

# **EC5.203 Communication Theory (3-1-0-4)**

## **Lectures 16 and 17: Noise Modelling, And Linear Operations on Random Process**

**17 and 20 March 2025**



INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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H Y D E R A B A D

# References

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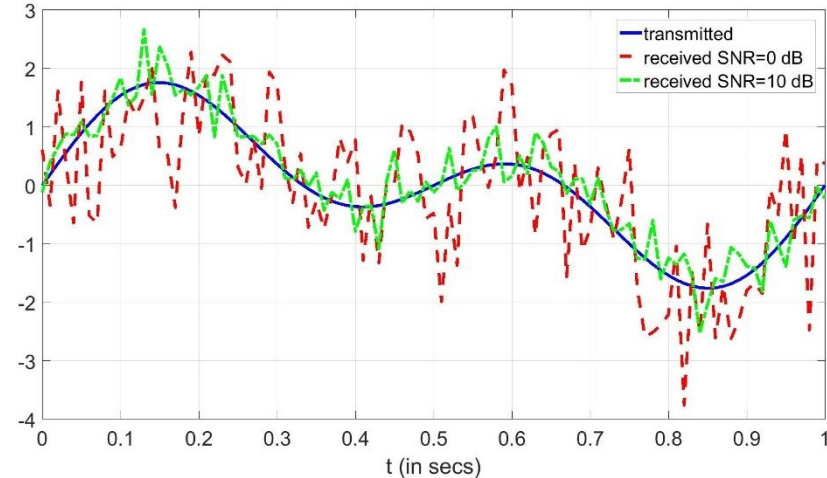
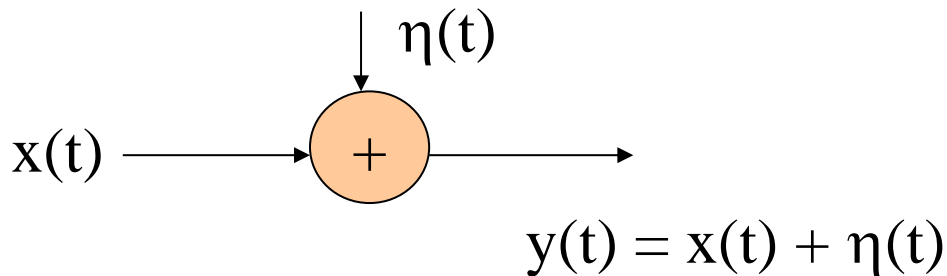
- Chap. 5 (Madhow)
  - Sections 5.1-5.7: Probability theory and Random Process (Self-Study, Not part of syllabus)
  - Section 5.8: Noise Modeling
  - Section 5.9: Linear operation on Random Processes

