

## Frequency-domain representation of signals: Fourier Series and Fourier Transforms



Representing signals as linear combination of sinusoids



# Frequency-domain representation of signals: Fourier Series and Fourier Transforms

Goal: Write signals as a linear combination of sinusoids

For Periodic Signals

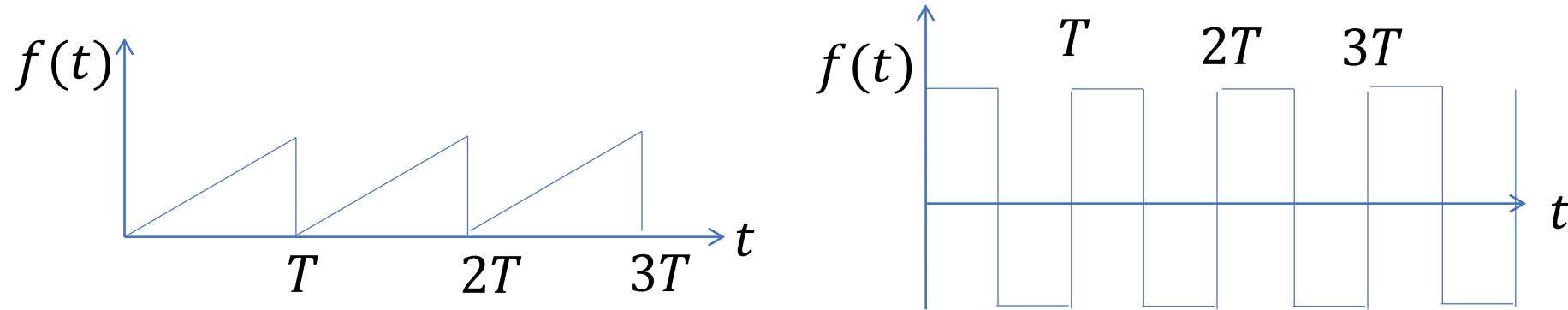
$$f(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k e^{jk\omega_0 t}$$

For Aperiodic Signals

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(\omega) e^{j\omega t} d\omega$$



# Periodic Signals and Fourier Series



The general periodic signal with period  $T = 2\pi/\omega$  can be represented as a linear superposition of harmonic functions [also known as Fourier Series]:

$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m \cos(m\omega t) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(n\omega t)$$

In other words, the claim is that periodic functions can be expressed as a linear combination of complex exponentials whose frequencies are integral multiples of the fundamental frequency  $\omega$

# Periodic Signals and Fourier Series



$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m \cos(m\omega t) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(n\omega t)$$

To determine the “Fourier coefficients”  $a_m$  (includes  $m = 0$ ):

Multiply both sides by  $\cos(\tilde{m}\omega t)$  and integrate over one period. We get:

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^T f(t) \cos(\tilde{m}\omega t) dt \\ &= \int_0^T \frac{a_0}{2} \cos(\tilde{m}\omega t) dt + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_0^T a_m \cos(m\omega t) \cos(\tilde{m}\omega t) dt \\ &+ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_0^T b_n \sin(n\omega t) \cos(\tilde{m}\omega t) dt \end{aligned}$$

# Periodic Signals and Fourier Series



$$\int_0^T \sin(n\omega t) \cos(\tilde{m}\omega t) dt = 0$$

$$\cos a \cos b = (1/2)[\cos(a + b) + \cos(a - b)]$$

$$\cos^2\theta = (1 + \cos 2\theta) / 2$$

$$\int_0^T a_m \cos(m\omega t) \cos(\tilde{m}\omega t) dt = 0 \quad \text{if } \tilde{m} \neq m$$

$$\int_0^T a_m \cos(m\omega t) \cos(\tilde{m}\omega t) dt = \frac{a_{\tilde{m}}}{2} T \quad \text{if } \tilde{m} = m$$

$$\int_0^T f(t) \cos(\tilde{m}\omega t) dt$$

$$\sin(a)\cos(b) = (1/2)[\sin(a+b) + \sin(a-b)]$$

$$= \int_0^T \frac{a_0}{2} \cos(\tilde{m}\omega t) dt + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_0^T a_m \cos(m\omega t) \cos(\tilde{m}\omega t) dt + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_0^T b_n \sin(n\omega t) \cos(\tilde{m}\omega t) dt$$

$$\int_0^T f(t) \cos(m\omega t) dt = \frac{a_m}{2} T$$

Or,

$$a_m = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \cos(m\omega t) dt$$

# Periodic Signals and Fourier Series



$$a_m = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \cos(m\omega t) dt \quad \text{for } m = 0, 1, 2 \dots \dots$$

