



# Sistemas Multimédia

## Signal representation and processing

Departamento de Eletrónica, Telecomunicações e Informática

Universidade de Aveiro – 2024/2025



# Fourier Series

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- In the previous classes, we have seen that we can synthesize a variety of periodic waveforms by using a sum of harmonically related sinusoids.
- Can every periodic signal be synthesized as a sum of harmonically related sinusoids?
  - If  $K \rightarrow \infty$  virtually all **periodic waveforms** can be synthesized with a sum of cosines and sines.

$\rightarrow x(t+T) = x(t), \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$

$$x(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} a_k \cos\left(2\pi k \frac{t}{T}\right) + \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} b_k \sin\left(2\pi k \frac{t}{T}\right)$$

**Classical  
Fourier series**

- The coefficients of the series can be determined by:

$$a_k = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T x(t) \cos\left(2\pi k \frac{t}{T}\right) dt \quad b_k = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T x(t) \sin\left(2\pi k \frac{t}{T}\right) dt \quad \forall_{k>0}$$



# Fourier Series

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

$$b_0 = 0$$

**average signal value**

- However, it is more practical to use complex exponentials instead of cosines and sines, and thus the previous expression can be rewritten as

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} c_k e^{+j2\pi k \frac{t}{T}}$$

**Fourier Synthesis  
Summation**

$$c_k = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T x(t) e^{-j2\pi k \frac{t}{T}} dt$$

**Fourier Analysis  
Integral**



# Fourier Series

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- It can be shown that

$$a_k = c_k + c_{-k} \quad b_k = j(c_k - c_{-k})$$

- As an example, consider the following signal with period of  $T$  and  $0 < a < \frac{T}{2}$

$$x(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } |t| < a \\ 0, & a \leq |t| \leq \frac{T}{2} \\ x(t-T), & \text{if } t > \frac{T}{2} \\ x(t+T), & \text{if } t < -\frac{T}{2} \end{cases}$$



# Fourier Series

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- The coefficients  $c_k$  are given by

$$\begin{aligned} c_k &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T x(t) e^{-j2\pi k \frac{t}{T}} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \int_{-a}^a (1) e^{-j2\pi k \frac{t}{T}} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \left. \frac{e^{-j2\pi k \frac{t}{T}}}{-j2\pi \frac{k}{T}} \right|_{-a}^a \\ &= \frac{\sin\left(2\pi k \frac{a}{T}\right)}{\pi k} \end{aligned}$$

For  $k=0$



$$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} c_k = \frac{2a}{T} \rightarrow \text{Average value of } x(t)$$

or

$$c_0 = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T x(t) dt$$

**Also known as DC component**



- The previous representation introduced the concept of **Spectrum** of a signal
  - A compact representation of the frequency content, i.e., how the energy of a given signal is spread by the frequencies.

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} c_k e^{+j2\pi k \frac{t}{T}}$$

Function with frequency  
 $f_k = \frac{k}{T}$

$C_k$  represents the complex coefficients in frequency domain (modulus and phase). Concept of “positive” and “negative” frequencies

## Recall

$$\cos(2\pi f_0 t) = \frac{e^{+j2\pi f_0 t} + e^{-j2\pi f_0 t}}{2}$$



We can say that the signal  $\cos(2\pi f_0 t)$  is composed by two signals, one with a frequency  $f_0$  and other with frequency  $-f_0$

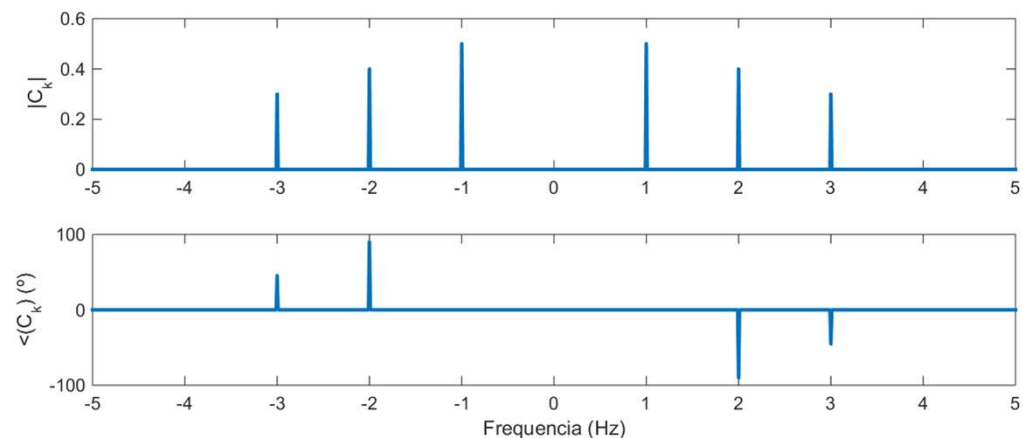
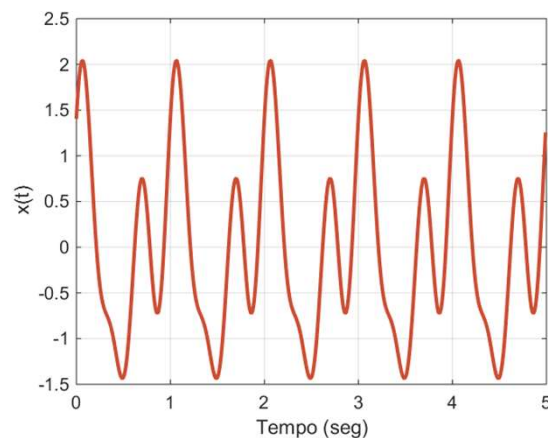


- Example

$$x(t) = \cos(2\pi t) + 0.8 \sin(4\pi t) + 0.6 \cos(6\pi t - \pi/4)$$

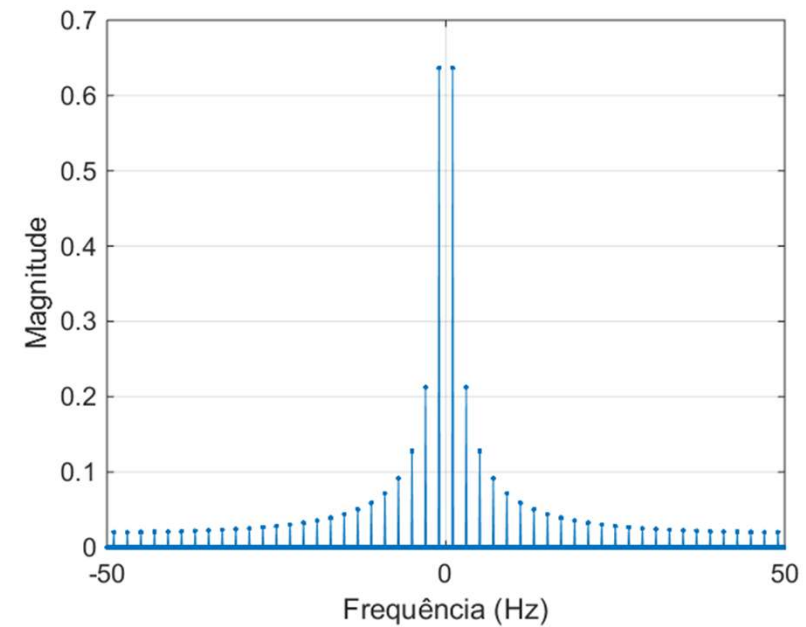
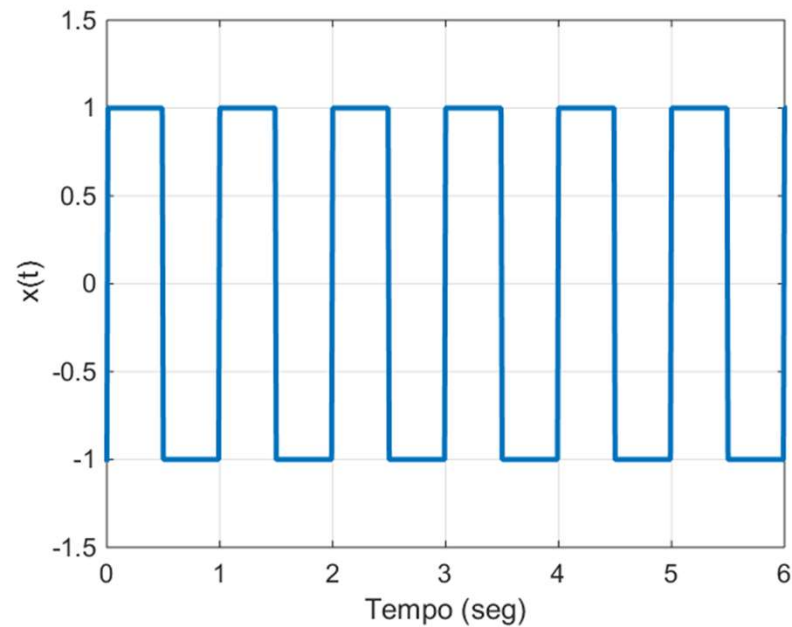
$$x(t) = \frac{1}{2} e^{j2\pi(1)t} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-j2\pi(1)t} + \frac{0.8}{2j} e^{j2\pi(2)t} - \frac{0.8}{2j} e^{-j2\pi(2)t} +$$

$$\frac{0.6}{2} e^{j2\pi(3)t} e^{-j\pi/4} + \frac{0.6}{2} e^{-j2\pi(3)t} e^{j\pi/4}$$





