



EBU4375: SIGNALS AND SYSTEMS

LECTURE 7: PART 1



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Response and the Convolution

- Response to an Impulse (**CT Systems**)
- Response to a General Input (**CT Systems**)
- Convolution Integral (**CT Systems**)
- Convolution Algebra (**CT Systems**)
- Response to an Impulse (**DT Systems**)
- Response to a General Input (**DT Systems**)
- Convolution Sum (**DT Systems**)
- Sequence Convolution Algebra (**DT Systems**)

Response to an Impulse (CT Systems)

The impulse-response (IR) $h(t)$ of a continuous-time LTI system is defined to be the response following excitation by the signal $\delta(t)$ i.e.

$$h(t) = T\{\delta(t)\}$$

system response to the impulse

Transfer Function

“impulse” excitation

Response to a General Input (CT Systems)

Recall the earlier result that a general signal could be expressed by

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

Since the system is **linear**, the response $y(t)$ to an excitation $x(t)$ can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) = T\{x(t)\} &= T\left\{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau x(\tau) \delta(t - \tau)\right\} \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau x(\tau) T\{\delta(t - \tau)\} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Time-invariance implies

$$h(t - \tau) = T\{\delta(t - \tau)\} \quad (2)$$

$$(2) \rightarrow (1) \Rightarrow y(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau x(\tau) h(t - \tau) \quad (3)$$

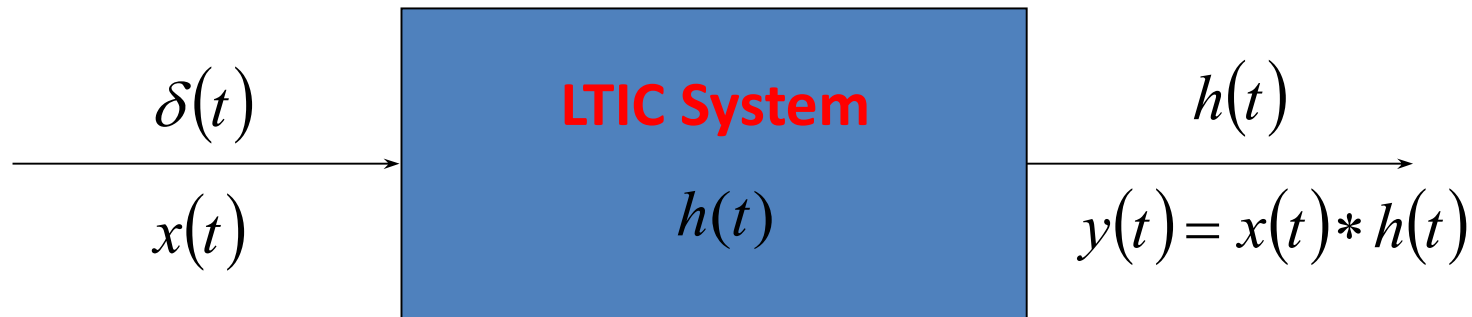
(3) says that the continuous-time response of an LTI system is entirely characterised by its impulse response $h(t)$.

Convolution Integral (CT Systems)

Equation (3) defines the convolution operation, i.e.

$$y(t) = x(t) * h(t) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau x(\tau) h(t - \tau) \quad (4)$$

so that (4) is the *convolution integral*.





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LECTURE 7: PART 2



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Convolution Algebra (CT Systems)

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

Association: $\{x(t) * h_1(t)\} * h_2(t) = x(t) * \{h_1(t) * h_2(t)\}$

Distribution: $x(t) * \{h_1(t) + h_2(t)\} = x(t) * h_1(t) + x(t) * h_2(t)$

Goto <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/Convolution.html> to get a dynamic appreciation of convolution.