Analysis of Finite Wordlength Effects

- Ideally, the system parameters along with the signal variables have infinite precision taking any value between $-\infty$ and ∞
- In practice, they can take only discrete values within a specified range since the registers of the digital machine where they are stored are of finite length
- The discretization process results in nonlinear difference equations characterizing the discrete-time systems

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Analysis of Finite Wordlength Effects

- These nonlinear equations, in principle, are almost impossible to analyze and deal with exactly
- However, if the quantization amounts are small compared to the values of signal variables and filter parameters, a simpler approximate theory based on a statistical model can be applied

Analysis of Finite Wordlength Effects

- Using the statistical model, it is possible to derive the effects of discretization and develop results that can be verified experimentally
- <u>Sources of errors</u> -
 - (1) Filter coefficient quantization
 - (2) A/D conversion
 - (3) Quantization of arithmetic operations
 - (4) Limit cycles

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Analysis of Finite Wordlength Effects

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- Consider the first-order IIR digital filter y[n] = α y[n-1] + x[n] where y[n] is the output signal and x[n] is the input signal
- When implemented on a digital machine, the filter coefficient α can assume only certain discrete values $\hat{\alpha}$ approximating the original design value α

Analysis of Finite Wordlength Effects

• The desired transfer function is

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

• The actual transfer function implemented is

$$\hat{H}(z) = \frac{z}{z - \hat{\alpha}}$$

which may be much different from the desired transfer function H(z)

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Analysis of Finite Wordlength Effects

- Thus, the actual frequency response may be quite different from the desired frequency response
- Coefficient quantization problem is similar to the sensitivity problem encountered in analog filter implementation

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Analysis of Finite Wordlength Effects

- <u>A/D Conversion Error</u> generated by the filter input quantization process
- If the input sequence *x*[*n*] has been obtained by sampling an analog signal *x_a*(*t*), then the actual input to the digital filter is

 $\hat{x}[n] = x[n] + e[n]$

where *e*[*n*] is the A/D conversion error

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Analysis of Finite Wordlength Effects

• <u>Arithmetic Quantization Error</u> - For the first-order digital filter, the desired output of the multiplier is

 $v[n] = \alpha y[n-1]$

• Due to product quantization, the actual output of the multiplier of the implemented filter is

 $\hat{v}[n] = \alpha y[n-1] + e_{\alpha}[n] = v[n] + e_{\alpha}[n]$

where $e_{\alpha}[n]$ is the **product roundoff error**

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Analysis of Finite Wordlength Effects

• <u>Limit Cycles</u> - The nonlinearity of the arithmetic quantization process may manifest in the form of oscillations at the filter output, usually in the absence of input or, sometimes, in the presence of constant input signals or sinusoidal input signals

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Quantization Process and Errors

- Two basic types of binary representations of data: (1) Fixed-point, and (2) Floating-point formats
- Various problems can arise in the digital implementation of the arithmetic operations involving the binary data
- Caused by the finite wordlength limitations of the registers storing the data and the results of arithmetic operations

Quantization Process and Errors

- For example in fixed-point arithmetic, product of two *b*-bit numbers is 2*b* bits long, which has to be quantized to *b* bits to fit the prescribed wordlength of the registers
- In fixed-point arithmetic, addition operation can result in a sum exceeding the register wordlength, causing an overflow
- In floating-point arithmetic, there is no overflow, but results of both addition and multiplication may have to be quantized

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Quantization Process and Errors

- In both fixed-point and floating-point formats, a negative number can be represented in one of three different forms
- Analysis of various quantization effects on the performance of a digital filter depends on (1) Data format (fixed-point or floating-point),
 (2) Type of representation of negative numbers,
 - (2) Type of representation of negative number (3) Type of quantization, and
 - (3) Type of quantization, and

(4) Digital filter structure implementing the transfer function

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Quantization Process and Errors

- Since the number of all possible combinations of the type of arithmetic, type of quantization method, and digital filter structure is very large, quantization effects in some selected practical cases are discussed
- Analysis presented can be extended easily to other cases

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Quantization Process and Errors

