

CHAPTER 3

Data and Signals

Review Questions

1. What is the relationship between period and frequency?

Ans: The period of a signal is the inverse of its frequency and vice versa, i.e. $T=1/f$ and $f=1/T$.

2. What does the amplitude of a signal measure? What does the frequency of a signal measure? What does the phase of a signal measure?

Ans: The amplitude of a signal measures the value of the signal at any point.
The frequency of a signal measure the number of periods in one second.
The phase of a signal measure the position of the waveform relative to time zero.

3. How can a composite signal be decomposed into its individual frequencies?

Ans: Here is two facts, Fourier series gives the frequency domain of a periodic signal and Fourier analysis gives the frequency domain of a non-periodic signal.

4. Name three types of transmission impairment.

Ans: Three types of transmission impairment are: Attenuation, Distortion, and Noise.

5. Distinguish between baseband transmission and broadband transmission.

Ans: Baseband transmission means sending a digital or an analog signal without modulation using a low-pass channel.
Broadband transmission means to modulate signal using a band-pass channel.

6. Distinguish between a low-pass channel and a band-pass channel.

Ans: A low-pass channel has a bandwidth starting from zero.
A band-pass channel has a bandwidth that does not start from zero.

7. What does the Nyquist theorem have to do with communications?

Ans: The Nyquist theorem defines the maximum bit rate of a noiseless channel.

8. What does the Shannon capacity have to do with communications?

Ans: The Shannon capacity determines the theoretical maximum bit rate of a noisy channel.

9. Why do optical signals used in fiber optic cables have a very short wave length?

Ans: Optical signals have very high frequencies. when frequency is very high, then the wavelength is very low. Because, $\lambda = v/f$, where v is the propagation speed in the media.

10. Can we say if a signal is periodic or non-periodic by just looking at its frequency domain plot? How?

Ans: Yes, we can say a signal is periodic or non-periodic by just looking at its frequency domain plot. Because of, a signal is periodic if its frequency domain plot is discrete and a signal is non-periodic if its frequency domain plot is continuous.

11. Is the frequency domain plot of a voice signal discrete or continuous?

Ans: The frequency domain of a voice signal is normally continuous because voice is a non-periodic signal.

12. Is the frequency domain plot of an alarm system discrete or continuous?

Ans: An alarm system is normally periodic. That means Its frequency domain plot is discrete.

13. We send a voice signal from a microphone to a recorder. Is this baseband or broadband transmission?

Ans: When we send a voice signal from a microphone to a recorder, here no modulation is involved. That means this is a baseband transmission.

14. We send a digital signal from one station on a LAN to another station. Is this baseband or broadband transmission?

Ans: When we send a digital signal from one station on a LAN to another station, here no modulation is involved. That means this is a baseband transmission.

15. We modulate several voice signals and send them through the air. Is this baseband or broadband transmission?

Ans: When we modulate several voice signals and send them through the air, here modulation is involved. That means this is a broadband transmission.

Exercises

16. Given the frequencies listed below, calculate the corresponding periods.

- 24Hz
- 8 MHz
- 140 KHz

Ans:

- $T = 1 / f = 1 / (24 \text{ Hz}) = 0.0417 \text{ s} = 41.7 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s} = 41.7 \text{ ms}$
- $T = 1 / f = 1 / (8 \text{ MHz}) = 0.000000125 = 0.125 \times 10^{-6} \text{ s} = 0.125 \mu \text{ s}$
- $T = 1 / f = 1 / (140 \text{ KHz}) = 0.00000714 \text{ s} = 7.14 \times 10^{-6} \text{ s} = 7.14 \mu \text{ s}$

17. Given the following periods, calculate the corresponding frequencies.

- 5 s
- 12 Jls
- 220 ns

Ans:

- $f = 1 / T = 1 / (5 \text{ s}) = 0.2 \text{ Hz}$
- $f = 1 / T = 1 / (12 \mu \text{ s}) = 83333 \text{ Hz} = 83.333 \times 10^3 \text{ Hz} = 83.333 \text{ KHz}$
- $f = 1 / T = 1 / (220 \text{ ns}) = 4550000 \text{ Hz} = 4.55 \times 10^6 \text{ Hz} = 4.55 \text{ MHz}$

