



# Chapter 4 Dynamics

## Part 3

- 4.4 Aspects of Linear Systems Theory
- 4.5 Predictive Modelling and System Identification

# Introduction

- Nonlinear dynamical systems are the closest thing to the engineering “theory of everything.”
- Applies to:
  - growth of bacteria
  - chemical reactions
  - financial markets
  - motion of the planets
- Most important and general model of a mobile robot.

# Outline

- 4.3 Aspects of Linear Systems Theory
  - 4.4.1 Linear Time Invariant Systems
  - 4.3.2 State Space Representation of Linear Systems
  - 4.3.3 Nonlinear Dynamical Systems
  - 4.3.4 Perturbative Dynamics of Linear Systems
  - Summary
- 4.5 Predictive Modelling and System Identification

# Linear Time Invariant ODE s

- These are of the form:

$$\frac{d^{(n)} y}{dt^n} + a_{n-1} \frac{d^{(n-1)} y}{dt^{n-1}} + \dots + \frac{dy}{dt} + y = u(t)$$

“Forcing Function”  
“Input”  
“Control”

- Establishes a relationship between system state  $x(t)$  and its derivatives.
  - Implies that such a system will move (even when  $u(t)$  is not present)
  - Called a **dynamical** system

# First Order System

- Behavior governed by:

“Time Constant”

$$\tau \frac{dy}{dt} + y = u(t)$$

- Consider the discrete time equivalent:

$$\frac{\tau}{\Delta t}(y_{k+1} - y_k) + y_{k+1} = u_{k+1}$$

$$y_{k+1} = y_k + \frac{\Delta t}{\tau}(u_{k+1} - y_{k+1})$$

- Hence output changes by an amount **proportional to the distance-to-go**.

# Step Response

$$\tau \frac{dy}{dt} + y = u(t)$$

- Useful to describe behavior of a few special inputs.
- Step response is response to constant input applied for  $t \geq 0$ .
- Unforced response. Assume
- Substitute into ODE:
- Characteristic equation:
- The **roots** of this equation play a crucial role in determining system behavior.

$$y(t) = e^{st}$$

$$e^{st}(\tau s + 1) = 0$$

$$\tau s + 1 = 0$$

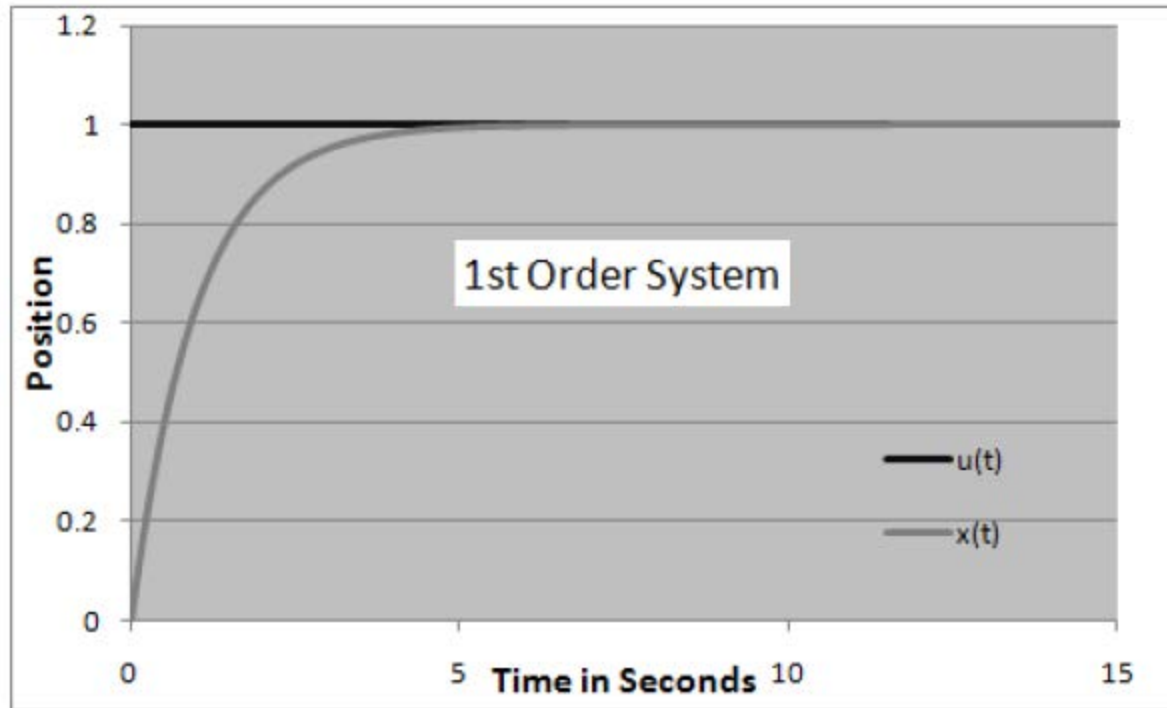
$$s = -1/\tau$$

# Solution

- Unforced solution:  $y(t) = Ae^{-t/\tau}$
- Forced solution:  $y(t) = y_{ss}$
- Complete solution:  $y(t) = Ae^{-t/\tau} + y_{ss}$
- For  $y(0) = 0$  we must have  $A = -y_{ss}$
- Total Solution:

$$y(t) = y_{ss}(1 - e^{-t/\tau})$$

# Solution



- When  $t=\tau$ , the system has moved ...  
 $1 - 1/e$  or 63%  
... of the total distance to the goal.



# Laplace Transform

- Extraordinarily powerful for manipulating compounded ODEs intuitively.

- Definition: 
$$y(s) = \mathcal{L}[y(t)] = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} y(t) dt$$

- $s$  is a “complex frequency”

$$s = \sigma + j\omega$$

- The kernel is a damped sinusoid:

$$e^{-st} = e^{-\sigma t} e^{-j\omega t} = e^{-\sigma t} [\cos(\omega t) - j \sin(\omega t)]$$

# Laplace Transform

- For a particular value of  $s$ :

$$y(s) = \mathcal{L}[y(t)] = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} y(t) dt$$

- is a **(function) dot product** with a damped sinusoid.
- $y(s)$  encodes the projections for every value of  $s$ .
- Its **just like a Fourier transform** but for **complex frequency**  $s$ .

# Derivatives

- Most important property for our purpose:

$$\mathcal{L}[\dot{y}(t)] = s\mathcal{L}[y(t)] = sy(s)$$

- Good news!
  - Differentiation in the time domain is equivalent to multiplication by  $s$ .
- Bad news!
  - This is why differentiation amplifies noise.

# Transforming ODEs

- Recall the first order system ODE

$$\tau \frac{dy}{dt} + y = u(t)$$

- Transform the ODE itself:

$$\tau s y(s) + y(s) = u(s)$$

ODEs in the time domain become algebraic eqns in the Laplace domain

# Transfer Function

- Defined as the ratio of output to input:

$$T(s) = \frac{u(s)}{y(s)} = \frac{1}{1 + \tau s}$$

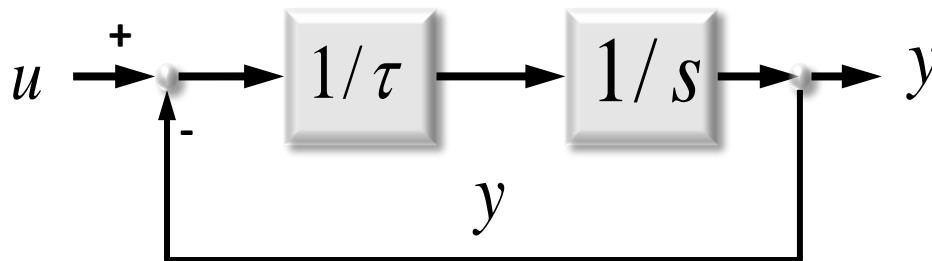
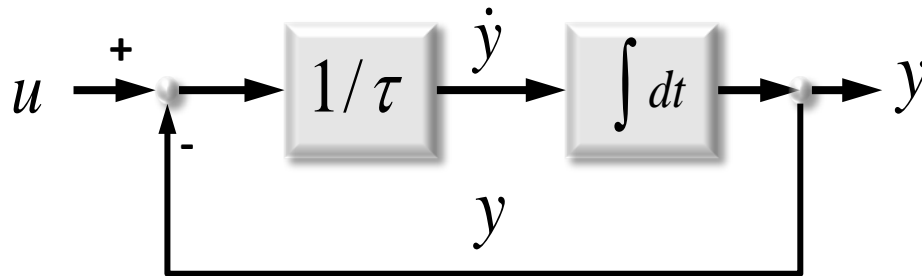
Characteristic polynomial!

- The roots of the characteristic polynomial always appear in the denominator of the transfer function.
- Known as the poles of the system.
- An n-th order ODE has n poles.

# Block Diagrams

- ODEs can be represented graphically as block diagrams.

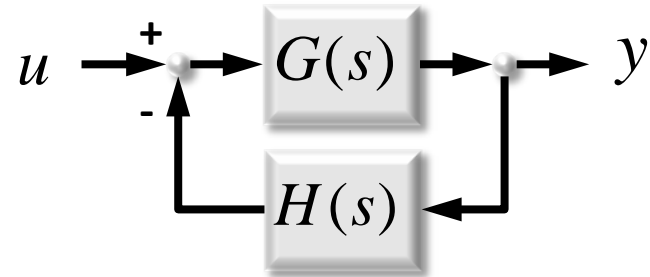
$$\tau \frac{dy}{dt} + y = u(t)$$



- Top is time domain, bottom is Laplace domain.

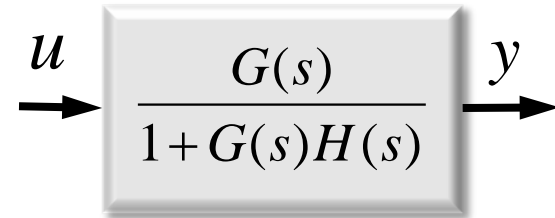
# Special Block Diagram

- This diagram:



- Is equivalent to this diagram

- Derivation:



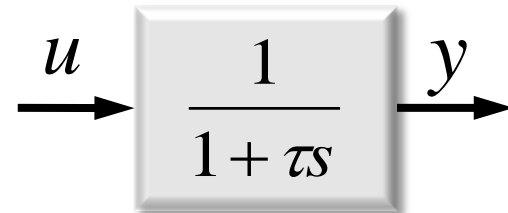
- So...

$$y(s) = G(s)(u(s) - H(s)y(s))$$

$$y(s)(1 + G(s)H(s)) = G(s)u(s)$$

$$T(s) = \frac{G(s)}{1 + G(s)H(s)}$$

- For the 1st order system:



# Frequency Response

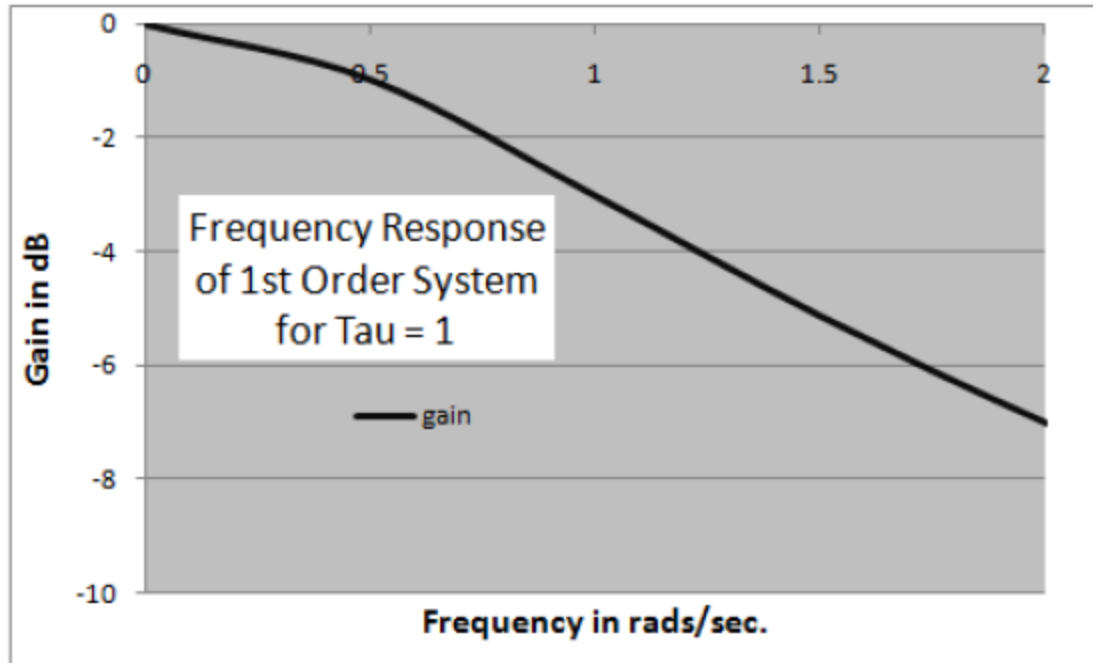
- Expresses the gain of the transfer function as function of frequency:
- Substitute into  $T(s)$ :  $s = j\omega$
- For 1st order system:

$$T(j\omega) = \frac{u(j\omega)}{x(j\omega)} = \frac{1}{1 + \tau(j\omega)}$$

$$|T(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{|1 + \tau(j\omega)|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\tau\omega)^2}}$$



