

# Chapter 9 - Laplace Transform

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## Laplace Transform

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The Laplace Transform (LT) is the **generalization** of the Fourier Transform to include general complex exponential signals of the form

$$e^{st} = e^{(\sigma + j\omega)t} = e^{\sigma t} e^{j\omega t}$$

We can generalize because  $e^{st}$  also follows:

$$e^{st} \xrightarrow{\tau} H(s)e^{st} = e^{st} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\tau) e^{-s\tau} d\tau$$

Laplace Transforms come in two flavors:

- Bilateral Laplace Transform (two-sided)
- Unilateral Laplace Transform (one-sided)

In this course, we only concern **Bilateral Laplace Transform**.

## Bilateral Laplace Transform

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Bilateral Laplace Transform means that the integral starts from negative infinity to positive infinity.

The formula is

$$X(s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t)e^{-st} dt$$

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \int_{\sigma-j\infty}^{\sigma+j\infty} X(s)e^{st} ds$$

$$s = \sigma + j\omega$$

LT pairs can be denoted as:

$$x(t) \leftrightarrow X(s)$$

## Relation between Laplace Transform & Fourier Transform

We can derive the following relationship:

$$X(s)|_{s=j\omega} = \mathcal{F}\{x(t)\}$$

$$X(s) = \mathcal{F}\{x(t)e^{-\sigma t}\}, \text{ where } s = \sigma + j\omega$$

These two relationships can help you understand the properties below.

## Region of Convergence (ROC)

### Concept

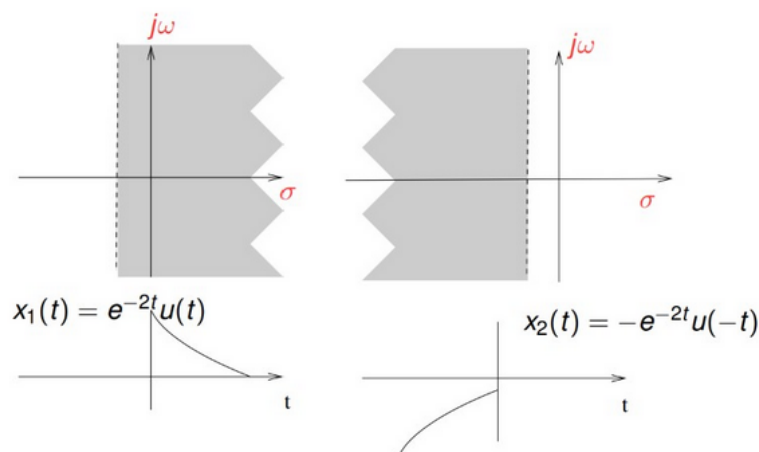
ROC is **the set of values of s** on the complex plane for which the **bilateral Laplace transform is guaranteed to exist/converge**. That is,

$$ROC = \{s \in \mathbb{C} : \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x(t)|e^{-\text{real}\{s\}t} dt < \infty\}$$

To define a Laplace Transform, you **have to** specify its **ROC**!

### Display

Often we display the ROC of a signal using the **complex s-plane** as shown in the following figures.



- The horizontal axis is called  $\sigma$  axis, and the vertical axis is called  $j\omega$  axis.
- The shaded region indicates ROC.
- Dotted lines are used to indicate boundaries if ROC doesn't include its edges.
- **If the shaded region includes the  $j\omega$  axis, then the FT of the signal exists.**

