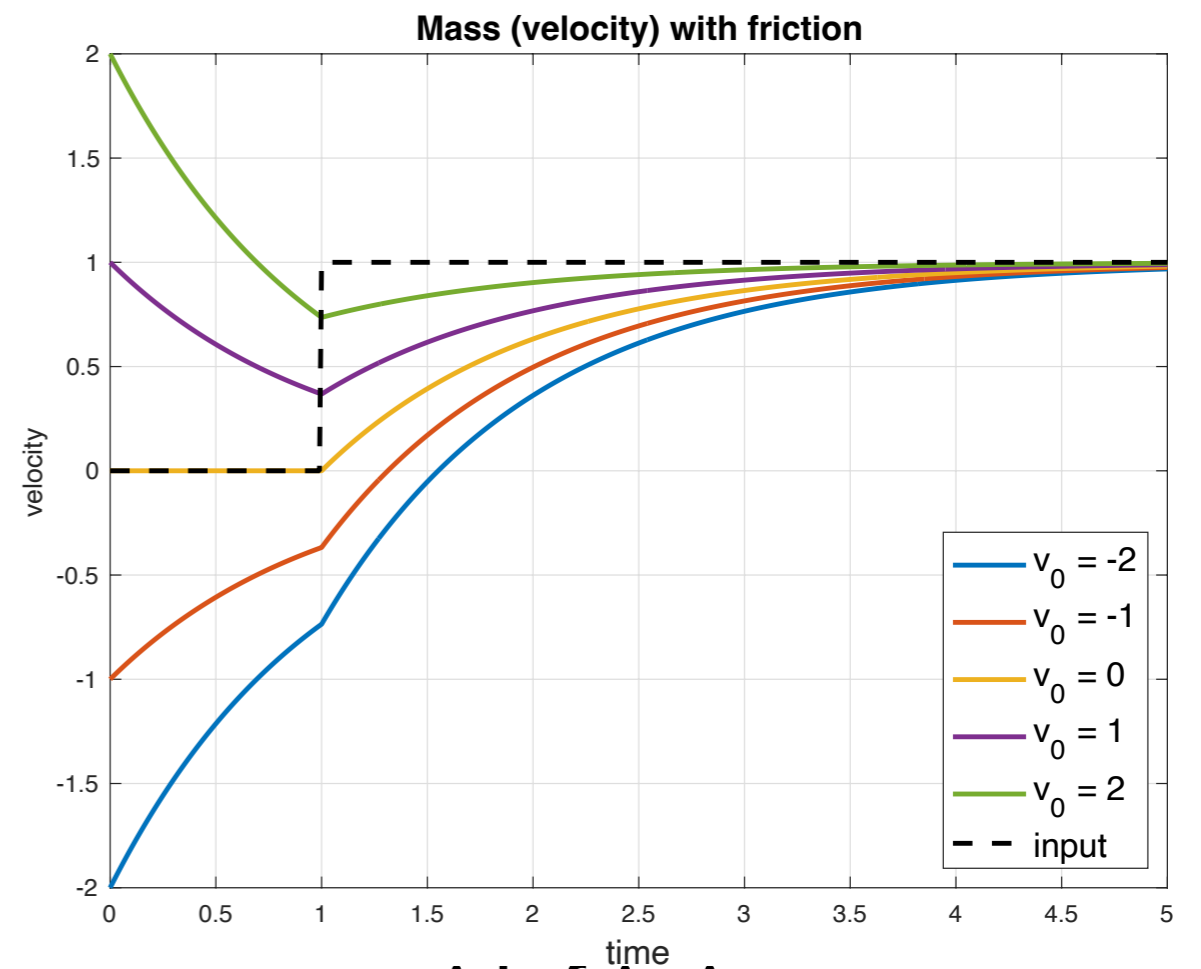
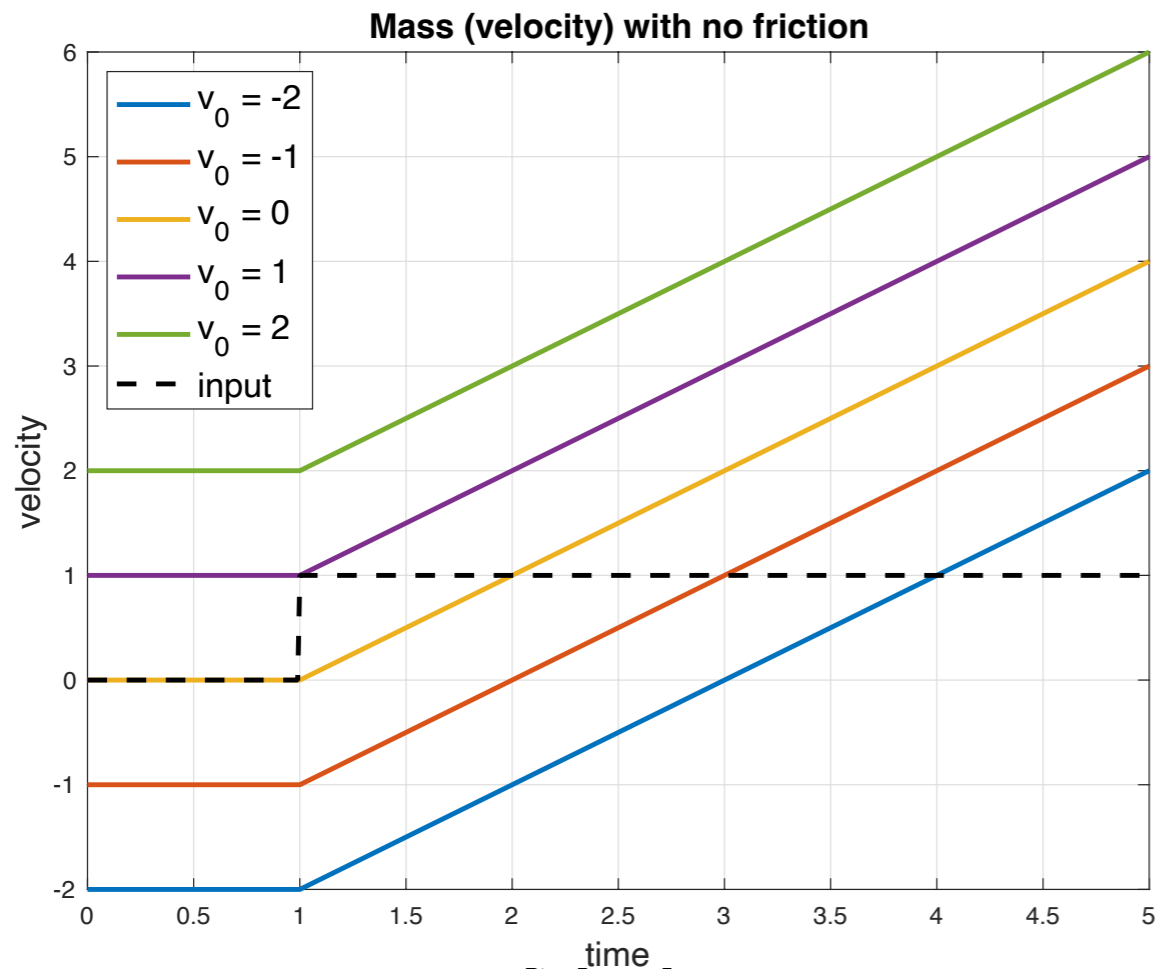
Newton's equation

$$m\dot{v}(t) = -F_d(t) + F(t) = -\mu v(t) + F(t)$$

model is updated as  
(system representation)

$$\dot{v}(t) = -\mu v(t) + \frac{1}{m}F(t)$$

# mass system - simulations



velocity when a constant 1 N force from  $t = 1$  sec is applied

(learn how to interpret plots)

suggested problem:

use only piece-wise constant  $F(t) = \pm F$  in order to change velocity from  $v_1$  to  $v_2$  (you can switch value at any time)