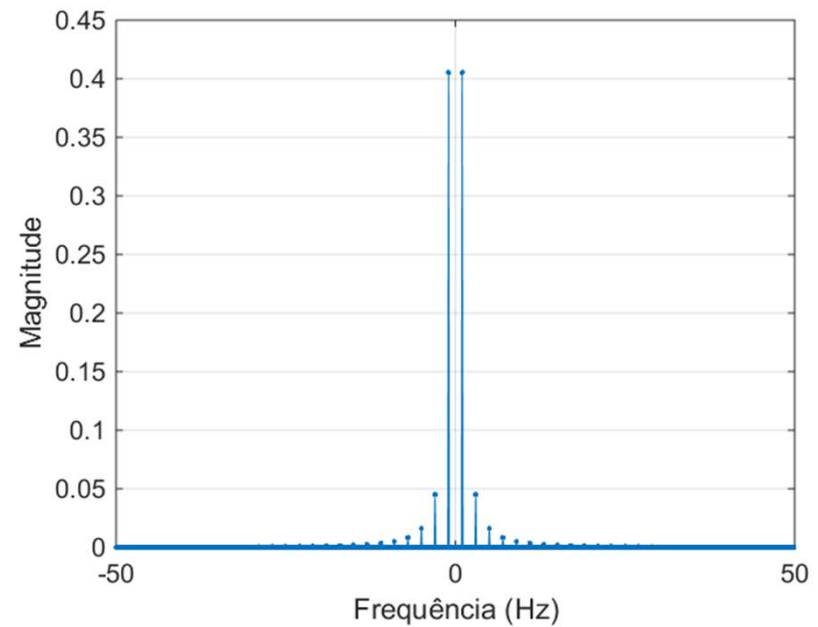
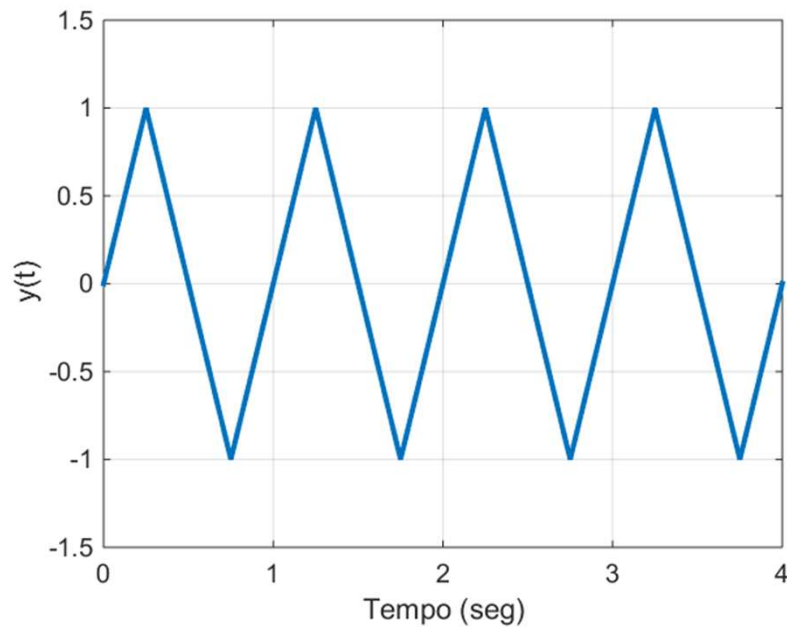
- Square wave:





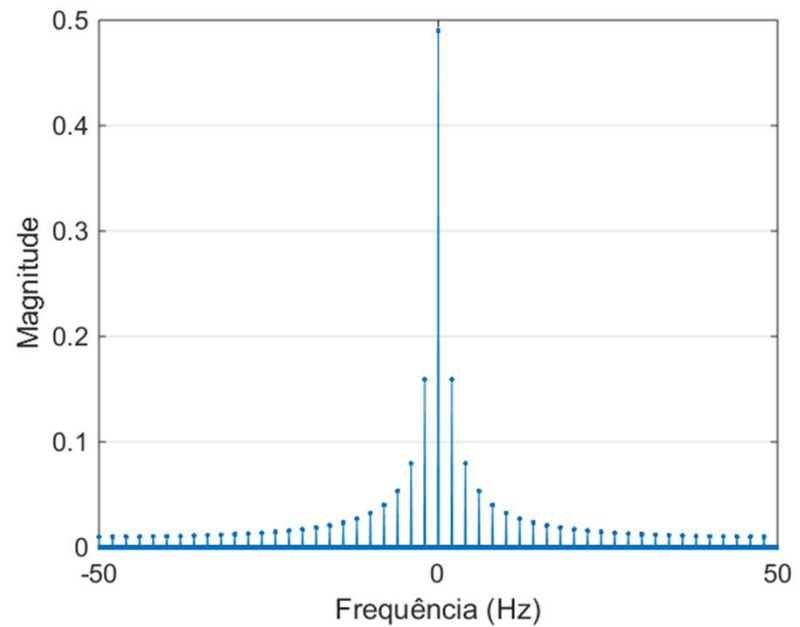
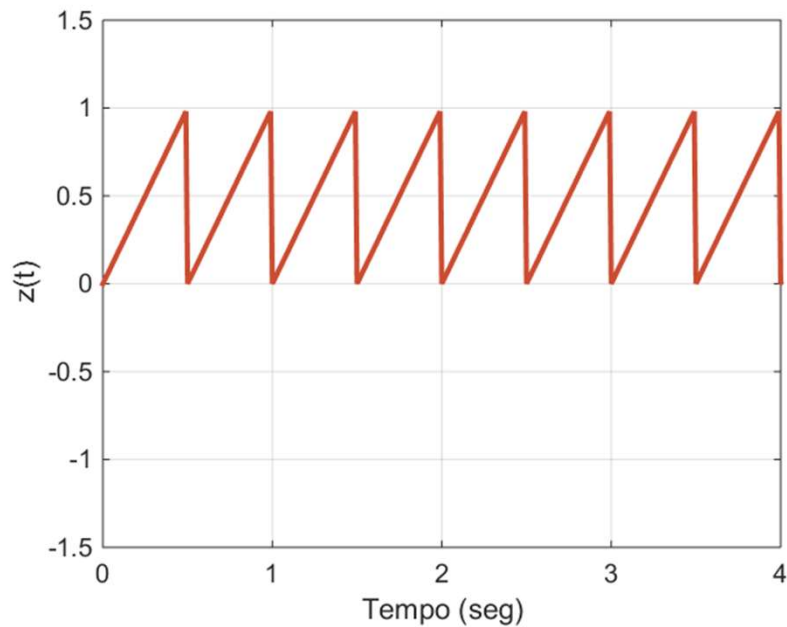


- Triangular wave:



