

IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING  
EXAMINATIONS 2017

EEE/EIE PART II: MEng, BEng and ACGI

**SIGNALS AND LINEAR SYSTEMS**

**Corrected copy**

Tuesday, 30 May 10:00 am

Time allowed: 2:00 hours

Correction Q3 p.8

**There are THREE questions on this paper.**

**Answer ALL questions.**

*Question One carries 40% of the marks. The other 2 questions each carry 30%.*

**Any special instructions for invigilators and information for candidates are on page 1.**

Examiners responsible      First Marker(s) :      P.L. Dragotti  
Second Marker(s) :      P.T. Stathaki

Special Information for the Invigilators: none

Information for Candidates

Some Fourier transforms

$$\text{rect}\left(\frac{t}{\tau}\right) \iff \tau \text{sinc}\left(\frac{\omega\tau}{2}\right)$$

$$\frac{W}{\pi} \text{sinc}(Wt) \iff \text{rect}\left(\frac{\omega}{2W}\right)$$

The unit step function  $u(t)$  is defined as:

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } t \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Some useful Laplace transforms

$$e^{\lambda t} u(t) \iff \frac{1}{s-\lambda} \quad \text{Re}\{s\} > \lambda$$

$$t^n e^{\lambda t} u(t) \iff \frac{n!}{(s-\lambda)^{n+1}} \quad \text{Re}\{s\} > \lambda$$

Time-shifting property of the Laplace transform

$$x(t - t_d) \iff X(s)e^{-st_d}$$

Frequency-shifting property of the Laplace transform

$$x(t)e^{s_0 t} \iff X(s - s_0)$$

Initial Value Theorem:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} x(t) = x(0^+) = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} sX(s)$$

Final Value Theorem:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = x(\infty) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} sX(s)$$

## The Questions

1. This question carries 40% of the mark.

- (a) Given the signal  $x(t)$  shown in Fig. 1a, sketch and dimension each of the following signals:

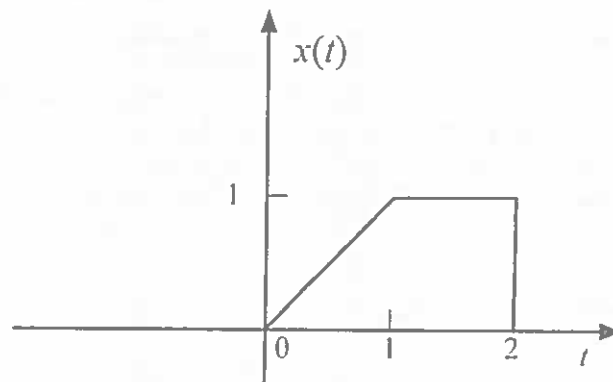


Figure 1a: A continuous-time signal

- i.  $x_1(t) = x(-3t)$  [2]
- ii.  $x_2(t) = x(-t/2 + 3)$  [2]
- (b) Find the even and odd components of  $x(t) = e^{-t/2} \cos(t)u(t)$ . [2]
- (c) State whether the causal linear-time invariant (LTI) system with the following unit impulse response is stable or not. Explain your answer:

$$h(t) = te^{-t}u(t)$$
 [2]

Question 1 continues on next page

- (d) State whether the causal linear-time invariant (LTI) system with the following transfer function is stable or not. Explain your answer:

$$H(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + 2s + 5}$$

[2]

- (e) In many applications, it is often undesirable for the step response of a system to overshoot its final value (remember that for step response we mean the response of a system when the input is the step function). Show that if  $h(t)$ , the impulse response of a LTI system, is always greater than or equal to zero, the step response of the filter is a monotonically nondecreasing function and therefore will not have overshoot.

[5]

- (f) Given the following two signals

$$x_1(t) = \begin{cases} e^{-t}, & 0 \leq t \leq 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and

$$x_2(t) = \begin{cases} e^{2t}, & 0 \leq t \leq 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

compute the convolution  $c(t) = x_1(t) * x_2(t)$ .

