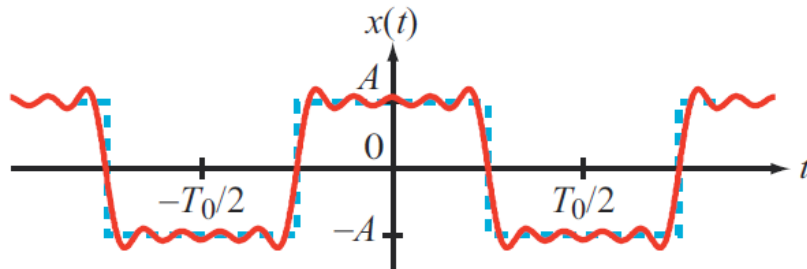
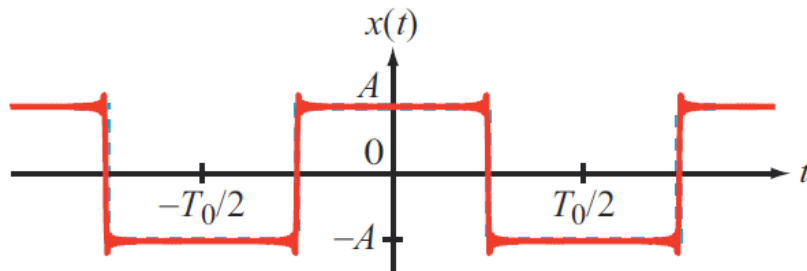


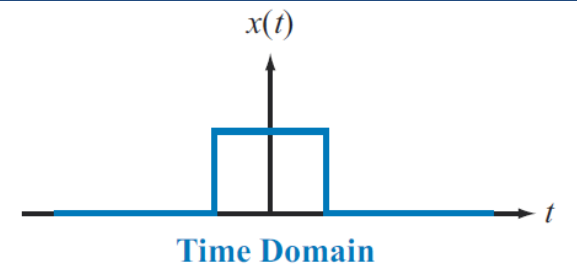
(c) Fourier series with 3 terms



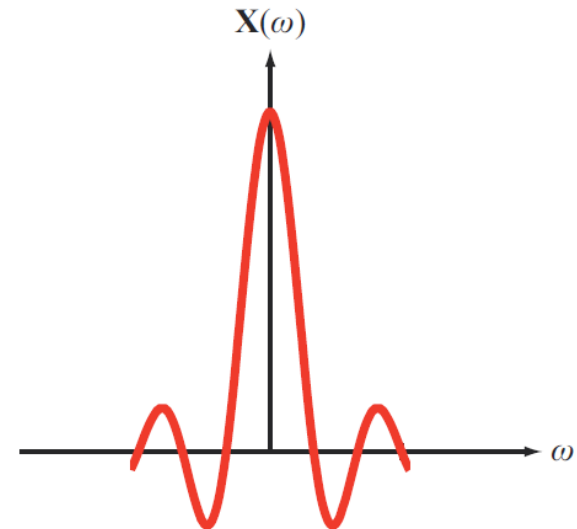
(d) Fourier series with 10 terms



(e) Fourier series with 100 terms



Time Domain



Frequency Domain

5. FOURIER ANALYSIS TECHNIQUE

Fourier Analysis Techniques

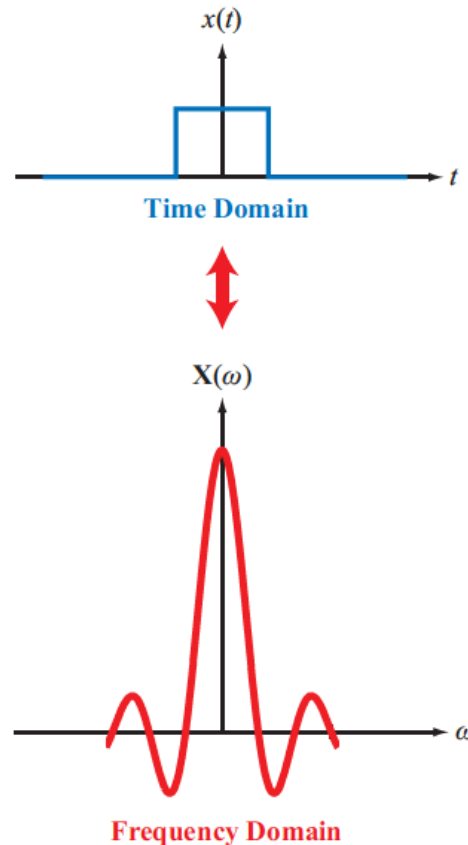
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Objectives

Learn to:

- Apply the phasor-domain technique to analyze systems driven by sinusoidal excitations.
- Express periodic signals in terms of Fourier series.
- Use Fourier series to analyze systems driven by continuous periodic signals.
- Apply Parseval's theorem to compute the power or energy contained in a signal.
- Compute the Fourier transform of nonperiodic signals and use it to analyze the system response to nonperiodic excitations.



Time-domain signals have *frequency domain spectra*. Because many analysis and design projects are easier to work with in the frequency domain, the ability to easily *transform signals and systems* back and forth between the two domains will prove invaluable in succeeding chapters.

Phasor Analysis: Basics

- If an LTI system is described by a differential equation with an eternal sinusoidal input, then **phasor analysis** is a simple procedure for computing the system response
- The system response is also an eternal sinusoidal signal
- The **phasor** associated with **signal** $v(t) = V_0 \cos(\omega t + \phi)$ is the **complex number** $\mathbf{V} = V_0 e^{j\phi}$

$$v(t) = V_0 \cos(\omega t + \phi) \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \mathbf{V} = V_0 e^{j\phi}$$

- If $\mathbf{X} = |\mathbf{X}| e^{j\phi}$ then $\Re[|\mathbf{X}| e^{j\phi} e^{j\omega t}] = |\mathbf{X}| \cos(\omega t + \phi)$

Phasor Analysis: Basics

- The effects of differentiation and integration are:

$x(t)$		\mathbf{X}
$A \cos \omega t$	\longleftrightarrow	A
$A \cos(\omega t + \phi)$	\longleftrightarrow	$Ae^{j\phi}$
$-A \cos(\omega t + \phi)$	\longleftrightarrow	$Ae^{j(\phi \pm \pi)}$
$A \sin \omega t$	\longleftrightarrow	$Ae^{-j\pi/2} = -jA$
$A \sin(\omega t + \phi)$	\longleftrightarrow	$Ae^{j(\phi - \pi/2)}$
$-A \sin(\omega t + \phi)$	\longleftrightarrow	$Ae^{j(\phi + \pi/2)}$
$\frac{d}{dt}[A \cos(\omega t + \phi)]$	\longleftrightarrow	$j\omega Ae^{j\phi}$
$\int A \cos(\omega t' + \phi) dt'$	\longleftrightarrow	$\frac{1}{j\omega} Ae^{j\phi}$

$$i(t) = \Re[\mathbf{I}e^{j\omega t}]$$

$$\frac{di}{dt} \longleftrightarrow j\omega \mathbf{I}$$

$$\int i dt' \longleftrightarrow \frac{\mathbf{I}}{j\omega}$$

- Use these properties to convert manipulations of sines and cosines into manipulations of complex numbers

