

# The Inverse z-Transform

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# Overview: The Inverse z-Transform

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Introduction

Inspection  
Method

Partial Fraction  
Expansion

Power Series  
Expansion

Summary

## ■ Motivation:

- Need to move between time-domain and z-domain representations
- Analysis often involves finding z-transform, manipulating, then inverting
- Essential for discrete-time signal and system analysis

## ■ Formal Definition:

$$x[n] = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \oint_C X(z)z^{n-1} dz$$

where  $C$  is a closed contour within the ROC

## ■ Practical Methods:

- Inspection method
- Partial fraction expansion
- Power series expansion

# Inspection Method

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**Concept:** Recognize common transform pairs "by inspection"

**Some Transform Pairs:**

- $a^n u[n] \xleftrightarrow{\mathcal{Z}} \frac{1}{1-az^{-1}}, \quad |z| > |a|$
- $-a^n u[-n-1] \xleftrightarrow{\mathcal{Z}} \frac{1}{1-az^{-1}}, \quad |z| < |a|$

**Example:**  $X(z) = \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{2}z^{-1}}$

- If  $|z| > \frac{1}{2}$ :  $x[n] = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n u[n]$
- If  $|z| < \frac{1}{2}$ :  $x[n] = -\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n u[-n-1]$

**Key Point:** ROC determines which sequence! Same  $X(z)$  can represent different sequences.

# Partial Fraction Expansion: Overview

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## For Rational z-Transforms:

$$X(z) = \frac{\sum_{k=0}^M b_k z^{-k}}{\sum_{k=0}^N a_k z^{-k}} = \frac{b_0}{a_0} \frac{\prod_{k=1}^M (1 - c_k z^{-1})}{\prod_{k=1}^N (1 - d_k z^{-1})}$$

## General Procedure:

- 1 Factor denominator to find poles  $d_k$
- 2 Determine expansion form:
  - $M < N: X(z) = \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{A_k}{1-d_k z^{-1}}$
  - $M \geq N: X(z) = \sum_{r=0}^{M-N} B_r z^{-r} + \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{A_k}{1-d_k z^{-1}}$
- 3 Calculate coefficients:  $A_k = (1 - d_k z^{-1}) X(z) \Big|_{z=d_k}$
- 4 Use ROC to determine sequence type:
  - Poles inside inner ROC boundary  $\rightarrow$  right-sided
  - Poles outside outer ROC boundary  $\rightarrow$  left-sided

# Partial Fractions: Simple Poles Example

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**Example:**

$$X(z) = \frac{1}{(1-\frac{1}{4}z^{-1})(1-\frac{1}{2}z^{-1})}, \quad |z| > \frac{1}{2}$$

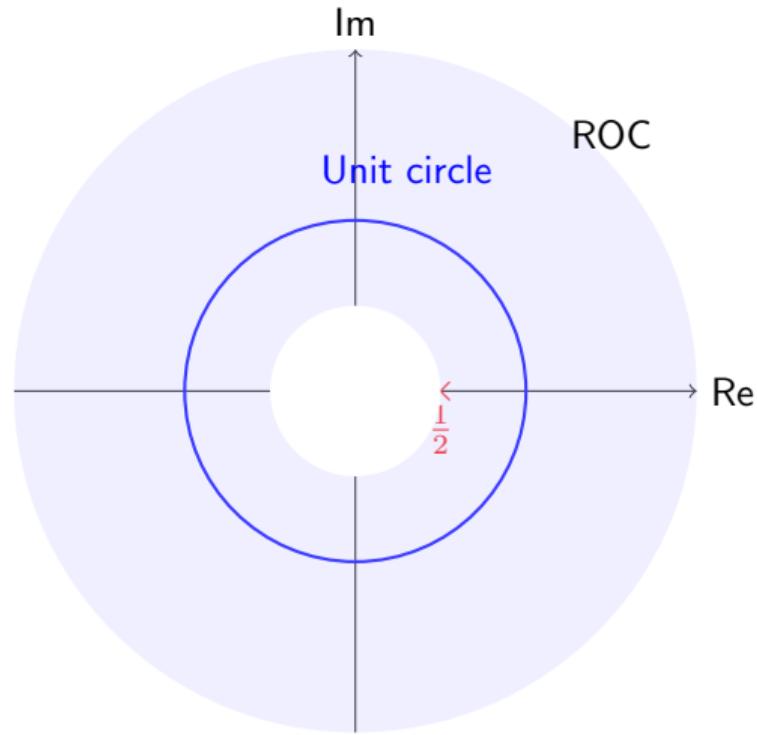
**Partial fraction expansion:**

$$X(z) = \frac{-1}{1 - \frac{1}{4}z^{-1}} + \frac{2}{1 - \frac{1}{2}z^{-1}}$$

**Since ROC is**  $|z| > \frac{1}{2}$ : Both poles inside ROC  $\rightarrow$  right-sided sequences

**Result:**

$$x[n] = -\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^n u[n] + 2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n u[n]$$



