

Lecture 10

Discrete-Time Fourier Series (DTFS) (Analysis)

(Ref: Chapter 3 O&W)

- I. DTFS – DT Signals as sum of Complex Sinusoids
- II. Periodicity and Symmetry in DTFS
- III. DTFS Examples

I. DTFS – DT Signals as sum of Complex Sinusoids

DTFS is to decompose an N -periodic DT signal into a weighted sum of the N distinct DT harmonic complex sinusoids with period N :

$$\phi_k[n] = e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n}, \quad k = 0, 1, 2 \dots N - 1$$

$\frac{2\pi}{N}$ is fundamental frequency ω_0 There are only N distinct harmonics

- In CTFS, we have potentially an infinite number of harmonics – the frequency in CT signal can be arbitrarily high, and $-\infty \leq k \leq \infty$
- In DTFS: we have a **finite** sum of N harmonics only!

Recall:

- *There are only N distinct complex sinusoids with period N .*
- $\phi_k[n] \equiv \phi_{k+N}[n] \equiv \phi_{k+mN}[n]$

Self Test:

1. How many distinct DT complex sinusoids there are that is periodic with period $N = 9$?

Please list them.

9

$$\omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{9}$$

$$e^{jk \frac{2\pi}{9} n}, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 8$$

2. Illustrate $e^{j2 \times \frac{2\pi}{9} n}$ graphically.

$$\omega_0 = \frac{4\pi}{9}$$

3. Illustrate $e^{j11 \times \frac{2\pi}{9} n}$ and $e^{j(-7) \times \frac{2\pi}{9} n}$ graphically.

Same as 2.

Solution to Self Test:

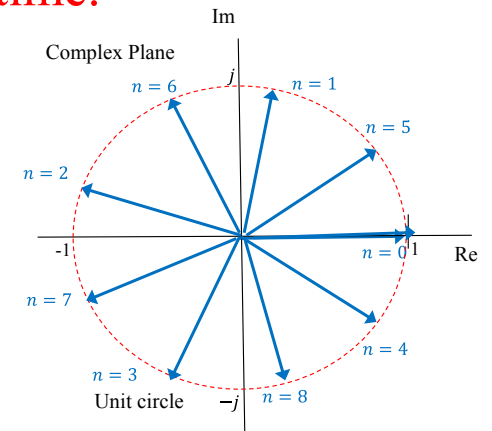
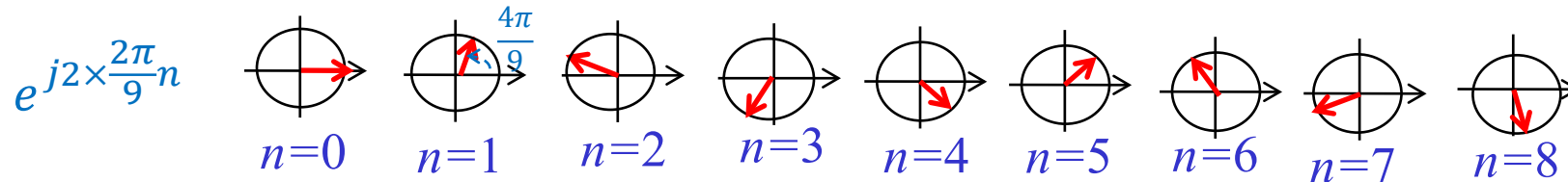
1. How many distinct DT complex sinusoids there are that is periodic with period $N = 9$?
Please list them.

$$9 \quad e^{jk\frac{2\pi}{9}n}; \quad k = 0, 1, 2, 3 \dots 8$$

$$\text{or } k = -4, -3, -2, \dots 4 \quad \text{or } k = -3, -2, -1, \dots 5$$

2. Illustrate $e^{j2 \times \frac{2\pi}{9}n}$ graphically.

It is the 2nd-harmonic; frequency $k\omega_0 = 2 \times \frac{2\pi}{9}$: phase change is $\frac{4\pi}{9}$ per unit time.



3. Illustrate $e^{j11 \times \frac{2\pi}{9}n}$ and $e^{j(-7) \times \frac{2\pi}{9}n}$ graphically.

Both are the same as $e^{j2 \times \frac{2\pi}{9}n}$

The DTFS Synthesis and Analysis Equations

synthesis

$$x[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} a_k e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} \quad \text{Eq (3.94)}$$

$\phi_k[n] = e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n}$

Synthesis: $x[n]$ as a weighted sum of harmonic complex sinusoids
Decomposition!

analysis

This sum is an inner product $\langle x[n], \phi_k[n] \rangle$

$$a_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} \quad \text{Eq (3.95)}$$

inner product!

Analysis: to determine how much of each harmonic is in $x[n]$

- The **synthesis equation** states that $x[n]$ is a weighted sum of N complex sinusoids.
- The **analysis equation** calculates the **FS coefficients** which are the weights for the harmonics.

