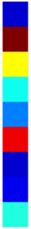
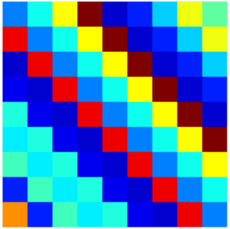
Impulse Response

Recall: LTI Systems are Toeplitz Matrices (Infinite-Length Signals)

$$x \longrightarrow \boxed{\mathcal{H}} \longrightarrow y$$

- LTI system $=$ multiplication by infinitely large Toeplitz matrix $\mathbf{H}$: $\quad y \; = \; \mathbf{H}x$
- All of the entries in $\mathbf{H}$ can be obtained from the
  - 0-**th column**: $\quad h[n] = h_{n,0}\quad$ (this is a signal/column vector; call it h)
  - **Time-reversed** 0-**th row**: $\quad h[m] = h_{0,-m}$
- $$[\mathbf{H}]_{n,m} \;=\; h_{n,m} \;=\; h[n-m]$$
- Columns/rows of $\mathbf{H}$ are shifted versions of the 0-th column/row

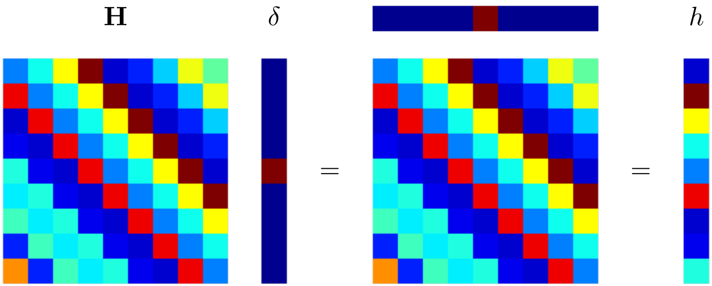
$h =$ 

$\mathbf{H} =$ 

Impulse Response (Infinite-Length Signals)

- The 0-th column of the matrix $\mathbf{H}$ – the column vector h – has a special interpretation

- Compute the output when the input is a **delta function** (impulse): $\delta[n] = \begin{cases} 1 & n = 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$



- This suggests that we call h the **impulse response** of the system

Impulse Response from Formulas (Infinite-Length Signals)

- General formula for LTI matrix multiplication

$$y[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\, x[m]$$

- Let the input $x[n] = \delta[n]$ and compute

$$\sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\,\delta[m] \;=\; h[n] \quad \checkmark$$

$$\delta \longrightarrow \boxed{\;\mathcal{H}\;} \longrightarrow h$$

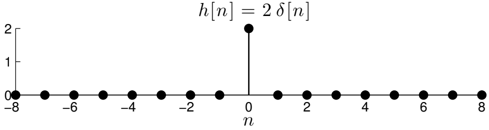
- The impulse response characterizes an LTI system (that is, carries all of the information contained in the matrix $\mathbf{H}$)

$$x \longrightarrow \boxed{\;h\;} \longrightarrow y$$

Example: Impulse Response of the Scaling System

$$x \longrightarrow \boxed{\mathcal{H}} \longrightarrow y$$

- Consider system for infinite-length signals; finite-length signal case is similar



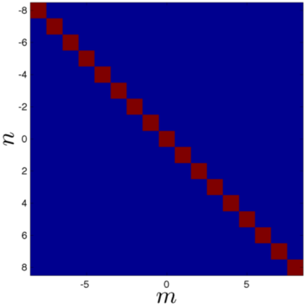
- Scaling system: $\quad y[n] \;=\; \mathcal{H}\{x[n]\} \;=\; 2\,x[n]$

- Impulse response: $\quad h[n] \;=\; \mathcal{H}\{\delta[n]\} \;=\; 2\,\delta[n]$

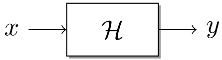
- Toeplitz system matrix:

$$[\mathbf{H}]_{n,m} = h[n-m] = 2\,\delta[n-m]$$

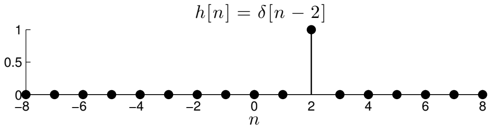
$\mathbf{H} \;=$



Example: Impulse Response of the Shift System



- Consider system for infinite-length signals; finite-length signal case uses circular shift



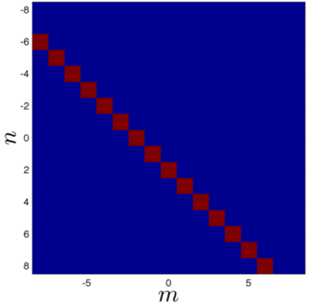
- Scaling system: $\quad y[n] \;=\; \mathcal{H}\{x[n]\} \;=\; x[n-2]$

- Impulse response: $\quad h[n] \;=\; \mathcal{H}\{\delta[n]\} \;=\; \delta[n-2]$

- Toeplitz system matrix:

$$[\mathbf{H}]_{n,m} = h[n-m] = \delta[n-m-2]$$

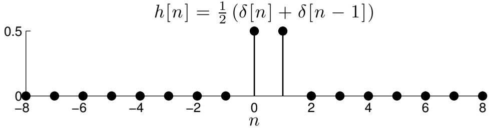
$\mathbf{H} =$



Example: Impulse Response of the Moving Average System

$$x \longrightarrow \boxed{\mathcal{H}} \longrightarrow y$$

- Consider system for infinite-length signals; finite-length signal case is similar



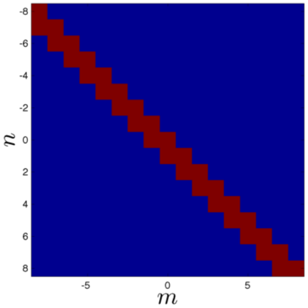
- Moving average system: $y[n] \;=\; \mathcal{H}\{x[n]\} \;=\; \frac{1}{2}\left(x[n] + x[n-1]\right)$