18. What is the phase shift for the following ?

- A sine wave with the maximum amplitude at time zero

- b. A sine wave with maximum amplitude after $1/4$ cycle
 c. A sine wave with zero amplitude after $3/4$ cycle and increasing

Ans:

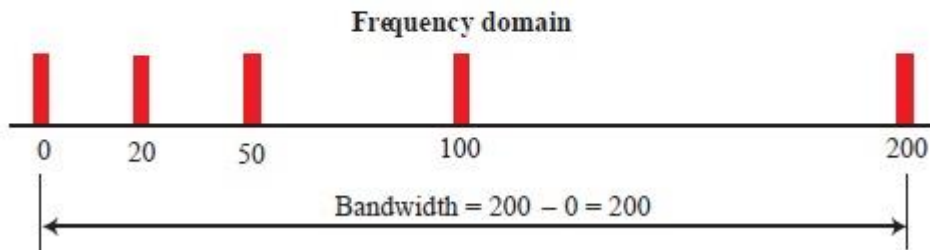
- a. 90 degrees ($\pi/2$ radian)
 b. 0 degrees (0 radian)
 c. 90 degrees ($\pi/2$ radian)

19. What is the bandwidth of a signal that can be decomposed into five sine waves with frequencies at 0, 20, 50, 100, and 200 Hz? All peak amplitudes are the same. Draw the bandwidth.

Ans:

Solution to Exercise 19

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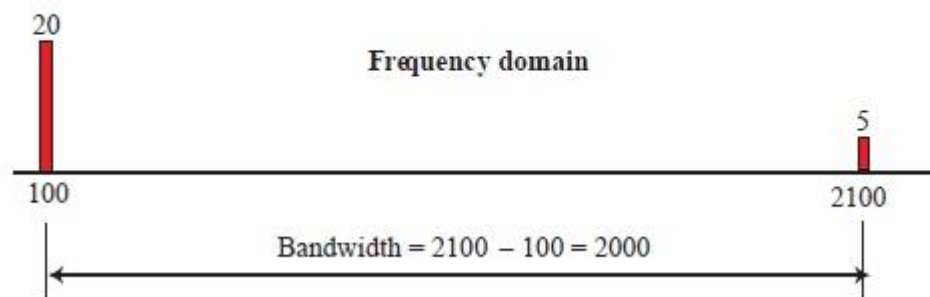


20. A periodic composite signal with a bandwidth of 2000 Hz is composed of two sine waves. The first one has a frequency of 100 Hz with a maximum amplitude of 20 V; the second one has a maximum amplitude of 5 V. Draw the bandwidth.

Ans:

Solution to Exercise 20

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21. Which signal has a wider bandwidth, a sine wave with a frequency of 100 Hz or a sine wave with a frequency of 200 Hz?

Ans:

Each signal is a simple signal in this case. The bandwidth of a simple signal is zero. So the bandwidth of both signals are the same.

22. What is the bit rate for each of the following signals?

- A signal in which 1 bit lasts 0.001 s
- A signal in which 1 bit lasts 2 ms
- A signal in which 10 bits last 20 J-Is

Ans:

- bit rate = $1 / (\text{bit duration}) = 1 / (0.001 \text{ s}) = 1000 \text{ bps} = 1 \text{ Kbps}$
- bit rate = $1 / (\text{bit duration}) = 1 / (2 \text{ ms}) = 500 \text{ bps}$
- bit rate = $1 / (\text{bit duration}) = 1 / (20 \mu\text{s}/10) = 1 / (2 \mu\text{s}) = 500 \text{ Kbps}$

23. A device is sending out data at the rate of 1000 bps.

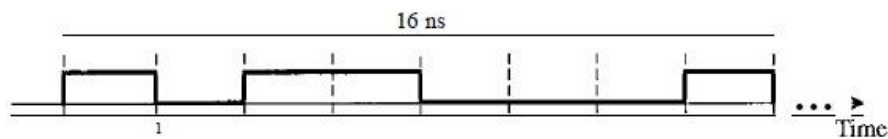
- How long does it take to send out 10 bits?
- How long does it take to send out a single character (8 bits)?
- How long does it take to send a file of 100,000 characters?

