

Lecture 13 Frequency Response of FIR Filters

Fundamentals of Digital Signal Processing
Spring, 2012

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2012/4/17

Frequency Response

- If we can find a representation for a signal in terms of complex exponentials, the frequency response gives a simple and highly intuitive means for determining what an LTI system does to that input signal.
- If the input is
$$x[n] = X_0 + \sum_{k=1}^N \left(\frac{X_k}{2} e^{j\hat{\omega}_k n} + \frac{X_k^*}{2} e^{-j\hat{\omega}_k n} \right)$$
$$= X_0 + \sum_{k=1}^N |X_k| \cos(\hat{\omega}_k n + \angle X_k)$$
- The corresponding output is

$$y[n] = H(e^{j0})X_0 + \sum_{k=1}^N \left(H(e^{j\hat{\omega}_k}) \frac{X_k}{2} e^{j\hat{\omega}_k n} + H(e^{-j\hat{\omega}_k}) \frac{X_k^*}{2} e^{-j\hat{\omega}_k n} \right)$$
$$= H(e^{j0})X_0 + \sum_{k=1}^N |H(e^{j\hat{\omega}_k})| |X_k| \cos(\hat{\omega}_k n + \angle X_k + \angle H(e^{j\hat{\omega}_k}))$$

Each individual complex exponential component is modified by the frequency response evaluated at the frequency of that component.

Example

- For the FIR filter with coefficients $\{b_k\}=\{1,2,1\}$, find the output when the input is

$$x[n] = 4 + 3 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3}n - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) + 3 \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{8}n\right)$$

- We evaluate $H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})$ at frequencies 0, $\pi/3$, and $7\pi/8$

$$H(e^{j0}) = 4$$

$$H(e^{j\pi/3}) = 3e^{-j\pi/3}$$

$$H(e^{j7\pi/8}) = 0.1522e^{-j7\pi/8}$$

$$H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = (2 + 2 \cos \hat{\omega})e^{-j\hat{\omega}}$$

- Output

$$\begin{aligned} y[n] &= 4 \cdot 4 + 3 \cdot 3 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3}n - \frac{\pi}{3} - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) + 0.1522 \cdot 3 \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{8}n - \frac{7\pi}{8}\right) \\ &= 16 + 9 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3}(n-1) - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) + 0.4567 \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{8}(n-1)\right) \end{aligned}$$

Frequency Domain vs. Time Domain

- The examples described above are called the *frequency-domain* approach.
 - We do not need to deal with the *time-domain* description (i.e., the difference equation or impulse response) of the system when the input is complex exponential signal.
- We think about how the spectrum of the signal is modified by the system rather than considering what happens to the individual samples of the input signal.

Steady-State and Transient Response

- If the input is

$$x[n] = X e^{j\hat{\omega}n} \quad X = A e^{j\phi} \quad -\infty < n < \infty$$

- Then the corresponding output of an LTI FIR system is

$$y[n] = H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) X e^{j\hat{\omega}n} \quad -\infty < n < \infty$$

$$H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = \sum_{k=0}^M b_k e^{-j\hat{\omega}k}$$

- The condition that $x[n]$ be a complex exponential signal existing over $-\infty < n < \infty$ is important. Without this condition, we will not obtain the simple result of $y[n]$.
- However, this condition appears to be somewhat impractical.

Steady-State and Transient Response

- Consider the following “suddenly applied” complex exponential signal that starts at $n=0$ and is nonzero only for $n \geq 0$

$$x[n] = X e^{j\hat{\omega}n} u[n] = \begin{cases} X e^{j\hat{\omega}n} & n \geq 0 \\ 0 & n < 0 \end{cases}$$

- The output of an LTI FIR system for this input is

$$y[n] = \sum_{k=0}^M b_k X e^{j\hat{\omega}(n-k)} u[n-k]$$

Steady-State and Transient Response

- By considering different values of n and the fact that $u[n-k] = 0$ for $k > n$, it follows that the sum can be expressed as

$$y[n] = \begin{cases} 0 & n < 0 \\ \left(\sum_{k=0}^n b_k e^{-j\hat{\omega}k} \right) X e^{j\hat{\omega}n} & 0 \leq n < M \\ \left(\sum_{k=0}^M b_k e^{-j\hat{\omega}k} \right) X e^{j\hat{\omega}n} & M \leq n \end{cases}$$

- When the complex exponential signal is suddenly applied, the output can be considered to be defined over three distinct regions.

