



UNIVERSITY OF  
LINCOLN

CMP9780, EGR3031 & BME3002

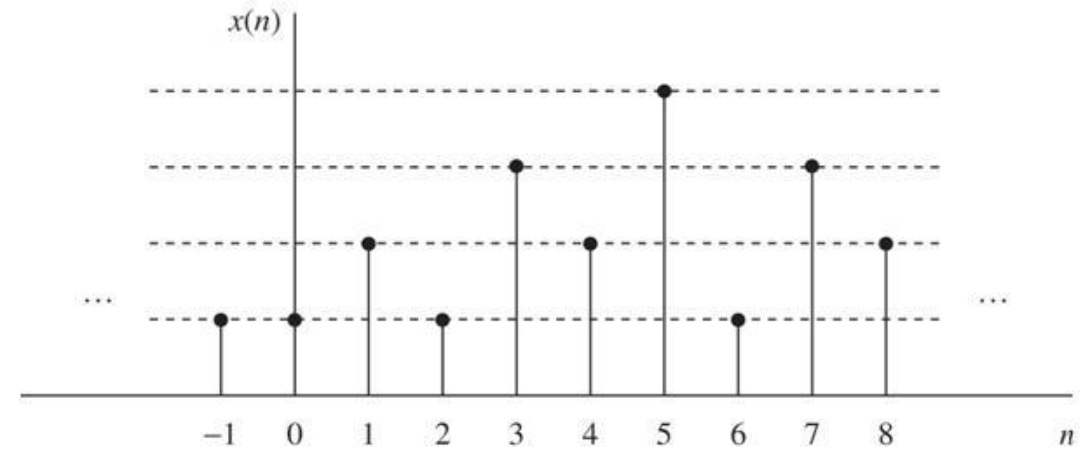
Correlation & Convolution

# The Story so far...

- Introduction to Signals
- Sampling
- Fourier Transform
- Discrete and Fast Fourier Transform

# Discrete-Time Signal

- A discrete-time signal is a function of independent *integer* variables.
- If  $x(n)$  is discrete-time signal, then
  - $-\infty < n < \infty$
- If, needed, then  $x(n)$  was obtained from sampling an analogue signal  $x_a(t)$ , then  $x(n) = x_a(nT)$ 
  - Where  $T$  is the sampling period.



- **Beside the graphical representation there are other alternatives**

- Functional representation
- Tabular representation
- Sequence representation

$$x(n) = \begin{cases} 1, & n = 0 \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

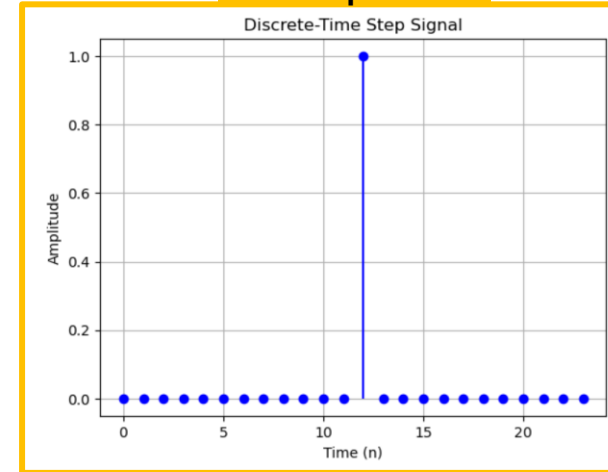
$n$	...	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4	5	...
$x(n)$	...	0	0	0	1	4	1	0	0	...

$$x(n) = \{\cdots 1, \underset{\uparrow}{1}, 2, 1, 3, \dots\}$$

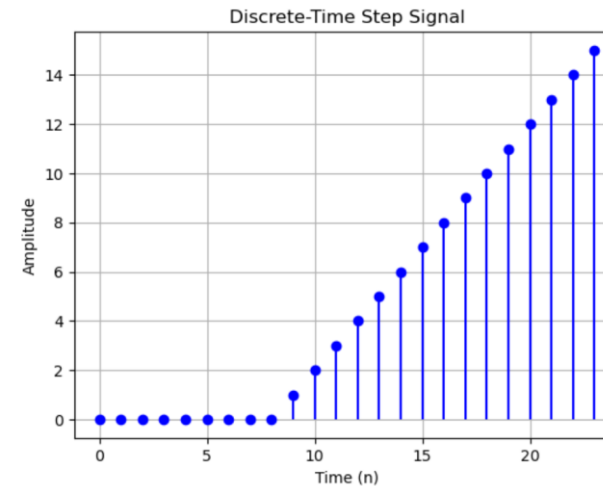
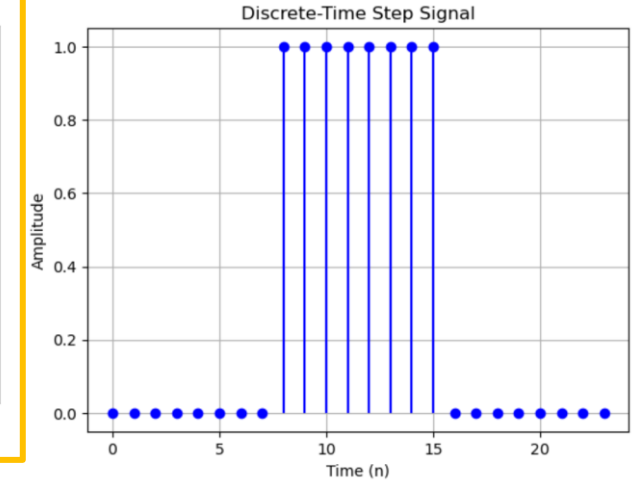
# Discrete-Time Signals

- They are good for modelling some physical phenomenon
  - Exponential Impulse also exists.
    - Decay and growth
    - Guitar note
  - Step/Ramp
    - Sudden change or switch
  - Unit Impulse
    - Analysis the response of Linear time invariant (LTI) systems

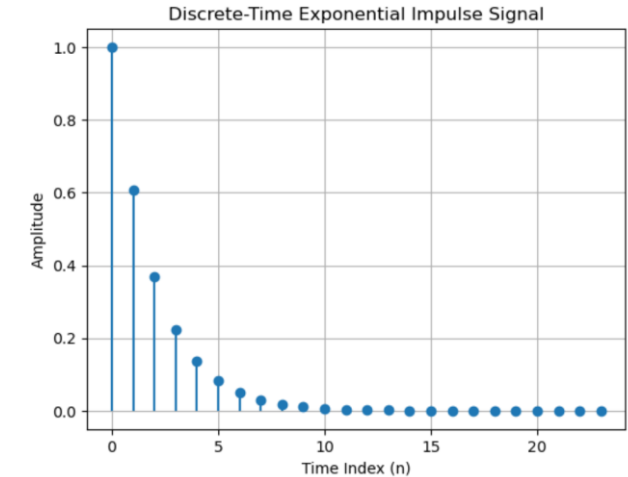
Unit Impulse



Unit Step



Unit Ramp

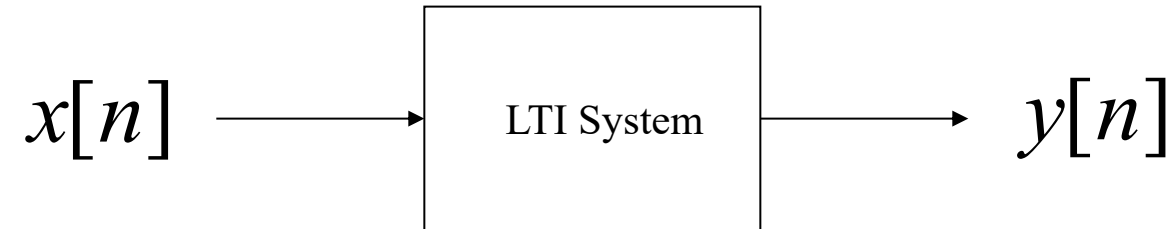


Exponential Impulse

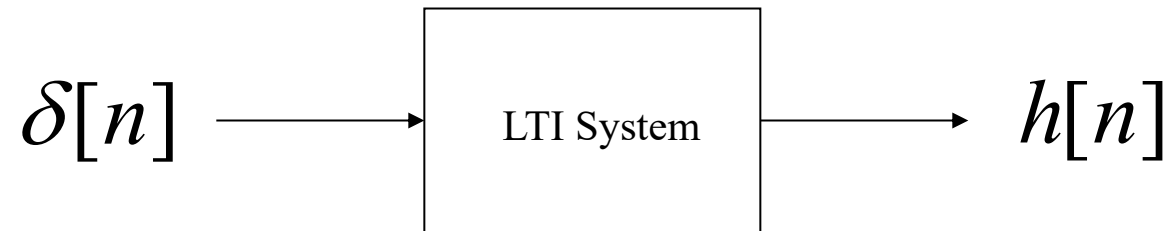
# CONVOLUTION

# DT Unit-Impulse Response

- Consider the DT SISO system:



- If the input signal is  $x[n] = \delta[n]$  and the system has no energy at  $n = 0$ , the output  $y[n] = h[n]$  is called the **impulse response** of the system



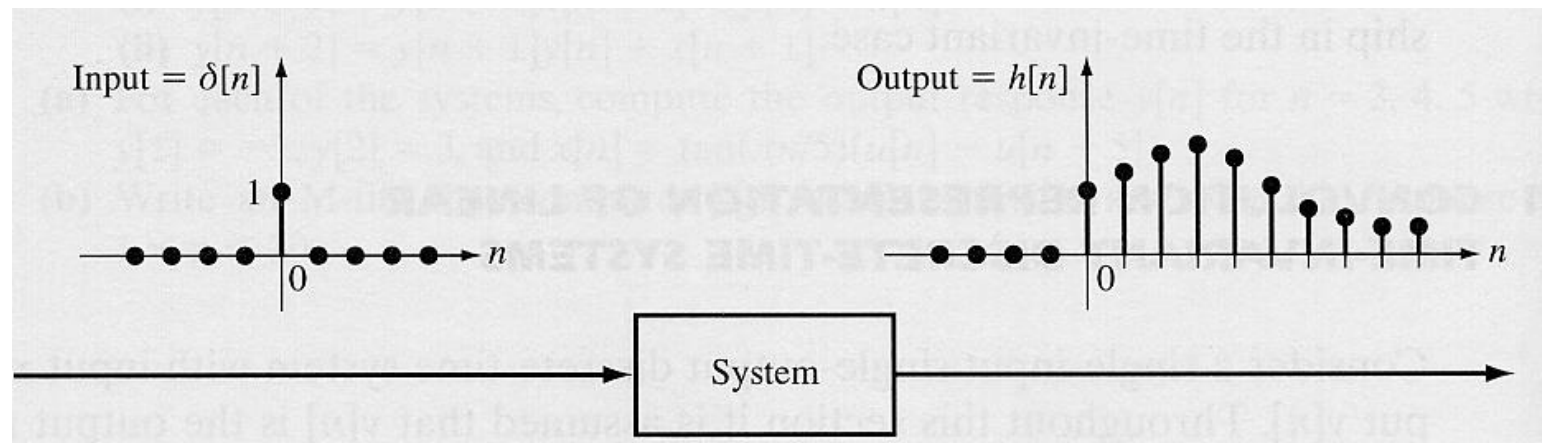
# Example

- Consider the DT system described by

$$y[n] + ay[n-1] = bx[n]$$

- Its impulse response could be found to be

$$h[n] = \begin{cases} (-a)^n b, & n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ 0, & n = -1, -2, -3, \dots \end{cases}$$



# Representing Signals in Terms of Shifted and Scaled Impulses

- Many physical systems can be modelled as **linear time-invariant (LTI) systems**
- By **the principle of superposition**, the response  $y[n]$  of a discrete-time LTI system is the sum of the responses to the individual shifted impulses making up the input signal  $x[n]$ .



