
EE3210

Signals and Systems

Part 4: Linear Time-Invariant Systems



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Changes of Introduction_v1 Lecture Notes

- Page 11, change

Quiz 1	Week 6, 5-6pm, in class
Quiz 2	Week 10, 5-6pm, in class

to

Quiz 1	Week 7, 5-6pm, in class
Quiz 2	Week 11, 5-6pm, in class

Changes of Part3_v2 Lecture Notes

- Page 12, add:

- Continuous-time systems: for all t , $0 < B < \infty$

$$|x(t)| \leq B \rightarrow |y(t)| \leq B$$

- Discrete-time systems: for all n , $0 < B < \infty$

$$|x[n]| \leq B \rightarrow |y[n]| \leq B$$

Changes of Part3_v2 Lecture Notes (cont.)

- Page 13, change

$$|y[n]| = |\sin(n\pi)x[n]| \leq |\sin(n\pi)| |x[n]| \leq B$$

to

$$|y[n]| = |\sin(n\pi)x[n]| = |\sin(n\pi)| |x[n]| \leq |x[n]| \leq B$$

Changes of Part3_v2 Lecture Notes (cont.)

■ Page 13, change

$$y[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^n u[k] = (n+1)u[n]$$

to

$$y[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^n u[k] = \begin{cases} 0, & n < 0 \\ n+1, & n \geq 0 \end{cases} = (n+1)u[n]$$

What is a Linear Time-Invariant (LTI) System?

- An LTI system is one that possesses the properties of **linearity** and **time invariance**.
 - As a consequence, if we can represent the input to an LTI system in terms of a linear combination of a set of **basic signals**, we can then use **superposition** to compute the output of the system in terms of its responses to these basic signals.
 - Such a representation provides considerable analytical convenience in dealing with LTI systems.
- Many systems encountered in nature can be successfully modeled as LTI systems.

Representation of $x[n]$ in Terms of $\delta[n]$

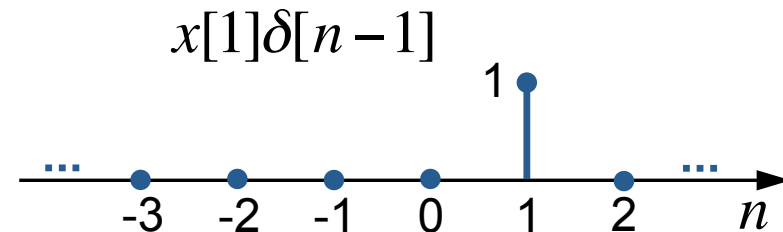
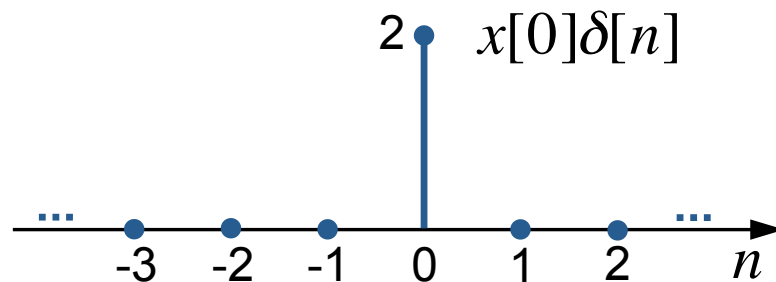
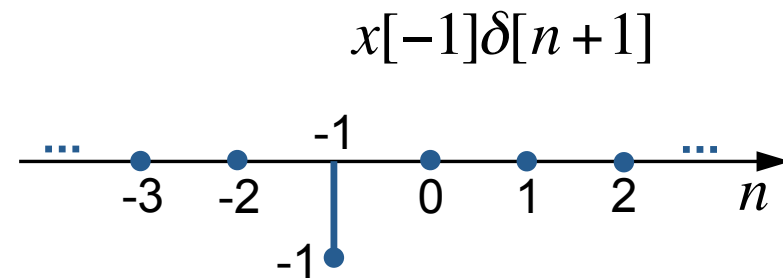
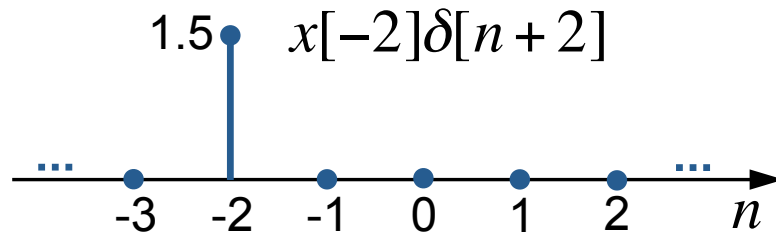
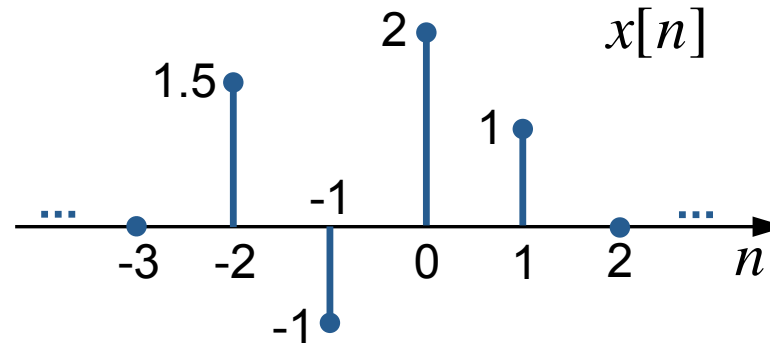
- Any discrete-time signal $x[n]$ can be represented as