Steady-State and Transient Response

- (1) For $n < 0$, the input is zero, and therefore the corresponding output is zero.
- (2) The second region is a transition region whose length is M samples. The complex multiplier of $e^{j\hat{\omega}n}$ depends upon n . This region is called the *transient* part of the output.
- (3) In the third region, $M < n$, the output is identical to the output that would be obtained if the input were defined over the doubly infinite interval.

$$y[n] = H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})X e^{j\hat{\omega}n} \quad M < n$$

It's called the *steady-state* part.

Example

- Consider the filter coefficients are $\{b_k\} = \{1, -2.4, -2, 1\}$

- The frequency response of this system is

$$H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = [4 - 4 \cos(\hat{\omega}) + 2 \cos(2\hat{\omega})]e^{-j2\hat{\omega}}$$

- If the input is the suddenly applied cosine signal

$$x[n] = \cos(0.2\pi n - \pi)u[n]$$

$$H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = [4 - 4 \cos(0.2\pi) + 2 \cos(0.4\pi)]e^{-j2(0.2\pi)} \quad M=4$$

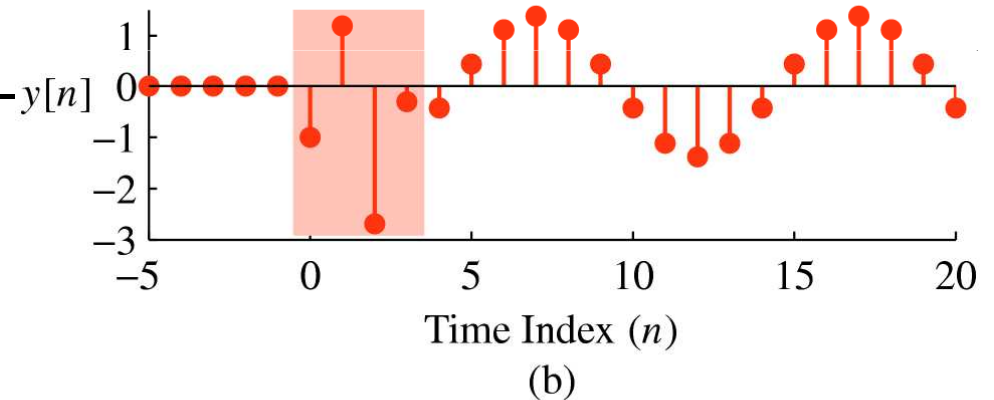
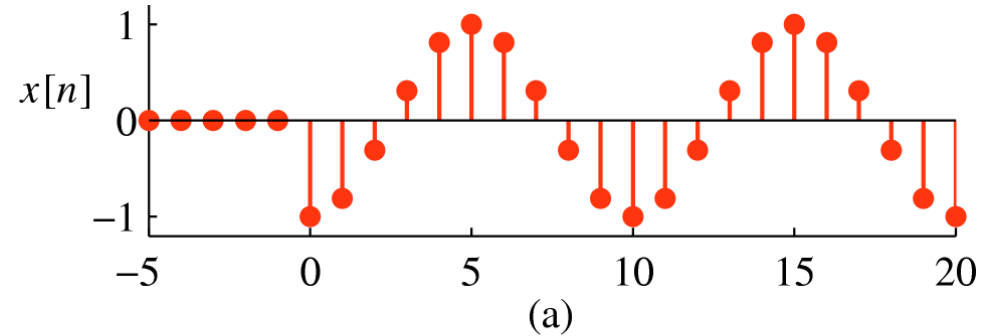
- The steady-state output is

$$y[n] = 1.382 \cos(0.2\pi(n - 2) - \pi) \quad 4 \leq n$$

- The frequency response has allowed us to find a simple expression for the output everywhere in the steady-state region.