It is an inner product with normalization: $\frac{1}{N} \langle x[n], e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} \rangle$

get back a_k

- The normalization is $\frac{1}{N}$ because N is the self-inner product of any harmonic:

$$\langle e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n}, e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} \rangle = N$$

$$\langle \phi_k[n], \phi_k[n] \rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} |\phi_k[n]|^2 = N$$

Periodicity of DTFS Coefficients

- We observe from Eq (3.95) that the DTFS coefficients a_k can be regarded as N -periodic in k because:

$$a_{k+N} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] e^{-j(k+N)\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} = a_k$$

$\langle x[n], \phi_{k+N}[n] \rangle$ $\phi_{k+N}[n]$ and $\phi_k[n]$ are the same
combination! $a_{k+N} = a_k$

- Therefore the terms in the synthesis sum Eq (3.94) are N -periodic, and we can shift the summation window to sum over any N contiguous terms:

synthesis
Eq (3.94)

$$x[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} a_k e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} = \sum_{k=\langle N \rangle} a_k e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n}$$

Both N -periodic in k means summing over any N contiguous terms in k
 e.g.: 1 to N , 2 to $N+1$, etc.

- The terms in the analysis equation Eq (3.95) are obviously N -periodic in n . So we can also sum over any N contiguous terms:

analysis
Eq (3.95)

$$a_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=\langle N \rangle} x[n] e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n}$$

Both $x[n]$ and $\phi_k[n]$ are N -periodic in n . sum over any N contiguous terms in n
 AKW

Reference

For future classes in DSP, we need to get used to expressing the ranges of summation:

If N even (e.g., $N = 8$):

$$\sum_{k=0}^{N-1}, \sum_{k=-\frac{N}{2}}^{\frac{N}{2}-1}, \sum_{k=-\frac{N}{2}+1}^{\frac{N}{2}}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^7, \sum_{k=-4}^3, \sum_{k=-3}^4$$

If N odd (e.g., $N = 9$):

$$\sum_{k=0}^{N-1}, \sum_{k=-\frac{(N-1)}{2}}^{\frac{(N-1)}{2}}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^8, \sum_{k=-4}^4$$

Proof of the Synthesis/Analysis Pair for DTFS

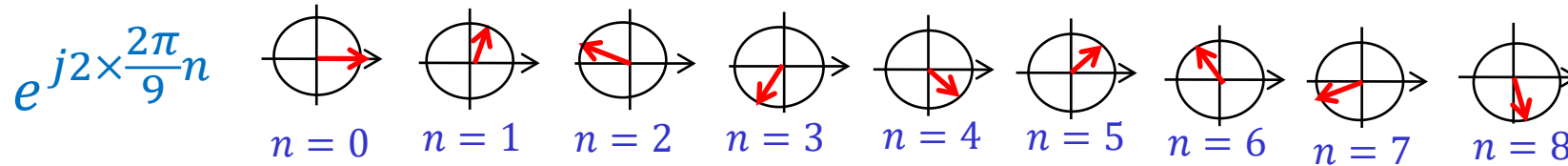
- Validity of the synthesis/analysis equations pair is again because of the orthogonality of harmonics – the inner product of two different harmonics is zero.
- To show two different harmonics are orthogonal, we first show that the self-sum of any non-DC harmonic over one period is zero:

Self-sum of a harmonic

$$\sum_{n=\langle N \rangle} e^{jk\frac{2\pi}{N}n} = \begin{cases} 0 & k \neq 0 \text{ (or } mN) \\ N & k = 0 \text{ (or } mN) \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} k = 0, \pm N, \pm 2N \dots \text{ is the DC.} \\ \phi_k[n] \equiv \phi_{k+mN}[n] \end{array}$$

Self-Sum of a Harmonic

For example, for $k = 2$, $N = 9$, how do we show that $\sum_{n=0}^8 e^{j2 \times \frac{2\pi}{9}n} = 0$?



Recall the result of a *finite geometric sum*:

$$\sum_{n=0}^M \alpha^n = \frac{1 - \alpha^{M+1}}{1 - \alpha}$$

Thus,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} = \frac{1 - e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)N}}{1 - e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)}}$$

where $M = N - 1$ and $M + 1 = N$. The term $\alpha = e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)}$ is indicated by a dashed blue circle.

The numerator is always 0 because $e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)N} = e^{jk2\pi} = 1$, so the sum equals 0, unless $k = mN$ so that the denominator is also 0 because $e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)} = e^{jm2\pi} = 1$, in which case we recognize the self-sum equals N because every term in the sum is 1.

