

20CYS111 Digital Signal Processing

Properties of Systems

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Memoryless Systems

A system is said to be **memoryless** if the value of its output signal at any time t_0 may depend only on the value of the input signal at the same time t_0 .

In particular, for a memoryless system, the value of the output signal at any time t_0 must be independent of the value of the input signal at times $t \neq t_0$.

Examples:

- **Resistance:**
$$v(t) = Ri(t).$$
- **Amplifier / Attenuator:**
$$v_{out}(t) = cv_{in}(t).$$
- **Squaring Circuit:**
$$y(t) = cx^2(t).$$

Systems with Memory

A system is said to **possess memory** if it is not memoryless.

The temporal extent of the past and/or future values on which the current output depends, defines the memory of the system.

Examples: A system with memory may have either **finite** or **infinite** memory.

- **Capacitance:**

$$v(t) = \frac{1}{C} \int_{-\infty}^t i(t') dt'.$$

- **Inductance:**

$$i(t) = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-\infty}^t v(t') dt'.$$

- **Moving Average (MA):**

$$y[n] = \frac{1}{3}(x[n] + x[n-1] + x[n-2]).$$

Causal Systems

A system is said to be **causal** if the value of its output signal at any time t_0 may depend only on the value of the input signal at times $t \leq t_0$.

In particular, for a causal system, the value of its output signal at any time t_0 must be independent of the value of the input signal at times $t > t_0$.

Examples: A memoryless system is causal, but the converse is not true, e.g.,

- The Moving Average (MA) system defined below is causal but not memoryless:

$$y[n] = \frac{1}{3}(x[n] + x[n - 1] + x[n - 2]).$$

Noncausal or Anticipative Systems

A system is said to be **noncausal** or **anticipative** if it is not causal.

In particular, the output of a noncausal system depends on one or more future values of the input signal.

- So, **noncausal systems cannot operate in real-time**, and **they are not physically realizable** if the independent variable indeed represents time.

Examples: An alternative Moving Average (MA) system defined below is noncausal:

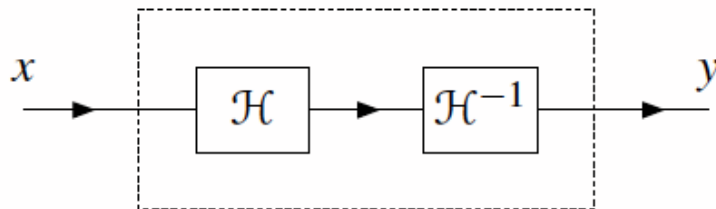
$$y[n] = \frac{1}{3}(x[n-1] + x[n] + x[n+1]).$$

Invertible Systems

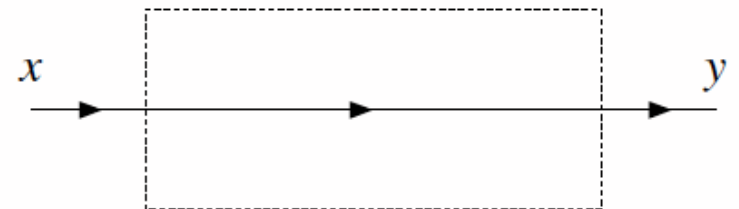
The **inverse** of a system \mathcal{H} is another system \mathcal{H}^{-1} (if it exists) such that, for every input $x(t)$, we have

$$\mathcal{H}^{-1}\{\mathcal{H}\{x(t)\}\} = x(t),$$

that is, the system formed by the cascade interconnection of \mathcal{H} followed by \mathcal{H}^{-1} is a system whose output is always equal to its input.



System 1: $y = \mathcal{H}^{-1}\mathcal{H}x$



System 2: $y = x$

Invertible Systems

A system \mathcal{H} is said to be **invertible** if it has a corresponding inverse system \mathcal{H}^{-1} (i.e., if its inverse exists).

- For an invertible system, we have $\boxed{\mathcal{H}^{-1}\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{I}}$, where \mathcal{I} denotes the **identity** operator, i.e., $\boxed{\mathcal{I}\{x(t)\} = x(t)}$ for any signal $x(t)$.