- Impulse response: $h[n] \;=\; \mathcal{H}\{\delta[n]\} \;=\; \frac{1}{2}\left(\delta[n] + \delta[n-1]\right)$

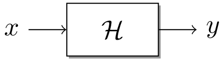
- Toeplitz system matrix:

$$[\mathbf{H}]_{n,m} = h[n-m] = \frac{1}{2}\left(\delta[n-m] + \delta[n-m-1]\right)$$

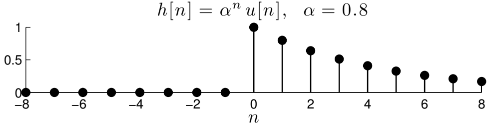
$\mathbf{H} =$



Example: Impulse Response of the Recursive Average System



- Consider system for infinite-length signals; finite-length signal case is similar



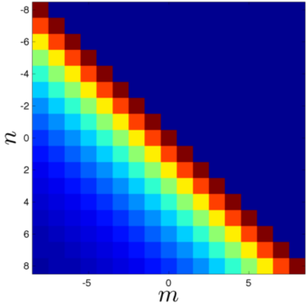
- Recursive average system: $y[n] \;=\; \mathcal{H}\{x[n]\} \;=\; x[n] + \alpha\, y[n-1]$

- Impulse response: $h[n] \;=\; \mathcal{H}\{\delta[n]\} \;=\; \alpha^n\, u[n]$

- Toeplitz system matrix:

$$[\mathbf{H}]_{n,m} = h[n-m] = \alpha^{n-m}\, u[n-m]$$

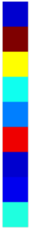
$\mathbf{H} =$

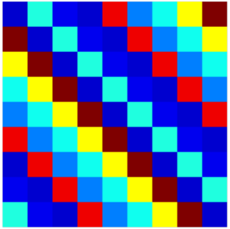


Recall: LTI Systems are circulant Matrices (Finite-Length Signals)

$$x \longrightarrow \boxed{\mathcal{H}} \longrightarrow y$$

- LTI system = multiplication by $N \times N$ circulant matrix $\mathbf{H}$: $y \;=\; \mathbf{H}x$
- All of the entries in $\mathbf{H}$ can be obtained from the
  - 0-**th column**: $h[n] = h_{n,0}$ (this is a signal/column vector; call it h)
  - **Time-reversed** 0-**th row**: $h[m] = h_{0,(-m)_N}$
- $$\begin{aligned} [\mathbf{H}]_{n,m} &= h_{n,m} \\ &= h[(n-m)_N] \end{aligned}$$
- Columns/rows of $\mathbf{H}$ are circularly shifted versions of the 0-th column/row

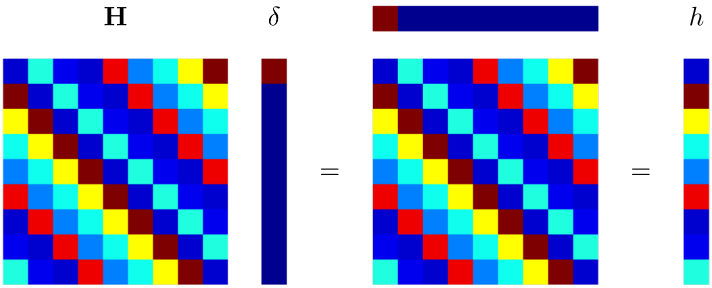
$h =$ 

$\mathbf{H} =$ 

Impulse Response (Finite-Length Signals)

- The 0-th column of the matrix $\mathbf{H}$ – the column vector h – has a special interpretation

- Compute the output when the input is a **delta function** (impulse): $\delta[n] = \begin{cases} 1 & n = 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$



- This suggests that we call h the **impulse response** of the system

Impulse Response from Formulas (Finite-Length Signals)

- General formula for LTI matrix multiplication

$$y[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} h[(n-m)_N]\, x[m]$$

- Let the input $x[n] = \delta[n]$ and compute

$$\sum_{m=0}^{N-1} h[(n-m)_N]\, \delta[m] \;=\; h[n] \quad \checkmark$$

$$\delta \longrightarrow \boxed{\;\mathcal{H}\;} \longrightarrow h$$

- The impulse response characterizes an LTI system
  (that is, carries all of the information contained in the matrix $\mathbf{H}$)

$$x \longrightarrow \boxed{\;h\;} \longrightarrow y$$

Summary

- LTI system $=$ multiplication by infinite-sized Toeplitz or $N \times N$ circulant matrix $\mathbf{H}$: $y = \mathbf{H}x$
- The **impulse response** h of an LTI system $=$ the response to an impulse δ
  - The impulse response is the 0-th column of the matrix $\mathbf{H}$
  - The impulse response characterizes an LTI system

