

## Unit 4. Z-Transform and Filter Design

1. The Z-transform (22/11/2019)
  2. Transfer function and frequency response (26/11/2019)
  3. Filter design (29/11/2019)
- Lab 3 (Part 1: 11/12/2019, Part 2: 18/12/2019)

2019-2020

Signals and Systems (DSE)

### The Z-Transform

U4



Another one?!

Why do we need another transform?

The Z-transform is widely used:

- ❑ To describe/analyze systems defined with a finite difference equation in a compact/easy way
- ❑ To design digital filters
- ❑ Actually, the FT of a sequence is a particular case of the Z-transform

## Z-Transform definition

U4

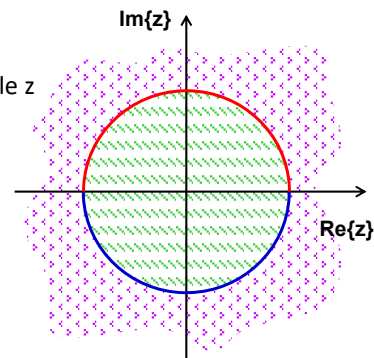
- Definition of Z-transform of a discrete sequence  $x[n]$ :

$$X(z) = Z[x[n]] = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n]z^{-n}$$

It is a complex function of complex variable  $z$

**ROC (Region of Convergence) definition:**

$$z \in ROC \Leftrightarrow \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |x[n]z^{-n}| < +\infty$$



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## Z-transform and Fourier Transform

U4

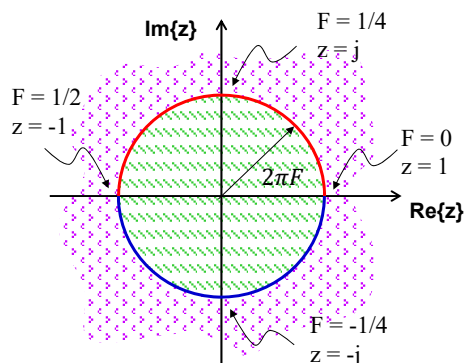
- The Fourier Transform is a particular case of the Z-transform:

$$X(F) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n]e^{-j2\pi Fn} = X(z)|_{z=e^{j2\pi F}}$$

**Unit-circle of z-plane:**

$$|z| = 1, \quad z = e^{j2\pi F}$$

Note the 1-periodicity over  $F$



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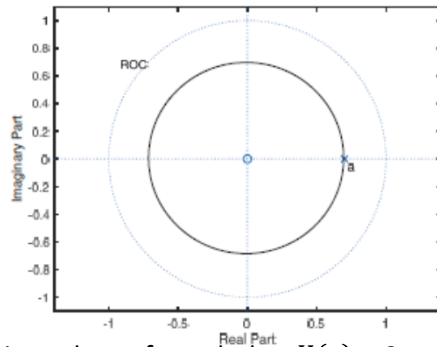
## Z-transform: examples (1)

U4

$$x[n] = a^n u[n] \leftrightarrow X(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} a^n u[n] z^{-n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{a}{z}\right)^n$$

$$\text{Si } \left|\frac{a}{z}\right| < 1 \Rightarrow X(z) = \frac{1}{1-az^{-1}}$$

The ROC is the outside region of the circle of radius  $|a|$ :  $\text{ROC}=\{|z| > |a|\}$



- 'o' zeros: Roots of the numerator, i.e. values of  $z$  such that  $X(z) = 0$
- 'x' poles: Roots of the denominator, i.e. values of  $z$  such that  $|X(z)| \rightarrow \infty$

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## Z-transform: examples (2)

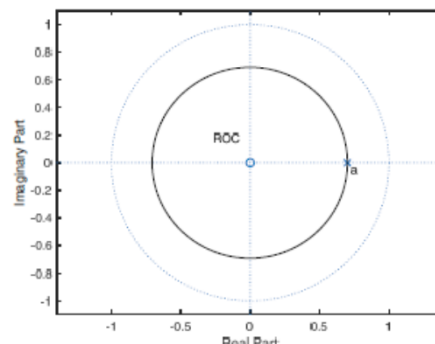
U4

$$x[n] = -a^n u[-n-1] \leftrightarrow X(z) = - \sum_{n=-\infty}^{-1} (az^{-1})^n = - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{z}{a}\right)^m$$

$$\text{Si } \left|\frac{z}{a}\right| < 1 \Rightarrow X(z) = \frac{1}{1-az^{-1}}$$

The ROC is the inner region of the circle of radius  $|a|$ :  $\text{ROC}=\{|z| < |a|\}$

This sequence and the previous one have the same Z-transform:  
But the ROC is different!



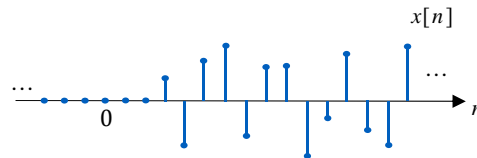
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## ROC for causal sequences

U4

For signals such that *such that*  $x[n] = 0, n < 0$



the ROC is either the outside of a circle or the complete complex plane:

$$z \in \text{ROC} \Leftrightarrow |z| > r \text{ or } \forall z$$

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## Z-transform: examples (3)

U4

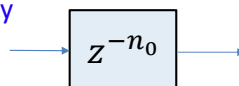
$$x[n] = \delta[n] \leftrightarrow X(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta[n] z^{-n} = 1$$

The ROC is the whole complex plane

$$x[n] = \delta[n - n_0] \leftrightarrow X(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta[n - n_0] z^{-n} = z^{-n_0}$$