Equivalently, a system is invertible if its input can always be **uniquely** determined from its output. In other words,

- For a system to be invertible, there must be a **one-to-one mapping** between input and output signals.
- \Rightarrow **For an invertible system, distinct inputs must lead to distinct outputs.**

Invertible Systems

Examples: of invertible systems and their inverse systems are as follows:

- **An amplifier is the inverse system of an attenuator and vice versa, if their amplitude scaling factors are chosen to be the inverse of one another.**
- **An integrator is the inverse system of a differentiator and vice versa.**
- **Channel Equalizer:** undoes the impairments caused by a channel.

Invertible systems are “nice” in the sense that their effects can be undone.

To show that a system is invertible, we simply have to find the inverse system.

Non-invertible Systems

To show that a system is not invertible, we find two distinct inputs that result in identical outputs.

Examples: of non-invertible systems:

- ***A squaring circuit:*** $y(t) = x^2(t)$.
- ***Sinusoid:*** $y(t) = \sin(x(t))$

Stability of Systems

A continuous-time real- or complex-valued signal $z(t)$ is said to be **bounded** if

$$|z(t)| \leq M_z < \infty, \quad \text{for all } t,$$

where M_z represents a **finite** and **positive** number that may depend on $z(t)$.

A system is said to be **bounded-input bounded-output (BIBO) stable** if every bounded input results in a bounded output, that is:

- For every input signal $x(t)$, satisfying the condition $|x(t)| \leq M_x < \infty, \forall t$, the output signal $y(t)$ also satisfies the condition $|y(t)| \leq M_y < \infty, \forall t$.

Similar definitions hold for discrete-time signals and systems.

Stability of Systems

The output of a BIBO stable system does not diverge if the input does not diverge.

- *From an engineering perspective, it is an important property because the system of interest remain stable under all finite input operating conditions.*

Example of an Unstable System: Consider the discrete-time system whose input-output relation is defined by $y[n] = r^n x[n]$, where $r > 1$. Assuming that $|x[n]| \leq M_x < \infty, \forall n$, we have

$$|y[n]| = |r^n x[n]| = |r^n| |x[n]| \leq |r^n| M_x,$$

where, with $r > 1$, the factor r^n diverges for increasing n , and the system is unstable. Therefore, **the input being bounded is not sufficient to guarantee that the output will be bounded.**

Stability of Systems

Example of a BIBO Stable System: Consider the MA system given by the input-output relation

$y[n] = \frac{1}{3}(x[n] + x[n-1] + x[n-2])$. Assuming that $|x[n]| \leq M_x < \infty, \forall n$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |y[n]| &= \left| \frac{1}{3}(x[n] + x[n-1] + x[n-2]) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{3}(|x[n]| + |x[n-1]| + |x[n-2]|) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{3}(M_x + M_x + M_x) = M_x. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the system is BIBO stable.

Time-Invariant Systems

A system is said to be **time-invariant** if a time shift of the input signal by t_0 units results only in an identical time shift of t_0 units of the output signal.

- For a time-invariant system \mathcal{H} , we have

$$\boxed{\text{If } \mathcal{H}\{x(t)\} = y(t), \quad \text{then } \mathcal{H}\{x(t - t_0)\} = y(t - t_0)}.$$

- This implies that **the system responds in the same way no matter when the input signal is applied.**
- In other words, **the characteristics of the system does not change with time.**

Time-Invariant Systems

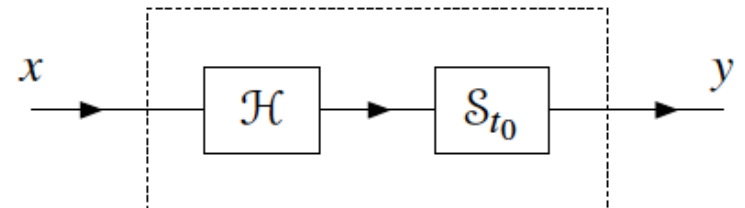
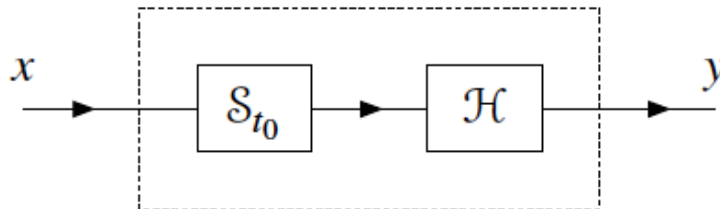
For any signal $z(t)$, we have $\boxed{z(t - t_0) = S_{t_0}\{z(t)\}}$,

where S_{t_0} represents a system operator that shifts the input signal by t_0 units.