# signals & systems perspective

MIT OpenCourseware

Dennis Freeman

600.3 - Fall 2011  
Signals & Systems

Lecture I: Signals and Systems

analysis & design of **systems** via their signal transformation properties

**system** transforms an **input** signal into an **output** signal

**how: system description** (we saw mathematical model)

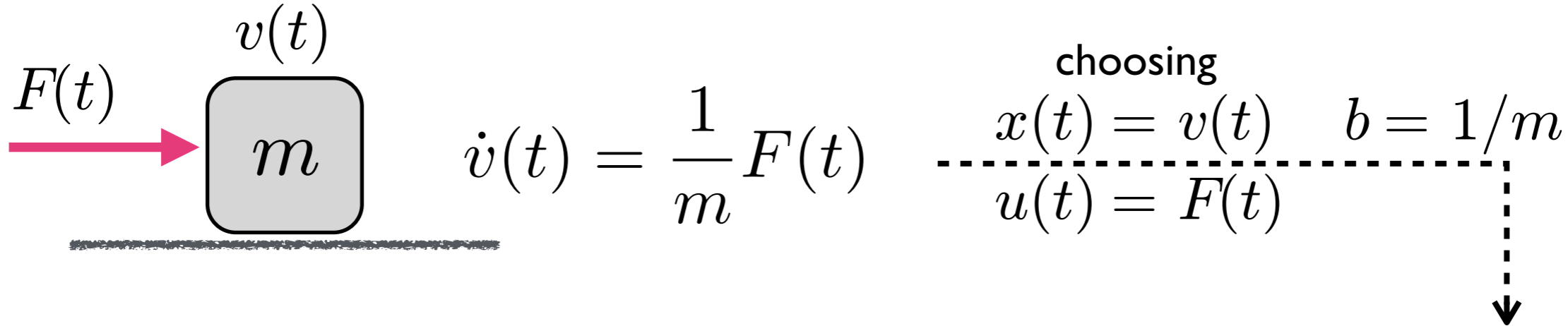
is independent from physical substrate (e.g., cell phone)

**focus: flow of information**

abstract, widely applicable, modular, hierarchical

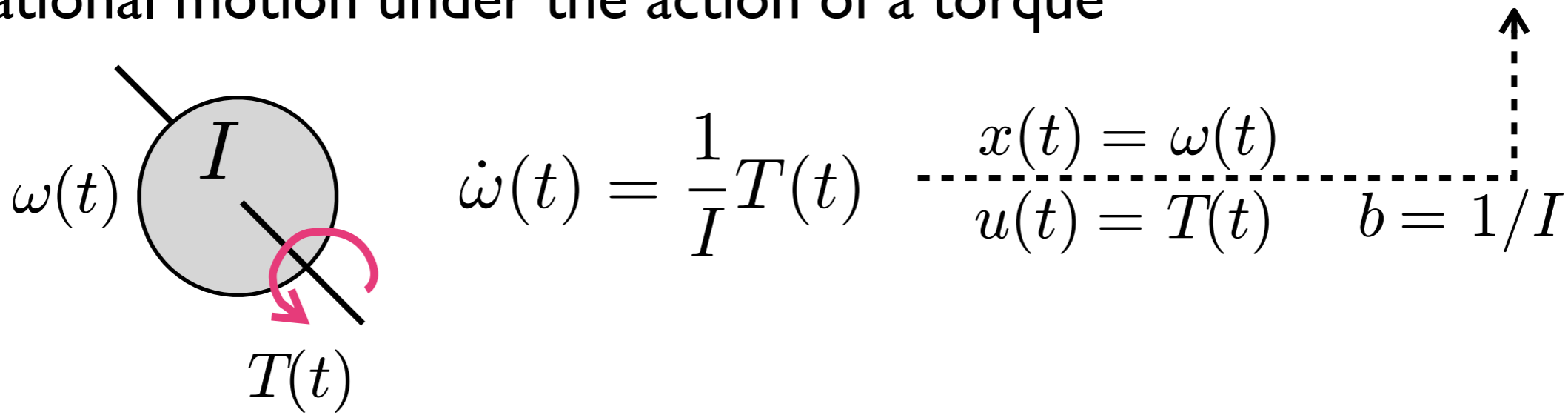
# different systems may have similar models

- linear motion under the action of a force



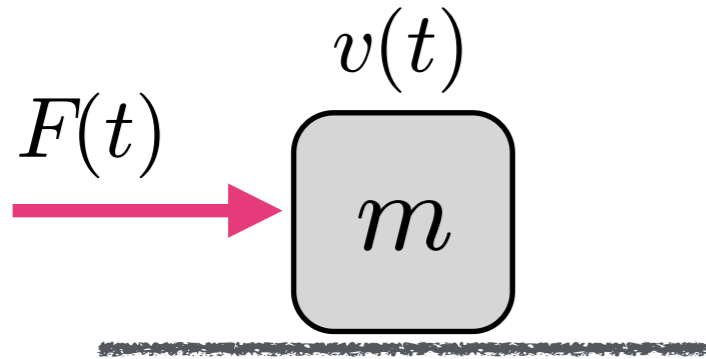
$\dot{x}(t) = 0 \cdot x(t) + b \cdot u(t)$ 
←--- **same model structure** ←---
 $\dot{x}(t) = b \cdot u(t)$

- rotational motion under the action of a torque



# similar models and similar behavior

- linear motion under the action of a force

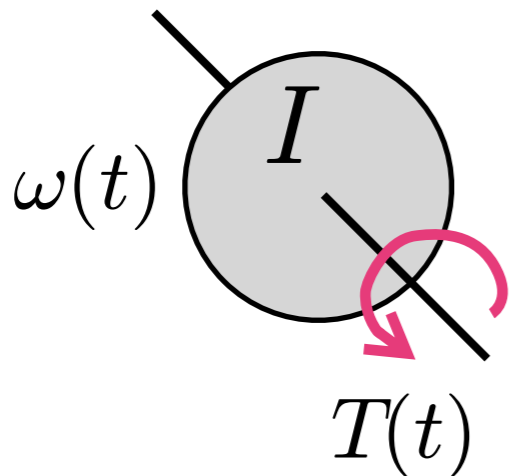


$$v(t) = v_0 + \frac{1}{m} \int_0^t F(\tau) d\tau$$



$$\dot{x}(t) = 0 \cdot x(t) + b \cdot u(t) \quad \text{-----} \rightarrow \quad x(t) = x_0 + b \int_0^t u(\tau) d\tau$$

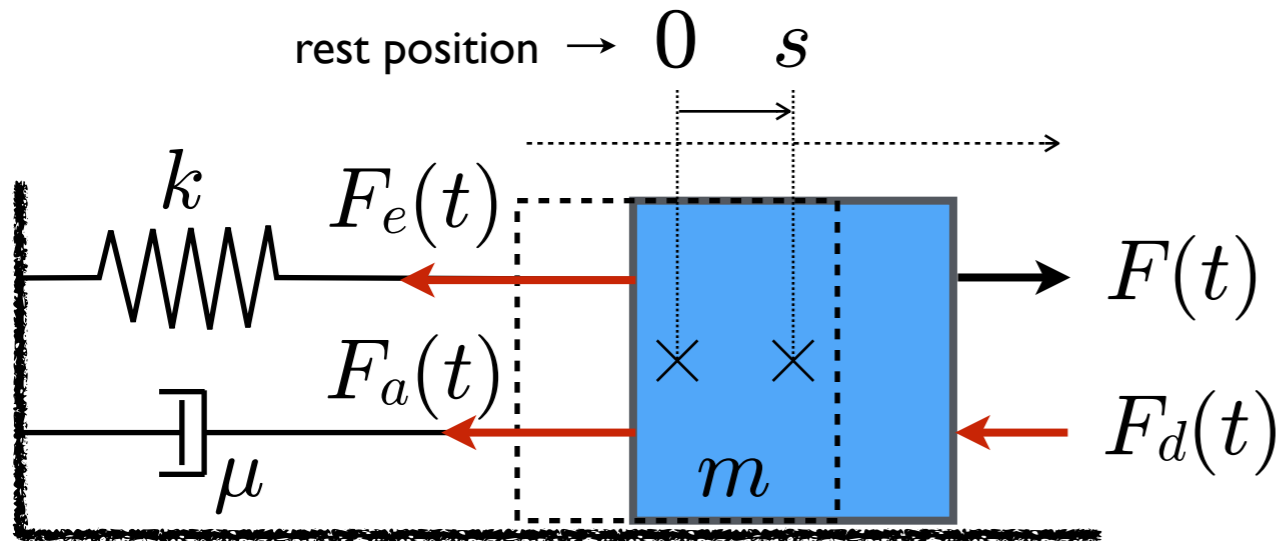
- rotational motion under the action of a torque