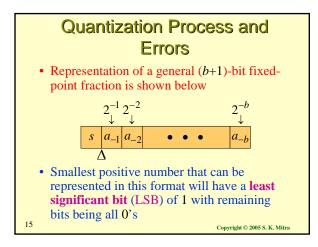
- In DSP applications, it is a common practice to represent the data either as a fixed-point fraction or as a floating-point binary number with the mantissa as a binary fraction
- Assume the available wordlength is (*b*+1) bits with the **most significant bit** (MSB) representing the sign
- Consider the data to be a (*b*+1)-bit fixed-point fraction

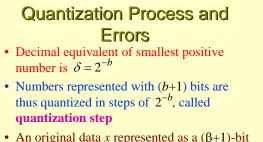
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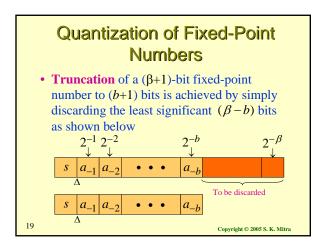
An original data *x* represented as a (β+1)-bit fraction is converted into a (*b*+1)-bit fraction Q(*x*) either by **truncation** or **rounding**

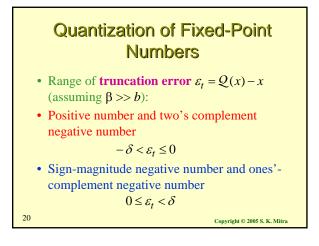
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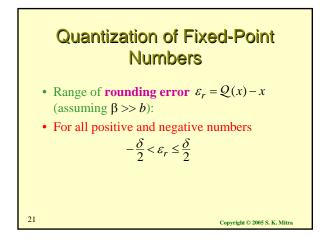
Quantization Process and Errors

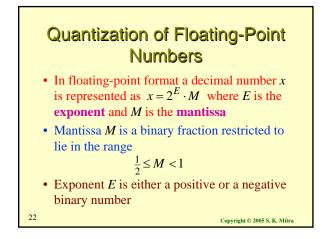
- Since representation of a positive binary fraction is the same independent of format being used to represent the negative binary fraction, effect of quantization of a positive fraction remains unchanged
- The effect of quantization on negative fractions is different for the three different representations

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Quantization of Floating-Point Numbers

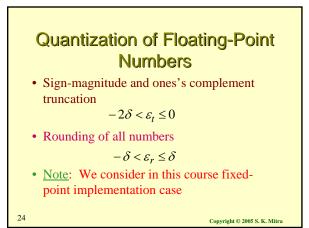
- The quantization of a floating-point number is carried out only on the mantissa
- Range of **relative error**:

$$\varepsilon = \frac{Q(x) - x}{x} = \frac{Q(M) - M}{M}$$

• Two's complement truncation

$$-2\delta < \varepsilon_t \le 0, \quad x > 0$$
$$0 \le \varepsilon_t < 2\delta, \quad x < 0$$

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Analysis of Coefficient **Quantization Effects**

- The transfer function $\hat{H}(z)$ of the digital filter implemented with quantized coefficients is different from the desired transfer function H(z)
- Main effect of coefficient quantization is to move the poles and zeros to different locations from the original desired locations

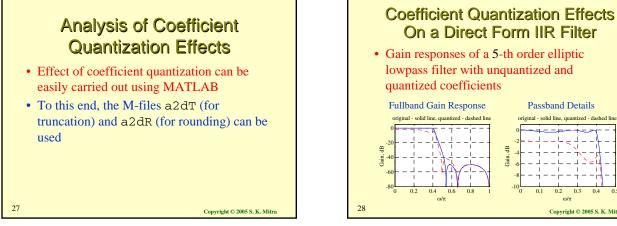
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Analysis of Coefficient **Quantization Effects**

- The actual frequency response $\hat{H}(e^{j\omega})$ is thus different from the desired frequency response $H(e^{j\omega})$
- In some cases, the poles may move outside the unit circle causing the implemented digital filter to become unstable even though the original transfer function H(z) is stable

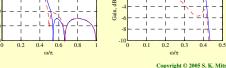
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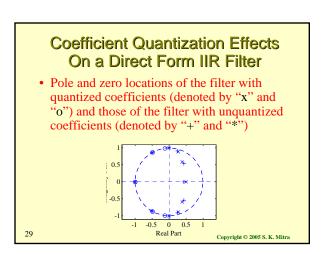
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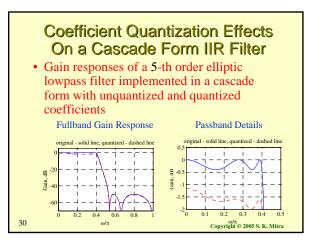