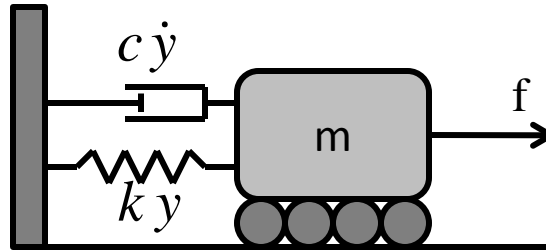
# Frequency Response



- Huh? Decibels?
  - $\text{dB} = 20 \log_{10}(\text{amplitude}) = 10 \log_{10}(\text{power})$

# Second Order System

- One physical manifestation is a damped oscillator:



- Newton's second law:

$$m\ddot{y} = f - c\dot{y} - ky$$

- Rewrite:

$$\ddot{y} + \frac{c}{m}\dot{y} + \frac{k}{m}y = \frac{f}{m}$$

Physicists form

$$\ddot{y} + 2\zeta\omega_0\dot{y} + \omega_0^2y = u(t)$$

Mathematicians form

# Simulation

- Simulate with:

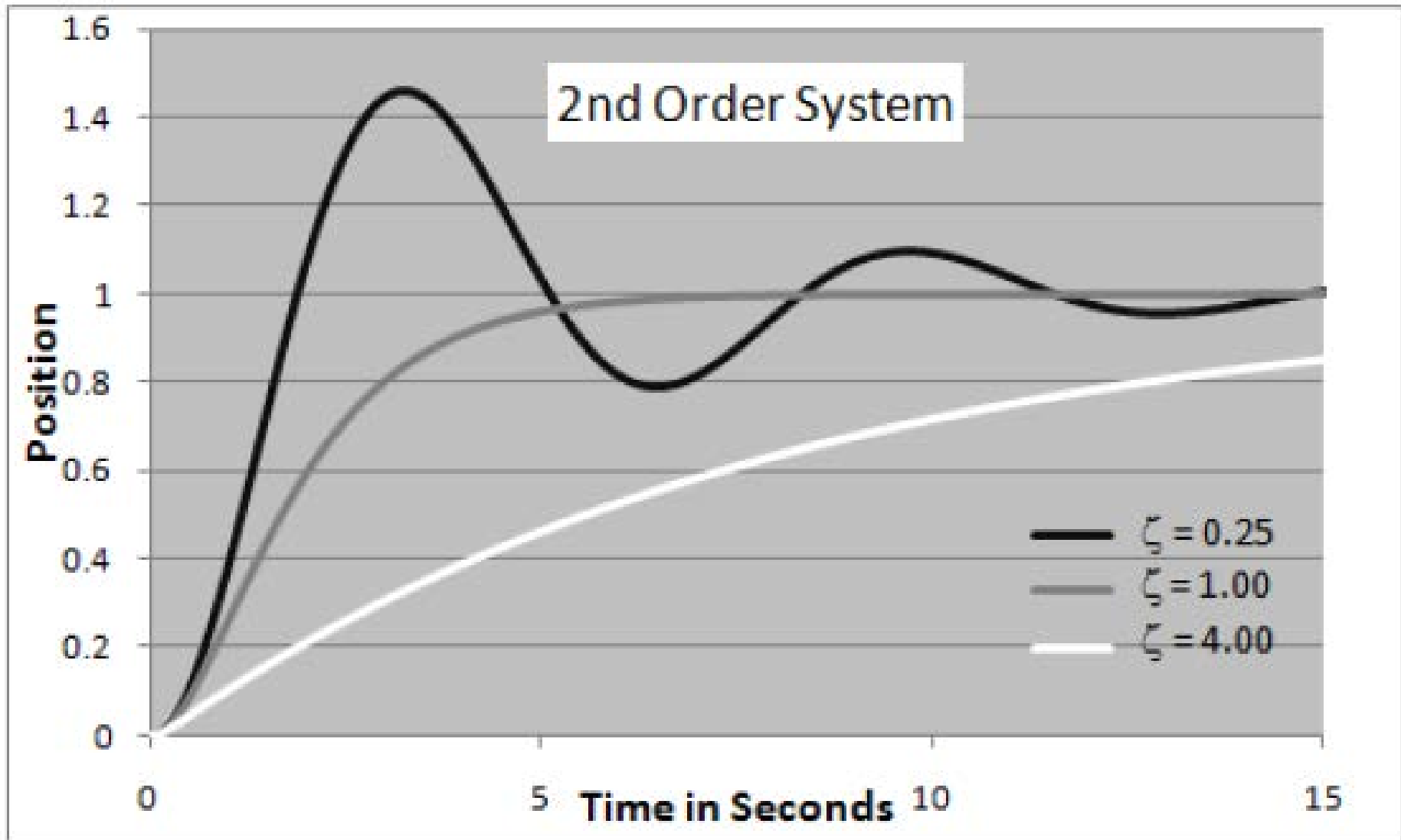
$$\ddot{y}_{k+1} = u_{k+1} - 2\zeta\omega_0\dot{x}_k - \omega_0^2x_k$$

$$\dot{y}_{k+1} = \dot{y}_{k+1} + \ddot{y}_{k+1}\Delta t$$

$$y_{k+1} = y_{k+1} + \dot{y}_{k+1}\Delta t$$

- Truthoid: You can teach yourself controls if you can write a dynamic simulator like the above.

# 2nd Order Step Response



# 2nd Order Step Response

- Take Laplace transform of 2nd order ODE:

$$\ddot{y} + 2\zeta\omega_0\dot{y} + \omega_0^2y = u(t)$$

$$s^2y(s) + 2\zeta\omega_0sy(s) + \omega_0^2y(s) = u(s)$$

- Transfer function:

$$T(s) = \frac{y(s)}{u(s)} = \frac{1}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_0s + \omega_0^2}$$

- Behavior depends on the roots of the characteristic equation.

$$s = -\zeta\omega_0 \pm \omega_0\sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1} = \omega_0(-\zeta \pm \sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1})$$

# General 1st Order Solution

- For the more general 1st order time-varying system:  $\dot{x}(t) = f(t)x(t) + g(t)u(t)$

- The following integrating function exists:

$$\phi(t, t_0) = \exp \left[ \int_{t_0}^t f(\tau) d\tau \right]$$

- The general solution therefore is:

$$x(t) = \phi(t, t_0)x(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t \phi(t, \tau)g(\tau)u(\tau)d\tau$$

- When  $f(t)$  is constant:

$$\phi(t, t_0) = \exp[f \cdot (t - t_0)] = e^{f \cdot (t - t_0)}$$

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# State Space

- Remember the special representation used for Runge Kutta?

$$\dot{\underline{x}}(t) = f(\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t)$$

- State space = a minimal set of variables which can be **used to predict** future state given inputs:
  - Number of initial conditions in a differential equation.



# Conversion of an LTI ODE

- Consider the second order LTI ODE:

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + a_1 \frac{dy}{dt} + a_0 y = u(t)$$

- Choose the state variables to be:

$$x_1(t) = y(t)$$

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

# Conversion of an LTI ODE

- Rewrite the second and the original ODE as:

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

$$\dot{x}_2(t) = -a_1x_2(t) - a_0x_1(t) + u(t)$$

- This is of the form:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -a_0 & -a_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u(t)$$

$$\dot{\underline{x}}(t) = F\underline{x}(t) + Gu(t)$$

# Example: Damped Oscillator

- By inspection:  $\ddot{y} + 2\zeta\omega_0\dot{y} + \omega_0^2y = u(t)$

$$a_1 = 2\zeta\omega_0 \quad a_2 = \omega_0^2$$

- Hence, the system is of the form:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\omega_0^2 & -2\zeta\omega_0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u(t)$$

- Where  $x_1$  is the position and  $x_2$  is the velocity.

