

ECE 4213/5213

MODULE 6

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Z-Transform Review

6-1

- you should already be familiar with the z-transform, its relationship to the DTFT, and its relationship to the Laplace transform from your undergraduate signals and systems course.
- The z-transform is treated in chapter 3 of the Oppenheim & Schaffer text.
- Here we'll just do a brief review.

Eigenvalue Interpretation

FACT: for any fixed complex number z , the signal z^n is an eigenfunction of any discrete time LTI system.

Proof: Let H be an LTI system with impulse response $h[n]$. Let $z \in \mathbb{C}$ be a constant and let the system input be z^n .



Then the system output is given by

(6-2)

$$y[n] = H\{z^n\} = z^n * h[n]$$

$$= \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} h[k] z^{n-k} = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} h[k] z^n z^{-k}$$

$$= z^n \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} h[k] z^{-k} = H(z) z^n,$$

The input

A number that depends on the value of the constant z and on the system

QED.

- So we see that, for the set of eigenfunctions $\{z^n\}_{z \in \mathbb{C}}$, the eigenvalues are given by the z -transform of the impulse response.

- $H(z)$ is called the "transfer function" of the system.

The "Fixer-Upper" Interpretation

6-3

- Another way to think of the z-transform that is probably more intuitive for most people.
- We already talked about this in the notes for chapter 1.
- Suppose we want to consider signals $x[n]$ that may have divergent "bad behaviour" on the right side (as $n \rightarrow \infty$) or on the left side (as $n \rightarrow -\infty$).

EX: $x[n] = 3^n$ or $x[n] = 3^n u[n]$:

bad on the right.

$x[n] = (\frac{1}{2})^n$ or $x[n] = (\frac{1}{2})^n u[-n]$:

bad on the left.

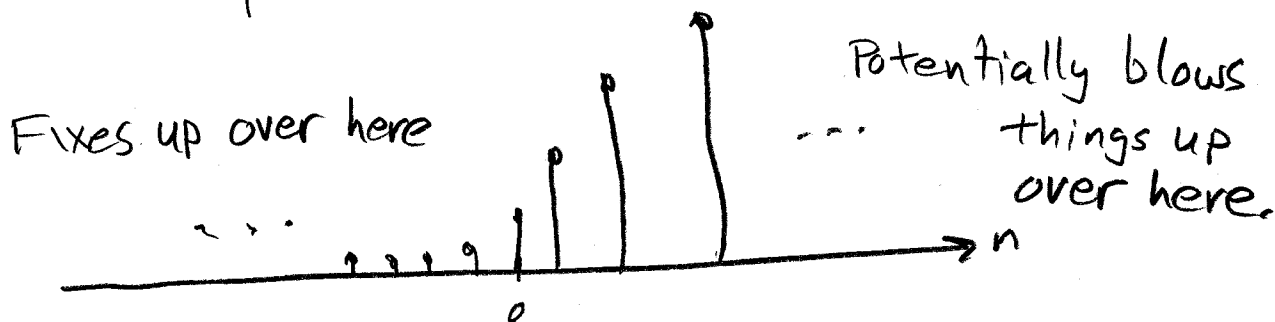
- The DTFT fails to converge for signals of this type.
- If we want to be able to use transform analysis to analyze how such signals interact with LTI systems, we will need a transform that is more powerful than the DTFT.

- The strategy is to multiply the "bad" signal $x[n]$ times a "fixer-upper" signal r^{-n} , where $r \in \mathbb{R}$ and $r > 0$. 6-4

- The fixer-upper corrects the bad behaviour in $x[n]$ so that we can take the DTFT of the "fixed up" signal $x[n]r^{-n}$.

→ if $0 < r < 1$, then the fixer-upper r^{-n} fixes up on the left.