$$x[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} x[k]\delta[n - k] \quad (1)$$

which is a superposition of time-shifted unit impulses $\delta[n - k]$, each scaled by $x[k]$, and k is extended to $\pm\infty$.

- Recall by definition $\delta[n - k] \neq 0$ only when $k = n$.
- Therefore, for any value of n , only one of the terms on the right-hand side of (1) is nonzero, and the scaling associated with that term is precisely $x[n]$.

An Example



Discrete-Time Unit Impulse Response

- The response of a discrete-time LTI system to $\delta[n]$ is defined as the **discrete-time unit impulse response**, denoted by $h[n]$:

$$\delta[n] \rightarrow h[n]$$

- The property of **time invariance** implies that, for all k , we have

$$\delta[n - k] \rightarrow h[n - k]$$

- The property of **superposition** implies that

$$x[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} x[k]\delta[n - k] \rightarrow y[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} x[k]h[n - k]$$

Convolution Sum

- The result

$$y[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} x[k]h[n-k] \quad (2)$$

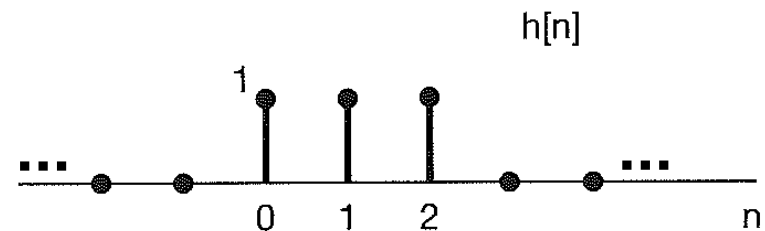
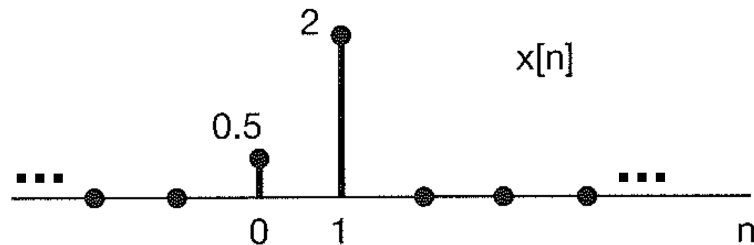
is known as the **convolution sum** of $x[n]$ and $h[n]$.