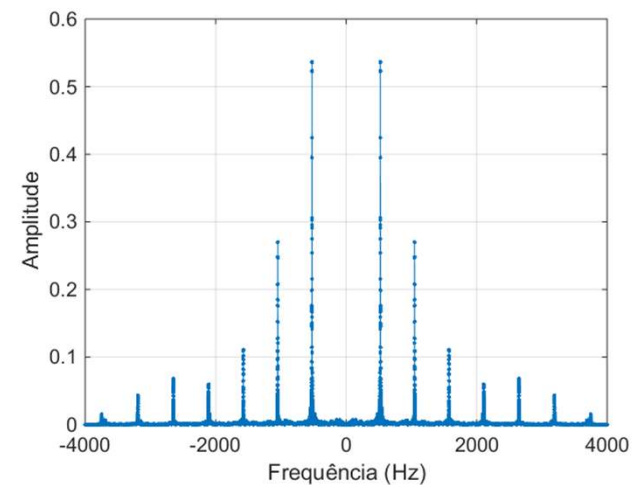
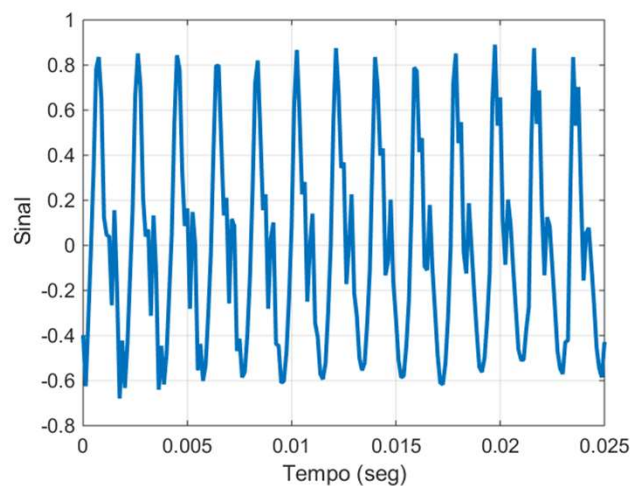


- Sawtooth Wave:

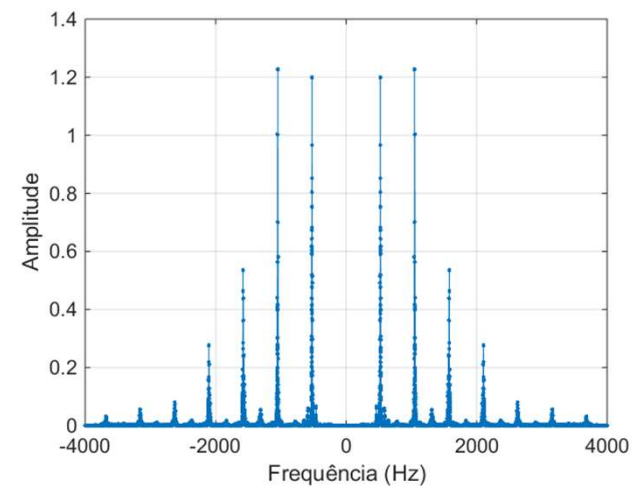
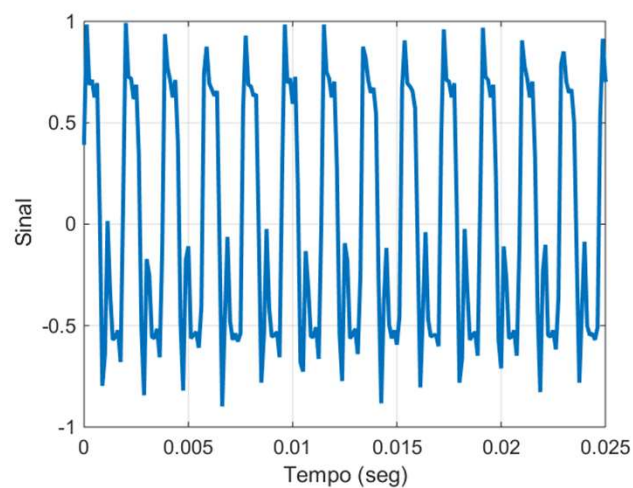




Piano C5 Key:



Flute C5 Key:





# Exercise I

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- Consider

$$x(t) = 2\cos(4\pi t) - \sin(6\pi t)$$

- 1) Compute the fundamental frequency of  $x(t)$
- 2) Expand  $x(t)$  in the classical Fourier series
- 3) Make a graph of  $|c_k|$  as a function of frequency



# Discrete Fourier Transform

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- In most cases, the signals are discretized in time (they are not continuous signals). So, what happens in the classical Fourier series when the signal  $x(t)$ , of period  $T$ , is sampled  $N$  times in a period?
- In this case, a sampling period of  $T_a = T / N$  is used and we can do the following approximation

$$\begin{aligned} c_k &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T x(t) e^{-j2\pi k \frac{t}{T}} dt \\ &\approx \frac{1}{T} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x(nT_a) e^{-j2\pi kn \frac{T_a}{T}} T_a \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x(nT_a) e^{-j2\pi \frac{kn}{N}} \\ &= \hat{c}_k \end{aligned}$$

**Note that in the approximation we do  $t = nT_a$**

**$dt$  should be replaced by the step  $T_a$  that is given in the values of  $t$**



# Discrete Fourier Transform

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- From the  $\hat{c}_k$  would be possible to get an approximation of  $x(t)$ . However, doing the sampling a problem appeared → this new coefficients are periodic, with a period of  $N$ .
  - It is easy to see that  $\hat{c}_{N+k} = \hat{c}_k \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N}$ , and thus we can only use values of  $k$  from 0 to  $N-1$  (corresponding to 1 period) or even better  $|k| < \frac{N}{2}$
- It is however possible to make things more exact. Let's consider that  $x(t)$  is sampled getting the  $N$  samples  $x(0), x(T_a), \dots, x((N-1)T_a)$ . Without loss of generality, in the next expressions we will ignore the sampling period.
- Thus, the samples are given by  $x(0), x(1), \dots, x(N-1)$ , where the argument is the number of the sample (array index)



# Discrete Fourier Transform

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- From the  $N$  samples let's compute the equivalent of  $\hat{c}_k$  (in the literature it is common to use  $X(m)$  instead  $\hat{c}_k$ , and thus here we will consider  $X(m)$ )

$$X(m) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x(n) e^{-j2\pi \frac{mn}{N}}, m = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$$

Note that  $X(m)$  is a periodic function of period  $N$

- We can convert the  $N$  samples of  $x(n)$  to the  $N$  samples of  $X(m)$  applying the following linear transformation

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} X(0) \\ X(1) \\ \vdots \\ X(N-1) \end{bmatrix}}_X = \frac{1}{N} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} W_N^0 & W_N^0 & \dots & W_N^0 \\ W_N^0 & W_N^1 & \dots & W_N^{(N-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ W_N^0 & W_N^{(N-1)} & \dots & W_N^{(N-1)(N-1)} \end{bmatrix}}_W \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x(0) \\ x(1) \\ \vdots \\ x(N-1) \end{bmatrix}}_x$$

with  $W_N = e^{-\frac{j2\pi mn}{N}}$



# Discrete Fourier Transform

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- In matrix notation we have

$$X = \frac{1}{N} W x$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} W$$

**Called Fourier Matrix**

- The inverse of the matrix is your conjugate for what is easy getting  $x$  from  $X$ , and vice-versa. The following Matlab code lustrate that

```
N =10; % value of N
mn =(0:N -1) '*(0:N -1); % exponents
F=exp (-2i*pi/N*mn )/ sqrt (N); % Fourier matrix
norm (inv (F)- conj (F)) % inv (F) is almost
% equal to conj (F)
```





# Discrete Fourier Transform

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- Less than a scale factor, simply multiply  $X$  by that conjugate, we obtain  $x$ . In terms of summation, we get

$$x(n) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} X(m) e^{j2\pi \frac{mn}{N}}, n = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$$

- Note that  $x(n)$  is also a periodic signal of period  $N$ .
- In the MatLab the DFT (  $x(n) \longrightarrow X(m)$  ) can be computed using the **fft(.)** MatLab function (it does not divide by a factor of  $N$ ) and the inverse DFT (  $X(m) \longrightarrow x(n)$  ) can be computed using the **ifft(.)**.
- How can we associate the samples to the frequencies?



# Discrete Fourier Transform

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- Notice that we can associate  $X(m)$  to  $\hat{c}_m$  (here the index  $k$  was replaced by  $m$ ). Thus,  $\hat{c}_m$ , which is an approximation of  $c_m$ , is associated to signal as (remember that  $T = NT_a$ )

$$e^{j2\pi m \frac{t}{T}} = e^{j2\pi m \frac{t}{NT_a}} = e^{j2\pi \left(\frac{m}{N} f_a\right) t}$$

- So,  $X(m)$  is associated to the frequency  $\frac{m}{N} f_a$ . Note that due to the periodicity of  $X(m)$ , we must interpret the value,  $m=N$  as  $m=0$ ,  $m=N-1$  as  $m=-1$ ,  $m=N-2$  as  $m=-2$  and so on.
- Let's see a simple example to associate the coefficients  $X(m)$  to the respective frequencies.