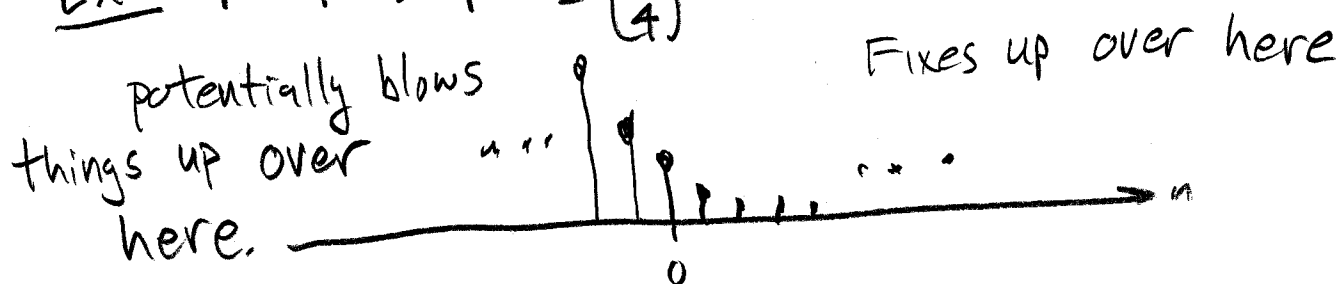
EX: $r = \frac{1}{4} \rightarrow r^{-n} = 4^n$:



→ If $r = 1$, then $r^{-n} = 1$ and the fixer-upper does nothing: the fixed up signal is $x[n]r^{-n} = x[n]$.

→ If $r > 1$, then r^{-n} fixes up on the right.

EX: $r = 4 \rightarrow r^{-n} = (\frac{1}{4})^n$



- The z -transform of $x[n]$ is the DTFT of the fixed-up guy $x[n]r^{-n}$:

(65)

$$X(z) = \text{DTFT} \{ x[n]r^{-n} \}$$

$$= \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} x[n]r^{-n} e^{-j\omega n}$$

$$= \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} x[n] \underbrace{(re^{j\omega})^{-n}}$$

a complex number in polar form,
call it z , with magnitude
 $r = |z|$ and angle $\omega = \arg z$.

$$= \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} x[n]z^{-n}$$

- You can think of the graph of $X(z)$ as a sheet or surface that exists over the complex z -plane.

- Actually, since $X(z)$ is complex valued in general, it takes "two graphs" to show $X(z)$:

- one for the real part and one for the imaginary part,
- or one for the magnitude and one for the phase [e.g., the angle].

- There is a nice example of one of these type graphs later in this file on pages 6.14-A through 6.14-C.
- The set of complex numbers z for which $X(z)$ converges is called the "Region of Convergence" or "ROC".
- Complex numbers z for which $X(z)$ blows up (diverges) are not in the ROC.
 - These z are "singularities" of $X(z)$.
 - Singularities that occur at isolated, single points in the z -plane are called "poles".
- For each real $r \geq 0$, the DTFT of the fixed up guy $x[n]r^{-n}$ either converges or it does not.
- If it converges, then the circle of radius r in the z -plane is included in the ROC of $X(z)$,
 - And the graph of the DTFT of $x[n]r^{-n}$ is part of the graph of $X(z)$.

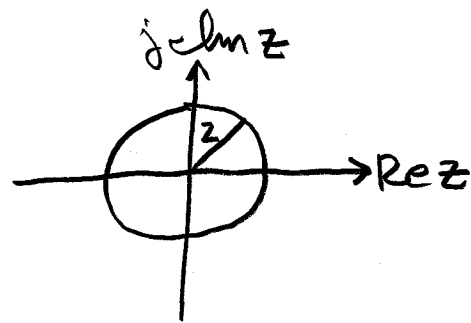


EX: Suppose that

(6-7)

$$X(z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} x[n] z^{-n} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} x[n] r^{-n} e^{-j\omega n}$$

converges on the circle $|z|=2$.