- From (2), we see that a discrete-time LTI system is **completely** characterized by its response to unit impulse signals.
- We will represent (2) symbolically as

$$y[n] = x[n] * h[n]$$

Example 1

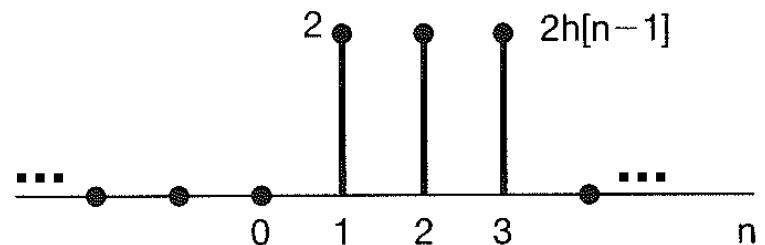
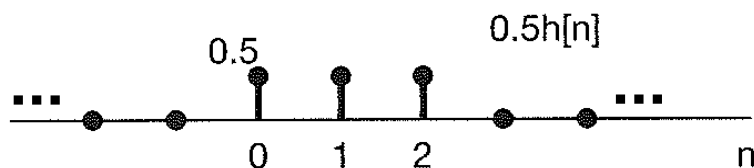
- Consider an LTI system with input $x[n]$ and unit impulse response $h[n]$ given as



- For this case, $y[n]$ is simply

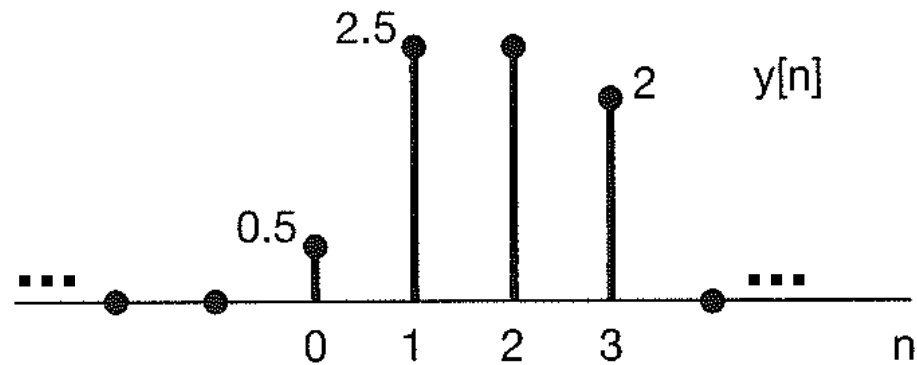
$$y[n] = x[0]h[n-0] + x[1]h[n-1] = 0.5h[n] + 2h[n-1] \quad (3)$$

- We obtain $0.5h[n]$ and $2h[n-1]$ as



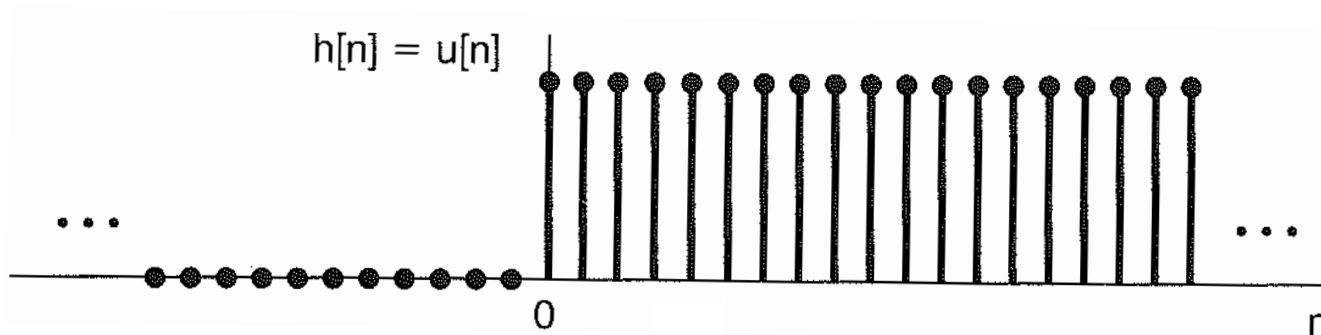
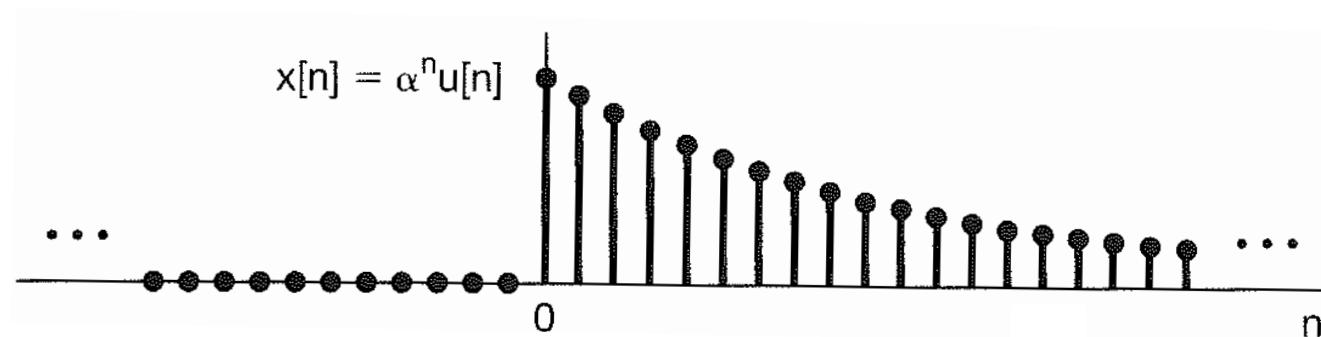
Example 1 (cont.)