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# Noise Modeling

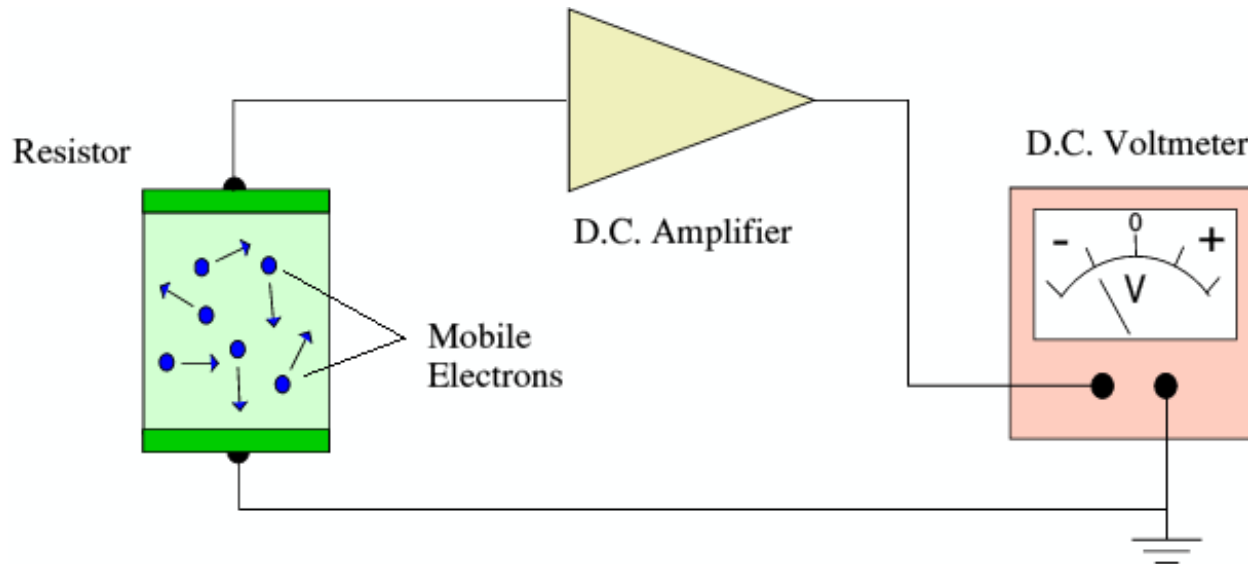
# Noise in Communication Systems

- Noise is any undesired signal corrupting the desired signal
- It can be man-made or naturally occurring
  - Naturally occurring: thermal noise and shot noise in the receiver, EMI, atmospheric noise, cosmic noise
  - Man-made: Microwave, power-line interference, electric motors, ignition systems, interference from other signal in same band
- Mostly thermal noise is dominant!
- Generally additive nature is assumed



# Thermal Noise

- It is also called as Johnson-Nyquist noise
- It is the electronic noise generated by the thermal agitation of the charge carriers (usually the electrons) inside an electrical conductor at equilibrium, which happens regardless of any applied voltage
- This is type of intrinsic noise



# Thermal Noise..

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- The mean square voltage across a resistor  $R$  at temperature  $\mathcal{T}$  degree corresponding to bandwidth  $B$  is

$$\overline{v_n^2} = 4Rk_B\mathcal{T}B$$

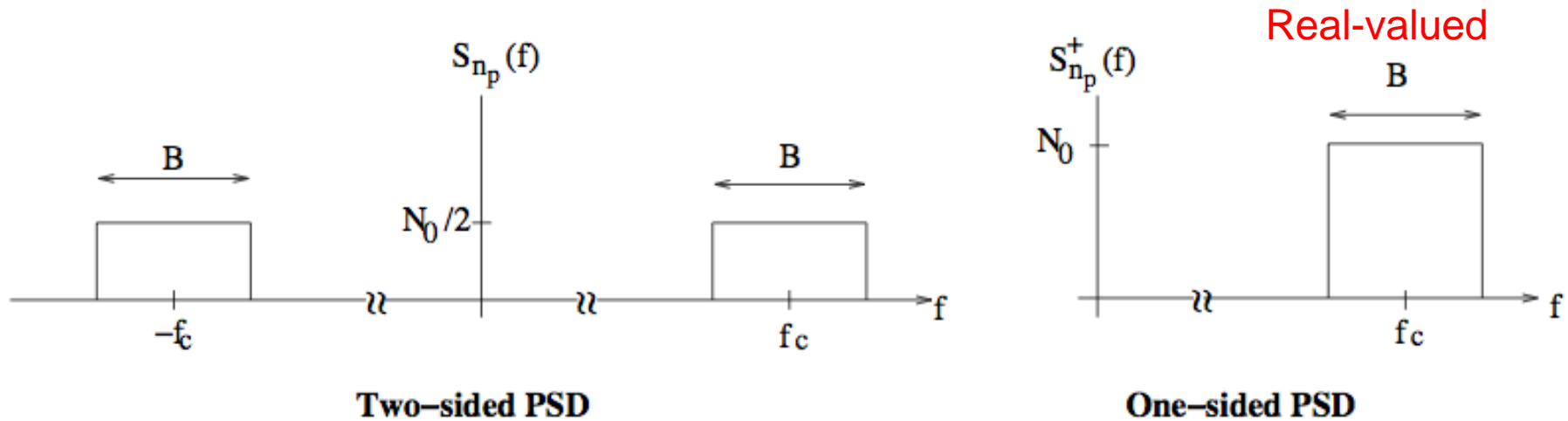
where  $k_B = 1.38 \times 10^{-23}$  J/K is the Boltzmann's constant

