

**Introduction to Chapter 7: Discrete-Time and Digital Systems  
Human and Machine Hearing: Extracting Meaning from Sound  
by Richard F. Lyon  
2018**

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Signal Processing for Hearing Lectures 2023

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## Overview

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- Sampling  $\leftrightarrow$  Aliasing
- Sampling Bandlimited
- $s$  and  $z$  planes
- Bilinear Transform
- $z \approx 1 + sT$  at Low Freq
- IR and Conv
- Convolution Theorem
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**Goal:** An *elementary introduction* to the topics of Chapter 7:

- Discrete-Time LTI Systems (Linear and Time-Invariant, or “shift-invariant” for images)
- Impulse Response and Convolution in *discrete time*
- Frequency in Discrete-Time Systems
- $z$  Transform and its Inverse
- Unit Advance and Unit Delay Operators (Shift Operators)
- Filter Transfer Functions for the discrete-time case
- Sampling and Aliasing
- Mappings from Continuous-Time to Digital Systems
- Filter Design (mostly references)
- Digital Filters (a minimal start, but good pointers)
- Multiple Inputs and Outputs (see State Space)
- Fourier Analysis and Spectrograms (one good example)
- Additional References



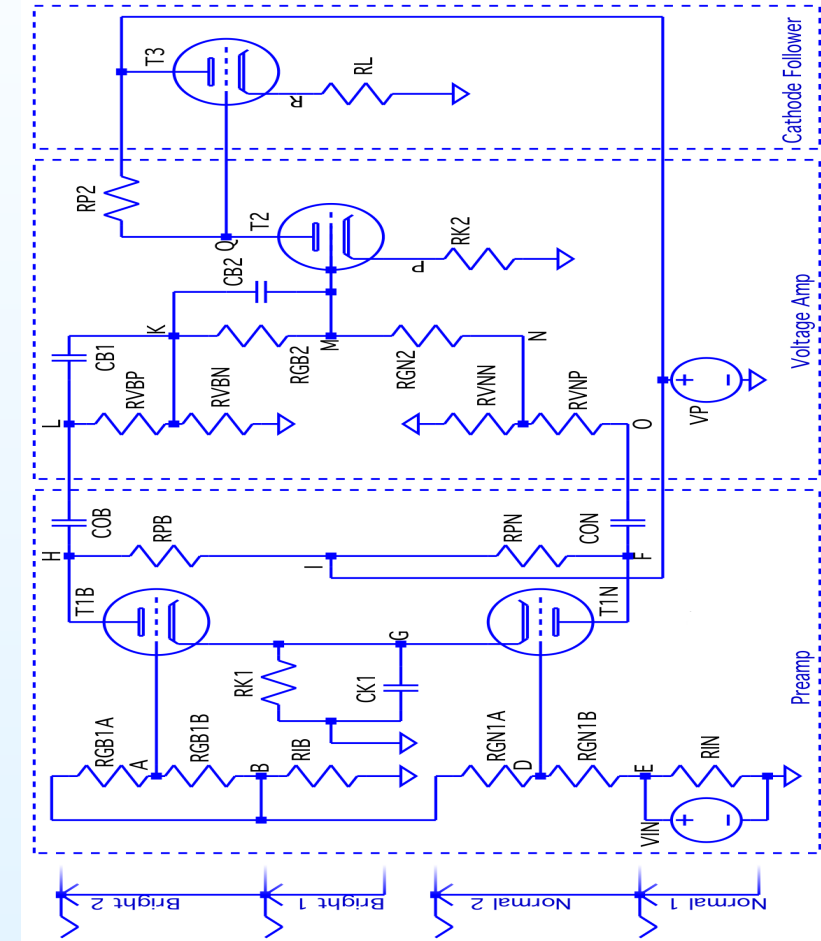
# Where I Am Coming From

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Musician : Math : Physics : EE : Control : DSP : System ID : SAIL/CCRMA



(a) Some Gig



(b) Tube Amp



# Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics (CCRMA)

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Stanford AI Lab (SAIL) 60s-80s



Stanford Knoll (main campus)



John Chowning



Max Mathews

**Also:** John Grey, John Pierce,  
Roger Shepard, Earl Schubert,  
Ben Knapp, Malcolm Slaney,  
Takako Fujioka, ... (Hearing Related)