Example

- $M=4$
- The transient region is $0 \leq n \leq 3$
- The steady-state region is $n \geq 4$
- The signal in the steady-state region is simply a scaled and shifted version of the input



McClellan, Schafer and Yoder, *Signal Processing First*, ISBN 0-13-065562-7.
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Impulse Response vs. Frequency Response

- Compare

$$y[n] = \sum_{k=0}^M b_k x[n - k]$$



$$H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = \sum_{k=0}^M b_k e^{-j\hat{\omega}k} = \sum_{k=0}^M h[k] e^{-j\hat{\omega}k}$$

- Each term $b_k x[n - k]$ corresponds to a term $b_k e^{-j\hat{\omega}k}$ or $h[k] e^{-j\hat{\omega}k}$
- The frequency response $H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})$ can be determined directly from the impulse response since the impulse response of the FIR system consists of the sequence of filter coefficients.

Impulse Response vs. Frequency Response

Time Domain



Frequency Domain

$$h[n] = \sum_{k=0}^M h[k] \delta[n - k]$$



$$H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = \sum_{k=0}^M h[k] e^{-j\hat{\omega}k}$$

- The process of going from the difference equation or impulse response to the frequency response is straightforward for the FIR filter.

Example

- Consider the FIR filter defined by the impulse response $h[n] = -\delta[n] + 3\delta[n - 1] - \delta[n - 2]$
- The filter coefficients is $\{b_k\} = \{-1, 3, -1\}$
- The difference equation is $y[n] = -x[n] + 3x[n - 1] - x[n - 2]$
- The frequency response of this system is $H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = -1 + 3e^{-j\hat{\omega}} - e^{-j2\hat{\omega}}$

<i>Time Domain</i>	\longleftrightarrow	<i>Frequency Domain</i>
$h[n] = \sum_{k=0}^M h[k]\delta[n - k]$	\longleftrightarrow	$H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = \sum_{k=0}^M h[k]e^{-j\hat{\omega}k}$

Example

- The frequency response is given

$$H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = e^{-j\hat{\omega}}(3 - 2 \cos \hat{\omega})$$

- Since $\cos \hat{\omega} = \frac{1}{2}(e^{j\hat{\omega}} + e^{-j\hat{\omega}})$, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) &= e^{-j\hat{\omega}} \left[3 - 2 \left(\frac{e^{j\hat{\omega}} + e^{-j\hat{\omega}}}{2} \right) \right] \\ &= -1 + 3e^{-j\hat{\omega}} - e^{-j\hat{\omega}2} \end{aligned}$$

- Which corresponds to the following FIR difference equation

$$y[n] = -x[n] + 3x[n - 1] - x[n - 2]$$

Periodicity

- $H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})$ is always a periodic function with period 2π

$$\begin{aligned} H(e^{j(\hat{\omega}+2\pi)}) &= \sum_{k=0}^M b_k e^{-j(\hat{\omega}+2\pi)k} & e^{-j2\pi k} &= 1 \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^M b_k e^{-j\hat{\omega}k} e^{-j2\pi k} = H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) \end{aligned}$$

- It's not surprising that it would have this property, since, as we have seen in Chapter 4, a change in the input frequency by 2π is not detectable

$$x[n] = X e^{j(\hat{\omega}+2\pi)n} = X e^{j\hat{\omega}n} e^{j2\pi n} = X e^{j\hat{\omega}n}$$

- It's always sufficient to specify the frequency response only over an interval of one period, i.e. $-\pi < \hat{\omega} \leq \pi$

Conjugate Symmetry

- Conjugate symmetry

$$H(e^{-j\hat{\omega}}) = H^*(e^{j\hat{\omega}})$$

which is true whenever the filter coefficients are real so that $b_k = b_k^*$ (equivalently $h[k] = h^*[k]$).