## Rational Laplace Transform

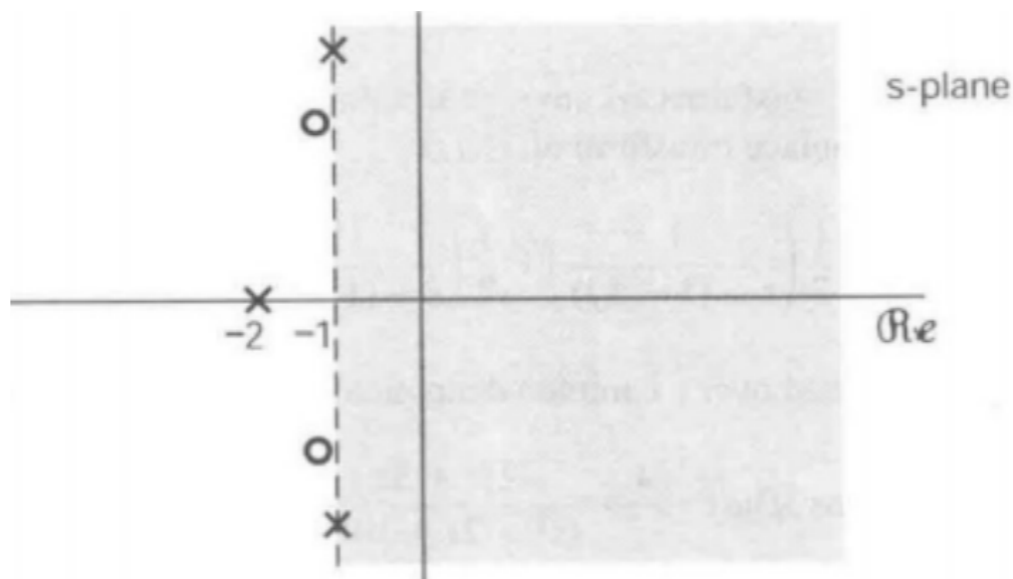
If the Laplace transform of a signal  $x(t)$ ,  $X(s)$ , has the form:

$$X(s) = \frac{N(s)}{D(s)} = \frac{\sum_{m=0}^M b_m s^m}{\sum_{n=0}^N a_n s^n} = G \frac{\prod_{k=1}^M (s - z_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^N (s - p_k)}$$

- **Zeros:**  $(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_M)$ , sometimes infinity
- **Poles:**  $(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_N)$ , sometimes infinity
- **Gain:**  $G = \frac{b_M}{a_N}$

### Pole-zero plot

Using 'o' to represent zeros, using 'X' to represent poles



### Property of ROC

- The ROC of  $X(s)$  consists of **stripe-shaped** regions parallel to the  $j\omega$  axis in the  $s$  plane.
- The ROC of rational LT does not contain any poles.
- If  $x(t)$  has a finite duration and is absolutely integrable, the ROC is the whole  $s$  plane.
- If  $x(t)$  is **right sided** (remaining zeros when  $t < t_0$ ), and if the line  $\text{Re}\{s\} = \sigma_0$  is in the ROC, then all values of  $s$  whose  $\text{Re}\{s\} > \sigma_0$  will also be in the ROC.
- If  $x(t)$  is **left sided**, and if the line  $\text{Re}\{s\} = \sigma_0$  is in the ROC, then all values of  $s$  whose  $\text{Re}\{s\} < \sigma_0$  will also be in the ROC.
- If  $x(t)$  is **two sided**, and if the line  $\text{Re}\{s\} = \sigma_0$  is in the ROC, then the ROC is composed of a stripe-shaped region including the line  $\text{Re}\{s\} = \sigma_0$  on the  $s$  plane.
- If  $X(s)$  is rational, its ROC is constrained by the poles or extends to infinity.
- If  $X(s)$  is rational, and if  $x(t)$  is right sided, the ROC is on the right of the rightmost pole.
- If  $X(s)$  is rational and left sided, its ROC is on the left of the leftmost pole.

**Explanation:**

## Exercise

How many signals have a Laplace transform that may be expressed as

$$\frac{s-1}{(s+2)(s+3)(s^2+s+1)}$$

in its region of convergence?

### Answer:

We may find different signal with the given Laplace transform by choosing different regions of convergence, the poles of the given Laplace transform are

$$s_0 = -2 \quad s_1 = -3 \quad s_2 = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}j \quad s_3 = -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}j$$

Based on the locations of the locations of these poles, we may choose from the following regions of convergence:

1.

$$\operatorname{Re}\{s\} > -\frac{1}{2}$$

2.

$$-2 < \operatorname{Re}\{s\} < -\frac{1}{2}$$

3.

$$-3 < \operatorname{Re}\{s\} < -2$$

4.

$$\operatorname{Re}\{s\} < -3$$

Therefore, we may find four different signals the given Laplace transform.

## ROC and System Properties

The Laplace transform  $H(s)$  of a system's impulse response  $h(t)$  is called its system function.

- Stability  $\Leftrightarrow j\omega$  axis in ROC  $\Leftrightarrow h(t)$  absolutely integrable
- Causality  $\Leftrightarrow h(t)$  is a right-sided signal  $\Leftrightarrow$  ROC of the system function  $H(s)$  is RHP
- Stability and Causality  $\Leftrightarrow$  All of its poles lie strictly within the LHP.
- **CAUTION:** Consider poles at  $\pm\infty$ ! e.g.  $H(s) = s$  has a pole at  $s = \infty$ .
- All improper systems are unstable!
- **A diff eq system is stable** iff all roots of its characteristic polynomial are in the left half plane.

