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Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

Signals and Systems

The *theory, analysis, and design* of signals and systems.¹
⇒ applied to many fields of engineering, science, economics and so on...

Objective:

Design signals and systems in order to send *fast* and *accurately* the desired information to the destination.²

Example 1.1

<i>(Systems)</i>	<i>(Signals)</i>
Radio and TV	music, voice, and image
Telephone networks	voice, speech, data
Radar and sonar	microwave, laser, sonic wave (target location)
Biomedical instrumentation	ECG, CT/MRI images (diagnosis)
Remote sensing	microwave, laser (target identification)
Seismic analysis	seismic signal (epicenter location)
Microphone	acoustic pressure → electrical signal
Loudspeaker	electrical signal → acoustic pressure
Sales analysis	previous sales → prediction (product control)
Weather forecast	previous data(temp.,rainfalls etc) → forecast

† RADAR: RAdio Detection And Ranging

‡ SONAR: SOund NAVigation Ranging

¹In a wider sense, signals are the carriers of *information*, whereas the systems are the pathways of *information*. In addition, information itself can be regarded as signal.

²We also need *signal processing* as well.

Note: Human can also be considered as a system:

Example 1.2

<i>(sensors)</i>	<i>(corresponding signals)</i>	<i>(response)</i>
eye	scene	?
ear	music, speech	?
nose	smell	?
tongue	taste	?
hand	touch(feel)	?

where response depends on the signal processing of each individual's CPU, i.e. the brain!!!.

Example 1.3

In baseball game, players and manager exchange signals.

- (a) encryption
- (b) simplification
- (c) accuracy

Definition 1.1 SIGNALS :

Input, output, and internal functions that systems process and produce \ni : voltage, current, pressure, brightness(intensity), and displacement etc.

(cf.) Mostly, the independent variable for the signal functions is *time*, (but not necessarily!), for example two-dimensional images are functions of x and y coordinates. If the image is a moving image(e.g. video), t must be added.

Definition 1.2 SYSTEMS :

Devices, processes, and algorithms that given an input signal $x(t)$, produce an output signal $y(t)$.

Block Diagram(of signals and systems)

$$y(t) = T[x(t)]$$

Figure 1.1: Representaion of signals and systems #1

(cf) Multiple input/output system

$$\vec{y}(t) = T[\vec{x}(t)]$$

where

$$\vec{x}(t) = [x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_n(t)]^T$$

$$\vec{y}(t) = [y_1(t), y_2(t), \dots, y_m(t)]^T$$

Figure 1.2: Representaion of signals and systems #2

Note:

Signals and systems are very closely inter-related to each other !!! And so are their definitions.

Three typical prblems(related to signals and systems)

- (1) Know $x(t)$ and $T[\cdot]$, what is $y(t)$? Analysis (*RLC* circuit)
- (2) Know $x(t)$ and $y(t)$, what is $T[\cdot]$? Identification (black box)
- (3) Know $y(t)$ and $T[\cdot]$, what is $x(t)$? Synthesis (*digital* communication)

(cf) Synthesis: Instrumentation or recognition

Systematic way of solving engineering problems

Figure 1.3: Flow diagram of engineering problem solving

Mathematical Model(to make above problems tractable):

Mathematical equations representing *signals* and *systems* to provide *quantitative* analysis on *signal characteristics* and *system performance*

Example 1.4

Household voltage: Signal

$$v(t) = 220\sqrt{2} \cos[2\pi 60t] \quad -\infty < t < \infty$$

where $220\sqrt{2}$ is the peak-to-peak voltage whereas the r.m.s.(root mean square) voltage is given by $V = \sqrt{\frac{1}{T} \int_T v^2(t) dt} = \sqrt{\frac{220^2 \cdot 2}{2}} = 220$.

Example 1.5

Resistor: System

$$v(t) = R \cdot i(t)$$

Note: The mathematical models of above examples are NOT exact, since

- (1) Due to interference noises, $v(t)$ is not perfectly sinusoidal
- (2) The resistance R is not constant, and it depends on ambient temperature

Therefore, more accurate mathematical models for the above two examples should be:

1. $v(t) = \{220\sqrt{2} + \Delta v(t)\} \cos[2\pi(60 + \Delta f(t))t]$
2. $v(t, T) = R(T) \cdot i(t)$, where T is the ambient temperature.

⇓

Practically impossible to describe any physical phenomenon into a perfect mathematical model.

OBJECTIVE:

Make the mathematical models as *simple* as possible, but still retain those parameters that significantly affect the characteristics of signals and systems.

(e.g.) above examples

Typical categorization of signals and systems (continuous vs. discrete)

Definition 1.3 A CONTINUOUS-time signal has a value defined for each point in time, and a continuous-time system *operates on* and *produces* continuous-time signals

Example 1.6

continuous-time signal

Figure 1.4: Typical continuous-time signal $x(t)$.

Definition 1.4 A DISCRETE-time signal has a value defined only at discrete points in time, and a discrete-time system *operates on* and *produces* discrete-time signals

Example 1.7

discrete-time signal

Figure 1.5: Typical discrete-time signal $x[n]$.