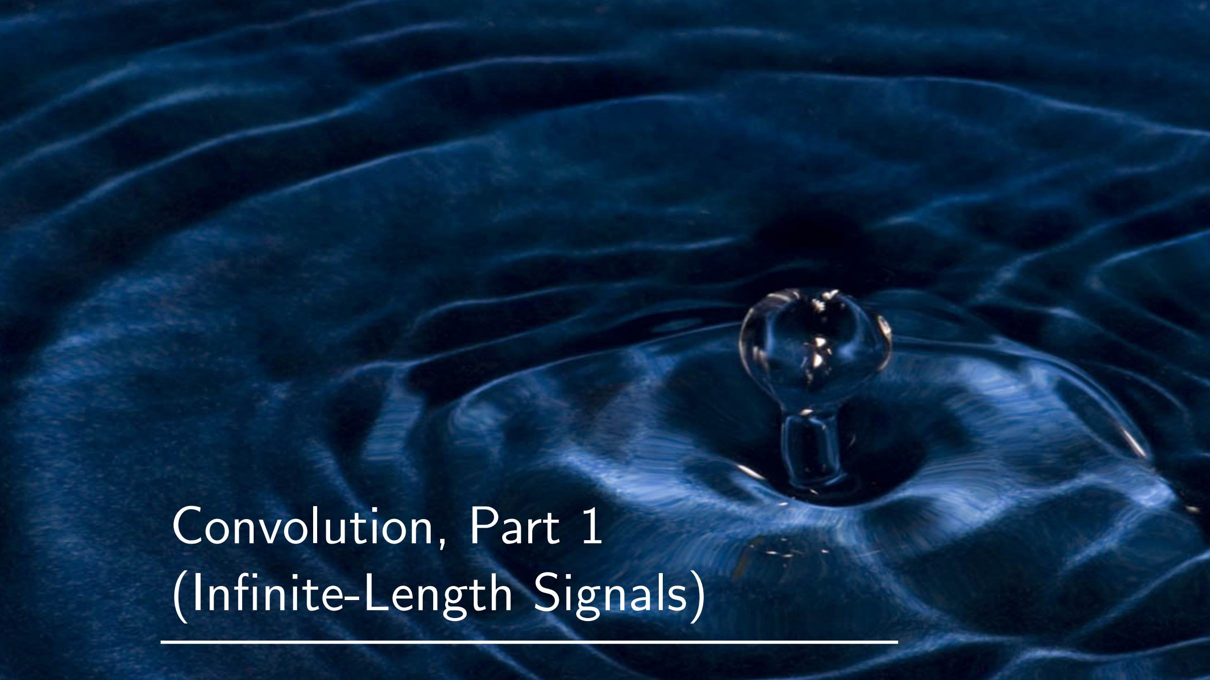
$$x \longrightarrow \boxed{h} \longrightarrow y$$

- Formula for the output signal y in terms of the input signal x and the impulse response h
  - Infinite-length signals

$$y[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\, x[m], \quad -\infty < n < \infty$$

  - Length-N signals

$$y[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} h[(n-m)_N]\, x[m], \quad 0 \leq n \leq N-1$$



Convolution, Part 1 (Infinite-Length Signals)

Three Ways to Compute the Output of an LTI System Given the Input

$$x \longrightarrow \boxed{\mathcal{H}} \longrightarrow y$$

1. If $\mathcal{H}$ is defined in terms of a formula or **algorithm**, apply the input x and compute $y[n]$ at each time point $n \in \mathbb{Z}$
   - This is how systems are usually applied in computer code and hardware

2. Find the impulse response h (by inputting $x[n] = \delta[n]$), form the **Toeplitz system matrix $\mathbf{H}$**, and multiply by the (infinite-length) input signal vector x to obtain $y = \mathbf{H}\,x$
   - This is not usually practical but is useful for conceptual purposes

3. Find the impulse response h and apply the formula for matrix/vector product for each $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$y[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\,x[m] \;=\; x[n] * h[n]$$

   - This is called **convolution** and is both conceptually and practically useful (Matlab command: `conv`)

Convolution as a Sequence of Inner Products

$$x \longrightarrow \boxed{h} \longrightarrow y$$

- Convolution formula

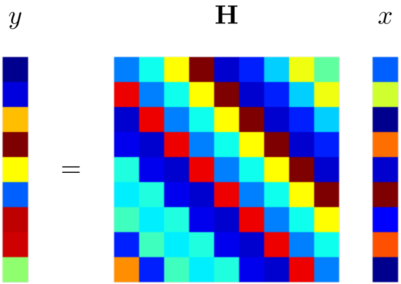
$$y[n] = x[n] * h[n] = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\, x[m]$$

- To compute the entry $y[n]$ in the output vector y:

  1. **Time reverse** the impulse response vector h and **shift** it n time steps to the right (delay)

  2. Compute the **inner product** between the shifted impulse response and the input vector x

- Repeat for every n



A Seven-Step Program for Computing Convolution By Hand

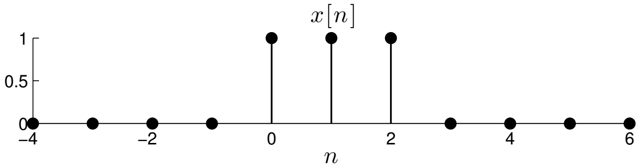
$$y[n] \;=\; x[n] * h[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\, x[m]$$

- **Step 1:** Decide which of x or h you will flip and shift; you have a choice since $x * h = h * x$
- **Step 2:** Plot $x[m]$ as a function of m
- **Step 3:** Plot the time-reversed impulse response $h[-m]$
- **Step 4:** To compute y at the time point n, plot the time-reversed impulse response after it has been shifted to the right (delayed) by n time units: $h[-(m-n)] = h[n-m]$
- **Step 5:** $y[n] =$ the inner product between the signals $x[m]$ and $h[n-m]$ (Note: for complex signals, do not complex conjugate the second signal in the inner product)
- **Step 6:** Repeat for all n of interest (potentially all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$)
- **Step 7:** Plot $y[n]$ and perform a reality check to make sure your answer seems reasonable

First Convolution Example (1)

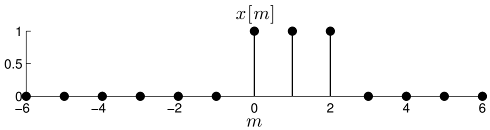
$$y[n] \;=\; x[n] * h[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\,x[m]$$

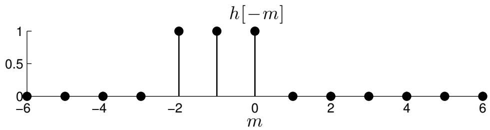
- Convolve a unit pulse with itself



First Convolution Example (2)

$$y[n] = x[n] * h[n] = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\, x[m]$$





