

# Experiment No.-4: Response of a system described by difference equation

## 1. Overview

In this lab we will use MATLAB to solve difference-equations.

## 2. Difference equation of LTI system

The difference equation of an LTI system can be written as,

$$\sum_{k=0}^K a_k y[n-k] = \sum_{m=0}^M b_m x[n-m]$$

where  $x[n]$  is the system input and  $y[n]$  is the system output. If  $\mathbf{x}$  is a MATLAB vector containing the input  $x[n]$  on the interval  $n_x \leq n \leq n_x + N_x - 1$  and the vectors  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  contain the coefficients  $a_k$  and  $b_m$  then `filter(b,a,x)` returns the output of the causal LTI system satisfying

$$\sum_{k=0}^K a[k+1]y[n-k] = \sum_{m=0}^M b[m+1]x[n-m]$$

Note that  $a[k+1] = a_k$  and  $b[m+1] = b_m$ , since MATLAB requires all vectors to begin at one. For example, to specify the system described by the difference equation

$$y[n] + 2y[n-1] = x[n] - 3x[n-1],$$

you would define  $\mathbf{a} = [1 \ 2]$  and  $\mathbf{b} = [1 \ -3]$ .

Also note that the output of filter contains samples of  $y[n]$  in the same interval as the samples of  $\mathbf{x}$ . Also, `filter` need samples in the interval  $n_x - M \leq n \leq n_x - 1$  in order to compute the first output sample of  $y[n]$ . If they are not provided, `filter` assumes these samples are zero.

Define  $\mathbf{a1}$  and  $\mathbf{b1}$  to describe the causal LTI system shown below:

$$y[n] = 0.5x[n] + x[n-1] + 2x[n-2]$$

```
x = [1 2 3 4];  
a1 = [1];  
b1 = [0.5 1 2];  
y1 = filter(b1,a1,x)
```

Use `filter` to compute response  $y[n]$  to input  $x[n] = nu[n]$ : Try the following system:

$$y[n] = 0.8y[n-1] + 2x[n]$$

```
x = [1 2 3 4];  
a1 = [1 -0.8];  
b1 = [2];  
y1 = filter(b1,a1,x)
```

## 3. Exercise

1. Write a program in MATLAB to,

- (a) Define coefficient vectors  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  to describe the causal LTI system described by,

$$y[n] = 0.5x[n] + x[n-1] + 2x[n-2].$$

- (b) Define coefficient vectors **a** and **b** to describe the causal LTI system described by,

$$y[n] = 0.8y[n-1] + 2x[n].$$

- (c) Define coefficient vectors **a** and **b** to describe the causal LTI system described by,

$$y[n] - 0.8y[n-1] = 2x[n-1].$$

For each of these systems use the **filter** command to compute the response  $y[n]$  for the input signal  $x[n] = u[n], 0 \leq n \leq 3$ . Also plot the response for each of the above cases.

Source: <https://web.stanford.edu/~kairouzp/teaching/ece311/secure/lab3/lab3.pdf>