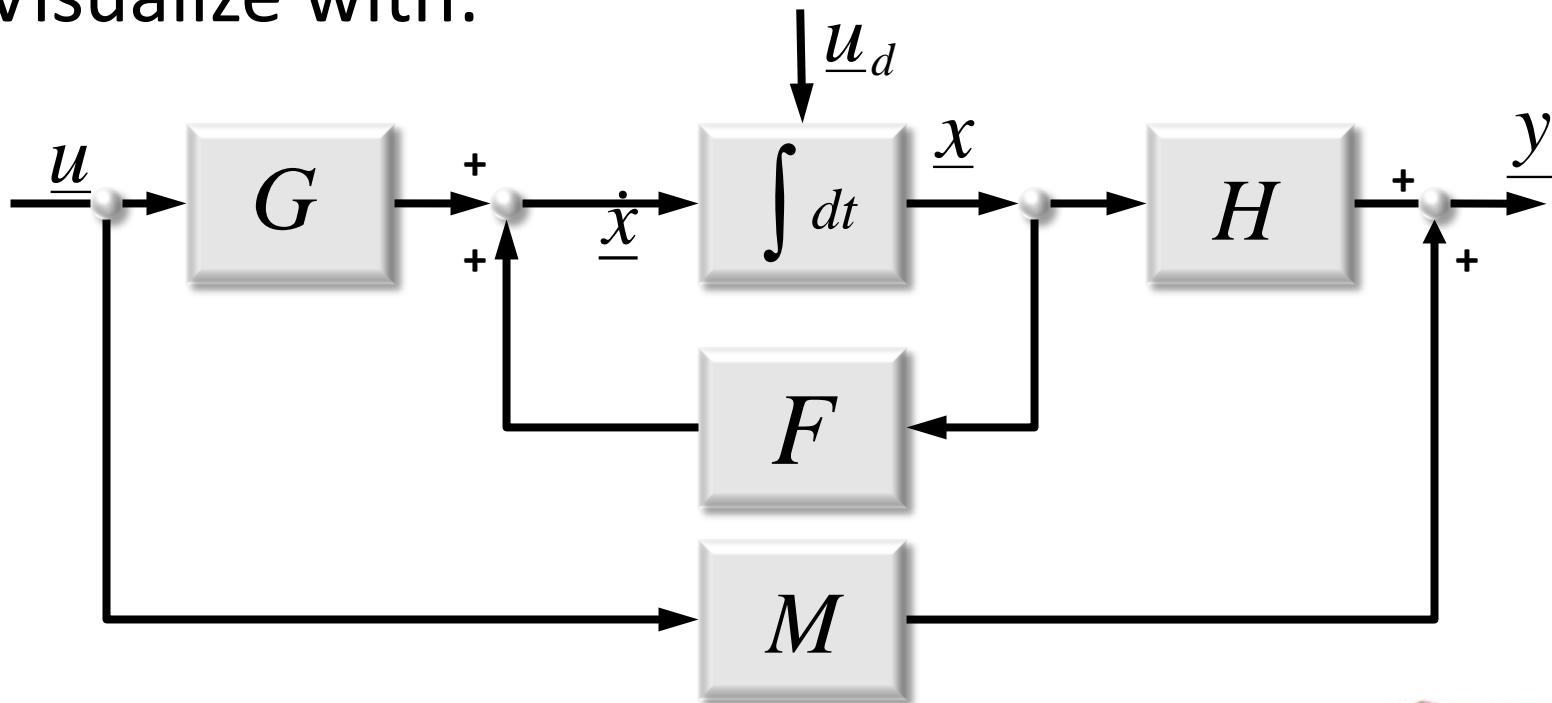
# General Linear Dynamical Systems

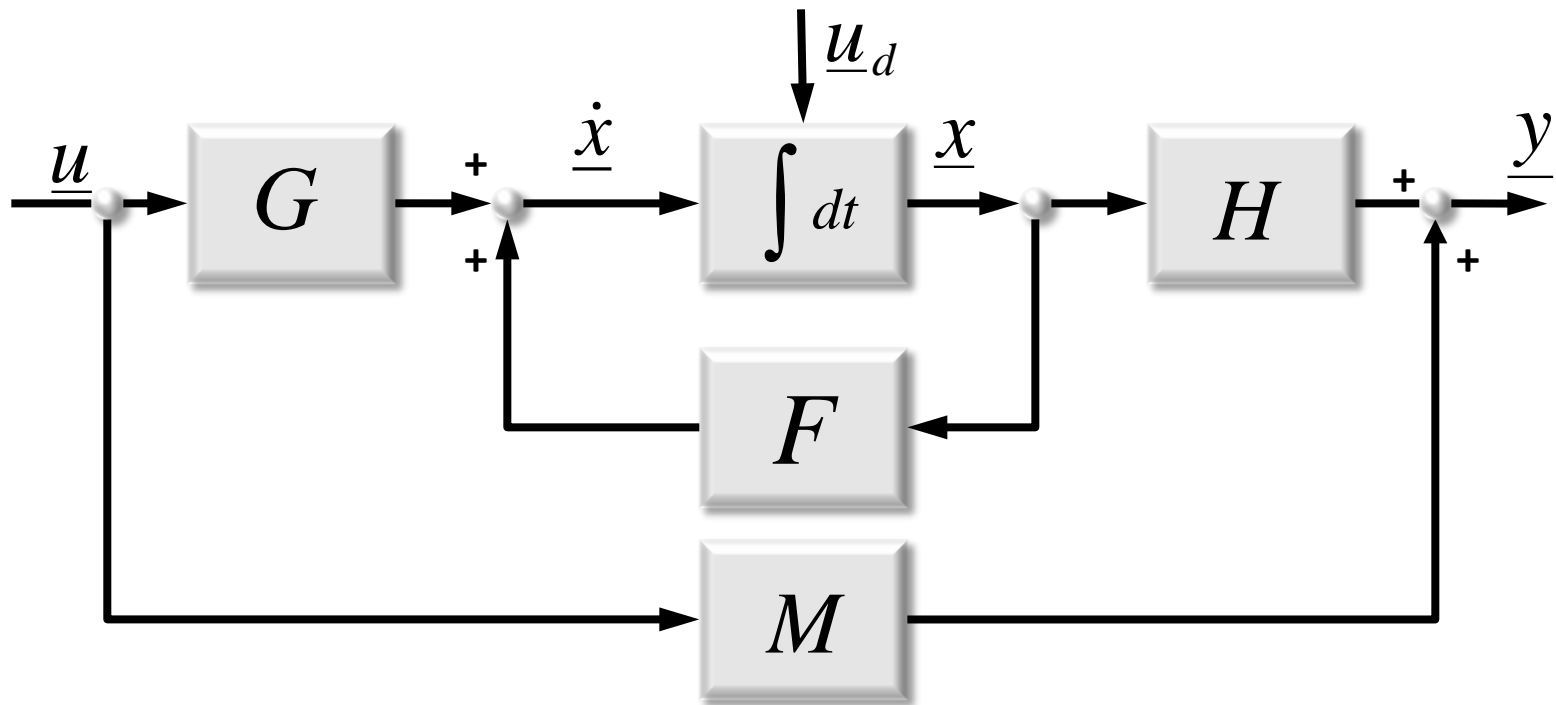
- State Equations:

$$\dot{\underline{x}}(t) = F\underline{x}(t) + G\underline{u}(t)$$

$$\underline{y}(t) = H\underline{x}(t) + M\underline{u}(t)$$

- Visualize with:





# Vector Case – Constant Coefficient

- When the system dynamics matrix  $F(t)$  is **constant** wrt time:

$$\Phi(t, \tau) = e^{F(t - \tau)}$$

Matrix  
Exponential

- Recall: by definition (for any matrix  $A$ ):

$$e^A = \exp(A) = I + A + \frac{A^2}{2!} + \frac{A^3}{3!} + \dots$$

# Solution – Vector Case

- Knowing the transition matrix is equivalent to knowing the solution because:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}(t) = \Phi(t, t_0)\underline{\mathbf{x}}(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t \Phi(t, \tau)\mathbf{G}(\tau)\underline{\mathbf{u}}(\tau)d\tau$$

Vector  
Convolution  
Integral

- This is the **general solution** to:

$$\dot{\underline{\mathbf{x}}}(t) = \mathbf{F}(t)\underline{\mathbf{x}}(t) + \mathbf{G}(t)\underline{\mathbf{u}}(t)$$

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# Nonlinear Dynamical System

- Takes the form:

State Equations  
System Model  
Process Model

$$\dot{\underline{x}}(t) = \underline{f}(\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t)$$

Nonlinear  
differential  
equation

Measurement Model  
Observer

$$\underline{z}(t) = \underline{h}(\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t)$$

Nonlinear  
algebraic  
equation

State

Inputs  
Forcing Function

# Solutions

- Closed form solutions need not exist at all for nonlinear equations.
- With computers though, we can always integrate like so:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}(t) = \underline{\mathbf{x}}(0) + \int_0^t \dot{\mathbf{f}}(\underline{\mathbf{x}}(\tau), \underline{\mathbf{u}}(\tau), \tau) d\tau$$

- This case subsumes the linear case so anything true of nonlinear systems is true of a linear one.
  - Including the next few slides.....

# Relevant Properties

- Homogeneity (for some constant k):

$$\underline{\dot{f}}[\underline{x}(t), k \times \underline{u}(t)] = k^n \times \underline{f}[\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t)]$$

- We say system is “homogeneous to degree n wrt  $\underline{u}(t)$ ”.
- $\underline{u}(t)$  must occur in  $\underline{f}()$  as a factor like so:

$$\underline{\dot{f}}[\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t)] = \underline{u}^n(t) g(\underline{x}(t))$$

- As a result, all terms of the Taylor series of  $\underline{f}()$  over  $\underline{u}(t)$  of order less than n vanish.

# Drift Free

- All homogeneous systems are drift free. Their zero input response is zero.

$$\underline{u}(t) = 0 \Rightarrow \dot{\underline{x}}(t) = 0$$

- Such systems can be stopped instantly by nulling the inputs.
- Similar to “drift-free” designation in control theory.

# Reversibility & Monotonicity

- Odd degree homogeneity implies a reversible system.

$$\underline{u}_2(t) = -\underline{u}_1(\tau - t) \Rightarrow \underline{f}_2(t) = -\underline{f}_1(\tau - t)$$

- Even degree homogeneity implies monotonicity. Sign of derivative irrelevant to sign of  $u()$ .

$$\underline{u}_2(t) = -\underline{u}_1(t) \Rightarrow \underline{f}_2(t) = \underline{f}_1(t)$$

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# Linearizing a Nonlinear Diff Eq

- Consider again:

$$\dot{\underline{x}}(t) = \underline{f}(\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t)$$

- Suppose some  $u(t)$  generates some solution  $x(t)$ . This is the “reference trajectory”.
- Suppose we want a solution for:

perturbed  
input

$$\underline{u}'(t) = \underline{u}(t) + \delta\underline{u}(t)$$

input  
perturbation

- The solution can be written as:

perturbed  
state

$$\underline{x}'(t) = \underline{x}(t) + \delta\underline{x}(t)$$

state  
perturbation

- Defines the state perturbation  $dx(t)$  as the difference in solutions.

# Linearizing a Nonlinear Diff Eq

- If the perturbed solution is a solution, then:

$$\underline{\dot{x}}'(t) = \underline{\dot{x}}(t) + \delta \underline{\dot{x}}(t) = \underline{f}[\underline{x}(t) + \delta \underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t) + \delta \underline{u}(t), t]$$

- Write a truncated Taylor Series at each point in time for the derivative  $\underline{f}()$ :

$$\underline{f}[\underline{x}(t) + \delta \underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t) + \delta \underline{u}(t), t] \approx \underline{f}[\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t] + F(t)\delta \underline{x}(t) + G(t)\delta \underline{u}(t)$$

- Where the two new matrices are the **Jacobians**:

$$F(t) = \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{x}} \underline{f} \right|_{\underline{x}, \underline{u}} \quad G(t) = \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{u}} \underline{f} \right|_{\underline{x}, \underline{u}}$$



# Linearizing a Nonlinear Diff Eq

- At this point we have:

$$\dot{\underline{x}}(t) + \delta \dot{\underline{x}}(t) = \underline{f}(\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t) + F(t)\delta \underline{x}(t) + G(t)\delta \underline{u}(t)$$

- Recall the original differential equation:

$$\dot{\underline{x}}(t) = \underline{f}(\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t)$$

- Cancel it from the top one:

$$\delta \dot{\underline{x}}(t) = F(t)\delta \underline{x}(t) + G(t)\delta \underline{u}(t)$$

Linear  
Perturbation  
Equation

- If you know the Jacobians, you know the perturbative dynamics – the dynamics of error.
- If you know the transition matrix of that, you know the closed form solution to error dynamics.

# Next year

- Move slide 60 (or so) on perturbative dynamics of State Est 1 here. The example will be used later in State Est1 to derive Integrated Heading error dynamics in dead reckoning.
- Also move slide 61, 62 on transition matrix.

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# Summary

- Nonlinear dynamical systems cannot be solved in closed form in general.
- The general solution for linear, even time-varying, dynamical systems exists.
  - Solution rests on Transition matrix
- Perturbative techniques linearize nonlinear differential equations
  - makes them solveable.

# Outline

- 4.3 Aspects of Linear Systems Theory
- 4.5 Predictive Modelling and System Identification

# Introduction – the “ives”

- Mobile robots must often be:
  - Deliberative – decide among options
  - Perceptive – aware of the surroundings
  - Reactive – capable of fast action
- They must be both
  - smart and
  - fast
- ... doing that involves tradeoffs.

# Role of Dynamics

- In support of the above, need to be ...
  - Predictive – able to project consequences
  - Active – able to execute a plan of action
- You need dynamics models for both of these.

# Predictive Modeling

- Must model ...
  - Information processing and propagation.
  - Physical vehicle / environment interaction.
  
- Often need to map ...
  - what you can do (exert forces)
  - what you care about (trajectory through space).
  
- Latter requires integrating the dynamics.



# Outline

- 4.3 Aspects of Linear Systems Theory
- 4.5 Predictive Modelling and System Identification
  - 4.5.1 Braking
  - 4.5.2 Turning
  - 4.5.3 Vehicle Rollover
  - 4.5.4 Wheel Slip and Yaw Stability
  - 4.5.5 Parameterization and Linearization of Dynamic Models
  - 4.5.6 System Identification
  - Summary

# Reasons for Braking

- A) Last resort response to problems.
  - Collision is imminent due to
    - no solution or
    - inadequate planning or control.
- B) Deliberately slow down.
  - On slopes
  - The motion is finished.
  - In order to turn around.