Phasor Analysis: Example

- Use phasor analysis to solve the differential equation ($a=300$ and $b=50,000$)

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + a \frac{dy}{dt} + by = 10 \sin(100t + 60^\circ)$$

- The phasor associated with the input is $\mathbf{X} = 10e^{-j30^\circ}$
- The differential equation becomes algebraic

$$(j\omega)^2\mathbf{Y} + j\omega a\mathbf{Y} + b\mathbf{Y} = 10e^{-j30^\circ}$$

- The phasor associated with the output is then found as

$$\mathbf{Y} = \frac{10e^{-j30^\circ}}{b - \omega^2 + j\omega a} = \frac{10e^{-j30^\circ}}{10^4(4 + j3)} = \frac{10^{-3}e^{-j30^\circ}}{5e^{j36.87^\circ}} = 0.2 \times 10^{-3}e^{-j66.87^\circ}$$

- The response is then $y(t) = 0.2 \times 10^{-3} \cos(100t - 66.87^\circ)$

Fourier Series Expansions of Periodic Signals

- Let $x(t)$ be **periodic**: $x(t) = x(t + nT_0)$
- Then $x(t)$ can be expressed as a linear combination of sinusoids at **harmonic** frequencies:

$$x(t) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n \cos(n\omega_0 t) + b_n \sin(n\omega_0 t)] \quad (5.26a)$$

(sine/cosine representation)

$$= c_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \cos(n\omega_0 t + \phi_n) \quad (5.26b)$$

(amplitude/phase representation)

Fourier Series Expansions of Periodic Signals

- Let $x(t)$ be **periodic**: $x(t) = x(t + nT_0)$
- Now $x(t)$ need not be real-valued
- Then $x(t)$ can be expressed as a linear combination of complex exponentials at **harmonic** frequencies:

$$x(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{x}_n e^{jn\omega_0 t},$$

(exponential representation)

Fourier Series Expansions of Periodic Signals

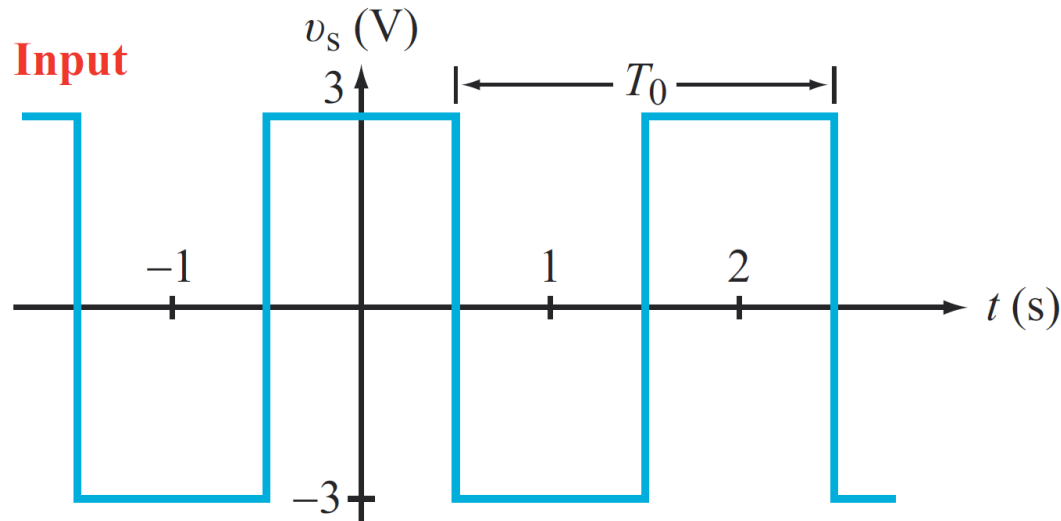
- Fundamental angular frequency: $\omega_0 = 2\pi / T_0$
- dc or average term: a_0 or c_0
- Fundamental term: $c_1 \cos(\omega_0 t + \phi_1)$
- Harmonics: $c_n \cos(n\omega_0 t + \phi_n)$
- Fundamental has same period as $x(t)$
- In music: harmonics are known as overtones
- $\{a_n, b_n, c_n, \mathbf{x}_n\}$ are Fourier coefficients

Fourier Series Expansions of Periodic Signals

1. A Fourier series is a mathematical version of a *prism*; it breaks up a signal into different frequencies, just as a prism (or diffraction grating) breaks up light into different colors (which are light at different frequencies).
2. A Fourier series is a mathematical depiction of *adding overtones* to a basic note to give a richer and fuller sound. It can also be used as a formula for *synthesis* of sounds and tones.
3. A Fourier series is a representation of $x(t)$ in terms of *orthogonal functions*.

