

CEDC403: Signals and Systems Lecture Notes 5: Fourier Analysis for Continuous Time Signals and Systems: Part A



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Fourier Analysis for Continuous Time Signals and Systems



Chapter 4

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Born 21 March 1768 in Auxerre, Kingdom of FranceDied 16 May 1830 (aged 62) in Paris, Kingdom of France

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1. Introduction

- Fourier analysis leads to the frequency spectrum of a continuous-time signal.
- The frequency spectrum displays the various sinusoidal components that make up the signal.
- In the frequency domain, linear systems are described by linear algebraic equations that can be easily solved, in contrast to the time-domain representation, where they are described by linear differential equations.
- A weighted summation of Sines and Cosines of different frequencies can be used to represent periodic (Fourier Series), or non-periodic (Fourier Transform) functions.



2. Analysis of Periodic Continuous-Time Signals

 We will study methods of expressing periodic continuous-time signals in two different but equivalent formats, namely the trigonometric Fourier series (TFS) and the exponential Fourier series (EFS).

Approximating a periodic signal with trigonometric functions



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- The approximation error $\tilde{\varepsilon}_1(t) = \tilde{x}(t) \tilde{x}^{(1)}(t) = \tilde{x}(t) b_1 \sin(\omega_0 t)$
- The best value for the coefficient b_1 would be to the value that makes the normalized average power of $\tilde{\varepsilon}_1(t)$ as small as possible.

$$P_{\varepsilon} = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} [\tilde{\varepsilon}_1(t)]^2 dt = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} [\tilde{x}(t) - b_1 \sin(\omega_0 t)]^2 dt, \quad \frac{dP_{\varepsilon}}{db_1} = 0 \Longrightarrow b_1 = \frac{4A}{\pi}$$
$$\tilde{x}^{(1)}(t) = \frac{4A}{\pi} \sin(\omega_0 t), \quad \tilde{\varepsilon}_1(t) = \tilde{x}(t) - \frac{4A}{\pi} \sin(\omega_0 t)$$

$$\tilde{x}^{(2)}(t) = b_1 \sin(\omega_0 t) + b_2 \sin(2\omega_0 t) \qquad \tilde{\varepsilon}_2(t) = \tilde{x}(t) - \tilde{x}^{(2)}(t)$$

$$P_{\varepsilon} = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} [\tilde{\varepsilon}_2(t)]^2 dt, \ \frac{dP_{\varepsilon}}{db_{1,2}} = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} b_1 = \frac{4A}{\pi} \\ b_2 = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \tilde{x}^{(2)}(t) = \tilde{x}^{(1)}(t) \end{cases}$$

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$$\tilde{x}^{(3)}(t) = b_1 \sin(\omega_0 t) + b_2 \sin(2\omega_0 t) + b_3 \sin(3\omega_0 t)$$

$$P_{\varepsilon} = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} [\tilde{\varepsilon}_3(t)]^2 dt, \quad \frac{dP_{\varepsilon}}{db_{1,2,3}} = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} b_1 = \frac{4A}{\pi} \\ b_2 = 0 \\ b_3 = \frac{4A}{3\pi} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \tilde{\varepsilon}_3(t) = \tilde{x}(t) - \tilde{x}^{(3)}(t)$$

$$\tilde{x}^{(3)}(t) = \frac{4A}{\pi} \sin(\omega_0 t) + \frac{4A}{3\pi} \sin(3\omega_0 t)$$

• The normalized average power of the error signal $\tilde{\varepsilon}_3(t)$ seems to be less than that of the error $\tilde{\varepsilon}_1(t)$.



Trigonometric Fourier series (TFS)

$$\tilde{x}(t) = a_0 + a_1 \cos(\omega_0 t) + a_2 \cos(2\omega_0 t) + \dots + a_k \cos(k\omega_0 t) + \dots + b_1 \sin(\omega_0 t) + b_2 \sin(2\omega_0 t) + \dots + b_k \sin(k\omega_0 t) + \dots$$

• In a compact notation (trigonometric Fourier Series TFS of the periodic signal $\tilde{x}(t)$): $\tilde{x}(t) = x + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \cos(h(x_n t)) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(h(x_n t))$

$$\tilde{x}(t) = a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \cos(k\omega_0 t) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k \sin(k\omega_0 t)$$

where $\omega_0 = 2\pi f_0$ is the fundamental frequency in rad/s.

