# **10.** Analysis using *z*-transform

- solution of linear difference equations
- transfer function and zero-state response
- frequency response
- aliasing and digital signal processing

## Solving linear difference equations

- the z-transform converts difference equations into algebraic equations that are readily solved to find the solution in the z-domain
- taking the inverse *z*-transform of the *z*-domain solution yields the desired time-domain solution

#### Example:

$$y[n+2] - 5y[n+1] + 6y[n] = 3x[n+1] + 5x[n]$$

(initial conditions y[-1] = 11/6, y[-2] = 37/36, and input  $x[n] = (2)^{-n}u[n]$ )

- using left-shift property requires a knowledge of auxiliary conditions  $y[0], y[1], \ldots, y[N-1]$ , which are typically not given
- to directly utilize the knowledge of initial conditions, it is more convenient to express the difference equation in delay form and use the right-shift property

the delay-form difference equation is

$$y[n] - 5y[n - 1] + 6y[n - 2] = 3x[n - 1] + 5x[n - 2]$$
  
here,  $y[n - m]$  (or  $x[n - m]$ ) means  $y[n - m]u[n]$  (or  $x[n - m]u[n]$ ); we have  
 $y[n]u[n] \iff Y(z)$   
 $y[n - 1]u[n] \iff \frac{1}{z}Y(z) + y[-1] = \frac{1}{z}Y(z) + \frac{11}{6}$   
 $y[n - 2]u[n] \iff \frac{1}{z^2}Y(z) + \frac{1}{z}y[-1] + y[-2] = \frac{1}{z^2}Y(z) + \frac{11}{6z} + \frac{37}{36}$ 

noting that for causal input x[n],  $x[-1] = x[-2] = \cdots = x[-n] = 0$ , hence  $x[n-m]u[n] \iff \frac{1}{z^m}X(z)$ , we thus have

$$x[n] = (2)^{-n}u[n] = (0.5)^{n}u[n] \iff \frac{z}{z - 0.5}$$
$$x[n - 1]u[n] \iff \frac{1}{z}X(z) = \frac{1}{z}\frac{z}{z - 0.5} = \frac{1}{z - 0.5}$$
$$x[n - 2]u[n] \iff \frac{1}{z^{2}}X(z) = \frac{1}{z^{2}}X(z) = \frac{1}{z(z - 0.5)}$$

taking the *z*-transform of the difference equation:

$$Y(z) - 5\left[\frac{1}{z}Y(z) + \frac{11}{6}\right] + 6\left[\frac{1}{z^2}Y(z) + \frac{11}{6z} + \frac{37}{36}\right] = \frac{3}{z - 0.5} + \frac{5}{z(z - 0.5)}$$
$$\left(1 - \frac{5}{z} + \frac{6}{z^2}\right)Y(z) - \left(3 - \frac{11}{z}\right) = \frac{3}{z - 0.5} + \frac{5}{z(z - 0.5)}$$

rearranging gives,

$$\frac{Y(z)}{z} = \frac{3z^2 - 9.5z + 10.5}{(z - 0.5)(z - 2)(z - 3)} = \frac{(26/15)}{z - 0.5} - \frac{(7/3)}{z - 2} + \frac{(18/5)}{z - 3}$$

therefore,

$$Y(z) = \frac{26}{15} \left( \frac{z}{z - 0.5} \right) - \frac{7}{3} \left( \frac{z}{z - 2} \right) + \frac{18}{5} \left( \frac{z}{z - 3} \right)$$

and

$$y[n] = \left[\frac{26}{15}(0.5)^n - \frac{7}{3}(2)^n + \frac{18}{5}(3)^n\right]u[n]$$