- We can prove this property

$$\begin{aligned} H^*(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) &= \left(\sum_{k=0}^M b_k e^{-j\hat{\omega}k} \right)^* \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^M b_k^* e^{+j\hat{\omega}k} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^M b_k e^{-j(-\hat{\omega})k} = H(e^{-j\hat{\omega}}) \end{aligned}$$

Conjugate Symmetry

- The conjugate-symmetry property implies that the magnitude function is an even function of $\hat{\omega}$ and the phase is an odd function

$$|H(e^{-j\hat{\omega}})| = |H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})|$$

$$\angle H(e^{-j\hat{\omega}}) = -\angle H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})$$

- Similarly, the real part is an even function of $\hat{\omega}$ and the imaginary part is an odd function

$$\Re\{H(e^{-j\hat{\omega}})\} = \Re\{H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})\}$$

$$\Im\{H(e^{-j\hat{\omega}})\} = -\Im\{H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})\}$$

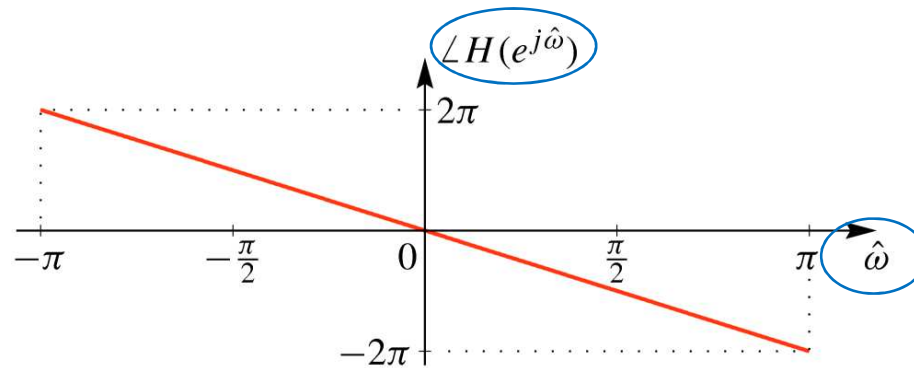
Graphical Representation

- For a given system, the frequency response usually varies with frequency, so that sinusoids of different frequencies are treated differently by the system.
- By appropriate choice of the coefficients, b_k , a wide variety of frequency response shapes can be realized.
- To visualize the variation of the frequency response with frequency, it's useful to plot $H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})$ versus $\hat{\omega}$

Delay System

- The delay system is given by the difference equation $y[n] = x[n - n_0]$
- It has only one nonzero filter coefficient, $b_{n_0}=1$, so its frequency response is $H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = e^{-j\hat{\omega}n_0}$
- The magnitude response is one for all frequencies
- The phase is given by the equation of a straight line with a slope equal to $-n_0$

In the case of $n_0 = 2$



First-Difference System

- Consider the first-difference system

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

- The frequency response of this LTI system is

$$H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = 1 - e^{-j\hat{\omega}} = 1 - \cos \hat{\omega} + j \sin \hat{\omega}$$

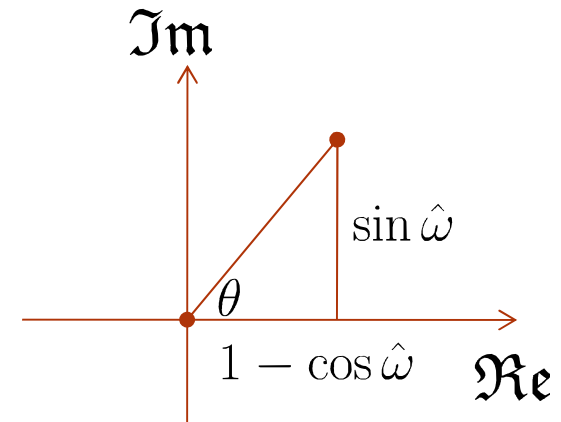
$$\Re\{H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})\} = 1 - \cos \hat{\omega}$$