Convolution, Part 2
(Infinite-Length Signals)

A Seven-Step Program for Computing Convolution By Hand

$$y[n] \;=\; x[n] * h[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\, x[m]$$

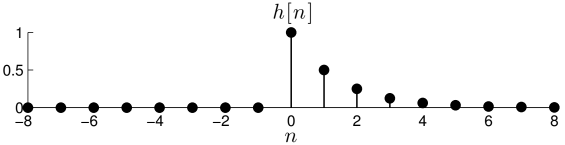
- **Step 1:** Decide which of x or h you will flip and shift; you have a choice since $x * h = h * x$
- **Step 2:** Plot $x[m]$ as a function of m
- **Step 3:** Plot the time-reversed impulse response $h[-m]$
- **Step 4:** To compute y at the time point n, plot the time-reversed impulse response after it has been shifted to the right (delayed) by n time units: $h[-(m-n)] = h[n-m]$
- **Step 5:** $y[n] =$ the inner product between the signals $x[m]$ and $h[n-m]$
(Note: for complex signals, do not complex conjugate the second signal in the inner product)
- **Step 6:** Repeat for all n of interest (potentially all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$)
- **Step 7:** Plot $y[n]$ and perform a reality check to make sure your answer seems reasonable

Second Convolution Example (1)

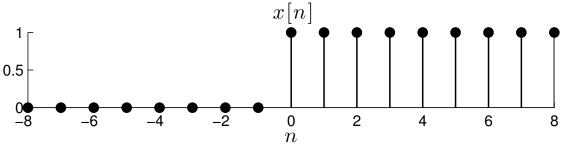
- Recall the **recursive average system**

$$y[n] = x[n] + \frac{1}{2}\, y[n-1]$$

and its impulse response $h[n] = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n u[n]$

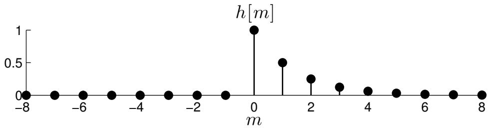


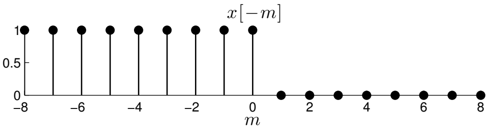
- Compute the output y when the input is a unit step $x[n] = u[n]$



Second Convolution Example (2)

$$y[n] = h[n] * x[n] = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[m]\, x[n-m]$$



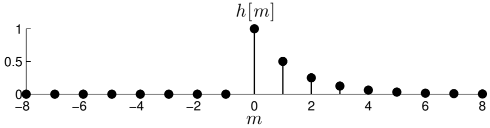


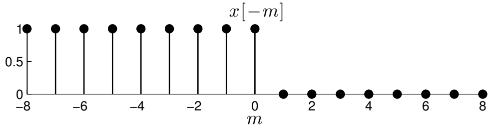
- Recall the super useful formula for the **finite geometric series**

$$\sum_{k=N_1}^{N_2} a^k = \frac{a^{N_1} - a^{N_2+1}}{1-a}, \quad N_1 \le N_2$$

Second Convolution Example (3)

$$y[n] = h[n] * x[n] = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[m]\, x[n-m]$$





Summary

- **Convolution** formula for the output y of an LTI system given the input x and the impulse response h (infinite-length signals)

$$y[n] \; = \; x[n] * h[n] \; = \; \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\, x[m]$$

- Convolution is a sequence of inner products between the signal and the shifted, time-reversed impulse response

- Seven-step program for computing convolution by hand

- Check your work and compute large convolutions using Matlab command `conv`

- Practice makes perfect!

Circular Convolution (Finite-Length Signals)

Circular Convolution as a Sequence of Inner Products

$$x \longrightarrow \boxed{h} \longrightarrow y$$

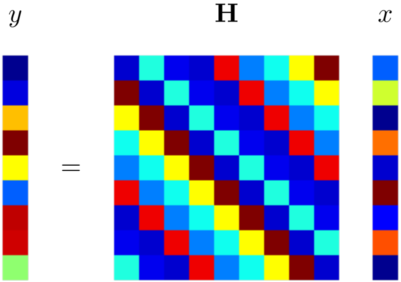
- Convolution formula

$$y[n] \;=\; x[n] \circledast h[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} h[(n-m)_N]\, x[m]$$

- To compute the entry $y[n]$ in the output vector y:

  1. **Circularly time reverse** the impulse response vector h and **circularly shift** it n time steps to the right (delay)
  2. Compute the **inner product** between the shifted impulse response and the input vector x

- Repeat for every n



A Seven-Step Program for Computing Circular Convolution By Hand

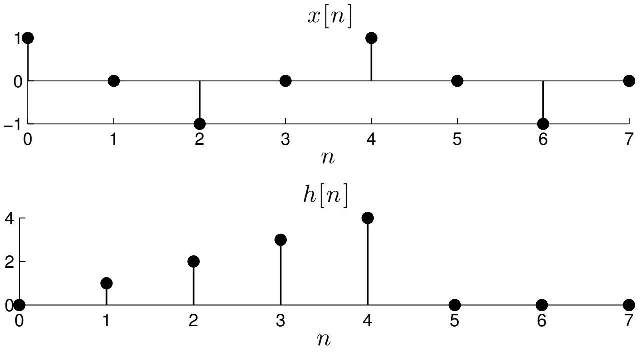
$$y[n] \;=\; x[n] \circledast h[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} h[(n-m)_N]\, x[m]$$