# Representing Signals in Terms of Shifted and Scaled Impulses

- Let  $x[n]$  be an arbitrary input signal to a DT LTI system
- Suppose that  $x[n] = 0$  for  $n = -1, -2, \dots$
- This signal can be represented as a **weighted sum of shifted impulses**

$$\begin{aligned}x[n] &= x[0]\delta[n] + x[1]\delta[n-1] + x[2]\delta[n-2] + \dots \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x[i]\delta[n-i], \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots\end{aligned}$$

# Representing Signals in Terms of Shifted and Scaled Impulses

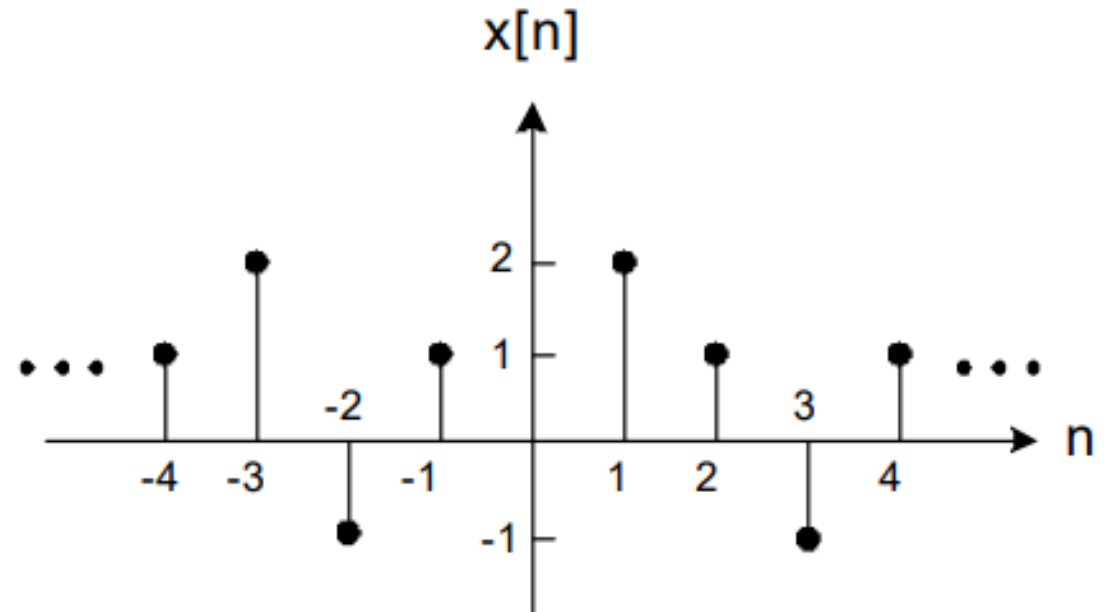
- **Example**, consider the signal on the right:

- It can be expressed as a sum of the shifted impulses:

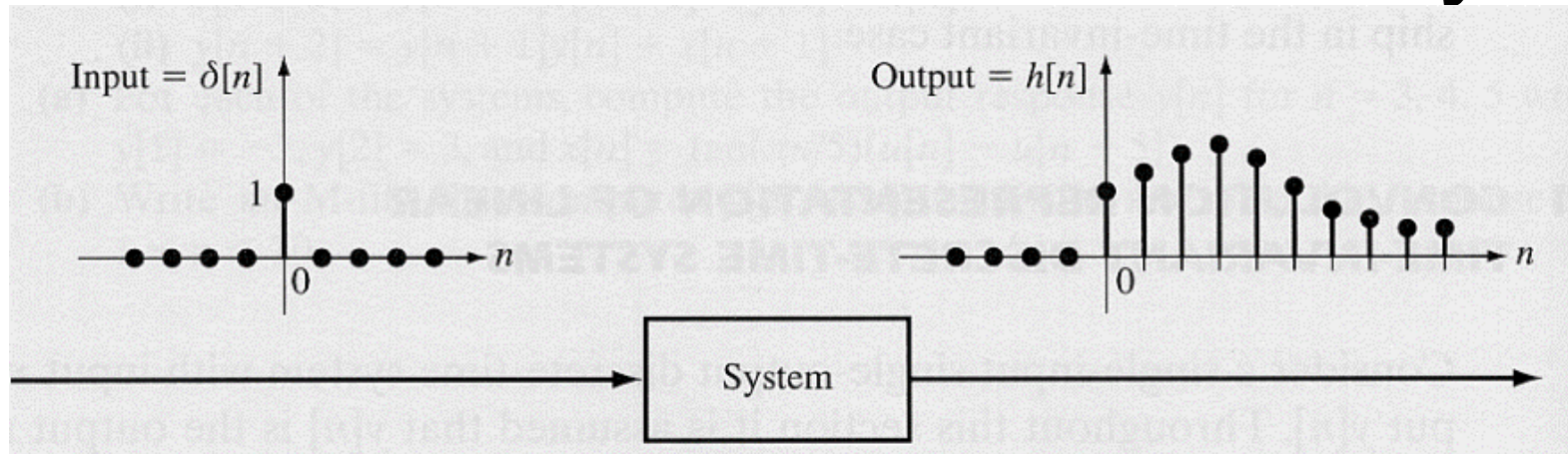
$$x[n] = \dots + x[-3]\delta[n+3] + x[-2]\delta[n+2] + x[-1]\delta[n+1] + x[0]\delta[n] + x[1]\delta[n-1] + x[2]\delta[n-2] + \dots$$

- More generally this can be written as

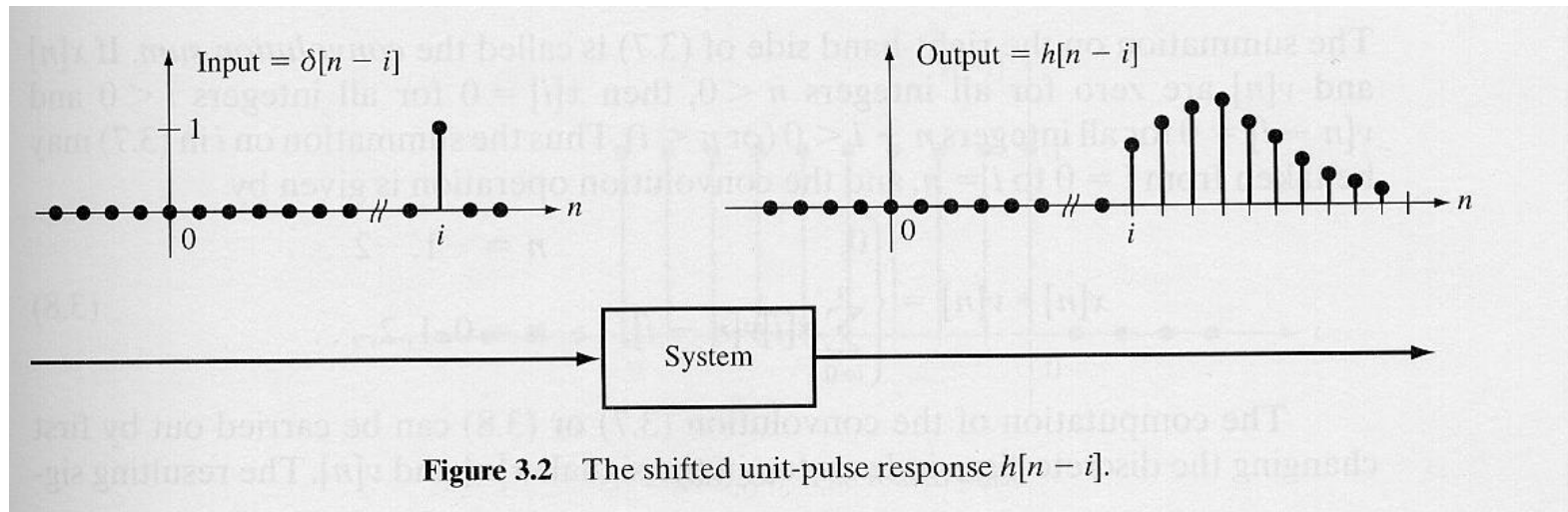
$$x[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k]\delta[n-k].$$



# Exploiting Time-Invariance and Linearity



**The original signal shifted in time is still the same response but also shifted.**

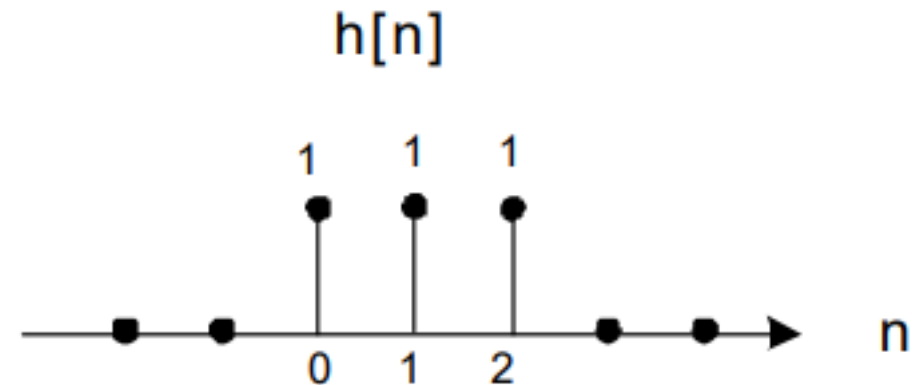


**Figure 3.2** The shifted unit-pulse response  $h[n - i]$ .

$$y[n] = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x[i]h[n - i], \quad n \geq 0$$

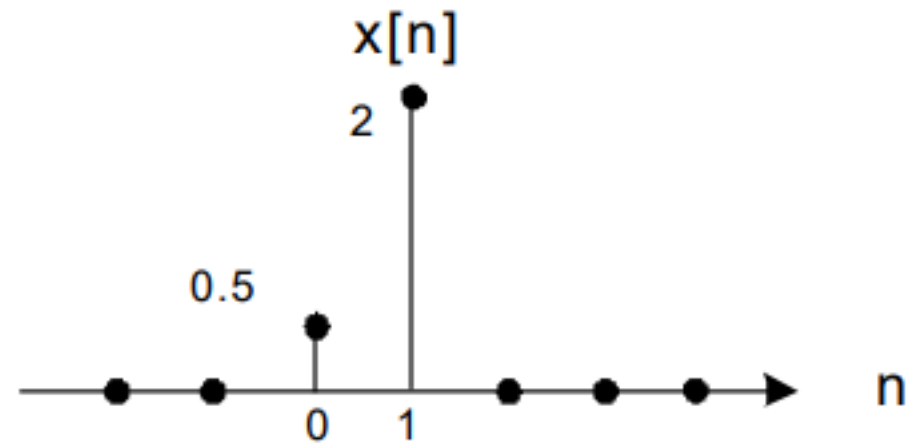
# Demo: Example#1

- Consider the LTI system with impulse response  $h[n]$  and input  $x[n]$ , as illustrated on right of slide.

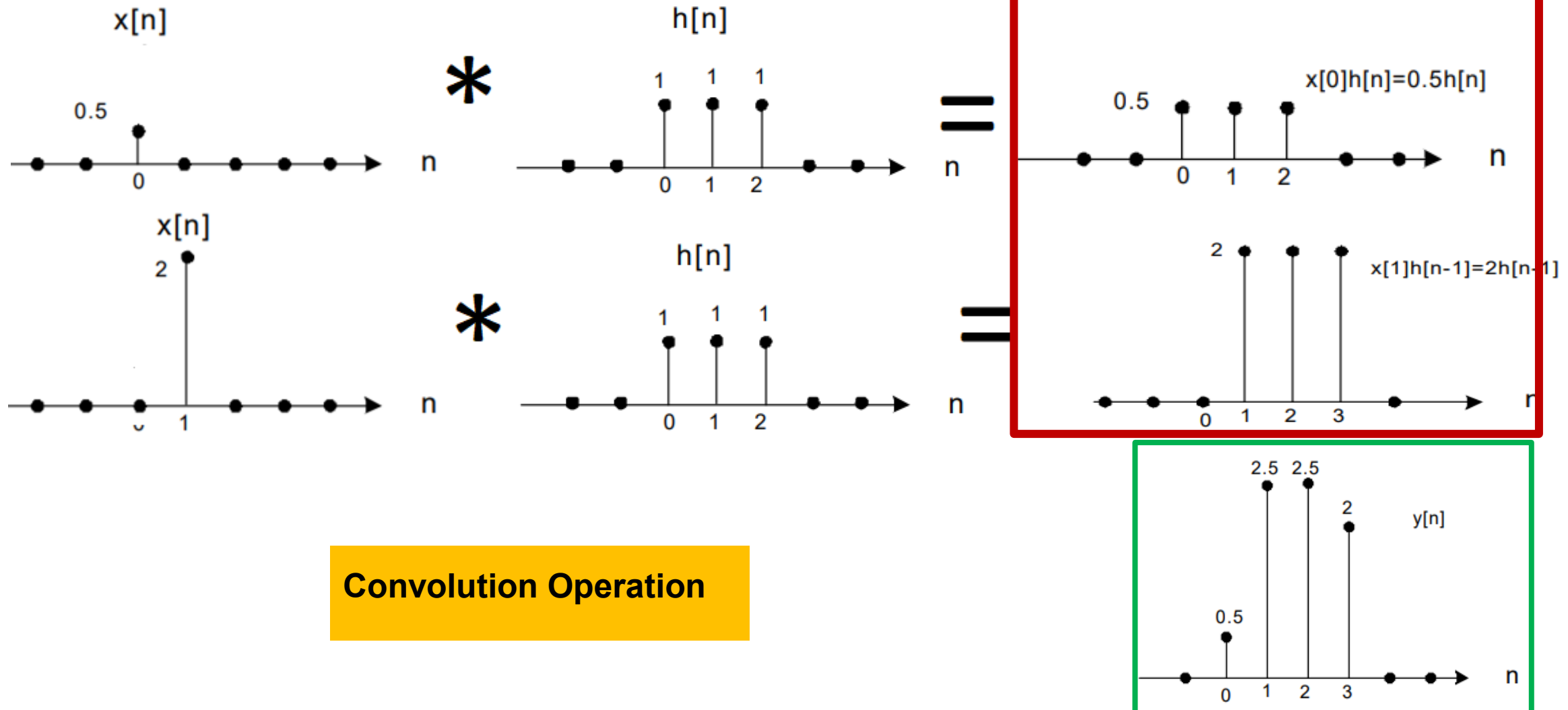


- What is the overall response of the system?

$$x[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k] \delta[n-k].$$



# Example



Convolution Operation

# The Convolution Sum

- This summation is called the convolution sum

$$y[n] = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x[i]h[n-i]$$

$x[n] * h[n]$

- Equation  $y[n] = x[n] * h[n]$  is called the *convolution representation of the system*
- Remark:** a DT LTI system is completely described by its impulse response  $h[n]$

