

# ① LINEAR SYSTEMS THEORY

Goal: provide a concise way of characterising

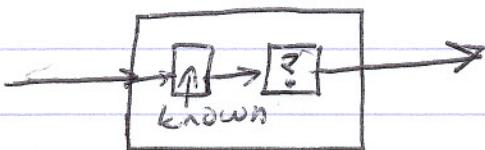
$$s(t) \longrightarrow F \longrightarrow r(t)$$

so that one can (a) describe it

(b) test models for it

(c) make guesses as to what's inside

(d) make use of partial knowledge



Examples electric circuit

physiology

VOR -> state read, observe eye movement

volume homeostasis - apply volume load

membrane . urine output adjust

- apply current measure voltage

light to voltage

neural activity to blood flow

For general  $F$ , this is intractable.

So we make 2 assumptions:

translation-invariance

linearity

(+ causality)

(Post-process filters need not  
be causal.)

②

Translation-invariance : if  $[F(s)](t) = r(t)$

and

$$s' = D_\gamma(s) \quad (\text{i.e., } s'(t) = s(t+\gamma))$$

then

$$[F(s')] (t) = r(t+\gamma)$$

$$\text{i.e., } F D_\gamma = D_\gamma F$$

Linearity:  $[F(s_1 + s_2)](t) = [F(s_1)](t) + [F(s_2)](t)$

and

$$[F(\alpha s)](t) = \alpha [F(s)](t)$$

Linearity is always an approximation.

The theory does extend to non-linear transformations,  
in part.

Linearity allows us to consider  $F$  as an element of  $\text{Hom}(V, V)$   
where  $V$  is the V.S. of functions of time.

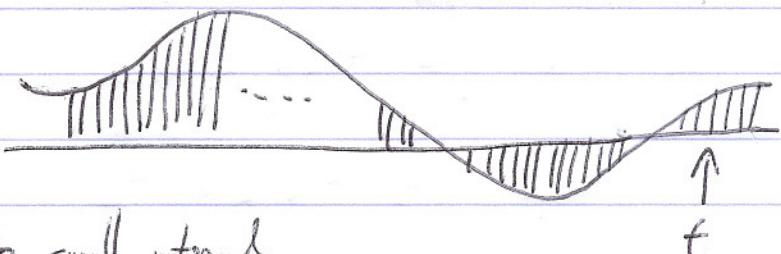
But if  $F$  is a physical system, then how to interpret  
 $[F(s)](t)$  for  $s$  complex-valued?

Ans: Linearity.  $s(t) = a(t) + i b(t)$   
so  $F(s)(t) = [F(a)](t) + i [F(b)](t)$

③

Linearity gives us an intuitive way of characterizing  $F$ .

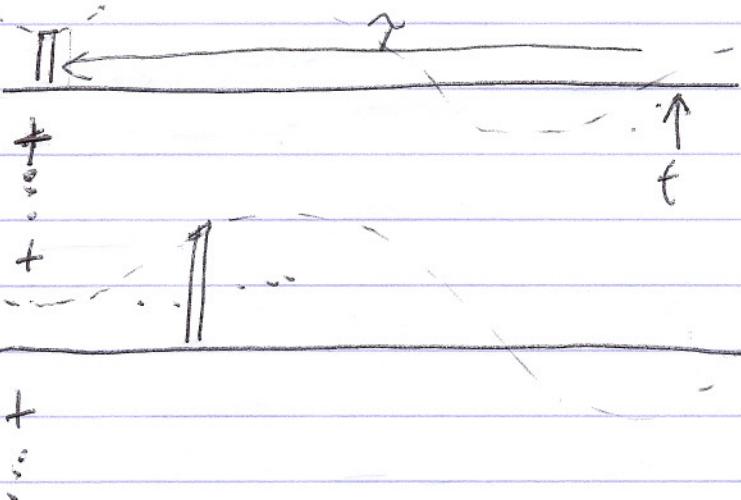
$$s(t) =$$



Panel it into small intervals

Linearity means that we can consider each interval independently.

$$s(t) =$$



Response at time  $t$  = sum of contributions of  $s$  at all times  
in past,  $t - \gamma$ .