Ans:

- $(10 / 1000) \text{ s} = 0.01 \text{ s}$
- $(8 / 1000) \text{ s} = 0.008 \text{ s} = 8 \text{ ms}$
- $((100,000 \times 8) / 1000) \text{ s} = 800 \text{ s}$

24. What is the bit rate for the signal in Figure 3.34?

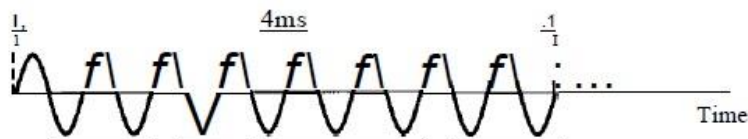
Figure 3.34 Exercise 24



Ans: There are 8 bits in 16 ns. Bit rate is $8 / (16 \times 10^{-9}) = 0.5 \times 10^{-9} = 500 \text{ Mbps}$.

25. What is the frequency of the signal in Figure 3.35?

Figure 3.35 Exercise 25

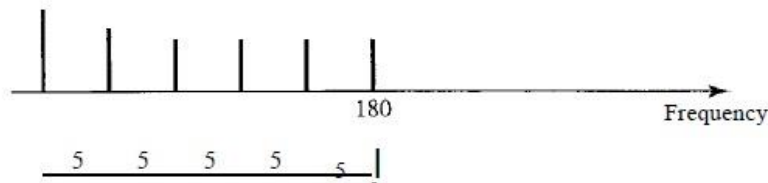


Ans: The signal makes 8 cycles in 4 ms.

\therefore The frequency = $8 / 4 = 2 \text{ KHz}$

26. What is the bandwidth of the composite signal shown in Figure 3.36.

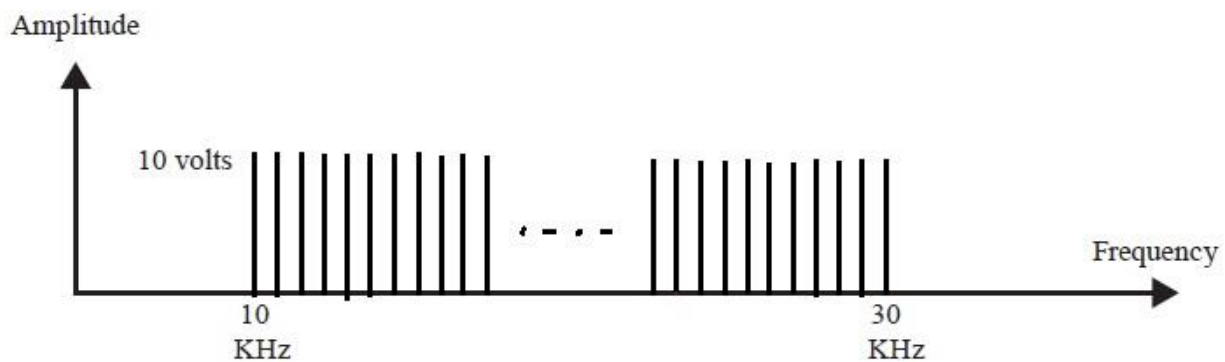
Figure 3.36 Exercise 26



Ans: The bandwidth is $5 \times 5 = 25$ Hz.