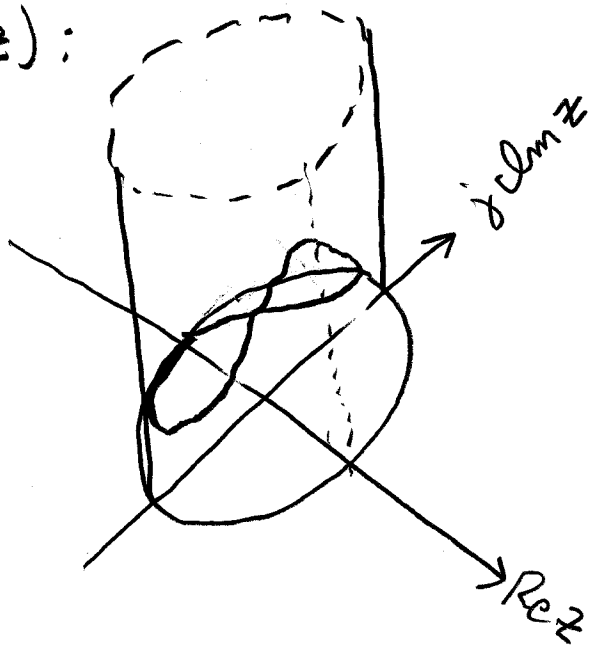
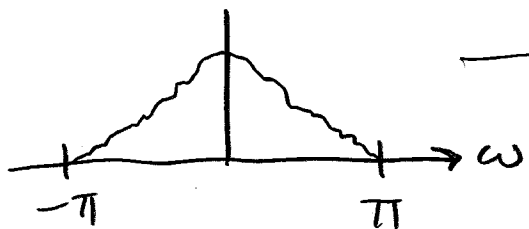


- Then the

graph of the DTFT of the fixed up guy $x[n] z^{-n} = (\frac{1}{2})^n x[n]$

is wrapped around this circle as part of the graph of $X(z)$:

$$\text{DTFT} \left\{ \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n x[n] \right\}$$



- So you can think of the ROC of $X(z)$ as a collection of circles of radius r where the DTFT of $x[n] r^{-n}$ converges.



- If $x[n]$ is zero for all the positive n 's, then (6-8)

$$X(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n]z^{-n} = \dots + x[-2]z^2 + x[-1]z^1 + x[0]z^0 + 0 \frac{1}{z} + 0 \frac{1}{z^2} + \dots$$

and the ROC will generally include the circle of radius 0, e.g. the point $z=0$.

- If $x[n]$ is zero for all the negative n 's, then the ROC will generally include the circle of radius ∞ , e.g. the set $|z| = \infty$.

- You can think of the z -transform $X(z)$ as a collection of DTFT's of fixed-up guys $x[n]r^{-n}$ wrapped around concentric circles of radius r in the z -plane.

- For $r=1$, the fixed up guy is $x[n]1^n = x[n]$. So, above the unit circle in the z -plane $X(z)$ is exactly identical to $X(e^{j\omega})$.

(6-9)

- If $x[n]$ has a DTFT, then the unit circle is included in the ROC of $X(z)$.
- If $x[n]$ does not have a DTFT, then the unit circle is not included in the ROC of $X(z)$.

NOTE: when $r=1$, then $z = re^{j\omega} = e^{j\omega}$,
so $X(z) = X(e^{j\omega})$.

- In order to specify a z-transform $X(z)$, it's necessary to specify both the function $X(z)$ and the ROC which tells which z 's $X(z)$ converges for.

EX:

$$x_1[n] = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n u[n].$$

$$\begin{aligned} X_1(z) &= \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n u[n] z^{-n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n z^{-n} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2} z^{-1}\right)^n = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2} z^{-1}}, \quad |z| > \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

NOTE: for $|z| \leq \frac{1}{2}$, the z-transform $X_1(z)$ is NOT equal to $\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2} z^{-1}}$. For $|z| \leq \frac{1}{2}$, $X_1(z)$ diverges to ∞ .



