

## 9. The $z$ -transform

- the  $z$ -transform
- finding inverse  $z$ -transform
- properties of  $z$ -transform

## Definition

the  $z$ -transform of the sequence  $x[n]$  is

$$X(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n]z^{-n}$$

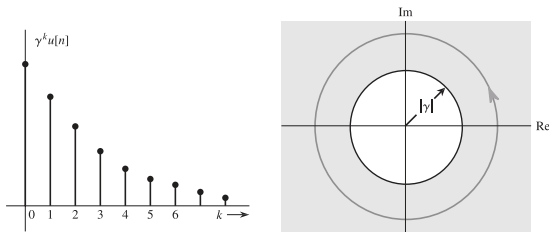
- where  $z$  is a complex variable
- the *region of convergence* (ROC) for  $X(z)$  are the values of  $z$  (the region in the complex plane) for which the sum converges (or exists)

**Example:** the  $z$ -transform for the signal  $\gamma^n u[n]$  is

$$X(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \gamma^n u[n] z^{-n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\gamma}{z}\right)^n = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\gamma}{z}} = \frac{z}{z - \gamma} \quad \left| \frac{\gamma}{z} \right| < 1 \quad (|z| > |\gamma|)$$

for  $|z| < |\gamma|$ , the sum does not converge (it goes to infinity)

the ROC of  $X(z)$  is the shaded region outside the circle of radius  $|\gamma|$  (in  $z$ -plane)



### Uniqueness for causal signals

- the  $z$ -transform of the  $z$ -transform of  $-\gamma^n u[-(n+1)]$  is also  $z/(z-\gamma)$  (but different ROC  $|z| < |\gamma|$ )
- the inverse  $z$ -transform of  $z/(z-\gamma)$  is not unique
- restricting the  $x[n]$  to be causal, then the inverse transform is unique

## The unilateral $z$ -transform

the *unilateral  $z$ -transform* is defined for causal signals

$$X(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x[n]z^{-n}$$

**Existence:** the existence of the  $z$ -transform is guaranteed if

$$|X(z)| \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{|x[n]|}{|z|^n} < \infty, \quad \text{for some } |z|$$

- if  $|x[n]| \leq r_0^n$  for some  $r_0$ , then

$$|X(z)| \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{r_0}{|z|} \right)^n = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{r_0}{|z|}}, \quad |z| > r_0$$

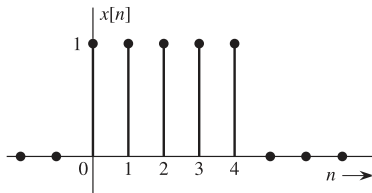
and hence,  $X(z)$  exists for  $|z| > r_0$

- some signal models (e.g.,  $\gamma^{n^2}$  grow faster than the exponential signal  $r_0^n$  (for any  $r_0$ ) and therefore are not  $z$ -transformable

## Example 9.1

using the definition of the  $z$ -transform, find the  $z$ -transforms of:

- (a)  $\delta[n]$
- (b)  $u[n]$
- (c)  $\cos(\beta n)u[n]$
- (d) the signal  $x[n]$  shown below



**Solution:**

(a)

$$X(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x[n]z^{-n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta[n]z^{-n} = 1$$

therefore,

$$\delta[n] \iff 1 \quad \text{for all } z$$

(b) for  $x[n] = u[n]$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} X(z) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x[n]z^{-n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} z^{-n} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{z}} \quad \left| \frac{1}{z} \right| < 1 \\ &= \frac{z}{z - 1} \quad |z| > 1 \end{aligned}$$

therefore,

$$u[n] \iff \frac{z}{z - 1} \quad |z| > 1$$

(c) using  $\cos(\beta n) = (e^{j\beta n} + e^{-j\beta n}) / 2$  and

$$e^{\pm j\beta n} u[n] \iff \frac{z}{z - e^{\pm j\beta}} \quad |z| > |e^{\pm j\beta}| = 1$$

we have

$$X(z) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{z}{z - e^{j\beta}} + \frac{z}{z - e^{-j\beta}} \right] = \frac{z(z - \cos \beta)}{z^2 - 2z \cos \beta + 1} \quad |z| > 1$$

(d) here, we have

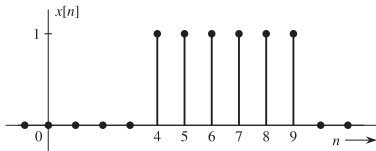
$$X(z) = 1 + \frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{z^2} + \frac{1}{z^3} + \frac{1}{z^4} = \frac{z^4 + z^3 + z^2 + z + 1}{z^4} \quad \text{for all } z \neq 0$$

or

$$X(z) = \sum_{n=0}^4 z^{-n} = \frac{\left(\frac{1}{z}\right)^5 - \left(\frac{1}{z}\right)^0}{\frac{1}{z} - 1} = \frac{z}{z - 1} (1 - z^{-5})$$