$$\Im\{H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})\} = \sin \hat{\omega}$$

$$|H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})| = [(1 - \cos \hat{\omega})^2 + \sin^2 \hat{\omega}]^{1/2}$$

$$= [2(1 - \cos \hat{\omega})]^{1/2} = 2|\sin(\hat{\omega}/2)|$$

$$\angle H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = \arctan\left(\frac{\sin \hat{\omega}}{1 - \cos \hat{\omega}}\right)$$

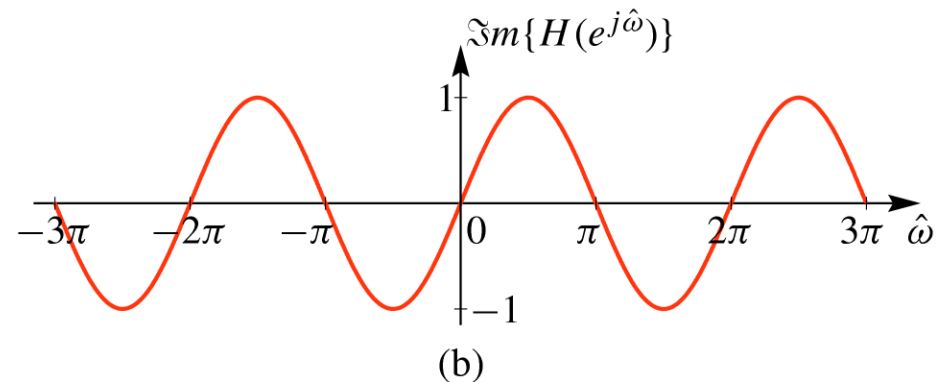
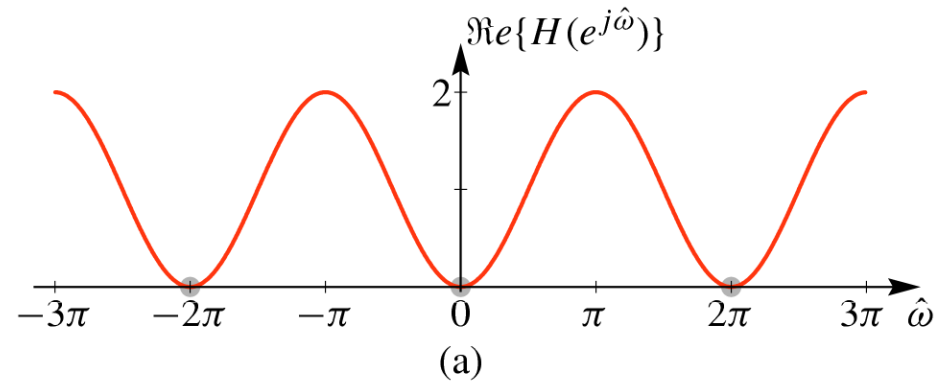


$$\theta = \arctan\left(\frac{\sin \hat{\omega}}{1 - \cos \hat{\omega}}\right)$$

First-Difference System

- The plots verify that $H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})$ is periodic with period 2π , and they verify the conjugate symmetry properties

$$\Re\{H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})\} = 1 - \cos \hat{\omega}$$
$$\Im\{H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})\} = \sin \hat{\omega}$$



