

# An introduction to the theory of signals

Mobile and Cyber Physical Systems

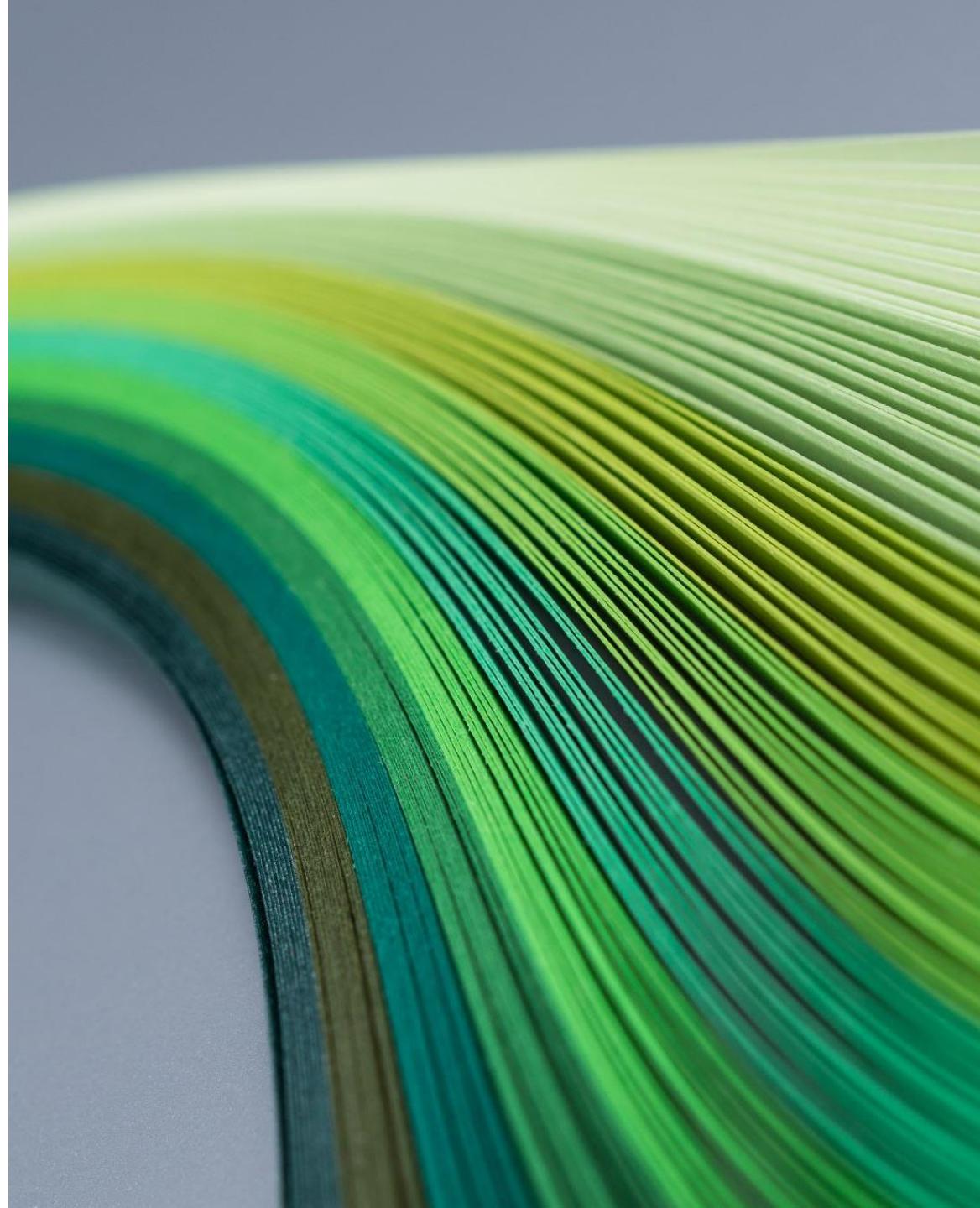
# Learning objectives

- Classification of signals
- Fourier series
- Fourier transform
- Sampling and quantization

↳ decomposing signal into infinite series



Tools



# References

[1] chapters 1-4 of Alessandro Falaschi, «Trasmissione dei Segnali e Sistemi di telecomunicazione», in italian, free on internet:  
<https://teoriadeisegnali.it/libro/html/html/index.html>

[2] Tim Wescott, «Sampling: What Nyquist Didn't Say, and What to Do About It», free on internet:  
<http://www.wescottdesign.com/articles/Sampling/sampling.pdf>

- you can also refer to any other book that presents the fourier transforms. Usually in books on signal processing, theory of systems etc.

## 1.1 Trasmissione dell'informazione

Per inviare un messaggio informativo da un luogo ad un altro sono coinvolti un discreto numero di apparati differenti e cooperanti, spesso organizzati in rete. La trasmissione può riguardare un messaggio generato al tempo stesso della sua trasmissione, oppure esistente a priori. Il supporto fisico del messaggio, chiamato segnale, identifica due categorie molto generali: quella dei segnali analogici, e quella dei segnali numerici. Nel primo caso rientra ad esempio la voce umana, mentre esempi di segnali numerici sono i documenti conservati su di un computer.

### Sorgente, destinatario e canale

L'origine del segnale da trasmettere è indicata (vedi Fig. 1.1 ↓ ) come sorgente, di tipo analogico o numerico per i due tipi di segnale. Ciò che giace tra sorgente e destinatario viene descritto da una entità astratta denominata canale di comunicazione, le cui caratteristiche condizionano i messaggi trasmessi.

### Distorsioni e disturbi

Il canale può ad esempio imporre una limitazione alla banda di frequenze del segnale in transito[3]; cause fisiche ineliminabili producono inoltre, al lato

ricevente, l'insorgere di un segnale di disturbo additivo, comunemente indicato con il termine di rumore, che causa la ricezione di un segnale diverso da quello stesso presente all'uscita del canale. Pertanto, ci si preoccupa di caratterizzare il canale in modo da scegliere i metodi di trasmissione più idonei a rendere minima l'alterazione del messaggio trasmesso.

### Rapporto segnale-rumore

L'entità delle alterazioni subite dal messaggio viene spesso quantificata nei termini del rapporto segnale rumore (SNR ↓ o Signal-to-Noise Ratio), che rappresenta un indice di qualità del collegamento stesso, e che per ora definiamo genericamente come il rapporto tra l'entità del segnale utile ricevuto e quello del rumore ad esso sovrapposto, indicato con n nella figura 1.1 ↓ .

### Trasmissione

La Fig. 1.1 ↓ a) evidenzia come il canale, nella realtà fisica, è costituito da un mezzo trasmissivo su cui si propaga un segnale di natura elettromagnetica, che viene convertito in tale forma da appositi trasduttori di trasmissione e ricezione[4]. Considerando per il momento i trasduttori come facenti parte del canale stesso, proseguiamo l'analisi concentrandoci sugli ulteriori aspetti del processo di comunicazione.

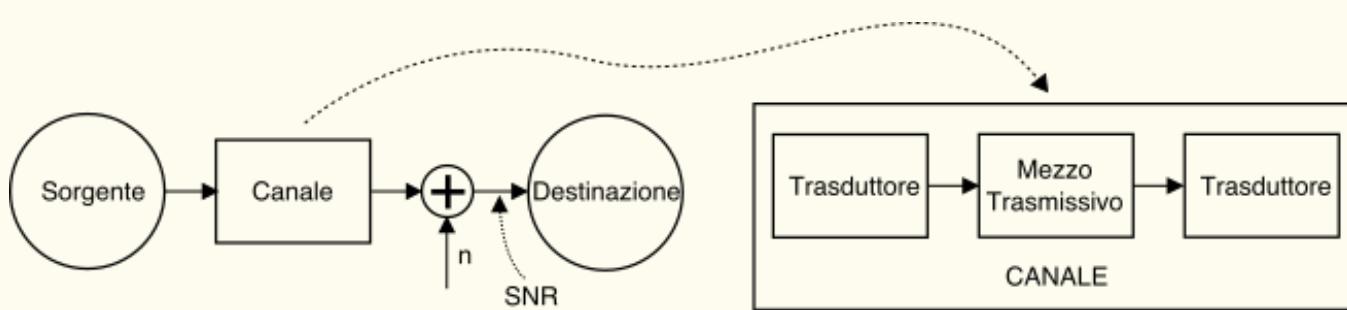


Fig. 1.1 a

## Adattatori

La figura 1.1 ↑ b) evidenzia l'esistenza (in trasmissione, in ricezione od a entrambe le estremità) di dispositivi adattatori, che hanno lo scopo di ridurre od eliminare le cause di deterioramento del messaggio introdotte dalla trasmissione: si può ad esempio ricorrere ad equalizzatori per correggere la risposta in frequenza di un canale, ad amplificatori per contrastare l'attenuazione subita dal segnale, ovvero a codificatori di linea per rendere le caratteristiche del segnale idonee ad essere trasmesse sul canale a disposizione.

## Rete

La trasmissione lungo un canale in uso esclusivo alla coppia sorgente-destinazione figure Network.png

è piuttosto raro; di solito i collegamenti sono condivisi tra più comunicazioni, ognuna con differente origine e destinatario. Il problema della condivisione delle risorse trasmissive, ed il coordinamento di queste attività, produce la necessità di analizzare in modo esplicito le reti di telecomunicazione, che entrano a far parte integrante dei sistemi di trasmissione dell'informazione.

Gli aspetti delle telecomunicazioni brevemente accennati sono immediatamente applicabili a segnali di natura analogica, in cui il segnale è definito per tutti gli istanti di tempo, ed assume valori qualsiasi. Nel caso invece in cui il segnale è definito solo per istanti di tempo discreti e valori discreti, si entra nell'ambito delle trasmissioni numeriche. (o digitali)

## Trasmissioni numeriche

Sorgente e destinazione numerica il messaggio informativo in questo caso è di natura discreta, ossia ad intervalli di tempo regolari sono prodotti simboli appartenenti ad un insieme finito, come ad es. le lettere dell'alfabeto;

Modem: i simboli che compongono un segnale numerico devono essere trasformati in un segnale analogico mediante l'utilizzo di dispositivi chiamati modem[5] (o codificatore di linea), come rappresentato dalla figura seguente, in cui è evidenziato come per una trasmissione unidirezionale[6] occorra solo metà delle funzioni del modem per entrambi i lati del collegamento, mentre nel caso di collegamento full duplex (in cui entrambi gli estremi possono essere contemporaneamente sorgente e destinazione) il modem opera allo stesso tempo nelle due direzioni.

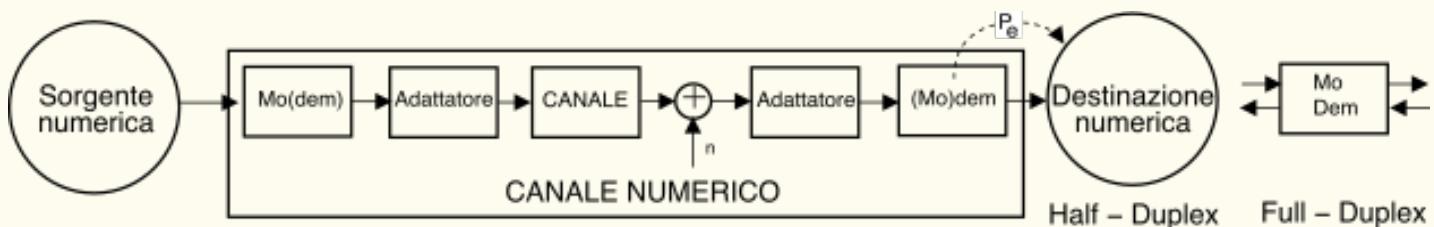


Fig 1.4b

# Introduction

Dev → pathway

Data

limits  
in  
precision,  
range of  
sampling

Sensors: devices need physical quantity,

- sample real signals (e.g. temperature)
- transform them into discrete, digital signals
- process and transmit the discrete, digital signals

Wireless transmissions:

Problem: msg (data  
packet as digital msg)

- transform a data packet into an analog signal (often radio waves)
- receive analog radio signals and transform them into a discrete, digital signals

TRANSFORMATION

Transfer analog  
signal (electromagnetic wave)  
one shaped to transport the  
message to destination

# Introduction

steps to do the transform in a good way.