## Exercise

1. [5!] Is this system stable? Explain. (Note: the system is causal.)

$$2 \cdot 10^6 y(t) + 10^5 \frac{d}{dt} y(t) + 60 \frac{d^2}{dt^2} y(t) + \frac{d^3}{dt^3} y(t) = 8 \cdot 10^6 x(t) - 10^4 \frac{d}{dt} x(t)$$

### Answer:

The characteristic polynomial is:

$$s^3 + 60s^2 + 10^5 s + 2 \cdot 10^6 = 0$$

Use Matlab to help solve this equation

```
roots([1 60 10^5 2*10^6])
```

```
ans =
```

```
1.0e+02 *
```

```
-0.1992 + 3.1432i
```

```
-0.1992 - 3.1432i
```

```
-0.2016 + 0.0000i
```

We can see that the poles are all in LHP, so the system is **stable**.

## Geometric Properties of FT from pole-zero plot

Given the pole-zero plot corresponding to the transfer function  $H(s)$  of an LTI system, we can sketch the magnitude response  $|H(\omega)|$  and phase response  $\angle H(\omega)$ :

$$H(\omega) = G \frac{(j\omega - z_1) \cdot \dots \cdot (j\omega - z_m)}{(j\omega - p_1) \cdot \dots \cdot (j\omega - p_n)}$$

Magnitude response:

$$|H(\omega)| = G \frac{|j\omega - z_1| \cdot \dots \cdot |j\omega - z_m|}{|j\omega - p_1| \cdot \dots \cdot |j\omega - p_n|}$$

Phase response:

$$\angle H(\omega) = \angle G + \angle(j\omega - z_1) + \dots + \angle(j\omega - z_m) - \angle(j\omega - p_1) - \dots - \angle(j\omega - p_n)$$

## Common Laplace Transform & Inverse Laplace Transform

### Common Laplace Transform

Table of Laplace transform pairs

$f(t)$	$F(s)$	ROC
$\delta(t)$	1	$\forall s$
$u(t)$	$\frac{1}{s}$	$\text{real}\{s\} > 0$
$t^n u(t)$	$\frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$	$\text{real}\{s\} > 0$
$e^{-at} u(t)$	$\frac{1}{s+a}$	$\text{real}\{s\} > \text{real}\{-a\}$
$-e^{-at} u(-t)$	$\frac{1}{s+a}$	$\text{real}\{s\} < \text{real}\{-a\}$
$t^n e^{-at} u(t)$	$\frac{n!}{(s+a)^{n+1}}$	$\text{real}\{s\} > \text{real}\{-a\}$

$f(t)$	$F(s)$	notes
$\sin(\omega_0 t) u(t)$	$\frac{\omega_0}{s^2 + \omega_0^2}$	$\text{real}\{s\} > 0$
$\cos(\omega_0 t) u(t)$	$\frac{s}{s^2 + \omega_0^2}$	$\text{real}\{s\} > 0$
$e^{-at} \cos(\omega_0 t) u(t)$	$\frac{s+a}{(s+a)^2 + \omega_0^2}$	$\text{real}\{s\} > \text{real}\{-a\}$
$e^{-at} \sin(\omega_0 t) u(t)$	$\frac{\omega_0}{(s+a)^2 + \omega_0^2}$	$\text{real}\{s\} > \text{real}\{-a\}$
$u_n(t) = \frac{d^n}{dt^n} \delta(t)$	$s^n$	$\forall s$
$u_{-n}(t) = \underbrace{u(t) * \dots * u(t)}_{n \text{ times}}$	$\frac{1}{s^n}$	$\text{real}\{s\} > 0$