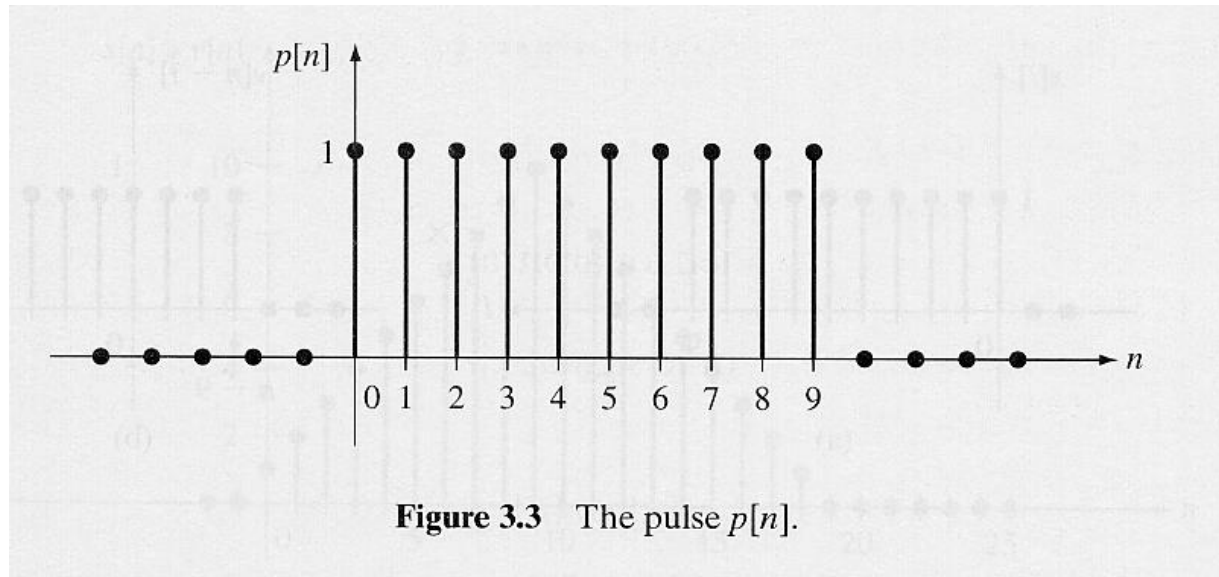
# The Convolution Sum for Noncausal Signals

- Suppose that we have two signals  $x[n]$  and  $v[n]$  that are **not zero for negative times** (noncausal signals)
  - The signal exists for both negative and positive times. (example exponential, sine and cosine signals)
- Then, their convolution is expressed by the two-sided series

$$y[n] = \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} x[i]v[n-i]$$

# Example: Convolution of Two Rectangular Pulses

- Suppose that both  $x[n]$  and  $v[n]$  are equal to the rectangular pulse  $p[n]$  (causal signal) depicted below

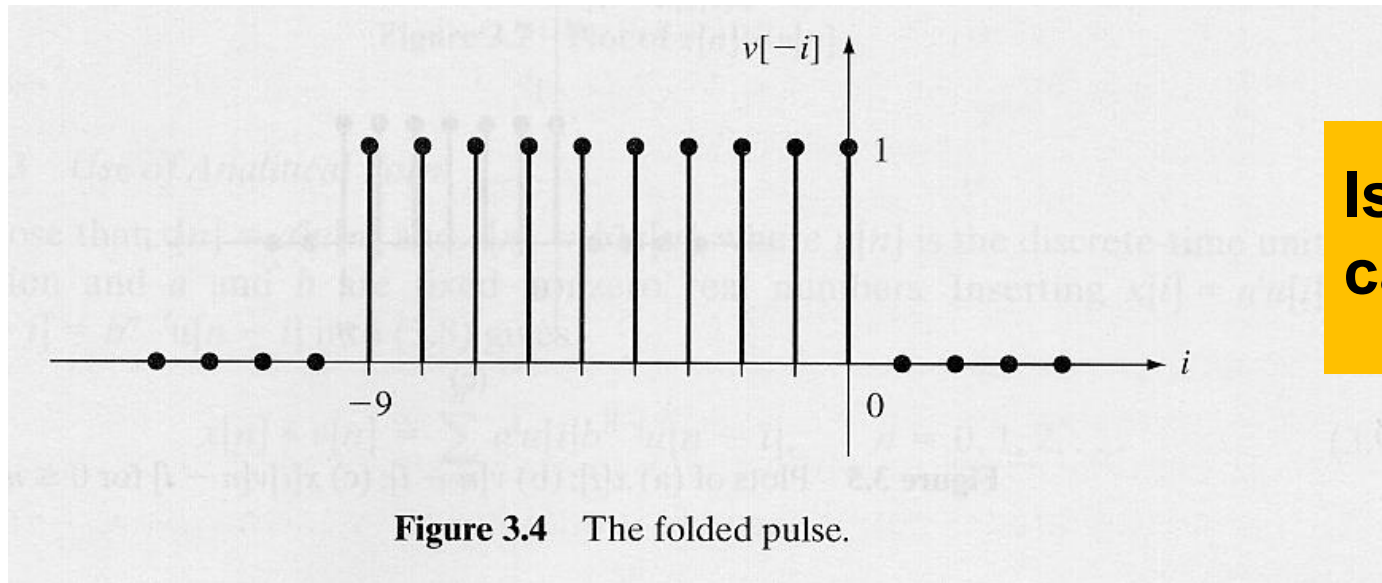


**Is this the signal  
causal or non-causal?**



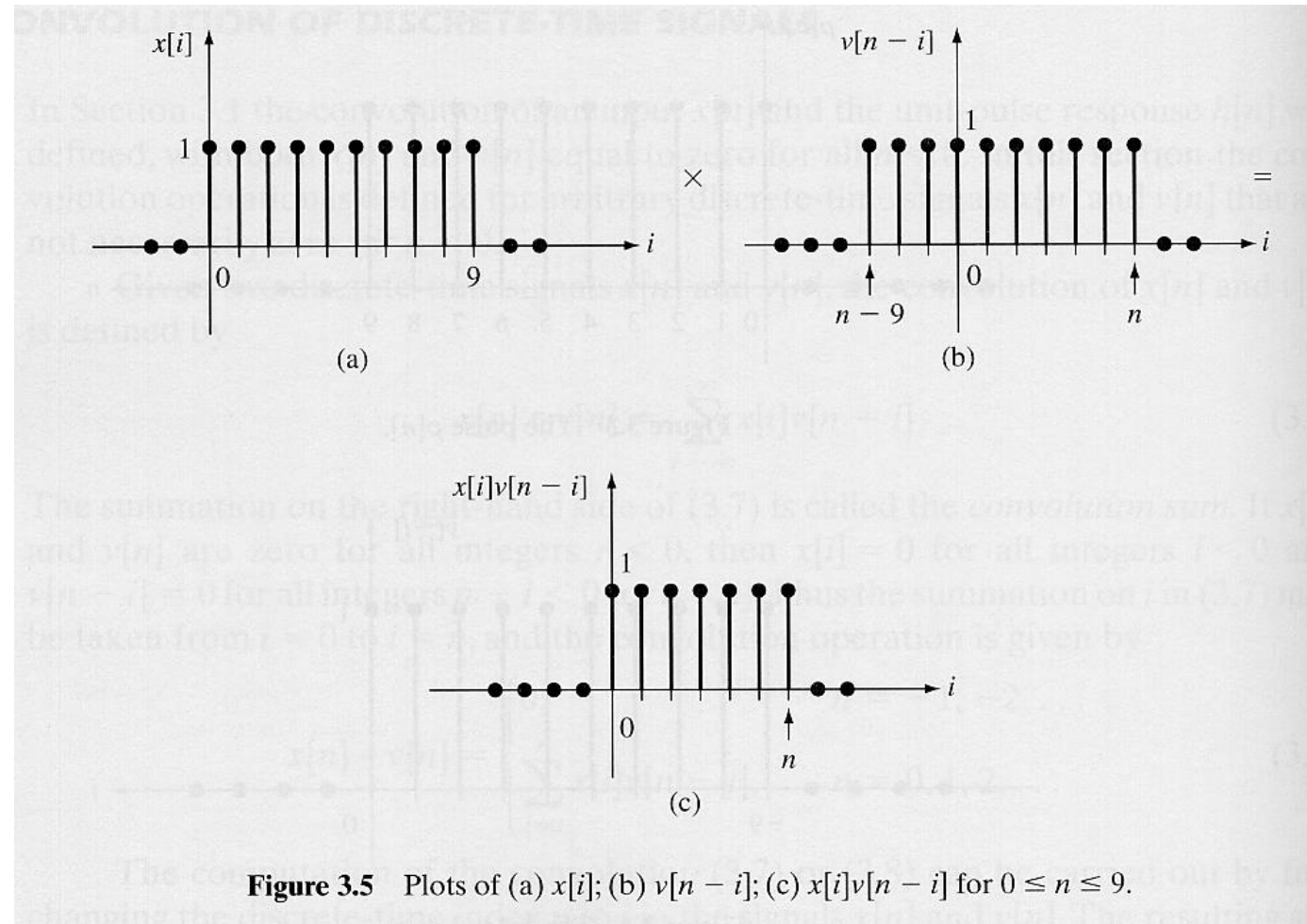
# The Folded Pulse

- The signal  $v[-i]$  is equal to the pulse  $p[i]$  folded about the vertical axis



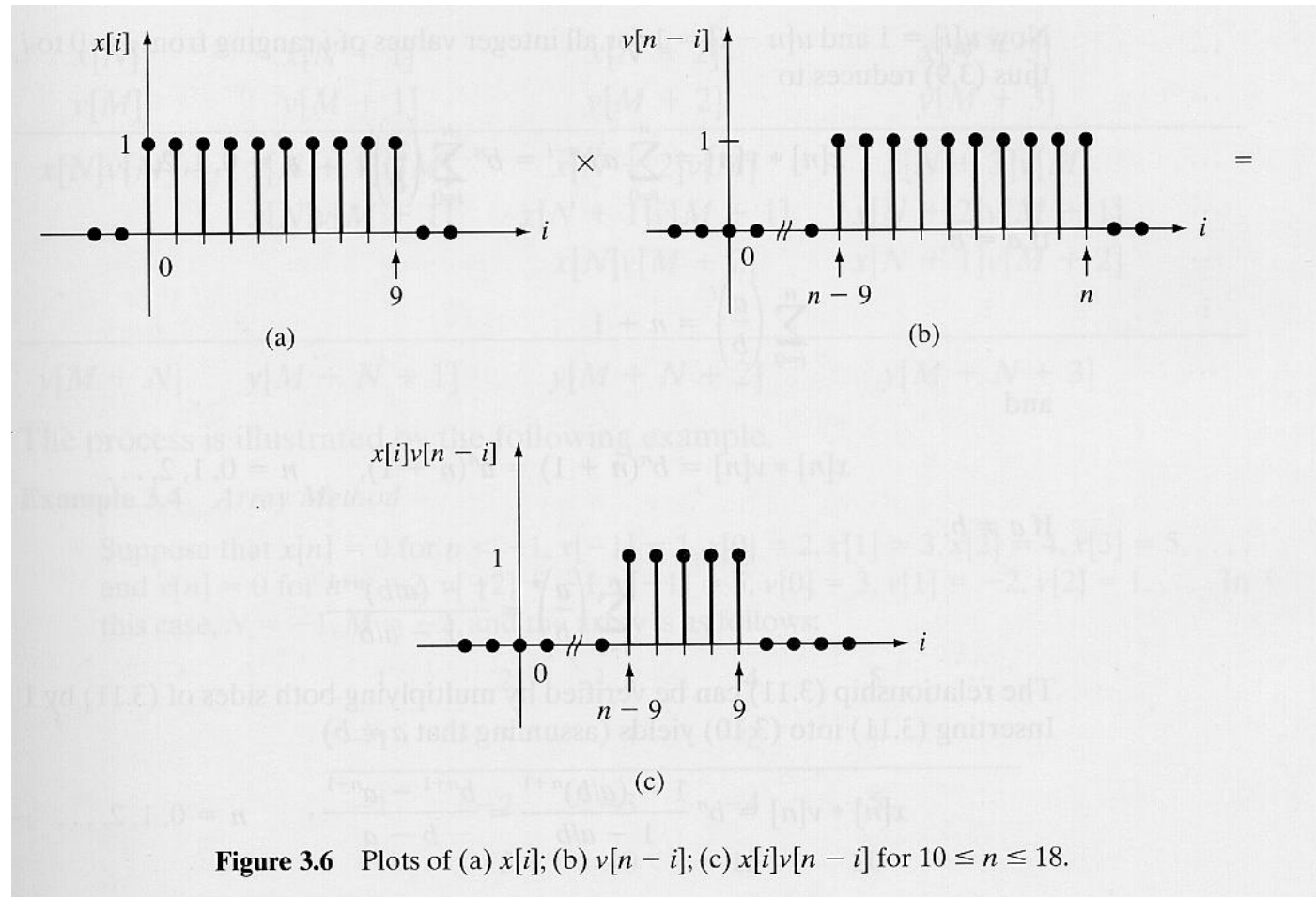
**Is this the signal  
causal or non-causal?**

