

# IT309 Digital Signal Processing

## Lecture 05 Fourier Transform

# Adding sine waves

Adding together sine waves of equal frequency, but arbitrary amplitude and phase, results in another sine wave of the same frequency:

$$A_1 \cdot \sin(\omega t + \varphi_1) + A_2 \cdot \sin(\omega t + \varphi_2) = A \cdot \sin(\omega t + \varphi)$$

Why?

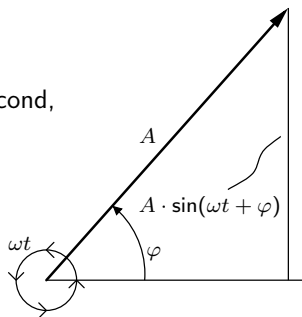
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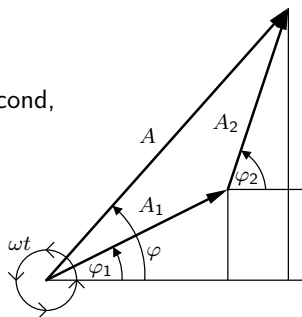
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Consider two more such arrows, of length  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ , with start angles  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$ .

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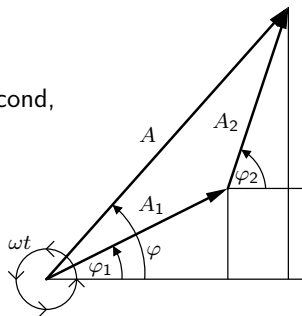
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But adding sine waves as vectors  $(A_1, \varphi_1)$  and  $(A_2, \varphi_2)$  in polar coordinates is cumbersome:

$$A = \sqrt{A_1^2 + A_2^2 + 2A_1A_2 \cos(\varphi_2 - \varphi_1)}, \quad \tan \varphi = \frac{A_1 \sin \varphi_1 + A_2 \sin \varphi_2}{A_1 \cos \varphi_1 + A_2 \cos \varphi_2}$$

# Cartesian coordinates for sine waves

Sine waves of any amplitude  $A$  and phase (start angle)  $\varphi$  can be represented as linear combinations of  $\sin(\omega t)$  and  $\cos(\omega t)$ :

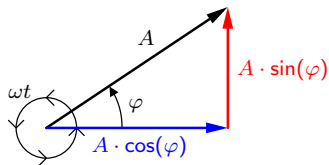
$$A \cdot \sin(\omega t + \varphi) = x \cdot \sin(\omega t) + y \cdot \cos(\omega t) \qquad \cos(\omega t) = \sin(\omega t + 90^\circ)$$

where

$$x = A \cdot \cos(\varphi), \quad y = A \cdot \sin(\varphi)$$

and

$$A = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}, \quad \tan \varphi = \frac{y}{x}.$$



Base: two rotating arrows with start angles  $0^\circ$  [height =  $\sin(\omega)$ ] and  $90^\circ$  [height =  $\cos(\omega)$ ].

Adding two sine waves as vectors in Cartesian coordinates is simple:

$$f_1(t) = x_1 \cdot \sin(\omega) + y_1 \cdot \cos(\omega)$$

$$f_2(t) = x_2 \cdot \sin(\omega) + y_2 \cdot \cos(\omega)$$

$$f_1(t) + f_2(t) = (x_1 + x_2) \cdot \sin(\omega) + (y_1 + y_2) \cdot \cos(\omega)$$

# Why are sine waves useful?

## 1) Sine-wave sequences form a family of discrete sequences that is closed under convolution with arbitrary sequences.

Convolution of a discrete sequence  $\{x_n\}$  with another sequence  $\{h_n\}$  is nothing but adding together scaled and delayed copies of  $\{x_n\}$ .

Think again of  $\{h_n\}$  as decomposed into a sum of impulses:

$$\begin{aligned}\{x_n\} * \{h_n\} &= \{x_n\} * \sum_k h_k \cdot \{\delta_{n-k}\}_n = \sum_k h_k \cdot (\{x_n\} * \{\delta_{n-k}\}_n) \\ &= \sum_k h_k \cdot \{x_{n-k}\}_n\end{aligned}$$

If  $\{x_n\}$  is a sampled sine wave of frequency  $f$ , i.e.

$$x_n = A_x \cdot \sin(2\pi f t + \phi_x)$$

then  $\{y_n\} = \{x_n\} * \{h_n\} = \sum_k h_k \cdot \{x_{n-k}\}_n$  is another sampled sine wave of frequency  $f$ , i.e. for each  $\{h_n\}$  there exists a pair  $(A_y, \phi_y)$  with

$$y_n = A_y \cdot \sin(2\pi f t + \phi_y)$$

The equivalent applies for continuous sine waves and convolution.

