

# Exploring Symbolic sums

ECE 4650/5650 Fall 2025

## 1 Get Things Set Up

### 1.1 Set the Path to the Signal Processing Package \*.mac Files

On Windows XPS 13 tablet:

```
→ /* push("C:\Users\mwickert\Documents\wxmaxima\###.mac", file_search_maxima)$
```

On Linux (WSL) XPS 15 laptop:

```
→ /* push("/home/mwickert/wxmaxima/###.mac", file_search_maxima)$
```

On Linux (WSL) XPS 13 tablet PC:

```
→ /* push("/home/mwickert@xps13/wxmaxima/###.mac", file_search_maxima)$
```

On macOS MacBook Pro:

```
(%i1) push("/Users/markwickert/Documents/Projects/maxima/###.mac", file_search_maxima)$
```

Load the DSPTools Module for DSP Related Plots and Calculations

```
(%i2) load("DSPTools.mac");
```

```
(%o2) DSPTools.mac
```

This may require adjustments; units w x h in pixels

```
(%i3) wxplot_size: [600, 450];
```

```
wxplot_size [600, 450]
```

## 2 Solve a Problem

Play with some symbolic summation operations. First learn how to make and forget assumptions.

```
→ assume(abs(a) < 1); /* forget(abs(a) < 1); /* remove an assumption */
```

```
(%o4) [|a| < 1]
```

### 2.1 Try Some Textbook Summations

```
→ ev(sum(a^n,n,0,n),simpsum=true);
```

```
(%o5) 
$$\frac{a^{n+1} - 1}{a - 1}$$

```

```
→ ev(sum(a^n,n,0,inf),simpsum=true);
```

```
(%o6) 
$$\frac{1}{1 - a}$$

```

```
→ ev(sum(b^n,n,0,inf),simpsum=true);
```

Is  $|b| - 1$  positive, negative or zero?

```
→ ev(sum((k),k,0,n),simpsum=true);
```

```
(%o4) 
$$\frac{n^2 + n}{2}$$

```

```
→ factor(ev(sum((k),k,0,n),simpsum=true));
```

```
(%o19) 
$$\frac{n (n + 1)}{2}$$

```

### 2.2 Get to a Problem of Interest

#### 2.2.1 A Solution Interval of the Problem 1b Convolution

First consider just summing over k from 0 to n:

→ **S1:ev(sum(k,k,0,n),simpsum=true);**

(%o9) 
$$\frac{n^2 + n}{2}$$

Try some additional simplifying such factor():

→ **S1\_rs:factor(S1);**

(%o14) 
$$\frac{n (n + 1)}{2}$$

Create a list of numerical values as n runs from 0 to 10:

→ **y\_out:makelist(subst([n=m],S1),m,0,10);**

y\_out [0, 1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 28, 36, 45, 55]

Getting closer to what we really want is summing (N-k) as k runs from 0 to n.

(%i4) **S2:ev(sum((N-k),k,0,n),simpsum=true);**

S2 
$$N (n + 1) - \frac{n^2 + n}{2}$$

(%i5) **S2\_rs:factor(S2);**

S2\_rs 
$$-\left(\frac{(n + 1) (n - 2 N)}{2}\right)$$

The above is looking nice for writing out one of the piecewise solution intervals.