# Sliding $v[n-i]$ over $x[i]$

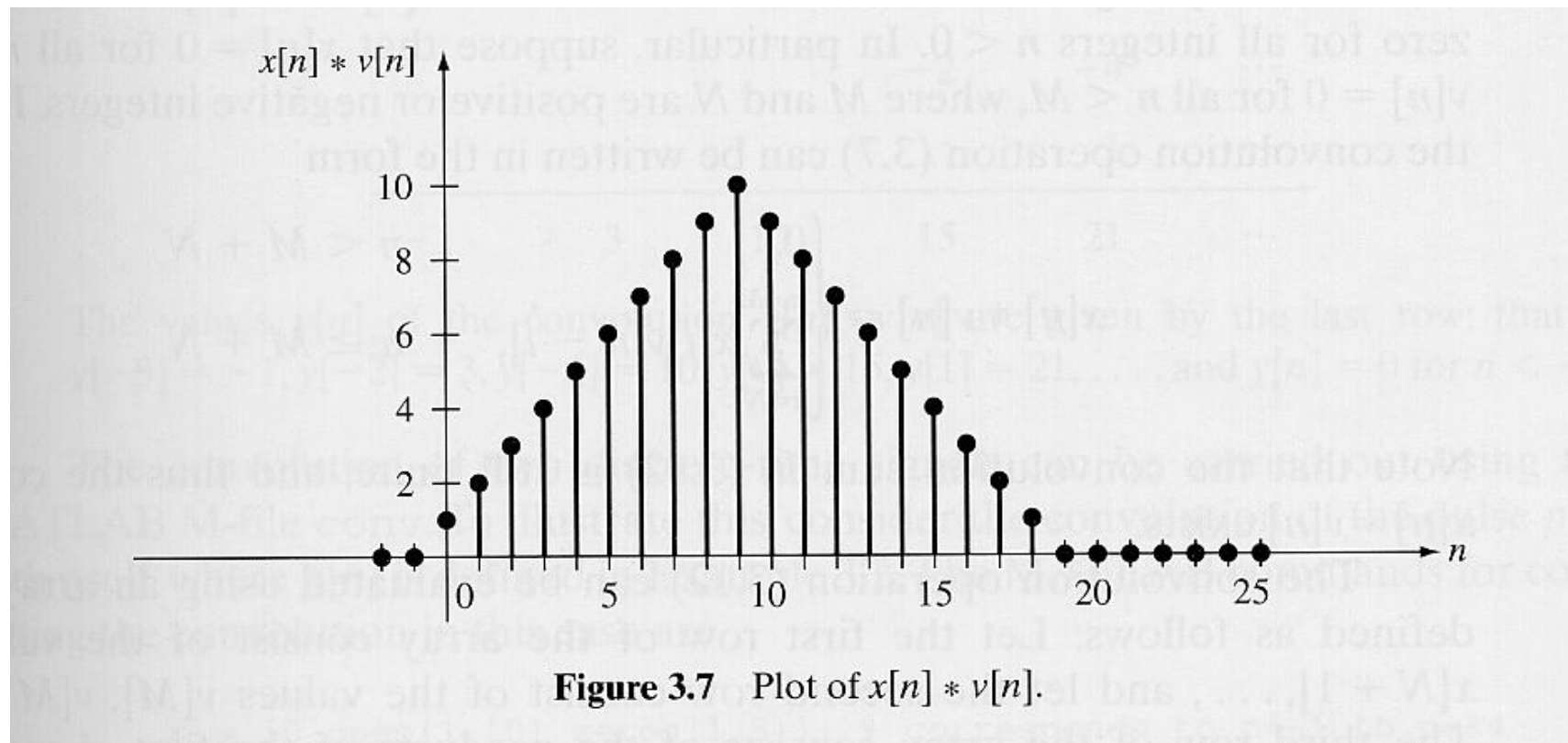


**Figure 3.5** Plots of (a)  $x[i]$ ; (b)  $v[n-i]$ ; (c)  $x[i]v[n-i]$  for  $0 \leq n \leq 9$ .

# Sliding $v[n-i]$ over $x[i]$ - Cont'd



# Plot of $x[n] * v[n]$



# Properties of the Convolution Sum

- Associativity

$$x[n] * (v[n] * w[n]) = (x[n] * v[n]) * w[n]$$

- Commutativity

$$x[n] * v[n] = v[n] * x[n]$$

- Distributivity w.r.t. addition

$$x[n] * (v[n] + w[n]) = x[n] * v[n] + x[n] * w[n]$$

# Properties of the Convolution Sum - Cont'd

- Shift property: define 
$$\begin{cases} x_q[n] = x[n - q] \\ v_q[n] = v[n - q] \\ w[n] = x[n] * v[n] \end{cases}$$

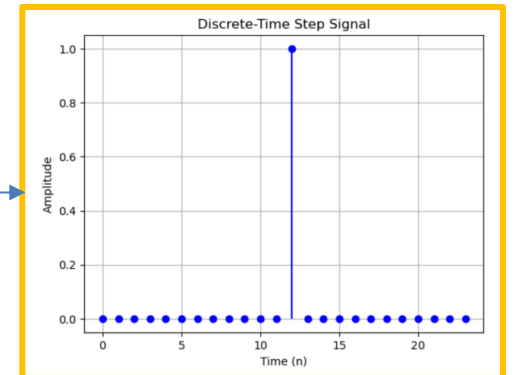
then  $w[n - q] = x_q[n] * v[n] = x[n] * v_q[n]$

- Convolution with the unit impulse

$$x[n] * \delta[n] = x[n]$$

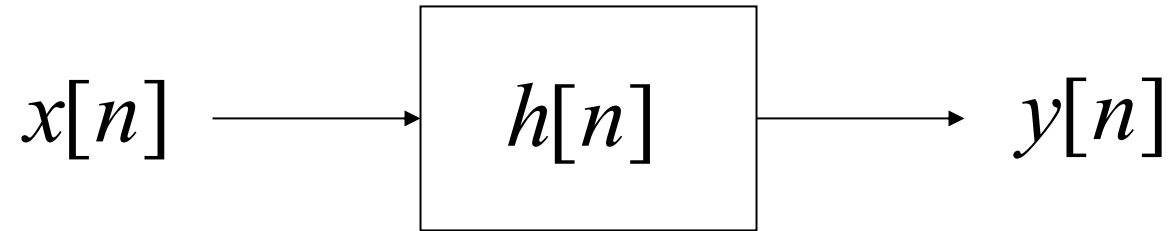
- Convolution with the shifted unit impulse

$$x[n] * \delta_q[n] = x[n - q]$$



# Computing Convolution

- Consider the DT LTI system



- impulse response:

$$h[n] = \sin(0.5n), \quad n \geq 0$$

- input signal:

$$x[n] = \sin(0.2n), \quad n \geq 0$$

# Computing Convolution

- Suppose we want to compute  $y[n]$  for  $n = 0, 1, \dots, 40$

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```
# Define the range of 'n' values from 0 to 40
t = np.arange(0, 41)
```

```
# Define the signals 'x' and 'h'
x = np.sin(0.2 * t)
h = np.sin(0.5 * t)
```

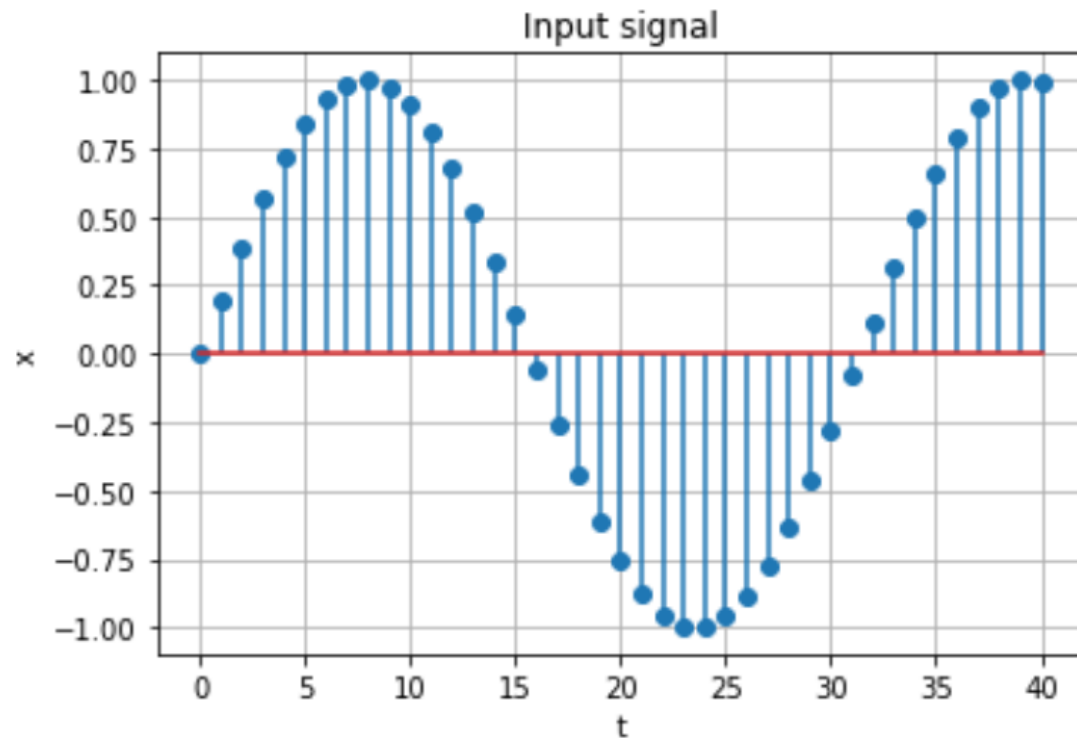
```
# Perform convolution
y = np.convolve(x, h, 'full')
```