# Why are sine waves useful?

## 2) Sine waves are orthogonal to each other

The term “orthogonal” is used here in the context of an (infinitely dimensional) vector space, where the “vectors” are functions of the form  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (or  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ) and the scalar product is defined as

$$f \cdot g = \int f(t) \cdot g(t) dt.$$

Over integer (half-)periods:

$$m, n \in \mathbb{N}, m \neq n \quad \Rightarrow \quad \int_0^\pi \sin(nt) \sin(mt) dt = 0$$

$$m, n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \int_{-\pi}^\pi \sin(nt) \cos(mt) dt = 0$$

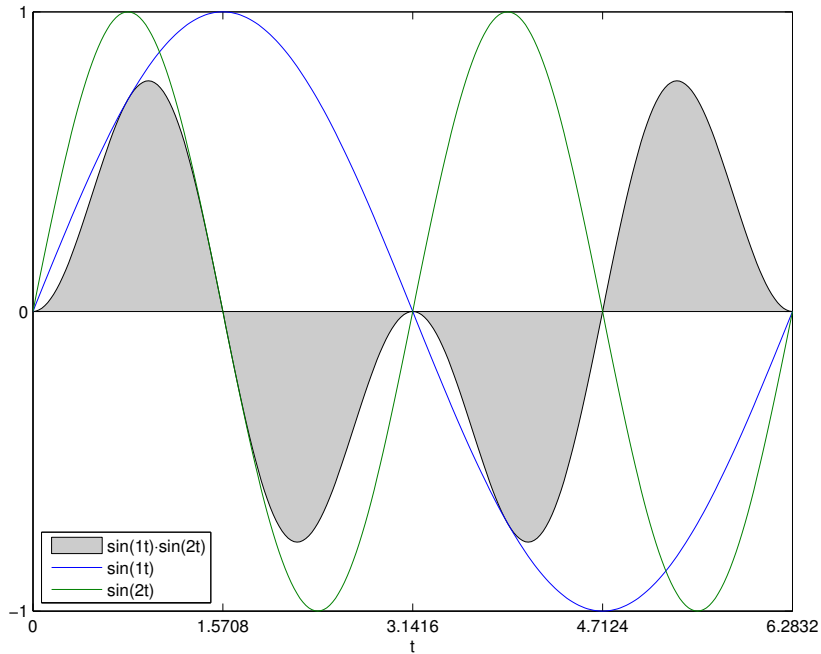
We can even (with some handwaving) extend this to improper integrals:

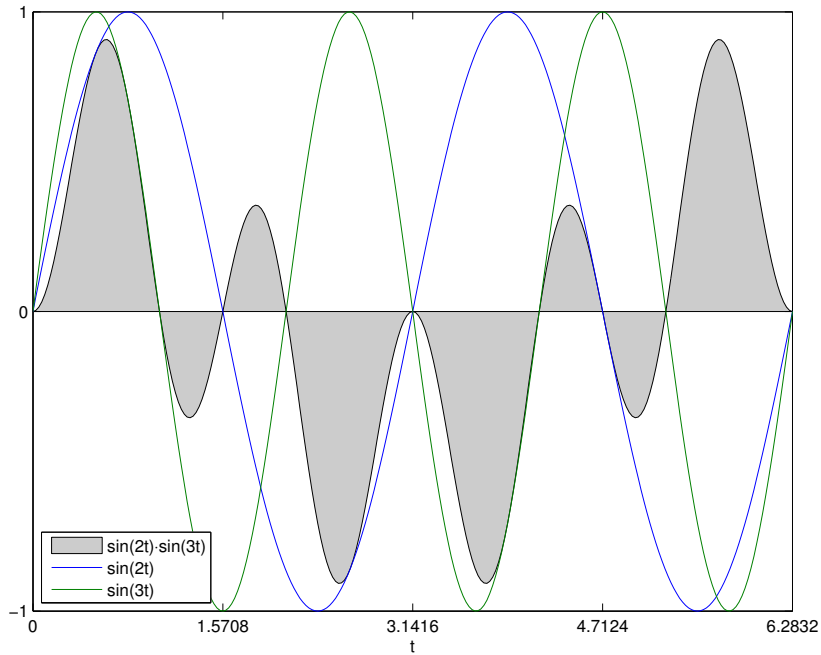
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sin(\omega_1 t + \varphi_1) \cdot \sin(\omega_2 t + \varphi_2) dt \text{ “=” } 0$$