### Zero-input and zero-state components

- we can separate the solution into zero-input and zero-state components
- to do so, we separate the response into terms arising from the input and terms arising from initial conditions (IC)

in the previous example, we have

$$\left(1 - \frac{5}{z} + \frac{6}{z^2}\right)Y(z) = \underbrace{\left(3 - \frac{11}{z}\right)}_{\text{IC terms}} + \underbrace{\frac{(3z+5)}{z(z-0.5)}}_{\text{input terms}}$$

multiplying both sides by  $z^2$  yields

$$(z^2 - 5z + 6) Y(z) = \underbrace{z(3z - 11)}_{\text{IC terms}} + \underbrace{\frac{z(3z + 5)}{z - 0.5}}_{\text{input terms}}$$

hence,

$$Y(z) = \underbrace{\frac{z(3z - 11)}{z^2 - 5z + 6}}_{\text{zero-input response}} + \underbrace{\frac{z(3z + 5)}{(z - 0.5)(z^2 - 5z + 6)}}_{\text{zero-state response}}$$

we expand both terms on the right-hand side into modified partial fractions:

$$Y(z) = \left[5\left(\frac{z}{z-2}\right) - 2\left(\frac{z}{z-3}\right)\right] + \left[\frac{26}{15}\left(\frac{z}{z-0.5}\right) - \frac{22}{3}\left(\frac{z}{z-2}\right) + \frac{28}{5}\left(\frac{z}{z-3}\right)\right]$$

zero-input response

zero-state response

thus

$$y[n] = \underbrace{(5(2)^n - 2(3)^n) u[n]}_{\text{zero-input response}} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{26}{15}(0.5)^n - \frac{22}{3}(2)^n + \frac{28}{5}(3)^n\right) u[n]}_{\text{zero-state response}}$$
$$= \left[-\frac{7}{3}(2)^n + \frac{18}{5}(3)^n + \frac{26}{15}(0.5)^n\right] u[n]$$

## **Exercises**

• solve the following equation if the initial conditions y[-1] = 2, y[-2] = 0, and the input x[n] = u[n]:

$$y[n+2] - \frac{5}{6}y[n+1] + \frac{1}{6}y[n] = 5x[n+1] - x[n]$$

separate the response into zero-input and zero-state responses **Answer:** 

$$y[n] = \underbrace{\left(3\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n - \frac{4}{3}\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^n\right)u[n]}_{\text{zero-input response}} + \underbrace{\left(12 - 18\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n + 6\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^n\right)u[n]}_{\text{zero-state response}} = \begin{bmatrix}12 - 15\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n + \frac{14}{3}\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^n\end{bmatrix}u[n]$$

solve the following equation if the auxiliary conditions are y[0] = 1, y[1] = 2, and the input x[n] = u[n]:

$$y[n] + 3y[n-1] + 2y[n-2] = x[n-1] + 3x[n-2]$$
  
Answer:  $y[n] = \left[\frac{2}{3} + 2(-1)^n - \frac{5}{3}(-2)^n\right]u[n]$ 

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## The transfer function

the transfer function of an LTID system with impulse response h[n] is

$$H(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} h[n] z^{-n}$$

- H(z) is *z*-transform of impulse response h[n]
- the LTID system response y[n] to an everlasting exponential z<sup>n</sup> is

$$y[n] = h[n] * z^n = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[m] z^{n-m} = H(z) z^n$$

for fixed z, the output  $y[n] = H(z)z^n$  has same form as input  $z^n$ ; this input is called *eigenfunction* 

• an alternate definition of the transfer function H(z) of an LTID system is

$$H(z) = \frac{\text{output signal}}{\text{input signal}} \bigg|_{\text{input=exponential } z^n}$$

### Zero-state response

taking *z*-transform of y[n] = x[n] \* h[n], we have

Y(z) = X(z)H(z)

• we can find zero state response by taking the inverse *z*-transform:

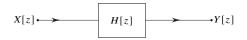
$$y[n] = \mathcal{Z}^{-1}\{X(z)H(z)\}$$

given the input and output, we can find transfer function as

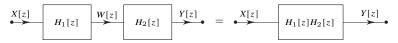
$$H(z) = \frac{Y(z)}{X(z)} = \frac{\mathcal{Z}[\text{zero-state response}]}{\mathcal{Z}[\text{input}]}$$

