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NAJAF COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF AVIONICS ENGINEERING**

**DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING  
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# LINEAR DIFFERENCE EQUATIONS

## 1. First order homogeneous equation:

We consider an equation of the form:

$$x_{n+1} - ax_n = 0$$

where  $x_n$ ,  $n = 0; 1; 2; 3;$  are unknown and  $a$  is fixed constant. This equation is called a *first order homogeneous equation*.

The term homogeneous means that the right hand side is zero.

The general solution is  $x_n = \alpha^n x_0$

Where  $x_0$  is called the *initial value*

# EXAMPLE

Find the function  $f(x,y) = 2x + y$  is homogeneous or not?

**Sol:**

$$f(\alpha x, \alpha y) = 2(\alpha x) + (\alpha y)$$

$$= \alpha(2x + y)$$

$$= \alpha f(x, y)$$

The function is homogeneous of degree 1

# EXAMPLE

Find the function  $f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2$  is homogeneous or not?

**Sol:**

$$f(\alpha x, \alpha y) = (\alpha x)^2 + (\alpha y)^2$$

$$= \alpha^2(x^2 + y^2)$$

$$= \alpha^2 f(x, y)$$

The function is homogeneous of degree 2

# EXAMPLE

Find the function  $f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = x^3 - y^2$  is homogeneous or not?

**Sol:**

$$\begin{aligned} f(\alpha x, \alpha y) &= (\alpha x)^3 - (\alpha y)^2 \\ &= \alpha^3 x^3 + \alpha^2 y^2 \end{aligned}$$

The function is not homogeneous because which does not equal  $\alpha^n f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  for any  $n$ .

# EXAMPLE

Solve the following differential equation, the initial value of  $x(0)=3$

$$\mathbf{x(n+1) = - x(n)}$$

**Sol:**

we can write the equation as :

$$\mathbf{x(n+1)+ x(n)=0}$$

This the first order homogeneous equation

So the solution will be as:

$$\mathbf{x_n = \alpha^n x_0}$$

$$\mathbf{= (-1)^n *3}$$

# LINEAR DIFFERENCE EQUATIONS

## 2. First order inhomogeneous equation:

Let us consider an equation of the form:

$$ax_n + b x_{n-1} = c$$

where  $c_n$  is a **given sequence** and  $x_n$  is unknown. This equation is called *inhomogeneous equation* because the term  $c_n$ .

The general solution of  $ax_n + b x_{n-1} = c$  is:

$$x_n = a^n x_0 + c \frac{a^n - 1}{a - 1}$$



# EXAMPLE

Solve the following differential equation, the initial value of  $x(0)=3$

$$-x(n+1) = -x(n)+4$$

**Sol:**

we can write the equation as :

$$-x(n+1)+ x(n)=4$$

This the first order inhomogeneous equation

So the solution will be as:

$$\begin{aligned}x_n &= a^n x_0 + c \frac{a^n - 1}{a - 1} \\&= (-1)^n * 3 + 4 * \frac{(-1)^n - 1}{-1 - 1} = (-1)^n * 3 - 2 [(-1)^n - 1] \\&= (-1)^n + 2\end{aligned}$$



# EXAMPLE

Solve the following differential equation, the initial value of  $x(0)=5$

$$x(n+1) = 2x(n) + n$$

**Sol:**

we can write the equation as :

$$x(n+1) - 2x(n) = n$$

This is the first order inhomogeneous equation

So the solution will be as:

$$\begin{aligned}x_n &= a^n x_0 + c \frac{a^n - 1}{a - 1} \\ &= (2)^n * 5 + n * \frac{(2)^n - 1}{2 - 1} = (2)^n * 5 + n((2)^n - 1)\end{aligned}$$

# LINEAR CONSTANT COEFFICIENT DIFFERENCE EQUATIONS

A subclass of linear shift invariant systems are those for which the input  $x(n)$  and output  $y(n)$  satisfy an  $N^{\text{th}}$  order linear constant coefficient difference equation, given by

$$\sum_{k=0}^N a_k y(n-k) = \sum_{r=0}^M b_r x(n-r), a_0 \neq 0$$

If the system is causal, then we can rearrange the equation above to provide a computational realization of the system as follows:

$$y(n) = - \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{a_k}{a_0} y(n-k) + \sum_{r=0}^M \frac{b_r}{a_0} x(n-r)$$

# EXAMPLE

Solve the following difference equation for  $y(n)$ , assuming  $y(n) = 0$  for all  $n < 0$  and  $x(n) = \delta(n)$ .

$$y(n) - a y(n-1) = x(n)$$

This corresponds to calculate the response of the system when excited by an impulse, assuming zero initial conditions.