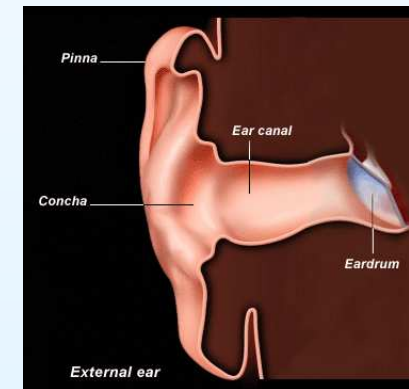
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## JOS Courses Developed for CCRMA (and EE)

- **Music 320A: AUDIO SPECTRUM ANALYSIS**
- **Music 320B: AUDIO FILTER ANALYSIS AND STRUCTURES**
- **Music 420A: PHYSICAL AUDIO SIGNAL PROCESSING**
- **Music 421A: TIME-FREQUENCY AUDIO SIGNAL PROCESSING**



420A



421A

All four textbooks **free online**





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## Sampling Continuous-Time Signals

Let  $x_c(t)$  denote a real-valued function of a continuous time variable  $t$ .

We often think of  $x_c(t)$  as a *signal* in the *time domain*.

- *Sampling* can be expressed as  $x_d[n] = x_c(nT)$ ,  $n = [\dots, -2, -1, ] 0, 1, 2, \dots$  where  $T$  denotes a fixed *sampling interval* in seconds
- $n$  is an *integer* usually starting at time 0 and is called the *discrete-time index*
- Subscript  $c$  denotes functions of *continuous time*  $t$  while  $d$  denotes *discrete time*  $n$
- We use *square brackets*  $[\cdot]$  to indicate *discrete-time (integer) indexing*

### Main Theorem:

*Sampling* in the time-domain corresponds to *aliasing* in the frequency domain:

$$x_d[n] \longleftrightarrow X_d(e^{j\omega T}) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} X_c \left[ j \left( \frac{\omega T}{T} + m \frac{2\pi}{T} \right) \right]$$

The *Fourier dual* of this is also true

(sampling in the frequency domain ↔ aliasing in the time domain)



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## Sampling of Properly Bandlimited Signals

If the signal  $x_c(t)$  is *bandlimited to less than the sampling rate*, i.e.,  $X_c(\omega)$  is zero outside of the frequency interval  $(-f_s/2, f_s/2)$ , then  $x_c(t)$  may be sampled at  $f_s$  samples per second with *no aliasing*:

$$\begin{aligned} X_d(e^{j\omega T}) &= \frac{1}{T} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} X_c \left[ j \left( \frac{\omega T}{T} + m \frac{2\pi}{T} \right) \right] \\ &\approx \frac{1}{T} X_c(j\omega) \end{aligned}$$

for  $\omega T \in (-\pi, \pi)$ .

$X_d(e^{j\omega T})$  must *repeat periodically* outside of that interval (along the unit circle of the  $z$  plane).



## The $s$ and $z$ Planes

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Generalized sinusoids in continuous and discrete time:

### Continuous Time

$$\begin{aligned}e^{st} &= e^{(\sigma+j\omega)t} \\ &= e^{\sigma t} e^{j\omega t} \\ &= e^{-t/\tau} [\cos(\omega t) + j \sin(\omega t)]\end{aligned}$$

### Laplace Transform

$$X_c(s) = \int_0^{\infty} x_c(t) e^{-st} dt$$

### Fourier Transform (FT) ( $s = j\omega$ )

$$X_c(j\omega) = \int_0^{\infty} x_c(t) e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

### Discrete Time when $z = e^{sT}$

$$\begin{aligned}z^n &= (e^{sT})^n = (e^{\sigma T + j\omega T})^n \\ &= e^{\sigma n T} e^{j\omega n T} \\ &= e^{-nT/\tau} [\cos(\omega n T) + j \sin(\omega n T)]\end{aligned}$$

### $z$ Transform

$$X_d(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_d(n) z^{-n}$$

### Discrete Time FT (DTFT) ( $z = e^{j\omega T}$ )

$$X_d(e^{j\omega T}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_d(n) e^{-j\omega T n}$$