## Exercise II

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- A periodic signal with a fundamental frequency of 10Hz was sampled 5 times in one period. The  $X(m)$  values of your DFT are

$m$	$X(m)$
0	2
1	$3+4j$
2	-1
3	-1
4	$3-4j$

- 1) Draw the graph of  $|X(m)|$  where the xx axis is calibrated in Hz.



# Discrete Fourier Transform

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- Example considering  $x(t) = \sin(2\pi f_0 t)$

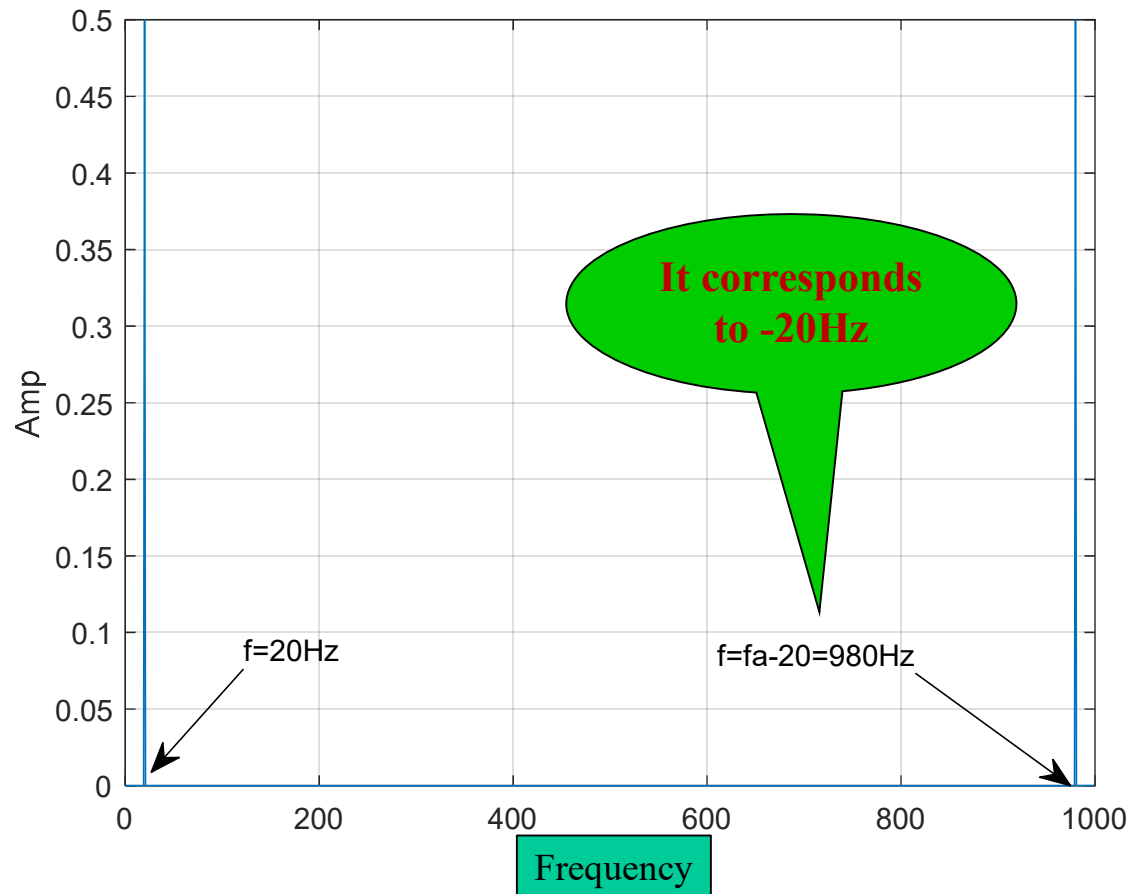
N =1000;	% number of samples
Ta =0.001;	% sampling period
fa =1/ Ta;	% sampling frequency
fo =20;	% signal frequency (Hz)
t =(0:N -1)* Ta;	% time instants
x= sin (2* pi*fo*t);	% signal
X= fft (x)/N;	% DFT
f =(0:N -1)*fa/N;	% DFT frequencies
plot (f,abs(X ));	% graph abs(DFT)



# Discrete Fourier Transform

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- MatLab Example considering  $x(t) = \sin(2\pi(20)t)$



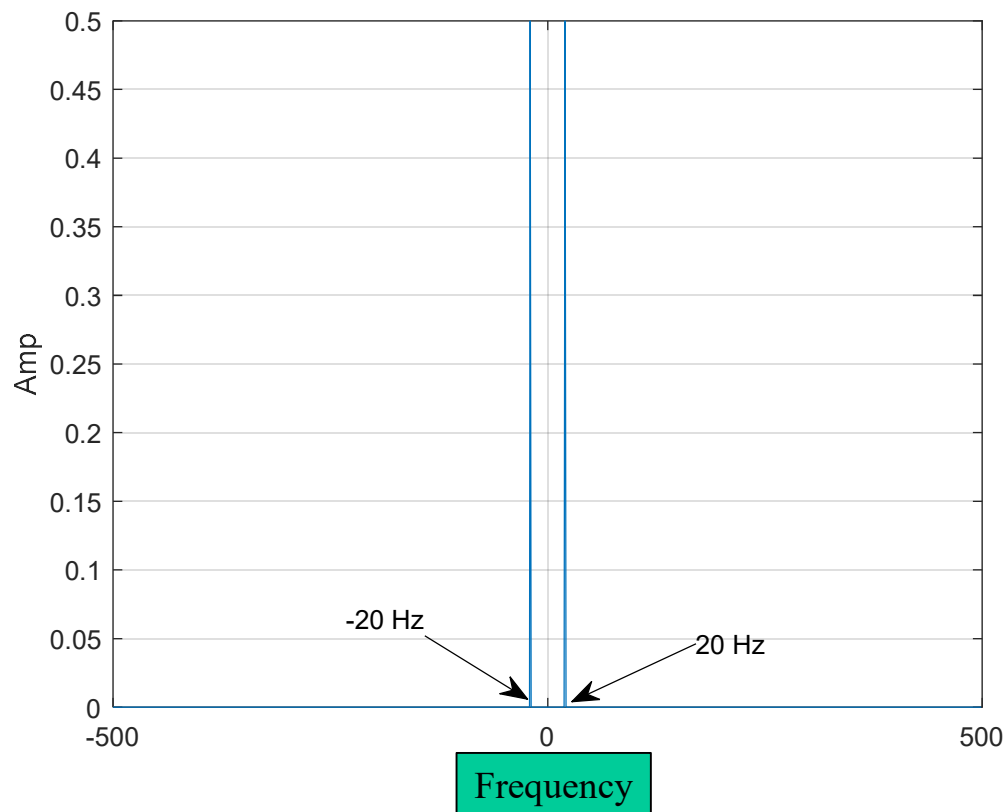
If it was a cosine the graph would be the same (the difference is only in the phase !)



# Discrete Fourier Transform

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- Example considering  $x(t) = \sin(2\pi f_0 t)$



It corresponds  
to -20Hz

Use **fftshift(X)** to sort from  
 $-f_a/2$  to  $+f_a/2$ .

