Sampling Theory

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Sampling Dilemma



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Sampling Theorem

If a signal x(t) contains no frequency components for frequencies above f = W hertz, then it is completely described by instantaneous sample values uniformly spaced in time with period $T_s \leq 1/2W$.

That is, the sampling frequency $f_s = 1/T_s$ needs to satisfy

 $f_s \geq 2W$.

The frequency 2W is referred to as the *Nyquist frequency*.



Suppose that x(t) is a continuous-time signal. x[n] is the discrete-time signal that consists of samples of x(t) with a sampling period T_s . Therefore,

$$x[n] = x(nT_s), \quad -\infty < n < \infty.$$



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• Suppose that the Fourier transform of x(t) is X(f). That is,

$$X(f) = \mathcal{F}\{x(t)\}.$$

• The continuous-time representation of the sampled signal is

$$x_{s}(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x(nT_{s})\delta(t - nT_{s})$$
$$= x(t)\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t - nT_{s})$$

where $\delta(t)$ is the Dirac delta function.

• The Fourier transform of $x_s(t)$ is $X_s(f)$, which can be calculated as

$$\begin{aligned} X_{s}(f) &= \mathcal{F}\{x_{s}(t)\} &= X(f) \otimes \mathcal{F}\left\{\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t-nT_{s})\right\} \\ &= X(f) \otimes \left[f_{s} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(f-nf_{s})\right] \\ &= f_{s}X(f) \otimes \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(f-nf_{s}) \\ &= f_{s} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} X(f) \otimes \delta(f-nf_{s}) \\ &= f_{s} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} X(f-nf_{s}) \end{aligned}$$

where, $f_s = 1/T_s$ is the sampling frequency.



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- In order to reconstruct the original signal x(t), we need to pass the sampled signal $x_s(t)$ through an ideal low-pass filter (rectangular function in frequency) to remove the high-frequency replicas.
- A prefect *X*(*f*) can be extracted by applying the rectangular function for filtering only when

$$f_s/2 \ge W$$

where W is the largest frequency component in signal x(t). \Box



Sampling rate f_s is smaller than the Nyquist rate 2W.