[5]

- (g) Compute the Laplace transform of  $x(t) = e^{-t}u(t-2)$

[2]

Question 1 continues on next page

(h) Find the inverse Laplace transform of

$$X(s) = \frac{1}{(s^2 + 4s + 3)(s^2 + 2s + 1)} \quad [4]$$

(i) A linear time-invariant system is specified by the following differential equation:

$$\frac{d^2y(t)}{dt^2} + 7\frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 12y(t) = x(t).$$

i. Find the characteristic polynomial and characteristic roots of this system. [2]

ii. Find the zero-input component of the response  $y(t)$  for  $t \geq 0$ , if the initial conditions are  $y(0) = 1$  and  $\dot{y}(0) = 0$ . [2]

iii. Find the zero-state response assuming  $x(t) = e^{-t}u(t)$  where  $u(t)$  is the unit step function. [2]

iv. Finally find the total response of the system when the initial conditions are  $y(0) = 1$  and  $\dot{y}(0) = 0$  and the input is  $x(t) = e^{-t}u(t)$ . [2]

(j) A signal  $x(t)$  is sampled with sampling period  $T = 0.01$  sec leading to the samples  $x_n = x(nT)$ .

i. What is the highest frequency that  $x(t)$  can contain if aliasing is to be avoided in the conversion process? [2]

ii. Assume  $x(t) = 84\text{sinc}(84\pi t)$ .

A. Sketch and dimension the Fourier transform of  $x(t)$ . [2]

B. Is the sampling period  $T = 0.01$  sec small enough for aliasing to be avoided? Justify your answer. [2]

2. Consider the system connected in parallel as depicted in Fig. 2a. Both  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are causal systems.

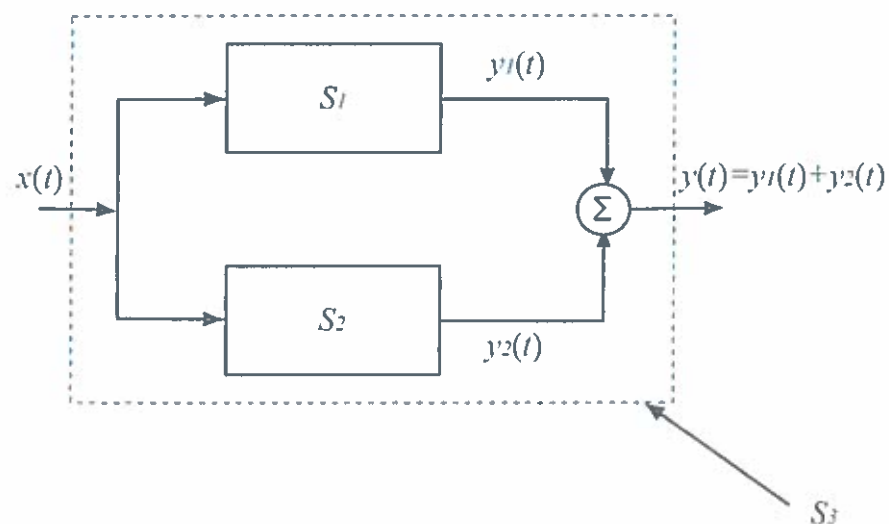


Figure 2a: A parallel system.

The linear system  $S_1$  has the following input/output relationship:

$$\frac{d^2 y_1(t)}{dt^2} + a_1 \frac{dy_1(t)}{dt} + a_2 y_1(t) = x(t)$$

and the LTI system  $S_2$  has the following transfer function

$$H_2(s) = \frac{1}{s + b_1}.$$

Question 2 continues on next page

(a) Find the transfer function  $H_1(s)$  of system  $S_1$ . [5]

(b) Find the transfer function  $H_3(s)$  of the parallel connected system  $S_3$ . [5]

(c) Your aim now is to determine the real-valued coefficients  $a_1, a_2$  and  $b_1$  using the following information: The poles of  $H_1(s)$  are all real and the region of convergence (ROC) of  $H_1(s)$  is  $\text{Re}\{s\} > -1$ . Moreover,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t) = 1$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \dot{y}(t) = 1/2$  when the input  $x(t) = u(t)$ . [8]