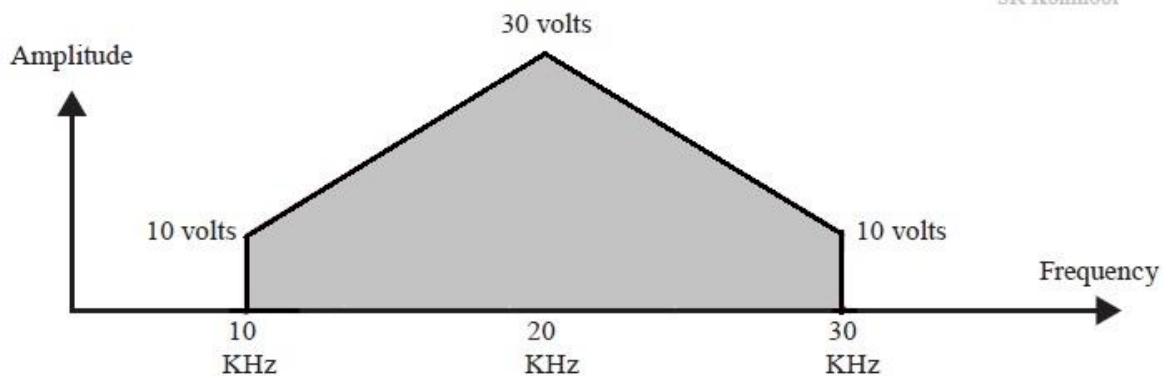
27. A periodic composite signal contains frequencies from 10 to 30 KHz, each with an amplitude of 10 V. Draw the frequency spectrum.

Ans: The signal is periodic and the frequency domain is made of discrete Like as this Diagram:



28. A non-periodic composite signal contains frequencies from 10 to 30 KHz. The peak amplitude is 10 V for the lowest and the highest signals and is 30 V for the 20-KHz signal. Assuming that the amplitudes change gradually from the minimum to the maximum, draw the frequency spectrum.

Ans: The signal is non periodic and the frequency domain is made of a continuous spectrum like as this figure...



29. A TV channel has a bandwidth of 6 MHz. If we send a digital signal using one channel, what are the data rates if we use one harmonic, three harmonics, and five harmonics?

Ans:

For one harmonic, data rate = $2 \times 6 = 12$ Mbps

For three harmonics, data rate = $(2 \times 6) / 3 = 4$ Mbps

For five harmonics, data rate = $(2 \times 6) / 5 = 2.4$ Mbps

30. A signal travels from point A to point B. At point A, the signal power is 100 W. At point B, the power is 90 W. What is the attenuation in decibels?

Ans: The attenuation dB = $10 \log_{10} (90 / 100)$
 $= -0.46$ dB

31. The attenuation of a signal is -10 dB. What is the final signal power if it was originally 5 W?

Ans: Here, -10 dB = $10 \log_{10} (P_2 / 5)$
 $\Rightarrow \log_{10} (P_2 / 5) = -1$
 $\Rightarrow (P_2 / 5) = 10^{-1}$
 $\therefore P_2 = 0.5$ W

32. A signal has passed through three cascaded amplifiers, each with a 4 dB gain. What is the total gain? How much is the signal amplified?

Ans: Here number of Amplifier = 3.
 \therefore The total gain = $3 \times 4 = 12$ dB.
 Again, The signal is amplified, $12 = 10 \log (P_2/P_1)$
 $\Rightarrow \log (P_2/P_1) = 1.2$
 $\Rightarrow P_2/P_1 = 10^{1.2} = 15.85$.

33. If the bandwidth of the channel is 5 Kbps, how long does it take to send a frame of 100,000 bits out of this device?

Ans: Here, Bandwidth = 5 Kbps, Frame = 1,00,000 bits
 $\therefore 1,00,000$ bits / 5 Kbps = 20 s

34. The light of the sun takes approximately eight minutes to reach the earth. What is the distance between the sun and the earth?

Ans: Here, approximate Time = 8 minutes = $8 \times 60 = 480$ s
 Speed of light = 3×10^8 ms⁻¹ = 300000 kms⁻¹
 \therefore The Distance = $480 \times 300000 = 144000000$ km

35. A signal has a wavelength of 1 μ m in air. How far can the front of the wave travel during 1000 periods?

Ans: Here, wavelength = 1 μ m, periods = 1000
 \therefore Distance = $1 \times 1000 = 1000$ μ m = 1 mm

36. A line has a signal-to-noise ratio of 1000 and a bandwidth of 4000 KHz. What is the maximum data rate supported by this line?