Orthogonality of Harmonics

Again, let $\phi_k[n] = e^{jk(\frac{2\pi}{N})n}$ represents the k -harmonic

- The inner product of the r -harmonic and k -harmonic is the self-sum of the $(r - k)$ -harmonic:

$$\langle \phi_r[n], \phi_k[n] \rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \phi_r[n] \phi_k^*[n] = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{jr(\frac{2\pi}{N})n} e^{-jk(\frac{2\pi}{N})n}$$

conjugation

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{j(r-k)(\frac{2\pi}{N})n} = \begin{cases} 0 & r - k \neq 0 \text{ (or } mN) \\ N & r - k = 0 \text{ (or } mN) \end{cases}$$

self-sum of $(r - k)$ -harmonic

Equals 0 unless $r - k$ represents the DC.

- Hence, the inner product of two different harmonics is zero – two different harmonics are orthogonal.

Proof of the Synthesis/Analysis Pair for DTFS

Now we can consider the summation in Eq. (3.95) again:

replace $x[n]$ by its synthesis sum Eq.(3.94)

$$\sum_{n=\langle N \rangle} x[n] e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} = \sum_{n=\langle N \rangle} \sum_{r=\langle N \rangle} a_r e^{jr\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n}$$

$\phi_r[n]$

Reverse order of summation \rightarrow

$$= \sum_{r=\langle N \rangle} a_r \sum_{n=\langle N \rangle} e^{jr\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} = \sum_{r=\langle N \rangle} a_r \sum_{n=\langle N \rangle} e^{j(r-k)\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} = N a_k$$

Inner product of two harmonics:
 $\langle \phi_r[n], \phi_k[n] \rangle$

= self-sum of $(r - k)$ -harmonic,
which is 0 unless $r = k + mN$

Hence, we have shown that Eq. (3.95) is true if Eq. (3.94) is true – we have proven the validity of the synthesis/analysis pair.

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Chapter 3 - Discrete-Time Fourier Series (DTFS)

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II. Periodicity and Symmetry in DTFS

Let us consider again why we treat the DTFS coefficients as N -periodic; i.e., $a_k = a_{k+N}$

- If there are only N distinct harmonics, why don't we limit k to say $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, N - 1\}$?

The reason is that k is circular and the mathematical notation is simpler if we allow k to be any arbitrary integer. It is the same reason that we allow an angle θ , which is circular, to be of arbitrary value.

Consider the world globe and the world map below:

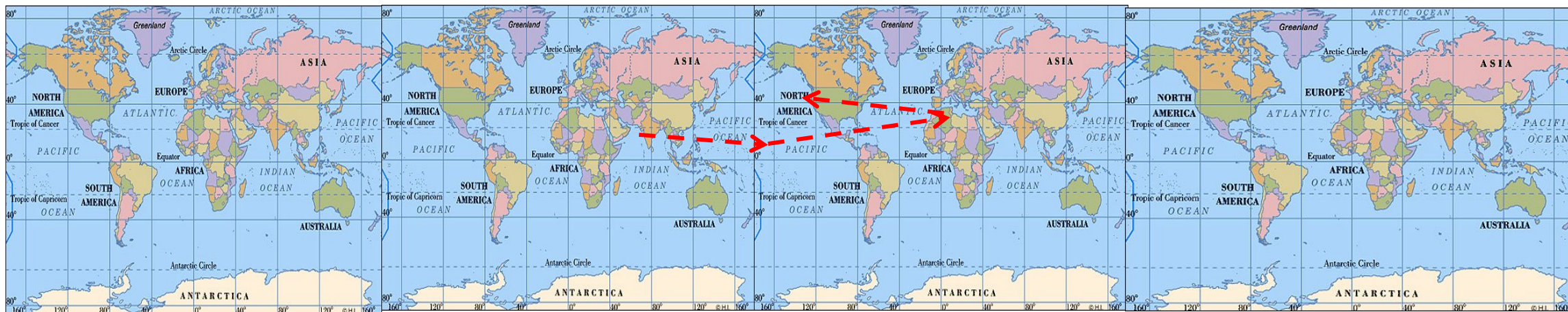


The world is finite but circular —a *circular domain*.

The map on the left can be very misleading if you do not know that the world is circular. But drawing a circular globe on paper is cumbersome.

Showing a Circular Domain as Periodic

Sailors on Christopher Columbus' ship would find it more comforting to see the following “*unwrapped*” map of the world, where we show a *circular domain* as periodic:



Longitude on the earth is over a finite range (180° west to 180° east), but longitude is circular, and it is much more convenient to allow the longitude to take on any value.

We will be doing a lot of *frequency shifting* in the processing of DT signals. It is much more convenient to allow the frequency ω or the harmonic number k to assume any value. We just need to remember that ω and $\omega + 2\pi$ are equivalent, and k and $k + N$ are equivalent.

Symmetry in the DTFS Synthesis and Analysis Equations

- Note that the synthesis equation and the analysis equation in DTFS are highly symmetrical – they are the same except for a sign change and a scaling constant $1/N$.