# Property of Laplace Transform

Properties of the Laplace Transform			
	Time	Laplace	ROC (of result)
Linearity	$a_1 f_1(t) + a_2 f_2(t)$	$a_1 F_1(s) + a_2 F_2(s)$	contains $\text{ROC}_1 \cap \text{ROC}_2$
Time shift	$f(t - \tau)$	$e^{-s\tau} F(s)$	same
Time-scaling	$f(at), a \neq 0$	$\frac{1}{ a } F\left(\frac{s}{a}\right)$	$\text{ROC}/a$
Time reversal	$f(-t)$	$F(-s)$	$-\text{ROC}$
Convolution	$f_1(t) * f_2(t)$	$F_1(s) \cdot F_2(s)$	contains $\text{ROC}_1 \cap \text{ROC}_2$
Frequency shift	$f(t)e^{j\omega_0 t}$	$F(s - j\omega_0)$	same
Frequency shift	$f(t)e^{s_0 t}$	$F(s - s_0)$	$\text{ROC} + \text{real}\{s_0\}$
Time Differentiation	$\frac{d^n}{dt^n} f(t)$	$s^n F(s)$	contains ROC
s-domain Differentiation	$(-t)^n f(t)$	$\frac{d^n}{ds^n} F(s)$	same
Integration	$\int_{-\infty}^t f(\tau) d\tau = f(t) * u(t)$	$\frac{1}{s} F(s)$	contains $\text{ROC} \cap \{\text{real}\{s\} > 0\}$
DC Value	$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) dt = F(0)$		must contain $s = 0$

## Inverse Laplace Transform

**Requirement:** Given rational  $X(s)$  and **ROC**, we are required to invert it to find signal  $x(t)$ .

**Steps:**

- Decompose  $X(s)$  into **the sum of atomic expressions** by doing **PFE**.
- For each expression, find ROC. Select the one including the ROC of LT.
- For each expression, use LT table and LT properties to get the result. Then sum them up.
- CAUTION:** If the ROC is not given explicitly, discuss all the situations!!!

There are cases that given the pole-zero plot and DC value, and ask you to find  $x(t)$ . In this case, you need to find the gain  $G$  with certain points.

## Exercise

The system function of a causal LTI system is

$$H(s) = \frac{s + 1}{s^2 + 2s + 2}$$

Determine and sketch the response ( $y(t)$ ) when the input is

$$e^{-|t|}, \quad -\infty < t < \infty$$

*Hint:* You can use  $e^{-|t|} = e^{-t}u(t) + e^t u(-t)$

**Answer:**

$$x(t) = e^{-|t|} = e^{-t}u(t) + e^t u(-t)$$

$$X(s) = \frac{1}{s+1} - \frac{1}{s-1} = \frac{-2}{(s+1)(s-1)}, \quad -1 < \Re\{s\} < 1$$

We also have

$$H(s) = \frac{s+1}{s^2+2s+2}$$

The poles of  $H(s)$  are  $-1 \pm j$ , and since  $h(t)$  is causal, we have that the ROC of  $H(s)$  is  $\Re\{s\} > -1$

$$Y(s) = H(s)X(s) = \frac{-2}{(s^2+2s+2)(s-1)}, \quad \text{ROC} : -1 < \Re\{s\} < 1$$

Rewrite it as

$$Y(s) = -\frac{2/5}{s-1} + \frac{2}{5} \left[ \frac{s+1}{(s+1)^2+1} \right] + \frac{4}{5} \left[ \frac{1}{(s+1)^2+1} \right]$$

we get,

$$y(t) = \frac{2}{5}e^t u(-t) + \frac{2}{5}e^{-t} \cos(t)u(t) + \frac{4}{5}e^{-t} \sin(t)u(t)$$

## Differential Equation

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### How to solve

Solve **algebraic expression** by Linear Constant Coefficient Differential Equation.

Solve **ROC** by stability & causality & etc. conditions.

## Block Diagram

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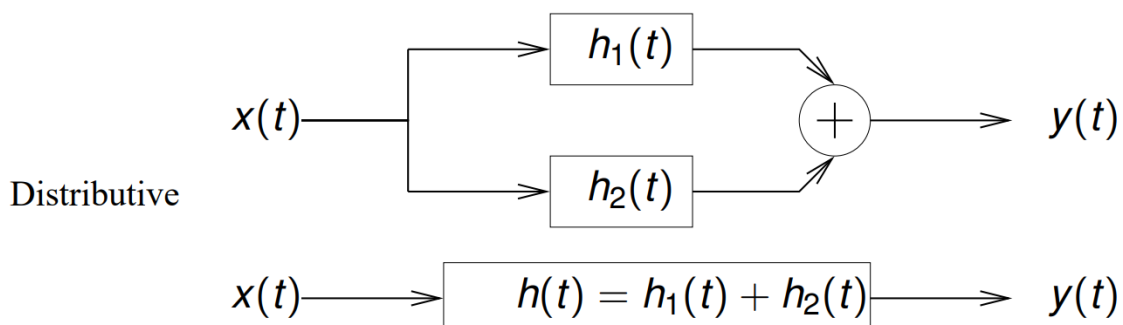
### Parallel Interconnection