MATH  
TOOLS  
TO

To understand these steps, it is necessary to understand the nature of signals

- How they can be decomposed ↗ Signal
- How they can be reconstructed ↗ ↗
- How they can be samples ↗ ↗

All this passes through the understanding of Fourier series

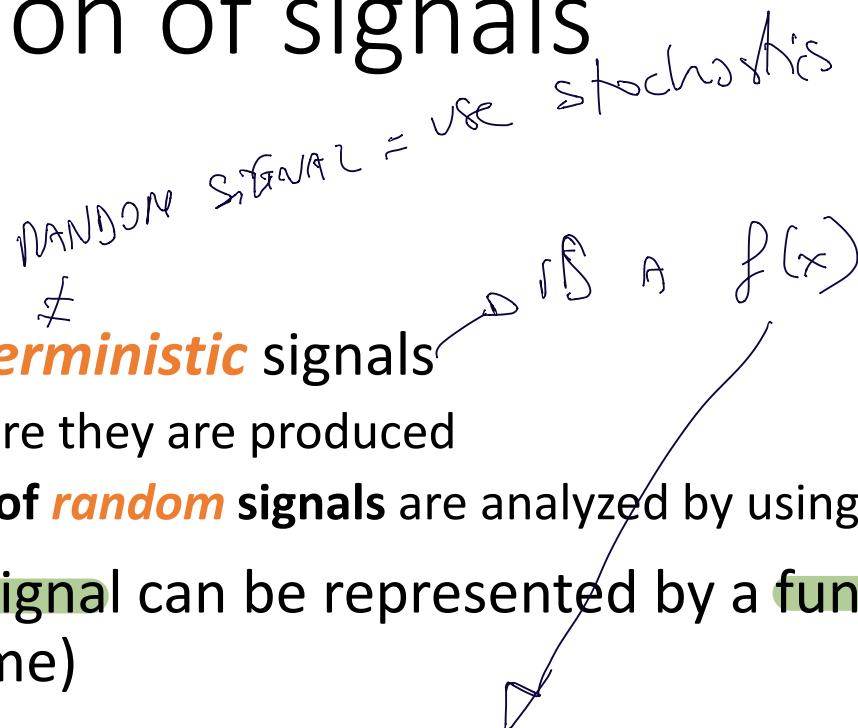
# Classification of signals

# Classification of signals

- We focus on **deterministic** signals
  - are known before they are produced
  - the other class of **random** signals are analyzed by using probabilistic methods and statistics
- A **deterministic signal** can be represented by a **function  $f(t)$  of a real value** (generally the time)

*random signal = use stochastic*

*f(x)*



- by function over time ( $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$ )*
- domain (es) time*
- value*
- A deterministic signal:  $f(t): \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$
- The domain and the codomain can be either the set of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$  or a discrete set (e.g., the integers  $\mathbb{Z}$ ), or even the set of complex numbers  $\mathbb{C}$
- Using  $\mathbb{C}$  as codomain allows to represent two independent signals combined together

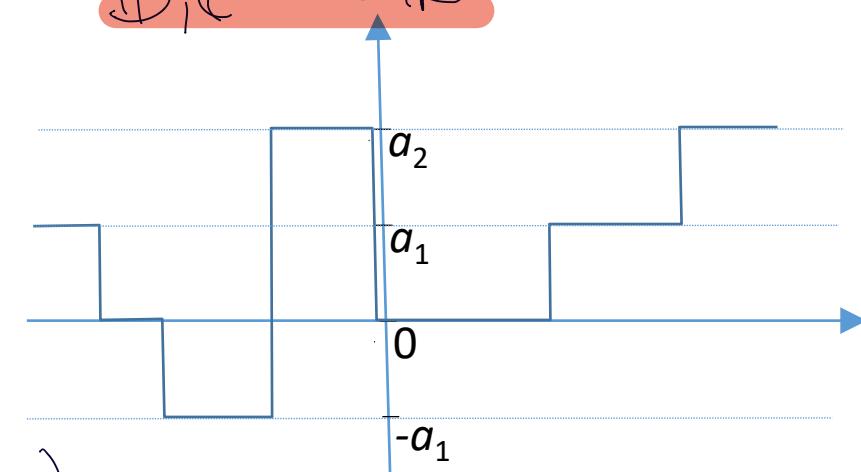
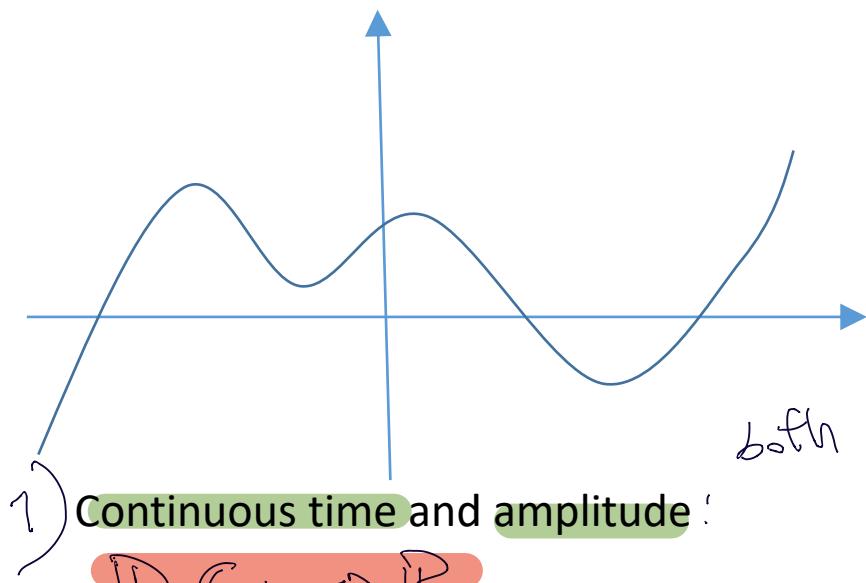
# Classification of signals

A signal is a real function of time

According to  $\overrightarrow{D}$  &  $\overrightarrow{C}$  we have:

- 1) • Time-continuous and amplitude-continuous
- 2) • Time-continuous and quantized
  - ↳ only finit set of values
  - ↳ discrete
- 3) • Time-discrete and amplitude-continuous
  - ↳ value ~~at~~ <sup>in</sup> time
- 4) • Time-discrete and quantized
  - ↳ discrete values on ~~time~~ amplitude

# Continuous-time signals



2) Continuous time and discrete amplitude

$\mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

The domain  $\mathcal{D}$  is the set of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$

- also known as **analog** signals

If the codomain  $\mathcal{C}$  is the set of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$ :  
**continuous amplitude** signals

If the codomain  $\mathcal{C}$  is a discrete set (e.g.  $\mathbb{Z}$ ): **discrete amplitude** signals

- AKA quantized signals

Wavetext & instance of time, set codomain  
to arbitrary value set  
just concrete values

# Discrete-time signals

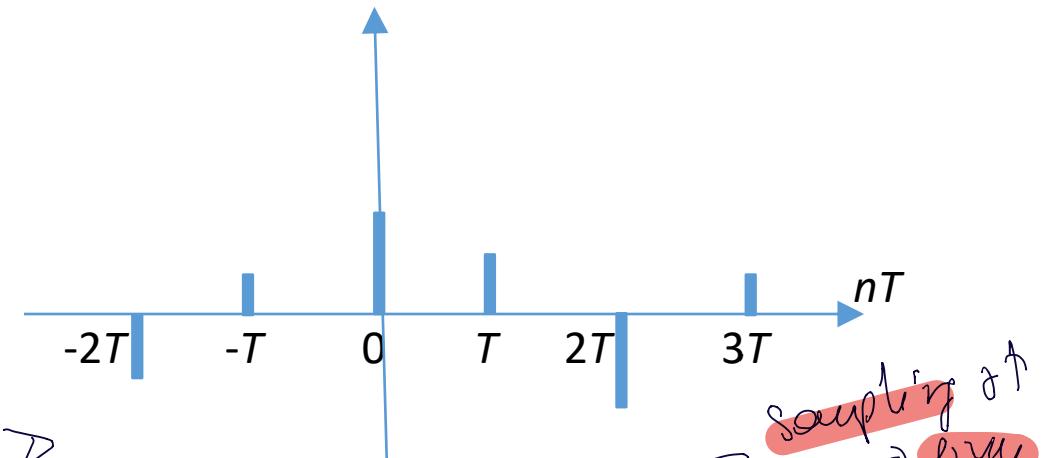
The domain  $\mathcal{D}$  is the set of integers  $\mathbb{Z}(T)$

- where  $\mathbb{Z}(T) = \{nT, \forall n \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } T \in \mathbb{R}\}$
- they are also called **discrete** signals
- for example,  $\mathbb{Z}(2) = \{\dots, -4, -2, 0, 2, 4, \dots\}$

A discrete signal is called **digital** when the codomain is a finite set of symbols

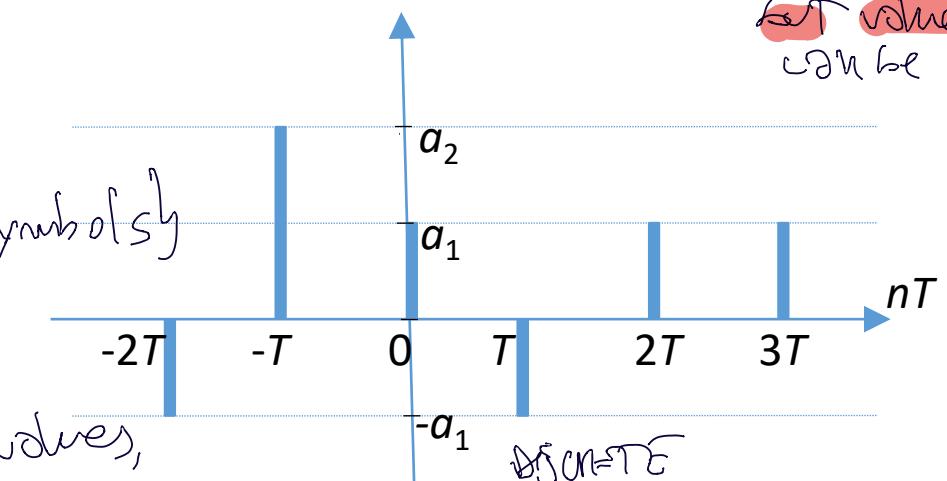
- a digital signal is also called a symbolic sequence
- a text is an example of symbolic signal

When we use a signal  
will be processed  
in a computer



$\mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$   
 $T \in \mathbb{R}$

Discrete time and continuous amplitude



$f(\infty)$  we assume

just finite set of values,

Discrete time and amplitude

# Digital signals - example

Consider the alphabet of the 26 symbols  $A = \{a, b, c, \dots, x, y, z\}$ .

A symbolic signal is any sequence of such symbols, e.g.:

- ababfxje...

↗ combine them  
to provide  
more info

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 2^0 & 2^1 & 2^2 & 2^3 & 2^4 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 & 8 & 16 \end{array}$$

Consider now the alphabet of two symbols  $B = \{0, 1\}$ :

- We can represent any symbol in  $A$  with a sequence in  $B$
- For example:  $a \equiv 00000$ ,  $b \equiv 00001$ , etc.

5 BITS

$$\begin{array}{cccc} 2^5 & 2^6 & 2^7 \\ 32 & 64 & 128 \\ 8 & 256 \end{array}$$

Hence, the digital signal «ababfxje» would become:

000000001000000000100101101110100100

# Digital signals - examples

Assume a source able to transmit  $f$  symbols/second (symbol frequency), we have:

- 8 symbols with alphabet A  $\Rightarrow$  the transmission lasts  $\frac{8}{f}$  secs. (duration of transmission inverse of freq.  $f$ )
  - 40 symbols with alphabet B  $\Rightarrow$  the transmission lasts  $\frac{40}{f}$  secs.
- S.  $\frac{8}{f}$   
• the symbol frequency is also called binary frequency if a binary alphabet is used  
• throughput usually refers to the binary frequency

Assume a source that samples an analog signal with  $f_c$  samples/second

Each sample is represented (quantized) with  $M$  bit/sample  $\Rightarrow$  need  $M$  bit to represent (the sample)

The source has a throughput of  $f_c \cdot M$  bit/second

• Assume: Source is emitting symbols at given frequency ( $f$ )

- Frequency:  $\frac{f \text{-symbols}}{\text{seconds}}$

• transmit 8 symbols (signal) in Alphabet A, the transmission will last:

$$\# \text{ of bits} \cdot \text{inverse of frequency} \Rightarrow \boxed{8/f} \Rightarrow \text{DURATION OF TRANSMISSION}$$

• using binary alphabet to transmit same info (8 symbols  $\in A$ )

$$|A| = 2^6 \quad |B| = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow 8 \text{ symbols} \cdot 5 \text{ bits} = 40$$

$$2^x = 26$$

$$\log_2 2^x = \lceil \log_2 26 \rceil$$

$$1 \ 2 \ 4 \ 8 \ 16$$

$$32 = 2^5$$

$$x = \lceil \log_2 26 \rceil = \lceil \log_2 32 \rceil = 5$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{DURATION OF TRANSMISSION} = \boxed{40/f} \Rightarrow \boxed{\# \text{ symbols} / f}$$

• THROUGHPUT = frequency (in bit/sec) of information transmitted by the source is expressed in bit/sec

$\Rightarrow$  binary frequency

$$\boxed{f_c \cdot M \text{ bit/sec}}$$

Samples

per sec

$\downarrow$   $\#$  bits to encode the message

period

$$T = \frac{1}{f}$$

$$\frac{T}{f} = \frac{1}{f} \cdot \cancel{T} = \frac{1}{f}$$

# Question

Considering a source that emits a digital signal encoded in an alphabet of 8 symbols, with a symbol frequency equal to 10 symbols per second. What is the throughput of the source?

$$f_c = 10 \text{ /sec}$$

$$|A| = 8$$

$$|B| = 2$$

↳ binary  
frequency  
of the source

$$\begin{aligned} \text{THROUGHPUT} &= f_c \cdot \text{N bit/sec} = \\ &= \frac{10}{\text{sec}} \cdot 3 \frac{\text{bit}}{\text{sec}} = \boxed{30 \text{ bit/sec}} \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

$$x = \lceil \log_2 8 \rceil = 3$$

# Periodic continuous signals

CONTINUOUS IN TIME  
↑  
& AMPLITUDE

A continuous signal  $s(t): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is periodic with period  $T$  if

$$s(t) = s(t + T) \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$$

↓ period

- Example:  $\sin nt$  and  $\cos nt$  are periodic with period  $T = \frac{2\pi}{n}$  ( $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$ )

- non-periodic signals are called aperiodic

- periodic signals can be studied in the period  $[0, T]$  since their behavior remains the same in all its domain of existence

For a periodic signal also holds:

$$s(t) = s(t + T) = s(t + 2T) = s(t + nT) \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}, n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

↑ SHIFT

if you shift the function by a period  $T$  or multiples of  $T \Rightarrow$  you have the same value

Periodic continuous signal

- if a signal  $s(t)$  is periodic with Period  $T$   
 $\Rightarrow s(t) = s(t + T) \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow$  the value of the function  $s(t)$  is equal to itself  
(+ the period  $T$ )

