Problem 1 [15 pts]

In class we saw that the cascade of two linear time invariant (LTI) systems is also LTI. Now we ask:

- a) Is the cascade of two linear time varying (LTV) systems always LTV?
- b) Is the cascade of two time invariant (TI, not necessarily linear) systems always TI?
- c) Is the cascade of two nonlinear systems always nonlinear ?

For each case you must give either:

- a proof that the answer is affirmative.
- a counterexample showing it is not the case.

Solution

- a) NO. For example, the systems $y(t) = e^t x(t)$ and $z(t) = e^{-t} y(t)$ are both time-varying, but the cascade z(t) = x(t) is time invariant.
- b) YES. Suppose $y(t) = T_1[x(t)]$ and $z(t) = T_2[y(t)]$ are time invariant. Then

$$T_2[T_1[x(t-\tau)]] = T_2[y(t-\tau)] = z(t-\tau)$$

so the cascade is time invariant.

c) NO. For example, the systems $y(t) = [x(t)]^3$ and $z(t) = [y(t)]^{1/3}$ are both nonlinear, but the cascade z(t) = x(t) is linear.

Problem 2 [15 pts]

A linear, time invariant system has impulse response function given by

$$h(t) = a \,\delta(t) + b \,e^{-t}u(t) + cte^{-t}u(t)$$

where a, b, c are constants. We are given the following information:

• When the input is $x(t) \equiv 1$ for $t \in (-\infty, \infty)$, the output is the same as the input.

- When the input is $x(t) = \cos(t)$ for $t \in (-\infty, \infty)$, the output is zero.
- a) Find a, b, c.
- b) Now let the input be $x(t) = \cos(t)u(t)$. Find the output.

Solution

 \mathbf{a}

$$H(s) = a + \frac{b}{s+1} + \frac{c}{(s+1)^2},$$

with DOC Re(s) > -1, so $H(i\omega)$ is well defined. The response to the constant $x(t) \equiv 1$ is the output $y(t) \equiv H(0) = a + b + c$, so

$$a+b+c=1. (1)$$

The response to $\cos(t)$ is $y(t) = |H(i)| \cos(t + \theta_H(i))$. Therefore

$$H(i) = a + \frac{b}{2} - i\left(\frac{b}{2} + \frac{c}{2}\right) = 0$$

So we get

$$a + \frac{b}{2} = 0 \tag{2}$$
$$b + c = 0. \tag{3}$$

$$b + c = 0. \tag{3}$$

Solving the equations (1-3) we get

$$a = 1, \qquad b = -2, \qquad c = 2.$$

b) Substituting back leads to

$$H(s) = \frac{s^2 + 1}{(s+1)^2}.$$

Applying $X(s) = \frac{s}{s^2+1}$ we have

$$Y(s) = \frac{s}{(s+1)^2} = \frac{1}{s+1} - \frac{1}{(s+1)^2}$$

Inverse transform gives

$$y(t) = u(t)e^{-t} - tu(t)e^{-t}.$$

Problem 3 [20 pts]

Consider the three signals

$$x_1(t) = \cos(t);$$
 $x_2(t) = \cos\left(t - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right);$ $x_3(t) = \cos\left(t + \frac{2\pi}{3}\right).$

a) Sketch the signals in the plot below; $x_1(t)$ has been provided for your convenience; you should specify the coordinates in the *t*-axis.



b) Now let $y(t) = \max\{x_1(t), x_2(t), x_3(t)\}$; in other words y(t) takes the maximum of the three signals at each instant in time. Sketch y(t) in a separate plot. What is the period of y(t)?



The period of y(t) is $T = \frac{2\pi}{3}$.

c) Find the mean square error $\overline{\epsilon_0^2}$ resulting from approximating y(t) by a constant function.

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\epsilon_0^2} &= \frac{1}{T} \int_{-\frac{T}{2}}^{\frac{T}{2}} y^2(t) dt - Y_o^2 \\ &= \frac{3}{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{3}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \cos^2(t) dt - \left(\frac{3}{2\pi} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{3}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \cos(t) dt\right)^2 \\ &= \frac{3}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \cos^2(t) dt - \left(\frac{3}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \cos(t) dt\right)^2 \\ &= \frac{3}{2\pi} \left(t + \frac{1}{2} \sin(2t)\right) \Big|_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} - \left(\frac{3}{\pi} \sin(t)\right) \Big|_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{8\pi} - \left(\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2\pi}\right)^2 \approx 0.0228 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 4 [15 pts]

We are given an LTI system with impulse response function

$$h(t) = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{|t|}{\pi} & \text{if } |t| < \pi \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- a) Find the frequency response function $H(i\omega)$.
- b) We now apply to this system a periodic input, with period T. Discuss whether the following is true or false:

There exists a value of T such that for every periodic input of this period, the output is a constant function of time.

You should either show it's true and find an appropriate T, or show no such T exists.