Synthesis

$$x[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} a_k e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n}$$

$$x[0] = \sum_{k=\langle N \rangle} a_k \quad \phi_k[0] = 1 \quad \forall k$$

$$x[1] = \sum_{k=\langle N \rangle} a_k e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)} \quad \phi_k[1]$$

...

$$x[N-1] = \sum_{k=\langle N \rangle} a_k e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)(N-1)} \quad \phi_k[N-1]$$

Analysis

$$a_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n}$$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=\langle N \rangle} x[n] \quad \phi_0^*[n] = 1$$

$$a_1 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=\langle N \rangle} x[n] e^{-j\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} \quad \phi_1^*[n]$$

...

$$a_{N-1} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=\langle N \rangle} x[n] e^{-j(N-1)\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} \quad \phi_{N-1}^*[n]$$

Same except for
minus sign in
exponent and
scaling by $1/N$

- This symmetry makes sense when we regard periodic/finite duration DT signals as vectors and view DTFS as a *change in coordinates*, which is a rotation and a scaling. To change back to the original coordinate, we simply reverse the rotation and scaling.

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Chapter 3 - Discrete-Time Fourier Series (DTFS)

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III. DTFS Examples

As in the CT case, sometimes we can easily recognize the FS coefficients without using the analysis equation.

Example 3.11 List the FS coefficients of:

$$x[n] = 1 + 3 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}n\right) + \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}n\right) + \cos\left(\frac{4\pi}{N}n + \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$a_0 = 1, a_1 = \frac{3}{2} + \frac{j}{2}, a_{-1} = \frac{3}{2} - \frac{j}{2}, a_2 = \frac{j}{2}, a_{-2} = \frac{-j}{2}$

We can solve this problem by expressing $x[n]$ in terms of complex sinusoids:

$$x[n] = 1 + \frac{3}{2}e^{j\frac{2\pi}{N}n} + \frac{3}{2}e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{N}n} + \frac{j}{2}e^{j\frac{2\pi}{N}n} + \frac{j}{2}e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{N}n} + \frac{e^{j\frac{\pi}{2}}}{2}e^{j\frac{4\pi}{N}n} + \frac{e^{-j\frac{\pi}{2}}}{2}e^{-j\frac{4\pi}{N}n}$$

$a_0 = 1$

$a_1 = \frac{3}{2} + \frac{j}{2}$

$a_{-1} = \frac{3}{2} - \frac{j}{2} = a_1^*$

$a_2 = \frac{e^{j\frac{\pi}{2}}}{2} = \frac{j}{2}$

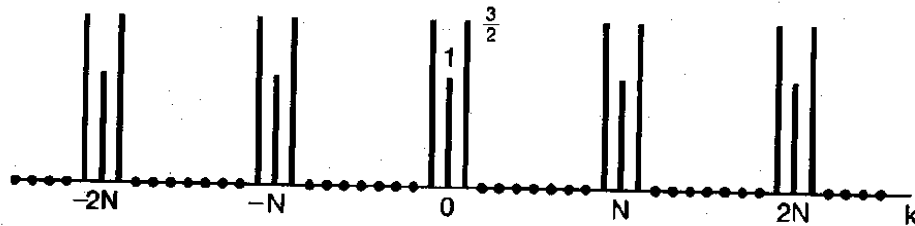
$a_{-2} = \frac{e^{-j\frac{\pi}{2}}}{2} = \frac{-j}{2}$

Example 3.11 - (cont.)

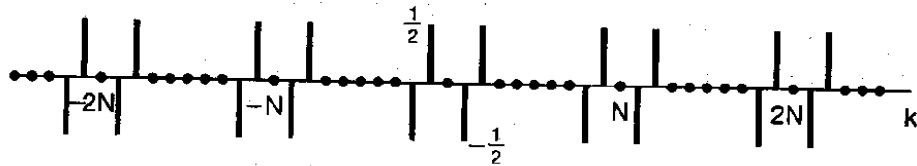
- We show below the FS Coefficients in rectangular form (real and imaginary parts), and in polar form (magnitude and phase).

Rectangular Form

$\Re\{a_k\}$



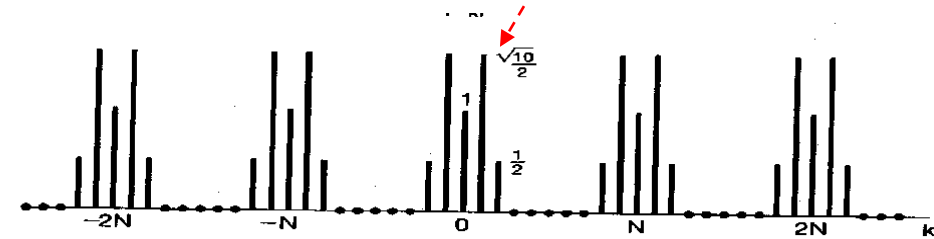
$\Im\{a_k\}$



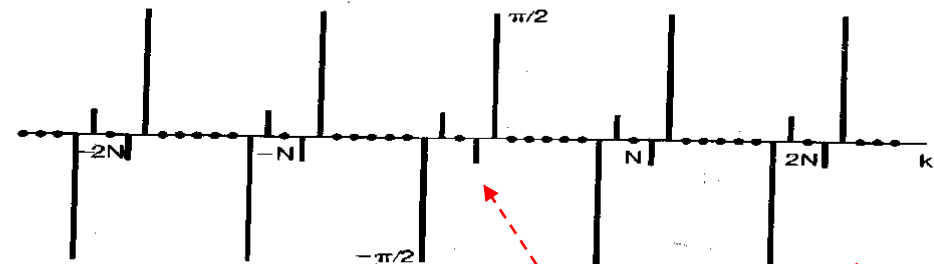
(a)

