

Signal Flow Graph (SFG)

A signal-flow graph (SFG) may be regarded as a simplified version of a block diagram

Basic Elements of an SFG

Node: represent variables Arrow head: the direction of the signal flow Line: where the signal flow Transfer function (a): the relation between the variables Variables (y)



Mathematical relation

$$y_2 = a_{12}y_1$$





Signal Flow Graph (SFG)

Example 3-2-1 Golnaraghi (2010

Draw the SFG for the following system of linear algebraic equations

$$y_{2} = a_{12}y_{1} + a_{32}y_{3}$$

$$y_{3} = a_{23}y_{2} + a_{43}y_{4}$$

$$y_{4} = a_{24}y_{2} + a_{34}y_{3} + a_{44}y_{4}$$

$$y_{5} = a_{25}y_{2} + a_{45}y_{4}$$



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Basic Properties of SFG



SFG applies only to linear systems.

The equations for which an SFG is drawn must be algebraic equations in the form of cause-and-effect.

Nodes are used to represent variables. Normally, the nodes are arranged from left to right, from the input to the output, following a succession of cause-and-effect relations through the system.

Signals travel along branches only in the direction described by the arrows of the branches.

The branch directing from node y_k to y_j represents the dependence of y_k upon y_j but not the reverse.

A signal y_k traveling along a branch between y_k to y_j is multiplied by the gain of the branch a_{kj} so a signal $a_{kj}y_k$ is delivered at y_j .

Definitions of SFG Terms



Input Node (Source): An input node is a node that has only outgoing branches
 Output Node (Sink): An output node is a node that has only incoming branches
 Path: A path is any collection of a continuous succession of branches traversed in the same direction.

Forward Path: A forward path is a path that starts at an input node and ends at an output node and along which no node is traversed more than once

> Path Gain: The product of the branch gains encountered in traversing a path is called the path gain

➤Loop: A loop is a path that originates and terminates on the same node and along which no other node is encountered more than once.

➢ Forward-Path Gain: The forward-path gain is the path gain of a forward path.

► Loop Gain: The loop gain is the path gain of a loop.

Nontouching Loops: Two parts of an SFG are nontouching if they do not share a common node.

SFG Algebra

The value of the variable represented by a node is equal to the sum of all the signals entering the node.

The value of the variable represented by a node is transmitted through all branches leaving the node

 $y_1 = a_{21}y_2 + a_{31}y_3 + a_{41}y_4 + a_{51}y_5$

 $y_6 = a_{16} y_1$ $y_7 = a_{17} y_1$ $y_8 = a_{18} y_1$

A





SFG Algebra



➢Parallel branches in the same direction connecting two nodes can be replaced by a single branch with gain equal to the sum of the gains of the parallel branches



➤A series connection of unidirectional branches can be replaced by a single branch with gain equal to the product of the branch gains.





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Relation between SFG and block diagram



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Gain Formula for SFG



To find the relation between the SFG input and output, we can use the gain formula for SFG:

$$M = \frac{y_{out}}{y_{in}} = \sum_{k=1}^{N} \frac{M_k \Delta_k}{\Delta}$$

where

 y_{in} = input-node variable y_{out} = output-node variable M = gain between yin and y_{out} N = total number of forward paths between y_{in} and y_{out} M_k = gain of the kth forward paths between y_{in} and y_{out}

$$\Delta = 1 - \sum_{i} L_{i1} + \sum_{j} L_{j2} - \sum_{k} L_{k3} + \dots$$

 Δ = 1 - (sum of the gains of all individual loops) + (sum of products of gains of all possible combinations of two nontouching loops) — (sum of products of gains of all possible combinations of three nontouching loops) +...

 Δk is the Δ for that part of the SFG that is nontouching with the kth forward path.

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Example 3-2-3^{Golnaraghi} (2010



determine the gain between y_1 and y_5 using the gain formula for the following SFG.







Solution



The three forward paths between y_1 and y_5 and the forward-path gains are

 $M_1 = a_{12}a_{23}a_{34}a_{45}$ Forward path: $y_1 - y_2 - y_3 - y_4 - y_5$ $M_2 = a_{12}a_{25}$ Forward path: $y_1 - y_2 - y_5$ $M_3 = a_{12}a_{24}a_{45}$ Forward path: $y_1 - y_2 - y_4 - y_5$

Example 3-2-3^{Golnaraghi} (2010 A U t 0 There is only one pair of nontouching m loops; that is, the two loops are: a t $y_{2} - y_{3} - y_{2}$ and $y_{4} - y_{4}$. i Thus, the product of the gains of the С two nontouching loops is C $L_{12} = a_{23}a_{32}a_{44}$. 0 n 1 r 0



Block diagrams and SFG

Solution



All the loops are in touch with forward paths M_1 and M_3 . Thus, $\Delta_1 = \Delta_3 = 1$. Two of the loops are not in touch with forward path M_2 . These loops are $y_3 - y_4 - y_3$ and $y_4 - y_4$. Thus

$$\Delta_2 = 1 - a_{34}a_{43} - a_{44}$$

Substitute in gain formula

$$M = \frac{y_5}{y_1} = \frac{M_1 \Delta_1 + M_2 \Delta_2 + M_3 \Delta_3}{\Delta}$$
$$M = \frac{(a_{12}a_{23}a_{34}a_{45}) + (a_{12}a_{25})(1 - a_{34}a_{43} - a_{44}) + a_{12}a_{24}a_{45}}{1 - (a_{23}a_{32} + a_{34}a_{43} + a_{24}a_{32}a_{43} + a_{44}) + a_{23}a_{32}a_{44}}$$