

# Fourier Transform

## Fourier Transform

This chapter continues our coverage of **Fourier Analysis** with an introduction to the **Fourier Transform**.

- **Fourier Series** is used when we are dealing with signals that are *periodic* in time. It is based on harmonics of the fundamental frequency  $\omega_0$  of the periodic signal where the period  $T = 2\pi/\omega_0$ .
- The line spectrum occur at integer multiples of the fundamental frequency  $k\omega_0$  and is a *discrete* (or sampled) function of frequency.
- As the period  $T$  is increased, the distance between harmonics decreases because  $\omega_0$  reduces.
- In the limit  $T \rightarrow \infty$ , the signal becomes **aperiodic** and  $k\omega_0 \rightarrow \omega$  which is a *continuous* function of frequency.

This is the basis of the **Fourier Transform** which is very important as the basis for data transmission, signal filtering, and the determination of system frequency response.

## Scope and Background Reading

The material in this presentation and notes is based on Chapter 8 (Starting at Section 8.1) of Karris ([Karris, 2012](#)). I also used Chapter 5 of ([Boulet, 2006](#)) from the **Recommended Reading List**.

## References

1. Karris, S. T. (2012). *Signals and systems with MATLAB computing and Simulink modeling*. Fremont, CA.: Orchard Publishing. Retrieved from <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/swansea-ebooks/reader.action?docID=3384197>
2. Boulet, B. (2006). *Fundamentals of signals and systems*. Hingham, Mass.: Da Vinci

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