EX ... Now let

(6-10)

$$x_2[n] = -\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n u[-n-1].$$

Then $X_2(z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} -\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n u[-n-1] z^{-n}$

$$= -\sum_{n=-\infty}^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n z^{-n} = -\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^n z^n$$

$$= 0 - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^n z^n = 1 - 1 - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^n z^n$$

$$= 1 - 2^0 z^0 - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^n z^n$$

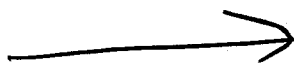
$$= 1 - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2^n z^n = 1 - \frac{1}{1-2z}, \quad |z| < \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \frac{1-2z}{1-2z} - \frac{1}{1-2z}, \quad |z| < \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \frac{1-2z-1}{1-2z}, \quad |z| < \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \frac{2z}{2z-1} \cdot \frac{1/2}{1/2} = \frac{z}{z-1/2} \cdot \frac{z^{-1}}{z^{-1}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{2}z^{-1}}, \quad |z| < \frac{1}{2}.$$



EX ... So we have

(6-11)

$$X_1(z) = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2}z^{-1}}, \quad |z| > \frac{1}{2}$$

and

$$X_2(z) = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2}z^{-1}}, \quad |z| < \frac{1}{2}.$$

- Are $X_1(z)$ and $X_2(z)$ equal?

→ NO!!!!

→ There is no number $z \in \mathbb{C}$ for
which $X_1(z) = X_2(z)$!!!

→ For any z that $X_1(z)$ converges to
the number $\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2}z^{-1}}$, $X_2(z)$ diverges!

→ For any z that $X_2(z)$ converges to the
number $\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2}z^{-1}}$, $X_1(z)$ diverges!

⇒ The ROC is important.

(6-12)

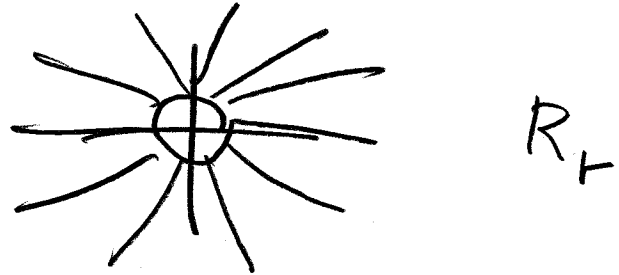
- If $x[n]$ is right sided, then any bad behavior could only be on the right side.
- If there is any r_0 that can fix things up for this $x[n]$, say $r_0 = 2$, then $(\frac{1}{2})^n x[n]$ has a convergent DTFT.
- For any $r > r_0$, like $r = 3$ in this case, the guy $x[n]$ is fixed up even more. The DTFT of $(\frac{1}{3})^n x[n]$ certainly converges, because $(\frac{1}{3})^n$ fixes up bad behavior on the right even more than $(\frac{1}{2})^n$.

⇒ A right-sided $x[n]$ has an exterior ROC. It is generally the exterior of a circle that passes through the largest pole of $X(z)$.

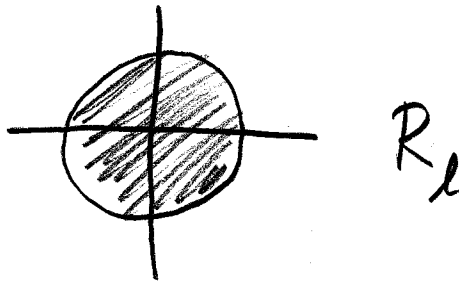
⇒ A left-sided $x[n]$ has an interior ROC. It is generally the interior of a circle that passes through the smallest pole of $X(z)$. →

- Any two sided $x[n]$ can be broken into 6-13
the sum of a right sided part plus a left
sided part,

- The z -transform of the right sided part has
a ROC that is the exterior of a circle
in the z -plane,

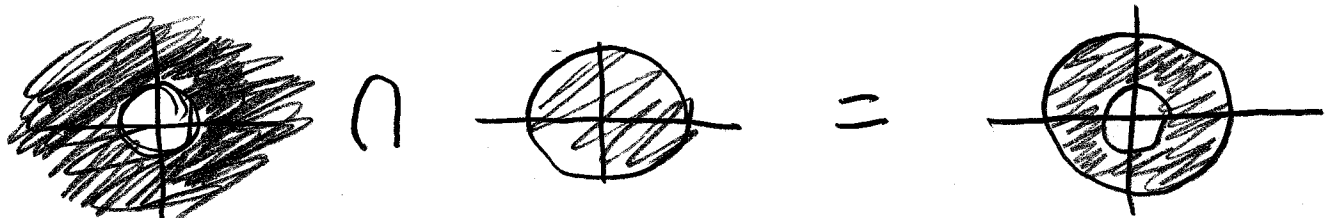


- The z -transform of the left sided part has a
ROC that is the interior of a circle in the
 z -plane.