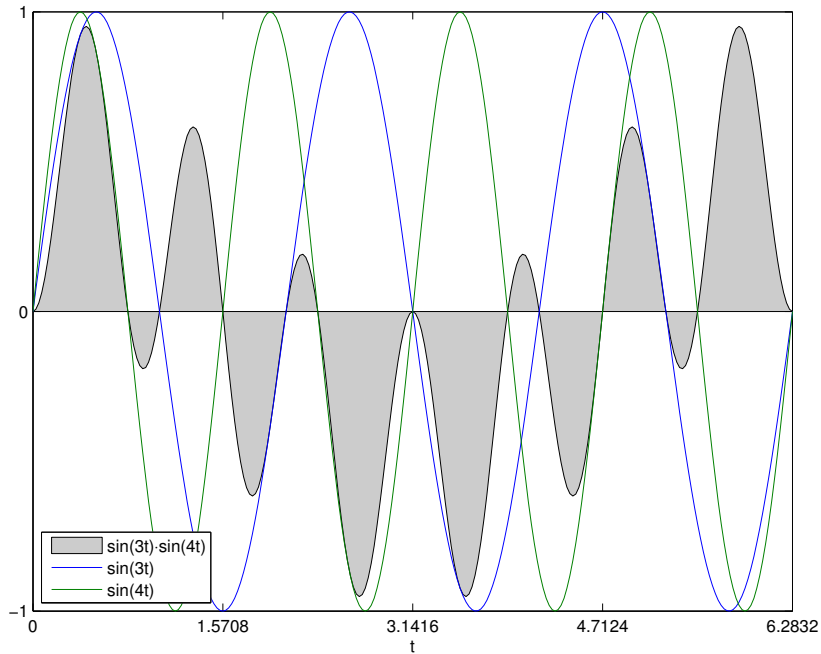
$$\iff \omega_1 \neq \omega_2 \quad \vee \quad \varphi_1 - \varphi_2 = (2k + 1)\pi/2 \quad (k \in \mathbb{Z})$$

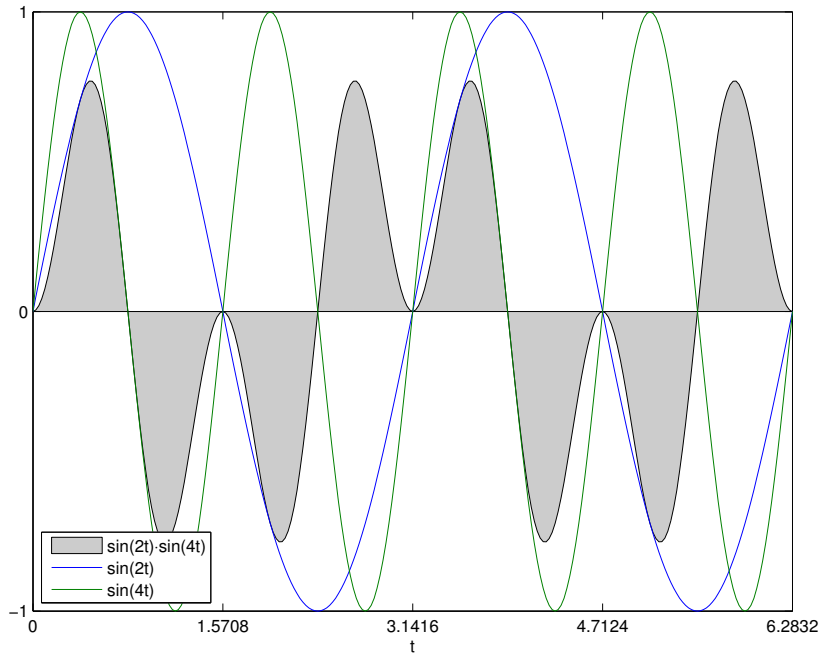
They can be used to form an orthogonal function basis for a transform.