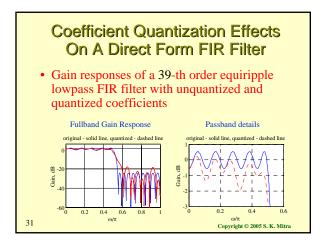
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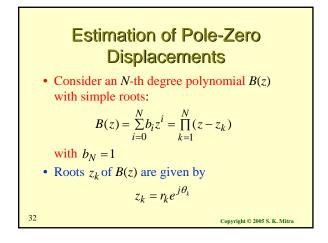
On a Direct Form IIR Filter • Gain responses of a 5-th order elliptic lowpass filter with unquantized and Passband Details oinal - solid line, quantized - das

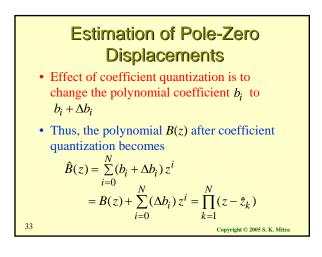


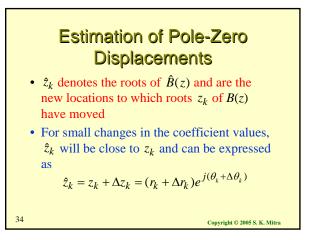












Estimation of Pole-Zero Displacements

• If Δb_i is assumed to be very small, we can express

$$\hat{z}_{k} = (r_{k} + \Delta r_{k})e^{j\theta_{k}}e^{j\Delta\theta_{k}} \cong (r_{k} + \Delta r_{k})(1 + j\Delta\theta_{k})e^{j\theta_{k}}$$

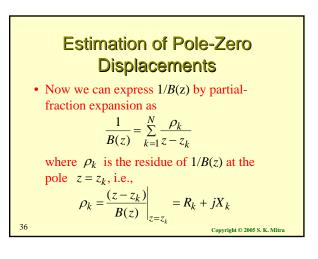
$$= I_k e^{-1} + (\Delta I_k + J_k \Delta O_k)$$

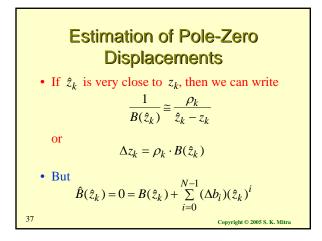
neglecting higher order terms

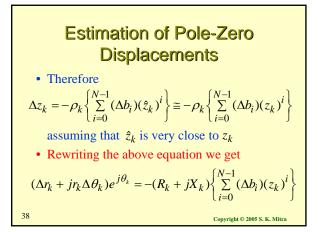
• Then

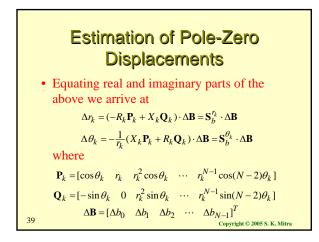
$$\Delta z_k = \hat{z}_k - z_k \cong (\Delta r_k + jr_k \Delta \theta_k) e^{j\theta_k}$$

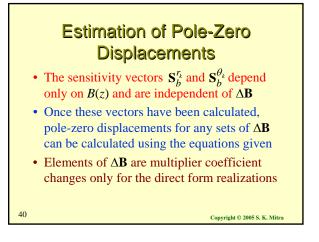
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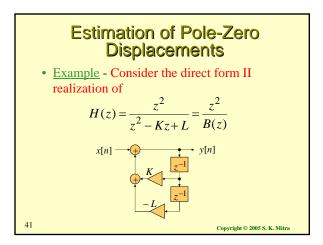


