

# PROCESSAMENTO DE SINAL E IMAGEM EM FÍSICA MÉDICA

2019/2020 – 2º Semestre

(F4012)

Introduction to Digital Signal Processing

Introdução ao Processamento Digital de Sinal

## What is Digital Signal Processing?

“The process whereby real world phenomena can be translated into digital data for analysis, manipulation and synthesis.”

“This is done by sampling a signal with an instrument, like a camera or a microphone, which in turn generates a sequence of numbers.”

A signal carries information (useful information + noise).

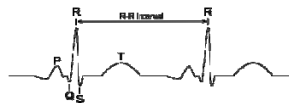
The goal of signal processing is to **Extract, enhance or rearrange the useful information carried by the signal.**

Some examples of typical signals  
are presented in the following slides

## Examples of Typical Signals

### Electrocardiograph (ECG) Eletrocardiograma

The signal represents the electrical activity of the heart



The ECG is a periodic waveform.

1 period of the waveform represents  
1 cycle of the blood transfer  
process from the heart to the  
arteries.

## Examples of Typical Signals

### Electroencephalogram (EEG) Eletroencefalograma

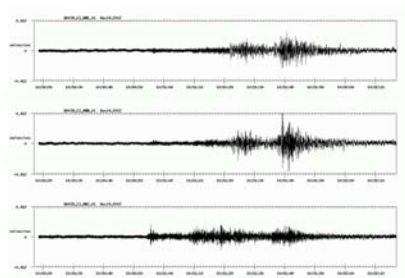
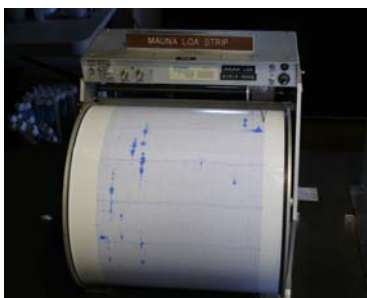
The signal represents the electrical activity caused by the random firing of neurons in the brain.



## Examples of Typical Signals

### Sismograph record [Registo sismográfico](#)

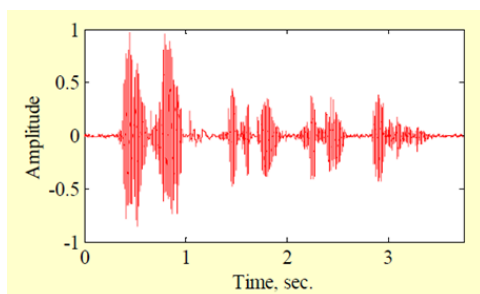
The signal represents the movement of the platform (ground) due to an earthquake, explosion or volcanic activity.



## Examples of Typical Signals

### Speech and music signals

The signal represents air pressure intensity as a function of time, at a fixed point in space.



The figure shows the waveform of the speech signal

"I like digital signal processing".



## Types of Signals

The way the signal is generated:

- Natural
- Synthetic

The number of independent variables:

- One-dimensional
- M-Dimensional

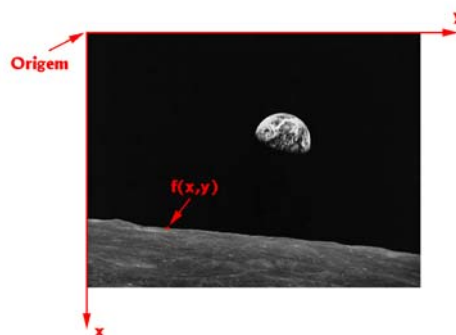
The number of independent sources:

- Single source (scalar signal)
- Multiple sources (vector or multi-channel signal)

## Example of a two-dimensional (2D) signal

A greyscale (“black-and-white”) image, represents light intensity as a function of 2 independent variables, the spatial coordinates  $x$  and  $y$ .

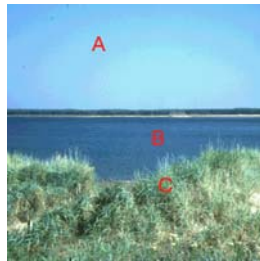
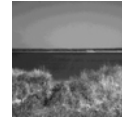
The intensity (greylevel) at location  $(x,y)$  can be expressed as  $f(x,y)$ .