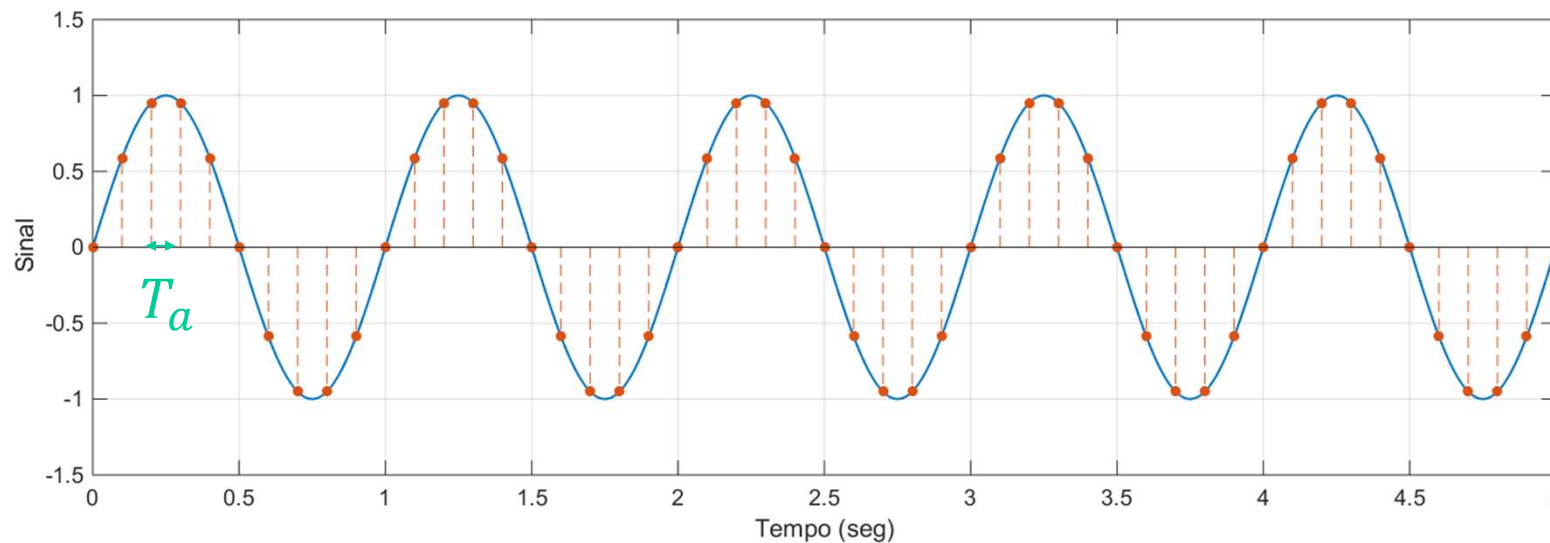
$f = (0:N-1) * f_a / N - f_a / 2;$



# Sampling

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- The processing and analysis of signals using digital processors is performed in the discrete-time domain.
- This, naturally, requires the signals that evolve continuously over time to be **sampled**.
- The sampling process consists of acquiring samples of the signal (typically at a periodic rate).



$T_a$  - Sampling period.

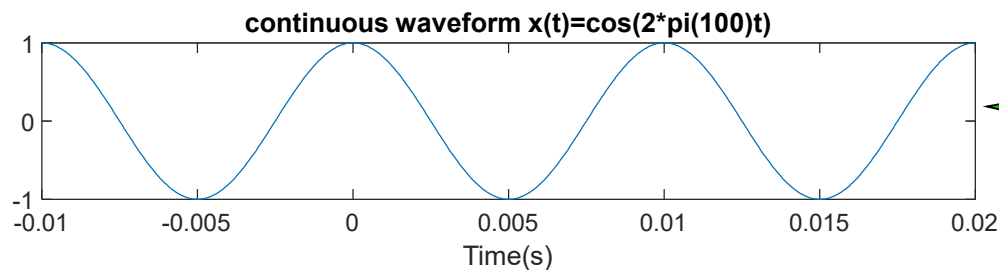
$f_a = 1/T_a$  - Sampling frequency.



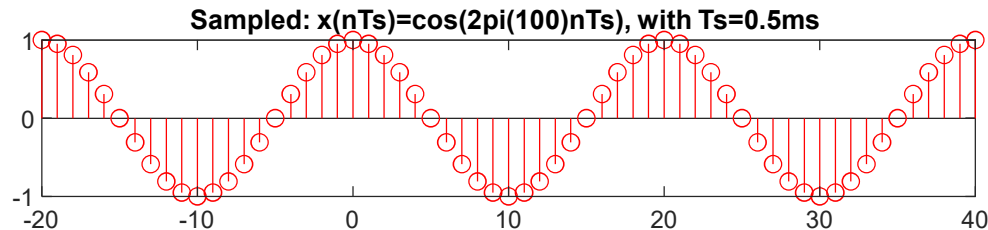
# Sampling

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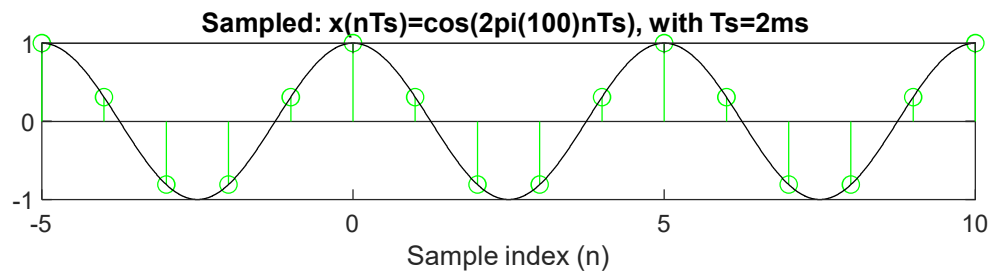
- A key question is how many samples per second are needed to adequately represent a continuous time signal?



**A continuous-time  
100Hz.**



**Discrete-time sinusoid  
formed by sampling at  
 $f_s = 2000$  samples/s**



**Discrete-time sinusoid  
formed by sampling at  
 $f_s = 500$  samples/s**





- Let's first define the normalized frequency

$$\hat{w} \triangleq w_0 T_s = \frac{w_0}{f_s}$$

Normalized radian frequency

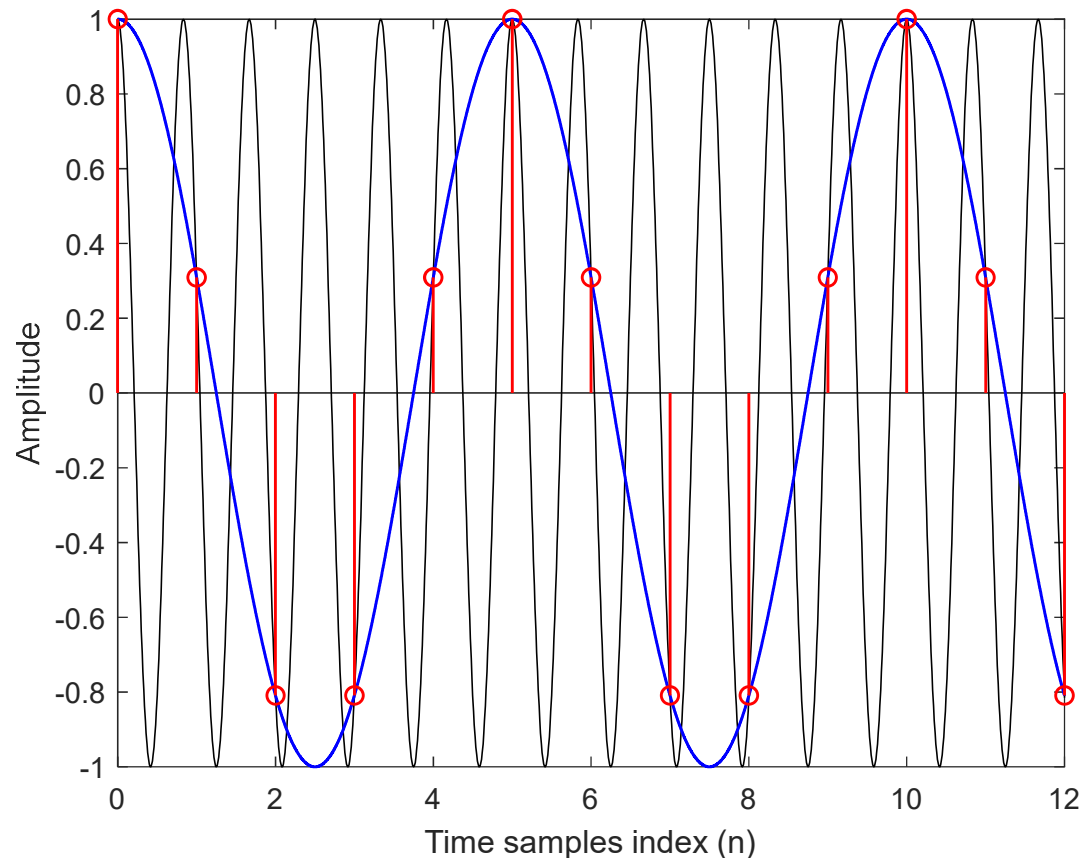
$$\hat{f} \triangleq \frac{f_0}{f_s}$$

Normalized frequency

- Let's also define the concept of **aliases**. A simple definition of the word **alias** would be “*two names for the same person or thing*”
- In the scope of sampling the concept of alias can be introduced by showing that two different discrete-time sinusoid can define the same signal values.
- The sampled signal discussed in the previous slide  $x_1(n) = \cos(0.4\pi n)$  is identical to  $x_2(n) = \cos(2.4\pi n) = \cos(0.4\pi n + 2\pi n) = \cos(0.4\pi n)$  because  $2\pi n$  is an integer number of periods of the cosine function.
  - Since  $x_1(n) = x_2(n)$ ,  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the frequency  $2.4\pi$  is an alias of  $0.4\pi$



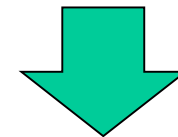
- The following figure illustrate the aliasing concept.