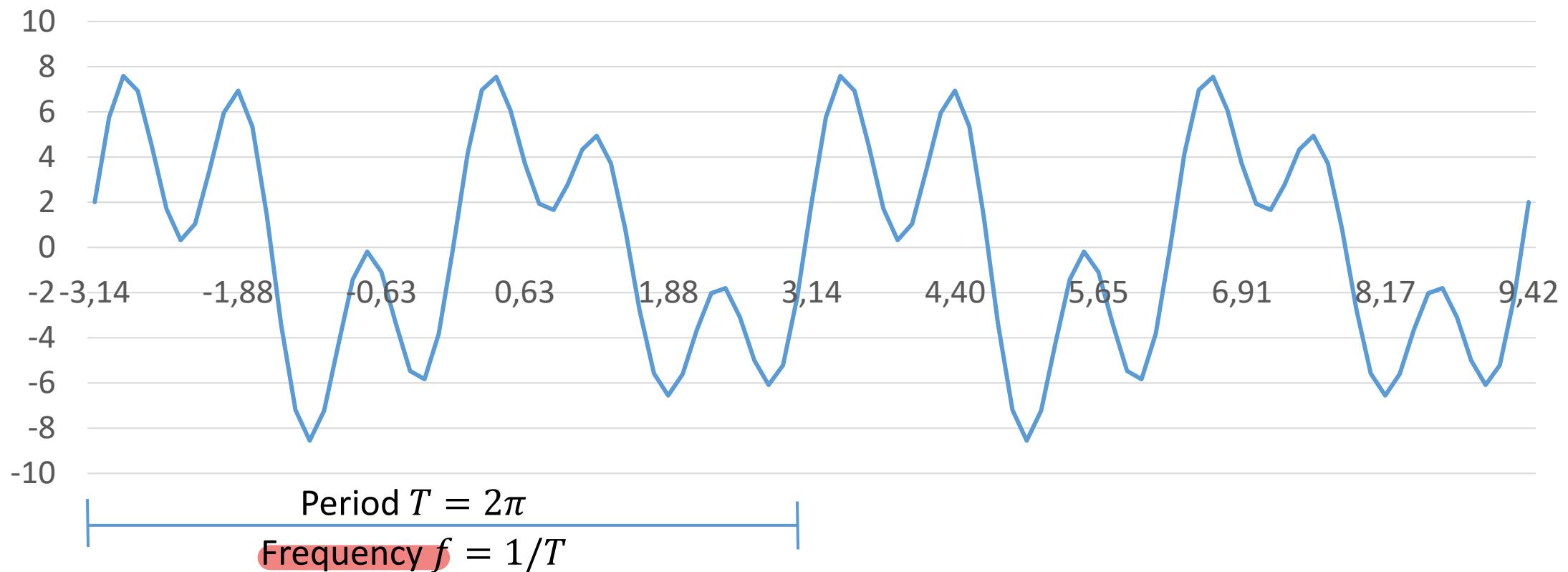
Continuous Amp, time  $\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{s(t)}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{if } s(t) &= s(t + T) = \\ &= s(t + 2T) = s(t + nT) \end{aligned}$$

# Periodic continuous signals

• CAN combine periodic functions  $\Rightarrow$  still have a periodic function

$s(t) = \cos 2t + 5 \cdot \sin 2t - \cos 5t + 4 \cdot \sin 6t$  has period  $2\pi$



- ④ CAN TREAT A NOT-periodic signal as a periodic signal

# Periodic extension of aperiodic signals

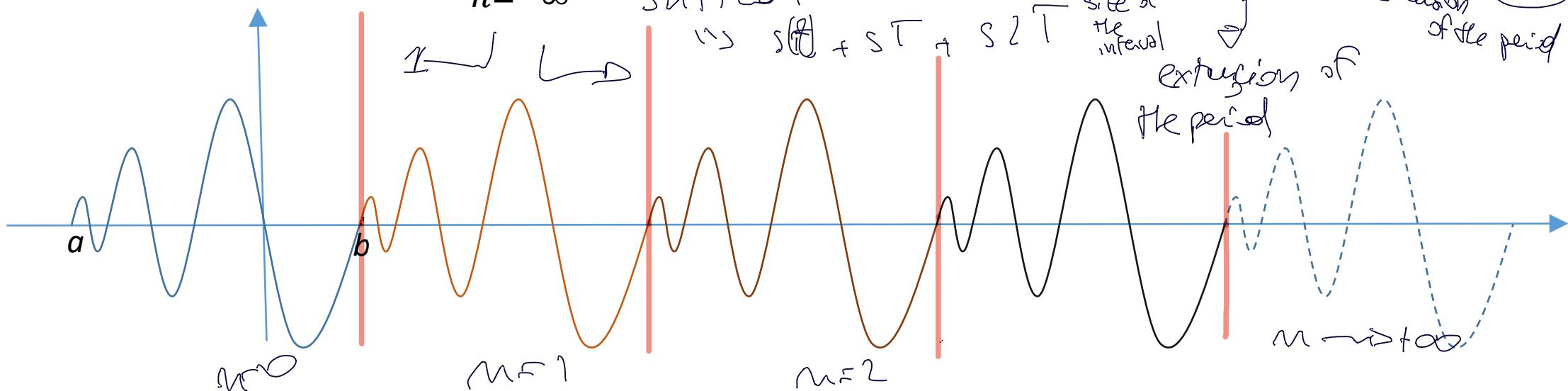
- give a non-periodic signal defined in  $[a, b]$ ,  $\neq$  elsewhere (causing domain)  
 $\Rightarrow$  SIGNAL LIMITED IN TIME  $\Rightarrow$  signal with limited support!

- Consider an aperiodic signal  $s$  with **support limited** to the interval  $[a, b]$

- i.e.  $s(t) = 0 \forall t \notin [a, b] \Rightarrow$  null in the vicinity domain

- The **periodic extension**  $s^*$  of  $s$  is defined as: infinite sum of  $s$  shifted by a period  $\Rightarrow$  multiple of period

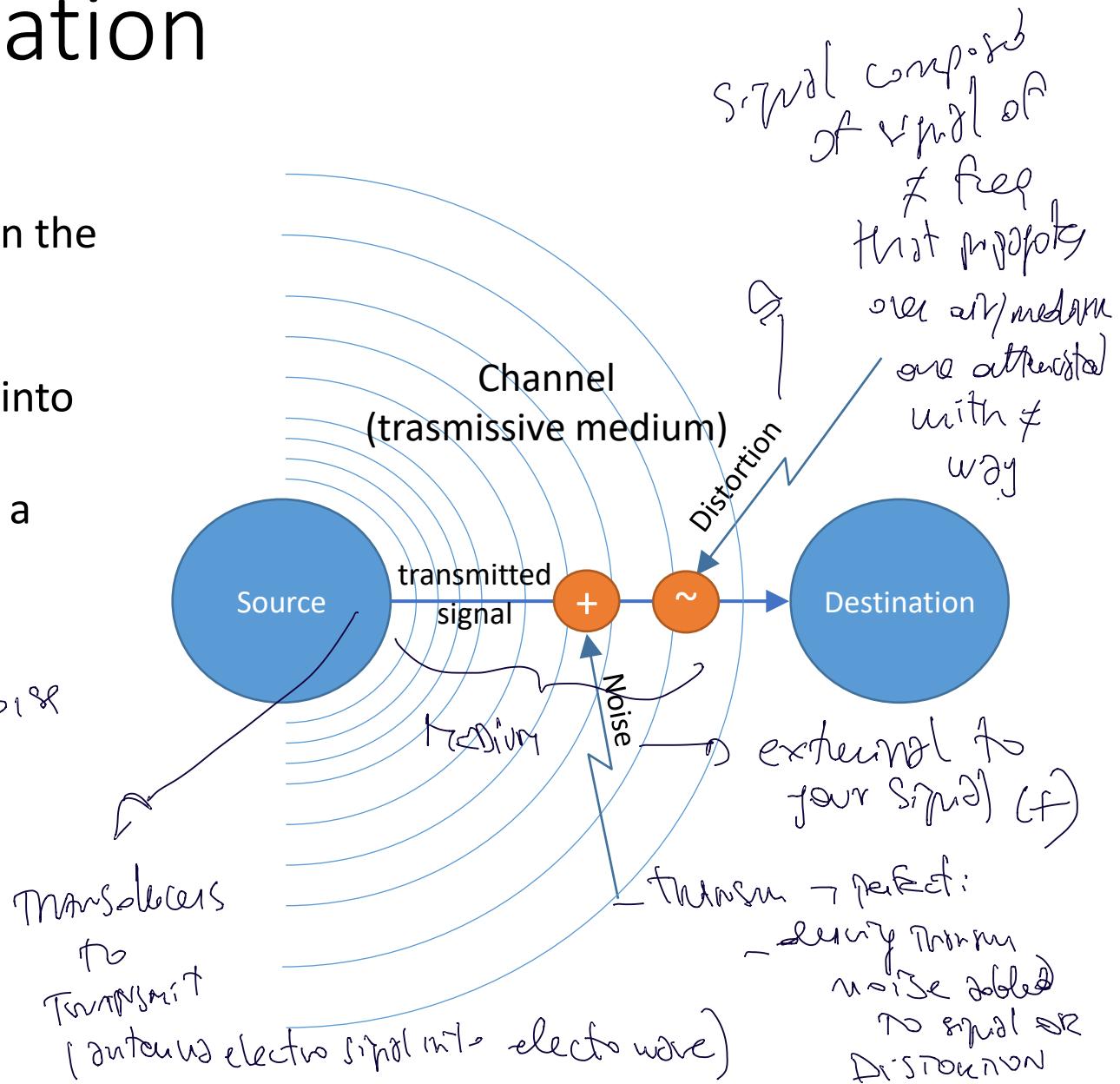
$$s^*(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} s(t - nT)$$

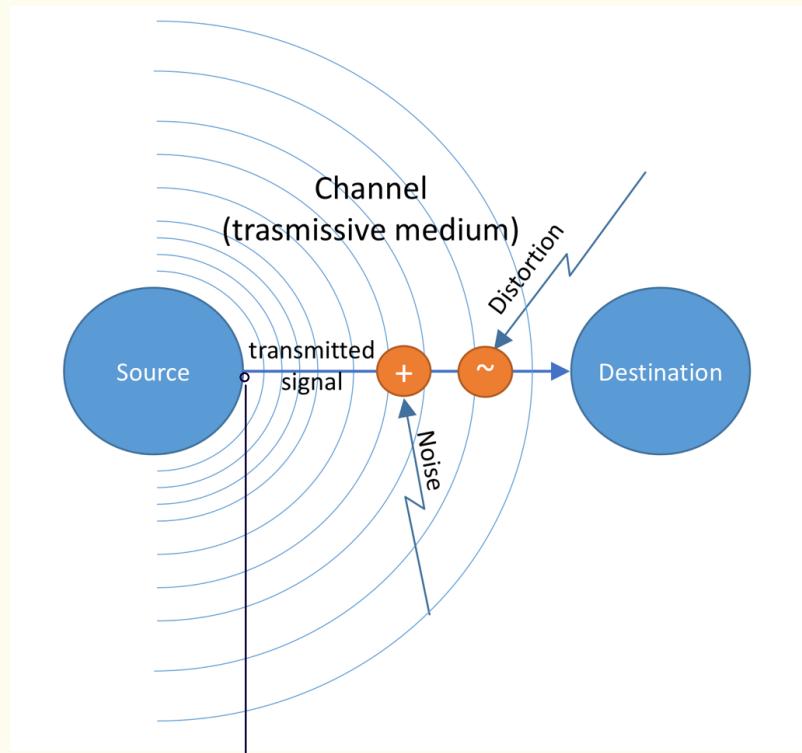


# Transmission

# Transmission of information

- Signals may have different nature, depending on the channel, e.g.:
  - e.g. electromagnetic, sound, optical waves etc.
- At the source a transducer converts a message into a signal
- At the destination another transducer converts a signal into a message
  - for example, the antenna is a transducer for electromagnetic signals
- Signal to noise ratio (SNR):
  - amount of changes suffered by the messages transmitted through a channel
  - property of a channel (not of a message)
  - expresses an index of quality of a channel





- Different channels for transmission:  
air, optical...