- If we connect the noise source to a matched load of impedance  $R$ , the mean squared power delivered is

$$\overline{P_n^2} = \frac{(\overline{v_n/2})^2}{R} = k_B\mathcal{T}B = N_0B$$

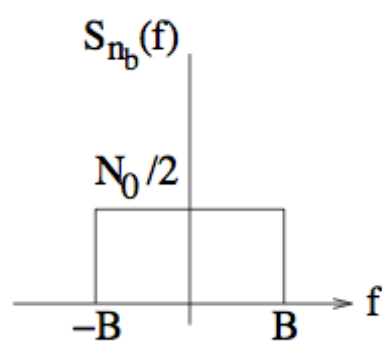
- PSD is given by  $N_0 = k_B\mathcal{T}$ , a constant for a given  $\mathcal{T}$

# Modeling Noise: *Passband model*

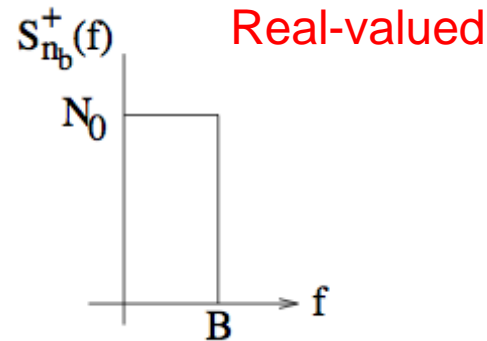


- Receiver noise is modeled as random process with zero DC value and with a flat PSD or **white** over a band of interest.
- Two-sided PSD is  $N_0/2$  while one-sided is  $N_0$  so that noise power in Bandwidth is  $N_0B$ .
- Key noise mechanisms in communication systems such as thermal and shot noise are both white.

# Modeling Noise: *Baseband model*



**Two-sided PSD**



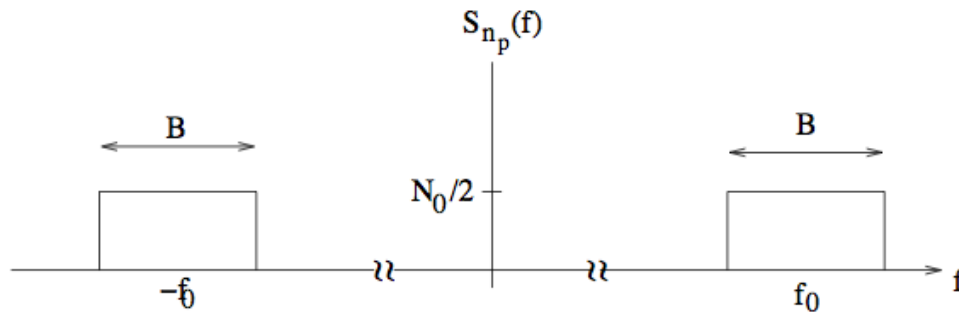
**One-sided PSD**

- Receiver noise is modeled as random process with zero DC value and with a flat PSD or **white** over a band of interest.
- Two-sided PSD is  $N_0/2$  while one-sided is  $N_0$  so that noise power in Bandwidth is  $N_0B$ .

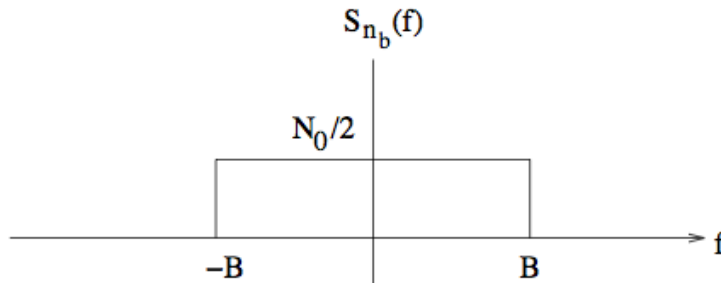


# Unified Model: *White Noise*

- Simplify the model by removing band limitation so that white applies to all systems, passband and baseband.