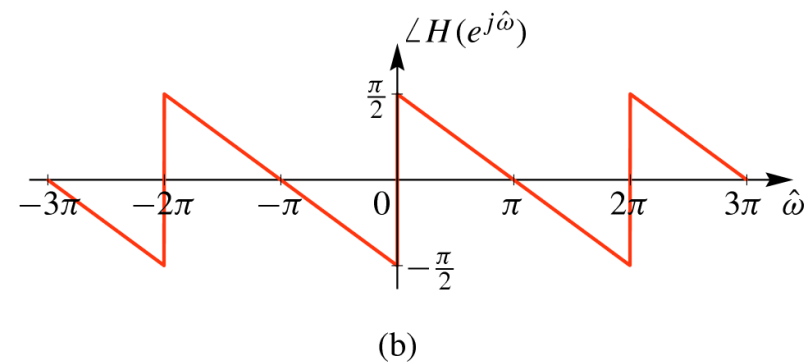
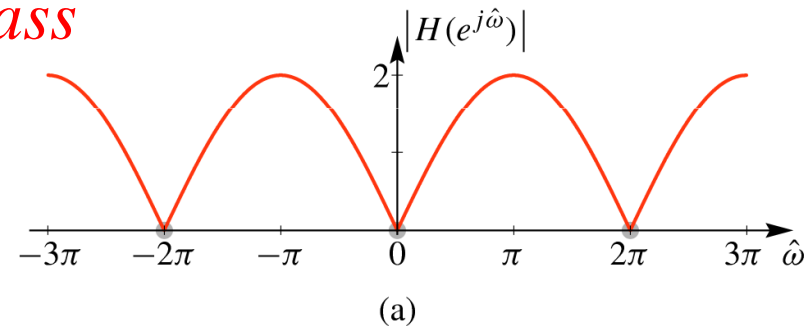
$$\Re\{H(e^{-j\hat{\omega}})\} = \Re\{H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})\}$$
$$\Im\{H(e^{-j\hat{\omega}})\} = -\Im\{H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})\}$$

First-Difference System

- In this figure, $H(e^{j0}) = 0$, so we can see that the system completely removes components with $\hat{\omega} = 0$
- The system emphasizes the higher frequencies (near $\hat{\omega} = \pi$) relative to the lower frequencies, so it would be called a *highpass filter*.

$$|H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})| = 2|\sin(\hat{\omega}/2)|$$

$$\angle H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = \arctan\left(\frac{\sin \hat{\omega}}{1 - \cos \hat{\omega}}\right)$$



First-Difference System

- There is a simpler approach for getting the magnitude and phase when the sequence of coefficients is either symmetric or antisymmetric about a central point.

$$b_k = -b_{M-k}$$

- The trick is to factor out an exponential whose phase is half of the filter order ($M/2$) times $\hat{\omega}$, and then use the inverse Euler formula

$$\begin{aligned} H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) &= 1 - e^{-j\hat{\omega}} \\ &= e^{-j\hat{\omega}/2}(e^{j\hat{\omega}/2} - e^{-j\hat{\omega}/2}) \\ &= 2je^{-j\hat{\omega}/2} \sin(\hat{\omega}/2) \\ &= 2 \sin(\hat{\omega}/2) e^{j(\pi/2 - \hat{\omega}/2)} \end{aligned}$$

First-Difference System

- The form derived for $H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})$ is almost a valid polar form, but since $\sin(\hat{\omega}/2)$ is negative for $-\pi < \hat{\omega} < 0$, we must write $|H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})| = 2|\sin(\hat{\omega}/2)|$ and absorb the algebraic sign into the phase response for $-\pi < \hat{\omega} < 0$

$$\angle H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = \begin{cases} \pi/2 - \hat{\omega}/2 & 0 < \hat{\omega} < \pi \\ -\pi + \pi/2 - \hat{\omega}/2 & -\pi < \hat{\omega} < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = 2 \sin(\hat{\omega}/2) e^{j(\pi/2 - \hat{\omega}/2)}$$

- Remember that $-1 = e^{\pm j\pi}$, so we can add either $+\pi$ or $-\pi$ to the phase for $-\pi < \hat{\omega} < 0$. In this case, we add $-\pi$ so that the resulting phase curve remains between $-\pi$ and $+\pi$ radians for all $\hat{\omega}$