# **Block diagrams**

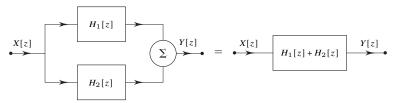
#### Block diagram of linear system



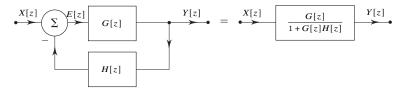
#### **Cascade interconnection**



#### Parallel interconnection



#### Feedback interconnection



$$\frac{Y(z)}{X(z)} = \frac{G(z)}{1 + G(z)H(z)}$$

**Unit delay:** the unit delay, which is represented by a box marked D, will be represented by its transfer function 1/z

## Transfer function of LTI difference system

### Nth-order LTID system

$$Q[E]y[n] = P[E]x[n]$$

or

$$\left( E^{N} + a_{1}E^{N-1} + \dots + a_{N-1}E + a_{N} \right) y[n]$$
  
=  $\left( b_{0}E^{N} + b_{1}E^{N-1} + \dots + b_{N-1}E + b_{N} \right) x[n]$ 

the transfer function is

$$H(z) = \frac{P(z)}{Q(z)} = \frac{b_0 z^N + b_1 z^{N-1} + \dots + b_{N-1} z + b_N}{z^N + a_1 z^{N-1} + \dots + a_{N-1} z + a_N}$$

## Example 10.1

consider an LTID system described by the difference equation

$$y[n+2] + y[n+1] + 0.16y[n] = x[n+1] + 0.32x[n]$$

or

$$(E^{2} + E + 0.16) y[n] = (E + 0.32)x[n]$$

find the transfer function and the zero-state response y[n] due to input  $x[n] = (-2)^{-n}u[n]$ 

Solution: from the difference equation, we find

$$H(z) = \frac{P(z)}{Q(z)} = \frac{z + 0.32}{z^2 + z + 0.16}$$

the input  $x[n] = (-2)^{-n}u[n] = (-0.5)^n u[n]$  *z*-transform is

$$X(z) = \frac{z}{z+0.5}$$

therefore,

$$Y(z) = X(z)H(z) = \frac{z(z+0.32)}{(z^2+z+0.16)(z+0.5)}$$

and

$$\frac{Y(z)}{z} = \frac{(z+0.32)}{(z^2+z+0.16)(z+0.5)} = \frac{(z+0.32)}{(z+0.2)(z+0.8)(z+0.5)}$$
$$= \frac{2/3}{z+0.2} - \frac{8/3}{z+0.8} + \frac{2}{z+0.5}$$

so that

$$Y(z) = \frac{2}{3} \left( \frac{z}{z+0.2} \right) - \frac{8}{3} \left( \frac{z}{z+0.8} \right) + 2 \left( \frac{z}{z+0.5} \right)$$

and

$$y[n] = \left[\frac{2}{3}(-0.2)^n - \frac{8}{3}(-0.8)^n + 2(-0.5)^n\right]u[n]$$

## Example 10.2

if the input to the unit delay is x[n]u[n], then its output is given by

y[n] = x[n-1]u[n-1]

show that the transfer function of a unit delay is 1/z



Solution: the *z*-transform of this equation yields

$$Y(z) = \frac{1}{z}X(z) = H(z)X(z)$$

it follows that the transfer function of the unit delay is

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{z}$$

# Stability

### **BIBO stability**

- if all the poles of H(z) are within the unit circle, then system is BIBO-stable (all the terms in h[n] are decaying exponentials and h[n] is absolutely summable)
- otherwise the system is BIBO-unstable

**Internal stability:** if P(z) and Q(z) do not share common factors, then the poles of H(z) are the characteristic roots of the system; hence an LTID system is

- 1. asymptotically stable if and only if all the poles of its transfer function H(z) are within the unit circle; the poles may be repeated or simple
- 2. unstable if and only if either one or both of the following conditions exist: (i) at least one pole of H(z) is outside the unit circle; (ii) there are repeated poles of H(z) on the unit circle
- 3. marginally stable if and only if there are no poles of H(z) outside the unit circle, and there are some simple poles on the unit circle

