Signal Flow Graphs Revision

It is common to represent digital system signal processing routines as a visual **signal flow** graphs.

We use a simple *equation* relation to describe the algorithm.

We will need to consider *three* basic components:

- Delay
- Multiplication
- Summation



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Signal Flow Graphs: Delay

• We represent a delay of one sampling interval by a block with a T label:

• We describe the algorithm via the equation: y(n) = x(n-1)



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Signal Flow Graphs: Delay Example

A delay of the input signal by **two** sampling intervals:

• We can describe the **algorithm** by:

$$y(n) = x(n-2)$$

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• We can use the block diagram to represent the **signal flow graph** as:



Signal Flow Graphs: Multiplication

- We represent a multiplication or weighting of the input signal by a circle with a × label.
- We describe the algorithm via the equation: y(n) = a.x(n)



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• x(n) • y(n) = a.x(n) • •

e.g.
$$a = 0.5$$



Signal Flow Graphs: Addition

• We represent a addition of two input signal by a circle with a + label.

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• We describe the algorithm via the equation:

 $y(n) = a_1 \cdot x_1(n) + a_2 \cdot x_2(n)$





Signal Flow Graphs: Complete Example

We can combine all above algorithms to build up more complex algorithms:

$$y(n) = \frac{1}{2}x(n) + \frac{1}{3}x(n-1) + \frac{1}{4}x(n-2)$$

• This has the following signal flow graph:





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Hints for Constructing Signal Flow Graphs

Apart from the three basic building blocks of *Delay, Addition and Multiplication* there are two other tools that we can exploit:

• Feedback loops — merged back with *Delay, Addition and/or Multiplication*.

Frequently (In many of our examples) we tap the output y(n) and then delay *etc.* this.

- y(n 1) *etc.* then appears in the equation (right hand side), y(n) on left hand side.
- Subproblem break problem into smaller Signal flow graph components. Useful for larger problems



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Simple Feedback Loop Example

(Simple IIR Filter)

• The algorithm is represented by the difference equation:

$$y(n) = x(n) - a_1 y(n-1) - a_2 y(n-2)$$

• This produces the opposite signal flow graph



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More Complex Feedback Loop Example

(General IIR Filter)



We can represent the IIR system algorithm by the difference equation:

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

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Signal Flow Graph Problem Decomposition (Shelving Filter)

$$\begin{array}{rcl} y_1(n) &=& a_{B/C} x(n) + x(n-1) - a_{B/C} y_1(n-1) \\ y(n) &=& \displaystyle \frac{H_0}{2} (x(n) \pm y_1(n)) + x(n) \end{array}$$

The gain, *G*, in dB can be adjusted accordingly:

$$H_0 = V_0 - 1$$
 where $V_0 = 10^{G/20}$

and the cut-off frequency for **boost**, a_B , or **cut**, a_C are given by:

$$a_B = \frac{\tan(2\pi f_c/f_s) - 1}{\tan(2\pi f_c/f_s) + 1}$$
$$a_C = \frac{\tan(2\pi f_c/f_s) - V_0}{\tan(2\pi f_c/f_s) - V_0}$$