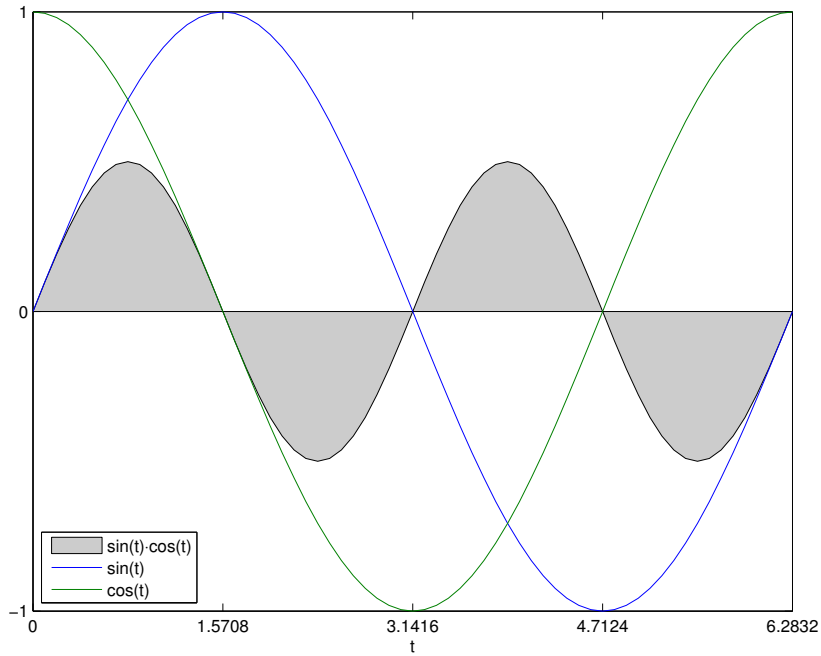












# Why are exponential functions useful?

Adding together two exponential functions with the same base  $z$ , but different scale factor and offset, results in another exponential function with the same base:

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 \cdot z^{t+\varphi_1} + A_2 \cdot z^{t+\varphi_2} &= A_1 \cdot z^t \cdot z^{\varphi_1} + A_2 \cdot z^t \cdot z^{\varphi_2} \\ &= (A_1 \cdot z^{\varphi_1} + A_2 \cdot z^{\varphi_2}) \cdot z^t = A \cdot z^t \end{aligned}$$

Likewise, if we convolve a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  of values

$$\dots, z^{-3}, z^{-2}, z^{-1}, 1, z, z^2, z^3, \dots$$

$x_n = z^n$  with an arbitrary sequence  $\{h_n\}$ , we get  $\{y_n\} = \{z^n\} * \{h_n\}$ ,

$$y_n = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x_{n-k} \cdot h_k = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} z^{n-k} \cdot h_k = z^n \cdot \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} z^{-k} \cdot h_k = z^n \cdot H(z)$$

where  $H(z)$  is independent of  $n$ .

**Exponential sequences are closed under convolution with arbitrary sequences.**

The same applies in the continuous case.

# Why are complex numbers so useful?

- 1) They give us all  $n$  solutions (“roots”) of equations involving polynomials up to degree  $n$  (the “ $\sqrt{-1} = j$ ” story).
- 2) They give us the “great unifying theory” that combines sine and exponential functions:

$$\begin{aligned}\cos(\theta) &= \frac{1}{2} (e^{j\theta} + e^{-j\theta}) \\ \sin(\theta) &= \frac{1}{2j} (e^{j\theta} - e^{-j\theta})\end{aligned}$$

or

$$\cos(\omega t + \varphi) = \frac{1}{2} (e^{j(\omega t + \varphi)} + e^{-j(\omega t + \varphi)})$$

or

$$\begin{aligned}\cos(\omega n + \varphi) &= \Re(e^{j(\omega n + \varphi)}) = \Re[(e^{j\omega})^n \cdot e^{j\varphi}] \\ \sin(\omega n + \varphi) &= \Im(e^{j(\omega n + \varphi)}) = \Im[(e^{j\omega})^n \cdot e^{j\varphi}]\end{aligned}$$

Notation:  $\Re(a + jb) := a$ ,  $\Im(a + jb) := b$  and  $(a + jb)^* := a - jb$ , where  $j^2 = -1$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .  
Then  $\Re(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x + x^*)$  and  $\Im(x) = \frac{1}{2j}(x - x^*)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{C}$ .

We can now represent sine waves as projections of a rotating complex vector. This allows us to represent sine-wave sequences as exponential sequences with basis  $e^{j\omega}$ .

A phase shift in such a sequence corresponds to a rotation of a complex vector.

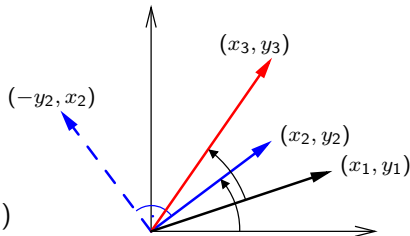
3) Complex multiplication allows us to modify the amplitude and phase of a complex rotating vector using a single operation and value.