- For a time-invariant system \mathcal{H} , we have
 $\mathcal{H}\{x(t - t_0)\} = y(t - t_0)$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\mathcal{H}\{S_{t_0}\{x(t)\}\} = S_{t_0}\{\mathcal{H}\{x(t)\}\}},$$

i.e., *the system operator \mathcal{H} of a time-invariant system commutes with a time shift operator S_{t_0} for all t_0 .*



Time-Invariant Systems

Examples: of time-invariant and time-variant systems are as follows:

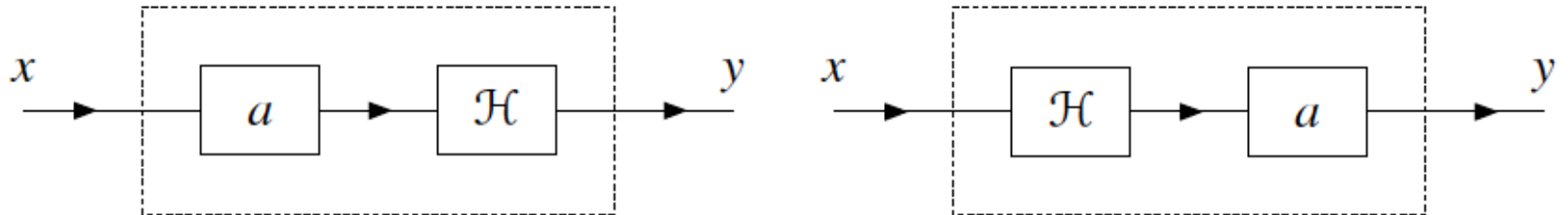
- **Time Shifter:** $y(t) = x(t - b)$. ← **time-invariant**
- **Thermister:** $i(t) = \frac{v(t)}{R(t)}$ ← **time-variant**
- **Inductor:** $i_L(t) = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-\infty}^t v_L(t') dt'$. ← **time-invariant**
- **Discrete-Time Exponential:** $y[n] = r^n x[n]$ ← **time-variant**

Homogeneity, Additivity and Linearity

A system \mathcal{H} is said to be **homogeneous** if, for any input signal $x(t)$, we have

$$\boxed{\mathcal{H}\{ax(t)\} = a\mathcal{H}\{x(t)\}},$$

i.e., *the system operator \mathcal{H} of a homogeneous system commutes with a scalar multiplication (or amplitude scaling) operator a for all a .*

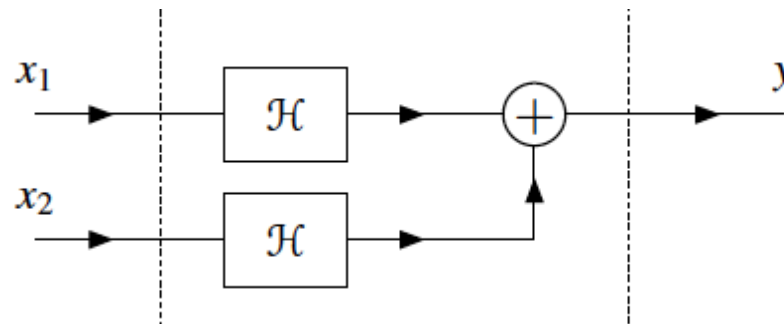
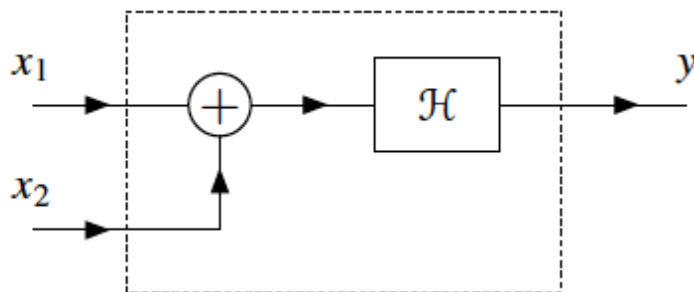


Homogeneity, Additivity and Linearity

A system \mathcal{H} is said to be **additive** (or to be satisfying the **principle of superposition**) if, for any input signals $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$, we have

$$\mathcal{H}\{x_1(t) + x_2(t)\} = \mathcal{H}\{x_1(t)\} + \mathcal{H}\{x_2(t)\},$$

i.e., *the system operator \mathcal{H} of a homogeneous system commutes with the addition operator.*