Similarly, it can be shown that

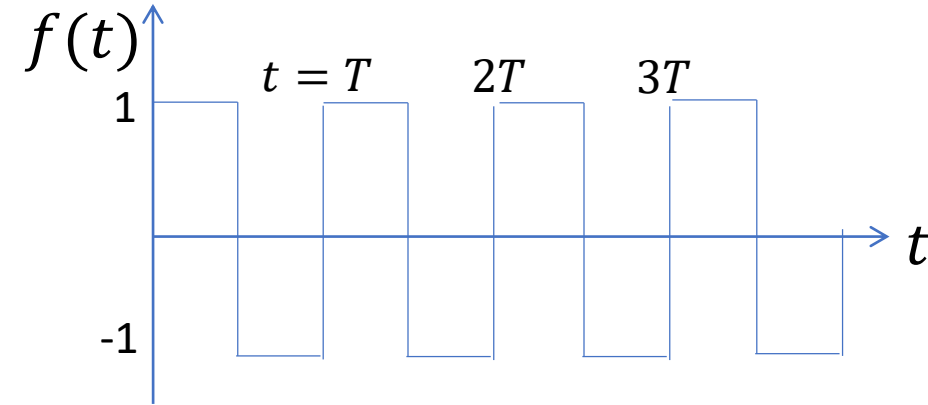
$$b_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \sin(n\omega t) dt \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2 \dots \dots$$

$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m \cos(m\omega t) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(n\omega t)$$



# Periodic Signals and Fourier Series: Example

Imagine using a function generator to generate a square wave voltage signal to drive an electromechanical transducer. The force generated by the transducer would be of the form:



$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } 0 < t \leq T/2 \\ -1 & \text{for } T/2 < t \leq T \end{cases}$$

Fourier coefficients are given by:

$$a_m = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T F(t) \cos(m\omega t) dt \quad \text{for } m = 0, 1, 2 \dots$$

Substituting  $F(t)$ :

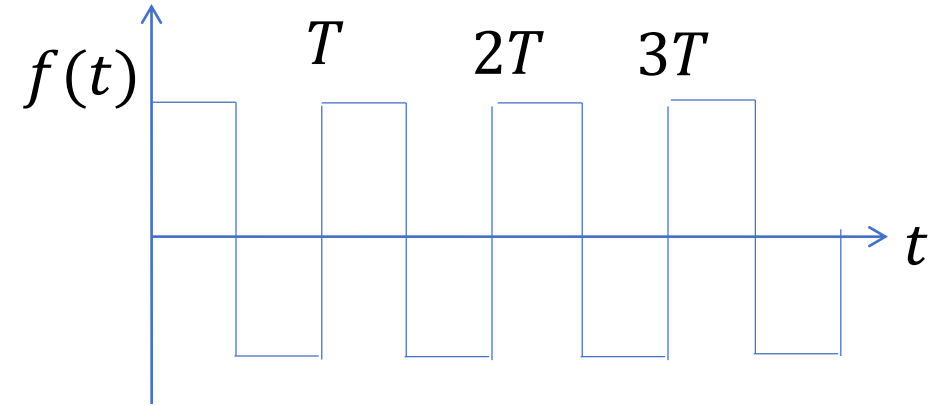
$$a_m = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^{T/2} \cos(m\omega t) dt - \frac{2}{T} \int_{T/2}^T \cos(m\omega t) dt$$

Recall:  $T\omega = 2\pi$



# Periodic Signals and Fourier Series: Example

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } 0 < t < T/2 \\ -1 & \text{for } T/2 < t < T \end{cases}$$



$$a_m = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \cos(m\omega t) dt \quad \text{for } m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$a_m = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^{T/2} \cos(m\omega t) dt - \frac{2}{T} \int_{T/2}^T \cos(m\omega t) dt$$