• TRANSDUCERS (antennas): transform message into a signal (electro signal  $\rightarrow$  electro wave)

• TRANSMISSION THRU CHANNEL:

- Noise: can add to the signal: external source for the noise (thermal noise, like moving of electrons in the medium)
- Distortion: if signal is composed by signals of f frequencies  $\Rightarrow$  different waves propagate in the medium

$\Rightarrow$  Signal received is not the same as the one transmitted from the source

• SNR = how much medium is good

$$= \frac{\text{level of signal}}{\text{level of noise}}$$

$$\Rightarrow 20 \log (\text{SNR}) \text{ in dB}$$

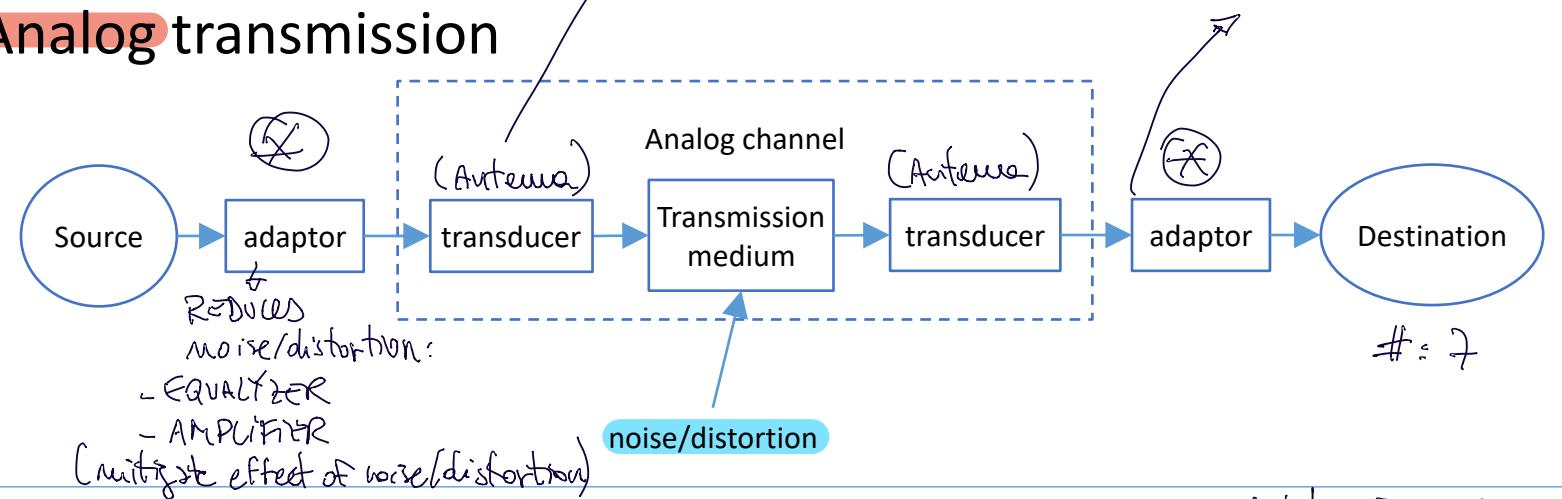
or signals  
+ fixtures  
+ delay  
+ wave bursts  
obstructed

# Transmission of information

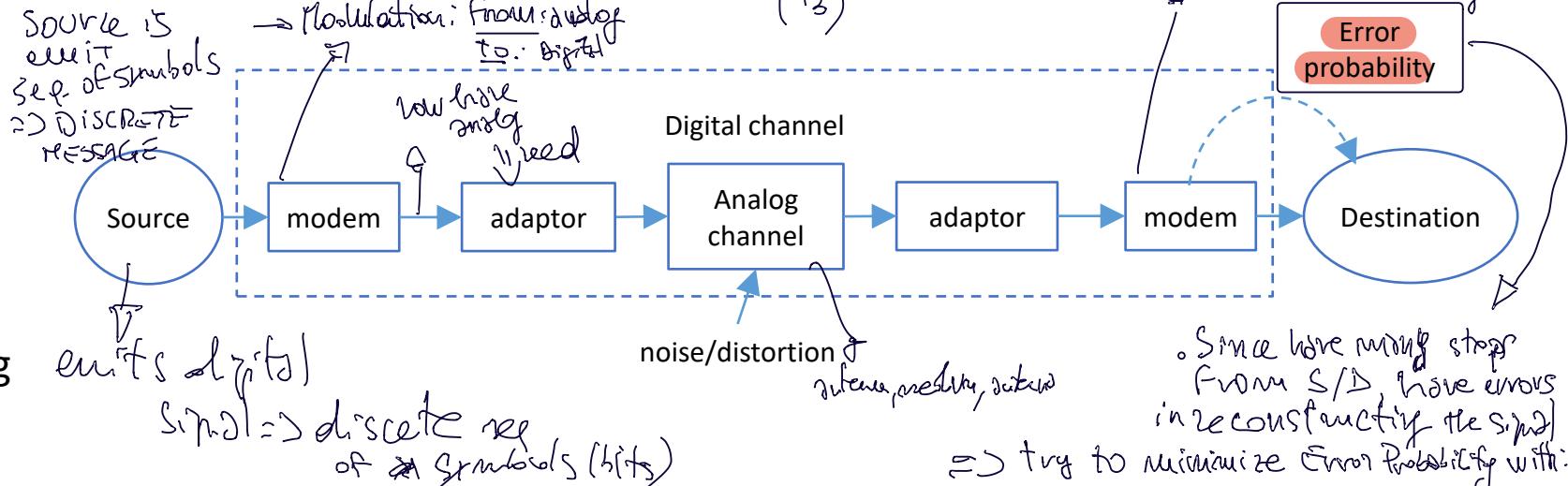
use of adaptors to improve the quality of a signal

- reduce the effect of noise and/or distortions)
- e.g. equalizers, amplifiers, etc.

## Analog transmission



## Digital transmission



(Source)

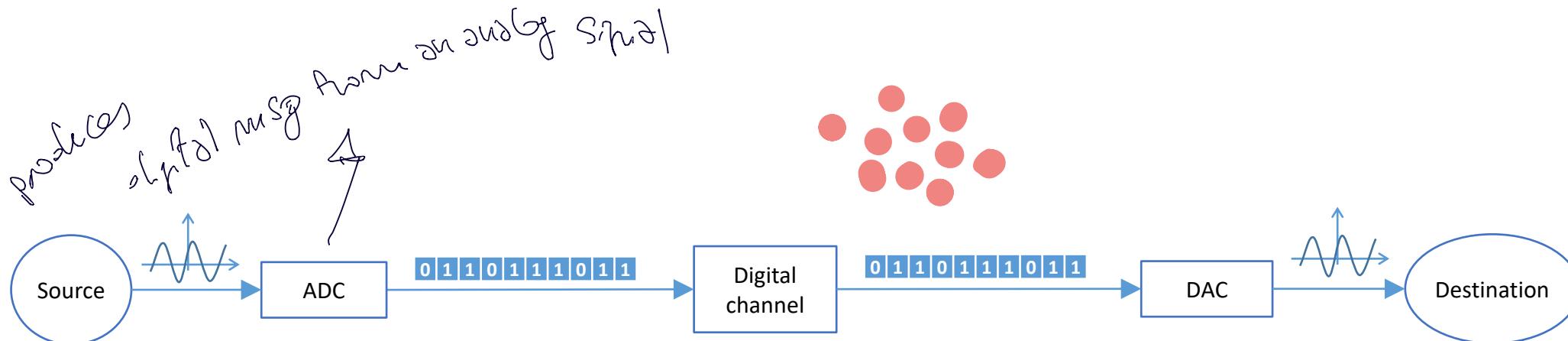
CHANNEL ENCODING: add some redundant information transmitted, to allow receiver to make checks

# Digital transmission: sampling & quantization

Focus on source

- At the transmitter:
  - sample the analog signal at discrete intervals («discrete intervals» imply a quantization), by means of an analog to digital converter (ADC)
  - the analog signal is now represented as a sequence of symbols
- At receiver:
  - the symbols must be converted again into an analog signal
  - by means of a digital to analog converter (DAC)

↳ process that constrains an input (continuous or large set of values) to a discrete set (like  $\mathbb{Z}$ )



# Digital transmission: sampling & quantization

(How we can sample)

However, sampling and quantization introduce a further distortion of the analog signal (quantization noise), due to:

- frequency of sampling → have very low errors but I want the trade off =>  
but I've got to transmit  
the big amount  
of bits
- resolution of the digital symbols
  - how many different symbols used to represent a single analog value

High resolution and high sampling rate  $\Rightarrow$  small quantization error

- but also a larger number of symbols to transmit

posteriorly  
in reconstructing  
the original signal  
 $\hookrightarrow$  reconstruct an approx  
of source's signal

# Fourier series

• How can SAMPLE all analog signal?  $\Rightarrow$  Analyze signal in its frequency components

# Frequency Domain Analysis $\Leftrightarrow$ How a signal can be composed by signals at frequencies

- Frequency domain analysis and Fourier transforms are a cornerstone of signal and system analysis.

| B4YC |

- $\omega = \text{omega}$
- $\varphi = \text{phi}$

- General expression for a sinusoid at frequency  $\omega$  (or frequency  $f$  in Hertz)

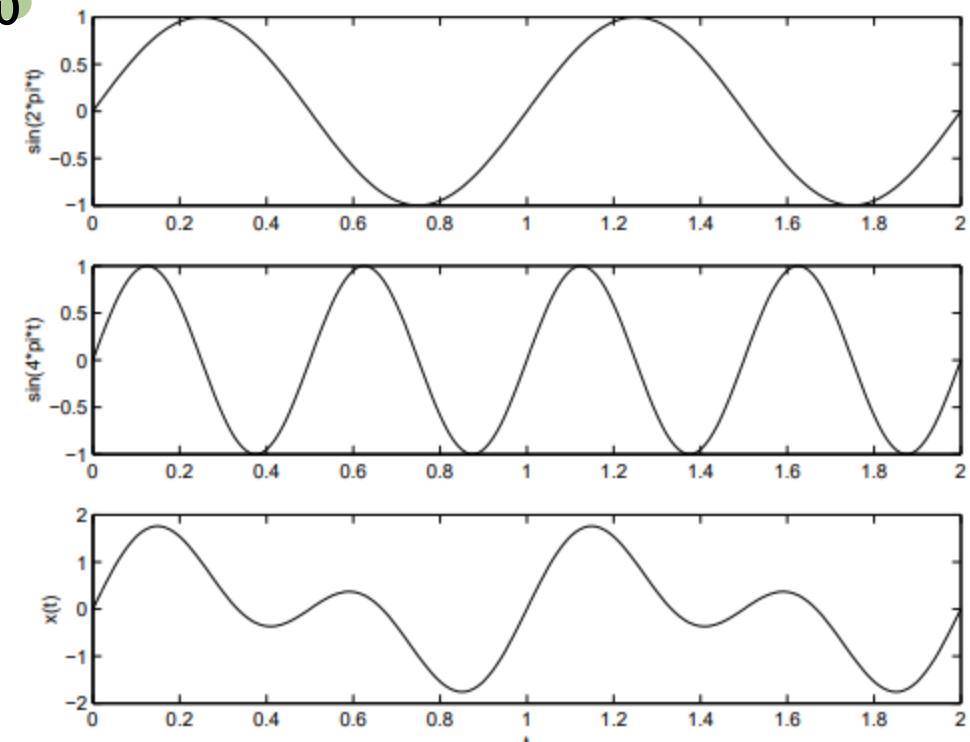
$$x(t) = a \sin(\omega t + \varphi) = a \sin(2\pi f t + \varphi)$$

Freq  $\omega$                       Frequency in Hz

- We can combine two sinusoids

$$x(t) = \sin(2\pi t) + \sin(4\pi t)$$

- Understand how a signal can be composed of base signals at different frequencies