For  $n_0 > 0$ , the ROC is the whole complex plane except  $z=0$

Remember that a delay system is usually represented as



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Signal	Waveform $x[n]$	Transform $X(z)$	ROC
Impulse	$\delta[n]$	1	$\forall z$
Delayed impulse	$\delta[n - n_0]$	$z^{-n_0}$	$ z  > 0, n_0 > 0$ $\forall z, n_0 < 0$
Rectangular pulse	$p_N[n] = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \leq n \leq L-1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$	$\frac{1 - z^{-L}}{1 - z^{-1}}$	$ z  > 0$
Step function	$u[n]$	$\frac{1}{1 - z^{-1}}$	$ z  > 1$
Causal real potential function	$a^n u[n]$	$\frac{1}{1 - a \cdot z^{-1}}$	$ z  >  a $
Causal cosinus	$\cos(2\pi F_0 n) u[n]$	$\frac{1 - \cos(2\pi F_0) z^{-1}}{1 - 2\cos(2\pi F_0) z^{-1} + z^{-2}}$	$ z  > 1$
Causal sinus	$\sin(2\pi F_0 n) u[n]$	$\frac{\sin(2\pi F_0) z^{-1}}{1 - 2\cos(2\pi F_0) z^{-1} + z^{-2}}$	$ z  > 1$
Causal damped cosinus	$a^n \cos(2\pi F_0 n) u[n]$	$\frac{1 - a \cos(2\pi F_0) z^{-1}}{1 - 2a \cos(2\pi F_0) z^{-1} + a^2 z^{-2}}$	$ z  >  a $

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## Z-transform: properties

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We will consider the the following ones:

- Linearity:  $\alpha \cdot x_1[n] + \beta \cdot x_2[n] \leftrightarrow \alpha \cdot X_1(z) + \beta \cdot X_2(z)$
- Temporal shift (delay):  $x[n - n_0] \leftrightarrow z^{-n_0} X(z)$
- Convolution:  $x_1[n] * x_2[n] \leftrightarrow X_1(z) \cdot X_2(z)$

We already knew that the convolution of 2 sequences was a product of polynomials:

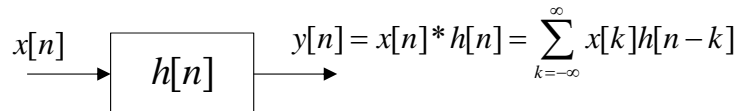
$$[\underline{1}, 2, 3, 4] * [\underline{5}, 6, 7] \leftrightarrow (\underline{1} + 2z^{-1} + 3z^{-2} + 4z^{-3}) \cdot (\underline{5} + 6z^{-1} + 7z^{-2})$$

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## Transfer function of LTI systems

U4



**Z-domain:**

$$Y(z) = Z[y[n]] = Z[x[n] * h[n]] = X(z) \cdot H(z)$$

$$H(z) = Z[h[n]] = \frac{Y(z)}{X(z)}, \quad X(z) \neq 0$$

**SYSTEM TRANSFER FUNCTION:**

It does not depend on the input signal, but only on the system

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## Representation of LTI systems (a summary)

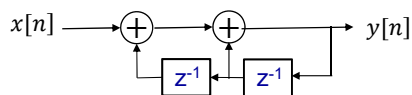
U4

**Unit impulse response**

$$h[n] = 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, \dots$$

Output calculated through convolution

**Block diagrams:**



- ▣ also useful for step by step analysis
- ▣ illustrate signal flow paths
- ▣ different block diagrams for the same finite difference equation

**Finite difference equation:**

$$y[n] = x[n] + y[n-1] + y[n-2]$$

- ▣ mathematically compact
- ▣ useful for step by step analysis

**Operator representations:**

$$Y = X + Yz^{-1} + Yz^{-2} \Rightarrow H(z) = \frac{Y}{X} = \frac{1}{1 - z^{-1} - z^{-2}}$$

- ▣ analyze systems as polynomials
- ▣ **transfer function (or system function):  $H(z)$**

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## Inverse Z-transform

U4

- General expression of the inverse Z-transform

$$h[n] = Z^{-1}[H(z)] = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \oint_C H(z) z^{n-1} dz$$

C: closed anti-clockwise circular path within the ROC and centered at the origin ( $z=0$ )

- Alternatives, when  $H(z)$  is the division of two polynomials:
  - ▣ Direct division of the polynomials, or
  - ▣ Identification of terms, or
  - ▣ Partial fraction expansion

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## Inverse Z-transform

U4

- Direct division of the polynomials:

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{1 - z^{-1} - z^{-2}} = 1 + z^{-1} + 2z^{-2} + 3z^{-3} + 5z^{-4} + \dots$$

- Partial fraction expansion

If degree(numerator) < degree(denominator) as power of  $z^{-1}$

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{1 - z^{-1} - z^{-2}} = \frac{A}{1 - az^{-1}} + \frac{B}{1 - bz^{-1}} \quad \text{with } a = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}; b = \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$A = \frac{1}{1 - z^{-1} - z^{-2}} (1 - az^{-1}) \Big|_{z=a} = \frac{1}{1 - bz^{-1}} \Big|_{z=a} = \frac{a}{a-b}$$

$$B = \frac{1}{1 - z^{-1} - z^{-2}} (1 - bz^{-1}) \Big|_{z=b} = \frac{1}{1 - az^{-1}} \Big|_{z=b} = \frac{b}{b-a}$$

$$h[n] = Aa^n u[n] + Bb^n u[n]$$

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2019-2020

Signals and Systems (DSE)

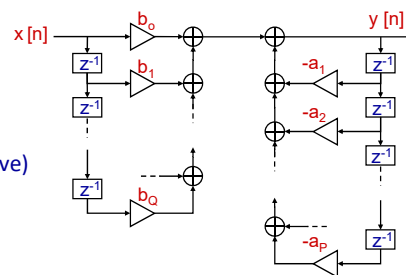
### Systems defined with a finite difference equation

U4

- Time-discrete systems of practical interest are usually defined with a finite difference equation:

$$y[n] = \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^Q b_k x[n-k]}_{\text{forward (non-recursive) component}} - \underbrace{\sum_{k=1}^P a_k y[n-k]}_{\text{backward (recursive) component}}$$

when the initial conditions are zero  
the system is LTI



- These systems can be described/analyzed in a compact/easy way using the Z- transform.