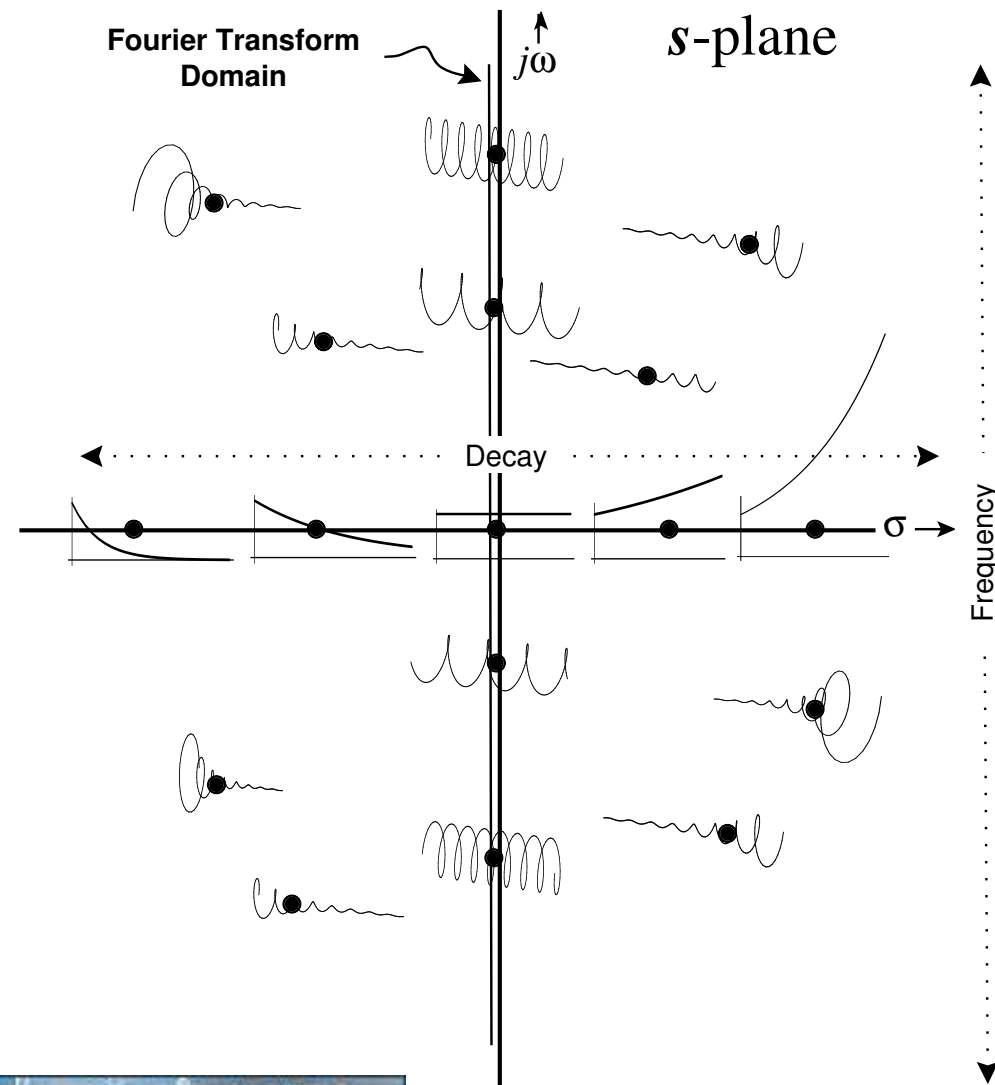




# Generalized Sinusoids $e^{st}$ in the $s$ Plane

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## Domain of Laplace transforms