- The overall response $y[n]$ is obtained from (3) as



Example 2

- Consider an LTI system with input $x[n] = \alpha^n u[n]$, where $0 < \alpha < 1$, and unit impulse response $h[n] = u[n]$.



Example 2 (cont.)

- For $n < 0$, we have:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} h[n-k] = 0, \quad k \geq 0 \\ x[k] = 0, \quad k < 0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow y[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} x[k]h[n-k] = 0$$

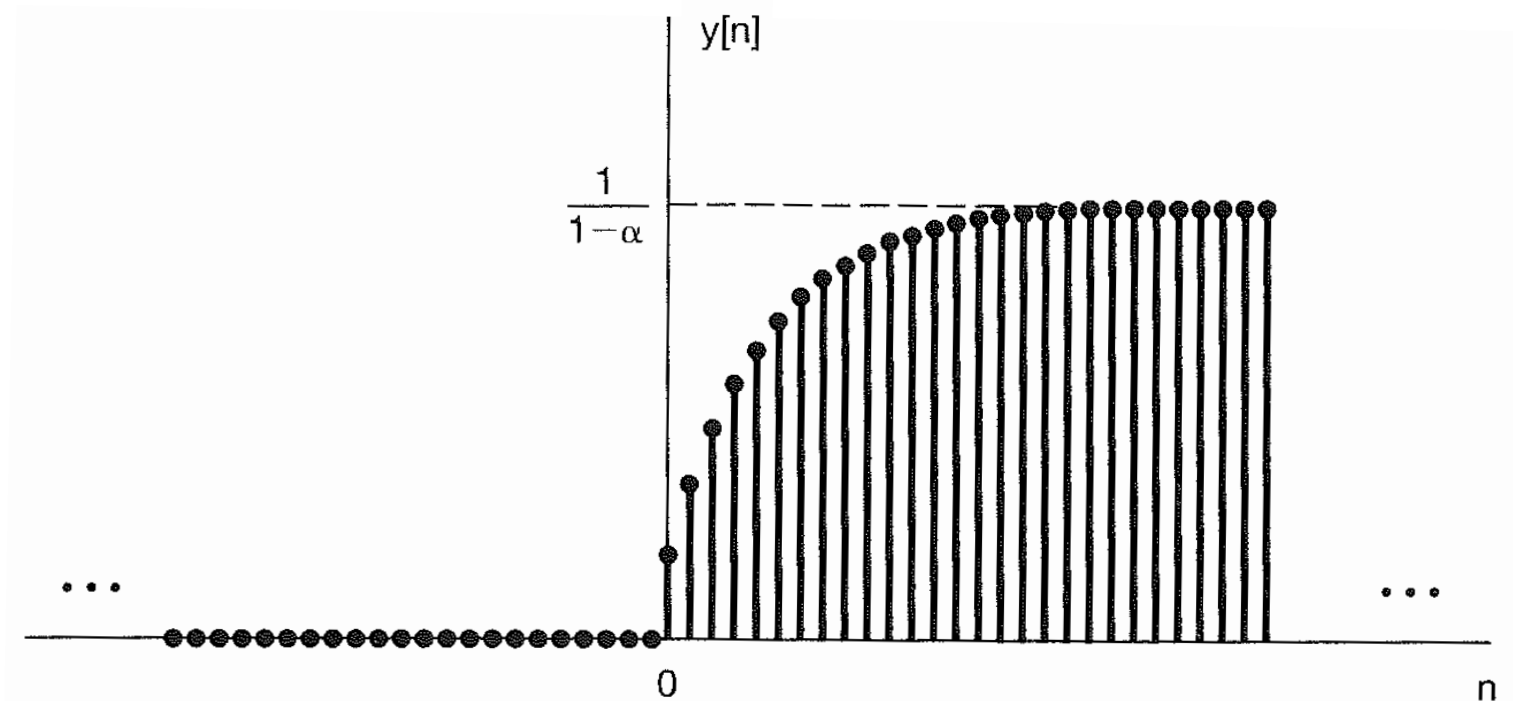
- For $n \geq 0$, we have:

$$x[k] = \begin{cases} \alpha^k, & k \geq 0 \\ 0, & k < 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad h[n-k] = \begin{cases} 1, & k \leq n \\ 0, & k > n \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow y[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} x[k]h[n-k] = \sum_{k=0}^n \alpha^k = \frac{1 - \alpha^{n+1}}{1 - \alpha}$$

Example 2 (cont.)

- Thus, for all n , we obtain: $y[n] = \left(\frac{1 - \alpha^{n+1}}{1 - \alpha} \right) u[n]$



Properties of Convolution Sum

- The **commutative** property:

$$x[n] * h[n] = h[n] * x[n]$$

- Recall by definition:

$$x[n] * h[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} x[k]h[n - k] \quad (4)$$

By changing the variable of summation in (4) from k to $m = n - k$, we have:

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

Properties of Convolution Sum (cont.)

- The **distributive** property:

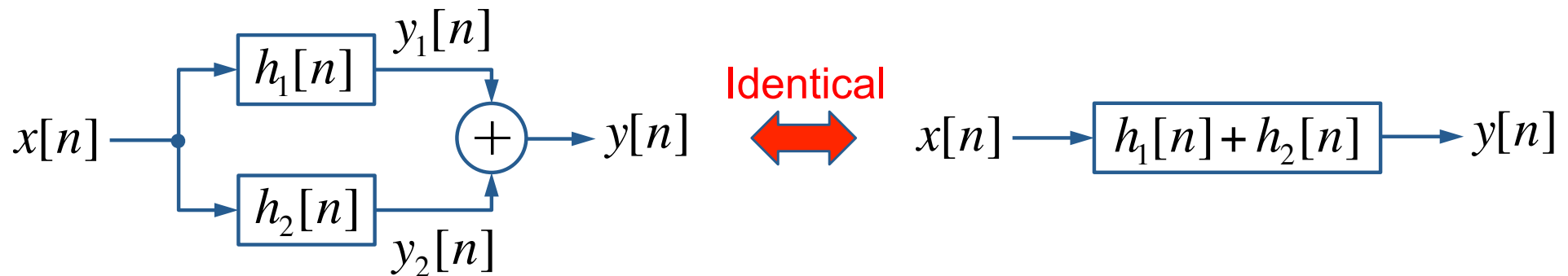
$$x[n] * (h_1[n] + h_2[n]) = x[n] * h_1[n] + x[n] * h_2[n]$$

- Using (4), we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & x[n] * (h_1[n] + h_2[n]) \\ &= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} x[k](h_1[n-k] + h_2[n-k]) \\ &= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} x[k]h_1[n-k] + \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} x[k]h_2[n-k] \\ &= x[n] * h_1[n] + x[n] * h_2[n] \end{aligned}$$

Properties of Convolution Sum (cont.)

- Because of the **distributive** property, for a parallel interconnection of LTI systems, we have:



- Also, as a consequence of both the **commutative** and **distributive** properties, we have:

$$(x_1[n] + x_2[n]) * h[n] = x_1[n] * h[n] + x_2[n] * h[n]$$

Properties of Convolution Sum (cont.)