## Transfer function

U4

$$y[n] = \sum_{k=0}^Q b_k x[n-k] - \sum_{k=1}^P a_k y[n-k] \leftrightarrow Y(z) = \sum_{k=0}^Q b_k X(z) z^{-k} - \sum_{k=1}^P a_k Y(z) z^{-k}$$

$$H(z) = \frac{Y(z)}{X(z)} = \frac{b_0 + b_1 z^{-1} + \dots + b_Q z^{-Q}}{1 + a_1 z^{-1} + \dots + a_P z^{-P}}$$

Order of  $H(z) \equiv \max(P, Q)$

- $H(z)$  is the ratio of two polynomials:
  - 'o' zeros: Roots of the numerator, i.e. values of  $z$  such that  $H(z) = 0$
  - 'x' poles: Roots of the denominator, i.e. values of  $z$  such that  $|H(z)| \rightarrow \infty$
- If  $\{a_k\}, \{b_k\}$  are real, then the zeros and poles are real or they appear in complex conjugate pairs.

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## Real, causal and stable systems

U4

- For a system to be **real**  $\{a_k\}, \{b_k\}$  must be real, then **zeros and poles are real or they appear in complex conjugate pairs**
- For a system to be **causal** ( $h[n] = 0$  for  $n < 0$ ): ROC is the **outer region of a circle excluding poles (i.e. circle outside the out-most pole)**
- For a system to be **stable**  $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |h[n]| < \infty$   
 This is equivalent to  $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |h[n]| |z|^{-n} \big|_{|z|=1} < \infty$   
**i.e. the ROC must contain the unit circle**  
 (in this case, the FT of  $h[n]$  converges uniformly and  $H(F)$ , and all its derivatives, are continuous functions of  $F$ )

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## Transfer function: FIR case

U4

- Finite difference equation for the FIR case:

$$y[n] = \sum_{k=0}^Q b_k x[n-k] = b_0 x[n] + b_1 x[n-1] + \dots + b_Q x[n-Q]$$

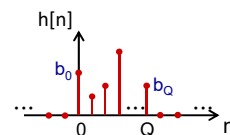
- Transfer function:

$$H(z) = \frac{Y(z)}{X(z)} = b_0 + b_1 z^{-1} + \dots + b_Q z^{-Q} = \frac{b_0 z^Q + b_1 z^{Q-1} + \dots + b_Q}{z^Q}$$

↓ All the poles at the origin!!

- Impulse response:

$$y[n] = b_0 \delta[n] + b_1 \delta[n-1] + \dots + b_Q \delta[n-Q]$$



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## Transfer function: IIR case

U4

- Finite difference equation for the IIR case:

$$y[n] = \sum_{k=0}^Q b_k x[n-k] - \sum_{k=1}^P a_k y[n-k]$$

- Transfer function:

$$H(z) = \frac{b_0 + b_1 z^{-1} + \dots + b_Q z^{-Q}}{1 + a_1 z^{-1} + \dots + a_P z^{-P}} = z^{P-Q} \frac{b_0 z^Q + b_1 z^{Q-1} \dots + b_Q}{z^P + a_1 z^{P-1} + \dots + a_P}$$

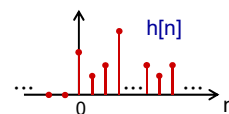
Poles or zeros at the origin      Q zeros out from the origin      P poles out from the origin

$$= \frac{b_0 + b_1 z^{-1} + \dots + b_Q z^{-Q}}{(1 - p_1 z^{-1})(1 - p_2 z^{-1}) \dots (1 - p_P z^{-1})} = \frac{K_1}{1 - p_1 z^{-1}} + \dots + \frac{K_P}{1 - p_P z^{-1}}$$

- Impulse response:  $P > Q$  simple poles

$$h[n] = K_1 p_1^n u[n] + K_2 p_2^n u[n] + \dots + K_P p_P^n u[n]$$

Each exponential sequence has infinite length !



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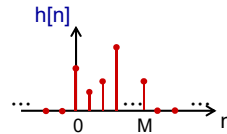
## Finite difference eq. representation (summary)

U4

$$y[n] = \underbrace{\sum_{j=0}^M b_j x[n-j]}_{\text{forward non-recursive component}} - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N a_i y[n-i]}_{\text{backward recursive component}}$$

- **Finite Impulse Response (FIR)** system: there is only a forward component,  $h[n]$  has finite length, the system is always stable

$$y[n] = \sum_{j=0}^M b_j x[n-j] \Rightarrow h[n] = \sum_{j=0}^M b_j \delta[n-j]$$



- **Infinite Impulse Response (IIR)** system: there is a recursive component,  $h[n]$  has infinite length, the system may be unstable (but not necessarily)

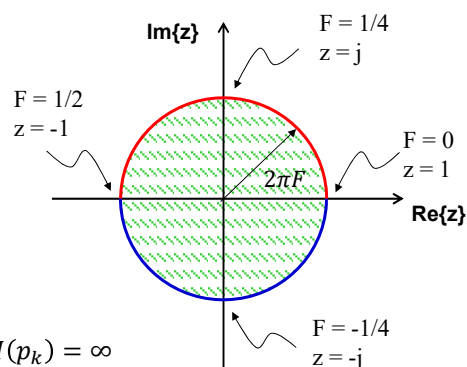
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## Z-transform versus frequency response

U4

$$H(F) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n] e^{-j2\pi F n} = H(z)|_{z=e^{j2\pi F}}$$