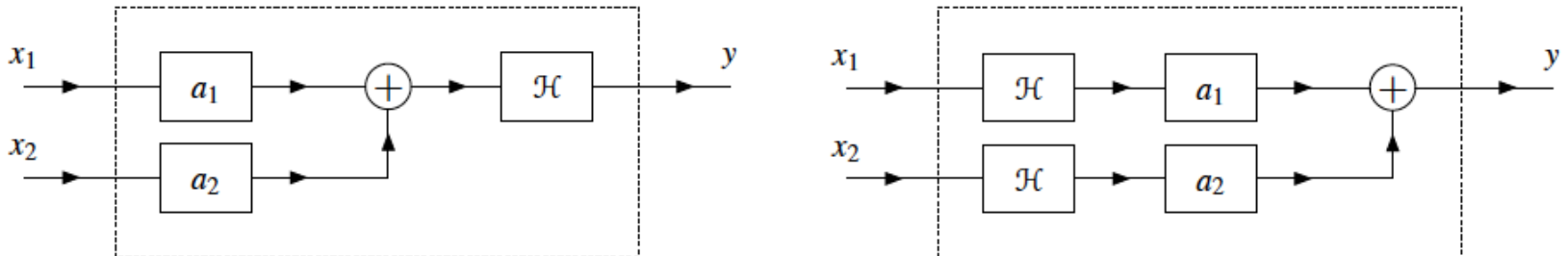


Homogeneity, Additivity and Linearity

A system \mathcal{H} is said to be **linear** if it is both homogeneous and additive, i.e., for any input signals $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$ and any scalars a_1 and a_2 , we have

$$\mathcal{H}\{a_1 x_1(t) + a_2 x_2(t)\} = a_1 \mathcal{H}\{x_1(t)\} + a_2 \mathcal{H}\{x_2(t)\},$$

i.e., *the system operator \mathcal{H} of a homogeneous system commutes with linear combinations.*



Homogeneity, Additivity and Linearity

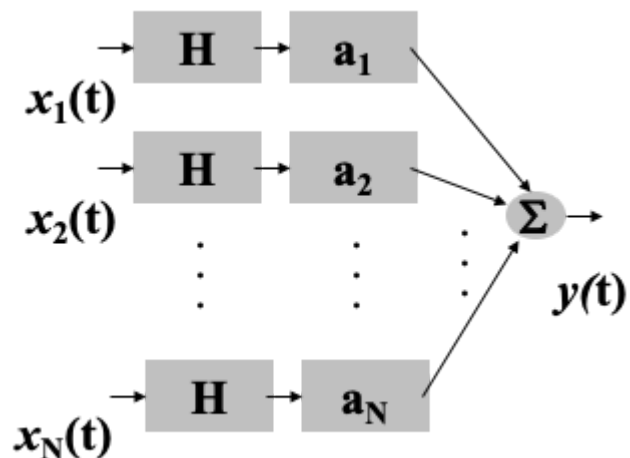
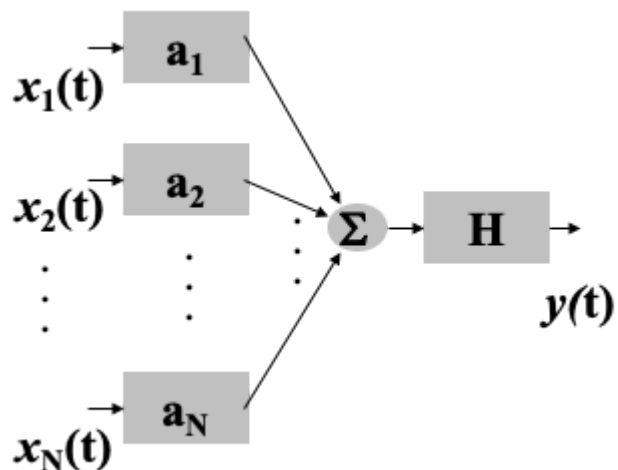
Examples: of linear and nonlinear systems:

- **Squaring Circuit:** $y(t) = x^2(t)$.
- **Multiplication by a Ramp:** $y[n] = r[n]x[n]$
 $= nx[n]u[n]$

