Gaussian Pulse-shaping

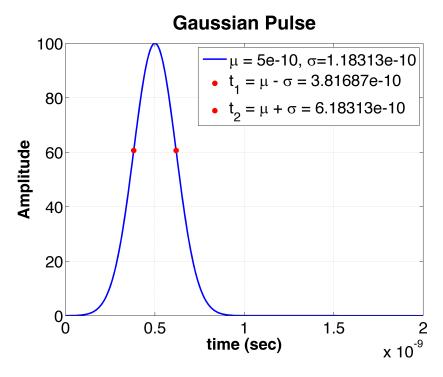


Figure 1: Gaussian-shape Pulse can be considered as the impulse response of a continuous-time Gaussian filter

The Gaussian signal in Fig. 1 is given by:

$$g(t) = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{a}e^{-\frac{\pi^2t^2}{a^2}}$$

Probabilistic:

$$g(t) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}e^{\frac{-(t-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}},$$

where a is related to the sigma as:

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\pi}a$$
 or $a = \sqrt{2}\pi\sigma$.

Let $f_{\rm (3dB)}$ be the -3dB frequency of the signal then (e.g.)

$$\sigma = \frac{\sqrt{\ln 2}}{2\pi f_{(3\text{dB})}}.$$

There are two approximation errors in the design: a truncation error and a sampling error. The truncation error is due to a finite-time (FIR) approximation of the theoretically infinite impulse

response of the ideal Gaussian filter. The sampling error (aliasing) is due to the fact that a Gaussian frequency response is not really band-limited in a strict sense (i.e. the energy of the Gaussian signal beyond a certain frequency is not exactly zero). This can be noted from the transfer function of the continuous-time Gaussian filter, which is given as below:

Frequency content of the signal,

$$G(f) = e^{-a^2 f^2}$$

or equivalently

$$G(f) = e^{-2(\pi\sigma)^2 f^2}.$$