

• Electrical Circuit Oscillations

Physics deals with laws of nature. Many seeming different phenomena can be described by the same set of physics laws (equations).

Example: RLC circuit and Linear Oscillator.

element	voltage drop	units
resistor	$V_R = IR$	resistance R , ohms(Ω)
capacitor	$V_C = Q/C$	capacitance C , farads (F)
inductor	$V_L = LdI/dt$	inductance L , henries (H)

$$V_L + V_R + V_C = V_s(t) \text{ (emf) } .$$

$$L \frac{d^2 Q}{dt^2} + R \frac{dQ}{dt} + \frac{Q}{C} = V_s(t) ,$$

$$I = \frac{dQ}{dt} .$$

Electric circuit	Mechanical system
charge Q	displacement x
current $I = dQ/dt$	velocity $v = dx/dt$
voltage drop	force
inductance L	mass m
inverse capacitance $1/C$	spring constant k
resistance R	damping γ

• Linear Oscillator

Consider a driven damped linear oscillator, the equation of motion is

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\omega_0^2 x - \gamma \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{1}{m} F(t) ,$$

where ω_0 is its natural frequency, γ is the *damping coefficient* measuring the magnitude of dissipative force, and F is an external force (perturbation), to which response of the system reveals the nature of the system.

Force $F(t)$ could have arbitrary forms and usually we do our analysis with

$$F(t) = A_0 \cos \omega t ,$$

where ω is the angular frequency of the driving force.

This is because for a *linear system* we can apply the *superposition principle*, e.g., $\omega_n = n\omega$,

$$F(t) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^N a_n \cos \omega_n t + b_n \sin \omega_n t . \quad (1)$$

This is a form of *Fourier Series*.

• The Fourier Series

Eq. (1) is an example of *Fourier series*: any arbitrary periodic function $f(x)$ of period $2L$ can be expressed as a Fourier series of sines and cosines:

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

The quantity $\frac{\pi}{L}$ (sometime defined as ω_0) is the fundamental frequency. Terms in Eq. (2) for $k = 2, 3, \dots$ represent higher order harmonics. a_k and b_k are called the *Fourier coefficients*, given by

$$\begin{aligned} a_k &= \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L dx f(x) \cos \frac{k\pi x}{L} & k = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ b_k &= \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L dx f(x) \sin \frac{k\pi x}{L} & k = 1, 2, 3, \dots \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Functions:

$$1, \sin \frac{\pi x}{L}, \cos \frac{\pi x}{L}, \sin \frac{2\pi x}{L}, \cos \frac{2\pi x}{L}, \dots$$

form a complete orthogonal set in $(-L, L)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L dx \cos \frac{k\pi x}{L} \cos \frac{m\pi x}{L} &= \delta_{k,m} \\ \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L dx \sin \frac{k\pi x}{L} \sin \frac{m\pi x}{L} &= \delta_{k,m} \\ \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L dx \cos \frac{k\pi x}{L} \sin \frac{m\pi x}{L} &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Dirichlet Theorem: Suppose that

1. $f(x)$ is defined and single-valued except possibly at a finite number of points in $[-L, L]$
2. $f(x)$ is periodic outside $[-L, L]$ with period $2L$
3. $f(x)$ and $f'(x)$ are piecewise continuous in $[-L, L]$.

Then the series (2) with coefficients (3) converges to

(a) $f(x)$ if x is a point of continuity.

(b) $(f(x+0) + f(x-0))/2$ if x is a point of discontinuity.

Conditions (1), (2), and (3) are *sufficient* but not necessary.

Parseval's Identity:

$$\frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L dx \ f^2(x) = \frac{a_0^2}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2) . \quad (5)$$

This identity can be used for summation of a series.

Proof: \dots

Examples 1 and 2

Approximation: In general, an infinite number of terms is needed to represent an arbitrary periodic function exactly. But in practice, we usually only use a few terms to make approximation. A Fourier series can approximate a function at *all* points.