- **Step 1:** Decide which of x or h you will flip and shift; you have a choice since $x * h = h * x$
- **Step 2:** Plot $x[m]$ as a function of m on a clock with N "hours"
- **Step 3:** Plot the circularly time-reversed impulse response $h[(-m)_N]$ on a clock with N "hours"
- **Step 4:** To compute y at the time point n, plot the time-reversed impulse response after it has been shifted counter-clockwise (delayed) by n time units: $h[(-(m-n))_N] = h[(n-m)_N]$
- **Step 5:** $y[n] =$ the inner product between the signals $x[m]$ and $h[(n-m)_N]$
(Note: for complex signals, do not complex conjugate the second signal in the inner product)
- **Step 6:** Repeat for all $n = 0, 1, \ldots, N-1$
- **Step 7:** Plot $y[n]$ and perform a reality check to make sure your answer seems reasonable

Circular Convolution Example (1)

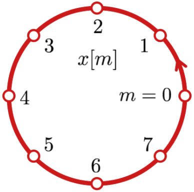
$$y[n] = x[n] \circledast h[n] = \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} h[(n-m)_N]\, x[m]$$

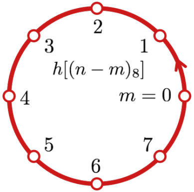
- For $N = 8$, circularly convolve a sinusoid x and a ramp h

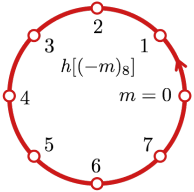


Circular Convolution Example (2)

$$y[n] = x[n] \circledast h[n] = \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} h[(n-m)_N]\, x[m]$$







Summary

- **Circular convolution** formula for the output y of an LTI system given the input x and the impulse response h (length-N signals)

$$y[n] \;=\; x[n] \circledast h[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} h[(n-m)_N]\, x[m]$$

- Circular convolution is a sequence of inner products between the signal and the circularly shifted, time-reversed impulse response

- Seven-step program for computing circular convolution by hand

- Check your work and compute large circular convolutions using Matlab command `cconv`

- Practice makes perfect!

Properties of Convolution

Properties of Convolution

$$x \longrightarrow \boxed{h} \longrightarrow y$$

- Input signal x, LTI system impulse response h, and output signal y are related by the **convolution**
  - Infinite-length signals

$$y[n] \;=\; x[n] * h[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\, x[m], \qquad -\infty < n < \infty$$

  - Length-N signals

$$y[n] \;=\; x[n] \circledast h[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} h[(n-m)_N]\, x[m], \qquad 0 \leq n \leq N-1$$

- Thanks to the Toeplitz/circulant structure of LTI systems, convolution has very special properties
- We will emphasize infinite-length convolution, but similar arguments hold for circular convolution except where noted

Convolution is Commutative

- **Fact:** Convolution is commutative: $x * h \; = \; h * x$

- These block diagrams are equivalent: $x \longrightarrow \boxed{h} \longrightarrow y \qquad h \longrightarrow \boxed{x} \longrightarrow y$

- Enables us to pick either h or x to flip and shift (or stack into a matrix) when convolving

- To prove, start with the convolution formula

$$y[n] \; = \; \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\, x[m] \; = \; x[n] * h[n]$$

and change variables to $k = n - m \;\Rightarrow\; m = n - k$

$$y[n] \; = \; \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} h[k]\, x[n-k] \; = \; h[n] * x[n] \quad \checkmark$$

Cascade Connection of LTI Systems

- Impulse response of the **cascade** (aka series connection) of two LTI systems: $y = \mathbf{H}_1 \mathbf{H}_2 \, x$

$$x \longrightarrow \boxed{h_1} \longrightarrow \boxed{h_2} \longrightarrow y$$

$$x \longrightarrow \boxed{h_1 * h_2} \longrightarrow y$$

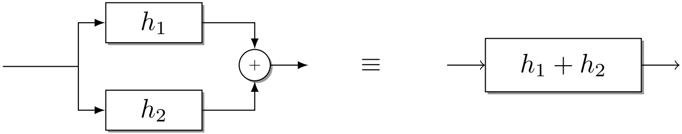
- Interpretation: The product of two Toeplitz/circulant matrices is a Toeplitz/circulant matrix

- Easy proof by picture; find impulse response the old school way

$$\delta \longrightarrow \boxed{h_1} \longrightarrow h_1 \quad \longrightarrow \boxed{h_2} \longrightarrow h_1 * h_2$$

Parallel Connection of LTI Systems

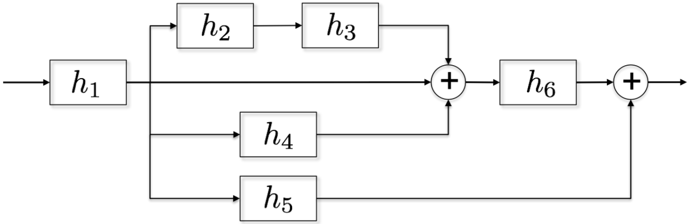
- Impulse response of the **parallel connection** of two LTI systems $y = (\mathbf{H}_1 + \mathbf{H}_2)\, x$

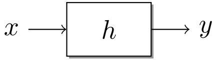


- Proof is an easy application of the linearity of an LTI system

Example: Impulse Response of a Complicated Connection of LTI Systems

- Compute the overall effective impulse response of the following system



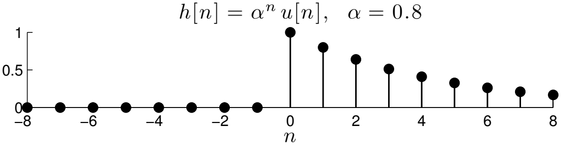


Causal Systems

DEFINITION

A system $\mathcal{H}$ is **causal** if the output $y[n]$ at time n depends only the input $x[m]$ for times $m \leq n$. In words, causal systems do not look into the future

- **Fact:** An LTI system is causal if its impulse response is causal: $h[n] = 0$ for $n < 0$