# Partial Fractions: Case $M \geq N$

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**Example:**  $X(z) = \frac{1+2z^{-1}+z^{-2}}{1-\frac{3}{2}z^{-1}+\frac{1}{2}z^{-2}} = \frac{(1+z^{-1})^2}{(1-\frac{1}{2}z^{-1})(1-z^{-1})}, \quad |z| > 1$

**Long division yields:**  $B_0 = 2$ , remainder  $= 5z^{-1} - 1$

**Expansion:**

$$X(z) = 2 + \frac{-9}{1 - \frac{1}{2}z^{-1}} + \frac{8}{1 - z^{-1}}$$

**Since ROC is**  $|z| > 1$ : All sequences are right-sided

**Result:**

$$x[n] = 2\delta[n] - 9 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n u[n] + 8u[n]$$

# Power Series Expansion

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**Direct from Definition:**  $X(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n]z^{-n}$

**Example 1:**

- $X(z) = z^2(1 - \frac{1}{2}z^{-1})(1 + z^{-1})(1 - z^{-1}) = z^2 - \frac{1}{2}z - 1 + \frac{1}{2}z^{-1}$
- $x[n] = \delta[n+2] - \frac{1}{2}\delta[n+1] - \delta[n] + \frac{1}{2}\delta[n-1]$

# Example: Complete Inverse Transform

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Given:

$$X(z) = \frac{1 + z^{-1}}{(1 - \frac{1}{2}z^{-1})(1 + \frac{1}{4}z^{-1})}$$

$$\text{ROC: } \frac{1}{4} < |z| < \frac{1}{2}$$

Partial fractions:

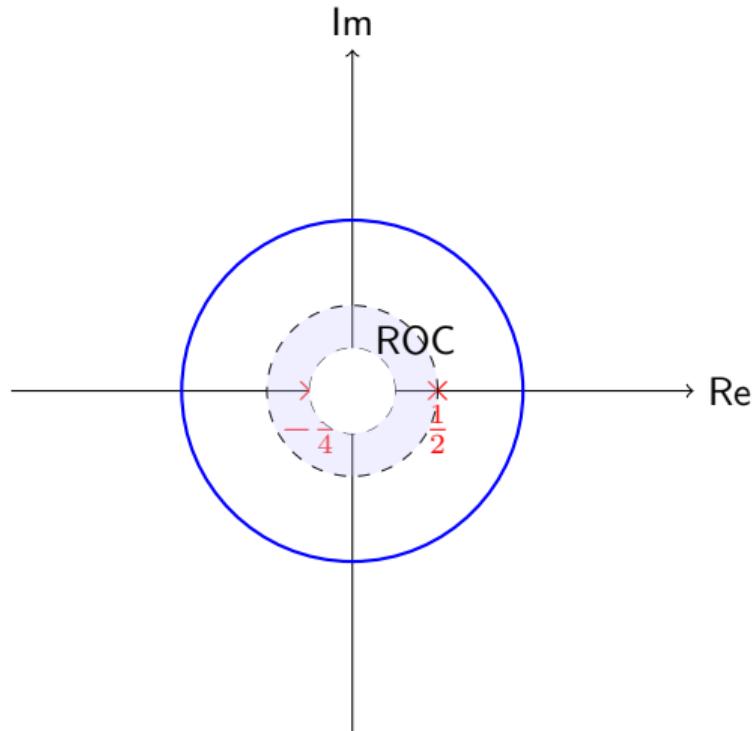
$$X(z) = \frac{3}{1 - \frac{1}{2}z^{-1}} + \frac{-2}{1 + \frac{1}{4}z^{-1}}$$

ROC analysis:

- Pole at  $\frac{1}{2}$  outside ROC  $\rightarrow$  left-sided
- Pole at  $-\frac{1}{4}$  inside ROC  $\rightarrow$  right-sided

Result:

$$x[n] = -3 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n u[-n-1] - 2 \left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)^n u[n]$$



# Summary of Inverse z-Transform Methods

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## 1. Inspection Method:

- Best for simple, recognizable forms

## 2. Partial Fraction Expansion:

- Most useful for rational functions
- Systematic procedure for simple and multiple poles
- ROC critical for determining sequence type

## 3. Power Series Expansion:

- Direct from definition

**Key Principle:** ROC determines sequence type

- Poles inside inner boundary → right-sided sequences
- Poles outside outer boundary → left-sided sequences