# Avoiding Collision

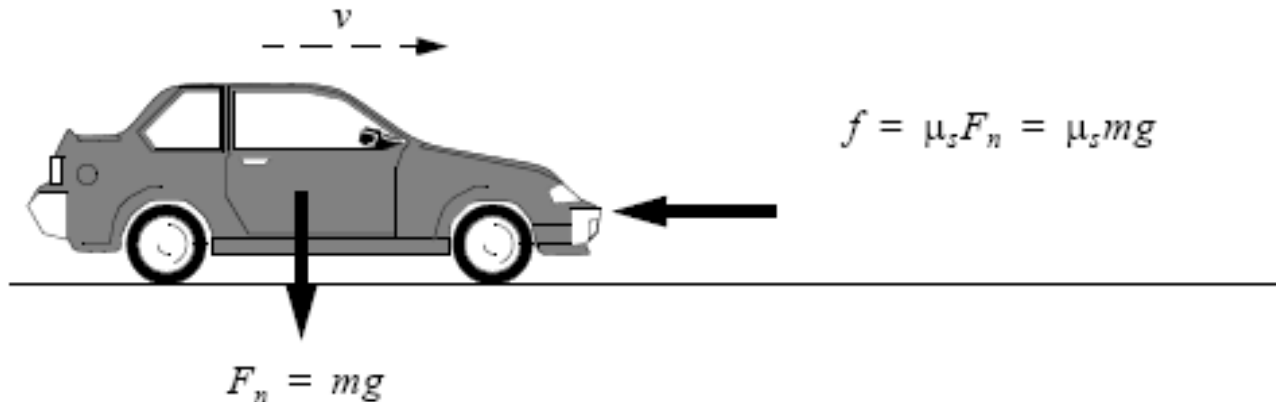
- Requires precise knowledge of the time and space required to react.

Why Care about time?

- These depend heavily on:
  - Speed (initial KE)
  - Friction (work done by friction)
  - Slope (change in PE)

# Braking Model

- Assume brakes are applied instantly:
- Free body diagram:
  - Friction and Weight are coupled.
- Do heavier vehicles take longer to stop?



# Simple Model

- Equate work done by external forces to initial Kinetic energy (assume it is all used up).

$$\frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \mu_s mgs_{\text{brake}}$$

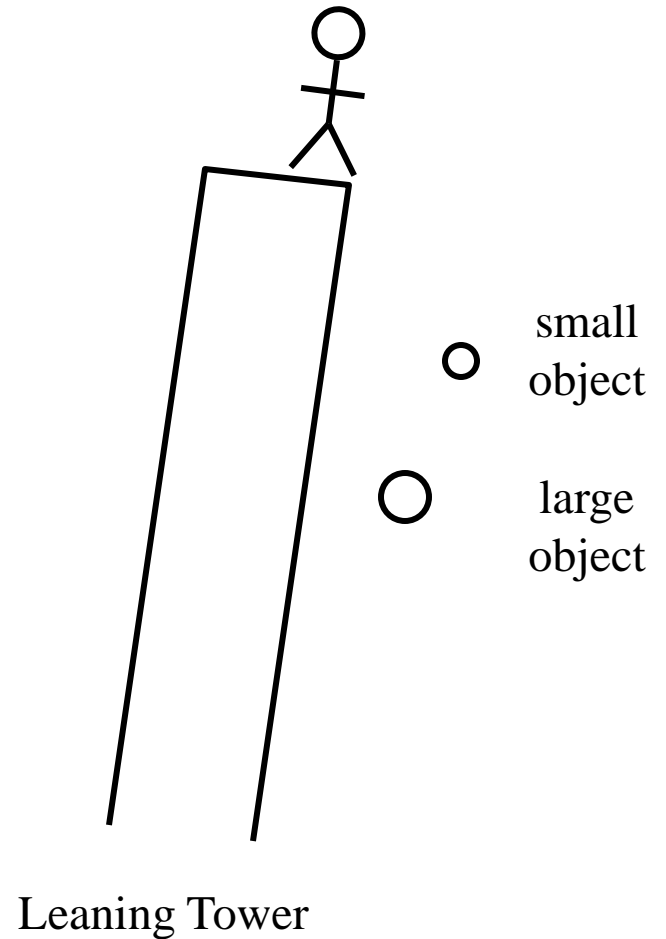
- Solve for braking distance:

$$s_{\text{brake}} = \frac{v^2}{2\mu_s g}$$

- Do heavier vehicles take more distance to stop?

# Tangent: Falling

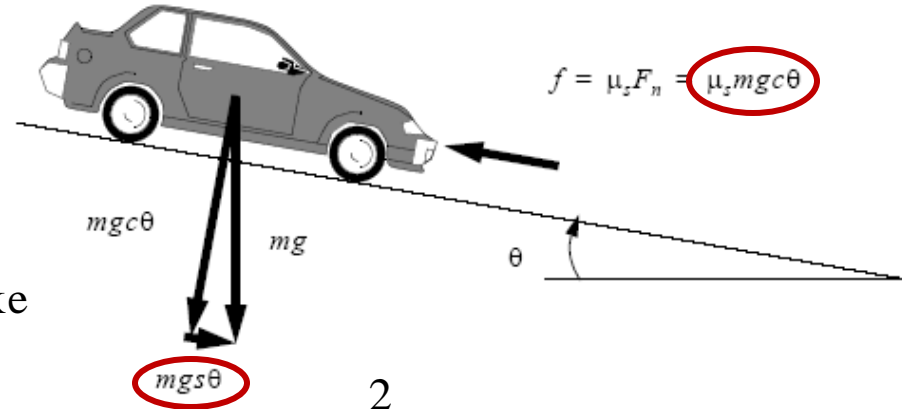
- Do heavier objects fall faster?



# Impact of Slopes

- Again equate work done to initial KE:

$$\frac{1}{2}mv^2 = (\mu_s mgc\theta - mgs\theta)s_{\text{brake}}$$



- Solve for distance:
- Effective coefficient of friction:
- Then, simply:

$$s_{\text{brake}} = \frac{v^2}{2g(\mu_s c\theta - s\theta)}$$

$$\mu_{\text{eff}} = (\mu_s c\theta - s\theta)$$

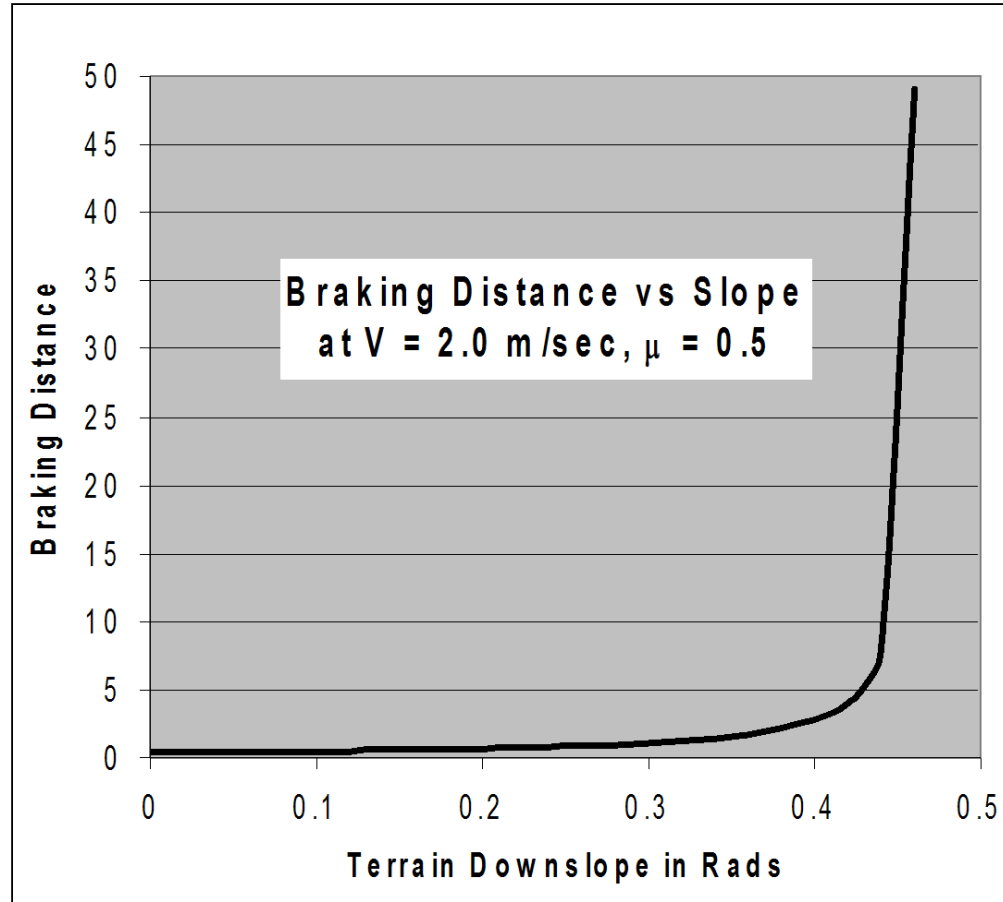
$$s_{\text{brake}} = \frac{v^2}{2\mu_{\text{eff}}g}$$

# Simple Model on Slopes

- Critical angle exists beyond which gravity overcomes friction....

$$\mu_s c\theta - s\theta = 0 \Rightarrow \tan \theta = \mu_s$$

- $\text{Atan}()$  is highly nonlinear.





# General Case

- More generally:

$$\int_0^s \vec{F} \bullet \vec{ds} = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

- Robots can compute this.
  - The terrain shape is known.
  - Keep integrating until KE exhausted.
  - Final value of  $s$  is stopping distance.

# Rough Heuristic for Slopes

- Make small angle assumptions:

$$c\theta = 1 \quad s\theta = \theta$$

- Change in effective coefficient:

$$\mu_{\text{eff}}(\theta) = (\mu_s c\theta - s\theta) \approx \mu_s - \theta$$

10% slope reduces  $\mu$   
by 0.1

- Ratio of sloped to level stopping distance:

$$\frac{s_\theta}{s_0} = \left[ \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\theta}{\mu_s}} \right] \approx \left[ 1 + \frac{\theta}{\mu_s} \right]$$

- Stopping distance increases or decreases by the factor

$$\theta / \mu_s$$

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# Turning

- Goal is to cause terrain to exert a moment on the vehicle
  - By 3rd law, vehicle must exert a moment on the terrain.
- May actuate:
  - Wheel steering (Ackerman)
  - Wheel speeds (Differential, skid)

# Simple Motion Prediction

- For small steer angles:

$$\kappa(t) = \alpha(t)$$

- Integrate the differential equations using “back substitution”:

The mapping from steer angle and velocity onto the path the robot follows. Assumes flat terrain.

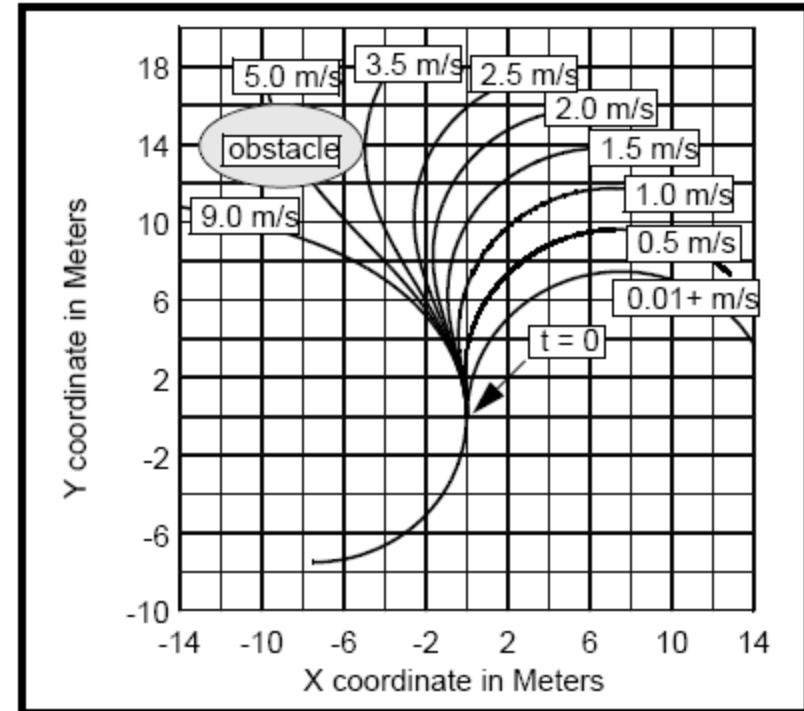
$$\begin{aligned}\theta(t) &= \theta_0 + \int_0^t V(t)\alpha(t)dt \\ x(t) &= x_0 + \int_0^t V(t)\cos(\theta(t))dt \\ y(t) &= y_0 + \int_0^t V(t)\sin(\theta(t))dt\end{aligned}$$

Note mapping from inputs to outputs are integrals.

