

Example: Given the linear systems:

a. y(n) = 2x(n - 5)
b. y(n) = 2x(3n)
c. y(n) = n x(n)

Determine whether each of the following systems is time-invariant.

<u>sol.</u>

a. Let the input and output be $x_1(n)$ and $y_1(n)$, respectively; then the system output is $y_1(n) = 2x_1(n-5)$. Again, let $x_2(n) = x_1(n-n_0)$ be the shifted input and $y_2(n)$ be the output due to the shifted input. We determine the system output using the shifted input as

 $y_2(n) = 2x_2(n-5) = 2x_1(n-n_0-5)$:

Meanwhile, shifting $y_1(n) = 2x_1(n-5)$ by n_0 samples leads to

$$y_1(n - n_0) = 2x_1(n - 5 - n_0)$$

We can verify that $y_2(n) = y_1(n - n_0)$. Thus the shifted input of n_0 samples causes the system output to be shifted by the same n_0 samples, thus, the system is *time-invariant*.

b. Let the input and output be $x_1(n)$ and $y_1(n)$, respectively; then the system output is $y_1(n) = 2x_1(3n)$. Again, let the input and output be $x_2(n)$ and $y_2(n)$, where $x_2(n) = x_1(n - n_0)$, a shifted version, and the corresponding output is $y_2(n)$. We get the output due to the shifted input $x_2(n) = x_1(n - n_0)$ and note that $x_2(3n) = x_1(3n - n_0)$:

$$y_2(n) = 2x_2(3n) = 2x_1(3n - n_0)$$
:

On the other hand, if we shift $y_1(n)$ by n_0 samples, which replaces *n* in

 $y_1(n) = 2x_1(3n)$ by $n - n_0$, it yield

$y_1(n - n_0) = 2x_1(3(n - n_0)) = 2x_1(3n - 3n_0)$:

Clearly, we know that $y_2(n) \neq y_1(n - n_0)$. Since the system output $y_2(n)$ using the input shifted by n_0 samples is not equal to the system output $y_1(n)$ shifted by the same n_0 samples, thus, the system is *not time-invariant (time-varying system)*.

c. Let the input and output be $x_1(n)$ and $y_1(n)$, respectively; then the output is $y_1(n) = nx_1(n)$. Again, let the input and output be $x_2(n)$ and $y_2(n)$, where $x_2(n) = x_1(n - n_0)$, a shifted version, and the corresponding output is $y_2(n)$. We get the output due to the shifted input $x_2(n) = x_1(n - n_0)$ and note that $x_2(n) = nx_1(n - n_0)$:

$$y_2(n) = n x_2(n) = n x_1(n - n_0)$$

On the other hand, if we shift $y_1(n)$ by n_0 samples, which replaces *n* in

 $y_1(n) = n x_1(n)$ by $n - n_0$, it yield

$$y_1(n - n_0) = (n - n_0)x_1(n - n_0)$$
:

Clearly, we know that $y_2(n) \neq y_1(n - n_0)$. Since the system output $y_2(n)$ using the input shifted by n_0 samples is not equal to the system output $y_1(n)$ shifted by the same n_0 samples, thus, the system is *not time-invariant (time-varying system)*.

Note: Linear Time Invariant System (LTI) is the system that satisfies both the linearity and the time-invariance properties. Such systems are mathematically easy to analyze, and easy to design.

Causal and Non-Causal Systems:

A **causal** system is one in which the output y(n) at time n depends only on the current input x(n) at time n, its past input sample values such as x(n - 1), x(n - 2), . . . For example $y[n] = ax[n] + \beta x[n-1]$. Otherwise, if a system output depends on the future input values, such as x(n + 1), x(n + 2), . . . , the system is **noncausal**. For example $y[n] = ax[n] + \beta x[n + 1]$. The noncausal system cannot be realized in real time.