• The set of orthogonal basis functions: $\phi_k(t) = \cos(k\omega_0 t)$, $k = 0, 1, 2, ..., \infty$ $\psi_k(t) = \sin(k\omega_0 t)$ $k = 1, 2, ..., \infty$

$$\tilde{x}(t) = a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \phi_k(t) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k \psi_k(t)$$

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- We call the frequencies that are integer multiples of the fundamental frequency the harmonics.
- The frequencies $2\omega_0$, $3\omega_0$, ..., $k\omega_0$ are the second, the third, and the *k*-th harmonics of the fundamental frequency respectively.
- We need to determine the coefficients: a_0 , a_k , and b_k .

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_0+T_0} \cos(m\omega_0 t) \cos(k\omega_0 t) dt = \begin{cases} T_0/2, & m = k \\ 0, & m \neq k \end{cases}$$
$$\int_{t_0}^{t_0+T_0} \sin(m\omega_0 t) \sin(k\omega_0 t) dt = \begin{cases} T_0/2, & m = k \\ 0, & m \neq k \end{cases}$$
$$\int_{t_0}^{t_0+T_0} \sin(m\omega_0 t) \cos(k\omega_0 t) dt = 0$$

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Trigonometric Fourier series (TFS)

1. Synthesis equation:

$$\tilde{x}(t) = a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \cos(k\omega_0 t) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k \sin(k\omega_0 t)$$

2. Analysis equation:

$$a_{0} = \frac{1}{T_{0}} \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{0}+T_{0}} \tilde{x}(t) dt \quad (\text{dc component})$$

$$a_{k} = \frac{2}{T_{0}} \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{0}+T_{0}} \tilde{x}(t) \cos(k\omega_{0}t) dt, \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \cdots, \infty$$

$$b_{k} = \frac{2}{T_{0}} \int_{t_{0}}^{t_{0}+T_{0}} \tilde{x}(t) \sin(k\omega_{0}t) dt, \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \cdots, \infty$$

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Example 1: Trigonometric Fourier series of a periodic pulse train



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Exponential Fourier series (EFS)

$$\tilde{x}(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k e^{jk\omega_0 t}$$

Single-tone signals:

$$\begin{split} \tilde{x}(t) &= A\cos(\omega_{0}t + \theta) = \frac{A}{2} e^{j(\omega_{0}t + \theta)} + \frac{A}{2} e^{-j(\omega_{0}t + \theta)} = \frac{A}{2} e^{j\theta} e^{j\omega_{0}t} + \frac{A}{2} e^{-j\theta} e^{-j\omega_{0}t} \\ c_{1} &= \frac{A}{2} e^{j\theta}, \quad c_{-1} = \frac{A}{2} e^{-j\theta}, \quad \text{and} \quad c_{k} = 0 \text{ for all other } k \\ \tilde{x}(t) &= A\sin(\omega_{0}t + \theta) = \frac{A}{2} e^{j(\theta - \pi/2)} e^{j\omega_{0}t} + \frac{A}{2} e^{-j(\theta - \pi/2)} e^{-j\omega_{0}t} \\ c_{1} &= \frac{A}{2} e^{j(\theta - \pi/2)}, \quad c_{-1} = \frac{A}{2} e^{-j(\theta - \pi/2)}, \quad \text{and} \quad c_{k} = 0 \text{ for all other } k \end{split}$$

The EFS representations of the two signals are shown graphically, in the form of a line spectrum.

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$$\tilde{x}(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k e^{jk\omega_0 t} = a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \cos(k\omega_0 t) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k \sin(k\omega_0 t)$$

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$$c_0 = a_0$$

 $c_k + c_{-k} = a_k$ and $j(c_k - c_{-k}) = b_k$, for $k = 1, \dots, \infty$
 $c_k = \frac{1}{2}(a_k - jb_k)$ and $c_{-k} = \frac{1}{2}(a_k + jb_k)$, for $k = 1, \dots, \infty$

What if we would like to compute the EFS coefficients of a signal without first having to obtain the TFS coefficients? The exponential basis functions also form an orthogonal set.