Fourier Series Example

The Fourier series expansion of the periodic signal

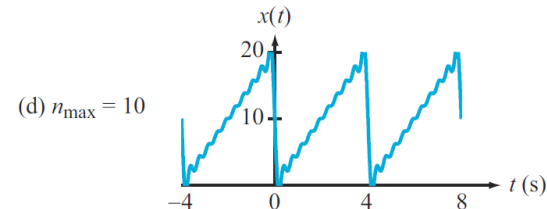
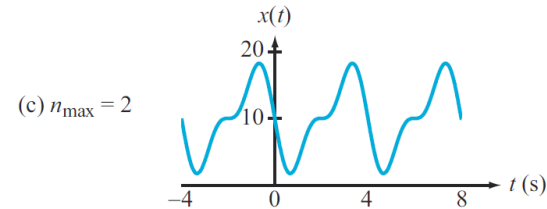
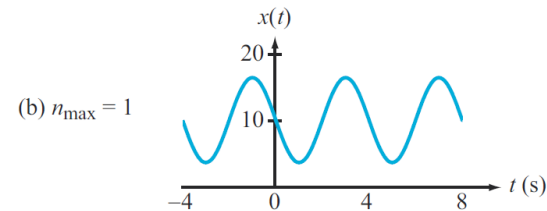
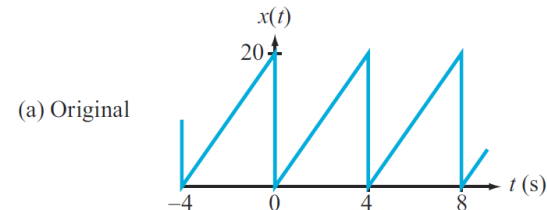
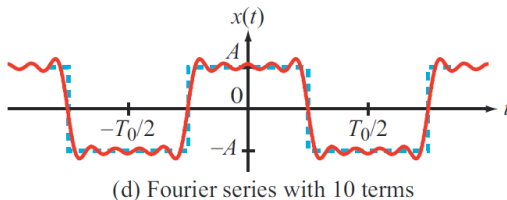
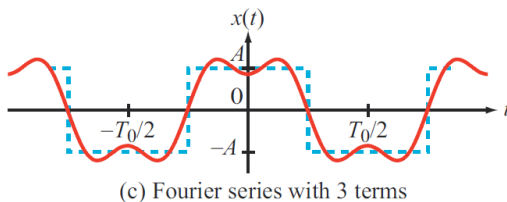
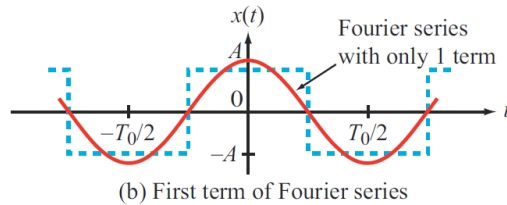
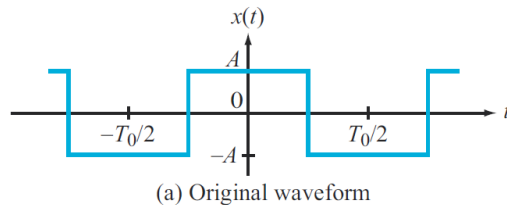


is the infinite series

$$v_s(t) = \frac{12}{\pi} \left(\cos \omega_0 t - \frac{1}{3} \cos 3\omega_0 t + \frac{1}{5} \cos 5\omega_0 t - \dots \right)$$

Fourier Series Expansions of Periodic Signals

Adding more terms makes the Fourier series resemble more closely the original signal:



Three Forms of Fourier Series Expansion:

$$x(t) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n \cos(n\omega_0 t) + b_n \sin(n\omega_0 t)].$$

(sine/cosine representation) (5.27)

$$x(t) = c_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \cos(n\omega_0 t + \phi_n),$$

(amplitude/phase representation)

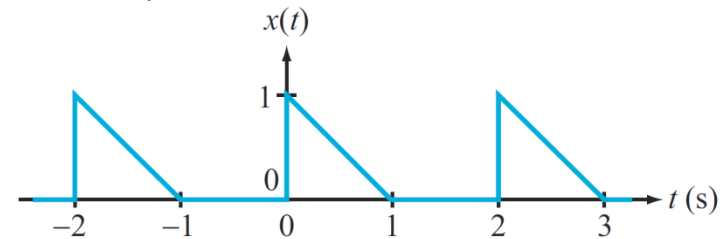
$$x(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{x}_n e^{jn\omega_0 t},$$

(exponential representation)

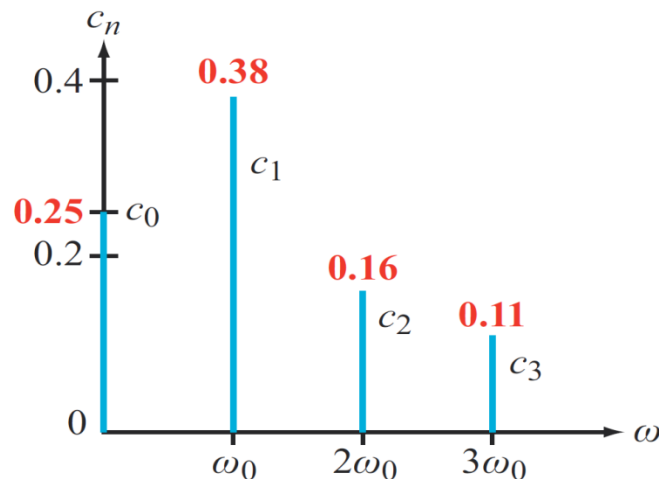
One-Sided Line Spectrum of $x(t)$

- Plot of amplitudes C_n and phases ϕ_n vs. frequency ω .
- Example: $x(t)$ has period=2.

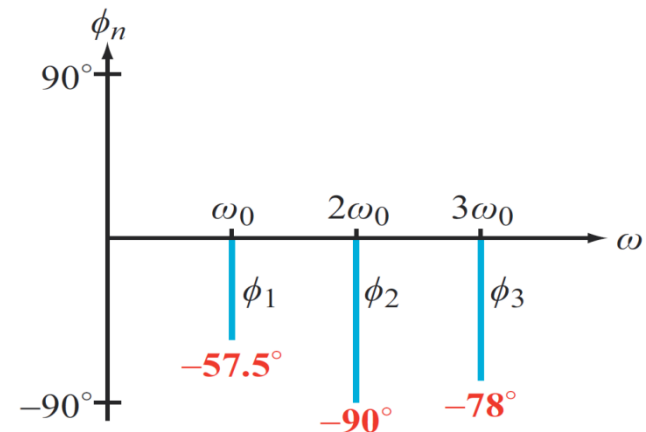
$$C_n = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{4}{n^4 \pi^4} + \frac{1}{n^2 \pi^2} \right)^{1/2} & \text{for } n = \text{odd,} \\ \frac{1}{n\pi} & \text{for } n = \text{even} \end{cases}$$



- Amplitude spectrum:



- Phase spectrum:

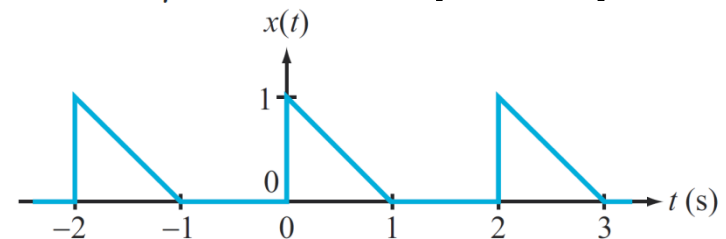


Two-Sided Line Spectrum of $x(t)$

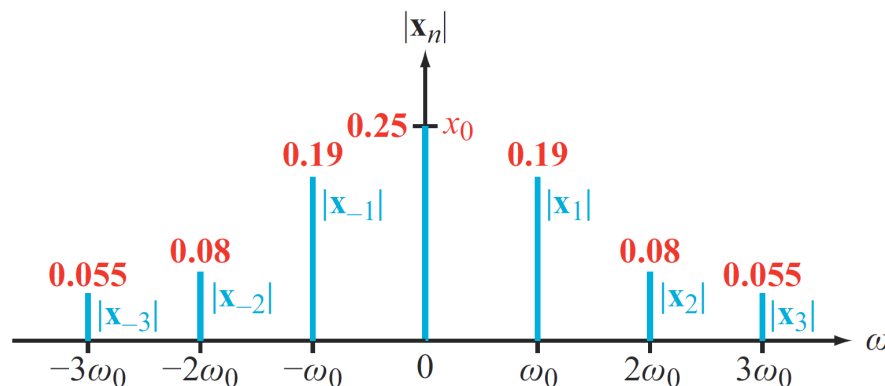
□ Plot of magnitudes $|x_n|$ and phases ϕ_n vs. frequency ω .

□ Example: $x(t)$ has period=2.

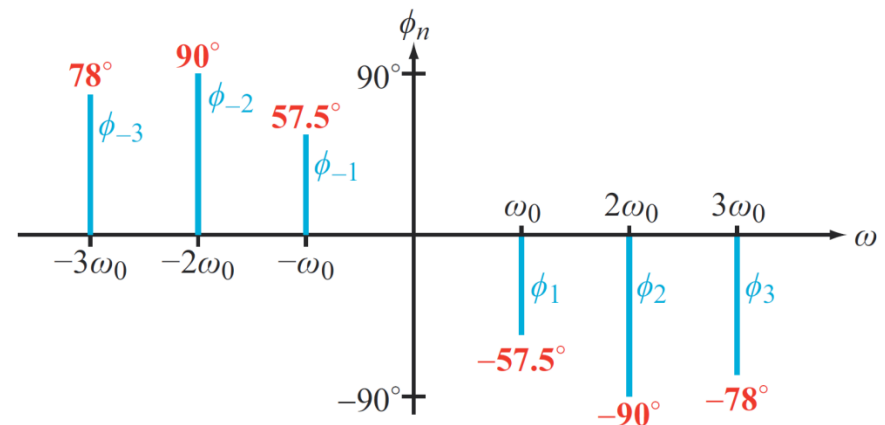
$$C_n = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{4}{n^4 \pi^4} + \frac{1}{n^2 \pi^2} \right)^{1/2} & \text{for } n = \text{odd,} \\ \frac{1}{n\pi} & \text{for } n = \text{even} \end{cases}$$



□ Magnitude spectrum:

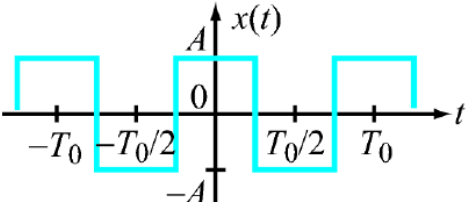
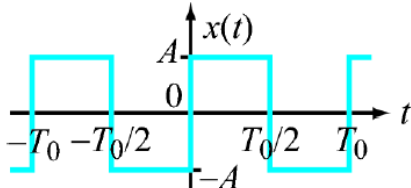
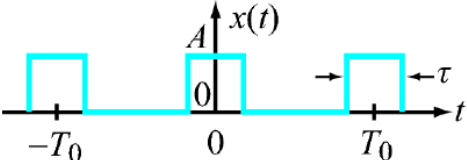
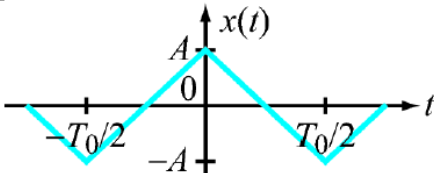


Phase spectrum:



Fourier Series Expansions for Some General Forms of Periodic Signals

Table 5-4: Fourier series expressions for a select set of periodic waveforms.

	Waveform	Fourier Series
1. Square Wave		$x(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4A}{n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi t}{T_0}\right)$
2. Time-Shifted Square Wave		$x(t) = \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ n=\text{odd}}}^{\infty} \frac{4A}{n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi t}{T_0}\right)$
3. Pulse Train		$x(t) = \frac{A\tau}{T_0} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2A}{n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi\tau}{T_0}\right) \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi t}{T_0}\right)$
4. Triangular Wave		$x(t) = \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ n=\text{odd}}}^{\infty} \frac{8A}{n^2\pi^2} \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi t}{T_0}\right)$

Computing Coefficients of Fourier Series:

Sine/Cosine Form of Fourier Series Expansion

$$x(t) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n \cos(n\omega_0 t) + b_n \sin(n\omega_0 t)].$$

(sine/cosine representation) (5.27)

Compute coefficients from a single period of $x(t)$ using the formulae

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} x(t) dt,$$
$$a_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} x(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt,$$

and $b_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} x(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt.$

Computing Coefficients of Fourier Series:

Amplitude/Phase Form of Fourier Series Expansion

$$x(t) = c_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \cos(n\omega_0 t + \phi_n),$$

(amplitude/phase representation)

Compute coefficients from a single period of $x(t)$ using the formula

$$c_n = \sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2}$$

and

$$\phi_n = \begin{cases} -\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{b_n}{a_n} \right), & a_n > 0 \\ \pi - \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{b_n}{a_n} \right), & a_n < 0 \end{cases}$$

Computing Coefficients of Fourier Series:

Exponential Form of Fourier Series Expansion

$$x(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{x}_n e^{jn\omega_0 t},$$

(exponential representation).

Compute coefficients from a single period of $x(t)$ using the formula

$$\mathbf{x}_n = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} x(t) e^{-jn\omega_0 t} dt.$$

Note this is much simpler than using the other two representations.

Summary of the Three Fourier Series Representations:

Relations Between the Coefficients of the Representations

Table 5-3: Fourier series representations for a real-valued periodic function $x(t)$.

