

EEE 4106 Signals and Communication I.

Prof. Ciira Maina
ciira.maina@dkut.ac.ke

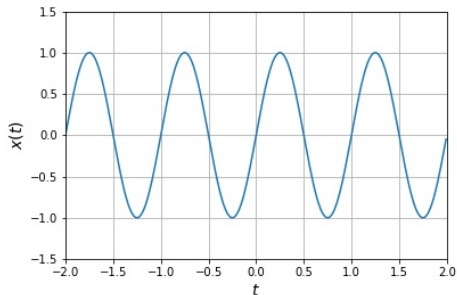
18th June, 2025

Today's Lecture

1. Fourier Transform

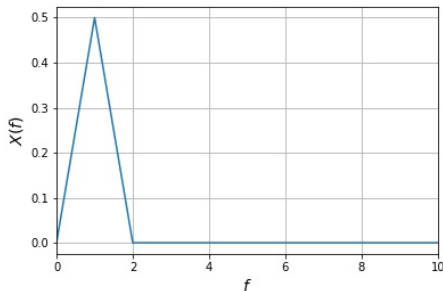
Introduction

- ▶ The Fourier transform provides the link between the time domain and frequency domain
- ▶ Consider the following sinusoid. What is its frequency?



Introduction

- ▶ The Fourier transform provides the link between the time domain and frequency domain
- ▶ The same signal can be viewed in the frequency domain



Fourier Transform

- ▶ For a nonperiodic signal $x(t)$, its Fourier transform is defined as

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

where the variable f denotes frequency.

- ▶ The time domain signal can be recovered from $X(f)$ as

$$x(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(f)e^{j2\pi ft} df$$

- ▶ $x(t)$ and $X(f)$ constitute a Fourier Transform pair

Fourier Transform

- ▶ We can use the notation

$$X(f) = \mathcal{F}[x(t)]$$

and

$$x(t) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}[X(f)]$$

Fourier Transform

- ▶ The Fourier transform allows us to express nonperiodic signals as sums of complex exponentials

- ▶ Recall

$$x(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(f) e^{j2\pi ft} df$$

- ▶ We have

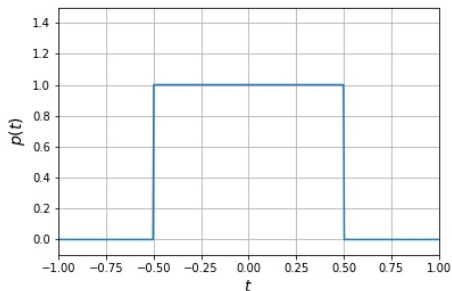
$$\lim_{\Delta f \rightarrow 0} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} X(n\Delta f) e^{j2\pi n\Delta f t} \Delta f = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(f) e^{j2\pi ft} df$$

- ▶ Thus we can view the signal $x(t)$ as consisting of complex exponentials at frequency $n\Delta f$ with each component weighted by $X(n\Delta f)\Delta f$

Example 1

- Consider the pulse $p(t)$ given by

$$p(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & -\frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

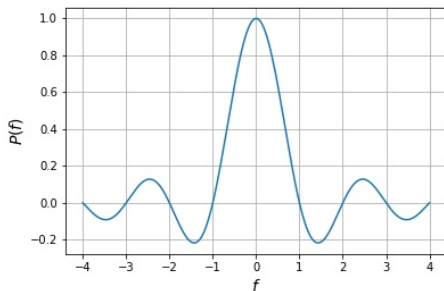


Example 1

- ▶ We see that the pulse consists of regions with no variation and two transitions at $t = -1/2$ and $t = 1/2$
- ▶ The regions with no variation correspond to low frequency content $f = 0$ while the sharp transitions correspond to high frequency content
- ▶ We have

$$\begin{aligned} P(f) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(t) e^{-j2\pi ft} dt = \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} e^{-j2\pi ft} dt \\ &= \frac{e^{j\pi f} - e^{-j\pi f}}{j2\pi f} = \frac{\sin(\pi f)}{\pi f} \\ &= \text{sinc}(f) \end{aligned}$$

Example 1



- Note that $\text{sinc}(0) = 1$
- We see that most of the energy of the signal is located around $f = 0$ as expected

Example 2

- ▶ Consider the Dirac delta function $\delta(t)$.
- ▶ Recall the sifting property.

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t)\delta(t - t_0)dt = x(t_0)$$

- ▶ Let's compute its Fourier transform

$$\mathcal{F}[\delta(t)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t)e^{-j2\pi ft}dt = e^{-j2\pi ft}\big|_{t=0} = 1$$

- ▶ The Dirac delta function has equal energy over the entire frequency spectrum

Properties of the Fourier Transform

► Linearity

$$\mathcal{F}[a_1x_1(t) + a_2x_2(t)] = a_1X_1(f) + a_2X_2(f)$$

► Time Shifting

$$\mathcal{F}[x(t - t_0)] = X(f)e^{-j2\pi ft_0}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}[x(t - t_0)] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t - t_0)e^{-j2\pi ft} dt \\&= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t')e^{-j2\pi f(t' + t_0)} dt' \quad t - t_0 = t' \\&= e^{-j2\pi ft_0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t')e^{-j2\pi ft'} dt' \\&= e^{-j2\pi ft_0} X(f)\end{aligned}$$

Properties of the Fourier Transform

► Frequency Shifting

$$\mathcal{F}[x(t)e^{j2\pi f_c t}] = X(f - f_c)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}[x(t)e^{j2\pi f_c t}] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t)e^{j2\pi f_c t} e^{-j2\pi f t} dt \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t)e^{-j2\pi(f-f_c)t} dt \\ &= X(f - f_c)\end{aligned}$$

