# Stability

## System External Stability

 Externally stable systems: Bounded input results in bounded output (system is said to be stable in the BIBO sense)

### **Electrical System**







v(t) = R i(t)



#### **Mechanical System**



## Linear Differential Systems (1)

- Many systems in electrical and mechanical engineering where input x(t) and output loop current y(t) are related by differential equations
- For example:



 $v_L(t) + v_R(t) + v_C(t) = x(t)$ 

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + 3y(t) + 2\int_{-\infty}^{t} y(\tau) d\tau = x(t)$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 3\frac{dy}{dt} + 2y(t) = \frac{dx}{dt}$$

# Linear Differential Systems (2)

Find the input-output relationship for the transational mechanical system shown below. The input is the force x(t), and the output is the mass position y(t)



# Linear Differential Systems (3)

 In general, relationship between x(t) and y(t) in a linear time-invariant (LTI) differential system is given by (where all coefficients a<sub>i</sub> and b<sub>i</sub> are constants):

$$\frac{d^{N}y}{dt^{N}} + a_{1}\frac{d^{N-1}y}{dt^{N-1}} + \dots + a_{N-1}\frac{dy}{dt} + a_{N}y(t)$$
  
=  $b_{N-M}\frac{d^{M}x}{dt^{M}} + b_{N-M+1}\frac{d^{M-1}x}{dt^{M-1}} + \dots + b_{N-1}\frac{dx}{dt} + b_{N}x(t)$ 

- Use compact notation **D** for operator d/dt, i.e  $\frac{dy}{dt} \equiv Dy(t)$  and  $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} \equiv D^2y(t)$  etc.
- We get:  $(D^N + a_1 D^{N-1} + \dots + a_{N-1} D + a_N) y(t)$ =  $(b_{N-M} D^M + b_{N-M+1} D^{M-1} + \dots + b_{N-1} D + b_N) x(t)$

or

$$Q(D)y(t) = P(D)x(t)$$

$$Q(D) = D^{N} + a_{1}D^{N-1} + \dots + a_{N-1}D + a_{N}$$
$$P(D) = b_{N-M}D^{M} + b_{N-M+1}D^{M-1} + \dots + b_{N-1}D + b_{N}$$

# Linear Differential Systems (4)

- Let us consider this example again:
- The system equation is:  $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 3\frac{dy}{dt} + 2y(t) = \frac{dx}{dt}$



This can be re-written as:

$$(D^2 + 3D + 2)y(t) = Dx(t)$$
$$Q(D) \qquad P(D)$$

Also 
$$\int_{-\infty}^{t} y(\tau) d\tau \equiv \frac{1}{D} y(t)$$
$$\frac{d}{dt} \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{t} y(\tau) d\tau \right] = y(t)$$

- For this system, N = 2, M = 1, a<sub>1</sub> = 3, a<sub>2</sub> = 2, b<sub>1</sub> = 1, b<sub>2</sub> = 0.
- For practical systems, M ≤ N. It can be shown that if M > N, a LTI differential system acts as an (M – N)th-order differentiator.
- A differentiator is an unstable system because bounded input (e.g. a step input) results in an unbounded output (a Dirac impulse δ(t)).