Cosine/Sine	Amplitude/Phase	Complex Exponential
$x(t) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n \cos(n\omega_0 t) + b_n \sin(n\omega_0 t)]$	$x(t) = c_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \cos(n\omega_0 t + \phi_n)$	$x(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{x}_n e^{jn\omega_0 t}$
$a_0 = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} x(t) dt$	$c_n e^{j\phi_n} = a_n - jb_n$	$\mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{x}_n e^{j\phi_n}; \mathbf{x}_{-n} = \mathbf{x}_n^*; \phi_{-n} = -\phi_n$
$a_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} x(t) \cos n\omega_0 t dt$	$c_n = \sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2}$	$ \mathbf{x}_n = c_n/2; x_0 = c_0$
$b_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} x(t) \sin n\omega_0 t dt$	$\phi_n = \begin{cases} -\tan^{-1}(b_n/a_n), & a_n > 0 \\ \pi - \tan^{-1}(b_n/a_n), & a_n < 0 \end{cases}$	$\mathbf{x}_n = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} x(t) e^{-jn\omega_0 t} dt$
$a_0 = c_0 = x_0; a_n = c_n \cos \phi_n; b_n = -c_n \sin \phi_n; \mathbf{x}_n = \frac{1}{2}(a_n - jb_n)$		

Symmetry Simplifies Computation

Even Symmetry: $x(t) = x(-t)$

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} x(t) dt$$

$$a_n = \frac{4}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} x(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

$$b_n = 0$$

$$c_n = |a_n|, \quad \phi_n = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } a_n > 0 \\ 180^\circ & \text{if } a_n < 0 \end{cases}$$

Odd Symmetry: $x(t) = -x(-t)$

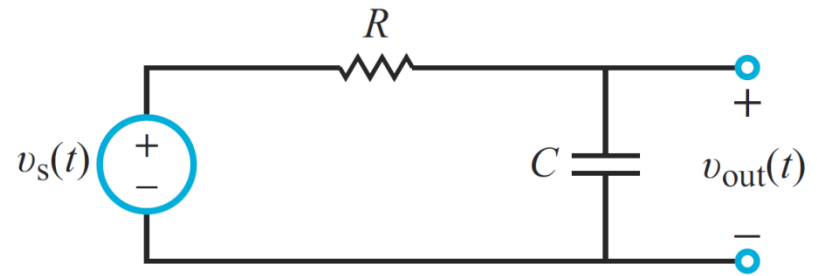
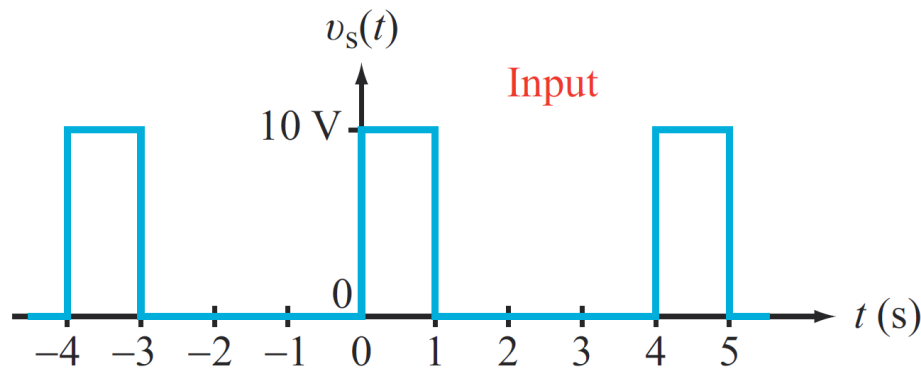
$$a_0 = 0 \quad a_n = 0$$

$$b_n = \frac{4}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} x(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

$$c_n = |b_n| \quad \phi_n = \begin{cases} -90^\circ & \text{if } b_n > 0 \\ 90^\circ & \text{if } b_n < 0 \end{cases}$$

Circuit Analysis using Fourier Series

- Compute the voltage response of the RC circuit shown to the input square wave shown, using Fourier series. The time constant RC of the circuit is $RC=2$ s.



Circuit Analysis using Fourier Series

- The input waveform has the Fourier series expansion

$$v_s(t) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \cos(n\omega_0 t + \phi_n)$$

$$c_n \angle \phi_n = a_n - j b_n = \frac{10}{n\pi} \left[\sin \frac{n\pi}{2} - j \left(1 - \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} \right) \right]$$

- The RC circuit has the transfer function (RC=2 s)

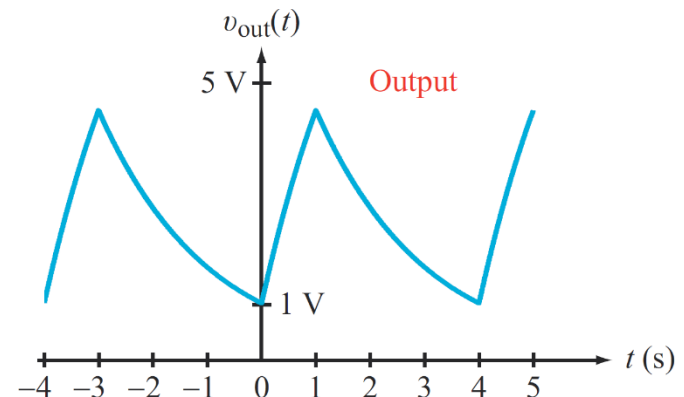
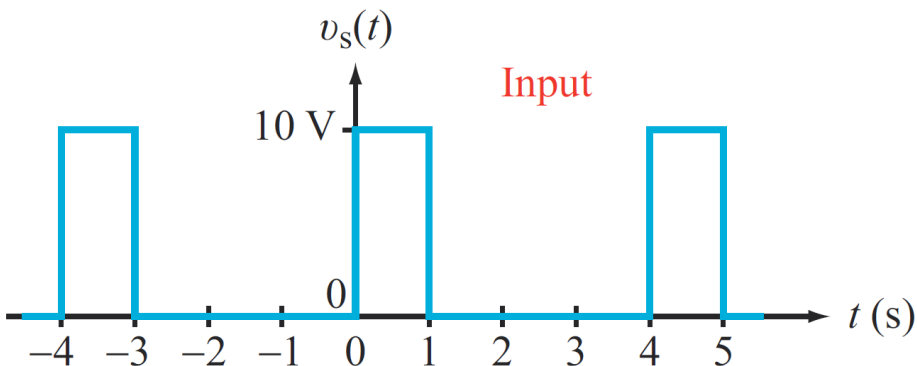
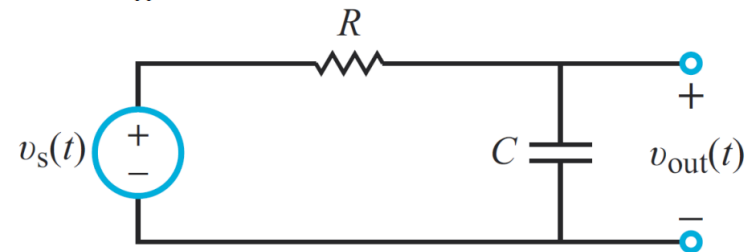
$$\mathbf{H}(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + 4\omega^2}} e^{-j \tan^{-1}(2\omega)}$$