### **Inverse systems**

if H(z) is the transfer function of a system S, then  $S_i$ , its inverse system, has a transfer function  $H_i(z)$  given by

$$H_i(z) = \frac{1}{H(z)}$$

### Examples:

• an accumulator H(z) = z/(z-1) and a backward difference system  $H_i(z) = (z-1)/z$  are inverse of each other • if

$$H(z) = \frac{z - 0.4}{z - 0.7}$$

its inverse system transfer function is

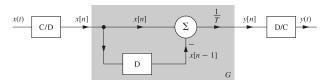
$$H_i(z) = \frac{z - 0.7}{z - 0.4}$$

as required by the property  $H(z)H_i(z) = 1$ ; hence, it follows that

$$h[n]*h_i[n]=\delta[n]$$

## **Exercises**

show that the transfer function of the digital differentiator (shaded block) is given by H(z) = (z - 1)/Tz



a discrete-time system is described by the following transfer function:

$$H(z) = \frac{z - 0.5}{(z + 0.5)(z - 1)}$$

(a) find the system response to input  $x[n] = 3^{-(n+1)}u[n]$  and zero initial conditions (b) write the difference equation relating the output y[n] to input x[n] for this system **Answers:** (a)  $y[n] = \frac{1}{3} \left[ \frac{1}{2} - 0.8(-0.5)^n + 0.3 \left( \frac{1}{3} \right)^n \right] u[n]$ (b) y[n+2] - 0.5y[n+1] - 0.5y[n] = x[n+1] - 0.5x[n]

## **Exercises**

• find h[n] by taking the inverse *z*-transform of H(z) for the systems:

(a) 
$$y[n+1] - y[n] = x[n]$$
  
(b)  $y[n] - 5y[n-1] + 6y[n-2] = 8x[n-1] - 19x[n-2]$   
(c)  $y[n+2] - 4y[n+1] + 4y[n] = 2x[n+2] - 2x[n+1]$   
(d)  $y[n] = 2x[n] - 2x[n-1]$ 

- show that an accumulator whose impulse response is h[n] = u[n] is marginally stable but BIBO-unstable
- find the impulse responses of an accumulator and a first-order backward difference system; show that the convolution of the two impulse responses yields  $\delta[n]$

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### **Frequency response**

the LTID system response to complex sinusoid  $x[n] = A_x e^{j\Omega n}$  is

$$y[n] = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[m] A_x e^{j\Omega(n-m)} = H(e^{j\Omega}) A_x e^{j\Omega n}$$
$$= |H(e^{j\Omega})| |A_x| e^{j\left(\Omega n + \angle H(e^{j\Omega}) + \angle A_x\right)}$$

- the system response to complex sinusoid is also complex sinusoid of the same frequency Ω multiplied by H(e<sup>jΩ</sup>)
- $H(e^{j\Omega})$  is called the *frequency response* of the system, which is the transfer function  $H(z) = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[m] z^{-m}$  evaluated at  $z = e^{j\Omega}$
- using frequency response, we can find output for any sinusoidal input

Sinusoidal input response: the response to  $\operatorname{Re}(e^{j(\Omega n+\theta)}) = \cos(\Omega n+\theta)$  is

$$y[n] = |H(e^{j\Omega})| \cos\left(\Omega n + \theta + \angle H(e^{j\Omega})\right)$$

### Amplitude response

- $|H(e^{j\Omega})|$  is the amplitude gain of the system called *amplitude response* or *magnitude response*
- a plot of |*H*(*e<sup>jΩ</sup>*)| versus Ω shows the amplitude gain as a function of frequency Ω

#### Phase response

- $\angle H(e^{j\Omega})$  is the *phase response*
- a plot of  $\angle H(e^{j\Omega})$  versus  $\Omega$  shows how the system modifies or changes the phase of the input sinusoid

### Steady-state response to causal inputs

- the response of an LTID system to a causal sinusoidal input cos(Ωn)u[n] is y[n], plus a natural component consisting of the characteristic modes
- for a stable system, the steady-state response of a system to a causal sinusoidal input x[n] = cos(Ωn)u[n] is

$$y_{ss}[n] = \left| H(e^{j\Omega}) \right| \cos \left( \Omega n + \angle H(e^{j\Omega}) \right)$$

### Response to sampled ct sinusoids

- in practice, the input may be a sampled continuous-time sinusoid cos ωt (or an exponential e<sup>jωt</sup>)
- when a sinusoid  $\cos \omega t$  is sampled with sampling interval *T*, the resulting signal is a discrete-time sinusoid  $\cos \omega nT$ , obtained by setting t = nT in  $\cos \omega t$
- therefore, all the results developed here apply if we substitute  $\omega T$  for  $\Omega$ :

$$\Omega = \omega T$$

# Example 10.3

for a system described by the equation

$$y[n+1] - 0.8y[n] = x[n+1]$$

find the system response to the inputs

(a) 
$$x[n] = \cos(\frac{\pi}{6}n - 0.2)$$

- (b) x[n] = 1
- (c) a sampled sinusoid  $\cos(1500t)$  with sampling interval T = 0.001

