Z-Transform of common functions

Example – Right-Sided Exponential Sequence (1)

Consider $x[n]=a^nu[n]$. Because it is nonzero only for $n \ge 0$, this is an example of a *right-sided* sequence.

$$X(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} a^n u[n] z^{-n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (az^{-1})^n$$

For convergence of X(z), we require

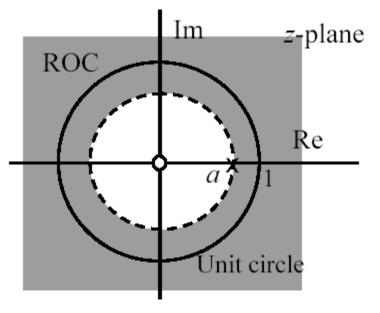
$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \left| a z^{-1} \right|^n < \infty$$

Thus, the ROC is the range of values of z for which $|az^{-1}| < 1$, or equivalently, |z| > |a|. Inside the ROC, the infinite series converges to

$$X(z) = \frac{1}{1 - az^{-1}} = \frac{z}{z - a} \qquad |z| > |a|$$

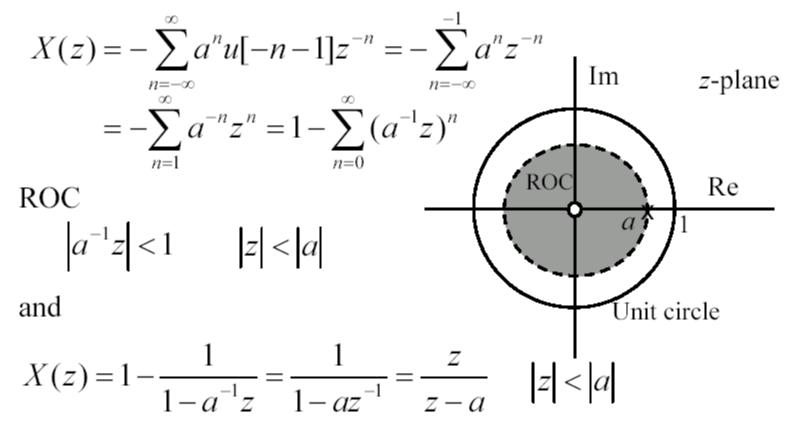
Example – Right-Sided Exponential Sequence (2)

- The infinite sum becomes a simple rational function of z inside the ROC.
- Such a z-transform is determined to within a constant multiplier by its zeros and its poles.
- For this example, one zero: z=0 (plotted as o); one pole: z=a (plotted as x).
- When |*a*|<1, the ROC includes the unit circle.



Example – Left-Sided Exponential Sequence

Consider $x[n] = -a^n u[-n - 1]$. Because it is nonzero only for $n \le -1$, this is an example of a *left-sided* sequence.



$$x[n] = a^n u[n] \iff X(z) = \frac{1}{1 - az^{-1}} = \frac{z}{z - a} |z| > |a|$$

$$x[n] = -a^{-n}u[-n-1] \qquad \longleftrightarrow \qquad X(z) = \frac{1}{1-az^{-1}} = \frac{z}{z-a} \qquad |z| < |a|$$

As can be seen from the two examples, the algebraic expression or pole-zero pattern does not completely specify the z-transform of a sequence; i.e., the ROC must also be specified.