$$\omega(t) = \omega_0 + \frac{1}{I} \int_0^t T(\tau) d\tau$$



# mass-spring-damper (MSD)



$F(t)$  control force

$F_d(t)$  disturbance force

$F_e(t)$  elastic force

$F_a(t)$  friction force

rest position: with zero velocity

Newton's  
second law  
of motion

$$m a(t) = F(t) - F_e(t) - F_a(t) - F_d(t)$$

$s(t)$  = deviation from rest position

$$v(t) = \dot{s}(t)$$

$$a(t) = \ddot{s}(t)$$

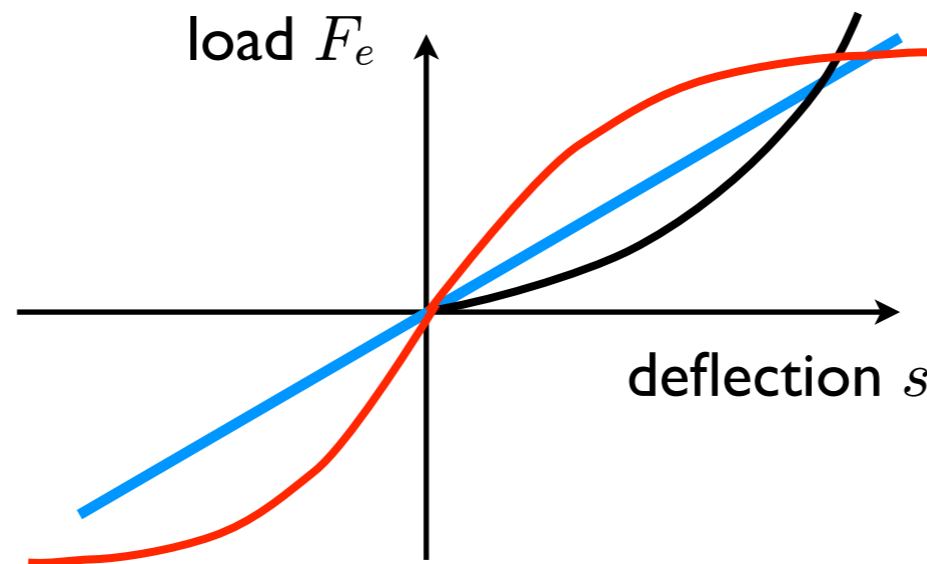
modeling  
hypothesis

$$F_e(t) = k s(t) \text{ linear spring}$$

$$F_a(t) = \mu v(t) \text{ linear viscous friction}$$

# MSD - elastic force

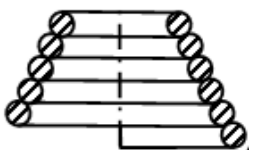
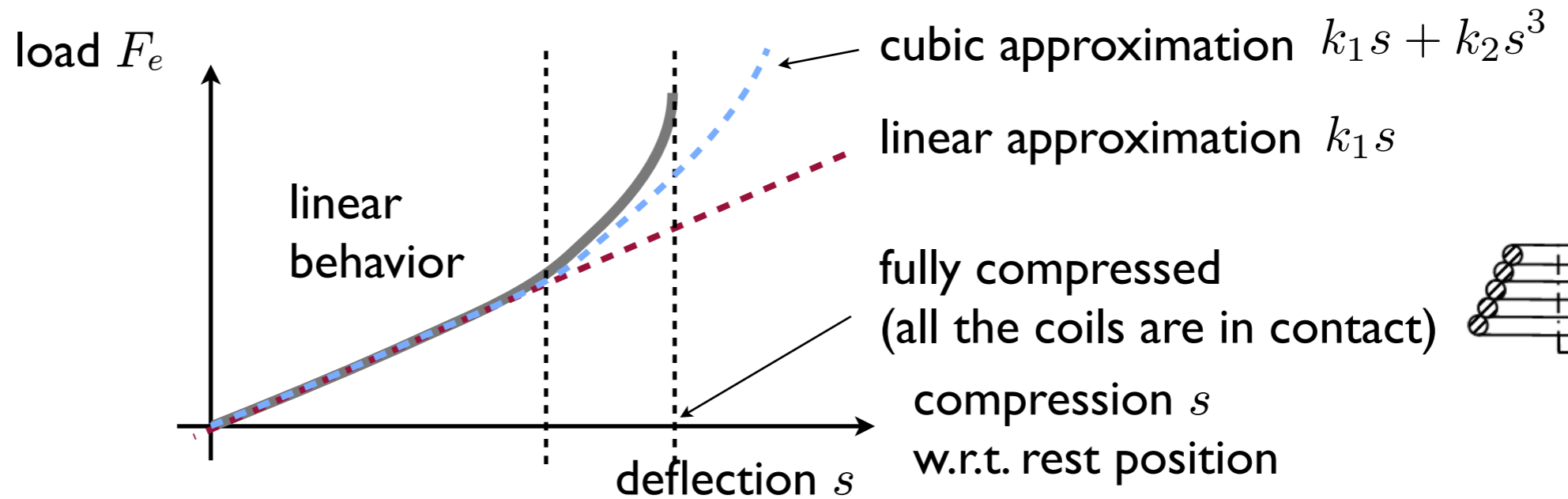
modeling hypothesis



spring characteristics

- linear
- degressive
- progressive

example:  
progressive spring



the (linear) approximation of the spring characteristic is part of the modeling phase similarly for the friction force

## MSD - friction force

we assumed the viscous friction force  $F_d(t)$  to be proportional to the velocity and acting in the opposite direction

we indicate schematically the presence of viscous friction with the symbol and we call it a **damper**



a mechanical damper is also called **dashpot**



# MSD - state space representation

$$m a(t) = F(t) - F_e(t) - F_a(t) - F_d(t)$$

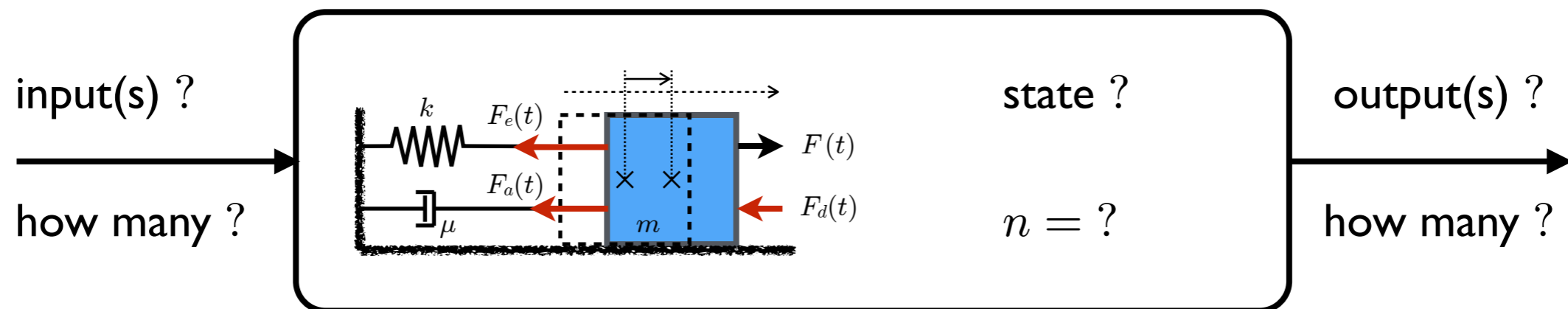
+ modeling hypothesis

$$m \ddot{s}(t) = -k s(t) - \mu \dot{s}(t) + F(t) - F_d(t)$$

how do we rewrite this linear model in the standard state space form?