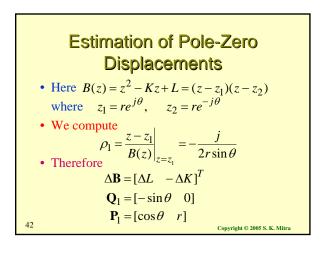


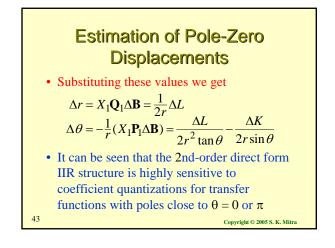


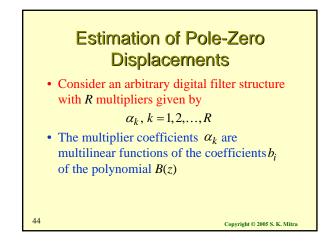


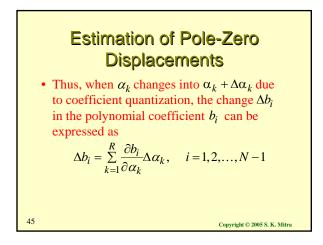


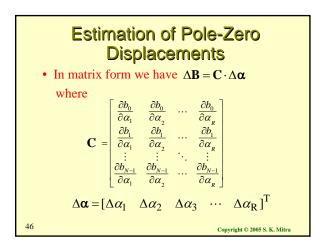


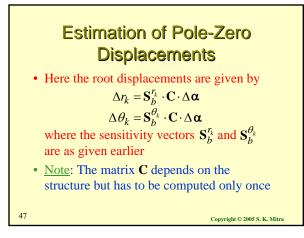


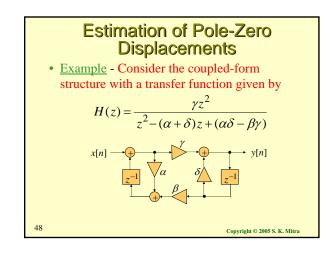


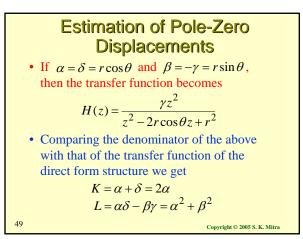


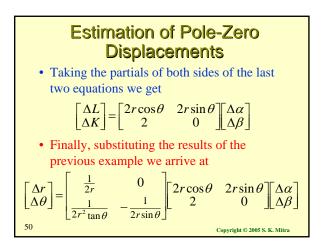


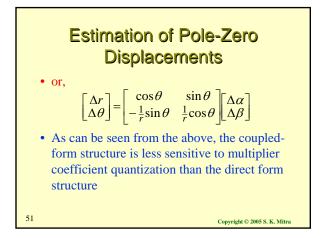


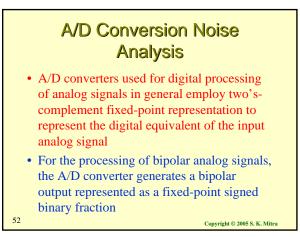


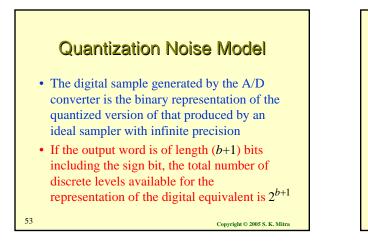


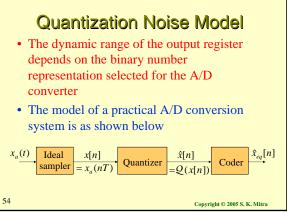


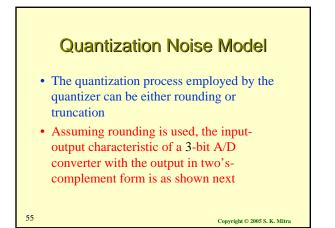


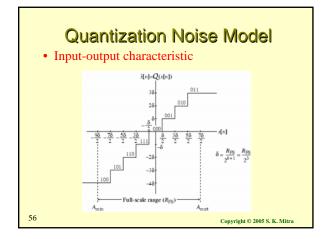


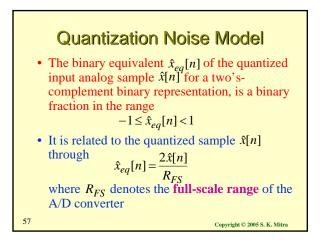


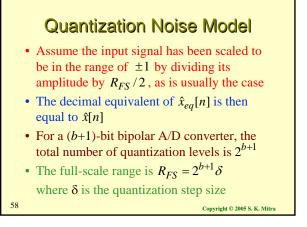


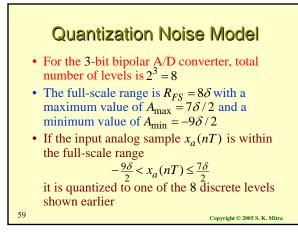


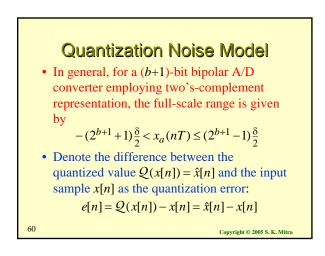












Quantization Noise Model

• It follows from the input-output characteristic of the 3-bit bipolar A/D converter given earlier that e[n] is in the range

$$-\frac{\delta}{2} < e[n] \leq \frac{\delta}{2}$$

assuming that a sample exactly halfway between two levels is rounded up to the nearest higher level and assuming that the analog input is within the A/D converter full-scale range

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Quantization Noise Model • In this case, the quantization error e[n], called the granular noise, is bounded in magnitude according to $-\frac{\delta}{2} < e[n] \le \frac{\delta}{2}$. • A plot of the e[n] of the 3-bit A/D converter as a function of the input sample x[n] is shown below $D_{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\delta}{2} + \frac{\delta}$

Quantization Noise Model

- When the input analog sample is outside the full-scale range of the A/D converter, the magnitude of error *e*[*n*] increases linearly with an increase in the magnitude of the input