Solution: the system equation can be expressed as

(E - 0.8)y[n] = Ex[n]

therefore, the transfer function of the system is

$$H(z) = \frac{z}{z - 0.8} = \frac{1}{1 - 0.8z^{-1}}$$

the frequency response is

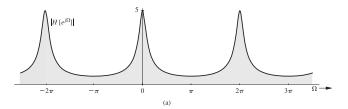
$$H(e^{j\Omega}) = \frac{1}{1 - 0.8e^{-j\Omega}} = \frac{1}{(1 - 0.8\cos\Omega) + j0.8\sin\Omega}$$

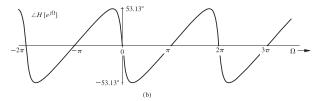
therefore,

$$\left|H(e^{j\Omega})\right| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(1 - 0.8\cos\Omega)^2 + (0.8\sin\Omega)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1.64 - 1.6\cos\Omega}}$$

and

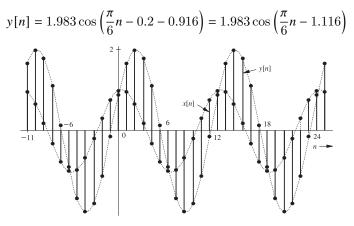
$$\angle H(e^{j\Omega}) = -\tan^{-1}\left[\frac{0.8\sin\Omega}{1-0.8\cos\Omega}\right]$$





(a) for  $x[n] = \cos[(\pi/6)n - 0.2], \Omega = \pi/6$  and  $|H(e^{j\pi/6})| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1.64 - 1.6\cos\frac{\pi}{6}}} = 1.983$  $\angle H(e^{j\pi/6}) = -\tan^{-1}\left[\frac{0.8\sin\frac{\pi}{6}}{1 - 0.8\cos\frac{\pi}{6}}\right] = -0.916$  rad

therefore,



(b) since  $1^n = (e^{j\Omega})^n$  with  $\Omega = 0$ , the amplitude response is

$$H(e^{j0}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1.64 - 1.6\cos(0)}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{0.04}} = 5 = 5 \angle 0$$

therefore,

$$\left|H\left(e^{j0}
ight)
ight|=5$$
 and  $\angle H\left(e^{j0}
ight)=0$ 

and the system response to input  $1 \mbox{ is }$ 

$$y[n] = 5(1^n) = 5$$
 for all  $n$ 

(c) a sinusoid  $\cos 1500t$  sampled every *T* seconds (t = nT) results in a discrete-time sinusoid

 $x[n] = \cos 1500nT$ 

for T = 0.001, the input is

$$x[n] = \cos(1.5n)$$

in this case,  $\Omega = 1.5$  and

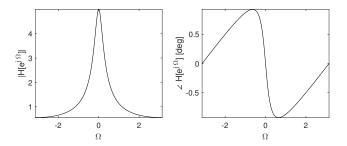
$$\begin{aligned} \left| H\left(e^{j1.5}\right) \right| &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1.64 - 1.6\cos(1.5)}} = 0.809\\ \mathcal{L}H\left(e^{j1.5}\right) &= -\tan^{-1}\left[\frac{0.8\sin(1.5)}{1 - 0.8\cos(1.5)}\right] = -0.702 \text{rad} \end{aligned}$$

therefore,

$$y[n] = 0.809 \cos(1.5n - 0.702)$$

#### Frequency response using MATLAB

```
Omega = linspace(-pi,pi,400); H = @(z) z./(z-0.8);
subplot(1,2,1); plot(Omega,abs(H(exp(1j*Omega))),'k'); axis tight;
xlabel('\Omega'); ylabel('|H(e^{j \Omega})|');
subplot(1,2,2); plot(Omega,angle(H(exp(1j*Omega))*180/pi),'k');
axis tight;
xlabel('\Omega'); ylabel('\angle H(e^{j \Omega}) [deg]');
```



