

THE UNIT STEP FUNCTION*

Carlos E. Davila

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The unit step function is defined as

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & t \geq 0 \\ 0, & t < 0 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

This function is useful for defining signals which we wish to start at $t = 0$. In other words, often, we would like for signals to be zero for negative values of t . We can force this situation by simply multiplying by $u(t)$.

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