Homogeneity, Additivity and Linearity

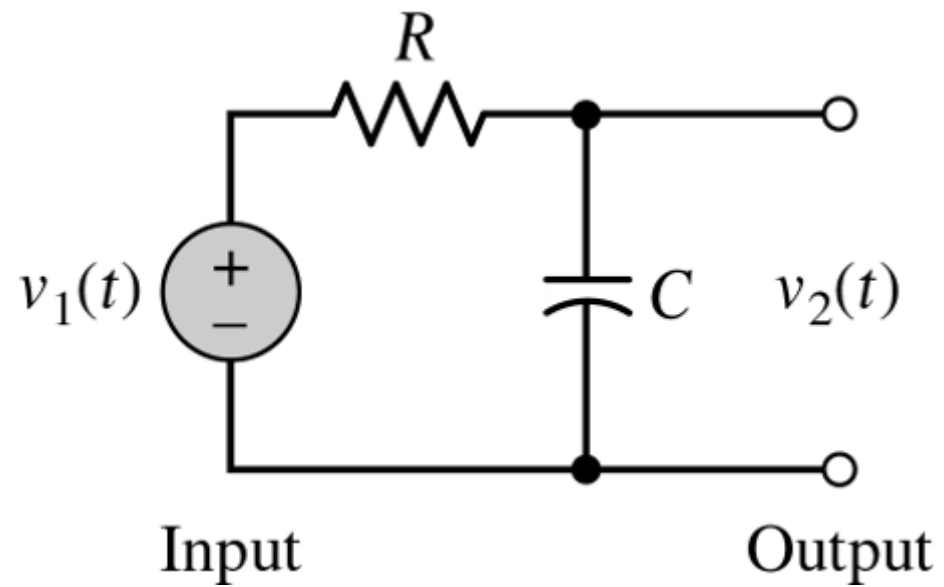
In general, if an input $x(t) = \sum_{i=1}^N a_i x_i(t)$ is applied to a linear system, then the output $y(t)$ is given by

$$y(t) = \mathcal{H}\{x(t)\} = \mathcal{H}\left\{\sum_{i=1}^N a_i x_i(t)\right\} = \sum_{i=1}^N a_i \mathcal{H}\{x_i(t)\}.$$



Theme Examples

RC Circuit



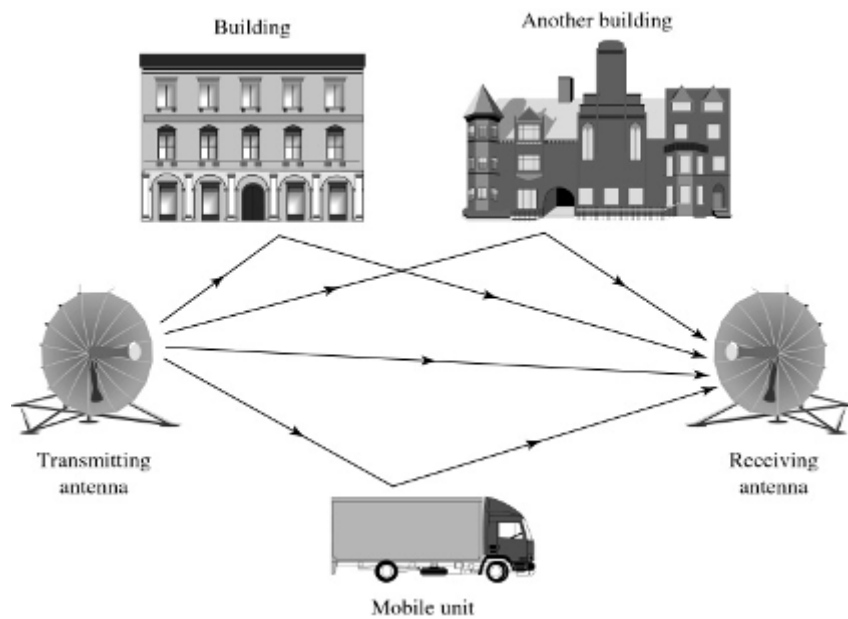
RC Circuit

Applying KVL, we get $v_1(t) = Ri(t) + v_2(t) = Ri(t) + \frac{1}{C} \int_{-\infty}^t i(t') dt'$