Exponential Form

$$|a_k| \quad |a_1| = \left| \frac{3}{2} - \frac{j}{2} \right| = \frac{\sqrt{10}}{2}$$



$\angle a_k$



(b)

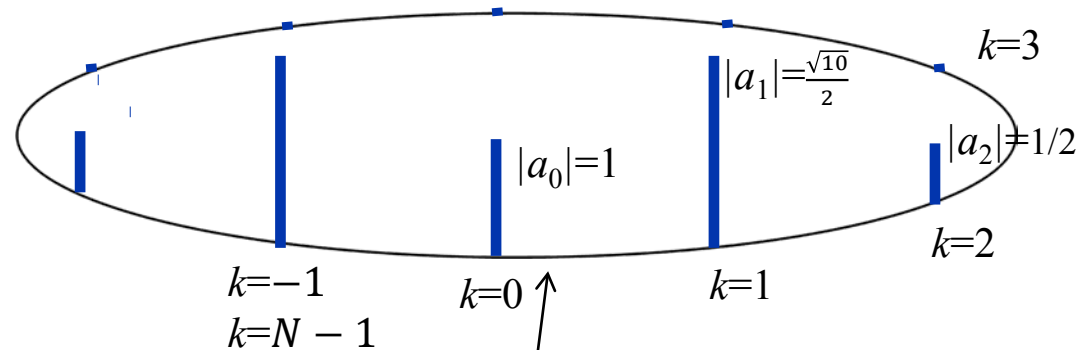
$$\angle a_1 = \tan^{-1} \frac{-1}{3}$$

The FS coefficients are N -periodic as an unwrapped representation of a circular domain.

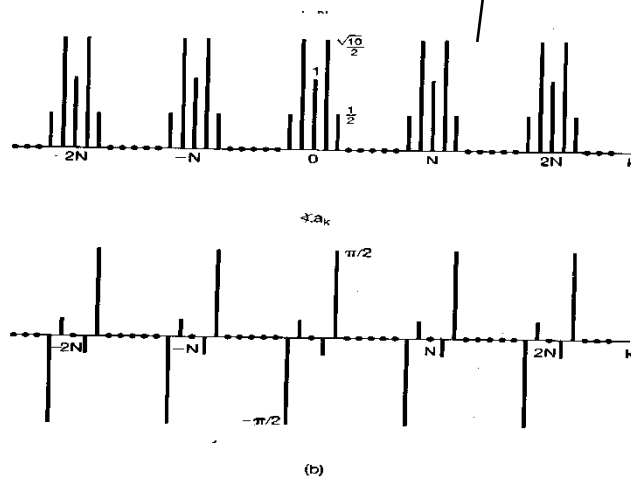


Circular Domain

The FS coefficients of a DT periodic signal are actually on a circular domain:



The periodic representation is simply a more convenient representation of the circular domain above.



Another Example

List the F.S. coefficients of $x[n] = 3 + 5\cos\left(\frac{4\pi}{9}n + \frac{\pi}{8}\right) + \sin\left(\frac{6\pi}{9}n\right)$ $\omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{9}$

$$a_0 = 3$$

$$|a_2| = \frac{5}{2} \quad \angle a_2 = \frac{\pi}{8} \quad |a_3| = \frac{1}{2} \quad \angle a_3 = -\frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$a_2 = \frac{5}{2}e^{j\frac{\pi}{8}}$$

$$a_{-2} = \frac{5}{2}e^{-j\frac{\pi}{8}}$$

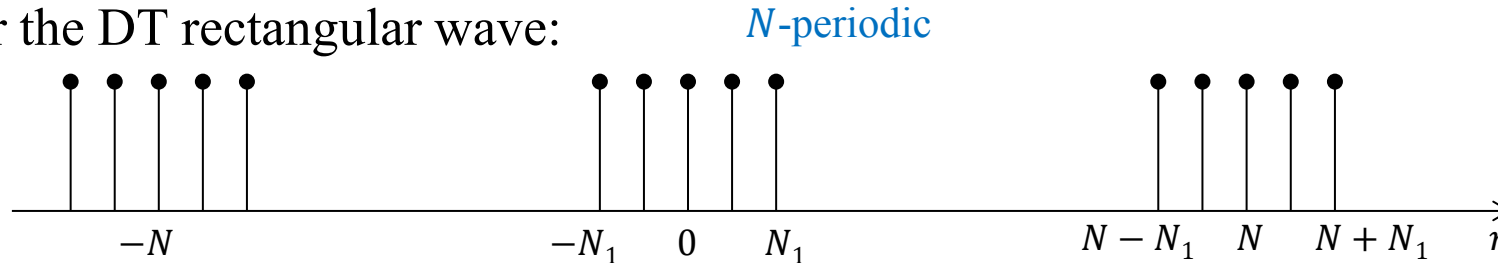
$$a_3 = \frac{1}{2}e^{-j\frac{\pi}{2}} = \frac{-j}{2}$$