# Frequency Domain Analysis

- Analogy with audio signals
- e.g. a dial tone of US telephony line

$$x(t) = \sin(2\pi * \boxed{350} * t) + \sin(2\pi * \boxed{440} * t)$$

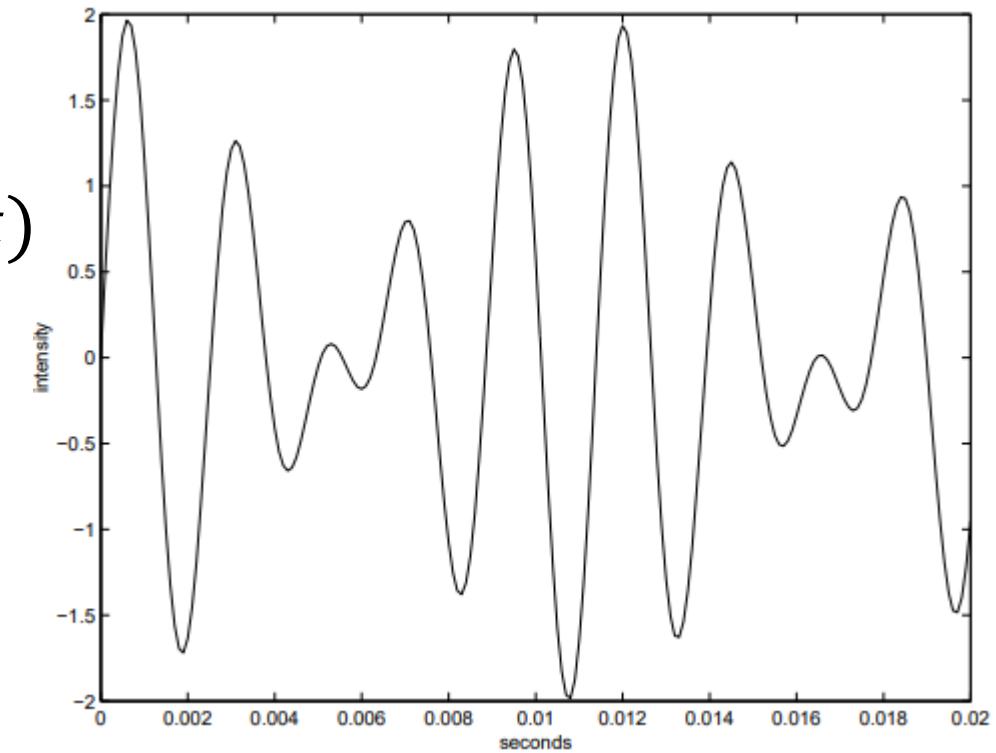
Hz

Hz

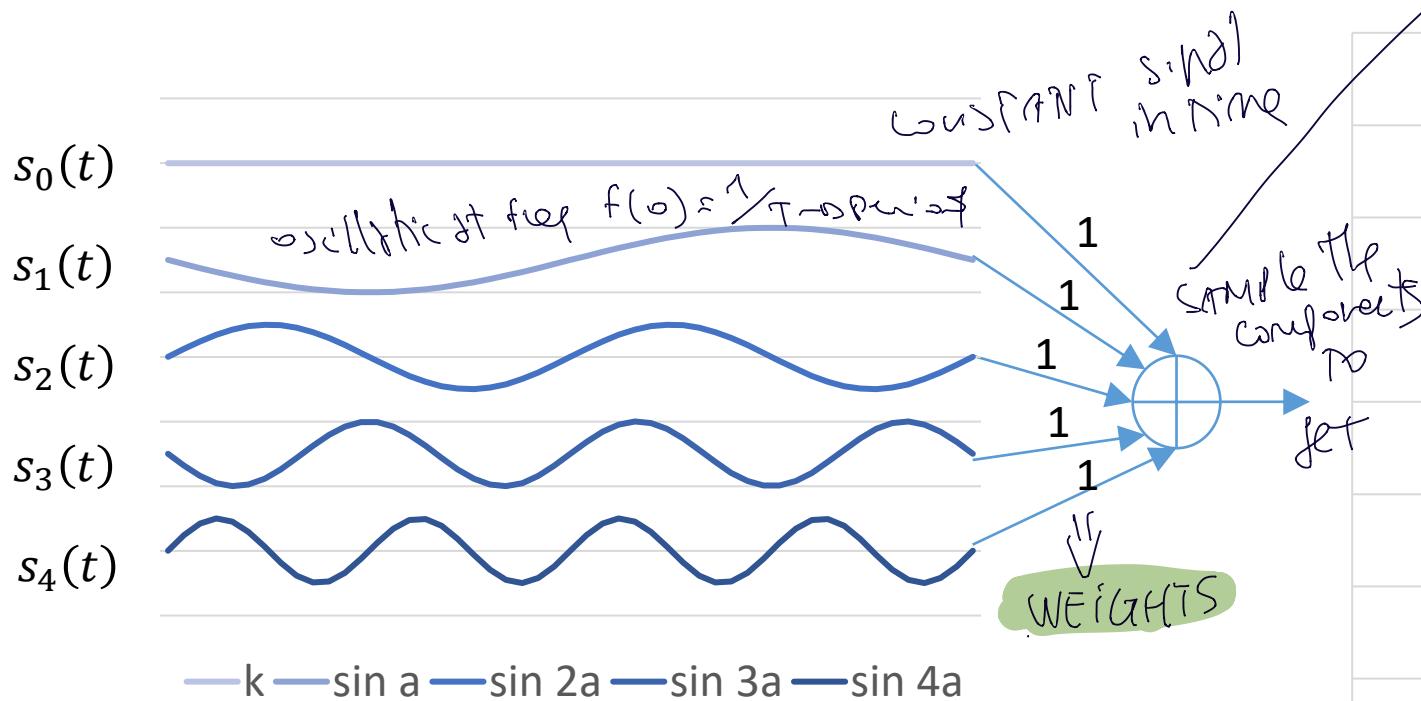
○ Sounds are oscillating at 2 different frequencies

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= a \sin(\omega t + \varphi) \xrightarrow{\text{frequency}} \\ &= a \sin(2\pi f t + \varphi) \end{aligned}$$

frequency  
f in hertz



# Frequencies and signals



$s_0(t)$  : constant component (frequency 0)

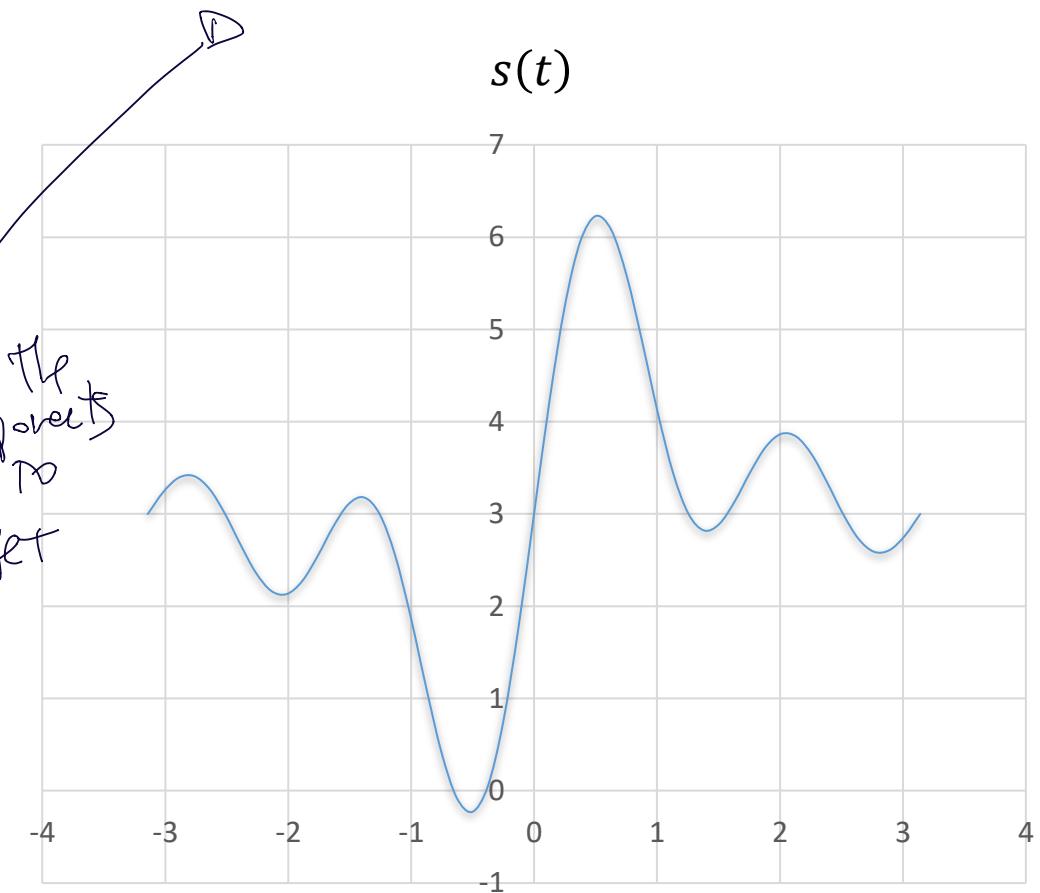
$s_1(t)$  : fundamental (frequency  $f_0 = 1/T$ ) FUNDAMENTAL FREQ.

$s_2(t)$  : second harmonic (frequency  $f_1 = 2/T = 2f_0$ ) → oscillating at multiple freq.

$s_3(t)$  : third harmonic (frequency  $f_2 = 3/T = 3f_0$ ) } harmonics

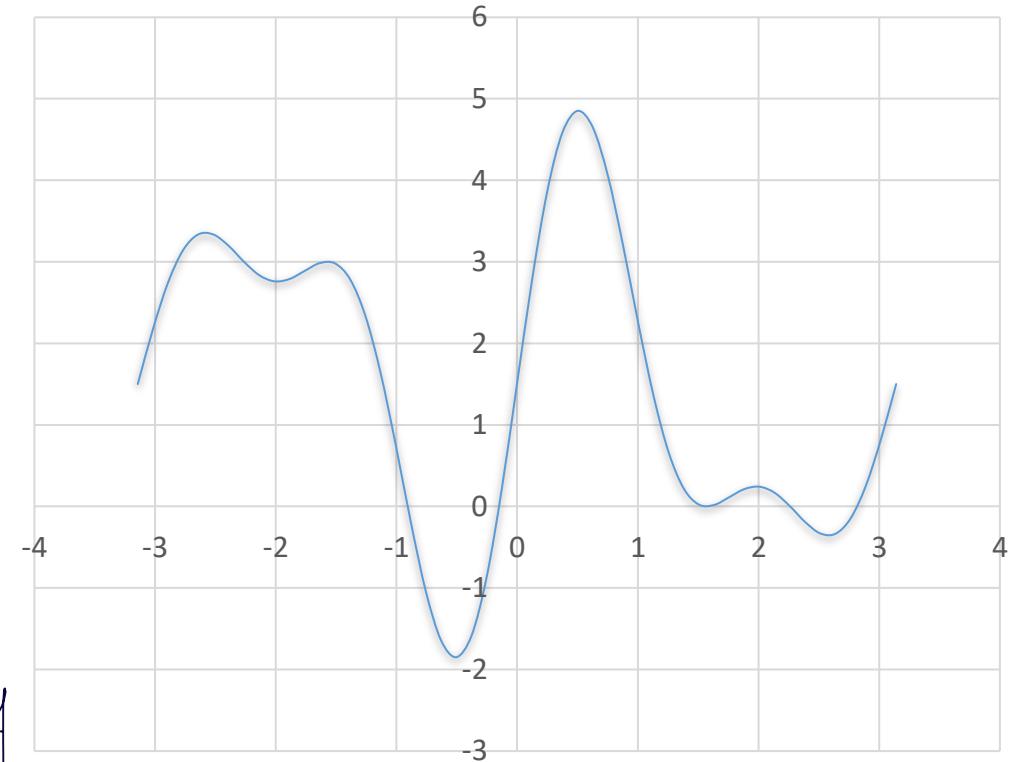
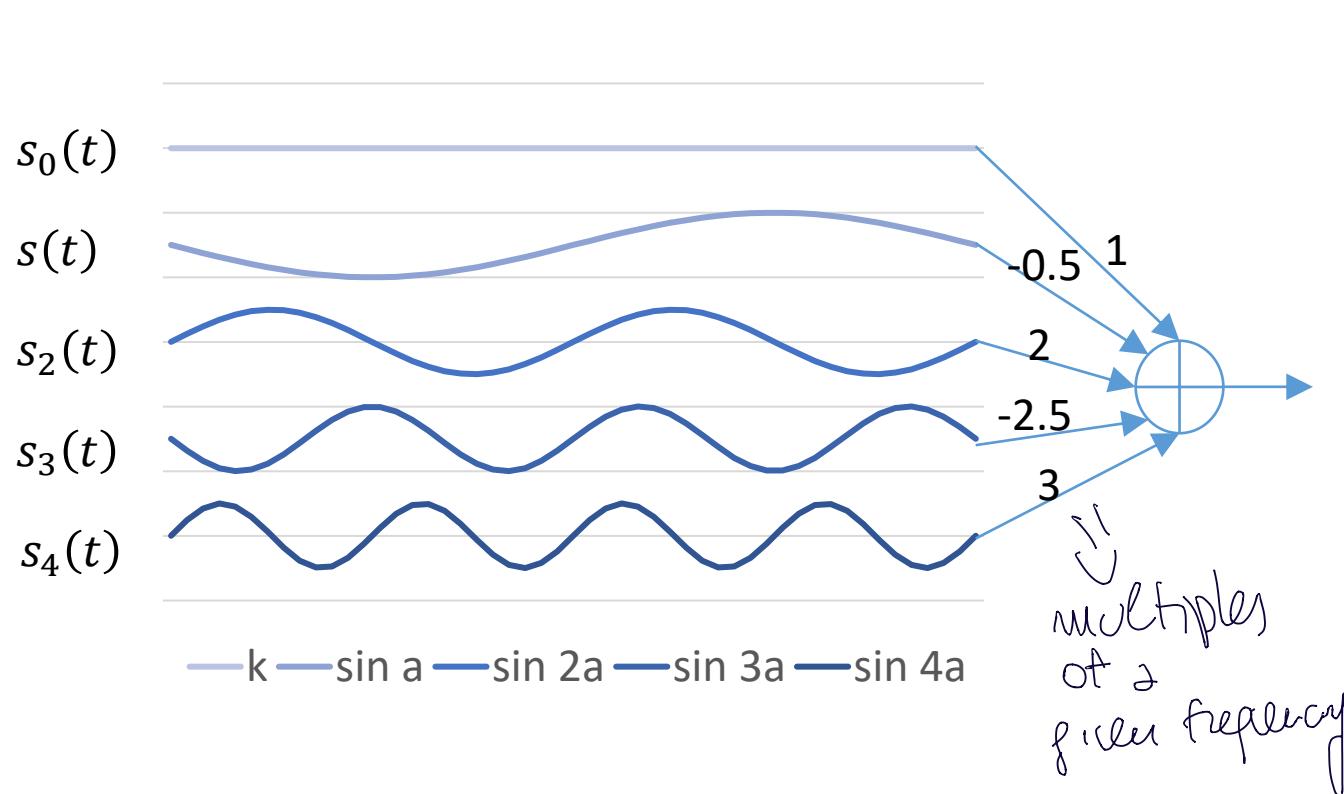
$s_4(t)$  : fourth harmonic (frequency  $f_3 = 4/T = 4f_0$ ) }

combine those signals to get 2 signals: continuous in TIME & AMPLITUDE :



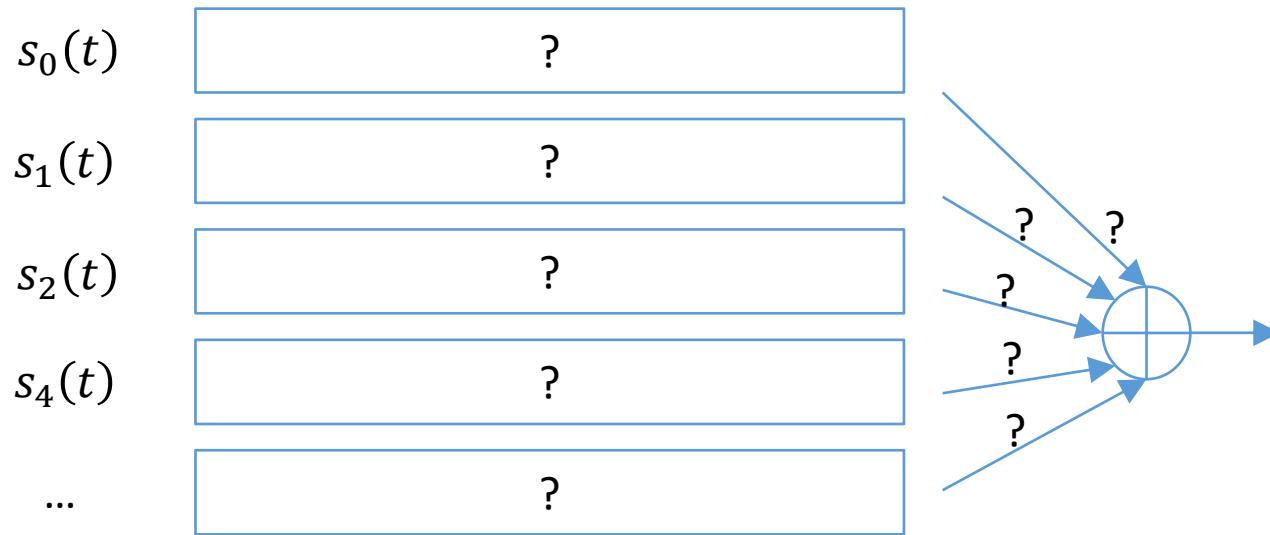
# Frequencies and signals

can change **weights**  $\Rightarrow$  modelling 2 different signal  $\Rightarrow s(t)$



from sign cont. and per.  
no get periodic  
 $f(x)$  oscillating  
at f freq.