### 2.2.2 Evaluate S2\_rs for case N = 10 and make a list of values as n∈[0,10]

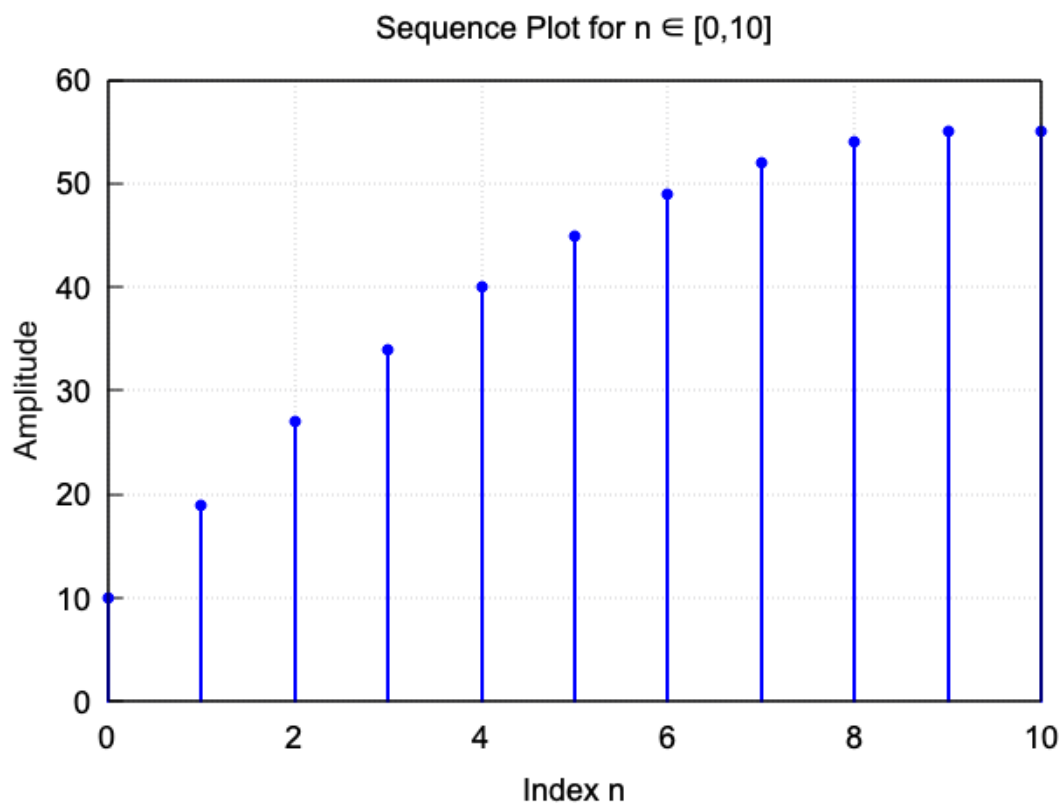
(%i6) **y\_out:makelist(subst([N=10,n=m],S2),m,0,10);**

y\_out [10, 19, 27, 34, 40, 45, 49, 52, 54, 55, 55]

(%i7) **stemlist(y\_out,[],[],"Sequence Plot for n ∈ [0,10]",[],0);**

(%t7)

---



(%o7)

## 2.3 Direct Convolution of Sequences

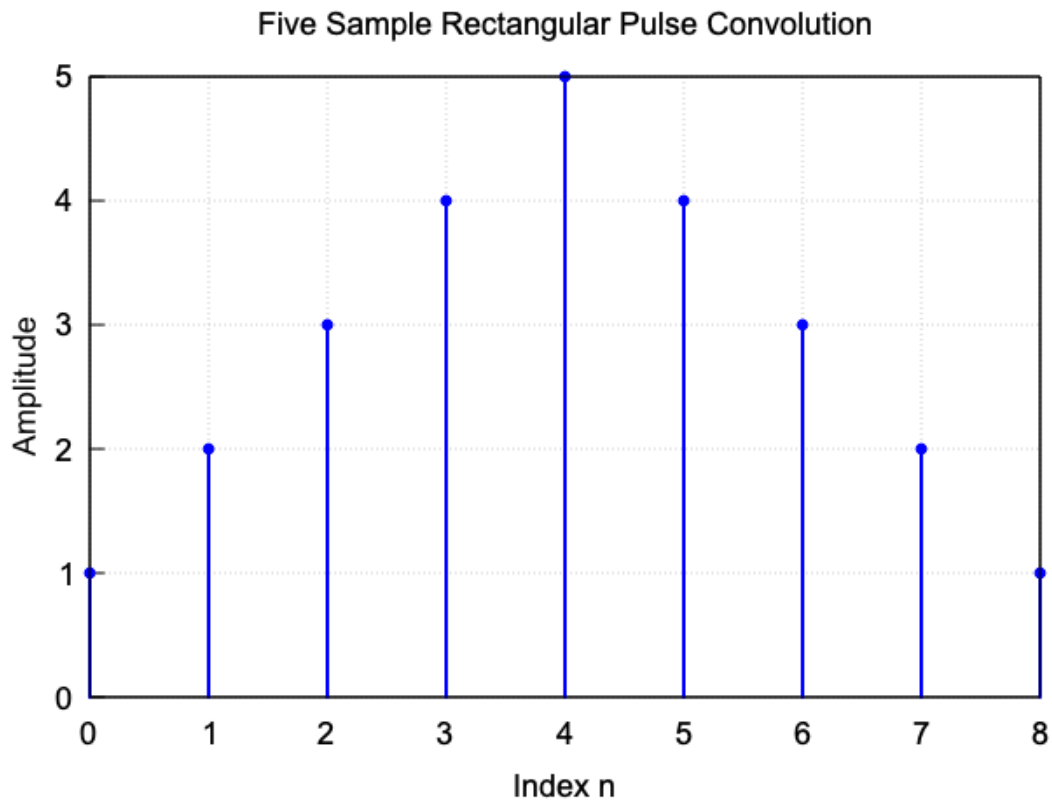
(%i8) `rect_conv:listconv(ones(5),ones(5));`