we need to

- define the state
- define the input(s) and output(s)
- rewrite this second order differential equation in terms of the state and its derivative



can also be seen as a  
signal transformer

# MSD - state space representation

$$\dot{x}(t) = A x(t) + B u(t)$$



?

if yes, how ?

$$m \ddot{s}(t) = -k s(t) - \mu \dot{s}(t) + F(t) - F_d(t)$$

**input:** 2 choices

- single (scalar) input  $u(t) = F(t) - F_d(t)$   
(if it is not necessary to distinguish between the control input  $F(t)$  and the disturbance  $F_d(t)$ , for example in a pure analysis context)
- two distinctive inputs  $F(t)$  and  $F_d(t)$  become a unique two dimensional input vector  $u(t)$

$$u(t) = \begin{pmatrix} F(t) \\ F_d(t) \end{pmatrix}$$



# MSD - state space representation

choosing as state the **position** displacement and the **velocity** of the mass

$$x(t) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} s(t) \\ \dot{s}(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

we can rewrite the second order differential equation as

$$\dot{x}_1(t) = x_2(t)$$

$$\dot{x}_2(t) = -\frac{k}{m}x_1(t) - \frac{\mu}{m}x_2(t) + \frac{1}{m}(F(t) - F_d(t))$$

from

1 second order  
differential  
equation

to

2 first order  
differential  
equations

and matrix form ?

# MSD - state space representation

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

- single input case

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{pmatrix} = \overbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & -\frac{\mu}{m} \end{pmatrix}}^A \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{pmatrix} + \overbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{m} \end{pmatrix}}^B (F(t) - F_d(t))$$

with  $u(t) = F(t) - F_d(t)$

- input vector case

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & -\frac{\mu}{m} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{pmatrix} + \overbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{m} \end{pmatrix}}^{B_1} F(t) - \overbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{m} \end{pmatrix}}^{B_2} F_d(t)$$

with  $u(t) = \begin{pmatrix} F(t) \\ F_d(t) \end{pmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & -B_2 \end{pmatrix}$

# MSD - state space representation

matrices  $A$  and  $B$  are characteristics of the given system,  
while  $C$  and  $D$  depend upon the particular chosen **output**

examples:

$$y(t) = s(t) \quad \longrightarrow \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad D = 0$$

$$y(t) = \dot{s}(t) \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad D = 0$$

$$y(t) = s(t) - \pi \dot{s}(t) \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\pi \end{pmatrix} \quad D = 0$$

no special physical meaning

$$y(t) = \ddot{s}(t)$$

we use  $\ddot{s} = -\frac{k}{m}s - \frac{\mu}{m}\dot{s} + \boxed{\frac{1}{m}}u$

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{k}{m} & -\frac{\mu}{m} \end{pmatrix}$$

feedthrough  
term  $D$

# high order ODE

$$z^{(n)} + a_{n-1}z^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_2z^{(2)} + a_1z^{(1)} + a_0z^{(0)} = bu(t)$$

with  $z^{(i)}(t) = \frac{d^i z(t)}{dt^i}$

we can choose as **state**  $x(t) = \begin{pmatrix} z^{(0)} \\ z^{(1)} \\ \vdots \\ z^{(n-1)} \end{pmatrix}$  and find  $(A, B)$

$n$  dimensional  
vector

dimension of state  $n =$  number of initial conditions necessary to define a unique solution of the  $n$ -th order differential equation

MSD as a special case  $m\ddot{s} + \mu\dot{s} + ks = u$

# high order ODE

finding  $(A, B)$

$$\dot{x}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} z^{(1)} \\ z^{(2)} \\ \vdots \\ z^{(n)} \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & & & 1 \\ -a_0 & -a_1 & \cdots & & -a_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} z^{(0)} \\ z^{(1)} \\ \vdots \\ z^{(n-1)} \end{pmatrix}}_{x(t)} + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ b \end{pmatrix}}_B u(t)$$

output example: choose  $y(t) = z(t)$

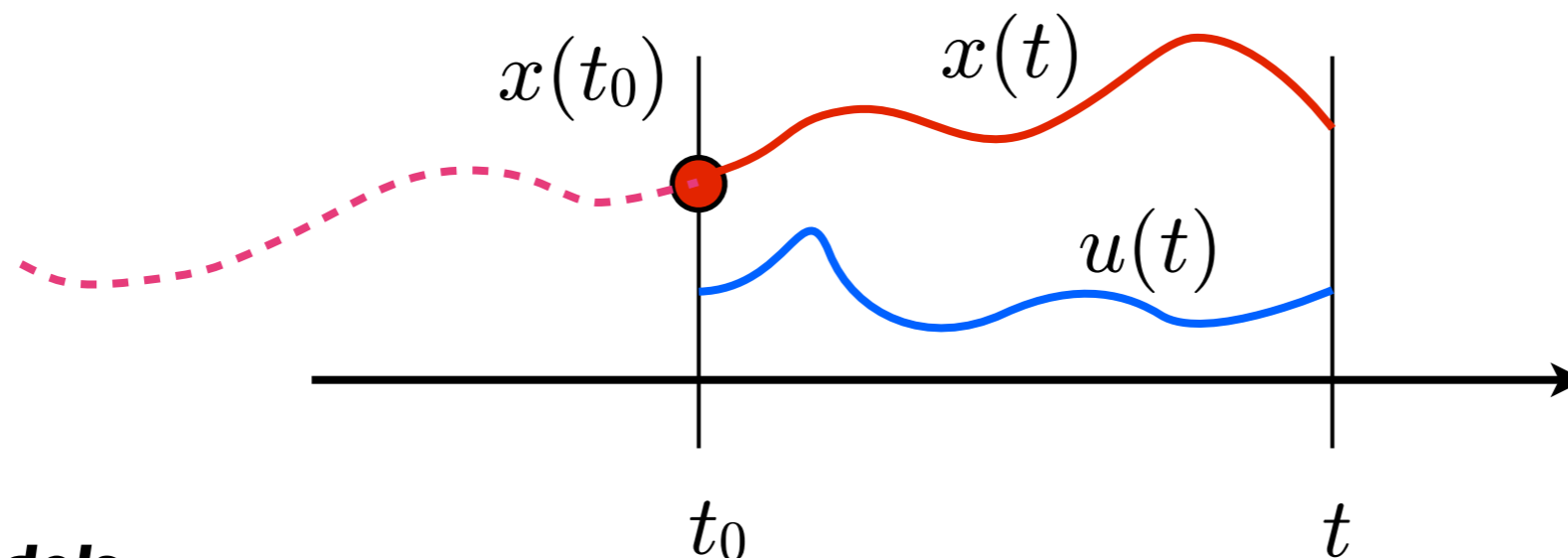
$$y(t) = \underbrace{(1 \quad 0 \quad \cdots \quad 0)}_C x(t) + 0 u(t) \quad \text{i.e. } D = 0$$

# state

The **state** of a dynamical system is a set of physical quantities (**state variables**), the specification of which (in the absence of external excitation) completely determines the evolution of the system (B. Friedland)

Specific physical quantities that define the state are not unique, although their number (**system order**) is unique

Or the minimum set of variables such that their knowledge at time  $t_0$ , together with the knowledge of the external excitations (inputs) in  $[t_0, t)$ , allows the complete characterization of the system evolution in  $[t_0, t)$



# state dimension - examples

- first order system  $\dot{v}(t) = \frac{1}{m}F(t) \quad x \in \mathbf{R}$

- second order system  $m\ddot{s} + \mu\dot{s} + ks = u \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^2$

