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**BASIC SYSTEM PROPERTIES**


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**What:** Input  $x[n] \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYSTEM}} \rightarrow y[n]$  output.

**Why: Design** the system to **filter** input  $x[n]$ .

**DEF:** A system is **LINEAR** if these two properties hold:

1. **Scaling:** If  $x[n] \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYS}} \rightarrow y[n]$ , then  $ax[n] \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYS}} \rightarrow ay[n]$

**for:** any **constant**  $a$ . NOT true if  $a$  varies with time (i.e.,  $a[n]$ ).

2. **Superposition:** If  $x_1[n] \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYS}} \rightarrow y_1[n]$  and  $x_2[n] \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYS}} \rightarrow y_2[n]$ ,

**Then:**  $(ax_1[n] + bx_2[n]) \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYS}} \rightarrow (ay_1[n] + by_2[n])$

**for:** any **constants**  $a, b$ . NOT true if  $a$  or  $b$  vary with time (i.e.,  $a[n], b[n]$ ).

**EX:**  $y[n] = 3x[n-2]$ ;  $y[n] = x[n+1] - nx[n] + 2x[n-1]$ ;  $y[n] = \sin(n)x[n]$ .

**NOT:**  $y[n] = x^2[n]$ ;  $y[n] = \sin(x[n])$ ;  $y[n] = |x[n]|$ ;  $y[n] = x[n]/x[n-1]$ .

**NOT:**  $y[n] = x[n] + 1$  (try it). This is called an **affine** system.

**HOW:** If any nonlinear function of  $x[n]$ , not linear. Nonlinear of just  $n$  OK.

**DEF:** A system is **TIME-INVARIANT** if this property holds:

If  $x[n] \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYS}} \rightarrow y[n]$ , then  $x[n-N] \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYS}} \rightarrow y[n-N]$

**for:** any integer time delay  $N$ . NOT true if  $N$  varies with time (e.g.,  $N(n)$ ).

**EX:**  $y[n] = 3x[n-2]$ ;  $y[n] = \sin(x[n])$ ;  $y[n] = x[n]/x[n-1]$ .

**NOT:**  $y[n] = nx[n]$ ;  $y[n] = x[n^2]$ ;  $y[n] = x[2n]$ ;  $y[n] = x[-n]$ .

**HOW:** If  $n$  appears anywhere other than in  $x[n]$ , not time-invariant. Else OK.

**DEF:** A system is **CAUSAL** if it has this form for some function  $F(\cdot)$ :

$y[n] = F(x[n], x[n-1], x[n-2] \dots)$  (present and past input only).

**Note:** Physical systems must be causal. But DSP filters need not be causal!

**DEF:** A system is **MEMORYLESS** if  $y[n] = F(x[n])$  (present input only).

**DEF:** A system is **(BIBO) STABLE** iff: Let  $x[n] \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYSTEM}} \rightarrow y[n]$ .

If  $|x[n]| < M$  for some constant  $M$ , then  $|y[n]| < N$  for some  $N$ .

**i.e.:** "Every bounded input (BI) produces a bounded output (BO)."

**HOW:** BIBO stable  $\Leftrightarrow \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |h[n]| < L$  for some constant  $L$

**where:** Impulse  $\delta[n] \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYS}} \rightarrow h[n]$ =impulse response.

**EX:** A time-invariant system is observed to have these two responses:

$\{\underline{0}, 0, 3\} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYS}} \rightarrow \{\underline{0}, 1, 0, 2\}$  and  $\{\underline{0}, 0, 0, 1\} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYS}} \rightarrow \{1, \underline{2}, 1\}$ .

**Prove:** The system is nonlinear.

**Proof:** By contradiction. Suppose the system is linear. But then:

$\{\underline{0}, 0, 0, 1\} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYS}} \rightarrow \{1, \underline{2}, 1\}$  implies  $\{\underline{0}, 0, 3\} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{SYS}} \rightarrow \{3, 6, \underline{3}\}$

since we know it is time-invariant. Then  $\{\underline{0}, 0, 3\}$  produces two outputs!