- The **associative** property:

$$x[n] * (h_1[n] * h_2[n]) = (x[n] * h_1[n]) * h_2[n]$$

- We will prove this result in tutorial.
- From the **associative** property, a series interconnection of LTI systems is equivalent to a single system:



- From the **commutative** property, we have:



Properties of Convolution Sum (cont.)

- Using the **associative** property again, we have:



- Thus, as a consequence of both the **commutative** and **associative** properties, we have:

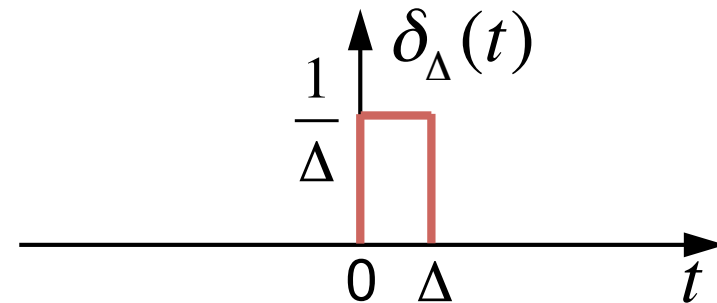


- This means that the unit impulse response of a cascade of two LTI systems does not depend on the order in which they are cascaded.
- This also holds for an arbitrary number of LTI systems.

Representation of $x(t)$ in Terms of $\delta(t)$

- Consider the signal $\delta_{\Delta}(t)$ defined by

$$\delta_{\Delta}(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\Delta}, & 0 \leq t < \Delta \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



- By definition, $\delta_{\Delta}(t)\Delta$ has **unit** amplitude for $0 \leq t < \Delta$.
- For any integer k , we can obtain $\delta_{\Delta}(t - k\Delta)$ as a time-shifted version of $\delta_{\Delta}(t)$, i.e.,

$$\delta_{\Delta}(t - k\Delta) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\Delta}, & k\Delta \leq t < (k+1)\Delta \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

Representation of $x(t)$ in Terms of $\delta(t)$ (cont.)