Rotation of a 2D vector in  $(x, y)$ -form is notationally slightly messy, but fortunately  $j^2 = -1$  does exactly what is required here:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_3 \\ y_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 & -y_2 \\ y_2 & x_2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} \\ = \begin{pmatrix} x_1x_2 - y_1y_2 \\ x_1y_2 + x_2y_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$z_1 = x_1 + jy_1, \quad z_2 = x_2 + jy_2$$

$$z_1 \cdot z_2 = x_1x_2 - y_1y_2 + j(x_1y_2 + x_2y_1)$$





# Complex phasors

Amplitude and phase are two distinct characteristics of a sine function that are inconvenient to keep separate notationally.

Complex functions (and discrete sequences) of the form

$$(A \cdot e^{j\varphi}) \cdot e^{j\omega t} = A \cdot e^{j(\omega t + \varphi)} = A \cdot [\cos(\omega t + \varphi) + j \cdot \sin(\omega t + \varphi)]$$

(where  $j^2 = -1$ ) are able to represent both amplitude  $A \in \mathbb{R}^+$  and phase  $\varphi \in [0, 2\pi)$  in one single algebraic object  $A \cdot e^{j\varphi} \in \mathbb{C}$ .

Thanks to complex multiplication, we can also incorporate in one single factor both a multiplicative change of amplitude and an additive change of phase of such a function. This makes discrete sequences of the form

$$x_n = e^{j\omega n}$$

*eigensequences* with respect to an LTI system  $T$ , because for each  $\omega$ , there is a complex number (eigenvalue)  $H(\omega)$  such that

$$T\{x_n\} = H(\omega) \cdot \{x_n\}$$

In the notation of slide 14, where the argument of  $H$  is the base, we would write  $H(e^{j\omega})$ .

# Recall: Fourier transform

We define the Fourier integral transform and its inverse as

$$\mathcal{F}\{g(t)\}(f) = G(f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(t) \cdot e^{-2\pi j f t} dt$$

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}\{G(f)\}(t) = g(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(f) \cdot e^{2\pi j f t} df$$

Many equivalent forms of the Fourier transform are used in the literature. There is no strong consensus on whether the forward transform uses  $e^{-2\pi j f t}$  and the backwards transform  $e^{2\pi j f t}$ , or vice versa. The above form uses the *ordinary frequency*  $f$ , whereas some authors prefer the *angular frequency*  $\omega = 2\pi f$ :

$$\mathcal{F}\{h(t)\}(\omega) = H(\omega) = \alpha \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(t) \cdot e^{\mp j \omega t} dt$$

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}\{H(\omega)\}(t) = h(t) = \beta \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H(\omega) \cdot e^{\pm j \omega t} d\omega$$

This substitution introduces factors  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  such that  $\alpha\beta = 1/(2\pi)$ . Some authors set  $\alpha = 1$  and  $\beta = 1/(2\pi)$ , to keep the convolution theorem free of a constant prefactor; others prefer the unitary form  $\alpha = \beta = 1/\sqrt{2\pi}$ , in the interest of symmetry.

# Properties of the Fourier transform

If

$$x(t) \bullet\!\!\!\circ X(f) \quad \text{and} \quad y(t) \bullet\!\!\!\circ Y(f)$$

are pairs of functions that are mapped onto each other by the Fourier transform, then so are the following pairs.

Linearity:

$$ax(t) + by(t) \bullet\!\!\!\circ aX(f) + bY(f)$$

Time scaling:

$$x(at) \bullet\!\!\!\circ \frac{1}{|a|} X\left(\frac{f}{a}\right)$$

Frequency scaling:

$$\frac{1}{|a|} x\left(\frac{t}{a}\right) \bullet\!\!\!\circ X(af)$$

Time shifting:

$$x(t - \Delta t) \quad \bullet \text{---} \circ \quad X(f) \cdot e^{-2\pi j f \Delta t}$$

Frequency shifting:

$$x(t) \cdot e^{2\pi j \Delta f t} \quad \bullet \text{---} \circ \quad X(f - \Delta f)$$

Time reversal:

$$x(-t) \quad \bullet \text{---} \circ \quad X(-f)$$

Complex conjugate:

$$\begin{aligned} x^*(t) &\quad \bullet \text{---} \circ \quad X^*(-f) \\ x^*(-t) &\quad \bullet \text{---} \circ \quad X^*(f) \end{aligned}$$

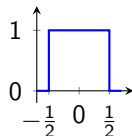
Parseval's theorem (total energy):

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x(t)|^2 dt = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |X(f)|^2 df$$

# Fourier transform example: rect and sinc

The Fourier transform of the “rectangular function”

$$\text{rect}(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } |t| < \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } |t| = \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



is the “(normalized) sinc function”