**Blue:**  $x_1(n) = \cos(0.4\pi n)$       **Black:**  $x_2(n) = \cos(2.4\pi n)$

Illustration of the aliasing:  
two signals drawn through  
the same samples

The samples belong to two  
different cosine signals with  
different frequencies, but the cosine  
have the same values at  $n=0,1,2,3,\dots$



**Aliasing occurs when a  
high frequency is  
indistinguishable from a  
low frequency after  
sampling**



- In general, sampled signal

$$x(nT_s) = \cos(2\pi f_0 T_s n) = \cos\left(2\pi \frac{f_0}{f_s} n\right)$$

is indistinguishable from each of the signals

$$\cos\left(2\pi \frac{f_0}{f_s} n + 2\pi nk\right) = \cos\left(2\pi \frac{f_0 + kf_s}{f_s} n\right), \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}, n \in \mathbb{N}$$

- Therefore, in general, what happens at frequency  $f_0$  of the original unsampled signal will have to be reflected in the frequencies  $f_0 + kf_s$  of the sampled signal, since we cannot distinguish them.



- The spectrum contains all the aliases at the following frequencies

$$\hat{w} = \frac{w_0}{f_s} + 2\pi k, \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots \quad \text{or} \quad \hat{f} = \frac{f_0}{f_s} + k, \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

$$\hat{w} = -\frac{w_0}{f_s} + 2\pi k \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots \quad \hat{f} = -\frac{f_0}{f_s} + k \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

- If  $\left| \frac{f_0}{f_s} \right| < \frac{1}{2}$  it is possible to unambiguously determine the frequency  $f_0$  from the signal samples.
- In general, it is always possible to find a  $k$  so that  $\left| \frac{f_0 + kf_s}{f_s} \right| < \frac{1}{2}$ .
- When reproducing the tone, it is this frequency between  $-f_s / 2$  and  $+f_s / 2$  that will be heard.

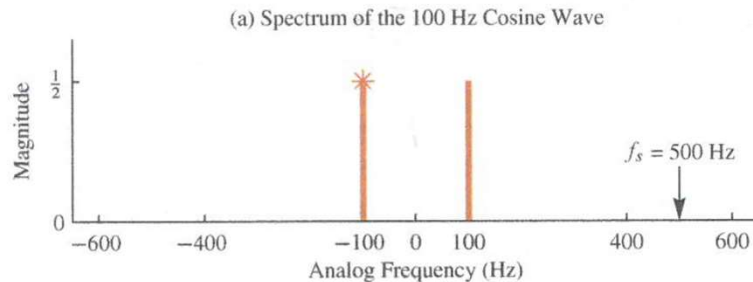


# Sampling

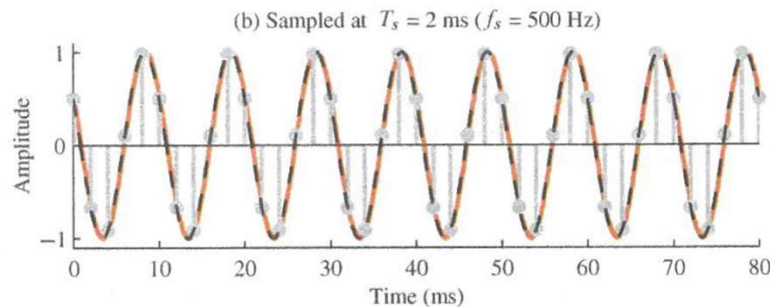
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- Let's see an example of sampling a continuous-time 100Hz sinusoid

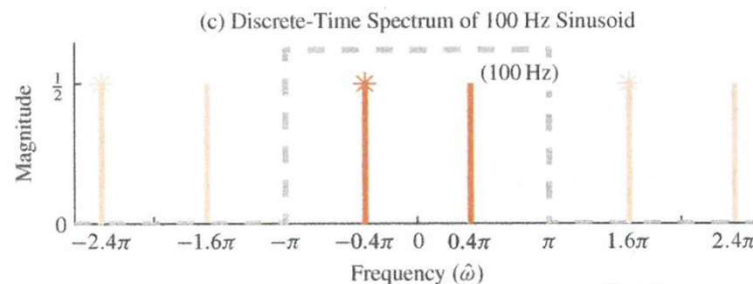
$$x(t) = \cos(2\pi(100)t + \pi/3)$$



**Oversampling at  
 $f_s = 500$  samples/s**



**Samples  $x(n)$  as grey dots  
and the reconstructed as  
dashed black line. Orange is  
the original**



**Spectrum with the  
original  $\pm f_o$  along with  
two aliases**

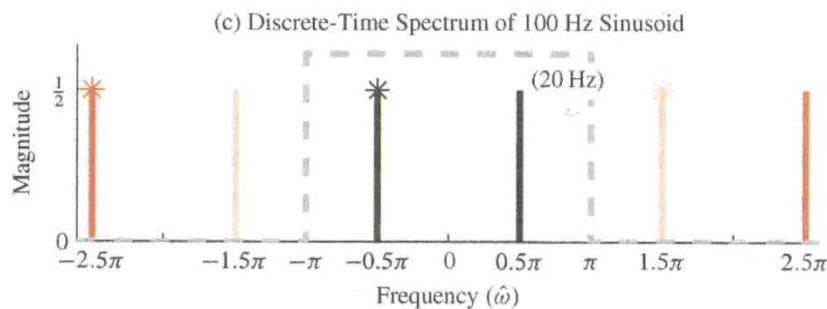
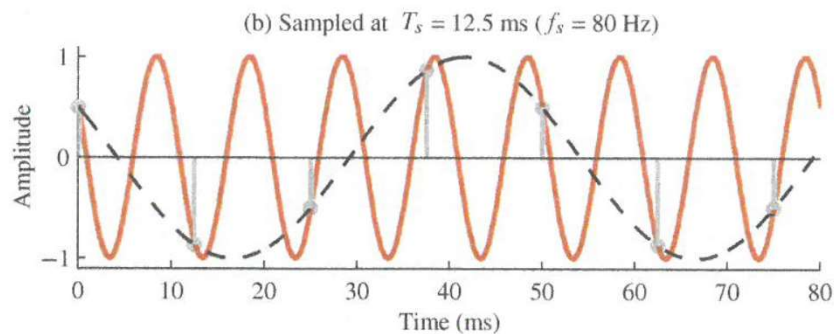
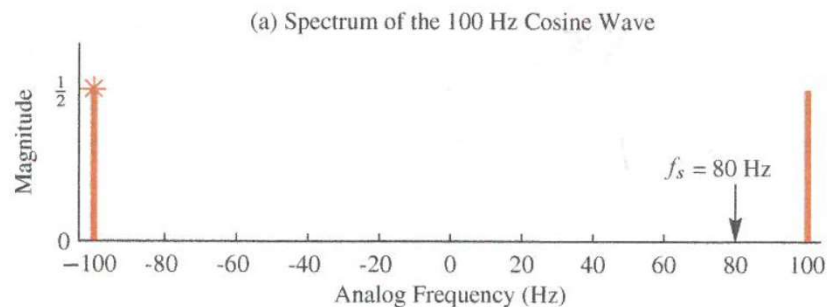
$$\hat{\omega} = 0.4\pi + 2\pi k, \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

$$\hat{\omega} = -0.4\pi + 2\pi k \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$



# Sampling

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**Undersampling at  
 $f_s = 80 \text{ samples/s}$**

**Samples  $x(n)$  as grey  
dots and the  
reconstructed as dashed  
black line. Orange is the  
original**

**Spectrum with the  
original  $\pm f_0$  along with  
two aliases**

$$\hat{\omega} = 2.5\pi + 2\pi k, \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

$$\hat{\omega} = -2.5\pi + 2\pi k \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