Say a unit pulse at time 0 leads to a response  $f(\gamma)$ .

Equivalently, a unit pulse at time  $t - \gamma$  leads to a response  
 $f(\gamma)$  at time  $t$ .

$$r(t) = \int_{\gamma=0}^{\infty} f(\gamma) s(t - \gamma) d\gamma.$$

$f$  is the "impulse response"

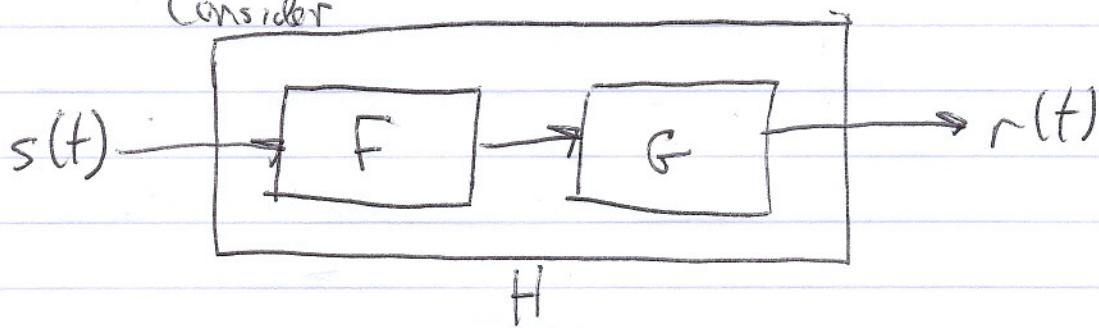
④

What's the problem with this description?

- Ⓐ Estimating  $f(\tau)$ . You need to work where linearity is most likely to break down.

- Ⓑ Combining systems. Parallel is easy.

Consider



If you know  $f(\tau)$  &  $g(\tau)$ , what is  $h(\tau)$ ?

say  $F(s) = q$ ,  $G(q) = r$ .

$$r(t) = \int g(\tau) q(t - \tau) d\tau$$

$$q(t) = \int f(\tau') s(t - \tau') d\tau'$$

$$\text{so } r(t) = \iint g(\tau) f(\tau') s(t - \tau - \tau') d\tau' d\tau$$

$$u = \tau + \tau'$$

$$= \iint g(\tau) f(u - \tau) s(t - u) d\tau du$$

$$= \int h(u) s(t - u) du \quad \text{for } h(u) = \int g(\tau) f(u - \tau) d\tau.$$

(5)

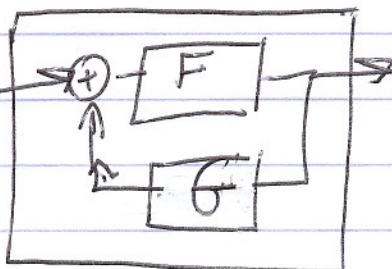
So, for systems in series,

$$h(u) = \int g(\tau) f(u - \tau) d\tau, \text{ or } h = f * g$$

It's not so easy to intuit what this means, or, say, given  $h$  and  $f$ , to solve for  $g$ .

And consider

$$H =$$



or more complex networks

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What we've done above is to describe  $F$  in terms of the basis set of time functions

$$\frac{1}{1} \quad \frac{1}{1} \quad \frac{1}{1}$$

These are the delta-functions  
 $\delta(t-\tau)$

$D_F$  permutes them. But we know that there is another basis set for which  $D_F$  multiplies them, by  $e^{i\omega t}$ .

So now let's change bases.

In the new basis set,  $e^{i\omega t}$ ,  $F$  must act as multiplication.  
i.e., for  $s(t) = e^{i\omega t}$ ,  
then  $[F(s)](t) = \text{a multiple of } e^{i\omega t}$ .

