

## Exercises for Week 2

1. Determine whether the following discrete-time system, with input signal  $x[n]$  and output signal  $y[n]$  is stable, causal, linear, and/or time-invariant:

$$y[n] = ax[n + 1] + b, \quad 0 < |a| < \infty, \quad 0 < |b| < \infty$$

2. Consider a linear time-invariant (LTI) discrete-time system with input  $x[n]$ , output  $y[n]$  and impulse response  $h[n]$ . With the use of the convolution formula, show that the following two statements regarding causality are identical:

(i) Output at time  $n$  depends on input up to time  $n$

(ii)  $h[n] = 0$  for  $n < 0$

3. Describe the operation of a LTI discrete-time system whose impulse response is  $h[n] = 0.5\delta[n] + 0.5\delta[n - 1]$  by relating the input and output. Is the system stable? Why? Is it causal? Why?

4. Compute  $y[n]$  for all values of  $n$ :

$$y[n] = a^n u[n] * a^n u[n]$$

5. Determine the convolution of the following two discrete-time signals:

$$x[n] = \begin{cases} n^2, & -2 \leq n \leq -1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and

$$h[n] = \begin{cases} n - 1, & 2 \leq n \leq 3 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

## Solutions for Exercise 2

### Question 1

$$y[n] = ax[n + 1] + b, \quad 0 < |a| < \infty, \quad 0 < |b| < \infty$$

### Stability

If  $x[n]$  is bounded, then  $y[n] = ax[n + 1] + b$  is bounded for bounded  $a$  and  $b$ . As a result,  $y[n]$  is bounded and the system is **stable**. In a more rigorous manner, we have:

$$|x[n]| < B_x < \infty \quad (\text{Bounded Input})$$

$$|y[n]| = |ax[n + 1] + b| \leq |a|B_x + |b| = B_y < \infty \quad (\text{Bounded Output})$$

where we see  $|x[n + 1]| < B_x < \infty$  or  $|x[n]| < B_x < \infty$  must give  $|y[n]| < B_y < \infty$ .

### Causality

It is **not causal** because  $y[n]$  depends on future input, namely,  $x[n + 1]$ .

### Linearity

The system outputs for  $x_1[n]$  and  $x_2[n]$  are:

$$y_1[n] = ax_1[n + 1] + b \quad \text{and} \quad y_2[n] = ax_2[n + 1] + b$$

Consider  $x_3[n] = \alpha x_1[n] + \beta x_2[n]$ , its system output is then:

$$\begin{aligned} y_3[n] &= ax_3[n + 1] + b = a(\alpha x_1[n + 1] + \beta x_2[n + 1]) + b \\ &= \alpha ax_1[n + 1] + \beta ax_2[n + 1] + b \\ &\neq \alpha y_1[n] + \beta y_2[n] \\ &= \alpha ax_1[n + 1] + \alpha b + \beta ax_2[n + 1] + \beta b \end{aligned}$$

As a result, this system is **not linear**.

### Time-invariance

First, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} y[n] &= ax[n + 1] + b \\ y[n - n_0] &= ax[n - n_0 + 1] + b \end{aligned}$$

Consider  $x_1[n] = x[n - n_0]$ , its system output is

$$y_1[n] = ax[n - n_0 + 1] + b = y[n - n_0]$$

Hence the system is **time-invariant**.

## Question 2

Expanding the convolution formula as:

$$y[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} h[k]x[n-k]$$
$$= \dots + h[-2] \cdot x[n+2] + h[-1] \cdot x[n+1] + h[0] \cdot x[n] + h[1] \cdot x[n-1] + h[2] \cdot x[n-2] + \dots$$

If  $y[n]$  does not depend on future inputs  $x[n+1]$ ,  $x[n+2]$ , ..., we must have  $h[-1] = h[-2] = \dots = 0$  or  $h[n] = 0$  for  $n < 0$ .

As a result, the two statements regarding causality are identical.

## Question 3

Let  $x[n]$  and  $y[n]$  be the discrete-time input and output of the system with impulse response  $h[n]$ . Using the relationship of convolution, we have:

$$y[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k]h[n-k] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k] \cdot 0.5 \cdot (\delta[n-k] + \delta[n-1-k])$$
$$= 0.5(x[n] + x[n-1])$$

The system operates as an averager which gives an average value of  $x[n]$  and  $x[n-1]$  at time  $n$ . It is stable because

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |h[n]| = |0.5| + |0.5| = 1 < \infty$$

It is causal because  $h[n] = 0$  when  $n < 0$ . Note that the relationship between system input and output can be obtained from impulse response or vice versa.

#### Question 4

$$y[n] = a^n u[n] * a^n u[n]$$

$$\begin{aligned} y[n] &= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k]h[n-k] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a^k u[k] \cdot a^{n-k} u[n-k] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^n u[n-k] = a^n \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} u[n-k] \\ &= a^n \sum_{m=-\infty}^n u[m], \quad m = n - k \end{aligned}$$

Since  $u[m] = 0$  for  $m < 0$ ,  $y[n] = 0$  for  $n < 0$ . For example,

$$y[-1] = a^n \sum_{m=-\infty}^{-1} u[m] = a^n [\dots + 0 + 0] = 0$$

For  $n \geq 0$ ,  $y[n]$  is:

$$y[n] = a^n \sum_{m=0}^n 1$$

Evaluating  $y[n]$  for some  $n \geq 0$ :

$$y[0] = a^n \sum_{m=0}^0 1 = a^n$$

$$y[1] = a^n \sum_{m=0}^1 1 = a^n(1 + 1) = 2a^n$$

$$y[2] = a^n \sum_{m=0}^2 1 = a^n(1 + 1 + 1) = 3a^n$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$y[n] = a^n \sum_{m=0}^n 1 = (n + 1)a^n$$

As a result, we have

$$y[n] = (n + 1)a^n u[n]$$

### Question 5

The convolution is computed as:

$$y[n] = x[n] * h[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k]h[n-k]$$

From the signal description, we see that  $x[n]$  and  $h[n]$  are **non-zero only for**

$$x[-2] = 4 \text{ and } x[-1] = 1$$

$$h[2] = 1 \text{ and } h[3] = 2$$

Expanding the convolution sum, we have:

$$y[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k]h[n-k]$$

$$= \dots + x[-2] \cdot h[n+2] + x[-1] \cdot h[n+1] + x[0] \cdot h[n] + x[1] \cdot h[n-2] + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow y[n] = x[-2] \cdot h[n+2] + x[-1] \cdot h[n+1]$$

via considering the non-zero values of  $x[n]$ .

By considering the non-zero values of  $h[n]$  ( $h[2] = 1$  and  $h[3] = 2$ ) as well:

$$y[0] = x[-2] \cdot h[0+2] + x[-1] \cdot h[0+1] = x[-2] \cdot h[2] + x[-1] \cdot h[1] = 4 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 0 = 4$$

$$y[1] = x[-2] \cdot h[1+2] + x[-1] \cdot h[1+1] = x[-2] \cdot h[3] + x[-1] \cdot h[2] = 4 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 1 = 9$$

$$y[2] = x[-2] \cdot h[2+2] + x[-1] \cdot h[2+1] = x[-2] \cdot h[4] + x[-1] \cdot h[3] = 4 \cdot 0 + 1 \cdot 2 = 2$$

As a result, we have:

$$y[n] = \begin{cases} 4, & n = 0 \\ 9, & n = 1 \\ 2, & n = 2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Or

$$y[n] = 4\delta[n] + 9\delta[n-1] + 2\delta[n-2]$$