- $n$ -th order system  $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$

$$z^{(n)} + a_{n-1}z^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_2z^{(2)} + a_1z^{(1)} + a_0z^{(0)} = bu(t)$$

- 2+1 = 3rd order system

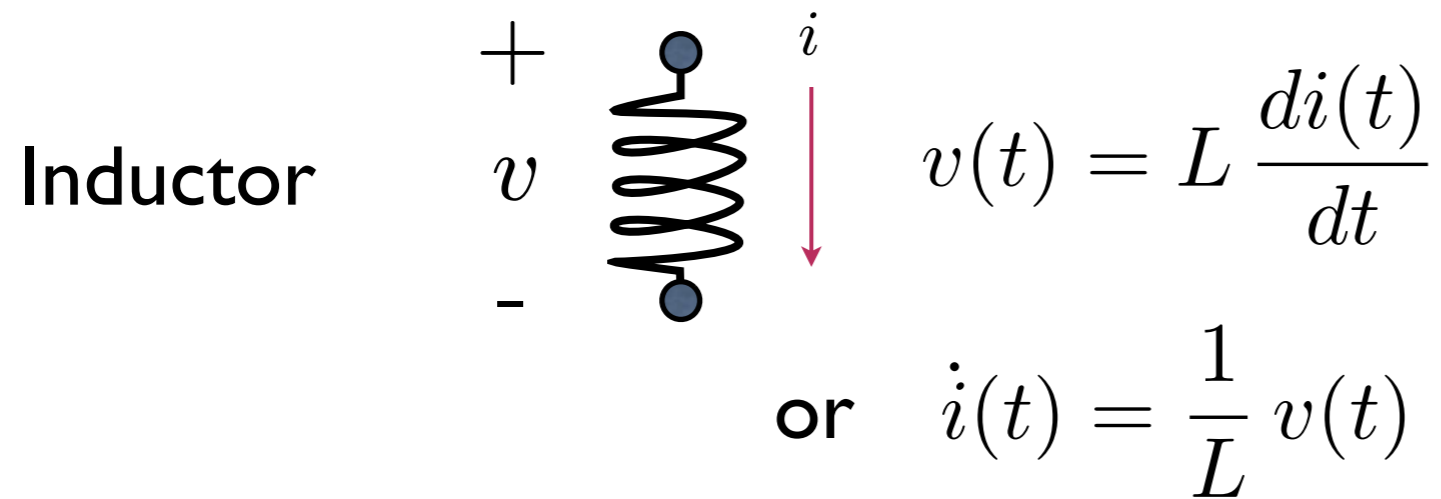
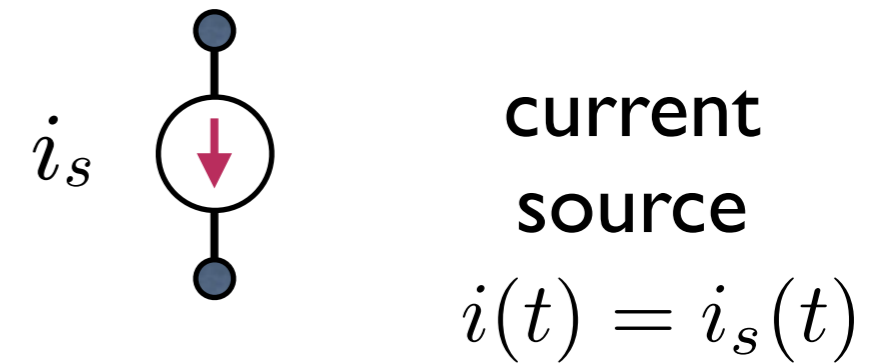
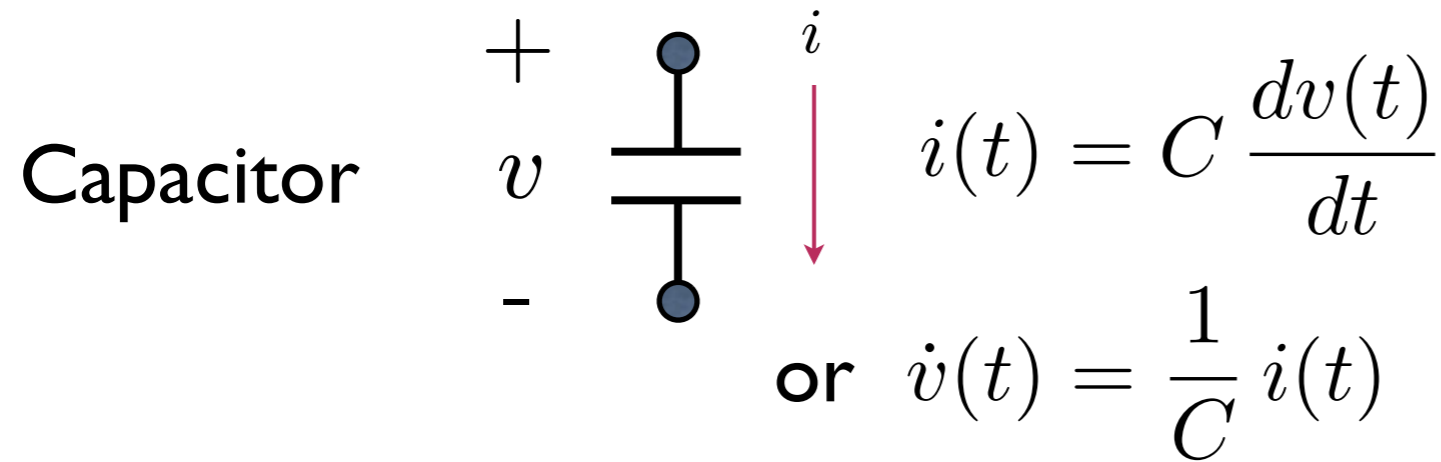
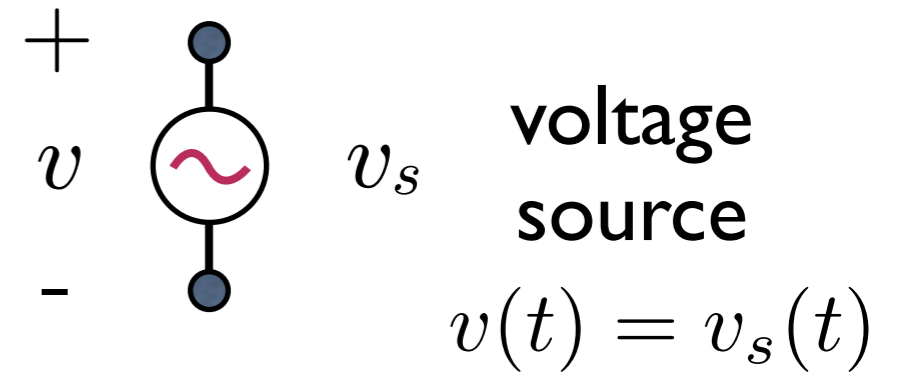
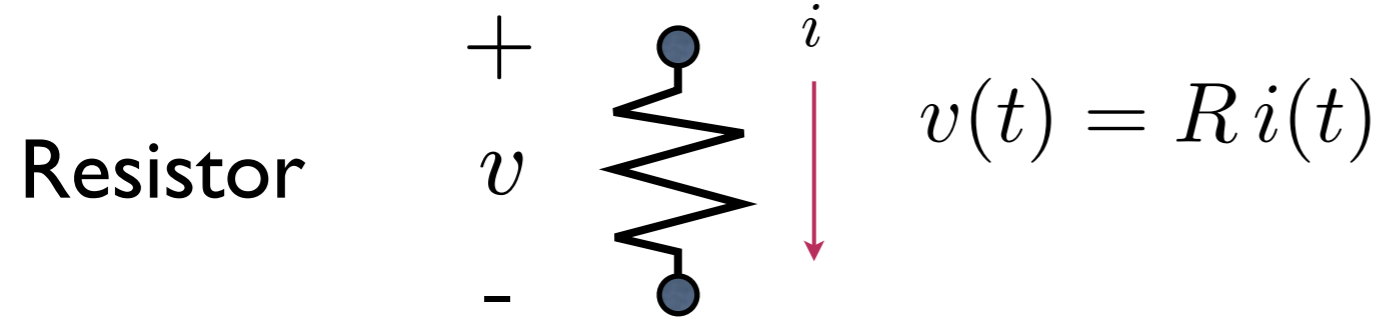
$$\begin{aligned} a_2\ddot{x}_1 + a_1\dot{x}_1 + a_0x_1 &= \alpha u \\ b_1\dot{x}_2 + b_0x_2 &= \beta u \end{aligned} \quad x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \dot{x}_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{R}^3$$