- Errors in steering are integrated twice to determine errors in predicted position.

# Reverse Turn @ Multiple Speeds

- A curvature step is the most ambitious maneuver.
- Not modeling steering response leads to collisions with obstacles above 3.5 m/sec speed.

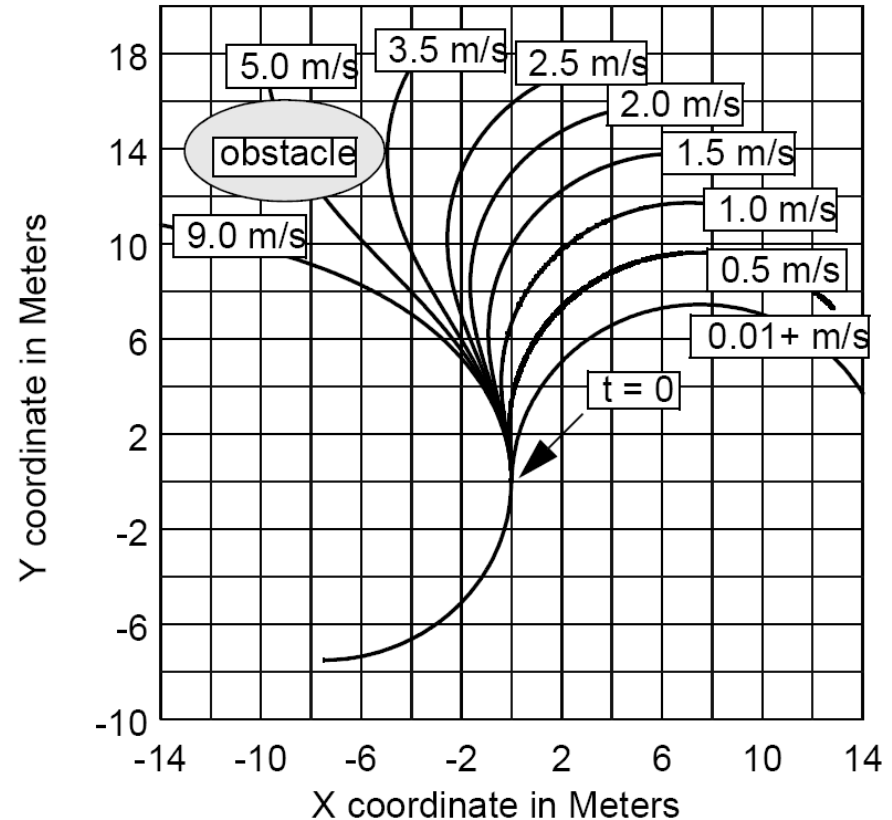


## “Reverse Turn”

- One Curvature
- Various Speeds

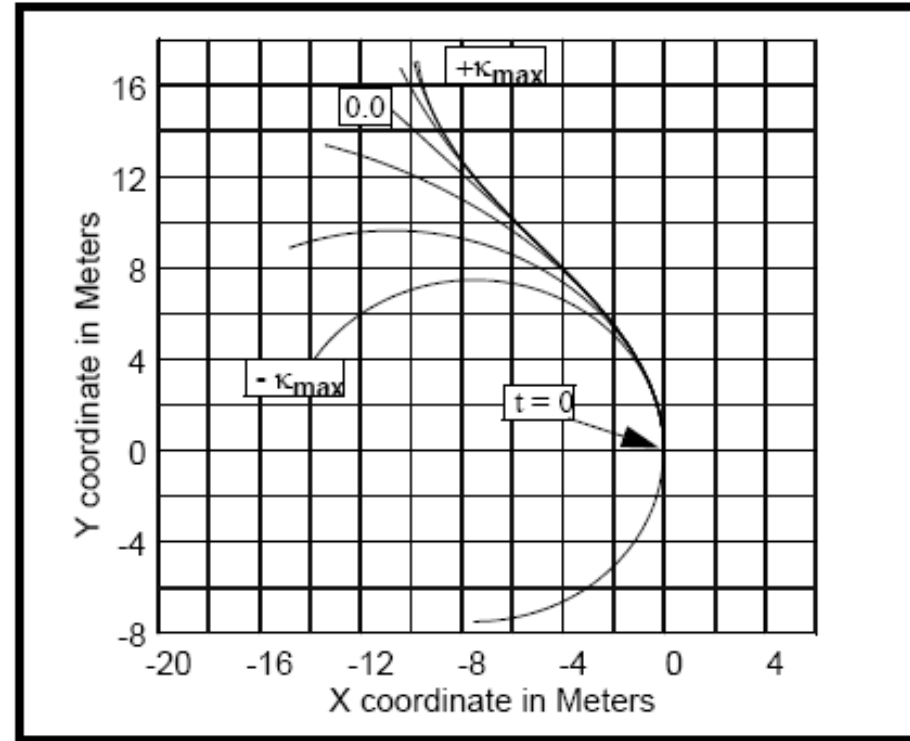
# Recall: Speed Coupling

- Due to vehicle dynamics.....
- The path followed is generally a function of speed.
- Therefore, they must be estimated together.



# Reverse Turn @ Multiple Curvatures

- Different steering commands. Same speed (5 m/s).
- It takes a long distance to cross the forward (y) axis.
  - Its longer the faster you are going.



## “Reverse Turn”

- One Speed
- Various Curvatures



# Swerving

- Recall our typical 2D equations of motion:

$$\dot{\psi} = \kappa v$$

$$\psi = \psi_0 + \int v(t) \kappa(t) dt$$

$$x = x_0 + \int v(t) \cos(\psi(t)) dt$$

$$y = y_0 + \int v(t) \sin(\psi(t)) dt$$

# Swerving

- Assuming velocity is constant, and curvature rate is limited and constant, the yaw is given by:

$$\psi = \psi_0 + v \int \dot{K}_{\max} dt$$

$$\psi = \psi_0 + \frac{v \dot{K}_{\max}}{2} t^2$$

- This gives the position coordinates as:

$$x = v \int \cos\left(\frac{v \dot{K}_{\max}}{2} t^2\right) dt$$

$$y = v \int \sin\left(\frac{v \dot{K}_{\max}}{2} t^2\right) dt$$

“Clothoids”

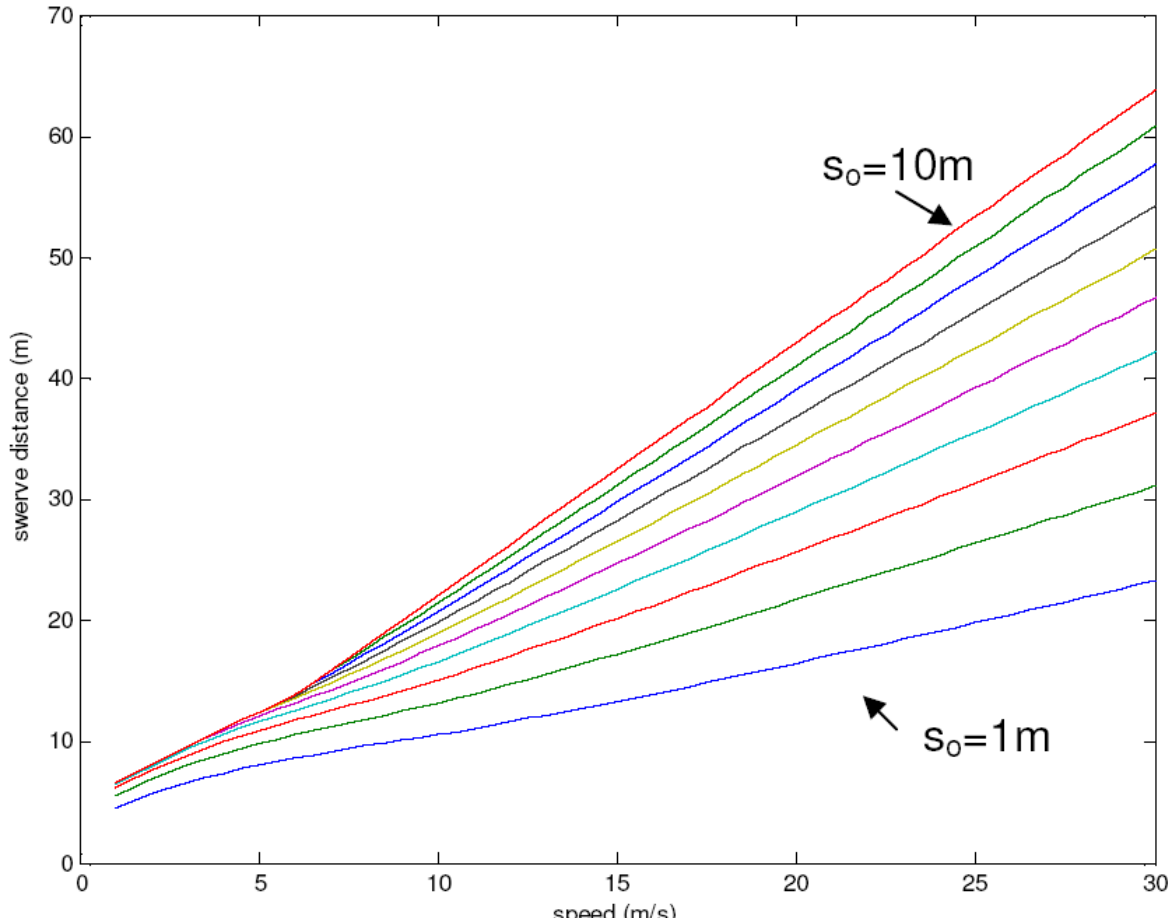
# Swerving

- Two limits on curvature (slipping and rollover) can be computed from:

$$K_{slip} = \frac{\mu g}{v^2} \qquad K_{roll} = \frac{T}{2hv^2} g$$

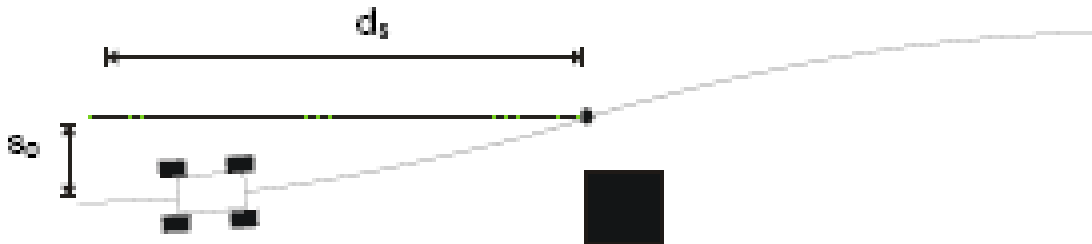
- Given all this, the equations for (x,y) can be integrated numerically to get....

# Swerving (Urmson)



- 1) Roughly linear!
- 2) Lower than stopping distance ( $v^2/10$ ) at 10 m/s and beyond

Sometimes you can swerve in time even when you cannot stop.



