BLM2041 Signals and Systems

Week 7

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Fourier Series Motivation "Fourier Series" allows us to write "virtually any" real-world PERIODIC signal as a sum of sinusoids with appropriate amplitudes and phases. So... we can think of "building a periodic signal from sinusoidal building blocks". Later we will extend that idea to also build many non-periodic signals from sinusoidal building blocks! Thus, it is very common for engineers to think about "virtually any" signal as being made up of "sinusoidal components". Q: Why all this attention to sinusoids? A: Recall from Circuits... "sinusoid analysis" of RLC circuits: Fundamental Result: Sinusoid In ⇒ Sinusoid Out (Same Frequency, Different Amplitude & Phase) Acos(ω_I + φ). - ∞ < t < ∞ R Bcos(ω_I + φ). - ∞ < t < ∞

Fourier Series Motivation This "sinusoid in, sinusoid out" result holds for Constant-Coefficient, Linear Differential Equations as well as any LTI system. We'll only motivate this result for this Diff. Eq.: $\ddot{y}(t) + a_1 \dot{y}(t) + a_0 y(t) = x(t)$ If the input x(t) is a sinusoid $A\cos(\omega_t t + \phi)$, $-\infty < t < \infty$... then the solution y(t) must be such that it and its derivatives can be combined to give the input sinusoid. So... suppose the solution is $y(t) = B\cos(\omega_t t + \theta)$, $-\infty < t < \infty$ $\omega_t^2 B\cos(\omega_t t + \theta) + a_1\omega_s B\sin(\omega_s t + \theta) + a_0B\cos(\omega_t t + \theta) = A\cos(\omega_s t + \phi)$ By slogging through lots of algebra and trig identities we can show this can be met with a proper choice of B and B. But it makes sense that to add up to a sinusoid we'd need all the terms on the left to be sinusoids of some sort!!! So... we have reason to believe this: Fundamental Result: Sinusoid In \Rightarrow Sinusoid Out (Same Frequency, Different Amplitude & Phase)

Fourier Series Motivation

Now... if our input is the linear combination of sinusoids:

$$x(t) = A_1 \cos(\omega_1 t + \phi_1) + A_2 \cos(\omega_2 t + \phi_2) + A_3 \cos(\omega_3 t + \phi_3) + \cdots, -\infty < t < \infty$$

By linearity (i.e., superposition) we know that we can simply handle each term separately... and we know that each input sinusoid term gives an output sinusoid term:

 $y(t) = B_1 \cos\left(\omega_1 t + \theta_1\right) + B_2 \cos\left(\omega_2 t + \theta_2\right) + B_3 \cos\left(\omega_3 t + \theta_3\right) + \cdots, -\infty < t < \infty$

So... breaking a signal into sinusoidal parts makes the job of solving a Diff. Eq. EASIER!! (This was Fourier's big idea!!)

But.... What kind of signals can we use this trick on?

Or in other words...

What kinds of signals can we build by adding together sinusoids??!!!

What Can We Build with Sinusoids?

Let ω_0 be some given "fundamental" frequency

Q: What can I build from building blocks that looks like:

$$A_k \cos(k\omega_o + \theta_k)$$
 ?

Only frequencies that are <u>integer</u> multiples of ω_o Ex.: $\omega_o = 30$ rad/sec then consider 0, 30 60, 90, ...

We can explore this by choosing a few different cases of values for the A_k and θ_k

On the next slide we limit ourselves to looking at three cases where we limit ourselves to having only three terms...

For this example let $\omega_0 = 2\pi \text{ rad/sec}$ and look at a sum for k = 1, 2, 3:

$$x(t) = A_1 \cos(2\pi t + \phi_1) + A_2 \cos(2 \times 2\pi t + \phi_2) + A_3 \cos(3 \times 2\pi t + \phi_3)$$















