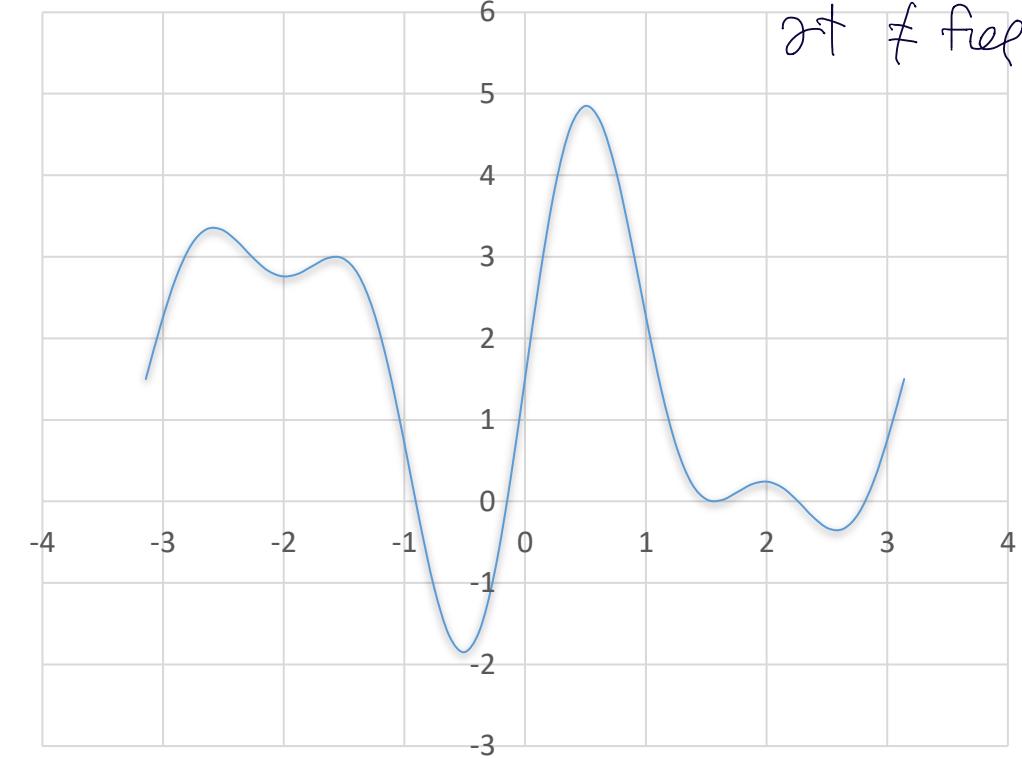
# Is it possible to invert the process?



how compute weights to  
stir the signal?

=> COMPUTE WEIGHTS = compute the values

which represent the contribution of each frequency to the resulting signal



↳ Fourier serie

# Fourier series

Goal:

- Decomposes a function (signal) as the sum of an infinite number of continuous functions, oscillating at different frequencies
  - Represents a change of coordinates: from time domain to frequency domain
- This set of continuous functions defines the base of decomposition
  - the Fourier series has a base represented by a set of functions  $\varphi_n(t), n \in \mathbb{Z}$
  - this set of functions must be orthogonal (as in the case of decomposition of vectors in a vector space)

# Fourier series

GOAL:

Decompose a signal as sum of  $\infty$  number of continuous functions, oscillating at  $\neq$  frequencies

- Domain = time      ↪ SHIFTING from time domain to frequency domain

Due to Joseph Fourier (around 1800)

Assumptions

Given a **continuous** signal  $s(t): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , **periodic** in the interval  $[-\pi, \pi]$  its Fourier series is defined as:

$$s(t) = \frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nt + b_n \sin nt)$$

↳ period is  $2\pi$

& converges in  $\mathbb{R}$

Signal  
(function in time)

can compute FT if signal is:  
periodic & piecewise continuous

↳ continuous with  
finite # of discontinuity

where

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) dt; \quad a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) \cos nt dt; \quad b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) \sin nt dt$$

# Fourier series

$$S(t) = \frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (a_m \cos mt + b_m \sin mt)$$

where:  
 $\frac{1}{2} a_0$  = constant component  
 $a_m, b_m$  = amplitude of harmonics  
 $\cos nt; \sin nt$  = harmonics

Due to Joseph Fourier (around 1800)

Given a **continuous** signal  $s(t): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , **periodic** in the interval  $[-\pi, \pi]$  its Fourier series is defined as:

$$s(t) = \frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nt + b_n \sin nt)$$

(does not oscillate)

**Constant component** (not oscillating)  
AVG value of this signal

Amplitude of the harmonics

Harmonics

where  
For each signal, compute

$$a_0, a_m, b_m$$

values of the weights

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) dt; \quad a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) \cos nt dt; \quad b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) \sin nt dt$$

U signal loop  
to compute  
the weights  $(a_n, b_n)$

scanning all  
multiple freq.

$$a_0 = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{s(t) dt}{\pi}$$

$$a_n = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{s(t) \cos nt dt}{\pi}$$

$$b_n = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{s(t) \sin nt dt}{\pi}$$

## Fourier series

if  $s(t)$  is periodic and piecewise continuous  
⇒ can compute Fourier series of  $s(t)$  and converges in  $\mathbb{R}$

It is rather complicate to assess the conditions under which an arbitrary  $s(t)$  can be developed in a Fourier series

- In particular necessary conditions are not known
- However, there are sufficient conditions (Dirichlet theorem):

if  $s(t)$  is periodic and continuous and has ~~not~~ frequent discontinuity in time  
and  $s(t)$  is piecewise continuous  
⇒ the Fourier series of  $s(t)$  exists and converges in  $\mathbb{R}$

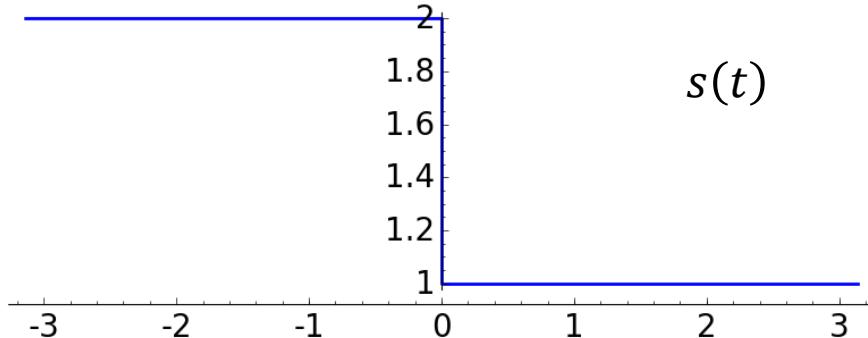
# Example

Consider  $s(t) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } -\pi < t < 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } 0 \leq t \leq \pi \end{cases}$  (periodic, with period  $2\pi$ )

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) dt$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) \cos nt dt$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) \sin nt dt$$



Given a continuous signal and periodic in  
 $\rightarrow s(t) \in \mathbb{R}$  on  $[-\pi, \pi]$   
the Fourier series is:

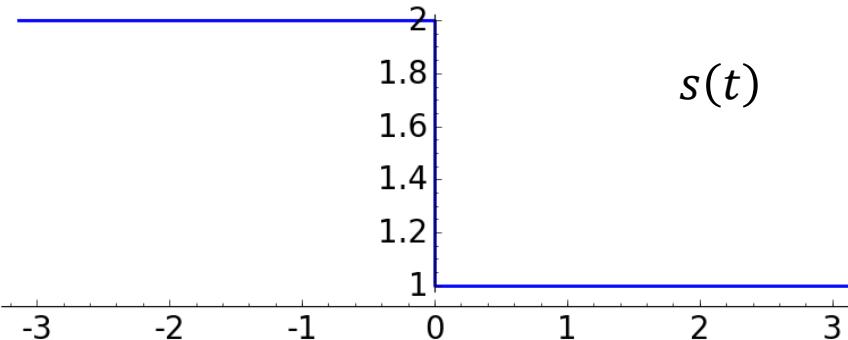
$$s(t) = \frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos(nt) + b_n \sin(nt))$$

where  $a_0$ : constant component  $\Rightarrow$  not oscillating  
 $a_n, b_n$ : amplitude of harmonics

$\cos(nt), \sin(nt)$ : harmonics

$$a_0 = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \underbrace{s(t)}_{\text{in}} dt \quad a_n = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \underbrace{s(t) \cos(nt)}_{\text{in}} dt$$

$$b_n = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \underbrace{s(t) \sin(nt)}_{\text{in}} dt$$



# Example

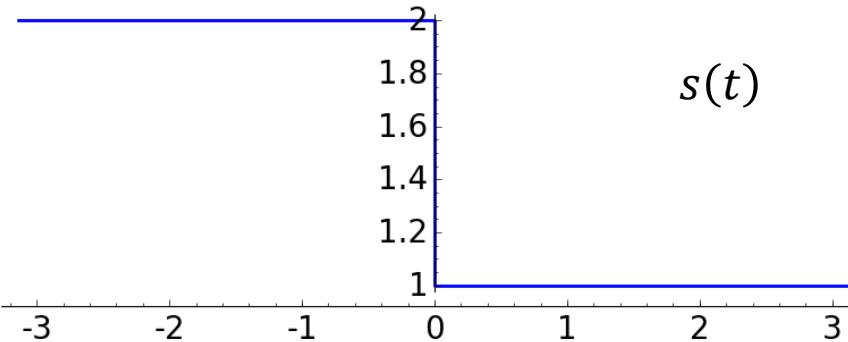
Consider  $s(t) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } -\pi < t < 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } 0 \leq t \leq \pi \end{cases}$  (periodic, with period  $2\pi$ )

The coefficients of the Fourier series are:

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) dt = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \int_{-\pi}^0 2 dt + \int_0^{\pi} 1 dt \right) = 3$$

$\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   
 $\frac{1}{\pi} \left( [2x]_{-\pi}^0 + [x]_{0}^{\pi} \right) = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( 0 + 2\pi + \pi - 0 \right) =$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot 3\pi = \boxed{3}$$



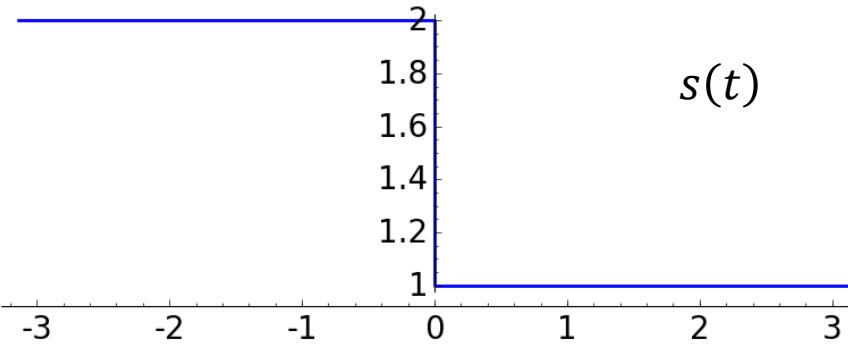
# Example

Consider  $s(t) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } -\pi < t < 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } 0 \leq t \leq \pi \end{cases}$  (periodic, with period  $2\pi$ )

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$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) \cos nt dt = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \int_{-\pi}^0 2 \cos nt dt + \int_0^{\pi} 1 \cos nt dt \right) = 0$$



# Example

Consider  $s(t) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } -\pi < t < 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } 0 \leq t \leq \pi \end{cases}$  (periodic, with period  $2\pi$ )

The coefficients of the Fourier series are:

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) dt = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \int_{-\pi}^0 2 dt + \int_0^{\pi} 1 dt \right) = 3$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \int_{-\pi}^0 2 \cos nt dt + \int_0^{\pi} 1 \cos nt dt \right) = 0$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) \sin nt dt = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \int_{-\pi}^0 2 \sin nt dt + \int_0^{\pi} 1 \sin nt dt \right) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ -2/n\pi & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