Example: Given the linear systems:

a.
$$y(n) = 0.5x(n) + 2.5x(n-2)$$
, for $n \ge 0$
b. $y(n) = 0.25x(n-1) + 0.5x(n+1) - 0.4y(n-1)$, for $n \ge 0$,
c. $y(n) = \sum_{k=-2}^{2} h(k)x(n-k)$

Determine whether each is causal.

<u>sol.</u>

- a. Since for $n \ge 0$, the output y(n) depends on the current input x(n) and its past value x(n-2), the system is **causal**.
- b. Since for n ≥ 0, the output y(n) depends on the input's future value x(n+1), the system is noncausal.
- c. Since for $n \ge 0$, the output y(n) depends on the input's future values x(n+1) and x(n+2), the system is **noncausal**.

Stable and Unstable Systems:

A system is said to be **bounded input-bounded output (BIBO) stable** if and only if every bounded input produces the bounded output. It means, that there exist some finite numbers say M_x and M_y , such that

$$|x(n)| \le M_x < \infty \implies |y(n)| \le M_y < \infty$$

For all *n*, If for some bounded input sequence x(n), the output y(n) is unbounded (infinite), the system is classified as **unstable**.

Note: The system is stable, if its transfer function vanishes after a sufficiently long time. For a stable system:

$$S = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \left| h(k) \right| \langle \infty$$

Where h(k) = unit impulse response.

Example: Given the systems:

a. $y[n] = (x[n])^2$ b. Accumulator system $y[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{n} x[k]$, c. $y[n] = e^{x[n]}$

Determine whether each is stable.

<u>sol.</u>

a. If $|x[n]| \le B_x < \infty$ for all *n*, then $|y[n]| \le B_y = B_x^2 < \infty$ for all *n*. Thus, the system is **stable**.

b. If
$$x[n] = u[n] = \begin{cases} 0 & n < 0 \\ 1 & n \ge 0 \end{cases}$$
 : bounded

Then
$$y[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{n} x[k] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{n} u[k] = \begin{cases} 0 & n < 0\\ n+1 & n \ge 0 \end{cases}$$
 : not bounded

Thus, the accumulator system is **unstable**.

c. If $|x[n]| \le B_x < \infty$ for all *n*, then $|y[n]| \le B_y = e^{B_x} < \infty$ for all *n*. i.e., it is guaranteed that if the input is bounded by a positive number B_x , the output is bounded by a positive number e^{B_x} . Thus, the system is **stable**.

Note:
$$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{n} u[k] = \begin{cases} 0 & n < 0 \\ n+1 & n \ge 0 \end{cases}$$

System Representation Using Its Impulse Response:

Any discrete-time can be characterized by one of the representations:

- 1) Difference Equation
- 2) Impulse Response h(n)
- 3) Transfer Function H(z)
- 4) Frequency Response H(W)

In this section, a Linear Time-Invariant (LTI) system will be represented by its impulse response (h(n)).

A LTI system can be completely described by its unit-impulse response, which is defined *as the system response due to the impulse input* $\delta(n)$ *with zero initial conditions*, depicted in the following figure. Here $x(n) = \delta(n)$ and y(n) = h(n).



<u>Note:</u> The unit step function u[n] is the running sum of the unit impulse $\delta[n]$, so the **step** response S[n] of a LTI processor is the running sum of its impulse response. Therefore, if we denote the step response by S[n], we have

$$S[n] = y[n]|_{x[n]=u[n]} = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{n} h[m]$$

Alternatively, h[n] is the first order difference of S[n]

$$h[n] = y[n]|_{x[n] = \delta[n]} = S[n] - S[n-1]$$

Example: For a LTI system described by the following difference equation:

y(n) = 0.8y(n-1) + x(n)

- a. Find and sketch the first four sample values of the impulse and step responses.
- b. Determine the final value of the step response as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

<u>sol.</u>

a. By setting $x(n) = \delta(n)$ in the system difference equation, then y(n) = h(n) so,