### □ Poles and zeros

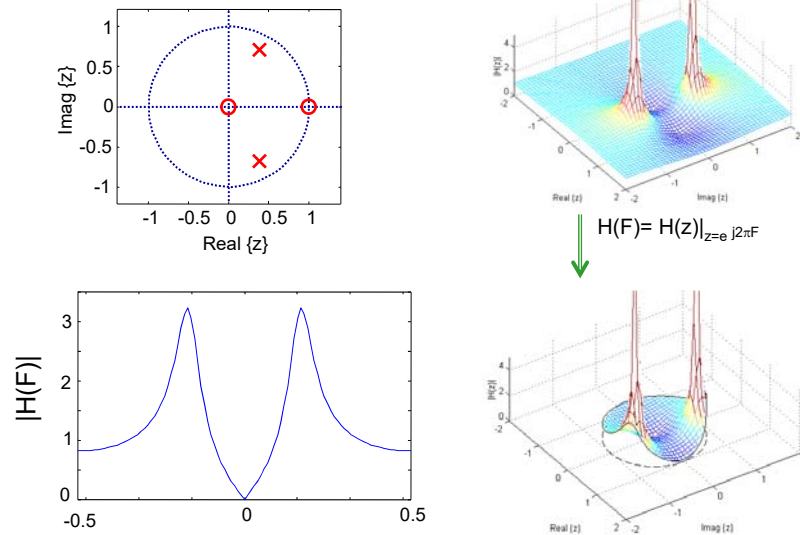
- Poles are represented with  $\times$   $H(p_k) = \infty$
- Zeros are represented with  $\circ$   $H(z_k) = 0$

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## Z-transform versus frequency response

U4



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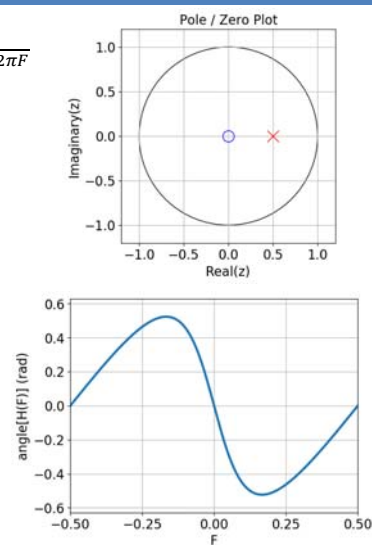
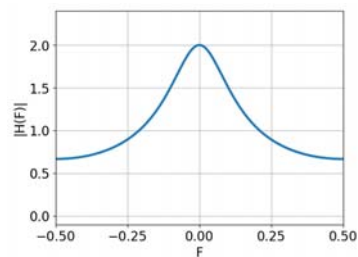
## Frequency response examples

U4

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{1 - 0.5z^{-1}} \quad H(F) = \frac{1}{1 - 0.5e^{-j2\pi F}}$$

$$H(F)\Big|_{\substack{F=0 \\ z=1}} = \frac{1}{1 - 0.5} = 2$$

$$H(F)\Big|_{\substack{F=0.5 \\ z=-1}} = \frac{1}{1 + 0.5} = 0.66$$



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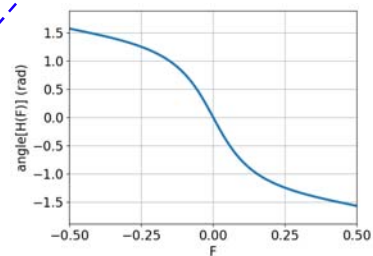
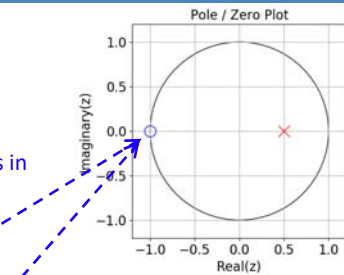
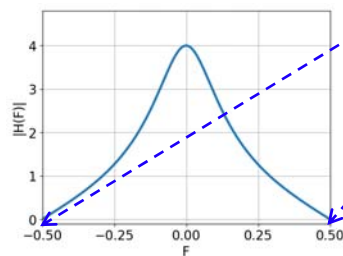
## Frequency response examples

U4

$$H(z) = \frac{1 + z^{-1}}{1 - 0.5z^{-1}}$$

Low-pass filter  
(1<sup>st</sup> order)

Transmission zeros:  
zeros over the unit-  
circle generate zeros in  
the frequency  
response



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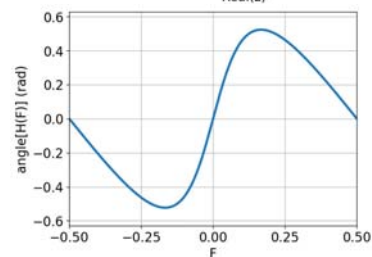
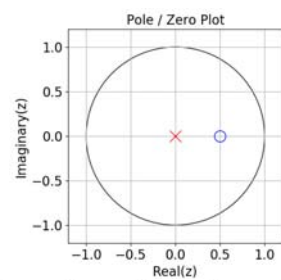
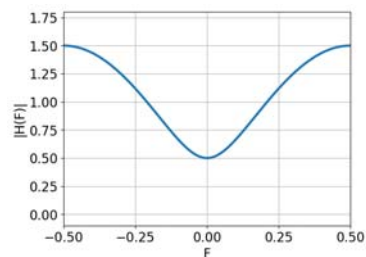
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## Frequency response examples

U4

$$H(z) = 1 - 0.5z^{-1}$$

FIR filter: all poles at  $z=0$



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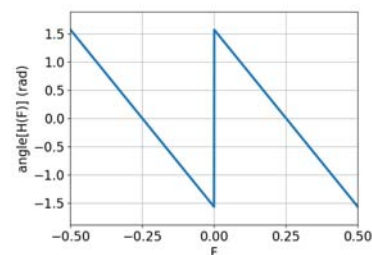
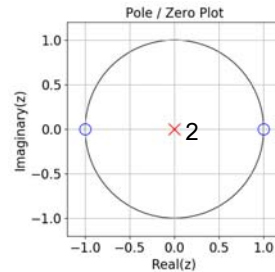
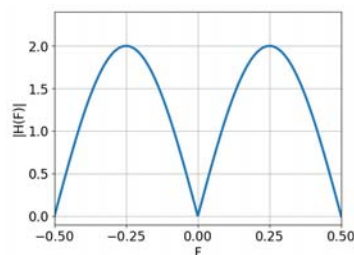
## Frequency response examples