## Exercises

- find the  $z$ -transform of



**Answer:**  $X(z) = \frac{z^5 + z^4 + z^3 + z^2 + z + 1}{z^9}$  or  $\frac{z}{z-1} (z^{-4} - z^{-10})$

- use the table to find the  $z$ -transform of

$$x[n] = 20.65(\sqrt{2})^n \cos[(\pi/4)n - 1.415]u[n]$$

**Answer:**  $\frac{z(3.2z + 17.2)}{z^2 - 2z + 2}$



# Outline

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- **finding inverse  $z$ -transform**
- properties of  $z$ -transform

## Inverse $z$ -transform

the *inverse  $z$ -transform* of  $X(z)$  is:

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

- the symbol  $\oint$  indicates an integration in counterclockwise direction around a closed path in the complex plane
- we shall avoid the integration in the complex plane required to find the inverse  $z$ -transform by using the (unilateral) transform table

### Inverse transform using known $z$ -transform pairs

- many of the transforms  $X(z)$  of practical interest are rational functions  $X(z) = A(z)/B(z)$  (ratio of polynomials in  $z$ )
- if we can express  $X(z)$  as a sum of partial fractions, then we can find the inverse transforms using the  $z$ -transform table

## Notation

$$X(z) = \mathcal{Z}\{x[n]\} \quad \text{and} \quad x[n] = \mathcal{Z}^{-1}\{X(z)\}$$

$$x[n] \iff X(z)$$

note that

$$\mathcal{Z}^{-1}[\mathcal{Z}\{x[n]\}] = x[n] \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{Z}[\mathcal{Z}^{-1}\{X(z)\}] = X(z)$$

**Linearity:** if

$$x_1[n] \iff X_1(z) \quad \text{and} \quad x_2[n] \iff X_2(z)$$

then

$$a_1x_1[n] + a_2x_2[n] \iff a_1X_1(z) + a_2X_2(z)$$

## Example 9.2

find the inverse  $z$ -transforms of

$$\frac{8z - 19}{(z - 2)(z - 3)}$$

**Solution:** expanding  $X(z)$  into partial fractions yields

$$X(z) = \frac{8z - 19}{(z - 2)(z - 3)} = \frac{3}{z - 2} + \frac{5}{z - 3}$$

from table (pair 7), we obtain

$$x[n] = \left[ 3(2)^{n-1} + 5(3)^{n-1} \right] u[n - 1]$$

**Modified partial fraction expansion:** to obtain a form that contains  $u[n]$  rather than  $u[n - 1]$ , we can instead expand:

$$\frac{X(z)}{z} = \frac{8z - 19}{z(z - 2)(z - 3)} = \frac{(-19/6)}{z} + \frac{(3/2)}{z - 2} + \frac{(5/3)}{z - 3}$$

multiplying both sides by  $z$  yields

$$X(z) = -\frac{19}{6} + \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{z}{z - 2} \right) + \frac{5}{3} \left( \frac{z}{z - 3} \right)$$

using pairs 1 and 6 in table, we get

$$x[n] = -\frac{19}{6} \delta[n] + \left[ \frac{3}{2} (2)^n + \frac{5}{3} (3)^n \right] u[n]$$

we often expand  $X(z)/z$  rather than  $X(z)$  into partial fractions and then multiply both sides by  $z$  to obtain modified partial fractions of  $X(z)$

## Example 9.3

find the inverse  $z$ -transforms of

$$(a) \frac{z(2z^2 - 11z + 12)}{(z - 1)(z - 2)^3}$$

$$(b) \frac{2z(3z + 17)}{(z - 1)(z^2 - 6z + 25)}$$

**Solution:**

(a) we have

$$\frac{X(z)}{z} = \frac{2z^2 - 11z + 12}{(z-1)(z-2)^3} = \frac{k}{z-1} + \frac{a_0}{(z-2)^3} + \frac{a_1}{(z-2)^2} + \frac{a_2}{(z-2)}$$

where

$$k = \left. \frac{2z^2 - 11z + 12}{(z-1)(z-2)^3} \right|_{z=1} = -3 \quad a_0 = \left. \frac{2z^2 - 11z + 12}{(z-1)(z-2)^3} \right|_{z=2} = -2$$