- In such a situation, the error e[n] is called the **saturation noise** or the **overload noise** as the A/D converter output is "clipped" to the maximum value $1-2^{-b}$ if the analog input is positive or to the minimum value -1 if the analog input is negative

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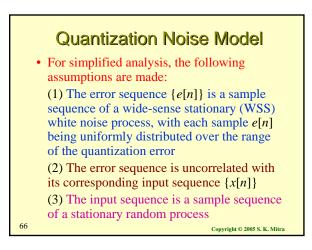
Quantization Noise Model

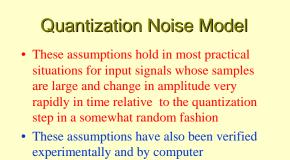
- A clipping of the A/D converter output causes signal distortion with highly undesirable effects and must be avoided by scaling down the input analog signal $x_a(nT)$ to ensure that it remains within the A/D converter full-scale range
- We therefore assume that input analog samples are within the A/D converter fullscale range and thus, there is no saturation error

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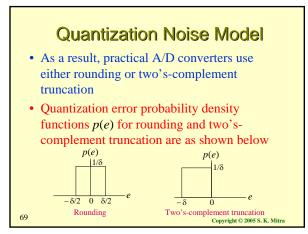
simulations

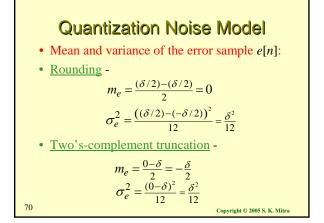
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Quantization Noise Model The statistical model makes the analysis of A/D conversion noise more tractable and results derived have been found to be useful for most applications If ones'-complement or sign-magnitude truncation is employed, the quantization error is correlated to the input signal as the sign of each error sample *e*[*n*] is exactly opposite to the sign of the corresponding input sample *x*[*n*]

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Signal-to-Quantization Noise Ratio

• The effect of the additive quantization noise *e*[*n*] on the input signal *x*[*n*] is given by the **signal-to-quantization noise ratio** given by

$$SNR_{A/D} = 10\log_{10}\left(\frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_e^2}\right) dE$$

where σ_{χ}^2 is the input signal variance representing the **signal power** and σ_e^2 is the noise variance representing the **quantization noise power**