`rect_conv` [1,2,3,4,5,4,3,2,1]

(%i9) `stemlist(rect_conv,[],[],"Five Sample Rectangular Pulse Convolution",[],0);`

(%t9)

---



(%o9)

## 2.4 Plotting a Piecewise Solution

Suppose we have a piecewise sequence  $p_1 = n/5$  for  $0 \leq n \leq 5$  and  $p_2 = 2 - (n/5)^2$  for  $5 < n \leq 10$  and zero otherwise. We can construct a list for plotting that covers  $n \in [-2, 12]$  as follows:

(%i10) **p1:n/5;**

p1  $\frac{n}{5}$

(%i11) **p2:2 - (n/5)^2;**

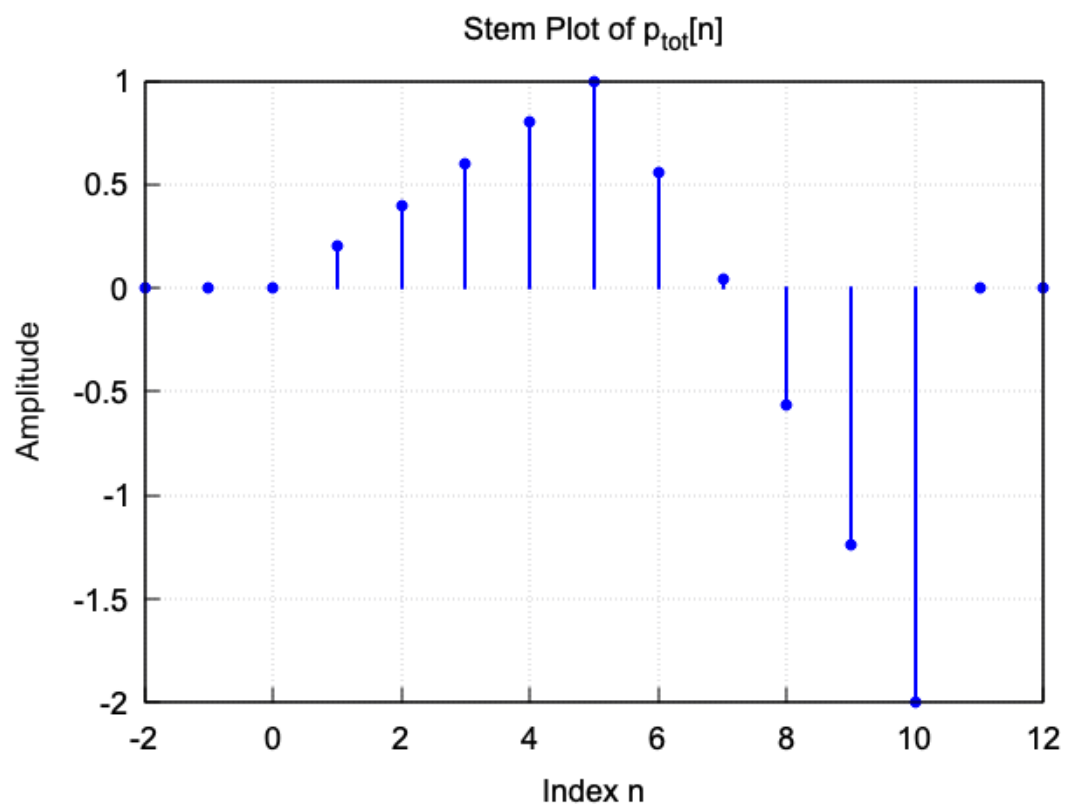
p2  $2 - \frac{n^2}{25}$

(%i12) **p\_tot:makelist(if m<0 then 0 elseif m<=5 then subst([n=m],p1) elseif m<=10 then subst([n=m],p2) else 0,m,-2,12);**

p\_tot  $\left[ 0, 0, 0, \frac{1}{5}, \frac{2}{5}, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5}, 1, \frac{14}{25}, \frac{1}{25}, -\left(\frac{14}{25}\right), -\left(\frac{31}{25}\right), -2, 0, 0 \right]$

(%i13) **stemlist(p\_tot,[],[],"Stem Plot of p\_{tot}[n]",[],-2);**

(%t13)



(%o13)