

# Signals and Systems (ELL205)

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# Outline

- What are signals?
- What are systems?
- Different kinds of Signals
  - Continuous-time vs. Discrete-time signals

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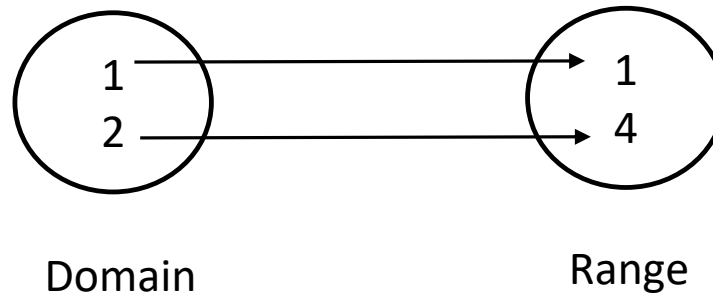
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# What are signals?

- Signals are functions.
  - Functions are maps between domain and range, with a restriction that one input can have maximum one output.

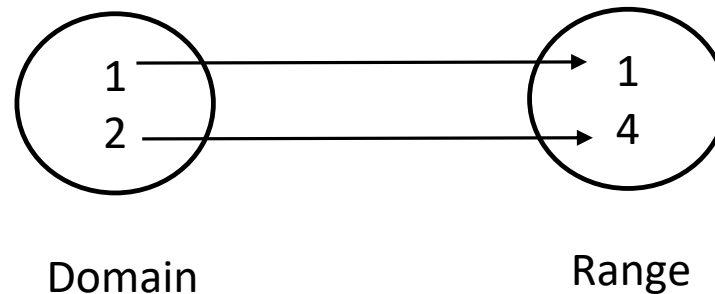
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- The map between domain and range can be expressed as a set of ordered pairs:  
 $\langle (1,1), (2,4) \rangle$

or by a mathematical expression,  $f(x) = x^2$ .

$x$ : independent variable,  $f(x)$ : dependent variable.

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- We focus on two independent variables: time and frequency. The function with independent variable as frequency are special functions known as spectrum.
- Signal can be a function of many independent variables  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ , known as multi-dimensional function.

Example: Black and white image



$$f(x, y) = \text{Brightness}$$

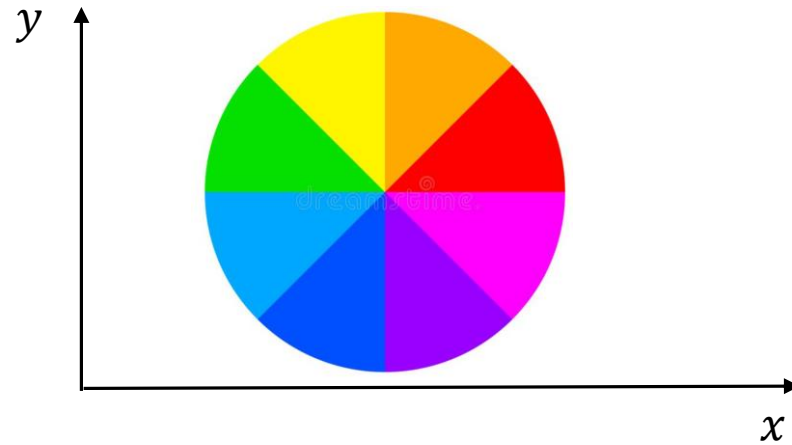
Brightness is communicated by a real number



# What are signals?

- Signals can also have multi-dimensional range.

Example: Color images



$$f(x, y) = \text{Color}$$

Color is indicated by three real numbers:

First representing **Red**, the second representing **Green**, and the third representing **Blue**.

# What are signals?

## Black & White Image

- Domain:  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (multi-dimensional signal)
- Range:  $\mathbb{R}$  (single-variate signal)

Multi-dimensional signal

## Color Image

- Domain:  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (multi-dimensional signal)
- Range:  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (multi-variate signal)

Multi-dimensional and multi-variate signals

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**Simple definition:** It takes one input function and gives out another function (or may be even the same signal in case of the identity system).

