# ELC 4351: Digital Signal Processing

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# Discrete-time Systems Described by Difference Equations

A LTI system is characterized by its unit sample response h(n).

The output y(n) of the system for any given input x(n) is determined by

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

$$y(n) = h(n) \otimes x(n)$$

FIR systems vs. IIR systems

#### Recursive and Nonrecursive Discrete-time Systems

e.g., Cumulative average of signal x(n)

$$y(n) = \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{k=0}^{n} x(k)$$

$$(n+1)y(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} x(k) + x(n)$$

$$= ny(n-1) + x(n)$$

$$y(n) = \frac{n}{n+1}y(n-1) + \frac{1}{n+1}x(n)$$

where  $y(n_0 - 1)$  is the initial condition for the system at time  $n = n_0$ .

3 / 15

A recursive system:

$$y(n) = \alpha y(n-1) + x(n)$$

where  $\alpha$  is a constant.

$$y(0) = \alpha y(-1) + x(0)$$

$$y(1) = \alpha y(0) + x(1) = \alpha^{2} y(-1) + \alpha x(0) + x(1)$$

$$\vdots \qquad \vdots$$

$$y(n) = \alpha^{n+1} y(-1) + \sum_{k=0}^{n} \alpha^{k} x(n-k), \quad n \ge 0$$

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• The system is initially relaxed at time n = 0, i.e., y(-1) = 0. Zero-state response or forced response

$$y_{zs}(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} \alpha^k x(n-k), \quad n \ge 0$$

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② The input  $x(n) = 0, \forall n$ . Zero-input response or natural response

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5 / 15

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The total response of the system

$$y(n) = y_{zs}(n) + y_{zi}(n)$$



For LTI systems, a general form of the input-output relationship.

$$y(n) = -\sum_{k=1}^{N} a_k y(n-k) + \sum_{k=0}^{M} b_k x(n-k)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{N} a_k y(n-k) = \sum_{k=0}^{M} b_k x(n-k), \ a_0 \equiv 1$$

The integer N is the order of the difference equation or the order of the system.

# Linear Systems Requirements

#### A Linear System:

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- The principle of superposition applies to the zero-input response.

# Solution of Linear Constant-Coefficient Difference Equations

#### The direct solution

$$y(n) = \underbrace{y_h(n)}_{\text{homogeneous solution}} + \underbrace{y_p(n)}_{\text{particular solution}}$$

The homogeneous difference equation:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{N} \alpha_k y(n-k) = 0$$

• We assume that the solution is in the form of an exponential, i.e.,  $y_h(n) = \lambda^n$ .

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- Substituting this in the equation, we obtain the polynomial equation

$$\sum_{k=0}^{N} \alpha_k \lambda^{n-k} = 0$$

$$\lambda^{n-N} \underbrace{(\lambda^N + \alpha_1 \lambda^{N-1} + \dots + \alpha_{N-1} \lambda + \alpha_N)}_{\text{characteristic polynomial}} = 0$$

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• The characteristic polynomial of the system has N roots:  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N$ .

If the N roots are distinct, the general solution to the homogeneous difference equation is

$$y_h(n) = C_1\lambda_1^n + C_2\lambda_2^n + \cdots + C_N\lambda_N^n$$

where  $C_1, C_2, \ldots, C_N$  are weighting coefficients.

These coefficients are determined from the initial conditions of the system.

 $y_h(n)$  is the zero-input response of the system.

If the characteristic polynomial contains multiple roots, e.g.  $\lambda_1$  is a root of multiplicity m, then

$$h_h(n) = C_1 \lambda_1^n + C_2 n \lambda_1^n + \dots + C_m n^{m-1} \lambda_1^n + C_{m+1} \lambda_{m+1}^n + \dots + C_N \lambda_M^n$$

#### The Particular Solution of A Difference Equation

The particular difference equation for a specific input signal x(n):

$$\sum_{k=0}^{N} a_k y_p(n-k) = \sum_{k=0}^{M} b_k x(n-k), \ a_0 \equiv 1$$

Input Signal $x(n)$	Particular Solution $y_p(n)$
A	К
$AM^n$	$KM^n$
An <sup>M</sup>	$K_0 n^M + K_1 n^{M-1} + \cdots + K_M$
$A^n n^M$	$K_0 n^M + K_1 n^{M-1} + \cdots + K_M$ $A^n (K_0 n^M + K_1 n^{M-1} + \cdots + K_M)$
$A\cos\omega_0 n$	$K_1 \cos \omega_0 n + K_2 \sin \omega_0 n$
$A\sin\omega_0 n$	$K_1\cos\omega_0n+K_2\sin\omega_0n$

### The Total Solution of A Difference Equation

$$y(n) = y_h(n) + y_p(n)$$

### The Impulse Response of a LTI Recursive System

• The impulse response h(n) is equal to the zero-state response of the system when the input  $x(n) = \delta(n)$  and the system is initially relaxed.

$$y_{zs}(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} h(k)x(n-k), \ n \ge 0$$

When  $x(n) = \delta(n)$ ,  $y_{zs}(n) = h(n)$ .

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• If the excitation is an impulse, the particular solution is zero, since  $x(n) = 0, \forall n > 0$ . That is  $y_p(n) = 0$ .

The response of the system to an impulse consists only of the solution to the homogeneous equations.

### The Impulse Response of a LTI Recursive System

Nth-order linear difference equation.

The solution of the homogeneous equation is

$$y_h(n) = \sum_{k=1}^N C_k \lambda_k^n.$$

Hence, the impulse response of the system is

$$h(n) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} C_k \lambda_k^n.$$