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**CONVOLUTION AND IMPULSE RESPONSE**


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$$x[n] = \{3, \underline{1}, 4, 6\} \Leftrightarrow x[n] = 3\delta[n+1] + 1\delta[n] + 4\delta[n-1] + 6\delta[n-2].$$

**Note:**  $x[n] = \sum_i x[i]\delta[n-i] = x[n] * \delta[n]$  (sifting property of impulse).

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**Delay:**  $x[n-D]$  is  $x[n]$  shifted *right* (later) if  $D > 0$ ; *left* (earlier) if  $D < 0$ .

**Fold:**  $x[-n]$  is  $x[n]$  flipped/folded/reversed around  $n = 0$ .

**Both:**  $x[N-n]$  is  $x[-n]$  shifted *right* if  $N > 0$  (since  $x[0]$  is now at  $n = N$ ).

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**FOR LINEAR TIME-INVARIANT (LTI) SYSTEMS:**

1.  $\delta[n] \rightarrow \overline{\text{LTI}} \rightarrow h[n]$  Definition of **Impulse response**  $h[n]$ .
  2.  $\delta[n-i] \rightarrow \overline{\text{LTI}} \rightarrow h[n-i]$  **Time invariant:** delay by  $i$ .
  3.  $x[i]\delta[n-i] \rightarrow \overline{\text{LTI}} \rightarrow x[i]h[n-i]$  **Linear:** scale by  $x[i]$ .
  4.  $\sum_i x[i]\delta[n-i] \rightarrow \overline{\text{LTI}} \rightarrow \sum_i x[i]h[n-i]$  **Linear:** superposition.
  5.  $x[n] \rightarrow \overline{\text{LTI}} \rightarrow y[n] = \sum_i x[i]h[n-i] = h[n] * x[n]$  **Convolution.**  
Input  $x[n]$  into LTI system with no initial stored energy  $\rightarrow$  output  $y[n]$ .
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**PROPERTIES OF DISCRETE CONVOLUTION**

1.  $y[n] = h[n] * x[n] = x[n] * h[n] = \sum_i h[i]x[n-i] = \sum h[n-i]x[i]$ .
  2.  $h[n], x[n]$  both causal ( $h[n] = 0$  for  $n < 0$  and  $x[n] = 0$  for  $n < 0$ )  
 $\rightarrow y[n] = \sum_{i=0}^n h[i]x[n-i] = \sum_{i=0}^n h[n-i]x[i]$  also causal.
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3. Suppose  $h[n] \neq 0$  *only* for  $0 \leq n \leq L$  ( $h[n]$  has length  $L+1$ ).  
Suppose  $x[n] \neq 0$  *only* for  $0 \leq n \leq M$  ( $x[n]$  has length  $M+1$ ).  
Then  $y[n] \neq 0$  *only* for  $0 \leq n \leq L+M$  ( $y[n]$  has length  $L+M+1$ ).

**Note:** Length[ $y[n]$ ] = Length[ $h[n]$ ] + Length[ $x[n]$ ] - 1.

**Note:**  $y[0] = h[0]x[0]$ ;  $y[L+M] = h[L]x[M]$ ;  $x[n] * \delta[n-D] = x[n-D]$ .

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4.  $x[n] \rightarrow \overline{h_1[n]} \rightarrow \overline{h_2[n]} \rightarrow y[n]$  (cascade connection)

Equivalent to:  $x[n] \rightarrow \overline{h_1[n] * h_2[n]} \rightarrow y[n]$ .

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5.  $x[n] \rightarrow \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \rightarrow \overline{h_1[n]} \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \overline{h_2[n]} \rightarrow \end{array} \right\rangle \oplus \rightarrow y[n]$  (parallel connection)

Equivalent to:  $x[n] \rightarrow \overline{h_1[n] + h_2[n]} \rightarrow y[n]$ .

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**MA:**  $y[n] = b_0x[n] + b_1x[n-1] + \dots + b_qx[n-q]$  (Moving Average)

**Huh?** Present output = weighted average of  $q$  *most recent* inputs.

**Note:** Equivalent to  $y[n] = b[n] * x[n]$  where  $b[k] = b_k, 0 \leq k \leq q$ .

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**FIR:** Finite Impulse Response  $\Leftrightarrow h[n]$  has finite *duration*.

**EX:** Any MA system is also an FIR system, and vice-versa.

**IIR:** Infinite Impulse Response  $\Leftrightarrow h[n]$  not finite duration.

**EX:**  $h[n] = a^n u[n] = a^n$  for  $n \geq 0$  and  $|a| < 1$  is stable and IIR.