U4

$$H(z) = 1 - z^{-2}$$

FIR filter: all poles  
(two) at  $z=0$

Band-pass filter  
(2nd order)



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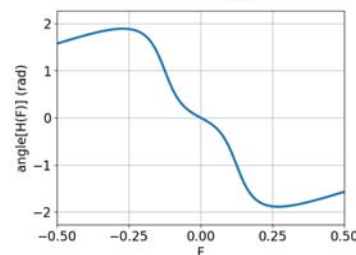
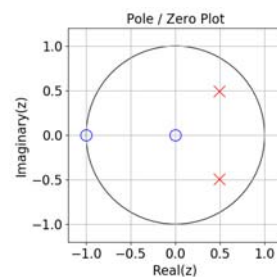
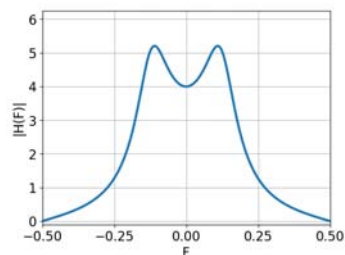
## Frequency response examples

U4

$$H(z) = \frac{1 + z^{-1}}{1 - 2 \cdot 0.7 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) z^{-1} + 0.7^2}$$

$$p = 0.7e^{j\frac{\pi}{4}}, p^* = 0.7e^{-j\frac{\pi}{4}}$$

Low-pass filter  
(2nd order)



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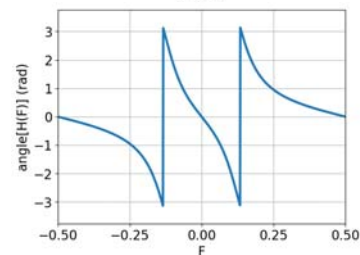
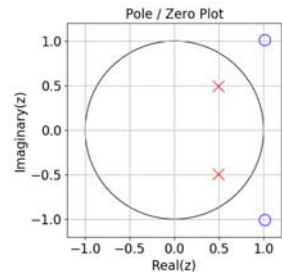
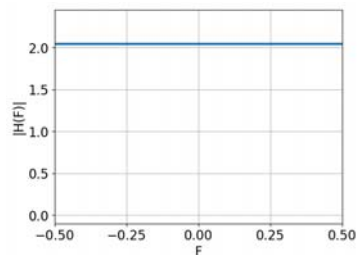
## Frequency response examples

U4

$$H(z) = \frac{1 - 2 \cdot \frac{1}{0.7} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) z^{-1} + \left(\frac{1}{0.7}\right)^2}{1 - 2 \cdot 0.7 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) z^{-1} + 0.7^2}$$

$$p = 0.7e^{j\frac{\pi}{4}}, p^* = 0.7e^{-j\frac{\pi}{4}}$$

All-pass filter  
(2nd order)



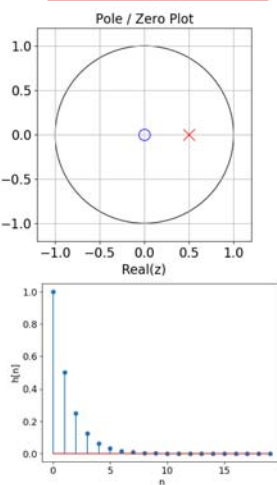
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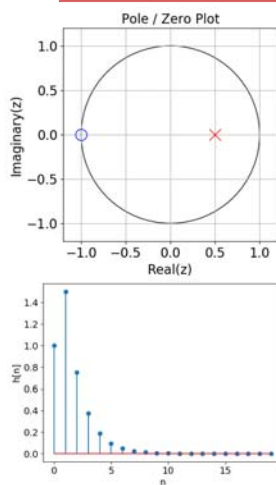
## Impulse responses (P2 unit 4)

U4

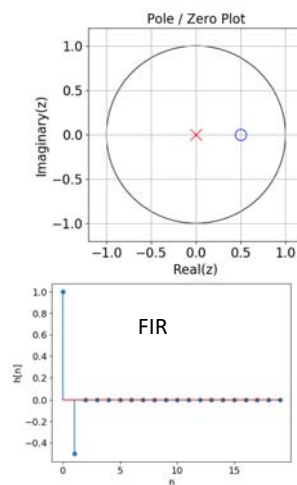
$$H(z) = \frac{1}{1 - 0.5z^{-1}}$$



$$H(z) = \frac{1 + z^{-1}}{1 - 0.5z^{-1}}$$



$$H(z) = 1 - 0.5z^{-1}$$



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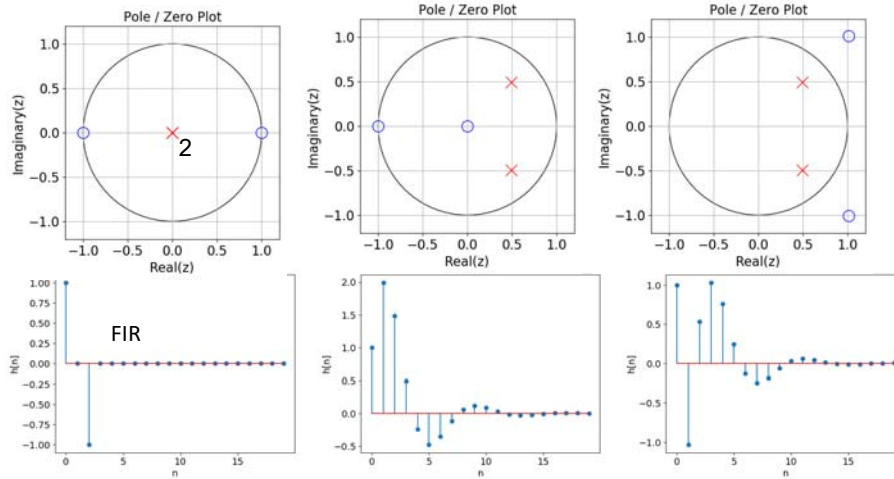
## Impulse responses (P2 unit 4)