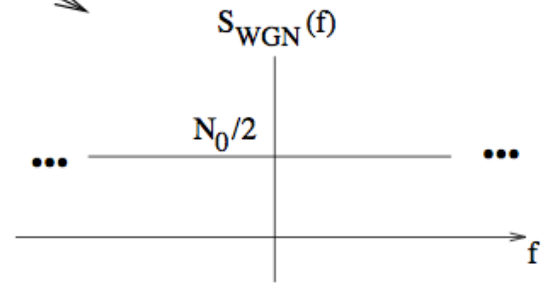


PSD of white Gaussian noise in a passband system of bandwidth  $B$



PSD of white Gaussian noise in a baseband system of bandwidth  $B$

simplify



Infinite power WGN

simplify

implicitly assumes that later receiver processing will limit the bandwidth

# Modeling Noise as Gaussian

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- Assume that the noise is Gaussian
- For example, thermal noise can be modeled as Gaussian: random motion of large number of charge carriers  $\rightarrow$  Gaussianity due to central limit theorem

# White Gaussian Noise (WGN)

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- Combining Gaussian and white assumptions, we get white Gaussian noise (WGN) model.
- One of the widely used models in communications
- Also called additive white Gaussian noise (AWGN) since WGN is additive in nature.
- Real-valued WGN is a zero mean process, WSS Gaussian random process

$$S_n(f) = \frac{N_0}{2} = \sigma^2 \leftrightarrow R_n(\tau) = \frac{N_0}{2} \delta(\tau) = \sigma^2 \delta(\tau)$$

where  $\sigma^2$  is two-sided noise PSD (also called noise variance per dimension)

# Example computation: Tutorial

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*5 GHz WLAN with receiver bandwidth 20 MHz and receiver noise figure 6 dB.  
What is the noise power?*

$$\begin{aligned} P_n &= N_0 B = kT_0 10^{F/10} B = (1.38 \times 10^{-23})(290)(10^{6/10})(20 \times 10^6) \\ &= 3.2 \times 10^{-13} \text{ Watts} = 3.2 \times 10^{-10} \text{ milliWatts (mW)} \end{aligned}$$



convert to dBm

$$P_{n,\text{dBm}} = 10 \log_{10} P_n(\text{mW}) = -95\text{dBm}$$

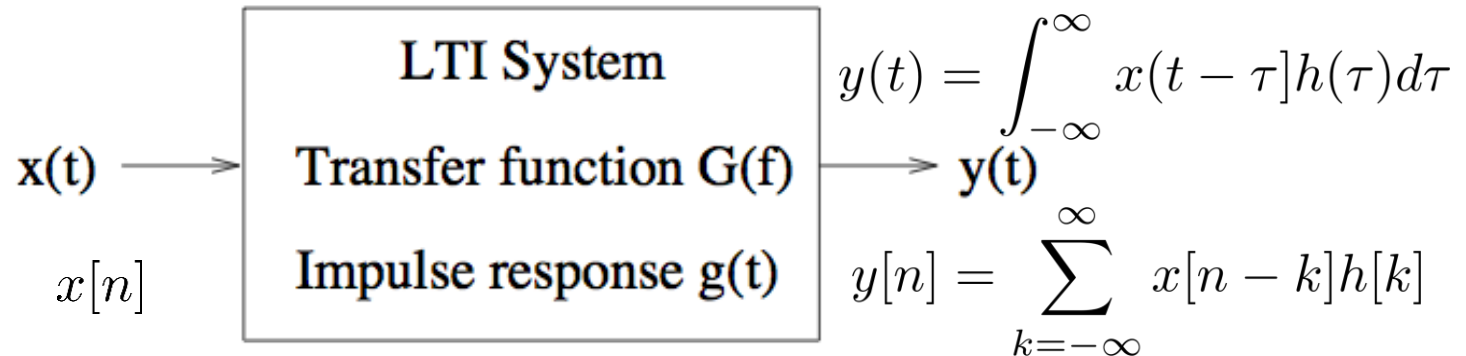
*Can do this computation directly in the dB domain.*