Solution

a) Two versions of the Fourier transform (both correct):

$$H(i\omega) = \frac{2(1 - \cos(\omega\pi))}{\pi\omega^2} = \pi \left(\frac{\sin(\omega\pi/2)}{\omega\pi/2}\right)^2.$$

Note that $H(0) = \pi$.

b) For a periodic input

$$x(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} X_n e^{in\omega_0 t},$$

the output is

$$y(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} H(in\omega_0) X_n e^{in\omega_0 t}.$$

For this to be a constant function, no matter what the X_n 's are you need

$$H(in\omega_0) = 0 \quad \forall n \neq 0.$$

Choose $\omega_0 = 2$. Then

$$H(in\omega_0) = \frac{2(1 - \cos(2n\pi))}{4\pi n^2} = 0, \quad \forall n \neq 0.$$

So the choice $T = \pi$ has the required property.

Problem 5 [20 pts]

Given a periodic function f(t) with Fourier series expansion $f(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} F_n e^{in\omega_0 t}$.

a) Differentiate the above to derive a formula for the Fourier series of $\frac{df}{dt}(t)$.

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} F_n e^{in\omega_o t}$$
$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} F_n \frac{d}{dt} e^{in\omega_o t}$$
$$= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (in\omega_o) F_n e^{in\omega_o t}$$

therefore,

$$F_n' = (in\omega_o)F_n$$

b) Now consider f(t) of period T = 2 and such that

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} (t+1)^2 \text{ for } t \in [-1,0]\\ (t-1)^2 \text{ for } t \in [0,1] \end{cases}$$

Sketch f(t), $\frac{df}{dt}(t)$ and $\frac{d^2f}{dt^2}(t)$.

You can sketch f(t) in [-1, 1], then repeat periodically. See next page. Analytical formulas:

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = \begin{cases} 2(t+1) \text{ for } t \in [-1,0]\\ 2(t-1) \text{ for } t \in [0,1] \end{cases},$$
$$\frac{d^2 f(t)}{dt^2} = 2 - 4\delta(t) \text{ in } [-1,1].$$



c) Find the Fourier series expansions of f(t), $\frac{df}{dt}(t)$ and $\frac{d^2f}{dt^2}(t)$ in b). Start with,

$$\frac{d^2 f(t)}{dt^2} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} F_n'' e^{in\omega_o t}$$

where $\omega_o = \frac{2\pi}{2} = \pi$.

$$F_n'' = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{d^2 f(t)}{dt^2} e^{-in\pi t} dt$$

= $\frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 (2 - 4\delta(t)) e^{-in\pi t} dt$
= $\begin{cases} 0 & n = 0 \\ -2 & n \neq 0 \end{cases}$

Now, $F''_n = (in\pi)F'_n$, so for $n \neq 0$ we obtain $F'_n = \frac{-2}{in\pi}$. It remains to find F'_0 :

$$F_0' = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{df(t)}{dt} dt = 0$$

Summarizing,

$$F'_n = \begin{cases} 0 & n = 0\\ \frac{-2}{in\pi} & n \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

We repeat the method for calculating $F_n = \frac{F'_n}{in\pi}$, for $n \neq 0$, and

$$F_0 = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^{1} f(t)dt = \int_{0}^{1} (t-1)^2 dt = \frac{1}{3}.$$

Therefore,

$$F_n = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3} & n = 0\\ \frac{2}{n^2 \pi^2} & n \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

Problem 6 [15 pts]



In the above system

- H_{high} is an ideal high-pass filter with cutoff frequency ω_0 .
- H_{low} is an ideal low-pass filter, also with cutoff frequency ω_0 .
- $u(t) = x(t)\cos(\omega_0 t)$ and $y(t) = v(t)\cos(\omega_0 t)$.
- x(t) is band-limited to [-B, B], as depicted in the figure below. X(0) = A.
- $\omega_0 > 2B$.

Sketch the Fourier transforms $U(i\omega)$, $V(i\omega)$, $Y(i\omega)$ and $Z(i\omega)$, and relate z(t) to x(t). Justify your answer.

Solution

The filter frequency responses are depicted below:



From the modulation property of the Fourier transform, we have

$$U(i\omega) = \mathcal{F}[x(t)\cos(\omega_0 t)] = \frac{X(i(\omega - \omega_0)) + X(i(\omega + \omega_0))}{2}$$

By highpass filtering, we have

$$V(i\omega) = \begin{cases} U(i\omega) & \text{for } |\omega| \ge \omega_0\\ 0 & \text{for } |\omega| < \omega_0 \end{cases}$$

Once again the modulation property gives

$$Y(i\omega) = \frac{V(i(\omega - \omega_0)) + V(i(\omega + \omega_0))}{2}$$

Finally, lowpass filtering gives

$$Z(i\omega) = \begin{cases} Y(i\omega) & \text{ for } |\omega| \le \omega_0\\ 0 & \text{ for } |\omega| > \omega_0 \end{cases}$$

Using the conditions above $(X(i\omega)$ band-limited to [-B, B], and $\omega_0 > 2B)$ we obtain the following plots:



From the plots we see that

$$Z(i\omega) = \frac{1}{4}X(i\omega)$$

Therefore by inverse transform,

$$z(t) = \frac{1}{4}x(t).$$