- 2nd order system although one 2nd order + one 1st order ODE

$$\begin{aligned} a_2\ddot{x}_1 + a_1\dot{x}_1 + a_0x_1 &= \alpha u \\ b_1\dot{x}_1 + b_0x_1 &= \beta u \end{aligned} \quad x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \dot{x}_1 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{R}^2$$

substituting  $\dot{x}_1$  from 2nd equation into first: one 2nd order ODE

# models of electrical circuits



elements which store energy



**state components**

(one for each energy storing element)



# Kirchhoff's laws

conservation laws

KCL (**Kirchhoff current law**):

the algebraic sum of all the currents entering and leaving a node must be equal to zero

$$\sum_k i_k = 0$$

KVL (**Kirchhoff voltage law**):

the algebraic sum of all the voltages within a closed circuit loop must be equal to zero

$$\sum_j v_j = 0$$

# models of electrical circuits (RLC example)

series RLC circuit (Resistor, Inductor, Capacitor):

2 energy storing elements

$$v_R(t) = Ri(t) \quad v_L(t) = L \frac{di(t)}{dt} \quad v_C(t)$$

KVL  $\rightarrow$   $v_R + v_L + v_C = v$

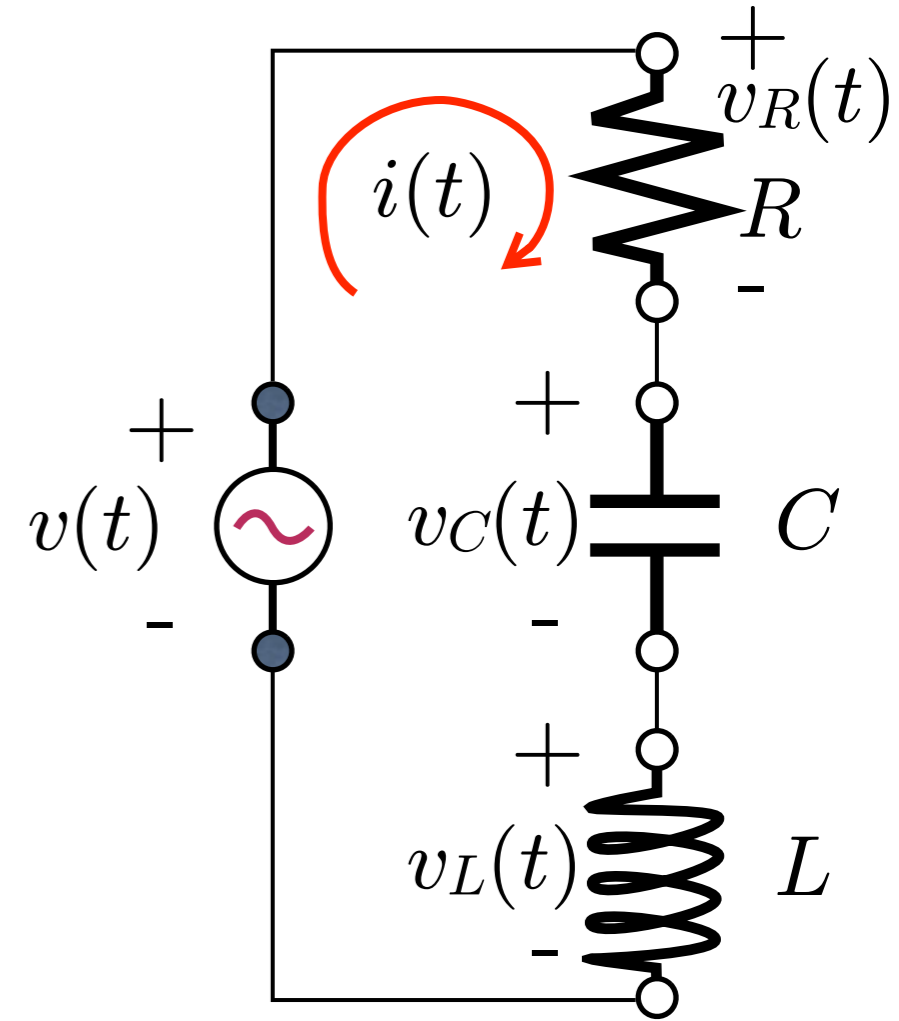
Att.: this looks like a 1st order ODE

$$L \frac{di(t)}{dt} + Ri(t) + v_C(t) = v(t)$$

state

(one possible choice)

$$x(t) = \begin{pmatrix} i(t) \\ v_C(t) \end{pmatrix}$$



find  $\dot{x} = Ax + Bv$  (sol.)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{di(t)}{dt} &= -\frac{R}{L}i(t) - \frac{1}{L}v_C(t) + \frac{1}{L}v(t) \\ \frac{dv_C(t)}{dt} &= \frac{1}{C}i(t) \end{aligned}$$

# models of electrical circuits

series RLC circuit (alternative model)

being  $v_R(t) = Ri(t)$      $v_L(t) = L \frac{di(t)}{dt}$      $i(t) = C \frac{dv_C(t)}{dt}$

we rewrite the KVL equation as  $LC \ddot{v}_C + RC \dot{v}_C + v_C = v$

**state**

(other possible choice)

$z(t) = \begin{pmatrix} v_C(t) \\ \dot{v}_C(t) \end{pmatrix}$  instead of  $x(t) = \begin{pmatrix} i(t) \\ v_C(t) \end{pmatrix}$

note the similitude  
between the two  
expressions

**(RLC)**  $LC \ddot{v}_C + RC \dot{v}_C + v_C = v$

**(MSD)**  $m\ddot{s} + \mu\dot{s} + ks = u$



“similar” structure/solution/behavior

# models of electrical circuits

## series RLC circuit

- with state  $x$  we had

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{R}{L} & -\frac{1}{L} \\ \frac{1}{C} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{L} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- with state  $z$  we have

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{1}{LC} & -\frac{R}{L} \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{LC} \end{pmatrix}$$



since these two different representations refer to the **same RLC circuit**, they must share the same important system characteristic

different dynamic matrices but with **same characteristics** (e.g., same eigenvalues - see algebra slides)

# models of electrical circuits

series RLC circuit: 2 different state vectors choice

note that  $x(t)$  and  $z(t)$  are related by a linear nonsingular transformation