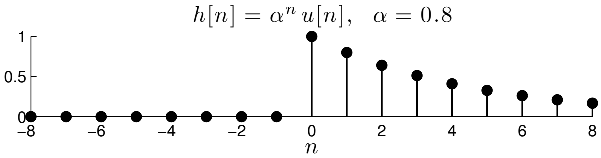
- To prove, note that the convolution

$$y[n] \;=\; \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\, x[m]$$

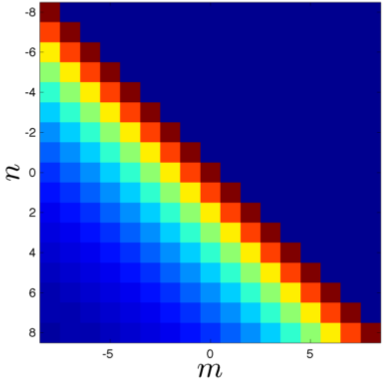
does not look into the future if $h[n-m] = 0$ when $m > n$; equivalently, $h[n'] = 0$ when $n' < 0$

Causal System Matrix

- **Fact:** An LTI system is causal if its impulse response is causal: $h[n] = 0$ for $n < 0$



- Toeplitz system matrix is **lower triangular**

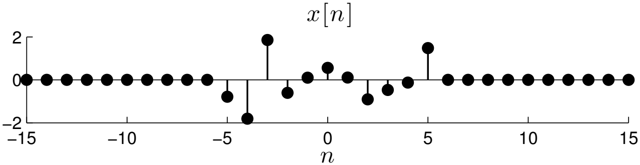


Duration of Convolution

DEFINITION

The signal x has **support interval** $[N_1, N_2]$, $N_1 \leq N_2$, if $x[n] = 0$ for all $n < N_1$ and $n > N_2$. The **duration** D_x of x equals $N_2 - N_1 + 1$

- Example: A signal with support interval $[-5, 5]$ and duration 11 samples



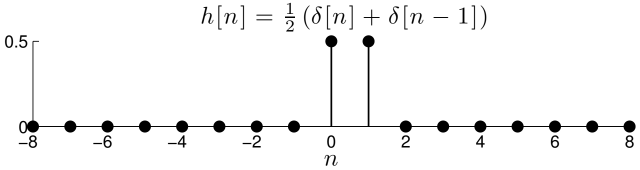
- **Fact:** If x has duration D_x samples and h has duration D_h samples, then the convolution $y = x * h$ has duration at most $D_x + D_h - 1$ samples (proof by picture is simple)

Duration of Impulse Response – FIR

DEFINITION

An LTI system has a **finite impulse response** (FIR) if the duration of its impulse response h is finite

- Example: Moving average system $\quad y[n] = \mathcal{H}\{x[n]\} = \frac{1}{2}\left(x[n] + x[n-1]\right)$

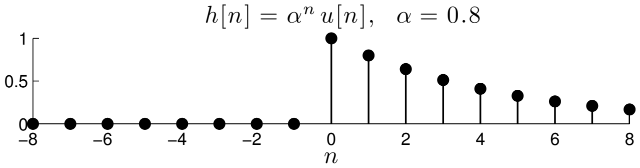


Duration of Impulse Response – IIR

DEFINITION

An LTI system has an **infinite impulse response** (IIR) if the duration of its impulse response h is infinite

- Example: Recursive average system $\quad y[n] \;=\; \mathcal{H}\{x[n]\} \;=\; x[n] + \alpha\, y[n-1]$



- Note: Obviously the FIR/IIR distinction applies only to infinite-length signals

Implementing Infinite-Length Convolution with Circular Convolution

- Consider two infinite-length signals: x has duration D_x samples and h has duration D_h samples, $D_x, D_h < \infty$

- Recall that their infinite-length convolution $y = x * h$ has duration at most $D_x + D_h - 1$ samples

- Armed with this fact, we can implement infinite-length convolution using circular convolution
  1. Extract the D_x-sample support interval of x and zero pad so that the resulting signal x' is of length $D_x + D_h - 1$
  2. Perform the same operations on h to obtain h'
  3. Circularly convolve $x' \circledast h'$ to obtain y'

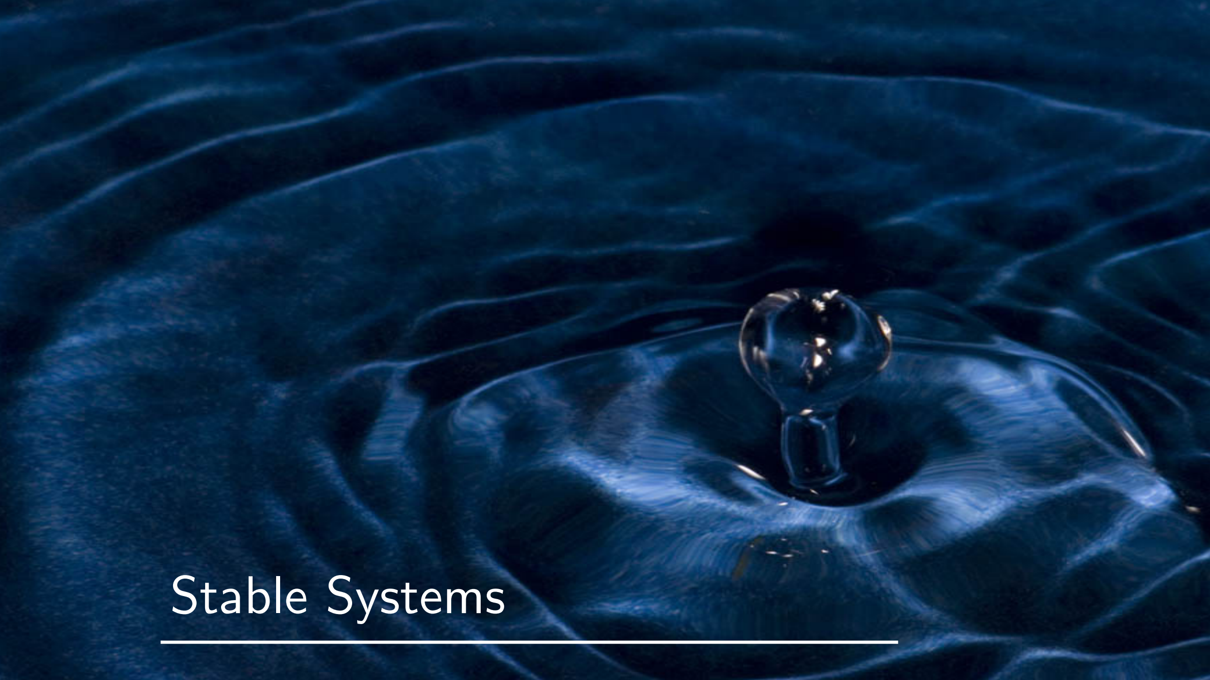
- **Fact:** The values of the signal y' will coincide with those of the infinite-length convolution $y = x * h$ within its support interval

