## Imperial College London

## MODULE 2 CLASS

Aidan Hogg \& Patrick Naylor - Autumn Term 2020
ELEC50013: Signal and Systems
Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering

## Why ‘Peer Instruction’?

1: It forces students to engage in the class
2: Students in the past have given very positive feedback
3: In the exam most students do well in the mathematical questions but clearly have very limited conceptual understanding of the questions they are solving (plug ' $n$ chug)

But what if I am struggling with a particular problem?


Piazza: This is where you can ask detailed questions on problems you are struggling with.

Sign up on Blackboard!

## PEER INSTRUCTION

Method:

1: Conceptual question posed - students individually come up initial answer (5 mins)

2: Explanation/discussion of correct answer (5 mins)

## QUESTION 1:

The normal arithmetic rules for multiplication are: Identity: $\quad x[n] * \delta[n]=x[n] \quad$ or $\quad x(t) * \delta(t)=x(t)$

Commutative: $\quad x[n] * v[n]=v[n] * x[n] \quad$ or $\quad x(t) * v(t)=v(t) * x(t)$
Associative: $\quad x[n] *(v[n] * w[n])=(x[n] * v[n]) * w[n] \quad$ or

$$
x(t) *(v(t) * w(t))=(x(t) * v(t)) * w(t)
$$

Distributive: $\quad x[n] *(v[n]+w[n])=x[n] * v[n]+x[n] * w[n] \quad$ or

$$
x(t) *(v(t)+w(t))=x(t) * v(t)+x(t) * w(t)
$$

What normal arithmetic rules does convolution obey? (multiple options allowed)
A: Identity
B: Commutative
C: Associative
D: Distributive

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## QUESTION 2:

Consider the convolution of two of the following signals:




Which of the following signals can be constructed? (multiple options allowed)







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Which of the following signals can be constructed? (multiple options allowed)







## EXPLANATION



Must be asymmetric with large output at early times and smaller output at later times.

## EXPLANATION



The output is symmetric, which could happen if one of the inputs is a flipped-in-time version of the other input. There are only a few such options. One is $z(t) * z(t)$ but that would result in a triangle-shaped output. Another symmetric option is $x(t) * y(t)$ (or equivalently $y(t) * x(t)$ ) but that would result in a point at $t=1$. None of the provided functions could result in this output.

## EXPLANATION



Must be asymmetric with small output at early times and larger output at later times

## EXPLANATION



The first interval looks like the integral of $x(t)$. The second interval looks like the first interval, but shifted and flipped in time. Thus the answer is $x(t) * z(t)$ or $z(t) * z(t)$.

## EXPLANATION



The output is symmetric, which could happen if one of the inputs is a flipped-in-time version of the other input. There are only a few such options. One is $z(t) * z(t)-$ but that would result in a triangle-shaped output. Another symmetric option is $x(t) * y(t)$ (or equivalently $y(t) * x(t)$ ) which gives this result

## EXPLANATION

The step discontinuity in this result could only result if one of the convolved functions contains an impulse. None of the provided functions could result in this output.

## QUESTION 3:

Find the convolution of $y[n]=x[n] * h[n]$ :


A: $y[n]=\{1,4,8,11,9,7,2\}$, origin at 2
B: $y[n]=\{1,4,8,11,9,7,2\}$, origin at 4
C: $y[n]=\{2,7,9,11,8,4,1\}$, origin at 2
D: $y[n]=\{1,4,8,10,7,2,1\}$, origin at 4

Find the convolution of $y[n]=x[n] * h[n]$ :


A: $y[n]=\{1,4,8,11,9,7,2\}$, origin at 2
B: $y[n]=\{1,4,8,11,9,7,2\}$, origin at 4
C: $y[n]=\{2,7,9,11,8,4,1\}$, origin at 2
D: $y[n]=\{1,4,8,10,7,2,1\}$, origin at 4

## EXPLANATION

## Simple Trick Method

There is a also a very simple trick that can be used to calculate the convolution:


## EXPLANATION

## Simple Trick Method

This appoach makes this question easy.
$\left.\begin{array}{cccccc}x[n] & & & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ h[n] & & & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ \hline & & & 2 & 4 & 6 \\ \hline & & 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ \hline & 2 & 4 & 6 & 2 & \times \\ \hline 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & \times & \\ \hline 1 & 4 & 8 & 11 & 9 & 7 \\ \hline[4] & y[5] & y[6] & y[7] & y[8] & y[9]\end{array}\right][10]$

## QUESTION 4:

If the response of LTI continuous time system to unit step input is:

$$
s(t)=\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2} e^{-2 t}
$$

What is the impulse response of the system?
A: $h(t)=\frac{1}{2} t+\frac{1}{4} e^{-2 t}$
B: $h(t)=e^{-2 t}$
C: $h(t)=\left(1-e^{-2 t}\right)$
D: $h(t)=-\frac{1}{2} e^{-2 t}$

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## EXPLANATION

Given a system with impulse response $h(t)$ the step response is:

$$
s(t)=\int_{-\infty}^{t} h(\tau) d \tau
$$

We can invert this relationship to express the impulse response in term of the step response:

$$
h(t)=\frac{d}{d t} s(t)
$$

Thus the impulse response of this system is:

$$
h(t)=\frac{d}{d t}\left(\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2} e^{-2 t}\right)=e^{-2 t}
$$

What is the equivalent relationship in the discrete-time domain?

## QUESTION 5:

## Which of the following statements are true? (multiple options allowed)

A: The forced response depends on both the input and the roots of the characteristic equation

B: If we want a system to be causal and linear time-invariant then the initial conditions must be zero ('initial rest')

C: The roots of the system's characteristic equation directly relate to the stability characteristics of an LTI system

Which of the following statements are true? (multiple options allowed)

A: The forced response depends on both the input and the roots of the characteristic equation

B: If we want a system to be causal and linear time-invariant then the initial conditions must be zero ('initial rest')

C: The roots of the system's characteristic equation directly relate to the stability characteristics of an LTI system

## EXPLANATION

## Natural response:

The systems output for a zero input and thus describes any stored energy or memory of the past represented by non-zero initial conditions.

The natural response, therefore, only depends on the characteristic equation.

## Forced response:

The systems output due to the signal input assuming zero initial conditions.

The forced response, therefore, depends on both the input and the roots of the characteristic equation.

## EXPLANATION

## Casual linear time-invariant systems:

If we want a system to be causal and linear time-invariant then the initial conditions must be zero ('initial rest')

Causal, LTI $\Leftrightarrow$ initial rest:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\text { if } & x(t) & =0, \quad t<t_{0} \\
\text { then } & y(t) & =0, \quad t<t_{0}
\end{aligned}
$$

or

$$
\begin{array}{rlrl}
\text { if } & x[n] & =0, & \\
\text { then } & y[n] & =0, & \\
n<n_{0}
\end{array}
$$

## EXPLANATION

## Stability:

The roots of the system's characteristic equation directly relate to the stability characteristics of an LTI system.

Solution form of the homogeneous equation:

$$
y^{(h)}(t)=\sum_{i=1}^{N} c_{i} e^{r_{i} t}
$$

or

$$
y^{(h)}[n]=\sum_{i=1}^{N} c_{i} r_{i}^{n}
$$

For continuous-time systems we require $\left|e^{r_{i} t}\right|$ to be bounded so $\mathfrak{R}\left\{r_{i}\right\}<0$.

For discrete-time systems we require $\left|r_{i}^{n}\right|$ to be bounded so $\left|r_{i}\right|<1 \forall i$.

## QUESTION 6:

Consider the difference equation:

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

What is the frequency response?


A


B


C

Consider the difference equation:

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

What is the frequency response?


A


B


C

## EXPLANATION

A: $h_{1}[n]=\{1,1\}$

$$
y[n]=x[n] * h_{1}[n]=x[n]+x[n-1]
$$

(Low-pass filter: averages)

B: $h_{2}[n]=\{1,-1\}$

$$
y[n]=x[n] * h_{2}[n]=x[n]-x[n-1]
$$

(High-pass filter)

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{C}: & h_{3}[n]=h_{1}[n] * h_{2}[n]=\{1,0,-1\} \\
& y[n]=x[n] * h_{3}[n]=x[n]-x[n-2]
\end{aligned}
$$

(Band-pass filter: low-pass followed by high-Pass)