- A continuous-time signal $x(t)$ can be approximated by

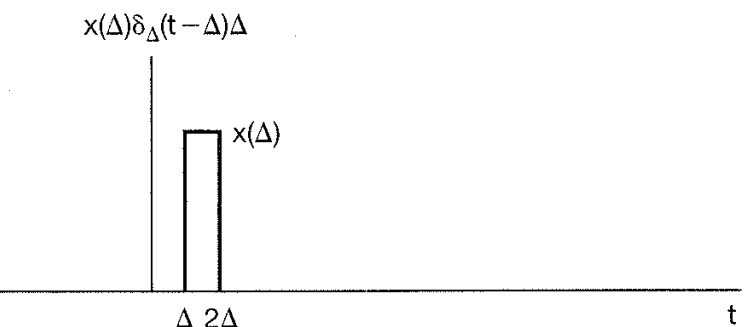
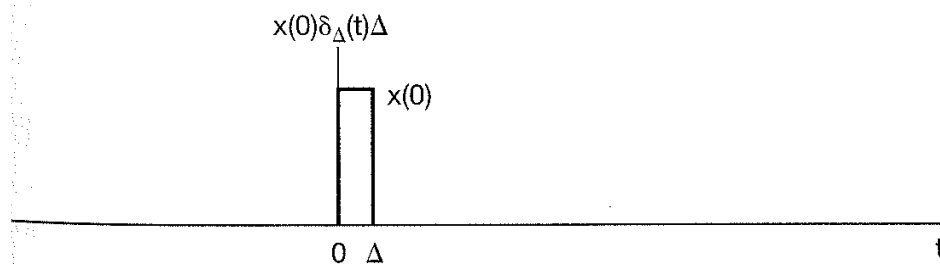
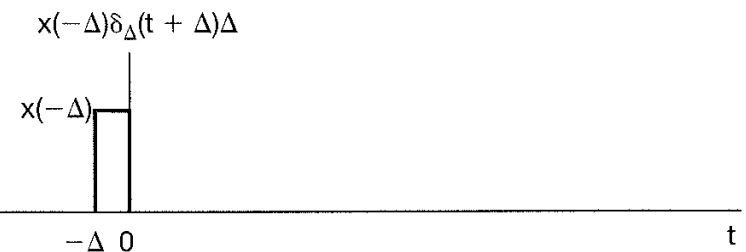
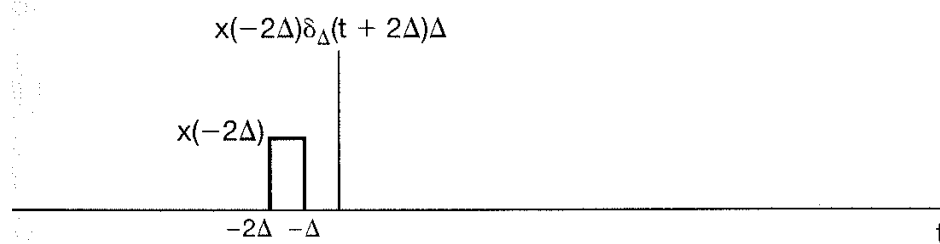
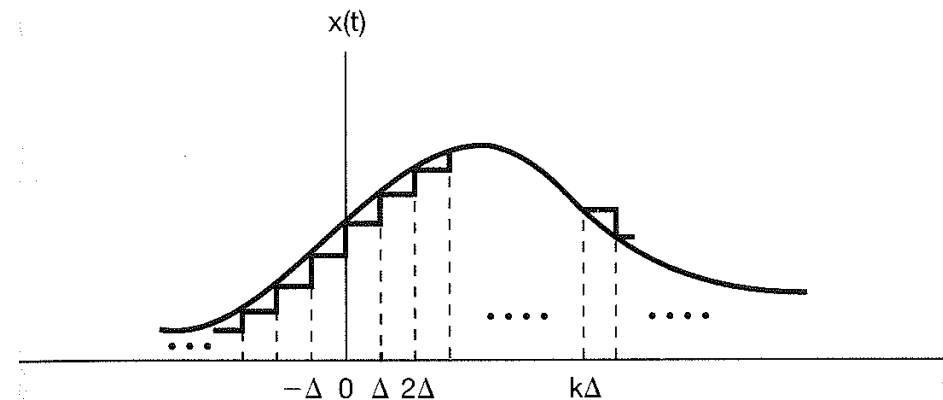
$$x_{\Delta}(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} x(k\Delta) \delta_{\Delta}(t - k\Delta) \Delta \quad (6)$$

i.e., a superposition of time-shifted signals $\delta_{\Delta}(t - k\Delta) \Delta$, each scaled by $x(k\Delta)$, and k is extended to $\pm\infty$.

- Recall in (5) that, by definition, $\delta_{\Delta}(t - k\Delta) \Delta \neq 0$ only when $k\Delta \leq t < (k+1)\Delta$.
- Therefore, for any value of t , only one term in the summation on the right-hand side of (6) is nonzero.

Representation of $x(t)$ in Terms of $\delta(t)$ (cont.)

■ An example:



Representation of $x(t)$ in Terms of $\delta(t)$ (cont.)

- As we let Δ approach 0, $x_{\Delta}(t)$ approaches an integral of the form

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x(\tau) \delta(t - \tau) d\tau$$

which is also equivalent to $x(t)$.

- This representation of $x(t)$ in terms of $\delta(t)$, i.e.,

$$x(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x(\tau) \delta(t - \tau) d\tau \quad (7)$$

can also be directly derived from the sampling property of the idealized signal $\delta(t)$.

Continuous-Time Unit Impulse Response

- The response of a continuous-time LTI system to $\delta(t)$ is defined as the **continuous-time unit impulse response**, denoted by $h(t)$, i.e., $\delta(t) \rightarrow h(t)$.
- The property of **time invariance** implies that, for all τ , we have $\delta(t - \tau) \rightarrow h(t - \tau)$.
- In (7), we can intuitively think of $x(t)$ as a **sum** of weighted shifted impulses, where the weight on the impulse $\delta(t - \tau)$ is $x(\tau)d\tau$.
- Then, the property of **superposition** implies that

$$x(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x(\tau)\delta(t - \tau)d\tau \rightarrow y(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x(\tau)h(t - \tau)d\tau$$