$$a_{-3} = \frac{1}{2}e^{j\frac{\pi}{2}} = \frac{j}{2}$$

Example 3.12 – DTFS for a DT rectangular wave

Sometimes finding the FS coefficients requires some algebraic manipulation:

Consider the DT rectangular wave:



N -periodic

Summing over an interval that covers $-N_1$ to N_1 :

$$a_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=-N_1}^{N_1} x[n] e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n}$$

$x[n] = 1$

$x[n]$

Choose interval of summation
< N > that includes $-N_1$ to N_1

Letting $m = n + N_1$:

$$a_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{m=0}^{2N_1} e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)(m-N_1)} = \frac{e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)N_1}}{N} \sum_{m=0}^{2N_1} e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)m} = \frac{e^{jk(2\pi/N)N_1}}{N} \left[\frac{1 - e^{-jk(2\pi/N)(2N_1+1)}}{1 - e^{-jk(2\pi/N)}} \right]$$

Finite geometric sum

$$\sum_{m=0}^M \alpha^m = \frac{1 - \alpha^{M+1}}{1 - \alpha}$$

- **Rectangular wave (cont.)**

From previous slide: $a_k = \frac{e^{jk(\frac{2\pi}{N})N_1}}{N} \left[\frac{1 - e^{-jk(\frac{2\pi}{N})(2N_1+1)}}{1 - e^{-jk(\frac{2\pi}{N})}} \right]$

An algebraic manipulation used in many optics and wave problems is to extract phase from two complex numbers of same magnitude to obtain a conjugate pair. With this, we can re-express a_k as

$$a_k = \frac{1}{N} \frac{e^{jk(\frac{2\pi}{N})N_1} e^{-jk(\frac{2\pi}{N})(2N_1+1)}}{e^{-jk(\frac{2\pi}{N})}} \frac{[e^{jk(\frac{2\pi}{N})(2N_1+1)} - e^{-jk(\frac{2\pi}{N})(2N_1+1)}]}{[e^{jk(\frac{2\pi}{N})} - e^{-jk(\frac{2\pi}{N})}]}$$

$1 - e^{-j\theta} = e^{-\frac{j\theta}{2}} (e^{\frac{j\theta}{2}} - e^{-\frac{j\theta}{2}})$
 Given a sum or difference of two complex numbers with same magnitude, we extract the average of their phases to create a conjugate pair

$$= \frac{1}{N} \frac{\sin\left(\left(\frac{\pi}{N}\right)(2N_1+1)k\right)}{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{N}k\right)}$$

We note that this expression is N -periodic in k .

The above is the DT equivalence of the sinc function.

Note that when $k = 0, \pm N, \pm 2N \dots$, both the denominator and numerator go to zero and we need to take limit. We easily obtain for these cases:

$$a_k|_{k=0, \pm N, \pm 2N, \dots} = \frac{2N_1 + 1}{N}$$

Example 3.12 – (cont.)