# Outline

- 4.3 Aspects of Linear Systems Theory
- 4.5 Predictive Modelling and System Identification
  - 4.5.1 Braking
  - 4.5.2 Turning
  - 4.5.3 Vehicle Rollover
  - 4.5.4 Wheel Slip and Yaw Stability
  - 4.5.5 Parameterization and Linearization of Dynamic Models
  - 4.5.6 System Identification
  - Summary

# Note

- There is plenty of content on rollver in dyn1 too. Check it all/

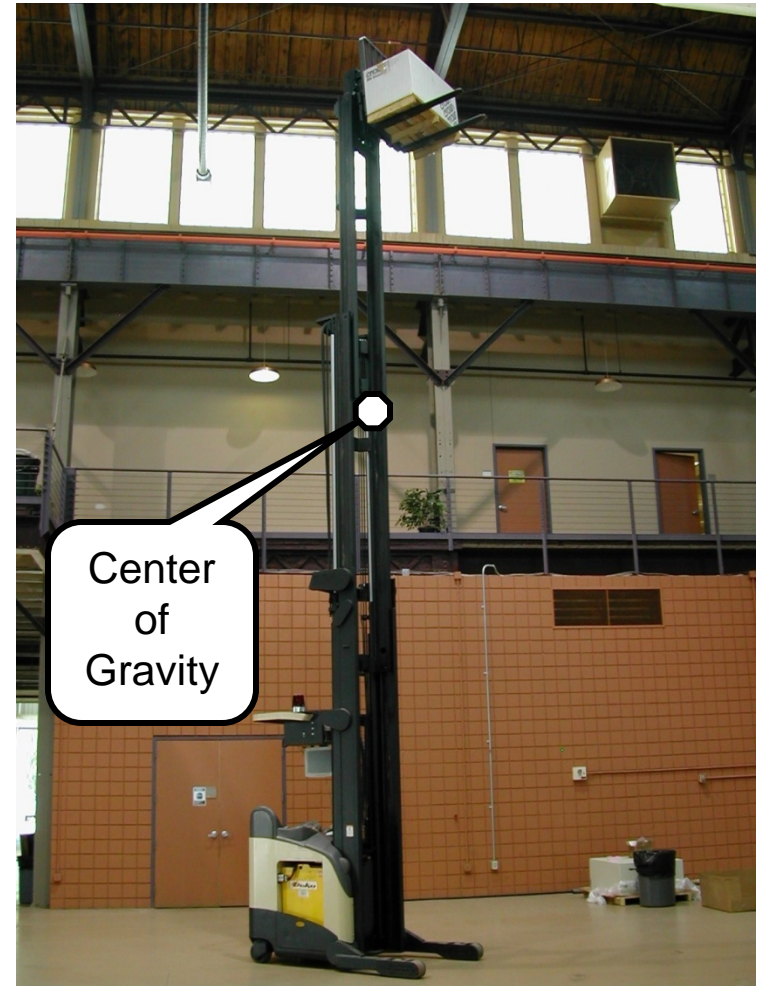
# Field Robots Motivation

- Contemporary mining, forestry, agriculture, and military vehicles, operate
  - on slopes and/or
  - at high speeds
- Field robots do rollover!
  - They at least need a reactive system if predictive elements fail.



# Industrial Robots Motivation

- Market forces reward manufacturers of industrial truck that:
  - Are narrower,
  - Lift heavier loads,
  - Lift them higher.
- Automated industrial trucks face the same challenges.





# PerceptOR - Yuma

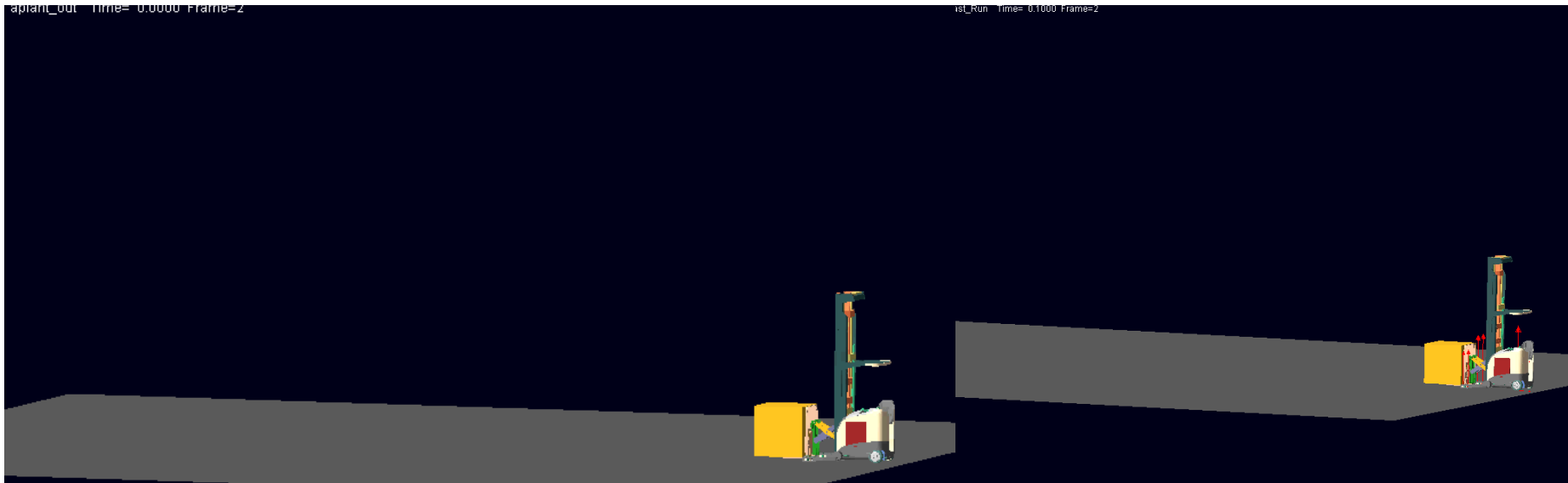


- Some Robots live dangerously.
- Listen for the distinctive “Crunch” of a ladar sensor.

# UGCV – Roll Test



# Lift Truck Simulations



Governed

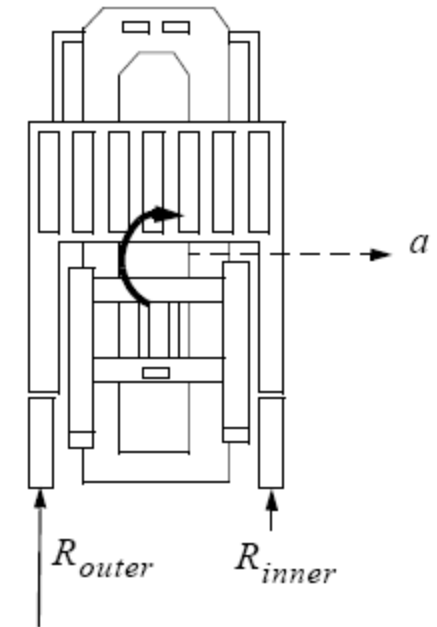
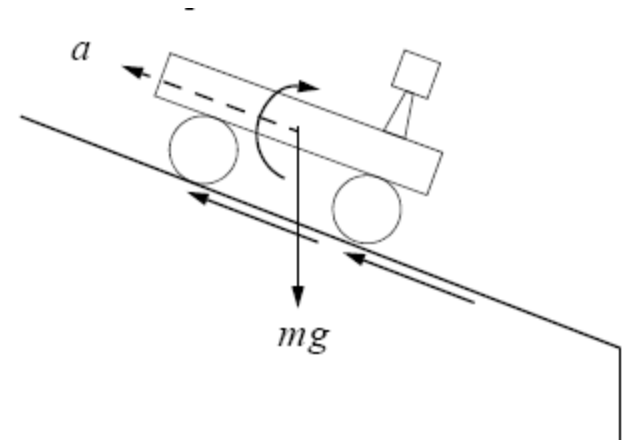
Ungoverned

# Rollover

- More likely in factory and field robots.
- Happens due to combinations of:
  - narrow wheel spacing,
  - high centers of gravity
  - high inertial forces (speeds and curvatures)
  - steep slopes
- Incidents may be:
  - Terrain induced (slide sideways into a curb)
  - Maneuver induced (turn too sharp on a hill)

# Examples

- Tipover when stopping on a downslope.
- Rollover when turning sharply.



# Forms of Instability

- Must distinguish two events:
  - Point of wheel liftoff (still recoverable)
  - Point where cg passes over wheels (irrecoverable)
- The first occurs first and is easier to detect
  - Does not require knowledge of inertia.

# NOTE

- The book was updated to use a single figure and to not reverse the direction of the reactions as the figures do here.
- That changed the signs in a few places so the figures and the math need to be updated here to be consistent with the book.

# Static Case

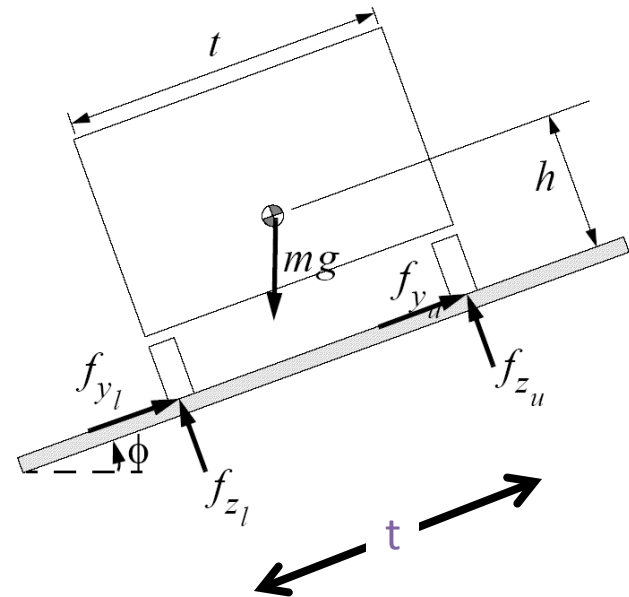
- For translational equilibrium:

$$f_{y_u} + f_{y_l} = mg \sin \phi$$

- For rotational equilibrium:

$$f_{z_u} t + mg \sin \phi h = mg \cos \phi \frac{t}{2}$$

Sum moments about lower wheel. Do cross products ( $r \times f$ ) in body coordinates where it is easy





# Static Liftoff

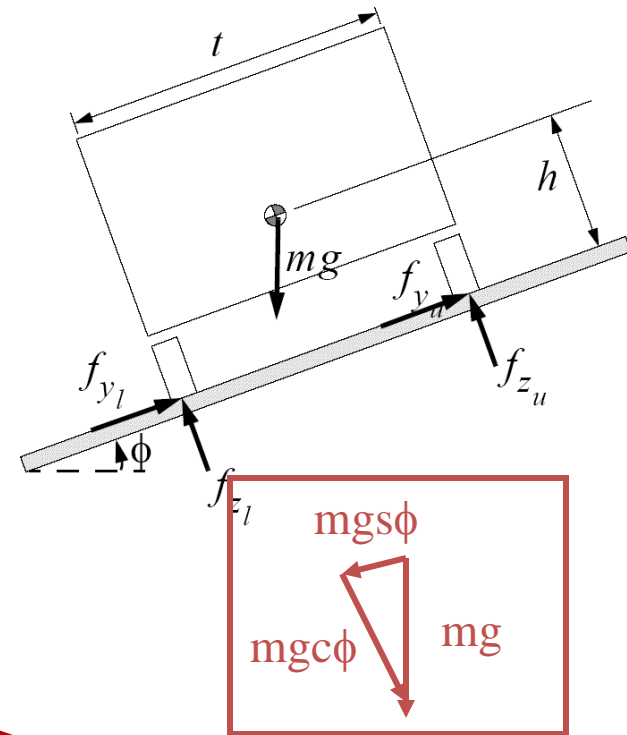
- Imagine raising the slope:
  - $f_{zu}$  decreases
  - $f_{zl}$  increases
- At some point  $f_{zu} = 0$  and the moment balance becomes:

$$mg \sin \phi h = mg \cos \phi \frac{t}{2}$$

- Can solve for the slope at which tipping occurs:

$$\tan \phi = \frac{t}{2h}$$

- Using this, can compute cg height using a tilt table.

