



# Signals & Signal Models

ELEC 3004: Systems: Signals & Controls  
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Lecture 3

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## Recall From Last Time ...

- Equivalence Across Domains

**Table 2.1 Summary of Through- and Across-Variables for Physical Systems**

System	Variable Through Element	Integrated Through-Variable	Variable Across Element	Integrated Across-Variable
Electrical	Current, $i$	Charge, $q$	Voltage difference, $v_{21}$	Flux linkage, $\lambda_{21}$
Mechanical translational	Force, $F$	Translational momentum, $P$	Velocity difference, $v_{21}$	Displacement difference, $y_{21}$
Mechanical rotational	Torque, $T$	Angular momentum, $h$	Angular velocity difference, $\omega_{21}$	Angular displacement difference, $\theta_{21}$
Fluid	Fluid volumetric rate of flow, $Q$	Volume, $V$	Pressure difference, $P_{21}$	Pressure momentum, $\gamma_{21}$
Thermal	Heat flow rate, $q$	Heat energy, $H$	Temperature difference, $\bar{T}_{21}$	

Source: Dorf & Bishop, *Modern Control Systems*, 12<sup>th</sup> Ed., p. 73



## Announcements:

- Assignment 0 is online
  - Please complete by **tomorrow!**
- Adam Keys is looking for volunteers as part of a study of motion and video simulations.
- Thank you for your participation in the Tutorials !
  - ➔ Based on feedback we'll run **Tutorials on Week 4** as well!!
- Practise Shuffle / Peer Feedback on Friday.
- Assignment 1 comes out next Monday – March 11



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## Announcements [2]:

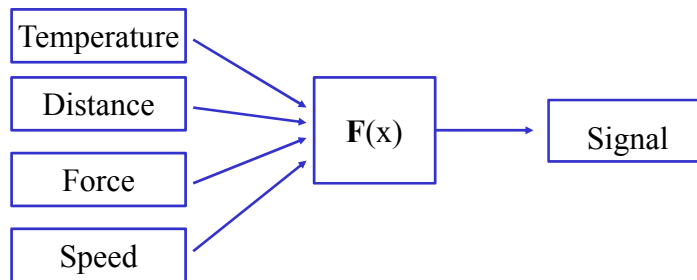
- Space Audit on **March 22** (F) and **March 28** (W)
    - They will be going around in **black hats**
    - P&F will be checking on us
    - This effects class funding (read tutor hours!!)
    - Sounds like an ideal time for a **pop-quiz** (just saying ☺)
  - **Q & A Forum Software**
    - Sadly, there is no “StackOverflow” for classes
    - 1. Blackboard Forums – Allows Ranking (\*\*) and is “local”
    - 2. Piazza – Yet another IT system
    - 3. [news:uq.itee.elec3004](https://news.uq.itee.elec3004) -- A classic!
- ➔ **Matlab Transfer Function Example**  
➔ By R. Simpson on Tutorial Page. Thank you!



Today:

Week	Date	Lecture Title
1	27-Feb	Introduction
	1-Mar	Systems Overview
2	6-Mar	Signals & Signal Models
3	8-Mar	System Models
	13-Mar	Linear Dynamical Systems
4	15-Mar	Sampling & Data Acquisition
	20-Mar	Time Domain Analysis of Continuous Time Systems
5	22-Mar	System Behaviour & Stability
	27-Mar	Signal Representation
6	29-Mar	Holiday
	10-Apr	Frequency Response & Fourier Transform
7	12-Apr	Analog Filters
	17-Apr	FIR Systems
8	19-Apr	FIR Systems
	24-Apr	z-Transform
9	26-Apr	Discrete-Time Signals
	1-May	Discrete-Time Systems
10	3-May	Digital Filters
	8-May	State-Space
11	10-May	Controllability & Observability
	15-May	Introduction to Digital Control
12	17-May	Stability of Digital Systems
	22-May	PID & Computer Control
13	24-May	Information Theory & Communications
	29-May	Applications in Industry
	31-May	Summary and Course Review