- How does it work? The zero padding effectively converts circular shifts (finite-length signals) into regular shifts (infinite-length signals) (Easy to try out in Matlab!)

Summary

- Convolution has very special and beautiful properties
- Convolution is commutative
- Convolutions (LTI systems) can be connected in cascade and parallel
- An LTI system is causal if its impulse response is causal
- LTI systems are either FIR or IIR
- Can implement infinite-length convolution using circular convolution when the signals have finite duration (important later for "fast convolution" using the FFT)

Stable Systems



Stable Systems (1)

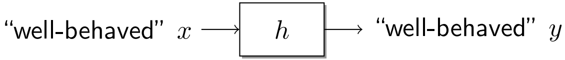
- With a **stable** system, a “well-behaved” input always produces a “well-behaved” output

$$\text{“well-behaved” } x \longrightarrow \boxed{h} \longrightarrow \text{“well-behaved” } y$$

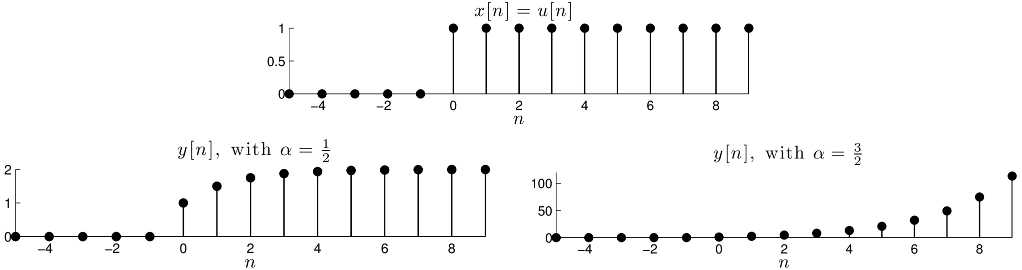
- Stability is essential to ensuring the proper and safe operation of myriad systems
  - Steering systems
  - Braking systems
  - Robotic navigation
  - Modern aircraft
  - International Space Station
  - Internet IP packet communication (TCP) . . .

Stable Systems (2)

- With a **stable** system, a "well-behaved" input always produces a "well-behaved" output



- Example: Recall the recursive average system $y[n] = \mathcal{H}\{x[n]\} = x[n] + \alpha\, y[n-1]$
  Consider a step function input $x[n] = u[n]$



Well-Behaved Signals

- With a **stable** system, a "well-behaved" input always produces a "well-behaved" output

$$\text{“well-behaved” } x \longrightarrow \boxed{h} \longrightarrow \text{“well-behaved” } y$$

- How to measure how "well-behaved" a signal is? Different measures give different notions of stability

- One reasonable measure: A signal x is well behaved if it is **bounded** (recall that $\sup$ is like $\max$)

$$\|x\|_\infty = \sup_n |x[n]| < \infty$$

Bounded-Input Bounded-Output (BIBO) Stability

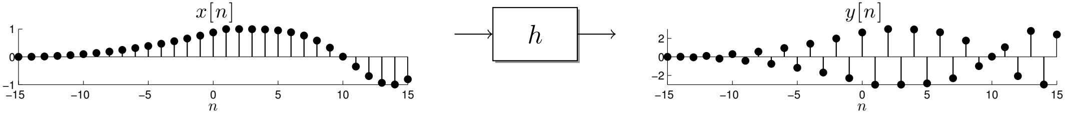
BIBO Stability (1)

DEFINITION

An LTI system is **bounded-input bounded-output (BIBO) stable** if a bounded input x always produces a bounded output y

$$\text{bounded } x \longrightarrow \boxed{h} \longrightarrow \text{bounded } y$$

- Bounded input and output means $\|x\|_\infty < \infty$ and $\|y\|_\infty < \infty$,
  or that there exist constants $A, C < \infty$ such that $|x[n]| < A$ and $|y[n]| < C$ for all n



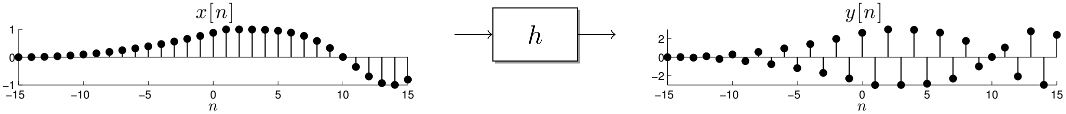
BIBO Stability (2)

DEFINITION

An LTI system is **bounded-input bounded-output (BIBO) stable** if a bounded input x always produces a bounded output y

$$\text{bounded } x \longrightarrow \boxed{h} \longrightarrow \text{bounded } y$$

- Bounded input and output means $\|x\|_\infty < \infty$ and $\|y\|_\infty < \infty$