Ans: Given, bandwidth, B = 4000 KHz, SNR = 1000
 So, We know the Shannon capacity $C = B \log_2 (1 + \text{SNR})$

$$\therefore C = 4000 \log_2 (1 + 1000) \approx 40 \text{ Kbps}$$

37. We measure the performance of a telephone line (4 KHz of bandwidth). When the signal is 10 V, the noise is 5 mV. What is the maximum data rate supported by this telephone line?

Ans: Given, bandwidth, $B = 4 \text{ KHz} = 4000 \text{ Hz}$,
 Signal = 10 V, Noise = 5 mV = 0.005 V
 $\therefore \text{SNR} = 10 / 0.005 = 2000$

So, We know, $C = B \log_2 (1 + \text{SNR})$
 $\therefore C = 4000 \log_2 (1 + 2000) = 43866 \text{ bps}$

38. A file contains 2 million bytes. How long does it take to download this file using a 56-Kbps channel? 1-Mbps channel?

Ans: Given, the file contains = 2 million bytes = $2000000 \times 8 = 16000000 \text{ bits}$.
 \therefore With a 56-Kbps channel, it takes $16000000/56000 = 289 \text{ s} \approx 5 \text{ minutes}$.
 Again, With a 1-Mbps channel, it takes $16000000/1000000 = 16 \text{ s}$.

39. A computer monitor has a resolution of 1200 by 1000 pixels. If each pixel uses 1024 colors, how many bits are needed to send the complete contents of a screen?

Ans: To represent 1024 colors, we need $\log_2 1024 = 10 \text{ bits}$.
 \therefore The total number of bits are, $1200 \times 1000 \times 10 = 12000000 \text{ bits}$

40. A signal with 200 milliwatts power passes through 10 devices, each with an average noise of 2 microwatts. What is the SNR? What is the SNR_{dB} ?

Ans: Given, signal = 200 mW = 0.2W
 Noise = $10 \times 2 \mu\text{W} = 2 \times 10^{-5}$
 \therefore We Know, $\text{SNR} = (\text{signal power})/(\text{noise power}) = 0.2 / (2 \times 10^{-5}) = 10000$
 $\text{SNR}_{\text{dB}} = 10 \log_{10} \text{SNR} = 10 \log_{10} 10000 = 40$

41. If the peak voltage value of a signal is 20 times the peak voltage value of the noise, what is the SNR? What is the SNR_{dB} ?

Ans: We Know, $\text{SNR} = (\text{signal power}) / (\text{noise power})$.
 $\text{SNR} = [(\text{signal voltage})^2] / [(\text{noise voltage})^2]$
 $= [(\text{signal voltage}) / (\text{noise voltage})]^2 = 20^2 = 400$
 Now, $\text{SNR}_{\text{dB}} = 10 \log_{10} \text{SNR} = 10 \log_{10} 400 \approx 26.02$

42. What is the theoretical capacity of a channel in each of the following cases:

- Bandwidth: 20 KHz $\text{SNR}_{\text{dB}} = 40$
- Bandwidth: 200 KHz $\text{SNR}_{\text{dB}} = 4$
- Bandwidth: 1 MHz $\text{SNR}_{\text{dB}} = 20$

Ans: We can approximately calculate the capacity as

- $C = B * (\text{SNR}_{\text{dB}} / 3) = 20 * (40 / 3) = 267 \text{ Kbps}$
- $C = B * (\text{SNR}_{\text{dB}} / 3) = 200 * (4 / 3) = 267 \text{ Kbps}$
- $C = B * (\text{SNR}_{\text{dB}} / 3) = 1 * (20 / 3) = 6.67 \text{ Mbps}$

43. We need to upgrade a channel to a higher bandwidth. Answer the following questions:

- How is the rate improved if we double the bandwidth?

b. How is the rate improved if we double the SNR?