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_0+T_0} e^{jm\omega_0 t} e^{-jk\omega_0 t} dt = \begin{cases} T_0, & m = k \\ 0, & m \neq k \end{cases}$$

Exponential Fourier series (EFS): $\tilde{x}(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k e^{jk\omega_0 t}$

1. Synthesis equation:

2. Analysis equation:

$$c_k = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{t_0}^{t_0 + T_0} \tilde{x}(t) e^{-jk\omega_0 t} dt$$

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- In general, the coefficients of the EFS representation of a periodic signal x(t) are complex valued.
- They can be graphed in the form of a line spectrum if each coefficient is expressed in polar complex form with its magnitude and phase: $c_k = |c_k| e^{j\theta_k}$
- Example 3: Exponential Fourier series for periodic pulse train



A line graph of the set of coefficients c_k is useful for illustrating the make-up of the signal x̃(t) in terms of its harmonics.





• Note: Values of coefficients c_k depend only on the duty cycle and not on the period T_0 .



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• Example 5: Spectrum of multi-tone signal $\tilde{x}(t) = \cos(2\pi [10f_0]t) + 0.8\cos(2\pi f_0 t)\cos(2\pi [10f_0]t).$

$$\tilde{x}(t) = 0.5e^{j2\pi(10f_0)t} + 0.5e^{-j2\pi(10f_0)t} + 0.2e^{j2\pi(11f_0)t} + 0.2e^{j2\pi(11f_0)t} + 0.2e^{j2\pi(9f_0)t} + 0.2e^{-j2\pi(9f_0)t} + 0.2e^{-j2\pi(9f_0)t}$$



The significant EFS coefficients for the signal $\tilde{x}(t)$ are

$$c_9 = c_{-9} = 0.2$$
, $c_{10} = c_{-10} = 0.5$, $c_{11} = c_{-11} = 0.2$

and all other coefficients are equal to zero.

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Existence of Fourier series

The Question: Is it always possible to determine the Fourier series coefficients?

The Dirichlet conditions (for determining if the Fourier series converges) for the periodic function \tilde{x} :

- 1. Over a single period, \tilde{x} is absolutely integrable $\int_{0}^{T_{0}} |\tilde{x}(t)| dt < \infty$
- 2. Over a single period, \tilde{x} has a finite number of maxima and minima (i.e., \tilde{x} is of bounded variation); and
- 3. Over any finite interval, \tilde{x} has a finite number of discontinuities, each of which is finite.
- If a periodic function \tilde{x} satisfies the Dirichlet conditions, then:

- 1. The Fourier series converges everywhere to \tilde{x} , except at the points of discontinuity of \tilde{x} ; and
- 2. At each point of discontinuity of $\tilde{x}(t)$, the Fourier series converges to $\frac{1}{2}[\tilde{x}(t^+) + \tilde{x}(t^-)]$, where $\tilde{x}(t^+)$ and $\tilde{x}(t^-)$ denote the values of the function \tilde{x} on the left- and right-hand sides of the discontinuity, respectively.
- 3. If $\tilde{x}(t)$ is continuous everywhere, then the series converges absolutely and uniformly.

Gibbs phenomenon

 $\tilde{x}(t)$

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This behavior is known as Gibbs phenomenon.

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 One way to explain the reason for the Gibbs phenomenon would be to link it to the inability of sinusoidal basis functions that are continuous at every point to approximate a discontinuity in the signal.