Circuit Analysis using Fourier Series

- The output waveform has the Fourier series expansion

$$v_{\text{out}}(t) = 2.5 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \Re \left\{ c_n \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + 4n^2\omega_0^2}} e^{j[n\omega_0 t + \phi_n - \tan^{-1}(2n\omega_0)]} \right\}$$

- Plot of the output waveform



Parseval's Theorem for Fourier Series:

Average Power is the same whether computed in the time domain or frequency domain

$$P_x = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} |x(t)|^2 dt = a_0^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2)/2, \quad (5.58a)$$

$$P_x = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} |x(t)|^2 dt = c_0^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n^2/2, \quad (5.58b)$$

$$P_x = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} |x(t)|^2 dt = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |\mathbf{x}_n|^2. \quad (5.58c)$$

Recall that average power of $c_n \cos(n\omega_0 t + \phi_n)$ is $c_n^2/2$

Fourier Transform

- For non-periodic signals
- Obtain from Fourier series as period $\rightarrow \infty$
- Compute forward Fourier transform from $x(t)$:

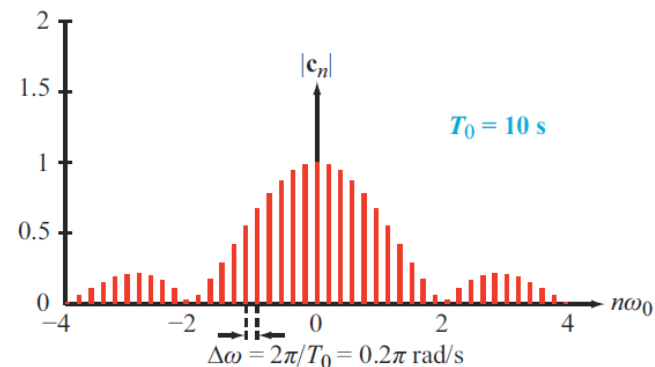
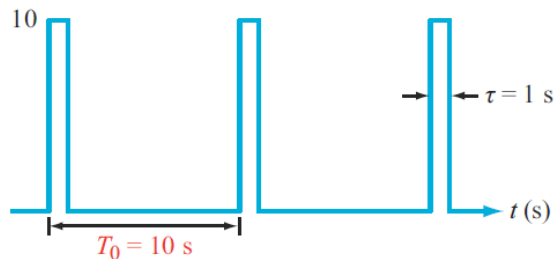
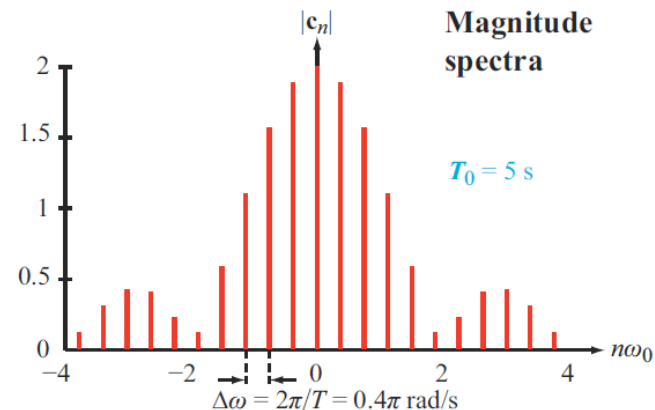
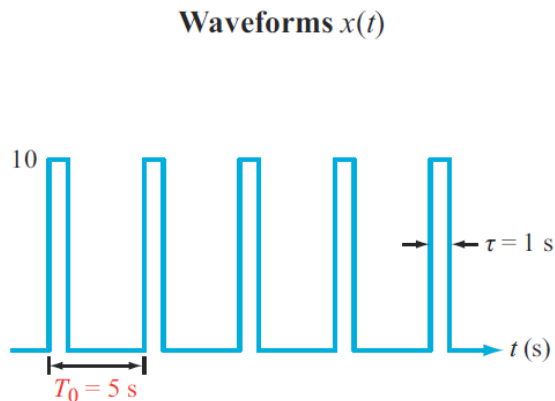
$$\mathbf{X}(\omega) = \mathcal{F}[x(t)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

- Compute inverse Fourier transform: recover $x(t)$:

$$x(t) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}[\mathbf{X}(\omega)] = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{X}(\omega) e^{j\omega t} d\omega$$

Fourier Series → Fourier Transform

- Consider a periodic pulse train. Let its period $\rightarrow \infty$.
Then its two-sided magnitude line spectrum looks like:



Fourier Series → Fourier Transform

□ Exponential Fourier series:

$$x(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{x}_n e^{jn\omega_0 t}$$

□ Coefficients computed using:

$$\mathbf{x}_n = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} x(t') e^{-jn\omega_0 t'} dt'$$

□ Spacing between harmonics: $\Delta\omega = (n+1)\omega_0 - n\omega_0 = \omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T_0}$

□ Insert coefficient formula into exponential series:

$$x(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} x(t') e^{-jn\omega_0 t'} dt' \right] e^{jn\omega_0 t} \Delta\omega.$$

□ Let the period $\rightarrow \infty$. Bracketed quantity is $\hat{\mathbf{X}}(\omega)$

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t') e^{-j\omega t'} dt' \right] e^{j\omega t} d\omega.$$

Important Fourier Transform Pairs

- **Impulses** in time and frequency:

$$\delta(t) \longleftrightarrow 1.$$

$$1 \longleftrightarrow 2\pi \delta(\omega).$$

- **Causal exponential** signals:

$$Ae^{-at} u(t) \longleftrightarrow \frac{A}{a + j\omega} \quad \text{for } a > 0.$$

- **Eternal sinusoidal** signals:

$$\cos \omega_0 t \longleftrightarrow \pi[\delta(\omega - \omega_0) + \delta(\omega + \omega_0)],$$

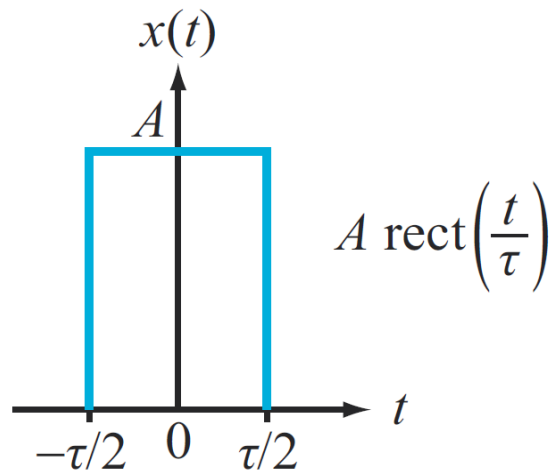
$$\sin \omega_0 t \longleftrightarrow j\pi[\delta(\omega + \omega_0) - \delta(\omega - \omega_0)].$$

