

## Fourier Series Expansion of a Square Wave

$$f(x) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 1 & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq L \\ -1 & \text{if } L \leq x \leq 2L \end{array} \right\} \quad (1)$$

Fourier series expansion is given by

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} A_n e^{\frac{\iota 2\pi n x}{2L}} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{where } A_n = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) e^{\frac{\iota 2\pi n x}{2L}} dx \quad (3)$$

Using 3 for  $n = 0$ ,

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx = 0 \quad (4)$$

For  $n \neq 0$ ,

$$A_n = \frac{1}{2L} \left[ \int_0^L e^{\frac{\iota \pi n x}{L}} dx - \frac{1}{2L} \int_L^{2L} e^{\frac{\iota \pi n x}{L}} dx \right] \quad (5)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\iota \pi n} (1 - (-1)^n) \quad (6)$$

Equation 2 can be simplified using the formula

$$\frac{e^{\iota x} - e^{-\iota x}}{2\iota} = \sin(x) \quad (7)$$

This gives us

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2(1 - (-1)^n)}{\pi n} \sin\left(\frac{\pi n x}{L}\right) \quad (8)$$