```
# Trim 'y' to match the length of 'n'
y = y[:len(t)]
```

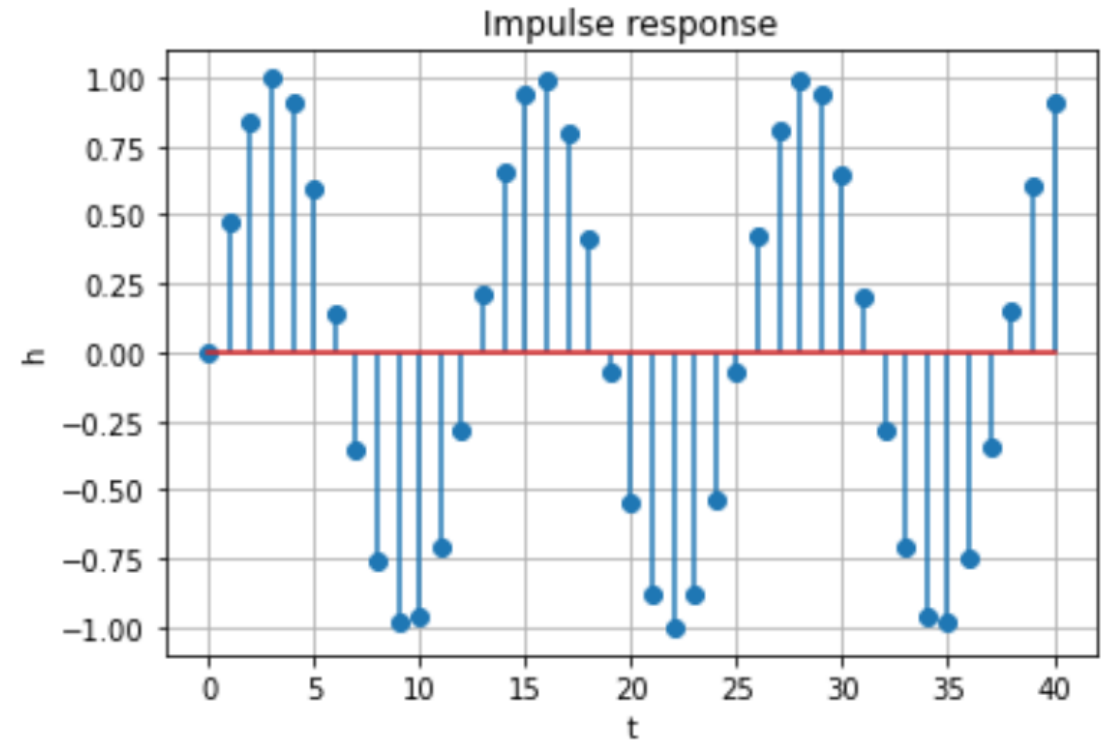
```
# Plot the result using stem plot
plt.stem(t, y)
plt.xlabel('t')
plt.ylabel('y')
plt.title('Convolution of x and h')
plt.grid(True)
plt.show()
```



# Computing Convolution



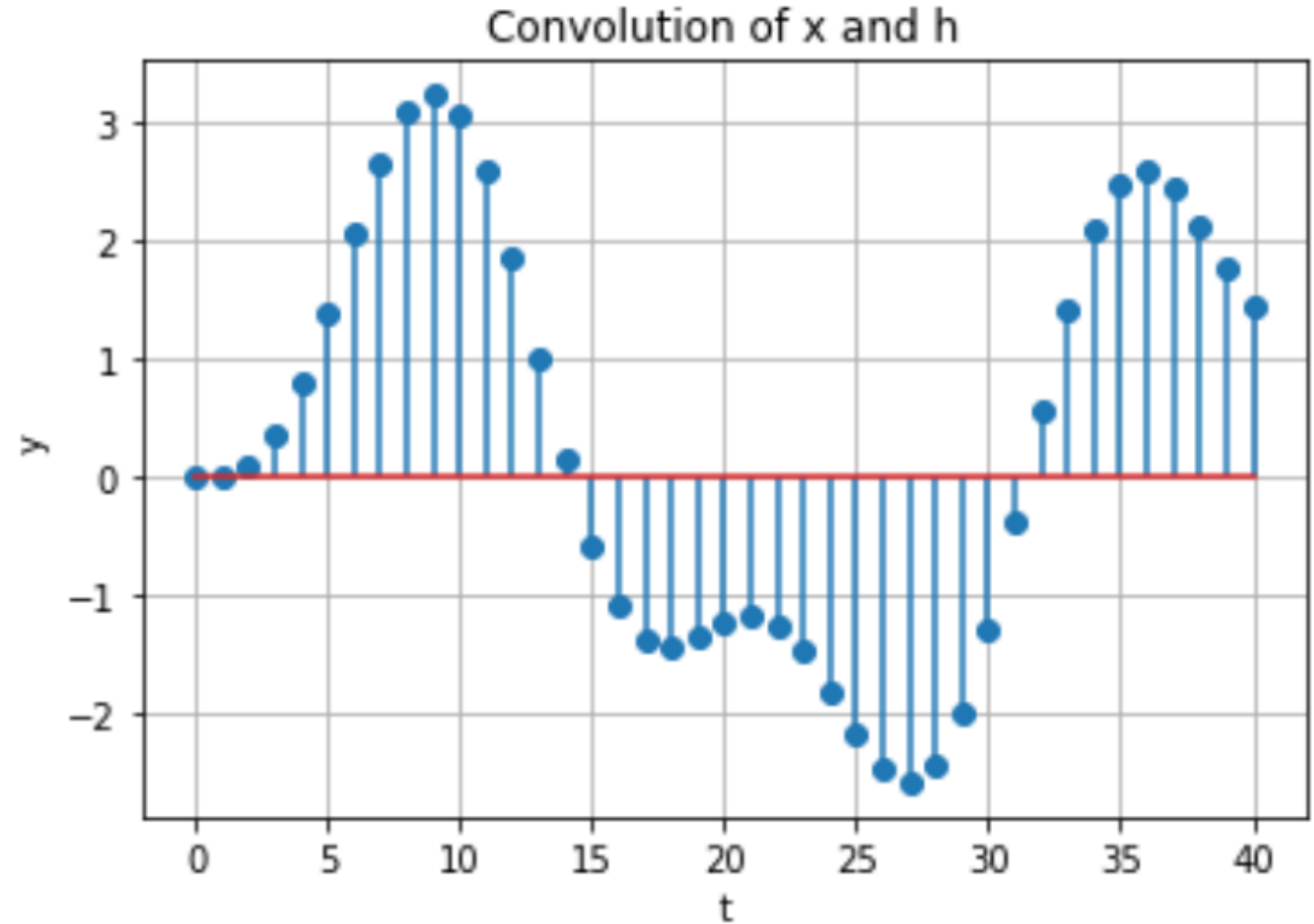
$$h[n] = \sin(0.5n), \quad n \geq 0$$



$$x[n] = \sin(0.2n), \quad n \geq 0$$

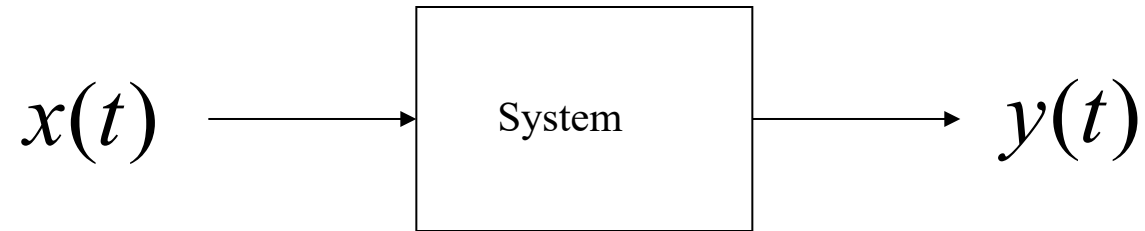
# Computing Convolution

$$y[n] = x[n] * h[n]$$

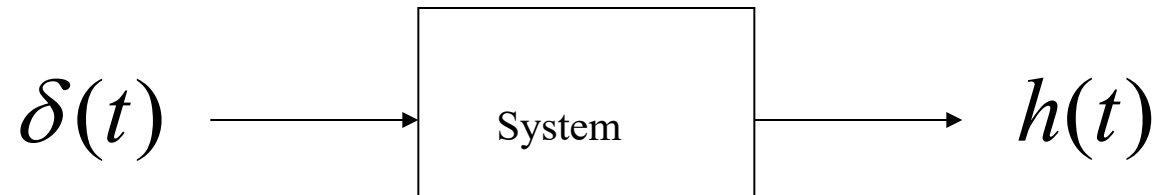


# CT Unit-Impulse Response

- Consider the CT SISO system:



- If the input signal is  $x(t) = \delta(t)$  and the system has no energy at  $t = 0^-$ , the output  $y(t) = h(t)$  is called the impulse response of the system



# Exploiting Time-Invariance

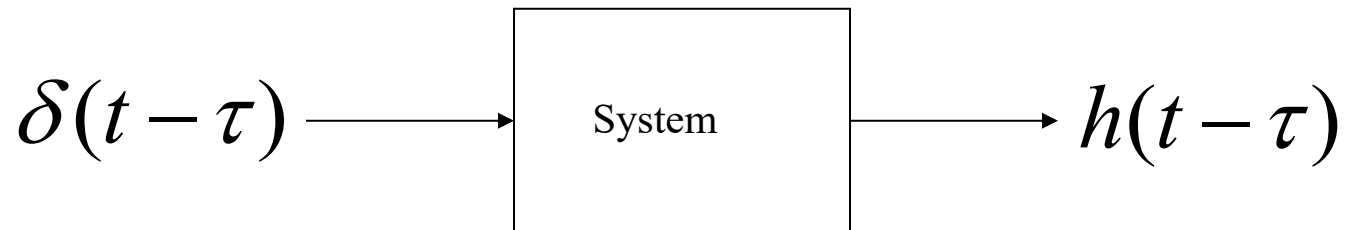
- Let  $x[n]$  be an arbitrary input signal with

$$x(t) = 0, \text{ for } t < 0$$

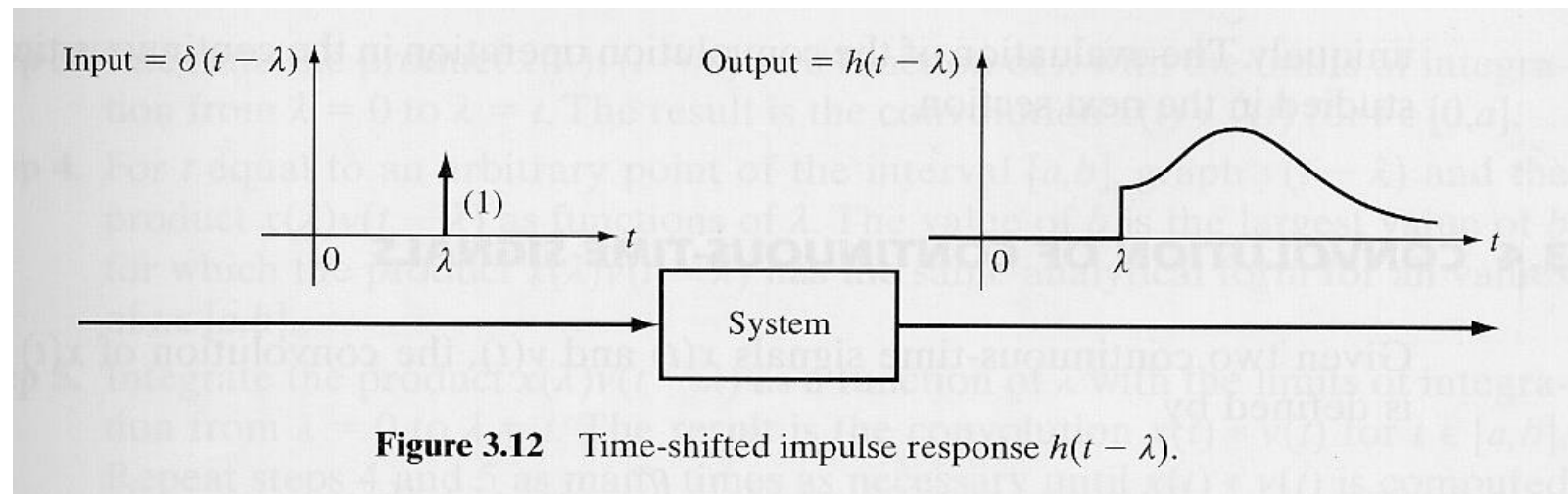
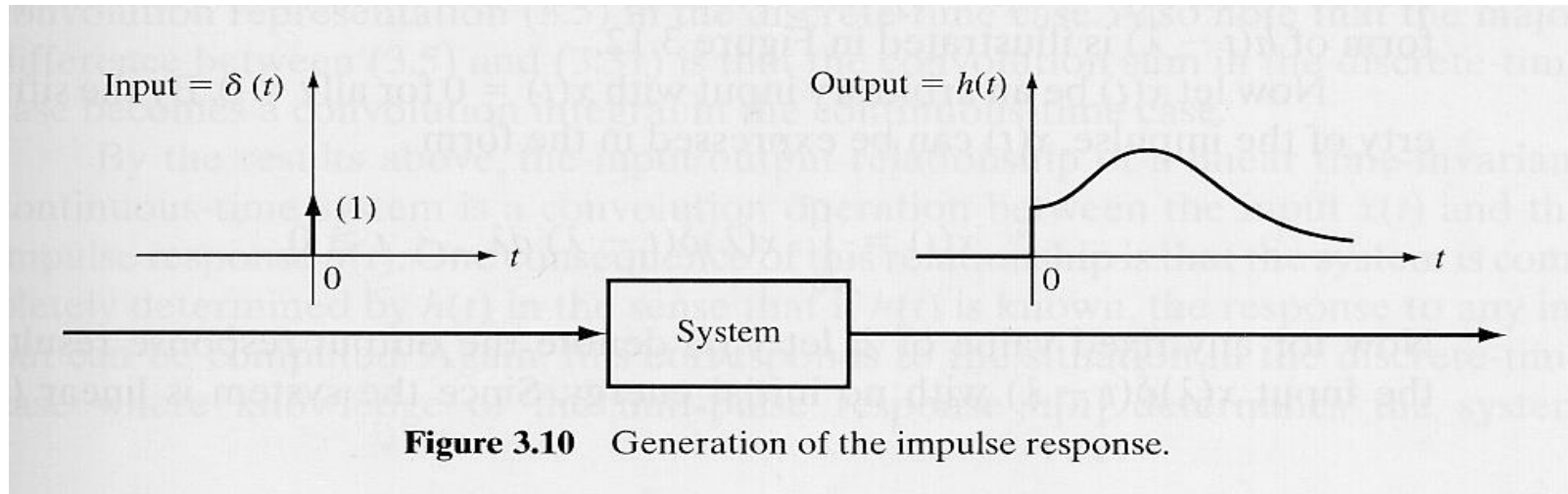
- Using the sifting property of  $\delta(t)$ , we may write

$$x(t) = \int_{0^-}^{\infty} x(\tau) \delta(t - \tau) d\tau, \quad t \geq 0$$

- Exploiting time-invariance, it is



# Exploiting Time-Invariance



# Exploiting Linearity

- Exploiting linearity, it is

$$y(t) = \int_{0^-}^{\infty} x(\tau)h(t-\tau)d\tau, \quad t \geq 0$$

- If the integrand  $x(\tau)h(t-\tau)$  does not contain an impulse located at  $\tau = 0$ , the lower limit of the integral can be taken to be 0, i.e.,

$$y(t) = \int_0^{\infty} x(\tau)h(t-\tau)d\tau, \quad t \geq 0$$

# The Convolution Integral

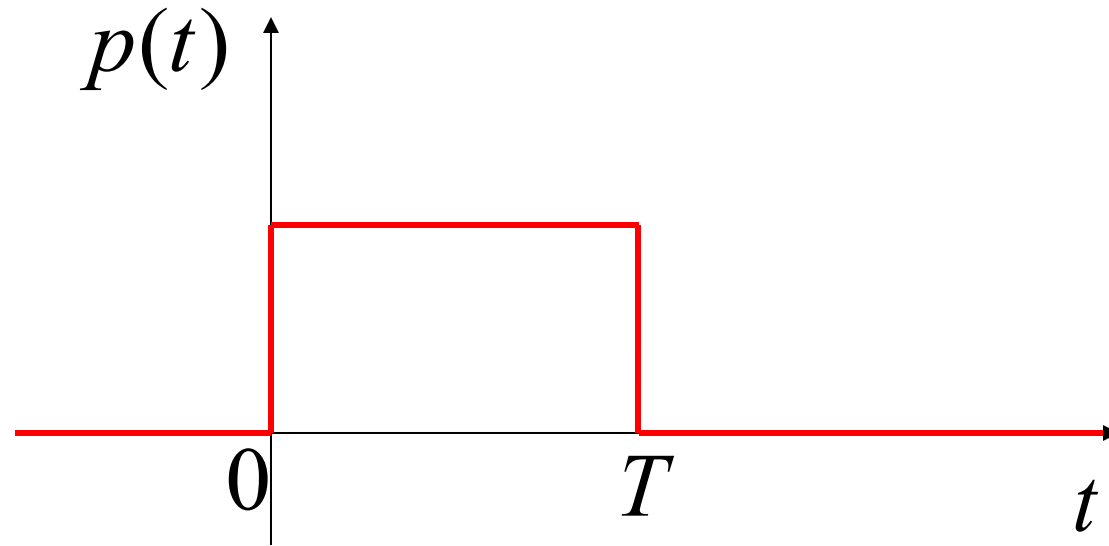
- This particular integration is called the convolution integral

$$y(t) = \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} x(\tau)h(t-\tau)d\tau}_{x(t) * h(t)}, \quad t \geq 0$$

- Equation  $y(t) = x(t) * h(t)$  is called the convolution representation of the system
- Remark: a CT LTI system is completely described by its impulse response  $h(t)$

# Example: Analytical Computation of the Convolution Integral

- Suppose that  $x(t) = h(t) = p(t)$ , where  $p(t)$  is the rectangular pulse depicted in figure





# Example – Cont'd

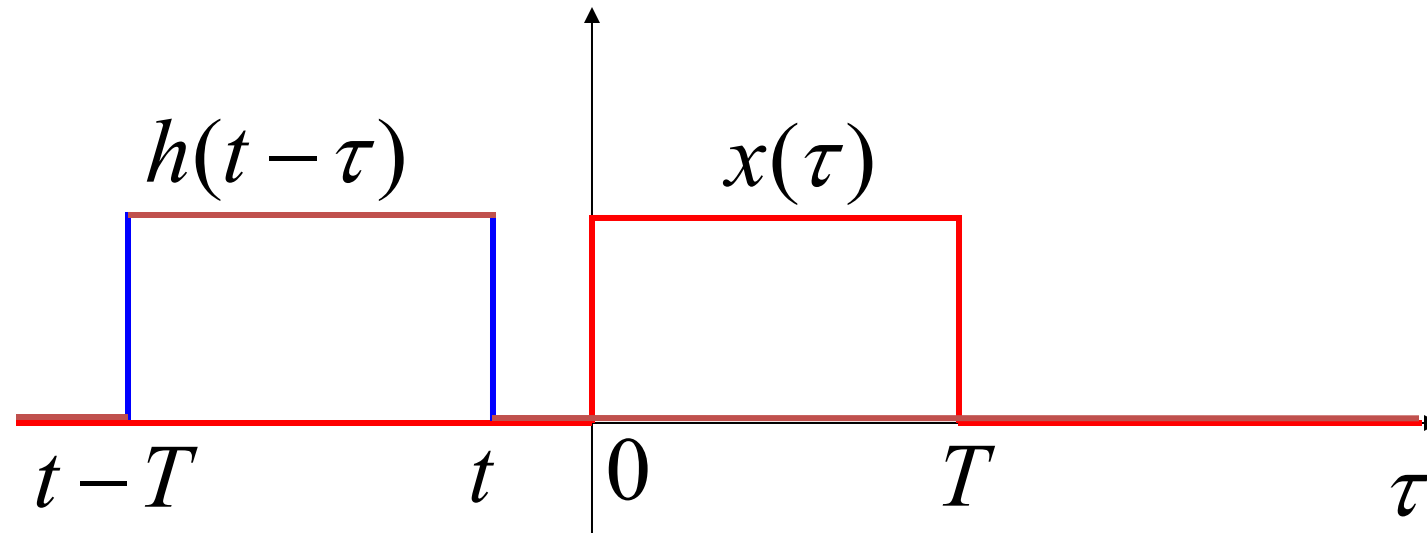
- In order to compute the convolution integral

$$y(t) = \int_0^{\infty} x(\tau)h(t - \tau)d\tau, \quad t \geq 0$$

- we have to consider four cases:

# Example – Cont'd

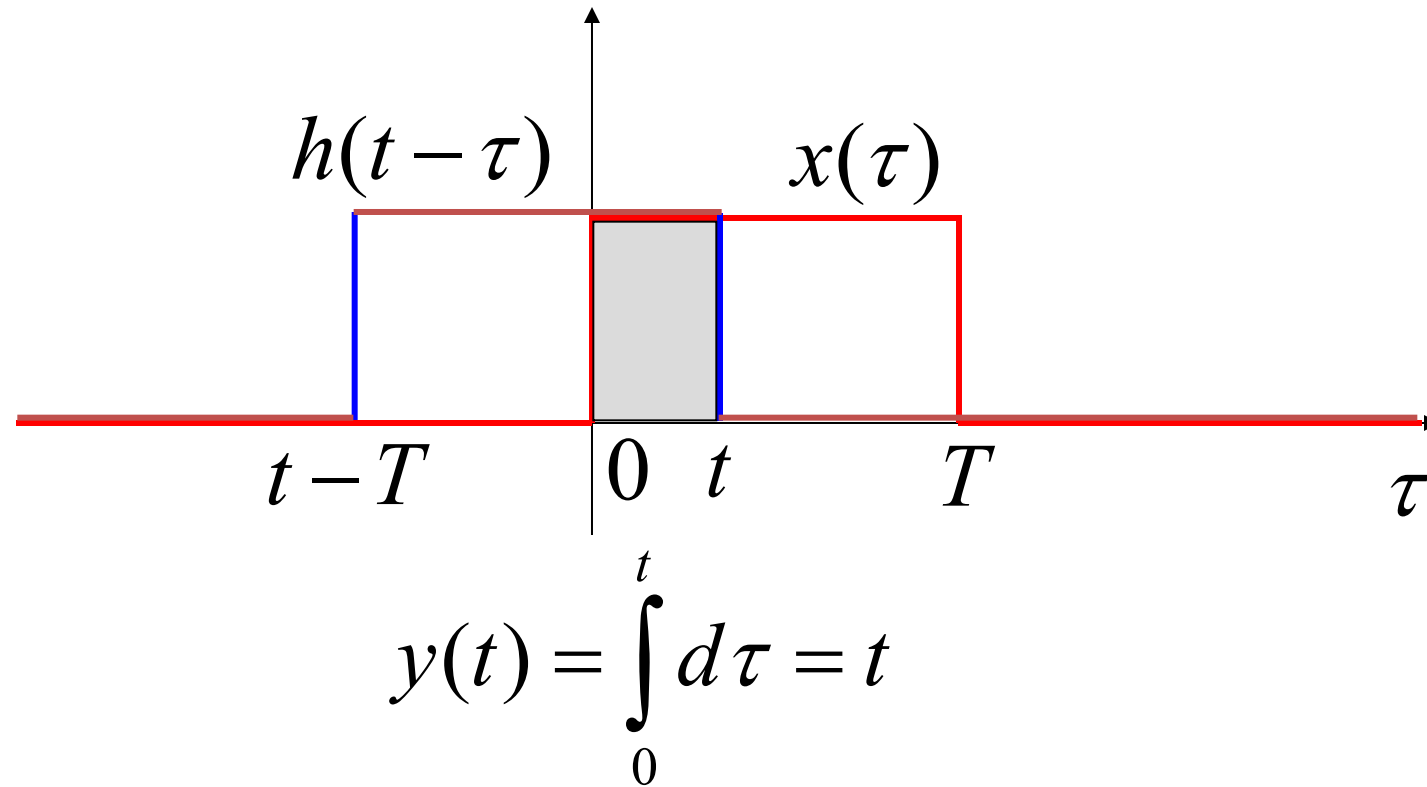
- Case 1:  $t \leq 0$



$$y(t) = 0$$

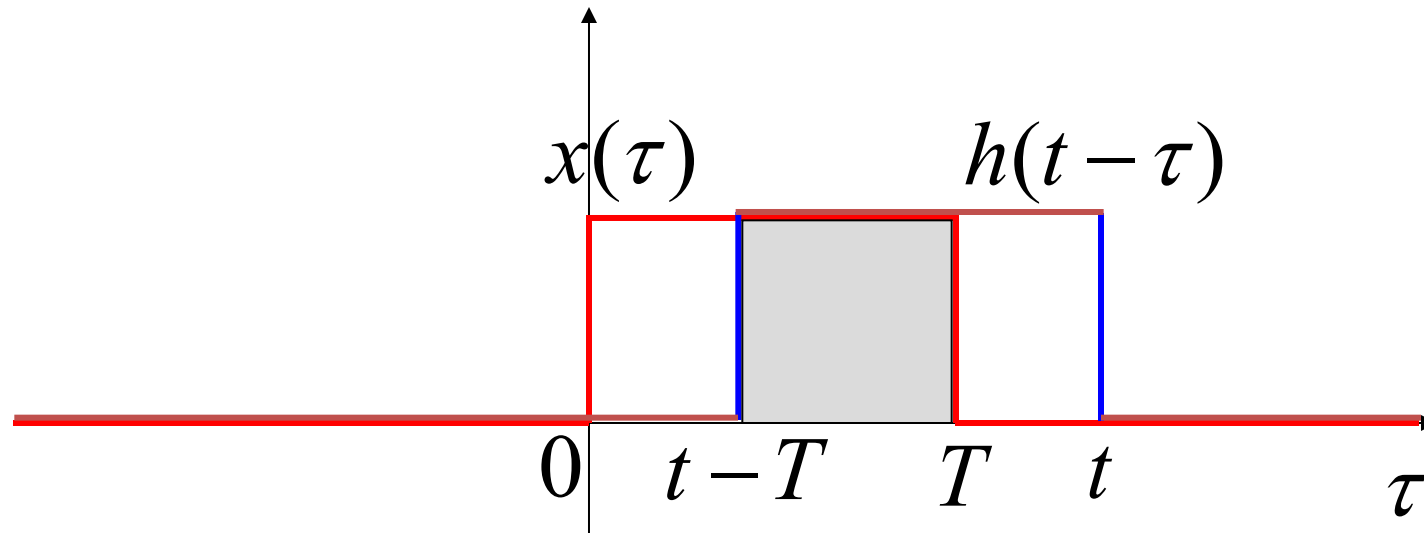
# Example – Cont'd

- Case 2:  $0 \leq t \leq T$