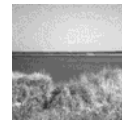
A digital image is a 2D discrete-time signal, and its 2 independent variables are discrete spatial variables.

## Example of a multi-channel signal

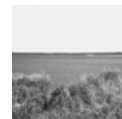
A colour image is usually a vector signal composed of 3 signals, representing the 3 primary colours (red, green and blue).


 $r(x,y)$ 
 $g(x,y)$ 
 $b(x,y)$ 


Red (r)



Green (g)



Blue (b)

## Example of a three-dimensional (3D) signal

An image is represented by a 2D matrix

 $f(x,y)$ 


A video can be represented by a 3D matrix

 $f(x,y,t)$ 

3rd Dimension – time (t)

## Types of Signals

The methods used for information extraction in DSP depend on the types of signals and the nature of the information.

- Besides being
- Natural / Synthetic
  - One-dimensional / M-Dimensional
  - Single / Multiple sources

The signal (real-valued or complex-valued) can be:

- Continuous
  - Discrete
- function of the independent variables.

and:

- Deterministic (can be uniquely described by a mathematical expression or look-up table)
- Stochastic (non-deterministic, has a random component).

## Continuous / Discrete signals

For a 1D signal, the independent variable is usually labeled as time.

If the independent variable is

- continuous, the signal is called **continuous-time** signal
- discrete, the signal is called **discrete-time** signal

A continuous-time signal is defined at every instant of time.

A discrete-time signal is defined at discrete instants of time, thus it is a **sequence of numbers**.

## Continuos / Discrete signals

A continuous-time signal with a continuous amplitude is usually called an **analog signal** ([sinal analógico](#)).

A discrete-time signal with discrete-values amplitudes represented by a finite number of digits is referred to as a **digital signal**.

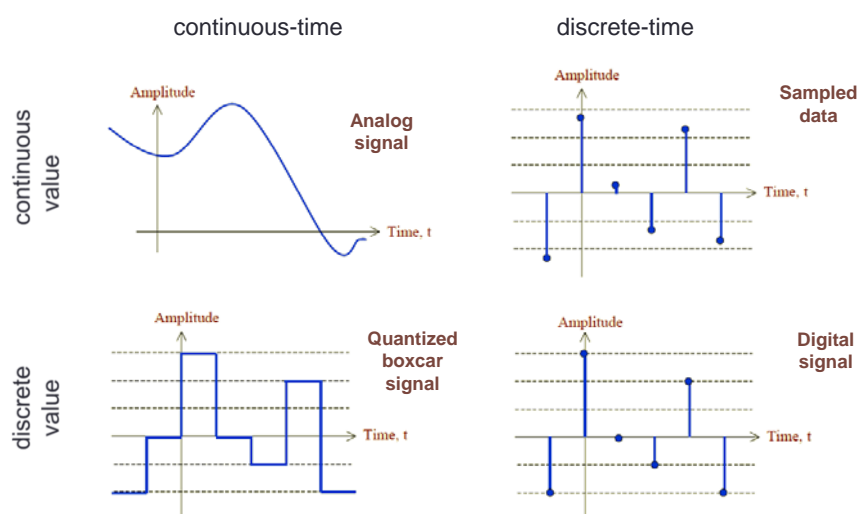
Digitized music (in a CD, mp4 file, etc.) is an example of digital signal.

A discrete-time signal with continuous-valued amplitudes is called a **sampled-data signal**.

A digital signal is thus a quantized sampled-data signal.

A continuous-time signal with a discrete-value amplitudes is usually called a **quantized boxcar signal**.

## Continuos / Discrete signals



## Continuos / Discrete signals

The functional dependence of a signal in its mathematical representation is often explicitly shown.

For a continuous-time 1D signal, the continuous independent variable is usually denoted by  $t$ . For example  $u(t)$ .

For a discrete-time 1D signal, the discrete independent variable is usually denoted by  $n$ . For example  $v[n]$ .