⑥

Let's find this multiple, or call it  $\hat{f}(\omega)$ , the "transfer function" of  $f$ .

If  $s(t) = e^{i\omega t}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} [F(s)](t) &= \int f(\tau) s(t-\tau) d\tau \\ &= \int f(\tau) e^{i\omega(t-\tau)} d\tau \\ &= e^{i\omega t} \int f(\tau) e^{-i\omega\tau} d\tau \end{aligned}$$

So,  $\boxed{\hat{f}(\omega) = \int e^{-i\omega\tau} f(\tau) d\tau}$

Interpret  $\hat{f}(\omega)$  in terms of real signals. Say  $\hat{f}(\omega) = |f(\omega)| e^{i\phi(\omega)}$ .

$$s(t) = e^{i\omega t} = \cos(\omega t) + i\sin(\omega t)$$

$$r(t) = |f(\omega)| e^{i\phi(\omega)} s(t)$$

$$= |f(\omega)| (\cos \phi(\omega) + i \sin \phi(\omega)) (\cos \omega t + i \sin \omega t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= |f(\omega)| [(\cos \phi(\omega) \cos \omega t) - \sin \phi(\omega) \sin \omega t] \\ &\quad + i [\sin \phi(\omega) \cos \omega t + \cos \phi(\omega) \sin \omega t] \end{aligned}$$

$$= |f(\omega)| [\cos(\omega t + \phi(\omega)) + i \sin(\omega t + \phi(\omega))]$$

$\uparrow$   
Amplitude

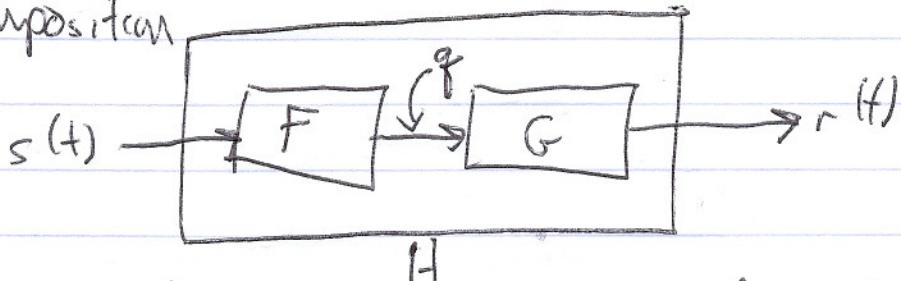
$\uparrow$   
phase shift.

⑦

Does the transfer function help with the "problems" on p. 4?

Ⓐ measurement. Use ~~cos(wt)~~  $e^{i\omega t}$ .

Ⓑ composition



Put in  $e^{i\omega t} = s(t)$ . Then  $q(t) = \hat{f}(w) e^{i\omega t}$ .

Next, since  $G$  is linear,  $r(t) = \hat{g}(w) [\hat{f}(w) e^{i\omega t}]$ .

$$= \hat{g}(w) \hat{f}(w) e^{i\omega t}$$

So  $\hat{h}(w) = \hat{f}(w) \hat{g}(w)$ . "The Convolution Thm".

What if we want to calculate how  $F$  responds to arbitrary  $s$ , but only have  $\hat{f}(w)$ ? i.e., can we find  $f(t)$  from  $\hat{f}(w)$ ?

We need to write  $s(t) = \int e^{i\omega t} \cdot \hat{s}(w) dw$

Since, then we could calculate  $f(t) = [F(s)](t)$  from its responses to  $e^{i\omega t}$ .