# Example – Cont'd

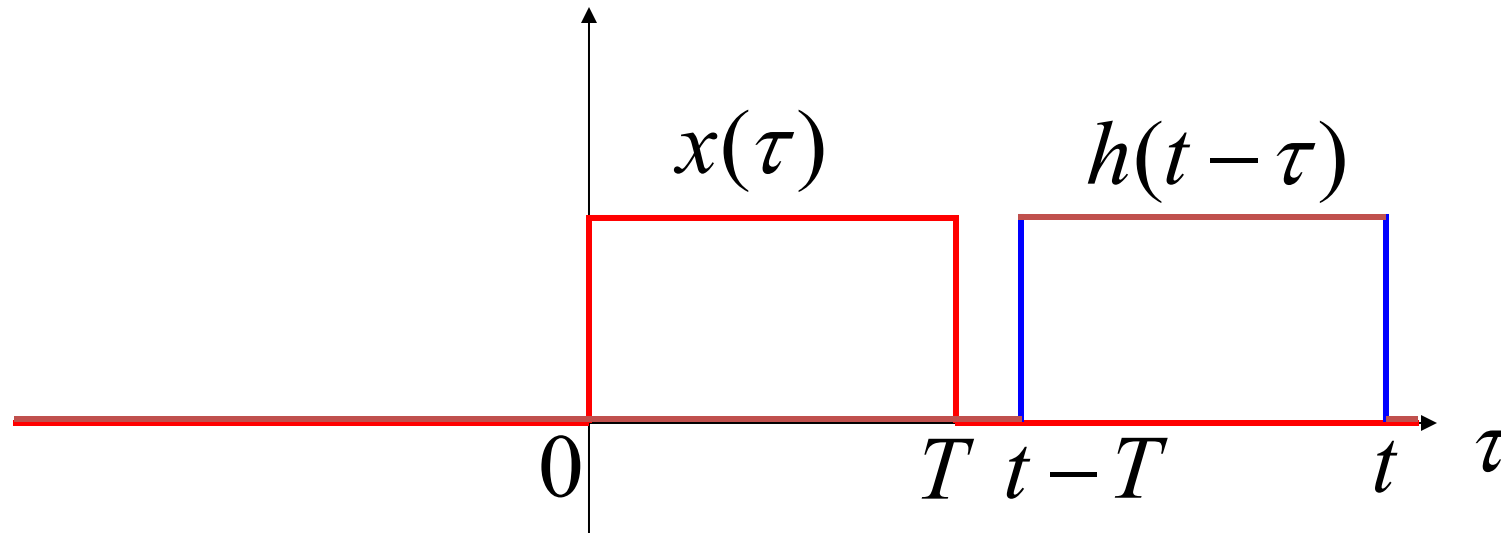
- Case 3:  $0 \leq t - T \leq T \rightarrow T \leq t \leq 2T$



$$y(t) = \int_{t-T}^T d\tau = T - (t - T) = 2T - t$$

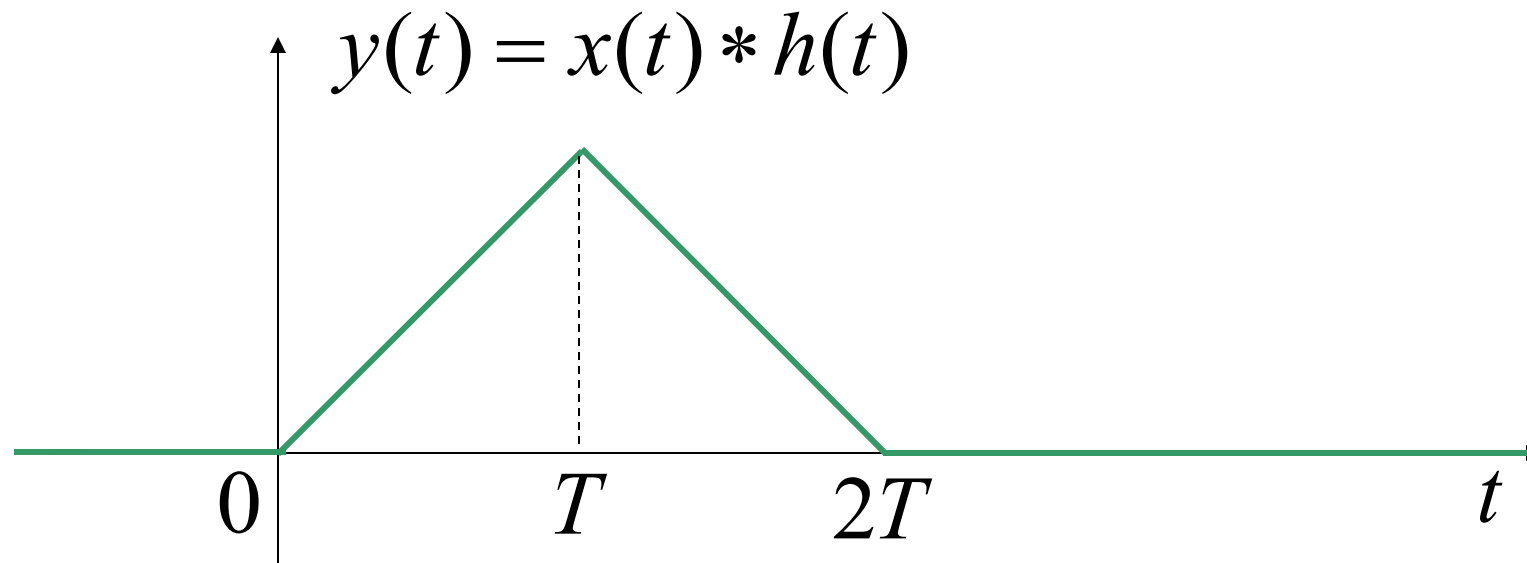
# Example – Cont'd

- Case 4:  $T \leq t - T \rightarrow 2T \leq t$



$$y(t) = 0$$

# Example – Cont'd



# Continuous Convolution

- $y(t) = x(t) * h(t)$
- $= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(\tau)h(t - \tau)dt$
- Or
- $= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t - \tau)h(\tau)dt$

# Discrete Convolution

- $y(n) = x(n) * h(n)$
- $= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{k=\infty} x(k)h(n - k)$

– Or

- $= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{k=\infty} x(n - k)h(k)$



# Properties of Convolution

- Commutative
- $x_1(t) * x_2(t) = x_2(t) * x_1(t)$
- Distributive
- $x_1(t) * [x_2(t) + x_3(t)] =$   
 $[x_1(t) * x_2(t)] + [x_1(t) * x_3(t)]$
- Associative
- $x_1(t) * [x_2(t) * x_3(t)] =$   
 $[x_1(t) * x_2(t)] * x_3(t)$

# Properties of Convolution

- Shifting
- $x_1(t) * x_2(t) = y(t)$
- $x_1(t) * x_2(t - t_0) = y(t - t_0)$
- $x_1(t - t_0) * x_2(t) = y(t - t_0)$
- $x_1(t - t_0) * x_2(t - t_1) = y(t - t_0 - t_1)$

# CORRELATION

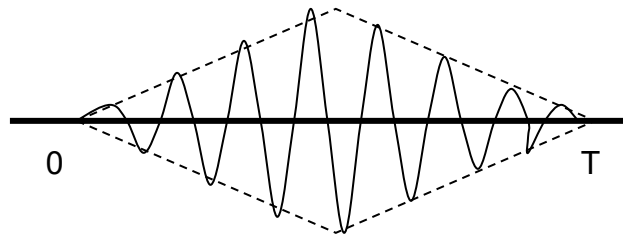
# Correlation of Discrete-Time Signals



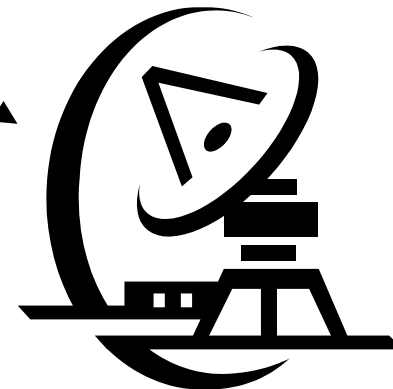
Transmitted Signal,  $x(n)$

Reflected Signal,  
 $y(n) = \alpha x(n-D) + w(n)$

Where  $\alpha$  is the attenuation factor



- A mathematical operation that closely resembles convolution.
- It involves two signals just like convolution
- However, its objective is to measure the degree to which the signals are similar
- Usually encountered in radar, digital communication, image processing and other areas in science and engineering



Measures similarity  
between 2 signals

# Cross-Correlation

- Cross-correlation of  $x(n)$  and  $y(n)$  is a sequence,  $r_{xy}(l)$

$$r_{xy}(l) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x(n) y(n-l) \quad l = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

$$r_{xy}(l) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x(n-l) y(n) \quad l = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

- Reversing the order,  $r_{yx}(l)$

$$r_{yx}(l) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} y(n) x(n-l) \quad l = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

$$r_{yx}(l) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} y(n-l) x(n) \quad l = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$r_{xy}(l) = r_{yx}(-l)$$

