

### Signal and Systems

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# Signal and Systems

- Signal and systems are useful *models* to
  - produce
  - manipulate
  - transmit
  - store

relevant information on our reality



# Modeling reality

- Modeling: act of representing a system or a subsytem formally
- Models are expressed using a modeling language
- A modeling language comprises
  - a set of symbols,
  - a set of rules to combine them (syntax)
  - A set of rules for interpreting combinations of symbols (semantics)





#### Relevant aspects to model







#### Outline

- Mathematical background
  - Signals
  - Systems



# Signals

A signal is a function identified by four things

- the name (f, g, sin, cos, sound, ...)
- the domain ( a set )
- the range ( a set )
- the graph or assignment (for every domain element, a range element)
- Every element in the domain is associated to one and only one element in the range
- If all elements in the range are paired the function is said *onto*





#### Example

#### sin, cos

- 1 Domain : Reals .
- 2 Range :  $[-1,1] = \{ x \in \text{Reals} \mid -1 \le x \le 1 \}$ .
- 3 Graph : for each real x, the real sin  $(x) \in [-1,1]$



Formally, the graph of a function can be thought of as a set of pairs :

 $\{(x,y) \in (\text{Reals} \times [-1,1]) \mid y = \sin(x)\}$ 

= { ... , (0,0) , ... , ( $\pi/2$ , 1) , ... , ( $\pi,0$ ), ... , ( $3\pi/2$ ,-1), ... }.



# Graph (continued)

If domain and range of a function are finite, then the graph can be given by a table :

| ×     | у     | f(x,y) = x ∧ y |
|-------|-------|----------------|
| true  | true  | true           |
| true  | false | false          |
| false | true  | false          |
| false | false | false          |



### Example Voice



Voice: Time  $\rightarrow$  Pressure Domain = Time =[0,1]  $\leftarrow$  Impossible to handle for a computer graph(Voice) = { red points}  $\in$  Time X Pressure Time



### Example Voice - (continued)







#### Example Image



MonochromeImage: VertPos X HorPos $\rightarrow$  Intensity Domain = VertPos X HorPos = [a, b] X [c, d] Range = Intensity = [IntensityBlack, IntensityWhite] graph(MonochromeImage = [[x, y], Intensity(x,y)]



#### Example Digitised Image





MonochromeDigitisedImage: DiscreteVertPos X DiscreteHorPos $\rightarrow$  DiscreteIntensity Domain = DiscreteVertPos X DiscreteHorPos = {0,1,...,299} X {0,1,2,...,299} Range = DiscreteIntensity = {0,1,...,256} graph(MonochromeImage = [[x, y], DiscreteIntensity(x,y)]



#### **Digitised Colour Image**



DigitisedColourImage: DisVertPos X DisHorPos $\rightarrow$  DisIntensity<sup>3</sup> Domain = DisVertPos X DisHorPos = {0,...,299} X {0,...,199} Range = DisIntensity<sup>3</sup> = {0,...,255} X {0, ..., 255} X {0,...,255} graph(MonochromeImage = [[x, y], [IntensityR(x,y), IntensityG(x,y), IntensityB(x,y)]



### **Example Sequences**

- Sometimes there is no relation whatsoever with Physical time
- Example: Sequence of Events
  - {turn on, start, gear 1, gear 2, gear 1, stop}
- Sequnces are functions whose domain are the natural



- If g:X → Y, f:Y → Z, then f×g: X → Z is defined as follows:
   [x,z] ∈graph(f<sup>o</sup>g) if and only if there exists y ∈Y such that
  - $[x,y] \in graph(g)$
  - [y,z] ∈ graph(f)



# Example Compressed Image

- Total colours with RGB coding : 256<sup>3</sup>
- It's a lot, and takes a lot of memory!
- Many compression formats use a colour map (e.g., *compuserve GIF*)





### Space of signals

- For two sets X, Y  $[X \rightarrow Y] = \{f \mid domain(f) = X and range(f) = Y\}$
- Examples:
  - Sounds: [Time → Pressure]
  - MicSounds: [Time → Voltage]
  - BitSequences: [Natural → {0,1}]
  - Images: [{0,...,Xres-1} X {0,...,Yres-1}  $\rightarrow$  {0,...,255}<sup>3</sup>]
  - Movies: [{0,1/30,2/30,...} → Images]

Discrete-time 30 frames/sec



# Ways for defining a signal

- Declarative (denotational) definition
  - The signal is identified by expliciting the mathematical relation between the paired elements
  - Example:

$$\forall t \in Time, s(t) = \sin(\omega t)$$



- Imperative (operational) definition
  - The signal is identified by indicating a way to compute the pairwise association
  - Examples
    - A lookup table
    - Computer Procedure: *const double w = ...; double s(double t) { return sin(w\*t); }*

Procedure invocation (different from mathematical function)