therefore,

$$\frac{X(z)}{z} = \frac{2z^2 - 11z + 12}{(z-1)(z-2)^3} = \frac{-3}{z-1} - \frac{2}{(z-2)^3} + \frac{a_1}{(z-2)^2} + \frac{a_2}{(z-2)}$$

to find  $a_2$ , we multiply both sides by  $z$  and let  $z \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$0 = -3 - 0 + 0 + a_2 \implies a_2 = 3$$

letting  $z$  take any convenient value, say,  $z = 0$ , on both sides:

$$\frac{12}{8} = 3 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{a_1}{4} - \frac{3}{2}$$

which yields  $a_1 = -1$ ; therefore,

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

and

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

using pairs 6 and 10 of table, gives

$$\begin{aligned} x[n] &= \left[ -3 - 2\frac{n(n-1)}{8}(2)^n - \frac{n}{2}(2)^n + 3(2)^n \right] u[n] \\ &= -\left[ 3 + \frac{1}{4}(n^2 + n - 12)2^n \right] u[n] \end{aligned}$$



**(b) complex poles**

$$X(z) = \frac{2z(3z + 17)}{(z - 1)(z^2 - 6z + 25)} = \frac{2z(3z + 17)}{(z - 1)(z - 3 - j4)(z - 3 + j4)}$$

*method of first-order factors:*

$$\frac{X(z)}{z} = \frac{2(3z + 17)}{(z - 1)(z^2 - 6z + 25)} = \frac{2(3z + 17)}{(z - 1)(z - 3 - j4)(z - 3 + j4)}$$

we find the partial fraction of  $X(z)/z$  using the Heaviside "cover-up" method:

$$\frac{X(z)}{z} = \frac{2}{z - 1} + \frac{1.6e^{-j2.246}}{z - 3 - j4} + \frac{1.6e^{j2.246}}{z - 3 + j4}$$

and

$$X(z) = 2\frac{z}{z - 1} + (1.6e^{-j2.246})\frac{z}{z - 3 - j4} + (1.6e^{j2.246})\frac{z}{z - 3 + j4}$$

the inverse transform of the complex two terms (complex conjugate poles) can be obtained from pair 12b (table) with  $r/2 = 1.6$ ,  $\theta = -2.246$  rad,  $\gamma = 3 + j4 = 5e^{j0.927}$ , so that  $|\gamma| = 5$ ,  $\beta = 0.927$ ; therefore, we have

$$x[n] = [2 + 3.2(5)^n \cos(0.927n - 2.246)] u[n]$$

*method of quadratic factors:*

$$\frac{X(z)}{z} = \frac{2(3z + 17)}{(z - 1)(z^2 - 6z + 25)} = \frac{2}{z - 1} + \frac{Az + B}{z^2 - 6z + 25}$$

multiplying both sides by  $z$  and letting  $z \rightarrow \infty$ , we find

$$0 = 2 + A \implies A = -2$$

and

$$\frac{2(3z + 17)}{(z - 1)(z^2 - 6z + 25)} = \frac{2}{z - 1} + \frac{-2z + B}{z^2 - 6z + 25}$$

to find  $B$ , we let  $z$  take any convenient value, say,  $z = 0$ :

$$\frac{-34}{25} = -2 + \frac{B}{25} \implies B = 16$$

therefore,

$$\frac{X(z)}{z} = \frac{2}{z-1} + \frac{-2z+16}{z^2-6z+25}$$

and

$$X(z) = \frac{2z}{z-1} + \frac{z(-2z+16)}{z^2-6z+25}$$

we now use pair 12c (table) with  $A = -2$ ,  $B = 16$ ,  $|\gamma| = 5$ , and  $a = -3$ , so that

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{100 + 256 - 192}{25 - 9}} = 3.2, \quad \beta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{5}\right) = 0.927 \text{ rad}$$

and

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{-10}{-8}\right) = -2.246 \text{ rad}$$

hence

$$x[n] = [2 + 3.2(5)^n \cos(0.927n - 2.246)] u[n]$$

## Inverse transform by power series expansion

by definition,

$$X(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x[n]z^{-n} = x[0]z^0 + x[1]z^{-1} + x[2]z^{-2} + x[3]z^{-3} + \dots$$

- if we can expand  $X(z)$  into the power series in  $z^{-1}$ , the coefficients of this power series can be identified as  $x[0], x[1], x[2], x[3], \dots$
- a rational  $X(z)$  can be expanded into a power series of  $z^{-1}$  by dividing its numerator by the denominator
- this procedure it is only useful if we want to know only the first few terms of the sequence  $x[n]$