# Example

- *Determine the cross correlation of the two signals*
  - $x(n) = \{ \dots, 0, 0, 2, -1, 3, 7, \mathbf{1}, 2, -3, 0, 0, \dots \}$
  - $y(n) = \{ \dots, 0, 0, 1, -1, 2, -2, \mathbf{4}, 1, -2, 5, 0, 0, \dots \}$
- *Using this equation*
  - $r_{xy}(l) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x(n)y(n-l)$
- When  $l=0$  we have
  - $r_{xy}(0) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x(n)y(n)$
- Therefore the sequence  $x(n)y(n)$  becomes
  - $\{ \dots, 0, 0, 2, 1, 6, -14, \mathbf{4}, 2, 6, 0, 0, \dots \}$
- Hence the overall sum becomes
  - $r_{xy}(0) = 7$
- Similarly,
  - $r_{xy}(1) = 13, r_{xy}(2) = -18, r_{xy}(3) = 16, r_{xy}(4) = -7$

# Similarity to Convolution

- It is apparent through observation in the calculations that cross correlation is
  - Shifting one of the signals
  - Multiplying the two signals
  - Summing over all values of the product signal
- There is no folding (time-reversal)
- Therefore, **the convolution of  $x(n)$  with  $y(-n)$  yields the cross correlation  $r_{xy}(l)$**

$$r_{xy}(l) = x(l) * y(-l)$$

$$r_{yx}(l) = y(l) * x(-l)$$

- ..
  - ..

# Auto-Correlation

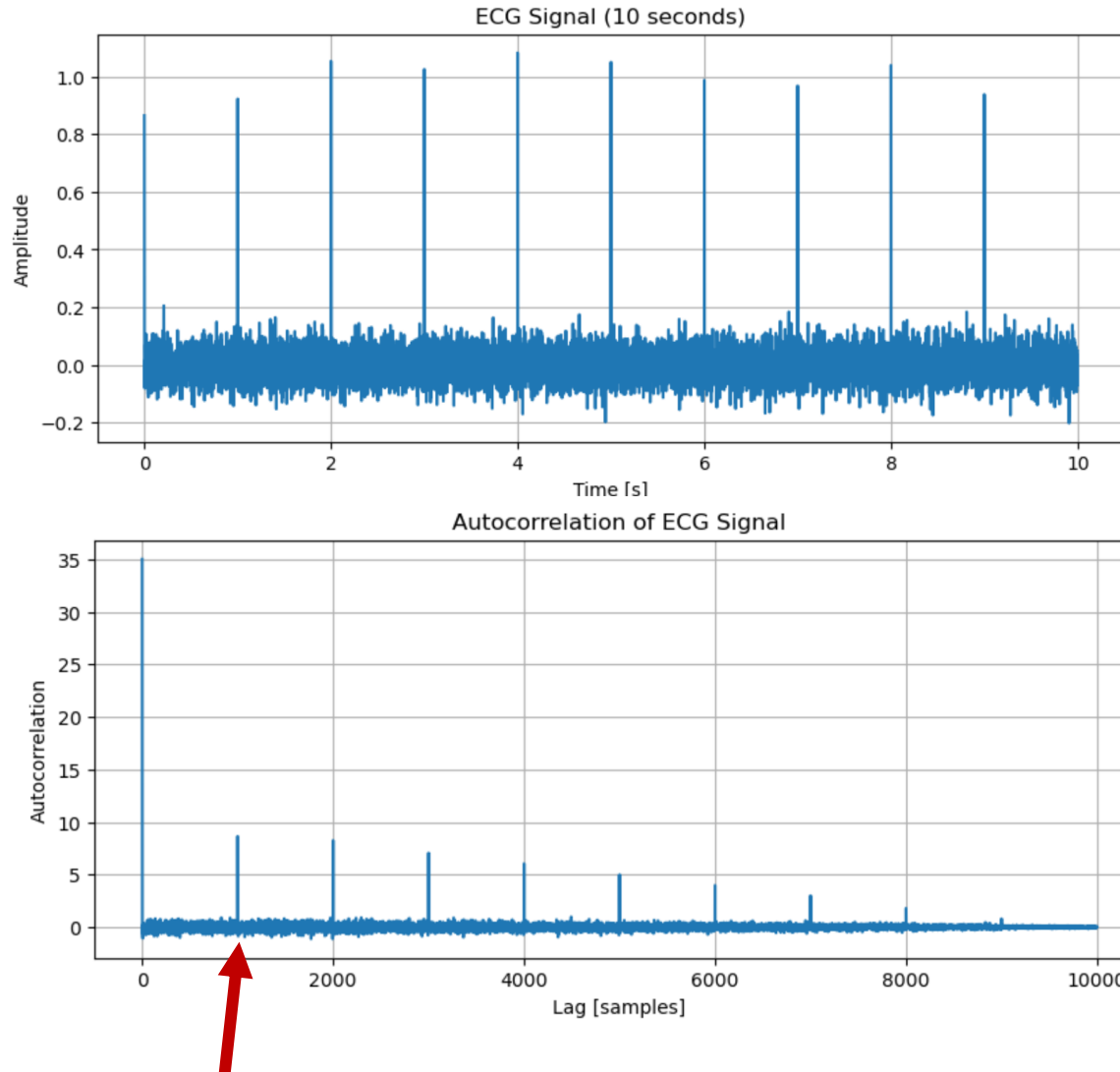
- Correlation of a signal with itself

$$r_{xx}(l) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x(n)x(n-l) = r_{xx}(-l) \quad l = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

- Used to differentiate the presence of a like-signal, e.g., zero or one
- Auto-correlation function is an even function
  - $r_{xx}(l) = r_{xx}(-l)$



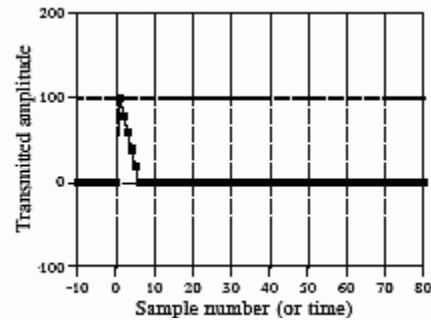
# Periodicity using Autocorrelation



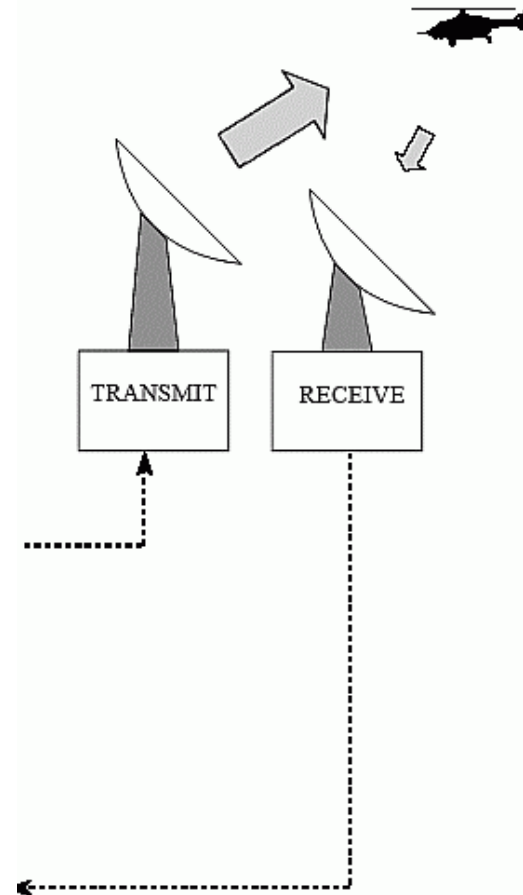
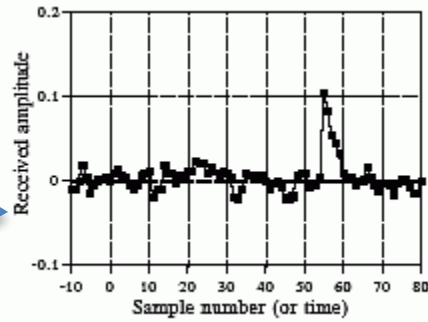
- ECG signal (above) and its autocorrelation (below)
- Find the peak of the autocorrelation.
  - The first peak after lag zero gives the period between the heartbeats
  - 1000 lags
- In seconds  $\rightarrow 1000/f_s = 1$  sec
- Change to beats per minute =  $60/1 = 60$  BPM

# Cross-Correlation Concept

Transmitted waveform

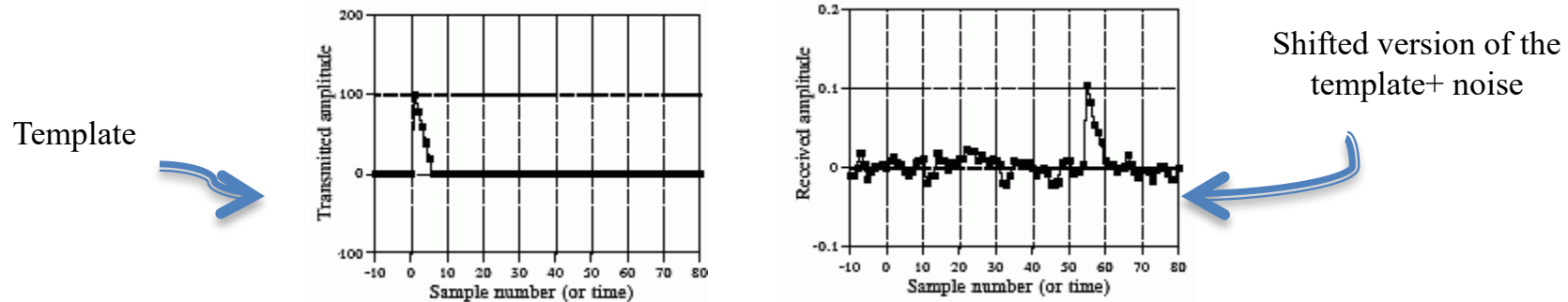


Shifted version of the  
transmitted waveform + noise



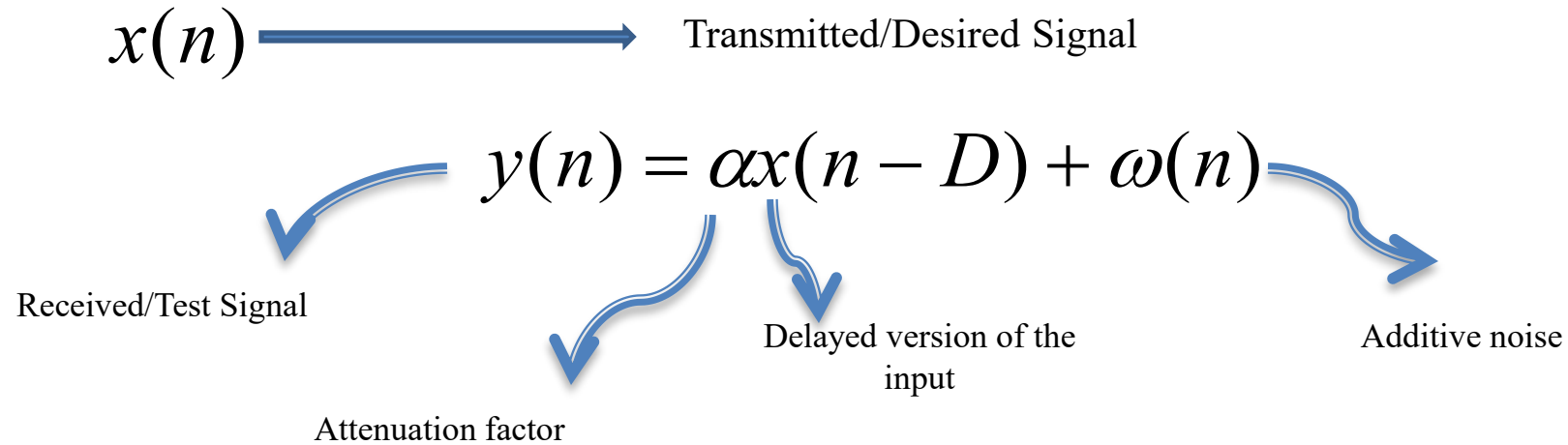
# Cross-Correlation of Discrete-time Signals

- Cross-correlation is an efficient way to measure the degree to which two signals (one template and the other the test signal) are similar to each other.



- *Cross-Correlation* is a mathematical operation that resembles convolution. It measures the degree of similarity between two signals.