• Acceleration's definition:

$$\ddot{x}(t) = a(t)$$

• Differential equation

$$\ddot{x}(t) = -\frac{k}{m}x(t)$$



### Tuning fork

• The solution of the differential equation is the family of signals:

$$x(t) = A\cos(\omega t + \phi)$$
  
where  $\omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$ 



#### Outline

#### Mathematical background Signals Systems



$$Behaviours(S) = \{(x, y) s.t. x \in [D \to R] \land y = S(x)\}$$

- A system is a function whose domain and range are signal spaces
- A *behaviour* is an input/output pair
- A system could in principle be specified by listing all of its behaviours but this is utmost impractical
- To specify a system we need:
  - a domain (input signals)
  - a range (output signals)
  - the graph



### Memoryless systems

- Previous inputs values are forgotten (*do not influence current value*)
- Formally, given a domain X and range Y for signals and a function f:  $Y \rightarrow Y$ , we can define a memoryless system  $S:[X \times Y] \rightarrow [X \times Y]$
- by

 $\forall x \in X \text{ and } \forall u \in [X \times Y], \quad (S(u))(x) = f(u(x)).$ 

- Example:
  - consider a continuous time system that operates as follows:

$$\forall t \in Reals, y(t) = x^2(t)$$

- according to our definition this is a memoryless system!!



#### What about this?

# $\forall t \in Reals, y(t) = \frac{1}{M} \int_{t-M}^{t} x(\tau) d\tau = \frac{1}{M} \int_{0}^{M} x(t-\tau) d\tau$

- Is this system memoryless?
- No!!, the integral operator uses the past story of x(t)



# Continuous-time systems

- Consider a class of systems operating on the class of *ContSignals*.
- ContSignals signals could be
- [*Time -> Reals*], or [*Time -> Complex*] where
   *Time = Real* or *Time = Real*<sub>+</sub>
- Frequently continuous time systems are defined by means of differential equations



### Example

- Motion of a particle
  - the applied force is an input signal

$$f(t) = ma(t)$$
  
$$\forall t \in Real \ with \ t \ge 0, \ \ddot{x}(t) = \frac{f(t)}{m}$$

• Integrating twice

$$\dot{x}(t) = \dot{x}(0) + \int_0^t \frac{f(\tau)}{m} d\tau$$
$$x(t) = x(0) + \dot{x}(0)t + \int_0^t \left[\int_0^s \frac{f(\tau)}{m} d\tau\right] ds$$





• Example evolution:

$$f(t)=1, x(0)=1, \dot{x}(0)=1 \rightarrow x(t)=1+t+\frac{1}{m}\frac{t^2}{2}$$

$$f(t)=\cos(\omega t), x(0)=0, \dot{x}(0)=0 \rightarrow x(t)=-\frac{1}{m}\frac{\cos(\omega t)-1}{\omega^2}$$

$$\sum_{\substack{whose amplitude \\ decrease with the frequency}} Sinusoidal signal whose amplitude \\ decrease with the frequency}$$



## **Discrete-time equations**

- Consider a class of systems operating on the class of Disc Signals.
- *DiscSignals* signals could be
- [*Time -> Reals*], or [*Time -> Complex*] where
   *Time = Integers*, *Time =Natural* or *Time= Natural*<sub>0</sub>
- Frequently discrete-time systems are defined by means of difference equations



### Example

Consider a system:
 S:[Naturals<sub>0</sub> -> Reals] -> [Naturals<sub>0</sub> -> Reals] where for all x ∈[Naturals<sub>0</sub> -> Reals], S(x) = y is given by:

$$\forall n \in Integers \ y(n) = \frac{x(n) + x(n-1)}{2}$$

• This operation is a moving average and it can be generalised as follows:

$$\forall n \in Integers \ y(n) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{N-1} x(n-i)}{N}$$



### Example - (continued)

• Step responses



• The effect is smoothing variations (very much used in wall street!)



### **Block diagrams**

- Thus far we use block diagrams informally
- They can be defined as a full-fledged visual syntax
  - a system is described as an interconnection of other systems, each of which transforms incoming input signals into outgoing output signals
  - Advantages against textual specification are compactness and hierarchical composition



#### **Block diagrams - (continued)**

- Blocks are sytems
- Arrows connecting blocks are labeled by signals
- Connecting a system inputs to some other system's outputs amounts to function composition



 $S:X \rightarrow Z$ 

• For the connection to make sense it must hold

 $Range(S_1) \subseteq Domain(S_2)$ 

• The function is the composition:

 $\forall x \in X, S(x) = S_2(S_1(x))$ 



### A more complicated example



#### $S': X \times W \to Z$

• By visual inspection:

$$\forall (x,w) \in X \times W, S'(x,w) = S_2(w,S_1(x))$$



### A much more complicated example





### Fixed point

• The definition above is actually an equation

set y = S'(x)

 $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{S}_2(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{S}_1(\mathbf{x}))$ 

- The solution of the equation y is called a fixed point
- Difficulties
  - y is a function
  - the fixed point may not exist
  - if the fixed point exists it might not be unique