# **Topics: Systems and Filters**

- 1. Concept of Systems
- 2. Filters
- 3. Properties of filters
  - (a) Linearity
  - (b) Time-invariance
  - (c) Causality
  - (d) Stability

## 1 Signals and Systems

- Signals and Systems: Lectures mostly about signals so far
- We now study certain kind of systems called *filters*, in particular *linear time-invariant* (LTI) filters.
- Lab 6 experiments with filters, mostly LTI, but also a little with nonlinear filters—median filters.
- We concentrate on discrete-time systems and filters.
  - (a) There are also continuous-time systems and filters.
  - (b) But we can also do continuous-time filtering by sampling, discrete-time filtering and reconstruction.
  - (c) EECS 306 deals with continuous-time systems and filters.

### 2 Systems

(1) What is a system?

A discrete-time system is an *object* that

- (a) takes a discrete-time input signal x[n]
- (b) and produces a discrete-time output signal (response) y[n] determined by the input signal.
- (2) Block diagram



#### (3) Notations

(i)  $x[n] \mapsto y[n]$  means that x[n] is the input and y(t) is the response of the system to x[n].

(ii)  $y[n] = \mathcal{T}\{x[n]\}$ 

 $\mathcal{T}\{\cdot\}$  is an operator that maps a signal into a signal.

(4) Examples of systems

$$y[n] = x[n-1] + x[n]$$
  

$$y[n] = x[n] + 3$$
  

$$y[n] = x^{3}[n-1] + 2x[n]$$
  

$$y[n] = x[-n]$$
  

$$y[n] = x[n] \cos(\hat{\omega}_{0}n + 0.1\pi)$$



- (5) (Deterministic and nondeterministic)
  - (i) Our systems are *deterministic*, meaning that the output signals is entirely determined by the input signal.
  - (ii) An example of a *nondeterministic* system



where v[n] is a noise that is not known in advance and not repeatable, e.g., random.

(6) We focus on a special kind of systems called *linear time-invariant* filters.

# 3 Linear Time-Invariant Filters

- (1) Linear time-invariant (LTI) filters are very common.
- (2) Examples of LTI filters
  - (a) (Delay)



(b) (Running/Moving/Sliding Average) smoothing

$$y[n] = \frac{1}{3} \left( x[n-2] + x[n-1] + x[n] \right)$$



(General form of Running Average) the larger M, the smoother

$$y[n] = \frac{1}{M+1} \left( x[n-M] + x[n-M+1] + \dots + x[n] \right)$$

(c) (Running Sum) smoothes and amplifies

$$y[n] = x[n-2] + x[n-1] + x[n]$$

(d) (Running Average with look ahead)

$$y[n] = \frac{1}{3} \left( x[n-1] + x[n] + x[n+1] \right)$$



- (i) Running average with look ahead
- (ii) Cannot do this in real time
- (iii) Can do this on recorded data
- (iv) (Causality) Filters that operate in real time are called *causal*. The output value at time n depends only on the input values at time n and before, i.e., does *not* depend on the input values of the future time  $x[n+1], x[n+2], \ldots$
- (e) (Weighted running average)

$$y[n] = \frac{1}{4}x[n-1] + \frac{1}{4}x[n] + \frac{1}{2}x[n+1]\big)$$

Different choices of weights are for different purposes.

Filters given above have finitely many terms involving the input signal x[n]. They are called finite-impulse-response (FIR) filters.

(f) (IIR Filters) The following are not FIR, by infinite-impulse-response (IIR) filters.

(i)

$$y[n] = \frac{1}{2}x[n] + \frac{1}{4}x[n-1] + \frac{1}{8}x[n-2] + \cdots$$

Note the infinite number of terms involving x[n].

(ii)

$$y[n] = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}y[n-1]}_{\text{feedback}} + x[n].$$

This turns out to be the same as (i).



General Form of LTI Filters:

$$y[n] = \sum_{k=-M_1}^{M_2} b_k x[n-k].$$

where  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are integers

$$0 \le M_1, M_2 \le \infty.$$

Classification:

- 1. (FIR or IIR)
  - (i) FIR:  $M_1, M_2 < \infty$ .
  - (ii) IIR:  $M_1$  or  $M_2 = \infty$ .
- 2. (Causal or noncausal)
  - (i) Causal:  $M_1 = 0$ .
  - (ii) Noncausal:  $M_1 > 0$ .