**Example:**

$$X(z) = \frac{z^2(7z - 2)}{(z - 0.2)(z - 0.5)(z - 1)} = \frac{7z^3 - 2z^2}{z^3 - 1.7z^2 + 0.8z - 0.1}$$

we have:

$$X(z) = \frac{z^2(7z - 2)}{(z - 0.2)(z - 0.5)(z - 1)} = 7 + 9.9z^{-1} + 11.23z^{-2} + 11.87z^{-3} + \dots$$

therefore,

$$x[0] = 7, \quad x[1] = 9.9, \quad x[2] = 11.23, \quad x[3] = 11.87, \quad \dots$$

## Exercises

- using long division to find the power series in  $z^{-1}$ , show that the inverse  $z$ -transform of  $z/(z - 0.5)$  is  $(0.5)^n u[n]$  or  $2^{-n} u[n]$
- find the inverse  $z$ -transform of the following functions:

(a)  $\frac{z(2z - 1)}{(z - 1)(z + 0.5)}$

(b)  $\frac{1}{(z - 1)(z + 0.5)}$

(c)  $\frac{9}{(z + 2)(z - 0.5)^2}$

(d)  $\frac{5z(z - 1)}{z^2 - 1.6z + 0.8}$  [Hint:  $\sqrt{0.8} = 2/\sqrt{5}$ ]

### Answers:

(a)  $\left[ \frac{2}{3} + \frac{4}{3}(-0.5)^n \right] u[n]$

(b)  $-2\delta[n] + \left[ \frac{2}{3} + \frac{4}{3}(-0.5)^n \right] u[n]$

(c)  $18\delta[n] - [0.72(-2)^n + 17.28(0.5)^n - 14.4n(0.5)^n] u[n]$

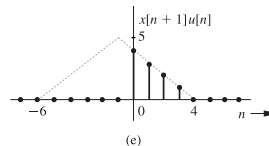
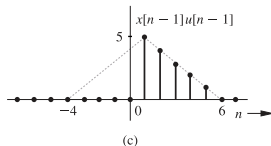
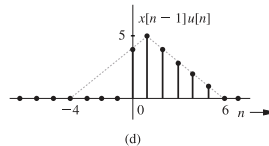
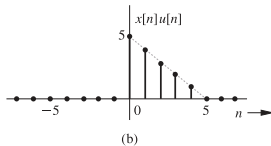
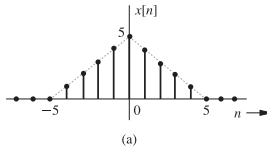
(d)  $\frac{5\sqrt{5}}{2} \left( \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} \right)^n \cos(0.464n + 0.464) u[n]$

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## Shifting forms

we need to distinguish between:  $x[n]u[n]$ ,  $x[n - m]u[n]$ ,  $x[n - m]u[n - m]$ ,  
and  $x[n + m]u[n]$





## Shifting properties

**Causal-part right-shift:** if  $x[n]u[n] \iff X(z)$  then for integer value of  $m$ ,

$$x[n-m]u[n-m] \iff \frac{1}{z^m}X(z)$$

**Right-shift:** integer value of  $m > 0$ ,

$$x[n-m]u[n] \iff z^{-m}X(z) + z^{-m} \sum_{n=1}^m x[-n]z^n$$

for  $m = 1$ :

$$x[n-1]u[n-1] \iff \frac{1}{z}X(z) + x[-1]$$

**Left-shift:** for integer value of  $m > 0$ ,

$$x[n+m]u[n] \iff z^mX(z) - z^m \sum_{n=0}^{m-1} x[n]z^{-n}$$

for  $m = 1$ :

$$x[n+1]u[n] \iff zX(z) - zx[0]$$

## Left-shift (advance)

if  $x[n]u[n] \iff X(z)$ , then

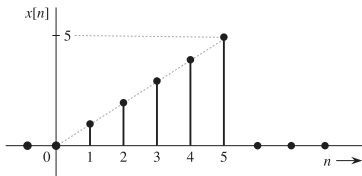
$$x[n+1]u[n] \iff zX(z) - zx[0]$$

for integer value of  $m > 0$ ,

$$x[n+m]u[n] \iff z^m X(z) - z^m \sum_{n=0}^{m-1} x[n]z^{-n}$$

## Example 9.4

use the shifting property and the  $z$ -transform table to find the  $z$ -transform of  $x[n]$