Recall:  $T\omega = 2\pi$

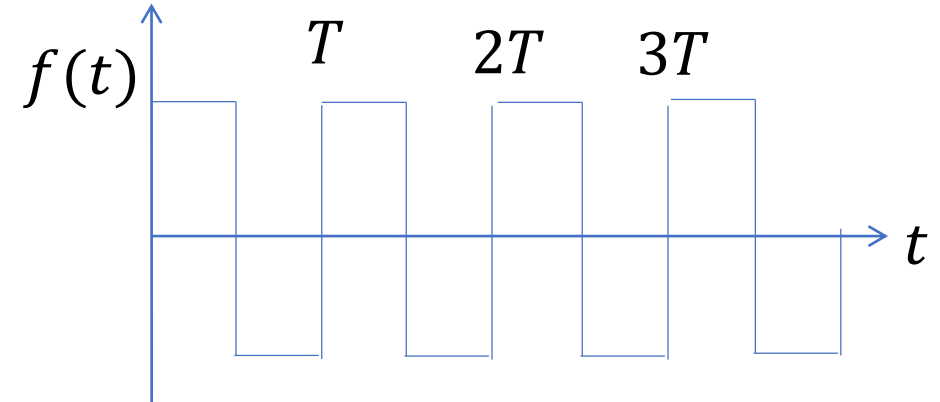
$$a_m = \frac{2}{T(m\omega)} \left( \sin(m\omega t) \Big|_0^{T/2} - \sin(m\omega t) \Big|_{T/2}^T \right) = 0$$





# Periodic Signals and Fourier Series: Example

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } 0 < t < T/2 \\ -1 & \text{for } T/2 < t < T \end{cases}$$



$$b_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \sin(n\omega t) dt \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, \dots$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^{T/2} \sin(n\omega t) dt - \frac{2}{T} \int_{T/2}^T \sin(n\omega t) dt$$

$$= \frac{-2}{T(n\omega)} \left( \cos(n\omega t) \Big|_0^{T/2} - \cos(n\omega t) \Big|_{T/2}^T \right) = \frac{-2}{n\pi} (\cos(n\pi) - 1)$$

$$b_n = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \text{ even} \\ \frac{4}{n\pi} & \text{if } n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$



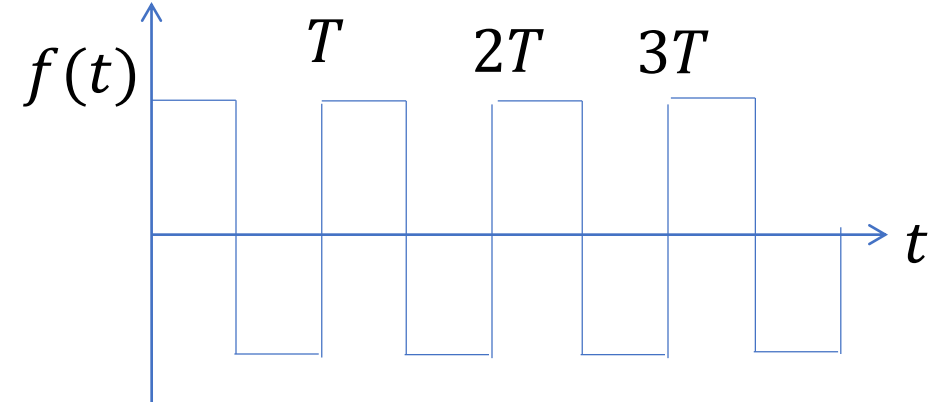
# Periodic Signals and Fourier Series: Example

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } 0 < t < T/2 \\ -1 & \text{for } T/2 < t < T \end{cases}$$