We have seen that when two LTI systems are connected in **parallel**, *i.e.*

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

the output signal is

$$y(t) = h(t) * x(t), \quad \text{where } h(t) = h_1(t) + h_2(t).$$



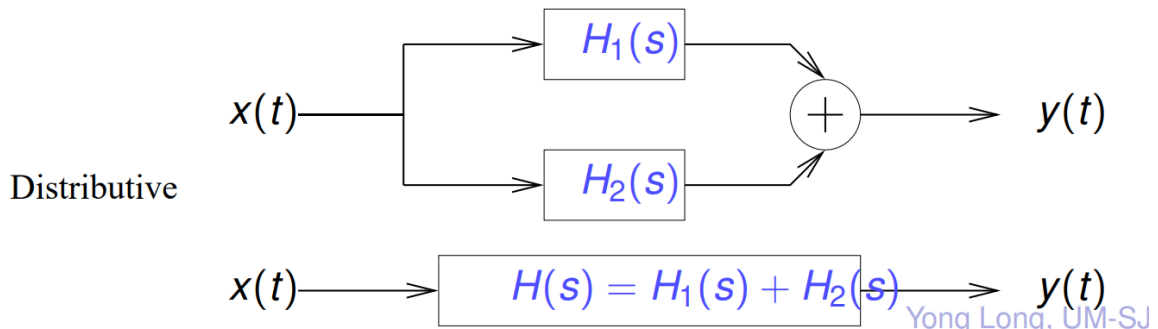
Thus the overall **frequency response** of two LTI systems connected in parallel is given by the **sum** of the frequency responses of the individual systems:

$$H(\omega) = H_1(\omega) + H_2(\omega).$$

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The overall **system (transfer) function** is

$$H(s) = H_1(s) + H_2(s).$$



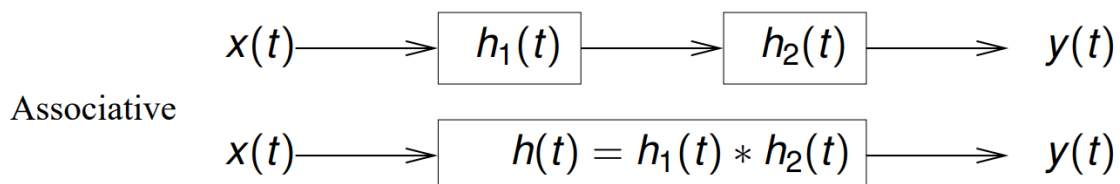
## Series Interconnection

When two LTI systems are connected in **series**, *i.e.*

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

the output signal is

$$y(t) = h(t) * x(t), \text{ where } h(t) = h_1(t) * h_2(t).$$



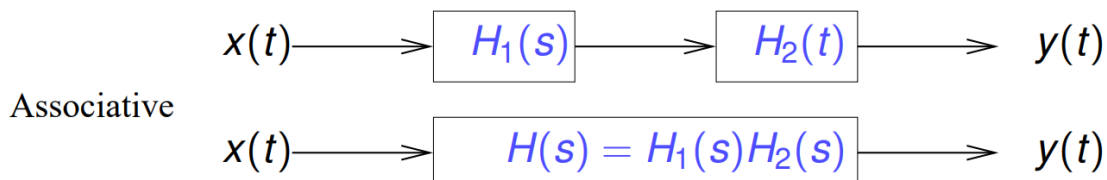


Thus the overall **frequency response** of two LTI systems connected in series is given by the *product* of the frequency responses of the individual systems:

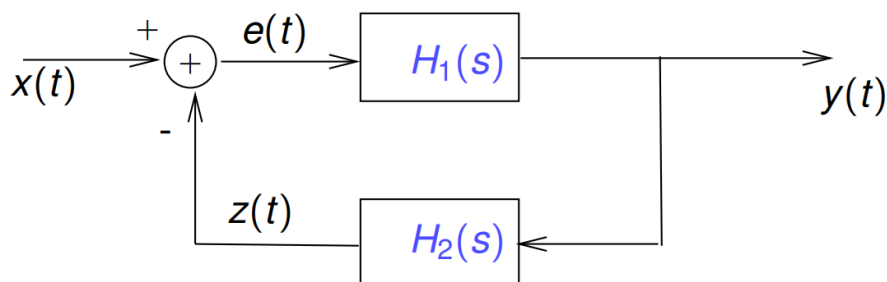
$$H(\omega) = H_1(\omega)H_2(\omega).$$

The overall **system (transfer) function** is

$$H(s) = H_1(s)H_2(s).$$



## Feedback Interconnection



$$\begin{cases} y(t) = e(t) * h_1(t), \\ e(t) = x(t) - z(t), \\ z(t) = y(t) * h_2(t) \end{cases} \implies y(t) = [x(t) - y(t) * h_2(t)] * h_1(t)$$

$$H(\omega) = \frac{Y(\omega)}{X(\omega)} = \frac{H_1(\omega)}{1 + H_1(\omega)H_2(\omega)}$$

$$H(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = \frac{H_1(s)}{1 + H_1(s)H_2(s)}$$

## Exercise

### Exercise 1

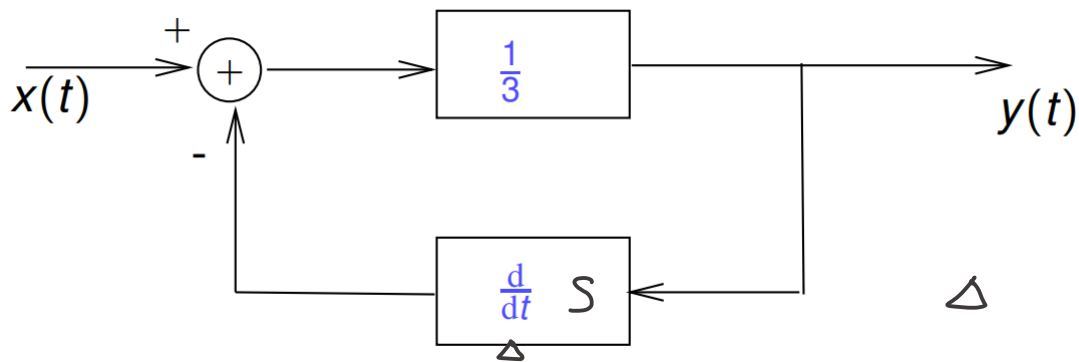
Draw the block diagram of the causal LTI system with system function:

$$H(s) = \frac{1}{s+3}$$

1. Use differentiator to implement. Mention, the differentiator is both difficult to implement and extremely sensitive to noise.

**Answer:**

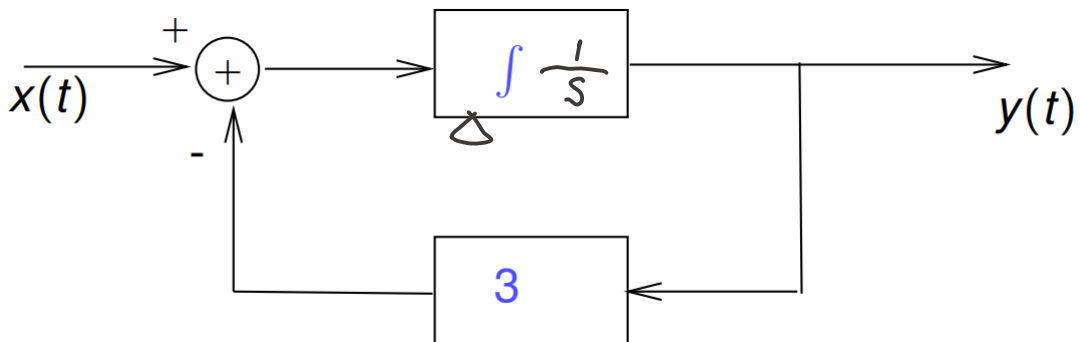
$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{3} (X(s) - sY(s))$$



2. Use integrator to implement.

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s} X(s) - \frac{3}{s} Y(s)$$