Fourier Transform of a Pulse

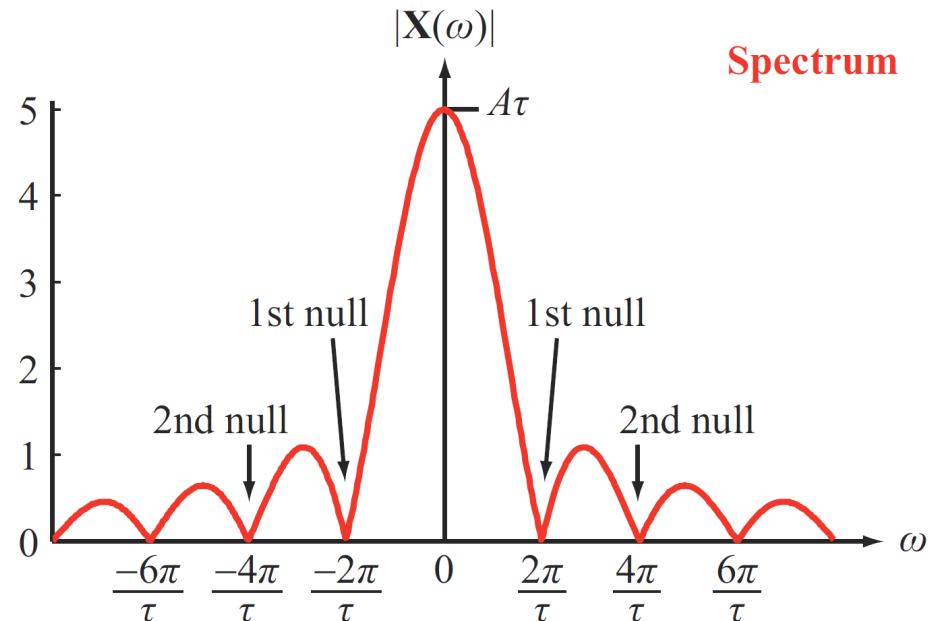
$$x(t) = A \operatorname{rect}(t/\tau) \text{ leads to } \mathbf{X}(\omega) = A\tau \frac{\sin(\omega\tau/2)}{(\omega\tau/2)} = A\tau \operatorname{sinc}\left(\frac{\omega\tau}{2}\right)$$

The sinc function is defined as $\operatorname{sinc}(\theta) = \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta}$ $\operatorname{sinc}(0) = \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\theta} \Big|_{\theta=0} = 1$

Signal



Spectrum



Important Fourier Transform Properties

$$K_1 x_1(t) + K_2 x_2(t) \longleftrightarrow K_1 \mathbf{X}_1(\omega) + K_2 \mathbf{X}_2(\omega),$$

(linearity property) (5.90)

$$x'(t) \longleftrightarrow j\omega \mathbf{X}(\omega).$$

(derivative property)

$$x(at) \longleftrightarrow \frac{1}{|a|} \mathbf{X}\left(\frac{\omega}{a}\right), \quad \text{for any } a.$$

(scaling property)

For real-valued $x(t)$, we have:

$$\mathbf{X}(-\omega) = \mathbf{X}^*(\omega).$$

(reversal property)

$$x(t) \cos(\omega_0 t) \longleftrightarrow \frac{1}{2} [\mathbf{X}(\omega - \omega_0) + \mathbf{X}(\omega + \omega_0)].$$

(modulation property) (5.109)

□ Modulation property used for radio

Important Fourier Transform Properties

- The following two properties are duals of each other:

$$e^{j\omega_0 t} x(t) \longleftrightarrow \mathbf{X}(\omega - \omega_0),$$

(frequency-shift property)

$$x(t - t_0) \longleftrightarrow e^{-j\omega t_0} \mathbf{X}(\omega).$$

(time-shift property)

- Parseval's theorem for the Fourier transform: ENERGY is the same when computed in time or in frequency:

$$E = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x(t)|^2 dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\mathbf{X}(\omega)|^2 d\omega.$$

(Parseval's theorem)