## What is a Signal?



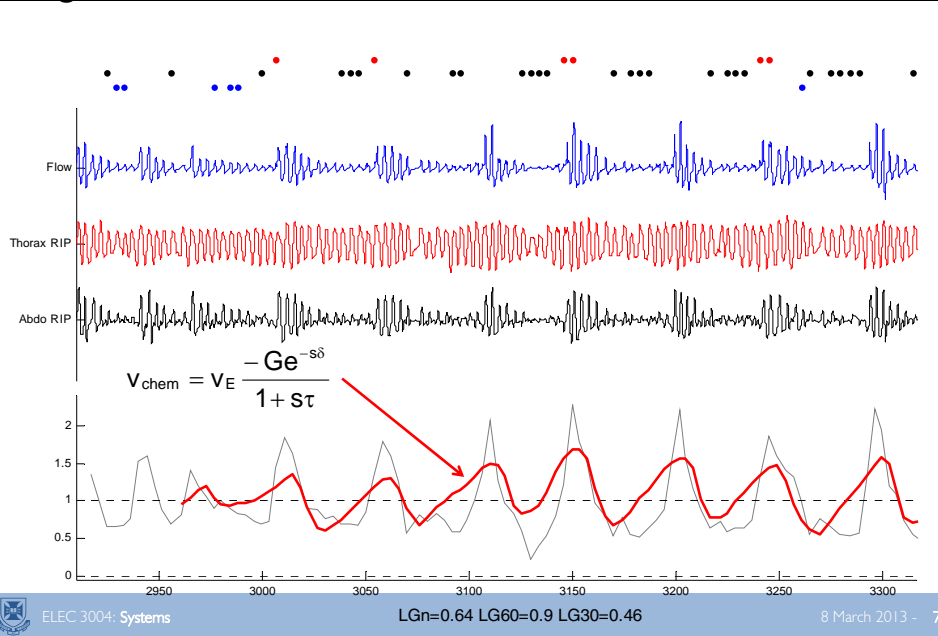
- Communicates information
- Varies in Time and/or Space

→ Everywhere:

- The type
- The screen
- Your 5 senses
- Telephony
- Interest rates
- Leaf colour



## Signals!



## Understanding & Classifying Signals

### Metrics:

- Size
- Signal Energy
- Signal Power
  
- Frequency
- Phase
  
- Entropy
  - Deterministic signals
  - Random signals

### Classifications:

- Continuous-Time
- Discrete-Time
  
- Analog
- Digital
  
- Even
- Odd

## Signal Size

- The size of any entity is a number that indicates the largeness or strength of that entity. Generally speaking, the signal **amplitude** varies with **time**.

$$S = \int_0^T u(t) dt$$

- However, this will be a defective measure because even for a large signal  $x(t)$ , its positive and negative areas could cancel each other, indicating a signal of small size.



## Signal Energy

- Consider the area under a signal  $x(t)$  as a possible measure of its size, because it takes account not only of the amplitude but also of the duration.
- Instead we look at it's energy or *signal energy*

$$E = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u^2(t) dt$$

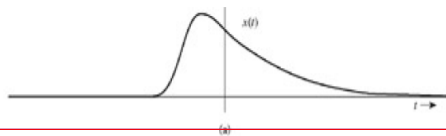
- But this can be **infinite!**



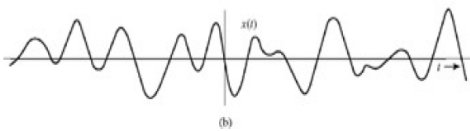
## Signal Power:

- Generalize this to a finite measure via a RMS (root means square measurand)

$$P = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} |u(t)|^2 dt$$



→ Finite Energy  
Finite Power



→ ∞ Energy  
Finite Power

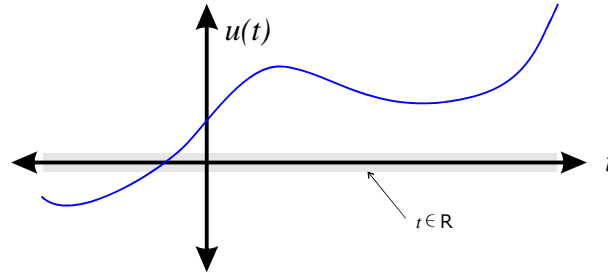


## Signal Classifications

- Classifications
  - A “pair-wise” way of characterizing the signal by putting it into a “descriptive bin”
  - Ex: How to describe a person – well we could measure them (weight, height, power, etc.) or we could sort by category (“North/South-side,” Australian, etc.) → Neither is perfect
- Some common classifications:
  1. Continuous-time and discrete-time signals
  2. Analog and digital signals
  3. Periodic and aperiodic signals
  4. Real and complex signals
  5. Deterministic and probabilistic signals



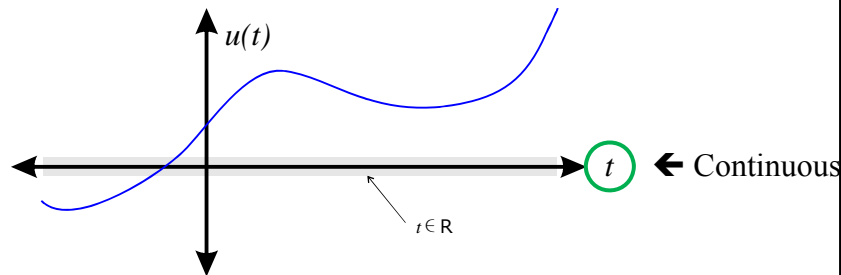
## Continuous-Time



- The independent variable (x-axis) – in this case  $t$  – is continuous (which may be the  $\mathbb{R}$ eals, but can be others)
- This does not dictate the form of  $u(t)$  -- it may be either continuous or discrete.



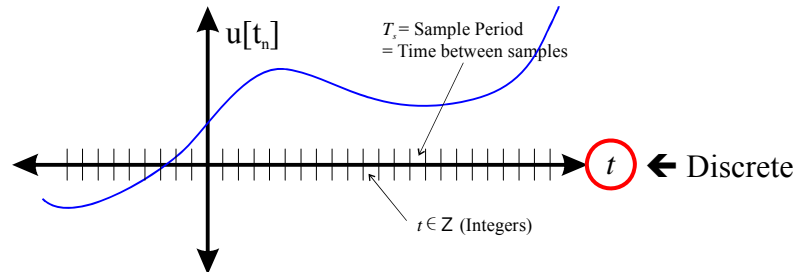
## Continuous Time



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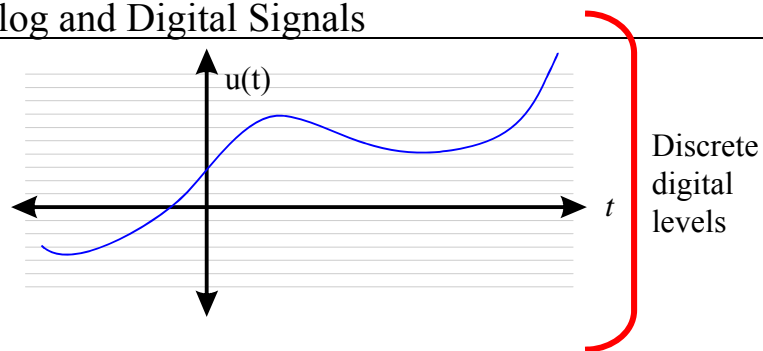
## Discrete Time



- The independent variable is only set for fixed, discrete values
- Ex:  $t \in \text{Integers}$
- Written in [Square Brackets]
- $u[t_n] = u[n]$
- $t_n = \{t_0, t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n\}$
- Relationship to continuous time:  $u[n] = u(nT_s)$