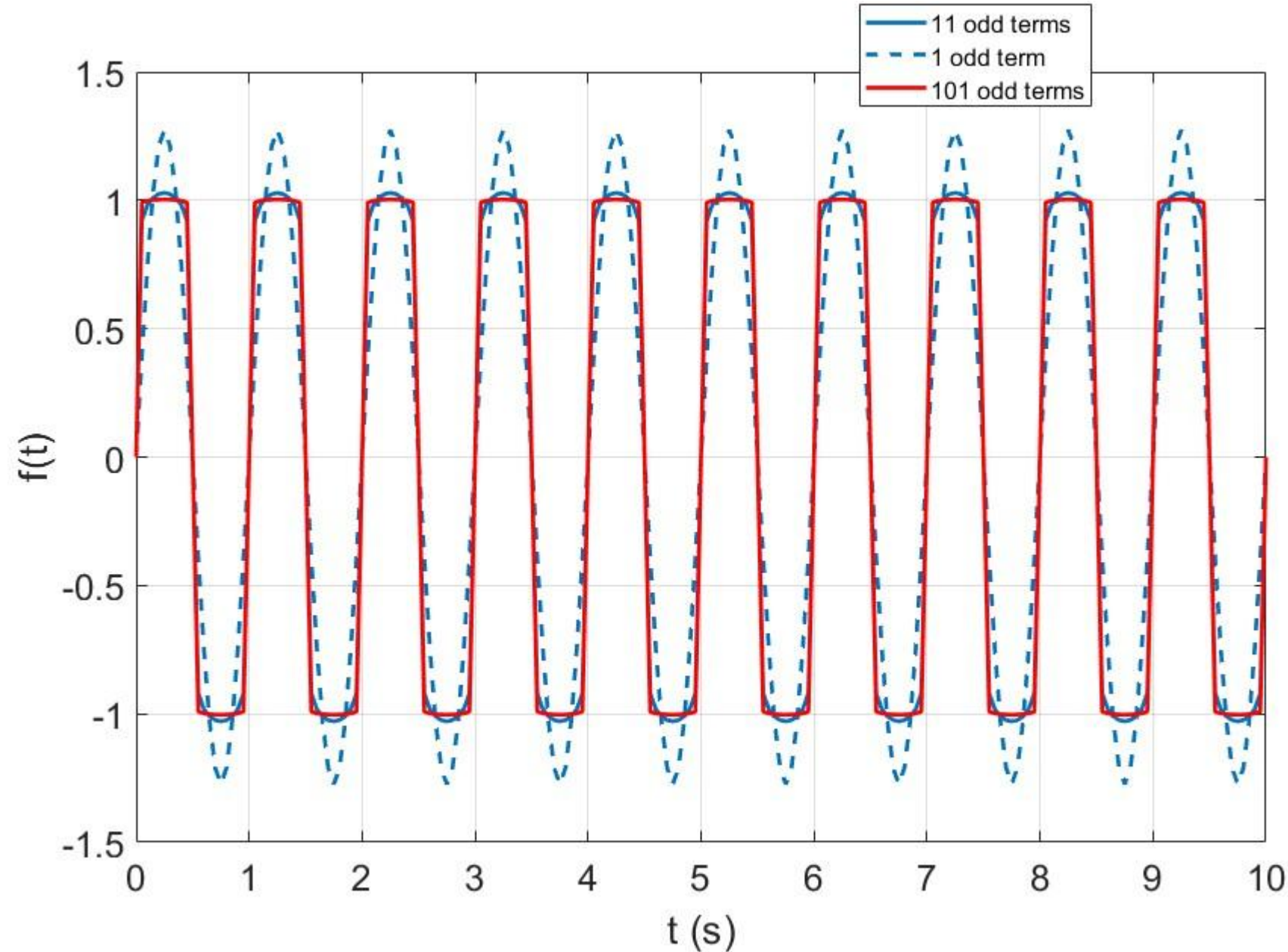


Fourier  
Series

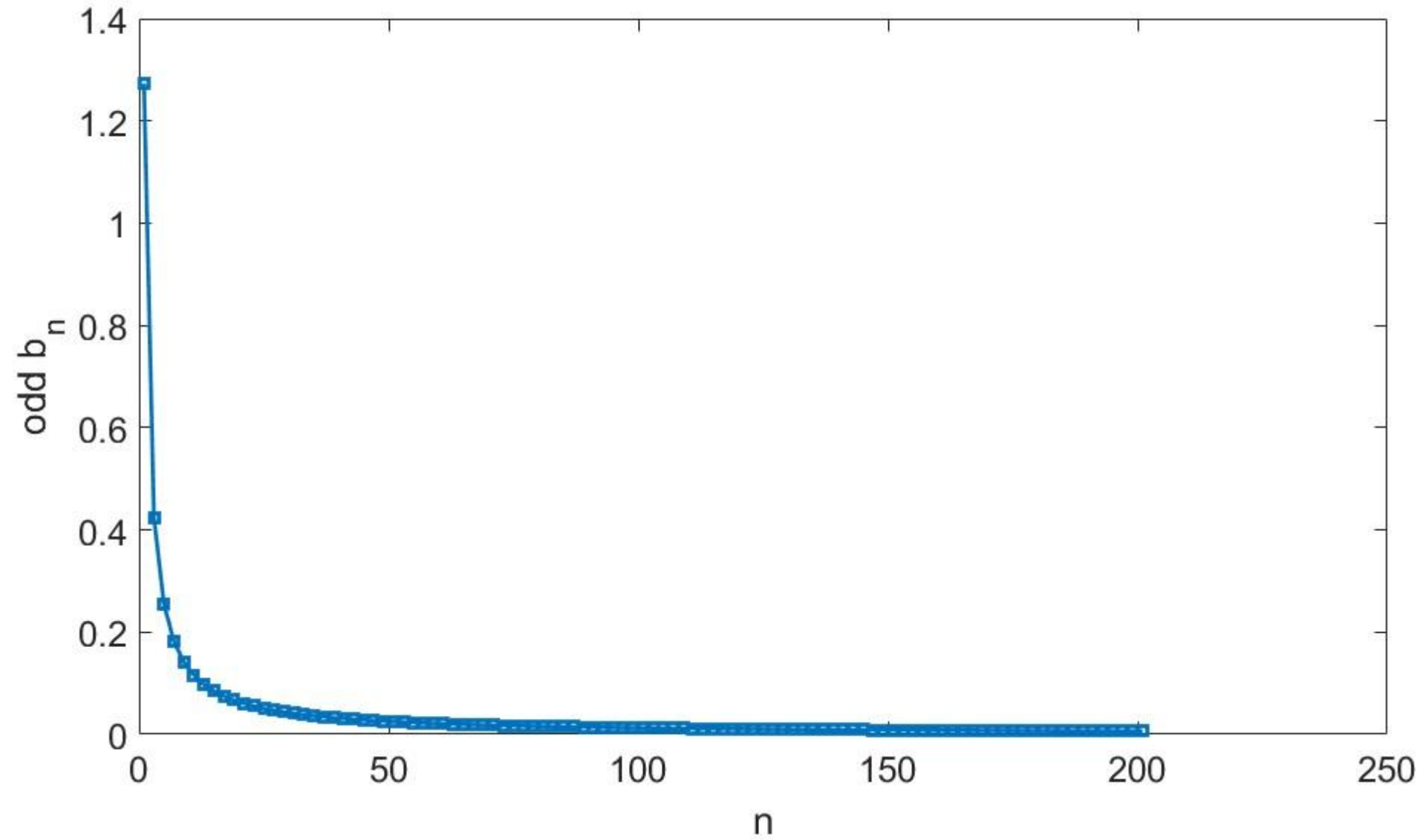
$$f(t) = \sum_{n=1,3,\dots(\text{odd})}^{\infty} \frac{4}{n\pi} \sin(n\omega t)$$



# Periodic Signals and Fourier Series: Example



# Periodic Signals and Fourier Series: Example



# Periodic Signals and Fourier Series: exponential representation



Since sine and cosine can be written in terms of exponentials, we can also rewrite the Fourier Series as:

$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m \cos(m\omega t) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(n\omega t)$$

→ 
$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m \left( \frac{e^{jm\omega t} + e^{-jm\omega t}}{2} \right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \left( \frac{e^{jn\omega t} - e^{-jn\omega t}}{2} \right)$$

→ 
$$f(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k e^{jk\omega t}$$
 where the coefficients  $c_k$  are a linear combination of coefficients  $a_m$  and  $b_n$ , and  $\omega = \frac{2\pi}{T}$  with  $T$  being the time-period.