## **Exercises**

for a system specified by the equation

$$y[n+1] - 0.5y[n] = x[n]$$

find the amplitude and the phase response; find the system response to sinusoidal input  $\cos[1000t - (\pi/3)]$  sampled every T = 0.5 msAnswer:

$$\begin{split} \left| H(e^{j\Omega}) \right| &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1.25 - \cos \Omega}} \\ \mathcal{L}H(e^{j\Omega}) &= -\tan^{-1} \left[ \frac{\sin \Omega}{\cos \Omega - 0.5} \right] \\ y[n] &= 1.639 \cos \left( 0.5n - \frac{\pi}{3} - 0.904 \right) = 1.639 \cos (0.5n - 1.951) \end{split}$$

• show that for an ideal delay (H(z) = 1/z), the amplitude response  $|H(e^{j\Omega})| = 1$ , and the phase response  $\angle H(e^{j\Omega}) = -\Omega$ ; thus, for an ideal delay, the phase shift of the output sinusoid is proportional to the frequency of the input sinusoid (linear phase shift)

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### Periodic nature of frequency response

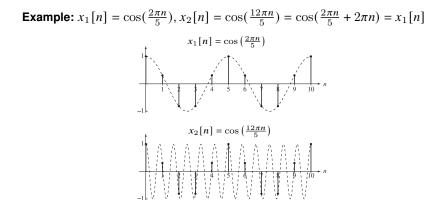
the frequency response  $H(e^{j\Omega})$  is a periodic function of  $\Omega$  with period  $2\pi$ 

$$H(e^{j\Omega}) = H(e^{j(\Omega+2\pi m)})$$
 m integer

- because  $e^{j2\pi m} = 1$  for all integer values of m, we have  $e^{j\Omega n} = e^{j(\Omega \pm 2\pi m)n}$  for any integer m:
- the DT exponenetial  $e^{j\Omega n}$  (or sinusoid) has a unique waveform only in a range separated by  $2\pi$

### Nonuniqueness of DT sinusoids

- observe that  $\cos(\Omega n) = \cos[(\Omega + 2\pi m)n]$  for integer  $m [e^{j\Omega n} = e^{j(\Omega \pm 2\pi m)n}]$
- any two DT sinusoids with frequencies  $\Omega$  and  $\Omega + 2\pi m$  are identical



## Fundamental (apparent) frequency

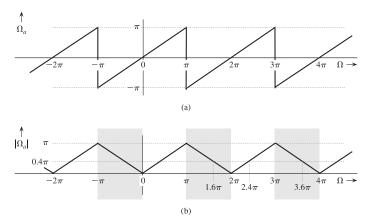
- DT sinusoid has a unique waveform only in a range separated by  $2\pi$
- the values of  $\Omega$  in the range  $-\pi$  to  $\pi$  is called the *fundamental band*
- every frequency Ω is identical to some frequency, Ω<sub>a</sub>:

$$\Omega_a = \Omega - 2\pi m$$
  $-\pi \leq \Omega_a < \pi$  and *m* integer

**Apparent frequency** the *fundamental* or *apparent* frequency for a DT sinusoid is equal to  $|\Omega_a|$ 

- example:  $\cos(8.7\pi n + \theta) = \cos(0.7\pi n + \theta)$ , so  $|\Omega_a| = 0.7\pi$
- since  $\cos(-\Omega n + \theta) = \cos(\Omega n \theta)$ , a frequency in the range  $-\pi$  to 0 is identical to the frequency in the range 0 to  $\pi$  (with a change in phase sign)
- example:  $\cos(9.6\pi n + \theta) = \cos(-0.4\pi n + \theta) = \cos(0.4\pi n \theta)$ , so  $|\Omega_a| = 0.4\pi$

the plot below shows the fundamental band frequency  $\Omega_a$  versus the frequency  $\Omega$  of a sinusoid; the frequency  $\Omega_a$  is modulo  $2\pi$  value of  $\Omega$ 



# Example 10.4

express the following signals in terms of their apparent frequencies:

- (a)  $\cos(0.5\pi n + \theta)$
- (b)  $\cos(1.6\pi n + \theta)$
- (c)  $\sin(1.6\pi n + \theta)$
- (d)  $\cos(2.3\pi n + \theta)$
- (e)  $\cos(34.699n + \theta)$