## Analog and Digital Signals

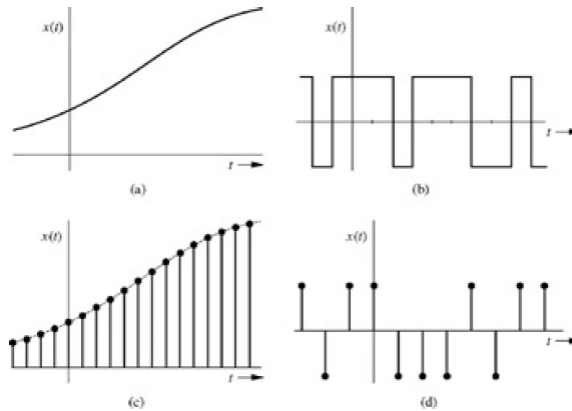


- Continuous and Discrete on the y-axis
- $u(t) = \text{Continuous} \rightarrow \text{Analog}$
- $u(t) = \text{Discrete} \rightarrow \text{Digital}$ 
  - Number of levels can be many
  - Simplest case is for two  $\rightarrow$  Binary digit (or bit) signal





## Analog and Digital Signals



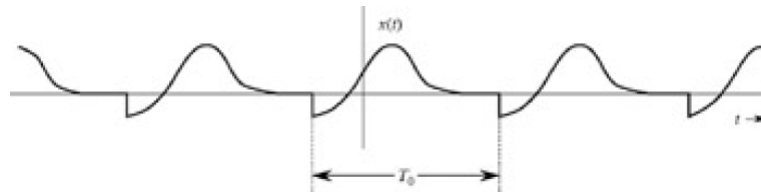
- **(a)** analog, continuous time | **(b)** digital, continuous time
- **(c)** analog, discrete time and **(d)** digital, discrete time



## Periodic and Aperiodic Signals

- A signal  $x(t)$  is *periodic* if for some positive constant  $T_0$

$$x(t) = x(t + T_0)$$



- For periodic signals  $x(t)$  of period  $T_0$  :
  - the area under  $x(t)$  over any interval of duration  $T_0$  is the same

$$A = \int_a^{a+T_0} u(t) dt = \int_b^{b+T_0} u(t) dt$$



## Real and Complex Signals

$$x(t) = x_1(t) + x_2(t)j$$

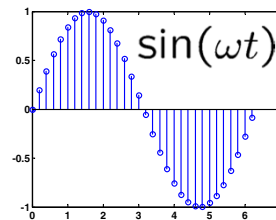
$$s = x_1 + x_2j$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow e^{st} &= e^{(x_1 + x_2j)t} = e^{x_1t} e^{x_2tj} \\ &= e^{x_1t} (\cos(x_2t) + \sin(x_2t)j) \end{aligned}$$

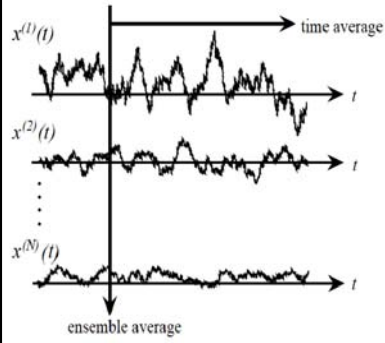


## Deterministic and Random

- Deterministic
  - are those whose description is known completely
- Random
  - Those signals whose descriptions is unknown incompletely via statistical or probabilistic descriptions.