Note:

- (1) Discrete-time signal is a *sequence of values*
- (2) Discrete-time signals are usually obtained by *sampling* continuous-time signals
- (3) Sample period needs not be constant, but in most of the cases, we consider discrete signals equally spaced in time!!! (*uniform sampling*), i.e., $x_T(t) = x[n]$ where T is constant

Definition 1.5 A DIGITAL signal is a discrete-time signal which may take on only a set of countable values, i.e., it is a discrete-time *quantized* signal, and a digital system *operates on* and *produces* digital signals

Example 1.8

discrete-time signal $x_d[n]$ takes on only one of $\{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2\}$

Figure 1.6: Typical digital signal $x_d[n]$.

Note:

If you want to represent a discrete-time signal $x[n]$ in a 8-bit computer machine, we only can use $2^8 = 256$ levels for the value of $x[n]$.

\Rightarrow *Quantization error* occurs!!!

Example 1.9

Conversion process from continuous-time signal to digital signal via discrete-time signal

Figure 1.7: Conversion of signals: $x(t) \rightarrow x[n] \rightarrow x_d[n]$

1.2 General Characteristics of Signals

Category of Signals(in terms of their characteristics)³

1.2.1 Deterministic versus Random Signals

Definition 1.6 A DETERMINISTIC signal behaves in a fixed *known* way w.r.t. ⁴ time, thus can be modeled as a known function of time t .

(cf.) For a fixed time t , $x(t)$ is completely known.

Definition 1.7 A RANDOM signal takes on one of many possible values at each time (for which the signal value is defined), and it requires a *probabilistic model* to be described.

Example 1.10

$x(t) = \sin(t)$: Deterministic

$n(t)$ from random signal generator: Random

³In addition to continuous versus discrete discussed in previous section

⁴w.r.t.: with respect to

1.2.2 Periodic versus Aperiodic(Non-periodic) Signals

Definition 1.8 A continuous-time signal $x(t)$ is periodic if and only if (iff):

$$x(t + T) = x(t) \quad \forall t$$

where T is the period of the signal $x(t)$

(cf.) Likewise, the periodic discrete-time signal is defined as follows:

Definition 1.9 A discrete-time signal $x[n]$ is periodic if and only if (iff):

$$x[n + N] = x[n] \quad \forall n$$

where N (integer) is the period of the signal $x[n]$

Note:

The smallest value of T and/or N for which above definitions hold is called the *fundamental period* and usually denoted as T_0 and N_0 .

Example 1.11

Fundamental period of continuous sinusoid

Figure 1.8: Illustration of the fundamental period of continuous sinusoidal signal $x(t)$.

1.3 General Characteristics of Systems

Category of Systems(according to their characteristics)

1.3.1 Static versus Dynamic Systems

Definition 1.10 A STATIC system is a system with an output signal which, at any specific time, depends on the value of the input signal *at only that time*

$$y(t_0) = f[x(t_0)]$$

Figure 1.9: Static system

Note:

In a static system;

- (1) There \exists NO energy storage elements or memory such as inductor, capacitor etc.
- (2) There \exists NO integrals, derivatives, or signal delay

Definition 1.11 A DYNAMIC system is a system with an output signal which, at any specific time, depends on the value of the input signal *at both the specific time and at other times*

$$y(t_0) = f[x(t_0), x(t_1), x(t_2), \dots]$$

Figure 1.10: Dynamic system

Definition 1.12 A CAUSAL system is a system for which the output signal at a specific time depends only on the input signal *at times preceding or equal to the specified time*

$$y(t_0) = f[x(t_0), x(t_1), x(t_2), \dots], \quad \text{where } t_i < t_0 \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots$$

Figure 1.11: Causal system

Note:

A static system is always a causal system!!!

Example 1.12

$$y(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t x(\alpha) d\alpha \quad : \text{causal}$$

Example 1.13

$$y[n] = \alpha x[n] + \beta x[n + 1] \quad : \text{non-causal}$$

Figure 1.12: Relation among systems

1.3.2 Linear Systems

Definition 1.13 A system is called a LINEAR system if it satisfies the following condition:

$$T \left[\sum_{i=1}^N a_i x_i(t) \right] = \sum_{i=1}^N a_i T [x_i(t)] \triangleq \sum_{i=1}^N a_i y_i(t) \quad (1.1)$$

where a_i 's are constants.

$$y(t) = T[x(t)]$$

Figure 1.13: Linear system

1.3.3 Time Invariant Systems

Definition 1.14 A system is called a TIME-INVARIANT system if it satisfies the following condition:

$$T [x(t - t_0)] = y(t - t_0) \quad (1.2)$$

Example 1.14

Determine whether each of the following system is *linear* and/or *time invariant*:

- (1) $T[x(t)] = x^2(t)$
- (2) $T[x(t)] = ax(t) + b$
- (3) $T[x(t)] = \sin\{x(t)\}$
- (4) $T[x(t)] = e^{-x(t)}$
- (5) $T[x(t)] = ax(t - t_0)$
- (6) $T[x(t)] = x(t^2)$
- (7) $T[x(t)] = e^{-t}x(t)$

1.3.4 Linear Time Invariant(LTI) Systems

Definition 1.15 A system is called an LTI system if it is both *linear* and *time-invariant*, i.e. if both (1.1) and (1.2) are satisfied simultaneously!!!

(cf) The definition of LTI system for discrete-time case is similar, and will be discussed in the later part of this course.

Course Schedule:

We will first discuss the continuous-time signals and systems, and then move on to the discrete-time signals and systems...