$$z(t) \xleftrightarrow{T} x(t)$$

$$z(t) = T x(t)$$

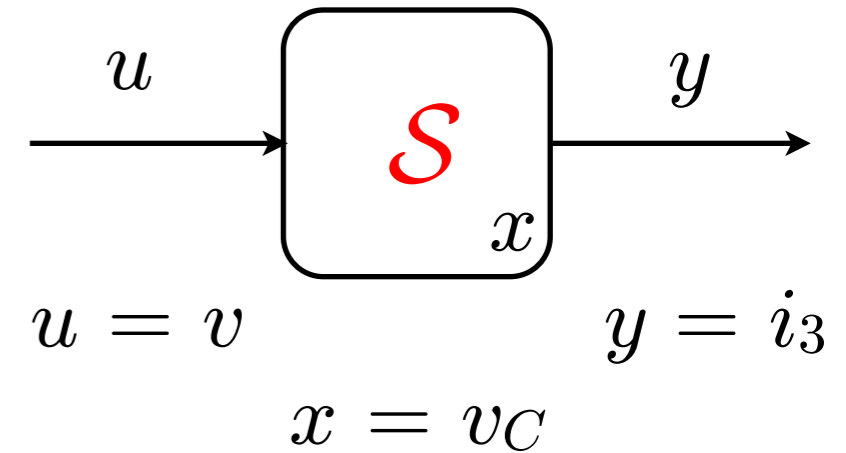
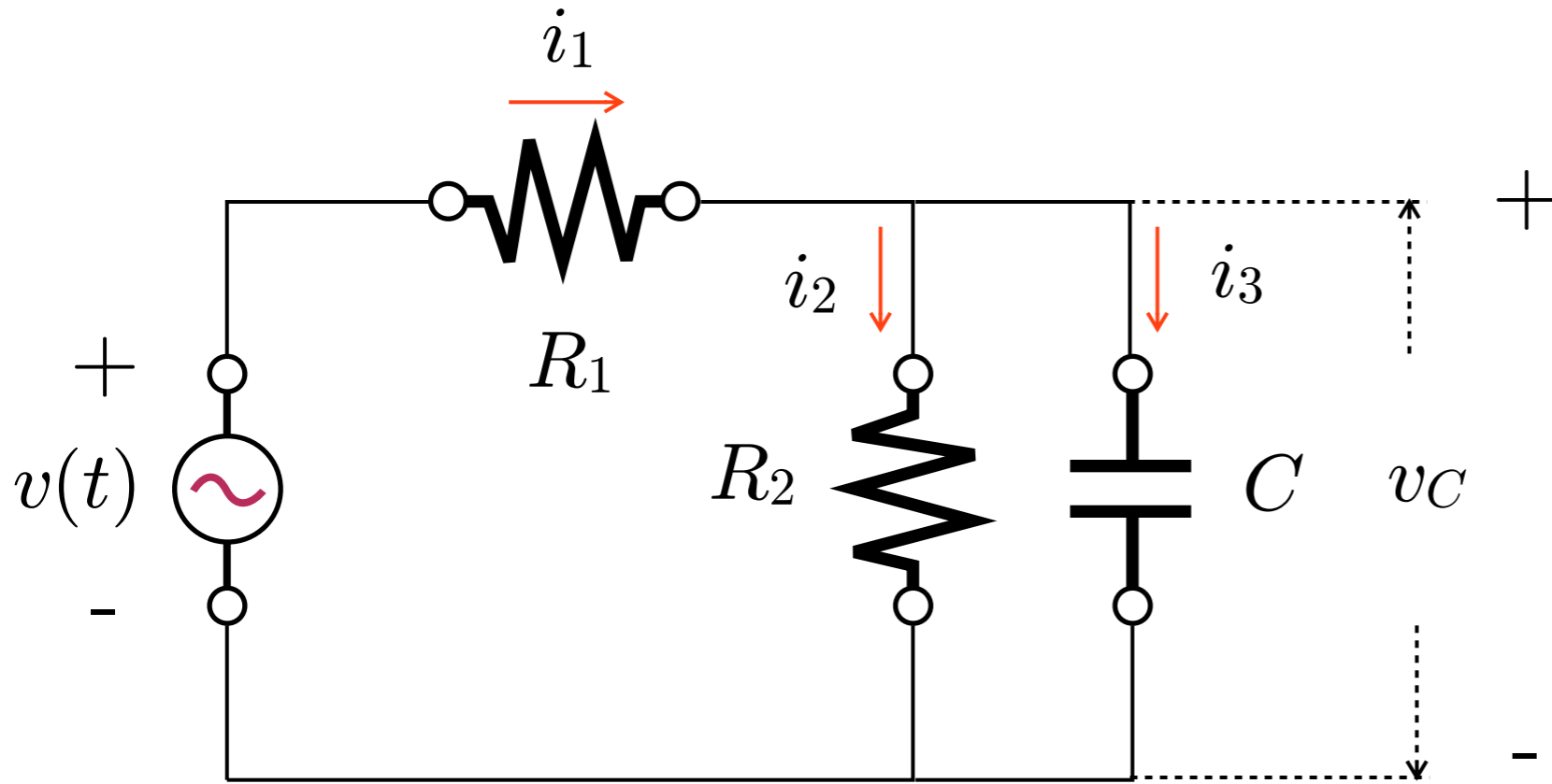
change of coordinates

$$z(t) = \begin{pmatrix} v_C(t) \\ \dot{v}_C(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} v_C(t) \\ \frac{1}{C} i(t) \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{C} & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{check } T \text{ nonsingular}} \begin{pmatrix} i(t) \\ v_C(t) \end{pmatrix} = T x(t)$$

check  $T$  nonsingular

$T$  nonsingular defines a **similarity transformation**  
(see algebra slides)

# models of electrical circuits (other example)



$$\dot{x} = -\frac{1}{C} \left( \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right) x + \frac{1}{R_1 C} u$$

$$y = -\left( \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right) x + \frac{1}{R_1} u$$

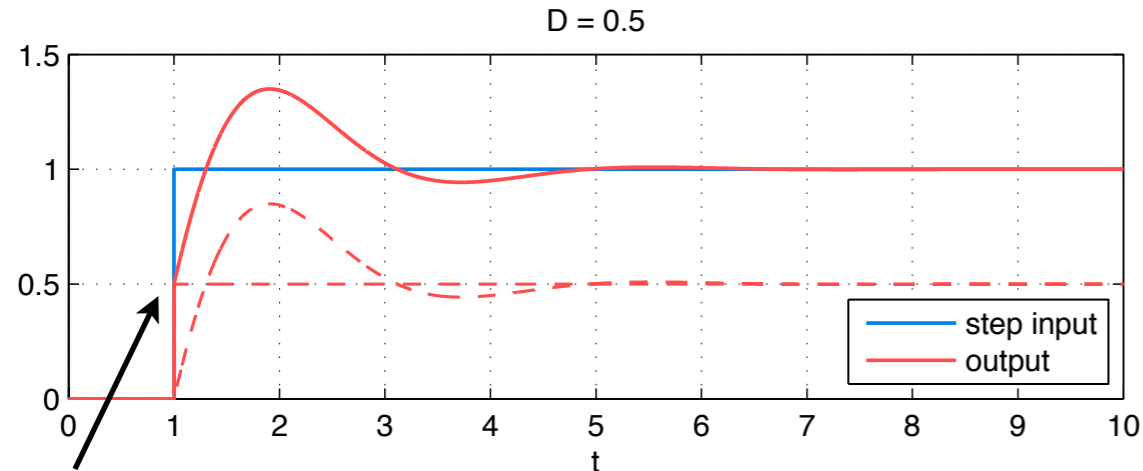
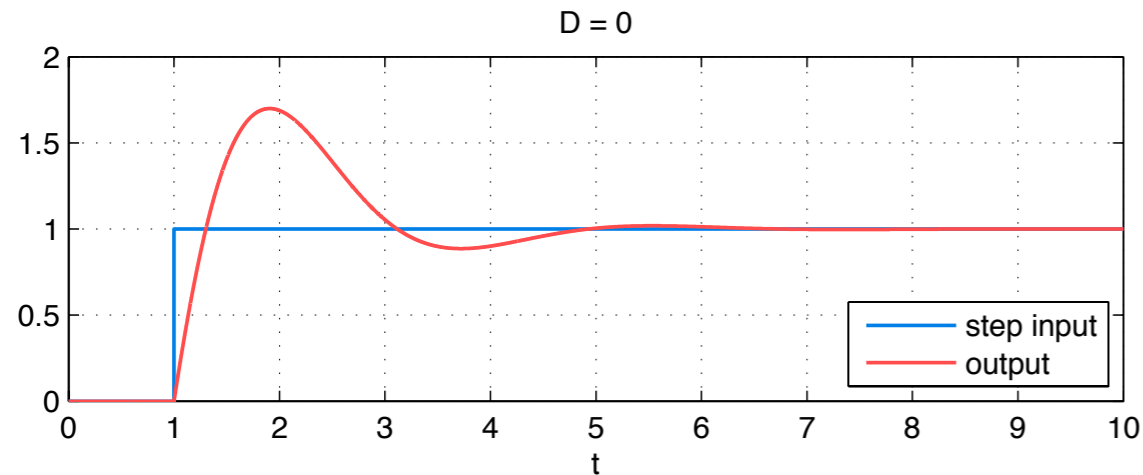
output may depend instantaneously from the input