Properties of Fourier series

Linearity
$$\alpha_1 \tilde{x}(t) + \alpha_2 \tilde{y}(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} [\alpha_1 c_k + \alpha_2 d_k] e^{jk\omega_0 t}$$

Symmetry of Fourier series

 $\tilde{x}(t)$: real, $\operatorname{Im}\{\tilde{x}(t)\} = 0 \Rightarrow c_{-k} = c_{k}^{*}, \quad \tilde{x}(t)$: imag, $\operatorname{Re}\{\tilde{x}(t)\} = 0 \Rightarrow c_{-k} = -c_{k}^{*}$

Fourier series for even and odd signals

• If the real-valued signal $\tilde{x}(t)$ is an even function of time, the resulting EFS spectrum c_k is real-valued for all k. $\tilde{x}(-t) = \tilde{x}(t)$, for all $t \Rightarrow \text{Im}\{c_k\} = 0$, for all k

• If the real-valued signal $\tilde{x}(t)$ has odd-symmetry, the resulting EFS spectrum is purely imaginary. $\tilde{x}(-t) = -\tilde{x}(t)$, for all $t \Rightarrow \text{Re}\{c_k\} = 0$, for all k

Time shifting
$$\tilde{x}(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k e^{jk\omega_0 t} \Rightarrow \tilde{x}(t-\tau) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} [c_k e^{-jk\omega_0 \tau}] e^{jk\omega_0 t}$$

- 3. Analysis of Non-Periodic Continuous-Time Signals Fourier transform
- Consider the non-periodic signal x(t)
 What frequencies are contained in this signal?
- Let us construct a periodic extension $\tilde{x}(t)$ of the signal x(t) by repeating it at intervals of T_0 .

x(t)

• Since $\tilde{x}(t)$ is periodic, it can be analyzed in the frequency domain.

$$\tilde{x}(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k e^{jk\omega_0 t}, \quad c_k = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} \tilde{x}(t) e^{-jk\omega_0 t} dt$$

• Realizing that $\tilde{x}(t) = x(t)$ within the span $-T_0/2 < t < T_0/2$ $\tilde{x}(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} \tilde{x}(\tau) e^{-jk(2\pi/T_0)\tau} d\tau \right) e^{jk(2\pi/T_0)t} \qquad \lim_{T_0 \to \infty} [\tilde{x}(t)] = x(t)$

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• As $T_0 \to \infty$ implies that $\Delta \omega = 2\pi T_0 \to 0$ (we switch to the notation $\Delta \omega$ instead of ω_0 to emphasize the infinitesimal nature of the fundamental frequency).

$$c_k = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} \tilde{x}(t) e^{-jk\Delta\omega t} dt$$

where c_k is the contribution of the complex exponential at the frequency $\omega = k\Delta\omega$. Each individual coefficient c_k is very small in magnitude, and in the limit we have $c_k \rightarrow 0$ when $T_0 \rightarrow \infty$. In addition, successive harmonics $k\Delta\omega$ are very close to each other due to infinitesimally small $\Delta\omega$.

$$c_k T_0 = \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} \tilde{x}(t) e^{-jk\Delta\omega t} dt$$

$$X(\omega) = \lim_{T_0 \to \infty} [c_k T_0] = \lim_{T_0 \to \infty} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} x(t) e^{-jk\Delta\omega t} dt = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

 $X(\omega)$ is the Fourier transform of the non-periodic signal x(t).

Fourier transform for continuous-time signals:

1. Synthesis equation: (Inverse transform)

$$x(t) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{X(\omega)\} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(\omega) e^{j\omega t} d\omega$$
$$x(t) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{X(f)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(f) e^{j2\pi f t} df \quad \text{(using } f$$

2. Analysis equation: (Forward transform)

$$X(\omega) = \mathcal{F}\{x(t)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) e^{-j\omega t} dt$$
$$X(f) = \mathcal{F}\{x(t)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) e^{-j2\pi f t} dt \qquad \text{(using } f\text{)}$$

Existence of Fourier transform

- The FT integral may or may not converge for a given signal x(t).
- The Dirichlet conditions (for determining if the Fourier transform converges) for the function x:
 - 1. The function x is absolutely integrable $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x(t)| dt < \infty$
 - 2. On any finite interval *x* has a finite number of maxima and minima (i.e. *x* is of bounded variation); and
 - 3. On any finite interval, *x* has a finite number of discontinuities, and each discontinuity is itself finite.
- All energy signals have Fourier transforms.