- Ans:** a. If we double the bandwidth, the data rate is doubled ($C_2 = 2 \times C_1$).
b. When the SNR is doubled, data rate increases slightly, approximately ($C_2 = C_1 + 1$).

44. We have a channel with 4 KHz bandwidth. If we want to send data at 100 Kbps, what is the minimum SNR_{dB} ? What is SNR?

Ans: Given, bandwidth = 4 KHz, Data rate = 100 Kbps

We know, $C = B * (SNR_{dB} / 3)$

$$\Rightarrow SNR_{dB} = (3 * C) / B$$

$$\therefore \text{minimum of } SNR_{dB} = (3 * 100) / 4 = 75$$

$$\text{So, the minimum SNR} = 10^{SNR_{dB}/10} = 10^{7.5} \\ \approx 31622776$$

45. What is the transmission time of a packet sent by a station if the length of the packet is 1 million bytes and the bandwidth of the channel is 200 Kbps?

Ans: Given, packet length = 1 million bytes = 1000000 * 8 bits = 8000000 bits

Bandwidth = 200 Kbps = 200000 bps

$$\therefore \text{We know, transmission time} = (\text{packet length}) / (\text{bandwidth}) \\ = 8000000 / 200000 = 40 \text{ s}$$

46. What is the length of a bit in a channel with a propagation speed of 2×10^8 m/s if the channel bandwidth is

- 1 Mbps?
- 10 Mbps?
- 100 Mbps?

Ans: We know that,

$$\text{bit length} = \text{propagation speed} * \text{bit duration}$$

but, bit duration is the inverse of the bandwidth.

$$\text{So, bit length} = \text{propagation speed} * (1 / \text{bandwidth})$$

- Given, bandwidth = 1 Mbps = 10^6 bps
 $\therefore \text{Bit length} = 2 * 10^8 * (1 / 10^6) = 200 \text{ m.}$
- Given, bandwidth = 10 Mbps = 10^7 bps
 $\therefore \text{Bit length} = 2 * 10^8 * (1 / 10^7) = 20 \text{ m.}$
- Given, bandwidth = 100 Mbps = 10^8 bps
 $\therefore \text{Bit length} = 2 * 10^8 * (1 / 10^8) = 2 \text{ m.}$

47. How many bits can fit on a link with a 2 ms delay if the bandwidth of the link is

- 1 Mbps?
- 10 Mbps?
- 100 Mbps?

Ans: We know that, Number of bits = bandwidth * delay

- Number of bits = $(1 * 10^6) * (2 * 10^{-3}) = 2000 \text{ bits}$
- Number of bits = $(10 * 10^6) * (2 * 10^{-3}) = 20000 \text{ bits}$
- Number of bits = $(100 * 10^6) * (2 * 10^{-3}) = 200000 \text{ bits}$

48. What is the total delay (latency) for a frame of size 5 million bits that is being sent on a link with 10 routers each having a queuing time of $2 \mu\text{s}$ and a processing time of $1 \mu\text{s}$. The length of the link is 2000 Km. The speed of light inside the link is $2 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$. The link has a bandwidth of 5 Mbps. Which component of the total delay is dominant? Which one is negligible?

Ans: Given,

$$\text{Processing time} = 10 \times 1 \mu\text{s} = 10 \mu\text{s} = 10^{-6} \text{ s}$$

$$\text{Queuing time} = 10 \times 2 \mu\text{s} = 20 \mu\text{s} = 20 \times 10^{-6} \text{ s}$$

$$\text{Transmission time} = \text{frame of size} / \text{bandwidth} = 5000000 / (5 \times 10^6) = 1 \text{ s}$$

$$\text{Propagation time} = \text{distance} / \text{speed} = (2000 \times 10^3) / (2 \times 10^8) = 0.01 \text{ s}$$

We know that,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Latency} &= \text{processing time} + \text{queuing time} + \text{transmission time} + \text{propagation time} \\ &= 10^{-6} + 20 \times 10^{-6} + 1 + 0.01 \\ &= 1.01000030 \text{ s} \end{aligned}$$

The transmission time is dominant here because the packet size is huge.