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· Consider a first order differential equation

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

where y(t) denotes the output of the system and x(t)is the input

· Differential equations provide implicit specification of the system, i.e., the relationship between the input and output

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Linear Constant-Coefficient **Differential Equations**

- · In order to obtain an explicit solution, the differential equation must be solved
- More information is needed than that provided by the equation alone, i.e., auxiliary conditions must be specified
- A differential equation describes a constraint => between the input and output of the system, but to characterize the system completely auxiliary conditions must be specified

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where the order refers to the highest derivative of y(t)In the case when N=0

 $y(t) = \frac{1}{a_0} \sum_{k=0}^{M} b_k \frac{d^k x(t)}{dt^k}$

y(t) is an explicit function of x(t) and its derivatives

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Linear Constant-Coefficient **Differential Equations**

- Under the condition of initial rest the system is linear time-invariant (LTI) and causal
- The condition of initial rest does not specify a zero initial condition at a fixed point of time, but rather adjusts this point in time so that the response is zero until the input becomes nonzero
- For example, if x(t)=0 for $t \le t_0$ for a causal LTI system described a differential equation, then y(t)=0 for $t \leq t_0$ and the initial condition $y(t_0)=0$ would be used to solve the output for $t > t_0$

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Linear Constant-Coefficient Differential Equations

- For $N \ge 1$, the output is specified implicitly by the input
- The solution of the equation consists of two parts: – a particular solution and
 - a solution of the homogeneous differential equation
- · The solutions to the homogeneous differential equation

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

are referred to as natural responses of the system

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Linear Constant-Coefficient Differential Equations

- In order to determine the input-output relationship of the system completely, auxiliary conditions must be identified
- Different choices of auxiliary conditions result in different input-output relationships
- The condition of initial rest If x(t)=0 for t≤t₀, it is assumed that y(t)=0 for t≤t₀ and, therefore, the response for t>t₀ can be calculated from

$$y(t_0) = \frac{dy(t_0)}{dt} = \dots = \frac{d^{N-1}y(t_0)}{dt^{N-1}} = 0$$

Under the condition of initial rest, the system is causal and LTI

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