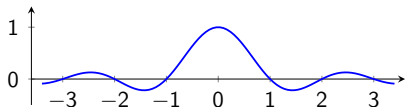
$$\mathcal{F}\{\text{rect}(t)\}(f) = \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{-2\pi j f t} dt = \frac{\sin \pi f}{\pi f} = \text{sinc}(f)$$

and vice versa

$$\mathcal{F}\{\text{sinc}(t)\}(f) = \text{rect}(f).$$

Some noteworthy properties of these functions:

- ▶  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \text{sinc}(t) dt = 1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \text{rect}(t) dt$
- ▶  $\text{sinc}(0) = 1 = \text{rect}(0)$
- ▶  $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\} : \text{sinc}(n) = 0$



# Convolution theorem

Convolution in the time domain is equivalent to (complex) scalar multiplication in the frequency domain:

$$\mathcal{F}\{(f * g)(t)\} = \mathcal{F}\{f(t)\} \cdot \mathcal{F}\{g(t)\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Proof: } z(r) = \int_s x(s)y(r-s)ds &\iff \int_r z(r)e^{-j\omega r}dr = \int_r \int_s x(s)y(r-s)e^{-j\omega r}dsdr = \\ \int_s x(s) \int_r y(r-s)e^{-j\omega r}drds &= \int_s x(s)e^{-j\omega s} \int_r y(r-s)e^{-j\omega(r-s)}drds \stackrel{t:=r-s}{=} \\ \int_s x(s)e^{-j\omega s} \int_t y(t)e^{-j\omega t}dtds &= \int_s x(s)e^{-j\omega s}ds \cdot \int_t y(t)e^{-j\omega t}dt.\end{aligned}$$

Convolution in the frequency domain corresponds to scalar multiplication in the time domain:

$$\mathcal{F}\{f(t) \cdot g(t)\} = \mathcal{F}\{f(t)\} * \mathcal{F}\{g(t)\}$$

This second form is also called “modulation theorem”, as it describes what happens in the frequency domain with amplitude modulation of a signal (see slide 53).

The proof is very similar to the one above.

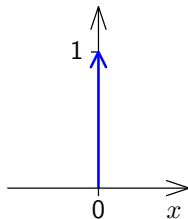
Both equally work for the inverse Fourier transform:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}^{-1}\{(F * G)(f)\} &= \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{F(f)\} \cdot \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{G(f)\} \\ \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{F(f) \cdot G(f)\} &= \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{F(f)\} * \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{G(f)\}\end{aligned}$$

# Dirac delta function

The continuous equivalent of the impulse sequence  $\{\delta_n\}$  is known as Dirac delta function  $\delta(x)$ . It is a generalized function, defined such that

$$\delta(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \neq 0 \\ \infty, & x = 0 \end{cases}$$
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) dx = 1$$



and can be thought of as the limit of function sequences such as

$$\delta(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \begin{cases} 0, & |x| \geq 1/n \\ n/2, & |x| < 1/n \end{cases}$$

or

$$\delta(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-n^2 x^2}$$

The delta function is mathematically speaking not a function, but a *distribution*, that is an expression that is only defined when integrated.

Some properties of the Dirac delta function:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)\delta(x-a)dx = f(a)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\pm 2\pi j x a} dx = \delta(a)$$

$$\sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\pm 2\pi j i x a} = \frac{1}{|a|} \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x - i/a)$$

$$\delta(ax) = \frac{1}{|a|} \delta(x)$$

Fourier transform:

$$\mathcal{F}\{\delta(t)\}(f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) \cdot e^{-2\pi j f t} dt = e^0 = 1$$

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}\{1\}(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} 1 \cdot e^{2\pi j f t} df = \delta(t)$$



# Linking the Dirac delta with the Fourier transform

The Fourier transform of 1 follows from the Dirac delta's ability to sample inside an integral:

$$\begin{aligned}g(t) &= \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathcal{F}(g))(t) \\&= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(s) \cdot e^{-2\pi jfs} \cdot ds \right) \cdot e^{2\pi jft} \cdot df \\&= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-2\pi jfs} \cdot e^{2\pi jft} \cdot df \right) \cdot g(s) \cdot ds \\&= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \underbrace{\left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-2\pi jf(s-t)} \cdot df \right)}_{\delta(s-t)} \cdot g(s) \cdot ds\end{aligned}$$