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# Filtering

# Filtered Random Processes

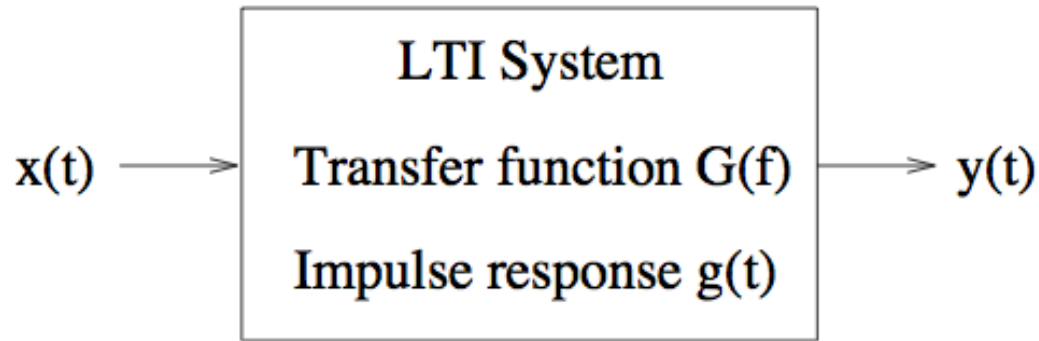
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- What is distribution of  $y(t)$  if  $x(t)$  is Gaussian distributed?

# Filtered Random Processes

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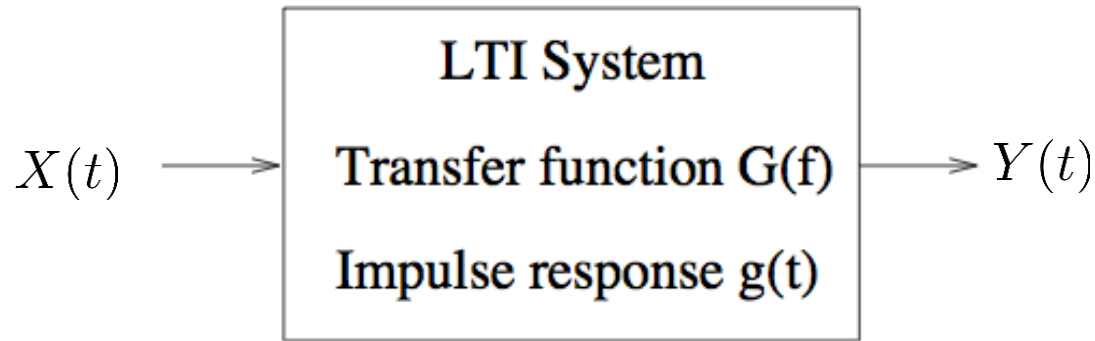


- Show that the output PSD is given by

$$S_y(f) = S_x(f)|G(f)|^2$$

# WSS Filtered Random Processes

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- For random processes  $X(t)$  and  $Y(t)$ , show that  $Y(t)$  is WSS if  $X(t)$  is WSS.
- Also, show that

$$\begin{aligned} S_Y(f) &= S_X(f) |G(f)|^2 \\ &\quad \updownarrow \\ R_Y(\tau) &= R_X(\tau) * g(\tau) * g^*(-\tau) \end{aligned}$$



# Wide Sense Stationarity

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- A random process  $X$  is said to be WSS if

$$m_X(t) = \text{constant} \quad \forall t$$

$$R_X(t_1, t_2) = R_X(t_1 - t_2, 0) \quad \forall t_1, t_2$$

- A WSS random process has shift-variant second order statistics
- Expressing the autocorrelation function as a function of  $\tau = t_1 - t_2$ ,