**Answer:**



## Exercise 2:

Draw the block diagram for the causal LTI system with system function:

$$H(s) = \frac{1}{(s+1)(s+2)}$$

Use **Direct Form**, **Cascade Form**, and **Parallel Form**

**Answer:**

1. Direct Form

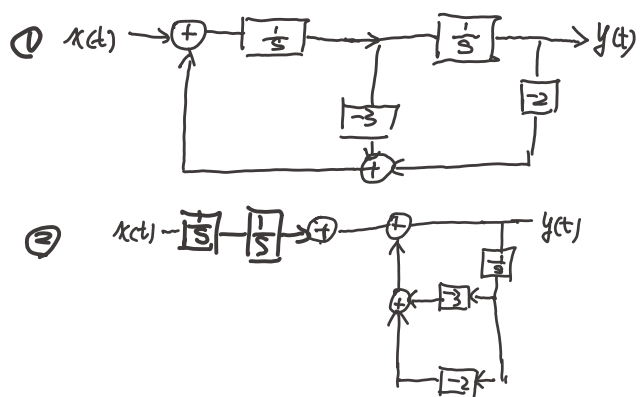
$$H(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = \frac{1}{s^2 + 3s + 2}$$

$$(s^2 + 3s + 2)Y(s) = X(s)$$

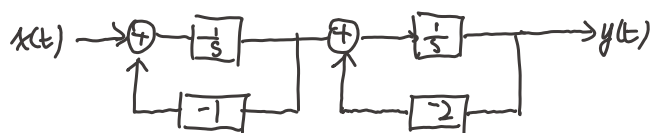
$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s^2} X(s) - \frac{3}{s} Y(s) - \frac{2}{s} Y(s)$$

$$= \frac{1}{s} \left( \frac{1}{s} X(s) - 3 Y(s) - 2 Y(s) \right)$$

2. Cascade Form

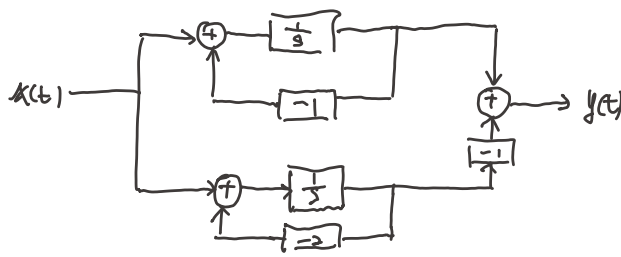


$$H(s) = \frac{1}{s+1} \cdot \frac{1}{s+2}$$



3. Parallel Form

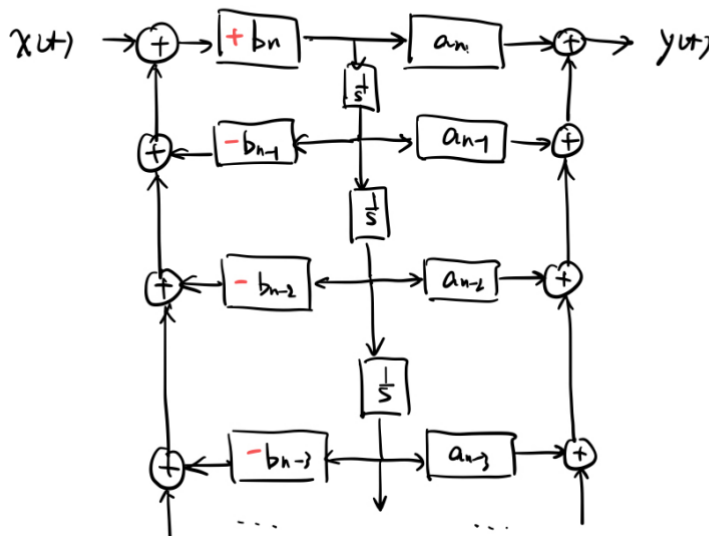
$$H(s) = \frac{1}{s+1} - \frac{1}{s+2}$$



## General block diagram for rational systems

more generalized.

$$H(s) = \frac{a_n s^n + \dots + a_0}{b_n s^n + \dots + b_0} \quad (\text{same order})$$



- $m = n$ : Just apply the method.
- $m < n$ : e.g.  $H(s) = \frac{1}{s^2+3s+2}$ , we just first fill all the item in the upper to make the upper and lower part are at the same order. Finally **remove the branch** with zero coefficient.
- $m > n$ : e.g.  $H(s) = s$ . It has poles at  $s = \infty$ , which makes the system improper (All rational but improper systems are unstable!!), thus **won't appear in real cases**.

## Reference

1. Hu fan. 216 final recitation class.
2. Long yong. 216 slides.