Each member of  $v[n]$  is called a **sample** (amostra).

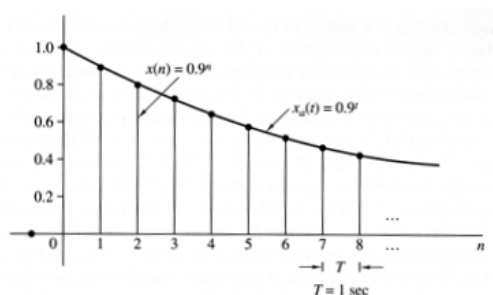
Often a discrete-time signal is generated by **sampling** a continuous-time signal at uniform intervals of time.

The independent discrete variable  $n$  can be normalized to assume integer values.

## Quantization of an analog signal

Consider a continuous-time signal with a continuous amplitude (analog signal), given by

$$x_a(t) = 0.9^t$$



This signal is sampled at 1s intervals, resulting in

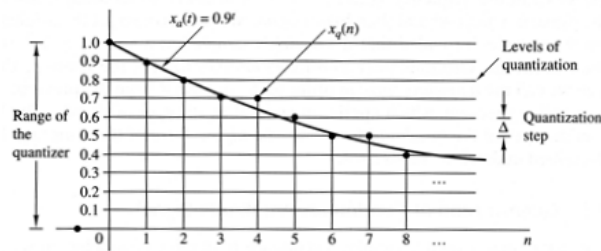
$$x(n) = 0.9^n$$

where  $n$  is a discrete variable of time.



## Quantization of an analog signal

The amplitude of the signal is also quantized, with a quantization step ( $\Delta$ ):

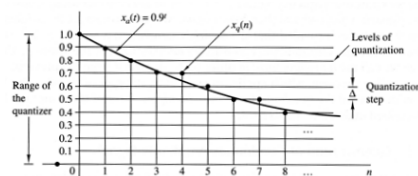


The quantization error  $e_q(n)$  is limited by  $\Delta$ :

$$-\frac{\Delta}{2} \leq e_q(n) \leq \frac{\Delta}{2}$$

## Quantization of an analog signal

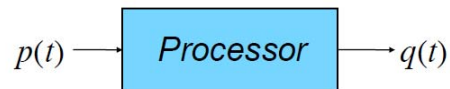
A digital signal  $x(n)$  is obtained, which is a simplified representation of the original analog signal  $x_a(t)$



| $n$ | $x(n)$      | Truncation | Rounding | $e_q(n)$ Rounding |
|-----|-------------|------------|----------|-------------------|
| 0   | 1           | 1.0        | 1.0      | 0.0               |
| 1   | 0.9         | 0.9        | 0.9      | 0.0               |
| 2   | 0.81        | 0.8        | 0.8      | -0.01             |
| 3   | 0.729       | 0.7        | 0.7      | -0.029            |
| 4   | 0.6561      | 0.6        | 0.7      | 0.0439            |
| 5   | 0.59049     | 0.5        | 0.6      | 0.00951           |
| 6   | 0.531441    | 0.5        | 0.5      | -0.031441         |
| 7   | 0.4782969   | 0.4        | 0.5      | 0.0217031         |
| 8   | 0.43046721  | 0.4        | 0.4      | -0.03046721       |
| 9   | 0.387420489 | 0.3        | 0.4      | 0.012579511       |

## Digital vs. Analog Signal Processing

### ■ Conventional signal processing:



### ■ Digital SP system:



[Source: Dan Ellis, 2010]

## Digital vs. Analog Signal Processing

### Pros (of DSP)

- Noise is easy to control after initial quantization
- Stability/duplicability
- Flexibility (parameters can easily be varied in software)
- Data storage without loss of signal fidelity
- Lower costs (in many cases)
- Easy to operate in the frequency-domain

### Cons (of DSP)

- Limitations of A/D & D/A conversion
- Discrete-time processing artifacts (aliasing)
- Processing speed, due to A/D & D/A conversion
- Baseline complexity / power consumption