U4

$$H(z) = 1 - z^{-2}$$

$$H(z) = \frac{1 + z^{-1}}{1 - 2 \cdot 0.7 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) z^{-1} + 0.7^2}$$

$$H(z) = \frac{1 - 2 \cdot \frac{1}{0.7} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) z^{-1} + \left(\frac{1}{0.7}\right)^2}{1 - 2 \cdot 0.7 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) z^{-1} + 0.7^2}$$



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## Unit 4. Z-Transform and Filter Design

1. The Z-transform (22/11/2019)
2. Transfer function and frequency response (26/11/2019)
3. Filter design (29/11/2019)

Lab 3 (Part 1: 11/12/2019, Part 2: 18/12/2019)

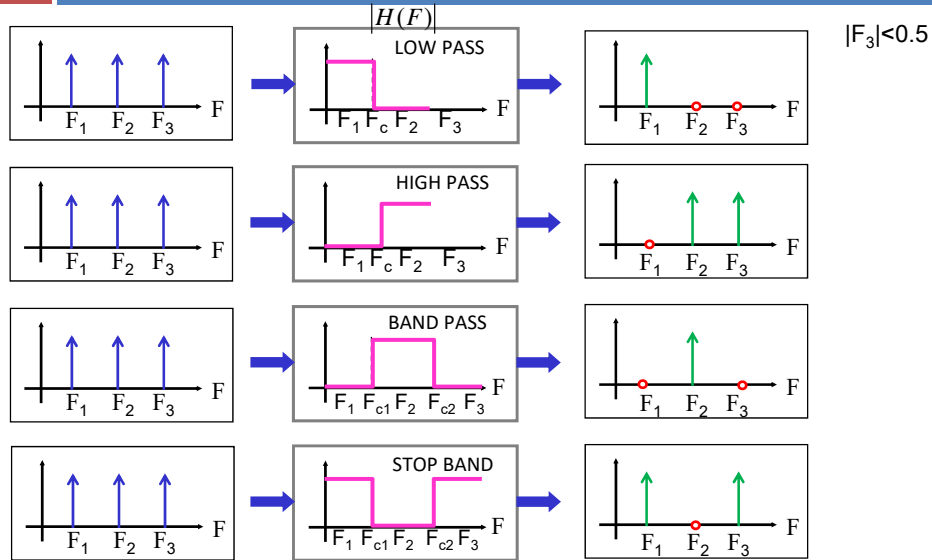
2019-2020

Signals and Systems (DSE)



## Ideal filters

U4



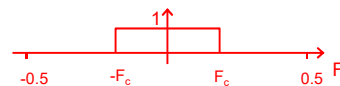
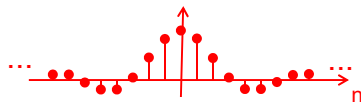
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## Ideal low pass filter

U4

$$h[n] = \frac{\sin(2\pi F_c n)}{\pi n} = 2F_c \text{sinc}(2F_c n) \leftrightarrow H(F) = \sum_{r=-\infty}^{\infty} \Pi\left(\frac{F-r}{2F_c}\right)$$



The filter is **non-stable** ( $\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} |h[k]| = \infty$ ) and **non-causal** ( $h[n] \neq 0$  for  $n < 0$ )

select a segment of the  
impulse response (windowing)

delay

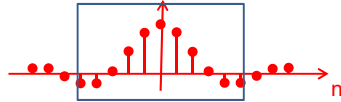
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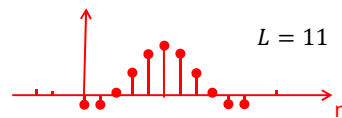
## A real filter

U4

$$h[n] = \frac{\sin(2\pi F_c n)}{\pi n} = 2F_c \text{sinc}(2F_c n)$$

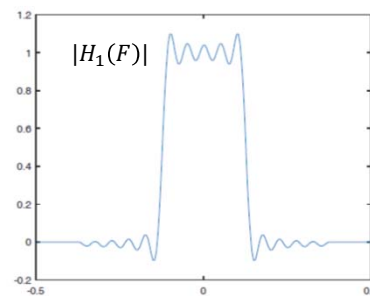


$$h_1[n] = h\left[n - \frac{L-1}{2}\right] p_L[n]$$



$$H_1(F) = H(F) e^{-j2\pi F \frac{L-1}{2}} \otimes P_L(F)$$

- $|H_1(F)|$  is not flat in the pass and stop bands: this is due to the secondary lobes of the window!
- Transition band: its duration decreases if we increase  $L$ !