Example of Time Scaling Property

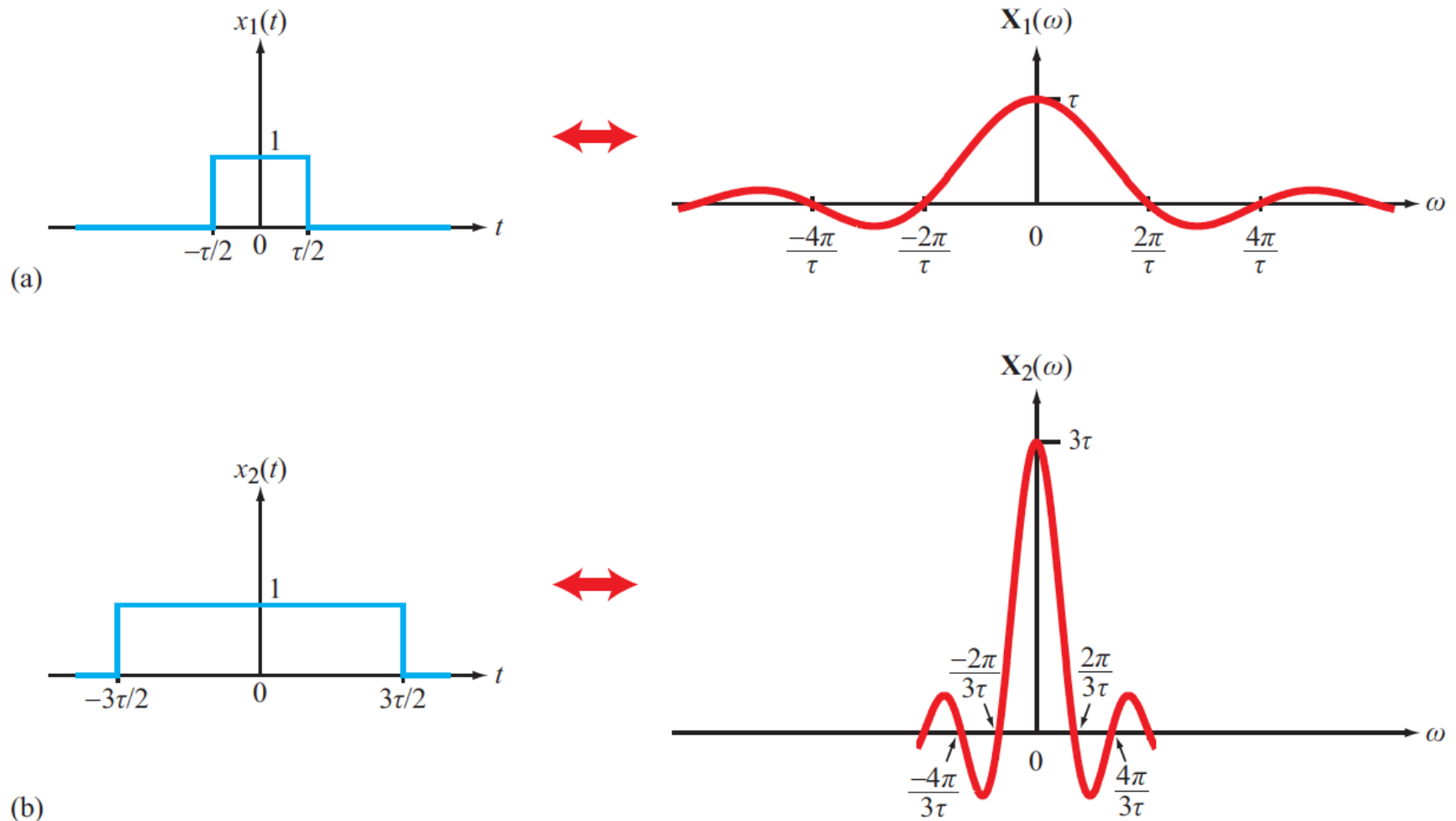


Figure 5-14: Stretching $x_1(t)$ to get $x_2(t)$ entails stretching t by a factor of 3. The corresponding spectrum $X_2(\omega)$ is a 3-times compressed version of $X_1(\omega)$.

Conjugate Symmetry Implications

- If $x(t)$ is real-valued, then $\mathbf{X}(\omega)$ **has conjugate symmetry**:

$$\mathbf{X}(-\omega) = \mathbf{X}^*(\omega).$$

(reversal property)

Consequently, for a *real-valued* $x(t)$, its Fourier transform $\mathbf{X}(\omega)$ exhibits the following symmetry properties:

- (a)** $|\mathbf{X}(\omega)|$ is an even function ($|\mathbf{X}(\omega)| = |\mathbf{X}(-\omega)|$).
- (b)** $\arg[\mathbf{X}(\omega)]$ is an odd function
($\arg[\mathbf{X}(\omega)] = -\arg[\mathbf{X}(-\omega)]$).
- (c)** If $x(t)$ is real and an even function of time, $\mathbf{X}(\omega)$ will be purely real and an even function.
- (d)** If $x(t)$ is real and an odd function of time, $\mathbf{X}(\omega)$ will be purely imaginary and an odd function.

Example of Parseval's Theorem

- Confirm Parseval's theorem holds for $x(t) = e^{-at} u(t)$
- Parseval's theorem: $E = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x(t)|^2 dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\hat{X}(\omega)|^2 d\omega$
- Fourier transform pair: $Ae^{-at} u(t) \longleftrightarrow \frac{A}{a + j\omega} \text{ for } a > 0$

Energy in time domain:

$$\int_0^{\infty} |e^{-at}|^2 dt = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-2at} dt = \frac{1}{2a} .$$

Energy in frequency domain:

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| \frac{1}{a + j\omega} \right|^2 d\omega = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a^2 + \omega^2} d\omega = \frac{1}{2a}$$

Fourier Transform of Periodic Signal

- The Fourier transform of a periodic signal is found by Fourier transforming its Fourier series expansion:

$$x(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{x}_n e^{jn\omega_0 t}.$$

- The Fourier transform of a complex exponential is

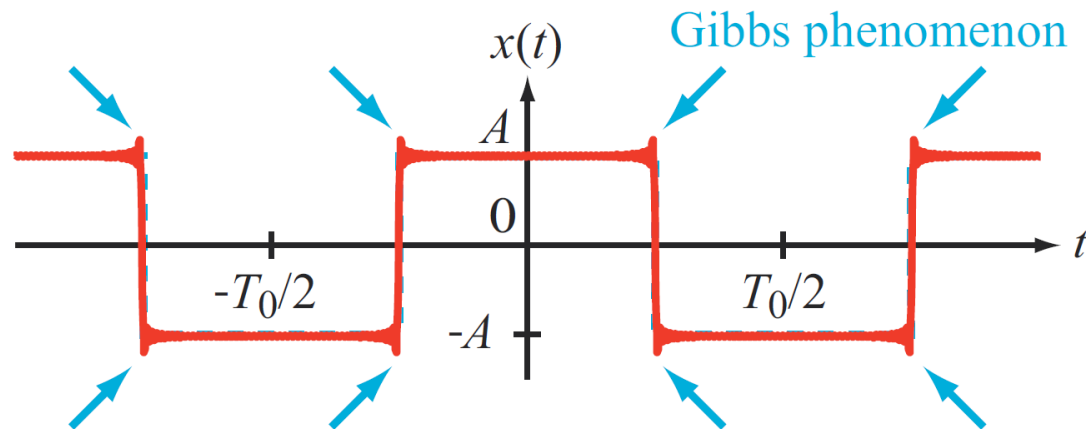
$$\mathcal{F} \left\{ e^{j\omega_0 t} \right\} = 2\pi \delta(\omega - \omega_0)$$

- So the Fourier transform of the periodic signal is

$$\mathcal{F} \{x(t)\} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{x}_n 2\pi \delta(\omega - n\omega_0).$$

Gibbs's Phenomenon

- If $x(t)$ is **not continuous** at $t=t_i$ then the Fourier series expansion of $x(t)$ converges to the midpoint of the discontinuity, which is $\frac{1}{2}[x(t_i^+) + x(t_i^-)]$
- There is an **overshoot**, called **Gibbs phenomenon**
- This does **not** disappear if more terms are used



(b) Fourier series with 100 terms

Phasor vs. Laplace vs. Fourier

- Which of these three methods should be used?

This table shows that the input dictates the choice.

Input $x(t)$		Solution Method	Output $y(t)$
Duration	Waveform		
Everlasting	Sinusoid	Phasor Domain	Steady State Component (no transient exists)
Everlasting	Periodic	Phasor Domain and Fourier Series	Steady State Component (no transient exists)
Causal, $x(t) = 0$, for $t < 0$	Any	Laplace Transform (unilateral) (can accommodate non-zero initial conditions)	Complete Solution (transient + steady state)
Everlasting	Any	Bilateral Laplace Transform or Fourier Transform	Complete Solution (transient + steady state)