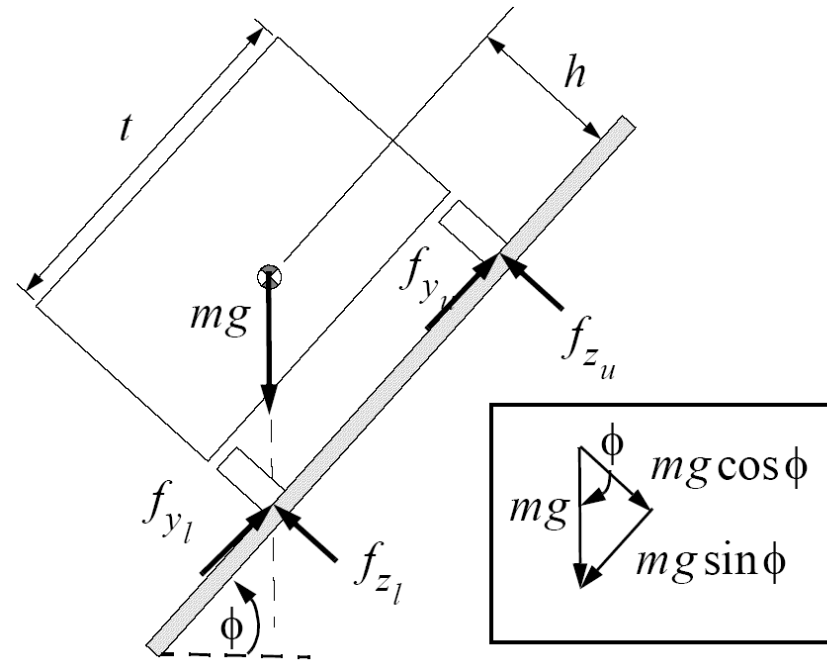


Gravity is the only force involved.

An important/famous vehicle design parameter affecting stability.

# Static Liftoff

- Since we are talking about a moment of a single force...
  - Result can be understood in terms of the direction of gravity.
- Liftoff criterion is first satisfied when gravity vector:
  - emanating from the center of gravity (cg)
  - points at the lower wheel contact point.



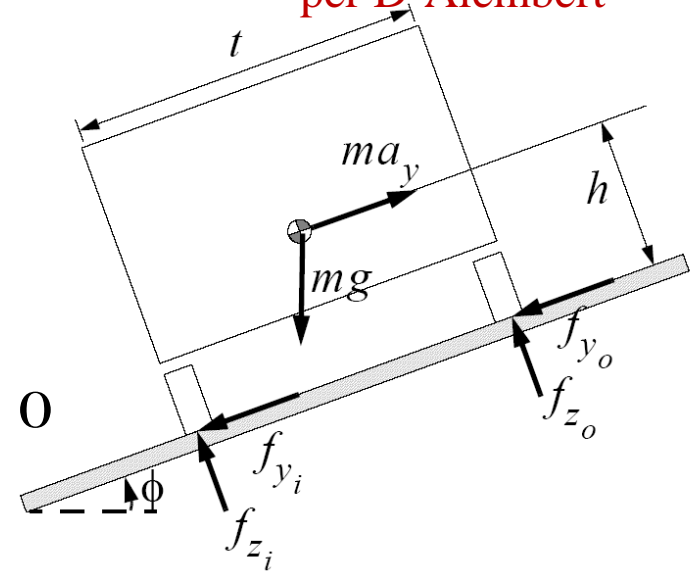
# Dynamic Case

Vehicle is turning left  
Ma is reversed in sense  
per D'Alembert

- Use D'Alembert's principle:
  - I.E. treat  $-ma$  like a real force.

- Moment balance:

$$-f_{z_i} t - ma_y h + mgs\phi h + mgc\phi \frac{t}{2} = 0$$



- Solve for lateral acceleration

in g's:

$$\frac{a_y}{g} = \left[ \frac{t}{2} c\phi + h s\phi - \frac{t f_{z_i}}{mg} \right] / h$$

- Set  $f_{z_i} = 0$  to get lateral acceleration threshold.

$$\frac{a_y}{g} = \left[ \frac{t}{2} c\phi + h s\phi \right] / h$$

# Dynamic Case

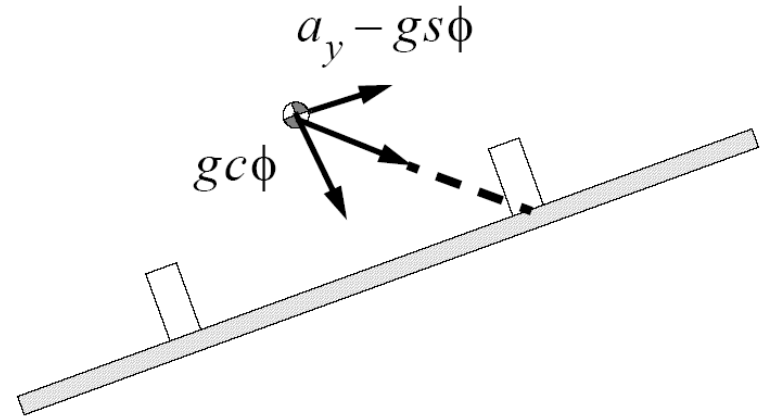
- Rewrite last result:

$$\frac{a_y - gs\phi}{gc\phi} = \frac{t}{2h}$$

- Liftoff when net noncontac

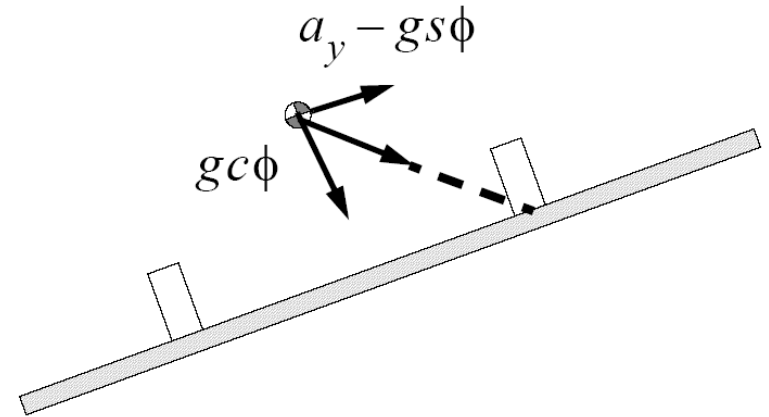
$$\vec{f} = \vec{g} - \vec{a}$$

- Points at the outside wheel contact point.
- A pendulum mounted at the cg aligns with this vector.



# Interpretations

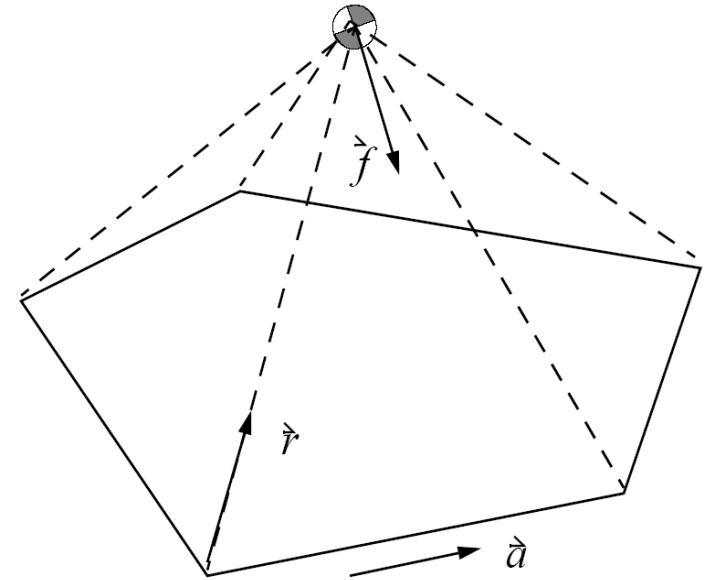
- Static case is just special case of dynamic ( $a_y=0$ )
- Stability increases with:
  - Lower cg h
  - Wider tread t
  - Lowering slope
  - Decreasing acceleration
    - Slowing down
    - Reducing curvature



$$\frac{a_y - gs\phi}{gc\phi} = \frac{t}{2h}$$

# Stability Pyramid

- Theory generalizes to vehicles of any shape.
- Stability pyramid = the pyramid wheel contact points with the center of gravity
- Each edge is a potential tipover
  - Moment is:
  - Unbalanced when:



$$\vec{M} = \vec{r} \times \vec{f}$$
$$\vec{M} \bullet \vec{a} > 0$$

Wheels need not  
be in the same  
plane.

# Implementation

- Some vehicles articulate mass so the cg would have to be (re-)calculated in real time.
- An accelerometer or inclinometer works like a pendulum, but:
  - It probably cannot be placed at the cg.
  - So, acceleration transforms are necessary.

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# Slip Angle

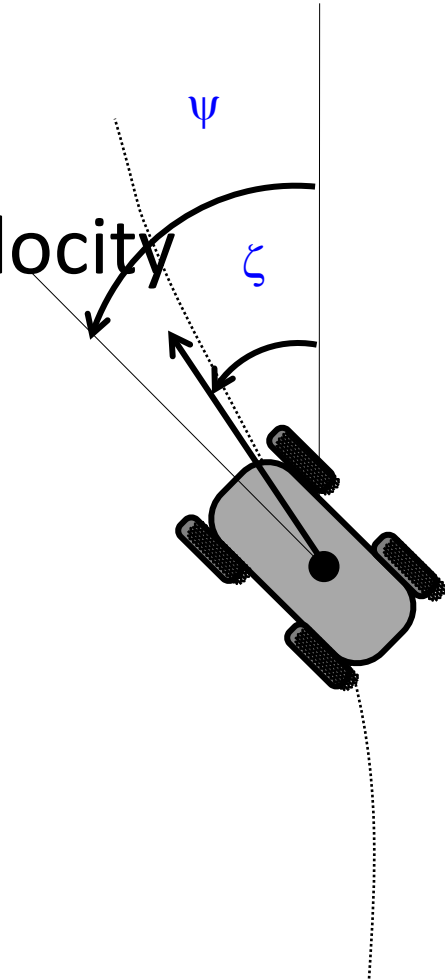
- Defined for a car as:

$$\beta = \psi - \zeta$$

- Alternatively using body frame velocity components:

$$\beta = \text{atan2}(V_y, V_x)$$

- Can be defined for wheels too.

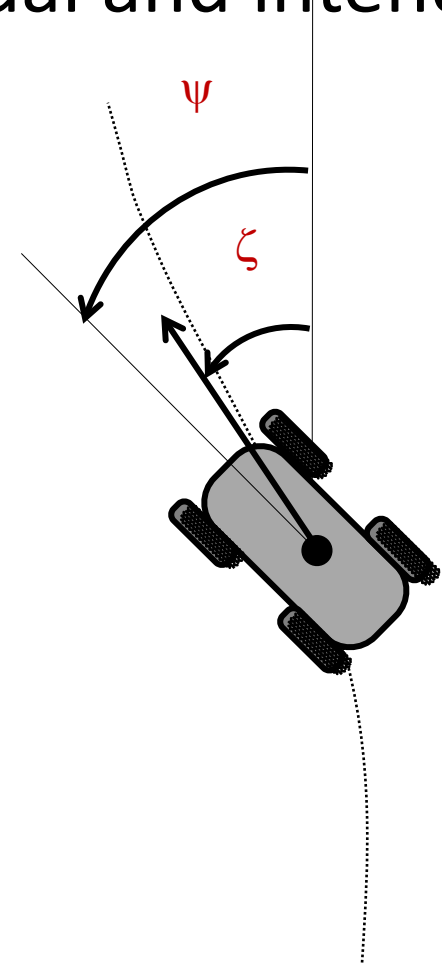


# Generalized Slip Angle

- Define the angle between the actual and intended velocity:

$$\beta = \text{acos}[(\tilde{\underline{V}} \cdot \underline{V}) / (|\tilde{\underline{V}}| |\underline{V}|)]$$

actual    reference



# Generalized Slip Equation

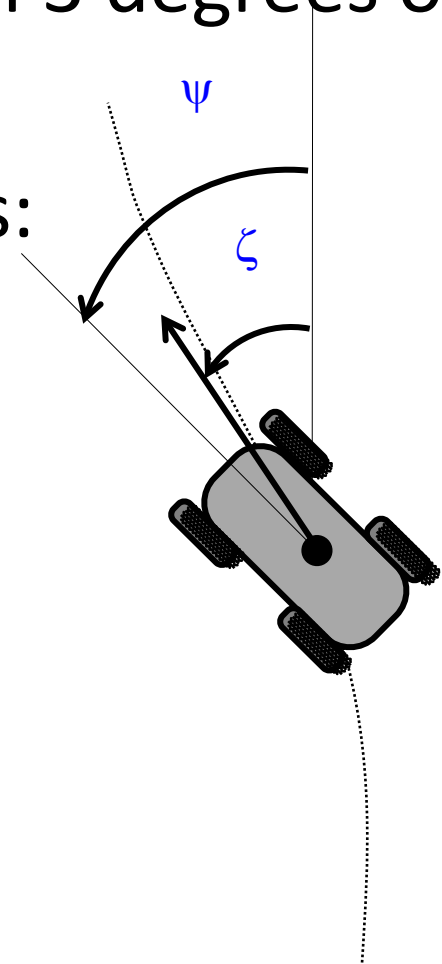
- The velocity may be incorrect in all 3 degrees of freedom.
- Express errors in body coordinates:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{\theta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c\theta & -s\theta & 0 \\ s\theta & c\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \underline{V}_x \\ \underline{V}_y \\ \omega \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \delta V_x \\ \delta V_y \\ \delta \omega \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

