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**LIMITATIONS ON THE TRANSIENT RESPONSE
OF POSITIVE REAL FUNCTIONS**

by

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Because the impulse response of a physical network,

$$h(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H(j\omega) e^{j\omega t} d\omega ,$$

is uniquely determined by the real part Fourier integral¹

$$h(t) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \left[\operatorname{Re} \left\{ H(j\omega) \right\} \right] \cos \omega t d\omega , \quad (1)$$

it and its integrals can be bounded in many ways. The integrals of the impulse response (step, ramp, ...) can be denoted by

$$h_k(t) = \underbrace{\int_0^t \dots \int_0^t}_{k \text{ times}} h(t) dt \dots dt;$$

hence, the impulse response is $h_0(t)$, the ramp response is $h_2(t)$, etc. The even order responses are given by

$$h_{2n}(t) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{1}{\omega^{2n}} \left[\operatorname{Re} \left\{ H(j\omega) \right\} \right] \cos \omega t d\omega . \quad (2)$$

The cosine inequalities

$$1 - \cos \omega t \geq \frac{1}{4^a} \left[1 - \cos (2^a \omega t) \right] \quad (3)$$

used by Papoulis² to bound the frequency attenuation for filters with monotonic step response may be applied here to bound the transient response of positive real network functions. Since for a p. r. function

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ H(j\omega) \right\} \geq 0,$$

we have for n even

$$\begin{aligned} h_{2n}(0) - h_{2n}(t) &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{\omega^{2n}} \left[\operatorname{Re} \left\{ H(j\omega) \right\} \right] (1 - \cos \omega t) d\omega \\ &\geq \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{\omega^{2n}} \left[\operatorname{Re} \left\{ H(j\omega) \right\} \right] \frac{1}{4^a} \left[1 - \cos (2^a \omega t) \right] d\omega \\ &= \frac{1}{4^a} \left[h_{2n}(0) - h_{2n}(2^a t) \right] \end{aligned}$$

or

$$4^a \left[h_{2n}(0) - h_{2n}(t) \right] \geq h_{2n}(0) - h_{2n}(2^a t), \quad n \text{ even.} \quad (4)$$

Similarly,

$$4^a \left[h_{2n}(0) - h_{2n}(t) \right] \leq h_{2n}(0) - h_{2n}(2^a t), \quad n \text{ odd.} \quad (5)$$

Taking $n=0$ and $a=1$, we have the impulse response bound from (4),

$$4 \left[h(0) - h(t) \right] \geq h(0) - h(2t)$$

or

$$h(2t) \geq h(t) - 3h(0) . \quad (6)$$

An even more interesting bound, however, is that obtained on the ramp response by taking $n=1$ and $a=1$ and employing (5):

$$4 \left[h_2(0) - h_2(t) \right] \leq h_2(0) - h_2(2t) .$$

Under the obvious condition $h_2(0)=0$, we have

$$h_2(2t) \leq 4h_2(t) . \quad (7)$$

But the ramp response is the integral of step response, consequently

$$\int_0^{2t_0} h_1(t) dt \leq 4 \int_0^{t_0} h_1(t) dt$$

$$\int_0^{t_0} h_1(t) dt + \int_{t_0}^{2t_0} h_1(t) dt \leq 4 \int_0^{t_0} h_1(t) dt$$

$$\int_{t_0}^{2t_0} h_1(t) dt \leq 3 \int_0^{t_0} h_1(t) dt . \quad (8)$$

From the graphical presentation of a typical step response involved in the realization of a delay function, we may interpret the ripple as the shaded area in Fig. 1, represented by the integral on the right-hand side of (8). Moreover, by one of the usual definitions of rise-time,³ the area represented by the integral on the left-hand side of (8) may be taken as $t_d - t_r$, the delay minus the rise-time. Hence, we see clearly the interchange which may be obtained between the rise-time, delay, and ripple of a network function with a positive real part,

$$t_d - t_r \leq 3 \text{ (ripple area)}. \quad (9)$$

This is but one of many such bounds on the transient response which may be obtained from (4) and (5).

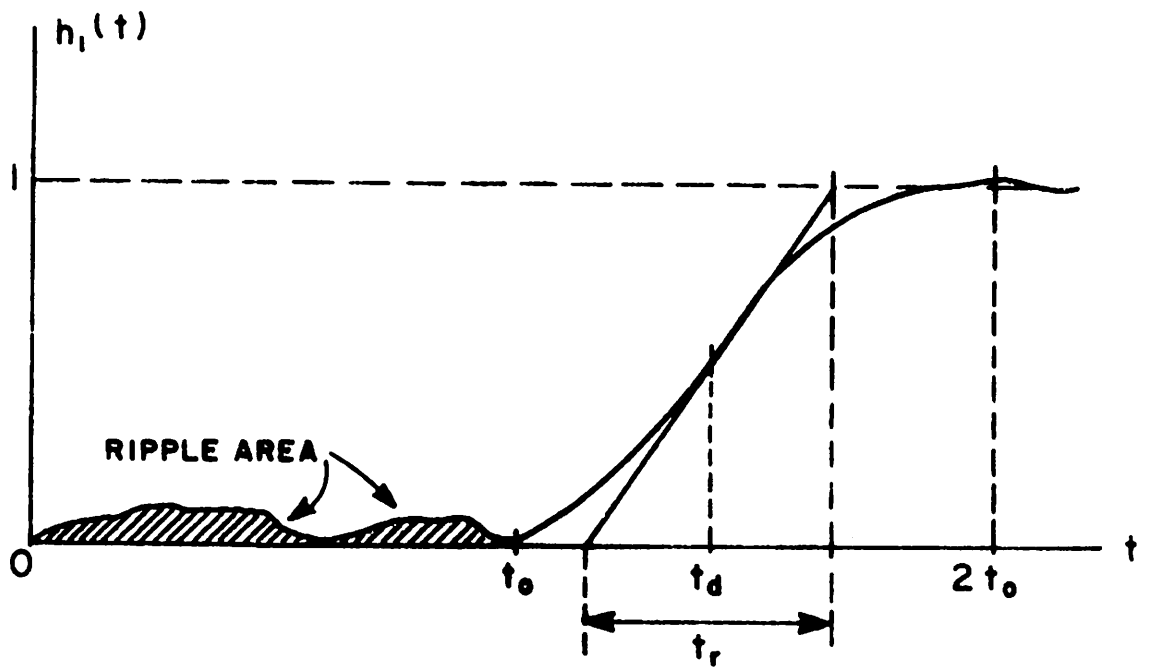


Fig. 1 Delay Function Step Response

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