We plot a_k for different N 's while keeping $2N_1 + 1$ fixed at 5

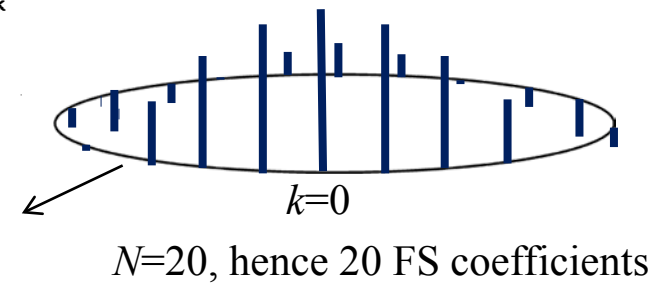
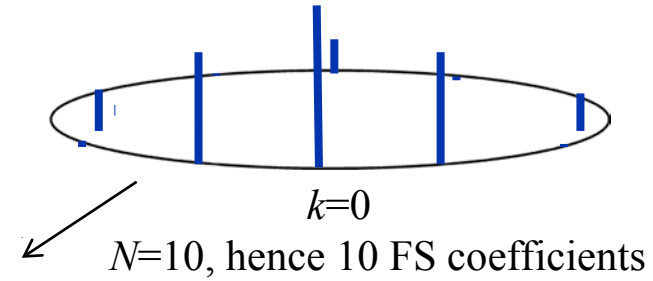
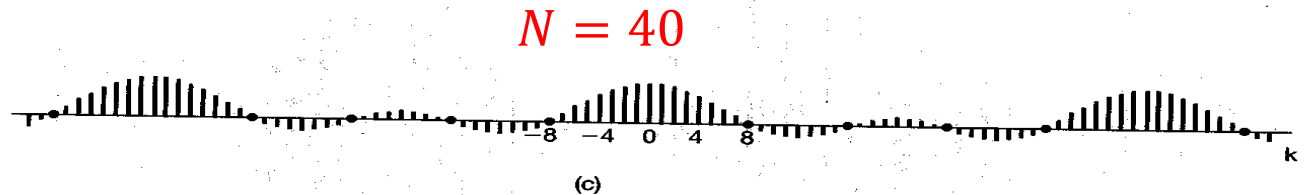
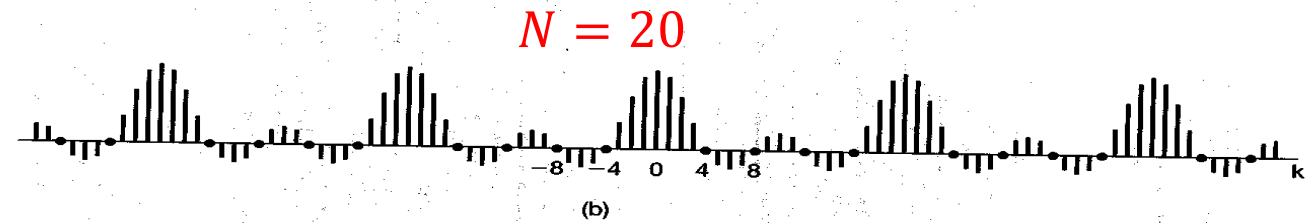
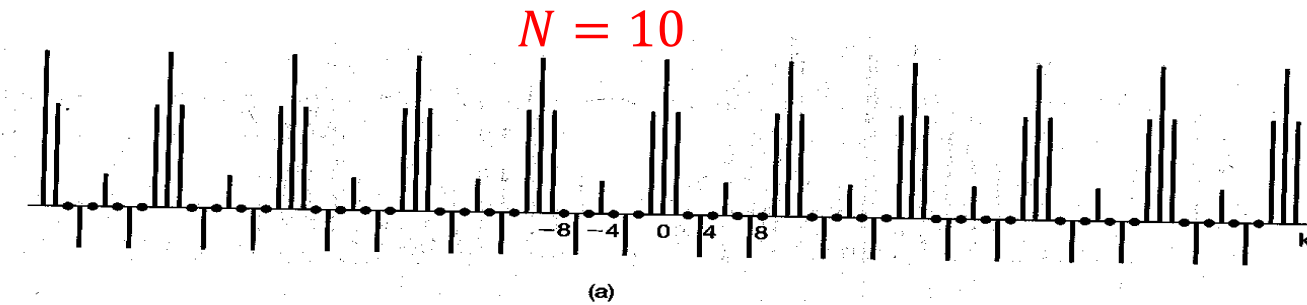


Figure 3.17 Fourier series coefficients for the periodic square wave of Example 3.12; plots of Na_k for $2N_1 + 1 = 5$ and (a) $N = 10$; (b) $N = 20$; and (c) $N = 40$.