### Solution:

- (a)  $\Omega = 0.5\pi$  is in the reduced range already; because  $\Omega_a = 0.5\pi$ , there is no phase reversal, and the apparent sinusoid is  $\cos(0.5\pi n + \theta)$
- (b)  $1.6\pi = -0.4\pi + 2\pi$  so that  $\Omega_a = -0.4\pi$  and  $|\Omega_a| = 0.4$ ; also,  $\Omega_a$  is negative, implying sign change for the phase; hence, the apparent sinusoid is  $\cos(0.4\pi n \theta)$
- (c) we first convert the sine to cosine  $\sin(1.6\pi n + \theta) = \cos(1.6\pi n (\pi/2) + \theta)$ ; in part (b), we found  $\Omega_a = -0.4\pi$ ; hence, the apparent sinusoid is  $\cos(0.4\pi n + (\pi/2) - \theta) = -\sin(0.4\pi n - \theta)$ ; in this case, both the phase and the amplitude change signs
- (d)  $2.3\pi = 0.3\pi + 2\pi$  so that  $\Omega_a = 0.3\pi$ ; hence, the apparent sinusoid is  $\cos(0.3\pi n + \theta)$
- (e) we have  $34.699 = -3 + 6(2\pi)$ ; hence,  $\Omega_a = -3$ , and the apparent frequency  $|\Omega_a| = 3 \text{ rad/sample}$ ; because  $\Omega_a$  is negative, there is a sign change of the phase and the apparent sinusoid is  $\cos(3n \theta)$

## Aliasing and sampling rate

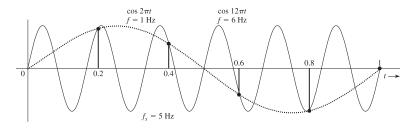
a CT sinusoid  $\cos \omega t$  sampled every *T* seconds (t = nT) results in a DT sinusoid

 $\cos \Omega n$  where  $\Omega = \omega T$ 

- since DT sinusoids  $\cos \Omega n$  have unique waveforms only for the values of frequencies in the range  $\Omega < \pi$  ( $\omega T < \pi$ ), samples of continuous-time sinusoids of two (or more) different frequencies can generate the same discrete-time signal
- this phenomenon is known as aliasing because through sampling, two entirely different analog sinusoids take on the same "discrete-time" identity

**Example:** two sinusoids  $\cos 12\pi t$  and  $\cos 2\pi t$  sampled every 0.2 second

- the sampled DT sinusoids ( $\Omega = \omega T = 0.2\omega$ ) are  $\cos 2.4\pi n$  and  $\cos 0.4\pi n$
- the apparent frequency of  $2.4\pi$  is  $0.4\pi$ , identical to the discrete-time frequency corresponding to the lower sinusoid



aliasing causes ambiguity in digital signal processing, which makes it impossible to determine the true frequency of the sampled signal

## Avoiding aliasing (sampling theorem)

to avoid aliasing, the frequencies of the continuous-time sinusoids to be sampled must be kept within the fundamental band  $\omega T \leq \pi$ 

**Sampling theorem:** if  $\omega_h = 2\pi f_h$  is the highest frequency to be processed, then, to avoid aliasing,

$$T < \frac{1}{2f_h}$$

since the sampling freq.  $f_s$  is the reciprocal of the sampling interval T, we have

$$f_s = \frac{1}{T} > 2f_h$$

(this result is a special case of the well-known sampling theorem)

# Example 10.5

(a) determine the maximum sampling interval T that can be used in a discrete-time oscillator that generates a sinusoid of 50 kHz

Solution:  $T < 1/(2f_h) = 10 \ \mu s$ ; the sampling frequency is  $f_s = 1/T > 100 \ kHz$ 

(b) a discrete-time amplifier uses a sampling interval  $T = 25 \ \mu s$ ; what is the highest frequency of a signal that can be processed with this amplifier without aliasing?

**Solution:**  $f_h < 1/2T = 20 \text{ kHz}$ 



#### Reference:

B.P. Lathi, *Linear Systems and Signals*, Oxford University Press, chapter 5.3–5.5.

#### Further reading and practice exercises:

Read section(s) 5.3–5.5 in the book.