⑧

"It turns out" that

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\omega t} d\omega$$

"so the response to a  $\delta$ -function is

$$f(t) = [F(\delta)](t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(\omega) e^{i\omega t} d\omega.$$

$$\hat{f}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-i\omega t} f(t) dt$$

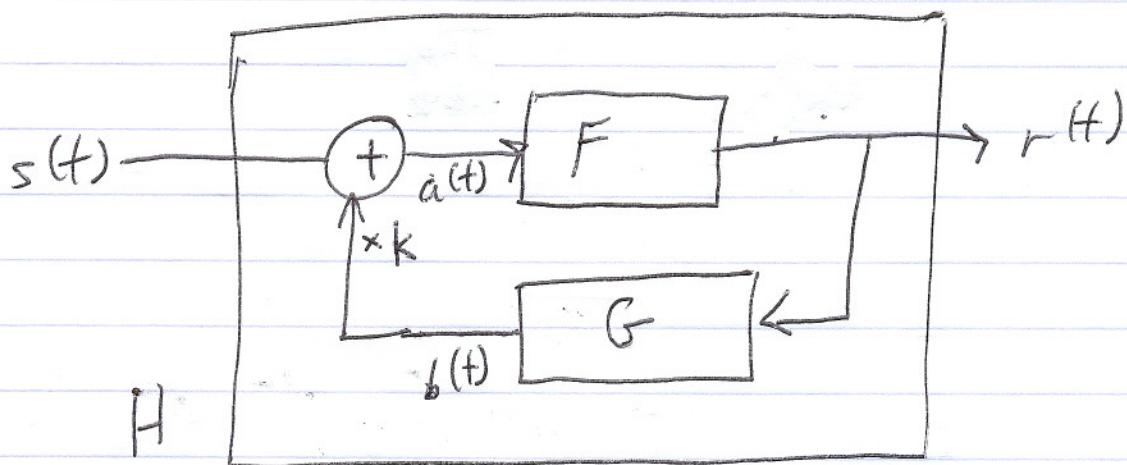
$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\omega t} \hat{f}(\omega) d\omega$$

Fourier Transform Pairs

A way to see this - pp 4-5 of 2004 notes FAPP.

⑨

An example of combining elements in a more complex way: feedback



(calculate  $\hat{h}(iw)$ ) say  $s(t) = e^{i\omega t}$ .  
 $r(t) = \hat{h}(iw) e^{i\omega t}$ .

$$b(t) = \hat{g}(iw) \hat{h}(iw) e^{i\omega t}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a(t) &= s(t) + kb(t) = e^{i\omega t} + k\hat{g}(iw)\hat{h}(iw)e^{i\omega t} \\ &= \underbrace{e^{i\omega t} (1 + k\hat{g}(iw)\hat{h}(iw))}_{a(t)} \end{aligned}$$

$$r(t) = [F(a)](t), \text{ so}$$

$$\hat{h}(iw) e^{i\omega t} = \hat{f}(iw) e^{i\omega t} (1 + k\hat{g}(iw)\hat{h}(iw))$$

$$\hat{h}(iw) = \frac{\hat{f}(iw)(1 + k\hat{g}(iw)\hat{h}(iw))}{\hat{f}(iw)}$$

$$\boxed{\hat{h}(iw) = \frac{\hat{f}(iw)}{1 - k\hat{f}(iw)\hat{g}(iw)}}$$

⑩

Apply current, measure voltage - in a network  
of R's - C's.

$$V = IR$$

$$\boxed{F} = \boxed{\text{R}}$$

$$\hat{f}(w) = R$$

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$$Q = CV$$

$$\boxed{F_f} = \boxed{T}$$

$$I = \frac{dQ}{dt} = C \frac{dV}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{L}{C} I$$

$$I = e^{i\omega t}, \quad V = \hat{f}(w) e^{i\omega t}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dV}{dt} = i\omega e^{i\omega t} \hat{f}(w)$$

$$\hat{f}(w) i\omega e^{i\omega t} = \frac{L}{C} e^{i\omega t}$$

$$\hat{f}(w) = \frac{1}{i\omega C}$$

R's + C's will always lead to algebraic combination of  $R = \frac{1}{i\omega C}$ ,  
rational expressions in  $\omega$ .