So if  $\delta$  has the property

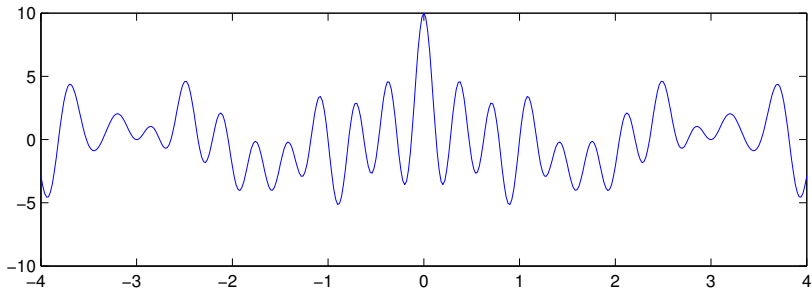
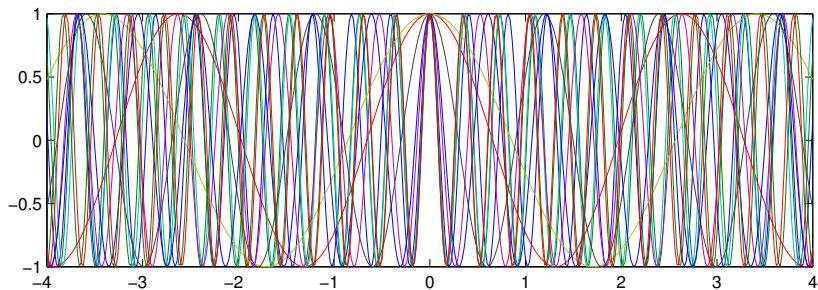
$$g(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(s-t) \cdot g(s) \cdot ds$$

then

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-2\pi jf(s-t)} df = \delta(s-t)$$

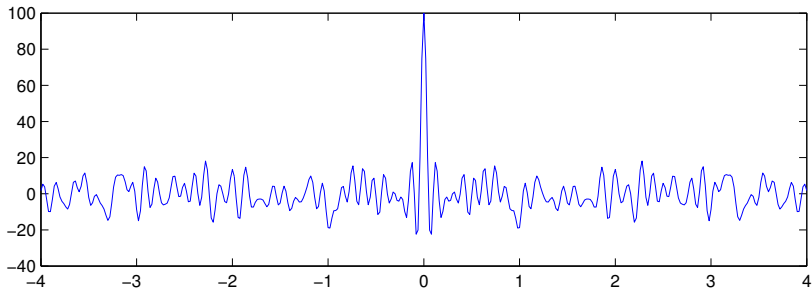
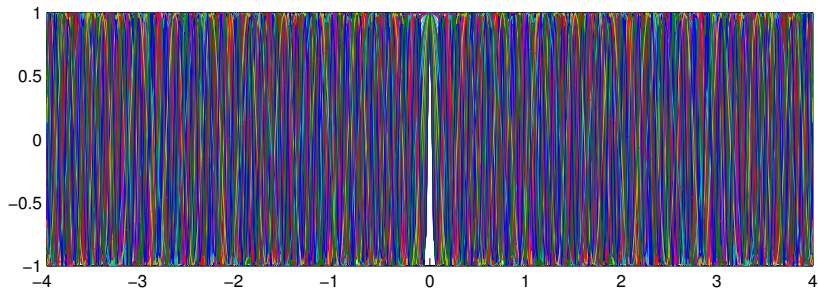
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{2\pi j t f} df = \delta(t) \quad \sum_{i=1}^{10} \cos(2\pi f_i t) \approx \delta(t)$$

$f_1, \dots, f_{10} \in [0, 3]$  chosen uniformly at random



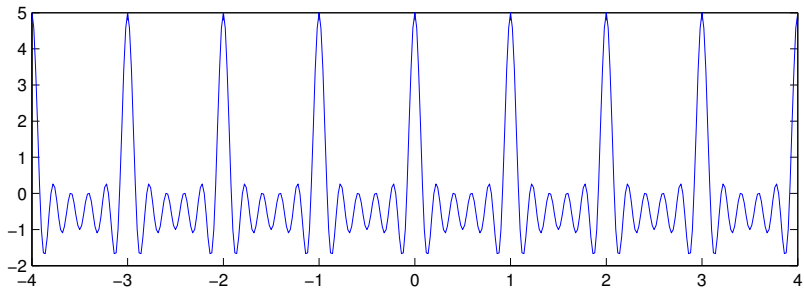
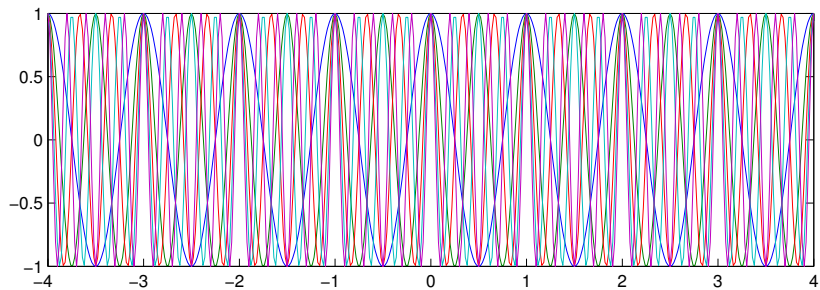
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{2\pi j t f} df = \delta(t) \quad \sum_{i=1}^{100} \cos(2\pi f_i t) \approx \delta(t)$$