Convolution Integral

- The result

$$y(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x(\tau)h(t - \tau)d\tau \quad (8)$$

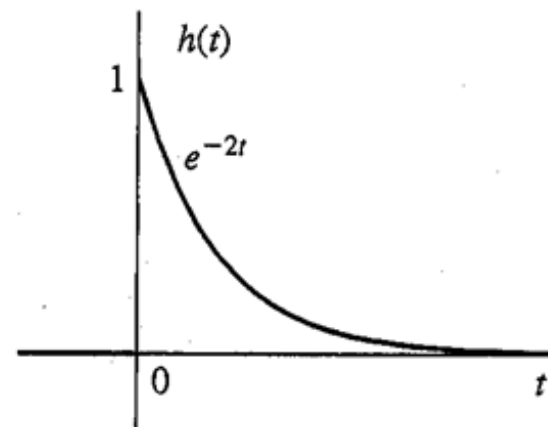
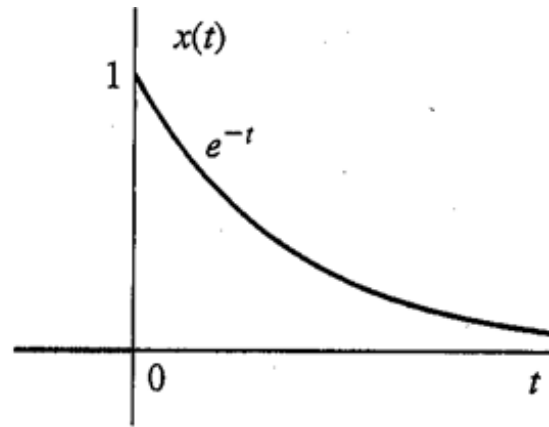
is referred to as the **convolution integral** of $x(t)$ and $h(t)$.

- From (8), we see that a continuous-time LTI system is **completely** characterized by its response to unit impulse signals.
- We will represent (8) symbolically as

$$y(t) = x(t) * h(t)$$

An Example

- Consider an LTI system with input $x(t) = e^{-t}u(t)$, and unit impulse response $h(t) = e^{-2t}u(t)$.



- By definition, we have

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x(\tau)h(t - \tau)d\tau \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-\tau}u(\tau)e^{-2(t-\tau)}u(t - \tau)d\tau \end{aligned}$$

An Example (cont.)

- Note that:

$$u(\tau) = \begin{cases} 1, & \tau > 0 \\ 0, & \tau < 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad u(t - \tau) = \begin{cases} 1, & \tau < t \\ 0, & \tau > t \end{cases}$$

- Therefore, $u(\tau)u(t - \tau) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < \tau < t \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

- For $t < 0$, $y(t) = 0$.

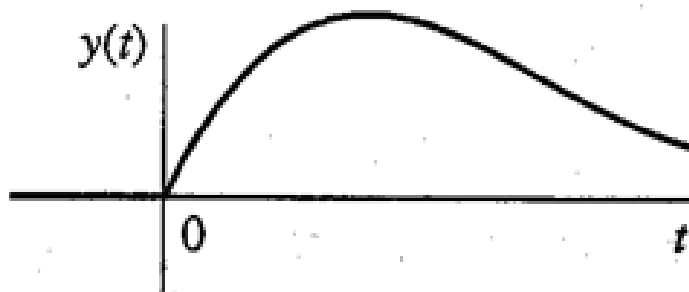
- For $t > 0$, we have:

$$y(t) = e^{-2t} \int_0^t e^{\tau} d\tau = e^{-2t} (e^t - 1) = e^{-t} - e^{-2t}$$

An Example (cont.)

- Thus, for all t , we obtain:

$$y(t) = (e^{-t} - e^{-2t}) u(t)$$



Properties of Convolution Integral

- The **commutative** property:

$$x(t) * h(t) = h(t) * x(t)$$

- The **distributive** property:

$$x(t) * [h_1(t) + h_2(t)] = x(t) * h_1(t) + x(t) * h_2(t)$$

- The **associative** property:

$$x(t) * [h_1(t) * h_2(t)] = [x(t) * h_1(t)] * h_2(t)$$