**Solution:**

$$y(n) - a y(n-1) = x(n)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Evaluating when } n = 0, & \quad y(0) = a y(-1) + x(0) = 1 \\ n = 1, & \quad y(1) = a y(0) + x(1) = a \\ n = 2, & \quad y(2) = a y(1) + x(2) = a^2 \end{aligned}$$

Continuing this process it is easy to see for all  $n \geq 0$  that  $y(n) = a^n$

Since the response of the system for  $n < 0$  is defined to be zero, the unit sample **RESPONSE** becomes

$$h(n) = a^n u(n)$$

# EXAMPLE

Given the first order linear constant coefficient difference equation

$$y(n] = a y[n-1] + x[n]$$

find the impulse response of the system by first finding the system function  $H(z)$  and then taking the inverse transform. Assuming the system is causal.

## Solution:

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

$$Y(z) = a z^{-1}Y(z) + X(z) \quad \rightarrow \quad Y(z)(1 - a z^{-1}) = X(z)$$

$$H(z) = \frac{Y(z)}{X(z)} = \frac{1}{1 - a z^{-1}} = \frac{z}{z - a}$$

By the causality requirement, the inverse transform of  $H(z)$  is a positive time exponential and with the ROC  $z > a$ , then,  $h[n]$  becomes

$$h[n] = z^{-1}\left\{\frac{z}{z - a}\right\} = a^n u[n]$$

# TRANSFER FUNCTION (SYSTEM FUNCTION)

The output  $y(n)$  of LTI system to an input sequence  $x(n)$  can be obtained by computing the convolution of  $x(n)$  with the unit sample (Impulse) response  $h(n)$  of the system.

$$y(n) = h(n) * x(n)$$

Expressing this relationship in the z-domain as

$$Y(z) = H(z) X(z)$$

Impulse Response:

$$H(z) = \frac{Y(z)}{X(z)}$$

The LTI system can be described by means of a constant coefficient linear difference equation as follows:

# TRANSFER FUNCTION (SYSTEM FUNCTION)

$$y(n) = \sum_{k=0}^N b(k)x(n-k) - \sum_{k=1}^M a(k)y(n-k)$$

$$Y(z) = \sum_{k=0}^N b(k)z^{-k}X(z) - \sum_{k=1}^M a(k)z^{-k}Y(z)$$

The transfer function of the LTI system,

$$H(z) = \frac{Y(z)}{X(z)} = \frac{\sum_{k=0}^N b(k)z^{-k}}{1 + \sum_{k=1}^M a(k)z^{-k}}$$



# EXAMPLE

Find the impulse response of the system  $y(n) = x(n+1) + x(n) + x(n-1)$ , then find the system function in z-domain.

## Solution:

$$y(n) = x(n+1) + x(n) + x(n-1)$$

$$Y(z) = X(z) z^1 + X(z) + X(z) z^{-1}$$

$$Y(z) = X(z) [z^1 + 1 + z^{-1}] \quad \text{system response}$$

$$H(z) = \frac{Y(z)}{X(z)} = z^1 + 1 + z^{-1} \quad \text{system function}$$



# EXAMPLE

Find the difference equation realization and the response of the system represented by the following causal system function  $H(z) = \frac{(z+1)}{(z^2-2z+3)}$

**Solution:**

$$H(z) = \frac{Y(z)}{X(z)} = \frac{(z+1)}{(z^2-2z+3)} = \frac{z^{-1} + z^{-2}}{1-2z^{-1}+3z^{-2}} ;$$

By taking the  $z^{-1}$  yields the difference equation

$$\mathbf{y(n) - 2y(n-1) + 3y(n-2) = x(n-1) + x(n-2)}$$

$$\mathbf{y(n) = 2y(n-1) - 3y(n-2) + x(n-1) + x(n-2)}$$