Properties of the Fourier Transform

- Duality. If

$$\mathcal{F}[x(t)] = X(f)$$

Then

$$\mathcal{F}[X(t)] = x(-f)$$

- Example: Since $\mathcal{F}[\delta(t)] = 1$, then $\mathcal{F}[1] = \delta(-f) = \delta(f)$
- Thus all the energy of a DC signal is located at $f = 0$

Example 3

- ▶ Determine the Fourier transform of $e^{j2\pi f_c t}$
- ▶ Recall

$$\mathcal{F}[x(t)e^{j2\pi f_c t}] = X(f - f_c)$$

In this case $x(t) = 1$ and $\mathcal{F}[x(t)] = \delta(f)$. Thus

$$\mathcal{F}[e^{j2\pi f_c t}] = \delta(f - f_c)$$

- ▶ Similarly by exploiting linearity we can show that

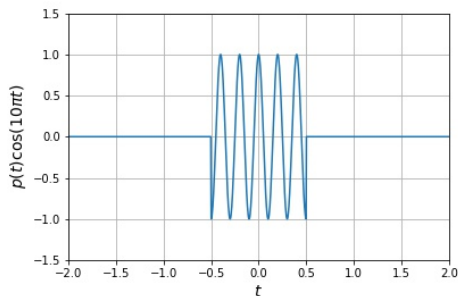
$$\mathcal{F}[\cos(2\pi f_c t)] = \frac{1}{2} \left(\delta(f - f_c) + \delta(f + f_c) \right)$$

Example 4

- ▶ Recall the pulse $p(t)$ given by

$$p(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & -\frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Determine the Fourier transform of $p(t) \cos(10\pi t)$

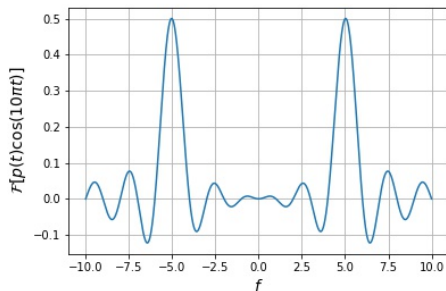


Example 4

- We have $P(f) = \text{sinc}(f)$. Thus

$$\mathcal{F}[p(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t)] = \frac{1}{2} \left(P(f - f_c) + P(f + f_c) \right)$$

with $f_c = 5$



Properties of the Fourier Transform

- Convolution in time.

$$\mathcal{F}\left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\tau)x(t-\tau)d\tau\right] = H(f)X(f)$$

- Recall that the output $y(t)$ of an LTI system in response to $x(t)$ is given by the convolution integral

$$y(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\tau)x(t-\tau)d\tau$$

- We have $Y(f) = H(f)X(f)$. $H(f)$ is also known as the *transfer function* of the system as it relates the Fourier transform of the output to that of the input.
- $H(f) = \mathcal{F}[h(t)]$

Example 5

- ▶ Consider an LTI system with impulse response $h(t) = e^{-t}u(t)$
- ▶ Show that

$$H(f) = \frac{1}{1 + j2\pi f}$$

- ▶ In general, $H(f)$ is complex and we can write

$$H(f) = |H(f)|e^{j\theta(f)}$$

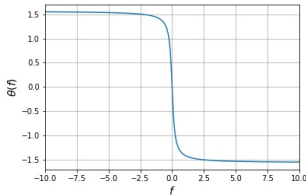
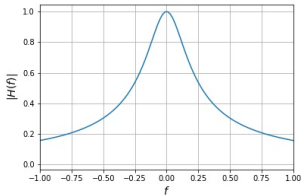
where $|H(f)|$ is known as the magnitude spectrum and $\theta(f)$ is known as the phase spectrum.

Example 5

- Show that

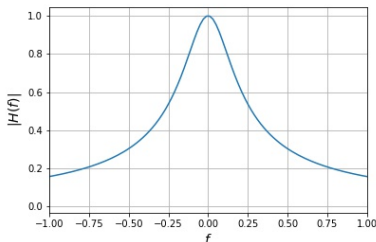
$$|H(f)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + 4\pi^2 f^2}}$$

$$\theta(f) = -\tan^{-1}(2\pi f)$$



Filter

- ▶ The linear time invariant system in example 5 is a low pass filter
- ▶ Filters are frequency selective systems
- ▶ Frequency components of the input signal that are present in the output lie within the passband of the filter.
- ▶ Frequency components that are present in the input but absent from the output lie in the stopband of the filter.



Filters

- ▶ The bandwidth of a filter is a number used to measure the extent of significant frequency content (in the positive frequency range) that is allowed to pass through the filter.
- ▶ An ideal lowpass filter has a frequency response given by

$$H_{LP}(f) = \begin{cases} 1 & |f| \leq W \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The bandwidth of this filter is W .

Filters

- ▶ An ideal bandpass filter has a frequency response given by

$$H_{BP}(f) = \begin{cases} 1 & W_1 \leq |f| \leq W_2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The bandwidth of this filter is $W_2 - W_1$.

Filters

- ▶ An ideal highpass filter has a frequency response given by

$$H_{HP}(f) = \begin{cases} 1 & |f| \geq W \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Filters

- ▶ For a non-ideal low pass filter with maximum magnitude response at $f = 0$, the 3dB bandwidth is the frequency at which the magnitude response is $|H(0)|/\sqrt{2}$.
- ▶ At this frequency the power transfer is half that at the origin.
- ▶ For the low pass filter with $h(t) = e^{-t}u(t)$ show that

$$f_{3dB} = \frac{1}{2\pi}$$