Example

- Suppose that the input is $x[n] = 4 + 2 \cos(0.3\pi n - \pi/4)$
- The output $y[n] = x[n] - x[n - 1]$

$$\begin{aligned} y[n] &= 4 + 2 \cos(0.3\pi n - \pi/4) - 4 - 2 \cos(0.3\pi(n - 1) - \pi/4) \\ &= 2 \cos(0.3\pi n - \pi/4) - 2 \cos(0.3\pi n - 0.55\pi) \end{aligned}$$

- We see that the first-difference system removes the constant value and leaves two cosine signals of the same frequency.
- Since the first-difference system has frequency response $H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = 2 \sin(\hat{\omega}/2) e^{j(\pi/2 - \hat{\omega}/2)}$, the output is $y[n] = 4H(e^{j0}) + 2|H(e^{j0.3\pi})| \cos(0.3\pi n - \pi/4 + \angle H(e^{j0.3\pi}))$

Example

$$H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = 2 \sin(\hat{\omega}/2) e^{j(\pi/2 - \hat{\omega}/2)}$$

- Since $H(e^{j0}) = 0$ and

$$H(e^{j0.3\pi}) = 2j \sin(0.3\pi/2) e^{-j0.3\pi/2} = 0.908 e^{j(\pi/2 - 0.15\pi)}$$

- The output will be

$$y[n] = 4H(e^{j0}) + 2|H(e^{j0.3\pi})| \cos(0.3\pi n - \pi/4 + \angle H(e^{j0.3\pi}))$$



$$\begin{aligned} y[n] &= (0.908)(2) \cos(0.3\pi n - \pi/4 + \pi/2 - 0.3\pi/2) \\ &= 1.816 \cos(0.3\pi n + 0.1\pi) \end{aligned}$$

A Simple Lowpass Filter

- In Examples 6-1, 6-3, and 6-4, the system had frequency response

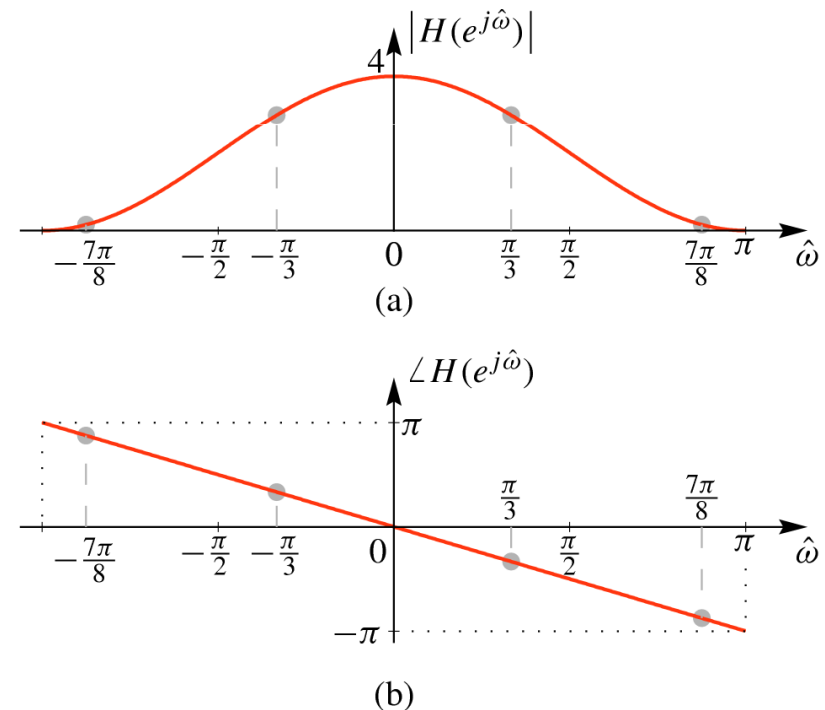
$$H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = 1 + 2e^{-j\hat{\omega}} + e^{-j\hat{\omega}^2} = e^{-j\hat{\omega}}(2 + 2\cos \hat{\omega})$$