- **Fact:** An LTI system with impulse response h is BIBO stable <u>if and only if</u>

$$\|h\|_1 \;=\; \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |h[n]| \;<\; \infty$$

BIBO Stability – Sufficient Condition

- Prove that <u>if $\|h\|_1 < \infty$</u> then the system is BIBO stable – for any input $\|x\|_\infty < \infty$ the output $\|y\|_\infty < \infty$

- Recall that $\|x\|_\infty < \infty$ means there exist a constant A such that $|x[n]| < A < \infty$ for all n

- Let $\|h\|_1 = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |h[n]| = B < \infty$

- Compute a bound on $|y[n]|$ using the convolution of x and h and the bounds A and B

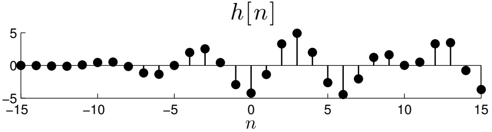
$$
\begin{aligned}
|y[n]| &= \left| \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n-m]\, x[m] \right| \leq \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} |h[n-m]|\, |x[m]| \\
&< \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} |h[n-m]|\, A = A \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} |h[k]| = A\, B = C < \infty
\end{aligned}
$$

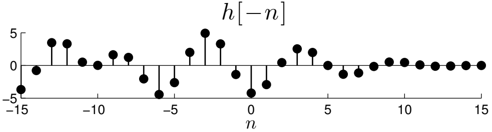
- Since $|y[n]| < C < \infty$ for all n, $\|y\|_\infty < \infty \quad \checkmark$

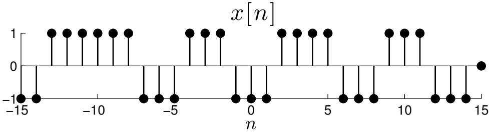
BIBO Stability – Necessary Condition (1)

- Prove that if $\|h\|_1 = \infty$ then the system is not BIBO stable – there exists an input $\|x\|_\infty < \infty$ such that the output $\|y\|_\infty = \infty$
  - Assume that x and h are real-valued; the proof for complex-valued signals is nearly identical

- Given an impulse response h with $\|h\|_1 = \infty$ (assume complex-valued), form the tricky special signal $x[n] = \mathrm{sgn}(h[-n])$
  - $x[n]$ is the $\pm$ sign of the time-reversed impulse response $h[-n]$
  - Note that x is bounded: $|x[n]| \leq 1$ for all n







BIBO Stability – Necessary Condition (2)

- We are proving that that if $\|h\|_1 = \infty$ then the system is not BIBO stable – there exists an input $\|x\|_\infty < \infty$ such that the output $\|y\|_\infty = \infty$

- Armed with the tricky special signal x, compute the output $y[n]$ at the time point $n = 0$

$$
\begin{aligned}
y[0] &= \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[0-m]\, x[m] = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[-m]\, \mathrm{sgn}(h[-m]) \\
&= \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} |h[-m]| = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} |h[k]| = \infty
\end{aligned}
$$

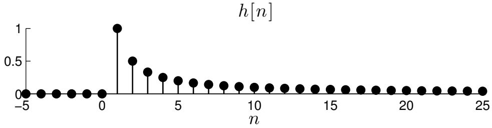
- So, even though x was bounded, y is not bounded; so system is not BIBO stable

BIBO System Examples (1)

- Absolute summability of the impulse response h determines whether an LTI systems is BIBO stable or not

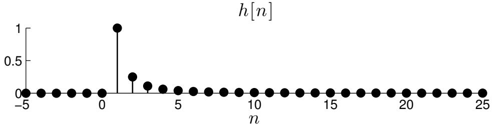
- Example: $h[n] = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{n} & n \geq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$\|h\|_1 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left| \frac{1}{n} \right| = \infty \;\Rightarrow\;$ not BIBO

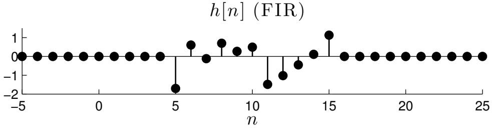


- Example: $h[n] = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{n^2} & n \geq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$\|h\|_1 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left| \frac{1}{n^2} \right| = \frac{\pi^2}{6} \;\Rightarrow\;$ BIBO



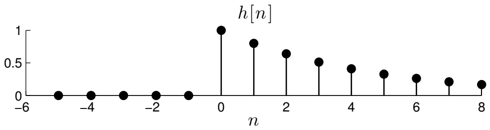
- Example: h FIR $\;\Rightarrow\;$ BIBO



BIBO System Examples (2)

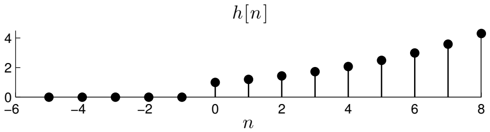
- Example: Recall the recursive average system $y[n] = \mathcal{H}\{x[n]\} = x[n] + \alpha\, y[n-1]$
- Impulse response: $h[n] = \alpha^n\, u[n]$
- For $|\alpha| < 1$

$\|h\|_1 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |\alpha|^n = \frac{1}{1-|\alpha|} < \infty \;\Rightarrow\;$ BIBO



- For $|\alpha| > 1$

$\|h\|_1 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |\alpha|^n = \infty \;\Rightarrow\;$ not BIBO



Summary

- Signal processing applications typically dictate that the system be **stable**, meaning that "well-behaved inputs" produce "well-behaved outputs"

- Measure "well-behavedness" of a signal using the ∞-norm (bounded signal)

- BIBO stability: bounded inputs always produce bounded outputs iff the impulse response h is such that $\|h\|_1 < \infty$

- When a system is not BIBO stable, all hope is not lost; unstable systems can often by **stabilized** using **feedback** (more on this later)