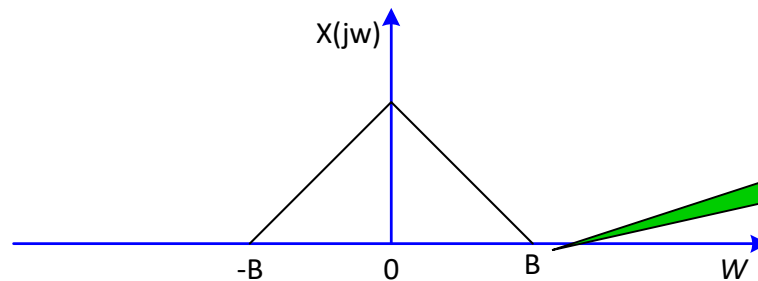
**What can you conclude?**



# Sampling

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- Let's now consider a general signal  $x(t)$  with limited bandwidth



B represents the  
bandwidth

$$X(jw) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x(t) e^{-j2\pi ft} dt$$

It is the Fourier transform . Note  
that the Fourier discrete transform  
can be considered an approximation  
of the Fourier transform

- It can be shown that the Fourier transform of the sampled signal, less than a possible scale factor, is given by

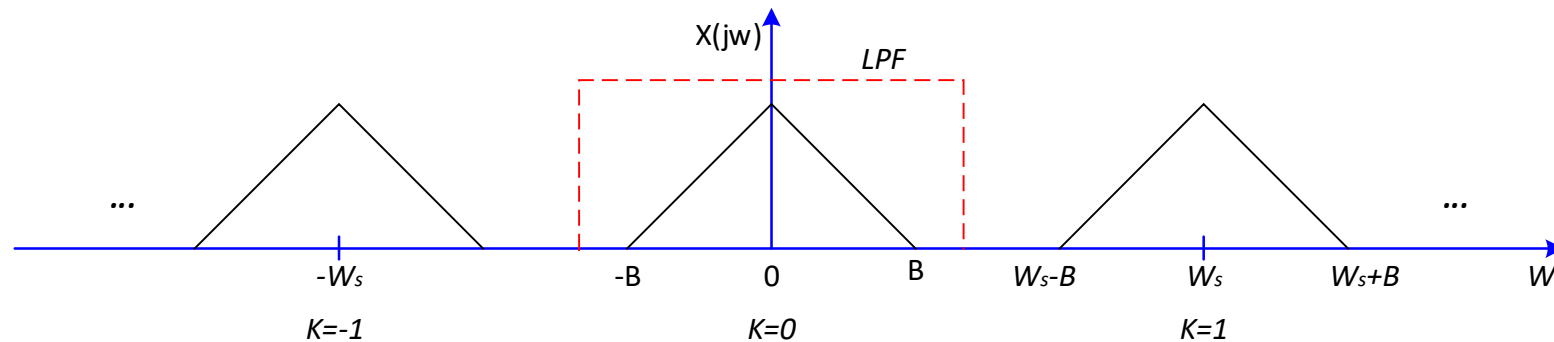
$$X(jw) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} X(j(w - kw_s)) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} X(j2\pi(f - kf_s))$$



# Sampling

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- From the previous expression we can see that the spectrum of the samples signal is the sum of all translations of  $X(j\omega)$  by multiples of the sampling frequency



- It can be seen that the translations of  $X(j\omega)$  do not overlap if

$$\omega_s - B > B, \text{ i.e., } \omega_s > 2B$$

Known as Nyquist frequency

- In this case, as there is no overlap, a low-pass filtering (LPF) would eliminate all translations with  $k \neq 0$ , and thus perfectly recovering the original signal.

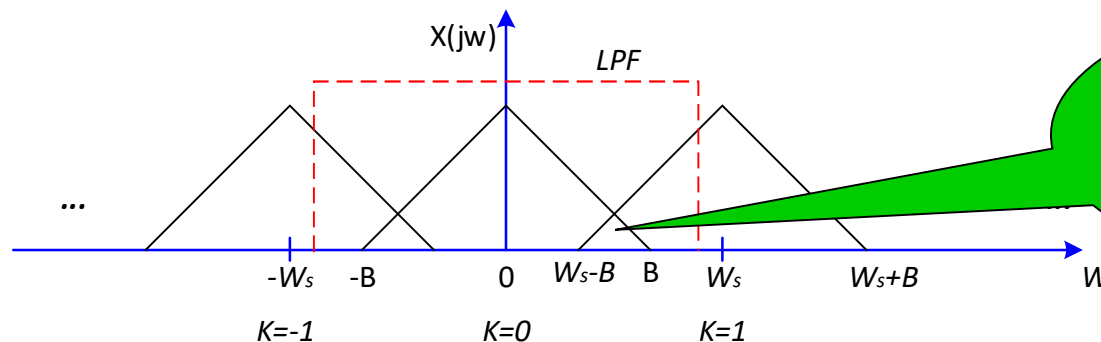




- **Shannon Sampling Theorem**

- A continuous-time signal  $x(t)$  with frequencies no higher than  $B$  can be reconstructed exactly from its samples  $x(nT_s)$ , if the samples are taken at a rate  $f_s = 1/T_s$  that is greater than  $2B$

- What happens, then, when sampling does not meet the Nyquist Criterion?



The translation  $k=1$  interferes with the  $k=0$  one, the same happens with the other translations.

- If  $w_s \leq 2B$  the translations will overlap and the original signal may not be recovered perfectly.



# Sampling

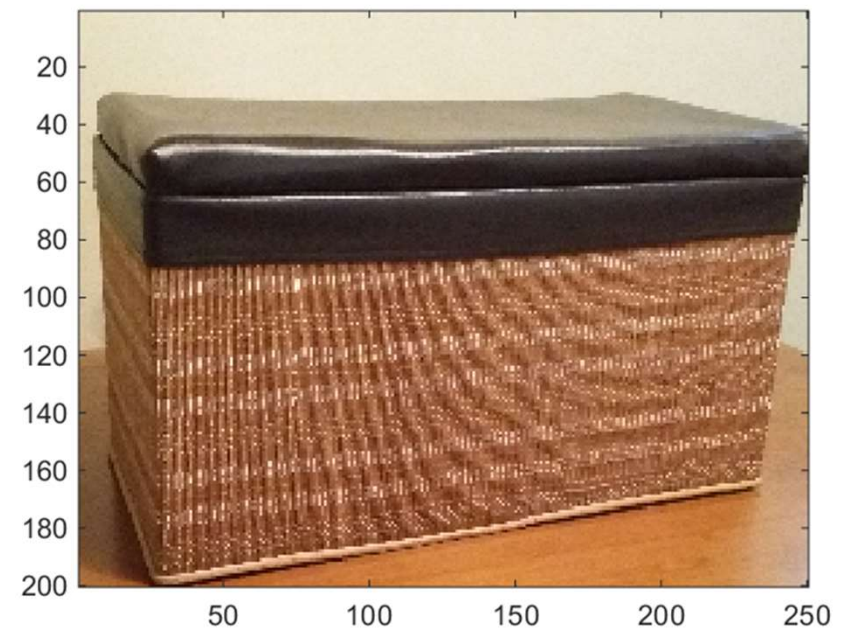
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- Example of an image submitted to under sampling:

Original Image



Under-sampled image (8x8 times)