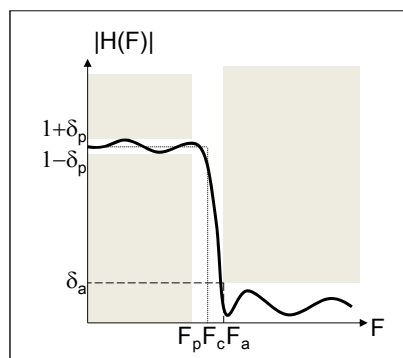
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## Filter specifications

U4

We need to relax the requirements of the filter



- Pass band:  
 $1 - \delta_p \leq |H(F)| \leq 1 + \delta_p$ , for  $|F| \leq F_p$
- Stop band:  
 $|H(F)| \leq \delta_a$ , for  $|F| \geq F_a$
- Transition band:  
 $|F_p| \leq |F| \leq |F_a|$

The **specifications** for other types of filters (besides low pass) are analogous

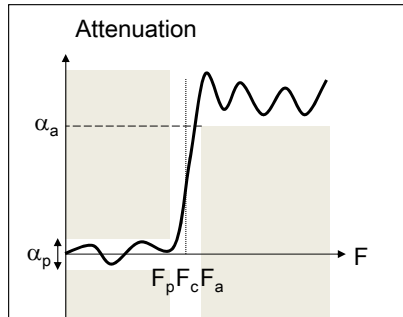
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## Filter attenuation

U4

Filter specifications are often expressed in terms of attenuation (in dB)

$$\alpha(F) = 10 \log_{10} \frac{|H|_{max}^2}{|H(F)|^2}$$



□ Pass band:

$$\alpha(F) \leq \alpha_p(F) = 20 \log_{10} \frac{1+\delta_p}{1-\delta_p}, \text{ for } |F| \leq F_p$$

□ Stop band:

$$\alpha(F) \geq \alpha_a(F) = 20 \log_{10} \frac{1+\delta_p}{\delta_a}, \text{ for } |F| \geq F_a$$

□ Transition band:

$$|F_p| \leq |F| \leq |F_a|$$

- Transmission zeros: frequencies at which  $|H(F)|=0$  (infinite attenuation)
- Attenuation zeros: frequencies at which  $|H(F)|$  is maximum

Unit 4: Z-Transform and filter design

## Approximating the ideal frequency response

U4

What do we want in a filter?

- Short transition bands (a more **selective** filter)
- High difference in  $|H(F)|$  between pass and stop bands (a more **discriminant** filter)

Improving any of these features (or both) requires increasing the order of the filter

- To fulfill a set of specifications FIR filters require higher order (compared to IIR filters), but FIR filters are always stable
- IIR filters require lower order for the same specifications, but they may become unstable (due to numerical precision errors)

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## Usual methods for FIR filters design

U4

### □ Window method: the ideal $h[n]$ is windowed and delayed

- ✓ The discrimination and selectivity of the filter depend on the window

`scipy.signal.firwin(numtaps, cutoff, window = 'hamming',...)`

### □ Sampling of the ideal frequency response: $h[n] = IDFT_N \{H_{ideal}(F)\}_{F=\frac{k}{N}}$

- ✓ Exact desired values for some frequencies
- ✓ There is no control over the frequency response at other frequencies

`scipy.signal.firwin2(numtaps, freq, gain, ...)`

### □ Remez algorithm: FIR with constant ripple (optimum)

Given the number of coefficients and  $F_p$  and  $F_a$ , the Remez algorithm computes the coefficients that minimize the maximum absolute error w.r.t. the ideal frequency response (weighting factors are possible)

`scipy.signal.remez(numtaps, bands, desired, weight = None, ...)`

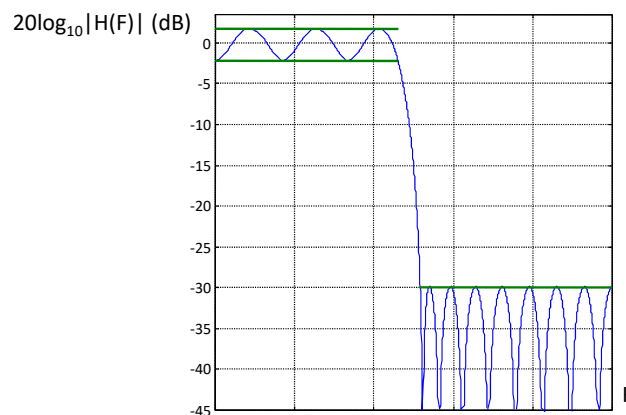
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## Remez algorithm is optimum in terms of order

U4

- Given the selectivity and discrimination constraints, **the design with the lowest order** has a constant amplitude ripple behaviour

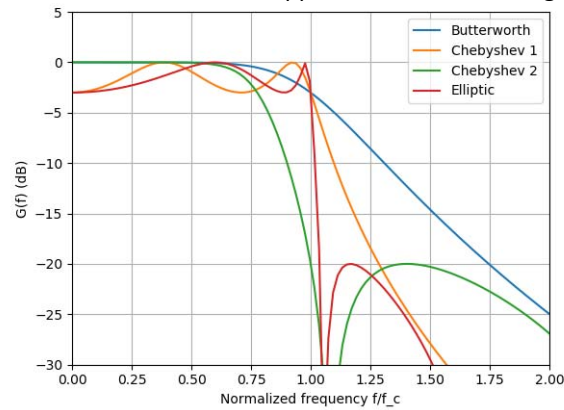


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## IIR filters design

U4

- The design of digital IIR filters are based on a mathematical transformation of the classical approximations for analog filters



`scipy.signal.iirdesign (wp, ws, gapss, gstop, ftype='ellip'...)`

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## FIR / IIR: which one to choose?

U4

	FIR	IIR
Linear phase (it requires $h[n]$ to have odd/even symmetry)	Yes (possible)	Only possible for non-causal
Stability	Always	Not always (due to numerical precision errors)
Order	High	Low

Unit 4: Z-Transform and filter design

## Phase distortion

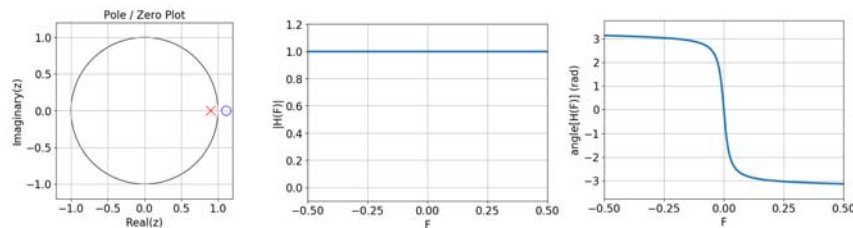
U4

When the filter is not ideal: we have **linear distortion**

- ❑ Amplitude distortion: if  $|H(F)|$  is not constant in the pass band
- ❑ Phase distortion: if  $H(F)$  has non linear phase in the pass band

What is the effect of phase distortion in audio signals?

