

# Chapter 6: Fourier Transform\*

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## 1 Fourier series

For a periodic function  $f(t+T) = f(t)$  with period  $T = 2L$ , or a periodic extension of  $f$  with an interval  $I = [-L, L]$ , the **trigonometric Fourier series** can be expressed by

$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n \cos(n\omega_0 t) + b_n \sin(n\omega_0 t)] \quad (1)$$

where  $\omega_0 = 2\pi/T = \pi/L$  is called *fundamental angular velocity*, and the coefficients  $a_0, a_n, b_n$  are determined from

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(t) dt, \\ a_n &= \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt, \\ b_n &= \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt \end{aligned}$$

The **complex Fourier series** can be expressed by

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{n\omega_0 t} \quad (2)$$

where the complex coefficients  $c_n$  are determined from

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) e^{-n\omega_0 t} dt$$

For real signal  $f(t)$ , Fourier series have the following properties

- $c_n$  and  $c_{-n}$  are complex conjugate pairs.
- $c_0 = \frac{1}{2}a_0$ ,  $c_n = \frac{a_n - ib_n}{2}$ ,  $c_{-n} = \frac{a_n + ib_n}{2}$
- $a_0 = 2c_0$ ,  $a_n = c_n + c_{-n}$ ,  $c_{-n} = i(c_n - c_{-n})$

## Convergence prerequisites

- $f$  and  $f'$  are piecewise continuous

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\*the notes were written for EE206FZ differential equations and transform method by Dr Siyuan Zhan, Maynooth University, Autumn 2021

## Convergence conditions:

If  $f$  and  $f'$  are piecewise continuous on the interval, then Fourier series of  $f$  converge to  $f(t)$  at the points of continuity, and converge to

$$\frac{f(x+) + f(x-)}{2}$$

at the point of discontinuity. Here  $f(x+)$  and  $f(x-)$  are the limit of  $f$  at the discontinuity from the right and left, respectively.

## Frequency spectrum:

if  $f$  is periodic and has fundamental period  $T$ , the plot of the points  $(n\omega_0, |c_n|)$  is called **frequency spectrum**. Here  $\omega_0$ ,  $c_n$  are the fundamental angular frequency, and the coefficients of the complex Fourier series, respectively.

The following table shows some of the values of  $|c_n|$ :

$n$	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4	5
$ c_n $	$\frac{1}{5\pi}$	0	$\frac{1}{3\pi}$	0	$\frac{1}{\pi}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{\pi}$	0	$\frac{1}{3\pi}$	0	$\frac{1}{5\pi}$

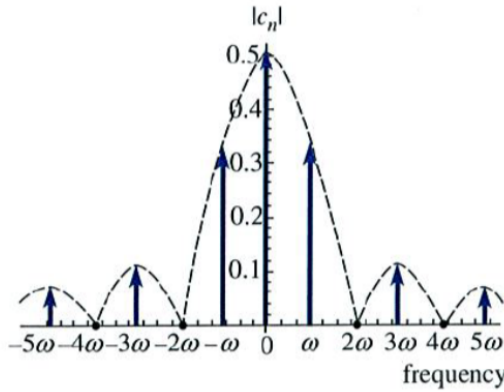


Figure 1: Fourier spectrum example (Fourier 2, page 26)

## 2 Fourier integral and Fourier complex integral

The **Fourier integral** of a (non-periodic) function  $f$  defined on the interval  $(-\infty, \infty)$  is given by

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty [A(\omega) \cos(\omega t) + B(\omega) \sin(\omega t)] d\omega \quad (3)$$

where

$$A(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(t) \cos(\omega t) dt$$

$$B(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(t) \sin(\omega t) dt$$

the complex Fourier integral can be expressed by

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^\infty F(\omega) e^{i\omega t} d\omega \quad (4)$$

where the complex coefficients  $F(\omega)$  are calculated from

$$F(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{-i\omega t} dt \quad (5)$$

For real signal  $f(t)$ , Fourier integral and Fourier complex integral have the following properties

- $F(\omega)$  and  $F(-\omega)$  are complex conjugate pairs.
- $A(\omega) = \text{Re}(F(\omega)), B(\omega) = -\text{Im}(F(\omega))$

### Convergence prerequisites

- $f$  and  $f'$  are piecewise continuous
- $f$  is absolutely integrable, i.e.,  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f(x)| dx$  converges

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### Convergence conditions:

If  $f$  and  $f'$  are piecewise continuous on the interval, and  $f$  is absolutely integrable, then Fourier series of  $f$  converge to  $f(t)$  at the points of continuity, and converge to

$$\frac{f(x+) + f(x-)}{2}$$

at the point of discontinuity. Here  $f(x+)$  and  $f(x-)$  are the limit of  $f$  at the discontinuity from the right and left, respectively.