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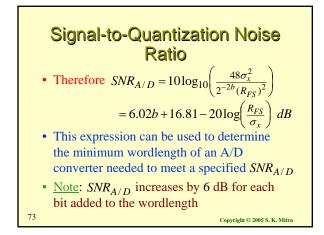
Signal-to-Quantization Noise Ratio
For rounding, *e*[*n*] is uniformly distributed in the range (-δ/2,δ/2)
For two's-complement truncation, *e*[*n*] is

uniformly distributed in the range $(-\delta, 0)$ • For a bipolar (b+1)-bit A/D converter

• For a bipolar (b+1)-bit A/D converter

$$\delta = 2^{-(b+1)} R_{FS}$$

Hence
$$\sigma_e^2 = \frac{2^{-2b} (R_{FS})^2}{48}$$

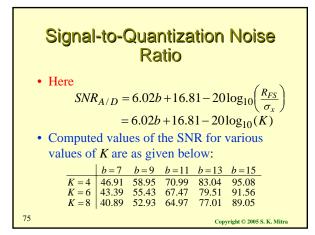


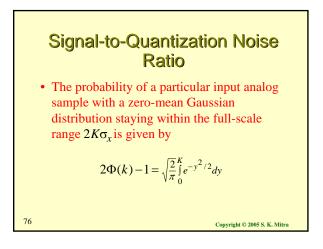
Signal-to-Quantization Noise Ratio

- For a given wordlength, the actual SNR depends on σ_x , the rms value of the input signal amplitude and the full-scale range R_{FS} of the A/D converter
- Example Determine the SNR in the digital equivalent of an analog sample x[n] with a zero-mean Gaussian distribution using a (b+1)-bit A/D converter having $R_{FS} = K\sigma_x$

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Signal-to-Quantization Noise Ratio

• Thus, for K = 4, the probability of an analog sample staying within the full-scale range $8\sigma_x$ is 0.9544

On average about 456 samples out of 10,000 samples will fall outside the fullscale range and be clipped

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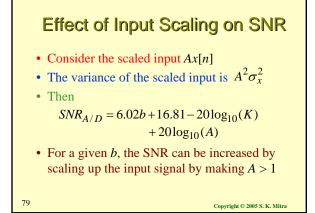
Signal-to-Quantization Noise Ratio

• For K = 6, the probability of an analog sample staying within the full-scale range $12\sigma_x$ is 0.9974

On average about 26 samples out of 10,000 samples will fall outside the full-scale range and be clipped

In most applications, a full-scale range of 16σ_x is more than adequate to ensure no clipping in conversion

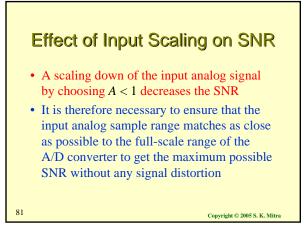
78



Effect of Input Scaling on SNR

- But increasing *A* also increases the probability that some of the input analog samples being outside the full-scale range R_{FS} and as result, the expression for $SNR_{A/D}$ no longer holds
- Moreover, the output is clipped, causing severe distortion in the digital representation of the input analog signal

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Propagation of Input Quantization Noise to Digital Filter Output

- To determine the propagation of input quantization noise to the digital filter output, we assume that the digital filter is implemented using infinite precision
- In practice, the quantization of arithmetic operations generates errors inside the digital filter structure, which also propagate to the output and appear as noise

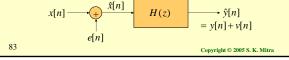
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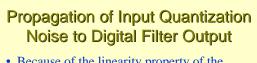
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Propagation of Input Quantization Noise to Digital Filter Output

- The internal noise sources are assumed to be independent of the input quantization noise and their effects can be analyzed separately and added to that due to the input noise
- Model for the analysis of input quantization noise:



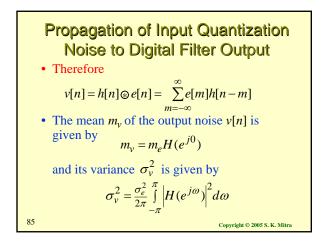


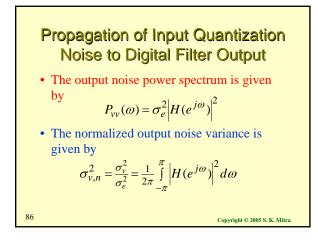
• Because of the linearity property of the digital filter and the assumption that *x*[*n*] and *e*[*n*] are uncorrelated, the output $\hat{y}[n]$ of the LTI system can thus expressed as