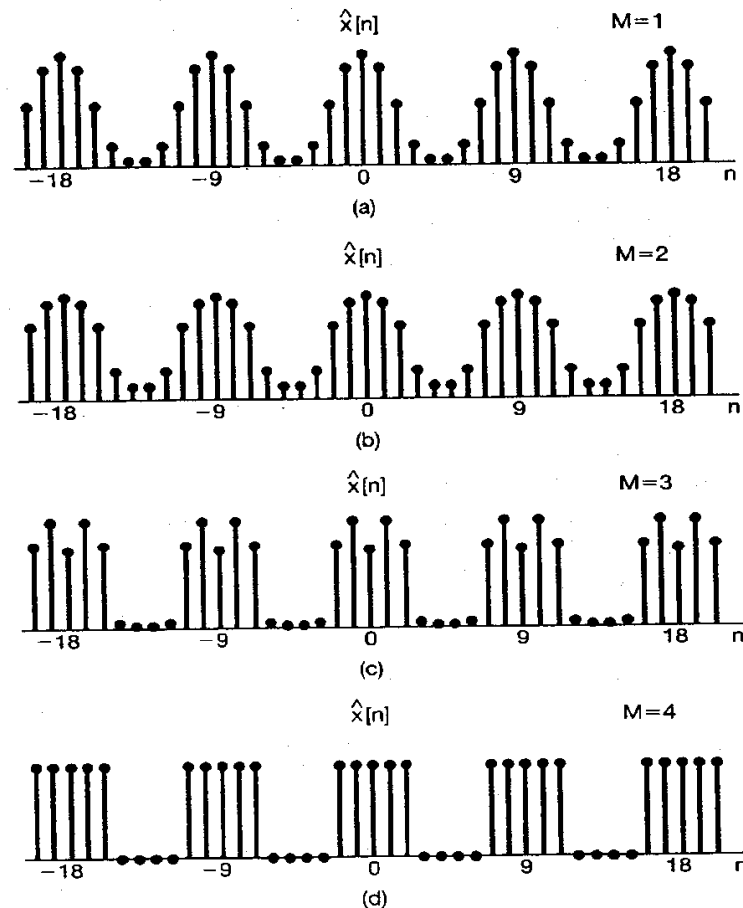
Convergence for DTFS

- Unlike CTFS, there is no convergence issue in DTFS because DTFS is simply a change of coordinate (basis) in an N -vector space.
- For the **truncated synthesis equation** for the DT periodic rectangular wave, when N terms are included, $x[n]$ is exactly reproduced. There is no convergence issue.

$$\hat{x}[n] = \sum_{k=-M}^M a_k e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n}$$

include $2M + 1$ terms only
In the sum instead of $< N >$ terms

Rectangular wave is exactly reproduced when all N terms are included in the synthesis



No Gibb's phenomena – there is no discontinuity in DT signals

Figure 3.18 Partial sums of eqs. (3.106) and (3.107) for the periodic square wave of Figure 3.16 with $N = 9$ and $2N_1 + 1 = 5$: (a) $M = 1$; (b) $M = 2$; (c) $M = 3$; (d) $M = 4$.

For Reference Only

For Reference Only - Correspondence between CTFS and DTFS

Note also that there is a close correspondence between CT and DT Fourier Series:

CT

Periodicity

$$x(t) = x(t + T)$$

T-periodic

Harmonics

$$\phi_k(t) = e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}\right)t} \quad \omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T}$$

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k \phi_k(t)$$

Synthesis

An infinite weighted sum

Orthogonality of Harmonics

$$\int_0^T \phi_k(t) \phi_l^*(t) dt = \begin{cases} T & k = l \\ 0 & k \neq l \end{cases}$$

Inner product: $\langle \phi_k(t), \phi_l(t) \rangle$

$\phi_k(t) \phi_k^*(t) = |\phi_k(t)|^2 = 1$
Self inner-product = T

$$a_k = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T x(t) \phi_k^*(t) dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_T x(t) e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}\right)t} dt$$

Analysis

DT

$$x[n] = x[n + N]$$

N-periodic

$$\phi_k[n] = e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} \quad \omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{N}$$

$$x[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} a_k \phi_k[n]$$

Synthesis

Finite sum; only N distinct harmonics

AKW

Projection coefficient

$$\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \phi_k[n] \phi_l^*[n] = \begin{cases} N & k = l + mN \\ 0 & k \neq l + mN \end{cases}$$

l and $l + mN$ are the same harmonic

$$a_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=\langle N \rangle} x[n] \phi_k^*[n] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=\langle N \rangle} x[n] e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n}$$

Inner product: $\langle x[n], \phi_k[n] \rangle$

Self-inner product: $\langle \phi_k[n], \phi_k[n] \rangle$

Analysis

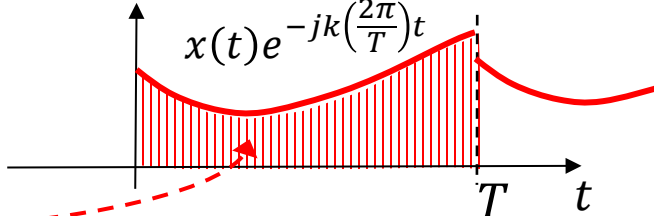
For Reference Only - DTFS as Approximation of CTFS

- We can also view the DTFS coefficients as a staircase approximation result of the CTFS analysis integral:

CT

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k e^{jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}\right)t}; \quad a_k = \frac{1}{T} \underbrace{\int_0^T x(t) e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}\right)t} dt}_{\text{CTFS analysis integral}}$$

T-periodic



Now if you ask a computer to compute the CTFS coefficients a_k , the computer can only perform a numerical integration by sampling the integrand and sum:

$$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x(n\Delta) e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{T}\right)n\Delta} \Delta$$

Numerical integration



Numerical integration = staircase approximation of integral

where we assume there are $N = \frac{T}{\Delta}$ samples. Hence $\frac{\Delta}{T} = \frac{1}{N}$ and the numerical integral is a DTFS analysis sum:

$$\tilde{a}_{k \text{ DTFS}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] e^{-jk\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)n} \quad \text{where } x[n] = x(n\Delta);$$

DTFS Analysis sum

Now in DT the computer can only produce N distinct coefficients, whereas $x(t)$ may originally have an infinite number of coefficients. Some information is potentially lost.