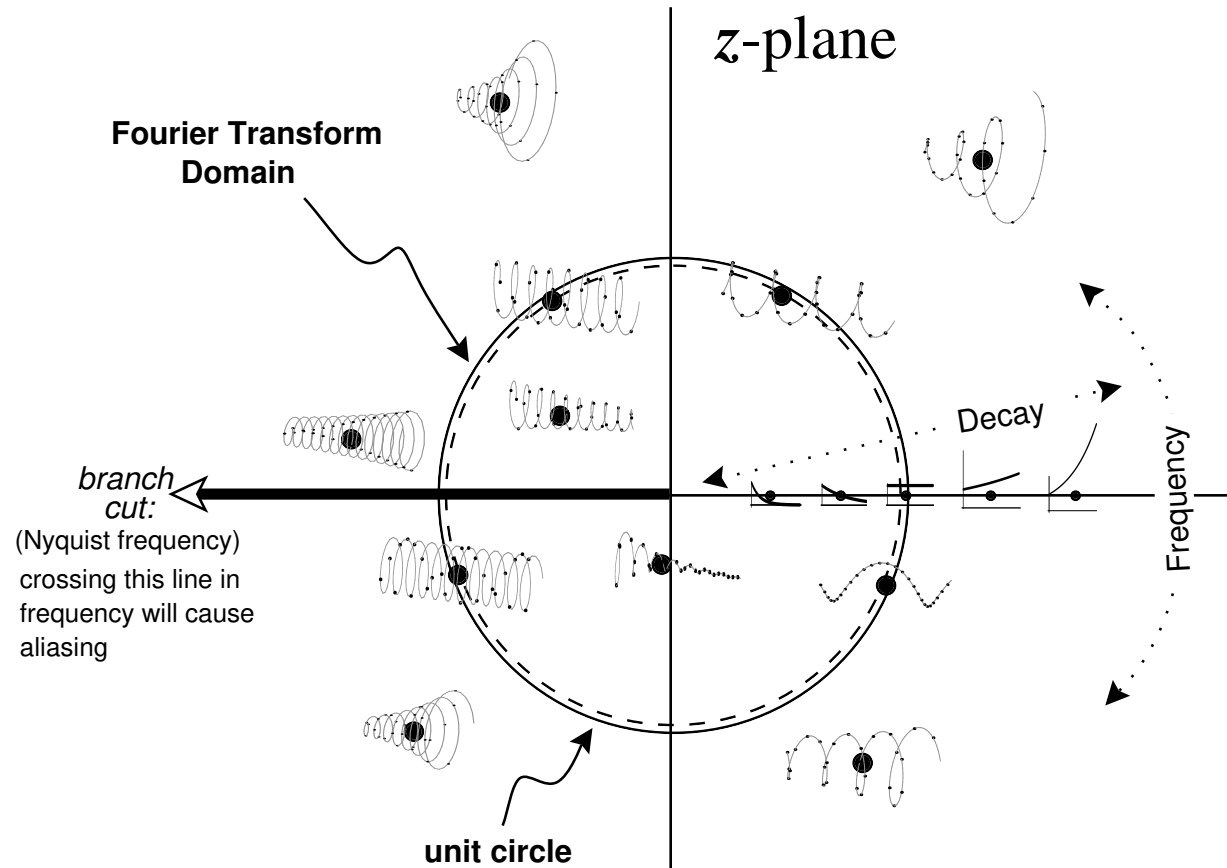




# Generalized Sinusoids $z^n$ in the $z$ Plane

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## Domain of $z$ -transforms





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## Bilinear Transform

An alternative to *sampling* in the time-domain for *systems* (as opposed to signals) is to start in the *frequency domain* and apply the *Bilinear Transform*:

$$s = \alpha \frac{1 - z^{-1}}{1 + z^{-1}} \quad z^{-1} = \frac{1 - s/\alpha}{1 + s/\alpha}$$

- $\alpha$  is any positive constant
- Setting  $\alpha = 2/T$  matches *low frequencies* relative to the sampling rate  $f_s$
- More generally,  $\alpha$  can map *any one frequency* exactly
- See also Cayley (1846) and Möbius transforms
- Can show:
  - Analog frequency axis  $s = j\omega$  (vertical axis in the  $s$  plane) maps exactly *once* to the digital frequency axis  $z = e^{j\omega T}$  (unit circle in the  $z$  plane)  $\Rightarrow$  *no aliasing*
  - The *left half* of the  $s$  plane (stability region for *poles*) maps to the *interior* of the unit circle in the  $z$  plane (its stability region)  $\Rightarrow$  *stability preserved*



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## Oversampling Gives $z \approx 1 + sT$

At low frequencies and dampings, *i.e.*, near  $s \approx 0$  and  $z \approx 1$ , we have the following low-frequency approximations (low relative to the sampling rate):

- **Bilinear Transform:**

$$= \frac{1 + s/\alpha}{1 - s/\alpha} = \left(1 + \frac{s}{\alpha}\right) \left[1 + \frac{s}{\alpha} + \left(\frac{s}{\alpha}\right)^2 + \dots\right] \approx 1 + 2\frac{s}{\alpha} = \boxed{1 + sT}$$

when  $\alpha = 2/T$

- **Basic Sampling:**

$$z = e^{sT} = 1 + sT + \frac{(sT)^2}{2!} + \frac{(sT)^3}{3!} + \dots \approx \boxed{1 + sT}$$