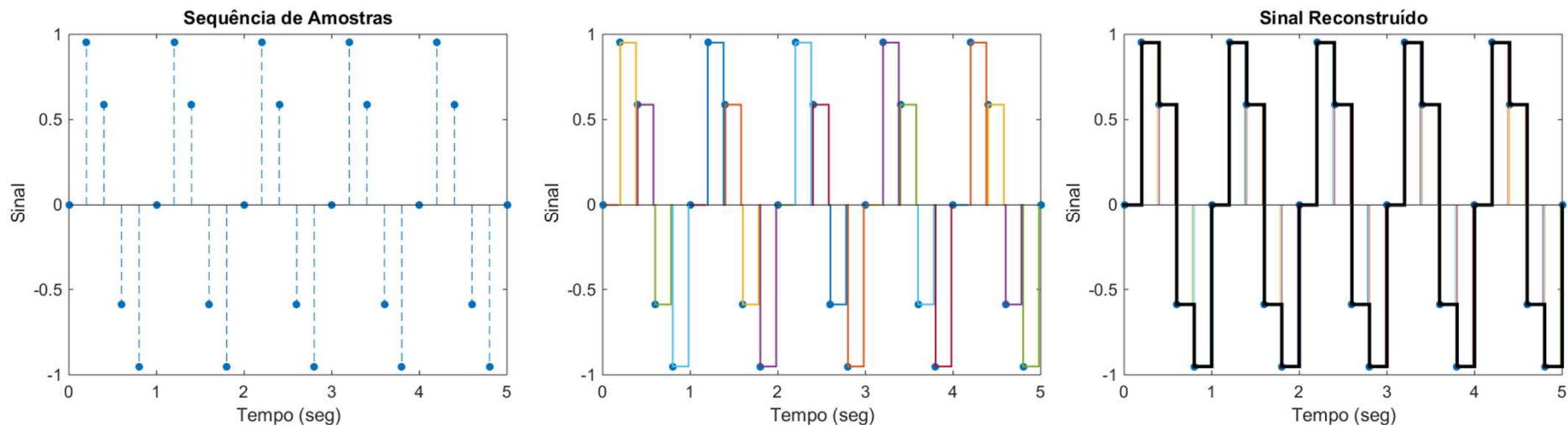




# Reconstruction of Sampled Signals

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- Let  $x(n), n = 1, \dots, N$ , be the sequence of samples of a signal, with sampling period  $T_s$ . How can the original continuous-time signal be reconstructed from those samples?
- It is easy to verify that this can not be performed using a pulse (pedestal) for each sample:



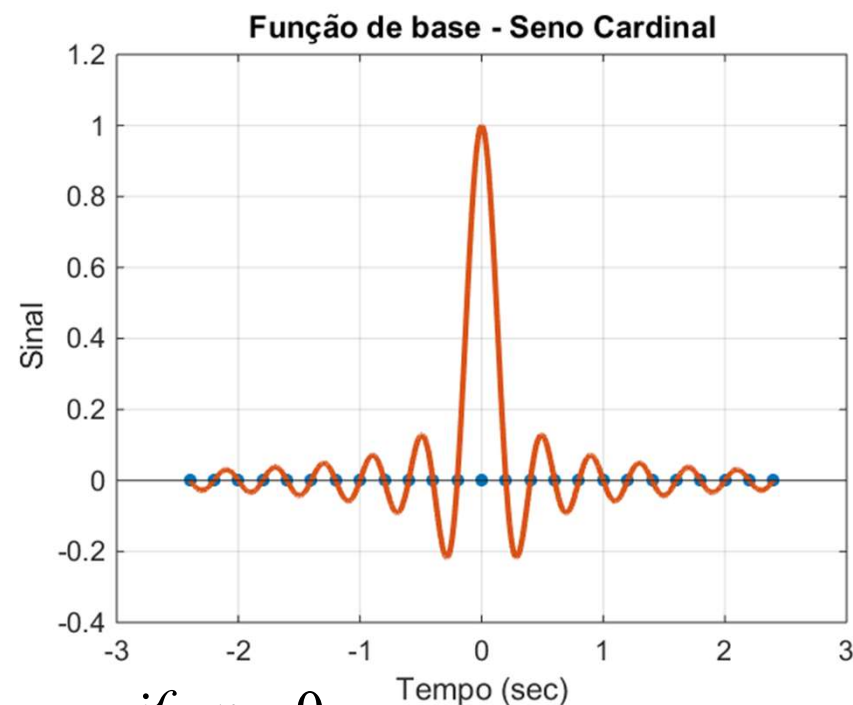
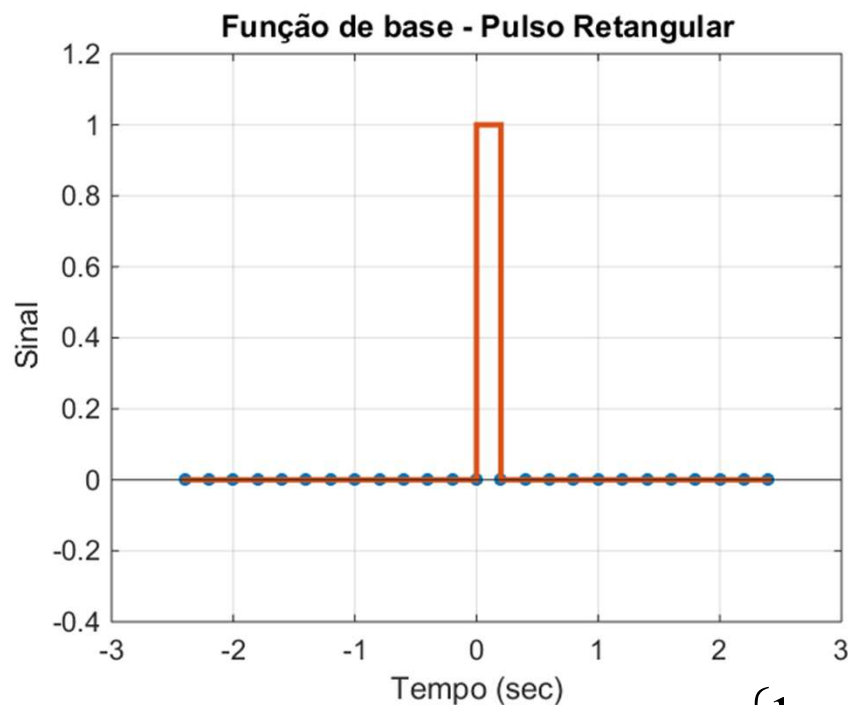
- The resulting signal clearly has a maximum frequency greater than half the sampling frequency.



## 2. Reconstruction of Sampled Signals

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- The ideal reconstruction should consider the **cardinal sine** function (sinc) as the basis function, instead of the rectangular pulses.



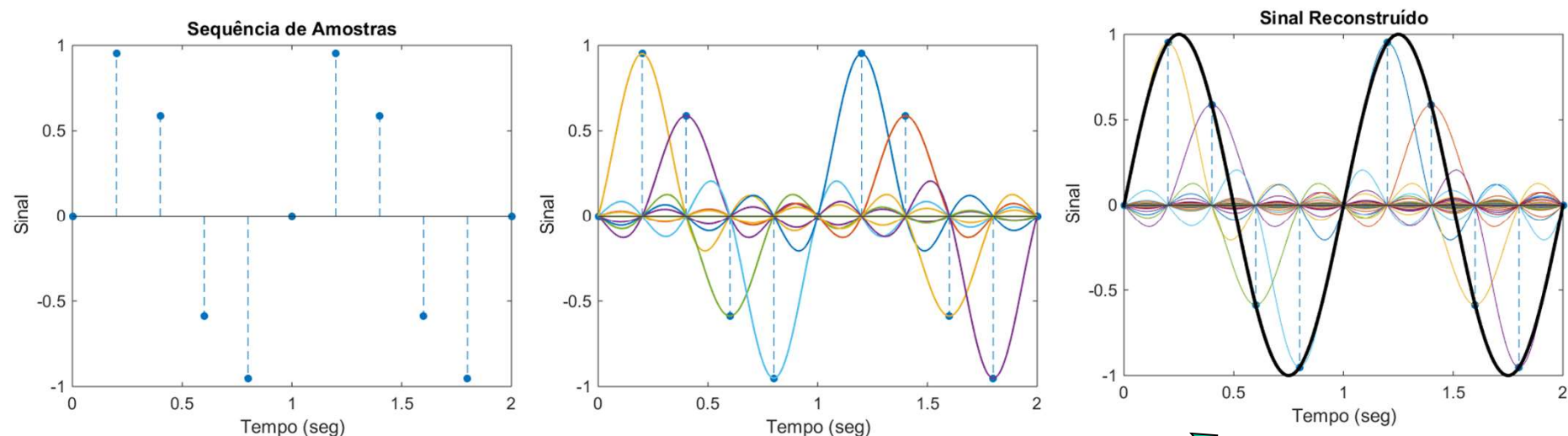
$$\text{sinc}(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x = 0 \\ \frac{\sin(\pi x)}{\pi x} & \text{if } x \neq 0 \end{cases}$$



# Reconstruction of Sampled Signals

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- The ideal reconstruction should consider the **cardinal sine** function as the basis function, instead of the rectangular pulses.



- The reconstructed signal is given by

$$x(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x(nT_s) \text{sinc}\left(\frac{t}{T_s} - n\right)$$