Beware of Pole-Zero Cancellations!!

Here is a really bad realization of the t.f.

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{s+3}.$$

Use a two-dimensional model:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= -3x_1 + u\\ \dot{x}_2 &= 100x_2\\ y &= x_1 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ x₂ is not affected by the input u (i.e., it is an uncontrollable mode), and not visible from the output y
- ▶ does not change the transfer function
- ... and yet, horrible to implement: $x_2(t) \propto e^{100t}$

The transfer function can mask undesirable internal state behavior!!