## 3 Sine and Cosine expansions

The sine/cosine expansions are introduced for

- calculation simplifications
- half-range extensions

1. The expansion of even functions  $f(t) = f(-t)$

- Periodic: (trigonometric) Fourier series (Eq. (1)), for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(t) dt = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(t) dt, \\ a_n &= \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt, \\ b_n &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Non-periodic Fourier integral:

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} [A(\omega) \cos(\omega t) + B(\omega) \sin(\omega t)] d\omega \quad (6)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} A(\omega) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \cos(\omega t) dt \\ B(\omega) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

2. Odd functions  $-f(t) = f(-t)$

- Periodic:(trigonometric) Fourier series (Eq. (1)), for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$a_0 = 0, a_n = 0,$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

- Non-periodic:

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty [A(\omega) \cos(\omega t) + B(\omega) \sin(\omega t)] d\omega \quad (7)$$

where

$$A(\omega) = 0$$

$$B(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(t) \sin(\omega t) dt$$

**Half-range expansions:** Half-range expansions for a function  $f(x)$  defined **only** on  $I = (0, L)$ :

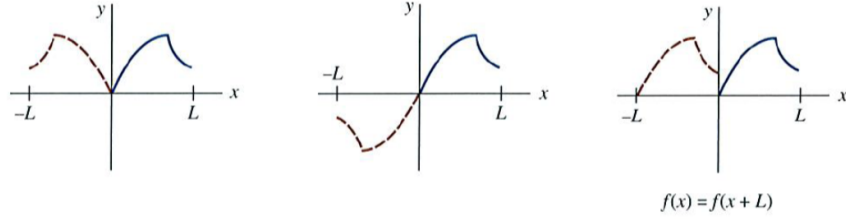


Figure 2: Left: cosine series; Mid: Sine series; Right: fourier series

Since cosine and sine expansions of a function only uses the definition of a function on  $(0, p)$ , we can expand the function  $f(x)$  as if it is a

1. periodic even function  $f$  with a period  $2L$ :

$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos(n\omega_0 t), \quad \omega_0 = \pi/L$$

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(t) dt, \quad a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

2. periodic odd function  $f$  with a period  $2L$ :

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(n\omega_0 t), \quad \omega_0 = \pi/L$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

3. periodic function  $f$  with a period  $L$ :

$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n \cos(n\omega_0 t) + b_n \sin(n\omega_0 t)], \quad \omega_0 = 2\pi/L$$

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(t) dt, \quad a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt, \quad b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

## 4 Fourier Transform

Definition of Fourier Transform

$$\mathcal{F}(f(t)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)e^{-i\omega t} dt = F(\omega)$$

Definition of Inverse Fourier Transform

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}(F(w)) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(\omega)e^{i\omega t} d\omega = f(t)$$

### Properities

Please refer to Page 20-26, Fourier 3.

## 5 Fourier transform of a periodic signal

The following steps extends the definition of Fourier transform to periodic signals:

1. Note that

$$e^{i\omega_0 t} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} 2\pi\delta(\omega - \omega_0)e^{i\omega t} d\omega \quad (8)$$

Consider the definition of inverse Fourier Transform

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(\omega)e^{i\omega t} dt$$

Thus,  $2\pi\delta(\omega - \omega_0)$  can be viewed as the Fourier transform of  $e^{i\omega_0 t}$ .

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2. Periodic signal can be expanded as a (complex) Fourier Series

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{in\omega_0 t}, \quad c_n = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x)e^{-in\omega_0 t} dt, \quad \omega_0 = \pi/L \quad (9)$$

Take the Fourier Transform of Eq. (9), we have

$$\begin{aligned} F(\omega) &= \mathcal{F}\left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{+in\omega_0 t}\right) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n \mathcal{F}\left(e^{+in\omega_0 t}\right) \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n (2\pi\delta(\omega - n\omega_0)) = 2\pi \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n (\delta(\omega - n\omega_0)) \end{aligned}$$

### Examples

Question: Find the Fourier Transform of  $f(t) = \sin(\omega_0(t))$  for  $I = (-\infty, \infty)$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) &= \sin(\omega_0 t) = \frac{1}{2i}(e^{i\omega_0 t} - e^{-i\omega_0 t}) \quad \text{展开为傅立叶级数} \\ \mathcal{F}(e^{i\omega_0 t}) &= 2\pi\delta(\omega - \omega_0) \\ \mathcal{F}(e^{-i\omega_0 t}) &= 2\pi\delta(\omega + \omega_0) \\ \mathcal{F}(f(t)) &= \frac{\pi}{i}(\delta(\omega - \omega_0) - \delta(\omega + \omega_0)) \end{aligned}$$