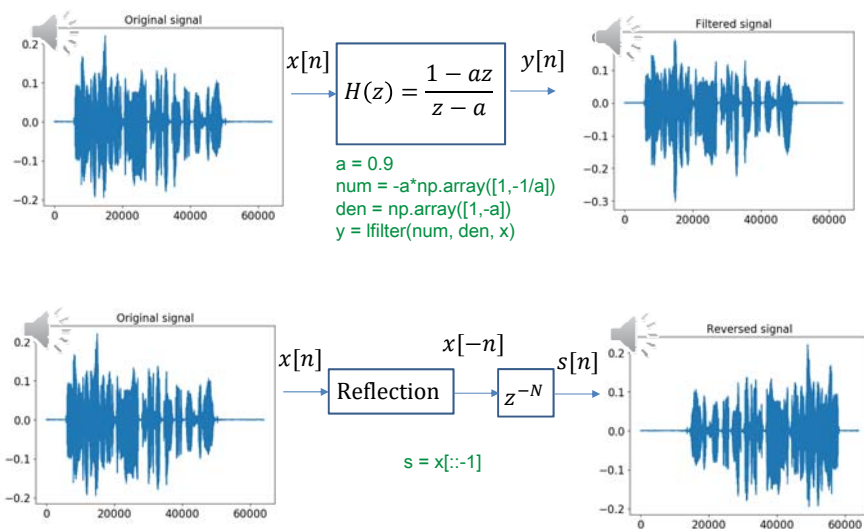
$$H(F) = \frac{1 - az}{z - a}$$



Unit 4: Z-Transform and filter design

## Effect of phase distortion in audio signals (1)

U4



Unit 4: Z-Transform and filter design

## Effect of phase distortion in audio signals (2)

U4

How are the phases of  $X(F)$  and  $X(-F)$  related?

$$x[n] \leftrightarrow X(F) = |X(F)|e^{j\arg\{X(F)\}}$$

$$x[-n] \leftrightarrow X(-F) = X^*(F) = |X(F)|e^{-j\arg\{X(F)\}}$$

↑  
x[n] is real valued

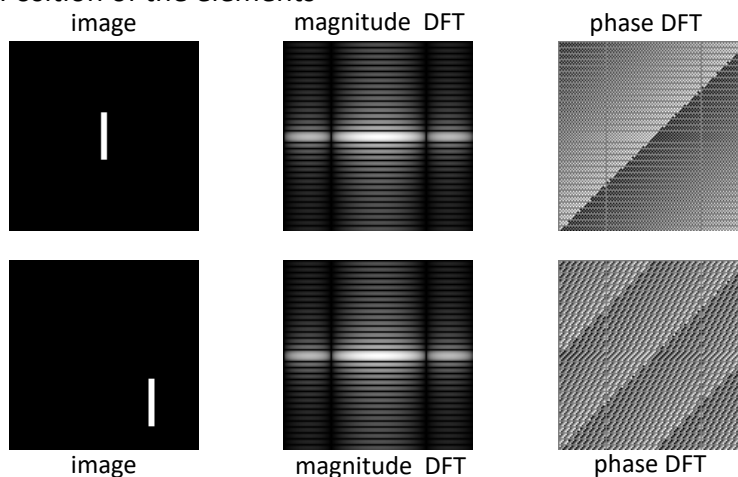
- Phase shifts are time-shifts of the basic signal components (i.e. sinusoids)
- Roughly speaking, the ear acts as a set of band-pass filters: we will 'hear phase shifts' if
  - ✓ the components fall close to each other,
  - ✓ and there are relative big shifts in the phase

Unit 4: Z-Transform and filter design

## The phase in images (1)

U4

- Position of the elements



Unit 4: Z-Transform and filter design

## The phase in images (2)

U4

- Need of phase 0 in the processing



$x[m, n]$

$$DFT^{-1}\left\{DFT\{x[m, n]\} \cdot e^{-j2\pi\frac{30}{M}k} \cdot e^{-j2\pi\frac{20}{M}l}\right\}$$

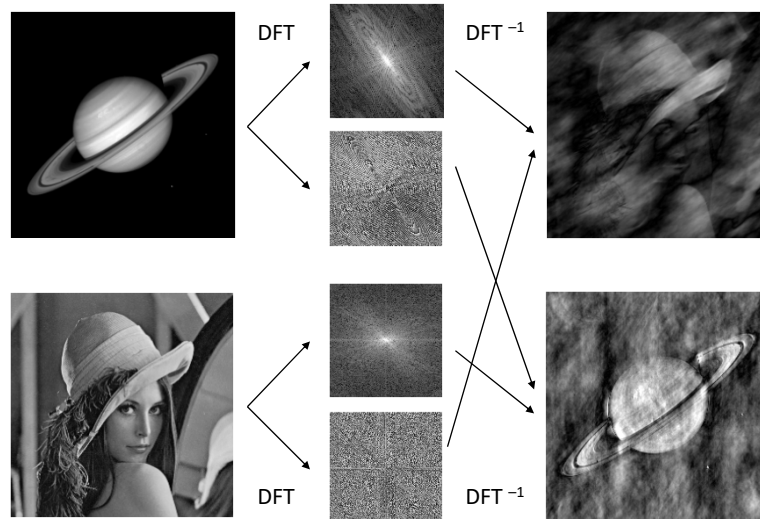


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## The phase in images (3)

U4



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