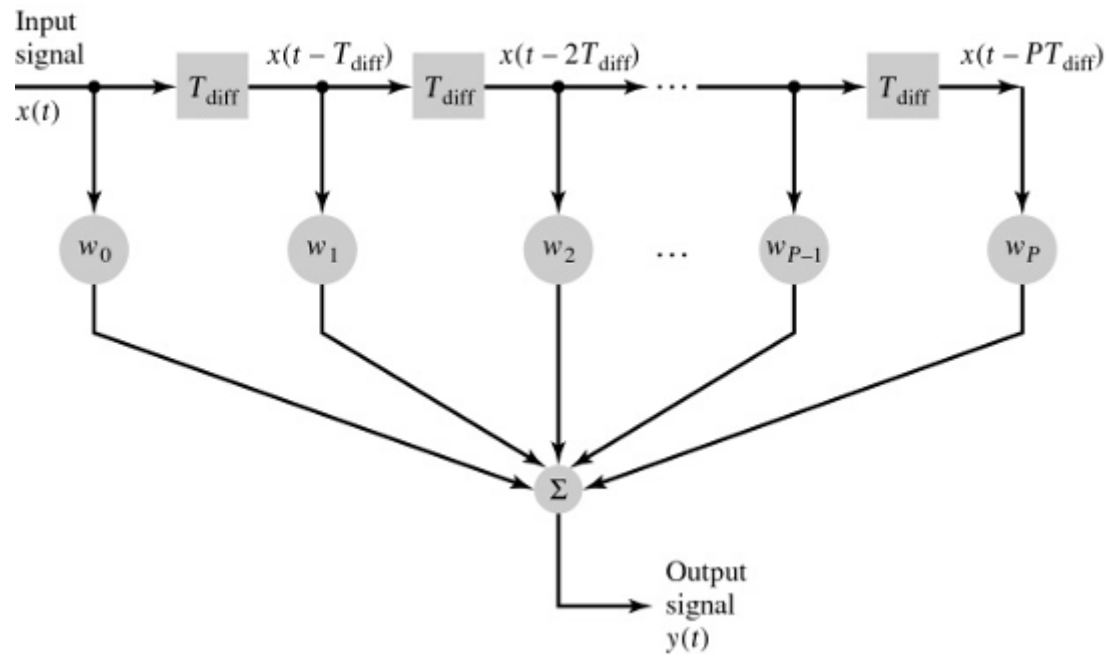
$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} v_1(t) = R \frac{d}{dt} i(t) + \frac{1}{C} i(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} i(t) + \frac{1}{RC} i(t) = \frac{1}{R} \frac{d}{dt} v_1(t)$$

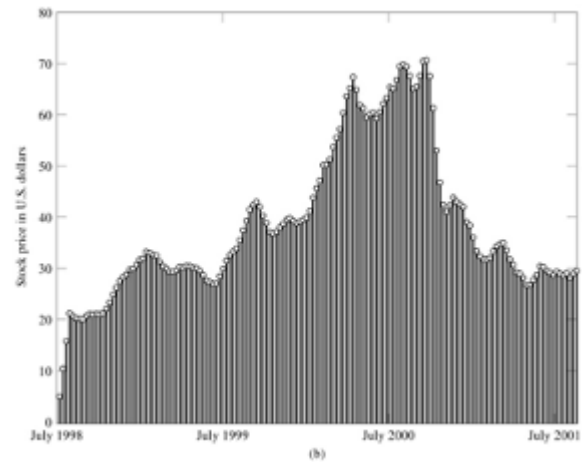
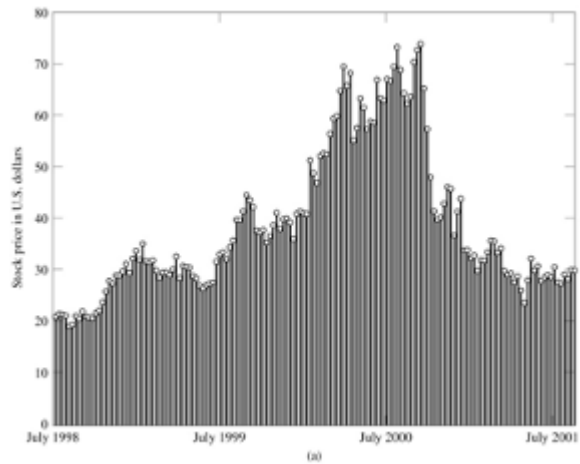
Wireless Channel



Wireless Channel



(Smoothing) of Stock Price



References:

[1] Simon Haykin and Barry Van Veen, *Signals and Systems*, Second Edition, John Wiley and Sons, 2003.

[2] Lecture Notes by Michael D. Adams.

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[3] Lecture Notes by Richard Baraniuk.

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