EN1060 Signals and Systems: Introduction

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Section 1

Introduction to Signals and Systems

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- Electrical signals (voltages and currents in circuits, electromagnetic communication signals), acoustic signals, image and video signals, and biological signals are all example of signals that we encounter.
- They are functions of independent variables and carry information.

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- Types of signals in continuous time and discrete time, linear time-invariant (LTI) systems, Fourier analysis, sampling, Laplace transform, z-transform, and stability of systems are the core components of the course.

After completing this course you will be able to do the following:

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- Use Fourier techniques to understand frequency-domain characteristics of signals.
- Use appropriate theoretical principles for sampling and reconstruction of analog signals.
- Use the Laplace transform and the *z*-transform to treat a class of signals and systems broader than what Fourier techniques can handle.

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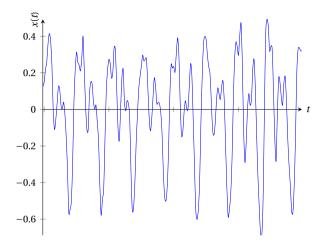
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- There are some very strong similarities and also some very important differences between discrete-time signals and systems and continuous-time signals and systems.

Continuous-Time Signals x(t)

- The independent variable is continuous.
- E.g., sound pressure at a microphone as a function of time (one-dimensional signal).
- E.g., image brightness as a function of two spatial variables (two-dimensional signal).
- Con convenience, we refer to the independent variable as time.



A function of a continuous variable A speech signal: a continuous-time, one-dimensional signal





An image on a film: a continuous-time, two-dimensional signal

Discrete-Time Signals x[n]

- Function of an integer variable.
- Takes on values at integer values of the argument of x[n].

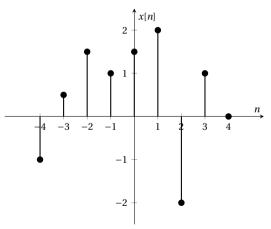


Figure: DT Signal

Digital Signals

- What is a digital signal?
 - A quantized discrete-time signal. I.e., x[n, m] can take only a value from a finite set of values.
- What is a digital image?
 - A two-dimensional, quantized, discrete-time signal.
 - A 600×800 image: $n \in [0,599]$, $m \in [0,799]$, $x[n,m] \in [0,255]$. 8-bit image.

Systems

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Systems

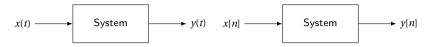
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CT and DT Systems



 $\label{eq:Figure:CT} \textbf{Figure: CT and DT Systems}.$

Types of Systems

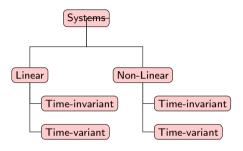


Figure: System types.

This course is focused on the class of linear, time-invariant (LTI) systems.

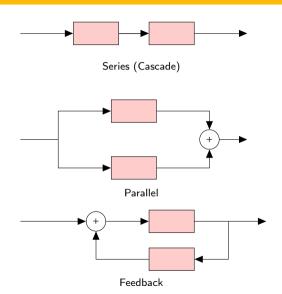
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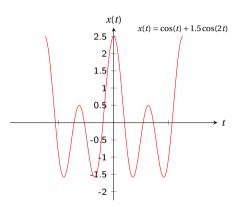
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Systems Interconnections

- To build more complex systems by interconnecting simpler subsystems.
- To modify the response of a system.
- E.g.: amplifier design, stabilizing unstable systems.

Signal-Flow (Block) Diagrams





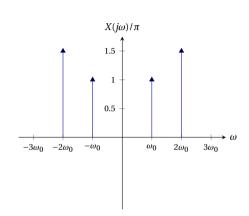


Figure: Domains.

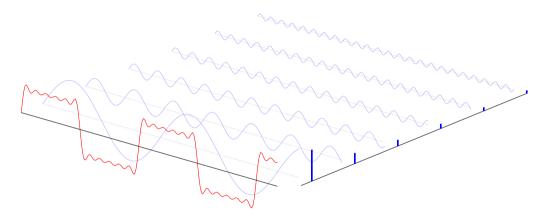


Figure: Square wave: time and frequency domains.