# Ergodicity

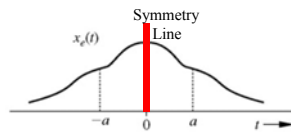


1. **Over time:** multiple readings of a quantity over time
    - “stationary” or “ergodic” system
    - Sometimes called “integrating”
  2. **Over space:** **single** measurement (summed) from multiple sensors each distributed in space
  3. **Same Measurand:** multiple measurements take of the **same observable quantity** by multiple, related instruments
    - e.g., measure position & velocity simultaneously
- Basic “sensor fusion”

# Classifying Signals: Even and Odd

## • Even

$$u_{\text{even}}(t) = u_{\text{even}}(-t)$$

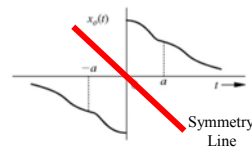


– Area:

$$\int_{-a}^a u_e(t) dt = 2 \int_0^a u_e(t) dt$$

## • *Odd*

$$u_{\text{odd}}(t) = -u_{\text{odd}}(-t)$$

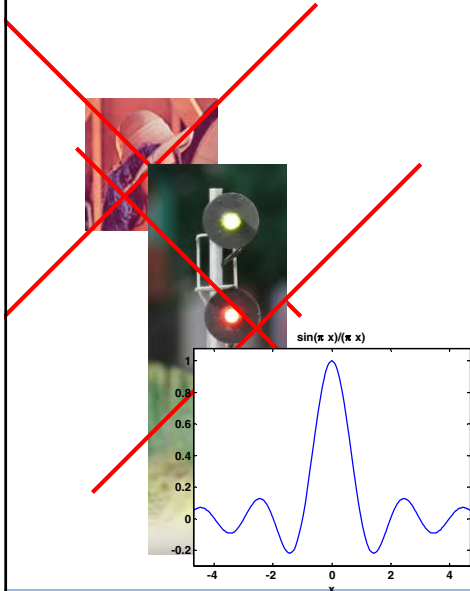


– Area:

$$\int_{-a}^a u_o(t) dt = 0$$

→ Every signal can be expressed as a sum of **even** and *odd* components

## Signal Models



- A “model” of signals
- Key functions include:
    - Step
    - Impulse
    - Exponential functions play
  - Basis for representing other signals,
  - Simplify many aspects of the signals and systems.

## Signal Models

### 1] Unit Step

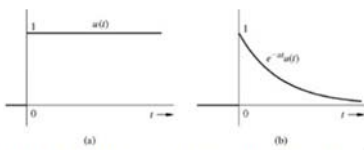
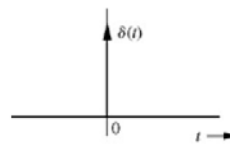


Figure 1.14: (a) Unit step function  $u(t)$ . (b) Exponential  $e^{-at}u(t)$ .

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} A & t > t_0 \\ 0 & t < t_0 \end{cases}$$

- if  $A=1, t_0=0$ 
  - Heaviside function

### 2] Unit Impulse



$$\delta(x) = \begin{cases} +\infty, & x = 0 \\ 0, & x \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

- Can be approximated as:

$$\delta_a(x) = \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{a\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-x^2/a^2}$$

## Signal Models

### 3] Sinusoidal & Exponential Signals

$$u(t) = A \cos(\omega t + \phi)$$

- A,  $\omega$  : Amplitude and Frequency ( $\omega=2\pi f$ )
- $\phi$ : phase angle

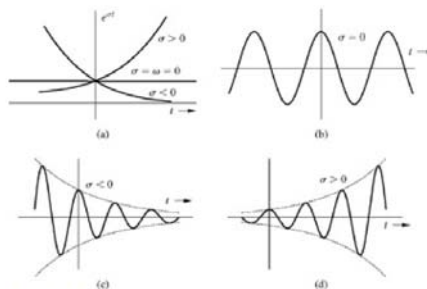


Figure 1.21: Sinusoids of complex frequency  $\sigma + j\omega$ .



## Next Time...

- We'll talk about System Models
- Please Review:
  - B1-B5 of Lathi:
    - Complex numbers, sinusoids, partial fraction expansion
  - Chapter 1.7 to 2.1 of Lathi
    - Systems, classifications of systems, and system responses.
- Try the practise assignment – by tomorrow please!
- Assignment 1 comes out Next Monday (March 11).