**Solution:**  $x[n]$  can be expressed as:

$$x[n] = n(u[n] - u[n - 6]) = nu[n] - nu[n - 6]$$

to use the right-shift property, we rearrange  $nu[n-6]$  in terms of  $(n-6)u[n-6]$ :

$$\begin{aligned}x[n] &= nu[n] - (n-6+6)u[n-6] \\ &= nu[n] - (n-6)u[n-6] - 6u[n-6]\end{aligned}$$

because  $u[n] \iff z/(z-1)$ ,

$$u[n-6] \iff \frac{1}{z^6} \frac{z}{z-1} = \frac{1}{z^5(z-1)}$$

also, because  $nu[n] \iff z/(z-1)^2$

$$(n-6)u[n-6] \iff \frac{1}{z^6} \frac{z}{(z-1)^2} = \frac{1}{z^5(z-1)^2}$$

therefore,

$$X(z) = \frac{z}{(z-1)^2} - \frac{1}{z^5(z-1)^2} - \frac{6}{z^5(z-1)} = \frac{z^6 - 6z + 5}{z^5(z-1)^2}$$

## Time-reversal and $z$ -domain scaling and differentiation

**Time-reversal:** if  $x[n] \iff X(z)$ , then

$$x[-n] \iff X(1/z)$$

the region of convergence is also inverted: for example, if the ROC of  $x[n]$  is  $|z| > |\gamma|$ , then the ROC of  $x[-n]$  is  $|z| < 1/|\gamma|$

**$z$ -domain differentiation (multiplication by  $n$ ):** if  $x[n]u[n] \iff X(z)$ , then

$$nx[n]u[n] \iff -z \frac{d}{dz} X(z)$$

**$z$ -domain scaling (multiplication by  $\gamma^n$ ):** if  $x[n]u[n] \iff X(z)$ , then

$$\gamma^n x[n]u[n] \iff X\left(\frac{z}{\gamma}\right)$$

## Example 9.5

find the unilateral  $z$ -transform of  $x[n] = (1 - n) \cos(\pi/2(n - 1))u[n - 1]$

**Solution:** using properties:

$$\cos(\pi n/2)u[n] \iff \frac{z^2}{z^2 + 1} \quad (\text{table pair 11a})$$

$$-n \cos(\pi n/2)u[n] \iff z \frac{d}{dz} \left( \frac{z^2}{z^2 + 1} \right) \quad (z\text{-domain differentiation})$$

$$= z \left( \frac{2z}{z^2 + 1} - \frac{z^2}{(z^2 + 1)^2} (2z) \right) = \frac{2z^2}{(z^2 + 1)^2}$$

$$x[n] = -(n - 1) \cos(\pi(n - 1)/2)u[n - 1] \iff z^{-1} \frac{2z^2}{(z^2 + 1)^2} \quad (\text{time shift})$$

therefore,

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

## Convolution and initial and final values

**Time-convolution:** if

$$x_1[n] \iff X_1(z) \quad \text{and} \quad x_2[n] \iff X_2(z)$$

then

$$x_1[n] * x_2[n] \iff X_1(z)X_2(z)$$

**Initial value theorem:** for a causal  $x[n]$ , we have

$$x[0] = \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} X(z)$$

**Final value theorem:** if  $(z - 1)X(z)$  has no poles outside the unit circle, then

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} x[N] = \lim_{z \rightarrow 1} (z - 1)X(z)$$

## Example 9.6

- (a) find the  $z$ -transform and ROC of  $u[-n]$
- (b) using  $z$ -transform compute  $u[n] * u[n-1]$

### Solution:

- (a) from table  $u[n] \iff U(z) = z/(z-1)$  with ROC  $|z| > 1$ , hence from time-reversal property, we have

$$u[-n] \iff U(1/z) = \frac{1/z}{(1/z) - 1} = \frac{1}{z-1}$$

with inverted ROC  $|z| < 1$

- (b) from convolution and shifting properties, we have

$$u[n] * u[n-1] \iff \frac{z}{z-1} \frac{z}{z-1} \frac{1}{z} = \frac{z}{(z-1)^2}$$

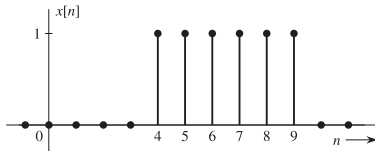
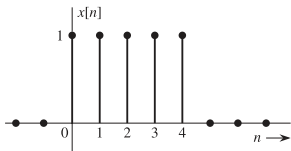
using the table, we have

$$nu[n] \iff \frac{z}{(z-1)^2}$$



## Exercises

- using only the fact that  $u[n] \iff z/(z-1)$  and the right-shift property, find the  $z$ -transforms of the signals



- use the  $z$ -transform to find the value of  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n(-3/2)^{-n}$

## References

### Reference:

- B.P. Lathi, *Linear Systems and Signals*, Oxford University Press, chapter 5 (5.1–5.3).