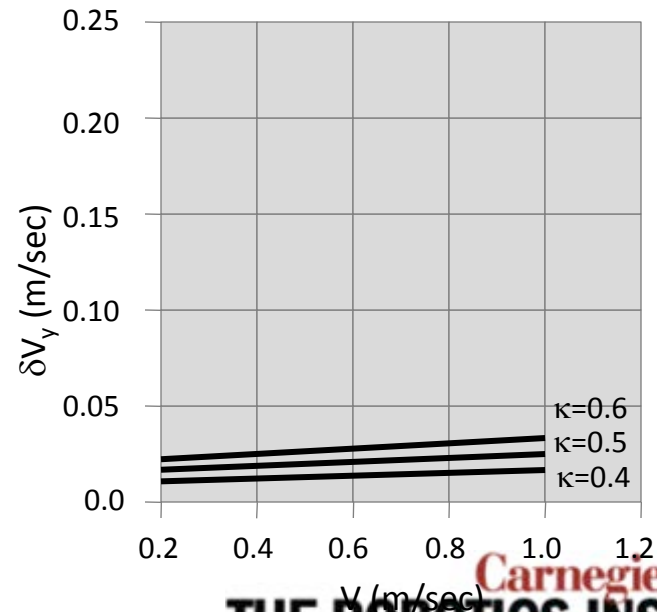
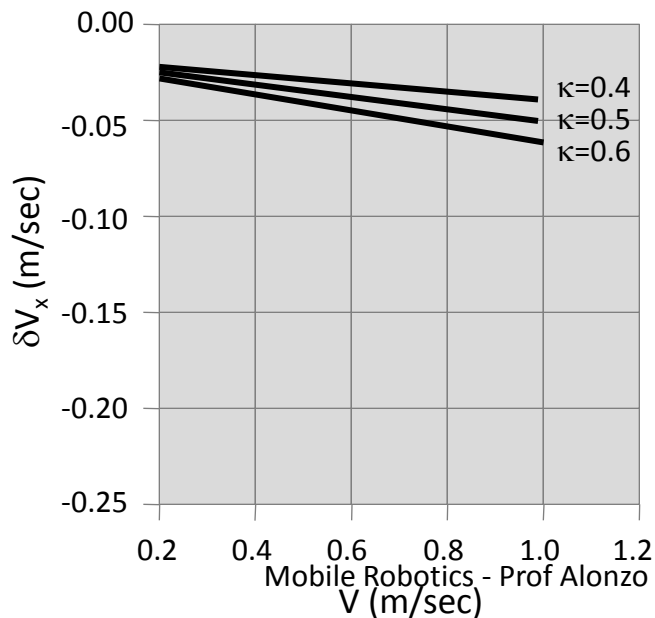
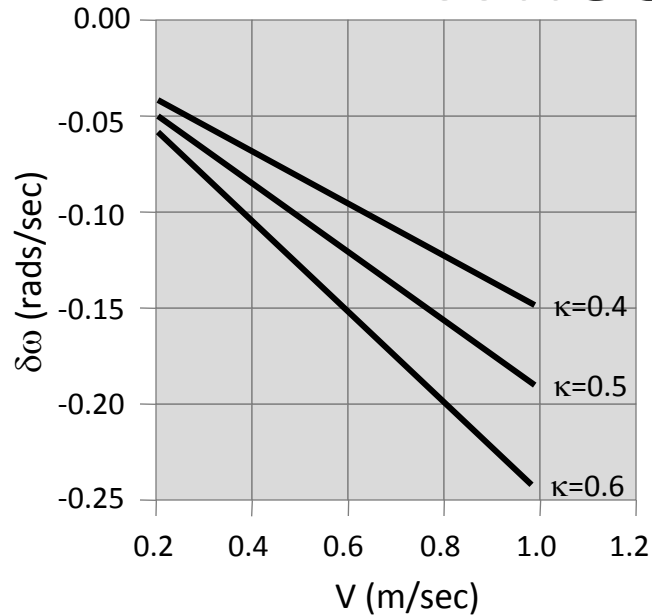
$${}^w \tilde{\underline{V}} = \mathbf{R}(\theta)(\underline{V} + \delta \underline{V})$$

actual

reference

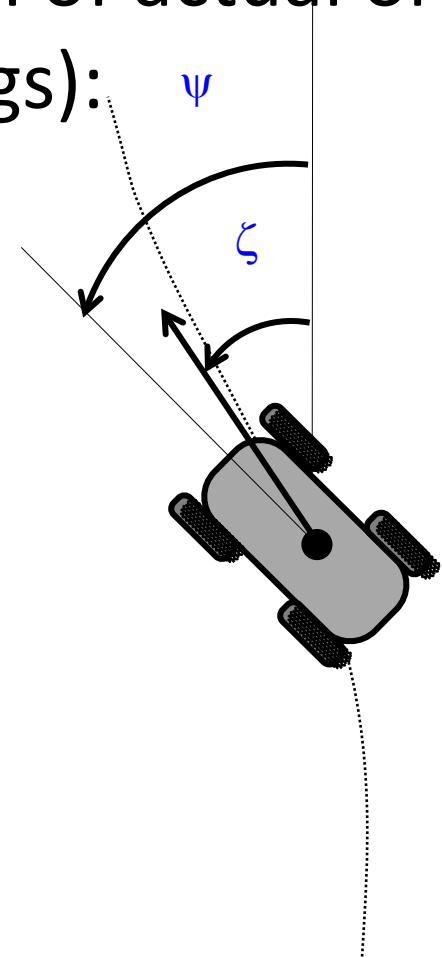


# Wheel Slip Graphs



# Removing Slip with Prediction

- Slip can be expressed as a function of actual or reference velocity (and other things):
- Compensate in body coordinates.



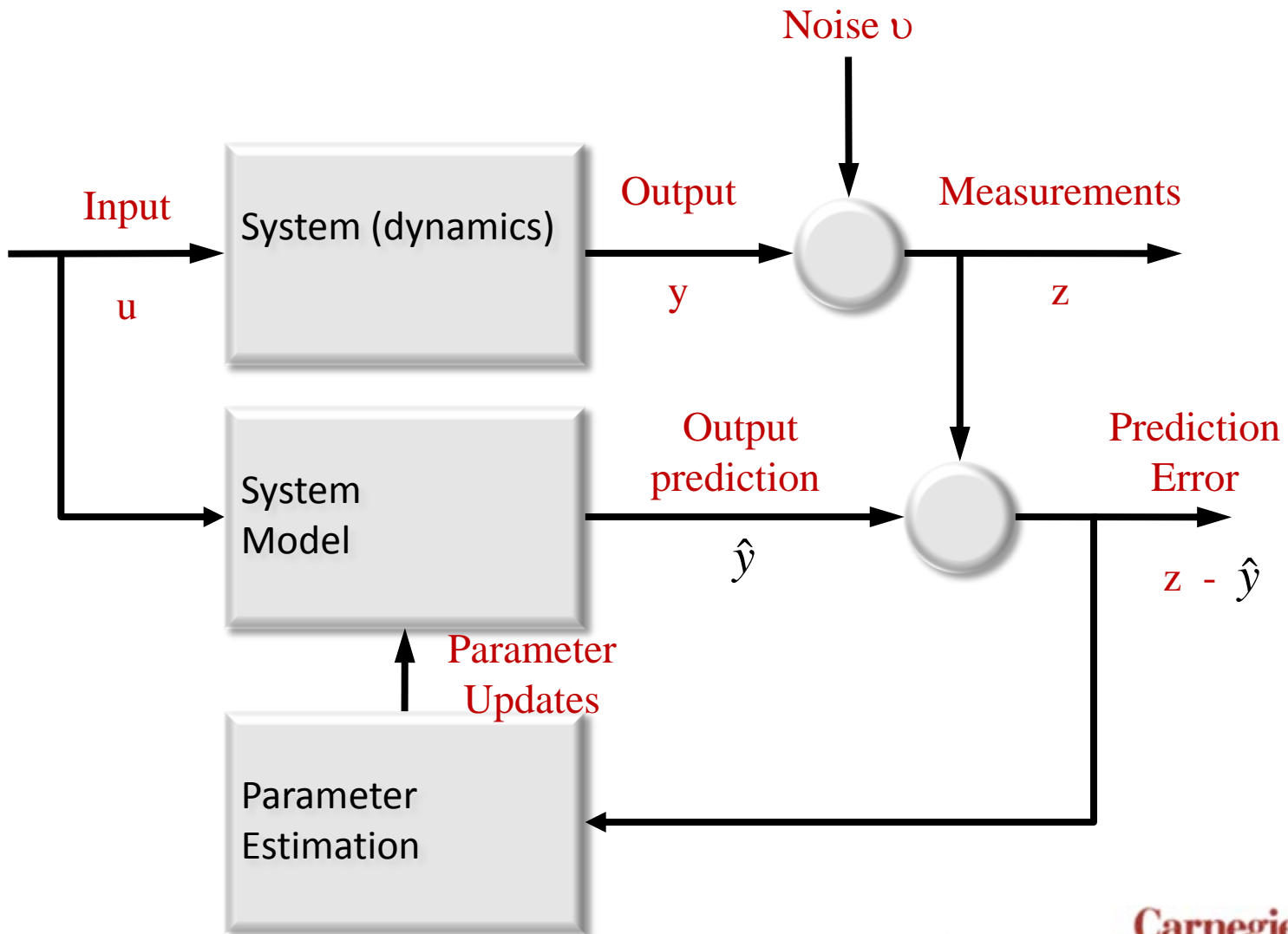
reference

actual

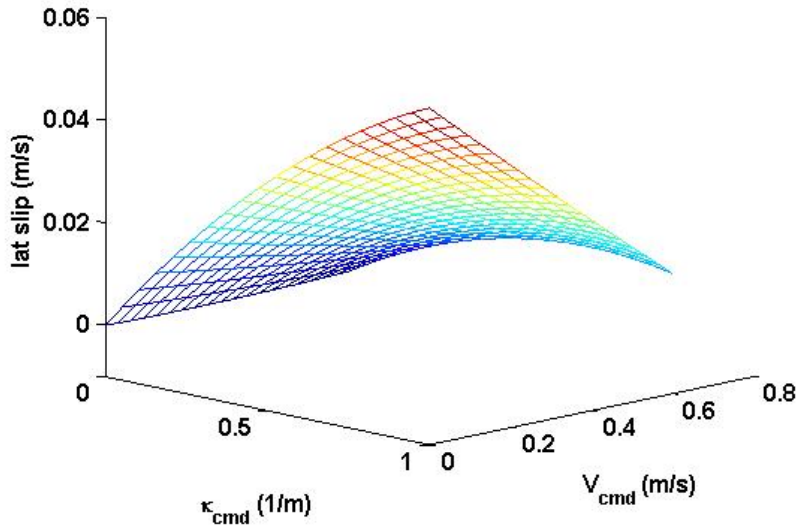
$$\underline{V} = \mathbf{R}^{-1}(\theta)^w \underline{\tilde{V}} - \delta V$$

# Outline

- Introduction
- Wheel Slip
- Braking
- Turning & Swerving
- Rollover
- System Identification
- Summary



### Side Slip





# Summary

- Braking distance:
  - increases quadratically with initial speed
  - depends heavily on slope
- Turning and Swerving:
  - predicting steering maneuvers requires calibrated dynamic models.
- Rollover stability can be measured with a pendulum at the cg.