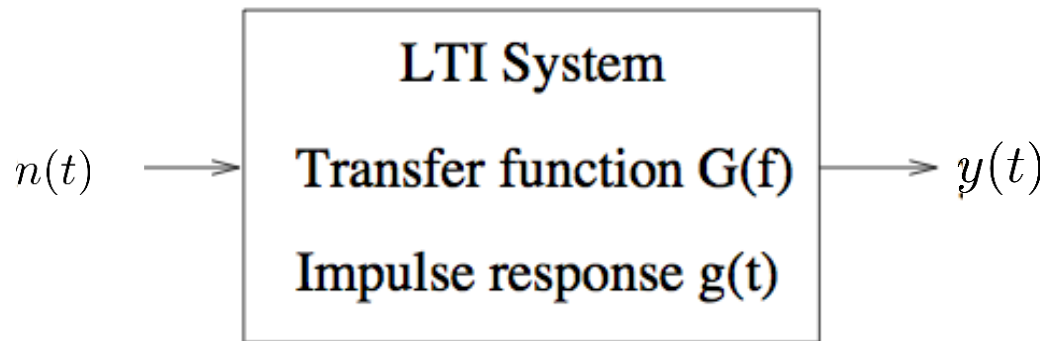
$$R_X(\tau) = E[X(t)X^*(t + \tau)]$$

while the autocovariance is given by

$$C_X(\tau) = R_X(\tau) - |m_X|^2$$

# Example

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- White noise  $n(t)$  with PSD  $S_n(f) = \frac{N_0}{2}$  is passed through an LTI system with impulse response  $g(t)$ . Find the PSD, autocorrelation function and power of the output  $y(t) = n(t) * g(t)$ .

# Example: Tutorial

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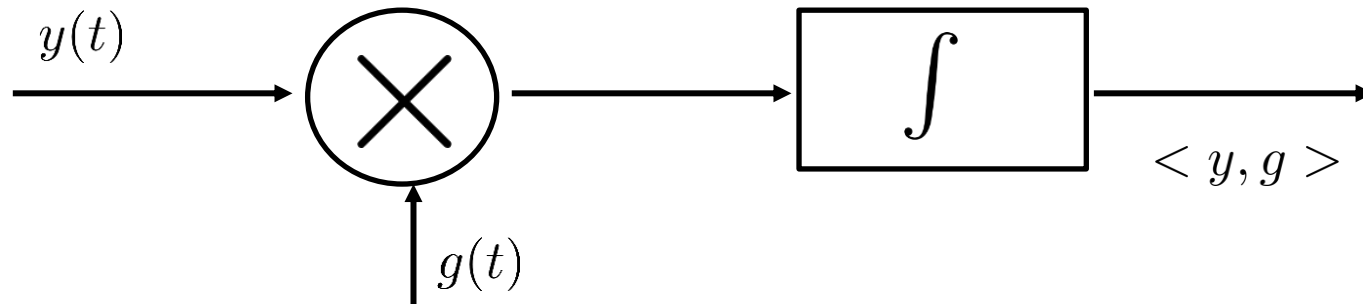
- Suppose that WGN  $n(t)$  with PSD  $\sigma^2 = \frac{N_0}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$  is passed through an LTI system with impulse response  $g(t) = I_{[0,2]}(t)$  to obtain the output  $y(t) = n(t) * g(t)$ .
  - Find the autocorrelation function and PSD of  $y$ .
  - Find  $E[y^2(100)]$ .
  - Is  $y$  a stationary random process?
  - Are  $y(100)$  and  $y(101)$  independent random variables?
  - Are  $y(100)$  and  $y(102)$  independent random variables?