$D$  term

# feedthrough term $D$

numerical example

$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -4 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \quad B_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad C_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad D_1 = 0$$



$$D_2 = 0.5$$

$$A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -4 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \quad B_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad C_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad D_2 = 0.5$$

$u(t)$  unit step input from  $t = 1$

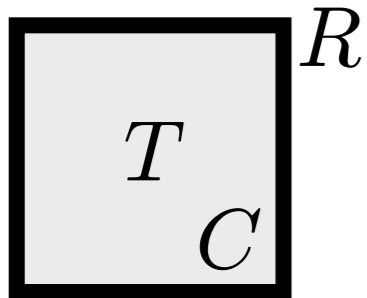
at time  $t = 1$ , the input switches from 0 to 1 and instantaneously the output switches from 0 to  $D_2 u(1) = D_2$

# heat flow models

heat flow (variation of heat  $Q$ , Joule/s) through a resistance (wall)

rate of change of  $T$  of box (thermal capacitance) is proportional to heat flow

$T_e$



example: a box placed with internal temperature  $T$  in an ambient at a temperature  $T_e$

# lumped capacitance models

$$\dot{Q} = \frac{1}{R} (T_e - T)$$



induces a change in temperature

$$\dot{T} = \frac{1}{C} \dot{Q}$$

$Q$  heat (Joule)

$R$  thermal resistance

$T$  temperature

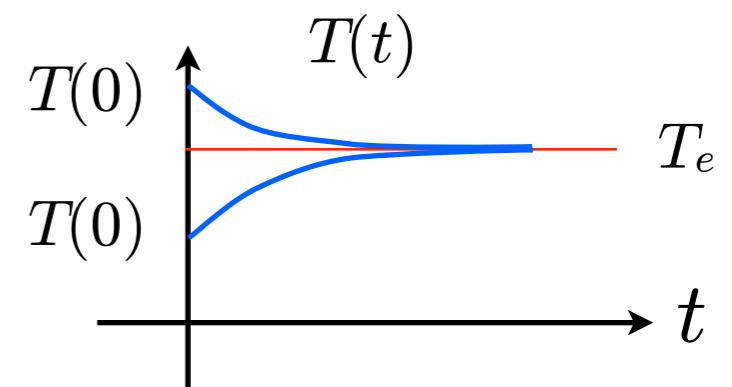
$T_e$  ambient temperature

$C$  heat capacity

$$\dot{T} = -\frac{1}{RC} T + \frac{1}{RC} T_e$$

if  $T_e$  constant

first order system

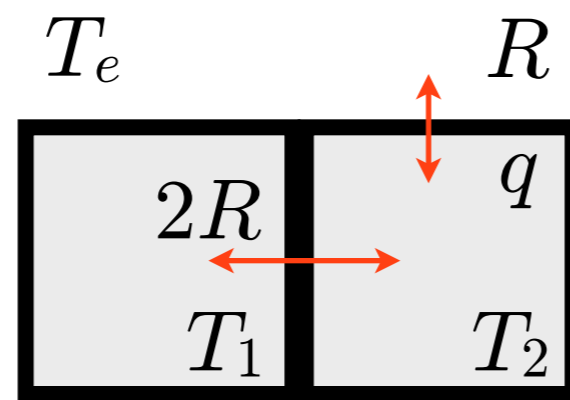




# heat flow models

## lumped capacitance models

2 similar rooms



$C$  room thermal capacity  
 $R$  room thermal resistance  
 $2R$  room thermal resistance between rooms  
 $q$  heat flow source

writing the variation of heat in each room

$$CT_1 \dot{T}_1 = \frac{T_2 - T_1}{2R} - \frac{T_1 - T_e}{R}$$
$$CT_2 \dot{T}_2 = q - \frac{T_2 - T_e}{R} - \frac{T_2 - T_1}{2R}$$

second order system

if  $q$  is an input, the state components could be chosen as  $T_1$  and  $T_2$

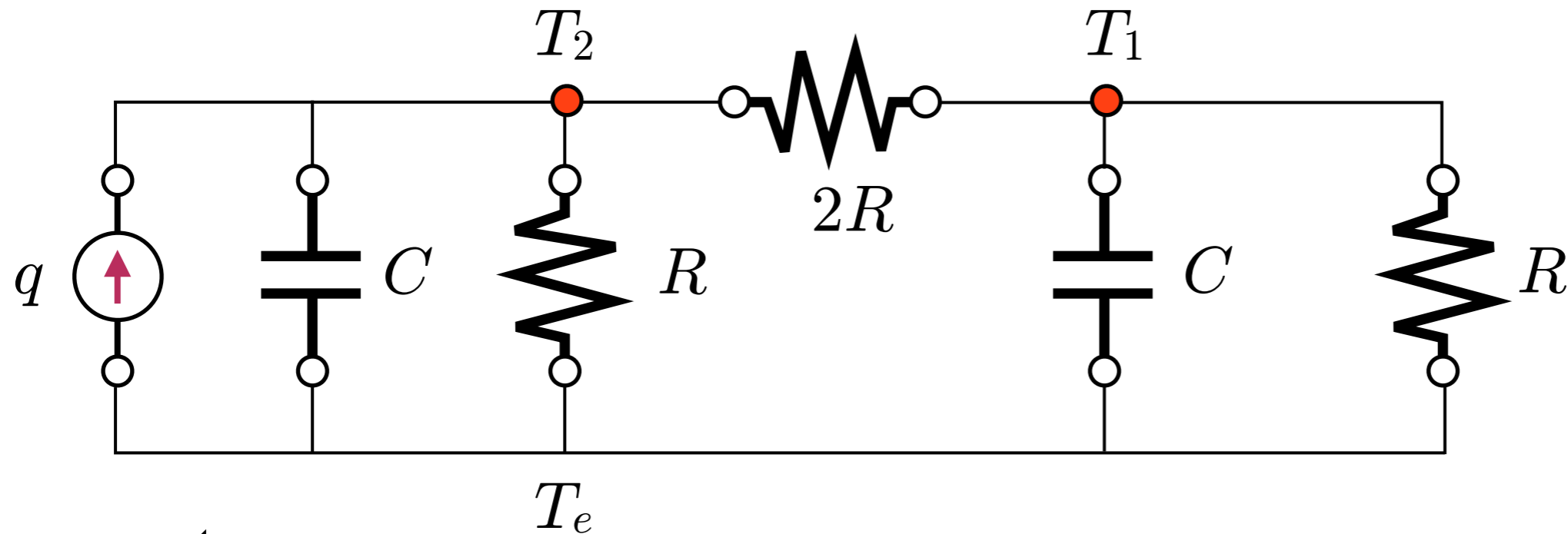
→ find  $(A, B)$  and choose an output of interest (and thus  $C$ )

# heat flow models

$$CT_1 \dot{T}_1 = \frac{T_2 - T_1}{2R} - \frac{T_1 - T_e}{R}$$

$$CT_2 \dot{T}_2 = q - \frac{T_2 - T_e}{R} - \frac{T_2 - T_1}{2R}$$

same equations  
as the following circuit  
(prove it)



current  
generator

voltage across first capacitor  $T_1 - T_e$

voltage across second capacitor  $T_2 - T_e$

# vocabulary

English	Italiano
linear time-invariant system	sistema lineare stazionario
input/state/output	ingresso/stato/uscita
mass/spring/damper system	sistema massa/molla/smorzatore
state representation	rappresentazione nello spazio di stato
dynamics matrix	matrice dinamica
input (output) matrix	matrice di ingresso (uscita)
feedthrough matrix	matrice del legame diretto ingresso-uscita