# Example

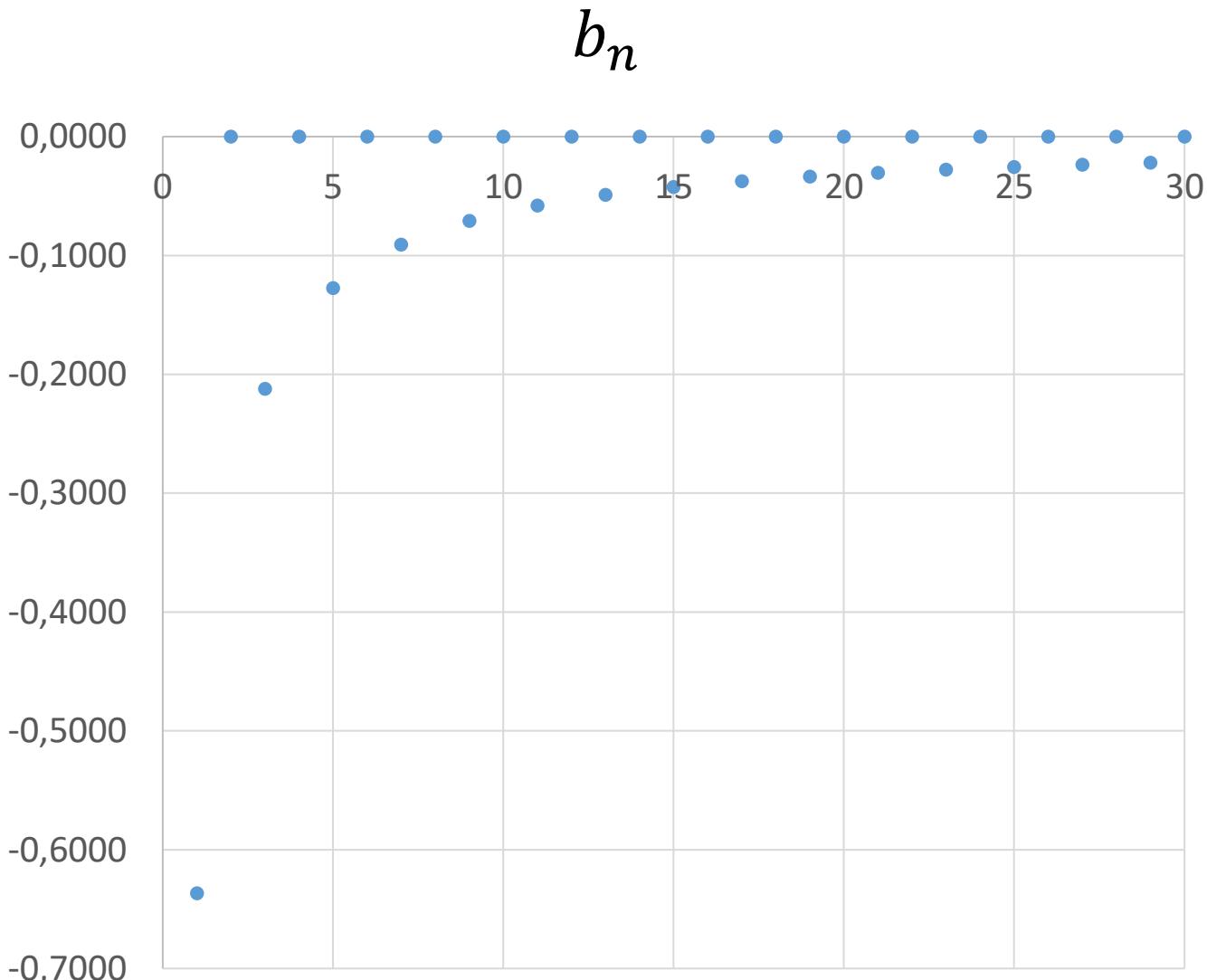
$$s(t) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } -\pi < t < 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } 0 \leq t \leq \pi \end{cases}$$

The coefficients are:

$$a_0 = 3;$$

$$a_n = 0;$$

$$b_n = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ -\frac{2}{n\pi} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

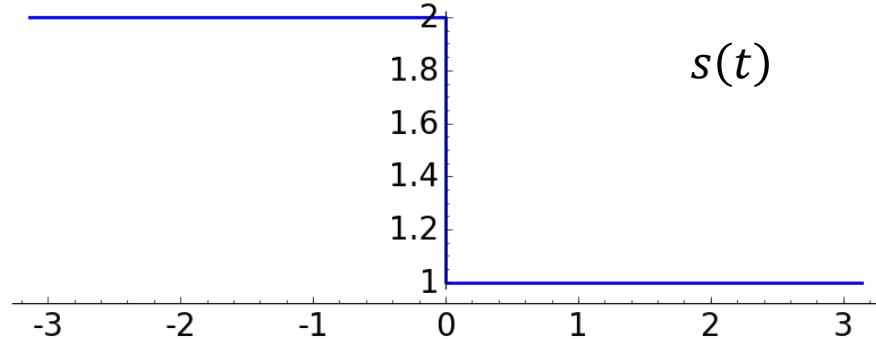


# Example

These

Decompose the signal

$$s(t) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nt + b_n \sin nt)$$

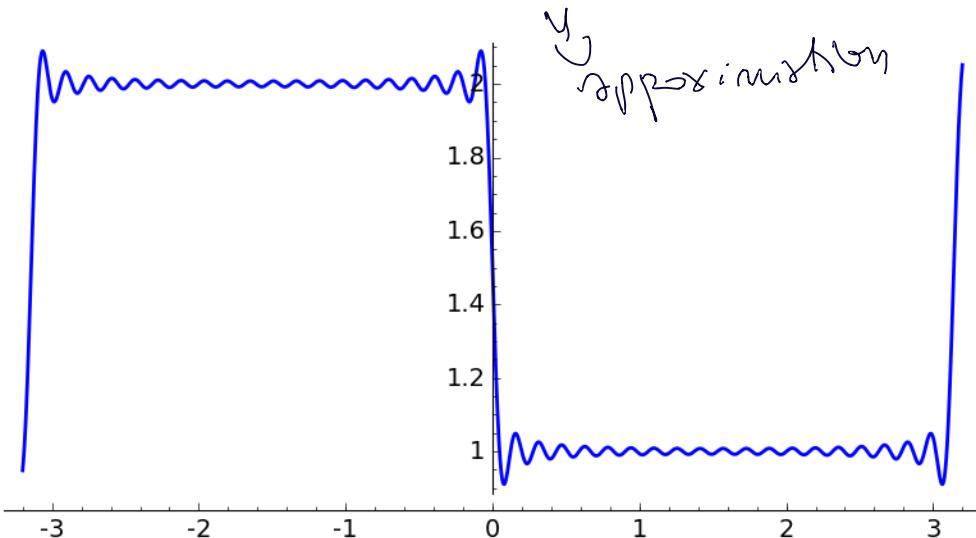


Hence, letting  $n = 2k - 1$  for all  $k > 0$ :

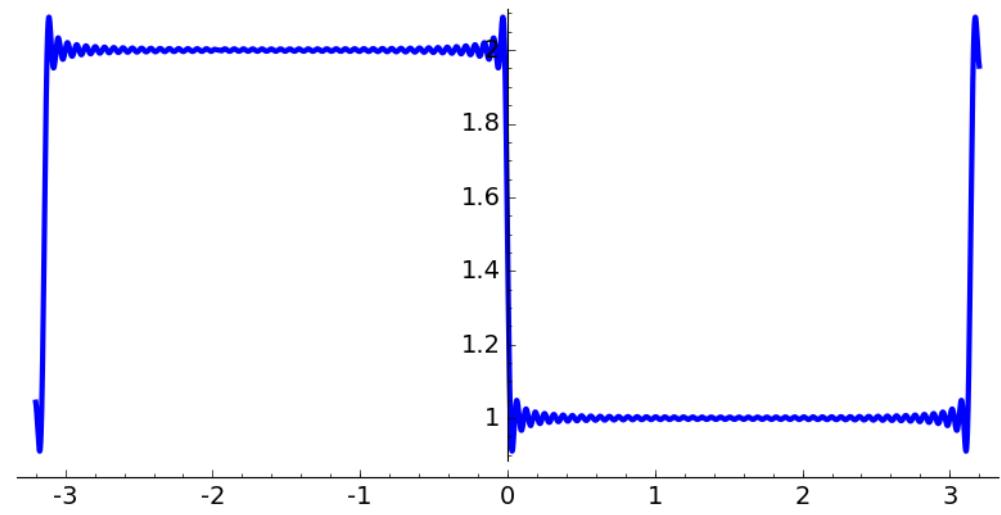
If we sum  
just the  
sum of  
& threshold)

$$s(t) = \frac{3}{2} - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{2}{(2k-1)\pi} \sin((2k-1)t) \right)$$

Plot of the first 20 harmonics



Plot of the first 50 harmonics (Components)

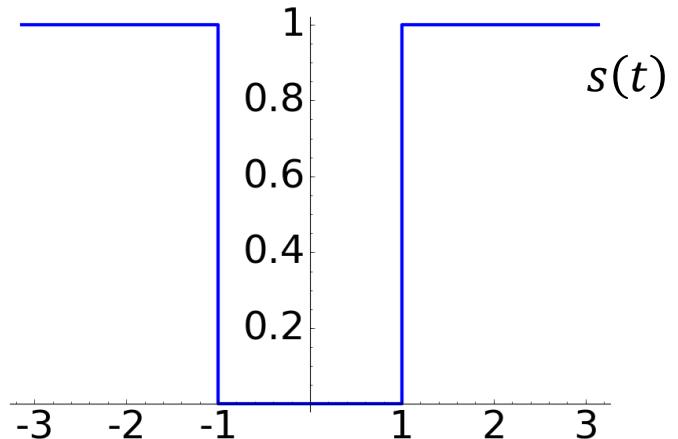


# Exercise

Consider  $s(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } -\pi < t < -1 \\ 0 & \text{if } -1 \leq t < 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } 1 \leq t \leq \pi \end{cases}$

periodic, with period  $2\pi$

Compute the Fourier series of  $s(t)$



Remember:

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) dt;$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) \cos nt dt;$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) \sin nt dt$$

Hint:

$$\int \sin(t) dt = -\cos(t)$$

$$\int \cos(t) dt = \sin(t)$$

$$\int \cos(nt) dt = \frac{\sin(nt)}{n}$$

$$s(t) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nt + b_n \sin nt)$$

Constant component  
[does not oscillate]

Amplitude of the harmonics

Harmonics

where

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) dt; \quad a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) \cos nt dt; \quad b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} s(t) \sin nt dt$$

$$\therefore a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \int_{-\pi}^{-1} 1 dt + \int_{-1}^1 0 dt + \int_1^{\pi} 1 dt \right) \text{ (1)}$$

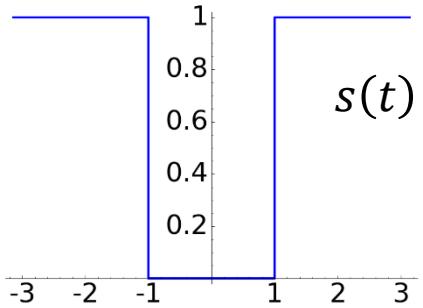
$$\therefore a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \int_{-\pi}^{-1} 1 \cos nt dt + \int_{-1}^1 0 \cos nt dt + \int_1^{\pi} 1 \cos nt dt \right)$$

$$\therefore b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \int_{-\pi}^{-1} 1 \sin nt dt + \int_{-1}^1 0 \sin nt dt + \int_1^{\pi} 1 \sin nt dt \right]$$

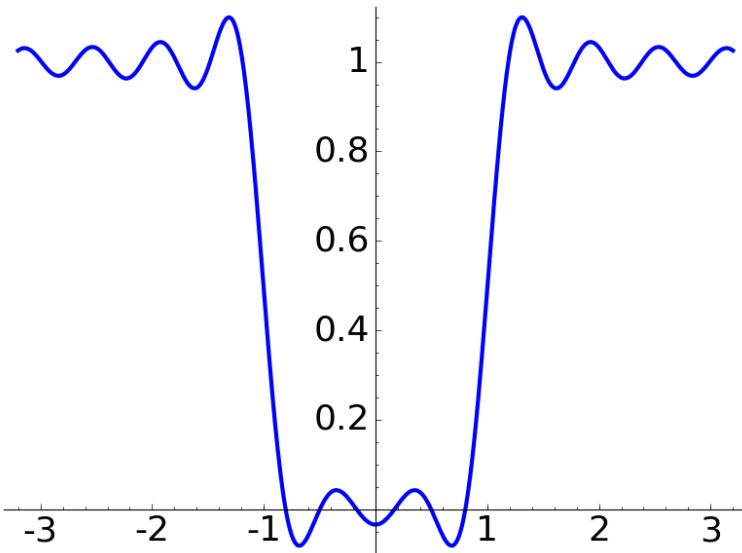
✓

# Solution

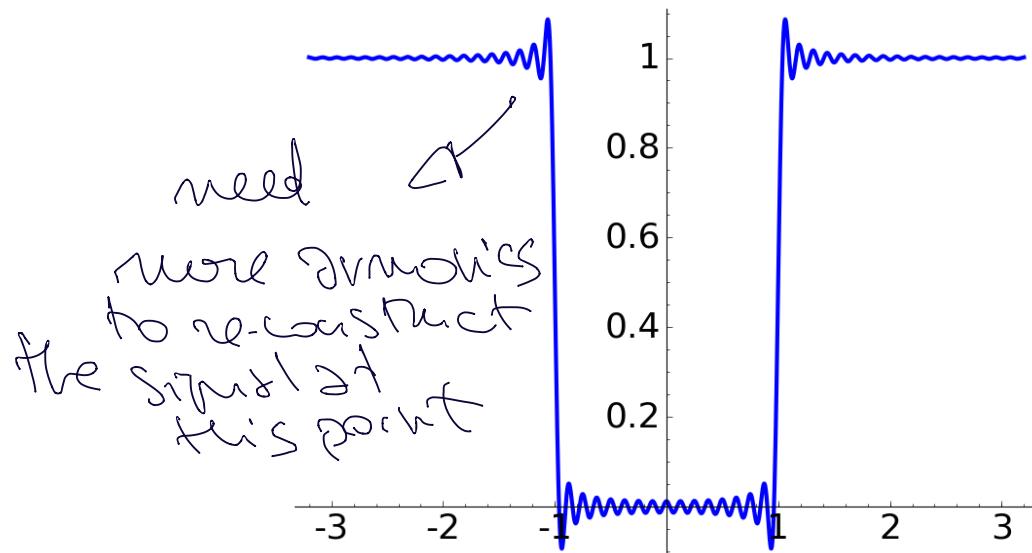
$$s(t) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nt + b_n \sin nt)$$