# Mathematical Definition



$$r_{xy}(l) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x(n)y(n-l) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x(n+l)y(n), \quad l = 0, +1, +2, \dots$$

- $r_{yx}(l)$  is thus the *folded* version of  $r_{xy}(l)$  around  $l = 0$  :

$$r_{xy}(l) = r_{yx}(-l)$$

# Calculation of cross-correlation

- Cross-correlation involves the same sequence of steps as in convolution *except* the folding part, so basically the cross-correlation of two signals involves:
  1. Shifting one of the sequences
  2. Multiplication of the two sequences
  3. Summing over all values of the product

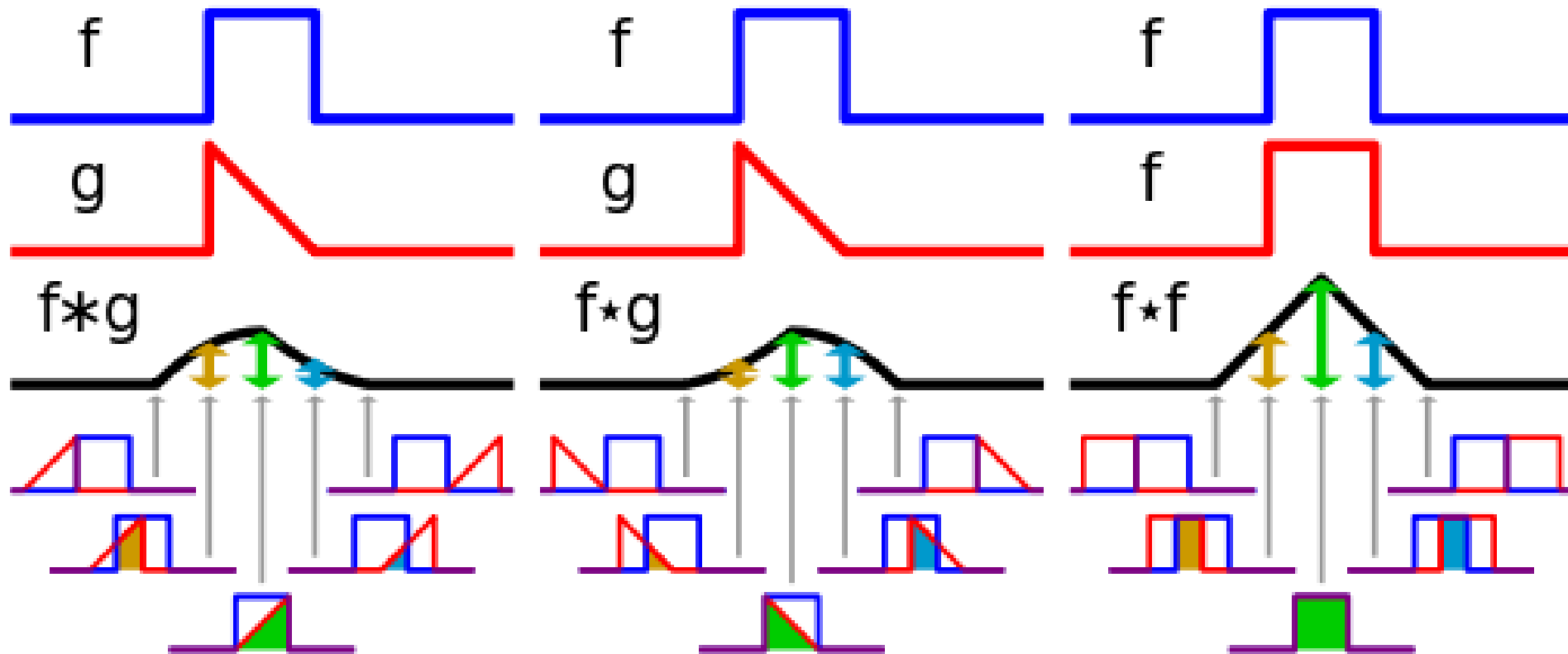
# Cross-correlation vs. Convolution

- The cross-correlation machine and convolution machine are identical, except that in the correlation machine this flip doesn't take place, and the samples run in the normal direction.

$$r_{xy}(l) = x(l) * y(-l) \longrightarrow \text{Cross-correlation is non-commutative.}$$

- Convolution is the relationship between a system's input signal, output signal, and the impulse response. Correlation is a way to detect a known waveform in a noisy background.
- The similar mathematics is only a convenient coincidence.

# Convolution, Cross-correlation, and Autocorrelation



**Convolution** describes the response of a linear and time-invariant system to an input signal.

The inverse Fourier transform of the pointwise product in frequency space.

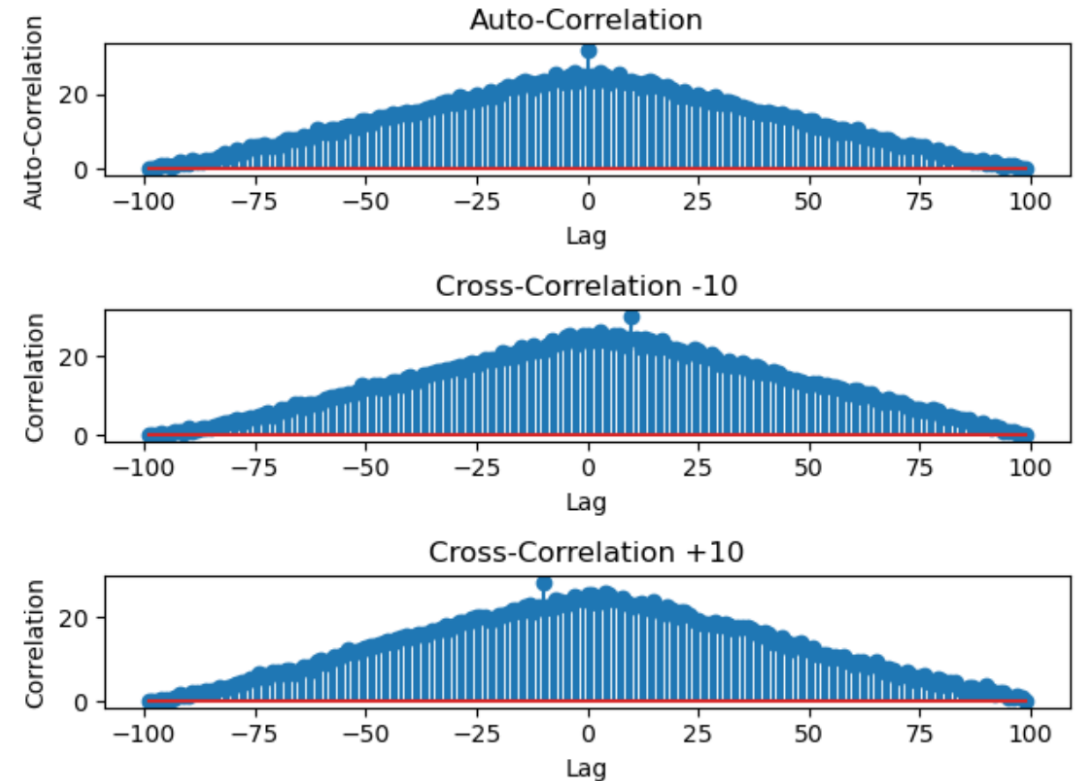
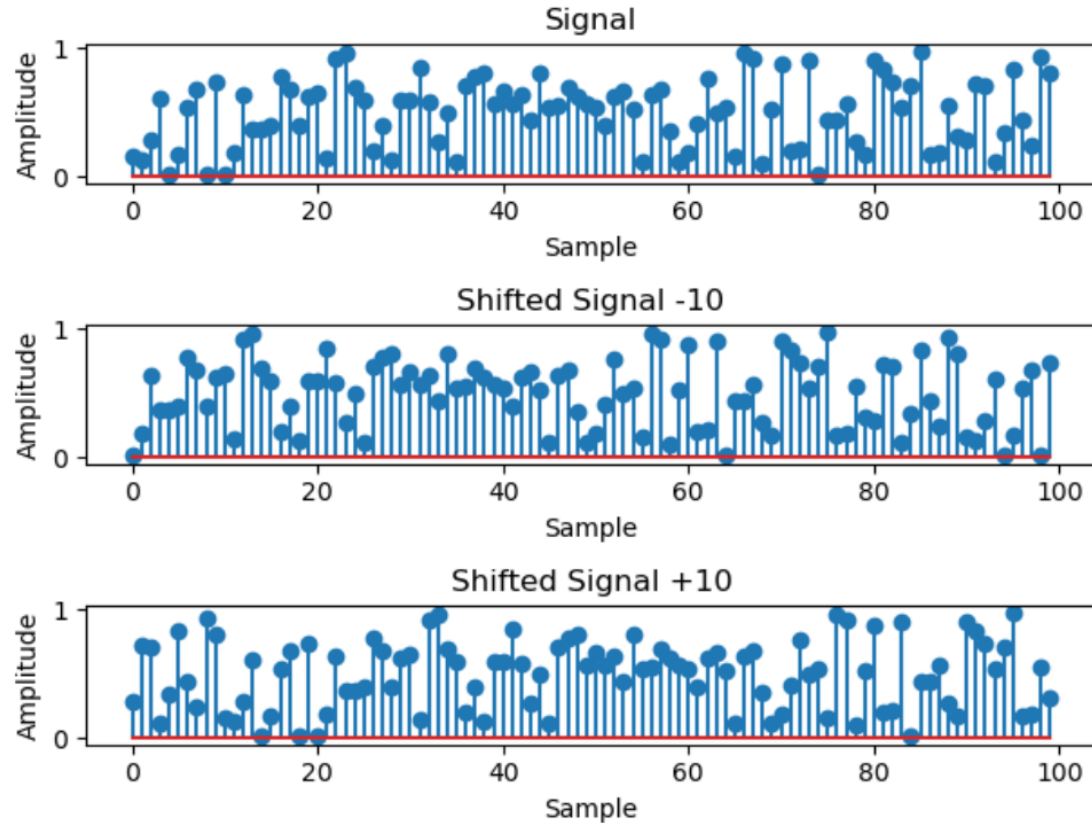
**Cross-correlation** is a measure of similarity of two signals.

It can be used for finding a shift between two signals.

**Auto-correlation** is the cross-correlation of a signal with itself.

It can be used for finding periodic signals obscured by noise.

# Correlation Illustration



**Top:** Autocorrelation

**Middle and Bottom:** Correlation with signal delayed by -10 and 10 respectively.



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# Summary

- Convolution
- Convolution Examples
- Convolution Theorem
- Correlation
- Correlation Examples

# Further Reading

- Sign in with University of Lincoln and Read Online
  - **Title:** Digital Signal Processing : Pearson New International Edition
  - **Authors:** John Proakis and Dimitris Manolakis
  - **Online Link:**  
<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/ulinc/detail.action?docID=5174771>
  - What to read:
    - Discrete Time Signals and Systems (**Chapter 2**)

# Questions

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