Fourier series with complex coefficients:

$$f(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k e^{ikt}, \quad c_k = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dt f(t) e^{-ikt}.$$

We have these relations (see Eq. (3)):

$$c_0 = \frac{1}{2}a_0, \quad c_k = \frac{1}{2}(a_k - ib_k), \quad c_{-k} = (c_k)^*.$$

Half Range Fourier Sine or Cosine Series:

1. If $f(x)$ is an *odd* function on $[-L, L]$, then

$$a_n = 0, \quad b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx.$$

2. If $f(x)$ is an *even* function on $[-L, L]$, then

$$b_n = 0, \quad a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx.$$

One can *extend* $f(x)$, defined on $[0, L]$ to either odd or even periodic function with period $2L$.

Solving Differential Equation

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\omega_0^2 x - \gamma \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{1}{m} F(t) .$$

Let

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega x(\omega) e^{i\omega t} \quad (16)$$

$$x(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt x(t) e^{-i\omega t} \quad (17)$$

Then

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega (i\omega) x(\omega) e^{i\omega t} \quad (18)$$

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega (i\omega)^2 x(\omega) e^{i\omega t} \quad (19)$$

Differential equation becomes

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega e^{i\omega t} \left[(\omega^2 - \omega_0^2 - i\omega\gamma) x(\omega) + \frac{f(\omega)}{m} \right] = 0$$

This leads to an *algebraic equation*:

$$(\omega^2 - \omega_0^2 - i\omega\gamma) x(\omega) = -\frac{f(\omega)}{m} \quad (20)$$

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega x(\omega) e^{i\omega t} \frac{f(\omega)}{m} \frac{-1}{\omega^2 - \omega_0^2 - i\omega\gamma} \quad (21)$$

• The Fourier Transform

Let $t \rightarrow \pi t/T$, then

$$f(t) = \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{in\pi t/T} = \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{in\Delta\omega t} ,$$

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2T} \int_{-T}^T dt f(t) e^{-in\pi t/T} = \frac{\Delta\omega}{2\pi} \int_{-T}^T dt f(t) e^{-in\Delta\omega t} ,$$

where

$$\omega = \frac{n\pi}{T}, \quad \Delta\omega = \frac{\pi}{T} .$$

Define

$$c_n = \frac{\Delta\omega}{\sqrt{2\pi}} g(n\Delta\omega)$$

so that

$$g(n\Delta\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-T}^T dt f(t) e^{-in\Delta\omega t}$$

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Delta\omega g(n\Delta\omega) e^{in\Delta\omega t}$$

$T \rightarrow \infty$, we get the *Fourier transform* and its *inverse*.

$$\mathcal{F}[f(t)] = g(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt f(t) e^{-i\omega t} \quad (6)$$

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}[g(\omega)] = f(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega g(\omega) e^{i\omega t} \quad (7)$$

Properties of the Fourier Transform

1. The Fourier Transform is linear:

$$g(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-i\omega t} [f_1(t) + f_2(t)] = g_1(\omega) + g_2(\omega)$$

2. Scaling relation:

$$\mathcal{F}[f(\alpha t)] = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\alpha} g\left(\frac{\omega}{\alpha}\right) & \alpha > 0 \\ -\frac{1}{\alpha} g\left(\frac{\omega}{\alpha}\right) & \alpha < 0 \end{cases} = \frac{1}{|\alpha|} g\left(\frac{\omega}{\alpha}\right).$$

Same for inverse transform.

The more *localized* in time, the more *delocalized* in frequency. Heisenberg Uncertainty principle.

3. Shifting relation:

$$\mathcal{F}[f(t - t_0)] = e^{-i\omega t_0} g(\omega), \mathcal{F}^{-1}[g(\omega - \omega_0)] = e^{i\omega t_0} f(t).$$

4. Real/Imaginary/Odd/Even relations: page 290.

5. Derivatives:

$$\mathcal{F}[f'(t)] = i\omega g(\omega).$$

6. Parseval's identity:

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt f_1^*(t) f_2(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega g_1^*(\omega) g_2(\omega).$$

Examples 4-6

• Convolution

Consider two functions, $p(t)$ and $q(t)$. Mathematically, the convolution of the two functions is defined as

$$p \otimes q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau p(\tau) q(t - \tau) . \quad (8)$$

Example:

First Course in
Computational
Physics, Fig. 6.4

$$\frac{V_{in} - V_{out}}{R} = C \frac{d(V_{out} - V_c)}{dt} = C \frac{dV_{out}}{dt} ,$$

$$V_{out}(t) = e^{-t/RC} \left[\int_{-\infty}^t dt e^{\tau/RC} + C_1 \right] ,$$

C_1 depends on the initial initial condition.

$$V_{in}(t) = \delta(t) \rightarrow r(t) \equiv V_{out}(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t < 0 \\ \frac{1}{RC} e^{-t/RC}, & t \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

A continuous function $f(t)$ could be treated as an integral over delta functions,

$$V_{in}(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau V_{in}(\tau) \delta(t - \tau) ,$$

$$V_{out}(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau V_{in}(\tau) r(t - \tau) = V_{in}(t) \otimes r(t) .$$

The Fourier Transform of the Convolution

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}[p \otimes q] &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-i\omega t} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau p(\tau) q(t - \tau) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau p(\tau) \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-i\omega t} q(t - \tau) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau e^{-i\omega \tau} p(\tau) Q(\omega) = P(\omega) Q(\omega) \end{aligned}$$

The Fourier Convolution Theorem:

$$\mathcal{F}[p \otimes q] = \mathcal{F}[p] \mathcal{F}[q] . \tag{9}$$

Example of *Deconvolution*:

$$V_{out} = V_{in} \otimes r \rightarrow \mathcal{F}[V_{out}] = \mathcal{F}[V_{in}] \mathcal{F}[r] \rightarrow$$

$$\mathcal{F}[V_{in}] = \mathcal{F}[V_{out}] / \mathcal{F}[r] \rightarrow V_{in} = \mathcal{F}^{-1}[\mathcal{F}[V_{out}] / \mathcal{F}[r]] .$$

- **Correlation**

$$p \odot q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau p^*(\tau) q(t + \tau). \quad (10)$$

It measures how much one function is similar to the other.

Example:

Autocorrelation: $q = p$.

Average Correlation Function

$$[p \odot q]_{average} = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} d\tau p^*(\tau) q(t + \tau). \quad (11)$$

For periodic function with period T_0 ,

$$[p \odot q]_{average} = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} d\tau p^*(\tau) q(t + \tau).$$

Fluctuation

Let $p(\tau) = \langle p \rangle + \delta_p(\tau)$ and $q(\tau) = \langle q \rangle + \delta_q(\tau)$.

where $\langle \rangle$ defines mean value and δ the derivation. Then

$$p \odot q = \langle p \rangle \langle q \rangle + \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} d\tau \delta_p(\tau) \delta_q(t + \tau).$$

If uncorrelated,

$$p \odot q = \langle p \rangle \langle q \rangle. \quad (12)$$

Useful Information

1. Trigonometry:

$$2 \cos A \cos B = \cos(A - B) + \cos(A + B)$$

$$2 \sin A \sin B = \cos(A - B) - \cos(A + B)$$

$$2 \sin A \cos B = \sin(A - B) + \sin(A + B)$$

$$2 \sin^2 A = 1 - \cos 2A$$

$$2 \cos^2 A = 1 + \cos 2A$$

$$2. \quad \int dx \cos(nx) = \frac{\sin(nx)}{n}$$

$$\int dx \sin(nx) = -\frac{\cos(nx)}{n}$$

$$3. \quad \int dx e^{\alpha x} \cos(mx) = \int dx \operatorname{Re} (e^{\alpha x + imx}) = \operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{e^{\alpha x + imx}}{\alpha + im} \right)$$

$$\int dx e^{\alpha x} \sin(mx) = \int dx \operatorname{Im} (e^{\alpha x + imx}) = \operatorname{Im} \left(\frac{e^{\alpha x + imx}}{\alpha + im} \right)$$

4. Recursion relations:

$$\int dx x^k \cos(nx) = \frac{\sin(nx)}{n} x^k - \frac{k}{n} \int dx x^{k-1} \sin(nx)$$

$$\int dx x^k \sin(nx) = -\frac{\cos(nx)}{n} x^k + \frac{k}{n} \int dx x^{k-1} \cos(nx)$$