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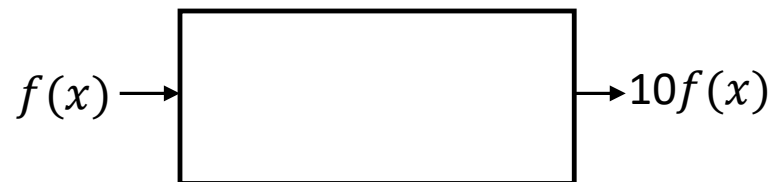
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Example: Amplifier



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# Types of signals

Continuous-time signals vs. Discrete-time signals

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Continuous-time signals vs. Discrete-time signals

Time is the independent variable, assumed just for convenience

# Types of signals

## Continuous-time signals

- $x(t)$ 
  - $t$  is used as the independent variable
  - () parenthesis is used

## Discrete-time signals

- $x[n]$ 
  - $n$  is used as the independent variable
  - [] brackets are used

# Types of signals

## Continuous-time signals

- $x(t)$ 
  - $t$  is used as the independent variable
  - () parenthesis is used
- Signal is defined for a continuum of values of the i.v.

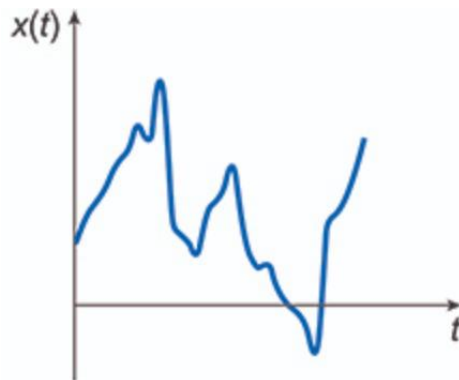
## Discrete-time signals

- $x[n]$ 
  - $n$  is used as the independent variable
  - [] brackets are used
- Signal is defined for only discrete values of the i.v.

# Types of signals

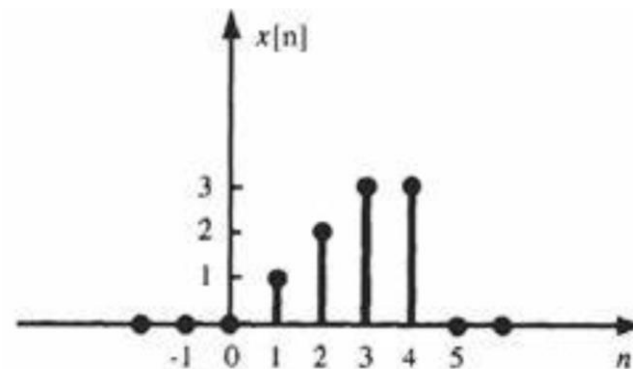
## Continuous-time signals

- $x(t)$   
 $t$  is used as the independent variable  
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- Example:



## Discrete-time signals

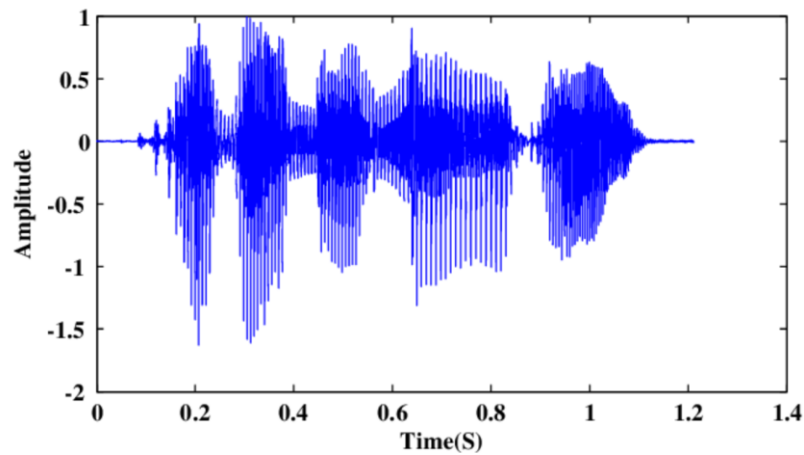
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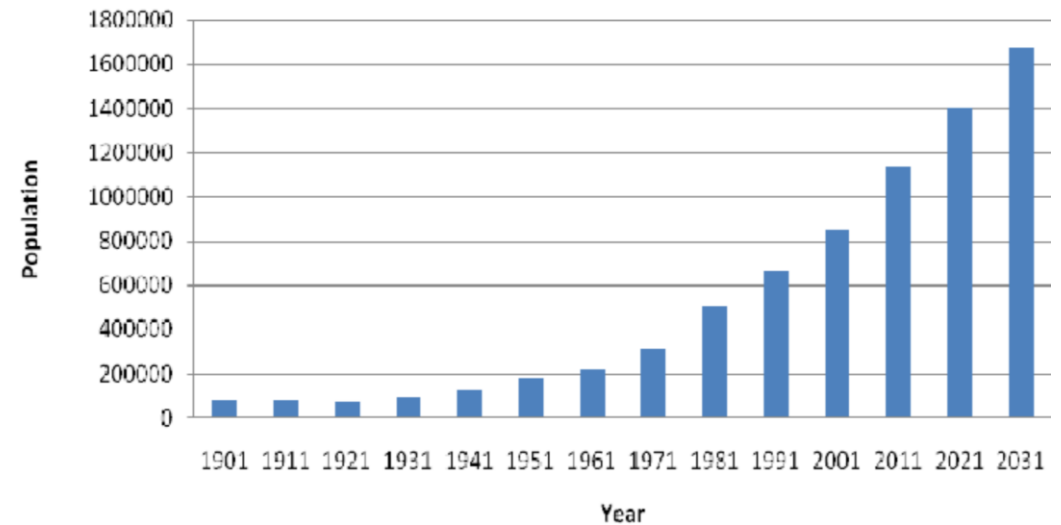
## Continuous-time signals