- The ROC of $X(z)$, the z -transform of the whole
signal $x[n]$, is exactly the set of z 's for which
both the z -transform of the right sided part
and the z -transform of the left sided part
converge.

- The ROC of $X(z)$ is an annulus.



⇒ A two-sided $x[n]$ has an annular ROC. (6-14)

⇒ An $x[n]$ with finite support (finite length) has a ROC that is generally the entire z -plane, except possibly the points $z=0$ and $z=\infty$.

→ These two points must be checked individually for each $X(z)$.

$$\rightarrow X(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n] z^{-n}$$

$$= \dots + x[-2] z^2 + x[-1] z^1 + x[0] z^0 \\ + x[1] \frac{1}{z} + x[2] \frac{1}{z^2} + \dots$$

→ If $x[n] = 0 \quad \forall n > 0$, then the point $z=0$ is included in the ROC of $X(z)$.

→ If $x[n] = 0 \quad \forall n < 0$, then the point $z=\infty$ is included in the ROC of $X(z)$.

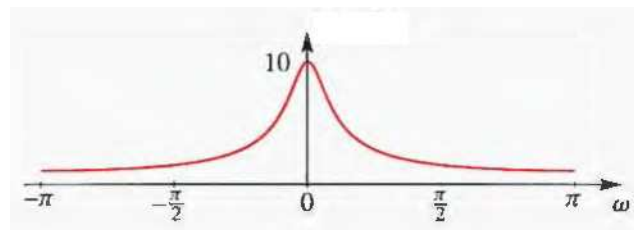
- EX: suppose H is a causal, stable discrete-time LTI system (filter) with impulse response

$$h[n] = \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^n u[n].$$

- Using the DTFT table from the formula sheet on the course web site, we can write down the frequency response:

$$H(e^{j\omega}) = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{4}{5}e^{-j\omega}}$$

- Here is a plot of the filter magnitude response $|H(e^{j\omega})|$:

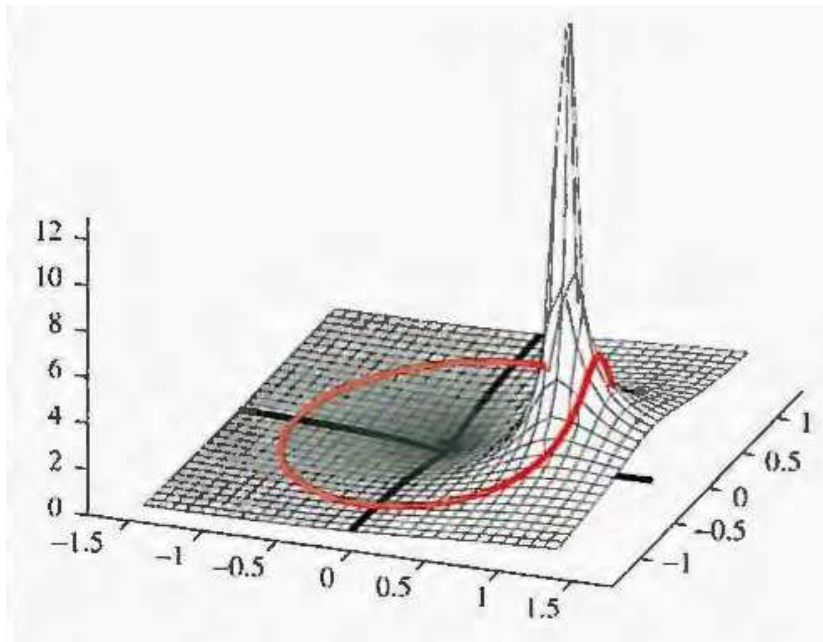


- From this plot, we see that H is a low-pass filter.
- Using the z -transform table from the formula sheet on the course web site, we can write down the transfer function:

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{4}{5}z^{-1}}, \quad \text{ROC: } |z| > \frac{4}{5}$$

- From the denominator, we see immediately that there is one pole at $z = \frac{4}{5}$.
- Notice that this pole is *inside* the unit circle, the ROC is *exterior*, and the ROC *includes* the unit circle.

- Here is a 3D plot of $|H(z)|$:



- Above the unit circle of the z -plane, $H(z) = H(e^{j\omega})$.
- This is shown by the orange curve in the figure. This orange curve is the same graph of $|H(e^{j\omega})|$ that we just saw on page 6.14-A, but now it is wrapped around the unit circle of the z -plane as the part of the graph of $H(z)$ where $|z| = r = 1$.
- Notice how the pole at $z = \frac{4}{5}$, just inside the unit circle, pulls up the whole surface $H(z)$ and thus *shapes* $H(e^{j\omega})$.
- You may have wondered why we need to have both a discrete-time Fourier transform (DTFT) and a z -transform.
- Here is one reason: a filter designer *designs* the poles and zeros of $H(z)$ to shape the frequency response $H(e^{j\omega})$.

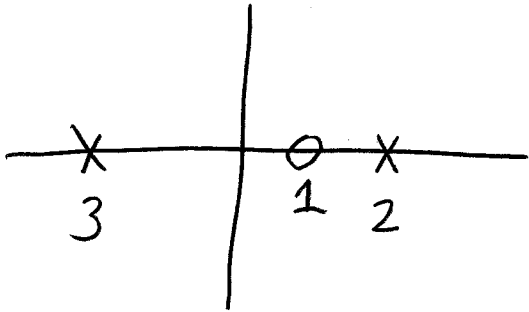
- The poles pull the surface $H(z)$ *up* towards ∞ ; the zeros pull the surface $H(z)$ *down* to zero.
- But if we only had a DTFT $H(e^{j\omega})$, and *not* a z -transform $H(z)$, the designer could not use any poles to shape $H(e^{j\omega})$...
 - because designing a pole directly into $H(e^{j\omega})$ would make the frequency response fail to converge.
 - The filter would then be *unstable*.
 - So instead, we design the poles into $H(z)$, in the z -plane but off the unit circle.
 - **Recall:** for the filter to be both causal and stable, the poles must be placed strictly *inside* the unit circle of the z -plane.
 - There is no such restriction on the zeros – the designer is free to place zeros anywhere in the z -plane, including inside the unit circle, outside the unit circle, and even on the unit circle.

EX:

(6-15)

$$\text{Let } X(z) = \frac{z-1}{(z-2)(z+3)}$$

P-Z plot



- if $x[n]$ is right-sided, the ROC must be $|z| > 3$. $X(e^{j\omega})$ does not exist in this case, since the ROC does not include the unit circle.

- if $x[n]$ is left-sided, the ROC must be $|z| < 2$. $X(e^{j\omega})$ does exist in this case, since the ROC does include the unit circle.

- if $x[n]$ is two-sided, the ROC must be $2 < |z| < 3$. $X(e^{j\omega})$ does not exist in this case, since the ROC does not include the unit circle.

(6-16)
- In some applications, you may be interested only in causal signals $x[n]$ for which $x[n] = 0 \quad \forall n < 0$ and causal systems H for which $h[n] = 0 \quad \forall n < 0$.

- In such cases, you can use the unilateral z-transform

$$X_u(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x[n] z^{-n}$$

- With the unilateral z-transform, you don't have to specify the ROC.

→ It's always the exterior of the circle that passes through the largest pole.

NOTE: the z-transform that is implemented in Matlab is the unilateral z-transform.