It is good to oversample sufficiently so that there is no audible difference between the  $z$ -planes of signals and systems digitized separately by ordinary sampling and the bilinear transform (or multiple bilinear transforms as in Wave Digital Filters)



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## Impulse Response and Convolution

Recall the *Convolution Representation* from Section 7.3 of (Lyon 2018):

$$y[k] = (h * x)[k] = "h[k] * x[k]" = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k-n]h[n]$$

This Convolution Representation exists for every *linear, time-invariant* (LTI) system

**Linearity:**

$$\mathcal{L}\{\alpha x_1 + \beta x_2\} = \alpha \mathcal{L}\{x_1\} + \beta \mathcal{L}\{x_2\}$$

for any (complex) scalars  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , and any signals  $x_1$ , and  $x_2$

**Time Invariance:**

$$\mathcal{L}_n\{\text{SHIFT}_N\{x_1\}\} = \mathcal{L}_{n-N}\{x\}$$

where

$$\text{SHIFT}_{N,n}\{x\} \triangleq x(n - N)$$



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## Shift and Convolution Theorems for $z$ Transforms

It is easy to prove the  $z$ -transform

- **Shift Theorem:**

[https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/filters/Shift\\_Theorem.html](https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/filters/Shift_Theorem.html)

- **Convolution Theorem:**

[https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/filters/Convolution\\_Theorem.html](https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/filters/Convolution_Theorem.html)



## Spectrum Analysis

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The *spectrogram* is said to have been invented at Bell Labs during World War II

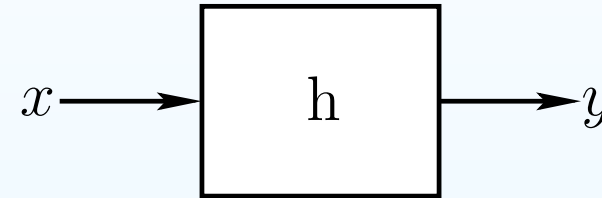
- Speech Spectrogram Example in MATLAB/Octave:  
[https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/mdft/Spectrogram\\_Speech.html](https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/mdft/Spectrogram_Speech.html)
- Same example translated to Python by ChatGPT-4  
<https://chat.openai.com/share/adfb9774-6fd6-40c1-b12a-4b6b8775a7a6>



## Digital Filters

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In a *convolution*  $y(t) = (x * h)(t)$ , if  $x$  is considered an *input signal*, then  $h$  can be described as a linear, time-invariant (LTI) *filter*:



- The roles of input and filter are interchangeable since  $h * x = x * h$ .
- In discrete-time, the *sampled* impulse response  $h[n]$  gives a *digital filter*:

$$y[n] = (h * x)[n] = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} h[m] x[n - m]$$

- In practice,  $h$  must be a *finite impulse response (FIR)*.
- We create *infinite impulse response (IIR)* filters using *feedback*.





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## Recursive Digital Filters (“Infinite Impulse Reponse” (IIR))

Example: One-pole recursive smoother, with gain  $g$  and pole at  $z = p > 0$ :

$$y[n] = g x[n] + p y[n - 1]$$

$$\iff Y(z) = g X(z) + p z^{-1} Y(z)$$

$$\iff Y(z) = \frac{g}{1 - p z^{-1}} X(z)$$

$$\iff H(z) = \frac{g}{1 - p z^{-1}} = g [1 + p z^{-1} + (p z^{-1})^2 + \dots]$$

$$\iff h[n] = g p^n$$

- This happens to be a first-order Butterworth lowpass filter for  $p > 0$  (among others)
- The FAUST distribution supports real-time Butterworth digital filters of all orders
- FAUST compiles to C, C++, Java, JAX, Julia, Rust, VHDL, Web Assembly, and more



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## Supplementary Online References

- Introduction to the Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT):  
<https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/mdft/>
- Introduction to Digital Filters:  
<https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/filters/>
- Audio Signal Processing in Faust:  
<https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/aspf/>

### Download These Overheads:

Web-search for “Julius Smith CCRMA” and scroll to the bottom for  
<https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/pdf/SPFH7.pdf>



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