- Examples are speech signals



## Discrete-time signals

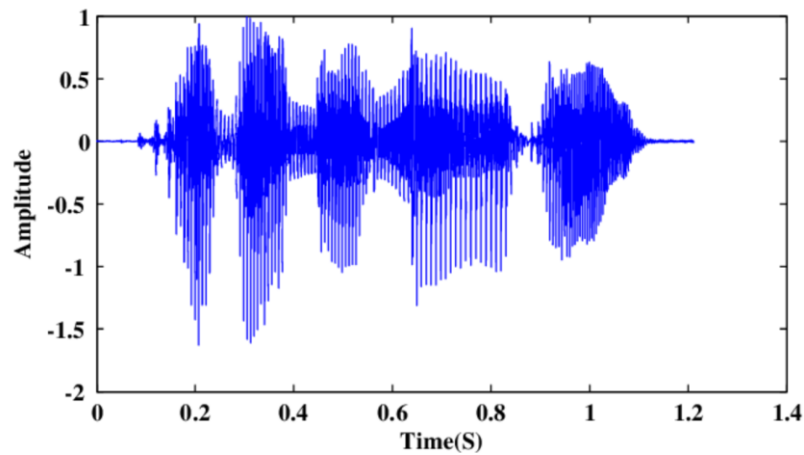
- Examples are population growth



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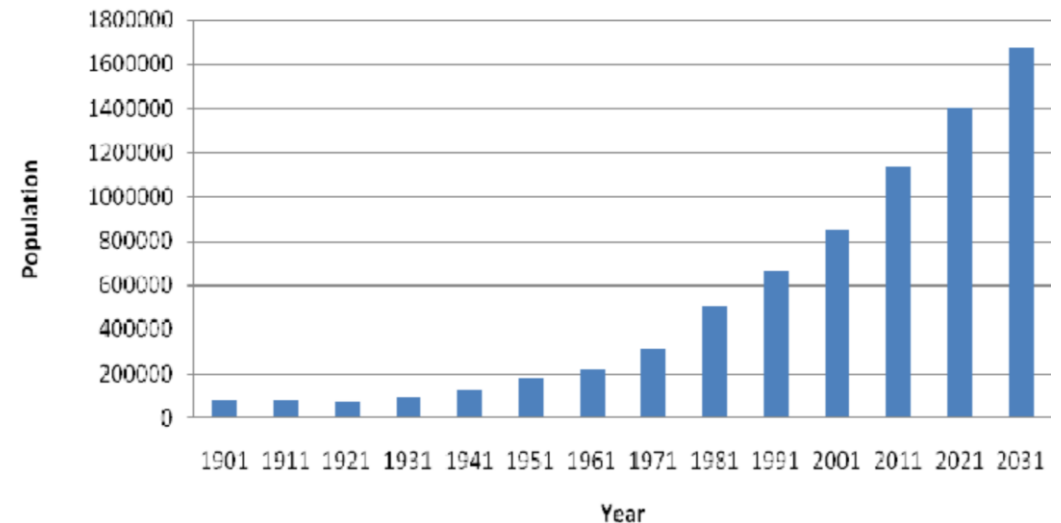
## Continuous-time signals

- Examples are speech signals



## Discrete-time signals

- Examples are population growth



All physical signals are CT signals but CT signals cannot be stored in computer, and that is, bad.

# Types of signals

- Thus,  $x(t) \rightarrow x[n]$  by sampling.
  - Music  $\rightarrow$  MP3
  - Picture  $\rightarrow$  JPEG



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- Thus,  $x(t) \rightarrow x[n]$  by sampling.
- Thus,  $x[n] \rightarrow x(t)$  by interpolation.
  - Zero-order hold interpolation (good for ears).
  - Linear interpolation (good for eyes).
  - Ears and eyes respond to different kinds of errors.