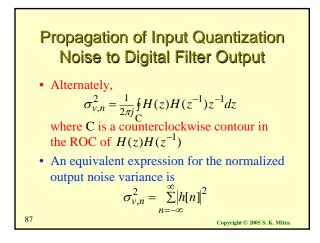
 $\hat{y}[n] = y[n] + v[n]$

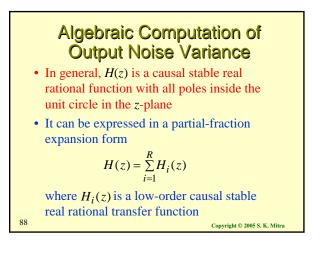
where y[n] is the output generated by the unquantized input x[n] and v[n] is the output generated by the error sequence e[n]

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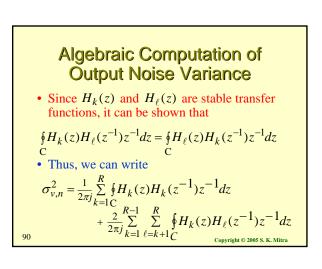






Algebraic Computation of Output Noise Variance • Substituting the partial-fraction expansion of H(z) in $\sigma_{v,n}^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \oint_C H(z) H(z^{-1}) z^{-1} dz$ we arrive at $\sigma_{v,n}^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \sum_{k=1}^{R} \sum_{\ell=1}^{R} \oint_C H_k(z) H_\ell(z^{-1}) z^{-1} dz$

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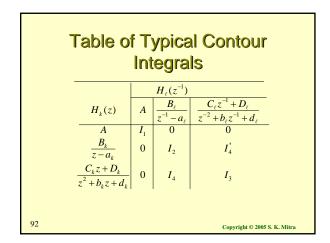


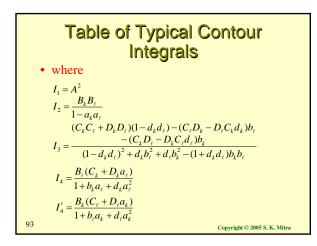
- In most practical cases, *H*(*z*) has only simple poles with *H_k*(*z*) being either a 1st-order or a 2nd-order transfer function
- Typical terms in the partial-fraction expansion of *H*(*z*) are:

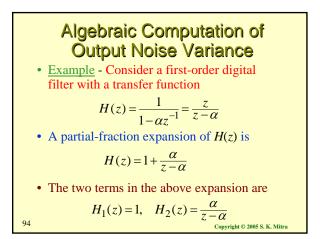
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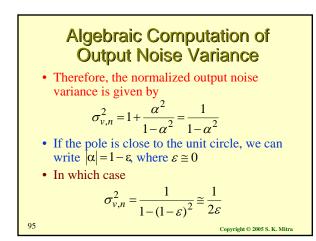
$$A, \quad \frac{B_k}{z-a_k}, \quad \frac{C_k z + D_k}{z^2 + b_k z + d_k}$$

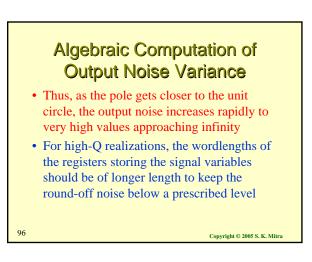
• Let a typical contour integral be denoted as $I_i = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \oint_C H_k(z) H_\ell(z^{-1}) z^{-1} dz$











Computation of Output Noise Variance Using MATLAB

- In the MATLAB implementation of the algebraic method outlined earlier, the partial-fraction expansion can be carried out using the M-file residue
- This results in terms of the form *A* and $B_k/(z-a_k)$ where the residues B_k and the poles a_k are either real or complex numbers
- For variance calculation, only the terms *I*₁ and *I*₂ are then employed

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Computation of Output Noise Variance Using MATLAB

• An alternative fairly simple method of computation is based on the output noise variance formula

$$\sigma_{v,n}^2 = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |h[n]|^2$$

- For a causal stable digital filter, the impulse response decays rapidly to zero values
- Hence we can write

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$$\sigma_{\nu,n}^2 = S_L \cong \sum_{n=0}^{L} |h[n]|^2$$

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