(d) Consider now a linear time-invariant (LTI) system whose input response  $g(t)$  is real and whose transfer function is  $G(s)$ . Assume that the input is  $x(t) = e^{-3t} \cos t$  and that the corresponding output  $y(t)$  is well defined for this input.

i. If you were allowed to determine  $G(s)$  for only a single value of  $s$ , which value would you pick in order to obtain an explicit expression for the output  $y(t)$  corresponding to the above input  $x(t)$ ? [8]

ii. Suppose it is known that  $y(0) = 0$  and that the first order derivative of  $y(t)$  at zero is  $\dot{y}(0) = 1$ , determine the exact time-domain expression of  $y(t)$ . [4]

[Hint: use the identity  $\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta$ .]

3. You have been given two systems  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  with transfer functions

$$H_1(s) = \frac{1}{s + a}$$

and

$$H_2(s) = \frac{1}{s + b},$$

respectively. Here  $a$  and  $b$  are real-valued constants. You have been asked to combine them in order to realize a new system  $S_3$  with transfer function

$$H_3(s) = \frac{s + 2}{s^2 + 6s + 9}.$$

You decide to use the feedback configuration shown in Fig. 3a.

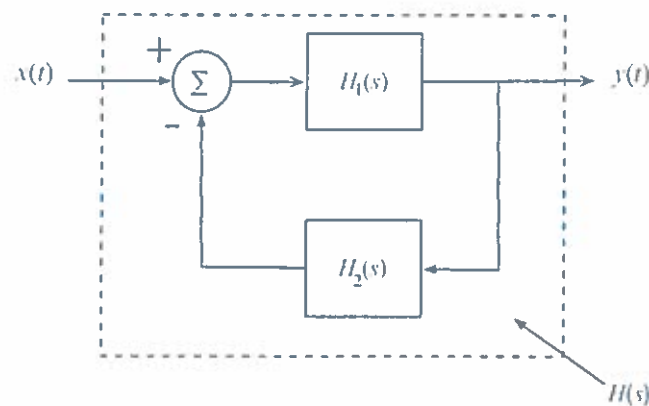


Figure 3a: A feedback system

(a) Determine the transfer function  $H(s) = Y(s)/X(s)$  of the feedback system.

[5]

(b) Determine  $a$  and  $b$  so that  $H(s) = H_3(s)$ .

[5]

Question 3 continues on next page



- (c) The system in part (b) outputs  $y(t) = [-\frac{1}{4}e^{-3t} + \frac{1}{2}te^{-3t} + \frac{1}{4}e^{-t}]u(t)$  when the input is  $x(t) = e^{-t}u(t)$ . Determine the exact expression of the output  $y(t)$  assuming the input is  $x(t) = e^{-t}[u(t) - u(t - 5)]$ . [5]

- (d) Assume now that  $x(t)$  is the combination of a signal  $f(t)$  and its delayed version:  $x(t) = f(t) + f(t - T)$ . You want your feedback system to remove the delayed version. Therefore, design  $H_1(s)$  and  $H_2(s)$  so that  $y(t) = f(t)$ . Please note that  $H_1(s)$  and  $H_2(s)$  are no longer limited to the form given at the beginning of Question 3. [7]

- (e) You are now given three systems with the following transfer functions:

$$H_1(s) = \frac{1}{s + a},$$

$$H_2(s) = \frac{1}{s + b}$$

and

$$H_3(s) = K,$$

where  $a, b$ , and  $K$  are all real-valued constants. You have been asked to combine them in order to realise a system with the following transfer function:

$$H(s) = \frac{2}{s^2 + 5s + 6}.$$

Find a configuration that gives you the desired transfer function and determine the constants  $a, b$  and  $K$ . You want  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $H_1(s)$  and  $H_2(s)$  are stable. Also note that the solution might not be unique. [Hint: consider using a configuration with feedback.] [8]