NOTE: the more general z-transform

$$X(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n] z^{-n}$$

is called the bilateral z-transform when there is a need to distinguish it from the unilateral z-transform.

6-17

- When you are asked to compute the z-transform $X(z) = \mathcal{Z}\{x[n]\}$,

→ Your first hope is to find $x[n]$ on a table of z-transforms like the one on the course web site or the one in Table 3.1 of the text.

→ If $x[n]$ is not in your table, then your second hope is that you can use z-transform properties to make the one you've got look like one that's in the table.

→ Tables of z-transform properties can be found on the course web site and in Table 3.2 of the text.

→ If both of the above fail, then you will have to try to calculate $X(z)$ from the definition.

NOTE: if $x[n] \in \ell^1(\mathbb{Z})$, then $X(e^{j\omega})$ exists.

- This means that the ROC of $X(z)$ includes the unit circle,

- This means that all of the transform pairs in your DTFT table can be converted into z-transform pairs by making the substitution $z = e^{j\omega}$.

Inversion

(6-18)

- Theoretically, $x[n]$ can be recovered from $X(z)$ by $x[n]r^{-n} = \text{DTFT}^{-1}\{X(re^{j\omega})\}$, which requires integrating around the circle of radius r (from $\omega = -\pi$ to π) for any r that is in the ROC of $X(z)$.

- But this involves solving a complex line integral in the complex plane, which can be involved.

- Your first hope is to find your $X(z)$ in a table of z-transforms... then you just write down the answer.

- If the $X(z)$ you've got isn't in the table, then try to use z-transform properties to make the one you've got look like a combination of ones that are in the table.

- If both of the above fail, you can try to manipulate $X(z)$ into the form $X(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n]z^{-n}$. Then you can just "pick off" the values of $x[n]$.

EX: $X(z) = z^2(1 - \frac{1}{2}z^{-1})(1+z^{-1})(1-z^{-1})$

(6-19)

all z except $z=0$ and $z=\infty$.

$$X(z) = (1 - \frac{1}{2}z^{-1})(z+1)(z-1)$$

$$= (1 - \frac{1}{2}z^{-1})(z^2 - 1)$$

$$= z^2 - \frac{1}{2}z - 1 + \frac{1}{2}z^{-1}$$

$$= \underbrace{1z^2}_{X[-2]} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}z^1}_{X[1]} - \underbrace{1z^0}_{X[0]} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}z^{-1}}_{X[1]}$$

$$\Rightarrow X[n] = \delta[n+2] - \frac{1}{2}\delta[n+1] - \delta[n] + \frac{1}{2}\delta[n-1].$$

EX: $X(z) = \log(1+az^{-1}), |z| > |a|.$

Expanding in a Taylor series,

$$X(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1} a^n}{n} z^{-n}$$

$$X[n] = \begin{cases} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{a^n}{n}, & n \geq 1 \\ 0, & n < 1. \end{cases}$$

- If all of the above fail and $X(z)$ (6-20) is rational in z^{-1} (equivalent: rational in z), then you can try to invert by long division.

→ see the text and/or the 3793 lecture notes for examples.

- If all of the above fail, you will have to try to invert from the definition by performing complex line integration,

→ since there is no fundamental theorem of calculus for complex valued functions of a complex variable, this will generally involve an application of the residue theorem and/or one or more Cauchy integral theorems.

- Suppose that H is an LTI system that is both stable and causal.

(6-21)

→ Since H is BIBO stable, $h[n] \in \ell^1(\mathbb{Z})$.

→ This means $H(e^{j\omega})$ exists.

→ This means the unit circle is in the ROC of $H(z)$.

→ Since H is causal, $h[n] = 0 \quad \forall n < 0$.

→ This means $h[n]$ is right sided or finite support.

→ This means the ROC of $X(z)$ is exterior or else is the whole z -plane (e.g., the exterior of the circle of radius zero).

→ So the ROC of $H(z)$ includes the unit circle and is exterior.

⇒ This means that all the poles have to be inside the unit circle for a causal, stable LTI system.