$f_1, \dots, f_{100} \in [0, 10]$  chosen uniformly at random



$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\pm 2\pi j n t} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t - n)$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^5 \cos(2\pi nt) \approx \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t - n)$$

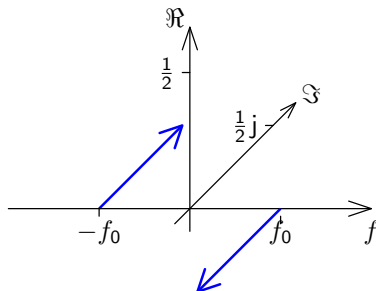
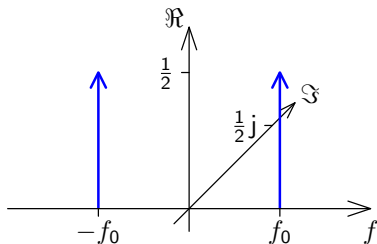


# Sine and cosine in the frequency domain

$$\cos(2\pi f_0 t) = \frac{1}{2} e^{2\pi j f_0 t} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-2\pi j f_0 t} \quad \sin(2\pi f_0 t) = \frac{1}{2j} e^{2\pi j f_0 t} - \frac{1}{2j} e^{-2\pi j f_0 t}$$

$$\mathcal{F}\{\cos(2\pi f_0 t)\}(f) = \frac{1}{2}\delta(f - f_0) + \frac{1}{2}\delta(f + f_0)$$

$$\mathcal{F}\{\sin(2\pi f_0 t)\}(f) = -\frac{j}{2}\delta(f - f_0) + \frac{j}{2}\delta(f + f_0)$$



As any  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}$  can be decomposed into sine and cosine functions, the spectrum of any real-valued signal will show the symmetry  $X(-f) = [X(f)]^*$ , where  $*$  denotes the complex conjugate (i.e., negated imaginary part).

# Fourier transform symmetries

We call a function  $x(t)$

$$\text{odd if } x(-t) = -x(t)$$

$$\text{even if } x(-t) = x(t)$$

and  $\cdot^*$  is the complex conjugate, such that  $(a + jb)^* = (a - jb)$ .

Then

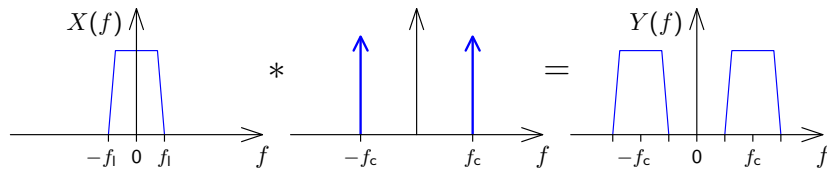
$x(t)$ is real	$\Leftrightarrow$	$X(-f) = [X(f)]^*$
$x(t)$ is imaginary	$\Leftrightarrow$	$X(-f) = -[X(f)]^*$
$x(t)$ is even	$\Leftrightarrow$	$X(f)$ is even
$x(t)$ is odd	$\Leftrightarrow$	$X(f)$ is odd
$x(t)$ is real and even	$\Leftrightarrow$	$X(f)$ is real and even
$x(t)$ is real and odd	$\Leftrightarrow$	$X(f)$ is imaginary and odd
$x(t)$ is imaginary and even	$\Leftrightarrow$	$X(f)$ is imaginary and even
$x(t)$ is imaginary and odd	$\Leftrightarrow$	$X(f)$ is real and odd

## Example: amplitude modulation

Communication channels usually permit only the use of a given frequency interval, such as 300–3400 Hz for the analog phone network or 590–598 MHz for TV channel 36. Modulation with a carrier frequency  $f_c$  shifts the spectrum of a signal  $x(t)$  into the desired band.

Amplitude modulation (AM):

$$y(t) = A \cdot \cos(2\pi f_c t) \cdot x(t)$$



The spectrum of the baseband signal in the interval  $-f_1 < f < f_1$  is shifted by the modulation to the intervals  $\pm f_c - f_1 < f < \pm f_c + f_1$ .

How can such a signal be demodulated?