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# Correlation

# Definition and Motivation

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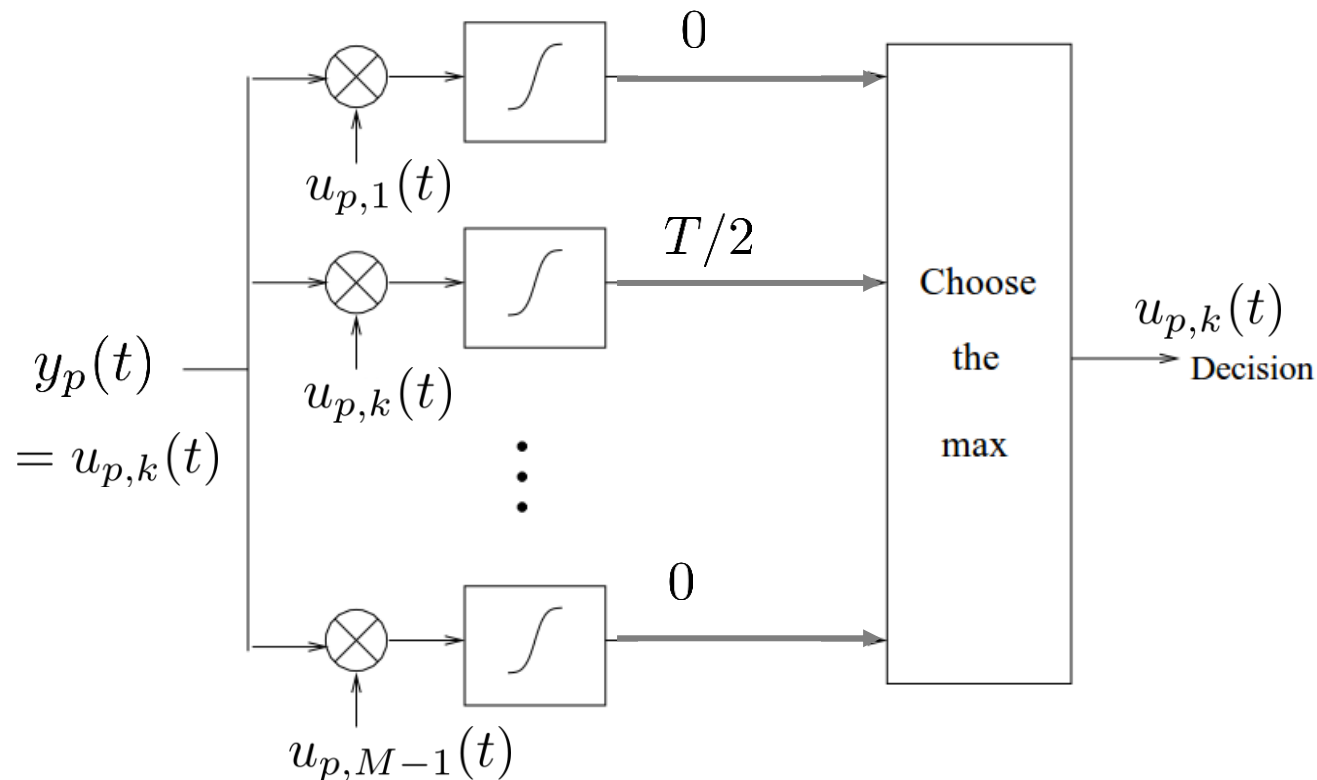


- Correlation between signals  $y(t)$  and  $g(t)$  is the inner product between the two and is given by

$$\langle y, g \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y(t)g^*(t)dt$$

- One of the most common operations in communications.
- Used in demodulation of orthogonal waveforms.

# Recap: *FSK coherent demodulation*



- Correlate the incoming signal with all  $M$  reference sinusoidal tones (passband signal) given by

$$u_{p,k} = \cos(2\pi(f_c + k\Delta f)t) \quad 0 \leq t \leq T$$

for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, M - 1$ .

- Choose  $u_{p,m}$  for which the output is maximum among all the correlated outputs.

# SNR

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- Consider that the received signal

$$y(t) = s(t) + n(t)$$

where  $s(t)$  is a deterministic signal, corresponding to specific choice of transmitted symbols and  $n(t)$  is zero-mean white noise with PSD  $S_n(f) = \frac{N_0}{2}$ .