Fourier transforms of some signals

Example 6: Fourier transform of a rectangular pulse

Effects of changing the pulse width on the frequency spectrum:

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Example 7: Transform of the unit-impulse function

$$\mathcal{F}\{\delta(t)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) e^{-j\omega t} dt = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) dt = 1$$

$$q(t) = \frac{1}{a} \prod\left(\frac{t}{a}\right) \Rightarrow \delta(t) = \lim_{a \to 0} q(t)$$

$$Q(f) = \mathcal{F}\{q(t)\} = \operatorname{sinc}(fa)$$

$$\mathcal{F}\{\delta(t)\} = \lim_{a \to 0} \{Q(f)\} = \lim_{a \to 0} \{\operatorname{sinc}(fa)\} = 1$$

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Example 8: Fourier transform of a right-sided exponential signal

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= e^{-at}u(t), a > 0 \\ X(\omega) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-at} u(t)e^{-j\omega t}dt = \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-at} e^{-j\omega t}dt = \frac{1}{a+j\omega} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= \frac{1}{1/e} \\ |X(\omega)| &= \left|\frac{1}{a+j\omega}\right| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 + \omega^2}}, \quad \theta(\omega) = -\tan^{-1}(\omega/a) \end{aligned}$$

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Example 9: Fourier transform of a two-sided exponential signal

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• Example 10: Fourier transform of a triangular pulse

$$x(t) = A\Lambda\left(\frac{t}{\tau}\right) = \begin{cases} A + At/\tau, & -\tau < t < 0\\ A - At/\tau, & 0 < t < \tau\\ 0, & |t| \ge \tau \end{cases}$$

$$X(\omega) = \int_{-\tau}^{0} (A + At/\tau) e^{-j\omega t} dt + \int_{0}^{\tau} (A - At/\tau) e^{-j\omega t} dt = \frac{2A}{\omega^{2}\tau} [1 - \cos(\omega\tau)]$$

$$\cdot \quad (\omega\tau) \qquad \sin(\omega\tau/2) \qquad 2 \qquad (\omega\tau) \qquad X(f)$$

$$\operatorname{sinc}\left(\frac{\omega\tau}{2\pi}\right) = \frac{\operatorname{sin}(\omega\tau/2)}{\omega\tau/2} = \frac{2}{\omega\tau} \sin\left(\frac{\omega\tau}{2}\right)$$

$$X(\omega) = A\tau \operatorname{sinc}^{2}\left(\frac{\omega\tau}{2\pi}\right)$$

$$X(f) = A\tau \operatorname{sinc}^{2}(f\tau)$$

$$f$$

$$\frac{4}{\tau} - \frac{3}{\tau} - \frac{2}{\tau} - \frac{1}{\tau}$$

$$\frac{1}{\tau} - \frac{2}{\tau} - \frac{3}{\tau} - \frac{4}{\tau}$$

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x(t)

 $-\tau$

au

The Generalized Fourier Transform

- There are some important practical signals that do not have Fourier transforms in the strict sense.
- Because these signals are so important, the Fourier transform has been "generalized" to include them.
- Example 11: Fourier transform of constant-amplitude signal

x(t) = A, all t

$$X(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) e^{-j\omega t} dt = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A e^{-j\omega t} dt = A \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

The integral does not converge. Therefore, the Fourier transform does not exist. Let us define an intermediate signal $x_a(t) = Ae^{-a|t|}$, a > 0.

$$X_{a}(\omega) = A \frac{2a}{a^{2} + \omega^{2}} \qquad \text{For } \omega \neq 0, \ \lim_{a \to 0} \left[A \frac{2a}{a^{2} + \omega^{2}} \right] = 0$$
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A \frac{2a}{a^{2} + \omega^{2}} d\omega = 2\pi A$$

The area under the function is $2\pi A$ and is independent of the value of *a*. Therefore the Fourier transform of the constant *A* is a function that is zero for $\omega \neq 0$ and has an area of $2\pi A$. Therefor $\mathcal{F}(A) = 2\pi A \delta(\omega)$

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The two integrals cannot be evaluated. Instead, we will define an intermediate signal p(t) as:

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