Similar to the method used to determine  $a_m$  and  $b_n$ , the coefficients  $c_k$  can be derived as

$$c_k = \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t) e^{-jk\omega t} dt$$

# Periodic Signals and Fourier Series: exponential representation



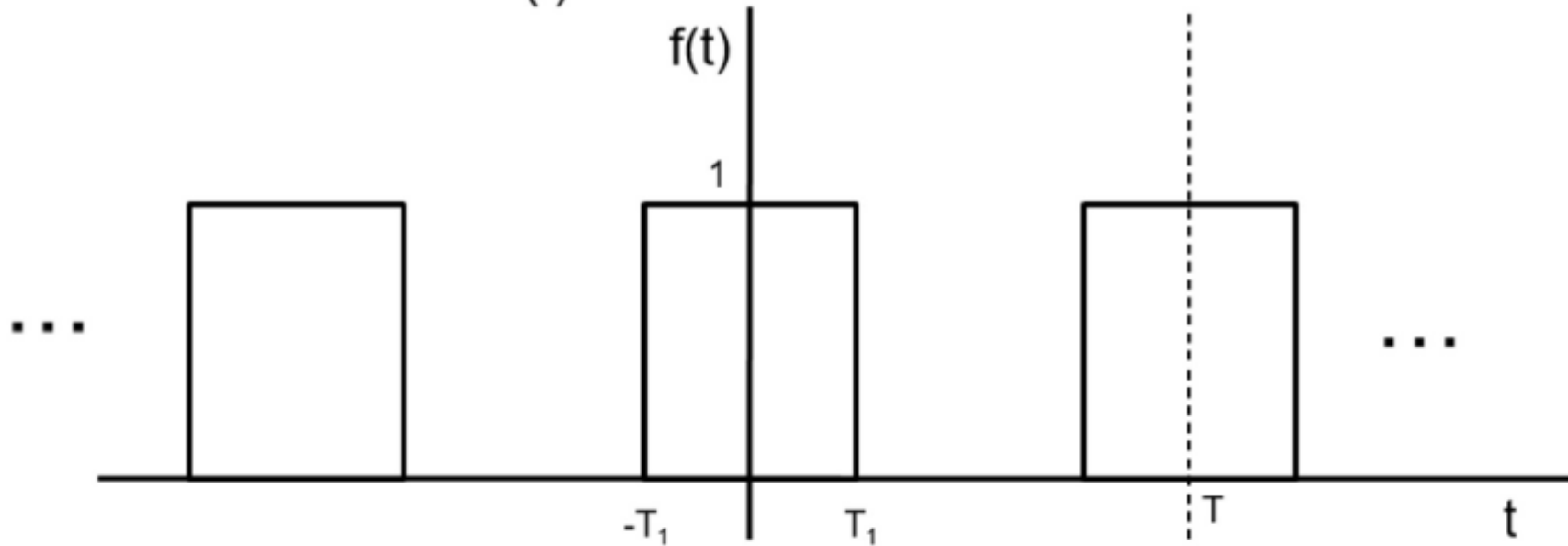
$$f(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k e^{jk\omega t}$$

- The coefficients  $c_k$  are called the Fourier Series Coefficients of  $f(t)$
- $c_k$  vs  $k$ , or  $c_k$  vs.  $k\omega$  represents the frequency-domain representation of the periodic signal  $f(t)$ .

$$c_k = \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t) e^{-jk\omega t} dt$$

# Fourier Series (Example)

- Consider the function  $f(t)$  shown below



- The Fourier series coefficients are given by:

$$c_0 = \frac{2T_1}{T}$$

$$c_k = \frac{1}{T} \int_T f(t) e^{-jk\omega_0 t} dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T_1}^{T_1} e^{-jk\omega_0 t} dt = \frac{e^{jk\omega_0 T_1} - e^{-jk\omega_0 T_1}}{T(jk\omega_0)} = \frac{\sin(k\omega_0 T_1)}{k\pi}$$



# Fourier Coefficients vs. frequency (example)

As  $T_1$  decreases for the same period  $T$ , higher frequency components also become relevant