- Considering real-valued signals, show that SNR at the output of correlator is given by

$$\text{SNR} = \frac{|\langle s, g \rangle|^2}{\frac{N_0}{2} \|g\|^2}$$

- Find  $g(t)$  which will maximize the output SNR? Also find the maximum SNR!
- Also valid for complex signal and noise scenarios with  $g(t) = cs^*(t)$

# Theorem 5.9.1

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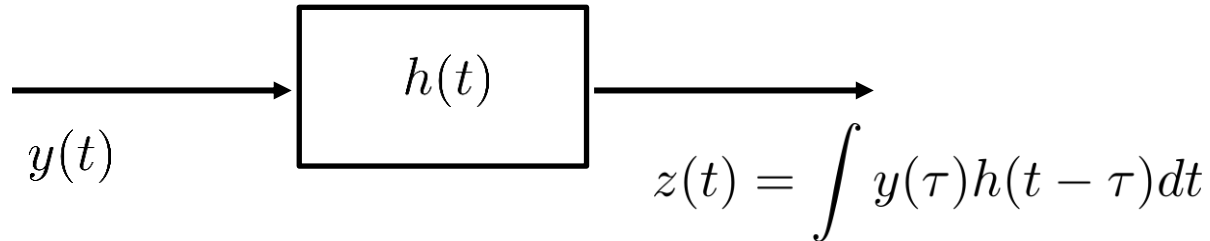
- For linear processing of a signal  $s(t)$  corrupted by white noise, the output SNR is maximized by correlating against  $s(t)$ . The resulting SNR is given by

$$\text{SNR}_{\max} = \frac{2||s||^2}{N_0}$$



# Filter as Correlator

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- Any correlation example can be implemented using a filter and a sampler:
  - For  $h(\tau) = g^*(-\tau)$ ,

$$z(t) = \int y(\tau)h(t - \tau)d\tau = \int y(\tau)g^*(\tau - t)d\tau$$

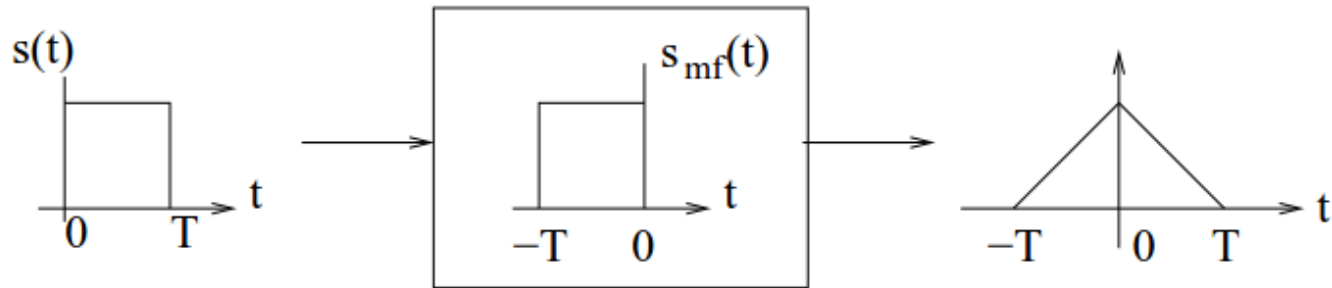
- Sampled at  $t = 0$ , we get

$$z(0) = \int y(\tau)g^*(\tau)d\tau = \langle y, g \rangle$$

- If  $y(t) = s(t) + n(t)$ , then choosing  $g(t) = s^*(-t)$  maximizes SNR at the output of filter.

# Matched Filter

- **Theorem:** For linear processing of a signal  $s(t)$  corrupted by white noise, the output SNR is maximized by employing a matched filter with impulse response  $s_{MF}(t) = s^*(-t)$ , sampled at  $t = 0$ .



- When the received signal  $y(t) = s(t) + n(t)$ , optimum sampling time is  $t = 0$ . When the signal is delayed by  $t = t_0$ , the peak occurs at  $t = t_0$ , which now becomes the sampling time.
- Thus matched filter enables us to implement an infinite bank of correlators, each corresponding to a version of our signal template at a different delay.