Plot of the first 10 harmonics



Plot of the first 50 harmonics



$$2 + \frac{T}{2} = \frac{h+T}{2} = \frac{2T}{2} \therefore$$

# Fourier series with arbitrary period

$\downarrow$   
can apply also Fourier  
to periodic signals  
with arbitrary period

- The Fourier series is defined also for signals with arbitrary period:
- Given a continuous signal  $s(t): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , periodic in the interval  $[-\frac{T}{2}, \frac{T}{2}]$
  - Using the substitution  $y = \frac{2\pi t}{T} \Rightarrow t = \frac{T}{2\pi} \cdot y$
- $f(y) = s\left(\frac{T}{2\pi}y\right)$  is periodic in the interval  $[-\pi, \pi]$

$$f(y) = s\left(\frac{T}{2\pi}y\right) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos ny + b_n \sin ny)$$

Returning to the initial variable (i.e.,  $y = \frac{2\pi}{T}t$ )

$$s(t) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( a_n \cos \frac{2\pi n}{T} t + b_n \sin \frac{2\pi n}{T} t \right)$$

with

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} s(t) dt; \quad a_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} s(t) \cos \frac{2\pi n t}{T} dt; \quad b_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} s(t) \sin \frac{2\pi n t}{T} dt$$

$\hookrightarrow$  Period

# Energy of a continuous signal

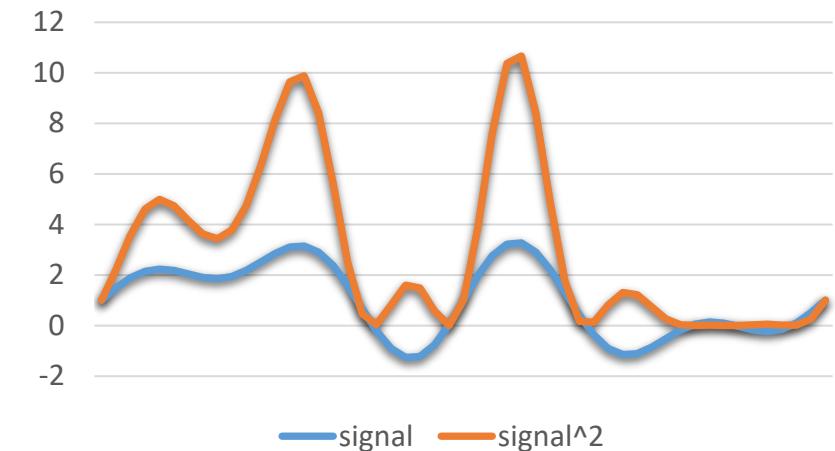
Given a signal  $s(t)$  defined in the interval  $[-T/2, T/2]$ , the energy of the signal is defined as:

$$E_s(T) \triangleq \int_{-\frac{T}{2}}^{\frac{T}{2}} |s(t)|^2 dt$$

Integral of the square  
of the signal

every of the signal

this also has a meaning in physics: if  $s(t)$  represents the voltage applied to a  $1\Omega$  resistor,  $E_s(T)$  is the energy dissipated in the period  $T$



A signal is with finite energy (energy signal) if the limit of the integral of the square of the signal when computing the limit of the integral of the square of the signal is finite.

$$E_s = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} E_s(T) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |s(t)|^2 dt > 0$$

&&  $E_s < +\infty$

$\Rightarrow$  End if it is a finite #

SIGNAL WITH FINITE ENERGY

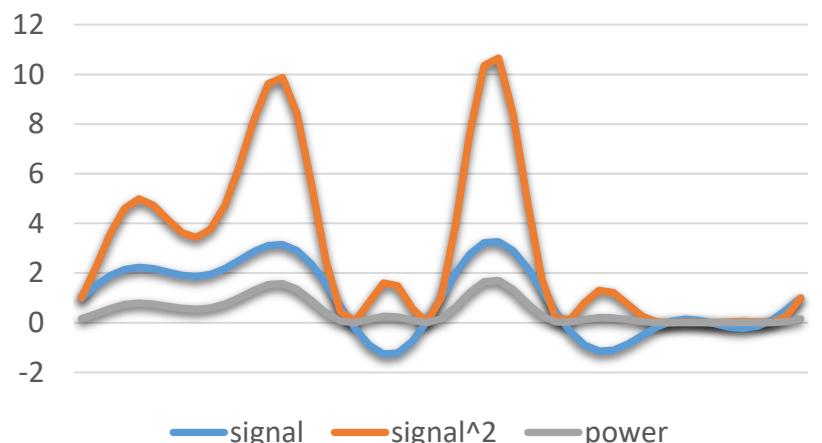
- this includes signals with either finite or infinite duration
- if the signal has infinite duration, then  $E_s \rightarrow 0$  as fast as  $1/t$  (or faster)
- in the physical world, all signals have finite energy (no signal lasts forever...)

Real world:  
Signal with final  
Duration has finite ENERGY

# Power of a signal

Given a signal  $s(t)$  defined in the interval  $[-T/2, T/2]$ , the average power of the signal is defined as: the Avg of the energy over the period  $T$

$$P_f(T) \triangleq \frac{1}{T} \int_{-\frac{T}{2}}^{\frac{T}{2}} |s(t)|^2 dt = \frac{E_s(T)}{T}$$



(Limited deviation, cont)  
 Power over a period  $T \Rightarrow$  if  $\lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\int_{-\frac{T}{2}}^{\frac{T}{2}} (s(t))^2 dt}{T} < \infty$   
 & finite

A signal is with finite power (**power signal**) if the limit:

$$P_s = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_{-\frac{T}{2}}^{\frac{T}{2}} |s(t)|^2 dt > 0$$

&&  $P_s < +\infty$

## PERIODIC SIGNALS

Periodic signals are an important class of signals with finite power: and every

- they have infinite energy, but constant power
- their average power equals the average power computed in a period

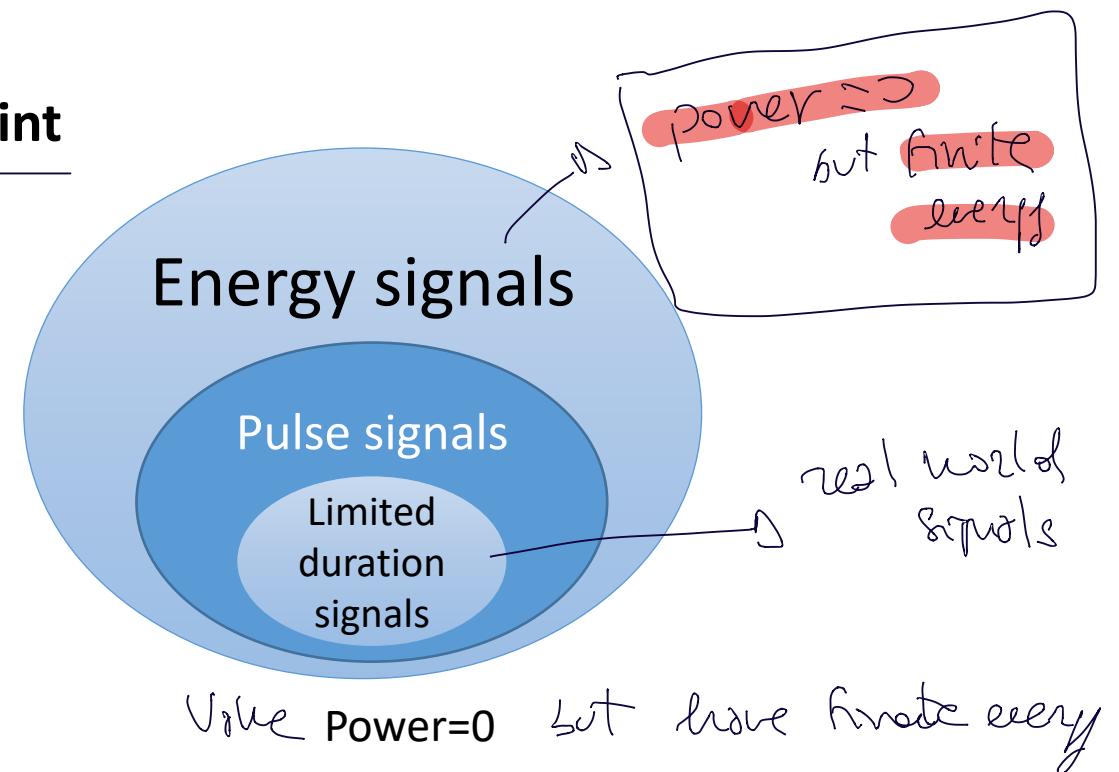
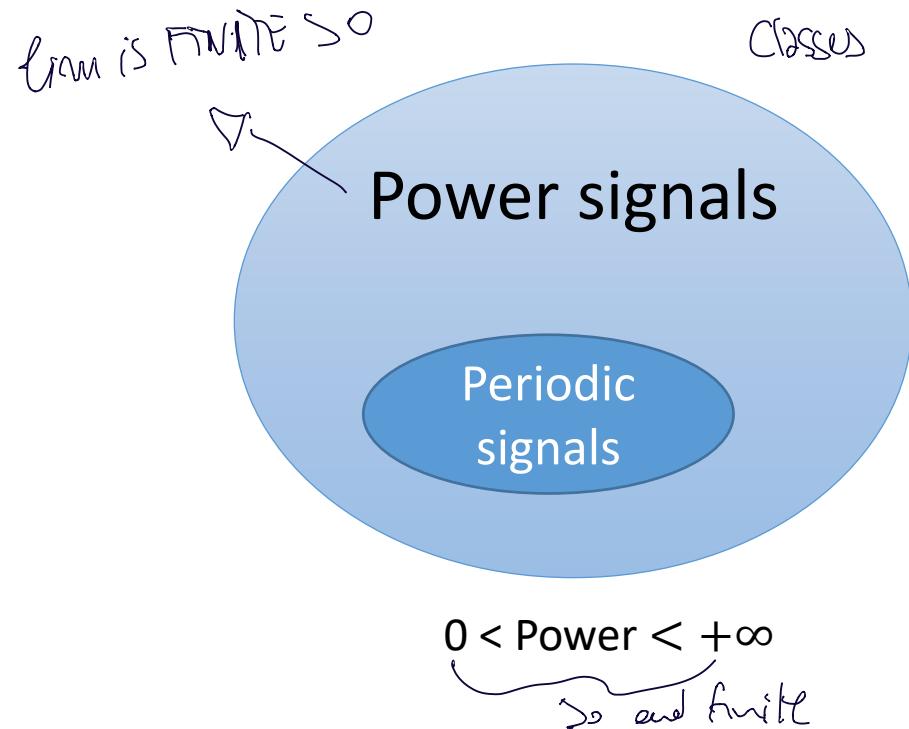
$\Rightarrow$  for a periodic signal, can compute the power  
 (Same computing  $T \rightarrow \infty$  ||  $T = \text{period of signal}$ )  
 and it's finite

$\Rightarrow$  Avg Power =  
Avg power emitted  
in a period

# Energy and power

If a signal has finite energy its average power is zero,  
hence the classes of signals:

- with finite energy (energy signals)
- with finite average power (power signals)  $> 0$



# Examples

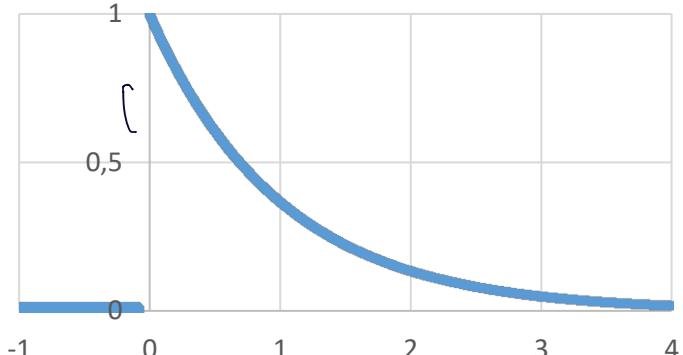
The exponential signal:

*exp signal*

$$s(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \forall t < 0 \\ ae^{-bt} & \forall t \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

Has finite energy:

$$E_s = \int_0^{\infty} |s(t)|^2 dt = \frac{a^2}{2b} < \infty$$



Has null average power:

$$P_s = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^{\frac{T}{2}} |s(t)|^2 dt = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a^2}{2bT} = 0 \Rightarrow \text{finite energy}$$

The periodic signal:  $s(t) = \cos(t) \quad \forall t$

*periodic in per 2π*

Has infinite energy and finite average power:

$$P_s = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_{-\frac{T}{2}}^{\frac{T}{2}} \cos^2(t) dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2(t) dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{2} dt + \underbrace{\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{2} \cos(2t) dt}_{\text{why}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

# Question

ENERGY  $\Rightarrow$  FINITE DURATION  
SIGNAL

POWER  
SIGNAL  $\Rightarrow$  PERIODIC SIGNAL

Classify the following signals as Energy and Power signals and explain why

- $s(t) = \cos(t)$  ~~power~~ <sup>Signal</sup>  $\cos(t)$  is periodic  $\Rightarrow$  power is periodic
- $s(t) = \begin{cases} 3 & -2 < t < -1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$   $\Rightarrow$  energy signal  $\Rightarrow$  final duration
- $s(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{t} & 1 < t < 10 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$   $\leftarrow$  energy  $\Rightarrow$  final duration  
energy is a final value