- Since $(2 + 2\cos \hat{\omega}) \geq 0$ for all $\hat{\omega}$, it follows that

$$|H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})| = (2 + 2\cos \hat{\omega})$$

$$\angle H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = -\hat{\omega}$$

- It tends to suppress high frequencies (close to $\hat{\omega} = \pi$)
- *Lowpass filter*



Example

- For the FIR filter with coefficients $\{b_k\}=\{1,2,1\}$, find the output when the input is

$$x[n] = 4 + 3 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3}n - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) + 3 \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{8}n\right)$$

- We evaluate $H(e^{j\hat{\omega}})$ at frequencies 0 , $\pi/3$, and $7\pi/8$

$$H(e^{j0}) = 4$$

$$H(e^{j\pi/3}) = 3e^{-j\pi/3}$$

$$H(e^{j7\pi/8}) = 0.1522e^{-j7\pi/8}$$

$$H(e^{j\hat{\omega}}) = (2 + 2 \cos \hat{\omega})e^{-j\hat{\omega}}$$

- Output

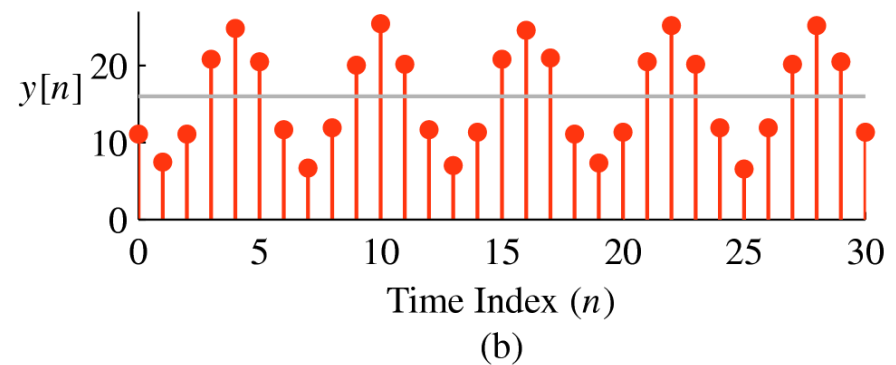
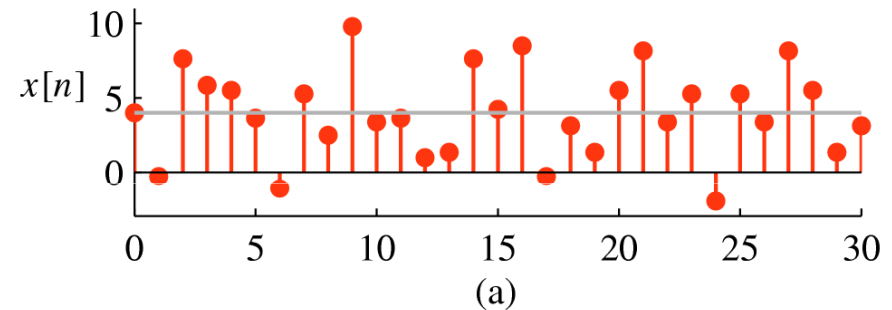
$$\begin{aligned} y[n] &= 4 \cdot 4 + 3 \cdot 3 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3}n - \frac{\pi}{3} - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) + 0.1522 \cdot 3 \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{8}n - \frac{7\pi}{8}\right) \\ &= 16 + 9 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3}(n-1) - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) + 0.4567 \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{8}(n-1)\right) \end{aligned}$$

Example

$$x[n] = 4 + 3 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3}n - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) + 3 \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{8}n\right)$$

$$y[n] = 16 + 9 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3}(n-1) - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) + 0.4567 \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{8}(n-1)\right)$$

The DC component is indicated as a gray horizontal line.



McClellan, Schafer and Yoder, *Signal Processing First*, ISBN 0-13-065562-7.
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